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ON DERIVATION OF EULER-LAGRANGE EQUATIONS FOR AREA-PRESERVING ENERGY-MINIMIZERS

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Abstract. Derivation of the system of Euler-Lagrange equations for volume-preserving, energy-minimizing $W^{1,2}$-deformations and establishing the existence of an integrable pressure associated with the volume constraint is an open problem. In this article we consider this problem for the case $n = 2$. For an area-preserving, elastic energy-minimizing deformation $u$ with $|\nabla u|^2$ in the Hardy space $H^1$, we establish an explicit representation of the associated pressure $p \in L^1_{\text{loc}}$ via Calderón-Zygmund type singular integral operators. We then derive the system of Euler-Lagrange equations for $W^{1,r}_{\text{loc}}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$, $r \geq 3$ area-preserving local minimizers and prove partial regularity under smallness assumption on pressure.

1. Introduction

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $n \geq 2$ be a smooth, bounded and simply connected domain. The classical Stokes problem in hydrodynamics involves minimizing the potential energy

$$I[w] := \int_\Omega \frac{1}{2} |\nabla w|^2 + \langle f, w \rangle$$

for all divergence free velocity fields $w \in W^{1,2}_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$ for a given force field $f \in L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$. It follows that the problem has a unique incompressible minimizer $u \in W^{1,2}_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n)$. The linear incompressible constraint $\text{div} \, u = 0$ ensures the existence of a hydrostatic pressure $p \in L^2_{\text{loc}}(\Omega)$ and the pair $(u, p)$ satisfies the following system of Euler-Lagrange equations

$$\begin{cases}
\Delta u(x) = \nabla p(x) - f(x), & \text{in } \Omega \\
\text{div} \, u = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\
u = 0 & \text{on } \partial \Omega,
\end{cases}$$

(1.1)

in the weak sense, see for example [Ev 98, pp 472-474]. The regularity of $(u, p)$ is well understood and detailed analysis can be found in [Ga 94, Chapter IV].

An analogue of this problem appears in nonlinear elasticity. In such context, $w$ represents the displacement of an incompressible elastic body which has the rest configuration $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. For incompressible neo-Hookean materials [Ba 77], [TO 81], [Og 84], such as vulcanized rubber, in the equilibrium state, one is interested in...
minimizing the elastic energy

\[ E[w] := \int_{\Omega} L(\nabla w(x)) \, dx , \]

for incompressible \( W^{1,2} \)-deformations \( w : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n \), subject to its own boundary condition and corresponding to a given bulk energy \( L : \mathbb{M}^{n \times n} \to \mathbb{R} \). The simplest \( L \) is the Dirichlet energy, given by \( L(X) = \frac{1}{2} |X|^2 := \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(X^tX) \). Let us denote the admissible set of deformations

\[ A := \{ w \in W^{1,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^n) : \text{cof} \, \nabla w \in L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{M}^{n \times n}), \, \det \nabla w = 1 \ \text{a.e.} \} , \]

where \( W^{k,p} \) denotes the usual Sobolev spaces [Ad 75] and \( \text{cof} \) is the cofactor matrix, whose \( i,j \)-th entries is the determinant of \( (n - 1) \times (n - 1) \) submatrix obtained by deleting the \( i \)-th row and the \( j \)-th column from the \( n \times n \) matrix \( P \). We call \( u \in A \) to be a local minimizer of \( E[\cdot] \) if and only if

\[ E[u] \leq E[w] \quad \text{for all } w \in A \text{ and } \text{supp}(w - u) \subset \Omega . \]

Under the hypothesis that the energy density \( L \) is quasiconvex [Mo 52] and have quadratic growth, using direct methods in the calculus of variations together with weak continuity of determinant, Ball [Ba 77] proved the existence of local minimizers \( u \in A \) of the energy \( E[\cdot] \). However the derivation of the system of Euler-Lagrange equations for such minimizers and proving the existence of an integrable pressure associated with the volume constraint is a challenging open problem.

We will be concerned in this paper with the derivation of Euler-Lagrange equations for the area-preserving local minimizers and the existence of a locally integrable pressure in the planar case \( n = 2 \). Our main results are as follows.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let \( \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \) be a smooth, simply connected and bounded domain. Assume that \( u \in W^{1,r}_{\text{loc}}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \cap A = \{ w \in W^{1,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) : \det \nabla w(x) = 1, \text{a.e. in } \Omega \} \), for some \( r \geq 3 \) is a local minimizer of \( E[\cdot] \). Then there exists a scalar function \( q \in L^{r/2}_{\text{loc}}(\Omega) \) such that the pair \((u, p)\) satisfies

\[ \int_{\Omega} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx = \int_{\Omega} p(x) \text{cof}(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx , \]

for all \( \phi \in C^1_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \), where \( p := q \circ u \in L^{r/2}_{\text{loc}}(\Omega) \) and \( A : B := \sum_{i,j} a_{ij} b_{ij} \), for \( A, B \in \mathbb{M}^{2 \times 2} \). In other words, the pair \((u, p)\) satisfies the system of Euler-Lagrange equations

\[ \text{div} \left[ DL(\nabla u(x)) - p(x) \text{cof}(\nabla u(x)) \right] = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega , \]

in the sense of distribution, where the divergence is taken in each rows.

Under the stronger hypothesis that the local minimizers of \( E[\cdot] \) are classical, namely in Sobolev spaces \( W^{2,r}, r > 2 \), Tallec and Oden [TO 81] established the above system of equations. Whereas, our approach to establish the existence of a pressure \( p \in L^{r/2} \) associated with the local minimizer \( u \), we only require \( u \in W^{1,r}_{\text{loc}}, r > 2 \) and to derive the system of equilibrium equations (1.6) for \((u, p)\) in \( \Omega \) we need \( r \geq 3 \).

Recall that for \( f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n) \) the maximal function \( Mf \) is defined by

\[ (Mf)(x) := \sup_{\rho > 0} \frac{1}{\text{meas } B_\rho(x)} \int_{B_\rho(x)} |f(y)| \, dy . \]
From the classical results in singular integrals due to Stein [St 69, Theorem 1] or [St 70, pp 23], it follows that if $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and is supported on a finite ball $B \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, then $Mf \in L^1(B)$ and is only if
\[
 f \in L \log L := \left\{ g : B \to \mathbb{R} : \int_B |g| \log^+ |g| \, dx < \infty \right\}
\equiv \left\{ g : B \to \mathbb{R} : \int_B |g| \log(2 + |g|) \, dx < \infty \right\},
\]
where $\log^+ |x| = 0$ for $0 < |x| \leq 1$ and $\log^+ |x| = \log |x|$ for $|x| > 1$. A standard result states that a positive function $f$ is in the Hardy space $H^1$ (the pre dual of BMO) if and only if $f \in L \log L$. Notice that without any further higher integrability assumption on $\nabla u$, we cannot ensure integrability of the maximal function $M|\nabla u|^2$. However, under the additional assumption that $M|\nabla u|^2$ is integrable, which is equivalent to $|\nabla u|^2 \in H^1$, we prove that the pressure $q$ on the deformed domain $u(\Omega)$ is locally integrable and $(u, q)$ satisfies the same system of differential equations a very weak sense. More precisely, we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.2.** Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be a smooth, simply connected, bounded domain. Assume that $u \in A$ is a local minimizer of $E[\cdot]$ such that $|\nabla u|^2 \in H^1_{loc}(\Omega)$. Then there exists $q \in L^1_{loc}(u(\Omega))$ such that the pair $(u, q)$ satisfies the integral identity
\[
 (1.7) \quad \int_{\Omega} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla (v \circ u) \, dx = \int_{u(\Omega)} q(z) \, \text{div} \, v(z) \, dz
\]
for all $v \in C^\infty_0(u(\Omega), \mathbb{R}^2)$.

The proof of Theorem 1.2 is quite delicate. The main ideas in our proof are to localize the mollified pressure on the deformed domain $u(\Omega)$, its explicit representation using Green’s function of the unit disc in $\mathbb{R}^2$ and finding its uniform bound by using Calderón-Zygmund estimate [CZ 52]. Finally we show that the pressure on $u(\Omega)$ is locally represented as the sum of certain singular integral operators of $|\nabla u|^2$ involving Calderón-Zygmund type kernels (see equation $(4.17)$ in Section 4) [CZ 52].

**Theorem 1.3.** [CZ 52, Calderón-Zygmund Theorem] Let $f \in L \log^+ L$ and let $\Gamma$ be a $C^1$ function on $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ homogeneous of degree 0 with mean value 0 over the unit sphere $S^{n-1}$, that is
\[
 (1.8) \quad \int_{S^{n-1}} \Gamma(x) \, dS(x) = 0.
\]
Then the function defined as
\[
 (1.9) \quad f^*(x) := \lim_{\delta \to 0} \int_{|x-y| \geq \delta} \frac{\Gamma(x-y)}{|x-y|^n} f(y) \, dy
\]
exists a.e. and integrable. Furthermore,
\[
 (1.10) \quad \int_K |f^*| \, dy \leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f| \left( 1 + \log^+ \left( \frac{\text{meas} K}{n+1} |f| \right) \right) \, dy + C(\text{meas} K)^{-\frac{1}{n}},
\]
for all measurable subset $K$ of $\mathbb{R}^n$ with finite measure.

For $n = 2$, through a series of papers, Bauman, Owen and Phillips [BOP 91], [BOP 91a], [BOP 92] proved that any $W^{2,r}$, $r > 2$ solutions of (1.6) are smooth solutions. In 1999, Evans and Gariepy [EG 99] proved that any non-degenerate, Lipschitz area-preserving
local minimizers of $E[\cdot]$ are $C^{1,\alpha}(\Omega_0)$, for some $0 < \alpha < 1$ for a dense open subset $\Omega_0 \subset \Omega$. However, as a consequence of the Euler-Lagrange equations (1.6) together with the standard elliptic estimates [GM 79] we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.4.** Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be a smooth bounded domain and $L : \mathbb{M}^{2 \times 2} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a smooth and uniformly convex function having quadratic growth. Assume that $u \in A \cap W^{1,2}_{\text{loc}}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$ be a local minimizer of $E[\cdot]$ and $q(z) \in C^\alpha$ for some positive $\alpha$. Then $u$ has Hölder continuous first derivatives in subdomain $\Omega_0$. Moreover

$$|\Omega \setminus \Omega_0| = 0.$$ 

In a forthcoming paper [CHK 08] we will discuss the regularity of $W^{1,r}_{\text{loc}}, r > 2$- area-preserving local minimizers and the derivation of system of Euler-Lagrange equations for the case $n \geq 3$.

## 2. The First Variation of Energy

In the study of regularity of finite energy deformations, Šverák [Sv 88] proved that for any $W^{1,n}_{\text{loc}}$-deformation $w$ with $\det \nabla w(x) > 0$, a.e., there exists a continuous function $\omega$ on $\mathbb{R}$ with $\omega(0) = 0$ such that

$$|w(x) - w(y)| \leq \omega(|x - y|), \quad \text{for any } x, y \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n.$$ 

In connection to the study of quasi-regular maps for $n = 2$, Iwaniec and Šverák [IS 93] proved that any $W^{1,2}_{\text{loc}}$-deformation $w$ with the distortion function $K(\cdot, w) := |\nabla w(\cdot)|^2/\det \nabla w(\cdot)$ being integrable, $w$ is a homeomorphism. Thus in particular, area-preserving $W^{1,2}_{\text{loc}}$-deformations in the plane are continuous and open maps. For $n \geq 3$, it is still unknown whether a map $u \in A$ is a homeomorphism.

**Theorem 2.1.** Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $n \geq 2$ be a smooth bounded domain. Let $L : \mathbb{M}^{n \times n} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a smooth function and $u \in A$ be a local minimizer of $E[\cdot]$. For $n \geq 3$, we further assume that $u$ is a continuous and an open map. Then $u$ satisfies the following integral identity

$$\int_{\Omega} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla(\nabla \circ u)(x) \, dx = 0,$$

for all smooth, compactly supported and divergence free vector fields $v$ on $u(\Omega)$, where $A : B := \text{tr}(A^t B) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij} b_{ij}$ is the scalar product on $\mathbb{M}^{n \times n}$.

**Proof:** Let $v \in C^\infty_0(u(\Omega), \mathbb{R}^n)$ be a vector field with $\text{div} v = 0$. For each $y \in u(\Omega)$, consider the unique smooth flow $\phi(y, \cdot) : \mathbb{R} \to u(\Omega)$ given by

$$\frac{d\phi}{dt}(y, t) = v(\phi(y, t)) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}, \quad \phi(y, 0) = y.$$ 

Using the relations $\frac{\partial}{\partial P_{ij}} \det P = (\text{cof} P)_{ij}$ and $P \ (\text{cof} P)^t = I_n \det P$, by a direct calculations we observe that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \det(\nabla_y \phi(y, t)) = \det \nabla_y \phi(y, t) \ \text{div} \ v = 0.$$ 

Since $\det \nabla_y \phi(y, 0) = 1$, from (2.3) it follows that $\det \nabla_y \phi(y, t) = 1$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$ and $y \in u(\Omega)$. Consider the map $w : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \to u(\Omega)$ defined by

$$w(x, t) := \phi(\cdot, t) \circ u(x) = \phi(u(x), t) \quad \text{for any } t \in \mathbb{R}, \ x \in \Omega.$$
Let $V := \text{supp} v \subset u(\Omega)$, then $v(u(x)) = 0$ for $u(x) \notin V$. This in conjunction with the uniqueness of $\phi$ implies that $\phi(u(x), t) = u(x)$ for all points $x$ such that $u(x) \notin V$. Since $\Omega$ is bounded, $u$ is continuous and $V$ is compact, $\Omega' = u^{-1}(V)$ is a compact subset of $\Omega$. Hence $\text{supp}(w(x, t) - u(x)) \subset \Omega'$. Furthermore, $\det \nabla_x w(x, t) = \det \nabla v(y, t) \det \nabla u(x) = 1$. Therefore, $w(\cdot, t) \in A$ and $\text{supp}(u - w(\cdot, t)) \subset \Omega$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Since $u$ is a local minimizer of $E[\cdot]$, $$E[u] \leq E[w(\cdot, t)] \quad \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$ Thus in particular,

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} L(\nabla w(x, t)) \, dx \bigg|_{t=0}$$

$$= \sum_{i,j=1}^{2} \int_{\Omega} L_{ij}(\nabla w(x, t)) \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial w^i}{\partial x_j}(x, t) \right) \, dx \bigg|_{t=0}$$

$$= \sum_{i,j=1}^{2} \int_{\Omega} L_{ij}(\nabla w(x, t)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \frac{d\phi}{dt}(u(x), t) \right) \, dx \bigg|_{t=0}$$

$$= \sum_{i,j=1}^{2} \int_{\Omega} L_{ij}(\nabla u(x)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( v^i(\phi(u(x), t)) \right) \, dx$$

$$= \int_{\Omega} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla(v \circ u)(x) \, dx$$

for all smooth, compactly supported and divergence free vector fields on $u(\Omega)$, where $L_{ij}(P) := \frac{\partial L}{\partial F_{ij}}(P)$. This proves the Theorem. 

3. Derivation of Euler-Lagrange Equations for $n = 2$

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be a smooth, bounded and simply connected domain. Assume that the bulk energy $L : M^{2x2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is smooth such that $|L(P)| \leq C(1 + |P|^2)$, $|DL(P)| \leq C(1 + |P|)$ and $|D^2L(P)| \leq C$ for all $P \in M^{2x2}$, for some $C > 0$. Since $|\text{cof} P| = |P|$ for $P \in M^{2x2}$, the area-preserving maps in the plane $A$ defined in (1.3) is equivalent to the family $\{w \in W^{1,2}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) : \det \nabla w(x) = 1, \text{a.e. in } \Omega\}$. Let $u \in A$ be a local minimizer of $E[\cdot]$. Then $u : \Omega \rightarrow u(\Omega)$ is an open map and a local homeomorphism [Sv 88], [IS 93]. Throughout this section we denote $V \subset u(\Omega)$, a smooth and simply connected sub-domain, $C$ is a generic absolute constant depending only on $\Omega$, $V$, and $L$. Its value can vary from line to line, but each line is valid with $C$ being a pure positive number.

Let $v = (v^1, v^2) \in C_0^\infty(V, \mathbb{R}^2)$ such that $\text{div } v = 0$. Let $\rho$ be the usual mollification kernel. For $0 < \varepsilon < \text{dist}(V, \partial u(\Omega))$, let $v_\varepsilon := (v_1^\varepsilon, v_2^\varepsilon)$ be the mollification of $v$, where $v_1^\varepsilon(y) := (v^1 * \rho_\varepsilon)(y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \rho_\varepsilon(y - z)v^1(z)dz = \int_V \rho_\varepsilon(y - z)v^1(z)dz, \quad y \in u(\Omega)$. 


Thus \( v_\epsilon \in C_0^\infty(\mathbf{u}(\Omega), \mathbb{R}^2) \) and \( \text{div} v_\epsilon = 0 \). Hence by testing the identity (2.1) with \( v = v_\epsilon \), we obtain

\[
\sum_{i,j=1}^{2} \int_{\Omega} L_{ij}(\nabla v_\epsilon(x)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (v_\epsilon^i \circ \mathbf{u}(x)) \, dx = 0,
\]

or in more explicitly

\[
(3.1) \quad \sum_{i,j,k=1}^{2} \int_{\Omega} L_{ij}(\nabla v_\epsilon(x)) \frac{\partial v_\epsilon^i}{\partial y_k} (u(x) - z)^k \frac{\partial u^k}{\partial x_j} (x) \, dx = 0.
\]

From the definition of mollification, by taking \( y = u(x) \), for \( x \in \Omega \), we obtain

\[
(3.2) \quad \frac{\partial v_\epsilon^i}{\partial y_k}(u(x)) = \int_V \frac{\partial \rho_\epsilon}{\partial y_k}(u(x) - z) v^i(z) \, dz.
\]

Therefore by plugging (3.2) into (3.1) and Fubini’s Theorem yields

\[
(3.3) \quad 0 = \sum_{i,j,k=1}^{2} \int_{\Omega} L_{ij}(\nabla v_\epsilon(x)) \frac{\partial u^k}{\partial x_j}(x) \left( \int_V \frac{\partial \rho_\epsilon}{\partial y_k}(u(x) - z) v^i(z) \, dz \right) \, dx
\]

or

\[
= \sum_{i,j,k=1}^{2} \int_V \left( \int_{\Omega} L_{ij}(\nabla v_\epsilon(x)) \frac{\partial \rho_\epsilon}{\partial y_k}(u(x) - z) \frac{\partial u^k}{\partial x_j}(x) \, dx \right) v^i(z) \, dz.
\]

Let us define the smooth function \( g_\epsilon^i : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \), for \( i = 1,2 \) by

\[
(3.4) \quad g_\epsilon^i(z) := \sum_{j=1}^{2} \int_{\Omega} L_{ij}(\nabla v_\epsilon(x)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\rho_\epsilon(u(x) - z)) \, dx.
\]

Then \( g_\epsilon = (g_\epsilon^1, g_\epsilon^2) \in C^\infty(V, \mathbb{R}^2) \) and

\[
|g_\epsilon(z)| \leq \sum_{ij} \int_{\Omega} \left| L_{ij}(\nabla v_\epsilon(x)) \frac{\partial \rho_\epsilon}{\partial y_k}(u(x) - z) \frac{\partial u^k}{\partial x_j}(x) \right| \, dx
\]

\[
\leq C \frac{\epsilon}{\mathcal{e}} \left( (\text{meas}\, \Omega)^{1/2} + \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \right) \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|_{L^2(\Omega)}.
\]

Thus combining (3.3) and (3.4) we get

\[
(3.5) \quad \int_{V} \langle g_\epsilon(z), v(z) \rangle \, dz = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad v \in C_0^\infty(V, \mathbb{R}^2) \quad \text{such that} \quad \text{div} v = 0 \quad \text{in} \quad V,
\]

where \( \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle \) the usual scalar product in \( \mathbb{R}^2 \). Let \( \phi \in C_0^\infty(V) \) and define \( v(z) := J \nabla \phi(z) \) for \( z \in V \), where \( J \) be the \( 90^\circ \) planar rotation given by

\[
J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.
\]
Then it follows that \( \text{div} \, v = 0 \) and hence by testing (3.5) with this particular choice of \( v \) and integrating by parts we obtain,

\[
0 = \int_V \left\langle g_\varepsilon(z), J \nabla \phi(z) \right\rangle \, dz \\
= \int_V \left\langle J^t g_\varepsilon(z), \nabla \phi(z) \right\rangle \, dz \\
= - \int_V \phi(z) \, \text{div}(J^t g_\varepsilon(z)) \, dz \quad \text{for all } \phi \in C_0^\infty(V).
\]

Hence \( \text{curl} \, g_\varepsilon := \frac{\partial g_\varepsilon}{\partial z_2} - \frac{\partial g_\varepsilon}{\partial z_1} = \text{div}(J^t g_\varepsilon) = 0 \) in \( V \). Since \( V \) is simply connected, there exists \( q_\varepsilon \in C^\infty(V) \), such that

\[
(3.6) \quad g_\varepsilon(z) = -\nabla q_\varepsilon(z), \quad \text{for all } z \in V,
\]

modulo translation of a constant.

**Lemma 3.1.** Consider the family \( g_\varepsilon \) be given by (3.4). Then \( g_\varepsilon \rightharpoonup g \) weakly in the dual space \( (C^1_0(V, \mathbb{R}^2))^* \).

**Proof:** Since \( \rho_\varepsilon \) is radially symmetric,\n
\[
\frac{\partial \rho_\varepsilon}{\partial y_k} (|y - z|) = \rho_\varepsilon' (|y - z|) \frac{y_k - z_k}{|y - z|} = - \frac{\partial \rho_\varepsilon}{\partial z_k} (|y - z|).
\]

Therefore from the definition of \( g_\varepsilon^i \) in (3.4), we have

\[
(3.8) \quad g_\varepsilon^i(z) = - \sum_{j,k=1}^2 \int_{\Omega} L_{ij}(\nabla u(x)) \frac{\partial u^k}{\partial x_j} (x) \frac{\partial \rho_\varepsilon}{\partial z_k} (u(x) - z) \, dx \\
= - \sum_{k=1}^2 \int_{\Omega} \sigma_{ik}(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial z_k} \left( \rho_\varepsilon(u(x) - z) \right) \, dx,
\]

where

\[
(3.9) \quad \sigma_{ik}(x) := \sum_{j=1}^2 L_{ij}(\nabla u(x)) \frac{\partial u^k}{\partial x_j}(x) \quad \text{for } x \in \Omega.
\]

Since \( u \) is a \( W^{1,2} \) area-preserving homeomorphism, \( \nabla u^{-1}(u(x)) = (\text{cof} \, \nabla u(x))^t \). Thus it follows that \( u^{-1} \in W^{1,2}(\Omega, \Omega) \). Using the structural assumptions on \( L \) in (3.9), we get

\[
\int_{u(\Omega)} |(\sigma_{ik} \circ u^{-1})(z)| \, dz = \int_\Omega |\sigma_{ik}(x)| \, dx \leq C \int_\Omega |\nabla u(x)|^2 \, dx < \infty,
\]

and hence \( \tilde{\sigma}_{ik} := \sigma_{ik} \circ u^{-1} \in L^1(\Omega) \), for \( i, k = 1, 2 \). Now observe that for any test function \( v \in C_0^\infty(V, \mathbb{R}^2) \), using Fubini, integration by parts and change of variable
\( \xi = u(x) \) we obtain

\[ (3.10) \quad \int_V \langle g_\varepsilon(z), v(z) \rangle \, dz = - \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_\Omega \sigma_{ij}(x) \left( \int_V \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} \left( \rho_\varepsilon(u(x) - z) \right) \, v^i(z) \, dz \right) \, dx \]

\[ \quad = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_\Omega \sigma_{ij}(x) \left( \int_V \rho_\varepsilon(u(x) - z) \, \frac{\partial v^i}{\partial z_j}(z) \, dz \right) \, dx \]

\[ \quad = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_\Omega \frac{\partial v^i}{\partial z_j}(z) \left( \int_V \sigma_{ij}(x) \rho_\varepsilon(u(x) - z) \, dx \right) \, dz \]

\[ \quad = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_\Omega \frac{\partial v^i}{\partial z_j}(z) \left( \sigma_{ij}(x) \right) \rho_\varepsilon(x - z) \, dz, \]

where

\[ (3.11) \quad (\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon := ((\sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1}) \circ \rho_\varepsilon)(z) = \int_{u(\Omega)} \sigma_{ij}(u^{-1}(\xi)) \rho_\varepsilon(\xi - z) \, d\xi, \]

is the usual mollification of \( \sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1} \). Since \( (\sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1}) \circ \rho_\varepsilon \to \sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1} \) in \( L^1(\Omega) \) as \( \varepsilon \to 0 \), by passing through the limit as \( \varepsilon \to 0 \) in (3.10) we conclude that

\[ (3.12) \quad \int_V \langle g_\varepsilon(z), v(z) \rangle \, dz \to \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_V \sigma_{ij}(u^{-1}(\xi)) \frac{\partial v^i}{\partial z_j}(z) \, dz \quad \text{as} \quad \varepsilon \to 0 \]

for all \( v \in C^\infty_0(V, \mathbb{R}^2) \). Now let us define the functional \( g : C^1_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \to \mathbb{R} \) as

\[ (3.13) \quad \langle g, v \rangle := \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \int_V \langle g_\varepsilon(z), v(z) \rangle \, dz = \int_V \sigma(u^{-1}(\xi)) : \nabla v(z) \, dz, \]

for \( v \in C^1_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \), where \( \sigma(x) := (\sigma_{ij}(x)) \in \mathbb{M}^{2 \times 2} \). Then from (3.13) it follows that

\[ (3.14) \quad |\langle g, v \rangle| \leq C \|\sigma\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \|\nabla v\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \|\nabla v\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}, \]

for any \( v \in C^1_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \). Hence \( g \) is a continuous linear functional on \( C^1_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \). Therefore, from the definition of \( g_\varepsilon \) in (3.4), it follows that \( g_\varepsilon \to g \) weakly in the dual space \( (C^1_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2))^* \). This proves the lemma. \( \Box \)

**Lemma 3.2.** Assume that \( u \in W^{1,r}_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \cap A \) for some \( r > 2 \). Then the family \( q_\varepsilon \) defined by \( -\nabla q_\varepsilon = g \), in (3.6) is uniformly bounded in \( L^{r/2}_0(\Omega) \).

**Proof** Since \( u \in W^{1,r}_0(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \) for some \( r > 2 \), from the definition of \( \sigma_{ij} \) in (3.9) and the growth condition on \( L \), it follows that for any \( V \subset \subset \Omega \)

\[ (3.15) \quad \int_V |(\sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1})(\xi)|^{r/2} \, dz = \int_{u^{-1}(V)} |\sigma_{ij}(x)|^{r/2} \, dx \leq C \int_{u^{-1}(V)} |\nabla u(x)|^r \, dx, \]

and hence \( \tilde{\sigma}_{ij} := \sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1} \in L^{r/2}(V) \), for \( i, j = 1, 2 \). Let \( f_\varepsilon : V \to \mathbb{R} \) be defined as \( f_\varepsilon(z) := q_\varepsilon(z) q_\varepsilon(z)^{r/2 - 2}, z \in V \), so that for any \( 1 < s < \infty \),

\[ \int_V |f_\varepsilon(z)|^s \, dz = \int_V |q_\varepsilon(z)|^{s(r - 1)} \, dz = \|q_\varepsilon\|_{L^r(V)}^s. \]
Translating \( f_\epsilon \) to \( f_\epsilon - \frac{1}{\text{meas } V} \int_V f_\epsilon(z) \, dz \), if necessary, so that \( \int_V f_\epsilon(z) \, dz = 0 \). In view of this normalization, there exists a smooth vector field \( w_\epsilon : V \mapsto \mathbb{R}^2 \), such that

\[
\begin{aligned}
\text{div } w_\epsilon &= f_\epsilon & \text{in } V \\
w_\epsilon &= 0 & \text{on } \partial V.
\end{aligned}
\]

Furthermore we have the estimate

\[
\|w_\epsilon\|_{W^{1,r}(V)} \leq C \|q_\epsilon\|_{L^{r/2}(V)},
\]

for \( C > 0 \) independent of \( \epsilon \), see Dacorogna-Moser [DM 90]. Then for sufficiently small \( \epsilon > 0 \)

\[
\int_V |q_\epsilon(z)| \frac{r}{2} \, dz = \int_V q_\epsilon(z) |q_\epsilon(z)| \frac{r}{2} - 2q_\epsilon(z) \, dz
\]

\[
= \int_V q_\epsilon(z) \text{div } w_\epsilon(z) \, dz
\]

\[
= - \int_V (\nabla q_\epsilon(z), w_\epsilon(z)) \, dz
\]

\[
= \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_V ((\sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1}) * \rho_\epsilon)(z) \frac{\partial w_\epsilon^j}{\partial z_k}(z) \, dz
\]

\[
\leq C \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \left( \int_V |\sigma_{ij}(u^{-1}(z))| \frac{r}{2} \, dz \right)^{2/r} \left( \int_V |\frac{\partial w_\epsilon^j}{\partial z_k}(z)| \frac{r}{r-2} \, dz \right)^{(r-2)/r}
\]

\[
\leq C \|q_\epsilon\|_{L^{r/2}(V)}^2 \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \|\sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1}\|_{L^{r/2}(V)}
\]

\[
= C \left( \int_V |q_\epsilon(z)| \frac{r}{2} \, dz \right)^{1-2/r} \|\sigma\|_{L^{r/2}(u(\Omega), \mathfrak{M}^{2^{*}})}
\]

\[
\leq C \left( \int_V |q_\epsilon(z)| \frac{r}{2} \, dz \right)^{1-2/r} \|
\nabla u\|_{L^r(\Omega)}^2.
\]

Hence there exists a constant \( C > 0 \), independent of \( \epsilon \) such that

\[
\|q_\epsilon\|_{L^{r/2}(V)} \leq C \|
\nabla u\|_{L^r(\Omega)}^2.
\]

Since \( r > 2 \), there exists a function \( q \in L^{r/2}(V) \), such that \( q_\epsilon \rightharpoonup q \) weakly in \( L^{r/2}(V) \). This proves the lemma. \( \square \)
Proof of Theorem 1.1 Using the change of variables, recalling the definitions of $g$ in (3.13), and $\sigma_{ij}$ in (3.9), we obtain

\begin{equation}
\langle g, v \rangle = \sum_{i,j=1}^{2} \int_{V} \sigma_{ij}(u^{-1}(z)) \frac{\partial u^{i}}{\partial z_{j}}(z) \, dz
\end{equation}

\begin{align*}
&= \sum_{i,j=1}^{2} \int_{u^{-1}(V)} \sigma_{ij}(x) \frac{\partial u^{i}}{\partial z_{j}}(u(x)) \, dx \\
&= \sum_{i,k=1}^{2} \int_{u^{-1}(V)} L_{ik} \left( \nabla u(x) \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^{2} \frac{\partial u^{i}}{\partial z_{j}}(u(x)) \frac{\partial u^{j}}{\partial x_{k}}(x) \right) \, dx \\
&= \int_{u^{-1}(V)} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla(v \circ u)(x) \, dx \quad \text{for} \quad v \in C^{1}_{0}(V, \mathbb{R}^{2}).
\end{align*}

Since $u^{-1} \in W^{1,r}(V, u^{-1}(V))$, for any $\phi \in C^{1}_{0}(u^{-1}(V), \mathbb{R}^{2})$, the composition $\phi \circ u^{-1} \in W^{1,r}_{0}(V, \mathbb{R}^{2})$. Hence there exists $v_{\delta} \in C^{1}_{0}(V, \mathbb{R}^{2})$ such that $v_{\delta} \rightarrow \phi := \phi \circ u^{-1}$ strongly in $W^{1,r}(V, \mathbb{R}^{2})$ as $\delta \rightarrow 0$. Then Hölder inequality yields

\begin{align*}
\int_{u^{-1}(V)} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \left( \nabla(v_{\delta} \circ u(x)) - \nabla(\phi \circ u(x)) \right) \, dx \\
&= \int_{u^{-1}(V)} (\nabla u(x))^{t} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \left( \nabla_{z} v_{\delta}(u(x)) - \nabla_{z} \phi(u(x)) \right) \, dx \\
&\leq C \|\nabla u\|_{L^{2r'}(u^{-1}(V))} \|\nabla(v_{\delta} - \phi)\|_{L^{r'}(V)},
\end{align*}

where $r' = r/(r-1)$. Notice that $r \geq 3$ yields $2r' \leq r$ and hence $\nabla u \in L^{r}_{0}(\Omega) \subseteq L^{2r'}_{0}(\Omega)$. Therefore, from (3.19) we obtain

\begin{align*}
\langle g, v_{\delta} \rangle &= \int_{u^{-1}(V)} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla(v_{\delta} \circ u(x)) \, dx \\
&\rightarrow \int_{u^{-1}(V)} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla(\phi \circ u^{-1} \circ u(x)) \, dx \quad \text{as} \quad \delta \rightarrow 0 \\
&= \int_{u^{-1}(V)} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx.
\end{align*}

Now define the linear functional $g \circ u : C^{1}_{0}(u^{-1}(V), \mathbb{R}^{2}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

\begin{equation}
\langle g \circ u, \phi \rangle := (g, \phi \circ u^{-1}) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \langle g, v_{\delta} \rangle = \int_{u^{-1}(V)} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx,
\end{equation}

for any $\phi \in C^{1}_{0}(u^{-1}(V), \mathbb{R}^{2})$. Hence $g \circ u$ defines a continuous linear functional on $W^{1,2}_{0}(u^{-1}(V), \mathbb{R}^{2})$. On the other hand, since $q_{\epsilon} \rightarrow q$ weakly in $L^{r/2}(V)$, using the definition of $g$, the representation of $g_{\epsilon} = -\nabla q_{\epsilon}$ and integration by parts we conclude
that

\[
(3.22) \quad \langle g, v_\delta \rangle = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \int_{V} \langle g_\varepsilon (z), v_\delta (z) \rangle \, dz \\
= -\lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \int_{V} \langle \nabla q_\varepsilon (z), v_\delta (z) \rangle \, dz \\
= \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \int_{V} q_\varepsilon (z) \, \text{div} v_\delta (z) \, dz \\
= \int_{V} q(z) \, \text{div} v_\delta (z) \, dz \\
= \int_{V} q(z) \, \text{tr} \left( \nabla v_\delta (z) \right) \, dz .
\]

The area constraint \(\det \nabla u(x) = 1\) a.e., and \(\nabla (v \circ u)(x) = \nabla_2 v(u(x)) \nabla u(x)\), yields \(\nabla_2 v(u(x)) = \nabla (v \circ u)(x) (\text{cof} \nabla u(x))\). Using \(u \in W^{1,1}_l(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)\) together with the fact that \(|\text{cof} P| = |P|\) for any \(P \in \mathbb{M}^{2 \times 2}\), we conclude that \(\text{cof} \nabla u \in L^{r/2}(\Omega, \mathbb{M}^{2 \times 2})\). Since \(q \in L^{r/2}(V)\) and \(L^{r/2} \subseteq L^{r/(r-1)}\) for \(r \geq 3\), applying change of variables in (3.22), we obtain

\[
(3.23) \quad \langle g, v_\delta \rangle = \int_{u^{-1}(V)} q(u(x)) \, \text{tr} \left( \nabla_2 v_\delta (u(x)) \right) \, dx \\
= \int_{u^{-1}(V)} q(u(x)) \, \text{tr} \left( \nabla (v_\delta \circ u)(x) (\text{cof} \nabla u(x)) \right) \, dx \\
= \int_{u^{-1}(V)} q(u(x)) \, \text{cof} (\nabla u(x)) : \nabla (v_\delta \circ u)(x) \, dx, \\
\rightarrow \int_{u^{-1}(V)} q(u(x)) \, \text{cof} (\nabla u(x)) : \nabla (\delta \circ u^{-1} \circ u)(x) \, dx \quad \text{as} \quad \delta \rightarrow 0 \\
= \int_{u^{-1}(V)} q(u(x)) \, \text{cof} (\nabla u(x)) : \nabla (\delta)(x) \, dx .
\]

Hence from (3.21) and (3.23) we obtain

\[
\int_{u^{-1}(V)} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx = \int_{u^{-1}(V)} q(u(x)) \, \text{cof} (\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx ,
\]

for any \(\phi \in C^1_0(u^{-1}(V), \mathbb{R}^2)\). Finally choose a sequence of smooth, simply connected sets \(V_k \subset V_{k+1} \subset u(\Omega)\) sub-domains such that \(u(\Omega) = \cup_{k=1}^\infty V_k\). Utilizing the foregoing arguments and lemmas 3.1-3.2, there exists \(q_k \in L^{r/2}(V_k)\), \(k \geq 1\) such that

\[
(3.24) \quad \int_{u^{-1}(V_k)} DL(\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) = \int_{u^{-1}(V_k)} q_k(u(x)) \, \text{cof} (\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) ,
\]

for \(\phi \in C^1_0(u^{-1}(V_k), \mathbb{R}^2)\). Since \(u\) is locally area-preserving homeomorphism, \(\Omega = \cup_{k=1}^\infty u^{-1}(V_k)\) is an open covering of \(\Omega\) and \(u^{-1}(V_k) \subset u^{-1}(V_{k+1})\). Using the identity \(\nabla \text{div} \, \text{cof} \nabla u = 0\) and invertibility of \(\nabla u\), from (3.24) it follows that \(q_k\) is unique up to a translation of a constant. Thus adding constant terms as necessary to each \(q_k\), we deduce from (3.24) that for each fixed \(k \geq 1\)

\[
q_i(z) = q_k(z) \quad \text{for} \quad z \in V_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq k.
\]
We finally define $q : u(\Omega) \to \mathbb{R}$ as $q(z) := q_k(z)$, for $z \in V_k$, so that $q \in L_{loc}^{r/2}(u(\Omega))$. This proves that for any $\phi \in C_0^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$, the pair $(u, q)$ satisfies
\[
\int_{\Omega} DL (\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx = \int_{\Omega} q(u(x)) \cof (\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx.
\]
Now let us define the pressure $p$ on $\Omega$ by
\[
p(x) := q(u(x)) \quad \text{for} \ x \in \Omega.
\]
Then for any $k \geq 1$,
\[
\int_{u^{-1}(V_k)} |p(x)|^{r/2} = \int_{u^{-1}(V_k)} |q(u(x))|^{r/2} \, dx = \int_{V_k} |q(z)|^{r/2} \, dz < \infty,
\]
and hence $p \in L_{loc}^{r/2}(\Omega)$ and the pair $(u, p)$ satisfies
\[
(3.25) \quad \int_{\Omega} DL (\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx = \int_{\Omega} p(x) \cof (\nabla u(x)) : \nabla \phi(x) \, dx,
\]
for any $\phi \in C_0^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2)$. In other words, $(u, p)$ satisfies the system of Euler-Lagrange equations
\[
\text{div} [DL (\nabla u(x)) - p(x) \cof (\nabla u(x))] = 0, \quad \text{in} \ \Omega.
\]
in the sense of (3.25). This completes the proof. □

4. Local $L^1$-Estimate and the Integral Representation of the Pressure

In this section we establish an explicit representation of the pressure on the deformed domain $u(\Omega)$ in terms of Calderón-Zygmund type singular integral operator of the energy $|\nabla u|^2$. Our main ideas in the proof are to localize the mollified pressure on the deformed domain $u(\Omega)$, finding its explicit representation using Green’s function of the unit disc in $\mathbb{R}^2$ and finding an uniform estimate by using Calderón-Zygmund Theorem [CZ 52] for $L^{\log^+ L}$ functions.

**Proof of Theorem 1.2.** Let us assume that $u \in A$ minimizes the energy $E[\cdot]$ and $|\nabla u|^2 \in L^{\log^+ L}$. Let $V \subset u(\Omega)$ be a smooth and simply connected sub-domain of $u(\Omega)$. Without loss of generality let us assume that $0 \in V$ and $V = B_1 := \{ z \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |z| < 1 \}$ be the unit disc. Recall the family $(g_\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon > 0}$ defined by (3.4) and the family $(q_\varepsilon)_{\varepsilon > 0}$ in (3.6) represented by
\[
-\nabla q_\varepsilon = g_\varepsilon,
\]
modulo an additive constant. Applying the divergence operator to the both sides of the above equation, we obtain
\[
-\Delta q_\varepsilon = \text{div} g_\varepsilon.
\]
Now our idea is to localize the equation (4.2) and find appropriate uniform estimates for the localized $q_\varepsilon$. Let $\eta \in C_0^\infty(B_1)$, $0 \leq \eta \leq 1$ be a cut-off function such that $\eta \equiv 1$ in $B_{2/3}$. Let $\bar{q}_\varepsilon = \eta q_\varepsilon$ be the localized pressure. Then $\bar{q}_\varepsilon$ is the solution to the Dirichlet problem
\[
(4.3) \quad \begin{cases}
-\Delta \bar{q}_\varepsilon = f_\varepsilon & \text{in} \ B_1 \\
\bar{q}_\varepsilon = 0 & \text{on} \ \partial B_1,
\end{cases}
\]
where \( f_\varepsilon := \eta \Delta q_\varepsilon + 2(\nabla q_\varepsilon, \nabla \eta) + q_\varepsilon \Delta \eta \). Therefore \( \bar{q}_\varepsilon \) is the Green’s potential of \( f_\varepsilon \) in \( B_1 \). In other words,

\[
\bar{q}_\varepsilon(y) = \int_{B_1} G(z-y) f_\varepsilon(z) \, dz,
\]

where \( G(z, y) \) Green’s function of the unit disc \( B_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \) given by

\[
G(z, y) := -\frac{1}{2\pi} \log |z-y| + \frac{1}{2\pi} \log(||y||z-\hat{y}|), \quad \hat{y} := \frac{y}{|y|^2}.
\]

Using (4.1), (4.2) and (4.5) in (4.4), we obtain

\[
\bar{q}_\varepsilon(y) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{B_1} \left( \eta \Delta q_\varepsilon + 2(\nabla q_\varepsilon, \nabla \eta) + q_\varepsilon \Delta \eta \right) \log |z-y| \, dz
\]

where

\[
I_1^\varepsilon(y) := \int_{B_1} \eta(z) \log |z-y| \, \text{div} \, \mathbf{g}_\varepsilon(z) \, dz
\]

\[
I_2^\varepsilon(y) := \int_{B_1} \langle \mathbf{g}_\varepsilon(z), \nabla \eta(z) \rangle \log |z-y| \, dz
\]

\[
I_3^\varepsilon(y) := -\int_{B_1} q_\varepsilon(z) \Delta \eta(z) \log |z-y| \, dz
\]

\[
I_4^\varepsilon(y) := \int_{B_1} f_\varepsilon(z) \log |y||z-\hat{y}| \, dz.
\]

We now establish an uniform local \( L^1 \)-estimate for \( q_\varepsilon \) through the following steps.

**Step 1: Limits of \( I_2^\varepsilon \) and \( I_4^\varepsilon \)** Let us fix \(|y| < 1/2\). Since \( \Delta \eta = 0 \) for \(|z| < 2/3\), both the integrals \( I_2^\varepsilon(y) \) and \( I_4^\varepsilon(y) \) are well defined for \(|y| < 1/2\). Since \( q_\varepsilon \) is determined up to a constant, we can add a constant to \( z \mapsto \Delta \eta(z) \log z-y| \), if necessary, to ensure that it has vanishing integral. For each fixed \(|y| < 1/2\), let \( \mathbf{v}_y : B_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \) be the solution of the Dirichlet problem

\[
\begin{cases}
\text{div} \, \mathbf{v}_y(z) = \Delta \eta(z) \log |z-y| & \text{for } z \in B_1 \\
\mathbf{v}_y = 0 & \text{on } \partial B_1.
\end{cases}
\]
Then using (4.7) and (3.13) we obtain

\[
I_3^\varepsilon(y) = -\int_{B_1} q_\varepsilon(z) \Delta \eta(z) \log |z - y| \, dz
\]

\[
= -\int_{B_1} q_\varepsilon(z) \text{div} v_y(z) \, dz
\]

\[
= \int_{B_1} \langle \nabla q_\varepsilon(z), v_y(z) \rangle \, dz
\]

\[
\to -\int_{B_1} \sigma(u^{-1}(z)) : \nabla v_y(z) \, dz \quad \text{as} \ \varepsilon \to 0
\]

\[
=: I_3^0(y).
\]

Since \( f_\varepsilon = \Delta(q_\varepsilon \eta) \) and for each fixed \(|y| < 1/2\) the function \( z \mapsto \Delta \log(|y||z - \hat{y}|) \) is smooth on \( B_1 \). By taking \( w_y : B_1 \to \mathbb{R}^2 \) to be the solution of the Dirichlet problem

\[
\begin{cases}
\text{div } w_y(z) = \eta(z) \Delta \log(|y||z - \hat{y}|) & \text{for } z \in B_1 \\
w_y = 0 & \text{on } \partial B_1,
\end{cases}
\]

and applying the above arguments we obtain

\[
I_4^\varepsilon(y) = \int_{B_1} \Delta \left(q_\varepsilon(z) \eta(z)\right) \log |y||z - \hat{y}| \, dz
\]

\[
\to \int_{B_1} \sigma(u^{-1}(z)) : \nabla w_y(z) \, dz \quad \text{as} \ \varepsilon \to 0
\]

\[
=: I_4^0(y).
\]

\section*{Step 2: Limit of \( I_2^\varepsilon \)}

Since \( \nabla \eta(z) = 0 \) for \(|z| < 2/3\), the integral \( I_2^\varepsilon(y) \) is well-defined for \(|y| < 1/2\). Recall that from (3.8) and (3.9)

\[
-g_\varepsilon(z) = \sum_{j=1}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} \int_{\Omega} \sigma_{ij}(x) \rho_\varepsilon(u(x) - z) \, dx
\]

\[
= \sum_{j=1}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} \int_{u(\Omega)} \sigma_{ij}(u^{-1}(y)) \rho_\varepsilon(y - z) \, dy
\]

\[
= \sum_{j=1}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} \left( (\sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1}) * \rho_\varepsilon \right)(z).
\]

In other words,

\[
g_\varepsilon = -\text{div} \tilde{\sigma}_\varepsilon,
\]

where the divergence is taken in each rows of matrix \( \tilde{\sigma}_\varepsilon := (\tilde{\sigma}_{ij}) \in M^{2 \times 2} \), \( (\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon := (\sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1}) * \rho_\varepsilon \). Notice that \( \tilde{\sigma}_{ij} \to \tilde{\sigma}_{ij} := \sigma_{ij} \circ u^{-1} \) in \( L^1 \) as \( \varepsilon \to 0 \) for each \( i, j = 1, 2 \).
Using the above representation of $g_\varepsilon$ observe that

$$I^2_\varepsilon(y) = - \int_{B_1} \left< \operatorname{div} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z), \log |z-y| \nabla \eta(z) \right> dz$$

$$= \int_{B_1} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z) : \nabla \left( \log |z-y| \nabla \eta(z) \right) dz$$

$$= \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{2/3}} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z) : \left( \log |z-y| \nabla^2 \eta(z) + \frac{\nabla \eta \otimes (z-y)}{|y-z|^2} \right) dz$$

$$- \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{2/3}} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z) : \left( \log |z-y| \nabla^2 \eta(z) + \frac{\nabla \eta \otimes (z-y)}{|y-z|^2} \right) dz$$

as $\varepsilon \to 0$

$$:= I^{12}_\varepsilon(y).$$

**Step 3: Limit of $I^1_\varepsilon(y)$**

Since we assumed $|\nabla u|^2 \in H^1_\text{loc}(\Omega)$, from the definition of $\hat{\sigma}_{ij}$ it follows that $\hat{\sigma}_{ij} \in L \log^+ L$. Thus the mollification $(\hat{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon$ converges strongly to $\hat{\sigma}_{ij}$ in $L \log^+ L$ as $\varepsilon \to 0$. Integrating by parts twice and using (4.11)

$$I^1_\varepsilon(y) = \int_{B_1} \left< \operatorname{div} g_\varepsilon(z) \eta(z) \log |z-y| \right> dz$$

$$= - \int_{B_1} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z) : \nabla^2 (\eta(z) \log |z-y|) dz$$

$$= - \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{2/3}} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z) : \left( \log |z-y| \nabla^2 \eta(z) + 2 \frac{\nabla \eta(z) \otimes (z-y)}{|z-y|^2} \right) dz$$

$$- \int_{B_1} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z) : \left( \frac{1d - 2(z-y) \otimes (z-y)}{|z-y|^2} \right) \eta(z) dz$$

$$:= I^{11}_\varepsilon(y) + I^{12}_\varepsilon(y),$$

where $1d$ is the $2 \times 2$ identity matrix and

$$I^{11}_\varepsilon(y) := - \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{2/3}} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z) : \left( \log |z-y| \nabla^2 \eta + 2 \frac{\nabla \eta \otimes (z-y)}{|z-y|^2} \right) dz$$

$$- \int_{B_1} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z) : \left( \log |z-y| \nabla^2 \eta + 2 \frac{\nabla \eta \otimes (z-y)}{|z-y|^2} \right) \eta(z) dz$$

as $\varepsilon \to 0$

$$:= I^{11}_0(y),$$

and

$$I^{12}_\varepsilon(y) := - \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{2/3}} \hat{\sigma}_\varepsilon(z) : \left( \frac{1d - 2(z-y) \otimes (z-y)}{|z-y|^2} \right) \eta(z) dz$$

is the sum of Calderón-Zygmund [CZ 52] type singular integrals with the homogeneous kernel

$$G_{ij}(z) := \delta_{ij} - \frac{2 z_i z_j}{|z|^2}, \quad z \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{0\}, \quad i, j = 1, 2.$$  

Observe that each $G_{ij}$ satisfies all the conditions of the Calderón-Zygmund Theorem 1.3 [CZ 52]. Since $\sigma_{ij} \in L \log^+ L$, the following sum of singular integrals

$$I^{12}_0(y) := - \int_{B_1} \hat{\sigma}(z) : \left( \frac{1d - 2(z-y) \otimes (z-y)}{|z-y|^2} \right) \frac{\eta(z)}{|z-y|^2} dz$$
exists for almost every $|y| < 1/2$ and is integrable.

**Claim:** $I_{12}^\varepsilon \to I_0^{12}$ strongly in $L^1(B_{1/2})$.

**Proof.** Let $\rho > 1/2$ and extend $\tilde{\sigma}_{ij}$ by 0 outside the unit ball $B_1$. From the singular integrals (4.14) and (4.16), we have

$$ I_{12}^\varepsilon(y) - I_0^{12}(y) = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \eta \left( (\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon - \tilde{\sigma}_{ij} \right) \left( \delta_{ij} - 2 \frac{(z_i - y_i)(z_j - y_j)}{|z-y|^2} \right) \frac{dz}{|z-y|^2}. $$

Extend $I_{12}^\varepsilon$ and $I_0^{12}$ by 0 outside the ball $B_{1/2}$. Then by using Calderón-Zygmund estimate in Theorem 1.3 and strong convergence of $(\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon$ in $L\log^+ L$, for any $\rho > 1/2$ we obtain

$$ \int_{B_{1/2}} |I_{12}^\varepsilon(y) - I_0^{12}(y)|dy = \int_{B_{\rho}} |I_{12}^\varepsilon(y) - I_0^{12}(y)|dy $$

$$ \leq C \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \eta |(\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon - \tilde{\sigma}_{ij}|dz + C(\text{meas } B_\rho)^{1/2} $$

$$ + C \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \eta |(\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon - \tilde{\sigma}_{ij}| \log^+ \left( \text{meas } B_\rho \right) \eta |(\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon - \tilde{\sigma}_{ij}| dz $$

$$ \leq C(1 + \log^+ \rho) \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_{B_1} \eta |(\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon - \tilde{\sigma}_{ij}|dz + \frac{C}{\rho} $$

$$ + C \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \int_{B_1} |(\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon - \tilde{\sigma}_{ij}| \log \left( 2 + |(\tilde{\sigma}_{ij})_\varepsilon - \tilde{\sigma}_{ij}| \right) dz $$

$$ \to \frac{C}{\rho} \quad \text{as } \varepsilon \to 0 $$

$$ \to 0 \quad \text{as } \rho \to \infty. $$

Hence $I_{12}^\varepsilon \to I_0^{12}$ strongly in $L^1(B_{1/2})$. This proves the claim. \hfill \Box

**Step 4: An explicit representation of the pressure** To complete the proof, let us define $q : B_{1/2} \to \mathbb{R}$ by

$$ q(y) := \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( I_{01}^\varepsilon(y) + I_{02}^\varepsilon(y) \right) + \frac{1}{\pi} I_0^2(y) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( I_0^1(y) + I_0^2(y) \right). $$

Then from (4.9), (4.11), (4.12), (4.13) and (4.16), we conclude that $q_\varepsilon \to q$ strongly in $L^1(B_{1/2})$ and $q$ is represented as

$$ q(y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{B_1} \sigma(u^{-1}(z)) : \left( \nabla_z (w_y(z) - v_y(z)) - 2\Delta \eta \log |z-y| \right) dz $$

$$ \quad - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{B_1} \sigma(u^{-1}(z)) : \left( Id - 2 \frac{(z-y) \otimes (z-y)}{|z-y|^2} \right) \frac{\eta(z)}{|z-y|^2} dz, $$

where $\sigma(x) := (\sigma_{ij}(x)) \in M^{2 \times 2}$ given by the equation (3.9). Since $q$ is the strong limit of the family $q_\varepsilon$ in ball $B_{1/2}$, it is independent of the choice of the cut-off function $\eta$. Following the same arguments as in Section 3, we can extend $q$ to all of $u(\Omega)$ such that $q \in L^1_{loc}(u(\Omega))$ and the pair $(u, q)$ satisfies the identity (1.7). This completes the proof of Theorem 1.2. \hfill \Box
5. Partial Regularity

Let us denote $L(x, \nabla u) = \nabla u - p(x) \nabla u^{-1}$, then the equation is $\text{div} \, L(x, \nabla u) = 0$. First let us examine the ellipticity condition $L_{ij}(x, \xi) \xi_{ij} \geq \lambda |\xi|^2$ for some $\lambda > 0$. Since the deformation is incompressible we obtain

(5.1) \[ \nabla u^{-t} = \begin{pmatrix} u^2_2 & -u^2_1 \\ -u^2_1 & u^2_1 \end{pmatrix}. \]

Introduce $I = L_{ij}(x, \xi) \xi_{ij} = |\xi|^2 - 2p(x) \text{det} \, \xi$, where $\xi$ is any $2 \times 2$ matrix. Then completing squares we get

(5.2) \[ I = \xi^2_{11} + \xi^2_{12} + \xi^2_{21} + \xi^2_{22} - 2p(\xi_{11} \xi_{22} - \xi_{12} \xi_{21}) \]

(5.3) \[ = (\xi_{11} - p\xi_{22})^2 + (\xi_{12} - p\xi_{21})^2 + (1 - p^2)(\xi^2_{22} + \xi^2_{21}) \]

(5.4) \[ = (\xi_{22} - p\xi_{11})^2 + (\xi_{21} - p\xi_{12})^2 + (1 - p^2)(\xi^2_{21} + \xi^2_{12}). \]

Adding both identities and dividing by 2 we arrive at

\[ I = \frac{1}{2}((\xi_{11} - p\xi_{22})^2 + (\xi_{12} - p\xi_{21})^2 + (\xi_{22} - p\xi_{11})^2 + (\xi_{21} - p\xi_{12})^2 + (1 - p^2)|\xi|^2 \]

\[ \geq \frac{1 - p^2}{2} |\xi|^2. \]

This computation shows that ellipticity condition

$L_{ij}(x, \xi) \xi_{ij} \geq \lambda |\xi|^2, \lambda > 0$

is equivalent to assume that

(5.5) \[ p^2 \leq 1 - 2\lambda. \]

Note that $p$ is defined up to addition of arbitrary constant, thus (5.3) is satisfied in subdomain $D \subset \Omega$ if

osc$D p^2 < 1$.

Next we examine the strong ellipticity condition, i.e.

(5.6) \[ L_{ij,kl}(x, \eta) \xi_{ij} \xi_{kl} \geq \lambda |\xi|^2, \]

where $\eta$ stands as dummy variable for $\nabla u$. Recall that

(5.7) \[ L_{ij}(x, \eta) = \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{11} & \eta_{12} \\ \eta_{21} & \eta_{22} \end{pmatrix} - p(x) \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{22} & -\eta_{21} \\ -\eta_{12} & \eta_{11} \end{pmatrix}. \]

For instance $L_{11,kl} = \delta_{11,kl} - p \delta_{22,kl}$, and it is easy to check that

$L_{ij,kl}(x, \eta) \xi_{ij} \xi_{kl} = |\xi|^2 - 2p(x) \text{det} \, \xi,$

that is the ellipticity implies strong ellipticity.

In what follows we make the following two assumptions

1. $u$ is $W^{1,3}(\Omega)$

2. $q(z)$ is $\alpha$-Hölder continuous with respect to $z$.

Proposition 5.1. Under the assumptions 1-2 we have that
\begin{align*}
(i) \quad |L_{ij}(x, \nabla u)| & \leq L(1 + |\nabla u|) \\
(ii) \quad \text{for any } x_1, x_2 \in \Omega, \eta \in M^{2 \times 2}
|L_{ij}(x_1, \eta) - L_{ij}(x_2, \eta)| & \leq C|x_1 - x_2|^{\alpha} \\
(iii) \quad L_{ij} \text{ is differentiable with respect to } \eta \text{ with bounded and continuous derivatives}
|L_{ij,kl}(x, \eta)| & \leq L \\
(iv) \quad L_{ij} \text{ satisfies to strong ellipticity condition}
L_{ij,kl}(x, \eta)\eta_{ij}\eta_{kl} & \geq \lambda|\eta|^2
\end{align*}

**Proof:** Since \( u \in W^{1,3} \), Sobolev imbedding theorem implies that \( u \in C^{1/3} \) then \( p(x) = q(u(x)) \) is Hölder continuous and (i)-(ii) follow. (iii)-(iv) follow from (5.3). \( \square \)

**Remark 5.2.** Assumptions (i) – (iv) are stated in [GM 79], if fact they consider more general systems of elliptic equations. Using their theorem 1 we can obtain the following partial regularity result.

**Theorem 5.3.** Assume that assumptions 1-2 are satisfied, i.e. \( u \in W^{1,3}(\Omega), q \in C^\alpha \). Then the first derivatives of \( u \) are Hölder continuous on an open set \( \Omega_0 \). Moreover
\[ |\Omega \setminus \Omega_0| = 0. \]

**Proof:** It follows from proposition then the requirements of theorem 1 in [GM 79] are satisfied and the result follows. \( \square \)

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