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MUSCULOSKELETAL INNOVATIONS

# Development of Juvenile Scoliosis Spine FE Models to Understand Growth Rod Failure Mechanisms

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# Background

- Scoliosis treatment in juveniles
  - Growing rods
- Complications in growth rods
  - Implant-related complications
  - Fusion complications
  - Skin-related complications
  - Alignment complications
  - Neurologic complications [1]

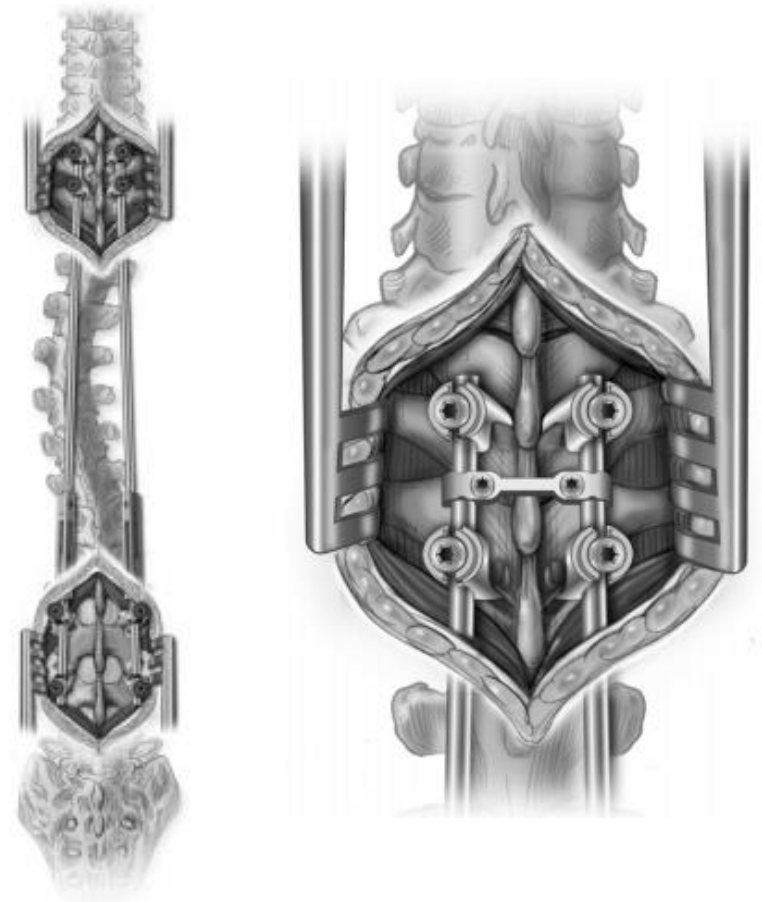


Figure 1. Schematic posterior view of dual growing-rod instrumentation [2].

# Clinical Need and Industrial Relevance

- Unfulfilled clinical data
  - High rate of mechanical complications (mostly rod failure) in Growth Rods [1].
  - No standard methodology for pediatric growth rod testing
- Objectives
  - Identify biomechanical parameters in failure modes
  - Provide relevant testing methodology for standardization

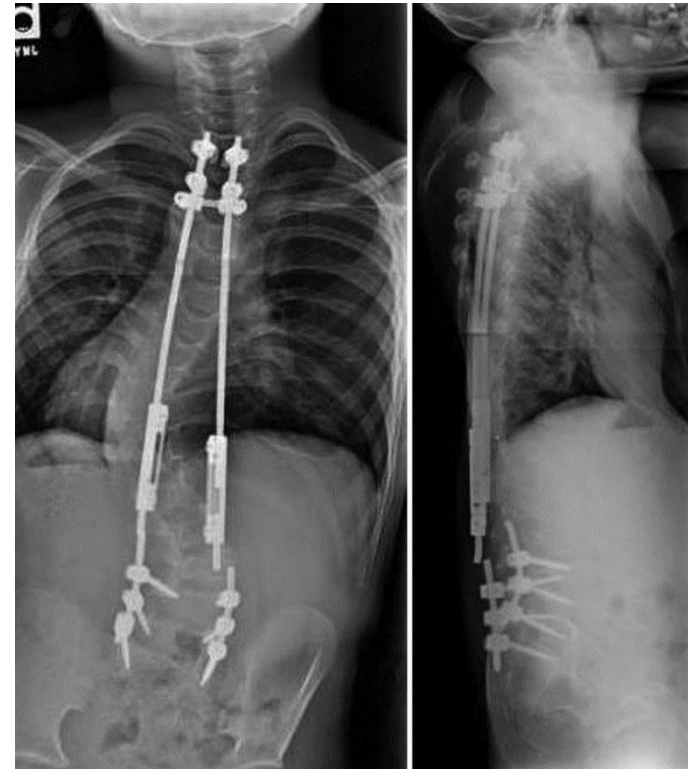


Figure 2. Rod fracture in a 6-year-old boy treated with dual GR for progressive scoliosis [1].

# Project Aims

- **Aim 1-Experimental Model Development and Validation**
  - Utilize ASTM F1717 as basis
  - Testing adaptation to accommodate the pediatric growing rod characteristics
- **Aim 2-Anatomical Model Development and Validation**
  - Develop and validate FE models in patient-specific scoliotic curves
  - Scoliotic spine data provided by FDA
- **Aim 3-Parametric Studies**
  - Iteration and parametric studies on configurations and materials
  - Identify relevant spinal curvature and device design features

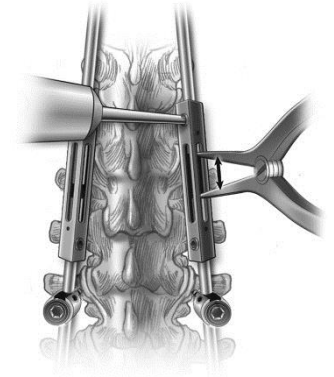
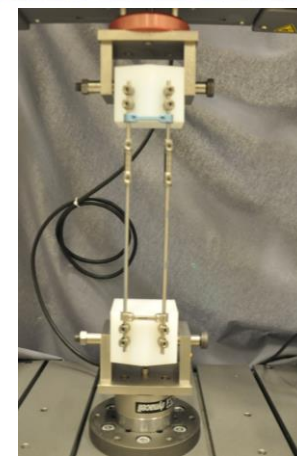
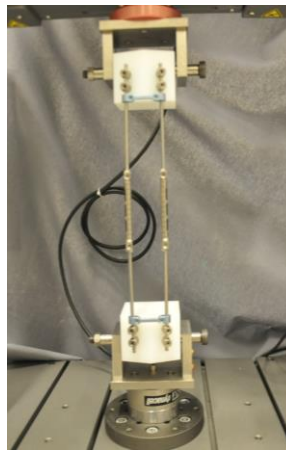


Figure 3. Traditional tandem connector used for early onset scoliosis treatment [2].



# Methods: F1717 Constructs (Aim 1)



**Construct 1: Adjacent to distal anchor**

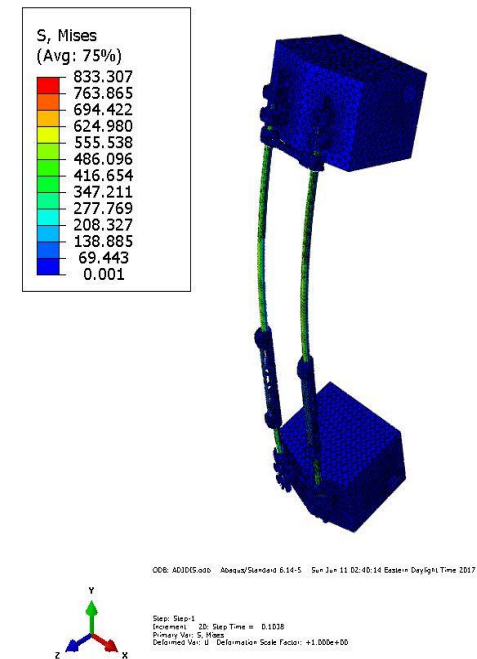
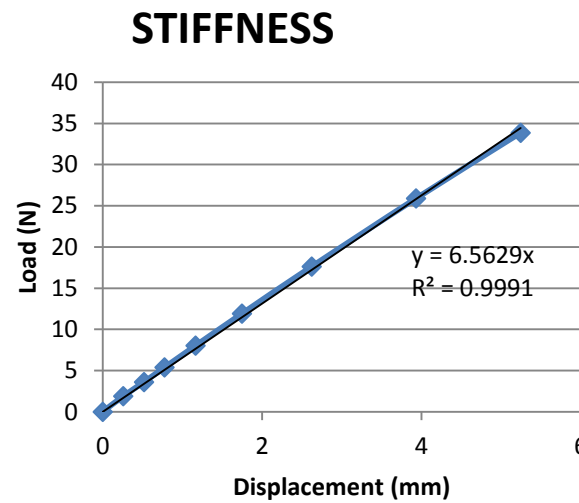
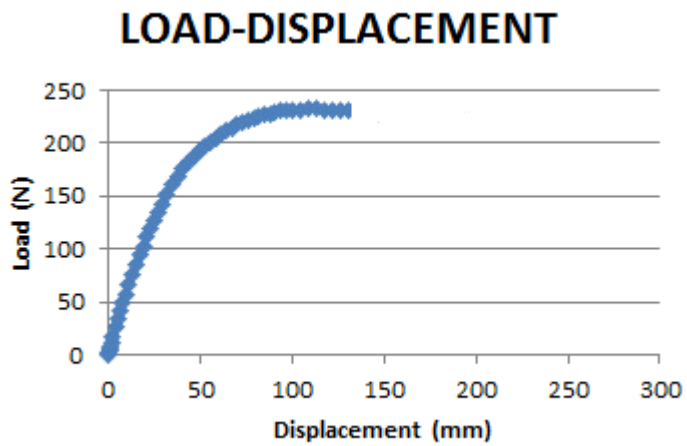


**Construct 2: Adjacent to tandem connector**



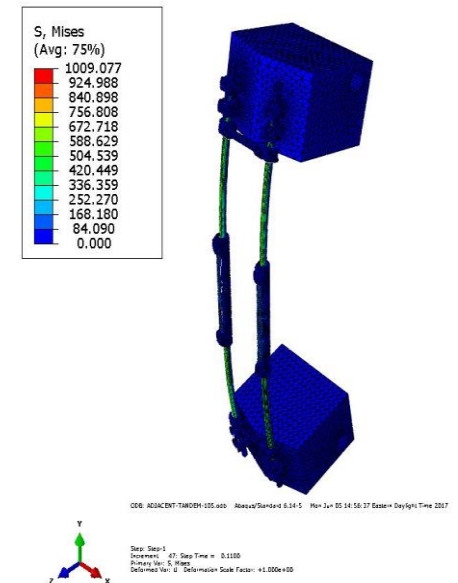
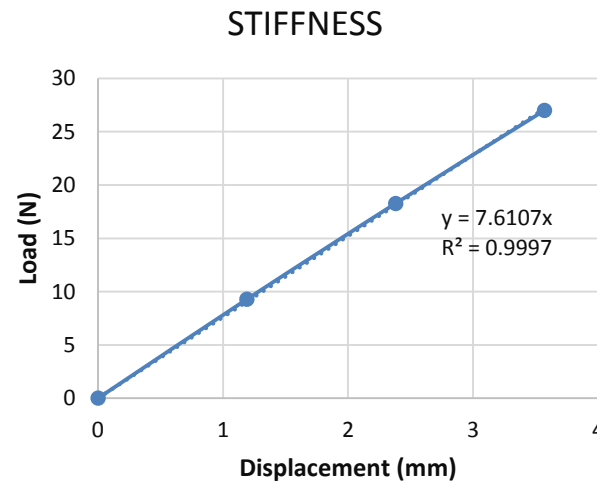
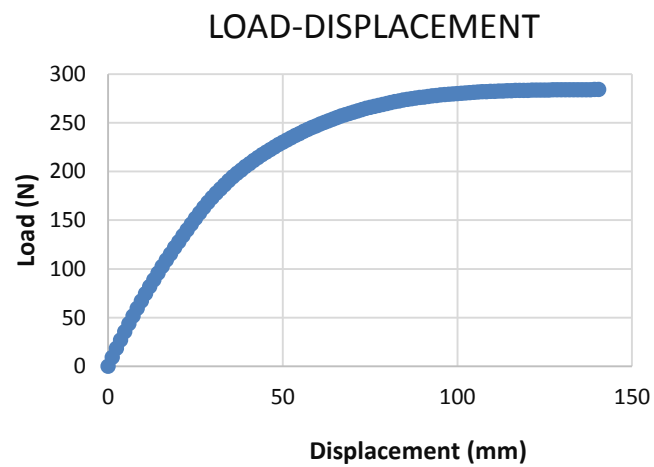
**Construct 3: Adjacent to mid-construct**

# Results: Construct 1 (Aim 1)



Construct 1: Adjacent to distal anchor

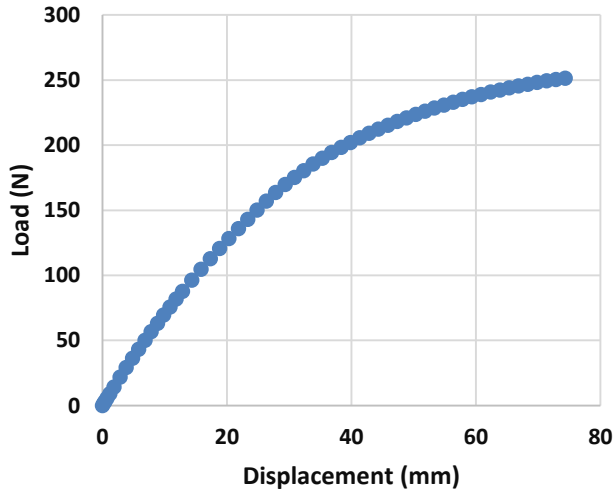
# Results: Construct 2 (Aim 1)



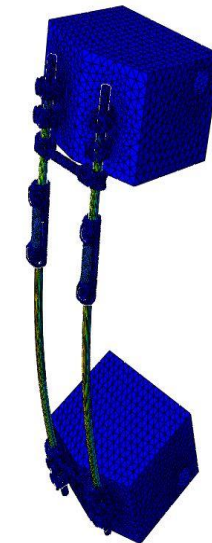
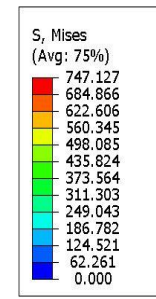
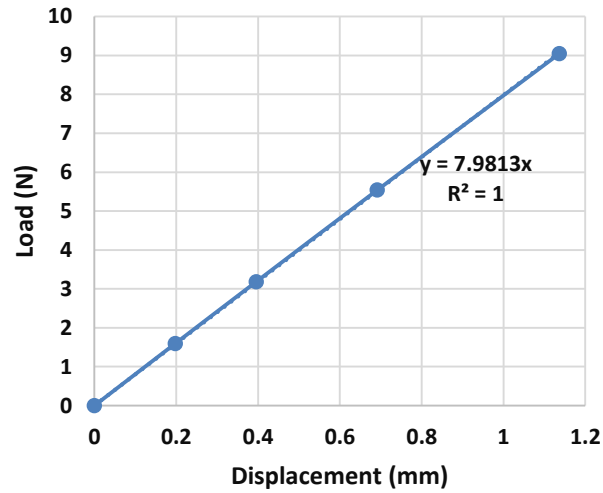
**Construct 2: Adjacent to tandem connector**

# Results: Construct 3 (Aim 1)

### LOAD-DISPLACEMENT



### STIFFNESS



ODB: MID-CONSTRUCT125.odb Abaqus/Standard 6.14-5 Fri Jun 09 01:08:14 Eastern Daylight Time 2017



Step: Step-1  
Increment: 25, Step Time = 0.1332  
Primary Var: S, Mises  
Deformed Var: U, Deformation Scale Factor: +1.000e+00

### Construct 3: Adjacent to mid-construct



## Methods: Patient specific model (Aim 2)

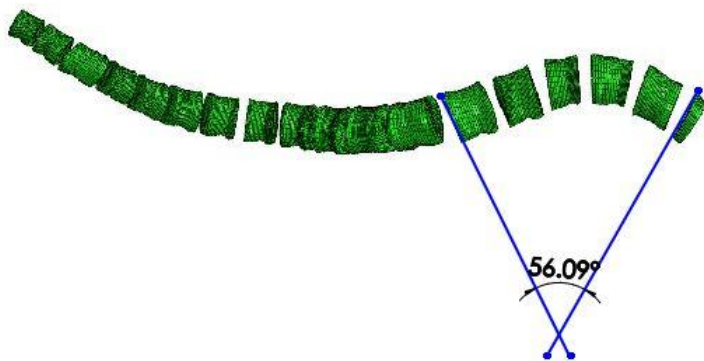


Pre-index surgery Cobb angle = 48  
Pre-index surgery kyphosis = 36 deg  
Pre-index surgery Lordosis = -56 deg

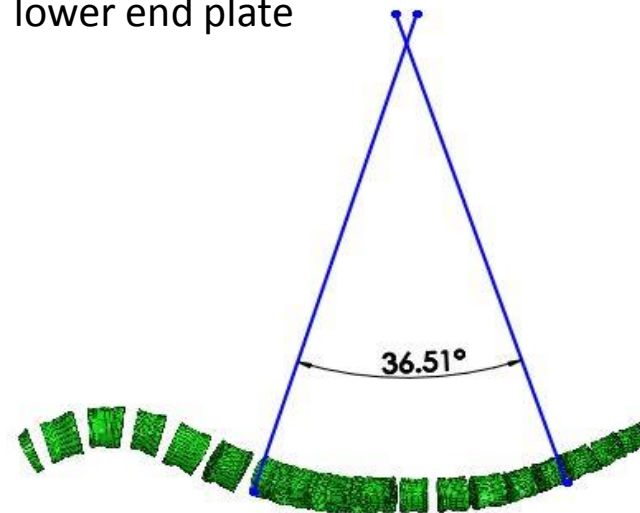
Tandem connector on each side of construct  
Tandem connector length = 80mm  
Rod diameter=4.5mm

# Methods: Patient specific model (Aim 2)

- Pre-index Lordosis angle:  $-56^{\circ}$
- Model angle:  $-56.09^{\circ}$
- Vertebral levels used to measure the Lordosis angle: L1 upper end plate to S1 upper end plate

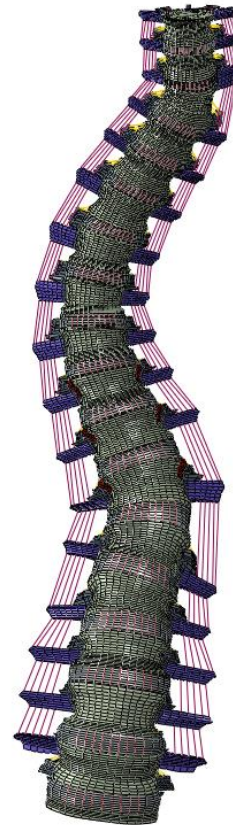
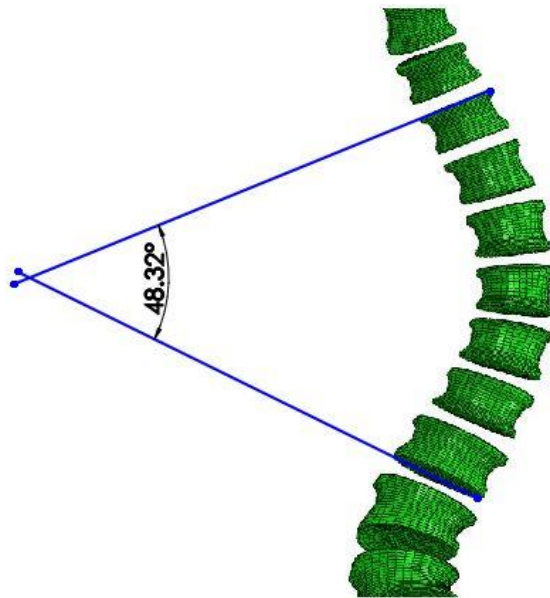


- Pre-index Kyphosis angle:  $36^{\circ}$
- Model angle:  $36.51^{\circ}$
- Vertebral levels used to measure the Kyphosis angle: L4 upper end plate to T12 lower end plate



# Methods: Patient specific model (Aim 2)

- Pre-index Cobb angle:  $48^\circ$
- Model Cobb angle:  $48.32^\circ$
- Vertebral levels used to measure the Cobb angle: T5 upper end plate to T11 lower end plate



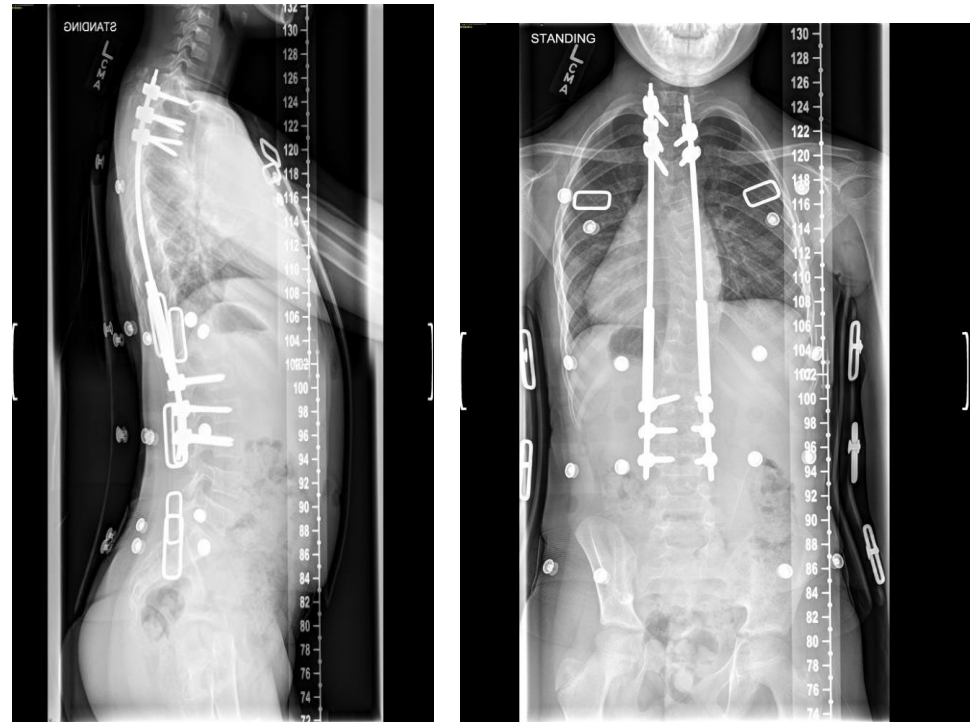
## Methods: Patient specific model (Aim 2)

- Instrumented levels on the left pedicles
  - T2, T3, T4 Proximal foundation
  - L1, L2, L3 Distal foundation
- Instrumented levels on the right pedicles
  - T3, T4 Proximal foundation
  - L1, L2, L3 Distal foundation

Post-index Cobb angle= 37 deg

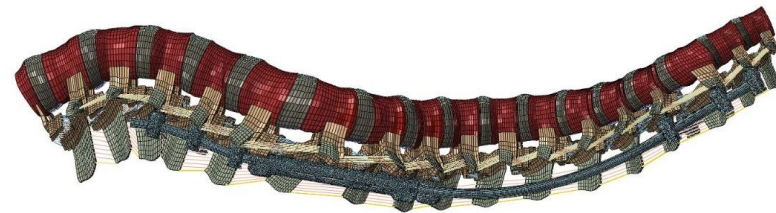
Post-index kyphosis = 42 deg

Post-index Lordosis = -53 deg



Boundary Conditions:

- Tandem connector fixed in the middle
- 15 mm rod distraction on both sides





# Results: Pre & Post index angles (Aim 2)

- Both concave and convex rods were distracted 15 mm to predict changes in the various angles

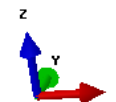
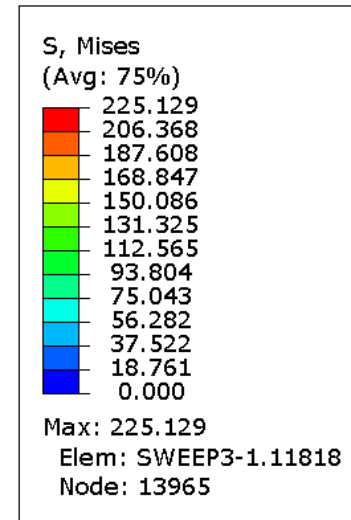
	Cobb Angle	Lordosis Angle	Kyphosis Angle
Post-index angles	<p>Diagram illustrating the Cobb angle measurement on a vertebral column. Two lines are drawn perpendicular to the superior endplate of the upper vertebra and the inferior endplate of the lower vertebra. The angle between these two lines is labeled as 31.1°. A second angle, 34.27°, is also indicated between the lines.</p>	<p>Diagram illustrating the Lordosis angle measurement on a vertebral column. Two lines are drawn parallel to the superior endplate of the upper vertebra and the inferior endplate of the lower vertebra. The angle between these two lines is labeled as 53.41°.</p>	<p>Diagram illustrating the Kyphosis angle measurement on a vertebral column. Two lines are drawn parallel to the superior endplate of the upper vertebra and the inferior endplate of the lower vertebra. The angle between these two lines is labeled as 42.48°.</p>
Pre-index angles	<p>Diagram illustrating the Cobb angle measurement on a vertebral column. Two lines are drawn perpendicular to the superior endplate of the upper vertebra and the inferior endplate of the lower vertebra. The angle between these two lines is labeled as 48.32°.</p>	<p>Diagram illustrating the Lordosis angle measurement on a vertebral column. Two lines are drawn parallel to the superior endplate of the upper vertebra and the inferior endplate of the lower vertebra. The angle between these two lines is labeled as 56.09°.</p>	<p>Diagram illustrating the Kyphosis angle measurement on a vertebral column. Two lines are drawn parallel to the superior endplate of the upper vertebra and the inferior endplate of the lower vertebra. The angle between these two lines is labeled as 36.51°.</p>



# Results: Rod Distraction (Aim 2)

Maximum von Mises stress after rods distraction

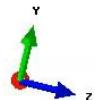
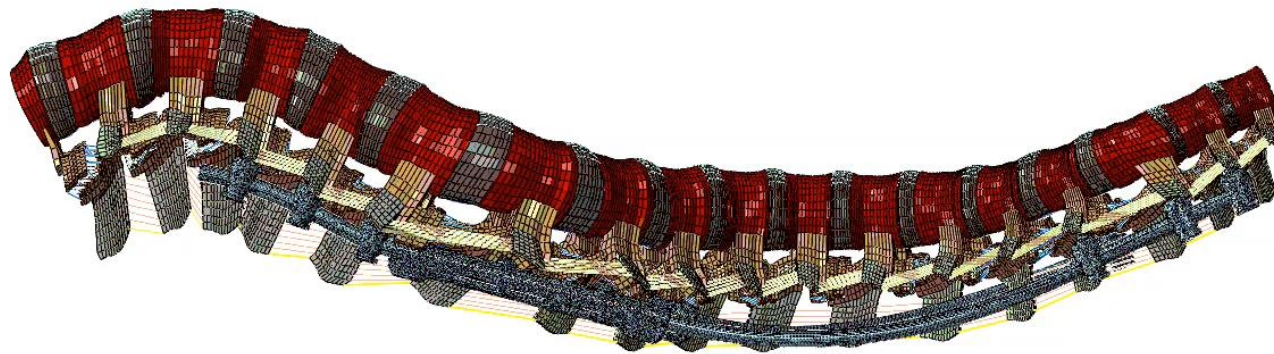
- 15 mm of rod distraction were applied on both rods
- On the convex proximal rod
- The value is 225 MPa



# Results: Rod Distraction (Aim 2)

(Sagittal View)

Step: Step-1 Frame: 0  
Total Time: 0.000000



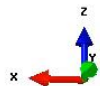
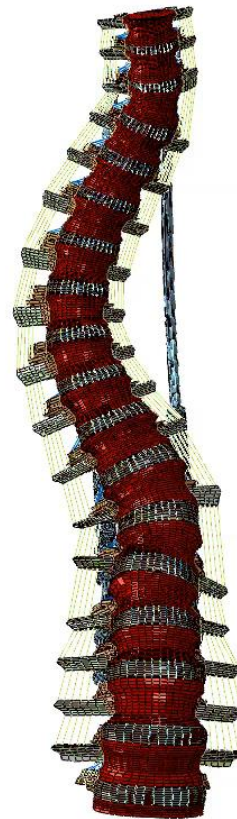
ODB: TANDEMFXED-15-15.odb Abaqus/Standard 6.14-5 Sun May 21 01:58:19 Eastern Daylight Time 2017

Step: Step-1  
Increment: 0; Step Time = 0.000  
Deformed Var: U Deformation Scale Factor: +1.000e+00

# Results: Rod Distraction (Aim 2)

(Coronal View)

Step: Step-1 Frame: 0  
Total Time: 0.000000



ODB: TANDEMFXMED-15-15.odb Abaqus/Standard 6.14-5 Sun May 21 01:58:19 Eastern Daylight Time 2017

Step: Step-1  
Increment: 0; Step Time = 0.000  
Deformed Var: U; Deformation Scale Factor: +1.000e+00

# Conclusion

1. Validation complete: Mechanical characters for different constructs matches the FDA experimental data. **(Aim 1 executed)**
2. Patient specific model development complete for patient 1 **(Aim 2 partially executed)**
3. Index surgery only: Maximum stresses on convex rod **(Aim 2 partially executed)**

# Timeline

Develop spine models and simulate the index surgery	Aug, 2016
Data Analyses, publications (abstracts and manuscripts) and report	Sep, 2017



# Acknowledgement

- Dr. Aakash Agarwal, PhD
- Dr. Agarwal, MD
- Dr. Goel, PhD
- Industrial Advisory Board

# Thank you for your attention

Research, Product Development  
and Evaluation: Partnership with Industry