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# A gradient flow for open elastic curves with fixed length and clamped ends

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**Abstract.** We consider regular open curves in $\mathbb{R}^n$ with clamped ends subject to a fixed length constraint and moving according to the $L^2$-gradient flow of the elastic energy. For this flow we prove a long time existence result and subconvergence to critical points. In particular our result provides an alternative approach for finding equilibrium configurations of bending energy.

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