

In Situ Characterization during Mechanical Testing at MSN-C

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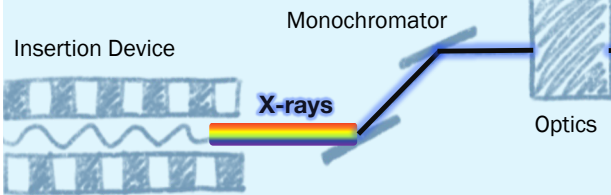
16 Aug 2026

Anatomy of a Beamline

Many different customizations required to optimize the signal - dictated by the material characterization needs

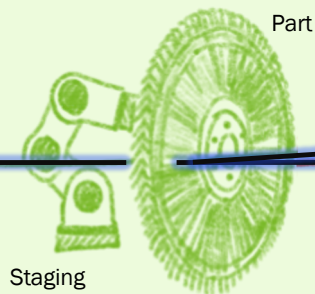
X-ray Path

Beamline Insertion Device and Optics



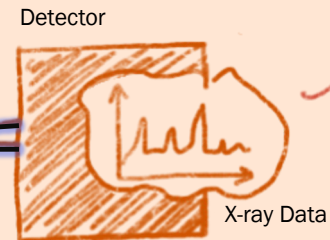
Options can include:
- No monochromator (1A3)
- Wide bandwidth monochromator (3A)
- Various Apertures/Slits
- Focusing Optics

Staging and Sample Environment



Options can include:
- Multiple Staging Tables and Motor Assemblies
- Part Fixtures
- Specialized Load Frames
- Heating Stages

Detectors



Options can include:
- Multiple Detectors
- Energy Dispersive Detectors
- Large-format Area Detectors
- Scintillator + Camera for Imaging
- High-speed detectors

Data Reduction Software & Data Curation



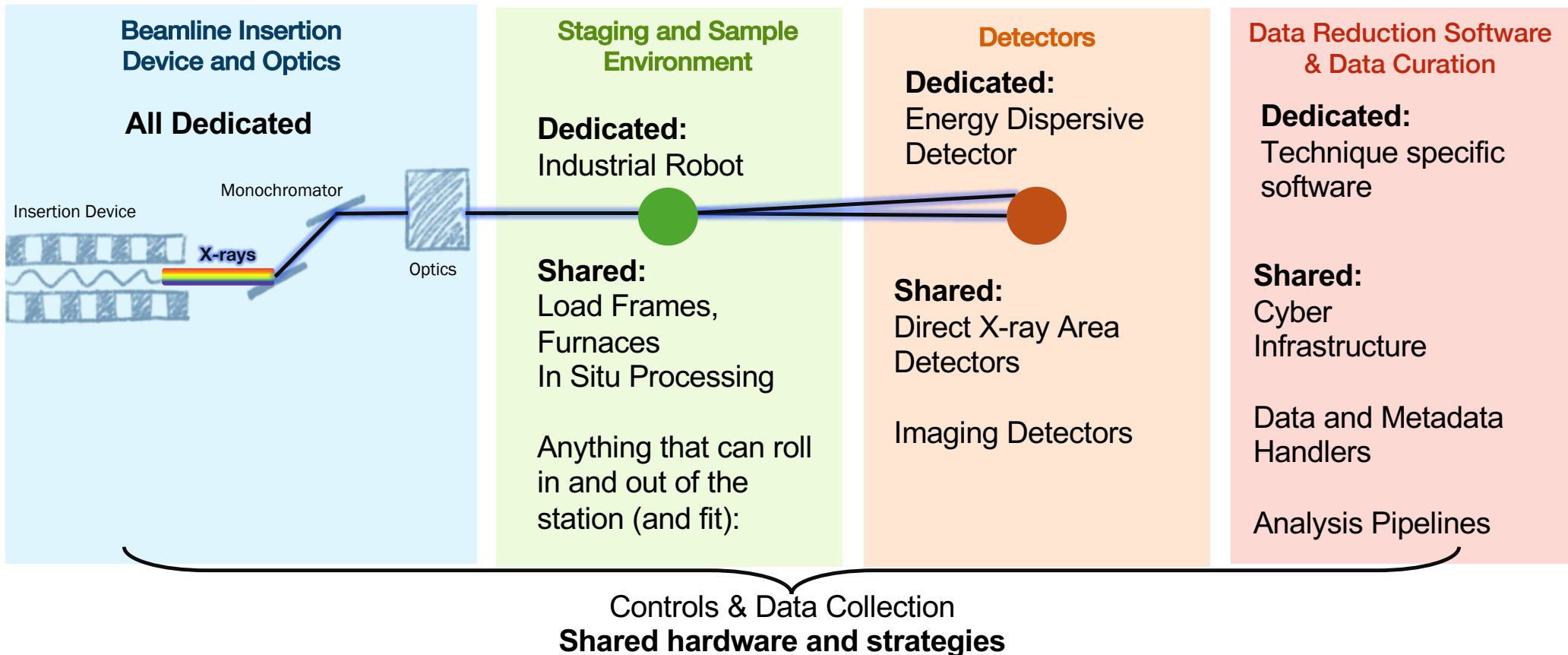
Workflows for each technique.
Ongoing efforts to modularize code for efficiency

Controls & Data Collection

Beamline Shared Resources

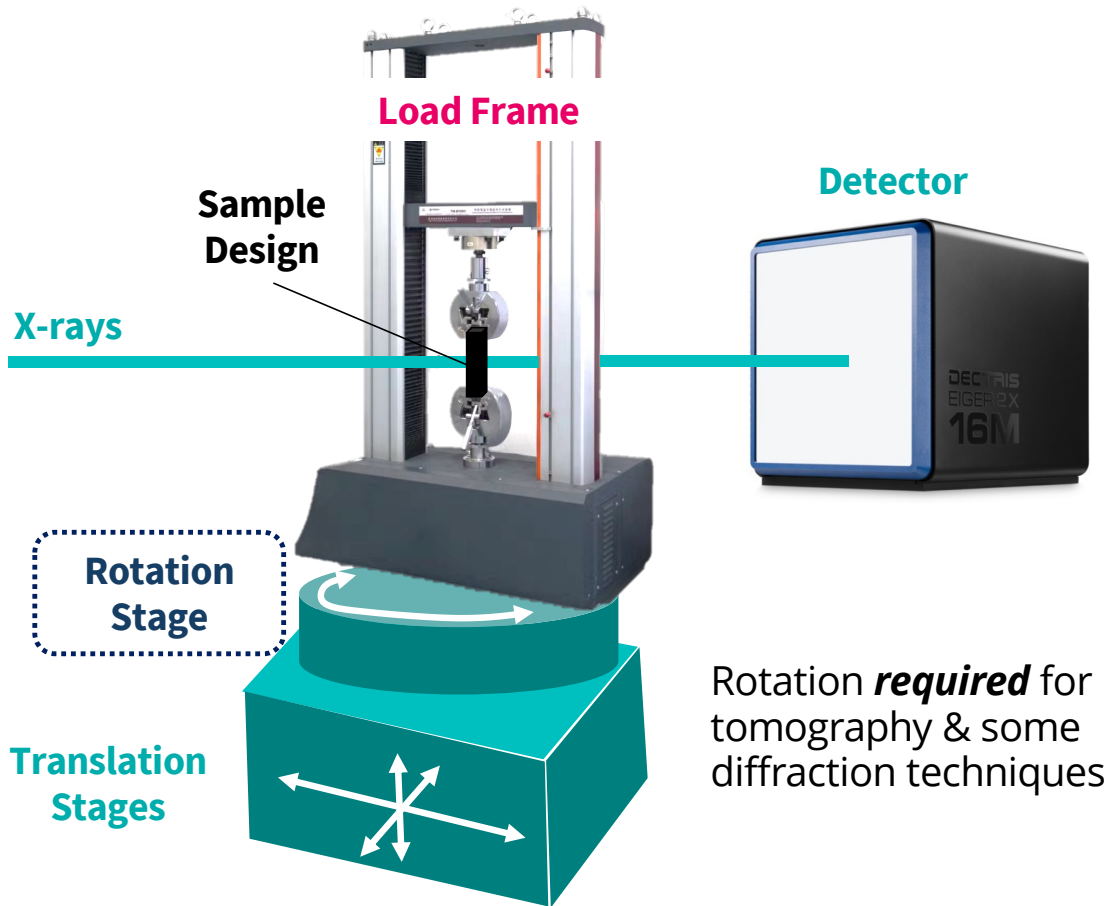
Many different customizations required to optimize the signal - dictated by the material characterization needs

X-ray Path



In Situ Mechanical Testing at a Synchrotron

Integrate **Mechanical Load Frame** with a **Beamline**



Important considerations:



Data Collection Rates

Limited by motor motions & detection requirements



Targeted Measurement

Collect meaningful data at **right** time



Test Interpretability

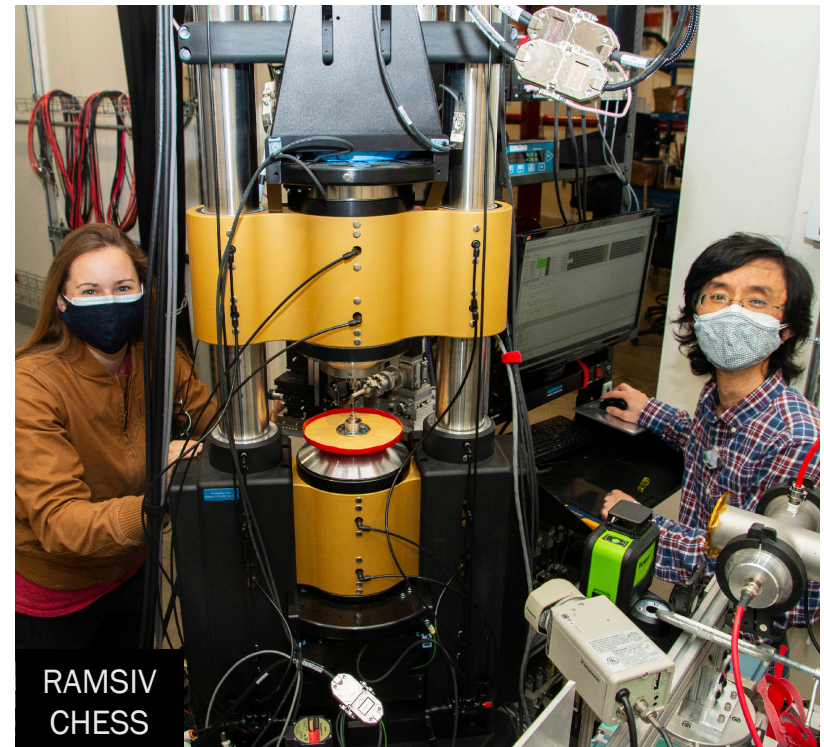
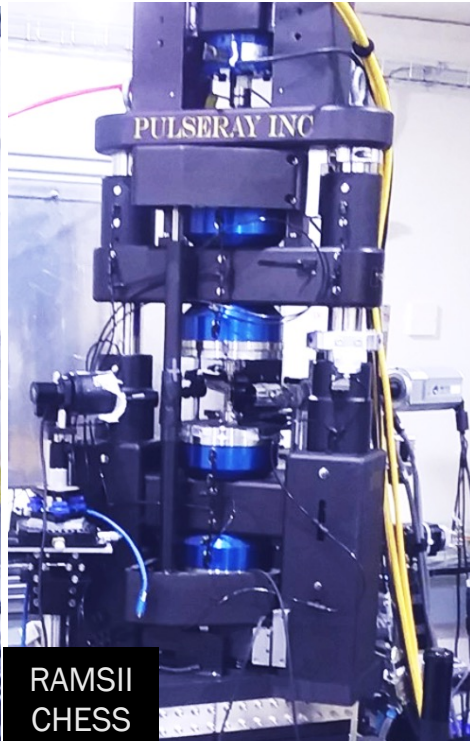
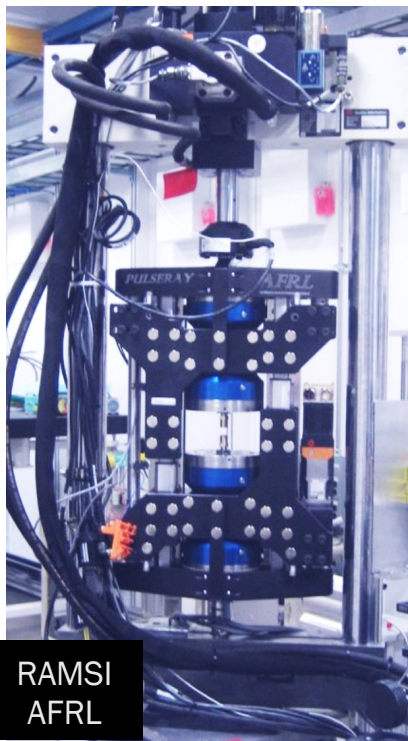
Requires incredibly **detailed and comprehensive state monitoring of instrument** (load frame + beamline)

Rotational and Axial Motion Systems

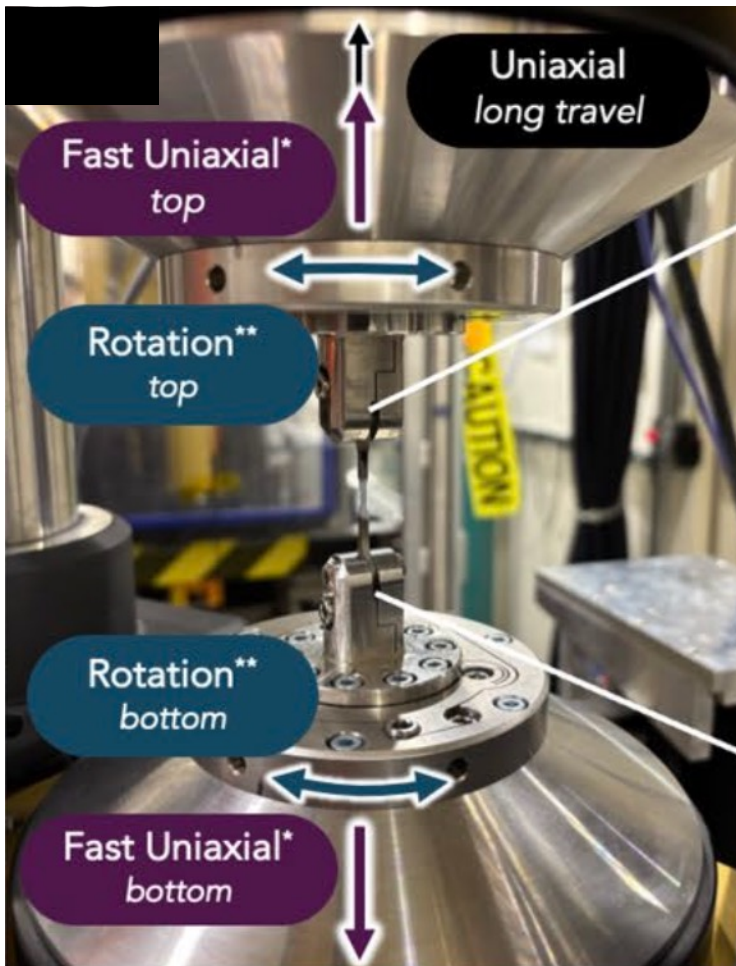
Rotation Axes within load frame for fast, accurate rotation

All mechanical testing controls designed *in house* for

- Accurate mechanical tests
- Interfacing with the X-ray end station controls for synchronized data collection



Rotational and Axial Motion Systems IV



Uniaxial and Torsional Testing

Fast Uniaxial Motors

- Geared or ungeared motion
- High-Cycle Fatigue 5-10 Hz
- Uniaxial motion up to 10^1 strain rates

Rotation Motors

- Air bearing stages
- Geared or ungeared motion
- 400 degrees / second

Control Modes:

- Load control
- Displacement control
- Strain control

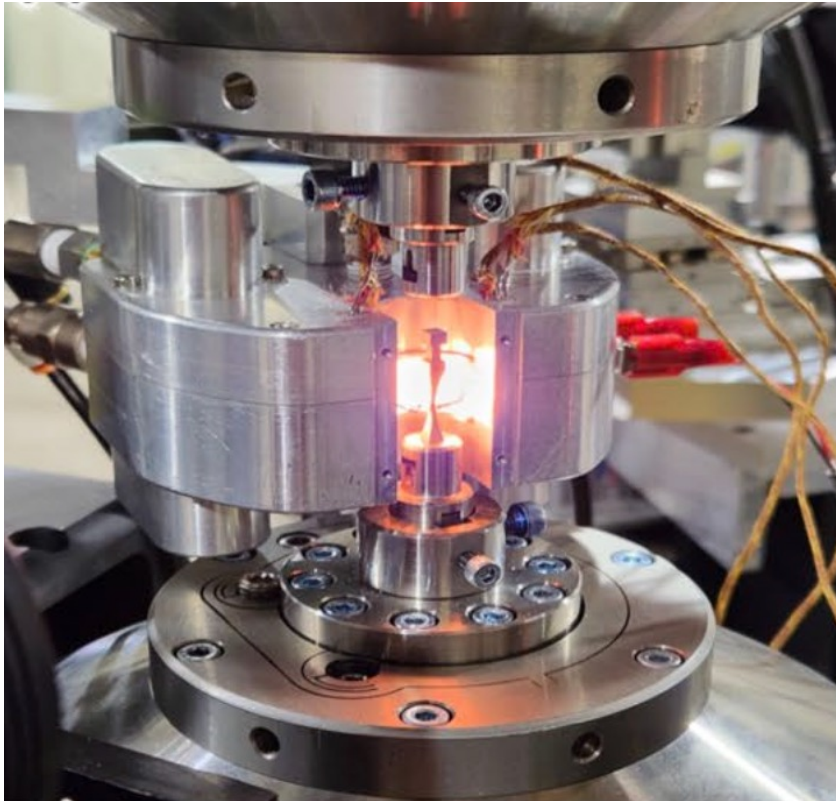


Sister system lives at AFRL
Controls development, design,
and bench testing

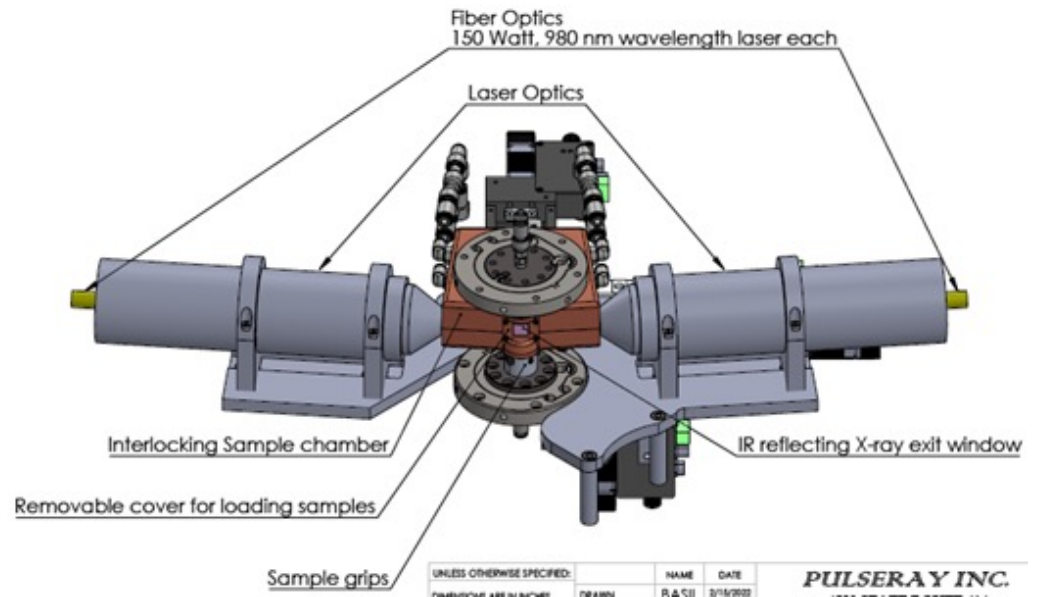
RAMSIV Accessories (Furnaces)

Two furnace systems at different temperature ranges

Halogen Lamp Furnace (up to 1000 °C)
Environment control: flowing Ar gas



Laser Furnace (up to 2000 °C)
Environment control: flowing Ar gas (O₂ ~5 ppm)



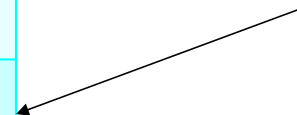
RAMSIV Data Collection



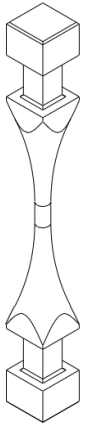
Data Collection Rates

	Historically	Now	Currently Rate Limiting?
Rotation speed	20 deg/s max	400 deg/s	No
Detector frame rate (large format)	10 Hz max	200 Hz max	Problem Dependent (typically no)
Write out speed	minutes	N/A (now asynchronous)	No
Communication Overhead	10's seconds	seconds	Problem Dependent (typically no)
Signal Strength	Longer Dwells	Shorter Dwells	Yes

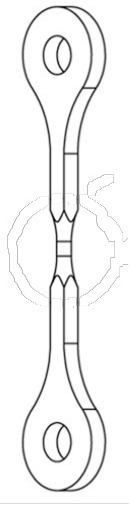
Future improvements through increased X-ray flux (New insertion device)



RAMSIV Grip Designs



"Keeper Grip" Design



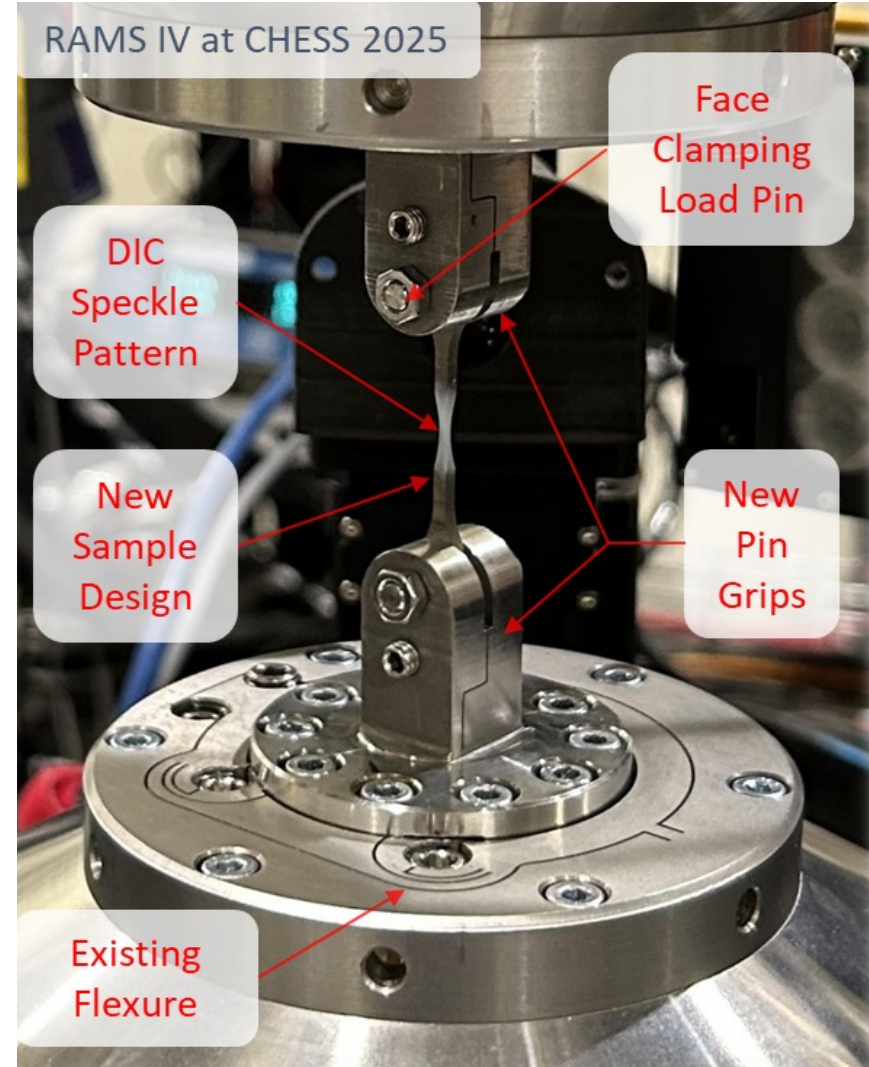
"Pin Grip" Design

Sample Geometry Considerations:

2500N - 4000N load cell

Space between grip fixtures

Open to custom grip designs



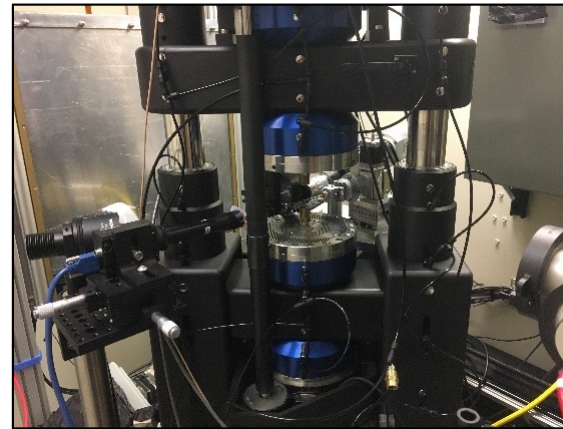
More Mechanical Testing Frames

Electro Magnetic Load Frame



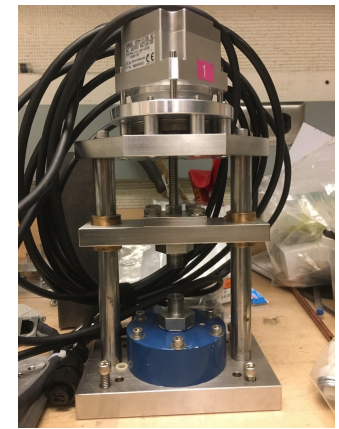
- Full reversed cyclic loading (2500N)
- High Frequency (100 Hz Max)

RAMS2 (w/AFRL)



- Full reversed cyclic loading (1000-2000N)
- Furnace Available (1000C Max)

Cornell Compact Load Frame

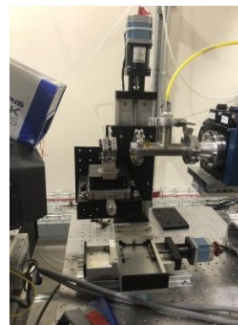


- Full reversed cyclic loading (~5000N)
- Flexible specimen design

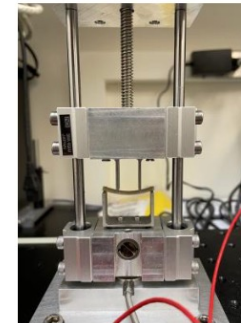
History of building bespoke loadframes and integrating commercial ones

Sample environments can be developed (only heating atm)

Diamond anvil cell (CHESS)



Four-point bender (CHESS)



Linkam tensile / heat stages

