



LIFE EXTENSION – FRACTURE MECHANICS

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DESIGN METHODS

☐ Safe-Life Design

- Safety factors are applied
- The component is design to survive within a certain defined period
- Reduce the likelihood of unplanned maintenance/inspections
- Reduce the likelihood of any failure



Calculation Methods

- ☐ Fatigue analysis using SN curves

☐ Damage Tolerance Design

- Assuming the structure contains initial flaws, and this flaws:
 - will grow at a controlled rate under service loads or
 - the size of the initial flaw will not suppose a propagation
- Maintenance required / Periodic inspections

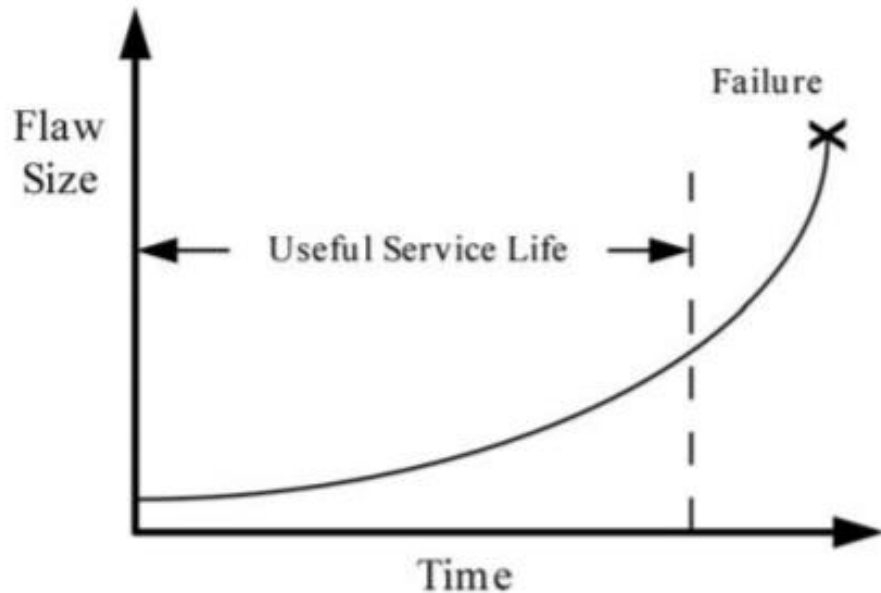


- ☐ Fracture Mechanics analysis

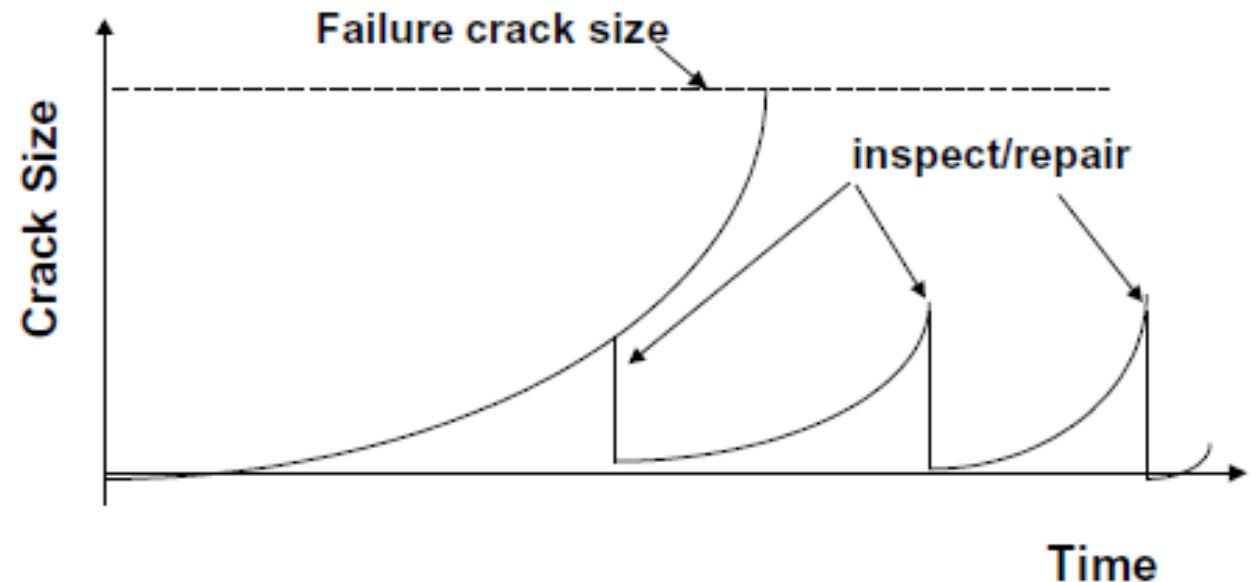
FRACTURE MECHANICS - CRACK GROWTH

- ❑ The basis for this procedure is to reliably determine the propagation of a component defect and define the maximum crack size that could exist following an inspection and repair cycle, and then determine the remaining operational life of a component with this potential crack.

Crack growth approach



Periodic inspections or repairs to extend component life



FRACTURE MECHANICS - INPUTS

❑ Material State

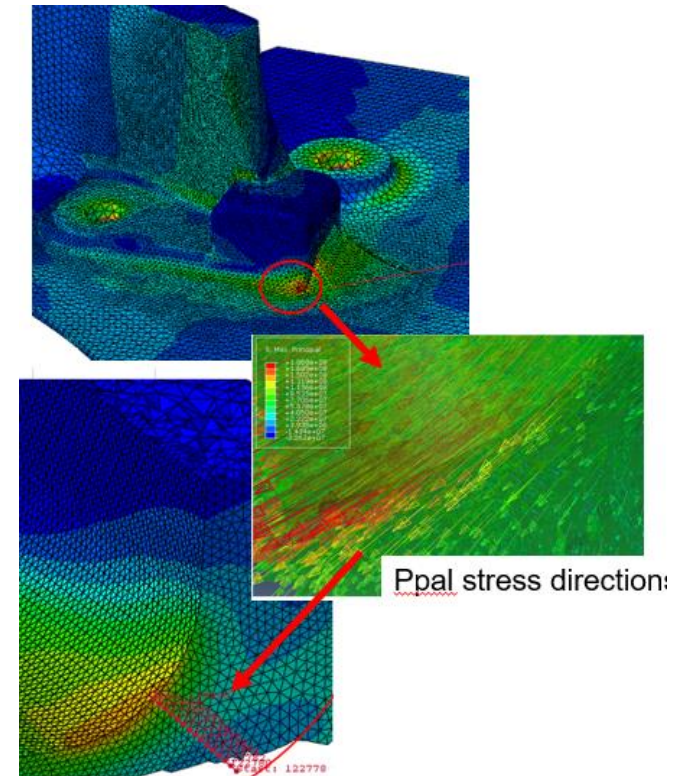
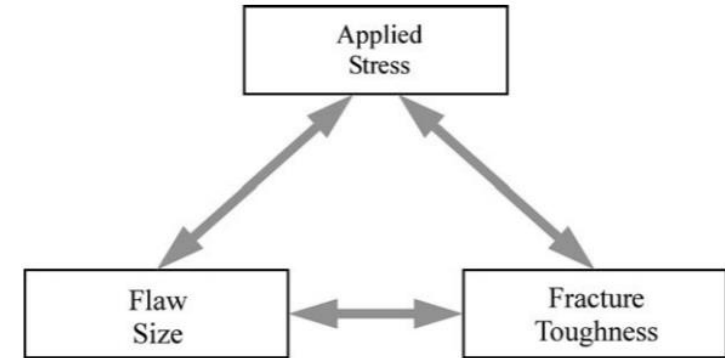
- Material properties
 - Tensile properties: R_e , R_m , E ,
 - Fracture mechanics properties: K_{Ic} , ΔK_{th} , da/dn

❑ Defect State

- Crack type: Surface crack, through thickness, embedded crack,...
- Crack size
 - Surface defects: Visual, Dye penetrant, magnetic particles, UT,...
 - Embedded cracks: UT

❑ Loading State

- Dimensions of the component cross-section in which the defect is located
- Stress distribution in the cross-section for the defect-free component





Thank you!