



**HAL**  
open science

## Shape optimization for variational inequalities: the scalar Tresca friction problem

Samir Adly, Loïc Bourdin, Fabien Caubet, Aymeric Jacob de Cordemoy

► **To cite this version:**

Samir Adly, Loïc Bourdin, Fabien Caubet, Aymeric Jacob de Cordemoy. Shape optimization for variational inequalities: the scalar Tresca friction problem. 2022. hal-03848645v1

**HAL Id: hal-03848645**

**<https://univ-pau.hal.science/hal-03848645v1>**

Preprint submitted on 10 Nov 2022 (v1), last revised 10 Dec 2023 (v4)

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

# Shape optimization for variational inequalities: the scalar Tresca friction problem

Samir Adly\*, Loïc Bourdin†, Fabien Caubet‡, Aymeric Jacob de Cordemoy§

November 10, 2022

## Abstract

This paper investigates, without any regularization or penalization procedure, a shape optimization problem involving a simplified friction phenomena modeled by a scalar Tresca friction law. Precisely, using tools from convex and variational analysis such as proximal operators and the notion of twice epi-differentiability, we prove that the solution to a scalar Tresca friction problem admits a directional derivative with respect to the shape which moreover coincides with the solution to a boundary value problem involving Signorini-type unilateral conditions. Then we explicitly characterize the shape gradient of the corresponding energy functional and we exhibit a descent direction. Finally numerical simulations are performed to solve the corresponding energy minimization problem under a volume constraint which shows the applicability of our method and our theoretical results.

**Keywords:** Shape optimization, shape sensitivity analysis, variational inequalities, scalar Tresca friction law, Signorini’s unilateral conditions, proximal operator, twice epi-differentiability.

**AMS Classification:** 49Q10, 49Q12, 35J85, 74M10, 74M15, 74P10.

## 1 Introduction

**Motivation** In one hand, shape optimization is the mathematical field whose aim is to find the optimal shape of a given object with respect to a given criterion (see, e.g., [5, 17, 30]). It is increasingly taken into account in industry in order to identify the optimal shape of a product who must satisfy some constraints. On the other hand, mechanical contact models are used to study the contact of deformable solids that touch each other on parts of their boundaries (see, e.g., [10, 18, 19]). Usually the contact prevents penetration between the two rigid bodies, and possibly allows sliding modes which causes friction phenomena. A non-permeable contact can be described by the so-called *Signorini unilateral conditions* (see, e.g., [28, 29]) that take the form of inequality conditions on the contact surface, while a friction phenomenon can be described by the so-called *Tresca friction law* (see, e.g., [18]) which appears as a boundary condition involving nonsmooth inequalities depending on a friction threshold.

Shape optimization problems involving mechanical contact models have already been investigated in the literature (see, e.g., [7, 12, 15, 16] and references therein), and they are increasingly

---

\*Institut de recherche XLIM. UMR CNRS 7252. Université de Limoges, France. [samir.adly@unilim.fr](mailto:samir.adly@unilim.fr)

†Institut de recherche XLIM. UMR CNRS 7252. Université de Limoges, France. [loic.bourdin@unilim.fr](mailto:loic.bourdin@unilim.fr)

‡Université de Pau et des Pays de l’Adour, E2S UPPA, CNRS, LMAP, UMR 5142, 64000 Pau, France. [fabien.caubet@univ-pau.fr](mailto:fabien.caubet@univ-pau.fr)

§Université de Pau et des Pays de l’Adour, E2S UPPA, CNRS, LMAP, UMR 5142, 64000 Pau, France. [aymeric.jacob-de-cordemoy@univ-pau.fr](mailto:aymeric.jacob-de-cordemoy@univ-pau.fr)

taken into account in industrial issues and engineering applications. Due to the involved inequalities and nonsmooth terms, the standard methods usually consist in regularization or penalization procedures (see, e.g., [6]). In this paper our aim is to propose a new methodology which allows to preserve the original nature of the problem, that is, without using any regularization or penalization procedure. Precisely our strategy is based on the theory of variational inequalities and on tools from convex and variational analysis such as the notion of proximal operator introduced by J.J. Moreau in 1965 (see [22]) and the notion of twice epi-differentiability introduced by R.T. Rockafellar in 1985 (see [24]). To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that these concepts from convex and variational analyses are applied in the context of shape optimization problems involving nonsmoothness, which makes this contribution new and original in the literature.

As a first step towards more realistic and more complex mechanical contact models, note that the present paper focuses only on a shape optimization problem involving a simplified friction phenomena modeled by a scalar Tresca friction law.

**Description of the shape optimization problem and methodology** In this paragraph, we use standard notations which are recalled in Section 2. Let  $d \in \mathbb{N}^*$  be a positive integer which represents the dimension, and let  $f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $g \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  be such that  $g > 0$  almost everywhere (a.e.) on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . In this paper, we consider the shape optimization problem given by

$$\underset{\substack{\Omega \in \mathcal{U} \\ |\Omega| = \lambda}}{\text{minimize}} \mathcal{J}(\Omega), \quad (1.1)$$

where

$$\mathcal{U} := \{ \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d \mid \Omega \text{ nonempty connected bounded open subset of } \mathbb{R}^d \text{ with } \mathcal{C}^3\text{-boundary} \},$$

with the volume constraint  $|\Omega| = \lambda > 0$ , where  $\mathcal{J} : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the *Tresca energy functional* defined by

$$\mathcal{J}(\Omega) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left( \|\nabla u_{\Omega}\|^2 + |u_{\Omega}|^2 \right) + \int_{\Gamma} g|u_{\Omega}| - \int_{\Omega} f u_{\Omega},$$

where  $\Gamma := \partial\Omega$  is the boundary of  $\Omega$  and where  $u_{\Omega} \in H^1(\Omega)$  stands for the unique solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem given by

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + u = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ |\partial_n u| \leq g \text{ and } u \partial_n u + g|u| = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma, \end{cases} \quad (\text{TP}_{\Omega})$$

for all  $\Omega \in \mathcal{U}$ . Recall that, in contact mechanics,  $f$  models volume forces and that the boundary condition in  $(\text{TP}_{\Omega})$  is known as the scalar version of the Tresca friction law (see, e.g., [14, Section 1.3 Chapter 1]) where  $g$  is a given friction threshold. In this paper, we refer to it as the scalar Tresca friction law. Also recall that, for any  $\Omega \in \mathcal{U}$ , the unique solution to  $(\text{TP}_{\Omega})$  is characterized by  $u_{\Omega} = \text{prox}_{\phi_{\Omega}}(F_{\Omega})$ , where  $F_{\Omega} \in H^1(\Omega)$  is the unique solution to the classical Neumann problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta F + F = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \partial_n F = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma, \end{cases}$$

and where  $\text{prox}_{\phi_{\Omega}} : H^1(\Omega) \rightarrow H^1(\Omega)$  stands for the proximal operator associated with the *Tresca friction functional*  $\phi_{\Omega} : H^1(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{\Omega} : H^1(\Omega) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ v &\longmapsto \phi_{\Omega}(v) := \int_{\Gamma} g|v|. \end{aligned}$$

We refer for instance to [3] for details on existence/uniqueness and characterization of the solution to Problem (TP $_{\Omega}$ ).

To deal with the numerical treatment of the above shape optimization problem, a suitable expression of the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$  is required. To this aim we follow the classical strategy developed in the shape optimization literature (see, e.g., [5, 17]). Consider  $\Omega_0 \in \mathcal{U}$  and a direction  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d) := \mathcal{C}^3(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d) \cap \mathcal{W}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$ . Then, for any  $t \geq 0$  sufficiently small such that  $\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}$  is a  $\mathcal{C}^3$ -diffeomorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , we denote by  $\Omega_t := (\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V})(\Omega_0) \in \mathcal{U}$  and by  $u_t := u_{\Omega_t} \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_t)$ , where  $\mathbf{id} : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  stands for the identity operator. To get an expression of the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$  at  $\Omega_0$  in the direction  $\mathbf{V}$ , the first step naturally consists in obtaining an expression of the derivative of the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto u_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_t)$  at  $t = 0$  (called *shape directional derivative*). To overcome the issue that  $u_t$  is defined on the moving domain  $\Omega_t$ , we consider the change of variables  $\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}$  and we prove that  $\bar{u}_t := u_t \circ (\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}) \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  is the unique solution to the perturbed scalar Tresca friction problem given by

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(A_t \nabla \bar{u}_t) + \bar{u}_t J_t = f_t J_t & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ |A_t \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \mathbf{n}| \leq g_t J_{T_t} \text{ and } \bar{u}_t A_t \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \mathbf{n} + g_t J_{T_t} |\bar{u}_t| = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_0, \end{cases}$$

considered on the fixed domain  $\Omega_0$ , where  $\Gamma_0 := \partial\Omega_0$ ,  $f_t := f \circ (\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}) \in \mathbf{H}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $g_t := g \circ (\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}) \in \mathbf{H}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and where  $J_t$ ,  $A_t$  and  $J_{T_t}$  are standard Jacobian terms resulting from the change of variables used in the weak variational formulation of Problem (TP $_{\Omega_t}$ ) (see details in Subsection 3.1). Hence, the shape perturbation is shifted, via the change of variables, to the data of the scalar Tresca friction problem.

Now, to obtain an expression of the derivative of the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \bar{u}_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  at  $t = 0$  (called *material directional derivative*), we write that  $\bar{u}_t = \operatorname{prox}_{\phi_t}(F_t)$ , where  $F_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  is the unique solution to the perturbed Neumann problem

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(A_t \nabla F_t) + F_t J_t = f_t J_t & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ A_t \nabla F_t \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_0, \end{cases}$$

and where  $\phi_t : \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the perturbed Tresca friction functional given by

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_t : \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ v &\longmapsto \phi_t(v) := \int_{\Gamma_0} g_t J_{T_t} |v|, \end{aligned}$$

considered on the perturbed Hilbert space  $(\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0), \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{A_t, J_t})$  (see details on the perturbed scalar product in Subsection 2.3). To deal with the differentiability (in a generalized sense) of the parameterized proximal operator  $\operatorname{prox}_{\phi_t} : \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  we invoke the notion of *twice epi-differentiability* for convex functions introduced by R.T. Rockafellar in 1985 (see [24]) which leads to the *protodifferentiability* of the corresponding proximal operators. Actually, since the work by R.T. Rockafellar deals only with non-parameterized convex functions, we will use instead the recent work [2] where the notion of twice epi-differentiability has been adapted to parameterized convex functions.

Before listing the three main theoretical results obtained in the present paper thanks to the above strategy, let us mention that the sensitivity analysis of the scalar Tresca friction problem (TP $_{\Omega}$ ) with respect to perturbations of  $f$  and  $g$  has already been performed in our previous paper [8]. However, since it was done in a general context (not in the specific context of shape optimization), the previous paper [8] considered only the case where  $J_t = J_{T_t} = 1$  and  $A_t = \mathbf{I}$  is the identity matrix of  $\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  and thus the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{A_t, J_t}$  was independent of the parameter  $t$ . Hence some nontrivial adjustments are required to deal with the  $t$ -dependent context of the present work. We refer to Subsection 3.1 for details.

Finally, notice that, in this paper, we do not prove theoretically the existence of a solution to the shape optimization problem (1.1). The interested reader can find some related existence results (for very specific geometries in the two dimensional case) in [15].

**Three main theoretical results** We summarize here our main theoretical results.

- (i) With the above methodology and under some appropriate assumptions described in Theorem 3.6, we prove that the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \bar{u}_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$ , and its derivative (that is, the material directional derivative), denoted by  $\bar{u}'_0 \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$ , is the unique weak solution to the scalar Signorini problem given by

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta \bar{u}'_0 + \bar{u}'_0 = -\Delta(\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0) + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0 & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ \bar{u}'_0 = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{D}}^{u_0, g}, \\ \partial_{\mathbf{n}} \bar{u}'_0 = h^m(\mathbf{V}) & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{N}}^{u_0, g}, \\ \bar{u}'_0 \leq 0, \partial_{\mathbf{n}} \bar{u}'_0 \leq h^m(\mathbf{V}) \text{ and } \bar{u}'_0 (\partial_{\mathbf{n}} \bar{u}'_0 - h^m(\mathbf{V})) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^-}^{u_0, g}, \\ \bar{u}'_0 \geq 0, \partial_{\mathbf{n}} \bar{u}'_0 \geq h^m(\mathbf{V}) \text{ and } \bar{u}'_0 (\partial_{\mathbf{n}} \bar{u}'_0 - h^m(\mathbf{V})) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^+}^{u_0, g}, \end{array} \right.$$

where  $h^m(\mathbf{V}) := (\frac{\nabla g}{g} \cdot \mathbf{V} - \nabla \mathbf{V} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u_0 + (\nabla \mathbf{V} + \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top) \nabla u_0 \cdot \mathbf{n} \in \mathbf{L}^2(\Gamma_0)$ , and where the subdivision  $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma_{\mathbf{N}}^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_{\mathbf{D}}^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^-}^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^+}^{u_0, g}$  is described in Theorem 3.6. Recall that the boundary conditions on  $\Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^-}^{u_0, g}$  and  $\Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^+}^{u_0, g}$  are known as the scalar versions of the Signorini unilateral conditions (see, e.g., [19, Section 1]).

- (ii) We deduce in Theorem 3.10 that, under appropriate assumptions, the shape directional derivative, denoted by  $u'_0 := \bar{u}'_0 - \nabla u_0 \cdot \mathbf{V} \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$ , is the unique weak solution to the scalar Signorini problem given by

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta u'_0 + u'_0 = 0 & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ u'_0 = -\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{D}}^{u_0, g}, \\ \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 = h^s(\mathbf{V}) & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{N}}^{u_0, g}, \\ u'_0 \leq -\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0, \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 \leq h^s(\mathbf{V}) \text{ and } (u'_0 + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0) (\partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 - h^s(\mathbf{V})) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^-}^{u_0, g}, \\ u'_0 \geq -\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0, \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 \geq h^s(\mathbf{V}) \text{ and } (u'_0 + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0) (\partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 - h^s(\mathbf{V})) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^+}^{u_0, g}, \end{array} \right.$$

where  $h^s(\mathbf{V}) := \nabla_{\Gamma_0} u_0 \cdot \nabla_{\Gamma_0}(\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n}) - g \nabla(\frac{\partial_{\mathbf{n}} u_0}{g}) \cdot \mathbf{V} \in \mathbf{L}^2(\Gamma_0)$ .

- (iii) Finally the two previous theorems are used to state and prove our last main result (Theorem 3.11) asserting that, under appropriate assumptions, the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$  at  $\Omega_0$  in the direction  $\mathbf{V}$  is given by

$$\mathcal{J}'(\Omega_0)(\mathbf{V}) = \int_{\Gamma_0} \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n} \left( \frac{\|\nabla u_0\|^2 + |u_0|^2}{2} - f u_0 + H g |u_0| - \partial_{\mathbf{n}}(u_0 \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u_0) + g u_0 \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_{\mathbf{n}} u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{n} \right),$$

where  $H$  stands for the mean curvature of  $\Gamma_0$ .

**Application to shape optimization and numerical simulations** The expression of the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$  stated in (iii) allows us to exhibit an explicit descent direction of  $\mathcal{J}$  (see Section 4 for details). Hence, using this descent direction together with a basic Uzawa algorithm to take into account the volume constraint, we perform in Section 4 numerical simulations to solve the shape optimization problem (1.1) on a two-dimensional example. Furthermore, we present several numerical results with different values of  $g$ , allowing us to emphasize an interesting behavior of the optimal shape. Precisely, in our example, it seems to transit from the optimal shape when one replaces the Tresca problem and its energy functional by Dirichlet ones when  $g$  goes to infinity pointwisely, to the optimal shape when one replaces the Tresca problem and its energy functional by Neumann ones when  $g$  goes to zero pointwisely.

**Organization of the paper** The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 is dedicated to some basic recalls from convex, variational and functional analysis, differential geometry and boundary value problems involved all along the paper. In Section 3, we state and prove our three main theoretical results. Finally, in Section 4, numerical simulations are performed to solve the shape optimization problem (1.1) on a two-dimensional example.

## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 Reminders on proximal operator and twice epi-differentiability

For notions and results recalled in this subsection, we refer to standard references from convex and variational analysis literature such as [9, 21, 23] and [25, Chapter 12]. In what follows,  $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}})$  stands for a general real Hilbert space. The *domain* and the *epigraph* of an extended real value function  $\psi : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  are respectively defined by

$$\text{dom}(\psi) := \{x \in \mathcal{H} \mid \psi(x) < +\infty\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{epi}(\psi) := \{(x, t) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathbb{R} \mid \psi(x) \leq t\}.$$

Recall that  $\psi$  is said to be *proper* if  $\text{dom}(\psi) \neq \emptyset$  and  $\psi(x) > -\infty$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , and that  $\psi$  is convex (resp. lower semi-continuous) if and only if  $\text{epi}(\psi)$  is a convex (resp. closed) subset of  $\mathcal{H} \times \mathbb{R}$ . When  $\psi$  is proper, we denote by  $\partial\psi : \mathcal{H} \rightrightarrows \mathcal{H}$  its *convex subdifferential operator*, defined by

$$\partial\psi(x) := \{y \in \mathcal{H} \mid \forall z \in \mathcal{H}, \langle y, z - x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \psi(z) - \psi(x)\},$$

when  $x \in \text{dom}(\psi)$ , and by  $\partial\psi(x) := \emptyset$  whenever  $x \notin \text{dom}(\psi)$ . The notion of proximal operator has been introduced by J.J. Moreau in 1965 (see [22]) as follows.

**Definition 2.1.** *The proximal operator associated with a proper, lower semi-continuous and convex function  $\psi : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  is the map  $\text{prox}_{\psi} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  defined by*

$$\text{prox}_{\psi}(x) := \underset{y \in \mathcal{H}}{\text{argmin}} \left[ \psi(y) + \frac{1}{2} \|y - x\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \right] = (\text{id} + \partial\psi)^{-1}(x),$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , where  $\text{id} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  stands for the identity operator.

Recall that, if  $\psi : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  is a proper, lower semi-continuous and convex function, then its subdifferential  $\partial\psi$  is a maximal monotone operator (see, e.g., [23]), and thus its proximal operator  $\text{prox}_{\psi} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is well-defined, single-valued and nonexpansive, i.e. Lipschitz continuous with modulus 1 (see, e.g., [9, Chapter II]).

As mentioned in Introduction, the unique solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem considered in this paper can be expressed via the proximal operator of the associated Tresca friction functional  $\phi_{\Omega}$ . Therefore the shape sensitivity analysis of this problem is related to the differentiability (in a generalized sense) of the involved proximal operator. To investigate this issue, we will use the notion of twice epi-differentiability introduced by R.T. Rockafellar in 1985 (see [24]) defined as the Mosco epi-convergence of second-order difference quotient functions. Our aim in what follows is to provide reminders and backgrounds on these notions for the reader's convenience. For more details, we refer to [25, Chapter 7, Section B p.240] for the finite-dimensional case and to [11] for the infinite-dimensional case. The strong (resp. weak) convergence of a sequence in  $\mathcal{H}$  will be denoted by  $\rightarrow$  (resp.  $\rightharpoonup$ ) and note that all limits with respect to  $t$  will be considered for  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ .

**Definition 2.2** (Mosco convergence). *The outer, weak-outer, inner and weak-inner limits of a parameterized family  $(S_t)_{t>0}$  of subsets of  $\mathcal{H}$  are respectively defined by*

$$\limsup S_t := \{x \in \mathcal{H} \mid \exists (t_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow 0^+, \exists (x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow x, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, x_n \in S_{t_n}\},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{w-lim sup } S_t &:= \{x \in \mathcal{H} \mid \exists (t_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow 0^+, \exists (x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow x, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, x_n \in S_{t_n}\}, \\
\liminf S_t &:= \{x \in \mathcal{H} \mid \forall (t_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow 0^+, \exists (x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow x, \exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \geq N, x_n \in S_{t_n}\}, \\
\text{w-lim inf } S_t &:= \{x \in \mathcal{H} \mid \forall (t_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow 0^+, \exists (x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \rightarrow x, \exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \forall n \geq N, x_n \in S_{t_n}\}.
\end{aligned}$$

The family  $(S_t)_{t>0}$  is said to be Mosco convergent if  $\text{w-lim sup } S_t \subset \liminf S_t$ . In that case all the previous limits are equal and we write

$$\text{M-lim } S_t := \liminf S_t = \limsup S_t = \text{w-lim inf } S_t = \text{w-lim sup } S_t.$$

**Definition 2.3** (Mosco epi-convergence). Let  $(\psi_t)_{t>0}$  be a parameterized family of functions  $\psi_t : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  for all  $t > 0$ . We say that  $(\psi_t)_{t>0}$  is Mosco epi-convergent if  $(\text{epi}(\psi_t))_{t>0}$  is Mosco convergent in  $\mathcal{H} \times \mathbb{R}$ . Then we denote by  $\text{ME-lim } \psi_t : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  the function characterized by its epigraph  $\text{epi}(\text{ME-lim } \psi_t) := \text{M-lim epi}(\psi_t)$  and we say that  $(\psi_t)_{t>0}$  Mosco epi-converges to  $\text{ME-lim } \psi_t$ .

**Remark 2.4.** In Definition 2.3, the abbreviation ME stands for the *Mosco Epi-convergence* (which is related to functions), while the abbreviation M stands for the *Mosco convergence* (related to subsets).

The notion of twice epi-differentiability was originally introduced for nonparameterized convex functions. However, as mentioned in Introduction, the framework of the present paper requires an extended version to parameterized convex functions which has recently been developed in [2]. To provide recalls on this extended notion, when considering a function  $\Psi : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  such that, for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $\Psi(t, \cdot) : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  is a proper function, we will make use of the following two notations:  $\partial\Psi(0, \cdot)(x)$  stands for the convex subdifferential operator at  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  of the function  $\Psi(0, \cdot)$ , and for each  $t \geq 0$ ,  $\Psi^{-1}(t, \mathbb{R}) := \{x \in \mathcal{H} \mid \Psi(t, x) \in \mathbb{R}\}$  and  $\Psi^{-1}(\cdot, \mathbb{R}) := \bigcap_{t \geq 0} \Psi^{-1}(t, \mathbb{R})$ .

**Definition 2.5** (Twice epi-differentiability depending on a parameter). Let  $\Psi : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  be a function such that, for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $\Psi(t, \cdot) : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  is a proper lower semicontinuous convex function. Then  $\Psi$  is said to be twice epi-differentiable at  $x \in \Psi^{-1}(\cdot, \mathbb{R})$  for  $y \in \partial\Psi(0, \cdot)(x)$  if the family of second-order difference quotient functions  $(\Delta_t^2\Psi(x|y))_{t>0}$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta_t^2\Psi(x|y) : \mathcal{H} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\} \\
z &\longmapsto \Delta_t^2\Psi(x|y)(z) := \frac{\Psi(t, x + tz) - \Psi(t, x) - t \langle y, z \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}}{t^2},
\end{aligned}$$

for all  $t > 0$ , is Mosco epi-convergent. In that case we denote by

$$D_e^2\Psi(x|y) := \text{ME-lim } \Delta_t^2\Psi(x|y),$$

which is called the second-order epi-derivative of  $\Psi$  at  $x$  for  $y$ .

**Remark 2.6.** If the real-valued function  $\Psi$  is  $t$ -independent, Definition 2.5 recovers the classical notion of twice epi-differentiability originally introduced in [24] (up to the multiplicative constant  $\frac{1}{2}$ ).

**Remark 2.7.** It is well-known that the convexity and the lower-semicontinuity are preserved by the Mosco epi-convergence. However, the properness of the Mosco epi-limit may fail even if the sequence is proper. If, for each  $t \geq 0$ ,  $\Psi(t, \cdot) : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  is a proper, lower semicontinuous and convex function, then the Mosco epi-limit  $D_e^2\Psi(x|y)$  (when it exists) is also lower semi-continuous and convex function. However, it may be possible that there exists some  $z \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $D_e^2\Psi(x|y)(z) = -\infty$  (see, e.g., [2, Example 4.4 p.1711]).

The following example on a  $t$ -independent function will be useful in this paper (see Lemma 3.5) and is extracted from [2, Lemma 5.2 p.1717] which concerns also  $t$ -dependent function.

**Example 2.8.** The classical absolute value map  $|\cdot| : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , which is a proper lower semi-continuous convex function on  $\mathbb{R}$ , is twice epi-differentiable at any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  for any  $y \in \partial|\cdot|(x)$ , and its second-order epi-derivative is given by  $D_e^2|\cdot|(x|y) = \iota_{K_{x,y}}$ , where  $K_{x,y}$  is the nonempty closed convex subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$K_{x,y} := \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & \text{if } x \neq 0, \\ \mathbb{R}^- & \text{if } x = 0 \text{ and } y = -1, \\ \mathbb{R}^+ & \text{if } x = 0 \text{ and } y = 1, \\ \{0\} & \text{if } x = 0 \text{ and } y \in (-1, 1). \end{cases}$$

and where  $\iota_{K_{x,y}}$  stands for the indicator function of  $K_{x,y}$ , defined by  $\iota_{K_{x,y}}(z) := 0$  if  $z \in K_{x,y}$ , and  $\iota_{K_{x,y}}(z) := +\infty$  otherwise.

Finally the next proposition (which can be found in [2, Theorem 4.15 p.1714]) is the key point to derive our main results in the present work.

**Proposition 2.9.** *Let  $\Psi : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  be a function such that, for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $\Psi(t, \cdot) : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  is a proper, lower semi-continuous and convex function. Let  $F : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  and  $u : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  be defined by*

$$u(t) := \text{prox}_{\Psi(t, \cdot)}(F(t)),$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ . If the conditions

- (i)  $F$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$ ;
- (ii)  $\Psi$  is twice epi-differentiable at  $u(0)$  for  $F(0) - u(0) \in \partial\Psi(0, \cdot)(u(0))$ ;
- (iii)  $D_e^2\Psi(u(0)|F(0) - u(0))$  is a proper function on  $\mathcal{H}$ ;

are satisfied, then  $u$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$  with

$$u'(0) = \text{prox}_{D_e^2\Psi(u(0)|F(0) - u(0))}(F'(0)).$$

## 2.2 Reminders on differential geometry

Let  $d \in \mathbb{N}^*$  be a positive integer,  $\Omega$  be a nonempty bounded connected open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with a  $\mathcal{C}^3$ -boundary  $\Gamma := \partial\Omega$  and  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathcal{C}^2(\Gamma, \mathbb{R}^d)$  the outward-pointing unit normal vector to  $\Gamma$ . In the whole paper we denote by  $\mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\Omega)$  the set of functions that are infinitely differentiable with compact support in  $\Omega$ , by  $\mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\Omega)'$  the set of distributions on  $\Omega$ , for  $(m, p) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}^*$ , by  $W^{m,p}(\Omega)$ ,  $L^2(\Gamma)$ ,  $H^{1/2}(\Gamma)$ ,  $H^{-1/2}(\Gamma)$ , the usual Lebesgue and Sobolev spaces endowed with their standard norms, and we denote by  $H^m(\Omega) := W^{m,2}(\Omega)$ .

The next proposition, known as *Green formula*, can be found in [13, Corollary 2.6 p.28].

**Proposition 2.10.** *If  $w \in H^2(\Omega)$ , then  $\nabla w$  admits a normal trace  $\partial_n w \in H^{1/2}(\Gamma)$ , called normal derivative, such that*

$$\int_{\Omega} v \Delta w + \int_{\Omega} \nabla w \cdot \nabla v = \int_{\Gamma} v \partial_n w, \quad \forall v \in H^1(\Omega).$$

The following propositions will be useful and their proofs can be found in [17].

**Proposition 2.11.** *Let  $w \in H^3(\Omega)$ . Then*

$$\Delta w = \Delta_\Gamma w + H \partial_n w + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial n^2} \quad \text{a.e. on } \Gamma,$$

where  $\Delta_\Gamma w \in L^2(\Gamma)$  stands for the Laplace-Beltrami operator of  $w$  (see, e.g., [17, Definition 5.4.11 p.196]),  $H$  stands for the mean curvature of  $\Gamma$  and where  $\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial n^2} := \partial_n(\partial_n w) \in H^{1/2}(\Gamma)$  (since  $w \in H^3(\Omega)$ , we can extend its normal derivative into a function  $\partial_n w \in H^2(\Omega)$ ). Moreover it holds that

$$\int_\Gamma v \Delta_\Gamma w = - \int_\Gamma \nabla_\Gamma v \cdot \nabla_\Gamma w, \quad \forall v \in H^2(\Omega),$$

where  $\nabla_\Gamma v := \nabla v - (\partial_n v) \mathbf{n} \in H^{1/2}(\Gamma, \mathbb{R}^d)$  stands for the tangential gradient of  $v$ .

**Proposition 2.12.** *Let  $\mathbf{V} \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $v \in W^{2,1}(\Omega)$ . Then the equality*

$$\int_\Gamma (\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla v + v \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) - v(\nabla \mathbf{V} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n})) = \int_\Gamma \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n} (\partial_n v + H v),$$

holds true.

**Proposition 2.13.** *Let  $\mathbf{V} \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d) \cap W^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $v \in H^1(\Omega)$  such that  $\Delta v \in L^2(\Omega)$ . Then the equality*

$$\Delta(\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla v) = \operatorname{div} \left( (\Delta v) \mathbf{V} - \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) \nabla v + (\nabla \mathbf{V} + \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top) \nabla v \right),$$

holds true in  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)'$ .

### 2.3 Reminders on three basic nonlinear boundary value problems

As mentioned in Introduction, the major part of the present work consists in performing the sensitivity analysis of a scalar Tresca friction problem with respect to shape perturbation. To this aim three classical boundary value problems will be involved: a Neumann problem, a scalar Signorini problem and, of course, a scalar Tresca friction problem. Our aim in this subsection is to recall basic notions and results concerning these three boundary value problems for the reader's convenience. Since the proofs are very similar to the ones detailed in our paper [3], they will be omitted here.

Let  $d \in \mathbb{N}^*$  be a positive integer and  $\Omega$  be a nonempty bounded connected open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with a  $C^3$ -boundary  $\Gamma := \partial\Omega$ . Consider also  $h \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $k \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $\ell \in L^2(\Gamma)$ ,  $w \in H^{1/2}(\Gamma)$  and  $M \in L^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$  satisfying

$$h \geq \alpha \text{ a.e. on } \Omega \quad \text{and} \quad M(x) y \cdot y \geq \gamma \|y\|^2, \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

for some  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ , where  $M(x)$  is a symmetric matrix for almost every  $x \in \Omega$ , and where  $\|\cdot\|$  stands for the usual Euclidean norm of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . From those assumptions, note that the map

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{M,h} : H^1(\Omega) \times H^1(\Omega) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (v_1, v_2) &\longmapsto \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle_{M,h} := \int_\Omega M \nabla v_1 \cdot \nabla v_2 + \int_\Omega v_1 v_2 h. \end{aligned}$$

is a scalar product on  $H^1(\Omega)$ .

### 2.3.1 A Neumann problem

Consider the Neumann problem given by

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(M\nabla F) + Fh = k & \text{in } \Omega, \\ M\nabla F \cdot \mathbf{n} = \ell & \text{on } \Gamma. \end{cases} \quad (\text{NP})$$

**Definition 2.14** (Solution to the Neumann problem). *A (strong) solution to the Neumann problem (NP) is a function  $F \in H^1(\Omega)$  such that  $-\operatorname{div}(M\nabla F) + Fh = k$  in  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)'$  and  $M\nabla F \cdot \mathbf{n} \in L^2(\Gamma)$  with  $M\nabla F \cdot \mathbf{n} = \ell$  a.e. on  $\Gamma$ .*

**Definition 2.15** (Weak solution to the Neumann problem). *A weak solution to the Neumann problem (NP) is a function  $F \in H^1(\Omega)$  such that*

$$\int_{\Omega} M\nabla F \cdot \nabla v + \int_{\Omega} Fvh = \int_{\Omega} kv + \int_{\Gamma} \ell v, \quad \forall v \in H^1(\Omega).$$

**Proposition 2.16.** *A function  $F \in H^1(\Omega)$  is a (strong) solution to the Neumann problem (NP) if and only if  $F$  is a weak solution to the Neumann problem (NP).*

From the assumptions on  $M$  and  $h$  and using the Riesz representation theorem, one can easily get the following existence/uniqueness result.

**Proposition 2.17.** *The Neumann problem (NP) possesses a unique (strong) solution  $F \in H^1(\Omega)$ .*

### 2.3.2 A scalar Signorini problem

In this part we assume that  $\Gamma$  is decomposed as

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_N \cup \Gamma_D \cup \Gamma_{S-} \cup \Gamma_{S+},$$

where  $\Gamma_N, \Gamma_D, \Gamma_{S-}$  and  $\Gamma_{S+}$  are four measurable pairwise disjoint subsets of  $\Gamma$ . Consider the scalar Signorini problem given by

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + u = k & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = w & \text{on } \Gamma_D, \\ \partial_n u = \ell & \text{on } \Gamma_N, \\ u \leq w, \partial_n u \leq \ell \text{ and } (u - w)(\partial_n u - \ell) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{S-}, \\ u \geq w, \partial_n u \geq \ell \text{ and } (u - w)(\partial_n u - \ell) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{S+}. \end{cases} \quad (\text{SP})$$

**Definition 2.18** (Solution to the scalar Signorini problem). *A (strong) solution to the scalar Signorini problem (SP) is a function  $u \in H^1(\Omega)$  such that  $-\Delta u + u = f$  in  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)'$ ,  $u = w$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_D$ , and also  $\partial_n u \in L^2(\Gamma_0)$  with  $\partial_n u = \ell$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_N$ ,  $u \leq w$ ,  $\partial_n u \leq \ell$  and  $(u - w)(\partial_n u - \ell) = 0$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_{S-}$ ,  $u \geq w$ ,  $\partial_n u \geq \ell$  and  $(u - w)(\partial_n u - \ell) = 0$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_{S+}$ .*

**Definition 2.19** (Weak solution to the scalar Signorini problem). *A weak solution to the scalar Signorini problem (SP) is a function  $u \in \mathcal{K}_w^1(\Omega)$  such that*

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla(v - u) + \int_{\Omega} u(v - u) \geq \int_{\Omega} k(v - u) + \int_{\Gamma} \ell(v - u), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{K}_w^1(\Omega),$$

where  $\mathcal{K}_w^1(\Omega)$  is the nonempty closed convex subset of  $H^1(\Omega)$  defined by

$$\mathcal{K}_w^1(\Omega) := \{v \in H^1(\Omega) \mid v \leq w \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_{S-}, v = w \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_D \text{ and } v \geq w \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_{S+}\}.$$

One can easily prove that a (strong) solution to the scalar Signorini problem (SP) is also a weak solution. However, to the best of our knowledge, one cannot prove the converse without additional assumptions. To get the equivalence, one can assume, in particular, that the decomposition of  $\Gamma$  is *consistent* in the following sense.

**Definition 2.20** (Consistent decomposition). *The decomposition  $\Gamma = \Gamma_N \cup \Gamma_D \cup \Gamma_{S-} \cup \Gamma_{S+}$  is said to be consistent if*

- (i) *For almost all  $s \in \Gamma_{S-}$  (resp.  $\Gamma_{S+}$ ),  $s \in \text{int}_\Gamma(\Gamma_{S-})$  (resp.  $s \in \text{int}_\Gamma(\Gamma_{S+})$ ), where the notation  $\text{int}_\Gamma$  stands for the interior relative to  $\Gamma$ ;*
- (ii) *The nonempty closed convex subset  $\mathcal{K}_w^{1/2}(\Gamma)$  of  $H^{1/2}(\Gamma)$  defined by*

$$\mathcal{K}_w^{1/2}(\Gamma) := \left\{ v \in H^{1/2}(\Gamma) \mid v \leq w \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_{S-}, v = w \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_D \text{ and } v \geq w \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_{S+} \right\},$$

*is dense in the nonempty closed convex subset  $\mathcal{K}_w^0(\Gamma)$  of  $L^2(\Gamma)$  defined by*

$$\mathcal{K}_w^0(\Gamma) := \left\{ v \in L^2(\Gamma) \mid v \leq w \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_{S-}, v = w \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_D \text{ and } v \geq w \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_{S+} \right\}.$$

**Proposition 2.21.** *Let  $u \in H^1(\Omega)$ .*

- (i) *If  $u$  is a (strong) solution to the scalar Signorini problem (SP), then  $u$  is a weak solution to the scalar Signorini problem (SP).*
- (ii) *If  $u$  is a weak solution to the scalar Signorini problem (SP) such that  $\partial_n u \in L^2(\Gamma)$  and the decomposition  $\Gamma = \Gamma_N \cup \Gamma_D \cup \Gamma_{S-} \cup \Gamma_{S+}$  is consistent, then  $u$  is a (strong) solution to the scalar Signorini problem (SP).*

Using the classical characterization of the projection operator, one can easily get the following existence/uniqueness result.

**Proposition 2.22.** *The scalar Signorini problem (SP) admits a unique weak solution  $u \in H^1(\Omega)$  characterized by*

$$u = \text{proj}_{\mathcal{K}_w^1(\Omega)}(F),$$

*where  $F \in H^1(\Omega)$  is the unique solution to the Neumann problem*

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta F + F = k & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \partial_n F = \ell & \text{on } \Gamma, \end{cases}$$

*and where  $\text{proj}_{\mathcal{K}_w^1(\Omega)} : H^1(\Omega) \rightarrow H^1(\Omega)$  stands for the classical projection operator onto the nonempty closed convex subset  $\mathcal{K}_w^1(\Omega)$  of  $H^1(\Omega)$  for the usual scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{H^1(\Omega)}$ .*

### 2.3.3 A scalar Tresca friction problem

In this part we assume that  $\ell > 0$  a.e. on  $\Gamma$ . Consider the scalar Tresca friction problem given by

$$\begin{cases} -\text{div}(M\nabla u) + uh = k & \text{in } \Omega, \\ |M\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}| \leq \ell \text{ and } u M\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n} + \ell|u| = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma. \end{cases} \quad (\text{TP})$$

**Definition 2.23** (Solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem). *A (strong) solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem (TP) is a function  $u \in H^1(\Omega)$  such that  $-\text{div}(M\nabla u) + uh = k$  in  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)'$ ,  $M\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n} \in L^2(\Gamma)$  with  $|M(s)\nabla u(s) \cdot \mathbf{n}(s)| \leq \ell(s)$  and  $u(s)M(s)\nabla u(s) \cdot \mathbf{n}(s) + \ell(s)|u(s)| = 0$  for almost all  $s \in \Gamma$ .*

**Definition 2.24** (Weak solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem). *A weak solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem (TP) is a function  $u \in H^1(\Omega)$  such that*

$$\int_{\Omega} M \nabla u \cdot \nabla(v - u) + \int_{\Omega} u h(v - u) + \int_{\Gamma} \ell |v| - \int_{\Gamma} \ell |u| \geq \int_{\Omega} k(v - u), \quad \forall v \in H^1(\Omega).$$

**Proposition 2.25.** *A function  $u \in H^1(\Omega)$  is a (strong) solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem (TP) if and only if  $u$  is a weak solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem (TP).*

Using the classical characterization of the proximal operator, we obtain the following existence/uniqueness result.

**Proposition 2.26.** *The scalar Tresca friction problem (TP) admits a unique (strong) solution  $u \in H^1(\Omega)$  characterized by*

$$u = \text{prox}_{\phi}(F),$$

where  $F \in H^1(\Omega)$  is the unique solution to the Neumann problem

$$\begin{cases} -\text{div}(M \nabla F) + F h = k & \text{in } \Omega, \\ M \nabla F \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma, \end{cases}$$

and where  $\text{prox}_{\phi} : H^1(\Omega) \rightarrow H^1(\Omega)$  stands for the proximal operator associated with the Tresca friction functional given by

$$\begin{aligned} \phi : H^1(\Omega) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ v &\longmapsto \phi(v) := \int_{\Gamma} \ell |v|, \end{aligned}$$

considered on the Hilbert space  $(H^1(\Omega), \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{M,h})$ .

### 3 Three main theoretical results

Let  $d \in \mathbb{N}^*$  be a positive integer and let  $f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $g \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  be such that  $g > 0$  a.e. on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . In this paper we consider the shape optimization problem given by

$$\underset{\substack{\Omega \in \mathcal{U} \\ |\Omega| = \lambda}}{\text{minimize}} \mathcal{J}(\Omega),$$

where

$$\mathcal{U} := \{\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d \mid \Omega \text{ nonempty connected bounded open subset of } \mathbb{R}^d \text{ with } \mathcal{C}^3\text{-boundary}\},$$

with the volume constraint  $|\Omega| = \lambda > 0$ , where  $\mathcal{J} : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the *Tresca energy functional* defined by

$$\mathcal{J}(\Omega) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left( \|\nabla u_{\Omega}\|^2 + |u_{\Omega}|^2 \right) + \int_{\Gamma} g |u_{\Omega}| - \int_{\Omega} f u_{\Omega},$$

where  $\Gamma := \partial\Omega$  is the boundary of  $\Omega$  and where  $u_{\Omega} \in H^1(\Omega)$  stands for the unique solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem given by

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + u = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ |\partial_n u| \leq g \text{ and } u \partial_n u + g |u| = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma, \end{cases} \quad (\text{TP}_{\Omega})$$

for all  $\Omega \in \mathcal{U}$ . From Subsection 2.3.3, note that  $\mathcal{J}$  can also be expressed as

$$\mathcal{J}(\Omega) = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left( \|\nabla u_{\Omega}\|^2 + |u_{\Omega}|^2 \right),$$

for all  $\Omega \in \mathcal{U}$ .

In the whole section let us fix  $\Omega_0 \in \mathcal{U}$ . We denote by  $\mathbf{id} : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  the identity operator. Our aim here is to prove that, under appropriate assumptions, the functional  $\mathcal{J}$  is *shape differentiable* at  $\Omega_0$ , in the sense that the map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ \mathbf{V} &\longmapsto \mathcal{J}((\mathbf{id} + \mathbf{V})(\Omega_0)), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d) := \mathcal{C}^3(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d) \cap \mathbf{W}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$ , is Gateaux differentiable at 0, and to give an expression of the Gateaux differential, denoted by  $\mathcal{J}'(\Omega_0)$ , which is called the *shape gradient* of  $\mathcal{J}$  at  $\Omega_0$ . To this aim we have to perform the sensitivity analysis of the scalar Tresca friction problem (TP $_{\Omega}$ ) with respect to the shape, and then characterize the material and shape directional derivatives.

For better organization, this part will be done in the following three separate subsections below. In Subsection 3.1, we perturb the scalar Tresca friction problem (TP $_{\Omega_0}$ ) with respect to the shape. In Subsection 3.2, under appropriate assumptions, we characterize the material and shape directional derivatives as weak solutions to scalar Signorini problems (see Theorems 3.6 and 3.10). Finally we prove in Subsection 3.3 our main result asserting that, under appropriate assumptions, the functional  $\mathcal{J}$  is shape differentiable at  $\Omega_0$  and we provide an expression of the shape gradient  $\mathcal{J}'(\Omega_0)$  (see Theorem 3.11).

### 3.1 Setting of the shape perturbation and preliminaries

Consider  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$  and, for all  $t \geq 0$  sufficiently small such that  $\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}$  is a  $\mathcal{C}^3$ -diffeomorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , consider the shape perturbed scalar Tresca friction problem given by

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u_t + u_t = f & \text{in } \Omega_t, \\ |\partial_n u_t| \leq g \text{ and } u_t \partial_n u_t + g|u_t| = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_t, \end{cases} \quad (\text{TP}_t)$$

where  $\Omega_t := (\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V})(\Omega_0) \in \mathcal{U}$  and  $\Gamma_t := \partial\Omega_t = (\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V})(\Gamma_0)$ . From Subsection 2.3.3, there exists a unique solution  $u_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_t)$  to (TP $_t$ ) which satisfies

$$\int_{\Omega_t} \nabla u_t \cdot \nabla(v - u_t) + \int_{\Omega_t} u_t(v - u_t) + \int_{\Gamma_t} g|v| - \int_{\Gamma_t} g|u_t| \geq \int_{\Omega_t} f(v - u_t), \quad \forall v \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_t).$$

Following the usual strategy in shape optimization literature (see, e.g., [17]) and using the change of variables  $\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}$ , we prove that  $\bar{u}_t := u_t \circ (\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}) \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega_0} \mathbf{A}_t \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \nabla(v - \bar{u}_t) + \int_{\Omega_0} \bar{u}_t(v - \bar{u}_t) \mathbf{J}_t + \int_{\Gamma_0} g_t \mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} |v| - \int_{\Gamma_0} g_t \mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} |\bar{u}_t| \\ \geq \int_{\Omega_0} f_t \mathbf{J}_t(v - \bar{u}_t), \quad \forall v \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0), \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_t := f \circ (\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}) \in \mathbf{H}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $g_t := g \circ (\mathbf{id} + t\mathbf{V}) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $\mathbf{J}_t := \det(\mathbf{I} + t\nabla\mathbf{V}) \in \mathbf{L}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is the Jacobian,  $\mathbf{A}_t := \det(\mathbf{I} + t\nabla\mathbf{V})(\mathbf{I} + t\nabla\mathbf{V})^{-1}(\mathbf{I} + t\nabla\mathbf{V}^{\top})^{-1} \in \mathbf{L}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$  and  $\mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} := \det(\mathbf{I} + t\nabla\mathbf{V})\|(\mathbf{I} + t\nabla\mathbf{V}^{\top})^{-1}\mathbf{n}\| \in \mathcal{C}^0(\Gamma_0)$  is the tangential Jacobian, where  $\mathbf{I}$  stands for

the identity matrix of  $\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ . Therefore, we deduce from Subsection 2.3.3 that  $\bar{u}_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  is the unique solution to the perturbed scalar Tresca friction problem

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{A}_t \nabla \bar{u}_t) + \bar{u}_t \mathbf{J}_t = f_t \mathbf{J}_t & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ |\mathbf{A}_t \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \mathbf{n}| \leq g_t \mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} \text{ and } \bar{u}_t \mathbf{A}_t \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \mathbf{n} + g_t \mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} |\bar{u}_t| = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_0, \end{cases} \quad (\overline{\text{TP}}_t)$$

and can be expressed as

$$\bar{u}_t = \operatorname{prox}_{\phi_t}(F_t),$$

where  $F_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  is the unique solution to the perturbed Neumann problem

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{A}_t \nabla F_t) + F_t \mathbf{J}_t = f_t \mathbf{J}_t & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ \mathbf{A}_t \nabla F_t \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_0, \end{cases}$$

and  $\operatorname{prox}_{\phi_t} : \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  is the proximal operator associated with the perturbed Tresca friction functional

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_t : \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ v &\longmapsto \phi_t(v) := \int_{\Gamma_0} g_t \mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} |v|, \end{aligned}$$

considered on the perturbed Hilbert space  $(\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0), \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathbf{A}_t, \mathbf{J}_t})$ .

Since the derivative of the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto F_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  at  $t = 0$  is well known in the literature (it can be proved in a similar way as in Lemma 3.2 below), one might believe that Proposition 2.9 could allow to compute the derivative of the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \bar{u}_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  at  $t = 0$  (that is, the material directional derivative) under the assumption of the twice epi-differentiability of the parameterized functional  $\phi_t$ . This would be very similar to the strategy developed in our previous paper [8] in which we have considered a simpler case where  $\mathbf{J}_t = \mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} = 1$  and  $\mathbf{A}_t = \mathbf{I}$  and where, therefore, the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathbf{A}_t, \mathbf{J}_t}$  was independent of  $t$ . However, in the present work, we face a scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathbf{A}_t, \mathbf{J}_t}$  that is  $t$ -dependent and we need to overcome this difficulty as follows. Let us write  $\mathbf{A}_t = \mathbf{I} + (\mathbf{A}_t - \mathbf{I})$  and  $\mathbf{J}_t = 1 + (\mathbf{J}_t - 1)$  to get

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{u}_t, v - \bar{u}_t \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} + \int_{\Gamma_0} g_t \mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} |v| - \int_{\Gamma_0} g_t \mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} |\bar{u}_t| &\geq \int_{\Omega_0} f_t \mathbf{J}_t (v - \bar{u}_t) \\ &\quad - \int_{\Omega_0} (\mathbf{A}_t - \mathbf{I}) \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \nabla (v - \bar{u}_t) - \int_{\Omega_0} (\mathbf{J}_t - 1) \bar{u}_t (v - \bar{u}_t), \quad \forall v \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0), \end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$\bar{u}_t = \operatorname{prox}_{\Phi(t, \cdot)}(E_t),$$

where  $E_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  stands for the unique solution to the perturbed variational Neumann problem given by

$$\langle E_t, v \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} = \int_{\Omega_0} f_t \mathbf{J}_t v - \int_{\Omega_0} (\mathbf{A}_t - \mathbf{I}) \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\Omega_0} (\mathbf{J}_t - 1) \bar{u}_t v, \quad \forall v \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0),$$

and where  $\operatorname{prox}_{\Phi(t, \cdot)} : \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  is the proximal operator associated with the parameterized Tresca friction functional defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (t, v) &\longmapsto \Phi(t, v) := \int_{\Gamma_0} g_t \mathbf{J}_{\Gamma_t} |v|, \end{aligned}$$

considered on the standard Hilbert space  $(\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0), \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)})$  whose scalar product is the usual  $t$ -independent one.

**Remark 3.1.** Note that the existence/uniqueness of the solution  $E_t \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  to the above perturbed variational Neumann problem can be easily derived from the Riesz representation theorem. Furthermore note that, if  $\operatorname{div}((A_t - I) \nabla \bar{u}_t) \in L^2(\Omega_0)$ , then the above perturbed variational Neumann problem corresponds exactly to the weak variational formulation of the perturbed Neumann problem given by

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta E_t + E_t = f_t J_t - (J_t - 1) \bar{u}_t + \operatorname{div}((A_t - I) \nabla \bar{u}_t) & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ \partial_n E_t = -(A_t - I) \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \mathbf{n} & \text{on } \Gamma_0. \end{cases}$$

For instance, note that the condition  $\operatorname{div}((A_t - I) \nabla \bar{u}_t) \in L^2(\Omega_0)$  is satisfied when  $\bar{u}_t \in H^2(\Omega_0)$ .

Now our next step is to derive the differentiability of the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto E_t \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  at  $t = 0$ . To this aim let us recall that (see [17]):

- (i) The map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto J_t \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$  with derivative given by  $\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V})$ ;
- (ii) The map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto f_t J_t \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$  with derivative given by  $f \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) + \nabla f \cdot \mathbf{V}$ ;
- (iii) The map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto A_t \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$  with derivative given by  $A'_0 := -\nabla \mathbf{V} - \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) I$ ;
- (iv) The map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto g_t J_{\Gamma_t} \in L^2(\Gamma_0)$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$  with derivative given by  $\nabla g \cdot \mathbf{V} + g(\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) - \nabla \mathbf{V} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n})$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** *The map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto E_t \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$  and its derivative, denoted by  $E'_0 \in H^1(\Omega_0)$ , is the unique solution to the variational Neumann problem given by*

$$\begin{aligned} \langle E'_0, v \rangle_{H^1(\Omega_0)} &= \int_{\Omega_0} (f \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) + \nabla f \cdot \mathbf{V}) v \\ &\quad - \int_{\Omega_0} \left( -\nabla \mathbf{V} - \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) I \right) \nabla u_0 \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\Omega_0} \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) u_0 v, \quad \forall v \in H^1(\Omega_0). \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

*Proof.* Using the Riesz representation theorem, we denote by  $Z \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  the unique solution to the above variational Neumann problem. From linearity we get that

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \frac{E_t - E_0}{t} - Z \right\|_{H^1(\Omega_0)} &\leq \left\| \frac{f_t J_t - f}{t} - (f \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) + \nabla f \cdot \mathbf{V}) \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \\ &\quad + \left\| \frac{A_t - I}{t} - \left( -\nabla \mathbf{V} - \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) I \right) \right\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})} \|\bar{u}_t\|_{H^1(\Omega_0)} \\ &\quad + \left\| -\nabla \mathbf{V} - \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) I \right\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})} \|\bar{u}_t - u_0\|_{H^1(\Omega_0)} \\ &\quad + \left\| \frac{J_t - 1}{t} - \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) \right\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)} \|\bar{u}_t\|_{H^1(\Omega_0)} + \|\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V})\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)} \|\bar{u}_t - u_0\|_{H^1(\Omega_0)}, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $t > 0$ . Therefore, to conclude the proof, we only need to prove the continuity of the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \bar{u}_t \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  at  $t = 0$ . To this aim let us take  $v = u_0$  in the weak variational formulation of  $\bar{u}_t$  and  $v = \bar{u}_t$  in the weak variational formulation of  $u_0$  to get

$$-\|\bar{u}_t - u_0\|_{H^1(\Omega_0)}^2 + \int_{\Omega_0} (A_t - I) \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \nabla (u_0 - \bar{u}_t)$$

$$+ \int_{\Omega_0} (\mathbf{J}_t - 1) \bar{u}_t (u_0 - \bar{u}_t) + \int_{\Gamma_0} (g_t \mathbf{J}_{T_t} - g) (|u_0| - |\bar{u}_t|) \geq \int_{\Omega_0} (f_t \mathbf{J}_t - f) (u_0 - \bar{u}_t),$$

which leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \|\bar{u}_t - u_0\|_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} &\leq \left( \|\mathbf{A}_t - \mathbf{I}\|_{\mathbf{L}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})} + \|\mathbf{J}_t - 1\|_{\mathbf{L}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)} \right) \|\bar{u}_t\|_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} \\ &\quad + C \|g_t \mathbf{J}_{T_t} - g\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Gamma_0)} + \|f_t \mathbf{J}_t - f\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\mathbb{R}^d)}, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ , where  $C > 0$  is a constant that depends only on  $\Omega_0$ . Therefore, to conclude the proof, we only need to prove that the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \|\bar{u}_t\|_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} \in \mathbb{R}$  is bounded for  $t \geq 0$  sufficiently small. For this purpose, let us take  $v = 0$  in the weak variational formulation of  $\bar{u}_t$  to get that

$$\int_{\Omega_0} \mathbf{A}_t \nabla \bar{u}_t \cdot \nabla \bar{u}_t + \int_{\Omega_0} |\bar{u}_t|^2 \mathbf{J}_t \leq \int_{\Omega_0} f_t \mathbf{J}_t \bar{u}_t - \int_{\Gamma_0} g_t \mathbf{J}_{T_t} |\bar{u}_t|,$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ , and thus

$$\|\bar{u}_t\|_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} \leq 2 \left( \|f\|_{\mathbf{H}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} + 2 \|g\|_{\mathbf{H}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \right),$$

for all  $t \geq 0$  sufficiently small, which concludes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 3.3.** Note that, if  $\operatorname{div}((-\nabla \mathbf{V} - \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V})\mathbf{I})\nabla u_0) \in \mathbf{L}^2(\Omega_0)$ , then the variational Neumann problem in Lemma 3.2 corresponds exactly to the weak variational formulation of the Neumann problem given by

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta E'_0 + E'_0 = f \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) + \nabla f \cdot \mathbf{V} - \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V})u_0 + \operatorname{div} \left( (-\nabla \mathbf{V} - \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V})\mathbf{I}) \nabla u_0 \right) & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ \partial_n E'_0 = (\nabla \mathbf{V} + \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top - \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V})\mathbf{I}) \nabla u_0 \cdot \mathbf{n} & \text{on } \Gamma_0. \end{cases}$$

For instance, note that the condition  $\operatorname{div}((-\nabla \mathbf{V} - \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V})\mathbf{I})\nabla u_0) \in \mathbf{L}^2(\Omega_0)$  is satisfied when  $u_0 \in \mathbf{H}^2(\Omega_0)$ .

## 3.2 Material and shape directional derivatives

Consider the framework of Subsection 3.1. Our aim in this subsection is to give an expression of the material directional derivative, that is, of the derivative of the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \bar{u}_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  at  $t = 0$ , and then to deduce an expression of the shape directional derivative, that is, roughly speaking, of the derivative of the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto u_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_t)$  at  $t = 0$ .

In the previous Subsection 3.1, since we have expressed  $\bar{u}_t = \operatorname{prox}_{\Phi(t, \cdot)}(E_t)$  and characterized in Lemma 3.2 the derivative of the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto E_t \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  at  $t = 0$ , our idea is to use Proposition 2.9 in order to derive the material directional derivative. To this aim the twice epi-differentiability of the parameterized Tresca friction functional  $\Phi$  has to be investigated as we did in our previous paper [8] from which the next two lemmas are extracted.

**Lemma 3.4** (Second-order difference quotient function of  $\Phi$ ). *Consider the framework of Subsection 3.1. For all  $t > 0$ ,  $u \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega)$  and  $v \in \partial\Phi(0, \cdot)(u)$ , it holds that*

$$\Delta_t^2 \Phi(u|v)(w) = \int_{\Gamma_0} \Delta_t^2 G(s)(u(s)|\partial_n v(s))(w(s)) \, ds, \quad (3.2)$$

for all  $w \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega)$ , where, for almost all  $s \in \Gamma_0$ ,  $\Delta_t^2 G(s)(u(s)|\partial_n v(s))$  stands for the second-order difference quotient function of  $G(s)$  at  $u(s) \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $\partial_n v(s) \in g(s)\partial|\cdot|(u(s))$ , with  $G(s)$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} G(s) : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (t, x) &\longmapsto G(s)(t, x) := g_t(s) \mathbf{J}_{T_t}(s) |x|. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 3.5** (Second-order epi-derivative of  $G(s)$ ). *Consider the framework of Subsection 3.1 and assume that, for almost all  $s \in \Gamma_0$ ,  $g$  has a directional derivative at  $s$  in any direction. Then, for almost all  $s \in \Gamma_0$ , the map  $G(s)$  is twice epi-differentiable at any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and for all  $y \in g(s)\partial|\cdot|(x)$  with*

$$D_e^2 G(s)(x|y)(z) = \iota_{K_{x, \frac{y}{g(s)}}}(z) + (\nabla g(s) \cdot \mathbf{V}(s) + g(s) (\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}(s)) - \nabla \mathbf{V}(s) \mathbf{n}(s) \cdot \mathbf{n}(s))) \frac{y}{g(s)} z,$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ , where  $\iota_{K_{x, \frac{y}{g(s)}}}$  stands for the indicator function of the nonempty closed convex subset  $K_{x, \frac{y}{g(s)}}$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  (see Example 2.8).

We are now in a position to derive our first main result.

**Theorem 3.6** (Material directional derivative). *Consider the framework of Subsection 3.1 and assume that:*

- (i)  $u_0 \in H^3(\Omega_0)$ .
- (ii) For almost all  $s \in \Gamma_0$ ,  $g$  has a directional derivative at  $s$  in any direction.
- (iii)  $\Phi$  is twice epi-differentiable at  $u_0$  for  $E_0 - u_0 \in \partial\Phi(0, \cdot)(u_0)$  with

$$D_e^2 \Phi(u_0|E_0 - u_0)(w) = \int_{\Gamma_0} D_e^2 G(s)(u_0(s)|\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)(s))(w(s)) \, ds, \quad (3.3)$$

for all  $w \in H^1(\Omega)$ .

Then the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \mapsto \bar{u}_t \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$ , and its derivative (that is, the material directional derivative), denoted by  $\bar{u}'_0 \in H^1(\Omega_0)$ , is the unique weak solution to the scalar Signorini problem given by

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta \bar{u}'_0 + \bar{u}'_0 = -\Delta(\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0) + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0 & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ \bar{u}'_0 = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_D^{u_0, g}, \\ \partial_n \bar{u}'_0 = h^m(\mathbf{V}) & \text{on } \Gamma_N^{u_0, g}, \\ \bar{u}'_0 \leq 0, \partial_n \bar{u}'_0 \leq h^m(\mathbf{V}) \text{ and } \bar{u}'_0 (\partial_n \bar{u}'_0 - h^m(\mathbf{V})) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{S-}^{u_0, g}, \\ \bar{u}'_0 \geq 0, \partial_n \bar{u}'_0 \geq h^m(\mathbf{V}) \text{ and } \bar{u}'_0 (\partial_n \bar{u}'_0 - h^m(\mathbf{V})) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{S+}^{u_0, g}, \end{array} \right. \quad (3.4)$$

where  $h^m(\mathbf{V}) := (\frac{\nabla g}{g} \cdot \mathbf{V} - \nabla \mathbf{V} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \partial_n u_0 + (\nabla \mathbf{V} + \nabla \mathbf{V}^\top) \nabla u_0 \cdot \mathbf{n} \in L^2(\Gamma_0)$ , and the subdivision  $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma_N^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_D^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_{S-}^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_{S+}^{u_0, g}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_N^{u_0, g} &:= \{s \in \Gamma_0 \mid u_0(s) \neq 0\}, \\ \Gamma_D^{u_0, g} &:= \{s \in \Gamma_0 \mid u_0(s) = 0 \text{ and } \partial_n u_0(s) \in (-g(s), g(s))\}, \\ \Gamma_{S-}^{u_0, g} &:= \{s \in \Gamma_0 \mid u_0(s) = 0 \text{ and } \partial_n u_0(s) = g(s)\}, \\ \Gamma_{S+}^{u_0, g} &:= \{s \in \Gamma_0 \mid u_0(s) = 0 \text{ and } \partial_n u_0(s) = -g(s)\}. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* The proof is almost identical to [8, Theorem 3.21 p.19]. From Hypothesis (iii) and Lemma 3.5, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} D_e^2 \Phi(u_0|E_0 - u_0)(w) &= \iota_{K_{u_0, \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)}{g}}}(w) \\ &+ \int_{\Gamma_0} (\nabla g(s) \cdot \mathbf{V}(s) + g(s) (\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}(s)) - \nabla \mathbf{V}(s) \mathbf{n}(s) \cdot \mathbf{n}(s))) \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)(s)}{g(s)} w(s) \, ds, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $w \in H^1(\Omega_0)$ , where  $\mathcal{K}_{u_0, \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)}{g}}$  is the nonempty closed convex subset of  $H^1(\Omega_0)$  defined by

$$\mathcal{K}_{u_0, \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)}{g}} := \left\{ w \in H^1(\Omega_0) \mid w(s) \in K_{u_0(s), \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)(s)}{g(s)}} \text{ for almost all } s \in \Gamma_0 \right\},$$

which is also

$$\mathcal{K}_{u_0, \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)}{g}} = \left\{ v \in H^1(\Omega_0) \mid v \leq 0 \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_{S-}^{u_0, g}, v \geq 0 \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_{S+}^{u_0, g}, v = 0 \text{ a.e. on } \Gamma_D^{u_0, g} \right\}.$$

Moreover  $D_e^2\Phi(u_0|E_0 - u_0)$  is a proper lower semi-continuous convex function on  $H^1(\Omega_0)$ , and from Lemma 3.2, the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+ \mapsto E_t \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$ , with its derivative  $E'_0 \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  being the unique solution to the variational Neumann problem (3.1). Thus, using Theorem 2.9, the map  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+ \mapsto \bar{u}_t \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  is differentiable at  $t = 0$ , and its derivative  $\bar{u}'_0 \in H^1(\Omega_0)$  satisfies

$$\bar{u}'_0 = \text{prox}_{D_e^2\Phi(u_0|E_0 - u_0)}(E'_0).$$

From the definition of the proximal operator (see Proposition 2.1), this leads to

$$\langle E'_0 - \bar{u}'_0, v - \bar{u}'_0 \rangle_{H^1(\Omega_0)} \leq D_e^2\Phi(u_0|E_0 - u_0)(v) - D_e^2\Phi(u_0|E_0 - u_0)(\bar{u}'_0),$$

for all  $v \in H^1(\Omega_0)$ . Hence one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{u}'_0, v - \bar{u}'_0 \rangle_{H^1(\Omega_0)} &\geq \int_{\Omega_0} \text{div}(f\mathbf{V})(v - \bar{u}'_0) - \int_{\Omega_0} \text{div}(\mathbf{V})u_0(v - \bar{u}'_0) \\ &\quad - \int_{\Omega_0} \left( -\nabla\mathbf{V} - \nabla\mathbf{V}^\top + \text{div}(\mathbf{V})\mathbf{I} \right) \nabla u_0 \cdot \nabla(v - \bar{u}'_0) \\ &\quad + \int_{\Gamma_0} (\nabla g \cdot \mathbf{V} + g(\text{div}(\mathbf{V}) - \nabla\mathbf{V}\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n})) \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g}(v - \bar{u}'_0), \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

for all  $v \in \mathcal{K}_{u_0, \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)}{g}}$ . Moreover, since  $u_0 \in H^3(\Omega_0)$ , using the Green formula (see Proposition 2.10) and Proposition 2.13, one deduces that

$$\langle \bar{u}'_0, v - \bar{u}'_0 \rangle_{H^1(\Omega_0)} \geq \int_{\Omega_0} -\Delta(\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0)(v - \bar{u}'_0) + \int_{\Omega_0} \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0(v - \bar{u}'_0) + \int_{\Gamma_0} h^m(\mathbf{V})(v - \bar{u}'_0),$$

for all  $v \in \mathcal{K}_{u_0, \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)}{g}}$  which concludes the proof from Subsection 2.3.2.  $\square$

**Remark 3.7.** If  $u_0$  is only in  $H^1(\Omega_0)$ , then we could define "formally" the variational formulation (3.5) as the weak formulation of the scalar Signorini problem (3.4). Nevertheless, if  $u_0 \in H^3(\Omega_0)$ , then the normal derivative of  $u_0$  can be extended into a function defined in  $\Omega_0$  such that  $\partial_n u_0 \in H^2(\Omega_0)$  which will be useful in Subsection 3.3 to get a suitable expression of the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$ .

It is important to note that, to the best of our knowledge, there is no regularity result for the solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem with respect to the data. Nevertheless, from the assumptions that  $\Omega_0$  has  $\mathcal{C}^3$ -boundary,  $f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $g \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , it is reasonable to think that  $u_0 \in H^3(\Omega_0)$  since the solution to the Neumann problem on  $\Omega_0$  with the right-hand source term  $f$  and the boundary condition  $g$  is in  $H^3(\Omega_0)$  (see, e.g., [20, Chapter 4 Theorem 4. p.217]). Obtaining this regularity result in our case is a highly nontrivial work and is not the main focus of this paper. However, we can mention the works [26, 27] which deal with regularity results for variational inequalities concerning the Stokes equations.

**Remark 3.8.** Note that Equality (3.3) in the third assumption of Theorem 3.6 exactly corresponds to the inversion of the symbols ME-lim and  $\int_{\Gamma_0}$  in Equality (3.2). In a general context, this is an open question. Nevertheless sufficient conditions can be derived and we refer to [3, Appendix B] and [8, Appendix A] for examples.

**Remark 3.9.** Consider the framework of Theorem 3.6 which is dependent of  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$  and let us denote by  $\bar{u}'_0(\mathbf{V}) := \bar{u}'_0$ . One can easily see that

$$\bar{u}'_0(\alpha_1 \mathbf{V}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{V}_2) = \alpha_1 \bar{u}'_0(\mathbf{V}_1) + \alpha_2 \bar{u}'_0(\mathbf{V}_2).$$

for any  $\mathbf{V}_1, \mathbf{V}_2 \in \mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$  and for any nonnegative real numbers  $\alpha_1 \geq 0, \alpha_2 \geq 0$ . However, this is not true for negative real numbers and justify why, in the present work, we call  $\bar{u}'_0$  as material directional derivative (instead of simply material derivative as usually in the literature).

We are now in a position to derive our second main result.

**Theorem 3.10** (Shape directional derivative). *Consider the framework of Theorem 3.6. Then the shape directional derivative, defined by  $u'_0 := \bar{u}'_0 - \nabla u_0 \cdot \mathbf{V} \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$ , is the unique weak solution to the scalar Signorini problem given by*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} -\Delta u'_0 + u'_0 = 0 & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ u'_0 = -\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{D}}^{u_0, g}, \\ \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 = h^s(\mathbf{V}) & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{N}}^{u_0, g}, \\ u'_0 \leq -\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0, \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 \leq h^s(\mathbf{V}) \text{ and } (u'_0 + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0)(\partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 - h^s(\mathbf{V})) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^-}^{u_0, g}, \\ u'_0 \geq -\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0, \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 \geq h^s(\mathbf{V}) \text{ and } (u'_0 + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0)(\partial_{\mathbf{n}} u'_0 - h^s(\mathbf{V})) = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_{\mathbf{S}^+}^{u_0, g}, \end{array} \right.$$

where  $h^s(\mathbf{V}) := \nabla_{\Gamma_0} u_0 \cdot \nabla_{\Gamma_0}(\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n}) - g \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_{\mathbf{n}} u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{V} \in \mathbf{L}^2(\Gamma_0)$ .

*Proof.* From the weak variational formulation of  $\bar{u}'_0$  and using the Green formula (see Proposition 2.10), one can easily obtain that

$$\langle u'_0, v - \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0 - u'_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} \geq \int_{\Gamma_0} (h^m(\mathbf{V}) - \nabla(\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0) \cdot \mathbf{n})(v - \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0 - u'_0),$$

for all  $v \in \mathcal{K}_{u_0, \frac{\partial_{\mathbf{n}}(E_0 - u_0)}{g}}$  (see notation introduced in the proof of Theorem 3.6), which can be rewritten as

$$\langle u'_0, w - u'_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} \geq \int_{\Gamma_0} (h^m(\mathbf{V}) - \nabla(\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0) \cdot \mathbf{n})(w - u'_0),$$

for all  $w \in \mathcal{K}_{u_0, \frac{\partial_{\mathbf{n}}(E_0 - u_0)}{g}} - \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0$ . Now let us introduce  $Z \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  as the unique solution to the variational Neumann problem given by

$$\langle Z, v \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} = \int_{\Gamma_0} (h^m(\mathbf{V}) - \nabla(\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0) \cdot \mathbf{n}) v, \quad \forall v \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0),$$

whose the existence/uniqueness is guaranteed by the Riesz representation theorem. Since  $u_0$  belongs to  $\mathbf{H}^3(\Omega_0)$ , then  $v \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u_0 \in \mathbf{W}^{2,1}(\Omega_0)$  for all  $v \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}_0)$  (see Remark 3.7). Thus, using Propositions 2.12 and 2.13, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Z, v \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} &= \int_{\Gamma_0} \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n} (-\nabla u_0 \cdot \nabla v - u_0 v + f v + H v \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u_0 + \partial_{\mathbf{n}}(v \partial_{\mathbf{n}} u_0)) \\ &\quad - \int_{\Gamma_0} g v \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_{\mathbf{n}} u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{V}, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $v \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\overline{\Omega_0})$ . Then, by using Proposition 2.11, one deduces that

$$\langle Z, v \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} = \int_{\Gamma_0} \left( \nabla_{\Gamma_0} u_0 \cdot \nabla_{\Gamma_0} (\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n}) - g \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{V} \right) v,$$

for all  $v \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\overline{\Omega_0})$ , and also for all  $v \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)$  by density. Thus it follows that

$$\langle u'_0, w - u'_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} \geq \langle Z, w - u'_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} = \int_{\Gamma_0} \left( \nabla_{\Gamma_0} u_0 \cdot \nabla_{\Gamma_0} (\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n}) - g \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{V} \right) (w - u'_0),$$

for all  $w \in \mathcal{K}_{u_0, \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)}{g}} - \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0$ , which concludes the proof from Subsection 2.3.2.  $\square$

### 3.3 Shape gradient of the Tresca energy functional

Thanks to the characterizations of the material and shape directional derivatives obtained in Theorems 3.6 and 3.10, we are now in a position to prove the main result of the present paper.

**Theorem 3.11.** *Consider the framework of Theorem 3.6 and  $d \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ . Then the Tresca energy functional  $\mathcal{J}$  admits a shape gradient at  $\Omega_0$  in the direction  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$  given by*

$$\mathcal{J}'(\Omega_0)(\mathbf{V}) = \int_{\Gamma_0} \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n} \left( \frac{\|\nabla u_0\|^2 + |u_0|^2}{2} - f u_0 + H g |u_0| - \partial_n (u_0 \partial_n u_0) + g u_0 \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{n} \right),$$

where  $H$  is the mean curvature of  $\Gamma_0$ .

*Proof.* By following the usual strategy developed in the shape optimization literature (see, e.g., [5, 17]) to compute the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$  at  $\Omega_0$  in the direction  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$ , one gets

$$\mathcal{J}'(\Omega_0)(\mathbf{V}) = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega_0} \left( \|\nabla u_0\|^2 + |u_0|^2 \right) \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V}) + \int_{\Omega_0} \nabla u_0 \cdot \nabla \mathbf{V} \nabla u_0 + \langle \bar{u}'_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)}.$$

On the other hand, since  $\bar{u}'_0 \pm u_0 \in \mathcal{K}_{u_0, \frac{\partial_n(E_0 - u_0)}{g}}$  (see notation introduced in the proof of Theorem 3.6), we deduce from the weak variational formulation of  $\bar{u}'_0$  that

$$\langle \bar{u}'_0, u_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega_0)} = \int_{\Omega_0} -\Delta (\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0) u_0 + \int_{\Omega_0} u_0 \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla u_0 + \int_{\Gamma_0} u_0 h^m(\mathbf{V}).$$

Therefore, using the above equality, Proposition 2.12 with  $v = u_0 \partial_n u_0 \in \mathbf{W}^{2,1}(\Omega_0)$  (see Remark 3.7) and Proposition 2.13, one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}'(\Omega_0)(\mathbf{V}) = \int_{\Gamma_0} \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n} \left( \frac{\|\nabla u_0\|^2 + |u_0|^2}{2} - f u_0 - H u_0 \partial_n u_0 - \partial_n (u_0 \partial_n u_0) \right) \\ + \int_{\Gamma_0} g u_0 \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{V}. \end{aligned}$$

From the scalar Tresca friction law, one has  $H u_0 \partial_n u_0 = -H g |u_0|$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_0$ . Now let us focus on the last term. Since  $u_0 = 0$  on  $\Gamma_D^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_{S^-}^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_{S^+}^{u_0, g}$ , we have

$$\int_{\Gamma_0} g u_0 \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{V} = \int_{\Gamma_N^{u_0, g}} g u_0 \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{V}.$$

Let us introduce two disjoint subsets of  $\Gamma_0$  given by

$$\Gamma_{N+}^{u_0, g} := \{s \in \Gamma_0 \mid u_0(s) > 0\} \quad \text{and} \quad \Gamma_{N-}^{u_0, g} := \{s \in \Gamma_0 \mid u_0(s) < 0\}.$$

Hence it follows that  $\Gamma_N^{u_0, g} = \Gamma_{N+}^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_{N-}^{u_0, g}$ , with  $\partial_n u_0 = -g$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_{N+}^{u_0, g}$ , and  $\partial_n u_0 = g$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_{N-}^{u_0, g}$ . Moreover, since  $u_0 \in H^3(\Omega)$  and  $d \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ , we get from Sobolev embeddings (see, e.g., [1, Chapter 4, p.79]) that  $u_0$  is continuous over  $\Gamma_0$ , thus  $\Gamma_{N+}^{u_0, g}$  and  $\Gamma_{N-}^{u_0, g}$  are open subsets of  $\Gamma_0$ . Hence  $\nabla_{\Gamma_0} \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) = 0$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_{N+}^{u_0, g} \cup \Gamma_{N-}^{u_0, g}$ , and one deduces that

$$\int_{\Gamma_{N+}^{u_0, g}} g u_0 \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{V} = \int_{\Gamma_{N-}^{u_0, g}} \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n} \left( g u_0 \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{n} \right),$$

which concludes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 3.12.** Consider the framework of Theorem 3.6. We have seen in Remark 3.9 that the expression of the material directional derivative  $\bar{u}'_0$  is not linear with respect to  $\mathbf{V}$ . However, one can notice that the scalar product  $\langle \bar{u}'_0, u_0 \rangle_{H^1(\Omega_0)}$  is. This leads to an expression of the shape gradient  $\mathcal{J}'(\Omega_0)(\mathbf{V})$  in Theorem 3.11 that is also linear with respect to  $\mathbf{V}$ . Hence, we deduce that the Tresca energy functional  $\mathcal{J}$  is shape differentiable at  $\Omega_0$ . Furthermore, this linearity will allow us in the next Section 4 to exhibit a descent direction for numerical simulations in order to solve the shape optimization problem (1.1) on a two-dimensional example. It is worth noting that the previous comments are specific to the Tresca energy functional  $\mathcal{J}$ . Indeed, note that the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$  depends only on  $u_0$  (and not on  $u'_0$ ) and therefore does not require the introduction of an appropriate adjoint problem to be computed explicitly with respect to the direction  $\mathbf{V}$ . Recall that this issue is crucial from a numerical point of view in shape optimization (see, e.g., [5, 17, 30]). For other cost functionals (like the least-square functional), due to nonlinearities arising in the shape gradients, several difficulties may be encountered to define correctly an adjoint problem. As far as we know, this challenge is open and constitutes an interesting perspective for further research works.

**Remark 3.13.** Let us recall that the standard Neumann energy functional is

$$\mathcal{J}_N(\Omega) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left( \|\nabla w_{N, \Omega}\|^2 + |w_{N, \Omega}|^2 \right) + \int_{\Gamma} g w_{N, \Omega} - \int_{\Omega} f w_{N, \Omega},$$

for all  $\Omega \in \mathcal{U}$ , where  $w_{N, \Omega} \in H^1(\Omega)$  is the unique solution to the standard Neumann problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta w_{N, \Omega} + w_{N, \Omega} = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \partial_n w_{N, \Omega} = -g & \text{on } \Gamma. \end{cases} \quad (\text{SNP}_{\Omega})$$

One can prove (see, e.g., [5, 17]) that the shape gradient of the Neumann energy functional  $\mathcal{J}_N$  at  $\Omega_0 \in \mathcal{U}$  in the direction  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{C}^{3, \infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$  is given by

$$\mathcal{J}'_N(\Omega_0)(\mathbf{V}) = \int_{\Gamma_0} \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n} \left( \frac{\|\nabla w_{N, \Omega_0}\|^2 + |w_{N, \Omega_0}|^2}{2} - f w_{N, \Omega_0} + H g w_{N, \Omega_0} + \partial_n (g w_{N, \Omega_0}) \right).$$

Thus the shape gradient of the Tresca energy functional  $\mathcal{J}$  obtained in Theorem 3.11 is close to the one of  $\mathcal{J}_N$  with the additional term

$$\int_{\Gamma_0} g u_0 \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{V}.$$

Note that, if  $\partial_n u_0 = -g$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_0$ , then it coincides.

**Remark 3.14.** Let us recall that the standard Dirichlet energy functional is

$$\mathcal{J}_D(\Omega) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left( \|\nabla w_{D,\Omega}\|^2 + |w_{D,\Omega}|^2 \right) - \int_{\Omega} f w_{D,\Omega},$$

for all  $\Omega \in \mathcal{U}$ , where  $w_{D,\Omega} \in H^1(\Omega)$  is the unique solution to the Dirichlet problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta w_{D,\Omega} + w_{D,\Omega} = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ w_{D,\Omega} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma. \end{cases} \quad (\text{DP}_{\Omega})$$

One can prove (see, e.g., [5, 17]) that the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}_D$  at  $\Omega_0 \in \mathcal{U}$  in the direction  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d)$  is given by

$$\mathcal{J}'_D(\Omega_0)(\mathbf{V}) = - \int_{\Gamma_0} \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n} \left( \frac{\|\nabla w_{D,\Omega_0}\|^2 + |w_{D,\Omega_0}|^2}{2} \right).$$

Note that, if  $u_0 = 0$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_0$ , then  $\nabla_{\Gamma_0} u_0 = 0$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_0$ , thus  $(\partial_n u_0)^2 = \|\nabla u_0\|^2$  a.e. on  $\Gamma_0$  and thus the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$  obtained in Theorem 3.11 coincides with the one of  $\mathcal{J}_D$ .

## 4 Numerical simulations

In this section, we numerically solve an example of the shape optimization problem (1.1) in the two-dimensional case  $d = 2$ , by making use of our main theoretical result (Theorem 3.11).

### 4.1 Numerical methodology

Consider an initial shape  $\Omega_0 \in \mathcal{U}$ . Note that Theorem 3.11 allows to exhibit a descent direction  $\mathbf{V}_0$  of the Tresca energy functional  $\mathcal{J}$  at  $\Omega_0$  as the unique solution to the Neumann problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \mathbf{V}_0 + \mathbf{V}_0 = 0 & \text{in } \Omega_0, \\ \nabla \mathbf{V}_0 \mathbf{n} = - \left( \frac{\|\nabla u_0\|^2 + |u_0|^2}{2} - f u_0 + H g |u_0| - \partial_n (u_0 \partial_n u_0) + g u_0 \nabla \left( \frac{\partial_n u_0}{g} \right) \cdot \mathbf{n} \right) \mathbf{n} & \text{on } \Gamma_0, \end{cases}$$

since it satisfies  $\mathcal{J}'(\Omega_0)(\mathbf{V}_0) = - \|\mathbf{V}_0\|_{H^1(\Omega_0)^d}^2 \leq 0$ .

In order to numerically solve the shape optimization problem (1.1) on a given example, we also have to deal with the volume constraint  $|\Omega| = \lambda > 0$ . To this aim, the Uzawa algorithm (see, e.g., [5, Chapter 3 p.64]) is used. In a nutshell it consists in augmenting the Tresca energy functional  $\mathcal{J}$  by adding an initial Lagrange multiplier  $p_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  multiplied by the standard volume functional minus  $\lambda$ . From [5, Chapter 6, Section 6.5], we know that the shape gradient of the volume functional at  $\Omega_0$  is given by

$$\mathbf{V} \in \mathcal{C}^{3,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R}^d) \mapsto \int_{\Gamma_0} \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R},$$

and thus one can easily obtain a descent direction  $\mathbf{V}_0(p_0)$  of the *augmented* Tresca energy functional at  $\Omega_0$  by adding  $p_0 \mathbf{n}$  in the Neumann boundary condition of  $\mathbf{V}_0$ . This descent direction leads to a new shape  $\Omega_1 := (\mathbf{id} + \tau \mathbf{V}_0(p_0))(\Omega_0)$ , where  $\tau > 0$  is a fixed parameter. Finally the Lagrange multiplier is updated as follows

$$p_1 := p_0 + \mu (|\Omega_1| - \lambda),$$

where  $\mu > 0$  is a fixed parameter, and the algorithm restarts with  $\Omega_1$  and  $p_1$ , and so on.

Let us mention that the scalar Tresca friction problem is numerically solved using an adaptation of iterative switching algorithms (see [4]). This algorithm operates by checking at each iteration if the Tresca boundary conditions are satisfied and, if they are not, by imposing them and restarting the computation (see [3, Appendix C p.25] for detailed explanations). We also precise that, for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , the difference between the Tresca energy functional  $\mathcal{J}$  at the iteration  $20 \times i$  and at the iteration  $20 \times (i - 1)$  is computed. The smallness of this difference is used as a stopping criterion for the algorithm.

## 4.2 Two-dimensional example and numerical results

In this subsection, take  $d = 2$  and  $f \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  be given by

$$\begin{aligned} f : \quad \mathbb{R}^2 &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto f(x, y) = \frac{5 - x^2 - y^2 + xy}{4} \eta(x, y), \end{aligned}$$

and, for a given parameter  $\beta > 0$ , let  $g_\beta \in H^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$  be given by

$$\begin{aligned} g_\beta : \quad \mathbb{R}^2 &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto g(x, y) = \beta \left( 1 + \frac{(\sin x)^2}{0.8} \right) \eta(x, y), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\eta \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$  is a cut-off function chosen appropriately so that  $f$  and  $g$  satisfy the assumptions of the present paper. The volume constraint considered is  $\lambda = \pi$  and the initial shape  $\Omega_0 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  is an ellipse centered at  $(0, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , with semi-major axis  $a = 1.3$  and semi-minor axis  $b = 1/a$ .

In what follows, we present the numerical results obtained for this two-dimensional example using the methodology described in Subsection 4.1, and for different values of  $\beta$ :

- Figure 1 shows on the left the shape which solves Problem (1.1) for  $\beta = 0.49$ , and on the right the one when the Tresca problem and its energy functional are replaced by Dirichlet ones (see Remark 3.14). We observe that both shapes are very close. Indeed, with  $\beta \geq 0.49$ , one can check numerically that the solution  $w_{D,\Omega}$  to the Dirichlet problem  $(DP_\Omega)$  satisfies  $|\partial_n w_{D,\Omega}| < g_\beta$  on  $\Gamma$ , and thus is also the solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem  $(TP_\Omega)$ . One deduces from Remark 3.14 that the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$  and the one of  $\mathcal{J}_D$  coincide. Therefore, since the shape minimizing the Dirichlet energy functional  $\mathcal{J}_D$  under the volume constraint  $\lambda = \pi$  is a critical shape of the *augmented* Dirichlet energy functional, it is also a critical shape of the *augmented* Tresca energy functional.
- Figure 2 shows the shapes which solve Problem (1.1) for  $\beta = 0.46, 0.43, 0.37, 0.31$ . The shapes are different from the one obtained on the left of Figure 1. In that context, note that the normal derivative of the solution  $u$  to the scalar Tresca friction problem  $(TP_\Omega)$  reaches the friction threshold  $g_\beta$  on some parts of the boundary.
- Figure 3 shows on the left the shapes which solve Problem (1.1) for  $\beta = 0.28, 0.1, 0.01$ . Here the normal derivative of the solution  $u$  to the scalar Tresca friction problem  $(TP_\Omega)$  reaches the friction threshold  $g_\beta$  on the entire boundary. Moreover we can notice that these shapes are very close to the ones (presented on the right of Figure 3) that minimize  $\mathcal{J}_N$  with  $g = g_\beta$  (see Remark 3.13) under the same volume constraint  $\lambda = \pi$ . Indeed, for these values of  $\beta$ , one can check numerically that the solution  $w_{N,\Omega}$  to the Neumann problem  $(SNP_\Omega)$  with  $g = g_\beta$  satisfies  $w_{N,\Omega} > 0$  on  $\Gamma$ , and thus is also the solution to the scalar Tresca friction problem  $(TP_\Omega)$ . One deduces from Remark 3.13 that the shape gradient of  $\mathcal{J}$  and the one

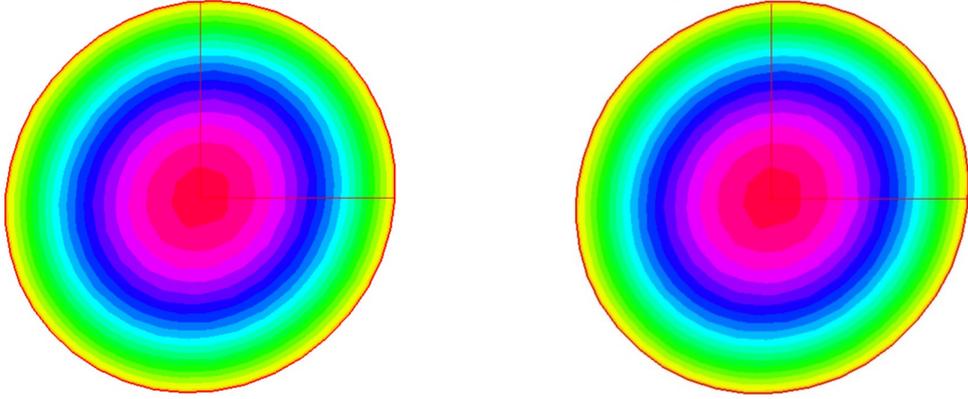


Figure 1: Shapes minimizing  $\mathcal{J}$  (left) and  $\mathcal{J}_D$  (right), under the volume constraint  $\lambda = \pi$ , and with  $\beta = 0.49$ .

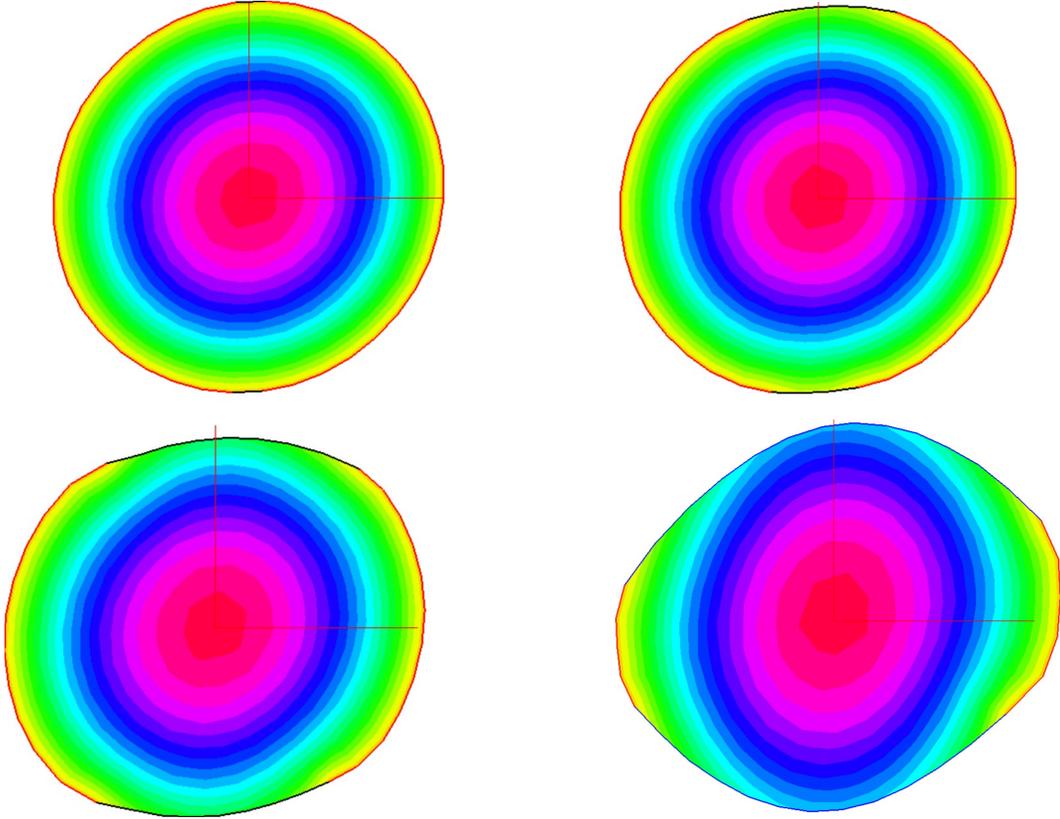


Figure 2: Shapes minimizing  $\mathcal{J}$  under the volume constraint  $\lambda = \pi$ . From top-left to bottom-right,  $\beta = 0.46, 0.43, 0.37, 0.31$ . The red boundary shows where  $u = 0$  and the black/blue boundary shows where  $|\partial_n u| = g_\beta$ .

of  $\mathcal{J}_N$  coincide. Therefore, since the shape minimizing the Neumann energy functional  $\mathcal{J}_N$

under the volume constraint  $\lambda = \pi$  is a critical shape of the *augmented* Neumann energy functional, it is also a critical shape of the *augmented* Tresca energy functional.

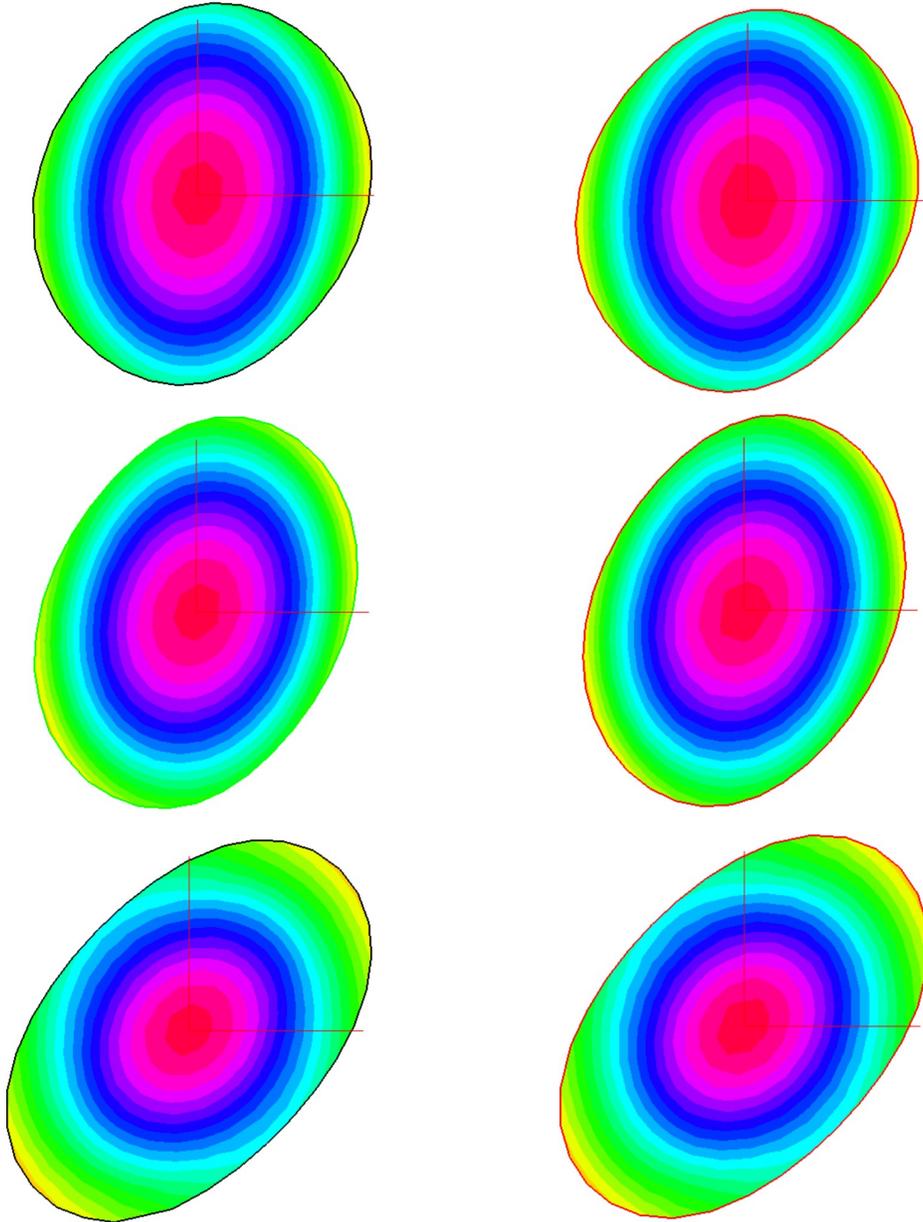


Figure 3: Shapes minimizing  $\mathcal{J}$  (left) and  $\mathcal{J}_D$  (right), under the volume constraint  $\lambda = \pi$ . From top to bottom,  $\beta = 0.28, 0.1, 0.01$ .

For more details and an animated illustration, we would like to suggest to the reader to watch the video [https://youtu.be/\\_MufZx3zsew](https://youtu.be/_MufZx3zsew) presenting all numerical results we obtained for different values of  $\beta$  from 0.7 to 0.01.

To conclude this paper, we would like to bring to the attention of the reader that, in the above numerical simulations, it seems that there is a kind of transition from optimal shapes associated with the Neumann energy functional to optimal shapes associated with the Dirichlet energy functional. This transition is carried out by optimal shapes associated with the Tresca energy functional, continuously with respect to the friction threshold (precisely with respect to the parameter  $\beta$ ). However, we do not have a proof of such a highly nontrivial result. This may constitute an interesting topic for future investigations.

## References

- [1] R. Adams and J. Fournier. *Sobolev Spaces*, volume 140 of *Pure and Applied Mathematics*. Elsevier, 2003.
- [2] S. Adly and L. Bourdin. Sensitivity analysis of variational inequalities via twice epi-differentiability and proto-differentiability of the proximity operator. *SIAM Journal on Optimization*, 28(2):1699–1725, 2018.
- [3] S. Adly, L. Bourdin, and F. Caubet. Sensitivity analysis of a Tresca-type problem leads to Signorini’s conditions. *ESAIM: COCV*, 2022 to appear.
- [4] J. M. Aitchison and M. W. Poole. A numerical algorithm for the solution of Signorini problems. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.*, 94(1):55–67, 1998.
- [5] G. Allaire. *Conception optimale de structures*. Mathématiques et Applications. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 2007.
- [6] G. Allaire, F. Jouve, and A. Maury. Shape optimisation with the level set method for contact problems in linearised elasticity. *The SMAI journal of computational mathematics*, 3:249–292, 2017.
- [7] P. Beremlijski, J. Haslinger, M. Kočvara, R. Kučera, and J. V. Outrata. Shape optimization in three-dimensional contact problems with Coulomb friction. *SIAM J. Optim.*, 20(1):416–444, 2009.
- [8] L. Bourdin, F. Caubet, and A. Jacob de Cordemoy. Sensitivity analysis of a scalar mechanical contact problem with perturbation of the Tresca’s friction law. *J Optim Theory Appl*, 192:856–890, 2022.
- [9] H. Brezis. *Opérateurs maximaux monotones et semi-groupes de contractions dans les espaces de Hilbert*, volume 5 of *North-Holland Mathematics Studies, No. 5. Notas de Matemática (50)*. North-Holland Publishing Co., Amsterdam, 1973.
- [10] R. Dautray and J.-L. Lions. *Mathematical Analysis and Numerical Methods for Science and Technology: Volume 2: Functional and Variational Methods*. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 2000.
- [11] C. N. Do. Generalized second-order derivatives of convex functions in reflexive banach spaces. *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society*, 334(1):281–301, 1992.
- [12] P. Fulmański, A. Laurain, J.-F. Scheid, and J. Sokołowski. A level set method in shape and topology optimization for variational inequalities. *Int. J. Appl. Math. Comput. Sci.*, 17(3):413–430, 2007.

- [13] V. Girault and P.-A. Raviart. *Finite Element Methods for Navier-Stokes Equations*, volume 5 of *Springer Series in Computational Mathematics*. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 1986.
- [14] R. Glowinski, J.-L. Lions, and R. Trémoilières. *Numerical Analysis of Variational Inequalities*, volume 8 of *Studies in Mathematics and Its Applications*. North-Holland, Amsterdam, 1981.
- [15] J. Haslinger and A. Klarbring. Shape optimization in unilateral contact problems using generalized reciprocal energy as objective functional. *Nonlinear Anal.*, 21(11):815–834, 1993.
- [16] J. Haslinger and R. A. E. Mäkinen. *Introduction to shape optimization*, volume 7 of *Advances in Design and Control*. Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM), Philadelphia, PA, 2003.
- [17] A. Henrot and M. Pierre. *Shape Variation and Optimization : a Geometrical Analysis*. Tracts in Mathematics Vol. 28. European Mathematical Society, 2018.
- [18] F. Kuss. *Méthodes duales pour les problèmes de contact avec frottement*. Thèse, Université de Provence - Aix-Marseille I, July 2008.
- [19] J.-L. Lions. Sur les problèmes unilatéraux. In *Séminaire Bourbaki : vol. 1968/69, exposés 347-363*, number 11 in Séminaire Bourbaki. Springer-Verlag, 1971.
- [20] V. P. Mikhaïlov. *Partial differential equations*. “Mir”, Moscow; distributed by Imported Publications, Inc., Chicago, Ill., 1978. Translated from the Russian by P. C. Sinha.
- [21] G. J. Minty. Monotone (nonlinear) operators in Hilbert space. *Duke Mathematical Journal*, 29(3):341–346, 1962.
- [22] J. J. Moreau. Proximité et dualité dans un espace hilbertien. *Bulletin de la Société Mathématique de France*, 93:273–299, 1965.
- [23] R. T. Rockafellar. On the maximal monotonicity of subdifferential mappings. *Pacific Journal of Mathematics*, 33(1):209 – 216, 1970.
- [24] R. T. Rockafellar. Maximal monotone relations and the second derivatives of nonsmooth functions. *Ann. Inst. H. Poincaré Anal. Non Linéaire*, 2(3):167–184, 1985.
- [25] R. T. Rockafellar and R. J.-B. Wets. *Variational Analysis*, volume 317 of *Grundlehren der mathematischen Wissenschaften*. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 1998.
- [26] N. Saito. Regularity of solutions to some variational inequalities for the Stokes equations. Number 1181, pages 182–193. 2001. Variational problems and related topics (Japanese) (Kyoto, 2000).
- [27] N. Saito and H. Fujita. Regularity of solutions to the Stokes equations under a certain nonlinear boundary condition. In *The Navier-Stokes equations: theory and numerical methods (Varenna, 2000)*, volume 223 of *Lecture Notes in Pure and Appl. Math.*, pages 73–86. Dekker, New York, 2002.
- [28] A. Signorini. Sopra alcune questioni di statica dei sistemi continui. *Annali della Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa - Classe di Scienze*, Ser. 2, 2(2):231–251, 1933.
- [29] A. Signorini. Questioni di elasticità non linearizzata e semilinearizzata. *Rend. Mat. Appl.*, V. Ser., 18:95–139, 1959.
- [30] J. Sokolowski and J.-P. Zolésio. *Introduction to shape optimization*, volume 16 of *Springer Series in Computational Mathematics*. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1992.