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# Mode III fracture analysis of a non-homogeneous layer bonded to an elastic half-plane weakened by multiple interface cracks

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# **KEYWORDS**

Interface cracks; Distributed dislocation technique; Functionally graded layer; Volterra type screw dislocation; Stress intensity factors. **Abstract.** In this paper, the mode III crack problem of a non-homogenous layer bonded to an elastic half-plane was considered. It was assumed that the half-plane is homogeneous and the layer is non-homogeneous where the elastic properties are continuous throughout the layer. The stress field in a non-homogeneous layer and in an elastic half-plane with Volterratype screw dislocation was obtained. Fourier transforms were applied to the governing equations to derive a system of singular integral equations with simple Cauchy kernel. Then, the integral equations were solved numerically by being converted into a system of linear algebraic equations and using a collocation technique. The given results demonstrate the effects of the non-homogeneity parameters, interaction between the multiple cracks, and distance of the cracks in the stress intensity factors for gaining better understanding of the mechanical behavior of the non-homogeneous coating.

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# 1. Introduction

Functionally Graded Materials (FGMs) with material properties varying continuously possess apparent advantages in maintaining the integrity of the structure when subjected to applied thermo-mechanical loads. They are also widely used in engineering fields as a thermal barrier to prevent chemical corrosion [1]. Functionally Graded Materials (FGMs) have been widely applied under extreme loading environment, and the fracture mechanics of FGMs have attracted much attention [2,3]. Practical application shows that

\*. Corresponding author. Tel.: +98 24 33052488; Fax: +98 241 228-3204 E-mail addresses: rsourki@gmail.com (R. Sourki); mo.ayatollahy@gmail.com (M. Ayatollahi); mo\_m\_monfared@yahoo.com (M.M. Monfared). interface cracks constitute a major reason for failures of structural connection of different materials. Thus, the study of the stress field of the interface is playing a significant role in the design of safe layered structures. In addition, due to the nature of the techniques used in processing, these materials are imperfect. Moreover, by far, the most common forms of such imperfections, which may have the potential of growing into a macroscopic crack and causing the failure of the structure eventually, are the surface flaws located in the intersection of the interfaces [4].

In fracture analysis of mediums with interfacial cracks, Erdogan is an expert as one of the pioneering researchers; therefore, a concise review regarding his contributions in this category is presented herein at first. The analytical expression of Stress Intensity Factor (SIFs) in two bonded elastic layers containing cracks perpendicular to the interface was obtained by Ming-Che and Erdogan [4]. The problem was formulated in terms of integral equations and the singular behavior of the solution near to and at the ends of intersection of the cracks. The solution to an interface crack between two bonded homogeneous and non-homogeneous half planes was presented by Delale and Erdogan [5]. The results led to the conclusion that the singular behavior of stresses in the nonhomogeneous medium is identical to that in a homogeneous material. In another paper, Erdogan and Wu [6] investigated the influence of the structure and thickness of the interfacial regions on the strain energy release rate in bonded isotropic or orthotropic materials containing collinear interface cracks. They formulated the problem in terms of a system of singular integral equations of the second kind. The results show that the effects of properties and the relative thickness of the interfacial region on the stress intensity factors and strain energy release rate can be highly significant. Erdogan et al. [7] solved the mode III crack problem for two bonded homogeneous half planes. The interfacial zone was modelled by a non-homogeneous strip in such a way that the shear modulus is a continuous function throughout the composite medium and has discontinuous derivatives along the boundaries of the interfacial zone. It was shown that the stresses had the standard square root singularity.

Besides, in recent years, there have been several investigations regarding mode III interface crack problems as well. For example, Lü et al. [8] investigated the asymmetrical dynamic propagation problems of mode III interface crack under the condition of point loads and unit-step loads by the application of the theory of complex functions. The problem of a functionally graded coating bonded to an elastic substrate with interface crack subject to anti-plane loading was analyzed by Ding and Li [9]. In this investigation, they studied the influence of the interaction between the periodic arrays of interface cracks on stress intensity factors. Chen and Chue [10] dealt with the anti-plane problems of two bonded FGM strips weakened by an internal crack normal to the interface. The material properties are assumed to vary along the direction of the crack lines. The derived system of singular integral equations was solved numerically by Gauss-Chebyshev integration formula. Chue and Yeh [11] considered the anti-plane crack problem of two bonded FGM strips. Each strip concludes an arbitrarily oriented crack, and the material properties are assumed to be in exponential forms. Mode III crack cutting the interface perpendicularly between two dissimilar semiinfinite magneto-electro-elastic solids was investigated by Wan et al. [12]. The problem was formulated and solved based on the complex variable method, and the analytical solution was then found for the entire plane. Chao and Lu [13] studied the problem of a layered structure demonstrating an arbitrary oriented

crack crossing the interface in anti-plane elasticity. The distributed dislocation was used to model a crack, and SIFs for various inclinations with different material properties were found. Pan et al. [14] investigated the fracture problem of multiple parallel symmetric and permeable mode III cracks in a FG piezoelectric material plane under anti-plane loadings. They have found that the SIFs of cracks depend on the crack length, FG parameter, and the distance between the parallel cracks. Ding and Li [15] investigated an anti-plane crack problem of two collinear cracks perpendicular to the interface of a FG orthotropic layer bonded to an orthotropic homogeneous substrate. Choi [16] provided the solution to the anti-plane problem of dissimilar nonhomogeneous layers weakened by an embedded or edge interfacial crack. Ordyan and Petrova [17] presented a solution to the interaction of an interface crack with internal cracks in dissimilar materials under anti-plane shear loading. The fracture behavior of a piezoelectro-magneto-elastic medium under anti-plane loading was analyzed by Rogowski [18]. It was found that the stress, electric and magnetic fields exhibit square root singularity at the crack tips. Lapusta et al. [19] analyzed an interface crack in a biomaterial piezoelectric plane under anti-plane mechanical and inplane electric loadings.

Lü et al. [20] investigated the asymmetrical dynamic propagation problem on the edges of mode III interface crack subjected to superimposed loads by application of the theory of complex variable functions. Hu et al. [21] investigated a moving Dugdale interfacial crack model between dissimilar magneto-electro-elastic materials under anti-plane shear and in-plane electric and magnetic loadings. Monfared and Ayatollahi [22] investigated the dynamic stress intensity factors of cracked orthotropic half-plane and functionally graded material coating of a coating-substrate material due to the action of anti-plane traction on the crack surfaces. The dislocation solution was utilized to derive integral equations for multiple interacting cracks. The transient response analysis of a mode III interface crack between a piezoelectric layer and a FG orthotropic material was carried out by Shin and Kim [23].

Many researchers have also studied the mixed mode interfacial crack problems in recent years. For instance, Yang et al. [24] studied the fracture problems near the interface crack tip of double dissimilar orthotropic composite materials. Through the instrumentality of complex function method, the singularity exponents were derived and determined. Cheng et al. [25] studied the plane elasticity problem of two bonded dissimilar functionally graded strips containing an interface crack with material properties varying arbitrarily. The governing equation in terms of Airy stress function was formulated, and exact solutions were obtained for several special variations of material properties in Fourier transformation domain. The fatigue crack growth of interfacial cracks in bi-layered materials using the extended finite-element method was analysed by Bhattacharya et al. [26]. Ding et al. [27] studied the behavior of an interface crack for a homogeneous orthotropic strip sandwiched between two various FG orthotropic materials subjected to thermomechanical loading. Crack tip opening displacement and plastic zone size were investigated for a curved interface crack between a circular inclusion and an infinite matrix by Fan et al. [28]. Zhao et al. [29] studied the stress intensity factor in orthotropic bimaterial interface cracks adopting the complex function approach.

Moreover, there have been several investigations using numerical techniques to solve such problems. For instance, Bui and Zhang [30] presented a transient dynamic analysis of stationary cracks in two-dimensional solids subjected to coupled electromechanical impact loads using the extended Finite-Element Method (X-FEM). Sharma et al. [31] analyzed a sub-interface crack problem in piezoelectric biomaterials by the X-FEM. In this investigation, the effects of different poling directions and electromechanical impact loads were analyzed. The stress intensity factors were evaluated by utilizing the asymptotic crack-tip fields. Liu et al. [32] studied the transient dynamic fracture behaviors of stationary cracked FG piezoelectric materials under impact loading using the X-FEM. The transient thermal shock fracture analysis of functionally graded piezoelectric materials using the X-FEM was conducted by Liu et al. [33]. It was found that the effect of the thermal shock loading on the dynamic intensity factors was significant. Yu et al. [34] solved the problem of interfacial cracks between dissimilar piezoelectric solids under coupled electromechanical impact loadings by the X-FEM. Bui [35] presented an extension of the extended isogeometric analysis to simulate two-dimensional fracture mechanics problems in piezoelectric materials under dynamic and static coupled electromechanical loading conditions. Bui et al. [36] developed a dynamic extended Iso Geometric Analysis (XIGA) of transient fracture of cracked magneto-electroelastic solids under coupled electromagneto-mechanical loading. Doan et al. [37] presented a numerical simulation of dynamic crack propagation in functionally graded glass-filled epoxy beams by utilizing a regularized variation formulation. The Griffith theory-based hybrid phase filed approach was used to simulate the dynamic crack growth accurately. Wang and Waisman [38] proposed a set of enrichment functions within the framework of the X-FEM for the analysis of interface cracks in biomaterials. Itou [39] determined the stress intensity factors for four collinear interface cracks which are situated at the interface between a nonhomogeneous elastic bonding layer and one of two dissimilar elastic half-planes. The behavior of an interface crack in two bonded dissimilar materials subjected to in-plane loading was studied by Monfared et al. [40]. The dislocation density on the faces of the cracks was obtained numerically and, then, was used to calculate the mixed mode stress intensity factors of multiple interface cracks.

In this article, we present an analytical method to study multiple interfacial cracks with arbitrary arrangement under anti-plane shear loading. This technique is efficient and applicable to modelling the evolution of a developing crack in two or three dimensions. Basically, the same strategies will be employed to formulate the solution to three-dimensional crack problems by dislocation loop instead of a straight line dislocation.

This paper presents the solution to the problem of a graded coating bonded to an elastic isotropic halfplane weakened by multiple interface cracks. The stress fields in a medium containing Volterra-type screw dislocation are first presented (Section 2). The analytical study is based on the use of Fourier transform. In the next section, the stress analysis of a medium under point loading is carried out (Section 3). With respect to the results of Sections 2 and 3, the integral equations for multiple interface cracks are derived in terms of the dislocation density function given in Section 4. Several examples are solved to demonstrate the applicability of the problem presented in Section 5. Numerical examples are given to show the effects of the thickness of the FGM strips, material properties, and length of the crack upon the fracture behavior. Finally, Section 6 will conclude the paper.

#### 2. Formulation of the problem

The anti-plane problem under consideration consists of a graded coating bonded to isotropic semi-infinite substrate with an interface crack (see Figure 1). The thickness of strip is h in y-direction, where shear modulus,  $\mu$ , varies continuously in the thickness direction. There is a screw dislocation at y = 0 between the graded coating and elastic substrate. The constitutive relations for FGM and isotropic material may be expressed as follows:



Figure 1. Geometry of the problem.

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$$\sigma_{zx1} = \mu(y) \frac{\partial w_1}{\partial x}, \qquad \sigma_{zy1} = \mu(y) \frac{\partial w_1}{\partial y},$$
  
$$\sigma_{zx2} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial w_2}{\partial x}, \qquad \sigma_{zy2} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial w_2}{\partial y}.$$
 (1)

To facilitate the solution of the problem, nonhomogeneity of the material may be approximated by:

$$\mu(y) = \mu_0 e^{2\beta y},\tag{2}$$

where  $\beta$  is a non-homogeneity parameter. In the above equations,  $\mu_0$  is the shear module of elasticity. The strip is traction free on the boundary. Thus, boundary condition is as follows:

$$\sigma_{zy_1}(x,h) = 0. \tag{3}$$

A Volterra-type screw dislocation with Burgers vector;  $b_z$ , is placed at the origin of coordinates. The condition illustrating the dislocation is:

$$w_1(x,0^+) - w_2(x,0^-) = b_z H(x), \tag{4}$$

where H(.) is the Heaviside step function. The condition of self-equilibrium of stress between the strip and half-plane implies that:

$$\sigma_{zy_1}(x, 0^+) = \sigma_{zy_2}(x, 0^-). \tag{5}$$

The equilibrium equations in terms of displacement will be written as follows:

$$\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} + 2\beta \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = 0, \qquad 0 \le y \le h,$$
$$\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} = 0, \qquad y \le 0. \tag{6}$$

The solution to Eqs. (6) can be solved by the Fourier transformation, defined as follows:

$$F(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)e^{isx}dx,$$
(7)

and the inversion of the Fourier transform is:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(s)e^{-isx}ds.$$
(8)

By applying the Fourier transform Eq. (7), the solution to Eqs. (6) may be expressed as follows:

$$\frac{d^2 W(s, y)}{dy^2} + 2\beta \frac{dW(s, y)}{dy} - s^2 W(s, y) = 0, \qquad 0 \le y \le h,$$
$$\frac{d^2 W(s, y)}{dy^2} - s^2 W(s, y) = 0, \qquad y \le 0, \tag{9}$$

where s is the transform variable, and the solution will lead to the following equations for each region:

$$W(s, y) = A_1(s)e^{(-\beta - \alpha)y} + A_2(s)e^{(-\beta + \alpha)y}$$
$$0 \le y \le h,$$
$$W(s, y) = B(s)e^{|s|y}, \qquad y \le 0,$$
(10)

where  $\alpha = \sqrt{\beta^2 + s^2}$  and unknown functions,  $A_1(s)$ ,  $A_2(s)$ , and B(s) are determined from the boundary conditions. The Fourier transforms of boundary conditions (3) to (5) result in:

$$\frac{dW_1(s,h)}{dy} = 0,$$

$$W_1(s,0^+) - W_2(s,0^-) = b_z \left(\pi \,\delta(s) + \frac{i}{s}\right),$$

$$\frac{dW_1(s,0^+)}{dy} = \frac{dW_2(s,0^-)}{dy},$$
(11)

where  $\delta(.)$  is the Dirac delta function. The solution to Eq. (10) subject to the above boundary conditions is straightforward. Hence, unknowns  $A_1(s)$ ,  $A_2(s)$ , and  $B_1(s)$  may be expressed as shown in Box I.

By substituting Eq. (12) into Eq. (10) and applying the Fourier transform inversion formula (8), the

$$A_{1}(s) = -\frac{b_{z}|s|(\pi\delta(s) + i/s)(\beta - \alpha)e^{\alpha h}}{|s|[(\beta + \alpha)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha)e^{\alpha h}] + (\beta^{2} - \alpha^{2})(e^{-\alpha h} - e^{\alpha h})},$$

$$A_{2}(s) = \frac{b_{z}|s|(\pi\delta(s) + i/s)(\beta + \alpha)e^{-\alpha h}}{|s|[(\beta + \alpha)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha)e^{\alpha h}] + (\beta^{2} - \alpha^{2})(e^{-\alpha h} - e^{\alpha h})},$$

$$B_{1}(s) = \frac{b_{z}(\pi\delta(s) + i/s)(\beta^{2} - \alpha^{2})(e^{\alpha h} - e^{-\alpha h})}{|s|[(\beta + \alpha)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha)e^{\alpha h}] + (\beta^{2} - \alpha^{2})(e^{-\alpha h} - e^{\alpha h})}.$$
(12)

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$$w_{1}(x,y) = -\frac{b_{z}}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{|s|(\pi\delta(s) + i/s)e^{-\beta y}[(\beta - \alpha)e^{\alpha(h-y)} - (\beta + \alpha)e^{-\alpha(h-y)}]}{|s|[(\beta + \alpha)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha)e^{\alpha h}] + (\beta^{2} - \alpha^{2})(e^{-\alpha h} - e^{\alpha h})}e^{-isx}ds, \qquad 0 \le y \le h,$$

$$w_{2}(x,y) = \frac{b_{z}}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(\pi\delta(s) + i/s)(\beta^{2} - \alpha^{2})(e^{\alpha h} - e^{-\alpha h})e^{|s|y}}{|s|[(\beta + \alpha)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha)e^{\alpha h}] + (\beta^{2} - \alpha^{2})(e^{-\alpha h} - e^{\alpha h})}e^{-isx}ds, \qquad y \le 0.$$
(13)

displacement field in the medium can be obtained by Eq. (13) as shown in Box II.

By splitting the integrals in Eq. (13) into odd and even parts with respect to parameter s in view of Eq. (1), the stress fields are written as follows:

$$\sigma_{zy1}(x,y) = -\frac{b_z \mu_0 e^{\beta y}}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{s(e^{\alpha(h-y)} - e^{-\alpha(h-y)})}{(\beta + \alpha - s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha - s)e^{\alpha h}} \sin(sx) ds,$$

$$\sigma_{zx1}(x,y) = -\frac{b_z \mu_0 e^{\beta y}}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{(\beta - \alpha)e^{\alpha(h-y)} - (\beta + \alpha)e^{-\alpha(h-y)}}{(\beta + \alpha - s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha - s)e^{\alpha h}} \cos(sx) ds,$$

 $0 \le y \le h$ ,

$$\sigma_{zy2}(x,y) = -\frac{b_z \mu_0}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{s e^{sy} (e^{\alpha h} - e^{-\alpha h})}{(\beta + \alpha - s) e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha - s) e^{\alpha h}} \sin(sx) ds,$$

$$\sigma_{zx2}(x,y) = -\frac{b_z \mu_0}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{s e^{sy} (e^{\alpha h} - e^{-\alpha h})}{(\beta + \alpha - s) e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha - s) e^{\alpha h}} \cos(sx) ds,$$
$$y \le 0. \tag{14}$$

In order to specify the singular nature of the stress components, the asymptotic behavior of integrands in Eq. (14) should be examined. Since the integrands are continuous functions of s and also finite at s = 0, the singularity must occur as s tends to infinity. The final results may be presented as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{zy1}(x,y) &= \\ &- \frac{\mu_0 b_z e^{2\beta y}}{2\pi} \left( \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{x}{x^2 + (2h - y)^2} \right) - \frac{\mu_0 b_z e^{\beta y}}{\pi} \\ &\times \int_0^\infty \left[ \frac{s(e^{\alpha h} e^{-(\beta + \alpha)y} - e^{-\alpha h} e^{-(\beta - \alpha)y})}{(\beta + \alpha - s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha - s)e^{\alpha h}} \right] \\ &- \frac{e^{-sy} - e^{-s(2h - y)}}{2} \right] \sin(sx) ds, \\ &0 \le y \le h, \\ \sigma_{zx1}(x,y) &= \frac{\mu_0 b_z e^{2\beta y}}{2\pi} \left( \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{2h - y}{x^2 + (2h - y)^2} \right) \\ &- \frac{\mu_0 b_z e^{\beta y}}{\pi} \\ &\times \int_0^\infty \left[ \frac{(\beta - \alpha)e^{\alpha h} e^{-(\beta + \alpha)y} - (\beta + \alpha)e^{-\alpha h} e^{-(\beta - \alpha)y}}{(\beta + \alpha - s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha - s)e^{\alpha h}} \right] \\ &+ \frac{e^{-sy} - e^{-s(2h - y)}}{2} \right] \cos(sx) ds, \\ &0 \le y \le h. \\ \sigma_{zy2}(x,y) &= -\frac{\mu_0 b_z}{2\pi} \left( \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \right) - \frac{\mu_0 b_z}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \\ &\left[ \frac{s(e^{\alpha h} - e^{-\alpha h})}{(\beta + \alpha - s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha - s)e^{\alpha h}} - \frac{1}{2} \right] e^{sy} \sin(sx) ds, \\ &y \le 0, \\ \sigma_{zx2}(x,y) &= \frac{\mu_0 b_z}{2\pi} (\frac{x}{x^2 + y^2}) - \frac{\mu_0 b_z}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[\frac{s(e^{\alpha h} - e^{-\alpha h})}{(\beta + \alpha - s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha - s)e^{\alpha h}} - \frac{1}{2}\right]e^{sy}\cos(sx)ds,$$
  
$$y \le 0.$$
 (15)

It is noteworthy to mention that stress fields exhibit Cauchy singularity at the dislocation position. Moreover, the integrands in Eq. (15) decay quite rapidly as  $s \to \infty$ , which makes the integrals susceptible to numerical evaluation.

# 3. Point load solution

It is assumed that the medium is under an antiplane point load with magnitude  $\tau_0$  on the boundary, represented by the following:

$$\sigma_{zy_1}(x,h) = \tau_0 \delta(x). \tag{16}$$

The continuity conditions can be expressed as follows:

$$w_1(x, 0^+) = w_2(x, 0^-),$$
  

$$\sigma_{zy_1}(x, 0^+) = \sigma_{zy_2}(x, 0^-).$$
(17)

The expressions for the displacements and stresses may be obtained as shown in Box III.

The singular parts of the kernels in Eq. (18) may be evaluated by separating the leading terms in the asymptotic analysis for  $s \to \infty$ . Thus, after performing the appropriate asymptotic analysis using a symbolic manipulator and separating the singular parts of the kernels, we obtain:

$$\sigma_{zy_1}(x,y) = \frac{\tau_0 e^{\beta(h-y)}}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{(h-y)}{x^2 + (h-y)^2} + \int_0^\infty \left[ \frac{(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha y} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha y}}{(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha h}} - e^{-s(h-y)} \right] \cos(sx) ds \right\}, \qquad 0 \le y \le h,$$

$$\tau_0 e^{\beta(h-y)} \left\{ x \right\}$$

$$\sigma_{zx1}(x,y) = -\frac{\eta e^{-\alpha y}}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{x}{x^2 + (h-y)^2} + \int_0^\infty \left[ \frac{(\beta + \alpha - s)e^{-\alpha y} - (\beta - \alpha - s)e^{\alpha y}}{(\beta + \alpha - s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta - \alpha - s)e^{\alpha h}} - e^{-s(h-y)} \right] \sin(sx) ds \right\}, \qquad 0 \le y \le h,$$

$$\begin{split} w_1(x,y) &= \frac{\tau_0}{2\pi\mu_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{(\beta+\alpha)(h-y)-2\beta y} [(\beta+\alpha+|s|)e^{2\alpha y} - (\beta-\alpha+|s|)]}{s^2(e^{2\alpha h}-1)+|s|[(\beta+\alpha)-(\beta-\alpha)e^{2\alpha h}]} e^{-isx} ds, \\ 0 &\leq y \leq h, \\ w_2(x,y) &= \frac{\tau_0}{\pi\mu_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha e^{(|s|-2\beta)y+(\beta+\alpha)h}}{(1-e^{2\alpha h})(\beta^2-\alpha^2)+|s|[\alpha(1+e^{2\alpha h})+\beta(1-e^{2\alpha h})]} e^{-isx} ds, \\ y &\leq 0, \\ \sigma_{zy1}(x,y) &= \frac{\tau_0 e^{\beta(h-y)}}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha y} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha y}}{(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha h}} \cos(sx) ds, \\ 0 &\leq y \leq h, \\ \sigma_{zx1}(x,y) &= -\frac{\tau_0 e^{\beta(h-y)}}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha y} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha y}}{(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha h}} \sin(sx) ds, \\ 0 &\leq y \leq h, \\ \sigma_{zy_2}(x,y) &= \frac{2\tau_0}{\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{\alpha(s-2\beta)e^{\beta(h-2y)+sy}}{s[(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha h}]} \cos(sx) ds, \\ y &\leq 0, \\ \sigma_{zx_2}(x,y) &= -\frac{2\tau_0}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\alpha e^{\beta(h-2y)+sy}}{(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha h}} \sin(sx) ds, \\ y &\leq 0. \end{split}$$

(18)

$$\sigma_{zy2}(x,y) = \frac{\tau_0 e^{\beta(h-2y)}}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{(h-y)}{x^2 + (h-y)^2} + \int_0^\infty \left[ \frac{2\alpha(s-2\beta)}{s[(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha h}]} - e^{-sh} \right] e^{sy} \cos(sx) ds \right\}, \quad y \le 0,$$
  
$$\sigma_{zx2}(x,y) = -\frac{\tau_0 e^{\beta(h-2y)}}{\pi} \left\{ \frac{x}{x^2 + (h-y)^2} + \int_0^\infty \left[ \frac{2\alpha}{(\beta+\alpha-s)e^{-\alpha h} - (\beta-\alpha-s)e^{\alpha h}} - e^{-sh} \right] e^{sy} \sin(sx) ds \right\}, \quad y \le 0, \quad (19)$$

At the points of application of load, i.e.,  $r \to 0$ , stress fields exhibit the familiar Cauchy type singularity, 1/r, where r is the distance from the load.

#### 4. Medium weakened by crack

The dislocation solutions accomplished in the preceding section may be employed to analyze several arbitrarily cracks located in the interface of two dissimilar mediums. A crack configuration with respect to Cartesian coordinate x - y may be described in a parametric form as follows:

$$x_{i} = x_{i0} + a_{i} \eta,$$
  

$$y_{i} = y_{i0}, \qquad i = 1, 2, ..., N, \qquad -1 \le \eta \le 1, \qquad (20)$$

where  $(x_{i\,0}, y_{i\,0})$  is the coordinates of the *i*th crack center. Suppose that the screw dislocation unknown density,  $B_{zi}(t)$ , is distributed on segment  $a_i dt$  at the surface of the *i*th crack, where  $-1 \leq t \leq 1$ . Covering the cracks surfaces by dislocations, the principal superposition may be invoked to obtain traction on the given crack surface. The anti-plane field traction on the face of the *i*th crack due to the presence of distribution of the above-mentioned dislocation on all N cracks is obtained. The system of a singular equation can be written in the following form utilized in a numerical procedure:

$$\sigma_{zy}\left(x_{i}(\eta), y_{i}(\eta)\right) = \sum_{j=1}^{N} \int_{-1}^{1} k_{ij}(\eta, t) a_{j} B_{zj}(t) dt,$$
  
-1 \le \eta \le 1, \quad i = 1, 2, \ldots, N. (21)

Kernel  $K_{ij}$  in integral Eqs. (21) is coefficient of  $b_z$  in the stress components. By virtue of the Buckner's principle [41], the left-hand side of Eqs. (21), after changing the sign, is the traction caused by the point load given in Section 3. The equation for the crack

opening displacement across the ith crack is as follows:

$$w_{1i}(\eta) - w_{2i}(\eta) = \int_{-1}^{\eta} a_i B_{zi}(t) dt, \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}.$$
(22)

The displacement field is single-valued out of crack surfaces. Consequently, the dislocation density is subjected to the following closure requirement:

$$\int_{-1}^{1} B_{zi}(t) dt = 0, \qquad i \in \{1, 2, ..., N\}.$$
 (23)

The stress fields in the neighborhood of crack tips behave like  $1/\sqrt{r}$ , where r is the distance from the crack tip. Therefore, the dislocation densities are taken as follows:

Parameters  $g_{zi}(t)$  are obtained by solving the system of Eqs. (21) and (24) using numerical solutions of integral equations with Cauchy-type kernel developed by Erdogan et al. [42]. The stress intensity factors will reduce to:

$$K_{\text{III}L} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \mu(y_{Li}) \lim_{r_{Li} \to 0} \frac{w_{1i}(\eta) - w_{2i}(\eta)}{\sqrt{r_{Li}}},$$
$$K_{\text{III}R} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \mu(y_{Ri}) \lim_{r_{Ri} \to 0} \frac{w_{1i}(\eta) - w_{2i}(\eta)}{\sqrt{r_{Ri}}},$$
(25)

where subscripts L and R designate the left and right crack tips, respectively, and the geometry of crack implies the following:

$$r_{Li} = [(x_i(\eta) - x_i(-1))^2 + (y_i(\eta) - y_i(-1))^2]^{\frac{1}{2}},$$
  

$$r_{Ri} = [(x_i(\eta) - x_i(1))^2 + (y_i(\eta) - y_i(1))^2]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$
 (26)

By substituting Eq. (24) into Eq. (22) and the resultant equation into Eq. (25) after utilizing the Taylor series expansion of functions  $x_i(\eta)$  and  $y_i(\eta)$  in the vicinity of points  $\eta = \pm 1$ , the stress intensity factors can be expressed as follows:

$$K_{\text{III}L} = \frac{\mu(y_{Li})}{2} \left[ \left[ x'_{i}(-1) \right]^{2} + \left[ y'_{i}(-1) \right]^{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} g_{zi}(-1),$$
  

$$K_{\text{III}R} = -\frac{\mu(y_{Ri})}{2} \left[ \left[ x'_{i}(1) \right]^{2} + \left[ y'_{i}(1) \right]^{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} g_{zi}(1). \quad (27)$$

#### 5. Results and discussion

The main results of this study demonstrate that the stress intensity factors have been calculated for dif-

ferent non-homogeneity parameters, crack length, and interactions between several cracks which are located at the interface between the nonhomogeneous layer and the isotropic half-plane. The above presented method allows for the consideration of dissimilar materials with multiple straight cracks subjected to anti-plane tractions. The results have been obtained through the instrumentality of distributed dislocation technique. The validity of the analysis is verified by considering a few examples, wherein the cracks are under constant normal traction.

The first problem is an interface crack in a functionally graded coating-substrate structure under the uniform anti-plane loading. External loading,  $\sigma_{zy} = \tau_0$ , is applied on the crack surface. The plots of dimensionless stress intensity factors for two different non-homogeneity parameters are drawn in Figure 2. In this case, excellent agreement is observed between the results of this study and those presented by Ding and Li [9]. The second example deals with periodic interface cracks with three different distances between cracks centers, as shown in Figure 3. The cracks' faces are subjected to uniform anti-plane shear loads. The results favorably match results of Ding and Li [9].



Figure 2. Comparison of the normalized stress intensity factors for straight crack in the interface under a uniform load.



Figure 3. Comparison of the normalized stress intensity factors for periodic cracks in the interface under a uniform load.

The applicability of the methodology developed here is illustrated by solving some new problems.

In all remaining examples, since the medium is under concentrated anti-plane point loads as specified in Eq. (16), the quantity for making stress intensity factors dimensionless is  $K_0 = \tau_0/\sqrt{a}$  where *a* is the half length of an embedded crack. In addition, it should be mentioned that the dimensions of distance between multiple cracks are taken c/a = 1.125 as in all numerical results presented in this paper unless otherwise stated.

The effects of crack length and non-homogeneity parameter on the normalized stress intensity factors are given in Figure 4. The symmetry of the problem with respect to y-axis implies that the stress intensity factors at crack tips are identical. As physically expected, the stress intensity factors increase with the increase of crack length. Moreover, it can be observed that the normalized stress intensity factors increase as the non-homogeneity parameter rises. The effect of nonhomogeneity parameter on stress intensity factors is depicted in Figure 5. It can be seen that the highest value of dimensionless stress intensity factors occurs where the non-homogeneity parameter increases. In general, the influence of the coating thickness on the



**Figure 4.** Normalized stress intensity factors for an interface crack versus the dimensionless crack length for different non-homogeneity parameters.



Figure 5. Normalized stress intensity factors for an interface crack versus the non-homogeneity parameter.



Figure 6. Normalized stress intensity factors for two interface cracks versus the dimensionless crack length.



Figure 7. Normalized stress intensity factors for two interface cracks versus the non-homogeneity parameter.



Figure 8. Normalized stress intensity factors for two interface cracks versus the dimensionless distance between the cracks.

stress intensity factors is as significant as that of the non-homogeneity parameter. Figure 6 shows the effects of non-homogeneity parameter and cracks' lengths between two interface cracks on the normalized stress intensity factors. It can be seen that an increase in either  $\beta a$  or a/h causes an increase in the stress intensity factors. As observed, dimensionless stress intensity factors for the two approaching crack tips change rapidly.

Two equal-length interface cracks are considered, as shown in Figures 7 and 8. The lengths of cracks



Figure 9. Normalized stress intensity factors for three interface cracks versus the non-homogeneity parameter.



Figure 10. Normalized stress intensity factors for three interface cracks versus the dimensionless distance between the cracks.



Figure 11. Normalized stress intensity factors for three interface cracks versus the dimensionless crack lengths.

remain fixed, while the non-homogeneity parameter and crack centers are changing. From Figures 7 and 8, we may conclude that the stress intensity factors of the two interface cracks are mainly affected by the non-homogeneity parameter and interactions of cracks. According to the given results in Figure 8, it is evident that the normalized stress intensity factors decline steadily, while the distances between cracks increase as expected, due to the dramatic decline of the interaction between cracks. The final set of results, shown in Figures 9-11, presents stress intensity



Figure 12. Normalized stress distribution around the crack tips.

factors for three interface cracks with changing nonhomogeneity parameter. Figure 11 shows the stress intensity factors of three interface cracks as a function of the crack lengths. Note that the stress intensity factors are highly influenced by the non-homogeneity parameter in which the stress intensity factors go up as non-homogeneity parameter rises.

Last but not least, stress distribution along x-axis is depicted in Figure 12 while  $\beta a = 2.0$ . Singularities are, obviously, in the vicinity of the crack tips. It is crystal clear that the stress values plummet dramatically to be equal to the far field loadings at the sufficient distance of the crack tips.

# 6. Conclusions

The fracture behavior of a non-homogeneous layer along with a half plane bonded together was investigated. It was assumed that the half plane is homogeneous and the layer is non-homogeneous, in which the elastic properties are continuous throughout the layer and have discontinuous derivatives along the interface. The dislocation solution was obtained in a functionally graded layer and in half-plane containing Volterra-type screw dislocation by means of Fourier transformation. The dislocation solution was utilized to derive integral equations for the layer weakened by multiple cracks. The conclusions can be made as follows:

- 1. The stress intensity factors are highly influenced by the non-homogeneity parameter;
- 2. It was observed that as the crack length increases, the stress intensity factors escalate;
- 3. For the multiple interface cracks, the stress intensity factors are highly affected by the cracks' length and distance;
- 4. Negative values for the non-homogeneity parameters tend to decrease the stress intensity factor.
- 5. It was seen that decreasing the value of coating

thickness while keeping  $\beta$  constant tends to increase the stress intensity factor for negative values of parameter  $\beta$ .

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