Self-organized criticality of elastic networks  
MYKYTA V. CHUBYNSKY, M.-A. BRIÈRE, NORMAND MOUSSEAU, Département de physique and RQCHP, Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada — We consider a model of elastic network self-organization inspired by studies of covalent glasses [1,2]. In the model, networks self-organize by avoiding stress whenever possible, but otherwise are random. Instead of a single rigidity percolation transition, with percolation always absent below a certain bond concentration and always present above, we find that the percolating rigid cluster exists with a probability between 0 and 1 in a finite range of bond concentrations, the intermediate phase. A power-law distribution of non-percolating cluster sizes, normally observed at a single critical point in percolation transitions, is seen everywhere in the intermediate phase. There is also a finite probability of percolation appearing and disappearing upon the application of a microscopic perturbation (addition or removal of a single bond). These properties indicate that in this phase the network maintains itself in a critical state on the verge of rigidity, a signature of self-organized criticality, but in a system at equilibrium.


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Date submitted: 19 Nov 2006