

Analysis of loading history influence on fatigue and fracture surface parameters using the method of induction trees

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Abstract. In fatigue life testing under various loading conditions, researchers observe the profile, surface and morphology of materials. In this study authors research the fatigue life of material and the surface fracture geometry. Areal field and fractal based characterisation are evaluated for the whole fracture surfaces. Results of this test were correlated to notch geometry and loading conditions. It was confirmed, for notched specimens, that the change from torsion to proportional bending with torsion fatigue life increase significantly, the same as changing loading from bending with torsion to bending. The measurement device was equipped with a motorised nosepiece using five dedicated microscopic objective lenses from 2.5× to 100× magnification. This paper presents the application of the induction tree method for analysis of loading history influence on fatigue and fracture surface parameters. In a decision tree, nodes store tests checking values of example attributes and leaves store categories assigned to them. For each of possible test results, there is one branch coming from a node to a subtree. In this way, it is possible to represent any attributes of the hypothesis admissible for a given set. Analysis of selected parameters will estimate their impact on the surface structure.

1 Introduction

Fracture surface topography is one of the basic macroscopic investigations aimed at determining the cause of the fatigue damage [1]. It allows to determine what kind of the fatigue loading material was subjected. Several of typical macroscopic patterns of fatigue damage can be distinguished. Among them, their functions of type and magnitude of loading. The surface analysis reveals localisation of initiation and crack path propagation, as well as identifies the areas for further microscopic examination. Fracture mechanics tests are usually concentrated on crack growth under uniaxial and multiaxial loadings [2]. Some articles deals only with crack growth, while other scientist carried out quantitative analysis of fracture surface. The study on relationship between fracture toughness and fracture surface fractal dimension began in the 1980s [3]. Since then, the quantitative approach to the morphology has led to many interesting studies on the interconnection with loading or ambient environment [4]. The topography of fracture surfaces, especially in bending and torsion fatigue, was investigated and published in [5, 6]. Researchers demonstrated, inter alia, the influence of torsion loading constituent on the surface form. Previous studies shown that there are differences in the surface geometry of individual zones (e.g. initiation, propagation) [7].

The optical method Focus Variation Microscope (FVM) was used to measure the entire fracture surface in connection with the relevant Areal parameters [8].

The classification is an important stage in the analysis of acoustic properties. In this stage, properties characteristic for signals of particular microphones are compared with each other. On the basis of obtained results a decision concerning the classification of the signal properties to a given group is made [9] Among the most often applied methods of recognising acoustic signals are: HMM (Hidden Markov Models), VQ (Vector Quantization), LVQ (Learning Vector Quantization), SOM (Self-Organising Maps), ANN (Artificial Neural Network), GMM (Gaussian Mixture Models) [10, 11], SVM (Support Vector Machines). In addition, there are classifiers based on the induction of decision trees, ML-HMM (Maximum Likelihood Hidden Markov Model) [12, 13]. In a general case, the classification includes two stages: creating of patterns for recognition and identification. In general terms of optimisation, groups of measurement data are provided by a measurement station. Discretisation of ranges of individual measurement data leads to a coded record of construction and operating parameters [14].

Multivalent logical trees determine the importance of design and operation parameters, playing the role of logical decision variables. A number of methods can be distinguished in discrete optimisation, e.g. heuristic method – based on searching for deviations between data values [15, 16], decision trees induction algorithm – based on the entropy increase [17, 18] neural networks, evolutionary algorithms [19]. These methods, in particular, are used in fault diagnosis and acoustic analysis of signals [20].

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This paper focuses on a relationship between type of loading, like bending, torsion and combination bending with torsion and surface fracture Height Parameters, Functional Parameters and Fractal dimension. The induction tree method helped in the search for the importance of individual parameters. Additionally, based on the files, the neural network was used.

2 Measurements and calculations

2.1. Fatigue tests

The fatigue tests were made in the lab of the Department of Mechanics and Machine Design, Opole University of Technology, Poland [21, 22]. This scientific body specialises in developing methods for determining the fatigue life of materials [12], as well as performing its own test stands [23, 24, 25].

The object of the study was rectangular cross-section specimens of the EN AW-2017A-T4 aluminium alloy, shown in figure 1. Specimens had an external, unilateral, sharp and blunt one-sided notches, which radius was $\rho = 0.2$ mm, 5 mm, 10 mm and 22.5 mm.

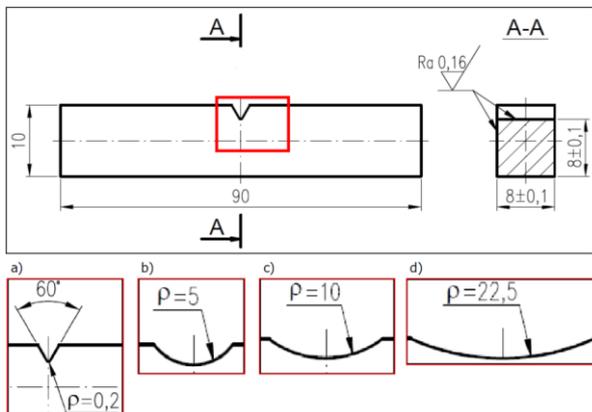


Fig. 1. Shape and dimensions of specimen for: a) $\rho = 0.2$ mm, b) $\rho = 5$ mm, c) $\rho = 10$ mm, and d) $\rho = 22.5$ mm.

Fractures was caused by different kinds of loadings in bending and torsion fatigue. Stress ratios for this research were $R = -1, -0.5, 0$.

2.2 Surface parameters measurements

Topography of the surface was measured and calculated using the focus variation microscope (FVM) Alicona Infinite Focus G4 with the MountainsMap 7.4 software.

Fatigue fracture surface was observed on total area with objective magnification $10\times$. Surface fracture studies were carried out using Height Parameters, according to ISO 25178. The fatigue loading history was checked with selected Height Parameters, such as Root-mean-square height (Sq), Skewness (Ssk), Kurtosis (Sku), Maximum height (Sz), Arithmetical mean height (Sa) and fractal dimension (Df).

Surface parameters are calculated on the whole studied surface, marked in figure 2.

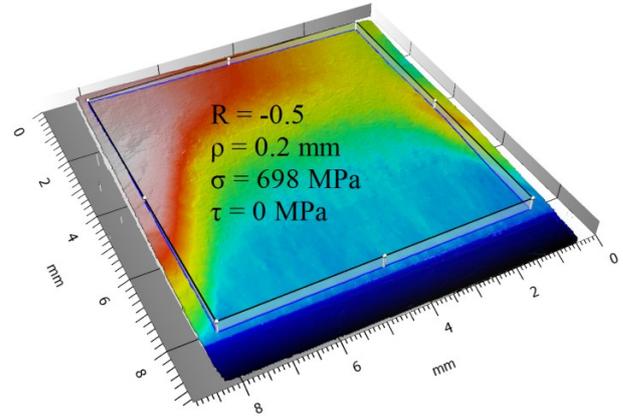


Fig. 2. The whole current surface reduced to the rectangle with dimensions 7.5 mm x 7.2 mm, for example of combination bending with torsion.

3. The classification of validity rank of the parameters with the application of induction trees

A decision tree is a structure which has ordinary properties of trees in the meaning assigned to the tree in the information technology, so it is a structure composed of nodes from which branches come to other nodes or leaves. It is convenient to define tree structures in a recursive way. Assuming that a given branch X on which attributes a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n and the set of notions C of the category C are determined:

1. The leaf containing any category label $d \in C$ is a decision tree.

2. If $t: X \rightarrow R_t$ is a test made on the values of attributes of examples with a set of possible results $R_t = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\}$ are decision trees, then the node containing the test t , from which m branches come out, given that for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ branch i corresponds to the result r_i and leads to the tree T_i , is a decision tree.

For any node of n decision tree, by t_n we mean a test connected with it, and for each of its possible results $r \in R_t$ by $n[r]$ node or a child leaf, to which the n branch related to the r result leads from the node. The notation described above is presented in Figure 3.

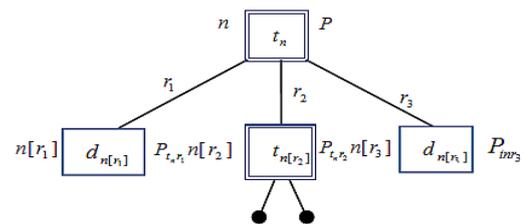


Fig. 3. A sample query “query-by-example” to the decision-making system.

Information included in the set of training examples is equal to:

$$I(E) = - \sum_{i=1}^{|E|} \frac{|E_i|}{|E|} \cdot \log_2 \left(\frac{|E_i|}{|E|} \right) \quad (1)$$

where:

E - the set of training examples

$|E_i|$ - the number of examples which describe i object

$|E|$ - the number of examples in the training set E

The expected value of information after the division of the set of examples E into subsets $E^{(m)}, m = 1, \dots, |V_a|$, for which the attribute a has the value V_m , determined as [24]:

$$I(E, a) = \sum_{m=1, K, |V_a|, E^{(m)}=\emptyset} \frac{|E^{(m)}|}{|E|} \cdot I(E^{(m)}) \quad (2)$$

where:

$|E^{(m)}|$ - the number of examples after the division of the set E in relation to the value m of a given attribute,

$|E|$ - the number of examples in the training set E.

3.1 Application of inductive decision trees for analysis of loading history influence on fatigue and fracture surface parameters

Tables 1 and 2 present the analysed parameters in the form of a training file.

Table 1. Fracture surface parameters in the training file format-part 1.

we	we	we	we	we	we	we	we	we
Cycles	Moment	R	radusp	alk	sigmax	taumax	taumax	b
688000	15,84	-1	10	1,11	206,04375	148,47	8	8
271000	7,92	-1	0,2	3,76	348,975	74,37	8	8
204000	15,84	-1	5	1,24	230,175	148,47	8	8
82000	15,84	-0,5	10	1,11	206,04375	148,47	8	8
33000	7,92	-0,5	0,2	3,76	348,975	74,37	8	8
16000	7,92	0	0,2	3,76	348,975	74,37	8	8
35000	15,84	0	5	1,24	230,175	148,47	8	8
3487000	7,92	0	22,5	1,04	96,525	74,37	8	8
389000	7,92	-1	0,2	0	0	74,37	8	8
349000	7,92	-1	22,5	0	0	74,37	8	8
831000	15,84	-1	22,5	0	0	148,47	8	8
132000	7,92	-0,5	0,2	0	0	74,37	8	8
22000	15,84	-1	0,2	3,76	697,95	0	8	8
52000	7,92	-0,5	0,2	3,76	348,975	0	8	8
322000	7,92	-1	0,2	3,76	348,975	0	8	8
24000	15,84	-1	0,2	3,76	697,95	0	8	8
20000	15,84	-0,5	0,2	3,76	697,95	0	8	8
17000	7,92	0	0,2	3,76	348,975	0	8	8
12000	15,84	0	0,2	3,76	697,95	0	8	8

Table 2. Fracture surface parameters in the training file format-part 2

we	we	we	we	we	we	we	we	we
h0	h	ao	bh	k,2	sigmaa	tau	tau	#Chropowalosc
8	8	2	1	0,208	185,625	148,47	3021	3021
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	3733	3733
8	8	2	1	0,208	185,625	148,47	2312	2312
8	8	2	1	0,208	185,625	148,47	4187	4187
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	3416	3416
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	2995	2995
8	8	2	1	0,208	185,625	148,47	1747	1747
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	1505	1505
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	541	541
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	655	655
8	8	2	1	0,208	185,625	148,47	974	974
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	865	865
8	8	2	1	0,208	185,625	148,47	1442	1442
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	1336	1336
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	1411	1411
8	8	2	1	0,208	185,625	148,47	1329	1329
8	8	2	1	0,208	185,625	148,47	1304	1304
8	8	2	1	0,208	92,8125	74,37	1589	1589
8	8	2	1	0,208	185,625	148,47	1193	1193

The classification by means of induction trees was made separately for loading ratio $r = \tau_{\max} / (\sigma_{\max} + \tau_{\max})$ as output attributes (wy).

Input attributes (we) are the values of fracture surface parameters: Cycles (we); Moment (we); R (we); notch radius ρ (we); α_k (we); σ_{\max} (we); τ_{\max} (we); b [mm] (we); h_0 [mm] (we); h[mm] (we); a_0 [mm] (we);

b/h [mm] (we); k_2 (we); σ_a [MPa] (we); τ_a [MPa] (we); Chro (we); loading ratio r (we).

The DeTreex module (Aitech Software) was used in the classification of validity rank of the construction parameters and it made it possible to form decision trees. In the described system, the module forming the decision tree requires an appropriate data preparation. In Figures 4 and 5, the first and second part of the tree of the induction tree are presented.

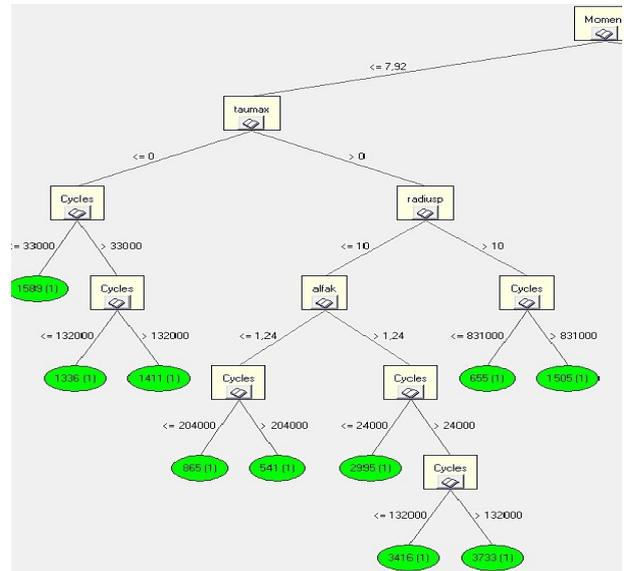


Fig. 4. The first part of the induction tree.

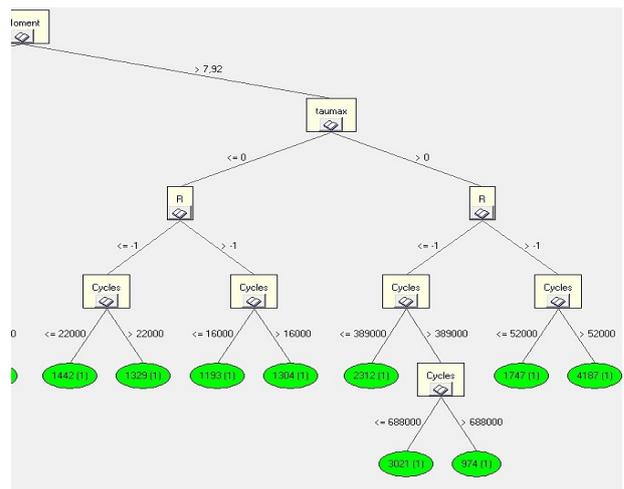


Fig. 5. The second part of the induction tree.

The induction tree determines the degree of importance of the attribute (Moment- M) from the most important one placed in the root, through classification of any example. The inductive search algorithm is an approximate method. To make the calculations more accurate, the local localisation algorithm was used. For this purpose, the neural network method was used [26, 27]. Standards for the network were results based on a comparison of surface parameters with the results of fatigue calculations.

4 Results of the comparison of surface parameters with the conditions of fatigue tests

Figures 6a, 6b and 6c show the relationship between Arithmetical mean height S_a , fractal dimension D_f and Skewness S_{sk} respectively of whole surface fracture area and cycles to failure N_f of EN AW-2017A-T4 specimens, with distinction for different notches radius.

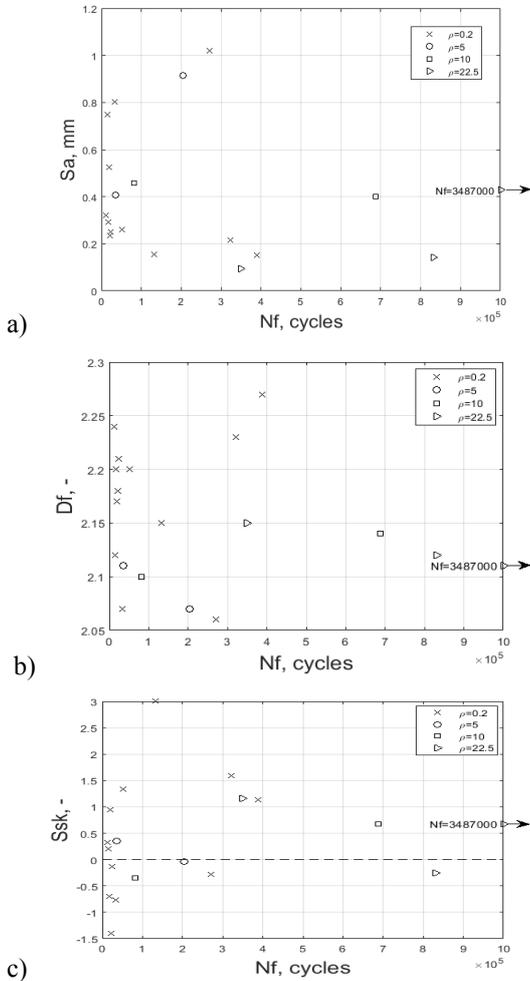


Fig. 6. Distribution of surface parameters appropriate notch radius relationship between N_f and a) S_a , b) D_f , c) S_{sk} of whole fracture areas.

4.1 Application of neural network

The training process of the applied network was made on the basis of the supervised learning. One of the main parameters determining the receipt of satisfactory results, from the point of view of recognising acoustic emissions of microphones, was an appropriate choice of a training algorithm by the adopted SSN architecture. The following algorithms were tested for the training procedure: GDA (Gradient Descent with Adaptive Learning Rate Backpropagation) and RPROP (Resilient Backpropagation) [28].

The weight correction process of particular neurones for this algorithm takes place according to the dependence described by the formula below:

$$w_{ij}^{(k)}(n+1) = w_{ij}^{(k)}(n) - n_{ij}^{(k)}(n) \operatorname{sgn}(\nabla_{ij}^{(k)}(n)), \quad (3)$$

$$n_{ij}^{(k)}(n) = \begin{cases} \min(an_{ij}^{(k)}(n-1), \eta_{\max}) & \text{for } \nabla_{ij}^{(k)}(n)\nabla_{ij}^{(k)}(n-1) > 0 \\ \max(bn_{ij}^{(k)}(n-1), \eta_{\min}) & \text{for } \nabla_{ij}^{(k)}(n)\nabla_{ij}^{(k)}(n-1) < 0 \\ n_{ij}^{(k)}(n-1) & \text{for otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where:

$n_{ij}^{(k)}$ - individual learning coefficient for each scale,

$\nabla_{ij}^{(k)}(n)$ - component of the gradient of the error function

Figure 7 presents the efficacy of recognising analysed acoustic characteristics by the training procedure **GDA** and **RPROP**.

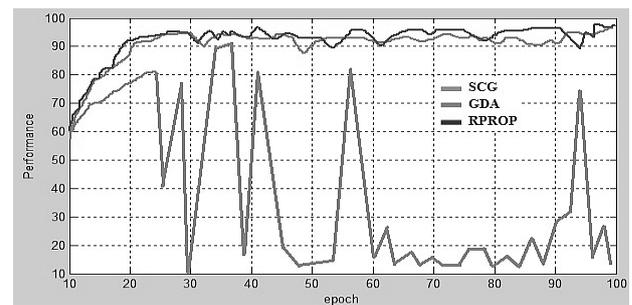


Fig. 7. Comparison of the effectiveness of the recognition of acoustic signals, depending on the type of training algorithm.

The Figure 8 shows the panel when learning the neural network in the Neuronix program

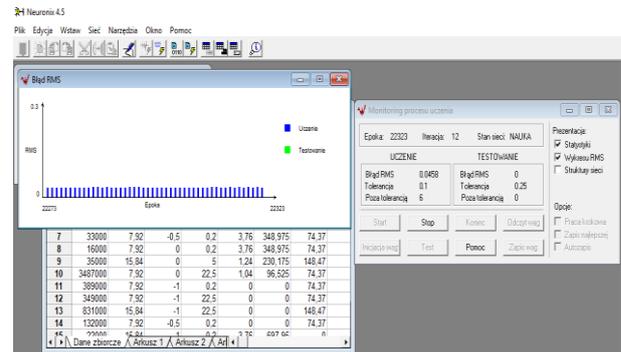


Fig. 8. Learning file for the neural network- training step n .

Figure 9 shows the structure of the used neural network.

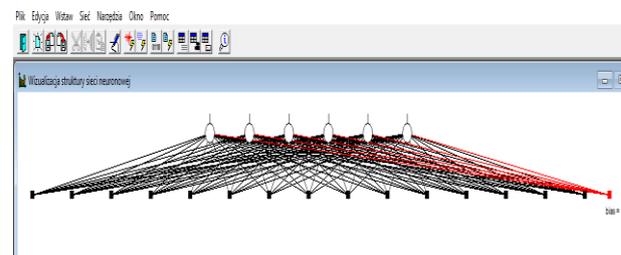


Fig. 9. Structure of the neural network.

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