

Validated leaf spring suspension models

PhD Public defence

Cor-Jacques Kat

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Opportunity...
Support...

Introduction | Problem statement | Literature study

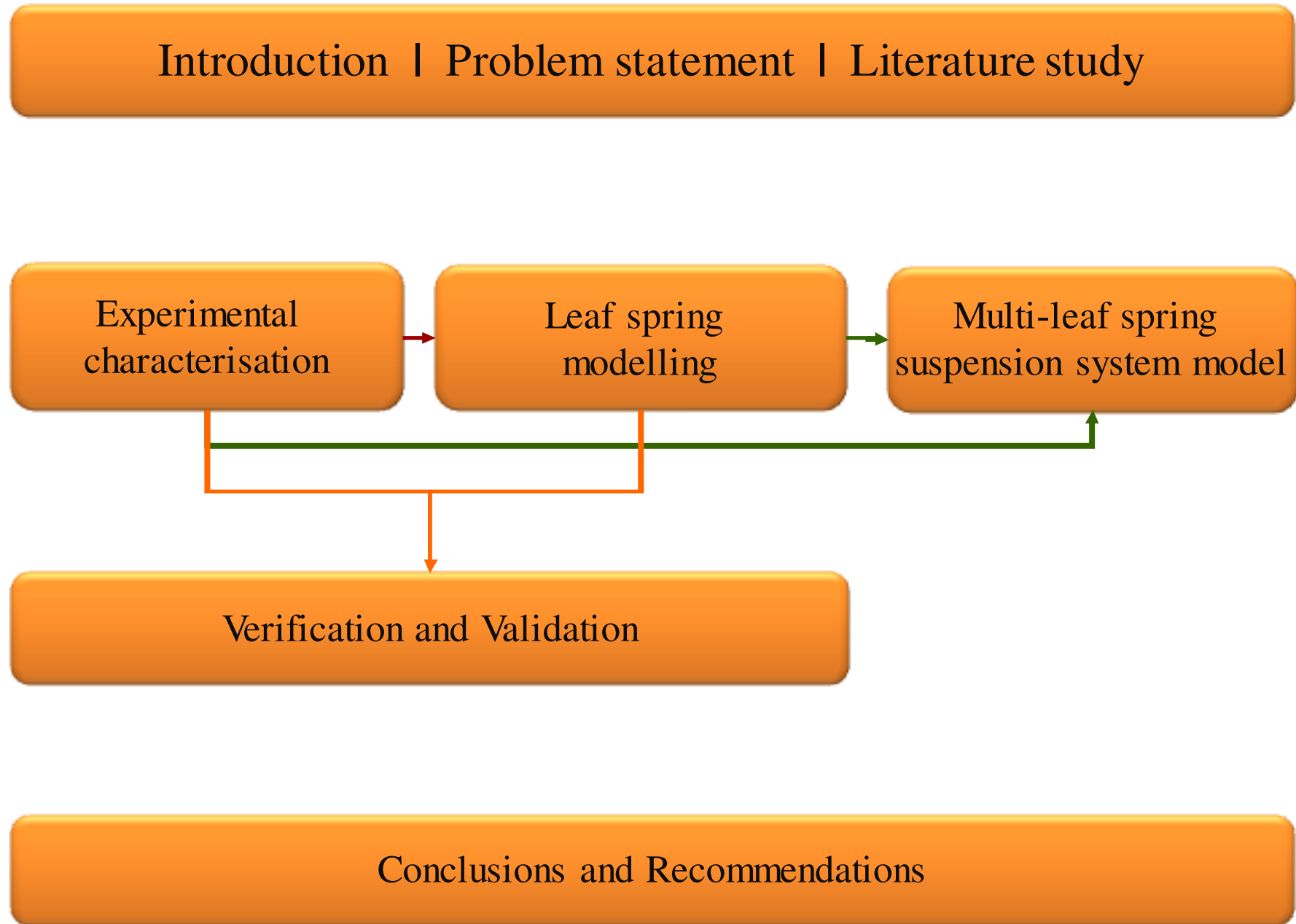
Experimental
characterisation

Leaf spring
modelling

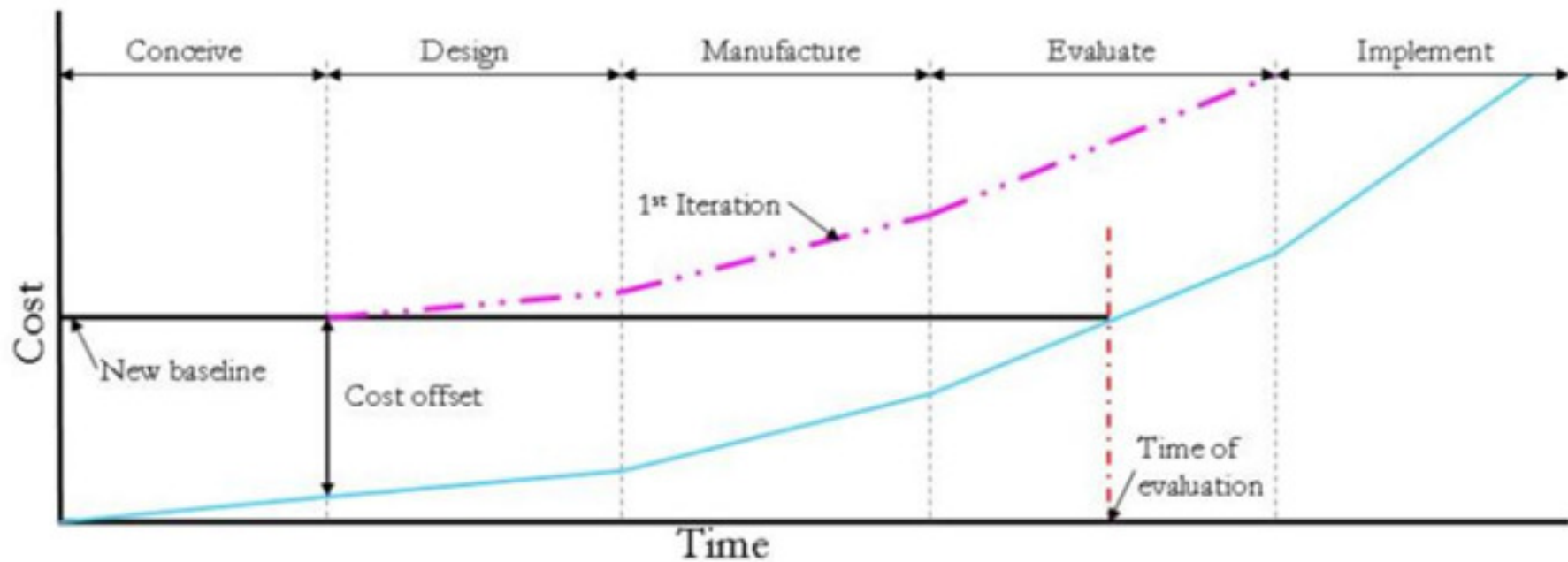
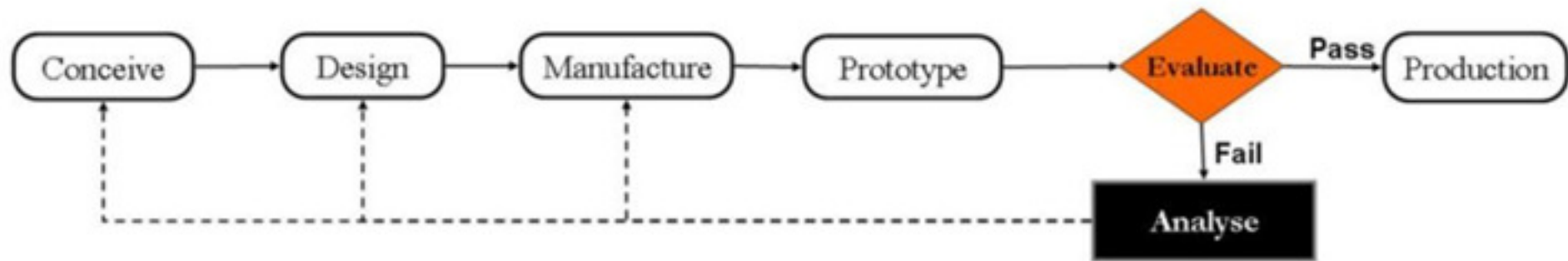
Multi-leaf spring
suspension system model

Verification and Validation

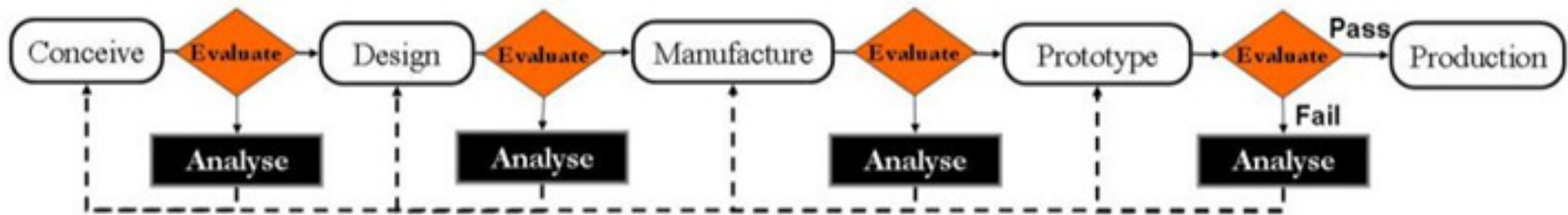
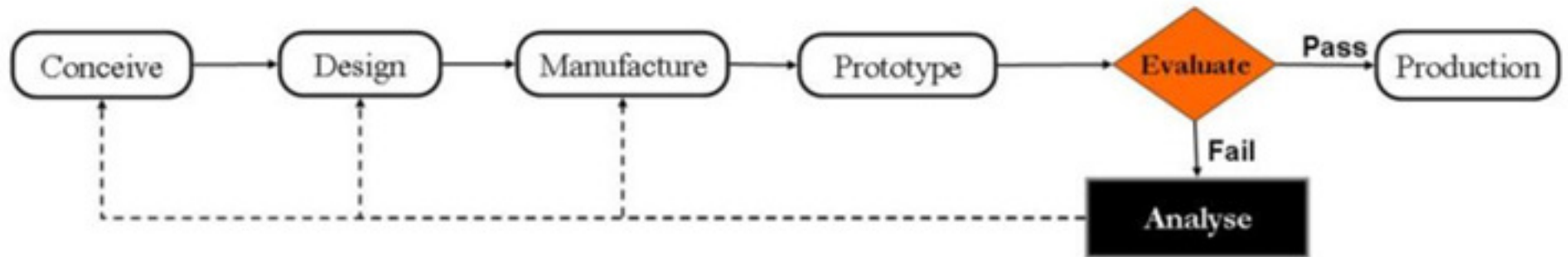
Conclusions and Recommendations



Introduction

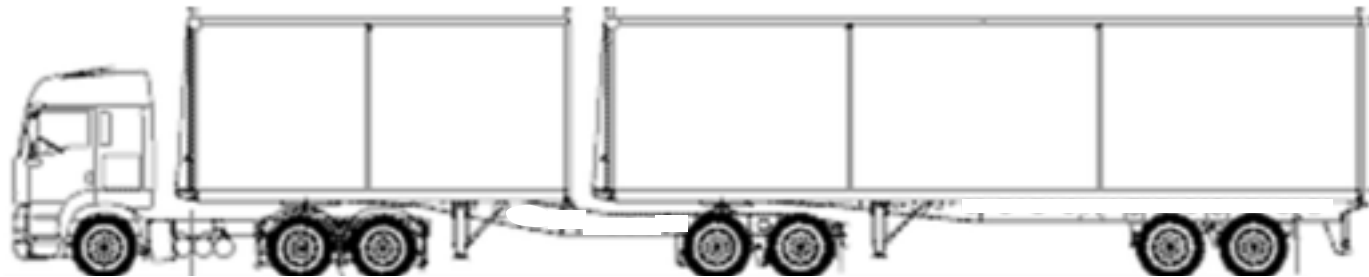


Introduction

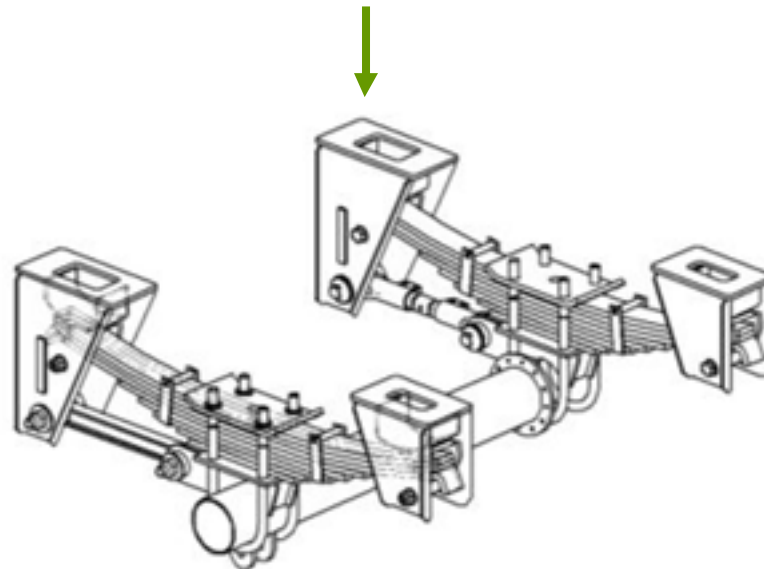


Problem statement

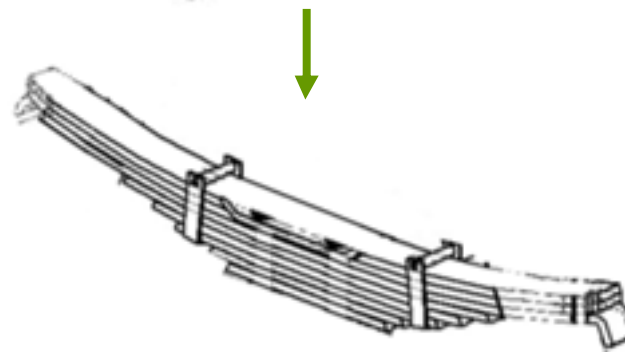
System
(Vehicle)

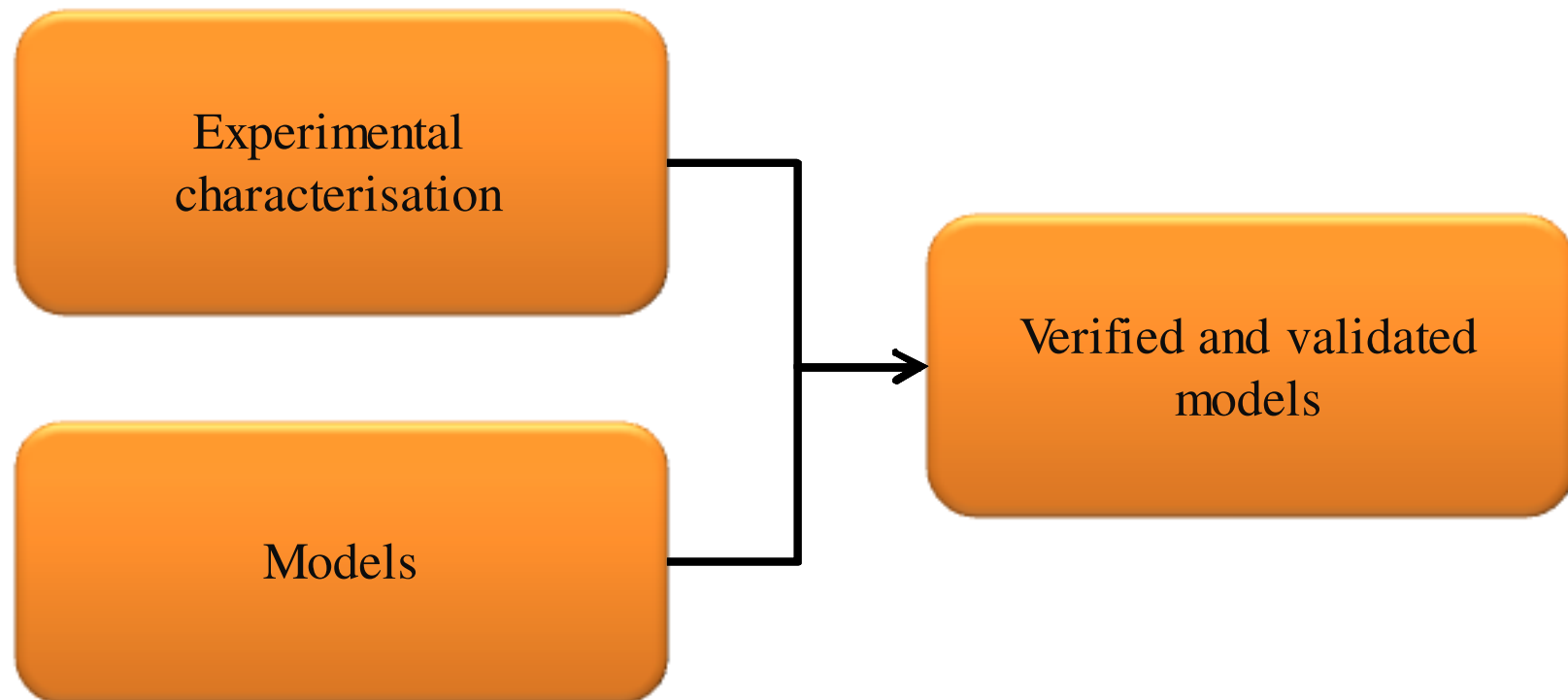


Subsystem
(Suspension system)

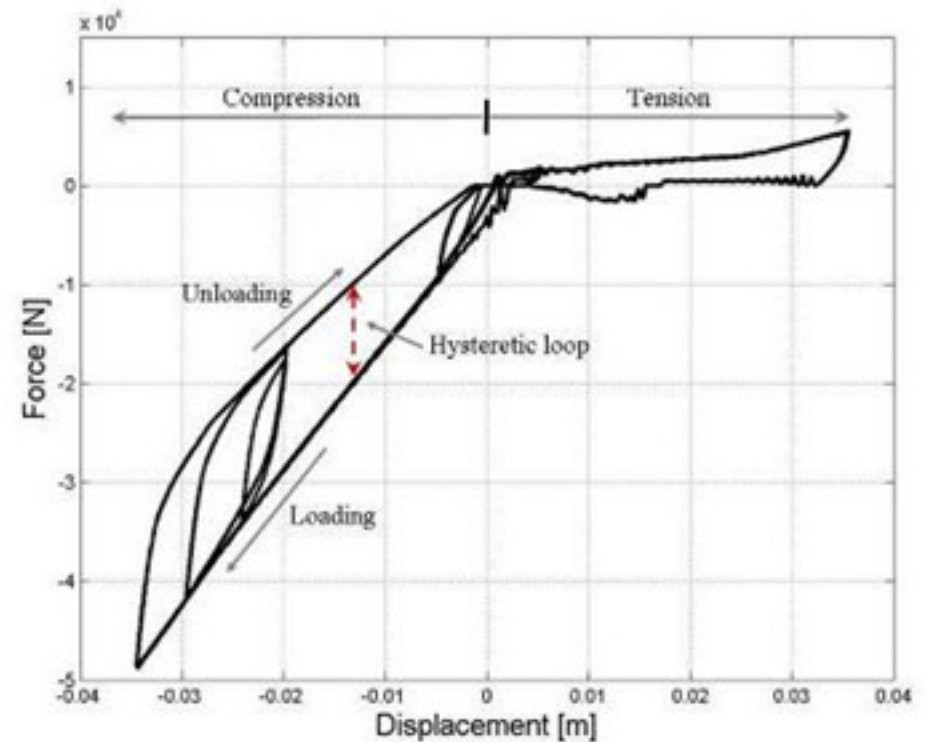


Component
(Leaf spring)

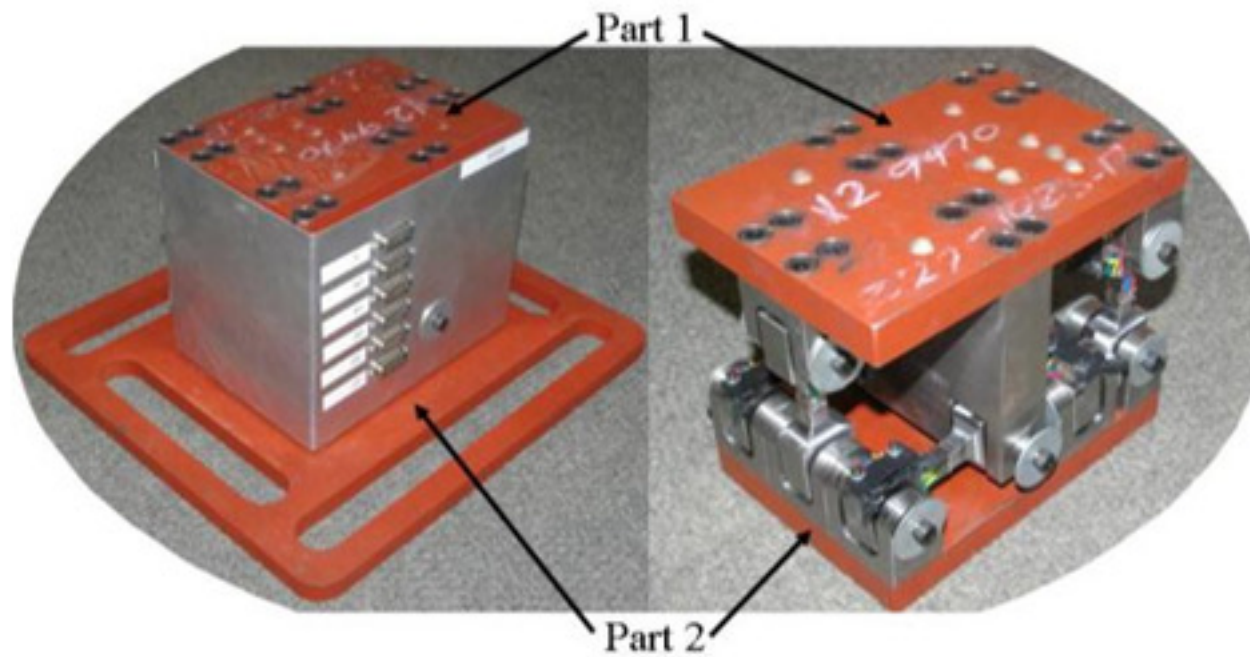




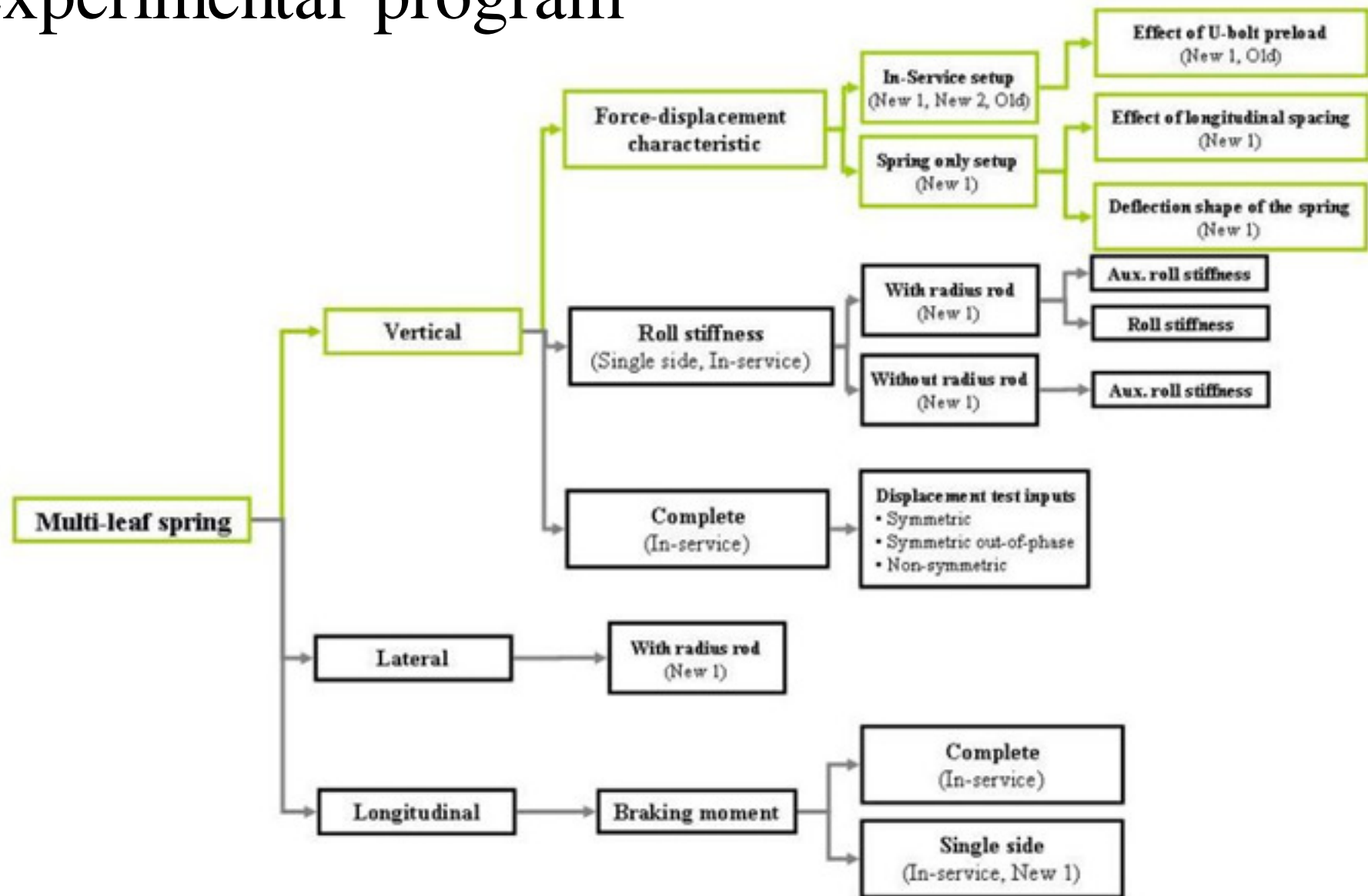
Experimental characterisation



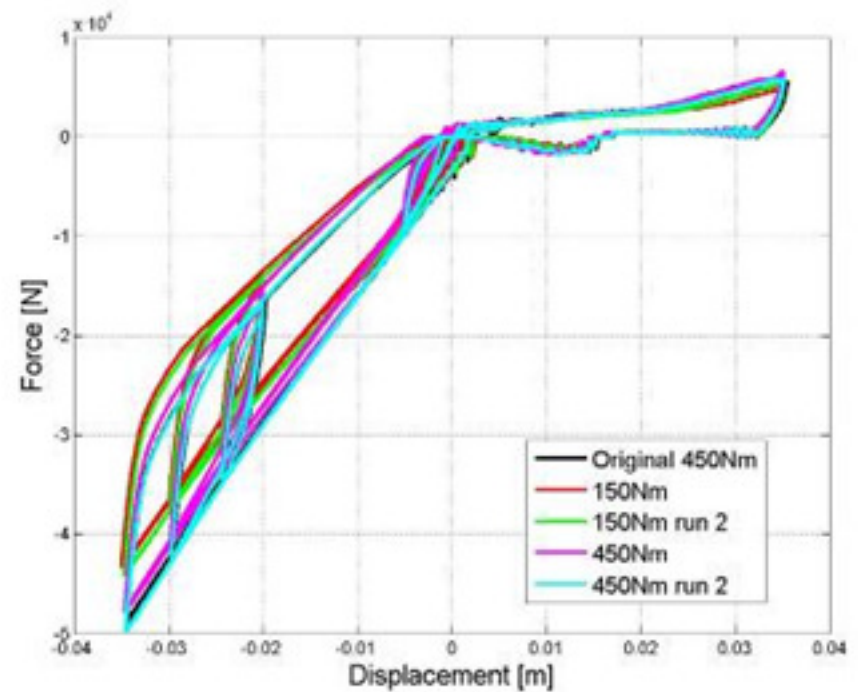
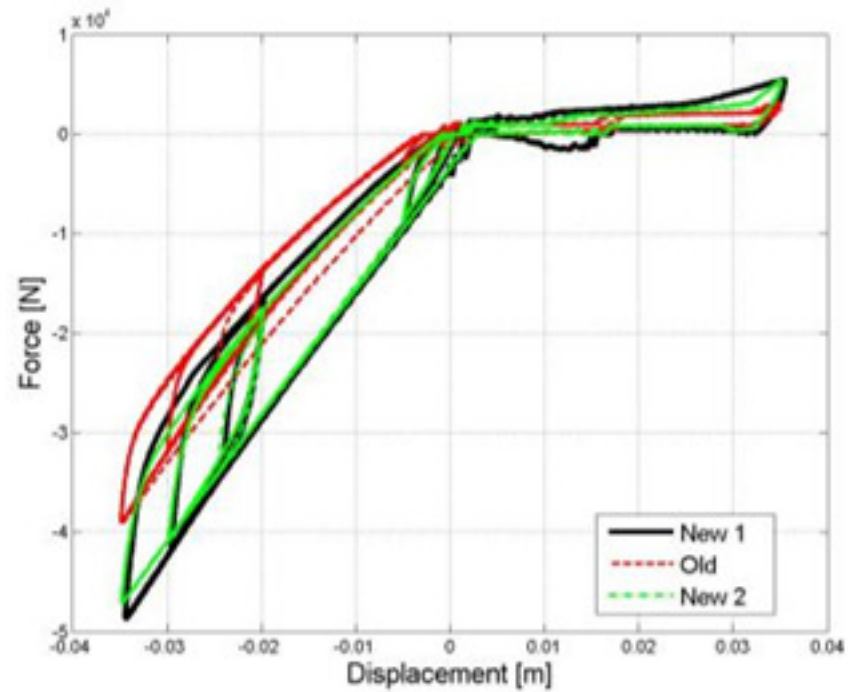
Six component load cell



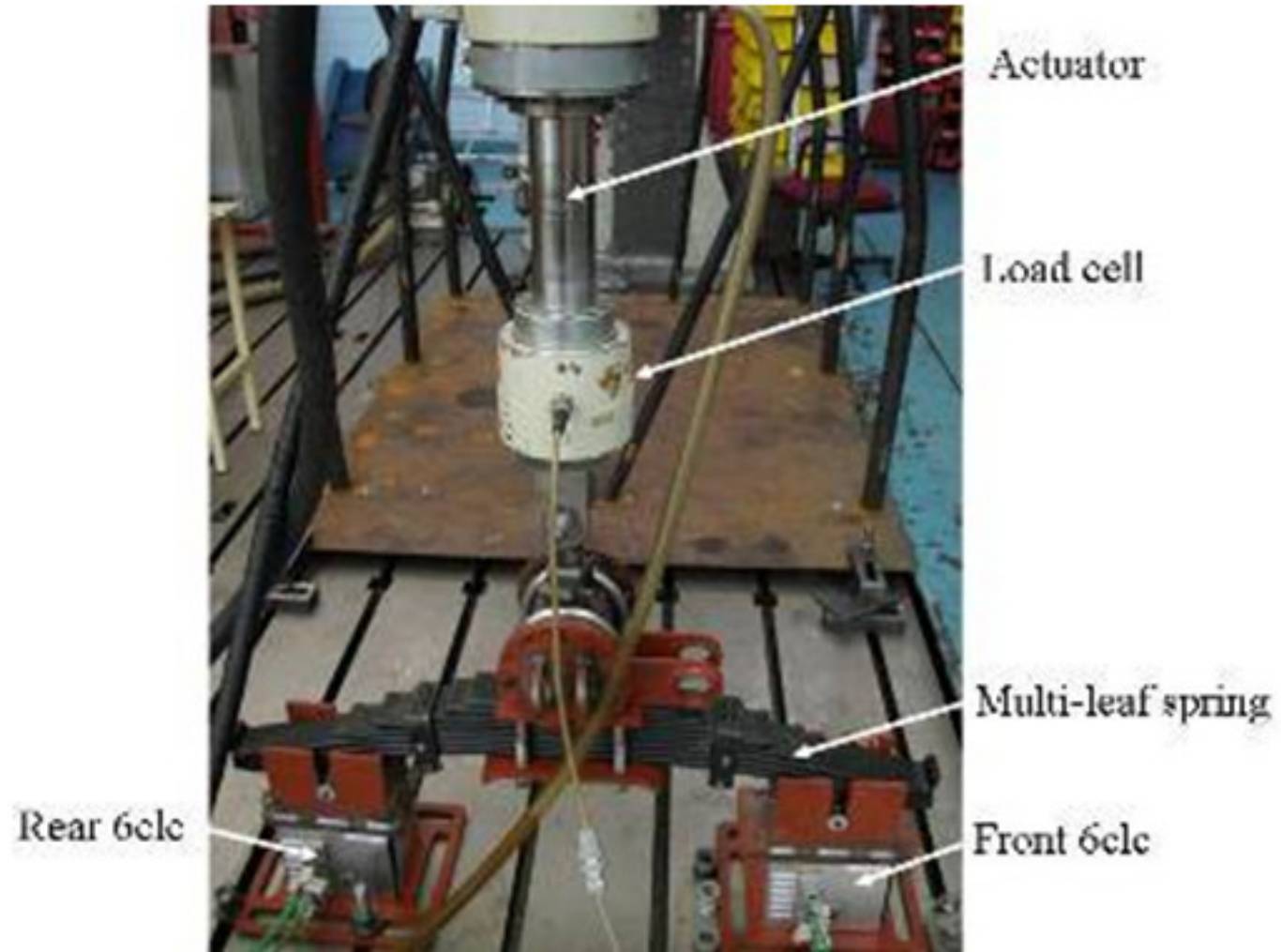
Experimental program

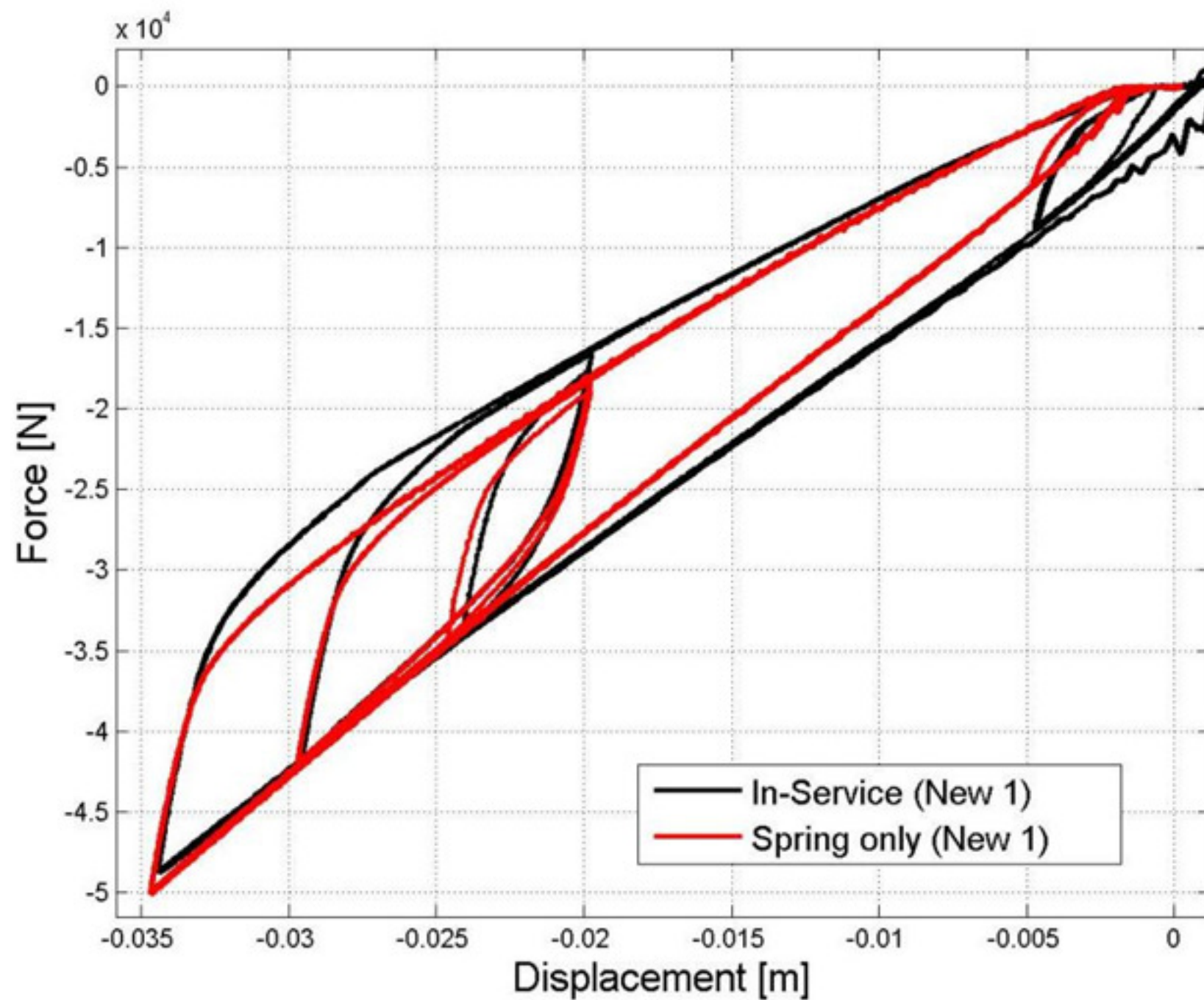


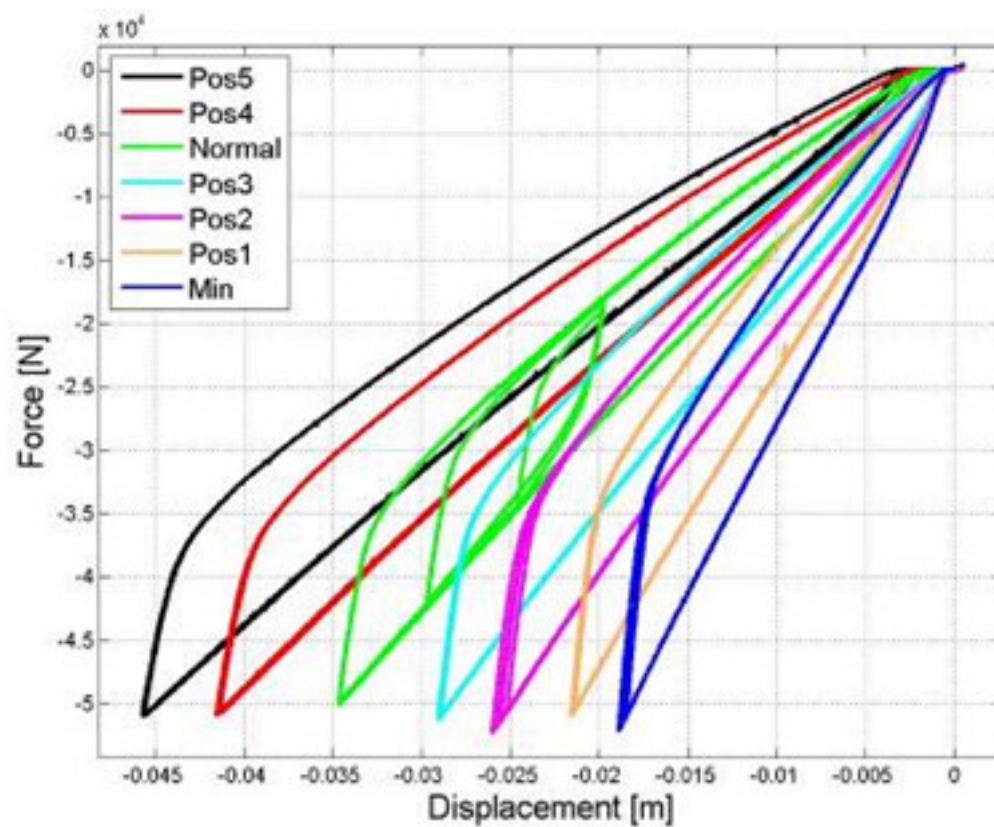
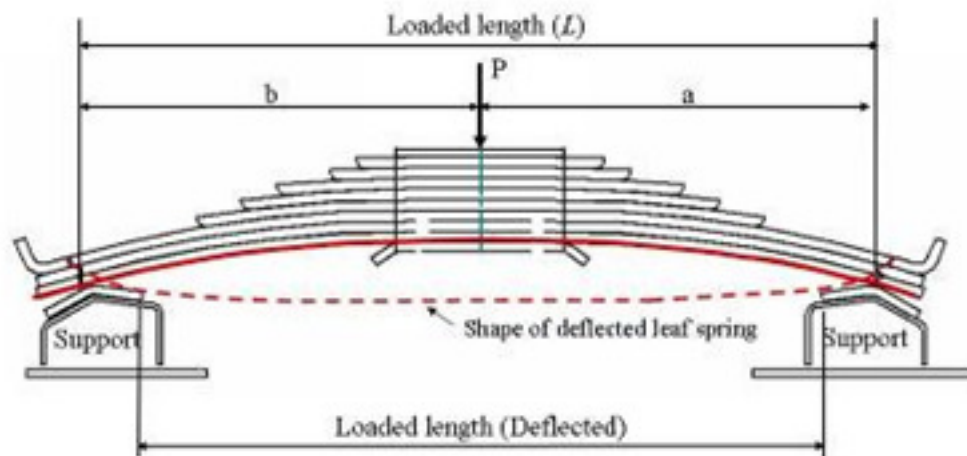
Experimental characteristics



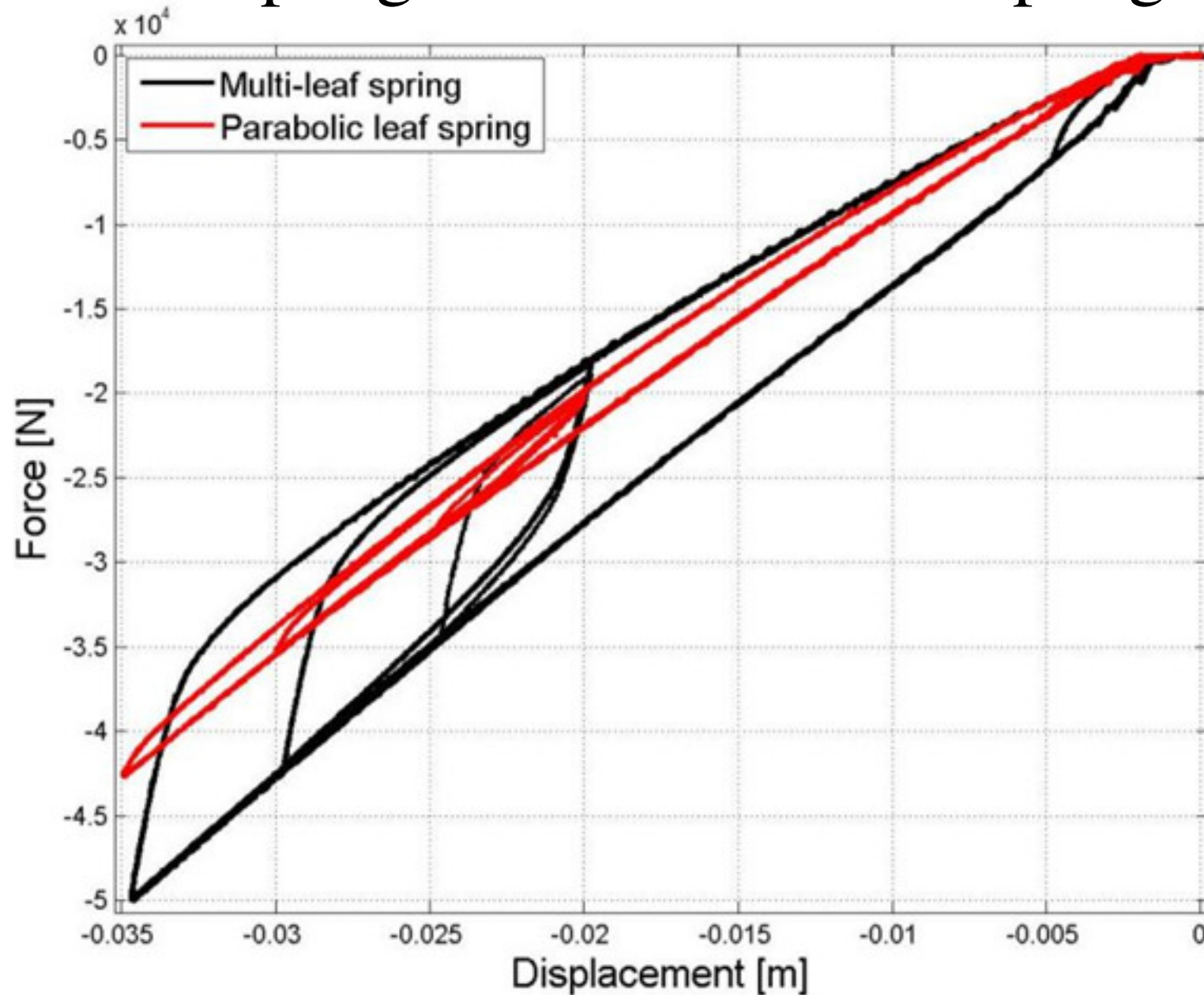
Spring only setup

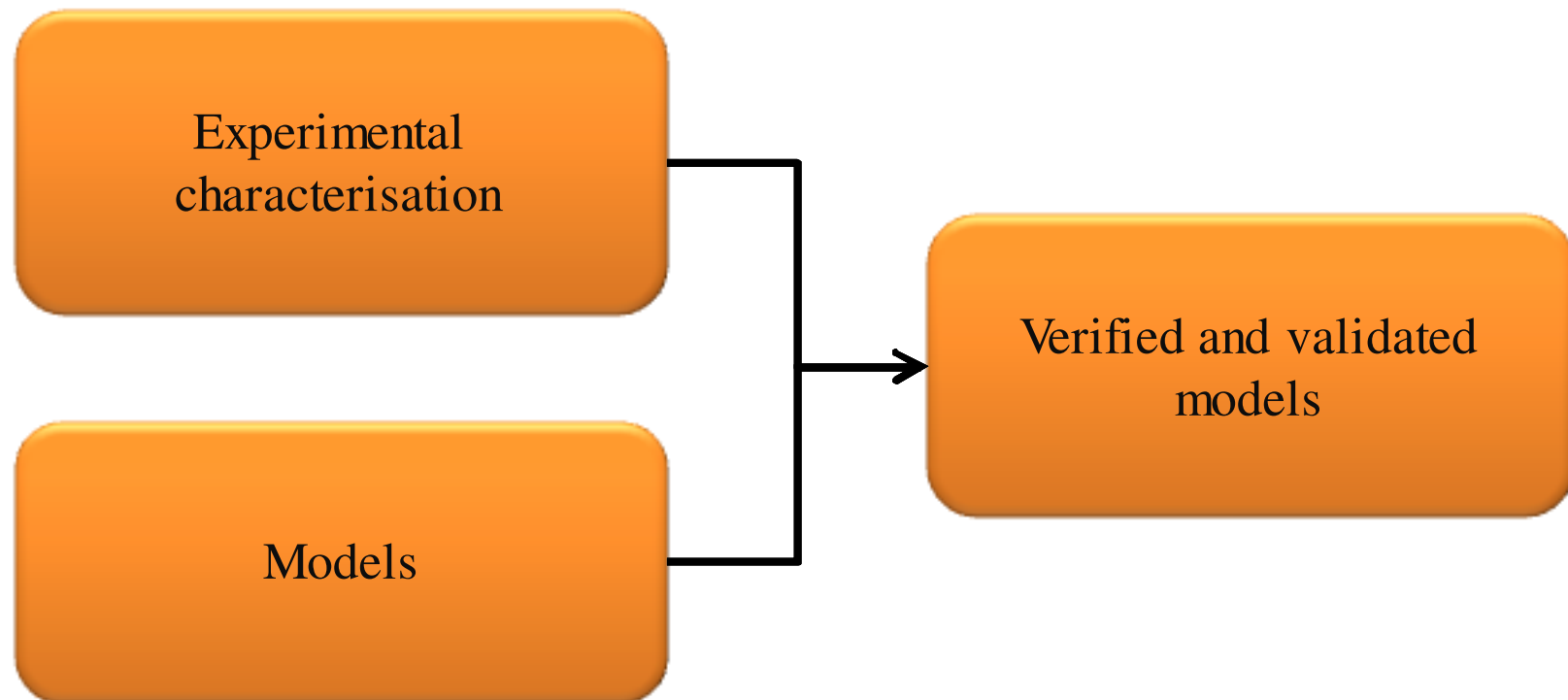




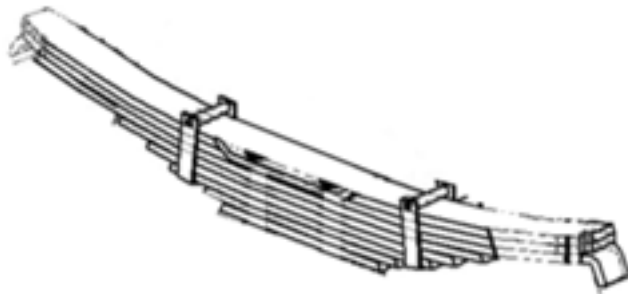
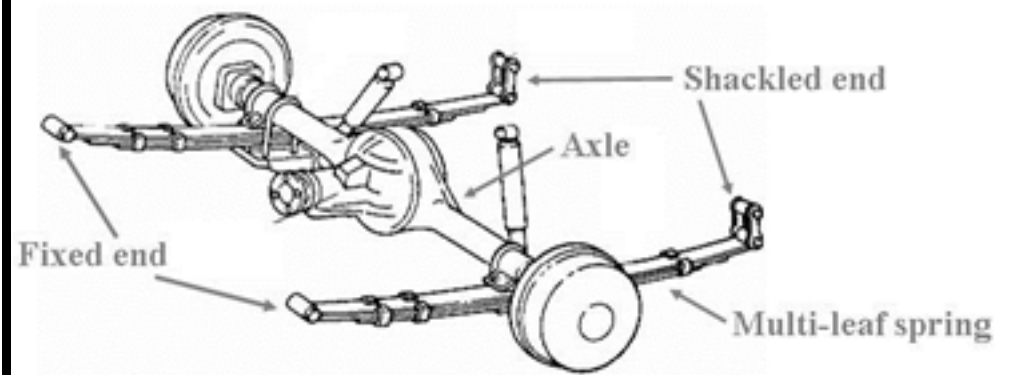
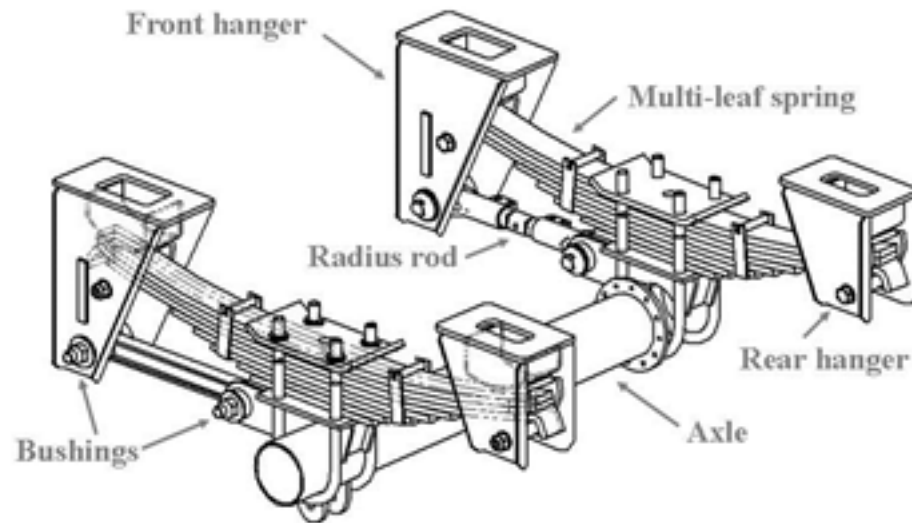


Multi-leaf spring vs. Parabolic leaf spring



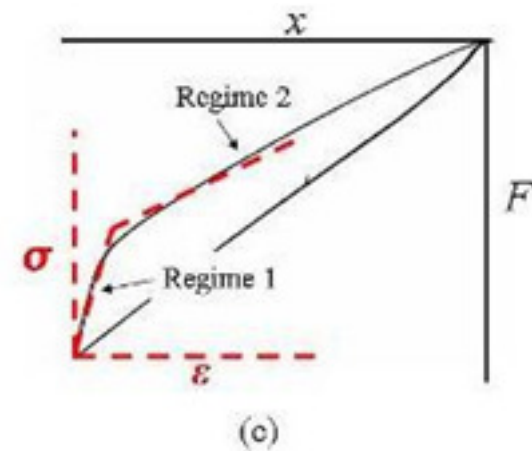
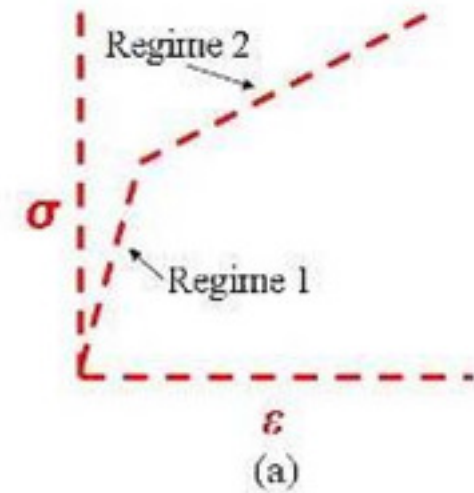
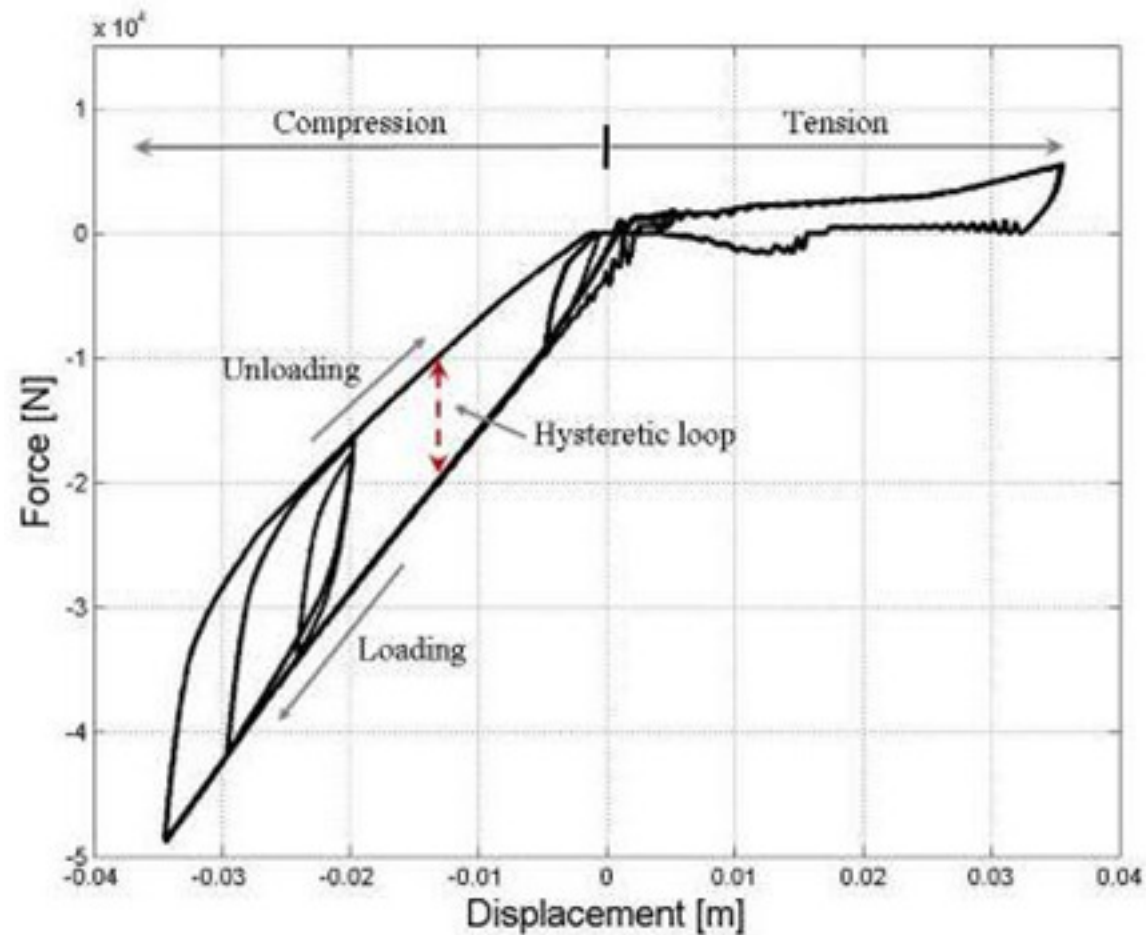


Leaf spring models

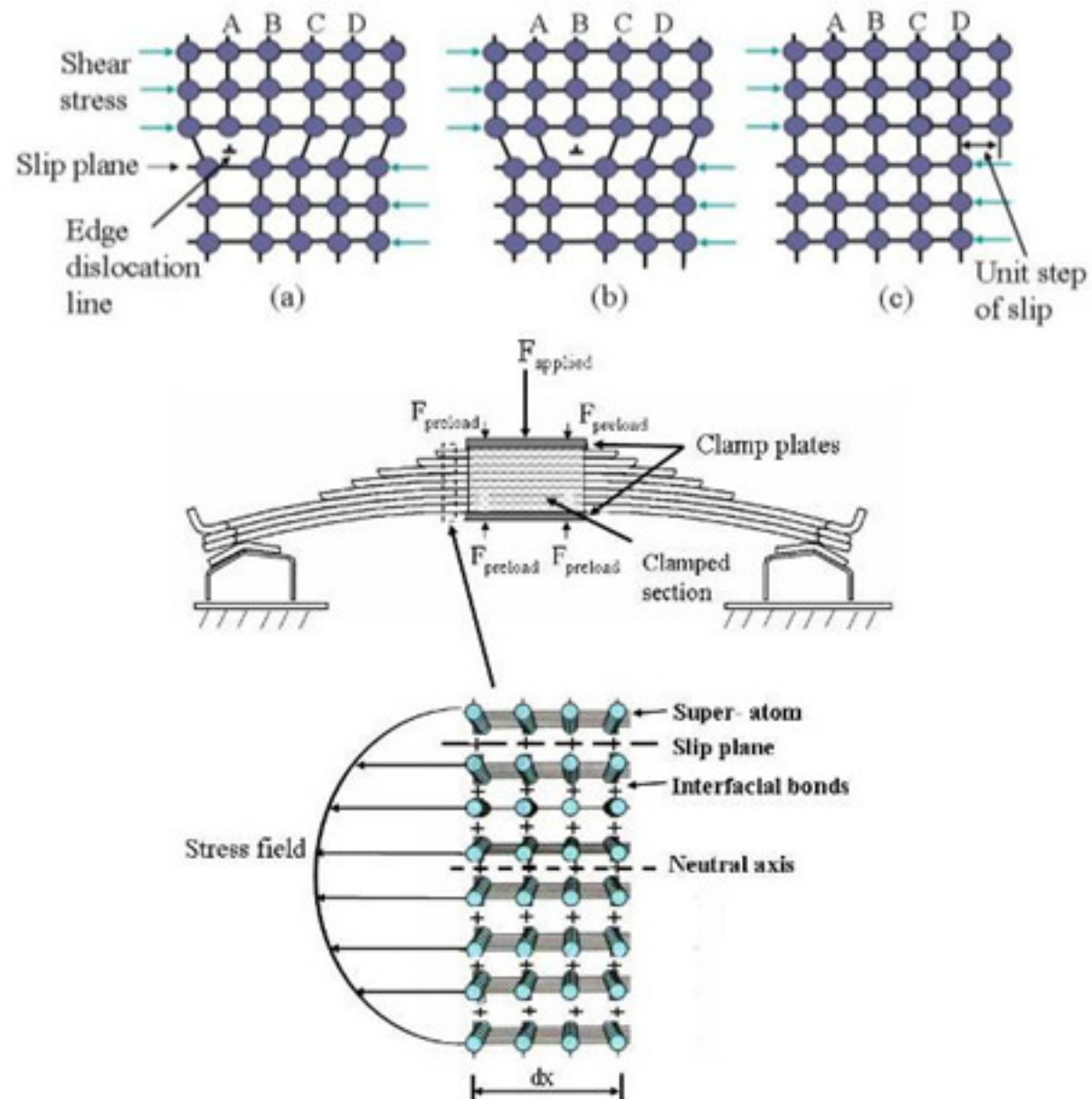


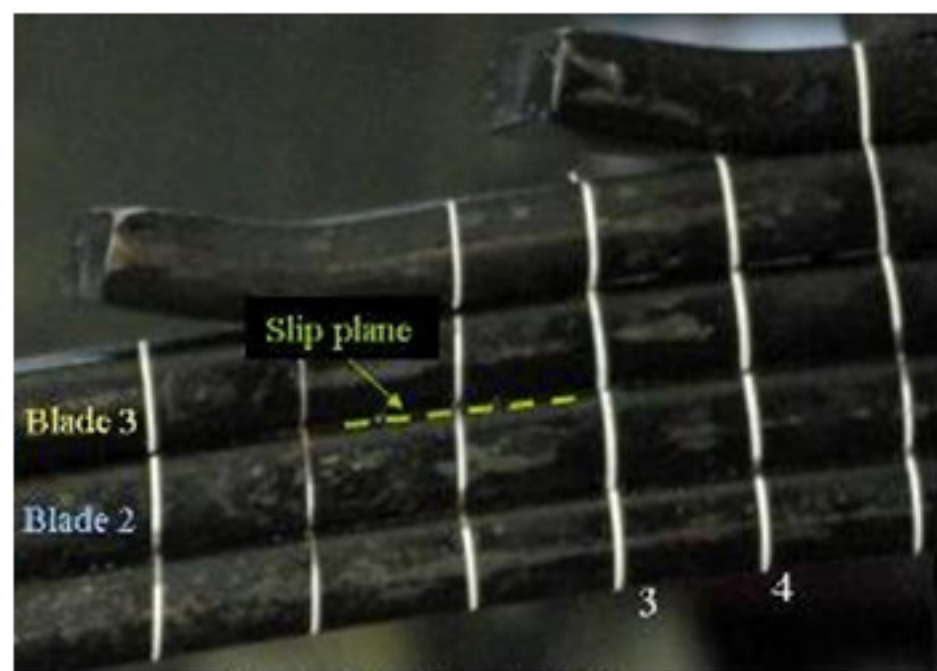
- Beam theory
- Analytical/empirical models
- Equivalent models
- Discrete methods (or Finite segment method)
- Finite element methods
- **Neural network models**
- Lumped mass spring models
- Graphical techniques
- Kinematic models

Elasto-plastic leaf spring model

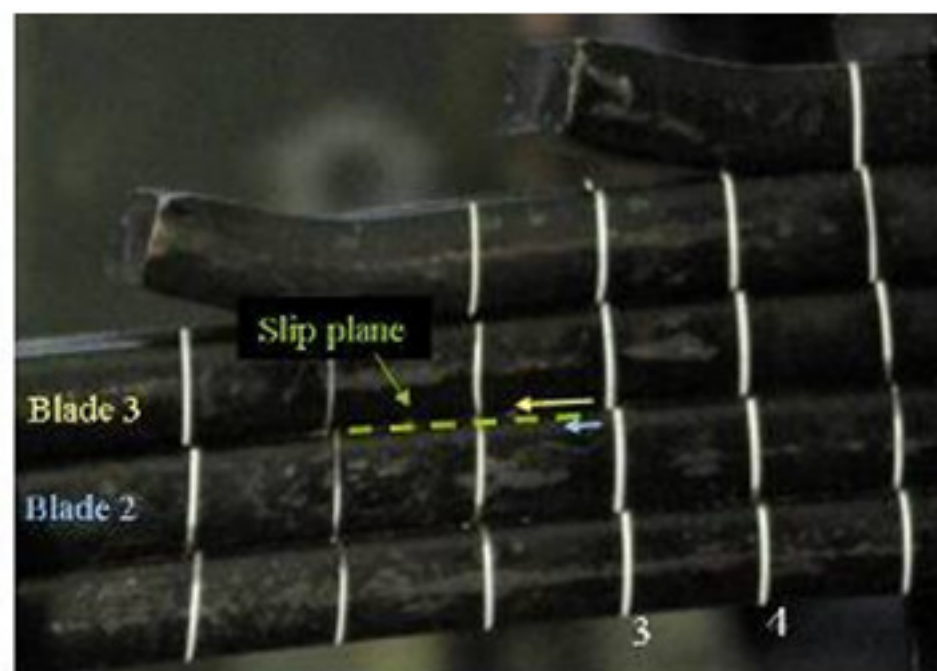


Mechanisms: materials vs. multi-leaf springs





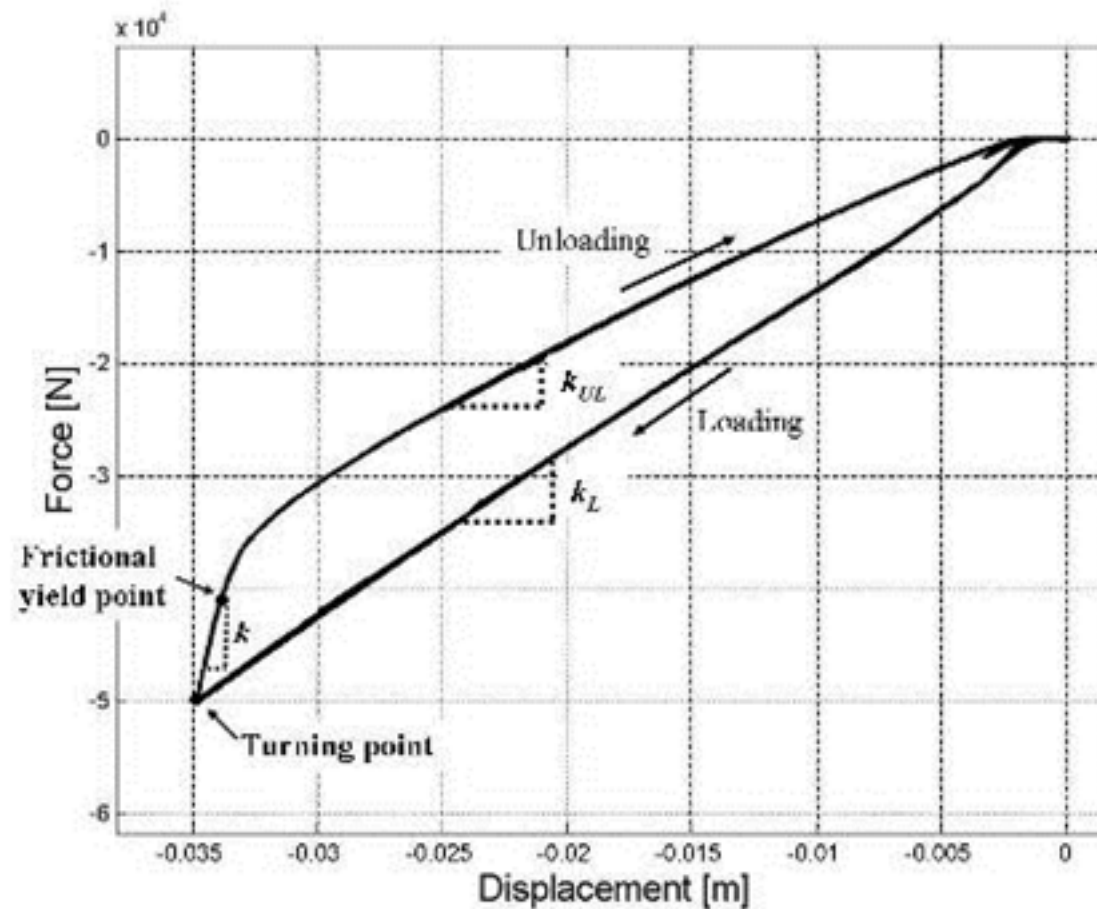
(a) Vertical load 677kg



(b) Vertical load 4105kg

Mechanical properties

- k - stiffness of the solid beam,
- k_L - stiffness of the layered beam during loading,
- k_{UL} - stiffness of the layered beam during unloading,
- f_y - yield fraction



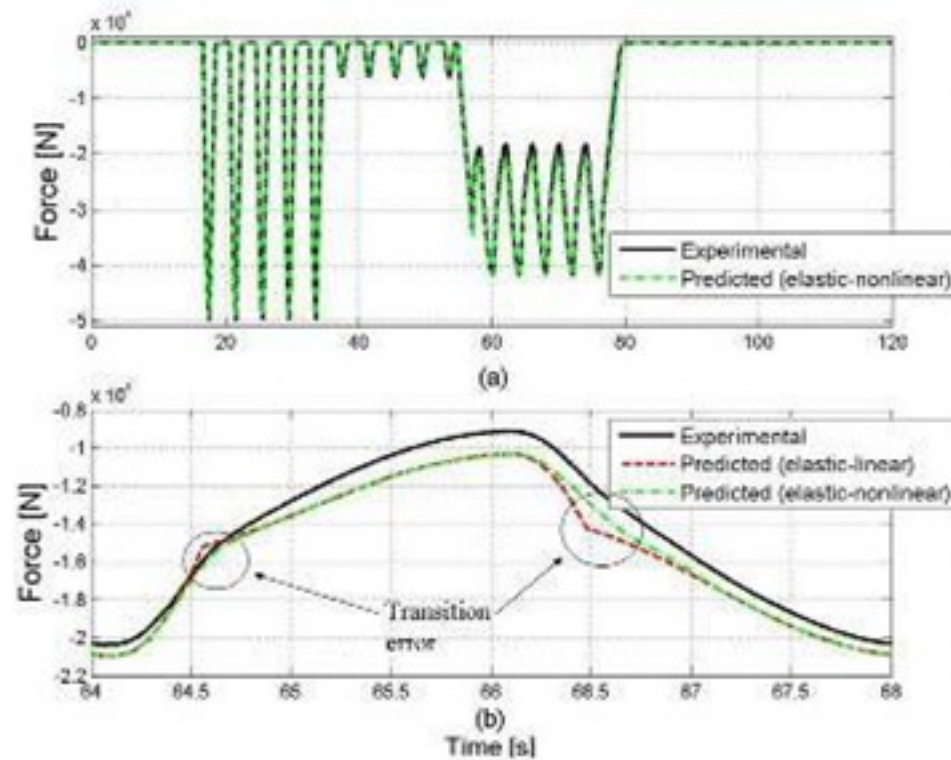
EPLS model formulation

Model	Force-displacement response (Monotonic loading)	Force-displacement response (Monotonic-bidirectional loading)
(a) Elastic-linear		
(b) Elastic-nonlinear		

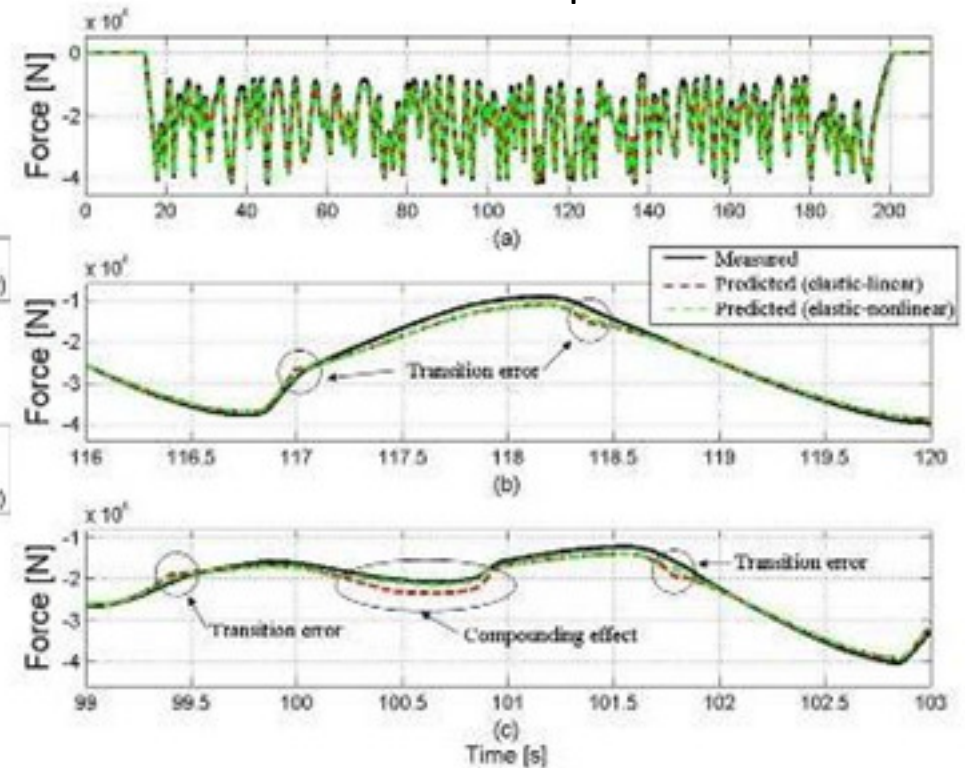
Advantages & Disadvantages

Validation results

Sinusoidal input



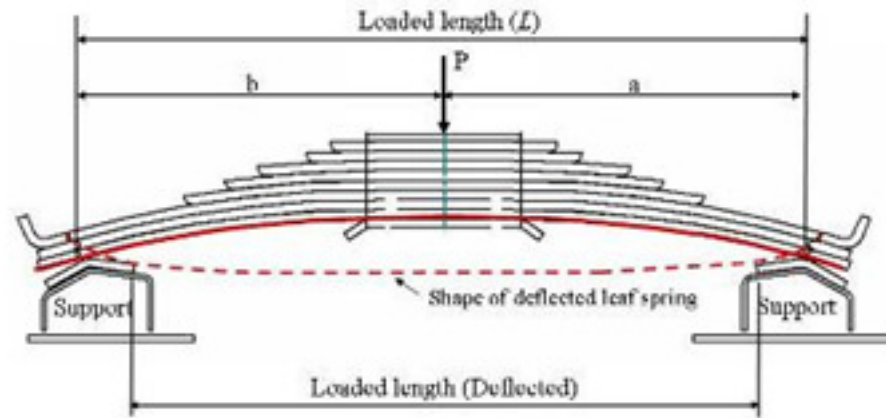
Random input



EPLS model conclusions

- Parameterisation
- Accurate
- Applied to parabolic leaf spring
- Application to simply supported leaf spring

Method to account for loaded length changes

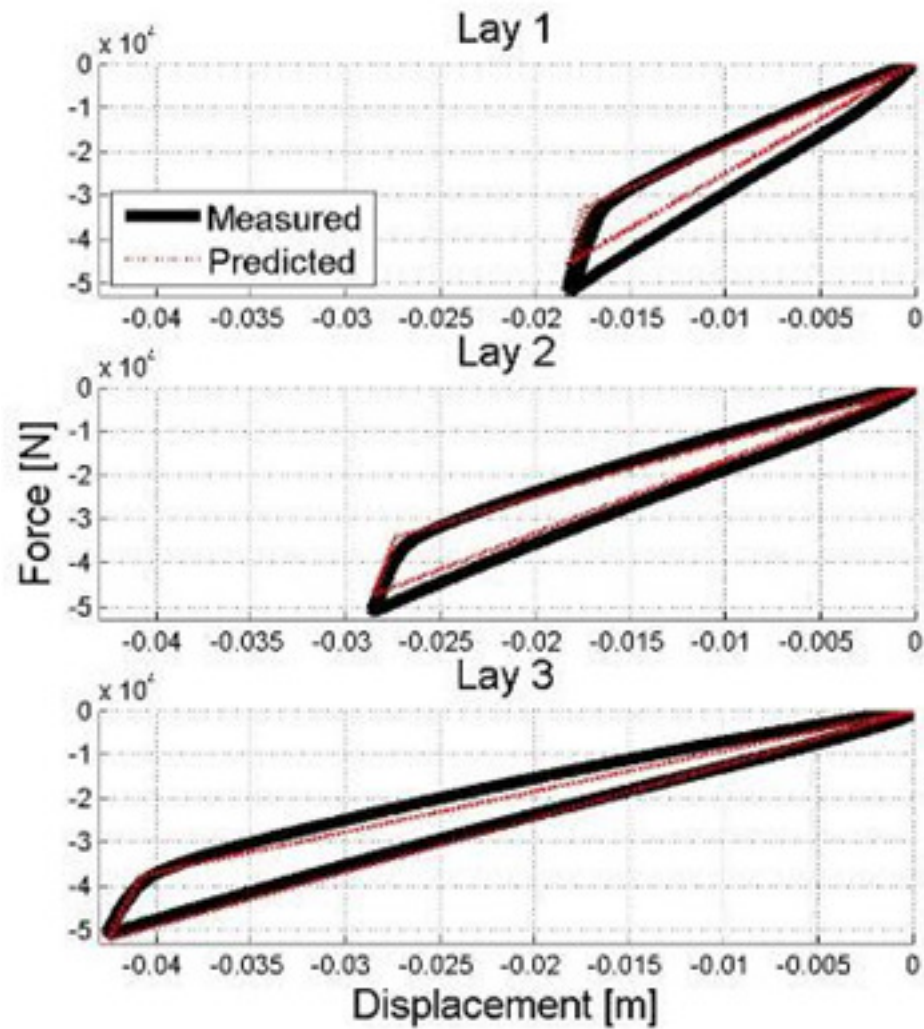


$$v = -\frac{Pbx}{6EI}(L^2 - b^2 - x^2) \quad (0 \leq x \leq a)$$

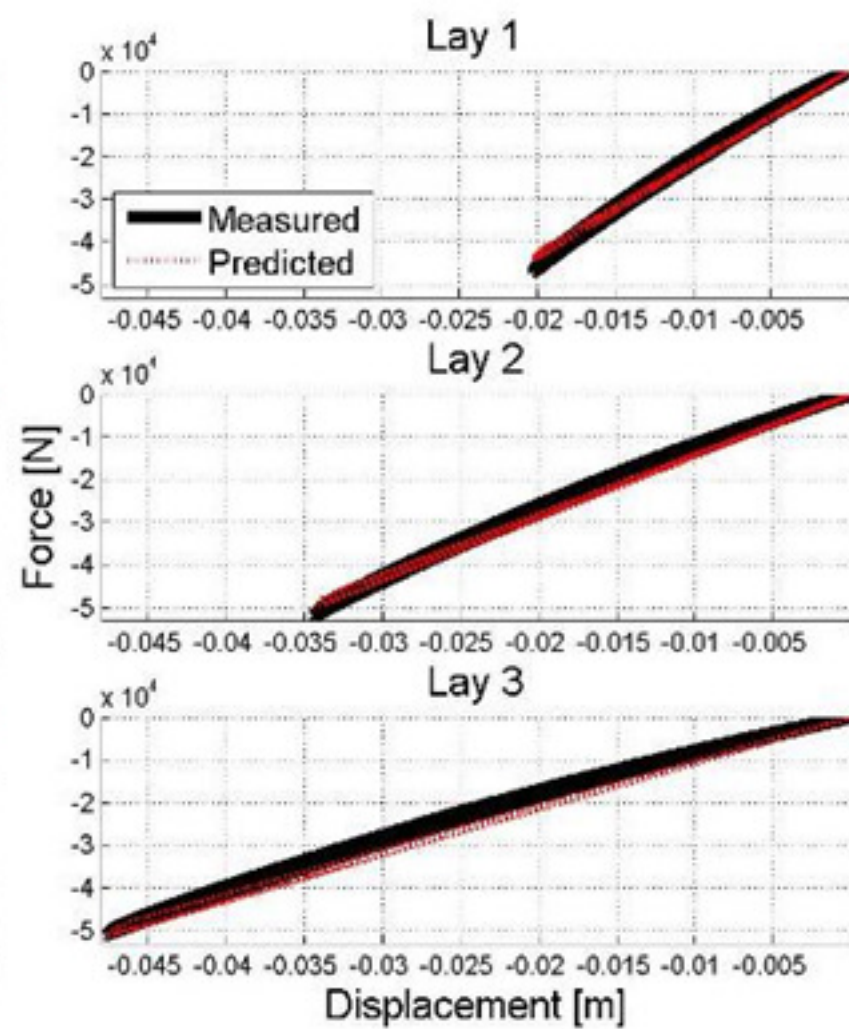
It can easily be shown that

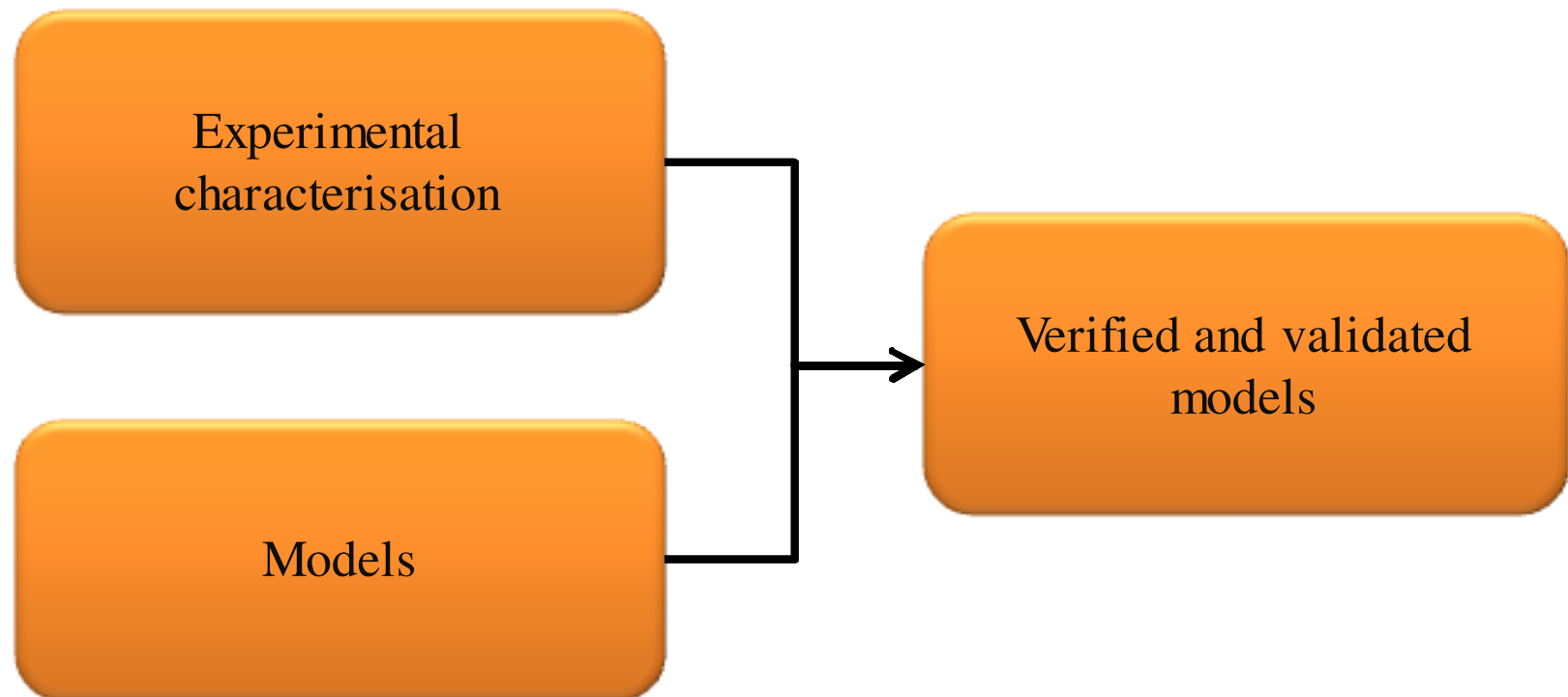
$$k_2 = k_1 \frac{b_1 a_1 L_2 (b_1^2 + a_1^2 - L_1^2)}{b_2 a_2 L_1 (b_2^2 + a_2^2 - L_2^2)}$$

Multi-leaf spring



Parabolic leaf spring

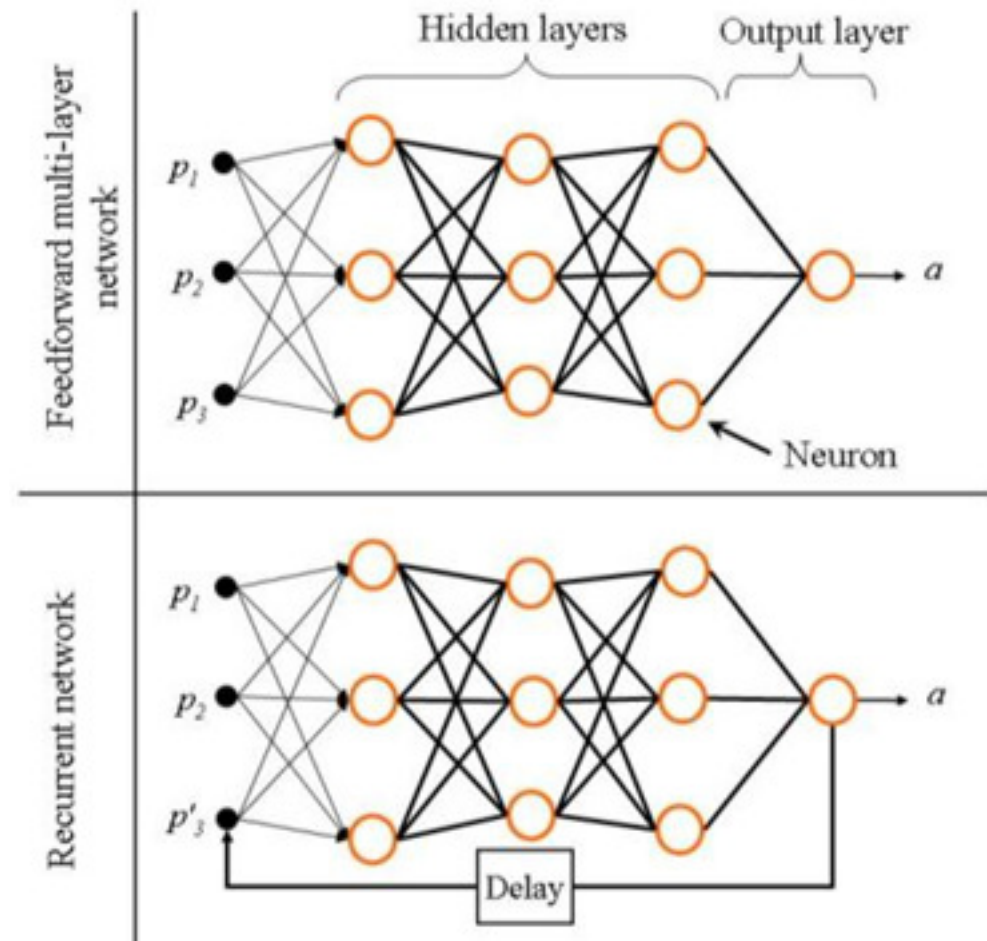
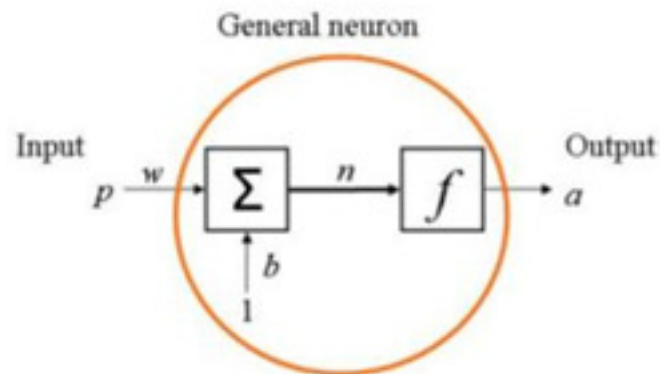




Neural networks

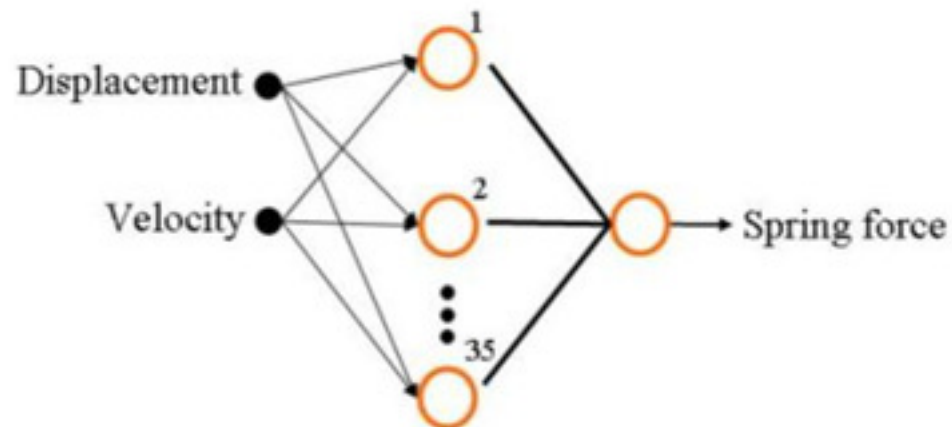


Artificial neural networks

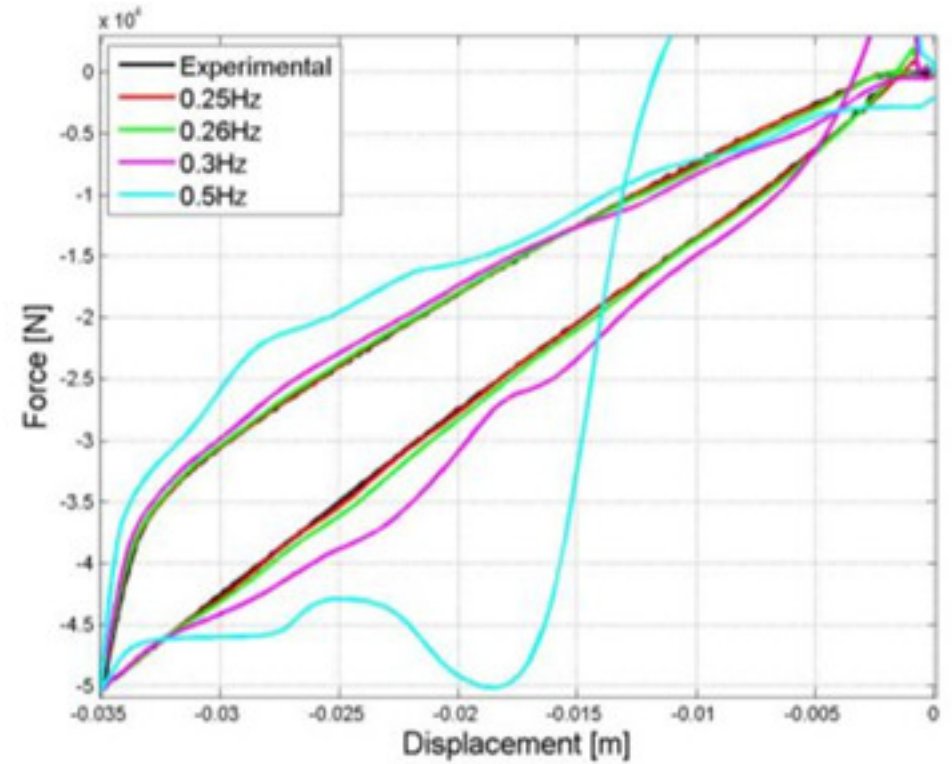
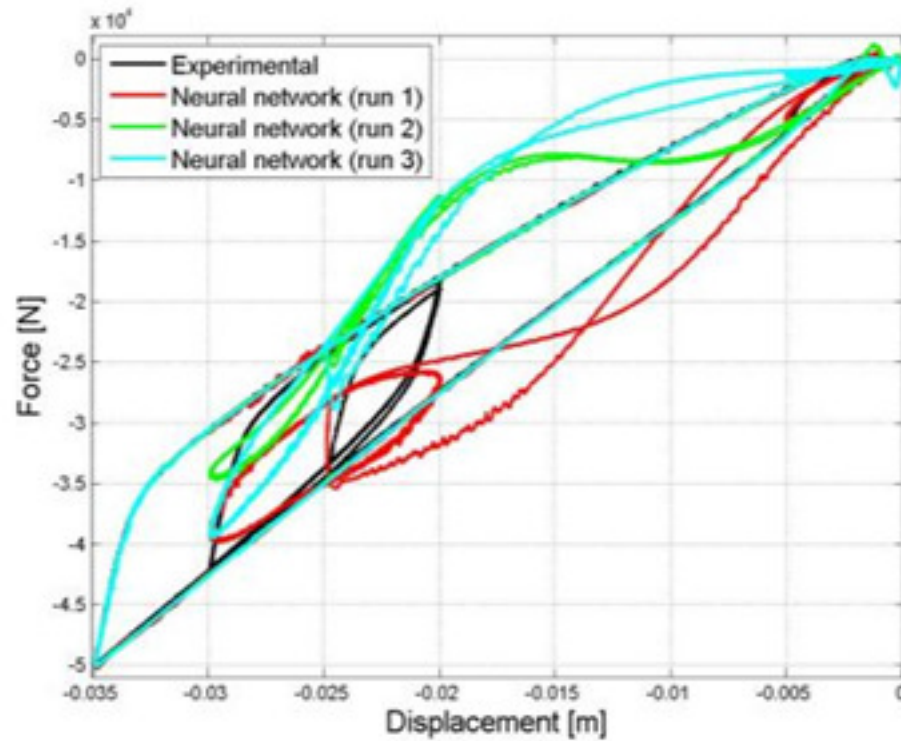


Creating ANN

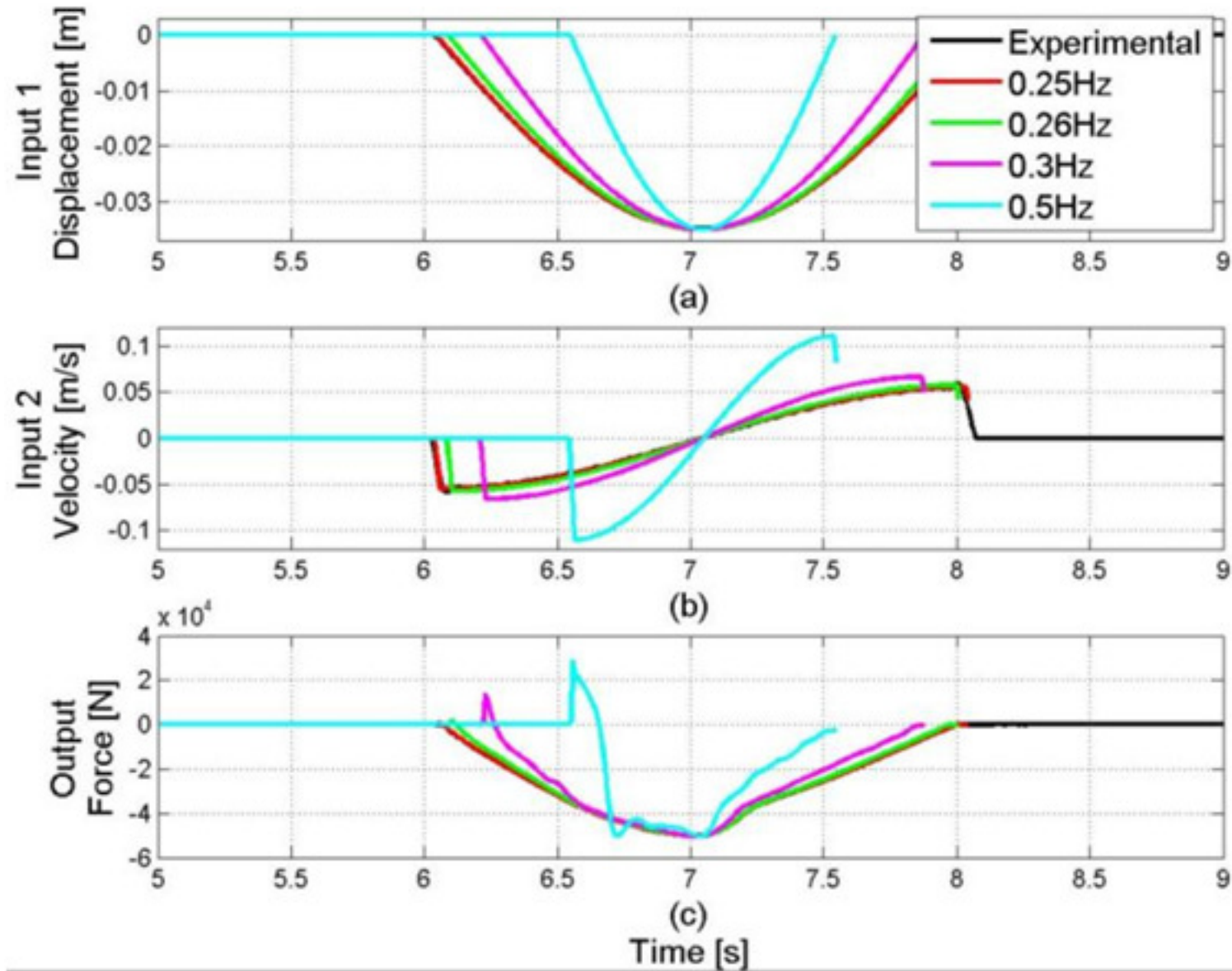
- Find the *relevant inputs*
- Collect *data* necessary for training and testing of the neural network
- **Training** of the network
- Find appropriate *complexity* of the network (i.e. number of layers, number of neurons)
- Assess *generalization* ability of neural network



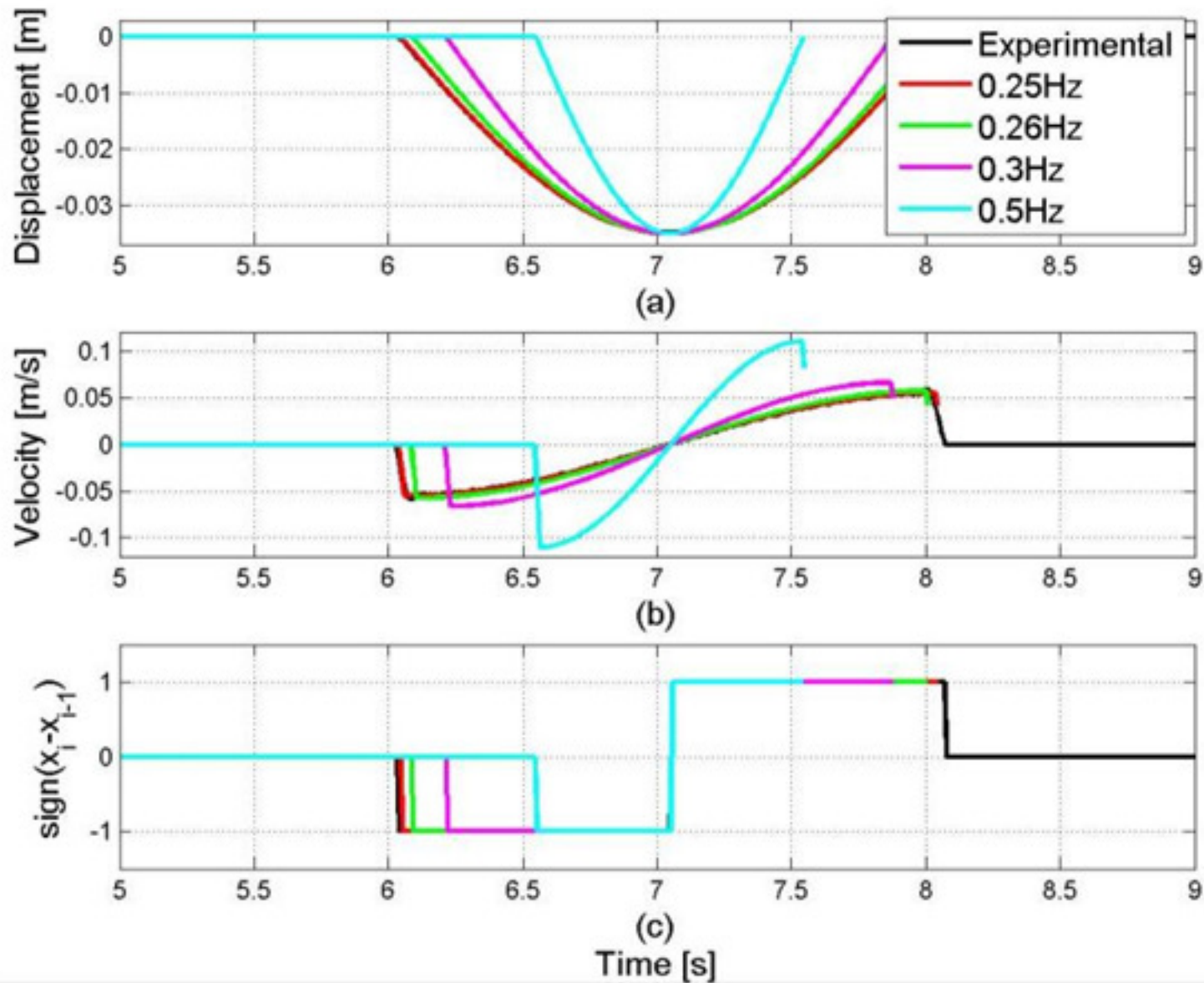
Ability to generalise



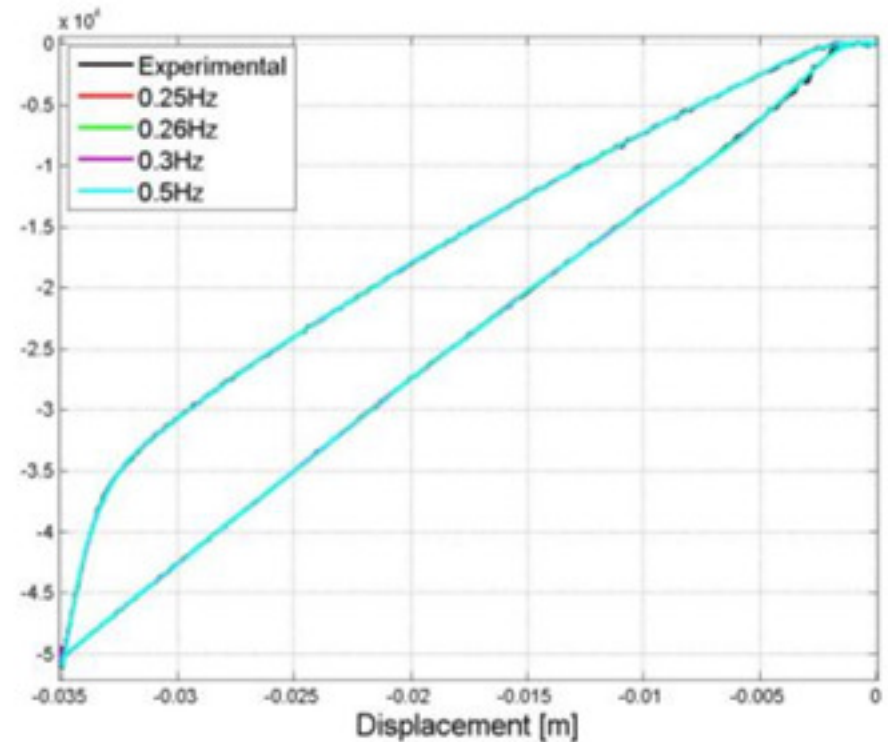
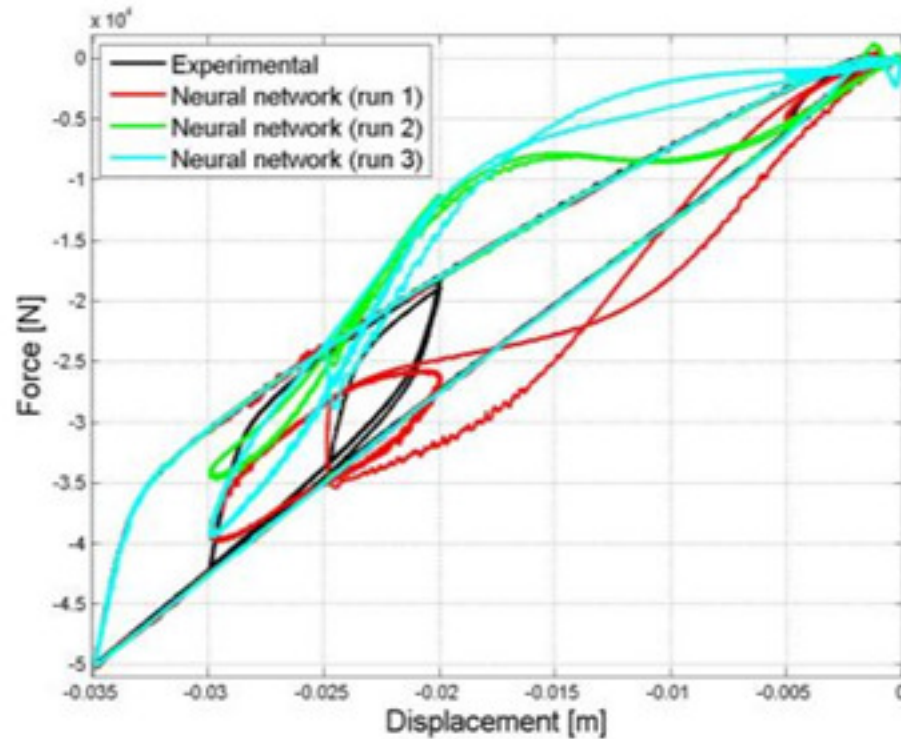
Importance of inputs



Importance of inputs

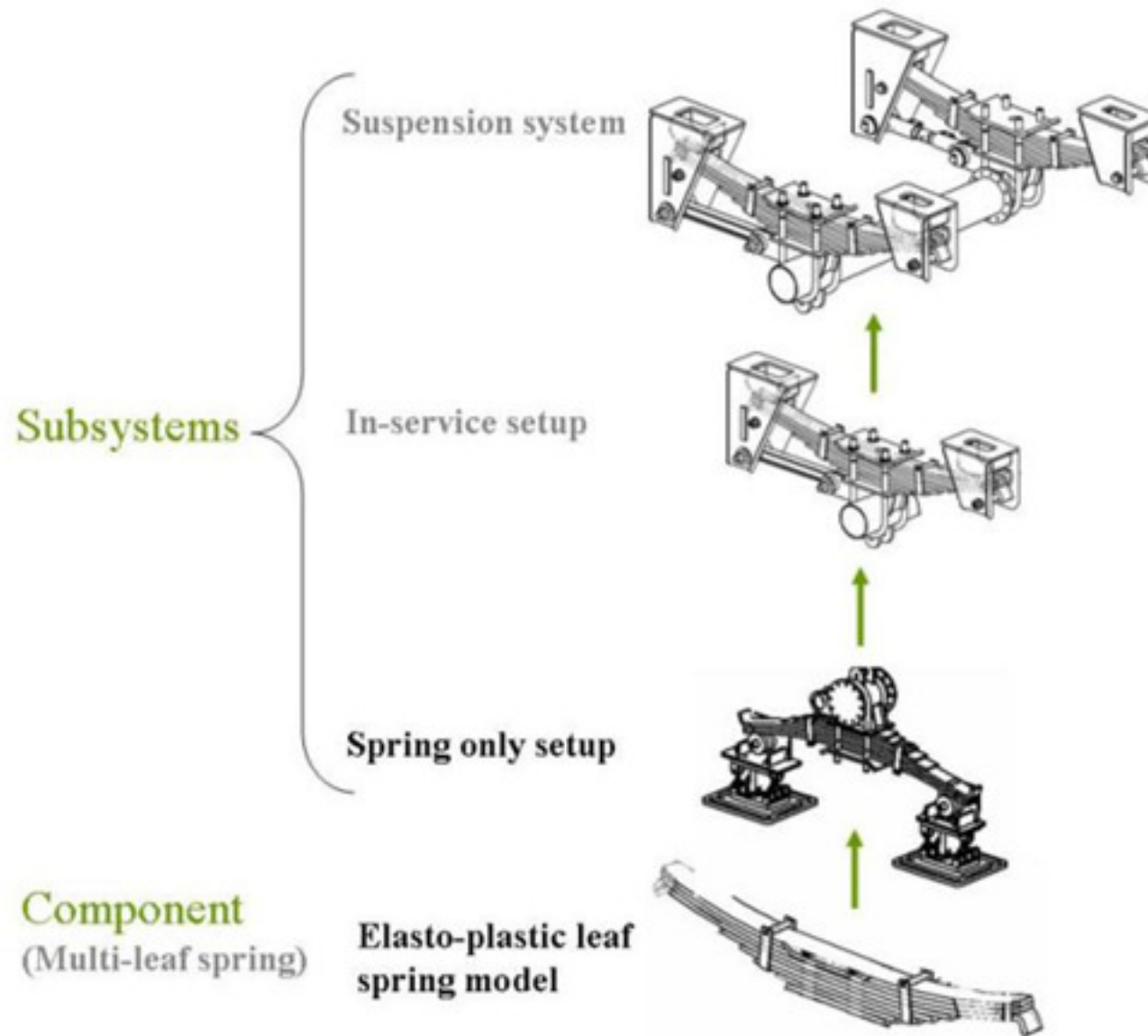


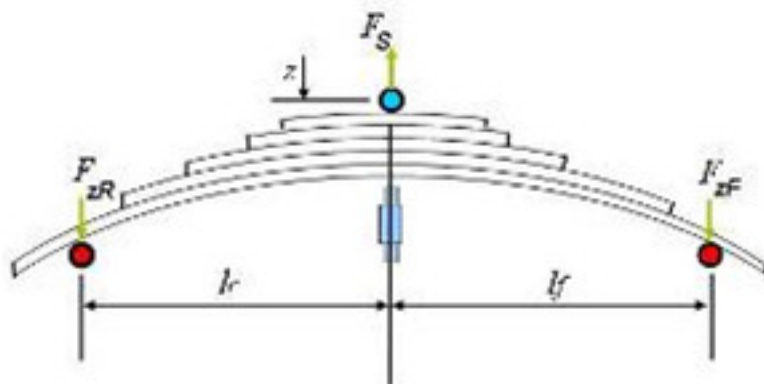
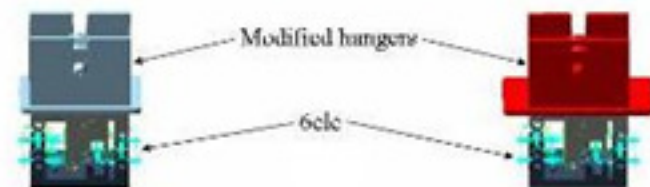
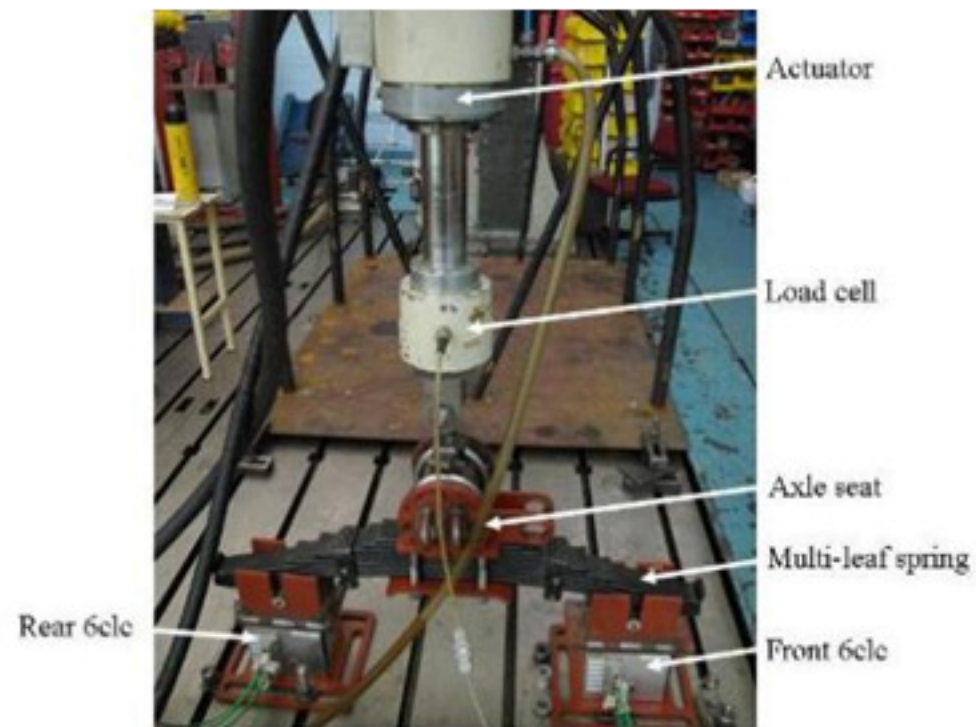
Effect of inputs on generalisation



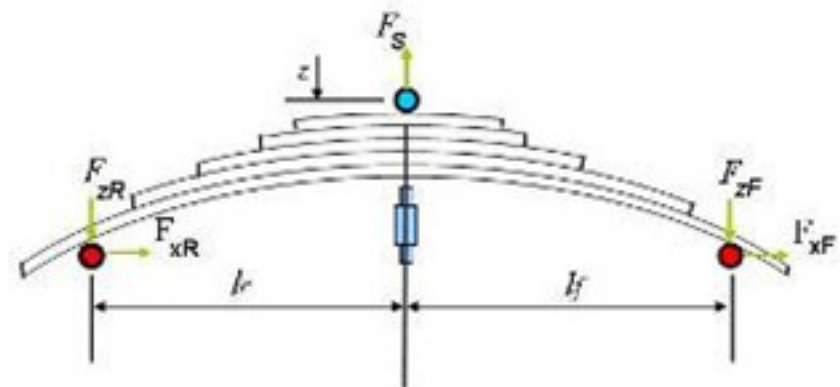
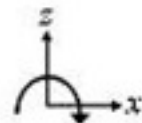
“Intelligence”

Multi-leaf spring suspension system model



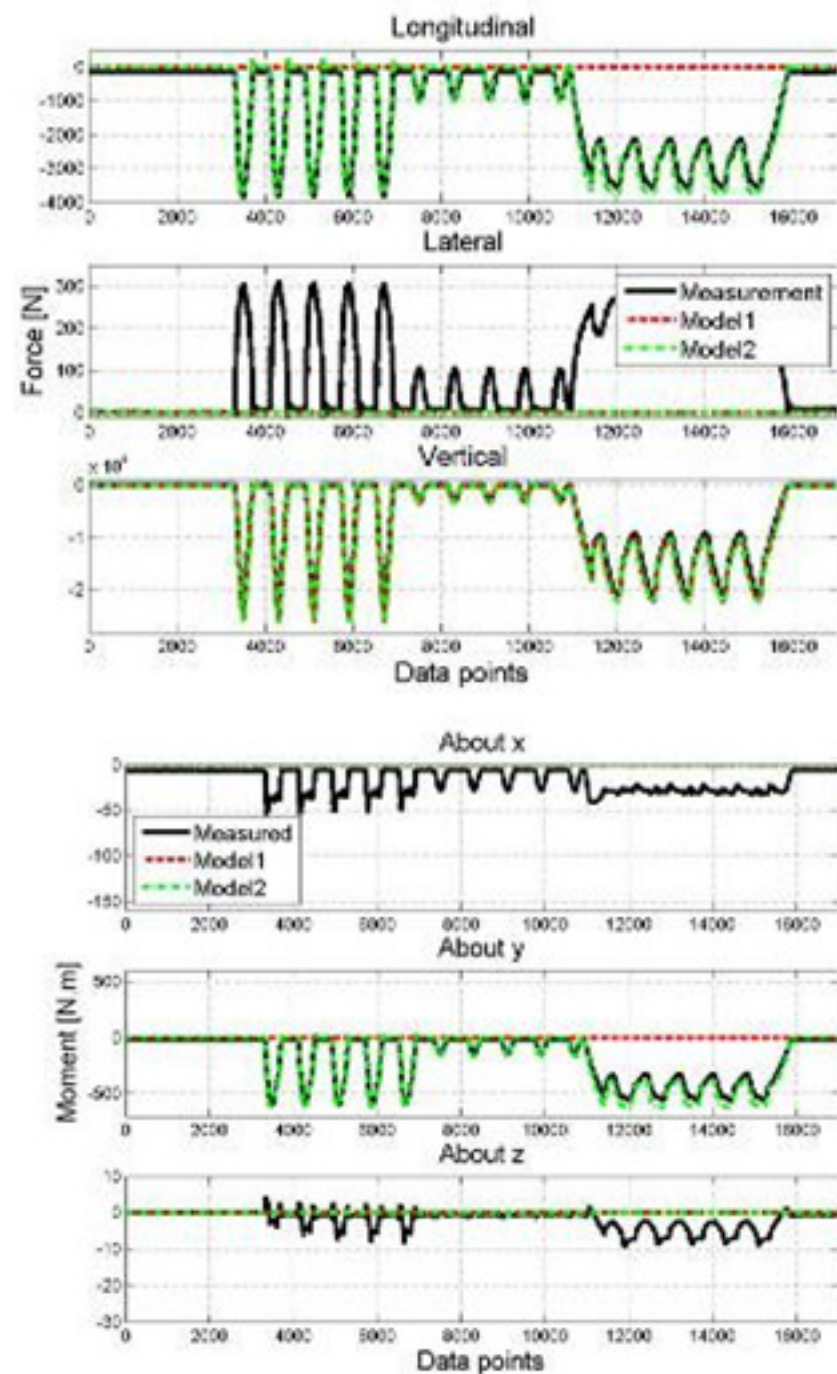
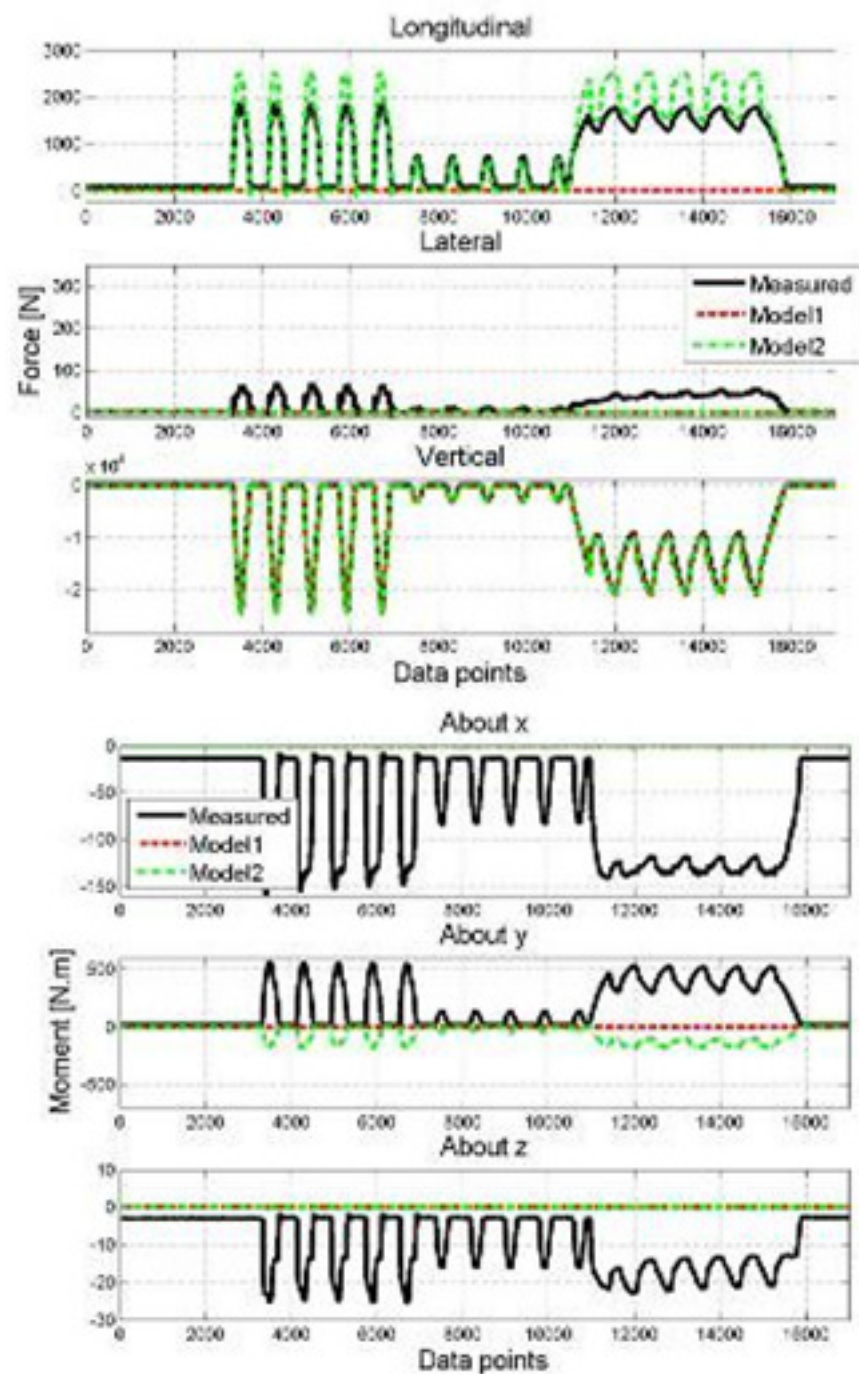


- Interface to hangers
- Interface to axle seat
- Translational joint

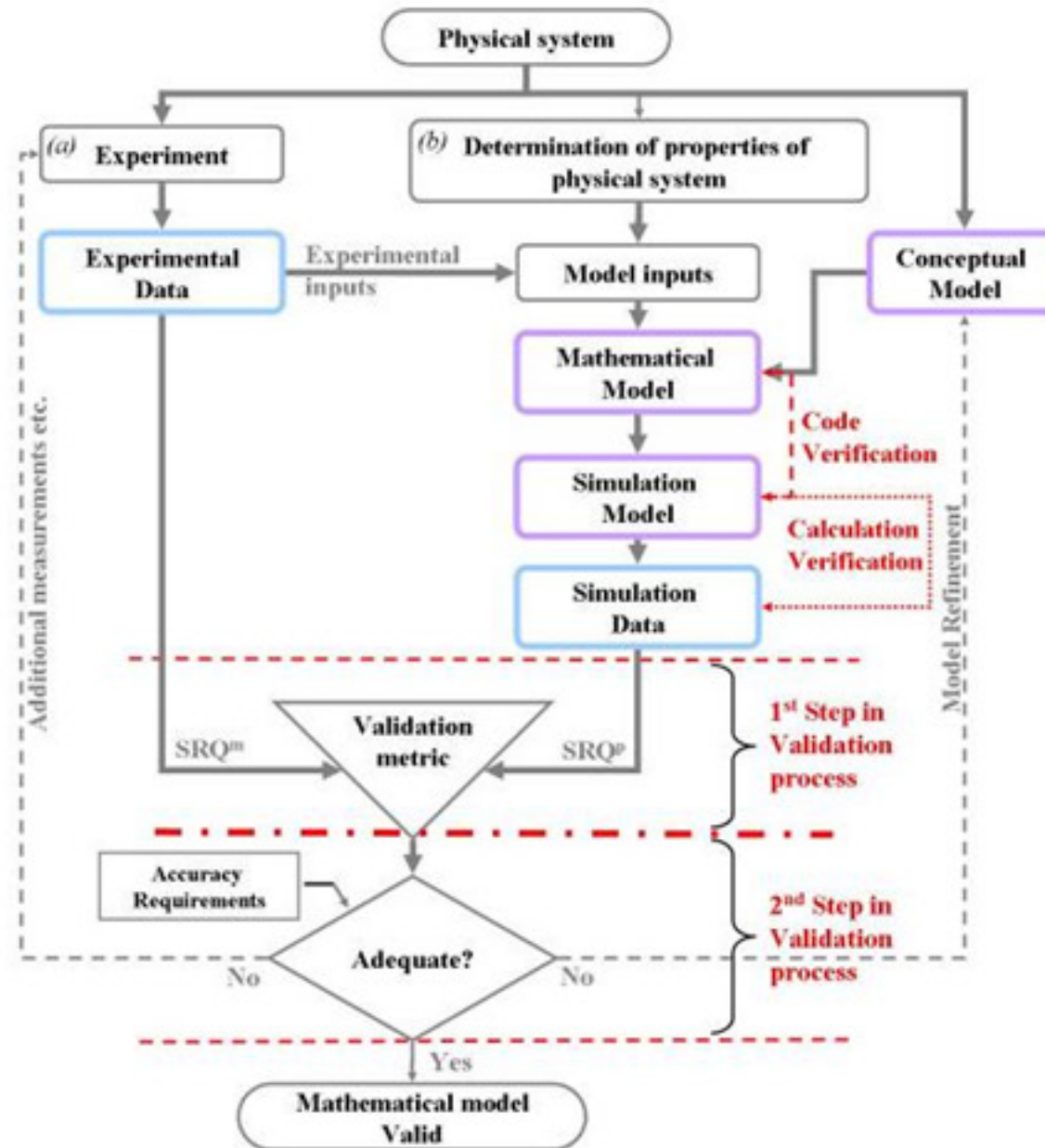


- Interface to hangers
- Interface to axle seat
- Translational joint



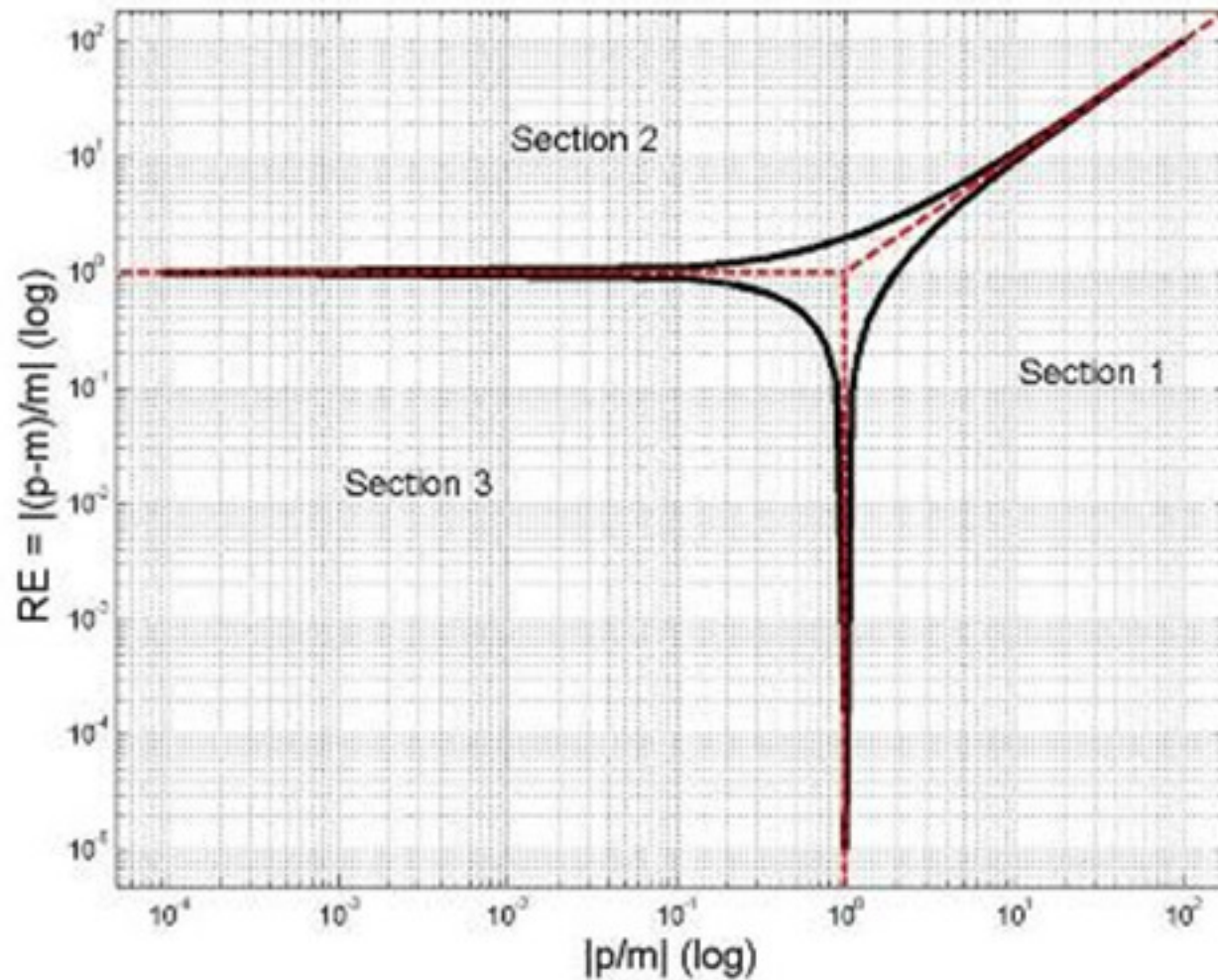


Verification & Validation



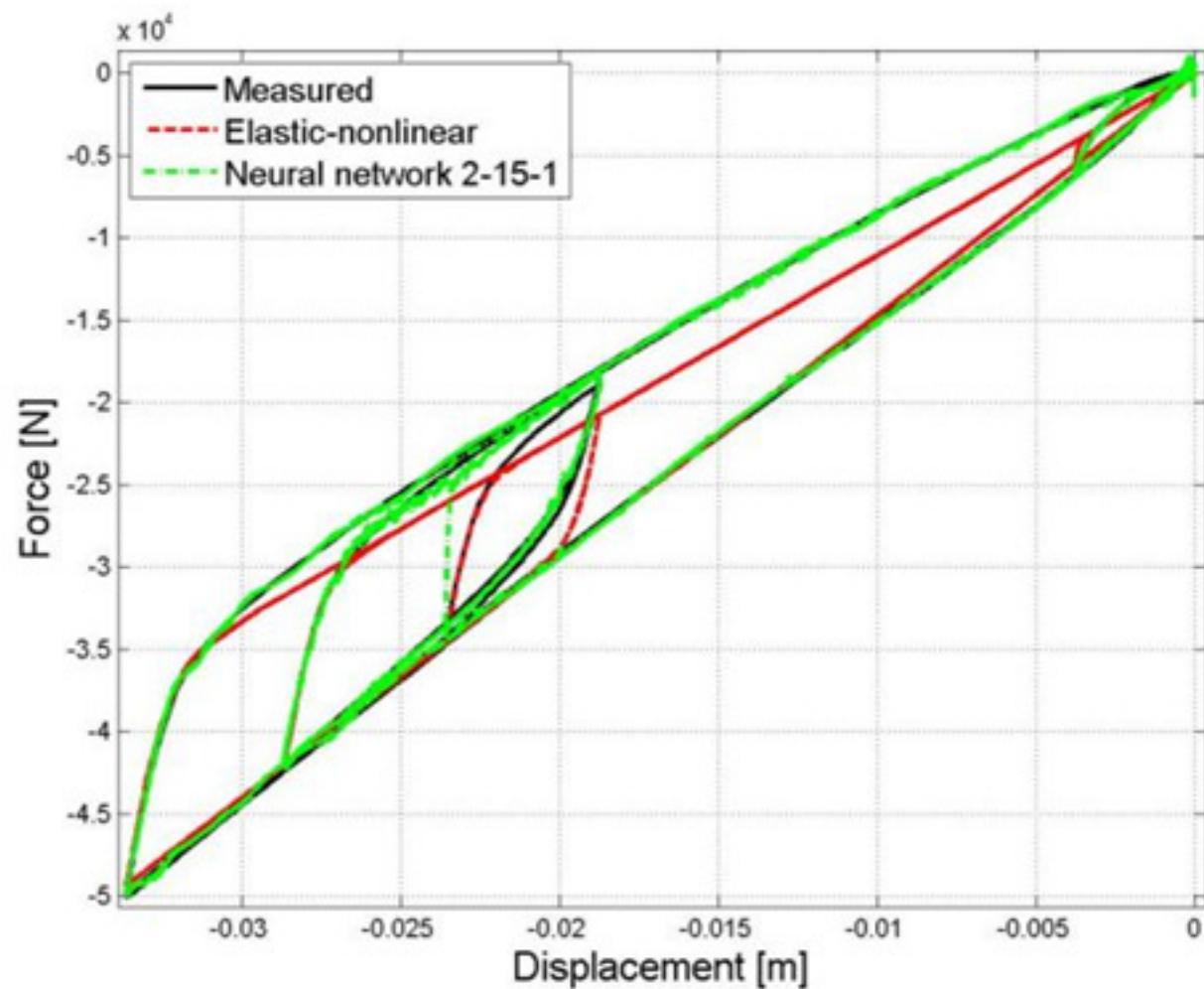
Validation metric based on relative error

$$RE = \left| \frac{p - m}{m} \right|$$

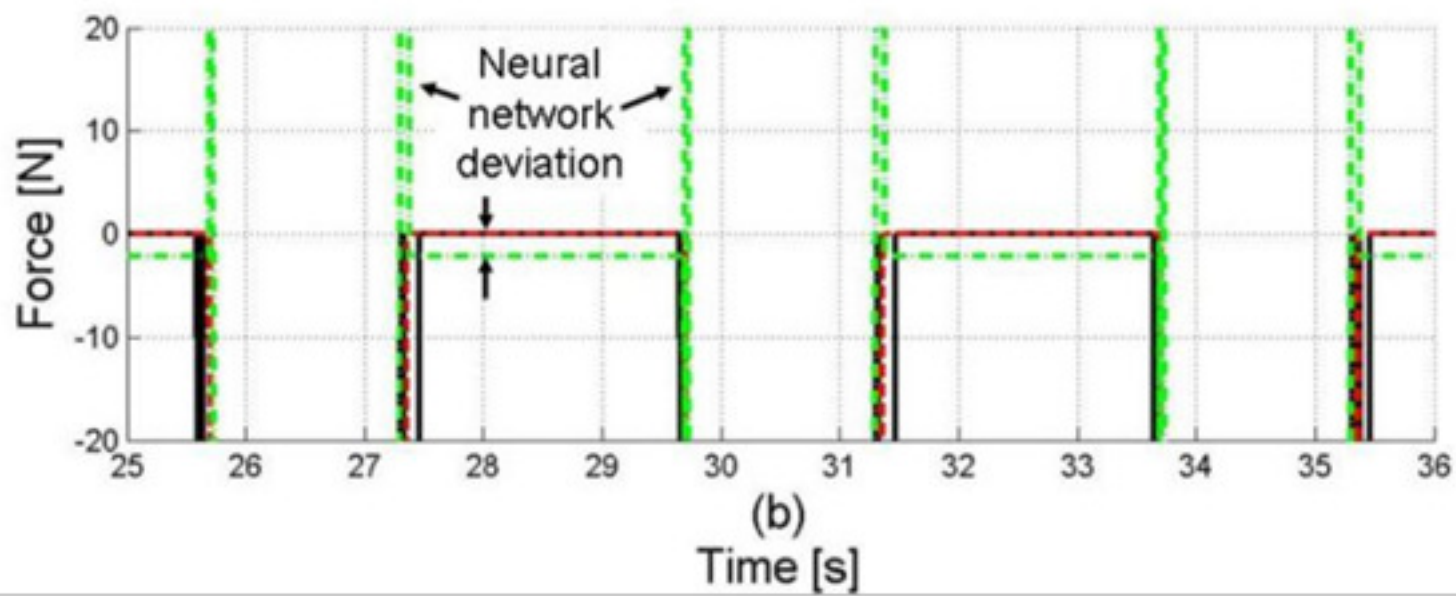
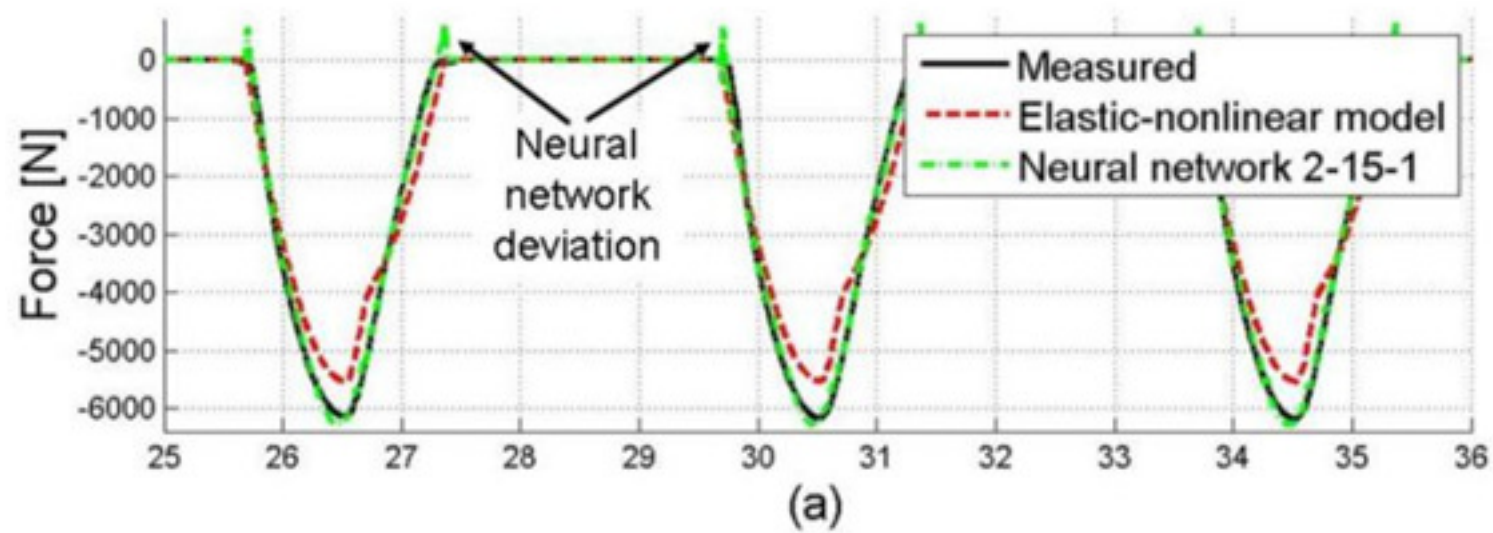


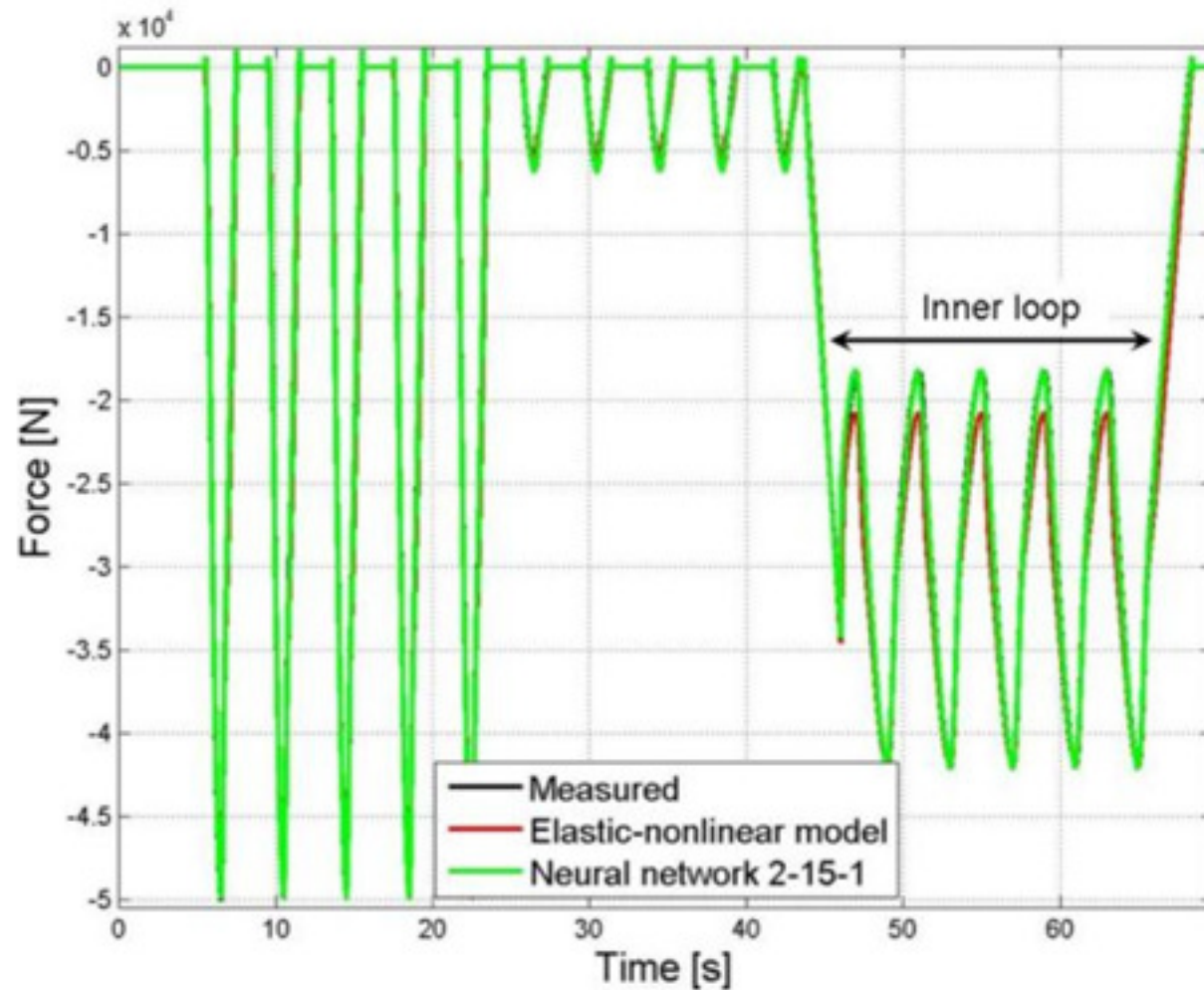
Validation metric based on relative error

- Periodic signals around zero
- Representation of agreement/disagreement



	Elastic-nonlinear model				Neural network model			
	S&G	Russell	$m\%RE^m$	$m\%RE^s$	S&G	Russell	$m\%RE^m$	$m\%RE^s$
Magnitude	2.6	2.17			-0.025	-0.021		
Phase	1.5	1.5			0.5	0.5		
Comprehensive	3.0	2.34	17.01 P(89.37)	10 P(76.01)	0.5	0.44	49.27 P(51.52)	10 P(49.67)



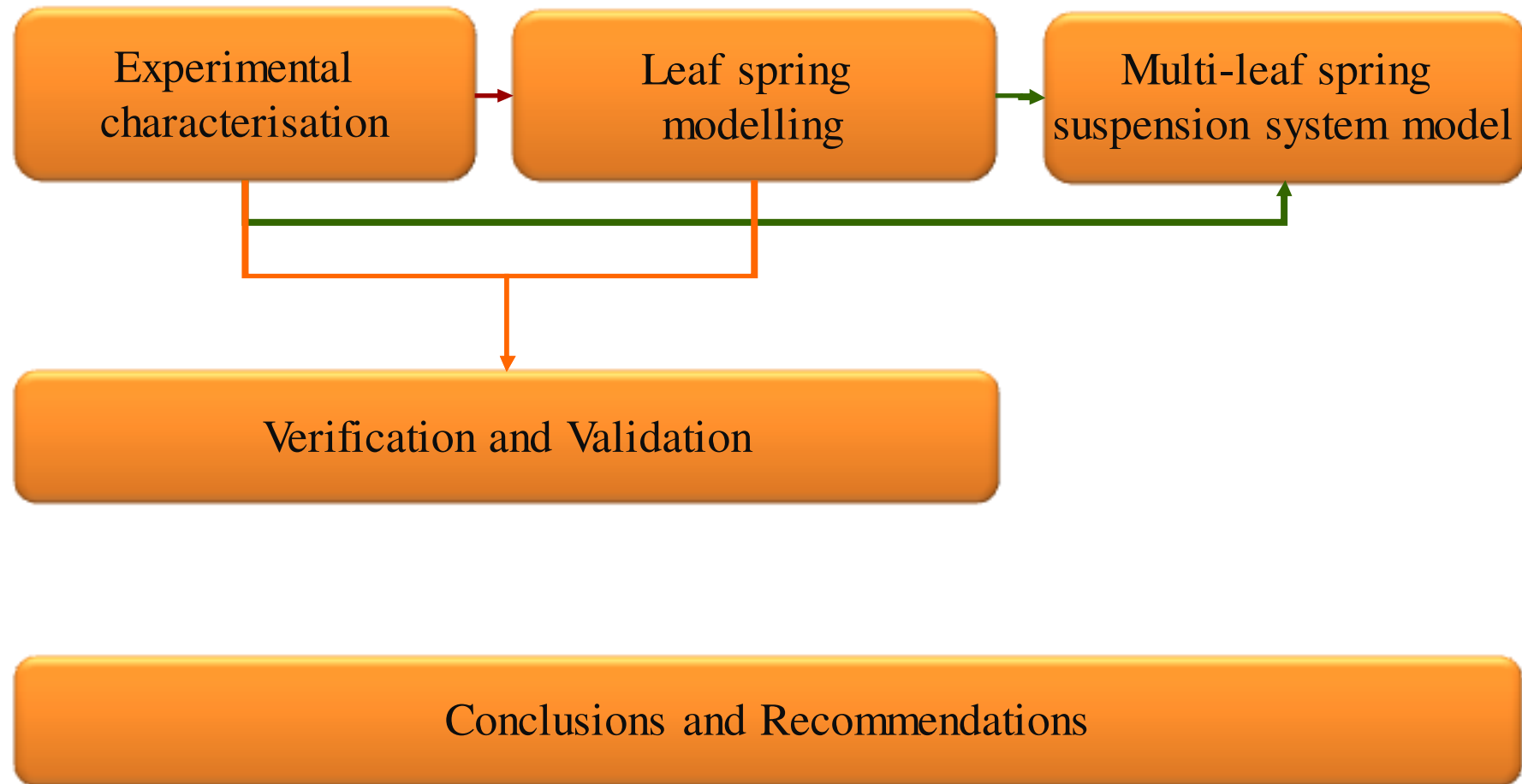


	Elastic-nonlinear model				Neural network model			
	S&G	Russell	$m\%RE^m$	$m\%RE^s$	S&G	Russell	$m\%RE^m$	$m\%RE^s$
Magnitude	3.42	2.82			-0.035	-0.03		
Phase	1.32	1.32			0.59	0.59		
Comprehensive	3.66	2.76	5.62 P(55.69)	10 P(72.85)	0.59	0.53	1.2 P(67.16)	10 P(99.3)

elastic-nonlinear model = 0.2429s

neural network model = 0.0792s

Conclusions



Recommendations

Experimental characterisation

- 6clc applied force's orientation as well as its point of application.
- force-displacement characteristics continuous loaded length change of the leaf spring

EPLS mode

- Ramberg-Osgood formulation
- Investigate alternative methods for handling the friction.
- Visualization of slip planes
- Theoretical stiffness of leaf springs

Recommendations

Neural network model

- inputs effect on training data required

Quantitative validation metric

- The $m\%RE$ validation metric should be extended to quantify model and experimental measurement uncertainties.
- quantify the tendency of the model to over-or under predict should be investigated and incorporated into the $m\%RE$

Questions/Comments



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- To my **mother**, for teaching me courage, determination and perseverance.
- To my **grandfather**, for teaching me integrity and to be just.
- To my brother **Tjaart**, for teaching me loyalty.
- To my brother **Arné**, for teaching me patience.
- To my **grandmother**, for teaching me commitment and consideration
- To my friend **Tjaart van der Walt**, for teaching me the importance of dependability.
- To my girlfriend **Somarié**, for strengthening my believes and principles

I can do everything through Him who gives me strength

Philippians 4:13