

AN ANALYTIC SOLUTION FOR THE STRESS DISTRIBUTION  
IN A SEMI-INFINITE STRIP LOADED ON THE TRANSVERSE EDGE

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## NOMENCLATURE

- $x, y$  : rectangular coordinates.  
 $\sigma_x$  : normal stress in x direction.  
 $\sigma_y$  : normal stress in y direction.  
 $\tau_{xy}$  : shearing stress.  
 $a$  : one half of width of strip, regarded as a unit in measuring length.  
 $q$  : uniform load per unit width of strip.  
 $P$  : concentrated normal load.  
 $Q$  : concentrated tangential load.  
 $\chi$  : stress function.  
 $A_n$  : parametric coefficient.  
 $\Phi_m$  : parametric function.  
 $I_{n,k}$  : an integral.  
 $J_{n,k}$  : an integral.  
 $S_n(x)$  : an integral.  
 $C_n(x)$  : an integral.  
 $S_n^*(x)$  : an integral.  
 $C_n^*(x)$  : an integral.

## INTRODUCTION

The problem of determining the stresses and displacements in a rectangular strip of isotropic elastic material under the action of any system of edge tractions was attacked by Filon [1] as early as 1903. Filon gave a solution which is almost complete if the breadth of the strip is small compared with its length. The cognate problem of finding the stresses and displacements produced by forces acting within the strip instead of on its edges was given by Howland [2] who presented a satisfactory solution for the problem of a force, either longitudinal or transverse, acting at any point within the strip. The stresses due to any distribution of forces within the strip may be deduced by integration. Howland's solution, however, is for the case in which the strip is of infinite length. The problem of finding the stresses in a rectangular plate under a pair of symmetrical concentrated loads acting inside the plate was solved by Ling [3] who attacked the problem by using a method of images and obtained a solution applicable to a plate of any length-width ratio.

Solution of a finite plate compressed by two symmetrical concentrated loads is given by Timoshenko [4], Coker and Filon [5], Goodier [6], Pickett [7] and others. This in fact is the limiting case of Ling's solution. Horvay [8] derived a solution for the stresses in a rectangular plate when one

of its narrow edges is under a self-equilibrating system of tractions. This solution is in the form of a series of products of orthogonal polynomials. The series is obtained by expanding the boundary values of the stress function into a set of orthogonal polynomials and the other functions are determined from the Euler-Lagrange equation of the associated variational problem.

The problem of a semi-infinite strip was considered by several investigators. Horvay and Born [9] gave a solution for the semi-infinite strip, when the longitudinal edges are traction-free and the transverse edge is subjected to (i) a shear displacement and zero normal stress, and (ii) a normal displacement and zero shear stress. The solution was based on an explicit series expansion of polynomial functions. The resulting boundary-value problem for the whole strip was solved by using a Fourier integral and the solution was expanded into an infinite series with the aid of the theorem of residues. Another paper by Horvay [10] dealt with the problem of a semi-infinite strip which is traction free along the longitudinal edge but under a self-equilibrating normal and shear tractions along the transverse edge. The solution is obtained by using biharmonic eigenfunctions. Benthem [11] used a Laplace transform method for the solution of semi-infinite and finite strip problems. The method can be applied to strips loaded in, or normal to, the plane of the

strip and also applied to finite strips. Johnson and Little [12] solved the same problem of a semi-infinite strip traction free along the longitudinal edges but under specified boundary conditions of stress and/or displacement along the transverse edge. This solution was obtained by solving a system of four first order differential equations, namely: two equilibrium equations, one compatibility equation and an equation consisting of a newly introduced function. This method differs from the usual procedure of solving a single fourth order differential equation for Airy's stress function.

Theocaris [13] obtained a solution for the <sup>stress</sup> distribution in a semi-infinite strip subjected to a concentrated load acting normal to the transverse edge. The solution is based on his method of isostatics [14]. It consists of determining a complex function representing the field of isostatics in a basic equation of elasticity. Conformal mapping of this field into the field of isostatics of the semi-infinite strip, however, introduced normal stresses to the longitudinal edges, which are eliminated by applying the minimum strain-energy principle over a part of the strip. The normal stresses along these edges are, however, only imperfectly eliminated in this way. Another paper by Theocaris [15] dealt with a similar strip but subjected to a segment of uniform load over the transverse edge. The normal stresses along the longitudinal edges are eliminated by using a method of multiple

Fourier series over a part of the strip. Ling [16] solved the same problem of semi-infinite strip subjected to an axial concentrated load by the method of images. In his solution, Ling presented an interesting analysis which satisfies all the boundary conditions. It is the aim of this thesis to extend Ling's work to the same strip but under different types of loadings over the transverse edge. The solutions are also constructed by using the method of images. The procedures used in the solutions are essentially those of Ling's. However, in solving the resulting system of equations, further attempts are made to eliminate one of them so that only one system of linear equations is left, which can be solved by method of successive approximations.

Three different cases are considered, when the transverse edge is under the following symmetrical loadings: (i) a segment of uniform load; (ii) two concentrated normal loads and (iii) two concentrated tangential loads. The solution of the first case is given in some detail and those of the remaining two cases are given in a somewhat abbreviated manner. In each case, the expressions for normal stresses along the longitudinal axis are derived and calculated at several locations.

## METHOD OF SOLUTION

## Case (i) Semi-infinite Strip Subjected to a Segment of Uniform Load on the Transverse Edge

Consider a semi-infinite plane strip of isotropic elastic material and of uniform thickness. Let the strip be bounded in the right half-plane by the lines  $x = 0$  and  $y = \pm l$  as shown in Fig. 1; the strip being measured by a typical length  $a$  or one-half of the width of the strip. The transverse edge of the strip is under a segment of uniformly distributed load of  $q$  per unit width, symmetrical with respect to the  $x$ -axis from  $y = -c$  to  $y = c$ .

The loading on the transverse edge is assumed parallel to the plane of the strip and distributed uniformly over the thickness. The strip is regarded <sup>as</sup> in a state of generalized plane stress. The solution of the problem consists of finding a function  $\chi$  which satisfies the biharmonic equation  $\nabla^4 \chi = 0$ . The function  $\chi$  is generally known as Airy stress function. The stress components in rectangular coordinates are derived from  $\chi$  in the following form:

$$\sigma_x = \frac{\partial^2 \chi}{\partial y^2}, \quad \sigma_y = \frac{\partial^2 \chi}{\partial x^2}, \quad \tau_{xy} = -\frac{\partial^2 \chi}{\partial x \partial y}.$$

The parametric coefficients involved in the solution are determined by adjusting the boundary conditions along the edges of the strip. As will be described in the subsequence,

the solution is constructed by using the method of images.

Suppose that the given strip is under successive reflections about the longitudinal edges. Then the strip and the resulting images occupy the entire right half-plane  $x \geq 0$  as shown in Fig. 2. The given load and its images become a series of segments of uniformly distributed loads acting along the edge  $x = 0$  from  $y = 2s - c$  to  $y = 2s + c$ , respectively, where  $s$  takes all positive and negative integral values including zero.

The stress function for such a semi-infinite plate can be constructed in the following way:

It is well known that the stress function for the semi-infinite plate loaded as shown in Fig. 3 is given by the following biharmonic function [4]

$$\chi = \frac{qa^2}{2\pi} (r^2\theta - r'^2\theta') \quad (1)$$

where  $(r, \theta)$  and  $(r', \theta')$  are two sets of polar coordinates with poles at the points  $(0, ic)$ , respectively. Thus the stress function for the semi-infinite plate under a series of uniform loads as shown in Fig. 2 is obtained by superposition as follows:

$$\chi_0 = \frac{qa^2}{2\pi} \left[ r^2\theta - r'^2\theta' + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left\{ r_s^2\theta_s - r_s'^2\theta_s' + r_{-s}^2\theta_{-s} - r_{-s}'^2\theta_{-s}' \right\} \right] \quad (2)$$

where  $(r_s, \theta_s)$  and  $(r_s', \theta_s')$  are two sets of polar coordinates with poles at the points  $(0, 2s + c)$  and  $(0, 2s - c)$  respectively. In particular,  $(r, \theta)$  and  $(r', \theta')$  are written in place of  $(r_0, \theta_0)$  and  $r_0', \theta_0'$  as shown in Fig. 4.

The polar coordinates  $(r_s, \theta_s)$  are connected with  $(x, y)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} x + i(y - 2s - c) &= z - (2s + c)i = r_s \exp(i\theta_s) \\ x + i(y - 2s + c) &= z - (2s - c)i = r_s' \exp(i\theta_s') \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

The stress function  $\chi_0$  in (2) can be expressed as the real part of a complex function as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_0 &= \frac{qa^2}{2\pi} \mathcal{R} \left[ i \{x^2 + (y + c)^2\} \log(z + ci) - i \{x^2 + (y - c)^2\} \log(z - ci) \right] \\ &+ \frac{qa^2}{2\pi} \mathcal{R} \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} i \left[ \{x^2 + (y - 2s + c)^2\} \log \left( 1 + \frac{iZ - c}{2s} \right) - \{x^2 + (y - 2s - c)^2\} \log \left( 1 + \frac{iZ + c}{2s} \right) \right. \\ &\left. + \{x^2 + (y + 2s + c)^2\} \log \left( 1 - \frac{iZ - c}{2s} \right) - \{x^2 + (y + 2s - c)^2\} \log \left( 1 - \frac{iZ + c}{2s} \right) \right] \quad (4) \end{aligned}$$

The stress function given in this form is divergent. However, the divergence can be removed if a linear term  $\mathcal{R}[4ci(ix - 3y)]$  is added to each term of the series. For the proof of this, refer to Appendix 1. This is permissible since such a modification does not affect the stresses derived from the function. Then the stress function  $\chi_0$  appears in the following form:

$$\chi_0 = \frac{qa^2}{2\pi} \mathcal{R} \left[ i \{x^2 + (y + c)^2\} \log(z + ci) - i \{x^2 + (y - c)^2\} \log(z - ci) \right] +$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{qa^2}{2\pi} \mathcal{R} \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} i \left[ \left\{ x^2 + (y - 2s + c)^2 \right\} \log \left( 1 + \frac{iz - c}{2s} \right) - \left\{ x^2 + (y - 2s - c)^2 \right\} \log \left( 1 + \frac{iz + c}{2s} \right) \right. \\
& \left. + \left\{ x^2 + (y + 2s + c)^2 \right\} \log \left( 1 - \frac{iz - c}{2s} \right) - \left\{ x^2 + (y + 2s - c)^2 \right\} \log \left( 1 - \frac{iz + c}{2s} \right) + 4c(ix - 3y) \right] \quad (5)
\end{aligned}$$

The preceding stress function gives no normal and tangential stresses along the edge  $x = 0$  besides the segments of uniform loads. Furthermore, by symmetry, it gives no tangential stress along the lines  $y = \pm 1$ . The normal stresses given by the stress function are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_x &= \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial^2 \chi_0}{\partial y^2} \\
&= \frac{q}{\pi} \mathcal{R} \left[ i \log(z + ci) - i \log(z - ci) - \frac{ix}{z + ci} + \frac{ix}{z - ci} \right] \\
&+ \frac{q}{\pi} \mathcal{R} \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} i \left[ \log \left( 1 + \frac{(z + ci)^2}{4s^2} \right) - \log \left( 1 + \frac{(z - ci)^2}{4s^2} \right) \right. \\
&\left. + \frac{x}{z - 2si - ci} + \frac{x}{z + 2si - ci} - \frac{x}{z - 2si + ci} - \frac{x}{z + 2si + ci} \right] \quad (6)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_y &= \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial^2 \chi_0}{\partial x^2} \\
&= \frac{q}{\pi} \mathcal{R} \left[ i \log(z + ci) - i \log(z - ci) + \frac{ix}{z + ci} - \frac{ix}{z - ci} \right] \\
&+ \frac{q}{\pi} \mathcal{R} \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} i \left[ \log \left( 1 + \frac{(z + ci)^2}{4s^2} \right) - \log \left( 1 + \frac{(z - ci)^2}{4s^2} \right) \right. \\
&\left. - \frac{x}{z - 2si - ci} - \frac{x}{z + 2si - ci} + \frac{x}{z - 2si + ci} + \frac{x}{z + 2si + ci} \right] \quad (7)
\end{aligned}$$

To sum up the series in eqs. (6) and (7), we observe that the series below can be written as infinite products:

$$\begin{aligned} \log(z+ci) + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \log\left(1 + \frac{(z+ci)^2}{4s^2}\right) - \log(z-ci) - \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \log\left(1 + \frac{(z-ci)^2}{4s^2}\right) \\ = \log\left[(z+ci) \prod_{s=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{(z+ci)^2}{4s^2}\right)\right] - \log\left[(z-ci) \prod_{s=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{(z-ci)^2}{4s^2}\right)\right] \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Comparing the infinite product with the well known formula [17]

$$\theta \prod_{s=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{\theta^2}{\pi^2 s^2}\right) = \sin \theta \quad (9)$$

we find

$$\begin{aligned} \log(z+ci) + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \log\left(1 + \frac{(z+ci)^2}{4s^2}\right) - \log(z-ci) - \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \log\left(1 + \frac{(z-ci)^2}{4s^2}\right) \\ = \log \sinh \frac{\pi(z+ci)}{2} - \log \sinh \frac{\pi(z-ci)}{2} \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Next we compare the series

$$\left[ \frac{1}{z-ci} + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{(z-ci)-2si} + \frac{1}{(z-ci)+2si} \right) \right] - \left[ \frac{1}{z+ci} + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{(z+ci)-2si} + \frac{1}{(z+ci)+2si} \right) \right]$$

with the known formula [17]

$$\frac{1}{\theta} + \sum_{s=-\infty}^{\infty} ' \left( \frac{1}{\theta+s\pi} - \frac{1}{s\pi} \right) = \cot \theta \quad (11)$$

where the prime on the summation sign means that the term corresponding to  $s = 0$  is excluded. We find

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[ \frac{1}{z-ci} + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{(z-ci)-2si} + \frac{1}{(z-ci)+2si} \right) \right] - \left[ \frac{1}{z+ci} + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{(z+ci)-2si} + \frac{1}{(z+ci)+2si} \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} \coth \frac{\pi(z-ci)}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2} \coth \frac{\pi(z+ci)}{2} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Substitution into (6) and (7) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_x = \frac{q}{\pi} \Re & \left[ i \log \sinh \frac{\pi(z+ci)}{2} - i \log \sinh \frac{\pi(z-ci)}{2} \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{\pi i x}{2} \coth \frac{\pi(z+ci)}{2} + \frac{\pi i x}{2} \coth \frac{\pi(z-ci)}{2} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_y = \frac{q}{\pi} \Re & \left[ i \log \sinh \frac{\pi(y+ci)}{2} - i \log \sinh \frac{\pi(y-ci)}{2} \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{\pi i x}{2} \coth \frac{\pi(z+ci)}{2} - \frac{\pi i x}{2} \coth \frac{\pi(z-ci)}{2} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

The above expressions can further be simplified if we observe that

$$\coth \frac{\pi(z-ci)}{2} = \coth \frac{\pi}{2} [x+i(y-c)] = \frac{\sinh \pi x - i \sin \pi(y-c)}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y-c)} \quad (15)$$

and

$$\coth \frac{\pi(z+ci)}{2} = \coth \frac{\pi}{2} [x+i(y+c)] = \frac{\sinh \pi x - i \sin \pi(y+c)}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)} \quad (16)$$

also

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log \sinh \frac{\pi(z-ci)}{2} - \log \sinh \frac{\pi(z+ci)}{2} &= \log \frac{\sinh \frac{\pi}{2} [x+i(y-c)]}{\sinh \frac{\pi}{2} [x+i(y+c)]} \\
 &= \log \left[ \frac{\cosh \pi x \cos \pi c - \cos \pi y}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)} - i \frac{\sinh \pi x \sin \pi c}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{(\cosh \pi x \cos \pi c - \cos \pi y)^2 + (\sinh \pi x \sin \pi c)^2}{[\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)]^2} - i \tan^{-1} \frac{\sinh \pi x \sin \pi c}{\cosh \pi x \cos \pi c - \cos \pi y}
 \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_x &= -\frac{q}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{\cos \pi c \cosh \pi x - \cos \pi y} \\
 &\quad - \frac{qx}{2} \left( \frac{\sin \pi(y+c)}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)} - \frac{\sin \pi(y-c)}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y-c)} \right)
 \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_y &= -\frac{q}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{\cos \pi c \cosh \pi x - \cos \pi y} \\
 &\quad + \frac{qx}{2} \left( \frac{\sin \pi(y+c)}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)} - \frac{\sin \pi(y-c)}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y-c)} \right)
 \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

At  $x$  infinity,  $\sigma_x$  tends to  $-qc$  as required by the static condition of the plate. Along the lines  $y = \pm 1$  the normal stress is :

$$[\sigma_y]_{y=\pm 1} = -\frac{q}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{1 + \cos \pi c \cosh \pi x} - \frac{qx \sin \pi c}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} \tag{20}$$

Now, consider the strip in question. Suppose that a second biharmonic function  $\chi_1$  is added to  $\chi_0$  so that the required stress function  $\chi$  for the given strip is

$$\chi = \chi_0 + \chi_1 \quad (21)$$

The function  $\chi_1$  may be constructed in the following way.

First consider an infinite strip with the same width as the semi-infinite strip in our problem. Suppose a system of forces symmetrical with respect to both the x and y axes acting on the edges of the strip. A stress function for this infinite strip was found by Howland [2] in the following form:

$$\chi_s = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\phi_m \sinh m}{m^2(\sinh 2m + 2m)} \left\{ my \sinh my - (1 + m \coth m) \cosh my \right\} \cos mx \, dm \quad (22)$$

where  $\phi_m$  is an arbitrary function of  $m$ , on the load distribution on the longitudinal edges. depending

This stress function gives no shearing stress along the edges  $y = \pm l$  and since it is even both in x and y, it gives only a normal stress symmetrical with both the x and y axes.

Next let us consider a semi-infinite plate with the x and y axes perpendicular to and along the straight edge of the plate, respectively. Suppose the plate is subjected

to a series of loads which is symmetrical with respect to x-axis and let the dimension of the plate be also measured by a typical length  $a$ . Consider, in this case, a biharmonic function

$$\chi_p = (Ax + B)e^{-mx} \cos my + (Cx + D)e^{mx} \cos my \quad (23)$$

which is even in  $y$ . The condition that the normal stress  $\sigma_y$  approaches zero at  $x$  infinity requires the exclusion of the terms  $e^{mx}$  from the above expression and thus  $\chi_p$  is reduced to the form:

$$\chi_p = (Ax + B)e^{-mx} \cos my \quad (24)$$

The shear stresses given by this function at lines  $y = \pm 1$  are zero if  $m = n\pi$  where  $n$  is an integer. It satisfies the condition of zero shear on the edge  $x = 0$  if we take

$$A = n\pi B \quad (25)$$

Thus

$$\chi_p = B(1 + n\pi x)e^{-n\pi x} \cos n\pi y \quad (26)$$

This holds for all integer values of  $n$  so that, provided the series converges, a more general solution is

$$\chi_p = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{A_n}{n^2 \pi^2} (1 + n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \cos n\pi y \quad (27)$$

where  $A_n/n^2 \pi^2$  is written in place of  $B$  for convenience.

Now the stress function  $\chi_1$  can be constructed by combining  $\chi_s$  and  $\chi_p$  in the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_1 = & -2a^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\phi_m \sinh m}{m^2(\sinh 2m + 2m)} \left\{ my \sinh my - (1 + m \coth m) \cosh my \right\} \cos my \, dm \\ & + \frac{a^2}{2} A_0 x^2 + a^2 \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{A_n}{n^2 \pi^2} (1 + n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \cos n\pi y \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

This stress function gives no tangential stress along all three edges of the strip but the following normal stresses:

$$\begin{aligned} [\sigma_x]_{x=0} &= \frac{1}{a^2} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \chi_1}{\partial y^2} \right]_{x=0} \\ &= - \sum_{n=1}^\infty A_n \cos n\pi y - 2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\phi_m \sinh m}{\sinh 2m + 2m} \\ &\quad \cdot \left\{ (1 - m \coth m) \cosh my + my \sinh my \right\} dm \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\sigma_y]_{y=\pm 1} &= \frac{1}{a^2} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \chi}{\partial x^2} \right]_{y=\pm 1} \\ &= A_0 - \int_0^\infty \phi_m \cos mx \, dm \\ &\quad - \sum_{n=1}^\infty (-1)^n A_n (1 - n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Hence, the normal stress  $\delta_x$  along the edge  $x = 0$  becomes zero provided that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos n\pi y = -2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\phi_m \sinh m}{\sinh 2m + 2m} \left\{ (1 - m \coth m) \cosh my + m y \sinh my \right\} dm \quad (31)$$

By Fourier series expansion we have

$$A_n = -2 \int_0^{\infty} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\phi_m \sinh m}{\sinh 2m + 2m} \left[ (1 - m \coth m) \cosh my + m y \sinh my \right] \cos n\pi y dy dm \quad (32)$$

Again, the normal stress  $\delta_y$  given by  $\chi$  along the edges  $y = \pm 1$  becomes zero provided that  $A_0 = qc$  and

$$\int_0^{\infty} \phi_m \cos mx dm = -\frac{q}{\pi} \left[ \tan^{-1} \frac{\sinh \pi x \sin \pi c}{1 + \cos \pi c \cosh \pi x} - \pi c \right] \\ - \frac{qx \sin \pi c}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n A_n (1 - n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \quad (33)$$

By Fourier cosine transform we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi_m &= -\frac{2q}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \left[ \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{1 + \cos \pi c \cosh \pi x} - \pi c \right] \cos mx dx \\
&\quad - \frac{2q \sin \pi c}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{x \cos mx dx}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} \\
&\quad - \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n A_n \int_0^\infty (1 - n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx \quad (34)
\end{aligned}$$

On performing the integration, the following results are obtained.

$$\begin{aligned}
&\int_{-1}^1 \left[ (1 - m \coth m) \cosh my + my \sinh my \right] \cos n\pi y dy \\
&\quad = \frac{4(-1)^n n^2 \pi^2 m \sinh m}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{see Appendix 2(i)})
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{2q \sin \pi c}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{x \cos mx dx}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} \\
&\quad = 4qc \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin n\pi c (m^2 - n^2 \pi^2)}{\pi c (m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{see Appendix 2(ii)})
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{2q}{\pi^2} \int_0^\infty \left[ \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{1 + \cos \pi c \cosh \pi x} - \pi c \right] \cos mx dx \\
&\quad = 4qc \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin n\pi c}{\pi c (m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)} \quad (\text{see Appendix 2(iii)})
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\int_0^\infty (1 - n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx \\
&\quad = \frac{2n\pi m^2}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{see Appendix 2(iv)})
\end{aligned}$$

Thus eqs. (32) and (34) are finally reduced to the following forms, respectively,

$$\Phi_m = -4m^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \left[ \frac{29 \sin n\pi c}{n\pi} + A_n \right] \quad (35)$$

$$A_n = -8(-1)^n n^2 \pi^2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\Phi_m m \sinh^2 m dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)}, \quad (n \geq 1) \quad (36)$$

which consists partly of a system of algebraic equations and partly a system of integral equations. These systems of equations may further be simplified as follows:

Substituting (35) into (36) and interchanging the integration and summation signs we obtain:

$$A_n = 32(-1)^n n^2 \pi^2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^k k \left( \frac{29 \sin k\pi c}{k\pi} + A_k \right) \int_0^{\infty} \frac{m^2 \sinh^2 m dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (m^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \quad (37)$$

Further, if we denote

$$A_n^* = \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}} A_n \quad (38)$$

$$I_{n,k} = 32 \pi^2 (nk)^{3/2} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{m^3 \sinh^2 m dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (m^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \quad (39)$$

Eq. (37) becomes

$$A_n^* = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{2q(-1)^k \sin k\pi c}{\pi k^{3/2}} + A_k^* \right) I_{n,k} \quad (40)$$

By successive approximation with

$$A_n^{*(0)} = \frac{2q}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \sin k\pi c}{k^{3/2}} I_{n,k} \quad (41)$$

$$A_n^{*(p)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} I_{n,k} A_k^{*(p-1)}, \quad (p \geq 1)$$

we have

$$A_n^* = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} A_n^{*(p)} \quad (42)$$

This is true since

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} A_n^{*(p)} &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{2(-1)^k \sin k\pi c}{\pi c k^{3/2}} + \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} A_k^{*(p)} \right] I_{n,k} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{2(-1)^k \sin k\pi c}{\pi c k^{3/2}} + A_k^* \right] I_{n,k} \\ &= A_n^* \end{aligned}$$

With  $A_n^*$  calculated in this way,  $A_n$  may be found immediately from

$$A_n = (-1)^n \sqrt{n} A_n^* \quad (43)$$

The integral  $I_{n,k}$  can be evaluated by Cauchy's contour integration as shown in Appendix 2(v). Table 1 shows the values of  $I_{n,k}^*$  for  $n$  and  $k$  ranging from 1 to 20, where  $I_{n,k}^*$  are related to  $I_{n,k}$  by

$$I_{n,k}^* = \frac{3}{4} \pi^2 (nk)^{\frac{1}{2}} I_{n,k}$$

The values of  $A_n$  are shown in Table 3. Note that  $A_0 = qc$  has been previously obtained. The stresses at any point within the strip can now be derived from the stress function  $\chi$ . In particular, the normal stresses  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_y$  along the longitudinal axis  $y = 0$  are:

$$\begin{aligned} [\sigma_x]_{y=0} = & -\frac{q}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{\cos \pi c \cosh \pi x - 1} - \frac{qx \sin \pi c}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi c} \\ & - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n (1+n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} + 8 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left[ \frac{2q}{\pi} \sin n\pi c + nA_n \right] \{S_n(x) - C_n(x)\} \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\sigma_y]_{y=0} = & -\frac{q}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{\cos \pi c \cosh \pi x - 1} - \frac{qx \sin \pi c}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi c} \\ & + qc - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n (1-n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} + 8 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left[ \frac{2q}{\pi} \sin n\pi c + nA_n \right] \{S_n(x) + C_n(x)\} \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

where  $S_n(x)$  and  $C_n(x)$  represent the following two integrals:

$$S_n(x) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{m^2 \sinh m \cos mx dx}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \quad (46)$$

$$C_n(x) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{m^3 \cosh m \cos mx dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)}$$

The above two integrals can also be evaluated by Cauchy's contour integration as shown in Appendix 2(vi). The values are tabulated in Table 4. The normal stress  $\sigma_x$  along  $y = 0$  for  $c = 1/2$  has been calculated for several values of  $x$ . The results are tabulated in Table 6 and shown graphically in Fig. 7.

#### Case (ii) Semi-infinite Strip Subjected to Two Concentrated Normal Loads

Consider the same semi-infinite strip as in case (i) but subjected to two normal concentrated compressive loads each of  $P$  per unit thickness acting symmetrically at  $y = \pm c$  on the edge  $x = 0$  as shown in Fig. 5. By successive reflections about the longitudinal edges, the given strip and the resulting images occupy the entire right half-plane  $x \geq 0$ , and the given loads and their images become a series of normal concentrated loads acting along the edge  $x = 0$  at the points  $(0, 2s \pm c)$ , where  $s$  takes all positive and negative integral values including zero.

The stress function for a semi-infinite plate subjected to a concentrated normal force  $P$  at a point of the straight boundary is given by [4]

$$\chi' = -\frac{P}{\pi} r \theta \sin \theta \quad (47)$$

Now the stress function for the semi-infinite plate constructed by images and acted by a series of concentrated load may be obtained by superposing the above stress function in the following form:

$$\chi_0 = -\frac{Pa}{\pi} \left\{ r \theta \sin \theta + r' \theta' \sin \theta + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} (r_s \theta_s \sin \theta_s + r'_s \theta'_s \sin \theta'_s + r_{-s} \theta_{-s} \sin \theta_{-s} + r'_{-s} \theta'_{-s} \sin \theta'_{-s}) \right\} \quad (48)$$

where  $(r_s, \theta_s)$  and  $(r'_s, \theta'_s)$  are two sets of polar coordinates with poles at the points  $(0, 2s \pm c)$ , respectively. In particular,  $(r, \theta)$  and  $(r', \theta')$  are written in place of  $(r_0, \theta_0)$  or  $(r'_0, \theta'_0)$ , respectively. These sets of polar coordinates are connected with  $(x, y)$  in the same way as (3) in case (i).

The stress function given in this form appears to be divergent. However, the divergence can be removed if it is expressed as the real part of a complex function and modified as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\chi_0 = & \frac{Pa}{\pi} \mathcal{R} \left[ i(y-c) \log(z+ci) + i(y+c) \log(z-ic) \right] \\
& + \frac{Pa}{\pi} \mathcal{R} \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} i \left[ (y-2s-c) \log \left( 1 + \frac{iz+c}{2s} \right) + (y-2s+c) \log \left( 1 + \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right) \right. \\
& \left. + (y+2s-c) \log \left( 1 - \frac{iz+c}{2s} \right) + (y+2s+c) \log \left( 1 - \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right) + 4(ix-y) \right] \quad (49)
\end{aligned}$$

The foregoing stress function gives no normal and tangential stresses along the edge  $x = 0$  besides the series of concentrated loads. Furthermore, by symmetry, it gives no tangential stress along the lines  $y = \pm l$ . The normal stresses given by the stress function are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_x = & \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial^2 \chi_0}{\partial y^2} \\
= & -\frac{P}{\pi a} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{2x+i(y-c)}{[x+i(y-c)]^2} + \frac{2x+i(y+c)}{[x+i(y+c)]^2} \right. \\
& + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{2x+i(y-2s-c)}{[x+i(y-2s-c)]^2} - \frac{2x+i(y-2s+c)}{[x+i(y-2s+c)]^2} \right. \\
& \left. \left. + \frac{2x+i(y+2s-c)}{[x+i(y+2s-c)]^2} + \frac{2x+i(y+2s+c)}{[x+i(y+2s+c)]^2} \right\} \right] \quad (50)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta_y &= \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial^2 \chi_0}{\partial x^2} \\
&= -\frac{P}{\pi a} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{i(y-c)}{[x+i(y-c)]^2} + \frac{i(y+c)}{[x+i(y+c)]^2} \right. \\
&\quad + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{i(y-2s-c)}{[x+i(y-2s-c)]^2} + \frac{i(y-2s+c)}{[x+i(y-2s+c)]^2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + \frac{i(y+2s-c)}{[x+i(y+2s-c)]^2} + \frac{i(y+2s+c)}{[x+i(y+2s+c)]^2} \right\} \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{51}$$

These series are summable and the sums are

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta_x &= -\frac{P}{2a} \mathcal{R} \left[ \coth \frac{\pi[x+i(y-c)]}{2} + \frac{\pi x}{2} \operatorname{csch}^2 \frac{\pi[x+i(y-c)]}{2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \coth \frac{\pi[x+i(y+c)]}{2} + \frac{\pi x}{2} \operatorname{csch}^2 \frac{\pi[x+i(y+c)]}{2} \right] \\
&= -\frac{P}{2a} \left\{ \frac{\sinh \pi x}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y-c)} + \frac{\pi x [\cosh \pi x \cos \pi(y-c) - 1]}{[\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y-c)]^2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{\sinh \pi x}{\coth \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)} - \frac{\pi x [\cosh \pi x \cos \pi(y+c) - 1]}{[\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)]^2} \right\}
\end{aligned} \tag{52}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_y &= -\frac{P}{2a} \Re \left[ \coth \frac{\pi [x+i(y-c)]}{2} - \frac{\pi x}{2} \operatorname{csch}^2 \frac{\pi [x+i(y-c)]}{2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \coth \frac{\pi [x+i(y+c)]}{2} - \frac{\pi x}{2} \operatorname{csch}^2 \frac{\pi [x+i(y+c)]}{2} \right] \\
&= -\frac{P}{2a} \left\{ \frac{\sinh \pi x}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi (y-c)} - \frac{\pi x [\cosh \pi x \cos \pi (y-c) - 1]}{[\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi (y-c)]^2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{\sinh \pi x}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi (y+c)} - \frac{\pi x [\cosh \pi x \cos \pi (y+c) - 1]}{[\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi (y+c)]^2} \right\} \quad (53)
\end{aligned}$$

At  $x$  infinity,  $\sigma_x$  tends to  $-P/a$ . Along the lines  $y = \pm 1$ , the normal stress is

$$[\sigma_y]_{y=\pm 1} = -\frac{P}{a} \left[ \frac{\sinh \pi x}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} + \frac{\pi x (\cosh \pi x \cos \pi c + 1)}{(\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c)^2} \right] \quad (54)$$

Now, consider the strip in question. Suppose that a second biharmonic function  $\chi_1$  is added to  $\chi_0$  so that the required stress function for the given strip is

$$\chi = \chi_0 + \chi_1 \quad (55)$$

The function  $\chi_1$  may be constructed in the same way as in case (1) and the expression for  $\chi_1$  in (28) of case (1) can be used here directly without modification. Thus the normal stresses  $[\sigma_x]_{x=0}$  and  $[\sigma_y]_{y=\pm 1}$  derived from  $\chi_1$  are in the same form as (29) and (30) of case (1).

Hence, the normal stress  $\sigma_x$  along the edge  $x = 0$  becomes zero provided that by Fourier expansion from  $-1$  to  $1$ , for  $n \geq 1$

$$A_n = -2 \int_0^\infty \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\phi_m \sinh m}{\sinh 2m + 2m} \left\{ (1 - m \coth m) \cosh my + my \sinh my \right\} \cos n\pi y dy dm \quad (56)$$

Again, the normal stress  $\sigma_y$  given by  $\chi$  along the edges  $y = \pm 1$  becomes zero provided that  $A_0 = P/a$  and by Fourier cosine transform

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_m &= -\frac{2P}{\pi a} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{\sinh \pi x}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} - 1 \right) \cos mx dx \\ &\quad - \frac{2P}{a} \int_0^\infty \frac{x (\cosh \pi x \cos \pi c + 1)}{(\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c)^2} \cos mx dx \\ &\quad - \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n A_n (1 - n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx \end{aligned} \quad (57)$$

On performing the integration, the following system of equations are obtained:

$$\phi_m = -4m^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \left( \frac{2P \cos n\pi c}{a} + A_n \right) \quad (58)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_n &= -8(-1)^n n^2 \pi^2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\phi_m m \sinh^2 m \, dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \\
 &= 32(-1)^n n^2 \pi^2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^k k \left( \frac{2P \cos k\pi c}{a} + A_k \right) \int_0^\infty \frac{m^3 \sinh^2 m \, dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (m^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \\
 &\qquad\qquad\qquad (n \geq 1) \qquad\qquad\qquad (59)
 \end{aligned}$$

By (38) and (39) we reach

$$A_n^* = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{2(-1)^k P \cos k\pi c}{a k^{1/2}} + A_k^* \right) I_{n,k} \qquad (n \geq 1) \qquad (60)$$

which can be solved by the method of successive approximation. The values of  $A_n$  thus found are tabulated in Table 3. Note that  $A_0 = P/a$  has been determined previously. The stresses at any point within the strip can now be derived from the stress function  $\chi$ . In particular, the normal stresses  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_y$  along the longitudinal axis  $y = 0$  are:

$$\begin{aligned}
 [\sigma_x]_{y=0} &= -\frac{P}{a} \left[ \frac{\sinh \pi x}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi c} + \frac{\pi x (\cosh \pi x \cos \pi c - 1)}{(\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi c)^2} \right] \\
 &\quad - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n (1 + n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \\
 &\quad + 8 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n n \left( \frac{2P}{a} \cos n\pi c + A_n \right) \{ S_n(x) - C_n(x) \} \\
 &\qquad\qquad\qquad (61)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
[\sigma_y]_{y=0} = & -\frac{P}{a} \left[ \frac{\sinh \pi x}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi c} - \frac{\pi x (\cosh \pi x \cos \pi c - 1)}{(\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi c)^2} \right] \\
& + \frac{P}{a} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n (1 - n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \\
& + 8 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n n \left( \frac{2P}{a} \cos n\pi c + A_n \right) \{ S_n(x) + C_n(x) \}
\end{aligned} \tag{62}$$

where  $S_n(x)$  and  $C_n(x)$  stand for the same integrals as in (46) of case (i). The normal stress  $\sigma_x$  along  $y = 0$  for  $c = \frac{1}{2}$  has been calculated corresponding to several values of  $x$ ; the results are shown numerically in Table 6 and graphically in Fig. 7.

#### Case (iii) Semi-infinite Strip Subjected to Two Concentrated Tangential Loads

Consider the same infinite strip as in case (i) or case (ii) but subjected to two concentrated tangential loads each of  $V$  per unit thickness acting symmetrically at  $y = \pm c$  on the edge  $x = 0$  as shown in Fig. 6. By successive reflections about the longitudinal edges, the given strip and the resulting images occupy the entire right half-plane  $x \geq 0$ , and the given loads and their images become a series of concentrated tangential loads acting along the edge  $x = 0$  at the points  $(0, 2s \pm c)$ , where  $s$  takes all positive and negative integral values including zero.

The stresses in such a semi-infinite plate may be obtained by superposing the function [4]

$$\chi' = \frac{V}{\pi} r \theta \cos \theta \quad (63)$$

which is the stress function for a semi-infinite plate under a concentrated tangential load  $V$  at a point on the straight edge. We thus obtain

$$\chi_0 = \frac{Va}{\pi} \left\{ r \theta \cos \theta - r' \theta' \cos \theta' + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left[ r_s \theta_s \cos \theta_s - r'_s \theta'_s \cos \theta'_s + r_{-s} \theta_{-s} \cos \theta_{-s} - r'_{-s} \theta'_{-s} \cos \theta'_{-s} \right] \right\} \quad (64)$$

where  $(r_s, \theta_s)$  and  $(r'_s, \theta'_s)$  are two sets of polar coordinates with poles at the points  $(0, 2s \pm ic)$ , respectively. In particular,  $(r, \theta)$  and  $(r', \theta')$  is written in place of  $(r_0, \theta_0)$  and  $(r'_0, \theta'_0)$ , respectively. These sets of polar coordinates are connected with  $(x, y)$  as shown in (3) of case (i).

The stress function can be expressed as the real part of a complex function as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\chi_0 = & \frac{Va}{\pi} \Re \left[ ix \log(z+ci) - ix \log(z-ic) \right] \\
& + \frac{Va}{\pi} \Re \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} ix \left[ \log \left( 1 + \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right) - \log \left( 1 + \frac{iz+c}{2s} \right) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \log \left( 1 - \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right) - \log \left( 1 - \frac{iz+c}{2s} \right) \right] \tag{65}
\end{aligned}$$

This stress function gives no normal and tangential stresses along the edge  $x = 0$  besides the series of concentrated tangential loads. Furthermore, by symmetry, it gives no tangential stress along the lines  $y = \pm 1$ . The normal stresses given by this stress function are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_x = & \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial^2 \chi_0}{\partial y^2} \\
= & \frac{V}{\pi a} \Re \left[ \frac{ix}{[x+i(y+c)]^2} - \frac{ix}{[x+i(y-c)]^2} \right. \\
& + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{ix}{[x+i(y-2s+c)]^2} - \frac{ix}{[x+i(y-2s-c)]^2} \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. + \frac{ix}{[x+i(y+2s+c)]^2} - \frac{ix}{[x+i(y+2s-c)]^2} \right\} \right] \tag{66}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_y &= \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial^2 \chi_0}{\partial x^2} \\
&= \frac{V}{\pi a} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{2i}{x+i(y+c)} - \frac{xi}{[x+i(y+c)]^2} - \frac{2i}{x+i(y-c)} + \frac{xi}{[x+i(y-c)]^2} \right. \\
&\quad + \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{2i}{x+i(y-2s+c)} - \frac{xi}{[x+i(y-2s+c)]^2} - \frac{2i}{x+i(y-2s-c)} + \frac{xi}{[x+i(y-2s-c)]^2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + \frac{2i}{x+i(y+2s+c)} - \frac{xi}{[x+i(y+2s+c)]^2} - \frac{2i}{x+i(y+2s-c)} + \frac{xi}{[x+i(y+2s-c)]^2} \right\} \right] \quad (67)
\end{aligned}$$

These series are summable and the sums are

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_x &= \frac{V\pi}{4a} \mathcal{R} \left[ ix \operatorname{csch}^2 \frac{\pi[x+i(y-c)]}{2} - ix \operatorname{csch}^2 \frac{\pi[x+i(y+c)]}{2} \right] \\
&= \frac{V\pi}{2a} \left\{ \frac{x \sinh \pi x \sin \pi(y-c)}{[\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y-c)]^2} - \frac{x \sinh \pi x \sin \pi(y+c)}{[\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)]^2} \right\} \quad (68)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_y &= \frac{V}{a} \mathcal{R} \left[ i \coth \frac{\pi[x+i(y+c)]}{2} - i \coth \frac{\pi[x+i(y-c)]}{2} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{i\pi x}{4} \operatorname{csch}^2 \frac{\pi[x+i(y+c)]}{2} + \frac{i\pi x}{4} \operatorname{csch}^2 \frac{\pi[x+i(y-c)]}{2} \right] \\
&= \frac{V}{a} \left\{ \frac{\sin \pi(y+c)}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)} - \frac{\sin \pi(y-c)}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y-c)} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{x \sinh \pi x \sin \pi(y-c)}{[\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y-c)]^2} - \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{x \sinh \pi x \sin \pi(y+c)}{[\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi(y+c)]^2} \right\} \quad (69)
\end{aligned}$$

At  $x$  infinity,  $\sigma_x$  tends to zero. Along the lines  $y = \pm 1$ , the normal stress is

$$[\sigma_y]_{y=\pm 1} = -\frac{V}{a} \left[ \frac{2 \sin \pi c}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} - \frac{\pi x \sinh \pi x \sin \pi c}{(\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c)^2} \right] \quad (70)$$

Now, consider the strip in question. Suppose that a second biharmonic function  $\chi_1$  is added to  $\chi_0$  so that the required stress function for the given strip is

$$\chi = \chi_0 + \chi_1 \quad (71)$$

The function  $\chi_1$  in (28) of case (i) may be used here directly and the normal stresses  $[\sigma_x]_{x=0}$  and  $[\sigma_y]_{y=\pm 1}$  derived from  $\chi_1$  are also in the same form as (29) and (30) of case (i).

Hence, the normal stress  $\sigma_x$  along the edge  $x = 0$  becomes zero provided that by Fourier expansion from  $-1$  to  $1$ , for  $n \geq 1$

$$A_n = -2 \int_0^\infty \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\phi_m \sinh m}{\sinh 2m + 2m} \left\{ (1 - m \coth m) \cosh my + m \sinh my \right\} \cos n\pi y dy dm \quad (72)$$

Again, the normal stress  $\sigma_y$  given by  $\chi$  along the edges  $y = \pm 1$  becomes zero provided that  $A_0 = 0$  and by Fourier cosine transform

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_m &= -\frac{4}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sin \pi c}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} \cos mx \, dx \\
&+ 2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x \sinh \pi x \sin \pi c}{(\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c)^2} \cos mx \, dx \\
&- \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n A_n \int_0^{\infty} (1 - n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx \, dx
\end{aligned} \tag{73}$$

On performing the integration, the following system of equations is obtained:

$$\phi_m = 4m^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \left[ \frac{V}{a} \left( 3 + \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{m^2} \right) \sin n\pi c - A_n \right] \tag{74}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
A_n &= -8(-1)^n n^2 \pi^2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\phi_m m \sinh^2 m \, dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \\
&= -32(-1)^n n^2 \pi^2 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^k k \left[ \left( \frac{3V}{a} \sin k\pi c - A_k \right) \int_0^{\infty} \frac{m^3 \sinh^2 m \, dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (m^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{V \pi^2 k^2}{a} \sin k\pi c \int_0^{\infty} \frac{m \sinh^2 m \, dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (m^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{75}$$

Now if we denote

$$A_n^* = \frac{(-1)^n}{\sqrt{n}} A_n \quad (76)$$

$$I_{n,k} = 32 \pi^2 (nk)^{3/2} \int_0^\infty \frac{m^3 \sinh^2 m \, dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (m^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \quad (77)$$

$$J_{n,k} = \frac{32 \pi^4}{3} (nk)^{5/2} \int_0^\infty \frac{m \sinh^2 m \, dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (m^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \quad (78)$$

Equ. (75) then becomes

$$A_n^* = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{-3(-1)^k V \sin k\pi c}{a k^{1/2}} \left( I_{n,k} + \frac{k}{n} J_{n,k} \right) + A_k^* I_{n,k} \right] \quad (79)$$

Here  $I_{n,k}$  is the same as in case (i) but  $J_{n,k}$  has not appeared before. The evaluation of  $J_{n,k}$  is given in Appendix 6. Table 2 shows the values of  $J_{n,k}^*$  which are related to  $J_{n,k}$  by

$$J_{n,k}^* = \frac{9}{8} \pi^2 (nk)^{1/2} J_{n,k}$$

Eq. (39) may be solved by successive approximation with

$$A_n^{*(0)} = -\frac{3V}{a} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \sin k\pi c}{k^{1/2}} \left( I_{n,k} + \frac{k}{n} J_{n,k} \right) \quad (80)$$

$$A_n^{*(p)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} I_{n,k} A_k^{*(p-1)}, \quad (p \geq 1)$$

We have

$$A_n^* = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} A_n^{*(p)} \quad (81)$$

From (80) and (76) the values of  $A_n$  can be calculated and the results are tabulated in Table 3. Note that  $A_0 = 0$  has been determined previously. The stresses at any location within the strip can now be derived by differentiation from the stress function  $\chi$ . In particular, the normal stresses  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_y$  along the longitudinal axis  $y = 0$  are:

$$\begin{aligned} [\sigma_x]_{y=0} = & -\frac{V\pi}{a} \frac{x \sinh \pi x \sin \pi c}{(\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi c)^2} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n (1 + n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \\ & - 8 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n n \left( \frac{3V}{a} \sin n\pi c - A_n \right) \{ S_n(x) - C_n(x) \} \\ & - \frac{8\pi^2 V}{a} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n n^3 \sin n\pi c \{ S_n^*(x) - C_n^*(x) \} \end{aligned} \quad (82)$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\sigma_y]_{y=0} = & \frac{V \sin \pi c}{a} \left[ \frac{2}{\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi c} - \frac{\pi x \sinh \pi x}{(\cosh \pi x - \cos \pi c)^2} \right] \\ & - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n (1 - n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} - 8 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n n \left( \frac{3V}{a} \sin n\pi c - A_n \right) \{ S_n(x) + C_n(x) \} \\ & - \frac{8\pi^2 V}{a} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n n^3 \sin n\pi c \{ S_n^*(x) + C_n^*(x) \} \end{aligned} \quad (83)$$

where  $S_n(x)$  and  $C_n(x)$  stand for the same integrals as in (46) of case (i), but  $S_n^*(x)$  and  $C_n^*(x)$  are new and represent:

$$S_n^*(x) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sinh m \cos mx \, dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)} \quad (84)$$

$$C_n^*(x) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{m \cosh m \cos mx \, dm}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2m + 2m)}$$

the evaluation of which is shown in Appendix 2(vi) and the numerical values of which are tabulated in Table 4. The normal stress  $\sigma_y$  along  $y = 0$  for  $c = 1/2$  has been calculated corresponding to several values of  $x$ . The results are shown numerically in Table 6 and graphically in Fig. 8.

## CONCLUSION

An analytic solution of the stress distribution in a semi-infinite strip loaded on the transverse edge is presented by using a method of images. Three cases of loading on the transverse edge are considered in detail. It is found that in each case, when the boundary conditions are adjusted, a system of algebraic equations for the parametric coefficients involved in the stress function is obtained. This system is similar in form in all the cases and can be solved by method of successive approximations. The values of the coefficients in all the three cases are alternately positive and negative. The convergence of the coefficients is rather slow. Nevertheless, in computing the stresses these values are to be multiplied by an exponential function so that the resulting terms converge very rapidly. Accurate values of the stresses can therefore be obtained without difficulty.

In each case the normal stress  $\sigma_x$  or  $\sigma_y$  along the longitudinal axis is computed. When the values of  $\sigma_x$  in the case (i) are compared with those obtained by Theocaris [15], it is found that the values by Theocaris check well with the present results.

From Figure 1, it is seen that in the case (i) the greatest value of  $\sigma_x$  along the longitudinal axis occurs at the point where the uniform load is applied. This stress

drops rapidly with  $x$  and becomes substantially uniform at  $x$  equal to the width of the strip. In the case (ii), this stress increases rapidly from zero to a uniform stress at  $x$  equal to one-half of the width of the strip. From Figure 3, it is seen that the largest value of  $\sigma_y$  occurs at the origin and drops very rapidly to zero at  $x$  equal to about 0.9 of the half-width and then further drops to a small negative value until finally it rises asymptotically to zero again at  $x$  equal to about one and a half times the width of the strip.

## FIGURES

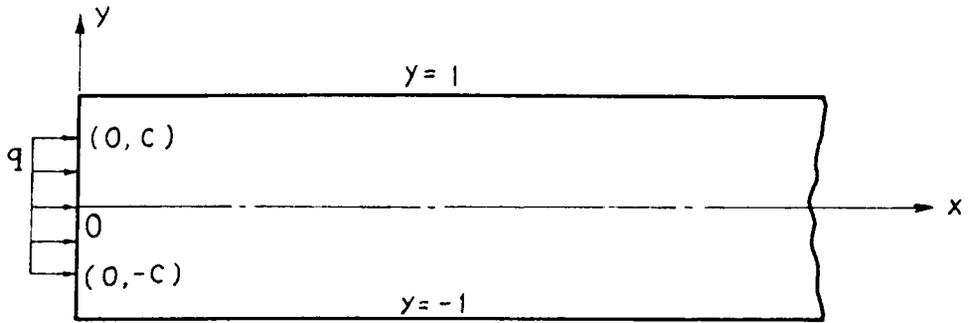


Fig. 1. The Semi-infinite Strip under Segment of Symmetrically placed Uniform Load; Length Measured in Unit  $a$ . (Longitudinal edges are free from traction.)

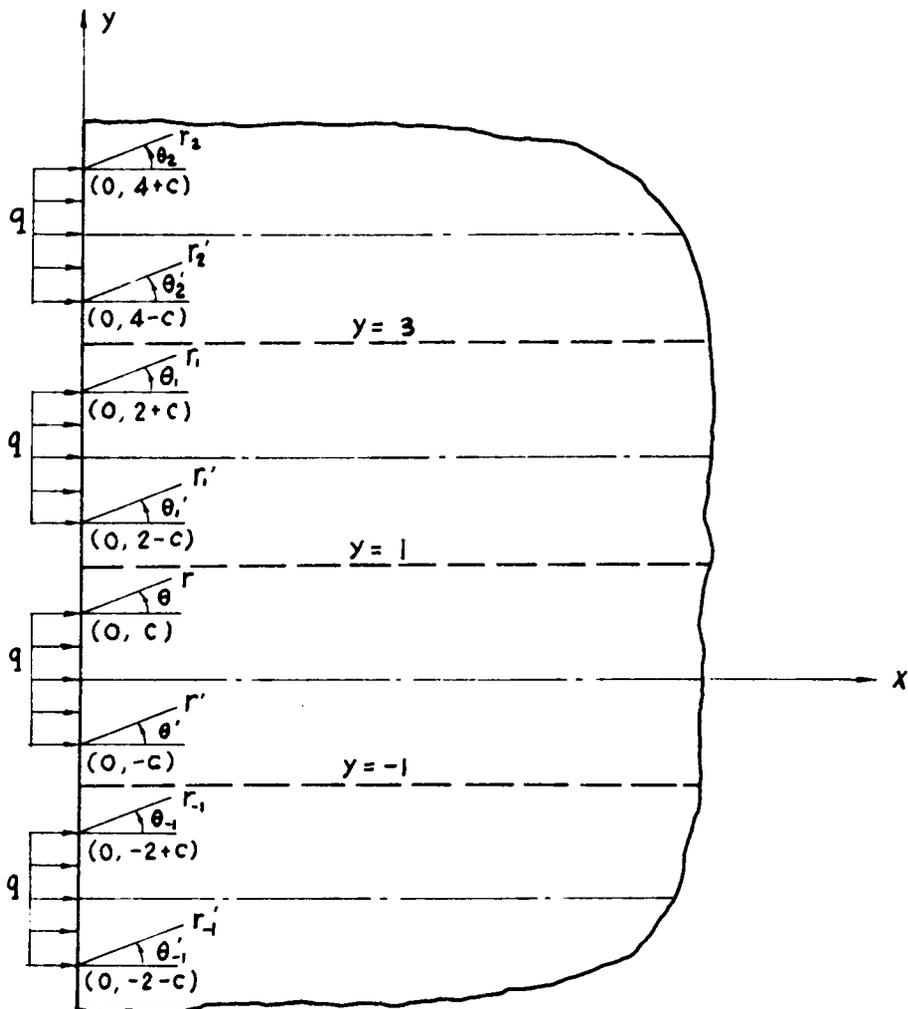


Fig. 2. The Semi-infinite Plate under a Series of Uniform Load

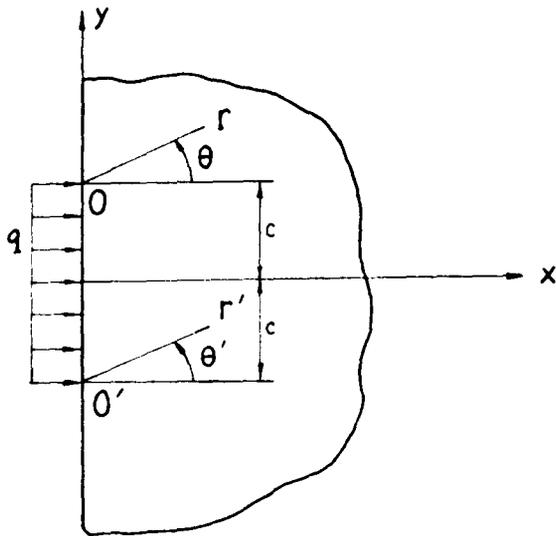


Fig.3. A Semi-infinite Plate Under a Segment of Uniform Load

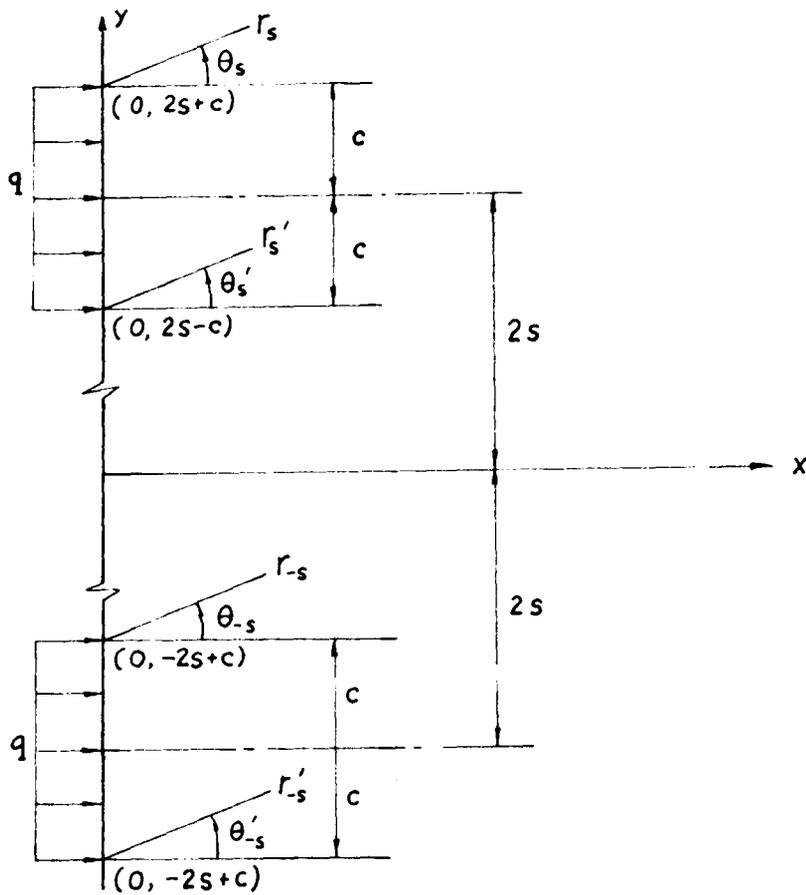


Fig. 4. The Relation between Polar Coordinates and  $(x, y)$  Coordinate

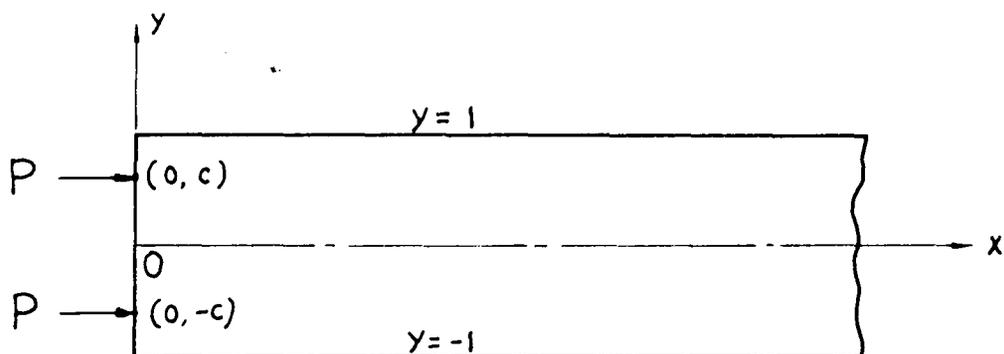


Fig. 5. The Semi-infinite Strip under Two Symmetrical Concentrated Loads; Length Being Measured in Unit  $a$ . (Longitudinal edges are traction free.)

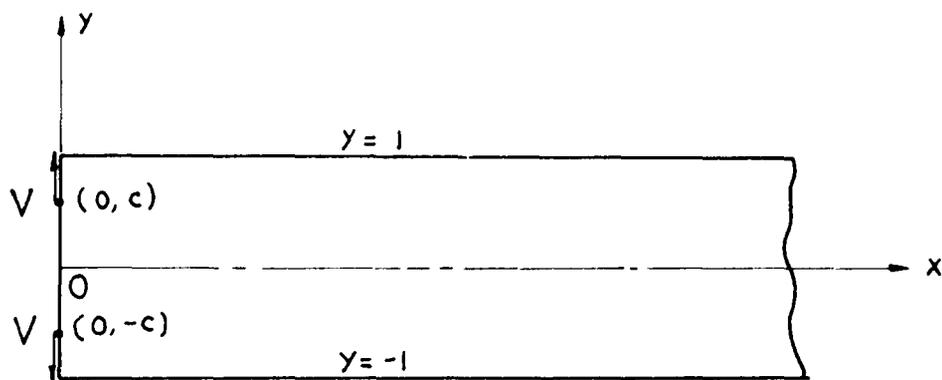


Fig. 6. The Semi-infinite Strip under Two Symmetrical Concentrated Tangential Loads; Length Being Measured in Unit  $a$ . (Longitudinal edges are traction free.)

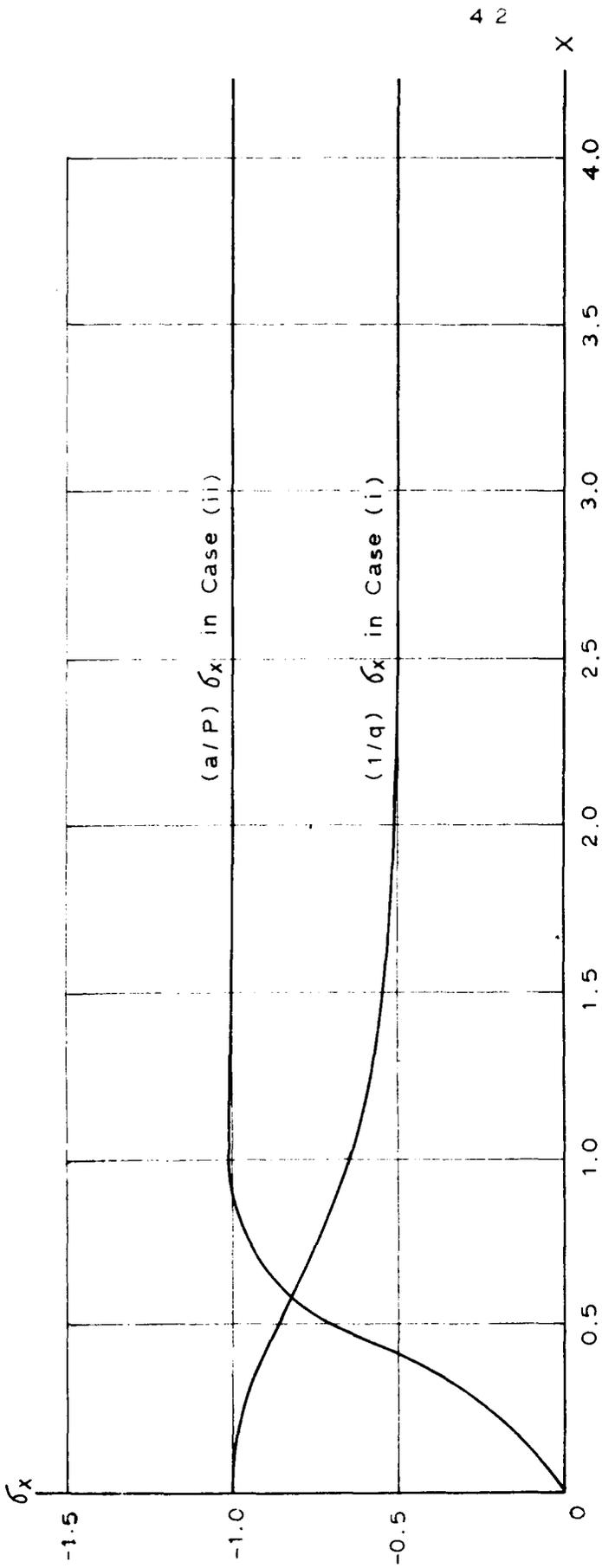


Fig. 7. Normal Stress  $\sigma_x$  along x-axis for Case (i) and Case (ii)

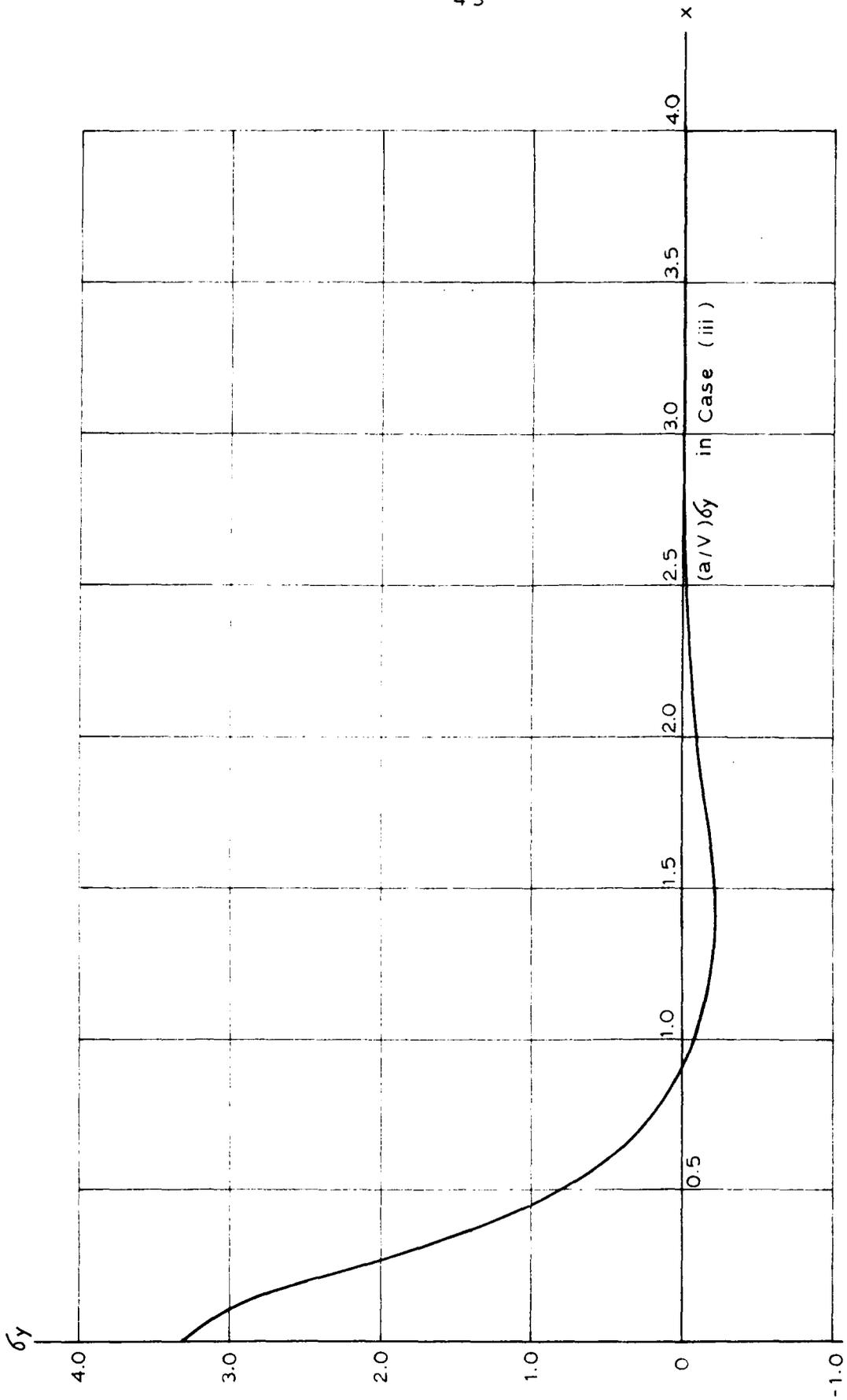


Fig. 8. The Normal Stress  $\delta y$  along x-axis for Case (iii)





Table 3. Values of the Coefficients  $A_n$ 

N	Case (i)	Case (ii)	Case (iii)
	$(1/q) A_n$	$(a/p) A_n$	$(a/v) A_n$
1	0.09319	0.11232	-0.49531
2	-0.08362	-0.12929	0.36570
3	0.06666	0.11609	-0.26402
4	-0.05372	-0.10076	0.19985
5	0.04437	0.08673	-0.15815
6	-0.03749	-0.07521	0.12965
7	0.03229	0.06589	-0.10924
8	-0.02825	-0.05832	0.09403
9	0.02504	0.05209	-0.08231
10	-0.02243	-0.04692	0.07303
11	0.02027	0.04258	-0.06552
12	-0.01846	-0.03808	0.05932
13	0.01692	0.03571	-0.05412
14	-0.01559	-0.03296	0.04969
15	0.01444	0.03056	-0.04588
16	-0.01343	-0.02845	0.04257
17	0.01254	0.02657	-0.03967
18	-0.01175	-0.02491	0.03710
19	0.01104	0.02341	-0.03481
20	-0.01040	-0.02206	0.03276









Table 6. The Normal Stress along the x-axis

x	Case (i)	Case (ii)	Case (iii)
	$(1/q) \sigma_x$	$(a/p) \sigma_x$	$(a/v) \sigma_y$
0	-1.000	0	3.317
0.25	-0.974	-0.228	2.098
0.50	-0.863	-0.713	0.781
1.00	-0.651	-1.011	-0.084
2.00	-0.510	-1.000	-0.079
3.00	-0.499	-0.999	-0.007
4.00	-0.500	-1.000	0.000
5.00	-0.500	-1.000	0.000
$\infty$	-0.500	-1.000	0

## APPENDIX 1

Modification of Stress Function  $\chi_0$  for  
Convergence for Case (i)

The logarithmic term inside the summation sign of the following stress function

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_0 = & \frac{qa^2}{2\pi} \Re \left[ i \left\{ x^2 + (y+c)^2 \right\} \log(z+ci) - i \left\{ x^2 + (y-c)^2 \right\} \log(z-ci) \right] \\ & + \frac{qa^2}{2\pi} \Re \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} i \left[ \left\{ x^2 + (y-2s+c)^2 \right\} \log \left( 1 + \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right) - \left\{ x^2 + (y-2s+c)^2 \right\} \log \left( 1 + \frac{iz+c}{2s} \right) \right. \\ & \left. + \left\{ x^2 + (y+2s+c)^2 \right\} \log \left( 1 - \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right) - \left\{ x^2 + (y+2s+c)^2 \right\} \log \left( 1 - \frac{iz+c}{2s} \right) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

can be expanded into infinite series. For example,

$$\log \left( 1 + \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right) = \left( \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{iz-c}{2s} \right)^3 - \dots \quad (\text{A.2})$$

In doing this, the series in the above stress function becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} i \left[ 2(x^2+y^2+c^2-cy) \left( \frac{1}{2} S^2 + \frac{1}{4} S^4 + \dots \right) - 2(x^2+y^2+c^2+cy) \left( \frac{1}{2} S'^2 + \frac{1}{4} S'^4 + \dots \right) \right. \\ \left. + 8s^2 \left( \frac{1}{4} S^4 + \frac{1}{6} S^6 + \dots \right) - 8s^2 \left( \frac{1}{4} S'^4 + \frac{1}{6} S'^6 + \dots \right) - 8s(y-c) \left( \frac{1}{3} S^3 + \frac{1}{5} S^5 + \dots \right) \right. \\ \left. + 8s(y+c) \left( \frac{1}{3} S'^3 + \frac{1}{5} S'^5 + \dots \right) - 4c(ix-3y) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

where  $s$  and  $s'$  denote  $(iz + c)/2s$  and  $(iz - c)/2s$ , respectively.

From (A.3) we conclude that if the linear term  $-4c(ix-3y)$  is removed from each term of the series, the stress function becomes convergent, since the series

$$\sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^n}$$

is convergent for  $n \geq 2$ .

## APPENDIX 2

(i) Evaluation of the Integral  $I_1$ 

$$I_1 = \int_{-1}^1 [(1 - m \coth m) \cosh my + my \sinh my] \cos n\pi y dy \quad (\text{A.4})$$

From the table of integrals , we find

$$\int e^{my} \cos n\pi y dy = \frac{e^{my} (m \cos n\pi y + n\pi \sin n\pi y)}{m^2 + n^2 \pi^2} \quad (\text{A.5})$$

Imposing the limit we have:

$$\int_{-1}^1 e^{my} \cos n\pi y dy = \frac{(-1)^n 2m \sinh m}{m^2 + n^2 \pi^2} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 e^{-my} \cos n\pi y dy = \frac{(-1)^n 2m \sinh m}{m^2 + n^2 \pi^2}$$

The combination of the above two equations yields

$$\int_{-1}^1 \cosh my \cos n\pi y dy = \frac{2(-1)^n m \sinh m}{m^2 + n^2 \pi^2} \quad (\text{A.7})$$

Differentiating both sides of (A.7) partially with respect to  $m$  we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{-1}^1 y \sinh my \cos n\pi y dy \\ &= \frac{2(-1)^n [(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)(m \cosh m + \sinh m) - 2m^2 \sinh m]}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.8})$$

Substituting (A.7) and (A.9) into (A.4) we have

$$I_1 = \frac{4(-1)^n n^2 \pi^2 m \sinh m}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{A.9})$$

## APPENDIX 2 (cont'd)

(ii) Evaluation of the Integral  $I_2$ 

$$I_2 = \frac{2g \sin \pi c}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x \cos mx dx}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} \quad (\text{A.10})$$

The fraction  $F = 1/(\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c)$  may be expanded into a series in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \frac{2}{e^{\pi x} + e^{-\pi x} + e^{i\pi c} + e^{-i\pi c}} \\ &= \frac{2e^{-\pi x}}{1 + (e^{i\pi c} + e^{-i\pi c})e^{-\pi x} + e^{-2\pi x}} \\ &= \frac{2e^{-\pi x}}{(1 + e^{i\pi c}e^{-\pi x})(1 + e^{-i\pi c}e^{-\pi x})} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.11})$$

Denoting  $e^{-\pi x}$  by  $z$  and resolving into partial fractions we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \frac{2z}{(1 + e^{i\pi c}z)(1 + e^{-i\pi c}z)} \\ &= \frac{-1}{i \sin \pi c} \left[ \frac{1}{1 + e^{i\pi c}z} - \frac{1}{1 + e^{-i\pi c}z} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.12})$$

Now using the binomial theorem we have

$$\frac{1}{1+e^{i\pi c} z} = (1+e^{i\pi c} z)^{-1} = 1 - e^{i\pi c} z + e^{2i\pi c} z^2 - e^{3i\pi c} z^3 + \dots \quad (\text{A.13})$$

and

$$\frac{1}{1+e^{-i\pi c} z} = (1+e^{-i\pi c} z)^{-1} = 1 - e^{-i\pi c} z + e^{-2i\pi c} z^2 - e^{-3i\pi c} z^3 + \dots \quad (\text{A.14})$$

Substituting (A.13) and (A.14) into (A.12) we obtain

$$\frac{1}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} = \frac{-2}{\sin \pi c} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \sin n\pi c e^{-n\pi x} \quad (\text{A.15})$$

Substituting (A.15) into (A.10) we obtain

$$I_2 = -\frac{4q}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \sin n\pi c \int_0^{\infty} x e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx \quad (\text{A.16})$$

The integral involved in (A.16) may be evaluated as follows:

From integration table we find

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx = \frac{e^{-n\pi x} (-n\pi \cos mx + m \sin mx)}{m^2 + n^2 \pi^2} \quad (\text{A.17})$$

Hence

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx = \frac{n\pi}{m^2 + n^2 \pi^2} \quad (\text{A.18})$$

Differentiating both sides partially with respect to  $n$  we obtain:

$$\int_0^{\infty} x e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx = \frac{-(m^2 - n^2 \pi^2)}{(m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{A.19})$$

Substituting (A.19) into (A.16) we have finally:

$$I_2 = 4qc \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin n\pi c (m^2 - n^2 \pi^2)}{\pi c (m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{A.20})$$

## APPENDIX 2 (cont'd)

(iii) Evaluation of the Integral  $I_3$ 

$$I_3 = \frac{2q}{\pi^2} \int_0^{\infty} \left[ \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{1 + \cos \pi c \cosh \pi x} - \pi c \right] \cos mx \, dx \quad (\text{A.21})$$

Using integration by parts we let

$$u = \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{1 + \cos \pi c \cosh \pi x} - \pi c \quad (\text{A.22})$$

$$dv = \cos mx \, dx$$

Then

$$du = \frac{\pi \sin \pi c}{\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c} dx, \quad v = \frac{\sin mx}{m} \quad (\text{A.23})$$

From Appendix 3 eq. (A.15) the fraction  $1/(\cosh \pi x + \cos \pi c)$  may be expanded into an infinite series thus

$$du = -2\pi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \sin n\pi c e^{-n\pi x} dx \quad (\text{A.24})$$

Hence

$$I_3 = \frac{2q}{\pi^2} \left[ \frac{\sin mx}{m} \left\{ \tan^{-1} \frac{\sin \pi c \sinh \pi x}{\cos \pi c \cosh \pi x + 1} - \pi c \right\} \right]_0^{\infty} \\ + \frac{4}{\pi c m} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \sin n\pi c \int_0^{\infty} e^{-n\pi x} \sin mx \, dx \quad (\text{A.25})$$

The limiting value inside the bracket is zero and the integral involved is very easy to evaluate. The result is:

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-n\pi x} \sin mx dx = \frac{m}{m^2 + n^2 \pi^2} \quad (\text{A.26})$$

Consequently

$$I_3 = 4qc \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \sin n\pi c}{\pi c (m^2 + n^2 \pi^2)} \quad (\text{A.27})$$

## APPENDIX 2 (cont'd)

(iv) Evaluation of the Integral  $I_4$ 

$$I_4 = \int_0^{\infty} (1 - n\pi x) e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx \quad (\text{A.28})$$

From Appendix 3 eqs. (A.18) and (A.19) we have:

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx = \frac{n\pi}{m^2 + n^2\pi^2} \quad (\text{A.29})$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} x e^{-n\pi x} \cos mx dx = \frac{-(m^2 - n^2\pi^2)}{(m^2 + n^2\pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{A.30})$$

Substituting (A.29) and (A.30) into (A.28) we get immediately:

$$I_4 = \frac{2\pi n m^2}{(m^2 + n^2\pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{A.31})$$

## APPENDIX 2 (cont'd)

(v) Evaluation of Integrals  $I_{n,k}$  &  $J_{n,k}$ 

$$I_{n,k} = 32 \pi^2 (nk)^{3/2} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^3 \sinh^2 x dx}{(x^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (x^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2x + 2x)} \quad (\text{A. 32})$$

$$J_{n,k} = \frac{32 \pi^4}{3} (nk)^{5/2} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x \sinh^2 x dx}{(x^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (x^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2x + 2x)} \quad (\text{A. 33})$$

The Cauchy's theorem of residues states that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 2\pi i \sum \text{Res.} \quad (\text{A. 34})$$

where  $\sum \text{Res}$  is the sum of residues of  $f(z)$  in the upper half-plane. If  $f(x)$  is even, i.e.  $f(x) = f(-x)$  then

$$\int_0^{\infty} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \pi i \sum \text{Res.} \quad (\text{A. 35})$$

Write

$$f(z) = \frac{z^3 \sinh^2 z dz}{(z^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (z^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2z + 2z)} \quad (\text{A. 36})$$

we note that  $f(z) = f(-z)$ , it is even.

To find  $\sum \text{Res}$  of  $f(z)$  first we have to establish poles in the upper half-plane. If  $n \neq k$ , poles of  $f(z)$  in the upper half-plane are:

- (1) In the first quadrant: poles at  $z_j = x_j + iy_j$  of order one;

(2) In the second quadrant, poles at  $-\bar{z}_j = -x_j + iy_j$  of order one.

where  $z_j$  are zeros of the function  $\sinh 2z + 2z$ .

Thus the residues are:

$$\sum \text{Res}[f(z), z_j] = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left[ \lim_{z \rightarrow z_j} \frac{(z-z_j) z^3 \sinh^2 z}{(z^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (z^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2z + 2z)} \right] \quad (\text{A.37})$$

Applying l'Hospital's rule and then taking the limit we find

$$\sum \text{Res}[f(z), z_j] = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{z_j^3 \tanh^2 z_j}{4(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (z_j^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{A.38})$$

Similarly

$$\sum \text{Res}[f(z), -\bar{z}_j] = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{-\bar{z}_j^3 \tanh^2 \bar{z}_j}{4(\bar{z}_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\bar{z}_j^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2} \quad (\text{A.39})$$

Now if  $n = k$ ,  $f(z)$  becomes

$$f(z) = \frac{z^3 \sinh^2 z}{(z^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^4 (\sinh 2z + 2z)} \quad (\text{A.40})$$

In this case, poles of  $f(z)$  in the upper half-plane are:

- (1) pole at  $z_1 = n\pi i$  of order two;
- (2) poles at  $z_j = x_j + iy_j$  of order one;
- (3) poles at  $-\bar{z}_j = -x_j + iy_j$  of order one.

where  $z_j$  are again the zeros of the function  $\sinh 2z + 2z$ .

Thus the residues are:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Res}[f(z), z_1] &= \lim_{z \rightarrow n\pi i} \left[ \frac{d}{dz} \{(z - n\pi i)^2 f(z)\} \right] \\
&= \lim_{z \rightarrow n\pi i} \left[ \frac{d}{dz} \frac{z^3 \sinh^2 z}{(z + n\pi i)^4 (z - n\pi i)^2 (\sinh 2z + 2z)} \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{A.41}$$

Upon performing the differentiation and applying the l'Hospital's rule and taking the limit we finally obtain:

$$\text{Res}[f(z), z_1] = \frac{1}{32n^3\pi^3 i} \tag{A.42}$$

The remaining two residues may be found as follows:

$$\sum \text{Res}[f(z), z_j] = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{z_j^3 \tanh^3 z_j}{4(z_j^2 + n^2\pi^2)^4} \tag{A.43}$$

$$\sum \text{Res}[f(z), z_j] = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{-z_j^3 \tanh^2 \bar{z}_j}{4(\bar{z}_j^2 + n^2\pi^2)^4} \tag{A.44}$$

By equation (A.35) we have

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^3 \sinh^2 x \, dx}{(x^2 + n^2\pi^2)^2 (x^2 + k^2\pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2x + 2x)} = \pi i \left\{ \sum \text{Res}[f(z), z_j] + \sum \text{Res}[f(z), -\bar{z}_j] \right\} \tag{A.45}$$

and

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^3 \sinh^2 x \, dx}{(x^2 + n^2\pi^2)^4 (\sinh 2x + 2x)} = \pi i \left\{ \text{Res}[f(z), z_1] + \sum \text{Res}[f(z), z_j] + \sum \text{Res}[f(z), -\bar{z}_j] \right\} \tag{A.46}$$

Upon substituting the results of (A.38), (A.39), (A.42), (A.43) and (A.44) into (A.45) and (A.46) and combining the results into one expression, we have

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^3 \sinh^2 x \, dx}{(x^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (x^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2x + 2x)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{32 n^3 \pi^2} \delta_{nk} + \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{i z_j^3 \tanh^2 z_j}{(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (z_j^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2} \right] \quad (\text{A.47})$$

or

$$I_{n,k} = \delta_{nk} + 16 \pi^3 (nk)^{3/2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{i z_j^3 \tanh^2 z_j}{(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (z_j^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2} \right] \quad (\text{A.48})$$

where  $\delta_{nk}$  is kronecker delta and  $z_j$  are the zeros of the function  $\sinh 2z + 2z$  or one-half of the corresponding zeros of the function  $\sinh z + z$ . The first one-hundred zeros of the function  $\sinh z + z$  in the first quadrant have been computed recently to ten decimal places by Dr. C. B. Ling. The one-hundred values of these zeros are shown in Table 5.

As for the integral  $J_{n,k}$ , one can follow exactly the same procedures shown above to obtain the following result:

$$J_{n,k} = -\delta_{nk} + \frac{16}{3} \pi^5 (nk)^{5/2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{i z_j \tanh^2 z_j}{(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (z_j^2 + k^2 \pi^2)^2} \right] \quad (\text{A.49})$$

## APPENDIX 2 (cont'd)

(vi) Evaluation of the Integrals  
 $S_n(\alpha)$ ,  $S_n^*(\alpha)$ ,  $C_n(\alpha)$ ,  $C_n^*(\alpha)$

$$S_n(\alpha) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{y^2 \sinh y \cos \alpha y dy}{(y^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2y + 2y)}$$

$$S_n^*(\alpha) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sinh y \cos \alpha y dy}{(y^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2y + 2y)}$$

(A.50)

$$C_n(\alpha) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{y^3 \cosh y \cos \alpha y dy}{(y^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2y + 2y)}$$

$$C_n^*(\alpha) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{y \cosh y \cos \alpha y dy}{(y^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2y + 2y)}$$

By contour integration, we have:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y) dy = 2\pi i \sum \text{Res} \quad (\text{A.51})$$

Denoting

$$Q(y) = \frac{y^2 \sinh y}{(y^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2y + 2y)},$$

we observe here  $Q(y) = Q(-y)$  and thus

$$\begin{aligned} S_n(\alpha) &= \int_0^{\infty} Q(y) \cos \alpha y dy = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} [Q(y) e^{\alpha i y} + Q(-y) e^{-\alpha i y}] dy \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} Q(y) e^{\alpha i y} dy + \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^0 Q(y) e^{\alpha i y} dy \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Q(y) e^{\alpha i y} dy \end{aligned}$$

By (b) it yields:

$$S_n(\alpha) = \pi i \sum \text{Res.} \quad (\text{A.52})$$

where  $\sum \text{Res}$  is the sum of residues of  $Q(z)e^{\alpha iz}$  at its poles in the upper half-plane.

$$Q(z)e^{\alpha iz} = \frac{z^2 \sinh z e^{\alpha iz}}{(z^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2z + 2z)} \quad (\text{A.53})$$

Poles in the upper half-plane are:

- (1) pole at  $z_1 = n\pi i$  of order one;
- (2) pole at zeros of the function  $\sinh 2z + 2z$  in the first quadrant poles at  $z_j = x_j + iy_j$  of order one; in the second quadrant poles at  $-\bar{z}_j = -x_j + iy_j$  of order one.

The residues at these poles are:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Res}[Q(z)e^{\alpha iz}, z_1] &= \lim_{z \rightarrow n\pi i} \frac{(z - n\pi i) z^2 \sinh z e^{\alpha iz}}{(z^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2z + 2z)} \\ &= \lim_{z \rightarrow n\pi i} \frac{z^2 \sinh z e^{\alpha iz}}{(z - n\pi i)(z + n\pi i)^2 (\sinh 2z + 2z)} \\ &= \frac{(-1)^n e^{-\alpha n\pi}}{8n\pi i} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.54})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \text{Res}[Q(z)e^{\alpha iz}, z_j] &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \lim_{z \rightarrow z_j} \frac{(z - z_j) z^2 \sinh z e^{\alpha iz}}{(z^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 (\sinh 2z + 2z)} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{z_j^2 \tanh z_j e^{\alpha iz_j}}{4(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 \cosh z_j} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.55})$$

$$\sum \text{Res}[Q(z)e^{\alpha iz}, -\bar{z}_j] = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{-\bar{z}_j^2 \tanh \bar{z}_j e^{-\alpha i \bar{z}_j}}{4(\bar{z}_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 \cosh \bar{z}_j} \quad (\text{A.56})$$

Substituting (A.54), (A.55) and (A.56) into (A.52) we have:

$$S_n(\alpha) = \frac{(-1)^n}{8n} e^{-\alpha n \pi} - \frac{\pi}{4} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{O} \left[ \frac{z_j^2 \tanh z_j e^{\alpha i z_j}}{(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 \cosh z_j} - \frac{\bar{z}_j^2 \tanh \bar{z}_j e^{-\alpha i \bar{z}_j}}{(\bar{z}_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 \cosh \bar{z}_j} \right] \quad (\text{A.57})$$

or

$$S_n(\alpha) = \frac{(-1)^n}{8n} e^{-\alpha n \pi} + \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{i z_j^2 \tanh z_j e^{\alpha i z_j}}{(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 \cosh z_j} \right] \quad (\text{A.58})$$

where  $z_j$  are zeros of the function  $\sinh 2z + 2z$ .

The other three integrals may be found in a similar way; the results are:

$$S_n^*(\alpha) = -\frac{(-1)^n}{8n^3 \pi^2} e^{-\alpha n \pi} + \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{i \tanh z_j e^{\alpha i z_j}}{(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 \cosh z_j} \right] \quad (\text{A.59})$$

$$C_n(\alpha) = -\frac{(-1)^n \pi \alpha}{8} e^{-\alpha n \pi} + \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{i z_j^3 e^{\alpha i z_j}}{(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 \cosh z_j} \right] \quad (\text{A.60})$$

$$C_n^*(\alpha) = \frac{(-1)^n (\alpha n \pi + 2)}{8n^3 \pi^2} e^{-\alpha n \pi} + \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{i z_j e^{\alpha i z_j}}{(z_j^2 + n^2 \pi^2)^2 \cosh z_j} \right] \quad (\text{A.61})$$

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## ABSTRACT

### AN ANALYTIC SOLUTION FOR THE STRESS DISTRIBUTION IN A SEMI-INFINITE STRIP LOADED ON THE TRANSVERSE EDGE

This thesis presents an analytic solution for the stress distribution in a semi-infinite strip subjected to symmetrical loads on the transverse edge. Three different types of loading on the transverse edge are considered: (i) a segment of uniform load, (ii) two concentrated normal loads, and (iii) two concentrated tangential loads. The solution is constructed by the method of images. Under successive reflections the given strip and the resulting images become a semi-infinite plate with a series of periodic loads on the edge. The stress function for such a plate is constructed by superposing the known solutions of a simple nature. To satisfy the boundary conditions along the longitudinal edges of the semi-infinite strip, additional stress functions are introduced. When the boundary conditions are adjusted, a system of integral equations and a system of algebraic equations are obtained, which are further reduced to a single system of algebraic equations. The latter system is solved by the method of successive approximations. In each case, the expressions for normal stresses along the longitudinal axis are derived and numerical values for these stresses are given.