





























a) Assume the stress is distributed in a cosine function with the maximum stress  $\sigma_s$  and minimum stress  $\sigma_{crit}$  as shown above. Determine the effective width assuming the maximum stress acts uniformly over the effective width w and both elements react the same force P.

$$w(\sigma_s) = \frac{b}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{\sigma_{crit}}{\sigma_s} \right)$$

b) Plot the effective width w versus the maximum stress-to-critical stress ratio.
c) For a flat plate with simply supported edges where b=100mm and t=.86mm, plot the effective width versus applied compressive stress.



