

8.8 For this problem, we are given values of K_{Ic} ($82.4 \text{ MPa}\sqrt{\text{m}}$), σ (345 MPa), and Y (1.0) for a large plate and are asked to determine the minimum length of a surface crack that will lead to fracture. All we need do is to solve for a_c using Equation 8.7; therefore

$$a_c = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{K_{Ic}}{Y \sigma} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{82.4 \text{ MPa}\sqrt{\text{m}}}{(1.0)(345 \text{ MPa})} \right]^2 = 0.0182 \text{ m} = 18.2 \text{ mm} \quad (0.72 \text{ in.})$$