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Micromechanisms of Fracture and Fatigue

In a Multiscale Context

 Springer

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There are only a few things that may improve when getting older. One of these is a grasp on the rules of Nature.

Preface

Classical concepts and numerical methods of mechanical engineering such as, for example, fracture mechanics and finite element analysis focus on macroscale problems where the microstructure is incorporated by using averaging constitutive laws. On the other hand, the domain of materials science and solid state physics focuses on investigation of atomic bonds, lattice defects, microstructural elements and their interactions at nano, micro and meso scales. However, a recent development in fracture and fatigue research clearly indicates that the most promising and effective concepts are based on coupling engineering mechanics with materials science within so-called multiscale fracture models. The objective of these approaches is to bridge the enormous gap between time and space scales and, therefore, they constitute a great challenge in the sense of scientific knowledge. Moreover, they still drive at psychological barriers of conservative mechanical engineers and/or material scientists. Therefore, an overwhelming majority of books about fracture and fatigue were written from the point of view of either mechanical engineers or material scientists. To our knowledge, a pioneering attempt to produce a successful integrated concept of fracture was made by Kelly and Macmillan [1]. Since that time, however, many new methods and concepts have been developed which should be incorporated into advanced multiscale models of fracture and fatigue.

This book was written as an overview of scientific results achieved by the authors during about 40 years of their research. However, another strong motivation was to support advanced trends in fracture and fatigue which lead to the development of multiscale concepts for securing the integrity of engineering components and structures. This second aim has always prevailed over the first. Therefore, the book is composed in a compact manner and provides a rather comprehensive survey of fracture micromechanisms and related multiscale models. Although these models were predominantly proposed by the authors of this book, many passages devoted to models that were published by other authors are included in order to ensure a consistent presentation of the subject. A prevailing part of the book reflects the joint work of authors

at the Brno University of Technology. However, several results and models originate from the research of the first author, performed at the Military Institute of Material Science and Technology from 1973 to 1985. The opportunity to present these results is much appreciated since, for obvious reasons, they were not allowed to be published in international scientific journals at that time.

The book addresses students at graduate and postgraduate levels, lecturers, materials scientists and mechanical engineers, as well as materials physicists and chemists. Any kind of criticism or advice that can help to improve the text will be very welcome.

Many results presented in this book were achieved either in the frame of international scientific collaboration or appeared as a consequence of stimulating discussions with colleagues from foreign universities and research institutes. Our very special thanks go to Prof. R. Pippan from the Institute of Materials Science, Austrian Academy of Sciences, in Leoben, Austria, Prof. V. Vitek from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA and Prof. Y. Murakami from the Kyushu University in Fukuoka, Japan, for our stimulating discussions during our long-term collaboration. Our warm thanks go to Dr. A. Doig from the Military Academy in Shrivenham, England, and Dr. R. Gröger from the Los Alamos National Laboratory, USA, for their fruitful comments on the scientific content and English language of this book. We are also deeply indebted to Prof. O. Kolednik, Prof. J. Janovec, Prof. M. Jenko, Prof. Y. Kondo, Dr. G. Chai, Prof. Y. Kitamura, Prof. C. Laird, Prof. S. Stanzel-Tschegg, Dr. M. Sauzay, Prof. M. Zehetbauer, Prof. A. Krasowski, Prof. E. Macha, Prof. A. Shaniavsky and Prof. L. Tóth for helpful and friendly discussions associated with joint publications and/or scientific meetings and visits.

There are also a number of Czech colleagues who directly or indirectly contributed to this book. Let us first mention a long-term collaboration, fruitful discussions and extended joint work with Prof. M. Šob from the Masaryk University in Brno and Prof. P. Lejčák from the Institute of Physics, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in Prague. Furthermore, Dr. P. Lukáš from the Institute of Physics of Materials, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in Brno and Dr. F. Kroupa (†) from the Institute of Plasma Physics, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in Prague have helped us very much particularly during the first periods of our research activities. We are also grateful to Prof. J. Švejcar, Dr. I. Saxl (†), Prof. I. Dlouhý, Prof. B. Vlach, Prof. M. Kotoul, Dr. P. Ponížil, Prof. K. Stránský, Prof. I. Dvořák, Dr. J. Siegl, Dr. L. Obdržálek, Prof. J. Zeman, Prof. L. Kunz, Prof. Z. Knésl, Prof. P. Lukáč, Dr. A. Machová, Dr. V. Paidar, Prof. V. Navrátil, Prof. J. Polák, Dr. M. Holzmann, Prof. J. Kohout, Prof. R. Foret, Dr. P. Staněk, Dr. A. Buchal, Dr. K. Obrtlík, Prof. M. Šlesár (†), Prof. M. Bílý, Dr. V. Oliva and Dr. H. Lauschmann for helpful discussions associated with joint publications and/or scientific meetings.

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Brno,
December 2009

Jaroslav Pokluda
Pavel Šandera

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