

The solution to the rigid-plastic model can be used to construct upper and lower bounds for the load on a elastic-perfectly plastic material reaching a critical state.

### §1. Theorems of Limit Analysis (Prager-Hodge, §33, p.213)

Assume surface traction  $T_j(x)$  increases monotonically with time by an overall multiplicative constant. A state of impending plastic flow will eventually be reached, where plastic strain increases without increasing  $T_j(x)$  (i.e. unrestricted plastic flow).

Vanishing of stress rate at impending plastic flow:  $\dot{\sigma}_{ij} = 0$  everywhere

This can be proved using Druker's inequality postulate

$$\dot{\sigma}_{ij} \dot{\epsilon}_{ij}^p \geq 0 \quad (\text{to be discussed later})$$

which is valid for both work-hardening and perfectly plastic (here) materials.

The statement  $\dot{\sigma}_{ij} = 0$  is needed to prove the two theorems below.

#### Lower Bound Theorem

Any statically admissible (stress field) solution provides a lower bound of the load at incipient plasticity.

A statically admissible stress field  $\sigma_{ij}^0$  satisfies the following conditions:

① equilibrium condition everywhere:  $\sigma_{ij,i}^0 + F_j = 0$

② boundary condition:  $\sigma_{ij}^0 n_i = T_j$   
 (assume only two types of B.C.:  $S_T$  where  $T_j$  is specified and  $S_u$  where  $u_i = 0$ )

③ yield inequality everywhere:  $(\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{yy})^2 + 4\sigma_{xy}^2 - 4k^2 \leq 0$

Since  $T_j(x)$  on  $S_T$  is specified up to an overall constant, the largest constant for which a statically admissible stress field  $\sigma_{ij}^0$  can still be found is still a lower bound to this constant at impending plastic flow.

## Upper Bound Theorem

Any kinematically admissible (velocity field) solution provides an upper bound of the load at incipient plasticity.

A kinematically admissible velocity field  $v_i^*$  satisfies the following conditions:

① incompressibility  $v_x^*, x + v_y^*, y = 0$   
everywhere, or throughout each finite subregions separated by lines of discontinuity (where only tangential velocity can be discontinuous)



② boundary condition:  $v_i^* = 0$  at  $S_u$  where  $u = 0$ .

③ positive work rate:  $\int_{S_T} T_j(x) v_j^*(x) dS > 0$

The overall multiplicative constant in  $T_j(x)$  is obtained from the condition (to give an upper bound)

$$\dot{W} \equiv \int_{S_T} T_j(x) v_j^*(x) dS = k \left[ \int_V \sqrt{\dot{\epsilon}_{ij}^* \dot{\epsilon}_{ij}^*} dV + \int_{S_J} |\Delta v_T| dS \right] \equiv \dot{D}$$

$$\text{where } \dot{\epsilon}_{ij}^* = \frac{1}{2} (v_{i,j}^* + v_{j,i}^*)$$

↑ lines of discontinuity  
↑ jump in tangential velocity

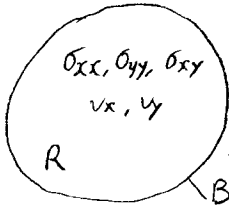
$v_i^*$  provides a possible scenario of failure (incipient plastic flow).

The above equation states that the work done by the external load must be sufficient to balance the internal dissipation of the failure scenario

Note that a true solution to the elastic-plastic material at incipient plasticity must have a stress field that is statically admissible and a velocity field that is kinematically admissible, simultaneously.

## §2 Principle of virtual work (Prager-Hodge, §32 p.209)

The derivation of the lower and upper bound theorems require the principle of virtual work, which is stated here (in 2D plane strain), even though we are not going to derive the lower and upper bound theorems.



consider a stress field  $\sigma_{xx}, \sigma_{yy}, \sigma_{xy}$  and a velocity field  $v_x, v_y$  in region  $R$  that are continuous and have continuous first derivatives.

The stress field and the velocity field can be chosen independently of each other

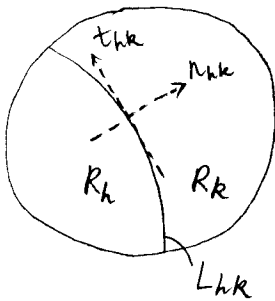
Define: traction force at boundary =  $T_j = \sigma_{ij} n_i$

strain rate =  $\dot{\epsilon}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2}(v_{i,j} + v_{j,i})$

Principle of virtual work:

$$\int_R (\sigma_{xx} \dot{\epsilon}_{xx} + \sigma_{yy} \dot{\epsilon}_{yy} + 2\sigma_{xy} \dot{\epsilon}_{xy}) dA = \int_B (T_x v_x + T_y v_y) dS$$

as long as  $\sigma_{ij}$  satisfies equilibrium condition in  $R$ .



Now consider  $R$  containing lines of discontinuity that divide  $R$  into a finite number of subregions:

$R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n$  such that  $\sigma_{xx}, \sigma_{yy}, \sigma_{xy}$  are continuous and have continuous first derivatives in each subregion.

We also allow tangential velocity to be discontinuous at line of discontinuity

Principle of virtual work:

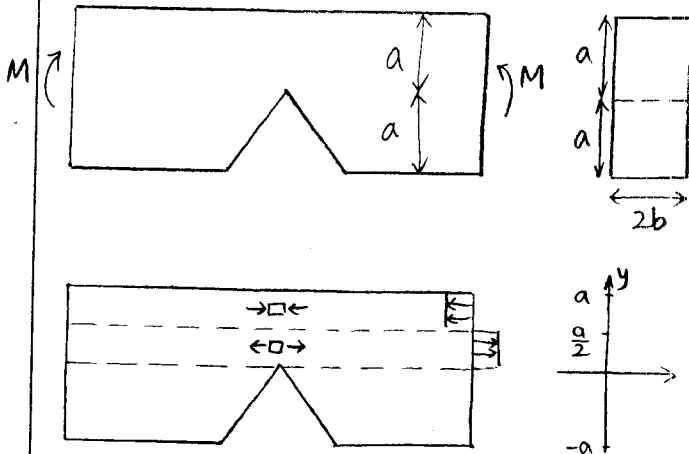
$$\int_R (\sigma_{xx} \dot{\epsilon}_{xx} + \sigma_{yy} \dot{\epsilon}_{yy} + 2\sigma_{xy} \dot{\epsilon}_{xy}) dA = \int_B (T_x v_x + T_y v_y) dS + \sum_{L_{hk}} \int_{L_{hk}} \overbrace{T^{(hk)}}^{\text{negative}} (v_T^h - v_T^k) dL_{hk}$$

as long as  $\sigma_{ij}$  satisfies equilibrium condition in  $R$ .

$T^{(hk)}$  is shear stress transmitted across  $L_{hk}$  from  $R_k$  to  $R_h$

$(v_T^h - v_T^k)$  is the discontinuity in tangential velocity across  $L_{hk}$ .

### §3. Notched Bar in Bending



Find  $M$  at impending plasticity

Lower bound estimate

Construct a statically admissible stress field

$$\sigma_{xx}^0 = -2k \quad \frac{a}{2} < x \leq a$$

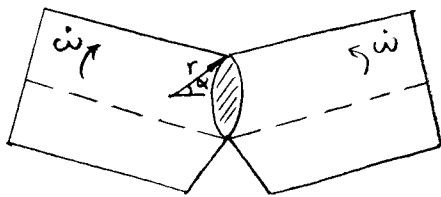
$$\sigma_{xx}^0 = 2k \quad 0 < x < \frac{a}{2}$$

$$\sigma_{xx}^0 = 0 \quad -a \leq x < 0$$

all other stress components zero

$$(\because (\sigma_{xx}^0 - \sigma_{yy}^0)^2 + 4\sigma_{xy}^2 - 4k^2 \leq 0)$$

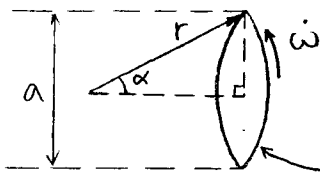
$$M = 2 \cdot 2k \cdot \frac{a}{2} \cdot \frac{a}{4} \cdot 2b = k a^2 b$$



Upper bound estimate

Construct a kinematically admissible velocity field

assume a "mechanism" in which two rigid segment rotate around a hinge



$$\text{rate of external work: } \dot{W} = 2 M \dot{\omega}$$

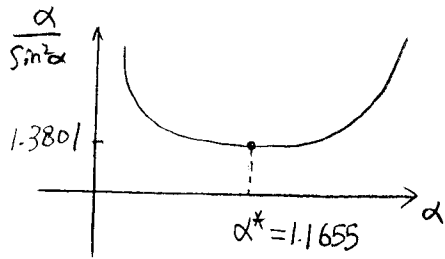
tangential velocity jump at interface

$$|\Delta v_T| = r \dot{\omega} = \frac{a/2}{\sin \alpha} \dot{\omega} \quad (r \sin \alpha = \frac{a}{2})$$

$$\text{length of discontinuity line: } 2 \cdot 2\alpha \cdot r = \frac{2\alpha a}{\sin \alpha}$$

total internal dissipation:

$$\dot{D} \equiv k \left( \frac{a/2}{\sin \alpha} \right) \dot{\omega} \frac{2\alpha a}{\sin \alpha} \cdot 2b = 2k a^2 b \dot{\omega} \frac{\alpha}{\sin^2 \alpha}$$



To obtain the tightest upper bound,  
we choose  $\alpha^*$  that minimizes  $\frac{\alpha}{\sin^2 \alpha}$

$$\min_{0 < \alpha < \pi} \frac{\alpha}{\sin^2 \alpha} = 1.3801 \quad \text{at} \quad \alpha^* = 1.1655$$

Matlab =  $f = \text{inline}('x ./ \sin(x).^2');$   
 $x0 = \text{fminsearch}(f, 1)$   
 $f(x0)$

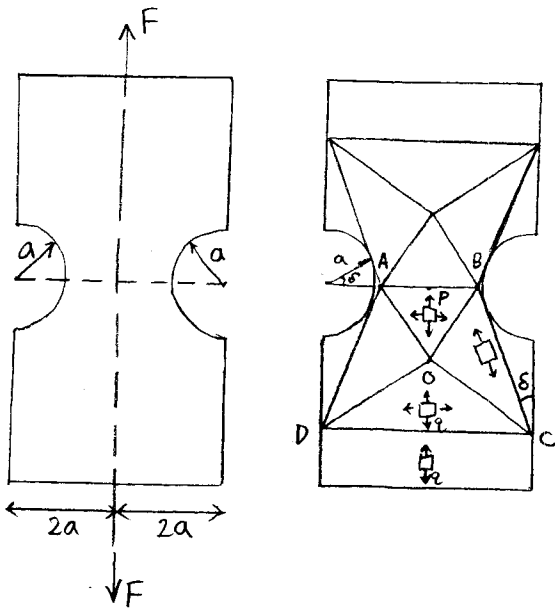
$$\dot{W} = 2M\dot{w} = 2ka^2b \dot{w} \frac{\alpha^*}{\sin^2 \alpha^*}$$

$$M = \frac{\alpha^*}{\sin^2 \alpha^*} ka^2b = 1.38 ka^2b$$

Therefore, the moment  $M$  at impending plastic flow:

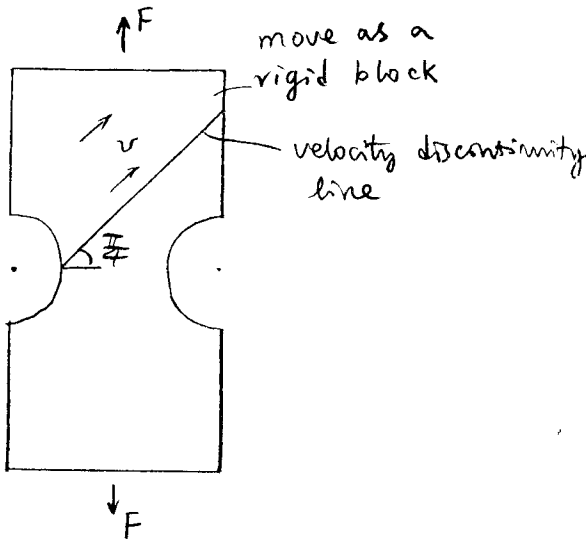
$$1.0ka^2b \leq M \leq 1.38 ka^2b$$

§4. Grooved Rectangular Block



```

[Matlab: f = inline('2*x*sin(2*x) - sin(x) - 1');
  fzero(f, 0.1)]
    
```



Find F at impending plasticity

Lower bound estimate

construct a statically admissible stress field

recall the geometric condition

$$\frac{AB}{CD} = \frac{1 - \sin \delta}{1 + \sin \delta}$$

$$AB = 2\left(2a - \frac{a}{\cos \delta}\right)$$

$$CD = 4a$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{2\cos \delta} = \frac{1 - \sin \delta}{1 + \sin \delta} \rightarrow 2\sin 2\delta - \sin \delta - 1 = 0$$

$$\delta = 0.3765, \quad \frac{AB}{CD} = \frac{1 - \sin \delta}{1 + \sin \delta} = 0.4623$$

$$q = 2k(1 - \sin \delta)$$

$$F = 4a \cdot q = 8(1 - \sin \delta)ka$$

$$F = 5.06ka$$

Upper bound estimate

construct a kinematically admissible velocity field

assume a rigid block sliding off

rate of external work:  $\dot{W} = F \cdot v \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$

tangential velocity jump:  $|\Delta v_t| = v$

length of discontinuity line:  $3a \cdot \sqrt{2}$

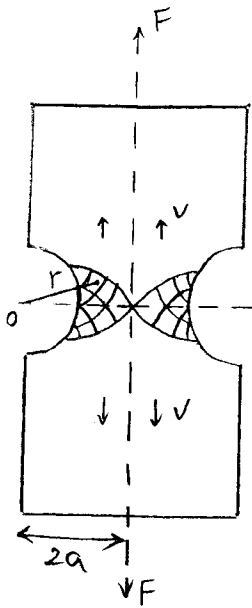
total internal dissipation:

$$\dot{D} = k \cdot v \cdot 3a\sqrt{2}$$

$$\dot{W} = F \cdot v \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = k \cdot v \cdot 3a\sqrt{2} = \dot{D}$$

$$F = 6ka$$

Therefore, the force at impending plastic flow:  $5.06ka \leq F \leq 6ka$



(Image on Coursework front page)

a tighter upper bound can be obtained using the slip line solution

Logarithmic spirals

Stress field:  $\sigma_{rr} = 0$  at  $r = a$

$$\sigma_{rr} = 2k \ln \frac{r}{a} \quad a \leq r \leq 2a$$

$$\sigma_{\theta\theta} = 2k + 2k \ln \frac{r}{a}$$

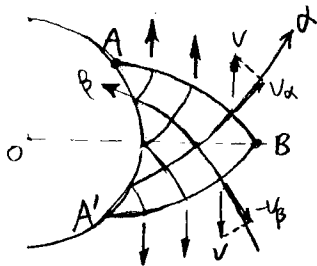
velocity field:

The constant velocity  $v$  of the rigid regions specifies boundary conditions for

$v_\alpha$  along spiral AB

and for

$v_\beta$  along spiral A'B

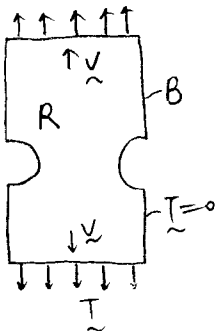


(tangential velocity can be discontinuous at the rigid-plastic boundary)

using:

$$dv_\alpha - v_\beta d\phi = 0 \quad \text{along } \alpha\text{-line}$$

$$dv_\beta - v_\alpha d\phi = 0 \quad \text{along } \beta\text{-line}$$



The entire velocity field  $v_x, v_y$  can be constructed for region ABA' (left as exercise)

AB and A'B are lines of discontinuity

The slip line velocity field is kinematically admissible

because: ① incompressibility  $v_{x,x} + v_{y,y} = 0$

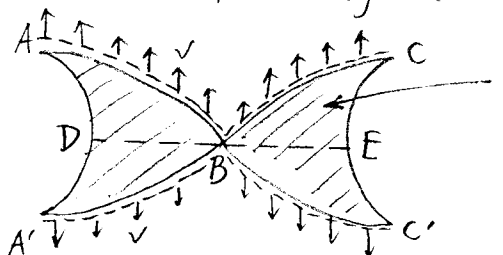
② there are no boundary where  $\underline{u} = 0$

③  $\int_B T_j v_j ds > 0$

To compute the dissipation rate  $\dot{D}$  for this velocity field,

We use the principle of virtual work, with the slip line

stress field  $\sigma_{ij}$  (any stress field satisfying equilibrium and is ok)



in region  $R = ABA' + CBC'$

lines of discontinuity  $S_J = AB + A'B + CB + C'B$

$$F \cdot v = \dot{D} \equiv k \left[ \int_R \sqrt{\dot{\epsilon}_{ij}^* \dot{\epsilon}_{ij}^*} dA + \int_{S_J} |\Delta v_T| ds \right]$$

dashed line in figure above

$$= \int_{\text{Boundary}} (T_x v_x + T_y v_y) ds$$

where  $T_j = \sigma_{ij} n_i$

$\sigma_{ij}$  is the slip line field solution

$$= 2v \int_{AB+BC} T_y ds$$

$$= 2v \int_{DE} T_y ds$$

because  $\sigma_{ij}$  satisfies equilibrium

$$= 2v \int_{DE} \sigma_{yy} ds$$

$$= 4v \int_{DB} \sigma_{\theta\theta} ds$$

$$= 4v \int_a^{2a} 2k \left( H \ln \frac{r}{a} \right) dr$$

$$= 4k \cdot v \cdot \left[ r \ln \frac{r}{a} \right]_a^{2a}$$

$$= 4k v \cdot (2a \ln 2)$$

$$F = 8 \ln 2 \cdot ka = 5.55 ka \quad (\text{upper bound})$$

$$\therefore 5.06 ka \leq F \leq 5.55 ka$$

↑  
a tighter upper bound than before (6ka).