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## Biomechanics of complications in spine surgery

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## Implant failure

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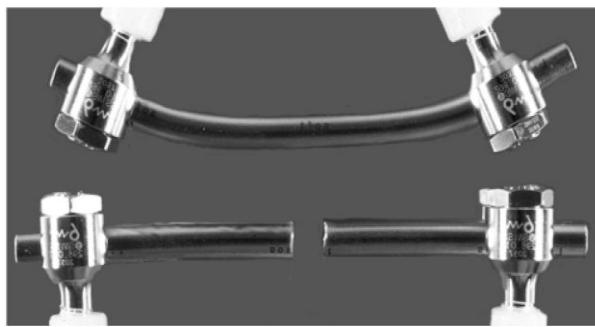


<http://www.medscape.com>



Kim et al. 2008

loosening and pull-out



Hahn et al. 2002



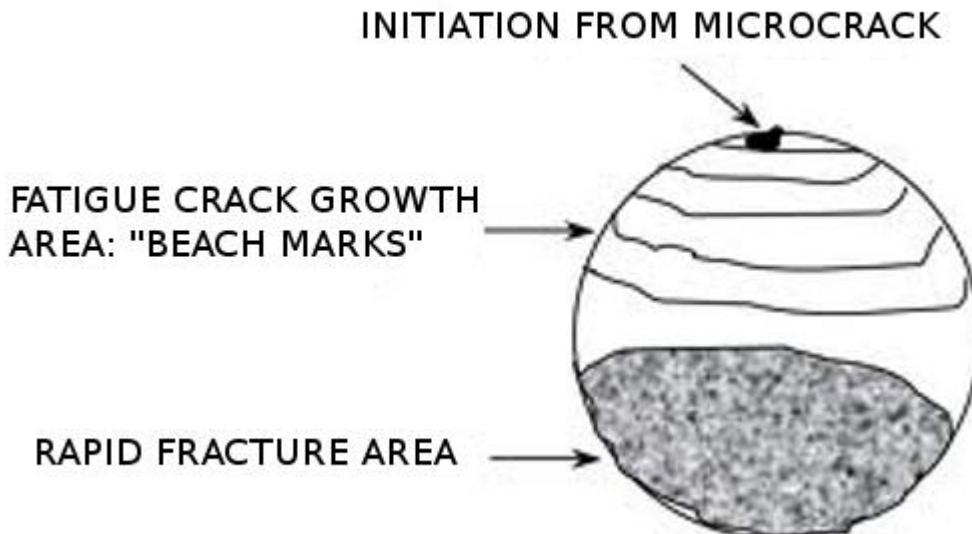
Hahn et al. 2002

static or fatigue failure



## Fatigue fracture

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<http://www.charlestongaragedoors.com>



<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk>

due to repetitive loading



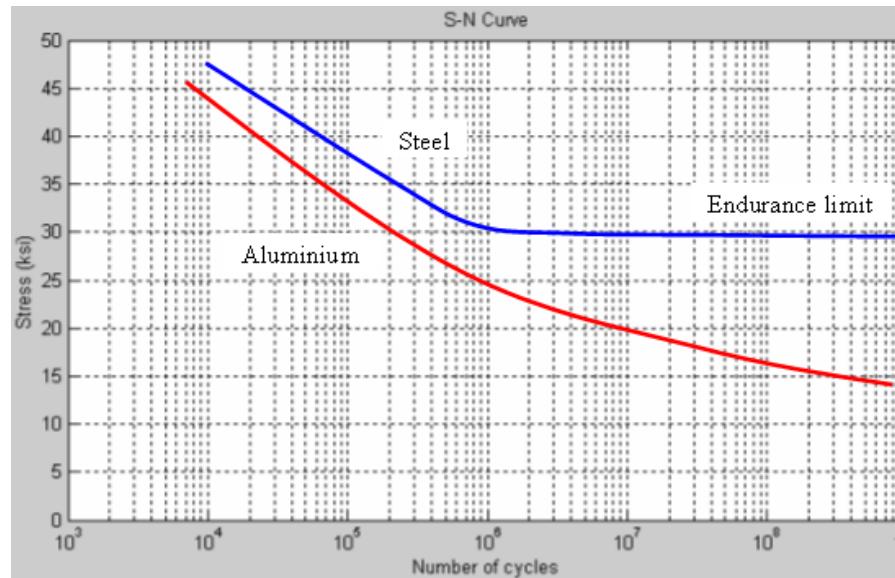
# Factors that affect fatigue life

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## Surface quality

- SURFACE ROUGHNESS - MICRO STRESS CONCENTRATIONS
- SURFACE FINISH – HA COATING, NITRIDING

## Mechanical properties of the material



fatigue failure never happens under this limit



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## Size and distribution of internal defects

- Casting defects
- Gas porosity or non metallic inclusions
- Shrinkage voids



## Direction of loading

- direction of the principal stress

## Grain size

- smaller grains yield longer fatigue lives
- But, surface defects or scratches will have a greater influence than in a coarse grained alloy

## Environment

- Corrosion fatigue
- Galvanic corrosion



## Temperature

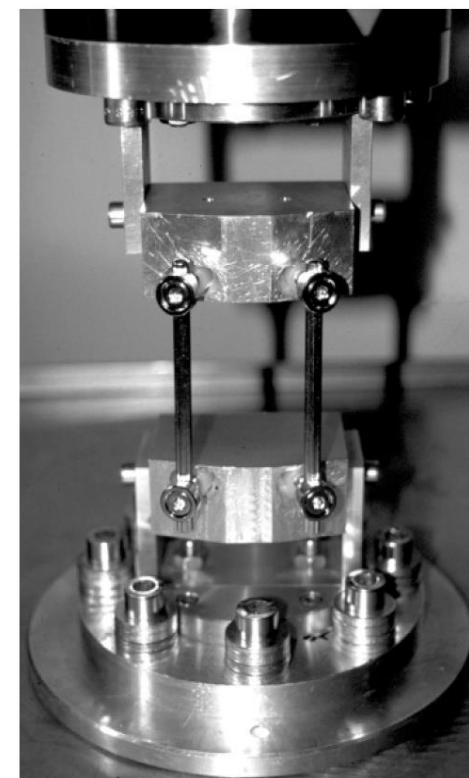
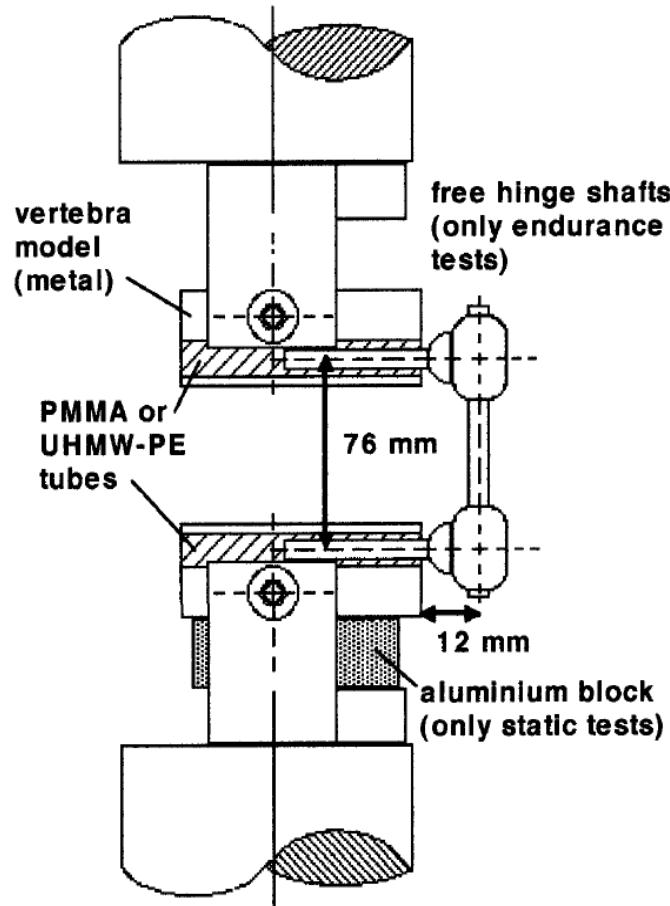
- Extreme high or low temperatures can decrease fatigue strength



# Standard mechanical tests: fatigue life

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## ASTM F1717



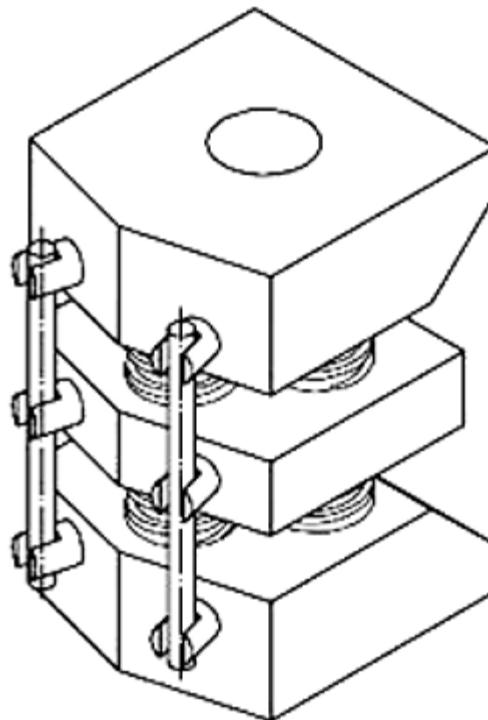
Hahn et al. 2002



Standard mechanical tests: fatigue life

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**ISO 12189**



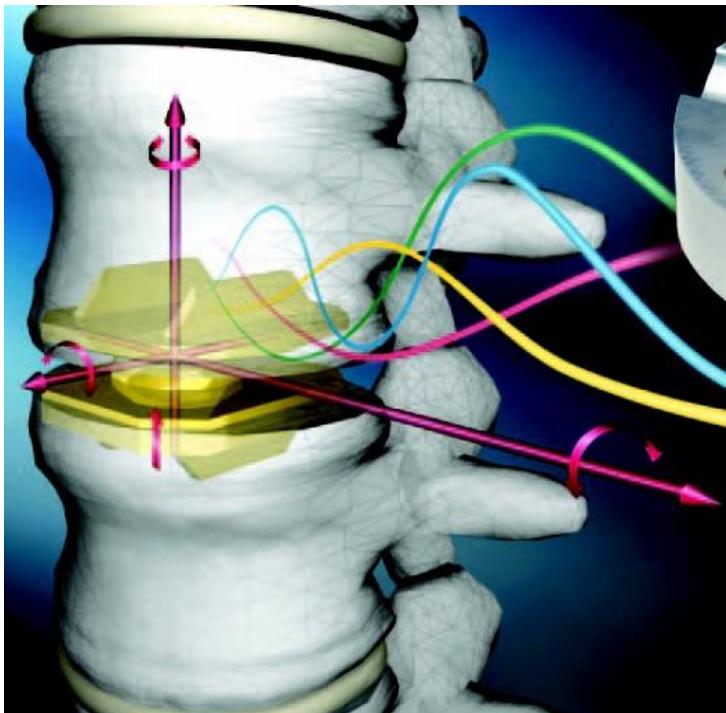
<http://www.endolab.org>



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## Standard mechanical tests: wear

Relevant standards: ASTM F2423, ISO 18192



<http://www.mts.com>



<http://www.mts.com>



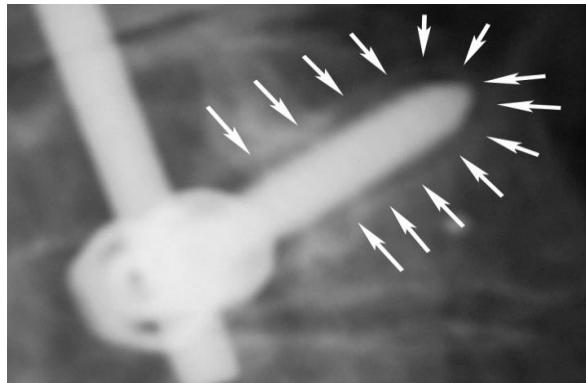
<http://www.exponent.com>

wear patterns in an artificial disc



## Loosening and pull-out

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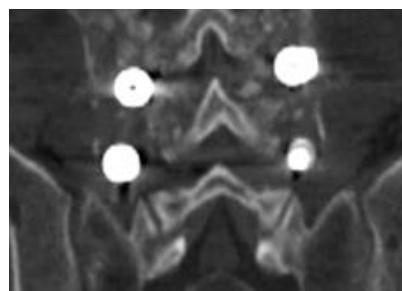


<http://www.medscape.com>



Kim et al. 2008

usually detected as a radiolucent zone and/or a halo around the implant



Young et al. 2007



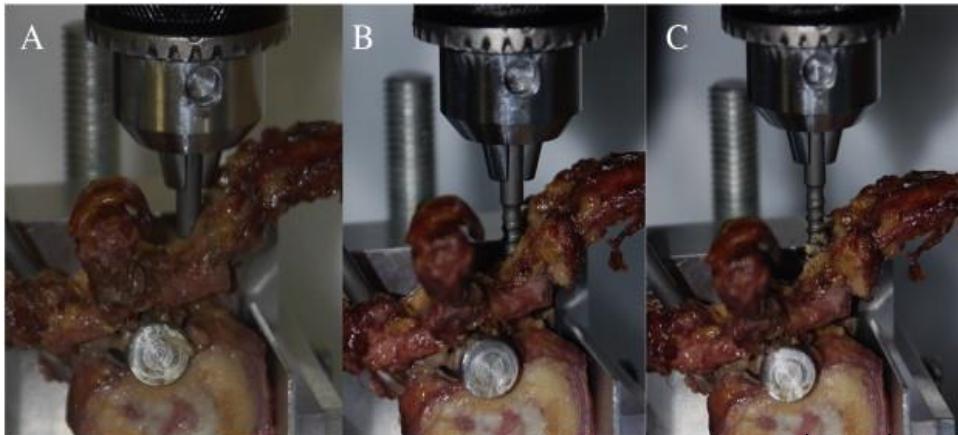
Kang et al. 2011

better evaluated with CT scans



# Loosening and pull-out: biomechanical testing

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Mehta et al. 2012

axial pull-out test



Reichle et al. 2002

cyclic sagittal loading



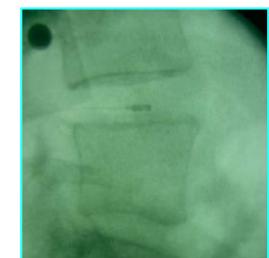
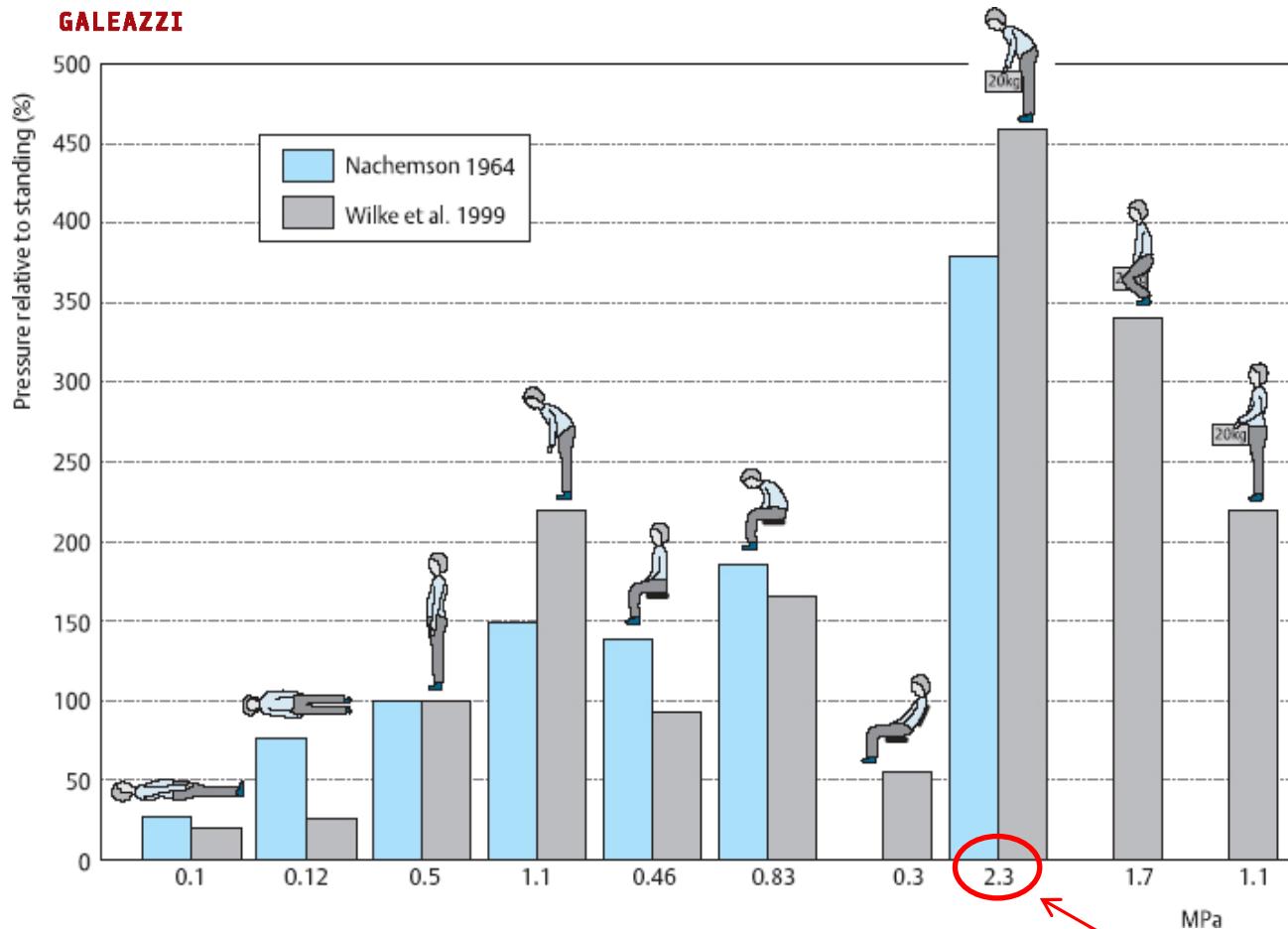
Paik et al. 2012  
cyclic axial loading



# Spinal loads

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(measured with a  
needle sensor in  
human patients)

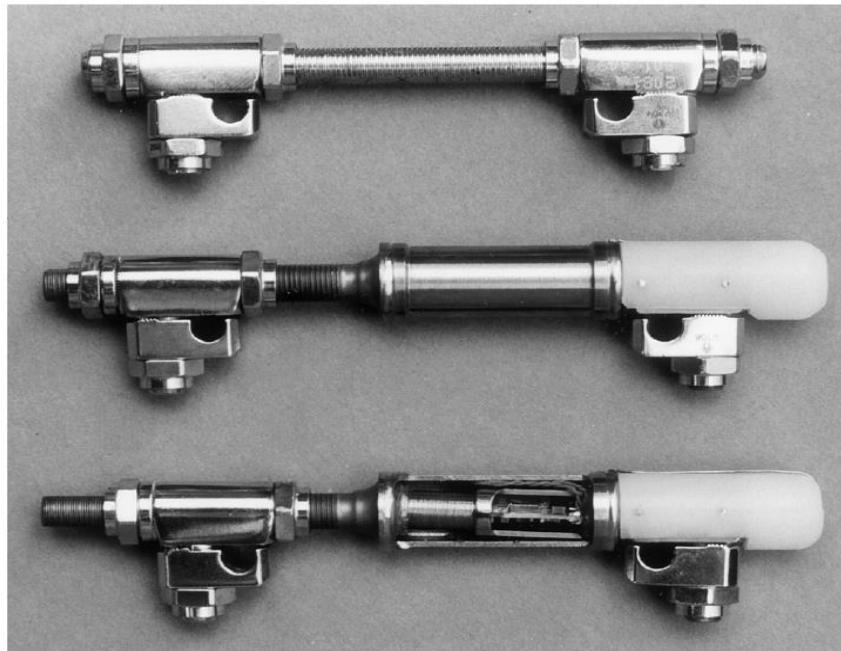
0.23 MPa  
in a tyre!



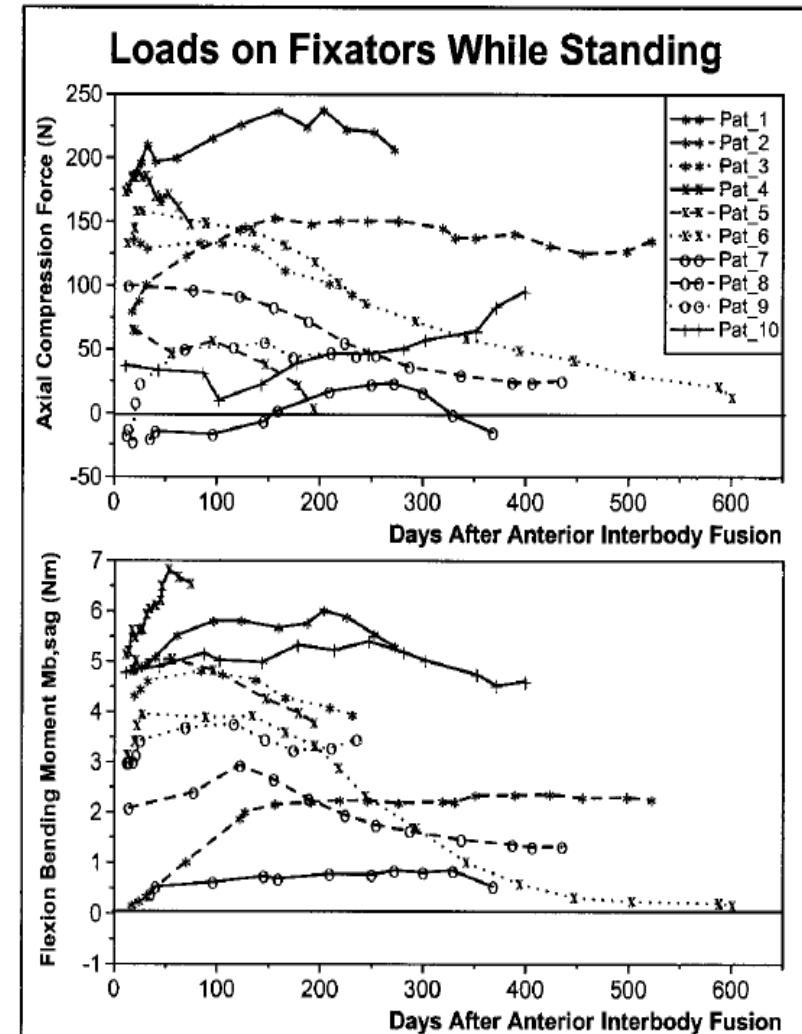


# How to estimate loads on implants?

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telemetry-implanted internal fixators

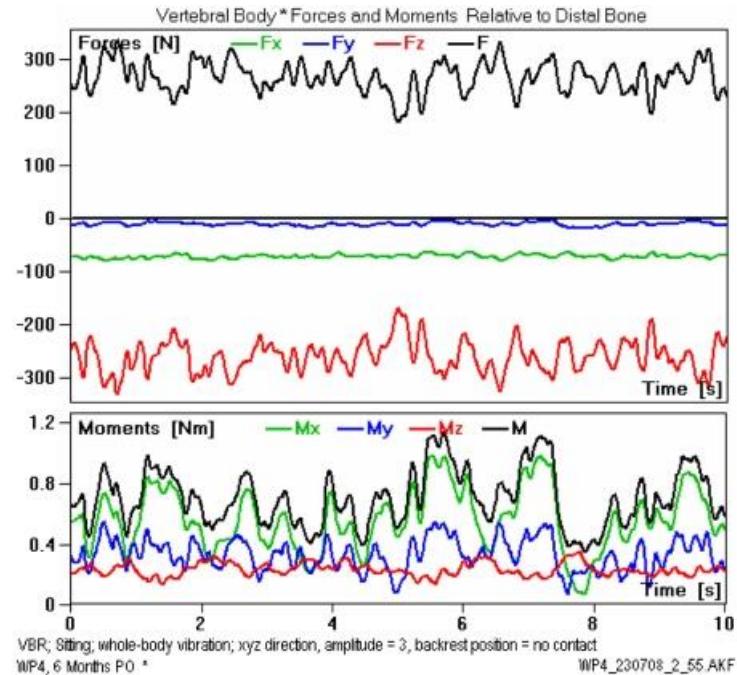
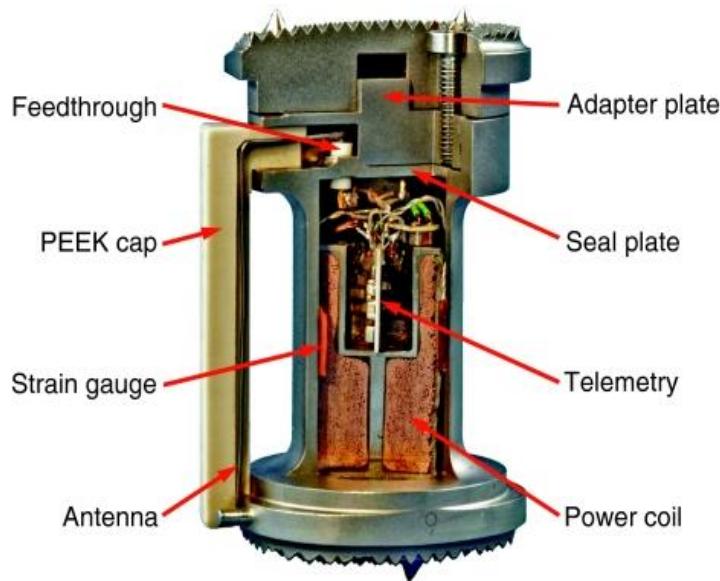


Rohlmann et al. 2000



# How to estimate loads on implants?

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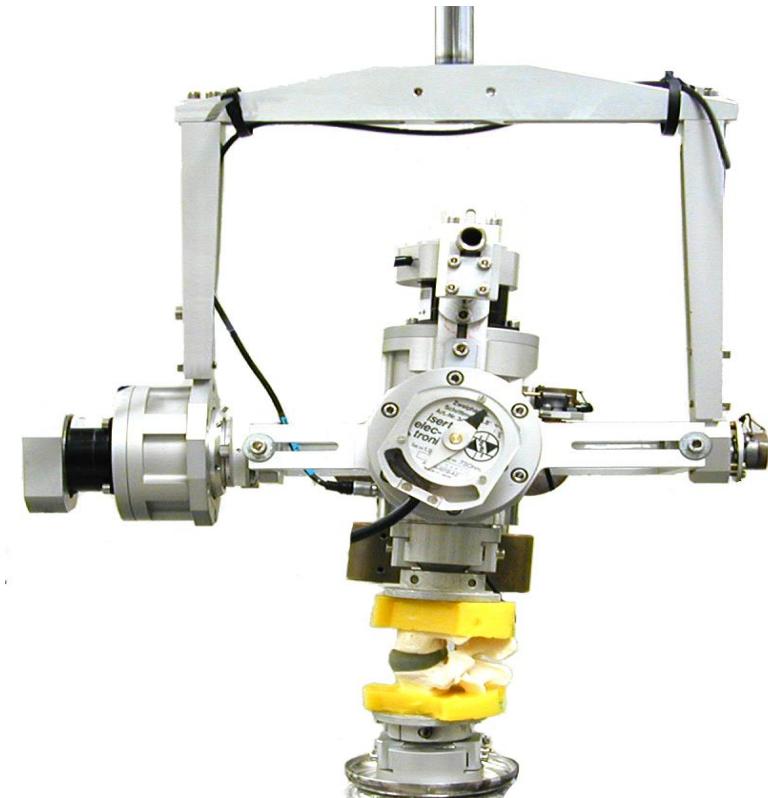
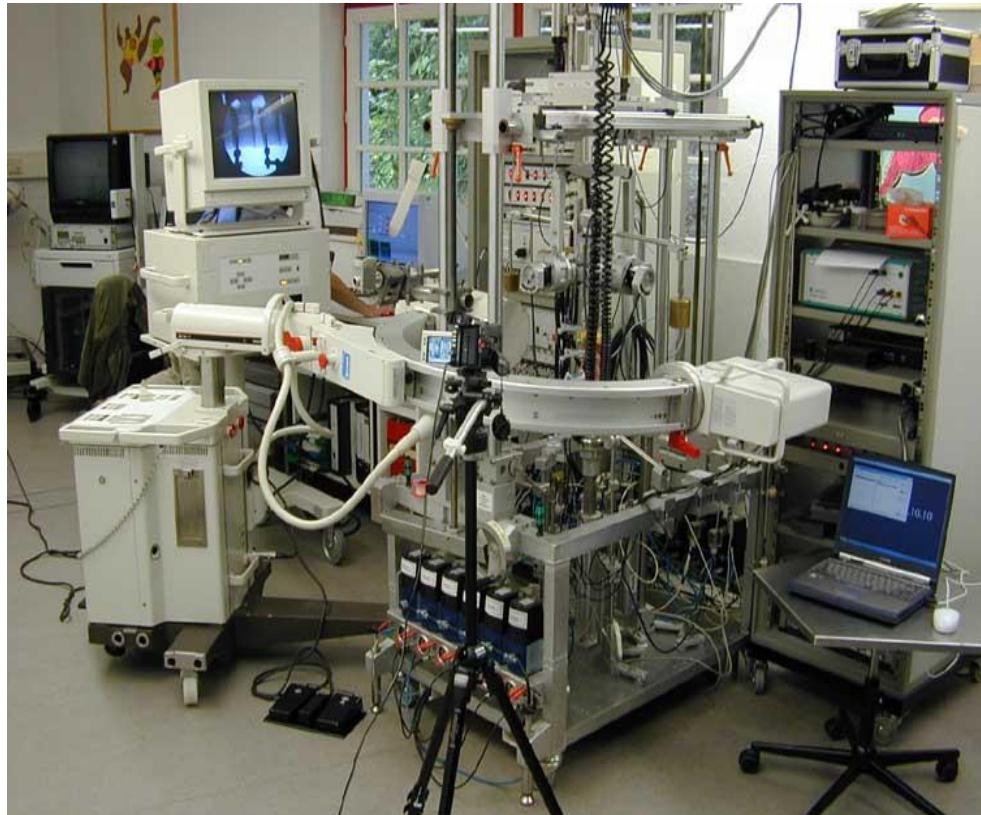
Rohlmann et al. 2010

telemetry-implanted cage for vertebral body replacement



# How to estimate loads on implants?

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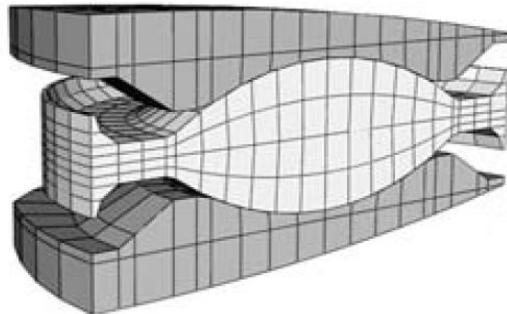


in vitro tests under standardized loads

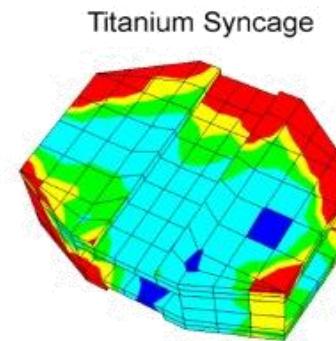
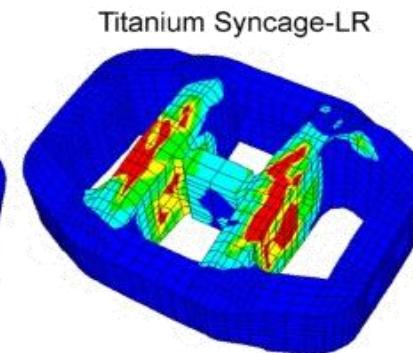
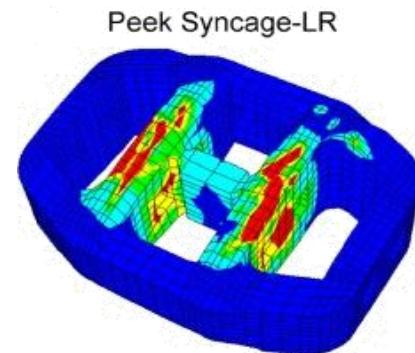
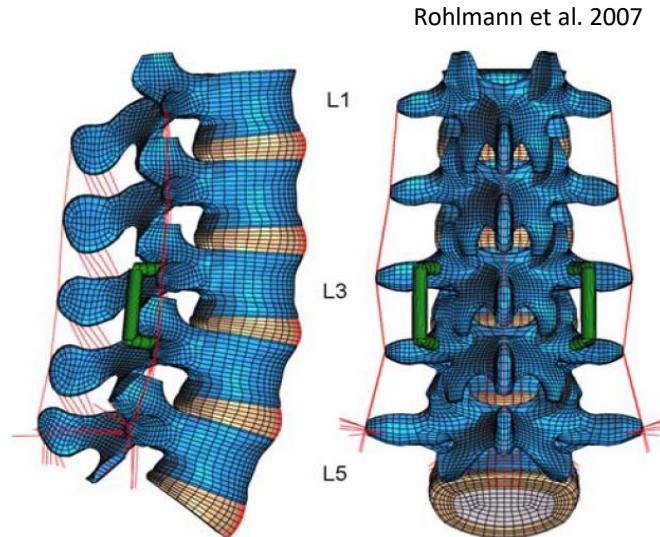


# How to estimate loads on implants?

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Schmidt et al. 2010



von Mises  
stress (MPa)

0 4 8 12 16 max

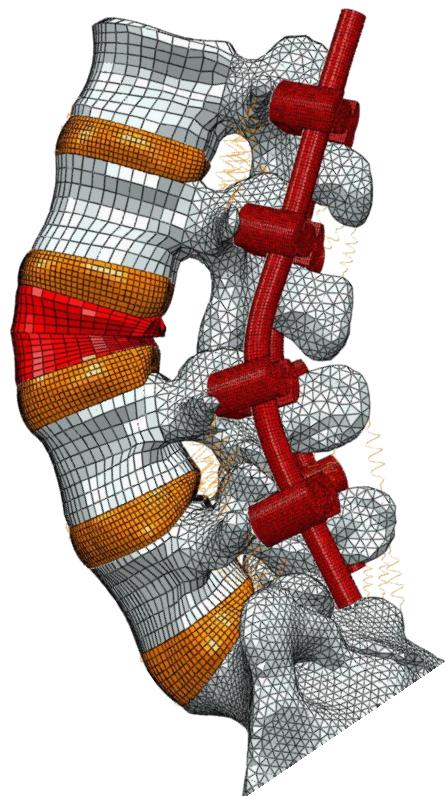
Ferguson et al. 2006

finite element modeling

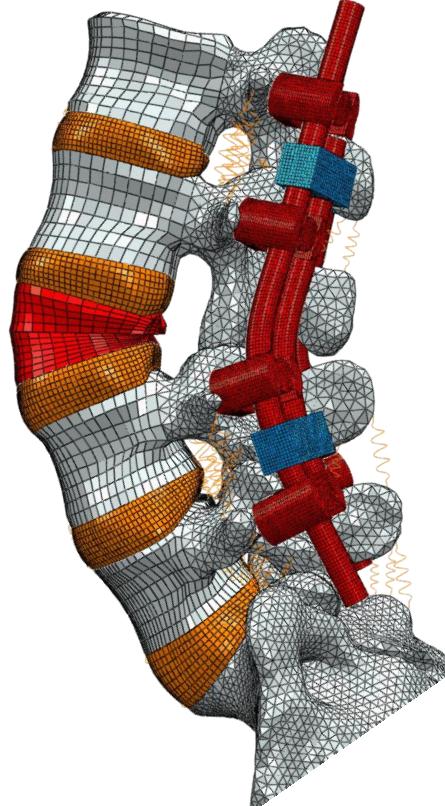
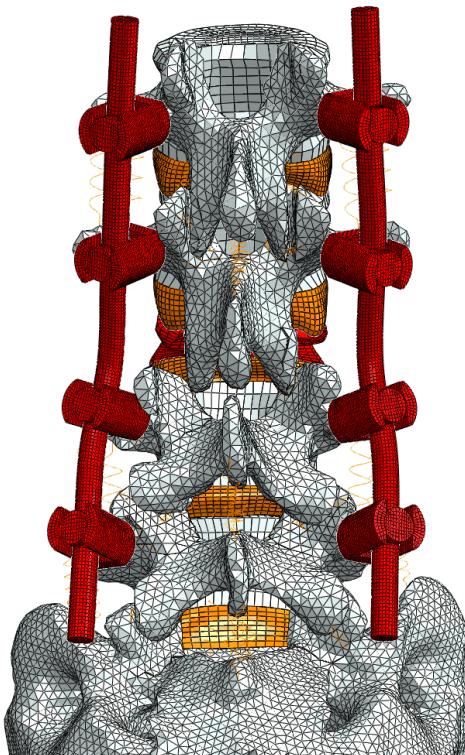


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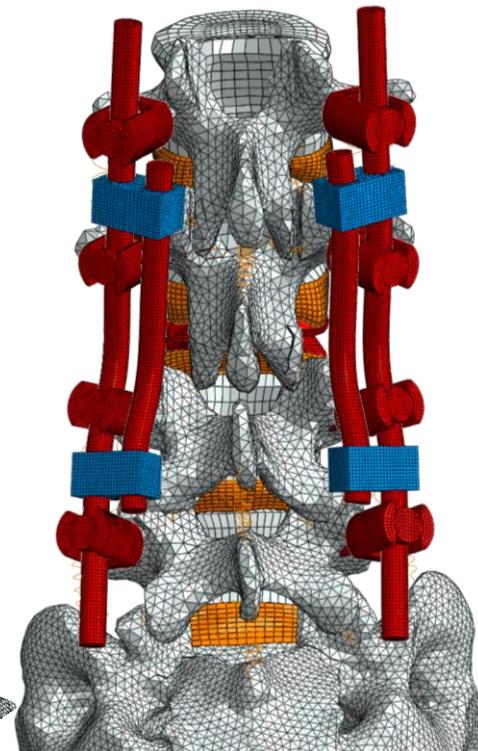
## Rods stresses after PSO



single rod



double rods

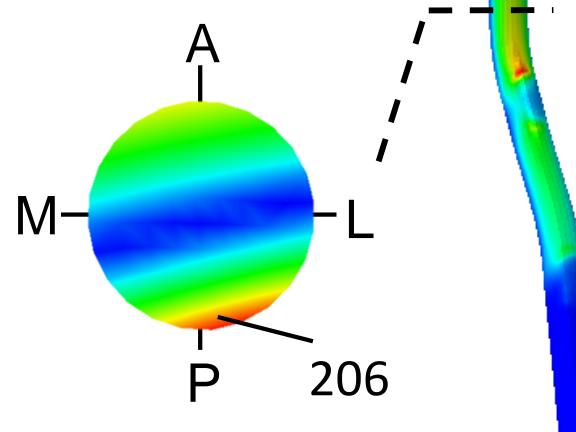
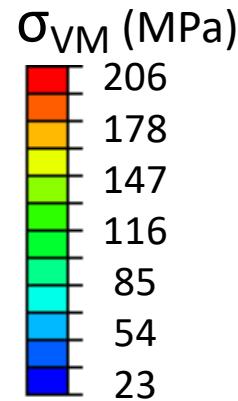
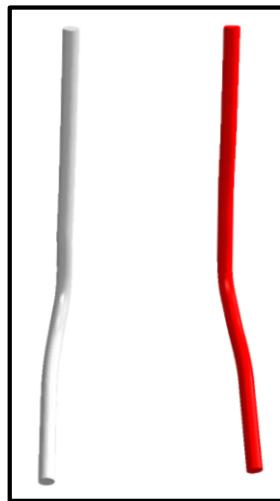


Luca et al. 2017

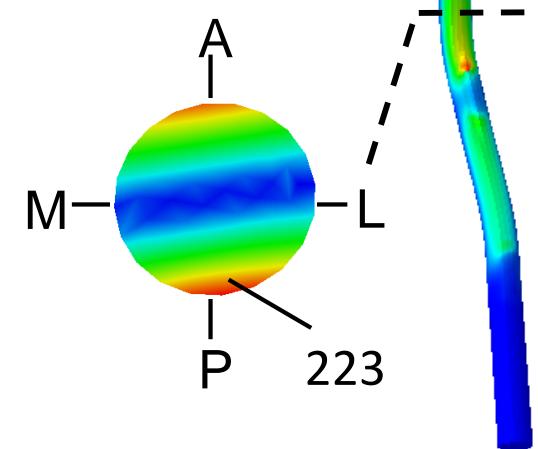
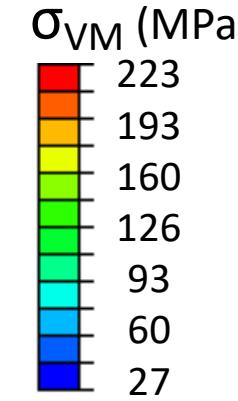


## Rods stresses after PSO – effect of rod diameter

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OL4-Ti-6mm



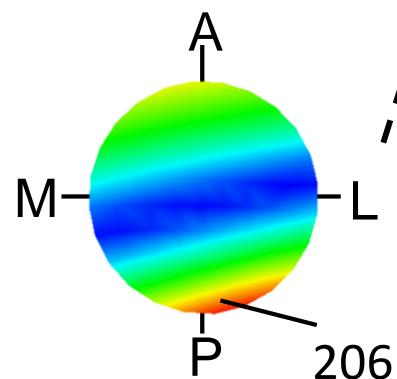
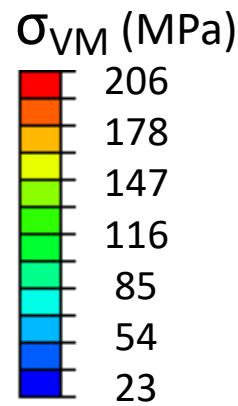
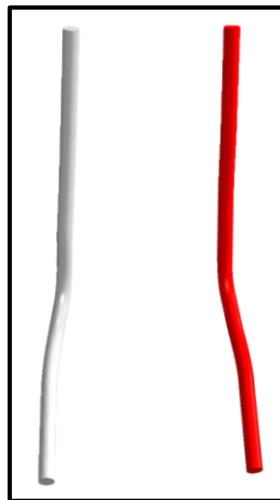
OL4-Ti-5mm



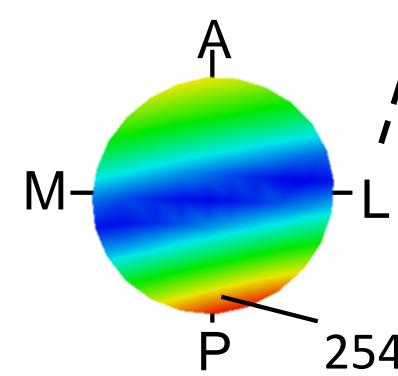
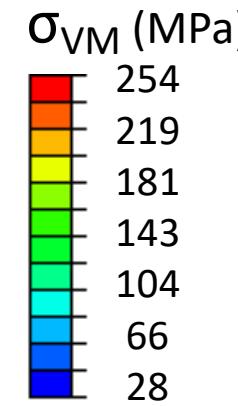
## Rods stresses after PSO – effect of rod material

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OL4-Ti

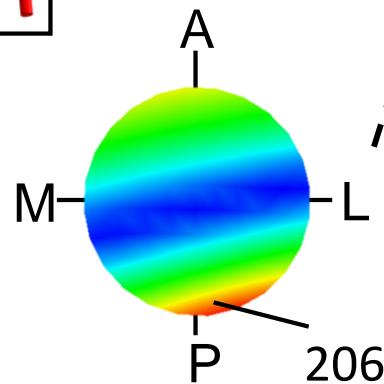
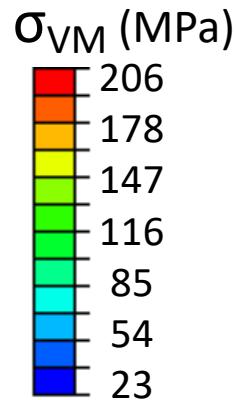
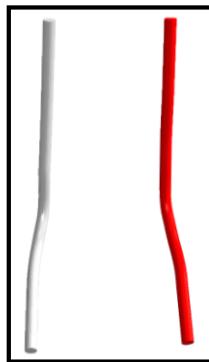


OL4-Cr-Co

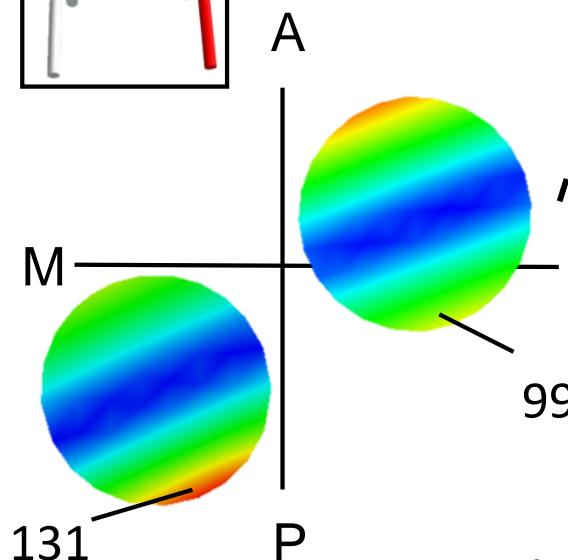
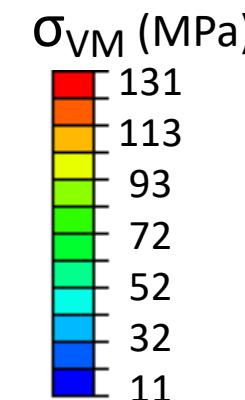
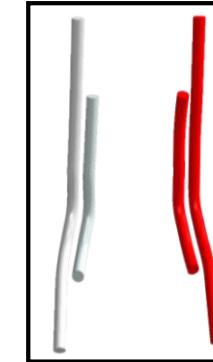


## Rods stresses after PSO – effect of double rods

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OL4-Ti

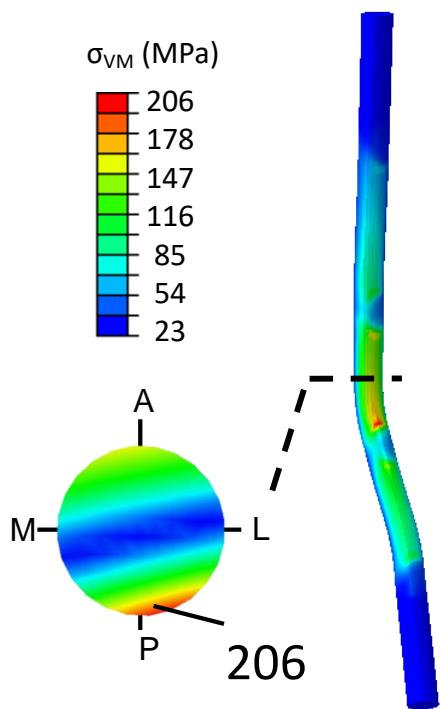


OL4-Ti-2rods

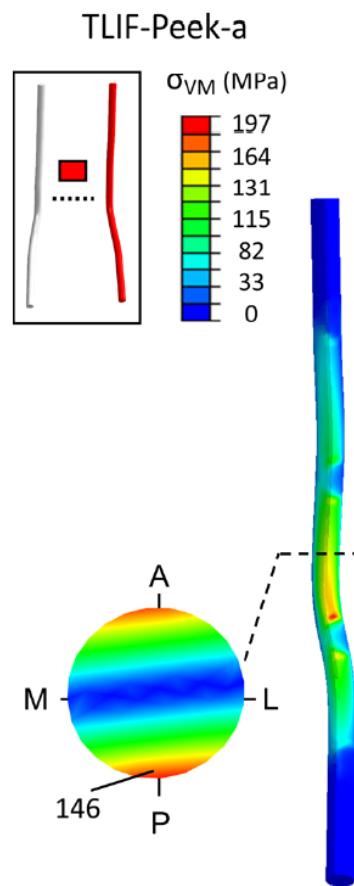


# Rods stresses after PSO – effect of interbody cages

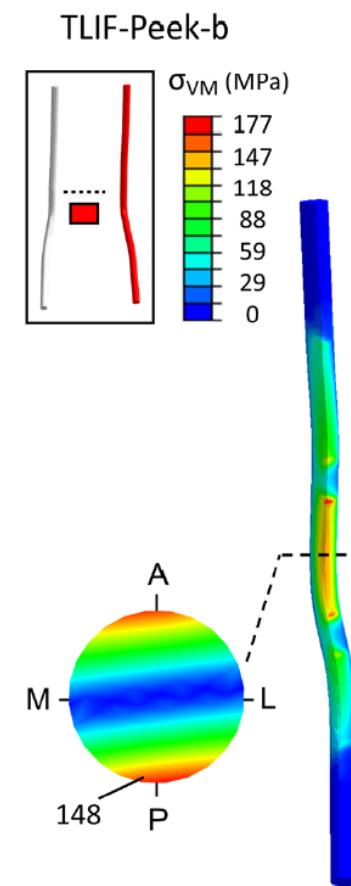
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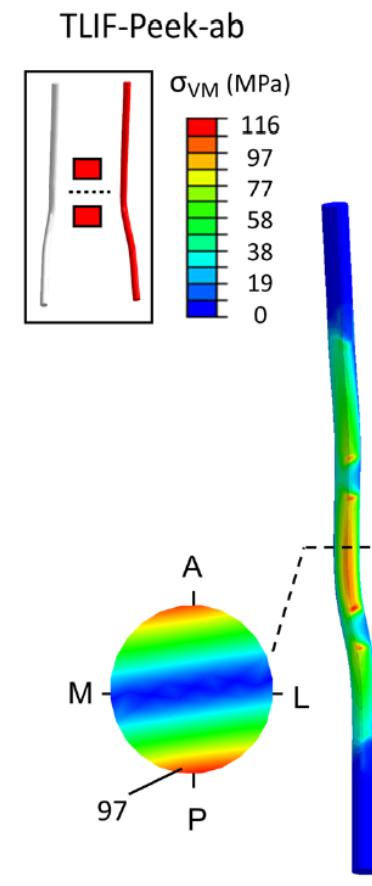
no cages



cage above



cage below



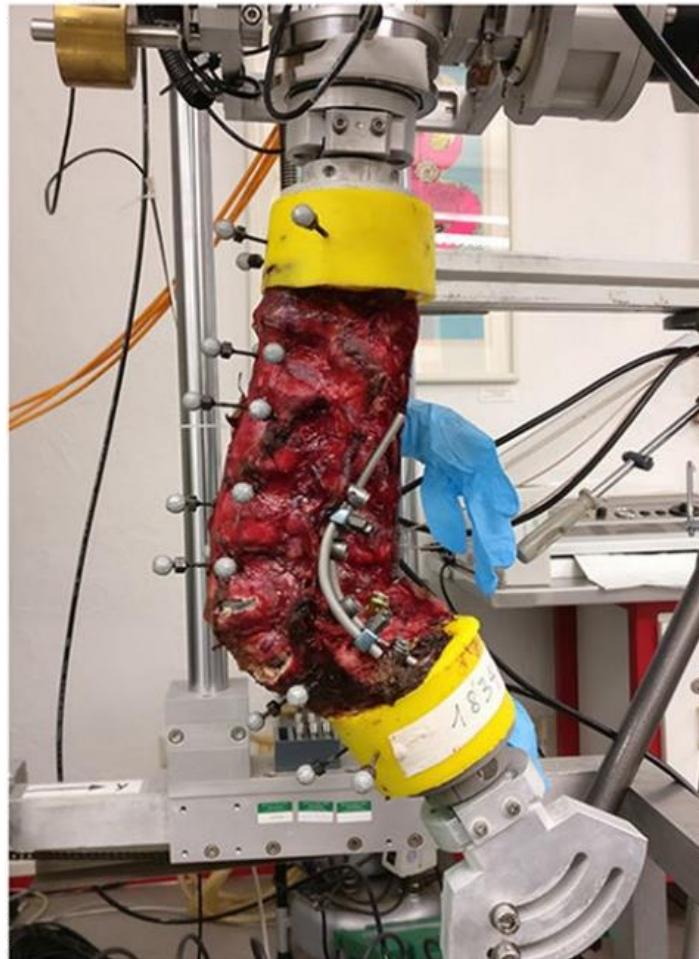
cage above  
and below



PSO – in vitro testing

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## PSO-4+Cages



La Barbera et al. 2018



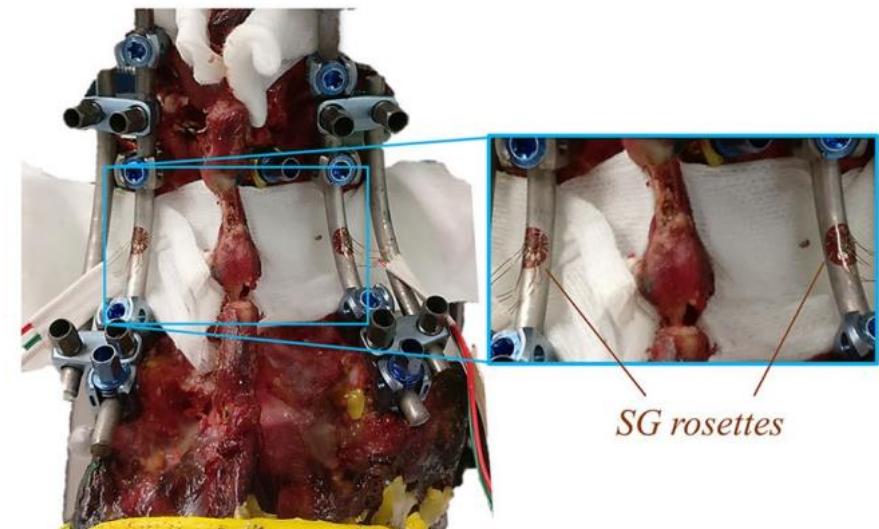
PSO-2

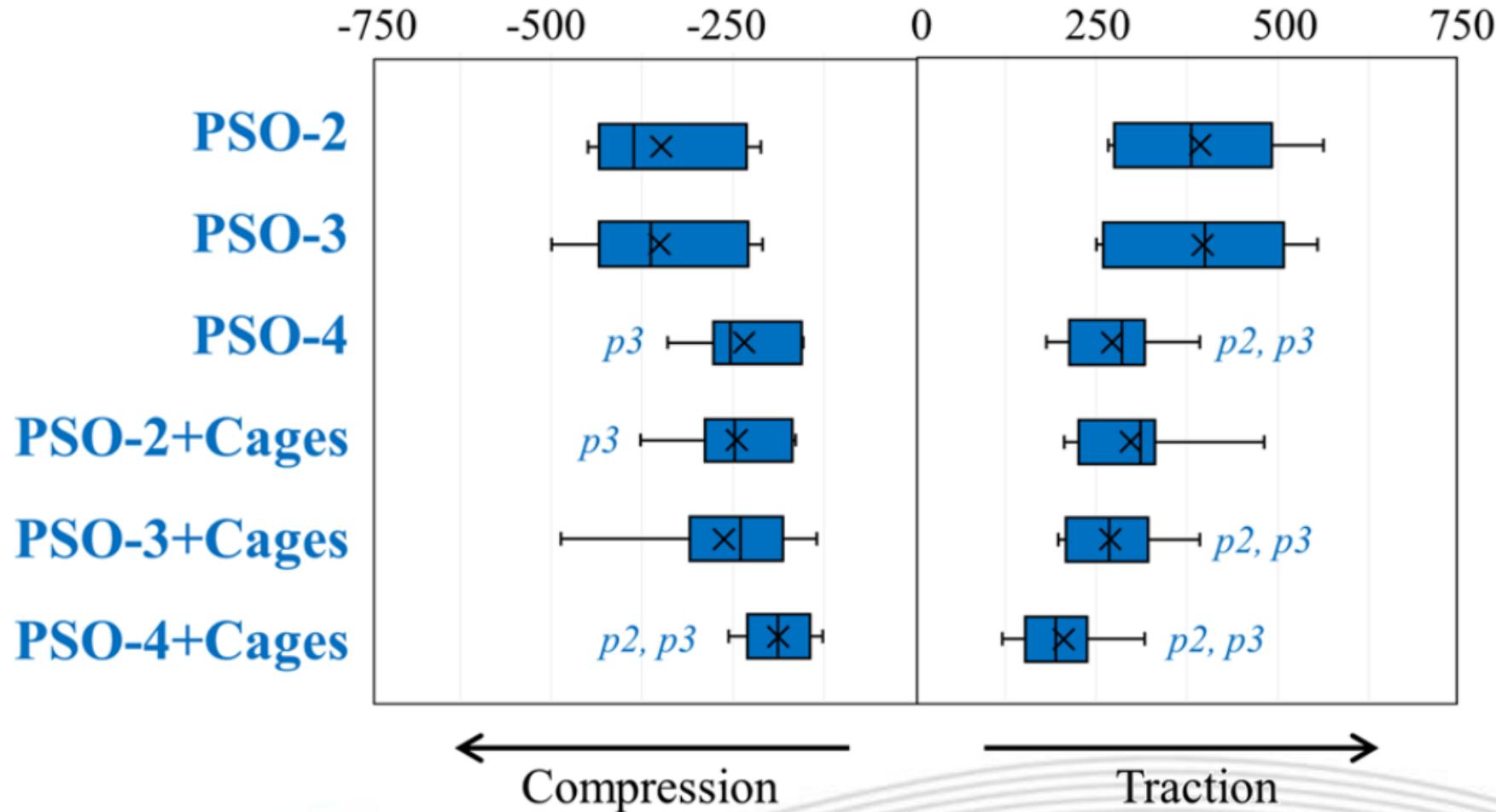


PSO-3



PSO-4



FE – Maximum primary rod strains ( $\mu\text{m/m}$ )



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**THANK YOU**