

# Physical Simulation using Curvature Energies

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# Thin shells and thin plates

Thin, flexible objects

Shells are naturally *curved*

Plates are naturally *flat*



# Related work

Researchers in the graphics community:

- Terzopoulos, Bridson, Breen, etc.
  - mass-spring and tensorial models for cloth
- Bobenko & Suris, Pai
  - discrete models of elastic curves



[Choi and Ko]

# Euler's elastica

Early formulation of elastic curves



$$E^{\text{bend}} = \int_0^l \kappa(s)^2 ds$$

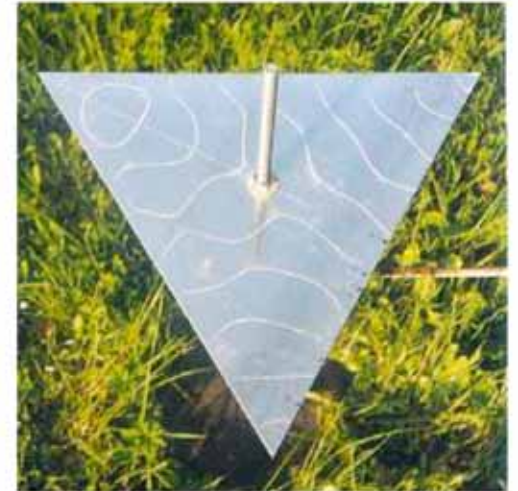
Bernoulli began generalization to surfaces



# Chladni's vibrating plates



Plate vibrated by  
violin bow  
Sand settles on  
nodal curves

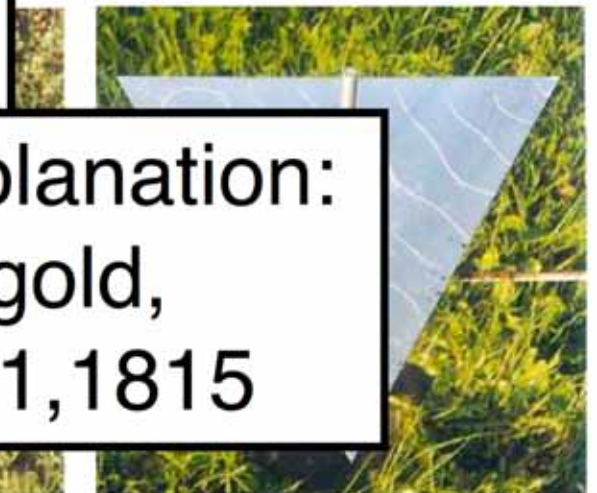
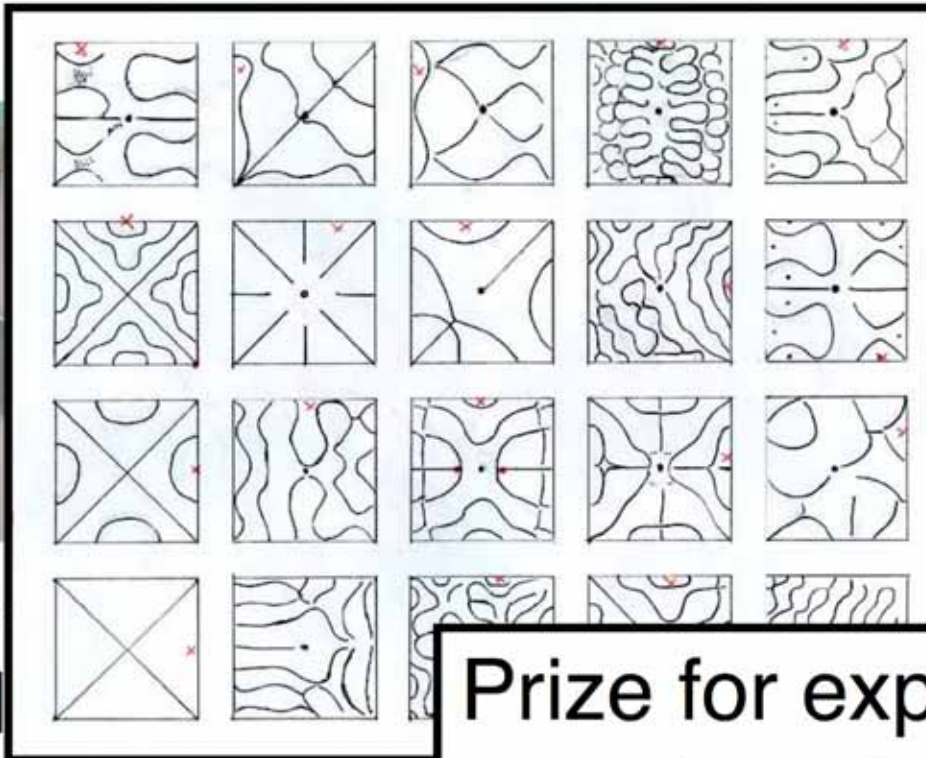


# Chladni's vibrating plates



Plate  
viol

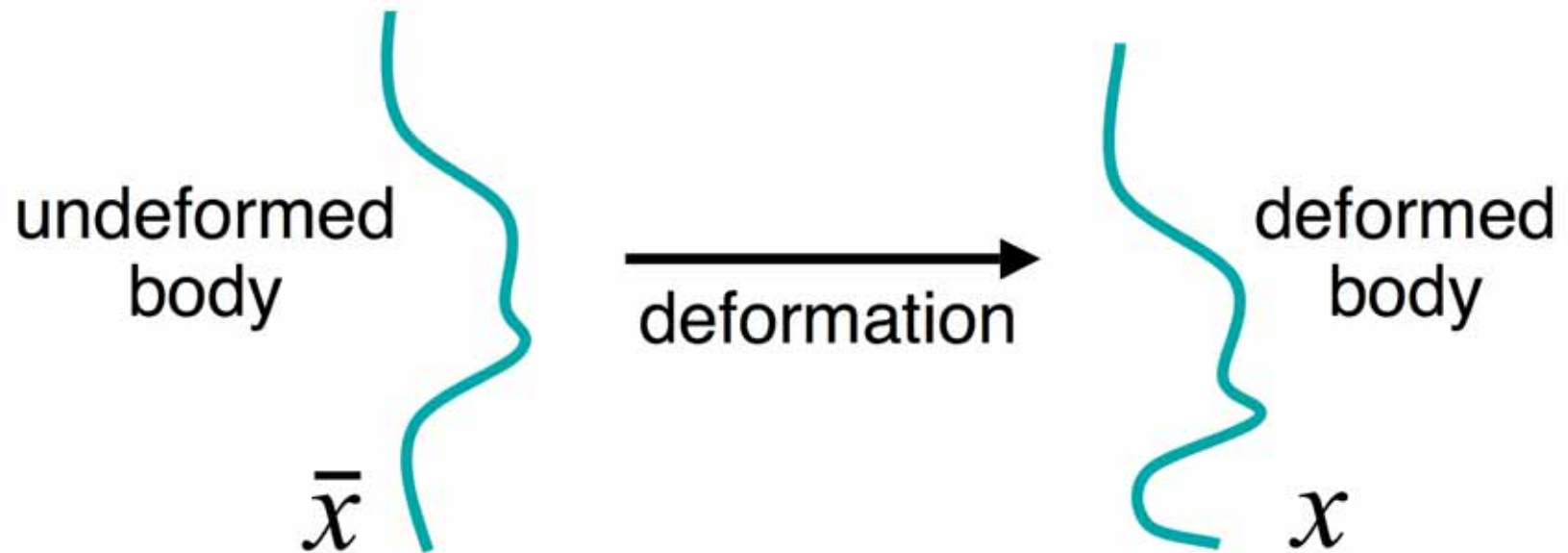
Sand settles on  
nodal curves



Prize for explanation:  
1kg of gold,  
1808, 1811, 1815

# Problem setup

What is the  
deformation *energy*?

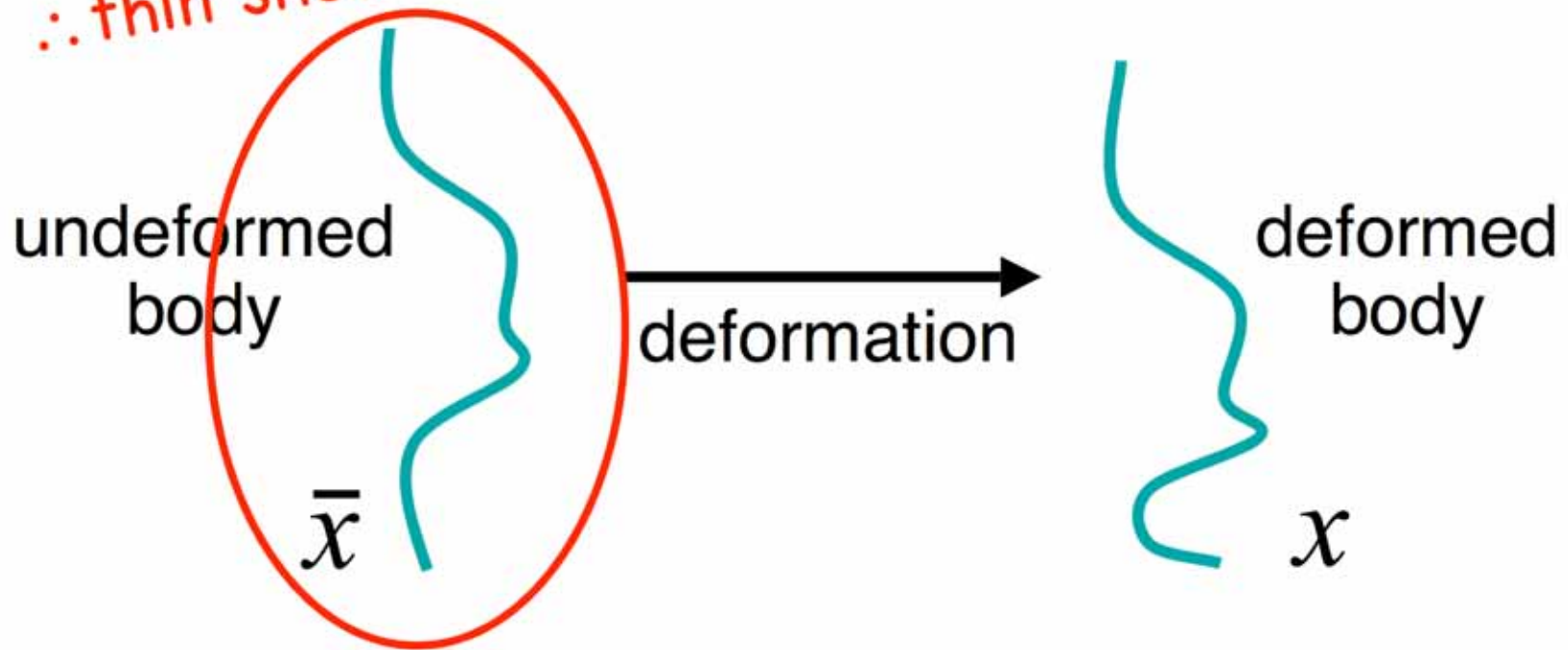




# Problem setup

undeformed config.  
is curved  
 $\therefore$  thin shell

What is the  
deformation *energy*?

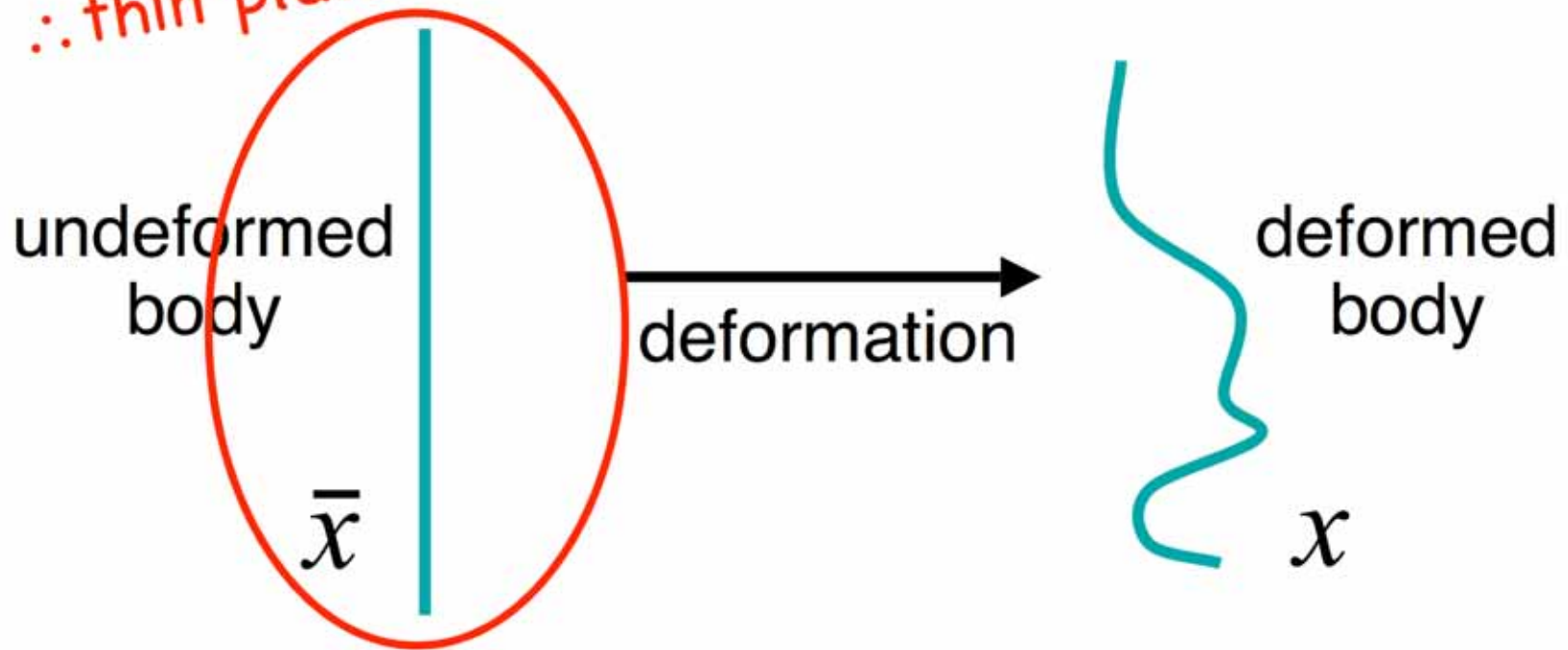




# Problem setup

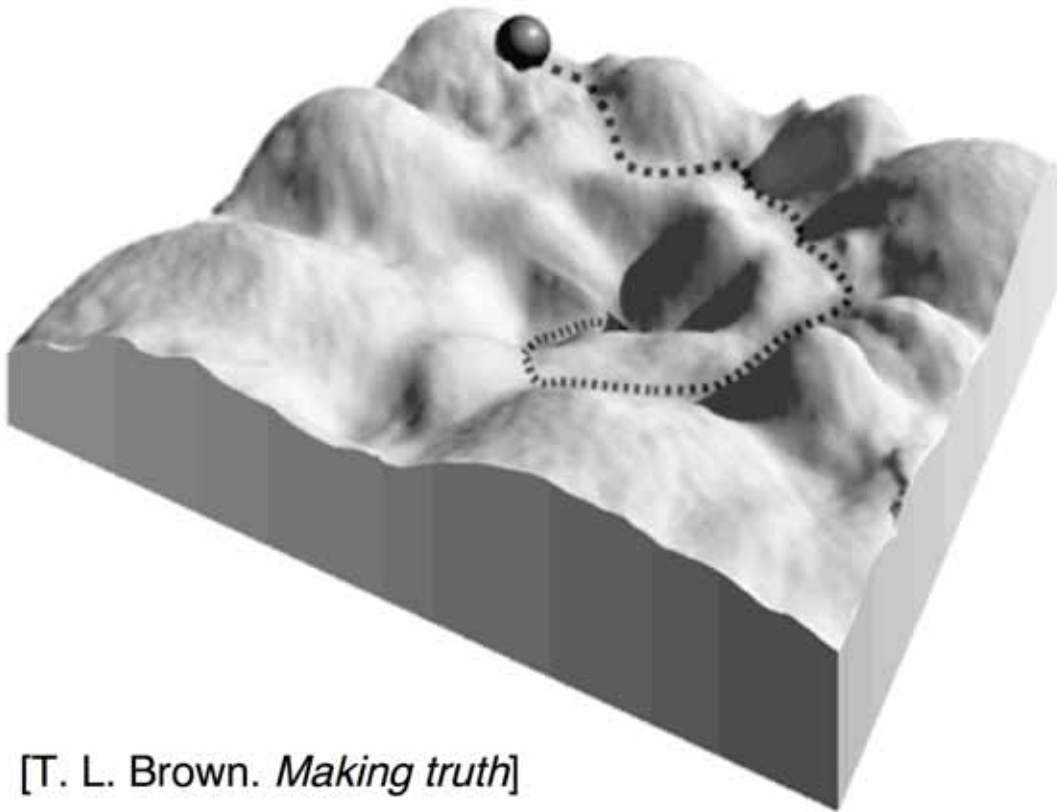
undeformed config.  
is flat  
∴ thin plate

What is the  
deformation *energy*?



# Problem setup

Energy is a non-negative scalar function

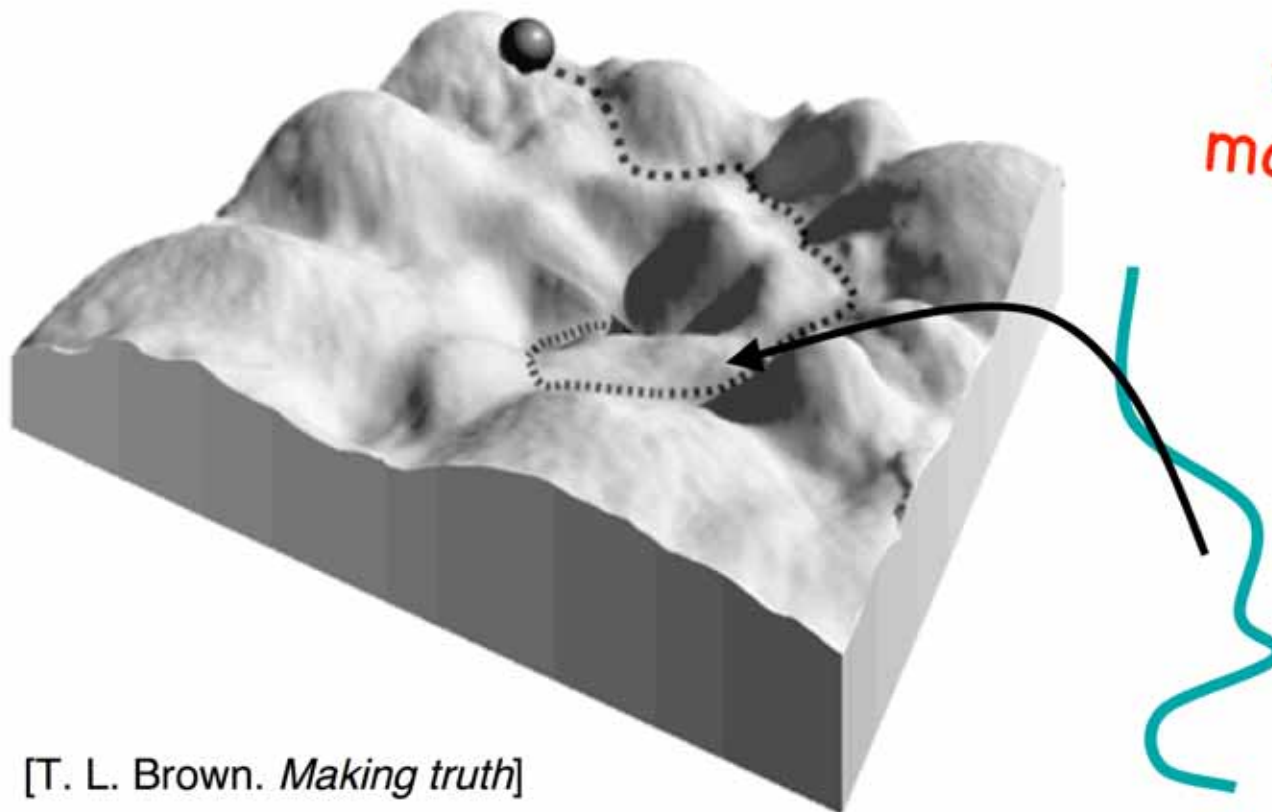


[T. L. Brown. *Making truth*]

# Problem setup

Energy is a non-negative **scalar** function

real number,  
coordinate-frame invariant



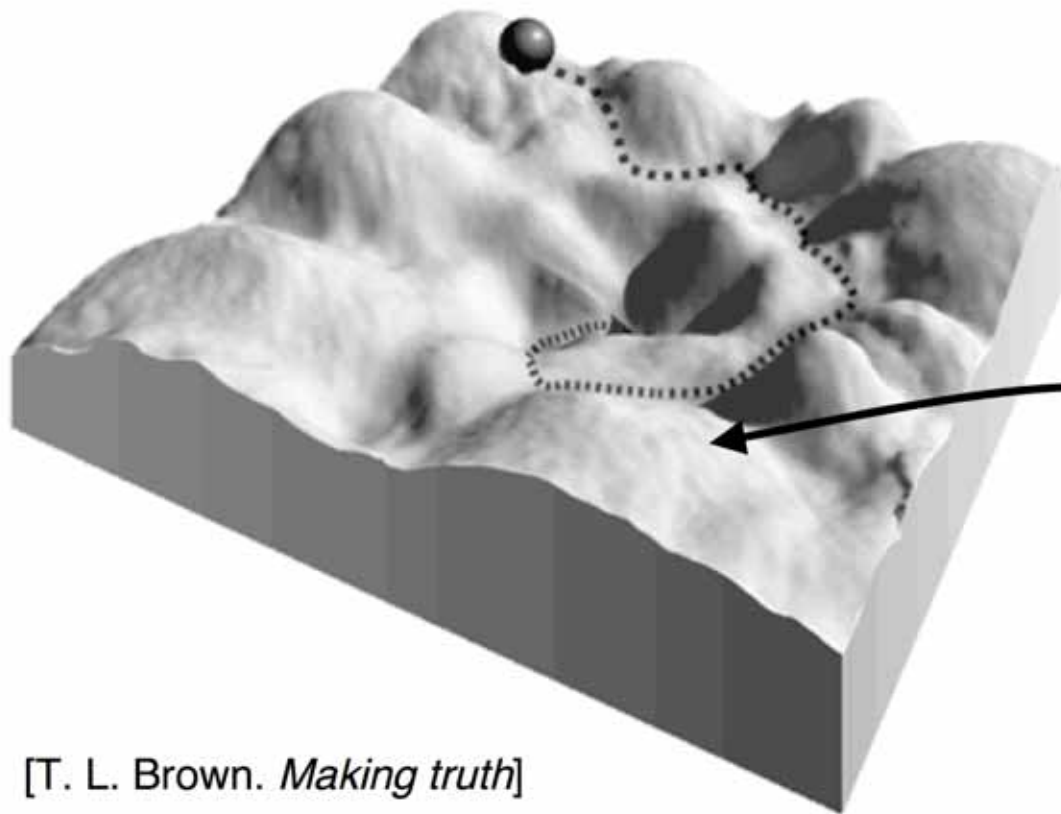
each config.  
maps to a point  
on energy  
landscape

[T. L. Brown. *Making truth*]

# Problem setup

Energy is a non-negative **scalar** function

*real number,  
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*each config.  
maps to a point  
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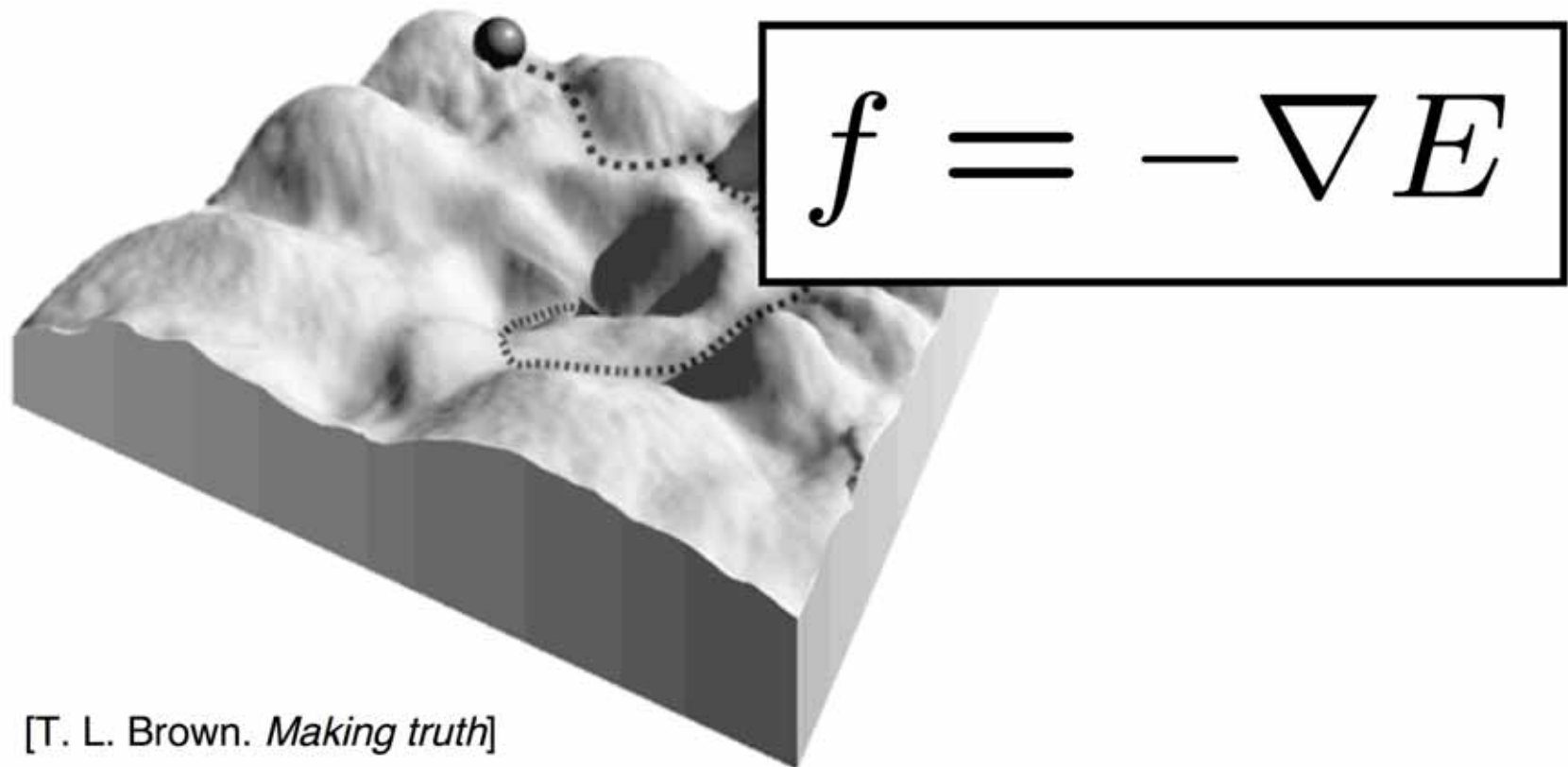


[T. L. Brown. *Making truth*]



# Problem setup

Internal forces push “downhill”



[T. L. Brown. *Making truth*]

# Plates



Germain



Poisson



Navier

# Thin plate energy

Germain's argument:

- bending energy must be a symmetric even function of principal curvatures

# Thin plate energy

Germain's argument:

- bending energy must be a symmetric even function of principal curvatures



$$\begin{aligned} E^{bend} &= f(\kappa_1, \kappa_2) = \frac{1}{4} \int (\kappa_1 + \kappa_2)^2 dA \\ &= \int H^2 dA \end{aligned}$$



# Thin plate energy

## Poisson's linearization

- assuming small displacements, approximate curvature by second derivatives



$$E^{bend} = f(\kappa_1, \kappa_2) = \frac{1}{4} \int (\kappa_1 + \kappa_2)^2 dA$$

$$E_{lin}^{bend} = \int (\Delta f)^2 dA$$

# Thin plate energy

Navier's equation

- to find minimizer for linearized energy, solve a partial differential eqn (PDE)



$$\Delta^2 f = 0$$

$$E_{lin}^{bend} = \int (\Delta f)^2 dA$$

# Thin plate energy

Navier's equation

- to find minimizer for linearized energy

solve

$$\partial_{uuuu}f + 2\partial_{uuvv}f + \partial_{vvvv}f$$

$$\Delta^2 f = 0$$

$$E_{lin}^{bend} = \int (\Delta f)^2 dA$$

# Axiomatic approach

Energy should be:

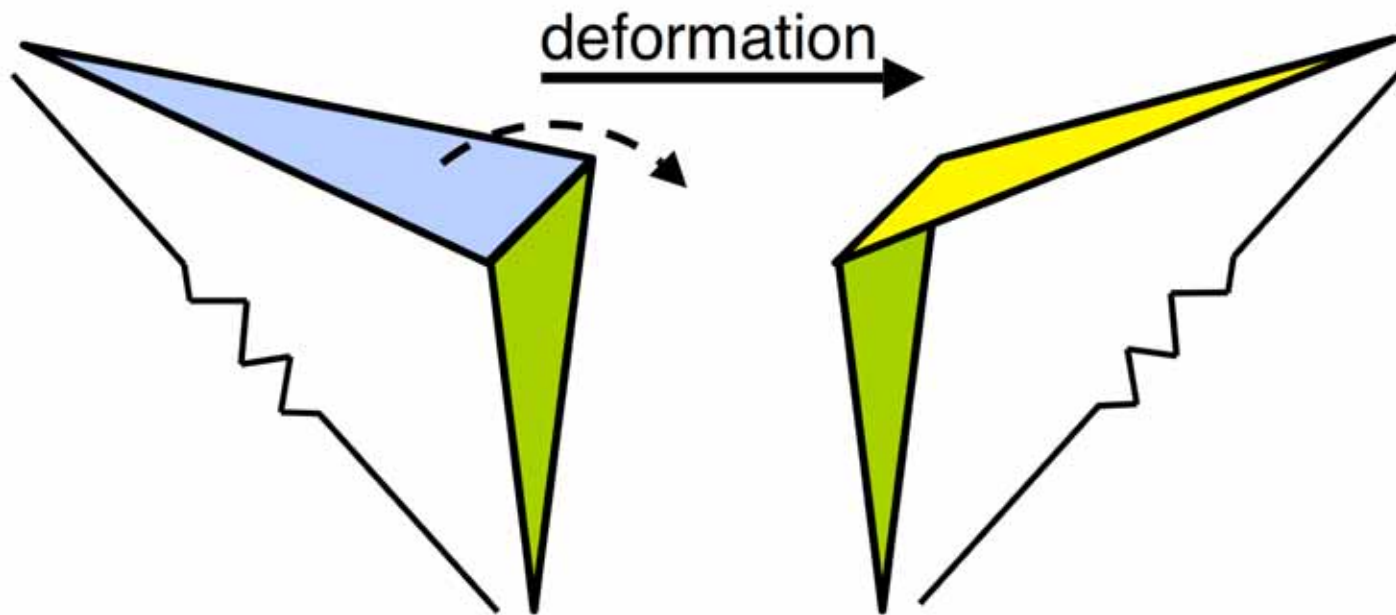
- symmetric even func'n of principal curvatures
- extrinsic measure
- smooth w.r.t. change in shape
- invariant under rigid-body motion
- simple to compute
- easy to understand



# What about masses and springs?

Diagonal springs don't work for shells.

- undeformed configuration is *curved*
- incorrect energy minima



# Axiomatic “discrete shells”

“Simplest” answer to desiderata

$$(H - H_0)^2$$

Derivation:

extrinsic change in *shape* operator

$$[\text{Tr}(\varphi^* S) - \text{Tr}(\bar{S})]^2$$

# Computing discrete shells

$$\text{Elastic energy} = \frac{K_B}{2} \sum_i (\theta_i - \bar{\theta}_i)^2 \frac{\|\bar{e}_i\|}{\bar{h}_i}$$

