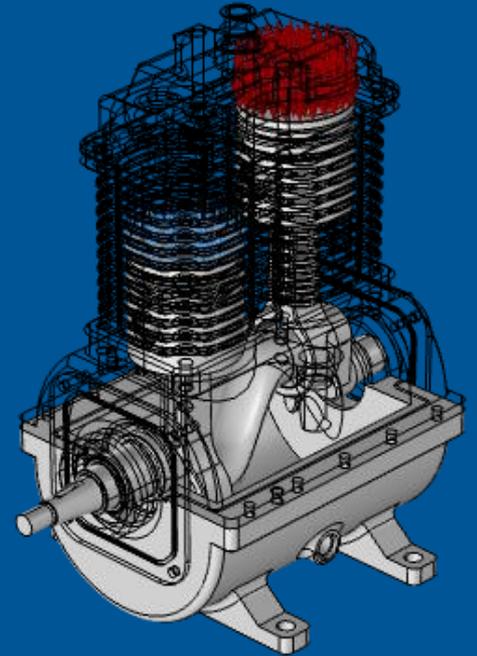


# Simulation of Air Compressor with Hydrodynamics Bearings

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# Agenda

- Typical Users and User Story in MBD
- Brief Introduction to Multibody Dynamics functionality
- Compressor Model
- Multiphysical Environment of Hydrodynamic Bearing
- Results

# Typical Users and Industries

## ▪ Users

- Interested in flexible MBD
- Interested in Multiphysics
- Existing COMSOL users
- Academics

## ▪ Industries

- Automobile
- Power Transmission
- Manufacturing and Instrumentation
- Machinery and Robotics
- Universities

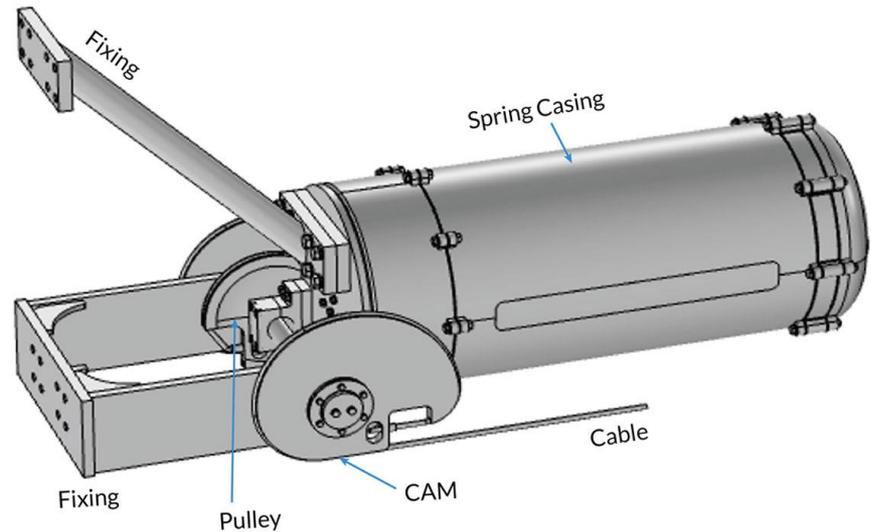
## RAYCHEM RPG

# Optimizing Railway Equipment Designs

- Two expected changes to the Indian railway network by 2030:
- Raychem used multiphysics simulation and topology optimization to design critical components for railway overhead equipment (OHE)
- Autotensioning devices (ATD)
- Modular cantilevers (MC)

[“Improving Overhead Equipment Devices for a New Era of Railway Transportation”](#)

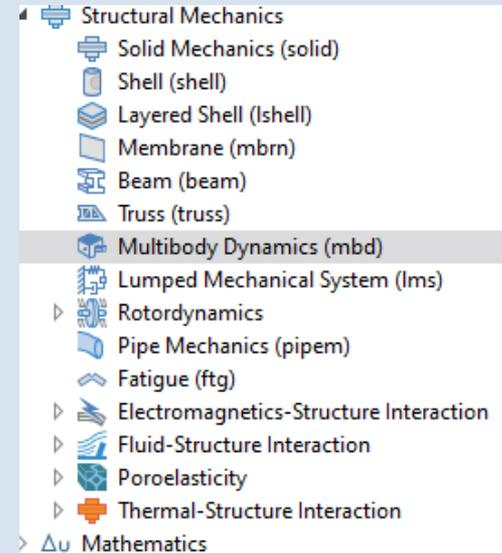
COMSOL News 2020: Ishant Jain, Raychem RPG, India



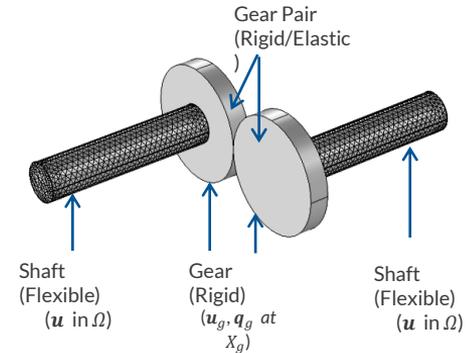
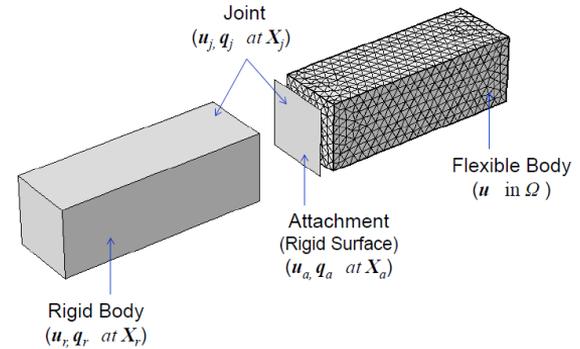
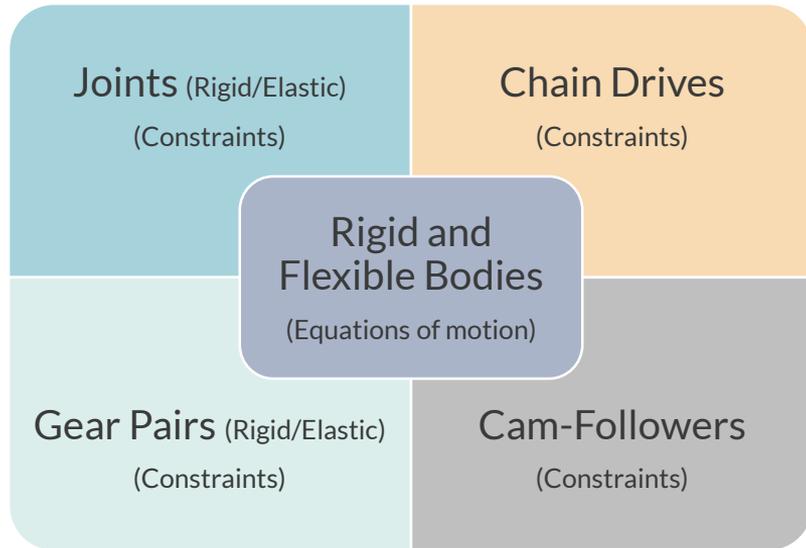
Autotensioning devices (ATD)

# Multibody Dynamics Interface

- Available under Structural Mechanics
- Supported space dimensions:
  - 3D, 2D
- Supported analysis types:
  - Stationary, Parametric
  - Time dependent
  - Eigen frequency, Frequency Domain
  - Response Spectrum, Random Vibration
- Supported element types:
  - Rigid
  - Flexible (solid, shell, composite, beam)



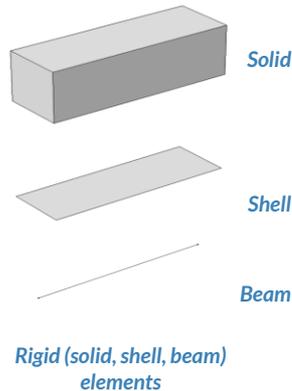
# Flexible Multibody System



# Rigid and Flexible Element

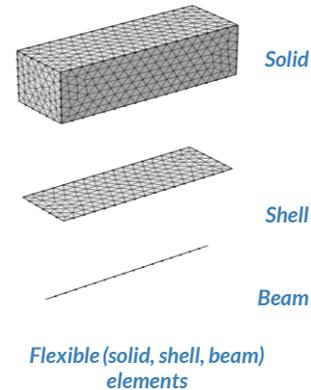
## Rigid Domain

- Defined through *ODE* shape functions
- A very *coarse* mesh can be used
- Possible to directly enter inertial properties



## Linear Elastic Material

- Defined through FE discretization and shape functions
- Isotropic or anisotropic



# Stress and Equation of Motion

## Common Formulation

$$M\ddot{\bar{q}} - A^T \bar{F}_A(\bar{q}, \dot{\bar{q}}) + \bar{\Phi}_{\bar{q}}^T \bar{\lambda} = \bar{0}$$

$$\bar{\Phi}(\bar{q}, t) = \bar{0}$$

$M$  - system mass matrix,

$\bar{q}$  - the vector of coordinates  $q_i$ ,

$A^T$  - transformation matrix projecting forces into coordinates  $q_i$ ,

$\bar{F}_A$  - the vector of action forces and gyroscopic components of inertial forces,

$\bar{\Phi}$  - the vector of constraint equations,

$\bar{\Phi}_{\bar{q}}^T$  is the gradient of constraints and

$\bar{\lambda}$  is the vector of Lagrange multipliers.

## Cmsol Formulation

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial t^2} = \nabla \cdot (FS)^T + \mathbf{F}_V, \quad F = I + \nabla \mathbf{u}$$

$\rho$  - true density of the deformed material

$\mathbf{F}_V$  - volumetric force

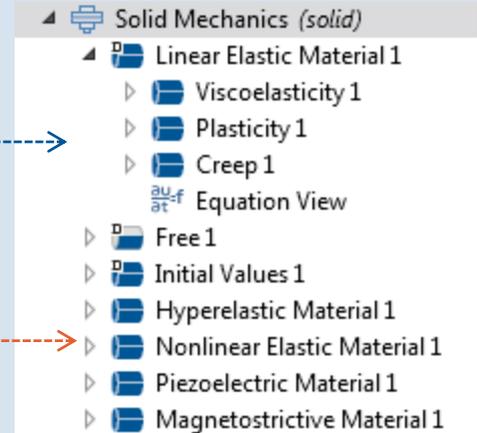
$S$  - second Piola - Kirchhoff stress tensor

$I$  - identity tensor

$\nabla \mathbf{u}$  - energetically conjugate deformation

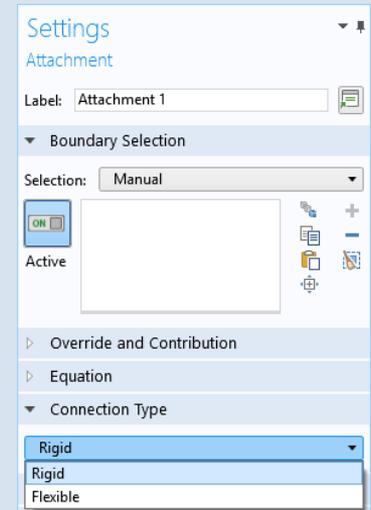
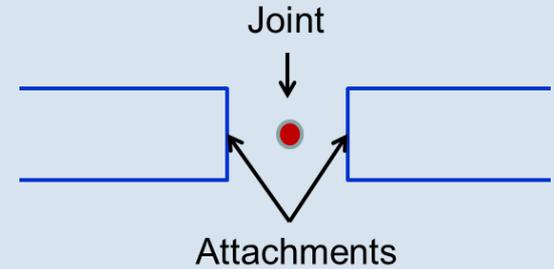
# Flexible Element: Nonlinear Materials

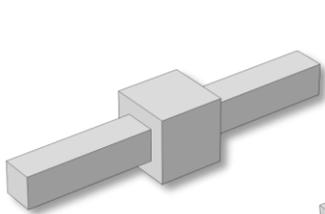
- *Linear Elastic Material*
  - Viscoelasticity
  - Plasticity
  - Creep
- *Hyperelastic Material*
- *Nonlinear Elastic Material*
- *Piezoelectric Material*
- *Magnetostrictive Material*
- Nonlinear materials are available through *Solid Mechanics* interface
- Nonlinear materials also require Nonlinear Structural Materials Module



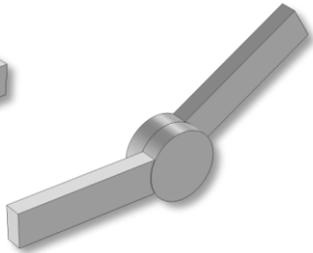
# Attachments

- Set of boundaries on a flexible body which is used to connect it with other bodies through joints, springs, dampers.
- Attachments can also be defined on a rigid body for an ease of modelling.
- Available in:
  - Multibody Dynamics interfaces
  - Solid Mechanics interfaces
  - Layered Shell interfaces
  - Shell interfaces
  - Beam interfaces

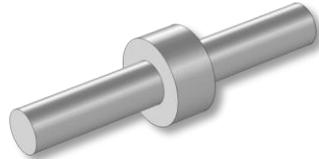




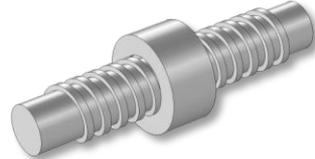
*Prismatic*



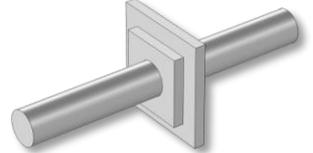
*Hinge*



*Cylindrical*



*Screw*



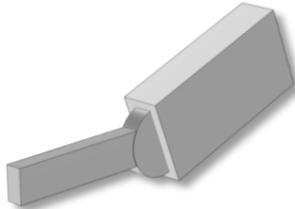
*Planar*



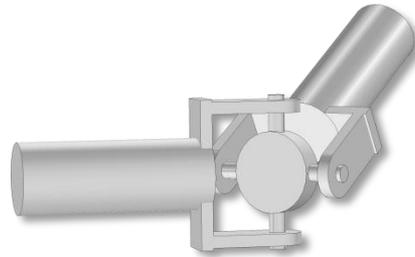
*Ball*



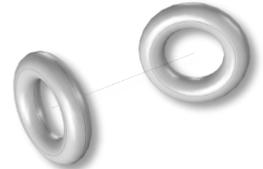
*Slot*



*Reduced Slot*



*Universal*



*Distance*

# Joint Elasticity

Joint elasticity can be utilized:

- To model bushings
- To customize joint types
- To relieve overconstraints in a rigid body system
- To conditionally deactivate joints during the simulation

▼ Joint Elasticity

Rigid joint ▼

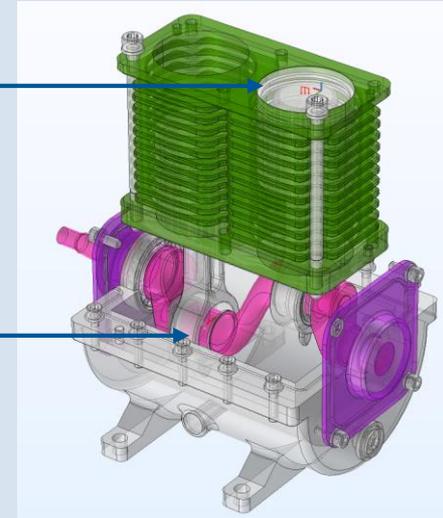
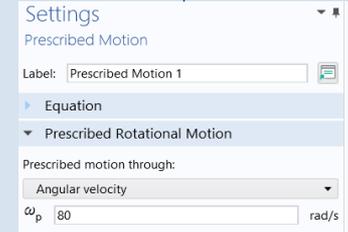
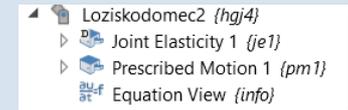
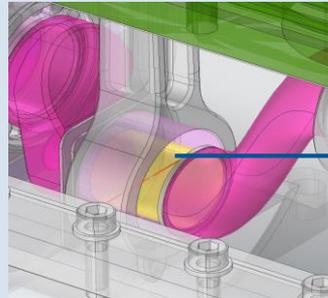
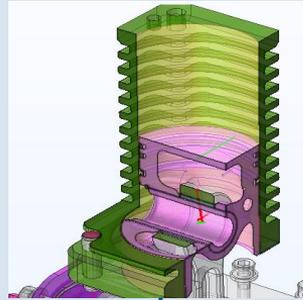
Rigid joint

Elastic joint

- ▲  Multibody Dynamics (*mbd*)
  - ▶  Linear Elastic Material 1
  - ▶  Free 1
  - ▶  Initial Values 1
  - ▲  Prismatic Joint 1
    - ▶  Joint Elasticity 1
    -  Equation View

# Joint Functionality

- **Constraints**
  - To limit the relative motion between the connected bodies
- **Locking**
  - To lock certain degrees of freedom at a joint
- **Spring and Damper**
  - To add spring and damper on the relative motion
- **Prescribed Motion**
  - To prescribe the relative motion as a function of time
- **Applied Force and Moment**
  - To apply forces and moments on the selected attachments
  - To apply forces or moments on the joint DOFs
- **Friction**
  - To add frictional losses on joints



From top to bottom, from left to right: Two parts, connected by a prismatic joint, Two parts, connected by a hinge joint, Joint functionality

# Radial Roller Bearing

- Six rolling element bearings
  - Single or double row
- Enables modelling of bearing-supported rotating bodies
- Includes a nonlinear representation of the contact stiffness between rolling elements and inner and outer races
- Roller bearings also require Rotordynamics Module.

Radial Roller Bearing 1 (rrb1)  
Equation View (info)

**Settings**  
Radial Roller Bearing

▼ Bearing Orientation

Bearing axis:  
x-axis

Local y direction:  
Automatic

▼ Geometric Properties

Bearing type:  
Cylindrical roller bearing

Single row

Number of rollers:  
 $N_r$  20

Roller diameter:  
 $d_r$  0 m

Effective length of roller:  
 $L_e$  0 m

Pitch diameter:  
 $d_p$  dp m

▼ Clearance and Preload

Radial clearance:  
 $c_r$  0 m

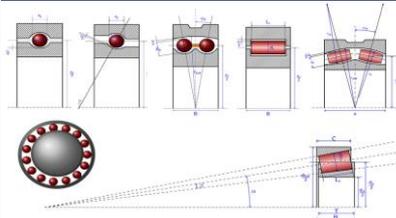
Preload  
 Include preload

▼ Material Properties

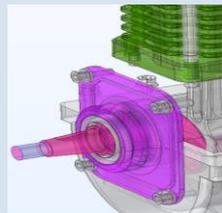
Young's modulus, inner race:  
 $E_{in}$  200[GPa] Pa

Poisson's ratio, inner race:  
 $\nu_{in}$  0.3

**Available Bearings**



**Applied Boundaries**



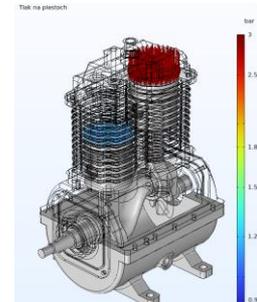
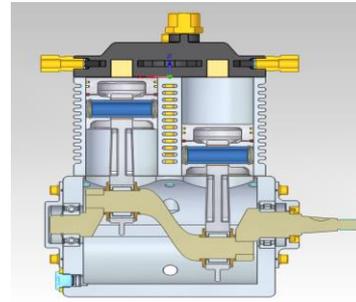
# Problem Description

## Adiabatic Air Compressor

- Pressure 3 bar
- Volume 150 cm<sup>3</sup> per piston
- Nonlinearities from:
  - Air compressing
  - HD bearing model
  - BC – friction contact wall/piston
  - Flexible joints with time dependent stiffness

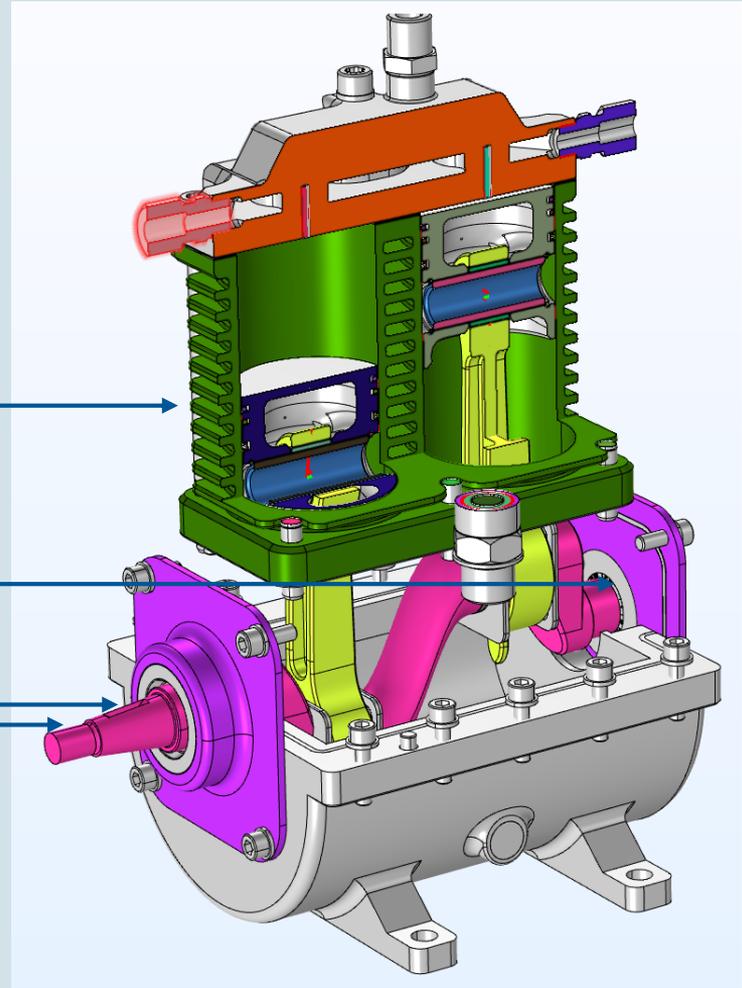
Left and middle: Air compressor CAD geometry

Right: Compressive forces in COMSOL Multiphysics



# Compressor Model

- Friction contacts (wall/piston)
- Flexible joints (connecting rod/crankshaft, bearing house/crankshaft)
- HD bearing (right side)
- All parts are rigid except elastic crankshaft
- Virtual model of radial ball bearing



# Equation of force

- Determined by thermodynamic equation for compressor

$$p \cdot V^{\kappa} = C$$

$p$  - pressure,

$V$  - volume of the air in the compressor,

$\kappa$  - Poisson constant - 1.4 for air

$C$  is constant which is given by design properties

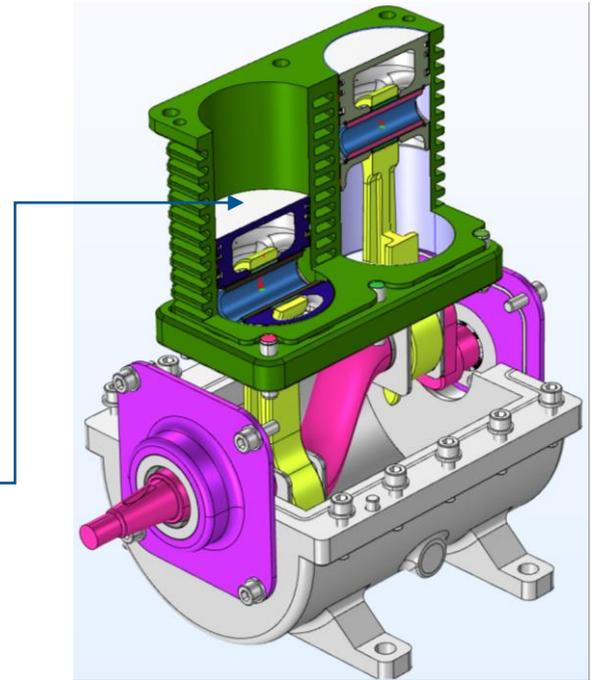
$$F = A \cdot C (Al - Ax)^{-\kappa}$$

$F$  - air force,

$A$  - area of the piston,

$l$  - working length of the piston

$x$  - actual position of the piston



*Forces acting on the upper piston area*

# New



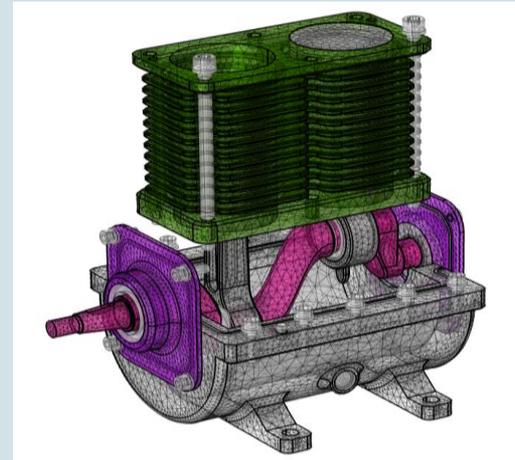
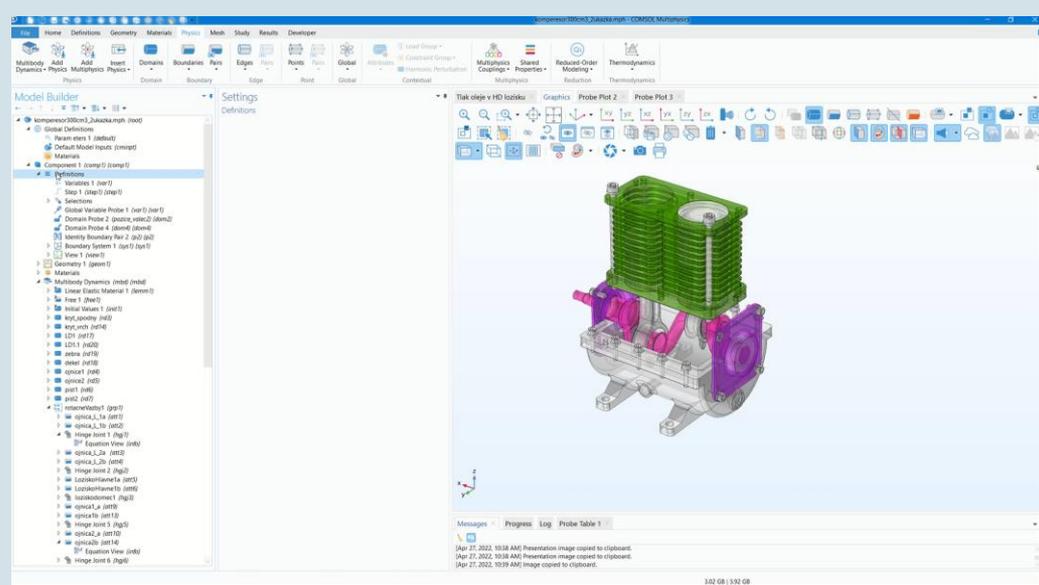
Model Wizard



Blank Model

# COMSOL Multiphysics

- Domain & Global Probe Definition
- MBD Domain Definition & Constrain
- Boundary Attachment
- Elastic Hinge Joint with Friction
- Time Dependent Stiffness of Joint
- Nonlinear Force Definition
- Meshing



# Multiphysical Environment of Hydrodynamic Bearings

The screenshot displays the COMSOL Multiphysics software interface for a hydrodynamic bearing simulation. The main window shows a 3D model of the bearing assembly, with various components highlighted in different colors (green, purple, pink, grey). The interface includes a top menu bar, a toolbar, a Model Builder tree on the left, a Settings panel in the middle, and a 3D view of the bearing assembly on the right.

**Model Builder:** The tree on the left shows the hierarchical structure of the model, including domains like *loziskodomec1*, *loziskodomec2*, and *loziskodomec3*, as well as physics interfaces like *Hydrodynamic Bearing*, *Hydrodynamic Journal Bearing*, and *Moving Foundation*.

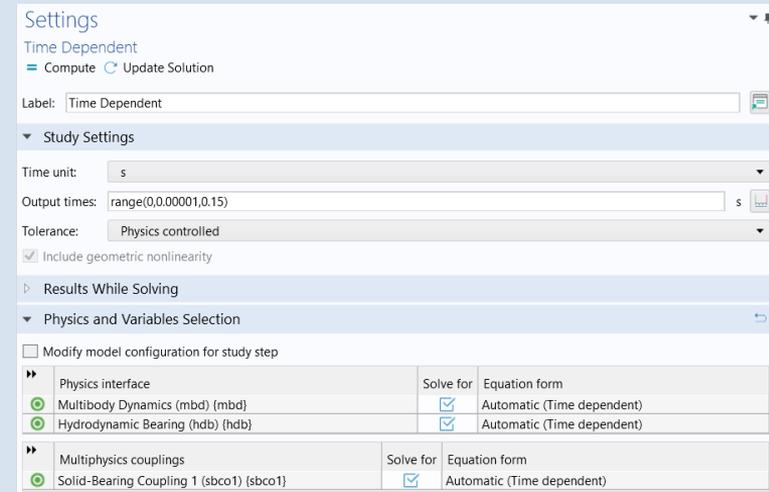
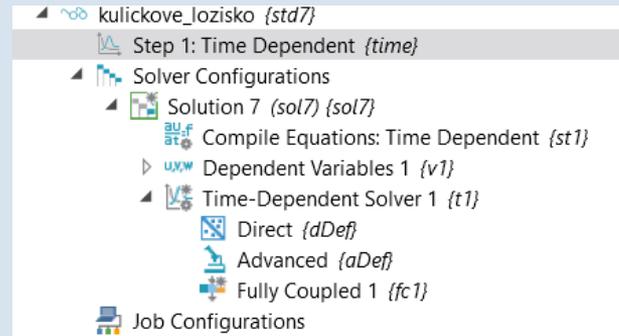
**Settings:** The central panel shows the configuration for the *Hydrodynamic Bearing* study. The *Equation type* is set to *Reynolds equation*. The *Dynamic Coefficients* section is expanded, showing options for *Calculate dynamic coefficients* and *Cavitation*. The *Reference Pressure* is set to *Prref [1[atm]]*.

**3D View:** The right side of the interface shows a 3D rendering of the bearing assembly. The assembly consists of a housing, a shaft, and a bearing with rollers. The fluid film is represented by a pinkish-red color. The *Probe Plot 2* and *Probe Plot 3* are visible in the top right corner.

**Messages:** The bottom status bar shows messages indicating that presentation images were copied to the clipboard on April 27, 2022.

# Study Settings

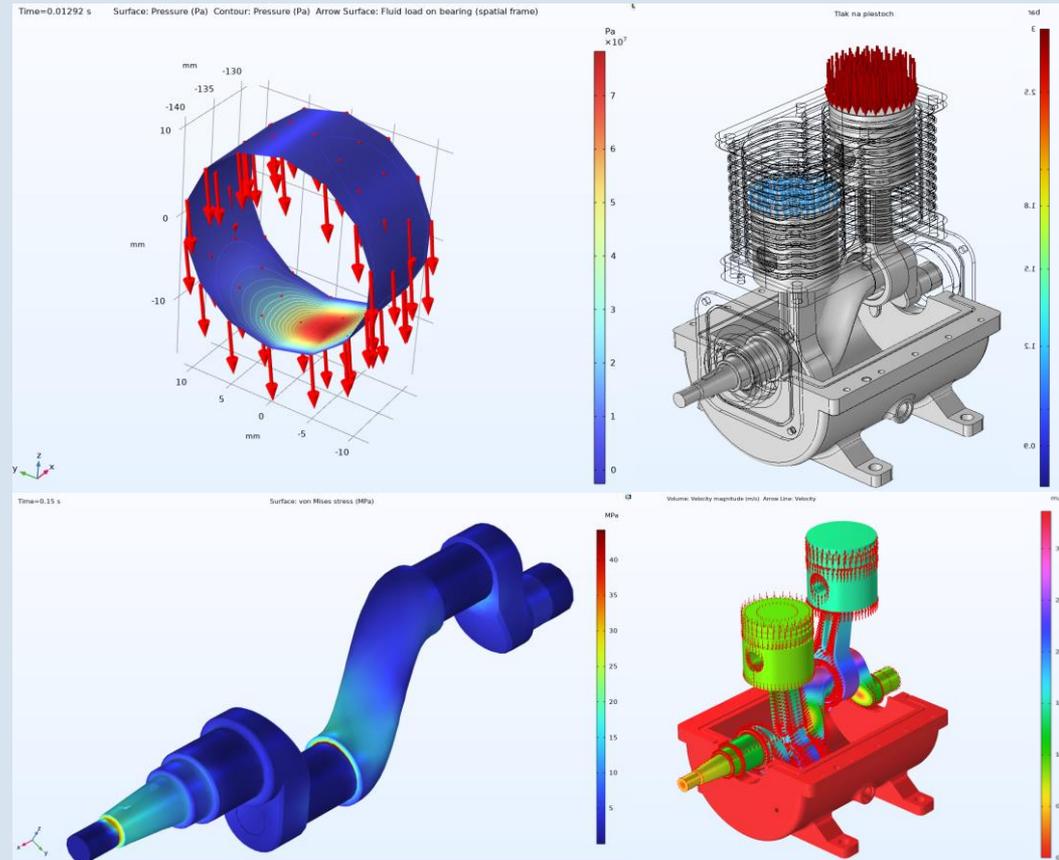
- Selection of proper study type
- Time range and time step
- Physics selection



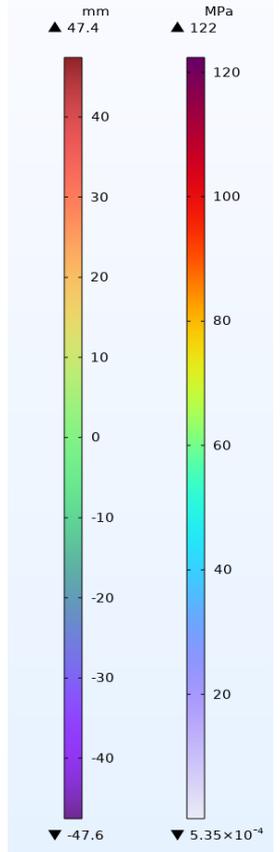
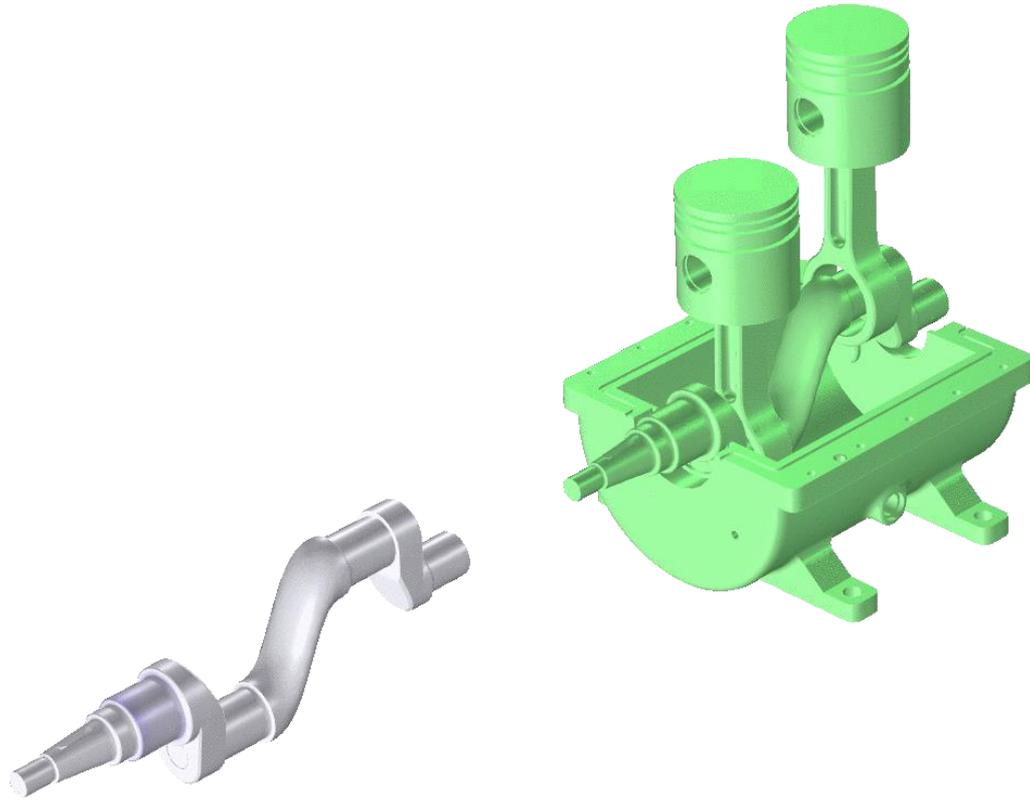
Left: time dependent study step, right: Multiphysics coupling activation

## 3D Results Sets

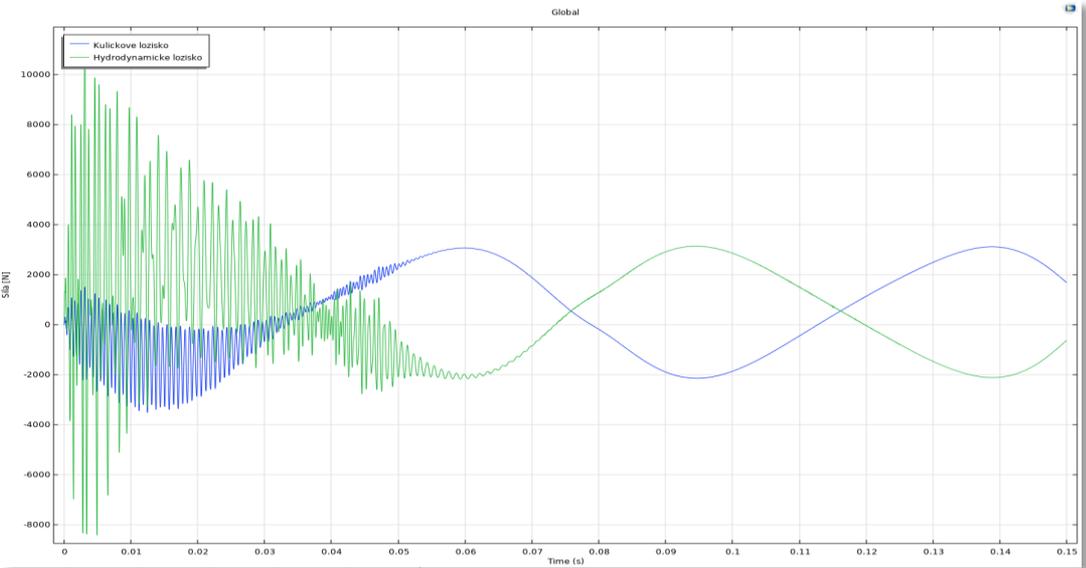
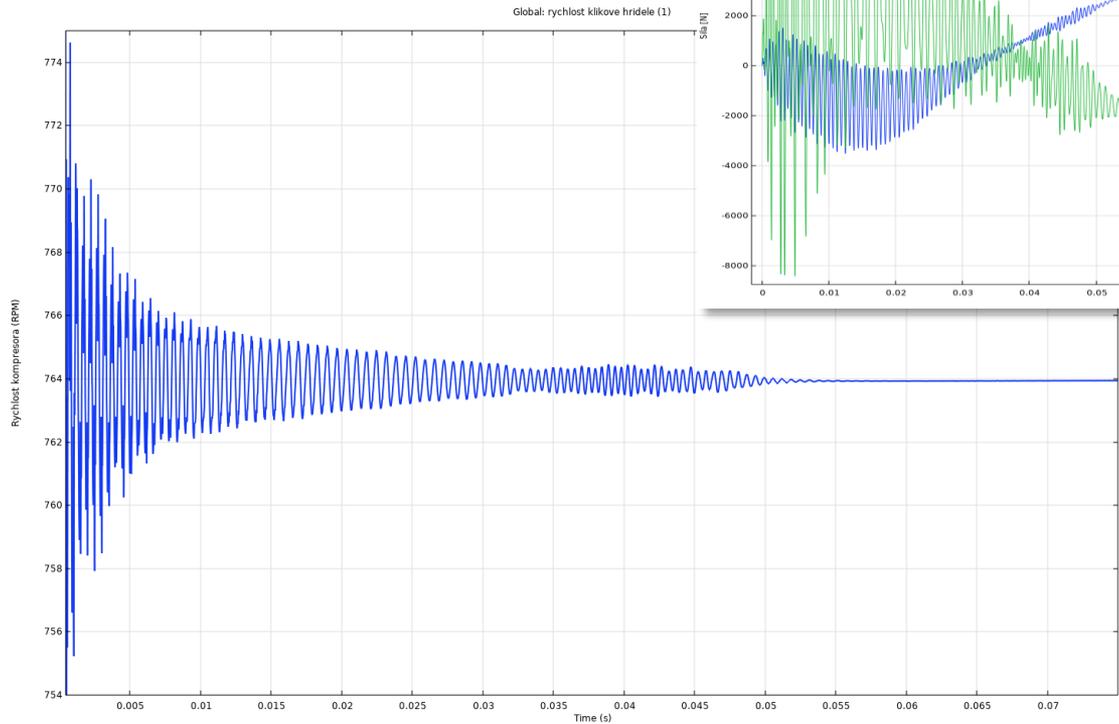
- Volume/Surface
- Vectors
- Contours
- Multiple Color Schemes



From left to right, top to bottom:  
HD Oil Pressure Distr., Air Pressure Distr., von Mises Stress and Velocity Magnitude Field



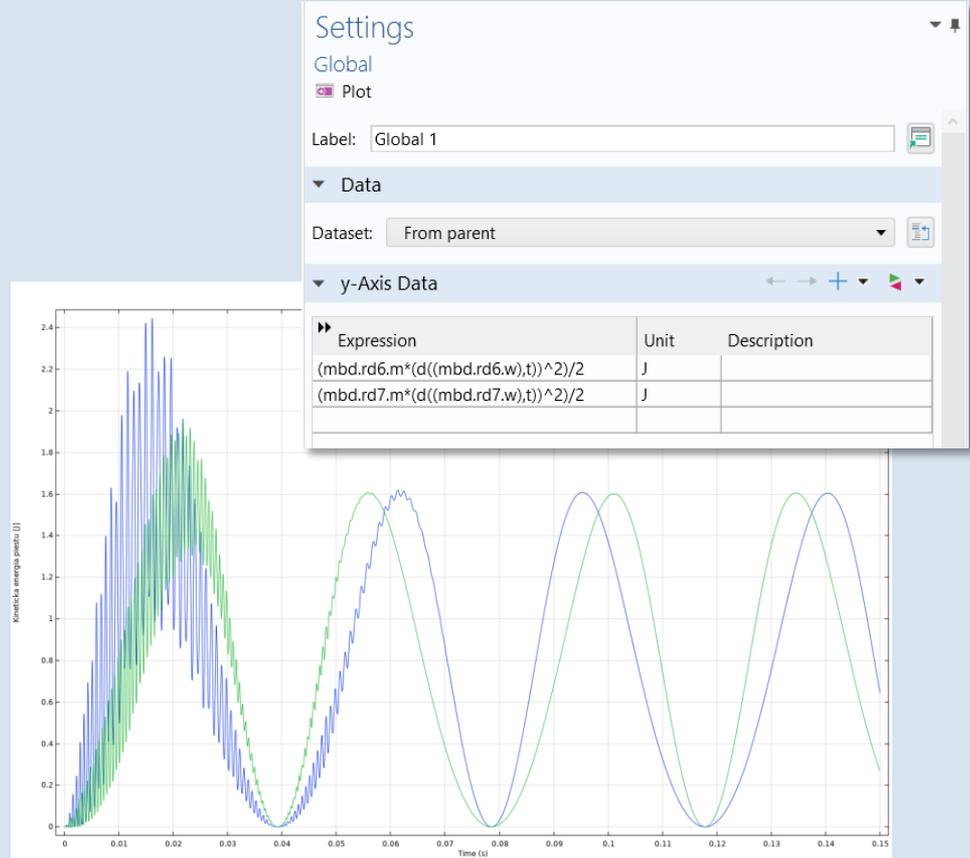
# 1D Results Plots



# Piston Kinetic Energy

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{w}^2$$

- Define your own expressions in results
- Absolutely Unit Control and Clarity



# As you try out COMSOL Multiphysics® ...

Ask any questions you may have or email  
[support@humusoft.cz](mailto:support@humusoft.cz)

Full support is included when you request your free trial.  
You also have access to tutorial models and other learning resources.

