

3.2.3. Incompressible and Almost Incompressible Materials

■ Problem:

Let us consider the primal VF (2) for an homogeneous, isotropic material.

The corresponding bilinear form

$$(21) \quad a(u, v) = \lambda (\operatorname{div} u, \operatorname{div} v)_0 + 2\mu (\varepsilon(u), \varepsilon(v))_0$$

is, in principle, $V_0 = H_{0,\Gamma_u}^1(\Omega)$ -elliptic and $V_0 = \mathbb{F}$, i.e. $\exists \mu_1, \mu_2 = \text{const} > 0$: (meas₂ $\Gamma_u > 0$)

$$(22) \quad \begin{cases} a(v, v) \geq \mu_1 \|v\|_1^2 \quad \forall v \in V_0 := \{v \in H_0^1: v|_{\Gamma_u} = 0\} \\ |a(u, v)| \leq \mu_2 \|u\|_1 \|v\|_1 \quad \forall u, v \in V_0 \end{cases}$$

but $\mu_2/\mu_1 \rightarrow \infty$ for $v \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$ ($\Leftrightarrow \lambda = \frac{E\nu}{(1+\nu)(1-2\nu)} \rightarrow \infty$),

i.e. the PVF (2) becomes badly conditioned for almost incompressible materials like rubber (cf. Subsection 3.2.1)!

■ Possible Solutions:

1. Use the DHR-Formulation (2nd HR principle):

A refined analysis of the KerB-ellipticity of the bilinear form $a(\cdot, \cdot)$ gives:

$$a(\tilde{\tau}, \tilde{\tau}) \geq \alpha_1 (\|\tilde{\tau}\|_0^2 + \|\operatorname{div} \tilde{\tau}\|_0^2) = \alpha_1 \|\tilde{\tau}\|_{X_0}^2 \quad \forall \tilde{\tau} \in \text{KerB}$$

with $\alpha_1 \neq \alpha_1(v)$, whereas

$$\lambda_{\min}(D^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\lambda_{\max}(D)} = \frac{1-2\nu}{E} \xrightarrow[\nu \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}]{} 0.$$