



Full-Scale Assembly 30 cm Drop Test



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Introduction

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- The 30 cm drop test was a follow-on to the 2017 US/Spanish/Korean Multi-Modal Transportation Test (MMTT): **8-month, 9,400-mile** transportation of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) test.
- The test purpose was to quantify the shocks and vibration environments during **heavy-haul, rail**, and **ship** transport.
- For the first time, strains and accelerations were measured on the surrogate assemblies within the **ENUN 32P** dual purpose rail cask.

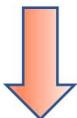
ENUN 32P Cask



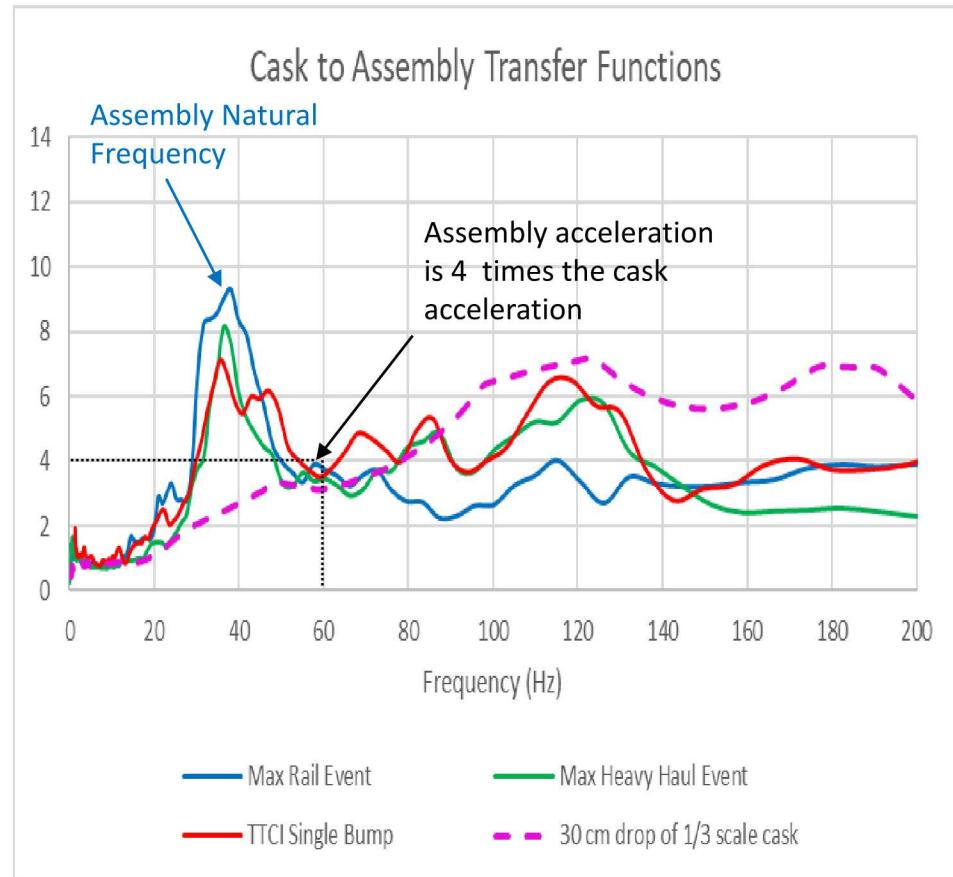
MMTT video is available on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGKtgrozrGM&feature=youtu.be>

MMTT data analysis report is available at: <https://www.osti.gov/biblio/1532526-data-analysis-ensa-doe-rail-cask-tests>

- ❑ The common assumption is that the cask content experiences the same accelerations as the cask itself.
- ❑ The data from the MMTT demonstrated that the accelerations were amplified from the cask to the surrogate assemblies during transport.
- ❑ The peaks at 40 Hz were due to assembly natural frequency.



What accelerations and strains will fuel rods experience inside the cask when dropped from a height of **30 cm**?



The transfer function is the relationship between accelerometers on the **cask** and on the **fuel assemblies**.

30 cm Drop Test: Purpose, Incentive, Goals, and Implementation



Purpose:

Measure accelerations and strains on a surrogate 17x17 PWR fuel assembly

Incentive

- The 30 cm drop is the NRC normal conditions of transportation (NCT) regulatory requirement ([10 CFR 71.71](#))
- There are no data on the actual surrogate fuel for the [30 cm](#) drop.
- Obtaining these data is not a direct requirement, but [it allows for](#):

- Completing the [NCT](#) mechanical testing environment

Goals

- Better understanding the potential implications of handling incidents
 - Quantifying the risk of fuel breakage under the [30 cm](#) drop conditions
 - Defining transfer function from the cask to the fuel for more severe impacts

Implementation

- ❖ Ideally, the 30 cm drop test would be conducted with the full-scale cask containing full-scale surrogate assemblies.
- ❖ The cost of a full-scale cask and impact limiters make this test impractical.
- ❖ The accelerations and strains on a full-scale surrogate fuel assembly will be obtained by implementing [3 consecutive steps](#).
- ❖ This presentation describes [Step 2](#).

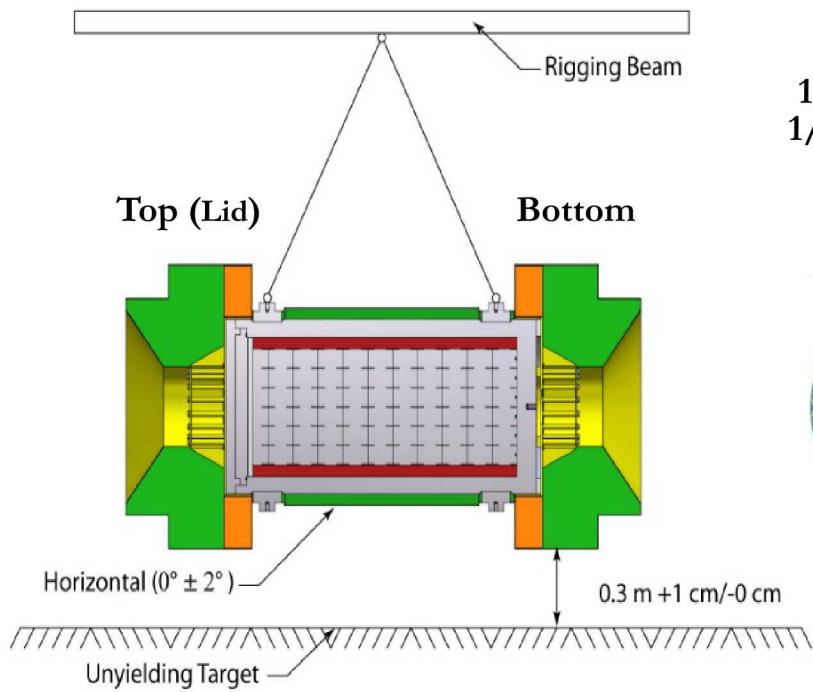
STEP I – 30 cm Drop of 1/3 Scale ENUN 32P Cask with Dummy Assemblies



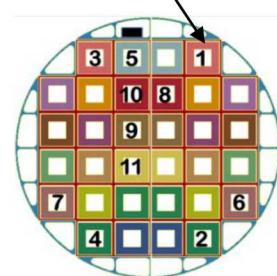
BAM Facility in Berlin (Germany), December 2018

Details in PATRAM-2019 paper by Kalinina et al.

Drop Test Setup



11 instrumented
1/3 scale dummy
assemblies



Dummy
assembly



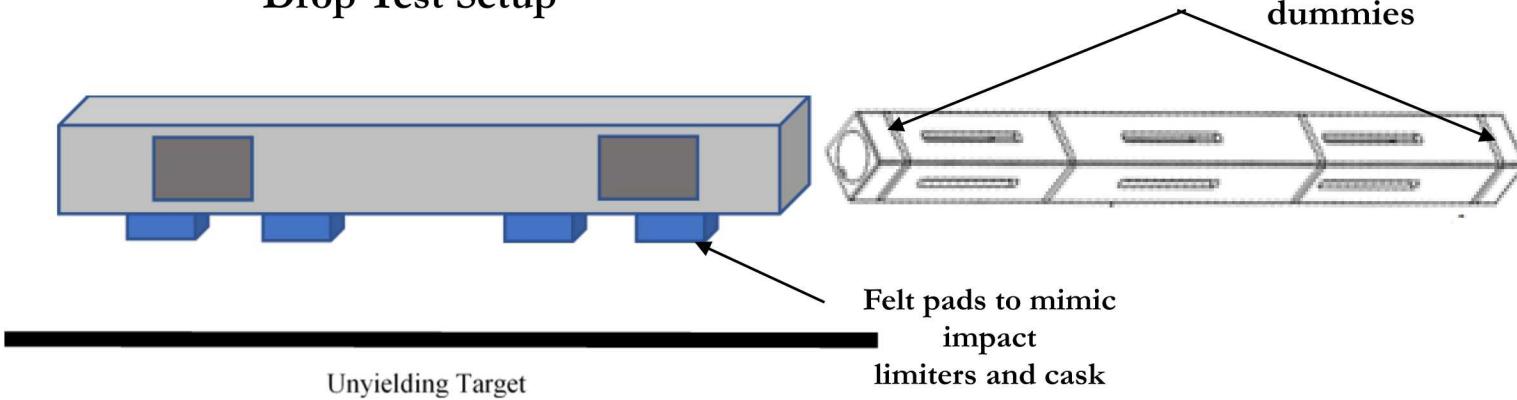
Obtain maximum
acceleration pulses
on 1/3 scale
dummy assemblies
(top and bottom)

STEP 2 – 30 cm Drop of the Full-Scale Dummy Assembly



SNL Facility in Albuquerque (NM), June 2019

Drop Test Setup



Full-Scale Basket Tube



Full-Scale Dummy Assembly

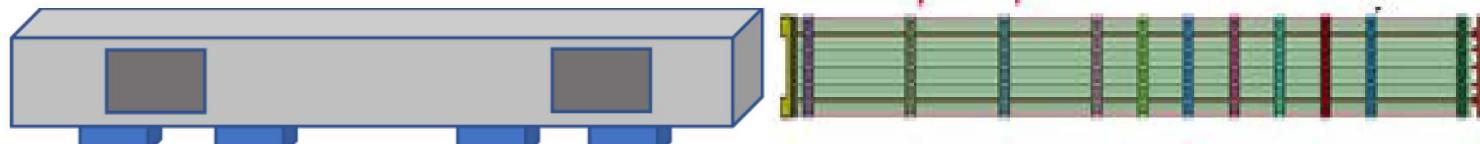


STEP 3 - 30 cm Drop of Full-Scale Surrogate Fuel Assemblies



To Be Conducted at SNL Facility in Albuquerque (NM) in Spring 2020

Drop Test Setup



Unyielding Target

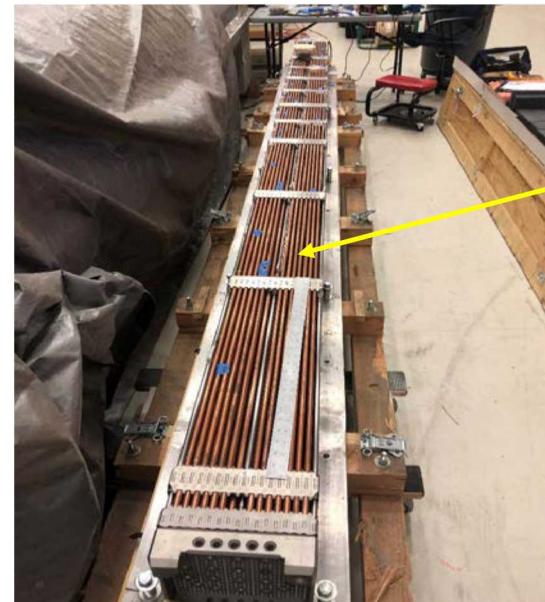
Same felt pads as
in Step 2

Obtain strain and accelerations
on the surrogate fuel rods at
multiple locations



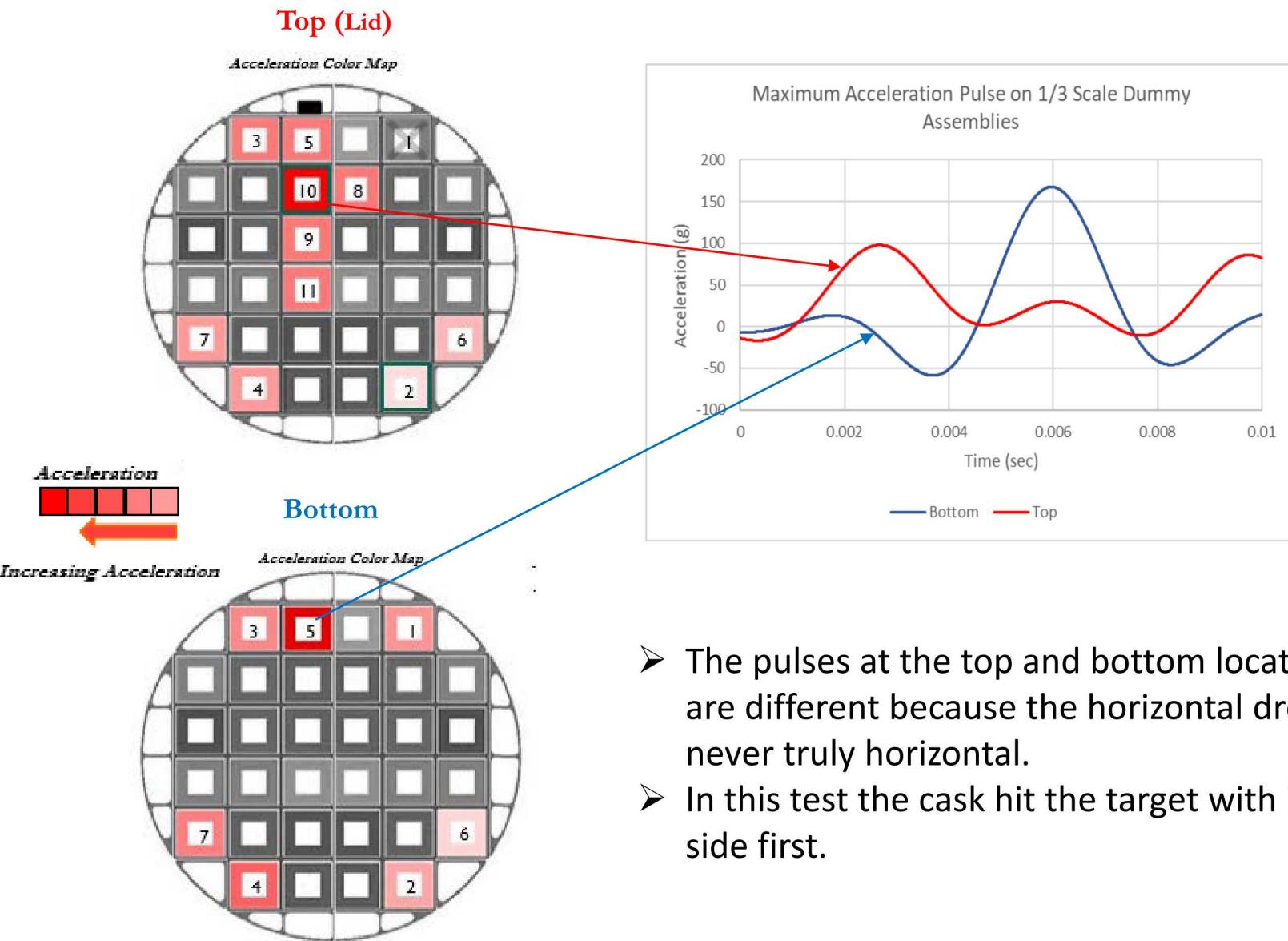
Will the fuel rods maintain their
integrity inside a cask when
dropped from a height of 30 cm?

Full-Scale Surrogate Assembly



Tubes filled with
non-radioactive
material

STEP I Maximum Acceleration Pulses on 1/3 Scale Dummy Assemblies in 30 cm Drop of 1/3 Scale Cask



- The pulses at the top and bottom locations are different because the horizontal drop is never truly horizontal.
- In this test the cask hit the target with its lid side first.

STEP 2: Full-Scale Dummy Assembly 30 cm Drop Test



The drop tests were conducted at the SNL drop tower in Albuquerque (NM) in June, 2019.

Goal: recreate a full-scale acceleration pulses on the dummy assembly that corresponds to the measured pulses on the 1/3-scale dummies ([from STEP 1](#)).

Hardware and Materials

- ❑ PNNL/SNL designed and ENSA manufactured a full-scale dummy assembly.
- ❑ The dummy assembly was dropped within an actual basket tube from the ENUN-32P cask.
- ❑ Felt programming material was used to create tailored shock inputs.

Procedure

- Multiple tests were performed to get the desired acceleration pulse.
- After each test the pulse amplitude, duration, and shape were examined and the felt programming material was adjusted.



SNL Drop Tower Facility

Preparation for The Drop Test and Handling



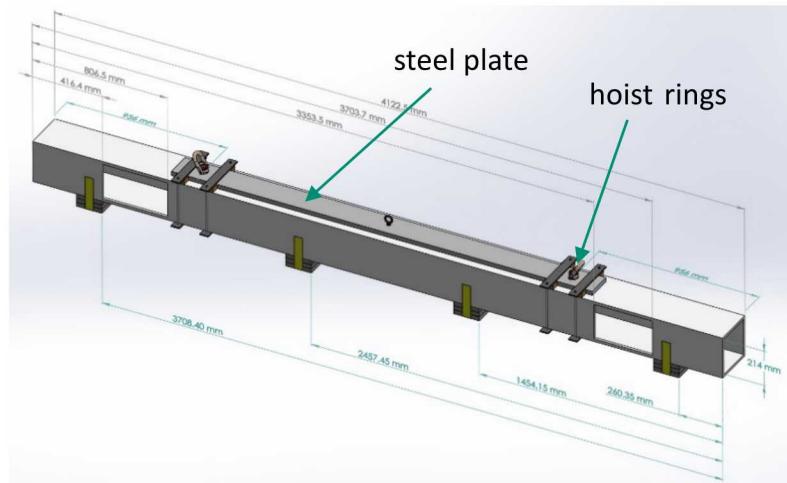
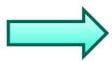
Inserting Dummy Assembly in the Basket Tube



Bringing the Test Unit to the Test Facility



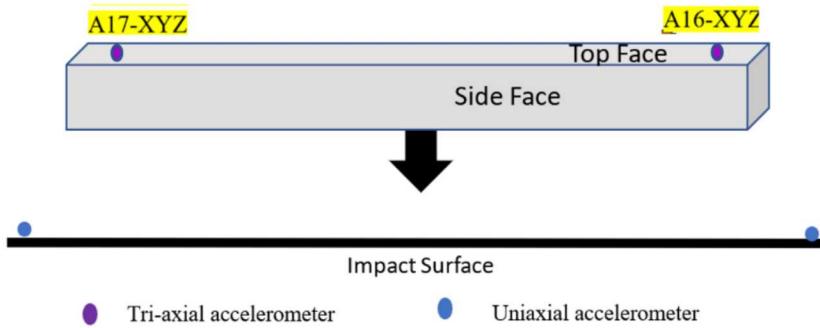
- To handle the basket tube, a steel plate was manufactured and attached to the basket tube by steel clamps.
- Two hoist rings were installed in the steel plate to allow for lifting and handling.



Instrumentation and Test Setup



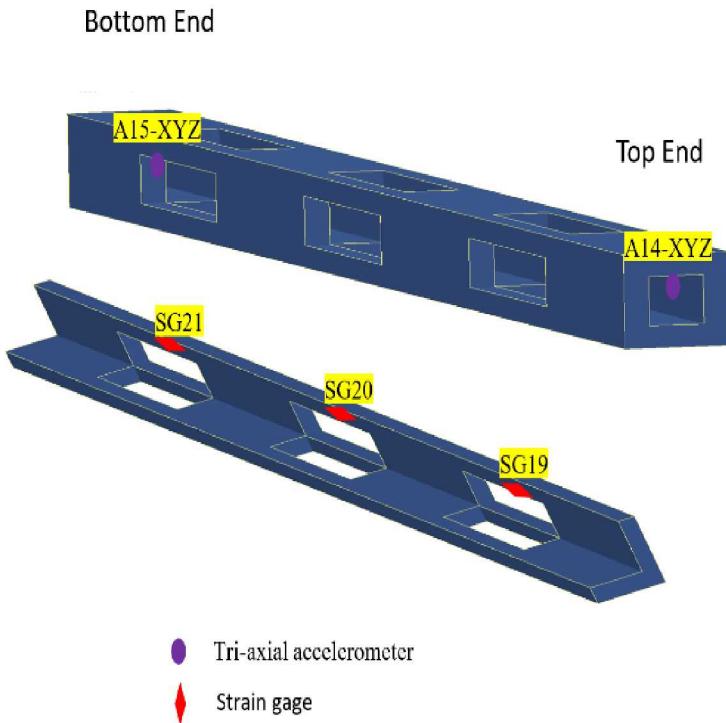
Full-scale basket tube and target surface instrumentation



Test Setup



Full-scale dummy assembly instrumentation.

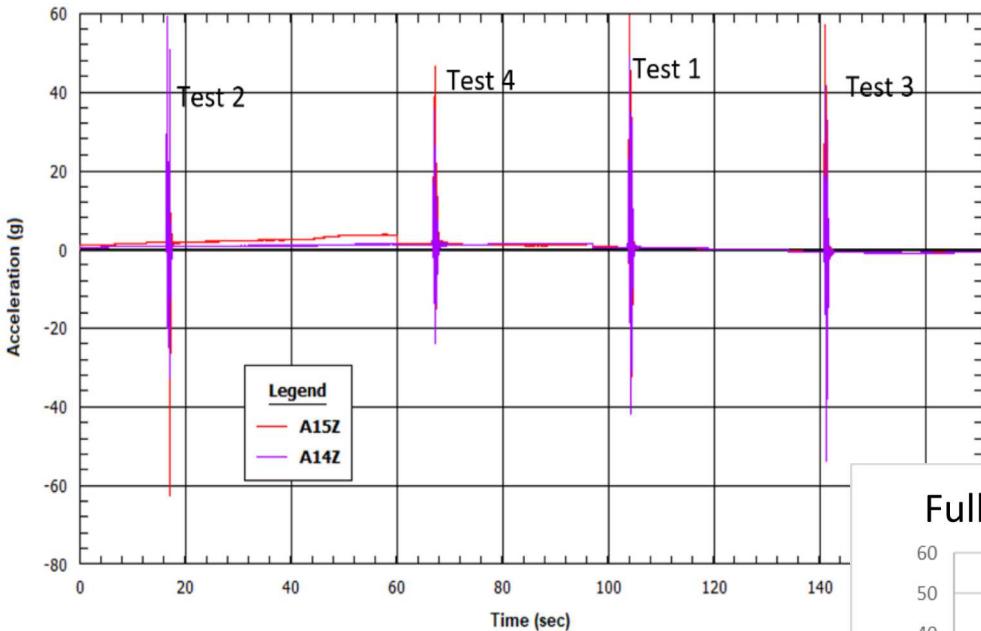


Results of the 30 cm Full-Scale Dummy Assembly Drop Tests

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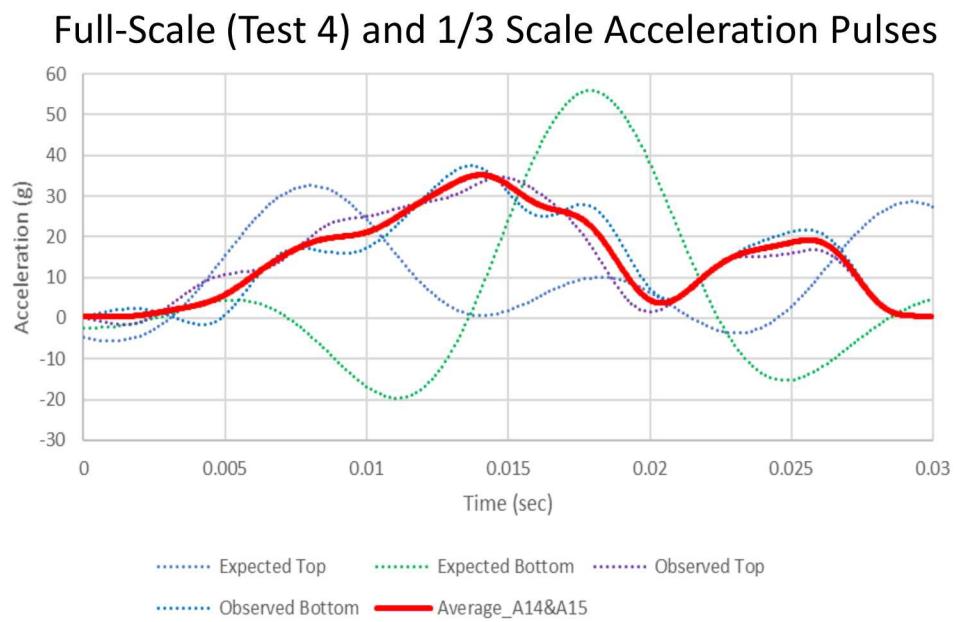
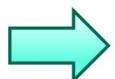
Acceleration Time Histories in Four Drop Tests



The full-scale acceleration pulses in **Test 4** showed good agreement with the 1/3 scale acceleration pulses

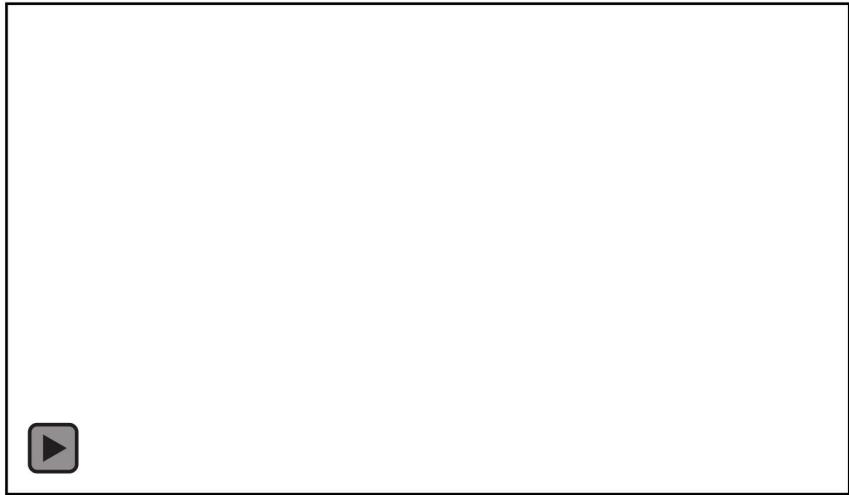


- The full-scale assembly drop was virtually horizontal and the accelerations on the top and bottom are very similar.

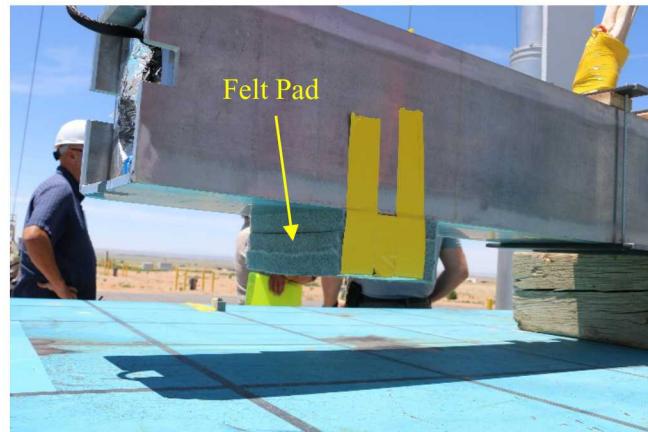


Conducting 30 cm Drop Test 4

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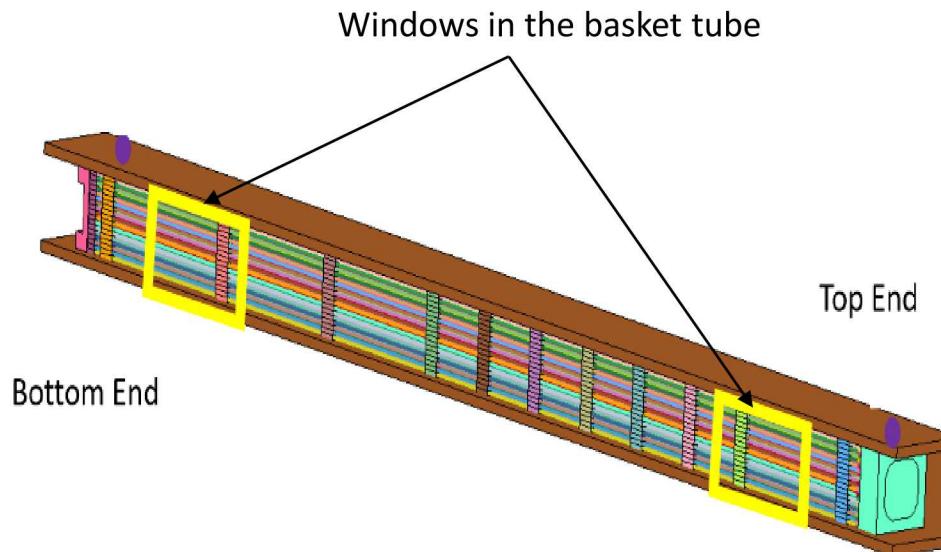
Felt pad configuration in Test 4



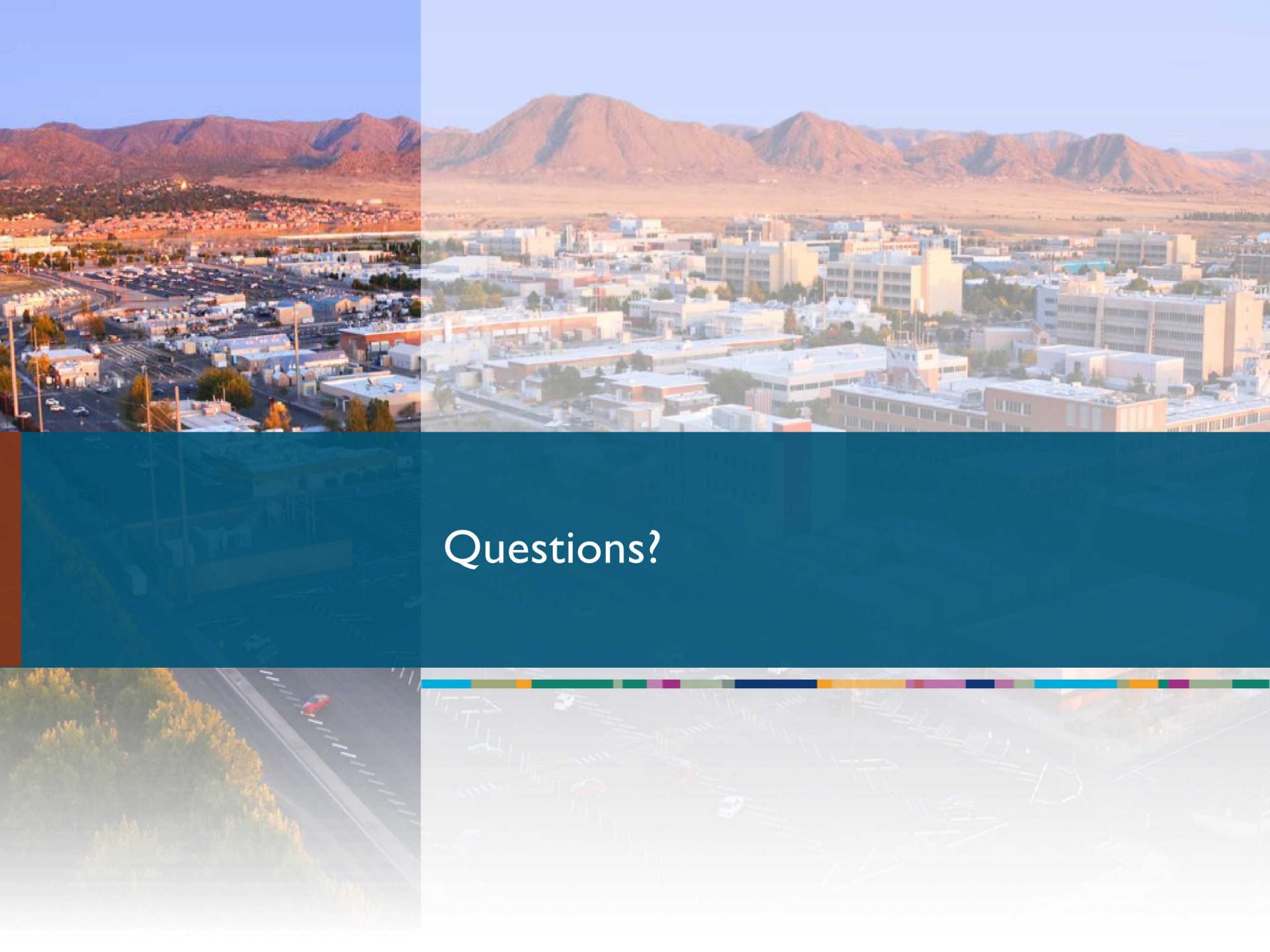
Conclusions



- The felt pad design in Test 4 adequately represents the effect of the cask and the impact limiters.
- This design will be used in **STEP 3** - the 30 cm drop of the full-scale surrogate assembly.
- The surrogate assembly will be instrumented with multiple accelerometers and strain gauges to obtain the data at the different locations on the rods.
- Two windows in the basket tube will allow for recording the behaviour of the fuel rods using high-speed video cameras.
- These data will help to determine whether or not the fuel rods can maintain their integrity inside a cask when dropped from a height of 30 cm



Full-Scale Surrogate Assembly in the Basket Tube



Questions?