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#### Fracture as a Moving Boundary Problem

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## Fracture as a Moving Boundary Problem

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## ECF19, Kazan 2012

## Corroding environment leads to:

1. Continuous loss of mass 2. Pitting ... and with mechanical stress present 3. Surface roughening (from Kung-Suk 2000) Uniform scaling



2 µm



- 4. Evolving pits5. Formation of cracks6. Crack growth
- 7. Crack branching



Growing crack in a polycarbonate exposed to acetone (Hejman 2011)



Cr/zone six charge related of land and groove substrate erosion through a micro-crack at the 12:00 bore origin. (Sopok *et al.* 2005)

## Corrosion Crack crossing a bi-material interface



Corrosion crack penetrating a bimaterial interface between austenitic and pressure vessel steel of type SA533C11. The tip of one of the crack branches. Crack length 7 mm, notch width 10 µm. *Reproduced with permission from Vattenfall AB.* 

## Evolving Surface Morphology

Asaro-Tiller (1972), Grinfeld (1986, 1993), Srolovitz (1989), Freund (1995), Kim (2000)

Gibb's free energy

$$\Phi = U_c + U_e$$

where

 $U_c$  is the free chemical energy and  $U_e$  is the free elastic energy

## **Evaporation-condensation**



 $\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} =$  $-L_1\Phi$ 

## Surface diffusion



 $\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = L_2 \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^2}$ 

# Corroding Surface



# Corroding Surface



## Branching



Landau potential:

$$\mathcal{F}=\mathcal{F}_{c}+\mathcal{F}_{e}+\mathcal{F}_{gr}$$
; Ginzburg, Landau (50)

with

$$\mathcal{F}_e = \int \frac{G(\psi)}{2} (\nabla w)^2 \mathrm{d}V$$

$$\mathcal{F}_c = \int U(\psi) \,\mathrm{d}V$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{gr} = \int \frac{g_b}{2} (\nabla \psi)^2 \mathrm{d}V$$

## Antiplane deformation => Two free variables

Displacements w and phase (density)  $\psi$ 

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -L_{\psi} \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \psi} \quad , \quad \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} = -L_{w} \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta w}$$

Cahn, Hilliard (58)

# Double-well chemical potential $U(\psi) = p \psi^2 (1 - \psi)^2$





Lagranian expansion:

$$\frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \psi} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \psi} - \nabla \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial (\nabla \psi)}$$
$$\frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta w} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial w} - \nabla \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial (\nabla w)} = >$$

 $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -L_{\psi} \left[ \frac{1}{2} G'(\psi) (\nabla w)^2 + p \psi (\psi^2 - 1) - g_b \nabla^2 \psi \right]$ 

 $\nabla \cdot [G(\psi) \nabla w] = 0$  (equilibrium)

(Ginzburg-Landau 1950)

### Initial conditions

$$\psi = -\tanh(\frac{x_2 + \omega \sin(x_1 \pi / \lambda)}{\epsilon})$$

### Boundary conditions

A: 
$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_1} = 0$$
 and  $w = \frac{\lambda \tau_o}{G_o}$ 

B: 
$$\psi \to 1$$
 and  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial x_2} \to 0$ 

C: 
$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_1} = 0$$
 and  $w = -\frac{\lambda \tau_o}{G_o}$ 

D: 
$$\psi \to -1$$
 and  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial x_2} \to 0$ 

$$\frac{1}{2}f'' - \beta f' + (\kappa - f)(f^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$\hat{x}_2 = \alpha x_2 + ct$$

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{p}{2g_b}} \quad \kappa = \frac{3G_o(\nabla w)^2}{4p}$$

$$\beta = \frac{c}{pL_{\psi}}\sqrt{\frac{p}{2g_b}}$$
Put  $\beta = \kappa \Longrightarrow$ 

$$c_o = \frac{3}{4}L_{\psi}G_o(\nabla w)^2\sqrt{\frac{2g_b}{p}}$$

$$\left(\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}x_2} - 2\beta\right)(f' + f^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$\psi = -\tanh(\sqrt{\frac{p}{2g_b}}x_2 + \frac{3}{4}L_{\psi}G_o(\nabla w)^2\sqrt{\frac{2g_b}{p}}t)$$





Red is remaining material

Effective Stress

Effective Stress



Red is remaining material

Effective stress



Without general corrosion

### with general corrosion

# Summary

Phase field modelling simplifies stress corrosion analyses

Time dependent solution to Ginzburg-Landau eq. obtained

Crack initiation growth and branching in one simulation