

# Linear equations for stellarator local MHD equilibria around irrational & rational flux surfaces

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# Problems with stellarator MHD equilibria

- Stellarator rational flux surfaces pose a fundamental problem
  - Perpendicular current given by force balance

$$\mathbf{J}_{\perp} = \frac{c}{B^2} \mathbf{B} \times \nabla P$$

– Recall pressure is a flux function:  $P = P(\rho)$

- Part of the parallel current is given by conservation of current

$$\nabla \cdot \left( \frac{J_{\parallel} \mathbf{B}}{B} \right) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}_{\perp} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{J_{\parallel}}{B} \right) = -\frac{2cP'}{B^3} (\mathbf{B} \times \nabla B) \cdot \nabla \rho$$

- On a rational flux surface, we can eliminate the term with  $J_{\parallel}$

$$\oint \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{J_{\parallel}}{B} \right) \frac{dl}{B} = 0 \Rightarrow P' \oint \frac{dl}{B^4} (\mathbf{B} \times \nabla B) \cdot \nabla \rho = 0$$

- This condition need not be satisfied when  $P' \neq 0$ : charge accumulates in some magnetic field lines!

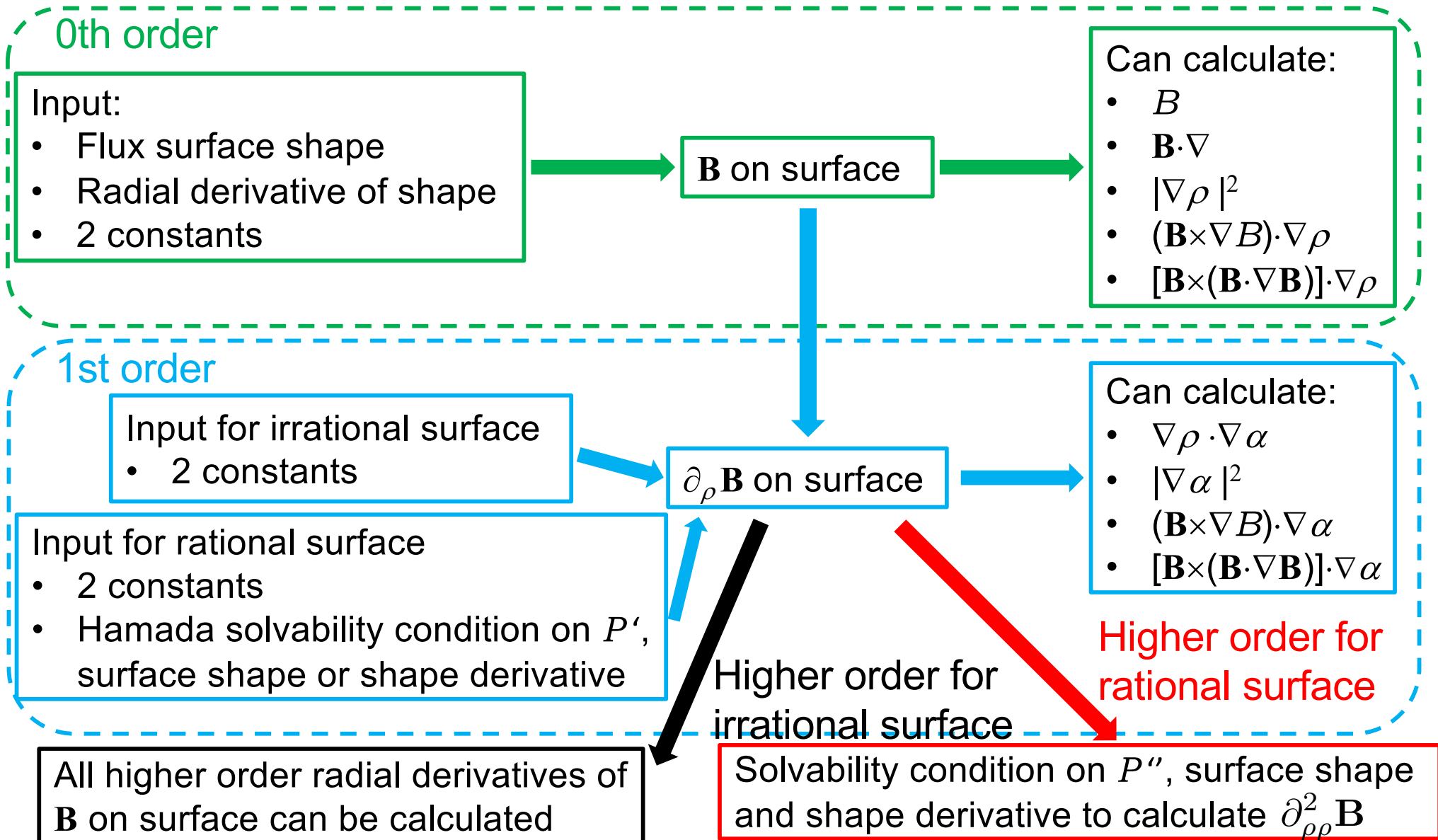
# Local MHD equilibria for stellarators

- Local MHD equilibrium equations can be used to calculate, with low computational cost, the effect on the magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}$  of changes in the rotational transform  $\iota$ , the pressure gradient  $P'$ , the shape of the flux surface...
  - Widely used for gyrokinetic simulations of tokamak turbulence [Miller et al PoP 95]
- Local MHD equilibrium equations provide understanding of global MHD equilibria with flux surfaces
- For stellarators, there exist two sets of nonlinear local MHD equilibrium equations: [Hegna PoP 00] and [Candy & Belli JPP 15]

# Purpose of the work

- To derive linear equations for stellarator local MHD equilibria
  - Based on [Boozer PoP 02]
- To use local MHD equilibria equations to obtain geometric coefficients for drift kinetic and gyrokinetic equations
  - Inputs
    - Flux surface shape
    - Shape of contiguous flux surfaces
    - 4 constants = values and values of derivatives of flux functions at flux surface of interest
- To show that the coefficients are independent of the choice of coordinates to describe the flux surface
- To determine the conditions necessary to be able to solve the local MHD equilibrium equations on a rational flux surface

# Sketch of the calculation



# Calculating $\mathbf{B}$ on surface $\rho = \rho_a$

- Inputs

- Flux surface shape  $\mathbf{x}_a(u, v)$

- $u$  = poloidal angle and  $v$  = toroidal angle, but can be generalized

- Radial derivative of flux surface shape

- Only projection on normal to flux surface matters:

$$\partial_\rho \mathbf{x}(\rho_a, u, v) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

- Giving shape derivative equivalent to giving Jacobian of  $(\rho, u, v)$  transformation

$$\mathcal{J} := \partial_\rho \mathbf{x} \cdot (\partial_u \mathbf{x} \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}) = |\partial_u \mathbf{x} \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}| \partial_\rho \mathbf{x} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

- Two constants, e.g. magnetic field strength  $\Psi_t'(\rho_a)$  and  $l(\rho_a)$

- $2\pi\Psi_t(\rho)$  = toroidal flux within flux surface  $\rho$

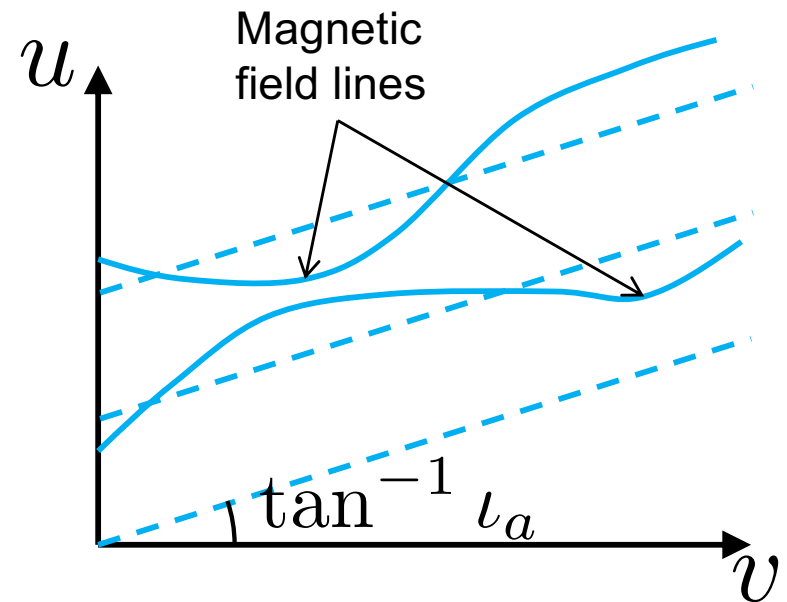
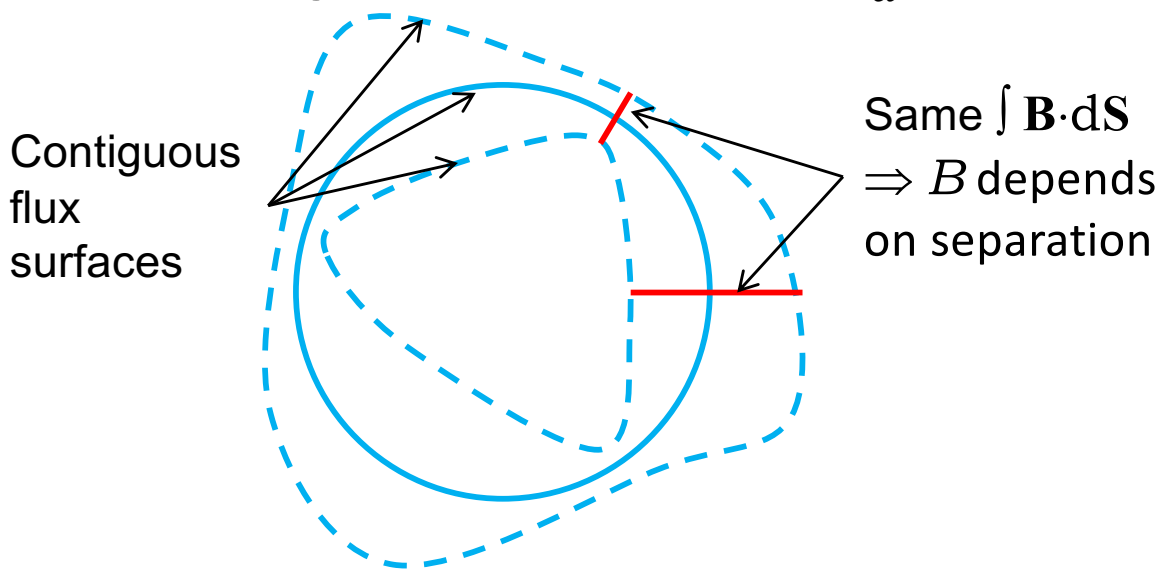
- [Boozer PoP 02] shows how to solve for  $\mathbf{B}$  in both contravariant and covariant form on  $\rho = \rho_a$

# Contravariant $\mathbf{B}$ on surface $\rho = \rho_a$

- Form of  $\mathbf{B}$  satisfies  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$

$$\mathbf{B}_a = \frac{\Psi'_t(\rho_a)}{\mathcal{J}_a} [(1 + \partial_u \nu_a) \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a + (\iota(\rho_a) - \partial_v \nu_a) \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a]$$

- $\nu_a(u, v)$  is an unknown function that determines direction of  $\mathbf{B}$
- Magnitude  $B =$  overall constant  $\Psi'_t(\rho_a)$  + separation between contiguous flux surfaces  $\mathcal{J}_a$



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- Impose zero radial current density:  $\mathbf{J} \cdot \nabla \rho = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{pmatrix} \partial_u & \partial_v \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\mathcal{J}_a} \begin{pmatrix} |\partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2 & -\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \cdot \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a \\ -\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \cdot \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a & |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a|^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \partial_u \\ \partial_v \end{pmatrix} \nu_a \\ &= -\partial_u \left( \frac{|\partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2 + \iota(\rho_a) \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \cdot \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a}{\mathcal{J}_a} \right) + \partial_v \left( \frac{\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \cdot \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a + \iota(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a|^2}{\mathcal{J}_a} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- Linear elliptic partial differential equations solvable with periodic boundary conditions



# First set of geometric coefficients

- Knowing  $\mathbf{B}$  on a flux surface, one can calculate
  - $B$ , needed to calculate trapping, velocity-space volume, etc
  - $\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla v$  = projection of parallel motion in relevant coordinates
  - $|\nabla \rho|^2$  = inverse of flux surface separation
  - $(\mathbf{B} \times \nabla B) \cdot \nabla \rho$  and  $[\mathbf{B} \times (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{B})] \cdot \nabla \rho$  = projection of magnetic drifts in the radial direction
- These coefficients can be explicitly shown to be independent of choice of  $u$  and  $v$  if  $\mathcal{J}_a$  is rescaled appropriately

$$\tilde{u}(u, v), \tilde{v}(u, v) \Rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{J}}_a = \frac{\mathcal{J}_a}{\partial_u \tilde{u} \partial_v \tilde{v} - \partial_v \tilde{u} \partial_u \tilde{v}}$$

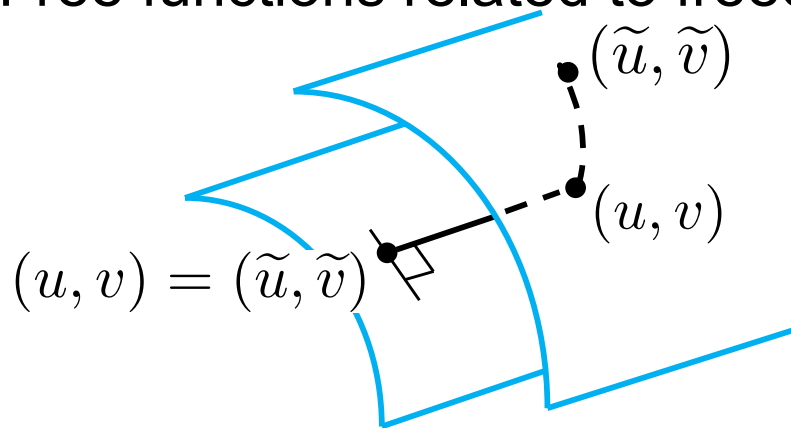
- Still need coefficients related to  $\mathbf{k}_\perp = k_\rho \nabla \rho + k_\alpha \nabla \alpha$   
 $\alpha := u - \iota(\rho)v + \nu(\rho, u, v) \Rightarrow \nabla \alpha = \nabla \rho [\partial_\rho \nu(\rho, u, v) - \iota'(\rho)v] + \dots$

# $\partial_\rho \mathbf{B}$ and $\partial_\rho \mathcal{J}$ on surface $\rho = \rho_a$

- [Boozer PoP 02] only calculates  $\partial_\rho \mathbf{B}$  (in covariant form), but  $\partial_\rho \mathcal{J}$  is needed as well for geometric coefficients
- Input: two other constants, e.g. pressure gradient  $P'(\rho_a)$  and magnetic shear  $\iota'(\rho_a)$
- Need all components of  $\partial_\rho \mathbf{x}_a$ : two free functions  $A^u$  and  $A^v$

$$\partial_\rho \mathbf{x}(\rho_a, u, v) = \frac{\mathcal{J}_a \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a}{|\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|} + A^u(u, v) \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a + A^v(u, v) \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a$$

- Free functions related to freedom of choice of coordinates  $u$  and  $v$



$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}(\rho_a + \Delta\rho, \tilde{u}, \tilde{v}) &= \mathbf{x}(\rho_a + \Delta\rho, u, v) \\ &+ \Delta\rho (A^u \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a + A^v \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a) \end{aligned}$$

## $\partial_\rho \mathbf{B}$ and $\partial_\rho \mathcal{J}$ on surface $\rho = \rho_a$

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$$\partial_\rho \mathbf{x}(\rho_a, u, v) = \frac{\mathcal{J}_a \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a}{|\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|} + A^u(u, v) \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a + A^v(u, v) \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a$$

- Free functions related to freedom of choice of coordinates  $u$  and  $v$
- Can make results independent of  $A^u$  and  $A^v$  using

$$\mathbf{B}'_a := \left. \frac{\nabla \rho \cdot \nabla \mathbf{B}}{|\nabla \rho|^2} \right|_{\rho=\rho_a} = \partial_\rho \mathbf{B}(\rho_a, u, v) - A^u(u, v) \partial_u \mathbf{B}_a - A^v(u, v) \partial_v \mathbf{B}_a$$

and other similar definitions for radial derivatives of  $\mathcal{J}$ ,  $\nu \dots$

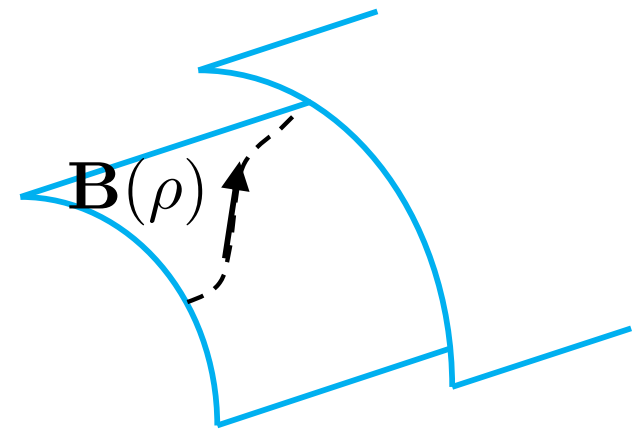
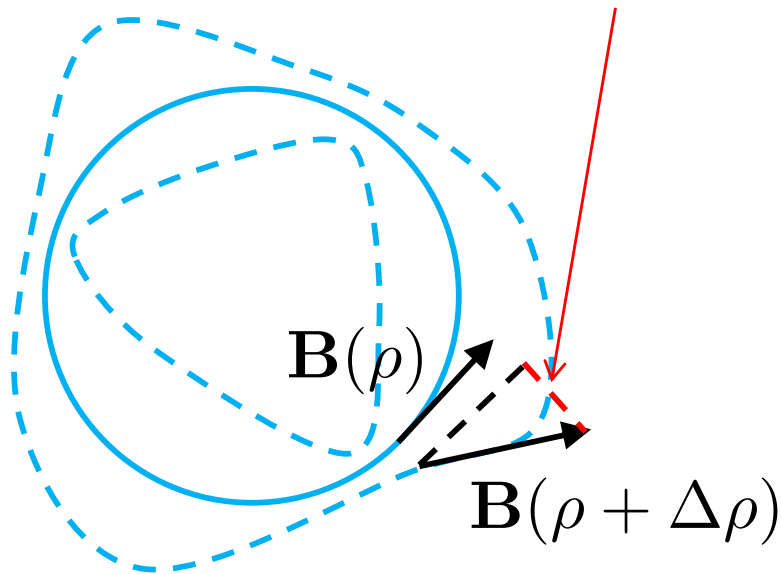
# Contravariant formulation for $\partial_\rho \mathbf{B}$

- Contravariant form of  $\partial_\rho \mathbf{B}$

$$\mathbf{B}'_a = \frac{\Psi'_t(\rho_a)}{\mathcal{J}_a} [\partial_u \nu'_a \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a + (\iota'(\rho_a) - \partial_v \nu'_a) \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a] + \left( \frac{\Psi''_t(\rho_a)}{\Psi'_t(\rho_a)} - \frac{\mathcal{J}'_a}{\mathcal{J}_a} \right) \mathbf{B}_a$$

$$+ \mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S \left( \frac{\mathcal{J}_a}{|\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a \right)$$

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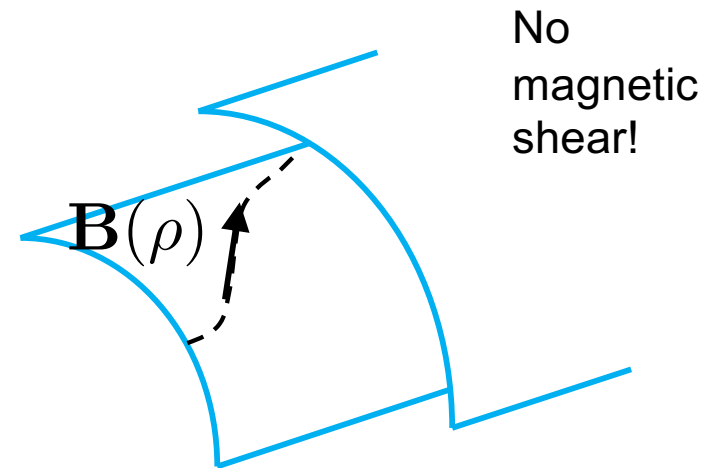
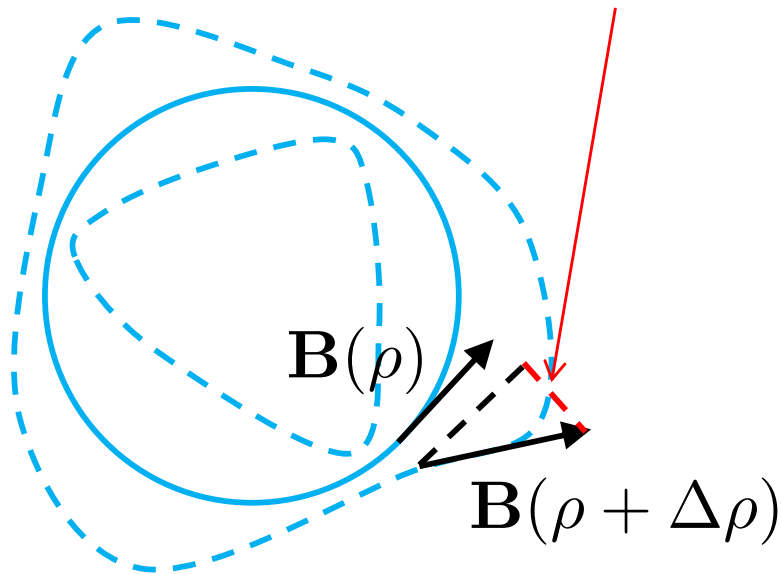
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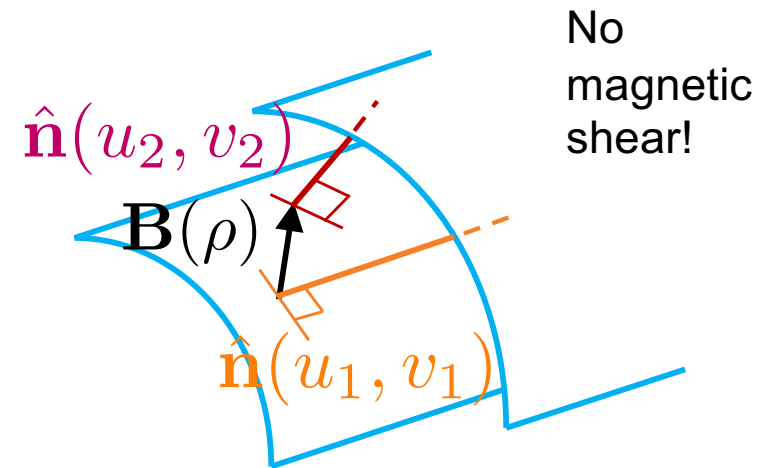
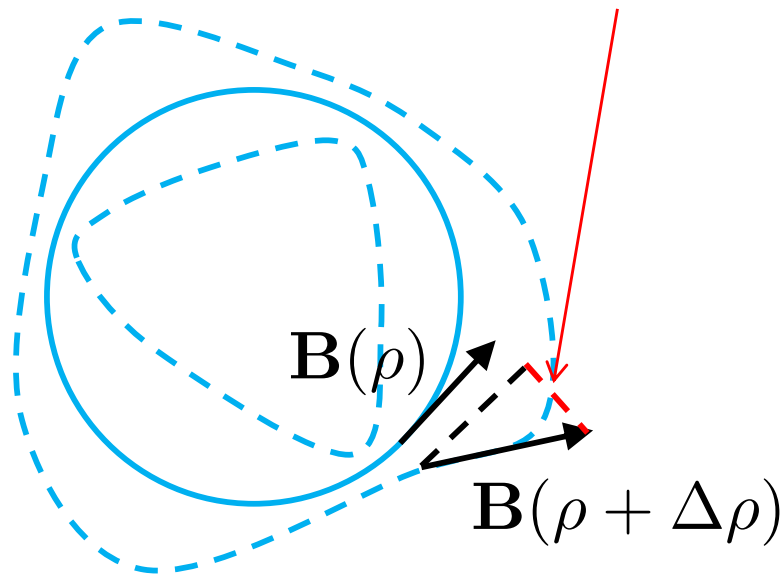
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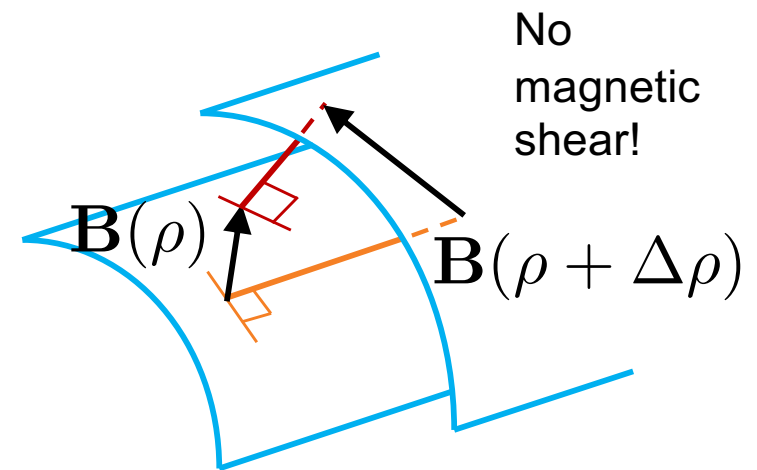
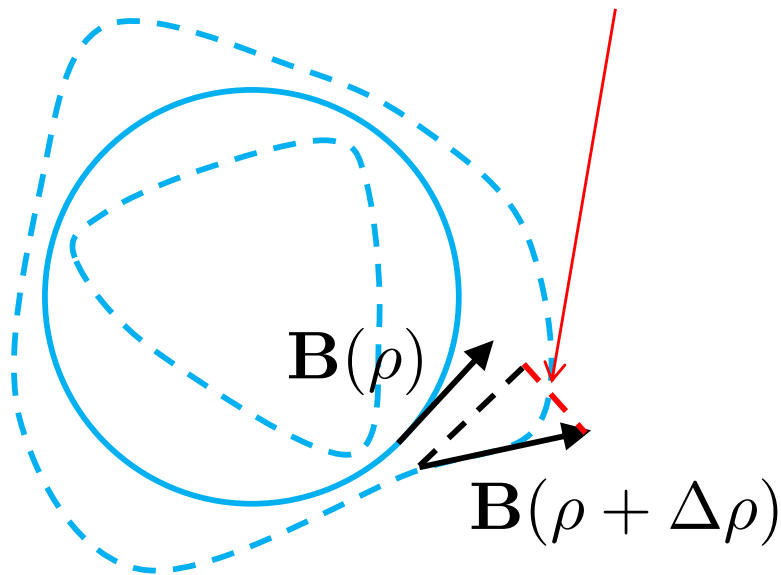
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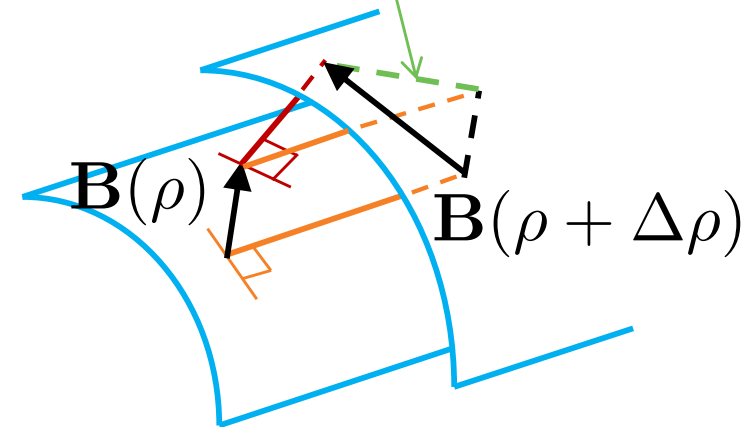
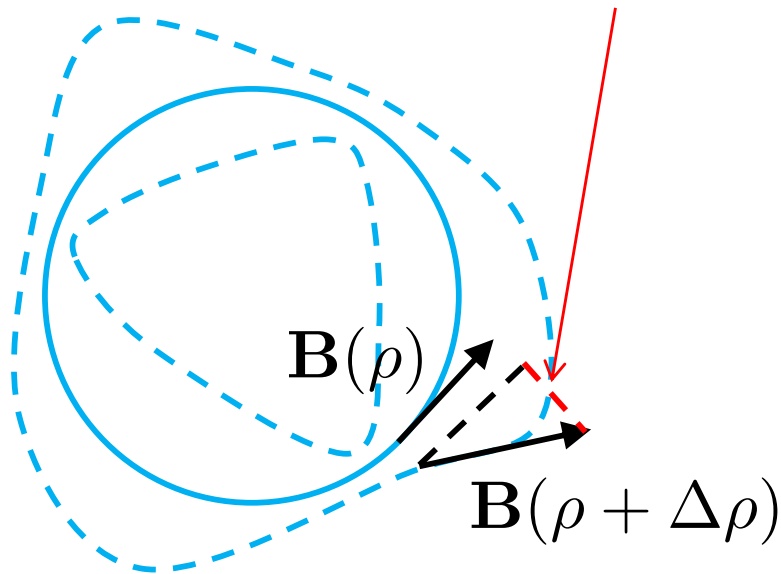
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- Solve for all unknowns using MHD equilibrium equations
  - Solve for  $\mathcal{J}'_a$  using radial force balance

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{B^2}{8\pi} + P \right) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{B} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

- Solve for  $\nu'_a$  using Ampere's law assuming  $J_\parallel$  is known
- Solve for  $J_\parallel$  using current conservation

$$\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{J_\parallel}{B} \right) + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{c}{B^2} \mathbf{B} \times \nabla P \right) = 0$$

# Equations for $\partial_\rho \mathbf{B}$ and $\partial_\rho \mathcal{J}$

- Two equations to be integrated along magnetic field lines

- Radial force balance

$$\frac{\Psi_t''(\rho_a)}{\Psi_t'(\rho_a)} - \frac{\mathcal{J}'_a}{\mathcal{J}_a} = \frac{2\mathcal{J}_a \mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S \mathbf{B}_a \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a}{|\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a| B_a^2} - \frac{4\pi P'(\rho_a)}{B_a^2} - \frac{\Psi_t'(\rho_a)}{\mathcal{J}_a B_a^2} [\partial_u \nu'_a \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a + (\iota'(\rho_a) - \partial_v \nu'_a) \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a] \cdot \mathbf{B}_a$$

- Current conservation

$$\mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S \left( \frac{J_{\parallel a}}{B_a} \right) = \frac{2c |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a| P'(\rho_a)}{\mathcal{J}_a B_a^3} (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) \cdot \nabla_S B_a$$

- Parallel Ampere's law

$$\mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S \nu'_a = \frac{\iota'(\rho_a) (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) \cdot \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a}{|\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|} - \frac{4\pi \mathcal{J}_a^2 B_a J_{\parallel a}}{c \Psi_t'(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2} + \frac{\mathcal{J}_a^2 [\mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a \cdot (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) + (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) \cdot \nabla_S \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a \cdot \mathbf{B}_a]}{\Psi_t'(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2}$$

# Solutions on irrational flux surfaces

- $J_{\parallel a}$  known up to constant  $K_a$

$$J_{\parallel a}(u, v) = K_a B_a(u, v) + J_{PS,a}(u, v)$$

- Pfirsch-Schlüter current  $J_{PS,a}$  = particular solution with

$$\langle J_{PS,a} B_a \rangle = 0$$

–  $\langle \dots \rangle$  = flux surface average

- Constant  $K_a$  determined by solvability condition of parallel Ampere's law:  $\langle \mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S \nu'_a \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$K_a = \left\langle \frac{\mathcal{J}_a^2 B_a^2}{\Psi'_t(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2} \right\rangle$$

$$\times \left[ \frac{c}{4\pi} \left\langle \frac{l'(\rho_a) (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) \cdot \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a}{|\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|} \right\rangle - \left\langle \frac{\mathcal{J}_a^2 B_a J_{PS,a}}{\Psi'_t(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2} \right\rangle \right]$$

$$+ \frac{c}{4\pi} \left\langle \frac{\mathcal{J}_a^2 [\mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a \cdot (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) + (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) \cdot \nabla_S \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a \cdot \mathbf{B}_a]}{\Psi'_t(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2} \right\rangle$$

Effect of geometry on rotational transform

# Final set of geometric coefficients

- With  $\partial_\rho \mathbf{B}$  and  $\partial_\rho \mathcal{J}$  on a flux surface, one can finally calculate
  - $\nabla \rho \cdot \nabla \alpha$  and  $|\nabla \alpha|^2 =$  effect of magnetic shear on  $k_\perp^2$
  - $(\mathbf{B} \times \nabla B) \cdot \nabla \alpha$  and  $[\mathbf{B} \times (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{B})] \cdot \nabla \alpha =$  projection of magnetic drift on binormal direction and effect of magnetic shear on magnetic drift
- These coefficients are independent of functions  $A^u$  and  $A^v$

$$\mathbf{k}_\perp = \frac{|\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|}{\mathcal{J}_a} [k_\rho - k_\alpha (\iota'(\rho_a)v - \nu'_a)] \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a + \frac{\mathcal{J}_a k_\alpha}{\Psi'_t(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|} \mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a$$

- $\nu'_a$  is obtained up to a constant, and that constant determines the zero for  $k_\rho$

# What about rational flux surfaces?

- Going back to 1<sup>st</sup> slide, current conservation is solvable

- $P'(\rho_a) = 0$ , or

- $\oint \frac{dl}{B}$  is independent of  $\mathbf{B}$  line in which it is evaluated

[Hamada NF 62]

- When this condition is satisfied (e.g. we choose  $P'(\rho_a) = 0$  or an appropriate  $J_a$ ),  $J_{\parallel a}$  obtained up to function of the field line

- Use  $\alpha$  to distinguish between lines

$$J_{\parallel a} = \tilde{K}_a(\alpha) B_a(u, v) + J_{PS,a}(u, v)$$

- $J_{PS,a}$  dependence on  $\alpha$  given by continuity with  $J_{PS}$  in irrational flux surfaces  $\Rightarrow J_{PS,a}$  must satisfy

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \left\{ \oint \left[ \frac{(\nabla\rho \cdot \nabla\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla\nabla\rho) \times \nabla\rho}{|\nabla\rho|^4 B} \cdot \left( \frac{J_{PS}\mathbf{B}}{B} + \frac{cP'}{B^2} \mathbf{B} \times \nabla\rho \right) - \frac{cP''}{B} \right] dl \right\} = 0$$

# Calculating the total current

- Parallel Ampere's law has infinitely many solvability conditions in irrational flux surfaces

$$\oint \mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S \nu'_a \frac{dl}{B_a} = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{K}_a(\alpha) = & \left( \oint \frac{\mathcal{J}_a^2 B_a}{\Psi'_t(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2} dl \right)^{-1} \\ & \times \oint \left[ \frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{\iota'(\rho_a) (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) \cdot \partial_u \mathbf{x}_a}{|\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a| B_a} - \frac{\mathcal{J}_a^2 J_{PS,a}}{\Psi'_t(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2} \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{\mathcal{J}_a^2 [\mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a \cdot (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) + (\mathbf{B}_a \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a) \cdot \nabla_S \hat{\mathbf{n}}_a \cdot \mathbf{B}_a]}{\Psi'_t(\rho_a) |\partial_u \mathbf{x}_a \times \partial_v \mathbf{x}_a|^2 B_a} \right] dl \end{aligned}$$

- This would seem to be the end of the calculation, but if we try to find  $\partial_{\rho\rho}^2 \mathbf{B}$ , there will be trouble...

# Second order radial derivatives of B

- Form of the current conservation equation

$$\mathbf{B}_a \cdot \nabla_S Q_a = S_a$$

- Obtain equation for radial derivative of  $J_{\parallel}$  by differentiating the current conservation equation

$$B_a \partial_l \left( Q'_a + \frac{\Psi_t''(\rho_a)}{\Psi_t'(\rho_a)} Q_a \right) + B_a [(-\iota'(\rho_a) \partial_\alpha v + \partial_\alpha \nu'_a) \partial_l Q_a + (\iota'(\rho_a) \partial_l v - \partial_l \nu'_a) \partial_\alpha Q_a] = S'_a + \frac{S_a \mathcal{J}'_a}{\mathcal{J}_a}$$

- Dividing by  $B_a$  and integrating along each line

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \left[ \oint (\iota'(\rho_a) \partial_l v - \partial_l \nu'_a) Q_a dl \right] = \oint \left( S'_a + \frac{S_a \mathcal{J}'_a}{\mathcal{J}_a} \right) dl$$

- Condition on  $J_{\parallel a}$ !  $\Rightarrow \iota'(\rho_a) \frac{d\tilde{K}_a}{d\alpha} \oint dv = 0$

# New condition for rational flux surfaces

- For flux surfaces to exist around a rational flux surface

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \left[ \left( \oint \frac{B}{|\nabla\rho|^2} dl \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{c\iota'\Psi'_t}{4\pi} \oint dv - \oint \frac{J_{PS}}{|\nabla\rho|^2} dl + \frac{c}{4\pi} \oint \frac{[\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot (\mathbf{B} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}) + (\mathbf{B} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}) \cdot \nabla\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{B}]}{B|\nabla\rho|^2} dl \right) \right] = 0$$

Related to condition in [Weitzner PoP 16]

- Condition requires choosing correct  $P''(\rho_a)$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_a$  and/or  $J_a$
- Without this condition, current in each line would give different “local” magnetic shears when they should all give the same global magnetic shear  $\iota'$



# Conclusions

- We have derived a system of linear equations for stellarator local MHD equilibria
  - One 2D elliptic partial differential equation
  - Two equations that require integrating along magnetic field lines
- We can calculate the geometric coefficients needed for drift kinetic and gyrokinetic equations using the local MHD equations that we have derived
- We have explicitly shown these coefficients to be independent of the choice of coordinates for the flux surface
- For rational flux surfaces, two solvability conditions must be met, and one of these conditions is new

# Summary of rational surface conditions

- Hamada condition:  $P' \frac{d}{d\alpha} \left( \oint \frac{dl}{B} \right) = 0$

- New condition

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \left[ \left( \oint \frac{B}{|\nabla\rho|^2} dl \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{cl'\Psi'_t}{4\pi} \oint dv - \oint \frac{J_{PS}}{|\nabla\rho|^2} dl + \frac{c}{4\pi} \oint \frac{[\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot (\mathbf{B} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}) + (\mathbf{B} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}}) \cdot \nabla \hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{B}]}{B|\nabla\rho|^2} dl \right) \right] = 0$$

- Pfirsch-Schlüter current  $J_{PS}$  defined by

$$\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{J_{PS}}{B} \right) = \frac{2cP'}{B^3} (\mathbf{B} \times \nabla\rho) \cdot \nabla B, \quad \langle J_{PS} B \rangle = 0,$$

$$\frac{d}{d\alpha} \left\{ \oint \left[ \frac{(\nabla\rho \cdot \nabla\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla\nabla\rho) \times \nabla\rho}{|\nabla\rho|^4 B} \cdot \left( \frac{J_{PS}\mathbf{B}}{B} + \frac{cP'}{B^2} \mathbf{B} \times \nabla\rho \right) - \frac{cP''}{B} \right] dl \right\} = 0$$