

EXISTENCE OF THE DISPLACEMENTS FIELD  
FOR AN ELASTO-PLASTIC BODY SUBJECT TO  
HENCKY'S LAW AND VON MISES YIELD CONDITION

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We give "necessary" and sufficient conditions on body and traction forces for the existence of the displacements field for an elasto-plastic body subject to Hencky's law and Von Mises yield condition.

Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and let  $u: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  represent the displacements field of a plastic body occupying the domain  $\Omega$  in unstrained position, then the deformation energy of the body, assuming the Von Mises yield condition and Hencky's law hold (see [3], [15]), is

$$\int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^D(u)) + \frac{K_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} u(x))^2 dx$$

where

$$\phi(\varepsilon^D(u)) \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} |\varepsilon^D(u)|^2 & \text{if } |\varepsilon^D(u)| \leq 1 \\ |\varepsilon^D(u)| - \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } |\varepsilon^D(u)| \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

and

$$\varepsilon^D(u) = \varepsilon(u) - \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{trace}(\varepsilon(u)) \mathbb{I}$$

is the deviator of the deformation tensor  $\varepsilon(u)$  whose

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components are

$$\varepsilon_{ij}(u) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u^j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

We shall be concerned in this paper with the problem of the existence for the field of displacements  $u$  of a plastic body subject to body forces  $f$  in  $\Omega$ , to a traction  $F$  on some part  $\Gamma_N$  of the boundary (Neumann conditions) and with a prescribed value  $g$  for the displacement (Dirichlet conditions) on some other part  $\Gamma_D$  of the boundary. We are led then to the problem

$$(P_1) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize the functional} \\ \mathcal{F}(u) = \int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u)) + \frac{K_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} u)^2 + \int_{\Omega} f u + \int_{\Gamma_N} F u \\ u = g \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D \end{array} \right.$$

The analogy between problem  $(P_1)$  and the problem of finding graphs of prescribed mean curvature

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \int_{\Omega} F(\nabla v) + \int_{\Omega} f v + \int_{\Gamma_N} \alpha v \rightarrow \inf, \quad F(p) = \sqrt{1+p^2} \\ v = \gamma \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D, \quad v \in BV(\Omega) \end{array} \right.$$

or, more generally,  $|\nabla v| \leq F(\nabla v) \leq a|\nabla v| + b$  considered for example in [9], [7], is manifest. Therefore one is led to use the direct method of calculus of variations, looking for a solution to problem  $(P_1)$  in a suitable space  $P(\Omega)$  where the functional  $\mathcal{F}(u)$  is coercive and lower semicontinuous, and where the minimizing sequences are relatively compact. Following the analogy, one could try to work in the space of the functions  $u$  whose first derivatives are measures, and more precisely in the space

$$\tilde{P}(\Omega) = BV(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) \cap \{u \mid \operatorname{div} u \in L^1(\Omega)\}$$

Unfortunately, no Korn's inequality is available on  $H^{1,1}$  see [12], therefore the functional in  $(P_1)$  is not coercive on  $\tilde{P}(\Omega)$ .

In fact, as suggested in [17], [18], we shall look for a minimum point for problem  $(P_1)$  in the space

$$P(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{div} u \in L^2(\Omega), \varepsilon_{ij}(u) \text{ is a bounded} \\ \text{measure } \forall i, j = 1, 2, 3 \end{array} \right\}$$

Our methods will be very close to those used in [7], [9] [8].

We refer to [18] for an approach to problem  $(P_1)$  by duality methods and limit analysis.

The paper is divided into three sections.

In section 1 we collect some properties of the space  $BD(\Omega)$  of functions of bounded deformation; this space has been introduced in [12], [17], [20]. Our exposition will parallel closely the theory of BV functions [2], [10] so it will be somewhat different from the quoted ones. A comprehensive reference is [11], so we shall not prove the results proved there.

In section 2 we shall give a semicontinuous extension of the functional  $\int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u))$  to the space  $BD(\Omega)$  following [7] and we shall relax the Dirichlet boundary condition following [8], [9], [7]. We prove then that the original functional and the relaxed one have the same infimum and we give a "necessary" and sufficient condition (theorems 2.4, 2.5) on the forces  $f, F$  for the existence of a generalized solution to our problem.

We note that, as it is mathematically clear and physically reasonable, the functional in  $(P_1)$  is not bounded from below unless we put some "smallness" conditions on  $f$  and  $F$ .

Our condition for the existence differs from those given for the mean curvature equation in [6], [9], [4], and the reason why those conditions are not workable here is the lack of a coarea formula and of a sharp trace estimate for BD functions.

Finally, in section 3, we shall give a few more readable sufficient conditions on  $f, F$  for the existence of the displacements field, and we shall discuss a few questions and extensions.

### 1. Functions of bounded deformation

Let  $\Omega$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . For a vector valued function  $u \in L^1_{loc}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  we denote by  $\varepsilon(u)$  the deformation tensor associated to  $u$ . Recall that  $\varepsilon(u)$  is the symmetric tensor of order two whose components are the distributions

$$\varepsilon_{ij}(u) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u^j}{\partial x_i} \right) ; \quad i, j = 1, \dots, n$$

For a function  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^{n^2})$ ,  $\varphi = \{\varphi_{ij}\}_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$  we have

$$\langle \varepsilon(u), \varphi \rangle = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left( u^i \frac{\partial \varphi_{ij}}{\partial x_j} - u^j \frac{\partial \varphi_{ij}}{\partial x_i} \right) dx$$

For every open set  $A \subset \Omega$  and for every function  $u$  in  $L^1_{loc}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  we set

$$\int_A |\varepsilon(u)| = \sup \left\{ \langle \varepsilon(u), \varphi \rangle ; \varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^{n^2}), \text{supp } \varphi \subset A, \sum_{i,j} \varphi_{ij}^2 \leq 1 \right\}$$

It is well known that  $\varepsilon(u)$  is a vector valued Radon measure in  $\Omega$  if and only if  $\int_A |\varepsilon(u)| < +\infty$  for all open sets  $A \subset \subset \Omega$ , moreover, in that case, the number  $\int_A |\varepsilon(u)|$  equals the total variation in  $A$  of the measure  $\varepsilon(u)$  so we can define a set function

$$B \longmapsto \int_B |\varepsilon(u)| \quad B \subset \Omega$$

which is a positive (outer) measure in  $\Omega$ .

DEFINITION -  $BD(\Omega)$  denotes the linear space of the functions  $u \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  whose deformation tensor is a (Radon) measure of bounded variation in  $\Omega$ , i.e.

$$BD(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n) \mid \|u\|_{BD(\Omega)} < +\infty \right\}$$

where

$$\|u\|_{BD(\Omega)} = \int_{\Omega} |u| \, dx + \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

It is easily seen that  $BD(\Omega)$  is a Banach space with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{BD(\Omega)}$  and that the space  $C^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  is not dense in  $BD(\Omega)$ . Moreover:  $u \in BD(\Omega)$  if and only if

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha\alpha}(u) = \alpha \cdot \nabla(\alpha \cdot u) = \alpha^i \alpha^j \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x_j}$$

is a bounded Radon measure for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

The space  $BD(\Omega)$  has been introduced in [12] and studied in [20], [17], [14], and [11], where a comprehensive account of the theory can be found.

Obviously, the space  $BV(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$ , i.e. the space of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  valued functions whose first derivatives are measures of bounded variation in  $\Omega$ , is contained in  $BD(\Omega)$ ; as we already mentioned this inclusion is strict since no Korn's inequality is available in  $H^{1,1}$ , see [12], [11].

We have

THEOREM 1.1 - (lower semicontinuity of the deformation)

Let  $u, u_h$  be functions in  $L^1_{loc}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $u_h \rightharpoonup u$  weakly, i.e. for each  $\gamma \in C^\infty_0(\Omega)$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} u_h^i \gamma = \int_{\Omega} u^i \gamma$$

then

$$\int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| \leq \liminf_{h \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u_h)|$$

Proof: for every function  $\varphi \in C^\infty_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $|\varphi| \leq 1$  we have

$$\langle \varepsilon(u), \varphi \rangle = \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \langle \varepsilon(u_h), \varphi \rangle \leq \liminf_{h \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u_h)|$$

and taking the supremum for all  $\varphi$  the theorem follows.  
q.e.d.

Obviously, theorem 1.1 also holds for the deviator  $\varepsilon^D(u)$  of the deformation tensor, we recall that  $\varepsilon^D(u)$  is defined as

$$\varepsilon^D(u) = \varepsilon(u) - \frac{1}{n} \operatorname{trace}(\varepsilon(u)) \mathbb{I}$$

We shall now list a few simple facts whose simple proof we omit.

$$i) \quad \int_{A_1} |\varepsilon(u)| + \int_{A_2} |\varepsilon(u)| = \int_{A_1 \cup A_2} |\varepsilon(u)| \quad \text{for } A_1, A_2 \text{ disjoint Borel sets}$$

$$\int_{A_1} |\varepsilon(u)| \leq \int_{A_2} |\varepsilon(u)| \quad \text{for } A_1 \subset A_2$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \int_{A_h} |\varepsilon(u)| = \int_{\cup A_h} |\varepsilon(u)| \quad \text{for } A_h \subset A_{h+1}, h \in \mathbb{N}$$

ii) let  $A \subset\subset \Omega$  (i.e.  $A$  is open,  $\bar{A}$  is compact,  $\bar{A} \subset \Omega$ ) then

$$\int_A |\varepsilon(u * \gamma)| \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\gamma| dx \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

for  $\gamma \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $\operatorname{diam}(\operatorname{spt} \gamma) < \operatorname{dist}(A, \partial\Omega)$ , moreover, for every sequence of mollifiers  $\{\gamma_h\}$  there exists  $\bar{h}$  such that

$$\int_A |\varepsilon(u * \gamma_h)| \leq \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| \quad \text{for } h \geq \bar{h}$$

iii) let  $\{\gamma_h\}$  be a sequence of mollifiers, then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\varepsilon(u * \gamma_h)| \longrightarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\varepsilon(u)| \quad \forall u \in \operatorname{BD}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

and for  $A \ll \Omega$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \int_A |\varepsilon(u * \chi_h)| \leq \frac{\int |\varepsilon(u)|}{\bar{A}} \quad \forall u \in BD(\Omega)$$

In particular, using the semicontinuity theorem 1.1, if

$$\int_{\partial A} |\varepsilon(u)| = 0$$

then

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \int_A |\varepsilon(u * \chi_h)| = \int_A |\varepsilon(u)|$$

PROPOSITION 1.2 - Let  $u$  be a  $BD(\mathbb{R}^n)$  function with com-  
compact support, then we have:

a) (Poincaré inequality)

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u| dx \leq c_1(n) \text{diam}(\text{spt} u) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

b) (Sobolev-Poincaré inequality)

$$\left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}} \right)^{\frac{n-1}{n}} \leq c_2(n) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

Proof: due to iii) it is sufficient to show a) and b) for smooth functions with compact support in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then

a) is almost obvious, for b) see for example [19].

q.e.d.

As already stated, the space  $C^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^m) \cap BD(\Omega)$  is not dense in  $BD(\Omega)$ , anyway, by iii), for every function  $u \in BD(\Omega)$  there exists a sequence  $\{u_h\} \subset C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$  such that

$$u_h \rightarrow u \quad \text{in} \quad L^1(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\varepsilon(u_h)| \rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

More generally the following is true.

THEOREM 1.3 - Let  $\Omega$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let

$u \in \text{BD}(\Omega)$  , then there exists a sequence  $\{u_h\} \subset C^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n) \cap \text{BD}(\Omega)$  such that

$$u_h \longrightarrow u \quad \text{in} \quad L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

$$\int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u_h)| \longrightarrow \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

Proof: the idea of the proof is as in [13] and [1] . We take a sequence of open sets  $\Omega_1, \Omega_2, \dots$  , with regular boundary, such that

$$\Omega_k \subset \subset \Omega_{k+1} \quad , \quad \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \Omega_k = \Omega$$

and we set

$$V_0 = \Omega_2 \quad , \quad V_k = \Omega_{3k+2} \setminus \bar{\Omega}_{3k-1}$$

then we take a sequence of functions  $\varphi_k$  with

$$\varphi_0 \in C_0^\infty(\Omega_4) \quad , \quad \varphi_0 = 1 \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega_3$$

$$\varphi_k \in C_0^\infty(\Omega_{3k+4} \setminus \bar{\Omega}_{3k}) \quad , \quad \varphi_k = 1 \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega_{3k+3} \setminus \bar{\Omega}_{3k+1}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \varphi_k = 1 \quad \text{in} \quad \Omega$$

and a sequence of functions  $\psi_{\tau_k} \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  such that

$$\psi_{\tau_k} \geq 0 \quad , \quad \text{supp } \psi_{\tau_k} \subset \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x| < \tau_k\} \quad , \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \psi_{\tau_k} = 1$$

Proceeding as in [1] it is now easy to see that one can find the numbers  $\tau_k$  so that the function

$$u_h = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \psi_{\tau_k} * (u \varphi_k)$$

verifies

$$\int_{\Omega} |u_h - u| < \frac{1}{h}$$

$$\int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u_h)| < \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| + \frac{1}{h}$$

and this, together with the lower semicontinuity of the



deformation, proves the theorem.

q.e.d.

Remarks. 1. If  $u_h$  is as in theorem 1.3 then one also has

i)  $u_h|_{\partial\Omega} = u|_{\partial\Omega}$  for all h

(see the existence of the trace in theorem 1.4 , provided  $\Omega$  has a Lipschitz boundary)

ii)  $\int_A |\varepsilon(u_h)| \rightarrow \int_A |\varepsilon(u)|$  for all open sets  $A \subset \Omega$   
 such that  $\int_{\partial A} |\varepsilon(u)| = 0$

iii)  $\int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon_{ij}(u_h)| \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon_{ij}(u)|$  for all  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$

iv)  $\int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon^p(u_h)| \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon^p(u)|$

2. In case  $u \in BD(\Omega)$  and  $\operatorname{div} u \in L^2(\Omega)$  one can find the approximating functions  $u_h$  such that

$$\int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div}(u - u_h))^2 dx < \frac{1}{h}$$

also holds.

Let  $\Omega$  be a domain with Lipschitz boundary, then the trace of  $u$  on  $\partial\Omega$  is well defined for each  $u \in BD(\Omega)$  as an  $L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  function. In fact the following theorem has been proved by Strang and Temam [17] .

THEOREM 1.4 - There exists a linear operator

$$\gamma : BD(\Omega) \longrightarrow L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

such that

$$\gamma(u) = u|_{\partial\Omega}$$

for all  $u \in BD(\Omega) \cap C^0(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^n)$ . The following trace estima-

te holds

$$(1.1) \quad \int_{\partial\Omega} |\gamma(u)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \leq c(n, \Omega) \|u\|_{BD(\Omega)}$$

moreover, for all  $i, j$  and for every  $\varphi \in C^1(\bar{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^n)$  the following Green's formula holds

$$(1.2) \quad \int_{\Omega} (u_j \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} + u_i \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j}) dx + 2 \int_{\Omega} \varphi \varepsilon_{ij}(u) = \int_{\Omega} \varphi (\gamma_i^j(u) v_j + \gamma_j^i(u) v_i) d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

where  $v = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$  is the unit outward normal vector to  $\partial\Omega$  and  $\gamma^i(u)$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  component of  $\gamma(u)$ .

Actually one can prove the estimate

$$(1.1)' \quad \int_{\partial\Omega} |\gamma(u)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \leq \alpha_1(n, L) \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| + \alpha_2(\Omega) \int_{\Omega} |u| dx$$

where  $\alpha_1(n, L)$  depends only on the dimension  $n$  of the ambient space and on the Lipschitz constant  $L$  of the boundary of  $\Omega$ .

By the same method used in [1] (see theorem 6) for BV functions, one can prove the continuity of the trace operator in the following sense: if

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_h \longrightarrow u \quad \text{in } L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n) \\ \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u_h)| \longrightarrow \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| \end{array} \right.$$

then

$$\gamma(u_h) \longrightarrow \gamma(u) \quad \text{in } L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

From now on we shall simply denote  $\gamma(u)$  as  $u|_{\partial\Omega}$  or  $u$ .

We shall need in the following an explicit formula for the deformation  $\int_{\Gamma} |\varepsilon(u)|$  on an  $(n-1)$ -dimensional surface  $\Gamma$  where  $u$  can be discontinuous. We shall obtain such a formula in the next theorem (where we confine ourselves to the case  $\Gamma$  is the boundary of an open set).

Let  $u \in BD(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and let  $\Omega$  be an open set with

Lipschitz boundary. Set

$$u^- = \text{trace of } u|_{\Omega} \text{ on } \partial\Omega$$

$$u^+ = \text{trace of } u|_{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \Omega} \text{ on } \partial\Omega$$

then we have

**THEOREM 1.5** - Let  $v(x)$  be the outward unit normal vector to  $\partial\Omega$  at  $x$  and set

$$\tau_{ij}(p) = \frac{1}{2} (p_i v_j + p_j v_i) \quad , \text{ for } p \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\tau = \{ \tau_{ij} \}_{ij=1, \dots, n}$$

then we have for all  $u \in \text{BD}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\text{i)} \quad \int_{\partial\Omega} \varepsilon_{ij}(u) = - \int_{\partial\Omega} \tau_{ij}(u^+ - u^-) d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

$$\text{ii)} \quad \int_{\partial\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| = \int_{\partial\Omega} |\tau(u^+ - u^-)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

$$\text{iii)} \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\varepsilon(u)| = \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| + \int_{\partial\Omega} |\tau(u^+ - u^-)| + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \Omega} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

Proof: i) Write formula (1.2) for  $u|_{\Omega}$  and  $u|_{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \Omega}$  with  $\varphi \equiv 1$  and sum.

ii) Using Green's formula (1.2) in  $\Omega$  and in  $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \Omega$  we get for  $\varphi_{ij} \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{ij=1}^n \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \varepsilon_{ij}(u) \varphi_{ij} &= \sum_{ij=1}^n \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \varepsilon_{ij}(u) \varphi_{ij} + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \Omega} \varepsilon_{ij}(u) \varphi_{ij} - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \int_{\partial\Omega} \tau_{ij}(u^+ - u^-) \varphi_{ij} d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

taking the supremum of both members for  $\sum_{ij=1}^n \varphi_{ij}^2 \leq 1$  we obtain

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| \leq \int_{\partial\Omega} |\tau(u^+ - u^-)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

Let now  $\varphi_{ij}^h \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be such that

$$\sum_{ij=1}^n (\varphi_{ij}^h)^2 \leq 1, \quad \text{spt } \varphi_{ij}^h \subset U_h$$

where we have set  $U_h = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \text{dist}(y, \partial\Omega) < \frac{1}{h}\}$  and suppose moreover that

$$\varphi_{ij}^h \longrightarrow \frac{\tau_{ij}(u)}{|\tau(u)|} \quad \text{in } L^1(\partial\Omega)$$

For all  $h$  we have

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} \tau_{ij}(u^+ - u^-) \varphi_{ij}^h d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \leq \int_{U_h} |\varepsilon(u)| + \int_{\Omega \cap U_h} |\varepsilon(u)| + \int_{(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \Omega) \cap U_h} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

and going to the limit for  $h \rightarrow \infty$  we get

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} |\tau(u^+ - u^-)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \leq \int_{\partial\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

which concludes the proof of ii) .

iii) is obvious.

q.e.d.

We shall also need the analogous of theorem 1.5 for the deviator  $\varepsilon^D(u)$  of  $\varepsilon(u)$  .

Set

$$\tau^D(p) = \tau(p) - \frac{1}{n} \text{trace}(\tau(p)) I = \tau(p) - \frac{p \cdot \nu}{n} I$$

It is immediate that

$$\int_{\Omega} \varepsilon^D(u) = \int_{\partial\Omega} \tau^D(u) d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

and that

$$\int_{\Omega} \varepsilon_{ij}^D(u) \varphi + \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (u^i \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_i} u^j) + \frac{u \cdot \nabla \varphi}{n} \delta_{ij} \right\} dx =$$

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} \varphi \tau_{ij}^D(u) d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

moreover we have

THEOREM 1.6 - In the hypotheses of theorem 1.5 we have also

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} |\varepsilon^p(u)| = \int_{\partial\Omega} |\tau^p(u^+ - u^-)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

Proof: the same as for theorem 1.5 .

q.e.d.

Let us remark here that one has, for regular functions,

$$|\varepsilon(u)|^2 = |\varepsilon^p(u)|^2 + \left| \frac{\operatorname{div} u}{n} \mathbb{I} \right|^2$$

because  $\varepsilon^p(u)$  and  $\frac{1}{n}(\operatorname{div} u)\mathbb{I}$  are orthogonal with respect to the inner product

$$a \cdot b = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij} b_{ij}$$

so we get

$$\int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ |\varepsilon^p(u)|^2 + \left| \frac{\operatorname{div} u}{n} \mathbb{I} \right|^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

which holds, by approximation, for all  $u \in \text{BD}(\Omega)$ .

We also have

$$|\tau(p)| = \left\{ |\tau^p(p)|^2 + \left| \frac{p \cdot \nu}{n} \mathbb{I} \right|^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

PROPOSITION 1.7 - i) Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $|\alpha|=1$ ,  $f \in \text{BV}(\Omega)$  and denote by  $\nabla_{\alpha \perp} f$  the projection of  $\nabla f$  on the orthogonal space to  $\alpha$ , then we have

$$\int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(\alpha f)| = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ |\nabla_{\alpha} f|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla_{\alpha \perp} f|^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

where the right member denotes the total variation in  $\Omega$  of the  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  valued measure  $(\nabla_{\alpha} f, \nabla_{\alpha \perp} f)$ .

ii) Let  $u \in L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  and set  $\mu_{\nu} = u \cdot \nu$ ,  $\mu_{\tau} = u - u_{\nu} \nu$ , then we have

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} |\tau(u)| = \int_{\partial\Omega} \left\{ \mu_{\nu}^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\mu_{\tau}|^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

Proof: i) Take a smooth function  $f$  and an orthonormal

basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $e_1 = \alpha$ . We then have

$$|\varepsilon(\alpha f)|^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{1}{4} (\alpha_j \langle \nabla f, e_i \rangle + \alpha_i \langle \nabla f, e_j \rangle)^2$$

where  $\alpha_1 = 1$  and  $\alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = \alpha_4 = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$ , hence

$$|\varepsilon(\alpha f)| = \left( \langle \nabla f, e_1 \rangle^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=2}^n \langle \nabla f, e_j \rangle^2 \right)^{1/2} = \left( |\nabla_\alpha f|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla_\alpha \perp f|^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

Integrating over  $\Omega$  we get i) for smooth functions and, by approximation, we get the result for all  $f \in BV(\Omega)$ .

ii) Take a point  $x$  where  $v(x)$  is defined and take an orthonormal basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with  $e_1 = v(x)$ , we then have  $v_1(x) = 1$ ,  $v_j(x) = 0$  for  $j = 2, \dots, n$  and

$$|\tau(u, x)|^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{1}{4} (u^i v_j + u^j v_i)^2 = u_v^2(x) + \frac{1}{2} |u_\tau(x)|^2$$

Integrating over  $\partial\Omega$  we get ii).

q.e.d.

One can also prove the following:

$$\int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon^D(\alpha f)| = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ \frac{n-1}{n} |\nabla_\alpha f|^2 + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla_\alpha \perp f|^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} |\tau^D(u)| = \int_{\partial\Omega} \left\{ \frac{n-1}{n} u_v^2 + \frac{1}{2} |u_\tau|^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

The trace operator  $\gamma: BD(\Omega) \rightarrow L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  is onto, in fact every function  $\varphi \in L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  can be extended, by Gagliardo's theorem, to a function in  $H^{1,1}(\Omega)$  (provided  $\Omega$  has a Lipschitz boundary). For our purposes, see next section, a more refined extension result is needed and precisely theorem 1.8 below.

Let's first recall a well known fact. Take an open bounded set  $\Omega$  with a class  $C^2$  boundary and set  $d(x) = \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)$  for  $x \in \Omega$ , then there exist a number  $a > 0$  such that if  $0 < d(x) < a$  the following is true:

i) there exists a unique point  $U(x) \in \partial\Omega$  such that

$$d(x) = \text{dist}(x, U(x))$$

ii) the function  $d(x)$  is differentiable at  $x$

iii)  $\nabla d(x) = -v(U(x))$

THEOREM 1.8 - Let  $\Omega$  be an open bounded set with a class  $C^2$  boundary, and let  $\varphi$  be a function in  $L^1(\partial\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  (or in  $L^1(\Gamma, \mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\Gamma$  being the intersection of  $\partial\Omega$  with an open set  $A$ ) such that

$$v \cdot \varphi = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \quad (\text{on } \Gamma)$$

then there exists a function  $\phi \in BD(\Omega)$  with  $\text{div} \phi \in L^2(\Omega)$  such that

$$\phi = \varphi \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \quad (\text{on } \Gamma)$$

and

$$\phi(y) \cdot \nabla d(y) = 0$$

for all points  $y = x - vt$  where  $x \in \partial\Omega$  ( $x \in \Gamma$ ) and  $0 < t < a$ , moreover

$$\text{spt } \phi \subset \{x \in \Omega \mid d(x) < a\}$$

Proof: set

$$Q = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |y_i| < 1, i=1, \dots, n\}$$

$$Q^+ = \{y \in Q \mid y_n > 0\}$$

by a partition of unity argument we reduce to the case of  $\text{spt } \varphi \subset V \cap \partial\Omega$  where  $V$  is open and there is a diffeomorphism  $\sigma: V \rightarrow Q$  such that

$$\sigma(V \cap \Omega) = Q^+$$

$$d\sigma(x) (\nabla d(x)) = e_n \quad \text{for } d(x) < a$$

and the jacobian of  $\sigma$  is bounded and bounded away from zero in  $V$ . Set now

$$\tilde{\varphi}(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}) = \varphi(\sigma^{-1}(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}, 0))$$

and use lemma 1.9 below to get a function  $\tilde{\phi} \in \text{BD}(Q^+)$  with  $\text{div } \tilde{\phi} \in L^2(Q^+)$ ,  $\tilde{\phi} = \tilde{\varphi}$  on  $\{x \in Q \mid x_n = 0\}$ ,  $\tilde{\phi} \cdot e_n = 0$  in  $Q^+$  it is then easy to see that the function

$$\phi(x) = \tilde{\phi}(\sigma(x))$$

is the desired extension of  $\varphi$ .

q.e.d.

LEMMA 1.9 - Let  $\varphi \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^{n-1}, \mathbb{R}^{n-1})$ , then there exists a function  $\phi \in \text{BD}(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_n > 0\})$  such that

i)  $\phi(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0) = (\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}), 0)$

ii)  $\phi(x) \cdot e_n = 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ with } x_n > 0$

iii)  $\text{div } \phi \in L^2(\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_n > 0\})$

moreover, if  $\Omega_1$  is an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\text{spt } \varphi \subset \subset \Omega_1 \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_n = 0\}$  we can find  $\phi$  so that  $\text{spt } \varphi \subset \subset \Omega_1$ .

Proof: take a sequence of functions  $\psi_h \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{n-1}, \mathbb{R}^{n-1})$  with

$$\psi_h \longrightarrow \varphi \quad \text{in } L^1(\mathbb{R}^{n-1}, \mathbb{R}^{n-1})$$

and let  $\{\tau_h\}$  be a decreasing sequence of positive numbers with  $\tau_h \rightarrow 0$ . Set

$$\phi(\xi, x_n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x_n > \tau_0 \\ \psi_h(\xi) + \frac{x_n - \tau_h}{\tau_{h+1} - \tau_h} (\psi_{h+1} - \psi_h)(\xi) & \text{if } \tau_h > x_n > \tau_{h+1} \end{cases}$$

where  $\xi = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$ . It's easy to check that for a suitable choice of the  $\tau_h$  we have

$$\int_{x_n > 0} |\phi| + \int_{x_n > 0} |\varepsilon(\phi)| + \int_{x_n > 0} (\text{div } \phi)^2 < +\infty$$



and i) , ii) are also obviously verified.

In case  $\text{spt } \varphi \subset \Omega_1 \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_n = 0\}$  we can find the functions  $\gamma_h$  so that  $\text{spt } \gamma_h \subset W \subset \subset \Omega_1 \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid x_n > 0\}$  , hence  $\text{spt } \phi \subset W \times [0, \tau_0]$  and  $W \times [0, \tau_0] \subset \Omega_1$  if  $\tau_0$  is small.

q.e.d.

The last results we are now going to state are Poincaré inequality, a compactness theorem and some corollaries.

Let  $\mathcal{J}$  be the space of infinitesimal rigid motions of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  , i.e.

$$\mathcal{J} = \{ T = Ax + b \mid b \in \mathbb{R}^n, A \text{ is a skew-symmetric matrix} \}$$

THEOREM 1.10 - Let  $\Omega$  be a Lipschitz domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let

$$T : BD(\Omega) \longrightarrow \mathcal{J}$$

be any continuous linear function which fixes the elements of  $\mathcal{J}$  , then there is a constant  $c(\Omega, T)$  such that

$$\|u - Tu\|_{[^{n/n-1}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)]} \leq c(\Omega, T) \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

Asuitable function  $T_0$  can be obtained as follows:

$$[(T_0 u)(x)]^j = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\rho^{ij}(u) - \rho^{ji}(u))(x - x_0)_i + \sigma^j(u)$$

where  $x_0$  is a fixed point in  $\Omega$  and

$$\sigma^j(u) = \frac{1}{\alpha(n) R^n} \int_{B_R(x_0)} u^i(y) dy$$

$$\rho^{ij}(u) = \frac{n+1}{\alpha(n-1) R^{n+1}} \int_{\{y \in B_R(x_0) \mid y \cdot e_j > 0\}} (u^i - \sigma^i(u)) dy$$

where  $B_R(x_0) = \{x \mid |x - x_0| < R\} \subset \subset \Omega$  ,  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  is an orthonormal basis in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\alpha(n) =$  n-dimensional measure of  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x| \leq 1\}$  .

One also has the following

COROLLARY 1.11 - Let  $\Gamma$  be a subset of  $\partial\Omega$  with positive  $(n-1)$ -dimensional measure, then there is a constant  $c(\Omega, \Gamma)$  such that

$$\|u\|_{L^{n/(n-1)}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)} \leq c(\Omega, \Gamma) \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

for all  $u \in BD(\Omega)$  with  $u|_{\Gamma} = 0$ .

Theorem 1.10 has been proved by Kohn [11].

As for BV functions, see [5], [2], theorem 1.10, together with the  $\varepsilon$ -net argument, yields the following compactness theorem, see [11].

THEOREM 1.12 - Let  $\Omega$  be a Lipschitz domain. Then the inclusion of the space  $BD(\Omega)$  in  $L^p(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  is compact for  $p < \frac{n}{n-1}$ .

For a different proof of the compactness theorem see also [17], [20].

A simple consequence of theorems 1.10, 1.12 is the following (see also [17] for a completely different proof).

PROPOSITION 1.13 - Let  $S$  be a  $\mathbb{R}^n$ -valued distribution in  $\Omega$  such that  $\varepsilon(S)$  is a Radon measure in  $\Omega$ , then  $S$  is represented by a function  $u \in L^1_{loc}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$ , that is

$$\langle S, \varphi \rangle = \int_{\Omega} u \cdot \varphi \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

Proof: for any given open set  $A \ll \Omega$  we shall prove that  $S$  is represented in  $A$  by a function  $u_A \in L^1(A, \mathbb{R}^n)$  and this obviously proves the theorem.

Take an open set  $A'$  and a ball  $B_R(x_0)$  with  $B_R(x_0) \ll A \ll A' \ll \Omega$ , take then a sequence of mollifiers  $\gamma_h$  and set  $S_h = S * \gamma_h$ . Then we have

$$S_h \longrightarrow S \quad \text{weakly in } A$$

$$\|S_h - T_0(S_h)\|_{L^1(A)} \leq c(A, T_0) \int_A |\varepsilon(S_h)|$$

where  $T_0$  is as in theorem 1.10. We also have

$$\int_A |\varepsilon(S_h)| \leq \int_A |\varepsilon(S)|$$

for  $h$  large enough, this implies that the numbers  $\|S_h - T_o(S_h)\|_{BD(A)}$  are bounded independently of  $h$  and, by compactness theorem 1.12 (possibly taking a subsequence), we have

$$S_h - T_o(S_h) \longrightarrow v_A \in L^1(A, \mathbb{R}^n) \quad \text{in } L^1(A, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

We shall now prove that  $T_o(S_h) \in \mathcal{T}$ , that is  $S_h - v_A + R$  and  $u_A = v_A + R$  represents  $S$  in  $A$ .

Consider a test function  $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)$  with  $\varphi_2 = \dots = \varphi_n = 0$ ,  $\varphi_1 \in D(B_R(x_o))$ ,  $\int \varphi \neq 0$ ,  $\varphi(x) = \xi(|x - x_o|)$  we then have

$$\langle S_h, \varphi \rangle \longrightarrow \langle S, \varphi \rangle$$

$$\langle S_h, \varphi \rangle - \langle T_o(S_h), \varphi \rangle \longrightarrow \int_A v_A \varphi$$

hence

$$\sigma^1(S_h) \int_A \varphi_1 = \int_A [T_o(S_h)]^1 \varphi_1 \longrightarrow \int_A v_A \varphi_1 - \langle S, \varphi \rangle$$

and

$$\sigma^1(S_h) \longrightarrow \left( \int_A v_A^1 \varphi_1 - \langle S, \varphi \rangle \right) \left( \int_A \varphi_1 \right)^{-1} = \bar{\sigma}^1$$

In a similar way one can show that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \sigma(S_h) = \bar{\sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

We shall now prove that there exist numbers  $t_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$(*) \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} (\rho^{ij}(S_h) - p^{ij}(S_h)) = t_{ij}$$

In fact, take a test function  $\varphi = (0, \dots, \varphi_j, \dots, 0) \in \mathcal{D}(B_R(x_o), \mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $\int |\varphi_j| > 0$  and such that  $\varphi_j(x - x_o)$  is odd in the variable  $(x - x_o)^i$  and even in the remaining variables, then

$$\langle T_o(S_h), \varphi \rangle = \frac{1}{2} (\rho^{ij}(S_h) - p^{ij}(S_h)) \int (x - x_o)^i \varphi_j \longrightarrow \int v_A^j \varphi_j - \langle S, \varphi \rangle$$

where  $\int (x-x_0)^i \varphi_j \neq 0$  and (\*) follows .

## 2. Existence for the displacements field

We are now going to discuss the existence of a solution to problem  $(P_1)$  .

Unless otherwise stated,  $\Omega$  will be a bounded connected open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with Lipschitz boundary and  $\nu(x)$  will be the outward unit normal vector to  $\partial\Omega$  at  $x$  .

Let  $A_1$  be a bounded open set and call

$$T_D = A_1 \cap \partial\Omega \quad , \quad T_N = \partial\Omega \setminus T_D$$

we shall suppose that the set  $\Omega_1 = \Omega \cup A_1$  is connected, that  $\mathcal{H}^{n-1}(T_D \cap T_N) = 0$  (where  $\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$  is the  $(n-1)$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure) and that  $T_N$  coincides with the closure of its interior.

The function  $\phi: M_n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  , defined on the space  $M_n$  of the  $n \times n$  matrices as

$$\phi(a) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} |a|^2 & \text{if } |a| \leq 1 \\ |a| - \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } |a| \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

where  $a = \{a_{ij}\}_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$  , and  $|a|^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}^2$  , is obviously a convex function of  $a$  .

As we said in the introduction, we shall look for a solution  $u$  to problem  $(P_1)$  in the space  $P(\Omega)$  defined as follows

$$P(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in BD(\Omega) \mid \operatorname{div} u \in L^2(\Omega) \right\}$$

Clearly, the term  $\int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} u)^2 dx$  is well defined for  $u \in P(\Omega)$ , not so obvious is the meaning of  $\int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u))$  as the  $\varepsilon_{ij}^p$  are measures and not functions. To get rid of this diffi-

culty we proceed in a similar way to [7].

First we define a new function  $\bar{\phi}: M_n \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  setting

$$\bar{\phi}(t, a) = \begin{cases} \phi\left(\frac{a}{t}\right)t & \text{if } t > 0 \\ \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \phi\left(\frac{a}{t}\right)t & \text{if } t = 0 \end{cases}$$

As it is easy to check (see [7]),  $\bar{\phi}$  is convex and positively homogeneous in  $(t, a)$ . Now, for any  $M_n$ -valued measure  $\mu = \{\mu_{ij}\}$  in  $\Omega$  we consider the  $(\mathbb{R} \times M_n)$ -valued measure  $\alpha = (\alpha_o, \{\alpha_{ij}\})$  where

$$\alpha_o = \mathcal{L}^n = \text{Lebesgue measure in } \Omega, \quad \alpha_{ij} = \mu_{ij}$$

and we define

$$\int_{\Omega} \bar{\phi}(\mu) = \int_{\Omega} \bar{\phi}\left(\frac{d\alpha_o}{d|\alpha|}, \frac{d\alpha_{ij}}{d|\alpha|}\right) d|\alpha|$$

where the positive measure  $|\alpha|$  is the total variation of  $\alpha$  and the functions  $\frac{d\alpha_o}{d|\alpha|}$ ,  $\frac{d\alpha_{ij}}{d|\alpha|}$  are the Radon-Nicodym derivatives.

Using this definition, as a corollary of a theorem by Reschetnyak, see [16], [7], we have the following semicontinuity result.

PROPOSITION 2.1 - Let  $u, u_h \in BD(\Omega)$  and set

$$\alpha = (\mathcal{L}^n, \varepsilon_{ij}^D(u)), \quad \alpha_h = (\mathcal{L}^n, \varepsilon_{ij}^D(u_h))$$

Suppose that  $u_h \rightarrow u$  weakly, then  $\alpha_h \rightarrow \alpha$  weakly and

$$\int_{\Omega} \bar{\phi}(\varepsilon^D(u)) \leq \liminf_{h \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} \bar{\phi}(\varepsilon^D(u_h))$$

As far as the force terms are concerned, let us remark by now that they are certainly defined if

$$f = f_1 + \nabla q, \quad f_1 \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n), \quad q \in L^2(\Omega), \quad \text{spt } q \subset \Omega$$

$$F \in L^\infty(\Gamma_N, \mathbb{R}^n)$$

in which case we have

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} f u \right| \leq \|f\|_{L^2} \|u\|_{BD} + \|q\|_{L^2} \|\operatorname{div} u\|_{L^2}$$

$$\left| \int_{\Gamma_N} F u \right| \leq c(n, \Omega) \|u\|_{BD(\Omega)} \|F\|_{L^\infty(\Gamma_N)}$$

where  $c(n, \Omega)$  is the constant in the trace estimate (1.1).

Actually, it can be physically reasonable and formally useful to suppose that the force  $F(x)$  depends on the normal  $\nu(x)$  to  $\partial\Omega$  in the following way

$$F_j(x) = K_{ij}(x) \nu_i(x)$$

where  $K_{ij}(x)$  is a symmetric tensor; in this case we have

$$F_j u^j = K_{ij} \tau_{ij}(u)$$

because  $K$  is symmetric, and

$$(2.1) \quad K_{ij} \tau_{ij}(u) = \left( K_{ij}^D + \frac{\operatorname{trace} K}{n} \delta_{ij} \right) \left( \tau_{ij}^D + \frac{u \cdot \nu}{n} \delta_{ij} \right) =$$

$$= K_{ij}^D \tau_{ij}^D + u \cdot \nu \frac{\operatorname{trace} K}{n}$$

because the matrices of zero trace are orthogonal to the identity matrix.

We shall need the following facts.

PROPOSITION 2.2 - Let  $u \in P(\Omega_1)$  and set

$$u^- = \underline{\text{trace of } u|_{\Omega} \text{ on } \Gamma_D}$$

$$u^+ = \underline{\text{trace of } u|_{\Omega_1 \setminus \Omega} \text{ on } \Gamma_D}$$

then we have

i)  $u^+(x) \cdot \nu(x) = u^-(x) \cdot \nu(x)$  for  $\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$ -almost all  $x \in \Gamma_D$

ii)  $\int_{\Gamma_D} \phi(\mathcal{E}^D(u)) = \int_{\Gamma_D} |\tau^D(u^+ - u^-)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$

Proof: i) recall that  $u^+$  and  $u^-$  are  $L^1$ -funtions on  $\Gamma_D$

by the trace theorem 1.4 , and that Green's formulae hold, hence, for all  $\varphi \in C_0^1(\Omega_1)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Gamma_D} \varphi u^+ \cdot \nu - \int_{\Gamma_D} \varphi u^- \cdot \nu &= \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div}(u\varphi) + \int_{\Omega_1 \setminus \Omega} \operatorname{div}(u\varphi) + \\ &+ \int_{\Gamma_D} \operatorname{div}(u\varphi) = \int_{\Omega_1} \operatorname{div}(u\varphi) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

ii) By definition we have

$$\int_{\Gamma_D} \phi(\varepsilon^D(u)) = \int_{\Gamma_D} \bar{\phi} \left( \frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d|\alpha|}, \frac{d\varepsilon_{ij}^D(u)}{d|\alpha|} \right) d|\alpha|$$

where  $\alpha = (\mathcal{L}^n, \varepsilon_{ij}^D(u))$  is a  $(\mathbb{R} \times M_n)$ -valued measure, but

$$\mathcal{L}^n \Big|_{\Gamma_D} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad |\alpha| \Big|_{\Gamma_D} = |\varepsilon^D(u)| \Big|_{\Gamma_D}$$

On the other hand, by Green's formulae

$$\int_{\Gamma_D} \varepsilon_{ij}^D(u) \varphi = - \int_{\Gamma_D} \tau_{ij}^D(u^+ - u^-) \varphi d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

that is

$$\varepsilon_{ij}^D(u) \Big|_{\Gamma_D} = - \tau_{ij}^D(u^+ - u^-) d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

and finally we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Gamma_D} \phi(\varepsilon^D(u)) &= \int_{\Gamma_D} \bar{\phi} \left( 0, \frac{\tau_{ij}^D(u^+ - u^-)}{|\tau^D(u^+ - u^-)|} \right) |\tau^D(u^+ - u^-)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} = \\ &= \int_{\Gamma_D} |\tau^D(u^+ - u^-)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

because  $\bar{\phi}(0, a) = |a|$

q.e.d.

We shall now relax the Dirichlet boundary condition in

a similar way to what has been done in [8], [7] for the minimum area problem.

$$(P_2) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize the functional} \\ \mathcal{F}'(u) = \int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u)) + \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} u)^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} f u dx + \\ \quad + \int_{\Gamma_N} F u d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} + \int_{\Gamma_D} |\tau^p(u-g)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \\ \text{in the class of functions } u \in P(\Omega) \text{ such that} \\ u \cdot \nu = g \cdot \nu \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D \\ \text{where } g \text{ is a fixed function in } P(\Omega_1) \cap H^{1,1}(\Omega_1) \end{array} \right.$$

If moreover we introduce the problem

$$(P_3) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{F}''(u) = \int_{\Omega_1} \phi(\varepsilon^p(v)) + \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega_1} (\operatorname{div} v)^2 dx + \int_{\Omega_1} \tilde{f} v dx + \int_{\Gamma_N} F v \rightarrow \inf \\ v \in P(\Omega_1) \quad , \quad v = g \quad \text{in } A_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega} \\ \tilde{f} = \begin{cases} f & \text{in } \Omega \\ 0 & \text{in } A_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega} \end{cases} \end{array} \right.$$

then, by proposition 2.2 ii) , problem  $(P_3)$  is equivalent to problem  $(P_2)$  . In fact, if  $v \in P(\Omega_1)$  with  $v=g$  in  $\Omega_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega}$  (or  $u \in P(\Omega)$  with  $u \cdot \nu = g \cdot \nu$  on  $\Gamma_D$  and set  $v=u$  in  $\Omega$  ,  $v=g$  in  $\Omega_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega}$  ) we have

$$\mathcal{F}''(v) = \mathcal{F}'(v) + \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega}} (\operatorname{div} g)^2 dx + \int_{\Omega_1 \setminus \Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u))$$

We want to emphasize the fact that the possible solution to problem  $(P_2)$  needs not take the prescribed boundary value on  $\Gamma_D$  , more precisely, the normal component



$u \cdot \nu$  of  $u$  will take the value  $g \cdot \nu$  while, in general, the tangential component  $u_\tau$  of  $u$  will not be equal to  $g_\tau$ .

The following theorem justifies our relaxed form  $(P_2)$  or  $(P_3)$  of problem  $(P_1)$ .

THEOREM 2.3 - Let the boundary of  $\Omega$  be of class  $C^2$ , then we have

$$\begin{array}{ll} \inf_{\substack{u \in P(\Omega) \\ u = g \text{ on } \Gamma_D}} \mathcal{F}(u) & = \inf_{\substack{u \in P(\Omega) \\ u \cdot \nu = g \cdot \nu \text{ on } \Gamma_D}} \mathcal{F}'(u) \end{array}$$

Proof: obviously we have  $\inf \mathcal{F}' \leq \inf \mathcal{F}$  so let us prove the converse. Let  $\delta > 0$  and take  $u \in P(\Omega)$  with  $u \cdot \nu = g \cdot \nu$  on  $\Gamma_D$  and such that

$$\mathcal{F}'(u) \leq \delta + \inf \mathcal{F}'$$

We have  $(u-g) \in L^1(\Gamma_D, \mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $(u-g) \cdot \nu = 0$  on  $\Gamma_D$  so, by theorem 1.7, we can find a function  $\psi \in P(\Omega)$  such that

$$\psi \cdot \nu = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad \psi = g - u \text{ on } \Gamma_D$$

Set then

$$w = u + \eta_\kappa \psi$$

where

$$\eta_\kappa(x) = \max(0, 1 - \kappa \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega))$$

We have  $w \in P(\Omega)$ , in fact

$$\int_{\Omega} |E(w)| \leq \int_{\Omega} |E(u)| + \eta_\kappa \int_{\Omega} |E(\psi)| + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\psi^j \nabla_j \eta_\kappa + \psi^i \nabla_i \eta_\kappa| dx$$

$$\int_{\Omega} |\text{div} w|^2 \leq \text{const} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} (\text{div} u)^2 + \int_{\Omega} |\psi \cdot \nabla \eta_\kappa|^2 dx + \int_{\Omega} \eta_\kappa^2 (\text{div} \psi)^2 dx \right\}$$

where  $\gamma \cdot \nabla \eta_K = \gamma \cdot \nu_K = 0$  . We also have

$$\mathcal{F}(w) \leq \mathcal{F}(u) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{(T_D)_{1/k}} |v_i \gamma^i + v_j \psi^j| dx + \sigma(\delta)$$

where  $(T_D)_{1/k} = \{x \in \Omega \mid \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) < 1/k\}$  and

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \sigma(\delta) = 0$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} \int_{(T_D)_{1/k}} |v_i \gamma^i + v_j \psi^j| dx = \int_{T_D} |\tau^D(u-g)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1}$$

that is, for  $k$  large enough

$$\mathcal{F}(w) \leq \inf \mathcal{F}^i + \sigma(\delta) + 2\delta$$

and, this holding for all positive  $\delta$  , the theorem is proved.

q.e.d.

We shall now give a sufficient condition on the forces  $f$  ,  $F$  in order problem  $(P_2)$  (or equivalently  $(P_3)$  ) be defined and have a solution, this condition is also almost necessary in view of proposition 2.5 . We shall suppose that  $F$  is expressed in the form

$$F_j = -(H_{ij} + p\delta_{ij})v_i$$

with  $H_{ij} = H_{ji}$  ,  $\sum_{i=1}^n H_{ii} = 0$  (see (2.1)) , hence, if  $V_0$  denotes the space of the traces of functions  $u \in P(\Omega)$  , we could more precisely allow  $F$  to be only a function in the dual space of  $V_0$  instead of being in  $L^\infty(T_N, \mathbb{R}^n)$  .

Then we have

THEOREM 2.4 - Assume that the functions  $H_{ij}$  and  $p$  can be extended to functions still called  $H_{ij}$  ,  $p$  on  $\bar{\Omega}$  in such a way that

$$1. \quad H_{ij} = H_{ji} \quad , \quad \sum_{i=1}^n H_{ii} = 0$$

$$2. \quad |H| = \left( \sum_{i,j=1}^n H_{ij}^2 \right)^{1/2} \leq 1 - \varepsilon_0 \quad \text{for some } \varepsilon_0 > 0$$

$$3. \quad \|p\|_{L^2(\Omega)} < +\infty$$

$$4. \quad \begin{cases} \nabla_i (H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) = f_j & \text{in } \Omega \\ (H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) \nu_i = -F_j & \text{on } \Gamma_N \end{cases}$$

then there exists a solution  $u$  to problem  $(P_2)$  or equivalently  $(P_3)$  .

Proof: we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} f u + \int_{\Gamma_N} F u &= \int_{\Gamma_D} (H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) \tau_{ij}(u) - \int_{\Omega} (H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) \varepsilon_{ij}(u) = \\ &= - \int_{\Omega} H_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij}^D(u) - \int_{\Omega} p \operatorname{div} u - \int_{\Gamma_D} H_{ij} \tau_{ij}^D(u-g) - \int_{\Gamma_D} (H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) \tau_{ij}(g) \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}''(u) &= \int_{\Omega_1} \phi(\varepsilon^D(u)) + \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega_1} (\operatorname{div} u)^2 - \int_{\Omega} p \operatorname{div} u - \\ &- \int_{\Omega} H_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij}^D(u) - \int_{\Gamma_D} H_{ij} \tau_{ij}^D(u-g) - \int_{\Gamma_D} (H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) \tau_{ij}(g) \end{aligned}$$

If we now extend  $H_{ij}$  and  $p$  to  $\Omega_1$  with no 'discontinuity' on  $\Gamma_D$ , still calling them  $H_{ij}$  and  $p$ , we get

$$\mathcal{J}''(u) = \mathcal{J}(u) + \int_{\Omega_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega}} H_{ij} \tau_{ij}^D(g) + \int_{\Omega_1} p \operatorname{div} g - \int_{\Gamma_D} (H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) \tau_{ij}(g)$$

where

$$\mathcal{J}(u) = \int_{\Omega_1} \phi(\varepsilon^D(u)) - \int_{\Omega_1} H_{ij} \tau_{ij}^D(u) + \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega_1} (\operatorname{div} u)^2 - \int_{\Omega_1} p \operatorname{div} u$$

therefore problem  $(P_2)$  is equivalent to problem

$$(P_3)' \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{minimize } \mathcal{J}(u) \text{ in the class of the functions} \\ u \in P(\Omega_1) \text{ such that } u=g \text{ in } \Omega_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega} \end{array} \right.$$

Now we have

$$(2.2) \quad \mathcal{J}(g) < +\infty$$

and, for all  $v \in P(\Omega_1)$  with  $v=g$  on  $\Omega_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega}$

$$(2.3) \quad \mathcal{J}(v) \geq \varepsilon_0 \left\{ \int_{\Omega_1} |\varepsilon^p(v)| + \frac{\kappa}{2} \int_{\Omega_1} (\operatorname{div} v)^2 \right\} - c(\Omega, g)$$

Let's now take a minimizing sequence  $\{v_h\} \subset P(\Omega_1)$  with  $v_h=g$  in  $\Omega_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega}$  then, by proposition 2.2 i), we have that

$v_h \cdot \nu = g \cdot \nu$  on  $\Gamma_D$ , and, by (2.2), (2.3) and corollary 1.11, the quantities  $\|v_h\|_{BD(\Omega_1)}$ ,  $\|\operatorname{div} v_h\|_{L^2(\Omega_1)}$  are bounded independently of  $h$ . By compactness theorem 1.12 possibly taking a subsequence, we have

$$\begin{aligned} v_h &\longrightarrow v && \text{in } L^1(\Omega_1, \mathbb{R}^n) \\ \operatorname{div} v_h &\longrightarrow \operatorname{div} v && \text{weakly} \end{aligned}$$

where  $v \in P(\Omega_1)$  by semicontinuity,  $v=g$  in  $\Omega_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega}$  and  $v \cdot \nu = g \cdot \nu$  on  $\Gamma_D$  (see proposition 2.2 i)).

It is now sufficient to remark that the functional  $\mathcal{J}(v)$  is lower-semicontinuous with respect to the weak convergence in order to conclude the proof.

q.e.d.

Let us remark that problem  $(P_2)$  can always be solved in case  $f=0$ ,  $F=0$  as one can see directly minimizing  $\mathcal{F}''$  or just taking  $H_{ij}=0$ ,  $p=0$  in the preceding theorem. In particular we can always solve  $(P_2)$  in case  $f=0$  and only Dirichlet boundary conditions are given.

THEOREM 2.5 - Suppose  $u$  is a solution to problem  $(P_2)$  and suppose that  $u \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^0(\Omega \cup \Gamma_N)$ , then there exist functions  $\{H_{ij}\}_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$ ,  $p$  such that

$$\nabla_i (H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) = f_j \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$(H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) \nu_i = -F_j \quad \text{on } \Gamma_N$$

and that  $p \in L^2(\Omega)$  ,  $|H| \leq 1$  .

Proof: we have for every function  $\varphi \in C^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  with  $\varphi = 0$  on  $\Gamma_D$

$$\int_{\Omega} \beta'(|\varepsilon^p(u)|) \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\varepsilon_{ij}^p(u)}{|\varepsilon^p(u)|} \varepsilon_{ij}^p(\varphi) + \kappa_0 \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} u \operatorname{div} \varphi + \int_{\Omega} f \varphi + \int_{\Gamma_N} F \varphi d\lambda^{n-1} = 0$$

where  $\beta$  is such that  $\phi(a) = \beta(|a|)$  . Integrating by parts and recalling that  $\sum_{i,j} \varepsilon_{ij}^p(u) \delta_{ij} = \operatorname{trace}(\varepsilon^p u) = 0$  we get

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n \left\{ \int_{\partial \Omega} \beta'(|\varepsilon^p(u)|) \frac{\varepsilon_{ij}^p(u)}{|\varepsilon^p(u)|} \nu_j \varphi^i - \int_{\Omega} \nabla_i \left( \beta'(|\varepsilon^p(u)|) \frac{\varepsilon_{ij}^p(u)}{|\varepsilon^p(u)|} \right) \varphi^j + \right. \\ \left. + \kappa_0 \int_{\partial \Omega} \operatorname{div} u \delta_{ij} \nu_i \varphi^j - \kappa_0 \int_{\Omega} \nabla_i (\operatorname{div} u \delta_{ij}) \varphi^j + \int_{\Omega} f_j \varphi^j + \int_{\Gamma_N} F_j \varphi^j \right\} = 0$$

Setting now  $p = \kappa_0 \operatorname{div} u$  ,  $H_{ij} = \beta'(|\varepsilon^p(u)|) \frac{\varepsilon_{ij}^p(u)}{|\varepsilon^p(u)|}$  and

choosing suitable test functions  $\varphi$  we get our result.  
q.e.d.

### 3. Additional remarks

What is essentially needed to solve problem  $(P_3)$  by the direct method of calculus of variations, besides the lower-semicontinuity of the functional  $\mathcal{F}$  , is a condition on the forces  $f$  ,  $F$  that yield a bound of the type

$$(3.1) \quad \left| \int_{\Omega} f u + \int_{\Gamma_N} F u \right| \leq (1-\varepsilon_0) \left( \int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u)) + \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} u)^2 \right)$$

We have given such a condition in theorem 2.4 , we shall see now some other sufficient conditions that can be useful in special cases.

a) Suppose  $T_N = \emptyset$  , or  $T_N \neq \emptyset$  and  $F = 0$  . If  $f = f_1 + \nabla q$   $\text{opt} q \subset \Omega$  then

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} f u \right| \leq \|f_1\|_{L^m(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)} \|u\|_{BD(\Omega)} + \|q\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|\text{div} u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$$

so that (3.1) is verified in case  $\|f_1\|_{L^m(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)}$  is sufficiently small, and the functional  $\mathfrak{F}^u$  is obviously lower-semicontinuous.

A sharp estimate on how small  $\|f_1\|_{L^m(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)}$  has to be depends on the best constant  $\gamma$  in the Sobolev-Poincaré inequality for functions with compact support

$$(3.2) \quad \left( \int_{\Omega} |u|^{p_{n-1}} \right)^{\frac{n-1}{n}} \leq \gamma \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)|$$

While the best constant  $\gamma$  is the isoperimetric constant in case  $u$  is a scalar function, it doesn't seem to be known in the more general case (3.2) .

b) Neumann boundary conditions are much better handled if a term of the type  $\int_{\Omega} |u|^2 dx$  is added to the energy functional (this behaviour is well known for instance for elliptic linear equations or for the capillarity problem). In that case we look for a solution to

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathfrak{F}^u(u) + \int_{\Omega} |u|^2 \longrightarrow \inf \\ u \in P(\Omega) \cap L^2(\Omega) \\ u \cdot \nu = g \cdot \nu \quad \text{on } T_D \end{array} \right.$$

One can still proceed as in theorem 2.4 and find a sufficient condition for the existence of a solution, the only difference is that the functions  $(H_{ij} + p \delta_{ij}) \nu_i - f_j$  are now only required to be in  $L^2(\Omega)$  . But in this case another sufficient condition for the existence can be

obtained as follows. Suppose

$$f = f_1 + \nabla q, \quad F_j = (K_{ij} + \sigma \delta_{ij}) v_i$$

where  $f_1 \in L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $q \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $q = 0$  on  $T_D$ ,  $K \in L^\infty(T_N, \mathbb{R}^{n^2})$   
 $(q + \sigma) \in H^{1/2}(T_N)$ , then we have

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} f u + \int_{T_N} F u \right| \leq \|f_1\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|q\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|\operatorname{div} u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \\ + \|K\|_{L^\infty(T_N)} \|T^D u\|_{L^1(T_N)} + \|q + \sigma\|_{H^{1/2}(T_N)} \|u_v\|_{H^{-1/2}(T_N)}$$

where we used the fact (see for example [21]) that if  $u \in L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\operatorname{div} u \in L^2(\Omega)$  then  $u \cdot v \in H^{-1/2}(\partial\Omega)$ . Recall now that (see (1.1)')

$$\|u_v\|_{H^{-1/2}} \leq \alpha_3(\Omega) \left\{ \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)} + \|\operatorname{div} u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \right\}$$

$$\|T^D(u)\|_{L^1(T_N)} \leq \alpha_1(n, L) \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| + \alpha_2(\Omega) \int_{\Omega} |u|$$

so that we have

$$\left| \int_{\Omega} f u + \int_{T_N} F u \right| \leq \delta \left\{ \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)}^2 + \|\operatorname{div} u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \right\} + \\ + \alpha_1(n, L) \|K\|_{L^\infty(T_N, \mathbb{R}^n)} \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon^D(u)| + \operatorname{const}(\delta)$$

where  $\delta$  is any positive number, and in case

$$\alpha_1(n, L) \|K\|_{L^\infty(T_N, \mathbb{R}^n)} < 1 - \varepsilon_0$$

we can choose  $\delta$  so that

$$\mathcal{F}^H(u) + \int_{\Omega} |u|^2 \geq \varepsilon_0 \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon^D(u)| + c_1 \int_{\Omega} |u|^2 + c_2 \int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} u)^2 - c_3$$

with  $c_1, c_2 > 0$ ,  $c_3 \geq 0$

Of course, in order to have a good condition on  $F$  one needs to know the best value of the constant  $\alpha_1(n, L)$  in

the trace estimate. More precisely, a sharp condition on  $F$  would follow from a trace estimate (on smooth domains) of the type

$$(3.3) \quad \int_{\partial\Omega} |\tau^p(u)| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \leq \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon^p(u)| + c(\Omega) \int_{\Omega} |u|$$

Such an estimate seems to be reasonable but we don't know whether it is true or not. Actually, one would only need to have (3.3) with  $\varepsilon(u)$  instead of  $\varepsilon^p(u)$ , notice however that the estimate

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} |u| d\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \leq \int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| + c(\Omega) \int_{\Omega} |u|$$

is false in general as we can see taking

$$\Omega = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x_2 < 0\}, \quad u(x) = \alpha \varphi_{T_\alpha}(x)$$

where  $\varphi_{T_\alpha}(x)$  is the characteristic function of the set

$$T_\alpha = \left\{ x \in \Omega \mid x_2 > -\frac{x_1}{\tan \gamma}, \quad x_2 > (x_1 - d) \tan \gamma \right\}$$

$$\alpha = (\cos \gamma, \sin \gamma) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \gamma \in (0, \pi/2)$$

and choosing  $\gamma$  such that

$$\cos \gamma > \sin \gamma + \frac{\cos \gamma}{\sqrt{2}}$$

In fact we have

$$\int_{\Omega} |\varepsilon(u)| = \left( \sin \gamma + \frac{\cos \gamma}{\sqrt{2}} \right) d$$

$$\int_{\Omega} |u| = \frac{d^2}{2} \sin \gamma \cos \gamma$$

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} |u| \geq \int_{\partial\Omega} |u_{\tau}| = d \cos \gamma$$

and it cannot exist a constant  $C$  such that for all  $d > 0$

$$d \cos \gamma \leq d \left( \sin \gamma + \frac{\cos \gamma}{\sqrt{2}} \right) + C \frac{d^2}{2} \sin \gamma \cos \gamma$$

To conclude, we have to remark that in this case the



term  $\int_{\Gamma_N} F u$  is not lower-semicontinuous, anyway, under the condition

$$(3.4) \quad \alpha_1(n, L) \|K\|_{\infty} \leq 1$$

the functional  $\mathcal{F}^h(u)$  on the whole is still lower-semicontinuous with respect to  $L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$  convergence (see [9] for the area functional). In fact, for  $\delta > 0$  set

$$\Omega_\delta = \{ x \in \Omega \mid \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) > \delta \}$$

for almost all  $\delta$  we have

$$\int_{\partial\Omega_\delta} |\varepsilon(u)| = 0$$

Now, by the trace estimate (1.1)' and (3.4), we have for  $u, u_h \in P(\Omega) \cap L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u)) + \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} (\text{div} u)^2 + \int_{\Gamma_N} F u - \int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u_h)) - \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} (\text{div} u_h)^2 - \int_{\Gamma_N} F u_h \leq \\ & \leq \int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u)) + \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} (\text{div} u)^2 - \int_{\Omega} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u_h)) - \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} (\text{div} u_h)^2 + \\ & \quad + \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_\delta} |\varepsilon(u - u_h)| + c \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_\delta} |u - u_h| \leq \\ & \leq \dots + \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_\delta} |\varepsilon(u)| + \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_\delta} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u_h)) + \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_\delta} (\text{div} u_h)^2 \leq \\ & \leq \int_{\Omega_\delta} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u)) - \int_{\Omega_\delta} \phi(\varepsilon^p(u_h)) + \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega_\delta} (\text{div} u)^2 - \frac{\kappa_0}{2} \int_{\Omega_\delta} (\text{div} u_h)^2 + \\ & \quad + 2 \int_{\Omega_\delta} |\varepsilon(u)| + \int_{\Omega_\delta} (\text{div} u)^2 + \frac{2}{\kappa_0} \mathcal{L}^n(\Omega \setminus \Omega_\delta) \end{aligned}$$

Supposing now  $u_h \rightarrow u$  in  $L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$ , going to the limit

for  $h \rightarrow \infty$  and taking  $\delta$  arbitrarily small we get our result.

c) Finally, by the same methods we have used so far, we can also study the case of a deformation energy of the type

$$\int_{\Omega} \phi(x, \varepsilon^p(u)) + \int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} u)^2$$

where  $\phi: \bar{\Omega} \times M_n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is a continuous function of  $(x, \varepsilon^p)$  and a convex function of  $\varepsilon^p$ , and

$$M_0 |a| \leq |\phi(x, a)| \leq M_1(1 + |a|)$$

holds. We can again define a function

$$\bar{\phi}(x, t, a) = \begin{cases} \phi(x, \frac{a}{t}) t & \text{if } t > 0 \\ \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \phi(x, \frac{a}{t}) t & \text{if } t = 0 \end{cases}$$

to get a semicontinuous extension of the functional  $\int_{\Omega} \phi(x, \varepsilon^p(u))$  to  $BD(\Omega)$ , and we can solve a mixed boundary value problem with relaxed Dirichlet conditions:

$$(P_4) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \int_{\Omega} \phi(x, \varepsilon^p(u)) + \int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{div} u)^2 + \int_{\Omega} f u + \int_{\Gamma_N} F u + \int_{\Gamma_D} \bar{\phi}(x, 0, \tau^p(u)) dH^{n-1} \rightarrow \inf \\ u \in P(\Omega) \\ u \cdot \nu = g \cdot \nu \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D, \quad g \in P(\Omega_1) \end{array} \right.$$

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