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THE INFLUENCE OF CYCLIC TANGENTIAL LOADING  
ON INDENTATION FRACTURE

M.-C. Lu  
(M.S. Thesis)

May 1984

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**The Influence of Cyclic Tangential Loading  
on Indentation Fracture**

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Master's of Science Thesis

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## **ABSTRACT**

An indentation method is used to analyze the contact damage induced by cyclic tangential loading in the partial slip condition. Failure strengths are measured thereafter to indicate the degree of damage. The phenomenon of crack propagation during cyclic loading is demonstrated to occur and has been attributed to the development of residual stress fields, induced by cyclic plasticity. The principal stresses and effective shear stresses are also calculated to predict the crack geometry and the nucleation of plastic deformation. These analyses conclude that the contact damage increases as the loading ratio and the number of cycles increase.

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. General

The response of solids to indentation provides information of central interest to strength degradation by surface damage induced during contact events: particle impact, machining and subsequent erosion and wear etc.. This association is particular strong in brittle material for which indentation fracture dictates the material degradation process. The deleterious surface damage consists primarily of cracks initiated and propagated within highly localized stress fields. Classifying and analyzing the fracture patterns have been predicated on whether the contact is elastic or plastic. Elastic contact is usually analyzed by using a blunt indenter and plastic contact by a sharp indenter. The different shapes of indenters relate to the different sources of surface damage, i.e. sharp indenters to small, hard particles, and blunt indenters to contacting components. Sharp contact damage is relatively well understood. However the damage created by the contact of ceramic/ceramic components requires further attention.

The factors which determine the endurance of structural components include the geometry of the parts in contact and the condition of contact, i.e. the magnitude and direction of the contact load, the frequency of contact etc.. Furthermore, cyclic tangential loads must be involved in rotational situations, because of friction at the contact surface.

In general, failure includes both crack initiation and propagation. The dominant stage depends on the material and the loading condition. Thus, a complete analysis and understanding of both crack initiation and propagation is important and necessary.

## 1.2. Literature Survey

The loading of a sphere on a flat surface is just one example of a general class of contact loading systems which result in localized stress fields, otherwise known as Hertzian contact stress fields. The formation of ring cracks due to such contacts has been studied on many occasions in the presence of normal loads, and the results used in several cases to measure or define the strength and toughness. Auerbach [1] studied the critical load for production of a cone crack and Griffith [2] first put forward the idea of the existence of submicroscopic flaws. Fisher and Holloman [3] as well as Gibbs and Culter [4] have considered the strength of glass on the basis of flaw statistics. The growth of cracks was considered by Griffith to depend on the relative value of the strain energy density and the energy required to form new surfaces. Roesler [5] has shown that empirical laws seem to agree with Griffith's concepts. Furthermore, Frank and Lawn [6] investigated theoretically the development of a cone crack in the strongly inhomogeneous Hertzian stress field and discussed the path and stability of the crack. These studies constitute a second basis for understanding indentation fracture subject to normal loads.

The influence of a tangential load on indentation fracture is less well understood. The effect of sliding tractions on the stress field has been treated by Hamilton and Goodman [7], for the case of complete slip. For the same case, Lawn studied the influence of the stress field on the crack geometry as well as the effect of the friction coefficient on the critical crack formation load [8]. Later Gilroy and Hirst [9] demonstrated that the theoretical prediction of Lawn was qualitatively consistent with fracture measurements and that Auerbach's law ceases to hold when the coefficient of friction becomes relatively large.

In many practical elastic contact situations, complete slip over the contact area is prohibited by constraints on the system. Partial slip conditions then prevail. Chiang and Evans analyzed the problem of fracture initiation by coupled normal and tangential loading in the partial slip condition and found that the crack initiation load depends importantly on the magnitude of tangential force and the interfacial friction coefficient [10]. However, it remains to investigate crack propagation subject to monotonic and cyclic tangential loading in the partial slip region. The present study is concerned with an investigation of these phenomena.

### **1.3. Objective and Method of Approach**

The present work emphasizes the effect of cyclic tangential loading on indentation fracture. For this purpose, the stress fields (both the maximum principal stress and the effective stress) due to coupled normal and tangential loading of a spherical ball on an elastic half-space are described for partial slip conditions. This analysis provides a basis for predicting the change in crack angle and in the extent of plasticity from the trends in the maximum tensile stress and shear stress with the tangential to normal load ratio. These stress fields are described in section 2.

A new experimental arrangement is designed for the study of the influence of coupled normal and tangential loads, on indentation fracture, as described in section 3. This system is utilized to examine effects of the tangential to normal load ratio, subject to cyclic tangential loading, on the critical crack formation load and the extent of crack propagation. The failure strength after indentation is also measured and the fracture surface examined by both optical and scanning electron microscopy.

All tests are conducted on glass, but the application to a wider variety of strong materials is implied. The results are described in section 4 in conjunction with a detailed discussion concerning the major and minor sources of cyclic crack growth, while the implications of the cyclic loading effect are discussed in section 5.

## **2. STRESS ANALYSIS**

### **2.1. The System**

A spherical indenter loaded onto a flat specimen is by far the most extensively studied elastic contact configuration by virtue of its geometric simplicity and its absence of complicating singularities. Hence, for two elastically contacting isotropic materials, subject to coupled normal and tangential loading, with superposed load cycling, the spherical indenter and semi-infinite plate are chosen as the model system.

For purposes of analysis, the two bodies are regarded as being in contact at a point, O, in the unstressed state, as shown in Fig. 1. The tangent plane of the sphere at point O then coincides with the surface plane of the semi-infinite body. Thus the tangent plane is taken as the x-y plane, and the normal to the tangent plane as the z-axis.

### **2.2. Stress Analysis**

The foremost aim of the stress analysis is to investigate the distribution of tensile stresses, which determine the path of crack propagation [6.8]. At the same time, it is important to obtain information regarding the distribution of shear and hydrostatic stresses, which determine the extent of irreversible deformation. The formal determination of the stress field entails application of

point forces [11,12] and integration over the contact area, with the appropriate weighting functions [10]. One disadvantage of this method is that the stresses of the contact region can not be determined directly because of a singularity problem.

As background for the analysis, it is noted that the radius of the contact circle,  $a$ , under a spherical indenter, with radius  $R$ , on an elastic half-space can be expressed as [13]

$$a = \left( \frac{4}{3} k P^N R / E_1 \right)^{1/3} \quad (1)$$

where  $k = \frac{9}{16} [(1 - \nu_1^2) + (1 - \nu_2^2) E_1 / E_2]$ . The coefficients  $\nu_1, \nu_2, E_1, E_2$  are the Poisson's ratio and Young's moduli of the indenter and the indented materials.  $P^N$  is the magnitude of normal load, and  $R$  is the radius of the indenter. The factor  $k$  becomes unity if the indenter and indented material are of the same substance, and reduces to about 0.5 for an ideally rigid indenter. The distribution of the normal tractions across the contact surface,  $\sigma^N$ , is given by

$$\sigma^N = \sigma_o \left( 1 - \left( \frac{r}{a} \right)^2 \right)^{1/2} \quad (2)$$

where  $r$  is the distance of any point on the surface to the center of contact, in cylindrical coordinates. The magnitude of the maximum normal pressure,  $\sigma_o$ , is determined by the normal load and the contact area and is given by

$$\sigma_o = \frac{3}{2} \frac{P^N}{\pi a^2} \quad (3)$$

The distribution of shear tractions induced by the tangential force, without slip, has been calculated by Mindlin [14]. This shear traction distribution for the partial slip condition is plotted in Fig. 2. The outer annular region, in which the ratio of the shear tractions to the normal tractions,  $\tau_{zx} / \sigma_{zz} = f$ , the friction coefficient, is the slip region and the inner circular region, with

$\tau_{zx}/\sigma_{zz} < f$ , is the no-slip region[10]. These shear traction distributions are expressed in the following equations:

$$\tau_{zx} = f\sigma_o \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{r}{a} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \quad a^* \leq r \leq a \quad (4a)$$

$$\tau_{zx} = f\sigma_o \left\{ \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{r}{a} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} - \left( \frac{a^*}{a} \right) \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{r}{a^*} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \right\} \quad 0 \leq r \leq a^* \quad (4b)$$

and

$$a^* = a \left[ 1 - \frac{p^S}{fP^N} \right]^{1/3} \quad (4c)$$

where  $a^*$  is the radius of the no-slip region.

By assuming that the effect of elastic mismatch and the influence of tangential force to the contact area are both negligible, the surface tractions shown above are appropriate for the present system. With the known surface traction distributions, the stress field can be calculated by integration over the contact area,  $A_c$ , using the point force functions. Specifically, any component of the stress tensor beneath the surface is obtained as

$$\tau_{ij} = \int_{A_c} \tau_\alpha^S F_{ij\alpha} dA \quad (5)$$

where  $\tau^S$  is the surface traction, and F is the point force function. The subscript  $\alpha$  represents the different directions of force, N for normal and S for tangential. Hence, the stress tensor in the case of normal loading is

$$\tau_{ij} = \int_{A_c} \tau_N^S F_{ijN} dA \quad (6)$$

and the stress tensor in the case of a normal force and one tangential force is expressed by

$$\tau_{ij} = \int_{A_c} (\tau_N^S F_{ijN} + \tau_S^S F_{ijS}) dA \quad (7)$$

The point force functions are complicated (Appendix A) and difficult to integrate analytically. A computer program is thus written (Appendix B) to obtain the stress fields, both for normal loading and coupled loading conditions. All length units used in this calculation are normalized by the radius of the contact area,  $a$ , and the stresses are normalized by the maximum normal pressure  $\sigma_0$ .

The tangential load is always in the positive direction and the stress distributions must be symmetric about the x-z plane. Thus, two principal stresses must lie on the x-z plane and the other is normal to it. According to Frank and Lawn [6], the normal stress is the intermediate principal stress. Hence, the maximum principal stress can be calculated by obtaining stresses in the x-z plane, as expressed by

$$\sigma_1 = \frac{(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{zz})}{2} + \left\{ \left[ \frac{(\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{zz})}{2} \right]^2 + \sigma_{xz}^2 \right\}^{1/2} \quad (8)$$

while the maximum principal stress, on the x-z plane, is

$$\sigma_3 = \frac{(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{zz})}{2} - \left\{ \left[ \frac{(\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{zz})}{2} \right]^2 + \sigma_{xz}^2 \right\}^{1/2} \quad (9)$$

The intermediate principal stress can be calculated from the hydrostatic stress  $p$ , using

$$\sigma_2 = 3p - (\sigma_1 + \sigma_3) \quad (10)$$

where  $3p = (\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy} + \sigma_{zz})$ .

The maximum shear stress is calculated using Mises' definition of the effective stress,

$$\bar{\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2)^2 + (\sigma_2 - \sigma_3)^2 + (\sigma_3 - \sigma_1)^2]^{1/2} \quad (11)$$

or

$$\bar{\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [(\sigma_{xx} - \sigma_{yy})^2 + (\sigma_{yy} - \sigma_{zz})^2 + (\sigma_{zz} - \sigma_{xx})^2 + 6(\sigma_{xy}^2 + \sigma_{yz}^2 + \sigma_{zx}^2)]^{1/2} \quad (12)$$

For present purposes, the friction coefficient is taken to be 0.3 and load ratios of 0, 0.22, 0.26 and 0.295 are used. The principal stress distributions are plotted in Figs. 3 to 6, and the maximum shear stress distributions in Figs. 7 to 10 respectively.

### 2.3. Maximum Tensile Stress

Comparing Figs. 3 to 6, the maximum principal stresses change substantially as the tangential force is applied. Specifically, the maximum normalized tensile stresses at the trailing edge increase as the load ratio increases and are respectively 0.163, 0.504, 0.542, and 0.573 for the above load ratios. Additionally, the area of compression beneath the contact and the tensile stresses on the surface at the leading edge diminish with increase in load ratio.

### 2.4. Crack Geometry

The location and orientation of crack growth generally follow the path which maximizes the energy release rate. The energy decrease caused by crack growth is expressible in terms of the integral of prior stress, multiplied by the subsequent relative displacements of corresponding points, over the crack surface. Thus, for a given system, the energy decrease at any stage of crack growth depends on the prior crack path and the prior stresses on that path. However, in the first transient of crack formation, the crack path can be predicted by the stress distribution calculated in the previous section. For isotropic materials Frank and Lawn suggested that a crack in a strongly inhomogeneous stress field would tend to follow the surface defined by the smaller principal stresses and be orthogonal to the maximum principal stress [6, 8, 15]. By examining the stress

distribution at the symmetry plane, the principal stresses  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_3$  are in the x-z plane and  $\sigma_2$  is perpendicular to the x-z plane. Thus, in accord with Frank and Lawn, the crack path can be predicted by the trajectory of  $\sigma_3$  in the x-z plane. In the absence of a tangential force, the  $\sigma_3$  stress trajectory (Fig. 3), from the point of maximum tensile stress, resembles a section of a fully developed cone crack, and the asymptotic angle between the  $\sigma_3$  trajectory and the z-axis ( $68^\circ$ ) is in excellent agreement with the observed cone crack angle.

In the presence of a tangential force, (Figs. 4-6) the asymptotic angle of the  $\sigma_3$  trajectory at the leading edge tends to increase with increasing load ratio, while that at the trailing edge decreases. Hence, an asymmetric cone develops.

## 2.5. Shear Stresses

The effective shear stress distribution for a normal load condition is plotted in Fig. 7. The maximum effective shear stress occurs beneath the center of the circle of contact. Figs 8, 9 and 10 show the effect of increasing the loading ratio. The maximum effective shear stress displaces both toward the surface and the leading edge, as well as increasing in magnitude. Plastic deformation is expected to initiate from points of maximum effective shear stress, suggesting that plasticity should become more likely as the load ratio increases. Furthermore, the area inside the maximum effective shear stress contour becomes larger with increasing loading ratio. The area subject to permanent deformation should thus increase accordingly. Another interesting feature of the shear stress distribution is the small region of submaximum shear stress at the periphery of the contact area at the trailing edge. This region is susceptible to secondary plastic deformation, as discussed later.

### **3. EXPERIMENTAL MEASUREMENT**

#### **3.1. Specimen Preparation**

Large glass plates (soda-lime glass) with pristine surfaces and 3mm in thickness were obtained and ground on one side using SiC powder (1000 grit) at the same load and period, in order to generate fine pre-existing flaws uniformly distributed on the surface. The abraded glass plates were cut into beams to obtain nominal dimensions of  $0.055\text{m} \times 0.015\text{m} \times 0.003\text{m}$ . The cutting was effected by using a precision diamond saw in order to produce surfaces with close parallelism. Each specimen was then rounded along the edges by using 240, 400, and finally 600 grit paper to reduce the influence of edge flaws on the failure strength during subsequent bending tests.

The indenter consists of a sphere of hot pressed silicon nitride, 5mm in diameter. This selection renders the elastic constant of the indenter ( $E=320$  GPa) to be appreciably higher than that of the indented material ( $E=70$  GPa).

#### **3.2. Experimental Arrangement**

The indentation apparatus was designed to conduct tests at controlled levels of normal and tangential loading. As schematically shown in Fig. 11, the specimen and indenter can be placed symmetrically relative to the x-y plane, with one side in contact with a small load cell and the other in contact with a small movable steel plate, connected in series with a large screw. By rotating the screw, the steel plate can be translated and thus different loads set as needed. Both the load cell and the screw are located in a holder, mounted on a compression load cell, connected with the testing machine (MTS). A small 3mm diameter pushrod is attached to the center of the cross-head. The holder

is adjustable, therefore allowing the ball indenter to be aligned with the push-rod.

### **3.3. Measurement of the Coefficient of Friction**

The tangential loads applied in these experiments were required to be in the partial slip region. Therefore, the coefficient of friction was measured prior to indentation testing, under conditions similar to the indentation tests.

In each test, using a fixed normal load, the specimen was arranged as shown in Fig. 11. The pushrod was translated at a constant displacement rate, causing the tangential load to increase linearly. Then, a load drop occurred immediately after the appearance of a load maximum. The maximum represents the load at which complete slip first occurs (sticking friction). For present purposes the sticking friction coefficient was determined from the ratio of the maximum tangential load to the normal load.

### **3.4. Cyclic Tangential Loading Tests**

Reference tests were performed using only normal loads as shown in Fig. 12. Ten tests were conducted for each loading condition, in the load range from 0-300N. Then, coupled normal and tangential loading tests were performed using various fixed normal loads and varying the tangential loads to yield loading ratios of 0.22, 0.26, and 0.295 ( $f=0.3$ ). Additionally, for each loading condition, cyclic tests were conducted by cycling the tangential force with a saw-tooth cycle (Fig. 13), up to 100 cycles.

To assess the influence of slow crack growth tests are also conducted at constant tangential load, with the same magnitude as the peak loads in the cyclic tests and for a period as long as the duration of the cyclic test (Fig. 14).

### **3.5. Crack Geometry**

By examining the fracture surface of specimens failed in four-point bending tests, information regarding the angle of the crack, crack depth, and crack geometry can be obtained. Two types of fracture surface occur, shown in Figs. 15(a) and (b), which may imply different modes of damage caused by indentation.

#### **3.5.1. Optical Microscopy**

In order to obtain a general appreciation of the crack geometry, low magnification was used to examine the fracture surface. The crack depth and the distance from the boundary of the ring crack to the crack tip, projected on the surface, can be measured directly under the optical microscope and the angle of the cone crack calculated. However, this measurement is only applicable to the first type of fracture surface in which cone cracks are clearly visible.

#### **3.5.2. Scanning Electron Microscopy**

Important crack surface features develop during cyclic tangential loading. These features have to be examined at high magnification.

Hence, scanning electron microscopy was used, for both types of fracture surface.

### **3.6. Permanent Deformation of Surface**

The plastic deformation of brittle surfaces during indentation occurs on too small a scale to be distinguished from the surface roughness of abraded surfaces. A pristine surface is thus used to ascertain the presence of permanent deformation. The deformation is identified from the surface topography

around the contact zone using both surface profilometry and interference microscopy.

## 4. RESULTS

### 4.1. Friction Coefficient

The friction coefficient is relatively variable between tests and a Weibull plot [16] is used to characterize the data (Fig. 16), obtained for a silicon nitride ball on an abraded glass surface. The most probable value of the friction coefficient is,  $f=0.3$ .

### 4.2. Failure Strength

The mean values of failure strength measured by four-point bending are plotted as a function of the normal load, as shown in Figs. 17, 18, and 19, where the error bars represent the standard deviation. The influence of tangential loads on the critical normal load for crack formation is shown in Fig. 17. The critical crack formation loads are obtained by extrapolating each curve to the failure strength of the original specimen. The critical crack formation load for the loading ratios of 0, 0.22, 0.26, and 0.295 are 9.8, 5.2, 4.2 and 3.7 respectively. Evidently the tangential load has a substantial effect on the critical crack formation load [10]. The failure strength are also influenced by the tangential load such that the smallest failure strength occurs for the test with the largest loading ratio. However, the major influence of the tangential load exists at the initiation stage.

The effect of cyclic loading is indicated in Fig. 18 and Fig. 19. The critical crack formation loads are not appreciably affected (for the same loading ratio), but the strengths decrease substantially as the number of cycles increases.

Furthermore, comparison of Figs. 18(a) and (b) reveals that the failure strength is much lower at the larger load ratio (Fig. 18(b)), and that the strength decreases more rapidly with cycling. Note that the magnitude of failure strength after ten cycles (with a loading ratio 0.26) approaches half the original failure strength. Cyclic tangential loading thus exerts a major influence on the degree of contact damage. However, it is also noted that the rate of cyclic crack growth apparently diminishes as the number of cycles increases. This trend is evident from the failure strength determined after one hundred cycles, which is not appreciably larger than that after ten cycles. Confirmation of this trend is presented later, based on fracture surface observations.

#### **4.3. Slow Crack Growth**

A summary of the role of slow crack growth is presented in Fig. 19. In this figure, the strengths obtained after constant loading for times comparable to ten cyclic loading duration are presented in conjunction with the cyclic loading results. The relative insensitivity of the strength to the loading time (vis-a-vis the strong influence of the number of cycles) establishes that the contribution of stress corrosion cracking to crack growth is minimal.

#### **4.4. Crack Geometry**

Indentation tests conducted either with a normal load only or with one cycle of coupled loading exhibit the fracture surface depicted in Fig. 21, with evidence of a complete indentation cone crack. The cone crack angle is 68 degree [11] for normal loading and about 55 to 48 degree for coupled loading. However, for a larger number of cycles only about five percent of fracture surfaces reveal a complete cone (Fig. 21). More typically, only a small proportion of the cone appears on the fracture surface (Fig. 22). However, in all cyclic

loading cases, striations are observed on the cone crack surface near the indentation crack tip (Figs. 21-26). Furthermore, there is an exact correspondence between the number of cycles and the number of striations (Figs. 23-26). However, it is noted that the striation spacing decreases rapidly as the number of cycles increases (Fig. 29).

#### **4.5. Permanent Deformation**

The existence of permanent deformation has been established by interference micrographs and surface profilometry. Interference fringes show that a raised ridge exists outside the contact circle (Fig. 27) that extends monotonically to the original surface outside the contact zone. The change in depth of the central area, associated with the ridge, is examined using a profilometer (Fig. 28). The profilometer trace reveals that the inside zone is about  $0.05\mu\text{m}$  deeper than the original surface and the ridge is about  $0.15\mu\text{m}$  higher. More importantly, the leading edge is deeper than the trailing edge, even inside the contact area. This observation shows that plastic deformation [17] occurs during testing and that the extent of deformation is greater at the leading edge.

### **5. DISCUSSION**

The two most important features of the present measurements and observations that require interpretation are firstly, the presence of cyclic load induced crack surface striations (Figs. 23-26), and secondly, the change in the fracture origin, in bending, that occurs when the indentation cracks have been formed by load cycling (Figs. 20 and 22). The striations are ostensibly similar to the fatigue striations observed in metals during cyclic crack growth. Yet, it is known from cyclic crack propagation studies that cyclic fatigue does not occur in glasses [18] (because of the absence of a crack tip plastic zone). Consequently,

the presence of striations must either derive from a cyclic manifestation of stress corrosion cracking or, alternatively, the crack driving force must increase with load cycling. The former possibility can be essentially excluded, because stress corrosion cracking would proceed most rapidly at peak load, whereas the data (Fig. 19) reveal that cycling induces substantially more crack growth.

The most plausible source of the striations, and the associated cyclic crack growth, is thus cyclic enhancement of the crack driving force. Such enhancement would not be possible in the presence of elastic loading, but can be construed upon the development of local cyclic plasticity. Indeed, the permanent distortion of the surface (Figs. 27 and 28) provides evidence to substantiate the evidence of cyclic plasticity. Local plastic deformation results in the development of residual stress, as extensively validated in studies of indentation fracture at sharp indenters [19]. The residual stress field is likely to exhibit tangential tensile stresses [20], in the elastic zone, which superpose on the elastic field depicted in Figs. 3-10. Enhanced crack growth is thus a reasonable consequence of cyclic plasticity. Furthermore, the residual stress is likely to cause a deviation in crack plane from that predicted by the elastic calculation (Figs. 3-6) in quantitative accord with present observations.

The extent of cyclic plasticity should increase as the load ratio increases, due to the corresponding increase in the maximum shear stresses (Figs. 7-10). Cycling should thus induce a large residual stress and have more extensive cyclic crack growth as the load ratio increases. This trend is entirely consistent with the present measurements (Figs. 18 and 19).

Repeated crack growth with cycling, manifest as the crack surface striations, requires explicit consideration, within the context of the plasticity induced residual stress hypothesis. Clearly, for this hypothesis to be consistent with the observations, either the extent of the plastic zone or the cyclic hardness

must increase with each cycle. Specific evidence concerning this issue has not yet been obtained. However, it is noticed that the crack growth per cycle decreases rapidly with the number of cycles (Fig. 29) indicative of an approach to crack growth saturation. Such saturation effects are commonly encountered in cyclic plasticity [21].

The change in the bend test fracture origin that occurs between normally loaded indents (from cone crack tip) and tangential, cyclically loaded indents (near contact circle) -cf. Figs. 15(a) and (b)- is also consistent with the development of plasticity induced residual stress during cycling. Specifically, fractures in bending that initiate away from the indentation crack tip and close to the contact circle must be contingent upon the existence of an appreciable near surface residual tensile stress. This requirement is in accord with plasticity induced residual stresses which exhibit their maximum tensile value at the elastic/plastic boundary viz., close to the contact circle.

Further justification for plasticity based concepts of cyclic crack growth is predicated upon consideration of the shear stresses predicted by the elastic analysis (Figs. 7-10). The maximum shear stresses for each loading condition (Tables I and II) exceed the yield strength of the glass ( $\approx 3\text{GPa}$  estimated from hardness measurements) for all normal loads  $> 80\text{N}$ , especially at larger load ratios. Again, therefore, the existence of plasticity appears plausible. Furthermore, tangential loads are expected to produce enhance deformation at the leading edge, consistent with the larger surface depression at this edge determined from the profilometer trace (Fig. 28).

Finally, some additional remarks are presented regarding the exclusion of cyclic crack propagation, in the metallurgical context, as the source of crack surface striations. The fatigue striation spacing  $\Delta_s$  is known to increase with the stress intensity amplitude  $\Delta K$ , for all metallic materials, as [22]

$$\Delta s \approx 6(\Delta K/E)^2 \quad [13]$$

A plot of the striation spacing determined from Fig. 25 with  $\Delta K$  estimated using the indentation approximation for large cracks [23],

$$K \approx P/c^{3/2} \quad [14]$$

where  $P$  is the indentation load and  $c$  is the crack depth, reveals (Fig. 30) that  $\Delta s$  decreases less rapidly with  $\Delta K$  ( $\Delta s \propto \Delta K^{0.8}$ ) than typically encountered during fatigue crack growth ( $\Delta s \propto \Delta K^2$ ). The existence of an alternative mechanism of cyclic crack growth is thus, again, suggested.

## 6. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Several features of the present work specifically add to the current understanding of the indentation fracture problem. Firstly, a stress analysis, based upon principal and shear stresses indicates that the tensile stresses are increased at trailing edge by the application of tangential forces, such that the critical crack formation load decreases and the crack angle increases at this edge. Consequently, the failure strength decreases as the tangential force increases. In addition, the shear strength increases, allowing the specimens to deform plastically more readily, especially at the leading edge.

The second feature of this analysis is the concept that residual stresses, induced by the plastic deformation at the contact area, constitute the driving force for crack propagation during cyclic loading. The deformation is deemed to be cumulative, causing the failure strength to decrease as the number of cycles increases. However, the crack growth per cycle decreases with number of cycles and tends to saturate at an effective endurance limit.

### **Acknowledgement**

I would like to thank Prof. A.G. Evans for his guidance and support during this work. The assistance received from the workers in ceramic lab are also appreciated. They are indebted to D.B. Marshall and Peter Ruegg for the assistance with experimental design, to Chun-Hway Hsueh and Shu-Sheng Chiang for theoretical aspects of the problem. Helpful conversations and correspondence with others are also gratefully acknowledged.

Finally, I thank my parents, my brother and sisters for their love, understanding and encouragement through these years.

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## APPENDIX A

Point force functions which describe the stress fields created by unit normal load (expressed by  $h_{ij}$  for each component) or unit tangential load (expressed by  $g_{ij}$ ), on a semi-infinite elastic homogeneous solid, bounded by the plane  $z = 0$ , are shown in Fig. 31. These functions are listed in the following equations :

$$h_{xx} = \frac{1}{2} \pi \left\{ \frac{(1-2\nu)z}{R^3} - \frac{3x^2z}{R^5} - \frac{(1-2\nu)}{R(R+z)} \left[ 1 - \frac{x^2}{R(R+z)} - \frac{x^2}{R^2} \right] \right\}$$

$$h_{yy} = \frac{1}{2} \pi \left\{ \frac{(1-2\nu)z}{R^3} - \frac{3y^2z}{R^5} - \frac{(1-2\nu)}{R(R+z)} \left[ 1 - \frac{y^2}{R(R+z)} - \frac{y^2}{R^2} \right] \right\}$$

$$h_{zz} = \frac{-3z^3}{2\pi R^5}$$

$$h_{yz} = \frac{-3yz^2}{2\pi R^5}$$

$$h_{zx} = \frac{-3xz^2}{2\pi R^5}$$

$$h_{xy} = \left[ \frac{-3xyz}{R^5} + \frac{(1-2\nu)(2R+z)xy}{R^3(R+z)^2} \right]$$

$$g_{xx} = \frac{x}{2\pi} \left\{ \frac{1-2\nu}{R^3} - \frac{3x^2}{R^5} - \frac{(1-2\nu)}{R(R+z)^2} \left[ 3 - \frac{x^2(3R+z)}{R^2(R+z)} \right] \right\}$$

$$g_{yy} = \frac{x}{2\pi} \left\{ \frac{1-2\nu}{R^3} - \frac{3y^2}{R^5} - \frac{(1-2\nu)}{R(R+z)^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{y^2(3R+z)}{R^2(R+z)} \right] \right\}$$

$$g_{zz} = \frac{-3xz^2}{2\pi R^5}$$

$$g_{yz} = \frac{-3xyz}{2\pi R^5}$$

$$g_{xz} = \frac{-3x^2z}{2\pi R^5}$$

$$g_{xy} = \frac{y}{2\pi} \left\{ \frac{-3x^2}{R^5} - \frac{(1-2\nu)}{R(R+z)^2} \left[ 1 - \frac{x^2(3R+z)}{R^2(R+z)} \right] \right\}$$

where  $R = (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{1/2}$ .

## **APPENDIX B**

The integration routine described here is written to calculate the stress distribution beneath the surface. These coordinate and dummy variables used in this program are shown schematically in Fig. 31.

```
hxx(x2,z,R,R2,R3,R5,Rz)=1./6.2823*(0.5*z/R3-3*x2*z/R5-0.5/R/Rz*(1.8-x2/R/Rz-x2/R2))
hyy(y2,z,R,R2,R3,R5,Rz)=1./6.2823*(0.5*z/R3-3*y2*z/R5-0.5/R/Rz*(1.8-y2/R/Rz-y2/R2))
hzz(z3,R5)=1./6.2823*(-3)*z3/R5
hyz(y,z2,R5)=1./6.2823*(-3)*y*z2/R5
nxz(x,z2,R5)=1./6.2823*(-3)*x*z2/R5
hxy(x,y,z,R,R3,R5,Rz)=1./6.2823*(-3)*x*y*z/R5+0.5*x*y*(2*R+z)/R3/Rz**2)
gxx(x,x2,z,R,R3,R5,Rz)=1./6.2823*x*(0.5/R3-3*x2/R5-0.5/R/Rz**2*(3.8-x2*(3*R+z)/R**2/Rz))
gyy(x,y2,z,R,R2,R3,R5,Rz)=1./6.2823*x*(0.5/R3-3*y2/R5-0.5/R/Rz**2*(3.8-y2*(3*R+z)/R2/Rz))
gzz(x,z2,R5)=1./6.2823*(-3)*x*z2/R5
gyz(x,y,z,R5)=1./6.2823*(-3)*x*y*z/R5
gxz(x2,z,R5)=1./6.2823*(-3)*x2*z/R5
gxy(y,x2,z,R,R2,R5,Rz)=1./6.2823*y*(0.5/R3-3*x2/R5-0.5/R/Rz**2*(1.8-x2*(3*R+z)/R2/Rz))
t1(p)=sqrt(1.0-p**2)
t2(p)=sqrt(1.0-p**2)-sa*sqrt(1.0-(p/sa)**2)
t22(p)=sqrt(1.0-p**2)-sa2*sqrt(1.0-(p/sa2)**2)
t23(p)=sqrt(1.0-p**2)-sa3*sqrt(1.0-(p/sa3)**2)
q(p)=sqrt(1.0-p**2)
f=0.30
f1=0.295
f2=0.26
f3=0.22
sa=(1.0-(f1/f))**0.333
sa2=(1.0-(f2/f))**0.333
sa3=(1.0-(f3/f))**0.333

xx=1.9
do 6000 ij=1,20
z=0.02
yy=0.0

sgxx=0.0
sgyy=0.0
sgzz=0.0
sgxy=0.0
sgyz=0.0
sgxz=0.0

sgxx2=0.0
sgyy2=0.0
sgzz2=0.0
sgxy2=0.0
sgyz2=0.0
sgxz2=0.0

sgxx3=0.0
sgyy3=0.0
sgzz3=0.0
sgxy3=0.0
sgyz3=0.0
sgxz3=0.0
```

```
snxx=0.0
snyy=0.0
snzz=0.0
snxy=0.0
shyz=0.0
shxz=0.0

x1=1.0
do 100 j=1,41

qe=sqrt(1.0-x1**2)
qe1=sqrt(sa**2-x1**2)
qe2=sqrt(sa2**2-x1**2)
qe3=sqrt(sa3**2-x1**2)

c1=abs(x1)
if(c1.lt.sa) go to 1
qe1=0.0
1 continue
if(c1.lt.sa2) go to 3
qe2=0.0
3 continue
if(c1.lt.sa3) go to 4
qe3=0.0
4 continue

i=int(qe/0.05+0.5)
q1=i*0.05
i=i*1+1
do 101 k=1,i

p=sqrt(x1**2+q1**2)
x=x1-x1
y=q1-q1
r=sqrt(x**2+q**2)
R=sqrt(x**2+y**2+z**2)
R3=R**3
R5=R**5
Rz=R+z
x2=x**2
y2=y**2
z2=z**2
z3=z**3
R2=R**2
```

```
A=t1(p)
b=abs(y1)-ye1
if(b.gt.0.0) go to 2
A=t2(p)
2 continue
A2=t1(p)
b2=abs(y1)-ye2
if(b2.gt.0.0) go to 5
A2=t22(p)
5 continue
A3=t1(p)
b3=abs(y1)-ye3
if(b3.gt.0.0) go to 6
A3=t23(p)
6 continue

d=0.05**2
c=q(p)

sinhx=hxx(x2,z,R,R2,R3,R5,Rz)*c*d
sinhy=hyy(y2,z,R,R2,R3,R5,Rz)*c*d
sinhz=hzz(z3,R5)*c*d
sinhxy=hxy(x,y,z,R,R3,R5,Rz)*c*d
sinhyz=hyz(y,z2,R5)*c*d
sinxz=hxz(x,z2,R5)*c*d

G11=gxx(x,x2,z,R,R3,R5,Rz)
G22=gyy(x,y2,z,R,R2,R3,R5,Rz)
G33=gzz(x,z2,R5)
G12=gxy(y,x2,z,R,R2,R5,Rz)
G13=gxz(x2,z,R5)
G23=gyz(x,y,z,R5)

s1gx=G11*f*A*d
s1gy=G22*f*A*d
s1gz=G33*f*A*d
s1gx2=G12*f*A*d
s1gy2=G23*f*A*d
s1gz2=G13*f*A*d

s1gx2=G11*f*A2*d
s1gy2=G22*f*A2*d
s1gz2=G33*f*A2*d
s1gx2=G12*f*A2*d
s1gy2=G23*f*A2*d
s1gz2=G13*f*A2*d

s1gx3=G11*f*A3*d
s1gy3=G22*f*A3*d
s1gz3=G33*f*A3*d
s1gx3=G12*f*A3*d
s1gy3=G23*f*A3*d
s1gz3=G13*f*A3*d
```

shxx=shxxx+shxx  
shyy=shyyy+shyy  
shzz=shzzz+shzz  
shxy=shhxy+shxy  
shyz=shhyz+shyz  
shxz=shhxz+shxz

sgxx=sgxxx+sgxx  
sgyy=sgyyy+sgyy  
sgzz=sgzzz+sgzz  
sgxy=sggxy+sgxy  
sgyz=sggyz+sgyz  
sgxz=sggxz+sgxz

sgxx2=sgxx2+sgxx2  
sgyy2=sgyy2+sgyy2  
sgzz2=sgzz2+sgzz2  
sgxy2=sgxy2+sgxy2  
sgyz2=sgyz2+sgyz2  
sgxz2=sgxz2+sgxz2

sgxx3=sgxx3+sgxx3  
sgyy3=sgyy3+sgyy3  
sgzz3=sgzz3+sgzz3  
sgxy3=sgxy3+sgxy3  
sgyz3=sgyz3+sgyz3  
sgxz3=sgxz3+sgxz3

101 y1=q1-0.05  
100 x1=r1-0.05

shx=shxxx+shxx  
shy=shyyy+shyy  
shz=shzzz+shzz  
shy=shhxy+shxy  
shz=shhyz+shyz  
shz=shhxz+shxz

shx2=shxx2+shxx  
shy2=shyy2+shyy  
shz2=shzz2+shzz  
shx2=shxy2+shxy  
shz2=shyz2+shyz  
shz2=shxz2+shxz

shx3=shxx3+shxx  
shy3=shyy3+shyy  
shz3=shzz3+shzz  
shy3=shxy3+shxy  
shz3=shyz3+shyz  
shz3=shxz3+shxz

```
sigma1=(sxx+szz)/2.0+sqrt(((sxx-szz)/2.0)**2+sxz**2)
sigma2=(sxx2+szz2)/2.0+sqrt(((sxx2-szz2)/2.0)**2+sxz2**2)
sigma3=(sxx3+szz3)/2.0+sqrt(((sxx3-szz3)/2.0)**2+sxz3**2)
sigma0=(shxx+shzz)/2.0+sqrt(((shxx-shzz)/2.0)**2+shxz**2)

sigm03=(shxx+shzz)/2.0-sqrt(((shxx-shzz)/2.0)**2+shxz**2)
sigm13=(sxx+szz)/2.0-sqrt(((sxx-szz)/2.0)**2+sxz**2)
sigm23=(sxx2+szz2)/2.0-sqrt(((sxx2-szz2)/2.0)**2+sxz2**2)
sigm33=(sxx3+szz3)/2.0-sqrt(((sxx3-szz3)/2.0)**2+sxz3**2)

sigm02=shxx+shyy+shzz-sigma0-sigm03
sigm12=sxx+sy+sz-sigma1-sigm13
sigm22=sxx2+sy2+sz2-sigma2-sigm23
sigm32=sxx3+sy3+sz3-sigma3-sigm33

write(6,60) xx,yy,z,sigma0,sigma1,sigma2,sigma3
60 format(/1X,3(F5.2,2X),4(E11.4,3X))

write(6,71) sigm02,sigm12,sigm22,sigm32,sigm03,sigm13,sigm23,sigm3
63
71 format(2(/22X,4(E11.4,3X)))

e0=sqrt((shxx-shyy)**2+(shyy-shzz)**2+(shxx-shzz)**2+6.*(shxy**2+s
shxz**2+shyz**2))/1.414
e1=sqrt((sxx-syy)**2+(syy-szz)**2+(szz-sxx)**2+6.*(sxy**2+syz**2+s
sz2**2))/1.414
e2=sqrt((sxx2-syy2)**2+(syy2-szz2)**2+(sxx2-szz2)**2+6.*(sxy2**2+s
sz22**2+sz2**2))/1.414
e3=sqrt((sxx3-syy3)**2+(syy3-szz3)**2+(sxx3-szz3)**2+6.*(sxy3**2+s
sz23**2+sz23**2))/1.414

write(6,65) e0,e1,e2,e3
65 format(/15X,4(E11.4,5X))

9000 w=eps-0.2
stop
end
```

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Marshall, D.B., and Lawn, B.R., and Evans, .A.G., *J. Amer. Ceram. Soc.*  
**65** (1982) 561.

Table I. Contact Characteristics

Normal load (N)	radius of contact area ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	maximum normal pressure, $\sigma_o$ (GPa)
80	95.1	4.139
120	109.0	4.726
170	122.3	5.344
210	130.8	5.726
260	141.2	6.119

Table II. Maximum Calculated Shear Stresses\*

maximum normal pressure $\sigma_o$ (GPa)	loading ratio, $P^s/P^n$	calculated normalized maximum shear stresses, $\tau_{max}/\sigma_o$	calculated maximum shear stresses, $\tau_{max}$ N
4.139	0.0	0.640	2.649
	0.22	0.655	2.711
	0.26	0.662	2.740
	0.295	0.675	2.794
4.726	0.0	0.640	3.025
	0.22	0.655	2.096
	0.26	0.662	3.129
	0.295	0.675	3.190
5.344	0.0	0.640	3.420
	0.22	0.655	3.500
	0.26	0.662	3.538
	0.295	0.675	3.607
5.726	0.0	0.640	3.665
	0.22	0.655	3.751
	0.26	0.662	3.791
	0.295	0.675	3.865
6.119	0.0	0.640	3.916
	0.22	0.655	4.008
	0.26	0.662	4.051
	0.295	0.675	4.130

\*Yield strength of glass = 3.04 GPa [20]

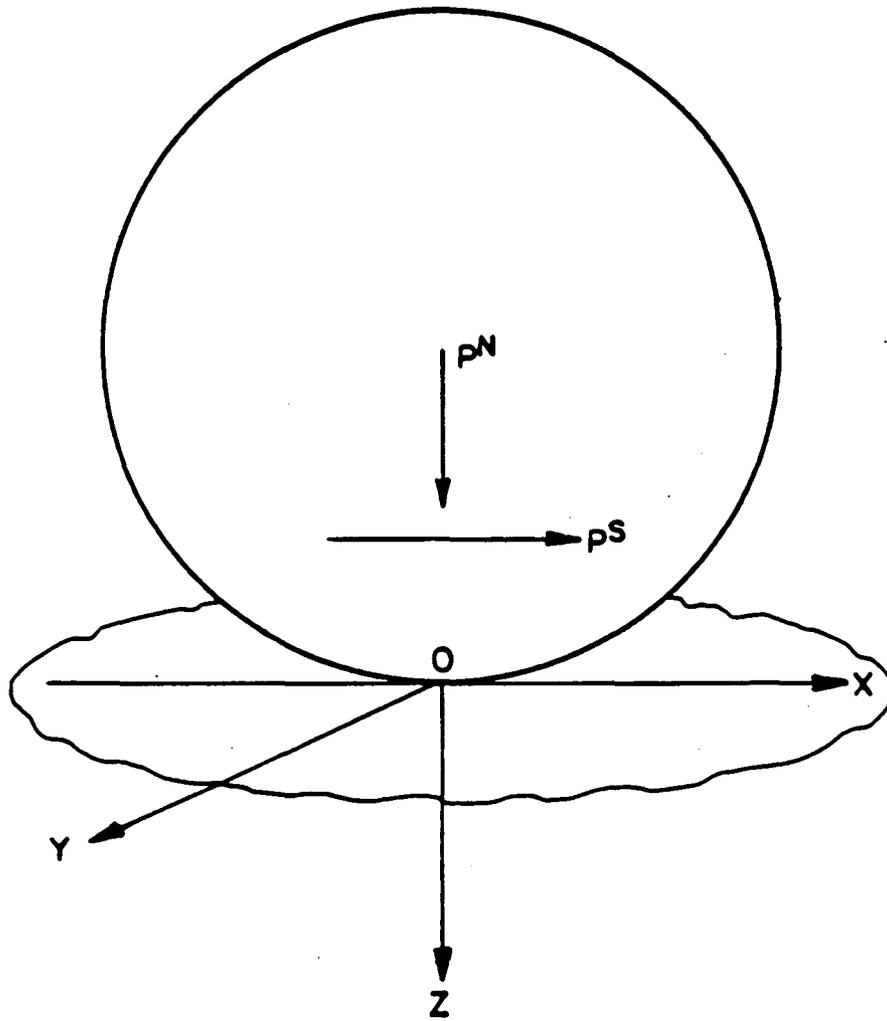
## FIGURE CAPTIONS

- Fig.1. The model system is a ball in contact with a flat surface, subject to normal and tangential forces, where  $P^S$  and  $P^N$  are tangential and normal loads, respectively.
- Fig.2. A schematic showing the partial slip condition and the resultant traction distribution at the interface, in cylindrical coordinates, where  $\tau_{zz}$  and  $\tau_{zx}$  are normal and tangential surface tractions, respectively.  $a$  and  $a^*$  are the radii of partial slip and contact regions, respectively.
- Fig.3. The trajectories of the maximum principal stress  $\sigma_1$  in the  $x$ - $z$  plane for normal loads, and the  $\sigma_3$  stress trajectory starting from the edge of the circle of contact. The length is normalized by  $a$  and the stress by  $\sigma_0$ .
- Fig.4. The  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_3$  trajectories, starting from the point of the maximum tensile stress: loading ratio 0.22 and friction coefficient 0.3.
- Fig.5. The  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_3$  trajectories, starting from the point of maximum tensile stress: loading ratio 0.26 and friction coefficient 0.3.
- Fig.6. The  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_3$  trajectories, starting from the point of maximum tensile stress: loading ratio 0.295 and friction coefficient 0.3.
- Fig.7. The effective shear stress distribution for normal loading.
- Fig.8. The effective shear stress distribution for a loading ratio 0.22.
- Fig.9. The effective shear stress distribution for a loading ratio 0.26.
- Fig.10. The effective shear stress distribution for a loading ratio 0.295.
- Fig.11. The experimental arrangement for coupled loading test.
- Fig.12. The experimental arrangement for normal loading test.
- Fig.13. The cyclic loading condition with a loading ratio of 0.26.
- Fig.14. The loading condition for comparison of slow crack growth effect with cyclic effects.
- Fig.15. Typical indentation crack morphologies on the bend test fracture surface. (a) single cycle (b) multiple cycles.

- Fig.16. Weibull plot of probability against friction coefficient.
- Fig.17. The failure strength from four-point bending tests as a function of the normal load during indentation test for various loading ratios ( $f=0.3$ ).
- Fig.18. The failure strength from four-point bending tests vs. the normal load for various cycles. (a) loading ratio=0.22 and friction coefficient=0.3. (b) loading ratio=0.26 and friction coefficient=0.3.
- Fig.19. The failure strength from four-point bending tests vs. normal load for slow crack growth tests, compared with cyclic tests.
- Fig.20. An SEM micrograph of first type fracture surface, relative to its schematic drawing.
- Fig.21. Both sides of the cone crack, top view in (a) and bottom view in (b) for five cycles.
- Fig.22. An SEM micrograph of the second type of fracture surface, relative to its schematic drawing.
- Fig.23. A high magnification SEM picture of the fracture surface of a specimen failed after ten cycles emphasizing the cone crack tips.
- Fig.24. The SEM picture of test specimen failed after five cycles with low magnification picture in (a) and high magnification picture in (b).
- Fig.25. An SEM micrograph of the top view of the cone crack for a test specimen failed after 100 cycles with low magnification in (a) and high magnification in (b).
- Fig.26. The SEM micrograph of the bottom view of the cone crack for a test specimen failed after 100 cycles with low magnification in (a) and high magnification in (b).
- Fig.27. Interference micrograph of the indentation area.
- Fig.28. The surface profile of the specimen surface along the contact area. Path of stylus cross the center of contact circle in the direction opposite to tangential load applied.
- Fig.29. Striation spacing on cone crack surface vs. number of cycles.

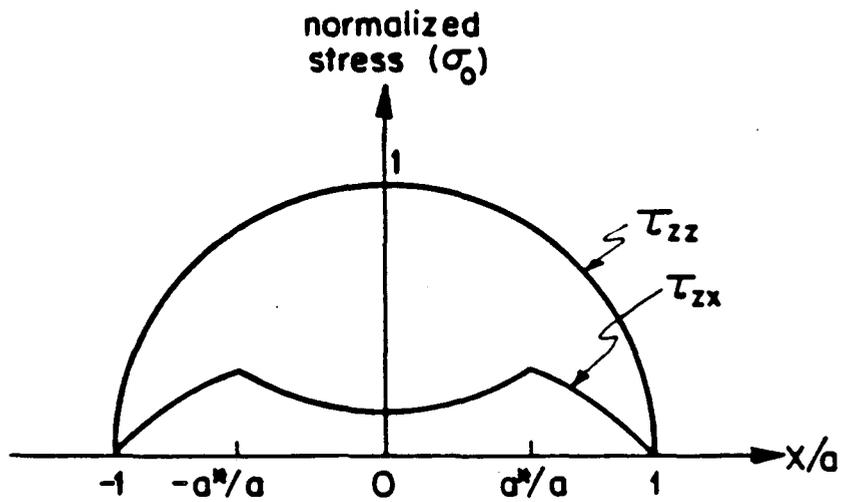
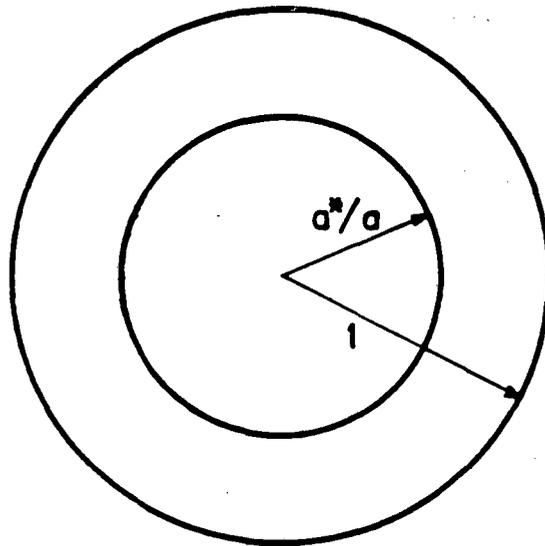
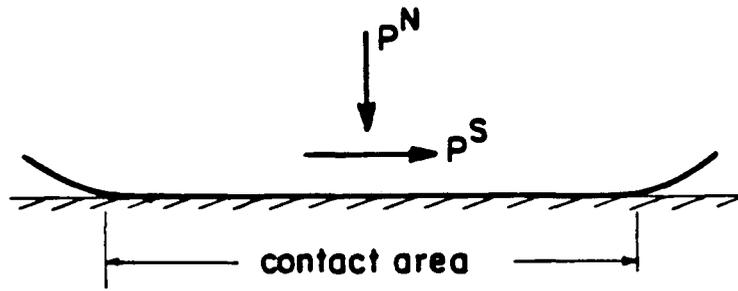
Fig.30. Striation spacing on cone crack surface vs. stress intensity factor change.

Fig.31. The relative coordinates used for integration.



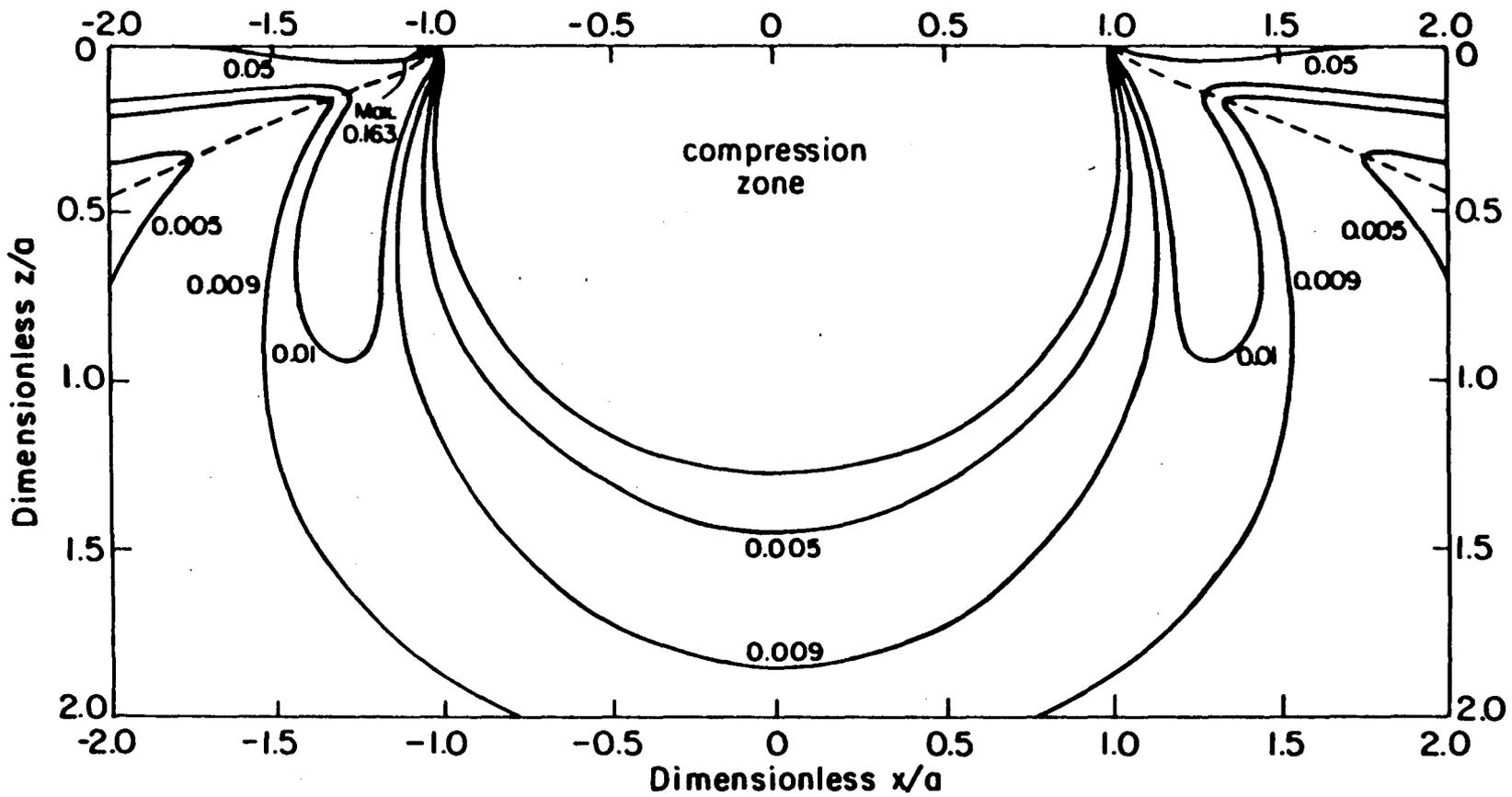
XBL844-6902

Figure 1



XBL 844-6903

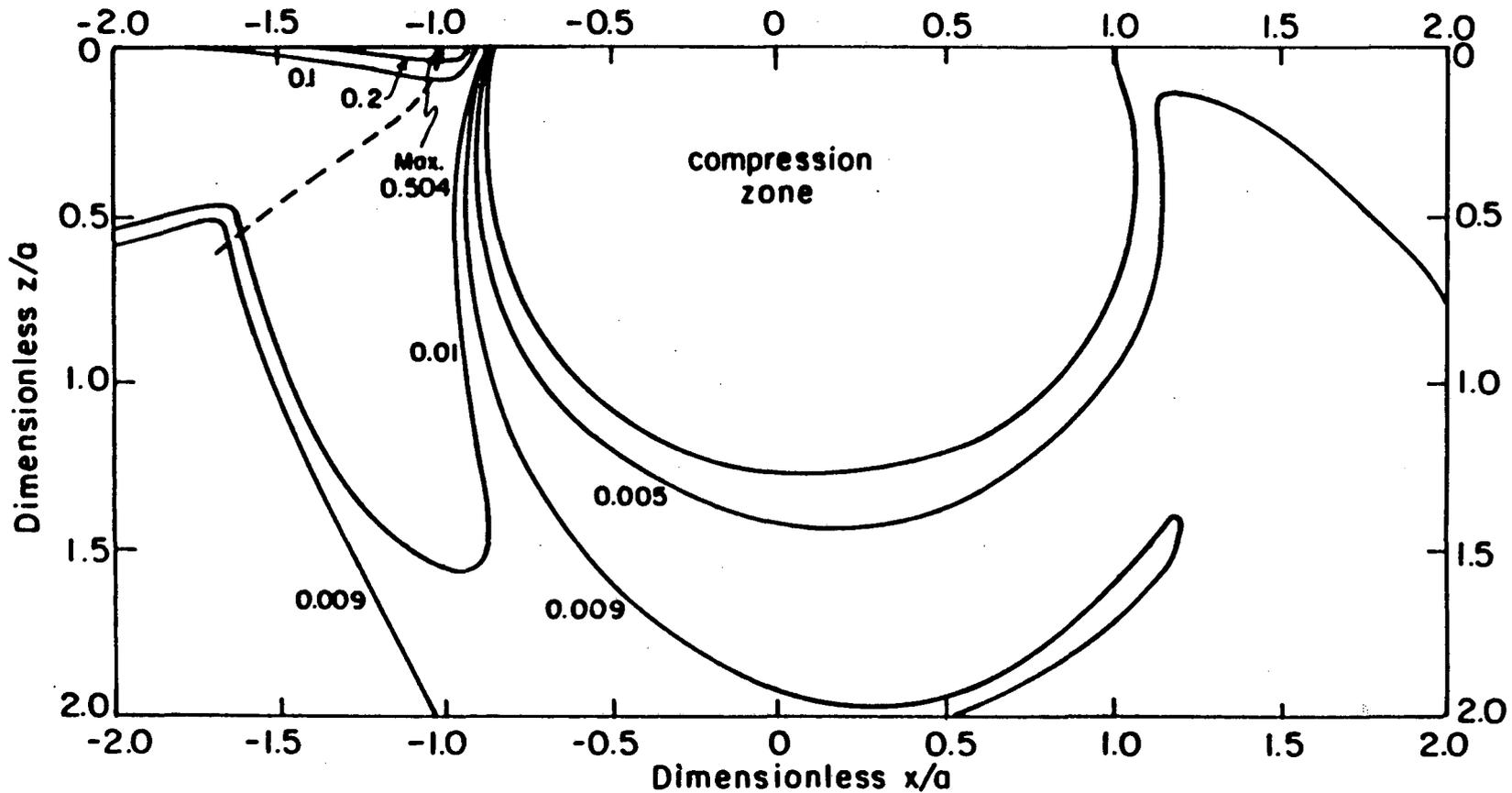
Figure 2



-37-

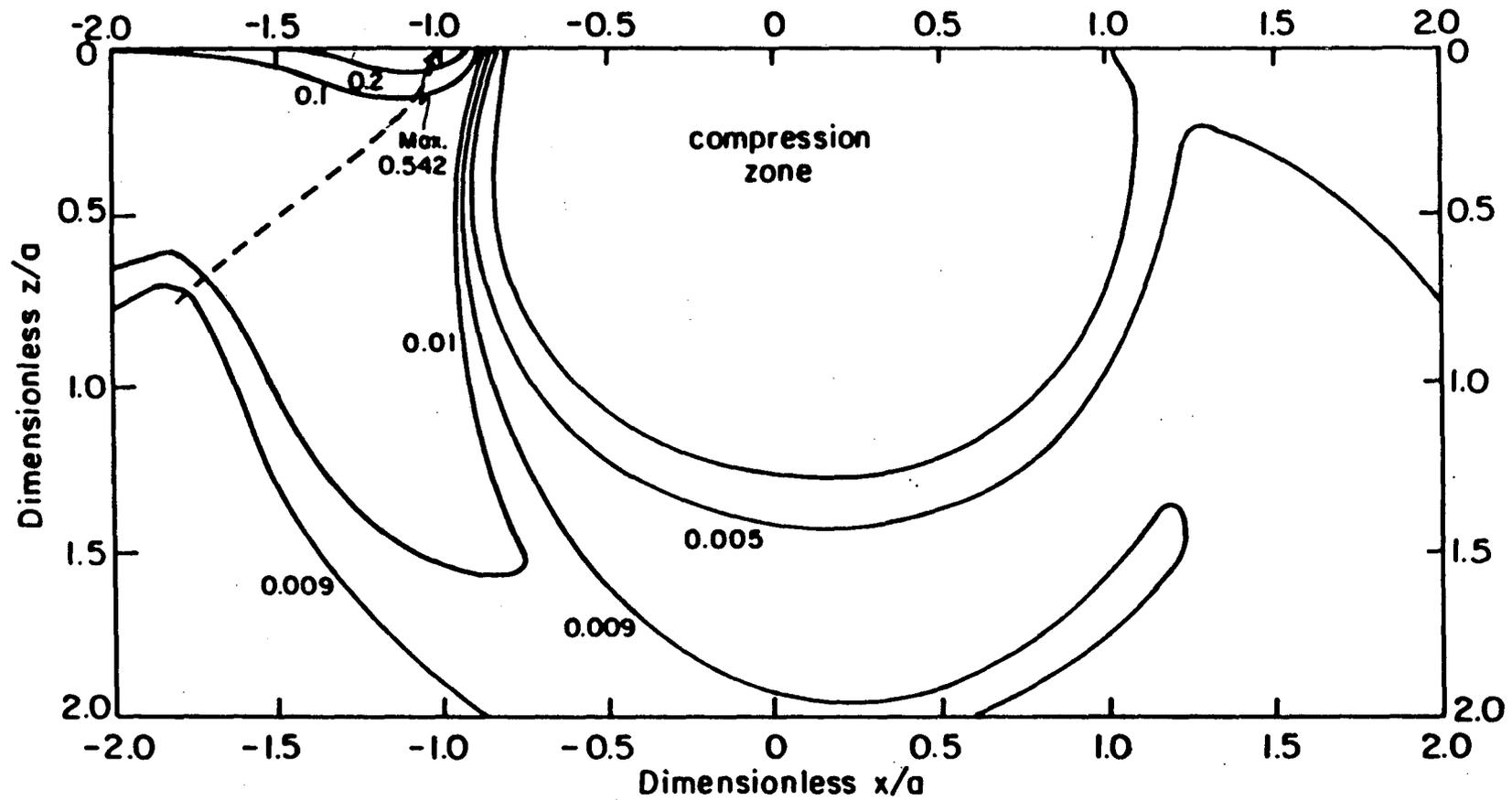
Figure 3

XBL 844-6904



XBL 844-6905

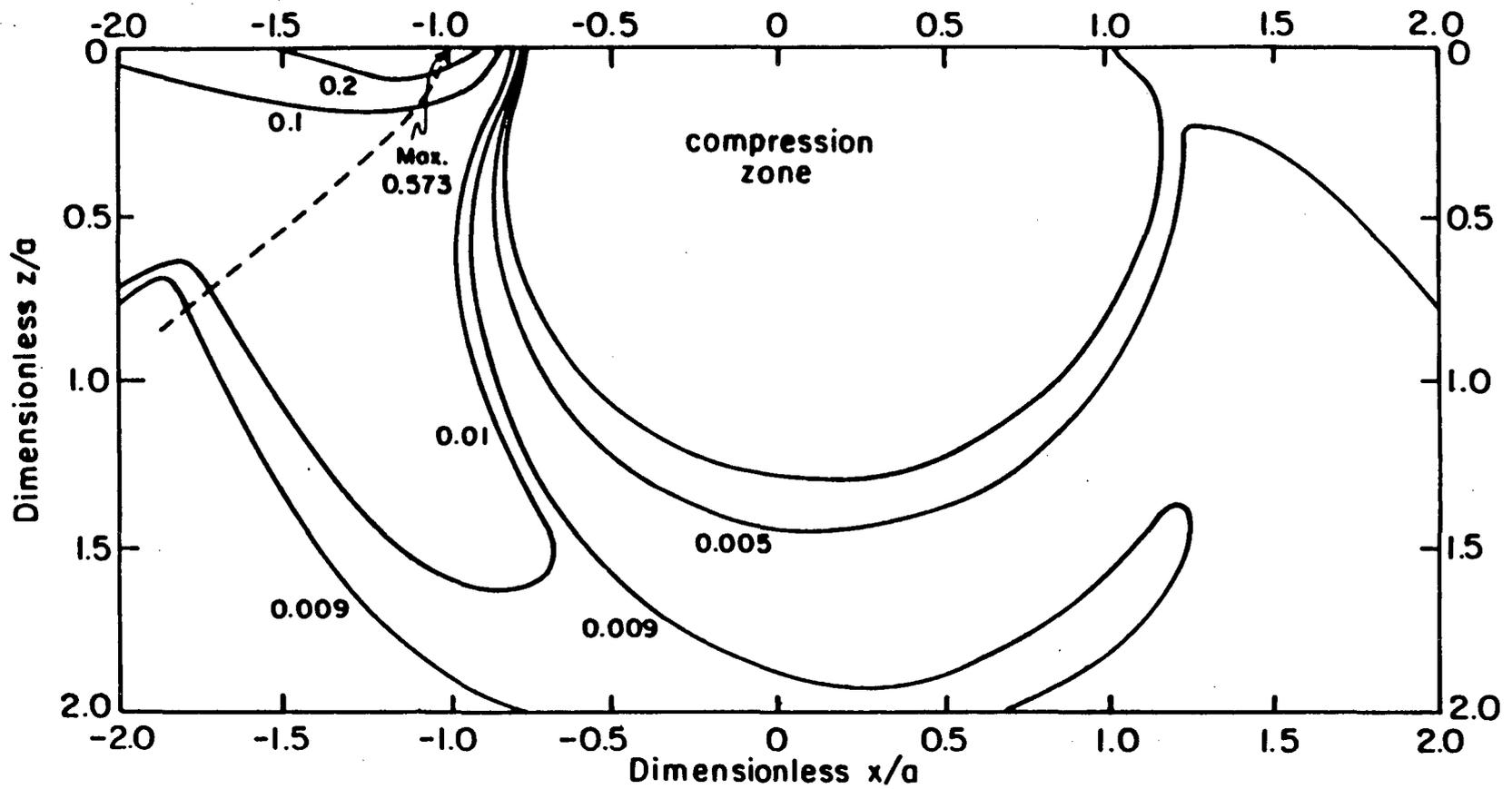
Figure 4



-39-

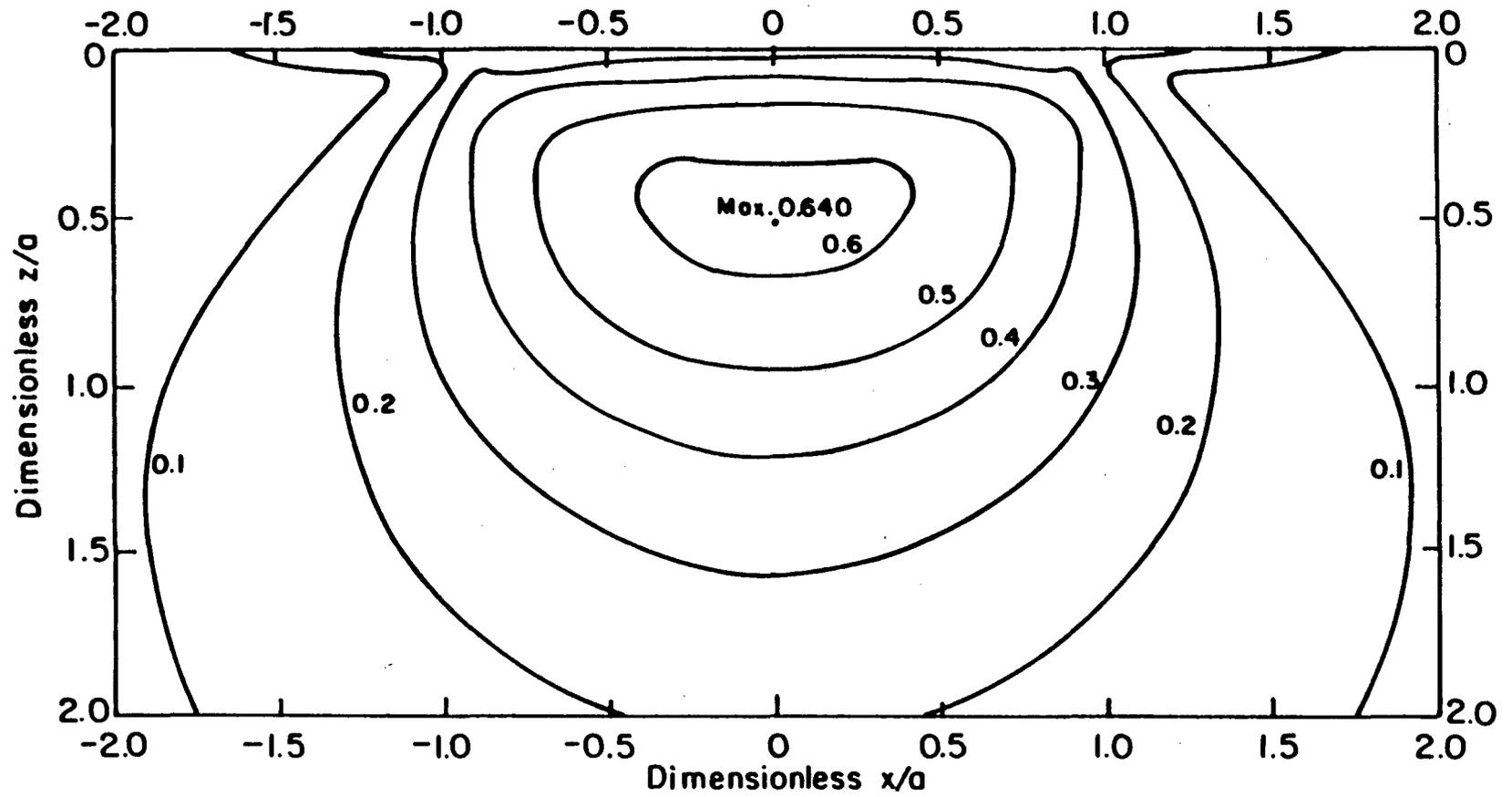
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Figure 5



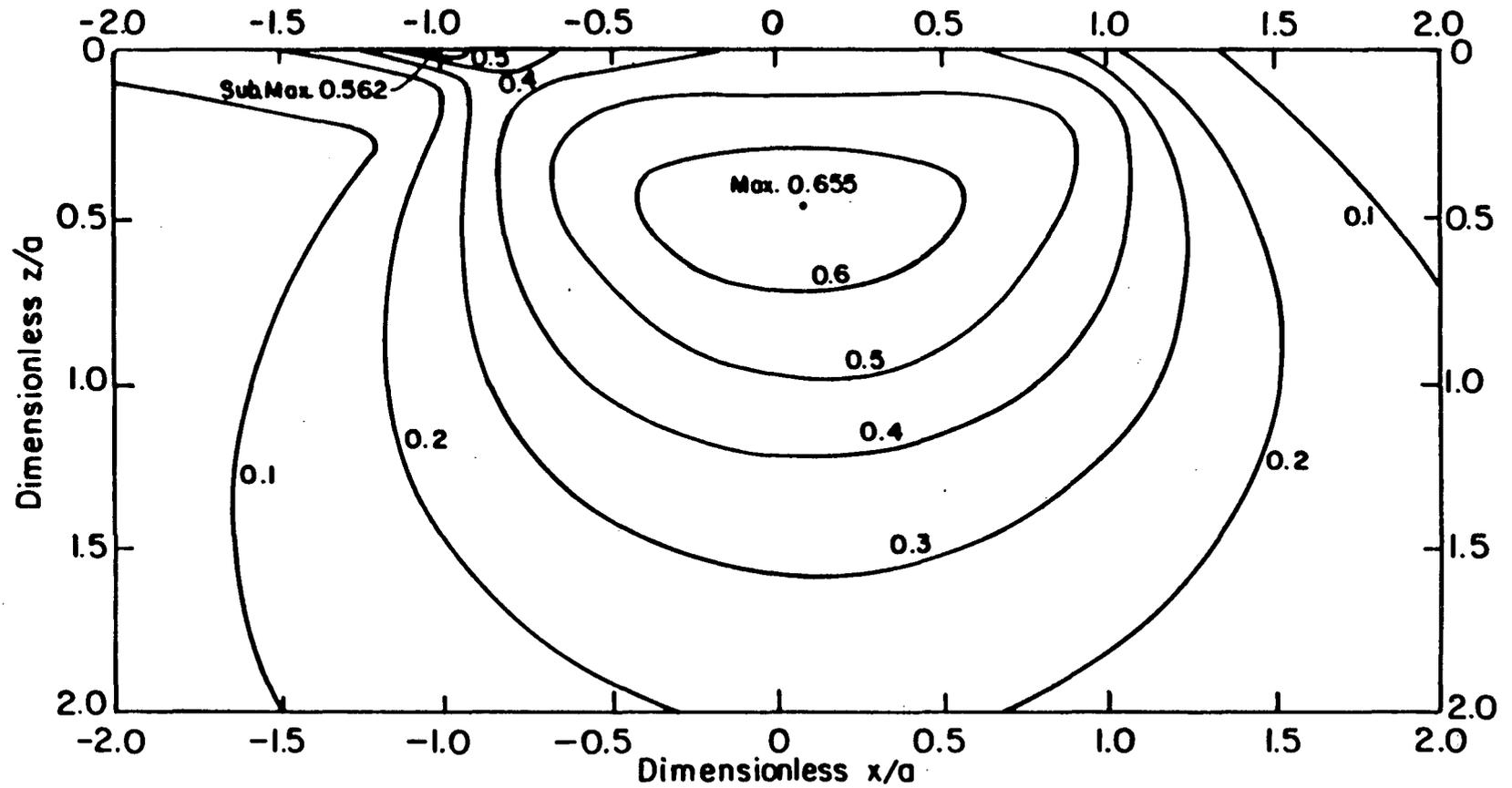
XBL 844-6907

Figure 6



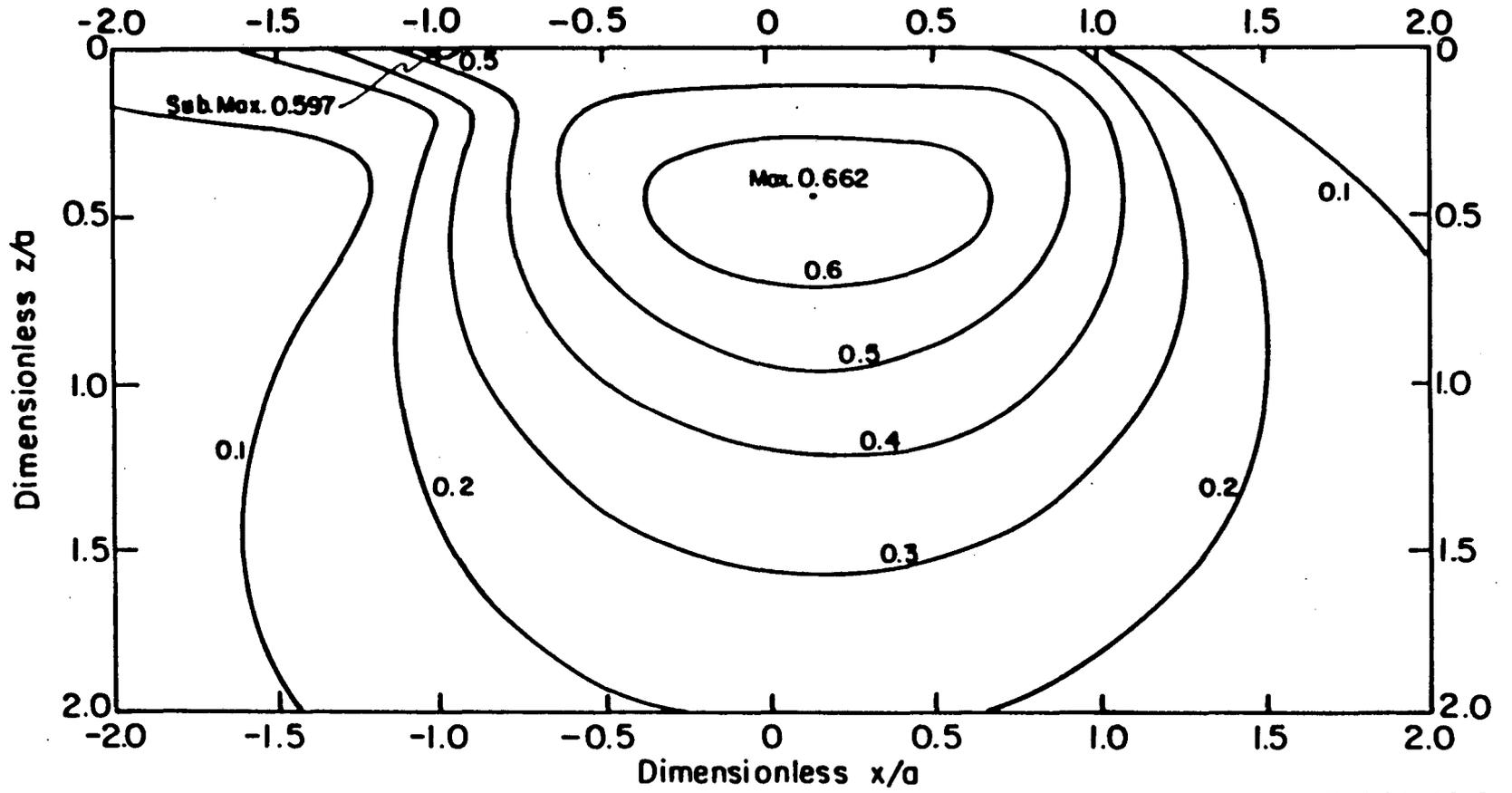
XBL 844-6908

Figure 7



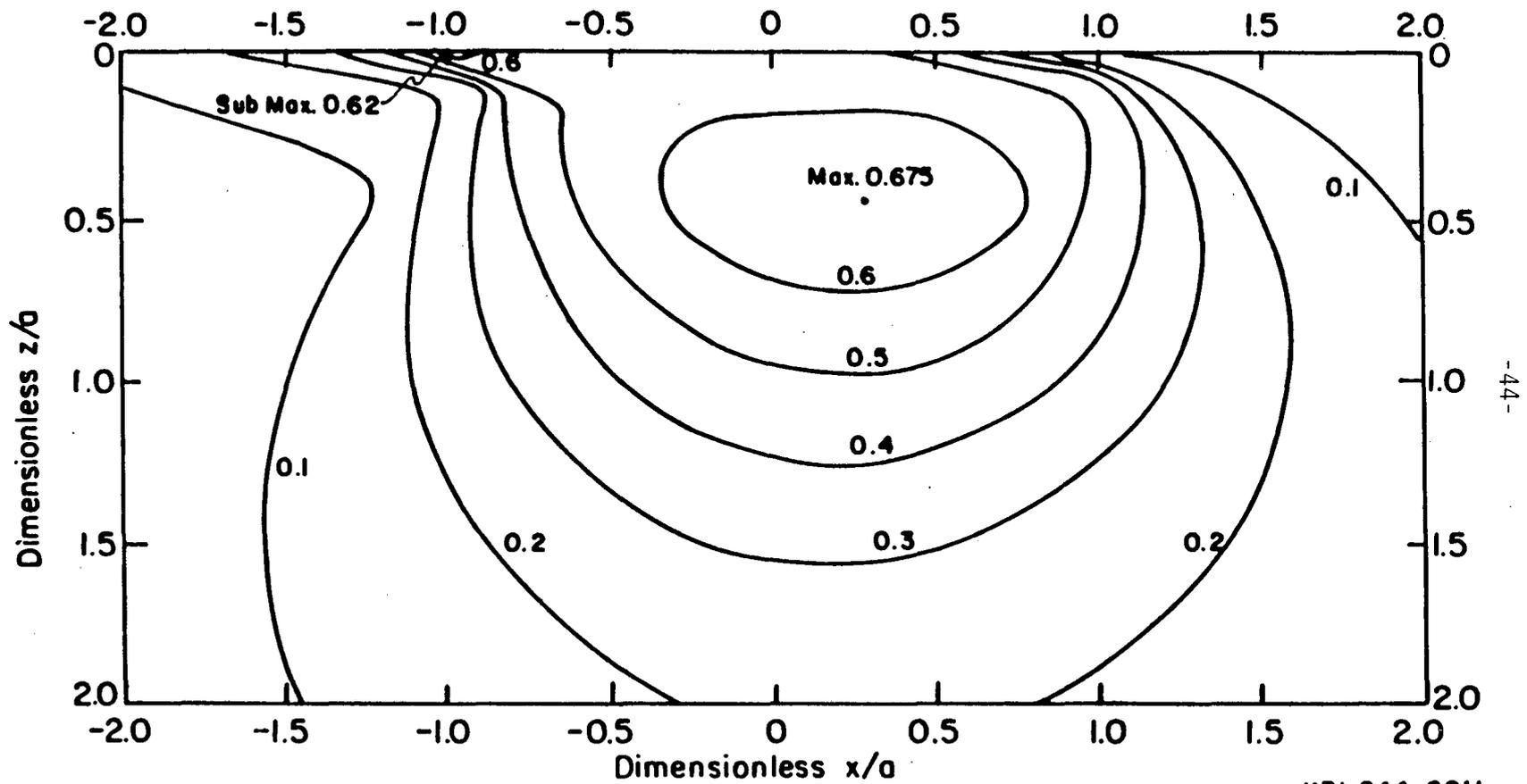
XBL 844-6909

Figure 8



XBL 844-6910

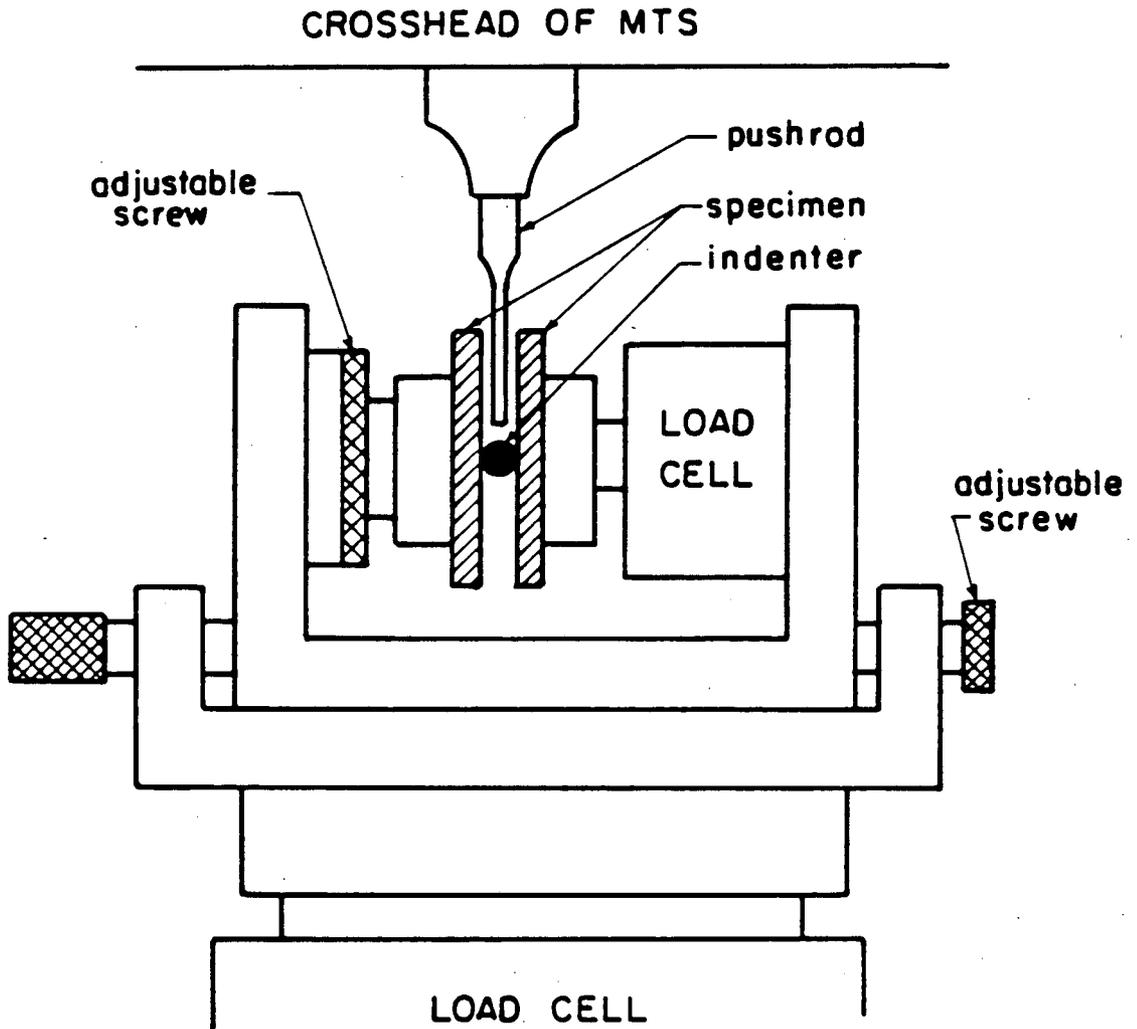
Figure 9



-44-

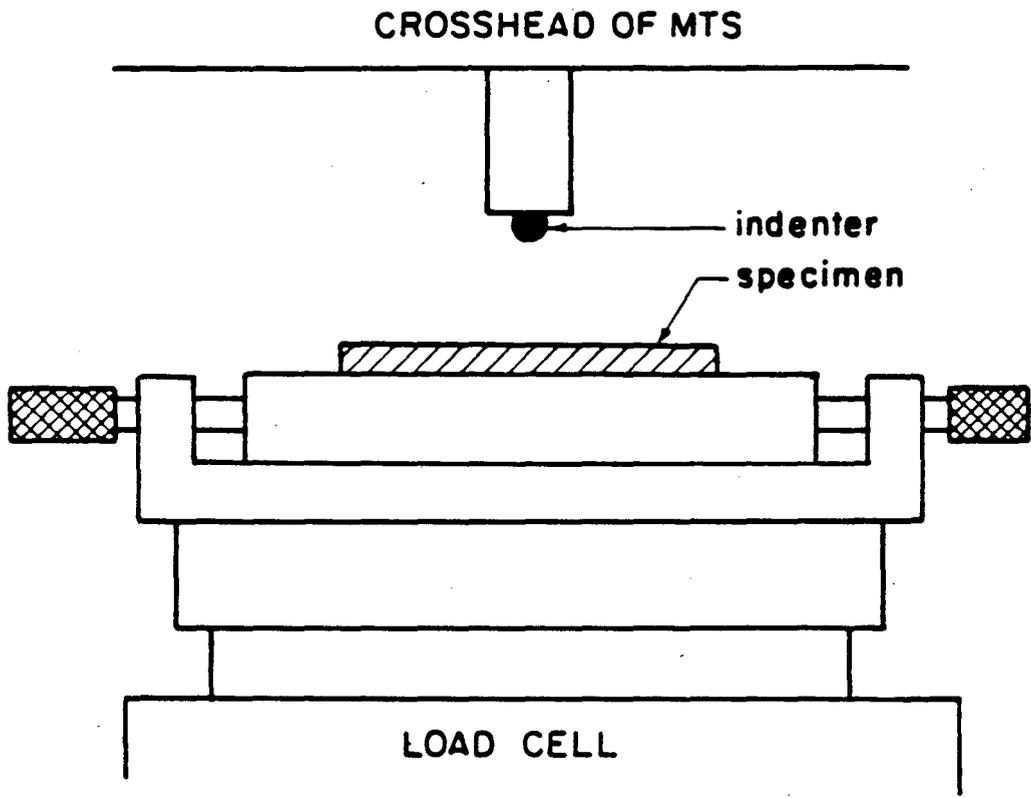
XBL 844-6911

Figure 10



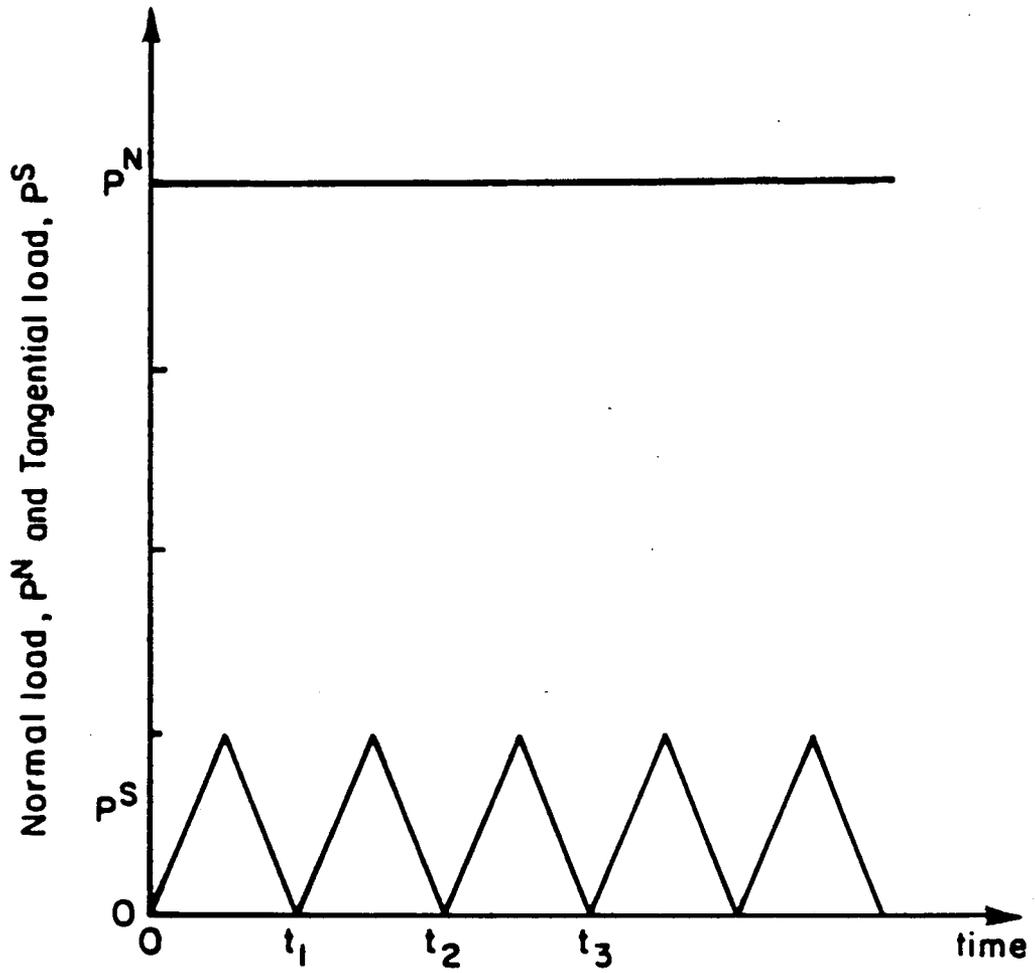
XBL 844-6912

Figure 11



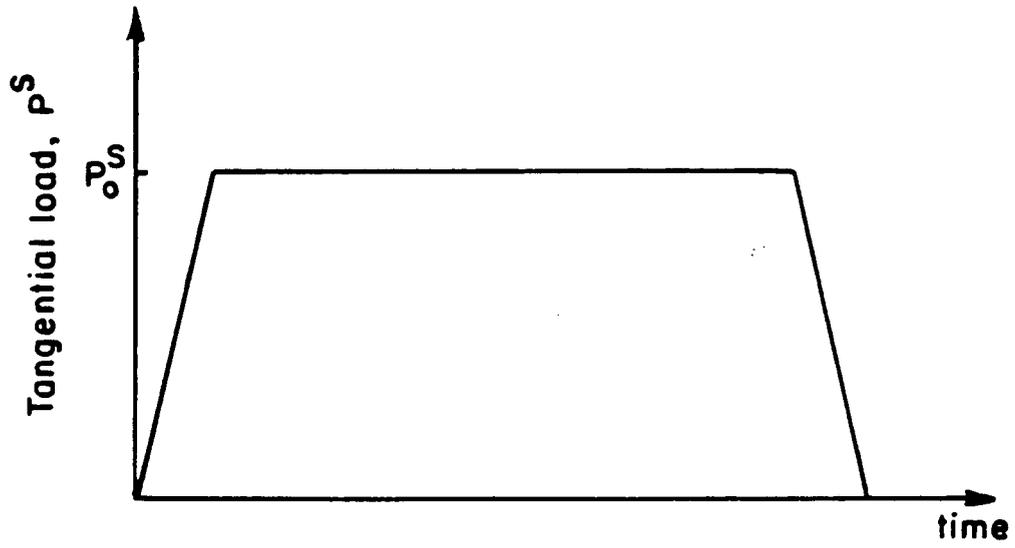
XBL 844-6913

Figure 12

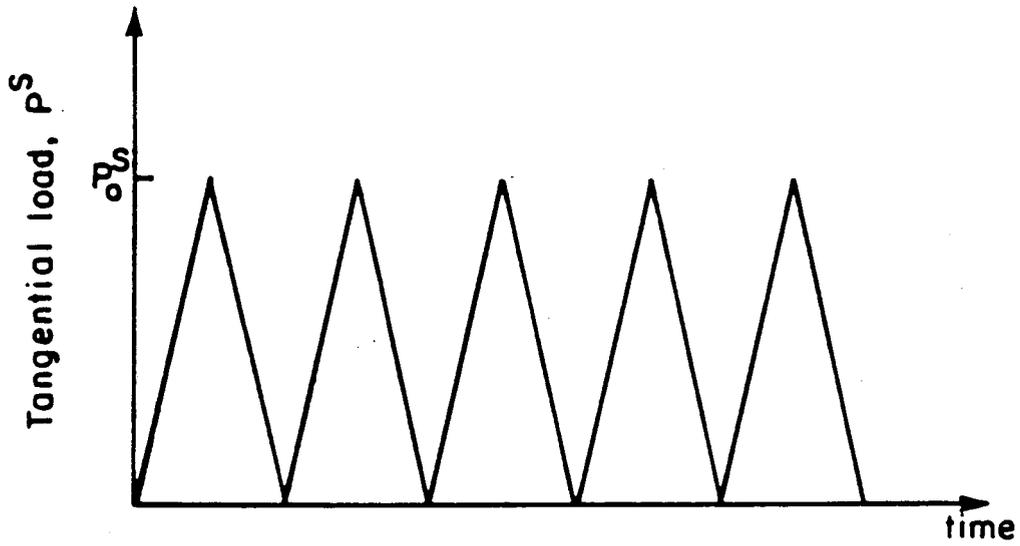


XBL 844-6914

Figure 13



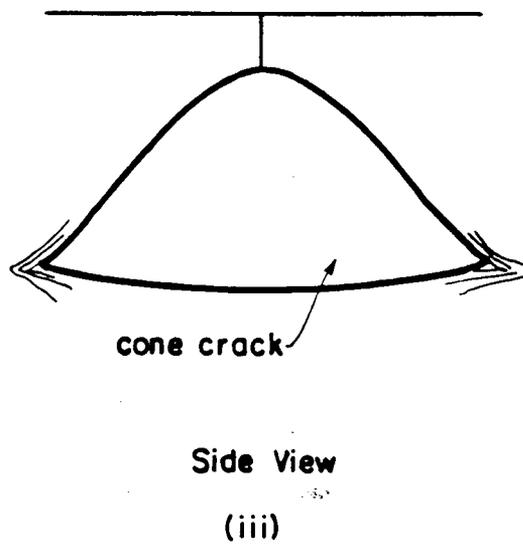
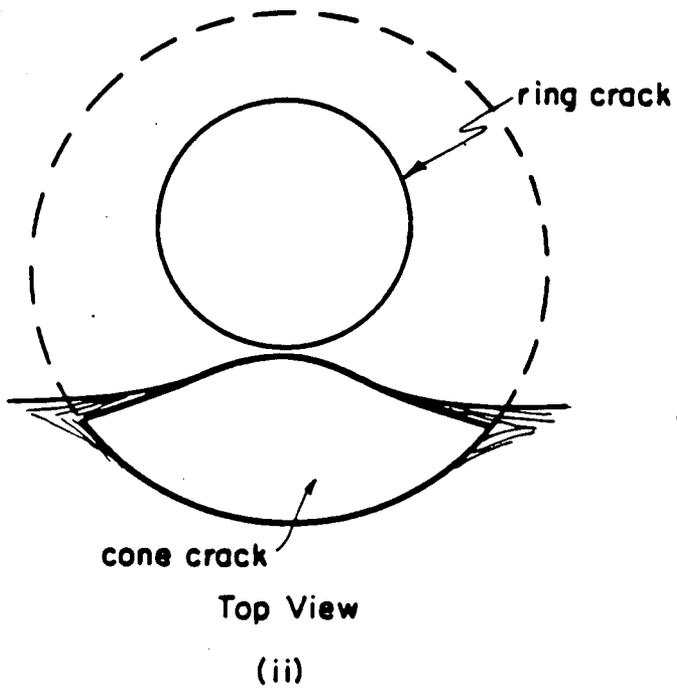
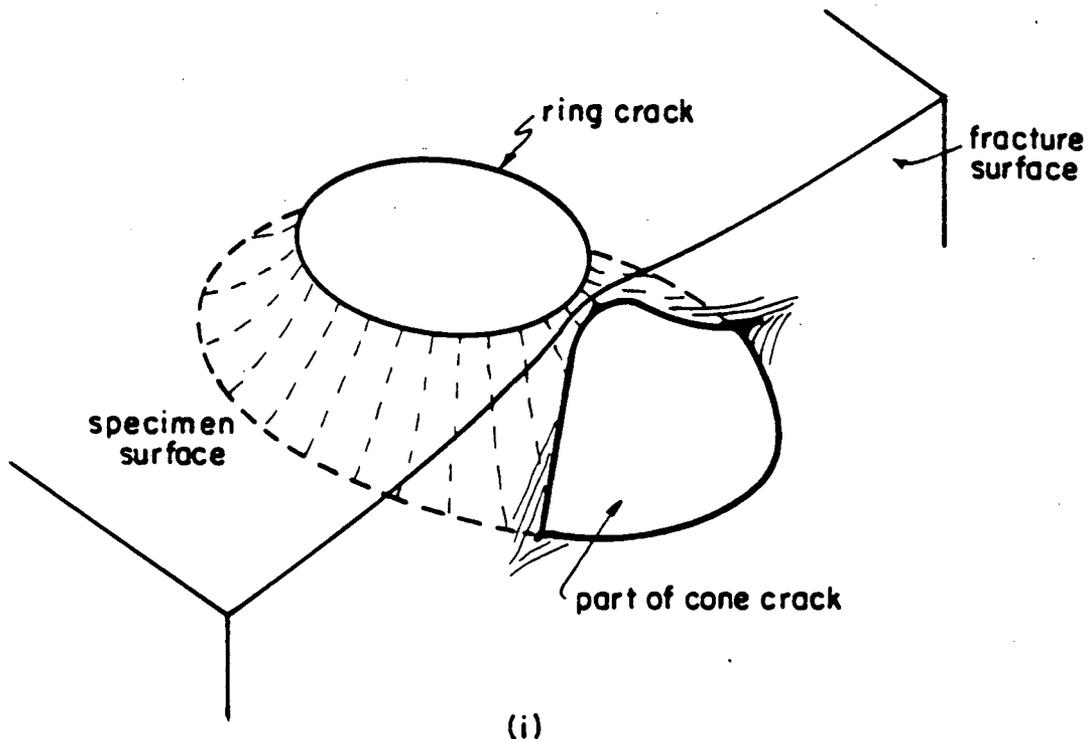
Slow crack growth test



Cyclic loading test

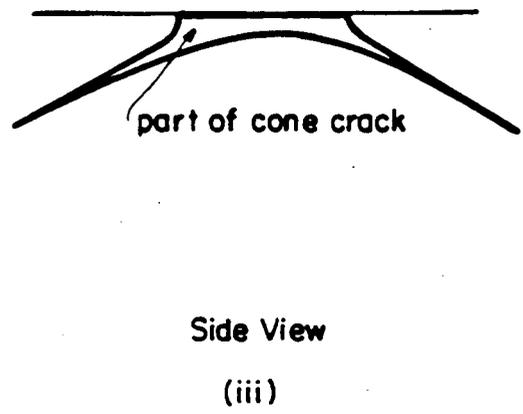
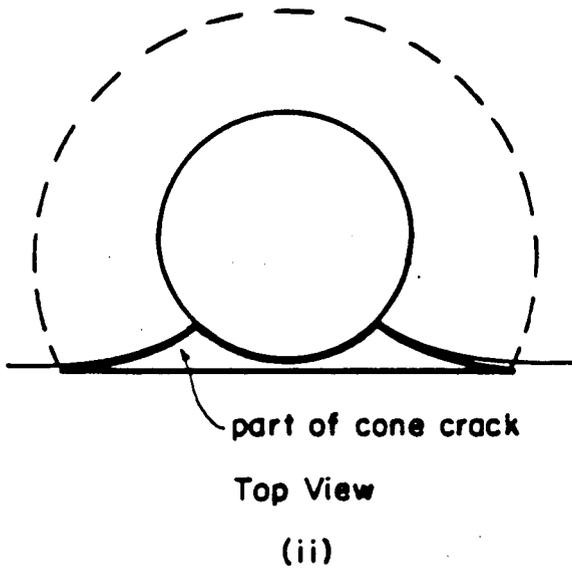
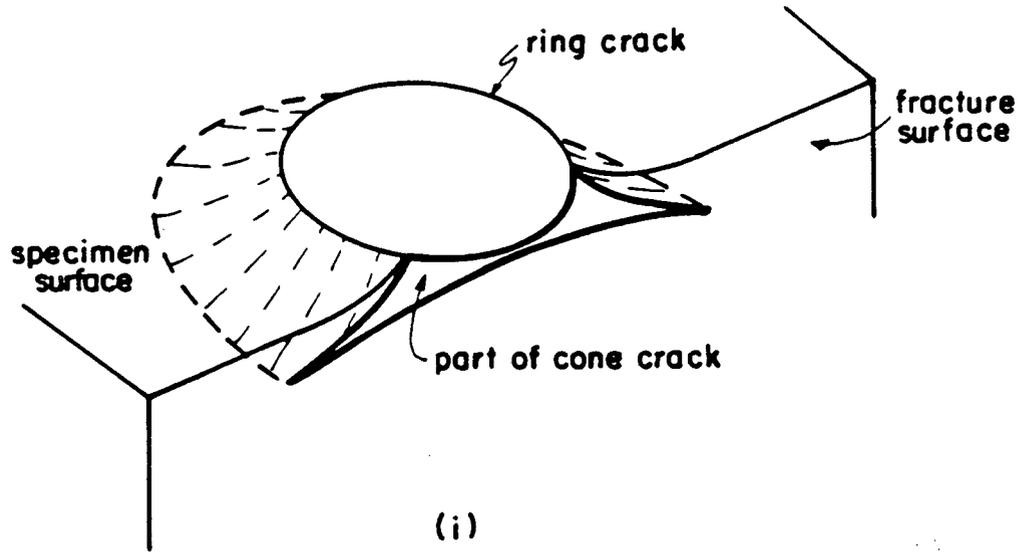
XBL 844-6915

Figure 14



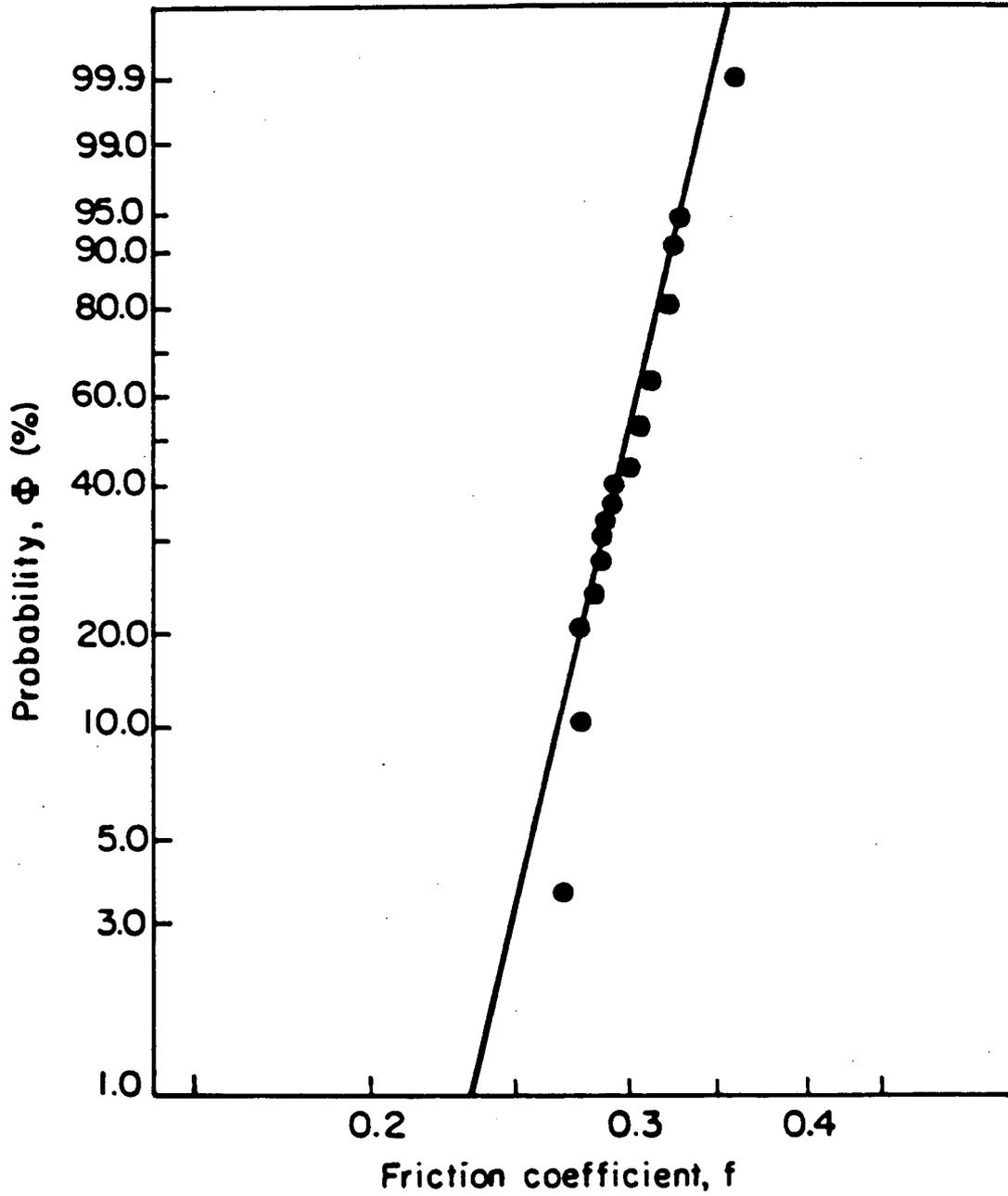
XBL 844-6916

Figure 15(a)



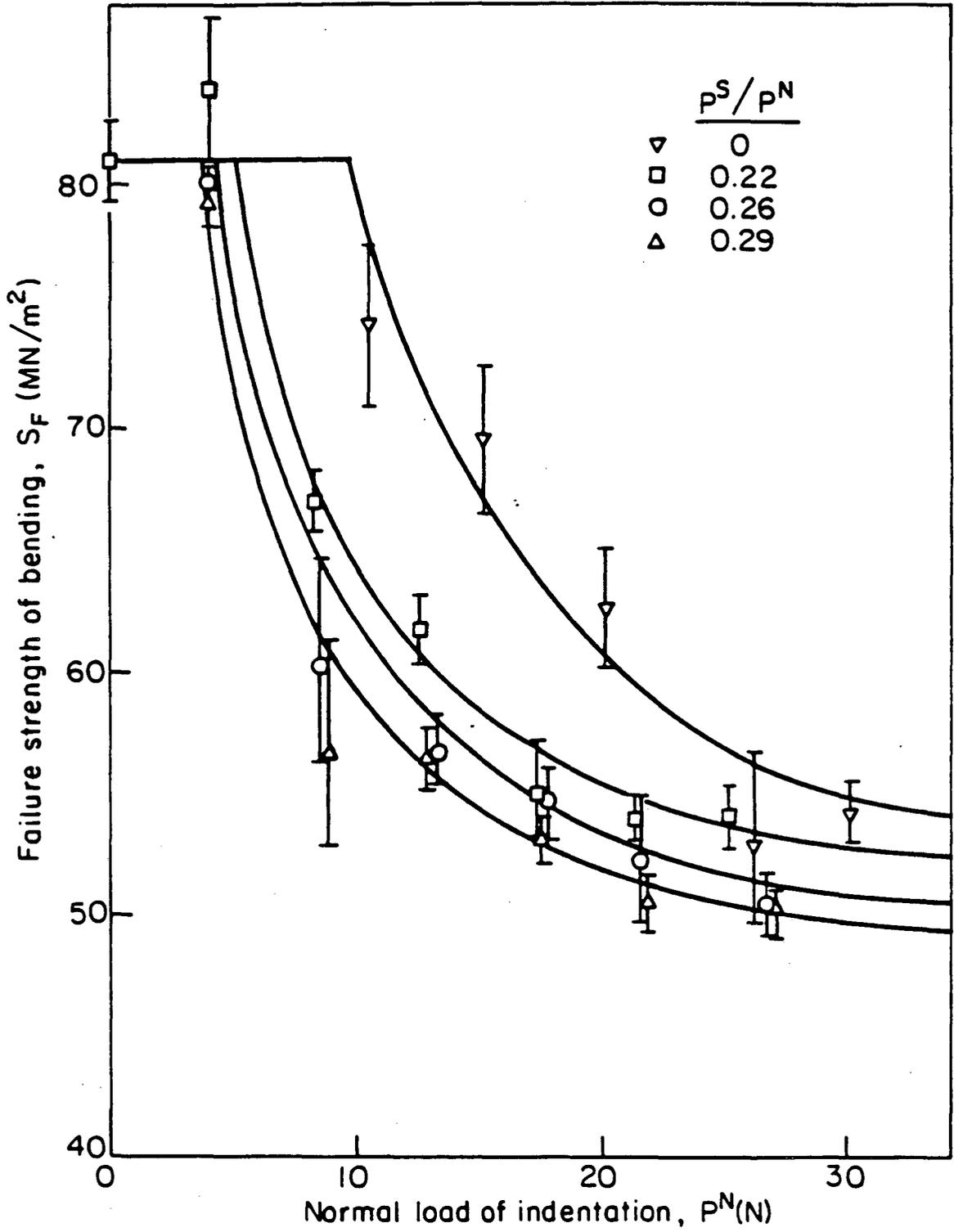
XBL 644-6917

Figure 15(b)



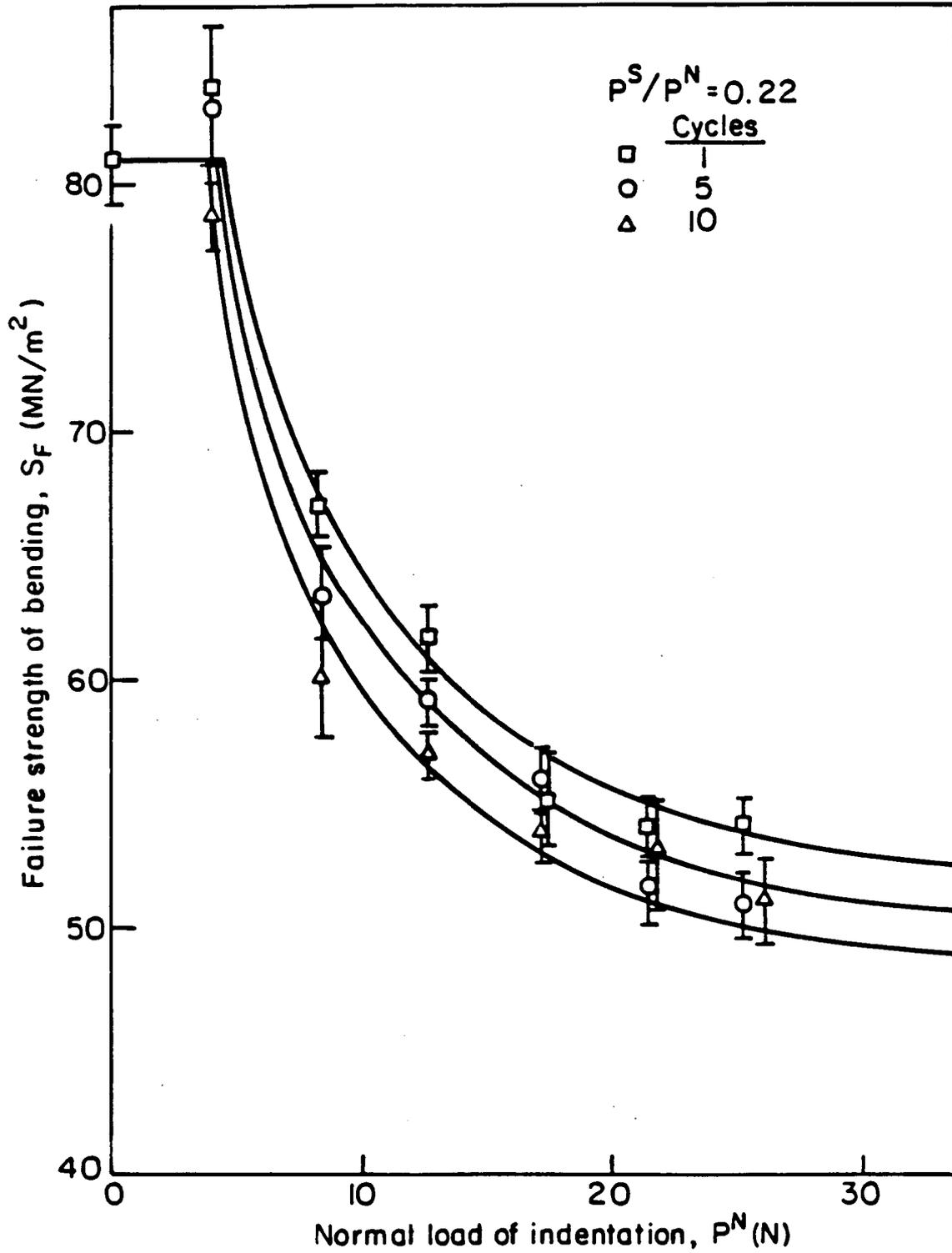
XBL 844-6918

Figure 16



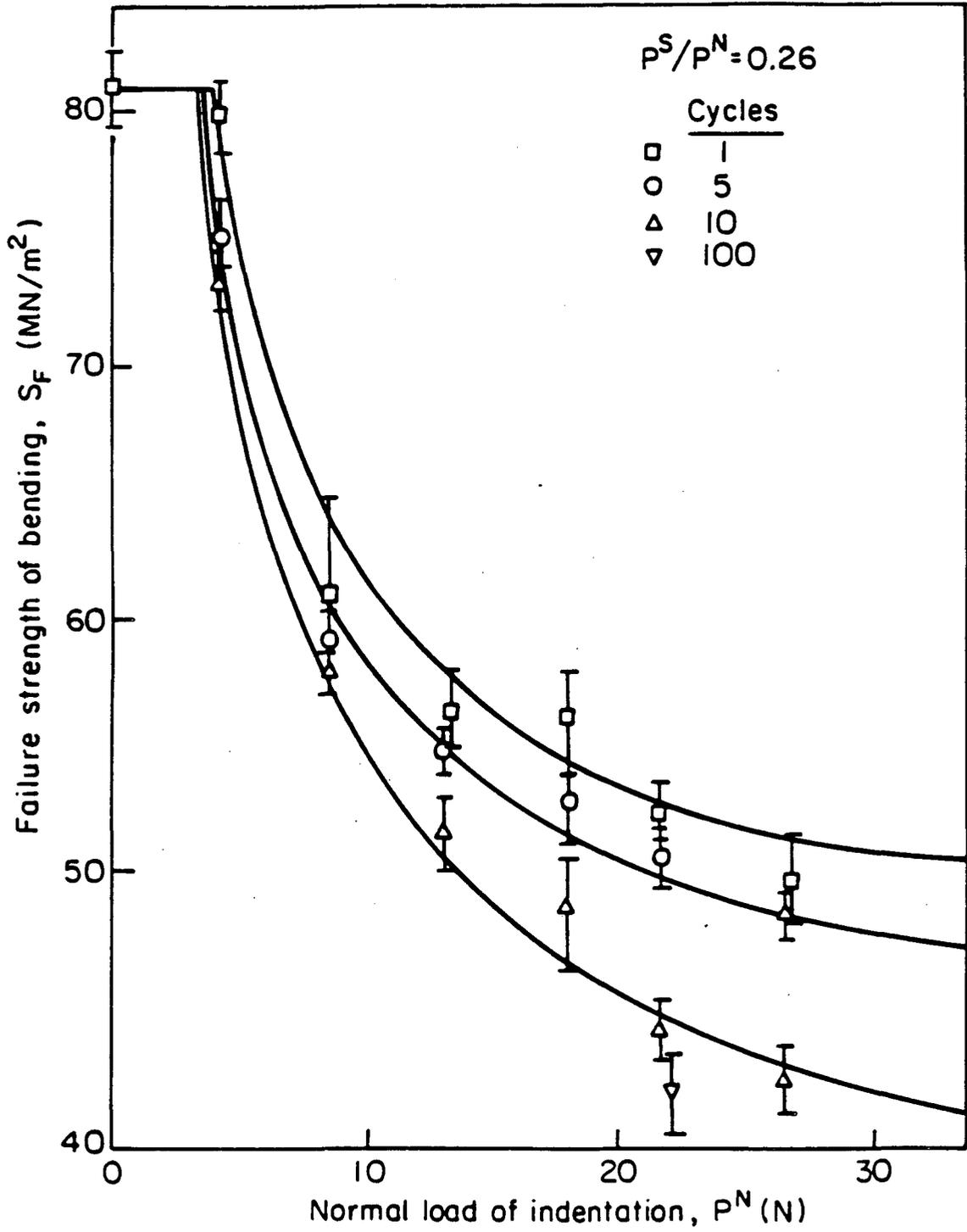
XBL 844-6919

Figure 17



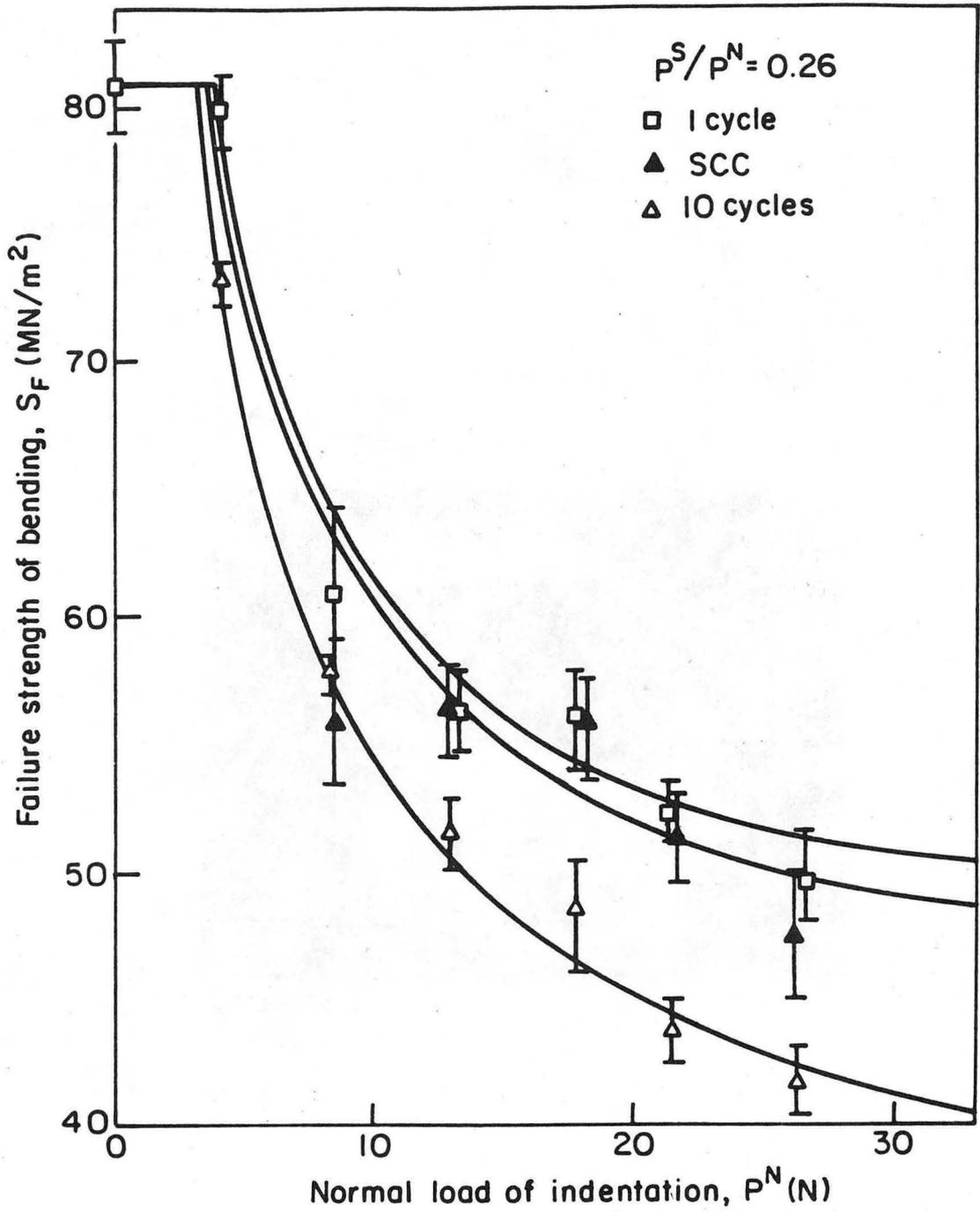
XBL 644-6920

Figure 18(a)



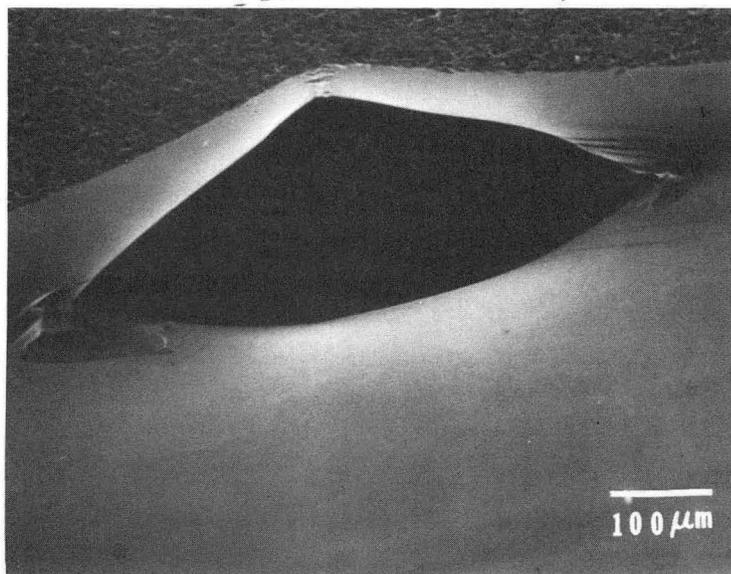
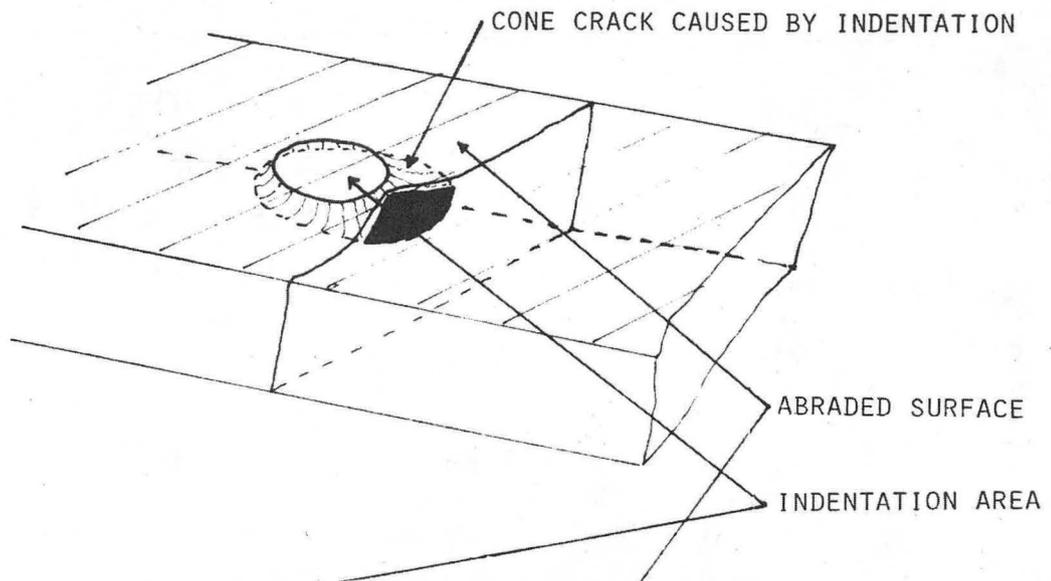
XBL 844-6921

Figure 18(b)



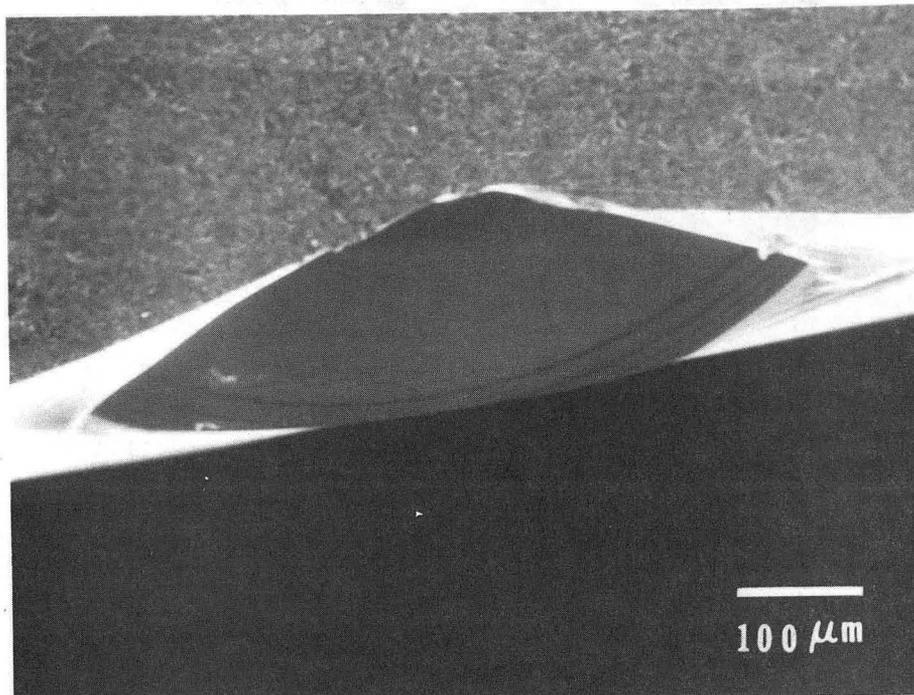
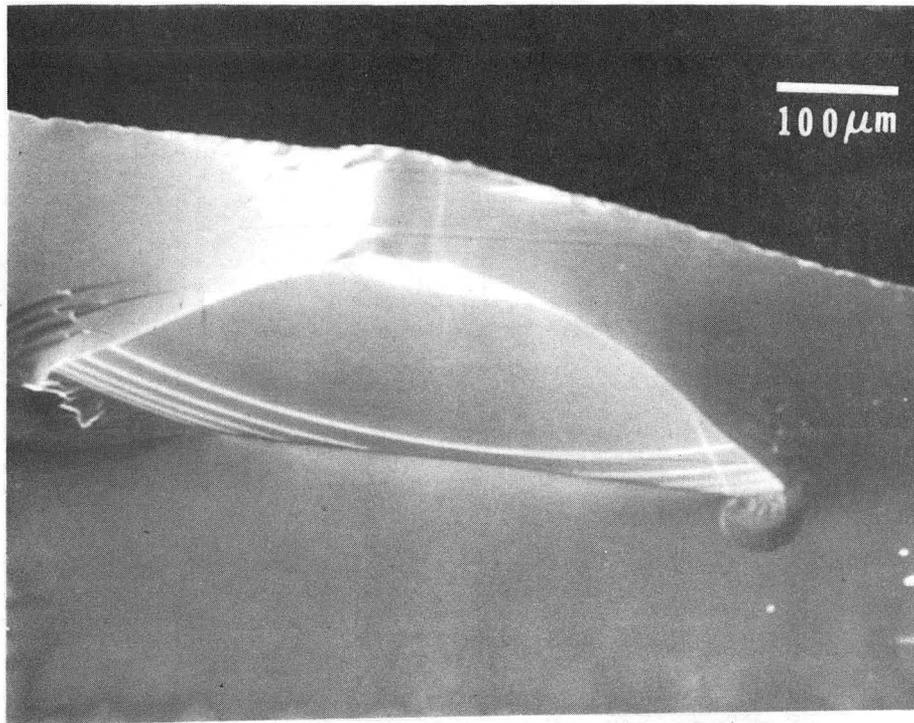
XBL 844-6922

Figure 19



XBB 839-8246A

Figure 20



XBB 839-8247

Figure 21

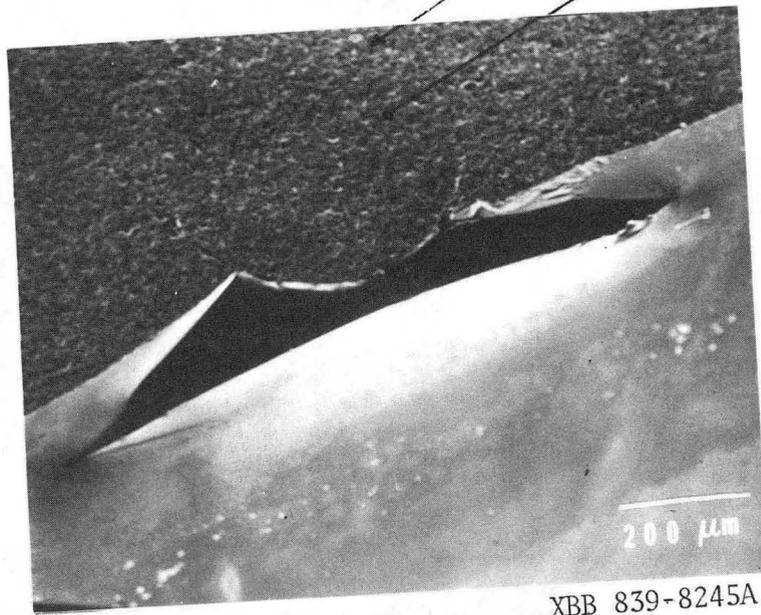
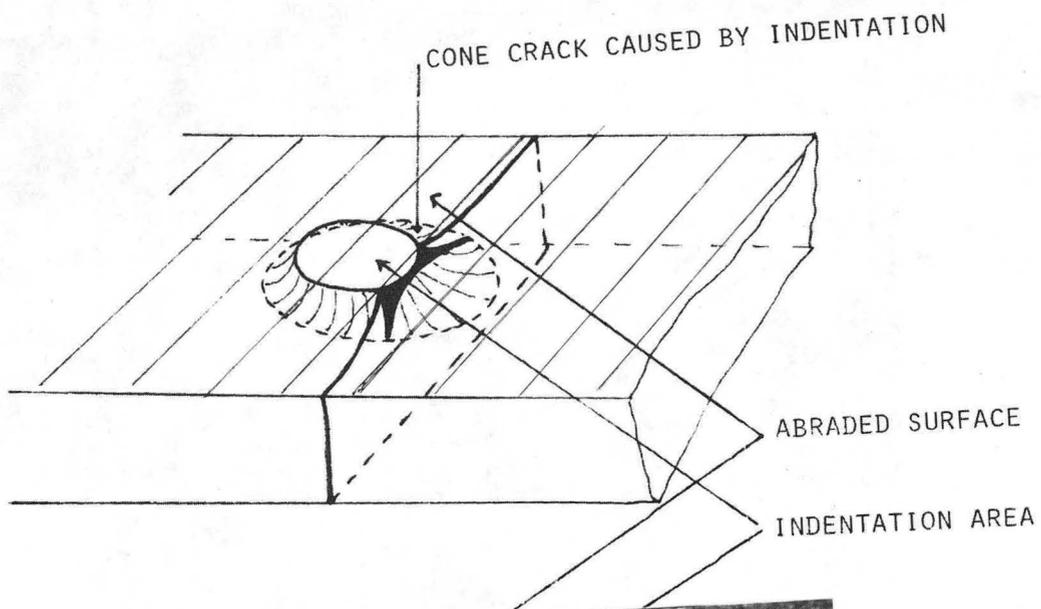
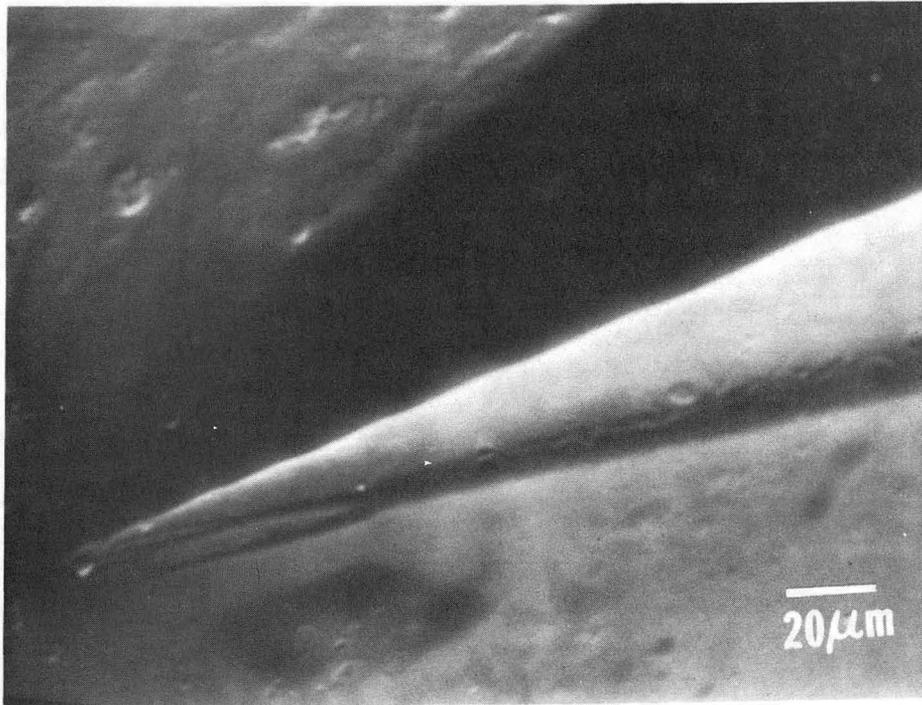
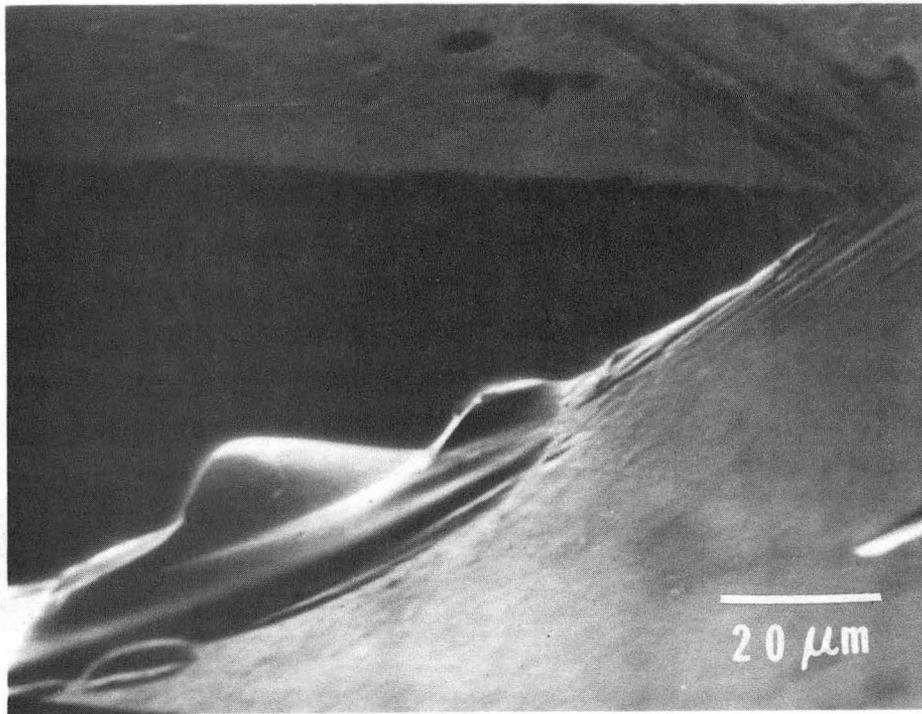
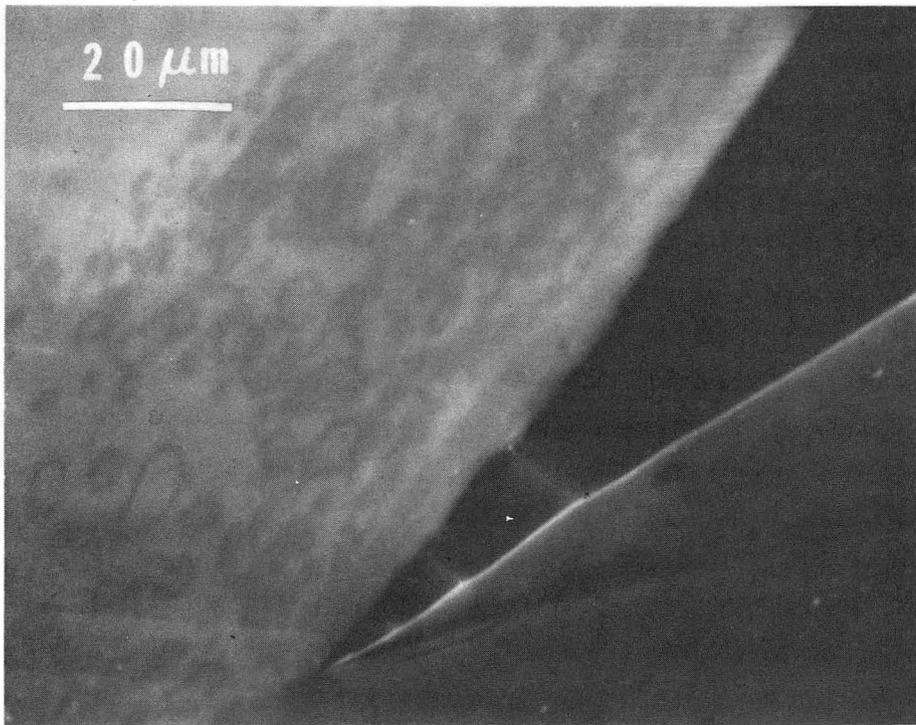
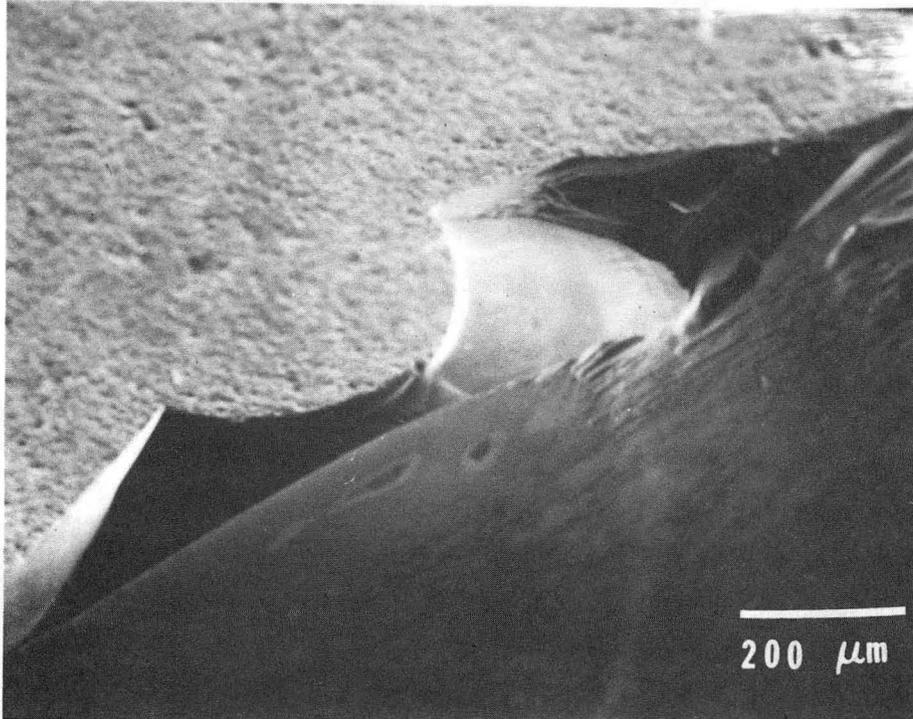


Figure 22



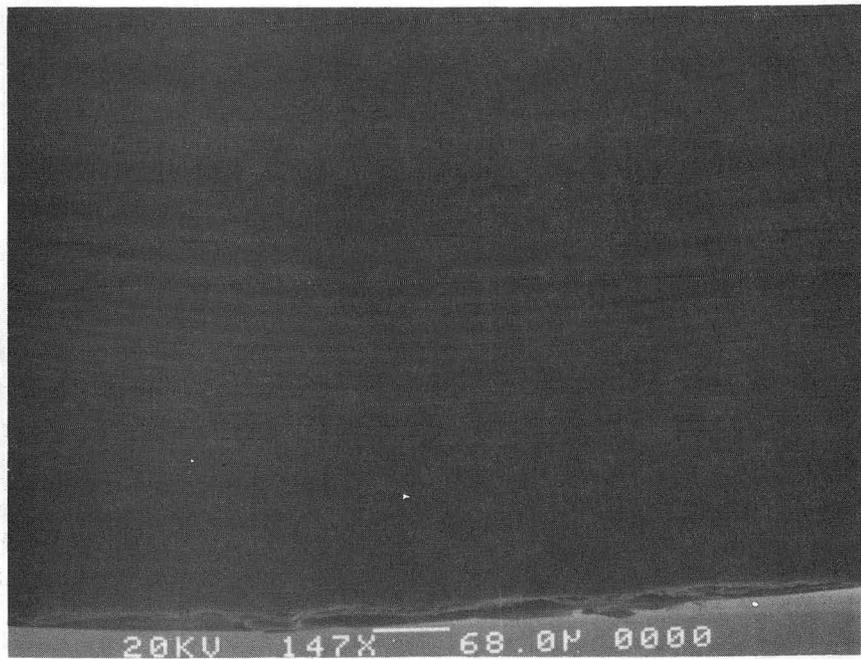
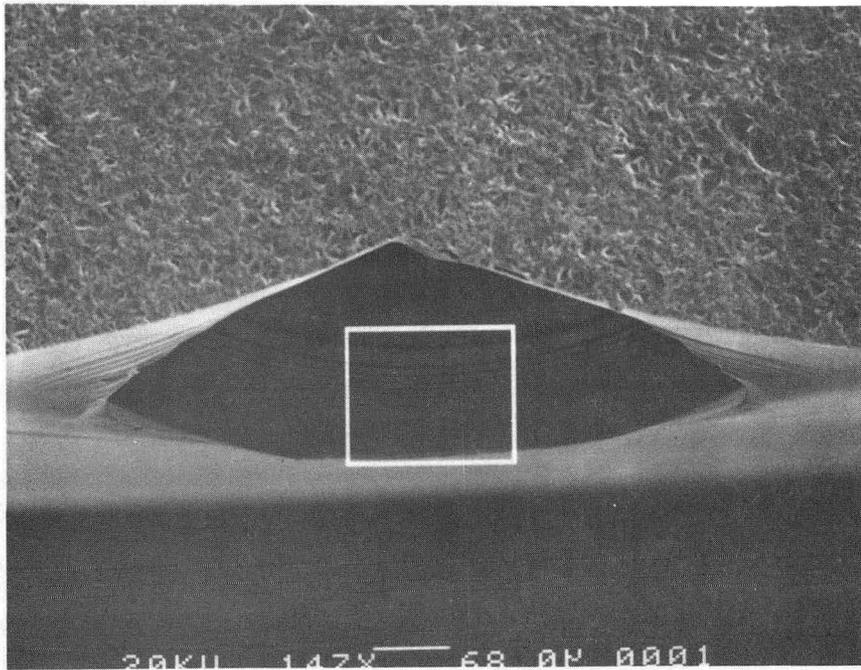
XBB 839-8249

Figure 23



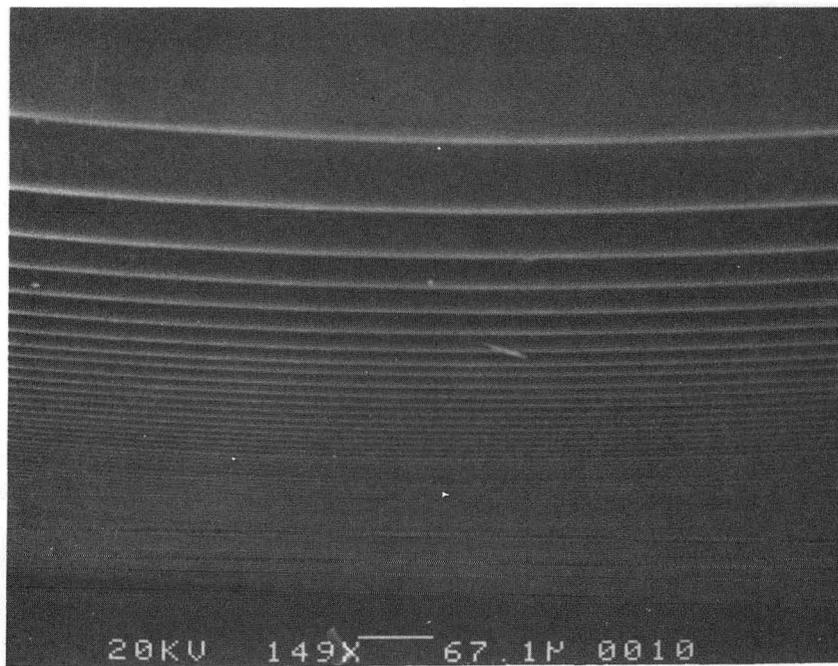
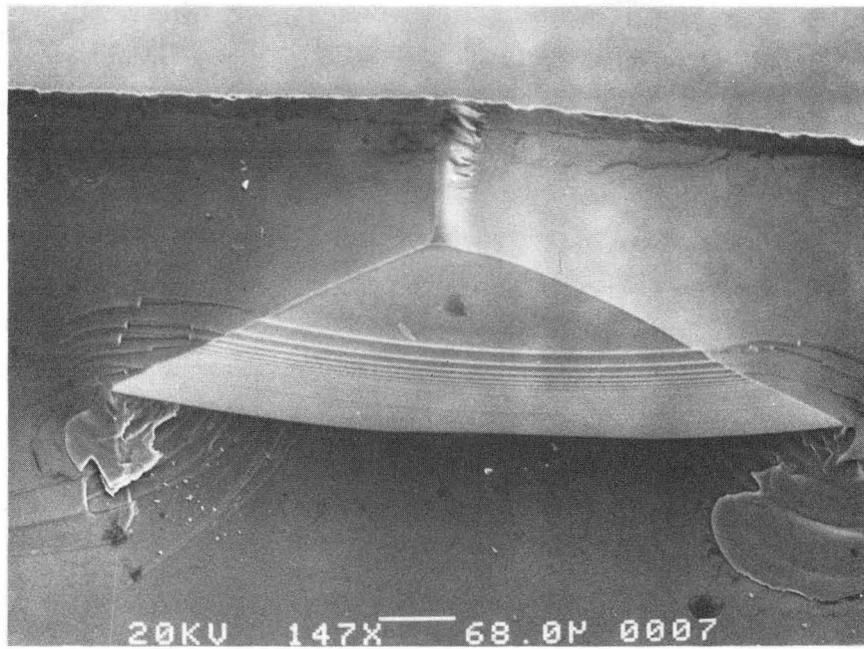
XBB 839-8248

Figure 24



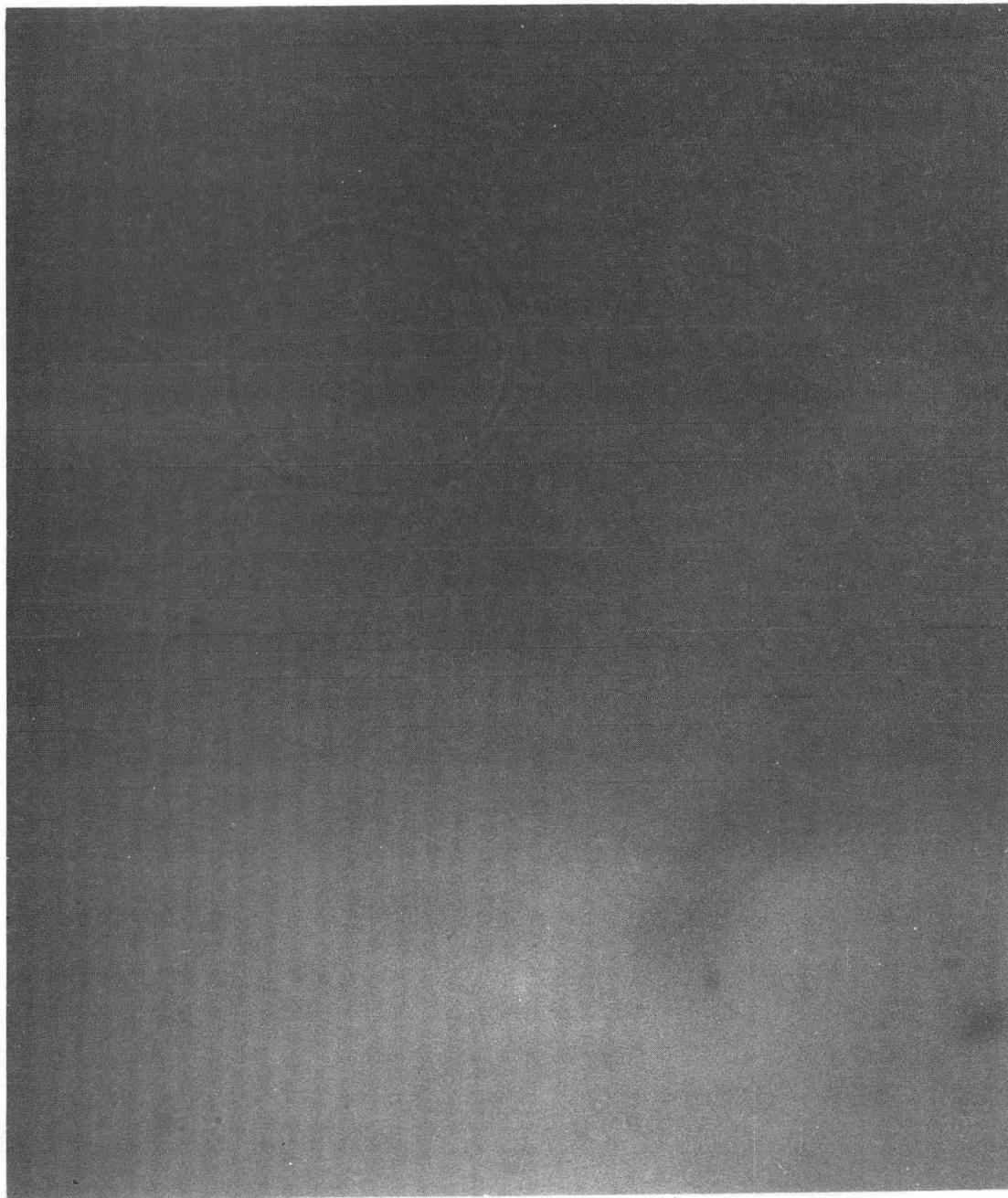
XBB 842-1233

Figure 25



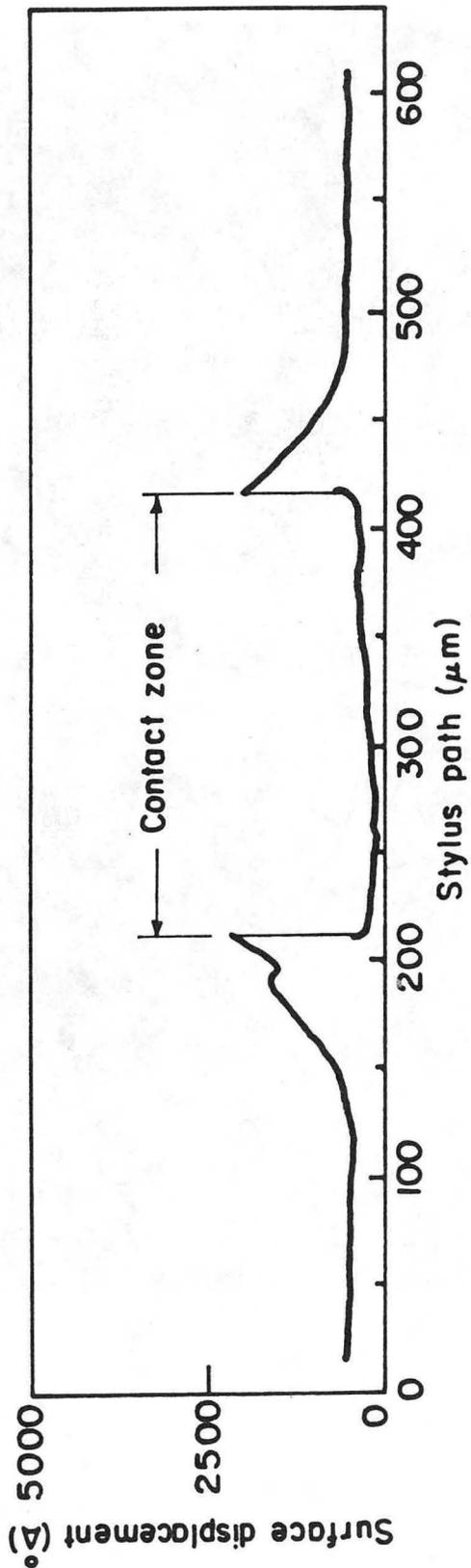
XBB 842-1232

Figure 26



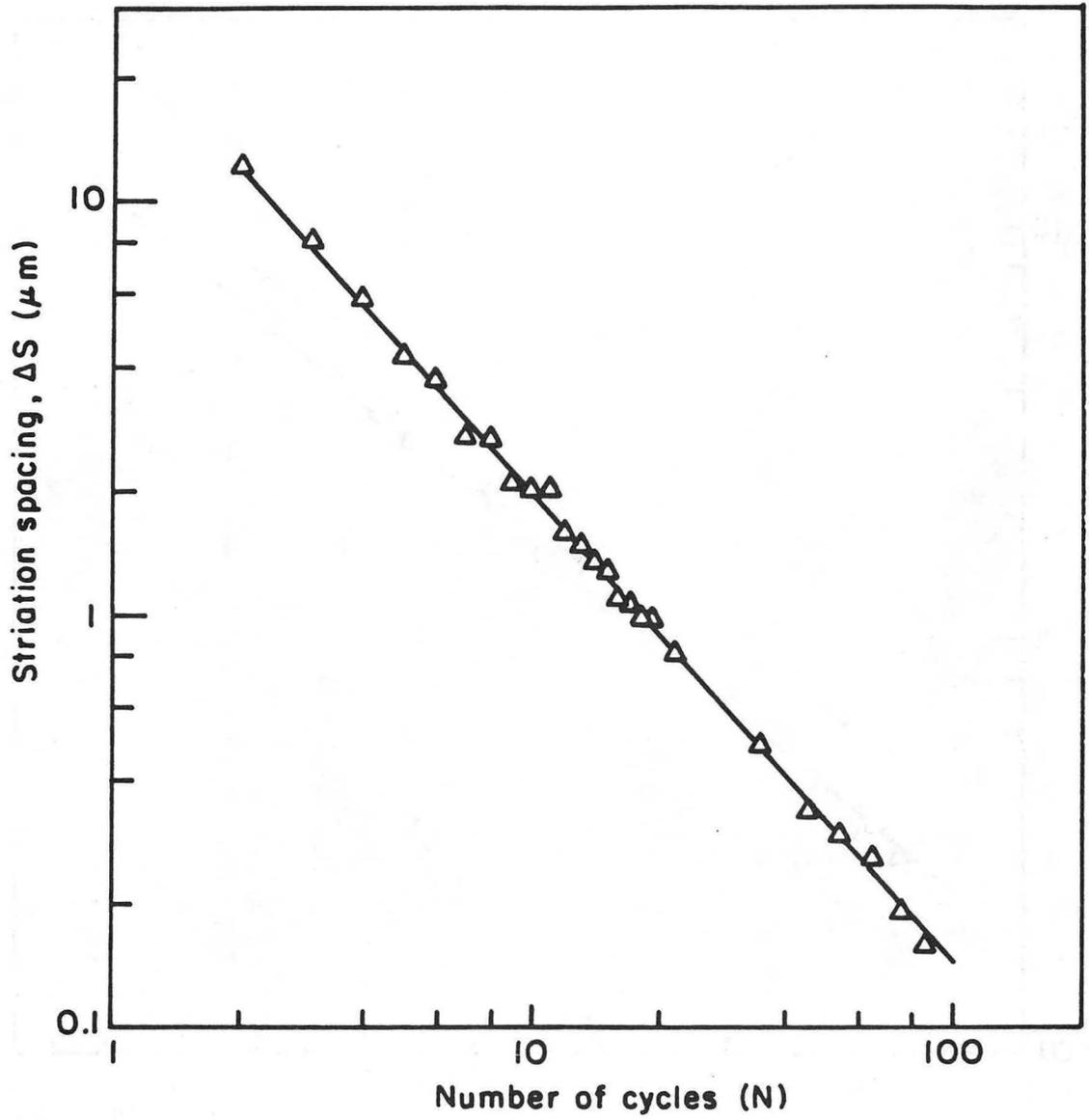
XBB 842-1231

Figure 27



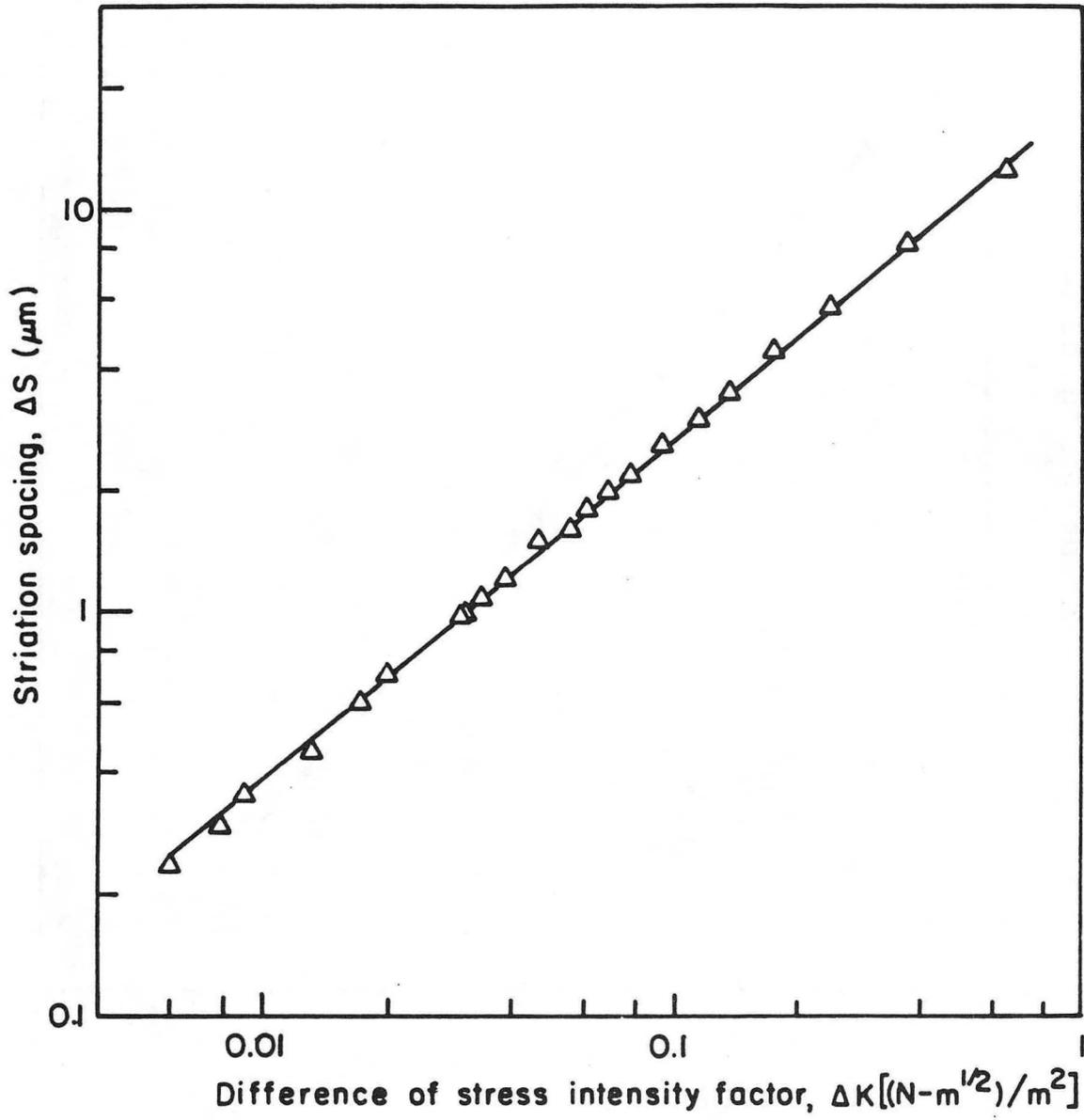
XBL 84 4-6923

Figure 28



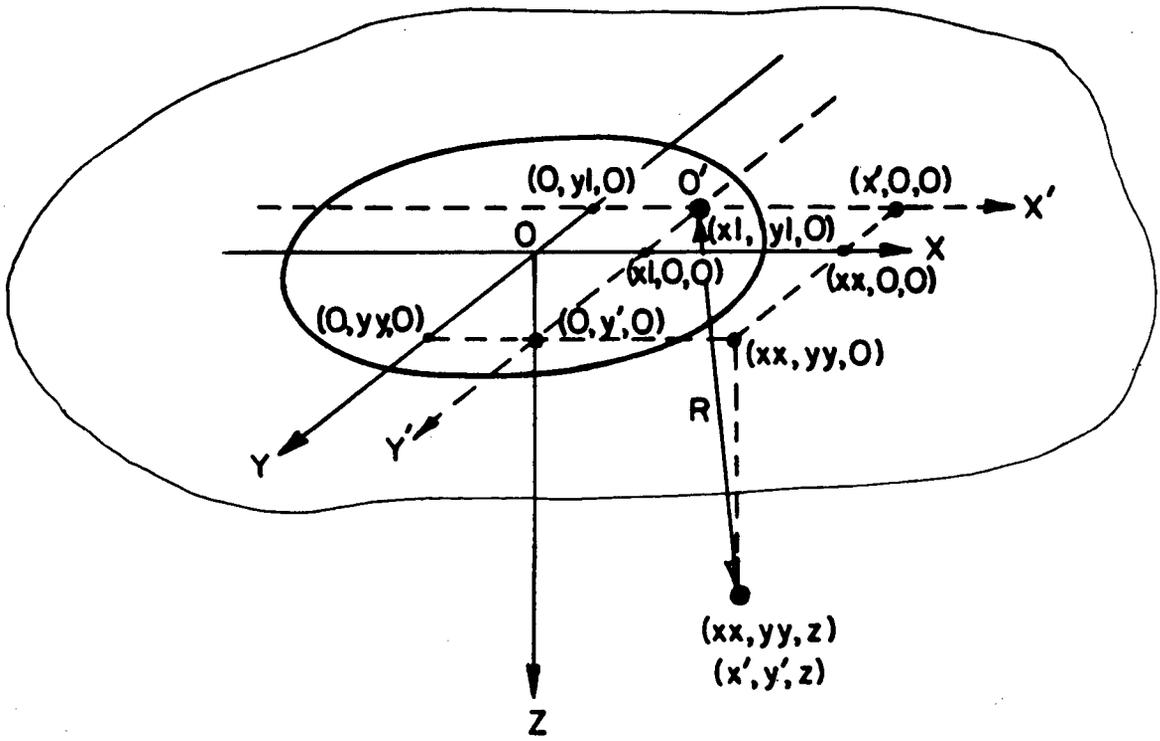
XBL 844-6924

Figure 29



XBL 644-6925

Figure 30



XBL 844-6926

Figure 31

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