

1 **Temporal Homogenization Modeling of Viscoelastic Asphalt Concretes and Pavement Structures under Large**
2 **Numbers of Load Cycles**

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27 **ABSTRACT**

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29 This paper aims to introduce a highly efficient computational model compared to the current cycle-by-cycle
30 simulation strategy to compute the viscoelastic responses of asphalt concretes and pavement structures
31 under large numbers of cyclic loading. An explicit constitutive relation for viscoelastic solids in multiple
32 time scales was developed based on the temporal homogenization. The original initial-boundary value
33 problem was divided into a global part in the slow time scale and a local part in the fast time scale. Two
34 simulation studies were presented to validate the computational accuracy and efficiency of the proposed
35 model: (a) a cylindrical asphalt concrete subject to a uniaxial cyclic compression load; and (b) a pavement
36 structure subject to a locally cyclic loading. The laboratory test results and field measurements were
37 compared with the modeled responses to validate the models before comparing with the reference solutions.
38 Results indicate that the temporal homogenization-based viscoelastic model saves considerable
39 computational cost and maintains a satisfactory accuracy. The absolute values of relative error of the
40 modeled responses between the time homogenization and reference solutions are lower than 1% and 4%
41 for the cylindrical asphalt concrete and pavement structure under locally cyclic loadings, respectively.
42 Based on the proposed computational approach, only 4 minutes are needed to model the response of a
43 cylindrical asphalt concrete subject to 10^4 repeated load cycles under a uniaxial compression load. The
44 computational time is reduced from 7 hours of the reference solution to 38 minutes of the temporal
45 homogenization solution to model 10^3 load cycles of a viscoelastic pavement structure.

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47 **AUTHOR KEYWORDS:** Temporal Homogenization; Asymptotic Analysis; Viscoelasticity; Cyclic
48 Loading; Asphalt Concrete; Asphalt Pavement

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53 **INTRODUCTION**

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55 Accurately predicting the long-term performance and obtaining the essential design criteria (e.g.,
56 rut depth and percent of the crack area) of asphalt pavements is one of the most significant challenges in
57 pavement engineering. In the past decades, considerable regressions and field calibrations were employed
58 to develop the empirical functions which transfer the mechanical responses at specific pavement positions
59 (e.g., the bottom of asphalt layer) to the long-term performance indices of asphalt pavements (Abdelfattah
60 et al. 2021; Tarefder and Rodriguez-Ruiz 2013). The approach above consists of the long-term performance
61 prediction of the mainstream pavement design method known as the Mechanistic-Empirical Pavement
62 Design Guide (MEPDG) (AASHTO 2020). In MEPDG, each pavement distress prediction model requires
63 inputting the responses calculated by the structural response model which is a multilayer elastic program
64 (Kim et al. 2007). As can be seen, the main drawbacks of the structural response model are: (a) unrealistic
65 to describe the complex mechanical behaviors (viscoelasticity, viscoplasticity, and continuum damage) of
66 asphalt concretes; and (b) unable to provide the accurate stress state at each load cycle.

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68 The current pavement performance models in MEPDG were proposed 30 years ago; thus, the main
69 obstacles for developing a pure mechanistic design method at that time were the lack of advanced
70 computing platforms and efficient computational approaches (Lytton et al. 1993). From the perspective of
71 constitutive modeling of asphalt pavements, the asphalt concrete is regarded as a viscoelastic material and
72 its constitutive relation is usually described via the convolutional integrations (Kim 2009). Time integration
73 algorithms are needed when one is trying to model the mechanical responses of asphalt pavements using
74 finite element (FE) modeling. In this case, obtaining the pavement long-term (e.g., 20 years) responses is
75 impossible based on the conventional time-domain computation, as the time steps in FE modeling are of
76 the order of seconds. From the perspective of initial-boundary value problems (IBVPs) for asphalt
77 pavements, the vehicle load is usually simplified as a cyclic loading input with a haversine waveform,
78 which means the time steps in the FE modeling need to be small enough to capture the rapid variations of

79 mechanical responses within each load cycle. Over millions of load cycles need to be modeled to obtain the
80 long-term performance of asphalt pavements; thus, the required computational resources are almost
81 unaffordable even for a high-performance computing platform.

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83 An ideal approach for predicting the long-term pavement performance is to conduct the cycle-by-
84 cycle modeling of pavement responses, as the permanent deformation and structural damage are intimately
85 associated with the stress state at each load cycle. Different methods have been utilized to improve the
86 modeling efficiency of pavement responses, including using a 2D plane strain model or a semi-analytical
87 FE modeling (Chen et al. 2017; Shen et al. 2022). However, it is still unknown if the methods above can
88 provide the pavement responses under a large number of load cycles within an acceptable computing time.
89 Another method for pavement long-term performance prediction was developed by the North Carolina State
90 University (NCSU) (Eslaminia et al. 2012; Eslaminia and Guddati 2016). Compared to the MEPDG, this
91 method uses a layered viscoelastic continuum damage (LVECD) program for calculating the pavement
92 responses and damage conditions, while still requiring an extrapolation scheme so that the millions of load
93 cycles can be reduced to the hundred independent analyses.

94

95 The above approaches are usually used in the asphalt pavement engineering for the long-term
96 pavement performance prediction. However, modeling the mechanical responses of solids under large
97 numbers of cyclic loading is widely needed in the field of solid mechanics (Lemaitre and Desmorat 2005).
98 Many methods have been proposed for handling the long-term mechanical response modeling of different
99 materials with varying constitutive relations (e.g., cement concretes, polymers, metals, and biomaterials),
100 including the large time increments (LATIN) method, cycle jump, and temporal homogenization (Cognard
101 and Ladevèze 1993; Cojocaru and Karlsson 2006; Devulder et al. 2010). The key concept of the above
102 computational methods is to apply a large time increment and separate the IBVP into a global and a local
103 one via numerical approximations. The idea seems intuitive as modeling the mechanical response evolution
104 of solids under large numbers of cyclic loading is indeed a multiscale problem in the time domain, as it

105 involves the slow evolution in the long term and the fast variations in the short term. The temporal
106 homogenization method inserts the numerical approximation formula into the material constitutive relations,
107 while the other two methods require an external extrapolation algorithm and the balance between the
108 computational efficiency and accuracy highly depends on the user-defined extrapolation scheme. Thus, this
109 paper selects the temporal homogenization method to model the long-term mechanical responses of asphalt
110 pavements, although all three methods have good computational gain. This paper is one of the few attempts
111 in the pavement engineering field to apply the temporal homogenization method for modeling the pavement
112 long-term mechanical responses with a focus on the viscoelastic modeling (Behnke et al. 2019; Behnke and
113 Kaliske 2018). By successfully implementing a mechanistic framework for the long-term pavement
114 performance prediction, the pavement design can more rely on the material inherent properties instead of
115 using redundant empirical transfer functions.

116

117 In summary, this paper focuses on introducing a highly efficient computational model based on the
118 temporal homogenization to predict the long-term mechanical responses of the viscoelastic asphalt
119 concretes and pavement structures. This paper is organized as follows. The next section details the
120 fundamentals and formula of the temporal homogenization method and its implementation in the
121 constitutive relations of viscoelastic solids (asphalt concrete is taken as a verification example). The
122 following section presents the modeling scenarios including a cylindrical asphalt concrete sample and a
123 pavement structure and shows the validation results of the temporal homogenization and reference
124 solutions. Conclusions and recommendations are summarized in the last section.

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131 **METHODOLOGIES**

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133 **Fundamentals of Temporal Homogenization Method**

134

135 The temporal homogenization method was proposed based on the asymptotic analysis/series, a
136 mathematical approximation for describing limiting behaviors. It is a direct extension of the spatial
137 homogenization which definition is shown as follows. If the period of the structure is small compared to
138 the size of the region in which the system is to be studied, then an asymptotic analysis is called for: to obtain
139 an asymptotic expansion of the solution in terms of a small parameter ζ which is the ratio of the period of
140 the structure to a typical length in the region. In other words, to obtain by systematic expansion procedures
141 the passage from a microscopic description to a macroscopic description of the behavior of the system
142 (Bensoussan et al. 1978; Guennouni 1988; Yu and Fish 2002a). To solve the above problems, using the
143 multiple (time or space) scales to construct the asymptotic expansion is one of the solutions.

144

145 Based on the descriptions above, the temporal homogenization method is used to address the IBVPs
146 with rapidly varying periodic loading via two time scales. One is measuring the evolutions within the entire
147 loading time (in the slow time scale), and the other is measuring the variations within one load cycle (in the
148 fast time scale). The following content details the concepts and formula of temporal homogenization.

149

150 First of all, two time scales and a scaling parameter are introduced as shown in **Figure 1**, which
151 has been proposed in the literature (Yu and Fish 2002a). For the viscoelastic materials under periodically
152 cyclic loading, an intrinsic time t_r is related to its relaxation time; it serves as the characteristic length of
153 the slow time scale t and describes a relatively long-term behavior compared to a single period of loading.
154 **Equation 1** shows the definition of t_r (Yu and Fish 2002b). The period of external loading denoted by τ_0
155 serves as the characteristic time length of the fast time scale τ , describing the rapidly varying behavior
156 within each load cycle. To characterize the fast-varying features of response fields (stress, strain, and

157 displacement) induced by the locally periodic loading, a small positive scaling parameter ζ is defined in
 158 **Equation 2** so that the fast time scale τ can be defined via **Equation 3**. With the τ -periodicity assumption,
 159 all the response fields ϕ can be described using **Equation 4**. The first-order time differentiation of the
 160 response fields can be written as **Equation 5** according to the chain rule.

$$161 \quad t_r = O\{\|\mathbf{V}_{ijkl}\|/\|\mathbf{L}_{ijkl}\|\} \quad (1)$$

162 where t_r is the material intrinsic time that accounts for the slow time scale; $\|*\|$ is the norm of $*$; \mathbf{V}_{ijkl} is
 163 the component of viscosity tensor; and \mathbf{L}_{ijkl} is the component of elastic stiffness tensor.

$$164 \quad \zeta = \tau_0/t_r, \quad \zeta \ll 1 \quad (2)$$

165 where ζ is the scaling parameter for differentiating the two time scales; τ_0 and t_r are the characteristic
 166 lengths of the fast time scale and slow time scale.

$$167 \quad \tau = t/\zeta \quad (3)$$

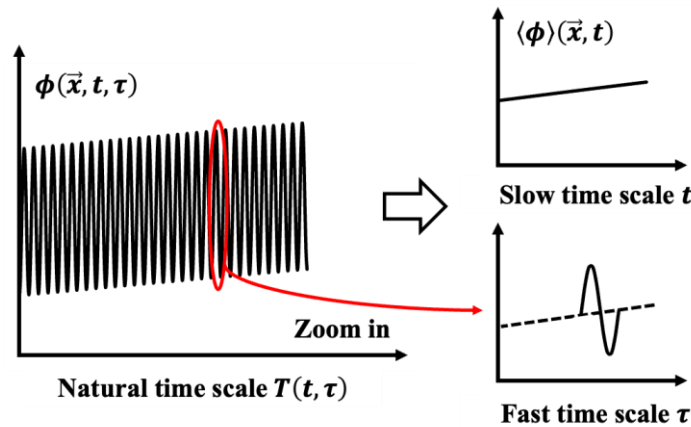
168 where τ is the fast time scale and t is the slow time scale.

$$169 \quad \phi^s(\vec{x}, T) = \phi(\vec{x}, t, \tau) = \phi(\vec{x}, t, \tau + k\tau_0), k \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (4)$$

170 where \vec{x} denotes the position vector in space; T is the observation time in the natural time scale: $T = T(t, \tau)$;
 171 ϕ^s is the response field in the natural time scale; and ϕ is the response field in the combination of slow
 172 time scale and fast time scale.

$$173 \quad \dot{\phi}^s = \phi_{,t} + \zeta^{-1}\phi_{,\tau} \quad (5)$$

174 where $\dot{\phi}^s = \frac{d\phi^s}{dT}$; $\phi_{,t} = \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial t}$; and $\phi_{,\tau} = \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial\tau}$.



175

176 **Figure 1.** Illustration of two time scales.

177

178 Secondly, another important concept of temporal homogenization is to use asymptotic expansion
 179 to represent each response field and achieve the decompositions of initial response fields which are in the
 180 natural time scale T . Supposing that every response field is periodic and the scaling parameter is small
 181 enough, ϕ^ζ can be expanded into an asymptotic series of powers of ζ , as shown in **Equation 6** (Haouala
 182 and Doghri 2015).

$$183 \quad \phi^\zeta = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n \phi^n(\vec{x}, t, \tau) \quad (6)$$

184 where ϕ^n are τ -periodic functions; for the ϕ^n , n denotes the order of terms in the expansion; for the ζ^n , n
 185 denotes the power. This asymptotic expansion of the response fields can be regarded as consisting of a
 186 leading term $\phi^0(\vec{x}, t, \tau)$, plus a series of terms with rapidly decreasing amplitude (Haouala and Doghri
 187 2015).

188

189 Thirdly, to decompose the initial response fields into a global (in the slow time scale) and a local
 190 (in the fast time scale) part, a temporal averaging operator $\langle \bullet \rangle$ on the τ -periodic response fields is introduced
 191 in **Equation 7**. As can be seen, all the response fields only depend on the slow time scale after conducting
 192 the temporal averaging transformation.

$$193 \quad \langle \phi \rangle(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{1}{\tau_0} \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\tau_0} \phi(\vec{x}, t, \tau) d\tau \quad (7)$$

194

195 Thus, the following decompositions for each response field can be obtained:

$$196 \quad \sigma_{ij}^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau) = \langle \sigma_{ij}^m \rangle(\vec{x}, t) + \Phi_{ij}^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau) \quad (8)$$

$$197 \quad \varepsilon_{ij}^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau) = \langle \varepsilon_{ij}^m \rangle(\vec{x}, t) + \Psi_{ij}^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau) \quad (9)$$

$$198 \quad \mathbf{u}_i^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau) = \langle \mathbf{u}_i^m \rangle(\vec{x}, t) + \chi_i^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau) \quad (10)$$

199 where $\sigma_{ij}^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau)$, $\varepsilon_{ij}^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau)$, and $\mathbf{u}_i^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau)$ are the stress, strain, and displacement fields for the original
 200 IBVP, respectively; $\langle \sigma_{ij}^m \rangle(\vec{x}, t)$, $\langle \varepsilon_{ij}^m \rangle(\vec{x}, t)$, and $\langle \mathbf{u}_i^m \rangle(\vec{x}, t)$ are the global part of the stress, strain, and

201 displacement fields in the slow time scale; $\Phi_{ij}^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau)$, $\Psi_{ij}^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau)$, and $\chi_i^m(\vec{x}, t, \tau)$ are the local part of
 202 the stress, strain, and displacement fields in the fast time scale.

203

204 Temporal Homogenization Formula for Asphalt Concretes

205

206 In this paper, an explicit constitutive relation of a solid-like generalized Maxwell model is used for
 207 describing the linear viscoelasticity of asphalt concretes, as shown in **Equations 11** and **12** (Zhang and
 208 Zhang 2023). The explicit constitutive equation is clearer and easier to use in writing the weak formula and
 209 time discretization in FE modeling.

$$210 \quad \sigma_{ij}^s = K_\infty \epsilon_{kk}^{s,ve} \delta_{ij} + 2G_\infty e_{ij}^{s,ve} + \sum_{m=1}^M \left[K_m (\epsilon_{kk}^{s,ve} - \epsilon_{kk}^{s,m,vi}) \delta_{ij} + 2G_m (e_{ij}^{s,ve} - e_{ij}^{s,m,vi}) \right] \quad (11)$$

$$211 \quad \begin{cases} a_T \tau_m \dot{\epsilon}_{kk}^{s,m,vi} + \epsilon_{kk}^{s,m,vi} - \epsilon_{kk}^{s,ve} = 0 \\ a_T \tau_m \dot{e}_{ij}^{s,m,vi} + e_{ij}^{s,m,vi} - e_{ij}^{s,ve} = 0 \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

212 where σ_{ij}^s is the stress tensor; $\epsilon_{kk}^{s,ve}$ and $e_{ij}^{s,ve}$ are the viscoelastic volumetric and deviatoric strains,
 213 respectively; $\epsilon_{kk}^{s,m,vi}$ and $e_{ij}^{s,m,vi}$ are the viscous volumetric and deviatoric strains resulted from the m^{th}
 214 dashpot ($m=1, 2, \dots, M$) in the generalized Maxwell model; K_∞ and G_∞ are the long-term equilibrium bulk
 215 and shear moduli; K_m and G_m are the components of the relaxation bulk and shear moduli; τ_m are the
 216 components of relaxation time; δ_{ij} is the Kronecker delta; and a_T is the time-temperature shift factor.

217

218 The asymptotically expanded formula of **Equations 11** and **12** can be written as follows based on
 219 **Equation 6**.

$$220 \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n \sigma_{ij}^n = K_\infty \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n \epsilon_{kk}^{n,ve} \delta_{ij} + 2G_\infty \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n e_{ij}^{n,ve} + \sum_{m=1}^M \left[K_m (\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n \epsilon_{kk}^{n,ve} - \right. \\ 221 \quad \left. \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n \epsilon_{kk}^{n,m,vi}) \delta_{ij} + 2G_m (\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n e_{ij}^{n,ve} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n e_{ij}^{n,m,vi}) \right] \quad (13)$$

$$222 \quad \begin{cases} a_T \tau_m \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n \dot{\epsilon}_{kk}^{n,m,vi} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n \epsilon_{kk}^{n,m,vi} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n \epsilon_{kk}^{n,ve} = 0 \\ a_T \tau_m \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n \dot{e}_{ij}^{n,m,vi} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n e_{ij}^{n,m,vi} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \zeta^n e_{ij}^{n,ve} = 0 \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

223

224 Here the idea is to equate the terms having the same power of ζ of **Equations 13** and **14** to obtain
 225 the different order of problems (Bhattacharyya et al. 2020).

226 *-1 order problem:*

227 Equate the terms having ζ^{-1} in **Equations 13** and **14**, then it yields:

$$228 \quad \begin{cases} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi}, \tau = 0 \\ \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi}, \tau = 0 \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

229

230 **Equation 15** means the zero-order terms of viscous volumetric and deviatoric strains for each

231 Maxwell brunch, $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi}$ and $\boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi}$, only depend on the slow time scale. Based on this finding and the

232 **Equations 7** and **9**, the following relations can be concluded:

$$233 \quad \begin{cases} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi} = \langle \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi} \rangle \\ \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi} = \langle \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi} \rangle \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

234 *0 order problem:*

235 Equate the terms without ζ in **Equations 13** and **14**, then it yields:

$$236 \quad \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{ij}^0 = K_\infty \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,ve} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij} + 2G_\infty \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,ve} + \sum_{m=1}^M [K_m (\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,ve} - \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi}) \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij} + 2G_m (\boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,ve} - \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi})] \quad (17)$$

$$237 \quad \begin{cases} a_T \tau_m (\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi}, t + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{1,m,vi}, \tau) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi} - \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,ve} = 0 \\ a_T \tau_m (\boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi}, t + \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{1,m,vi}, \tau) + \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi} - \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,ve} = 0 \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

238

239 The zero-order constitutive relation in the slow time scale is shown as follows by applying the

240 averaging operator defined in **Equation 7**.

$$241 \quad \langle \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{ij}^0 \rangle = K_\infty \langle \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,ve} \rangle \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij} + 2G_\infty \langle \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,ve} \rangle + \sum_{m=1}^M [K_m (\langle \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,ve} \rangle - \langle \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi} \rangle) \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij} + 2G_m (\langle \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,ve} \rangle - \langle \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi} \rangle)] \quad (19)$$

$$242 \quad \begin{cases} a_T \tau_m \langle \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi} \rangle, t + \langle \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,m,vi} \rangle - \langle \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{kk}^{0,ve} \rangle = 0 \\ a_T \tau_m \langle \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi} \rangle, t + \langle \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,m,vi} \rangle - \langle \boldsymbol{e}_{ij}^{0,ve} \rangle = 0 \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

243

244 The zero-order constitutive relation in the fast time scale is shown as follows based on **Equations**
 245 **8, 9, and 16 to 20.**

$$246 \quad \Phi_{ij}^0 = K_\infty \Psi_{kk}^{0,ve} \delta_{ij} + 2G_\infty e_{ij}^{0,ve} + \sum_{m=1}^M [K_m (\Psi_{kk}^{0,ve}) \delta_{ij} + 2G_m (e_{ij}^{0,ve})] \quad (21)$$

247

248 **Summary of The Initial-Boundary Value Problems**

249

250 Including the constitutive relations in **Equations 11 and 12, Table 1** summaries the IBVP for a
 251 linear viscoelastic solid. Here, \mathbf{b}_i is the body force; σ_{ij}^s and e_{ij}^s are the components of stress and strain
 252 tensors, respectively; u_i^s is the components of displacement vector; \tilde{u}_i is the initial displacement; \bar{u}_i and f_i
 253 are the prescribed displacement and traction, respectively; \mathbf{n}_i is the normal vector component on the
 254 boundary; T is the observation time in the natural time scale; τ_0 is the load period in the fast time scale; Ω
 255 denotes the spatial domain while Γ_u and Γ_f are the corresponding boundary portions where displacements
 256 \bar{u}_i and tractions f_i are prescribed.

257

258

259 **Table 1.** The initial-boundary value problem for a linear viscoelastic solid.

Principle	Formulation
Equilibrium equation	$\sigma_{ij,j} + \mathbf{b}_i(\vec{x}, t, \tau) = 0$ on $\Omega \times (0, T) \times (0, \tau_0)$
Constitutive equation	Equations 11 and 12
Kinematic equation	$e_{ij}^s = (\mathbf{u}_{i,j}^s + \mathbf{u}_{j,i}^s) / 2$ on $\Omega \times (0, T) \times (0, \tau_0)$
Initial condition	$\mathbf{u}_i^s(\vec{x}, t = \tau = 0) = \tilde{u}_i(\vec{x})$ on Ω
Boundary condition	$\mathbf{u}_i^s = \bar{u}_i(\vec{x}, t, \tau)$ on $\Gamma_u \times (0, T) \times (0, \tau_0)$
	$\sigma_{ij}^s \mathbf{n}_j = f_i(\vec{x}, t, \tau)$ on $\Gamma_f \times (0, T) \times (0, \tau_0)$

260

261 The IBVP in **Table 1** can be divided into the global and local IBVPs in the slow time scale and fast
 262 time scale, as shown in **Tables 2** and **3**. Each constitutive relation is obtained from the previous section.
 263 The transformation of the equilibrium equation, kinematic equation, initial condition, and boundary
 264 condition to the global and local parts can be found in the literature (Yu and Fish 2002a).

265

266 **Table 2.** The global initial-boundary value problem for a linear viscoelastic solid in the slow time scale.

Principle	Formulation
Equilibrium equation	$\langle \sigma_{ij}^0 \rangle_{,j} + \langle \bar{b}_i \rangle(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) = 0$ on $\Omega \times (0, T)$
Constitutive equation	Equations 19 and 20
Kinematic equation	$\langle \mathbf{e}_{ij}^0 \rangle = (\langle \mathbf{u}_{ij}^0 \rangle + \langle \mathbf{u}_{ji}^0 \rangle)/2$ on $\Omega \times (0, T)$
Initial condition	$\langle \mathbf{u}_i^0 \rangle(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t = 0) = \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_i(\bar{\mathbf{x}})$ on Ω
Boundary condition	$\langle \mathbf{u}_i^0 \rangle = \langle \bar{\mathbf{u}}_i \rangle(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)$ on $\Gamma_u \times (0, T)$
	$\langle \sigma_{ij}^0 \rangle \mathbf{n}_j = \langle \mathbf{f}_i \rangle(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)$ on $\Gamma_f \times (0, T)$

267

268

269 **Table 3.** The local initial-boundary value problem for a linear viscoelastic solid in the fast time scale.

Principle	Formulation
Equilibrium equation	$\Phi_{ij,j}^0 + \bar{b}_i - \langle \bar{b}_i \rangle = 0$ on $\Omega \times (0, \tau_0)$
Constitutive equation	Equation 21
Kinematic equation	$\Psi_{ij}^0 = (\chi_{ij}^0 + \chi_{ji}^0)/2$ on $\Omega \times (0, \tau_0)$
Initial condition	$\chi_i^0(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \tau = 0) = 0$ on Ω
Boundary condition	$\chi_i^0 = \bar{\mathbf{u}}_i - \langle \bar{\mathbf{u}}_i \rangle$ on $\Gamma_u \times (0, \tau_0)$
	$\Phi_{ij}^0 \mathbf{n}_j = \mathbf{f}_i - \langle \mathbf{f}_i \rangle$ on $\Gamma_f \times (0, \tau_0)$

270

271 Based on **Equations 8 to 10**, the zero-order reference solutions of the given IVBP can be obtained
 272 by combining the solutions of the global part in the slow time scale and local part in the fast time scale,
 273 shown as follows:

$$274 \quad \sigma_{ij}^0(\vec{x}, t, \tau) = \langle \sigma_{ij}^0 \rangle(\vec{x}, t) + \Phi_{ij}^0(\vec{x}, t, \tau) \quad (22)$$

$$275 \quad \epsilon_{ij}^0(\vec{x}, t, \tau) = \langle \epsilon_{ij}^0 \rangle(\vec{x}, t) + \Psi_{ij}^0(\vec{x}, t, \tau) \quad (23)$$

$$276 \quad \mathbf{u}_i^0(\vec{x}, t, \tau) = \langle \mathbf{u}_i^0 \rangle(\vec{x}, t) + \chi_i^0(\vec{x}, t, \tau) \quad (24)$$

277
 278 **Equations 11 and 12** are used as the material constitutive relation and a default time-dependent
 279 solver is used to obtain the reference solution/cycle-by-cycle simulation of the original IBVP in the natural
 280 time scale for comparing with the temporal homogenization solution in the next section. The absolute value
 281 of relative error (*AER*) and the computational gain between the reference and temporal homogenization
 282 solutions are used to evaluate the computational accuracy and efficiency of the proposed model, as shown
 283 in **Equations 25 and 26**.

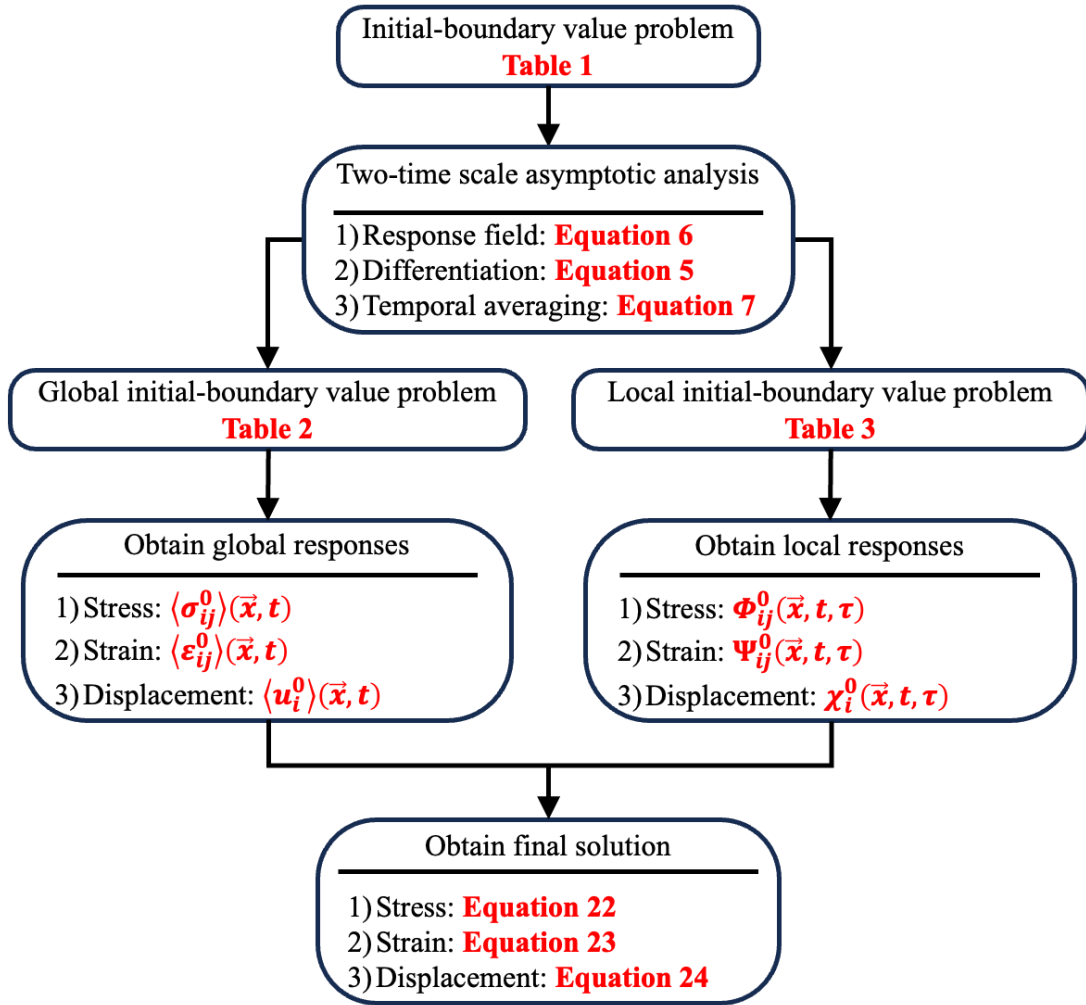
$$284 \quad AER = \left| \frac{\phi_{ref} - \phi_{TH}}{\phi_{ref}} \right| \quad (25)$$

285 where ϕ_{ref} and ϕ_{TH} are the responses obtained from the reference solution and temporal homogenization
 286 solution, respectively.

$$287 \quad \text{Computational gain} = \frac{T_{ref}}{T_{TH}} \quad (26)$$

288 where T_{ref} and T_{TH} are the computation time for the reference solution and temporal homogenization
 289 solution, respectively.

290
 291 **Figure 2** shows the flowchart of the temporal homogenization-based mechanical response
 292 modeling of viscoelastic solids (asphalt concrete is taken as a verification example in this paper).
 293



294

295 **Figure 2.** Flowchart for the temporal homogenization-based mechanical response modeling of
 296 viscoelastic solids.

297

298 **VALIDATION EXAMPLES AND DISCUSSION**

299

300 **Uniaxial Cyclic Loading on A Cylindrical Sample of Asphalt Concrete**

301

302 A stress-controlled uniaxial cyclic compression test with a haversine load waveform was performed

303 on a cylindrical asphalt concrete sample. The used material properties and test results are from the authors'

304 previous work (Zhang et al. 2015). A two-dimensional axisymmetric model has been established using

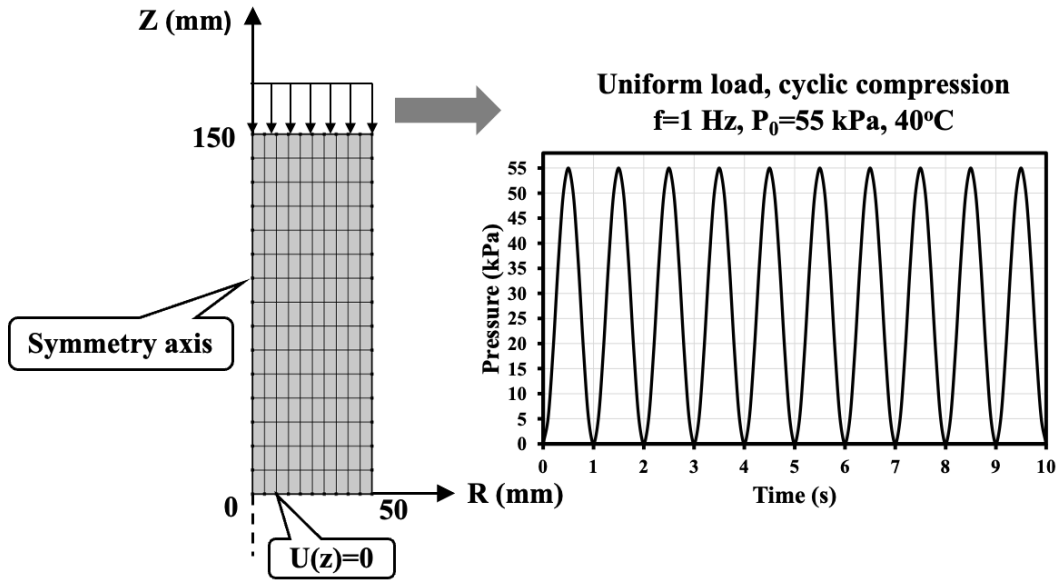
305 COMSOL Multiphysics® to conduct the FE modeling of the cylindrical sample to obtain the reference and
 306 temporal homogenization solutions. The axial strains obtained by the laboratory test and reference solution
 307 will be compared for validating the FE model. The responses obtained by the reference and temporal
 308 homogenization solutions will be compared to validate the accuracy and efficiency of the proposed
 309 temporal homogenization-based viscoelastic modeling of asphalt concretes. The material properties and
 310 testing conditions are detailed in **Table 4** and **Figure 3**.

311

312 **Table 4.** Viscoelastic properties of the cylindrical sample (Poisson’s ratio: 0.32).

Component of relaxation modulus (MPa)		Component of relaxation time (s)	
E_{∞}	41.1	-	
E_1	3093.4	τ_1	1.0×10^{-6}
E_2	6040.0	τ_2	1.0×10^{-5}
E_3	6994.3	τ_3	1.0×10^{-4}
E_4	5565.7	τ_4	1.0×10^{-3}
E_5	3292.7	τ_5	1.0×10^{-2}
E_6	1649.0	τ_6	1.0×10^{-1}
E_7	525.1	τ_7	1.0×10^0
E_8	177.6	τ_8	1.0×10^1
E_9	129.7	τ_9	1.0×10^2
E_{10}	37.6	τ_{10}	1.0×10^3
E_{11}	2.9	τ_{11}	1.0×10^4

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Figure 3. FE model of the cylindrical sample and the applied load.

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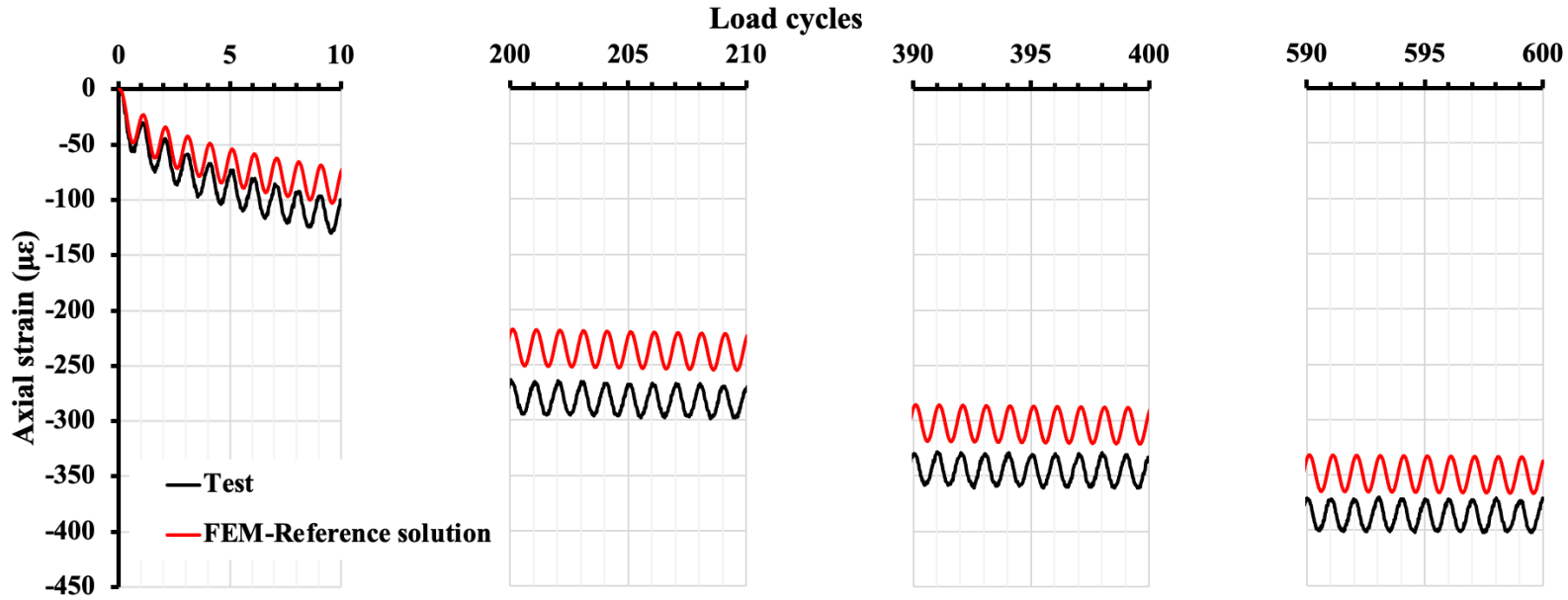
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Figure 4 compares the axial strains measured by laboratory tests and predicted by the reference solution of FE modeling. As can be seen, the evolutions of the measured and modeled axial strains are consistent, although the measured strain is greater (the maximum difference is around $30 \mu\epsilon$ at the end of test) than the modeled one. The possible reasons are: (a) the loading amplitude of the cyclic load test is higher than the dynamic modulus test whose results were used to determine the linear viscoelastic parameters in **Table 4** (thus, the nonlinear response was not captured by the present linear material model); and (b) the viscoelastic model in this paper cannot capture the plastic deformation that may be induced to the sample. It can be concluded that the response fields of the cylindrical sample have not reached a steady state after 600 load cycles, which means more simulated load cycles are needed to capture a stable response in order to use the transfer functions in MEPDG.

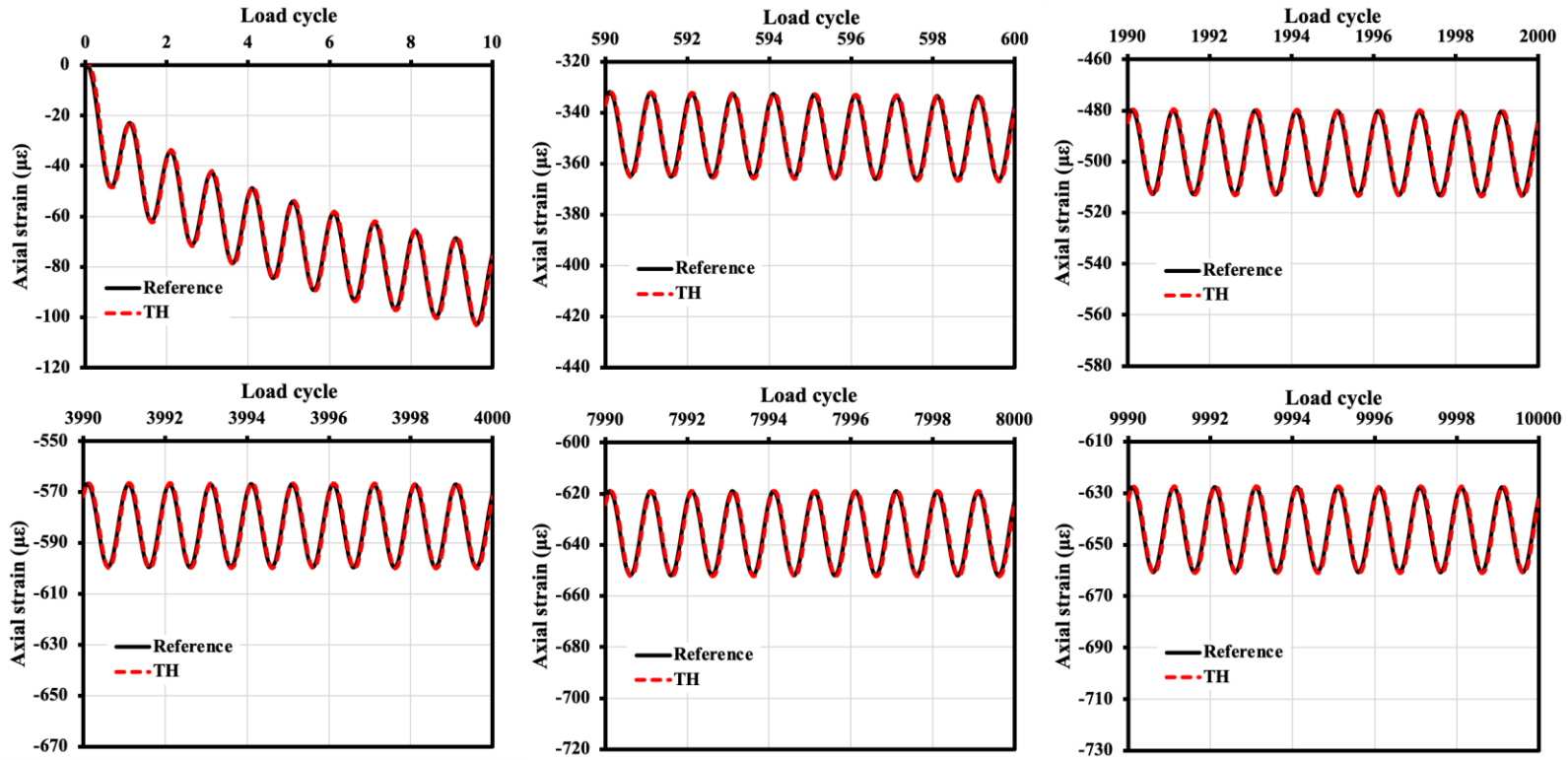


328 **Figure 4.** Comparison of the axial strains obtained by laboratory tests and reference solution of FE
 329 modeling.

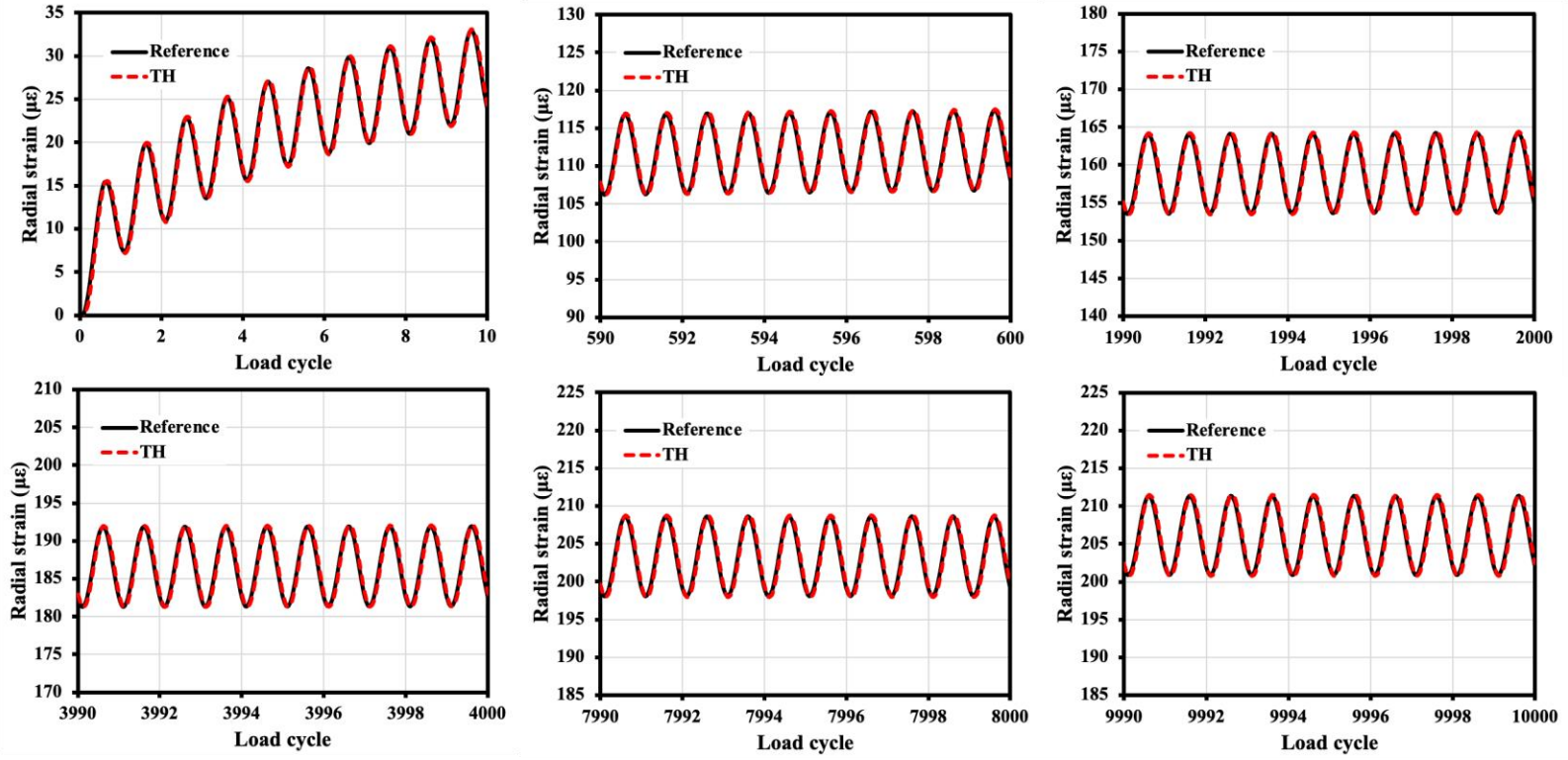
330

331 **Figures 5 and 6** demonstrate the comparisons of the reference solution and temporal
 332 homogenization solution for the IBVP via FE modeling. As can be seen, the temporal homogenization
 333 solution is consistent with the reference solution regarding on both of the long-term evolution and fast
 334 variation. **Figure 7** shows the computational accuracy and efficiency of the time homogenization-based
 335 modeling. As it is seen, the relative error decreases in absolute value with the number of load cycles. It is
 336 lower than 1% when the load cycles are more than 100 and relatively high difference only exists in the first
 337 a few cycles. Thus, the temporal homogenization-based viscoelastic response modeling demonstrates a
 338 sufficient accuracy when considering cyclic loading regarding the sample scale simulation. In addition, the
 339 computational time of the reference solution is 59 minutes while the computational time of temporal
 340 homogenization solution is about 4 minutes for modeling 10^4 load cycles, based on a workstation with an
 341 Intel® i9 CPU (@ 2.3 GHz). Besides, the computational gain increases with the number of cycles according
 342 to **Figure 7**. Thus, the computational gain of the temporal homogenization method is remarkable without
 343 the loss of evident simulation accuracy. The improvement of the computational efficiency comes from: (a)

344 using a relatively large time increment to solve the global responses in the slow time scale; and (b) only
 345 one load cycle needs to be solved surrounding each slow time interval and the stress update is not necessary
 346 for the local responses in the fast time scale due to the periodic assumption (Lee and Shin 2023; Shin 2020;
 347 Yu and Fish 2002b).
 348

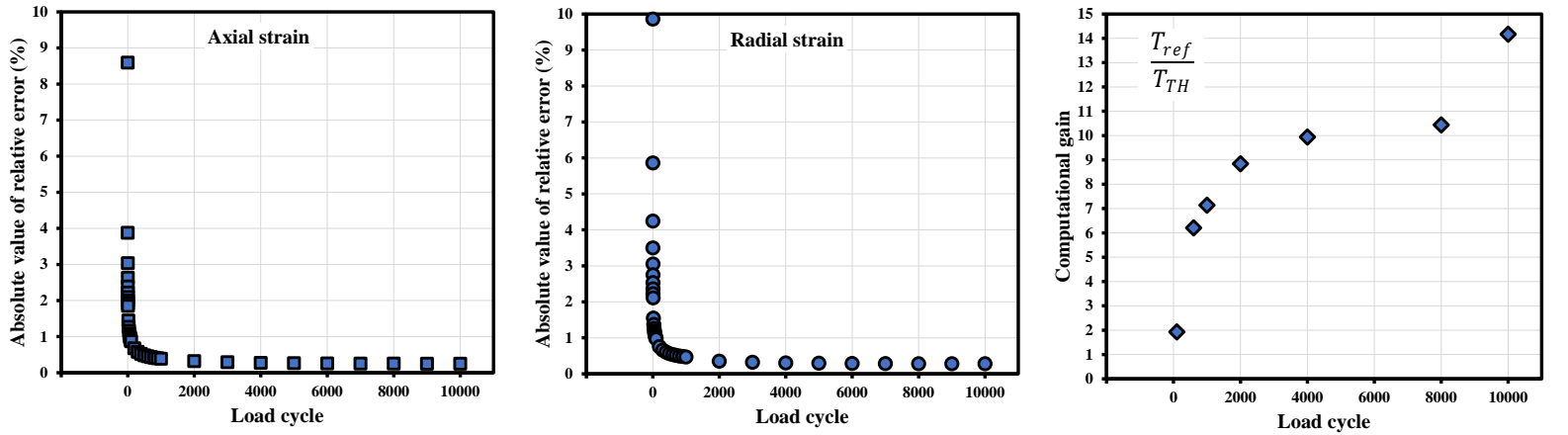


349 **Figure 5.** Comparison of the axial strains obtained by reference solution and temporal homogenization
 350 solution at different load cycles (TH refers to temporal homogenization).
 351



352 **Figure 6.** Comparison of the radial strains obtained by reference solution and temporal homogenization
 353 solution at different load cycles (TH refers to temporal homogenization).

354



355 **Figure 7.** Accuracy and efficiency examination of the temporal homogenization modeling on the
 356 cylindrical asphalt concrete sample.

357

358 **Locally Cyclic Loading on An Asphalt Pavement Structure**

359

360 The mechanical responses of a typical semi-rigid base asphalt pavement structure are modeled
 361 using the reference and temporal homogenization methods. The pavement materials and structure are
 362 detailed in **Tables 5** and **6** and **Figure 8**, adopted from the authors' previous work (Luo et al. 2023). The
 363 three asphalt concrete layers are treated as the linear viscoelastic materials and the remaining layers are
 364 linear elastic materials. There are four transverse strain sensors embedded in the four corners of a rectangle
 365 area at the bottom of the lower asphalt layer, as shown in **Figure 8**. Two types of axle load (100 kN and
 366 150 kN) were used to measure the pavement responses under normal and heavy vehicle load. The contact
 367 pressure of the two types of axle load were determined as 0.7 MPa and 0.91 MPa by the conversion
 368 relationship of **Equation 27** (Li and Huang 2004).

369
$$\frac{p_i}{p_0} = \left(\frac{P_i}{P_0}\right)^{0.65} \quad (27)$$

370 where p_i and P_i are the nonstandard contact pressure (MPa) and nonstandard axle load (kN), respectively;
 371 $p_0 = 0.7$ MPa is the standard contact pressure; and $P_0 = 100$ kN is the standard axle load.

372

373 **Table 5.** Material properties for each layer.

Material type	Layer	Density (kg/m ³)	Poisson's ratio	Modulus (MPa)
SMA-13, linear viscoelastic	Upper asphalt layer	2243	0.3	Table 6
SUP-20, linear viscoelastic	Middle asphalt layer	2243	0.3	Table 6
SUP-25, linear viscoelastic	Lower asphalt layer	2243	0.3	Table 6
Upper CBM, linear elastic	Upper base layer	2350	0.35	11500
Lower CBM, linear elastic	Lower base layer	2350	0.35	8500
Soil, linear elastic	Subgrade	2400	0.4	60

374 Note: SMA-13 refers to the stone mastic asphalt concrete with a 13 mm NMAS; SUP-20 refers to the Superpave
 375 asphalt concrete with a 20 mm NMAS; SUP-25 refers to the Superpave asphalt concrete with a 25 mm NMAS; CBM
 376 refers to the cement stabilized macadam; NMAS refers to the nominal maximum aggregate size.

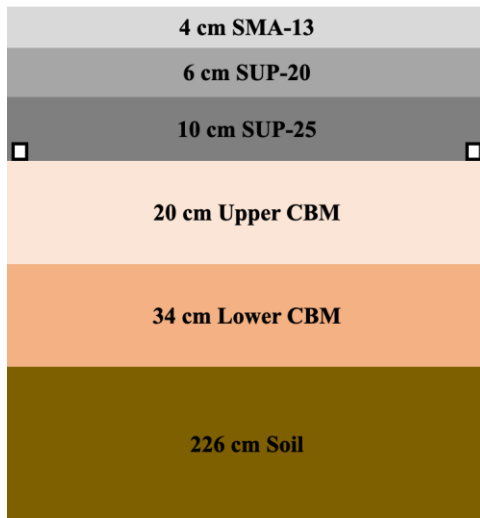
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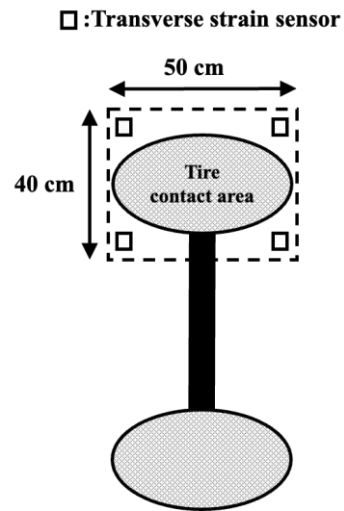
Table 6. Viscoelastic properties of the three asphalt concretes.

	Component of relaxation modulus (MPa)			Component of relaxation time (s)	
	SMA-13	SUP-20	SUP-25		
E_{∞}	13.0	11.5	14.2	-	-
E_1	1631.9	1637.8	2246.9	τ_1	1.0×10^{-6}
E_2	1102.2	2294.9	7272.1	τ_2	1.0×10^{-5}
E_3	3476.9	7649.7	8808.9	τ_3	1.0×10^{-4}
E_4	3659.7	5308.0	8027.5	τ_4	1.0×10^{-3}
E_5	2759.0	3092.8	5752.7	τ_5	1.0×10^{-2}
E_6	1188.9	1320.9	2433.9	τ_6	1.0×10^{-1}
E_7	579.6	579.5	921.7	τ_7	1.0×10^0
E_8	9.8	24.6	74.0	τ_8	1.0×10^1
E_9	32.7	31.2	125.4	τ_9	1.0×10^2
E_{10}	39.4	26.4	53.3	τ_{10}	1.0×10^3
E_{11}	55.7	32.4	150.4	τ_{11}	1.0×10^4

379



(a)



(b)



(c)

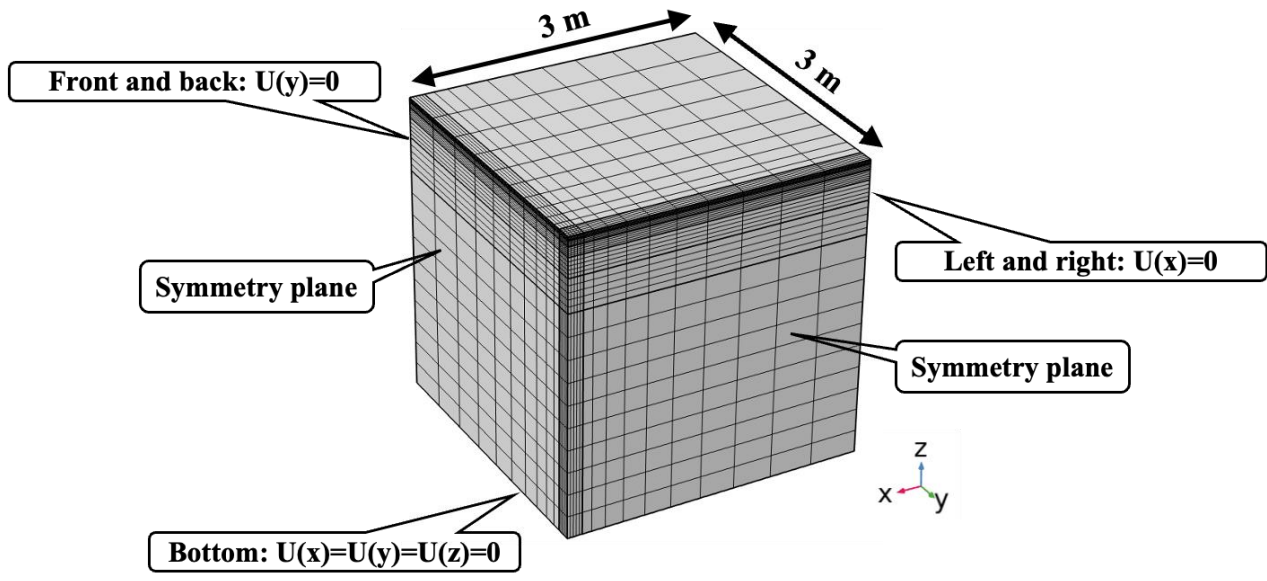


(d)

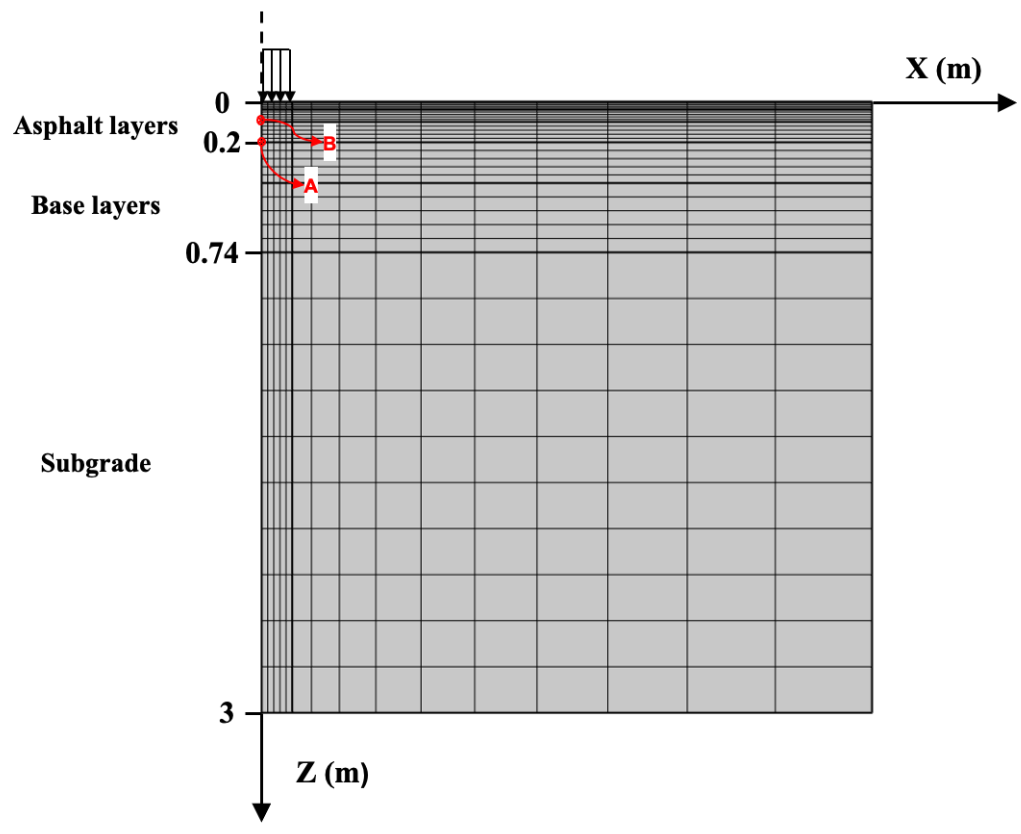
380 **Figure 8.** Illustrations of pavement structure, strain sensor position, and field test: (a) pavement structure
381 in vertical direction; (b) layout of the sensors and tire load; (c) embedded strain sensors; (d) creep-
382 recovery field loading test.

383
384 Due to the limitations of monitoring resolution and sampling frequency of the strain sensors, the
385 field loading scheme was designed as a static loading with a creep (7 min) and recovery (5 min) procedure.
386 A three-dimensional pavement FE model was developed based on the exact structural and material
387 information, as shown in **Figure 9-a**. All layers are assumed to be fully continuous. To validate the
388 pavement FE model via the measured transverse strain, a creep and recovery scenario was simulated with
389 the same field loading procedure, as shown in **Figure 9-c**. The contact area of the tire load was simplified
390 as a square area with 0.3 m in length. **Figure 10** shows the comparison between the measured and modeled
391 strain responses for the two contact pressures. The discrepancy at the high load level may be due to the
392 presented viscoelastic model cannot capture the plastic deformation of asphalt concretes, so the residual
393 strains at the end of recovery are almost the same under the two contact pressures. However, the modeled
394 strains are overall consistent with the field measurements and the creep-recovery features can be well
395 captured. Thus, the pavement FE model can be further used for comparing the accuracy and efficiency of
396 the reference and time homogenization modeling subject to large numbers of cyclic loading.

397

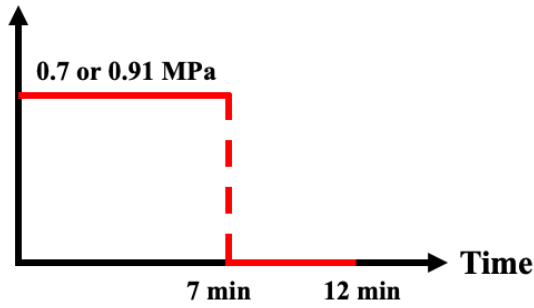


(a)



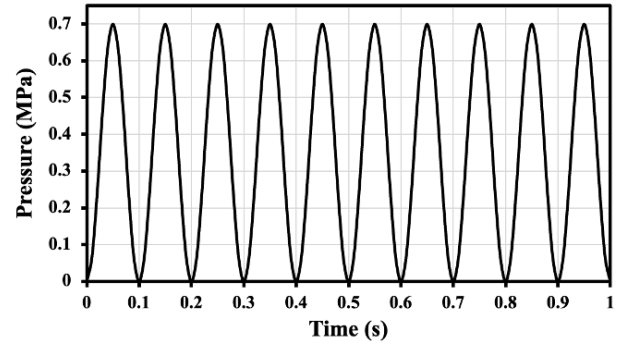
(b)

Contact pressure



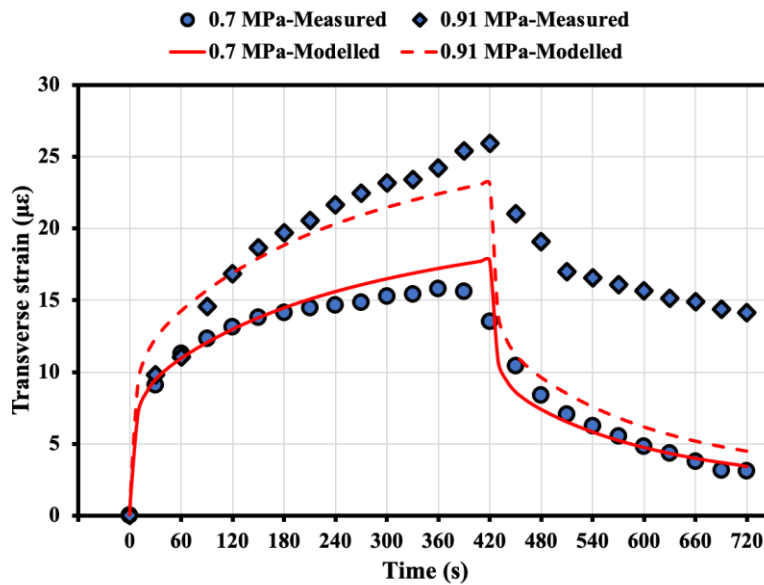
(c)

Uniform load, cyclic compression
f=10 Hz, P₀=0.7 MPa, 25°C



(d)

398 **Figure 9.** Illustrations of pavement FE model and loading schemes: (a) a quarter of FE model;
399 cross section of pavement structure; (c) loading scheme of the creep-recovery field test to validate the FE
400 model; (d) cyclic loading to compare the reference and time homogenization solutions.
401



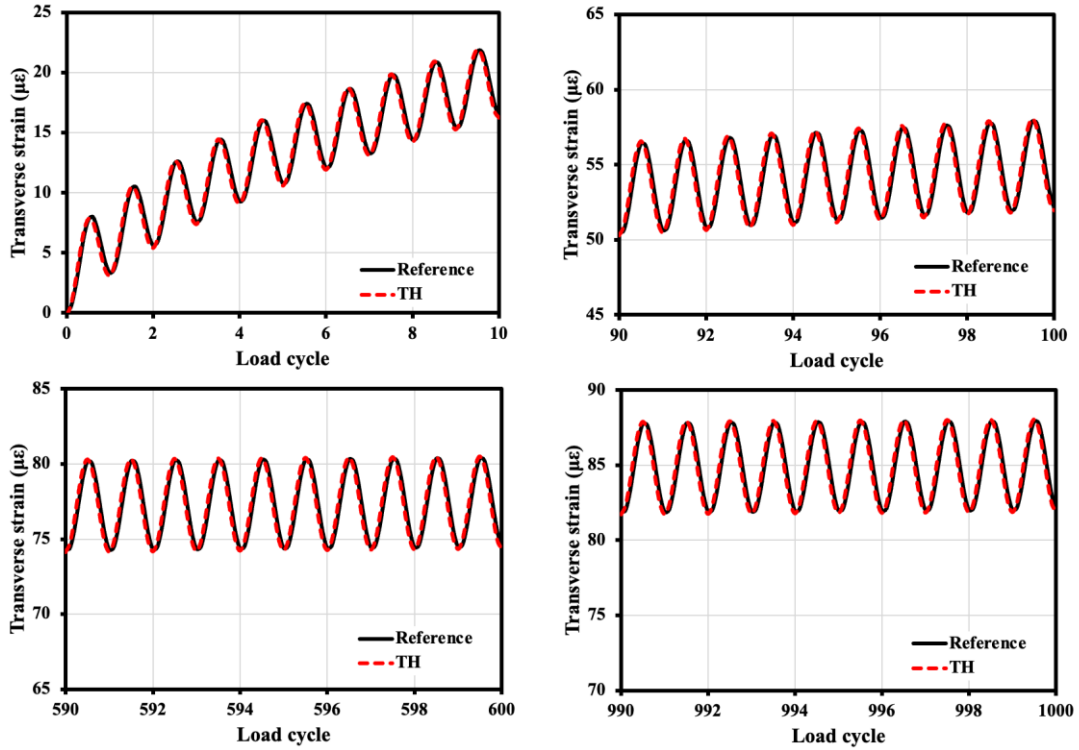
402
403 **Figure 10.** Comparison of the transverse strains obtained by field measurements and FE modeling for the
404 creep-recovery loadings subject to two types of contact pressure.
405

406 In order to compare the reference and time homogenization solutions for a pavement structure
407 under locally cyclic loading (**Figure 9-d**), two critical positions (**points A and B in Figure 9-b**) are selected
408 to present their mechanical responses. Point A is at the bottom of the asphalt layer on the central line of the
409 loading area and point B is at the middle of the asphalt layer on the central line of the loading area. Based
410 on the current pavement design guide, the transverse strain of point A and vertical stress of point B are
411 presented as the critical responses for the distress prediction models of asphalt pavements.

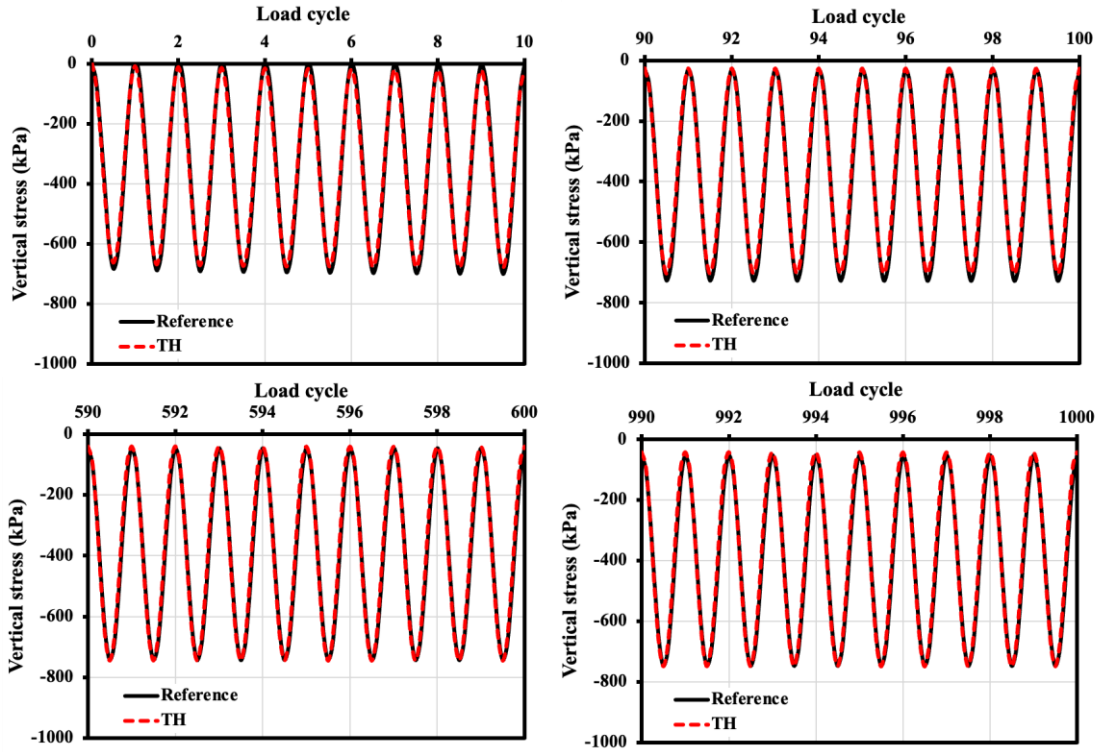
412

413 The results indicate that the temporal homogenization solution agrees well with the reference
414 solution, as shown in **Figures 11 and 12**. The absolute value of relative error for the transverse strain of
415 point A and vertical stress of point B are below 1% and 4% after 100 load cycles, which can be found in
416 **Figure 13**. The computational time is reduced from 7 hours of the reference solution to around 38 minutes
417 of the temporal homogenization solution for 10^3 load cycle simulation. An extrapolation regarding the
418 computational gain versus the number of load cycles has been made in **Figure 13**. Assuming the annual
419 average daily traffic (AADT) is 10^3 , the temporal homogenization-based modeling approach can be
420 approximately 10^3 times quicker than the reference solution to simulate the pavement responses after 27
421 years use (10^7 load cycles). Thus, it seems possible now to model the pavement responses and predict its
422 long-term performance via the temporal homogenization method with an acceptable computing time.

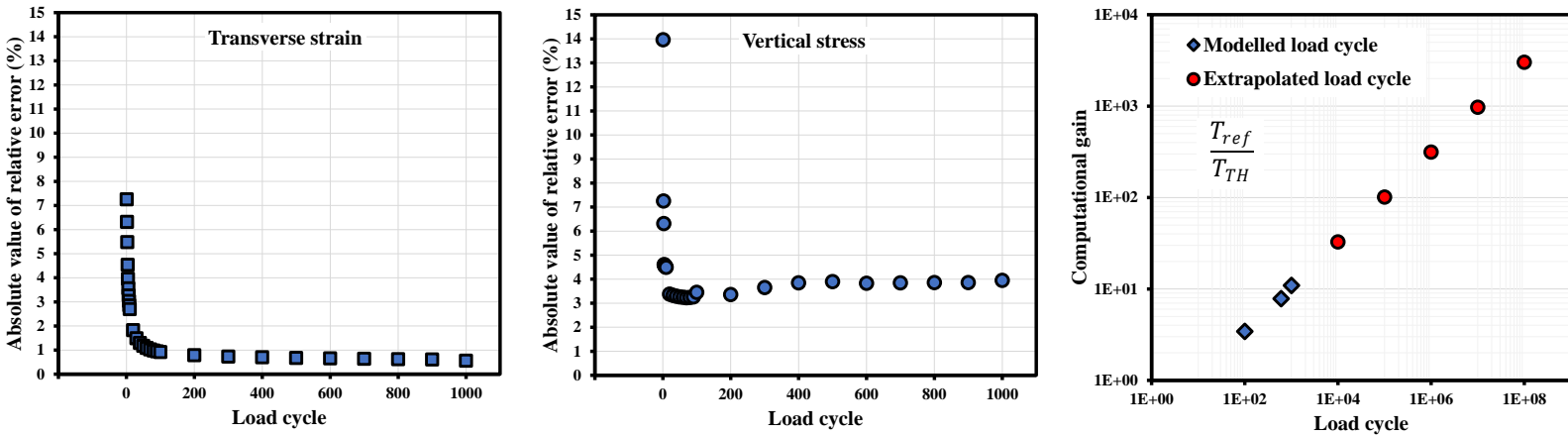
423



424 **Figure 11.** Comparison of the transverse strains (x -direction normal strain) of point A obtained by
 425 reference solution and temporal homogenization solution at different load cycles (TH refers to temporal
 426 homogenization).
 427



428 **Figure 12.** Comparison of the vertical stresses (z -direction normal stress) of point B obtained by
 429 reference solution and temporal homogenization solution at different load cycles (TH refers to temporal
 430 homogenization).
 431



432 **Figure 13.** Accuracy and efficiency examination of the temporal homogenization modeling on the asphalt
 433 pavement structure.
 434

435 **CONCLUSIONS**

436

437 This study introduces a highly efficient computational model to compute the viscoelastic responses
438 of asphalt concretes and pavement structures under large numbers of cyclic loading. Multiple time scales
439 were applied to an explicit constitutive relation of asphalt concretes to obtain the formula of global and
440 local IBVPs. The temporal homogenization-based solutions were compared with the testing results and
441 reference solutions for a cylindrical sample and a pavement structure to validate its computational accuracy
442 and efficiency. The major conclusions are as follows:

443

444 • An explicit constitutive relation for viscoelastic solids in multiple time scales is developed based
445 on the temporal homogenization.

446 • The temporal homogenization-based viscoelastic model saves considerable computational cost and
447 maintains a satisfactory accuracy compared to the reference solution.

448 • The absolute values of relative error of the modeled responses between the time homogenization
449 and reference solutions are lower than 1% and 4% for the cylindrical asphalt concrete and pavement
450 structure under locally cyclic loadings, respectively.

451 • By using the proposed computational approach, only 4 minutes are needed to model the responses
452 of a cylindrical asphalt concrete subject to 10^4 repeated load cycles under a uniaxial compression load.

453 • The computational time is reduced from 7 hours of the reference solution to 38 minutes of the
454 temporal homogenization solution to model 10^3 load cycles of a pavement structure.

455

456 Future work will focus on predicting the pavement fatigue failure under cyclic loading by
457 expanding the present temporal homogenization-based viscoelastic model to a viscoelastic-damage model.

458

459

460 **DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT**

461

462 Some or all data, models, or code that support the findings of this study are available from the
463 corresponding author upon reasonable request.

464 • Axial strain of the uniaxial cyclic compression test on the cylindrical asphalt concrete.

465 • Transverse strain of the creep-recovery test on the field pavement section.

466

467 **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

468

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473

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