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FULLY-PLASTIC CRACK GROWTH IN ASYMMETRIC PLANE STRAIN-BENDING

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### FULLY PLASTIC CRACK GROWTH ON ASYMMETRIC PLANE: STRAIN BENDING

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### Abstract

The crack growth ductility of notched parts depends highly on the mode of loading as well as on the geometry. Specimens of symmetrical geometry are commonly tested to predict the plastic behavior of the material under specific loading conditions, but vessels and other structural components often have welds which introduce asymmetric geometry and inhomogeneous properties. In single edge groove, fully-plastic tensile specimens with asymmetries that give a single shear band, a crack can propagate with 1/3 the ductility of...
symmetrical shear bands. Since bending involves more triaxiality, the ductility in asymmetrically grooved cantilever bending is likely to be further reduced, which may lead to an unsafe structure. The triaxiality, slip line geometry, and upper bounds to the limit load are described in detail. Medium strength, low-hardening steels (HY-80 and HY-100) were tested under configurations that showed more triaxiality under one single active slip line field than single edge notch tension specimens.

Two ductility measures were considered: first, a structural crack growth ductility defined as the displacement at the point where the load is applied, per unit of load drop; and second, the local crack growth ductility, defined as the local slip per unit of crack growth. The asymmetrical structural crack growth ductility, as well as the local crack growth ductility were as low as 1/4 of their respective symmetrical crack growth ductilities in HY-80, and in HY-100, asymmetrical structural crack growth ductility was 1/2 the symmetrical one and asymmetrical local crack growth ductility was 1/3 the symmetrical one.

In addition, when the local crack growth ductility in bending specimens is compared to that for single edge grooved tensile specimens, symmetrical bending gives 3/4 the ductility of symmetrical tension specimens, and asymmetrical bending gives 1/2 the ductility of asymmetrical tension specimens.

Thus, asymmetric bending configurations give lower ductilities than symmetric configurations or single edge grooved tension specimens. This should be taken into account in considering the safety of possibly crack structural components and pressure vessels.
Fully-Plastic Crack Growth in Asymmetric Plane Strain Bending

by Frank A. McClintock and F.J. Wu

Abstract

Crack growth ductility on notched specimens depends highly on the mode of loading as well as on the geometry. Specimens of symmetrical geometry are commonly tested to predict the plastic behavior of the material under specific loading conditions but vessels and other structural components often have welds which introduce asymmetric geometry and inhomogeneous properties. In single edge groove, fully-plastic tensile specimens with asymmetries that give a single shear band, a crack can propagate with 1/3 the ductility of symmetrical shear bands (Kardomateas 1963). Since bending involves more triaxiality, the ductility in asymmetrically grooved cantilever is likely to be further reduced, and therefore lead to unsafe structures. The triaxiality, slipline geometry, and upper bounds to the limit load are described in detail. Medium strength, low-hardening steels (HY-80 and HY-100) were tested under configurations that showed more triaxiality under one single active slipline field than single edge notch tension specimens.

Two ductility measures were considered: first, a structural crack growth ductility defined as the displacement at the point where the load is applied per unit of load drop; and second, the local crack growth ductility defined as the amount of local slip per unit of crack growth. The asymmetrical structural crack growth ductility as well as the local crack growth ductility were as low as 1/4 of their respective symmetrical crack growth ductilities in HY-80; and in HY-100, asymmetrical structural crack growth ductility was 1/2 the symmetrical ones and asymmetrical local crack growth ductility was 1/3 the symmetrical ones.

In addition, when the local crack growth ductility in bending specimens is compared to single edge groove tensile specimens, symmetrical bending give 3/4 the ductility of symmetrical tension specimens, and asymmetrical bending give 1/2 the ductility of asymmetrical tension specimens.

Thus, asymmetric bending configurations give lower ductilities than...
symmetric configurations or single edge grooved tension specimens. This should be taken into account in considering the safety of possibly cracked structural components and pressure vessels.

Introduction

If a structure cracks, it is desirable that any crack growth be fully plastic to provide large deflections both for stability by load-shedding to other parts of the structure, and simplicity of crack detection before failure of the entire structure. This desired crack growth ductility is reduced by asymmetric geometry that focuses the deformation into a single shear band, along which the crack advances into pre-damaged material, rather than between a pair of sliplines into new material. Such asymmetric geometries occur near welds and fillets in pressure vessels and other structures. Kardomees (1985) has shown that in asymmetric single-edge notched tensile specimens, crack growth along a single shear band reduces crack growth ductility by a factor of 3 in medium strength alloys with low strain hardening exponents \( n = 0.12 \). Even lower ductilities would be expected in bending which gives higher triaxiality, here taken to be the ratio of mean normal stress to the plane strain shear strength, \( \sigma_y / k \). Green and Hundy (1956) studied bend test specimens as in the Izod (cantilever) and Charpy (three point) bend tests, having either a \( V \) groove or a groove whose root is a circular arc. Although the Izod test is non-symmetrical, it has not been instrumented as the Charpy to provide the load-drop description required to calculate crack growth ductility. The question here is the extent to which asymmetry will reduce the crack growth ductility of symmetrical bend specimens.

To express the load-deformation characteristics of a cracked, fully-plastic structure in terms of crack tip singularities or any other local measures would require a fully-plastic stress and strain analysis. In a non-hardening material, slipline analysis applies to both rigid-plastic and elastic-plastic specimens when using strain and displacement increments. The slipline analysis can provide an upper bound to the limit load if the the displacement boundary conditions are
satisfied everywhere across the ligament and the applied load gives positive work. This provides a basis for specimen design and the interpretation of tests, as well as a guide and check for later finite element analysis.

Slipline Analysis

Consider a bar or a plate of rectangular cross-section with a deep, sharp groove on one side (Fig. 1). For ligament-to-depth ratios of less than 1/4, plane strain can be assumed. A weld or heat-affected zone near a crack may produce an asymmetry that can be modelled by adding a shoulder on the back surface of the specimen. The shoulder turns out to force the material to slip only on one of the two sliplines that would occur in the symmetrical geometry.

Slipline analysis gives the fully-plastic non-hardening stress and strain increment distribution. For high strength materials this assumption provides with reasonable estimates of stress distributions. Green (1952) used this analysis for symmetrically grooved rigid-plastic bars under pure bending. Later, Green and Hundy (1956) extended the analysis to three point bend specimens. Here we extend these analyses to a more general asymmetric geometries which could occur near a weld. The generic slipline field is shown in Fig. 2a. It consists primarily of an arc of radius, \( R_0 \), where the subscript represents the center of rotation of the arc, across which the assumed rigid material slides as the bend angle is increased. In addition, there may be two fields of constant stress along the groove and back surface, connected to the arc radius \( R_0 \) by two fans of radii, \( R_g \) and \( R_s \). These three variables, together with the angle of the slipline at the tip of the groove, the triaxiality of the field, and the limit load, are the unknowns that must be solved in order to completely describe the state in the fully plastic region. Therefore, in addition to the three equilibrium equations in a two-dimensional problem (2 force equations and 1 moment equation) it is necessary to use slipline theory to provide the remaining three equations.

In slipline analysis, a curvilinear element bounded by two orthogonal \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) sliplines, with mean normal stress, \( \sigma \), and maximum
shear stress, \( k \), obeys the Hencky equations of equilibrium (Hill (1985) pp.135-136):

\[
\begin{align*}
\sigma_0 &= 2k \cos \phi \quad \text{along an } \alpha \text{ line,} \\
\sigma_c &= -2k \cos \phi \quad \text{along a } \beta \text{ line.}
\end{align*}
\]

When equations 1a and 1b and the incremental slippage angle across the field are applied to the general slippage field of Fig. 2c the Hencky equations are:

\[
\begin{align*}
\sigma_0 &= \left(1 + 2\gamma\right)/k \tag{2a} \\
\sigma_c &= -\left(1 + 2\gamma\right)/k \tag{2b} \\
\gamma &= (\phi - 1)/2 - \psi - \omega/2 \tag{2c}
\end{align*}
\]

Five boundary conditions are then used to solve for the slippage geometry and the stress state of the ligament. The first two are the equilibrium conditions in the two dimensions \( x \), and \( y \):

\[
\begin{align*}
\sigma_0 \left[ \cos(3\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) + \cos(3\pi/4 + \gamma) \right] + \\
\sigma_c \left[ \cos(\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) + \cos(\pi/4 + \gamma) \right] + \\
R_0 \left[ \cos(\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) + \sigma_b \cos(3\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) \right] + \\
R_0 \left[ \cos(\pi/4 + \gamma) + \sigma_c \cos(7\pi/4 + \gamma) \right] = 0 \tag{3}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\sigma_0 \left[ \sin(3\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) + \sin(3\pi/4 + \gamma) \right] + \\
\sigma_c \left[ \sin(\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) + \sigma_b \sin(3\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) \right] + \\
R_0 \left[ \sin(\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) + \sigma_b \sin(3\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) \right] + \\
R_0 \left[ \sin(3\pi/4 + \gamma) + \sigma_c \sin(7\pi/4 + \gamma) \right] = -P \tag{4}
\end{align*}
\]

Then the rotational equilibrium must also be satisfied. The moment, \( M \), taken about the center of arc BC, can be calculated from the following:

\[
\begin{align*}
\sigma_0 \left( R_0^2 + R_0^2 \right) - \sigma_c \left( R_0^2 + R_0^2 \right) + 2R_0 \left( R_3 + R_5 \right) &= \\
= 2P \left[ L + R_0 \cos(3\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) - \sigma_b \cos(7\pi/4 - \gamma - \omega) \right] \tag{5}
\end{align*}
\]
The slipline geometry must satisfy the geometry of the specimen. Therefore, the last two boundary conditions are:

\[ R_g \cos(\pi/4 - \gamma - p) + \Re \cos((5\pi/4 + \psi) - \phi) - \Re [\cos(3\pi/4 - \gamma - p) + \cos(3\pi/4 + \psi)] = g \]  
\[ R_g \sin(\pi/4 - \gamma - p) + \Re \sin((5\pi/4 + \psi) - \phi) - \Re [\sin(3\pi/4 - \gamma - p) + \sin(3\pi/4 + \psi)] = -n \]

Equations 6 to 7 apply only until one of the constant stress regions disappears. Further analysis requires deriving the equations governing the shape of the slipline and the magnitude of the load for the new field. The special case of asymmetrical grooved bars with no shoulder restriction on the back surface of the specimen was analyzed by Green (1962). His result was used to check the above equations.

Figures 3b and 3c show the two possible sliplines that can occur in a bending specimen with a shoulder in the back surface. The possibility of the constant stress field to appear at the surface of the shoulder instead of at the back surface was analyzed, but the displacement boundary conditions were satisfied only for a shoulder flank angle, \( \omega \), greater than 0.214 radians (Fig. 3c). From the numerical analysis, the slipline of Fig. 3a turned out to require a lower upper bound to the limit load and therefore was named 'active field'. The slipline in Fig. 3b was called 'inactive field'. The fields are governed by the groove flank angles, the shoulder distance to the centerline, and the moment arm of the applied load. For the geometry in Fig. 3a the active field shows no constant stress field at the tip of the notch. For this special case where \( R_g = 0 \), the Hencky equations are:

\[ \sigma_\beta = -(1 + 2\psi) + 2\chi \]  
\[ \sigma_\gamma = -(1 + 2\psi) \]

The equilibrium equations (Eqs. 3 and 4) reduce to:

\[ \Re [\cos(\chi + \psi - \pi/4) + \cos(3\pi/4 + \psi)] + \sigma_\beta \cos(\chi + \psi - 2\pi/4) + \sigma_\gamma \cos(\pi/4 + \psi) + \Re [\cos(5\pi/4 + \psi) + \sigma_\gamma \cos(7\pi/4 + \psi)] = 0 \]
\[ R_0 \left( \sin(\chi + \psi - \pi/4) + \sin(3\pi/4 + \psi) + \right. \\
\left. \frac{\sigma_c}{\tau_c} \sin(\chi + \psi - 3\pi/4) + \frac{\sigma_c}{\tau_c} \sin(\pi/4 + \psi) \right) + \\
R_0 \left[ \sin(5\pi/4 + \psi) + \frac{\sigma_c}{\tau_c} \sin(7\pi/4 + \psi) \right] = -\epsilon \] (10)

and the moment equation to:

\[ \frac{\tau_c}{\tau_c} R_0^3 - \frac{\tau_c}{\tau_c} (R_0^2 + R_0^2) + 2 R_0 R_0 = \\
= 0 \text{ if } \cos(\chi - \psi - \pi/4) \] (11)

Simplifying the geometry of the slipline to only to slip arcs, Eqs. 6 and 7 reduce to:

\[ R_0 \cos(5\pi/4 + \psi) - R_0 \left[ \cos(\chi + \psi - \pi/4) + \cos(3\pi/4 + \psi) \right] = 0 \] (12)
\[ R_0 \sin(5\pi/4 + \psi) - R_0 \left[ \sin(\chi + \psi - \pi/4) + \sin(3\pi/4 + \psi) \right] = h \] (13)

In addition, the initial angle of the slipline at the tip of the groove \( \lambda_s \) can be found geometrically from the relation:

\[ \lambda_s = 3\pi/4 - \psi - \chi \] (14)

Equations 8 - 14 were solved numerically for the slipline geometry, as well as the mean normal stress, \( \sigma_\text{m} \), and the limit load, \( P \), for different cantilever lengths, \( L/h \), and shoulder offsets, \( g/h \). Table 1 describes the variation of the normalized load, \( P/k \), maximum mean normal stress, \( \sigma/k \), and radii, \( R/h \), as a function of the normalized shoulder distance, \( g/h \), for the two possible slipline fields. The regions of constant stress decrease as the shoulder distance from the centerline is increased. The limit load ratio decreases (as desired) as the moment arm is decreased, but at the expense of a decrease of triaxiality. Table 2 describes the slipline behavior, load, and maximum mean normal stress as a function of the moment arm. The criterion used to promote slip by only one field was to have the limit load of any possible field be higher than that of the lowest limit load to overcome strain hardening. The ratio of
was assumed first and found to be sufficient.

Figures 4 and 7 describe the effects of shoulder distance and moment
are respectively on the normalized load, mean normal stress, and geometry
of the active slipline field. In addition, the ratio of limit load
according to Eq. 15 is plotted in Figs. 4a and 5a.

For the special case of asymmetrically grooved specimens under pure
bending (Eq. 6) the analysis showed that the limit moment for the
inactive field was only 5% more than that for the active field.

Nevertheless, changing the groove flank angles to provide a highest ratio
of limit moment would increase the ratio of inactive to active limit
moments only to 5%. Strain hardening would overcome this small
difference and cause deformation on both slip lines. In addition, the
mean normal stress is smaller than for symmetrically grooved specimens,
and decreases as the shoulder distance increases. Preliminary
experiments on asymmetric pure bend specimens showed that two fields were
active. Table 8 gives the normalized limit moment and the normalized
mean normal stress for the two slipline fields as the shoulder distance
from the centerline, y/h, is varied from -0.2 to 0.7. Preliminary
experiments of asymmetrical geometry under pure bending verified the
theory by showing very pronounced yielding on both slip planes and no
reduction in ductility relative to symmetric specimens. These results
led to the above analysis for the cantilever beam loading type.

The experiments on cantilever bars provide an extension to the
studies of non-symmetrical specimens in a three point bend done by Green
and Hundy (1956) with the standard Izod test by describing the geometry
effects on load drop ductility.

Fracture Analysis Interpretation:

Crack growth is a mixture of sliding off and fracture. For
symmetrical bending specimens it may be idealized by assuming cycles of
alternate sliding on two slip-planes and fracture at the tip of the notch.
with the microscopic crack propagating at an angle and macroscopically parallel to the ligament, as described in Fig. 7a. In asymmetrical notched specimens, on the other hand, the crack advances into the pre-strained material in the general direction of the dominant slip line field, as shown in Fig. 8a. The ligament reduction is not equivalent to the crack growth as in the symmetrical case, or as in single grooved tension. For practical purposes, a 'structural crack growth ductility' \( \frac{d\sigma}{dP} \) is defined as the minimum displacement at the point where the load is applied per unit drop in applied load. A more fundamental understanding is given by the 'local crack growth ductility', defined as the crack growth per unit of slip. For symmetrical specimens, Broek (1966) suggests the use of a clip gauge to measure the crack opening displacement (COD). This value can be used to find an approximate value of crack tip opening displacement (CTOD) and stress intensity factor \( K \). Kanninen and Popelar (1985) review the COD and CTOD methods to study the crack growth on symmetrical specimens under three point bend for elastic-plastic materials. They defined the term, \( \frac{dJ}{d\alpha} \), as the change of J per unit of crack advance at a specific load point displacement. This term though has significance for a non-linearly elastic material can not be applied to fully-plastic problems. Slipline theory is the most appropriate method for describing the stress distributions across the fully-plastic ligament.

a) Asymmetrical specimens. When the crack propagates along a single shear band, as in the case of asymmetrical grooved cantilever bars, (Fig. 8a) the local crack growth ductility \( (\sigma_{\text{loc}})_{\text{a}} \) is defined as the amount of slip, \( d\sigma_{\text{s}} \), per unit of reduction of ligament, \( dh \).

\[
(\sigma_{\text{loc}})_{\text{a}} = \frac{d\sigma_{\text{s}}}{dh}
\]  

(16)

On the other hand, the structural crack growth ductility can be defined in terms of normalized displacement per unit of load drop. This quantity is found from experiments by plotting the displacement at the point of applied load, \( d\sigma_{\text{s}} \), normalized by the original ligament, \( l \), against the load drop ductility, normalized by the maximum load.
The first term of Eq. 17 is the ratio of the original ligament to the experimental maximum load and the second term is the maximum slope of the falling part of the load-displacement curve.

The relation between this measure of structural behavior to the local crack growth is accomplished by defining each term of the structural crack growth ductility. First, the displacement at the applied load can be described as follows: if \( r_p \) is the distance between points \( O \) and \( C \) with angle \( \lambda_p \) from the horizontal (Fig. 50), then:

\[
\lambda_p = \frac{R_x \sin \lambda + L}{\cos \lambda}
\]

where:

\[
\lambda_p = \frac{R_x \cos \lambda + a}{R_x \sin \lambda + L}
\]

then the displacement at the point where the load is applied:

\[
du_p = k_x \cos \lambda \, d\theta = (R_x \sin \lambda + L) \, d\theta
\]

\[
= (\sin \lambda + L/R_x) \, R_x \, d\theta
\]

The amount of slip can be calculated from the slipline arc radius, \( R_x \), and the bend angle \( \theta \):

\[
du_s = R_x \, d\theta
\]

Substituting Eq. 21 into 20 we get:

\[
du_p = (\sin \lambda + L/R_x) \, du_s
\]

From slipline analysis the normalized limit load was found to be a function of both normalized shoulder distance to centerline, \( y/n \), and moment arm, \( L/n \). In order to relate the structural and local crack growth ductility, it is important to describe the normalized applied load.
From slipline analysis this quantity was found to be a function of the shoulder distance to centerline and moment arm:

\[ \frac{P}{kbn} = \frac{P}{kbn} \left( \frac{L}{h}, \frac{F}{h} \right) \]  

(23)

Differentiating this function we get:

\[ \frac{dP}{khn} = \frac{(\partial P/kbn)}{(\partial g/h)} \frac{d(g/h)}{h} + \frac{(\partial P/kbn)}{(\partial L/h)} \frac{d(L/h)}{h} \]  

(24)

The values of the two derivatives of the normalized load in the right side of equation 24 are determined from the slipline analysis (Table 4). From Fig. 8c the change of normalized shoulder distance, \( d(g/h) \) can be described as follows:

\[ d(g/h) = \frac{g - g}{h} \frac{dh}{h} = \frac{g - dh/\tan \lambda}{h} = \frac{g}{h} \frac{dh}{h} \]

\[ = \frac{g}{h} \left( 1 - \frac{dh}{g \tan \lambda} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{dh}{h} \right) - \frac{g}{h} \]

As a result:

\[ d(g/h) = (g/h - \cot \lambda) \frac{dh}{h} \]  

(25a)

and similarly:

\[ d(L/h) = (L/h - \cot \lambda) \frac{dh}{h} \]  

(25b)

where:

\[ \cot \lambda = \frac{\cos \lambda}{\sin \lambda} + \frac{dc}{du} \frac{\cos \lambda}{\sin \lambda} \]  

(26)

Substituting Eqs. 25 into 24:

\[ -10 - \]
\[
\frac{\partial P}{\partial g/h} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial k_{bh}} \left( \frac{g/h}{\text{Cot} \lambda} \right) + \frac{\partial P}{\partial k_{bh}} \left( \frac{L/h}{\text{Cot} \lambda} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \frac{\partial k_{bh}}{\partial h} \frac{dh}{\partial h}
\]

Finally, substituting equations 22 and 23 into the structural crack growth ductility (Eq. 26) we get:

\[
\frac{dP}{dP} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial k_{bh}} \left( \frac{g/h}{\text{Cot} \lambda} \right) + \frac{\partial P}{\partial k_{bh}} \left( \frac{L/h}{\text{Cot} \lambda} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \frac{\partial k_{bh}}{\partial h} \frac{dh}{\partial h}
\]

Equation 29 is the general identity relating structural to local crack growth ductility. The parameters in this equation can be found from the previously described slipline analysis and experimental load-displacement curve with the exception of \( \lambda \) which is defined in Eq. 26. This parameter, \( \lambda \), depends on the microscopic amount of slip, \( d\lambda_s \), amount of fracture, \( d\lambda_c \), and angle of fracture, \( \lambda_c \). At this point, since the angle of slip, \( \lambda_s \), is known we assume that fracture occurs at the same orientation as the slip:

\[
\lambda_c = \lambda_s
\]

then from Eq. 26:

\[
\lambda = \lambda_s
\]

and Eq. 29 becomes:
where:

\[ d(\text{CTOD}) = 2 \cos \lambda_s \, du_s \]  

In symmetrical, pure bend specimens the structural crack growth ductility is defined in terms of the displacement per load drop. The load is characterized by the moment arm, \( L_a \), in which for four point
bending it is defined as the distance between the opposing loads (Fig. 7b):  

\[
\left. \frac{du_f}{dR} \right|_{str} = \frac{du_f}{dR} \tag{38}
\]

where

\[
\frac{du_f}{dR} = (\sin \lambda_s - L/Re) R \cos \delta
\]

and

\[
dR = dM/Le
\]

then,

\[
\left. \frac{du_f}{dR} \right|_{str} = \left. \frac{(\sin \lambda_s + L/Re) R \cos \delta}{M_{\text{max}}} \right|_{dM/Le} \tag{40}
\]

The numerator of the first term of Eq. 39 derives from slip line analysis second term is found by calculation the maximum slope of the falling part of the moment-bend angle curve, which is plotted from experiments.

In order to relate structural to local crack growth ductility in symmetrical specimens we need to describe the new introduced pure moment, \( \theta \), which can be achieved by four point bending. For a fully-plastic ligament a lower bound moment is obtained by assuming a stress distribution satisfying equilibrium equations and nowhere exceeds yielding:

\[
M = 2k b h^2/4 \tag{41}
\]

differentiating we get:

\[
dM = k b h \cos \lambda_s \frac{du_f}{dR} \tag{42}
\]

then

\[
\frac{d\delta}{dM_{\text{max}}} = \frac{du_f}{dM_{\text{max}}} \cos \lambda_s \tag{43}
\]

Finally, substituting Eqs. 37 and 43 into 40 the structural crack
growth ductility leads to:

\[
\left(\frac{L}{2}\right)_{\text{str}} = \frac{(\sin \theta)_{L} + L/\text{Ro}}{k \varepsilon \cos \lambda_{S}} \frac{\text{d}\left(C_{IDB}\right) / \varepsilon}{\text{ah}}
\]

\[
= \frac{(\sin \lambda_{S} - L/\text{Ro}) \text{L} / h}{k \varepsilon \cos \lambda_{S}} \left(L_{\text{loc}} \varepsilon_{S}\right)
\]

Knowing the structural crack growth ductility of an experiment, the local crack growth ductility can be estimated by the use of Eq. 44 for symmetrical specimens and Eq. 25 for asymmetrical. These equations provide a relation between macroscopically measurable parameters and microscopically crack behavior which can then be used to compare to other types of experiments like the single edge groove tensile tests (McClintock and Kardomateas 1986).

Experiments and Results

a) General description. Asymmetric notched rectangular bars were tested under cantilever and pure bending. The geometry was taken from the results of the slipline analysis that gave the most triaxial state with a reasonable assurance of only one active slipline.

Rectangular bars of HY-80 and HY-100 were used in the bending tests as typical of high strength low alloy structural steels. In addition, these low hardening materials are more appropriate for verifying the analysis using the slipline theory. The tensile behavior of these alloys is listed in Tables 5 and 6 respectively. The geometry of the specimens, taken from the slipline analysis, is described in Fig. 3. In addition, Tables 5 and 6 give the experimental results in a tabulated form.

Stability of the tests was an important consideration due to the expected higher crack growth rate for the asymmetrical case. It was therefore required to design the bending fixtures with the least deflection per unit load. Preliminary tests to determine overall compliances gave values of $1.08 \times 10^{-6}$ and $6.71 \times 10^{-6}$ mm/N for the machine and
fixtures respectively.

b) Results. A typical load-displacement curve is shown in Fig. 16: the test procedure was first to produce a low-cycle fatigue initiation crack of one cycle, at the tip of the notch followed by a monotonic bending load for the crack growth from which data was taken. Again, the results are summarized in Table 5.

**Maximum load reached on the first cycle.** The load is normalized by the value calculated from the slipline analysis using \( k = TS/\gamma \). For the symmetrical case, the experimental value agreed to 15% of the analytical, while for the asymmetrical cases the values were 43% greater than the analytical.

**Plastic angular deflection on low cycle fatigue.** The idea behind this low cycle fatigue crack initiation was to produce enough plastic strain to initiate the crack without fatiguing the ligament. In most cases, the structure is subject to similar repeated loads before fracture rather than being subject to high cycle fatigue followed by an overload. Low cycle fatigue seems to produce a crack initiation into the direction of the numerically calculated slipline angle.

**The idealized crack initiation displacement** is defined as the difference in between the extension of the steepest part of the loading curve to the maximum load (point A of Fig. 16), and the displacement at maximum load (point B). This quantity is a convenient measure of initiation and can be used to compare with the initiation displacement measured from the fracture surface profiles through a stereo microscope.

**Structural crack growth ductility.** For a measure of crack growth resistance, the structural crack growth ductility is obtained from the experiments by calculating the steepest slope of the falling part of the load displacement curve. From the design point of view, the structural crack growth ductility, \( D_{\text{str}} \), (Eq. 17) describes the physical behavior of the structure. In HY-80 (Fig. 5), the asymmetric bending specimens give 1/4 the load drop ductility of symmetrical specimens while for HY-100 (Fig. 6) the asymmetric specimen gives only 1/2 the load drop ductility of symmetrical ones. This reduction of structural ductility, although is not as critical as for the tension tests, is significantly important and should be considered to avoid possible catastrophic
failures.

Local crack growth ductility. In bending local crack growth ductility, as defined in Eq. 16 for asymmetrical specimens and in Eq. 35 for symmetrical ones, can be derived from structural data according to Eqs. 35 and 44 respectively. For a shoulder distance to centerline, \( a/h = 0 \), asymmetrical HY-80 specimens give \( 1/3 \) the local crack growth ductility of symmetrical ones while asymmetrical HY-100 specimens give \( 1/4 \) the ductility of symmetrical ones. When the shoulder distance to the centerline increases, the ratio of slip to fracture increases as expected since the triaxiality decreases with increasing \( a/h \). Assuming that the fracture angle, \( \lambda_c \), was the same as the slip angle, \( \lambda_s \), HY-80 asymmetric specimens with \( a/h = 0.5 \) give a ratio of slip to fracture, \( du/c = 3.5 \) while with \( a/h = 0 \) there is barely any slip compared to fracture.

Conclusion

In 1\( \beta \)-hardening asymmetric bending specimens, the structural crack growth ductility is \( 1/4 \) of the symmetric ones. On the other hand, local crack growth ductility depends on the triaxiality of the ligament. For backsurface shoulder distances, \( a/h = 0 \), the asymmetric specimens give \( 1/4 \) the ductility of symmetrical ones and as the shoulder distance increases triaxiality decreases, and therefore local crack growth ductility increases up to 7 times the symmetrical ones at \( a/h = 0.5 \).

The limit load calculated numerically was found to agree with experiments with 3\% error for symmetrical specimens and 29\% error for asymmetrical specimens.

Acknowledgements

We would like to express our thanks to Arthur Rudolph and Bill Henry for the great job in machining the specimens. Also, express our gratitude to A. Wiggs of DMSRDC for providing with the HY-80 and HY-100 steel, here used in the bending experiments. Special thanks to the
project monitor, Dr. Y. Rajapakse for being enthusiastic about this work, and we give acknowledgement and thanks to the Office of Naval Research, Solid Mechanics Program, Contract N00014-82-K-0025 for sponsoring this exciting research.
References


TABLE 1. Load, Stress, and Radii for Active and Inactive Fields in a Cantilever Bar as a function of the Shoulder Distance $g/h$.

For a moment arm $l/n = 2$.

### Table 1a. Active Field

$$0.0 < g/h < 0.7$$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Load</th>
<th>$P/kbh &lt; 0.5327$</th>
<th>Stress</th>
<th>$2.2005 &lt; \sigma/k &lt; 1.6575$</th>
<th>Rad Top</th>
<th>$0.0 = Rg/h = 0.0$</th>
<th>Rad Ctr</th>
<th>$0.5241 &lt; Ro/h &lt; 0.7473$</th>
<th>Rad Bot</th>
<th>$0.2764 &gt; Rs/h &gt; 0.0516$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Table 1b. Inactive Field

$$0.0 < g/h < 0.3870$$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Load</th>
<th>$0.3566 &lt; P/kbh &lt; 0.4809$</th>
<th>Stress</th>
<th>$2.3562 = \sigma/k = 2.3562$</th>
<th>Rad Top</th>
<th>$0.2003 &gt; g/h &gt; 0.0565$</th>
<th>Rad Ctr</th>
<th>$0.3835 &lt; Ro/h &lt; 0.5462$</th>
<th>Rad Bot</th>
<th>$0.1983 &gt; Rs/h &gt; 0.0$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

$$0.3870 < g/h < 0.5980$$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Load</th>
<th>$0.4809 &lt; P/kbh &lt; 0.6055$</th>
<th>Stress</th>
<th>$2.3562 &lt; \sigma/k &lt; 2.4763$</th>
<th>Rad Top</th>
<th>$0.0565 &gt; Rg/h &gt; 0.0$</th>
<th>Rad Ctr</th>
<th>$0.5462 &lt; Ro/h &lt; 0.5963$</th>
<th>Rad Bot</th>
<th>$0.0 = Rs/h = 0.0$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
TABLE 2. Load, Stress, and Radii for Active and Inactive Fields in a Cantilever Bar as a Function of the Moment Arm 1/h

For a shoulder distance ρ/h = 0.0

**Table 2a. Active Field.**

\[3.0 < (l/h) < 3000\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Load</th>
<th>Stress</th>
<th>Rad Top</th>
<th>Rad Ctr</th>
<th>Rad Bot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(0.2606 &gt; (P/kbh) &gt; 0.0026)</td>
<td>(2.0650 &lt; (\sigma/k) &lt; 2.5001)</td>
<td>(0.0 = (Rg/h) = 0.0)</td>
<td>(0.5995 &gt; (Ro/h) &gt; 0.5440)</td>
<td>(0.1677 &lt; (Rs/h) &lt; 0.2371)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2b. Inactive Field.**

\[3.0 < (l/h) < 3000\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Load</th>
<th>Stress</th>
<th>Rad Top</th>
<th>Rad Ctr</th>
<th>Rad Bot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(0.2335 &gt; (P/kbh) &gt; 0.0002)</td>
<td>(2.3522 = (\sigma/k) = 2.3522)</td>
<td>(0.1669 &gt; (Rg/h) &gt; 0.0967)</td>
<td>(0.4043 &lt; (Ro/h) &lt; 0.4493)</td>
<td>(0.1891 &gt; (Rs/h) &gt; 0.1752)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TABLE 3a. Moment, Stress, and Radii for *earsid. Field in a Pure Bend Test as a Function of the Shoulder Distance \( g/h \) for a Flank Angle \( w = 0 \).

\[
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}
\hline
& -0.2 < g/h < 0.3989 & 0.3989 < g/h < 0.7 \\
\hline
\text{Moment} & 1.2606 < 2M/kbh^2 < 1.5770 & 1.5770 < 2M/kbh^2 < 2.0488 \\
\text{Stress} & 3.0855 > \sigma/k > 2.5010 & 2.5010 > \sigma/k > 2.2551 \\
\text{Rad Top} & 0.0 = Rg/h = 0.0 & 0.0 < Rg/h < 0.0483 \\
\text{Rad Ctr} & 0.3886 < Ro/h < 0.5442 & 0.5442 < Ro/h < 0.6439 \\
\text{Rad Bot} & 0.5027 > Rs/h > 0.2373 & 0.2373 > Rs/h > 0.1653 \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]
TABLE 3d. Moment, Stress, and Radii for Farside Field in a Pure Bend Test as a Function of the Shoulder Distance \( g/h \) for a Flank Angle \( w = 45 \degree \).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( w = 45 )</th>
<th>(-0.203 &lt; g/h &lt; 0.2756)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moment</td>
<td>( 1.2600 &lt; 2M/kbh^2 &lt; 1.4047 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stress</td>
<td>( 2.3562 = \sigma/k = 2.3562 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad Top</td>
<td>( 0.1491 &gt; Rg/h &gt; 0.0 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad Ctr</td>
<td>( 0.3856 &lt; Ro/h &lt; 0.5592 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad Bot</td>
<td>( 0.3028 &gt; Rs/h &gt; 0.0103 )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( 0.2756 &lt; g/h &lt; 0.2934 )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad Top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad Ctr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad Bot</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( 0.2934 &lt; g/h &lt; 0.7 )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad Top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad Ctr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rad Bot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4a. Geometry as a function of shoulder distance to track tip

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>g/h</th>
<th>L/h</th>
<th>P/kbh</th>
<th>Psi</th>
<th>Gamma</th>
<th>o/k</th>
<th>Lamda</th>
<th>Rx/h</th>
<th>Rc/h</th>
<th>2M/kbh</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>2.2786</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>61.21</td>
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<td>0.12</td>
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<td>1.7421</td>
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<td>2.4410</td>
<td>59.74</td>
<td>0.7376</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>2.2758</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.0523</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2.4410</td>
<td>59.74</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4b. Geometry as a function of moment arm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>g/h</th>
<th>L/h</th>
<th>P/kbh</th>
<th>Psi</th>
<th>Gamma</th>
<th>o/k</th>
<th>Lamda</th>
<th>Rx/h</th>
<th>Rc/h</th>
<th>2M/kbh</th>
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<tr>
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<td>6.4E-5</td>
<td>1.7124</td>
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<td>3.2244</td>
<td>3.9977</td>
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Table 4c. Geometry as a function of moment arm

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<th>L/h</th>
<th>P/kbh</th>
<th>Psi</th>
<th>Gamma</th>
<th>o/k</th>
<th>Lamda</th>
<th>Rx/h</th>
<th>Rc/h</th>
<th>2M/kbh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2.2786</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.7440</td>
<td>2.4565</td>
<td>61.21</td>
<td>0.7788</td>
<td>0.3566</td>
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<tr>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>2.2772</td>
<td>0.0137</td>
<td>1.7421</td>
<td>2.4537</td>
<td>60.77</td>
<td>0.7744</td>
<td>0.3526</td>
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<td>0.13</td>
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<td>0.0269</td>
<td>1.7379</td>
<td>2.4410</td>
<td>59.74</td>
<td>0.7376</td>
<td>0.3516</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.14</td>
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<td>0.0396</td>
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<td>2.4410</td>
<td>59.74</td>
<td>0.7376</td>
<td>0.3516</td>
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<td>0.7376</td>
<td>0.3516</td>
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<tr>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>0.16</td>
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<td>0.0651</td>
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<td>59.74</td>
<td>0.7376</td>
<td>0.3516</td>
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<td>0.0779</td>
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<td>2.4410</td>
<td>59.74</td>
<td>0.7376</td>
<td>0.3516</td>
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---
TABLE 5a. Ambient temperature mechanical properties of HY-80 steel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composition:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.18% C, 2-3.25% Ni,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.10-0.40% Mn,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.15-0.35% Si</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties:</th>
<th>Yield Strength</th>
<th>Tensile Strength</th>
<th>Hardness</th>
<th>Reduction in area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MN/m²</td>
<td>MN/m²</td>
<td>kgf/mm²</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>587</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>69.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 5b. Experimental results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1/h = 2.0)</th>
<th>Sym.</th>
<th>Asymmetrical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(g/h)</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ligament size (mm)</td>
<td>10.41</td>
<td>10.79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Elastic Slope (N/rad) x 1000 | 1431 | 2083 | 2083 | 2173 |
| Maximum Load / Limit Load    | 0.976 | 1.26 | 1.18 | 1.195 |
| Plastic Angle (Strain) on Low Cycle Fatigue (rad) | |
| Forward                      | 0.106 | 0.069 | 0.079 | 0.095 |
| Reverse                      | 0.086 | 0.065 | 0.064 | 0.100 |
| 2nd Cycle Lim. Load (Percent of Max.) | 89.2% | 96%  | 89.3% | 93.3% |
| Crack Initiation (rad)       | 0.088 | 0.069 | 0.079 | 0.082 |
| Maximum Mean Normal Stress (σ/k) | 2.75 | 2.2  | 1.78 | 2.78 |
| Norm. Structural Crack Growth Ductility (duP/ho)/(dP/Pmax) | 0.576 | 0.575 | 0.752 |
| Structural Crack Growth Ductility (duP/dP) x10^-5 (Eq.17) | -26.56 | -7.94 | -5.94 | -7.66 |
| Local Crack Growth Ductility (Dg) Eqs. (22) (36) | 0.180 | 0.042 | 0.604 | 0.780 |
TABLE 6a. Ambient temperature mechanical properties of HY-100 steel.

Composition: 0.20\% C, 2.25-3.50\% Ni, 0.10-0.40\% Mn, 0.15-0.35\% Si

Properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties</th>
<th>Yield Strength</th>
<th>Tensile Strength</th>
<th>Hardness</th>
<th>Reduction in area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MN/m$^2$</td>
<td>MN/m$^2$</td>
<td>kgf/mm$^2$</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>693</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>68.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 6b. Experimental results

\( (l/h = 2.0) \)

\( (g/h) \)

\( (g/h) \)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ligament size (mm)</th>
<th>Sym.</th>
<th>Asymmetrical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11.68</td>
<td>11.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elastic Slope (N/rad) x 1000

|                         | 1929 | 2314 | 2133 | 2462 |

Maximum Load / Limit Load

|                         | 1.019| 1.289| 1.269| 1.177|

Plastic Angle (Strain) on Low Cycle Fatigue (rad)

Forward

|                         | 0.05 | 0.069| 0.071| 0.06  |

Reverse

|                         | 0.036| 0.039| 0.04 | 0.06  |

2nd Cycle Max. Load (Percent of Max.)

|                         | 91.1\% | 91\% | 98\% | 93.4\% |

Crack Initiation (rad)

|                         | 0.031 | 0.048| 0.05 | 0.057 |

Maximum Mean Normal Stress (\( \sigma/k \))

|                         | 2.75  | 2.2  | 2.2  | 1.78  |

Norm. Structural Crack Growth Ductility (\( \frac{d\mu_P}{h_0}/dP/P_{max} \))

|                         | 0.998 | 0.825| 1.30 |

Structural Crack Growth Ductility (\( \frac{d\mu_P}{dP} \) x10$^{-5}$) (Eq.17)

|                         | -19.63| -12.16| -10.15| -14.21 |

Local Crack Growth Ductility (\( D_g \)) Eqs. (22) (36)

|                         | 0.183 | 0.072| 0.060| 1.37  |
Figure 1. Typical example of an asymmetrically grooved rectangular bar under bending.
Figure 2a. General slip line field for an asymmetrically grooved cantilever bar.

Figure 2b. Free body diagram of the general slip line field.
Figure 2c. Slipline field for a cantilever loaded bar with shoulder deformation.
Figure 3a. Active field.

Figure 3b. Inactive field.

Figure 3. Slipline fields for a cantilever loaded bar.
Figure 4a. Norm. load and stress for a cantilever bar as a function of shoulder distance to crack tip, g/h @ L/h=2
Figure 4b. Normalized radii for a cantilever bar as a function of shoulder distance to crack tip, g/h @ L/h=2
Figure 5a. Norm. load and stress for a cantilever bar as a function of moment arm, L/h @ g/h=0
Figure 5b. Normalized radii for a cantilever bar as a function of moment arm, $L/h @ g/h = 0$
Figure 6. Slipline fields for an asymmetrically grooved bar under bending.
Figure 7a. Crack tip opening displacement, (CTOD), process on a symmetrically grooved/loaded specimen under two active sliplines.

Figure 7b. General geometry
Figure 8a. Crack growth process in asymmetrically grooved cantilever specimens.

Figure 8b. Relation between general direction, \( \lambda \), slip angle, \( \lambda_s \), and fracture angle, \( \lambda_c \).
Figure 9. Geometric factor, $F_g$ vs. moment arm, $L/h$.
Figure 10. Typical load-displacement curve of bending experiments.
END
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