

# *Minimum Principles of Piecewise Linear Isotropic Plasticity*

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## *Summary*

A theory of plasticity is considered in which the yield function is a piecewise linear function of the stresses, the flow law is based on the plastic potential, and the strain-hardening is isotropic and linear. First, the flow law at a "corner" of the yield function is investigated in detail. Next, it is shown that the flow law at all points can be piecewise integrated to obtain some of the advantages of a deformation theory. Finally, two classical minimum principles of elasticity are extended to include certain cases of piecewise linear plasticity.

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