

1. Let us assume that the material of interest is an isotropic elastic solid with the constitutive relation

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \lambda (\text{Tr } \boldsymbol{\epsilon}) \mathbb{1} + 2\mu \boldsymbol{\epsilon},$$

and let us assume that we are interested in the static problem in which the balance of linear momentum reduces to

$$\mathbf{0} = \text{div } \boldsymbol{\tau} + \mathbf{f},$$

where $\mathbf{f} =_{\text{def}} \rho_{\text{R}} \mathbf{b}$. Show that the compatibility conditions for the linearised strain

$$\text{rot}(\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\epsilon})^{\top} = \mathbf{0},$$

the constitutive relation and the balance of linear momentum imply that $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ solves the system

$$\Delta \boldsymbol{\tau} + \frac{1}{1+\nu} \nabla (\nabla (\text{Tr } \boldsymbol{\tau})) = -(\nabla \mathbf{f} + (\nabla \mathbf{f})^{\top}) - \frac{\nu}{1-\nu} (\text{div } \mathbf{f}) \mathbb{1}, \quad (1)$$

This equation is referred to as Beltrami–Michell equation. (The symbol ν denotes the Poisson's ratio.) You might find that it is more convenient to use the compatibility conditions rewritten in the form

$$\frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{ik}}{\partial x_l \partial x_j} - \frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{jk}}{\partial x_l \partial x_i} = \frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{il}}{\partial x_k \partial x_j} - \frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{jl}}{\partial x_k \partial x_i}.$$

There is no need to prove the equivalence between $\text{rot}(\text{rot } \boldsymbol{\epsilon})^{\top} = \mathbf{0}$ and this formula.