
**Metallic materials — Fatigue testing —
Statistical planning and analysis of data**

*Matériaux métalliques — Essais de fatigue — Programmation et
analyse statistique de données*



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Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
1.1 Objectives	1
1.2 Fatigue properties to be analysed	1
1.3 Limit of application	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	2
3.1 Terms related to statistics	2
3.2 Terms related to fatigue	2
4 Statistical distributions in fatigue properties	3
4.1 Concept of distributions in fatigue	3
4.2 Distribution of fatigue life	3
4.3 Distribution of fatigue strength	4
5 Statistical planning of fatigue tests	4
5.1 Sampling	4
5.2 Number of specimens to be tested	6
5.3 Allocation of specimens for testing	6
6 Statistical estimation of fatigue life at a given stress	7
6.1 Testing to obtain fatigue life data	7
6.2 Plotting data on probability paper	7
6.3 Estimating distribution parameters	9
6.4 Estimating the lower limit of the fatigue life	9
7 Statistical estimation of fatigue strength at a given fatigue life	10
7.1 Testing to obtain fatigue strength data	10
7.2 Statistical analysis of test data	10
7.3 Estimating the lower limit of the fatigue strength	11
7.4 Modified method when standard deviation is known	11
8 Statistical estimation of $S-N$ curve	12
8.1 Fatigue testing to obtain $S-N$ data	12
8.2 Statistical analysis of $S-N$ data	12
8.3 Estimating the lower limit of the $S-N$ curve	13
8.4 Verifying the adequacy of the linear model	13
9 Test report	14
9.1 Presentation of test results	14
9.2 Related information	15
Annex A (informative) Examples of applications	16
Annex B (informative) Statistical tables	22
Annex C (informative) Combined method for statistical estimation of a full $S-N$ curve	24
Bibliography	26

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 12107 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 164, *Mechanical testing of metals*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Fatigue testing*.

Introduction

It is known that the results of fatigue tests display significant variations even when the test is controlled very accurately. In part, these variations are attributable to non-uniformity of test specimens. Examples of such non-uniformity include slight differences in chemical composition, heat treatment, surface finish, etc. The remaining part is related to the stochastic process of fatigue failure itself that is intrinsic to metallic engineering materials.

Adequate quantification of this inherent variation is necessary to evaluate the fatigue property of a material for the design of machines and structures. It is also necessary for test laboratories to compare materials in fatigue behaviour, including its variation. Statistical methods are necessary to perform these tasks. They include both the experimental planning and procedure to develop fatigue data and the analysis of the results.

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Metallic materials — Fatigue testing — Statistical planning and analysis of data

1 Scope

1.1 Objectives

This International Standard presents methods for the experimental planning of fatigue testing and the statistical analysis of the resulting data. The purpose is to determine the fatigue properties of metallic materials with both a high degree of confidence and a practical number of specimens.

1.2 Fatigue properties to be analysed

This International Standard provides a method for the analysis of fatigue life properties at a variety of stress levels using a relationship that can linearly approximate the material's response in appropriate coordinates.

Specifically, it addresses:

- a) the fatigue life for a given stress, and
- b) the fatigue strength for a given fatigue life.

The term “stress” in this International Standard can be replaced by “strain”, as the methods described are also valid for the analysis of life properties as a function of strain. Fatigue strength in the case of strain-controlled tests is considered in terms of strain, as it is ordinarily understood in terms of stress in stress-controlled tests.

1.3 Limit of application

This International Standard is limited to the analysis of fatigue data for materials exhibiting homogeneous behaviour due to a single mechanism of fatigue failure. This refers to the statistical properties of test results that are closely related to material behaviour under the test conditions.

In fact, specimens of a given material tested under different conditions may reveal variations in failure mechanisms. For ordinary cases, the statistical property of resulting data represents one failure mechanism and may permit direct analysis. Conversely, situations are encountered where the statistical behaviour is not homogeneous. It is necessary for all such cases to be modelled by two or more individual distributions.

An example of such behaviour is often observed when failure can initiate from either a surface or internal site at the same level of stress. Under these conditions, the data will have mixed statistical characteristics corresponding to the different mechanisms of failure. These types of results are not considered in this International Standard because a much higher complexity of analysis is required.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 3534 (all parts), *Statistics — Vocabulary and symbols*