LEFM—Linear Elastic Fracture Mechanics

Crack-tip fields for plane stress and plane strain: Mode I and Mode II

Linear, isotropic elastic solids with Young's modulus, E, and Poisson's ratio, ν . The in-plane stresses in the crack tip fields are the same in plane stress and plane strain,

however, $\sigma_{33} = 0$ in plane stress and $\sigma_{33} = v(\sigma_{11} + \sigma_{22})$ in plane strain



Mode I - -Symmetric stresses & strains fields at tip.

Universal behavior (*all problems*!) as r approaches crack tip:

$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{K_I}{\sqrt{2\pi r}} \tilde{\sigma}^I_{\alpha\beta}(\theta) \qquad \qquad \overline{E} = E \text{ in plane stress}$$
$$u_{\alpha} = u_{\alpha}^0 + \frac{K_I}{\overline{E}} \sqrt{\frac{r}{2\pi}} \tilde{u}^I_{\alpha}(\theta) \qquad \qquad = \frac{E}{1 - v^2} \text{ in plane strain}$$

The distributions, $\tilde{\sigma}^{I}_{\alpha\beta}$, are given in most texts on LEFM

Mode I-- On the plane ahead of the tip: $\sigma_{22} = \frac{K_I}{\sqrt{2\pi r}}, \sigma_{12} = 0$ (standard definition)

where K_I is called the Mode I stress intensity factor

Mode II - - Anti - symmetric stresses & strains fields at tip.

Universal behavior (all problems!) as r approaches crack tip ($\tilde{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta}^{II}$ in the texts):



$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{K_{II}}{\sqrt{2\pi r}} \tilde{\sigma}_{\alpha\beta}^{II}(\theta)$$
$$u_{\alpha} = u_{\alpha}^{0} + \frac{K_{II}}{\overline{E}} \sqrt{\frac{r}{2\pi}} \tilde{u}_{\alpha}^{II}(\theta)$$

On the plane ahead of the tip: $\sigma_{12} = \frac{K_{II}}{\sqrt{2\pi r}}, \sigma_{22} = 0$ (standard definition)

where K_{II} is called the Mode II stress intensity factor

Mode III - -Out - of - plane shearing (also called "anti - plane shear").

Universal behavior (*all problems*!) as r approaches crack tip:

$$(\sigma_{13}, \sigma_{23}) = \frac{K_{III}}{\sqrt{2\pi r}} \left(\sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right), \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \right) \quad (\sigma_{12} = K_{III} / \sqrt{2\pi r} \text{ on plane ahead of tip})$$

$$u_3 = \frac{2K_{III}}{G} \sqrt{\frac{r}{2\pi}} \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \qquad (G \equiv E / (2(1+\nu)) \text{ is shear modulus})$$
Derivation of the Mode III fields given in class

By superposition (linear elasticity), conditions at any crack tip can always be represented as a sum of the three modes.

Some Basic Solutions



There are several excellent compilations of solutions. We will make use of Tada, Paris & Irwin

Some Basic Solutions, continued



tensile edge - crack : $K_I = 1.122\sigma^{\infty}\sqrt{\pi a}$



periodic tensile cracks :

$$K_{I} = \sigma^{\infty} \sqrt{\pi a} \left[\frac{2b}{\pi a} \tan\left(\frac{\pi a}{2b}\right) \right]^{1/2}$$

$$Mode \ I \ at \ all \ points \ of \ crack \ edge$$

penny shaped crack : $K_I = \frac{2}{\pi} \sigma^{\infty} \sqrt{\pi a}$



An example of results in the Stress Analysis of Cracks Handbook by H. Tada, P.C. Paris and G.R. Irwin ASME Press, New York, NY, 2000

An edge-notched infinite beam under pure bending. Pages 55-57 of the Handbook

Results are presented on the this page and the next for the stress intensity factor (a mode I problem), the crack opening displacement at the surface, and the additional rotation due to the presence of the crack.

THE PURE BENDING SPECIMEN

A. Stress Intensity Factor

$$\sigma = \frac{6M}{b^2}$$

$$K_I = \sigma \sqrt{\pi a} F\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)$$

Numerical Values of F(a/b)

The curve in the following figure was drawn based on the results having better than 0.5% accuracy. Also used for four-point bending.





Methods and References

- 1. Singular Integral Equation, Bueckner 1960
- 2. Boundary Collocation Method $\binom{h}{b} \ge 2$, Gross 1965a
- 3. Weight Function Method, Bueckner 1970, 1971
- 4. Green's Function Method $(h_b \ge 1.5)$, Emery 1969
- 5. Asymptotic Approximation, Benthem 1972

Empirical Formulas

a. Accuracy

b. Method, reference

$$F(a_{b}) = 1.122 - 1.40(a_{b}) + 7.33(a_{b})^{2} - 13.08(a_{b})^{3} + 14.0(a_{b})^{4}$$

a. 0.2% for $a/b \le 0.6$

b. Least squares fitting (Brown 1966)

$$F(a/b) = \sqrt{\frac{2b}{\pi a} \tan \frac{\pi a}{2b}} \frac{0.923 + 0.199(1 - \sin \frac{\pi a}{2b})}{\cos \frac{\pi a}{2b}}$$

a. Better than 0.5% for any a/bb. Tada 1973

B. Displacements

Crack Opening at Edge

$$\delta = \frac{4\sigma a}{E'} V \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)$$

Gross' results (**Gross 1967**, Boundary Collocation Method) are expected to have 0.5% accuracy for $0.2 \le a/b \le 0.7$. An empirical formula with 1% accuracy for any a/b is (**Tada 1973**)

$$V(a_b) = 0.8 - 1.7(a_b) + 2.4(a_b)^2 + \frac{0.66}{(1 - a_b)^2}$$

Additional Remote Point (h/b > 2) Displacement (Rotation) Due to Crack

$$\theta_{crack} = \theta_{total} - \theta_{no\,crack}$$

$$\theta_{crack} = \frac{4\sigma}{E'} S(a/b)$$



The following formula has better than 1% accuracy for any $a_{/b}$.

$$S(a_{b}) = \left(\frac{a_{b}}{1 - a_{b}}\right)^{2} \left\{ 5.93 - 19.69(a_{b}) + 37.14(a_{b})^{2} - 35.84(a_{b})^{3} + 13.12(a_{b})^{4} + 13.1$$



Method: Paris' Equation (**Paris 1957**) (See **Appendix B.**) Reference: **Tada 1973** (See also **pages 2.16, 2.27, 9.1** etc., for related solutions.)

Energy Release Rate, Prescribed Load vs. Prescribed Displacement, and Relation to Stress Intensity Factors

Prescribed load/thickness, *P*. Load-point displacement = Δ

G =energy release rate (J/m^2)

SE = strain energy of the system/thickness

 $P\Delta$ = potential energy/thickness of load

PE = energy of the system/thickness

Note that for any linear elastic system, $SE = P\Delta/2$, and thus for **prescribed load**:

 $PE = SE - P\Delta = -P\Delta/2$

The energy release rate for prescribed load is defined as

$$G = -\left(\frac{\partial PE}{\partial a}\right)_{P} \implies G = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial (P\Delta)}{\partial a}\Big|_{P} = \frac{P}{2} \left(\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial a}\right)_{P}$$

Define **compliance**,
$$C = \frac{\Delta}{P}$$

which depends only on geometry, including, a, E and v. Thus,

$$\left(\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial a}\right)_{P} = P \frac{dC}{da} \implies \qquad G = \frac{1}{2} P^{2} \frac{dC}{da}$$



Generic cracked body



Graphical interpretation of energy release rate due to crack advance

Energy Release Rate, continued: Role of compliance and loading conditions

As indicated in the figure, introduce a linear spring with compliance C_M in series with the cracked body. Let Δ_T be the total displacement through which *P* works. Now, let Δ_T be prescribed.

$$\Delta_{T} = \Delta + C_{M}P = \Delta + (C_{M} / C)\Delta$$
$$PE = SE + \frac{1}{2}C_{M}P^{2} = \frac{1}{2}C^{-1}\Delta^{2} + \frac{1}{2}C_{M}^{-1}(\Delta_{T} - \Delta)^{2}$$

and a straight-forward calculation (see pg.8 of notes) again gives

$$G = \frac{1}{2}P^2 \frac{dC}{da}$$



Note! The energy release rate does not depend on C_M .

In particular, G is the same for both prescribed load and prescribed displacement.

This is not intutive.

Most results for G are obtained either from analytical or numerical calculations (see later). However, the above formula permits experimental evaluation of G by experimentally measuring the compliance at two nearly equal crack lengths, a and a+da.

Energy Release Rate, continued: Relation between G and K's



Since G is independent of loading, consider a body under prescribed Δ .

Consider two configurations of the cracked body one with a and the other with $a+\Delta a$. Because the system is elastic, the energy released in advancing the crack Δa is the same as the work done in closing the crack from $a+\Delta a$ to a (see figure). Because Δ is prescribed, no work is done by applied loads in closing crack. The work to close the crack is

$$\Delta W = G\Delta a = \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\Delta a} \sigma_{22}(x,0) \Big[u_2(x,0^+) - u_2(x,0^-) \Big] dx \qquad \sigma_{22}(x,0) = K_1(a)/\sqrt{2\pi x}$$

$$= \frac{2}{\pi \overline{E}} K_1(a) K_1(a + \Delta a) \int_{0}^{\Delta a} \sqrt{\frac{\Delta a - x}{x}} dx \qquad u_2(x,0^+) - u_2(x,0^-) = K_1(a + \Delta a) \frac{8}{\overline{E}} \sqrt{\frac{\Delta a - x}{2\pi}}$$

$$\overline{E} = E \text{ in plane stress, } \overline{E} = E/(1 - v^2) \text{ in plane strain}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\overline{E}} K_1(a) K_1(a + \Delta a) \Delta a \qquad \text{Under all three modes, one finds}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{G = \frac{1}{\overline{E}} K_1^2 \text{ (Irwin's universal relation!)}} \qquad \qquad G = \frac{1}{\overline{E}} (K_1^2 + K_{11}^2) + \frac{1}{2G} K_{11}^2$$

Discuss units

Energy Methods for Determining Energy Release Rate

Double cantilever beam specimen

Compute compliance of specimen treating each arm as a cantilever beam, and consider the specimen to have unit thickness and P is force/thickness

$$\frac{\Delta}{2} = \frac{Pa^3}{3\overline{E}I} = \frac{4Pa^3}{\overline{E}b^3} \implies C \equiv \frac{\Delta}{P} = \frac{8a^3}{\overline{E}b^3}$$
$$G = \frac{1}{2}P^2\frac{dC}{da} = \frac{12P^2a^2}{\overline{E}b^3}$$



Since this is a mode I problem (by symmetry), Irwin's relation gives

$$K_I = 2\sqrt{3} \frac{Pa}{b^{3/2}}$$

See notes pg. 10 for the problem of a thin strip (plane stress) with a semi-Infinite crack subject to rigid grips. This is an exact solution. Note it is independent of crack length.

$$G = \frac{E\Delta^2}{4(1-v^2)b}, \ K_I = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1-v^2}}\frac{E\Delta}{\sqrt{b}}$$



Energy Methods for Determining Energy Release Rate, continued

Delamination of stressed thin film on elastic substrate

1D analysis (uniaxial stress in film) σ

strain energy/area in film far ahead of tip = $\frac{1}{2} \frac{\sigma^2 h}{E}$

strain energy/area in film far behind tip = 0energy released/area due to crack advance:

$$G = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sigma^2 h}{E}$$

which is independent of crack length.

This problem does not have symmetry and it is an example where the crack is a combination of mode I and II. Later in the course we will determine the two stress intensity factors.

The simple result for G is valid when the crack is long enough such that steady-state conditions apply. In practice this means the crack length has to be long compared to the film thickness.