



Lesson 9



Thermomechanical Measurements for Energy Systems (MENR)

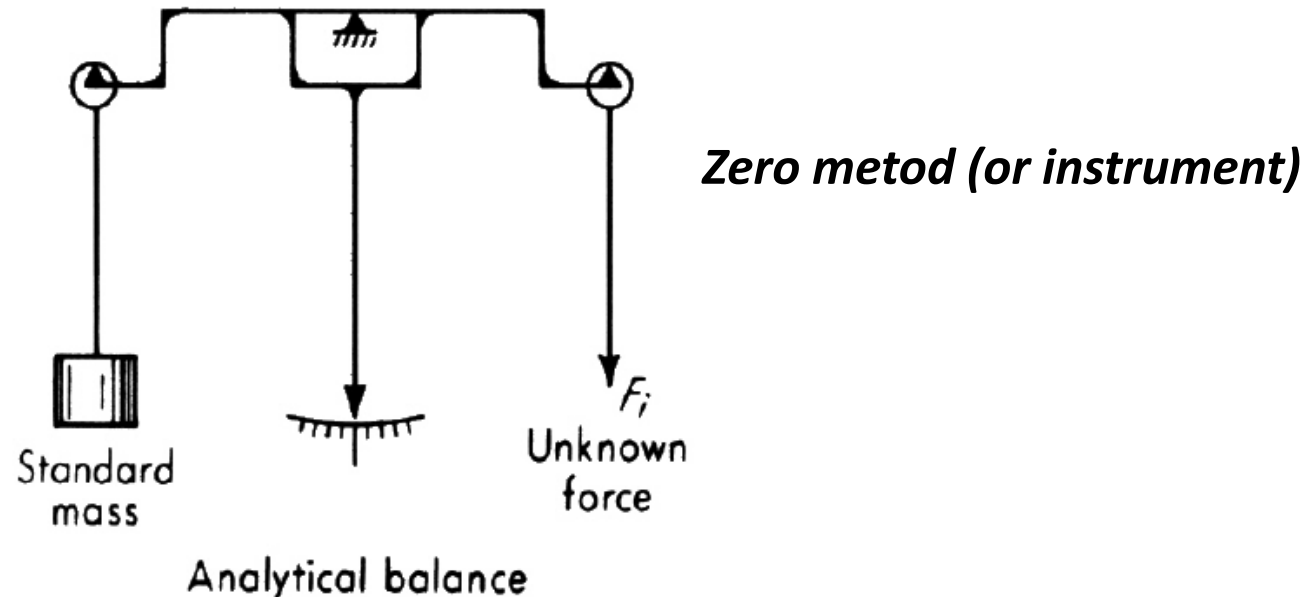
Measurements for Mechanical Systems and Production (MMER)

Force and mass measurements

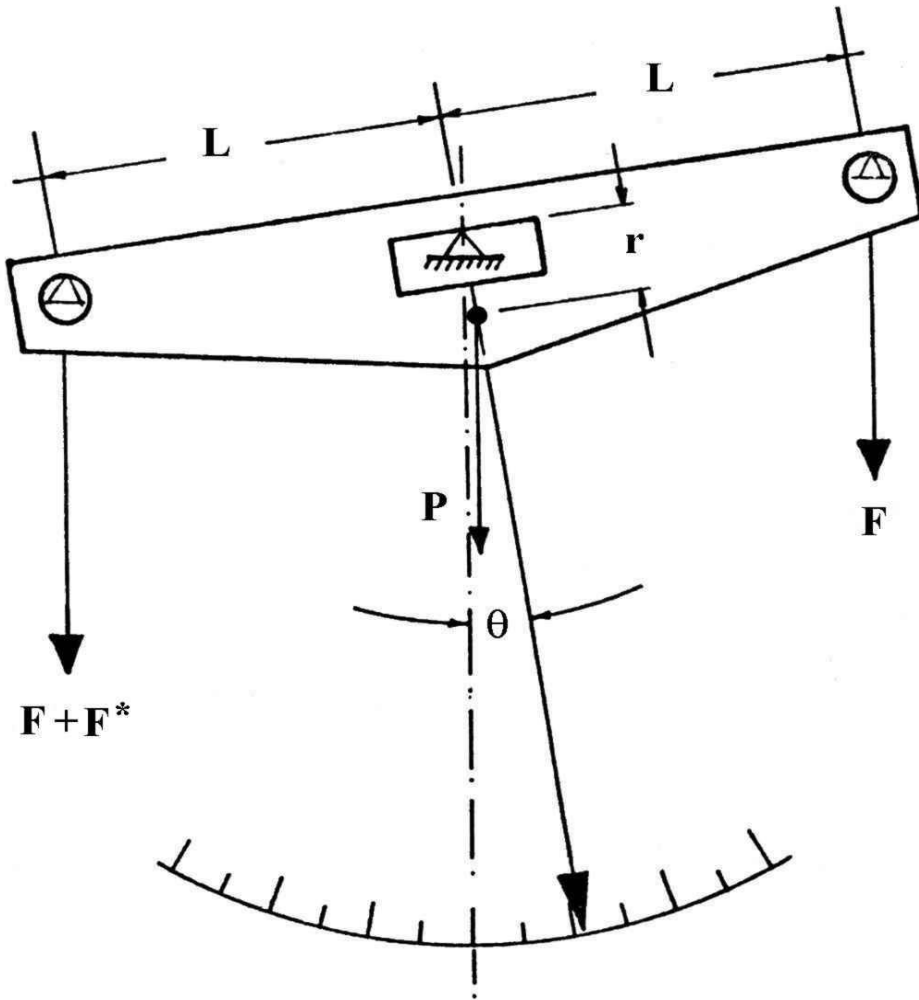
There are many physical quantities in mechanics that are measured through the **force** : pressure, mechanical strain, acceleration, mechanical torque, mechanical power, ...

The measurement of the **mass** of an object, in practical situations, is intimately related to the measurement of a force : the weight !

$$F_p = m \cdot g \quad \rightarrow \quad 1\text{kg}_m \cdot 9.81\text{m/s}^2 = 1\text{kg}_f$$



Analytical balance



The balance of momentum around the fulcrum of the balance gives the equations:

$$(F + F^*) \cdot L \cos \theta = F \cdot L \cos \theta + P \cdot r \sin \theta$$

$$F + F^* = F + P \frac{r \cdot \sin \theta}{L \cdot \cos \theta}$$

$$F^* = \frac{P \cdot r}{L} \operatorname{tg} \theta$$

The *graduation curve* is not linear but, for small rotations ϑ , we can confound the angle with its tangent :

$$\operatorname{tg} \theta \cong \theta \quad \theta \cong \frac{L}{P \cdot r} \times F$$

The *sensitivity* is :
$$S = \frac{\Delta \theta}{\Delta F} \cong \frac{L}{P \cdot r}$$

When forces are directed in “any direction” different from the direction of *gravity*, they must be measured by other instruments: the **dynamometers**, which are almost all based on the measurement of the strain caused by the force (the *measurand*) on an *elastic element* inside !

Load cells:

Basic law of elasticity : $F = k \cdot x$

For a cylindrical elastic element which is axially loaded we can write : $k = \frac{AE}{l}$

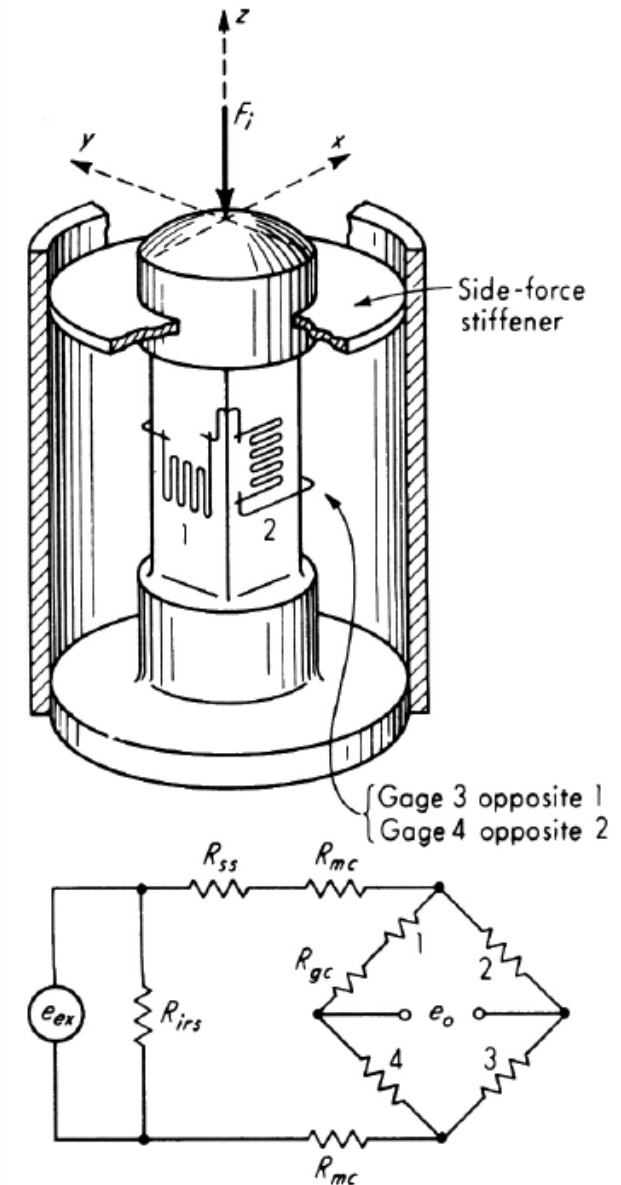
l is the length of the element

A is the transversal section

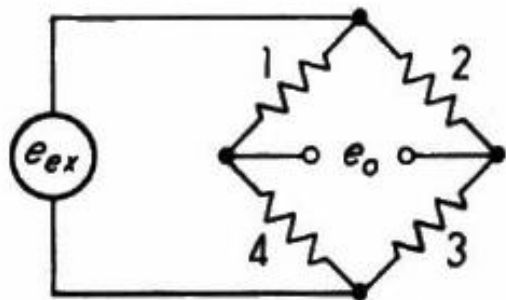
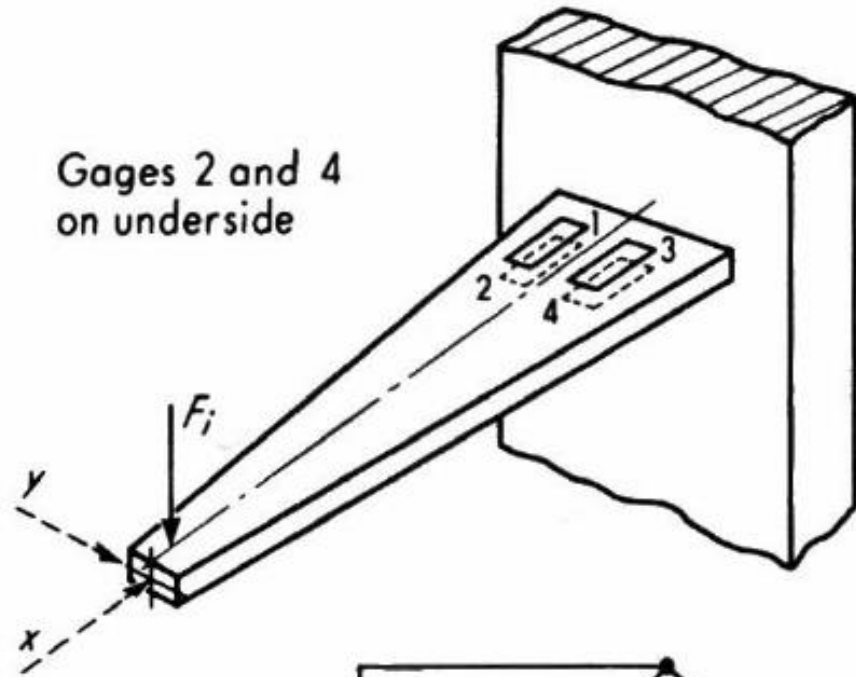
E is the Young's modulus of the material

The *graduation curve* is linear : $x = \frac{l}{AE} \cdot F$

The *sensitivity* is constant : $S = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta F} = \frac{l}{AE}$



Bending load cells:



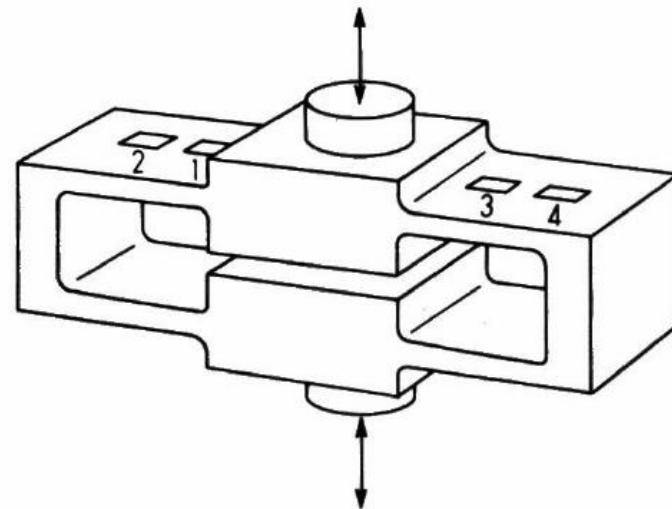
When you have small forces to measure and you need more sensitivity, the bending elastic element is preferred. The basic law of elasticity $F = k \cdot x$ is still valid.

$$\text{But } k = \frac{3EI}{l^3}$$

l is the *length* of the bending element

I is the *moment of inertia* of the bending element section

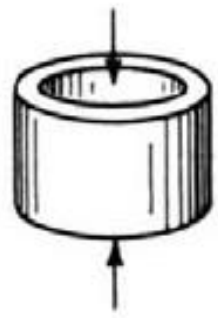
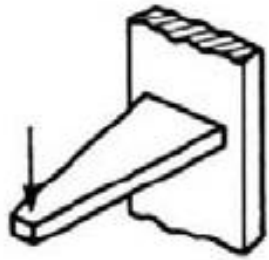
E is the Young's modulus



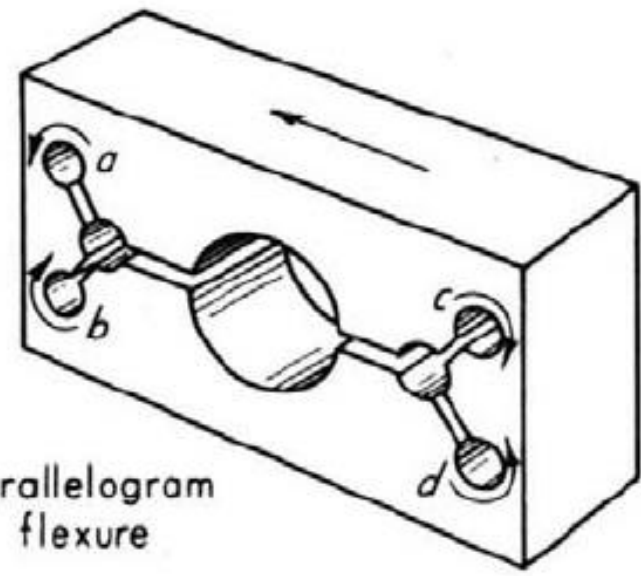
Graduation curve: $x = \frac{l^3}{3EI} \cdot F$

Sensitivity: $S = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta F} = \frac{l^3}{3EI}$

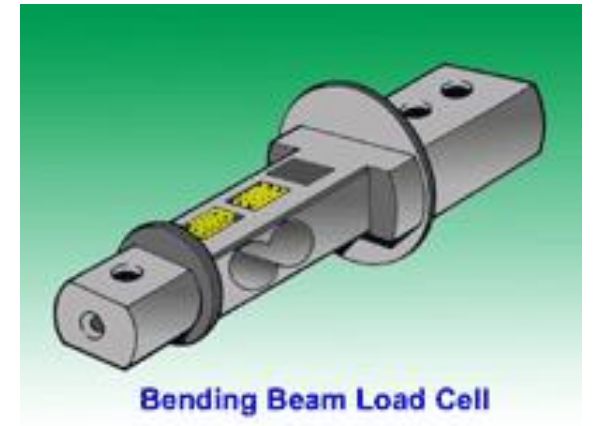
Examples of bending load cells:



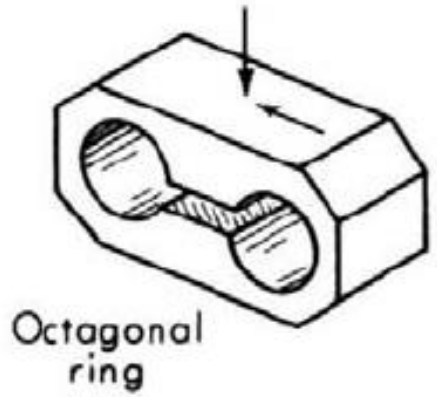
Elastic force-to-deflection transducers



Parallelogram flexure



Bending Beam Load Cell

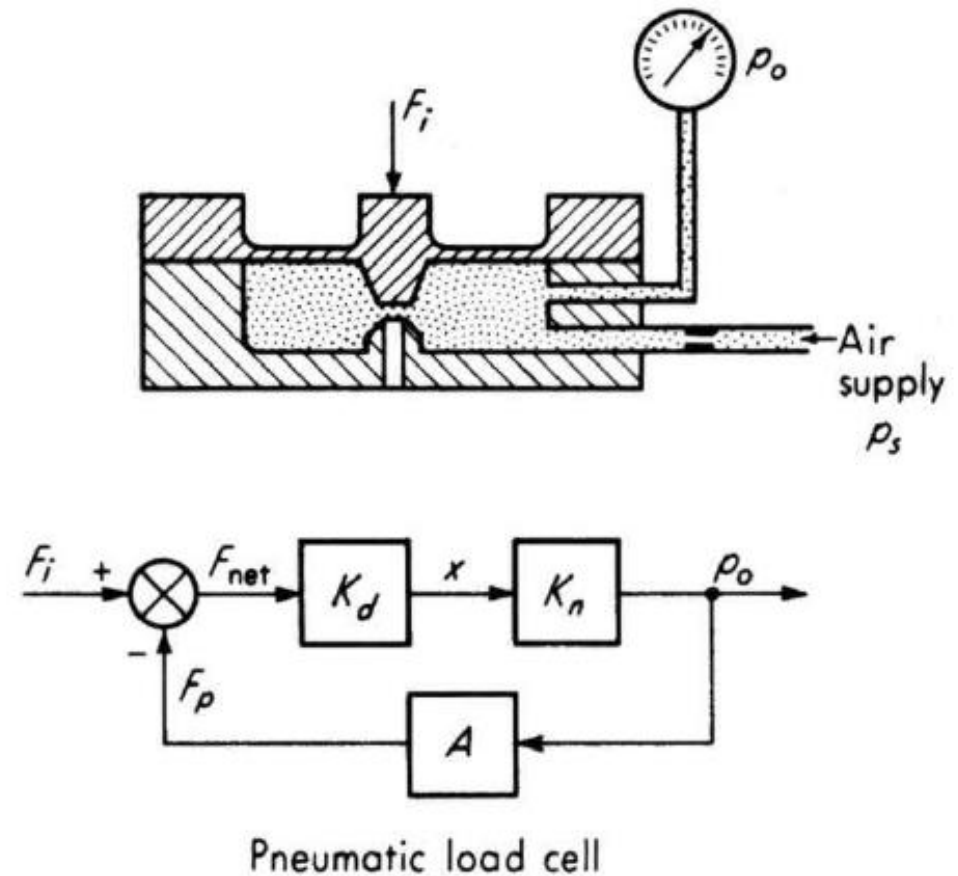
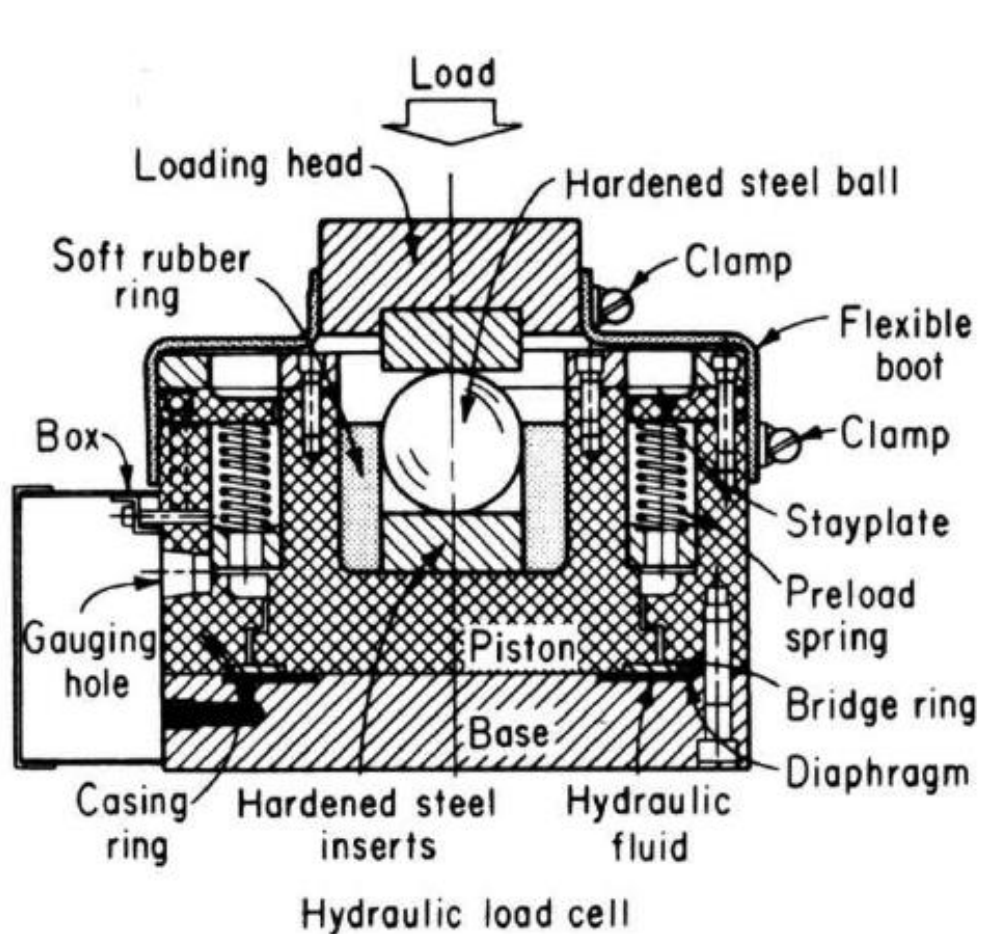


Octagonal ring



hydraulic or pneumatic load cells: are employed to measure very big forces. The measurement is done “indirectly” passing through the *pressure measurement of a particular fluid* (generally oil)

$F = P \cdot A$ the area “A” of the surface which *compresses the fluid* is a design parameter of the instrument
 The force F can then *be calculated immediately* from the pressure measurement !



Measurement of PRESSURE : it is also an indirect measurement...

$$p = \frac{F_{\perp}}{S}$$

There are many measurement units for **pressure** :

- pascal (Pa): in the International System = 1 newton over squared meter (1 N/m²) or kg·m⁻¹·s⁻²
- Baria: in the old CGS System (dina/cm²)
- Bar: (10⁵ Pa = 1 daN/cm²) submultiples of the **bar** are also widespread, in particular the millibar is used much in meteorology and the microbar in acoustics
- torr: the pressure exerted by a mercury column high 1 mm (133,3 Pa)
- mm H₂O: the pressure exerted by a water column high 1 mm (9,81 Pa)
- atmosphere (atm): about equal to the pressure exerted by the atmosphere at sea level (101325 Pa = 760 mmHg = 760 torr)
- Force kilogram (kg_f): over cm² or over m²
- Tecnical atmosphere (symbol: at or ata): equal to 1 kg_f/cm² (10.000mmH₂O), little bit smaller than the physical atmosphere (0,96784 atm). Also known as **ata**, when understood as absolute pressure, and **ate**, when thought as relative pressure.

PRESSURE measurement is often realized directly from the physical definition:

Measurement of the “force F” exerted by a fluid on a “surface A”

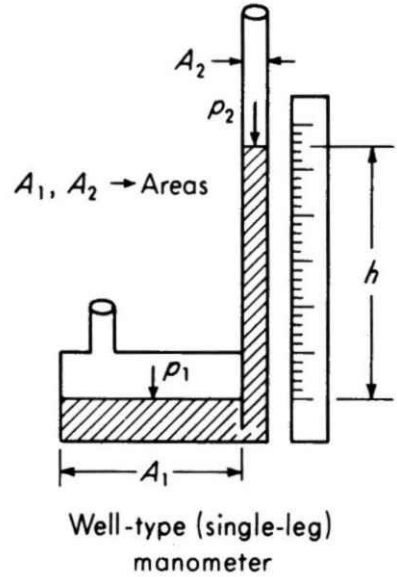
- **Absolute pressure** or real pressure (ata, absolute atm): is the pressure measured assuming the [vacuum](#) as reference pressure
- **Relative pressure** (ate, relative atm): is the pressure measured assuming [another pressure](#) as reference pressure (typically the [atmospheric pressure](#))

Pressure P is technically measured by 3 different manometer types:

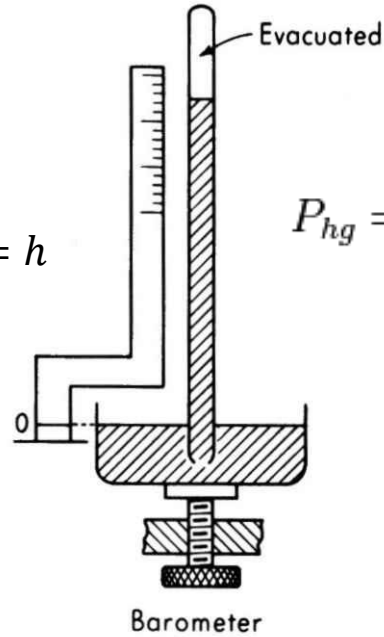
- [Liquid manometers](#)
- [Metallic manometers](#)
- [Electric manometers](#)

Liquid manometers:

Based on a fluid which rises inside a tube due to the pressure:

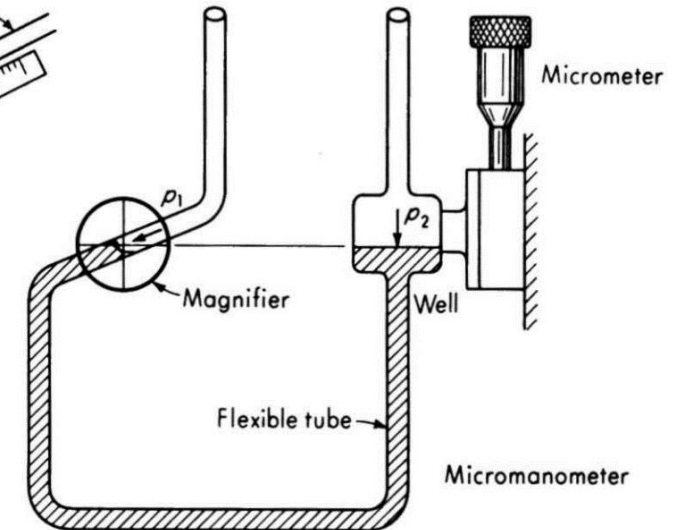
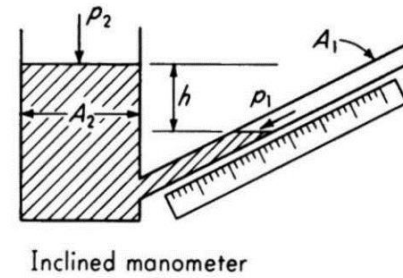


$$\frac{P_1 - P_2}{\rho_m g} = h$$



$$P_{hg} = \delta \cdot g \cdot h_{hg} = 13579 \frac{kg}{m^3} \cdot 9,8 \frac{m}{s^2} \cdot 0,76m = 1,013 \cdot 10^5 Pa$$

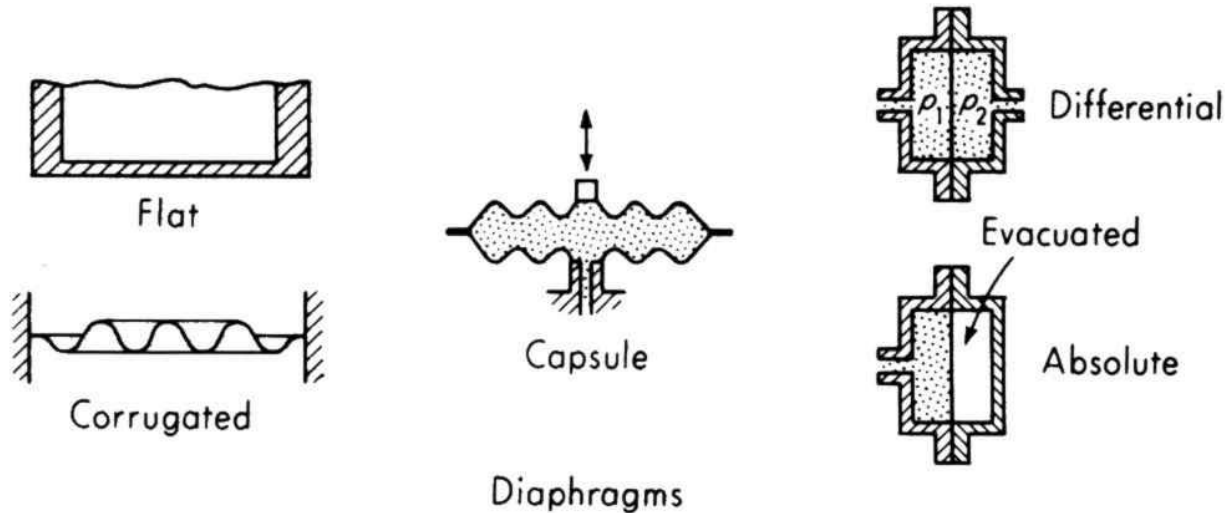
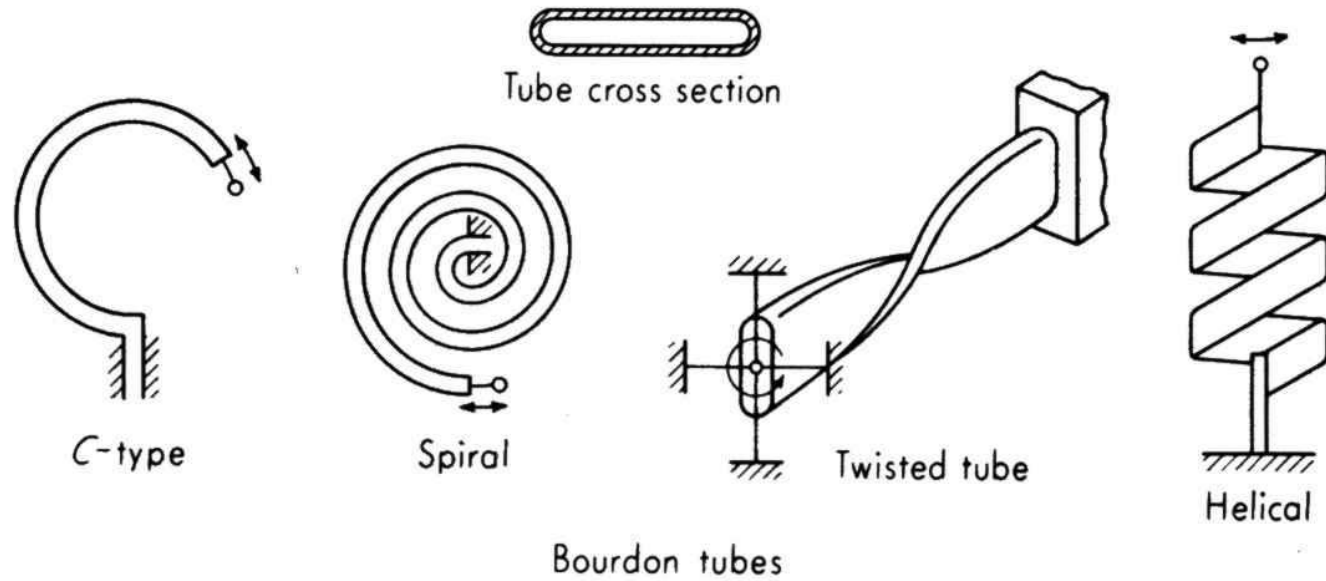
$$\frac{P_1 - P_2}{\rho_m g} = h = l \cdot \sin \vartheta$$



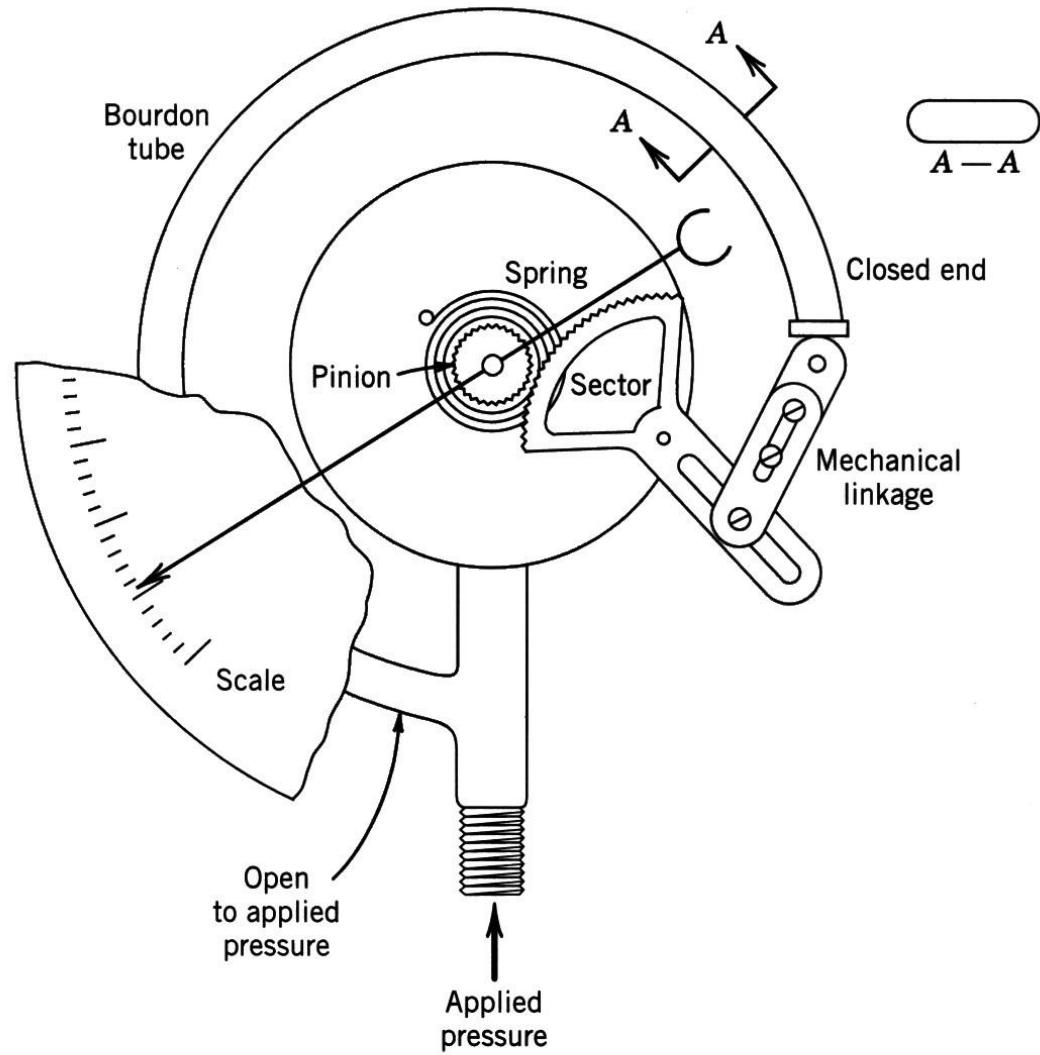
Differential (Prandtl) manometer or null-out manometer:

Metallic manometers:

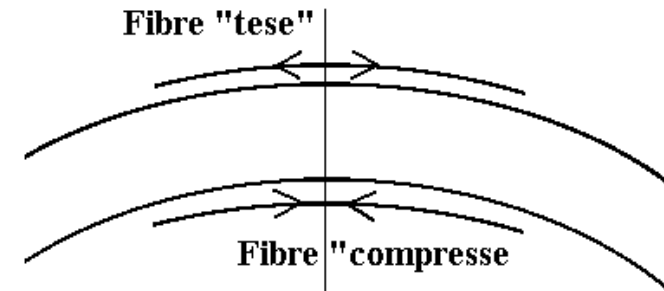
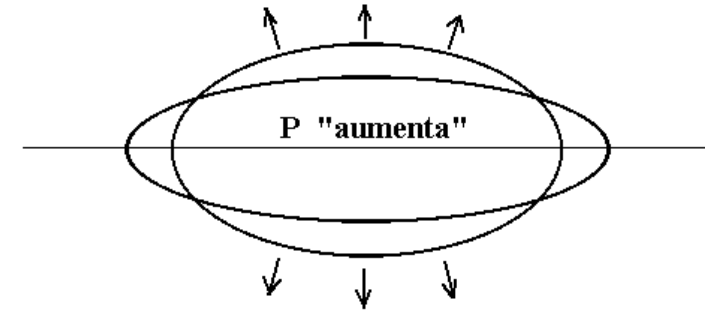
They are all based on the deformation of an elastic element caused by the pressure forces :



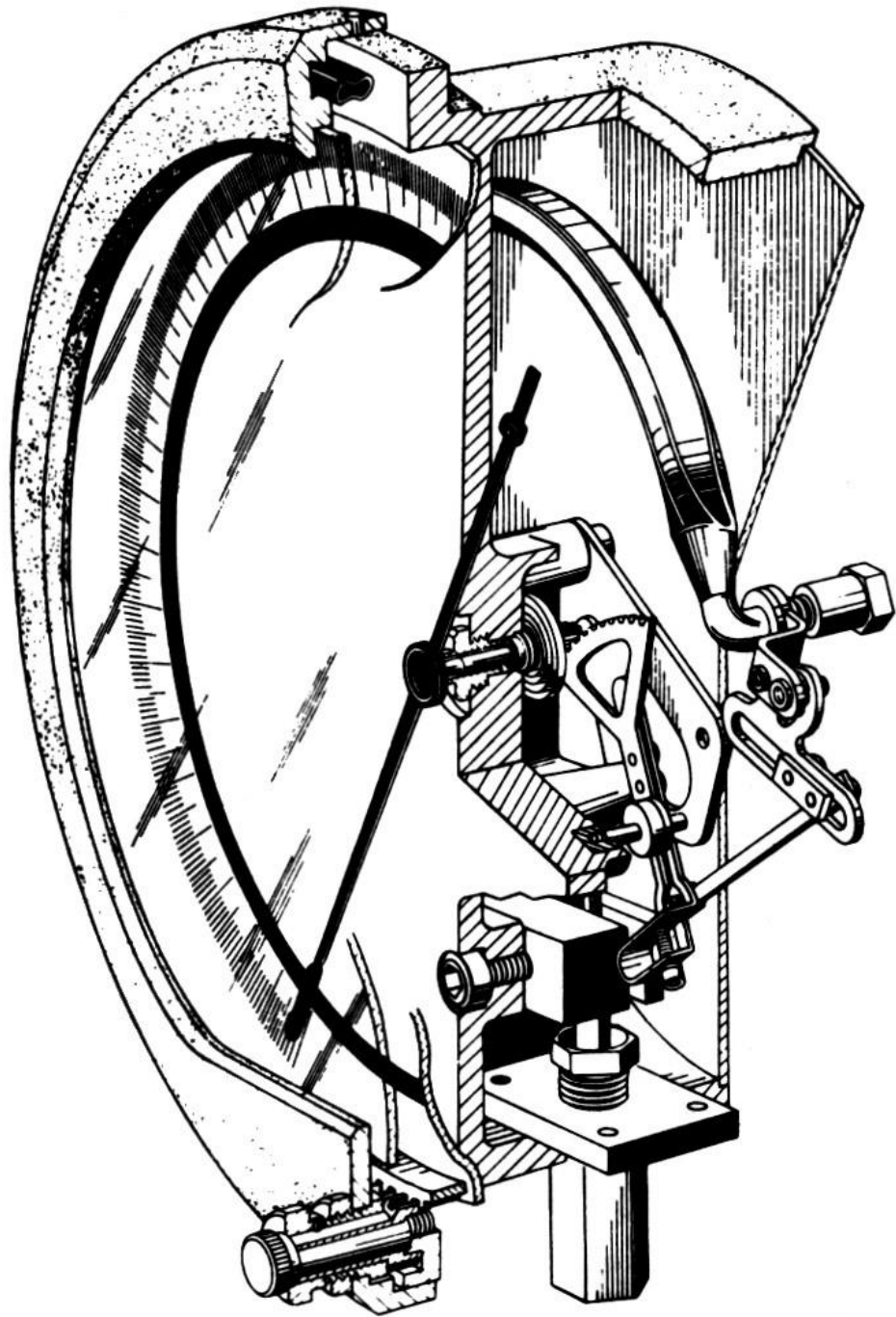
Bourdon manometer ...



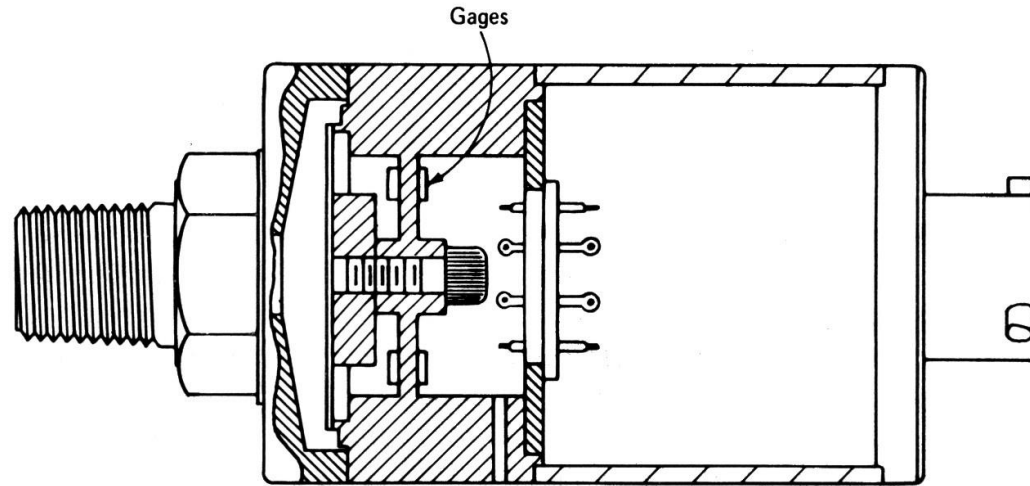
Bourdon tube pressure gauge.



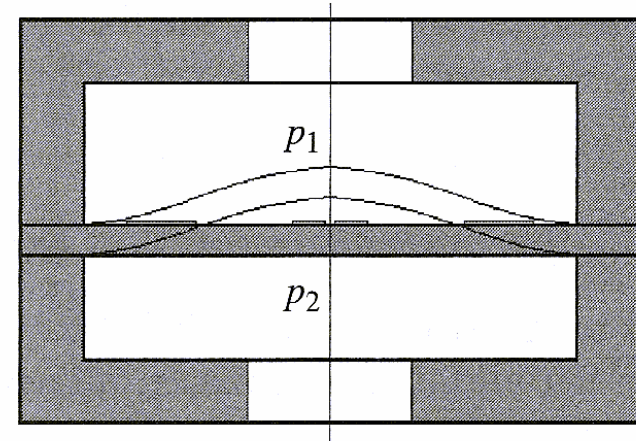
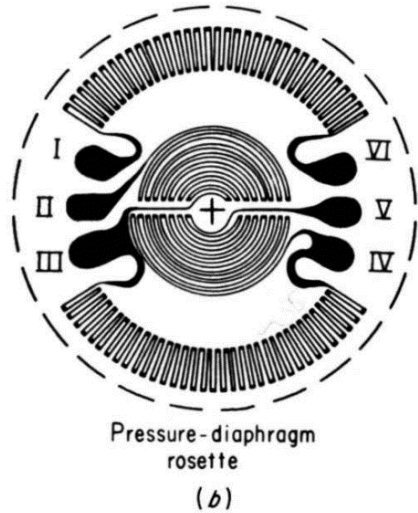
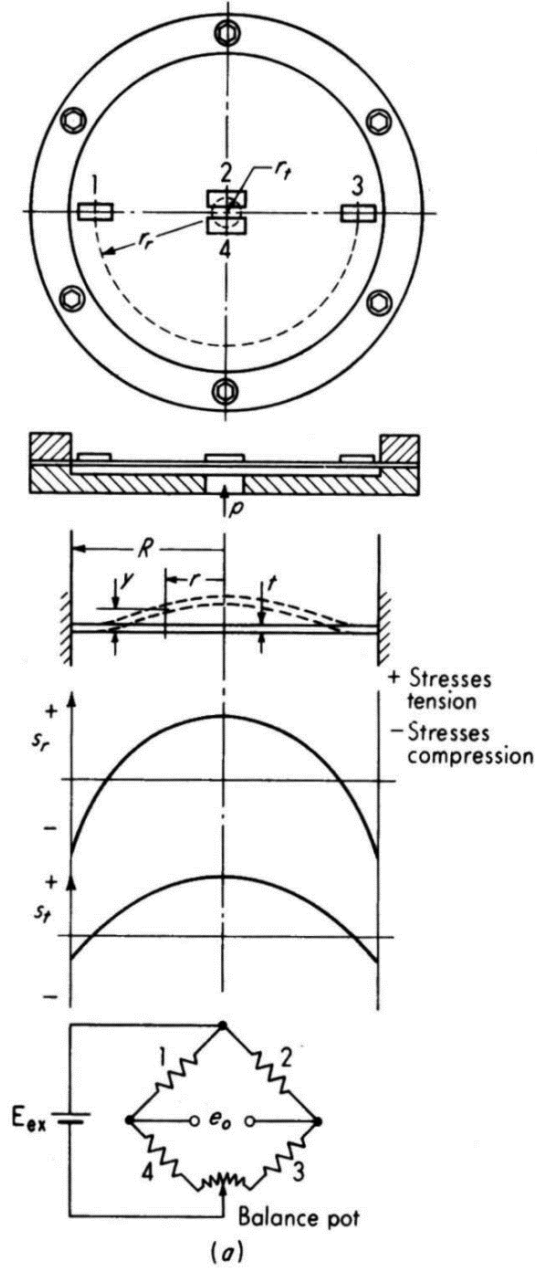
What happens in section AA ?



Diaphragm membrane manometer:



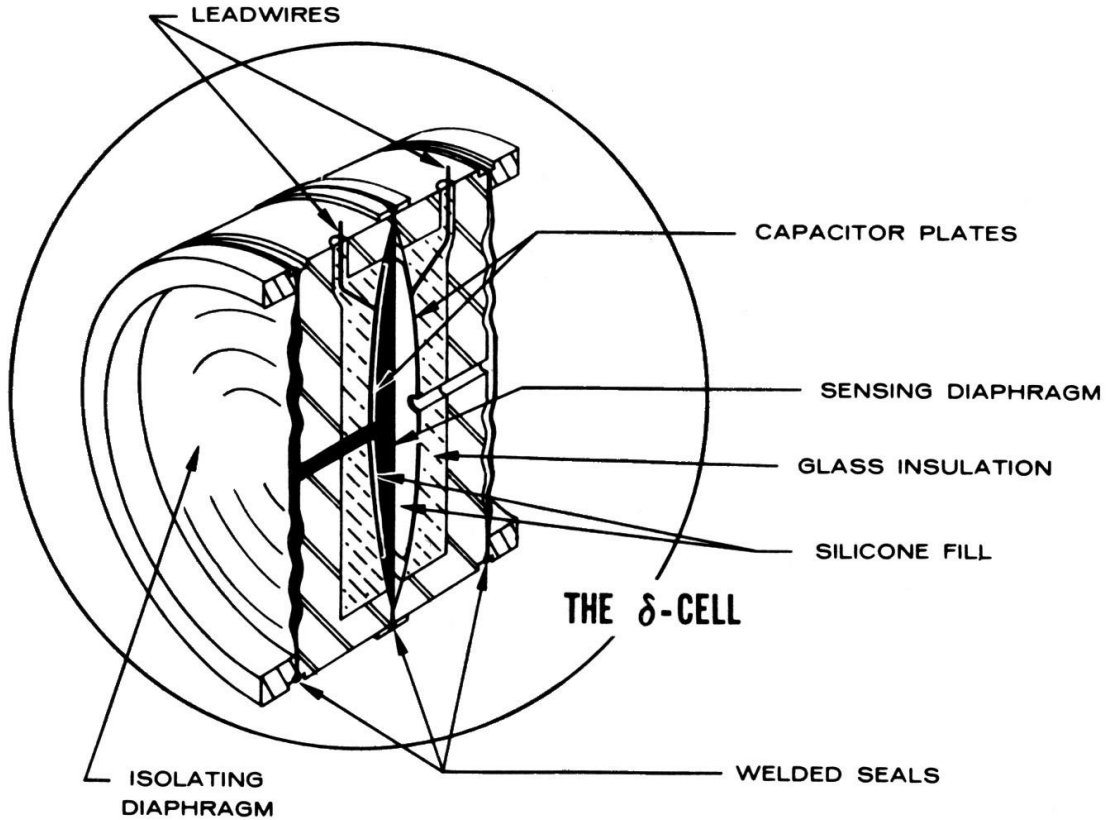
Bonded foil strain-gage pressure transducer. (Courtesy Sensotec Inc., Columbus, Ohio.)



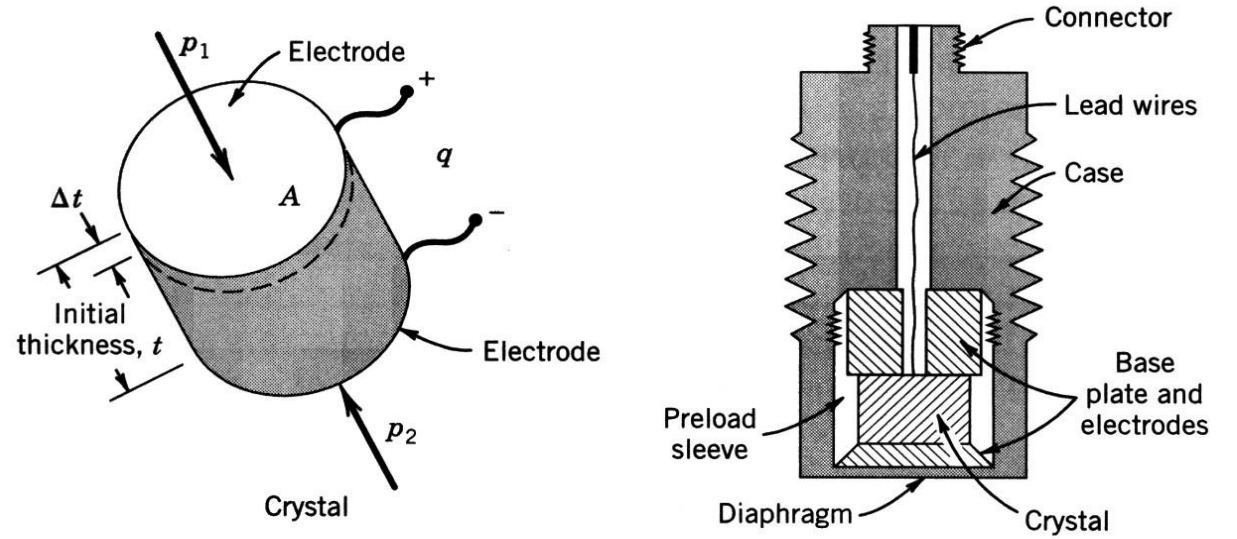
Diaphragm-type strain-gage pressure pickup.

Electric manometers:

Capacitive transducers must be supplied with *alternating current* ...



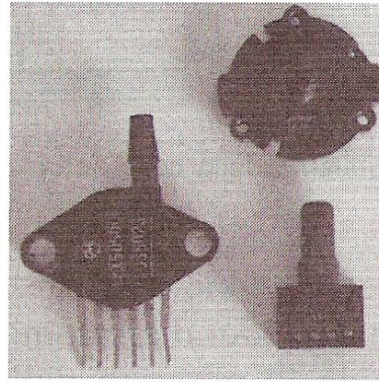
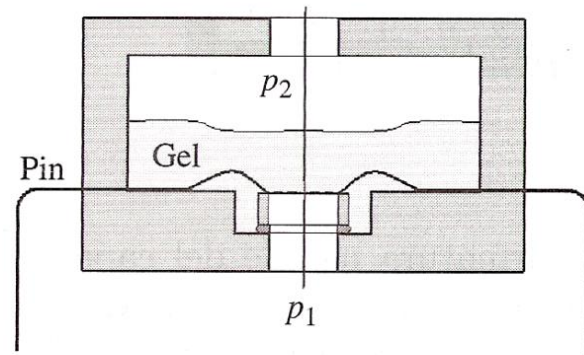
Capacitive differential-pressure transmitter. (Courtesy Rosemount Inc., Minne



Piezoelectric pressure transducer.



Semiconductor silicon chip pressure transducer:

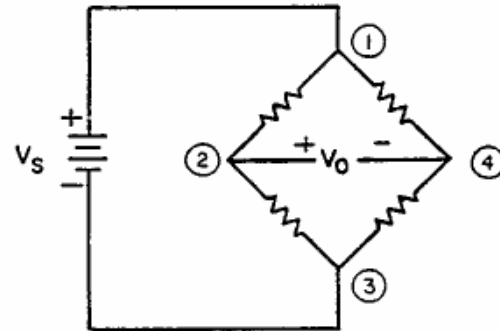


Trasduttore di pressione su chip di silicio.

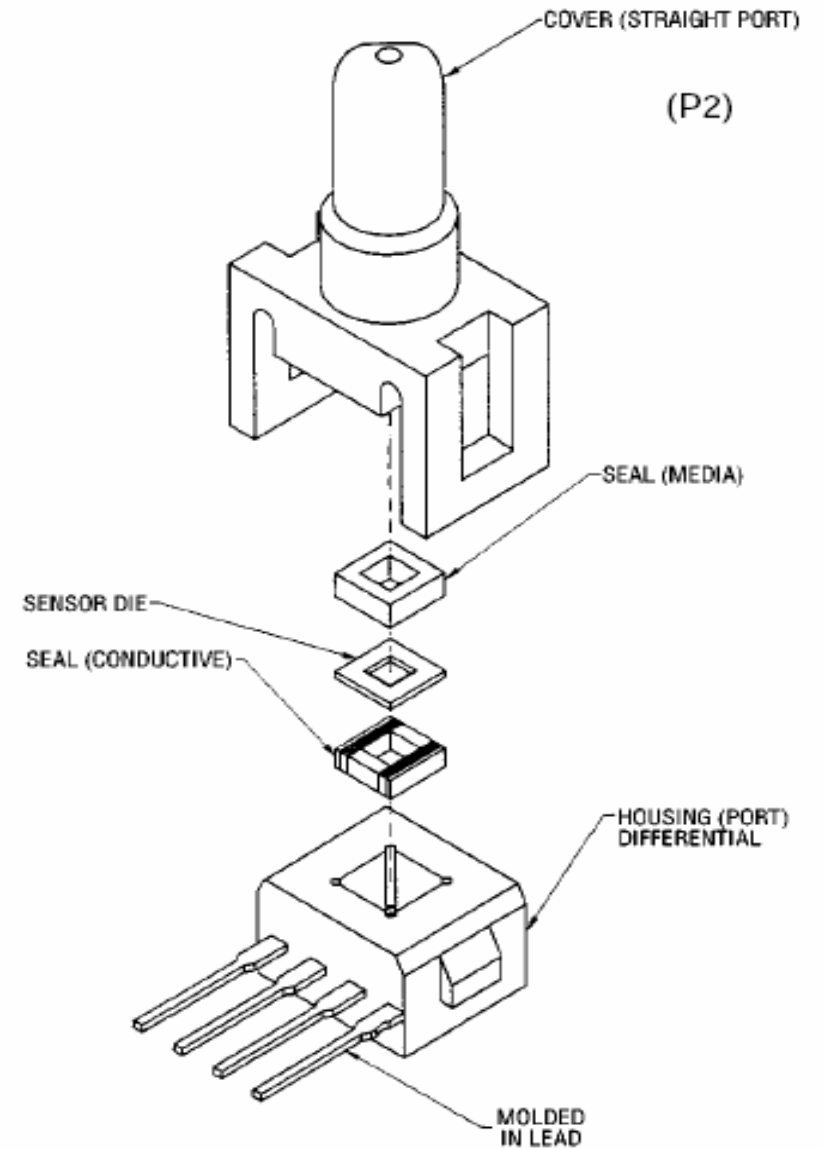
Pin Designation

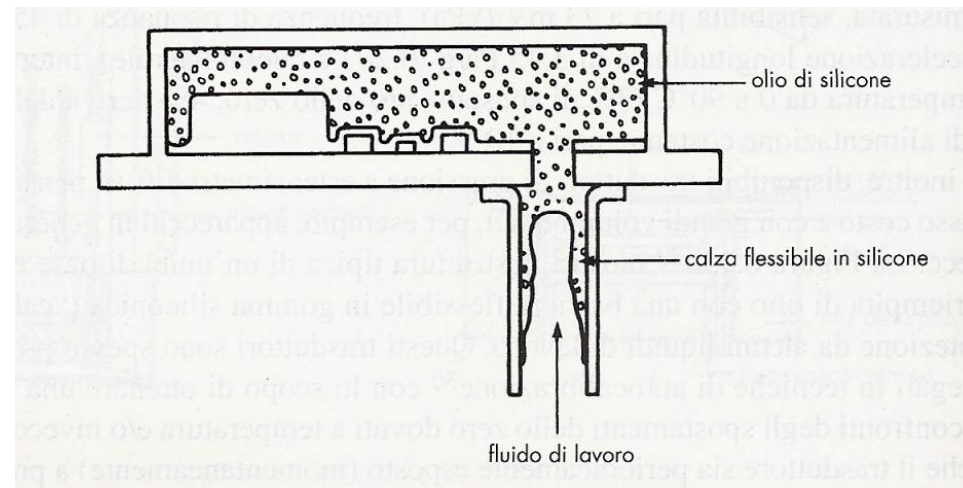
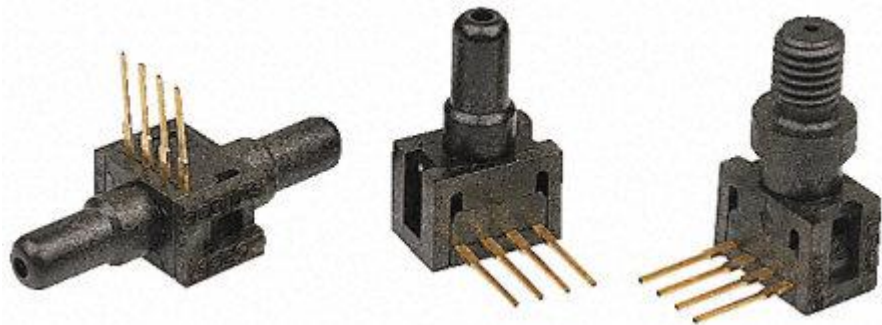
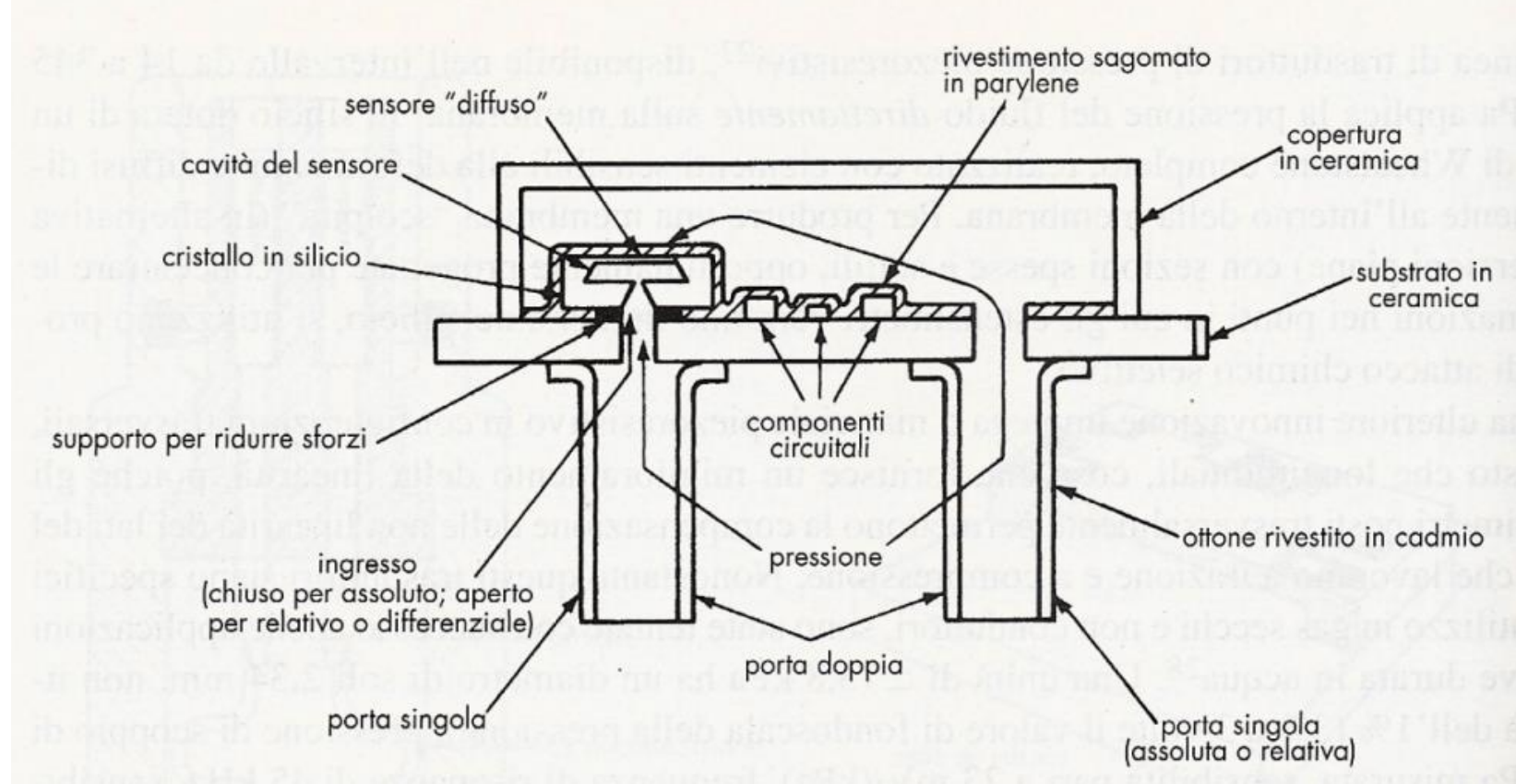
- Pin 1 $V_S (+)$
- Pin 2 Output (+)
- Pin 3 Ground (-)
- Pin 4 Output (-)

EXCITATION

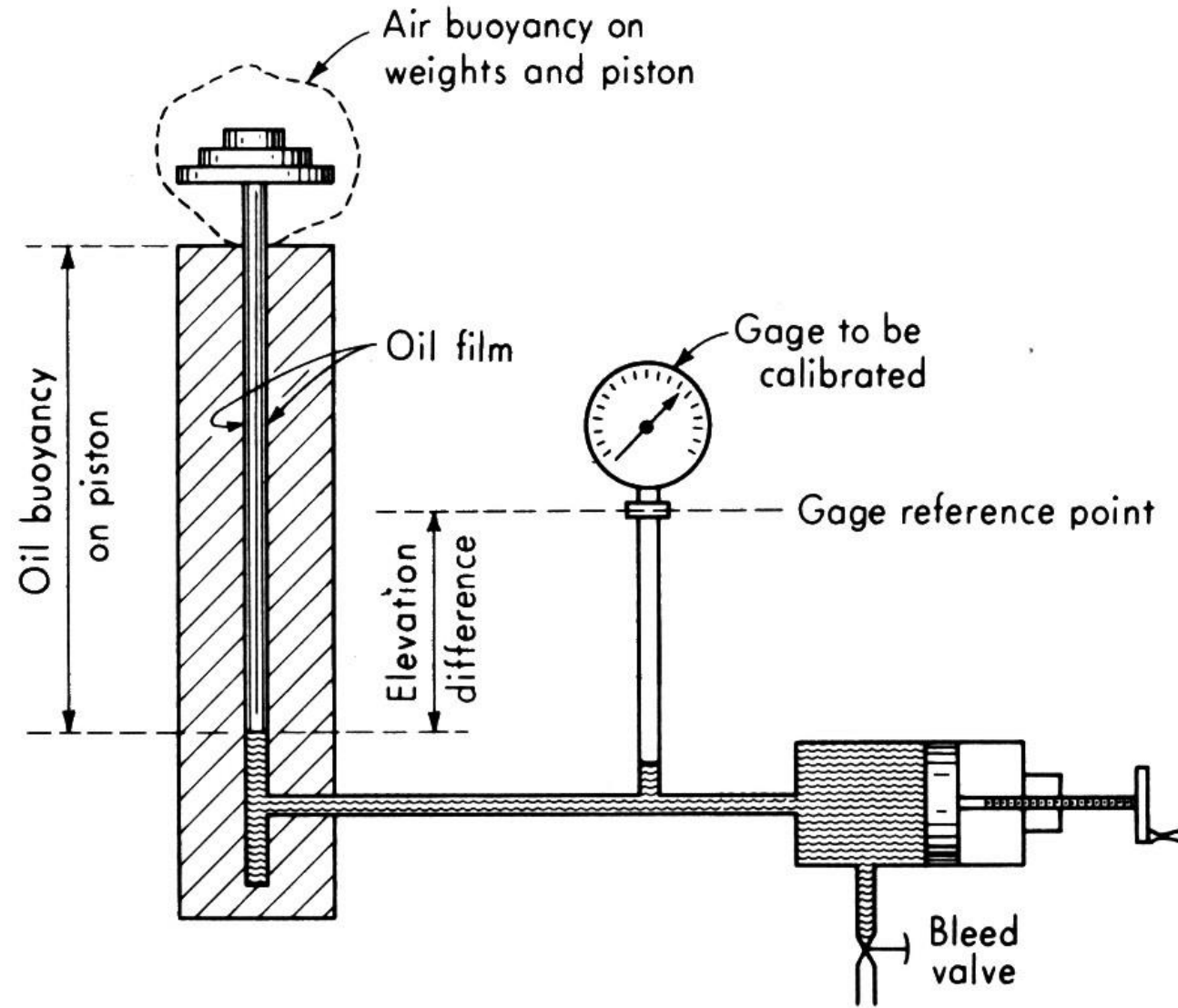


20PC Construction





Pressure gauge calibration bench:



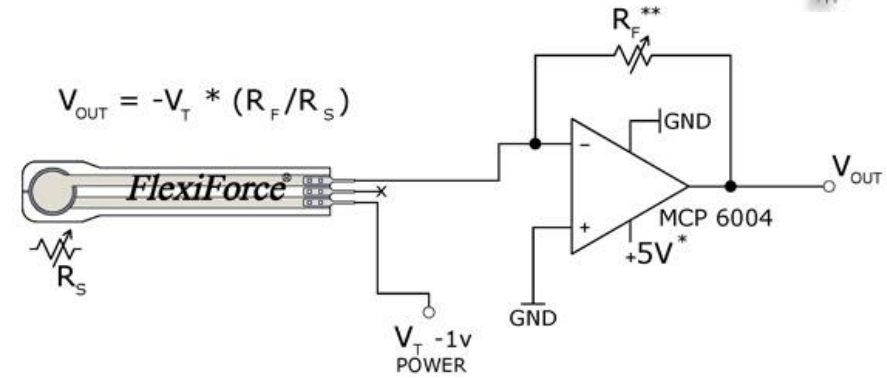
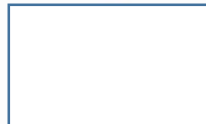
Deadweight gage calibrator.

Piezo-resistive film pressure transducers :

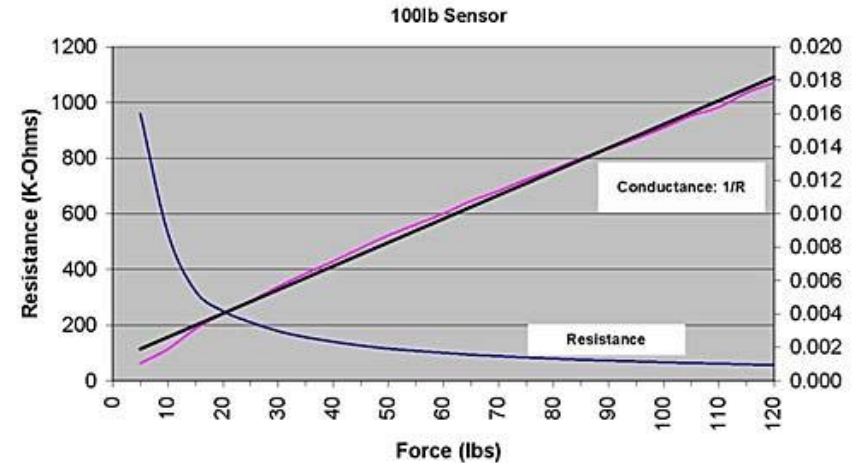
- accurate
- reliable
- high-resolution
- fast sampling
- paper-thin
- flexible
- conformable
- non-intrusive
- pressure & force**
- sensing**

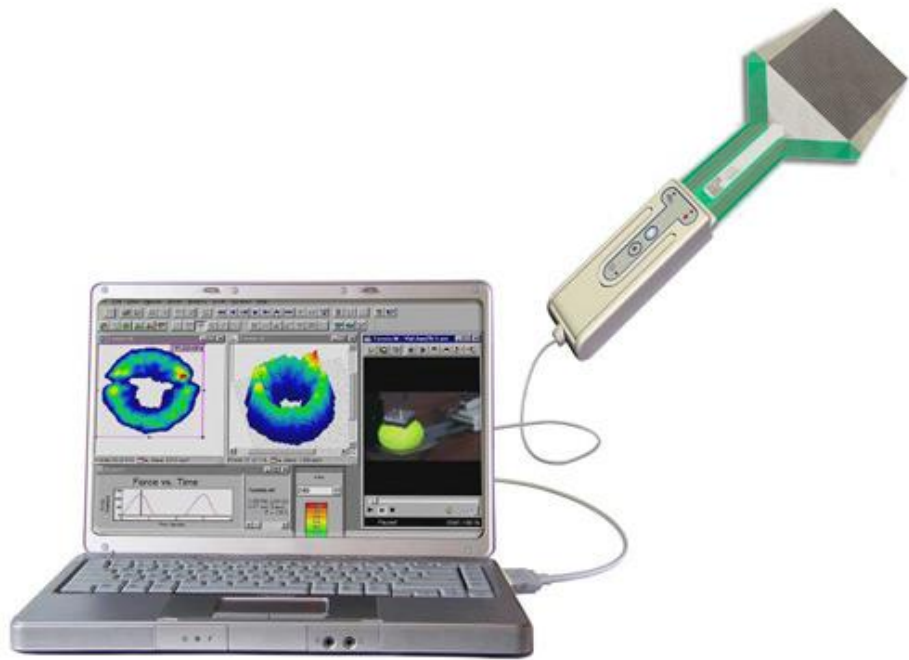


The Leader in
Tactile Pressure Measurement
Industrial and Research Solutions

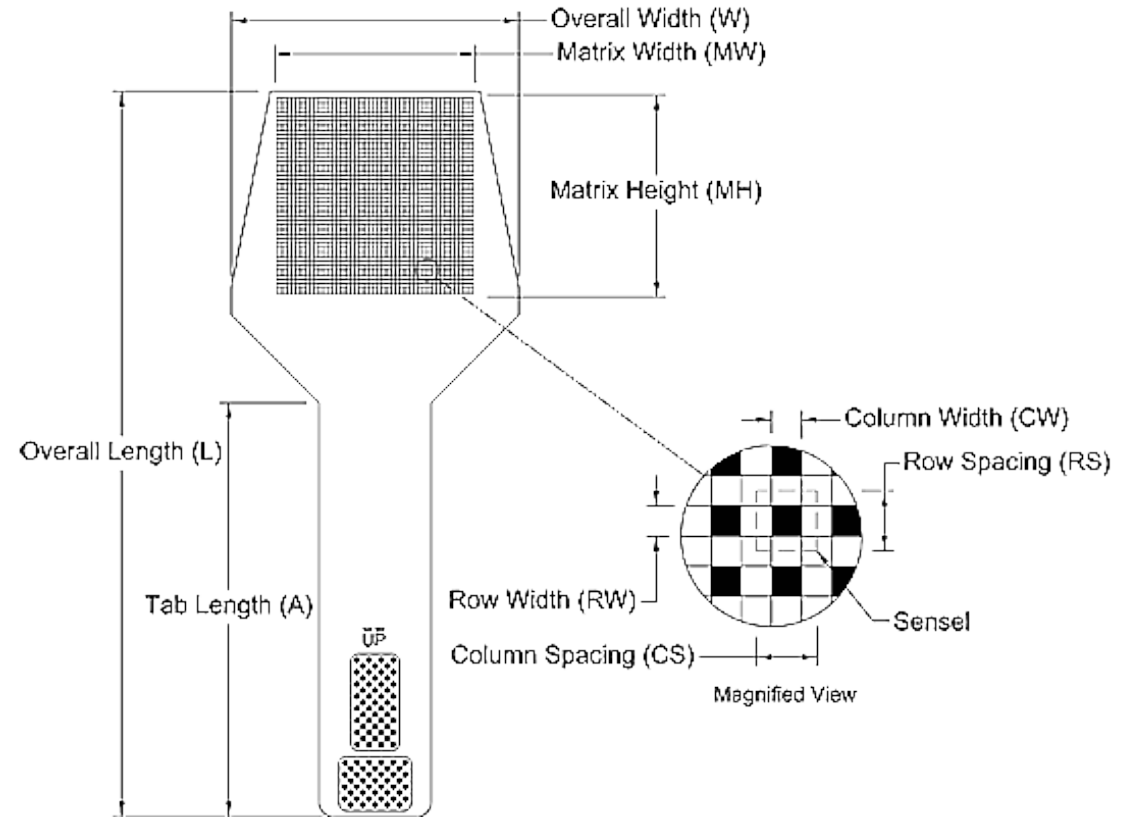


- * Supply Voltages should be constant
- ** Reference Resistance R_F is 1k Ω to 100k Ω
- Sensor Resistance R_S at no load is >5M Ω
- Max recommended current is 2.5mA





Thickness --> 0,2 mm



Sensing Area

Total

Width

Height

Sensels

Sensel Density

4.40 in.

4.40 in.

1,936

100.0 in.²

111.8 mm

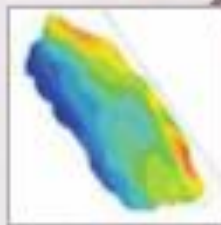
111.8 mm

1,936

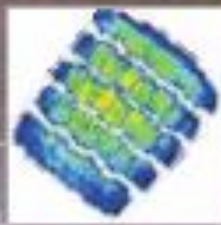
15.5 cm²



BRAKE



TIRE



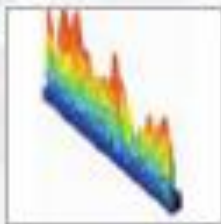
WIPER



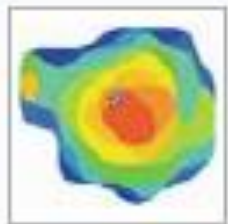
GASKET



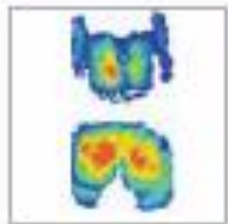
DOOR SEAL



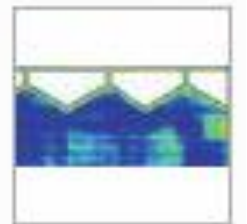
IMPACT



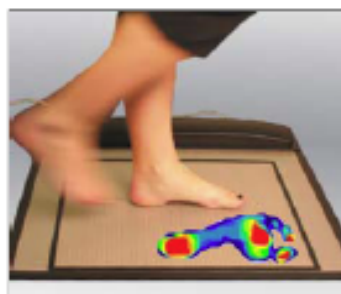
SEATING



FUEL CELL



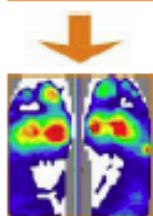
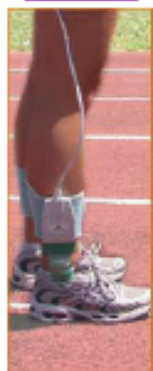
Pressure Mapping for Patient Care, Medical Research, and Animal Studies



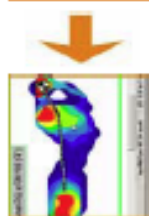
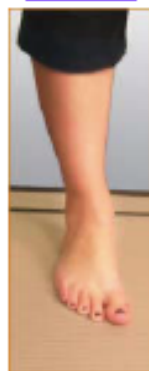
The search for cost-effective tools in the prevention and management of pressure-related problems for at risk patients has been a constant source of frustration for clinicians and hospital administrators. Tekscan's pressure measurement devices provide accurate, reliable data that is outcome focused and provides important insights into the formation of pressure-related sores. This information is an important quantitative adjunct to other qualitative assessment tools, assisting the clinician in providing results-oriented, cost-effective assessments and preventative care.

[See All Medical Pressure Mapping Products](#)

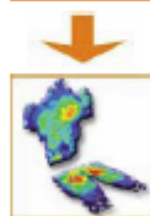
In-Shoe Pressure Analysis



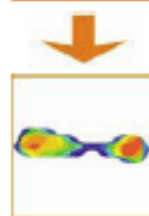
Barefoot Pressure Analysis



Seating & Positioning Pressure Analysis



Joint Pressure Analysis



Animal Gait Pressure Analysis



Our medical pressure sensors and systems help in the management of:

- diabetic foot
- orthotic assessment
- optimization of the seating and positioning of the neurologically compromised
- animal gait
- burn garment assessment
- prosthesis and brace fitting
- design and development of pressure-reducing support surfaces
- orthopedic joint research