VARIATIONAL AND PROJECTION METHODS FOR THE VOLUME CONSTRAINT IN FINITE DEFORMATION ELASTO-PLASTICITY

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This paper focuses on the treatment of volume constraints which in the context of elasto-plasticity typically arise as a result of assuming volume-preserving plastic flow. Projection methods based on the modification of the discrete gradient operator B, often proposed on an ad-hoc basis, are systematically obtained in the variational context furnished by a three-field Hu-Washizu principle. The fully nonlinear formulation proposed here is based on a *local* multiplicative split of the deformation gradient into volume-preserving and dilatational parts, without relying on rate forms of the weak form of momentum balance. This approach fits naturally in a formulation of plasticity based on the multiplicative decomposition of the deformation gradient, and enables one to exactly enforce the condition of volume-preserving plastic flow. Within the framework proposed in this paper, rate forms and incrementally objective algorithms are entirely bypassed.

1. Introduction

This paper is concerned with the treatment of volume constraints arising either from the assumption of incompressible or nearly incompressible elastic response, or from the hypothesis of isochoric plastic flow. In the context of elasticity, for example, problems arising from the numerical treatment of the incompressibility constraint are well known and have received considerable attention in the computational literature (e.g., [7] for a summary account). The method of Lagrange multipliers, the penalty function method (e.g., [16, 25, 37]) or iterative updating schemes based upon the use of augmented Lagrangians (e.g. [11, 52]) are approaches currently followed. For the elasto-plastic problem, the important effect that the incompressibility constraint on the plastic flow has on the overall solution procedure was first recognized and addressed in the classical paper of Nagtegaal, Parks and Rice [30].

In the context of the geometrically linearized problem, modified versions of the Hellinger-Reissner variational principle have often been used as a means for constructing displacement/pressure mixed approximations [13, 17, 20, 30]. These developments have been typically restricted to *linear* anisotropic behavior. The equivalence of mixed methods with *discontinuous* pressure approximations and displacement methods employing selective reduced integration techniques is now well understood [14, 26, 31].

An alternative approach, [15], of wide use in several large-scale computer codes (e.g. [12]) and often referred to as the '*B*-bar procedure', is based on an a-priori modification of the discrete gradient operator as to account for the constraint. This approach, which includes

the mean dilatation approach advocated by Nagtegaal, Parks and Rice [30], may be regarded as a *projection* procedure applicable to anisotropic media. It has also been used on rather empirical basis for nonlinear problems. In a different context, *projection* methods have been used by Belytschko and co-workers to control the so-called 'hour-glass modes' characteristic of uniformly underintegrated elements (e.g. [6]). Attempts to justify the *B*-bar procedure in a variational context have been only partially successful and limited to the linear anisotropic case [17].

In this paper a mixed procedure for the treatment of the incompressibility constraint is proposed, based on a perturbed (regularized) Lagrangian formulation in which the pressure and the Jacobian of the deformation gradient are independent field variables. In the context of elasticity, this approach falls within the class of variational methods based on a form of the Hu-Washizu principle. For the geometrically linearized theory with an arbitrary form of stored energy function, by making use of certain orthogonality conditions we show that B-bar procedures may be systematically recovered. Hence, the present approach provides a general variational framework for this class of projection methods. Its extension to the fully nonlinear range hinges on a nonlinear version of a three-field Hu-Washizu variational principle together with the introduction of a local multiplicative decomposition of the deformation gradient into a volume-preserving part and a dilatational part. Such a multiplicative decomposition is formally consistent with a Lie group structure, and its linearization at the identity (with a natural Lie algebra structure) returns the additive split of the strain tensor into spherical and deviatoric parts of the linear theory. Within this approach, the structure of the residual associated with the B-bar projection method is again recovered. A somewhat surprising result of the present analysis concerns the tangent operator. It is shown that the structure of the tangent operator associated with the projection method in the linearized theory does not carry over to the nonlinear theory.

Our treatment of volume constraints is motivated by the approach to finite deformation elasto-viscoplasticity, recently proposed by Simo and Ortiz [44]. This procedure relies crucially on a characterization of the instantaneous elastic response directly in terms of a free energy potential, together with the explicit use of a multiplicative decomposition of the deformation gradient and the notion of an intermediate configuration [23]. Within this framework, hypoelastic characterizations of the elastic response, of questionable physical significance, play no role in the formulation. This is in sharp contrast with current computational approaches to finite deformation plasticity based on an additive decomposition of the rate of deformation tensor, in which the elastic response is typically characterized by a hypoelastic rate constitutive equation involving an objective stress rate and the elastic part of the rate of deformation tensor. Often, such a characterization is incompatible with elasticity [45]. The basic algorithmic implication of this approach, as opposed to the formulation advocated here, is the need for an algorithm to numerically integrate the hypoelastic rate equation in a manner consistent with the principle of objectivity. This task is by no means trivial and considerable research effort has been devoted in recent years to the development of efficient incrementally objective integration schemes [18, 29, 35, 39].

Computational methods of large strain elasto-plasticity and elasto-viscoplasticity which rely from the onset on a hyperelastic material component have also been developed by Argyris and Doltsinis [2, 3]. These authors, however, seem to favour an algorithmic treatment based on a rate formulation, as outlined in [4].

The algorithm treatment of the elasto-plastic problem employed in this paper hinges on exploiting the natural additive structure of the associated (incremental) problem of evolution into elastic and plastic parts. This leads to a *product formula* algorithm in which an elastic predictor is followed by a plastic corrector often referred to as a *return mapping*. Within this framework, the treatment of the volume constraint may be addressed in the context of the elastic problem.

A treatment of finite deformation elasto-plasticity directly based on the multiplicative decomposition is ideally suited to accommodate a local multiplicative split of the deformation gradient into volume-preserving and dilatational parts. In fact, it will be shown that this approach enables one to satisfy exactly the constraint condition of isochoric plastic flow.

For the purpose of addressing the main computational issues involved in the procedure advocated here, a simple model problem for rate independent finite deformation plasticity is considered. This model problem nevertheless incorporates the important characteristic of truly hyperelastic finite deformation response. Numerical examples are presented which serve the purpose of illustrating the formulations herein discussed.

2. Geometrically linearized theory

In this section we discuss the treatment of volume constraints in the context of linear kinematics. An arbitrary form of stored energy function is assumed, thereby permitting coupling between dilatation and deviatoric deformation and *non-constant* tangent elasticities. Our approach is based on the introduction of a kinematic *split* of the strain tensor into volume-preserving and volumetric parts together with a *three-field* form of the Hu-Washizu variational principle. The three-field format is essential in order to treat the (physically) nonlinear situation since, as recently pointed out by Reissner [38], the Legendre transformation necessary to obtain a Hellinger–Reissner form (in terms of pressure and displacements) cannot be explicitly determined in general. In fact, previous variational treatments based on a form of the Hellinger–Reissner principle, notably [20], depend crucially on the assumption of constant elasticities.

Although our main purpose in this section is to motivate the approach to the general, fully nonlinear situation, results which appear to be new are obtained. In particular, the present approach provides a variational framework for a class of *projection* methods based on the modification of the discrete gradient operator, as suggested by Hughes [15].

2.1. Basic additive split

The point of departure in the present approach is the introduction of the *additive* decomposition of the strain tensor $\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \equiv \nabla^s \boldsymbol{u}$ into its deviatoric and spherical parts,

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \boldsymbol{e} + \frac{1}{3}\boldsymbol{\Theta}\boldsymbol{g}, \quad \text{tr} \ \boldsymbol{e} = 0, \tag{2.1a}$$

where g stands for the metric tensor. Although $\Theta \equiv \text{div } u$ point-wise in the continuum case, this point-wise identification cannot be made in the discrete case. In fact, the essential point of the variational procedure developed below is to establish a weak form of this condition.

Accordingly, we shall employ the following notation:

$$\overline{\nabla}^{s} \boldsymbol{u} \equiv \operatorname{dev} \nabla^{s} \boldsymbol{u} + \frac{1}{3} \boldsymbol{\Theta} \boldsymbol{g}, \qquad \boldsymbol{e} \equiv \operatorname{dev} \nabla^{s} \boldsymbol{u} = \nabla^{s} \boldsymbol{u} - \frac{1}{3} (\operatorname{tr} \nabla \boldsymbol{u}) \boldsymbol{g}, \qquad (2.1b)$$

where Θ is regarded as an *additional* field variable.

For later developments it is also essential to note that the deviatoric and spherical tensors entering the additive split (2.1) may be defined in terms of *projection* operators as¹

$$e = I_{dev} : \epsilon, \quad I_{dev} \equiv I - \frac{1}{3}g \otimes g,$$

$$\frac{1}{3}(\operatorname{tr} \nabla^{s} u)g = I_{vol} : \epsilon, \quad I_{vol} = \frac{1}{3}g \otimes g,$$

(2.2)

where I is the unit fourth-order symmetric tensor with components $I^{ijkl} = \frac{1}{2} \{g^{ik}g^{jl} + g^{il}g^{jk}\}$. Clearly, I_{dev} and I_{vol} are projection operators mapping a symmetric second-order tensor into its deviator and spherical parts, respectively. Accordingly, $I_{dev} + I_{vol} = I$ and one has the *orthogonality* conditions

$$I_{dev}^2 = I_{dev}, \qquad I_{vol}^2 = I_{vol}, \qquad I_{dev} : I_{vol} = I_{vol} : I_{dev} = 0,$$
 (2.3)

which play an important role in subsequent developments.

Let the elastic response be characterized by a stored energy function $W = \overline{W}(\epsilon)$. By virtue of the kinematic split (2.1) we may redefine W as a function of (e, Θ) by replacing ϵ with $\overline{\nabla}^s u$. The stress tensor and the tangent elasticities are given by

$$\bar{\sigma} = \frac{\partial \bar{W}(\epsilon)}{\partial \epsilon} \Big|_{\epsilon = \bar{\nabla}^{s} u}, \qquad \bar{c} = \frac{\partial^{2} \bar{W}(\epsilon)}{\partial \epsilon \partial \epsilon} \Big|_{\epsilon = \bar{\nabla}^{s} u}.$$
(2.4)

Notice that no restrictions are placed on the form of $\overline{W}(\epsilon)$ apart from the customary assumption of convexity valid in the linear case. In particular, the elasticity tensor c is neither constant nor isotropic. This is in contrast with most developments in computational mechanics proposed so far which assume constant elasticities (e.g., [13, 15, 17, 20, 26, 50]).

REMARK 2.1. In general, pressure- and stress deviator-induced responses are *coupled*. In many physical situations of interest one may wish to assume that volumetric and deviatoric responses are *uncoupled* postulating at the outset a stored energy function of the form

$$W = \hat{W}(\boldsymbol{e}) + \bar{U}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) \Rightarrow p = \frac{\mathrm{d}\bar{U}}{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\Theta}}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}).$$
(2.5)

However, even under this assumption, the elasticities need not be constant.

2.2. Variational principle

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ denote the reference configuration of the body with smooth boundary $\partial \Omega$.

¹Here \otimes denotes tensor product; e.g., $[\mathbf{g} \otimes \mathbf{g}]_{ijkl} = g_{ij}g_{kl}$.

Further, let u(x) be the displacement field, which is prescribed as $\bar{u}(x)$ on $\partial \Omega_u$, and $\bar{t}(x) = \sigma n$ the traction vector specified on $\partial \Omega_{\sigma}$. Here, $\partial \bar{\Omega} = \partial \bar{\Omega}_u \cup \partial \bar{\Omega}_{\sigma}$ and $\partial \Omega_u \cap \partial \Omega_{\sigma} = \emptyset$. Consider the following Lagrangian functional:

$$L(\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{\Theta}) = \int_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}} \hat{W}(\boldsymbol{e} + \frac{1}{3}\boldsymbol{\Theta}\boldsymbol{g}) \,\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{V} + \int_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}} \boldsymbol{p}(\mathrm{tr} \,\boldsymbol{\epsilon} - \boldsymbol{\Theta}) \,\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{v} + \boldsymbol{\Xi}(\boldsymbol{u}) \,, \tag{2.6a}$$

where $\Xi(u)$ is the total potential energy associated with the loading, i.e.,

$$\Xi(\boldsymbol{u}) = -\int_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{f} \cdot \boldsymbol{u} \, \mathrm{d}V - \int_{\partial \Omega_{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}} \boldsymbol{\bar{t}} \cdot \boldsymbol{u} \, \mathrm{d}\gamma \,. \tag{2.6b}$$

The functional (2.6) may be viewed as a form of the Hu-Washizu variational principle. A related form has been considered by Nagtegaal, Parks and Rice [30] for the particular case of *uncoupled* volumetric/deviatoric response defined by (2.5), with a *linear* constitutive equation for the pressure. The uncoupled model (2.5) typically arises in the treatment of the incompressible problem, where the function $\overline{U}(\Theta)$ is assumed to depend on a parameter K > 0 which goes to infinity in the incompressible limit. The variational principle (2.6) is then referred to as a *perturbed* Lagrangian.

The space of test functions (virtual displacements) associated with (2.6) may be defined as (N is the spatial dimension)

$$H^{1}_{\vartheta} = \{ \boldsymbol{\eta} \in [H^{1}(\Omega)]^{N} : \boldsymbol{\eta} |_{\partial \Omega_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}} = \boldsymbol{0} \}.$$

$$(2.7)$$

We consider next the Euler-Lagrange equations associated with the functional (2.6), for a solution $u - \bar{u} \in H^{1}_{\partial}$, $\Theta \in L^{2}(\Omega)$ and $p \in L^{2}(\Omega)$. For this purpose, introduce the notation

$$D_{\boldsymbol{u}}L(\boldsymbol{u},\boldsymbol{p},\boldsymbol{\Theta})\cdot\boldsymbol{\eta} = \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}\alpha}\Big|_{\alpha=0}L(\boldsymbol{u}+\alpha\boldsymbol{\eta},\boldsymbol{p},\boldsymbol{\Theta}), \qquad (2.8)$$

to designate the Fréchet derivative (variation) in the direction η . Taking the variation relative to u and making use of constitutive equation (2.4), we are led to the equation

$$D_{\boldsymbol{u}}L \cdot \boldsymbol{\eta} = \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{dev} \boldsymbol{\sigma} : \nabla^{s} \boldsymbol{\eta} \, \mathrm{d}V + \int_{\Omega} p \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\eta} \, \mathrm{d}V - \tilde{G} = 0 \quad \text{for any } \boldsymbol{\eta} \in H^{1}_{\vartheta}, \qquad (2.9)$$

where $\tilde{G} = -D\boldsymbol{\Xi} \cdot \boldsymbol{\eta}$ designates virtual work on the external forces, and a superposed s indicates symmetric part. Similarly, we obtain the two additional variational equations

$$D_{\rho}L \cdot q = \int_{\Omega} q[\operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{u} - \boldsymbol{\Theta}] \, \mathrm{d}V = 0 \quad \text{for any } q \in L^{2}(\Omega) \,,$$

$$D_{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}L \cdot \gamma = \int_{\Omega} \gamma \left[-p + \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{tr} \left[\frac{\partial \bar{W}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \right]_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \bar{\nabla}^{*}\boldsymbol{u}} \right] \, \mathrm{d}V = 0 \quad \text{for any } \gamma \in L^{2}(\Omega) \,,$$
(2.10)

where $\overline{\nabla}^s u$ is defined by (2.1b). Clearly, (2.10)₁ is simply the weak form of the kinematic relation div $u = \text{tr } \epsilon$.

REMARK 2.2. One could in principle introduce a Legendre transformation (see [5, p. 61] for a geometric interpretation), and eliminate the 'dilatation' Θ from variational principle (2.6) by setting

$$\Gamma(p) = p\Theta - \bar{U}(\Theta). \tag{2.11}$$

By this procedure one recovers a form of the Hellinger-Reissner principle. In fact, by assuming at the outset that $W(e, \Theta) = \hat{W}(e) + \bar{U}(\Theta, e)$, this approach has been recently employed by Reissner [38] to generalize Key's principle to physically nonlinear response. There it was noted, however, that there is not a unique or simple way of determining $\Gamma(p)$. Thus, the practical value of such an approach is limited to very particular forms of \bar{W} ; in particular, the quadratic form characterizing the linear case.

2.3. Mixed approximation. 'B-bar' projection procedure

In what follows we consider a general mixed approximation based on the three-field Hu-Washizu variational principle (2.6). By making use of certain *orthogonality* conditions, it is shown that the resulting mixed variational formulation is equivalent to a *projection* procedure of a type proposed by Hughes [15] and often referred to as the *B*-bar method. In addition, by specialization of this formulation one may also recover the 'mean dilatation' approach advocated by Nagtegaal, Parks and Rice [30]. The present approach provides a variational framework for *B*-bar type projection methods in the general *nonlinear situation* in which pressure may depend on the strain deviator and *non-constant elasticities* are permitted. Previous analyses [17] provided only 'approximate' equivalence with Key's variational principle, and were restricted to the *linear* anisotropic case (constant elasticities).

Displacement approximation. Introduce a standard discretization $\Omega = \bigcup_{e=1}^{E} \Omega_e$ with $\Omega_a \cap \Omega_b = \emptyset$, and consider a finite-dimensional approximating subspace $H^h \subset H^1_{\vartheta}$, so that over a typical element Ω_e , one has the general interpolations

$$\boldsymbol{u} \mid_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} = \sum_{I=1}^{\mathrm{NEL}} N^{I}(\boldsymbol{x}) \boldsymbol{u}_{I}, \qquad \nabla^{\mathrm{s}} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \mid_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} = \sum_{I=1}^{\mathrm{NEL}} \boldsymbol{B}^{I} \boldsymbol{u}_{I}, \qquad (2.12)$$

where N^{T} are the standard element shape functions. In addition, we have the following interpolations for the deviatoric and spherical parts of the symmetric gradient operator:

$$\operatorname{dev} \nabla^{\mathsf{s}} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \bigg|_{\Omega_{\boldsymbol{e}}} = \sum_{I=1}^{\mathsf{NEL}} \boldsymbol{B}_{\operatorname{dev}}^{I} \boldsymbol{u}_{I}, \qquad \operatorname{tr} \nabla^{\mathsf{s}} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \bigg|_{\Omega_{\boldsymbol{e}}} = \sum_{I=1}^{\mathsf{NEL}} \boldsymbol{b}_{\operatorname{vol}}^{I} \cdot \boldsymbol{u}_{I}.$$
(2.13)

Since dev $\nabla^s u$ and tr $\nabla^s u$ are defined by (2.2), it follows that b_{vol}^I and B_{dev}^I are given in terms of the projection operators I_{dev} and I_{vol} according to the expressions

$$\boldsymbol{B}_{\text{vol}}^{I} \equiv \boldsymbol{I}_{\text{vol}} : \boldsymbol{B}^{I} = \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{1} \bigotimes \boldsymbol{b}_{\text{vol}}^{I}, \qquad (2.14)$$

where

$$\boldsymbol{b}_{\text{vol}}^{I} = \mathbf{1} \cdot \boldsymbol{B}^{I}, \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad \boldsymbol{b}_{k}^{I} = \boldsymbol{g}^{ij} \boldsymbol{B}_{ijk}^{I} \tag{2.15}$$

and

$$\boldsymbol{B}_{\text{dev}}^{I} \equiv \boldsymbol{I}_{\text{dev}} : \boldsymbol{B}^{I} = \boldsymbol{B}^{I} - \boldsymbol{B}_{\text{vol}}^{I} .$$
(2.16)

Here and throughout this section we shall use the symbol 1 for the unit (metric) tensor g in order to accommodate both tensorial and matrix notation. This is illustrated in the following example.

EXAMPLE 2.3. Consider as a model problem the case of an axisymmetric solid in cylindrical coordinates $\{r, z, \theta\}$. Employing standard matrix notation, we have the explicit expressions

$$\boldsymbol{\eta} = [\boldsymbol{\eta}_r, \boldsymbol{\eta}_z]^{\mathrm{t}}, \qquad \nabla^{\mathrm{s}} \boldsymbol{\eta} = [\boldsymbol{\eta}_{r,r}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_{z,z}, \boldsymbol{\eta}_r/r, (\boldsymbol{\eta}_{r,z} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_{z,r})]^{\mathrm{t}}, \qquad (2.17a)$$

$$\mathbf{I} = [1, 1, 1, 0]^{t}, \qquad \boldsymbol{b}_{vol}^{I} = [N_{,r}^{I} + N_{,r}^{I}]^{t}, \qquad (2.17b)$$

$$\boldsymbol{B}^{I} = \begin{bmatrix} N_{,r}^{I} & 0\\ 0 & N_{,z}^{I}\\ N_{,z}^{I} & 0\\ N_{,z}^{I} & N_{,r}^{I} \end{bmatrix}, \qquad \boldsymbol{B}^{I}_{\text{vol}} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} N_{,r}^{I} + N^{I}/r & N_{,z}^{I}\\ N_{,r}^{I} + N^{I}/r & N_{,z}^{I}\\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$
(2.17c)

Volume and pressure approximations. Next we introduce a finite-dimensional approximating subspace $K^h \subset L^2(\Omega)$ so that, over a typical element Ω_e , one has the general interpolations

$$\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{h} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{e}} = \sum_{k=1}^{\bar{N}} \psi^{k}(\boldsymbol{x}) \boldsymbol{\Theta}_{k} \equiv \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\Theta}, \qquad p^{h} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{e}} = \sum_{k=1}^{\bar{N}} \psi^{k}(\boldsymbol{x}) p_{k} \equiv \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \cdot \boldsymbol{p}.$$
(2.18)

Note that no interelement continuity is enforced on Θ^h and p^h . Numerical experiments appear to indicate that best results are obtained if the \overline{N} polynomials $\Psi(\mathbf{x}) \equiv [\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_{\overline{N}}]^t$ are given in global rather that natural coordinates [53]. As a result of this (discontinuous) approximation, the discrete versions of variational equations (2.10) now read

$$\int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} q^{h} [\operatorname{tr} \nabla^{s} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} - \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{h}] \, \mathrm{d} V = 0, \qquad \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \gamma^{h} \left[-p^{h} + \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{tr} \left[\frac{\partial W(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \right]_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \bar{\nabla}^{s} \boldsymbol{\mu}} \right] \, \mathrm{d} V = 0 \tag{2.19}$$

for any $q^h \in K^h$ and $\gamma^h \in K^h$. Equations (2.19) may be used to eliminate the fields Θ^h and p^h at the element level. For this purpose, introduce the notations

$$\boldsymbol{H}_{\boldsymbol{e}} \equiv \int_{\Omega_{\boldsymbol{e}}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \otimes \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \, \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{V}, \qquad (\bar{\boldsymbol{b}}^{T})^{t} \equiv \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \cdot \boldsymbol{H}_{\boldsymbol{e}}^{-1} \int_{\Omega_{\boldsymbol{e}}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \otimes \boldsymbol{b}^{T} \, \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{V}. \tag{2.20}$$

By substitution of $(2.18)_1$ into $(2.19)_1$ it follows that the restriction of the volumetric strain Θ^h to a typical element Ω_e is given by

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$$\Theta^{h}\Big|_{\Omega_{e}} \equiv \overline{\operatorname{div}} \ u^{h} = \Psi(x) \cdot H_{e}^{-1} \int_{\Omega_{e}} \Psi(x) \operatorname{div} \ u^{h} \operatorname{d} V = \sum_{I=1}^{\operatorname{NEL}} \overline{b}^{I} \cdot u_{I} .$$
(2.21)

By analogy with (2.14) \vec{B}_{vol}^{I} is defined as

$$\bar{\boldsymbol{B}}_{vol}^{I} \equiv \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{1} \bigotimes \bar{\boldsymbol{b}}^{I} \text{ and } \bar{\boldsymbol{B}}^{I} = \boldsymbol{B}_{dev}^{I} + \bar{\boldsymbol{B}}_{vol}^{I}.$$
 (2.22)

Hence, one may regard Θ^h as resulting from the application of a discrete divergence operator $\overline{\text{div}}$ [11], defined by relation (2.21). In addition, from the basic split (2.14) we are also led to a discrete (symmetric) gradient operator $\overline{\nabla}^s u^h$ of the form

$$\bar{\nabla} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{e}} \equiv \operatorname{dev} \nabla^{s} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} + \frac{1}{3} [\overline{\operatorname{div}} \ \boldsymbol{u}^{h}] \mathbf{1} = \sum_{I=1}^{\operatorname{NEL}} \bar{\boldsymbol{B}}^{I} \boldsymbol{u}_{I}, \qquad (2.23)$$

with \bar{B}^{I} as defined by (2.22)₂. Finally, from the weak form (2.19)₂ together with (2.18)₁, it follows that the pressure over the element is given by

$$p^{h}\Big|_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} = \Psi(\mathbf{x}) \cdot H_{\epsilon}^{-1} \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \Psi(\mathbf{x})^{\frac{1}{3}} \operatorname{tr}\left[\frac{\partial \bar{W}(\epsilon)}{\partial \epsilon}\right]_{\epsilon = \bar{\nabla}^{s} u} \mathrm{d}V.$$
(2.24)

The final reduction of the foregoing mixed approximation to a *B*-bar type of projection procedure relies crucially on the following observation:

REMARK 2.4. As a result of the fact that I_{vol} and I_{dev} are projection operators satisfying, therefore, conditions (2.3), it follows at once from (2.14), (2.16) and (2.22) that B_{dev}^{I} , B_{vol}^{I} as well as B_{dev}^{I} , \bar{B}_{vol}^{I} define *orthogonal projections* in the sense that

$$\boldsymbol{B}_{dev}^{I} \bigoplus \boldsymbol{B}_{vol}^{I} = \boldsymbol{B}^{I}, \qquad \boldsymbol{B}_{dev}^{I} \bigoplus \bar{\boldsymbol{B}}_{vol}^{I} = \bar{\boldsymbol{B}}^{I}.$$
(2.25a)

Hence, one has the orthogonality conditions

$$(\boldsymbol{B}_{dev}^{I})^{t} \mathbf{1} \equiv \mathbf{0}, \qquad (\boldsymbol{B}_{vol}^{I})^{t} \operatorname{dev} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \equiv \mathbf{0}, \qquad (\boldsymbol{\tilde{B}}_{vol}^{I})^{t} \operatorname{dev} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \equiv \mathbf{0}.$$
 (2.25b)

These conditions play a crucial role in the following discussion.

Evaluation of reduced residual. We now show that elimination of the field variables Θ^{h} and p^{h} at the element level yields a reduced residual involving the modified discrete gradient operator \bar{B}^{I} . Remarkably, the pressure field *drops out* from the formulation and one needs only to compute Θ^{h} at the element level. We proceed in two steps:

(a) Volumetric part. First we note that by substitution of (2.24) into discrete version of the variational equation (2.9), the term involving the pressure, denoted below by G_e^{VOL} , may be expressed with the aid of (2.13) as

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$$G_{e}^{\text{VOL}} \equiv \int_{\Omega_{e}} p^{h} \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \mathrm{d}V$$

$$= \left[\int_{\Omega_{e}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \mathrm{d}V\right] \cdot \left[\boldsymbol{H}_{e}^{-1} \int_{\Omega_{e}} \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{tr} \left[\frac{\partial \bar{\boldsymbol{W}}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}}\right]_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \bar{\boldsymbol{\nabla}}^{s} \boldsymbol{u}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \mathrm{d}V\right]$$

$$\equiv \int_{\Omega_{e}} \overline{\operatorname{div}} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{tr} \left[\frac{\partial \bar{\boldsymbol{W}}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}}\right]_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \bar{\boldsymbol{\nabla}}^{s} \boldsymbol{u}^{h}} \mathrm{d}V. \qquad (2.26)$$

Introducing the interpolation for the discrete divergence operator given by (2.21) we finally obtain

$$G_{\epsilon}^{\text{VOL}} = \sum_{I=1}^{\text{NEL}} \eta_{I} \cdot \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} (\bar{B}_{\text{vol}}^{I})^{t} \mathbf{1}_{\frac{1}{3}}^{1} \operatorname{tr} \left[\frac{\partial \bar{W}(\epsilon)}{\partial \epsilon} \right]_{\epsilon = \bar{\nabla}^{s} u^{h}} \mathrm{d}V.$$
(2.27)

(b) Since \bar{B}^I is given by (2.22)₂, and \bar{B}^I_{dev} , \bar{B}^I_{vol} and \bar{B}^I satisfy the key orthogonality conditions (2.25), the reduced form of momentum balance may be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned}
G^{h} \Big|_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} &= \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \left[\operatorname{dev} \nabla^{s} \boldsymbol{\eta} : \operatorname{dev} \bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}^{h} + \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{tr} \bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}^{h} \right] \mathrm{d}V - \tilde{G} \Big|_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \\
&= \sum_{I=1}^{\operatorname{NEL}} \boldsymbol{\eta}_{I}^{t} \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \left[(\boldsymbol{B}_{\operatorname{dev}}^{I})^{t} \{\operatorname{dev} \bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}^{h} \} + (\bar{\boldsymbol{B}}_{\operatorname{vol}}^{I})^{t} \mathbf{1}_{3}^{\frac{1}{3}} \operatorname{tr} \bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}^{h} \right] \mathrm{d}V - \bar{G} \Big|_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \\
&= \sum_{I=1}^{\operatorname{NEL}} \boldsymbol{\eta}_{I}^{t} \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} (\bar{\boldsymbol{B}}^{I})^{t} \{\bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}^{h} \} \mathrm{d}V - \tilde{G} \Big|_{\Omega_{\epsilon}}, \quad (2.28)
\end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{\sigma}^{h}$ is defined by (2.4). This completes the expression for the residual. Note that the local expression (2.24) for the pressure field plays no role in the final expression (2.28).

Tangent operator. The expression for the consistent tangent operator easily follows from (2.28). The result may be expressed as

$$\mathbf{D}G^{h}\Big|_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} = \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \bar{\nabla}^{s} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} : \left(\frac{\partial^{2} \bar{W}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}}\right)\Big|_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \bar{\nabla}^{s} \boldsymbol{u}^{h}} : \bar{\nabla}^{s} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \right) \mathrm{d}V.$$
(2.29)

Therefore, the linearized weak form is given by

$$DG^{h}\Big|_{\Omega_{e}} = \sum_{I=1}^{NEL} \sum_{J=1}^{NEL} \eta^{t} \bar{K}^{IJ} u_{J}, \qquad (2.30)$$

where the tangent stiffness matrix is computed according to

$$\bar{\boldsymbol{K}}^{IJ} = \int_{\Omega_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}} \left(\bar{\boldsymbol{B}}^{I} \right)^{l} \left[\frac{\partial^{2} \bar{\boldsymbol{W}}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \right|_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \bar{\boldsymbol{\nabla}}^{s} \boldsymbol{u}^{h}} \right] \bar{\boldsymbol{B}}^{J} \, \mathrm{d} \boldsymbol{V}.$$
(2.31)

The equivalence between *B*-bar type projection methods and the mixed variational formulation based on the Hu-Washizu principle (2.6) follows from expressions (2.28) and (2.31) for the residual and tangent stiffness. Remarkably, it will be shown in the next section that a structure for the tangent stiffness of the form (2.31) *does not carry over to the fully nonlinear situation*. For convenience, the basic steps involved in the computation of \overline{B}^{I} , stresses and elasticities have been summarized in Table 1.

REMARK 2.5. We observe that for the case of a bi-linear isoparametric interpolation for the displacement field with *piece-wise constant* pressure and dilatation, $\Psi(x) \equiv 1$ and $H_e \equiv \max\{\Omega_e\}$, so that

$$\overline{\operatorname{div}} \, \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \equiv \frac{1}{\operatorname{meas}\{\Omega_{e}\}} \int_{\Omega_{e}} \operatorname{div} \, \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \, \mathrm{d}V, \qquad \overline{\boldsymbol{B}}_{\operatorname{vol}}^{I} = \frac{1}{\operatorname{meas}\{\Omega_{e}\}} \int_{\Omega_{e}} \boldsymbol{B}_{\operatorname{vol}}^{I} \, \mathrm{d}V, \qquad (2.32)$$

and we recover the mean dilation approach advocated by Nagtegaal, Parks and Rice [30].

Table 1 Variational/projection method

Basic additive split:

$$\overline{\nabla}^{s} u = e + \frac{1}{3} \Theta \mathbf{1}, \qquad e = \epsilon - \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{tr} \epsilon \mathbf{1}.$$

Discrete gradient \bar{B}^{I} :

$$H_{e} \equiv \int_{\Omega_{e}} \Psi(\mathbf{x}) \otimes \Psi(\mathbf{x}) \, \mathrm{d}V,$$

$$(\bar{b}^{I})^{t} \equiv \Psi(\mathbf{x}) \cdot H_{e}^{-1} \int_{\Omega_{e}} \Psi(\mathbf{x}) \otimes b^{I} \, \mathrm{d}V,$$

$$\bar{B}_{vol}^{I} = \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{1} \otimes \bar{b}^{I}, \qquad B_{vol}^{I} = \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{1} \otimes b^{I},$$

$$\bar{B}^{I} = [B^{I} - B_{vol}^{I}] + \bar{B}_{vol}^{I}.$$

Modified strains. Stresses and elasticities:

$$\begin{split} \bar{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}^{h} &\equiv \bar{\nabla}^{s} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} = \sum_{I=1}^{\mathsf{NEL}} \bar{\boldsymbol{B}}^{I} \boldsymbol{u}_{I}, \\ \bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}^{h} &= \frac{\partial \bar{W}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \bar{\nabla} \boldsymbol{u}^{h}}, \qquad \bar{\boldsymbol{c}}^{h} = \frac{\partial^{2} \bar{W}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \bar{\nabla}^{s} \boldsymbol{u}^{h}} \end{split}$$

Residual vector and tangent stiffness matrix:

$$\boldsymbol{R}_{e}^{I} = \int_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{e}} (\boldsymbol{\bar{B}}^{I})^{i} \{ \boldsymbol{\bar{\sigma}}^{h} \} \, \mathrm{d}V, \qquad \boldsymbol{\bar{K}}_{e}^{IJ} = \int_{\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{e}} (\boldsymbol{\bar{B}}^{I})^{i} [\boldsymbol{\bar{c}}^{h}] \boldsymbol{\bar{B}}^{J} \, \mathrm{d}V.$$

REMARK 2.6. Note that if the pressure field $p^h|_{\Omega_e}$ is computed by making use of (2.24) and introduced into the residual (2.20), \overline{B}^I can be replaced by B^I in expression (2.20). This is the traditional 'mixed method'.

REMARK 2.7. The stability of mixed methods is governed by a discrete form of the so-called LBB-conditions, e.g., [21, 25, 32, 33, 48]. In the present context, it is worth noting that for Stokes' problem (essentially equivalent to isotropic linear elasticity) it has been recently shown [36] that the bi-linear element with constant pressures converges for *arbitrary meshing* provided that a simple filtering for the pressure field is introduced.

3. Fully nonlinear formulation

In this section we consider the extensions that are required to apply the ideas developed in the context of the geometrically linear theory to the fully nonlinear case. As in the linear case, the basic idea is to introduce a *kinematic split* that enables one to segregate deviatoric and volumetric response. The essential difference lies in the *multiplicative* (as opposed to the previously employed additive) character now taken by the kinematic split.

It will be seen that the relation between the kinematic split in the linear and nonlinear cases furnishes an example of the relation of basic Lie group theory connecting a given Lie group with its Lie algebra (e.g., see [41, Ch. 2]).

The nonlinear kinematic split discussed below, can be traced back at least to the paper of Flory [9], and has been recently considered in the review paper of Ogden [34]. This kinematic split enables one to formulate a three-field variational principle which furnishes the proper generalization to the fully nonlinear case of the mixed variational principle (2.6).

3.1. Basic multiplicative split

Consider a motion $\phi(X, t): B \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^3$ and let F(X, t) be the deformation gradient. Here $X \in \mathbb{R}^3$ designates the position of a particle in the reference configuration $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. Further, let $J = \det F$ be the Jacobian of the deformation gradient. The basic kinematic split may be formulated as

$$\vec{F} = \Theta^{1/3} \hat{F}, \qquad \hat{F} \equiv J^{-1/3} F, \quad F \equiv \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial X}, \quad J = \det F,$$
(3.1)

where Θ is now an additional variable entering the formulation. Although in the *continuum* case one has $\Theta(\mathbf{X}, t) \equiv J(\mathbf{X}, t)$ so that $\overline{\mathbf{F}} = \mathbf{F}$, it is not possible to make this *point-wise* identification when constructing finite-dimensional approximations. Thus, for subsequent discussion, it is essential to keep a notational distinction.

Associated with the deformation gradients \mathbf{F} and $\hat{\mathbf{F}}$ defined by (3.1) we may define the corresponding right Cauchy–Green tensors by the expressions

$$\boldsymbol{C} = \boldsymbol{F}^{\mathrm{t}}\boldsymbol{F}, \qquad \hat{\boldsymbol{C}} = J^{-2/3}\boldsymbol{C} \equiv \hat{\boldsymbol{F}}^{\mathrm{t}}\hat{\boldsymbol{F}}. \tag{3.2a}$$

In coordinates,

$$C_{AB} = F^{a}_{A} F^{b}_{B} g_{ab} \circ \boldsymbol{\phi}, \qquad \hat{C}_{AB} = \hat{F}^{a}_{A} \hat{F}^{b}_{B} g_{ab} \circ \boldsymbol{\phi}, \qquad (3.2b)$$

where g is the metric tensor in the current configuration. In geometric terms we say that \hat{C} is obtained by pulling back the spatial metric tensor g to the reference configuration with the *isochoric* part \hat{F} of the deformation gradient.

Geometric interpretation. Expression $(3.2)_2$ furnishes the proper generalization to finite motions of the linear kinematic decomposition (2.1) into spherical and deviatoric parts. The relation between both kinematic decompositions can be clearly exhibited by considering the linearization of $(3.2)_2$ about $\phi \equiv$ Identity. For this purpose, let $u : \phi(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be an incremental vector field (covering ϕ), and consider the incremental motion $\phi_e \equiv \phi + \epsilon u \circ \phi$, $\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}$, with deformation gradient $F_e = [F + \epsilon \nabla uF]$. In addition, let $C_e \equiv F_e^{t} F_e$ be the corresponding right Cauchy-Green tensor. Since

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}\epsilon}\Big|_{\epsilon=0} \det F_{\epsilon} = (\det F) \operatorname{tr} \nabla u, \qquad \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}\epsilon}\Big|_{\epsilon=0} C_{\epsilon} = F'(\nabla' u + \nabla u)F, \qquad (3.3)$$

it follows that at ϕ = Identity the linearization of (3.2)₂ yields the decomposition

$$\boldsymbol{e} = \boldsymbol{\epsilon} - \frac{1}{3} (\operatorname{tr} \nabla \boldsymbol{u}) \boldsymbol{g} \,. \tag{3.4}$$

Accordingly, (2.1) is the linearization at the origin of (3.2). In words: the composition of isochoric finite motions yields an isochoric finite motion (with a Lie group structure); whereas the addition of infinitesimal volume-preserving displacements fields yields a volume-preserving infinitesimal displacement field (with a Lie algebra structure).

REMARK 3.1. We note that an identical situation arises when dealing with finite versus infinitesimal rotations (see e.g. [1]). Finite rotations have a natural Lie group structure under composition given by the *action* of the special orthogonal group SO(3) on the Euclidean space. Infinitesimal rotations, on the other hand, constitute an algebra under addition, the algebra of skew-symmetric tensors which is the Lie algebra, so(3), associated with the Lie group SO(3). The Lie bracket of this Lie algebra is the ordinary matrix commutator. (See [41].)

REMARK 3.2. Further insight into the multiplicative split (3.1) can be gained by considering the so-called Lie derivative, a spatial objective rate often referred to as the *convected time derivative*, which furnishes the natural way of computing the change of a spatial object relative to the flow of the spatial velocity field (e.g., see [27, Section 1.6] or [41, p. 76]. This is achieved by pulling back the spatial object to the reference configuration with F, taking there the time derivative, and pushing forward the result to the current configuration using F. For the spatial metric tensor one has the formula

$$L_{\mathbf{r}}\mathbf{g}=2\mathbf{d}\,,\tag{3.5}$$

where $d = \nabla^s v$ is the rate of deformation tensor. Alternatively, making use of the kinematic split (3.1) one may compute the change of a spatial object relative to the *isochoric* part of the flow. This is achieved by simply replacing F by \hat{F} in the definition of the Lie derivative. For the metric tensor g use of this modified Lie derivative, referred to as *isochoric* Lie derivative and denoted by \bar{L}_v , leads to the result

$$\bar{L}_{v}g \equiv 2 \operatorname{dev} d \,. \tag{3.6}$$

3.2. Constitutive equations

We shall develop here the counterpart of constitutive equations (2.4). For this purpose, recall that the stored energy functional for an elastic material, W, depends on the deformation through the point-values of F, i.e., $W = \overline{W}(F)$. Standard arguments involving the principle of *objectivity* (e.g. [51, Section 43]) then show that $W = \tilde{W}(C)$. By making use of the kinematic split (3.1), the stored energy function can be expressed as

$$W = \tilde{W}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{2/3}\hat{C}), \qquad W = \bar{W}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{1/3}\hat{F}). \tag{3.7}$$

Let us denote by P and S the first and second (symmetric) Piola-Kirchhoff stress tensors. Constitutive equations in terms of the Piola-Kirchhoff tensors take the form

$$\bar{\boldsymbol{S}} = \frac{\partial \tilde{\boldsymbol{W}}(\boldsymbol{C})}{\partial \boldsymbol{C}} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{C} = \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{2/3} \boldsymbol{C}}, \qquad \bar{\boldsymbol{P}} = \frac{\partial \bar{\boldsymbol{W}}(\boldsymbol{F})}{\partial \boldsymbol{F}} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{F} = \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{1/3} \boldsymbol{F}}.$$
(3.8)

Now let σ and $\tau = J\sigma$ be the Cauchy and Kirchhoff stress tensors, respectively. Recalling the relation $\tau = PF^{t}$, the *spatial* constitutive equation in terms of τ follows from (3.8)₂ as

$$\bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}} = \left[\frac{\partial \bar{\boldsymbol{W}}(\boldsymbol{F})}{\partial \boldsymbol{F}} \boldsymbol{F}^{\mathsf{T}}\right]_{\boldsymbol{F}=\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{1/3} \boldsymbol{F}}.$$
(3.9)

Equation (3.9) may be regarded as the counterpart in the finite deformation range of $(2.4)_1$. In what follows we shall also need the expression for the *spatial* elasticity tensor *c*. The classical definiton (e.g. [51, p. 131]) proceeds indirectly by push-forward of the material elasticities *L*; i.e.,

$$\boldsymbol{L} \equiv 2 \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{\boldsymbol{W}}}{\partial \boldsymbol{C}^2}, \qquad c^{ijkl} = \frac{2}{J} F_I^i F_J^j F_K^k F_L^i L^{IJKL} \circ \phi^{-1}.$$
(3.10)

A direct definition of c is possible and is given below.

REMARK 3.3. The spatial constitutive equations (3.9) may be expressed in an alternative more direct form by making explicit the dependence of the stored energy function on the spatial metric tensor g. By virtue of $(3.2b)_1$, one may regard C as a function of g and F and define the stored energy as $\bar{w}(g, F)$. It can be shown that (3.9) is equivalent to J.C. Simo et al., Variational and projection methods for the volume constraint

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = 2 \, \frac{\partial \bar{\boldsymbol{w}}(\boldsymbol{g}, \boldsymbol{F})}{\partial \boldsymbol{g}}.\tag{3.11}$$

Expression (3.11) for the Kirchhoff stress tensor is known as the Doyle-Ericksen formula and plays an important role in elasticity (see [42, 43]). It can also be shown that a direct definition of the spatial elasticities c is given by $Jc = 2 \partial \tau / \partial g$. In what follows, however, we shall employ the more classical expression (3.9).

EXAMPLE 3.4. As an example of the class of constitutive models developed above, consider the following *uncoupled* form for the stored energy function:

$$\bar{W} = \frac{1}{2}\mu\hat{I} + \bar{U}(\Theta), \qquad (3.12a)$$

where $\hat{I} = \hat{b} : g$ is the first invariant of $\hat{b} = J^{-2/3}b$, $\mu > 0$ is a constant, and $\bar{U}(\Theta)$ a function of $J = \Theta$. Here b = FF' is the left Cauchy-Green tensor. By making use of either (3.9) or (3.11) one has

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = Jp\boldsymbol{g}^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\mu} \operatorname{dev} \hat{\boldsymbol{b}}, \qquad (3.12b)$$

where $p = \overline{U}'$ is the hydrostatic pressure. Finally, the tangent elasticity tensor c takes the form

$$Jc = [J\bar{U}']'g \otimes g - 2J\bar{U}'I + \frac{2}{3}\mu \hat{I}I_{dev} - \frac{2}{3}\mu (g \otimes \operatorname{dev} \hat{b} + \operatorname{dev} \hat{b} \otimes g), \qquad (3.12c)$$

where I_{dev} is given by (2.2). This model may be regarded as an extension to the compressible range of the neo-Hookean model.

3.3. A mixed variational principle for quasi-incompressibility

We generalize the mixed variational principle (2.6) by first defining the following Lagrangian functional:

$$L(\phi, \Theta, p) = \int_{\Omega} \bar{W}(\Theta^{1/3}\hat{F}) \,\mathrm{d}V + \int_{\Omega} p(J - \Theta) \,\mathrm{d}V + \Xi(\phi) \,, \qquad (3.13a)$$

where the first term in (3.13a) is total potential energy functional expressed in the Lagrangian description, with \mathbf{F} replaced by $\Theta^{1/3} \hat{\mathbf{F}}$. $\Xi(\boldsymbol{\phi})$ designates the total potential energy associated with the body forces $f(\mathbf{x})$ and the prescribed tractions $\tilde{t}(\boldsymbol{\phi}(X))$ on the boundary $\boldsymbol{\phi}(\partial \Omega_{\sigma})$, given by

$$\Xi(\boldsymbol{\phi}) \equiv -\int_{\boldsymbol{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\Omega})} \boldsymbol{f} \cdot \boldsymbol{\phi} \, \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{v} - \int_{\boldsymbol{\phi}(\partial \boldsymbol{\Omega}_{\boldsymbol{\sigma}})} \bar{\boldsymbol{t}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\phi} \, \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\gamma} \,. \tag{3.13b}$$

REMARK 3.5. In the present context, the generalization of the *uncoupled* stored energy function (2.5) takes the form

$$\bar{W} = \bar{\bar{W}}(\hat{F}) + K\bar{U}(\Theta), \qquad (3.14a)$$

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where K > 0 is a parameter often introduced for convenience so that the incompressible limit is attained by letting $K \rightarrow \infty$. The corresponding constitutive equation for the stress tensor is

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \operatorname{dev}\left[\frac{\partial \bar{\boldsymbol{W}}(\hat{\boldsymbol{F}})}{\partial \hat{\boldsymbol{F}}} \, \hat{\boldsymbol{F}}^{\,\mathrm{t}}\right] + \frac{\mathrm{d}\bar{\boldsymbol{U}}}{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\Theta}} \, \boldsymbol{g}^{-1} \,. \tag{3.14b}$$

An example of a model of this type is furnished by (3.12). For this particular class of constitutive models the mixed variational expression (3.13) takes the form of a *perturbed* Lagrangian. We may think of (3.13) as a form emanating from a nonlinear version of the Hu-Washizu principle in which the only remaining 'mixed fields' are the pressure and the Jacobian.

Euler-Lagrange equations. The significance of the mixed variational principle (3.13) and its relation to the generalization of the three-field variational principle considered in the previous section becomes apparent when establishing the corresponding Euler-Lagrange equations. Let us denote by C the configuration space of admissible deformations, i.e.,

$$C \equiv \{ \boldsymbol{\phi} : \boldsymbol{\Omega} \to \mathbb{R}^3 : \det(\nabla \boldsymbol{\phi}) > 0 \text{ and } \boldsymbol{\phi} \mid_{\partial \Omega_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}} = \bar{\boldsymbol{\phi}} \}.$$
(3.15)

Further, let V_{ϕ} be the space of kinematically admissible variations about ϕ , i.e., the tangent space to C at $\phi \in C$, formally defined as²

$$V_{\phi} = \{ \boldsymbol{\eta} : \boldsymbol{\phi}(\Omega) \to \mathbb{R}^3 : \boldsymbol{\eta} \circ \boldsymbol{\phi} |_{\partial \Omega_{\mu}} = \mathbf{0} \}.$$
(3.16)

Let us introduce virtual variations $\eta_0: \Omega \to \mathbb{R}^3$ defined on the reference configuration according to $\eta_0(X) = \eta(\phi(X))$. Similarly, for $\gamma \in K(\phi(\Omega))$ we define $\gamma_0 \equiv \gamma \circ \phi$. Proceeding formally we first note that

$$D\hat{F}(\phi) \cdot \eta_0 = J^{-1/3}[\text{GRAD } \eta_0 - \frac{1}{3} \text{ div } \eta F]$$

= $[\nabla \eta - \frac{1}{3}(\text{div } \eta)g]\hat{F} = [\text{dev } \nabla \eta]\hat{F},$ (3.17)

where $GRAD(\cdot)$ designates the gradient operator relative to material coordinates. By direct application of the chain rule one finds

$$D_{\phi}\bar{W}(\Theta^{1/3}\hat{F})\cdot\boldsymbol{\eta}_{0} = \left[\frac{\partial\bar{W}}{\partial F}F^{\dagger}\right]_{F=\Theta^{1/3}\hat{F}} : \left[(\operatorname{dev}\nabla\boldsymbol{\eta})\Theta^{1/3}\right],$$
$$D_{\phi}\bar{W}(\Theta^{1/3}\hat{F})\cdot\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{0} = \frac{1}{3}\Theta^{-1}\operatorname{tr}\left[\frac{\partial\bar{W}}{\partial F}F^{\dagger}\right]_{F=\Theta^{1/3}\hat{F}}\cdot\boldsymbol{\gamma}.$$
(3.18)

²The choice of an appropriate topology for C still remains largely an open question. We refer to [27, Section 6.4] for an account of existing results. Similar questions apply to the tangent space V_{ϕ} . A typical choice is $\eta \in [W^{1,p}(\phi(\Omega))]^N$, where N is the dimension of the problem and $p \ge 2$. In what follows we proceed formally leaving aside these technical questions.

Making use of these relations and noting further that $\bar{\sigma} = \bar{\tau}/J$ along with dv = dVJ, we first obtain

$$D_{\phi}L \cdot \boldsymbol{\eta} = \int_{\phi(\Omega)} \{ \bar{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} : \operatorname{dev} \nabla^{s} \boldsymbol{\eta} + p \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\eta} \} dv + D\boldsymbol{\Xi} \cdot \boldsymbol{\eta} = 0 \quad \text{for any } \boldsymbol{\eta} \in V_{\phi} \,. \tag{3.19}$$

The remaining two variational equations can be easily shown to be

$$D_{p}L \cdot q = \int_{\Omega} q[J - \Theta] \, dV = 0 \quad \text{for any } q \in P,$$

$$D_{\theta}L \cdot \psi = \int_{\Omega} \gamma[-p + \frac{1}{3}\Theta^{-1} \operatorname{tr} \bar{\tau}] \, dV = 0 \quad \text{for any } \gamma \in K.$$
(3.20)

Clearly, $(3.20)_1$ and $(3.20)_2$ are simply the weak forms of the (nonlinear) kinematic relation $J = \det F$ and the pressure constitutive equation, respectively.

Next we discuss a mixed approximation based on (3.19)-(3.20).

3.4. Mixed approximation

It will be shown that the multiplicative split (3.1) in conjunction with the nonlinear Hu-Washizu principle enables one to extend the formulation summarized in Table 1. An important difference, however, that characterizes the fully nonlinear case concerns the structure of the tangent matrix. In the geometrically nonlinear case the material part of the tangent stiffness no longer takes the form of equation (2.31) with $[\tilde{c}]$ now representing the spatial elasticity tensor. The implication of this result is that, within the present variational context, *B*-bar projection procedures do not generalize completely to the fully nonlinear case.

Approximation and discrete divergence. We introduce finite-dimensional approximating subspaces $P^h \subset P$ and $K^h \subset K$ for the pressure and Jacobian, by discontinuous local approximations of the form (2.18) now defined over the current element configuration $\phi(\Omega_e)$ of a typical element Ω_e . Substitution into the discrete form of variational equations (3.20) yields, as in the linear case, the representations

$$\Theta_{e}^{h} \equiv \Theta^{h} \Big|_{\phi(\Omega_{e})} = \Psi(x) \cdot H_{e}^{-1} \int_{\phi(\Omega_{e})} \Psi(x) \, \mathrm{d}v \,,$$

$$p_{e}^{h} \equiv p^{h} \Big|_{\phi(\Omega_{e})} = \Theta_{e}^{h^{-1}} \Psi(x) \cdot H_{e}^{-1} \int_{\Omega_{e}} \Psi(x)^{\frac{1}{3}} \mathrm{tr}[\bar{\tau}^{h}] \, \mathrm{d}V.$$

$$(3.21)$$

The linearization of $\Theta^h|_{\phi(\Omega_e)}$ furnishes the discrete divergence operator $\overline{\operatorname{div}} u^h$ now defined as

$$\overline{\operatorname{div}} \, \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \equiv \boldsymbol{\varTheta}_{e}^{h^{-1}} \mathbf{D} \boldsymbol{\varTheta}_{e}^{h} \cdot \boldsymbol{u} = \boldsymbol{\varTheta}_{e}^{h^{-1}} \boldsymbol{\varPsi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \cdot \boldsymbol{H}_{e}^{-1} \int_{\boldsymbol{\varPhi}(\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{e})} \boldsymbol{\varPsi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \operatorname{div} \, \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \operatorname{d} \boldsymbol{v} = \sum_{I=1}^{\mathsf{NEL}} \bar{\boldsymbol{b}}_{\mathsf{vol}}^{I} \cdot \boldsymbol{u}_{I}, \quad (3.22)$$

where \bar{b}_{vol}^{I} is given by

$$(\bar{\boldsymbol{b}}_{\text{vol}}^{I})^{t} \equiv \boldsymbol{\Theta}_{e}^{h-1} \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \cdot \boldsymbol{H}_{e}^{-1} \int_{\boldsymbol{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\Omega}_{e})} \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \otimes \boldsymbol{b}^{I} \, \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{v} \,.$$
(3.23)

We may now define, exactly as in the linear case, \bar{B}_{vol}^{I} and \bar{B}^{I} by expressions (2.22) and obtain, within the framework of this mixed approximation, the *discrete approximation* $\bar{\nabla} u^{h}$ to the gradient operator given by (2.23). Of course, \bar{B}_{vol}^{I} , B_{dev}^{I} and \bar{B}^{I} satisfy orthogonality conditions (2.25).

Residual. The evaluation of the reduced expression for the residual follows the same lines as in the linear situation. First, one can show that the part involving the hydrostatic pressure may be recast in the following equivalent forms:

$$G_{e}^{\text{VOL}} \equiv \int_{\boldsymbol{\phi}(\Omega_{e})} p_{e}^{h} \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \operatorname{d}v \equiv \int_{\Omega_{e}} \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{tr}[\bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^{h}] \,\overline{\operatorname{div}} \,\boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \operatorname{d}V.$$
(3.24)

Note that the Lagrange parameter p_e^h as given by $(3.21)_2$ does not enter (3.24). Use of the *orthogonality conditions* (2.25) leads once again to an expression for the residual identical to the one found in the linear case; i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned}
G^{h} \Big|_{\phi(\Omega_{\epsilon})} &\equiv \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \left[\operatorname{dev} \nabla^{s} \boldsymbol{\eta} : \operatorname{dev} \bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^{h} + \frac{1}{3} \,\overline{\operatorname{div}} \,\boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \operatorname{tr} \bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^{h} \right] \mathrm{d}V - \tilde{G} \Big|_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \\
&\equiv \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \left\{ \bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^{h} \right\} : \bar{\nabla} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \,\mathrm{d}V - \tilde{G} \Big|_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \\
&\equiv \sum_{I=1}^{\mathsf{NEL}} \boldsymbol{\eta}_{I}^{t} \int_{\Omega} (\bar{\boldsymbol{B}}^{I})^{t} \{ \bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^{h} \} \,\mathrm{d}V - \tilde{G} \Big|_{\Omega_{\epsilon}},
\end{aligned} \tag{3.25}$$

where $\tilde{G} = -D\Xi \cdot \eta$ is the virtual work of the external loading. In view of this expression for the residual, there is a complete analogy between the formulation valid for the geometrically linearized problem summarized in Table 1, and the one discussed so far in the fully nonlinear context. We show next that the fundamental difference concerns the structure of the tangent operator.

Tangent operator. To compute the expression for the tangent stiffness it is necessary to obtain the linearization of $\overline{F} = \Theta^{1/3} \hat{F}$ about a configuration $x = \phi(X)$. As a motivation, consider first the case of $F = \partial \phi / \partial X$. Since F is a linear map one trivially has the relation

$$\mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{F}(\boldsymbol{\phi}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\eta}_0^h \equiv \mathbf{GRAD} \ \boldsymbol{\eta}_0^h = \nabla \boldsymbol{\eta}^h \boldsymbol{F}, \tag{3.26}$$

where $\eta_0^h \equiv \eta^h \circ \phi$ is the 'material' version of the 'spatial' variation η^h . Recalling (3.1)_{1,2}, definition (3.22) of div η^h , and expression (2.23) for $\nabla \eta^h$, the analogous result for \bar{F} reads

$$D\bar{F}(\phi) \cdot \eta_0^h = \Theta^{1/3} \operatorname{dev} \nabla \eta \hat{F} + \frac{1}{3} \Theta^{1/3} \overline{\operatorname{div}} \eta^h \hat{F}$$
$$= \bar{\nabla} \eta^h \bar{F} \equiv \overline{\mathrm{GRAD}} \eta_0^h. \qquad (3.27)$$

The motivation for the notation $\overline{\text{GRAD}} \eta_0^h$ is thus clear. With this result at hand, expression (3.25) for the residual may be rewritten as

$$G_{e}^{h} = \int_{\Omega_{e}} \bar{\tau}^{h} : \bar{\nabla} \eta^{h} \, \mathrm{d}V - \hat{G}_{e} = \int_{\Omega_{e}} \frac{\partial W}{\partial F} \Big|_{F = \bar{F}} : \bar{\nabla} \eta^{h} \bar{F} \, \mathrm{d}V - \tilde{G}_{e}$$
$$= \int_{\Omega_{e}} \frac{\partial \bar{W}}{\partial F} \Big|_{F = \bar{F}} : \overline{\mathrm{GRAD}} \, \eta_{0}^{h} \, \mathrm{d}V - \tilde{G}_{e} \,. \tag{3.28}$$

To carry out the linearization of (3.28) it is essential to observe that for a given configuration $\phi: \Omega \to \mathbb{R}^3$, $\overline{\text{GRAD}} \eta_0^h$ is a nonlinear function of the configuration ϕ ; hence, $D(\overline{\text{GRAD}} \eta_0^h) \cdot u_0^h \neq 0$, and this term will give rise to a nonzero contribution in the linearization process. Notice further that this situation does not arise in a standard displacement method since GRAD η_0^h (as opposed to $\overline{\text{GRAD}} \eta_0^h$) appears in the weak form of momentum balance. Accordingly, with the aid of (3.27), the derivative of (3.28) in the direction $u_0 = u \circ \phi$ may be expressed as

$$DG_{e}^{h} \cdot \boldsymbol{u}_{0}^{h} = \int_{\Omega_{e}} \bar{\nabla} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} : \left[\boldsymbol{F} \frac{\partial^{2} \bar{\boldsymbol{W}}}{\partial \boldsymbol{F}^{2}} \boldsymbol{F}^{t} \right]_{\boldsymbol{F} = \bar{\boldsymbol{F}}} : \bar{\nabla} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \, \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{V} + \boldsymbol{\Gamma}(\boldsymbol{\eta}^{h}, \boldsymbol{u}^{h}), \qquad (3.29)$$

where $\Gamma(\eta^h, u^h)$, the additional term arising from the linearization of $\overline{\text{GRAD}} \eta_0^h$, is given by

$$\Gamma(\boldsymbol{\eta}^{h},\boldsymbol{u}^{h}) \equiv \int_{\Omega_{e}} \frac{\partial \bar{W}}{\partial F} \Big|_{F=\bar{F}} : \left[D(\overline{\text{GRAD}} \ \boldsymbol{\eta}_{0}^{h}) \cdot \boldsymbol{u}_{0}^{h} \right] \mathrm{d}V.$$
(3.30)

The first term in (3.29) may be rewritten in the spatial description by making use of the well-known relation [51, p. 131]

$$F_{J}^{i}\frac{\partial^{2}\bar{W}}{\partial F_{J}^{i}\partial F_{L}^{k}}F_{L}^{i} = g_{ik}\tau^{jl} + g_{ia}g_{kb}Jc^{aibl}, \qquad (3.31)$$

where $Jc = 2 \partial \tau / \partial g$ is the spatial elasticity tensor. Equation (3.29) may now be expressed as

$$DG_{e}^{h} \cdot \boldsymbol{u}_{0}^{h} = \int_{\Omega_{e}} \left(\nabla \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^{h} \right) : \nabla \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \, \mathrm{d}V + \int_{\Omega_{e}} J \, \bar{\nabla}^{s} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} : \left(\bar{\boldsymbol{c}} \, \Big|_{F=\bar{F}} : \bar{\nabla}^{s} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \right) \mathrm{d}V + \bar{\Gamma}$$
$$\equiv {}^{G}\Gamma + {}^{M}\Gamma + \bar{\Gamma}.$$
(3.32)

Here, the first term in (3.32) has been recast in terms of $\nabla(\cdot)$ rather than $\overline{\nabla}(\cdot)$ by redefining Γ according to

$$\bar{\Gamma} \equiv \Gamma + \int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \left[(\bar{\nabla} \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^{h}) : \bar{\nabla} \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} - (\nabla \boldsymbol{u}^{h} \bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^{h}) : \nabla \boldsymbol{\eta}^{h} \right] \mathrm{d} V.$$
(3.33)

The first two terms in expression (3.32) comprise the classical structure of the tangent stiffness.

The first term, ${}^{G}\Gamma$, gives rise to the so-called *geometric stiffness* whereas the second term, ${}^{M}\Gamma$, involving the tangent elasticity tensor is referred to as the *material* part of the tangent stiffness. As a result of the mixed approximation, $\nabla(\cdot)$ appears in ${}^{M}\Gamma$ and the interpolated expression takes identical form as the one discussed in the context of the linear theory; i.e.,

$${}^{\mathsf{M}}\Gamma \equiv \sum_{I=1}^{\mathsf{NEL}} \sum_{J=1}^{\mathsf{NEL}} \eta_{I}{}^{\mathsf{M}}K{}^{IJ}u_{J}, \qquad (3.34)$$

where

$${}^{\mathsf{M}}\boldsymbol{K}^{IJ} = \int_{\boldsymbol{\phi}(\Omega_{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}})} (\boldsymbol{\bar{B}}^{I})^{t} [\boldsymbol{\bar{c}}|_{\boldsymbol{F}=\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{1/3} \boldsymbol{\bar{F}}}] \boldsymbol{\bar{B}}^{J} \, \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{v} \,. \tag{3.35}$$

The presence of the additional term $\overline{\Gamma}$ in (3.32) shows that the tangent matrix associated with the mixed/projection procedure *is not* obtained by mere replacement of B^{I} by \overline{B}^{I} as often suggested. The explicit expression for this additional term is given by

$$\bar{\Gamma} = \int_{\phi(\Omega_{\epsilon})} 2[(\bar{\nabla}u^{h}\bar{\sigma}^{h}):\bar{\nabla}\eta^{h} - (\nabla u^{h}\bar{\sigma}^{h}):\nabla\eta^{h}] dv$$

$$+ \int_{\phi(\Omega_{\epsilon})} \frac{1}{3}(\operatorname{tr}\bar{\sigma})[\nabla u^{h}:\nabla\eta^{h} - \overline{\operatorname{div}} u^{h}\overline{\operatorname{div}} \eta^{h}] dv$$

$$+ \int_{\phi(\Omega_{\epsilon})} p_{\epsilon}^{h}[\operatorname{div} u^{h} \operatorname{div} \eta^{h} - \nabla u^{h}:\nabla\eta^{h}] dv.$$
(3.36)

We refer to Appendix A for the details involved in the derivation of (3.36). Notice that the first term is twice the difference in geometric stiffness computed with $\overline{\nabla}(\cdot)$ and $\nabla(\cdot)$, respectively. The basic steps involved in the variational procedure discussed in this section are summarized in Table 2. The additional term $\overline{\Xi}^{IJ}$ in the tangent stiffness, corresponds to (3.30).

4. Application to finite deformation plasticity

The ideas discussed in the previous sections will be illustrated here in the context of finite deformation rate-independent plasticity. For the developments that follow we shall adopt the framework recently proposed in [44] in the context of which the instantaneous elastic reponse is characterized by a *hyperelastic constitutive equation*. This is in contrast with current computational approaches in which the elastic response is typically characterized by a *hypoelastic rate* constitutive equation involving an *objective* rate of stress and the elastic rate of deformation tensor. The obvious implication of the proposed procedure is that the need for the so-called *incrementally objective* algorithms which characterize current computational approaches is entirely avoided.

The essential idea is to make explicit use of the multiplicative decomposition of the deformation into elastic and plastic parts, and formulate the hyperelastic constitutive equation relative to the intermediate (released) *local* configuration. This framework is ideally suited to encompass the local *multiplicative* split of the deformation gradient into volume-preserving

Table 2 Nonlinear theory. Variational method

Basic multiplicative split:

$$\bar{F} = \Theta^{1/3} \hat{F}, \qquad \hat{F} \equiv J^{-1/3} F, \quad J = \det F.$$

Discrete gradient \vec{B}^{I} :

$$H_{\epsilon} \equiv \int_{\phi(\Omega_{\epsilon})} \Psi(x) \otimes \Psi(x) \frac{\mathrm{d}v}{J},$$

$$(\bar{b}^{I})^{i} \equiv \Psi(x) \cdot H_{\epsilon}^{-1} \int_{\phi(\Omega_{\epsilon})} \Psi(x) * b^{I} \mathrm{d}v,$$

$$\bar{B}^{I}_{\mathrm{vol}} = \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{1} \otimes \bar{b}^{I}, \qquad B^{I}_{\mathrm{vol}} = \frac{1}{3} \mathbf{1} \otimes b^{I},$$

$$\bar{B}^{I} = [B^{I} - B^{I}_{\mathrm{vol}}] + \bar{B}^{I}_{\mathrm{vol}}.$$

Modified deformation gradient:

$$\begin{split} \Theta_{e}^{h} &\equiv \Theta^{h} \mid_{\phi(\Omega_{e})} = \Psi(x) \cdot H_{e}^{-1} \int_{\phi(\Omega_{e})} \Psi(x) \, \mathrm{d}v \,, \\ \bar{F} &= \Theta_{e}^{h^{1/3}} \hat{F} \,. \end{split}$$

Stresses and (total) tangent elasticities:

$$\bar{\tau}^{h} = \left[\frac{\partial \bar{W}(F)}{\partial F}F^{\dagger}\right]_{F=\bar{F}}, \qquad \bar{a}^{h} = \left[F\frac{\partial^{2}\bar{W}(F)}{\partial F\partial F}F^{\dagger}\right]_{F=\bar{F}}.$$

Residual vector and (total) tangent stiffness:

$$\begin{split} & \boldsymbol{R}_{e}^{I} = \int_{\Omega_{e}} (\boldsymbol{\bar{B}}^{I})^{i} \{ \boldsymbol{\bar{\tau}}^{h} \} \, \mathrm{d}V, \\ & \boldsymbol{\bar{K}}^{IJ} = \int_{\Omega_{e}} (\boldsymbol{\bar{B}}^{I})^{i} [\boldsymbol{\bar{a}}^{h}] \boldsymbol{\bar{B}}^{J} \, \mathrm{d}V + \boldsymbol{\tilde{\Xi}}^{IJ}. \end{split}$$

and pure dilatational parts introduced in the previous section. Most important, constraints such as incompressibility of the plastic flow can be easily enforced, as shown below.

To simplify our presentation, a simple model problem is used to illustrate the main ideas involved in the proposed formulation. First, an account of some kinematic notions necessary for subsequent developments is considered.

4.1. Multiplicative decomposition and kinematic split

As in the preceding section, let $F \equiv \partial \phi / \partial X$ be the deformation gradient, and let $\hat{F} \equiv J^{-1/3}F$ be its volume-preserving part, where $J \equiv \det F$. Introduce the kinematic (multiplicative) split $\tilde{F} \equiv \Theta^{1/3} \hat{F}$, where a superposed bar is again used to emphasize that $\Theta \equiv \det \bar{F}$ will not coincide point-wise with $J \equiv \det F$ as a result of our mixed approximation.

In what follows attention is focused on the treatment of isochoric plastic flow. Adopting a *multiplicative* decomposition of the deformation gradient into elastic and plastic parts we set

$$\boldsymbol{F} = \boldsymbol{F}^{\mathbf{e}} \boldsymbol{F}^{\mathbf{p}} \Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\bar{F}} = \boldsymbol{\bar{F}}^{\mathbf{e}} \boldsymbol{F}^{\mathbf{p}} \equiv \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{1/3} \boldsymbol{\hat{F}}^{\mathbf{e}} \boldsymbol{F}^{\mathbf{p}}, \qquad (4.1)$$

where

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{F}}^{\,\boldsymbol{e}} \equiv J^{-1/3} \boldsymbol{F}^{\,\boldsymbol{e}}, \qquad \det \, \hat{\boldsymbol{F}}^{\,\boldsymbol{e}} \equiv 1, \qquad \det \, \boldsymbol{F}^{\,\boldsymbol{p}} \equiv 1 \,. \tag{4.2}$$

As a result of (4.1)-(4.2), the *elastic* left Cauchy-Green tensor b^e may be split into a dilatational part and a volume-preserving part \hat{b}^e given by

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{b}}^{e} \equiv \hat{\boldsymbol{F}}^{e} \hat{\boldsymbol{F}}^{et}, \quad \text{i.e.}, \quad (\hat{\boldsymbol{b}}^{e})^{ij} = \hat{F}_{I}^{ei} \; G^{IJ} \; \hat{F}_{J}^{ej},$$
(4.3)

where det $\hat{b}^e \equiv 1$. In addition, consistent with the basic kinematic split, we set $\bar{b}^e \equiv \Theta^{2/3} \hat{b}^e$.

4.2. Elasto-plastic model problem

For the sake of simplicity, the essential features of the formulation will be illustrated in the context of a specific model problem. The stress response is characterized by a stored energy function relative to the intermediate configuration of the form

$$W = \hat{W}(\hat{F}^{e}) + U(\Theta) \equiv \frac{1}{2}\mu \hat{I}^{e} + \frac{1}{2}K(\log \Theta)^{2}, \qquad (4.4)$$

where $\hat{I}^e \equiv \operatorname{tr} \hat{b}^e = g_{ij} b^{eij}$, and K > 0, $\mu > 0$, are material constants. This form of stored energy function is the one considered in Example 3.4, now formulated relative to the intermediate configuration. The essential feature of (4.4) is the *uncoupling* of pressure from deviatoric response.

In addition to the elastic response function (4.4), we assume a classical Von Mises yield condition with associative flow rule and isotropic hardening law. The resulting model is thus characterized by the following set of equations:

$$\bar{F} = \bar{F}^{e} F^{p} \quad (\det F^{p} = 1),$$

$$\tau = K \log \Theta g^{-1} + \mu \det \hat{b}^{e},$$

$$d^{p} = \dot{\gamma} \hat{n},$$

$$\phi \equiv ||\det \tau \tau|| - \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \kappa (e^{p}),$$

$$\dot{e}^{p} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \dot{\gamma},$$
(4.5)

along with loading conditions formulated in Kuhn-Tucker form as

$$\dot{\gamma} \ge 0, \qquad \phi \le 0, \qquad \dot{\gamma}\phi \equiv 0.$$
 (4.6)

In (4.5), \hat{n} stands for the normal to the yield surface given by

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{n}} = \frac{\operatorname{dev} \boldsymbol{\tau}}{\|\operatorname{dev} \boldsymbol{\tau}\|} = \frac{\operatorname{dev} \hat{\boldsymbol{b}}^{e}}{\|\operatorname{dev} \hat{\boldsymbol{b}}^{e}\|}, \quad \|\operatorname{dev} \boldsymbol{\tau}\| \equiv g_{ik}g_{jl}\tau^{ij}\tau^{kl}.$$

$$(4.7)$$

The only internal variable in model (4.5) is e^{p} , defined by the rate equation (4.5)₅. From (4.5)_{3,5} it is clear that e^{p} is the so-called equivalent plastic strain.

REMARK 4.1 It is emphasized that problem (4.5) is essentially strain driven, in the sense that kinematic variables are the primary variables. This is apparent from (4.7) and the fact that the yield surface may be written with the help of $(4.5)_2$ as

$$\boldsymbol{\phi} = \boldsymbol{\mu} \| \operatorname{dev} \, \hat{\boldsymbol{b}}^{\mathbf{e}} \| - \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \kappa \left(e^{\mathbf{p}} \right) \,. \tag{4.8}$$

From a computational standpoint, plasticity problems have always been treated as strain driven [28].

It should be noted that 'objective rates' *play no rule* in model (4.5). We now turn our attention to the formulation of an algorithm for the numerical solution of (4.5) by the finite element method.

4.3. Stress update algorithm. Radial return

In an algorithmic setting, the solution of model problem (4.5) may be effectively accomplished by an *elastic predictor/plastic corrector* algorithm. The justification for such a procedure in the present finite deformation context follows from a natural *additive* decomposition of the problem of evolution associated with (4.5) into elastic and plastic parts. The elastic predictor/radial corrector algorithm then emerges as a product formula based on this elastic/plastic operator split. We refer to [44] for further details. The plastic corrector is often referred to as a *return mapping* algorithm since, from a physical standpoint, it amounts to enforcing the yield condition in a manner consistent with the assumed flow rule.

Update procedure: basic problem. Assume that at a given configuration $x_n = \phi_n(X)$, the state variables F_n , F_n^p , Θ_n and e_n^p are known. Let $u: \phi_n(\Omega) \to \mathbb{R}^3$ be a given incremental displacement, so that the updated deformation gradient, $F_{n+1} \equiv (I + \nabla u)F_n$, and the dilatation, Θ_{n+1} , may be assumed as given. The basic problem to be addressed is the update of the state variables at configuration $\phi_{n+1} = \phi_n + u \circ \phi_n$ to obtain τ_{n+1} , e_{n+1}^p , and F_{n+1}^p in a manner consistent with constitutive equation (4.5).

It is again emphasized that this problem is essentially *strain driven*. The update of the state variables involved is accomplished in the following *three* steps.

Step 1. Elastic predictor. Assume first that no plastic flow occurs so that the plastic variables remain unchanged. In particular, F_n^p does not change; hence, the process takes place at fixed intermediate configuration. Denoting by a left superindex 'E' variables in the elastic predictor phase, we set ${}^{E}e_{n+1}^{p} = e_{n}^{p}$. Furthermore, as a result of the basic multiplicative split we have

$${}^{\mathrm{E}}F_{n+1}^{\mathrm{p}} \equiv {}^{\mathrm{E}}F_{n}^{\mathrm{p}} \Rightarrow {}^{\mathrm{E}}F_{n+1}^{\mathrm{e}} \equiv F_{n+1}F_{n}^{\mathrm{p}-1}.$$

$$(4.9)$$

Therefore, by mere function evaluation, one obtains the elastic predictor (trial) stress simply as

$${}^{\rm E}\boldsymbol{\tau}_{n+1} = K \log \Theta_{n+1} \boldsymbol{g}^{-1} + \mu \, \operatorname{dev} {}^{\rm E} \hat{\boldsymbol{b}}_{n+1}^{\rm e}, \qquad (4.10)$$

where ${}^{E}\hat{b}_{n+1}^{e} \equiv J_{n+1}^{-2/3}b_{n+1}^{e}$. It is noted that the procedure is *exact. Objectivity* trivially follows from objectivity of the stored energy function.

Step 2. Plastic corrector. The essential point to be noted is that the plastic corrector phase, the objective of which is to satisfy the consistency condition possibly violated in the elastic predictor phase, takes place at a fixed current configuration. This result is intuitively clear and follows at once from the structure of the plastic part of the operator split, see [44]. Accordingly, one has a classical infinitesimal problem about the current configuration. Due to the simple structure of the flow rule and yield condition, it can be shown that the plastic corrector reduces for model (4.5) to the radial return algorithm, extensively analyzed and widely used in the literature (e.g., [19, 22, 29, 40]). Accordingly, we have

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_{n+1} = {}^{\mathrm{E}} \boldsymbol{\tau}_{n+1} - 2\mu \bar{\gamma} \hat{\boldsymbol{n}}_{n+1}, \qquad e_{n+1}^{\mathrm{p}} = e_{n}^{\mathrm{p}} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \bar{\gamma}, \qquad (4.11a)$$

where

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{n}}_{n+1} = \frac{\operatorname{dev} \boldsymbol{\tau}_{n+1}}{\|\operatorname{dev} \boldsymbol{\tau}_{n+1}\|} = \frac{\operatorname{dev}^{\mathrm{E}} \boldsymbol{\tau}_{n+1}}{\|\operatorname{dev}^{\mathrm{E}} \boldsymbol{\tau}_{n+1}\|}.$$
(4.11b)

Here, $\bar{\gamma}$ is determined by enforcement of the yield condition. This leads to the equation for $\bar{\gamma}$ (generally nonlinear for arbitrary $\kappa(e^{p})$)

$$\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\kappa(e_n^{\rm p} + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\bar{\gamma}) = \|\text{dev } \tau_{n+1}\| - 2\mu\bar{\gamma}, \qquad (4.11c)$$

which may be easily solved by local Newton iteration. Extensions of this algorithm to handle kinematic hardening offer no difficulties [46].

Step 3. Unloading: intermediate configuration. The update procedure is completed if the plastic part of the deformation gradient, F_{n1}^{p} , is obtained. Restricting our discussion to the *isotropic* case, (4.5) being a particular case, we proceed as follows:

(a) Invert the elastic relations to solve for \hat{b}_{n+1}^{e} , i.e.,

Solve: dev
$$\tau_{n+1} = f(\hat{b}_{n+1}^e) \equiv 2\mu \text{ dev } \hat{b}_{n+1}^e$$
,
subject to: det $\hat{b}_{n+1}^e \equiv 1$. (4.12)

For the simple elastic model $(4.5)_2$ this involves the solution of a cubic algebraic equation; hence, it may be accomplished in closed form.

(b) Obtain left elastic stretch; i.e.,

$$\boldsymbol{b}_{n+1}^{e} = J_{n+1}^{2/3} \hat{\boldsymbol{b}}_{n+1}^{e}, \qquad \boldsymbol{V}_{n+1}^{e} = \sqrt{\boldsymbol{b}_{n+1}^{e}}. \tag{4.13}$$

(c) For the *isotropic* case, the intermediate configuration is invariant with respect to superposed rigid body motions. Hence, for the *isotropic* case, we set

$$\boldsymbol{F}_{n+1}^{e} = \boldsymbol{V}_{n+1}^{e}, \qquad \boldsymbol{F}_{n+1}^{p} = \boldsymbol{F}_{n+1} \boldsymbol{F}_{n+1}^{e-1}.$$
(4.14)

Notice that as a result of this procedure one has det $\mathbf{F}_{n+1} \equiv J_{n+1}$ and det $\mathbf{F}^p \equiv 1$. Thus, the condition of volume-preserving plastic flow is enforced exactly.

REMARK 4.2. It should be noted that all the results derived in Section 3 in the context of finite deformation hyperelasticity are *applicable with no modification* to the problem at hand. The residual, for instance, is obtained in the present context by mere substitution of (4.11) into (3.25). The tangent moduli, on the other hand, must be computed by *consistent linearization of* (4.11a). We refer to [44] for a discussion of this and related issues in the context of linear kinematics.

5. Numerical examples

We consider in this section three numerical simulations based on the elastoplastic constitutive model (4.5), which employ the stress update procedure discussed in Section 4.3 above. In these simulations, a *bi-linear isoparametric* interpolation for the *incremental* displacement field was employed, in conjunction with *constant pressure* and *constant dilatation* over the *current* configuration of a typical element. A standard Newton-Raphson procedure was employed. Convergence was established in the energy norm with a tolerance of 10^{-14} . In all the examples discussed below, a quadratic rate of convergence was attained.

(1) Elastic upsetting of an axisymmetric billet. The purpose of this example is to illustrate that, within the present formulation, an efficient treatment of hyperelasticity is recovered simply by assigning a large enough value to the radius $\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\kappa$ of the yield surface in (4.5). Hyperelasticity is thus contained in the present formulation as a particular subset. In addition, since the material constants K and μ are chosen such that $K/\mu = 10^3$, the added difficulty of quasi-incompressible response is considered. The finite element mesh is shown in Fig. 1. For



Fig. 1. Elastic upsetting of an axisymmetric billet.

evident symmetry reasons, only one quarter of the specimen needs to be considered. The bottom head of the specimen is assumed to be *perfectly bonded* to a *rigid* plate which moves upward producing increasing compression on the billet. Due to the volume preserving constraint, the lateral surface of the cylinder bulges out and eventually contacts the plate. Thus, the lateral surface is subjected to a unilateral constraint condition modeled here by using contact elements described in [47].

Deformed meshes corresponding to 35%, 50% and 64% compression are shown in Fig. 2. It



Fig. 2. Elastic upsetting of an axisymmetric billet. (a) Deformed mesh corresponding to 35% deformation. (b) Deformed mesh corresponding to 50% deformation. (c) Deformed mesh corresponding to 64% deformation.

is noted that despite the extreme distortion suffered by the corner element, convergent solutions are obtained.

(2) Internal expansion of a thick hollow sphere. The purpose of this example is to compare the results obtained by numerical simulation, with one of the few available analytical results. If the assumption of negligible elastic deformations is introduced and, in addition, incompressible behavior is postulated, exact analytical solutions [8] may be obtained for hardening laws of the saturation type given by

$$\kappa(e^{\mathbf{p}}) \equiv Y_{\infty} + (Y_{\infty} - Y_0)e^{\alpha e^{\mathbf{p}}} + \beta e^{\mathbf{p}}, \quad \alpha > 0, \beta > 0.$$
(5.1)

The final element mesh corresponding to a hollow sphere with inner and outer radius with values 12.5 m and 20 m is shown in Fig. 3. To allow comparison with the analytical result, numerical values of the material constants given below were selected to ensure 'small' elastic strains:

$$K = 800 \text{ Mpa}, \qquad \mu = 300 \text{ Mpa}, \qquad Y_0 = 0.083 \text{ Mpa}, \qquad (5.2)$$
$$Y_{\infty} = 0.486 \text{ Mpa}, \qquad \alpha = 0.75 .$$

In addition, we set $\beta \equiv 0$. The computed and analytical results are shown in Fig. 4, where the internal pressure has been plotted versus the change in porosity. The good agreement between both solutions is noted.

(3) Elastic-plastic upsetting of an axisymmetric billet. Our final example is analogous to the first one considered in this section, with the difference that elasto-plastic response is now considered. This example was recently proposed as a severe test problem for current finite element formulation of finite deformation elastoplasticity (see [49] and references therein). The objective is to achieve 60% compression on a billet of 9 mm radius and 30 mm height.



Fig. 3. Internal expansion of a thick hollow sphere. Finite element mesh. Bi-linear quadrilateral elements with constant pressure and constant Jacobian.



Fig. 4. Internal expansion of a thick hollow sphere. Comparison of analytical and computed solutions.

The numerical values selected for the material properties of model (4.8) with saturation hardening law given by (5.1) are as follows:

$$K = 166.67 \text{ Mpa}, \quad \mu = 76.92 \text{ Mpa}, \quad Y_0 \equiv Y_{\infty} = 0.3 \text{ Mpa}, \quad \beta = 0.7 \text{ Mpa}.$$
 (5.3)

The finite element mesh consisting of 54 bi-linear elements is shown in Fig. 5. Deformed meshes corresponding to 51%, 60% and 64% are shown in Fig. 6. Again the extreme distortion of the corner element is noted. In spite of this, convergent solutions are obtained. The total number of load increments employed was 120. Note that the numerical solution correctly predicts the folding of the lateral surface of the billet on the rigid plate.

6. Closure

This paper has focused on the treatment of volume constraints, which in the context of elastoplasticity result from the assumption of volume preserving plastic flow. Due to the natural additive structure of the elastoplastic problem of evolution into elastic and plastic parts, the operator splitting methodology may be employed to formulate an efficient elastic predictor/plastic corrector *product formula* algorithm. The treatment of volume constraints may then be addressed in the context of the elastic problem.

First, under the simplifying assumption of linear kinematics, it has been shown that projection methods based on the replacement of the discrete gradient operator B by a modified \overline{B} operator, may be systematically obtained in a variational context from a mixed formulation based on a three-field Hu-Washizu functional. No assumption is placed on the form of the stored energy function or on the elasticities of the material.

The extension of the above results to the fully nonlinear range relies crucially on a



Upsetting of Axisymmetric Billet

Fig. 5. Elasto-plastic upsetting of a billet. Finite element mesh.

Upsetting of Axisymmetric Billet





Fig. 6. Elasto-plastic upsetting of a billet. (a) Deformed mesh corresponding to 51% compression. (b) Deformed mesh corresponding to 60% compression. (c) Deformed mesh corresponding to 64% compression.



Fig. 6 (contd).

multiplicative split of the deformation gradient into volume preserving and dilatational parts. A mixed formulation is then constructed on the basis of a three-field nonlinear Hu-Washizu principle. It has been shown that in contrast to the case of linearized kinematics, the tangent operator is not obtained by mere replacement of B by \overline{B} . Additional terms appear as a result of the non-linear dependence of \overline{B} on the configurations.

The volume-preserving/dilatational multiplicative split enjoys a clear physical interpretation and fits naturally in a formulation of plasticity based on the multiplicative decomposition. Application was made to a model problem for elastoplasticity which incorporates truly hyperelastic response and enables one to exactly satisfy the condition of volume preserving plastic flow. It is emphasized that hypoelastic characterizations, objective rates and incrementally objective algorithms play no role in the formulation and numerical treatment of the elastoplastic problem proposed here. In addition, one recovers an efficient treatment of hyperelasticity as a particular case, simply by assigning a large enough value to the yield stress.

Appendix A. Expression for $\overline{\Gamma}(u, \eta)$

To carry out the calculation of $\tilde{\Gamma}(u, \eta)$ first one needs to compute $D[\overline{GRAD} \eta_0] \cdot u_0$. To this end, observe that

$$D[\nabla \eta] \cdot u_0 = D[-GRAD \eta_0 F^{-1}] \cdot u_0$$

= -GRAD $\eta_0 F^{-1}GRAD u_0 F^{-1}$
= $-\nabla \eta \nabla u$. (A.1)

Making use of this result in conjunction with (3.27) and definition (2.23) for $\overline{\nabla} \eta$, it follows that

$$D[\overline{\text{GRAD}} \eta_0] \cdot u_0 = D[\overline{\nabla} u\overline{F}] \cdot u_0$$
$$= [\overline{\nabla} \eta \overline{\nabla} u - \nabla u \nabla \eta + \frac{1}{3} (\nabla u : \nabla \eta) g + \frac{1}{3} (D[\overline{\text{div}} \eta] \cdot u_0) g] \hat{F}. \qquad (A.2)$$

The calculation is completed by evaluating the contribution of $D[\overline{\text{div}} \eta] \cdot u_0$. From definition (3.22) we have

$$D[\overline{\operatorname{div}} \,\boldsymbol{\eta}] \cdot \boldsymbol{u}_0 = -\overline{\operatorname{div}} \,\boldsymbol{\eta} \,\overline{\operatorname{div}} \,\boldsymbol{u}$$
$$= \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \cdot \boldsymbol{H}_e^{-1} \int_{\Omega_e} \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) [\operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{u} \,\operatorname{div} \,\boldsymbol{\eta} - \nabla \boldsymbol{u} : \nabla \boldsymbol{\eta}] \,\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{v} \,. \tag{A.3}$$

By making use of expression $(3.21)_2$ for the pressure field and (A.3), the contribution of $D[\operatorname{div} \eta] \cdot u_0$ may be evaluated as

$$\int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \bar{\boldsymbol{\tau}} : \frac{1}{3} \mathbb{D}[\overline{\operatorname{div}} \, \boldsymbol{\eta}] \cdot \boldsymbol{u}_0 \, \mathrm{d} \, V = -\int_{\Omega_{\epsilon}} \frac{1}{3} (\operatorname{tr} \, \boldsymbol{\tau}) \, \overline{\operatorname{div}} \, \boldsymbol{u} \, \overline{\operatorname{div}} \, \boldsymbol{\eta} \, \mathrm{d} \, V$$
$$= \int_{\boldsymbol{\phi}(\Omega_{\epsilon})} p_{\epsilon}^h [\operatorname{div} \, \boldsymbol{u} \, \operatorname{div} \, \boldsymbol{\eta} - \nabla \boldsymbol{u} \nabla \boldsymbol{\eta}] \, \mathrm{d} \, v \,. \tag{A.4}$$

Substitution of (A.2) and (A.4) into expression (3.33) for $\overline{\Gamma}(u, \eta)$ yields the desired result:

$$\bar{\Gamma} = \int_{\phi(\Omega_{\epsilon})} 2[(\bar{\nabla} u\bar{\sigma}) : \bar{\nabla} \eta - (\nabla u\bar{\sigma}) : \nabla \eta] dv$$

$$+ \int_{\phi(\Omega_{\epsilon})} \frac{1}{3} (\operatorname{tr} \bar{\sigma}) [\nabla u : \nabla \eta - \overline{\operatorname{div}} u \, \overline{\operatorname{div}} \eta] dv$$

$$+ \int_{\phi(\Omega_{\epsilon})} p_{\epsilon}^{h} [\operatorname{div} u \, \operatorname{div} \eta - \nabla u : \nabla \eta] dv. \qquad (A.5)$$

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