

# The Calculation in whole Process Rate Realized with Two of Type Variable under symmetrical cycle for Elastic-Plastic Materials Behavior

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**Keywords:** Two types of variables; short crack; long crack; in whole process rate; elastic-plastic material.

**Abstract.** This paper adopts two types of variables  $a$  and  $D$  among fatigue-damage-fracture disciplines, Put forward several calculation models of the crack growth rate and the damage evolving rate at each stage for elastic-plastic steels with cracks which are obtained to use the mathematical methods in mechanics and combining program calculation of computer. Provide some conversion methods between the variables, the equations and the dimensional units; Indicate their physical and the geometrical meanings for some key parameters; Communicate the cross relations between their computing models at each stage and between the disciplines each other. This will be having practical significance for promoting developing and applying of each discipline.

## Introduction

Adopt the crack size  $a$  as a variable in the fracture mechanics to describe crack growth process, and adopt the damage variable  $D$  in the damage mechanics to describe a damage evolutive process. If can communicate and convert the relations each other for that between the damage variables, the equations and the dimensional units which can describe the material behavior between varied disciplines and provide some conversion methods, thus we are also able to adopt the same variable  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  or the variables  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  to compute the crack growth rate or damage evolving rate for their curves by divided two stages severally; Even can also adopt same variable  $a$  or  $D$  by means of computing program to describe its change rule in whole process. Such this will be having practical significance for stint manpower and fund in fatigue-damage-fracture test, for promoting developing and applying of each discipline.

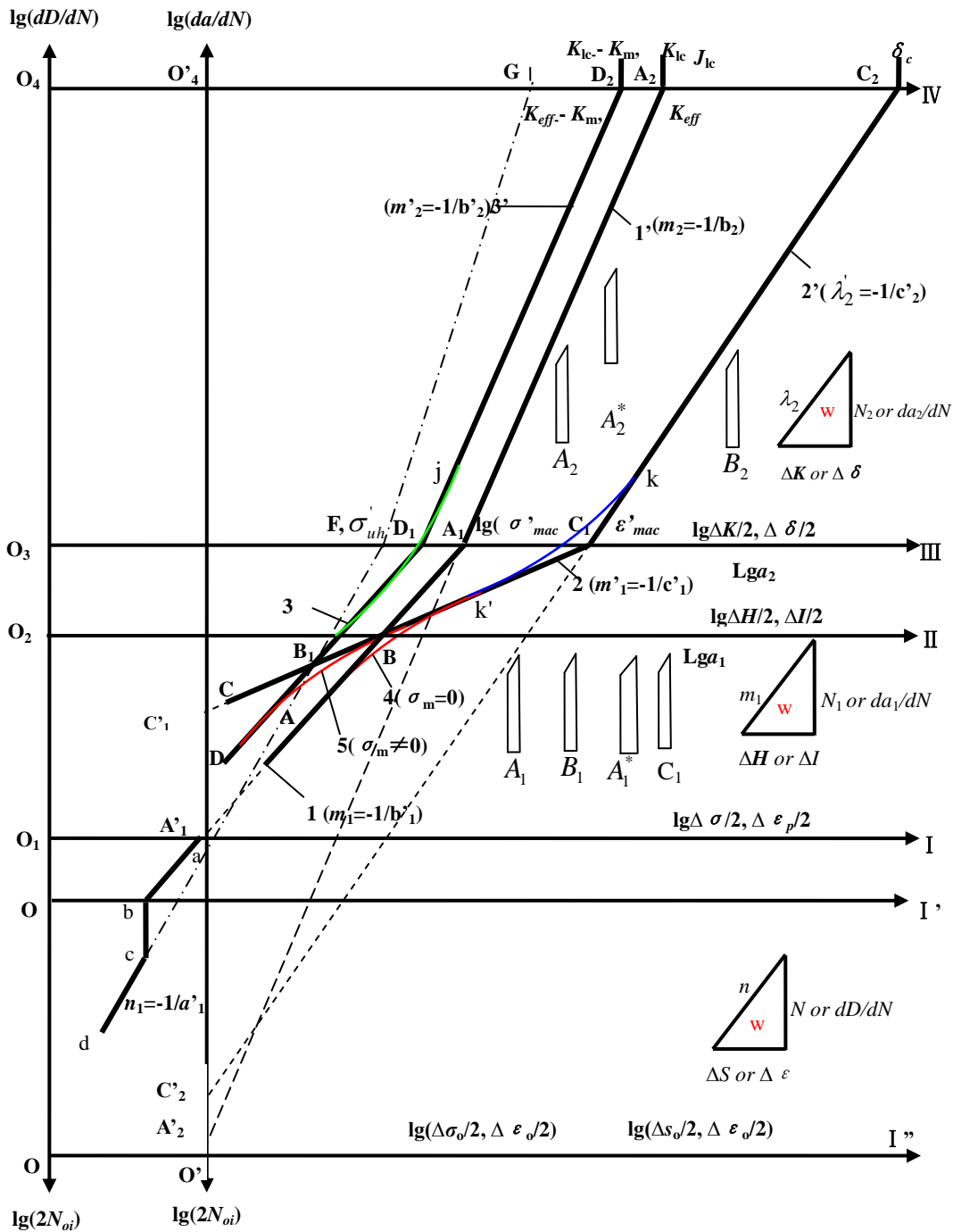


Figure. 1 Bidirectional combined coordinate system and bidirectional curves in the whole process (Combined cross figure of fatigue-damage-fracture)

### The calculations of the rate at each stage for elastic-plastic material with crack

For elastic-plastic material with short crack  $a_1$ , its growth rate can be calculated by means of the multiplication with plastic strain and stress parameters  $\varepsilon \times \sigma$  at the crack forming stage; For long

crack  $a_2$ , can adopt the stress intensity factor  $K_1$  as well as the crack tip open displacement  $\delta_t$  to calculate, but their calculations are restricted by the work stress  $\sigma \leq 0.5\sigma_s$  or  $\sigma > 0.5\sigma_s$  ( $\sigma_s$  is yield stress) at the crack growth stage.

**The computing of rate at crack forming stage.** The growth rate curves of short crack  $a_1$  for the elastic-plastic material at crack forming stage (the first stage) are just described with curve 4 ( $\sigma_m = 0$ ) in the positive direction coordinate system in Fig1[1~3]. And its computing equation about short crack growth rate is,

$$da_1 / dN_1 = A_1^* \cdot Q^{\frac{m_1 m_1'}{m_1 + m_1'}} \quad (1)$$

$$A_1^* = 2[4(\sigma'_f \varepsilon'_f)]^{\frac{-m_1 m_1'}{m_1 + m_1'}} \frac{(\ln a_{fc} - \ln a_{01})}{(N_{fc} - N_{01})}, (\sigma_m = 0) \quad (2)$$

$$Q = (\varepsilon_p \sigma) \cdot a_1^{1/\left(\frac{m_1 m_1'}{m_1 + m_1'}\right)}, (MPa \cdot \frac{m_1 m_1'}{m_1 + m_1'} \sqrt{m}) \quad (3)$$

Where the parameter  $Q$  is defined as the short-crack strain-stress factor, it is driving force of short

crack growth at first stage. Its unit is  $MPa \cdot \frac{m_1 m_1'}{m_1 + m_1'} \sqrt{m}$ .  $m_1$  or  $m_1'$  is material constant under high cycle or low cycle fatigue, respectively.  $m_1 = -1/b_1'$ ,  $b_1'$  is fatigue strength exponent under high cycle fatigue;  $m_1' = -1/c_1'$ ,  $c_1'$  is fatigue ductility exponent under low cycle fatigue. The parameter  $A_1^*$  is a comprehensive material constant, it should obtain from experiment. Author think, its physical meaning of the  $A_1^*$  is a concept of power, is a maximal increment value of used energy to make fracture in a cycle; Its geometrical meaning is a maximal area of micro-trapezia to approximate to beeline, is an intercept between  $O_1 - O_3$  on the y-axis which is a projection of corresponding to curve 4 (Fig.1). Its slope of micro-trapezia area just is corresponding to the exponent  $\frac{m_1 m_1'}{m_1 + m_1'}$  of rate equation (1). The comprehensive material constant  $A_1^*$  is having function relation with among other each parameter in equation (2) [1~3].  $a_{01}$  is micro-crack initial size at the first stage,  $a_{fc}$  is crack

size corresponding to the stress amplitude  $\sigma'_{fc}$  or strain amplitude  $\varepsilon'_{fc}$  to make achieving to fracture in one cycle;  $N_{01}$  is an initial life,  $N_{01} = 0$ ;  $N_{fc}$  is to make fracture life in a cycle, So,

$$\frac{(\ln a_{fc} - \ln a_{01})}{(N_{fc} - N_{01})} = 1 \quad (4)$$

Come to light, there are obvious difference between long crack and short crack behavioral characteristics, conform to their own characteristics, should provide a transitional size  $a_{tr}$  ( $a_{mac}$ ) from short crack to macro-long crack, so the equation (2) become as form below

$$A_{1tr}^* = 2[4(\sigma'_f \varepsilon'_f)]^{-\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \frac{(\ln a_{mac} - \ln a_{01})}{(N_{mac} - N_{01})}, \sigma_m = 0 \quad (5)$$

Here, physical meaning of  $A_{1tr}^*$  is also a concept of power that is the maximal increment value used out energy from short-crack growth to long-crack size  $a_{mac}$  in one cycle (for example steel 16MnR, suppose to take its transitional size  $a_{tr} = a_{mac} = 1mm$ , so that computing equation of short crack growth rate connected with long crack growth rate is as follow

$$da_1 / dN_1 = A_{1tr}^* \cdot Q^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \quad (6)$$

Its expansion equation should be

$$da_1 / dN_1 = 2[4(\sigma'_f \varepsilon'_f)]^{-\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times (\Delta \varepsilon_p \Delta \sigma)^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times a_1, \quad (7)$$

If use the damage variable  $D_1$  to express that is equivalent with above mentioned eq. (7), then its equation of damage evolving rate is

$$dD_1 / dN_1 = A_{1tr}^* \cdot Q^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} = A_{1tr}^* \cdot (\Delta \varepsilon_p \Delta \sigma)^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times D_1 \quad (8)$$

Where the parameter  $Q'$  in eq (8) is converted from corresponding to  $Q$ , the parameters  $Q'$  is defined as the damage strain-stress factor that are also driving force of damage evolving process of material, its unit is  $MPa \cdot D^{\frac{1}{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}}}$  or  $MPa$ . Here it must be defined in 1m (meter) equivalent to 1000 of damage-units, 1mm ( millimeter ) equivalent to one of damage-unite and must put up conversion of dimension and units. It should point that unit of the  $da_1 / dN_1$  in eq. (6) and (7) is  $m/cycle$ , and the unit of the  $dD_1 / dN_1$  in eq. (8) is unit number of damage per cycle ( $D/cycle$ ).

**The computing of rate at crack growth stage.** In Fig.1, the beeline  $C_1C_2$  via logarithm to predigest transacting can be represented as growth behavior for long crack. Come to light that the crack tip open displacement  $\delta_t$  can describe its behavior; its equation is as discussed Dover [4]

$$\frac{da_2}{dN_2} = B_2 \times \Delta\delta_t^{\lambda_2} \quad (9)$$

Where the parameter  $\lambda_2$  is material constants,  $B_2$  is a material constant and should obtain from experimentation at crack growth stage (the second stage). Authors repeated research and think that its physical meaning is also a concept of power that is the maximal increment value used energy  $(\Delta\delta_c)^{-\lambda_2} / cycle$  to make fracture in one cycle, its geometrical meaning is a micro-trapezia area to approximate to beeline, also is an intercept between  $O_3 - O_4$  on the y-axis (Fig.1), its slope of micro-trapezia area just is corresponding to exponent  $\lambda_2$  of rate equation. The parameter  $B_2$  is a comprehensive material constant which is to have a function relation among with other parameter as follow,

$$B_2 = 2(2\delta_c)^{-\lambda_2} \times (a_{c2} - a_{02}) / (N_2 - N_{02}), (\sigma_m = 0) \quad (10)$$

$$v_{tr} = (a_{c2} - a_{02}) / (N_2 - N_{02}) \approx 6 \times 10^{-8} \sim 1 \times 10^{-7}, (m/cycle) \quad (11)$$

Author research finding that the parameter  $v_{tr}$  is a constant of rate, is defined as a transitional rate from short crack to long crack, it is existing rate in name only caused by made for prefabricated crack of specimen,  $v_{tr}$  must be confirmed from experiment.  $a_{c2}$  and  $a_{02}$  are critical size and initial size at the second stage.  $N_2$  and  $N_{02}$  are critical life and initial life. For the sake of safety, the comprehensive constant  $B_2$  should be computed as follows

$$B_{2eff} = 2(2\delta_{2eff})^{-\lambda_2} \times (a_{2eff} - a_{02}) / (N_2 - N_{02}), (\sigma_m = 0) \quad (12)$$

Where the  $\delta_{2eff}$  is the effective value of the crack tip open displacement during steady growth course for long crack which it must also be obtained from experiment. Thus, equation of rate at second stage is become as following form

$$\frac{da_2}{dN_2} = 2(2\delta_{2eff})^{-\lambda_2} \times (\Delta\delta_t)^{\lambda_2} \quad (13)$$

**Computing of rate to arise small plastic strain zone.** For computing of long crack growth rate under the condition at rack tip only to arise small plastic strain zone, which it should be used by the D-M' mathematical model to compute crack tip open displacement range  $\Delta\delta_t$  as discussed by [5],

$$\Delta\delta_t = \left( \frac{8\sigma_s a_2}{\pi \cdot E} \ln \sec \frac{\pi \times \Delta\sigma}{2\sigma_s} \right) \quad (14)$$

Where  $\Delta\delta_t$  can be deduced and obtained from fracture mechanics as following form

$$\Delta\delta_t = \frac{K_{1\max}^2 - K_{1\min}^2}{E \cdot \sigma_s} \quad (15)$$

And the parameter  $\delta_{eff}$  in eq. (12) could be deduced as following forms, suppose that

$$\delta_{eff} = \left( (K_{1c} / \sigma_s)^2 \times \frac{\sigma_s}{E} \right)_{2eff} = (0.15 \sim 0.5)\delta_c; \text{ or } \delta_{eff} = (0.15 \sim 0.5)\delta_c \quad (16)$$

$$\delta_c = \varepsilon_s \left( \frac{K_{1c}}{\sigma_s} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{K_{1c}}{\sigma_s} \right)^2 \times \frac{\sigma_s}{E} \quad (17)$$

Here  $K_{1c}$  is the critical value of stress intensity factor. So the growth rate of long crack at the second stage is expressed as following form,

$$\frac{da_2}{dN_2} = 2 \left( 2(K_{1c} / \sigma_s)^2 \times \frac{\sigma_s}{E} \right)_{2eff}^{\lambda_2} \times v_{tr} \left( \frac{8\sigma_s a_2}{\pi \cdot E} \ln \sec \frac{\pi \times \Delta\sigma}{2\sigma_s} \right)^{\lambda_2} \text{ (m/cycle)} \quad (18)$$

If put up conversion for variable, in equation (13) adopt  $\Delta\delta_t'$  replace the  $\Delta\delta_t$ , and  $\Delta\delta_t'$  is defined to be “crack tip damage open displacement range”, then the  $\Delta\delta_t'$  is just the driving force of material damage at crack growth stage under  $\sigma \leq 0.5\sigma_s$  condition, so the damage evolving rate is

$$\frac{dD_2}{dN_2} = 2 \left( 2(K'_{1c} / \sigma_s)^2 \times \frac{\sigma_s}{E} \right)_{2eff}^{-\lambda_2} \times v_{tr} \left( \frac{8\sigma_s D_2}{\pi \cdot E} \ln \sec \frac{\pi \times \Delta\sigma}{2\sigma_s} \right)^{\lambda_2} \text{ (D/cycle)} \quad (19)$$

Where the material constant  $K'_{1c}$  is defined as the critical damage stress intensity factor of equivalent to  $K_{1c}$ , its unit is  $MPa\sqrt{D}$ . The unit of other parameter in equation is invariant. It must be point that the unit of crack growth rate is the m/cycle in eq.(18); but the unit of damage evolving rate is the unit number of damage per cycle (damage-unit number /cycle) in eq.(19), that is equivalent to crack growth size per cycle.

**Computing of rate to arise bigger plastic strain zone.** On the other hand, under the stress condition  $\sigma > 0.5\sigma_s$ , according to the model as discussed by reference [6] to compute the crack tip open displacement, it can deduce by same method as follow

$$\frac{da_2}{dN_2} = 2(2\delta_{2eff})^{-\lambda_2} v_{tr} \times \left( \pi a_2 \sigma_s [(\varepsilon_{\max} - \varepsilon_{\min}) / \sigma_s] \right)^2 / E \quad (20)$$

Where  $\delta_{2eff}$  notionally take  $(0.3 \sim 0.7)\delta_c$ , but it must be confirmed from experiment.  $E$  is a modulus of elasticity.  $\varepsilon_{max}$ ,  $\varepsilon_{min}$  is severally maximal and minimal strain value. On the other hand, the damage evolving rate equation become below,

$$\frac{dD_2}{dN_2} = 2(2\delta'_{2eff})^{-\lambda_2} v_{tr} \times \left( \pi D_2 \sigma_s [(\varepsilon_{max} - \varepsilon_{min})/\sigma_s]^2 / E \right)^{\lambda_2} \quad (21)$$

### Computing of rate in whole process

It should also point that positive curve  $aBk'C_1kC_2$  ( $\sigma_m = 0$ ) in the positive direction coordinate system in Fig 1 is just describing the changing law of the rate in whole process for elastic-plastic material behavior. Thus we are able to adopt the same variable  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  or the variables  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  to compute the evolving rate for the curves by divided two stages severally; Even can also adopt same variable  $a$  or  $D$  by means of computing program to describe its change rule in whole process.

Under work stress  $\sigma \leq 0.5\sigma_s$ , if adopt crack size  $a$  as variable, computing expression of crack growth rate in whole process is as following form,

$$\begin{aligned} da/dN = & 2[4(\sigma_f \times \varepsilon_f)]^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times (\Delta \varepsilon_p \Delta \sigma)^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times a \quad (m/cycle) \\ & + 2 \left( 2(K'_{1c} / \sigma_s)^2 \times \frac{\sigma_s}{E} \right)^{-\lambda_2} \times v_{tr} \left( \frac{8\sigma_s a}{\pi \cdot E} \ln \sec \frac{\pi \times \Delta \sigma}{2\sigma_s} \right)^{\lambda_2} \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

If adopt the damage variable  $D$ , computing expression of damage evolving rate in whole process is as following form,

$$\begin{aligned} dD/dN = & 2[4(\sigma_f \times \varepsilon_f)]^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times (\Delta \varepsilon_p \Delta \sigma)^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times D \quad (D/cycle) \\ & + 2 \left( 2(K'_{1c} / \sigma_s)^2 \times \frac{\sigma_s}{E} \right)^{-\lambda_2}_{eff} \times v_{tr} \left( \frac{8\sigma_s D}{\pi \cdot E} \ln \sec \frac{\pi \times \Delta \sigma}{2\sigma_s} \right)^{\lambda_2}, \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Under stress  $\sigma > 0.5\sigma_s$  condition, if adopt crack size  $a$  as variable, the expression of crack growth rate in whole process is

$$da/dN = 2[4(\sigma_f \times \varepsilon_f)]^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times (\Delta \varepsilon \Delta \sigma)^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times a + 2(2\delta'_{eff})^{-\lambda_2} \times v_{tr} \left( \pi a \sigma_s [(\varepsilon_{max} - \varepsilon_{min})/\sigma_s]^2 / E \right)^{\lambda_2} \quad (24)$$

If adopt the damage variable  $D$ , the expression of damage evolving rate in whole process is as following form

$$dD/dN = 2[4(\sigma_f \times \varepsilon_f)]^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times (\Delta \varepsilon_p \Delta \sigma)^{\frac{m_1 m_1}{m_1 + m_1}} \times D + 2(2\delta'_{eff})^{-\lambda_2} \times v_{tr} \left( \pi D \sigma_s [(\varepsilon_{max} - \varepsilon_{min})/\sigma_s]^2 / E \right)^{\lambda_2}, \quad (25)$$

## Summary

1. For elastic-plastic materials, the short-crack stress-strain factor  $Q$  and the damage stress-strain factor  $Q'$  expressed with multiplication should be and could be defined severally as driving force of the short-crack growth in fracture mechanics and as driving force of damage evolving in damage mechanics at first stage.
2. Want to the computation expressions for the crack growth rate to make conversion to the expressions of the damage evolving rate, its key consist in to make the crack size  $a$  convert to be the damage variable  $D$ . Only define the “1mm of crack size” equivalent to “1 unit of damage value” ; The dimension and unit of other parameters in equation are all to keep invariability, again via mathematical derivation can convert their relations and must define their relative dimensions and units.
3. The parameters  $A_{1tr}^*$  and  $B_{2eff}$  are respectively comprehensive material constants at the first and the second stage, they are all with other parameters to have functional relations, their physical meanings are a concept of power, are a maximal increment value of used energy in one cycle; their geometrical meanings are a micro-trapezia area to approximate to beeline.

## Acknowledgments

Authors thank sincerity the Zhejiang Province Natural Science fund Committee that give to support and provide subsidization of research funds. Numbers of supporting project is Y1111267.

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