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Standard Terminology Relating to Fatigue and Fracture Testing¹

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^{ε1} NOTE—This standard was updated editorially in February 1997.

1. Scope

1.1 This terminology contains definitions, definitions of terms specific to certain standards, symbols, and abbreviations approved for use in standards on fatigue and fracture testing. The definitions are preceded by two lists. The first is an alphabetical listing of symbols used. (Greek symbols are listed in accordance with their spelling in English.) The second is an alphabetical listing of relevant abbreviations.

1.2 This terminology includes Annex A1 on Units and Annex A2 on Designation Codes for Specimen Configuration, Applied Loading, and Crack or Notch Orientation.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

- E 6 Terminology Relating to Methods of Mechanical Testing²
- E 338 Test Method for Sharp-Notch Tension Testing of High-Strength Sheet Materials²
- E 399 Test Method for Plane-Strain Fracture Toughness of Metallic Materials²
- E 436 Test Method for Drop-Weight Tear Tests of Ferritic Steels²
- E 466 Practice for Conducting Force-Controlled Constant Amplitude Axial Fatigue Tests of Metallic Materials²
- E 467 Practice for Verification of Constant Amplitude Dynamic Loads on Displacements in an Axial Load Fatigue Testing System²
- E 468 Practice for Presentation of Constant Amplitude Fatigue Test Results for Metallic Materials²
- E 561 Practice for R-Curve Determination²
- E 602 Test Method for Sharp-Notch Tension Testing with Cylindrical Specimens²
- E 604 Test Method for Dynamic Tear Testing of Metallic Materials²
- E 606 Practice for Strain-Controlled Fatigue Testing²
- E 647 Test Method for Measurement of Fatigue Crack Growth Rates²
- E 739 Practice for Statistical Analysis of Linear or Linear-

- ized Stress-Life (S-N) and Strain-Life (ϵ -N) Fatigue Data²
- E 740 Practice for Fracture Testing with Surface-Crack Tension Specimens²
- E 812 Test Method for Crack Strength of Slow-Bend Pre-cracked Charpy Specimens of High-Strength Metallic Materials²
- E 813 Test Method for J_{Ic} , A Measure of Fracture Toughness²
- E 992 Practice for Determination of Fracture Toughness of Steels Using Equivalent Energy Methodology²
- E 1049 Practices for Cycle Counting in Fatigue Analysis²
- E 1152 Test Method for Determining J -R Curves²
- E 1221 Test Method for Determining Plane-Strain Crack-Arrest Fracture Toughness, K_{Ia} , of Ferritic Steels²
- E 1290 Test Method for Crack-Tip Opening Displacement (CTOD) Fracture Toughness Measurement²
- E 1304 Test Method for Plane-Strain (Chevron-Notch) Fracture Toughness of Metallic Materials²
- E 1457 Test Method for Measurement of Creep Crack Growth Rates in Metals²
- E 1681 Test Method for Determining a Threshold Stress Intensity Factor for Environment-Assisted Cracking of Metallic Materials Under Constant Load²
- E 1737 Test Method for J -Integral Characterization of Fracture Toughness²
- E 1820 Test Method for Measurement of Fracture Toughness²
- G 15 Terminology Relating to Corrosion and Corrosion Testing³

3. Terminology

3.1 Symbols: Alphabetical Listing of Principal Symbols Used in This Terminology:

Symbol	Term
a	crack depth, crack length, crack size, estimated crack size
a_e	effective crack size
a_n	notch length
a_o	original crack size
a_p	physical crack size
a/W	normalized crack size
A	load ratio (P_a/P_m)

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E-8 on Fatigue and Fracture and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E08.02 on Standards and Terminology.

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² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.01.

³ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.02.