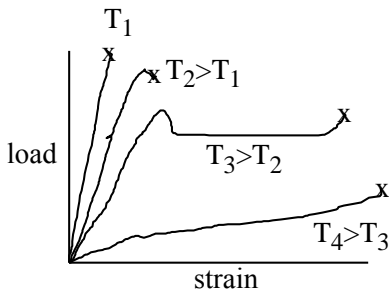


# Generic Temperature Dependence

Typical generic temperature behavior:



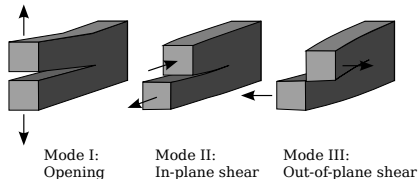
$T_1$ : Brittle behavior

$T_2$ : Ductile behavior (yield before fracture)

$T_3$ : cold drawing (stable neck)

$T_4$ : uniform deformation

# Fracture Modes



- Homogeneous material fracture: always mode I
- Mode II can be important for interfacial fracture (adhesion)
- Mode III is generally not important

# Brittle behavior (fracture mechanics)

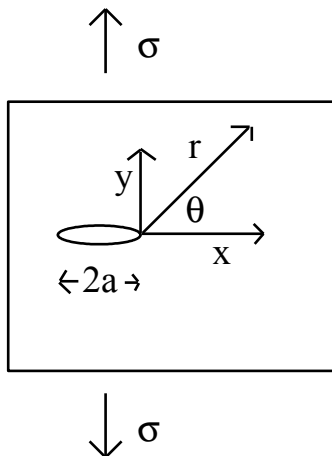
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fracture\\_mechanics](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fracture_mechanics)

Mode I crack (stress normal to crack)

2 equivalent approaches:

- 1 Irwin model (stress-based approach)
- 2 Griffith model (energy-based approach)

# Irwin Model: Stress Intensity Factor



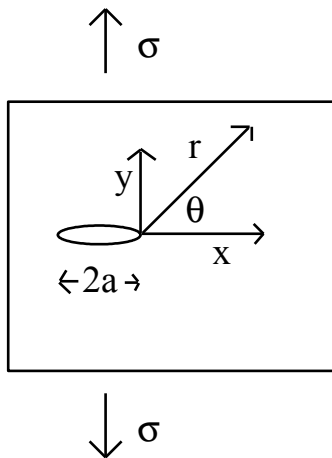
Assume  $\rho$  (crack tip radius of curvature) is very small:

For  $r \ll a$

$$K_I = \sigma \sqrt{\pi a}$$

$$\sigma_{yy} = \frac{K_I}{\sqrt{2\pi r}} f(\theta)$$

different  $f(\theta)$  for  $\sigma_{xx}$ ,  $\sigma_{yy}$ , etc.



$$\sigma_{yy}(r=0) = 2\sigma_0 \sqrt{a/\rho}$$

$$K_{Ic} = \sigma_f \sqrt{\pi a}$$

$K_{Ic}$  = fracture toughness (critical value of  $K_I$ )

$\sigma_f$  = fracture stress

$$\sigma_f = K_{Ic} / \sqrt{\pi a}$$

Assumptions:

- all strains in region of crack tip are elastic (very small plastic zone around crack tip).
- fracture occurs when the stress field defined by  $K_I$  reaches a critical value

Specifying the stress field is the same as specifying the stored elastic energy. One expects that an energy-based fracture criterion could also be derived. This leads us to the second approach:

# Griffith Model (energy release rate)

Fracture occurs when available energy is sufficient to drive crack forward.

$W$  = work done on system by external stresses

$U$  = elastically stored energy

$(W-U)$  = energy available to drive crack forward.

$$\mathcal{G} = \frac{d}{dA} (W - U)$$

$A$  = crack area

$\mathcal{G}$  = energy release rate

$$\mathcal{G}_I = \mathcal{G}_{Ic}$$

$\mathcal{G}_{Ic}$  = critical energy rate (also referred to sometimes as fracture toughness - this is a material property)

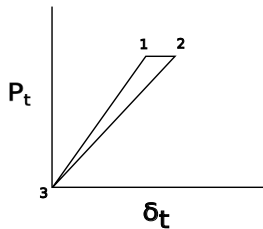
Lowest possible value of  $\mathcal{G}_{Ic}$  is  $2\gamma$ ;  $\gamma$  is surface energy of the material  
Some values of  $\gamma$  ( $1 \text{ mJ/m}^2 = 1 \text{ erg/cm}^2 = 1 \text{ dyne/cm}$ )

- Polymers:  $20\text{-}50 \text{ mJ/m}^2$  Van der Waals bonding between molecules
- Water:  $72 \text{ mJ/m}^2$  Hydrogen bonding between molecules
- Metals:  $\approx 1000 \text{ mJ/m}^2$  Metallic bonding



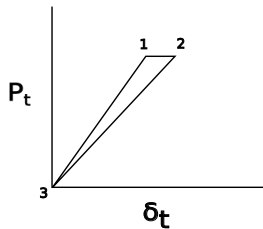
# Calculating the Energy Release Rate

$P_t = -P$ ;  $\delta_t = -\delta$  - tensile load and displacement



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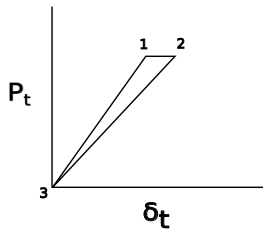


Compliance:

$$C = \left. \frac{d\delta}{dP} \right|_A$$

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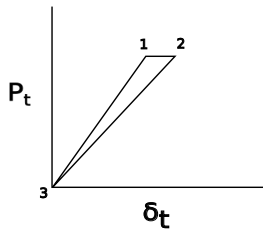
- 1 Apply tensile load at constant contact area,  $A$

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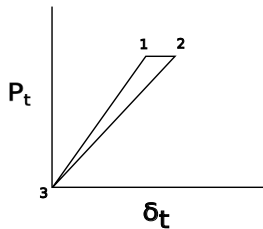
- 1 Apply tensile load at constant contact area,  $A$
- 2 Reduce contact area by  $dA$ , compliance increases by  $dC$ , displacement increases by  $d\delta_t$

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# Calculating the Energy Release Rate

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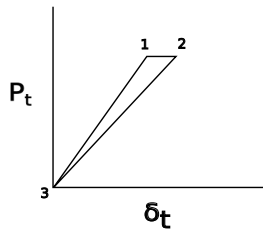
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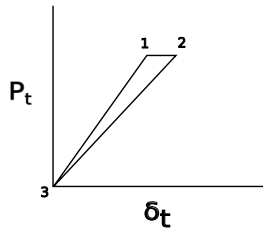
- ① Apply tensile load at constant contact area,  $A$
- ② Reduce contact area by  $dA$ , compliance increases by  $dC$ , displacement increases by  $d\delta_t$
- ③ Unload at new contact area



# Energy release rate, $\mathcal{G}$



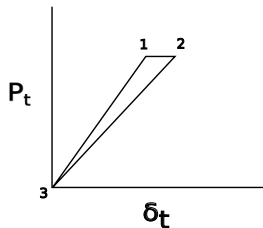
# Energy release rate, $\mathcal{G}$



- $\mathcal{G} \equiv \frac{\text{energy input}}{\text{reduction in contact area}}$

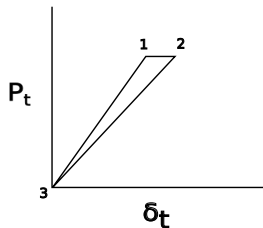


# Energy release rate, $\mathcal{G}$



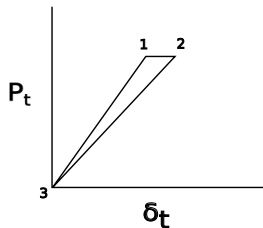
- $\mathcal{G} \equiv \frac{\text{energy input}}{\text{reduction in contact area}}$
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# Energy release rate, $\mathcal{G}$

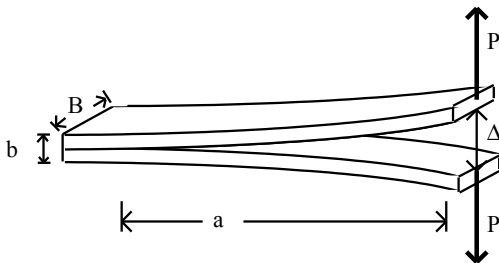


- $\mathcal{G} \equiv \frac{\text{energy input}}{\text{reduction in contact area}}$
- Energy input  $= \frac{1}{2} P_t d\delta_t$
- $d\delta_t = P_t dC$

Combine expressions:

- $\mathcal{G} = -\frac{P_t^2}{2} \frac{dC}{dA}$

## Double cantilever beam geometry:



$$\delta_t = \frac{64a^3}{EBb^3} P_t; \quad C = \frac{\delta_t}{P_t} = \frac{64a^3}{EBb^3} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathcal{G}_I = \frac{P_t^2}{2B} \frac{dC}{da} = \frac{96a^2 P_t^2}{EB^2 b^3}$$

At fixed load,  $\mathcal{G}_I$  increases as the crack length increases - unstable geometry!

Use Eq. 1 to substitute  $\delta_t$  for  $P_t$ :

$$\mathcal{G}_I = \frac{3\delta_t^2 b^3 E}{128 a^4}$$

At a fixed displacement, crack will grow until  $\mathcal{G}_I = \mathcal{G}_{Ic}$  and then stop. This is a better way to do the experiment.

# General relationship between $K_I$ and $G_I$

$$K_I = \sqrt{G_I E^*}$$

- Plane stress (small B):  $E^* = E$
- Plane strain (large B):  $E^* = \frac{E}{1-\nu^2}$

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$$K_I = \sqrt{G_I E^*}$$

- Plane stress (small B):  $E^* = E$
- Plane strain (large B):  $E^* = \frac{E}{1-\nu^2}$
- Corresponding relationship exists between the materials properties,  $K_{Ic}$  and  $G_{Ic}$ :

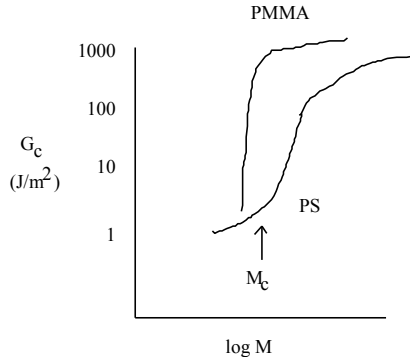
$$K_I = \sqrt{G_I E^*}$$

## Typical values of $G_{Ic}$ :

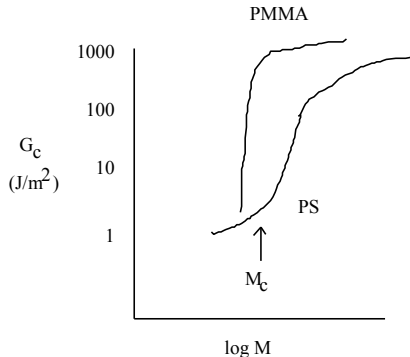
- $G_{Ic} = 2\gamma$  ( $\approx 0.1 \text{ J/m}^2$ ) if only work during fracture is to break Van der Waals bonds
- $G_{Ic} \approx 1 - 2 \text{ J/m}^2$  if only work during fracture is to break covalent bonds across interface
- $G_{Ic} \gg 1 \text{ J/m}^2$  if fracture is accompanied by significant deformation of the sample



# Fracture toughness of glassy polymers



# Fracture toughness of glassy polymers

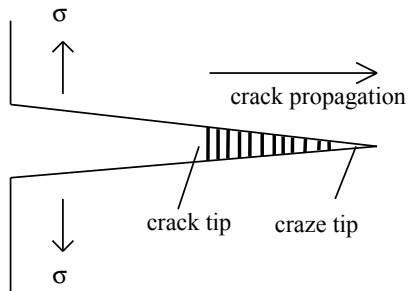


Deformation is significant, but  $G_{Ic}$  is still small compared to other engineering materials

# Deformation Mechanisms in amorphous polymers

1. Shear bands due to strain softening (decrease in true stress after yield in shear)
2. Crazing - requires net dilation of sample (fracture mechanism for PS and PMMA)

Crazes are load bearing - but they break down to form cracks - failure of specimen:



Fibrils are cold drawn polymer. Extension ratio remains constant as craze widens

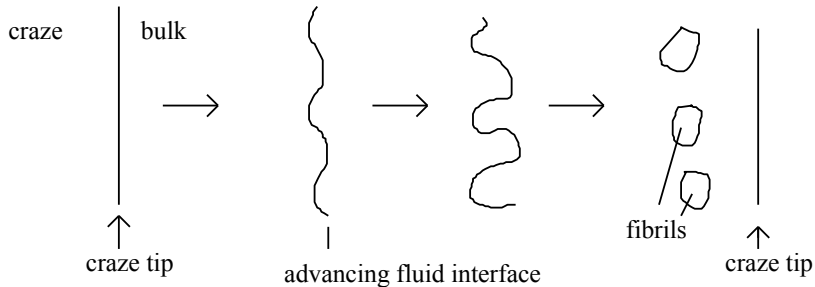
Crack propagation:

- 1) new fibrils are created at the craze tip
- 2) fibrils break to form a true crack at the crack tip

# Meniscus instability mechanism

(fibril formation at craze tip)

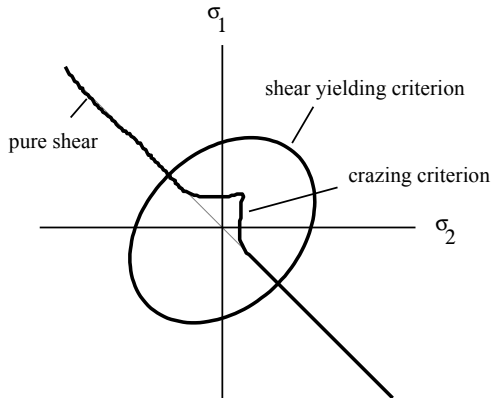
Material near the craze tip is strain softened, and can flow like a fluid between two plates.



# Shear Deformation vs. Crazing

Shear deformation is preferable to crazing for producing high toughness.

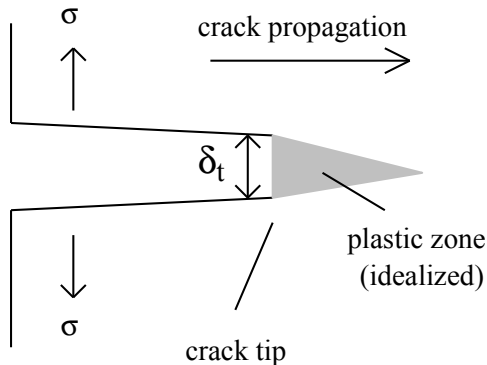
Plane stress - shear yielding and crazing criteria (for PMMA)



- 1 Crazing requires dilatational stress field  $\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3 > 0$   
(crazes have voids between fibrils)
- 2 Crazing occurs first for PMMA in uniaxial extension ( $\sigma_2 = 0$ )
- 3  $\mathcal{G}_{Ic}$  is determined by energy required to form a craze  
( $\approx 1000 \text{ J/m}^2$ )
- 4 Crazing requires strain hardening of fibrils - material must be entangled ( $M > M_c$ ),  $M_c$  typically  $\approx 30,000 \text{ g/mol}$ .
- 5 In general, shear yielding competes with crazing at the crack tip

# Shear yielding at crack tip

Suppose the material at the crack tip deforms by shear instead of crazing:



$\mathcal{G}_{Ic}$  determined by energy to create plastic zone



Assumptions:

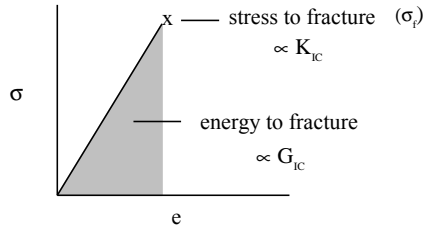
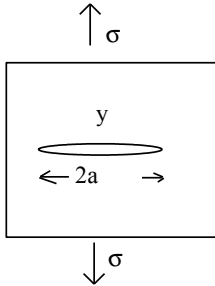
- 1) Tensile stress throughout plastic zone is yield stress  $\sigma_y$
- 2) this stress acts to produce a crack opening displacement  $\delta_t$

$$\mathcal{G}_{Ic} = \delta_t \sigma_y$$

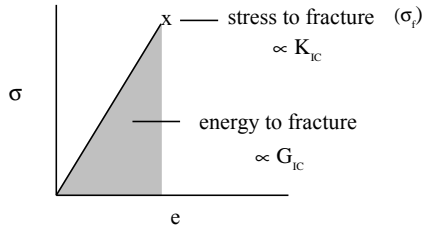
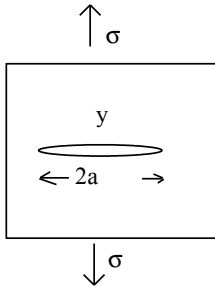
similar theory holds for crazing, with  $\sigma_c$  (crazing stress) replacing  $\sigma_y$   
 $\sigma_y$  and  $\sigma_c$  are similar, but  $\delta_t$  is restricted to smaller values for crazes

Polystyrene is a big business - how do we make it tougher?  
Add “impact modifiers so there is more than one craze per crack  
**Show crazes, HIPS, ABS morphologies**

# Stress/strain behavior and fracture toughness

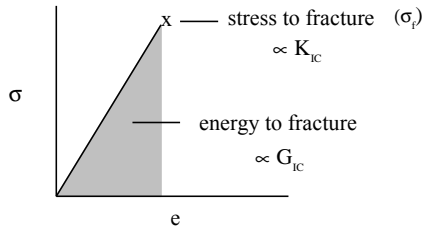
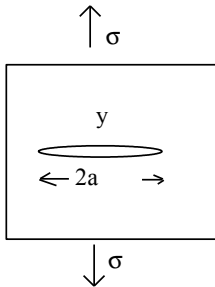


# Stress/strain behavior and fracture toughness



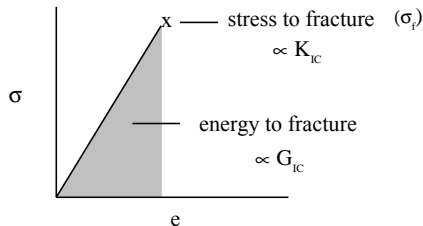
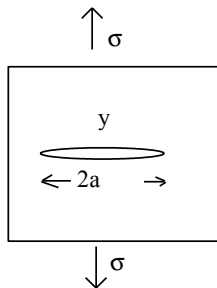
- Fracture stress depends on flaw size: for sharp crack  $\sigma_f \propto \sqrt{a}$

# Stress/strain behavior and fracture toughness



- Fracture stress depends on flaw size: for sharp crack  $\sigma_f \propto \sqrt{a}$
- $K_{Ic} \propto \sigma_f$ ;  $G_{Ic} \propto \sigma_f^2/E$

# Stress/strain behavior and fracture toughness

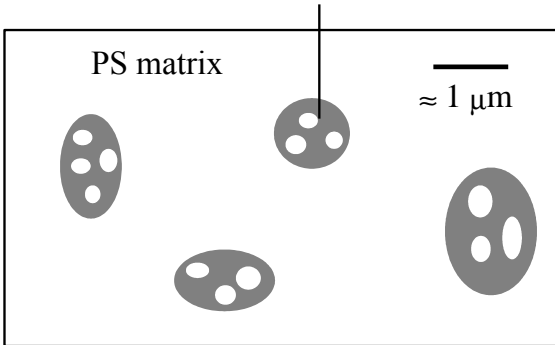


- Fracture stress depends on flaw size: for sharp crack  $\sigma_f \propto \sqrt{a}$
- $K_{Ic} \propto \sigma_f$ ;  $G_{Ic} \propto \sigma_f^2/E$
- valid only for brittle specimens: linear stress/strain curve up to fracture point

# Comparison of PS and HIPS (high impact polystyrene)

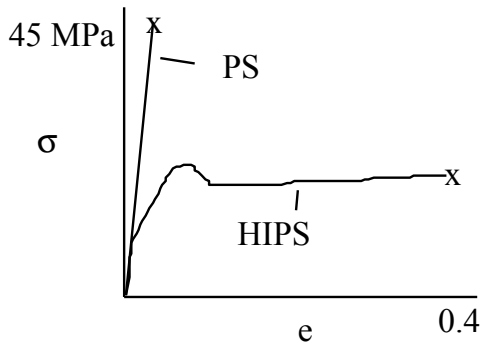
## HIPS morphology

Rubbery, polybutadiene particles with  
PS inclusions



Good adhesion between rubber particles and glassy matrix is required  
(We want deformation, but not cracking)

# HIPS vs PS: No precrack



PS is brittle,  $E = 3 \text{ GPa}$

HIPS is ductile,  $E = 2.1 \text{ GPa}$

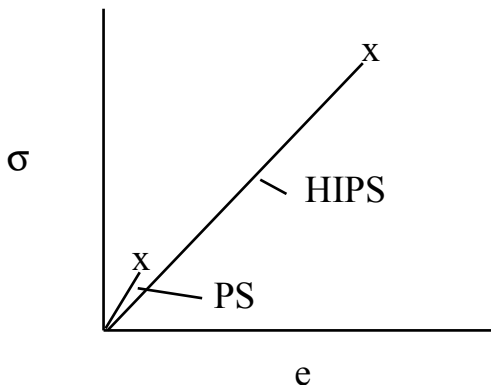
large energy to fracture

deformation via crazing in vicinity of rubber particles (stress concentrators) throughout sample



# HIPS vs PS: Samples with Precrack

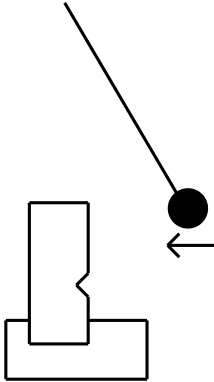
(measurement of  $K_{IC}$  or  $G_{IC}$ )



- Deformation limited to region around crack tip
- Much more deformation for HIPS - higher toughness

# Some Characteristic Values

Material	$E$ (GPa)	$K_{IC}$ (MPa $\sqrt{\text{m}}$ )	$G_{IC}$
Steel	200	50	12,000
Glass	70	0.7	7
High M polystyrene or PMMA	3	1.5	750
High Impact Polystyrene	2.1	5.8	16,000
Epoxy Resin	2.8	0.5	100
Rubber Toughned Epoxy	2.4	2.2	2,000
Glass Filled Epoxy Resin	7.5	1.4	300



Decrease in pendulum velocity after breaking sample gives impact toughness  
(This is Izod Charpy is similar)

Fracture toughness is rate dependent, but same general features apply (HIPS is much tougher than PS at high strain rates as well, for the same general reasons).