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## DISCUSSION

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### L. M. Keer<sup>1</sup>

The author's approach is computationally compact, and the information that is presented in the paper is useful and important for design purposes. This work advances the state of

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fatigue calculations by bringing a powerful analysis to the estimation of local stresses in the vicinity of near surface defects. It should be noted that the approach can also be applied with no extra effort when the contacting sphere is also elastic since the form of the integral equations will be the same, provided that a circular region of contact is assumed. This assumption should not be too bad if the inclusion/void dimension is relatively small compared to the contact region.