# **Topological Mechanics**



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Chen, Upadhyaya, Vitelli, *PNAS* (2014). Paulose, Chen, Vitelli, *Nat. Phys.* (2015). Paulose, Meussen, Vitelli, *PNAS* (2015).

videos: youtube VitelliLab



Tunable response (acoustic and failure)



Tunable response (acoustic and failure)



unit-cell geometry





(insensitive to smooth changes in material parameters)

#### Tunable response (acoustic and failure)



unit-cell geometry







topological invariants





unit-cell geometry





Can you have both ?

# Mechanisms: propensity for motion zero modes





Rigid Miura Origami

Finite motions that obey constraint of zero stretching energy



# Mechanisms: propensity for motion zero modes





Activated mechanisms: building blocks of robots



# Maxwell counting





$$e_i = Q_{ij}^T u_j$$

# degrees of freedom - #constraints =  $n_{zm}$ 



Maxwell 1865 Calladine 1978

#### Maxwell counting



$$e_i = Q_{ij}^T u_j \qquad \qquad F_i = Q_{ij} t_j$$

# degrees of freedom - #constraints =  $n_{zm}$  -  $n_{ss}$ 

right hand side does not change unless you cut links



global

#### What determines motion in a structure?



8 degrees of freedom 4 constraints

#d.o.f. - #constraints = 4 = #zero modes



3 trivial (translations + rotation) 1 nontrivial

Maxwell 1865

#### What determines motion in a structure?



8 degrees of freedom 6 constraints

#d.o.f - #constraints = 2 = #zero modes - #states of self-stress



3 trivial zero modes (translations + rotation) 1 state of self-stress (redundant constraint)

Maxwell 1865 Calladine 1978

#### Maxwell counting





$$e_i = Q_{ij}^T u_j \qquad \qquad F_i = Q_{ij} t_j$$

#### 0

# degrees of freedom - #constraints =  $n_{zm}$  -  $n_{ss}$ 

global



Index theorem

charge neutrality ?

#### **Electrostatic analogy**



global

Index theorem

charge neutrality ?

## **Polarized medium**



dielectric



charge neutrality

#### Consider a finite patch: introduce edges



# degrees of freedom - #constraints =  $n_{zm}$  -  $n_{ss}$ 

#### Flux of polarization gives net charge



#### The simplest topological metamaterial





Kane and Lubensky, Nature Physics 2014

#### The simplest topological metamaterial



# degrees of freedom = # constraints, in the bulk



Kane and Lubensky, Nature Physics 2014

# The simplest topological metamaterial

 $\ell \sim 1/\bar{\theta}$ 



charges: constraints

#### Zero energy vibrational mode localized at only one edge

Kane and Lubensky, Nature Physics 2014

#### Linkages: ID origami



#### Soft motion localized at right edge chosen by $P_T$



#### Mechanical insulator within harmonic theory



#### What happens when we excite the zero energy mode ? go beyond linear analysis

#### The chain conducts mechanical energy !



An insulator at harmonic level becomes a conductor in non-linear theory

# How does the edge mode move?







#### Zero energy kink that harbors a soft motion





#### Zero energy kink that harbors a soft motion





#### **Restore springs**





$$V(u) = \mathbf{k} (u^2 - \bar{u}^2)^2$$





#### **Continuum theory**







Chen, Upadhyaya, Vitelli, PNAS (2014).

initially ignore kinetic term



# **Topological boundary term**







$$= k \int dx \left[ \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)^2 + (u^2 - \bar{u}^2)^2 \ominus 2(u^2 - \bar{u}^2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right]$$

topological boundary term

![](_page_31_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_2.jpeg)

Kink width diverges as gap closes

![](_page_34_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Anti-kinks harbour states of self-stress

![](_page_36_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_2.jpeg)

# degrees of freedom - #constraints =  $n_{zm}$  -  $n_{ss}$ 

![](_page_37_Figure_0.jpeg)

BPS

perfect square: enforces constraint

$$\mathcal{L} = \int \frac{1}{2} \frac{Mr^2}{r^2 - u^2} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)^2 - \left|\frac{1}{2} K \frac{a^4}{4} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} K (\bar{u}^2 - u^2)^2 - K \frac{a^2}{2} (\bar{u}^2 - u^2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right| dx$$

#### **Topological defects**

1111111 + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + 11 111 111 **+ + + + + + + / / /** 11 111 \* \* 1 1 1 \* ` 1  $\times$  + +1111 1 1 1 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 + + + \* \* \* \* 111 1 1 \* 4 1 4 \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* 4 1 \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* 7 

![](_page_38_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_3.jpeg)

# Topological soft modes at topological defects

![](_page_39_Picture_1.jpeg)

Paulose, Chen, Vitelli, Nat. Phys. (2015).

![](_page_39_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### Where are the soft spots ?

d<sub>A</sub>

dB

Paulose, Chen, Vitelli, Nat. Phys. (2015).

### Rigid in the bulk

![](_page_41_Picture_1.jpeg)

# But there is one floppy spot!

![](_page_42_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Soft motion at dislocation self stress at anti-dislocation

![](_page_43_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### floppy mode

state of self-stress

#### Mode count at dislocation:

$$\nu_T^S = \mathbf{P}_T \cdot \frac{\mathbf{d}}{V_{cell}}$$

![](_page_44_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### d: dislocation dipole (perpendicular to Burgers vector) $P_T$ : topological polarization

![](_page_44_Picture_5.jpeg)

Mode count at dislocation:

$$\nu_T^S = \mathbf{P}_T \cdot \frac{\mathbf{d}}{V_{cell}}$$

![](_page_45_Picture_3.jpeg)

You can insert topologically protected states of motion where you want

#### Lattice polarization and zero-energy mode count

![](_page_46_Picture_1.jpeg)

Zero mode count  $\leftrightarrow$  Net "charge" in a region

Net charge = Polarization flux into region

![](_page_46_Figure_4.jpeg)

Paulose, Chen, Vitelli, Nat Phys (in press) 2014

Zero mode count:

![](_page_46_Picture_7.jpeg)

Electronic states in topological insulators:

Ran, Zhang, Vishwanath, *Nat Phys* 2009 Teo and Kane, *PRB* 2010

#### Topological control of material failure

# Unit cell with topological polarization of phonon degrees of freedom

![](_page_48_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Take one of the lattices Tom described

![](_page_49_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_0.jpeg)

Compression in plane of image

Side view

![](_page_50_Picture_3.jpeg)

## The road ahead

![](_page_51_Picture_1.jpeg)

topological mechanisms

![](_page_51_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_3.jpeg)

activated mechanisms robots & smart materials

![](_page_51_Picture_5.jpeg)

molecular electronics

![](_page_51_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_8.jpeg)

videos: search youtube for VitelliLab

molecular robotics

# Kink costs zero energy $\begin{bmatrix} E \\ -\overline{u} \end{bmatrix} = +\overline{u}$

![](_page_52_Picture_1.jpeg)

sign of flux of polarization  

$$E = \int dx \left[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \int (u^2 - \bar{u}^2) \right]^2 \qquad + \bar{u} \qquad E = 0 \qquad E = 0 \qquad -\bar{u}$$
minus sign chooses kink  
kink costs zero stretching energy  $\square$ 

Chen, Upadhyaya, Vitelli, PNAS (2014).

anti kink suppressed

![](_page_52_Picture_5.jpeg)

 $\mathbf{\nabla}$ 

#### Soft modes on right edge

![](_page_53_Picture_1.jpeg)

INSTITUUT LORENTZ

![](_page_53_Picture_2.jpeg)

# Phase transition when $\bar{u} = 0$ $\begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{E} \\ & -\bar{u} \end{bmatrix}$

![](_page_54_Picture_1.jpeg)

Kink width diverges as gap closes

![](_page_54_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_0.jpeg)

sign of flux of polarization  

$$E = \int dx \left[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{1}{r} (u^2 - \bar{u}^2) \right]^2 \qquad E > 0 \quad \checkmark$$
anti-kink  
needs +  
kink costs zero stretching energy  $\checkmark$ 

kink costs zero stretching energy

Chen, Upadhyaya, Vitelli, PNAS (2014).

anti kink suppressed

![](_page_55_Picture_5.jpeg)

 $\mathbf{\nabla}$ 

![](_page_56_Picture_0.jpeg)

sign of flux of polarization  

$$E = \int dx \left[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{1}{4} (u^2 - \bar{u}^2) \right]^2 \qquad E > 0 \quad \checkmark$$
anti-kink  
needs +  
kink costs zero stretching energy  $\bigvee$ 

Chen, Upadhyaya, Vitelli, PNAS (2014).

anti kink suppressed

![](_page_56_Picture_4.jpeg)

 $\mathbf{\nabla}$