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Failure Mechanisms and Fatigue Life Prediction of Engineering **Structures**

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Shun-Peng Zhu

Dr. Grzegorz Lesiuk

Prof. Dr. Haohui Xin

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Message from the Guest Editors

Fatigue caused by constant or time-varying cyclic loading Prof. Dr. José António Correia represents one of the most important types of failures to which materials, structural components, and structures are subjected during service life that can finally result in a sudden and unexpected fracture. Fatigue life prediction of materials and structural details can be modeled by deterministic and probabilistic analyses. Fatigue damage in metals generally initiates near the surface and spreads perpendicularly to the loading direction; this behavior is linked to cyclic plasticity and isotropic mechanical properties. On the other hand, composites with a polymer matrix exhibit orthotropic mechanical properties, favoring far more complex fatigue damage than in metallic materials, including matrix cracking, delamination, fiber rupture and failure occurring in a synergic, cumulative and random manner.









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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maryam Tabrizian

 Department of Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, McGill University, Montreal, QC H3A 2B6, Canada
Faculty of Dentistry and Oral Health Sciences, McGill University, 3640 Rue University, Montreal, QC H3A 0C7, Canada

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Materials Editorial Office MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 683 77 34 www.mdpi.com mdpi.com/journal/materials materials@mdpi.com X@Materials_Mdpi