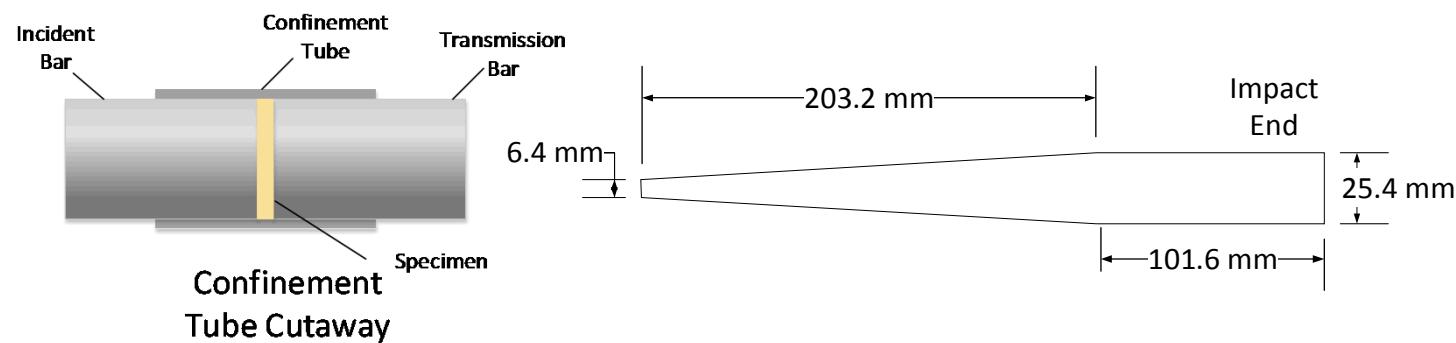
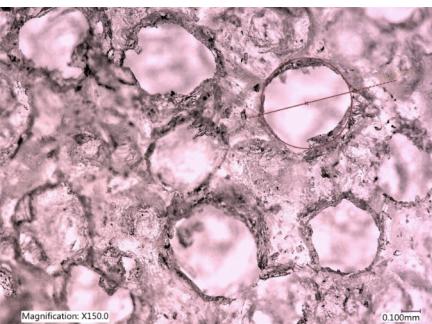


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Effect of Pre-Strain on Impact Energy Dissipation in Silicone Foam Using Frequency-Based Kolsky Bar Analyses

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Shock Isolation/Mitigation

- General principle for shock mitigation:
Maximize energy absorption,
Minimize transmitted force and acceleration
- Area under the stress-strain curve prior to densification (**time domain**)
- What about the **frequency-domain**?
- When silicone foam is used as a shock or vibration pad:
 - Stress-state is triaxial
 - Lateral confinement
 - Experiences preloads due to manufacture/assembly process

Shock Isolation/Mitigation

- Foams and rubbers are primary materials used as shock isolators and mitigators
- Foams and rubbers have different properties that affect performance
 - Nonlinear stress-strain response
 - Strain-rate effects
 - Stress-state effects
- Example
 - It might be desirable to completely isolate a battery so that external accelerations, vibrations, and frequencies do not damage the battery
 - No other signals must be passed through the shock isolation material
 - Goal is ***complete isolation*** using Silicone Foam

Vibration isolation:
bus driver seat



SEAT 1 – Standard Foam Seat Pan

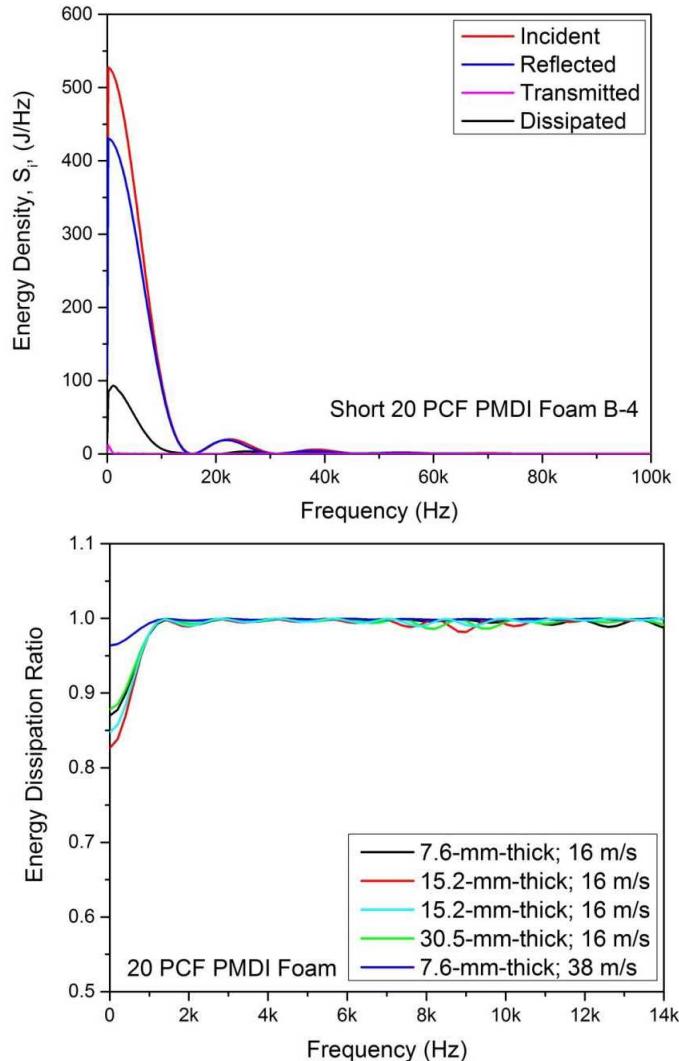


SEAT 2 – Standard Foam Seat Pan
SEAT 3 – Silicone Foam Seat Pan

Fig. 1.
Seats selected for use in this study.

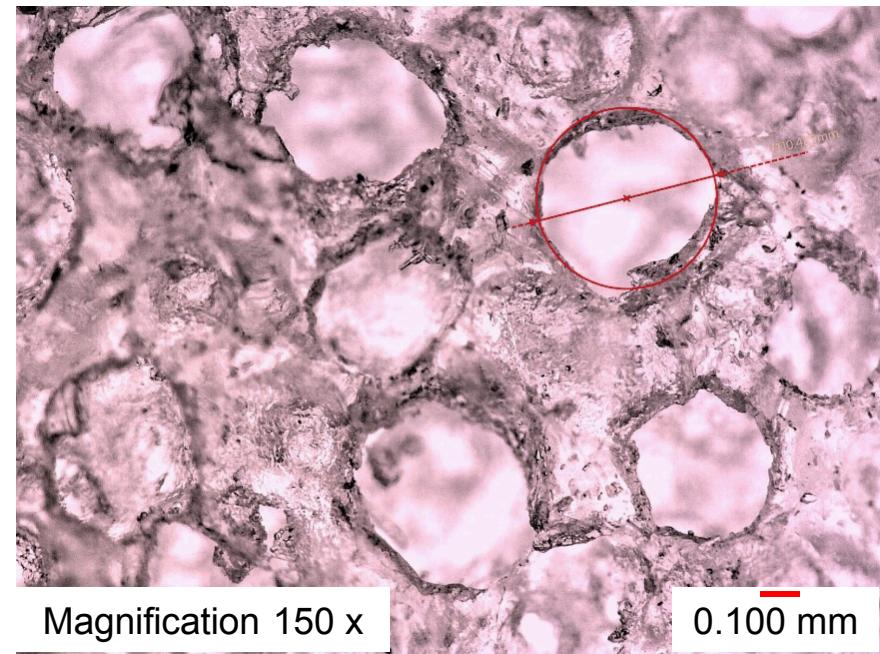
Previous Work

- **B. Song, K. Nelson. (2015) Dynamic Characterization of Frequency Response of Shock Mitigation of a Polymethylene Diisocyanate (PMDI) Based Rigid Polyurethane Foam. *Latin American Journal of Solids and Structures* 12(9):1790-1806**
 - Cutoff frequency was **independent of specimen thickness**
 - Cutoff frequency was **dependent on impact speed**
 - **Cutoff frequency ~ 1.5 kHz**
 - Above 1.5 kHz, almost 100% of the energy was dissipated
 - Below 1.5 kHz, dissipation was down to $\sim 83\%$
 - **PMDI foam is a good shock mitigation material**



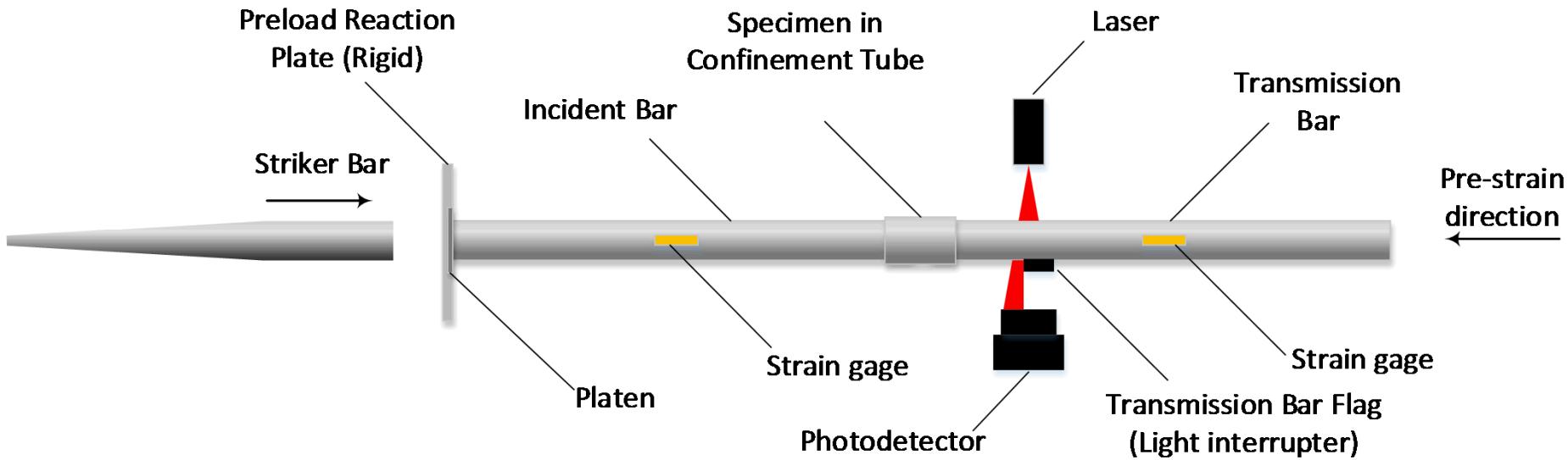
Material and experimental plan

- Open Cell Silicone foam
- **Density:** $608 \pm 21.85 \text{ kg/m}^3$
- **Diameter:** $25.37 \pm 0.08 \text{ mm}$ to match bars
- **Thickness:** $5.33 \pm 0.006 \text{ mm}$
- Average cell size: $\sim 0.5 \text{ mm}$
- Pre-strains
 - 0% (non-strained)
 - 13%
 - 23.3%
 - 33.5%



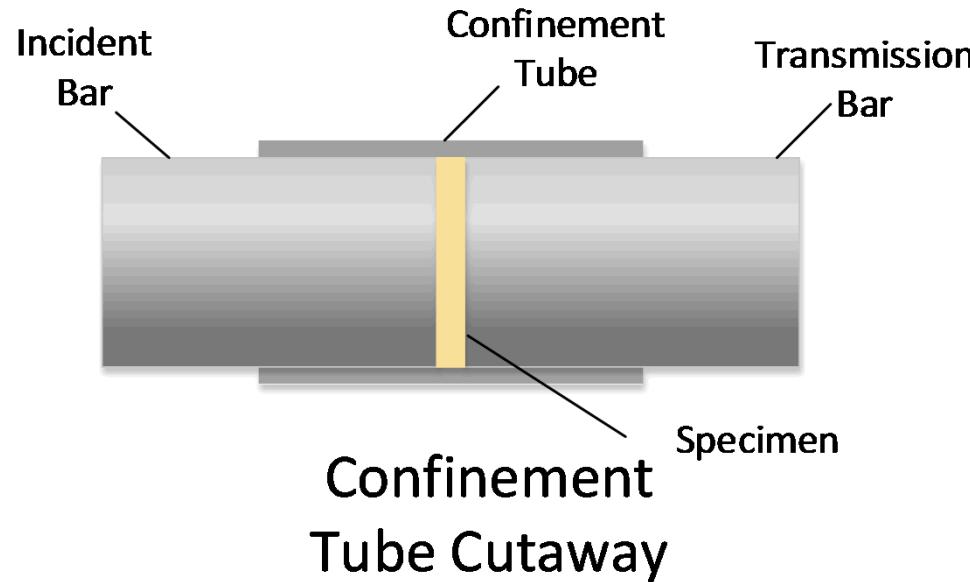
Kolsky Compression Bar with Pre-load Capability

- Kolsky compression bar with passive confinement tube
- Pre-strain is applied to the specimen via the transmission bar
- Laser is used to measure displacement during pre-straining



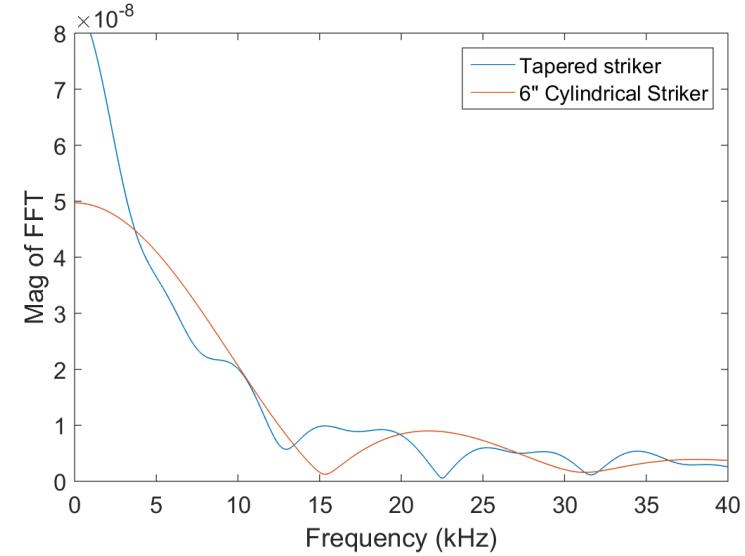
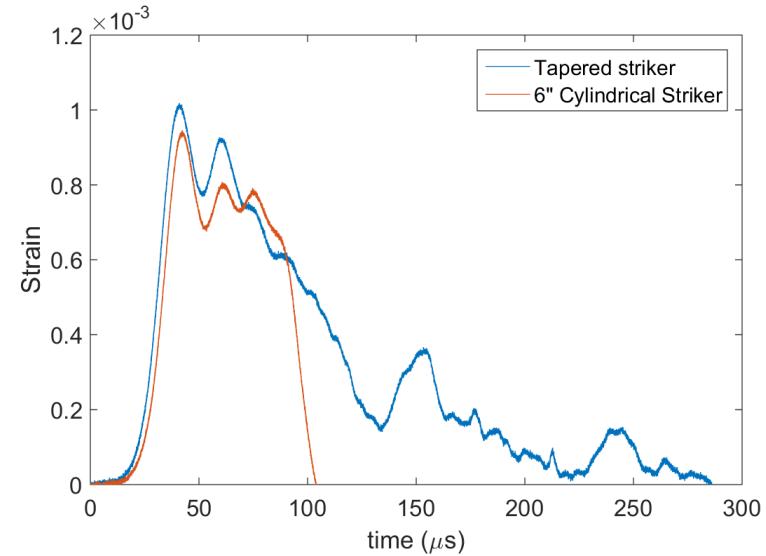
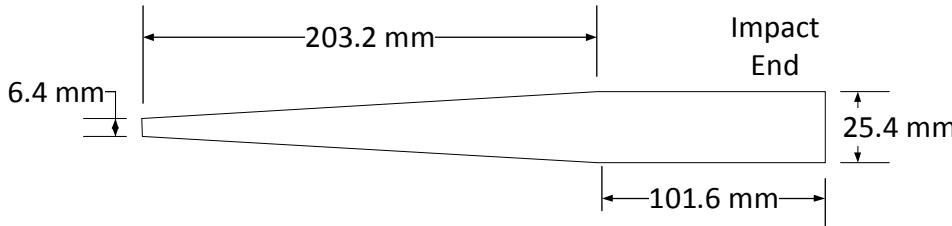
Confinement Tube

- Silicone foam specimen is held under passive confinement
- Tube material is 4340 steel
- Force generated during pre-strain at the highest level is ~ 50 N



Tapered Tungsten Striker

- Tapered striker was used to increase the range of frequency content
- Taper + impedance mismatch causes long unloading tail
- Increases the maximum frequency content from 15 to 23 kHz
- No pulse shaper or grease was used



Frequency Domain Energy Dissipation

- Time domain bar strain signals have the Fourier transform

$$\varepsilon(f) = B(f)e^{-j(2\pi f + \phi)}$$

- $B(f)$, f , and ϕ are the magnitude, frequency, and phase of the Fourier transform
- The energy spectrum density for each signal is

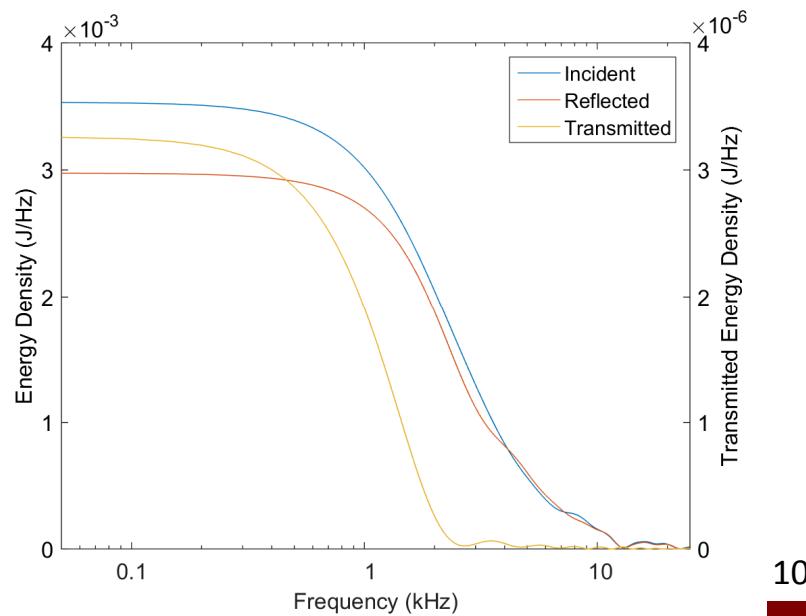
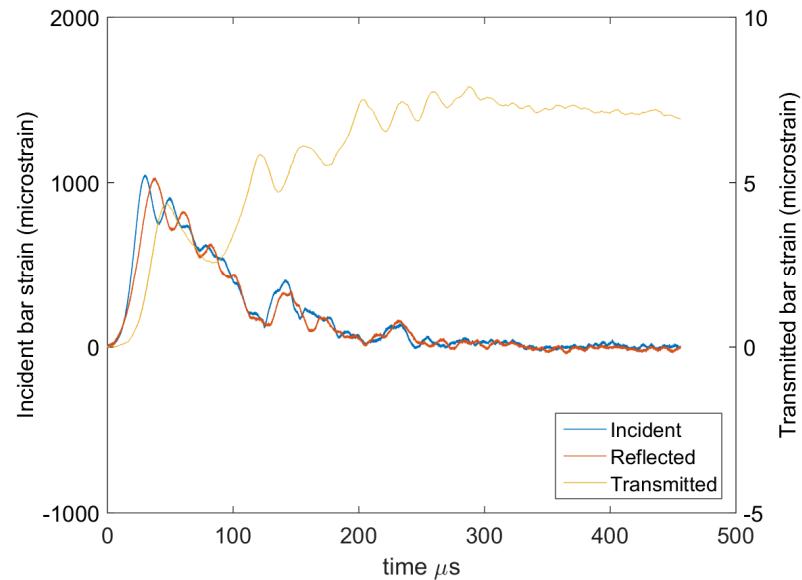
$$S_i(f) = A_0 C_0 E_0 |B_i(f)|^2 \quad S_r(f) = A_0 C_0 E_0 |B_r(f)|^2 \quad S_t(f) = A_0 C_0 E_0 |B_t(f)|^2$$

- Energy dissipation ratio as a function of frequency is

$$\delta(f) = 1 - \frac{|B_t(f)|^2}{|B_i(f)|^2 - |B_r(f)|^2}$$

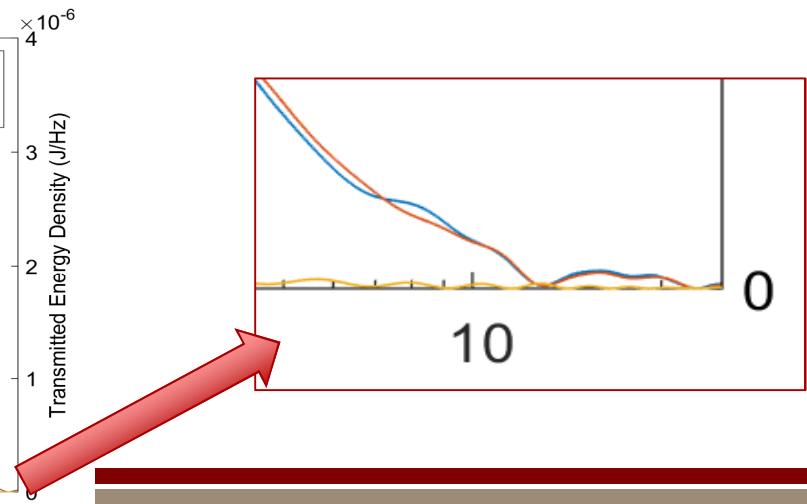
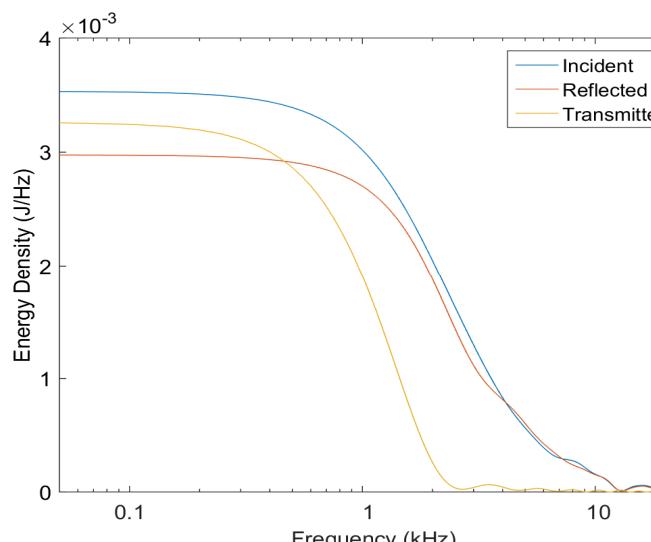
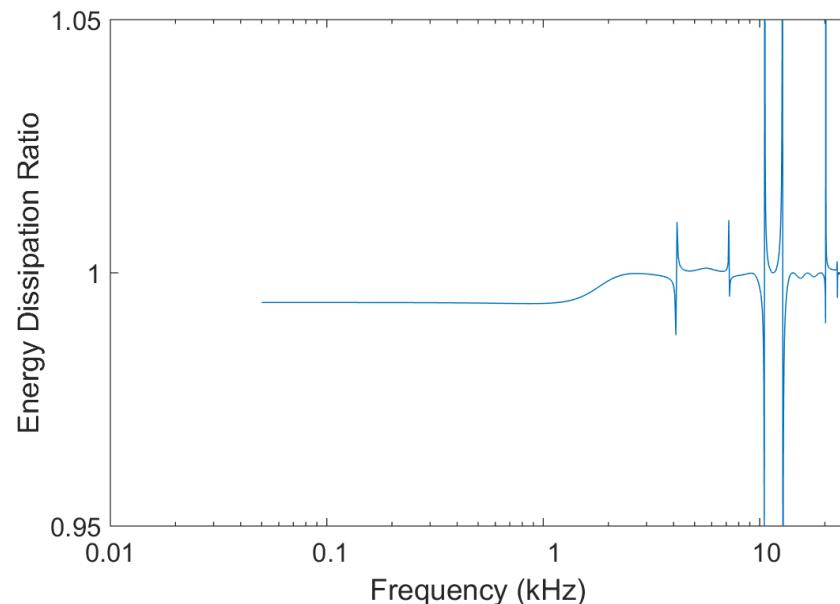
Experimental Results

- Time-domain strain histories
 - Strain history is taken out until pulse overlap occurs on the transmission bar
 - Trans pulse does not decrease because the foam is not stiff enough to push the bars back
- Frequency-domain energy behavior
 - Reflected energy is higher at 4-7 kHz => discontinuities in energy dissipation ratio
 - What causes this? Frequency shift?



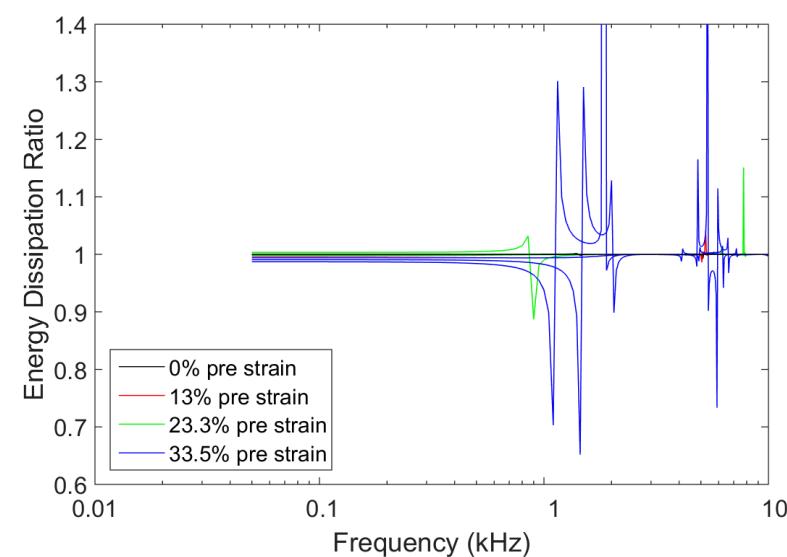
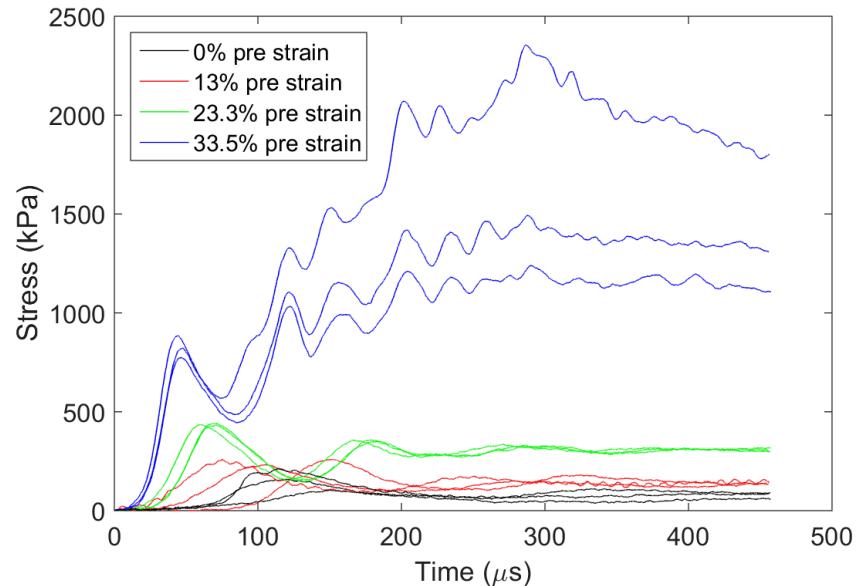
Energy Dissipation Ratio

- Energy Dissipation Ratio
 - Silicone Foam sample pre-strained to 33.5%
 - Initial energy dissipation ratio was 0.995
 - Cutoff frequency of 2.65 kHz
 - After the cutoff frequency, energy dissipation stabilizes at nearly 1 (total dissipation)



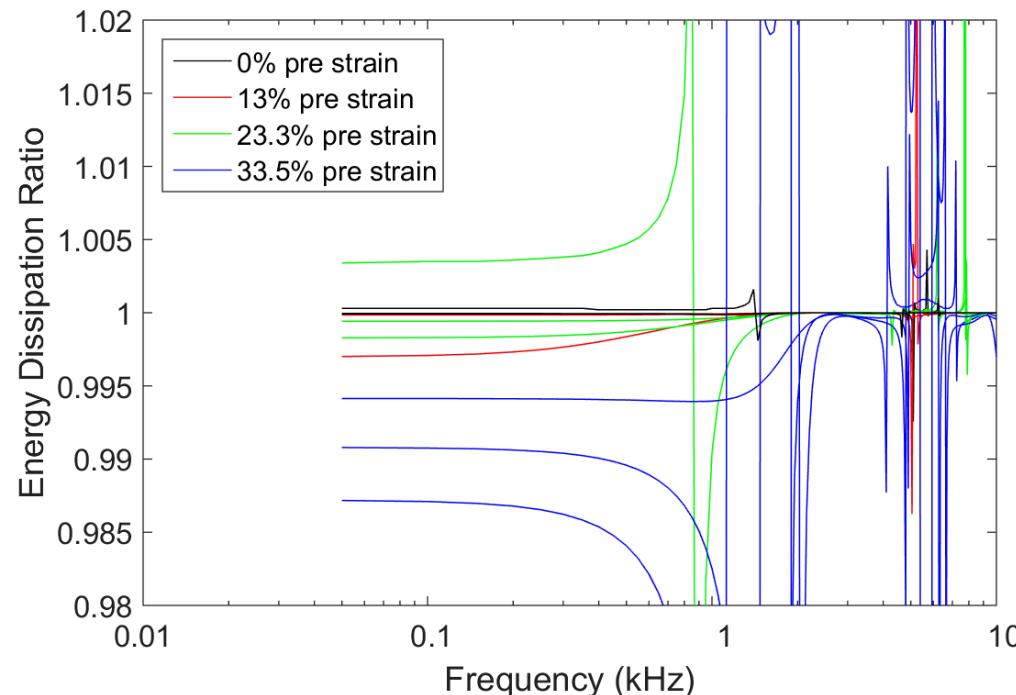
Different Pre-Strains

- Stress-time histories vary due to small differences in pre-strain and/or specimen geometry
- Energy dissipation ratio for all pre-strain levels are close to 1



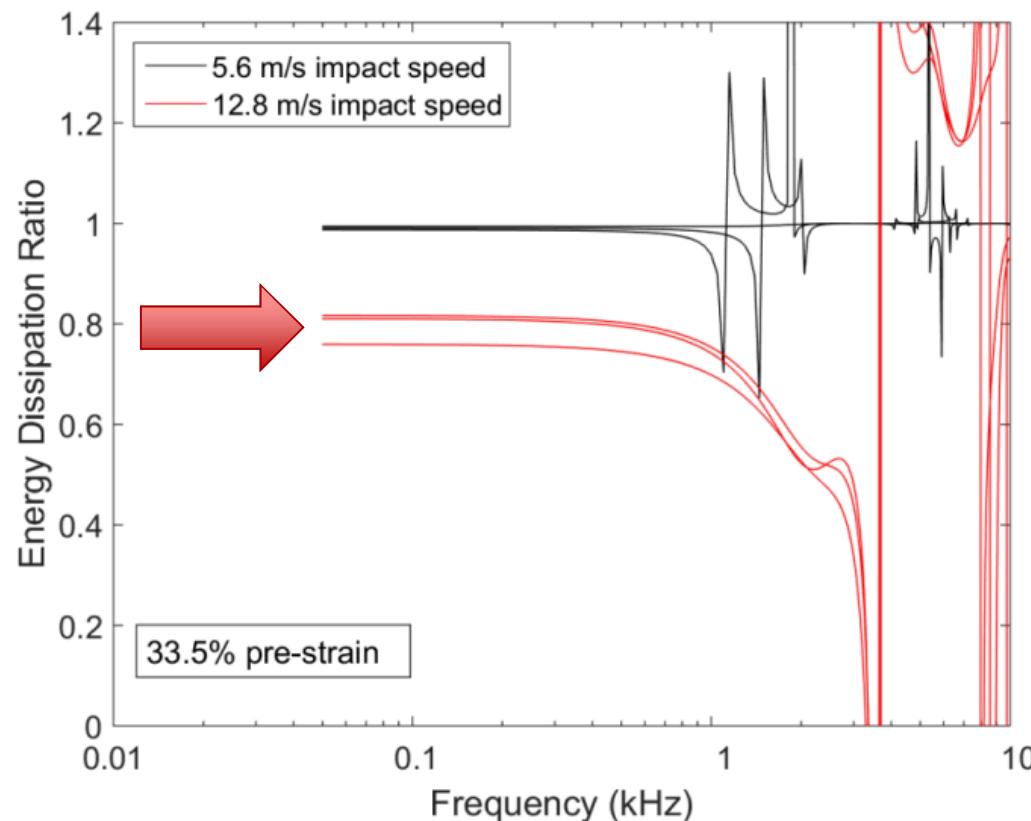
Energy Dissipation Ratio

- Zooming in, a dependency on pre-strain may exist
- With increasing pre-strain, energy dissipation ratio is lower
- Still, the lowest recorded dissipation ratio was 0.985
- Cutoff frequency may increase with increasing pre-strain, but it is difficult to tell



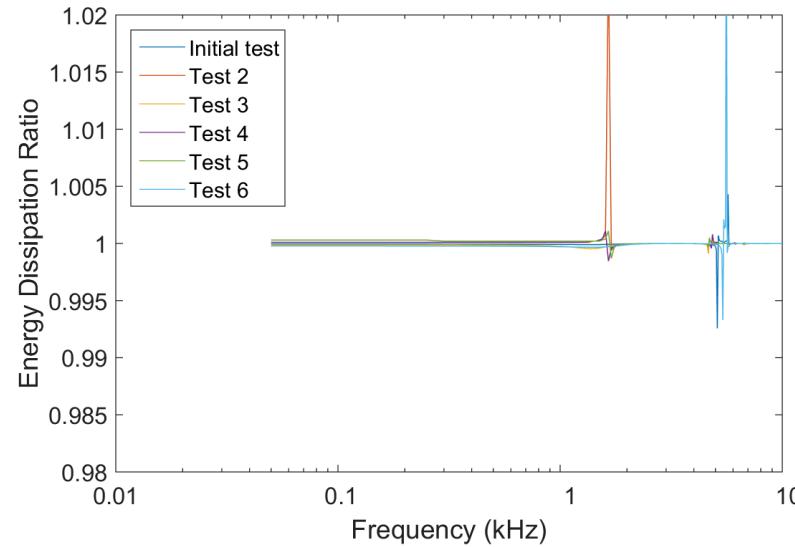
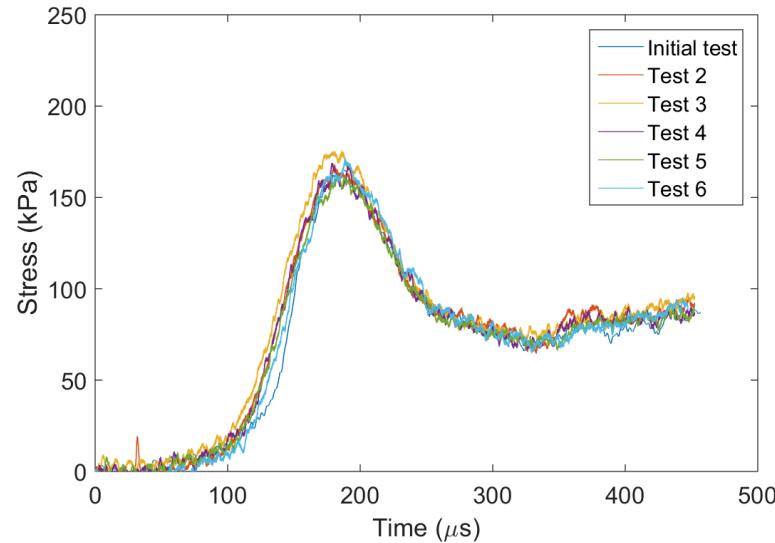
Higher Velocity

- If the rubber dissipates 100% of the energy at all pre-strains, what's the point?
- Silicone rubber might not isolate the same amount of energy at higher velocity



Energy Dissipation with Repeated Loading

- How does the foam behave when subjected to repeated loading?
- Same sample, 7 total loadings
- Stress history is repeatable
- Silicone foam dissipated nearly all of loading energy
 - Dissipation ratio of $1 \pm 0.05\%$



Conclusion

- Passive confinement Kolsky compression bar
- Silicone foam compressed at elevated strain rate, different pre-strains
- Frequency domain energy dissipation behavior
- Foam dissipated more than 98% of input energy at all pre-strains (low impact speed)
- Effect of pre-strain level on the energy dissipation is indicated, but more study is needed at higher pre-strains or velocities
 - There appears to be an effect at higher velocities at the same pre-strain
- Stress-time and energy dissipation in frequency domain were repeatable on a single sample loaded seven times