Unzip instability

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I.4. Fracture of thin sheet with plastic deformation



If tear a thin plastic sheet... ... get cascade of oscillatory buckling



E. Sharon, B. Roman, M. Marder *et. al* Nature, 2002

Zoom experimental profile with factor x3



Photo: E. Sharon

- Change of the local metric near the edge of the crack lip;
- Minimum energy of the sheet achieved through bending: the sheet explores the 3rd dimension and buckles.

For remainder of our talk will use **brittle** thin sheets. i.e. negligible plastic deformation near crack tip.

[•] Irreversible plastic deformation near crack tip;



I.1. Fracture. Why?

When something breaks,

can we know the shape of the resulting pieces?



unadorned.org/dandruff/archives/2002/03/

Can we predict the direction of propagation of the crack tip?

Recent upsurge in the study of oscillatory fracture.

Problem still far from understood!

I.2. Quasi-static oscillatory fracture



- Thermally quench a thin strip
- Obtain oscillatory fracture paths
- Observed in strips of:
 glass
 silicon

Experiments:

- Yuse & Sano, 1993
- Ronsin et. al. 1995
- Yang & Ravi-Chandar, 2001
- Degan et. al, 2003



- Adda Beddia & Pomeau, 1995
- Yang & Ravi-Chandar, 2001
- Bouchbinder et. al, 2003

It has recently been shown that this instability emerges through a **Hopf bifurcation**.

theory (Yang et. al.) and simulations (Bouchbinder et. al.)



Bahat 1991



Deegan et. al. 2003

I.3. Dynamic oscillatory fracture in rubber sheets

- Bi-axially tension a thin rubber sheet with typical strains of $\mathcal{E}_{x,y}$ =1.0-2.5.
- Pierce sheet to initiate dynamic crack.

Experiments:

• Can obtain oscillatory crack paths.



Deegan et. al., 2003



- Deegan et. al., 2003

- 1) Square-root scaling near bifurcation point.
- 2) Close to the transition point, wavelength has finite value.



Deegan et. al., 2003

A robust periodic path...

Also observed simultaneously by Ghattak & Mahadevan



Bi-Oriented Polypropylene orcellulose acetate

II.4 The Unzip instability



Transition diagram:



- Transition as a function of size of cutting tool
- Threshold for width of cutting tool is w_c = 0.2mm
- Bistability near w_c:
 - Both oscillatory and straight cracks can be observed.
 - Also observed in the thermal quenching experiments with silicon strips (Deegan, 2003).
- Linear dependence of A on w above threshold.

Far above the shold

Pattern is indépendant

- of cutting speed v
- of thickness h and material



Amplitude, wavelength are linear with object width w

Fracture in thin sheets



Thin sheet thickness *h* :

Stretching energy $E_e \sim h$

Bending energy $E_c \sim h^3$

Model : bending $E_c = 0$.

A set of *geometrical* rules for propagation

III.1 Towards a geometrical model - ingredients (a)

- Main properties of the **thin** sheets we are using:
 - Brittle: (negligible plastic deformations);
 Low bending modulus: (negligible bending energy).
- Consider a triangular cut in the sheet:





III.1 Towards a geometrical model - ingredients (b)

• Insert cutting tool within soft region:



• 2D projection of geometry of experiments:





Cutting tool can be displaced anywhere within soft zone with negligible stretching (out-of-plane bending only).

III.1 Towards a geometrical model - ingredients (c)

• Displace cutting tool into hard region.





- => This leads to in-plane stretching.
- Energy stored in active region:

$$\xi = Ye^2 v$$

Hard region



- v is volume of strained material
- Y is Young's modulus
- Strain:

$$e = \frac{\frac{L}{\cos \alpha} - L}{L} \sim \alpha^{2} \text{ for } \alpha << 1$$
$$\xi \sim Y\alpha^{5}L^{2}h$$



III.1 Towards a geometrical model - ingredients (d)

After Before

• Griffith's criterion:



Imagine crack advances by dδ:
 => Release of elastic energy

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For propagation:

\begin{array}{c}
\Delta (Elastic \\
energy)
\end{array} \geqslant \begin{array}{c}
Fracture \\
energy
\end{array}

\begin{array}{c}
d \xi \\
Y \alpha^{4}L^{2}hd\alpha \geqslant \GammahLd\alpha
\end{array}
```

• Critrical angle for propagation:

 $\Rightarrow \alpha_{c} = \left[\frac{\Gamma}{YL}\right]^{1/4}$



Hence, have 2 physical parameters:

1. Critical Angle for Propagation α_c . (from Griffith's criterion)

2. Propagation along direction β . (from principle of local symmetry)

II.4 Experimental scaling of α_{C}

- \bullet Order of magnitute estimation of α_{C} :
 - $\Gamma \sim 10^3 \text{ N/m}$ $a_c \sim 10^{-1} \text{ rad}$ $Y \sim 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2$ in experiments $0.1 < a_c^{exp} < 0.4$
- Scaling of α_{c} with lengthscale L (distance to the cutting tool):



III.2 Numerical Simulations

Geometrical model for fracture in thin films



Note: $\epsilon >> dl$ i.e. separation of scales between dynamic and quasi-static regimes



IV. Comparison: Experiments & Model



Excellent agreement between experiments and geometrical model for oscillatory fracture, far from threshold!



Kinks and dynamic burst are intrinsic to the geometrical rules:

due to sudden release of energy stored in S' region

Différentes formes de l'indenteur ?

Un double indenteur



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C'est l'enveloppe convexe de l'indenteur qui compte



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Wake instability :

- a new fracture-path instabilty
- simplified crack+thin sheet theory
- cracks obey *geometrical* propagation rules

•Stress localized around object : no effect of BC.

REFERENCES:

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