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# Circular surface loading on a layered multiferroic half space 

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#### Abstract

By introducing the cylindrical system of vector functions and the corresponding propagating matrix, we present a semi-analytical solution for a layered multiferroic half space under a uniform vertical circular load on its surface. A two-layered system made of $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3}$ and $\mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ is analyzed by the proposed method. The coupling feature among the elastic, electric, and magnetic fields and the interplay between the adjacent layers are investigated. In particular, we find that the interfacial elastic, electric, and magnetic fields are very sensitive to the thickness of the surface layer. Consequently, a critical thickness is found for each field quantity when it reaches its extreme value for varying thickness of the surface layer. This striking feature could be very useful as a theoretical reference for the optimal design of surface coatings.


(Some figures in this article are in colour only in the electronic version)

## 1. Introduction

Considerable efforts have been devoted to multiferroic composites made of piezoelectric and piezomagnetic materials due to their broad applications related to smart systems such as intelligent sensors, damage detectors, etc (Spaldin and Fiebig 2005, Fiebig 2005, Kohlstedt et al 2005, Ramesh and Spaldin 2007, Rogez et al 2010). Since multiferroic materials/composites possess at least two coexisting orders among the magnetic, electric, and elastic fields, they may also play an important role in future magnetic applications (Kimura et al 2003, Zhuravlev et al 2005). It is possible to fabricate multiferroic composites by artificially making ferroelectric and ferromagnetic heterostructures in the nanoscale (Zhong et al 2008). The interplay among elastic, electric, and magnetic fields also provides excellent alternative avenues for controlling material growth or optimizing material properties (Kimura et al 2003, Lottermoser et al 2004, Duan et al 2006, Pang et al 2010, Sun and Kim 2010).

The complex coupling effect in multiferroic materials/composites was investigated before. These include the studies on the peculiar magneto-electric effect (Nan 1994, Benveniste 1995, Wu and Huang 2000, Liu et al 2004) as

[^0]well as the general effective properties of composites ( Li and Dunn 1998), static and dynamic structural behavior (Pan 2001, Chen et al 2004, Ramirez 2006, Ke et al 2008, Wang et al 2010), fracture-mechanics-related problems (Liu et al 2001, Sih and Chen 2003, Feng et al 2007, Zhong 2009, Zhong et al 2009, Rungamornrat and Senjuntichai 2009), and on the general coupling theory based on Green's function and other mathematical approaches (Pan 2002, Wang and Shen 2002, Li 2003, Hou et al 2005, Wang et al 2008, Feng et al 2009).

Circular surface loading on multilayered half spaces is a very interesting boundary value problem. It has important practical applications in various engineering areas, such as cell biology (Balaban et al 2001, Schwarz et al 2002), smart piezoelectric composites (Pan and Han 2005, Han et al 2006), foundation engineering (Graig 1997), and earth science (Becker and Bevis 2004, Pan et al 2007). Combined with the Hertzian contact theory, the surface loading solution can be utilized in indentation tests for material characterization (Xu et al 1999, Yu 2001, Giannakopoulos and Suresh 1999, Chen et al 2010). Numerous analytical and/or numerical methods were proposed in the past for solving the circular loading problem in inhomogeneous elastic isotropic (Oner 1990, Yue et al 1999) and elastic non-isotropic (Hooper 1975, Rowe and Booker 1981, Kumar 1988, Doherty and Deeks 2003,


Figure 1. Schematic of a layered magneto-electro-elastic half space under a uniform surface loading over a circular area. The global coordinate system is $(r, \theta, z)$ with the origin $O_{0}$, and the local coordinate system in the $k$ th layer is $(r, \theta, \xi)$ with the origin $O_{k-1}$.

Wang et al 2005) structures. To the best knowledge of the authors, however, the surface loading problem corresponding to a layered multiferroic half space has not been reported in the literature.

Thus, in this paper, we focus on the response of a transversely isotropic and layered multiferroic half space under a uniform vertical load within a circle on its surface. The solution is derived by virtue of the cylindrical system of vector functions and the propagator matrix method (Gilbert and Backus 1966, Ulitko 1979, Pan 1989). First, we transform the basic equations in the physical domain to the transformed domain in terms of the cylindrical system of vector functions. Secondly, making use of the boundary conditions, we obtain the exact solutions of this problem in the transformed domain. Thirdly, the solutions in the transformed domain are inverted back to the physical domain, and the semi-analytical solutions including one-dimensional integration are obtained. Finally, the proposed method is applied to a two-layered half space made of piezoelectric $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3}$ and magnetic $\mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$. Besides some interesting coupling features among the elastic, electric, and magnetic fields, our numerical results show further some peculiar interplay behavior between the adjacent layers and the influence of the thickness of the surface layer on the field quantities. In particular, the critical thickness of the surface layer is introduced to analyze the field variation feature, which could provide an important theoretical guidance to future practical design of layered structures made of the novel multiferroic materials/composites.

## 2. Basic equations and cylindrical system of vector functions

Consider a magneto-electro-elastic layered half space under a uniform vertical load $q$ over a circle of radius $a$, as shown in
figure 1. Two cylindrical coordinates, i.e. global coordinates ( $r, \theta, z$ ) and local coordinates $(r, \theta, \xi)$, are attached to the layered half space. Due to the translation relationship between the global and local coordinates, we have $\partial() / \partial z=\partial() / \partial \xi$ which implies that the basic equations (e.g. the constitutive relations, equilibrium equations, etc) under global and local coordinates have the same form.

Under the global coordinates, the constitutive relations of the magneto-electro-elastic material are (in terms of the material coefficients)

$$
\begin{gather*}
\sigma_{r r}=c_{11} \gamma_{r r}+c_{12} \gamma_{\theta \theta}+c_{13} \gamma_{z z}-e_{31} E_{z}-q_{31} H_{z} \\
\sigma_{\theta \theta}=c_{12} \gamma_{r r}+c_{11} \gamma_{\theta \theta}+c_{13} \gamma_{z z}-e_{31} E_{z}-q_{31} H_{z} \\
\sigma_{z z}=c_{13} \gamma_{r r}+c_{13} \gamma_{\theta \theta}+c_{33} \gamma_{z z}-e_{33} E_{z}-q_{33} H_{z} \\
\sigma_{\theta z}=2 c_{44} s_{\theta z}-e_{15} E_{\theta}-q_{15} H_{\theta}  \tag{1a}\\
\sigma_{r z}=2 c_{44} \gamma_{r z}-e_{15} E_{r}-q_{15} H_{r} \\
\sigma_{r \theta}=2 c_{66} \gamma_{r \theta} \\
D_{r}=2 e_{15} \gamma_{r z}+\varepsilon_{11} E_{r}+d_{11} H_{r} \\
D_{\theta}=2 e_{15} \gamma_{\theta z}+\varepsilon_{11} E_{\theta}+d_{11} H_{\theta}  \tag{1b}\\
D_{z}=e_{31}\left(\gamma_{r r}+\gamma_{\theta \theta}\right)+e_{33} \gamma_{z z}+\varepsilon_{33} E_{z}+d_{33} H_{z} \\
B_{r}=2 q_{15} \gamma_{r z}+d_{11} E_{r}+\mu_{11} H_{r} \\
B_{\theta}=2 q_{15} \gamma_{\theta z}+d_{11} E_{\theta}+\mu_{11} H_{\theta}  \tag{1c}\\
B_{z}=q_{31}\left(\gamma_{r r}+\gamma_{\theta \theta}\right)+q_{33} \gamma_{z z}+d_{33} E_{z}+\mu_{33} H_{z}
\end{gather*}
$$

where $\sigma_{i j}, D_{i}$, and $B_{i}(i, j=r, \theta, \xi)$ are the elastic stresses, electrical displacements, and magnetic fields, respectively; $\gamma_{i j}, E_{i}$, and $H_{i}$ denote the elastic strains, electric fields, and magnetizing fields, respectively.

The generalized equilibrium equations of the magneto-electro-elastic material without 'body forces' are

$$
\begin{gather*}
\frac{\partial \sigma_{r r}}{\partial r}+\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \sigma_{r \theta}}{\partial \theta}+\frac{\partial \sigma_{r z}}{\partial z}+\frac{\sigma_{r r}-\sigma_{\theta \theta}}{r}=0 \\
\frac{\partial \sigma_{r \theta}}{\partial r}+\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \sigma_{\theta \theta}}{\partial \theta}+\frac{\partial \sigma_{\theta z}}{\partial z}+\frac{2 \sigma_{r \theta}}{r}=0 \\
\frac{\partial \sigma_{r z}}{\partial r}+\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \sigma_{\theta z}}{\partial \theta}+\frac{\partial \sigma_{z z}}{\partial z}+\frac{\sigma_{r z}}{r}=0  \tag{2}\\
\frac{\partial D_{r}}{\partial r}+\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial D_{\theta}}{\partial \theta}+\frac{\partial D_{z}}{\partial z}+\frac{D_{r}}{r}=0 \\
\frac{\partial B_{r}}{\partial r}+\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial B_{\theta}}{\partial \theta}+\frac{\partial B_{z}}{\partial z}+\frac{B_{r}}{r}=0
\end{gather*}
$$

In order to solve the problem, the cylindrical system of vector functions is introduced (Ulitko 1979, Pan 1989)

$$
\begin{gather*}
\mathbf{L}(r, \theta ; \lambda, m)=\mathbf{i}_{z} S(r, \theta ; \lambda, m) \\
\mathbf{M}(r, \theta ; \lambda, m)=\nabla S=\mathbf{i}_{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\mathbf{i}_{\theta} \frac{\partial S}{r \partial \theta}  \tag{3}\\
\mathbf{N}(r, \theta ; \lambda, m)=\nabla \times\left(\mathbf{i}_{z} S\right)=\mathbf{i}_{r} \frac{\partial S}{r \partial \theta}-\mathbf{i}_{\theta} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}
\end{gather*}
$$

with

$$
\begin{equation*}
S(r, \theta ; \lambda, m)=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \pi}} J_{m}(\lambda r) \exp (\mathrm{i} m \theta) \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathbf{i}_{r}, \mathbf{i}_{\theta}$, and $\mathbf{i}_{z}$ are the unit vectors in cylindrical coordinates and $J_{m}(\lambda r)$ denotes the Bessel function of order $m$. The function $S$ satisfies

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r^{2}}+\frac{1}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial \theta^{2}}+\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\lambda^{2} S=0 \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Due to the orthogonal properties of $\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{M}$, and $\mathbf{N}$ defined in equations (3), the elastic displacements, electric and magnetic potentials can be expressed in terms of these vector functions as

$$
\begin{gather*}
\mathbf{u}(r, \theta, z)=\sum_{m} \int_{0}^{+\infty}\left(U_{L} \mathbf{L}+U_{M} \mathbf{M}+U_{N} \mathbf{N}\right) \lambda \mathrm{d} \lambda \\
\phi(r, \theta, z)=\sum_{m} \int_{0}^{+\infty} \Phi S \lambda \mathrm{~d} \lambda  \tag{6}\\
\psi(r, \theta, z)=\sum_{m} \int_{0}^{+\infty} \Psi S \lambda \mathrm{~d} \lambda
\end{gather*}
$$

where the expansion coefficients $U_{L}, U_{M}, U_{N}, \Phi$, and $\Psi$ are functions of $(z, \lambda, m)$. Similarly, we can find the following expansions
$\mathbf{T}(r, \theta, z) \equiv \sigma_{r z} \mathbf{i}_{r}+\sigma_{\theta z} \mathbf{i}_{\theta}+\sigma_{z z} \mathbf{i}_{z}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
=\sum_{m} \int_{0}^{+\infty}\left(T_{L} \mathbf{L}+T_{M} \mathbf{M}+T_{N} \mathbf{N}\right) \lambda \mathrm{d} \lambda \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

$\mathbf{D}(r, \theta, z)=\sum_{m} \int_{0}^{+\infty}\left(D_{L} \mathbf{L}+D_{M} \mathbf{M}+D_{N} \mathbf{N}\right) \lambda \mathrm{d} \lambda$
$\mathbf{B}(r, \theta, z)=\sum_{m} \int_{0}^{+\infty}\left(B_{L} \mathbf{L}+B_{M} \mathbf{M}+B_{N} \mathbf{N}\right) \lambda \mathrm{d} \lambda$.
Unless otherwise indicated, the summation of $m$ and integration of $\int_{0}^{\infty}[] \lambda \mathrm{d} \lambda$ will be omitted in the following derivation. Based on equation (6) and making use of equations (5) and (1) we obtain

$$
\begin{align*}
\sigma_{r r} & =c_{11}\left(U_{M} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r^{2}}-\frac{U_{N}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}+\frac{U_{N}}{r} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r \partial \theta}\right) \\
& +c_{12}\left(\frac{U_{M}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial \theta^{2}}-\frac{U_{N}}{r} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r \partial \theta}+\frac{U_{M}}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{U_{N}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}\right) \\
& +c_{13}\left(\frac{\partial U_{L}}{\partial z} S\right)+e_{31} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z} S+q_{31} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} S  \tag{8a}\\
\sigma_{\theta \theta} & =c_{12}\left(U_{M} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r^{2}}-\frac{U_{N}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}+\frac{U_{N}}{r} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r \partial \theta}\right) \\
& +c_{11}\left(\frac{U_{M}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial \theta^{2}}-\frac{U_{N}}{r} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r \partial \theta}+\frac{U_{M}}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{U_{N}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}\right) \\
& +c_{13}\left(\frac{\partial U_{L}}{\partial z} S\right)+e_{31} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z} S+q_{31} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} S  \tag{8b}\\
\sigma_{z z} & =c_{13}\left(U_{M} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r^{2}}-\frac{U_{N}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}+\frac{U_{N}}{r} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r \partial \theta}\right) \\
& +c_{13}\left(\frac{U_{M}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial \theta^{2}}-\frac{U_{N}}{r} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r \partial \theta}+\frac{U_{M}}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{U_{N}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}\right) \\
& +c_{33}\left(\frac{\partial U_{L}}{\partial z} S\right)+e_{33} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z} S+q_{33} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} S \tag{8c}
\end{align*}
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
\sigma_{\theta z}= & c_{44}\left(\frac{\partial U_{M}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{r \partial \theta}-\frac{\partial U_{N}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{U_{L}}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}\right) \\
& +e_{15} \frac{\Phi}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}+q_{15} \frac{\Psi}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta} \\
\sigma_{r z}= & c_{44}\left(U_{L} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{\partial U_{M}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{\partial U_{N}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{r \partial \theta}\right) \\
& +e_{15} \Phi \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+q_{15} \Psi \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}  \tag{8d}\\
\sigma_{r \theta}= & c_{66}\left(\frac{2 U_{M}}{r} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r \partial \theta}+\frac{U_{N}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial \theta^{2}}-\frac{2 U_{M}}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}\right. \\
& \left.-U_{N} \frac{\partial^{2} S}{\partial r^{2}}+\frac{U_{N}}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}\right) \\
D_{r}= & e_{15}\left(U_{L} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{\partial U_{M}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{\partial U_{N}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{r \partial \theta}\right) \\
D_{\theta}= & e_{15}\left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial r}-d_{11} \Psi \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}\right. \\
& \left.-\varepsilon_{11} \frac{\Phi}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}+\frac{\partial U_{M}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{r \partial \theta}-\frac{\partial U_{N}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}\right)  \tag{8e}\\
D_{z}= & -\lambda^{2} e_{31} U_{M} S+e_{33} \frac{\partial U_{L}}{\partial z} S-\varepsilon_{33} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z} S-d_{33} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} S \\
B_{r}= & q_{15}\left(U_{L} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{\partial U_{M}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}+\frac{\partial U_{N}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{r \partial \theta}\right) \\
& -d_{11} \Phi \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}-\mu_{11} \Psi \frac{\partial S}{\partial r} \\
B_{\theta}= & q_{15}\left(\frac{U_{L}}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}+\frac{\partial U_{M}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{r \partial \theta}-\frac{\partial U_{N}}{\partial z} \frac{\partial S}{\partial r}\right) \\
B_{z}= & -\lambda^{2} q_{31} \frac{\partial S}{r} \frac{\Psi}{\partial \theta}-\mu_{11} \frac{\Psi}{r} \frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta}  \tag{8f}\\
& +q_{33} \frac{\partial U_{L}}{\partial z} S-d_{33} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z} S-\mu_{33} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} S .
\end{align*}
$$

Substituting equation (8) into (2), we obtain five equilibrium equations in terms of the expansion coefficients. Comparing equations (8) and (7) provides another five equations. Therefore, there are in total ten equations, which can be further recast into two independent sets of linear differential equations called Group I and Group II. In Group I, these equations are

$$
\begin{gather*}
T_{L}=-\lambda^{2} c_{13} U_{M}+c_{33} \frac{\partial U_{L}}{\partial z}+e_{33} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z}+q_{33} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z} \\
T_{M}=c_{44}\left(U_{L}+\frac{\partial U_{M}}{\partial z}\right)+e_{15} \Phi+q_{15} \Psi \\
D_{L}=-e_{31} \lambda^{2} U_{M}+e_{33} \frac{\partial U_{L}}{\partial z}-\varepsilon_{33} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z}-d_{33} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z}  \tag{9a}\\
B_{L}=-q_{31} \lambda^{2} U_{M}+q_{33} \frac{\partial U_{L}}{\partial z}-d_{33} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z}-\mu_{33} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z}
\end{gather*}
$$

$$
\begin{gather*}
\frac{\partial T_{L}}{\partial z}-\lambda^{2} T_{M}=0 \\
\frac{\partial T_{M}}{\partial z}-\lambda^{2} c_{11} U_{M}+c_{13} \frac{\partial U_{L}}{\partial z}+e_{31} \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial z}+q_{31} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z}=0 \\
\frac{\partial D_{L}}{\partial z}-\lambda^{2} e_{15}\left(\frac{\partial U_{M}}{\partial z}+U_{L}\right)+\lambda^{2} \varepsilon_{11} \Phi+\lambda^{2} d_{11} \Psi=0 \\
\frac{\partial B_{L}}{\partial z}-\lambda^{2} q_{15}\left(\frac{\partial U_{M}}{\partial z}+U_{L}\right)+\lambda^{2} d_{11} \Phi+\lambda^{2} \mu_{11} \Psi=0 \tag{9b}
\end{gather*}
$$

and in Group II they are

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial T_{N}}{\partial z}-\lambda^{2} c_{66} U_{N}=0 \quad T_{N}=c_{44} \frac{\partial U_{N}}{\partial z} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 3. Propagating matrix in each layer

The local coordinates will be used in this section. As mentioned before, due to the translation relationship between the global and local coordinates, equations (1)-(10) hold if the partial derivative $\partial / \partial z$ is replaced by $\partial / \partial \xi$.

It is easy to find the general solution of equation (10) in any layer (i.e. the $k$ th layer) using the local coordinates. The solution of Group II is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}(\xi)\right]=\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right] \operatorname{diag}\left[\mathrm{e}^{\lambda s_{k} \xi}, \mathrm{e}^{-\lambda s_{k} \xi}\right]\left[\mathbf{K}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right] \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{gather*}
{\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}(\xi)\right] \equiv\left[U_{N}^{k}(\xi), \quad T_{N}^{k}(\xi) / \lambda\right]^{\mathrm{T}}}  \tag{12}\\
{\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 & 1 \\
\bar{s}_{k} & -\bar{s}_{k}
\end{array}\right], \quad s_{k}=\sqrt{c_{66}^{k} / c_{44}^{k}},}  \tag{13}\\
\bar{s}_{k}=\sqrt{c_{44}^{k} c_{66}^{k}},
\end{gather*}
$$

and the subscript and superscript ' $k$ ' denotes the corresponding variables or coefficients in the $k$ th layer (e.g. $c_{44}^{k}$ and $c_{66}^{k}$ are the elastic constants of the $k$ th layer). Also in equation (11), [ $\left.\mathbf{K}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]$ is a $2 \times 1$ column matrix with the unknown coefficients being determined by the boundary/interface conditions. Actually, equation (11) can be equivalently expressed as

$$
\begin{align*}
& {\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}(\xi)\right]=\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right] \operatorname{diag}\left[\mathrm{e}^{\lambda s_{k}\left(\xi-h_{k}\right)}, \mathrm{e}^{-\lambda s_{k}\left(\xi-h_{k}\right)}\right]} \\
& \quad \times\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]^{-1}\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\left(h_{k}\right)\right] . \tag{14}
\end{align*}
$$

Assuming that the continuity conditions hold at the interface ( $z=z_{k-1}$ ) between the adjacent layers, we then have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}(0)\right]=\left[\mathbf{P}_{k-1}^{\mathrm{II}}\left(h_{k-1}\right)\right] . \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

Hence, the propagating relation between two adjacent layers is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[\mathbf{P}_{k-1}^{\mathrm{II}}\left(h_{k-1}\right)\right]=\left[\mathbf{a}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\left(h_{k}\right)\right] \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

with

$$
\left[\mathbf{a}_{k}^{\text {II }}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\cosh \left(\lambda s_{k} h_{k}\right) & -\sinh \left(\lambda s_{k} h_{k}\right) / \bar{s}_{k} \\
-\bar{s}_{k} \sinh \left(\lambda s_{k} h_{k}\right) & \cosh \left(\lambda s_{k} h_{k}\right)
\end{array}\right]
$$

being the propagator, or propagating matrix, which relates the components $U_{N}$ and $T_{N}$ at the two interfaces $z=z_{k-1}$ and $z_{k}$.

Similar to equation (12), we define, for Group II,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right] \equiv\left[U_{L}^{k}, \lambda U_{M}^{k}, T_{L}^{k} / \lambda, T_{M}^{k}, \Phi^{k}, \Psi^{k}, D_{L}^{k} / \lambda, B_{L}^{k} / \lambda\right]^{\mathrm{T}} . \tag{17}
\end{equation*}
$$

Then equations (9) can be expressed as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}(\xi)\right]_{, z}=\lambda\left[\mathbf{W}_{k}\right]\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}(\xi)\right] \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\left[\mathbf{W}_{k}\right.$ ] is an $8 \times 8$ matrix and its nonzero elements are listed in the appendix. It should be noted that the matrix [ $\mathbf{W}_{k}$ ] depends only on the material constants of the $k$ th layer; in other words, it is independent of the vertical coordinate $z$ or $\xi$ and the transformation variables $m$ and $\lambda$. Hence, the general solution of equation (18) can be assumed as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}(\xi)\right]=\left[\mathbf{b}^{k}\right] \exp \left(\lambda \nu^{k} \xi\right) \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

Substituting equation (19) into (18), we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\{\left[\mathbf{W}_{k}\right]-v^{k}[\mathbf{I}]\right\}\left[\mathbf{b}^{k}\right]=0 \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

where [ $\mathbf{I}$ ] is an $8 \times 8$ identity matrix. Obviously, the eigenvalues $\nu_{i}^{k}(i=1,2, \ldots, 8)$ and corresponding eigenvectors $\mathbf{b}_{i}^{k}(i=$ $1,2, \ldots, 8$ ) of equation (20) depend on the property of the matrix $\left[\mathbf{W}_{k}\right]$. Assuming that the eigenvalues are distinct, the general solution of equation (19) can be expressed as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}(\xi)\right]=\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left\langle\mathrm{e}^{\lambda v_{*}^{k} \xi}\right\rangle\left[\mathbf{K}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right] \tag{21}
\end{equation*}
$$

with
$\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]=\left[\mathbf{b}_{1}^{k}, \mathbf{b}_{2}^{k}, \mathbf{b}_{3}^{k}, \mathbf{b}_{4}^{k}, \mathbf{b}_{5}^{k}, \mathbf{b}_{6}^{k}, \mathbf{b}_{7}^{k}, \mathbf{b}_{8}^{k}\right]$
$\left\langle\mathrm{e}^{\lambda \nu_{*}^{k} \xi}\right\rangle$
$=\operatorname{diag}\left[\mathrm{e}^{\lambda v_{1}^{k} \xi}, \mathrm{e}^{\lambda \nu_{2}^{k} \xi}, \mathrm{e}^{\lambda v_{3}^{k} \xi}, \mathrm{e}^{\lambda \nu_{4}^{k} \xi}, \mathrm{e}^{\lambda v_{5}^{k} \xi}, \mathrm{e}^{\lambda \nu_{6}^{k} \xi}, \mathrm{e}^{\lambda v_{7}^{k} \xi}, \mathrm{e}^{\lambda \nu_{8}^{k} \xi}\right]$
where $\left[\mathbf{K}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]$ is an $8 \times 1$ coefficient matrix to be determined by the interface and/or boundary conditions.

Similar to Group I, we can derive

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[\mathbf{P}_{k-1}^{\mathrm{I}}\left(h_{k-1}\right)\right]=\left[\mathbf{a}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\left(h_{k}\right)\right] \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

with

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[\mathbf{a}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]=\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left\langle\mathrm{e}^{-\lambda v_{*}^{k} h_{k}}\right\rangle\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]^{-1} \tag{24}
\end{equation*}
$$

being the propagator or propagating matrix which connects the values $\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]$ at the two interfaces $z=z_{k-1}$ and $z_{k}$.

We can now propagate the propagating relations (16) and (23) from the bottom layer to the top. By further making use of equations (11) and (21) for the homogeneous half space (i.e. the last layer), we obtain the following important relations in the transformed domain

$$
\begin{align*}
{\left[\mathbf{P}_{0}^{\mathrm{I}}(0)\right]=\left[\mathbf{a}_{1}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left[\mathbf{a}_{2}^{\mathrm{I}}\right] \cdots\left[\mathbf{a}_{n-1}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left[\mathbf{B}_{n}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left[\mathbf{K}_{n}^{\mathrm{I}}\right] } & \equiv\left[\Pi^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left[\mathbf{K}_{n}^{\mathrm{I}}\right] \\
{\left[\mathbf{P}_{0}^{\mathrm{II}}(0)\right]=\left[\mathbf{a}_{1}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]\left[\mathbf{a}_{2}^{\mathrm{II}}\right] \cdots\left[\mathbf{a}_{n-1}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]\left[\mathbf{B}_{n}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]\left[\mathbf{K}_{n}^{\mathrm{II}}\right] } & \equiv\left[\Pi^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left[\mathbf{K}_{n}^{\mathrm{II}}\right] \tag{25}
\end{align*}
$$

where $n$ denotes the last layer and 0 the surface layer. Equation (25) may be recast into

$$
\left[\begin{array}{c}
\mathbf{P}^{\mathrm{I}}(0)  \tag{26}\\
\mathbf{P}^{\mathrm{II}}(0)
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\boldsymbol{\Pi}^{\mathrm{I}} & \mathbf{0} \\
\mathbf{0} & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\mathbf{K}_{n}^{\mathrm{I}} \\
\mathbf{K}_{n}^{\mathrm{II}}
\end{array}\right]
$$

with the unknown coefficients $\left[\mathbf{K}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]$ and $\left[\mathbf{K}_{n}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]$ being determined by the boundary conditions at the surface and the requirement that the solution is finite in the homogeneous half space, as discussed below.

## 4. Solutions in transformed and physical domains

Applying equations (11) and (21) to the last layer, i.e. the $n$th layer made of the homogeneous half space, and considering the requirement that the solution should vanish as $z$ or $\xi$ approaches $+\infty$, we find that the undetermined coefficient matrices should have the following structure

$$
\begin{align*}
{\left[\mathbf{K}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]=} & {\left[0,0,0,0, p_{1}, p_{2}, p_{3}, p_{4}\right]^{\mathrm{T}} } \\
& {\left[\mathbf{K}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
0, & p_{5}
\end{array}\right]^{\mathrm{T}} } \tag{27}
\end{align*}
$$

where $p_{i}(i=1-5)$ are the unknown coefficients to be determined. These five unknown coefficients can be determined by using the surface boundary conditions at $z=0$.

Under a uniform vertical load within a circle of radius $a$ as in figure 1, the mechanical boundary conditions on the surface are

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
\sigma_{z z}(r, \theta, 0) & =q, & & r \in[0, a] \\
\sigma_{z z}(r, \theta, 0) & =0, & & r \in(a, \infty)  \tag{28}\\
\sigma_{r z}(r, \theta, 0)=0, & & r \in[0, \infty) \\
\sigma_{\theta z}(r, \theta, 0)=0, & & r \in[0, \infty) .
\end{array}
$$

The electric and magnetic boundary conditions are

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
D_{z}(r, \theta, 0)=0, & r \in[0, \infty)  \tag{29}\\
B_{z}(r, \theta, 0)=0, & r \in[0, \infty)
\end{array}
$$

Based on the inverse transform of equation (7), equations (28) and (29) can be transformed into

$$
\begin{gather*}
T_{L}(0)=\frac{\sqrt{2 \pi} a}{\lambda} J_{1}(a \lambda)  \tag{30}\\
T_{M}(0)=T_{N}(0)=D_{L}(0)=B_{L}(0)=0
\end{gather*}
$$

Substituting equation (30) into (26), we arrive at five equations with the five unknown coefficients in equation (27) being included, i.e.

$$
\begin{align*}
& {\left[\begin{array}{ccccc}
\Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(3,5) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(3,6) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(3,7) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(3,8) & 0 \\
\Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(4,5) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(4,6) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(4,7) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(3,8) & 0 \\
\Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(7,5) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(7,6) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(7,7) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(7,8) & 0 \\
\Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(8,5) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(8,6) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(8,7) & \Pi^{\mathrm{II}}(8,8) & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \Pi^{\mathrm{I}}(2,2)
\end{array}\right]} \\
& \quad \times\left[\begin{array}{c}
p_{1} \\
p_{2} \\
p_{3} \\
p_{4} \\
p_{5}
\end{array}\right]=\sqrt{2 \pi}\left[\begin{array}{c}
\frac{a}{\lambda^{2}} J_{1}(a \lambda) \\
0 \\
0 \\
0 \\
0
\end{array}\right] . \tag{31}
\end{align*}
$$

Therefore, from equation (31), one can easily solve the coefficients $p_{i}(i=1-5)$. With these coefficients, solutions at any $z$-level or any interface $\left(z=z_{k}\right)$ can be solved. For instance, the solution at any interface $\left(z=z_{k}\right)$ in the transformed domain can be expressed exactly as

$$
\begin{align*}
{\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\left(z_{k}\right)\right] } & =\left[\mathbf{a}_{k+1}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left[\mathbf{a}_{k+2}^{\mathrm{I}}\right] \cdots\left[\mathbf{a}_{n-1}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left[\mathbf{B}_{n}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left[\mathbf{K}_{n}^{\mathrm{I}}\right] \\
{\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\left(z_{k}\right)\right] } & =\left[\mathbf{a}_{k+1}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]\left[\mathbf{a}_{k+2}^{\mathrm{II}}\right] \cdots\left[\mathbf{a}_{n-1}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]\left[\mathbf{B}_{n}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]\left[\mathbf{K}_{n}^{\mathrm{II}}\right] \tag{32}
\end{align*}
$$

Table 1. Nonzero material coefficients of the piezoelectric $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3}$ $\left(c_{i j}\right.$ in $10^{9} \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{~m}^{-2}, e_{i j}$ in $\mathrm{C} \mathrm{m}^{-2}, \varepsilon_{i j}$ in $10^{-9} \mathrm{C}^{2} \mathrm{~N}^{-1} \mathrm{~m}^{-2}, \mu_{i j}$ in $10^{-6} \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{~s}^{2} \mathrm{C}^{-2}$ ).

| $c_{11}$ | $c_{12}$ | $c_{13}$ | $c_{33}$ | $c_{44}$ | $\mu_{11}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 166 | 77 | 78 | 162 | 43 | 5 |
| $e_{31}$ | $e_{33}$ | $e_{15}$ | $\varepsilon_{11}$ | $\varepsilon_{33}$ | $\mu_{33}$ |
| -4.4 | 18.6 | 11.6 | 11.2 | 12.6 | 10 |

and the solutions at any vertical level within, say the $k$ th layer, are

$$
\begin{gather*}
{\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}(\xi)\right]=\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]\left\langle\mathrm{e}^{\lambda v_{*}^{k}\left(\xi-h_{k}\right)}\right\rangle\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]^{-1}\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\left(z_{k}\right)\right]} \\
{\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}(\xi)\right]=\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right] \operatorname{diag}\left[\mathrm{e}^{\lambda s_{k}\left(\xi-h_{k}\right)}, \mathrm{e}^{-\lambda s_{k}\left(\xi-h_{k}\right)}\right]\left[\mathbf{B}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]^{-1}\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\left(z_{k}\right)\right] .} \tag{33}
\end{gather*}
$$

Recalling the definition for $\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{I}}\right]$ and $\left[\mathbf{P}_{k}^{\mathrm{II}}\right]$, together with equations (33), we can obtain the elastic displacements and electric and magnetic potentials in the transformed domain. Based on equations (8), the stress field and electric and magnetic fields can also be determined.

The exact solutions obtained above in the transformed domain need to be transformed inversely back to the physical domain. The general transform expression for any given vector function $f$ is
$\mathbf{f}(r, \theta, z)=\sum_{m} \int_{0}^{+\infty}\left[F_{L}(z, \lambda, m) \mathbf{L}+F_{M}(z, \lambda, m) \mathbf{M}\right.$
$\left.\quad+F_{N}(z, \lambda, m) \mathbf{N}\right] \lambda \mathrm{d} \lambda$
where $\boldsymbol{f}(r, \theta, z)$ denotes the function in the physical domain, $F_{L}, F_{M}$, and $F_{N}$ denote the corresponding components in the transformed domain.

Using equation (34), together with equations (33), (6), and (7), the solution in the physical domain can be derived. Generally, due to the complicated properties of the layered structure such as material anisotropy and coupling among elastic, electric, and magnetic fields, numerical integrations are needed in order to obtain the solution in the physical domain. The numerical integral is carried out based on an adaptive numerical quadrature scheme (see, e.g. Pan and Han 2005).

## 5. Numerical results and analyses

In our numerical studies, the layered magneto-electro-elastic half space is made of two transversely isotropic materials. The first layer is piezoelectric material $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3}$ and the second layer (i.e. the half space) is piezomagnetic material $\mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$. Their material properties are given in tables 1 and 2 (Pan 2001). The uniform vertical surface load is $q=1 \mathrm{MPa}$ and the radius of the loading circle is $a=1 \mathrm{~m}$. The thickness of the first layer is $h_{1}=1 \mathrm{~m}$ (unless it is redefined) and the thickness of the second layer is $h_{2} \rightarrow+\infty$. Numerical results are shown in figures 2-8.

### 5.1. Elastic displacements and electric and magnetic potentials

Due to the axial symmetry, the displacements in any symmetric plane are the same. Their contours in the $(r, z)$-plane are


Figure 2. Contours of displacements (in $\mu \mathrm{m}$ ) in the ( $r, z$ )-plane in a two-layered $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3} / \mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ half space under the uniform vertical load $q=1 \mathrm{MPa}$ over the circle of radius $a=1 \mathrm{~m}$. The radial displacement is $u_{r}$ in (a) and the vertical displacement is $u_{z}$ in (b).

Table 2. Nonzero material coefficients of the magnetostrictive $\mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}\left(c_{i j}\right.$ in $10^{9} \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{~m}^{-2}, e_{i j}$ in $\mathrm{C} \mathrm{m}^{-2}, \varepsilon_{i j}$ in $10^{-9} \mathrm{C}^{2} \mathrm{~N}^{-1} \mathrm{~m}^{-2}$, $\mu_{i j}$ in $10^{-6} \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{~s}^{2} \mathrm{C}^{-2}$ ).

| $c_{11}$ | $c_{12}$ | $c_{13}$ | $c_{33}$ | $c_{44}$ | $\mu_{11}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 286 | 173 | 170.5 | 269.5 | 45.3 | 590 |
| $q_{31}$ | $q_{33}$ | $q_{15}$ | $\varepsilon_{11}$ | $\varepsilon_{33}$ | $\mu_{33}$ |
| 580.3 | 699.7 | 550 | 0.08 | 0.093 | 157 |

shown in figure 2 . The radial displacement $u_{r}$ is shown in figure 2(a) and vertical displacement $u_{z}$ in figure 2(b). It is interesting to note that $u_{z}$ is always positive in our calculation region, and decreases with increasing distance from the loading region. Its maximum (about $14 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) is obtained at the center of the loading circle, i.e. at point $(r, z)=$ $(0,0)$ (figure 2(b)). Different from the positive feature of $u_{z}$, the radial displacement $u_{r}$ in figure 2(a) is negative in the region near the loading surface and positive outside. In


Figure 3. Contours of the electric potential $\phi$ (in kV ) in the $(r, z)$-plane in a two-layered $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3} / \mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ half space under the uniform vertical load $q=1 \mathrm{MPa}$ over the circle of radius $a=1 \mathrm{~m}$.


Figure 4. Contours of the magnetic potential $\psi\left(\right.$ in $\mathrm{V} \mathrm{s} \mathrm{m}^{-1}$ ) in the $(r, z)$-plane in a two-layered $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3} / \mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ half space under the uniform vertical load $q=1 \mathrm{MPa}$ over the circle of radius $a=1 \mathrm{~m}$.
other words, under the uniform vertical load, the structure contracts at and near the loading region, and expands outside. The minimum radial displacement is about $-2.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ at point $(r, z)=(1 \mathrm{~m}, 0)$, while its maximum is about $0.84 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ at point $(r, z)=(1 \mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{~m})$. The radial displacement $u_{r}$ is zero along the $z$-axis in figure $2(a)$, which satisfies the symmetric condition of the problem. The densities of the displacement contours near the surface are larger than those far from the surface, which means that the elastic stress and strain fields in the region near the surface are larger than those in the far region.

Contours of the electric and magnetic potentials are shown, respectively, in figures 3 and 4. The electric potential decreases with increasing distance from the loading region, and its maximum is at the center of the loading circle on the surface. It is found that the density of the electric potential is quite


(a)

(b)

Figure 5. Contours of the stresses (in MPa) in the $(r, z)$-plane in a two-layered $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3} / \mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ half space under the uniform vertical load $q=1 \mathrm{MPa}$ over the circle of radius $a=1 \mathrm{~m} ; \sigma_{r z}$ in (a) and $\sigma_{z z}$ in (b).
low in the second (i.e. the half space) layer with very small magnitudes. This phenomenon is due to the fact that in the half space, the piezoelectric and dielectric constants are small as compared to those in the surface layer. While the electric potential reaches its maximum value on the loading surface, the magnetic potential obtains its maximum at the interface $z=1 \mathrm{~m}$ (figure 4). The maximum magnetic potential of 9.6 A is reached at point $(r, z)=(0,1 \mathrm{~m})$. The tangents of these contours are all horizontal when $r=0$ (figures 3 and 4), consistent with the symmetry of the problem.

### 5.2. Stresses, electric fields, and magnetic inductions

Contours of the stresses, electric fields, and magnetic inductions in the vertical $(r, z)$-plane are shown in figures 57. According to the boundary condition on the surface, the vertical normal stress $\sigma_{z z}$ on the surface should equal the applied load $q$ inside the loading region and zero outside. The relative difference between the applied exact value and our numerical results is less than $10^{-5}$, and therefore the


Figure 6. Contours of the electric fields (in $\mathrm{kV} \mathrm{m}^{-1}$ ) in the $(r, z)$-plane in a two-layered $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3} / \mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ half space under the uniform vertical load $q=1 \mathrm{MPa}$ over the circle of radius $a=1 \mathrm{~m}$; $E_{r}$ in (a) and $E_{z}$ in (b).
boundary conditions are satisfied. The continuity of the traction ( $\sigma_{r z}, \sigma_{z z}$ ) across the interface is also demonstrated in figure 5. Furthermore, the shear stress in figure 5(a) shows a concentration below the surface near the edge of the loading circle with a maximum of about 0.27 MPa . The normal stress $\sigma_{z z}$ in figure 5(b) reaches its extreme magnitude of 1 MPa on the surface and gradually relaxes with increasing distance from the loading region.

The contours of the electric fields $E_{r}$ and $E_{z}$ are shown in figure 6. It is observed that the magnitude of the electric field in the second layer is much smaller than that in the first layer, with more than two orders of difference. This phenomenon is due to the non-piezoelectricity and low permeability of the second layer. Since $e_{i j}=0$ and $d_{i j}=0$ in the second layer, there will be no elastic- and magnetic-induced electric field in this layer. On the other hand, our numerical results (figure 6) show that electric field does exist in the second layer. Hence it is concluded that the electric field in the second layer is induced by the electric field in the first layer, i.e. the interplay of the


Figure 7. Contours of the magnetic inductions (in mT ) in the $(r, z)$-plane in a two-layered $\mathrm{BaTiO}_{3} / \mathrm{CoFe}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ half space under the uniform vertical load $q=1 \mathrm{MPa}$ over the circle of radius $a=1 \mathrm{~m}$; $B_{r}$ in (a) and $B_{z}$ in (b).
electric field between the adjacent layers is demonstrated. This is actually the product property in this novel composite where the mechanical strain serves as a bridge between the electric and magnetic fields.

Similarly, because of the non-piezomagnetic property (i.e. $q_{i j}=0$ ) and non-magneto-electric coupling (i.e. $d_{i j}=0$ ) in the first layer, the magnetic induction in the first layer is induced by the magnetic induction in the second layer. This indicates the interplay of the magnetic field between the two adjacent layers. As shown in figure 7, the magnetic induction in the first layer is much smaller than that in the second layer. It is interesting that while $B_{r}$ decreases with increasing distance from the interface (figure 7(a)), there is a maximum magnitude of 0.30 mT in $B_{z}$ at $(r, z)=(0,1.55 \mathrm{~m})$ (figure $7(\mathrm{~b})$ ).

### 5.3. Influence of layer thickness

The influence of the thickness of the surface layer on the stress, electric field, and magnetic induction at the interface
is investigated. Numerical results are shown in figure 8 for two points on the interface ( $r / a=0$ and 1 ).

The magnitude of the vertical normal stress $\sigma_{z z}$ at the interface in general decreases with increasing thickness of the surface layer (figure 8(a)). However, when the thickness is thin enough, the stress $\sigma_{z z}$ at the interface and below the loading center $(r / a=0)$ behaves abnormally. For example, it reaches its maximum magnitude 1.02 MPa when $h / a=0.26$. Such a thickness of the surface layer may be called the critical thickness of the stress, denoted by $h_{\mathrm{cr}}^{\sigma}$. Thus, when $0<h<$ $h_{\mathrm{cr}}^{\sigma}$, the magnitude of the interfacial stress below the load center increases with increasing layer thickness.

Figure 8(b) shows the variation of the interfacial electric field $E_{z}$ versus the normalized thickness of the first layer $h / a$. Compared to the vertical normal stress $\sigma_{z z}$ in figure 8(a), the distribution of $E_{z}$ is much more complicated. (1) This vertical electric field is discontinuous across the interface. Its magnitude is much smaller in the surface layer (i.e. layer 1) than that in the half space (i.e. layer 2). (2) Even though the interfacial electric field is small in the surface layer, a critical thickness of the surface layer also exists. In other words, the electric field $E_{z}$ will first increase its magnitude with increasing $h / a$. Once it reaches the maximum magnitude, it will decrease. For instance, the magnitudes for $r / a=0$ and 1 are, respectively, $E_{z \text { max }}=1.13 \mathrm{kV} \mathrm{m}^{-1}$ and $1.375 \mathrm{kV} \mathrm{m}^{-1}$ when $h / a=0.055$ and 0.08 . (3) The interfacial electric field $E_{z}$ in the surface layer will change sign (from negative to positive) at a certain $h / a$ ratio, and tends to zero gradually with increasing $h / a$. The interfacial electric field $E_{z}$ is much larger in layer 2 (i.e. in the half space). It first decreases with increasing $h / a$. Once it reaches a minimum (at $h / a$ very close to zero), it increases with $h / a$. After reaching its maximum, it then gradually decreases to zero with increasing $h / a$.

Variation of the interfacial magnetic induction $B_{z}$ is shown in figure 8(c). The interfacial magnetic induction has the same negative sign and reaches its maximum magnitude at $h / a=$ 0.78 and $h / a=1.12$, respectively, for $r / a=0$ and 1 (with magnitudes $4.8 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{~T}$ for $r / a=0$ and $1.86 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{~T}$ for $r / a=1$ ). After reaching its minimum, the magnetic induction will gradually decay to zero with increasing $h / a$.

## 6. Conclusions

In this paper, the magneto-electro-elastic responses of the layered multiferroic structure under uniform vertical circular load are presented. The semi-analytical solutions are obtained by means of the vector functions and the corresponding propagator matrix method. Numerical analyses for two-layered structures are carried out. The coupling effects among the elastic, electric, and magnetic fields are demonstrated. Two interesting phenomena are found in the calculated structures. One is the coupling effect between the adjacent layers, i.e. the magnetic fields (electric field) in the first layer can be induced by those in the second layer, even if the first layer has no piezomagnetic (piezoelectric) properties. The other is that an abnormal phenomenon will happen when the thickness of the surface layer is ultrathin. Since the field at the interface often plays a significant role in fracture analysis, these


Figure 8. Field quantities at the interface $(r / a=0$ and $r / a=1)$ versus the thickness of the surface layer $h / a$ : $\sigma_{z z}$ versus $h / a$ in (a), $E_{z}$ versus $h / a$ in (b), and $B_{z}$ versus $h / a$ in (c).
interesting phenomena may provide future guidance for the coating design. We further point out that the proposed solution should be useful to the corresponding indentation problem and to the arbitrary surface loading case.

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## Appendix

The nonzero components of the matrix $\left[\mathbf{W}_{k}\right]$ in equation (18) for the given layer $k$ are
$W_{12}=$
$\frac{c_{13} d_{33}^{2}+d_{33} e_{33} q_{31}+d_{33} e_{31} q_{33}-q_{31} q_{33} \varepsilon_{33}-\left(e_{31} e_{33}+c_{13} \varepsilon_{33}\right) \mu_{33}}{Q}$
$W_{13}=\frac{d_{33}^{2}-\varepsilon_{33} \mu_{33}}{Q}, \quad W_{17}=\frac{d_{33} q_{33}-e_{33} \mu_{33}}{Q}$,
$W_{18}=\frac{d_{33} e_{33}-q_{33} \varepsilon_{33}}{Q}, \quad W_{21}=-1, \quad W_{24}=\frac{1}{c_{44}}$,
$W_{25}=-\frac{e_{15}}{c_{44}}, \quad W_{26}=-\frac{q_{15}}{c_{44}}, \quad W_{34}=1$
$W_{52}=$
$\frac{q_{33}\left(c_{13} d_{33}-e_{33} q_{31}+e_{31} q_{33}\right)-c_{13} e_{33} \mu_{33}+c_{33}\left(e_{31} \mu_{33}-d_{33} q_{31}\right)}{Q}$,
$W_{53}=\frac{d_{33} q_{33}-e_{33} \mu_{33}}{Q}, \quad W_{57}=\frac{c_{33} \mu_{33}+q_{33}^{2}}{Q}$,
$W_{58}=-\frac{c_{33} d_{33}+e_{33} q_{33}}{Q}$,
$W_{62}=$
$\frac{e_{33}\left(c_{13} d_{33}+e_{33} q_{31}-e_{31} q_{33}\right)-c_{13} q_{33} \varepsilon_{33}-c_{33}\left(d_{33} e_{31}-q_{31} \varepsilon_{33}\right)}{Q}$,
$W_{63}=\frac{e_{33} d_{33}-q_{33} \varepsilon_{33}}{Q}, \quad W_{67}=W_{58}$,
$W_{68}=\frac{c_{33} \varepsilon_{33}+e_{33} e_{33}}{Q}, \quad W_{74}=\frac{e_{15}}{c_{44}}$,
$W_{75}=-\left(\frac{e_{15}^{2}}{c_{44}}+\varepsilon_{11}\right), \quad W_{76}=-\left(d_{11}+\frac{e_{15} q_{15}}{c_{44}}\right)$,
$W_{84}=\frac{q_{15}}{c_{44}}, \quad W_{85}=-\left(\frac{q_{15} e_{15}}{c_{44}}+d_{11}\right)$,
$W_{86}=-\left(\frac{q_{15}^{2}}{c_{44}}+\mu_{11}\right)$,
$W_{42}=c_{11}-c_{13} W_{12}-e_{31} W_{52}-q_{31} W_{62}$,
$W_{43}=-c_{13} W_{13}-e_{31} W_{53}-q_{31} W_{63}$,
$W_{47}=-c_{13} W_{17}-e_{31} W_{57}-q_{31} W_{67}$,
$W_{48}=-c_{13} W_{18}-e_{31} W_{58}-q_{31} W_{68}$
where

$$
Q=c_{33} d_{33}^{2}+2 d_{33} e_{33} q_{33}-q_{33}^{2} \varepsilon_{33}-\left(e_{33}^{2}+c_{33} \varepsilon_{33}\right) \mu_{33}
$$

and all the material properties are those corresponding to the $k$ th layer.

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