

Lecture: P1_Wk2_L5

Contact Mechanics

Predict the stresses and deformations which arise when the surfaces of two solid bodies are brought into contact, subject to surface constraints.

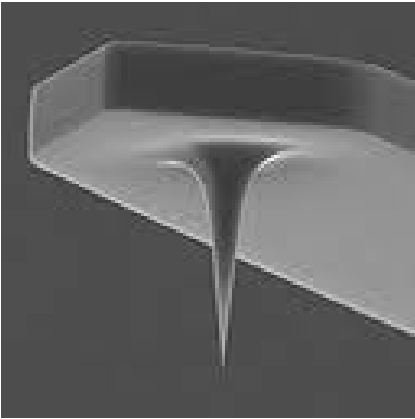
Ron Reifenberger

Birck Nanotechnology Center

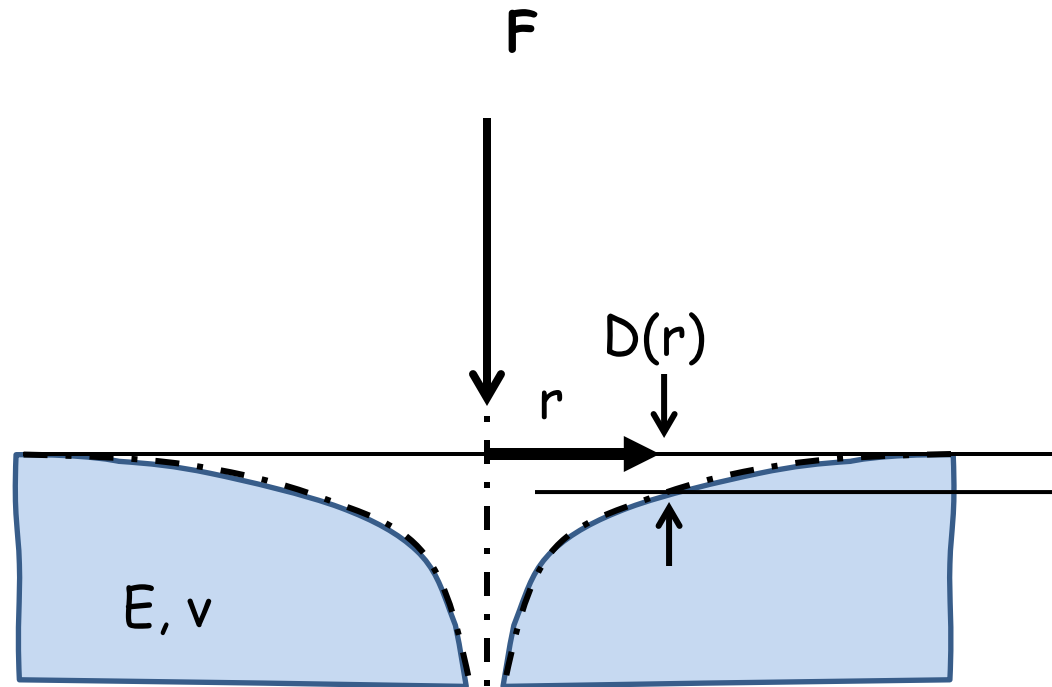
Purdue University

2012

Action of a point force (Boussinesq, 1885)



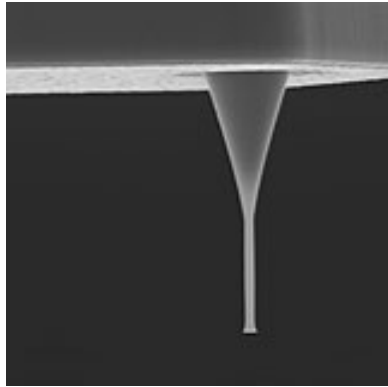
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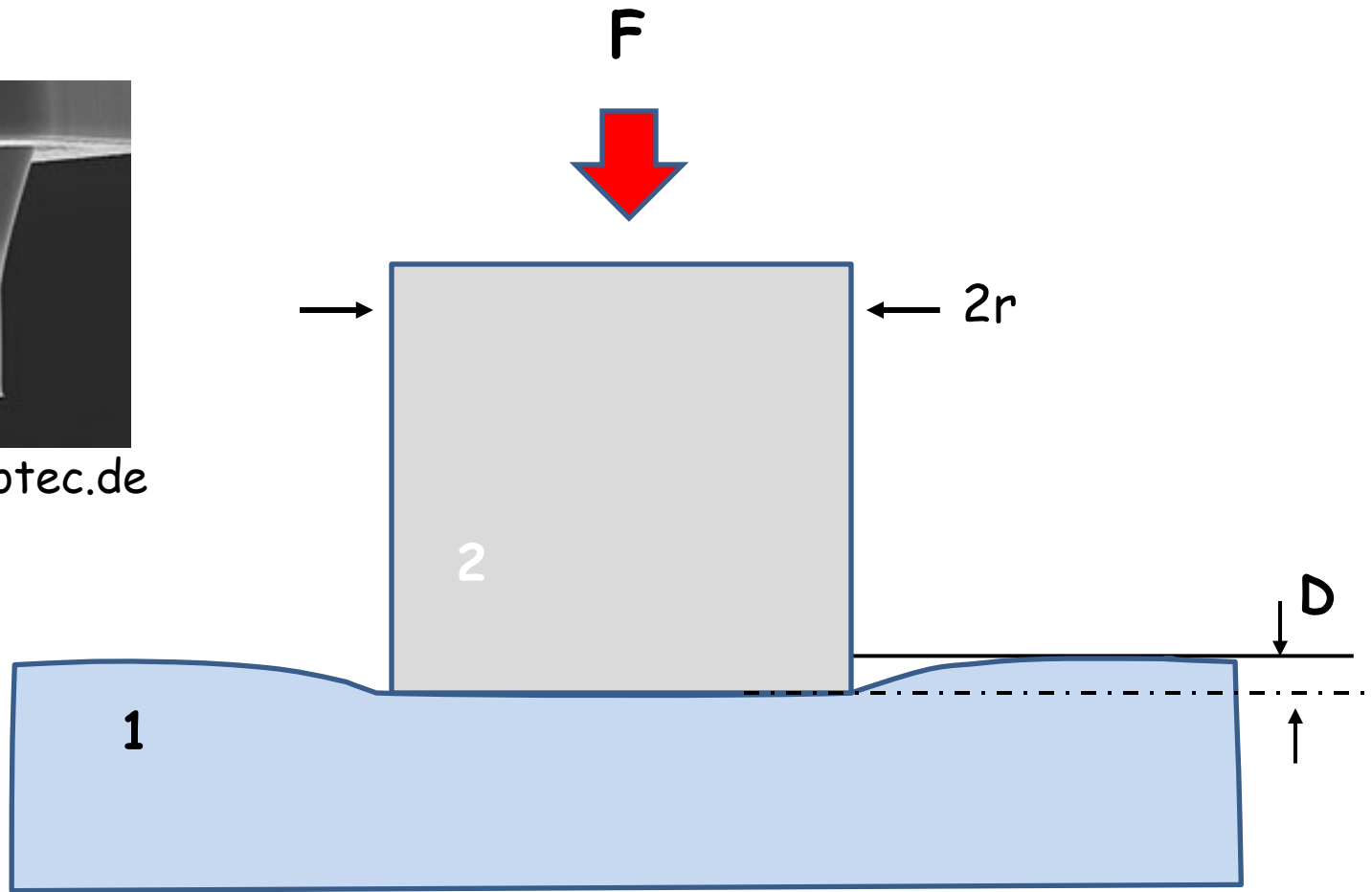
$$D(r) = \frac{1 - \nu^2}{\pi E} \frac{F}{r}$$

Singular at $r=0$!

Action of a punch with circular cross-section



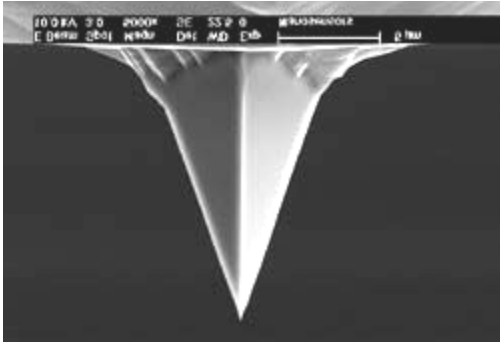
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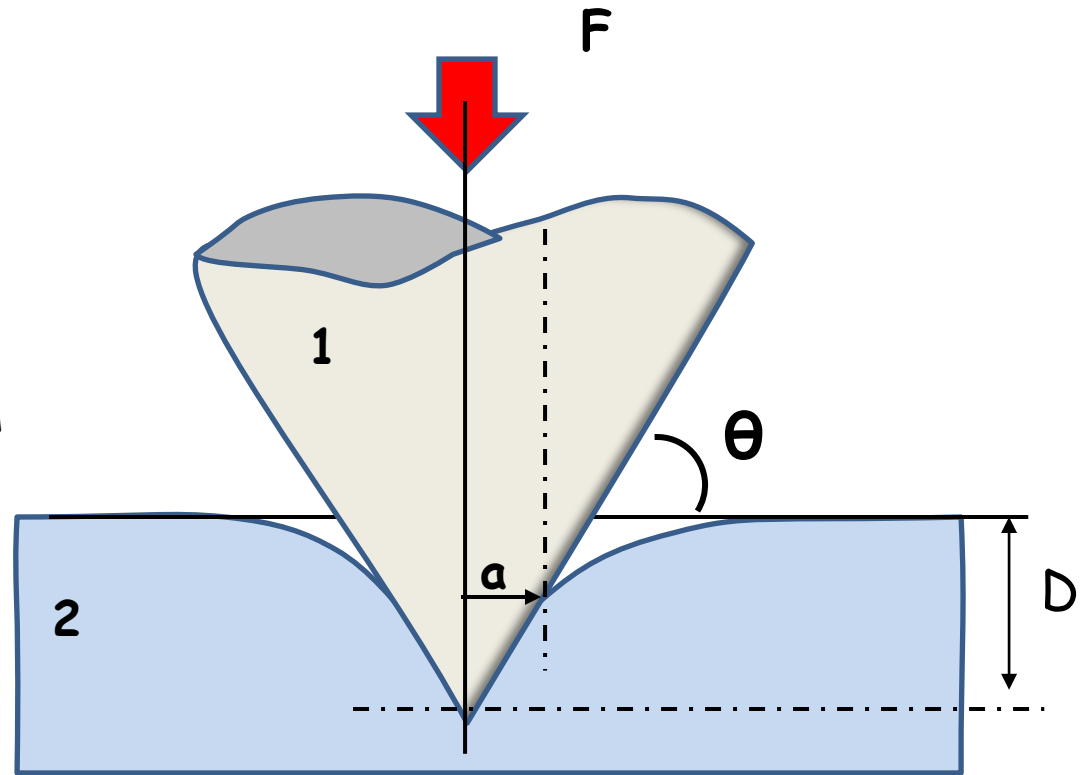
$$F = 2rE^* D$$

$$\left(\frac{1-\nu_1^2}{E_1} + \frac{1-\nu_2^2}{E_2} \right) = \frac{1}{E^*}$$

Action of a cone-shaped punch



<http://www.nanosensors.com>

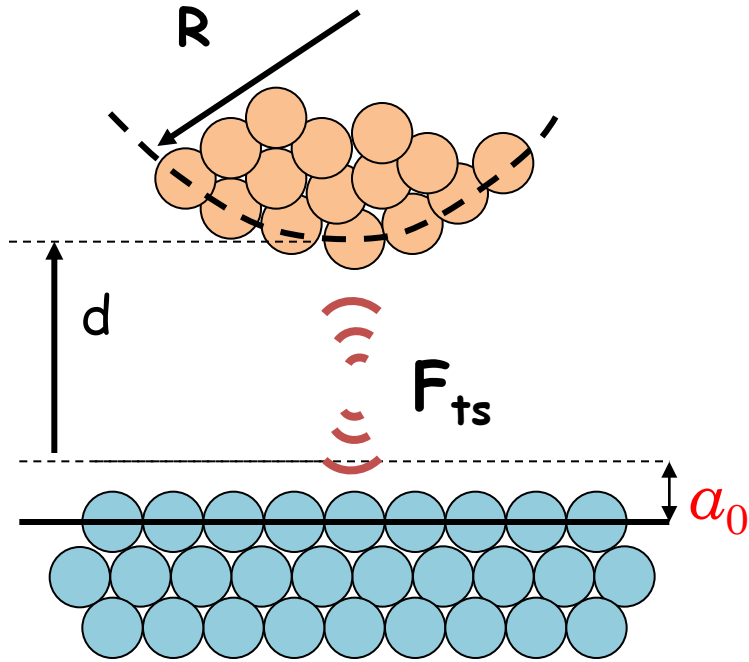


$$F = \frac{2 E^*}{\pi \tan \theta} D^2$$

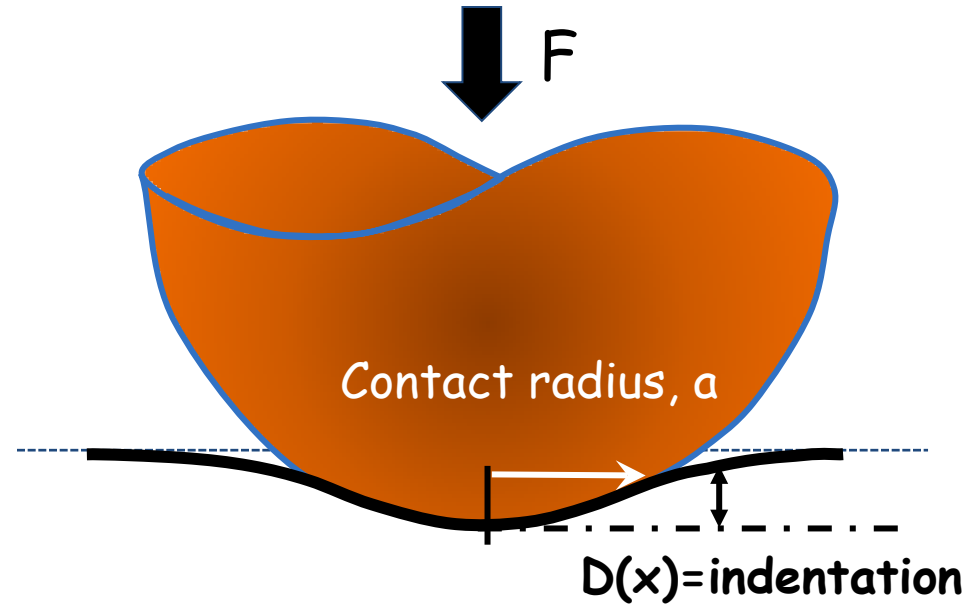
$$\left(\frac{1 - \nu_1^2}{E_1} + \frac{1 - \nu_2^2}{E_2} \right) = \frac{1}{E^*}$$

At a microscopic scale, for small indentations. . . .

AFM Problem

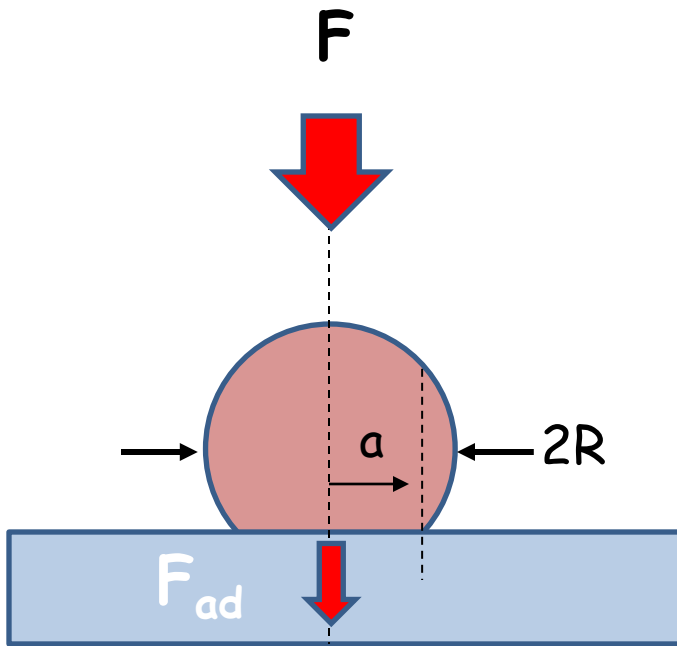


Contact Mechanics Literature



Use contact mechanics to make predictions for two quantities as a function of the applied force F

The basic problem



Quantities of interest:

- Contact radius (a)
- Adhesive Force (F_{ad})
- Contact radius at zero load ($F=0$)
- Contact radius at separation
- Pull-off force

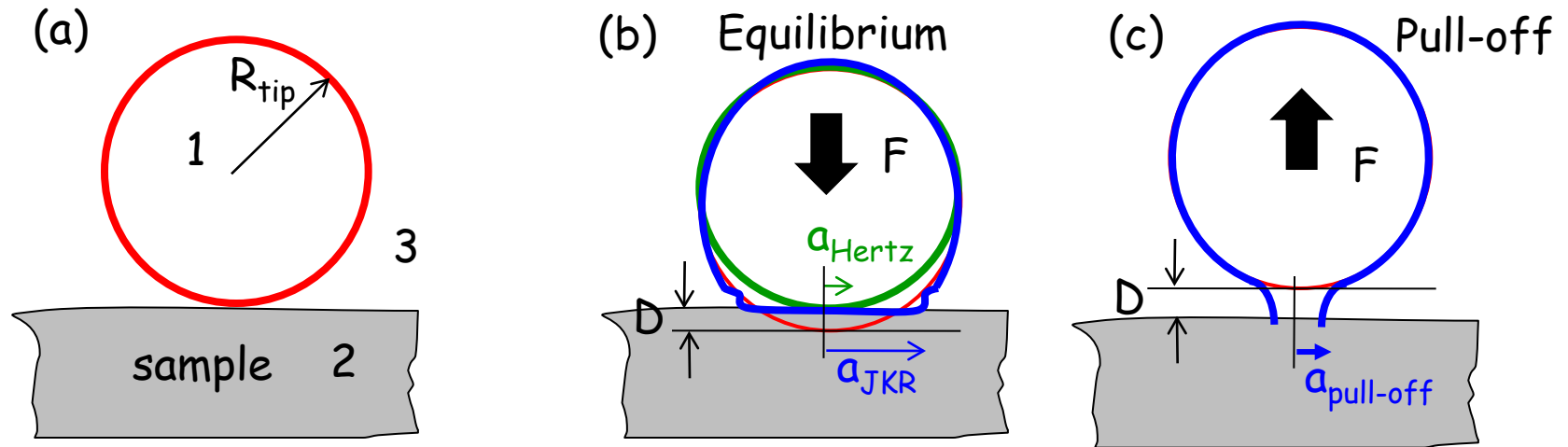
Three Classic Theories

Hertz

Johnson-Kendall-Roberts
(JKR)

Derjaguin-Muller-Toporov
(DMT)

Need to Develop a Tip-sample Interaction Model



Rigid tip-rigid sample

vs. **Deformable tip and rigid sample***

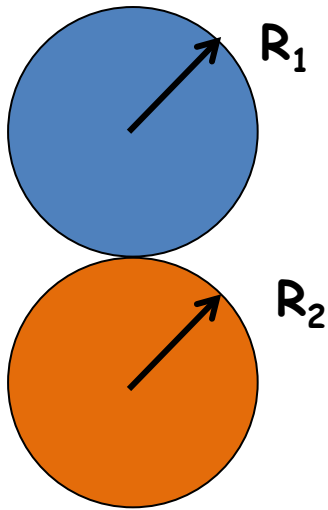
- From the Derjaguin approximation for rigid tip interacting with rigid sample (a) we have

$$F_{tip-sample}(a_o) = F_{adhesion} = 2\pi R_{tip} U(a_o) \approx 2\pi R_{tip} W_{132} = 2\pi R_{tip} (\gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23} - \gamma_{12})$$

- Real tips and samples are not rigid (see b,c above). Several theories have been developed to better account for this fact
- * Theories also apply to deformable samples; a rigid sample is shown only to demonstrate key quantities clearly. For example D is the combined tip-sample deformation in (b)

Classic Tip-Sample Interaction Models (flat plane = $R_1 \rightarrow \infty$)

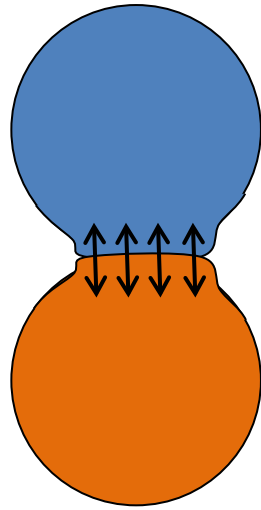
elastic



Hertz
(1881)

- Neglects surface forces and adhesion
- Assumes a linearly elastic sphere indenting an elastic surface

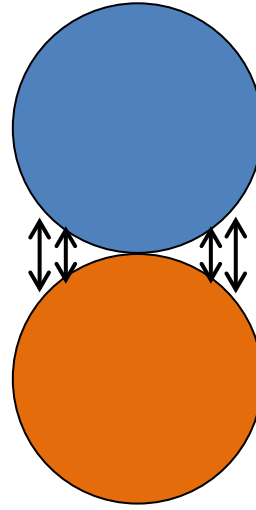
elastic, with
adhesion in
contact region



JKR
(1971)

- Neglects long-range interactions outside contact area
- Applicable to soft samples with high adhesion

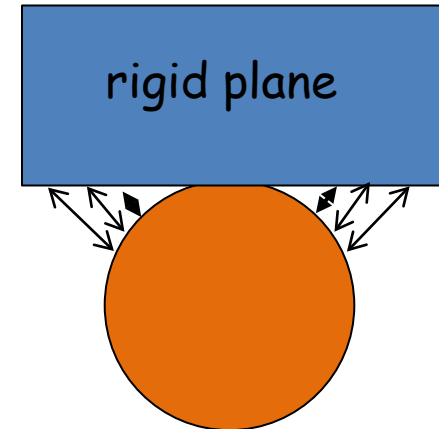
vdW with
rigid spheres



Bradley
(1932)

- Considers two rigid spheres interacting via Lennard-Jones 6-12 potential

elastic, adhesive
and vdW



DMT
1975

- Elastic sphere against a rigid plane surface
- Includes van der Waals forces outside the contact region.
- Applicable to stiff samples with low adhesion.

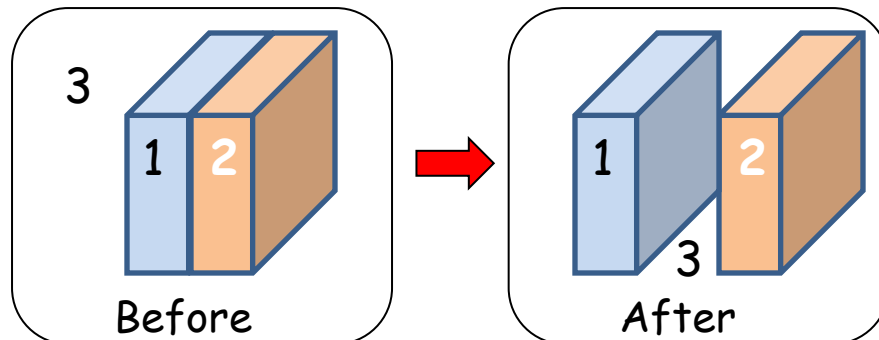
Surface forces give rise to surface energies

- **Work of adhesion and cohesion:** work done to separate unit areas of two materials 1 and 2 from contact to infinity in vacuum. If 1 and 2 are different then W_{12} is the work of **adhesion**; if 1 and 2 are the same then W_{11} is the work of **cohesion**.
- **Surface energy:** This is the free energy change when the surface area of a material is increased by unit area:

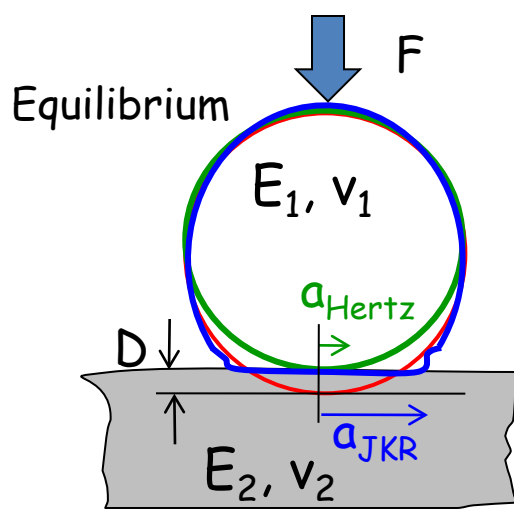
$$W_{11} (= \gamma_{11}) = 2\gamma_1 \quad \left[\frac{J}{m^2} \right] \quad (\text{see lecture P1_Wk2_L2})$$

- When separating dissimilar materials, the free energy change in destroying the existing "interfacial" area per unit area is known as the **interfacial energy** γ_{12}

- Work of adhesion in a third medium: *in a vacuum*, $W_{12} = \gamma_1 + \gamma_2 - \gamma_{12}$
 $W_{132} = \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23} - \gamma_{12}$



Standard results



$$\frac{1}{E_{\text{tot}}} = \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{1-\nu_1^2}{E_1} + \frac{1-\nu_2^2}{E_2} \right) = \frac{3}{4} \frac{1}{E^*}$$

"springs in series"

$$W_{132} = \Delta\gamma = \gamma_{13} + \gamma_{23} - \gamma_{12}$$

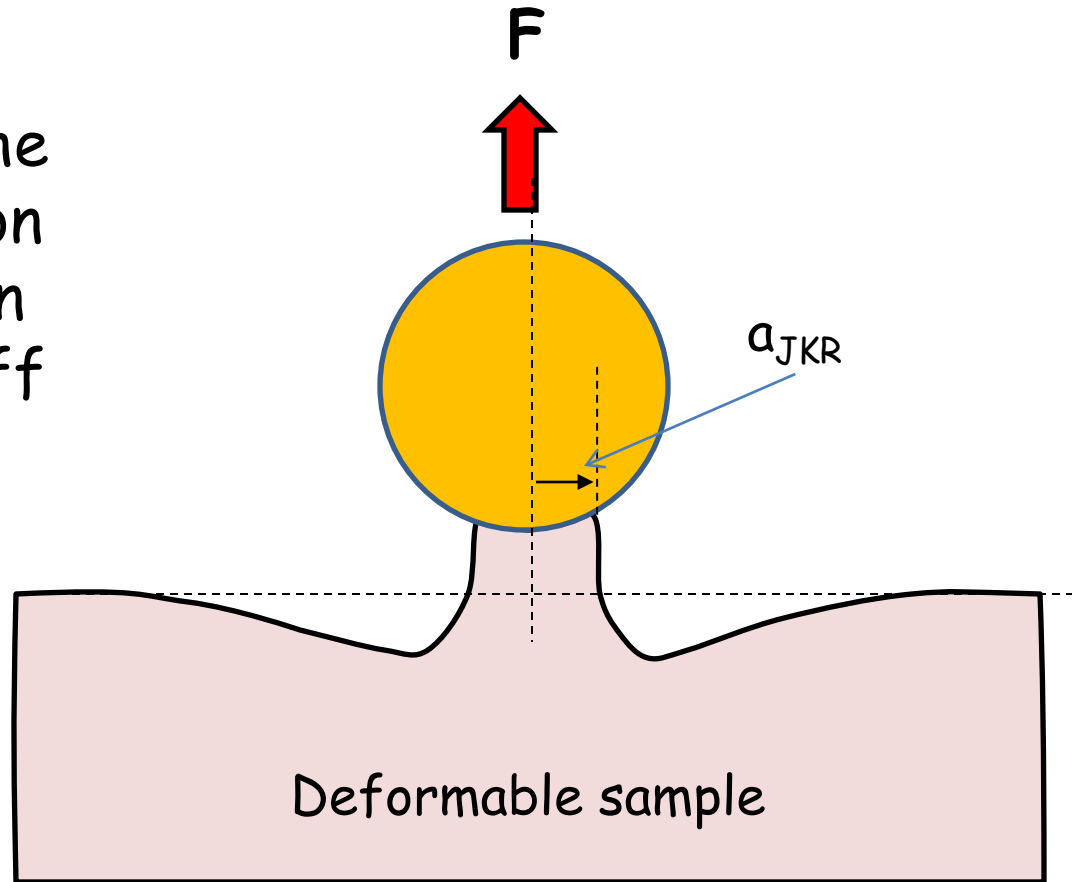
| | $F_{\text{pull-off}} = F_{\text{ad}}$ (a) | Contact Radius (b,c) | Deformation(c) |
|-------|--|--|---|
| Hertz | 0 | $a_{\text{Hertz}} = \left(\frac{R_{\text{tip}} F}{E_{\text{tot}}} \right)^{1/3}$ | $D_{\text{Hertz}} = \frac{a_{\text{Hertz}}^2}{R_{\text{tip}}}$ |
| DMT | $F_{\text{ad}}^{\text{DMT}} = \pi R_{\text{tip}}^2 W_{132}$ | $a_{\text{DMT}} = \left(\frac{R_{\text{tip}} [F + F_{\text{ad}}^{\text{DMT}}]}{E_{\text{tot}}} \right)^{1/3}$ | $D_{\text{DMT}} = \frac{a_{\text{DMT}}^2}{R_{\text{tip}}}$ |
| JKR | $F_{\text{ad}}^{\text{JKR}} = \frac{3\pi}{2} R_{\text{tip}} W_{132}$ | $a_{\text{JKR}} = \left(\frac{R_{\text{tip}} \left[\sqrt{F_{\text{ad}}^{\text{JKR}}} + \sqrt{F + F_{\text{ad}}^{\text{JKR}}} \right]^2}{E_{\text{tot}}} \right)^{1/3}$ | $D_{\text{JKR}} = \frac{a_{\text{JKR}}^2}{R_{\text{tip}}} - \frac{4}{3} \sqrt{\frac{F_{\text{ad}}^{\text{JKR}} a_{\text{JKR}}}{R_{\text{tip}} E_{\text{tot}}}}$ |

Notes:

- (a) No surface forces $\rightarrow W_{132}=0$
- (b) Hard to define accurately when contacts are small
- (c) Adhesive correction

JKR Adhesion - consequences

Adhesion arises fundamentally from the short range interaction between molecules. In the JKR model, pull-off occurs when contact radius $a_{JKR}=0$



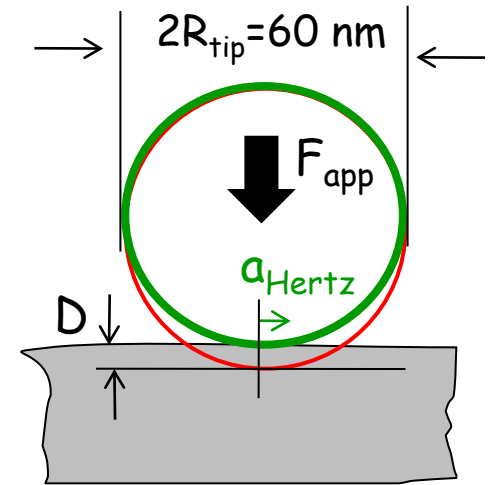
Warning - major limitation of classical results: Surface roughness

Example

Hertz contact: $R_{\text{tip}} = 30 \text{ nm}$; $F_{\text{app}} = 1 \text{ nN}$

$E_{\text{tip}} = E_{\text{sub}} = 200 \text{ GPa}$; Poisson ratio = $\nu_{\text{tip}} = \nu_{\text{sub}} = 0.3 = \nu$

$$\frac{1}{E_{\text{tot}}} = \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{1 - \nu_{\text{sub}}^2}{E_{\text{sub}}} + \frac{1 - \nu_{\text{tip}}^2}{E_{\text{tip}}} \right) = \frac{3}{2} \frac{1 - \nu^2}{E}$$
$$= \frac{3}{2} \frac{0.91}{(200 \text{ GPa})} = \frac{1.365}{200 \text{ GPa}} \Rightarrow E_{\text{tot}} = 146.5 \text{ GPa}$$



Contact radius:

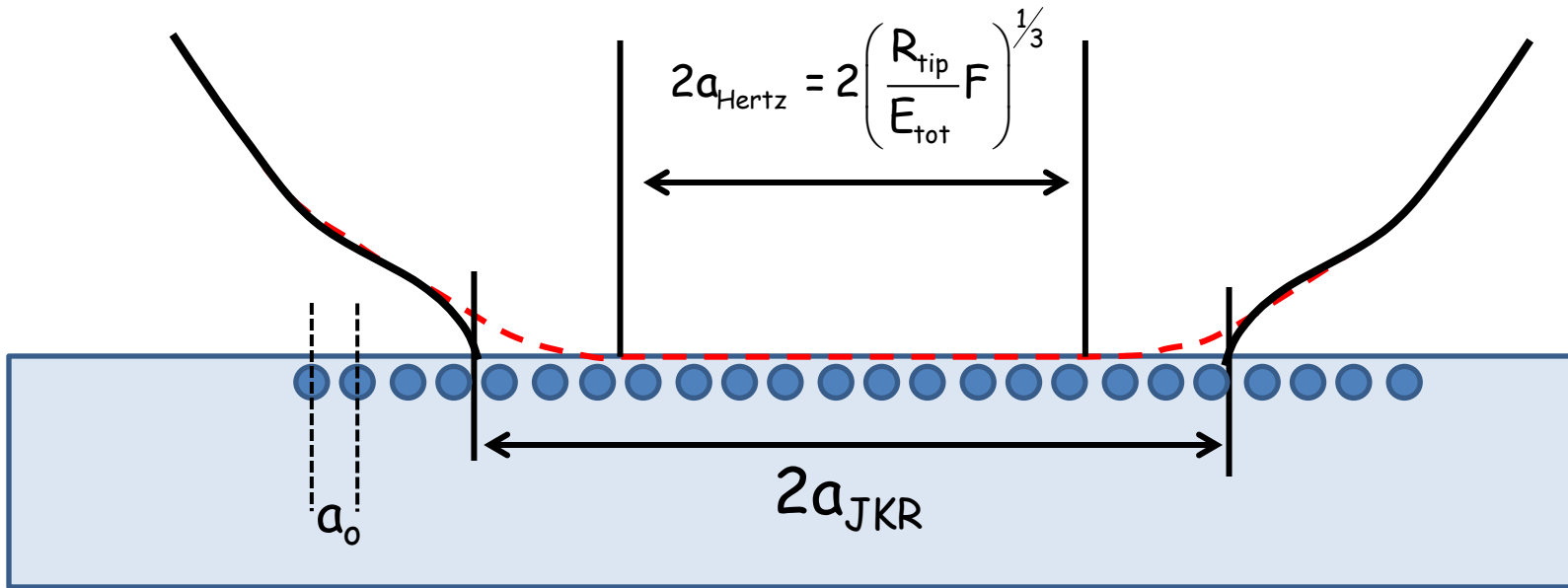
$$a_{\text{Hertz}} = \left(\frac{R_{\text{tip}} F}{E_{\text{tot}}} \right)^{1/3} = 0.59 \text{ nm} - \text{limits resolution in AFM}$$

Deformation:

$$D_{\text{Hertz}} = \frac{a^2}{R_{\text{tip}}} = \left(\frac{F^2}{R_{\text{tip}} E_{\text{tot}}^2} \right)^{1/3} = 12 \text{ pm} \quad \text{Pull-off Force} = 0$$

Contact Pressure?: $P \approx \frac{F}{\pi a_{\text{Hertz}}^2} = 0.9 \text{ GPa} \approx 9000 \text{ atmos.}$

Which contact model to choose?

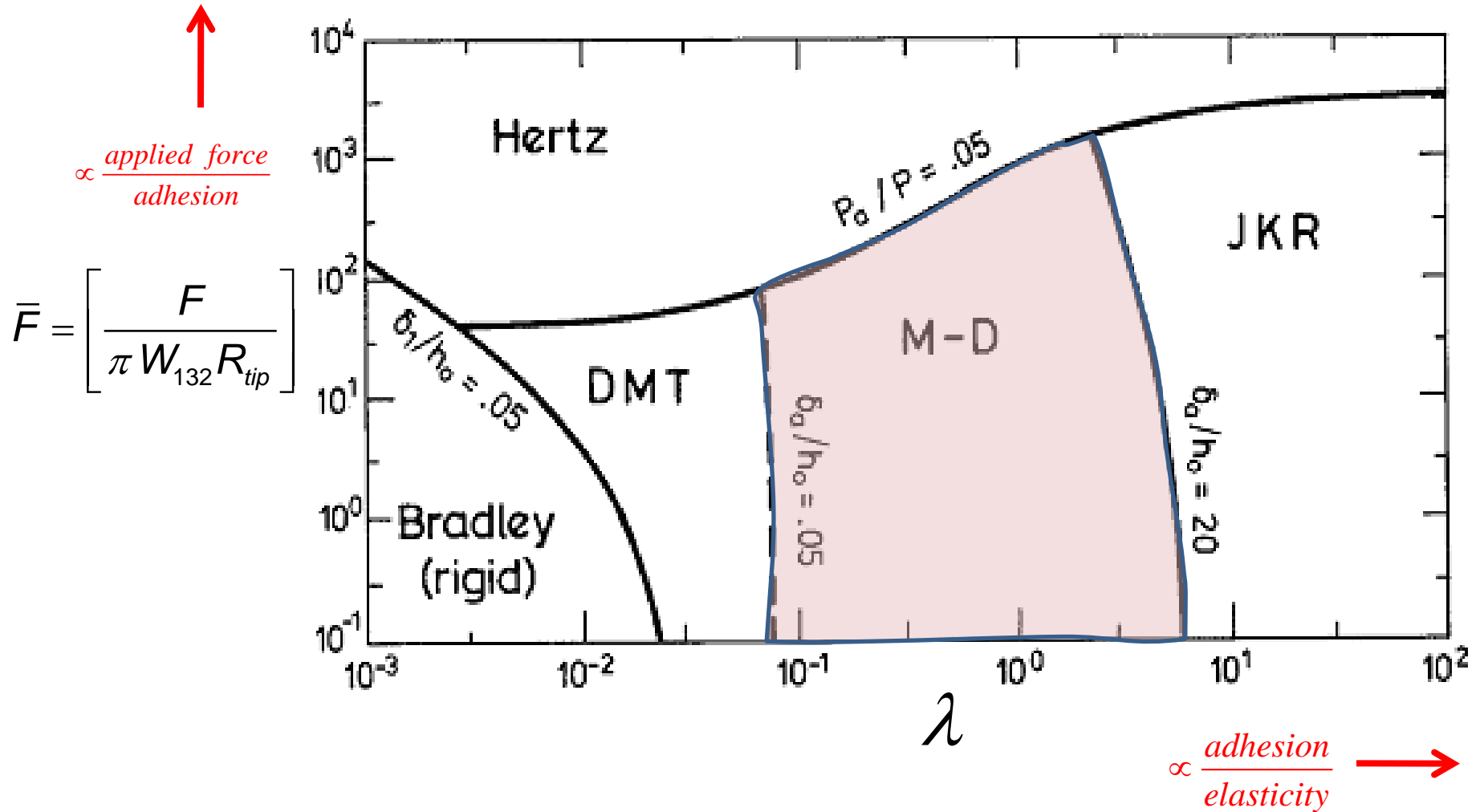


define new parameter $\propto \frac{\text{width of elastically deformed neck}}{\text{atomic spacing}}$

$$\mu = \frac{\frac{32}{3\pi} \left(\frac{2R_{\text{tip}} W_{132}^2}{\pi E_{\text{tot}}^2} \right)^{1/3}}{a_0} = 4.27 \frac{\left(\frac{R_{\text{tip}}}{E_{\text{tot}}} \cdot \frac{W_{132}^2}{\pi E_{\text{tot}}} \right)^{1/3}}{a_0} \quad [\text{no dimensions}]$$

$$\lambda = \frac{2}{a_0} \left(\frac{9R_{\text{tip}} W_{132}^2}{16\pi E_{\text{tot}}^2} \right)^{1/3} = \frac{2}{a_0} \left(\frac{9}{16} \right)^{1/3} \left(\frac{R_{\text{tip}} W_{132}^2}{\pi E_{\text{tot}}^2} \right)^{1/3} = 1.65 \frac{\left(\frac{R_{\text{tip}}}{E_{\text{tot}}} \cdot \frac{W_{132}^2}{\pi E_{\text{tot}}} \right)^{1/3}}{a_0} \quad [\text{no dimensions}]$$

Validity of different models



$$\frac{1}{E_{tot}} = \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{1 - \nu_s^2}{E_s} + \frac{1 - \nu_t^2}{E_t} \right)$$

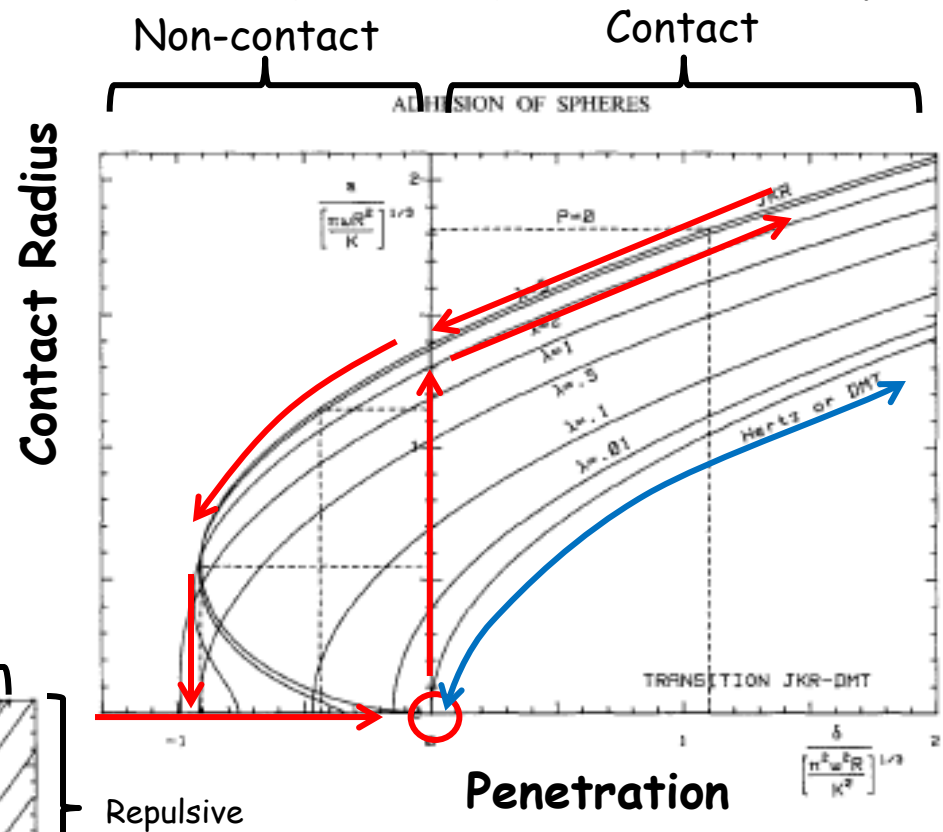
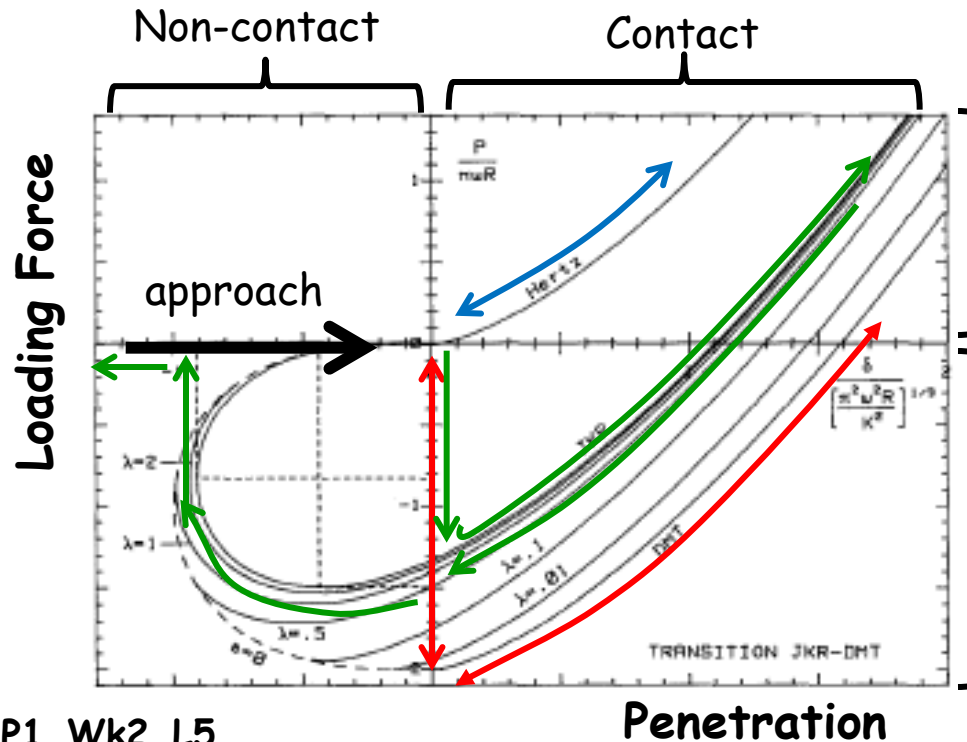
$a_0 = (\text{typical atomic spacing})$

Transition from DMT to JKR: Maugis-Dugdale Theory

$$\lambda \propto \frac{1}{a_o} \left(\frac{R_{tip} W_{132}^2}{\pi E_{tot}^2} \right)^{1/3} \propto \frac{\text{adhesion}}{\text{elasticity}}$$

$$\frac{1}{E_{tot}} = \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{1-\nu_s^2}{E_s} + \frac{1-\nu_t^2}{E_t} \right)$$

$a_o = \text{interatomic distance}$



$\lambda \rightarrow 0$: DMT (stiff materials)
 $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$: JKR (soft materials)

D. Maugis, J. Colloid Interface Sci. 150, 243 (1992).

**Up Next: Combining contact mechanics with
intermolecular interactions**

Appendix: A few comments on these theories

- In the limit of small adhesion JKR \rightarrow DMT
- Most equations of JKR and Hertz and DMT have been tested experimentally on molecularly smooth surfaces and found to apply extremely well
- The limitation for application to AFM is that no tip is a perfectly smooth sphere, small asperities make a big difference.
- Hertz, DMT describe conservative interaction forces, but in JKR, the interaction itself is non-conservative (why?) ...for a force to be considered conservative it must be written as a gradient of potential energy.