



Designation: D 4395 – 84 (Reapproved 1998)

Standard Test Method for Determining the In Situ Modulus of Deformation of Rock Mass Using the Flexible Plate Loading Method¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 4395; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the preparation, equipment, test procedure, and data reduction for determining in situ modulus of deformation of a rock mass using the flexible plate loading method.

1.2 This test method is designed to be conducted in an adit or small underground chamber; however, with suitable modifications it could be conducted at the surface.

1.3 This test method is usually conducted parallel or perpendicular to the anticipated axis of thrust, as dictated by the design load.

1.4 Time-dependent tests can be performed but are to be reported in another standard.

1.5 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard.

1.6 The references appended to this standard contain further information on this test method.

1.7 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use. For specific precaution statements, see Section 8.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 4394 Test Method for Determining In Situ Modulus of Deformation of Rock Mass Using the Rigid Plate Loading Method²

D 4403 Practice for Extensometers Used in Rock²

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *deflection*—movement of the plate, mortar pad, or rock in response to and in the same direction as the applied load.

3.1.2 *flexible plate*—theoretically, a plate having no stiffness.

3.1.3 *load*—total force acting on the rock face.

3.1.4 *peak-to-peak modulus of deformation*—the slope of stress - strain curve line connecting the peaks of the curves obtained from successive pressure cycles (see Fig. 1).

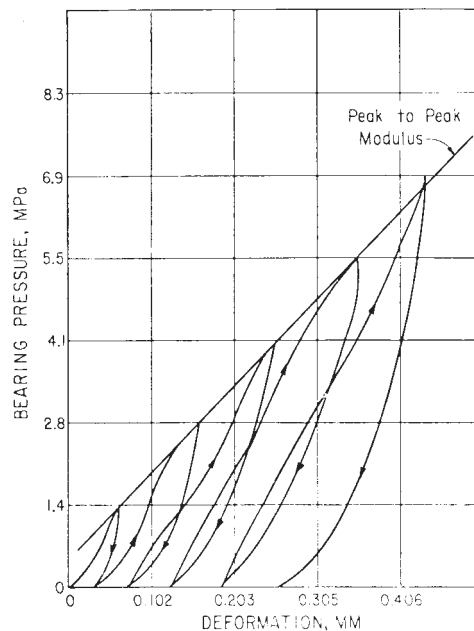


FIG. 1 Rock Surface Deformation as a Function of Bearing Pressure

3.1.5 *recovery modulus of deformation*—the tangent modulus of the unloading stress - strain curve. This modulus is usually higher than the other moduli and is used in calculations where unloading conditions exist. The difference between the tangent and recovery moduli indicates the material's capacity of hysteresis or energy dissipation capabilities (see Fig. 2).

3.1.6 *secant modulus of deformation*—the slope of the stress - strain curve between zero stress and any specified stress. This modulus should be used for complete load steps from zero to the desired load (see Fig. 2).

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-18 on Soil and Rock and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D18.12 on Rock Mechanics.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.08.