

**Next generation aircraft & spacecraft  
by fracture mechanics analysis & relativistic elasticity**

Espaçonaves e aeronaves de nova geração  
através da análise de mecânica da fratura e elasticidade relativista

**E.G. LADOPOULOS<sup>1</sup>**

**ABSTRACT:** *The innovative and groundbreaking theory of “Relativistic Elasticity” is proposed for the design of the new generation large aircraft with turbojet engines and speeds in the range of 50,000 km/h and for the new generation spacecraft of any speed. Such a new theory shows that there is a considerable difference between the absolute stress tensor and the stress tensor of the airframe even in the range of speeds of 50,000 km/h. For much bigger speeds of the next generation spacecraft, like  $c/3$ ,  $c/2$ ,  $3c/4$ , or  $0.80c$  ( $c$ =speed of light), the difference between the two stress tensors is very much increased. The new theory of “Relativistic Elasticity” is a combination of the theories of “Classical Elasticity” and “Special Relativity” and results in the “Universal Equation of Elasticity” and in the “Universal Stress Intensity Factors”. The “structural design” of super speed vehicles requires the consideration of mass pulsation and energy-mass interaction at high velocity space-time scale, as the relative stress intensity factors are different than the corresponding absolute stress intensity factors.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Relativistic Elasticity; Universal Equation of Elasticity; Fracture Mechanics Analysis; Relative Stress Tensor; Absolute Stress Tensor; Universal Stress Intensity Factors.*

**RESUMO:** *A teoria pioneira e inovadora da “Elasticidade Relativista” é proposta para o projeto de aeronaves de grande porte de nova geração com motores turbojato e velocidades na faixa de 50.000 km/h e para espaçonaves de nova geração de qualquer velocidade. Uma teoria tão nova demonstra que há diferença considerável entre o tensor tensão absoluto e o tensor tensão da fuselagem, mesmo na faixa de velocidades de 50.000 km/h. Para velocidades muito maiores de espaçonaves de nova geração, como  $c/3$ ,  $c/2$ ,  $3c/4$ , ou  $0,80c$  ( $c$ =velocidade da luz), a diferença entre os dois tensores tensão é bastante aumentada. A nova teoria da “Elasticidade Relativista” é uma combinação das teorias da “Elasticidade Clássica” e “Relatividade Especial” e resulta na “Equação Universal da Elasticidade” e nos “Fatores de Intensidade de Tensão Universais”. O “projeto estrutural” de veículos super velozes requer a consideração da pulsação da massa e da interação massa-energia em uma escala espaço-tempo de alta velocidade, já que os fatores de*

---

<sup>1</sup> Interpaper Research Organization - 8, Dimaki Str. - Athens, GR - 106 72, Greece

*intensidade de tensão relativos são diferentes dos fatores de intensidade de tensão absolutos correspondentes.*

**PALAVRAS-CHAVE:** *Elasticidade Relativista; Equação Universal da Elasticidade; Análise de Mecânica da Fratura; Tensor Tensão Relativo; Tensor Tensão Absoluto; Fatores de Intensidade de Tensão Universais.*

## **1 Next Generation Aircraft and Spacecraft**

The main concern of International Aeronautical Industries is to achieve a competitive technological advantage in certain strategic areas of new and rapidly developing advanced technologies, by which in the longer terms, increased market share can be achieved. This considerably big market share includes the design of a new generation of large aircraft with speeds even in the range of 50,000 km/h. According to our research the future of such very fast aircraft is not very far. Thus, the application of new type of turbojet engines makes the construction of such type of large aircraft possible and so there is a need of new elastic stress analysis and fracture mechanics analysis for the construction of the total parts of such type of next generation aircraft.

Furthermore, the current target of the International Space Agencies (ESA, NASA, etc.) is to achieve in the future, next generation spacecraft moving with very high speeds, even approaching the speed of light. How far is this future ? According to our present investigation this future could be much closer than everybody believes. During the next decades next generation spacecraft should be built if there is a desire for space exploration. In the cases of the next generation innovative spacecraft the relative stress tensor will be much different than the absolute stress tensor and so special materials should be used for the construction of such spacecraft. The type of the proper material for the construction of the next generation spacecraft is under investigation and will be very much different than the usual composite materials. Thus, a fracture mechanics analysis and investigation of the next generation spacecraft should be done.

In the current research we will show that there is a significant difference between the absolute stress tensor and the stress tensor of the airframe even in the range of speeds of 50,000 km/h. On the other hand, for bigger speeds the difference of the two stress tensors is very much increased. So, for bigger velocities like  $c/3$ ,  $c/2$ ,  $3c/4$  or  $0.80c$  ( $c$ =speed of light) the relative stress tensor is very much different than the absolute one, while for velocities near the speed of light, the values of the relative stress tensor are much bigger than the corresponding values of the absolute stress tensor. The study of the connection between the stress tensors of the absolute frame and the airframe is included in Ref. [30] - [32] under the term “*Relativistic Elasticity*” and the final formula which results from the above theory is known as the “*Universal Equation of Elasticity*”.

Hence, in the present research the theory of “*Relativistic Elasticity*” will be applied for the elastic stress analysis design of the next generation aircraft and spacecraft.

Furthermore, in Ref. [1]-[22] were proposed several linear singular integral equation methods applied to elasticity, plasticity and fracture mechanics applications. In the above studies the Singular Integral Operators Method (S.I.O.M.) is investigated for the numerical evaluation of the multidimensional singular integral equations in which is reduced the stress tensor analysis of the linear elastic theory. Also, the theory of linear singular integral equations was extended to non-linear singular integral equations, too. [23]-[29]. So the theory of “*Relativistic Elasticity*” will be applied to the design of the elastic stress analysis and fracture mechanics analysis of the airframes. “*Relativistic Elasticity*” is derived as a generalization of the classical theory of elastic stress analysis for stationary frames. Hence, for future aerospace applications the difference between the relative and the absolute stress tensors will be of increasing interest. Also, the classical theory of elastic stress analysis began to be analyzed in the early nineteenth century and was further developed in the twentieth century. Over the past years were written several important monographs on the classical theory of elasticity. [33]-[52].

On the other hand, during the past years special attention has been concentrated on the theoretical aspects of the special theory of relativity. So, some classical monographs were written, dealing with the theoretical foundations and investigations of the special and the general theory of relativity. [53]–[60]. Furthermore, a very important point which will be shown in the present investigation is that the “*relative stress tensor is not symmetrical*”, while, as it is well known, the “*absolute stress tensor is symmetrical*”. Such a difference is very important for the design of the next generation aircraft and spacecraft of very high speeds. Hence, the foundations of the theory of “*Relativistic Elasticity*” for airstructures lead to a general theory, in which no restriction is made with regard to the relative motion. Such a general theory is also reduced to one class of relative motion, uniform in direction and velocity. Furthermore, the “structural design” of super speed vehicles requires the consideration of mass pulsation [61], [62] and energy-mass interaction [63] at high velocity space-time scale.

## 2 Airframes Relativistic Elastic Stress Analysis

Consider the state of stress at a point in the stationary frame  $S^0$ , defined by the symmetrical stress tensor given by the formula: (Fig.1)

$$\sigma^0 = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11}^0 & \sigma_{12}^0 & \sigma_{13}^0 \\ \sigma_{21}^0 & \sigma_{22}^0 & \sigma_{23}^0 \\ \sigma_{31}^0 & \sigma_{32}^0 & \sigma_{33}^0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.1)$$

where: 
$$\sigma_{21}^0 = \sigma_{12}^0, \sigma_{31}^0 = \sigma_{13}^0, \sigma_{32}^0 = \sigma_{23}^0 \quad (2.2)$$

Furthermore, let us consider an infinitesimal face element  $df$  with a directed normal, defined by a unit vector  $\mathbf{n}$ , at definite point  $p$  in the three-space of a Lorenz system. The matter on either side of this face element experiences a force which is proportional to  $df$ .

Hence, the force is valid as:

$$d\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{n}) = \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{n})df \quad (2.3)$$

Also, the components  $\sigma_i(\mathbf{n})$  of  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{n})$  are linear functions of the components  $n_k$  of  $\mathbf{n}$ :

$$\sigma_i(\mathbf{n}) = \sigma_{ik}n_k, \quad i, k = 1, 2, 3 \quad (2.4)$$

where by  $\sigma_{ik}$  is defined the elastic stress tensor, which can be also called the relative stress tensor, in contrast to the space part  $\sigma_{ik}^0$  of the total energy-momentum tensor  $T_{ik}$ , referred as the absolute stress tensor. [53], [54] (Fig. 2).

Moreover, the connection between the absolute and relative stress tensors is defined as:

$$\sigma_{ik}^0 = \sigma_{ik} + g_i u_k, \quad i, k = 1, 2, 3 \quad (2.5)$$

where  $g_i$  are the components of the momentum density  $\mathbf{g}$  and  $u_k$  the components of the velocity  $\mathbf{u}$  of the matter.

The connection between  $\mathbf{g}$  and the energy flux  $\mathbf{s}$ , is given by the relation:

$$\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{s}/c^2 \quad (2.6)$$

in which  $c$  denotes the speed of light ( $= 300.000 \text{ km/sec}$ ).

On the other hand, the total work done per unit time by elastic forces on the matter inside the closed surface  $f$  is given by the following formula:

$$W = \int_f (\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{n}) \cdot \mathbf{u})df = \int_f \sigma_{ik}n_k u_i df = - \int_v \frac{\mathcal{G}(u_i \sigma_{ik})}{\mathcal{G}x_k} dV, \quad i, k = 1, 2, 3 \quad (2.7)$$

where the integration in the last integral is extended over the interior  $v$  of the surface  $f$ .

Hence, the work done on an infinitesimal piece of matter of volume  $\delta v$  is equal to:

$$\delta W = - \frac{\mathcal{G}(u_i \sigma_{ik})}{\mathcal{G}x_k} \delta v \quad (2.8)$$

Also, (2.8) must be equal to the increase per unit time of the energy inside  $\delta v$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt}(h\delta v) = \delta W \quad (2.9)$$

in which  $h$  denotes the total energy density, including the elastic energy and  $d/dt$  is the substantial time derivative.

Furthermore, eq. (2.9) can be written as:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(h\delta v) = \left( \frac{\mathcal{G}h}{\mathcal{G}t} + \frac{\mathcal{G}h}{\mathcal{G}x_k} u_k \right) \delta v + h\delta v \frac{\mathcal{G}u_k}{\mathcal{G}x_k} = \left[ \frac{\mathcal{G}h}{\mathcal{G}t} + \frac{\mathcal{G}}{\mathcal{G}x_k} (hu_k) \right] \delta v \quad (2.10)$$

which finally leads to the following relation:

$$\frac{\mathcal{G}h}{\mathcal{G}t} + \frac{\mathcal{G}}{\mathcal{G}x_k} (hu_k + u_i \sigma_{ik}) = 0 \quad (2.11)$$

So, the total energy flow is given by the formula:

$$\mathbf{s} = h\mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \quad (2.12)$$

where  $(\mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})$  denotes a space vector with components  $(\mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})_k = u_i \sigma_{ik}$ .

Thus, the total momentum density can be written as:

$$\mathbf{g} = \frac{\mathbf{s}}{c^2} = \mu\mathbf{u} + \frac{(\mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})}{c^2} \quad (2.13)$$

in which  $\mu = h/c^2$  is the total mass density, including the mass of the elastic energy.

From (2.5) and (2.13) one has:

$$\sigma_{ik} - \sigma_{ki} = -g_i u_k + g_k u_i = [-(\mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})_i u_k + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})_k u_i] / c^2 \neq 0 \quad (2.14)$$

which shows that the relative stress tensor is not symmetrical, in contrast to the absolute stress tensor (2.1) which is symmetrical.

In the stationary frame  $S^0$  the velocity  $u^0 = 0$  and so, from (2.5), (2.12) and (2.13) one obtains the following expressions:

$$\sigma_{ik}^0 = \sigma_{ik} = \sigma_{ki} = \sigma_{ki}^0 \quad (i, k = 1, 2, 3) \quad (2.15)$$

Moreover, the mechanical energy-momentum tensor satisfies the following formula:

$$T_{ik} U_k = -h^0 U_i \quad (2.16)$$

where  $U_i$  denotes the four-velocity of the matter, in the Lorentz system and  $U_i^0 = (0, 0, 0, ic)$ .

So, the following scalar can be formed:

$$U_i T_{ik} U_k / c^2 = U_i^0 T_{ik}^0 U_k^0 / c^2 = -T_{44}^0 = h^0(x_i) \quad (2.17)$$

with  $h^0(x_i)$  the invariant rest energy density considered as a scalar function of the coordinates  $(x_i)$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ) in  $S$ . (Fig. 2)

Beyond the above, by applying the tensor:

$$\Delta_{ik} = \delta_{ik} + U_i U_k / c^2 \quad (2.18)$$

which satisfies the relations:

$$U_i A_{ik} = A_{ik} U_k = 0 \quad (2.19)$$

then, the following symmetrical tensor can be formed:

$$S_{ik} = A_{i1} T_{1m} A_{mk} = S_{ki} \quad (2.20)$$

which is orthogonal to  $U_i$ :

$$U_i S_{ik} = S_{ik} U_k = 0 \quad (2.21)$$

By combining eqs. (2.16), (2.17) and (2.20) we have:

$$S_{ik} = T_{ik} - h^0 U_i U_k / c^2 \quad (2.22)$$

Also, in the stationary system  $S_0$  one obtains:

$$S_{ik}^0 = \sigma_{ik}^0 = \sigma_{ik}, S_{i4}^0 = S_{4i}^0 = 0 \quad (2.23)$$

Eq. (2.22) can be further written as:

$$T_{ik} = \xi_{ik} + S_{ik} \quad (2.24)$$

where:

$$\xi_{ik} = h^0 U_i U_k / c^2 = \mu^0 U_i U_k \quad (2.25)$$

is the kinetic energy-momentum tensor for an elastic body and:

$$\mu^0 = h^0 / c^2 \quad (2.26)$$

is the proper mass density.

Furthermore, let us introduce in every system  $S$  the quantity:

$$\sigma_{ik} = S_{ik} - S_{i4} U_k / U_4 \quad (2.27)$$

which, on account of (2.24) and (2.25) is equal to:

$$\sigma_{ik} = T_{ik} - T_{i4} U_k / U_4 \quad (2.28)$$

From (2.1) and (2.2) the three-tensor:

$$S_{ik}^0 = \sigma_{ik}^0 = \sigma_{ik}$$

in the stationary system is a real symmetrical matrix. Also, the corresponding normalized eigenvectors  $\mathbf{h}^{0(j)}$  satisfy the orthonormality relations:

$$\mathbf{h}^{(j)0} \cdot \mathbf{h}^{(\rho)0} = \delta^{j\rho} \quad (2.29a)$$

and:

$$h_i^{(j)0} h_k^{(\rho)0} = \delta_{ik} \quad (j, \rho = 1, 2, 3) \quad (2.29b)$$

The eigenvalues  $p_{(j)}^0$ , the principal stresses, are the three roots of the following algebraic equation, in which  $\lambda$  is the unknown:

$$\left| S_{ik}^0 - \lambda \delta_{ik} \right| = \left| \sigma_{ik}^0 - \lambda \delta_{ik} \right| = 0 \quad (2.30)$$

The matrix  $S_{ik}^0$  can be also written in terms of the eigenvalues and eigenvectors as:

$$S_{ik}^0 = \sigma_{ik}^0 = p_{(j)}^0 h_i^{(j)0} h_k^{(j)0} \quad (2.31)$$

From eqs. (2.23) and (2.31) we obtain the following form of the stress four-tensor in  $S^0$ :

$$S_{ik}^0 = p_{(j)}^0 h_i^{(j)0} h_k^{(j)0} \quad (2.32)$$

Hence, in any system  $S$  one has:

$$S_{ik} = p_{(j)}^0 h_i^{(j)} h_k^{(j)} \quad (2.33)$$

From (2.24), (2.25), (2.27) and (2.33) we obtain the following expressions:

$$T_{ik} = \mu^0 U_i U_k + p_{(j)}^0 h_i^{(j)} h_k^{(j)} \quad (2.34)$$

$$\sigma_{ik} = S_{ik} - S_{i4} U_k / U_4 = p_{(j)}^0 h_k^{(j)} \left( h_k^{(j)} + i h_4^{(j)} u_k / c \right) \quad (2.35)$$

By putting further:

$$h_i^{(j)} = (\mathbf{h}^{(j)}, h_4^{(j)}) \quad (2.36)$$

and introducing the notation  $\mathbf{a} \bullet \mathbf{b}$  for the direct product of the vectors  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ , then eqn (2.35) can be written for the relative stress tensor  $\sigma$  as following:

$$\sigma = p_{(j)}^0 \left[ \mathbf{h}^{(j)} \bullet \mathbf{h}^{(j)} + \frac{i}{c} h_4^{(j)} (\mathbf{h}^{(j)} \bullet \mathbf{u}) \right], j=1,2,3 \quad (2.37)$$

Also, the triad vectors  $h_i^{(j)}$  satisfy the tensor relations:

$$h_i^{(j)} h_i^{(\rho)} = \delta^{j\rho} \quad (2.38)$$

$$h_i^{(j)} h_k^{(j)} = \Delta_{ik} \quad (2.39)$$

where  $\Delta_{ik}$  is given by (2.18).

If the stationary system  $S^0$  for every event point is chosen in such a way that the spatial axes in  $S^0$  and in  $S$  have the same orientation, one obtains:

$$\mathbf{h}^{(j)} = \mathbf{h}^{(j)0} + \left\{ \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{h}^{(j)0} \right\} (\gamma - 1) / u^2 \quad (2.40)$$

$$h_4^{(j)} = i \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{h}^{(j)0} \gamma / c$$

with:

$$\gamma = 1 / (1 - u^2 / c^2)^{1/2} \quad (2.41)$$

From (2.34) and (2.40) with  $i = k = 4$  we have:

$$h = -T_{44} = -\mu^0 U_4^2 - p_{(j)}^0 (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{h}^{(j)0})^2 \cdot \gamma^2 / c^2 \quad (2.42)$$

In the stationary system, (2.37) reduces further to:

$$\sigma^0 = p_{(j)}^0 (\mathbf{h}^{(j)0} \bullet \mathbf{h}^{(j)0}) \quad (2.43)$$

Thus, from (2.42) we obtain the following transformation law for the energy density:

$$h = \frac{h^0 + \mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 \cdot \mathbf{u} / c^2}{1 - u^2 / c^2} \quad (2.44)$$

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 \cdot \mathbf{u} = u_i \sigma_{ik}^0 u_k$$

and the mass density:

$$\mu = \frac{\mu^0 + \mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 \cdot \mathbf{u} / c^4}{1 - u^2 / c^2} \quad (2.45)$$

From (2.40) and (2.34) with  $k = 4$ , one obtains the momentum density  $\mathbf{g}$  with the components  $g_i = T_{i4} / ic$ :

$$\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{u} \left[ h^0 + \mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 \cdot \mathbf{u} (1 - \gamma^{-1}) / u^2 \right] \gamma^2 / c^2 + (\boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 \cdot \mathbf{u}) \gamma / c^2 \quad (2.46)$$

$$(\boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 \cdot \mathbf{u})_i = \sigma_{ik}^0 u_k$$

Moreover, from (2.40) and (2.35) we have the relative stress tensor:

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 + \mathbf{u} \bullet (\boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 \cdot \mathbf{u}) (\gamma - 1) / u^2 - (\boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 \cdot \mathbf{u}) \bullet \mathbf{u} (\gamma - 1) / \gamma u^2 \quad (2.47)$$

$$- (\mathbf{u} \bullet \mathbf{u}) (\mathbf{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^0 \cdot \mathbf{u}) (\gamma - 1)^2 / \gamma u^4$$

In the special case  $\mathbf{u} = (u, 0, 0)$ , where the notation of the matter at the point considered is parallel to the  $x_1$ -axis (see Figs.1 and 2), the transformation equations (2.44), (2.46) and (2.47) reduce to:

$$h = \left( h^0 + \frac{u^2}{c^2} \sigma_{11}^0 \right) \gamma^2$$

$$g_{x_1} = \gamma^2 \left( \mu^0 + \frac{\sigma_{11}^0}{c^2} \right) u$$

$$g_{x_2} = \frac{\gamma \sigma_{21}^0}{c^2} u$$

$$g_{x_3} = \frac{\gamma \sigma_{31}^0}{c^2} u \quad (2.48)$$

and finally the relative stress tensor gives the *Universal Equation of Elasticity*:



$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_{22} & \sigma_{23} \\ \sigma_{31} & \sigma_{32} & \sigma_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11}^0 & \gamma\sigma_{12}^0 & \gamma\sigma_{13}^0 \\ \frac{1}{\gamma}\sigma_{21}^0 & \sigma_{22}^0 & \sigma_{23}^0 \\ \frac{1}{\gamma}\sigma_{31}^0 & \sigma_{32}^0 & \sigma_{33}^0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.49)$$

where  $\gamma$  is given by (2.41). So, as it could be easily seen the relative stress tensor is not symmetrical, in contrast to the absolute stress tensor which is symmetrical.

### 3 Elastic Stress Analysis for Next Generation Aircraft & Spacecraft

Consider the stationary frame of Fig. 1 with  $\Gamma_1$  the portion of the boundary of the body on which displacements are presented,  $\Gamma_2$  the surface of the body on which the force tractions are employed and  $\Gamma$  the total surface of the body equal to  $\Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2$ .

Furthermore, for the principal of virtual displacements, for linear elastic problems then the following formula is valid:

$$\int_{\Omega} (\sigma_{jk,j}^0 + b_k) u_k \, d\Omega = \int_{\Gamma_2} (p_k - \bar{p}_k) u_k \, d\Gamma \quad (3.1)$$

in which  $u_k$  are defined the virtual displacements, satisfying the homogeneous boundary conditions  $\bar{u}_k \equiv 0$  on  $\Gamma_1$ ,  $b_k$  the body forces (Fig. 1) and  $p_k$  the surface tractions at the point  $k$  of the body. (Fig. 3)

Beyond the above, (3.1) can be written as following if  $u_k$  do not satisfy the previous conditions on  $\Gamma_1$ :

$$\int_{\Omega} (\sigma_{jk,j}^0 + b_k) u_k \, d\Omega = \int_{\Gamma_2} (p_k - \bar{p}_k) u_k \, d\Gamma + \int_{\Gamma_1} (\bar{u}_k - u_k) p_k \, d\Gamma \quad (3.2)$$

where  $p_k = n_j \sigma_{jk}^0$  are the surface tractions corresponding to the  $u_k$  system.

By integrating (3.2) then one has:

$$\int_{\Omega} b_k u_k \, d\Omega - \int_{\Omega} \sigma_{jk}^0 \varepsilon_{jk} \, d\Omega = - \int_{\Gamma_2} \bar{p}_k u_k \, d\Gamma - \int_{\Gamma_1} p_k u_k \, d\Gamma + \int_{\Gamma_1} (\bar{u}_k - u_k) p_k \, d\Gamma \quad (3.3)$$

in which  $\varepsilon_{jk}$  denote the strains.

Furthermore, by a second integration (3.3) reduces to:

$$\int_{\Omega} b_k u_k \, d\Omega + \int_{\Omega} \sigma_{jk,j}^0 u_k \, d\Omega = - \int_{\Gamma_2} \bar{p}_k u_k \, d\Gamma - \int_{\Gamma_1} p_k u_k \, d\Gamma + \int_{\Gamma_1} \bar{u}_k p_k \, d\Gamma + \int_{\Gamma_2} u_k p_k \, d\Gamma \quad (3.4)$$

On the other hand, a fundamental solution should be found, satisfying the equilibrium equations, of the following type:

$$\sigma_{jk,j}^0 + \Delta_l^i = 0 \quad (3.5)$$

in which  $\Delta_l^i$  is the Dirac delta function which represents a unit load at  $i$  in the  $l$  direction.

The fundamental solution for a three-dimensional isotropic body can be written as: [31]

$$u_{lk}^* = \frac{1}{16\pi G(1-\nu)r} \left[ (3-4\nu)\Delta_{lk} + \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_l} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_k} \right]$$

$$p_{lk}^* = -\frac{1}{8\pi(1-\nu)r^2} \left[ \frac{\partial r}{\partial n} \left[ (1-2\nu)\Delta_{lk} + 3\frac{\partial r}{\partial x_l} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_k} \right] - (1-2\nu) \left[ \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_l} n_k - \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_k} n_l \right] \right] \quad (3.6)$$

where  $G$  denotes the shear modulus,  $\nu$  Poisson's ratio,  $n$  the normal to the surface of the body,  $\Delta_{lk}$  Kronecker's delta,  $r$  the distance from the point of application of the load to the point under consideration and  $n_j$  the direction cosines (Fig.3).

The displacements at a point are given by the formula:

$$u^i = \int_{\Gamma} u p \, d\Gamma - \int_{\Gamma} p u \, d\Gamma + \int_{\Omega} b u \, d\Omega \quad (3.7)$$

Thus, (3.7) takes the following form for the “ $l$ ” component:

$$u_l^i = \int_{\Gamma} u_{lk} p_k \, d\Gamma - \int_{\Gamma} p_{lk} u_k \, d\Gamma + \int_{\Omega} b_k u_{lk} \, d\Omega \quad (3.8)$$

By differentiating  $u$  at the internal points, one obtains the stress-tensor for an isotropic medium:

$$\sigma_{ij}^0 = \frac{2G\nu}{1-2\nu} \Delta_{ij} \frac{\partial u_l}{\partial x_l} + G \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right) \quad (3.9)$$

Also, after carrying out the differentiation we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_{ij}^0 = & \int_{\Gamma} \left[ \frac{2G\nu}{1-2\nu} \Delta_{ij} \frac{\mathcal{G}u_{lk}}{\mathcal{G}x_l} + G \left( \frac{\mathcal{G}u_{ik}}{\mathcal{G}x_j} + \frac{\mathcal{G}u_{jk}}{\mathcal{G}x_i} \right) \right] p_k \, d\Gamma + \\
& + \int_{\Omega} \left[ \frac{2G\nu}{1-2\nu} \Delta_{ij} \frac{\mathcal{G}u_{lk}}{\mathcal{G}x_l} + G \left( \frac{\mathcal{G}u_{ik}}{\mathcal{G}x_j} + \frac{\mathcal{G}u_{jk}}{\mathcal{G}x_i} \right) \right] b_k \, d\Omega - \\
& - \int_{\Gamma} \left[ \frac{2G\nu}{1-2\nu} \Delta_{ij} \frac{\mathcal{G}p_{lk}}{\mathcal{G}x_l} + G \left( \frac{\mathcal{G}p_{ik}}{\mathcal{G}x_j} + \frac{\mathcal{G}p_{jk}}{\mathcal{G}x_i} \right) \right] u_k \, d\Gamma
\end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

Eq. (3.10) can be further written as follows:

$$\sigma_{ij}^0 = \int_{\Gamma} D_{kij} p_k \, d\Gamma - \int_{\Gamma} S_{kij} u_k \, d\Gamma + \int_{\Omega} D_{kij} b_k \, d\Omega \tag{3.11}$$

where the third order tensor components  $D_{kij}$  and  $S_{kij}$  are given by the formula:

$$D_{kij} = \frac{1}{8\pi(1-\nu)r^2} \left[ (1-2\nu) [\Delta_{ki} r_{,j} + \Delta_{kj} r_{,i} - \Delta_{ij} r_{,k}] + 3r_{,i} r_{,j} r_{,k} \right] \tag{3.12}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{kij} = & \frac{G}{4\pi(1-\nu)r^3} \left[ 3 \frac{\mathcal{G}r}{\mathcal{G}n} \left[ (1-2\nu) \Delta_{ij} r_{,k} + \nu (\Delta_{ik} r_{,j} + \Delta_{jk} r_{,i}) - 5r_{,i} r_{,j} r_{,k} \right] \right. \\
& \left. + 3\nu (n_i r_{,j} r_{,k} + n_j r_{,i} r_{,k}) + (1-2\nu) (3n_k r_{,i} r_{,j} + n_j \Delta_{ik} + n_i \Delta_{jk}) - (1-4\nu) n_k \Delta_{ij} \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{3.13}$$

with:  $r_{,i} = \frac{\mathcal{G}r}{\mathcal{G}x_i}$

Finally, because of eqs (2.49) and (3.11) by considering the moving system  $S$  of Fig. 2, then the stress-tensor reduces to the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_{11} &= \sigma_{11}^0 \\
\sigma_{12} &= \gamma \sigma_{12}^0 \\
\sigma_{13} &= \gamma \sigma_{13}^0 \\
\sigma_{21} &= \frac{1}{\gamma} \sigma_{21}^0 \\
\sigma_{22} &= \sigma_{22}^0 \\
\sigma_{23} &= \sigma_{23}^0 \\
\sigma_{31} &= \frac{1}{\gamma} \sigma_{31}^0 \\
\sigma_{32} &= \sigma_{32}^0 \\
\sigma_{33} &= \sigma_{33}^0
\end{aligned} \tag{3.14}$$

where  $\sigma_{ij}^0$  are given by (3.11) to (3.13).

The following Table 1 shows the values of  $\gamma$  as given by (2.41) for some arbitrary values of the velocity  $u$  for the next generation aircraft or spacecraft:

**Table 1**

Velocity $u$	$\gamma = 1/\sqrt{1-u^2/c^2}$	Velocity $u$	$\gamma = 1/\sqrt{1-u^2/c^2}$
50,000 km/h	1.000000001	0.800c	1.666666667
100,000 km/h	1.000000004	0.900c	2.294157339
200,000 km/h	1.000000017	0.950c	3.202563076
500,000 km/h	1.000000107	0.990c	7.088812050
10E+06 km/h	1.000000429	0.999c	22.36627204
10E+07 km/h	1.000042870	0.9999c	70.71244596
10E+08 km/h	1.004314456	0.99999c	223.6073568
2x10E+8 km/h	1.017600788	0.999999c	707.1067812
c/3	1.060660172	0.9999999c	2236.067978
c/2	1.154700538	0.99999999c	7071.067812
2c/3	1.341640786	0.999999999c	22360.67978
3c/4	1.511857892	c	$\infty$

So, from the above Table follows that for small velocities 50,000 km/h to 200,000 km/h, the absolute and the relative stress tensor are nearly the same. On the contrary, for bigger velocities like  $c/3$ ,  $c/2$ ,  $3c/4$ , or  $0.80c$  ( $c =$  speed of light), the variable  $\gamma$  takes values more than the unit and thus, relative stress tensor is very different from the absolute one. Finally, for values of the velocity of the moving structure near the speed of light, the variable  $\gamma$  takes bigger values, while when the velocity is equal to the speed of light, then  $\gamma$  tends to the infinity.

Thus, the Singular Integral Operators Method (S.I.O.M.) [4], [8], [9], [11], [12], [13], [15] and [22] will be used for the numerical evaluation of the stress tensor (3.11), for every specific case.

#### 4 Next Generation Aircraft & Spacecraft Fracture Mechanics Analysis

In the stationary frame for elastic materials in an in-plane loaded plate the first and second mode stress intensity factors are given by the formulas (Fig.4): [64]

$$K_I^0 = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{22}^0 \right\} \quad (4.1)$$

$$K_{II}^0 = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{12}^0 \right\} \quad (4.2)$$

Also, the *relative first and second mode stress intensity factors* for the airframes are equal to:

$$K_I = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{22} \right\} \quad (4.3)$$

$$K_{II} = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{12} \right\} \quad (4.4)$$

Hence, because of (3.14), eqs (4.3) and (4.4) can be written as:

$$K_I = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{22}^0 \right\} \quad (4.5)$$

$$K_{II} = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \gamma \sigma_{12}^0 \right\} \quad (4.6)$$

On the contrary, the first, second and third mode stress intensity factors in the stationary frame for elastic materials in a 3-D solid are given by the relations (Fig.5): [65]

$$K_I^0 = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{22}^0 \right\} \quad (4.7)$$

$$K_{II}^0 = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{12}^0 \right\} \quad (4.8)$$

$$K_{III}^0 = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{23}^0 \right\} \quad (4.9)$$

Furthermore, the *relative first, second and third mode stress intensity factors* for the airframes are equal to:

$$K_I = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{22} \right\} \quad (4.10)$$

$$K_{II} = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{12} \right\} \quad (4.11)$$

$$K_{III} = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{23} \right\} \quad (4.12)$$

So, because of (3.14), eqs (4.10), (4.11) and (4.12) can be written as:

$$K_I = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{22}^0 \right\} \quad (4.13)$$

$$K_{II} = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \gamma \sigma_{12}^0 \right\} \quad (4.14)$$

$$K_{III} = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \sqrt{2\pi x_1} \sigma_{23}^0 \right\} \quad (4.15)$$

Finally, from eqs (4.13) to (4.15) follows that the relative first and third mode stress intensity factors are the same for both stationary and moving frames, while the relative second mode stress intensity factor is much different in the above frames. On the other hand, all the

relative stress intensity factors (first, second and third) are important for the fracture mechanics analysis of the next generation aircraft and spacecraft, as for their fracture mechanics analysis a combination of all the three intensity factors should be used [66]. These stress intensity factors are referred as the "*Universal stress intensity factors*". Hence, because of the above difference of the stress intensity factors, follows that the fracture behavior of the next generation aircraft and spacecraft would be much different and thus special materials should be used for their construction.

## 5 Conclusions

In the present investigation in the area of aeronautics technologies the theory of "*Relativistic Elasticity*" was proposed and applied for the design of a new generation large aircraft with speeds in the range of 50,000 km/h. Such a design and construction of a new generation aircraft will be applied to an increased market share of International Aeronautical Industries all over the world. Beyond the above, the theory of "*Relativistic Elasticity*" was applied for the design of the next generation spacecraft moving with very high speeds, even approaching the speed of light, as the target of the International Space Agencies (ESA, NASA, etc.) is to achieve such spacecraft in the future, which should be as closer as possible. How far is this future ? We think it is closer than everybody would believe.

Also, the future investigation concerns to the determination of the proper composite materials or any other kind of materials for the construction of the next generation spacecrafts, as usual composite solids are not proper for such a construction. Furthermore, the need for lighter, more affordable high performance aircraft and spacecraft has accelerated demand for new advanced concepts. For example composite solids like Fibre Metal Laminates (F.M.L.) would be ideal to increase the fatigue characteristics of the laminated metal structures by adding fibres in the bond line. Some of the advanced can be found in [67] and [68]. Change in material properties non-homogeneously are of utmost importance

The theory of "*Relativistic Elasticity*" and correspondingly the "*Universal Equation of Elasticity*" show that there is a considerable difference between the absolute stress tensor and the relative stress tensor of the airframe even in the range of speeds of 50,000 km/h. For bigger speeds the difference between the two stress tensors is very much increased. "*Relativistic Mechanics*" results as a combination of the theories of "Classical

Elasticity" and "Special Relativity".

Finally, for the structural design of the next generation aircraft and spacecraft a very important factor which will be used, is the relative stress tensor which is not symmetrical and is much different than the absolute stress tensor. Another very important factor is the fracture mechanics analysis and the fatigue characteristics of the new materials which are suitable for the structural design of such new generation aircraft and spacecraft. So, the fracture mechanics analysis of the above super speed vehicles has shown that the relative stress intensity factors referred as "*Universal stress intensity factors*", are different than the absolute stress intensity factors and thus very special materials should be used for their construction.

## References

- [1] LADOPOULOS, E.G., On the numerical solution of the finite – part singular integral equations of the first and the second kind used in fracture mechanics, *Comp. Meth. Appl. Mech. Engng* 65 (1987) 253 – 266.
- [2] LADOPOULOS, E.G., On the solution of the two – dimensional problem of a plane crack of arbitrary shape in an anisotropic material, *J. Engng Fract. Mech.* 28 (1987) 187 – 195.
- [3] LADOPOULOS, E.G., On the numerical evaluation of the singular integral equations used in two and three-dimensional plasticity problems, *Mech. Res. Commun.* 14 (1987) 263 – 274.
- [4] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Singular integral representation of three – dimensional plasticity fracture problem, *Theor. Appl. Fract. Mech.* 8 (1987) 205 – 211.
- [5] LADOPOULOS, E.G., On a new integration rule with the Gegenbauer polynomials for singular integral equations, used in the theory of elasticity, *Ing. Arch.* 58 (1988) 35 – 46.
- [6] LADOPOULOS, E.G., On the numerical evaluation of the general type of finite-part singular integrals and integral equations used in fracture mechanics, *J. Engng Fract. Mech.* 31 (1988) 315 – 337.
- [7] LADOPOULOS, E.G., The general type of finite-part singular integrals and integral equations with logarithmic singularities used in fracture mechanics, *Acta Mech.* 75 (1988) 275 – 285.
- [8] LADOPOULOS, E.G., On the numerical solution of the multidimensional singular integrals and integral equations used in the theory of linear viscoelasticity, *Int J.Math. Math. Scien.* 11 (1988) 561 – 574.
- [9] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Singular integral operators method for two – dimensional plasticity problems, *Comp. Struct.* 33 (1989) 859 – 865.
- [10] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Finite–part singular integro-differential equations arising in two-

- dimensional aerodynamics, Arch.. Mech. 41 (1989) 925 – 936.
- [11] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Cubature formulas for singular integral approximations used in three-dimensional elasticity, Rev. Roum. Sci. Tech., Mec. Appl. 34 (1989) 377 – 389.
- [12] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Singular integral operators method for three – dimensional elasto – plastic stress analysis, Comp. Struct. 38 (1991) 1 – 8.
- [13] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Singular integral operators method for two – dimensional elasto – plastic stress analysis, Forsch.. Ingen. 57 (1991) 152 – 158.
- [14] LADOPOULOS, E.G., New aspects for the generalization of the Sokhotski – Plemelj formulae for the solution of finite – part singular integrals used in fracture mechanics, Int. J. Fract. 54 (1992) 317 – 328.
- [15] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Singular integral operators method for anisotropic elastic stress analysis, Comp. Struct. 48 (1993) 965 – 973.
- [16] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Systems of finite-part singular integral equations in  $L_p$  applied to crack problems, J. Engng Fract. Mech., 48 (1994), 257 – 266.
- [17] LADOPOULOS, E.G., ZISIS, V.A. and KRAVVARITIS, D., Singular integral equations in Hilbert space applied to crack problems, Theor. Appl. Fract. Mech. 9 (1988) 271 – 281.
- [18] ZISIS, V.A. and LADOPOULOS, E.G., Singular integral approximations in Hilbert spaces for elastic stress analysis in a circular ring with curvilinear cracks, Indus. Math. 39 (1989) 113 – 134.
- [19] ZISIS, V.A. and LADOPOULOS, E.G., Two-dimensional singular integral equations exact solutions, J. Comp. Appl. Math. 31 (1990) 227 – 232.
- [20] LADOPOULOS, E.G., KRAVVARITIS, D., and ZISIS, V.A. Finite-part singular integral representation analysis in  $L_p$  of two-dimensional elasticity problems, J. Engng Fract. Mech. 43 (1992) 445 – 454.
- [21] LADOPOULOS, E.G., and ZISIS, V.A., Singular integral representation of two-dimensional shear fracture mechanics problem, Rev. Roum. Sci. Tech., Mec. Appl. 38 (1993) 617 – 628.
- [22] LADOPOULOS, E.G., ZISIS, V.A. and KRAVVARITIS, D., Multidimensional singular integral equations in  $L_p$  applied to three-dimensional thermoelastoplastic stress analysis, Comp. Struct. 52 (1994) 781 – 788.
- [23] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Non-linear integro-differential equations used in orthotropic shallow spherical shell analysis, Mech. Res. Commun. 18 (1991) 111 – 119.
- [24] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Non-linear integro-differential equations in sandwich plates stress analysis, Mech. Res. Commun. 21 (1994) 95 – 102.
- [25] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Non-linear singular integral representation for unsteady inviscid flowfields of 2-D airfoils, Mech. Res. Commun. 22 (1995) 25 – 34.



- [26] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Non-linear multidimensional singular integral equations in 2-dimensional fluid mechanics analysis, *Int. J. Non-Lin. Mech.* 35 (2000) 701 – 708.
- [27] LADOPOULOS, E.G. and ZISIS, V.A., Existence and uniqueness for non-linear singular integral equations used in fluid mechanics, *Appl. Math.* 42 (1997) 345 – 367.
- [28] LADOPOULOS, E.G. and ZISIS, V.A., Non-linear finite-part singular integral equations arising in two-dimensional fluid mechanics, *Nonlin. Anal., Th. Meth. Appl.* 42 (2000) 277 – 290.
- [29] LADOPOULOS, E.G. and ZISIS, V.A., Non-linear singular integral approximations in Banach spaces, *Nonlin. Anal., Th. Meth. Appl.* 26 (1996) 1293 – 1299.
- [30] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Relativistic elastic stress analysis for moving frames, *Rev. Roum. Sci. Tech., Mec. Appl.* 36 (1991) 195 – 209.
- [31] LADOPOULOS, E.G., *Singular Integral Equations, Linear and Non-Linear Theory and its Applications in Science and Engineering*, Springer, New York, Berlin, 2000.
- [32] LADOPOULOS, E.G., Relativistic mechanics for airframes applied in aeronautical technologies, *Adv. Bound. Elem. Tech.* 10 (2009) 395 – 405.
- [33] MUSKHELISHVILI, N.I., *Some Basic Problems of the Mathematical Theory of Elasticity*, Noordhoff, Groningen, Netherlands, 1953.
- [34] GREEN, A.E. and ZERNA, W., *Theoretical Elasticity*, Oxford Univ. Press, Oxford, 1954.
- [35] BOLEY, B.A. and WEINER, J.H., *Theory of Thermal Stresses*, J. Wiley, New York, 1960.
- [36] NOWACKI, W., *Thermoelasticity*, Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1962.
- [37] DRUCKER, D.C. and GILMAN, J.J., *Fracture of Solids*, J. Wiley, New York, 1963.
- [38] LEKHNITSKII, S.G., *Theory of Elasticity of an Anisotropic Elastic Body*, Holden-Day, San Francisco, 1963.
- [39] TRUESDELL, C. and NOLL, W., *The Non-linear Field Theories of Mechanics*, *Handbuch der Physik*, Vol. III/3, Springer, Berlin, 1965.
- [40] LIEBOWITZ, H., *Fracture*, Academic Press, New York, 1968.
- [41] SNEDDON, I.N. and LOWENGRUP, M., *Crack Problems in the Classical Theory of Elasticity*, J. Wiley, New York, 1969.
- [42] LIONS, J.L., *Quelques Methodes de Resolution des Problemes aux Limites Non Lineaires*, Dunod, Paris, 1969.
- [43] ODEN, J.T., *Finite Elements in Nonlinear Continua*, McGraw Hill, New York, 1972.
- [44] ERINGEN, A.C., *Continuum Physics*, Academic Press, New York, 1972.
- [45] DUVANT, G. and LIONS, J.L., *Les Inequations en Mecanique et en Physique*, Dunod, Paris, 1972.
- [46] FICHERA G., *Boundary Value Problems of Elasticity with Unilateral Constraints*, *Handbuch der Physik*, Vol. VIa/2, Springer, Berlin, 1972.

- [47] GERMAIN, P., *Mecanique des Milieux Continus*, Masson, Paris, 1972.
- [48] WANG, C.C. and TRUESDELL, C., *Introduction to Rational Elasticity*, Noordhoff, Groningen, Netherlands, 1973.
- [49] WASHIZU, K., *Variational Methods in Elasticity and Plasticity*, Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1975.
- [50] KUPRADZE, V.D., *Three-dimensional Problems in the Mathematical Theory of Elasticity and Thermoelasticity*, Nauka, Moscow, 1976.
- [51] GURTIN, M.E., *Introduction to Continuum Mechanics*, Academic Press, New York, 1981.
- [52] CIARLET, P.G., *Topics in Mathematical Elasticity*, North Holland, Amsterdam, 1985.
- [53] LAUE, M.von, *Die Relativitätstheorie*, Vol. 1, Vieweg und Sohn, Braunschweig, 1919.
- [54] GOLD, T., *Recent Developments in General Relativity*, Pergamon Press, New York, 1962.
- [55] PIRANI, F.A.E, *Lectures on General Relativity*, Vol.1, Prentice-Hall, New Jersey, 1964.
- [56] GURSEY, F., *Relativity, Groups and Topology*, Gordon and Breach, New York, 1964.
- [57] ADLER, R., *Introduction to General Relativity*, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1965.
- [58] RINDLER, W., *Special Relativity*, Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh, 1966.
- [59] MOLLER, C., *The Theory of Relativity*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1972.
- [60] SYNGE, J.L., *General Relativity*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1972.
- [61] SIH, G. C., Use specification of multiscale materials for life spanned over macro-, micro-, nano-, and pico-scale, *Theor. Appl. Fract. Mech.* 53(2) (2010) 94-112.
- [62] SIH, G. C., Scale shifting laws from pico to macro in consecutive segments by use of transitional functions, *Theor. Appl. Fract. Mech.* 53(3) (2010) 165-179.
- [63] SIH, G. C., Mesomechanics of energy and mass interaction for dissipative systems, *J. Phys. Mesomech.* 13 (5-6)(2010) 233-244.
- [64] IRWIN, G.R., *Fracture in Encyclopaedia of Physics*, (Ed. S.Flugge), Vol. VI, Springer, Heidelberg, 1958.
- [65] KASSIR, M.K. and SIH, G.C., *Three-dimensional Crack Problems in Mechanics of Fracture*, (Ed. G.C.SIH), Vol. II, Noordhoff, Netherlands, 1975.
- [66] SIH, G.C., *Mechanics of Fracture Initiation and Propagation*, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Boston, 1991.
- [67] SIH, G. C. and TANG, K. K., Assurance of reliable time limits in fatigue depending on choice of failure simulation: energy density versus stress intensity, *Theor. Appl. Fract. Mech.* 55(1) (2011) 39-51.

[68]SIH, G. C., Multiscale reliability of physical systems based on the principle of least variance, Theor.Appl. Fract. Mech. 55(1) (2011)1-19.

### Figure Captions

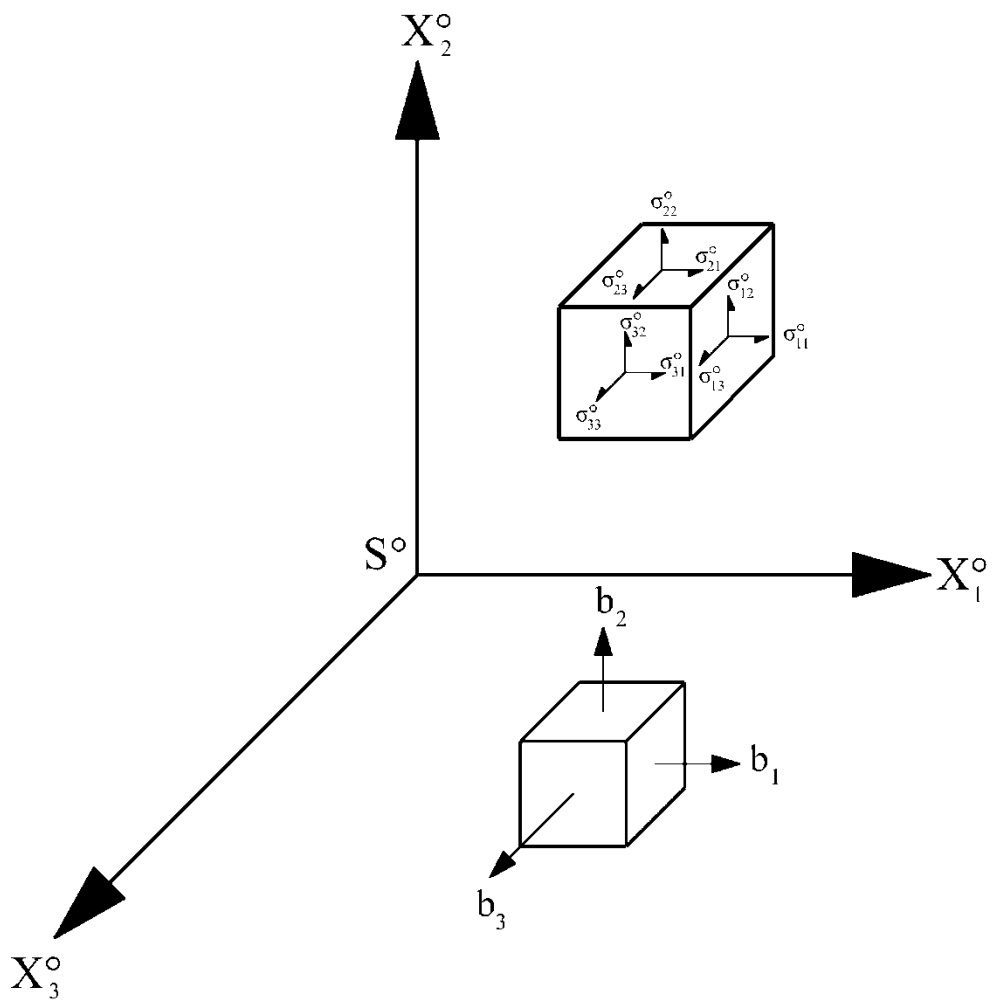
**Figure 1:** The state of stress  $\sigma_{ik}^0$  in the stationary system  $S^O$ .

**Figure 2:** The state of stress  $\sigma_{ik}^0$  in the stationary system  $S^O$  and  $\sigma_{ik}$  in the airframe system  $S$ , with velocity  $u$  parallel to the  $x_1$  - axis.

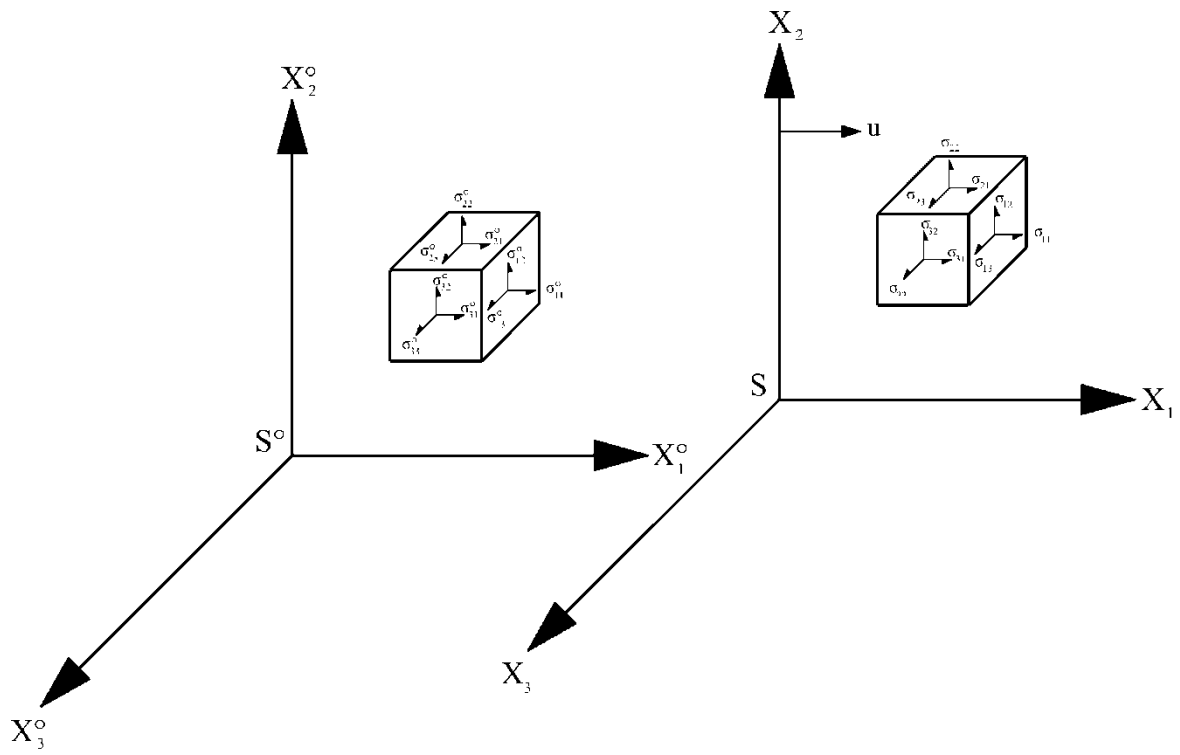
**Figure 3:** The stationary system  $S^O$ .

**Figure 4:** 2-D Coordinates near the crack tip.

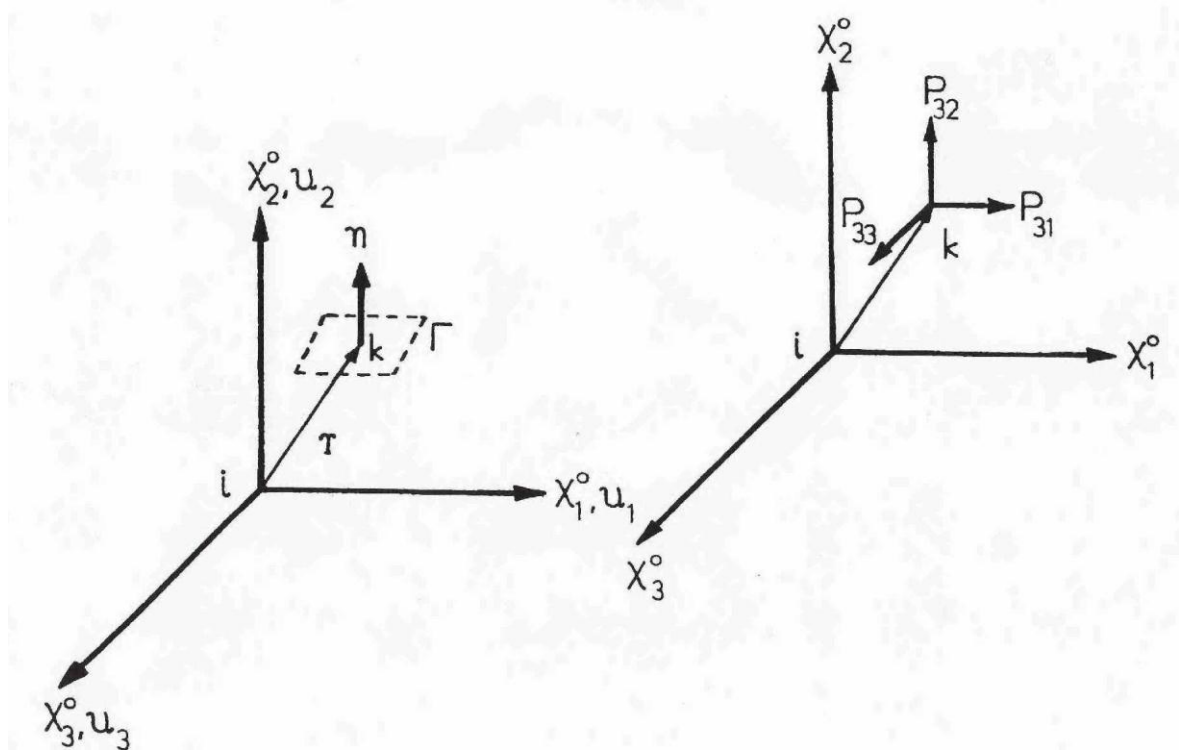
**Figure5:** 3-D Coordinates near the crack tip.



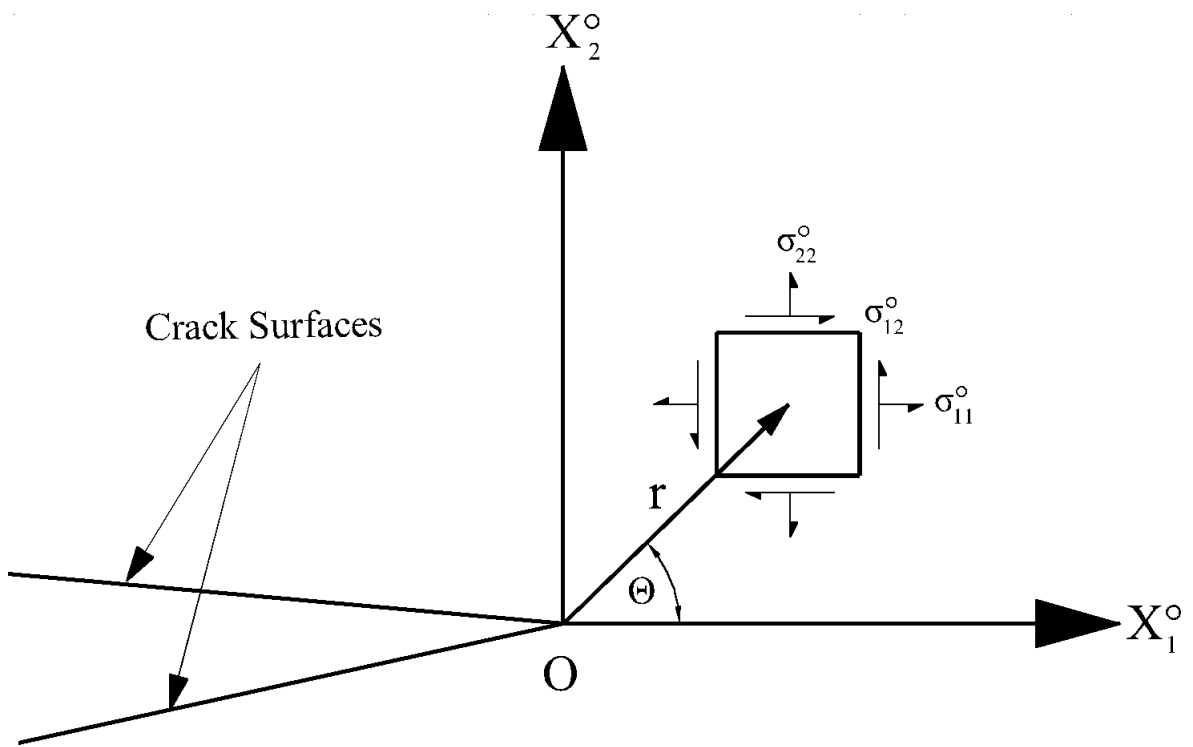
**Figure 1**



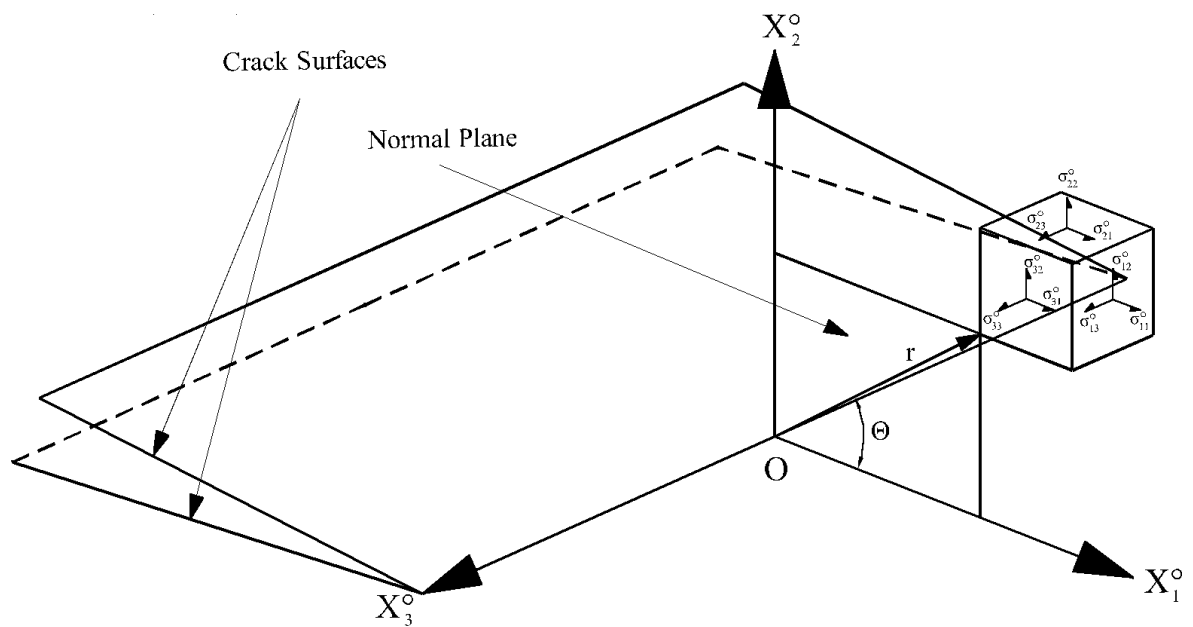
**Figure 2**



**Figure 3**



***Figure 4***



***Figure 5***