

Contents

Preface *XIII*

1	The Fiber Bundle Model	1
1.1	Rivets Versus Welding	1
1.1.1	What Are Models Good For?	3
1.2	Fracture and Failure: A Short Summary	4
1.3	The Fiber Bundle Model in Statistics	5
1.4	The Fiber Bundle Model in Physics	6
1.5	The Fiber Bundle Model in Materials Science	8
1.6	Structure of the Book	8
2	Average Properties	11
2.1	Equal Load Sharing versus Local Load Sharing	11
2.2	Strain-Controlled versus Force-Controlled Experiments	12
2.3	The Critical Strength	16
2.4	Fiber Mixtures	22
2.5	Non-Hookean Forces	24
2.5.1	Fibers with Random Slacks	24
2.5.2	Elastic–Plastic Model	25
3	Fluctuation Effects	27
3.1	Range of Force Fluctuations	28
3.2	The Maximum Bundle Strength	30
3.3	Avalanches	32
3.3.1	The Burst Distribution	33
3.3.1.1	The Forward Condition	35
3.3.1.2	The Backward Condition	36
3.3.1.3	Total Number and Average Size of Bursts	37
3.3.2	Asymptotic Burst Distribution: 5/2 Law	40
3.3.2.1	Asymptotic Burst Distribution: Nongeneric Cases	42
3.3.3	Inclusive Bursts	45
3.3.4	Forward Bursts	47

3.3.5	Avalanches as Random Walks	49
3.3.5.1	The Exact Random Walk	49
3.3.5.2	Asymptotic Burst Distribution via Random Walks	51
3.3.6	Energy Release	53
3.3.6.1	High-Energy Asymptotics	53
3.3.6.2	Low-Energy Behavior	55
3.3.7	Failure Avalanches for Stepwise Load Increase	57
3.3.7.1	Uniform Threshold Distribution	58
3.3.7.2	General Threshold Distribution	59
4	Local and Intermediate Load Sharing	63
4.1	The Local-Load-Sharing Model	64
4.1.1	Redistribution of Forces	66
4.1.2	Determining the Failure Sequence	67
4.1.3	Bundle Strength	68
4.1.4	Failure of First and Second Fibers	69
4.1.4.1	Other Threshold Distributions	75
4.1.4.2	Localization	76
4.1.5	Hole Size Distribution	78
4.1.5.1	Defining the Hole Size Distribution	78
4.1.5.2	Hole Size Distribution for Equal Load Sharing	79
4.1.5.3	Hole Size Distribution for Local Load Sharing: Localization	80
4.1.6	Estimating the Strength of the Local-Load-Sharing Model	82
4.1.6.1	Lower Bound for the Largest Hole	83
4.1.6.2	Competing Failure Mechanisms	85
4.1.6.3	Uniform Threshold Distribution	86
4.1.7	Force and Elongation Characteristics	88
4.1.8	Burst Distribution	90
4.2	Local Load Sharing in Two and More Dimensions	93
4.2.1	Localization	94
4.2.2	Similarity with the Equal-Load-Sharing Fiber Bundle Model	95
4.2.3	Burst Distribution	99
4.2.4	Upper Critical Dimension	99
4.3	The Soft Membrane Model	101
4.4	Intermediate-Load-Sharing Models	104
4.4.1	The γ -Model	105
4.4.2	The Mixed-Mode Model	106
4.5	Elastic Medium Anchoring	107
4.5.1	Size Equals Stiffness	109
4.5.2	Localization in the Soft Clamp Model	109
4.5.3	Asymptotic Strength	110
4.5.4	Fracture Front Propagation	112

5	Recursive Breaking Dynamics	115
5.1	Recursion and Fixed Points	116
5.2	Recursive Dynamics Near the Critical Point	119
5.2.1	Universality	120
5.2.1.1	General Threshold Distribution	124
5.2.2	Postcritical Relaxation	125
5.2.2.1	Uniform Threshold Distribution	126
5.2.2.2	General Threshold Distribution	129
5.2.3	Precritical Relaxation	131
5.2.3.1	Uniform Threshold Distribution	131
5.2.3.2	General Threshold Distribution	133
5.2.4	Critical Amplitudes	134
6	Predicting Failure	137
6.1	Crossover Phenomena	138
6.1.1	The Avalanche Size Distribution	138
6.1.1.1	Burst Avalanches at Criticality	141
6.1.2	Energy Bursts	142
6.1.3	The Crossover Phenomenon in Other Systems	144
6.1.3.1	Earthquakes	144
6.1.3.2	The Fuse Model	148
6.2	Variation of Average Burst Size	152
6.3	Failure Dynamics Under Force-Controlled Loading	152
6.4	Over-Loaded Situations	155
6.4.1	Breaking Rate of Loaded Fiber Bundles	155
6.4.1.1	Uniform Distribution	155
6.4.1.2	Weibull Distribution	157
6.4.1.3	Large Overload Situation	158
6.4.2	Energy Emission Bursts	159
6.4.2.1	Uniform Distribution	161
6.4.2.2	Weibull Distribution	162
6.4.2.3	Large Overload Situation	164
6.4.3	Energy Burst Pattern	166
7	Fiber Bundle Model in Material Science	169
7.1	Repeated Damage and Work Hardening	170
7.1.1	The Load Curve	171
7.1.2	Repeated Damages	171
7.1.3	Damages Ending in Complete Bundle Failure	174
7.2	Creep Failure	175
7.2.1	A Model for Creep	176
7.2.2	A Second Model for Creep	180
7.2.2.1	Damage Accumulation	180
7.2.2.2	Time Evolution	181
7.2.2.3	Healing	182

7.3	Viscoelastic Creep	183
7.4	Fatigue Failure	186
7.4.1	A Fatigue Experiment	186
7.5	Thermally Induced Failure	188
7.5.1	Failure Time for a Homogeneous Fiber Bundle	188
7.5.2	Failure Time for Low Thermal Noise	189
7.6	Noise-Induced Failure	190
7.7	Crushing: The Pillar Model	194

8 Snow Avalanches and Landslides 197

8.1	Snow Avalanches	197
8.2	Shallow Landslides	199

Appendix A Mathematical Toolbox 203

A.1	Lagrange's Inversion Theorem	203
A.2	Some Theorems in Combinatorics	204
A.2.1	Basic Selection Theorems	204
A.2.2	A Distribution with Restrictions	205
A.3	Biased Random Walks	206
A.3.1	Probability of No Return	206
A.3.2	Gambler's Ruin	207
A.4	An Asymmetrical Unbiased Random Walk	209
A.5	Brownian Motion as a Scaled Random Walk	211

Appendix B Statistical Toolbox 213

B.1	Stochastic Variables, Statistical Distributions	213
B.1.1	Change of Variable	213
B.1.1.1	A Useful Interpretation	213
B.1.2	The Characteristic Function	214
B.1.3	The Central Limit Theorem	215
B.2	Order Statistics	216
B.2.1	Ordering the Variables	216
B.2.2	The Average of the m th Ordered Variable	217
B.3	The Joint Probability Distribution	217
B.3.1	Extreme Statistics	218
B.3.2	The Largest Element: The Three Asymptotic Distributions	218
B.3.2.1	The Gumbel Distribution	219
B.3.2.2	The Second and Third Asymptotes	220
B.3.3	The Smallest Element: The Weibull Distribution	221

Appendix C Computational Toolbox 223

C.1	Generating Random Numbers Following a Specified Probability Distribution	223
C.1.1	When the Cumulative Probability May Be Inverted	223

C.1.2	Gaussian Numbers	224
C.1.3	None of the Above	225
C.2	Fourier Acceleration	225

References 229

Index 233