

# **1. Flexible Pavement.....(2.5 Weeks)**

## **2.1. Analysis of: Stress, Strain and Deflection in Flexible Pavement**

### **2.1.1. One Layer System**

#### **2.1.1.1. Point loading**

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## ***2. Flexible Pavement***

### **2.1. Analysis of: Stress, Strain and Deflection in Flexible Pavement**

A pavement structure is not so easily to accurate structural analysis because the materials forming the flexible pavement layers and soils supporting the pavement are not same, so their exhibiting are not similar and their response under loads are different.

#### **2.1.1. One Layer System**

Boussinesq (1885) analysed the stresses in flexible pavement as a single layer due to an applied load based on the assumptions that: the pavement and supporting soils subgrade below form a homogeneous, isotropic, single elastic layer with the same value of elastic modulus (E). The first analysis approach represented the load as a point load and then the load was represented as a circular load which is more realistic than the point load.

##### **2.1.1.1. Point loading**

The closed-form solution for a point load on an elastic half-space was originally developed by Boussinesq (Fig. 2.1.) as shown in the following forms:

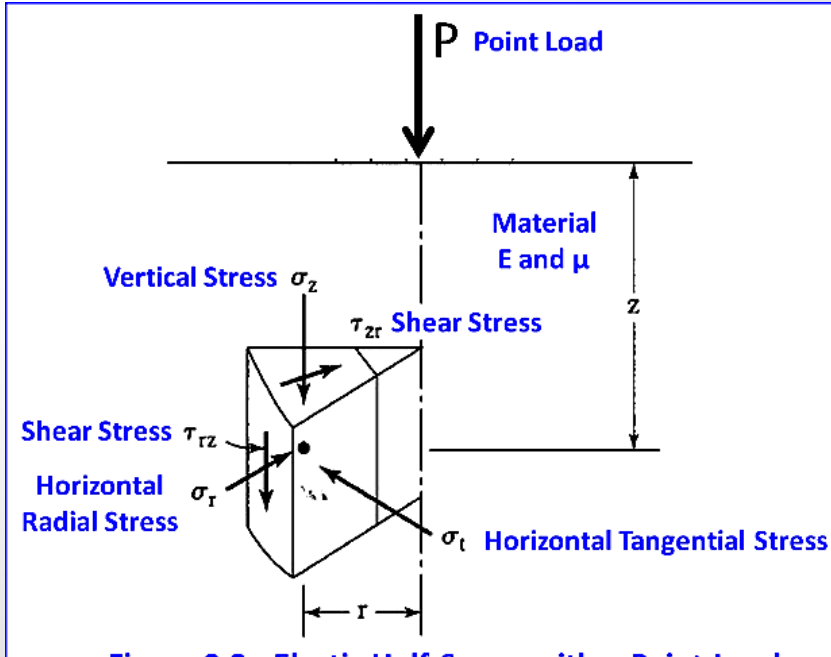


Figure 2.1. Stresses due to point loading

$P$  = Point Load  
 $\mu$  = Poisson's Ratio  
 $\sigma_z$  = Vertical normal stress  
 $\sigma_r$  = Radial normal stress (Horizontal)  
 $\sigma_t$  = Tangential normal stress (Horizontal)  
 $\tau_{zr}$  = Horizontal Shear stress (radial direction)  
 $\epsilon_z$  = Vertical normal strain  
 $\epsilon_r$  = Radial normal strain (Horizontal)  
 $\epsilon_t$  = Tangential normal strain (Horizontal)  
 $\gamma_{zr}$  = Horizontal Shear strain (radial direction)  
 $w$  = Vertical Deflection

$$\sigma_z = \frac{P}{2\pi} \frac{3z^3}{(r^2 + z^2)^{5/2}} \quad , \quad \tau_{zr} = \frac{P}{2\pi} \frac{3rz^2}{(r^2 + z^2)^{5/2}}$$

$$\sigma_r = \frac{P}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{3r^2z}{(r^2 + z^2)^{5/2}} - \frac{1 - 2\mu}{r^2 + z^2 + z\sqrt{r^2 + z^2}} \right]$$

$$\sigma_t = \frac{P}{2\pi} (1 - 2\mu) \left[ \frac{z}{(r^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} - \frac{1}{r^2 + z^2 + z\sqrt{r^2 + z^2}} \right]$$

$$\epsilon_z = \frac{1}{E} [\sigma_z - \mu(\sigma_r + \sigma_t)] \quad , \quad \epsilon_r = \frac{1}{E} [\sigma_r - \mu(\sigma_z + \sigma_t)]$$

$$\epsilon_t = \frac{1}{E} [\sigma_t - \mu(\sigma_z + \sigma_r)] \quad , \quad \gamma_{zr} = \frac{2\tau_{zr}(1 + \mu)}{E} = \frac{\tau_{zr}}{G}$$

$$w = \frac{P}{2\pi E} \left[ \frac{(1 + \mu)z^2}{(r^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} + \frac{2(1 - \mu^2)}{\sqrt{(r^2 + z^2)}} \right]$$

### 2.1.1.2. Circular Loading

For pavement analysis, the equivalent circular contact area of a tire on pavement surface is taken. For this purposes a uniformly loaded circular area is considered for calculating the stresses in the soil mass. The equation of vertical stress under point load may be integrated over the circular area as shown in Figure 2.2.

$$\sigma_z = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^a \left( \frac{3p((rd\theta)dr)}{2\pi z^2} \left[ \frac{1}{1+\left(\frac{r}{z}\right)^2} \right]^{5/2} \right)$$

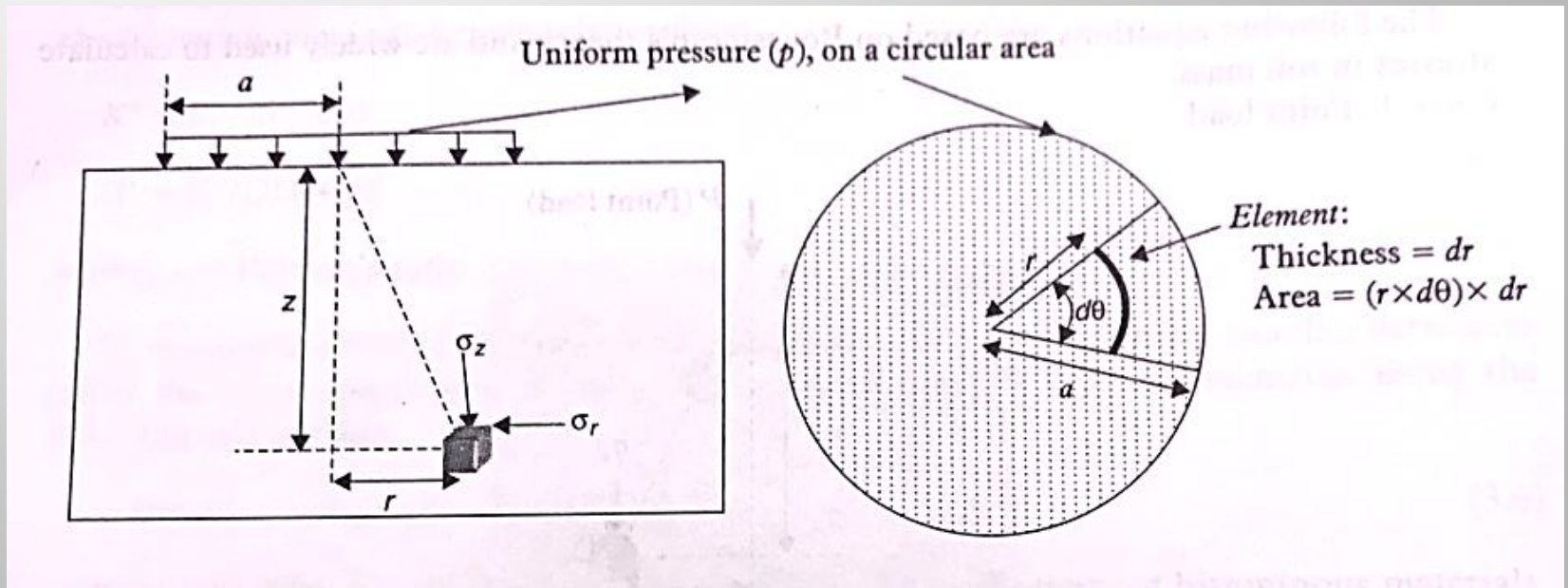


Figure 2.2. stresses under uniformly circular loading

➤ The response due to a circular load with **(a)** radius a and uniform pressure **(q)** on an elastic homogeneous half-space is obtained by integrating the Boussinesq's components due to a concentrated load.

➤ **When the load is applied over a single circular loaded area, the most critical stress, strain, and deflection occur under the center of circular area on the axis of symmetry, where:  $\tau_{zr} = 0$  and  $\sigma_r = \sigma_t$ , so  $\sigma_z$  and  $\sigma_r$  are the principal stresses.** For points on the centerline of the load (i.e.,  $r = 0$ ), these stress components are given by:

$$\sigma_z = q \left[ 1 - \frac{z^3}{(a^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right], \quad \tau_{zr} = 0$$

$$\sigma_r = \sigma_t = \frac{q}{2} \left[ (1 + 2\mu) - \frac{2(1 + \mu)z}{\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} + \frac{z^3}{(a^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right]$$

$$\varepsilon_z = \frac{(1 + \mu)q}{E} \left[ (1 - 2\mu) + \frac{2\mu z}{\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} - \frac{z^3}{(a^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right]$$

$$\varepsilon_r = \frac{(1 + \mu)q}{2E} \left[ (1 - 2\mu) - \frac{2(1 - \mu)z}{\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} + \frac{z^3}{(a^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right]$$

and the vertical deflection under the centerline of the load is given by

$$w = \frac{(1 + \mu)qa}{E} \left\{ \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} + \frac{1 - 2\mu}{a} [\sqrt{a^2 + z^2} - z] \right\}$$

$$w = \frac{3qa^2}{2E\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} \quad \text{when } \mu = 0.5$$

On the surface of the half-space (i.e.,  $z = 0$ )

$$w = qa \left[ \frac{2(1 - \mu^2)}{E} \right] \quad \text{when } z = 0$$

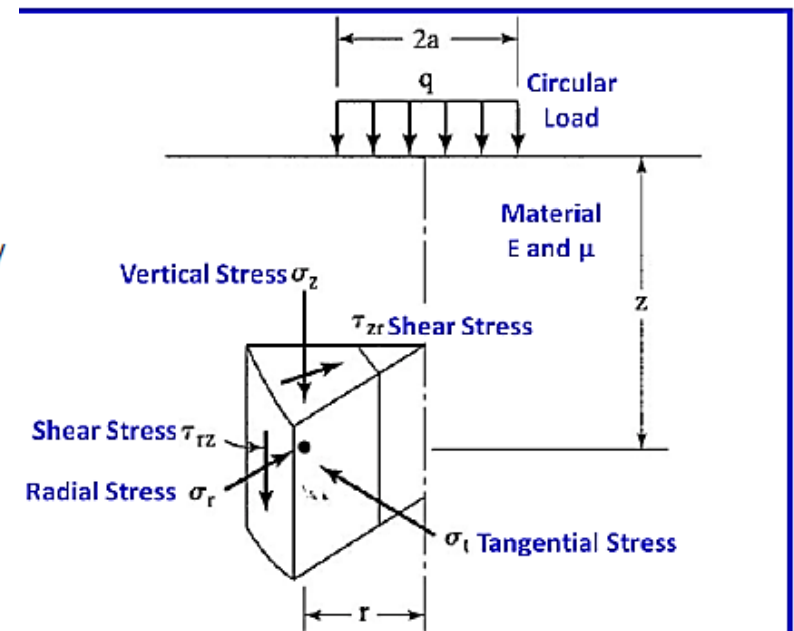


Figure 2.3. Stresses due to circular loading

# Flexible and Rigid Plates Loading

## Flexible Plate:

The load applied from tire to pavement is similar to a flexible plate with a radius ( $a$ ) and a uniform pressure ( $q$ ). The deflection beneath the center of the plate can be determined from:

$$w_0 = \frac{2(1 - \mu^2)qa}{E}$$

## Rigid Plate:

All the above analyses are based on the assumption that the load is applied on a flexible plate, such as a rubber tire. If the load is applied on a rigid plate, such as that used in a plate loading test, the deflection is the same at all points on the plate, but the pressure distribution under the plate is not uniform. The differences between a flexible and a rigid plate are shown in Figure 2.4.

$$w_0 = \frac{\pi(1 - \mu^2)qa}{2E}$$

### Flexible plate:

- Uniform Contact Pressure
- Variable Deflection Profile

### Rigid Plate plate:

- Non-Uniform Contact Pressure
- Equal Deflection

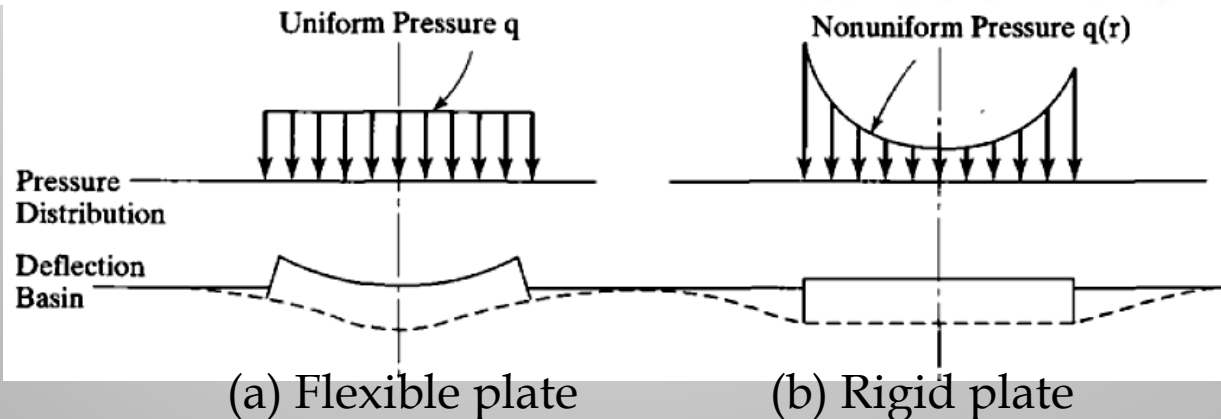


Figure 2.4. Differences between flexible and rigid plates.

□ A comparison of these two equations indicates that the surface deflection under a rigid plate is only 79% of that under the center of a uniformly distributed load (flexible plate). This is reasonable because the pressure under the rigid plate is smaller near the center of the loaded area but greater near the edge. The pressure near the center has a greater effect on the surface deflection at the center. The same factor, 0.79, can be applied if the plates are placed on a layer system, as indicated by Yoder and Witczak (1975), as shown in Figure 2.5..

### Rigid vs. Flexible Loading

<p>Flexible Plate</p> $w_0 = \frac{2(1 - \mu^2)qa}{E}$	<p>Rigid Plate</p> $w_0 = \frac{\pi(1 - \mu^2)qa}{2E}$
$\frac{w_{0 \text{ Flexible}}}{w_{0 \text{ Rigid}}} = \frac{\cancel{\frac{2(1 - \mu^2)qa}{E}}}{\cancel{\frac{\pi(1 - \mu^2)qa}{2E}}} = \frac{4}{\pi} \Rightarrow \frac{w_{0 \text{ Rigid}}}{w_{0 \text{ Flexible}}} = \frac{\pi}{4} = 0.79$	

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Figure 2.5. Deflection induced by rigid and flexible plate loading.

### 2.1.1.3. Methods of Solution

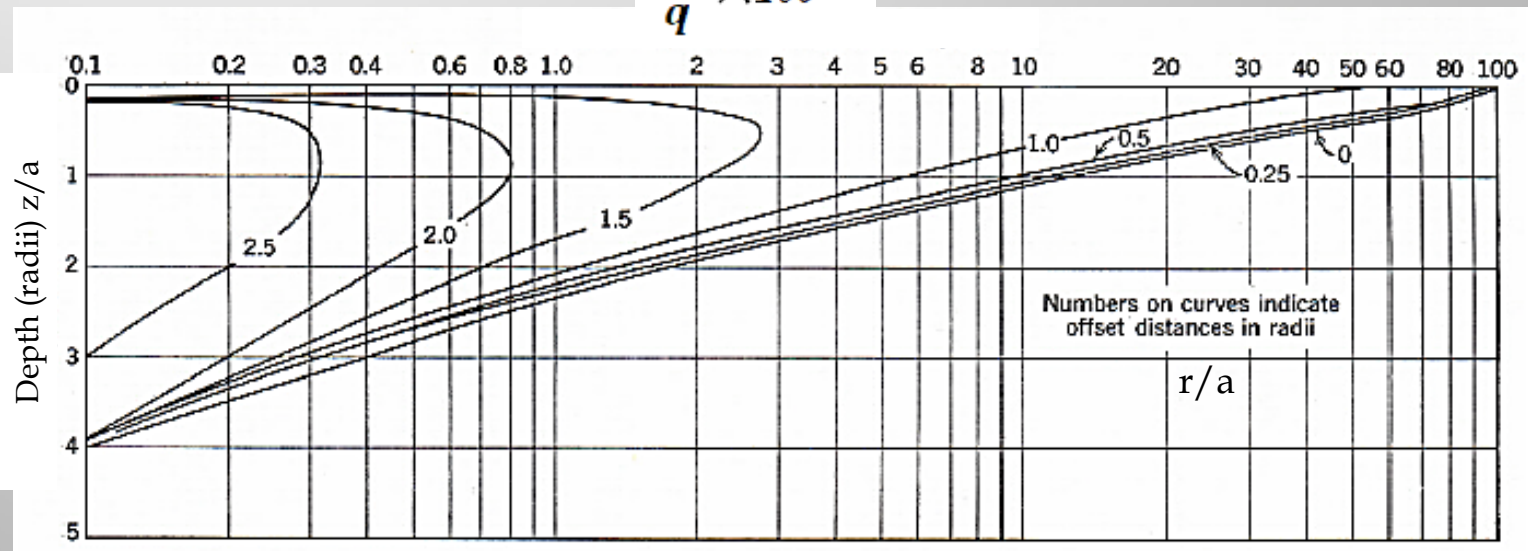
In addition to using the theoretical formulas suggested by Bossinseq's method (circular loading method) , there another two methods as explained in the following articles:

#### 2.1.1.3.1. Foster and Ahlvin Charts (Poisson's ratio is constant = 0.5)

Foster and Ahlvin (1954) presented charts for determining vertical stress  $\sigma_z$ , tangential stress  $\sigma_t$ , radial stress  $\sigma_r$ , shear stress  $\tau_{zr}$ , and vertical deflection  $w$ , as shown in **Figures 2.6** through **2.10**. The load is applied over a circular area with radius ( $a$ ) and an load intensity ( $q$ ). Because Poisson ratio has relatively small effect on stresses and deflections, Foster and Ahlvin assumed the **Poisson's ratio value 0.5**.

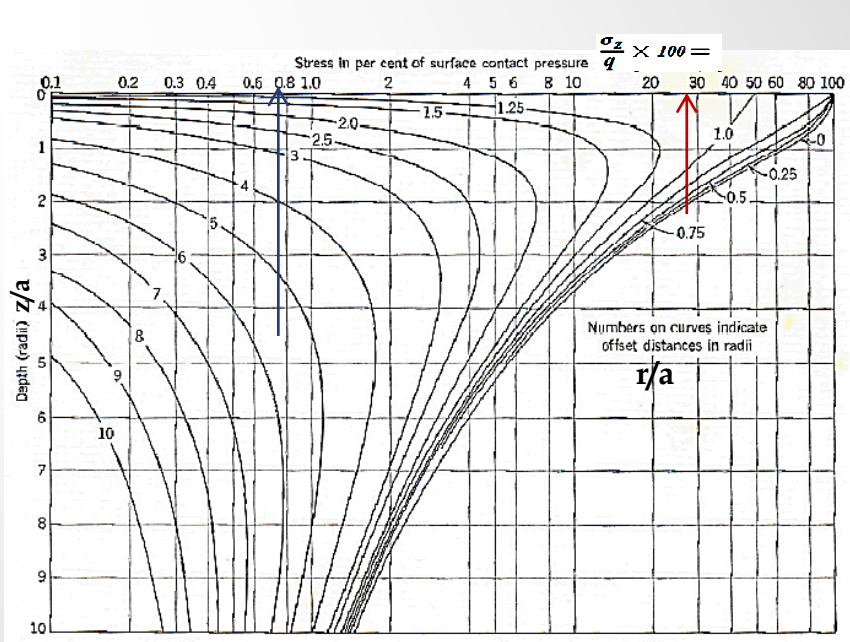
**Note :** In the charts, *x-axis*  $\rightarrow \frac{\text{stress type}}{q} \times 100$  , *y-axis*  $\rightarrow \frac{z}{a}$  *No. on the Curve*  $\rightarrow \frac{r}{a}$

$$\frac{\sigma_t}{q} \times 100 =$$

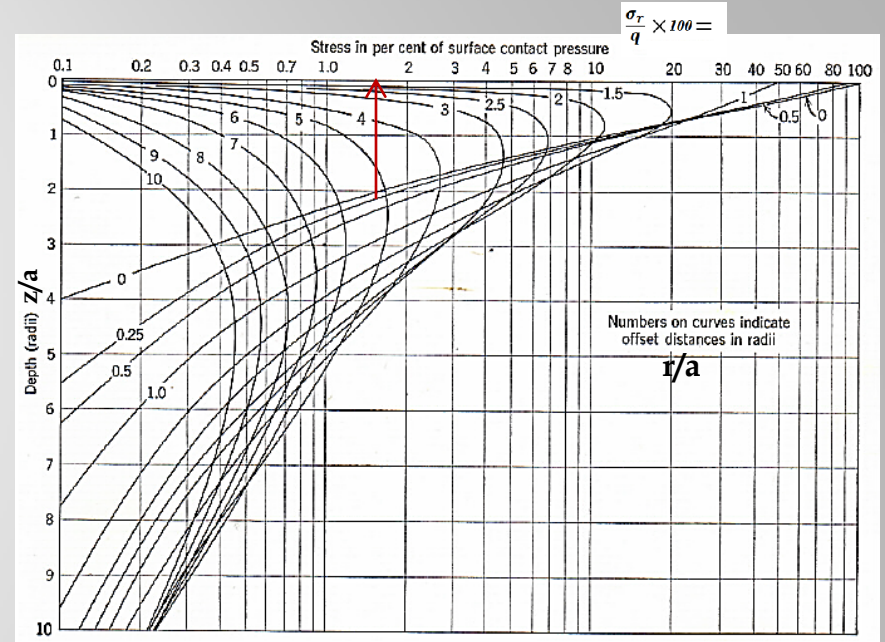


Figures 2.6. Tangential Stresses

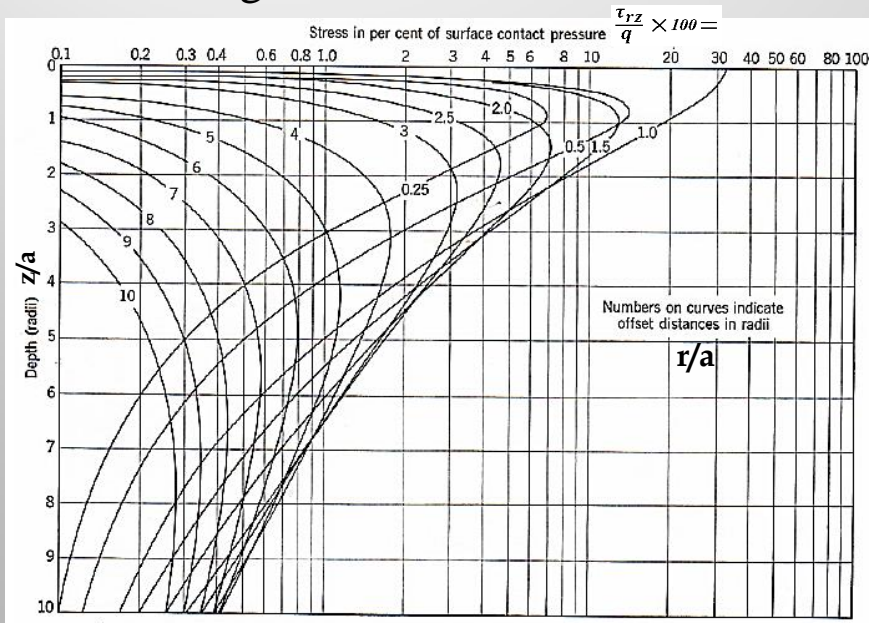




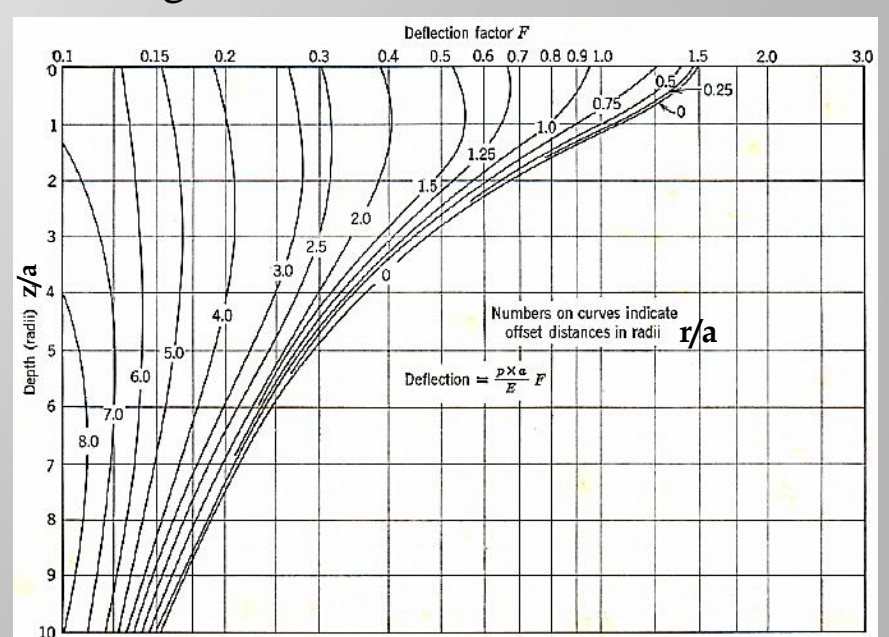
Figures 2.7. Vertical Stresses



Figures 2.8. Radial Stresses



Figures 2.9. Shear Stresses



Figures 2.10. Vertical Deflection ( $w$ )

**Example 1:** Figure (2.11) shows a homogeneous half-space subjected to two circular loads, each 10 in.(254 mm) in diameter and spaced at 20 in.(508 mm) on centers. The pressure on the circular area is 50 psi (345 kPa (1 psi=6.9 kPa). The half-space has elastic modulus 10,000 psi (69 MPa) and **Poisson's ratio 0.5**. Determine the vertical stress, strain, and deflection at point A, which is located 10 in.(254 mm) below the center of one circle.

**Solution :** From Figures 2.7, 2.8, and 2.10, the stresses at point A:

Due to the **left load** with  $r/a = 0$  and  $z/a = 10/5 = 2$  are:

$$\sigma_z = 0.28 \times 50 = 14.0 \text{ psi (96 .6 kPa), and}$$

$$\sigma_r = \sigma_t = 0.016 \times 50 = 0.8 \text{ psi (5 .5 kPa) ;}$$

Due to **the right load** with  $r/a = 20/5 = 4$  and  $z/a = 2$  are:

$$\sigma_z = 0.0076 \times 50 = 0.38 \text{ psi (2 .6 kPa),}$$

$$\sigma_r = 0.026 \times 50 = 1.3 \text{ psi (9.0 kPa), and}$$

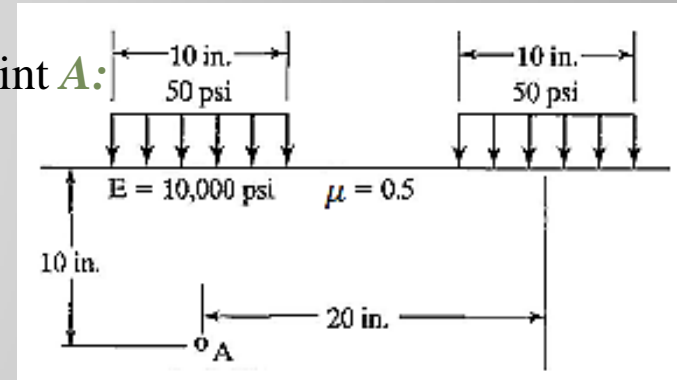
$$\sigma_t = 0. \text{ (Out of the right load's range).}$$

**By superposition:**

$$\sigma_z = 14.0 + 0 .38 = 14 .38 \text{ psi (99.2 kPa),}$$

$$\sigma_r = 0.8 + 1.3 = 2 .10 \text{ psi (14 .5 kPa) , and}$$

$$\sigma_t = 0.8 \text{ psi (5.5 kPa).}$$



Figures 2.11. Example 1.

**Strain:**

$$\epsilon_z = [14 .38 - 0 .5(2.10 + 0.8)]/10,000 = 0.00129.$$

**From Figure 2.10**, the deflection factor at point A due to the left load is 0 .68 and, due to the right load is 0.21 .

The total deflection  $w = (0 .68 + 0 .21) \times 50 \times 5/10,000 = 0 .022$  in . (0.56 mm) .

**The final answer** is  $\sigma_z = 14.38$  psi (99 .2 kPa),  $\epsilon_z = 0.00129$ , and  $w = 0.022$  in . (0.56 mm)  $\tau_{zr}, w,$

### 2.1.1.3.2. Ahlvin and Ulery Tables ( Any value of Poisson's ratio )

Tables for One-layer Solutions are suggested by Ahlvin and Ulery (1962), to find stresses, strains, and deflection in one layer system for any value of Poisson's ratio, as shown in Figure 2.12 and Tables 2.1. and 2.2.

Figure 2.12. Summary of One-Layer Elastic Equations<sup>a</sup> (after Ahlvin and Ulery)

Parameter	General Case	Special Case ( $\mu = 0.5$ )
Vertical stress	$\sigma_z = p[A + B]$	(same)
Radial horizontal stress	$\sigma_r = p[2\mu A + C + (1 - 2\mu)F]$	$\sigma_r = p[A + C]$
Tangential horizontal stress	$\sigma_t = p[2\mu A - D + (1 - 2\mu)E]$	$\sigma_t = p[A - D]$
Vertical radial shear stress	$\tau_{rz} = \tau_{rz} = pG$	(same)
Vertical strain	$\epsilon_z = \frac{p(1 + \mu)}{E_1} [(1 - 2\mu)A + B]$	$\epsilon_z = \frac{1.5p}{E_1} B$
Radial horizontal strain	$\epsilon_r = \frac{p(1 + \mu)}{E_1} [(1 - 2\mu)F + C]$	$\epsilon_r = \frac{1.5p}{E_1} C$
Tangential horizontal strain	$\epsilon_t = \frac{p(1 + \mu)}{E_1} [(1 - 2\mu)E - D]$	$\epsilon_t = -\frac{1.5p}{E_1} D$
Vertical deflection	$\Delta_z = \frac{p(1 + \mu)a}{E_1} \left[ \frac{z}{a} A + (1 - \mu)H \right]$	$\Delta_z = \frac{1.5pa}{E_1} \left( \frac{z}{a} A + \frac{H}{2} \right)$
Bulk stress	$\theta = \sigma_z + \sigma_r + \sigma_t$	
Bulk strain	$\epsilon_\theta = \epsilon_z + \epsilon_r + \epsilon_t$	
Vertical tangential shear stress	$\tau_{zt} = \tau_{tz} = 0 \therefore [\sigma_t(\epsilon_t) \text{ is principal stress (strain)}]$	
Principal stresses	$\sigma_{1,2,3} = \frac{(\sigma_z + \sigma_r) \pm \sqrt{(\sigma_z - \sigma_r)^2 + (2\tau_{rz})^2}}{2}$	
Maximum shear stress	$\tau_{\max} = \frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_3}{2}$	

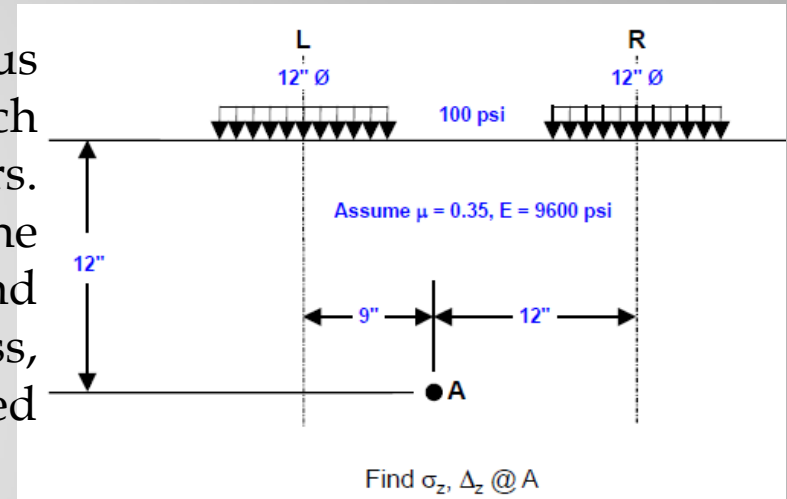
Table 2.1. Function A.

Function A																	
Depth (z) in Radii	Offset (r) in Radii																
	0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1	1.2	1.5	2	3	4	5	6	8	10	12	14
0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.1	.90050	.89748	.88679	.86126	.78797	.43015	.09645	.02787	.00856	.00211	.00084	.00042					
0.2	.80388	.79824	.77884	.73483	.63014	.38269	.15433	.05251	.01680	.00419	.00167	.00083	.00048	.00020			
0.3	.71265	.70518	.68316	.62690	.52081	.34375	.17964	.07199	.02440	.00622	.00250						
0.4	.62861	.62015	.59241	.53767	.44329	.31048	.18709	.08593	.03118								
0.5	.55279	.54403	.51622	.46448	.38390	.28156	.18556	.09499	.03701	.01013	.00407	.00209	.00118	.00053	.00025	.00014	.00009
0.6	.48550	.47691	.45078	.40427	.33676	.25588	.17952	.10010									
0.7	.42654	.41874	.39491	.35428	.29833	.21727	.17124	.10228	.04558								
0.8	.37531	.36832	.34729	.31243	.26581	.21297	.16206	.10236									
0.9	.33104	.32492	.30669	.27707	.23832	.19488	.15253	.10094									
1	.29289	.28763	.27005	.24697	.21468	.17868	.14329	.09849	.05185	.01742	.00761	.00393	.00226	.00097	.00050	.00029	.00018
1.2	.23178	.22795	.21662	.19890	.17626	.15101	.12570	.09192	.05260	.01935	.00871	.00459	.00269	.00115			
1.5	.16795	.16552	.15877	.14804	.13436	.11892	.10296	.08048	.05116	.02142	.01013	.00548	.00325	.00141	.00073	.00043	.00027
2	.10557	.10453	.10140	.09647	.09011	.08269	.07471	.06275	.04496	.02221	.01160	.00659	.00399	.00180	.00094	.00056	.00036
2.5	.07152	.07098	.06947	.06698	.06373	.05974	.05555	.04880	.03787	.02143	.01221	.00732	.00463	.00214	.00115	.00068	.00043
3	.05132	.05101	.05022	.04886	.04707	.04487	.04241	.03839	.03150	.01980	.01220	.00770	.00505	.00242	.00132	.00079	.00051
4	.02986	.02976	.02907	.02802	.02832	.02749	.02651	.02490	.02193	.01592	.01109	.00768	.00536	.00282	.00160	.00099	.00065
5	.01942	.01938				.01835			.01573	.01249	.00949	.00708	.00527	.00298	.00179	.00113	.00075
6	.01361					.01307			.01168	.00983	.00795	.00628	.00492	.00299	.00188	.00124	.00084
7	.01005					.00976			.00894	.00784	.00661	.00548	.00445	.00291	.00193	.00130	.00091
8	.00772					.00755			.00703	.00635	.00554	.00472	.00398	.00276	.00189	.00134	.00094
9	.00612					.00600			.00566	.00520	.00466	.00409	.00353	.00256	.00184	.00133	.00096
10								.00477	.00465	.00438	.00397	.00352	.00326	.00241			

Table 2.2. Function B.

		Function B																
Depth (z) in Radii	Offset (r) in Radii																	
	0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1	1.2	1.5	2	3	4	5	6	8	10	12	14	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0.1	.09852	.10140	.11138	.13424	.18796	.05388	-.07899	-.02672	-.00845	-.00210	-.00084	-.00042						
0.2	.18857	.19306	.20772	.23524	.25983	.08513	-.07759	-.04448	-.01593	-.00412	-.00166	-.00083	-.00024	-.00010				
0.3	.28362	.26787	.28018	.29483	.27257	.10757	-.04316	-.04999	-.02166	-.00599	-.00245							
0.4	.32016	.32259	.32748	.32273	.26925	.12404	-.00766	-.04535	-.02522									
0.5	.35777	.35752	.35323	.33106	.26236	.13591	.02165	-.03455	-.02651	-.00991	-.00388	-.00199	-.00116	-.00049	-.00025	-.00014	-.00009	
0.6	.37831	.37531	.36308	.32822	.25411	.14440	.04457	-.02101										
0.7	.38487	.37962	.36072	.31929	.24638	.14986	.06209	-.00702	-.02329									
0.8	.38091	.37408	.35133	.30699	.23779	.15292	.07530	.00614										
0.9	.36962	.36275	.33734	.29299	.22891	.15404	.08507	.01795										
1	.35355	.34553	.32075	.27819	.21978	.15355	.09210	.02814	-.01005	-.01115	-.00608	-.00344	-.00210	-.00092	-.00048	-.00028	-.00018	
1.2	.31485	.30730	.28481	.24836	.20113	.14915	.10002	.04378	.00023	-.00995	-.00632	-.00378	-.00236	-.00107				
1.5	.25602	.25025	.23338	.20694	.17368	.13732	.10193	.05745	.01385	-.00669	-.00600	-.00401	-.00265	-.00126	-.00068	-.00040	-.00026	
2	.17889	.18144	.16644	.15198	.13375	.11331	.09254	.06371	.02836	.00028	-.00410	-.00371	-.00278	-.00148	-.00084	-.00050	-.00033	
2.5	.12807	.12633	.12126	.11327	.10298	.09130	.07869	.06022	.03429	.00661	-.00130	-.00271	-.00250	-.00156	-.00094	-.00059	-.00039	
3	.09487	.09394	.09099	.08635	.08033	.07325	.06551	.05354	.03511	.01112	.00157	-.00134	-.00192	-.00151	-.00099	-.00065	-.00046	
4	.05707	.05666	.05562	.05383	.05145	.04773	.04532	.03995	.03066	.01515	.00595	.00155	-.00029	-.00109	-.00094	-.00068	-.00050	
5	.03772	.03760				.03384			.02474	.01522	.00810	.00371	.00132	-.00043	-.00070	-.00068	-.00049	
6	.02666					.02468			.01968	.01380	.00867	.00496	.00254	.00028	-.00037	-.00047	-.00045	
7	.01980					.01868			.01577	.01204	.00842	.00547	.00332	.00093	-.00002	-.00029	.00037	
8	.01526					.01459			.01279	.01034	.00779	.00554	.00372	.00141	.00035	-.00008	-.00025	
9	.01212					.01170			.01054	.00888	.00705	.00533	.00386	.00178	.00066	.00012	-.00012	
10									.00924	.00879	.00764	.00631	.00501	.00382	.00199			

**Example 2:** Figure (2.13) shows a homogeneous half-space subjected to two circular loads, each 12 in. in diameter and spaced at 21 in. on centers. The pressure on the circular area is 100 psi. The half-space has elastic modulus 9600 psi and Poisson's ratio 0.35. Determine the vertical stress, strain, and deflection at point A, which is located as shown in figure.



**Solution:**

For load (L):  $a = 6$ ,  $z = 12$ ,  $r = 9 \rightarrow z/a = 2$ ,  $r/a = 1.5$ .

From table  $A = 0.06275$ ,  $B = 0.06371$ ,  $C = -0.00782$ ,  $D = 0.05589$ ,

## Equivalent Single Wheel load (ESWL)

From Figure ( 2.14), the total load of the dual tire assembly is  $2P_d$ , with  $S_d$  being the center to center spacing and  $d$  being the clear distance between tire edges ( $d=S_d - 2a_c$ ). It is assumed that for the pavement thickness ( $t$ ) less than or equal to  $d/2$  ( $t \leq d/2$ ), no stress overlap occurs. Thus, the stress depths is due to that of only one wheel of the dual ( $P_d$ ). Likewise, at depth of approximately  $2S_d$ , the effect of stress overlap is such that it is equivalent to the stress caused by the total load of the dual tire assembly ( $2P_d$ ). For intermediate depth between  $d/2$  and  $2S_d$ , the wheel load acting is linear when plotted on a *log load versus log thickness diagram* as shown in Figure (2.15). This relationship can be used to find the ESWL for the diagram.

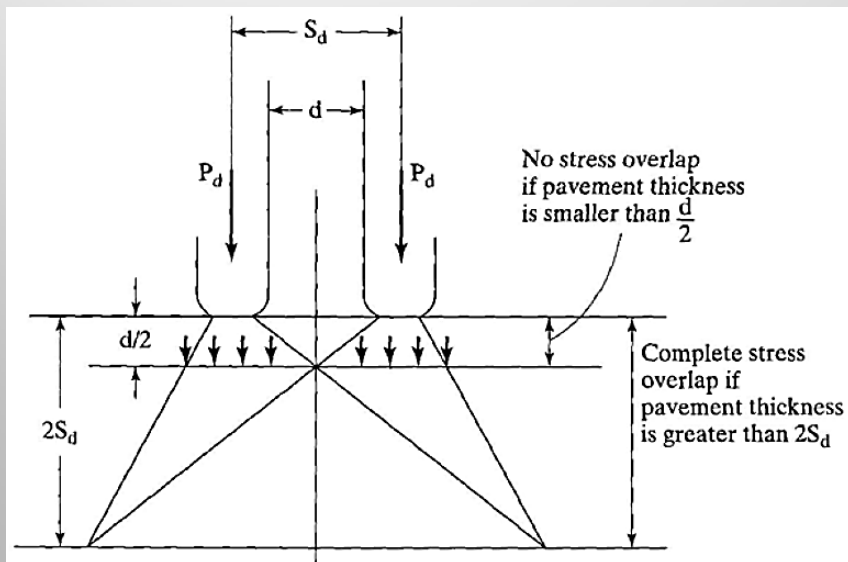


Figure 2.14. Influence of multiple wheels on stresses

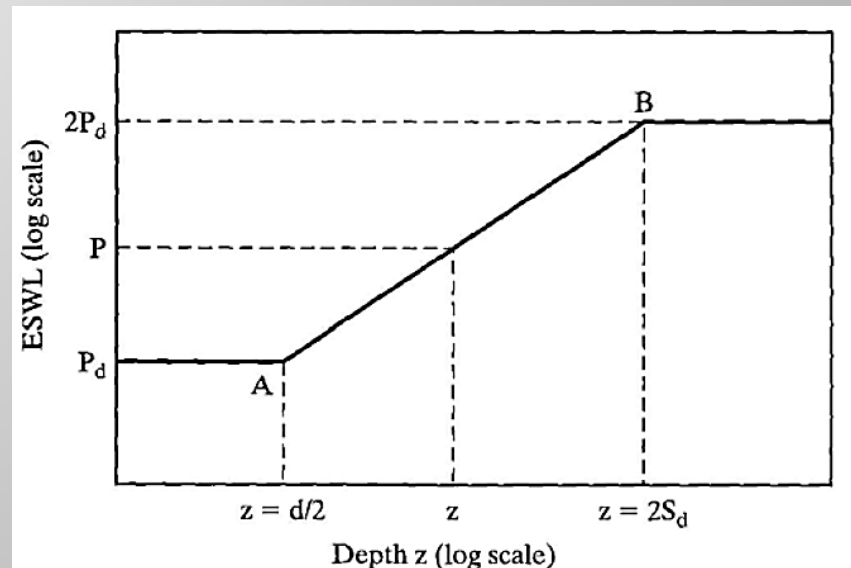


Figure 2.15. Method of determine ESWL for any dual wheel loads.

$$\log(\text{ESWL}) = \log P_d + \frac{0.301 \log(2z/d)}{\log(4S_d/d)}$$

**Example 3:** Find ESWL at depths of 5 cm, 20 cm and 40cm for a dual wheel carrying 2044 kN each. The center to center tire spacing is 20 cm and distance between the walls of the two tyres is 10 cm.

### Solution

At depth  $z = 40\text{cm}$ , which is twice the tire spacing ( $2S_d$ ),  $\text{ESWL} = 2P_d = 2 \times 2044 = 4088 \text{ kN}$ .

For depth,  $z = 5\text{cm}$ , which is half the distance between walls of the tire ( $d/2$ ),

$\text{ESWL} = P = 2044 \text{ kN}$ .

For  $z=20 \text{ cm}$ , use the linear relationship:  $\log(\text{ESWL}) = 3.511$ .

Therefore,  $\text{ESWL} = \text{antilog}(3.511) = 3244.49 \text{ kN}$

### 2.1.2. Layard Systems

Flexible pavements are layered systems with better materials on top and cannot be represented by a homogeneous mass. These layers are subjected to applied stress which is uniformly distributed over a circular area (radius  $a$ ) as shown in Figure (2.16). For this system, the following basic assumptions to be satisfied are :

1. Each layer is: homogeneous, isotropic, linearly elastic , and with an elastic modulus  $E_i$  and a Poisson ratio  $\mu_i$  (**where i for each layer**).
2. The material is weightless and infinite in the horizontal direction.
3. Each layer has a finite thickness  $h$ , except that for the lowest layer (subgrade) which has an infinite in thickness .
4. A uniform pressure  $q$  is applied on the surface over a circular area of radius  $a$  .
5. Continuity conditions are satisfied at the layer interfaces, as indicated by the same vertical stress, shear stress, vertical displacement, and radial displacement .



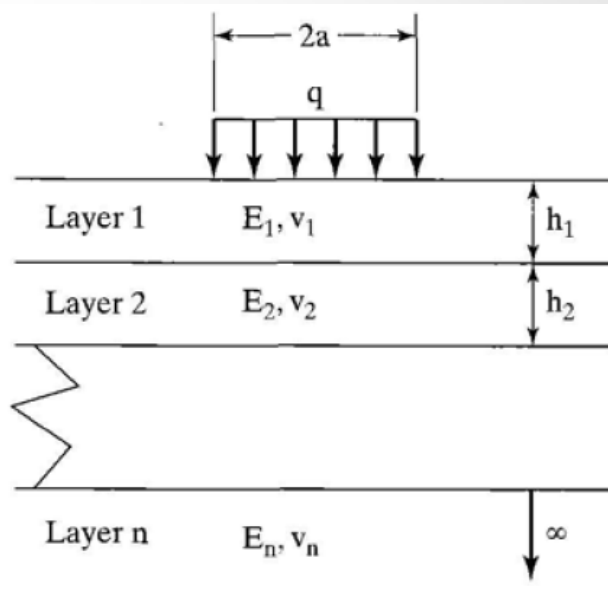


Figure 2.16. An n-layer system.

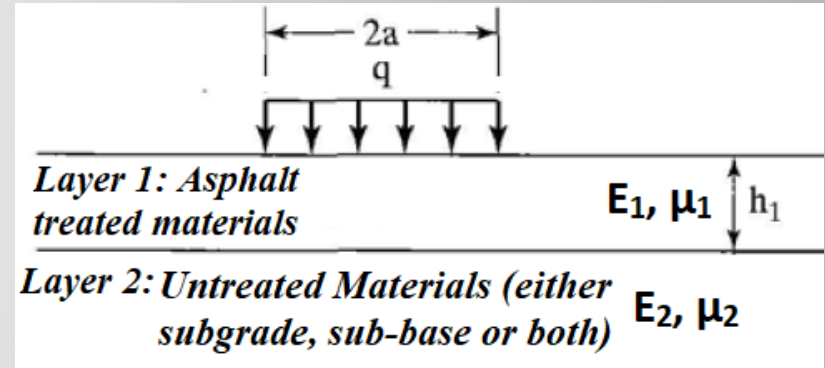


Figure 2.17. A two layers system

### 2.1.2.1. Two-Layer Systems

The two-layer system is composed of: hot mix asphalt (HMA) layer which consists of surface, binder, and stabilized layers which are treated as a first layer with  $E_1$  and the second layer consists of untreated layer (granular material such as base, sub-base, and subgrade) with  $E_2$ , as shown in Figure (2.17). (**Note:  $E_1 > E_2$** )

### Vertical Stress

- The vertical stress on the top of subgrade is an important factor in pavement design. The function of a pavement is to reduce the vertical stress on the subgrade so that detrimental pavement deformations will not occur. The allowable vertical stress on a given subgrade depends on the strength or modulus of the subgrade.

- The stresses in a two-layer system depend on the modulus ratio  $E_1/E_2$  and the thickness-radius ratio  $h/a$ . Figure 2.18 shows the effect of a pavement layer on the distribution of vertical stresses under the center of a circular loaded area. The chart is applicable to the case when the thickness  $h_1$  of the top layer is equal to the radius of contact area, or  $h_1/a = 1$  and  $\mu$  is assumed to be 0.5 for both layers. It can be seen that the vertical stresses decrease significantly with the increase in modulus ratio. For example: at the pavement-subgrade interface (i.e. contact surface between layer 1 and 2), the vertical stress is about 68% of the applied pressure if  $E_1/E_2=1$ , and when  $E_1/E_2=100$  the vertical stress distribution reduces to about 8% of the applied pressure.

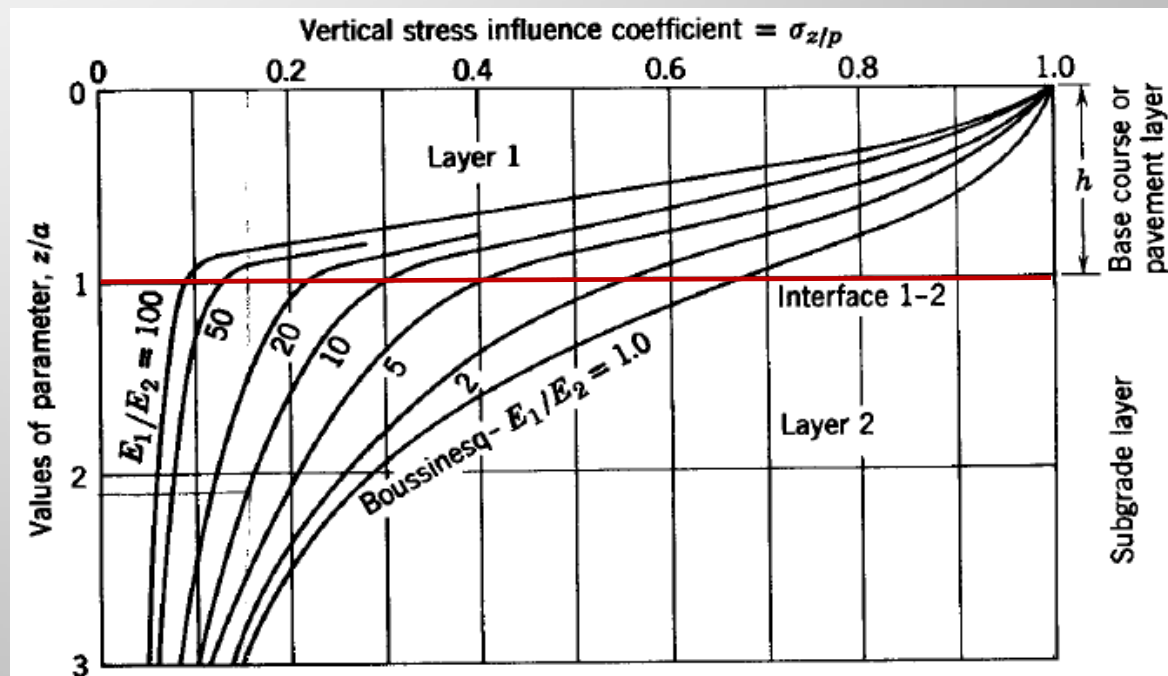


Figure 2.17. Vertical stress distribution in a two layers system.

Figure 2.18 shows the effect of pavement thickness and modulus ratio on the vertical stress  $\sigma_c$  at the pavement–subgrade interface under the center of a circular loaded area. For a given applied pressure  $q$ , the vertical stress increases with the increase in contact radius and decreases with the increase in thickness.

**Example 4 :** A circular load having radius 6 in. (and uniform pressure 80 psi (552 kPa) is applied on a two-layer system, as shown in Figure 2.19 .The subgrade has an elastic modulus 5000 psi (35 MPa ) and can support a maximum vertical stress ( $\sigma_c$ ) of 8 psi. If the HMA has an elastic modulus 500,000 psi, what is the required thickness of a full-depth pavement? If a thin surface treatment is applied( instead of HMA) on a granular base with an elastic modulus 25,000 psi what is the thickness of base course required ?

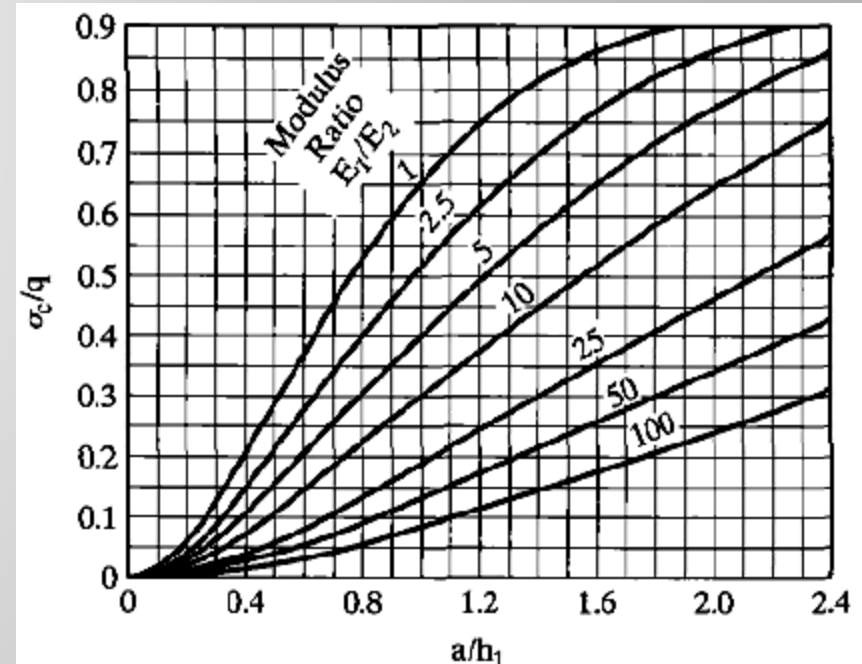


Figure 2.18. Vertical interface stresses for two-layer system

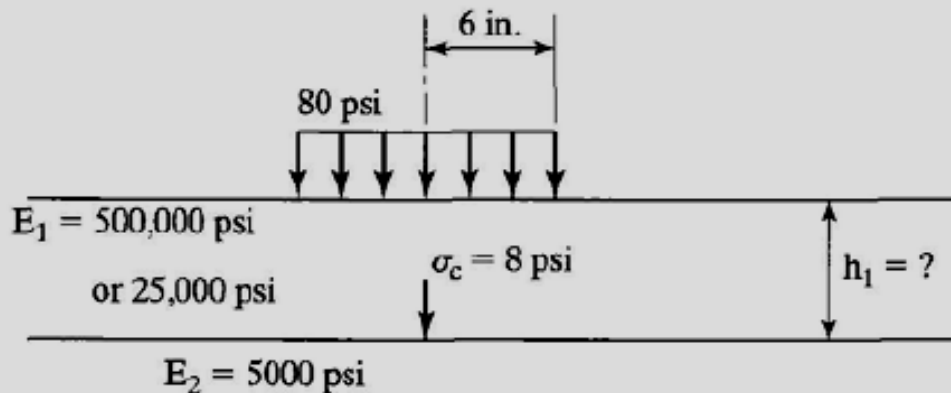


Figure 2.19. Example 4

**Solution:** a) Given  $E_1/E_2 = 500,000/5000 = 100$  , and  $\sigma_c/q = 8/80 = 0.1$ , from Figure 2.18 , find  $a/h_1 = 1.15$ , so the value of  $h_1 = 6/1.15 = 5.2$  in ., which represents the minimum thickness for full depth . b) Given  $E_1/E_2 = 25,000/5000 = 5$  , and  $\sigma_c/q = 0.1$ , from Figure 2.18, for  $a/h_1 = 0.4$ , so the value of  $h_1 = 6/0.4 = 15$  in., which is the minimum thickness of granular base required.

**Note: compare between the two values of  $h_1$**

- **The allowable vertical stress** should depend on the number of load repetitions ,using the Shell design criterion and the AASHTO equation, Huang et al. (1984b) developed the relationship:  $N_d = 4.873 \times 10^{-5} \sigma_c^{-3.734} E_2^{3.583}$  in which  $N_d$  is the allowable number of stress repetitions to limit permanent deformation,  $\sigma_c$  is the vertical compressive stress on the surface of the subgrade **in psi**, and  $E_2$  is the elastic modulus of the subgrade **in psi**.

**Example 5:** Use the data in example 4 to find the allowable number of repetitions?

Solution: For a stress of 8 psi (5 kPa) and an elastic modulus of 5000 psi (35 MPa), the allowable number of repetitions is  $N_d = 3.7 \times 10^5$  .

**Vertical Surface Deflection:** Vertical surface deflections have been used as a criterion of pavement design. Figure 2.17 can be used to determine the surface deflections for two-layer systems. The deflection is expressed in terms of the deflection factor  $F_2$  by :

$$w_o = \frac{1.5 qa}{E_2} F_2 \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.1$$

The deflection factor is a function of  $E_1/E_2$  and  $h_1/a$ . For a homogeneous half-space with  $h_1/a = 0$ ,  $F_2 = 1$ , so Eq. 2.1 is identical to Equation for flexible plate when  $\mu = 0.5$  . If the load is applied by a rigid plate, then, from Eq. 2.2. of rigid plate.

$$w_o = \frac{1.18 qa}{E_2} F_2 \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.2$$

Example.5: A total load of 20,000 lb (89 kN) was applied on the surface of a two-layer system through a rigid plate 12 in. in diameter, as shown in Figure 2 .21. Layer 1 has a thickness of 8 in. and layer 2 has an elastic modulus of 6400 psi (44.2 MPa). Both layers are incompressible with a Poisson ratio of 0.5. If the deflection of the plate is 0.1 in . (2.54 mm), determine the elastic modulus of layer 1.

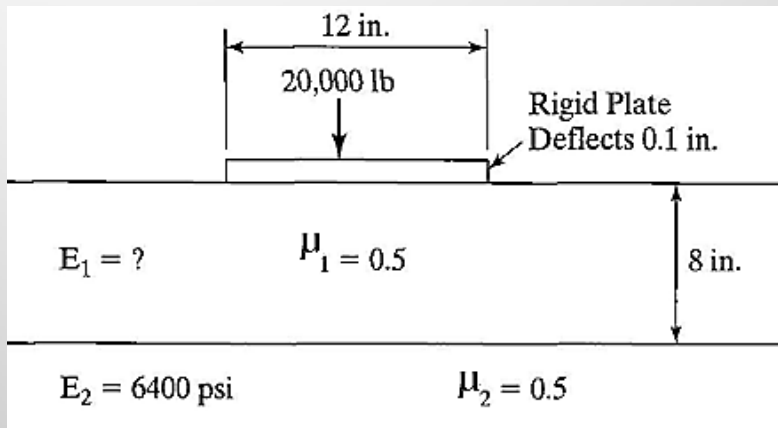


Figure 2.21. Example 5.

**Solution:**

The average pressure on the plate is  $q = 20,000 / (36\pi) = 176.8$  psi (1.22 MPa). From Eq. 2 .2, find the value of  $F_2 = 0.1 \times 6400 / (1.18 \times 176.8 \times 6) = 0.511$ . Given  $h_1/a = 8/6 = 1.333$ , from Figure 2.20,  $E_1/E_2 = 5$ , or  $E_1 = 5 \times 6400 = 32,000$  psi (221 MPa) .

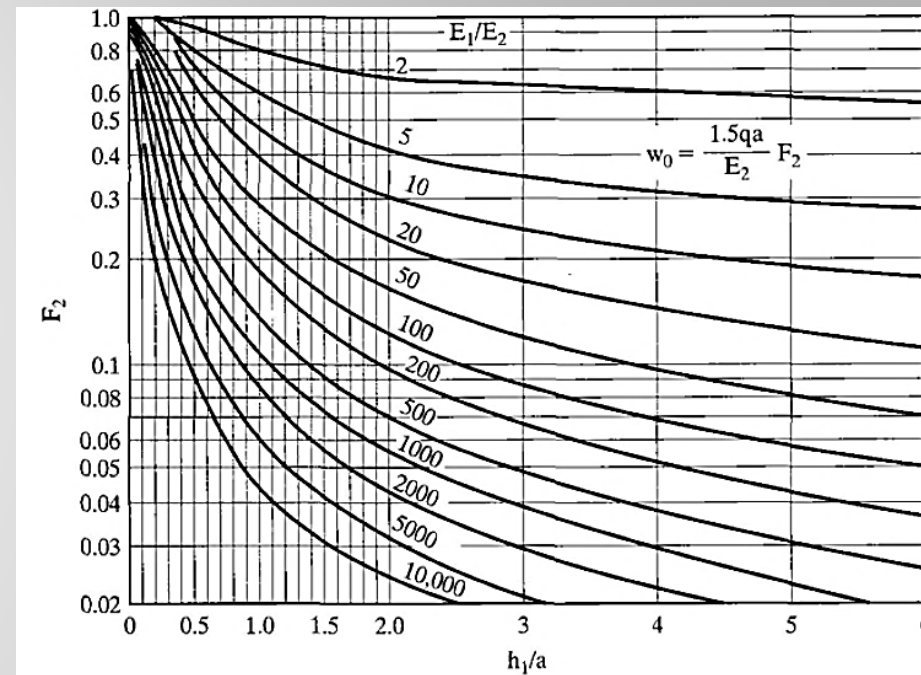


Figure 2.20. Vertical surface deflections for two-layer systems

## Critical Tensile Strain

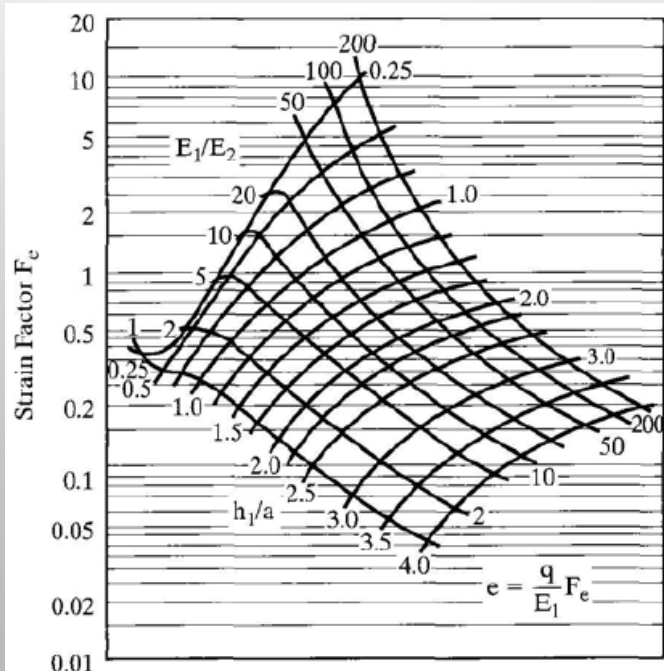
The tensile strains at the bottom of asphalt layer have been used as a design criterion to prevent fatigue cracking. Two types of principal strains could be considered.

1. One is the overall principal strain based on all six components of normal and shear stresses.
2. The other, which is more popular and was used in KENLAYER, is the **horizontal principal strain** based on the horizontal normal and shear stresses only.

**Note:** The overall principal strain is slightly greater than the horizontal principal strain, so the use of overall principal strain is on the safe side. The critical tensile strain is the overall strain and can be determined from Eq. 2.3.

$$e = \frac{q}{E_1} F_e \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.3$$

where:  $e$  is the critical tensile strain and  $F_e$  is the strain factor, which can be determined from the charts.



**Example 6:** Figure 2.23 shows a full-depth asphalt pavement 8 in. thick subjected to a single-wheel load of 9000 lb (40 kN) having contact pressure 67.7 psi. If the elastic modulus of the asphalt layer is 150,000 psi and that of the subgrade is 15,000 psi, determine the critical tensile strain in the asphalt layer.

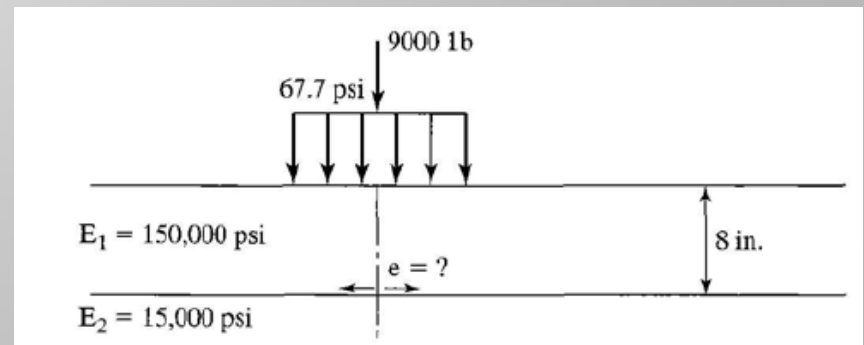


Figure 2.23. Example 6.

Figure 2.22. Single Wheel chart for the strain factor of a two-layer system under a circular loaded area.

The figure 2.22 is used for single wheel, in dual wheels,

- The strain factor for dual wheels depends on the parameters: contact radius  $a$ , dual spacing  $S_d$ ,  $S_d/a$ ,  $E_1/E_2$ , and  $h_1/a$ .
- There are two charts one for dual wheels with  $S_d = 24$  in. (610 mm) and  $a = 3$  in. and the other for  $S_d = 24$  in. (610 mm) and  $a = 8$  in. to determine conversion factors:  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  as shown in Figure 2.24.

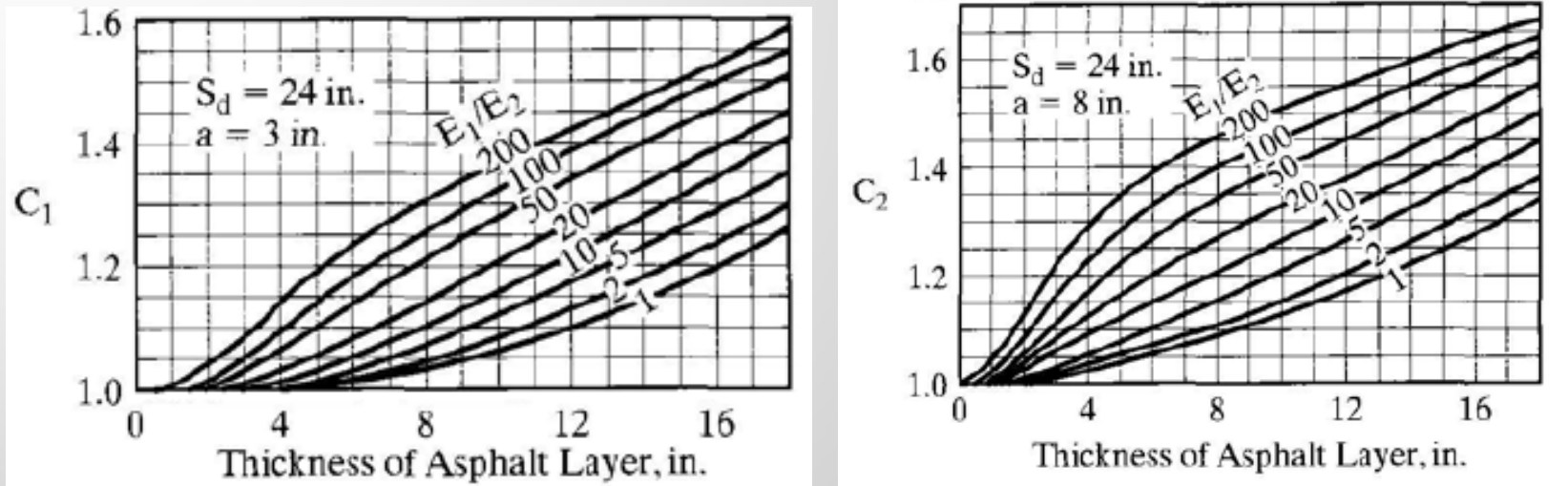


Figure 2.24. Conversion factors.

For any other different  $S_d$  and  $a$  values the following procedure can be used:

1. From the given  $S_d$ ,  $h_1$ , and  $a$ , determine the modified radius  $a'$  and the modified thickness  $h_1'$ :

$$a' = \frac{24}{S_d} a \quad \text{and} \quad h_1' = \frac{24}{S_d} h_1$$

2. Using  $h_1'$  as the pavement thickness, find conversion factors  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  from Figure 2.24.
3. Determine the conversion factor for  $a'$  by a straight-line interpolation between 3 and 8 in. or the formula.

$$C = C_1 + 0.2 \times (a' - 3) \times (C_2 - C_1)$$

### Example 7:

For the same pavement as in Example 6, if the 9000-lb (40-kN) load is applied over a set of dual tires with a center-to-center spacing of 11.5 in. and a contact pressure of 67.7 psi, as shown in Figure 2.25, determine the critical tensile strain in the asphalt layer.

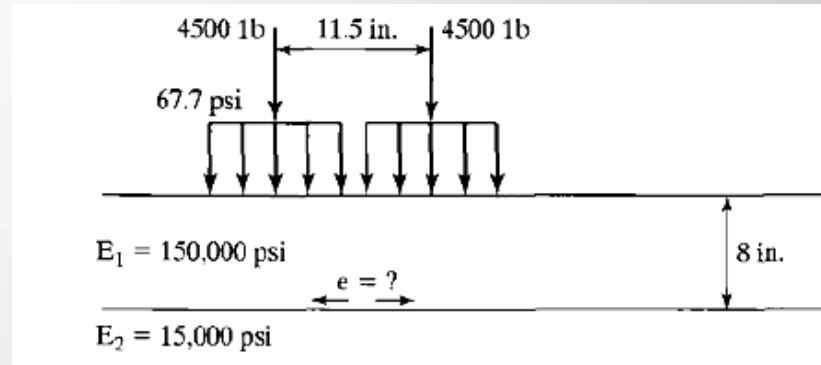


Figure 2.25. Example 7.

### Solution:

Compute  $a = 4.6$  in.,  $h_1 = 8$  in. from  $a' = \frac{24}{S_d} a$  and  $h'_1 = \frac{24}{S_d} h_1$

$a' = 24 \times 4.6/11.5 = 9.6$  in. and  $h'_1 = 24 \times 8/11.5 = 16.7$  in.,  $E_1/E_2 = 10$  and an asphalt layer thickness of 16.7 in. from Figure 2.24,  $C_1 = 1.42$  and  $C_2 = 1.46$ . From interpolation equation,  $C = 1.42 + 0.2(9.6 - 3)(1.46 - 1.42) = 1.473$  ( $C$  is a modified factor to  $F_e$  which is found from Figure 2.22). From Figure 2.22, the strain factor for a single wheel = 0.47 and that for dual wheels =  $1.473 \times 0.47 = 0.692$ , so the critical tensile strain is:  
 $e = 67.7 \times 0.692/150,000 = 3.12 \times 10^{-4}$ .



### 2.1.2.2. Three Layers System.

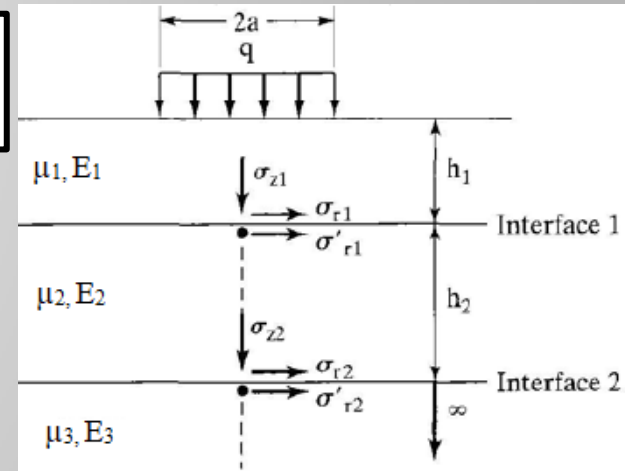
Figure 2 .25 shows a three-layer system and the stresses at the interfaces on the axis of symmetry. These stresses include vertical stress at interface 1,  $\sigma_{z1}$ , vertical stress at interface 2,  $\sigma_{z2}$ , radial stress at bottom of layer 1,  $\sigma_{r1}$ , radial stress at top of layer 2,  $\sigma'_{r1}$ , radial stress at bottom of layer 2,  $\sigma_{r2}$ , and radial stress at top of layer 3,  $\sigma'_{r2}$ . **Note that, on the axis of symmetry,  $\sigma_r = \sigma_t$  and the shear stress is equal to 0. When the Poisson ratio is 0.5, we have:**

$$\epsilon_z = \frac{1}{E}(\sigma_z - \sigma_r) \dots\dots\dots 2.4$$

$$\epsilon_r = \frac{1}{2E}(\sigma_r - \sigma_z) \dots\dots\dots 2.5$$

$$\epsilon_z = -2\epsilon_r \dots\dots\dots 2.6$$

**Important note:**  
 $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu_3 = 0.5$



**Figure 2 .25. Three layers system**

**Note:**

- The horizontal strain is equal to one-half of the vertical strain
- To understand these Eqs. 2.4 to 2.6 go back to slides No. 3 and 5.

### Solution Method for Three Layers System Using Jones' Tables

The stresses in a three-layer system depend on the ratios  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$ ,  $A$ , and  $H$ , defined as

$$k_1 = \frac{E_1}{E_2} \quad k_2 = \frac{E_2}{E_3} \dots\dots\dots 2.7$$

$$A = \frac{a}{h_2} \quad H = \frac{h_1}{h_2} \dots\dots\dots 2.8$$

$$\sigma_{z1} - \sigma'_{r1} = \frac{\sigma_{z1} - \sigma_{r1}}{k_1} \dots\dots\dots 2.9$$

$$\sigma_{z2} - \sigma'_{r2} = \frac{\sigma_{z2} - \sigma_{r2}}{k_2} \dots\dots\dots 2.10$$

➤ Jones developed a Tables to determine the stress factors for three-layer systems.

$$\sigma_{z1} = q (ZZ1) \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.11 \qquad \sigma_{z2} = q (ZZ2) \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.12$$

$$\sigma_{z1} - \sigma_{r1} = q (ZZ1 - RR1) \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.13 \qquad \sigma_{z2} - \sigma_{r2} = q (ZZ2 - RR2) \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.14$$

➤ Where  $q$  is the contact pressure (tire inflation in psi), ZZ1,ZZ2,----- etc. are factors found from Jones` tables.

➤ The sign convention is positive in compression and negative in tension . Four sets of stress factors,ZZ1, ZZ2, (ZZ1 - RR1), and (ZZ2 - RR2) are shown in tables. The product of the contact pressure and the stress factors gives the stresses. The tables presented by Jones consist of **four values of k1 and k2 (0.2, 2, 20, and 200)**, so solutions for intermediate values of  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  can be obtained by interpolation.

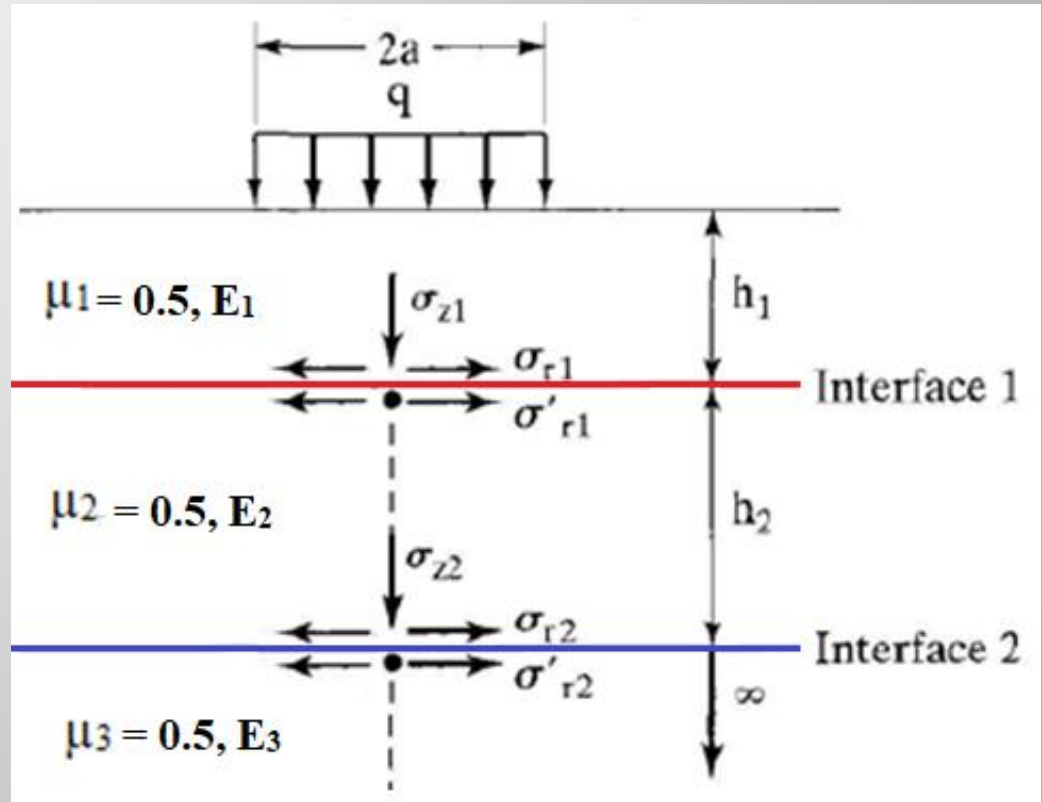


Figure 2 .26. Detailed stresses in three layers system.

From Figure 2.26. it can be observed, that the presence of friction has a significant influence on the radial (horizontal) stress at the bottom of the top layer especially at low values for the ratio  $E_1/E_2$ . We also note that the influence on the vertical stress is much smaller.

If there is full friction or full bond at the interface, the following conditions are satisfied:

➤ **The vertical stress just below and above the interface are equal because of equilibrium, so:**

$\sigma_{z1}$  at the bottom of the top layer (1) =  $\sigma_{z1}$  at the top of the bottom layer (2) (interface 1)

$\sigma_{z2}$  at the bottom of the top layer (2) =  $\sigma_{z2}$  at the top of the bottom layer (3) (interface 2)

➤ **The horizontal displacements just above and below the interface are the same because of full friction, so:**

$\varepsilon_{r1}$  at the bottom of the top layer (1) =  $\varepsilon_{r1}$  at the top of the bottom layer (2) (interface 1)

( $\sigma_{r1} = \sigma_{r1}$  at interface 1)

$\varepsilon_{r2}$  at the bottom of the top layer (2) =  $\varepsilon_{r2}$  at the top of the bottom layer (3) (interface 2)

( $\sigma_{r2} = \sigma_{r2}$  at interface 2)

➤ **The vertical displacements just above and below the interface are the same because of continuity, so:**

$\varepsilon_{z1}$  at the bottom of the top layer (1) =  $\varepsilon_{z1}$  at the top of the bottom layer (2) (interface 1)

$\varepsilon_{z2}$  at the bottom of the top layer (2) =  $\varepsilon_{z2}$  at the top of the bottom layer (3) (interface 2)

### Example 8:

Given the three-layer system shown in Figure 2.27 with  $a = 122 \text{ mm}$ ,  $q = 828 \text{ kPa}$ ,  $h_1 = 152 \text{ mm}$ ,  $h_2 = 6 \text{ in. (203 mm)}$ ,  $E_1 = 400,000 \text{ psi (2.8 GPa)}$ ,  $E_2 = 20,000 \text{ psi (138 MPa)}$ , and  $E_3 = 10,000 \text{ psi (69 MPa)}$ , determine all the stresses and strains at the two interfaces on the axis of symmetry.

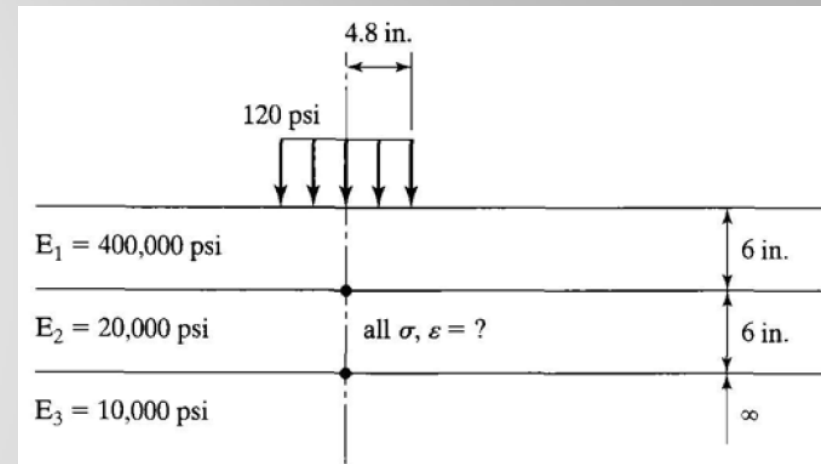


Figure 2.27. Example 8.

### Solution:

Given  $k_1 = 400,000/20,000 = 20$ ,  $k_2 = 20,000/10,000 = 2$ ,  $A = 4.8/6 = 0.8$ , and  $H = 6/6 = 1$ , from Table ( ) Find the factors:  $ZZ1 = 0.12173$ ,  $ZZ2 = 0.05938$ ,  $ZZ1 - RR1 = 1.97428$ , and  $ZZ2 - RR2 = 0.09268$ .

From Eq. 2.11,  $\sigma_{z1} = q \times ZZ1 = 120 \times 0.12173 = 14.61 \text{ psi (101 kPa)}$

From Eq. 2.12  $\sigma_{z2} = q \times ZZ2 = 120 \times 0.05938 = 7.12 \text{ psi (49.1 kPa)}$

From Eq. 2.13  $\sigma_{z1} - \sigma_{r1} = q \times (ZZ1 - RR1) = 120 \times 1.97428 = 236.91 \text{ psi (1.63 MPa)}$ , and  $\sigma_{r1} = 14.61 - 236.91 = -222.31 \text{ psi}$ .

From Eq. 2.14  $\sigma_{z2} - \sigma_{r2} = q \times (ZZ2 - RR2) = 120 \times 0.09268 = 11.12 \text{ psi}$ ,

$\sigma_{r2} = 7.12 - 11.12 = -4.0 \text{ psi}$

From Equations 2.9 and 2.10.

$\sigma'_{r1} = 2.76 \text{ psi}$ ,  $\sigma'_{r2} = 1.56 \text{ psi}$

$\sigma_{z1} - \sigma'_{r1} = \frac{\sigma_{z1} - \sigma_{r1}}{k_1} \dots\dots\dots 2.9$	$\epsilon_z = \frac{1}{E}(\sigma_z - \sigma_r) \dots\dots\dots 2.4$
$\sigma_{z2} - \sigma'_{r2} = \frac{\sigma_{z2} - \sigma_{r2}}{k_2} \dots\dots\dots 2.10$	$\epsilon_r = \frac{1}{2E}(\sigma_r - \sigma_z) \dots\dots\dots 2.5$

$H = 1.0$  $k_1 = 20.0$ 

$\Delta t$	$\sigma_{E_1}$	$\sigma_{E_1} - \sigma_{r_1}$	$\sigma_{E_1} - \sigma_{r_2}$	$\sigma_{E_2}$	$\sigma_{E_2} - \sigma_{r_2}$	$\sigma_{E_2} - \sigma_{r_3}$
0.1	0.00417	0.04050	0.00202	0.00271	0.00039	0.00195
0.2	0.01641	0.15675	0.00784	0.01080	0.00155	0.00777
0.4	0.06210	0.55548	0.02777	0.04241	0.00606	0.03028
0.8	0.21057	1.53667	0.07683	0.15303	0.02198	0.10991
1.6	0.58218	2.77359	0.13868	0.49705	0.06327	0.31635
3.2	1.06296	2.55195	0.12760	1.00217	0.09906	0.49525

 $k_2 = 2.0$ 

0.1	0.00263	0.04751	0.00238	0.00100	0.00160	0.00080
0.2	0.01029	0.18481	0.00924	0.00397	0.00637	0.00319
0.4	0.03910	0.66727	0.03316	0.01565	0.02408	0.01240
0.8	0.12173	1.97428	0.09871	0.05038	0.09268	0.04634
1.6	0.31575	4.37407	0.21870	0.20098	0.29253	0.14626
3.2	0.66041	6.97695	0.34885	0.53398	0.65446	0.32723

 $k_2 = 20.0$ 

0.1	0.00193	0.05737	0.00287	0.00024	0.00322	0.00016
0.2	0.00751	0.22418	0.01121	0.00098	0.01283	0.00064
0.4	0.02713	0.82430	0.04121	0.00387	0.05063	0.00253
0.8	0.08027	2.59672	0.12984	0.01507	0.19267	0.00963
1.6	0.17961	6.77014	0.33851	0.05549	0.66326	0.03316
3.2	0.34355	15.23252	0.76163	0.18344	1.88634	0.09432

 $k_2 = 200.0$ 

0.1	0.00176	0.05733	0.00337	0.00006	0.00478	0.00002
0.2	0.00683	0.26401	0.01320	0.00022	0.01908	0.00010
0.4	0.02443	0.98346	0.04917	0.00088	0.07557	0.00038
0.8	0.06983	3.23164	0.16158	0.00348	0.29194	0.00146
1.6	0.14191	9.28148	0.46407	0.01339	1.05385	0.00527
3.2	0.22655	24.85236	1.24262	0.04911	3.37605	0.01688

**Solution:**

**At bottom of layer 1:**

To calculate the strains at the bottom of layer 1 use Equations 2.4 and 2.5.

$$\epsilon_{z1} = (\sigma_{z1} - \sigma_{r1}) / E_1 = 236.91 / 400000 = 5.92 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\epsilon_{r1} = (\sigma_{r1} - \sigma_{z1}) / 2 E_1 = -236.91 / 2 \times 400000 = -2.96 \times 10^{-4} \text{ (or directly, using equation 2.6 for find } \epsilon_r \text{)}$$

$$\epsilon_z = -2\epsilon_r \dots\dots\dots 2.6$$

**At top of layer 2:**

To calculate the strains at the top of layer 2 use Equations 2.4 and 2.5

$$\epsilon_{z1} = (\sigma_{z1} - \sigma_{r1}) / E_2 = (14.61 - 2.76) / 20000 = 5.92 \times 10^{-4} = \epsilon_z \text{ at bottom of layer 1}$$

$$\epsilon_{r1} = (\sigma_{r1} - \sigma_{z1}) / 2 E_2 = (2.76 - 14.61) / 2 \times 20000 = -2.96 \times 10^{-4} = \epsilon_{r1} \text{ at bottom of layer 1}$$

**At bottom of layer 2 :**

To calculate the strains at the bottom of layer 2 use Equations 2.4 and 2.5.

$$\epsilon_{z2} = (\sigma_{z2} - \sigma_{r2}) / E_2 = 11.12 / 20000 = 5.56 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\epsilon_{r2} = (\sigma_{r2} - \sigma_{z2}) / 2 E_2 = -11.12 / 2 \times 20000 = -2.78 \times 10^{-4}$$

**At top of layer 3:**

To calculate the strains at the top of layer 3 use Equations 2.4 and 2.5

$$\epsilon_{z3} = (\sigma_{z2} - \sigma_{r2}) / E_3 = 5.56 / 10000 = 5.56 \times 10^{-4} = \epsilon_{z2} \text{ At bottom of layer 2}$$

$$\epsilon_{r3} = (\sigma_{r2} - \sigma_{z2}) / 2 E_3 = -5.56 / 2 \times 10000 = -2.78 \times 10^{-4} \text{ At bottom of layer 2}$$

## 2.2. Equivalent Thickness Method (OdeMark's Concept)

Odemark's equivalent-layer-thickness (ELT) concept is often used as a simple method of approximation in pavement structural analysis, since it permits the conversion of a multilayered system into a single layer with equivalent thickness. It is based on the principle that the equivalent layer has the same stiffness as the original layer, so as to give the same pressure distribution beneath the layer as shown in Figures 2.29 and 2.30.

$$\text{Stiffness of layer 1} = \frac{E_1 I_1}{1 - \mu_1^2}$$

$$\text{Stiffness of layer 2} = \frac{E_2 I_2}{1 - \mu_2^2}$$

$$I_{beam} = \frac{bh^3}{12}$$

$$I_1 = \frac{b_1 h_1^3}{12}, \quad I_2 = \frac{b_2 h_2^3}{12} \quad \text{for } b_1 = b_2 = 1 \text{ m}$$

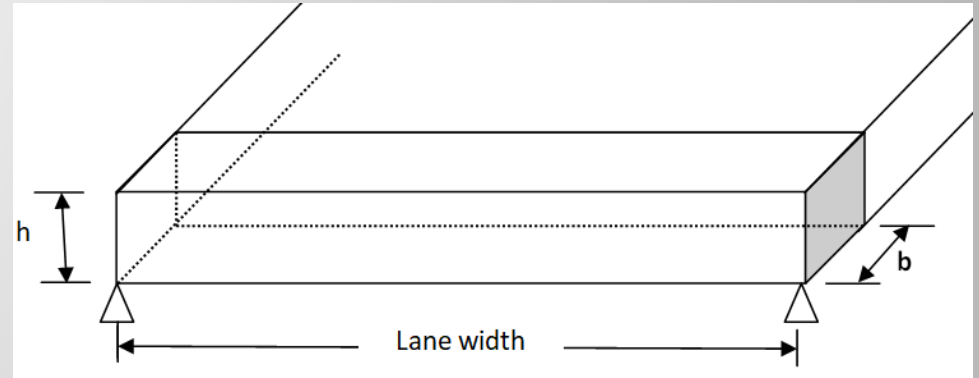


Figure 2.28. Moment of inertia of simply supported beam.

### According to Odemark's theory:

Stiffness of layer 1 = Stiffness of layer 2

If  $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = 0.5$

$$\frac{E_1 I_1}{1 - \mu_1^2} = \frac{E_2 I_2}{1 - \mu_2^2}$$

for layer 1  $h_e = \sqrt[3]{\frac{E_1}{E_e}} h_1$     for layer 2  $h_e = \sqrt[3]{\frac{E_2}{E_e}} h_2$

for layer  $i$   $h_e = \sqrt[3]{\frac{E_i}{E_e}} h_i$

**Equivalent thickness ( $h_e$ ) of multy layers**

$$h_e = \sqrt[3]{\frac{E_1}{E_e}} h_1 + \sqrt[3]{\frac{E_2}{E_e}} h_2 + \dots + \sqrt[3]{\frac{E_i}{E_e}} h_i$$

The general formula:  $h_e = f \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sqrt[3]{\frac{E_i}{E_e}} h_i$

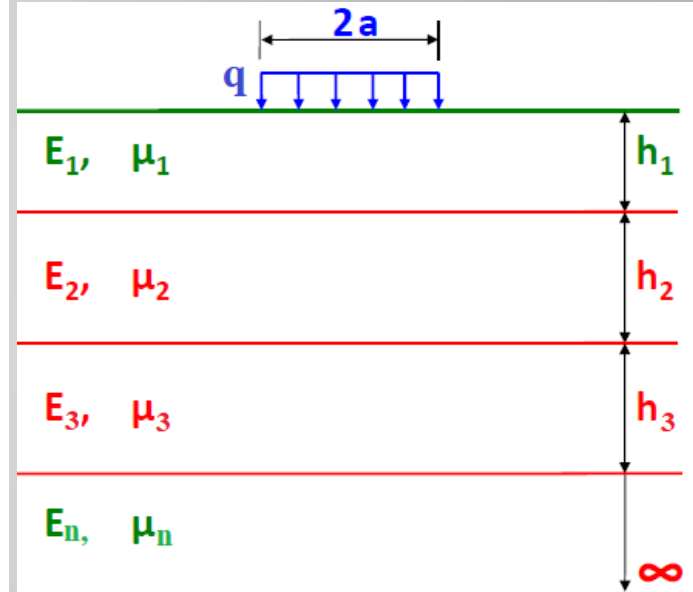


Figure 2 .29. Multilayer system.

**For  $f$  value:**

- In a 2-layer pavement system, use  $f = 0.9$  to convert the upper layer.
- In a multi-layer pavement system, use  $f = 0.8$  to convert the rest of the layers.

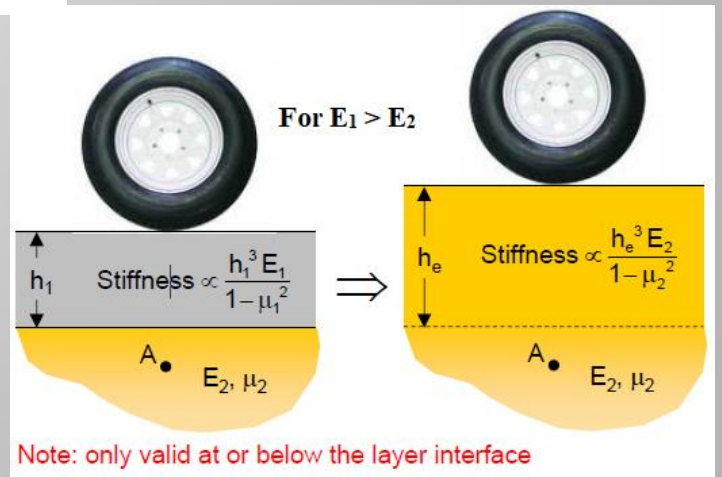


Figure 2 .30. Odemark`s concept.



**Example 9:**

The structure as shown in Figure 2.31 represents a multilayer pavement system?. By using Odemark`s concept, find the equivalent thickness of the structure?.

**Solution:**

As detailed in the Figures

9000-lb dual wheel  
with 90-psi tires

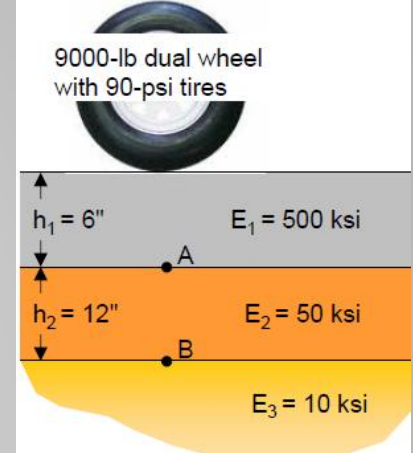


Figure 2 .31.  
Example 9.

