

# WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Engineering Experimentation  
ME-3901, D'2012

Lecture 01: Introduction

12 March 2012



# General information

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cscarpino@wpi.edu

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Teaching Assistants: Ivo Dobrev (ivo\_d@wpi.edu)  
Peter White (pawwhite@wpi.edu)



# Course description

A course designed to develop analytical and experimental skills in modern engineering measurement methods based on electronic instrumentation and computer-based data acquisition systems. The lectures are concerned with the engineering analysis and design as well as the principles of instrumentation, whereas the laboratory periods afford the student an opportunity to use modern devices in actual experiments. In these Sections of ME-3901, state-of-the-art microelectromechanical (MEMS) sensors and actuators will be introduced.

Lecture topics include:

review of engineering fundamentals and, among others, discussions of standards, measurement and sensing devices, experiment planning, data acquisition, analysis of experimental data, and report writing. Laboratory experiments address both mechanical and thermal systems and instrumentation in traditional mechanical engineering: heat transfer, flow measurement/visualization, force/torque/strain measurement, motion/vibration measurement.

Recommended background: Mathematics (MA-2051), Thermo-fluids (ES-3001, ES-3003, ES-3004), Mechanics (ES-2501, ES-2502, ES-2503), Materials (ES-2001).



# General information

Office hours: please complete General Information Form (GIF)

Instructors: Cosme Furlong / Chris Scarpino  
Everyday from 3:00 to 3:50 or by appointment  
To be rescheduled after reviewing your completed GIF

Teaching Assistants:  
To be scheduled after reviewing your completed GIF



# Grading

The grade for the course will be based on:

20% FOR HOMEWORK,

20% FOR EXAMS,

50% FOR LABORATORY REPORTS, and

10 % FOR LABORATORY AND LECTURE  
PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE.



# Homework

HOMework IS ASSIGNED WEEKLY. Homework will be collected on Mondays the week after it is assigned. Except April 16th, when homework will be collected on Tuesday.

All homework assignments are done by each individual without collaboration.



# Exams

THERE WILL BE TWO (2) EXAMS: **MIDTERM** and **FINAL**.  
Exams will be closed books and closed notes, unless otherwise indicated.

All exams are done by each individual without collaboration,  
unless otherwise indicated.



# Laboratories

**THERE WILL BE FIVE (5) LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS.** Each experiment requires laboratory efforts and the write-up of a report.

All laboratory preparations are done individually and jointly within small laboratory groups (2 students per group.)

Data analysis, reduction, and synthesis are done individually and jointly within small laboratory groups.

Each laboratory group completes the laboratory reports jointly.

Laboratory reports are due **Wednesday**, the week after they are finished. **There is NO credit for later reports.**





# General information

Review syllabus: see corresponding handout



# General information

Review general guidelines for preparation of laboratory reports: see corresponding handout (HER)

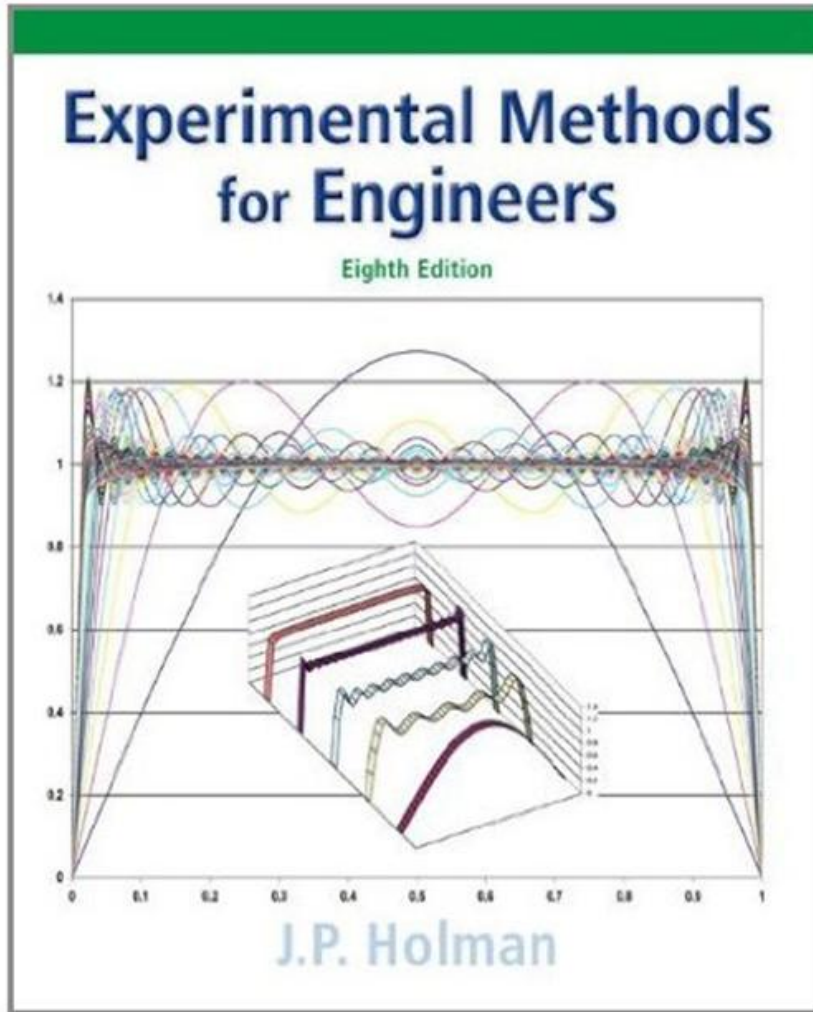


# General information: laboratory safety

Review note on safety: please complete handout



# Required text: Holman, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition



**Hardcover:** 800 pages

**Publisher:** McGraw-Hill Science/Engineering/Math; 8 edition

**Language:** English

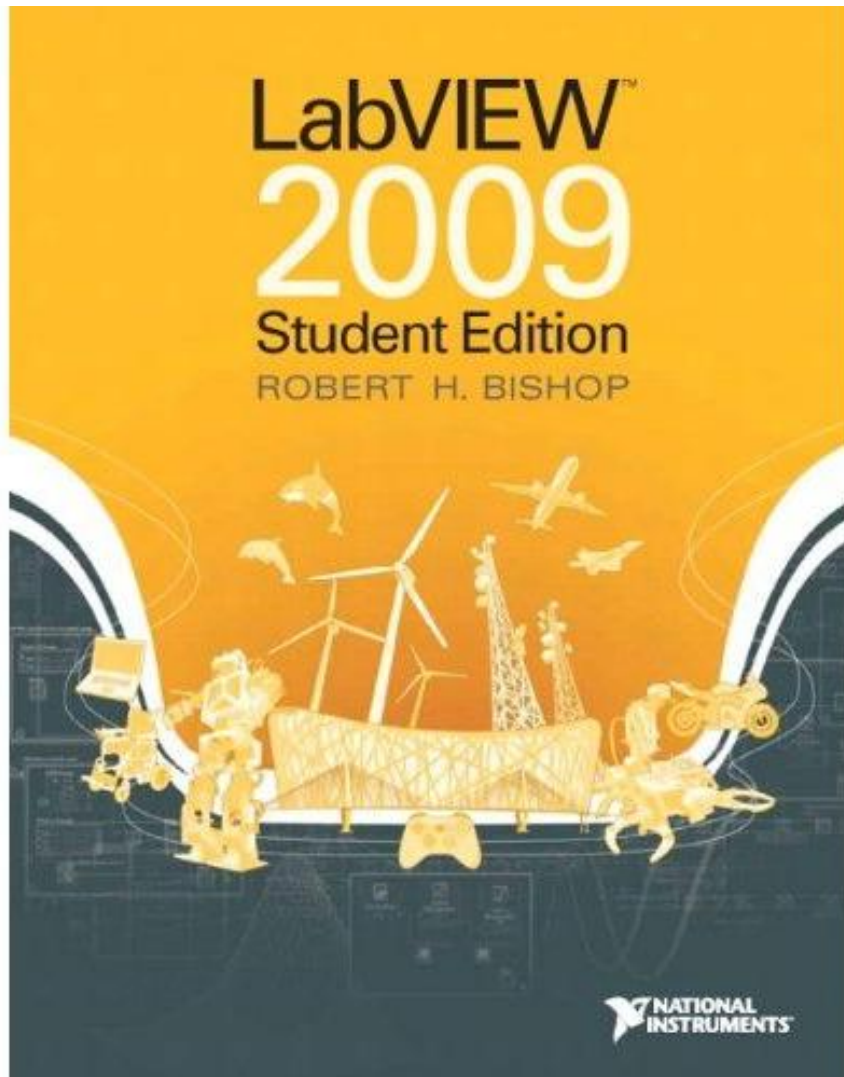
**ISBN-10:** 0073529303

**ISBN-13:** 978-0073529301

**Product Dimensions:** 9.2 x 7.4 x 1.3 inches



## Recommended text: Bishop



Original version comes with a CD  
(with software/examples)

**Paperback:** 752 pages

**Publisher:** Prentice Hall; 1 Pap/Dvdr edition  
(December 28, 2009)

**Language:** English

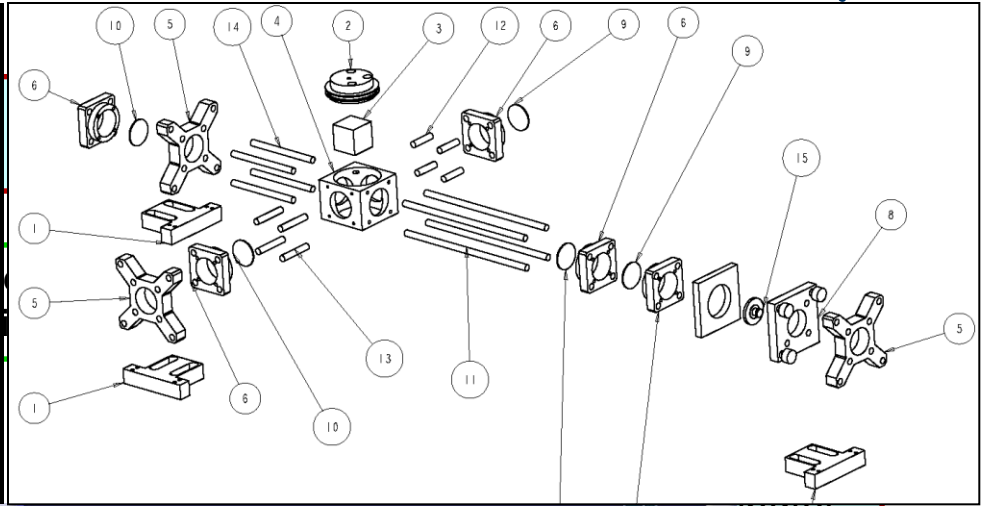
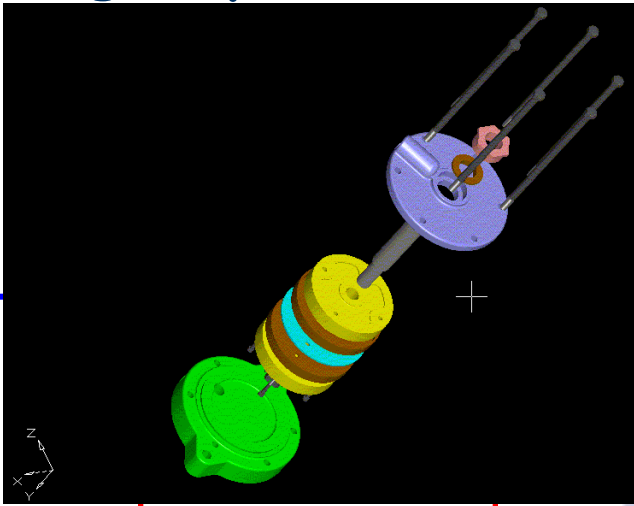
**ISBN-10:** 0132141299

**ISBN-13:** 978-0132141291

**Product Dimensions:** 9 x 7.3 x 1.2 inches



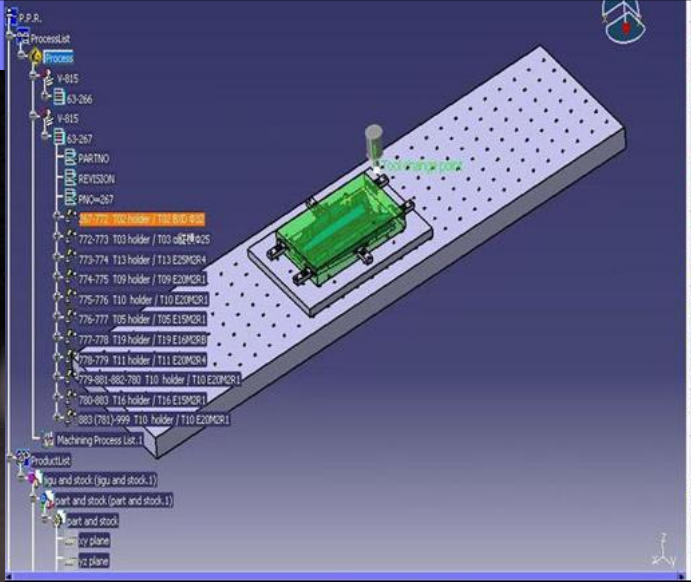
# Engineering experimentation and the CAD/CAE/CAM cycle



Need for

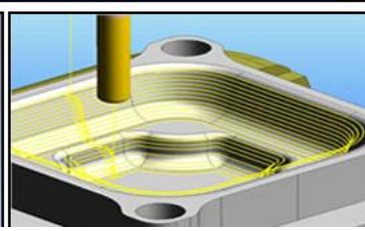
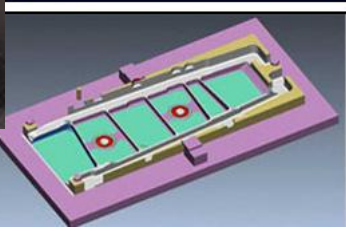
Or

Original need



Computer-aided process planning

Drilling, turning, etc.





# Experimental stress analysis in the field: **examples**

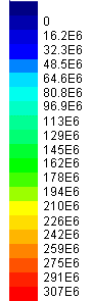
Bridges: calculated/measured (estimated) **stresses**



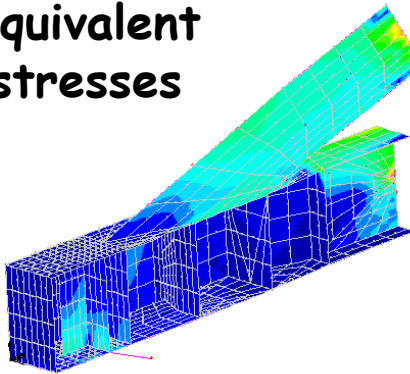
Bridges: calculated/measured (estimated) **strains**



DL, SDL, LL, ULS  
MID STRESS  
CONTOURS OF SE

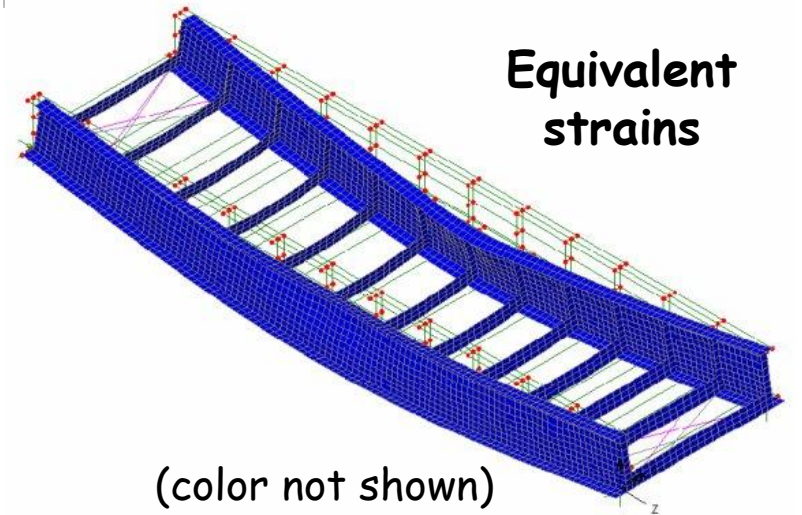


**Equivalent stresses**



Max 0.4132E+10 at Node 2967  
Min 0.1933E+05 at Node 4118

**Equivalent strains**



(color not shown)

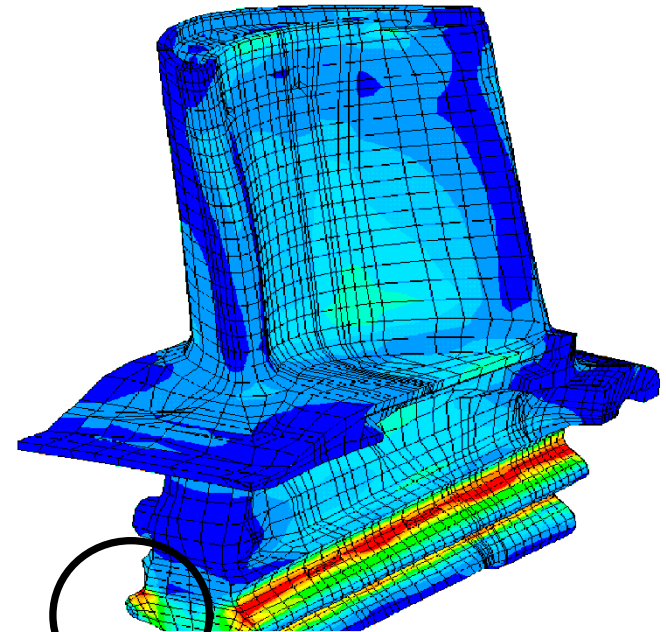


# Experimental stress analysis in the field: **examples**

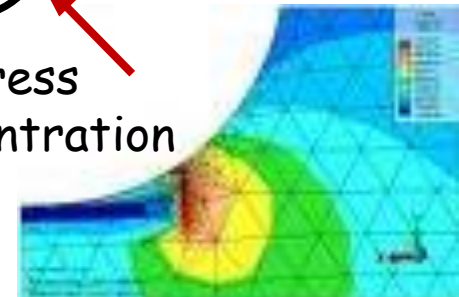
Turbine engine: experiments



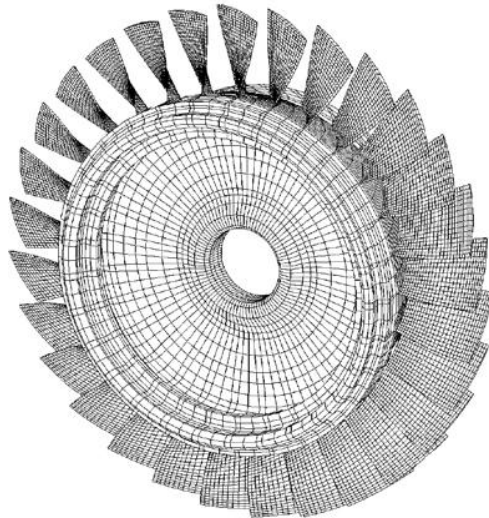
Calculated (estimated)  
thermo-mechanical induced  
stresses on a blade



Stress  
concentration



Model of a  
rotor





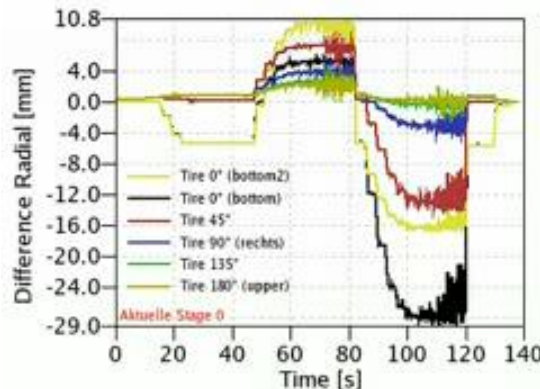
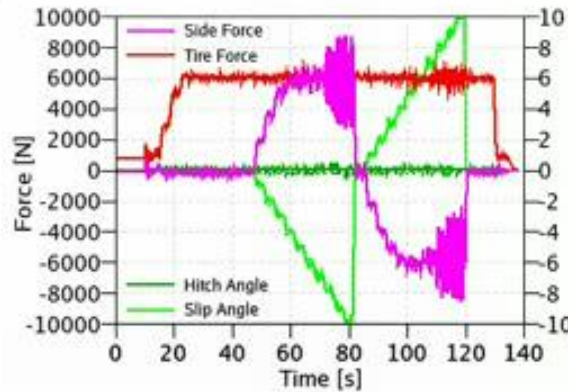
# Engineering experimentation in the field: **examples**



## Tire/dynamics testing

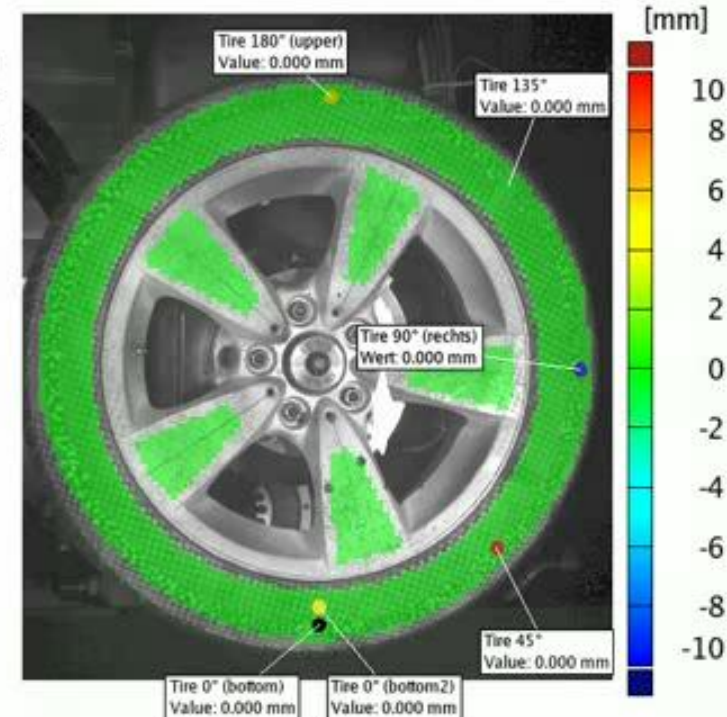
Displacement measurements:  
large strains induced,  
dynamic loads

Testing machine



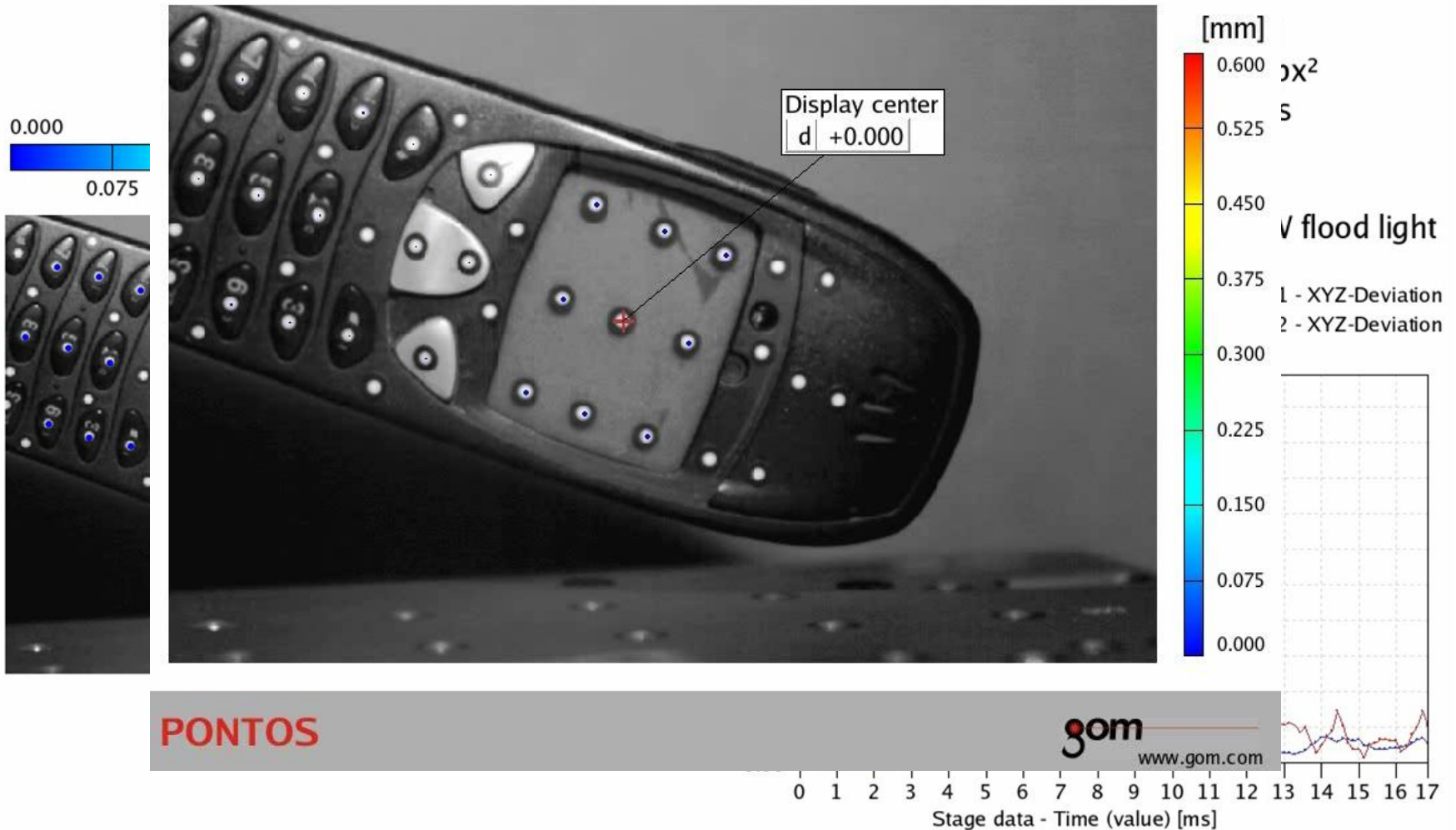
Stage 0  
 time: -661.14 s

Difference Radial



# Engineering experimentation in the field: **examples**

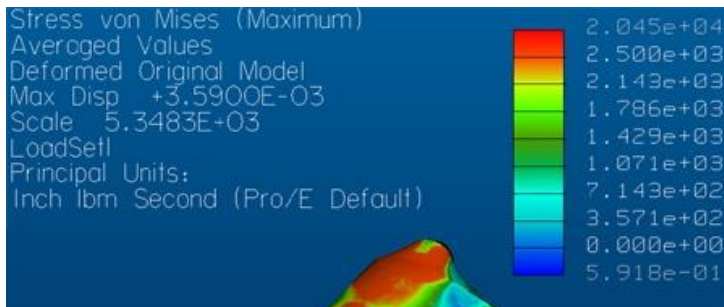
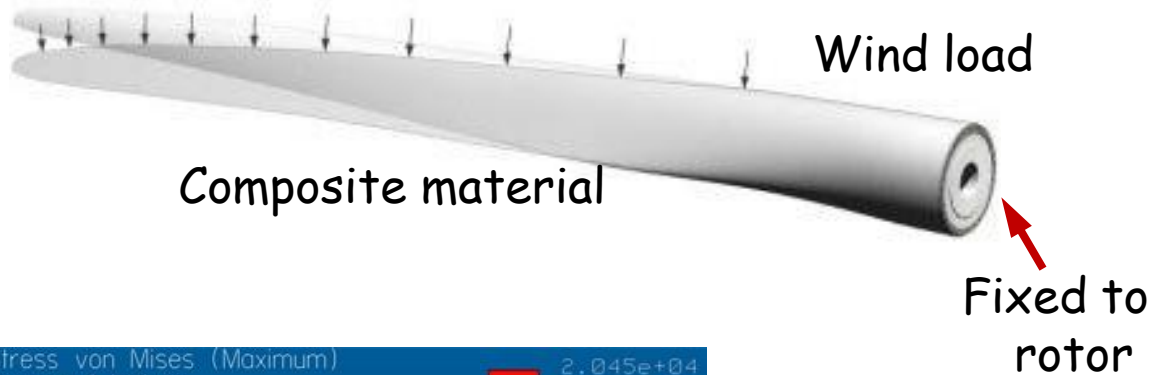
## Impact loads/stresses/strains



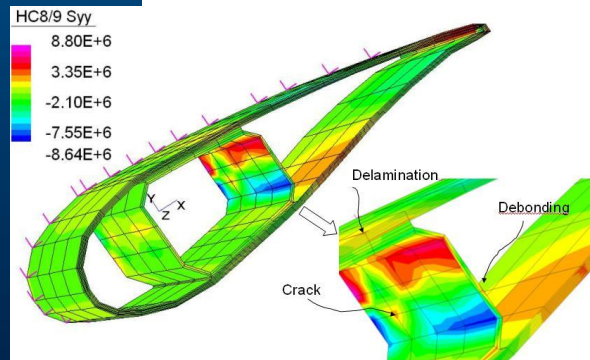
# Engineering experimentation in the field: **examples**

- Turbine blade: Vestas' 850 kW at Holy Name high school, Worcester MA

Analyzed as a cantilever beam



Computed equivalent stresses



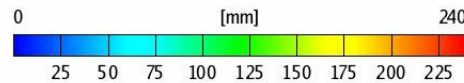
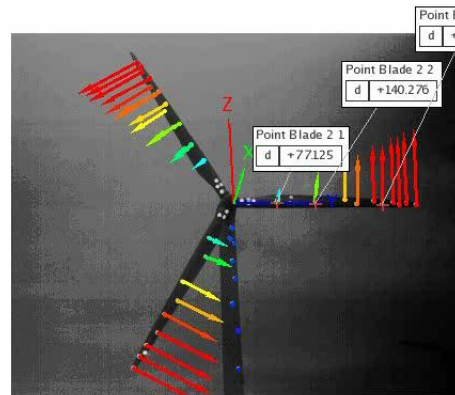


# Engineering experimentation in the field: **examples**

- Turbine blade: Vestas' 850 kW at Holy Name high school, Worcester MA

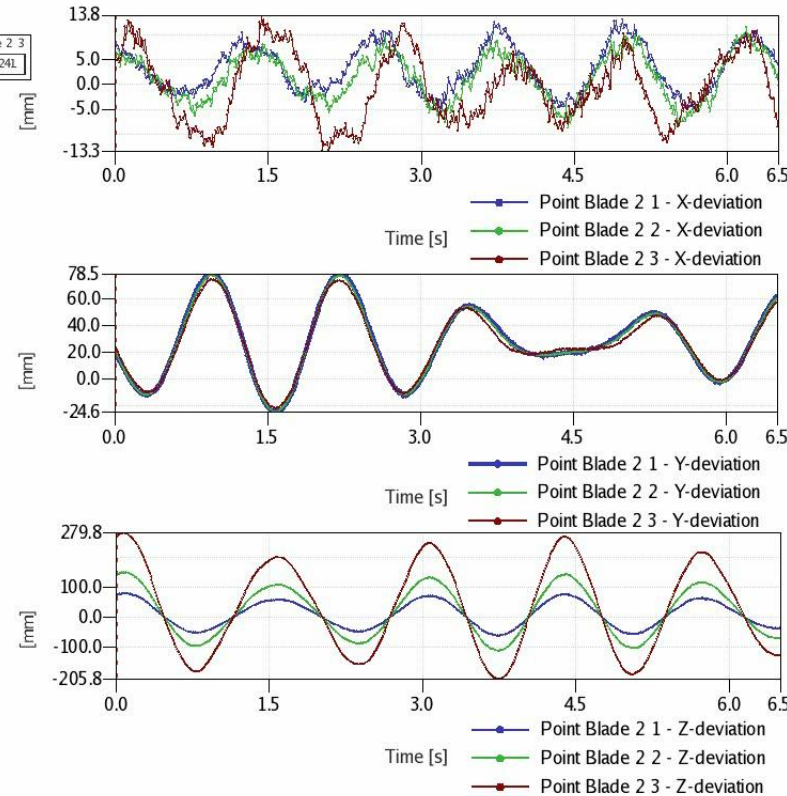


## Blades dynamics



Deformation (YZ-Vector)

embrace\_stop.dyn  
Date: 18.12.2007  
Stage 1

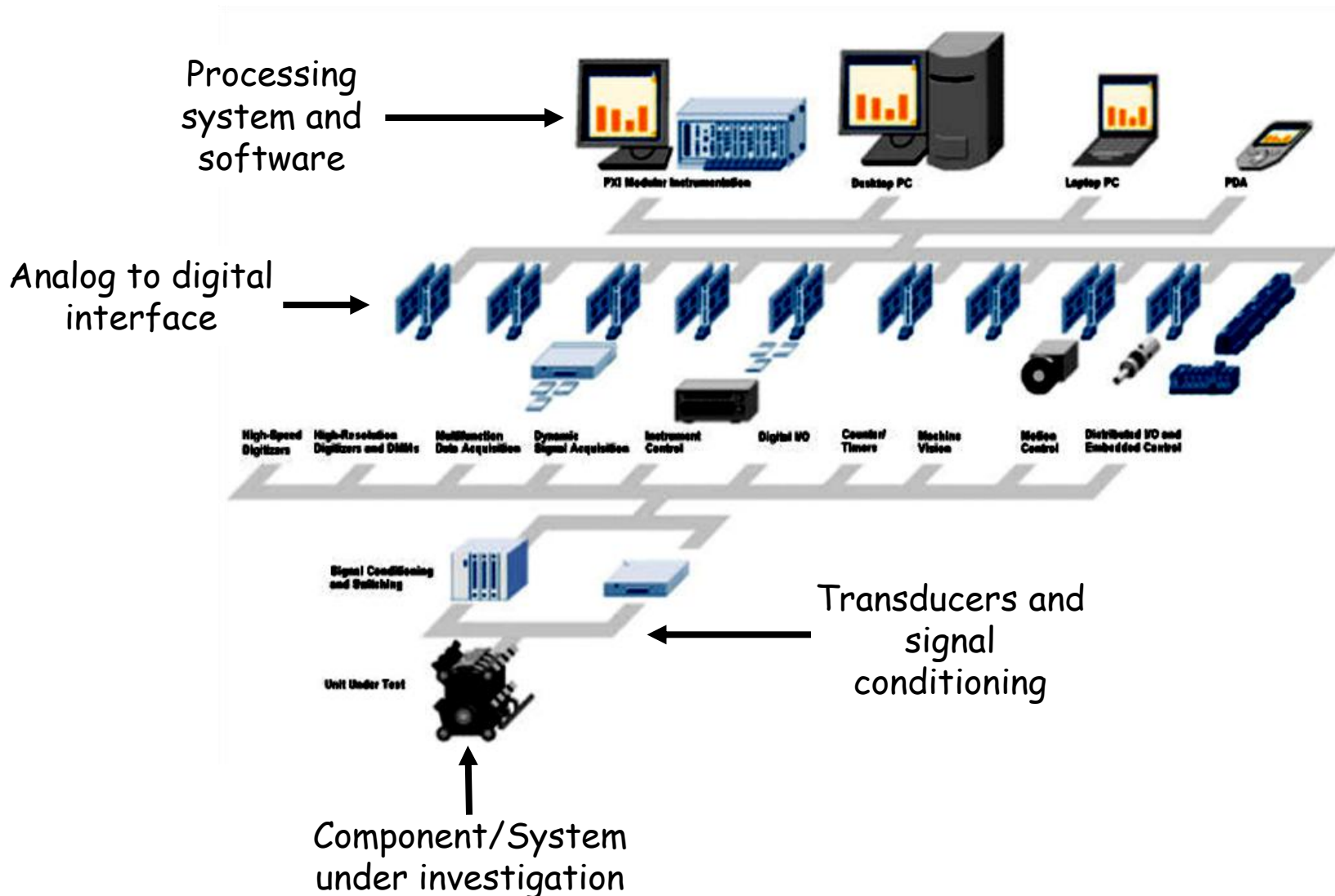


PONTOS

gom  
www.gom.com



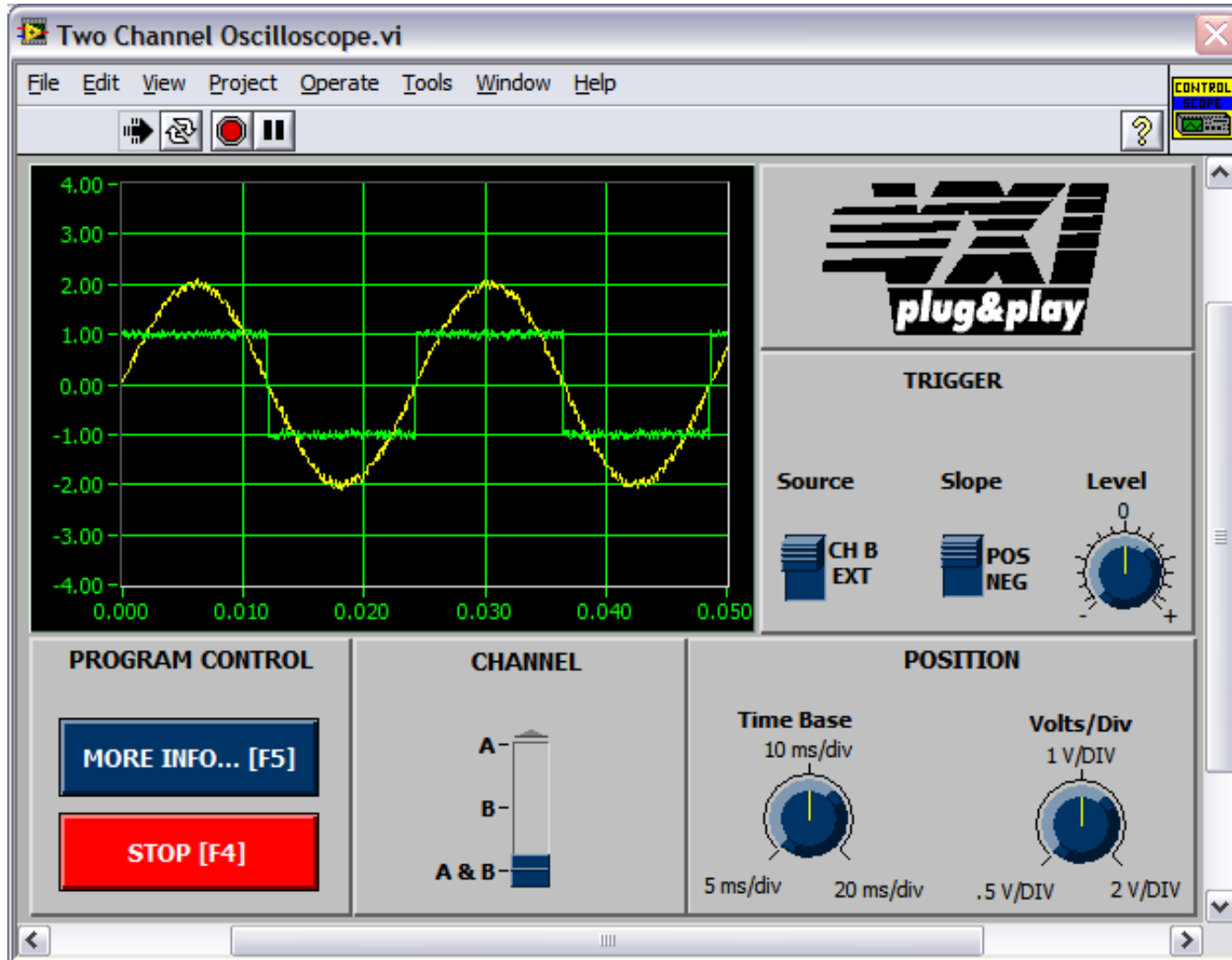
# Modern measurement systems



# Modern measurement systems: LabView 2009

## Virtual instrument (VI)

### Digital oscilloscope



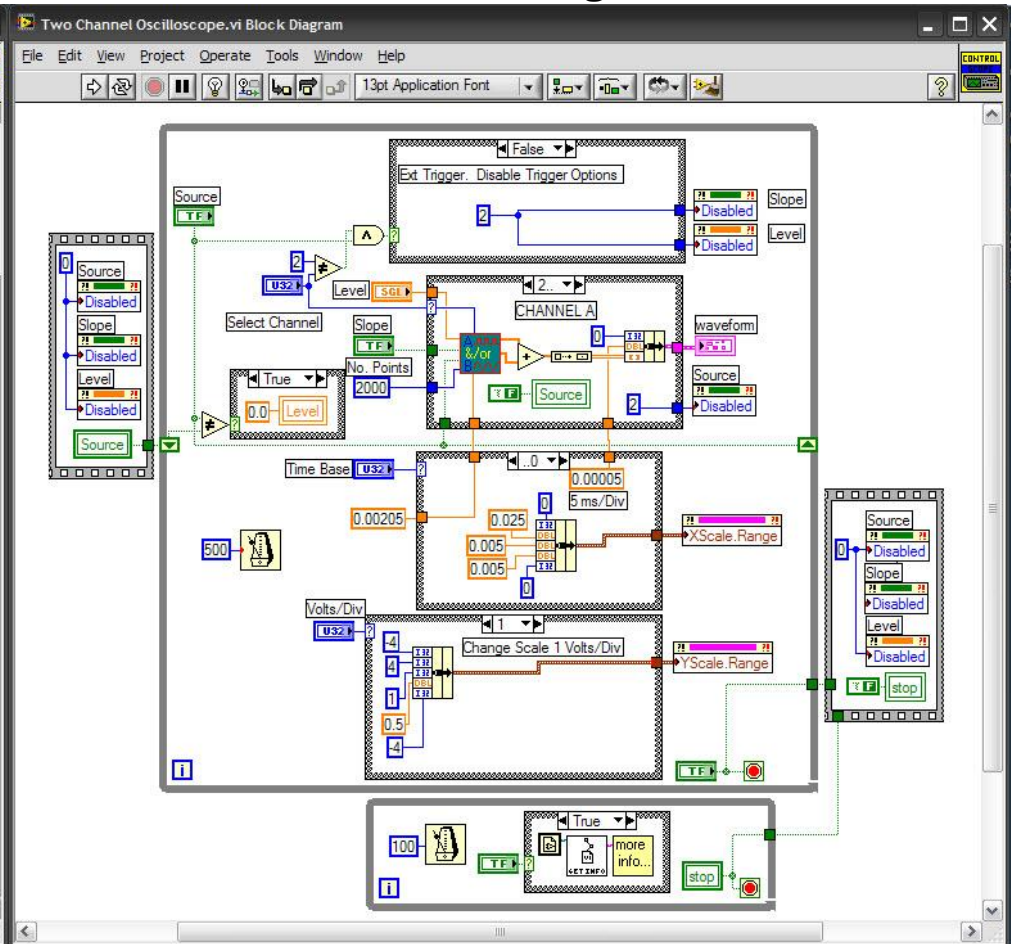
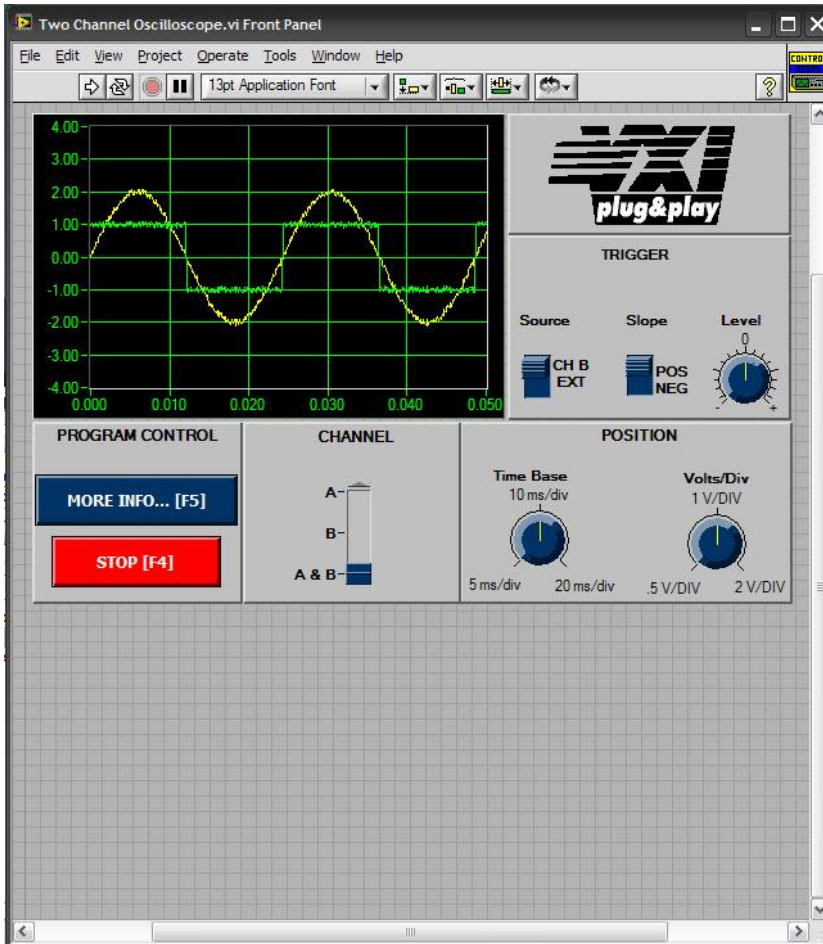
# Modern measurement systems: LabView 2009

## Virtual instrument (VI)

### Behind Digital Oscilloscope VI

Front Panel

Block Diagram



# Accuracy, precision... and resolution...



Target

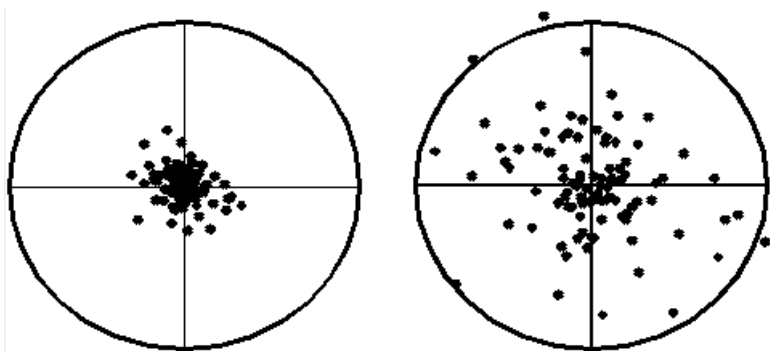




# Accuracy, precision... and resolution...

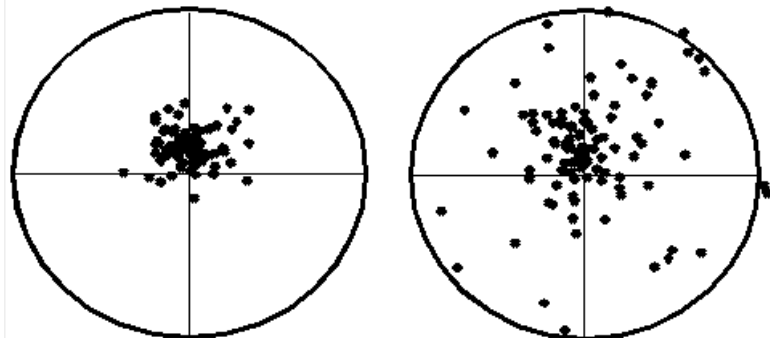
**Precision:** ability to reproduce a reading (not necessarily correct);

**Accuracy:** deviation (or error) of reading from a true value;



**In control, capable**

**In control, not capable**



**Capable but out of control**

**Not capable, and out of control**

**Capable -> precise**

**In control -> accurate**



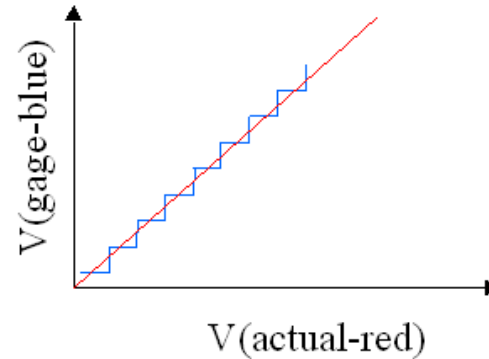
# Accuracy, precision... and resolution...

Instrument Capabilities

DVM - Digital Voltmeter

Assume ~ 8 bit DVM with 0-10 volt scale

**Resolution:**  $\frac{10 \text{ Volts}}{2^8} \sim 0.04 \text{ Volts}$



## Digital VM

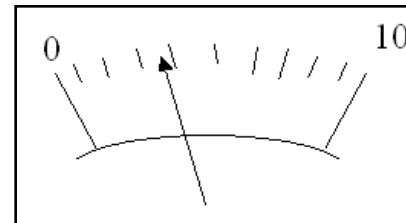


0.04 Volts is the "Least Count". This term usually has more significance on an analog meter.

## Analog VM



**Resolution:**



# Range... gain...

- **Range:** minimum and maximum voltages
  - ◆ Smaller range → more precise representation of signals (for a given digital resolution)
- **Gain:** amplification or attenuation of a signal for best fit in range



# Fundamental concepts: basic quantities

- **Length:** describes size of a physical system - UNITS!!
- **Time:** is understood as a succession of events
- **Mass:** property of matter used to compare interaction between bodies
- **Force:** measure of interaction between bodies. Newton's laws

Examples include:

- Gravitational
- Electrical and magnetic
- Thermally induced

Characterized by their: **magnitude, direction, and point of application !! VECTORIAL QUANTITY**



# Fundamental concepts: basic quantities

- **Work:**  $\text{force} \times \text{distance}$ . Scalar quantity
- **Power:**  $(\text{force} \times \text{distance}) / \text{time}$ . Scalar quantity
- Etc...



# Reading assignment

- **Holman (required):** Ch. 1,  
Ch.2: sections 2.1 to 2.6
- **Bishop (recommended):** Ch. 1, 2



# Homework assignment

- **Holman (required):**                    Review questions: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3
- **Bishop (recommended):**            E1.2, E1.3, E1.4, P1.3

