

Meeting: 998, Houston, Texas, SS 15A, Special Session on Geometric Variational Problems

998-49-262 **Pablo Padilla*** (pablo@mym.iimas.unam.mx), IIMAS, UNAM, Circuito Escolar, Ciudad Universitaria, 04510 Mexico City, Mexico, and **C.E. Garza-Hume**. *Topological properties of bubble clusters*. Preliminary report.

We consider the problem of finding bubble clusters of minimal area and show that such clusters enclose a set that is either simply connected or has at most one hole. (Received February 29, 2004)