

## Finite element analysis of Volterra dislocations in anisotropic crystals: A thermal analogue

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### Abstract

The present work gives a systematic and rigorous implementation of Volterra dislocations in ordinary two-dimensional finite elements using the thermal analogue and the integral representation of dislocations through the stresses. The full fields are given for edge dislocations in anisotropic crystals and the Peach-Koehler forces are found for some important examples.

*Keywords:* Dislocations, Finite Elements, Anisotropic Elasticity.

### 1. Introduction

Dislocations are line defects in crystalline materials with well documented existence, formation, interaction and motion. Their importance in science and technology is enormous. The mechanics of dislocations is a prominent and difficult subject of Linear Elasticity, Hirth and Lothe (1982). Closed form solutions exist for relatively simple problems, whereas more complex geometries, as well as anisotropy, introduce substantial difficulties. In many cases, the detailed stress fields around dislocations are not known explicitly, especially when dislocations are interacting with boundaries or other dislocations.

The knowledge of the stresses around dislocations is important. The equilibrium position of a dislocation and its stability requires that the resulting shear stress be balanced by the non-linear atomic interactions across the glide plane. This resisting to the free motion stress is called the Peierls stress, Peierls (1940) and Nabarro (1947). The assessment of such stresses is important for the physical theories of plasticity, fatigue and fracture, micro and nano-indentation, strength of nano-composites and micro-electro-mechanical devices etc (see for example Phillips, 2001; Cottrell, 1961; Petch, 1953; Hall, 1951; Rice, 1992).

Atomistic calculations are still not in regular engineering use, despite important attempts to be included in finite element methodologies, e.g. Tadmor et al. (1996). In the present work we use an analogue from thermoelasticity to describe discrete dislocations within the context of classic finite element methodology. Biot (1935) presented a thermal analogue to model the elastic fields around dislocations and the method has been applied as an experimental technique to study dislocations with optical methods. The integral representation of the Burgers vector in terms of stresses has been shown by Mindlin and Salvadori (1950) and has been recently used by Dundurs and Markenscoff (1993). We use the previous ideas, together with a suitable

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temperature distribution to circumvent the displacement incompatibility that is needed by the mathematical description of a Volterra dislocation, however, not allowed by ordinary finite elements. The present work is focusing on the two-dimensional edge dislocations in anisotropic crystals, following our initial work on isotropic materials, Gouldstone and Giannakopoulos (2005).

## 2. The thermal analogue and its implementation in finite elements

### 2.1. The thermal analogue for two dimensional edge dislocations

We will consider an elastic solid under plane deformation. In the absence of body forces, the contents of the stress tensor  $\sigma_{ij}$  must obey the equilibrium conditions which in Cartesian coordinates  $(x, y, z)$  are:

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{yx}}{\partial y} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial \sigma_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{yy}}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (1)$$

The linear strain components must meet the local compatibility condition

$$\frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{yy}}{\partial x^2} - 2 \frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{xy}}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{xx}}{\partial y^2} = 0 \quad (2)$$

Consider an Airy function  $\Phi(x, y)$  so as (1) are satisfied

$$\sigma_{xx} = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial y^2}, \quad \sigma_{yy} = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^2}, \quad \sigma_{xy} = -\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x \partial y} \quad (3)$$

The local compatibility condition is necessary for given strain components to yield continuum displacements  $(u_x, u_y)$ , but is not sufficient if the domain is multiply connected. According to Michell (1899), global compatibility conditions in the form of line integrals must be imported. For closed contours surrounding a Volterra dislocation (Fig. 1):

$$\oint d\omega_z = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad \omega_z = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial y} \right) \quad \text{is the material rotation} \quad (4)$$

$$\oint du_x = b_x \quad \text{and} \quad \oint du_y = b_y \quad (5)$$

Equation (4) is necessary in order not to have any edge disclination (Somigliana type of dislocation). The quantities  $b_x$  and  $b_y$  are the components of the Burgers vector of an edge dislocation.

[Figure 1]

Recall the strain-displacement relations

$$\varepsilon_{xx} = \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial x}, \quad \varepsilon_{yy} = \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial y}, \quad \varepsilon_{xy} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial x} \right) \quad (6)$$

Then equation (4) becomes:

$$0 = \oint \left[ \left( \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{xy}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{xx}}{\partial y} \right) dx + \left( \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{yy}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{xy}}{\partial y} \right) dy \right] \quad (7)$$

Taking into account equations (5), (6), (7) and (2), we obtain:

$$b_x = -\oint x \left( \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{xx}}{\partial x} dx - \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{xx}}{\partial y} dy \right) - \oint y \left[ \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{xx}}{\partial x} dx - \left( \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{yy}}{\partial y} - 2 \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{xy}}{\partial y} \right) dy \right] \quad (8)$$

$$b_y = -\oint x \left[ \left( 2 \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{xy}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{xx}}{\partial y} \right) dx + \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{yy}}{\partial x} dy \right] - \oint y \left( \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{yy}}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{yy}}{\partial y} dy \right) \quad (9)$$

Let us consider the tangent and the perpendicular vectors of the closed contours (Fig. 1):

$$\underline{\mathbf{n}} = \left\{ \frac{dy}{ds}, -\frac{dx}{ds} \right\}^T, \quad \underline{\mathbf{s}} = \left\{ \frac{dx}{ds}, \frac{dy}{ds} \right\}^T \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial n} ds = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} dy - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} dx, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial s} ds = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} dy \quad (11)$$

Next, consider an anisotropic thermoelastic medium with cubic crystal symmetry in its elastic properties (3 elastic constants are needed:  $c_{11}$ ,  $c_{12}$ ,  $c_{44}$ ). The constitutive expressions between the strains and the stresses in plane-strain deformation are:

$$\varepsilon_{xx} = \frac{1+\nu}{E} \left[ \sigma_{xx} - \nu(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy}) \right] + \alpha(1+\nu)\theta \quad (12)$$

$$\varepsilon_{yy} = \frac{1+\nu}{E} \left[ \sigma_{yy} - \nu(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy}) \right] + \alpha(1+\nu)\theta, \quad \varepsilon_{xy} = \frac{1}{2\mu} \sigma_{xy}$$

In the absence of the temperature distribution  $\theta(x, y)$ , the stresses relate to the deformations in the following way:

$$\{\sigma_{ij}\} = \{c_{ijkl}\}_{6 \times 6} \{\varepsilon_{kl}\} \quad (13)$$

Taking into account the equations above, we obtain

$$\mu = c_{44}, \quad \nu = \frac{c_{12}}{c_{11} + 2c_{12}}, \quad E = \frac{(c_{11} - c_{12})(c_{11} + 3c_{12})}{c_{11} + 2c_{12}} \quad (14)$$

$H = 2c_{44} + c_{12} - c_{11}$  is the anisotropy factor and  $A = \frac{2c_{44}}{c_{11} - c_{12}}$  is the anisotropy

ratio (see Table 1 for particular examples used in this work).

From the Michell equations (8) and (9) and from continuity of  $x\sigma_{xx}$ ,  $y\sigma_{yy}$  and  $y\sigma_{xx}$ ,  $x\sigma_{yy}$  we obtain:

$$b_x = \alpha(1+\nu) \oint \left( x \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial s} - y \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} \right) ds + \frac{(1-\nu^2)}{E} \oint \left( x \frac{\partial(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy})}{\partial s} - y \frac{\partial(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy})}{\partial n} \right) ds \quad (15)$$

$$- \frac{(1+\nu)}{E} \oint (\sigma_{xy} n_x + \sigma_{yy} n_y) ds + \left( \frac{1}{\mu} - \frac{2(1+\nu)}{E} \right) \oint \sigma_{xy} dy$$

$$b_y = \alpha(1+\nu) \oint \left( x \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} + y \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial s} \right) ds + \frac{(1-\nu^2)}{E} \oint \left( x \frac{\partial(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy})}{\partial n} + y \frac{\partial(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy})}{\partial s} \right) ds \quad (16)$$

$$+ \frac{(1+\nu)}{E} \oint (\sigma_{xx} n_x + \sigma_{yy} n_y) ds + \left( \frac{2(1+\nu)}{E} - \frac{1}{\mu} \right) \oint \sigma_{xy} dx$$

From the compatibility equation, we obtain

$$\frac{(1-\nu^2)}{E} \left[ \frac{\partial^4 \Phi}{\partial x^4} + \frac{\partial^4 \Phi}{\partial y^4} + 2 \frac{\partial^4 \Phi}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2} \right] + \left( \frac{1}{\mu} - \frac{2(1+\nu)}{E} \right) \frac{\partial^4 \Phi}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2} = -\alpha(1+\nu) \left( \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial y^2} \right) \quad (17)$$

Also recall that all stresses are continuous so that

$$\oint \sigma_{xy} dy = 0, \quad \oint \sigma_{xy} dx = 0, \quad \nabla^2 \Phi = - \frac{\alpha(1+\nu)\theta}{\frac{(1-\nu^2)}{E} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\mu} - \frac{2(1+\nu)}{E} \right)} = \sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy} \quad (18)$$

From overall equilibrium of the tractions at the contours we have:

$$\oint (\sigma_{xy}n_x + \sigma_{yy}n_y) ds = 0 \quad , \quad \oint (\sigma_{xx}n_x + \sigma_{xy}n_y) ds = 0 \quad (19)$$

Now assume a steady state thermal distribution:

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) \theta = 0 \quad (20)$$

Then, eqs. (2) and (7) hold true and eqs. (15) and (16) become:

$$b_x = -(1+\nu)\alpha \oint \left( y \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} - x \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial s} \right) ds \quad , \quad b_y = (1+\nu)\alpha \oint \left( y \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial s} + x \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial n} \right) ds \quad (21)$$

The temperature  $\theta$  must satisfy equation (20) in order to avoid disclinations.

As an example, select  $\theta(x, y)$  as:

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &= \Delta T & y=0 & & x \leq 0 \\ \theta &= \Delta T \frac{y+h}{h} & h \leq y \leq 0 & & x \leq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

$$\theta = \Delta T \frac{h-y}{h} \quad 0 \leq y \leq h \quad x \leq 0$$

$\theta=0$  everywhere else

The distribution described by (22) satisfies (20) and when inserted in (21) gives

$$b_y = -2(1+\nu)\alpha \Delta T h \quad (23a)$$

In a similar way (by selecting an appropriate temperature distribution), we can obtain

$$b_x = 2(1+\nu)\alpha \Delta T h \quad (23b)$$

Note that eqs. (21) are the key theoretical results that need to be implemented in the finite element codes and then, after selecting an appropriate temperature field as in (22), solve the resulting thermoelastic problem.

[Figure 2]

## 2.2. Finite elements implementation

Turning to the Finite Element Method, assume that around the edge dislocation there is a fine element distribution of element size  $h$ , Fig. 2. Assuming linear thermoelastic response, we can assign a temperature distribution as in equations (22), on the dashed strips of elements shown in Fig. 2, with

$$\Delta T = -\frac{b_y}{2(1+\nu)\alpha_y h} \quad , \quad a_y = a \quad , \quad a_x = 0 \quad , \quad a_z = 0 \quad (24)$$

and/or

$$\Delta T = \frac{b_x}{2(1+\nu)\alpha_x h} \quad , \quad a_x = a \quad , \quad a_y = 0 \quad , \quad a_z = 0 \quad (25)$$

so that effectively an edge dislocation with predefined components of the Burgers vector ( $b_x, b_y$ ) is inserted through a temperature distribution. It should be noted that the thermal expansion coefficients  $\alpha_x, \alpha_y$  ( $\alpha_z = 0$  in all cases) are not the physical ones, but take apparent values that are suitable for the computations, keeping in mind that there is no actual temperature field in the problem. This procedure forces ordinary finite elements to produce dislocation stress fields in a straightforward way. It should also be reminded that the finite element enforcement of the integrals (21) is done through Gauss integration at

selected points and therefore, the type of element is important for the precise implementation of (21). If four-noded elements are to be used, then the inputs (24) and (25) need to be multiplied by 1/0.57735.

The ABAQUS general purpose finite element code was used and a mesh of 10000 four-noded elements was picked for all applications. The outer boundary was 150 times the Burgers vector in all directions, to model the conditions at infinity,  $\sigma_{ij} \rightarrow O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}\right)$  as  $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \rightarrow \infty$ . Note that no special attention was taken for mesh optimization (which will be presented in future work).

[Figure 3]

### 3. Numerical examples

#### 3.1. Single edge dislocations

An edge dislocation under plane strain, in an isotropic infinite medium, produces the following classic stresses:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{xx} &= -\frac{\mu b}{2\pi(1-\nu)} \frac{y(3x^2 + y^2)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}, & \sigma_{yy} &= -\frac{\mu b}{2\pi(1-\nu)} \frac{y(x^2 - y^2)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}, & (26) \\ \sigma_{xy} &= \frac{\mu b}{2\pi(1-\nu)} \frac{x(x^2 - y^2)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}, & \sigma_{zz} &= \nu(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{yy}) = -\frac{\mu b \nu}{\pi(1-\nu)} \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2}, & \sigma_{xz} = \sigma_{yz} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

[Table 1]

The corresponding stresses around an edge dislocation in anisotropic infinite medium have been found by Eshelby et al. (1955) and are:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{xx} &= \frac{Mb_x}{2\pi\rho^4 c_{22}'} \left\{ [(\bar{c}_{11}' - c_{12}')(\bar{c}_{11}' + c_{12}' + 2c_{66}') - \bar{c}_{11}'c_{66}']x^2y + \frac{\bar{c}_{11}'^2 c_{66}'}{c_{22}'}y^3 \right\} + \frac{Mb_y c_{66}'}{2\pi\rho^4} \left( \frac{\bar{c}_{11}'}{c_{22}'}xy^2 - x^3 \right) \\ \sigma_{yy} &= \frac{Mb_x c_{66}'}{2\pi\rho^4} \left( -x^2y + \frac{\bar{c}_{11}'}{c_{22}'}y^3 \right) - \frac{Mb_y}{2\pi\rho^4 c_{11}'} \left\{ [(\bar{c}_{11}' - c_{12}')(\bar{c}_{11}' + c_{12}' + 2c_{66}') - \bar{c}_{11}'c_{66}']xy^2 + c_{22}'c_{66}'x^3 \right\} \\ \sigma_{xy} &= \frac{Mb_x c_{66}'}{2\pi\rho^4} \left( -x^3 + \frac{\bar{c}_{11}'}{c_{22}'}xy^2 \right) + \frac{Mb_y c_{66}'}{2\pi\rho^4} \left( -x^2y + \frac{\bar{c}_{11}'}{c_{22}'}y^3 \right) & (27) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{where} \quad M &= (\bar{c}_{11}' + c_{12}') \left[ \frac{\bar{c}_{11}' - c_{12}'}{c_{22}'c_{66}'(\bar{c}_{11}' + c_{12}' + 2c_{66}')} \right]^{1/2} \\ \rho^4 &= \left( x^2 + \frac{\bar{c}_{11}'}{c_{22}'}y^2 \right)^2 + \frac{(\bar{c}_{11}' + c_{12}')(\bar{c}_{11}' - c_{12}' - 2c_{66}')}{c_{22}'c_{66}'}x^2y^2 & (28) \end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{c}_{11}' = (c_{11}'c_{22}')^{1/2}, \quad c_{11}' = c_{11}, \quad c_{12}' = c_{12}, \quad c_{66}' = c_{55}' = c_{44}, \quad c_{22}' = c_{11} + \frac{1}{2}H$$

With these expressions we obtain the stresses fields shown in the following figures 4 and 5. For brevity, we show only the  $\sigma_{xx}$  fields which are the ones that are influenced mostly by the anisotropy. The left parts of the Figures are the finite element predictions whereas the right parts are the theoretical predictions.

[Figures 4a,

4b, 5a, 5b]

### 3.2. Influence of a free surface

Consider an edge dislocation with  $\mathbf{b} = (0, b_y)$ , at a distance  $l$  from a free surface, Fig. 6.

[Figure 6]

The stress fields in this occasion are not symmetric as in the dislocation in an infinite medium and can be found in the book of Hirth and Lothe (1982). Such asymmetry will create a configurational (material) force on the dislocation, no other than the Peach-Koehler force (Peach and Koehler, 1950). The Peach-Koehler force per unit dislocation length that will attempt to move the dislocation is given by the form

$$F_k = -\varepsilon_{ijk} \xi_i \sigma_{jl} b_l \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{G} \times \boldsymbol{\xi} = (G_y \xi_z) \mathbf{i} + (-G_x \xi_z) \mathbf{j} \quad (29)$$

where  $\xi_z = 1$  is the direction of the dislocation line (in this case in the out-of-plane direction  $z$ ) and

$$G_x = \sigma_{xx} b_x + \sigma_{xy} b_y, \quad G_y = \sigma_{yx} b_x + \sigma_{yy} b_y \quad (30)$$

The resulting force is an attraction toward the free surface and is equal to

$$F_y = \frac{\mu b_y^2}{4\pi(1-\nu)l} = -\frac{\Delta W}{\Delta s} = -\frac{W' - W}{\Delta s}, \quad F_x = 0 \quad (31)$$

Consider that the dislocation's distance from the free surface is  $l=13b_y$  and the material is W. From eq. (31) and table 1, we obtain the theoretical solution of

$$\text{the acting force, } F_y = \frac{\mu b_y^2}{4\pi(1-\nu)l} = \frac{16b_y^2}{4\pi(1-0.218)13b_y} = 0.125 b_y \times 10^{10} \text{ (N/m).}$$

Calculating the force in terms of stresses, we lead in  $F_y=0.170 b_y \times 10^{10}$  (N/m).

We can improve the precision of that result by doing a cubic interpolation near the tip and reach to  $F_y=0.167 b_y \times 10^{10}$  (N/m), that is an overestimation of 34%.

It is clear that the poor resolution of the mesh (13 elements between the dislocation and the free surface) seems to be inadequate for an exact evaluation of  $(F_x, F_y)$  although the overall stress distribution seem to be accurate.

To improve the estimation of  $(F_x, F_y)$ , without changing the mesh density, an alternative methodology is proposed, based on the energy released by a small advancement of the dislocation in the  $x$  and  $y$  directions respectively. Then,

$$F_x = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}, \quad F_y = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} \quad (32)$$

where  $U$  is the total elastic energy of the material with the dislocation. In the numerical implementation of eq. (32), we move the dislocation (and the associate temperature distribution) by one finite element of length  $h$  in the (positive)  $x$  and the (positive)  $y$  direction, separately. Then, we compute the total energy in the initial and in the new positions of the dislocation to find the changes of energy  $\Delta U$ . The forces were computed from the discretized form of eq. (32) with  $\Delta x=h$  and  $\Delta y=h$  respectively.

$$F_x = -\frac{\Delta U}{\Delta x} = -\frac{U_{\text{new}} - U_{\text{initial}}}{h}, \quad F_y = -\frac{\Delta U}{\Delta y} = -\frac{U_{\text{new}} - U_{\text{initial}}}{h} \quad (33)$$

In terms of the change of the total energy of the system, we obtain an almost exact result  $F_y = 0.1056 \frac{\mu b_y^2}{l}$  (N/m) and  $F_x=0$ . In the same way, for Cu, we obtain

$F_y = 0.0802 \frac{\mu b_y^2}{l}$  (N/m),  $F_x=0$  and  $F_y = 0.0698 \frac{\mu b_y^2}{l}$  (N/m),  $F_y=0$  if the crystal is rotated by  $90^\circ$ . Whether the dislocation will actually move towards the free surface will depend on the opposing Peierls force (Peierls, 1940; Nabarro, 1947)  $\tau_p \cdot L$  where  $L$  is the length of the dislocation. For Cu, the value of the Peierls stress is given in the following table ( $b=0.255$  nm,  $\tau_p=2.43$  MPa). For a dislocation length  $L=1$ m, the minimum distance to avoid attraction of the dislocation towards the free surface for the two cases of Cu crystal is  $l=1.619$   $\mu\text{m}$  and  $l=1.409$   $\mu\text{m}$  respectively. The isotropic approximation gives  $F_y = 0.1129 \frac{\mu b_y^2}{l}$  (N/m) and  $l=2.279\mu\text{m}$ .

[Table 2]

[Figure 7]

#### 4. Conclusions and further work

The present work gives the development of a robust finite element computational tool for two dimensional edge dislocations in anisotropic crystals. Existing analytical solutions were checked and completed with presentations of the full stress fields. Extensive presentations of dislocation interactions with material interfaces, grain boundaries, spherical particles etc. will be given in future work. The method can be extended to study dynamic dislocations, dislocations in piezoelectrics, the influence of large deformations and disclinated dislocations (to model better the dislocation cores).

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**Table 1:** Elastic constants of Cr, Cu and W (after Hirth and Lothe, 1982).

Crystal	$c_{11}$ ( $10^{10}$ Pa)	$c_{12}$ ( $10^{10}$ Pa)	$c_{44}$ ( $10^{10}$ Pa)	H ( $10^{10}$ Pa)	A	$\mu$ ( $10^{10}$ Pa)	E ( $10^{10}$ Pa)	$\nu$
Cr	35.00	5.78	10.10	-9.02	0.69	10.10	32.85	0.124
Cu	16.84	12.14	7.54	10.38	3.21	7.54	6.09	0.295
W	52.10	20.10	16.00	0.00	1.00	16.00	38.97	0.218

**Table 2:** Predominant slip systems and corresponding Peierls stresses for Cu (after Wang, 1996).

Material	Structure	Burgers vector and length $b$	Primary slip system $d$ {plane}/ $b$ <direction>	Theoretical $\tau_p/\mu$ at 0° K	Experimental $\tau_p/\mu$ at 0° K
Cu	Simple fcc	$\langle 1\bar{1}0 \rangle, a_0\sqrt{2}/2$ $b=0.255$ nm	$\frac{\sqrt{6}}{3} a_0 \{111\} / \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} a_0 \langle 1\bar{1}0 \rangle$	$3.22 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.31 \times 10^{-6}$ $1.04 \times 10^{-5}$

**Figure 1:** The components of the Burgers vector of an edge type Volterra dislocation and the corresponding contours surrounding them.

**Figure 2:** The implementation of the thermal analogue to finite elements.



**Figure 3:** The normalized stresses  $\sigma_{xx}/b_y$  for material W. The Burgers vector is  $\mathbf{b}=(0, b_y)$ . The isocontours range is (2.0, -2.0) Pa/m. On the left are the finite element results and on the right the theoretical results. The detail of the discretization is also shown.

**Figure 4a:** The normalized stresses  $\sigma_{xx}/b_y$  for material Cu. The Burgers vector is  $\mathbf{b}=(0, b_y)$ . The isocontours range is (0.7, -0.7) Pa/m. On the left are the finite element results and on the right the theoretical results. The detail of the discretization is also shown.

**Figure 4b:** The normalized stresses  $\sigma_{xx}/b_x$  for material Cu. The Burgers vector is  $\mathbf{b}=(b_x, 0)$ . The isocontours range is (0.7, -0.7) Pa/m. On the left are the finite element results and on the right the theoretical results. The detail of the discretization is also shown.

**Figure 5a:** The normalized stresses  $\sigma_{xx}/b_y$  for material Cr. The Burgers vector is  $\mathbf{b}=(0, b_y)$ . The isocontours range is (2.0, -2.0) Pa/m. On the left are the finite element results and on the right the theoretical results. The detail of the discretization is also shown.

**Figure 5b:** The normalized stresses  $\sigma_{xx}/b_x$  for material Cr. The Burgers vector is  $\mathbf{b}=(b_x, 0)$ . The isocontours range is (2.0, -2.0) Pa/m. On the left are the finite element results and on the right the theoretical results. The detail of the discretization is also shown.

**Figure 6:** An edge dislocation at a distance  $l$  from the free surface.

**Figure 7:** The normalized stresses  $\sigma_{xx}/b_y$  for material W near the free surface. The Burgers vector is  $\mathbf{b}=(0, b_y)$ . The isocontours range is (1.0, -1.0) Pa/m. On the left are the finite element results and on the right the theoretical results. The detail of the discretization is also shown.









