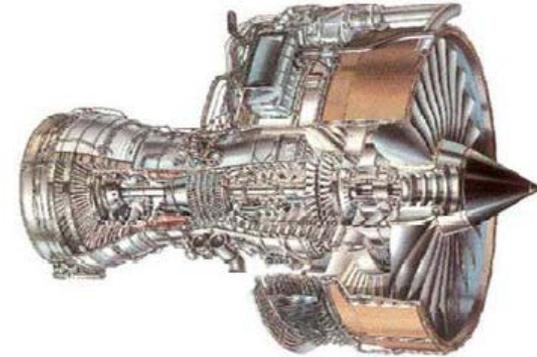
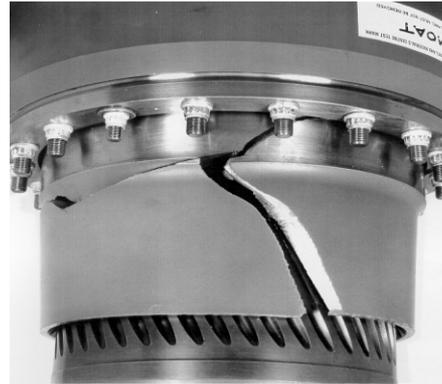
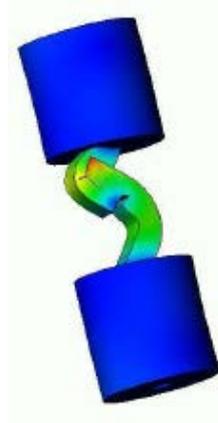


*Exceptional service in the national interest*

**N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>MAD**  
Research Institute



# Dynamics of Bolt Loosening

**Students:** Chris Johnson, Max Miller, Noah Sonne

**Mentors:** Rob Kuether, John Mersch, Jeff Smith, Jonel Ortiz,  
Keegan Moore, Gustavo Castelluccio

# Motivation

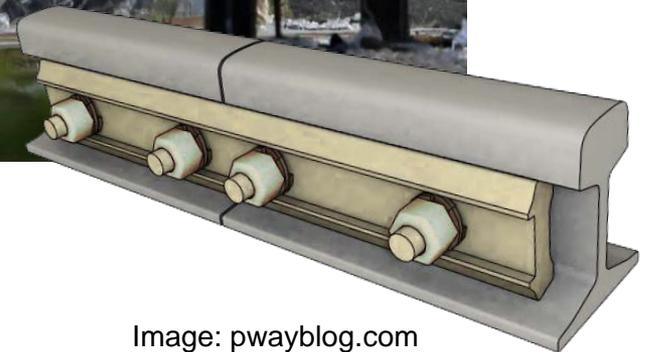
## 2013 Paris SNCF train derailment

Image: CNN



- 7 deaths, dozens of injuries
- Suspected cause: loose fishplate bolts

Image: pwayblog.com



# Max's Story



nut missing

live wires

should be  
mounted here

# Project Overview

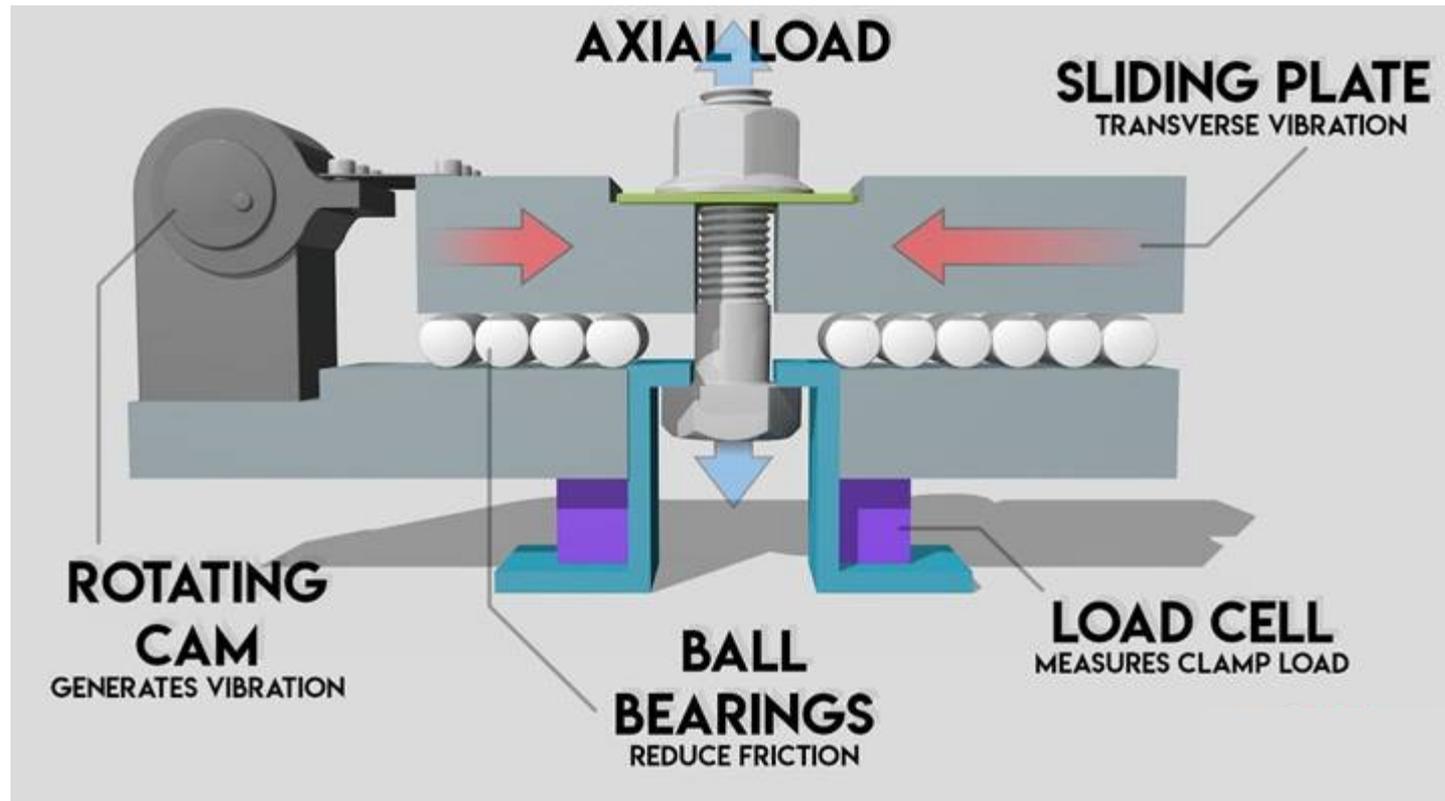
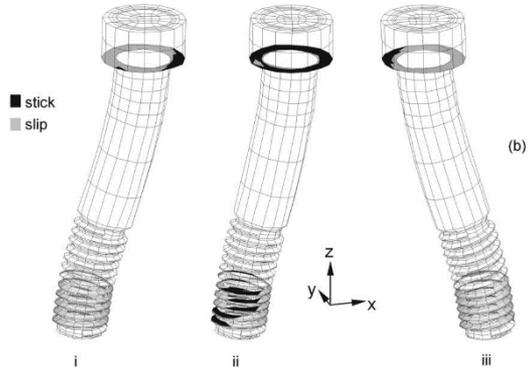
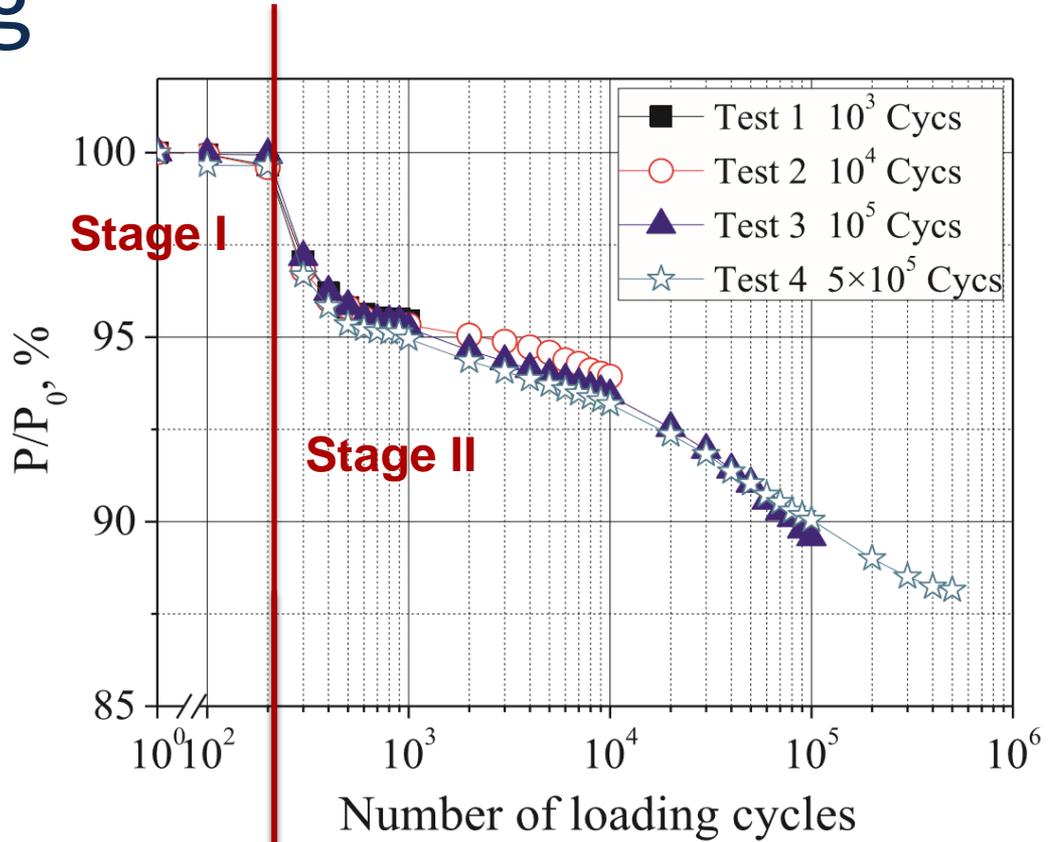


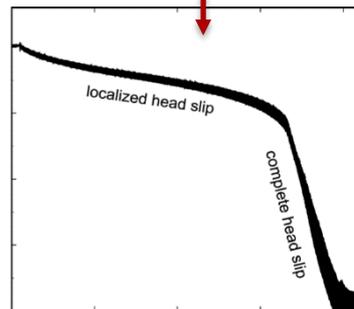
Image: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jq38Oe6lMEg>

# Bolt Loosening

- Stage I
  - Plastic Deformation
  - Fretting Wear
- Stage II
  - Rotation in the nut and bolt



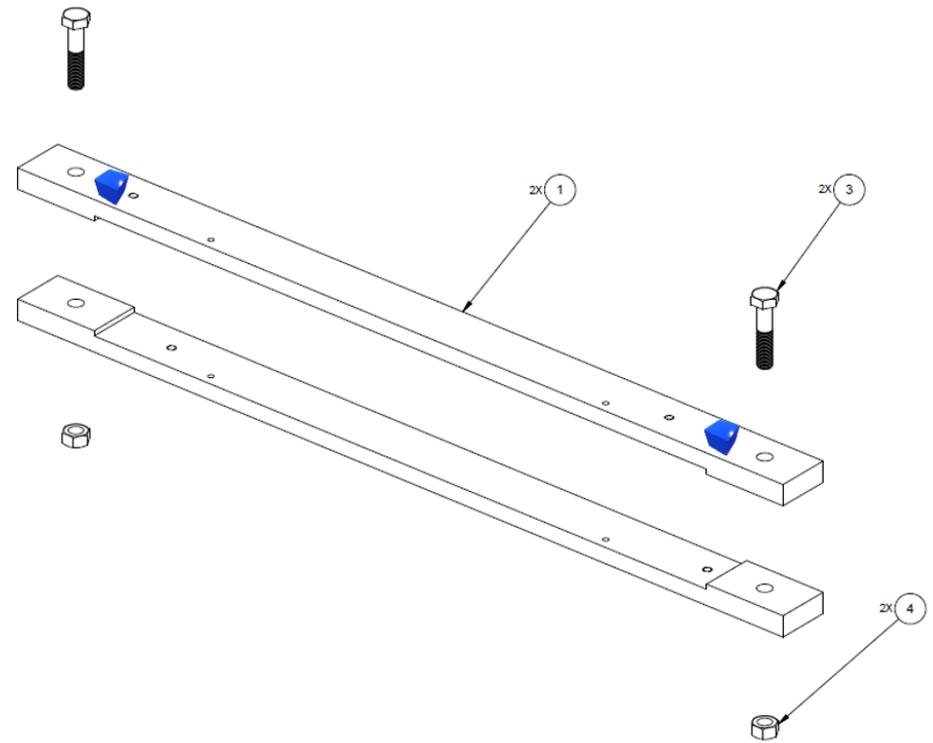
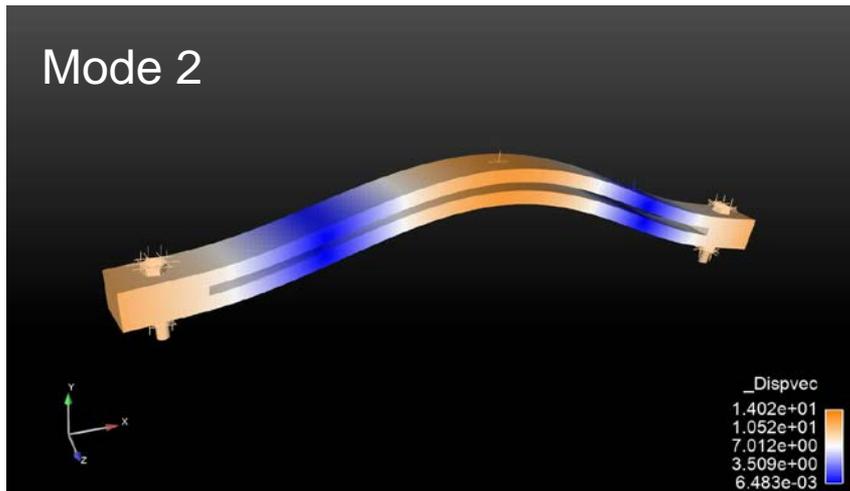
(Pai, Hess 2002)



(Zhang 2018)

# Project Overview

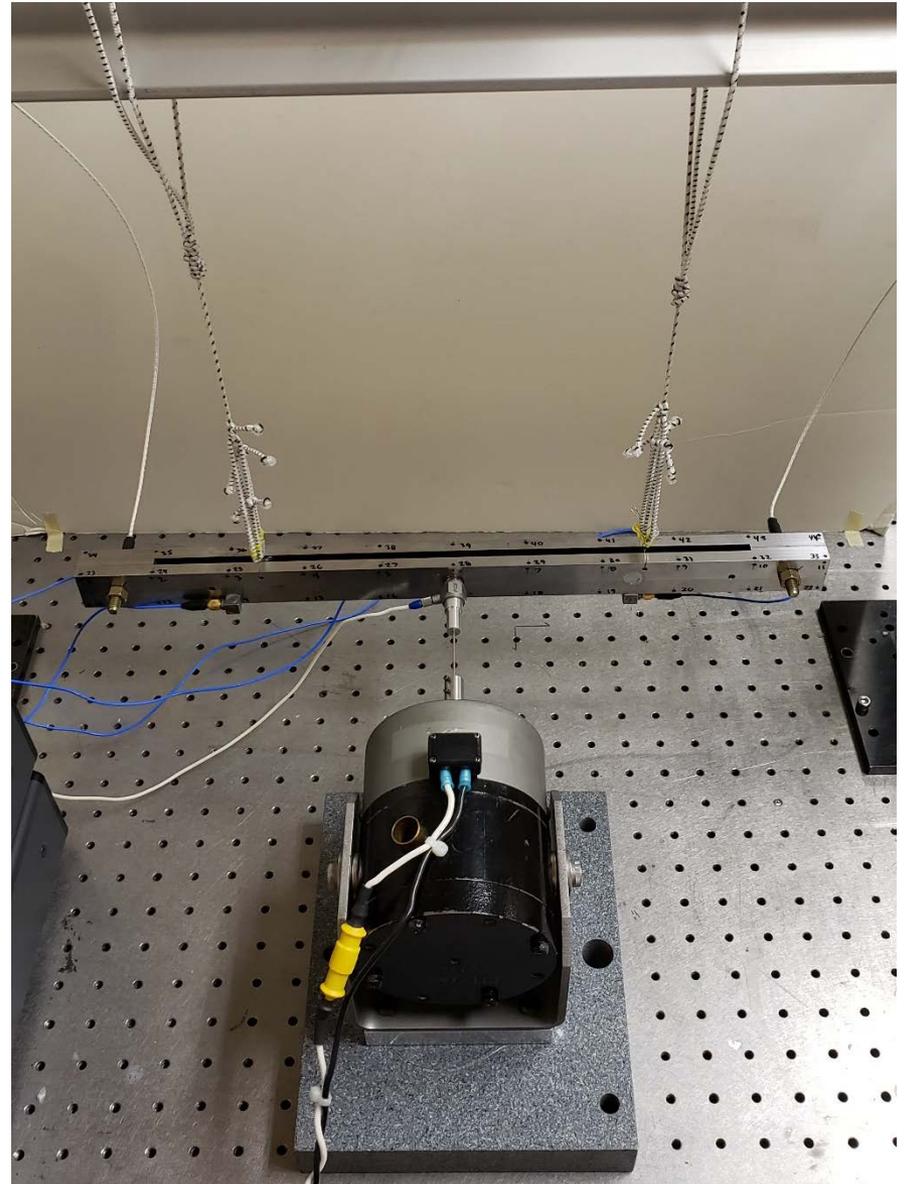
Observe bolt loosening due to loss of preload through modal excitation.



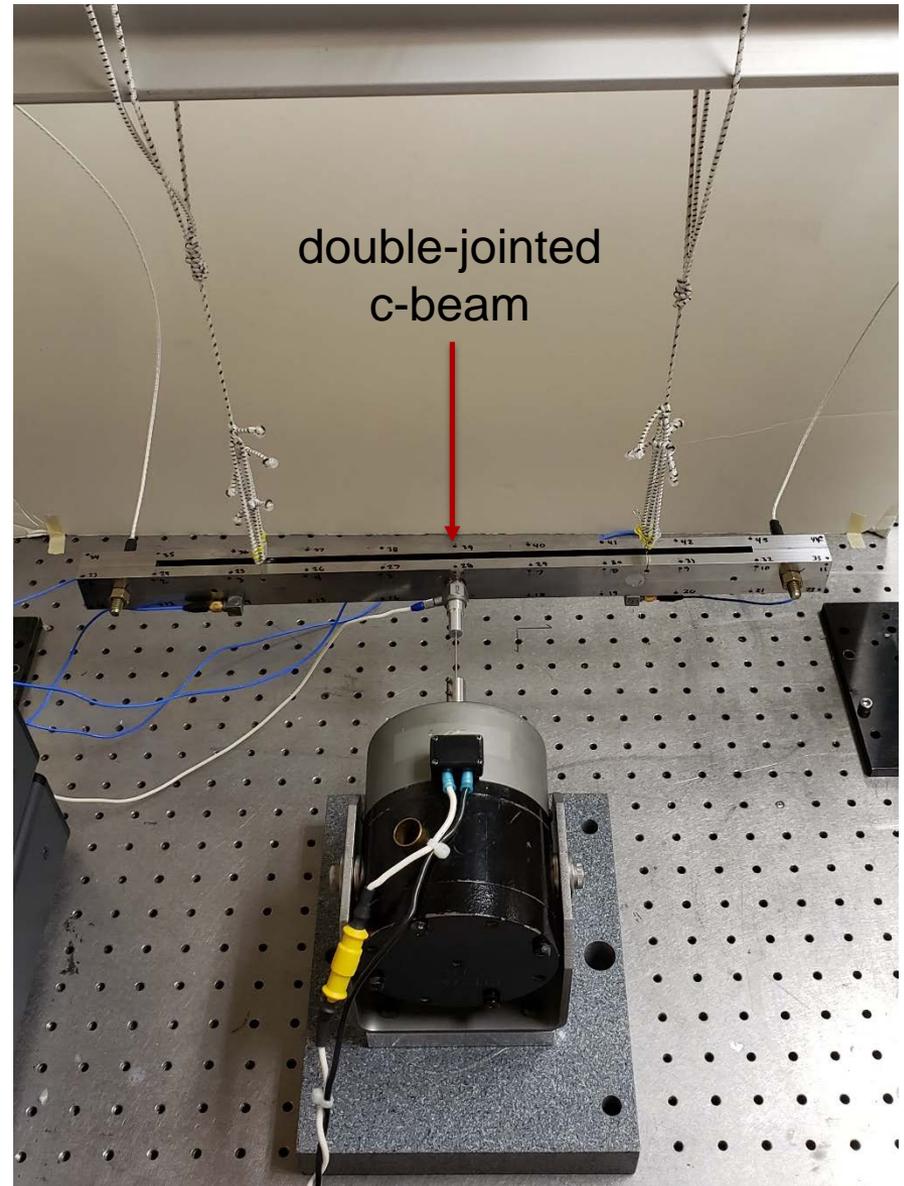
# Project Goal



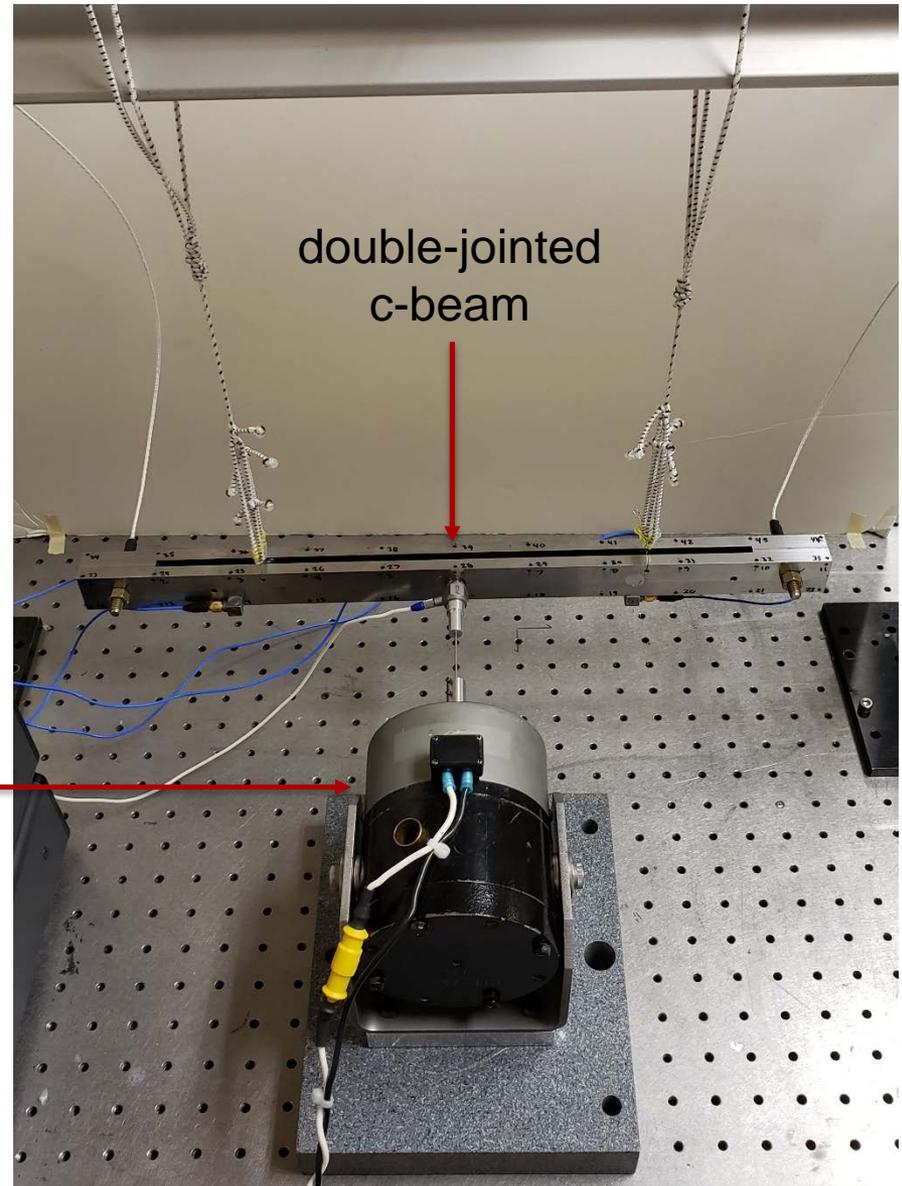
# Experimental Setup



# Experimental Setup



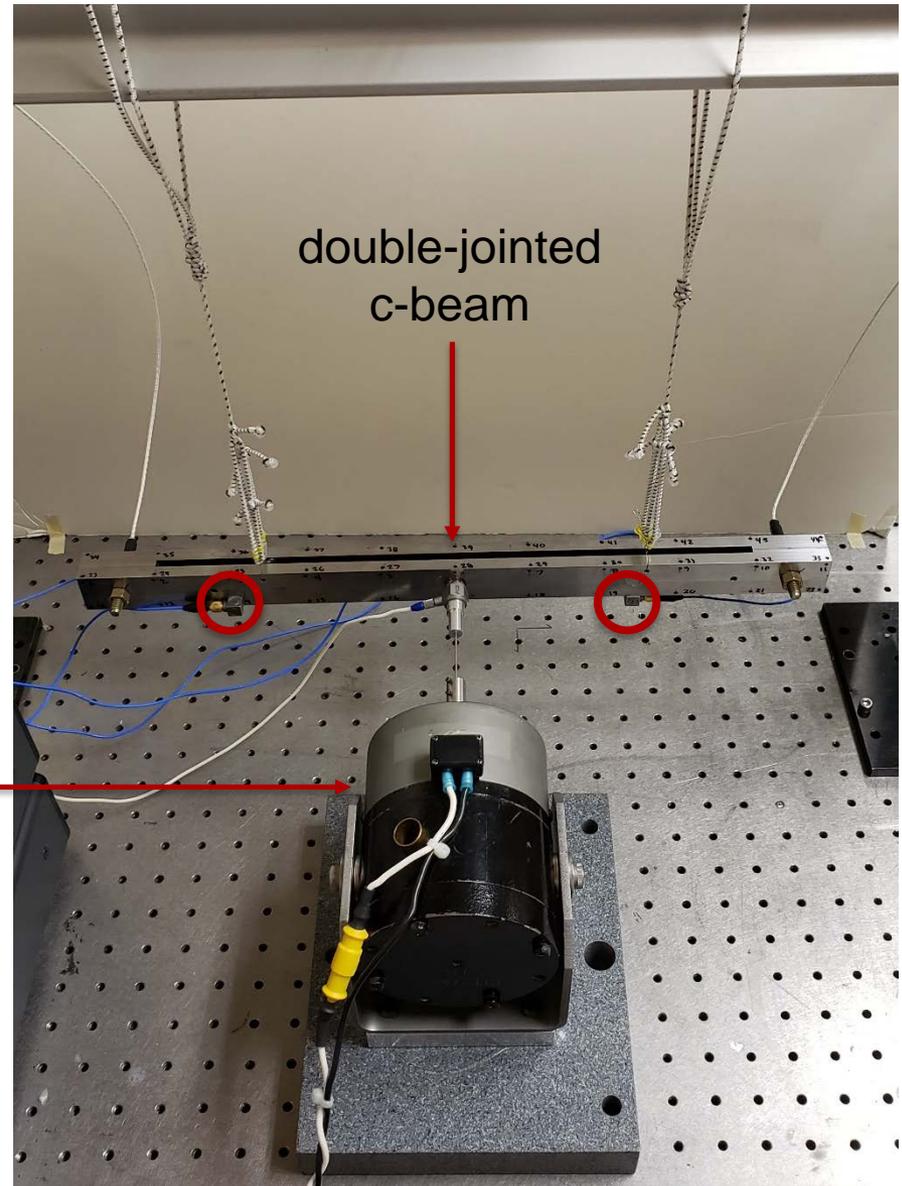
# Experimental Setup



# Experimental Setup

accelerometers

shaker



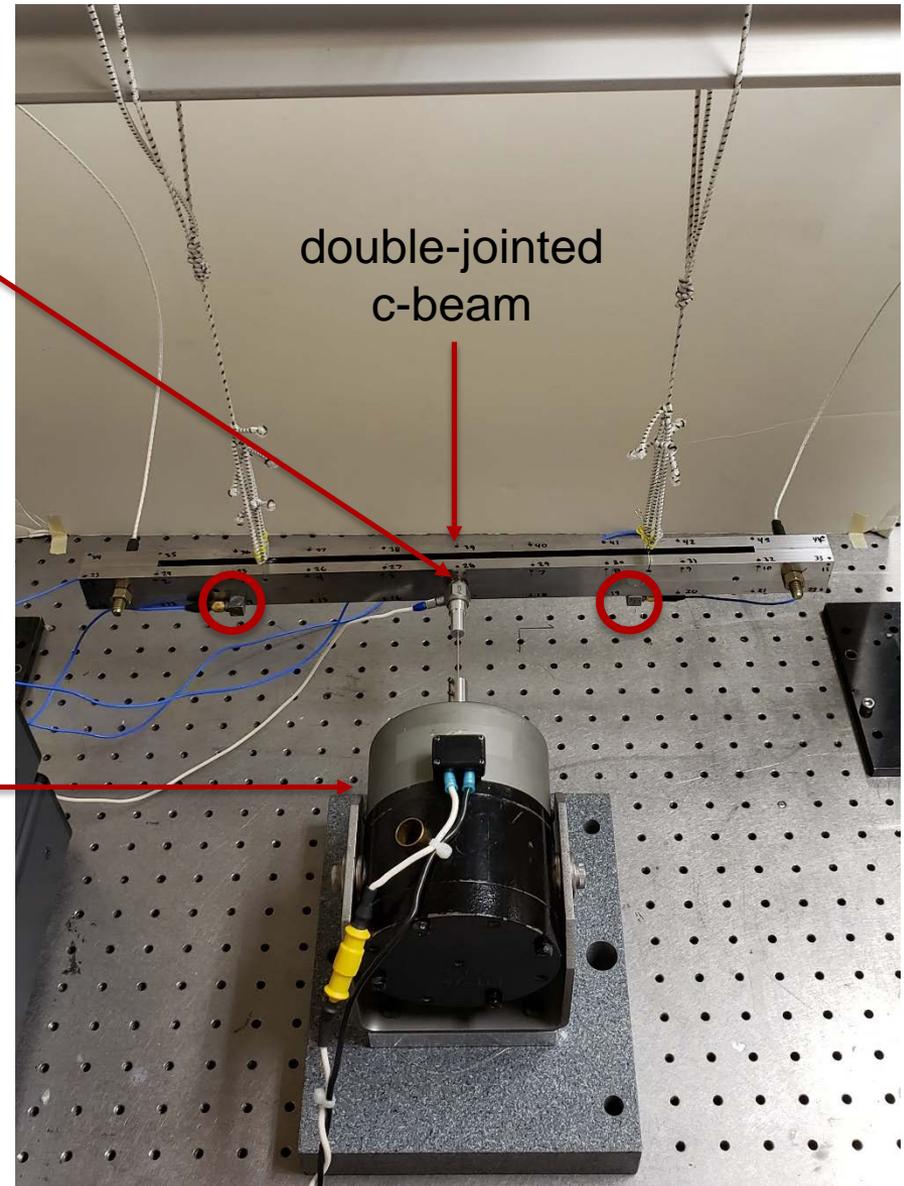
# Experimental Setup

force  
transducer

accelerometers

shaker

double-jointed  
c-beam



# Experimental Setup

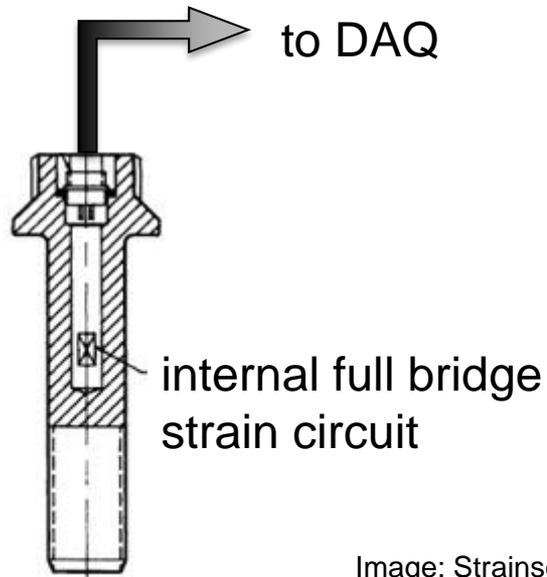
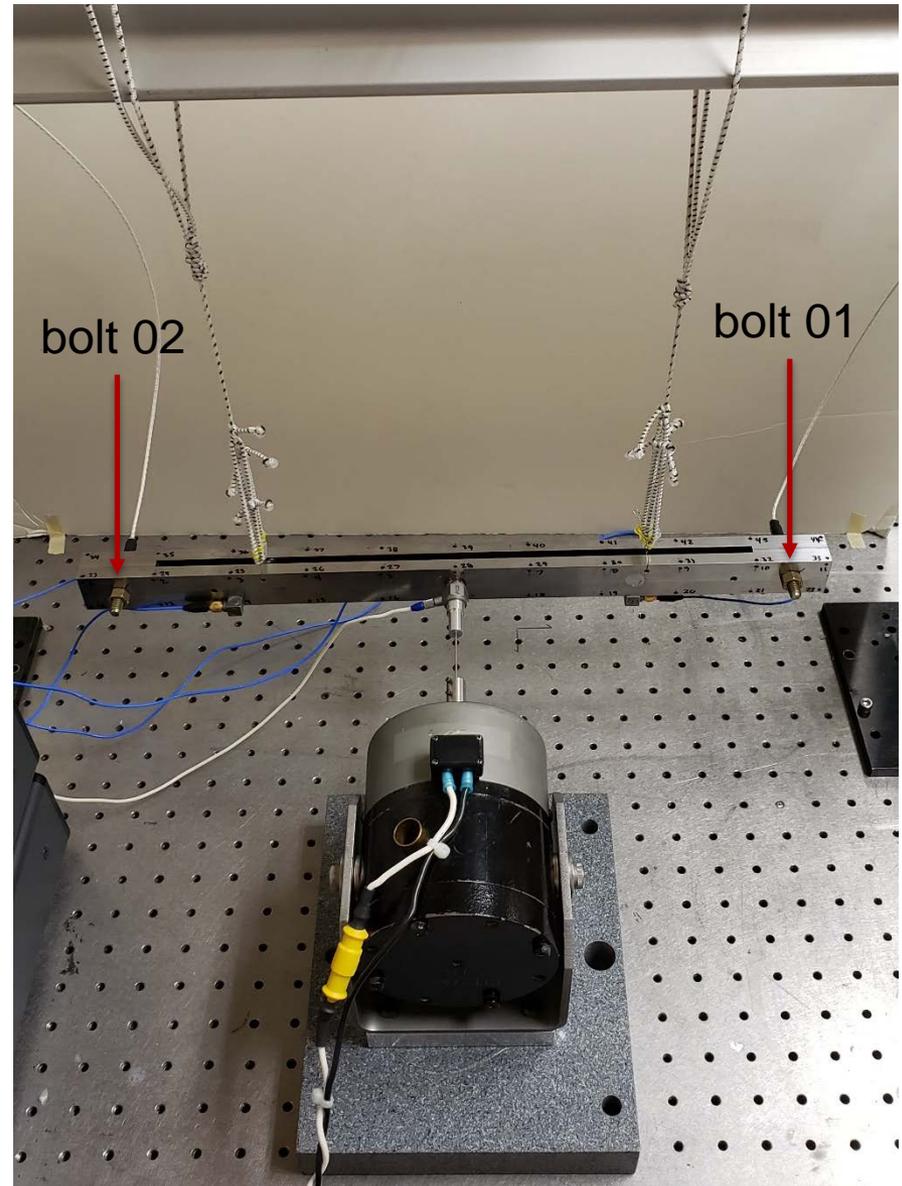
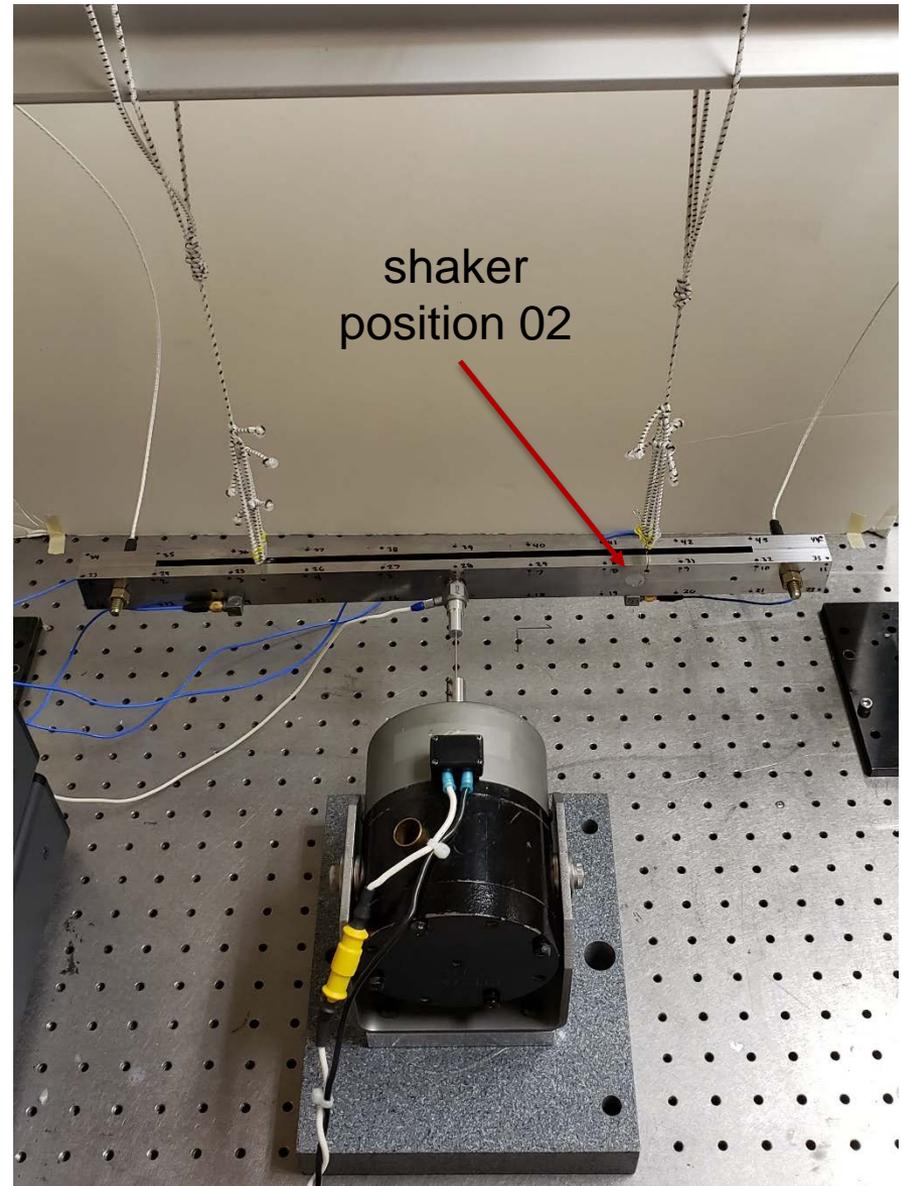


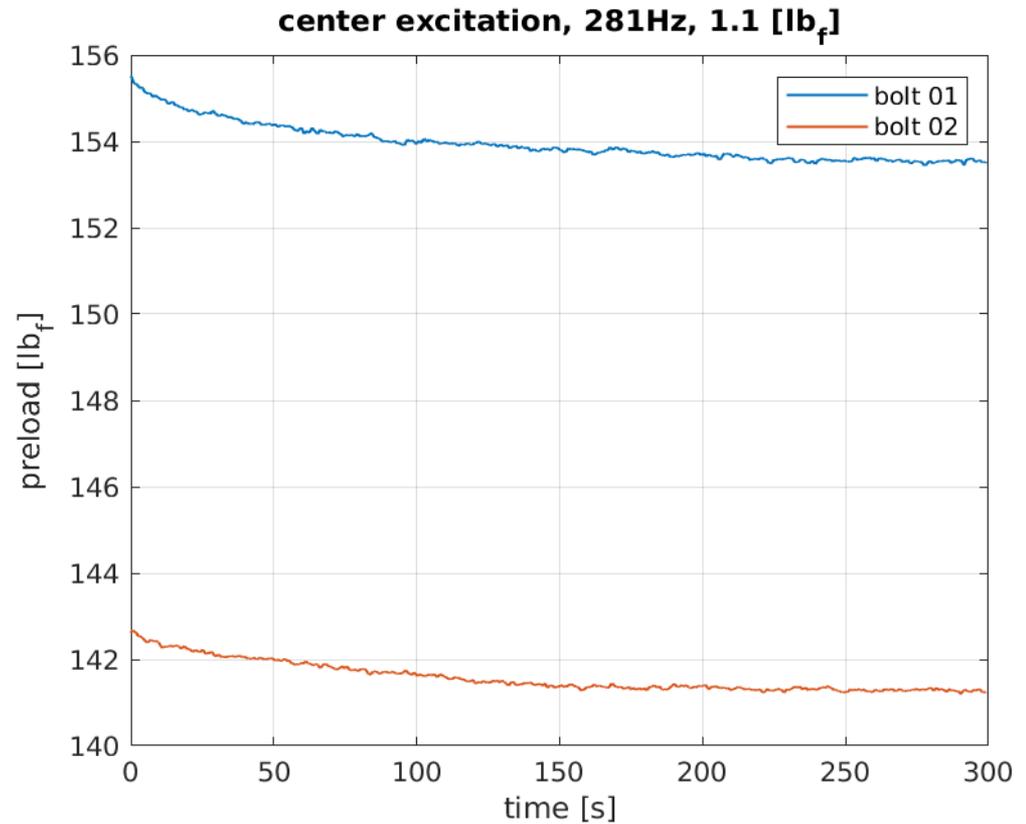
Image: Strainert



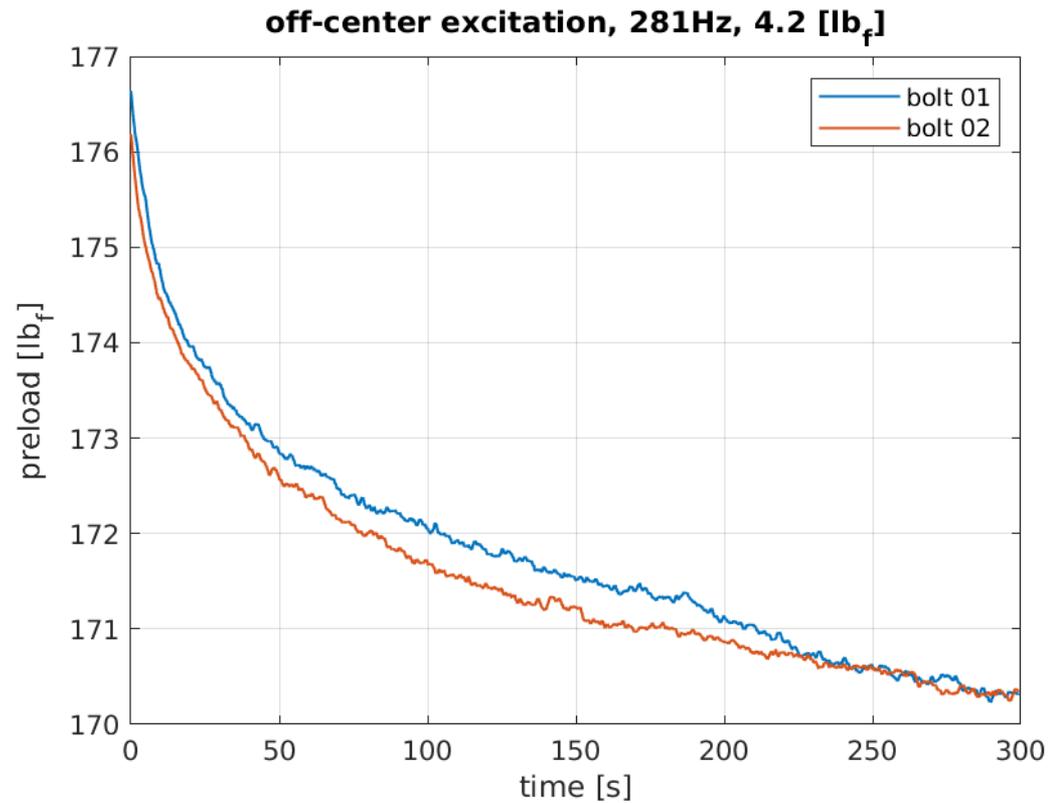
# Experimental Setup



# Experimental Results



# Experimental Results



# Experimental Results

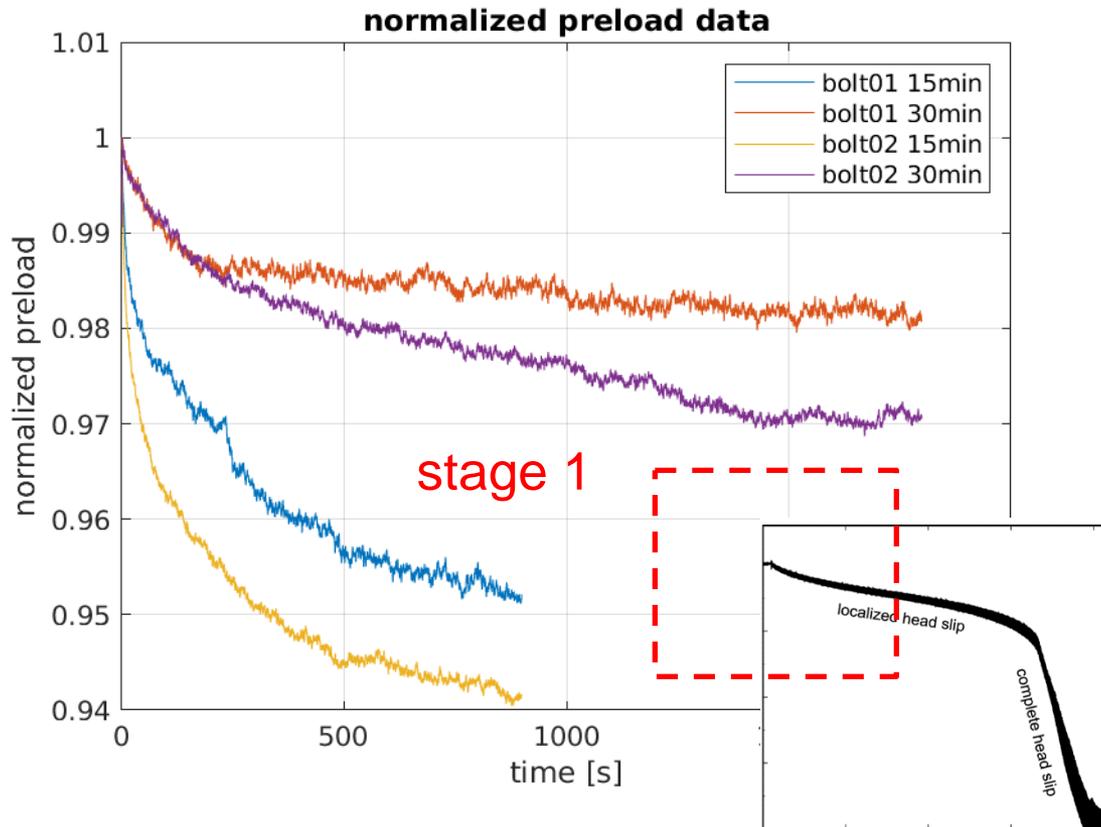


Image: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jq38Oe6IMEq>

# Discussion, Resonance Dwell

$$\underline{F} = j\omega m \underline{v} + c \underline{v} + \frac{k \underline{v}}{j\omega}$$

$$\underline{Z}_{mech} = \frac{\underline{F}}{\underline{v}} = j\omega m + c + \frac{k}{j\omega}$$

$\omega = \omega_r$

$$\bar{P}_{in} = F_{rms} v_{rms} = c (v_{rms})^2$$

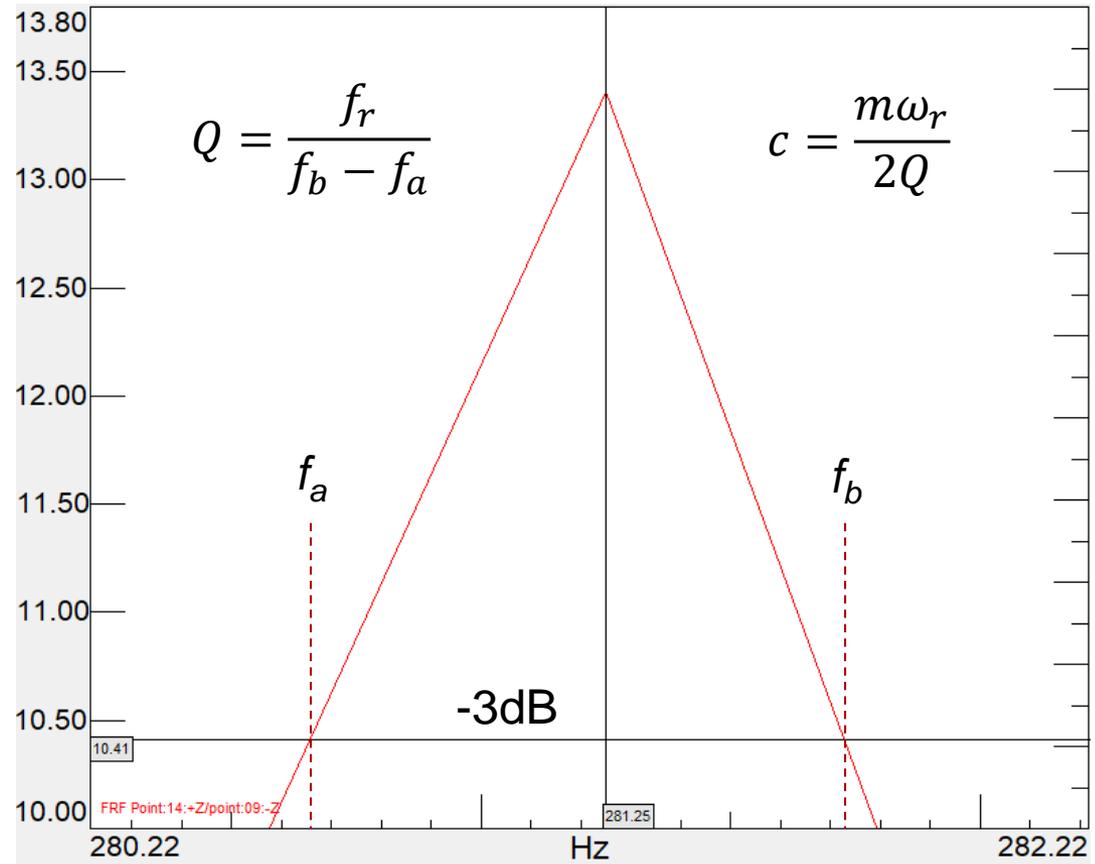
$\omega = \omega_r$

Measured / calculated

$$F_{rms} v_{rms} = 0.37 \text{ W}$$

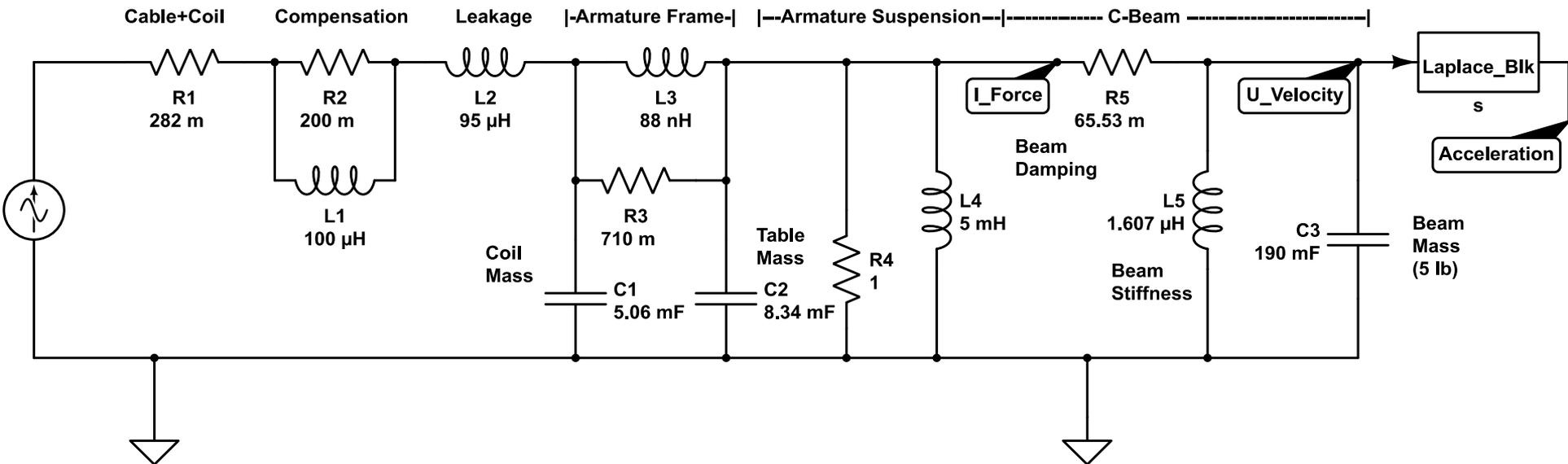
$$c (v_{rms})^2 = 0.36 \text{ W}$$

Real Active Power



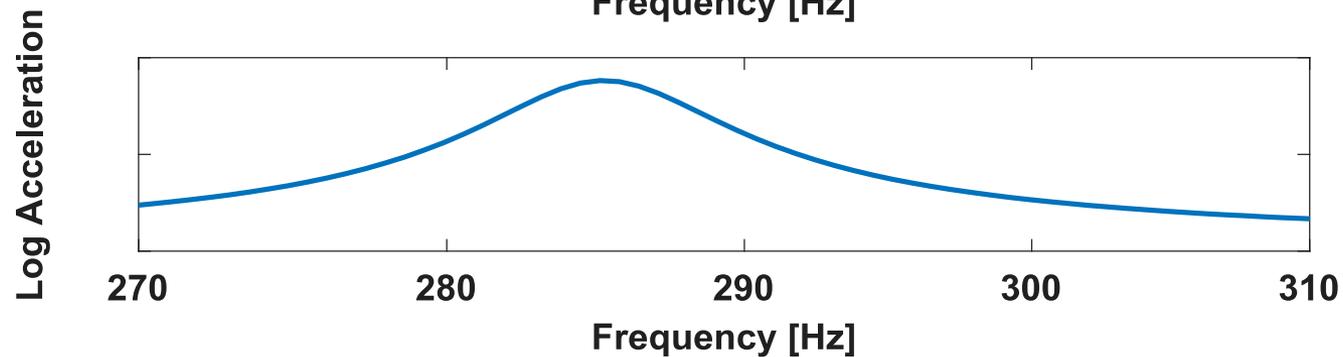
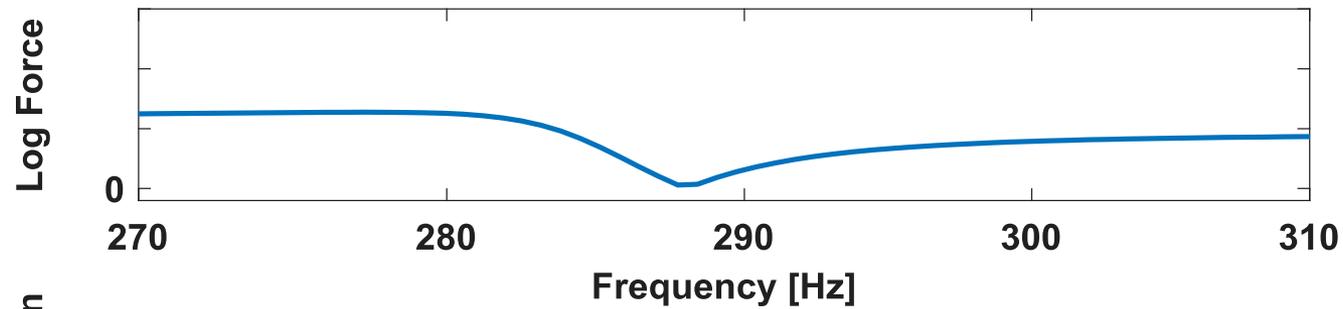
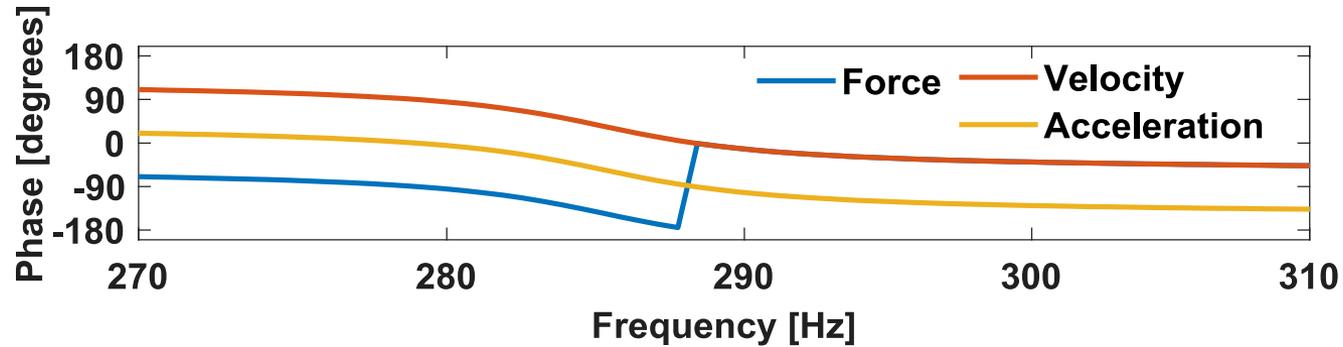
$f_r = 281 \text{ Hz}$  , 170 lbf Preload

# Discussion, Simulated System



\*Adapted from Lab Works Inc. schematic

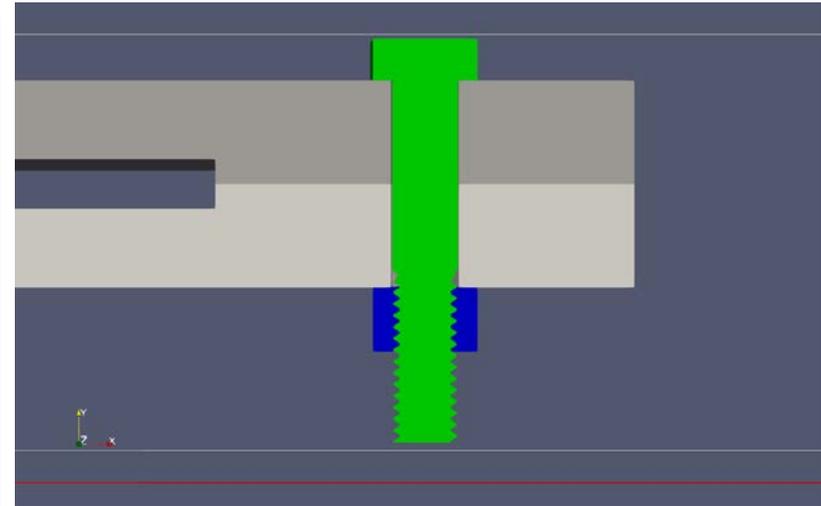
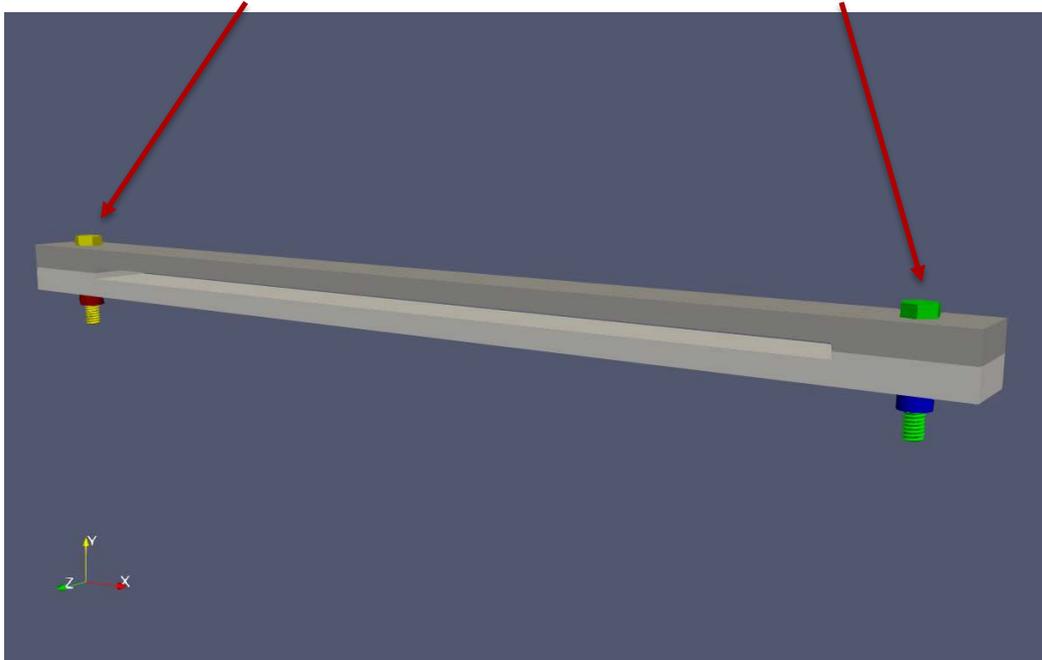
# Discussion, Simulated System



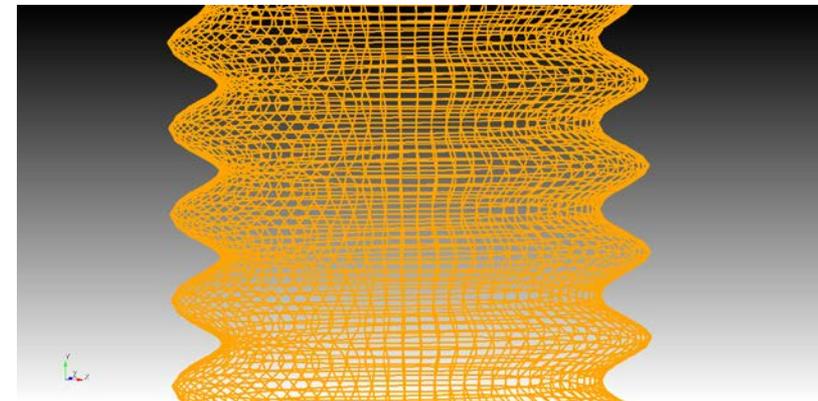
# FEA Setup – Model

Bolt 2

Bolt 1



Total # Elements:  
~800,000 hex elements

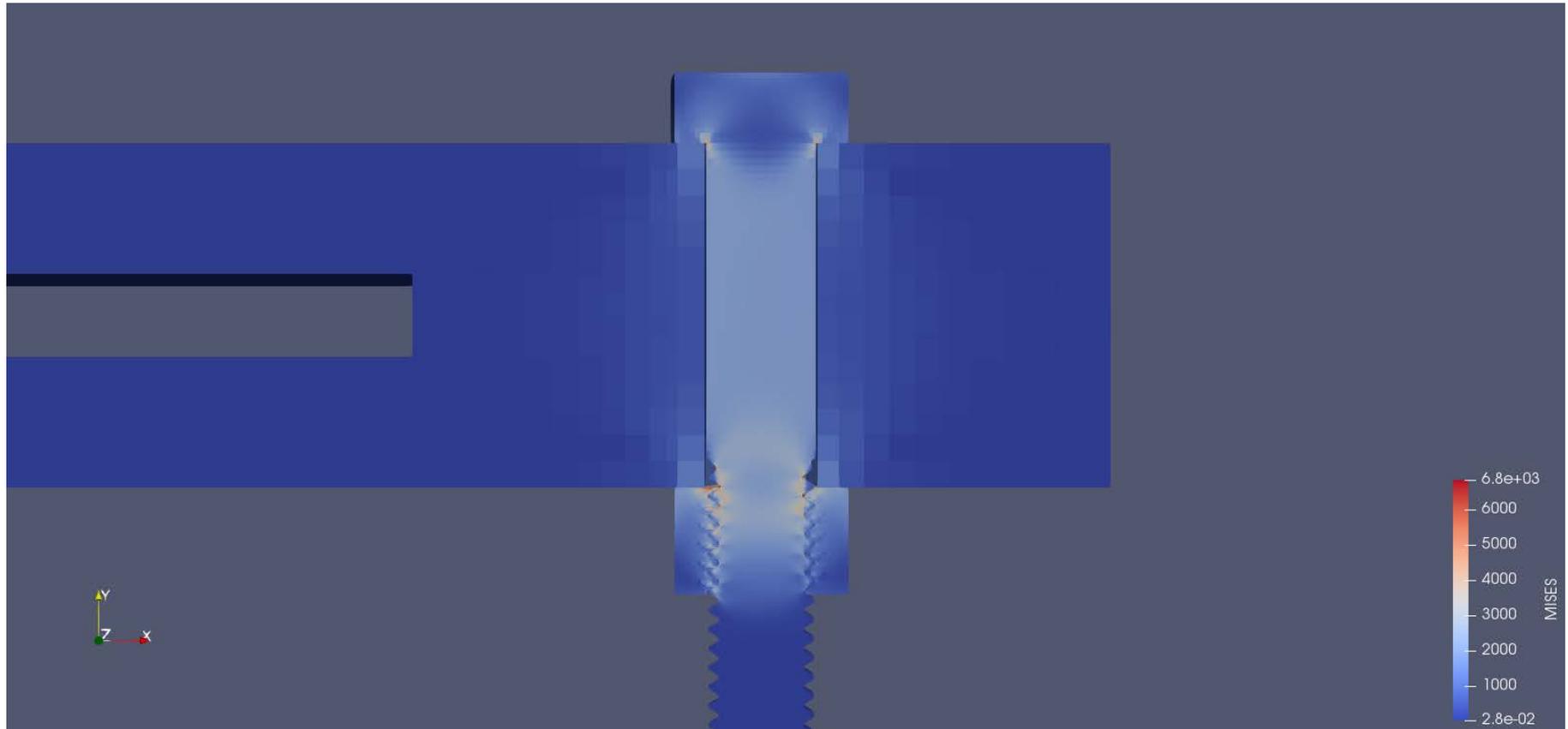


# FEA Setup – Key Features

- Preload: 30 – 2400 lb
- Shaker Force: 25 lb
- Mode Frequencies:
  - Mode 1: 241-288 Hz
  - Mode 2: 321-350 Hz
- Material Model: Elastic-plastic
- Stick-slip friction model
  - $\mu_s = 0.6$
  - $\mu_k = 0.2$
- SIERRA Step 1: Preload via nut rotation
- SIERRA Step 2: Sine force input at mode frequency

# SIERRA Step 1 – Fastener Stress

150 lb Preload



# SIERRA Step 2 – 150lb Preload

Mode 1: 281 Hz



\_Dispvec  
1.402e+01  
1.052e+01  
7.012e+00  
3.509e+00  
6.483e-03



Mode 2: 337 Hz



\_Dispvec  
1.402e+01  
1.052e+01  
7.012e+00  
3.509e+00  
6.483e-03

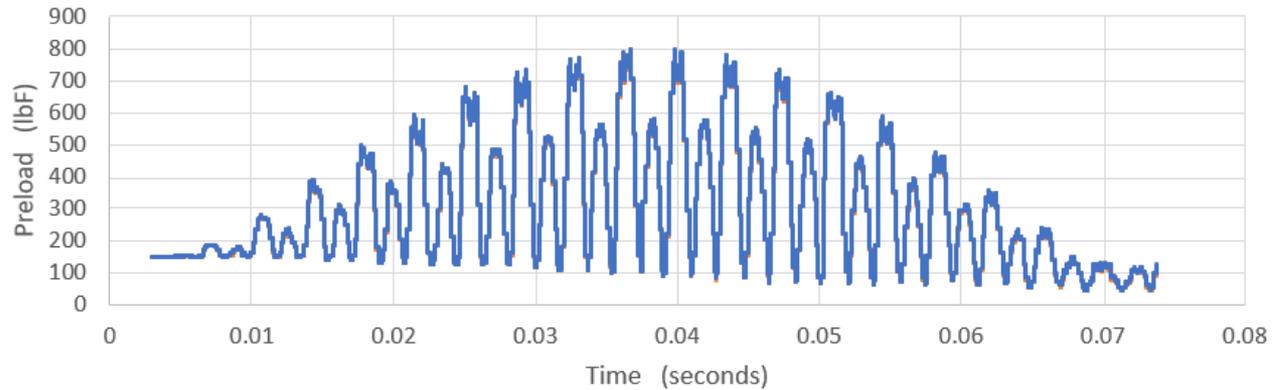


# SIERRA Step 2 – 150lb Preload

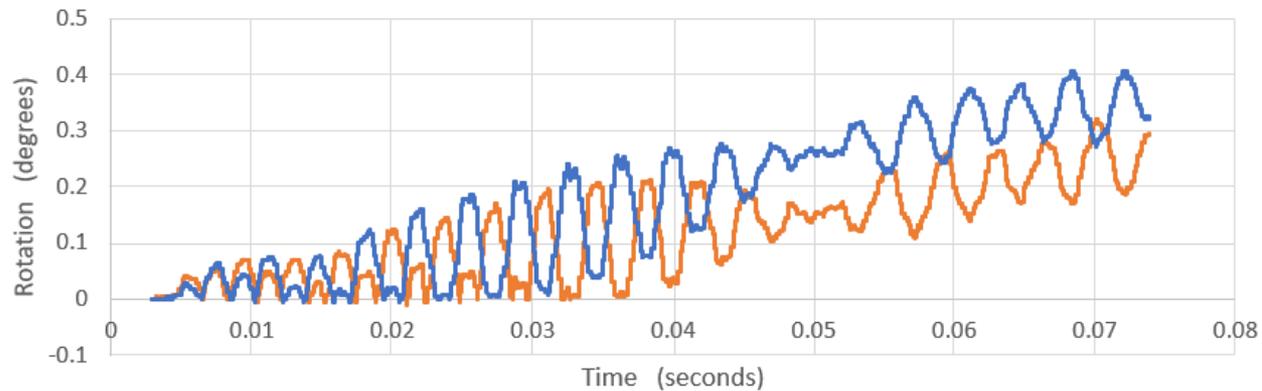
Mode 1: 281 Hz



### Bolt Preload vs Time



### Bolt Rotation vs Time

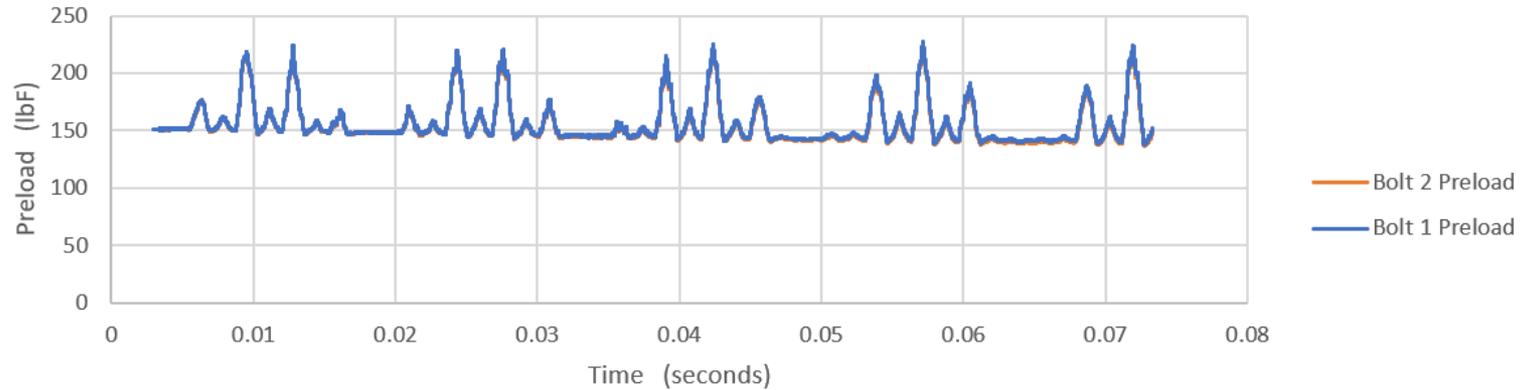


# SIERRA Step 2 – 150lb Preload

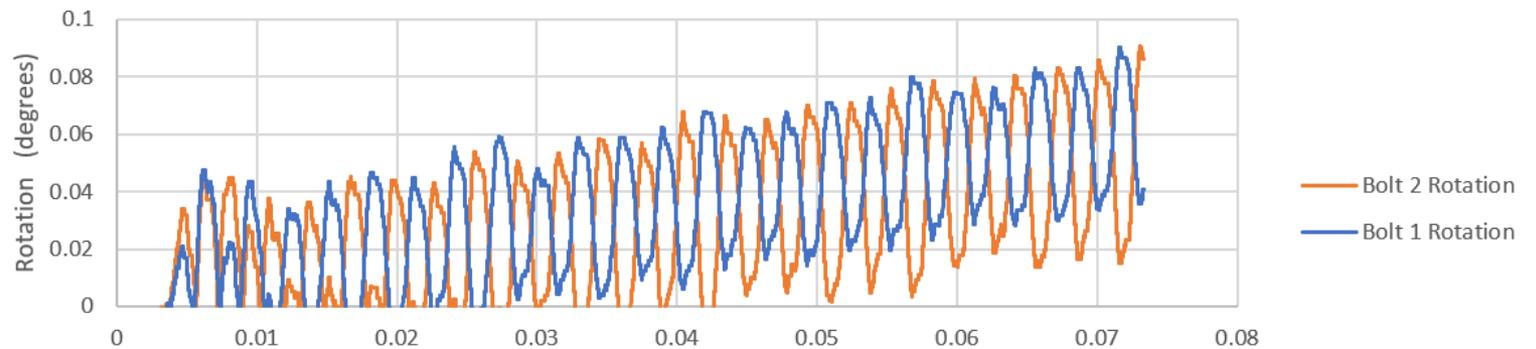
Mode 2: 337 Hz



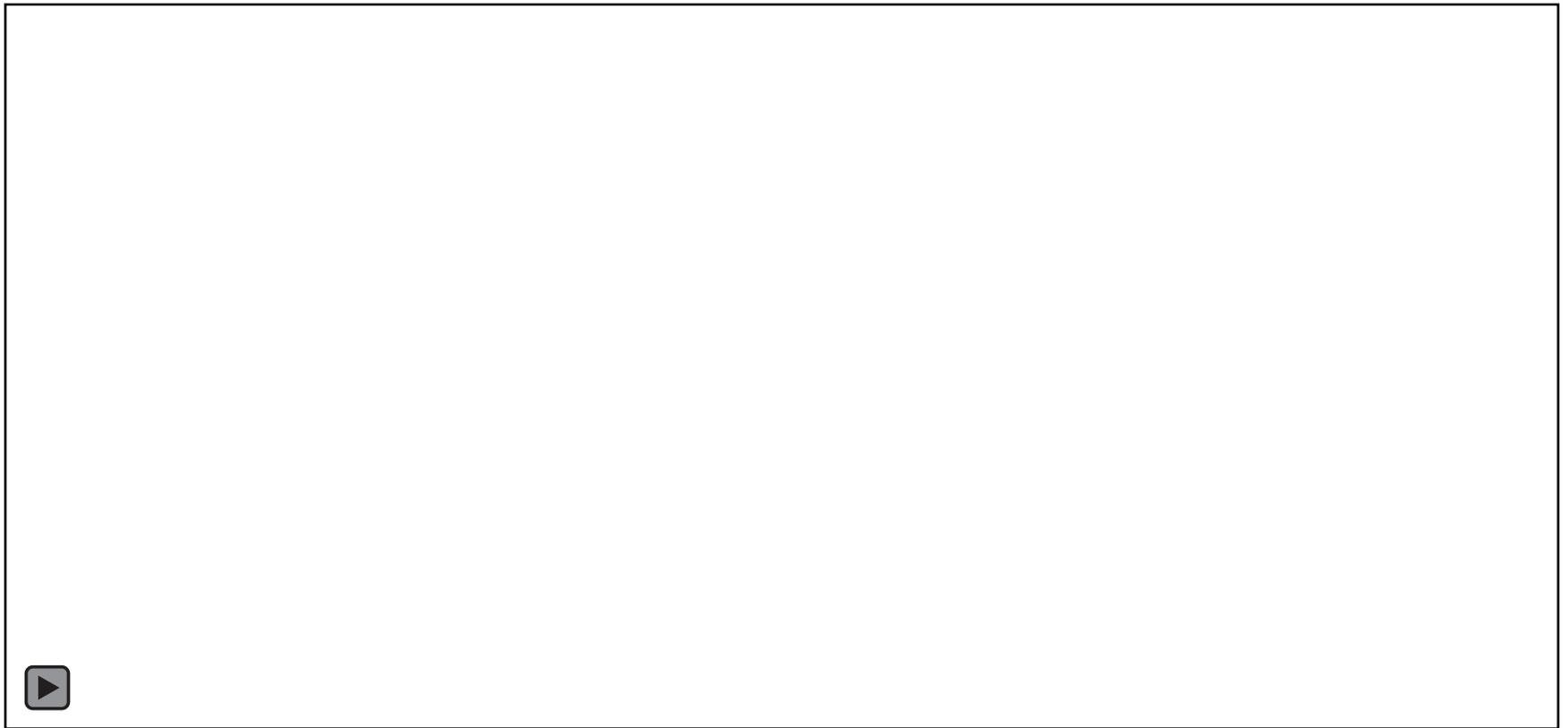
### Bolt Preload vs Time



### Bolt Rotation vs Time

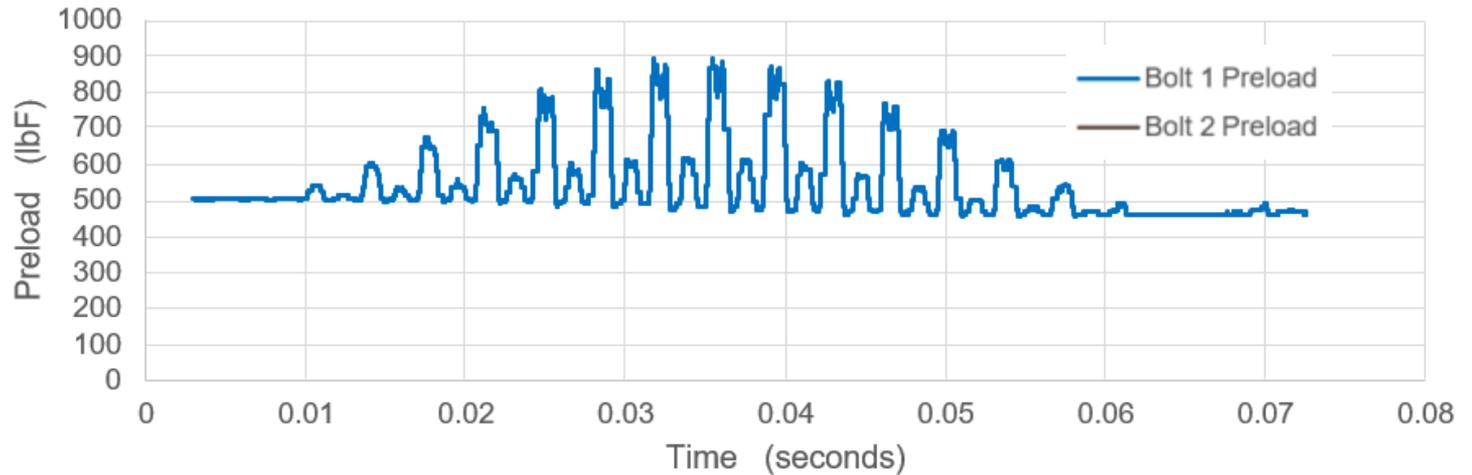


# Contact Stress – 150lb Preload



# SIERRA Step 2 – 500lb Preload

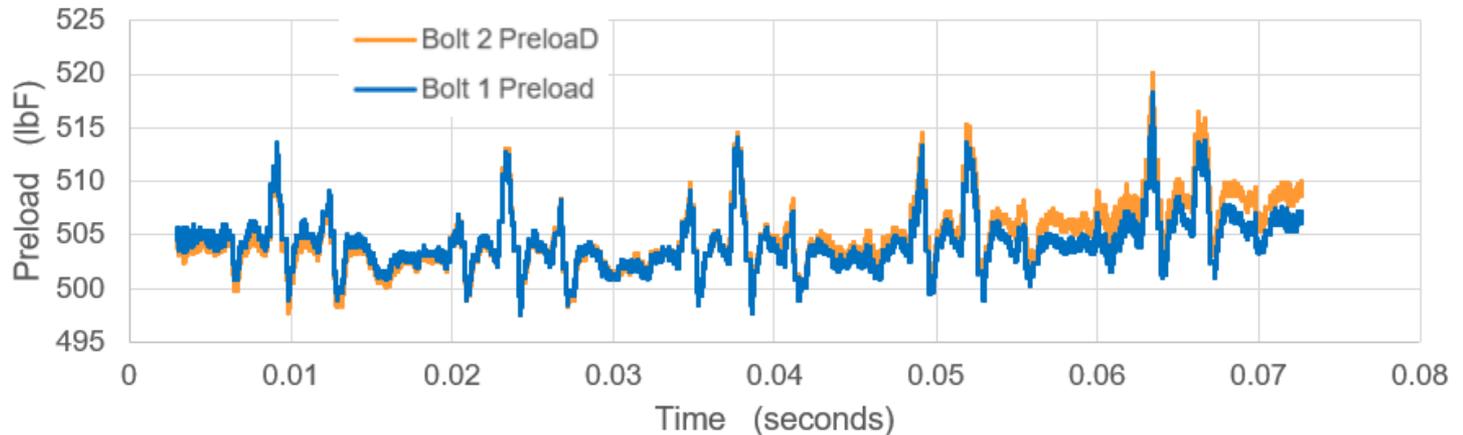
## Preload vs Time - Mode 1



Mode 1: 287 Hz



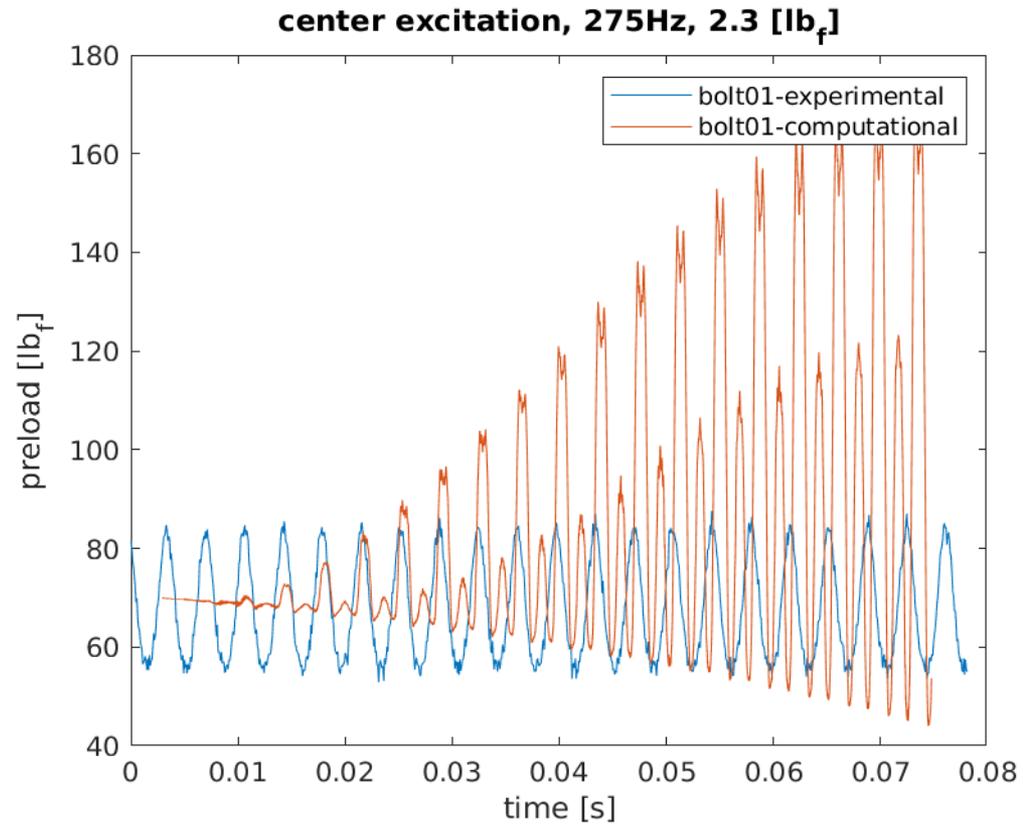
## Preload vs Time - Mode 2



Mode 2: 350 Hz



# Experiment vs Computational



# Conclusions

- Observed self-loosening through harmonic excitation
  - Stage I experimentally
  - Stage II computationally
- Mismatch in experimental/computational behavior
  - Experimental limitations
  - Computational model

# Future Work

- Things to try:
  - more realistic preloads (50-80%  $\sigma_y$ )
  - simplified structure
- Comparison with reduced order models
- Other metrics of loosening

# Acknowledgements

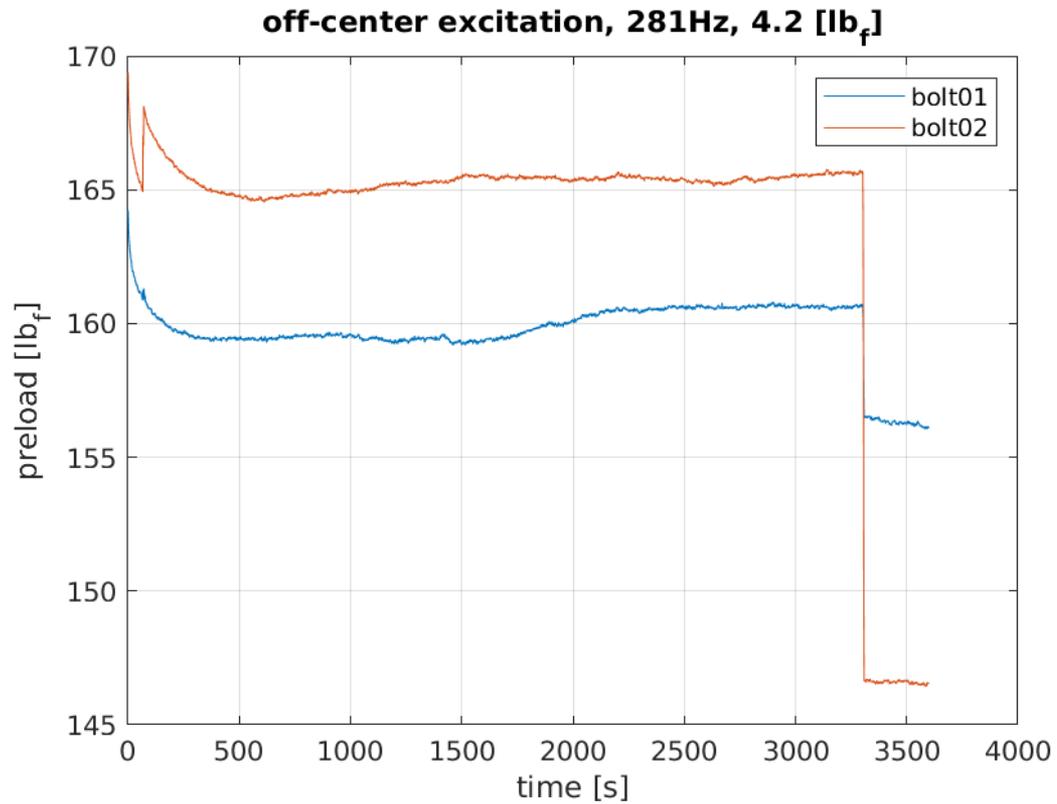
- This research was conducted at the 2019 Nonlinear Mechanics and Dynamics Research Institute supported by Sandia National Laboratories and hosted by the University of New Mexico.
- Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC., a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International, Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA-0003525.

Thank you!

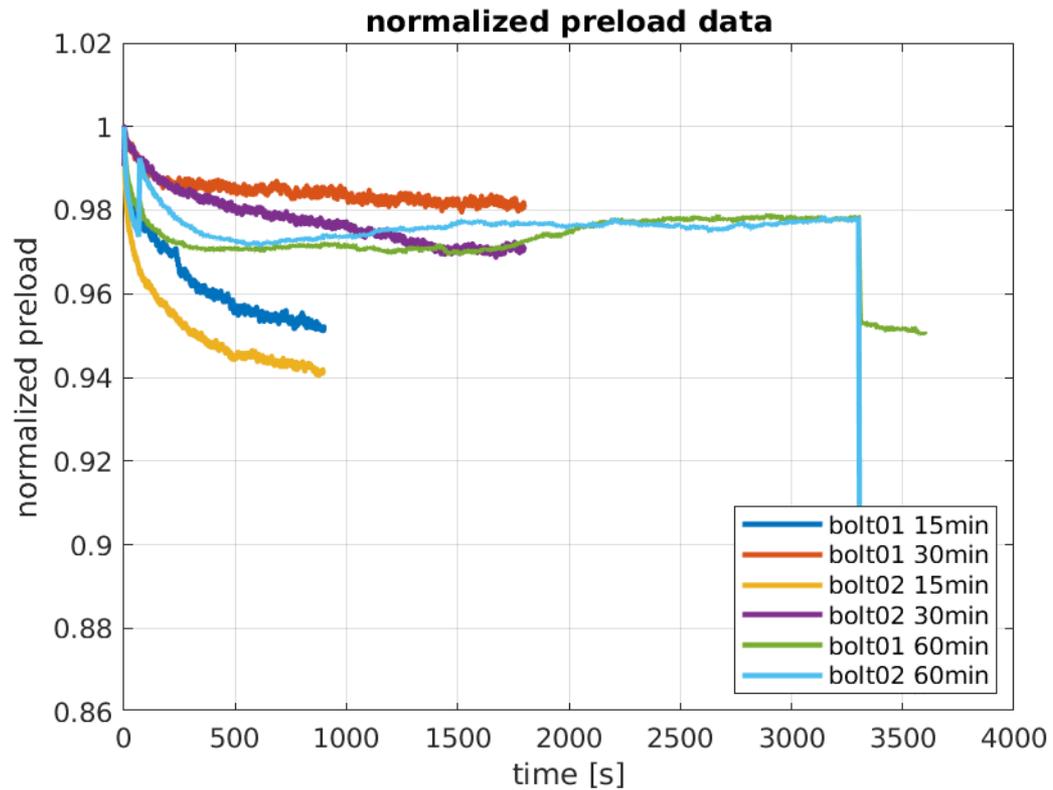
Questions?



# Experimental Results



# Experimental Results



# Project Overview

vibratory conveyor

forces on joint  
(preload, shear, axial, etc...)

