

SPHERICALLY-SYMMETRIC DEFORMATIONS

SPRING SEMESTER 2026

https://www.phys.uconn.edu/~rozman/Courses/P3102_26S/

Last modified: February 18, 2026

In spherical polar coordinates r, θ, φ :

$$\mathbf{u} = (u_r(r), 0, 0), \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{f} = (f_r(r), 0, 0). \quad (2)$$

Navier-Cauchy equation of equilibrium:

$$(2\mu + \lambda) \frac{d}{dr} \left(\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} (r^2 u_r) \right) = -f_r(r), \quad (3)$$

Strain tensor:

$$\varepsilon_{rr} = \frac{\partial u_r}{\partial r}, \quad \varepsilon_{\theta\theta} = \varepsilon_{\varphi\varphi} = \frac{u_r}{r}, \quad (4)$$

$$\varepsilon_{\theta\varphi} = \varepsilon_{r\theta} = \varepsilon_{\varphi r} = 0. \quad (5)$$

Hooke's law:

$$\sigma_{rr} = 2\mu\varepsilon_{rr} + \lambda(\varepsilon_{rr} + \varepsilon_{\theta\theta} + \varepsilon_{\varphi\varphi}), \quad (6)$$

$$\sigma_{\theta\theta} = 2\mu\varepsilon_{\theta\theta} + \lambda(\varepsilon_{rr} + \varepsilon_{\theta\theta} + \varepsilon_{\varphi\varphi}), \quad (7)$$

$$\sigma_{\varphi\varphi} = 2\mu\varepsilon_{\varphi\varphi} + \lambda(\varepsilon_{rr} + \varepsilon_{\theta\theta} + \varepsilon_{\varphi\varphi}). \quad (8)$$