A line tension approximation for dislocations

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Single lines

Transmission Electron Micrograph of single Dislocations



Image: A math a math

Collective behaviour

Networks of dislocations



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Collective behaviour: Formation of Microstructure

We believe that these configurations can be described asymptotically as equilibria of suitable Variational Models.

The general idea is that some of the traditional variational phenomenological models for dislocations can be improved starting from more fundamental models (first principles that account for the crystalline structure).

As a result we may obtain "unstable variational models", more precisely models that require relaxation and can explain the formation of microstructure.

Main goals of the project:

3D discrete models

• Ariza and Ortiz, ARMA 2005 (Carpio and Bonilla, PRL 2003, PRB 2005)



Mesoscopic 3D model

Concentration on lines

Macroscopic 3D model • Plasticity

Crystal ANISOTROPY

Various collaborations (in chronological order)

S. Müller, M. Ortiz , P. Cermelli, G. Leoni, M. Focardi, S. Cacace , M. Ponsiglione, S. Conti

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The dislocations are discontinuity of a phase field (the slip) on the slip plane

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2D VARIATIONAL MODEL (Koslowski-Ortiz/ Nabarro-Peierls)



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2D VARIATIONAL MODEL (Koslowski-Ortiz/ Nabarro-Peierls)



The interfacial Energy

We write u in a basis given by two normalized Burgers vectors

$$u = u_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + u_2 \mathbf{b}_2$$

$$E_{\text{interface}}(u) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_Q \operatorname{dist}^2(u, \mathbb{Z}^2) dx$$



Note: The Burgers vectors are determined by the crystalline structure



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The Long-Range Elastic Interaction

NOTE: In order to understand the properties of the singular kernel, consider the following elementary example

$$\pi \min_{v_{|x_{3}=0}=u} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{3}_{+}} |\nabla v|^{2} dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2}} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^{2}}{|x - y|^{3}} dx \, dy =: [u]_{H^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

Similarly the term $E_{elast}(u)$ is obtained minimizing the bulk elastic energy given the slip on $\{x_3 = 0\}$

$$E_{\mathsf{elast.}}(u) = \int_Q \int_Q (u(x) - u(y))^t \Gamma(x - y)(u(x) - u(y)) \, dx \, dy$$

Then: $\Gamma(t) \in \mathbb{M}^{2 \times 2}$

- ► $\frac{c_1}{|t|^3} |\xi|^2 \le \xi^T \Gamma(t) \xi \le \frac{c_2}{|t|^3} |\xi|^2$ $H^{\frac{1}{2}}$ -type of kernel
- Fore simplicity we assume $\Gamma(\lambda t) = |\lambda|^{-3}\Gamma(t)$

Note: The precise structure of Γ depends on the boundary conditions and the crystalline structure

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Main Goal

To study the asymptotic behaviour in terms of Γ -convergence of

$$E_{\varepsilon}(u) = \int_{Q} \int_{Q} (u(x) - u(y))^{t} \Gamma(x - y) (u(x) - u(y)) \, dx \, dy + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_{Q} \operatorname{dist}^{2} (u, \mathbb{Z}^{2}) \, dx$$

properly scaled

1. The scaling: How much does it "cost" a jump with the $H^{\frac{1}{2}}$ norm?

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Γ -convergence of the functional

$$F_{\varepsilon}(u) = \frac{1}{|\log \varepsilon|} \int_{Q} \int_{Q} (u(x) - u(y))^{t} \Gamma(x - y) (u(x) - u(y)) \, dx \, dy + \frac{1}{\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|} \int_{Q} \operatorname{dist}^{2} (u, \mathbb{Z}^{2}) \, dx$$

This is a multiple well potential with a singular perturbation (non local, singular and anisotropic): sharp interface limit.

A short list of references:

- (local perturbation)
 - Modica-Mortola, Modica, Sternberg, Bouchitte
- (non local, regular perturbation)
 - Alberti-Bellettini, Alberti-Bellettini-Cassandro-Presutti (Ising)
- (non local, singular perturbation)
 - Alberti-Bouchitte-Sepeccher, Kurzke, G.-Muller, Cacace-G.

Two words about Γ -convergence (Cleverly designed the get convergence of minimum problems)

MAIN POINT:

given F_{ε} we replace it with a simpler functional F (no dependence on the small parameter ε !) that captures the main features of F_{ε} .

Essentially F(u) is the smallest value that you reach with $F_{\varepsilon}(u_{\varepsilon})$ among all sequences converging to u.

Usual strategy: get a LOWER BOUND for $F_{\varepsilon}(u_{\varepsilon})$ and then proof its OPTIMALITY. Theorem (Cacace-G.)

(Compactness) If $F_{\varepsilon}(u_{\varepsilon}) \leq C$, then (up to a subsequence) $\exists a_{\varepsilon} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ and $u \in BV(Q, \mathbb{Z}^2)$ such that

$$u_{\varepsilon} - a_{\varepsilon} \rightarrow u$$
 in $L^{p} \quad \forall p < 2$

 $(\Gamma$ -convergence) \exists a subsequence $\varepsilon_k \to 0$ and a function $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}^2 \times S^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $F_{\varepsilon_k}(u)$ Γ -converges to $F(u) = \int_{c} \varphi([u], \nu_u) \mathcal{H}^1$ S_u = jump set of u[u] = jump of uS, ν_u = normal vector on S_u A line tension approximation for dislocations

Anisotropic line tension energy

$$\int_{\mathcal{S}_u} \varphi([u], \nu_u) d\mathcal{H}^1$$

NOTE: The proof of the Γ -convergence is based on an abstract argument: Compactness of Γ -convergence and integral representation of the limit.

Incomplete description

- ► ε_k: we extract a subsequence (we aspect that the whole sequence should converge)
- $\varphi = ?:$ we would like to characterize the line tension energy density

The problem is completely solved in the scalar case.

The scalar case

Only one slip system; i.e.

slip = $u\mathbf{b}$

where $u: Q \to \mathbb{R}$ is scalar and **b** is a given Burgers vector. The functional reduces to

$$F_{\varepsilon}(u) = \frac{1}{|\log \varepsilon|} \int_{Q} \int_{Q} \Gamma(x-y) |u(x) - u(y)|^2 \, dx \, dy + \frac{1}{\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|} \int_{Q} \operatorname{dist}^2(u, \mathbb{Z}) \, dx$$

(Γ is a scalar kernel with the same singularity). Theorem (G.-Müller, ARMA)

$$\mathcal{F}_arepsilon(u)$$
 -converges to $\mathcal{F}(u) = \int_{\mathcal{S}_u} \gamma(
u_u) |[u]| \mathcal{H}^1$

where

$$\gamma(n) = 2 \int_{x \cdot n = 1} \Gamma(x) \, dx$$

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Lower bound: For every sequence $u_{\varepsilon} \to u$ we prove that $\liminf_{\varepsilon} F_{\varepsilon}(u_{\varepsilon}) \ge F(u)$ (by a blow up argument)

Upper bound: The lower bound is achieved

$$u = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{array}{c} A & \stackrel{\varepsilon}{\checkmark} \\ u_{\varepsilon} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{array}{c} B \\ u_{\varepsilon} = u * \phi_{\varepsilon} \end{array}$$

 $\lim_{\varepsilon} F_{\varepsilon}(u_{\varepsilon}) = \lim_{\varepsilon} \frac{1}{|\log \varepsilon|} \int_{Q} \int_{Q} \Gamma(x-y) |u_{\varepsilon}(x) - u_{\varepsilon}(y)|^{2} dx dy = \gamma(\mathbf{e}_{1}) = F(u)$

REMARK:

- ► Flat interface ("one-dimensional profile")
- The limit energy comes only from the non local part ("no equipartition of energy")

Back to the vector case

$$F_{\varepsilon}(u) = \frac{1}{|\log \varepsilon|} \int_{Q} \int_{Q} (u(x) - u(y))^{t} \Gamma(x - y)(u(x) - u(y)) \, dx \, dy + \frac{1}{\varepsilon |\log \varepsilon|} \int_{Q} \operatorname{dist}^{2} (u, \mathbb{Z}^{2}) \, dx$$

Let us use naively the same strategy and for any $s \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ and $n \in S$ consider



 $u_{\varepsilon} = u * \phi_{\varepsilon}$ $\lim_{\varepsilon} F_{\varepsilon}(u_{\varepsilon}) = s^{t}\gamma(n)s =: F_{\mathsf{flat}}(u)$

where

$$\gamma(n) = 2 \int_{x \cdot n=1} \mathbf{\Gamma}(x) \, dx = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_{11}(n) & \gamma_{12}(n) \\ & \\ \gamma_{12}(n) & \gamma_{22}(n) \end{pmatrix}$$

NOTE: In general
$$F(u) < F_{\text{flat}}(u)$$
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EXAMPLE: CUBIC LATTICE



$$\gamma(n) = \gamma(\theta) = C \begin{pmatrix} 2(1 - \frac{1}{2}\cos^2\theta) & \frac{1}{2}\sin 2\theta \\ \\ \frac{1}{2}\sin 2\theta & 2(1 - \frac{1}{2}\sin^2\theta) \end{pmatrix}$$

NOTE: The off-diagonal term is negative if $\theta < 0$

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Important consequences

1. In some directions it is better to concentrate the jump



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2. NO "one dimensional" optimal profile



$$F_{\mathsf{flat}}(u_0) := \lim_{\varepsilon} F_{\varepsilon}(u_0 * \phi_{\varepsilon}) = \gamma_{11}(\mathbf{e}_1) + \gamma_{22}(\mathbf{e}_2)$$

Consider



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2. NO "one dimensional" optimal profile



$$F_{\mathsf{flat}}(u_0) := \lim_{\varepsilon} F_{\varepsilon}(u_0 * \phi_{\varepsilon}) = \gamma_{11}(\mathbf{e}_1) + \gamma_{22}(\mathbf{e}_2)$$

Consider



 $F_{\text{zig-zag}}(u_0) := \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} F_{\varepsilon}(v_{\delta_{\varepsilon}} * \phi_{\varepsilon}) < F_{\text{flat}}(u_0)$

Numerical simulations for a twist boundary problem using this model (Koslowki - Ortiz, 2004)







A twist of the upper part of the crystal wrt the lower part is imposed by requiring the constraint that the slip u be close to a given rotation of angle θ



Zig-Zag's of screw and edge dislocations observed at the TEM





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Reasons for the formation of Microstructures

The naive line tension energy

$$F_{\mathrm{flat}}(u) = \int_{S_u} [u]^t \gamma(n_u)[u] d\mathcal{H}^1$$

is NOT LOWER SEMICONTINUOUS

It requires relaxation: find the largest $arphi(s,
u)\leq s^t\gamma(
u)s$ such that

$$\int_{\mathcal{S}_u} \varphi([u], n_u) \, d\mathcal{H}^1$$

is lower semicontinuous.

We can prove (A.G., S. Conti, S. Müller) that this is exactly "zig-zag" energy (so our example gives the relaxation of $F_{\rm flat}$) and we (almost) prove that the realaxation is the Γ -limit in the vector case.

CONCLUSIONS:

- 1. The anisotropic line tension energy is completely determined by the elastic tensors and the crystalline structure
 - \longrightarrow the whole sequence converges
- 2. The anisotropic line tension energy is given by a relaxation process \longrightarrow microstructures
- 3. This final result is very technical already in the 2D case and suggests new difficulties in in the passage to the 3D case, but also that the 3Dcase could be very rich and may exhibit very interesting microstructures