

# MEC E 403

## Lab 2: Bolted Connections

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### **Abstract**

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# 1 Nomenclature

Symbol	Description	Units
$b$	Blade height at the exit	m
$\beta_2$	Blade angle	rad
$D_1$	Pump suction line diameter	m
$D_2$	Pump discharge line diameter	m
$g$	Gravitational acceleration	m/s <sup>2</sup>
$H$	Stagnation head	m
$H'_{\text{ideal}}$	Ideal shutoff head	m
$H_t$	Transducer head	m
$H'_{\text{thumb}}$	Rule of thumb shutoff head	m
$\dot{m}$	Mass flow rate of water	kg/s
$N$	Number of pump impeller blades	-
$\Delta P$	Pressure change	Pa
$Q$	Volumetric flow rate	m <sup>3</sup> /s
$r_2$	Impeller radius	m
$t$	Time	s
$T$	Torque exerted by the pump impeller	Nm
$U$	Impeller tip speed	m/s
$v_{2r}$	Radial component of the exit velocity	m/s
$v_{2\theta}$	Tangential component of the exit velocity	m/s
$w$	Blade width	m
$\eta$	Pump efficiency	%

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$\rho$	Density of water	kg/m <sup>3</sup>
$\Omega$	Pump impeller angular speed	rad/s
$\Phi$	Flow coefficient	-
$\Psi$	Head coefficient	-

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## 2 Introduction

The focus of this lab was to analyze the performance of centrifugal pumps at different operating speeds, valve orientations, along with both parallel and series configurations. The data obtained from the lab testing is used to determine head, flow, and efficiency. The lab results are compared with the manufacturer provided data sheets and theoretical calculations. The parameters measured during each test are the moment arm, time to collect water (200lbs), and the transducer reading. The goal of determining the performance of different pumping configurations is useful for understanding how to achieve optimal efficiency in a piping system, and the effect certain factors (i.e., pump speed) have.

## 3 Procedure

### 3.1 Equipment

The experimental setup is shown in Figure 1. The following equipment will be used to conduct the experiment:

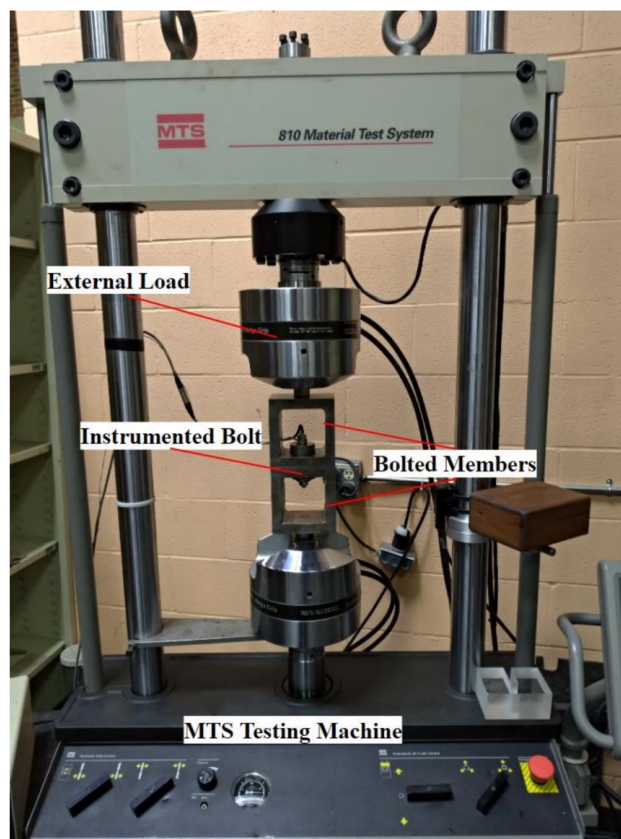


Figure 1: Experimental setup for bolted connection testing

- MTS testing machine, for applying controlled external loads to the bolted connection and measuring its response. The machine can also apply dynamic, or cyclic loads.
- Instrumented bolt (Strainert Type W), to output the bolt's strain as a voltage.
- Instrumented washer (Lebow Model 3711-375), to output the washer's strain as a voltage.
- Vishay strain gauge conditioner, to condition and amplify the signals from the strain gauges.
- Torque wrench, for applying specific torque values to the bolt during preload and torque tests.
- Gasket of unknown material, the material will be analyzed during the experiment to determine its properties.

## **3.2 Procedure**

### **3.2.1 Zero Preload**

1. Attach the bolted connection to the MTS machine with the nut attached "finger tight" (without a gasket).
2. Load the bolt 8 times with a range of 0 - 7.5 kN.
3. Record the external load and bridge imbalance at each load (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 7.5).

### **3.2.2 Repeatability Test**

1. Attach the bolt to the MTS machine.
2. Use the torque wrench to apply a preload of 50 in-lb.
3. Record the voltage readings from the bolt and washer gauges.
4. Loosen the bolt to remove any preload.
5. Repeat steps 2-4 four more times.

### **3.2.3 Zero Loading (Torque Test)**

1. Attach the bolt to the MTS machine, without a gasket.
2. Set the external load to 0 kN.
3. Record the voltage readings from the bolt and washer gauges.
4. Increase the torque by 25 in-lb.

5. Record the voltage readings from the bolt and washer gauges.
6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 four more times, obtaining readings from 0 to 125 in-lb of torque (0, 25, 50, 75, 100, 125).

### **3.2.4 Static Loading**

1. Attach the bolt to the MTS machine (without a gasket).
2. Tighten the bolt to 60 in-lb of torque.
3. Set the external load on the MTS machine to 0 kN.
4. Set the external load on the MTS machine to 7.5 kN.
5. Record the readings from the bolt and washer.
6. Repeat steps 3-5 two more times, totaling three readings (shakedown test).
7. Leave the bolt assembled, and apply loads ranging from 0-7.5 kN (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 7.5).  
Record the output readings from the bolt and washer at each load.
8. Set the load back to 0 kN.
9. Disassemble and reassemble the joint with the gasket in place.
10. Repeat steps 2-9 with a gasket.

### **3.2.5 Dynamic Loading**

1. Attach the bolt to the MTS machine (without a gasket).
2. Set the bolt to the "finger tight" torque setting.
3. Apply an external load of 5 kN and an alternating load of 1.25 kN at 0.3 Hz.
4. Record data for at least 10 cycles.
5. Repeat steps 3-4 at different torque settings of 60, 75, and 125 in-lb.
6. Disassemble and reassemble the joint with the gasket in place.
7. Repeat steps 2-5 with a gasket.

## 4 Theory

### 4.1 Mechanics of Bolted Connections Loading

The typical bolted connection is shown in Figure 2a. The key forces in the above diagram are the preload,  $F_i$ , and the external load,  $P$ . This connection can be viewed as an analogy to the spring system seen in Figure 2b. By Hooke's law, the deflection of the bolt and the member are given by



Figure 2: a) Bolted Joint Diagram with Preload and External Load, b) Spring Analogy

the equations below:

$$\delta_b = \frac{F_i}{k_b} \quad (1)$$

$$\delta_m = \frac{F_i}{k_m} \quad (2)$$

When the external load,  $P$ , is applied to the joint, a change in the deformation of the bolt and the reduction of compression in the joined members occurs. Similar to deflection, the change in deformation can be calculated using the equations:

$$\Delta\delta_b = \frac{P_b}{k_b} \quad (3)$$

$$\Delta\delta_m = \frac{P_m}{k_m} \quad (4)$$

If the members are not separated, the deformation in the member and the bolt are equivalent, shown by the relation below:

$$\frac{P_b}{k_b} = \frac{P_m}{k_m} \quad (5)$$

The total load on the bolt and the member must equal the sum of the change in load of the bolt,  $P_b$ , and the member,  $P_m$ ,

$$P = P_m + P_b$$

Using (5), the change in load of the bolt and the member can be expressed as:

$$P_b = \frac{k_b P}{k_b + k_m} \quad (6)$$

$$P_m = \frac{k_m P}{k_b + k_m} \quad (7)$$

Similarly, the total loads on the bolt and the member are given by:

$$F_b = F_i + P_b \quad (8)$$

$$F_m = F_i + P_m \quad (9)$$

## 4.2 Quarters Bridge Equations

The instrumented bolt uses a Wheatstone quarter bridge to measure strain. The voltage reading from the bridge,  $V_o$ , can be expressed using the input voltage,  $V_{in}$ , gauge factor,  $K_g$ , gain,  $G$ , and strain,  $\varepsilon$ .

$$\varepsilon = \frac{4V_o}{K_g V_{in} G} \quad (10)$$

## 4.3 Stress-Strain Relationship

By Hooke's law, the stress-strain relationship is given by:

$$\sigma = E_b \varepsilon \quad (11)$$

Since stress is force per unit area,

$$F_b = A_s \sigma \quad (12)$$

## 4.4 Member Stiffness

For a given member, the stiffness can be calculated as

$$k_i = \frac{A_i E_i}{L_i} \quad (13)$$

$$(14)$$

Members in a bolted connection can be viewed as a series of springs. Equivalent stiffness for this system is given by:

$$\frac{1}{k_m} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{k_i} \quad (15)$$

$$(16)$$

where  $k_i$  is the stiffness of the  $i$ th section of the member.

For members with a gasket, loading can be estimated by assuming the load spreads at a fixed  $45^\circ$  angle. The compression of each element is then divided into infinitesimally small annular elements. It can be shown that the stiffness for two identical members bolted together is given by:

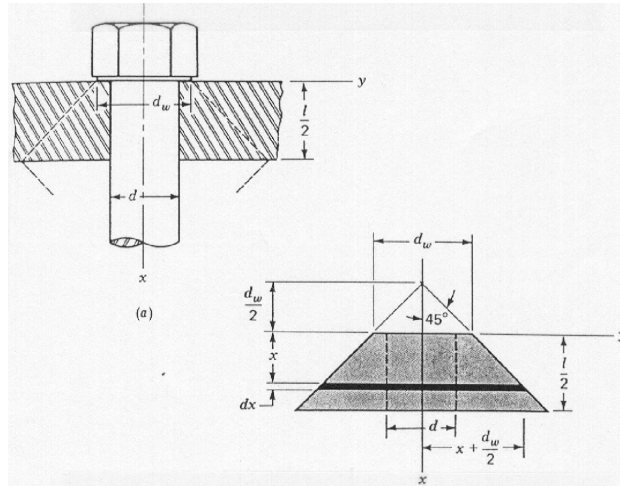


Figure 3: Analysis of the compression of members in a bolted connection

$$k_m = \frac{\pi E_b d}{2 \ln \left( \frac{5(L+0.5d)}{L+2.5d} \right)} \quad (17)$$

#### 4.5 Torque Requirement for Preloading

From basic screw-thread theory, the torque required to preload a bolt is given by:

$$T = \frac{F_i d}{2} \left[ \frac{L + \pi \mu d_m \sec \alpha}{\pi d_m - \mu L \sec \alpha} \right]$$

it can be shown that

$$\begin{aligned} T &= F_i d \left[ \left( \frac{d_m}{2d} \right) \left( \frac{\tan \lambda + \mu \sec \alpha}{1 - \mu \tan \lambda \sec \alpha} \right) + 0.625 \mu_c \right] \\ &= K d F_i \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

#### 4.6 Bolt Preload for Static Loading

Preloading the bolt is meant to prevent the jointed member from separating and the bolt from yielding. Using Equations (6) and (8), the total load on the bolt can be given by:

$$F_b = F_i + CP \quad (19)$$

where the constant  $C$  is defined as:

$$C = \frac{k_b}{k_b + k_m} \quad (20)$$

at the point of joint separation,  $F_b = P$ . Rearranging (19) gives:

$$F_i = P(1 - C) \quad (21)$$

To avoid yielding, a safety factor is introduced,  $N$ . Rearranging (19) gives:

$$F_i = \frac{A_t \sigma_y}{N} - CP \quad (22)$$

#### 4.7 Bolt Preload for Dynamic Loading

Cyclic loading cycles are used to vary the load on a bolt over time. The two parameters often analyzed from these trials are the mean and alternating stresses.

$$\sigma_m = \frac{F_{\max} + F_{\min}}{2A_s} \quad (23)$$

$$\sigma_a = \frac{F_{\max} - F_{\min}}{2A_s} \quad (24)$$

The modified Goodman criteria states:

$$\frac{\sigma_a}{\sigma_e} + \frac{\sigma_m}{\sigma_{ut}} = 1$$

where  $\sigma_e$  is the endurance limit, and  $\sigma_{ut}$  is the ultimate tensile strength. It can be shown the follow holds,

$$F_i = A_s \sigma_{ut} - \frac{NCP}{2} \left[ \frac{\sigma_{ut}}{\sigma_e} - 1 \right]$$

## 5 Results and Discussion

### 5.1 Zero Preload — Young's Modulus of Bolt

The Young's Modulus for the bolt,  $E_b$ , was determined to be  $205 \pm 4.70$  GPa. The zero-preload trial was used to determine Young's Modulus for the bolt. The nut was tightened to finger tight, ensuring the preload force is negligible. The external load in this case is then equivalent to the total load on the bolt. The output voltage of the strain gauge was used to determine the strain in the bolt. Figure 4 shows the plot of the bolt strain against the external load and its linear regression through the origin.

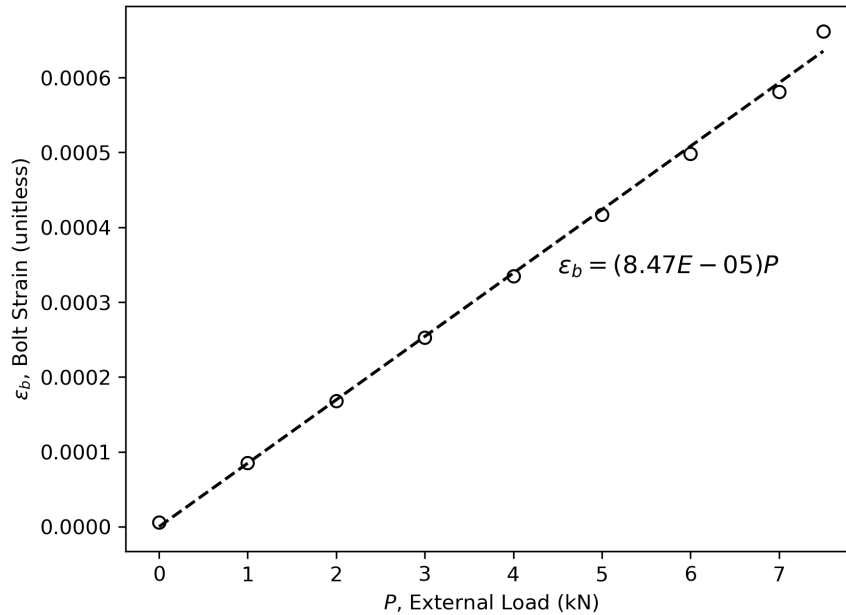


Figure 4: External Load vs. Bolt Strain

Using the slope from Figure 4 coupled with Eqs. (11) and (12), the Young's Modulus for the bolt,  $E_b$ , was determined to be  $205 \pm 4.70$  GPa. The linear regression had an  $R^2 = 0.9992$ , indicating a strong linear relationship between the external load and the bolt strain, agreeing with the stress-strain theory. The uncertainty was determined using a 95% confidence interval. The error of the modulus was relatively small, adding confidence to the results. Sample calculations and error analysis can be found in Appendix A.



## 5.2 Zero Preload — Washer Transducer Calibration

The relationship between the washer strain,  $\varepsilon_w$ , and the external load (kN),  $P$ , was determined to be  $\varepsilon_w = -2.11 \times 10^{-4}P$ . Again, the zero-preload trial was used to determine the washer calibration. The nut was tightened to finger tight, ensuring the preload force is negligible. The voltage output from the washer during the zero-preload trial was used to determine the washer calibration. Figure 5 shows the plot of the experimental data and its linear regression through the origin. The regression had an  $R^2 = 0.9994$ , indicating a strong linear relationship between the external load and the washer transducer.

Using the regression and Eq. (10), the relationship between the washer strain,  $\varepsilon_w$ , and the external load (kN),  $P$ , was determined to be  $\varepsilon_w = -2.11 \times 10^{-4}P$ . The negative sign in the equation indicates that the washer compresses as the external load increases, consistent with expectations. The high  $R^2$  value indicates a strong linear relationship between the washer strain and the external load, adding confidence to the results. Sample calculations can be found in Appendix A.

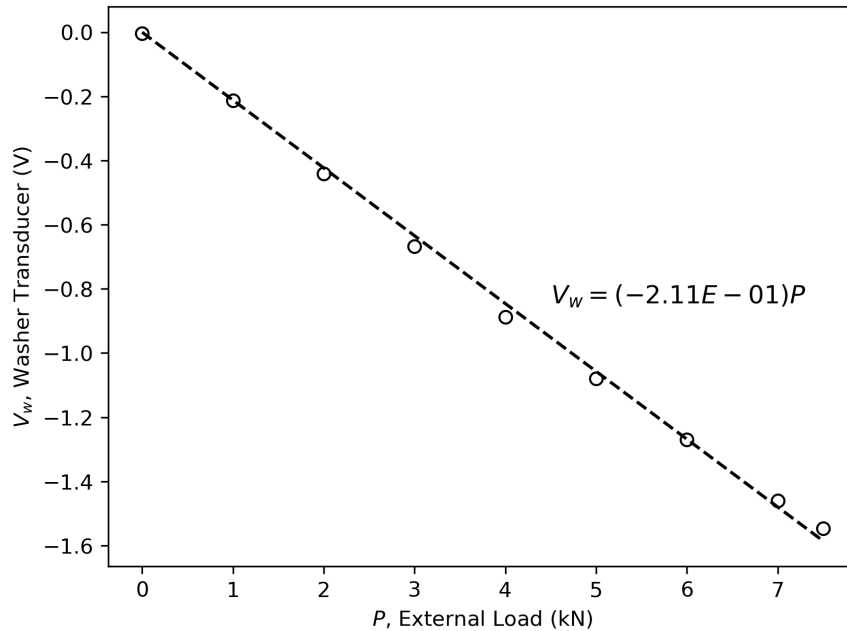


Figure 5: External Load vs. Washer Transducer

## 5.3 Zero Loading — Torque and Preload

The relationship between torque and preload was  $F_i = 0.636T$ . The nut was tightened to various torques using a torque wrench, and the strain gauge output was used to determine the preload. The output voltage from the bolt transducer, coupled with Eq. (10) and (11) was used to determine the preload on the bolt. Figure 6 shows the plot of the experimental data and its linear regression. The regression had an  $R^2 = 0.9995$ , indicating a strong linear relationship between the torque and the

preload.

To calculate the preload, the modulus of elasticity,  $E_b$ , and strain transducer reading  $V_b$  were used. The error for the preload by propagation of uncertainty. The uncertainty for the transducer reading was determined from a repeatability test. The major source of error was the strain transducer reading, which dominated the uncertainty. Sample calculations and error analysis can be found in Appendix A.

The results are expected as a linear relationship between torque and preload was discussed in Section 4.5 by Eq. (18). The uncertainty of the 125 in-lb torque wrench had the highest uncertainty of  $\pm 0.422$  kN, which was 4.60% relative uncertainty. The absolute uncertainty was inversely proportional to the strain transducer reading. This means that the uncertainty of the first measurement was relatively large, and decreases as the strain transducer reading increases. The relative error of 4.60%, along with the  $R^2 = 0.9995$ , adds confidence to the results.

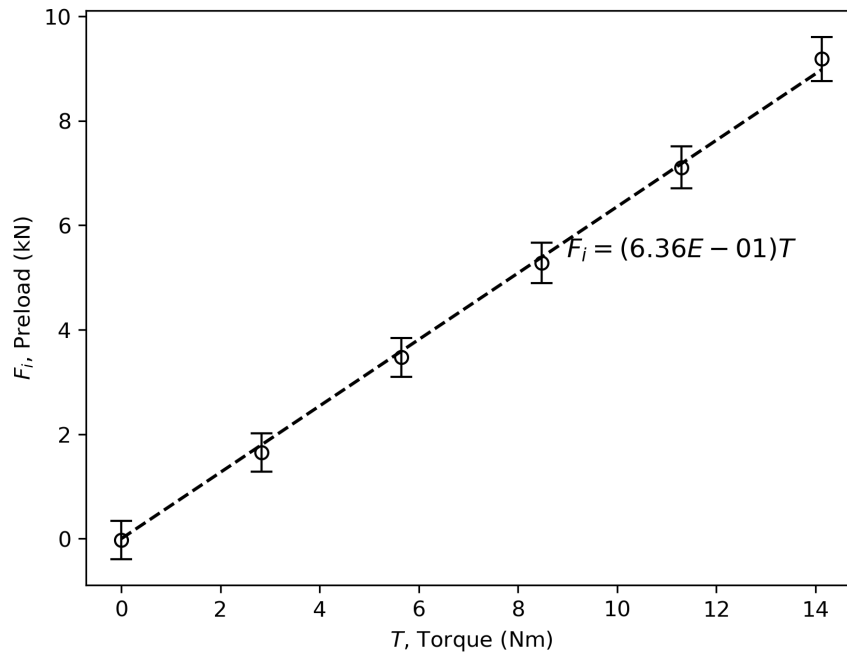


Figure 6: Torque vs. Preload

## 5.4 Zero Loading — Torque Coefficient

The torque coefficient,  $K$ , was determined to be 0.167. This was obtained using the results from Section 5.3 combined with Eq. (18). This value was within the expected range of 0.1–0.2, agreeing with theory. The confidence is high due to the  $R^2 = 0.9995$  and the low relative uncertainty of 4.60%. This result will be used later to determine the preload in later sections. While uncertainty was not calculated, future work utilizing the standard error of the slope along with a confidence of 95% could be used to determine the torque coefficient uncertainty. Sample calculations can be

found in Appendix A.

### 5.5 No Gasket, Static Loading — Torsional Loading

Negligible evidence of torsional loading was found during the shakedown test. A shakedown test was performed by ramping the external load from 0 kN to 7.5 kN back down to 0 kN three times in succession. The voltage at the end of each ramp was recorded. The strain transducer reading varied by  $\pm 0.005$  V, which was the same magnitude as the resolution of the strain transducer. This indicates that the bolt was not subjected to any torsional loading. The results were consistent with expectations, as the bolt was not subjected to any torsional loading. Sample calculations can be found in Appendix C.

### 5.6 Bolt Stiffness

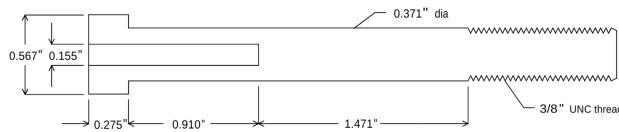


Figure 7: Cross Section of the Strainert Type W Bolt Transducer

The stiffness of the bolt was determined to be  $k_b = 209$  MN/m. The bolt was divided into three sections, as shown in Figure 7. The stiffness of each section was determined using Eq. (13). The stiffness of sections 1, 2, and 3 were determined to be 510 MN/m, 383 MN/m, and 4834 MN/m, respectively. The total bolt stiffness was then determined using Eq. (15). This value will be used later to determine the experimental and theoretical stiffness of the member. While uncertainty analysis was not conducted, the largest contributor to error was the uncertainty from modulus of elasticity,  $E_b$ . Sample calculations can be found in Appendix D.

### 5.7 Theoretical Joined Member Stiffness

The theoretical stiffness of the joined members was determined to be  $k_m = 2222$  MN/m. The stiffness of the member was determined using Eq. (17). This assumes the angle of the stress distribution was  $45^\circ$ . This will be used as the expected value for the member stiffness, and will be compared to the experimental value later. Error propagation was not conducted, but the largest source of error was the uncertainty from the modulus of elasticity,  $E_m$ . Sample calculations can be found in Appendix E.

### 5.8 Static Loading — With and Without Gasket

Two sets of trials were conducted at a torque setting of 60 in-lb: one with a gasket and one without. Various external loads between 0 kN and 7.5 kN were applied to the bolted connection. The voltage output from the bolt transducer was used to determine the bolt strain. The bolt strain was then used

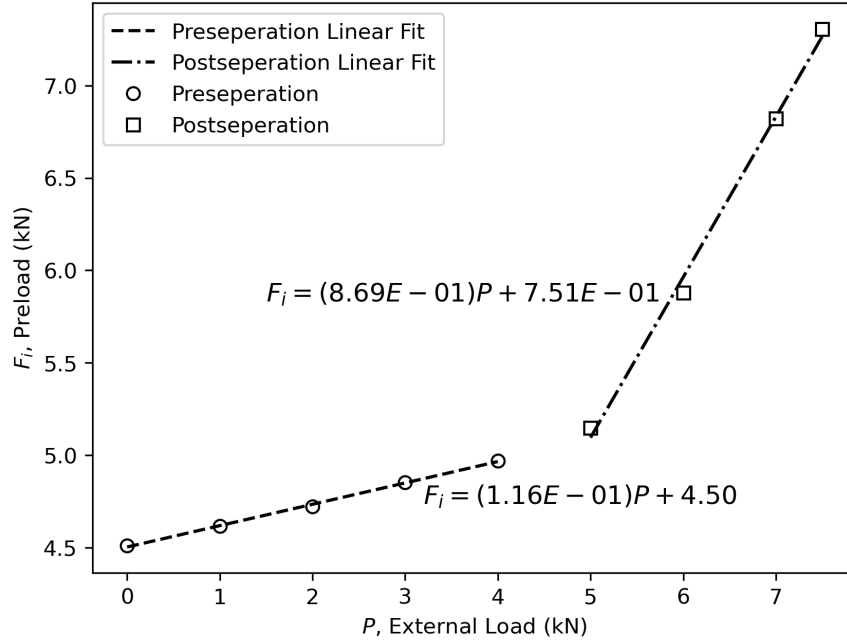


Figure 8: Static loading of bolted connection without gasket

to determine the bolt preload using Eq. (11). The results are shown in Figures 8 and 9. The difference between the gasket and no gasket trials was the presence of a separation point.

The no gasket trial shown in Figure 8 had a linear relationship between the external load and the bolt strain. Two regressions of  $F_{b,pre} = 0.1157P + 4.5022$  and  $F_{b,post} = 0.8687P + 0.7507$  were used to fit the data. Two regressions were required due to the separation point at 4.98 kN. The pre and post separation  $R^2$  values were 0.9983 and 0.9958, respectively, indicating a strong linear relationship between the external load and the bolt strain. An increase in the bolt force for an external load was observed in the separation point trial. This is expected as the bolted connection was no longer in contact with the members. The quadratic fit was good, with an  $R^2 = 0.9985$ , indicating a strong quadratic relationship between the external load and the bolt strain.

The gasket trial shown in Figure 9 had a quadratic relationship between the external load and the bolt strain. The regression was found to be  $F_{b,gasket} = 0.0475P^2 + 0.119P + 3.794$ . A linear regression of  $F_{b,gasket} = 0.484P + 3.390$  was also used to fit the data. The quadratic fit was good, with an  $R^2 = 0.9985$ , indicating a strong quadratic relationship between the external load and the bolt strain. A linear fit was also applied, and was reasonable, with an  $R^2 = 0.958$ . The fit does not capture the two ends of the data, but is a good fit for the middle portion. In general, the gasket trial had a lower bolt force for a given external load, indicating the gasket was effective in reducing the bolt force. The separation point was not observed in the gasket trial, as the effect of the gasket prevented the members from separating within the tested values. Future work in testing values

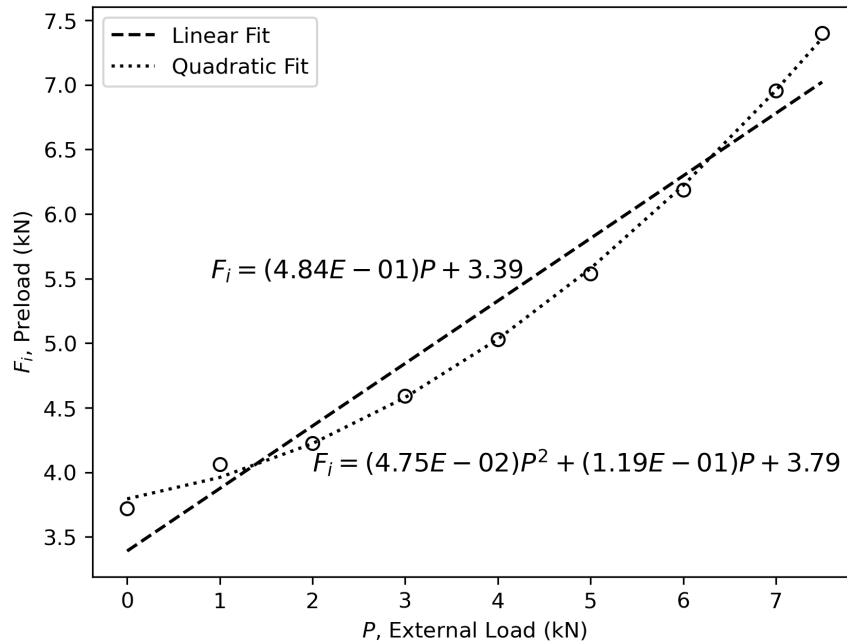


Figure 9: Static loading of bolted connection with gasket

beyond 7.5 kN could be used to determine the separation point of the gasket trial.

The results were consistent with expectations. The no gasket had a steeper slope than the gasket trial, indicating a higher stiffness. The separation point was observed in the no gasket trial, but not in the gasket trial. The  $R^2$  values were high, indicating a strong linear and quadratic relationship between the external load and the bolt strain.

The effect of the gasket reduces bolt force for a given external load. The gasket also helps to prevent the members from separating. The separation point was observed in the no gasket trial, but not in the gasket trial. The  $R^2$  values were high, indicating a strong linear and quadratic relationship between the external load and the bolt strain.

## 5.9 Experimental Joined Member Stiffness Without Gasket

The stiffness of the joined members was experimentally determined to be  $k_m = 1600$  MN/m. The stiffness of the member was determined using the pre-separation regression from Section 5.8. The constant  $C$  was determined to be 0.1157 from the pre-separation regression. This value was then used to determine the experimental stiffness of the member using Eq. (20).

The relative error between the theoretical value of  $k_m = 2222$  MN/m and the experimental value of  $k_m = 1600$  MN/m was 28.0%. The error was relatively large, indicating a large discrepancy between the theoretical and experimental values. While a portion of the error was due to uncertainty from the modulus of elasticity,  $E_m$ , and strain transducer uncertainty,  $V_b$ , this does not account for the large discrepancy. A key assumption made in the theoretical calculation was that

the stress distribution was  $45^\circ$ . This was never verified, and could be a source of error. Future work could be done to verify the stress distribution angle. Sample calculations can be found in Appendix F.

### 5.10 Experimental Joined Member Stiffness With Gasket

The stiffness of the joined member was found to be  $k_m = 223 \text{ MN/m}$ . The stiffness of the member was determined using the linear regression from Section 5.8. While the quadratic fit was a more suitable fit than the linear fit, the theory developed to determine the stiffness of the member was based on a linear relationship between the external load and the bolt strain. Since the  $R^2$  value was lower for the linear fit, the standard error  $S_a$  was larger by an order of magnitude. If error propagation was performed, the uncertainty for the stiffness of the joined member would likely be larger. Sample calculations can be found in Appendix F.

The effect of the gasket was to reduce the stiffness of the member. The gasket material was softer than the members which would reduce the overall stiffness of the member. This is consistent with Eq. (15), as the softer gasket would dominate the overall stiffness of the member. The member stiffness with gasket was nearly an order of magnitude smaller than the member stiffness without gasket. This is beneficial as the gasket would help to reduce the bolt force for a given external load. Future work in developing a model that accounts for quadratic fits could be used to determine the stiffness of the member with gasket with higher accuracy and confidence.

### 5.11 Static Loading — Separation Point

The external load at the separation point for the experimental and theoretical values were determined to be 4.98 kN and 4.67 kN, respectively. The experimental separation point was determined by equating the pre-separation and post-separation regressions from Section 5.8. The theoretical separation point was determined using Eq. (21) using the experimental  $k_b$  and theoretical  $k_m$ . The relative error between the experimental and theoretical separation points was 6.78%. This error was modestly small. The main discrepancy came from the difference in the experimental and theoretical stiffness of the member, with a relative error of 28.0%. Despite the large difference in the stiffness of the member, the separation point was relatively close. Future work in determining the stress distribution angle could be used to determine the separation point with higher accuracy and confidence. Sample calculations can be found in Appendix G.

### 5.12 Dynamic Loading — Fatigue Loading

## 6 Conclusion

### 6.1 Technical Recommendations

## 7 References

- [1] A. J. Wheeler and A. R. Ganji, *Introduction to engineering experimentation*, 3rd ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J: Pearson Higher Education, 2010, oCLC: ocn459211853.
- [2] T. pandas development team, “pandas-dev/pandas: Pandas,” Feb. 2024. [Online]. Available: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10697587>

## A Appendix: Zero Preload Data Analysis

This Appendix provides the analysis of the experimental data "bolt stiffness and washer calibration (finger tight)" to determine the modulus of elasticity of the bolt. In addition, error analysis was performed with a confidence of 95% to determine the corresponding uncertainty. In addition, the washer calibration was also performed to determine the relationship between the external load, washer transducer reading, and washer strain.

### A.1 Modulus of Elasticity Analysis

Table A.2: Bolt Stiffness and Washer Calibration data

External Load, $P$ (kN)	Bolt Out, $V_b$ (V)	Washer Out, $V_w$ (V)	Bolt Strain, $\varepsilon_b$
0	0.006	-0.003	6.00E-06
1	0.085	-0.212	8.50E-05
2	0.168	-0.441	1.68E-04
3	0.253	-0.667	2.53E-04
4	0.335	-0.888	3.35E-04
5	0.417	-1.08	4.17E-04
6	0.498	-1.27	4.98E-04
7	0.581	-1.46	5.81E-04
7.5	0.662	-1.547	6.62E-04

The experimental data was collected and shown in Table A.2. Sample calculations will be shown for external load of 0 kN. The bolt strain was calculated from Eq. (10),

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varepsilon &= \frac{4V_b}{K_g E_{in} G} \\
 \varepsilon &= \frac{40.006 \text{ V}}{2 \cdot 5 \text{ V} \cdot 400} \\
 &= 6.00 \times 10^{-6}
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $E_o$  is transducer reading,  $K_g$  is the gauge factor,  $E_{in}$  is the voltage input, and  $G$  is the gain set. From the experimental setup,  $K_g = 2$ ,  $E_{in} = 5$ , and  $G = 400$ .

Next, a linear regression of the external load ( $P$ ) and bolt strain ( $\varepsilon_b$ ), forced through the origin,



was performed on the data in Table A.2 to determine the modulus of elasticity. The linear regression equation was determined using =LINEST ( ) from Excel. The results are shown in Table A.3. The equation is then

$$\varepsilon_b = 8.47134 \times 10^{-5} P$$

or in another form,

$$\frac{P}{\varepsilon_b} = \frac{1}{8.47134 \times 10^{-5}}$$

The area where the force was applied is the outer diameter,  $d_o$ , minus the inner diameter,  $d_i$ , of the

Table A.3: Linear Regression Results

Parameter	Value
Slope (mm/kN)	8.47134E-05
Slope Standard Error, $S_a$	8.20567E-07
$R^2$	0.999249954

bolt. From the experimental setup,  $d_o = 0.371$  in and  $d_i = 0.155$  in. The area is then

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_1 &= \frac{\pi}{4}(d_o^2 - d_i^2) \\
 &= \frac{\pi}{4}((0.371 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1})^2 - (0.155 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1})^2) \\
 &= 57.570 \text{ mm}^2
 \end{aligned}$$

The modulus of elasticity is then

$$\begin{aligned}
 E &= \frac{P}{\varepsilon_b A_1} \\
 &= \frac{1 \text{ kN}}{8.47134 \times 10^{-5} \times 57.570 \text{ mm}^2} \\
 &= \boxed{205 \text{ GPa}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## A.2 Modulus of Elasticity Error Analysis

The uncertainty of slope was determined using the standard error of the slope,  $S_a$ , from the linear regression in Table A.3 at a confidence level of 95%. The t-distribution value was determined by

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha/2 &= \frac{1 - 0.95}{2} = 0.025 \\ n - 2 &= 9 - 2 = 7 \\ t_{\alpha/2, n-2} &= 2.3646\end{aligned}$$

The uncertainty of the slope is then [1]

$$\begin{aligned}\delta\text{slope} &= t_{\alpha/2, n-2} \cdot S_a \\ &= 2.3646 \cdot 8.20567 \times 10^{-7} \\ &= 1.94 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kN}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

The function for modulus of elasticity is

$$\begin{aligned}E &= P^1 \varepsilon_b^{-1} A_1^{-1} \\ &= (\text{slope})^{-1} A_1^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

This is the purely multiplicative case for error propagation [1]. Assuming the error for  $A_1$  is negligible, the uncertainty of the modulus of elasticity is then

$$\begin{aligned}\delta E &= E \left| \frac{\delta\text{slope}}{\text{slope}} \right| \\ &= 205 \text{ GPa} \frac{1.94 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kN}^{-1}}{8.47134 \times 10^{-5} \text{ kN}^{-1}} \\ &= \boxed{\pm 4.70 \text{ GPa}}\end{aligned}$$

## A.3 Washer Calibration Analysis

The external load and washer transducer readings from Table A.2 were fitted with a linear regression through the origin. The linear regression equation was determined using =LINEST() from Excel. The equation was

$$E_{o,w} = -0.211P$$

Converting to strain using Eq. (10), where  $K_g = 2$ ,  $E_{\text{in}} = 5$ , and  $G = 400$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon_w &= \frac{4V_w}{K_g E_{\text{in}} G} \\ &= \frac{4 - 0.211 VP}{2 \cdot 5 V \cdot 400} \\ &= -2.11 \times 10^{-4} P\end{aligned}$$

## B Appendix: Preload-Torque Test Data Analysis

The following is the analysis of the preload-torque test data. The data was collected from the experiment and is shown in Table B.4. The data was then analyzed to determine the preload, preload uncertainty, and torque coefficient. The following sections will detail the analysis of the data and the results of the analysis.

### B.1 Preload vs Torque Analysis

The results from the experiment are shown in Table B.4. Sample calculations will be shown for the second row of the table. First, the torque was converted to metric units.

Table B.4: Torque-Preload Test at Zero External Load

Torque, $T$ (in-lb)	Torque, $T$ (Nm)	Bolt Transducer, $V_b$ (V)	Washer Transducer, $V_w$ (V)	Bolt Strain, $\varepsilon_b$	Preload, $F_i$ (kN)	Preload Uncer- tainty, $\delta F_i$ ( $\pm$ kN)
0	0	-0.002	-0.001	-2.00E-06	-0.0236	0.366
25	2.825	0.140	-0.311	1.40E-04	1.65	0.368
50	5.649	0.294	-0.615	2.94E-04	3.47	0.375
75	8.474	0.447	-0.907	4.47E-04	5.28	0.386
100	11.298	0.602	-1.203	6.02E-04	7.11	0.401
125	14.123	0.778	-1.519	7.78E-04	9.18	0.422

$$\begin{aligned}
 T &= 25 \text{ in} - \text{lb} \times 0.113 \text{ N m}^{-1} \text{ in} - \text{lb}^{-1} \\
 &= 2.825 \text{ N m}
 \end{aligned}$$

The bolt strain,  $\varepsilon_b$ , was then calculated by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varepsilon_b &= \frac{4V_b}{K_g E_{in} G} \\
 &= \frac{4 \times 0.140 \text{ V}}{2 \times 5 \text{ V} \times 400} \\
 &= 1.40 \times 10^{-4}
 \end{aligned}$$

The preload,  $F_i$ , was then calculated by

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_i &= E_b \varepsilon_b A_1 \\
 &= 205.046 \text{ GPa} \times 1.40 \times 10^{-4} \times 57.570 \text{ mm}^2 \\
 &= \boxed{1.65 \text{ kN}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## B.2 Uncertainty Analysis of Preload

A repeatability test was performed at 50 lb-in of torque with no external load. The results of this test are shown in The standard deviation was determined with Excel to be  $S_{V_b} = 0.0250 \text{ V}$ . Using

Table B.5: Repeatability Test at 50 lb-in of Torque and Zero External Load

Trial #	Bolt Transducer, $V_b$	Washer Transducer
	(V)	(V)
1	0.372	-0.701
2	0.321	-0.684
3	0.354	-0.718
4	0.312	-0.654
5	0.327	-0.679

a confidence level of 95%, the t-distribution value was determined by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha/2 &= \frac{1 - 0.95}{2} = 0.025 \\
 n - 1 &= 5 - 1 = 4 \\
 t_{\alpha/2, n-1} &= 2.776
 \end{aligned}$$

The precision uncertainty is then

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{V_b} &= t_{\alpha/2, n-1} \cdot \frac{S_{V_b}}{\sqrt{n}} \\
 &= 2.776 \cdot \frac{0.025 \text{ V}}{\sqrt{5}} \\
 &= 0.031 \text{ V}
 \end{aligned}$$

Defining bias uncertainty as resolution,  $B_{V_b} = 0.001$ , the total uncertainty is then

$$\begin{aligned}\delta V_b &= \sqrt{P_{V_b}^2 + B_{V_b}^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(0.031 \text{ V})^2 + (0.001 \text{ V})^2} \\ &= 0.031 \text{ V}\end{aligned}$$

The uncertainty of the preload for the second row of Table B.4 is then

$$\begin{aligned}\delta F_i &= F_i \sqrt{\left(\frac{\delta V_b}{V_b}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta E_b}{E_b}\right)^2} \\ &= 1.65 \text{ kN} \sqrt{\left(\frac{0.031 \text{ V}}{0.140 \text{ V}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{4.70 \text{ GPa}}{205.046 \text{ GPa}}\right)^2} \\ &= 0.368 \text{ kN}\end{aligned}$$

### B.3 Torque Coefficient Analysis

Applying linear regression, forced through the origin, to the data in Table B.4 using =LINEST() from Excel, the equation is,

$$\begin{aligned}F_i &= 0.636T \\ \Rightarrow \frac{T}{F_i} &= \frac{1}{0.636} \text{ mm}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

where  $F_i$  is in kN and  $T$  is in Nm. From Eq. (18), the torque coefficient is then

$$\begin{aligned}K &= \frac{T}{F_i d} \\ &= \frac{1}{0.636 \text{ mm}^{-1} \times 0.375 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1}} \\ &= \boxed{0.167}\end{aligned}$$

## C Appendix: Shakedown Test Results

This section contains the results of the shakedown test. The shakedown test was performed to determine if the bolted connection was subjected to any torsional loading. The shakedown test was performed by ramping the external load from 0 kN to 7.5 kN back down to 0 kN three times in succession. The voltage at the end of each ramp was recorded. The strain transducer reading varied by  $\pm 0.005$  V, which was the same magnitude as the resolution of the strain transducer. This indicates that the bolt was not subjected to any torsional loading. The results were consistent with expectations, as the bolt was not subjected to any torsional loading.

Table C.6: Shakedown Test Results

	External Load (kN)	Bolt Out (V)	Washer Out (V)
Without Gasket	0 $\rightarrow$ 7.5 $\rightarrow$ 0	0.386	-0.731
	0 $\rightarrow$ 7.5 $\rightarrow$ 0	0.382	-0.720
	0 $\rightarrow$ 7.5 $\rightarrow$ 0	0.381	-0.715
With Gasket	0 $\rightarrow$ 7.5 $\rightarrow$ 0	0.327	-0.540
	0 $\rightarrow$ 7.5 $\rightarrow$ 0	0.323	-0.534
	0 $\rightarrow$ 7.5 $\rightarrow$ 0	0.321	-0.530

From the results in Table C.6, the bolt transducer reading varied by  $\pm 0.005$  V, which was the same magnitude as the resolution. This indicates that the bolt was not subjected to any torsional loading. The washer transducer reading varied by  $\pm 0.010$  V, which was a magnitude higher than the resolution, but still small relative to the measurement value. This indicates that the washer was not subjected to any torsional loading.

## D Appendix: Bolt Stiffness Calculations

### D.1 Bolt Geometric Properties

The lengths of sections 1 and 2 were given as 0.91 in and 1.471 in, respectively. Section 3 is to be determined. The total length of the member was 63.5 mm. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} L_3 &= 63.5 \text{ mm} - 0.91 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1} - 1.471 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1} \\ &= 3.0226 \text{ mm} \end{aligned}$$

The cross-sectional area of each section was determined by,

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= \frac{\pi}{4}(d_o^2 - d_i^2) \\ &= \frac{\pi}{4}((0.371 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1})^2 - (0.155 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1})^2) \\ &= 57.570 \text{ mm}^2 \end{aligned}$$

then,

$$\begin{aligned} A_2 &= \frac{\pi}{4}d_2^2 \\ &= \frac{\pi}{4}(3.71 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1})^2 \\ &= 69.744 \text{ mm}^2 \end{aligned}$$

lastly,

$$\begin{aligned} A_3 &= \frac{\pi}{4}d_3^2 \\ &= \frac{\pi}{4}(3.75 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1})^2 \\ &= 71.256 \text{ mm}^2 \end{aligned}$$

The geometric properties of the bolt are summarized in Table [D.7](#).



Table D.7: Bolt Stiffness Calculations

Length of section, $L$ (in)	bolt stiffness (mm)	Cross Sectional Area, $A_s$ (mm <sup>2</sup> )	Stiffness, $k$ (MN/m)	1/k (m/MN)
0.91	23.114	57.57	510.708	0.001958
1.471	37.3634	69.744	382.745	0.002613
0.119	3.0226	71.256	4833.819	0.000207

## D.2 Bolt Stiffness

Sample calculations for Table D.7 will be shown for the stiffness of section 1. The stiffness of section 2 and 3 will be calculated in the same manner. The stiffness of section 1 was calculated by,

$$\begin{aligned}
 k_1 &= \frac{E_b A_1}{L_1} \\
 &= \frac{205.046 \text{ GPa} \times 57.570 \text{ mm}^2}{23.114 \text{ mm}} \\
 &= 510.708 \text{ MN m}^{-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Where  $E_b$  was determined to be 205 GPa in Appendix A. Then,

$$\frac{1}{k_1} = 0.001958 \text{ m MN}^{-1}$$

## D.3 Total Bolt Stiffness

The total bolt stiffness was calculated by Eq. 15. The total bolt stiffness was then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 k_b &= \left( \frac{1}{k_1} + \frac{1}{k_2} + \frac{1}{k_3} \right)^{-1} \\
 &= \left( \frac{1}{0.001958 \text{ m MN}^{-1}} + \frac{1}{0.002613 \text{ m MN}^{-1}} + \frac{1}{0.000207 \text{ m MN}^{-1}} \right)^{-1} \\
 &= \boxed{209.308 \text{ MN m}^{-1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## E Appendix: Theoretical Member Stiffness Calculations

From Eq. (13), the stiffness of the member was estimated to be,

$$k_{m,\text{th}} = \frac{\pi E_b d}{2 \ln \left( \frac{5(L+0.5d)}{L+2.5d} \right)}$$

where  $E_b$  is the modulus of elasticity of the bolt,  $d$  is the diameter of the bolt, and  $L$  is the length of the member. The modulus of elasticity of the bolt was determined to be 205.046 GPa in Appendix ???. The diameter of the bolt was 0.371 in and the length of the member was 63.5 mm. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} k_{m,\text{th}} &= \frac{\pi \times 205.046 \text{ GPa} \times 0.371 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1}}{2 \ln \left( \frac{5(63.5 \text{ mm} + 0.5 \times 0.371 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1})}{63.5 \text{ mm} + 2.5 \times 0.371 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1}} \right)} \\ &= \boxed{2222.774 \text{ MN m}^{-1}} \end{aligned}$$

## F Appendix: Experimental Member Stiffness Calculations

### F.1 Experimental Data

Table F.8: Various External Loads and Bolt Force at 60 in-lb Torque Without Gasket

	External Load, $P$	Bolt Out, $V_b$ (kN)	Washer Out, $V_w$ (V)	Bolt Strain, $\varepsilon_b$ (V)	Force, $F_i$ (kN)
Without Gasket	0	0.382	-0.720	0.000382	4.509
	1	0.391	-0.751	0.000391	4.616
	2	0.400	-0.783	0.000400	4.722
	3	0.411	-0.818	0.000411	4.852
	4	0.421	-0.855	0.000421	4.970
	5	0.436	-0.901	0.000436	5.147
	6	0.498	-1.068	0.000498	5.879
	7	0.578	-1.226	0.000578	6.823
	7.5	0.619	-1.300	0.000619	7.307
With Gasket	0	0.315	-0.528	0.000315	3.718
	1	0.344	-0.593	0.000344	4.061
	2	0.358	-0.674	0.000358	4.226
	3	0.389	-0.766	0.000389	4.592
	4	0.426	-0.856	0.000426	5.029
	5	0.469	-0.941	0.000469	5.536
	6	0.524	-1.036	0.000524	6.186
	7	0.589	-1.148	0.000589	6.953
	7.5	0.627	-1.212	0.000627	7.401

Sample calculations will be shown for the first row of Table F.8. The bolt strain,  $\varepsilon_b$ , was

calculated by

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon_b &= \frac{4V_b}{K_g E_{in} G} \\ &= \frac{4 \times 0.382 \text{ V}}{2 \times 5 \text{ V} \times 400} \\ &= 0.000382\end{aligned}$$

The force,  $F_i$ , was then calculated by

$$\begin{aligned}F_i &= E_b \varepsilon_b A_1 \\ &= 205.046 \text{ GPa} \times 0.000382 \times 57.570 \text{ mm}^2 \\ &= \boxed{4.509 \text{ kN}}\end{aligned}$$

## F.2 Experimental Member Stiffness Without Gasket

Applying linear regression to the preseparation data in Table F.8 yields the following equation from =LINEST() in Excel,

$$F_i = \underbrace{0.1157}_C P + 4.5022$$

Comparing the form of the linear regression to Eq. (19),  $C = 0.1157$ . Then, by Eq. (20),

$$\begin{aligned}C &= \frac{k_b}{k_b + k_m} \\ \Rightarrow k_{m,\text{exp}} &= \frac{k_b}{\frac{1}{C} - 1} \\ &= \frac{209.308 \text{ MN m}^{-1}}{\frac{1}{0.1157} - 1} \\ &= \boxed{1599.998 \text{ MN m}^{-1}}\end{aligned}$$

Compared to the theoretical value of  $2222.774 \text{ kN m}^{-1}$ , the error is

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Error} &= \frac{k_{m,\text{th}} - k_{m,\text{exp}}}{k_{m,\text{th}}} \times 100\% \\ &= \frac{2222.774 \text{ MN m}^{-1} - 1599.998 \text{ MN m}^{-1}}{2222.774 \text{ MN m}^{-1}} \times 100\% \\ &= \boxed{28.0\%}\end{aligned}$$

### F.3 Experimental Member Stiffness With Gasket

Applying linear regression to the preseparation data in Table F.8 yields the following equation from =LINEST ( ) in Excel,

$$F_i = \underbrace{0.4842}_C P + 3.3904$$

Comparing the form of the linear regression to Eq. (19),  $C = 0.4842$ . Then, by Eq. (20),

$$\begin{aligned} C &= \frac{k_b}{k_b + k_m} \\ \Rightarrow k_{m,\text{exp}} &= \frac{k_b}{\frac{1}{C} - 1} \\ &= \frac{209.308 \text{ MN m}^{-1}}{\frac{1}{0.4842} - 1} \\ &= \boxed{223 \text{ MN m}^{-1}} \end{aligned}$$

## G Appendix: Joint Separation

### G.1 Experimental Separation

The two regressions of the data from Table F.8,

$$F_{b,\text{pre}} = 0.1157P + 4.5022$$

$$F_{b,\text{post}} = 0.8687P + 0.7507$$

The separation point is when  $F_{i,\text{pre}} = F_{i,\text{post}}$ ,

$$0.1157P_{\text{exp}} + 4.5022 = 0.8687P_{\text{exp}} + 0.7507$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\text{exp}} &= \frac{3.7515}{0.753} \\ &= \boxed{4.98 \text{ kN}} \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} F_{b,\text{sep}} &= 0.1157 \times 4.98 \text{ kN} + 4.5022 \\ &= \boxed{5.08 \text{ kN}} \end{aligned}$$

### G.2 Theoretical Separation

The torque load was 60 in-lb for the data in Table F.8. From Eq. (18),

$$\begin{aligned} F_i &= \frac{T}{Kd} \\ &= \frac{60 \text{ in} \cdot \text{lb} \times 0.112984 \text{ N m in} \cdot \text{lb}^{-1}}{0.167 \times 0.375 \text{ in} \times 25.4 \text{ mm in}^{-1}} \\ &= \boxed{4.26 \text{ kN}} \end{aligned}$$

Then calculating  $C_{\text{th}}$  by Eq. (20),

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\text{th}} &= \frac{k_b}{k_b + k_{m,\text{th}}} \\ &= \frac{209.308 \text{ MN m}^{-1}}{209.308 \text{ MN m}^{-1} + 2222.774 \text{ MN m}^{-1}} \\ &= 0.116 \end{aligned}$$

Then by Eq. (21),

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \frac{F_i}{1 - C_{th}} \\ &= \frac{4.26 \text{ kN}}{1 - 0.116} \\ &= \boxed{4.67 \text{ kN}} \end{aligned}$$

### G.3 Theoretical vs. Experimental Separation

The error is then,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Error} &= \frac{P_{th} - P_{exp}}{P_{th}} \times 100\% \\ &= \frac{4.82 \text{ kN} - 4.67 \text{ kN}}{4.82 \text{ kN}} \times 100\% \\ &= \boxed{6.78\%} \end{aligned}$$

## H Appendix: Dynamic Loading

Table H.9: Dynamic Loading Summary for Various Torques and Gasket Conditions

	Torque, $T$ (in-lb)	Max Stress, $\sigma_{\max}$ (MPa)	Min Stress, $\sigma_{\min}$ (MPa)	Mean Stress, $\sigma_{\text{mean}}$ (MPa)	Alternating Stress, $\sigma_a$ (MPa)
With Gasket	0	105.035	61.804	83.420	21.615
	60	110.300	88.864	99.582	10.718
	75	124.101	110.488	117.295	6.806
	125	174.584	167.250	170.917	3.667
No Gasket	0	105.330	62.098	83.714	21.616
	60	106.347	84.153	95.250	11.097
	75	108.671	101.337	105.004	3.667
	125	166.652	163.258	164.955	1.697

The raw transducer data was converted using Eq. (10) in a similar fashion to Appendix A. Sample calculations will be shown for the first row of Table H.9. The min and max stress were calculated by `.max()` and `.min()` from Pandas [2]. The mean stress was calculated by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_{\text{mean}} &= \frac{\sigma_{\max} + \sigma_{\min}}{2} \\
 &= \frac{105.035 \text{ MPa} + 61.804 \text{ MPa}}{2} \\
 &= 83.420 \text{ MPa}
 \end{aligned}$$

The alternating stress was then calculated by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_a &= \frac{\sigma_{\max} - \sigma_{\min}}{2} \\
 &= \frac{105.035 \text{ MPa} - 61.804 \text{ MPa}}{2} \\
 &= 21.615 \text{ MPa}
 \end{aligned}$$