# Simulating Soft Materials under Extremely Large Deformation: A Mimetic-informed Approach



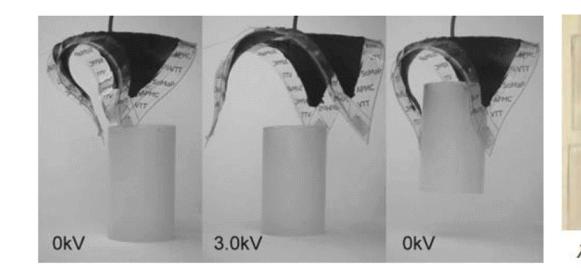
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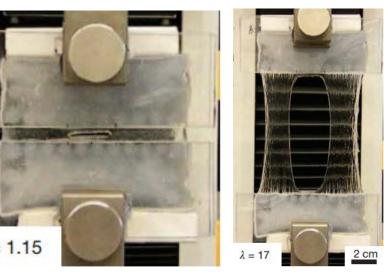


### **Motivation: Soft Materials**

• Large deformations, complex microstructures, and (near) incompressibility.

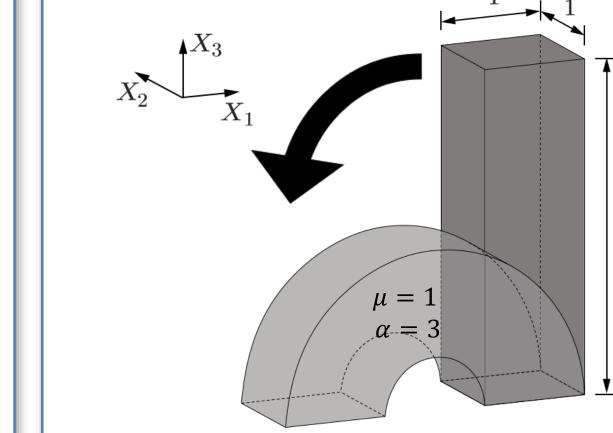


Finite deformation of a dielectric elastomer (Kofod, Wirges, Paajanen Bauer, 2007)

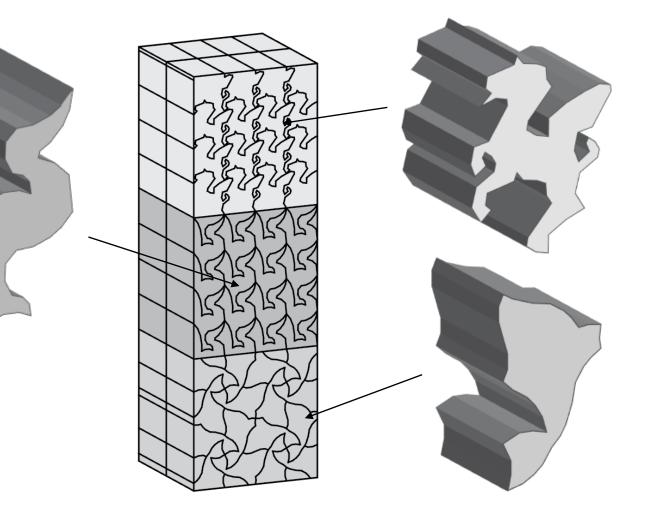


Stretch of a hydrogel specimen (Sun et. al., 2012)

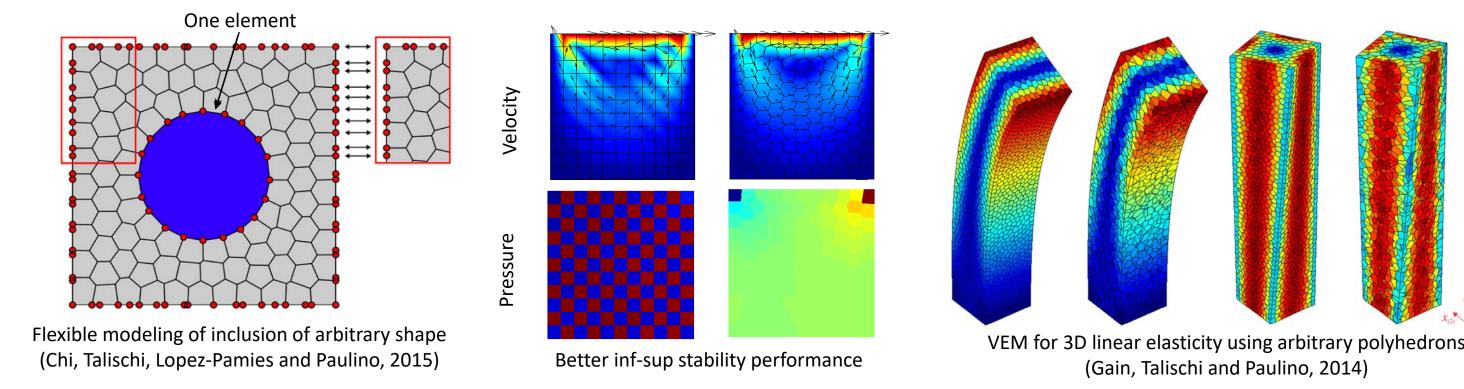
Microstructure of a typical filled elastome (Ramier, 2004)







• Polygonal and polyhedral elements are advantageous to model soft materials.



**Two VEM highlights:** • No shape functions

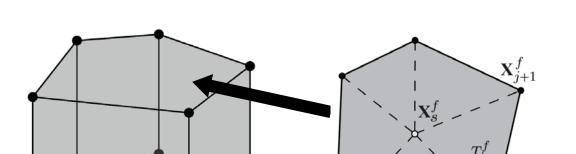
No approximate numerical integration

#### Local Displacement Spaces

**2D:**  $\mathcal{V}(E) \doteq \left\{ \mathbf{v} \in \left[ \mathcal{H}^1(E) \right]^2 : \Delta \mathbf{v} = 0 \text{ in } E, \, \mathbf{v}|_{\partial E} \in \left[ C^0(\partial E) \right]^2 \text{ and } \mathbf{v}|_e \in \left[ \mathcal{P}_1(e) \right]^2 \, \forall e \in \partial E \right\}$ **3D:**  $\mathcal{V}(E) \doteq \left\{ \mathbf{v} \in \left[ \mathcal{H}^1(E) \right]^3 : \mathbf{v}|_{\partial E} \in \left[ C^0(\partial E) \right]^3, \mathbf{v} \left( \mathbf{X}_s^f \right) = \sum_{i=1}^{m^j} \beta_j^f \mathbf{v} \left( \mathbf{X}_j^f \right) \text{ and } \right\}$  $\mathbf{v}|_{T_i^f} \in \left[\mathcal{P}_1\left(T_j^f\right)\right]^3, \quad j = 1, ..., m^f, \, \forall f \in \partial E \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta \mathbf{v} = 0, \text{ in } E\right\}$ 

**Computable quantities:** 

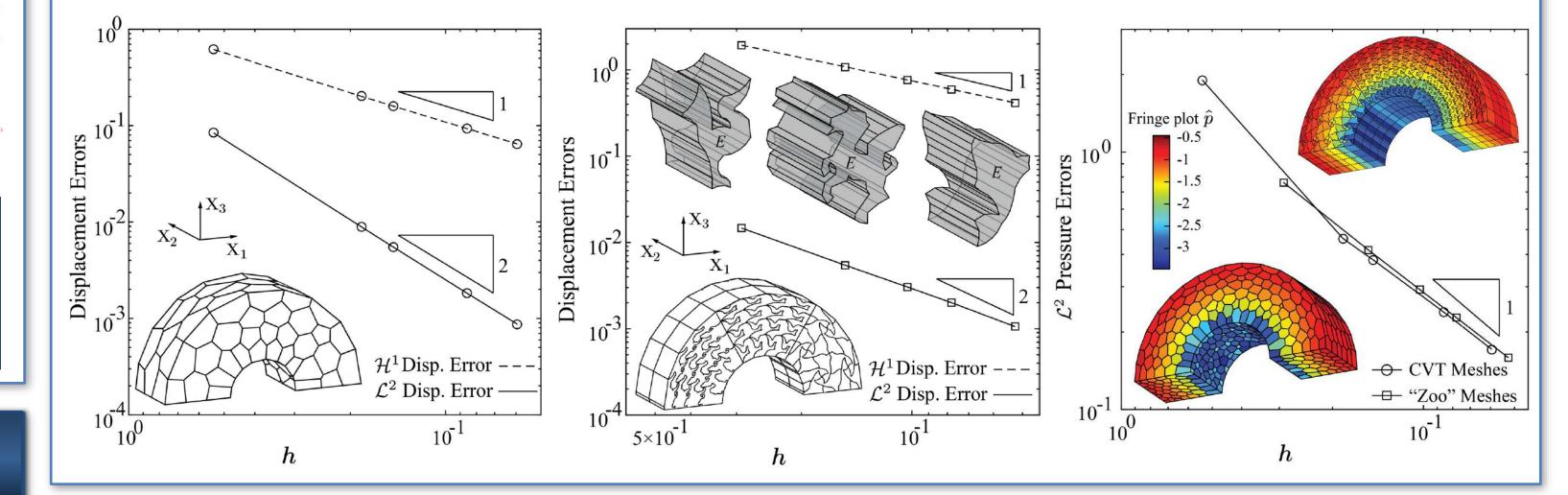
1.  $\Pi_E^0 \nabla \mathbf{v}$ : projection of  $\nabla \mathbf{v}$  onto its volume average:



$$W(\mathbf{F}) = \begin{cases} \frac{3^{1-\alpha}}{2\alpha} \mu \left[ (I_1(\mathbf{F}))^{\alpha} - 3^{\alpha} \right] & \text{if det } \mathbf{F} = 1 \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

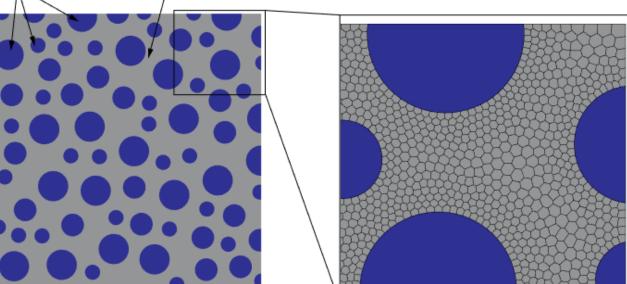
"zoo" mesh

Convergence of the displacement and pressure fields: convex and concave meshes



### **Particle Reinforced Elastomers**

#### rigid inclusions elastomeric matrix

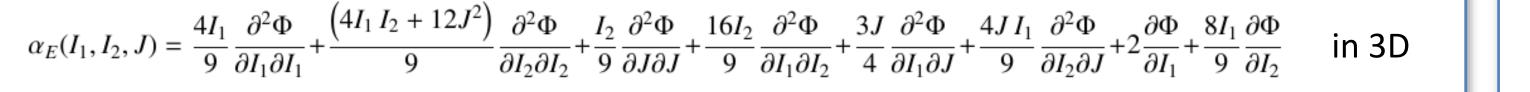


Incompressible neo-Hookean matrix

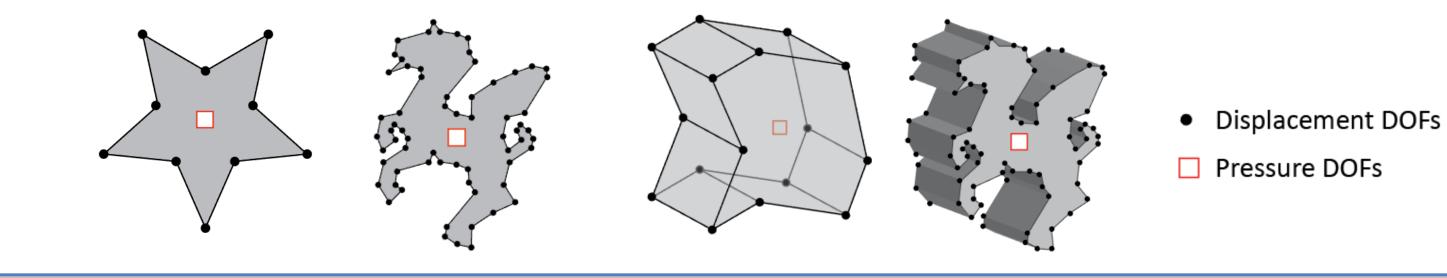
$$W(\mathbf{F}) = \begin{cases} \frac{\mu}{2}(\mathbf{F} : \mathbf{F} - 3), & \text{if det } \mathbf{F} = 1 \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

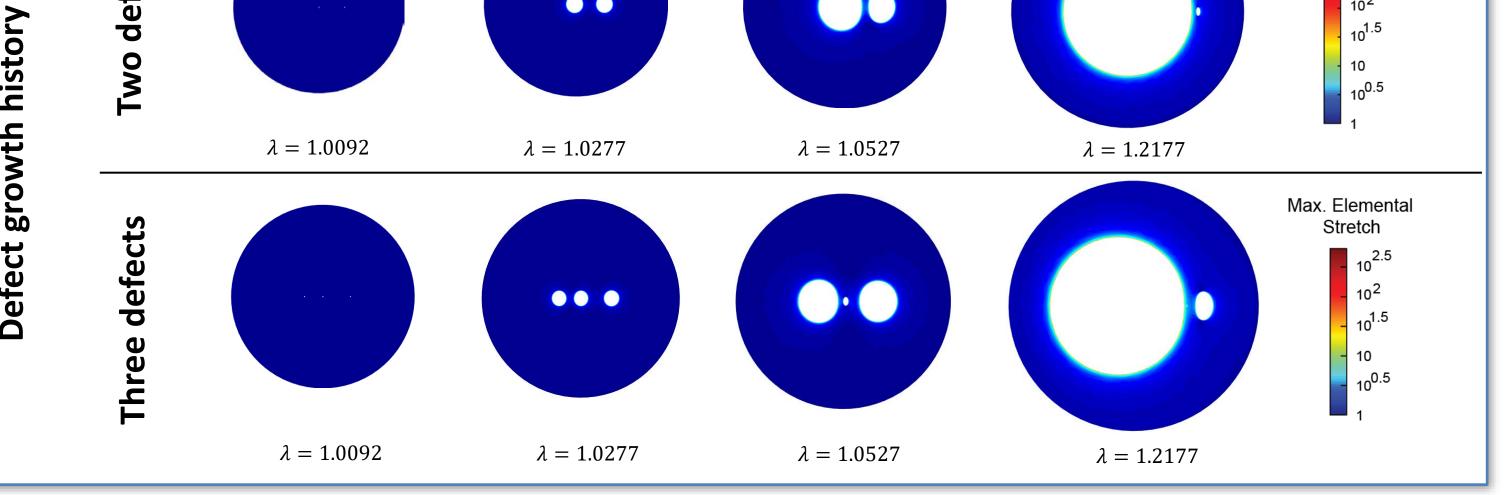
35% of rigid circular reinforcement

$$\frac{|||_{L}|_{L}}{||_{L}} \nabla v u ds = \frac{||_{L}|_{L}}{||_{L}} (v v v ds = \frac{||_{L}|_{L}}{||_{L}} (v v ds = \frac{||_{L}}{||_{L}} (v ds = \frac{||_{L}}{||_{L}} (v ds = \frac{||_{L}|_{L}}{||_{L}} (v ds = \frac{||_{L}}{||_{L}} (v ds = \frac{||_{L}}{||_{L}}$$



Examples of the mixed virtual elements (Pegasus credit: M. C. Escher)  $\bullet$ 





#### References

- 1. Chi, H., Beirao da Veiga, L., and Paulino, G.H. 2017. Some basic formulations of the Virtual Element Method (VEM) for finite deformations. CMAME, 318, 148-192.
- 2. Beirão da Veiga, L., Brezzi, F., Cangiani, A., Manzini, G., Marini, L. D., and Russo, A. 2013. Basic principles of virtual element methods. M3AS, 23(01), 199-214.
- 3. Chi, H., Talischi, C., Lopez-Pamies, O., Paulino, G.H. 2015. Polygonal finite elements for finite elasticity. *IJNME*, 101, 305–328

## Conclusions

- The first work in the literature to address finite deformation using the VEM (2D & 3D).
- VEM is able to address practical engineering problems involving finite deformations.  $\bullet$
- The VEM approximation can handle 2D and 3D arbitrary (non-convex) element geometries.
- The deformation-evolving stability term is key to capture extremely large and heterogeneous deformations.