Non-linear Viscoelastic Beams Under Periodic Strains: An Approach for Analyzing of Longitudinal Fracture

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Abstract: This work describes a longitudinal fracture analysis of beam structure of circular cross-section under periodic strains. The material whose properties vary in radial direction has non-linear viscoelastic behaviour. The beam is loaded in torsion so that the twist angle represents a periodical function. Time-dependent behaviour under periodic strains is dealt with a model having a non-linear spring and a linear dashpot. The complementary strain energy in the beam is considered to determine the strain energy release rate. The balance of energy is examined to verify the strain energy release rate. The ascendancy of various parameters over strain energy release rate is assessed.

Keywords: Non-linear viscoelastic beam, Longitudinal fracture, Periodic strain

Introduction

One of the important tasks of up-to-date material science is the development and perfecting of continuously inhomogeneous structural materials. The properties of these materials are contingent on coordinates. In recent decades, the functionally graded materials have emerged as an advanced type of materials with continuous inhomogeneity (Fanani et al., 2021; Mahamood & Akinlabi, 2017; Nikbakht et al., 2019; Oza et al., 2021). The change of microstructure of functionally graded materials in a structural member or component is formed in a desired way during manufacturing (Dias et al., 2010; Gururaja Udupa et al., 2014; Gandra et al., 2011; Radhika et al., 2020).

In their life-time, many engineering structures made of continuously inhomogeneous materials undergo non-linear viscoelastic deformation under periodic loading that must be considered when analyzing fracture. On account of that, the aim of this work is to examine in analytical way the longitudinal fracture of a non-linear viscoelastic beam under periodic strains (prior papers in this field are focussed on linear viscoelastic beams (Narisawa, 1987; Rizov, 2022; Rizov, 2022). The beam under examination has a circular section and is inhomogeneous in radial direction. The beam is under torsion. The strain energy release rate (SERR) is determined. The balance of energy (BE) is considered for control of the SERR solution.

Theoretical Analysis

In this paper, the non-linear viscoelastic mechanical model in Fig. 1 is used. The model consists of a non-linear spring with shear modulus, $G_f$, placed in parallel to a dashpot of linear behaviour (the viscosity coefficient is $\eta$). Shear strain, $\gamma$, in the model is a periodical function of time, $t$, as depicted in Fig. 2. The period of the shear strains is $T$. The maximum value of shear strains is $\gamma_m$. The period of shear strains is presented as $T = T_h + T_d$ where $T_h = pT$, $0 < p < 1$ (Fig. 2). Thus, $T_d = (1 - p)T$.

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The shear strain is expanded in series of Fourier

\[ \gamma(t) = q_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} q_j \cos(j\omega_0 t) + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} r_j \sin(j\omega_0 t), \quad \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T}. \]  

(1)

by using the formulae

\[ q_0 = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \gamma dt, \quad q_j = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T \gamma \cos(j\omega_0 t) dt, \quad r_j = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^T \gamma \sin(j\omega_0 t) dt. \]  

(2)

the coefficients in (1) are found as

\[ q_0 = \frac{\gamma_m}{2}, \quad q_j = \frac{2\gamma_m}{T^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{pj^2 \omega_0^2} \left[ j\omega_p T \sin(j\omega_p T) + \cos(j\omega_p T) - 1 \right] + \right\}. \]
+ \frac{T}{(1-p)j\omega} \left[ \sin(j\omega T) - \sin(j\omega T) \right] \right.

- \frac{1}{(1-p)j^2\omega^2} \left\{ Tj\omega \sin(j\omega T) + \cos(j\omega T) - pTj\omega \sin(j\omega T) - \cos(j\omega T) \right\} \right\}. \quad (3)

\[ r_j = \frac{2\gamma_m}{T^2} \left\{ \frac{1}{pj^2\omega^2} \left[ \sin(j\omega T) - j\omega Tp \cos(j\omega T) \right] + \right. \right. \]

+ \frac{T}{(1-p)j\omega} \left\{ \cos(j\omega T) - \cos(j\omega T) \right\} - \left. \right. \]

- \frac{1}{(1-p)j^2\omega^2} \left\{ \sin(j\omega T) - j\omega T \cos(j\omega T) - \sin(j\omega T) + j\omega T \cos(j\omega T) \right\} \right\}. \quad (4)

The shear stress, \( \tau_f \), in the spring and the shear stress, \( \tau_\eta \), in the linear dashpot (Fig. 1) are expressed by the following laws:

\[ \tau_f = G_f \gamma^n, \quad \tau_\eta = \eta \dot{\gamma}, \quad (5) \]

where \( \eta \) is a material property, \( \eta \) is the coefficient of viscosity.

The shear stress (refer to Fig. 1) is deduced as

\[ \tau = \tau_f + \tau_\eta. \quad (6) \]

By using (1), (5) and (6), one derives

\[ \tau = G_f \left[ q_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} q_j \cos(j\omega t) + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} r_j \sin(j\omega t) \right] + \]

\[ + \eta \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} - q_j j\omega \sin(j\omega t) + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} r_j j\omega \cos(j\omega t) \right]. \quad (7) \]

By combining of (5) and (7), one obtains

\[ \tau = G_f \gamma^n + \eta \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} - q_j j\omega \sin(j\omega t) + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} r_j j\omega \cos(j\omega t) \right]. \quad (8) \]

Dependence (8) represents the non-linear stress-strain-time law of model (Fig. 2).

This law is used to model the mechanical behaviour of the clamped structure sketched in Fig. 3. The beam cross-section is a circle of radius, \( R_1 \). The beam longitudinal size is \( l \). We are focussed on a longitudinal crack in the form of cylindrical surface of radius, \( R_2 \). The crack longitudinal size is \( a \) as depicted in Fig. 3. The beam is under torque so that the twist angle, \( \phi \), of external crack arm (the external crack arm section has internal and external radius, \( R_2 \) and \( R_1 \), respectively) changes periodically with time (at \( t_i \leq t \leq t_i + T_b \) the
angle of twist grows from 0 to $\varphi_h$; at $t_i + T_b \leq t \leq t_i + T$ the angle decreases from $\varphi_h$ to 0). The internal arm of crack is unstressed (the internal arm of crack has circular section with radius, $R_2$).

![Figure 3. Static scheme of beam under examination.](image)

The beam is inhomogenous in radial direction. Thus, material properties, $G_f$ and $\eta$, change exponentially along section radius

$$G_f = G_{f0} e^{sR}, \quad \eta = \eta_0 e^{gR}. \quad (9)$$

Here, $G_{f0}$ and $\eta_0$ are $G_f$ and $\eta$ magnitudes in the section centre, $s$ and $g$ are parameters.

The SERR, $G$, for the longitudinal crack (Fig. 3) is deduced as

$$G = \frac{dU^*}{2\pi R_2 da}, \quad (10)$$

where the complementary strain energy (CSE) in the beam is

$$U^* = U_1^* + U_2^* = a \int_{R_c}^{R} u_{01}^* 2\pi R dR + (l-a) \int_{0}^{R} u_{02}^* 2\pi R dR. \quad (11)$$

Here, $u_{01}^*$ and $u_{02}^*$ are CSE densities in the external arm of crack and in the intact portion of beam. $u_{01}^*$ is calculated as

$$u_{01}^* = \tau \gamma - \int_{0}^{\gamma} \pi d\gamma. \quad (12)$$

The shear strain in section of the external arm of crack is
\[ \gamma = \frac{\gamma_{ek}}{R_i} \cdot R. \]  

(13)

In dependence (13), \( \gamma_{ek} \) is the strain magnitude at the surface.

The CSE density in the intact portion of beam is found by substituting \( \tau = \tau_{un} \) and \( \gamma = \gamma_{un} \) in formula (12) (\( \tau_{un} \) and \( \gamma_{un} \) the shear stress and shear strain in the intact portion of beam). Distribution of \( \gamma_{un} \) in section of the intact portion of beam is obtained by substituting of \( \gamma_{ek} = \gamma_{hw} \) in (13). Here, \( \gamma_{hw} \) is the strain magnitude at the surface of the intact portion of beam.

\( \gamma_{ek} \) and \( \gamma_{hw} \) are determined by applying the following approach. First, two equilibrium equations are formulated

\[ T = \int_{R_1}^{R_2} \tau 2\pi R^2 dR, \quad T = \int_{R_0}^{R_1} \tau_{un} 2\pi R^2 dR. \]  

(14)

where \( T \) is the torque in the external arm of crack.

Further, it follows from the Maxwell-Mohr integrals that

\[ \varphi = \frac{\gamma_{ek}}{R_i} a + \frac{\gamma_{hw}}{R_i} (l - a). \]  

(15)

\( \gamma_{ek} \cdot \gamma_{hw} \) and \( T \) are determined from (14) and (15) by MatLab.

After combining of (10) and (11), one derives

\[ G = \frac{1}{R_2^2} \left( \int_{R_2}^{R_1} u_{01}^* RdR - \int_{R_0}^{R_1} u_{02}^* RdR \right). \]  

(16)

Integrals in (16) are treated by MatLab.

In order to verify (16), the SERR is determined as well by analyzing the BE. The result is

\[ G = \frac{T}{2\pi R_2^2} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial a} \frac{1}{2\pi R_2} \frac{\partial U}{\partial a}. \]  

(17)

Here, the strain energy (SE), \( U \), is reckoned by using (11) and (12). For this purpose, the CSE densities are replaced with the SE densities, \( u_{01} \) and \( u_{02} \). The SE density in the external arm of crack is

\[ u_{01} = \int_{0}^{\gamma} \tau d\gamma. \]  

(18)

The SE density in the intact portion of beam is calculated by replacing of \( \tau \) with \( \tau_{un} \) in (18). By substituting of \( \varphi \) and \( U \) in (17), one obtains
\[ G = \frac{T}{2\pi R^2_2} \left( \frac{\gamma_{ck}}{R_1} - \frac{\gamma_{hw}}{R_1} \right) - \frac{1}{R_2} \int_{R_2}^{R} u_{01} R dR + \frac{1}{R_2} \int_{0}^{R} u_{02} R dR. \]  

Integrals in (19) are treated by MatLab. The SERR reckoned by (19) and (16) are match which is a verification of the present analysis.

**Numerical Results**

The SERR calculations are carried-out by using the following data: \( R_1 = 0.008 \) m, \( l = 0.300 \) m, \( n = 0.6 \), \( p = 0.5 \), \( T = 80 \) sec and \( \varphi_h = 0.001 \) rad.

![Figure 4. SERR - s curves (1 - at \( R_2 / R_1 = 0.4 \), 2 - at \( R_2 / R_1 = 0.6 \) and 3 - at \( R_2 / R_1 = 0.8 \)).](image1)

![Figure 5. SERR - g curves (1 - at \( \varphi_h = 0.0006 \) rad, 2 - at \( \varphi_h = 0.0008 \) rad and 3 - at \( \varphi_h = 0.001 \) rad).](image2)
The SERR - $s$ curves are presented at three $R_s^2 / R_s^1$ ratios in Fig. 4. The curves in Fig. 4 indicate that SERR reduces when $s$ grows. However, growth of $R_s^2 / R_s^1$ ratio generates growth of SERR (Fig. 4). The influence of $\varphi_h$ and $g$ on SERR is assessed (Fig. 5). When the twist angle, $\varphi_h$, increases, SERR also increases. Increase of parameter, $g$, reduces SERR (Fig. 5).

**Conclusion**

An approach for analytical examination of the longitudinal fracture in non-linear viscoelastic inhomogeneous beam structure under periodically changing strains is presented. The beam is subjected to pure torsion. A model of non-linear spring placed in parallel to a linear dashpot is used for describing the beam mechanical behaviour. A solution of SERR that accounts for the beam non-linear viscoelastic deformation under periodic loading is derived. The influence of the periodic loading on SERR is assessed. Reckons of SERR are carried out at different magnitudes of twist angle, $\varphi_h$. It is found that growth of $\varphi_h$ generates growth of SERR. The SERR increases as well with growth of $R_s^2 / R_s^1$ ratio. The growth of parameters, $s$ and $g$, induces reduction of SERR.

**Recommendations**

The approach presented in this paper can be developed further by analyzing the longitudinal fracture of beams subjected to torsion and bending under periodic strains.

**Scientific Ethics Declaration**

The author declares that the scientific ethical and legal responsibility of this article published in EPSTEM journal belongs to the author.

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