MODELING OF DYNAMIC FRACTURE PROBLEMS USING ALE FINITE
ELEMENT FORMULATION

By
Abdelgader I. Abdelgalil

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

In
THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

We accept this thesis as conforming
to the required standard

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
May 2002

© Abdelgader I. Abdelgalil, 2002
In presenting this thesis in partial fulfillment of the requirements for an advanced degree at the University of British Columbia, I agree that the Library shall make it freely available for reference and study. I further agree that permission for extensive copying of this thesis for scholarly purposes may be granted by the head of my department or by his or her representatives. It is understood that copying or publication of this thesis for financial gain shall not be allowed without my written permission.

Department of Mechanical Engineering
The University of British Columbia
2324 Main Mall
Vancouver, Canada
V6T 1Z4

Date: May 27, 2002
Abstract

The problem of dynamic crack propagation is widely addressed in the literature. The few available analytical solutions are limited to simple and idealized geometries and loading conditions. On the other hand, major approximations and inconsistent assumptions exist in published numerical models.

In this thesis, the problem of dynamic crack propagation is modeled using a fully coupled Arbitrary Lagrangian Eulerian (ALE) formulation. The ALE equilibrium equations are derived, discretized using isoparametric finite elements and implemented into an ALE dynamic fracture program (ALEFR), based on an implicit solution scheme.

The advantage of the ALE formulation is that the computational grid (finite element mesh) may have an arbitrary motion with respect to the domain of the deformed body. Therefore, the complex nature of the developed boundary condition due to a propagating crack may now be modeled in a continuous and accurate manner.

The process of creating new surfaces due to crack propagation is modeled by splitting material points. This allows for a more realistic representation of the actual physical process. The ALE boundary constraint is enforced on the free boundaries, including the continuously changing free crack surfaces, using a newly developed technique. The
dynamic energy release rate is evaluated through the integration of material properties of Lagrangian grid material points.

The developed formulations and techniques are then discretized and implemented into a finite element code. The developed code is tested by modeling dynamic stationary and propagating fracture problems.
# Table of Contents

Abstract ................................................................................................................. ii
List of Figures ........................................................................................................ viii
Nomenclature ......................................................................................................... x
Acknowledgments ................................................................................................. xvii

1 Introduction and Background ................................................................. 1
   1.1 Motivation ................................................................................................. 1
   1.2 Objective .................................................................................................... 2
   1.3 Background ............................................................................................ 3
      1.3.1 Numerical Modeling of Dynamic Crack Propagation .............. 3
      1.3.2 The Arbitrary Lagrangian Eulerian (ALE) Formulation ....... 5
      1.3.3 History of the ALE .......................................................................... 7
   1.4 Scope of Work .......................................................................................... 10
   1.5 Organization of Thesis ............................................................................ 11

2 Formulation and Discretization of ALE Equations ....................... 13
   2.1 ALE Governing Equations .................................................................... 13
      2.1.1 Preliminaries ...................................................................................... 13
      2.1.2 Quasi-Static Analysis .................................................................... 16
      2.1.3 Dynamic Analysis ............................................................................. 21
2.2 Finite Element Equations ........................................ 23
  2.2.1 Isoparametric Finite Elements ............................... 23
  2.2.2 Discretization of the Quasi-static ALE Equation ........... 25
  2.2.3 Discretization of the Dynamic ALE Equation ............... 30

3 Dynamic Fracture Parameters ........................................ 33
  3.1 Introduction .................................................... 33
  3.2 General Mechanical Energy Balance ............................ 34
  3.3 Energy Balance for Crack Tip Region .......................... 35
  3.4 The dynamic Energy Release Rate ............................... 37
  3.5 Domain Integrals for Energy Release Rate ...................... 38
  3.6 Mixed Mode Stress Intensity Factors .......................... 40
  3.7 Direction of Crack Propagation ................................ 42

4 Numerical Procedure .................................................. 43
  4.1 MESH MOTION .................................................. 43
    4.1.1 Grid Displacement ......................................... 44
    4.1.2 Mesh Motion for Interior Nodes ............................ 44
    4.1.3 Mesh Motion on Free Material Boundaries .................. 45
  4.2 Material Point Splitting (MPS) ................................ 51
  4.3 Numerical Implementations ...................................... 54
    4.3.1 Solution of Equilibrium Equations ........................ 54
    4.3.2 Numerical Integration of the Energy Release Rate .......... 56
4.4 The ALE Dynamic Fracture Program ........................................... 60
4.4.1 Program Structure .............................................................. 60
4.4.2 Characteristics of the Developed Program (ALEFR) .......... 64

5 Numerical Examples ........................................................................ 66
5.1 Stationary Mode I Crack Subjected to Single Step Pulse .......... 66
  5.1.1 Problem Description ............................................................ 66
  5.1.2 Numerical Procedure .......................................................... 67
  5.1.3 Numerical Results ............................................................... 68
  5.1.4 Analysis of Contour Path Dependency ................................. 73
5.2 Stationary Mode I Crack Subjected to Symmetric Step Pulse ..... 79
  5.2.1 Problem Description ............................................................ 79
  5.2.2 Numerical Procedure .......................................................... 79
  5.2.3 Numerical Results ............................................................... 79
5.3 Propagating Mode I Crack Subjected to Single Step Pulse ......... 82
  5.3.1 Problem Description ............................................................ 82
  5.3.2 Numerical Procedure .......................................................... 84
  5.3.3 Numerical Results ............................................................... 85
5.4 Propagating Mode I Crack Subjected to Symmetric Step Pulse ...... 89
  5.4.1 Problem Description ............................................................ 89
  5.4.2 Numerical Procedure .......................................................... 89
  5.4.3 Numerical Results ............................................................... 89
5.5 General Comments about Mode I Fracture Problems ............... 90
List of Figures

(3.1) Crack tip contours ................................................................. 36
(4.1) The Displacement Coupling (DC) technique .................................. 46
(4.2) The True Boundary tracking (TBT) technique ................................. 48
(4.3) Nodal motion on free boundary: TBT vs DC technique ................. 50
(4.4) Material Point Splitting (MPS) technique ................................... 53
(4.5) Motion of the contour and domain integrals due to dynamic crack
      Propagation ............................................................................... 59
(4.6) Flowchart of the developed program (ALEFR) ................................. 63
(5.1) Horizontal edge crack on a thick plate, used in mode I fracture cases .. 67
(5.2) Snap shots of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution due to the applied tensile stress pulse, in the stationary crack model ......................................................... 70
(5.3) Variation of the normalized strain energy release rate with the normalized time using the fine model with (801 x 321) Lagrangian grid, for the stationary crack model subjected to tensile stress pulse ......................... 72
(5.4) Variation of the dynamic stress intensity factor with the normalized time using the fine model with (801 x 321) Lagrangian grid, for the stationary crack model subjected to tensile stress pulse ................................. 73
(5.5) Path dependency of the contour and domain integrals corresponding to the normalized energy release rate at different time steps, using (801 x 321) Lagrangian grid ................................................................. 75
(5.6) Variation of the contour and domain integrals corresponding to the normalized energy release rate with the normalized time, using (801 x 321) Lagrangian grid ............................................. 78

(5.7) Snap shots of \( \sigma_y \) stress distribution due to the applied symmetric tensile stress pulse, in the stationary crack model ............................................. 80

(5.8) Variation of the normalized strain energy release rate with the normalized time, for the stationary crack model subjected to tensile stress pulse ............................................. 82

(5.9) Snap shots of \( \sigma_y \) stress distribution in the dynamic stationary/propagating crack model, subjected to a tensile stress pulse ............. 87

(5.10) Variation of the normalized strain energy release rate with the normalized time, for the dynamic stationary/propagating crack model subjected to a tensile stress pulse ............................................. 88

(5.11) Snap shots of \( \sigma_y \) stress distribution in the dynamic stationary/propagating crack model, subjected to a symmetric tensile stress pulse .. 93

(5.12) Snap shots of \( \sigma_y \) stress distribution in the dynamic stationary/propagating crack model, subjected to a symmetric tensile stress pulse ... 94

(5.13) Snap shots of \( \sigma_y \) stress distribution in the curved crack propagation model. True crack faces are shown as red dots ............................................. 95

(5.14) The double notched plate subjected to impact loading ....................... 96

(5.15) Snap shots of von Mises stress distribution during mixed mode dynamic crack propagation ................................................................. 98
Nomenclature

$\gamma^{(1)}$ pure mode I auxiliary field quantity

$\gamma^{(2)}$ pure mode II auxiliary field quantity

$t'$ quantity occurs at time $t$

$t$ quantity referred to time $t$

$A_I$ universal function of crack tip speed for mode I deformation

$A_H$ universal function of crack tip speed for mode II deformation

$'\mathbf{a}$ element nodal referential material acceleration vector

$\mathbf{a}$ element nodal incremental referential material acceleration vector

$a_0$ initial crack length

$'a_i$ components of referential material acceleration vector

$a_i$ components of incremental referential material acceleration vector

$\mathbf{B}^{A1}$ element shape function derivative matrix related to first ALE stiffness

$\mathbf{B}^{A2}$ element shape function derivative matrix related to second ALE stiffness

$\mathbf{B}^{M1}$ element shape function derivative matrix related to Lagrangian material stiffness

$\mathbf{B}^{L2}$ element shape function derivative matrix related to Lagrangian geometric stiffness

$'C$ element material constitutive matrix

$'C^{A1}$ element first convective velocity-stiffness matrix due to ALE

$'C^{A2}$ element second convective velocity-stiffness matrix due to ALE

$'C^{A3}$ element third convective velocity-stiffness matrix due to ALE
\( C_{ijkl} \) components of material constitutive tensor

\( D_{kl} \) components of rate of deformation tensor

\( c_d \) elastic dilatational wave speed

\( c_R \) elastic Rayleigh surface wave speed

\( c_s \) elastic shear wave speed

\( dA \) elemental domain area

\( dC \) elemental contour length

\( dS \) elemental surface area

\( dV \) elemental volume

\( E \) Young's modulus

\( E^p \) plastic modulus

\( e \) element strain vector

\( e^{ij} \) components of deformation tensor

\( f^* \) element equivalent nodal force vector

\( f \) element internal force vector

\( f \) arbitrary function

\( \dot{f} \) material time derivative of arbitrary function

\( f' \) grid time derivative of arbitrary function

\( f_i^B \) components of body force per unit mass

\( f_i^S \) components of the externally applied surface tractions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>normalized dynamic energy release rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>dynamic energy release rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>universal crack tip velocity function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$G_{aux}$</td>
<td>dynamic energy release rate of an auxiliary field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$G_c$</td>
<td>contribution of the contour integral in expression for the normalized dynamic energy release rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$G_d$</td>
<td>contribution of the domain integral in expression for the normalized dynamic energy release rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$G_{int}$</td>
<td>interaction dynamic energy release rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$G_{total}$</td>
<td>total dynamic energy release rate (total plus auxiliary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>element interpolation matrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$h_a$</td>
<td>element shape function at node $a$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>identity matrix/tensor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>normalized mode I dynamic stress intensity factor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$K$</td>
<td>mode I dynamic stress intensity factor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$k$</td>
<td>crack tip university velocity function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$K_I$</td>
<td>mode I dynamic stress intensity factor in a mixed mode case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$K_{aux}$</td>
<td>dynamic stress intensity factor due to pure mode I auxiliary field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$K_{II}$</td>
<td>mode II dynamic stress intensity factor in a mixed mode case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$K_{aux}$</td>
<td>dynamic stress intensity factor due to pure mode II auxiliary field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$K_{III}$</td>
<td>mode III dynamic stress intensity factor in a mixed mode case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$'K'$</td>
<td>element equivalent stiffness matrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$'K^A$</td>
<td>element convective stiffness matrix due to ALE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
\( K^{A1} \) element first convective stiffness matrix due to ALE

\( K^{A2} \) element second convective stiffness matrix due to ALE

\( K^L \) element Lagrangian stiffness matrix

\( K^{M1} \) element Lagrangian material stiffness matrix

\( K^{M2} \) element Lagrangian geometric stiffness matrix

\( l \) element length

\( M^{A} \) element convective mass matrix due to ALE

\( M^{L} \) element Lagrangian mass matrix

\( m \) unit vector normal to \( \Gamma_0 \) contour

\( m_i \) components of the unit vector normal to \( \Gamma_0 \) contour

\( N \) number of element nodal points

\( n \) unit vector normal to boundary

\( n_i \) components of the unit vector normal to boundary surface

\( q \) arbitrary smooth function

\( r \) polar coordinate

\( S^{A1} \) element stress matrix related to first ALE stiffness

\( S^{M2} \) element stress matrix related to Lagrangian stiffness

\( T \) kinetic energy density

\( \dot{T} \) time derivative of kinetic energy density

\( t \) time

\( t \) normalized time

\( U \) stress work density

xiii
\( \dot{U} \) time derivative of stress work density

\( \mathbf{u} \) element incremental material displacement vector

\( \mathbf{u}^g \) element incremental grid displacement vector

\( \mathbf{u}^L \) element incremental Lagrangian displacement vector

\( \overline{\mathbf{u}} \) element nodal incremental material displacement vector

\( \overline{\mathbf{u}}^g \) element nodal incremental grid displacement vector

\( \overline{\mathbf{u}}^A \) element nodal incremental arbitrary displacement vector

\( \overline{\mathbf{u}}^L \) element nodal incremental Lagrangian displacement vector

\( u_i \) components of incremental material displacement vector

\( u_i^g \) components of incremental grid displacement vector

\( \overline{u}_{ik} \) components of nodal incremental material displacement vector

\( \overline{u}_{ik}^g \) components of nodal incremental grid displacement vector

\( \overline{u}_{ik}^L \) components of nodal incremental Lagrangian displacement vector

\( \overline{\mathbf{v}} \) element nodal incremental material velocity vector

\( \overline{\mathbf{v}}^g \) element nodal incremental grid velocity vector

\( \overline{v} \) element nodal material velocity vector

\( \overline{v}^g \) element nodal grid velocity vector

\( v_0 \) prescribed impact velocity

\( \mathbf{v}_i \) components of material point velocity vector

\( \mathbf{v}_i^g \) components of grid point velocity vector

\( \overline{v}_i \) components of instantaneous surface velocity
components of instantaneous crack tip velocity

\( v^c_{\text{inst}} \) instantaneous crack tip velocity along the local \( x_i \) direction

\( v^c \) steady crack tip velocity along the local \( x_i \) direction

\( \dot{v}_i \) components of material point acceleration vector

\( \dot{v}_i' \) components of material point referential acceleration vector

\( W^e \) external work

\( x \) element coordinate vector

\( \bar{x} \) element nodal coordinate vector

\( X_i^m \) components of material point initial coordinates

\( X_i^s \) components of grid point initial coordinates

\( x_i' \) components of material and grid points position vector

\( x_i^m' \) components of material point mapping function

\( x_i^s' \) components of grid point mapping function

\( \bar{x}_{ik} \) components of nodal coordinate vector

\( \alpha \) mesh motion parameter vector due to the Coupled Displacement approach

\( \alpha^* \) mesh motion parameter vector due to the True Boundary Tracking approach

\( \alpha_i \) mesh motion parameter vector

\( B \) mesh motion parametric matrix

\( \beta \) Newmark integration parameter

\( \beta_{(j)} \) components of mesh motion parameter vector

\( \Gamma_0 \) Lagrangian crack tip contour
\('T\) vanishing crack tip contour

\('T^+\) portion of the vanishing crack tip contour on the upper crack face

\('T^-\) portion of the vanishing crack tip contour on the lower crack face

\(\Delta t\) time increment

\(\Delta t_c\) critical time step referred to the Courant condition for finite elements

\(\delta\) virtual or variation

\(\delta_{ij}\) components of Kronecker delta

\(\varepsilon_{eq}\) equivalent strain

\(\phi_i\) boundary curve

\(\gamma\) Newmark integration parameter

\(\nu\) Poisson’s ratio

\(\theta\) angle of rotation of the local axes w.r.t. the global axes

\(\rho\) material density

\(\sigma_0\) applied normal stress

\(\sigma\) element stress vector

\(\sigma_{eq}\) equivalent stress

\(\sigma_y\) initial yield stress

\(\sigma_{ij}\) components of Cauchy stress tensor

\(\sigma^T_{ij}\) components of Truesdell stress rate tensor
Acknowledgments

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to my thesis supervisor, Professor M.S. Gadala, for his support, guidance and encouragement throughout the course of this research. It has been a great opportunity for me to be able to learn from his knowledge and experience. I am also grateful to Dr. H. Bayoumi for providing me with his source code and formulations, which constitute the cornerstone of this research.

I am forever indebted to my parents in Libya for their lasting love and prayerful support. To them I dedicate this thesis. I also would like to express my appreciation to my wife, Aziza, for her patience, encouragements and all the help she offered me throughout the completion of this work. I would also like to thank the rest of my family in Libya for their prayers and emotional support.
Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 MOTIVATION

Most structural materials and mechanical components contain or will develop cracks, either as natural imperfections or as a result of fabrication and assembly processes. A short crack may grow in a stable manner through mechanisms such as fatigue, corrosion cracking, and so on, and might under certain conditions, become unstable. An unstable crack propagates dynamically in a structure, at velocities in the order of the materials elastic shear wave speed. This rapid separation of material would seriously damage the integrity and function of the structure, and may eventually lead to total structural failure.

Interest in dynamic fracture problems has been increasing. This is because structural designs, which preclude fracture instability under all conditions, can be far too costly, and, in addition, there are applications where large scale unstable crack propagation would have catastrophic consequences. With dynamic fracture analysis, fracture failures of structures, such as: pressurized containers, nuclear reactors pressure vessels, transmission pipelines, off-shore oil production platforms, aircrafts and spacecrafts, welded ships, railroad tracks, bridge girders, and so on, may be prevented, and propagating cracks can be arrested before losing the structural integrity of the unit.
Due to the complex nature of dynamic fracture problems, available analytical solutions have required the use of simplifying assumptions to render the problem more tractable. Since most realistic problems are much more complex, consistent numerical approaches are, therefore, required to model this class of problem.

1.2 OBJECTIVE

In general, the problem of dynamic fracture is complex, due not only to the interaction between the reflected boundary waves and the crack tip asymptotic fields, but also to the complex nature of the boundary condition of a propagating crack. The continuously changing material domain of a body and its prescribed tractions and displacement boundary conditions, due to crack propagation, are neither a material-related type of boundary condition, i.e., they may not be consistently described in a Lagrangian formulation, nor a fixed frame-related type of boundary condition, i.e., they may not be consistently described in an Eulerian formulation.

The objective of this work is to model the process of crack propagation utilizing a dynamic Arbitrary Lagrangian Eulerian (ALE) formulation, which may consistently describe the complex nature of the boundary condition involved. The resultant formulation is then to be implemented into a finite element modular program (ALEFR) or amended to the existing Lagrangian-based commercial codes.
1.3 BACKGROUND

1.3.1 Numerical Modeling of Dynamic Crack Propagation

The problem of dynamic crack propagation has been widely addressed in literature. Analytical solutions are available for simple geometries and loading conditions, but they are generally of limited use in practical problems.

Despite the fact that, fundamentally, the crack propagation problem is not a Lagrangian type of problem, Lagrangian models have been widely used in the numerical analysis of crack propagation. In particular, the node release method (Anderson, 1973) has enjoyed some popularity because it is very robust and easy to implement in commercial finite element codes. In this method, the crack remains stationary as a Lagrangian formulation is used to advance the solution over each time step. The crack is then advanced between time steps by splitting the old crack-tip node into two distinct nodes and advancing the crack-tip location by one element length at a time. In order to improve this discontinuous modeling, "gradual-node-release" techniques were proposed (Keegstra et al., 1978; Kobayashi, 1979; Hodulak et al., 1980; Caldis et al. 1979). In these models, the "holding-back" force was introduced to prevent discontinuous jumps of the crack-tip between two nodes. Mahanty and Maiti (1990) studied the stable crack growth using the node release method for mixed mode loading cases. This work involves the search for crack propagation direction prior to application of finite element analysis. However, the crack is then assumed to follow the same straight line along this direction.
The node release method often produces inaccurate results when explicit time integration is employed, since the prescribed nodal force is not generally in dynamic equilibrium with the state of stress in the adjoining finite elements. Additionally, the effect of impulse stress waves generated by the instantaneous application of the prescribed nodal force reduces the accuracy of the method. Further details are given in the critical study of Kanninen (1987).

Bazant, et al. (1978) have proposed a special finite element procedure based on a moving coordinate system centered at the crack tip. The finite element mesh is translated as a rigid body to follow the crack tip motion. However, this procedure is restricted to semi-infinite strips whose surfaces are parallel to the direction of crack propagation.

Shephard et al. (1985) presented a method that requires an entire structure remeshing at each crack increment. Valliappan and Murti (1985) introduced a window that moves with the crack tip, such that only the elements within this window are candidates for remeshing, however, this approach is limited to crack propagation through a region with a very regular mesh. Similarly, Wawrzynek and Ingraffea (1989) presented a technique where only local remeshing takes place at each crack increment. This technique was implemented in the finite element program FRANC (FRacture ANalysis Code).

An alternative approach to modeling running cracks is the moving element approach. Nishioka and Atluri (1986) have employed this concept using a singular hybrid element.
In their method, a special singular element is formulated using analytical asymptotic solutions for the singularities near the crack tip together with the variational statement that accounts for the motion of the singular element. The crack propagation process is simulated by remeshing the conventional finite elements around the crack tip at each increment. The main problem with the hybrid approach in general, is the complexity of formulation and the difficulty in implementation. In addition, the convergence behavior of such formulation is unpredictable.

Most of the finite element methods that employ local remeshing use a Lagrangian kinematic model, in which the geometric discretization is selected a priori for material configuration, and the finite element mesh is required to follow the material motion during a time step. This process requires local remeshing every time step, and frequent overall remeshing; therefore, it induces errors due to the interpolation of the displacement and velocity fields in each remeshing. In addition, the numerical techniques used in these procedures are not compatible with the general Lagrangian-based finite element codes.

### 1.3.2 The Arbitrary Lagrangian Eulerian (ALE) Formulation

In the field of computational mechanics, there are two classical formulations used to model continuum problems. These are: the Lagrangian (referential) formulation and the Eulerian (spatial) formulation. In the Lagrangian formulation, an initial or updated configuration is used as a reference frame. In a finite element method, based on this formulation, the computational grid is fixed to the material points of the deformed body.
Accordingly, the Lagrangian-based finite element method may consistently handle material-associated boundary conditions.

On the other hand, the reference frame (the computational grid) in the Eulerian formulation is fixed in space. Eulerian formulations are generally suitable for flow type problems and steady state conditions.

Since the process of crack propagation physically involves the creation of new surfaces by splitting material points, at the instantaneous location of the crack tip, the one-to-one mapping requirement in the Lagrangian formulation does not exist; that is, a single material point in a configuration before crack propagation may split into two material points in a configuration after crack propagation. Therefore, from a theoretical point of view, this type of formulation may not truly model the process of crack propagation. On the other hand, the only approach to model the process of crack propagation using the Eulerian formulation is to regard the process as a constrained flow of material. This nonphysical assumption precludes the use of this type of formulation in accurate modeling of crack propagation problems.

Although neither of the above classical formulation are capable of simulating the crack propagation process, we believe that a combination of the two may consistently represent this process. This combination, which is known as the Arbitrary Lagrangian Eulerian (ALE) formulation, has emerged in recent years to alleviate many of the drawbacks of
the classical formulations. In the ALE formulation, it is not necessary for the reference frame (or the finite element mesh) to be adhered to the material or to be fixed in space, rather, it may move arbitrarily. Consequently, mesh distortion associated with large deformation, may be avoided by designing a proper mesh motion scheme.

In this work, the merit of the Lagrangian formulation, in that it can easily describe the material-related boundary conditions, and the merit of the Eulerian formulation, in that it can easily model the process of the branching of a steady flow, are combined to consistently model the process of dynamic crack propagation.

1.3.3 History of the ALE

The ALE formulation was first proposed to model fluid mechanics applications using finite difference (Noh, 1964; Hirt et al., 1974) and later introduced to finite element analysis (Hughes et al., 1981). The ALE was first introduced to the analysis of solid mechanics application by Huëtink (1982). He modeled a quasi-static metal forming problem employing a technique referred to as operator split. In this technique, material deformation and convective effects are treated separately although they are coupled in the same equations. Thus, each time step may be split into two steps; a pure Lagrangian step, at which the computational grid moves with the material; followed by an Eulerian step, at which the Lagrangian solution to the reference grid and stresses are updated using convective effects. Due to the fact that the operator split technique is computationally efficient and easily implemented into the common Lagrangian finite element codes, it has been adopted in the majority of ALE analyses. In his work,
Huëtink used an approximation method to update integration point variables. This was carried out first, by calculating nodal variables utilizing integration points from all elements sharing that node. A continuous field for each variable is obtained by interpolating nodal point values using element shape functions. Similarly, gradients of variables are evaluated using shape function derivatives.

Haber (1984) introduced a different type of ALE formulation, termed Eulerian Lagrangian Description (ELD). He divided the total deformation in each increment into separate Eulerian incremental displacements and Lagrangian incremental displacements. An Eulerian deformation gradient defines the mapping from the initial configuration to the reference configuration, while a Lagrangian deformation gradient describes the mapping from the reference configuration to the current configuration. The product of these two gradients gives the total deformation gradient from the initial to the current configuration. The ELD was then used to model crack propagation (Koh et al., 1988). However, the existence of two sets of unknown displacements makes it difficult to relate other formulations and preclude it from implementation into the existing Lagrangian codes. In addition, crack propagation was modeled artificially by merely advancing the crack tip node, without treatment of the separated material points and the nodal motion on the newly created surfaces. The method therefore, is applicable only to self-similar crack propagation cases, at which the errors due to this inconsistent modeling are minimal.
Liu et al. (1987, 1988) derived implicit quasi-static ALE formulation. In their work, the operator split approach was replaced by a fully coupled or, ‘unsplit’, approach. In the fully coupled approach, the governing ALE equations, in which the material deformation and convective effects are coupled, are implemented and solved without decoupling. This coupled approach is more accurate and theoretically represents a true kinematical description. In this work, Liu et al. (1987, 1988) used mixed explicit and implicit calculations to handle the convective effects. Therefore, the resulting ALE equations are difficult to relate to the incremental form of displacement used in the common Lagrangian codes. In another development, Huerta and Casadei (1994) presented a dynamic ALE formulation based on a fully explicit calculation. The convective terms are treated in a manner similar to the one developed by Liu et al. (1987, 1988). However, explicit solution schemes in dynamic analysis generally suffer from the lack of generality of application due to the stringent stability conditions, which necessitate the use of very small time steps.

A fully coupled ALE quasi-static formulation was developed by Wang and Gadala (1997). The convective terms are treated using an approach similar to that of Liu et al. (1987, 1988). However, the implementation of the developed formulation does not represent a strictly coupled approach in the sense that convective terms are not determined within the iteration of each load increment. Rather, the material associated properties are updated after convergence. This approach, which was originally
formulated to model metal forming processes, has been extended by Movahhedy (2000) to include thermal and contact modules to model metal cutting process.

Bayoumi (2000) developed a fully coupled quasi-static and dynamic ALE formulation for metal forming applications. The convective terms are treated using a new approach derived from continuum mechanics laws, instead of the approximate approaches, which involve unjustified assumptions. In their work, an implicit solution scheme was used and the only independent variables are the displacements, as opposed to velocities, which is common practice in the ALE literature.

1.4 SCOPE OF WORK

In this work, the dynamic fracture problem will be modeled by a fully coupled dynamic ALE formulation. The scope of work may therefore be summarized in the following:

- the derivation of fully coupled ALE virtual work equations based on principles of continuum mechanics, through which, the crack propagation process may be consistently modeled;
- the discretization of the ALE virtual work equations using isoparametric finite elements;
- the modeling the process of crack propagation as a process of continuous separation of material points;
- the development of an efficient procedure to control the motion of the finite element nodes on free boundaries, including those that evolved due to crack propagation;
- the development of a numerical procedure to continuously evaluate fracture parameters and control crack behavior;
- the implementation of the discretized ALE equations and the above techniques into a modular 2-D finite element code; and
- the testing of the developed code through the simulation of stationary and propagated dynamic fracture problems with known analytical solutions.

1.5 ORGANIZATION OF THESIS

The derivation of the ALE equations is given in Chapter 2. This includes the ALE quasi-static equilibrium equation and the ALE dynamic equation of motion.

The derivation of dynamic energy release rate integrals from the energy balance equations is shown in Chapter 3. The correlation between the dynamic stress intensity factors and the dynamic energy release rate is also discussed.

The development of an ALE-based numerical techniques including: the Material Point Splitting (MPS), a technique for modeling the process of crack propagation; the True Boundary Tracking (TBT), a technique for imposing the ALE boundary constraint on the old and the developed free surfaces; and techniques to evaluate the dynamic energy
release rate integrals, are shown in Chapter 4. The implementation of these techniques into a finite element program is shown in Chapter 4.

Testing of the developed code is covered in Chapter 5. Tests include static and dynamic Mode I crack propagation cases. A sample mixed mode case is also presented.

Finally, the conclusions drawn from this numerical procedure, along with recommendations for future work, are presented in Chapter 6.
FORMULATION AND DISCRETIZATION OF ALE EQUATIONS

2.1 ALE GOVERNING EQUATIONS

2.1.1 Preliminaries

Linearized virtual work equations for quasi-static and dynamic applications are derived to be solved in an implicit time-stepping approach. Throughout the derivation in this section, notations of time and configuration adopted are similar to those used by Bathe (1996). Left superscripts indicate the configuration in which the quantity occurs, whereas left subscripts indicate the configuration to which the quantity is referred. Omitted left subscripts imply that the quantity occurs in the same configuration in which it is measured. For an incremental quantity from time \( t \) to \( t + \Delta t \), the left superscripts and subscripts are omitted. As in the standard indicial notation, right subscripts refer to tensor or vector components, repeated indices imply summation over the admissible range and the notation \([ \cdot ]_i\) means \( \frac{\partial [\cdot]}{\partial x_i} \).

In the ALE description, the motion of particles is referred to an arbitrarily assigned reference system which is neither adhered to the material, as in the Lagrangian system, nor fixed in space, as in the Eulerian system. This means that the material configuration at any time \( t \) refers to the set of material particles, whereas the reference configuration
consists of a set of arbitrarily moving grid points (i.e. finite element nodes) sharing a common boundary with the set of material particles. The material configuration is identified by a set of material point coordinates \(X^m\) while the reference, or grid, configuration is identified by an independent set of grid point coordinates \(X^g\). Let \(x^m(\mathbf{X}^m, t)\) and \(x^g(\mathbf{X}^g, t)\) be the vector functions or the mappings that characterize the motion of the material point \(X^m\) and the grid point \(X^g\) in space, respectively. The position of \(X^m\) at time \(t\) is given by

\[ x^m = x^m(\mathbf{X}^m, t) \]  
\[ (2.1) \]

The set of material particles is related to the set of grid points by requiring that the two configurations share the same space at all times. Any point within the common boundary is occupied by elements of the two sets. Thus, the position of the grid point \(X^g\) that occupies the same point in space at time \(t\) as \(X^m\) is also given by \(x^g\) as

\[ x^g = x^g(\mathbf{X}^g, t) \]  
\[ (2.2) \]

The ALE formulation requires that the inverse of Equations (2.1) and (2.2) exist to ensure a one-to-one mapping between the two configurations. The material velocity \(v^m\), and the grid point velocity \(v^g\), at time \(t\) are given by

\[ v^m = \frac{\partial x^m}{\partial t} \]  
\[ (2.3) \]

\[ v^g = \frac{\partial x^g}{\partial t} \]  
\[ (2.4) \]
The boundary constraint, which ensures that the material and grid configurations have the same boundary at all times, may be expressed as

\[
\left( v_i - v_i^f \right)^t n_i \bigg| \text{on the boundary} = 0 \tag{2.5}
\]

where \( n_i \) is the unit normal to the boundary surface.

The governing ALE equations involve the material time derivative of several quantities. The material derivative of an arbitrary function \( f \) is denoted by a superposed dot and is defined to be the rate of change of the function holding the material particle \( X_i \) fixed

\[
\dot{f} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \bigg|_{X_i} \tag{2.6}
\]

However, the grid configuration is the computational configuration that tracks the history of all quantities. Thus, it is convenient to define a grid time derivative, which is the time derivative of the function \( f \) holding the grid point \( X_i^g \) fixed, and denoting it by a superposed prime

\[
\dot{f}' = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \bigg|_{X_i^g} \tag{2.7}
\]

The relation between the two time derivatives is given by (Hughes, 1981)

\[
\dot{f}' = \dot{f} + (v_i - v_i^g) \frac{\partial f}{\partial X_i} \tag{2.8}
\]

The ALE formulation will be discretized using the isoparametric displacement based finite element method. The incremental material displacements and the corresponding
incremental grid displacements from time $t$ to time $t + \Delta t$ are respectively denoted by $u_i$ and $u_i^\epsilon$. The position of the grid point in the configuration at time $t + \Delta t$ may be expressed as

$$x_i^{t + \Delta t} = x_i^t + u_i^\epsilon$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.9)

The local form of the conservation of mass, i.e., continuity, at time $t$ is given by

$$\dot{\rho} = -\rho \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_i}$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.10)

where $\dot{\rho}$ is the material density. Using Equation (2.8), the continuity equation with respect to an arbitrary moving grid point may be expressed as

$$\dot{\rho}' = -\rho \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_i} - (v_i - v_i^\epsilon) \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x_i}$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.11)

### 2.1.2 Quasi-static Analysis

In processes like stable ductile crack growth or low-speed metal forming, the effects of inertia forces may be neglected. Since body configuration at time $t + \Delta t$ is yet unknown, an approximate solution may be obtained by referring all variables to the grid configuration at time $t$ and linearizing the terms of equilibrium equation. The solution is then refined by iterations within an implicit incremental approach. Stress and strain measures are chosen to accommodate large strain applications.
To express the equilibrium of the body at time $t + \Delta t$, the principle of virtual displacements is used. It may be expressed as

$$
\int_{\Omega} \sigma_{ij} \delta u_{i} \delta u_{j} \, dV + \int_{\partial \Omega} \mathbf{f}_{i} \delta u_{i} \, dS + \int_{\Omega} \rho \mathbf{f}_{i} \delta u_{i} \, dV + \int_{\partial \Omega} \mathbf{f}_{i} \delta u_{i} \, dS \quad (2.12)
$$

where $\sigma_{ij}$ is Cauchy stress tensor and $\varepsilon_{ij}^\prime$ is the conjugate strain tensor defined as

$$
\varepsilon_{ij}^\prime = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_{i}}{\partial x_{j}} + \frac{\partial u_{j}}{\partial x_{i}} \right) \quad (2.13)
$$

The RHS of Equation (2.12) represents the external virtual work, $\delta W_{\text{ext}}^{\prime}$, due to body force $\mathbf{f}_{i}^\prime$, and the applied surface traction $\mathbf{f}_{i}^\prime S$.

Linearization of virtual work equation

Linearization of the terms of the virtual work equation is carried out by adopting an incremental approach. Variables at time $t + \Delta t$ are assumed to be composed of their respective values at time $t$, plus an increment given by the grid time derivative of the variable multiplied by the time increment $\Delta t$.

The Cauchy stress tensor may, accordingly, be decomposed into

$$
\sigma_{ij}^{\prime} = \sigma_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij}^\prime \Delta t \quad (2.14)
$$

Using Equation (2.8), we get

$$
\sigma_{ij}^{\prime} = \sigma_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij}^\prime \Delta t - (\mathbf{u}_{k} - \mathbf{u}_{k}^\prime) \frac{\partial \sigma_{ij}}{\partial x_{k}} \quad (2.15)
$$

where $\varepsilon_{ij}^\prime$ is the material rate of Cauchy stress calculated from the material constitutive
relation (Appendix A).

The variation in the strain components is decomposed as

$$
\delta_{t+\Delta t} \varepsilon_{ij} = \delta \varepsilon_{ij} + \delta \varepsilon_{ij} \Delta t
$$

(2.16)

in which $\delta \varepsilon_{ij}'$ is the grid time derivative of $\delta \varepsilon_{ij}$ and is given by (Wang an Gadala, 1997)

$$
\delta \varepsilon_{ij}' = - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \delta u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_j}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial \delta u_j}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_j} \right)
$$

(2.17)

Substitution in Equation (2.16) yields

$$
\delta_{t+\Delta t} \varepsilon_{ij} = \delta \varepsilon_{ij} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \delta u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_j}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial \delta u_j}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_j} \right)
$$

(2.18)

The decomposition of material density, upon substituting in Equation (2.11), at time $t + \Delta t$, may take the form

$$
\frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_j}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_j} = \rho \left[ \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_k} \right]
$$

(2.19)

Finally, the elements of volume and surface area are decomposed into (Malvern, 1969)

$$
\frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_k} dV = \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_k} dV + \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_k} dV \Delta t = \left(1 + \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_k} \right) dV
$$

(2.20)

$$
\frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_k} dS = \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_k} dS + \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_k} dS \Delta t = \left[1 + \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_k} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_m} + \frac{\partial \varepsilon^k_i}{\partial x_m} \right) \right] n_m n_i dS
$$

(2.21)

where $n_m$ is the unit outward normal to the surface.
Upon substituting the above decomposed quantities into Equation (2.12) and ignoring the higher order terms, the linearized form of the virtual work equation may be written as

\[
\int_V \sigma_{ij} \delta e_{ij} \, dV + \int_V \bar{\sigma}_{ij} \Delta t \delta e_{ij} \, dV + \int_V \hat{\Gamma}_{x_k} \delta e_{ij} \, dV - \int_V \frac{\partial \hat{u}_k}{\partial t} \delta e_{ij} \, dV - \int_V \frac{\partial \hat{u}_k}{\partial x_k} \delta \hat{u}_i \, dV
\]

\[
- \int_V (u_k - u_k^*) \frac{\partial^2 \sigma_{ij}}{\partial x_k} \delta e_{ij} \, dV = \int_V \rho \Delta t f_i^B \delta u_i \, dV - \int_V \rho \Delta t f_i^B \left( \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_i} \right) \delta u_i \, dV
\]

\[
- \int_V \rho \Delta t f_i^B (u_k - u_k^*) \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x_k} \delta u_i \, dV + \int_V \rho \Delta t f_i^B \left[ 1 + \frac{\partial u_k^*}{\partial x_k} \delta u_i \, dV + \int_V \rho \Delta t f_i^E \right] (1 + \frac{\partial u_k^*}{\partial x_k} + \frac{\partial u_i^*}{\partial x_i}) n_m n_n \delta u_i \, dS
\]

The RHS of Equation (2.22) represents the external virtual work \( \delta^{+\Delta t} W^{ext} \).

Equation (2.22) has two convective terms that involve spatial derivatives of stresses and material density. These are the last term in the LHS and the third term in the RHS. Since, in finite element formulation, the stresses and material densities may not have the inter-element continuity, their gradients may not be reliably computed on the element level, when evaluating element matrices. Different convective term treatment approaches are available in the literature (Huétink, 1982; Wang, 1998; Liu et. Al., 1987). Most of these treatments are based on the simple interpolation of calculated quantities. Bayoumi and Gadala (2000) developed a consistent method to replace the convective terms by their equivalent non convective terms based on the fundamental continuum mechanics relations. This includes applying the divergence theorem to the integral containing the convective term and substituting the ALE boundary constraint, Equation (2.5) (Appendix B). After treatment of the convective terms, Equation (2.22) becomes
Fully coupled ALE equilibrium equation

By substituting the constitutive relations, Equation (B.1) to (B.3) in Appendix B, into Equation (2.23) the ALE equilibrium equation may be written as

\[
\begin{align*}
\int_V \sigma_{ij} \delta \epsilon^{ij} \, dV + \int_V \gamma_{j} \left( \frac{\partial \epsilon^i}{\partial x_j} \right) \, dV + \int_V \sigma_{ij} \delta \epsilon^{ij} \, dV - \int_V \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x_j} \delta \epsilon_{ij} \, dV \\
+ \int_V (u_k - u_k^e) \gamma_{ij} \left( \frac{\partial \epsilon^i}{\partial x_j} \right) \, dV = \int_V \rho \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial t} \delta \epsilon^i \, dV + \int_V \left( \frac{\partial u^m}{\partial x_n} + \frac{\partial u^n}{\partial x_m} \right) \delta u^i \, dS
\end{align*}
\]

where \( \sigma_{ij} \) is the material constitutive tensor, \( \epsilon_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u^j}{\partial x_i} \right) \), and

\[
\delta^{i+\Delta} W^{ext} = \int_V \left[ 1 + \frac{\partial u^m}{\partial x_n} + \frac{\partial u^n}{\partial x_m} \right] \, dS
\]

Since Equation (2.24) is expressed in terms of both material and grid incremental displacements \( u^i \) and \( u^i_k \), respectively, the grid may therefore, move independently relative to the material. This characteristic is very desirable in problems that involve large material deformation and/or change in boundary conditions.
The ALE formulation, Equation (2.24) may be seen as a general form for an incremental virtual work equation. If, for instance, the grid is adhered to the material, i.e., \( u_f^k = u_i \), the equation will be reduced to the updated Lagrangian formulation. On the other hand, if the grid is chosen to be fixed in space, i.e., \( u_f^k = 0 \), the equation will then represent the Eulerian formulation.

### 2.1.3 Dynamic Analysis

In dynamic analyses, inertia forces are included as an extra term that should be added to the LHS of the virtual work equation, Equation (2.12). Using the relation between the grid time derivative and the material time derivative, Equation (2.8), the virtual work done by inertia forces at time \( t + \Delta t \), may be written as

\[
\int_{V_i} \left( \int_{t+\Delta t}^{t+\Delta t} \rho \dot{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{a}_i \right) \delta u_i \, dV
+ \int_{V_i} \left( \int_{t+\Delta t}^{t+\Delta t} \rho \dot{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{a}_j \right) \frac{\partial \delta u_i}{\partial \mathbf{x}_j} \, dV
\]

The first term on the RHS of Equation (2.26) may be referred to as the referential inertia term, whereas the second term is referred to as the convective inertia term.

**Linearization of inertia terms**

The material point velocity \( \mathbf{v}_i \), the grid point velocity \( \mathbf{v}_i^k \), and the grid time derivative of the material point velocity \( \mathbf{a}_i \), at time \( t + \Delta t \), may be related to their respective known values at time \( t \) as

\[
\mathbf{v}_i + \mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{v}_i + \mathbf{v}_i \quad (2.27)
\]
Chapter 2. Formulation and Discretization of the ALE Equations

\[ i^{+\Delta t}v^i_t = v^i_t + v^i_f \]  \hspace{1cm} (2.28)

\[ i^{+\Delta t}a_i = a_i + a_i \]  \hspace{1cm} (2.29)

where the incremental quantities \( v_i, v^i_f \) and \( a_i \) are controlled by the time integration method to be utilized.

The incremental decomposition of the two inertia terms on the RHS of Equation (2.26) and the treatment of the convective terms, are handled in a manner similar to quasi-static analysis. The linearized referential and the convective inertia terms may be written as

\[
\int_{V} i^{+\Delta t} \rho i^{+\Delta t}a_i \delta u_i i^{+\Delta t} dV = \int_{V} \rho i^{+\Delta t}a_i \delta u_i i^{+\Delta t} dV + \int_{V} \rho a_i \delta u_i' dV
\]

\[
+ \int_{V} \rho i^{+\Delta t}v_k i^{+\Delta t}v_k' \frac{\partial(i^{+\Delta t}a_i \delta u_i)}{\partial x_k'} \Delta t' dV
\]

\[
\int_{V} i^{+\Delta t} \rho(i^{+\Delta t}v_j - i^{+\Delta t}v_j') \frac{\partial i^{+\Delta t}v_j}{\partial x_j'} \delta u_i i^{+\Delta t} dV = \int_{V} \rho(i^{+\Delta t}v_j - i^{+\Delta t}v_j') \frac{\partial i^{+\Delta t}v_j}{\partial x_j'} \delta u_i dV
\]

\[
+ \int_{V} \rho(i^{+\Delta t}v_k - i^{+\Delta t}v_k') \frac{\partial i^{+\Delta t}v_k}{\partial x_k'} \delta u_i \Delta t' dV
\]

\[
+ \int_{V} \rho(i^{+\Delta t}v_k - i^{+\Delta t}v_k') \frac{\partial i^{+\Delta t}v_j}{\partial x_j'} \delta u_i \Delta t' dV
\]

\[
- \int_{V} \rho \frac{\partial i^{+\Delta t}v_k}{\partial x_k'} (i^{+\Delta t}v_j - i^{+\Delta t}v_j') \frac{\partial i^{+\Delta t}v_j}{\partial x_j'} \delta u_i \Delta t' dV
\]

\hspace{1cm} (2.30)

\hspace{1cm} (2.31)

**Fully coupled ALE equation of motion**

The form of the ALE equation of motion, obtained by adding the inertia terms, Equations (2.30) and (2.31) to Equation (2.24), may be written as
Chapter 2. Formulation and Discretization of the ALE Equations

\[ \int_V \rho \Delta \delta u_i \, dV + \int_V C_{ijl} e_{kl} \delta e_{ij} \, dV + \int_V \sigma_{ij} \delta \eta_{ij} \, dV + \int_V \rho (v_j - v_i^g) \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} \, dV \]

\[ + \int_V \rho (v_j - v_i^g) \frac{\partial \delta v_i}{\partial x_j} \, dV + \int_V (u_i - u_i^g) \frac{\partial \sigma_{ij}}{\partial x_j} \, dV + \int_V \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial \delta u_i}{\partial x_j} \, dV \]

\[ = \delta t^+ \delta W^{ext} - \int_V \sigma_{ij} \delta e_{ij} \, dV - \int_V \rho' a_i \delta u_i \, dV - \int_V \rho (v_k - v_i^g) \frac{\partial (a_i \delta u_i)}{\partial x_k} \Delta t \, dV \]

\[ + \int_V \rho (v_j - v_i^g) \frac{\partial \delta v_i}{\partial x_j} \, dV - \int_V \rho (v_k - v_i^g) \left( \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_k} - 2 \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} \Delta t \, dV \]

\[ - \int_V \rho (v_k - v_i^g)(v_j - v_i^g) \left( \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_k} \right) \Delta t \, dV \]

The first three terms on both sides of Equation (2.30) represent the updated Lagrangian formulation. The first term on the LHS of the equation corresponds to the Lagrangian mass matrix. The second, third, sixth and seventh terms on the LHS and the first and second on the RHS were already defined for quasi-static analysis. The fourth and fifth terms are the convective velocity stiffness matrices due to material/grid relative motion.

The third term on the RHS corresponds to the Lagrangian inertia force vector, whereas the last four terms on the RHS are convective inertia force vectors due to material/grid relative motion.

2.2 FINITE ELEMENT EQUATIONS

2.2.1 Isoparametric Finite Elements

In finite element discretization, element coordinates \( x_i \), and incremental displacements \( u_i \) and \( u_i^g \), are correlated to their respective nodal values, \( x_i^k \), \( u_i^k \) and \( u_i^g_k \), through the element shape function \( h_k \), i.e.
where \( i \) corresponds to the degree of freedom, \( k \) is the nodal point number and \( N \) is the number of nodal points in the element. For a two dimensional space, Equation (2.31) may be expanded as

\[
'x = \sum_{k=1}^{N} h_k 'x_k, \quad 'y = \sum_{k=1}^{N} h_k 'y_k
\]  

(2.36)

or

\[
'x = H'^{\top} \bar{x}
\]

(2.37)

where \('x\) is the element coordinate vector given by

\[
'x = \begin{pmatrix} 'x \\ 'y \end{pmatrix}
\]

(2.38)

\( H \) is the element shape function matrix in the form

\[
H = \begin{bmatrix} \cdots & h_k & 0 & \cdots \\ \cdots & 0 & h_k & \cdots \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 2N}
\]

(2.39)

and \('\bar{x}\) is the nodal coordinate vector given by

\[
'\bar{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \cdots & 'x_k & 'y_k & \cdots \end{pmatrix}_{1 \times 2N}
\]

(2.40)

Similarly, Equations (2.32) and (2.35) may be written in the form

\[
u = H \bar{u}
\]

(2.41)
Chapter 2. Formulation and Discretization of the ALE Equations

\[ u^e = H u^e \quad (2.42) \]

where \( u, u^g, \bar{u} \) and \( \bar{u}^g \) are the incremental element and nodal material and grid displacement vectors, respectively.

2.2.2 Discretization of the Quasi-static ALE Equation

The variables in the linearized ALE equilibrium equation, Equation (2.24), have to be discretized in order to develop the finite element equilibrium equation for quasi-static analysis. Considering the internal force term, the last term on the RHS of Equation (2.24), the stress may be arranged in a vector form as

\[ \mathbf{\sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} \\ \sigma_{yy} \\ \sigma_{xy} \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.43) \]

Similarly, the incremental strain vector has the form

\[ \mathbf{e} = \begin{bmatrix} e_{xx} \\ e_{yy} \\ 2 e_{xy} \\ e_{zz} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial x} \\ \frac{u_x}{i_x} \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.44) \]

which upon using the element displacement expansion of Equation (2.32), gives
Chapter 2. Formulation and Discretization of the ALE Equations

\[ e = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left( \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial' x} \bar{u}_{xk} + \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial' y} \bar{u}_{yk} \right) \\ \sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{h_k}{y} \bar{u}_{xk} \end{array} \right\} = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial' x} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial' y} & 0 \\ \frac{h_k}{y} & 0 & \sum_{j=1}^{N} h_j \bar{x}_j \\ \sum_{j=1}^{N} h_j \bar{x}_j & \sum_{j=1}^{N} h_j \bar{x}_j & \sum_{j=1}^{N} h_j \bar{x}_j \end{array} \right] \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \bar{u}_{xk} \\ \bar{u}_{yk} \\ \bar{u}_{xk} \\ \bar{u}_{yk} \end{array} \right\} \quad (2.45) \]

or

\[ e = B^{L1} \bar{u} \quad (2.46) \]

where \( B^{L1} \) is the element shape function derivative matrix related to Lagrangian material stiffness and it may be written as

\[ B^{L1} = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial' x} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial' y} & 0 \\ \frac{h_k}{y} & 0 & \sum_{j=1}^{N} h_j \bar{x}_j \\ \sum_{j=1}^{N} h_j \bar{x}_j & \sum_{j=1}^{N} h_j \bar{x}_j & \sum_{j=1}^{N} h_j \bar{x}_j \end{array} \right]_{4 \times 2N} \quad (2.47) \]

The finite element form of the internal work term can be established by using Equations (2.43) and (2.46) as follows

\[ \int_{\Omega} \sigma_{ij} \delta_{ij} dV = \int_{\Omega} (\delta \varepsilon)^T \sigma^T dV = \int_{\Theta} (B^{L1} \bar{u})^T \sigma^T dV = (\bar{u})^T \int_{\Theta} (B^{L1})^T \sigma^T dV = (\bar{u})^T f \quad (2.48) \]
Chapter 2. Formulation and Discretization of the ALE Equations

where \( \mathbf{f} \) is the internal force vector given by

\[
\mathbf{f} = \int_{V} (t \mathbf{B}^{L1})^T \mathbf{\sigma} dV
\]  

(2.49)

The Lagrangian material stiffness virtual work term may be rewritten in matrix form as

\[
\int_{V} C_{ijkl} \epsilon_{ij} \delta \epsilon_{ij} \mathbf{dV} = \int_{V} (\delta \mathbf{e})^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{e} dV
\]

\[
= \int_{V} (\mathbf{B}^{L1} \delta \mathbf{u})^T \mathbf{C} (\mathbf{B}^{L1} \mathbf{u}) dV
\]

\[
= (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \int_{V} \mathbf{B}^{L1}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{B}^{L1} \mathbf{dV} \mathbf{u}
\]

(2.50)

where \( \mathbf{C} \) is the material constitutive matrix and \( \mathbf{K}^{L1} \) is the Lagrangian material stiffness matrix given by (Bathe, 1982)

\[
\mathbf{K}^{L1} = \int_{V} (\mathbf{B}^{L1})^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{B}^{L1} dV
\]

(2.51)

The Lagrangian geometric stiffness virtual work term may be rewritten as

\[
\int_{V} \sigma_{ij} \delta \eta_{ij} \mathbf{dV} = \int_{V} \sigma_{ij} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_k}{\partial x_j} \right) \frac{\partial \delta \mathbf{u}_k}{\partial x_i} dV
\]

(2.52)

\[
\int_{V} \sigma_{ij} \delta \eta_{ij} \mathbf{dV} = (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \int_{V} (\mathbf{B}^{L2})^T \mathbf{S}^{L2} \mathbf{B}^{L2} \mathbf{dV} \mathbf{u}
\]

\[
= (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \mathbf{K}^{L2} \mathbf{u}
\]

(2.53)

where
Chapter 2. Formulation and Discretization of the ALE Equations

\[
\mathbf{B}^{L2} = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x} & 0 \\
\frac{\partial h_k}{\partial y} & 0 \\
0 & \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x} \\
0 & \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial y} \\
\sum_{j=1}^{N} h_j & 0 \\
\end{bmatrix}_{5x5}
\]

\[
\mathbf{S}^{L2} = \begin{bmatrix}
\sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
\sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{yy} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} & 0 \\
0 & 0 & \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_{yy} & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \sigma_{zz}
\end{bmatrix}_{5x5}
\]

and the nonlinear geometric stiffness matrix \( \mathbf{K}^{L2} \) is given by (Bathe, 1996)

\[
\mathbf{K}^{L2} = \int_{V} (\mathbf{B}^{L2})^T \mathbf{S}^{L2} \mathbf{B}^{L2} dV
\]

The first convective stiffness virtual work term due to ALE may be discretized as

\[
\int_{V} (u_k - u^*_k) \sigma_{ij} \frac{\partial \delta \mathbf{e}_{ij}}{\partial x_k} dV = (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \int_{V} (\mathbf{B}^{A\text{T}})^T \mathbf{S}^{A\text{T}} \mathbf{H}' dV (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}^*)
\]

\[
= (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \mathbf{K}^{A\text{T}} (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}^*)
\]

where
Chapter 2. Formulation and Discretization of the ALE Equations

\[ \text{\ldots} \]

\[ \begin{bmatrix} \partial^2 h_k / \partial x^2 & 0 \\
\partial^2 h_k / \partial y^2 & 0 \\
\partial^2 h_k / \partial x \partial y & 0 \\
0 & \partial^2 h_k / \partial x^2 \\
0 & \partial^2 h_k / \partial y^2 \\
0 & \partial^2 h_k / \partial x \partial y \\
0 & 1 / \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x} - \frac{h_k}{x^2} \\
0 & 1 / \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}_{8 \times 2N} \]

\[ i B^{AI} = \ldots \]

\[ \text{\ldots} \]

\[ \text{\ldots} \]

\[ i S^{AI} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & 0 & \sigma_{xy} & 0 & \sigma_{yx} & 0 & \sigma_{yy} & 0 & \sigma_{zz} & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T \]

and the first convective stiffness matrix due to ALE is given by

\[ i K^{AI} = \int_{\Omega} (i B^{AI})^T S^{AI} H dV \]

The second convective stiffness virtual work term due to ALE may be discretized as

\[ \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial u_k^e}{\partial x_j} \right) \sigma_{ij} \frac{\partial \bar{u}_l}{\partial x_i} dV = (\partial \bar{u})^T \int_{\Omega} (i B^{A2})^T S^{A2} B^{A2} dV (\bar{u} - \bar{u}^e) \]

\[ = (\partial \bar{u})^T K^{A2} (\bar{u} - \bar{u}^e) \]

where
and the second convective stiffness matrix due to ALE is given by

\[ ^tK^{A2} = \int_V (B^{A2})^T S^{L2} B^{L2} dV \]  

(2.63)

Substituting all of the above discretized terms in Equation (2.24) the final ALE finite element equilibrium equation for quasi-static analysis may then be written as

\[ (^tK^{L1} + ^tK^{L2})\bar{u} + (^tK^{A1} + ^tK^{A2})(\bar{u} - \bar{u}^g) = ^t\Delta f^{ext} - ^tf \]  

(2.64)

where, \(^tK^{L1}\) and \(^tK^{L2}\) are the Lagrangian material and geometric stiffness matrices, \(^tK^{A1}\) and \(^tK^{A2}\) are the ALE convective stiffness matrices and \(^t\Delta f^{ext}\) and \(^tf\) are the external and internal force vectors, respectively.

2.2.3 Discretization of the Dynamic ALE Equation

The ALE equation of motion for dynamic analysis, Equation (2.32) is discretized to develop the finite element equation for dynamic analysis in a manner similar to that used to drive the quasi-static finite element equation. Thus, for isoparametric finite element discretization, velocity and acceleration vectors may be written as
\[ \begin{align*}
  \mathbf{v} &= H \mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{v}^s = H \mathbf{v}^s \\
  \mathbf{v} &= H \mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{v}^s = H \mathbf{v}^s \\
  \mathbf{a} &= H \mathbf{a}, \quad \mathbf{a} = H \mathbf{a}
\end{align*} \] (2.65)

where \( \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}^s \) and \( \mathbf{a} \) represent the nodal material velocity, grid velocity and referential material acceleration at time \( t \), whereas \( \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}^s \) and \( \mathbf{a} \) are the nodal incremental quantities of the same variables from time \( t \) to \( t + \Delta t \).

Using Equation (2.60), the Lagrangian mass term may be discretized as follows

\[ \begin{align*}
  \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho a_i \delta u_i \, dV &= \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho (H \delta \mathbf{u})^T (H \mathbf{a})^T \, dV \\
  &= (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H} \, dV \mathbf{a} \\
  &= (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \mathbf{M}^L \mathbf{a}
\end{align*} \] (2.66)

where \( \mathbf{M}^L \) is the Lagrangian mass matrix given by

\[ \mathbf{M}^L = \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H} \, dV \] (2.67)

The inertia force virtual work term is discretized as

\[ \begin{align*}
  \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho a_i \delta u_i \, dV &= \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho (H \delta \mathbf{u})^T (H \mathbf{a})' \, dV \\
  &= (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H} \, dV' \mathbf{a} \\
  &= (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \mathbf{M}^L' \mathbf{a}
\end{align*} \] (2.68)

The first inertia force virtual work term may be discretized as

\[ \begin{align*}
  \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho (\mathbf{v}^k - \mathbf{v}^k^s) \frac{\partial (a_i \delta u_i)}{\partial x_k} \Delta t \, dV &= (\delta \mathbf{u})^T \mathbf{M}^A \mathbf{a}
\end{align*} \] (2.69)

where \( \mathbf{M}^A \) is given by
in which $i$ and $j$ indicate node numbers from 1 to $N$, and

$$
{M^A}^{i} = \begin{bmatrix}
... & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\
{M_{2i-1,2j-1}^A} & \cdots & {M_{2i-1,2j}^A} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
{M_{2i,2j-1}^A} & \cdots & {M_{2i,2j}^A} \\
\end{bmatrix}_{2N\times 2N}
$$

(2.70)

The discretization of the convective terms in the equation of motion is shown in Appendix C.

Upon substituting all of the discretized terms into Equation (2.35), the dynamic ALE finite element equation may then be written as

$$
{M^A}^{t} \ddot{a} + (C^{A1} + C^{A2})\ddot{v} + (C^{A3} + C^{A4})v = \int_{V} \rho \left( \left( \frac{\partial h_{i}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial h_{j}}{\partial y} \right) \sum_{k=1}^{N} h_{k} \left( \bar{v}_{x_{k}} - \bar{v}_{x_{k}}^{e} \right) \right) \nabla^{2} \Delta t dV
$$

(2.71)

$$
{M^A}^{2i-1,2j} = \int_{V} \left( h_{i} \frac{\partial h_{j}}{\partial y} + h_{j} \frac{\partial h_{i}}{\partial x} \right) \sum_{k=1}^{N} h_{k} \left( \bar{v}_{x_{k}} - \bar{v}_{x_{k}}^{e} \right) \Delta t dV
$$

(2.72)

(2.73)
Chapter 3

DYNAMIC FRACTURE PARAMETERS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

According to linear electrodynamic fracture theory, the near-tip stress field is dominated by the singular term in the asymptotic expansion of the solution (Freund, 1990). For each fracture mode, determining this singular stress field may be reduced to determining the amplitude factors known as the dynamic stress intensity factors $K_1$, $K_{II}$ and $K_{III}$. These factors are crucial in assessing the subsequent crack behavior in terms whether or not the crack will propagate, in which direction and at what speed.

This chapter introduces the dynamic fracture parameters for stationary and propagating cracks. The techniques and solutions in this work are primarily for stationary and propagating mode I (opening mode) crack problems. In addition, the in-plane mixed mode crack problem, that is, combined mode I and mode II (shearing mode), is briefly addressed. The dynamic stress intensity factors may be extracted from the energy release rate $G$ defined in domain (area) and contour (line) integral forms. The energy release rate is derived from a mechanical energy balance in the area surrounding the crack tip. The procedure closely follows that of Freund (1990) and Moran and Shih (1987).
3.2 GENERAL MECHANICAL ENERGY BALANCE

In the absence of body forces, the Lagrangian form of equation of motion may be written as

\[ \dot{\sigma}_{ij} = \rho \dot{v}_j \]  

(3.1)

By taking the inner product of Equation (3.1) with the material point velocity \( \dot{v}_i \), the result is

\[ \dot{\sigma}_{ij} \dot{v}_j = \rho \dot{v}_j \dot{v}_j \]  

(3.2)

Since, \( (\dot{\sigma}_{ij} \dot{v}_j)_j = \dot{\sigma}_{ij} \dot{v}_j + \dot{\sigma}_{ij} \dot{v}_{ji} \), then Equation (3.2) may be rewritten in the form

\[ (\dot{\sigma}_{ij} \dot{v}_j)_j = \dot{\sigma}_{ij} \dot{v}_{ji} + \rho \dot{v}_j \dot{v}_j \]  

(3.3)

Since the stress work density, \( \dot{U} \), and the kinetic energy density, \( \dot{T} \), at a material point are given by

\[ \dot{U} = \int_{t=0}^{t'} \dot{\sigma}_{ij} \dot{v}_{ji} dt' \]  

(3.4)

\[ \dot{T} = \frac{1}{2} \rho \dot{v}_i \dot{v}_i \]  

(3.5)

Equation (3.3) can be written as,

\[ (\dot{\sigma}_{ij} \dot{v}_j)_j = \dot{U} + \dot{T} \]  

(3.6)

Equation (3.6) is referred to as the general balance equation and is valid for any material response.
Equation (3.6) may be integrated over a general three-dimensional body of volume \( V \) bounded by the surface \( S \) with a unit outward normal \( m \). Let \( v_i^5 \) be the instantaneous velocity of the surface \( S \). This yields

\[
\int_{V} \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{v} \right) dV = \int_{V} \left( \frac{\dot{U} + \tau}{v} \right) dV
\]  

(3.7)

Applying the divergence theorem to the LHS of Equation (3.7) and Reynolds transport theorem to the RHS, the mechanical energy balance may be written as

\[
\int_{S} \sigma_i j v_i m_i \, ds = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{V} \left( \frac{\dot{U} + \tau}{v} \right) dV - \int_{V} \left( \frac{\dot{U} + \tau}{v} \right) v_i m_i \, ds
\]  

(3.8)

### 3.3 ENERGY BALANCE FOR CRACK TIP REGION

Consider an arbitrary two-dimensional body, Figure (3.1) containing a crack and bounded by a Lagrangian (material associated) curve \( \Gamma_o \). The crack is assumed to be propagating with an instantaneous velocity \( v^c \) along \( x_1 \)-axis. The crack tip region is bounded by a small contour \( \Gamma \) that starts at one of the traction free crack faces and ends at the other. This contour is fixed in shape and it translates with the crack tip at the same velocity.

Integrating Equation (3.8) over the area \( A \), bounded by the contours \( \Gamma_o, \Gamma^+, \Gamma^- \) and \( \Gamma^\pm \), and applying the divergence theorem to the LHS of the equation and Reynolds transport theorem to the RHS yields (Moran and Shih, 1987)
where \( C = C^+ \cup C^- \). By assuming that crack faces are traction free, i.e., the stress vector \( \sigma_j m_i = 0 \), Equation (3.9) may be expanded as

\[
\int_{C}^t \sigma_j^t v_j m_i \, dC = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \int_{\Gamma^+}^t (U + T)^t m_i \right) - \int_{C}^t (U + T)^t v_j m_i \, dC
\]

The term on the LHS of Equation (3.10) is the rate of traction work being inputted into the body. The first term in the RHS represents the rate of increase of the internal energy, whereas the second term represents the rate of energy lost due to flux through crack faces. The last term on the RHS represents the rate of energy lost due to flux through \( \Gamma \), which will be denoted by \( F \). Since \( m = -n \) on \( \Gamma \), \( F \) can be expressed as
Chapter 3. Dynamic Fracture Parameters

\[ F(T) = \int_C \left[ (U+T) v^c \delta_i + \sigma_{ij} v_j \right] n_i' dC \]  

(3.11)

3.4 THE DYNAMIC ENERGY RELEASE RATE

The dynamic energy release rate \( G \) is defined as the energy released from the body due to a unit crack growth. The dynamic energy release rate may be related to the contour \( T \), as it is shrinking into the crack tip, as

\[ G = \lim_{T \to 0} \left\{ \frac{F(T)}{v^c} \right\} = \lim_{T \to 0} \left\{ \frac{1}{v^c} \int_C \left[ \sigma_{ij} v_j + (U+T) v^c \delta_i \right] n_i' dC \right\} \]  

(3.12)

In order for \( G \) to be a fracture parameter of fundamental significance, its value must be independent of the shape of the contour \( T \).

To examine the path dependency of the above contour integral, consider a closed loop formed by two crack tip contour integrals. Upon application of the divergence theorem to the energy flux integral, Equation (3.11), yields

\[ F(T_1) - F(T_2) = \int_{A_{12}} \left[ \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_i} + v^c \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + \rho \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_i}{\partial t^2} + v^c \frac{\partial^2 u_i}{\partial x_i \partial t} \right) \right] dA \]  

(3.13)

where \( A_{12} \) is the area within the closed path. In general, the above integrand is not necessarily zero and consequently the value of \( F \) will be path dependent.

Consider, as a special case, a steady state crack growth \( (v^c = \text{const.}) \). In this case, any field quantity \( f(\xi) \) depends on \( x_i \) and \( t \) only through the combination \( \xi = x_i - v^c t \).

This causes the area integral of Equation (3.13) to vanish, which implies that the energy
release rate contour integral, Equation (3.12), is independent of the path $'r$ for steady state crack growth.

The relation between material point velocity and crack tip velocity may be expressed as

$$v_i = \frac{\partial' u_i}{\partial t} - v^c \frac{\partial' u_i}{\partial x_i}$$

(3.14)

For steady state crack growth, the first term on the right hand side of Equation (3.14) vanishes. For the non-steady state conditions, this term is not necessarily zero; however, in areas close to the crack tip, where the displacement gradient is very large, the second term dominates and Equation (3.14) may be written as

$$v_i = -v^c \frac{\partial' u_i}{\partial x_i}$$

(3.15)

Using Equations (3.14) and (3.15), the dynamic energy release rate may be expressed as,

$$G = \int_{'r} \left[ (U + 'T) \delta_{ii} - ' \sigma_{ij} ' u_{j,i} \right] n_i ' dC$$

(3.16)

where $G$ is path-independent for steady crack growth and locally path-independent for non-steady crack growth.

3.5 DOMAIN INTEGRALS FOR ENERGY RELEASE RATE

In finite element dynamic analysis, it is difficult to reliably evaluate energy functions defined in path forms even for steady state problems. Therefore, Equation (3.16) will not provide reliable results if it is implemented in a finite element modeling of dynamic crack problems.
To overcome this difficulty, Moran and Shih (1987) applied the divergence theorem to Equation (3.16), considering the configuration in Figure (3.1) for a crack with straight faces, and taking the limit as $\Gamma \to 0$. This alternative expression for $G$ is expressed as

$$G = - \int_{\Gamma} \left[ (U+T) \delta_{ij} - \sigma_{ij} u_{i,1} \right] q_{,ij} \, dA = - \int_{\Gamma} \left[ \rho' v_i v_{i,1} - \rho' a_i u_{i,1} \right] q \, dA$$

(3.17)

where $q$ is an arbitrary smooth function that is a unity on $\Gamma$ and vanishes on $\Gamma_0$.

Organ (1996) added an extra term to Equation (3.17) to solve for general curved cracks, i.e.,

$$G = - \int_{\Gamma} \left[ (U+T) \delta_{ij} - \sigma_{ij} u_{i,1} \right] q_{,ij} \, dA - \int_{\Gamma} \left[ \rho' v_i v_{i,1} - \rho' a_i u_{i,1} \right] q \, dA + \int_{\Gamma} (U+T) q m_i \, dC$$

(3.18)

Other expression for $G$ for straight cracks derived from Equation (3.16) include (Nishioka and Atluri, 1983)

$$G = \int_{\Gamma_0} \left[ (U+T) n_i - \sigma_{ij} m_j u_{i,1} \right] \, dC - \int_{\Gamma} \left[ \rho' v_i v_{i,1} - \rho' a_i u_{i,1} \right] \, dA$$

(3.19)

and

$$G = \lim_{\Gamma \to 0} \int_{\Gamma} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \rho' \left( v_i v_{i,1} \right) n_i \right] \, dC + \int_{\Gamma_0} \left[ (U n_i - \sigma_{ij} m_j u_{i,1} \right] \, dC + \int_{\Gamma} \left[ \rho' a_i u_{i,1} \right] \, dA$$

(3.20)

In Equation (3.17) to (3.20), $\Gamma$ represents the area bounded by the contour $\Gamma_0$. The first integral in Equation (3.20) is evaluated at the crack tip.
3.6 MIXED MODE STRESS INTENSITY FACTORS

The dynamic form of Irwin's relationships that relates the energy release rate to mode I and mode II stress intensity factors in plane strain condition is expressed as

\[ G(v^c, t) = \frac{1 - \nu^2}{E} [A_I(v^c)K_I^2 + A_{II}(v^c)K_{II}^2] \] (3.21)

where, \( v^c \) is the crack tip speed and \( A_I(v^c) \) and \( A_{II}(v^c) \) are universal functions of crack tip speed and are given by

\[ A_I(v^c) = \frac{\nu^2 \alpha_d}{(1 - \nu) c_s^2 D} \quad \text{and} \quad A_{II}(v^c) = \frac{\nu^2 \alpha_s}{(1 - \nu) c_s^2 D} \] (3.22)

where

\[ \alpha_d = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \nu^2}{c_d^2}} \quad \alpha_s = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \nu^2}{c_s^2}} \quad D = 4 \alpha_d \alpha_s - (1 + \alpha_s^2)^2 \] (3.23)

and \( c_s \) and \( c_d \) are the elastic shear and dilatational wave speeds respectively. Equation is obtained by substituting the asymptotic crack field solution into Equation (3.16).

For mode I problems, determining the dynamic stress intensity factor, \( K_I \), from the dynamic energy release rate \( G \), is straightforward, i.e., substituting \( K_{II} = 0 \) in Equation (3.21). However, in mixed mode problems, Equation (3.21) does not provide \( K_I \) and \( K_{II} \) as separate quantities. This may be resolved by using extraction formulas based on known auxiliary field solutions (Shih and Asaro, 1988). Any field that satisfies the equation of motion, Equation (3.1), may be superimposed on the actual field.
Considering a field equal to the first term in the asymptotic solution for pure mode I case with unit stress intensity factor, i.e., $K_{\text{aux}} = 1$, and $K_{\text{aux}} = 0$, the energy release rate in Equation (3.21) becomes

\[
G_{\text{total}}^{(1)} = \frac{1-v^2}{E} \left[ A_t (K_t + K_{\text{aux}})^2 + A_n K^2_n \right]
= \frac{1-v^2}{E} \left[ A_t K_t^2 + A_n K^2_n \right] + \frac{1-v^2}{E} \left[ A_t K_{\text{aux}}^2 \right] + \frac{1-v^2}{E} \left[ 2A_t K_t K_{\text{aux}} \right]
\]

(3.24)

where, $G_{\text{total}}^{(1)}$ is the energy release rate of the total field (the actual field plus the auxiliary field), $G_{\text{aux}}^{(1)}$ is the energy release rate of the auxiliary field, and $G_{\text{int}}^{(1)}$ is termed as the interaction energy release rate. The superscript $^{(1)}$ implies that the auxiliary field is a pure mode I type.

Using the interaction term of Equation (3.24), the mode I stress intensity factor may be expressed as

\[
K_t = \left( \frac{E}{1-v^2} \right) \frac{G_{\text{int}}^{(1)}}{2A_t}
\]

(3.25)

Similarly, by superimposing a pure mode case ($K_{\text{aux}} = 0$, $K_{\text{aux}} = 1$), the mode II stress intensity factor may evaluated as

\[
K_n = \left( \frac{E}{1-v^2} \right) \frac{G_{\text{int}}^{(2)}}{2A_n}
\]

(3.26)
The interaction energy release rate $G_{int}^{(1)}$ may be evaluated by superimposing the auxiliary field solutions corresponding to a unit mode I stress intensity factor in Equation (3.16). The contour integral may then be converted into a domain form following the procedure of Section 3.5. For small strain linear elasticity, Shih and Asaro (1988) showed that

$$G_{int}^{(1)} = \int_A \left[ -\left( \sigma_{ij}^{(1)} \varepsilon_{ij}^{(1)} + \rho \left( u_i^{(1)} v_j^{(1)} + v_i^{(1)} u_j^{(1)} \right) \right) q_{,i} + \left( \sigma_{ij}^{(1)} \varepsilon_{ij}^{(1)} + \rho \left( u_i^{(1)} v_j^{(1)} + v_i^{(1)} u_j^{(1)} \right) \right) q_{,j} \right] dA$$

(3.27)

where $\varepsilon_{ij}$ is linear strain and the superscript $(1)$ refers to mode I auxiliary field quantity.

The same expression can be obtained for $G_{int}^{(2)}$.

### 3.7 DIRECTION OF CRACK PROPAGATION

Different theories are available in the literature to predict the direction of crack propagation. Erdogan and Sih (1963) proposed that cracks propagate in a radial direction corresponding to the plane perpendicular to the direction of the greatest tangential stress. Alternatively, Sih (1974) introduced a theory based on the strain energy density. It states that the crack propagation starts in a radial direction along which the strain energy density is a minimum. In this work, both theories will be considered in the numerical implementation.
Chapter 4

NUMERICAL PROCEDURE

This chapter discusses the implementation of the ALE and dynamic fracture formulations, described in Chapters 2 and 3, into the newly developed dynamic ALE finite element FRacture program (ALEFR). New procedures and their numerical implementation into the developed program are detailed in this chapter.

4.1 MESH MOTION

As indicated in previous chapters, the finite element grid points in ALE formulation may be moved arbitrarily to maintain a homogeneous mesh and to properly represent boundary conditions throughout the deformation process. Grid displacements are first related to material displacements through a set of assigned arbitrary mesh motion parameters. This simplifies the specification of pure Lagrangian, pure Eulerian or any arbitrary degrees of freedom. The choice of the arbitrary mesh motion parameters for interior degrees of freedom is handled by a special mesh motion scheme. However, special treatment for mesh motion on free material boundaries is necessary to satisfy the ALE boundary constraint, Equation (3.5).
4.1.1 Grid Displacement

The grid displacement is related to the material displacement according to the following general form

\[ u^s = \alpha + Bu \]  \hspace{2cm} (4.1)

where \( \alpha \) and \( B \) are a vector and a matrix of mesh motion parameters, respectively. Vector \( \alpha \) consists of appropriate grid displacements given by the mesh motion scheme, while matrix \( B \) consists of factors that allow the coupling of grid and material displacements. Setting \( \alpha = 0 \) and \( B = I \), produces a pure Lagrangian scheme, i.e., \( u^s = u \), whereas a pure Eulerian scheme, i.e., \( u^s = 0 \), may be obtained by setting \( \alpha = 0 \) and \( B = 0 \). Depending on the scheme of mesh motion on free boundaries, matrix \( B \) may have non-zero off-diagonal terms, which means that grid and material displacements are coupled at the same node.

4.1.2 Mesh Motion for Interior Nodes

In this work, the transfinite mapping method (Haber et al., 1981) is used as the mesh motion scheme for the degrees of freedom interior to any mesh region bounded by any four specified boundary curves. This method provides a homogeneous mesh and matches the boundary of a given region at an infinite number of points. Another distinct advantage of the transfinite mapping method is that it allows the discrete representation of boundary curves; that is, the coordinates and displacements of boundary nodes may be
used to find the optimum position of the nodes internal to the region. It also allows for discontinuities in the slope of boundary curves.

4.1.3 Mesh Motion on Free Material Boundaries

To move nodes on free boundaries, three important aspects have to be considered. First, the true material boundary should be determined and tracked along the course of deformation. Second, the ALE boundary constraint, Equation (3.5), must always be consistently satisfied. Third, the boundary nodes should be properly spaced to ensure a good quality mesh within the region they bound.

The description and analysis of two techniques for the treatment of boundary motion are given in this section. These are: the Displacement Coupling (DC) technique (Bayoumi and Gadala, 1999) and the True Boundary Tracking (TBT) technique (Abdelgalil and Gadala, 1999), developed in this work.

The Displacement Coupling technique

Bayoumi and Gadala (1999) controlled the ALE nodal motion on free boundaries, by using the general equation of grid motion, Equation (4.1). By considering point \( k \) on the free boundary, Figure (4.1), the application of Equation (4.1) yields

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
    u_x^k \\
    u_y^k
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
    \alpha_x \\
    \alpha_y
\end{pmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}
    B_{xx} & B_{xy} \\
    B_{yx} & B_{yy}
\end{bmatrix}\begin{pmatrix}
    u_x \\
    u_y
\end{pmatrix} \tag{4.2}
\]

Components of the vector \( \alpha \) and the matrix \( B \) are determined such that the resultant coupling of degrees of freedom satisfies the ALE boundary constraint, Equation (3.5).
The free boundary is defined by a cubic spline interpolation of nodal coordinates. A local set of axes, $x'$ and $y'$ is defined at node $k$, such that $x'$ is tangent to the boundary. This local set of axes makes an angle $\theta$ with the global $x$ and $y$ axes.

Components of the vector $\alpha$ and the matrix $B$ are determined such that the resultant coupling of degrees of freedom satisfies the ALE boundary constraint, Equation (3.5).

![Figure (4.1) The Displacement Coupling (DC) technique.](image-url)
An arbitrary displacement $\alpha_x$ is assigned to node $k$ along the tangent axis $x'$. This displacement is set in order to control the nodal spacing on the boundary. Equation (4.1), may then be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_x^x \\ u_y^x \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_x \cos \theta \\ \alpha_x \sin \theta \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \sin^2 \theta & -\sin \theta \cos \theta \\ -\sin \theta \cos \theta & \cos^2 \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \end{bmatrix}$$

(4.3)

The above scheme satisfies the ALE boundary constraint requirements, but it does not truly track the location of the boundary node. This may be crucial, especially in the case of a moving crack with a curved or kinked propagation path.

**True Boundary Tracking (TBT) technique**

This technique is developed in this work, and it is based on the physical interpretation of the ALE boundary constraint. The objective is to accurately determine and track the true material boundaries, including the evolitional crack faces. Implementation of this technique into an ALE description is not straightforward, but it might be simplified, according to Figure (4.2), into the following steps:

- The total nodal point displacement is resolved as:

$$\overline{u}^x = \overline{u}^L + \overline{u}^A$$

(4.4)

where $\overline{u}^L$ is the Lagrangian component of the nodal displacement, that is, the displacement of a material point that instantaneously shares the location with the node, whereas $\overline{u}^A$ is the arbitrary component of the nodal displacement.
Initially, before load application, a number of Material Points (MPs) are created on each free boundary. The possession of these MPs to their corresponding elements is then determined. Due to the nature of the ALE motion scheme, the possession of MPs may change from one element to another; therefore, the search for the owner element is repeated each time step.

Figure (4.2) The True Boundary Tracking (TBT) technique.
Chapter 4. Numerical Procedure

- After the application of the loading increment, each nodal point \( k \) is moved according to its respective Lagrangian displacement, \( \bar{u}^L \). Then, for a material point \( j \), possessed by the element \( q \), MP\(_j^q \), the deformation is determined by the extrapolation

\[
(u_i)_{MP_j^q} = \left( \sum_{k=1}^{n} N_k \bar{u}_{ik}^L \right)_{q}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (4.5)

where the subscripts \( i \) and \( k \) correspond to the degree of freedom and node number, respectively. The new locations of MP's constitute the new (true) material boundary.

- Nodal points may now be moved arbitrarily by a distance \( \bar{u}^A \) on the true material boundary in accordance with the ALE boundary constraint.

The TBT motion scheme consistently satisfies the ALE boundary constraint in the sense that the arbitrary nodal motion occurs exactly on the true material boundary, whereas in the coupled displacement technique, this motion occurs in a virtual material boundary, created by curve fitting of the nodal point coordinates.

The TBT scheme treats the material boundary and the finite element boundary as two separate entities. This gives it the advantage of moving boundary nodes on uneven or curved free boundary contours. Consider, as an example, the free body contour shown in Figure (4.3). For the sake of simplicity, assume that the body is unloaded, i.e., stress
free. An arbitrary mesh motion should not, in principle, induce any stress or deformation on the body and its free boundaries. However, moving the boundary nodes according to coupled displacement scheme (in which, nodes are moved in a direction tangent to the cubic spline curve connecting the nodes) distorted the unstressed boundary. On the other hand, the way the TBT defines and tracks the material boundary, kept this boundary free from any distortion throughout the process of arbitrary nodal motion.

\[ u^g = a^* \]

where, \( a^* = \begin{cases} u^L & \text{Lagrangian} \\ 0 & \text{Eulerian} \\ \text{Arbitrary value} & \text{ALE} \end{cases} \) (4.6)

Figure (4.3) Nodal motion on free boundary: the TBT versus the DC techniques

To implement the TBT approach, it is more convenient to rewrite the general equation of relative motion, Equation (4.1), as
where the arbitrary value, in ALE description, is assigned by the transfinite mapping method for internal nodes, whereas the arbitrary motion of the free boundary nodes are assigned according to the TBT approach.

4.2 MATERIAL POINT SPLITTING (MPS)

The most widely used technique in the modeling of crack propagation process in Lagrangian finite element codes, is the node release method (Anderson, 1973). In this method, the crack propagation is modeled by discontinuous jumps between fixed nodes in a straight line determined prior to the application of the finite element analysis. In each crack growth increment, the crack tip node is split into two nodes and the next node in line becomes the new crack tip node. Thus, the crack is forced to grow, in a self similar manner, a whole element length for each increment. These nonphysical assumptions introduce some errors, in the analysis of dynamic fracture in general and in modeling ductile material in particular, where the accuracy of determining the stress and strain histories affects the solution significantly. This drawback limited the application of node release approach to some particular classes of crack propagation problems.

In this work, a new technique is developed to model the process of crack propagation in a continuous manner (Abdelgalil and Gadala, 1999). This method models the creation of new material surfaces (due to crack propagation) by splitting every material point that happens to lie on the crack propagation path into two material points, instead of splitting crack tip nodes. Therefore, this method is referred to as: Material Point Splitting (MPS).
The MPS technique is incorporated with the TBT to enable the modeling of crack propagation using the ALE finite elements in a continuous and consistent manner. This implementation is simplified in Figure (4.4) for a self-similar crack propagation. According to this new approach, the crack tip is associated to a single finite element node throughout the course of crack propagation. The Crack Tip Node (CTN) has a material-point-generation function. If the crack is allowed to move, according to the propagation criteria, this function generates a new material point at the new crack tip location (MP\textsubscript{CT}). The old (MP\textsubscript{CT}), directly behind the CTN, splits into two MPs. In the next time step, these split MPs are associated to the upper and lower crack faces. By splitting each MP, new upper and lower crack faces are created in each increment. The objective of the TBT technique is to control nodal motion on the upper and lower crack faces. This insures that the mesh is always kept uniform during crack growth, and it keeps the motion of boundary nodes consistent with the definition of the relative motion, with respect to the computational and material reference frames.
At the end of time step $t$.

Lagrangian deformations are applied to all the nodes and MPs according to TBT.

Arbitrary motion may be applied to all nodes except CTN. (No crack propagation yet)

The CTN is released from the MP$_{CT}$ and allowed to advance leaving MP$_{CT}$ behind. The MP$_{CT}$ is then split into two MPs.

At the end of time step $t+1$ the split MPs will move to the upper and lower crack faces according to their Lagrangian deformations. New MP$_{CTN}$ is created.

Figure (4.4) Material Point Split (MPS) technique.
4.3 NUMERICAL IMPLEMENTATIONS

The implementation of the ALE formulations, Chapter 2, and dynamic fracture formulation and techniques, Chapters 3 and 4, into a dynamic ALE finite element fracture program (ALEFR) is outlined in this section.

4.3.1 Solution of Equilibrium Equations

In order to solve the finite element equilibrium equations, Equations (2.64) and (2.73), using a modified Newton-Raphson iterative scheme, the two equations may respectively be rewritten as

\[
\begin{align*}
(\mathbf{K}^L + \mathbf{K}^A) \mathbf{u}^{(i)} + (\mathbf{K}^A + \mathbf{K}^A) (\mathbf{u}^{(i)} - \mathbf{u}^{(i-1)}) &= \mathbf{f}^{eq} - \mathbf{f}^{(i-1)} \\
&= \mathbf{f}^{eq} - \mathbf{f}^{(i-1)} \\
&= \mathbf{f}^{eq} - \mathbf{f}^{(i-1)}
\end{align*}
\]  

and

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathbf{M}^L \mathbf{a}^{(i)} + \mathbf{C}^A \mathbf{v}^{(i)} + \mathbf{C}^A (\mathbf{v}^{(i)} - \mathbf{v}^{(i-1)}) + (\mathbf{K}^L + \mathbf{K}^L) \mathbf{u}^{(i)} + \mathbf{K}^A (\mathbf{u}^{(i)} - \mathbf{u}^{(i-1)}) &= \mathbf{f}^{ext} - \mathbf{f}^{(i-1)} \\
&= \mathbf{f}^{ext} - \mathbf{f}^{(i-1)} \\
&= \mathbf{f}^{ext} - \mathbf{f}^{(i-1)}
\end{align*}
\]  

where \( \mathbf{u}^{(i)} \), \( \mathbf{v}^{(i)} \) and \( \mathbf{a}^{(i)} \) are the corrections to the incremental material displacement, velocity and acceleration vectors in iteration \( i \), respectively, and \( \mathbf{u}^{(i)} \) and \( \mathbf{v}^{(i)} \) are the corrections to the incremental grid displacement and velocity vectors, respectively. These correction vectors are then used to update their corresponding quantity as follows

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathbf{u}^{(i+1)} &= \mathbf{u}^{(i)} + \mathbf{u}^{(i)} \\
\mathbf{v}^{(i+1)} &= \mathbf{v}^{(i)} + \mathbf{v}^{(i)} \\
\mathbf{a}^{(i+1)} &= \mathbf{a}^{(i)} + \mathbf{a}^{(i)} \\
\mathbf{u}^{(i+1)} &= \mathbf{u}^{(i)} + \mathbf{u}^{(i)} \\
\mathbf{v}^{(i+1)} &= \mathbf{v}^{(i)} + \mathbf{v}^{(i)}
\end{align*}
\]  

(4.9)
In dynamic analysis, time integration is carried out using Newmark implicit scheme (Bathe, 1996) in which

\[ \begin{aligned}
    t^{+\Delta t} u^{(i)} &= u + \Delta t v + \Delta t^2 \left( \frac{1}{2} - \beta \right) a + \Delta t^2 \beta t^{+\Delta t} a^{(i)} \tag{4.10} \\
    t^{+\Delta t} v^{(i)} &= v + \Delta t (1 - \gamma) a + \Delta t \gamma t^{+\Delta t} a^{(i)} \tag{4.11}
\end{aligned} \]

where \( \beta \) and \( \gamma \) are parameters that control the accuracy and stability of integration.

Using Equations (4.9), (4.10) and (4.11), \( v^{(i)} \), \( a^{(i)} \) and \( v^{s(i)} \) may be eliminated from Equation (4.8) by correlating them to \( u^{(i)} \) and \( u^{s(i)} \) as follows

\[ \begin{aligned}
    v^{(i)} &= \frac{\gamma}{\Delta t \beta} u^{(i)} \\
    a^{(i)} &= \frac{1}{\Delta t^2 \beta} u^{(i)} \tag{4.12} \\
    v^{s(i)} &= \frac{\gamma}{\Delta t \beta} u^{s(i)}
\end{aligned} \]

Using Equation (4.12), Equation (4.8) may be rearranged as

\[ \begin{aligned}
    &\left[ -\frac{1}{\Delta t^2 \beta} M^L + \frac{\gamma}{\Delta t \beta} (C^{A1} + t^A C^{A2}) + (K^L + t^A K^A) \right] u^{(i)} - \left[ -\frac{\gamma}{\Delta t \beta} C^{A2} + t^A K^A \right] u^{s(i)} \\
    &= t^{+\Delta t} f^{ext} - t^{+\Delta t} f^{(i-1)} - (M^L + t^A M^A) a^{(i-1)} - (t^A C^{A1} + t^A C^{A3} + t^A C^{A4}) a^{s(i-1)} + v^{(i-1)} \tag{4.13}
\end{aligned} \]

Equations (4.7) and (4.13) may be simplified further by eliminating \( u^{s(i)} \). This may be carried out by rewriting both of the equations in the following general form

\[ \begin{aligned}
    t^A K u^{(i)} - t^A K u^{s(i)} &= f^{(i)} \tag{4.14}
\end{aligned} \]
where 'K and 'K are equivalent stiffness matrices corresponding to u and u, respectively, while f is the incremental load vector for iteration i. Then, using the ALE correlation between grid and material point displacement according to TBT, Equation (4.6), the general form, Equation (4.14) becomes

\[ ('K)u = f + 'K g α^* \] (4.15)

Equation (4.15) is used to eliminate the grid displacement on the element level. Conventional finite element assembly and elimination techniques may now be applied directly to solve for the unknown material displacements.

4.3.2 Numerical Integration of the Energy Release Rate

In order to numerically evaluate the energy release rate G, and subsequently the dynamic stress intensity factor, the integrals derived in Sections 3.5 and 3.6 are implemented in the developed finite element program.

These G integrals employ the stress work density, 'U, which, according to its definition in Equation (3.4), requires the integration of the product of stress and the velocity gradient, from the beginning until the current time t. It is not possible to employ the Gauss quadrature integration scheme, used in the standard finite element, because when the finite element mesh moves arbitrarily, due to crack propagation, the location of the Gauss points change. Therefore, the material point stress and velocity gradient histories are unknown, and the integration, Equation (3.4), cannot be performed.
This problem is overcome by creating a Lagrangian grid of material points in the area around the crack tip where the $G$ contours are applied. The grid should be created initially before load application. Each material point is possessed by an (owner) element, i.e., located within its boundaries. Due to the relative (ALE) motion between the finite element mesh and the Lagrangian grid in the event of crack propagation, the search for the owner element for each material point has to take place each time step. To accelerate the searching process, the search will first take place in the last owner element, then it is performed in the elements adjacent to it. A map of the neighboring elements for each element in the model, is determined by utilizing element connectivity at the beginning of the analysis. This map will not change throughout the course of crack propagation, because there is no remeshing or nodal release used in modeling of crack propagation. Once the owner element is located, material point properties are then updated.

A square contour centered at the crack tip is constructed, as shown in the Figure (4.5), such that it starts at the lower crack face, passes through the MPs of the Lagrangian grid and ends at the upper crack face. The material points bounded by the contour, including the ones on the contour itself, are referred to as domain MPs, whereas the MPs on the contour are referred to as contour MPS. Each term of the contour and domain integrands of $G$ integrals, is evaluated at each contour and domain MP, respectively. The one and two dimensional Trapezoidal rules are then applied to carry out the numerical integration.
Once the crack is allowed to propagate at a certain speed, $v^c$, the crack tip node will then
displace a distance $d = v^c \Delta t$, where $\Delta t$ is the current time step. Accordingly, the TBT,
MPS and the transfinite mapping scheme arrange the elements topography, Figure (4.5).

Holding the square contour while the crack is propagating causes contour eccentricity,
i.e., the crack tip is shifted from the center of the square. Excessive eccentricity leads to
inaccurate results (Organ, 1996), and eventually, causes the domain to disintegrate into
two separate parts. Therefore, continuous contour reconstruction is needed as long as the
crack is propagating. Figure (4.5) shows, as an example, a self-similar crack
propagation, in which the contour was reconstructed by eliminating the contour MPs on
the left and incorporating new contour MPs on the right. This process of contour
reconstruction involves the search for the best combination of MPs to make the contour
as square and eccentric as possible. Practically, the energy release rate is evaluated using
more than one contour, and in this work, a large number of square and rectangular
contours are used in each example to determine the sensitivity of these contours to the
size and shape of the path of integration.
Figure (4.5) Contour and domain integrals to determine $G$ for dynamic crack propagation
4.4 THE ALE DYNAMIC FRACTURE PROGRAM

The techniques developed in this work to model dynamic fracture problems, are implemented in a program (ALEFR). These techniques include: the Material Point Splitting (MPS), True Boundary Tracking (TBT) and techniques to determine the fracture parameters for stationary and propagating cracks.

4.4.1 Program Structure

The developed program (ALEFR) is written in a modular scheme and it employs standard updated Lagrangian procedures, routines for general ALE analysis, and the ALE routines developed specifically to model fracture problems.

The flowchart, Figure (4.6), shows the main routines of the developed program. Additional standard and developed subroutines are not listed here for brevity. The program starts by reading the variables needed for controlling the size of the arrays through the dynamic memory allocation. Next, all variables and arrays used in the program are initialized. The program then reads the standard finite element input data as well as fracture control data. Since the program is designed to handle the conditions of displacement controlled and load (stress) controlled fracture, the applied distributed loads are converted into their equivalent nodal values. A grid of material points is created within the domain of the body. A searching process is carried out within the whole domain, for the owner element of each MP. This grid is needed later in the computation of fracture parameters and in the TBT scheme.
In each Newton equilibrium iteration, the fracture parameters have to be evaluated. This is carried out first by searching for the current owner element for each MP in the grid created at the beginning. Once all the owner elements are located, the MP properties are updated accordingly. The integration contours and domains are built on the MP grid and the strain energy release rate and the stress intensity factors are determined.

According to the crack propagation criterion used, if a decision is made to propagate the crack, propagation speed and direction are subsequently determined and the MPS technique is used to create the new crack surface. The TBT and motion routines are called to control the ALE mesh motion by determining the motion parameter in the vector $\mathbf{a}^*$ . For the free boundary nodes, including crack faces, this parameter is computed using the TBT routines, whereas, for internal nodes, it is determined by calling the transfinite mapping subroutines. In the condition of a load controlled fracture, the ALE motion due to crack propagation may alter the position of the nodes included in the calculation of the consistent load vector. This vector is re-evaluated in each iteration while the crack is propagating. When the boundary conditions are set, the standard predictor phase of the time integration algorithm is then performed, and the elements lumped mass and stiffness matrices, including the extra terms due to ALE, are calculated. The global effective load vector is assembled from all the elements load vectors as well as the out of balance internal forces from previous iterations. The solution for the unknown displacement is carried out through a frontal solution scheme. A line search algorithm is used to improve convergence. The corrector phase of the time integration
scheme is then performed to determine velocities and accelerations. Gauss point stresses are integrated and three convergence measures are determined. These measures are respectively based on: the iterative displacements, the residual (out of balance) forces and the residual energy. Convergence of iterations is then checked and the iterations are performed until convergence is achieved. At the end of each converged time step, nodal stresses are extrapolated from Gauss point stresses, and the results are written into output files. The program then moves to the next time step.
Chapter 4. Numerical Procedure

Read control variables / CONTRO /
Initialize arrays and variables / INITIA /
Input model and fracture data / INPUTD /
Evaluate consistent nodal force vector / LOADPL /
Create grid of material points / GRDCRT /
Determine grid point possession / GRDLOC /
Update grid points properties / GROUPD /
Define contour and domain integrals / CONTCR /
Determine fracture parameters / GEVALU /

Determine propagation speed and direction
Perform MPS
Perform TBT for crack faces and free boundaries
Set motion parameters
Update consistent load vectors due to crack propagation
Set boundary conditions

Predictor phase
Determine elements mass matrices including ALE terms
Calculate elements stiffness matrices including ALE terms
Assemble elements effective load vector including ALE terms
Solve ALE equilibrium equations
Line search algorithm / LNSRCH /
Corrector phase / CORREC /
Evaluate stresses at Gauss points
Determine convergence parameters

Extrapolate nodal stresses / NODSTR /
Write output data / OUTPUT /

Crack propagates?

Figure (4.6) Flowchart of the developed program (ALEFR)
4.4.2 Characteristics of the Developed Program (ALEFR)

The characteristics of the developed implementation, as discussed above are highlighted in the following points:

- Due to the developed true boundary tracking (TBT) technique, the motion of the free boundary nodes is accurately tracked, and the ALE free boundary constraint equation is satisfied.

- The modeling of the crack propagation process using the material point splitting (MPS) technique (as opposed to the Lagrangian nodal release method), provides a closer representation of the real physical process, which involves the evolution of new material surfaces in a continuous manner. In addition, the MPS technique eliminates the need for dense mesh in the path of the propagating crack tip, as traditionally required in the nodal release method.

- Unlike the nodal release method, the developed program is capable of modeling in-plane mixed mode crack propagation without the need to determine the direction of crack propagation prior to the start of analysis. Further, the developed program may easily model non self-similar crack propagation, i.e., curved or kinked cracks.

- In the developed program, the choice of the time step $\Delta t$ is independent of the crack tip velocity and element size. Variable crack tip velocities may, therefore, be modeled more naturally.
- The strain energy release rate may be evaluated through integration over contours and domains of inhomogeneous materials, i.e., a single contour may pass though different materials.

- The TBT and the MPS techniques are carried out within the iteration loop, i.e., before achieving convergence. This is due to the fact that the stresses calculated within the iterations already include convective effects.

- All output data is written in formats, such that they can be readily read and animated by the data visualization software TECPLLOT®.
Chapter 5

NUMERICAL EXAMPLES

In this chapter, the developed program (ALEFR) is tested in a series of numerical experiments that include stationary and propagating cracks. Test results are then compared to the benchmark solutions available in the literature. Although the developed program is capable of modeling linear and nonlinear material behavior, in all cases considered here, only linear elastic material is assumed.

In addition, a mixed mode dynamic crack propagation problem is modeled to test the ability of the developed code in solving these kinds of problems.

5.1 STATIONARY MODE I CRACK SUBJECTED TO SINGLE STEP PULSE

5.1.1 Problem Description

In this example, a semi-infinite crack in an infinite body is loaded with a tensile stress wave traveling perpendicular to the crack surface. Freund (1990) presented an analytical solution for the dynamic stress intensity factor, which starts to develop as soon as the wave reaches the crack tip; according to

\[ K_I(t,\nu^c) = K_I(t,0) = \frac{2\sigma_0}{1-\nu} \sqrt{c_d \frac{(1-2\nu)t}{\pi}} \]

(5.1)
where, \( v' \) is the uniform crack propagation speed (\( v' = 0 \) in this example), \( v \) is Poisson’s ratio, \( \sigma_0 \) is the applied tensile stress pulse and \( c_d \) is the dilatational wave speed. In the above equation, the measurement of time \( t \) started as soon as the wave reached the crack tip. Equation (5.1) shows that the stress intensity factor is a function of the square root of time \( t \), and is valid as long as the reflected boundary waves do not arrive at the crack tip.

5.1.2 Numerical Procedure

Figure (5.1) Horizontal edge crack on a thick plate used in mode I fracture cases.

The plate shown in Figure (5.1), has a horizontal edge crack. The material properties are: \( E = 211 \text{ GPa} \), and \( \rho = 7800 \text{ Kg/m}^3 \). A step tensile stress plus \( \sigma_0 = 1000 \text{ N/m}^2 \), is applied on the upper surface of the plate creating a stress wave which arrives at the crack tip at time \( t = H/c_d \). Plate dimensions are \( H = 2 \text{ m} \) and \( L = 10 \text{ m} \), and a horizontal edge crack
of length $a_0 = 5$ m are chosen such that the reflected boundary waves do not arrive at the crack tip within the time span reported in the analytical solution (about 1.0 ms).

The plate is modeled by a coarse and fine model. In the coarse discretization, 1000 identical 4-noded quadrilateral plane strain elements in $(50 \times 20)$ arrangement, are used, whereas in the fine discretization, 4000 of the above element type are used in $(100 \times 40)$ arrangement. Different time steps ranging from $0.3 \Delta t_c$ to $1.0 \Delta t_c$, where $\Delta t_c$ is the critical time step according to the Courant condition (Isaacson and Keller, 1966) given by $\Delta t_c = \frac{\Delta x}{c}$, where $\Delta x$ refers to element length.

Three Lagrangian grids of different densities have been used to mesh a square area ($4 \times 4$ m) bounded by the largest energy contour integral and centered at the crack tip. In these grids, material points are arranged in $(101 \times 41)$, $(401 \times 161)$ and $(801 \times 321)$ uniform meshes. To study the path dependency of the energy release rate integrals, 200 integration paths, centered at the crack tip, have been created, Figure (5.1). The shortest path is just $0.02$ m away from the crack tip, while the longest path is $5$ m away. These integration contours pass through material points of the Lagrangian grid.

### 5.1.3 Numerical Results

Figure (5.2) shows snap shots of the $\sigma_y$ stress distribution in the model at different time steps. The step pulse is applied at time $t = 0$, at which stress waves start to emanate from the upper plate surface and move downward, such that they reach the crack tip at
Chapter 5. Numerical Examples

$t = H/c_d$. The solution is carried out until time $t = 3H/c_d$, the time at which the reflected waves from the upper and lower surfaces reach the crack tip. The snap shots also captured the reflected waves from the right and left free ends. These waves do not arrive at the crack tip within the specified solution period.

Different combinations of discretization schemes, time steps and Lagrangian grid densities are utilized in this example. The finer discretization, denser Lagrangian grid and smaller time steps always give slightly smoother results; however, all of the results obtained are in very good agreement with the theoretical solution (Freund, 1973; Freund, 1990).

The energy release rate is evaluated from the dynamic stress intensity factor using Equation (3.21). The change of the energy release rate (normalized by $H\sigma_0^2/E$) with time (normalized by $H/c_d$) is shown in Figure (5.3). The above solution was obtained through the integration of Equation (3.19) over a path located 3 m away from the crack tip employing the finest model and the densest Lagrangian grid. A unit value of normalized time is equal to the time required for the wave emanating from the upper surface to reach the crack tip. Although the waves pass through all the Lagrangian grid points on the upper half before they reach the crack tip, all the terms of the domain and contours integrals of the energy release rate, Equations (3.19) and (3.20), vanish due to the instantaneous symmetry about the crack tip y axis during that period of time.
Figure (5.2) Snap shots of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution due to the applied tensile stress pulse in the stationary crack model.
Figure (5.2) (continued) Snap shots of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution due to the applied tensile stress pulse in the stationary crack model.
Figure (5.3) Variation of the normalized strain energy release rate with the normalized time using the fine model with (801×321) Lagrangian grid in the stationary crack model, subjected to a tensile stress pulse.

After a unit normalized time $t$, the energy release rate starts to rise in an almost linear manner in very good agreement with the analytical solution until $t < 2.6$. After this time, oscillation of the results increases and it starts to deviate from the analytical solution. This may be attributed to the influence of the reflected boundary waves. Finally, the
dynamic stress intensity factor is extracted from the energy release rate using Equation (3.21), and its variation with the normalized time is shown in Figure (5.4).

Figure (5.4) variation of the dynamic stress intensity factor with the normalized time using the fine model with (801 x 321) Lagrangian grid.

5.1.4 Analysis of Contour Path Dependency

The integrals of Equations (3.18), (3.19) and (3.20) possess the fundamental characteristic that they should evaluate the energy release rate regardless of the size and
shape of the domain of integration used, i.e., they are path independent. To examine the path dependency of these integrals, as many as 200 paths of integration have been constructed. Each path starts from the lower crack face and ends at the upper one. Within 2 m of the crack tip, all the paths are square in shape, whereas larger contours are rectangular in shape. Domain and contour integration are carried out over the material points of the Lagrangian grid.

Figure (5.5) shows the path dependency for each of the above integrals at different time steps starting at the normalized time \( t = 1.0 \), the time at which the stress wave arrives at the crack tip. Since, for straight cracks, Equation (3.18) contains domain integrals only, the variation of \( G \) values was very smooth and perfectly path independent for the contours further than 0.5 m from the crack tip. Equations (3.19) and (3.20) have two common interesting features: first, for all contour (and domain) integrals and at all the time steps, they both produce, up to the third decimal point, identical \( G \) values (therefore, the two equations appear as one curve in Figures (5.5)). Second, in each of these equations, after decomposing into contour and domain integrals, the domain integral is almost a mirror image of its contour integral, i.e., the contour and domain integrals complement each other to produce an almost path independent \( G \). In both of these equations, the contour integral dominates in the area closer to the crack tip, while in Equation (3.19), the domain integral dominates afterwards.
Figure (5.5) Path dependency of the contour and domain integrals corresponding to the normalized energy release rate at different time steps using (401 x 161) Lagrangian grid.
Figure (5.5) (continued) Path dependency of the contour and domain integrals corresponding to the normalized energy release rate at different time steps using (401 × 161) Lagrangian grid.
The variation of the normalized energy release rate, evaluated by integrating Equations (3.18), (3.19) and (3.20) over a contour located 3 m away from the crack tip, versus the normalized time, is shown in Figure (5.6). It may be noted that variations in domain integrals are generally smoother than those of contour integrals for the normalized time period \( t > 2.0 \). The increase in \( G \), due to the domain integral part of Equation (3.19) for \( t > 2.2 \), was balanced by the fluctuating contour integral. The maximum error produced by all of the three equations is about \( \%11 \) at the later stages of modeling.
Figure (5.6) Variation of the contour and domain integrals corresponding to the normalized energy release rate with the normalized time, using (401 × 161) Lagrangian grid.
5.2 STATIONARY MODE I CRACK SUBJECTED TO SYMMETRIC STEP PULSE

5.2.1 Problem Description
The plate shown in Figure (5.1) is simultaneously loaded by a step tensile pulse $\sigma_0$ at both the upper and lower surfaces. Equation (5.1) is still applicable to this problem, and by superposition, the dynamic stress intensity factor may be expressed as

$$K_t(t, v^*) = K_t(t, 0) = \frac{4 \sigma_0}{1 - \nu} \sqrt{\frac{c_d (1 - 2 \nu) t}{\pi}}$$

(5.2)

5.2.2 Numerical Procedure
Since this problem possesses symmetry with respect to the crack plane only the lower half of the plate is considered for modeling. The model is discretized into 500 and 1000 4-noded identical square elements. Displacement boundary conditions are prescribed at the corresponding nodes on the axis of symmetry. Uniform time steps ranging from $\Delta t = 0.3 \Delta t_c$ to $1.0 \Delta t_c$ are used. Lagrangian grids of $(41 \times 21)$, $(161 \times 81)$ and $(321 \times 161)$ material point arrangement are employed.

5.2.3 Numerical Results
Snap shots of $\sigma_y (= \sigma_{22})$ distribution at different time steps are shown in Figure (5.7). Variation of the dynamic stress intensity factor, normalized by $(\sigma_0 \sqrt{H/(1-\nu^2)})$, with the normalized time, is shown in Figure (5.8). It may be seen that the numerical results are in very good agreement with the theoretical solution throughout the allotted time interval.
Figure (5.7) Snap shots of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution due to the applied symmetric tensile stress pulse, in the stationary crack model.
Figure (5.7) (continued) Snap shots of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution due to the applied symmetric tensile stress pulse, in the stationary crack model.
Figure (5.8) Variation of the normalized dynamic stress intensity factor with the normalized time for a stationary crack subjected to symmetric pulse.

5.3 PROPAGATING MODE I CRACK SUBJECTED TO SINGLE STEP PULSE

5.3.1 Problem Description

This problem is similar to that described in Section (5.1). However, in this problem the crack will, at a certain point in time, propagate at a prescribed velocity. Freund (1990)
obtained an analytical solution to determine the energy release rate for a horizontal edge crack in an infinite plate propagating in a self-similar fashion (mode I).

For a propagating crack, Equation (5.1) may be written as (Freund, 1990)

\[
K_i(t, v^e) = k(v^c)K_i(t, 0) = k(v^c)2\sigma_0 \frac{c_t(1-2\nu)t}{1-\nu} \pi
\]  

(5.3)

where, \(k(v^c)\) is a universal function of crack tip speed, is equal to unity for stationary crack and decreases monotonically to zero when the crack speed approaches the Raleigh wave speed, \(c_R\), according to this approximation

\[
k(v^c) = \frac{1-v^e/c_R}{\sqrt{1-v^e/c_d}}
\]

(5.4)

The energy release rate may then be related to the dynamic stress intensity factor using Equation (3.21). From Equations (3.21) and (5.1) to (5.4), it may be concluded that the energy release rate changes linearly with time at a slope of \(g(v^c)\sigma_0^2C\), where \(C\) is a contact based on elastic material properties only and \(g(v^c)\) is another universal function of crack tip velocity and is expressed as

\[
g(v^c) = A_v(v^c)k^2(v^c) \equiv 1-v^e/c_R
\]

(5.5)

Thus, the slope is a maximum for stationary cracks and it decreases with the increase of propagation speed \(v^e\). Equation (5.1) is applicable to mode I crack propagation provided that the reflected waves from boundaries do not reach the vicinity of crack tip.
5.3.2 Numerical Procedure

The plate shown in Figure (5.1) is subjected to a single step pulse. The discretizations and time steps used in the stationary crack example (Section 5.1) is used to model this problem, that is., 1000 and 4000 elements and 0.3 \( \Delta t_c \) to 1.0 \( \Delta t_c \) time steps. Since the ALE motion due to crack propagation process causes a change to the dimensions of some elements of the model, the selection of time step size is made considering the shortest element length. Although the code is capable of changing the time step in an adaptive manner, only uniform time steps have been used.

To capture the change in the energy release rate of the propagating crack, the whole model area is covered by the Lagrangian grid of the uniform densities of (101 x 41), (401 x 161) and (801 x 321) material point arrangements. Integration of the energy release rate is carried out using 200 square and rectangular contour (and domain) integrals. The largest contour covers the entire model domain.

To simplify the comparison of the numerical results with the analytical solution, the onset of crack propagation and the propagation velocity are fed to the code as prescribed values instead of computing them through a propagation criterion. The crack is, therefore, assumed to remain stationary until the normalized time \( t = 1.5 \), at which it is allowed to propagate at a uniform velocity \( v = 0.4 c_s \) (\( \approx 1290 \text{ m/s} \)).
5.3.3 Numerical Results

Animation of stress distribution during the crack propagation process shows that the process has been modeled in a very smooth manner. Snap shots from the animation of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution are shown in Figure (5.9). The instantaneous loading and unloading processes, which take place in the front of, and behind, the propagating crack tip node respectively, are consistent with the motion of the crack tip node. This might be attributed particularly to the success of the MPS technique, which models the evolution of new surfaces due to crack propagation.

The nodes on the free boundaries, including the original and the new crack faces, moved naturally on the true material boundary tracked by the TBT technique. Once the motion of the boundary nodes has been decided, the transfinite mapping technique continuously keeps the internal nodes in a uniform mesh.

The integration of the energy release rate is carried out over the 200 contour and domain integrals composed by the material points of the Lagrangian grid. As far as the crack remains stationary, the constituency of the contour and domain integrals is kept unchanged. As soon as the crack begins to propagate, the integrity and centricity of these contours are checked every time step and, when needed, reconstruction of the contours is performed. Material point properties were updated by mapping them from the specific finite element that instantaneously ‘owns’ the material point. Ownership of the material points of the Lagrangian grid is tracked throughout the process of crack propagation.
The dynamic stress intensity factor, \( K \), is extracted from the energy release rate in a way similar to that of the stationary crack shown in Section 5.1. The change of the dynamic stress intensity factor (normalized by \( \sigma_0 \sqrt{H/(1-\nu^2)} \)) with the normalized time is shown in Figure (5.10). For a normalized time \( t < 1.5 \), the period at which the crack remained stationary, the numerical and analytical solutions are in good agreement. The dotted curve in the figure represents the hypothetical value of the normalized \( K \) if the crack remained stationary throughout the solution period. The sudden drop of the normalized \( K \) at the normalized time \( t = 1.5 \), indicates that the start of the crack propagation process was captured by the numerical procedure. However, this drop is not as large as anticipated by the analytical solution. For the normalized time period \( 1.5 < t < 2.14 \), numerical results are smooth, however, they are about %32 higher than the analytically anticipated solution. For \( t > 2.14 \), numerical solutions show more fluctuation but the same average error is maintained. The solution very slowly converges to the analytical solution with increasing the density of the Lagrangian grid. Comparable results may not be reached without the use of an impractical, extremely dense Lagrangian grid. The reasons behind the inaccuracy of the numerical results are not known yet; however, they may be attributed to the accumulation of errors in the numerical techniques used to map material properties of the material points of the Lagrangian grid and the numerical techniques used to evaluate the energy domain and contour integrals. More investigation and future work is needed to clarify this point.
Figure (5.9) Snap shots of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution in the dynamic stationary/propagating crack model subjected to a tensile stress pulse.
Figure (5.10) Variation of the normalized dynamic stress intensity factor with the normalized time for the dynamic stationary/propagating crack model, subjected to a tensile stress pulse.
5.4 PROPAGATING MODE I CRACK SUBJECTED TO SYMMETRIC STEP PULSE

5.4.1 Problem Description

This problem is similar to problem (5.3), however, this time the pulse is simultaneously applied to both the upper and lower plate faces. By applying the superposition principle, Equation (5.3) may be written as

\[ K_i(t, \psi) = k(\psi) \frac{4 \sigma_0}{1-\nu} \sqrt{\frac{c_d (1-2\nu) t}{\pi}} \]  \hfill (5.6)

5.4.2 Numerical Procedure

Due to symmetry, only the lower part of the plate is modeled, and the necessary symmetric displacement boundary conditions are applied. Two models containing 500 and 1000 elements with a time step varying from $0.3 \Delta t_c$ to $1.0 \Delta t_c$, are used. Lagrangian grids with $(101 \times 21)$, $(401 \times 81)$ and $(801 \times 161)$ material point arrangements covering the entire domain of the model are employed. In this problem, the crack is assumed to remain stationary until the normalized time $t = 1.5$, at which it is allowed to propagate at a uniform prescribed velocity $v = 0.4 c_s$ ($\approx 1290$ m/s).

5.4.3 Numerical Results

Snap shots of the animation of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution are shown in Figure (5.11). In this example as well, the MPS technique produced a smooth crack propagation modeling. The free boundary nodes were moved continuously and consistently on the true material boundary during the crack propagation process.
The integration of the energy release rate is carried out over the 200 domains and the dynamic stress intensity factor is subsequently extracted and plotted as a normalized value against the normalized time, Figure (5.12). The trend of the variation of the normalized $K$ is similar to that of the previous example. The numerical results are in good agreement with the analytical solution as far as the crack remains stationary. The onset of crack propagation is evident by the sudden drop of $K$. Once the crack starts to propagate, the same deviation pattern as reported in Section (5.3) is shown. The same conclusion reached for the previous example is applied here as well.

5.5 GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT MODE I FRACTURE PROBLEMS

In modeling of the above dynamic stationary and propagating mode I crack problems, the following conclusions may be drawn. The modeling process may be divided into two parts: the simulation part and the dynamic stress intensity factor $K$ evaluation part.

The simulation part is successful for both the stationary and the propagating problems. Stress waves are generated, propagated and reflected in the expected smooth manner. Stress field loading and unloading in front of and behind the propagating crack tip, respectively, takes place smoothly without discontinuities.

The $K$ results obtained for dynamically loaded stationary crack problems are in a good agreement with the available analytical solutions. In addition, the onset of crack propagation is accurately defined by a sudden drop in $K$. However, values of $K$ obtained
for dynamic crack propagation differ from those expected analytically for the two cases considered. Very slow convergence of the numerical solution towards the analytical one is achieved by increasing the Lagrangian grid density and decreasing element sizes and time step. Further investigation is recommended to improve the convergence.

In testing the path dependency, results obtained by all of the three formulae employed, Equations (3.18), (3.19) and (3.20), are nearly path independent for both stationary and propagation fracture cases. Since Equation (3.20) does not include domain integrals; it produces more stable results compared to the other two equations, for both stationary and propagating crack cases. However, in propagation fracture models, for a normalized time $t > 2.5$, $K$ values become path dependent. This may be associated to the dispersion of waves reflected from the boundary and to the numerical errors associated with the techniques used to evaluate $K$.

The results obtained by the above three Equations are generally very close. Particularly, Equation (3.19) and (3.20) are computationally identical up to the third digit (of the normalized value). By examining all the components of the above two equations, we find that the contribution of the first integral in Equation (3.20) is negligible. We also noted that, for Equation (3.19), the second term of the contour integral, which include the kinetic energy density $^T$, and the first term in the domain integral, are typically comparable in magnitude but are of opposite signs. Therefore, their net contribution is
negligible, and the above two equations may be simplified by the flowing form
\[ G = \int_{\Gamma_n} [\sigma_{ij} m_j u_{i,1}] dC + \int_{\Gamma_A} [\rho \alpha_i u_{i,1}] dA \]  
(5.7)

5.6 MIXED MODE FRACTURE EXAMPLES

In order to explore the capabilities of the procedures and program in modeling the mixed mode crack propagation problem, we consider the modeling of a mixed mode problem in the following examples.

5.6.1 Curved Crack Growth

A plate made of a ductile material with a horizontal edge crack is subjected to vertical tensile static loading. Typically, the crack is expected to grow in a self-similar (straight) manner for a relatively short distance before unstable crack growth and fracture occurs. In this test, however, the crack is not allowed to take a self-similar path; rather, it is forced to take an arbitrary curved path, as shown by the red curves in Figure (5.13). The dots in the figure constitute the updated true material boundaries tracked by the TBT technique. With each crack tip advance, a couple of material points are created by the MPS technique and subsequently tracked by the TBT technique.
Figure (5.11) Snap shots of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution in the dynamic stationary/propagating crack model subjected to a symmetric tensile stress pulse.
Figure (5.12) Variation of the normalized dynamic stress intensity factor with the normalized time a propagating crack subjected to a symmetric step pulse.
Figure (5.13) Snap shots of $\sigma_y$ stress distribution in the curved crack propagation model. True crack faces are shown in red dots.
By examining the motion of the nodes on the upper and lower crack faces, it is clear that throughout the course of crack propagation, these nodes always move on the updated true material boundaries, despite the sharp edges, at the original location of the crack tip, and the tight curved path created due to crack propagation. Hence, the ALE boundary constraint is truly satisfied through the employment of the TBT technique.

5.6.2 Dynamic Mixed Mode Crack Propagation: Problem Description

Kalthoff and Winkler (1987) experimentally tested the problem of mixed mode crack propagation in a double notched plate subjected to side impact loading, Figure (5.14). Since the current code is capable of extracting only mode I stress intensity factor, $K_I$, from the energy release rate, $G$, modeling of the above problem is limited to the simulation of the crack propagation scenario. Due to the complexity of this type of problem, the available analytical solution, developed by Lee and Freund (1990), is only valid as long as the crack remains stationary.

Figure (5.14) The double notched plate subjected to impact loading.
In the above experiment, a free plate is subjected to an impact loading between the two edge notches. The plate has the following dimensions: $W = 4 \text{ m}$, $H = 6 \text{ m}$, $h = 3 \text{ m}$ and the initial crack size $a_0 = 1 \text{ m}$. The plate material properties are: $\rho = 7833 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $E = 200 \text{ GPa}$ and $v = 0.25$. The prescribed impact velocity $v_0 = 16.5 \text{ m/s}$.

5.6.3 Numerical Results

Due to symmetry, only the upper half of the plate is modeled. The model is discretized into 2400 identical linear quadrilateral elements, in $(40 \times 60)$ arrangement. The time step used is $\Delta t = 0.56 \Delta t_c = 1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}$, where $\Delta t_c$ is the critical time step according to the Courant condition for finite elements.

The snap shots, Figure (5.15), show the von Mises stress distribution at different time steps. The applied wave reached the crack tip at $t = 0.18 \text{ ms}$ and the crack is assumed to remain stationary until the time $t = 0.25 \text{ ms}$, it then propagates at an angle of $70^\circ$ with a velocity $v_c = 480 \text{ m/s}$ ($\approx 0.15 c_s$).

As may be noted from the figure, the crack propagation process took place in a smooth manner indicating that the TBT technique is working properly. The program did, however, terminate and stop at a time $t = 2.5 \text{ ms}$ due to element distortion. Careful investigation of the mesh at that time revealed severe distortion of elements and indicates the failure of the transfinite mesh to handle the case. Further investigation of the transfinite mesh motion technique and its shortcomings in solving the severe distortion
problems has been recently reported by Gadala et al. (2002). It should be mentioned that at some point in time, the overlap between crack faces exceeds experimental notch width. Therefore, a contact algorithm should have been considered for more realistic modeling.

Figure (5.15) Snap shots of von Mises stress distribution during a mixed mode dynamic crack propagation.
Figure (5.15) (continued) Snap shots of von Mises stress distribution during a mixed mode dynamic crack propagation.
Chapter 6

CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK

6.1 SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The aim of this work is to model the dynamic fracture problem in an efficient and reliable manner. The work accomplished in this regard may be summarized in the following points:

- The ALE equations are formulated and implemented into a new finite element program (ALEFR), specifically developed to model dynamic fracture problems. The program is written in a structure consistent with the Lagrangian-based finite element method to ease the implementation into commercial codes.

- In the ALEFR program, the process of crack propagation is modeled by a newly developed material point splitting (MPS) technique, instead of the traditional node release techniques widely used in the Lagrangian-based finite element methods.

- The ALE boundary constraint is consistently satisfied using the True Boundary Tracking (TBT) technique, which was developed to control the motion of nodes on free boundaries, including the evolitional crack surfaces.
Chapter 6. Conclusions and Future Work

- The dynamic stress intensity factor and the energy release rate are computed from domain and contour integrals around the crack tip. The integration is carried out on a Lagrangian grid of material points. Properties of these material points are continuously updated.

- The application of the developed techniques to problems of stationary cracks subjected to dynamic loading, demonstrates very good agreement with the analytical solution.

- The process of mode I crack propagation has been successfully modeled. The propagating crack tip has been smoothly captured by a single node throughout the course of crack propagation. Therefore, the need for dense finite element mesh around the crack propagation path is eliminated and the choice of element size is independent of crack tip velocity or time step.

- The onset of crack propagation was instantaneously captured by energy integrals and the trend of the solution afterwards is acceptable, however, the discrepancy relative to the analytical solutions is relatively large. The numerical results very slowly converge to the analytical solution with denser Lagrangian grids.

6.2 FUTURE WORK

Future development may be directed towards the improvement of the current code, and the implementation and simulation of more dynamic fracture problems, as summarized in these points:

- Further investigation and improvements are needed to enhance the convergence of the solution for the energy release rate and the dynamic stress intensity factors in dynamic crack propagation cases. This may include the improvement of the
techniques used to update material properties and to evaluate the fracture measures.

- The application to dynamic fracture models with nonlinear material behavior or inhomogeneous material may be investigated. Special treatment is needed when elements cross the boundary between materials, i.e., more than one material type exists in a single element.

- Preliminary results obtained in modeling the in-plane mixed mode dynamic crack propagation are encouraging. Further work is, however, needed in the areas of extracting the dynamic stress intensity factors $K_I$ and $K_{II}$ from the energy release rate integrals. This may include the use of modified forms of interaction integrals originally developed for static fracture cases. In order to maintain a more uniform mesh throughout the course of mixed mode crack propagation, the transfinite mapping scheme, which controls the motion of internal nodes, has to be improved or replaced by a more reliable mesh motion scheme, such as the isoparametric mapping.

- A contact algorithm may be implemented in the current program. This will enhance the capability of the current program to include crack face closure cases, as has been seen in the mixed mode crack propagation example in Section 5.6.2.

- Extension to 3-D analysis is possible since the developed ALE equations are general. This may include the use of 3-D brick and shell elements and the extension of the mesh motion scheme, the MPS and the TBT techniques and the procedures to evaluate the fracture measures to 3-D format.
Bibliography


Appendix A

CALCULATION OF THE MATERIAL RATE OF CAUCHY STRESS

The material rate of Cauchy stresses $\dot{\sigma}_{ij}$ is calculated from the material constitutive relation which is usually given in terms of an objective stress rate tensor such as the Truesdell stress rate tensor defined by (Bayoumi, 2000)

$$
\dot{\sigma}^T = \dot{\sigma}_{ij} + \frac{\partial \nu_{k}}{\partial x_k} \sigma_{ij} - \frac{\partial \nu_{j}}{\partial x_k} \sigma_{ik} \frac{\partial \nu_{i}}{\partial x_k} \sigma_{jk}
$$

(A.1)

The material constitutive relation in terms of the Truesdell stress rate is given by

$$
\dot{\sigma}^T = \dot{C}_{ijkl} \dot{D}_{kl}
$$

(A.2)

where $\dot{D}_{ij}$ is the rate of deformation tensor given by

$$
\dot{D}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \nu_{i}}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial \nu_{j}}{\partial x_i} \right)
$$

(A.3)

and $\dot{C}_{ijkl}$ is the fourth order material constitutive tensor.
Appendix B

TREATMENT OF CONVEXIVE TERMS

The convective terms are treated according to the method developed by Bayoumi and Gadala (1999) and Bayoumi (2000). This method is based on fundamental ALE relations and it sidestep the computation of the spatial gradients of stresses. It, therefore, offers an accurate treatment of convective terms while maintaining the convenience of using displacement based finite elements. This method involves a transformation from volume integrals to surface integrals as offered by the divergence theorem. Use is also made of the boundary constraint in Equation (2.5). The last integral on the LHS of (2.22) may be rewritten as

\[
\int_V [(u_k - u^*_k) \frac{\partial \sigma_{ij}}{\partial x_k} \delta \varepsilon_{ij}] \, dV = \int_V \left[ \frac{\partial [(u_k - u^*_k) \sigma_{ij} \delta \varepsilon_{ij}]}{\partial x_k} \right] \, dV - \int_V [(u_k - u^*_k) \sigma_{ij} \frac{\partial \delta \varepsilon_{ij}}{\partial x_k}] \, dV
\]

\[
- \int_S \left( \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial u^*_k}{\partial x_k} \right) \sigma_{ij} \delta \varepsilon_{ij} \, dS \quad \text{(B.1)}
\]

Applying the divergence theorem to the first integral in the RHS of Equation (B.1) and using Equation (2.5), we get

\[
\int_V \frac{\partial [(u_k - u^*_k) \sigma_{ij} \delta \varepsilon_{ij}]}{\partial x_k} \, dV = \int_S [(u_k - u^*_k) \sigma_{ij} \delta \varepsilon_{ij}] \, n_k \, dS = 0 \quad \text{(B.2)}
\]

Substituting in Equation (B.2) in Equation (B.1) yields

\[
\int_V [(u_k - u^*_k) \frac{\partial \sigma_{ij}}{\partial x_k} \delta \varepsilon_{ij}] \, dV = \int_V [(u_k - u^*_k) \sigma_{ij} \frac{\partial \delta \varepsilon_{ij}}{\partial x_k}] \, dV - \int_V \left( \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial u^*_k}{\partial x_k} \right) \sigma_{ij} \delta \varepsilon_{ij} \, dV \quad \text{(B.3)}
\]
Appendix C

DISCRETIZATION OF THE CONVECTIVE TERMS OF THE ALE EQUATION OF MOTION

The convective terms of the ALE equation of motion (2.32) is discretized according to Bayoumi and Gadala (2000). The first convective velocity-stiffness virtual work term may be discretized as

\[ \int_{\Omega} \rho \left(v_j - v_j^g \right) \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_j} \delta u_i \, dV = (\delta \vec{u})^T C^{A1} \vec{v} \]  

where \( C^{A1} \) is given by

\[ \begin{pmatrix} C^{A1} \\ \vdots \\ C^{A1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} C_{2i-1,2j-1}^{A1} & C_{2i-1,2j}^{A1} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ C_{2i,2j-1}^{A1} & C_{2i,2j}^{A1} \end{pmatrix}_{2N \times 2N} \]  

in which \( i \) and \( j \) indicate node numbers from 1 to \( N \), and

\[ C_{2i-1,2j-1}^{A1} = \int_{\Omega} \rho h_i \frac{\partial h_j}{\partial x_k} \sum_{k=1}^{N} h_k \left( v_{jk} - v_{jk}^g \right) + \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial y} \sum_{k=1}^{N} h_k \left( v_{jk} - v_{jk}^g \right) \, dV \]  

\[ C_{2i-1,2j}^{A1} = C_{2i-1,2j}^{A1} = 0 \]  

The second convective velocity-stiffness virtual work term is discretized as

\[ \int_{\Omega} \rho \left(v_j - v_j^g \right) \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_j} \delta u_i \, dV = (\delta \vec{u})^T C^{A2} (\vec{v} - \vec{v}^g) \]  

where \( C^{A2} \) is given by
\[ t \mathbf{C}^{A2} = \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i-1,2j-1} & \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i-2,2j} & \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i-1,2j} & \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i,2j-1} & \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i,2j} & \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i,2j+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}_{2N \times 2N} \]  

in which \( i \) and \( j \) indicate node numbers from 1 to \( N \), and

\[ t \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i-1,2j-1} = \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho_h h_j \sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x} v^{\prime}_{sk} \, dV \]  

(C.6)

\[ t \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i-1,2j} = \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho_h h_j \sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial y} v^{\prime}_{sk} \, dV \]  

(C.7)

\[ t \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i-1,2j+1} = \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho_h h_j \sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial t} v^{\prime}_{sk} \, dV \]  

(C.8)

\[ t \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i,2j-1} = \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho_h h_j \sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x} v^{\prime}_{sk} \, dV \]  

(C.9)

\[ t \mathbf{C}^{A2}_{2i,2j} = \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho_h h_j \sum_{k=1}^{N} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial y} v^{\prime}_{sk} \, dV \]  

(C.10)

The second convective inertia force virtual work term may then be expressed as

\[ \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho (v_j - v_k^S) \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_j} \Delta t \mathbf{u} \, dV = (\Delta \mathbf{u})^T t \mathbf{C}^{A1} \mathbf{v} \]  

(C.11)

The third convective inertia force virtual work term may be discretized as

\[ \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho (v_j - v_k^S) \left( \frac{\partial^2 v_j}{\partial x_j^2} - 2 \frac{\partial^2 v_j}{\partial x_j \partial x_i} \right) \Delta t \mathbf{u} \, dV = (\Delta \mathbf{u})^T t \mathbf{C}^{A3} \mathbf{v} \]  

(C.12)

where \( t \mathbf{C}^{A3} \) is given by

\[ t \mathbf{C}^{A3} = \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{C}^{A3}_{2i-1,2j-1} & \mathbf{C}^{A3}_{2i-2,2j} & \mathbf{C}^{A3}_{2i-1,2j} & \mathbf{C}^{A3}_{2i,2j-1} & \mathbf{C}^{A3}_{2i,2j} & \mathbf{C}^{A3}_{2i,2j+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}_{2N \times 2N} \]  

(C.13)
in which \(i\) and \(j\) indicate node numbers from 1 to \(N\), and

\[
\int_{v_y} \left( \rho' (v_y - v_y^*) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x}) \right) \Delta t' \, dV = (\delta \mathbf{U})^T \mathbf{C}^{A4} \, \mathbf{v}
\]

where \(\mathbf{C}^{A4}\) is given by

\[
\mathbf{C}^{A4} = \begin{bmatrix}
\mathbf{C}^{A4}_{2i-1,2j-1} & \cdots & \mathbf{C}^{A4}_{2i-1,2j} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\mathbf{C}^{A4}_{2i,2j-1} & \cdots & \mathbf{C}^{A4}_{2i,2j}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

in which \(i\) and \(j\) indicate node numbers from 1 to \(N\), and

\[
\int_{v_y} \left( \rho' (v_y - v_y^*) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x}) \right) \Delta t' \, dV = (\delta \mathbf{U})^T \mathbf{C}^{A4} \, \mathbf{v}
\]

where \(\mathbf{C}^{A4}\) is given by

\[
\mathbf{C}^{A4} = \begin{bmatrix}
\mathbf{C}^{A4}_{2i-1,2j-1} & \cdots & \mathbf{C}^{A4}_{2i-1,2j} \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\mathbf{C}^{A4}_{2i,2j-1} & \cdots & \mathbf{C}^{A4}_{2i,2j}
\end{bmatrix}
\]