

## 0604H2: Fracture

# HW Exam-II: Topics Related to Fracture at Crack tips and Work of Fracture

Due Monday, Dec 13, 2021

### 1, 2 and 3

For each of the following cases: describe in words how the mechanism of fracture at the crack tip can be related to the work of fracture.

- Describe in words how the local parameters for fracture (they should be physically obvious) can be merged to calculate the work of fracture).
- Explain how the units for above parameters can be combined to obtain the work of fracture which has units of  $\text{J m}^{-2}$ .

1. Case I: ideal or brittle fracture

2. Case II: fracture by small scale yielding at the crack tip which leads to local plastic tearing.

3. Case III: fracture by the stretching and breaking of fibrils at the crack tip in polymers.

### 4. Type: Case I (Part I)

The sine-wave model for bond rupture, discussed in today's class, where total separation was assumed to be achieved with a stretch displacement equal to one half of the interatomic spacing, that is  $0.5\Omega^{1/3}$ , that is, half the sine wave stretches from 0 to  $0.5\Omega^{1/3}$ .

With the above assumption, **please derive** that the elastic strain at maximum stress is given by

$\epsilon_f = \frac{1}{2\pi}$ , and the maximum stress (at fracture) =  $\epsilon_f E$  where  $E$  is the elastic modulus.

**Show that** the above result when substituted into the equations for stress near the crack tip (in terms of the applied stress intensity factor - the

equations are given on the following page), leads to the following expression for  $K_{IC}$

$$\sigma_{yy}^*(\theta=0, r=\Omega^{1/3}) = \frac{K_{IC}}{\sqrt{2\pi\Omega^{1/3}}} = \epsilon_f E \quad (1)$$

## 5. Type: Case I (Part II)

In this problem you are asked to show whether or not the following universal equation in linear elastic fracture mechanics

$$\frac{K_{IC}^2}{E} = 2\gamma_s$$

is obeyed in the atomistic calculation of the surface energy from the point of view of work done to break a bond.

Note that:

- the work done is equal to the area under the half sine wave
- this is the work done per one bond which occupies an area of  $\Omega^{2/3}$  of the surface. Show the units of this work are in Joules
- you must multiply by the number of bonds per unit area to find the expression of  $2\gamma_s$  which has units of  $J m^{-2}$ .

Compare your result with Eq. (1). There will probably be a discrepancy.

•Check and recheck your algebra to be absolutely sure that you have the correct analysis.

•If there is still a difference - please give your reasons. Which assumption is likely to be incorrect, and how can you demonstrate your conclusion.

