PHASE-FIELD DAMAGE OF LAMINATED GLASS IN EXPPLICIT DYNAMICS

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ABSTRACT. Laminated glass is aesthetic but also functional modern material, which has spread from the automotive industry to the civil engineering in the form of design as well as structural elements. Proper design of this material requires understanding not only its intact phase, but also its post-breakage behavior. To describe crack initiation and propagation the phase field damage model seems to be suitable tool despite the fact that this approach requires a fine mesh to sufficiently interpolate sharp discontinuity. In this contribution we investigate possibilities of explicit phase field dynamic model with specific use on glass plates, especially applied for dynamic impact load. The dependence of the result on residual stiffness term is examined and incorrect crack speed is observed. Usability of phase-field model is still uncertain.

KEYWORDS: Phase-field model, laminated glass, dynamic damage, glass fracture.

1. INTRODUCTION

The so called phase-field damage model firstly presented in [1] is nowadays very popular approach and it is widely studied. The disadvantage of such a model is the need for a fine mesh to simulate brittle failure, but the main advantage remains the prediction of crack initiation and branching without additional ad hoc criteria. These phenomena are predicted within a variational principle. Despite the fact that it was academically investigated in dynamic regime [2], there is still a few articles focused on application on real structures. This paper focuses on such an analysis by modeling the cracking of glass under dynamic loading.

The dynamic model including impact is briefly presented in Section 2. The phase-field model formulation follows partially from [3] and [4]. For comprehensive overview see [5]. The implementation details are summarized in Section 3 followed by FEM model description in Section 4. The first numerical results are benchmarked in Section 5 and finally the main results are presented in Section 6 and concluded in Section 7.

2. PHASE-FIELD MODEL

We suppose the elastic damageable material occupying space $\Omega$ is loaded by external traction forces $t$ on part $\Omega_t$ and the current body deformation is described by displacement field $u(x)$ and damage field $d(x)$. The latter one represents the relative measure of damage as a transition of the intact material $d = 0$ to a fully developed crack $d = 1$.

For dynamical systems, the common principle of minimum potential is replaced by Hamilton’s principle of stationary action and fields $u(t)$ and $d(t)$, $t \in (0, T)$ are obtained by minimization of action

$$A(u, \dot{u}, d) = \int_0^T L(u, \dot{u}, d) \, dt,$$

where $L$ is so called Lagrangian which form is postulated as

$$L(u, \dot{u}, d) = K(\dot{u}) - \Psi_e(u, d) - \Psi_s(d) + P(u),$$

where $K$ is kinetic energy defined as quadratic form of displacement

$$K(\dot{u}) = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \dot{u} \cdot \dot{u} \, dx.$$

This formulation assumes that kinetic energy is not affected by damage, therefore the functional is $d$-independent. The second term in equation (2) is elastic potential. It can be additively decomposed on part $\Psi^+$ which is degraded by damage through function $g(d)$ and intact part $\Psi^-$, i.e.

$$\Psi_e(u, d) = \int_{\Omega} g(d) \psi^+(u) + \psi^-(u) \, dx,$$

where $\psi^+$ represents elastic energy density of $\Psi^+$. In what follows we always assume that $g(d) = (1 - d)^2 + k_{res}$, where $k_{res}$ is small ($k_{res} << 1$) auxiliary residual relative stiffness which stabilizes the calculations. The third part of (2) is dissipated energy $\Psi_{s,l}$ which is approximated by following regularization

$$\Psi_{s,l} = \int_{\Omega} \frac{\alpha(d)}{l} + l |\nabla d|^2 \, dx,$$

where $G_f$ is the critical energy release rate and $l$ is length of the process zone. For brittle material, $l$ can be treated as numerical parameter with value as...
small as possible, but not smaller than element size. The function \( \alpha \) and associated coefficient \( c_\alpha \) drives the phase-field model type. Two common options are commonly used in literature: \( \alpha = d \) with \( c_\alpha = 8/3 \) and \( \alpha = d^2 \) with \( c_\alpha = 2 \) however we restrict to the first one.

Finally, the last ingredient is external work of traction forces \( t \) defined as

\[
P(u) = \int_{\Omega_t} t \cdot u \, dx.
\]

Minimization of the action integral \( \Pi \) with additional per partes integration leads to common continuous governing equations for displacement field

\[
\text{div} \left( g(d) \frac{\partial \psi^+}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial \psi^-}{\partial u} \right) = \rho u
\]

supplemented by damage-evolution inequality

\[
\begin{align*}
g'(d) \left( \frac{\alpha'(d)}{l} - 2l \Delta d \right) &= -g'(d) \psi^+, \quad d > 0 \quad (8) \\
g'(d) \left( \frac{\alpha'(d)}{l} - 2l \Delta d \right) &= -g'(d) \psi^+, \quad d \geq 0 \quad (9)
\end{align*}
\]

and appropriate boundary conditions. Strong-form equations \( (7)-(9) \) have a generally unknown solution, therefore some numerical method must be used.

### 2.1. Plate Models

The model and its properties are determined by the choice of dissipation function \( \alpha(d) \), degradation function \( g(d) \) and by active/passive elastic energy densities \( \psi^\pm \). Four common choices for the latter one are presented in this subsection. Despite the fact that we restrict our attention to model P-VD, others are presented. This is because we intend to investigate them in the future research.

#### 3D volumetric decomposition

The second common choice of decomposition is volumetric-deviatoric split, which assumes that only compression part of volumetric strain component remains intact, thus

\[
\psi^+(u) = \frac{1}{2} K (\text{tr}(\varepsilon))^2 + \mu \varepsilon_D : \varepsilon_D
\]

\[
\psi^-(u) = \frac{1}{2} K (-\text{tr}(\varepsilon))^2,
\]

where \( K \) stands for bulk modolus and \( \varepsilon_D \) is deviatoric part of strain \( \varepsilon \). This model is denoted as 3D – VD.

#### Mindlin-Reissner plate

Besides full 3D model, we investigate the spatially reduced Mindlin-Reissner plate model. This model assumes linearly distributed strain and stress field across thickness and kinematics is driven by middle-surface longitudinal displacement field \( u \), out-of-plane scalar deflection \( w \) and vectorial tensor of cross-section rotations \( \varphi \). Based on the linearity assumption the longitudinal strain \( \varepsilon \) and shear strain \( \gamma \) can be established as

\[
\varepsilon(x_s, z) = \nabla_s u(x_s) + \nabla_s S \varphi(x_s) z,
\]

\[
\gamma(x_s) = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla w(x_s) + S \varphi(x_s)),
\]

where \( z \) is out-of-plane coordinate meanwhile \( x_s = \{x, y\} \) is in-plane coordinate system of middle-surface \( \Omega_s \). The \( S \) is auxiliary matrix

\[
S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.
\]

Mindlin-Reissner plate model ignores normal stress across thickness, therefore in each infinitesimal layer plane-stress situation occurs. Therefore stress fields are defined as

\[
\sigma(\varepsilon) = D^{PS} : \varepsilon,
\]

\[
\tau(\gamma) = 2\nu I : \gamma,
\]

where \( D^{PS} \) is plane-stress elastic tensor defined again through Lame’s coefficients \( \lambda \) and \( \nu \) and \( I \) is identity tensor. The last ingredient is thickness integration for spatial reduction. It is impossible to perform it in closed form therefore numerical integration is employed and active/passive elastic energy become

\[
\Psi^+ = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega_t} g(d) \left( \sum_i \Delta z_i \varepsilon_i : \sigma_i^+ + \xi h \gamma \cdot \tau \right) \, dx_s,
\]

\[
\Psi^- = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega_t} \sum_i \Delta z_i \varepsilon_i : \sigma_i^- + (1 - \xi) h \gamma \cdot \tau \, dx_s.
\]

Summation represents dividing thickness into layers \( i \), each represented by in-plane stress \( \sigma_i \) and strain \( \varepsilon_i \) with sub-thickness \( \Delta z_i \). Parameter \( \xi \) decides what amount of shear is degraded; \( \xi = 1 \) means shear is fully degraded meanwhile \( \xi = 0 \) is shear damage-free.
state. Still the stress tensor $\sigma^i$ must be somehow decomposed. Based on this decomposition this model is denoted as P - SD if spectral decomposition is used and is denoted P - VD for volumetric-deviatoric split. The degradation function still remains $g(d) = (1 - d)^2 + k_{res}$, but we found that it is appropriate to select different parameter $k_{res}$ for shear, which is denotes by $k^s_{res}$.

2.2. DISCRETE DYNAMIC MODEL

First of all we suppose that the solution is evaluated only in discrete time instants $0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \ldots < t_N = T$ selected from the original time interval $(0, T)$. The action integral \[ \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \Delta t_i \mathcal{L}_d(u_i, u_{i+1}, d_i, d_{i+1}), \] (21)

where common notation $u_i = u(t_i)$ and $d_i = d(t_i)$ is used and also $\Delta t_i = t_{i+1} - t_i = \Delta t$ is supposed to be constant. Function $\mathcal{L}_d$ is discretized Lagrangian, which approximate the action integral on given subinterval.

For purpose of this article, relatively simple expression leading to central difference scheme is used, i.e.

\[ \mathcal{L}_d(u_i, u_{i+1}, d_i, d_{i+1}) = \mathcal{L}(u_i, \frac{u_{i+1} - u_i}{\Delta t}, d_i), \] (22)

As a result the original minimization in continuous time domain fell apart to individual minimizations with respect to each displacement $u_i$ and damage $d_i$, where $i = 0, \ldots, N$. The stationarity condition for displacement field $u_i$ leads to discrete Euler-Lagrange equation in form

\[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_d(u_{i-1}, u_i, d_{i-1}, d_i)}{\partial u_i} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_d(u_i, u_{i+1}, d_i, d_{i+1})}{\partial u_i} = 0, \] (23)

which can be expressed implicitly in weak form

\[ \delta K(\delta u) - \delta \Psi_e(\delta u) + \delta \mathcal{P}(\delta u) = 0, \forall \delta u \] (24)

where

\[ \delta K = \frac{1}{\Delta t^2} \int_\Omega \rho(u_{i+1} - 2u_i + u_{i-1}) \cdot \delta u \, dx, \] (25)

\[ \delta \Psi_e = \int_\Omega \left( g(d_i) \frac{\partial \psi^+(u_i)}{\partial u_i} + \frac{\partial \psi^-(u_i)}{\partial u_i} \right) \cdot \delta u \, dx, \] (26)

\[ \delta \mathcal{P} = \int_\Omega \mathbf{t} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u} \, dx. \] (27)

The presented weak form can be further modified to obtained governing equations in strong form, but we employ finite element method for solving spatial distribution of $u$, which requires weak form as an input.

The governing weak form for damage is identical with quasi-static version. The stationary condition

\[ \delta A(u, \dot{u}, d, \delta d) = 0, \forall \delta d \] (28)

becomes

\[ \int_\Omega \frac{G_I}{\ell_o} \left( \alpha'(d) \frac{\alpha(d)}{I} + I \nabla \psi \cdot \delta \mathbf{d} \right) + g'(d) \psi^+ \, dx = 0, \forall \delta d \] (29)

with damage irreversibility condition

\[ d_i(x) \leq d_{i+1}(x), \; \forall x, i = 0, \ldots, N - 1 \] (30)

This approach therefore induces the following explicit non-incremental dynamic procedure: (i) solve explicitly displacement in time $t_i$ by linear problem [24], (ii) solve damage field $d_i$ by variational inequality problem [29] + [30], (iii) increment time.

2.3. NONLINEAR HERTZ FORCE

The impact of steel impactor with weight $m_{imp}$ is included in the model through Hertz-law. The impactor is characterized by scalar displacement $u_{imp}$, which is binded to plate by nonlinear contact force

\[ F(u, u_{imp}) = k \langle u_z(x_{imp}) - u_{imp} \rangle^{3/2}, \] (31)

where $x_{imp}$ is impact position on body $\Omega$, $u_z$ is out-of-plane component of $u = (u_x, u_y, u_z)$ and $k$ is contact stiffness. Although the force is nonlinear the pseudo potential of this force can be still founded. This potential

\[ \mathcal{P}_{Hertz} = \frac{2}{5} k \langle u_z(x_{imp}) - u_{imp} \rangle^{5/2} \] (32)

is added to external work 0 and it induces force \[ \text{[31]} \] applied to impact point $x_{imp}$ and negative force \[ \text{[31]} \] applied to impactor. Additionally the kinetic energy must be enhanced by

\[ K_{imp} = \frac{1}{2} m_{imp} \dot{u}_{imp} \dot{u}_{imp} \] (33)

with impactor displacement rate $\dot{u}_{imp}$. This part of kinetic energy is again approximated by discretized Lagrangian and discrete Euler-Lagrangian equation induces following additional member of weak form \[ \text{[26]}, \] i.e.

\[ \delta K_{imp} = m_{imp} \frac{u_{imp,i+1} - 2u_{imp,i} + u_{imp,i-1}}{\Delta t^2} \delta u_{imp} \] (34)

3. IMPLEMENTATION

For solving spatial distribution of $u_i$, the common finite element method (FEM) is used. The displacement field is approximated by nodal values $\mathbf{r}_i$ through selected basis functions. Since the FEM is well established, the details of method is not presented here. To handle simultaneously deflection of elastic body and
impactor position, the all matrices and vectors are extended by one additional degree of freedom and final object is marked by tilde. For example displacement vector $\tilde{r}_i$ or mass matrix $\tilde{M}$ mean:

$$\tilde{r}_i = \{r_i, u_{imp}\}, \quad \tilde{M} = \begin{bmatrix} M & 0 \\ 0 & m_{imp} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (35)$$

With this in hand, the displacement problem after FEM assemble process and localization becomes:

$$\frac{1}{\Delta t^2}\tilde{M}(\tilde{r}_{i+1} - 2\tilde{r}_i + \tilde{r}_{i-1}) + \tilde{K}\tilde{r}_i + \tilde{F}(\tilde{r}_i) = \tilde{0}, \quad (36)$$

which is linear in parameter $\tilde{r}_i$. The matrices $\tilde{K}$ and $\tilde{M}$ are stiffness and mass matrices. Presentation of their precise form goes beyond the scope of this paper.

The assembling and localization of damage problem leads to linear form:

$$H\bar{d}_i + f_d = 0, \quad (37)$$

but let us remark several comments. First of all, the discretized damage field $\bar{d}_i$ still undergoes irreversibility condition:

$$\bar{d}_i \preceq \bar{d}_{i+1} \quad i = 0, \ldots, N - 1, \quad (38)$$

where $\preceq$ operator stands for element-wise comparison. From that reason the linear problem must be solved by nonlinear solver based on variational inequalities to satisfy condition. The second remark is about matrices $\tilde{K}, H$ and damage-driving force $f_d$. These are $u_i$ resp. $d_i$ nonlinearly dependent and must be assembled in each time steps. It significantly slows down the calculations.

4. SETUP

The all simulations are performed on the same task – unsupported square glass plate hit by steal impactor. This setup follows from real experimental arrangement, see [6]. The plate has dimensions $1.5 \times 1.5$ m and thickness $0.02$ m, but only one quarter is modeled due to symmetry, see Figure 1 where material parameters are also presented. The contact stiffness is defined as:

$$k = \frac{4}{3} \frac{1 - \nu^2}{E} \frac{\sqrt{R} + 1 - \nu^2}{E_{imp}}, \quad (39)$$

where $R = 0.05$ m is impactor head radius and $E_{imp} = 210$ GPa and $\nu_{imp} = 0.3$. Further weight of impactor is $m_{imp} = 48.7$ kg and initial velocity-free height of impactor is $0.3$ m. Finally the phase-field parameter $l$ is chosen as element length and $G_l = (8l^2)/(3E)$, where $f_l = 55$ MPa is tensile strength.

5. BENCHMARKS

Phase-field damage model requires fine mesh with lower-order elements rather than higher-order elements with lower resolution. It is contrary to plate theory, where lower-order elements exhibit shear locking and must be somehow enhanced to overcome this issue. The plate element enrichment leads to additional degrees of freedom which reduces computability and the ability to do repeated calculations. The finer resolution is more important in this analysis than exact shear implementation, therefore suitability of 'classic' low-order plate elements is investigated in this benchmark.

The first benchmark is behavior of impacted plate in elastic regime. The task setup presented in Section 4 is used and the response is calculated in time interval $(0; 0.01)$ s with time step $\Delta t = 4 \cdot 10^{-7}$ s. Resolutions of mesh $50 \times 50$ and $100 \times 100$ elements are investigated with two different element typologies: triangles and squares. The reduced integration is employed for shear terms, which enhanced rectangle elements, but triangles still locking. The reason for not using square elements is because they exhibits undesirable zero-energy modes. The results of each case is presented in Figure 2, where evolution of impactor acceleration is plotted. This is one of the interesting investigated quantity, which can be experimentally validated in future research. Also the different behavior of two cases stands out more than in impactor displacement function. It is evident from Figure 2 that behavior is slightly different for triangles in case of mesh $50 \times 50$, but both line are comparably the same for case $100 \times 100$ and shear locking does not cause significant deviation. This statement holds for given time resolution and fraction $h/L$ of course. Nevertheless this setup follows from real experiment and we assume that results are adequate. The deflections behaves similarly and do not suffer for larger deviation for mesh $100 \times 100$.

However, the usage of triangle elements exhibit parasitic behavior in the damaged state as is presented in second benchmark. The task is the same as in previous benchmark, but initial crack is incorporated
on plate in this case. The initial crack is implemented through Dirichlet boundary condition $d = 0.99$ on the line $\{(x,y)|\zeta > |x - L_1/4|\}$, where $\zeta$ parameter is chosen such that the damage $d = 0.99$ is enforced at least over whole width of one element. The simplified but still sufficient analysis is performed in this benchmark using so called hybrid approach \cite{7} for phase-field. Furthermore, the damage $d$ and updated matrix $\tilde{K}$ from \cite{86} is calculated in each third step to speed up analysis. This approach allows some minor wave propagation through crack, but wave dispersion through crack is still significant. The result also depends on the parameter $\xi$ from (19)-(20). First of all, let us investigate case $\xi = 0$, therefore shear is not degraded. The results are plotted by solid lines in Figure 3, where plate deflection along line $\{(x,y)|y=0.75\}$ is plotted in time instant $t = 0.003$ s. The square-topology mesh behaves reasonable, but triangle-topology mesh does not stop the wave on crack interface. It is caused probably due to element locking. On the other hand, triangles with $\xi = 1$ behaves almost like squares with $\xi = 0$ as a result of shear degradation by damage. It significantly reduces the shear locking artifacts. Based on these conclusions, the triangle-based mesh with shear reduced by degradation function is used in the next section.

6. Results

The calculations are time-consuming and therefore only preliminary results of model P-VD are presented in this contribution. The model is still under investigation and there are still many unresolved issues. The same setup, defined in Section 4, is used, i.e. the steel impactor hit the thin glass plate. Three different meshes M1, M2 and M3 are tested to detect possible mesh-dependency, see Figure 4. The model with fully degraded kinematic variables, i.e. $\xi = 1.0$, $k_{res} = k_{res}^{s} = 0.0$, does not behave correctly. The impactor hit the plate causing damage localization under impactor. The plate has zero stiffness and impactor flies through fully damaged elements and no longer influences the rest of plate. As a result, the cracks are not evolving further. This behavior is illustrated in Figure 5 by solid line, where again the distribution of plate deflection along $\{(x,y)|y = 0.75\}$
and in time $t = 1.4$ ms is plotted. The example is evaluated on mesh M3. The sort of way-out can be shear coupling in damage state, i.e. $k_{res} = 0.0$, $k^*_{res} \neq 0$. It prevents large slope of deflection curve, see dashed line in Figure 5 where $k^*_{res} = 0.05$. The observed behavior is more pleasant and it leads to crack evolving as presented below. Moreover the crack is not thickening after additional load. In contrast with that, the case $k_{res} \neq 0$ causes thickening.

**Mesh dependency** The meshes M1, M2 and M3 in two resolutions $50 \times 50$ and $100 \times 100$ was used to investigate mesh dependency. The setup is again the same with constant time step $\Delta t = 2 \cdot 10^{-7}$ s and final time instant $t_N = 0.01$ s. The results of damage fields are plotted in Figure 6 where (a) is mesh M1 $50 \times 50$, (b) is mesh M2 $50 \times 50$, (c) is mesh M1 $100 \times 100$ and finally (d) is mesh M2 $100 \times 100$ all evaluated in end time. The mesh M3 behaves similarly as M1 and is not presented here.

There is evident that crack topologies are different on coarse mesh, however this discrepancy is removed after refinement. The slight mesh dependency can still remain in phase-field models for unstable solutions, but it still remains more or less objective approach in contrast with other techniques.

**Time refinement** The damage solution (d) in Figure 6 and its visualisation of deflection in Figure 7 is therefore appropriate and objective without any further improvement during time refinement as seen in the graph 8. The red and blue line are almost identical. An interesting parasitic behavior appears when the residual stiffness is prescribed also to the bending members ($k_{res} = 0.01$), see black line in graph 8. The residual term causes unwanted harmonic oscillations between impactor and plate.

**Crack speed** The main drawback of presented approach is its inability to correctly predict crack velocity. It is evident from near-the-failure evolution of

![Figure 5. Deflection distribution on line $\{(x, y) | y = 0.75\}$](image)

![Figure 6. Damage distribution on meshes M1 (a, c) and M2 (b, d) for resolution $50 \times 50$ (a, b) and $100 \times 100$ (c, d). The blue represents intact material whereas red represents $d$ close to 1.](image)

![Figure 7. Visualisation of plate deflection.](image)

![Figure 8. Evolution of impactor acceleration for two different time steps (red and blue) and for case $k_{res} \neq 0$ (black) with detail below.](image)
crack in Figure 9. The crack length increment divided by time increment gives us the numerically predicted crack speed $v_{PF} = 692$ m/s. However the crack speed of glass is about $v_{\text{real}} \approx 1500$ m/s [8], which is still twice as much.

7. CONCLUSION

The explicit variationally consistent dynamic phase-field damage model was presented in this contribution with additional implementation details and preliminary results. The plate model with volumetric-deviatoric decomposition was successfully implemented, but it still exhibits some issues – especially wrong crack velocity and no crack branching. This two facts may be related, because crack branching is caused by large crack velocity. It is under further investigation as well as implementation of other models (particularly P-SD).

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