INTRODUCTION TO LINEAR ELASTIC FRACTURE MECHANICS

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Theoretical strength of a perfectly ordered crystalline lattice



Stress concentration at the vicinity of an elliptical hole





Infinitely narrow elliptical cavity Remote unifomr tensile stress field σ_{A}

$$U(a) = -\pi a^2 \sigma_A^2 / E' + 4a\gamma$$

Crack length

Unstable configuration

Cleavage by a wedge

• Obreimoff's experiment (cleavage of mica)





$$U\left(a\right) = \frac{Ed^{3}h^{2}}{8c^{3}} + 2a\gamma$$

Crack length

Stable configuration

Stress-separation function for two atom planes



• Energy balance for crack extension

$$dU = dU_M + dU_S = -GdA + wdA$$

where
$$G = -\left(\frac{\partial U_E}{\partial A} + \frac{\partial U_P}{\partial A}\right)_P = \left(\frac{\partial U_E}{\partial A}\right)_{\delta}$$
 Strain energy release rate

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial A} = 0 \qquad \qquad G = w \qquad \qquad \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{EQUILIBRIUM \ condition \ !!} \\ \mathsf{No \ dissipative \ processes \ !!} \end{array}$$

In most practical situations $G_c >> w$



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- Energy dissipation at the crack tip (plasticity, viscoelasticity) and/or in the bulk
- Dependence of actual fracture micro-mechanisms at the crack tip (process zone)

• The three modes of fracture



I : opening modeII: sliding mode (in plane shear)III: tearing mode (out of plane shear)

• Irwin slit-crack tip in rectangular and polar coordinates



$$\sigma_{ij} = \frac{K}{\sqrt{2\pi r}} f_{ij}(\theta)$$
$$u_i = \frac{K}{2E} \sqrt{\frac{r}{2\pi}} f_i(\theta)$$
$$K = \chi \sigma \sqrt{a}$$

K=f (geometry, applied loading)

Mode I crack loading

$$\kappa = (3-v)/(1+v), v' = 0, v'' = v,$$
 (plane stress)
 $\kappa = (3-4v), v' = v, v'' = 0,$ (plane strain).

Mode 1:

$$\begin{cases} \sigma_{xs} \\ \sigma_{yy} \\ \sigma_{zy} \end{cases} = \frac{K_1}{(2\pi r)^{1/2}} \begin{cases} \cos\left(\theta/2\right) \left[1 - \sin\left(\theta/2\right) \sin\left(3\theta/2\right)\right] \\ \cos\left(\theta/2\right) \left[1 + \sin\left(\theta/2\right) \sin\left(3\theta/2\right)\right] \\ \sin\left(\theta/2\right) \cos\left(\theta/2\right) \cos\left(3\theta/2\right) \\ \sin\left(\theta/2\right) \cos\left(\theta/2\right) \left[1 + \sin^2\left(\theta/2\right)\right] \\ \sin\left(\theta/2\right) \cos\left(\theta/2\right) \left[1 + \sin^2\left(\theta/2\right)\right] \\ \cos^3\left(\theta/2\right) \\ \sin\left(\theta/2\right) \cos^2\left(\theta/2\right) \\ \frac{\pi_{zs}}{\pi_{zs}} = r'(\sigma_{xs} + \sigma_{yy}) = r'(\sigma_{zz} + \sigma_{yy}) \\ \sigma_{zs} = \sigma_{ys} = \sigma_{zs} - \sigma_{\theta_s} = 0 \\ \begin{cases} u_r \\ u_y \end{cases} = \frac{K_1}{2E} \left\{\frac{r}{2\pi}\right\}^{1/2} \left\{ (1 + v) \left[(2\kappa - 1)\cos\left(\theta/2\right) - \cos\left(3\theta/2\right)\right] \\ (1 + v) \left[(2\kappa + 1)\sin\left(\theta/2\right) - \sin\left(3\theta/2\right)\right] \end{cases} \\ \begin{cases} u_i \\ u_\theta \end{cases} = \frac{K_1}{2E} \left\{\frac{r}{2\pi}\right\}^{1/2} \left\{ (1 + v) \left[(2\kappa - 1)\cos\left(\theta/2\right) - \cos\left(3\theta/2\right)\right] \\ (1 + v) \left[(2\kappa - 1)\cos\left(\theta/2\right) - \sin\left(3\theta/2\right)\right] \end{cases} \\ u_z = -\left(v'' z/E\right) \left(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy}\right) = -\left(v'' z/E\right) \left(\sigma_{zr} + \sigma_{\theta\theta}\right). \end{cases}$$

• Extension and closure of the crack increment CC'



Fixed grip (*u*=const) calculation of the strain-energy release:

$$\delta U_E = 2 \int_{a+\delta a}^a 1/2 \left(\sigma_{yy} u_y + \sigma_{xy} u_x + \sigma_{zy} u_z \right) dx$$
$$G = -\left(\frac{\partial U_E}{\partial c}\right)_u = K_I^2 / E' + K_{II}^2 / E' + K_{III}^2 (1+\nu) / E$$

plane strain : $E' = E/(1-\nu^2)$; plane stress : E' = E

Cohesive zone models

Dugdale, Barenblatt



- Non linear cohesive stress p(X,u) acting accross the walls of the slip
- Superposition of the K fields arising from the 'external' and 'internal contributions'

Physical origins of the cohesive zone

- Surface forces acting across the crack faces
- Platic deformation at the crack tip (Dugdale model)
- Crack bridging in crazes (polymer fracture)
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Fig. 9.9. Newly formed craze in thin slice cut from uncrazed bulk polystyrene; craze growing from left to right in a direction perpendicular to that of the uniaxial tensile stress (Courtesy D. Hull [106]).



Fig. 9.10. Electron micrograph of the central section of a craze grown as that in Figure 9.9 (Courtesy D. Hull [106]).



Fig. 9.11. Schematic diagram of the variation in polystyrene craze structure with increasing croze width; the angle at the tip of the craze is exaggerated and the scale in region d is larger than that of a to c. (Courtesy D. Hull [115]).



Hyp: $p(X, u)_{X \to c} \to 0$

Irwin

 $u(X)_{X \to c} \propto X^{(3/2)} \qquad \qquad u(X) \propto X^{1/2}$ $\epsilon_{X \to c} = du/dX \to 0 \qquad \qquad \epsilon_{X \to c} \to \infty$

Path independent integrals about crack tip : The J integral approach

Eshelby, Rice





$$U_M = U_E + U_P = \int_A \Phi dA - \int_S \chi \cdot \mathbf{u} ds$$
$$-dU_M/da = \int_S \left[\Phi dy - \chi \cdot (\partial \mathbf{u}/\partial x) \, ds \right] = .$$

J integral \rightarrow holds for any *reversible* deformation response *linear* or non *linear* \rightarrow path independent

Brittle materials : Hertzian fracture / I



Fig. 8.3. Cone crack in soda-lime glass. Photographed under load (P = 40 kN) from cylindrical punch, optical micrograph (block edge length 50 mm). Crack makes angle $\simeq 22^{\circ}$ to free surface. (After Roesler, F. C. (1956) *Proc. Phys. Soc. Lond.* **B69** 981.)



Fig. 8.2. Hertzian cone crack system. (a) Evolution of cone during complete loading (+) and unloading (-) cycle. (b) Geometrical parameters.

- (ii) Crack initiation at the edge of the contact
- (iii) Stable crack propagation
- (iv) Instable crack propagation : formation of the Hertzian cone
- (v) Stable propagation of the cone
- (vi) Crack closing during unloading





Maximum tensile stress:

$$\sigma_R = \frac{1}{2} (1 - 2\nu) p_m \approx 0.1 p_m$$

p_m = mean contact pressure

Point surface loading: sub-surface stress fields



Fig. 8.1. Boussinesq field, for principal normal stresses σ_{11} , σ_{22} and σ_{33} . (a) Stress trajectories, half-surface view (top) and side view (bottom). (b) Contours, side view. Unit of contact stress is p_0 , contact diameter 2*a* (arrow). Note sharp minimum in $\sigma_{11}(\phi)$ and zero in $\sigma_{22}(\phi)$, dashed lines. Plotted for v = 0.25. (See Johnson, K. L. (1985) *Contact Mechanics*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, Ch. 3.) Critical load for the propagation of the Hertzian cone crack

• Stress-based approach:
$$\sigma_R = \frac{1}{2}(1-2\nu)p_m \implies P_c \propto R^2$$

Experimentally $P_c \propto R$!

• Linear elastic fracture mechanics analysis approach

Non homogeneous stress field: the stress intensity factor is evolving as along the crack path



Fig. 8.30. Reduced plot of principal tensile stress σ_{11} vs distance downward along $\sigma_{22}-\sigma_{33}$ stress trajectory surface in Hertzian field. Asymptotes (dashed lines) correspond to bounds of uniform field $\sigma_{11} = \sigma_{\rm T}$ (Griffith flaw, $c \ll a$) and Boussinesq inverse-square field (Roesler cone, $c \gg a$). Note rapid stress falloff below surface, $\sigma_{11}/\sigma_{\rm T} < 0.1$ at s/a = 0.1. Plots for $\beta = 1$, $v = \frac{1}{3}$. (After Frank, F. C. & Lawn, B. R. (1967) *Proc. Roy. Soc. Lond.* A299 291; Lawn, B. R. & Wilshaw, T. R. (1975) *J. Mater. Sci.* 10 1049.)



Branchs(1) et (3) : instable propagation Branchs (2) et (4) : stable propagation

Crack of length c_c :Hertzian cone formation

Critical load

$$P_c \propto R \frac{K_c^2}{E^*}$$

Brittle materials : cone indentation

Vickers

- Plastic deformation
- Radial and median cracks





Residual stresses during unloading:

- \rightarrow Nucleation and propagation of median cracks
- \rightarrow Surface propagation of radial cracks

Fig. 8.7. Radial-median and lateral crack systems. (a) Evolution during complete loading (+) and unloading (-) cycle. Dark region denotes irreversible deformation zone. (b) Geometrical parameters of radial system.

Toughness measurements using indentation

$$\sigma_R Y \sqrt{a_c} = K_c$$

$$K_c = \chi \frac{P}{c^{3/2}}$$

 $\boldsymbol{\chi}$: non dimensional parameter dependent on Poisson's ratio

•<u>Vickers</u>

$$K_c = \xi \left(\frac{E}{H}\right)^{1/2} \frac{P}{c^{3/2}}$$

 $\xi = \xi_0 (\cot \Phi)^{2/3}$

 ξ_0 : non dimensional constant function of the strain distribution



Vickers indentation

Determination of fracture toughness from indentation testing

Half-penny crack $\sigma_R \sqrt{\pi a_c} = K_c$

• <u>sphere on flat</u> c >> a

$$K_c = \chi \frac{P}{c^{3/2}}$$

 χ Non dimensional parameter depending on Poisson's ratio

• Vickers, cone...

$$K_{c} = \xi \left(\frac{E}{H}\right)^{1/2} \frac{P}{c^{3/2}}$$
$$\xi = \xi_{0} \left(\cot \Phi\right)^{2/3}$$

 ξ_0 Non dimensional parameter depending on indenter's geometry



Vickers indentation

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