

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA  
Department of Mechanical Engineering

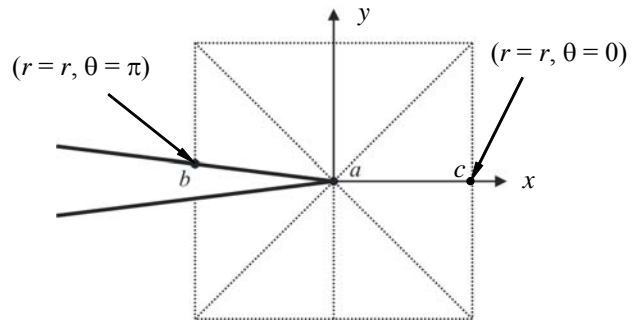
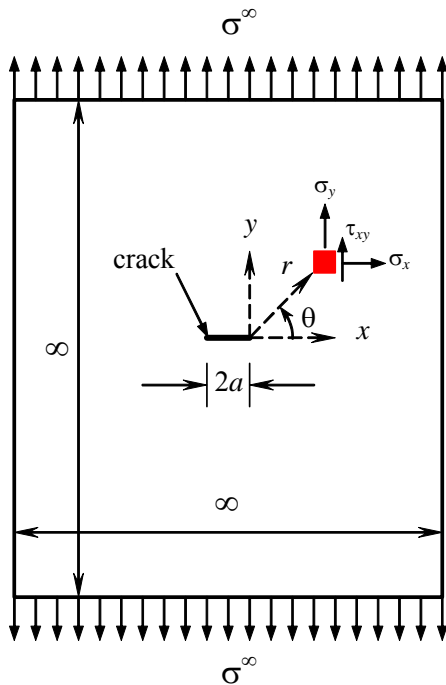
Fracture Mechanics  
ME:5159

Homework #2  
Total Points: 20

Assigned: February 17, 2020  
Due: February 28, 2020

**Problem 1:**

A linear-elastic finite element analysis is performed for a wide (infinite) plate with a through crack (see figure below) subjected to mode-I tensile loading. The far-field tensile stress is  $\sigma^\infty = 200$  MPa and the crack length is  $2a = 50$  mm. Assuming *plane strain* condition, the stress normal to the crack plane ( $\sigma_y$ ) at  $\theta = 0$  and relative displacement ( $u_y$ ) at  $\theta = \pi$  are calculated at node points near the crack tip as a function of  $r/a$  and are tabulated below. The elastic constants are as follows:  $E = 192$  GPa and  $\nu = 0.2$ .



$\theta = 0$		$\theta = \pi$	
$r/a$	$\sigma_y/\sigma^\infty$	$r/a$	$u_y/2a$
0.005	11	0.005	$9.99 \times 10^{-5}$
0.01	8.07	0.01	$1.41 \times 10^{-4}$
0.02	6	0.02	$1.99 \times 10^{-4}$
0.04	4.54	0.04	$2.80 \times 10^{-4}$
0.06	3.89	0.06	$3.41 \times 10^{-4}$
0.08	3.5	0.08	$3.92 \times 10^{-4}$
0.1	3.24	0.1	$4.36 \times 10^{-4}$
0.15	2.83	0.15	$5.27 \times 10^{-4}$
0.2	2.58	0.2	$6.00 \times 10^{-4}$
0.25	2.41	0.25	$6.61 \times 10^{-4}$

Using the correlation methods, one can estimate the mode-I stress-intensity factor (SIF) for this problem from the following equations:

Stress-Correlation Method (Equation 4 in Lecture No. 9)

$$\sigma_y = \frac{K_I}{\sqrt{2\pi r}} \quad (\text{for } \theta = 0) \quad (1)$$

Displacement-Correlation Method (Equation 3 in Lecture No. 12)

$$u_y = \frac{K_I}{\mu} \sqrt{\frac{r}{2\pi}} (2 - 2\nu) \quad (\text{for } \theta = \pi) \quad (2)$$

- Using Equations 1 and 2 and the tabulated finite element results of  $\sigma_y$  and  $u_y$ , estimate the SIFs as a function of  $r/a$ , and denote them as  $K_{I,SC}$  and  $K_{I,DC}$ , respectively.
- Recall that the exact solution ( $K_{I,E}$ ) of SIF for this problem is (Equation 5 in Lecture No. 9)

$$K_{I,E} = \sigma^\infty \sqrt{\pi a} \quad (3)$$

To evaluate the accuracy of stress- and displacement-correlation methods, define two error functions, such as,

$$e_{SC} = \frac{K_{I,E} - K_{I,SC}}{K_{I,E}} \times 100 \quad (4)$$

and

$$e_{DC} = \frac{K_{I,E} - K_{I,DC}}{K_{I,E}} \times 100, \quad (5)$$

respectively. Develop plots of  $e_{SC}$  and  $e_{DC}$  as a function of  $r/a$ . Which correlation method gives better accuracy? Why? Comments.

**Problem 2:**

Consider a material which has  $K_{Ic} = 40 \text{ MPa}\sqrt{\text{m}}$  ( $36.4 \text{ ksi}\sqrt{\text{in}}$ ). Each of the five specimens in Table on page 81 of Lecture No. 10 has been fabricated from this material. Assume:  $B = 25.4 \text{ mm}$  (1 inch),  $W = 50.8 \text{ mm}$  (2 inches),  $S/W = 4$ , and  $a/W = 0.5$ . If failure occurs when  $K_I > K_{Ic}$ , estimate the failure load for each specimen. Which specimen has the highest failure load? Which has the lowest? Comments.