

Names \_\_\_\_\_

### Objectives:

Construct and calibrate a strain gage-based force measurement system.

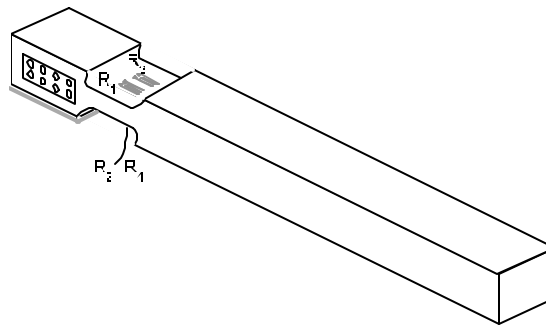
### Deliverables

Completed procedure.

### Procedure

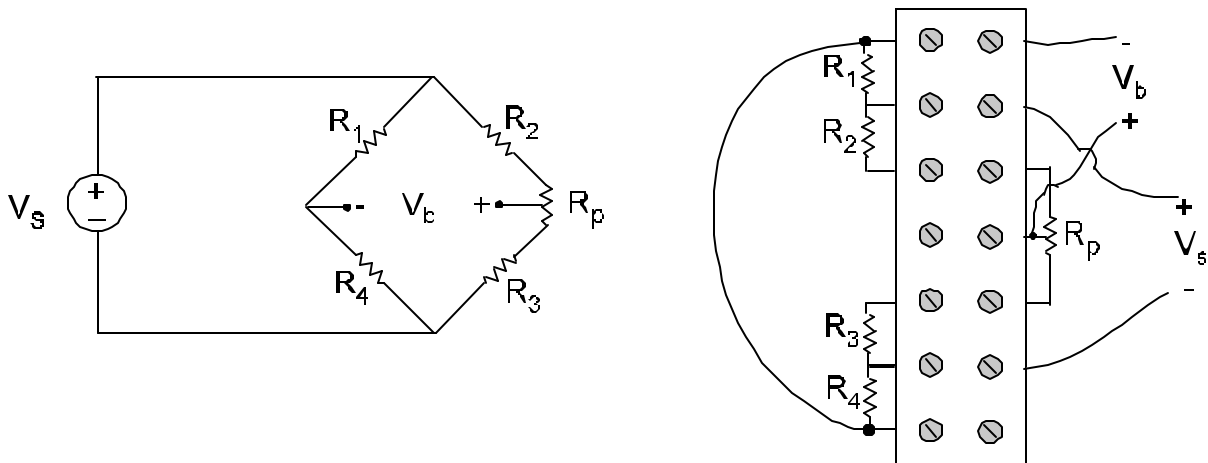
- Carefully clamp the cantilever load cell to table. As you do this ensure no wires are damaged and that the clamp does not touch any exposed metal of the electrical system.

CANTILEVER LOAD CELL



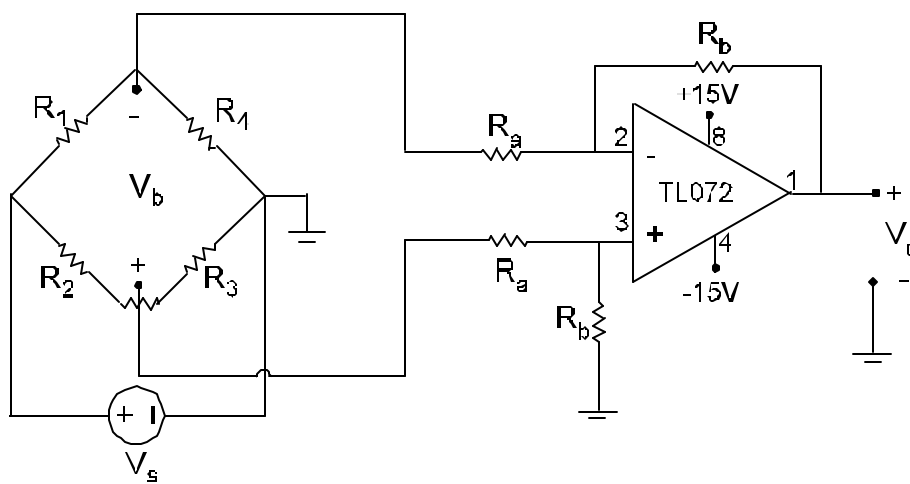
- Bring  $V_s = 6V$  (power supply should be off at this stage) to the four-active arm Wheatstone bridge.

WHEATSTONE BRIDGE



3. Turn 6V supply on. Null the bridge (adjust the potentiometer so that  $V_b \cong 0V$ ).
4. Turn 6V supply off.
5. Connect  $V_b$  to differential amplifier (gain  $\cong 10$  with  $R_a = 10\text{ k}\Omega$  and  $R_b = 100\text{ k}\Omega$ )  
As always, turn power supplies OFF when connecting circuit.

## ELECTRICAL CIRCUIT



6. Enable circuit by turning on 6V and  $\pm 15V$  supplies. Null the bridge again (this time so that  $V_o \cong 0V$ ).
7. Calibrate system.

That is, determine the transfer characteristic between the input (the weight connected to the cantilever beam) and the output ( $V_o$ ).

Assuming the transfer characteristic is linear, two points are sufficient to calibrate the instrument.

One point is the origin (0,0)—the system has been nulled or zeroed.

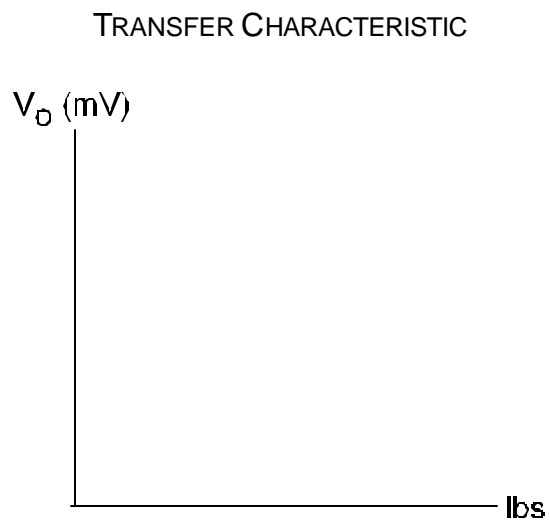
Using the properly nulled instrument as one point (0,0), obtain the transfer characteristic by attaching a weight  $\cong 4.5\text{lbs}$  (use two of the larger weights).

Connect the weights and attach them to the beam via the tapped screw hole on the underside of the beam.

$$W_{\text{cal}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$V_o = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

8. Show the transfer characteristic.



Equation of transfer characteristic \_\_\_\_\_

9. Measure  $V_o$  for three other weight combinations. Compare to prediction from transfer characteristic.

	$W_1 =$	$W_2 =$	$W_3 =$
calculated $V_b$			
measured $V_b$			
% difference			

10. Demonstrate instrument to the instructor.

**Instructor Initials** \_\_\_\_\_.