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**Parimah T Kazemi\*** (pk0010@unt.edu), University of North Texas, Department of Mathematics, P.O. Box 311430, Denton, TX. *A constructive method for finding critical points of a Ginzburg-Landau type functional.*

In this project we look for critical points of the equation,  $\phi(u) = \int_{\Omega} \frac{|\nabla u|^2}{2} + \frac{\kappa^2(|u|^2-1)^2}{4}$ . This functional gives a special case of a Ginzburg-Landau functional. Here  $\Omega$  is a bounded region in  $\mathfrak{R}^2$  that has the cone property and  $u \in H = H^{1,2}(\Omega, C)$ . Define the Sobolev gradient,  $\nabla_S \phi(u)$ , to be the member of  $H$  so that  $\phi'(u)(h) = \langle (h), \nabla_S \phi(u) \rangle_H$  for all  $h \in H$ . We show that there exists  $u \in H$  so that  $\nabla_S \phi(u) = 0$  and that this critical point is obtained using continuous steepest descent with the Sobolev gradient. (Received September 09, 2007)