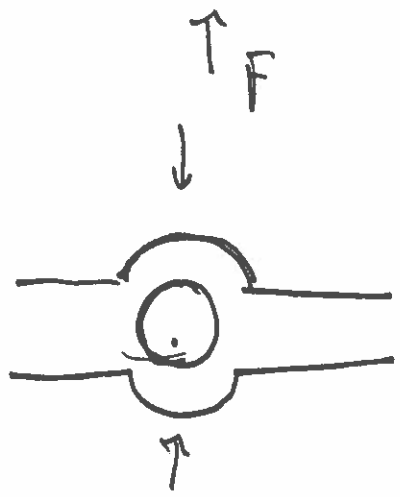
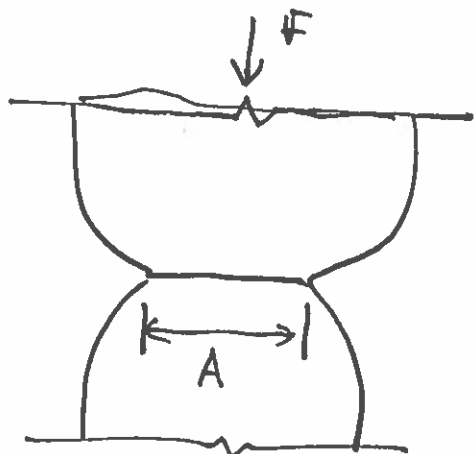
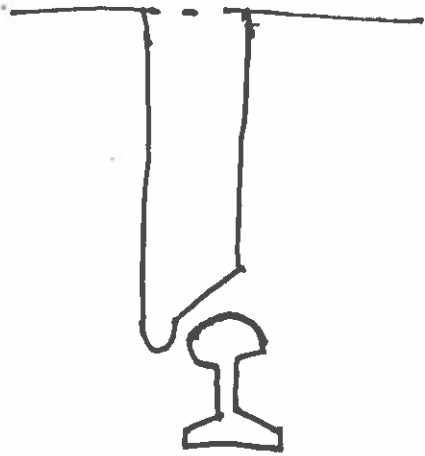


# Contact Stresses

When two objects are pressed together a region of area contact develops.



roller bearing



train wheel



gear teeth

Theory developed Hertz 1882.

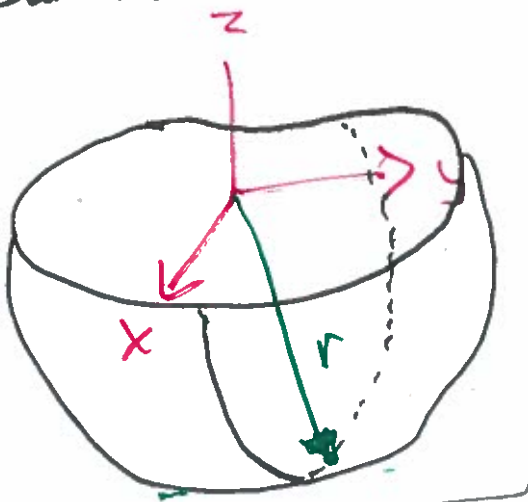
"Hertzian Contact Theory"

# Assumptions

- loads are perpendicular to the surface
- no friction, smooth, continuous surface
- small strain theory

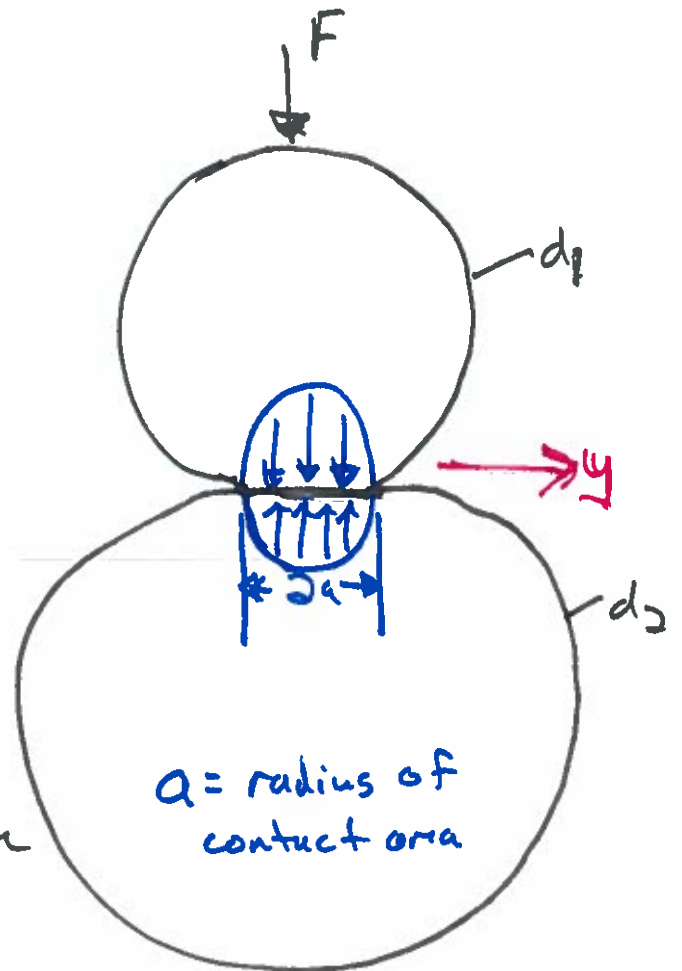
## General Case

- general curved surface



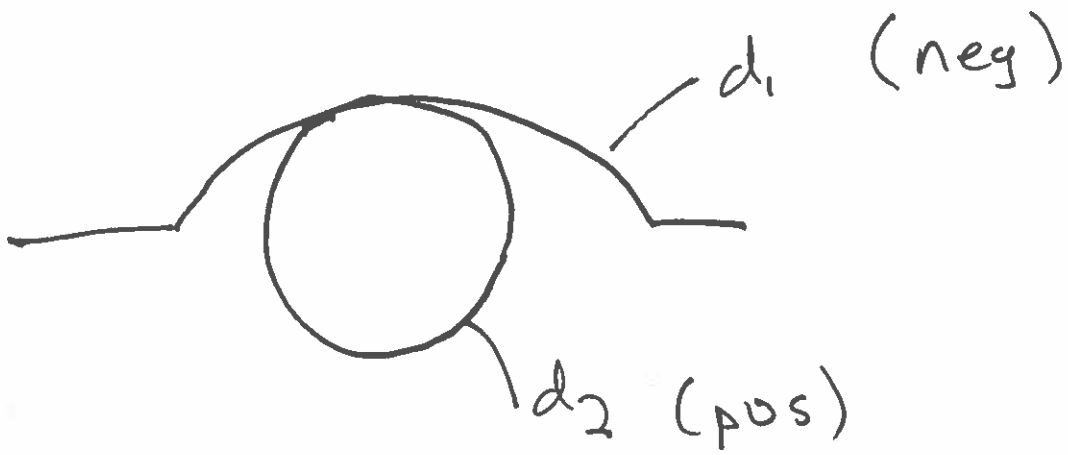
## Special Cases

### Two Spheres



- circular area of contact
- hemispherical stress/pressure at the contact surface

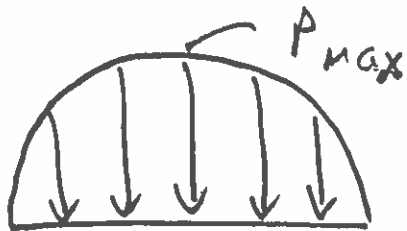
$a =$  radius of contact area



$$a = \sqrt[3]{\frac{3F}{8} \frac{(1-\nu_1^2)/E_1 + (1-\nu_2^2)/E_2}{1/d_1 + 1/d_2}} \quad \boxed{3-63}$$

$d \Rightarrow \infty$  flat surface

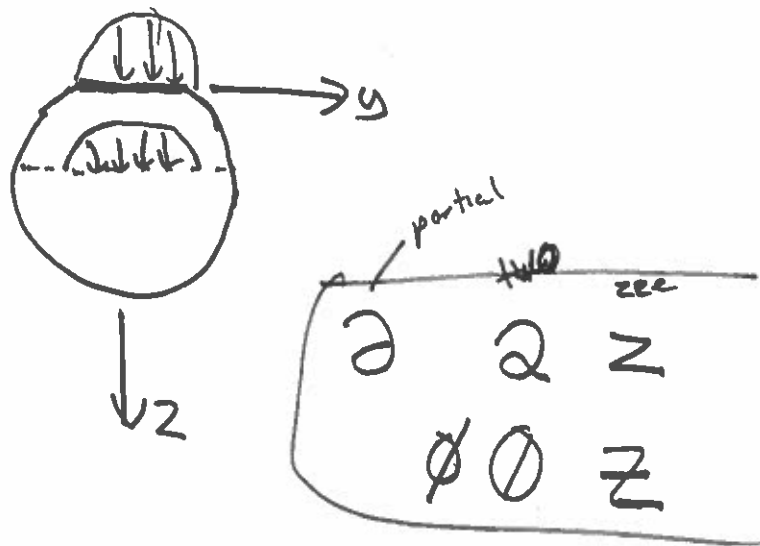
$d < 0 \Rightarrow$  internal spherical shape 



$$P_{max} = \frac{3F}{2\pi a^2}$$

$\boxed{3-64}$

The stress is a function of  $\frac{z}{a}$ .



Along  $z$  axis:

function of  $z$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = \sigma_x = \sigma_y =$$

$$- P_{\max} \left[ \left( 1 - \frac{|z|}{a} \tan^{-1} \frac{1}{|z/a|} \right) (1 + \nu) \right.$$

$$\left. - \frac{1}{2 \left( 1 + \frac{z^2}{a^2} \right)} \right]$$

$$\sigma_3 = \sigma_z =$$

$$\frac{- P_{\max}}{1 + \frac{z^2}{a^2}}$$

Fig 3-37 Sphere contact stress as function of depth into sphere

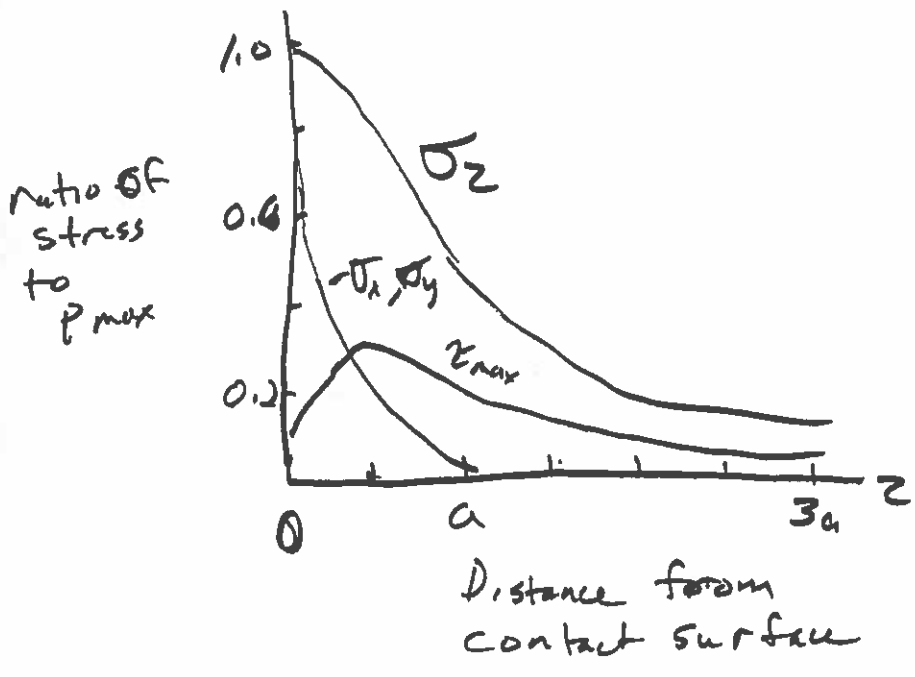
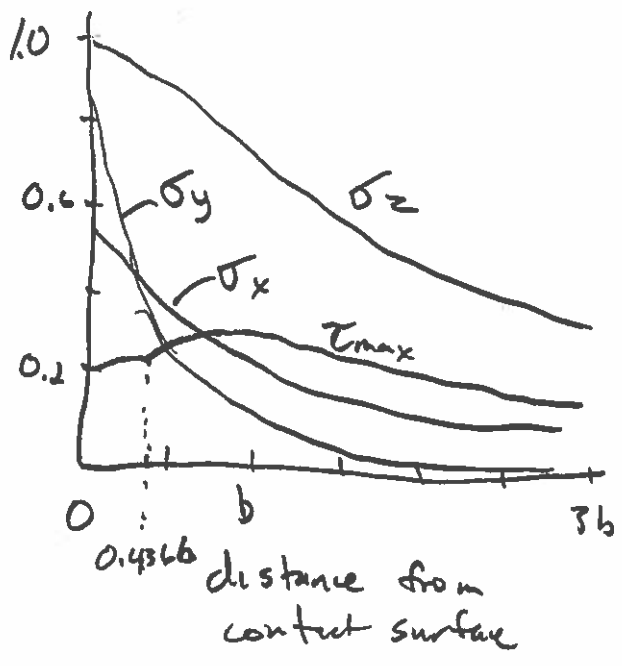


Fig 3-39 Cylindrical



Spalling: flaking of material from  
the surface

Brinelling: permanent indentation  
of a hard  
surface

Pitting: spalling due to fatigue in roller  
bearings

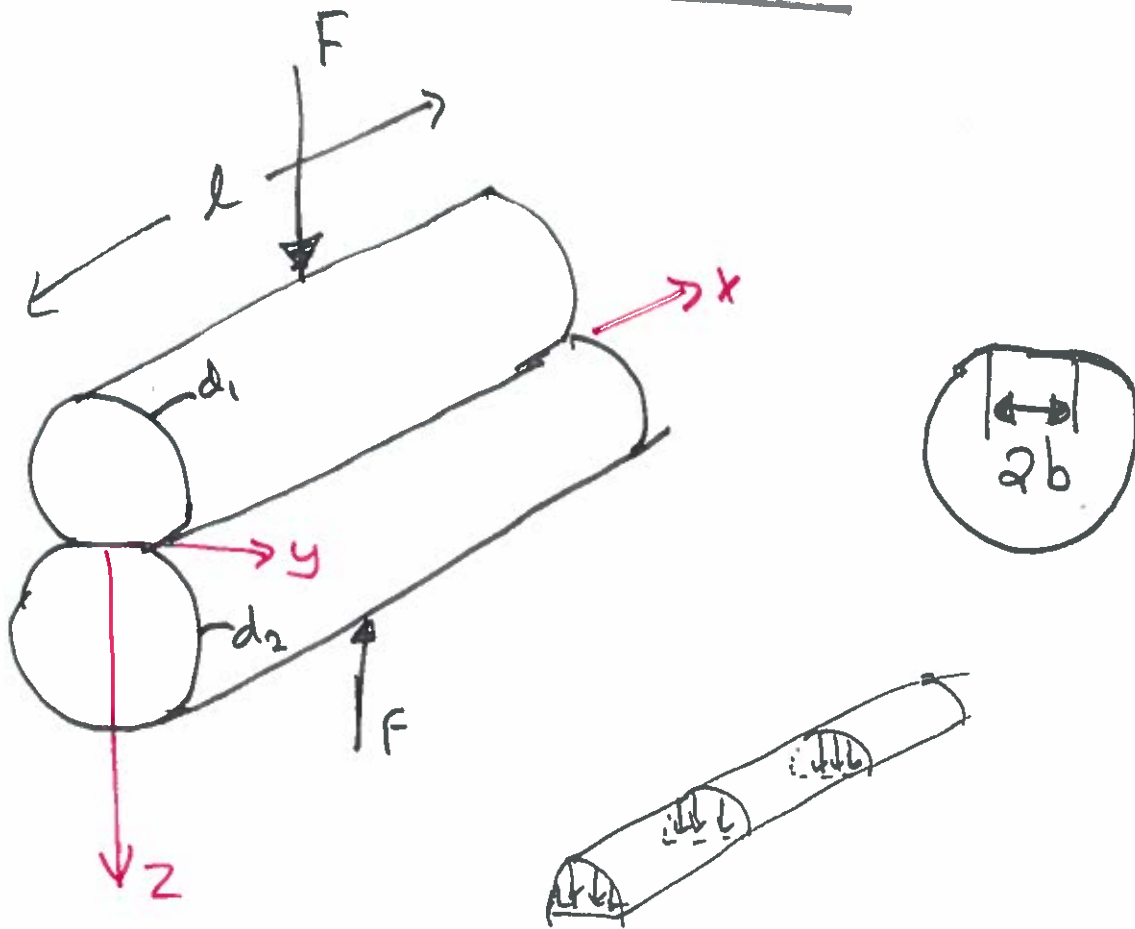
\* See website resources page for examples

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \Rightarrow \tau_{1/2} = 0$$

max-shear below surface is attributed to spalling and pitting failures

$$\tau_{\max} = \tau_{1/3} = \tau_{2/3} = \frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_3}{2} = \frac{\sigma_2 - \sigma_3}{2}$$

Special Case: Cylindrical Contact



$$b = \sqrt{\frac{2F}{\pi l} \frac{(1-\nu_1^2)/E_1 + (1-\nu_2^2)/E_2}{1/d_1 + 1/d_2}}$$

3-73

$$P_{\max} = \frac{2F}{\pi b l}$$

$$\sigma_x = -2\nu P_{\max} \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{z^2}{b^2}} - \left| \frac{z}{b} \right| \right)$$

3-75

$$\sigma_y = -P_{\max} \left( \frac{\sqrt{1 + 2\frac{z^2}{b^2}}}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{z^2}{b^2}}} - 2\left| \frac{z}{b} \right| \right)$$

3-76

$$\sigma_3 = \sigma_2 = \frac{-P_{\max}}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{z^2}{b^2}}}$$

3-77