



US 20160202130A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication**
Rowe

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2016/0202130 A1**

(43) **Pub. Date: Jul. 14, 2016**

(54) **REVERSIBLE FORCE MEASURING DEVICE**

Publication Classification

(71) Applicant: **Geoffrey K Rowe**, Winter Springs, FL (US)

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G01L 1/02 (2006.01)

G01G 5/04 (2006.01)

(72) Inventor: **Geoffrey K Rowe**, Winter Springs, FL (US)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC ... **G01L 1/02** (2013.01); **G01G 5/04** (2013.01)

(21) Appl. No.: **14/915,786**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(22) PCT Filed: **Aug. 26, 2014**

(86) PCT No.: **PCT/US14/52781**

§ 371 (c)(1),

(2) Date: **Mar. 1, 2016**

A reversible force measuring device that can comprise at least one cavity, at least one load receiving area, and at least one indicating material; wherein the indicating material moves in or out of the at least one cavity as its volume changes to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied loads. A reversible force measuring device that can comprise at least one cavity, at least one load receiving area, and at least one indicating material; a fastener causes the indicating material to move in and out of the at least one cavity to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied loads. A reversible force measuring device comprising at least two independent cavities, at least one load receiving area, and at least one indicating material; wherein the difference in volume changes indicates the force as the indicating material moves in or out of the at least two cavities.

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 14/019,185, filed on Sep. 5, 2013, now Pat. No. 8,833,181.

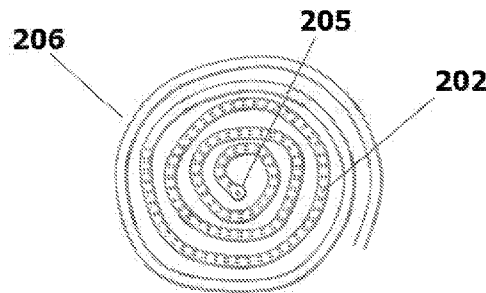
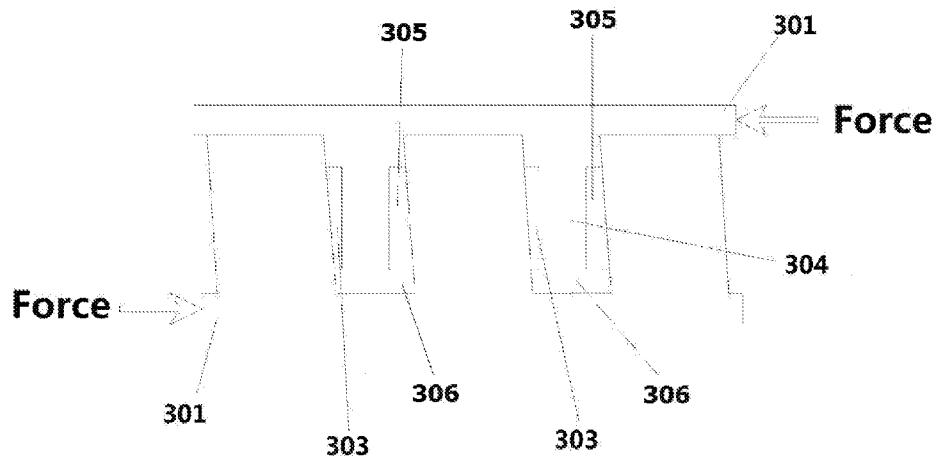


Figure 14



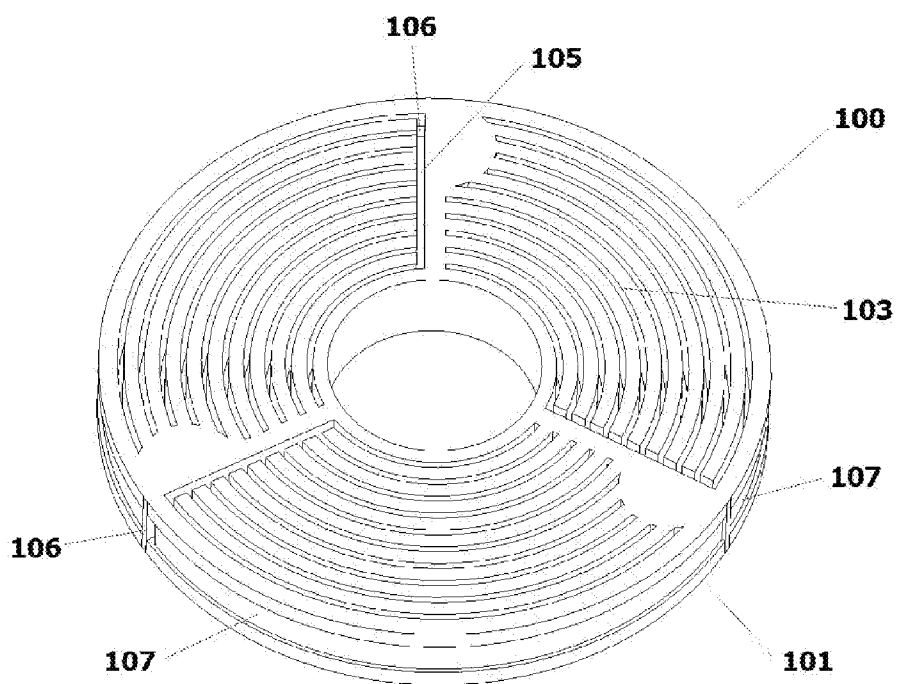


Figure 1

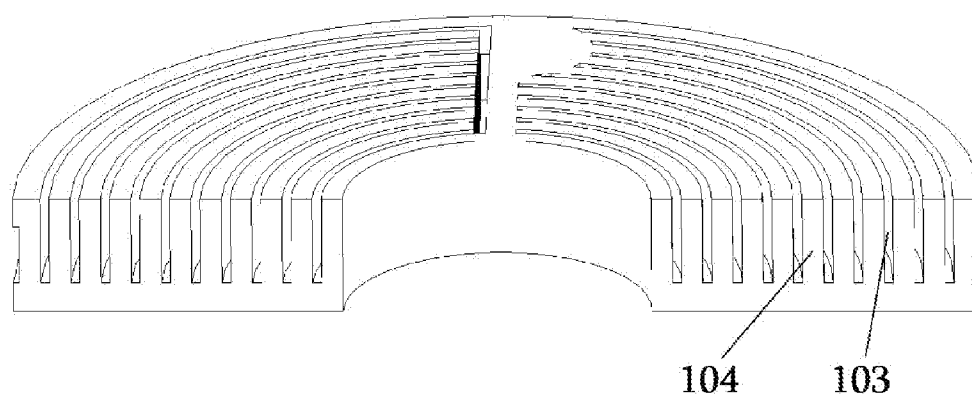


Figure 2

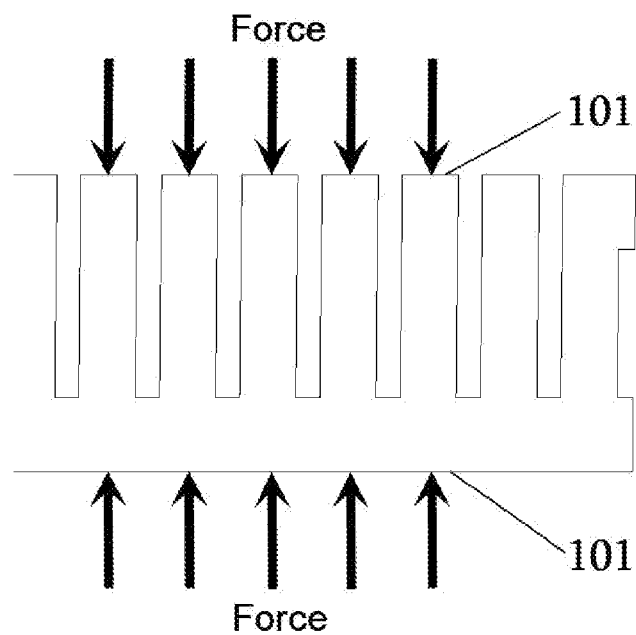


Figure 3

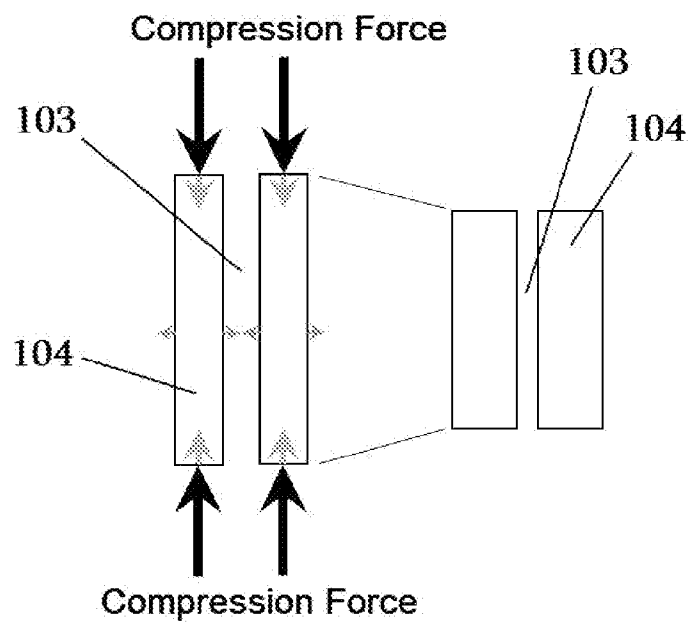


Figure 4

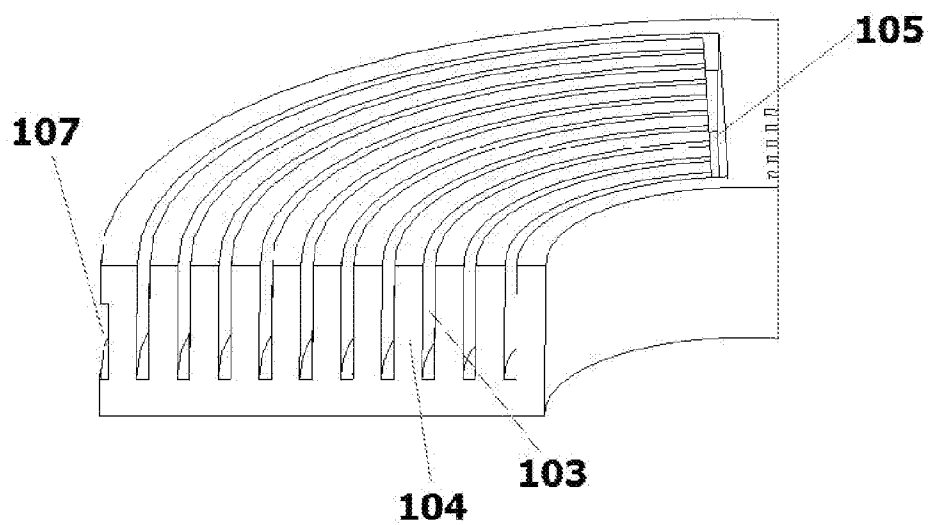


Figure 5

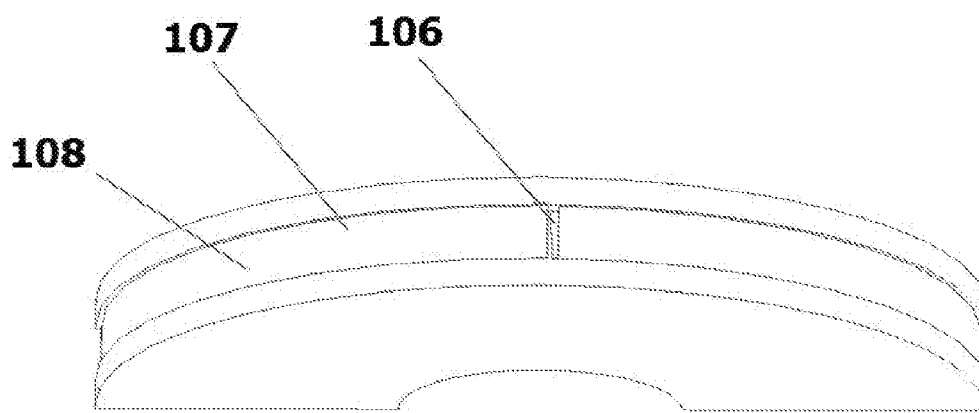


Figure 6

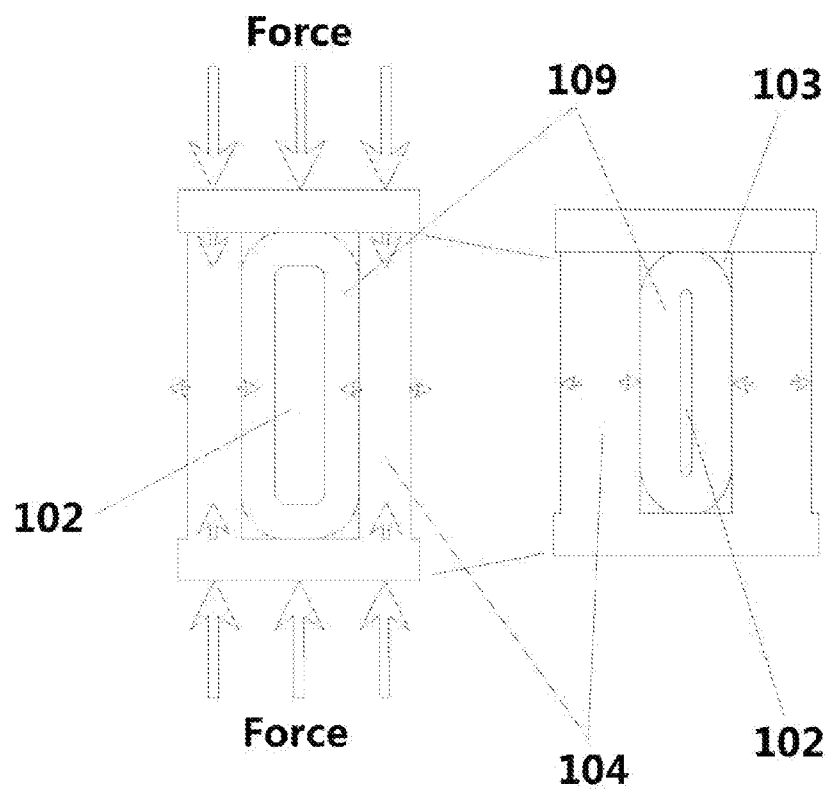


Figure 7

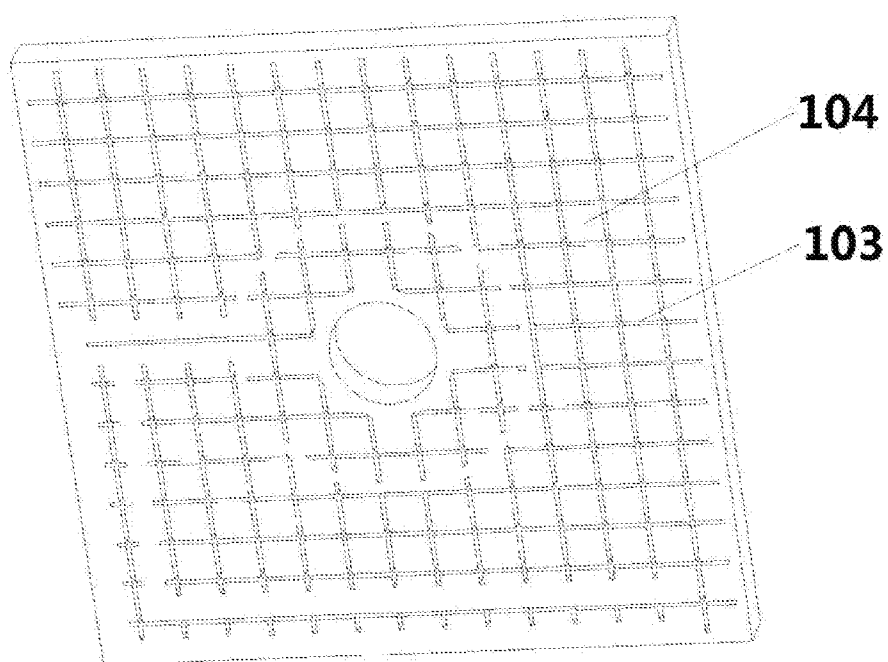


Figure 8

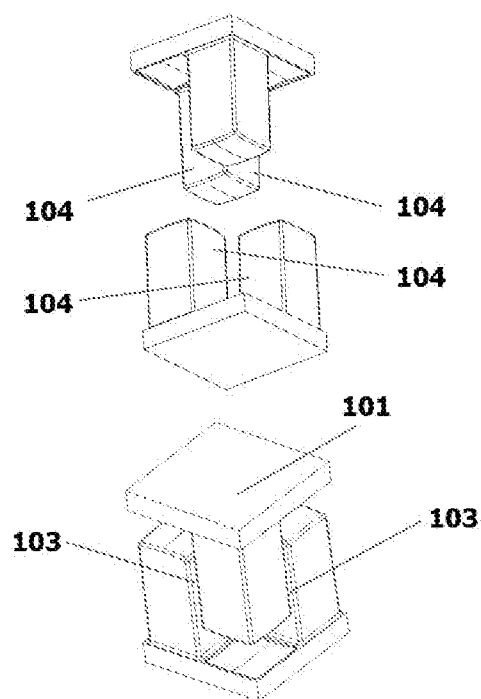


Figure 9

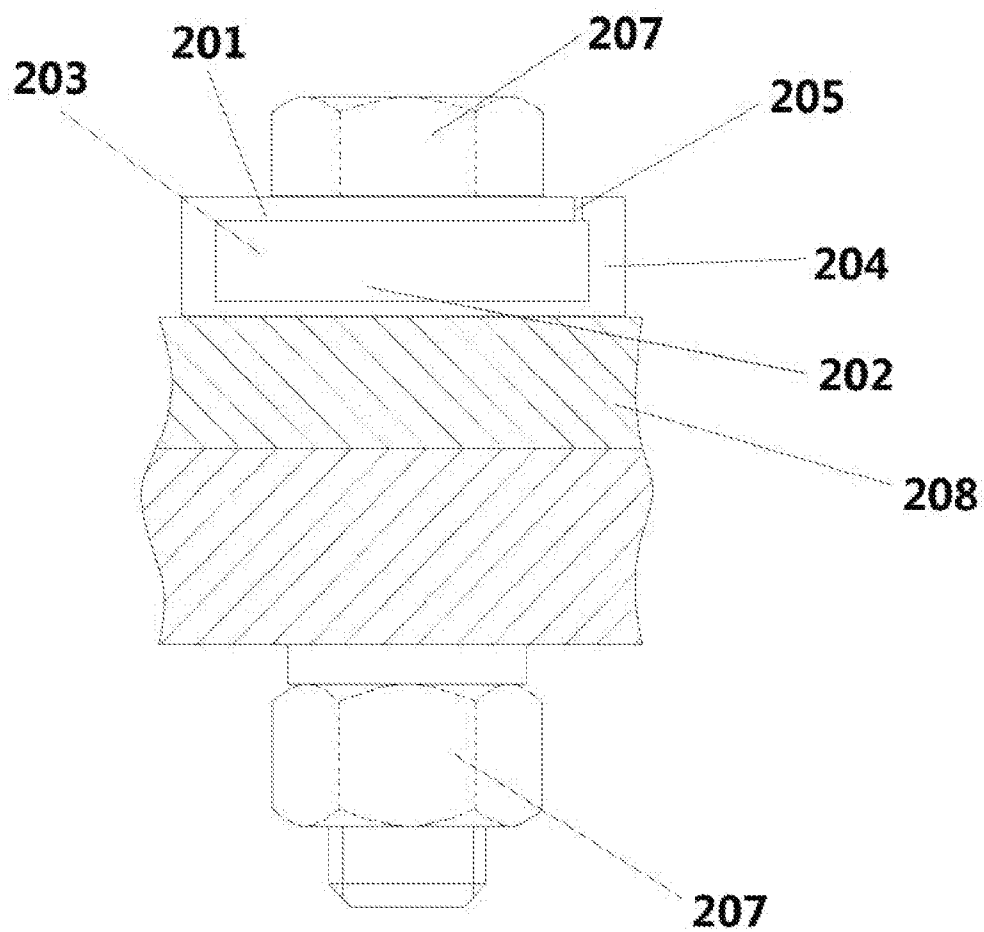


Figure 10

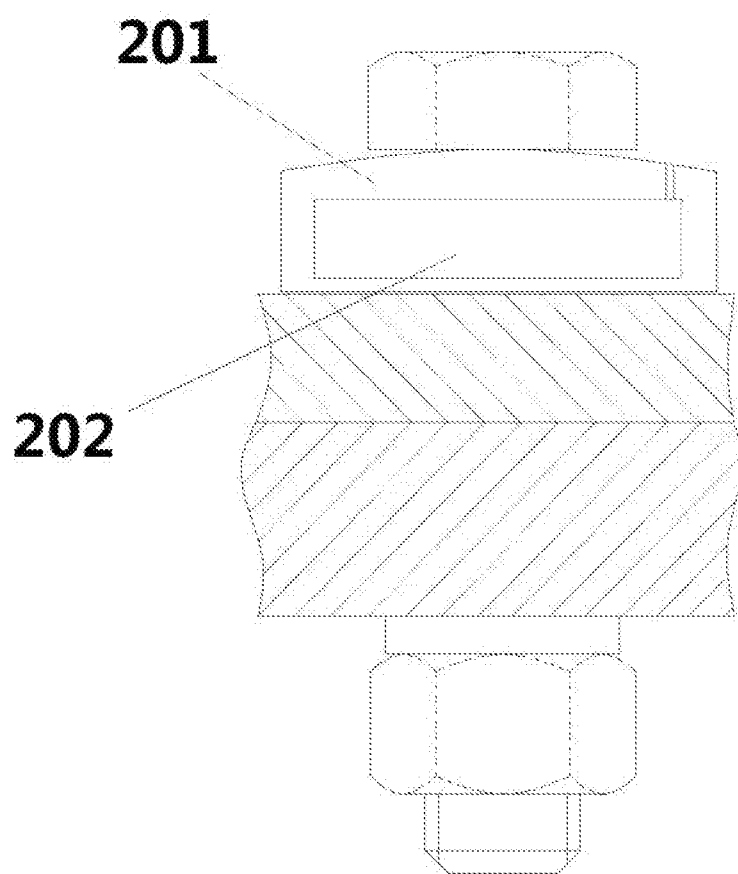


Figure 11

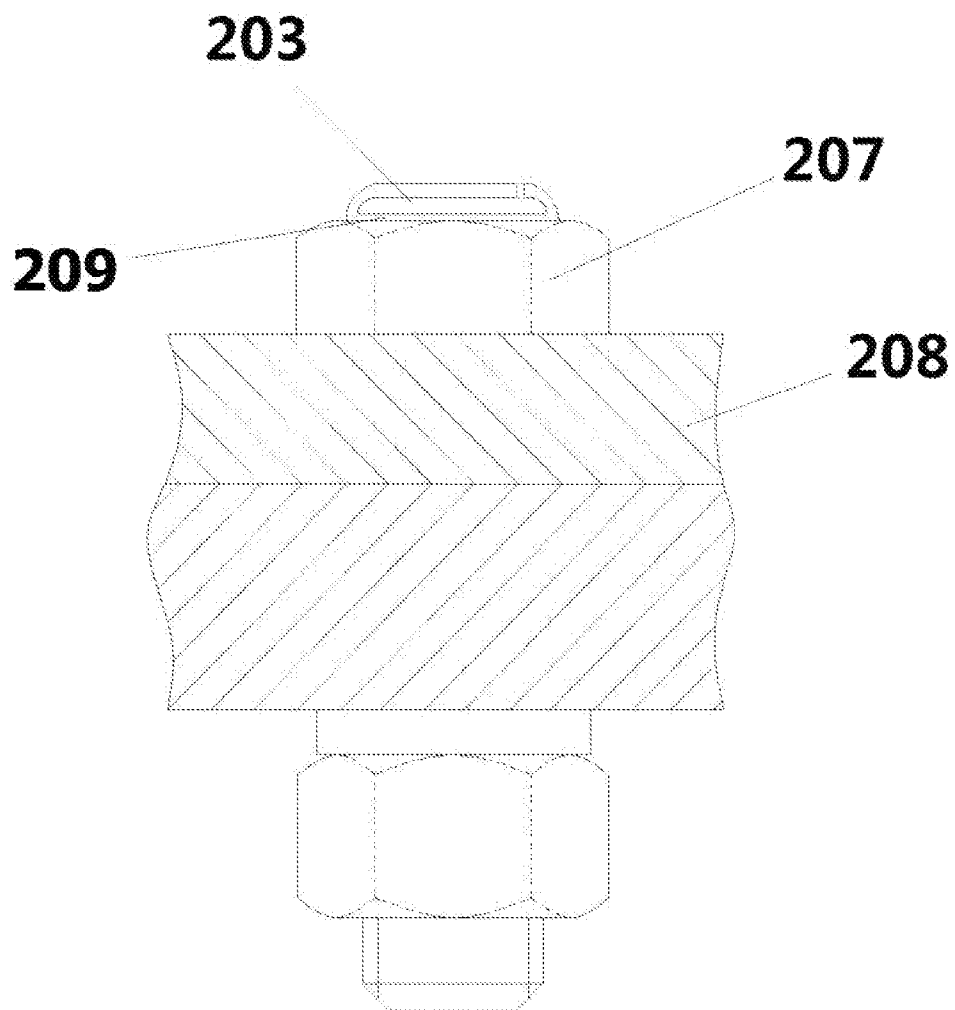


Figure 12

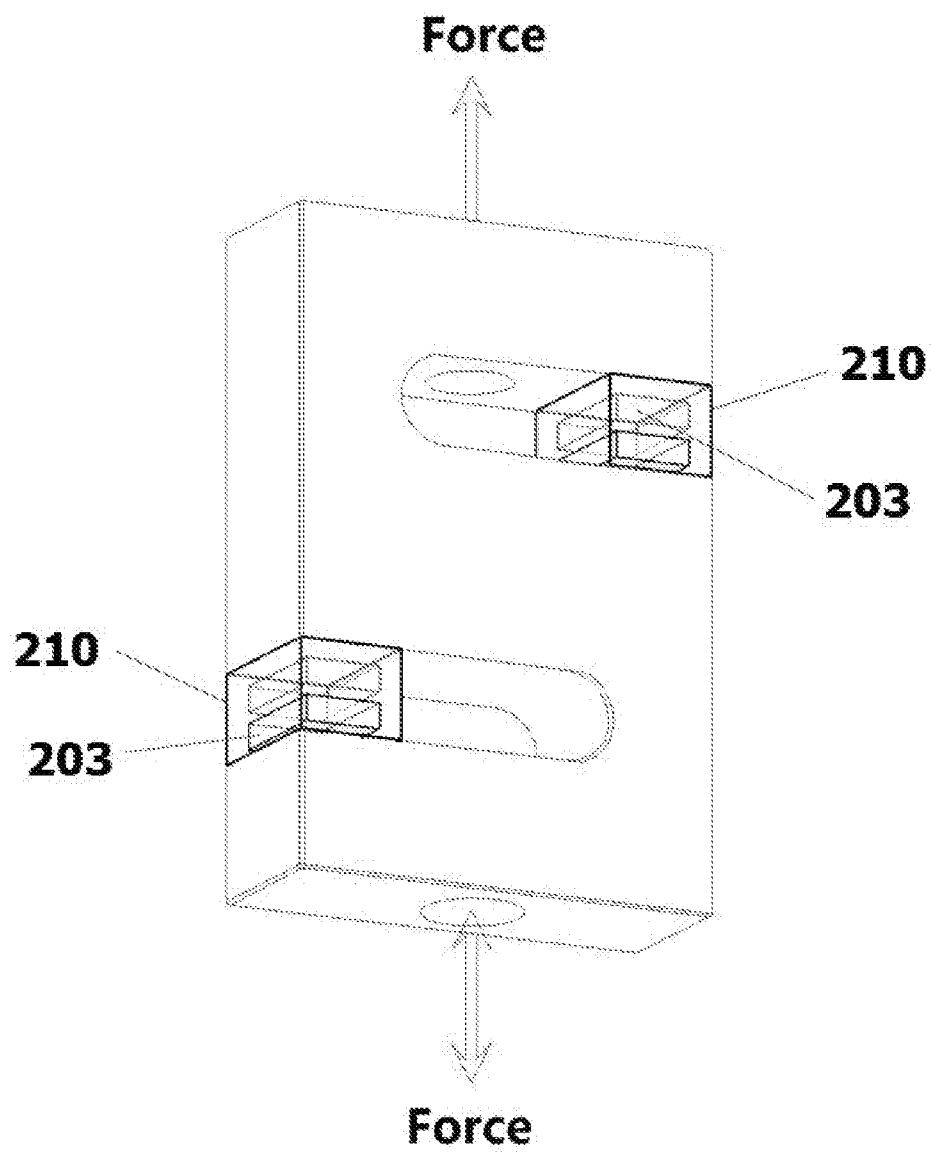


Figure 13

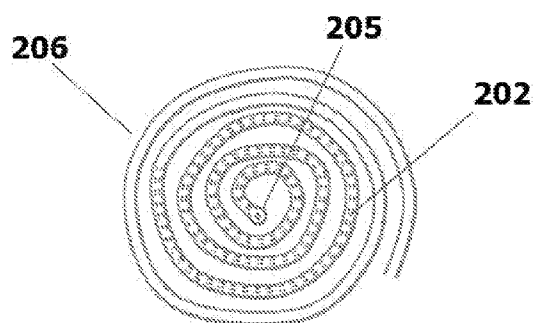


Figure 14

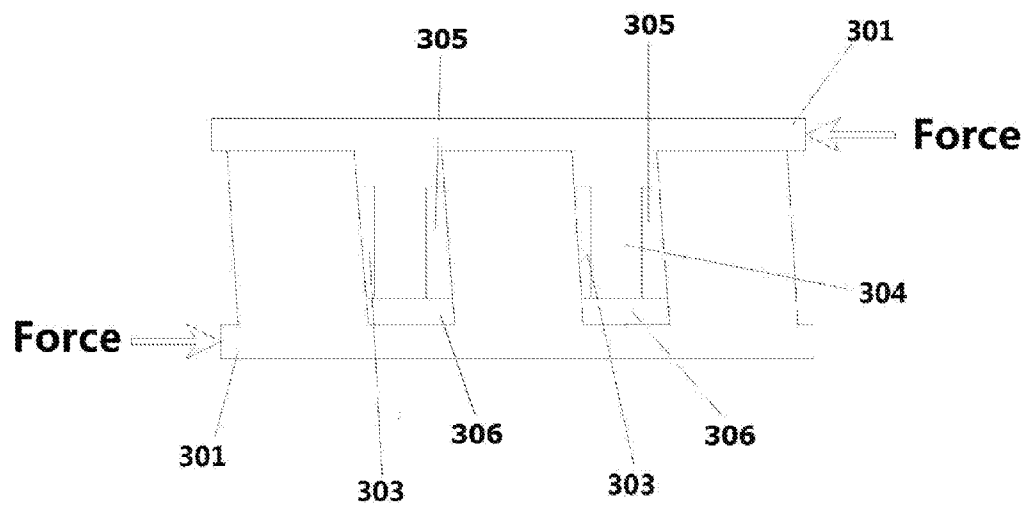


Figure 15

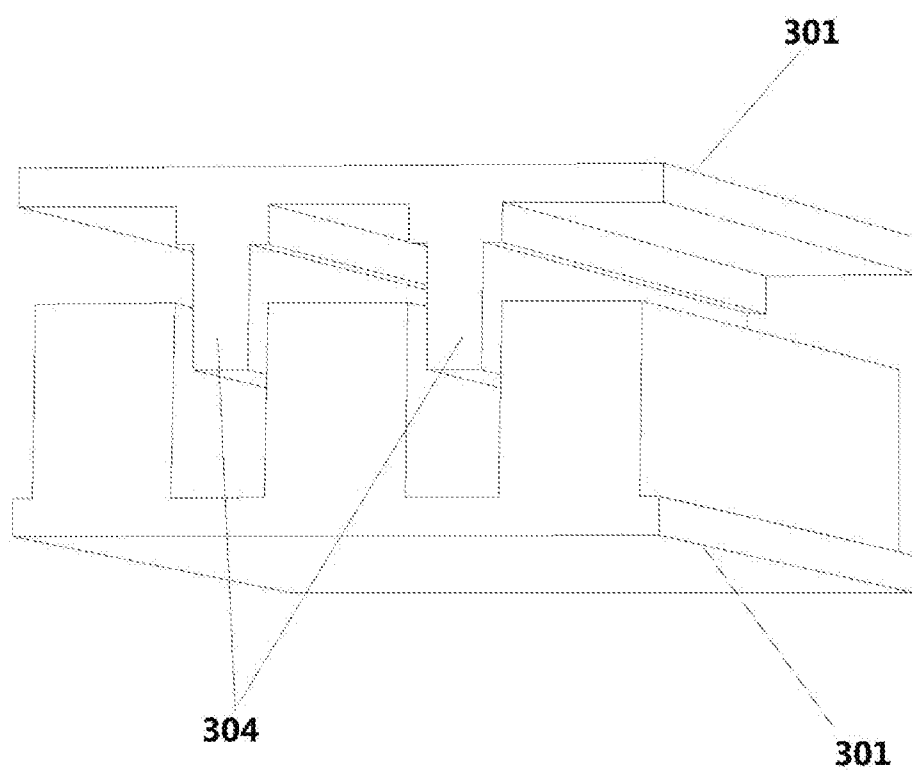


Figure 16

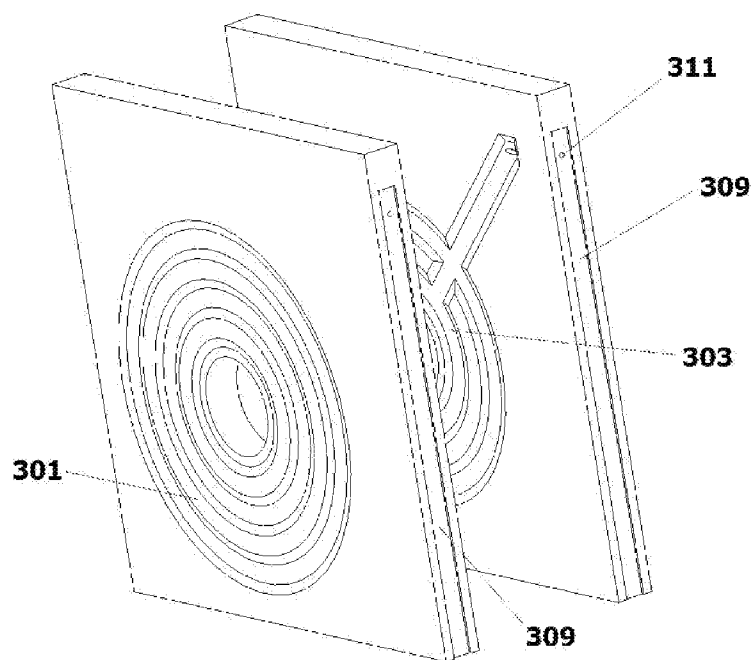


Figure 17

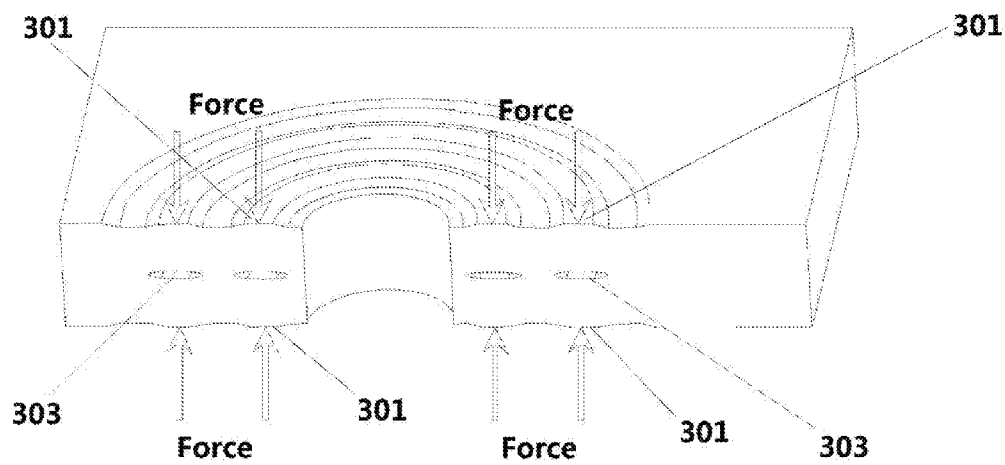


Figure 18

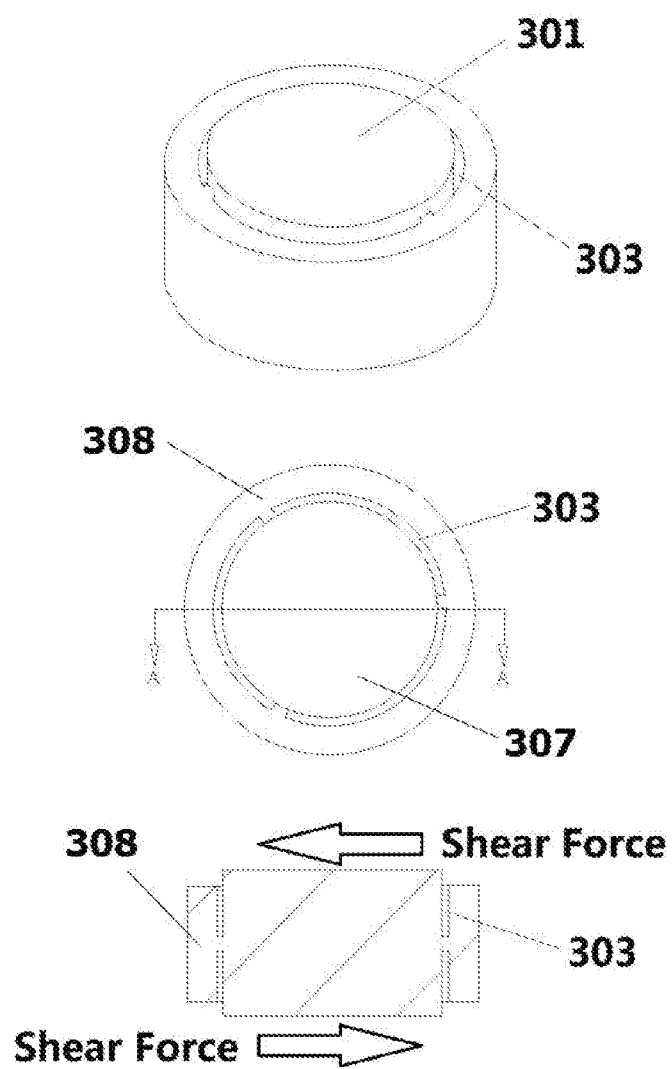


Figure 19

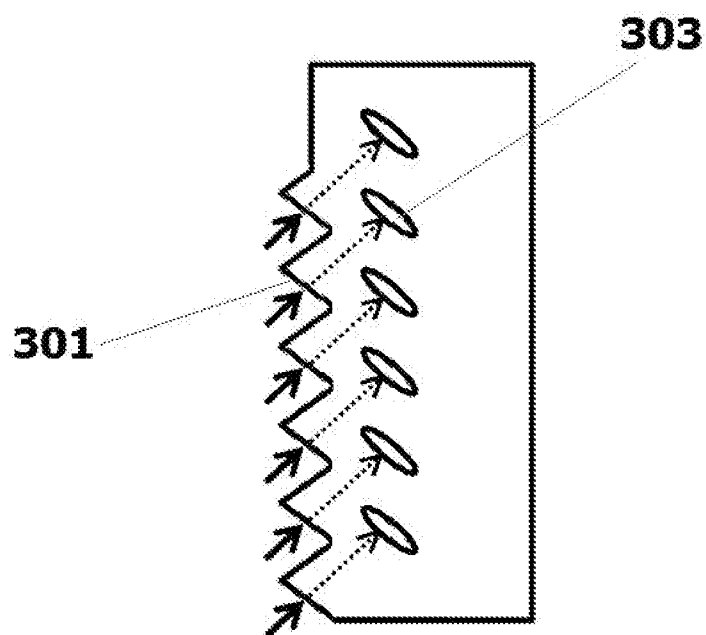


Figure 20

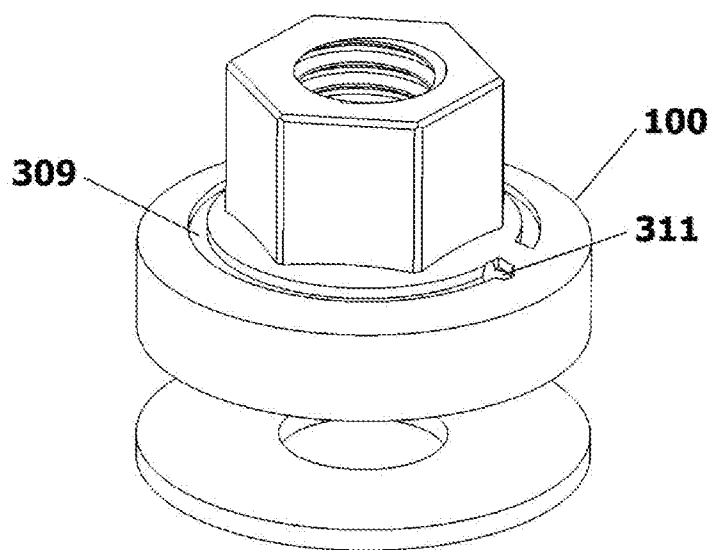


Figure 21

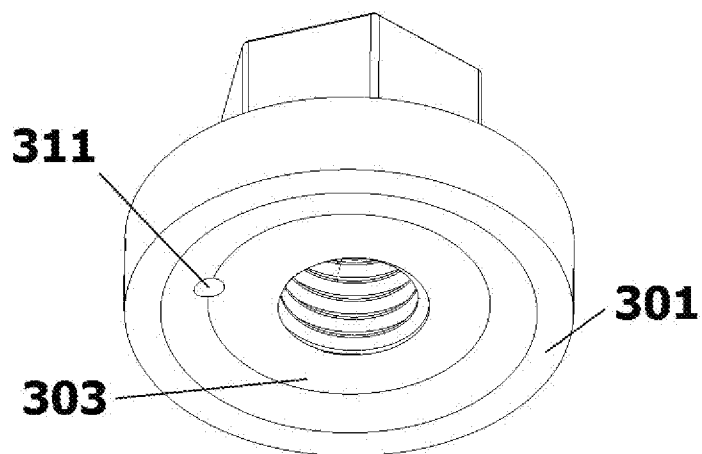


Figure 22

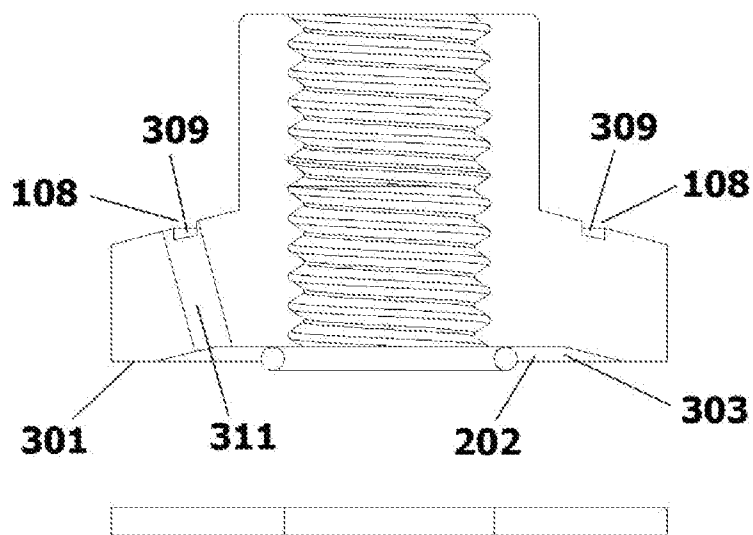


Figure 23

REVERSIBLE FORCE MEASURING DEVICE

FIELD

[0001] The present invention relates to a reversible force measuring device for fastener components and load cells components that measures static and dynamic forces such as tension, compression, torque, and shear through the reversible volumetric changes of the cavities in the measuring device.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention discloses a reversible force measuring device that can comprise at least one cavity, wherein when load is applied to the device it causes a reversible volumetric change to the at least one cavity which causes an indicating material to move in or out of the at least one cavity to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied loads.

[0003] The reversible volumetric change refers to the ability of the at least one cavity to reverse its change in volume when the forces are reversed and when the load is removed the cavity returns to its original shape. This application refers to a force measuring device that can continuously measure the changes in the forces. For example, as the load increases or decreases ten percent, the force measuring device can indicate this 10 percent change.

[0004] In one embodiment, the reversible force measuring device can comprise at least one cavity, at least one cavity wall, at least one load receiving area, at least one of a fastener component or a load cell component, and at least one indicating material; wherein the at least one cavity is a space defined by the at least one cavity wall, wherein applying force to the at least one load receiving area in the at least one of a fastener component or a load cell component induces the Poisson effect on the at least one cavity wall, wherein the Poisson effect causes the reversible volumetric change of the at least one cavity, and wherein the reversible volumetric change of the at least one cavity causes the at least one indicating material to move in or out of the at least one cavity to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied loads.

[0005] In this embodiment, the reversible force measuring device can further comprise at least one indicator duct, at least one indicator hole, at least one indicator channel, and at least one channel cover or tube; wherein the at least one indicator duct is connected with the at least one cavity, wherein the at least one channel cover or tube is made of transparent or semi-transparent material, and covers and seals the at least one indicator channel, wherein the at least one indicating material moves from the at least one cavity into the indicator duct, through the at least one indicator hole, and into the at least one indicator channel or tube when force is applied to the at least one load receiving area.

[0006] In another embodiment, the reversible force measuring device can comprise at least one cavity, at least one flexible cavity wall, at least one fixed cavity wall, at least one of a fastener component or a load cell component, and at least one indicating material; wherein the at least one cavity is the space between the at least one flexible cavity wall and the at least one fixed cavity wall, wherein the at least one fixed cavity wall is part of a fixed medium or adjacent to a fixed medium, wherein the at least one of a fastener component or a load cell component causes a volumetric change of the at

least one cavity by moving the at least one flexible cavity wall, and wherein the reversible volumetric change of the at least one cavity causes the at least one indicating material to move in or out of the at least one cavity to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the force applied by the fastener.

[0007] In this embodiment, the reversible force measuring device can further comprise at least one indicator hole, at least one indicator tube; wherein the at least one indicating material moves in and out from the at least one cavity into the at least one indicator tube through the at least one indicator hole when the at least one cavity changes in volume.

[0008] In another embodiment, the reversible force measuring device can comprise at least two independent cavities, at least one load receiving area, at least one of a fastener component or a load cell component, and at least one indicating material; wherein the applied load to the at least one of a fastener component or a load cell component induces reversible volumetric changes in each of the at least two independent cavities.

[0009] In this embodiment, the reversible force measuring device, wherein each of the at least two cavities can further comprise at least one indicator hole, at least one indicator channel, and at least one channel cover or tube wherein the at least one indicator channel cover or tube is made of transparent or semi-transparent material, and covers and seals the at least one indicator channel, wherein the at least one indicating material moves in or out from each of the at least two independent cavities, through the at least one indicator hole, and into the at least one indicator channel when force is applied to the at least one load receiving area.

[0010] In addition to the aspects and advantages as described in this summary, further aspects and advantages will become apparent by reference to the drawings and by reading the detailed description that follows.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0011] Further features and advantages of the present device, as well as the structure and operation of various embodiments of the present device, will become apparent and more readily appreciated from the following description of the preferred embodiments, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings of which:

[0012] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of an embodiment of the force measuring device wherein the device is in a circular shape comprising at least one cavity.

[0013] FIG. 2 is a section view of the circular shaped device.

[0014] FIG. 3 is an illustration of how compression load is applied to the device.

[0015] FIG. 4 is an illustration of how a compression load causes the cavity to change volume.

[0016] FIG. 5 is a perspective view of the interior of the device, wherein the device is made of multiple cavities.

[0017] FIG. 6 is a perspective view of the indicator channel of the device with the cover removed.

[0018] FIG. 7 is an embodiment of the device wherein the cavity further comprises a tube filled with a resilient material such as a fluid.

[0019] FIG. 8 is an embodiment of the device wherein the device is in rectangular shape.

[0020] FIG. 9 is a small portion of another embodiment of the device wherein this small portion is made up of two sections each with two Compression-Poisson columns.

[0021] FIG. 10 is an embodiment of the device wherein the load is applied to the cavity through a bolt head.

[0022] FIG. 11 is another embodiment of the device wherein the cavity wall on the top of the cavity is shaped differently to improve certain characteristics.

[0023] FIG. 12 is another embodiment of the device wherein the cavity is placed above the bolt head.

[0024] FIG. 13 is another embodiment of the device wherein the cavity is in a load cell, wherein the change in volume of the cavity is caused by a compression or tension applied to the load cell.

[0025] FIG. 14 is an embodiment of the indicating tube wherein the indicating fluid moves in the tube to indicate the change in volume of the cavity.

[0026] FIG. 15 is a sectional view of another embodiment of the device wherein the device comprises at least two independent cavities.

[0027] FIG. 16 is an exploded view of the embodiment wherein the device comprises at least two independent cavities.

[0028] FIG. 17 is an exploded view of another embodiment of the device wherein the at least one cavity is in a ring shape.

[0029] FIG. 18 is a section view of the device wherein the at least one cavity is in a ring shape.

[0030] FIG. 19 is another embodiment of the device comprising at least two independent cavities wherein the device is in a cylindrical shape.

[0031] FIG. 20 is another embodiment of the device wherein the at least one cavity is located near the threads of a nut, stud, bolt, etc.

[0032] FIG. 21 is another embodiment of the device wherein the at least one indicating channel can be seen on the top of a flange nut.

[0033] FIG. 22 is an alternate view of the device to more clearly show the at least one cavity on the bottom of a flange nut.

[0034] FIG. 23 is a sectional view of the device wherein the at least one cavity is sealed by a ring and bottom washer.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0035] In the following detailed description, reference is made to the accompanying drawings that form a part hereof, and in which is shown by way of illustration specific implementations that may be practiced. These implementations are described in sufficient detail to enable those skilled in the art to practice the implementations, and it is to be understood that other implementations may be utilized and that logical, mechanical, electrical and other changes may be made without departing from the scope of the implementation. The following detailed description is, therefore, not to be taken in a limiting sense.

[0036] This description of the exemplary embodiments is intended to be read in connection with the accompanying drawings, which are to be considered part of the entire written description. In the description, relative terms such as “lower,” “upper,” “horizontal,” “vertical,” “above,” “below,” “up,” “down,” “top” and “bottom” as well as derivative thereof (e.g., “horizontally,” “downwardly,” “upwardly,” etc.) should be construed to refer to the orientation as then described or as shown in the drawing under discussion. These relative terms are for convenience of description and do not require that the apparatus be constructed or operated in a particular orientation. Terms concerning attachments, coupling and the like, such as “connected” and “interconnected,” refer to a relation-

ship wherein structures are secured or attached to one another either directly or indirectly through intervening structures, as well as both movable or rigid attachments or relationships, unless expressly described otherwise.

[0037] The present invention discloses a reversible force measuring device that can comprise at least one cavity, wherein when load is applied to the device it causes a reversible volumetric change to the at least one cavity which causes an indicating material to move in or out of the at least one cavity to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied loads. The reversible volumetric change refers to the ability of the at least one cavity to reverse its change in volume when the forces are reversed and when the load is removed the cavity returns to its original shape. This application refers to a force measuring device that can continuously measure the changes in the forces. For example, as the load increases or decreases ten percent, the force measuring device can indicate this 10 percent change.

[0038] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of an embodiment of the reversible force measuring device 100 wherein the device is in circular shape and can comprise at least one cavity 103, at least one load receiving area 101 (backside), and at least one indicating material 102 (not shown in FIG. 1); wherein the volume of the at least one cavity changes when force is applied to the at least one load receiving area, wherein the indicating material 102 moves in or out of the at least one cavity 103 as its volume changes to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied loads. The at least one load receiving area 101 can be on either surface or both surfaces of the force measuring device 100. The applied force can be simultaneously applied to both top and bottom surfaces.

[0039] FIG. 2 is a section view of the circular shaped force measuring device 100. As shown in FIG. 2, there is at least one cavity 103 between the cavity walls 104. In this embodiment the cavity walls 104 are Compression-Poisson columns arranged as concentric columns. The cavity walls 104 are closely spaced to minimize the volumes of the cavities 103 and to therefore maximize the strength of the force measuring device 100. As more cavities 103 and cavity walls are fitted into the circular shape force measuring device 100, the ratio between the height and width of each cavity wall gets greater which increases the sensitivity of the device 100 by allowing more Poisson motion (avoids more of the constrained Poisson) which increases the change in cavity volume for the same load.

[0040] FIG. 3 is an illustration of how compression load is applied to the force measuring device 100. Compression load can be applied to one or more load receiving areas 101 on the force measuring device 100. In the embodiment shown in figure, compression load can be applied from both the top and bottom of the force measuring device 100.

[0041] FIG. 4 is an illustration of how compression load causes the at least one cavity 103 to change volume. As load is received by the at least one load receiving area 101, the force is then transferred to the at least one cavity wall 104. The at least one cavity wall 104 is made of at least one Compression-Poisson column that changes shape according to the Poisson effect induced by the applied load. In this figure, the directions of the forces applied are shown by the largest arrows on the top and bottom. The smaller arrows indicate the changes in the Compression-Poisson columns heights and widths. As shown, the at least one cavity wall 104 becomes shorter in height due to compression load and wider due to the Poisson strain. As a result, the at least one cavity 103

decreases in volume as the spaces between the at least one cavity wall **104** are taken by the expansion of the at least one cavity wall **104** in the lateral direction. Consequently, a certain amount of the at least one indicating material **102** is squeezed out from the at least one cavity **103**. A different compression load will result in a different Poisson effect induced in the cavity wall **104** hence a different volume change in the cavity **103**. Therefore, the amount of indicating material **102** being squeezed out from the cavity is an indication of the amount of compression load being applied to the load receiving area **101**. By observing the amount of the at least one indicating material **102** being squeezed out from the at least one cavity **103**, the force applied to the device **100** can thus be calculated.

[0042] FIG. 5 and FIG. 6 are perspective views of the internal structure of one embodiment of the force measuring device **100**. In this embodiment, the force measuring device **100** has a mechanism by which the indicating material **102** squeezed out from the at least one cavity **103** can be conveniently observed. In this embodiment, the force measuring device **100** can further comprise at least one indicator duct **105**, at least one indicator hole **106**, at least one indicator channel **107**, and at least one channel cover, wherein the location **108** of the at least one channel cover is shown but not the cover itself. In an embodiment which has multiple cavities **103**, at least one indicator duct **105** is needed to connect the cavities **103** together. The indicator duct **105** serves as a common channel for the indicating material **102** to travel from all cavities **103** in the device **100** to the outside of the device **100**. The indicator duct **105** will also serve as a common channel for the indicating material **102** to travel back into the cavities **103**. At least one indicator hole **106** is needed for the indicating material **102** to exit the interior of the force measuring device **100**. In this embodiment, an indicator hole **106** is disposed on the exterior surface of the device **100**. One end of the indicator duct **105** is connected to the indicator hole **106**. In this embodiment, the indicator hole **106** is connected to an indicator channel **107** on the exterior surface, wherein the at least one channel cover **108** (the location for the cover is shown, but not the cover itself), is made of transparent or semi-transparent material, covers and seals the at least one indicator channel **107**. The transparent or semi-transparent cover allows an observer to observe the amount of indicator material **102** being squeezed out from the device **100** due to compression load.

[0043] FIG. 7 demonstrates an embodiment of the device **100** wherein the at least one cavity **103** can further comprise a tube **109**. In this embodiment, the at least one cavity **103** is designed to make room for a tube **109** made of resilient materials to be inserted into the at least one cavity **103**. The tube **109** will seal the at least one indicating material **102**. As the cavity **103** decreases or increases in volume, tube **109** will be squeezed more or less causing the inside volume **102** of the tube **109** to shrink or expand with the cavity **103** thus the indicating material **102** inside the tube will move in or out of the tube **109**.

[0044] FIG. 8 and FIG. 9 illustrates two more embodiments of the device wherein the device **100** is in a rectangular shape and the at least one cavity **103** is constructed by square columns **104**. FIG. 8 illustrates an embodiment where the columns **104** are square and have the at least one cavity **103** in between these square columns FIG. 9 illustrates another embodiment where the Compression-Poisson columns are interleaved between the two parts and form all the Compression-Poisson columns as the parts are assembled together.

FIG. 9 illustrates an exploded view of a small portion of this embodiment of the device wherein the device **100** is constructed with an upper and lower section that fit into one another. This figure illustrates only a small section of the final device **100**. Each section shown has two Compression-Poisson columns, often referred to as cavity walls **104**, such that when the top and bottom sections are assembled together the result is four Compression-Poisson columns **104** where the at least one cavity **103** is formed by the spaces between these columns and their surrounding additional sections not shown.

[0045] FIG. 8 and FIG. 9 embodiments have the advantage of lowering the constrained Poisson surfaces in two dimensions. In the embodiment shown in FIG. 1, the Poisson change of the cavity wall **104** is only in one direction. In FIG. 8 and FIG. 9 embodiments, the Poisson change of the cavity walls **104** can occur in both x and y directions. This will allow an increase in the change in the volume of the cavities **103** for the same applied force therefore making the force measurement device **100** more accurate.

[0046] FIG. 10 and FIG. 11 illustrate two more embodiments of the device **100** that are very similar wherein the force measuring device **100** can comprise at least one cavity **203**, at least one load receiving area **201**, and at least one indicating material **202**. The at least one load receiving **201** area can be deformed by the movement of a fastener **207**. The fastener **207** can be a bolt head, nut, stud, rivet, etc. The fastener **207** shown in these figures is a bolt head. The deformation of the at least one load receiving area **201** causes a change in the volume of the at least one cavity **203**. The change in volume of the at least one cavity **203** causes the indicating material **202** to move in and out of the at least one cavity **203** to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied loads. FIG. 11's at least one load receiving area is shaped differently than FIG. 10's at least one load receiving area to increase the sensitivity.

[0047] In FIG. 10 and FIG. 11 embodiments, the device **100** is more sensitive than embodiments shown in FIGS. 1 through 9 and can be used for measuring much lower loads. In these embodiments the device **100** does not use compression strain or Poisson strain as the main deformation for changing the volume of a cavity **203**. The bending of the upper surface of the cavity wall **204** is utilized to lower the volume in the cavity **203** and squeeze the at least one indicating material **202** out of an indicator hole **205** from the at least one cavity **203**. Similar to the previous embodiment, the device **100** in this embodiment can further comprise an indicator hole **205**, and an indicator tube **206** (shown in FIG. 14), wherein the indicating material **202** moves in and out from the at least one cavity **203** into the indicator tube **206** through the indicator hole **205** when the at least one cavity **203** changes in volume.

[0048] FIG. 12 is another embodiment of the device wherein the cavity **203** is on top of the fastener **207** which clamps materials **208** together. When the fastener **207** is tightened, the center section of the top of the head of the bolt moves down which moves the flexible cavity wall **209** of the at least one cavity **203** downward with the bolt head. This downward movement increases the volume of the at least one cavity **203** which draws indicating material **202** (shown in FIG. 14) from an external indicating tube **206** (not shown here but is shown in FIG. 14). The upper section of the at least one cavity **203** is fixed and does not move as the fastener **207** is tensioned. The flexible cavity wall **209** of the cavity **203** can also be the top of the bolt head instead of a separate layer **209** as shown in FIG. 12.

[0049] FIG. 13 is another embodiment of the device wherein the at least one cavity 203 is positioned in a load cell as shown in the cavity holder 210. In this embodiment, the deformation of the at least one cavity 203 can be caused by the movement of a fastener 209 (not shown). When the fastener 209 puts the load cell in compression or tension the volume in the at least one cavity 203 changes which moves the indicating material 202 in or out of the tube 206. The change in volume of the at least one cavity 203 can be used to measure the direction and magnitude of the applied force.

[0050] FIG. 14 is an embodiment of an indicator tube configuration wherein the at least one indicator tube 206 used as the indicator channel has the at least one indicating material 202 inside the at least one indicator tube 206 where the length of the indicating material 202 inside the at least one indicator channel indicates the volumetric change of the at least one cavity 203. The indicating material 202 is connected to the at least one cavity through the at least one indicator hole 205.

[0051] FIG. 15 and FIG. 16 show another embodiment of the device 100 wherein the force measuring device 100 can comprise at least two independent cavities, at least one load receiving areas, and indicating material. In this embodiment, the volume of the at least two independent cavities 303 and 305 change when force is applied to the at least one load receiving area 301. The indicating material 202 moves in or out of the at least two independent cavities 303 and 305 as their volumes change to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied loads. If the top part 304 moves to the left, the at least one seal 306 keeps the indicating materials in 303 and 305 separated without bending either of the bottom columns 304. This allows the change in cavity 303 volume to be different from the change in cavity 305 volume.

[0052] This embodiment is designed to measure force applied to the device by observing the difference between the amount of indicating materials 202 being squeezed out from the at least two independent cavities 303 and 305. In the embodiment shown in FIG. 15, shear forces are applied to the device 100. In order to measure shear forces in this embodiment, the at least one indicating material in the left cavity 303 of the at least two cavities is isolated from the right cavity 305 of the at least two cavities. There can be one indicator tube 206 for the left cavity and one indicator tube 206 for the right cavity. When the at least two cavities are subjected to shear force, the change of volume in the left cavity 303 and right cavity 305 of the at least two independent cavities will be different, therefore there will be different volumes of indicating material 202 moved in each indicator tube 206. Shear forces and compression forces can be therefore measured by observing the amount of indicating material 202 in each of the indicator tubes 206.

[0053] FIG. 17 and FIG. 18 show another embodiment of the device 100 wherein the at least one cavity 303 is in a ring shape. In this embodiment, the design relies on tangential strain, bending, and/or compression of diagonal sections to squeeze indicating material 202 out of its at least one cavity 303 through the at least one indicator hole 311 and into the at least one indicating channel 309 when a force is applied to the at least one load receiving area 301. An advantage of this embodiment is that each ring shaped cavity 303 can be isolated from another ring-shaped cavity 303 and therefore giving separate compression readings for each cavity 303.

[0054] FIG. 19 is another embodiment of the device 100 comprising at least two cavities 303 wherein the device is in a cylindrical shape. The device 100 can be used to measure

shear force and its direction. In this embodiment, the device 100 can comprise a disk 307 and outer ring 308 to measure shear force magnitude and direction in addition to the compression and/or tension forces.

[0055] FIG. 21, FIG. 22, and FIG. 23 show another embodiment of the device 100 as a flange nut and washer wherein the at least one cavity 303 is in a ring shape. In this embodiment, the design relies on tangential strain, bending, and/or compression of diagonal sections to squeeze indicating material 202 out of its at least one cavity 303 through the at least one indicator hole 311 and into the at least one indicating channel 309 when a force is applied to the at least one load receiving area 301. The at least one channel cover 108 (the location for the cover is shown, but not the cover itself), is made of transparent or semi-transparent material, covers and seals the at least one indicator channel 309.

[0056] In one embodiment shown in FIG. 19, the spaces between the inner ring of disc 307 and the outer ring 308 can comprise six cavities for indicating material 202 to move in and out of these cavities. There can be three cavities 303 that are 120 degrees apart in the upper part of the device 100 and three corresponding cavities 303 in the lower part of the device 100. The three pairs of cavities 303 in this configuration allow the magnitude and direction of the shear force to be measured by observing the difference of the amount of indicating materials 202 moved in or out of each individual cavity 303. When the shear forces are applied as seen in the bottom image of the device 100, the indicating material 202 is pressed out of the bottom right cavity 303 and indicating material 202 moves into the upper right cavity 303. This difference in the change in volumes of the cavities can be used to measure the magnitude and direction of the shear force applied along with the magnitude and direction of compression and/or tension forces.

[0057] FIG. 20 is another embodiment of the device wherein the at least one cavity 303 is positioned near the at least one thread of a nut, stud, bolt, etc. In this embodiment, the deformation of the at least one cavity 303 can be caused by the movement of the at least one load receiving area 301 when a force is applied as shown by the arrows. This embodiment can also measure the difference in the load between one thread, or one group of threads, and another thread, or group of threads, by using at least two cavities 303 that are independent.

What is claimed is:

1. A reversible force measuring device comprising:

at least one cavity,
at least one cavity wall,
at least one of a fastener component and a load cell component,
at least one load receiving area, and
at least one indicating material;

wherein the at least one cavity is a space defined by the at least one cavity wall, wherein applying force to the at least one load receiving area causes a reversible volumetric change of the at least one cavity on the at least one of a fastener component and a load cell component and wherein the reversible volumetric change of the at least one cavity causes the at least one indicating material to move in or out of the at least one cavity to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied force.

2. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

at least one indicator hole,
 at least one indicator channel, and
 at least one of a channel cover and a tube;
 wherein the at least one indicator hole is connected with the
 at least one cavity,
 wherein the at least one of a channel cover and a tube is
 made of transparent or semi-transparent material, and
 covers and seals the at least one indicator channel,
 wherein the at least one indicating material moves from the
 at least one cavity, through the at least one indicator hole,
 and into the at least one indicator channel when force is
 applied to the at least one load receiving area.

3. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 2 further comprising at least one one-way valve to prevent the
 indicating material from retrieving back into the at least one
 cavity.

4. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 2, further comprising at least one tube, wherein the at least
 one tube is disposed inside the at least one cavity to seal the at
 least one indicating material.

5. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 2, wherein the at least one indicating material can be liquid,
 gas, or a resilient material.

6. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 2, wherein the at least one indicator channel further comprises
 material capable of changing its color when this material
 comes into contact with the at least one indicating material.

7. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 2, wherein the at least one indicating material has properties
 that allow it to expand or contract with temperature increases
 or decreases to compensate for the expansion or contraction
 of the at least one cavity due to the change in temperature of
 the reversible force measuring device.

8. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 2, further comprising:
 at least one additional cavity,
 wherein this at least one additional cavity changes its vol-
 ume in response to the change in temperature of the
 reversible force measuring device.

9. A reversible force measuring device comprising:
 at least one cavity,
 at least one flexible cavity wall,
 at least one fixed cavity wall,
 at least one fastener,
 at least one load receiving area, and
 at least one indicating material;
 wherein the at least one cavity is the space between the at
 least one flexible cavity wall and the at least one fixed
 cavity wall, wherein the at least one fixed cavity wall is
 part of a fixed medium or adjacent to a fixed medium,
 wherein the at least one fastener causes a reversible
 volumetric change of the at least one cavity by applying
 a force to the at least one load receiving area which
 moves the at least one flexible cavity wall, and wherein
 the reversible volumetric change of the at least one cav-
 ity causes the at least one indicating material to move in
 or out of the at least one cavity to indicate the magnitude
 and direction of the force applied by the fastener.

10. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 9, further comprising:
 at least one indicator hole,
 at least one indicator channel, and
 at least one channel cover or tube;

wherein the at least one channel cover or tube is made of
 transparent or semi-transparent material, and covers and
 seals the at least one indicator channel,
 wherein the at least one indicating material moves in and
 out from the at least one cavity into the at least one
 indicator channel through the at least one indicator hole
 when the at least one cavity changes its volume.

11. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 10 further comprising at least one one-way valve to prevent
 the indicating material from retrieving back into the at least
 one cavity.

12. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 10, further comprising at least one tube, wherein the at least
 one tube is disposed inside the at least one cavity to seal the at
 least one indicating material.

13. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 10, wherein the at least one indicating material can be liquid,
 gas, or a resilient material.

14. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 10, wherein the at least one indicator channel further com-
 prises material capable of changing its color when this materi-
 al comes into contact with the at least one indicating materi-
 al.

15. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 10, wherein the at least one indicating material has properties
 that allow it to expand or contract with temperature increases
 or decreases to compensate for the expansion or contraction
 of the at least one cavity due to the change in temperature of
 the reversible force measuring device.

16. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 10, further comprising:
 at least one additional cavity, wherein this at least one
 additional cavity changes its volume in response to the
 change in temperature of the reversible force measuring
 device.

17. A reversible force measuring device comprising:
 at least two independent cavities,
 at least one of a fastener component and a load cell com-
 ponent,
 at least one load receiving area, and
 at least one indicating material;
 wherein applying force to the at least one load receiving
 area on the at least one of a fastener component and a
 load cell component induces independent reversible
 volumetric changes in each of the at least two indepen-
 dent cavities,
 wherein the reversible volumetric change of each of the at
 least two independent cavities are different,
 wherein the at least one indicating material in at least two
 independent cavities is kept separate and moves in or out
 of the at least two independent cavities as their reversible
 volumes change to indicate the magnitude and/or direc-
 tion of the applied force.

18. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim
 17, wherein each of the at least two independent cavities
 further comprises:
 at least one indicator hole,
 at least one indicator channel, and
 at least one of a channel cover and a tube;
 wherein the at least one of a channel cover and a tube is
 made of transparent or semi-transparent material, and
 covers and seals the at least one indicator channel,
 wherein the at least one indicating material moves in or out
 from each of the at least two independent cavities,

through the at least one indicator hole, and into the at least one indicator channel when force is applied to the at least one load receiving area.

19. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 18, further comprising at least one one-way valve to prevent the at least one indicating material from retrieving back into the at least one cavity.

20. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 18, further comprising at least one tube, wherein the at least one tube is disposed inside the at least one cavity to seal the at least one indicating material.

21. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the at least one indicating material can be liquid, gas, or a resilient material.

22. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the at least one indicator channel further comprises material capable of changing its color when this material comes into contact with the at least one indicating material.

23. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the at least one indicating material has properties that allow it to expand or contract with temperature increases or decreases to compensate for the expansion or contraction of the at least two cavities due to the change in temperature of the reversible force measuring device.

24. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 18, further comprising:

at least one additional cavity,
wherein this at least one additional cavity changes its volume in response to the change in temperature of the reversible force measuring device.

25. A reversible force measuring device comprising:

at least one cavity,
at least one cavity wall,
at least one of a fastener component and a load cell component,
at least one load receiving area, and
at least one indicating material;
wherein the at least one cavity is a space defined by the at least one cavity wall, wherein applying force to the at least one load receiving area induces a Poisson effect on

the at least one cavity wall, wherein the Poisson effect causes a reversible volumetric change of the at least one cavity on the at least one of a fastener component and a load cell component, and wherein the reversible volumetric change of the at least one cavity causes the at least one indicating material to move in or out of the at least one cavity to indicate the magnitude and/or direction of the applied force.

26. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:

at least one indicator hole,
at least one indicator channel, and
at least one of a channel cover and a tube;
wherein the at least one indicator hole is connected with the at least one cavity,
wherein the at least one of a channel cover and a tube is made of transparent or semi-transparent material, and covers and seals the at least one indicator channel,
wherein the at least one indicating material moves from the at least one cavity, through the at least one indicator hole, and into the at least one indicator channel when force is applied to the at least one load receiving area.

27. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 26 further comprising at least one one-way valve to prevent the indicating material from retrieving back into the at least one cavity.

28. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 26, further comprising at least one tube, wherein the at least one tube is disposed inside the at least one cavity to seal the at least one indicating material.

29. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 26, wherein the at least one indicating material can be liquid, gas, or a resilient material.

30. A reversible force measuring device as claimed in claim 26, further comprising:

at least one additional cavity,
wherein this at least one additional cavity changes its volume in response to the change in temperature of the reversible force measuring device.

* * * * *