

# Mechanism and Constitutive Model of a Continuum Robot for Head and Neck Cancer Radiotherapy.

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**Abstract**—We present a parallel soft robot mechanism and the constitutive laws that govern the deformation of its constituent actuators. Our ultimate goal is the real-time motion-correction of a patient’s deviation from a target pose in frameless and maskless head and neck cancer radiation therapy. The soft actuators control the position of the patient’s cranial region on a treatment machine. In this work, we describe the mechanism, derive the stress-strain constitutive laws under the isochoric deformation principle for the actuators, and the inverse kinematics equations based on the constitutive law, and then present simulation results that validate our hypothesis. Our simulation results demonstrate deformations consistent with the isochoric volume preservation principle and radially symmetric displacement characteristics.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Along with chemotherapy and surgery, radiation therapy (RT) is an effective cancer treatment modality, with more than half of all cancer patients managed by RT having higher survival rates [1]. This is in part due to the technological advancements that enable maximizing radiation dose to a tumor target, whilst simultaneously minimizing radiation to surrounding healthy tissues within a target volume.

To assure optimal dose delivery in RT, it is important for the patient to remain in a stable pose on the treatment machine during treatment. The current clinical convention is to immobilize the patient with rigid metallic frames or masks (see Figure 1). Frames attenuate the radiation dose (lowering treatment quality) owing to their metallic components, lack real-time motion compensation (hence the need for stopping the treatment when the patient deviates from a target position beyond a given threshold), and they cause patient discomfort and pain owing to their invasiveness [2]. The limitations of frames has spurred clinics using thermoplastic face masks. The masks decrease accuracy because of their flex which can cause a drift of up to 2-6mm; shrink and deformation in the mask’s physical structure are also prominent arising from repeated use. The CyberKnife Synchrony, while capable of precise, non-surgical tumor and lesions treatment in stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) and stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT), only executes *a-priori* trajectories and it is only FDA-approved for lung tumors’ treatment. Correction requirements in these

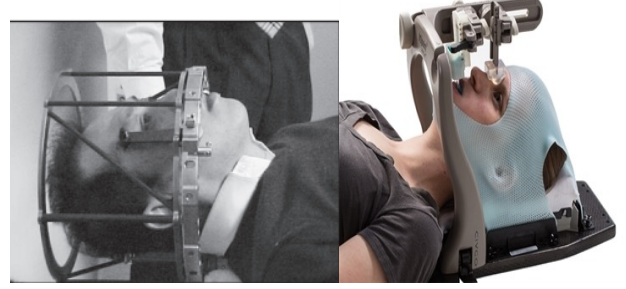


Fig. 1: *Left*: The Brown-Robert-Wells SRS Head Frame, reprinted from [4]. *Right*: Thermoplastic face mask. [Image best visualized in colored print].

systems require far less accuracy, typically  $< 5mm$  than brain targets [3]. Such motion correction precisions are not suitable for deep tumors located near critical structures such as the brain stem or for newer treatment modalities such as single isocenter multiple-target stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS), which are highly sensitive to rotational head motions.

To overcome these issues, explorative robotic positioning research studies have demonstrated the feasibility of maintaining stable patient cranial motion consistent with treatment plans platform [5]–[8]. For example, Belcher et al’s Stewart-Gough platform [5] achieves  $\leq 0.5mm$  and  $\leq 0.5^\circ$  positioning accuracy 90% of the time. This system along with the plastic-based Ostin et al’s Stewart-Gough platform [9] use stepper motors to actuate the robot links. The 6-DOF robotic HexaPOD treatment couch of [8] was used in lung tumors treatment evaluation. Leveraging the fast and precise positioning of heavy payloads, the authors implemented a linear auto-regressive exogenous parameter-identification system to identify the HexaPOD’s dynamics. [10] used an Elekta 4-DOF (3 translation and one rotational) parallel robot to first simulate and then control couch-based motion in real-time. The authors used a linear state-space model to approximate the rigid body dynamics of the patient support system earlier proposed in [11]. All these systems are accompanied by the following hazards:

- they share their dextrous workspace with the patients’ body – a safety concern since these robots’ rigid mechanical components exhibit almost no compliance;
- their lack of structural compliance mean that the patient experiences “hard shocks” when the end effector moves; and
- they are incapable of providing sophisticated motion compensation that may be needed for respiratory and internal organs displacement that often cause deviation from the target.

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- their component electric motors and linear actuators suffer from the radiation attenuation problem and introduce serious safety concerns.

This is why we have proposed inflatable air bladders (IABs) as motion compensators during F&M RT treatment (see [12]–[17]). We now present a new class of IABs that are continuum, compliant, and configurable (C3) soft actuators that provide therapeutic patient motion compensation during RT. Contrary to remote-controlled airbags that have been used in upper mandible and head manipulation [18], our actuators deform based on their material moduli, compressed air pressurization and incompressibility constraints when given a reference trajectory. To our knowledge, ours are the first to explore C3 materials as actuation systems for cranial manipulation in robotic radiotherapy.

#### Contributions:

- We propose a motion correction mechanism that largely avoids dose attenuation, whilst providing patient comfort during motion correction in F&M cancer RT;
- For the proposed mechanism, we construct a constitutive model for the constituent C3 IABs by extending the principles of nonlinear elastic deformations [19], [20] to isochoric strain deformations of the IAB semi-rigid bodies;
- We then analyze their deformation under stress, strain, internal pressurization, and an arbitrary hydrostatic pressure.

This kinematic model will then be used to develop the kinematics and Lagrangian equations of the dynamics of the multi-dof motion correction mechanism. Particularly, we analyze the deformation of a single semi-rigid robot body. The rest of this paper is structured as follows: in § II, we present the overall C3 kinematic mechanism; we analyze the deformation properties of the IAB in § III; we then provide and discuss simulation results in § IV. We conclude the paper in § V.

## II. MECHANISM SYNTHESIS

In our previous IAB models [15], we used a system identification approach to realize the overall system model. Our resultant model lumped the patient, treatment couch, as well as IAB models into one. The disadvantage of this approach was that such overall model lacked enough fidelity such that it necessitated the memory-based adaptive control composite laws that was derived from inverse Lyapunov analysis. Furthermore, the approximation model component of the ensuing neural-network controller required extensive training to realize a suitable controller for our H&N immobilization. Our goal here is to realize closed-form constitutive model for the IABs – capable of manipulating the patient’s H&N’s complete DOF motion in real-time during RT.

### A. Type Synthesis

To design a mechanism that precisely manipulates a patient on a treatment couch, optimizing the geometrical synthesis leaves many imponderables unresolved given the multitude of choices that arise, each calling for careful judgment in weighing advantages against disadvantages. Owing to the success of parallel mechanisms in precision manipulation

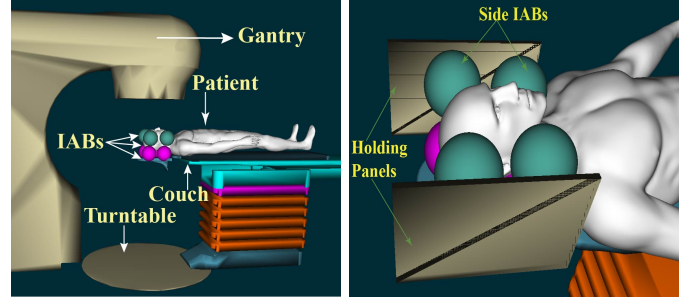


Fig. 2: **Left.** Gantry, Turntable, Patient and IABs around the patient’s H&N Region (Panel removed for clarity). **Right.** Close-up setup view with holding PVC foam panels.

tasks [21], we decide upon a profile-mechanism consisting of spherically-symmetric soft actuators arranged in a parallel manner around the patient’s skull. We however recognize that other kinematicians may arrive at other linkage mechanisms that may offer better results. Our goal here is to edge open the door a little further in establishing a high-fidelity model with tractable kinematics that can move the patient’s H&N as desired on a couch.

### B. Number Synthesis

In contrast to systems such as [5] which have long lag times in motion execution owing to their non-prehensile manipulation protocols, we would like to have such freedom and constraint in the structural properties of our kinematic mechanism that enables rapid motion correction when a patient deviates from target. Prehensile control of the patient’s cranial motion is attractive given its erstwhile success e.g. [18]’s airbag mechanism. In this sentiment, we choose eight IABs around the patient’s H&N region as illustrated in Figure 2. The IABs are held in place around the head by impact-resistant low-temperature rigid PVC foam insulation sheet, encased in carbon fiber. Velcro stickers (not shown) hold the IABs in place – providing a modularization that ensures re-usability for different patients’ cranial anatomy. The freedoms [22, Ch. 2] provided by each IAB in Figure 2b are described as follows: the side actuators correct head motion along the *left-right* axis of the head anatomy *i.e.* (yaw and roll motions), while the base IABs deform to influence head motion along the *anterior-posterior* direction. The *superior-inferior* motion is corrected by the two base actuators on the bottom of the neck. This arrangement offers prehensile manipulation via a sensorless motion manipulation strategies within e.g. the vision-based sensor plan used in SRS or IMRT. By this, we mean the mechanical interactions of pushing or releasing by the IABs may be harnessed to further improve head manipulation robustness [23]–[25].

### C. IAB Design

The IABs have an internal cavity that is surrounded by two rubber shells with constant volume within their wall as shown in Figure 3. The outer shell encapsulates the inner shell so that deformation follows a local volume preservation principle between configuration changes [19]. In our ongoing

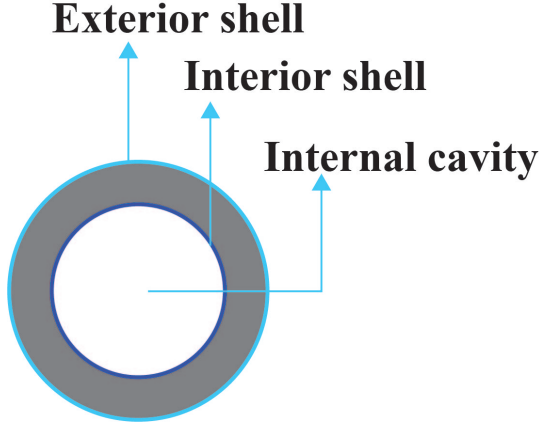


Fig. 3: Concentric circular shells around IAB's internal cavity.

experiments, actuation is induced by compressed air within the internal cavity of the IABs, deforming the actuator in an isochoric fashion.

### III. DEFORMATION ANALYSIS OF A SPHERICAL IAB

The constant curvature approach for parameterizing the deformation of continuum robots [26]–[28] has played a significant role in the kinematic synthesis of deformable continuum models over the past three decades. Under this framework, the configuration space of a SoRo module is parameterized by the curvature of an arc projected on the SoRo's body, the arc's length, and the angle subtended by a tangent along that arc. The relationship between these parameters are typically found using differential kinematics with a Frenet-Serret frame that models a curve on the SoRo's surface with or without torsion. By abstracting an infinite dimensional structure to 3D, large portions of the manipulator dynamics are discarded under the assumption that the actuator design is symmetric and uniform in shape. This makes the constant curvature model overly simplistic so that it often exhibits poor performance in position control [29]. While the Cosserat brothers' beam theory has been relatively successful in modeling soft continuum dynamics [30], [31], its complexity, and sensing cost does not justify such alternatives [32].

In this section, we address the invariants, strains, and the constitutive stress laws that govern the deformation. We further derive the IAB kinematic equations. Our overarching assumption is that volume does not change locally during deformation at a configuration  $\chi(t)$  at time  $t$ . We work from a continuum mechanical hyperelastic approach, considering only final configurations for the soft robot; we thus drop the explicit dependence of a configuration on time and write it as  $\chi$ . We refer readers to background reading materials in [19], [33] and [34]. We conclude this section by solving the boundary value problem under the assumptions of *isochoricity* and *incompressibility* of the IAB rubber material.

#### A. Deformation Invariants

For an elastic and incompressible IAB under the action of applied forces, the deformation is governed by a stored energy function,  $W$ , which captures the physical properties of the material [35]. We choose two invariants namely,  $I_1$ , and  $I_2$ ,

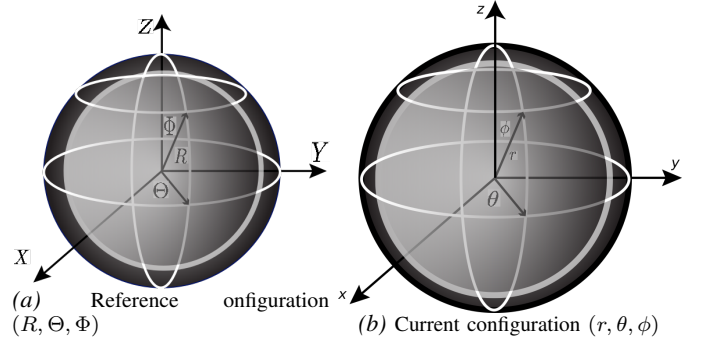


Fig. 4: IAB configurations in spherical polar coordinates.

described in terms of the principal extension ratios,  $\lambda_r, \lambda_\phi, \lambda_\theta$ , of the IAB's strain ellipsoids. They are defined as

$$I_1 = \lambda_r^2 + \lambda_\phi^2 + \lambda_\theta^2, \quad \text{and} \quad I_2 = \lambda_r^{-2} + \lambda_\phi^{-2} + \lambda_\theta^{-2}. \quad (1)$$

Under the incompressibility assumptions of the IAB material, it follows that  $\lambda_r \lambda_\phi \lambda_\theta = 1$  [20]. In spherical coordinates, the change in polar/azimuth angles as well as radii from the reference to current configurations are as illustrated in Figure 4. Forces that produce deformations are derived using the strain energy-invariants relationship, *i.e.*,  $\frac{\partial W}{\partial I_1}$  and  $\frac{\partial W}{\partial I_2}$ .

#### B. Analysis of Strain Deformations

Suppose a particle on the IAB material surface in the reference configuration has coordinates  $(R, \Phi, \Theta)$  defined in spherical polar coordinates (see Figure 4), where  $R$  represents the radial distance of the particle from a fixed origin,  $\Theta$  is the azimuth angle on a reference plane through the origin and orthogonal to the polar angle,  $\Phi$ . Denote the internal and external radii as  $R_i$  and  $R_o$  respectively. We define the following constraints,

$$R_i \leq R \leq R_o, \quad 0 \leq \Theta \leq 2\pi, \quad 0 \leq \Phi \leq \pi. \quad (2)$$

Now, suppose that the IAB undergoes deformation upon pressurization of its internal cavity: arbitrary points  $A$  and  $A'$  in the reference configuration become  $Q$  and  $Q'$  in the current configuration. Let the *material element* (or fiber) vector that connects points  $A$  and  $A'$  be  $a = a_R e_R + a_\Theta e_\Theta + a_\Phi e_\Phi$ , where  $e_R, e_\Theta$ , and  $e_\Phi$  are respectively the basis vectors for polar directions  $R, \Theta$ , and  $\Phi$  such that its axial length stretches *uniformly* by an amount  $\lambda_z = \frac{r}{R}$ . If spherical symmetry is maintained during deformation, we have the following constraints in the current configuration

$$r_i \leq r \leq r_o, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi, \quad 0 \leq \phi \leq \pi. \quad (3)$$

We define radial vectors  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{r}$  in spherical coordinates as,

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} R \cos \Theta \sin \Phi \\ R \sin \Theta \sin \Phi \\ R \cos \Phi \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{r} = \begin{bmatrix} r \cos \theta \sin \phi \\ r \sin \theta \sin \phi \\ r \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}. \quad (4)$$

The material volume  $\frac{4}{3}\pi (R^3 - R_i^3)$  contained between spherical shells of radii  $R$  and  $R_i$  remains constant throughout

deformation, being equal in volume to  $\frac{4}{3}\pi(r^3 - r_i^3)$  so that

$$\frac{4}{3}\pi(R^3 - R_i^3) = \frac{4}{3}\pi(r^3 - r_i^3) \\ \text{or } r^3 = R^3 + r_i^3 - R_i^3. \quad (5)$$

The homogeneous deformation between the two configurations imply that

$$r^3 = R^3 + r_i^3 - R_i^3, \quad \theta = \Theta, \quad \phi = \Phi, \quad (6)$$

where the coordinates obey the constraints of equations (2) and (3). The Mooney-Rivlin strain energy for small deformations as a function of the strain invariants of (1), is,

$$W' = C_1(I_1 - 3) + C_2(I_2 - 3), \quad (7)$$

where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are appropriate choices for the IAB material moduli. The Mooney form (7) has been shown to be valid even for large elastic deformations, provided that the elastic materials exhibit incompressibility and are isotropic in their reference configurations [36]. For mathematical scaling purposes that will soon become apparent, we rewrite (7) as  $W = \frac{1}{2}W'$  so that

$$W = \frac{1}{2}C_1(I_1 - 3) + \frac{1}{2}C_2(I_2 - 3). \quad (8)$$

The gradient tensor operator in spherical-polar coordinates is,

$$\mathbf{F} = \lambda_r \mathbf{e}_r \otimes \mathbf{e}_R + \lambda_\phi \mathbf{e}_\phi \otimes \mathbf{e}_\Phi + \lambda_\theta \mathbf{e}_\theta \otimes \mathbf{e}_\Theta \\ = \frac{R^2}{r^2} \mathbf{e}_r \otimes \mathbf{e}_R + \frac{r}{R} \mathbf{e}_\phi \otimes \mathbf{e}_\Phi + \frac{r}{R} \mathbf{e}_\theta \otimes \mathbf{e}_\Theta, \quad (9)$$

where  $\otimes$  denotes the dyadic tensor product. It can be verified that the radial stretch is  $\lambda_r = \frac{R^2}{r^2}$ . The principal stretches along the azimuthal and zenith axes imply that  $\lambda_\theta = \lambda_\phi$ . Since for an isochoric deformation,  $\lambda_r \cdot \lambda_\theta \cdot \lambda_\phi = 1$ , the principal extension ratios are

$$\lambda_r = \frac{R^2}{r^2}; \lambda_\theta = \lambda_\phi = \frac{r}{R}. \quad (10)$$

The invariant equations, in spherical-polar coordinates, are therefore a function of the right Cauchy-Green and finger deformation tensors [37] *i.e.*,

$$I_1 = \mathbf{tr}(\mathbf{C}) = \frac{R^4}{r^4} + \frac{2r^2}{R^2}, \quad I_2 = \mathbf{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1}) = \frac{r^4}{R^4} + \frac{2R^2}{r^2} \quad (11)$$

where,  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{F}$  and  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{F} \mathbf{F}^T$  are the right and left Cauchy-Green tensors respectively.

### C. Stress Laws and Constitutive Equations

We are concerned with the magnitudes of the differential stress on the IAB skin from a mechanical point of view **and we do not rely on finite element methods in this work**. Since the IAB deforms at ambient temperature, we take thermodynamic properties such as temperature and entropy to have negligible contribution. The IAB material stress response,  $\mathbf{G}$ , at any point on the IAB's boundary at time  $t$  determines the Cauchy stress,  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ , as well as the history of the motion up to and at the time  $t$  [19]. The constitutive relation for the nominal stress

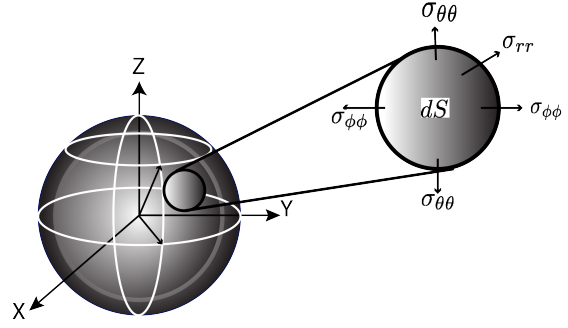


Fig. 5: Stress distribution on the IAB's differential surface,  $dS$ .

deformation for an elastic IAB material is given by

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{F}) + q\mathbf{F} \frac{\partial \Lambda}{\partial \mathbf{F}}(\mathbf{F}), \quad (12)$$

where  $\mathbf{G}$  is a functional with respect to the configuration  $\chi_t$ ,  $q$  acts as a Lagrange multiplier, and  $\Lambda$  denotes the internal (incompressibility) constraints of the IAB system. For an incompressible material, the indeterminate Lagrange multiplier becomes the hydrostatic pressure *i.e.*  $q = -p$  [33]. The incompressibility of the IAB material properties imply that  $\Lambda \equiv \det \mathbf{F} - 1$ . Evaluating the partial derivative of  $\Lambda(\mathbf{F})$  with respect to  $\mathbf{F}$  and substituting  $-p$  for  $q$  in (12), we can verify that

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{F}) - p\mathbf{I} \quad (13)$$

following the isochoric assumption *i.e.*,  $\det(\mathbf{F}) = 1$ . In terms of the stored strain energy, we find that

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \frac{\partial W}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \mathbf{F}^T - p\mathbf{I} \quad (14)$$

where  $\mathbf{I}$  is the identity tensor and  $p$  represents an arbitrary hydrostatic pressure. It follows that the constitutive law that governs the Cauchy stress tensor is

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\sigma} &= \frac{\partial W}{\partial I_1} \cdot \frac{\partial I_1}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \mathbf{F}^T + \frac{\partial W}{\partial I_2} \cdot \frac{\partial I_2}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \mathbf{F}^T - p\mathbf{I} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}C_1 \frac{\partial \mathbf{tr}(\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^T)}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \mathbf{F}^T + \frac{1}{2}C_2 \frac{\partial \mathbf{tr}([\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{F}]^{-1})}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \mathbf{F}^T - p\mathbf{I} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}C_1 (2\mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^T) + \frac{1}{2}C_2 (-2\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{F})^{-2}) \mathbf{F}^T - p\mathbf{I} \\ &= C_1 \mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^T - C_2 (\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{F})^{-1} - p\mathbf{I} \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma} &= C_1 \mathbf{B} - C_2 \mathbf{C}^{-1} - p\mathbf{I}, \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

from which we can write the normal stress components as

$$\sigma_{rr} = -p + C_1 \frac{R^4}{r^4} - C_2 \frac{r^4}{R^4} \quad (16a)$$

$$\sigma_{\theta\theta} = \sigma_{\phi\phi} = -p + C_1 \frac{r^2}{R^2} - C_2 \frac{R^2}{r^2}. \quad (16b)$$

A visualization of the component stresses of (14) on the outer shells of the IAB material is illustrated in Figure 5.

### D. IAB Boundary Value Problem

Here, we analyze the stress and internal pressure of the IAB at equilibrium. Consider the IAB with boundary conditions



given by

$$\sigma_{rr}|_{R=R_o} = -P_{\text{atm}}, \quad \sigma_{rr}|_{R=R_i} = -P_{\text{atm}} - P \quad (17)$$

where  $P_{\text{atm}}$  is the atmospheric pressure and  $P > 0$  is the internal pressure exerted on the walls of the IAB above  $P_{\text{atm}}$  i.e.,  $P > P_{\text{atm}}$ . Suppose that the IAB stress components satisfy hydrostatic equilibrium, the equilibrium equations for the body force  $\mathbf{b}'$ 's physical component vectors,  $b_r, b_\theta, b_\phi$  are

$$\begin{aligned} -b_r &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial r^2 \sigma_{rr}}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r \sin \phi} \frac{\partial \sin \phi \sigma_{r\phi}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{1}{r \sin \phi} \frac{\partial \sigma_{r\theta}}{\partial \theta} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{r} (\sigma_{\theta\theta} + \sigma_{\phi\phi}) \end{aligned} \quad (18a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -b_\phi &= \frac{1}{r^3} \frac{\partial r^3 \sigma_{r\phi}}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r \sin \phi} \frac{\partial \sin \phi \sigma_{\phi\phi}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{1}{r \sin \phi} \frac{\partial \sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\partial \theta} \\ &\quad - \frac{\cot \phi}{r} (\sigma_{\theta\theta}) \end{aligned} \quad (18b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -b_\theta &= \frac{1}{r^3} \frac{\partial r^3 \sigma_{r\theta}}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r \sin^2 \phi} \frac{\partial \sin^2 \phi \sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{1}{r \sin \phi} \frac{\partial \sigma_{\theta\theta}}{\partial \theta} \end{aligned} \quad (18c)$$

(see [38]). From the equation of balance of linear momentum (Cauchy's first law of motion), we have that

$$\text{div } \boldsymbol{\sigma}^T + \rho \mathbf{b} = \rho \dot{\mathbf{v}} \quad (19)$$

where  $\rho$  is the IAB body mass density,  $\text{div}$  is the divergence operator, and  $\dot{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \dot{\chi}_t(\mathbf{X})$  is the velocity gradient. Owing to the incompressibility assumption, we remark in passing that the mass density is uniform throughout the body of the IAB material. When the IAB is at rest,  $\dot{\mathbf{v}}_t(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{B}$  such that equation (19) loses its dependence on time. The assumed regularity of the IAB in the reference configuration thus leads to the steady state conditions for Cauchy's first equation; the stress field  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  becomes *self-equilibrated* by virtue of the spatial divergence and the symmetric properties of the stress tensor, so that we have

$$\text{div } \boldsymbol{\sigma} = 0. \quad (20)$$

Equation 20 is satisfied if the hydrostatic pressure  $p$  in (15) is independent of  $\theta$  and  $\phi$ . Therefore, we are left with (18a) so that we have

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 \sigma_{rr}) = (\sigma_{\theta\theta} + \sigma_{\phi\phi}). \quad (21)$$

Expanding, we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{r} \left[ r^2 \frac{\partial \sigma_{rr}}{\partial r} + \sigma_{rr} \frac{\partial (r^2)}{\partial r} \right] &= (\sigma_{\theta\theta} + \sigma_{\phi\phi}) \\ r \frac{\partial \sigma_{rr}}{\partial r} &= \sigma_{\theta\theta} + \sigma_{\phi\phi} - 2\sigma_{rr} \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{rr}}{\partial r} = \frac{1}{r} (\sigma_{\theta\theta} + \sigma_{\phi\phi} - 2\sigma_{rr}). \quad (23)$$

Integrating the above equation in the variable  $r$ , and taking  $\sigma_{rr}(r_o) = 0$ , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{rr}(r) &= - \int_{r_i}^{r_o} \frac{1}{r} (\sigma_{\theta\theta} + \sigma_{\phi\phi} - 2\sigma_{rr}) dr, \\ &= - \int_{r_i}^{r_o} \left[ 2C_1 \left( \frac{r}{R^2} - \frac{R^4}{r^5} \right) + 2C_2 \left( \frac{r^3}{R^4} - \frac{R^2}{r^3} \right) \right] dr. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

The above relation gives the radial stress in the current configuration. Suppose we are in the current configuration and we desire to revert to the reference configuration, we may carry out a change of variables from  $r$  to  $R$  as follows,

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{rr}(R) &= - \int_{R_i}^{R_o} \frac{1}{r} (\sigma_{\theta\theta} + \sigma_{\phi\phi} - 2\sigma_{rr}) \frac{dr}{dR} dR, \\ &= - \int_{R_i}^{R_o} \left[ 2C_1 \left( \frac{1}{r} - \frac{R^6}{r^7} \right) - 2C_2 \left( \frac{R^4}{r^5} - \frac{r}{R^2} \right) \right] dR. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

In the same vein, using the boundary condition of (17)<sub>2</sub> and taking the ambient pressure  $P_{\text{atm}} = 0$ , we find that the internal pressure  $P = -\sigma_{rr}(r) = -\sigma_{rr}(R)$  i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} P(r) &= \int_{r_i}^{r_o} \left[ 2C_1 \left( \frac{r}{R^2} - \frac{R^4}{r^5} \right) + 2C_2 \left( \frac{r^3}{R^4} - \frac{R^2}{r^3} \right) \right] dr \\ P(R) &\equiv \int_{R_i}^{R_o} \left[ 2C_1 \left( \frac{1}{r} - \frac{R^6}{r^7} \right) - 2C_2 \left( \frac{R^4}{r^5} - \frac{r}{R^2} \right) \right] dR. \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

Equations (25) and (26) completely determine the inverse kinematics of the IAB material: given a desired expansion or compression of the IAB walls, it calculates the internal pressurization or stress tensor necessary to achieve such deformation. Under the incompressibility of the IAB material properties we have,

$$r^3 = R^3 + r_i^3 - R_i^3, \text{ and } r_o^3 = R_o^3 + r_i^3 - R_i^3. \quad (27)$$

#### IV. SIMULATION

We conduct simulations under volumetric deformation with different shell properties (stated in the tables of Figs 6-7). We fix both reference configuration radii and choose physically realistic volumetric moduli for the IAB shells. By specifying a desired radially symmetric expansion for the inner IAB material, we test the local volume preservation property of (5) and evaluate the resulting displacement of the outer IAB skin, by applying the computed pressure (by virtue of (26)) to the IAB between configurations. The computed soft mesh model of the IAB is shown in the top middle of the charts while the stress distribution after the application of the calculated pressure is shown in the upper-right corner of the figures. We chose a Poisson's ratio of  $\approx 0.45$  to model the IAB incompressibility properties. The radii dimensions are in *cm*, the pressure is given in *psi* unless otherwise stated,  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are appropriate material moduli, and  $\Delta V$  is the volumetric change between the IAB shells between configurations (given in *cm*<sup>3</sup>).

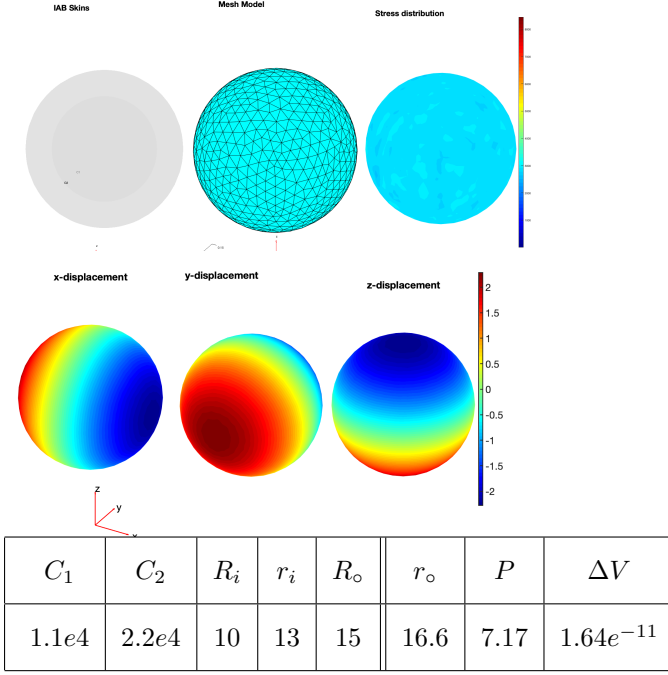


Fig. 6: IAB Expansion I [Best visualized in colored print].

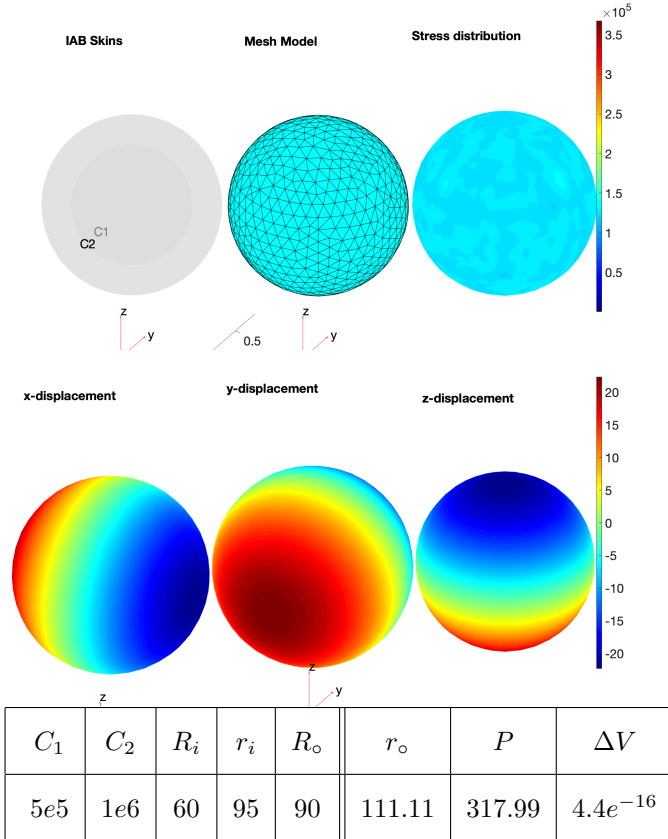


Fig. 7: IAB Expansion II [Best visualized in colored print].

#### A. Results: Volumetric Expansion

In Figure 6 we test finite elastic deformation of the IAB material shells. We fix the internal and external radii in the reference configuration as  $10cm$  and  $15cm$  respectively. Our goal was to radially expand the internal shell by a  $3cm$ . By (6),

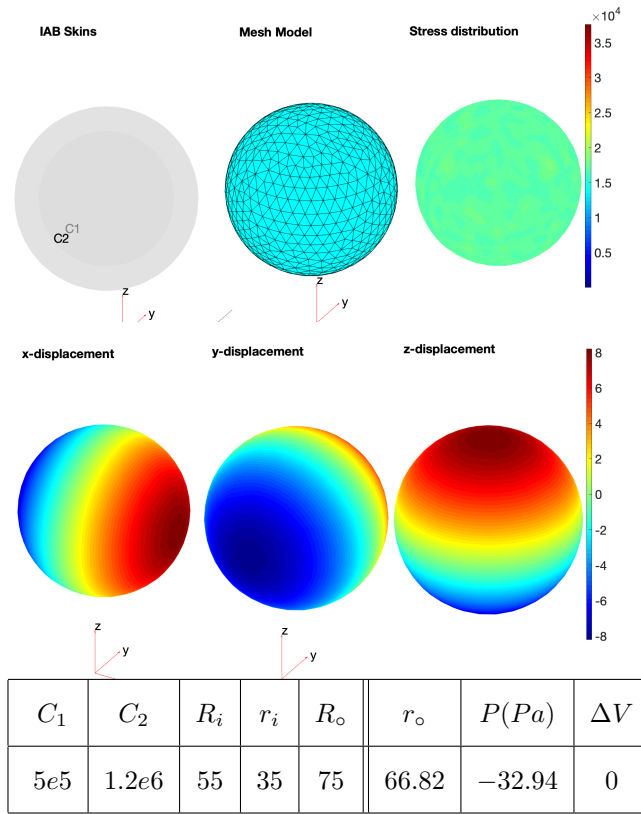


Fig. 8: IAB Compression I [Best visualized in colored print].

we found  $r_o$  to be  $16.6cm$ , meaning applying the calculated pressure using relation (26) should ideally generate a  $1.6cm$  uniform displacement on the outer IAB shell. Notice the uniform displacement of  $1.6cm \pm 0.1cm$  along the Cartesian coordinates of the lower charts of the figure.

Following the convention that finite elastic deformations are valid for fairly large deformations [20], [35], [36], we tested the proposed constitutive laws in the expansion case of Figure 7: given  $R_i = 60cm$ ,  $R_o = 90cm$  in the reference configuration, we would like to find the pressure that deforms the IAB so that  $r_i = 95cm$ . Again, we find  $r_o = 111.11cm$  by (6). Applying the calculated pressure, we find the IAB displacement between configurations (lower portion of Figure 6) to be  $\approx 21.11cm$ . We observe local volume preservation between the shells with volume between the shells essentially unchanged ( $\equiv \Delta V$ ) in the table.

#### B. Results: Volumetric Compression

The deformation cases of Figure 8 depicts the volumetric compression of the incompressible IAB under the application of the derived internal pressure for a desired radial shrink. The negative pressure in the table signify that air is flowing out of the IAB. Again, we notice a uniform stress distribution on the IAB shells.

In Figure 8, for a desired uniform displacement  $8.18cm$ , our results confirm the validity of the stress-strain constitutive laws, as we notice a displacement of  $\approx 8.2cm$  along the sphere's Cartesian axes in the lower charts of the figure. Again, our results show consistency with respect to volume preservation and radially symmetric displacement.

## C. Discussion

Notice a uniform stress distribution on the IAB walls in all test cases. We also notice that despite the internal and external radii change between configurations, the volume is preserved within the IAB shells according to (5). This confirms our leading hypothesis.

## V. CONCLUSIONS

We have presented the IAB motion-correction mechanism for frameless and maskless RT as well as the constitutive laws that govern the deformation of the mechanism's constituent IABs. Our results confirm our constitutive relations, satisfying the local volume preservation principle.

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