

# Semicontinuous energies defined in the space of multiple valued maps

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## Multiple valued functions

- SPACE OF UNORDERED  $Q$  POINTS.

Let  $M^k \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be an embedded submanifold ( $k \leq n$ ).

$$\mathcal{A}_Q(M) := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^Q \llbracket P_i \rrbracket : P_i \in M \right\}$$

$\llbracket P \rrbracket$  is the Dirac delta at  $P$ .

- METRIC  $\mathcal{G}$ .

Let  $T_1 = \sum_i \llbracket P_i \rrbracket$  and  $T_2 = \sum_i \llbracket S_i \rrbracket$ .

$$\mathcal{G}(T_1, T_2) := \min_{\sigma \in \mathcal{P}_Q} \sqrt{\sum_i d_M(P_i, S_{\sigma(i)})^2}$$

where  $\mathcal{P}_Q$  is the symmetric group with  $Q$  elements.

- MULTIPLE VALUED MAPS.

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  be a regular open set.  $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_Q(M)$ .

## Examples: branched minimal surfaces

### Almgren's big regularity paper

- $u : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_2(\mathbb{R}^2), \mathbb{R}^2 \sim \mathbb{C}$

$$z \mapsto \{u_1(z), u_2(z)\} : u_i(z)^2 = z^3.$$

- $\text{graph}(u) := \{(z, w) : w \in \text{supp}(u(z))\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\text{graph}(u) = \{(z, w) : z^3 = w^2\}$$

- $\text{graph}(u)$  is homeomorphic to a disk  $\implies$  unordered  $Q$  points

## Model for multi-value microstructures in complex systems

- A material point contains a family of microstructures composed by a finite number of *indistinguishable* individuals, e.g. a finite number of polymers.
- The microstructural descriptor  $u(x)$  takes values in a manifold  $M$ , e.g. for liquid crystals in nematic order  $M = \mathbb{P}^2$  is the projective plane.

The field  $u(x)$  is a  $Q$ -valued map, the multiple values corresponding to a not labeled microstructural family.

Cp. M. Focardi, P.M. Mariano, E. Spadaro, *Multi-value microstructural descriptors for finer state material complexity: analysis of ground states*, preprint (2012).

## Lower semicontinuous energies

$$\min \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{D}\mathbf{u}) : \mathbf{u} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_Q$$

- Example: ALMGREN'S DIRICHLET MINIMIZERS.  
First order approximation of the area functional

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |Du|^2 = \mathcal{H}^m(\text{graph}(u)) - |\Omega| + O(\|Du\|_{\infty})$$

- De Lellis & Spadaro (*Memoirs AMS* 2011)

$$|Du| := \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^m \sup_{\varphi} \left| \frac{\partial(\varphi \circ u)}{\partial x_j} \right|^2}$$

where the supremum is taken among all functions  $\varphi : \mathcal{A}_Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $\text{Lip}(\varphi) \leq 1$ .

- Other elliptic integrands – P. Mattila  $m = 2$  (*Trans. AMS* 1983)

## First order calculus: DIFFERENTIABILITY

### Definition

A function  $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_Q(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is differentiable at  $x_0 \in \Omega$  if there exist matrices  $L_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  such that

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$$\mathcal{G}(u(x), T_{x_0}u(x)) = o(|x - x_0|),$$

with

$$T_{x_0}u(x) := \sum_{i=1}^Q \llbracket u_i(x_0) + L_i(x - x_0) \rrbracket \quad \text{and} \quad u(x_0) = \sum_i \llbracket u_i(x_0) \rrbracket;$$

- $L_i = L_j$  if  $u_i(x_0) = u_j(x_0)$ .

This way the first-order approximation  $T_{x_0}u$  is then unambiguously determined:

$$Du_i(x_0) := L_i.$$

## Rademacher's theorem and Sobolev functions

### Theorem

*Let  $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_Q(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a Lipschitz function. Then  $u$  is differentiable at  $\mathcal{H}^m$ -a.e.  $x \in \Omega$ .*

### Definition

A function  $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_Q$  belongs to  $W^{1,p}$  ( $p \in [1, +\infty]$ ) if  $u$  is approximatively differentiable at almost every point of  $\Omega$  and  $|Du| \in L^p(\Omega)$ .

## $Q$ -integrands

- A measurable map  $f : \Omega \times (\mathbb{R}^n)^Q \times (\mathbb{R}^{m \times n})^Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called a  $Q$ -integrand if, for every permutation  $\pi$  of  $\{1, \dots, Q\}$ ,

$$f(x, a_1, \dots, a_Q, A_1, \dots, A_Q) = f(x, a_{\pi(1)}, \dots, a_{\pi(Q)}, A_{\pi(1)}, \dots, A_{\pi(Q)}).$$

- For every Sobolev  $Q$ -valued map  $u$ , the expression

$$F(u) := \int_{\Omega} f(x, u(x), Du(x)) dx$$

where  $f(x, u(x), Du(x)) = f(x, u_1(x), \dots, u_Q(x), Du_1(x), \dots, Du_Q(x))$  is well defined for almost every  $x \in \Omega$ .

## $Q$ -quasiconvexity

### Definition (Quasiconvexity)

Let  $f : (\mathbb{R}^n)^Q \times (\mathbb{R}^{m \times n})^Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a locally bounded  $Q$ -integrand. We say that  $f$  is  $Q$ -quasiconvex if

- for every affine  $Q$ -valued function

$$u(x) = \sum_{j=1}^J q_j \llbracket a_j + L_j \cdot x \rrbracket,$$

with  $a_i \neq a_j$  for  $i \neq j$ ,

- for every collection of maps  $w^j \in W^{1,\infty}(C_1, \mathcal{A}_{q_j})$  with  $w^j|_{\partial C_1} = q_j \llbracket a_j + L_j|_{\partial C_1} \rrbracket$

$$f(u(0), Du(0)) \leq \int_{C_1} f(\underbrace{a_1, \dots, a_1}_{q_1}, \dots, \underbrace{a_J, \dots, a_J}_{q_J}, Dw^1(x), \dots, Dw^J(x)) dx.$$

## Semicontinuity result

Theorem (De Lellis, Focardi, Spadaro (*Ann. Acad. Sc. Fenn. Math.* 2011))

Let  $p \in [1, \infty[$  and  $f : \Omega \times (\mathbb{R}^n)^Q \times (\mathbb{R}^{m \times n})^Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous  $Q$ -integrand. If  $f(x, \cdot, \cdot)$  is  $Q$ -quasiconvex for every  $x \in \Omega$  and

$$0 \leq f(x, a, A) \leq C(1 + |a|^q + |A|^p),$$

where

- $q = 0$  if  $p > m$ ,
- $q = p^*$  if  $p < m$
- and  $q \geq 1$  is any exponent if  $p = m$ ,

then the functional  $F$  is weakly lower semicontinuous in  $W^{1,p}(\Omega, \mathcal{A}_Q(\mathbb{R}^n))$ . Conversely, if  $F$  is weakly\* lower semicontinuous in  $W^{1,\infty}(\Omega, \mathcal{A}_Q(\mathbb{R}^n))$ , then  $f(x, \cdot, \cdot)$  is  $Q$ -quasiconvex for every  $x \in \Omega$ .

$$f_k \xrightarrow{*} f \text{ in } W^{1,p}$$

if

- $p \in (1, +\infty]$ :  $\mathcal{G}(f_k, f) \rightarrow 0$  in  $L^p(\Omega)$  and  $\|Df_k\|_{L^p(\Omega)} < +\infty$ ;
- $p = 1$ :  $\mathcal{G}(f_k, f) \rightarrow 0$  in  $L^1(\Omega)$ ,  $\|Df_k\|_{L^1(\Omega)} < +\infty$  and  $|Df_k|$  is equi-integrable.

## Mattila's quadratic elliptic integrands

$$E(u) := \int_{\Omega} \sum_i \langle ADu_i, Du_i \rangle,$$

where  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times m} \ni M \mapsto AM \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  is a linear symmetric map

- *Q-semielliptic* if

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^m} \sum_i \langle ADf_i, Df_i \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall f \in \text{Lip}(\mathbb{R}^m, \mathcal{A}_Q) \text{ with compact support.} \tag{1}$$

- *Q-semiellipticity* and *Q-quasiconvexity* coincide.

$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k \llbracket f_i(x) + L \cdot x \rrbracket$  with  $f$  compactly supported

$$\begin{aligned} E(g) &= E(f) + k \langle AL, L \rangle + 2 \int_{C_1} \sum_i \langle AL, Df_i \rangle \\ &= E(f) + k \langle AL, L \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

MATTILA'S CONJECTURE: 1-semielliptic implies *Q*-semielliptic.

### Proof: Necessity

$F$  weak\*- $W^{1,\infty}$  lower semicontinuous implies  $f(x_0, \cdot, \cdot)$   $Q$ -quasiconvex for every  $x_0 \in \Omega$ .

Set  $u(x) = \sum_{j=1}^J q_j [a_j + L_j \cdot x]$

$$z^j(y) := \sum_{i=1}^{q_j} \left[ (w^j(y))_i - a_j - L_j \cdot y \right]$$

$$v_k^j(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{q_j} \left[ k^{-1} (z^j(ky))_i + a_j + L_j \cdot y \right]$$

$$u_{k,r}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^J \tau_{(1-r)a_j} \left( r v_k^j (r^{-1}x) \right).$$

Note that

- for every  $r$ ,  $u_{k,r} \xrightarrow{*} u$  in  $W^{1,\infty}(C_r, \mathcal{A}_Q)$  as  $k \rightarrow +\infty$ ;
- by the lower semicontinuity of  $F$

$$F(u, C_r) := \int_{C_r} f(x, u, Du) \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow +\infty} F(u_{k,r}, C_r).$$

## Sufficienty

$(v_k) \rightharpoonup u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega, \mathcal{A}_Q)$  implies

$$F(u) \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} F(v_k).$$

Idea: prove that for almost all  $x_0 \in \Omega$

$$f(x_0, u(x_0), Du(x_0)) \leq \frac{d\mu}{d\mathcal{L}^m}(x_0),$$

where  $\mu$  is the weak\* limit in the sense of measure of any converging subsequence of  $(f(x, u_k, Du_k)\mathcal{L}^m \llcorner \Omega)$ .

Blowup analysis a la Fonseca-Müller (1992).

## Step I

Let  $u(x_0) = \sum_{j=1}^J q_j \llbracket a_j \rrbracket$ , with  $a_i \neq a_j$  for  $i \neq j$ . Then, there exist  $\rho_k \downarrow 0$  and  $(w_k) \subseteq W^{1,\infty}(C_{\rho_k}(x_0), \mathcal{A}_Q)$  such that:

- (a)  $w_k = \sum_{j=1}^J \llbracket w_k^j \rrbracket$  with  $w_k^j \in W^{1,\infty}(C_{\rho_k}(x_0), \mathcal{A}_{q_j})$ ,  
 $\|\mathcal{G}(w_k, u(x_0))\|_{L^\infty(C_{\rho_k}(x_0))} = o(1)$  and  
 $\mathcal{G}(w_k(x), u(x_0))^2 = \sum_{j=1}^J \mathcal{G}(w_k^j(x), q_j \llbracket a_j \rrbracket)^2$  for every  $x \in C_{\rho_k}(x_0)$ ;
- (b)  $\int_{C_{\rho_k}(x_0)} \mathcal{G}^p(w_k, T_{x_0} u) = o(\rho_k^p)$ ;
- (c)  $\lim_{k \uparrow +\infty} \int_{C_{\rho_k}(x_0)} f(x_0, u(x_0), Dw_k) = \frac{d\mu}{d\mathcal{L}^m}(x_0)$ .

## Step II

For every  $\gamma > 0$ , there exist  $(z_k) \subset W^{1,\infty}(C_1, \mathcal{A}_Q)$  such that  $z_k|_{\partial C_1} = T_{x_0}u|_{\partial C_1}$  for every  $k$  and

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{C_1} f(x_0, u(x_0), Dz_k) \leq \frac{d\mu}{d\mathcal{L}^m}(x_0) + \gamma.$$

## $Q$ -polyconvexity

Let  $N := \min\{m, n\}$ ,  $\tau(n, m) := \sum_{k=1}^N \binom{m}{k} \binom{n}{k}$  and define  $M : \mathbb{R}^{n \times m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\tau(m, n)}$  as  $M(A) := (A, \text{adj}_2 A, \dots, \text{adj}_N A)$ , where  $\text{adj}_k A$  stands for the matrix of all  $k \times k$  minors of  $A$ .

### Definition

A  $Q$ -integrand  $f : (\mathbb{R}^n)^Q \times (\mathbb{R}^{n \times m})^Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is *polyconvex* if there exists a map  $g : (\mathbb{R}^n)^Q \times (\mathbb{R}^{\tau(m, n)})^Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that:

- (i) the function  $g(a_1, \dots, a_Q, \cdot) : (\mathbb{R}^{\tau(m, n)})^Q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is convex for every  $a_1, \dots, a_Q \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,
- (ii) for every  $a_1, \dots, a_Q \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $(L_1, \dots, L_Q) \in (\mathbb{R}^{n \times m})^Q$  it holds

$$f(a_1, \dots, a_Q, L_1, \dots, L_Q) = g(a_1, \dots, a_Q, M(L_1), \dots, M(L_Q)). \quad (2)$$

Theorem (De Lellis, Focardi, Spadaro (*Ann. Acad. Sc. Fenn. Math.* 2011))

*Every locally bounded polyconvex  $Q$ -integrand  $f$  is  $Q$ -quasiconvex.*

## Explicit examples of polyconvex functions

- (a)  $f(a_1, \dots, a_Q, L_1, \dots, L_Q) := g(\mathcal{G}(L, Q \llbracket 0 \rrbracket))$  with  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  convex and increasing;
- (b)  $f(a_1, \dots, a_Q, L_1, \dots, L_Q) := \sum_{i,j=1}^Q g(L_i - L_j)$  with  $g : \mathbb{R}^{n \times m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  convex;
- (c)  $f(a_1, \dots, a_Q, L_1, \dots, L_Q) := \sum_{i=1}^Q g(a_i, L_i)$  with  $g : \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^{n \times m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  measurable and polyconvex.

### Remark

*A quadratic integrand is quasiconvex if and only if it is rank-1 convex. If  $\min\{m, n\} \leq 2$  quasiconvexity is equivalent to polyconvexity (F. Terpstra (Math. Ann. 1939).*

*This answers to the conjecture by Mattila in this case.*

### Proof of PC $\implies$ QC: Step I

Let  $f$  be a  $Q$ -integrand, then the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $f$  is a polyconvex  $Q$ -integrand,
- (ii) for every choice of vectors  $a_1, \dots, a_Q \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ , with  $A_i = A_j$  if  $a_i = a_j$ , there exist polyaffine functions  $P_j : \mathbb{R}^{n \times m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , with  $P_i = P_j$  if  $a_i = a_j$ , such that

$$f(a_1, \dots, a_Q, A_1, \dots, A_Q) = \sum_{j=1}^Q P_j(A_j),$$

and

$$f(a_1, \dots, a_Q, L_1, \dots, L_Q) \geq \sum_{j=1}^Q P_j(L_j) \quad \text{for every } L_1, \dots, L_Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}.$$

## Proof of PC $\implies$ QC: Step II

$$f(\underbrace{a_1, \dots, a_1}_{q_1}, \dots, \underbrace{a_J, \dots, a_J}_{q_J}, \underbrace{L_1, \dots, L_1}_{q_1}, \dots, \underbrace{L_J, \dots, L_J}_{q_J}) = \sum_{j=1}^J q_j P_j(L_j)$$
$$\stackrel{(A)}{=} \int_{C_1} \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{i=1}^{q_j} P_j(Dw_i^j) \leq \int_{C_1} f(\underbrace{a_1, \dots, a_1}_{q_1}, \dots, \underbrace{a_J, \dots, a_J}_{q_J}, Dw^1, \dots, Dw^J).$$

## Proof of PC $\implies$ QC: Step II

$d\omega^j = c_0^j dx + \sum_{l=1}^N \sum_{|\alpha|=|\beta|=l} \sigma_\alpha c_{\alpha\beta}^{j,l} dx_{\bar{\alpha}} \wedge dy_\beta$ , it holds

$$\int_{C_1} \sum_{i=1}^{q_j} P_j(Dw_i^j) = \langle T_{w^j, C_1}, d\omega^j \rangle,$$

where  $P_j(A) = c_0^j + \sum_{l=1}^N \sum_{|\alpha|=|\beta|=l} c_{\alpha\beta}^{j,l} M_{\alpha\beta}(A)$ .

Since  $u|_{\partial C_1} = w|_{\partial C_1}$ , it follows that  $\partial T_{w, C_1} = \partial T_{u, C_1}$  as rectifiable currents.

Then, setting  $u^j(x) = q_j [a_j + L_j \cdot x]$ , by Stokes

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j P_j(L_j) &= \int_{C_1} \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{i=1}^{q_j} P_j(Du_i^j) = \sum_{j=1}^J \langle T_{u^j, C_1}, d\omega^j \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^J \langle \partial T_{u^j, C_1}, \omega^j \rangle \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^J \langle \partial T_{w^j, C_1}, \omega^j \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^J \langle T_{w^j, C_1}, d\omega^j \rangle = \int_{C_1} \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{i=1}^{q_j} P_j(Dw_i^j). \end{aligned}$$

## Open questions

- REGULARITY?

Dirichlet minimizers

- Hölder continuous (optimal regularity),
- Analytic outside a set of codimension at least 2,
- Higher integrability for  $|Du|$ .

- BRANCHING EFFECTS?

$$u|_{\partial\Omega} = Q[\varphi] \implies u = Q[\Phi] ?$$