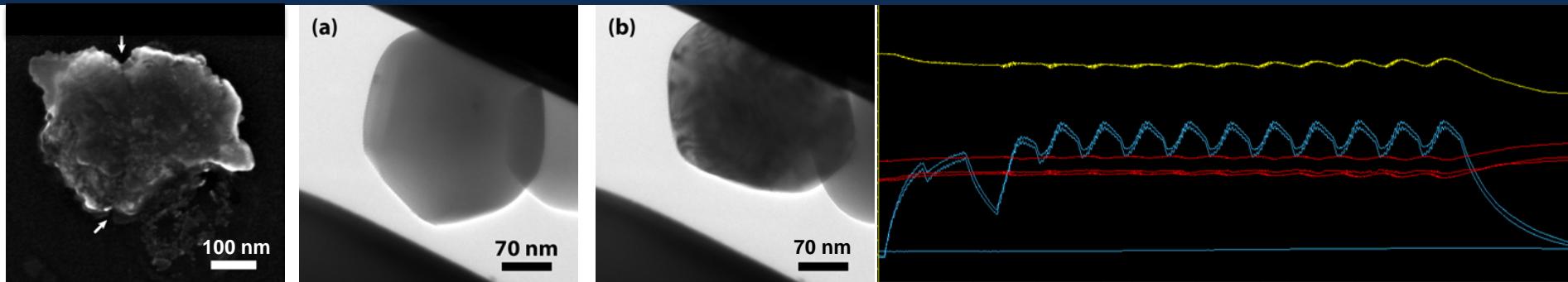


Exceptional service in the national interest



Thermal Spray Research at Sandia

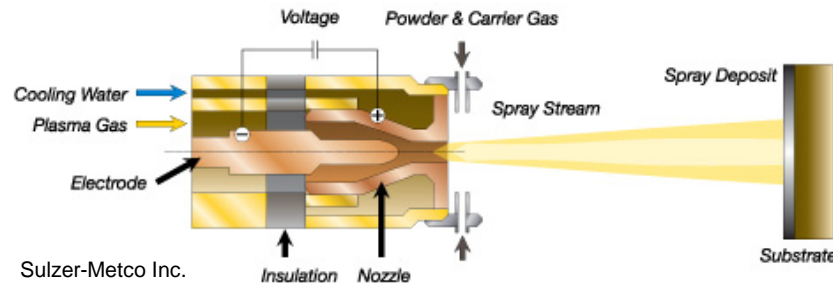
Deidre Hirschfeld, Pylin Sarobol, Andrew Miller, Aaron Hall, Thomas Holmes, and Carlos Silva

ITSA, Oct 2, 2015

Thermal Spray at Sandia

- Development of Thermal Spray Technologies
 - Plasma Spray, CAPS (VPS, VLPPS)
 - TWA
 - Cold Spray
 - HVOF
 - Powder Flame Spray
 - Aerosol Deposition
- Highlight Recent Work
 - Diagnostics: Use of Control Vision, DPV, and ICP
 - Aerosol Deposition: Deformation Mechanisms

Plasma Spray Processes



Sulzer-Metco Inc.

Air Plasma Spray

- DC Plasma heat source
- SG-100, Triplex®Pro-200
- I , V , & Gas Composition affect T_p & V_p

“Vacuum” Plasma Spray

- Plasma spray at $\sim \frac{1}{2}$ atmosphere (380 torr)
- Oxide-free coatings

Very Low Pressure Plasma Spray

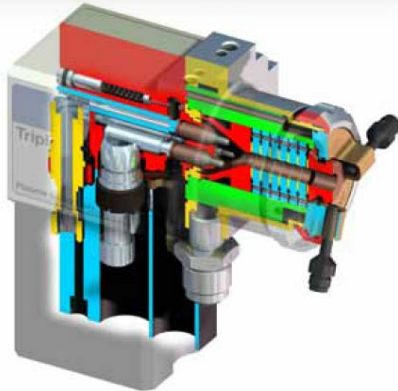
- Plasma spray at 1.0 Torr (0.001 atm)
- Emerging Technology
- SNL has one of two systems in U.S.
- *Droplet Deposition*
- *Vapor Deposition!*
- *Thin coatings (< 50 microns)*



O3CA Suzler-Metco Inc.



SG-100 Praxair-Tafa Inc.



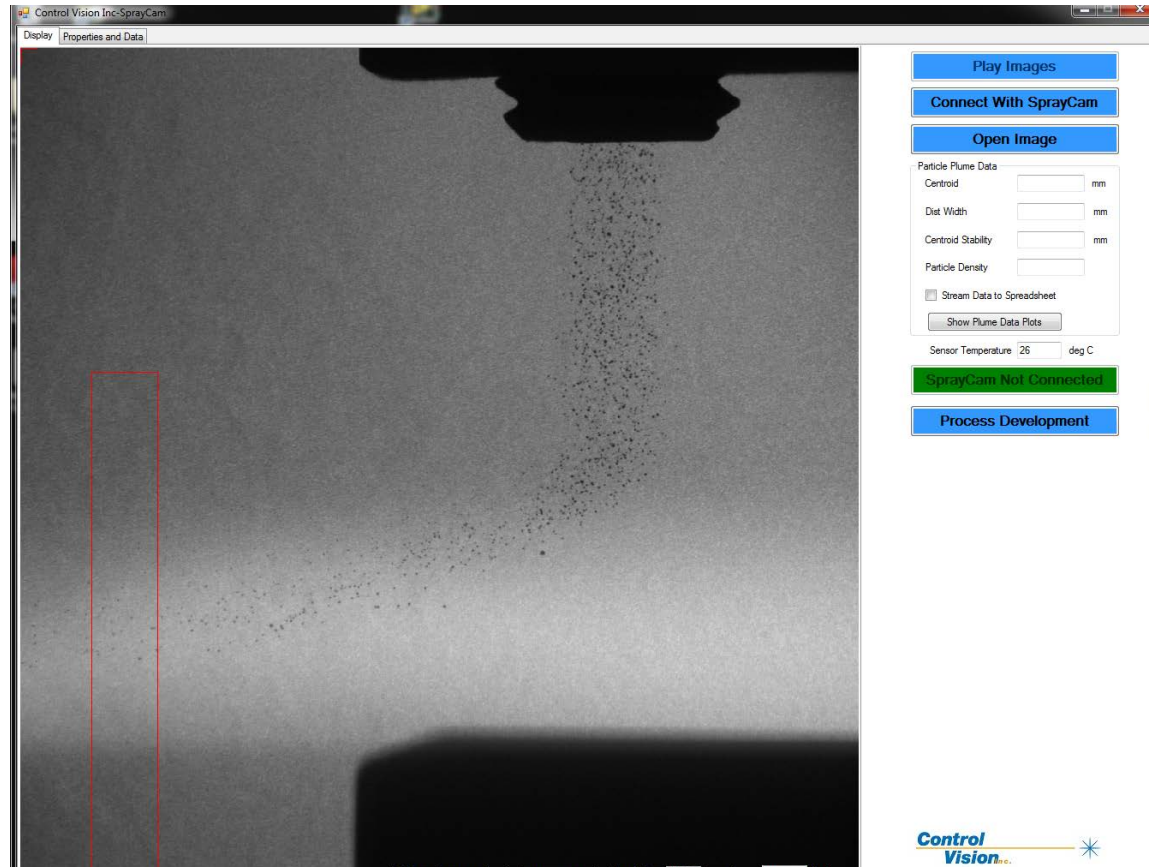
Triple cathode design

Triplex®Pro-200 Sulzer-Metco Inc.



Measuring the parameters between torch and substrate

DIAGNOSTICS: TUNING THE PROCESS



Control Vision

- Optimize particle insertion to the plume
- Quantify flux at a point in the plume

Particle Temperature (T_p) and Particle Velocity (V_p) directly affect coating microstructure and properties.

T_p : Particle Thermal energy

V_p : Particle Kinetic energy

- Are controllable
- Are measureable
- Make sense

Increasing T_p or V_p

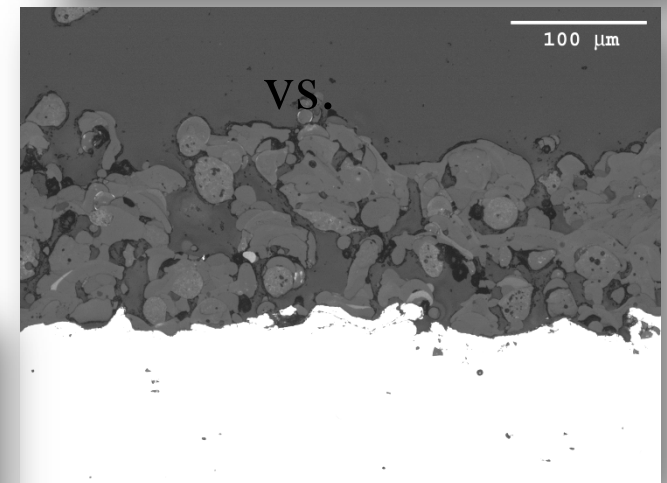
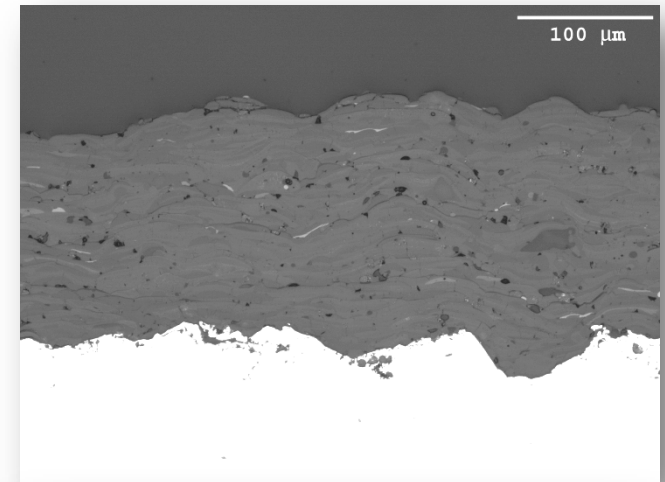
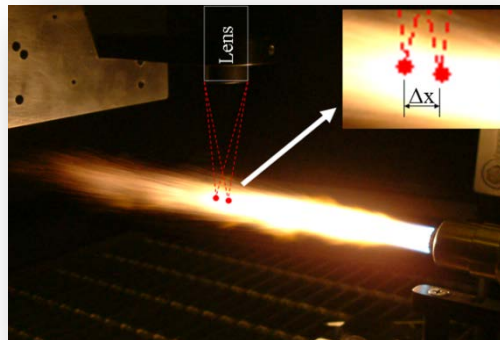
- Increases deposition efficiency
- Reduces coating porosity
- May increase residual stress
- May increase substrate damage

Sensor-Based Particle Characterization

- Simultaneous time of flight and two color pyrometry measurement

$$V_p = \Delta x / \Delta t$$

$$T_p = \lambda_1 / \lambda_2$$

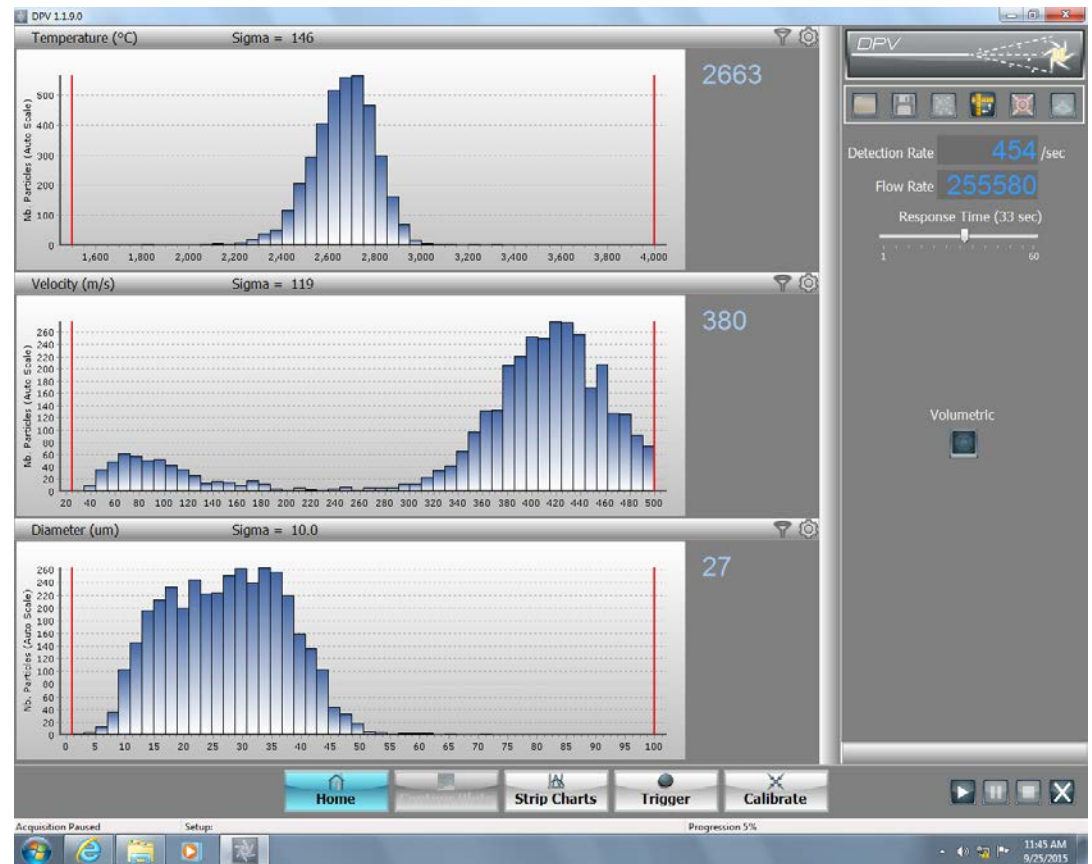


DPV Histogram

Precise measurement of velocity and temperature of up to 4000 individual particles per second

Auto-center function ensures measurement is centered on point of highest particle flux

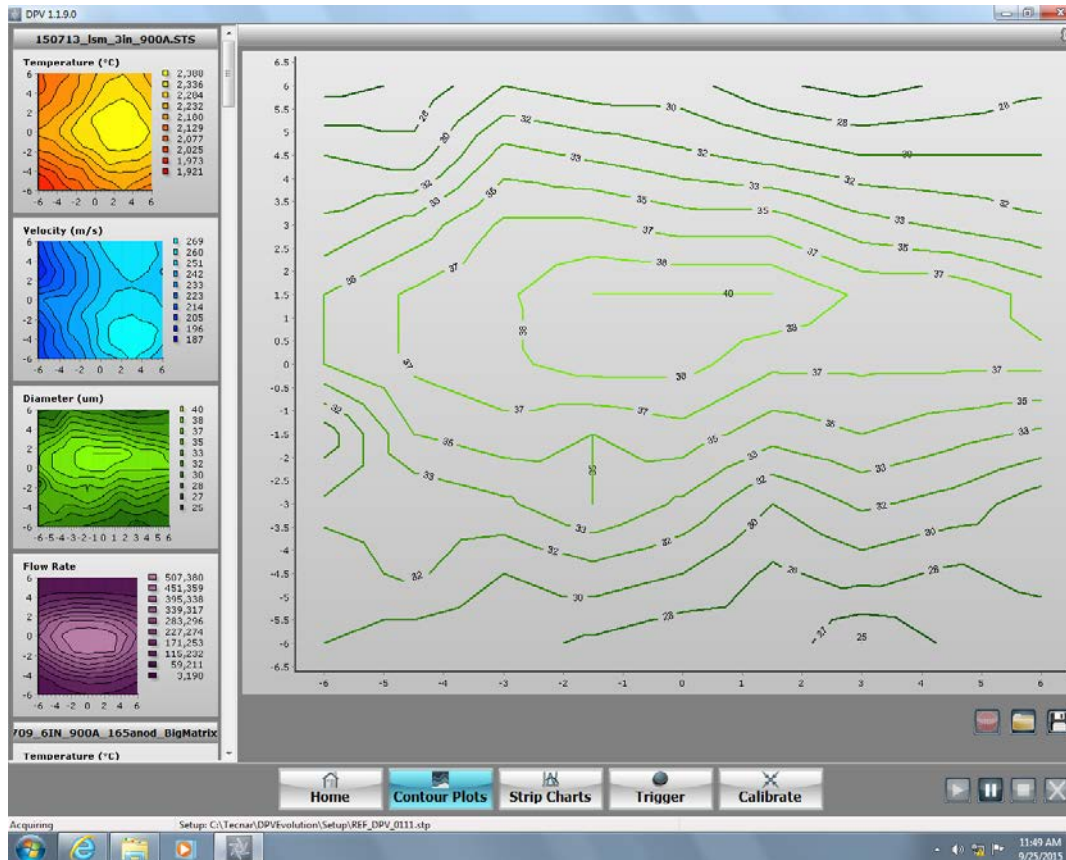
Measurement taken at specified standoff distance provides details about particle state at impact plane



DPV Contour

Temp, Velocity, Particle Diameter,
Particle Flow Rate at specified standoff
distance

Less precise than histogram



How can we know that one coating is the same as another?

MEASURING COATINGS IN-SITU

Motivation

New instrument measures curvature and temperature real time, in-situ to determine residual stress and elastic modulus of sprayed coating

In-situ coating properties (ICP) sensor can be used to determine repeatability of coating based on these parameters with much faster turn around.

Limitations of the instrument require knowledgeable user and some institutional experience to effectively quantify and produce repeatable coatings



Instrument Layout

Three displacement laser ports
directly behind substrate

Two loose pin connections
prevent binding as beam
curves during deposition run



Subjectivities of ICP

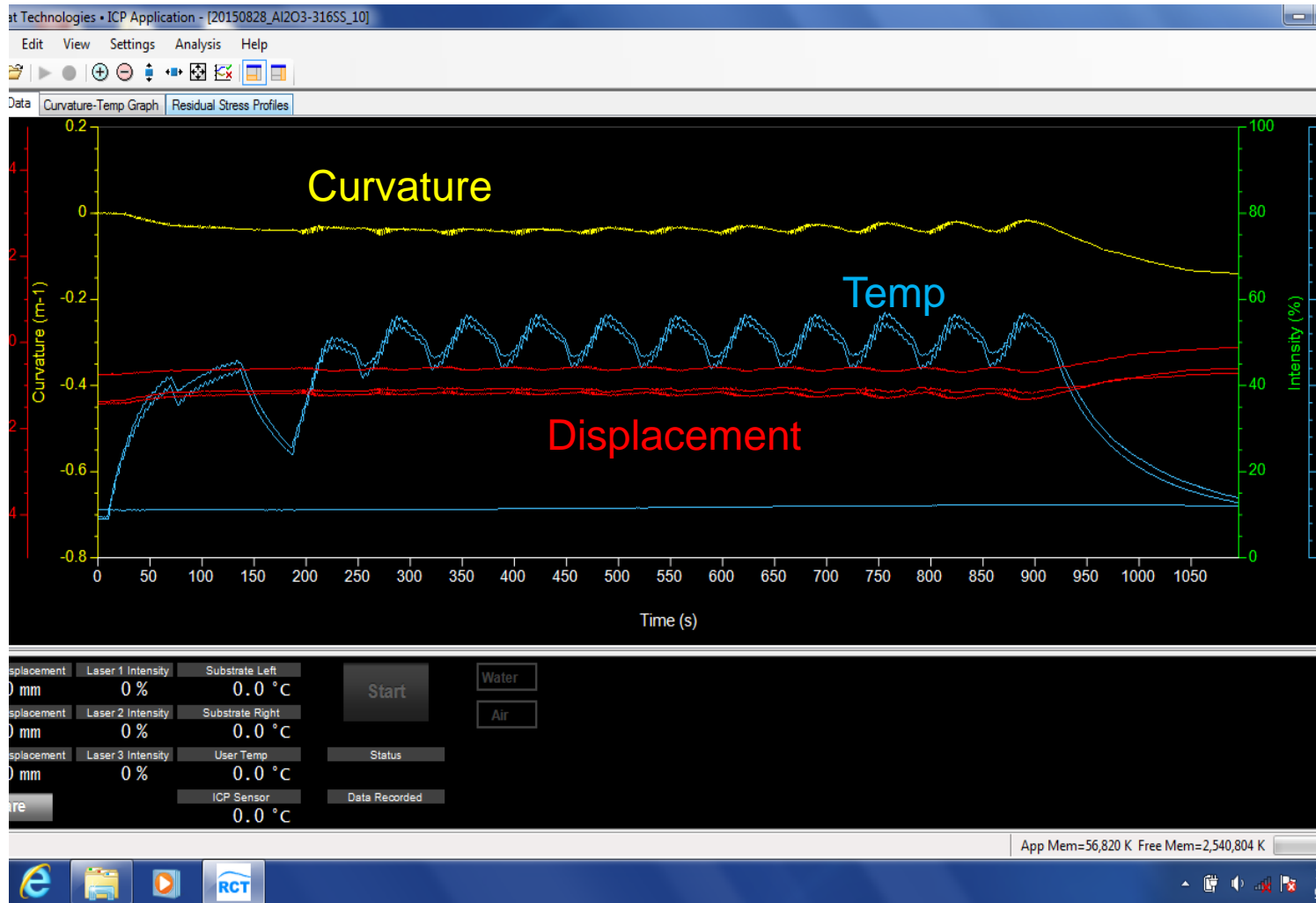


Sample Prep:

- Grit blasting removes surface oxides and introduces surface texture for mechanical adhesion
- Induces offset curvature that will offset the curvature caused by the coating stresses

Solution:

- Automate grit blasting process (costly)
- Apply to both sides of beam in attempt to “balance” the induced curvature
- Use one operator to perform all grit blasting for a given project



Temp (blue) note pre-heat, steady state through several raster passes

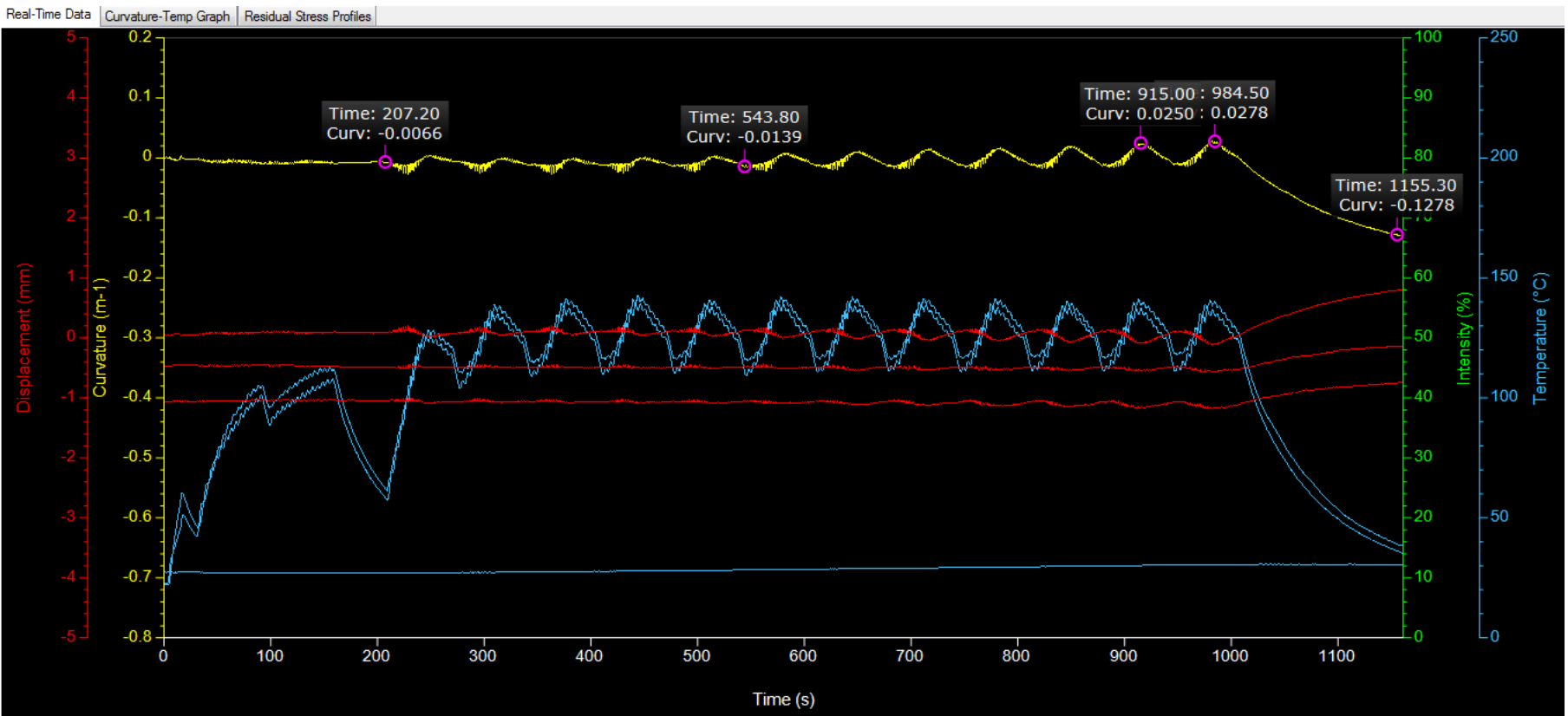
Three lasers (red) two at ends of lesser magnitude than center shows convex bending

Curvature (yellow) shows increasing flex with thermal cycling as spray run progresses, then slowly increases as thermal stress builds on cooling

Real-Time Data Collection Screen

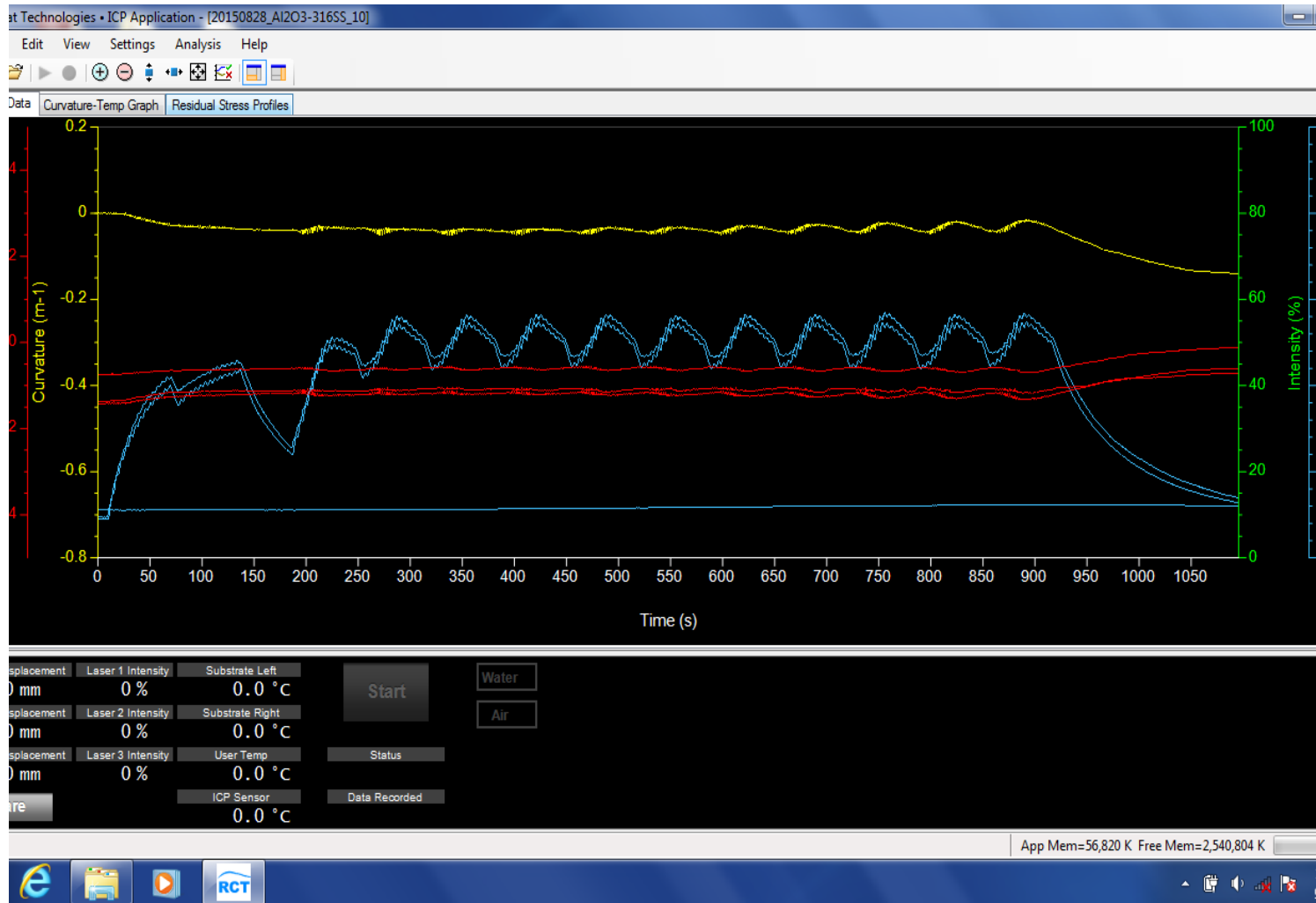
Deposition Stress + Thermal Stress = Residual Stress

Subjectivities of ICP



Selection of points performed by operator:

- Beginning and end of spraying
- Beginning and end of deposition stress regime
- End of cooling (approx. room temp)



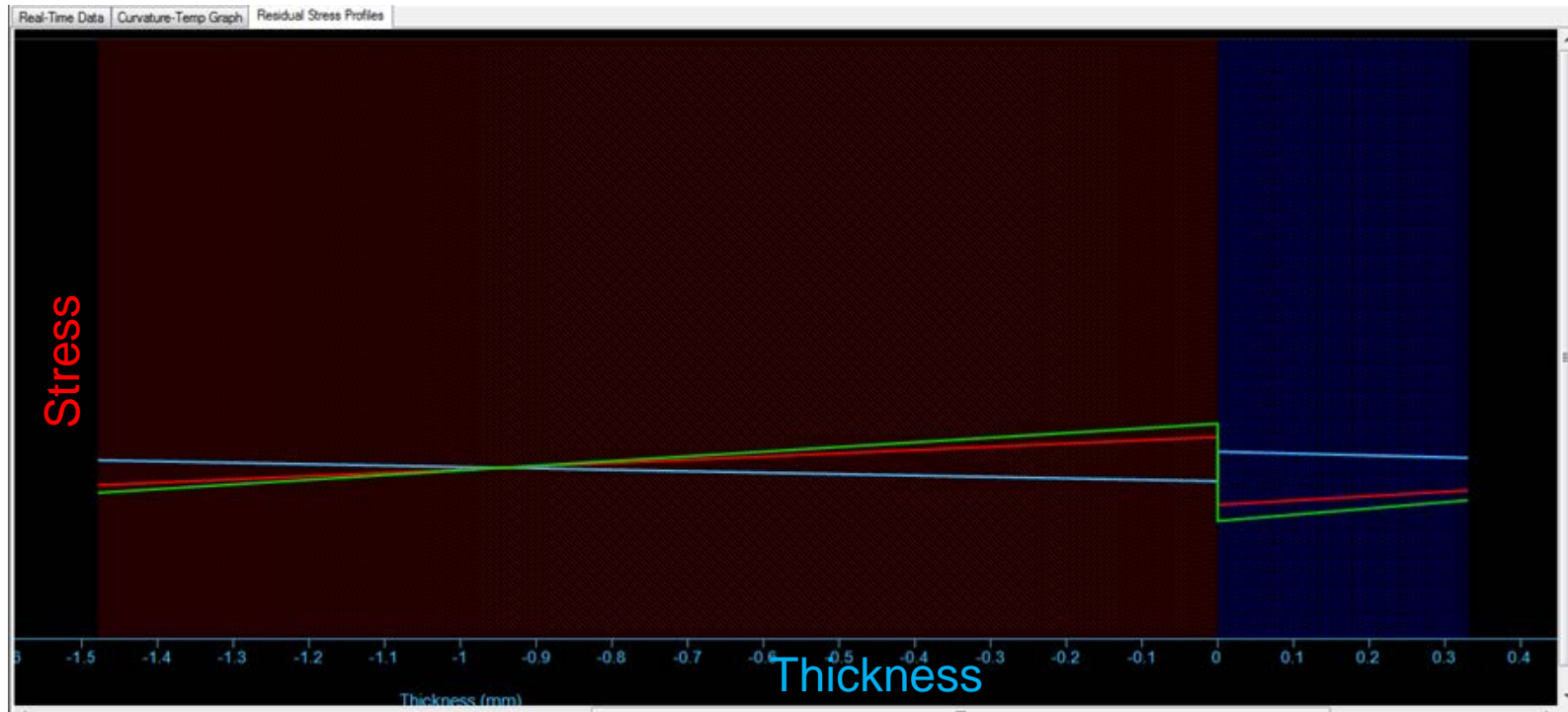
Temp (blue) note pre-heat, steady state through several raster passes

Three lasers (red) two at ends of lesser magnitude than center shows convex bending

Curvature (yellow) shows increasing flex with thermal cycling as spray run progresses, then slowly increases as thermal stress builds on cooling

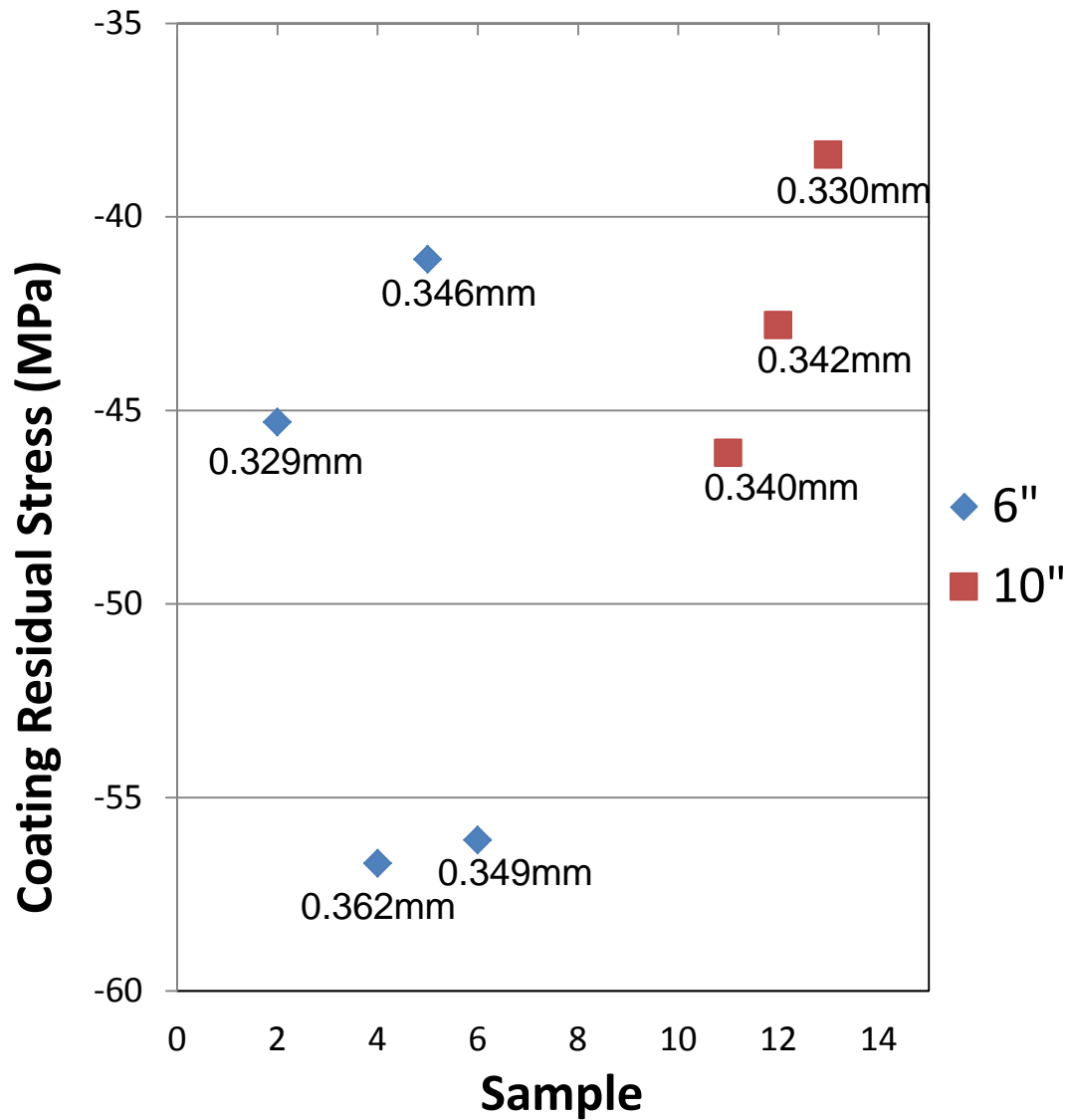
Real-Time Data Collection Screen

Stress Profile Plot



Stress profile shows build of stress through thickness of substrate and coating

Note differing slope of deposition stress (blue) and thermal stress (red)



Residual Stress =
Quenching Stress +
Thermal Stress

Large variability
due to process
variation

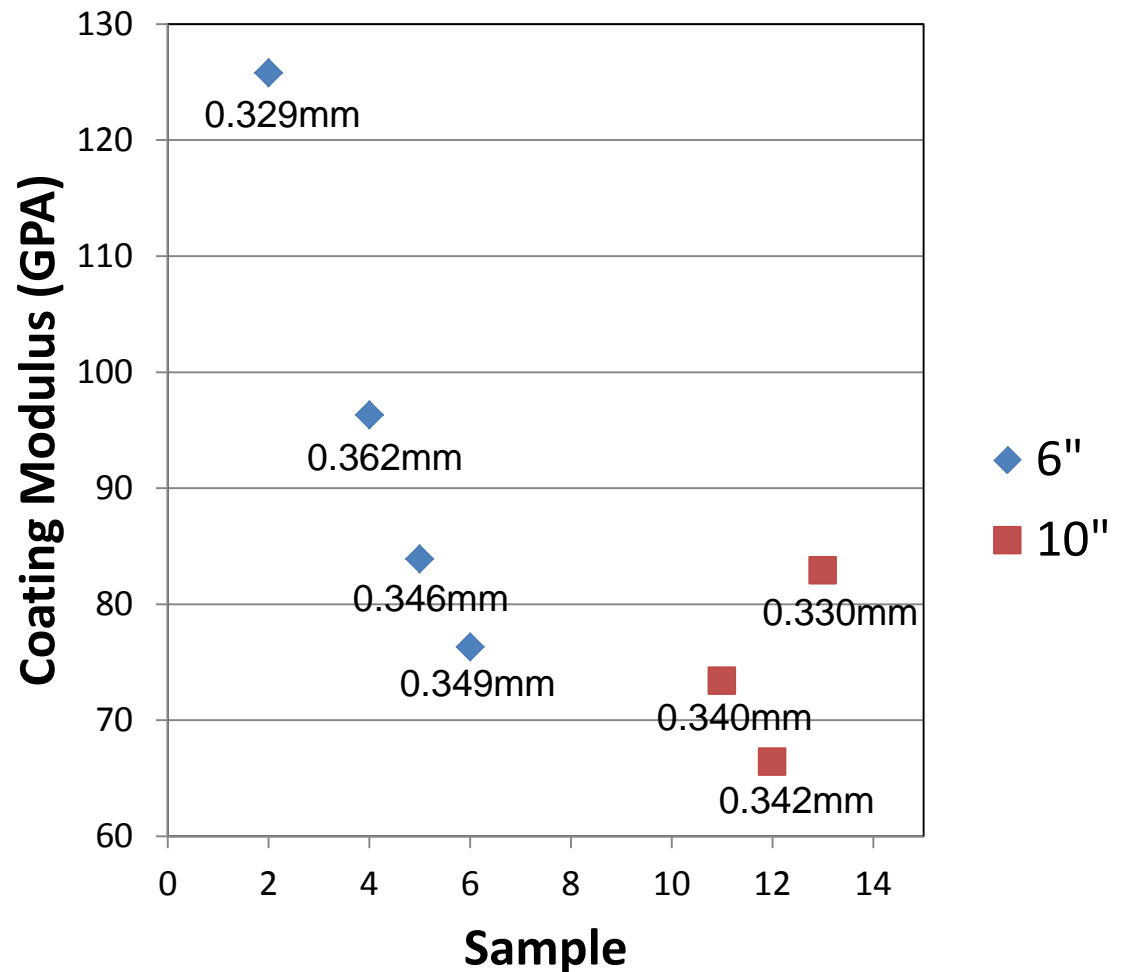
Reproducibility of
process measured
by variability of
residual stress

Elastic modulus determined for linear range selected from Curvature – Temp plot.

Compare to bulk alumina modulus ~ 300 GPa. [accuratus.com]

Large variability due to process variation

Reproducibility of process indicated by variation of coating modulus



ICP Data & Clyne Equation

$$\Delta\kappa = \frac{6E_0E_S(h+H)hH\Delta\alpha\Delta T}{E_D^2h^4 + 4E_DE_Sh^3H + 6E_DE_Sh^2H^2 + 4E_DE_ShH^3 + E_S^2H^4}$$

$$\Delta\kappa \propto \frac{hH \Delta T}{(h+H)^3}$$

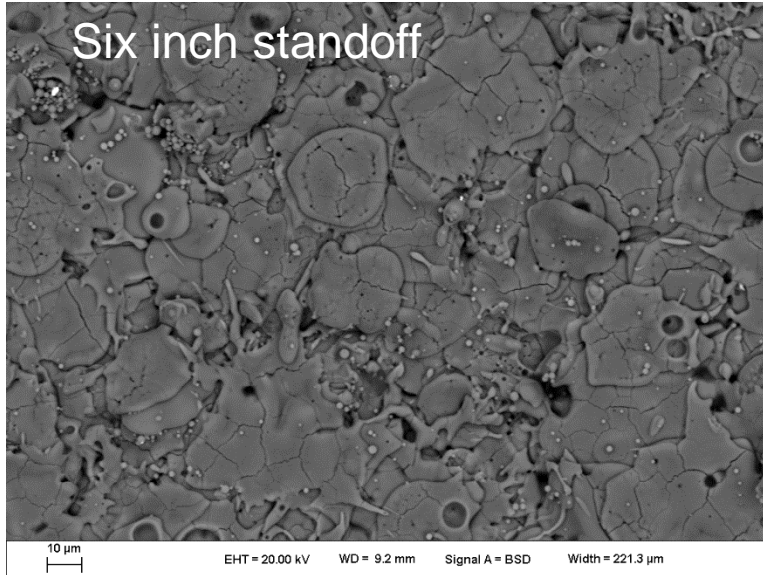
Input

$E_{\text{substrate}}$
 $E_{\text{coating (bulk)}}$
Substrate Thickness (H)
Coating Thickness (h)
Coating Weight
Feedstock Flow Rate
Traverse Speed

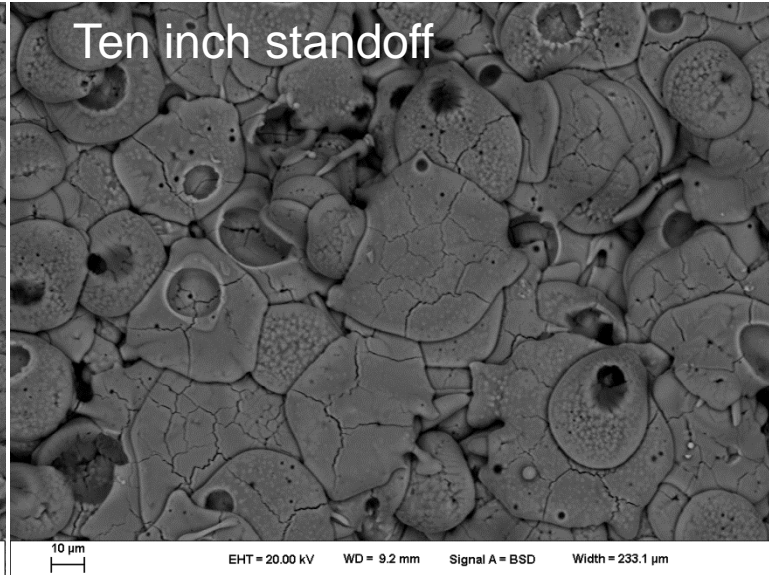
Output

$E_{\text{substrate}}$
(calculated)
 E_{coating} (calculated)
Curvature (K)
 ΔT
Deposition
Efficiency

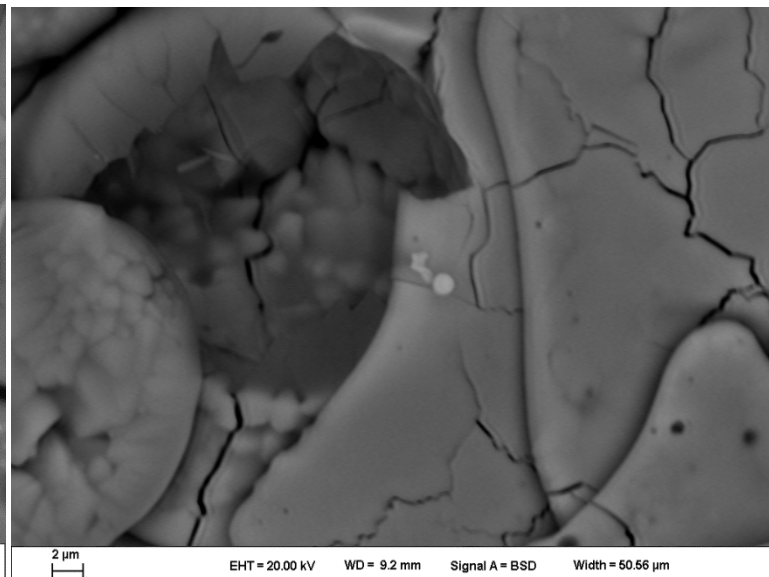
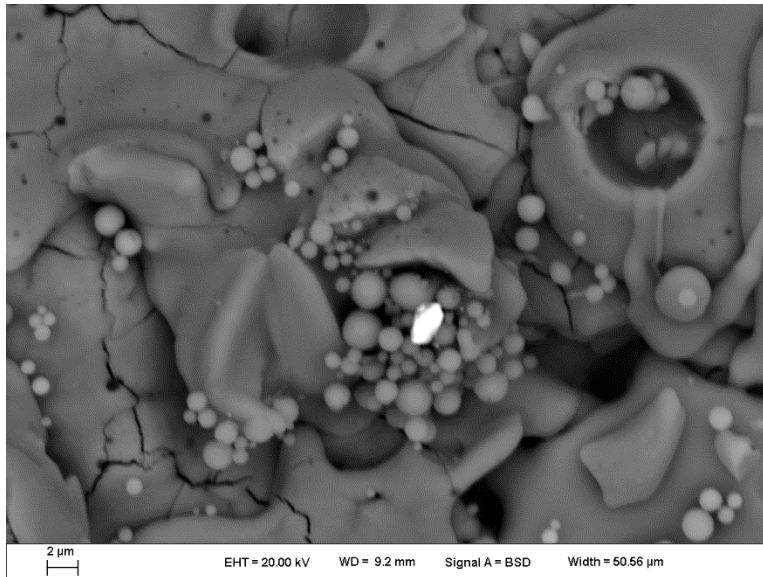
Six inch standoff



Ten inch standoff



zoom
↓



Smaller splat diameters. More splashing.
Less craters.
More fine spherical particles (not splats).

Larger splat diameters. No splashing.
More and larger craters.
Dendritic solidification?

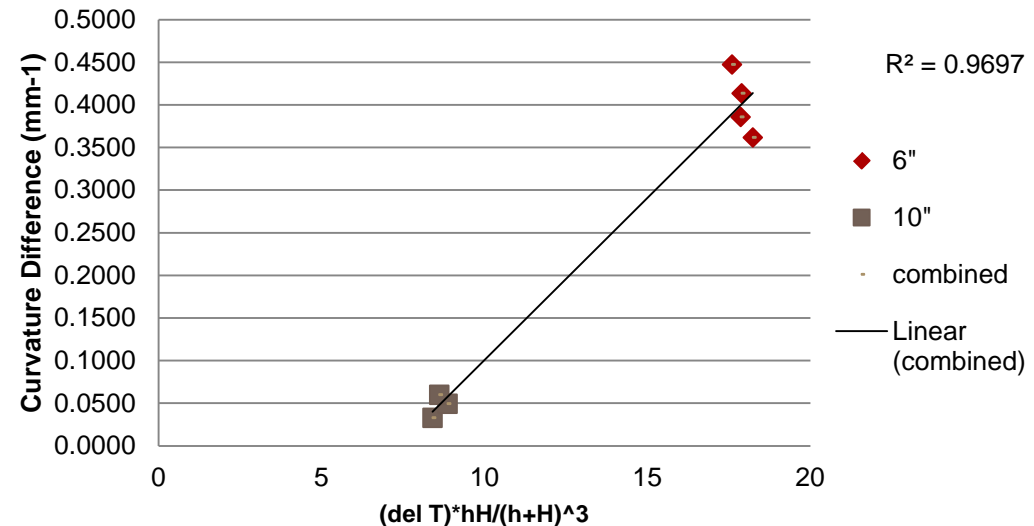
Conclusions

TSRL currently has capacity to capture relevant process parameters and variations.

TSRL now has instrumentation to measure coating product properties in-situ, at the point of production

For this particular experiment, 6" standoff yielded particles with higher velocity and temperatures, resulting in coatings with higher magnitude of compressive residual stress and higher modulus.

Future work will focus on tuning these input and output parameters to determine repeatability of sprayed coatings for increased efficiency and higher quality products



$$\Delta \kappa \propto \frac{hH \Delta T}{(h + H)^3}$$

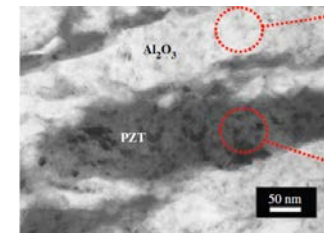
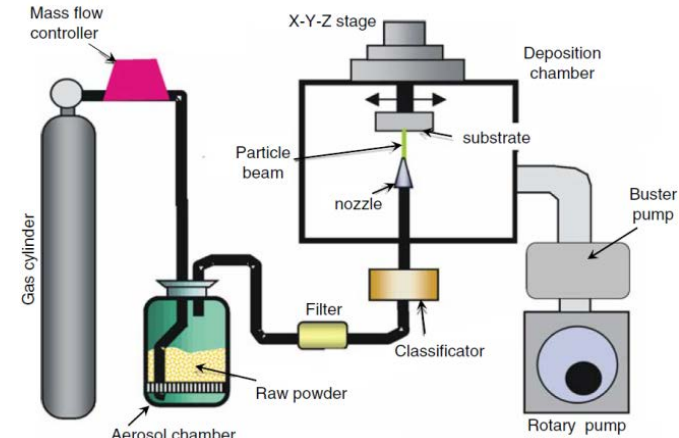
Deformation of Alumina Particles in Compression –
Basis for a Room Temperature Ceramic Coating Deposition

AEROSOL DEPOSITION

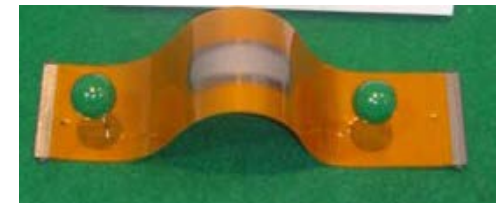
Motivation

Aerosol Deposition (AD) enables materials integration.

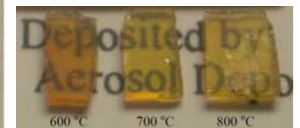
- Ceramics are conventionally processed at **2000°C**.
- AD process at **room temperature** (RT) in vacuum
 - sub-micron particles accelerated to high velocity by pressurized gas, impacted, consolidated to form a film.
- Similar AD ceramic film microstructures
 - sub-micron particles undergo *plastic deformation*
 - break up into *small crystallites* (20-75 nm)¹⁻³
 - planar *defects* and *amorphous regions*⁴.



AD process and coatings from Akedo *J. Am. Ceram. Soc.*, 2006;89:1834



AD Flexible electronics from J. Akedo. *JTTEE5*, 2007;17:181



AD magnetic films from Mizoguchi et al. *J. Magnetic Soc Japan* 2006;30;659

Particle deformation/bonding not well understood

- Common deformation mechanisms exist.
- Examine sub-micron ceramic particles RT deformation as a building block for AD coatings.

[1] Akedo, J. and Ogiso, H., *JTST*, Vol. 17, (2008), pp. 181-198.
[2] Akedo, J., *JTTEE5*, Vol. 17, (2007), pp. 181-198.

[3] Akedo, J. *J. Am. Ceram. Soc.*, Vol. 89, (2006), pp. 1834-1839.
[4] Park, H. *et al. Scripta Materialia*, 2015.

Motivation

AD Deposition efficiencies are low

Why do some ceramic particles deform and others don't?

Akedo presented data indicating an optimum milling time but no explanation. Why is milling important?

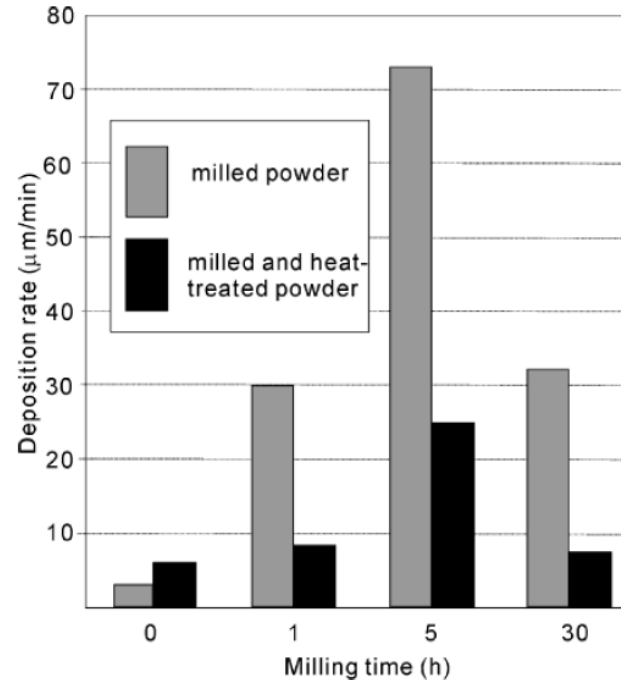
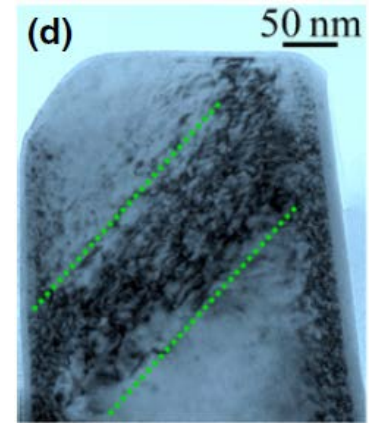


Fig. 4. Deposition rate for PZT film formation at room temperature using powder milled for different duration times with (black bar)/without (gray bar) heat-treatment procedure at 800°C for 4 h in air. The deposition area is $5 \times 5 \text{ mm}^2$.

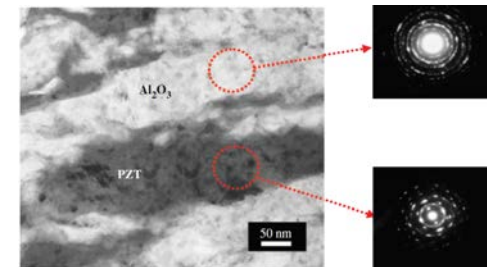
Akedo & Lebedev, Jpn. J. Appl. Phys. V. 41(2002) 6980-4

Motivation

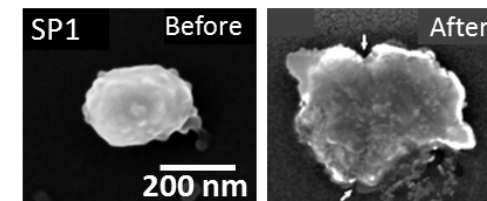
- Bulk materials with high degrees of covalent/ionic bonding, e.g. ceramics, typically undergo brittle fracture when strained.
 - a combination of limited fracture toughness and preexisting flaws.
 - The role of pre-existing flaws and defects can evolve as the characteristic length scale of materials decrease (e.g. micro-pillars and particles) [1-14].
 - In bulk ceramics → crack initiation sites.
- **At small length scales, significant plasticity observed in ceramic single crystals at room temperatures.**
 - Low strain rates → dislocation slip and shape change
 - compressed sapphire micro-pillars [10], particles [16], and confined zones underneath an indenter [36] at RT.
 - High strain rates → aerosol deposition (AD)
 - < 2 μm particles are accelerated to high velocity (200-600 m/s) by pressurized gas, impacted, deformed, and consolidated on the substrates under vacuum [16-24].
- Room temperature plasticity in ceramics at small length scale gave insights into future development of alternative ceramic forming technology and high strength/high toughness functional ceramics.
- The focus of this study is to better understand the deformation behavior observed in small-scale, compressed ceramic particles, specifically sapphire or $\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ and how they play a role in making AD coatings.



Dislocations on {001} planes in compressed ZrC pillar from S. Kiani, et al. *J. Am. Ceram. Soc.*, 2015:98:2313



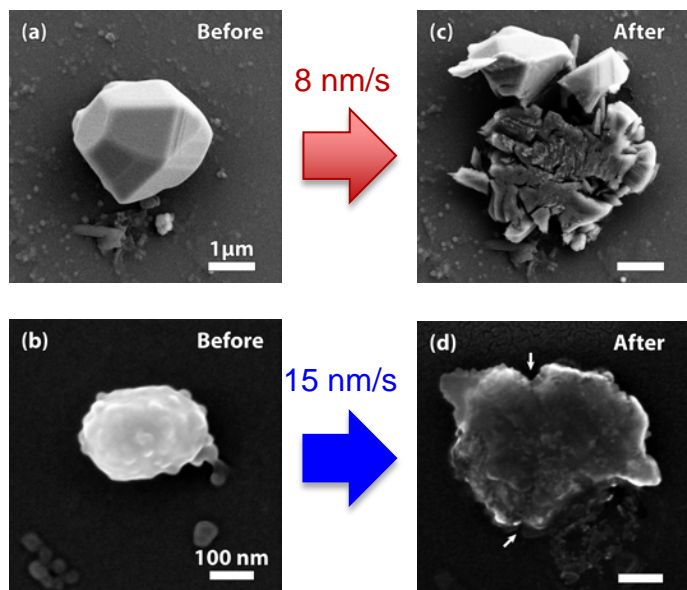
AD Al₂O₃ and PZT composite film from J. Akedo. *J. Am. Ceram. Soc.*, 2006:89:1834



Compressed sapphire particle from P. Sarobol, et al., *JTST*, 2016:25

- Performed micro-compression on 3.0 μm and 0.3 μm Al_2O_3 particles
- Micron sized particles - **brittle fracture**
 - Absorbed strain energy density before fracture **$107 \pm 69 \text{ MJ/m}^3$**
 - Strain before fracture **$5.5 \pm 1\%$**
- Sub-micron sized particles - **substantial plastic deformation** before fracture.
 - Absorbed strain energy density before fracture **$630 \pm 238 \text{ MJ/m}^3$**
 - Strain before fracture **$18 \pm 9\%$**
 - **Deformable sub-micron sized particles = AD coating building block**

- **6x** higher strain energy density
 - dislocation nucleation
- **3x** higher accumulated strain



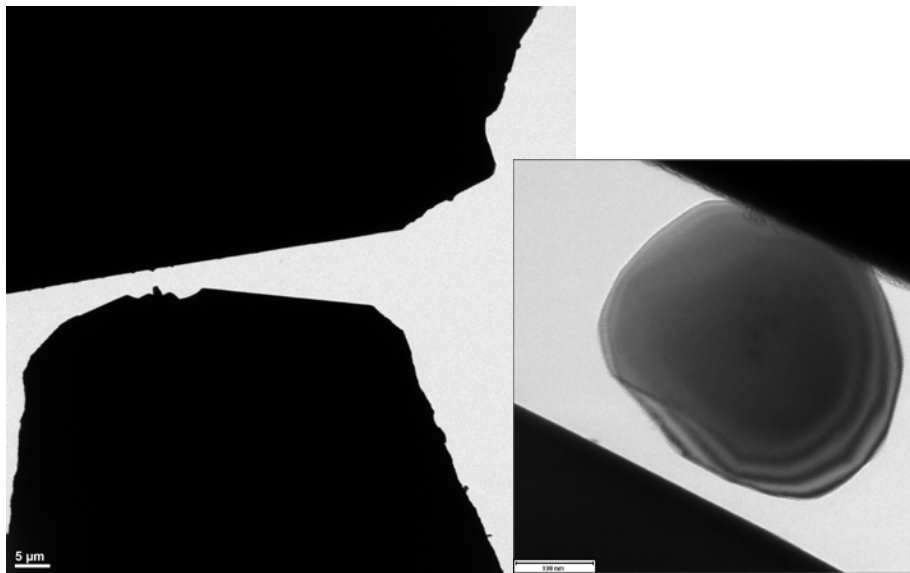
	Micron	Sub-micron
# Pre-existing Defects	High	Moderate
Energy Density Input	Low	Moderate
Governing Mechanism(s)	Fracture	Plasticity + Fracture
Response to Compression	Crack initiation & Propagation	Dislocation nucleation, slip, crack initiation & propagation

Sub-micron sized Al_2O_3 response to compression
 – *In Situ* TEM micro-compression
 – Molecular Dynamics Simulation

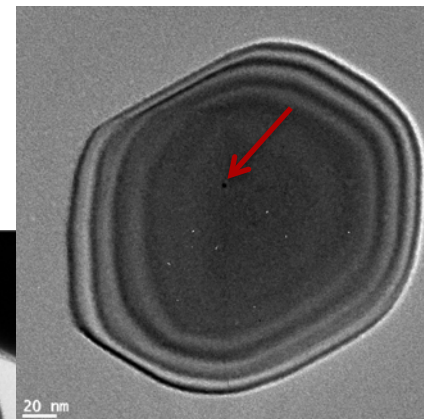
In Situ TEM Compression

In Situ Micro-Compression⁵ – 300 nm particles

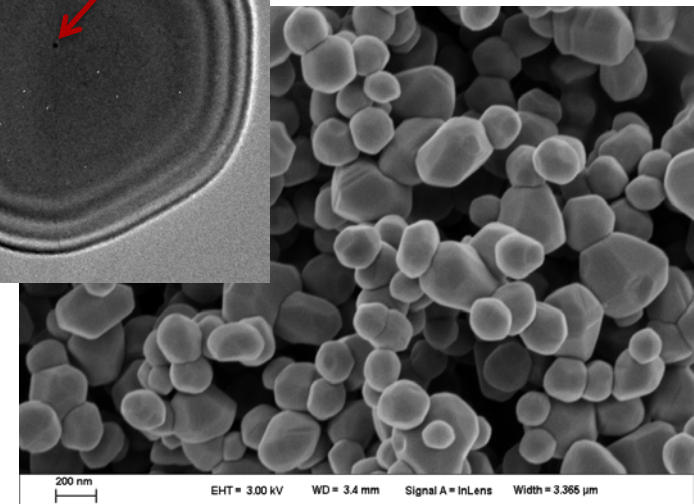
- Single crystal, ultra pure 300 nm sapphire ($\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$) particles.
- A Hysitron PI95 TEM Picoindenter with a 1 μm diameter flat punch tip and the a JEOL 2100 LaB₆ TEM⁷ at 200 kV were used.
- Compression done in **open loop** mode with the loading rate of 10 $\mu\text{N/s}$ (approx. $\leq 2 \text{ nm/s}$ displ rate). Images taken at 15 fps.



In situ TEM micro-compression on 0.3 μm particle



Bright field TEM image of a 300 nm particle oriented on the [001] zone axis.



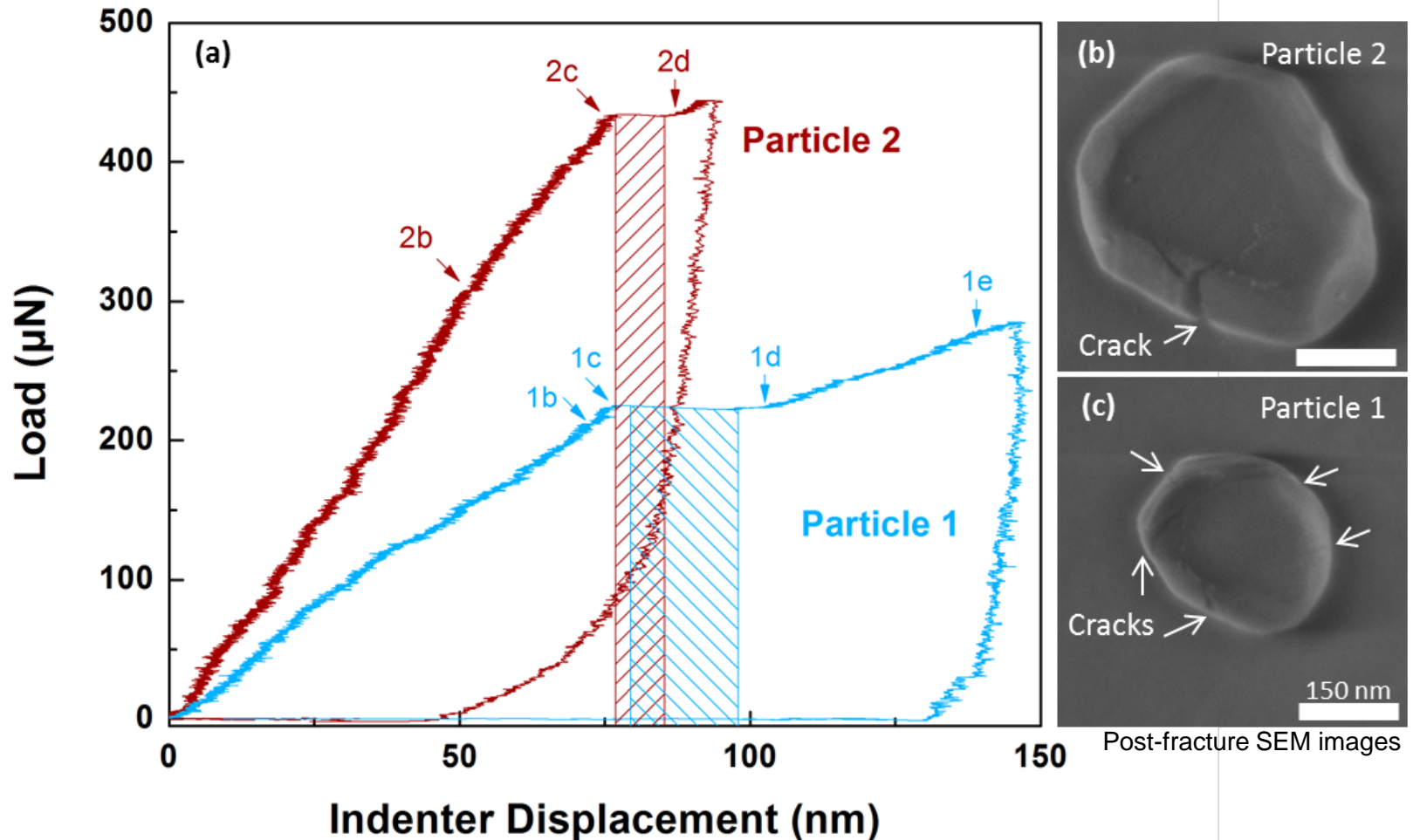
SE SEM image of the 300 nm

[5] Sarobol, P., et al., SAND2014-18127, (2014).

[6] Hysitron I (2013) SEM Picoindenter User Manual. Revision 9.3.0913 edn.

[7] Hattar, K., et al., Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research B. Vol. 338, (2014), pp. 56–65.

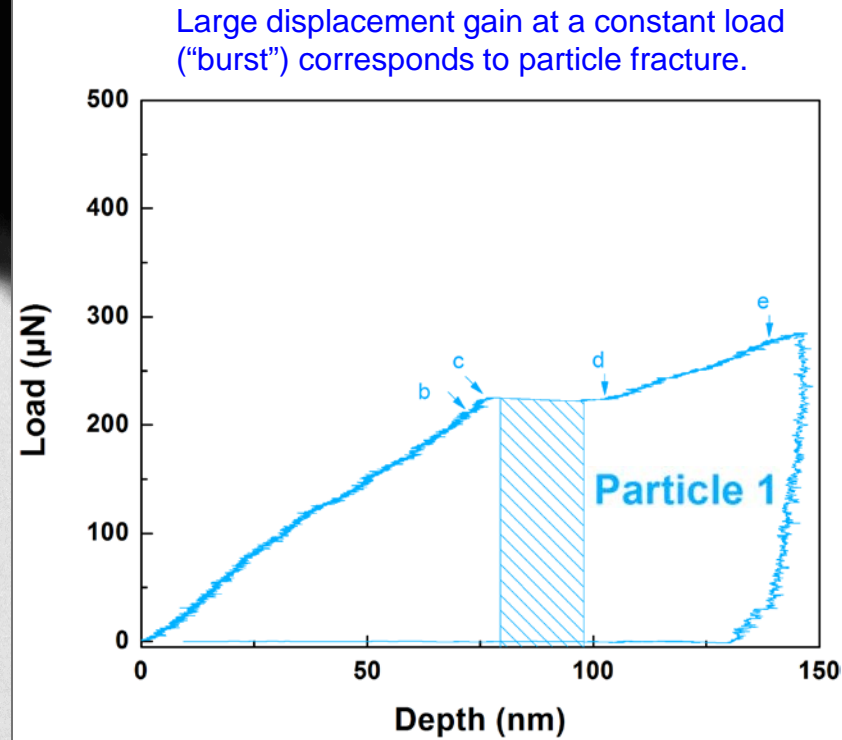
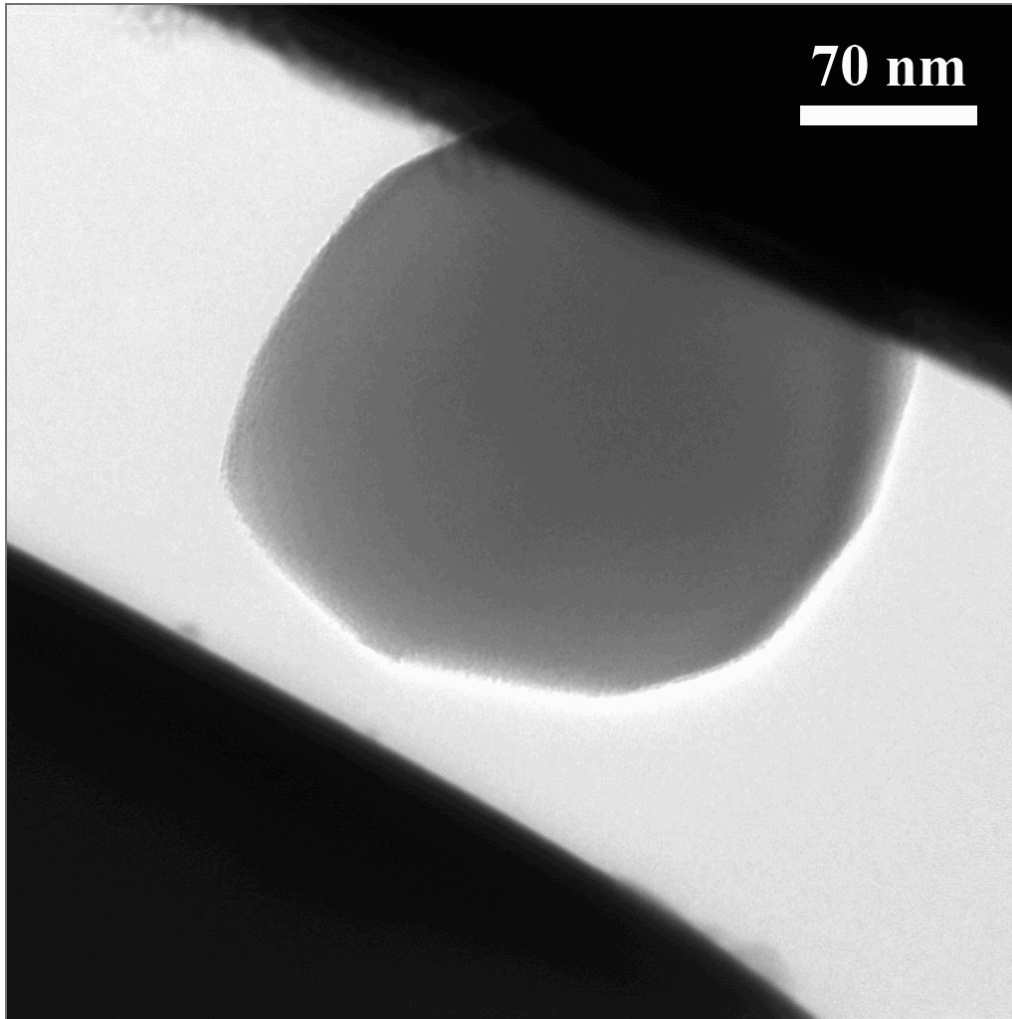
In Situ TEM Compression



- Elastic to Plastic transitions are unclear. Seemed to happen much earlier in the loading (first 5-10 nm displacement). Absence of concavity and linearity of the curves were surprising.
- G_C values for Particle 1 and 2 are 45 J/m² and 17 J/m², respectively. Values within the calculated range of orientation-dependent G_C of single crystal alumina of 16 - 65 J/m² [47].

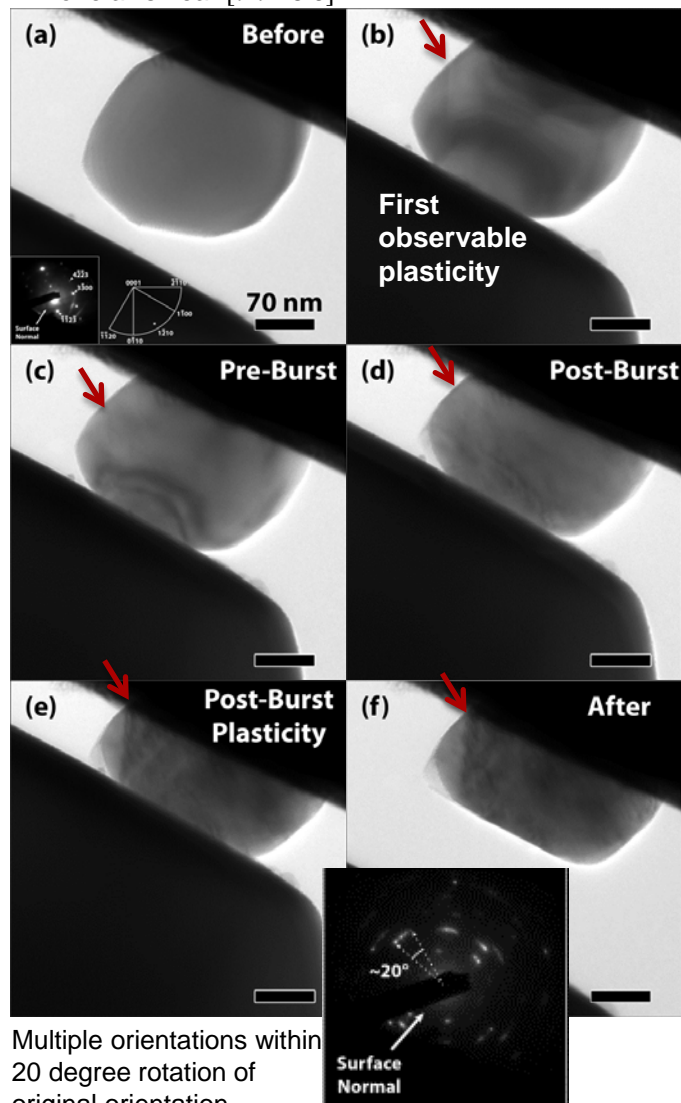
In Situ TEM Compression – P1

Diameter $\sim 0.24\ \mu\text{m}$, Open loop, Strain rate $\sim 0.009\ \text{s}^{-1}$



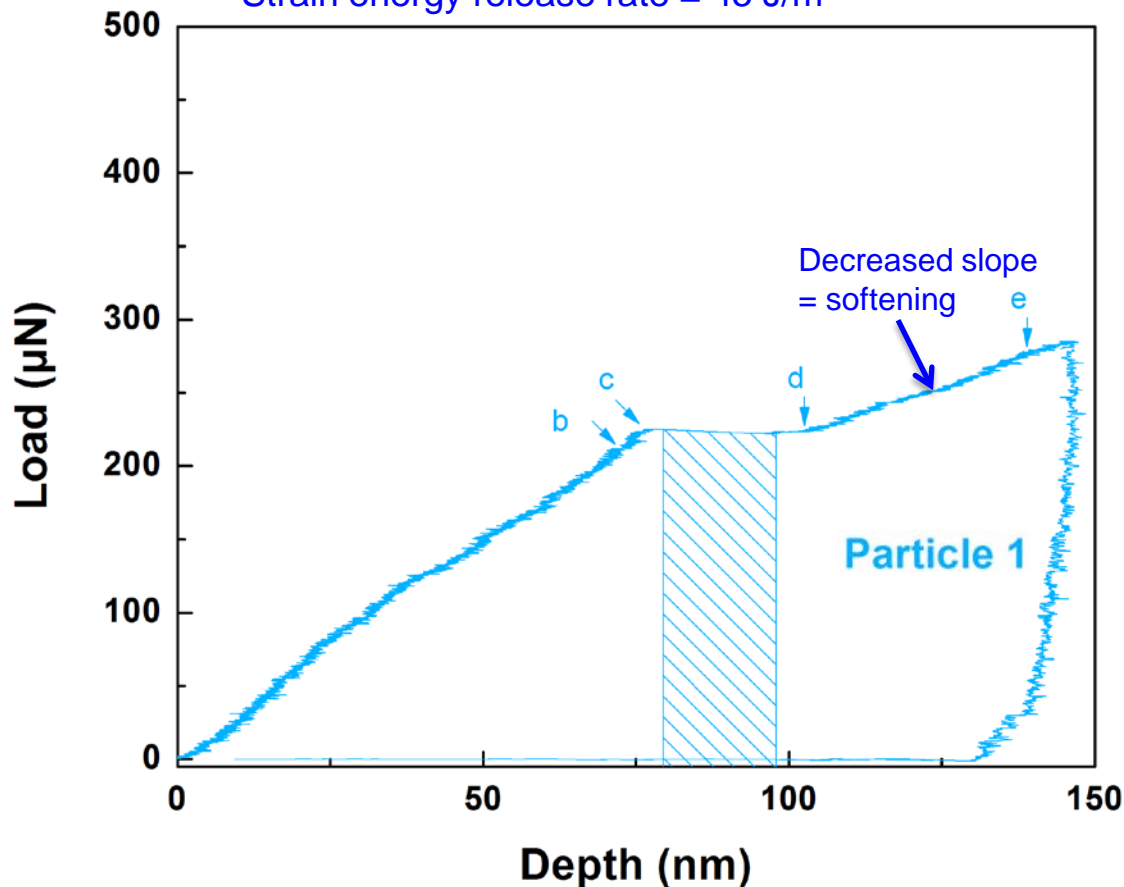
In Situ TEM Compression – P1

Zone axis near $[\bar{9}\bar{9}18\ 6]$



Multiple orientations within 20 degree rotation of original orientation.

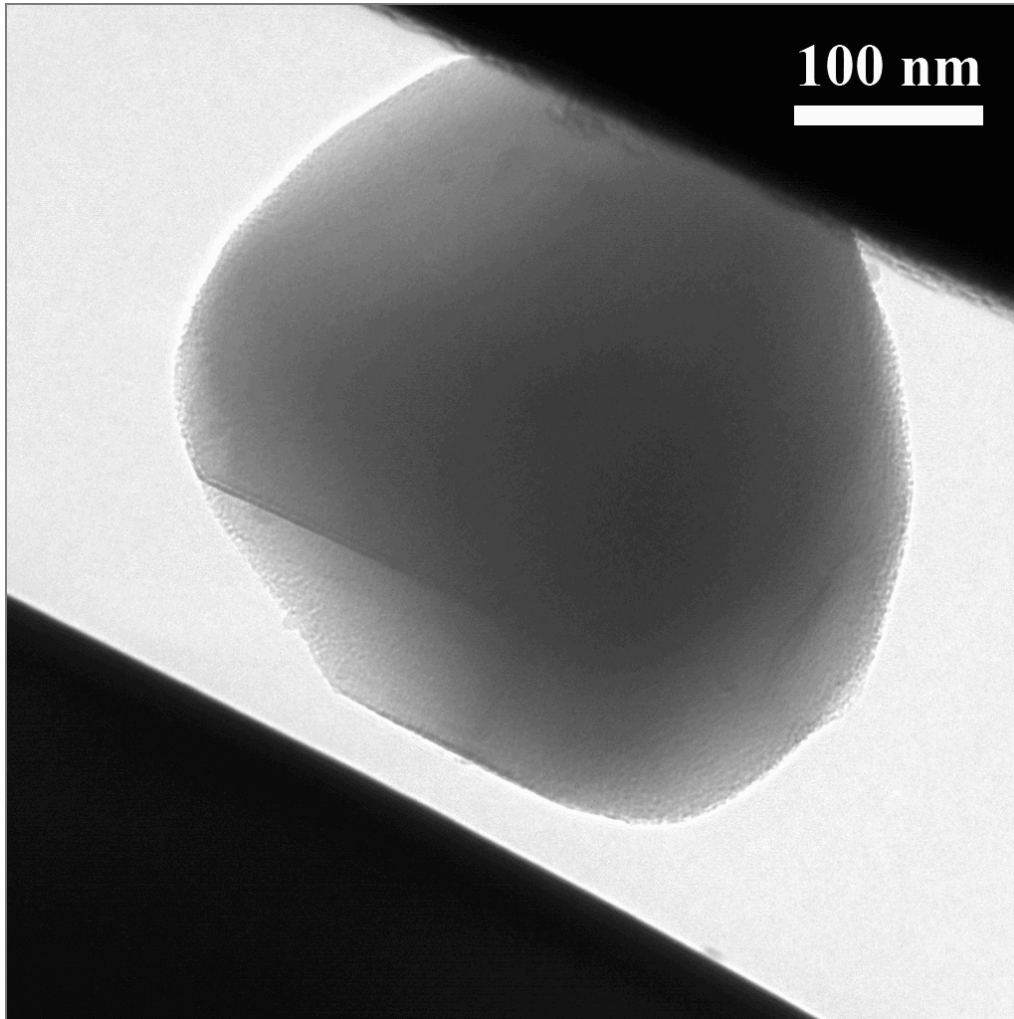
▪ Strain energy release rate = 45 J/m²



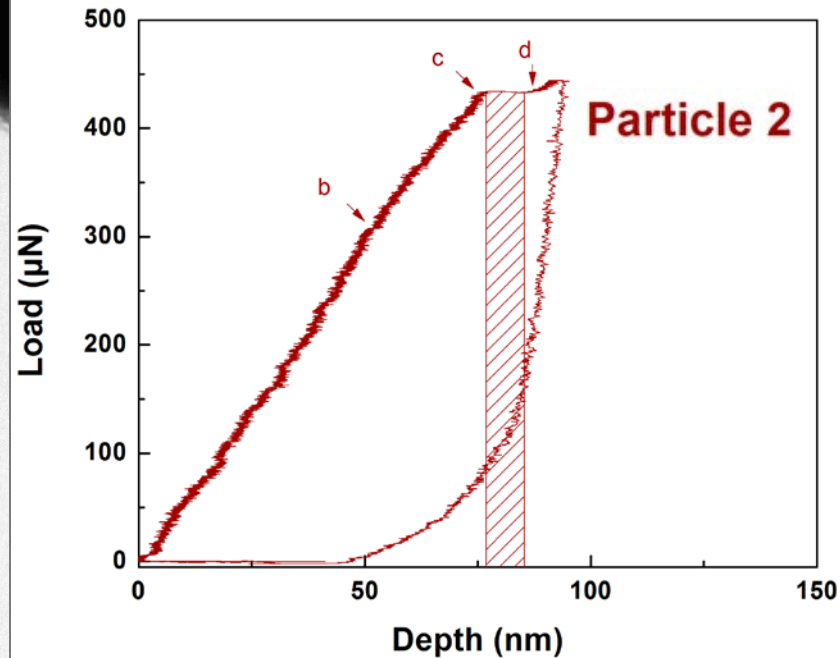
- Pre-burst plasticity: small regime with low dislocation activity.
- **Crack nucleation and propagation** leading to through-particle fracture.
- Post-burst plasticity: high dislocation activities, change in deformation mechanism as indicated by lower slope.
- **Mosaicity** with a 20 degree orientation spread.

In Situ TEM Compression – P2

Diameter $\sim 0.38 \mu\text{m}$, Open loop, Strain rate $\sim 0.005 \text{ s}^{-1}$

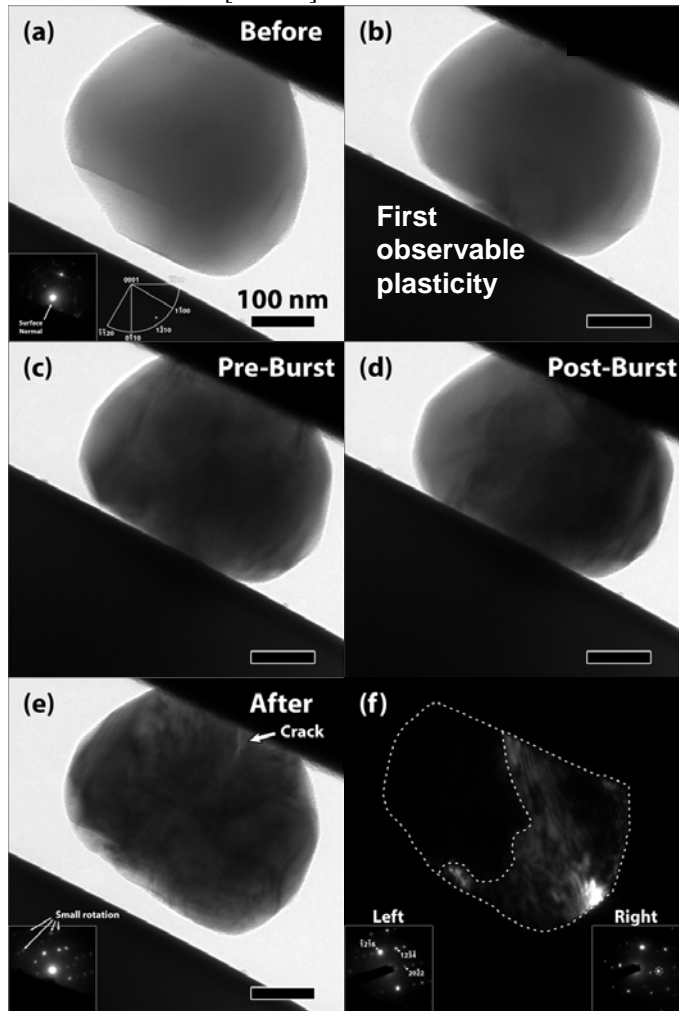


Large displacement gain at a constant load (“burst”) corresponds to particle fracture.



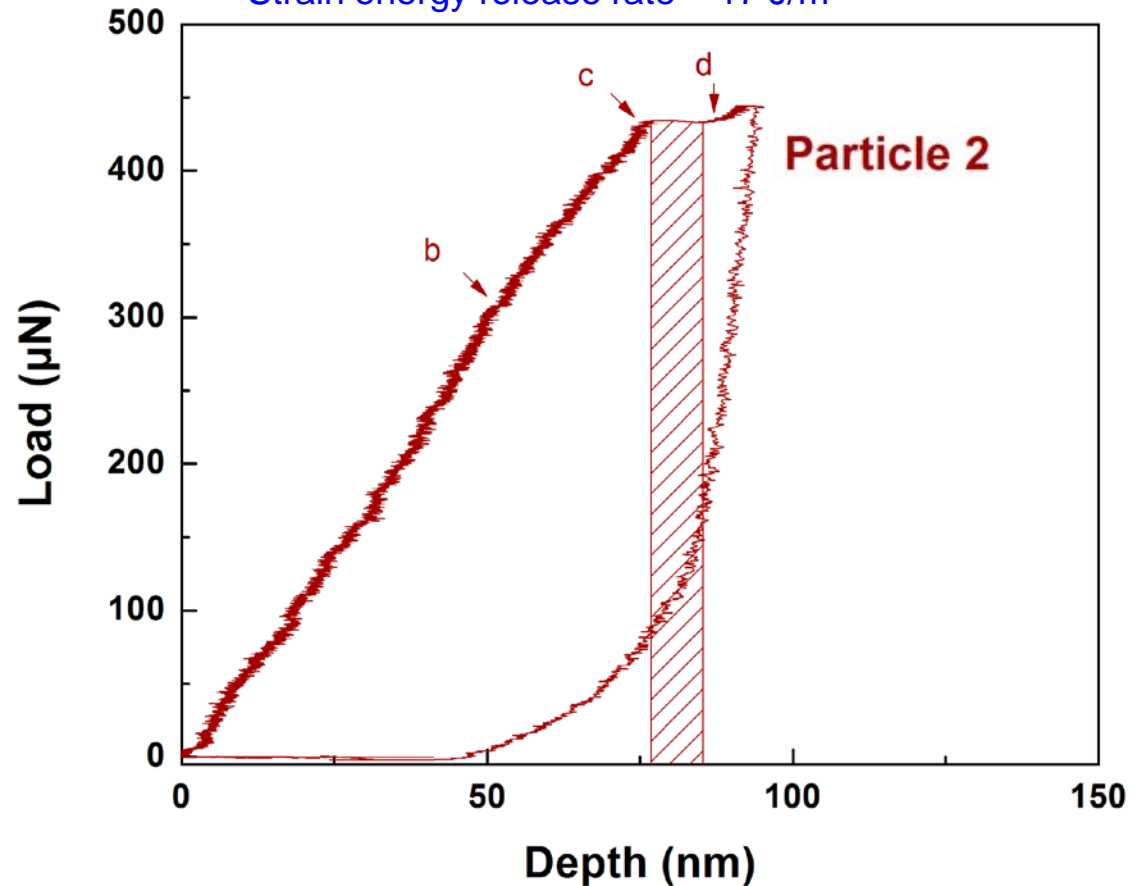
In Situ TEM Compression – P2

Zone axis near $[\bar{2} 5 \bar{3} 2]$



Two halves related by slight rotation, both near $[\bar{1} 2 1 6]$ zone axis

■ Strain energy release rate = 17 J/m^2

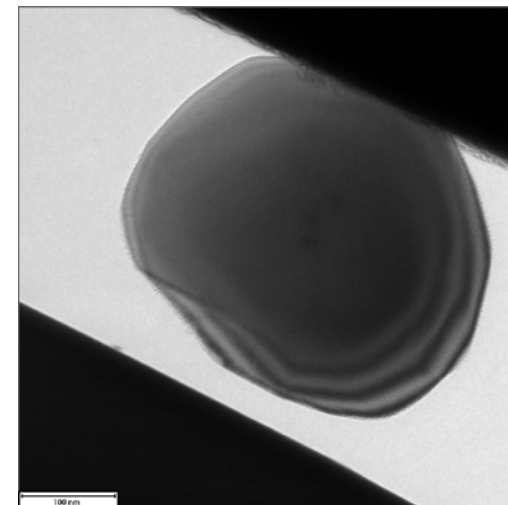
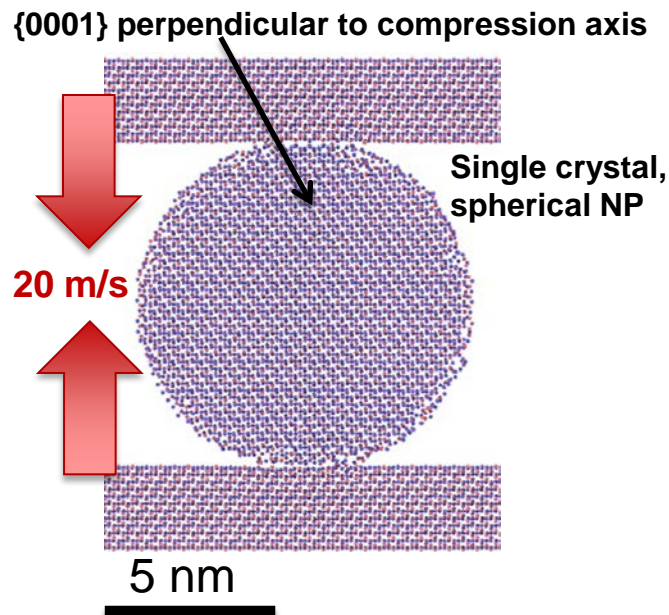


- Pre-burst plasticity: large regime with **high dislocation activity** (nucleation and moving through particle).
- **Crack nucleation and propagation** leading to through-particle fracture.

Simulated Particle Compression

Molecular Dynamics Simulations – 10 nm nanoparticles (NPs)

- MD allows identification of dislocations, slip planes, and particle fracture.
- Long computing time to simulate size > 50 nm (~36 million atoms)
- **Simulating 10 nm sapphire nanoparticle (NP) (~300,000 atoms)**
- A force-field for ceramics, developed by Garofalini⁸.
- NPs were compressed (by ~1/3 of the initial diameter) between sapphire (single crystal $\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$) walls at a constant velocity of **20 m/s**. “Displacement control”.

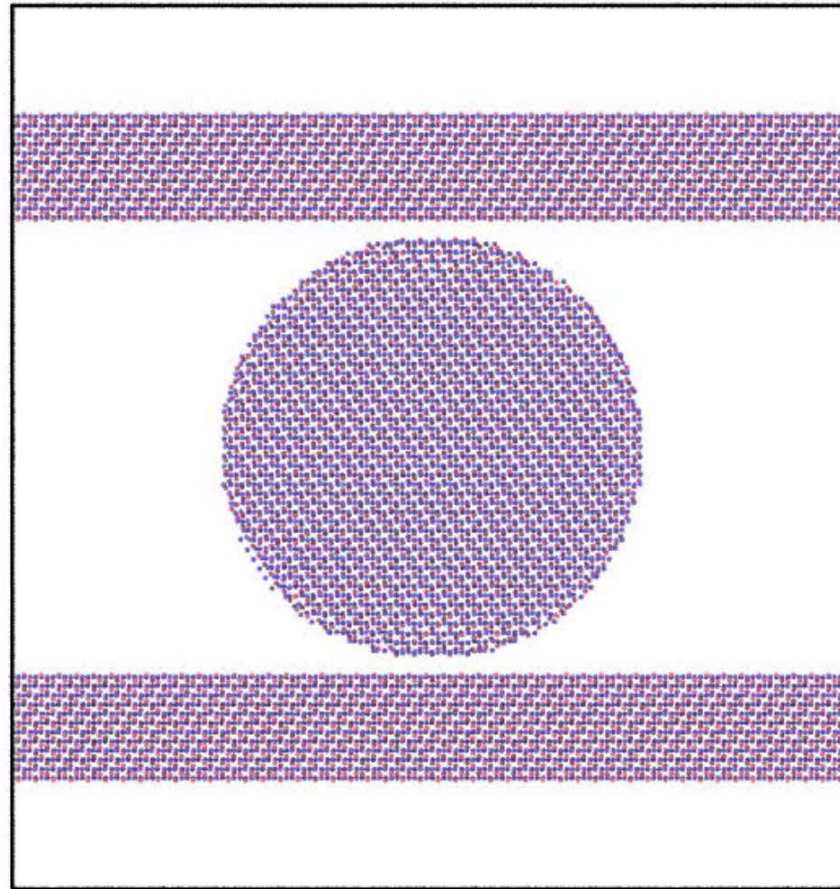


Single crystal, faceted, 300 nm diameter particle

In situ TEM micro-compression on 0.3 μm particle

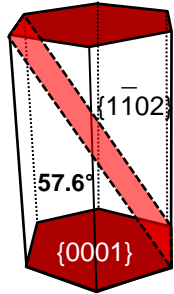
MD Simulation Results

10 nm diameter, defect-free, single crystal α -alumina, compression axis \perp (0001)
20 m/s \rightarrow dislocation nucleation and glide on Rhombohedral planes then fracture

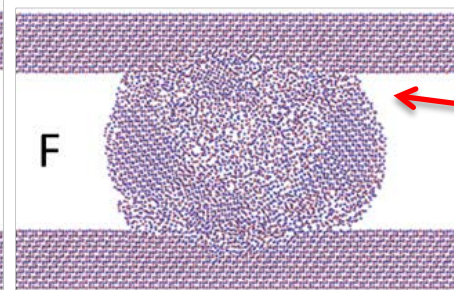
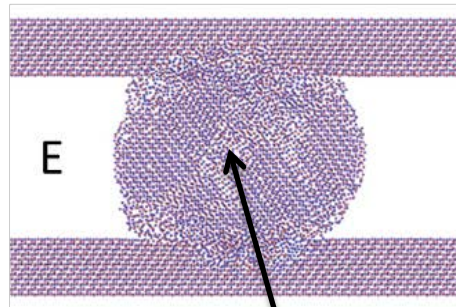
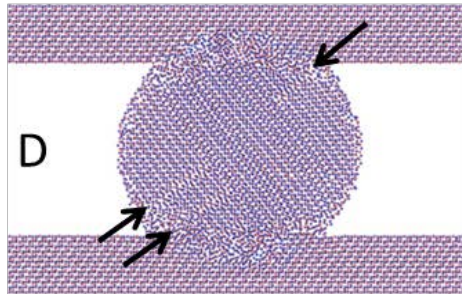
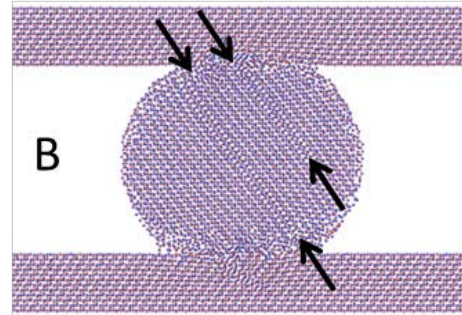
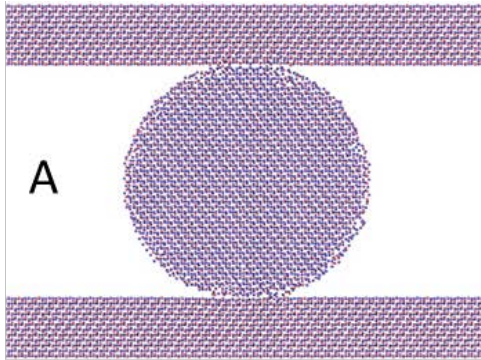


MD Simulation Results

Dislocation plasticity precedes fracture.



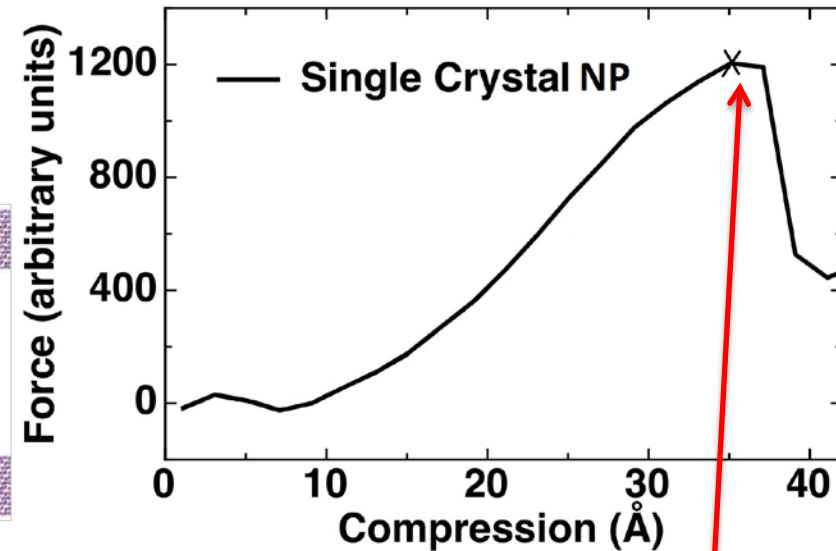
Primary dislocations nucleate at contact points. Then, move through particle on rhombohedral planes



Secondary dislocations nucleate and move through particle on rhombohedral planes, terminating at the primary dislocation planes

Void Initiation

Fracture



Force drop
corresponds to
particle fracture

Conclusions

- The findings from *in situ* TEM micro-compression experiments and molecular dynamic simulations agree well:
 - Dislocation plasticity precedes fracture in compressed small sapphire particles at RT.
 - Range of responses to compression includes
 - Dislocation nucleation, slip, movement
 - Significant shape change
 - Orientation spread (mosaicity)
 - Fracture
- Use info to inform feedstock preparation, aerosol deposition parameters, and particle-particle bonding in the consolidated coatings.
- Room temperature plasticity in ceramics at small length scale gave insights into future development of alternative ceramic forming technology and high strength/high toughness functional ceramics.

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Thank you,
for your attention.

Pylin Sarobol –
psarobo@sandia.gov



Questions ?



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BACK UP SLIDES

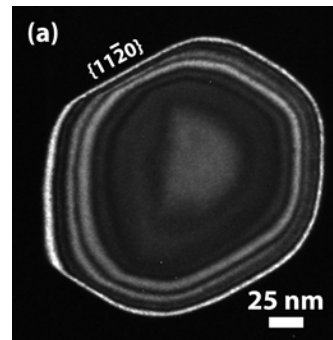
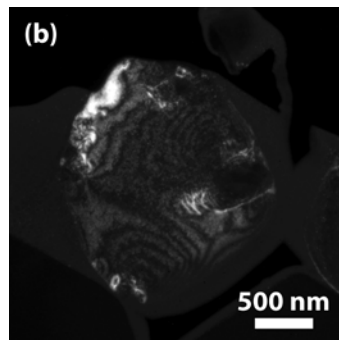
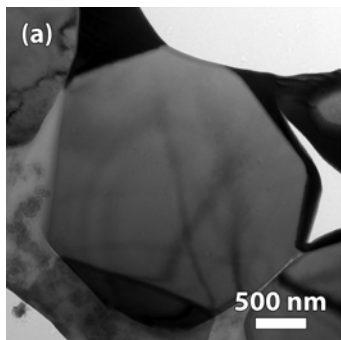
Ceramic Particle RT Deformation - Sapphire

- Deformation behavior influenced by *number of internal defects*, temperature, crystal orientation/size. Numbers of pre-existing (immobile) defect scale with size.
- In situ SEM/TEM micro-compression and **Molecular Dynamics Simulations**

Proposed

	Micron	Sub-micron
# Pre-existing Defects	High	Moderate
Energy Density Input	Low	Moderate
Governing Mechanism(s)	Fracture	Plasticity + Fracture
Response to Compression	Crack initiation & Propagation	Dislocation nucleation, slip, crack initiation & propagation
Compression Testing	SEM	SEM and TEM

- Infeasible (long computing time) to perform molecular dynamics simulations on size $>0.05\mu\text{m}$
- 'smaller' particles ($0.3\mu\text{m}$) are nearly defect-free, and 'larger' particles ($3.0\mu\text{m}$) contain immobile defects that serve as crack nucleation sites.
- Circumvented the size limitation of our models by simulating similar sized (10 nm) nanoparticles (NPs) that were either
 - single crystal
 - contained a grain boundary (GB) as an initial immobile defect.
- This approach still enables the study of NP deformation/fracture in computationally-feasible systems.



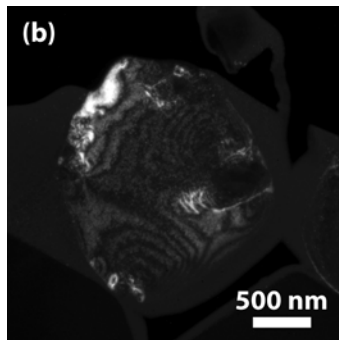
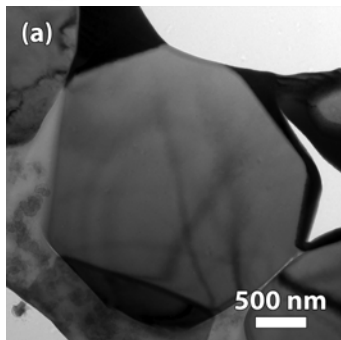
3.0 μm Highly Defective

0.3 μm Nearly Defect Free

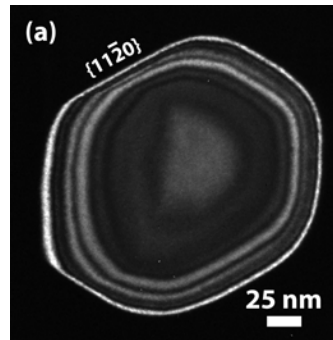
Ceramic Particle RT Deformation - Alumina

- Deformation behavior influenced by *number of internal defects*, temperature, crystal orientation/size. Numbers of pre-existing (immobile) defect scale with size.
- In situ SEM/TEM micro-compression and *Molecular Dynamics Simulations*

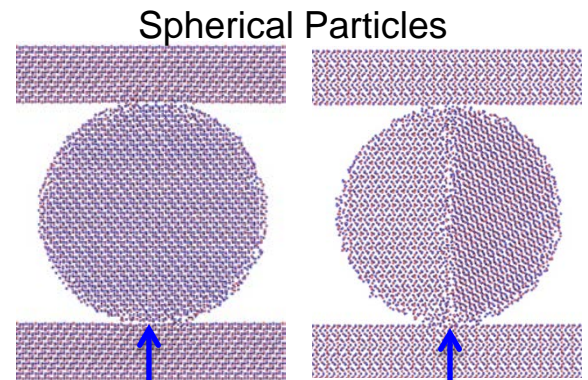
Proposed		Micron	Sub-micron	Single Crystal Nano	Bicrystal Nano
	# Pre-existing Defects	High	Moderate	None	Grain Boundary
	Energy Density Input	Low	Moderate	High	Low
	Governing Mechanism(s)	Fracture	Plasticity + Fracture	Plasticity	Fracture
	Response to Compression	Crack initiation & Propagation	Dislocation nucleation, slip, crack initiation & propagation	Dislocation nucleation, Slip	Crack initiation & propagation
	Compression Testing	SEM	SEM and TEM	MD Simulation	MD Simulation



← 3.0μm Highly Defective →



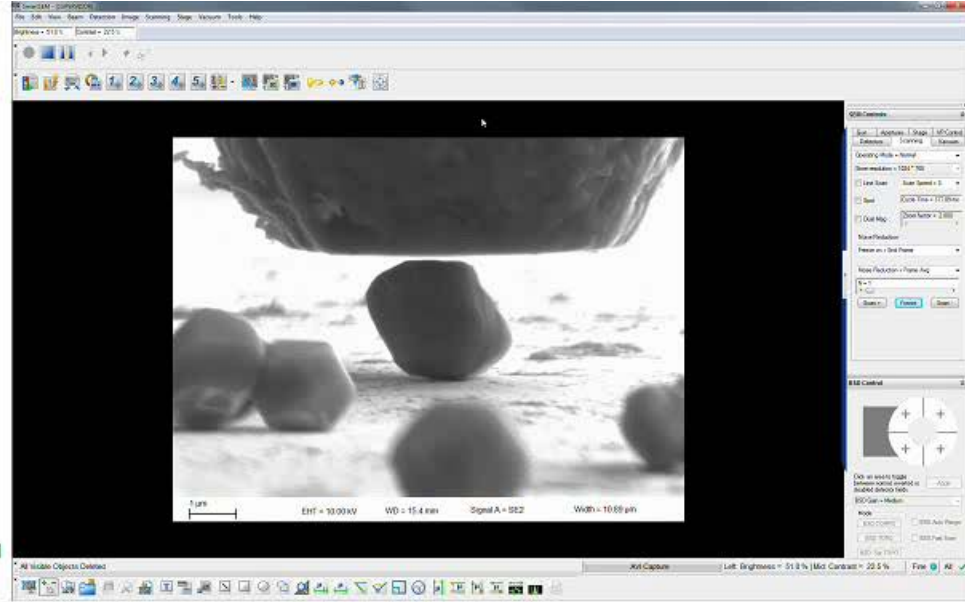
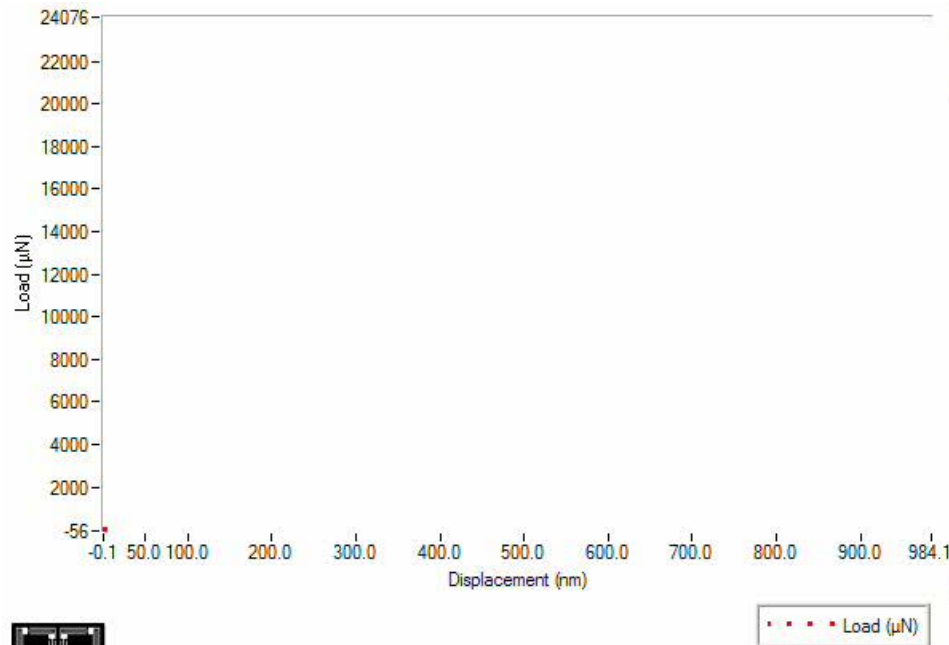
0.3μm Nearly Defect Free



10 nm Defect Free 10 nm with a GB 41

In Situ SEM micro-compression – 3.0 μm

Displacement control, Strain rate $\sim 0.003 \text{ s}^{-1}$

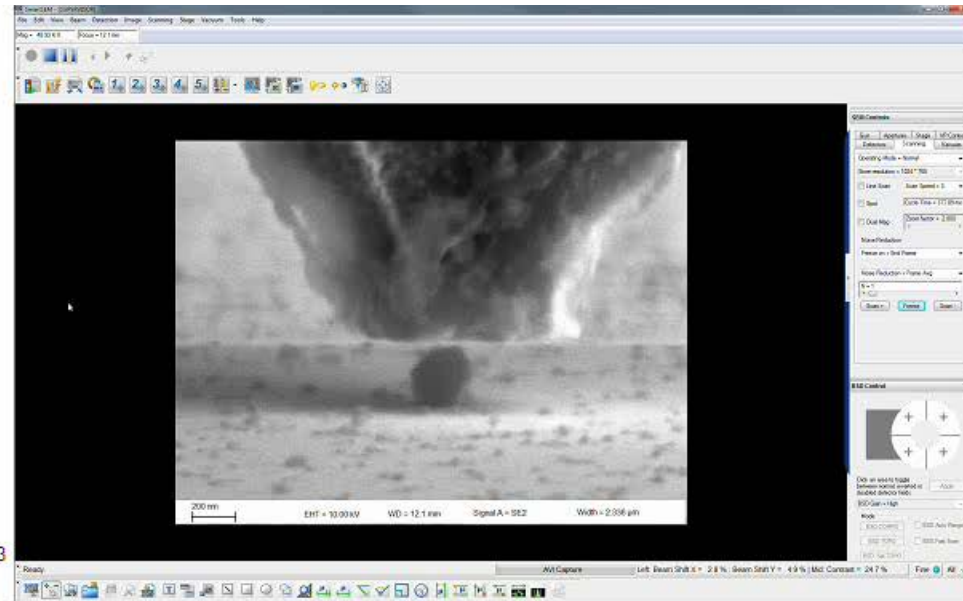
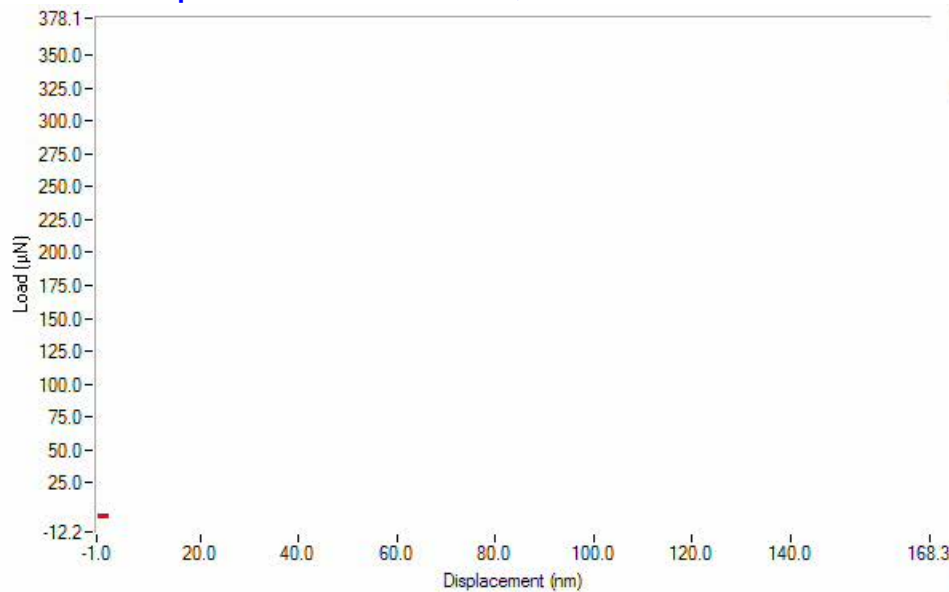


- Compressed 4 particles
- No observable shape change prior to fracture and fragmentation
- Displacement excursion corresponded to a fast fracture event
 - Strain Energy Density before Fracture $\sim 203 \text{ MJ/m}^3$
 - Strain at fracture $\sim 7\%$

Tip could not keep up with large displacement gained during fracture.

In Situ SEM micro-compression – 0.3 μm

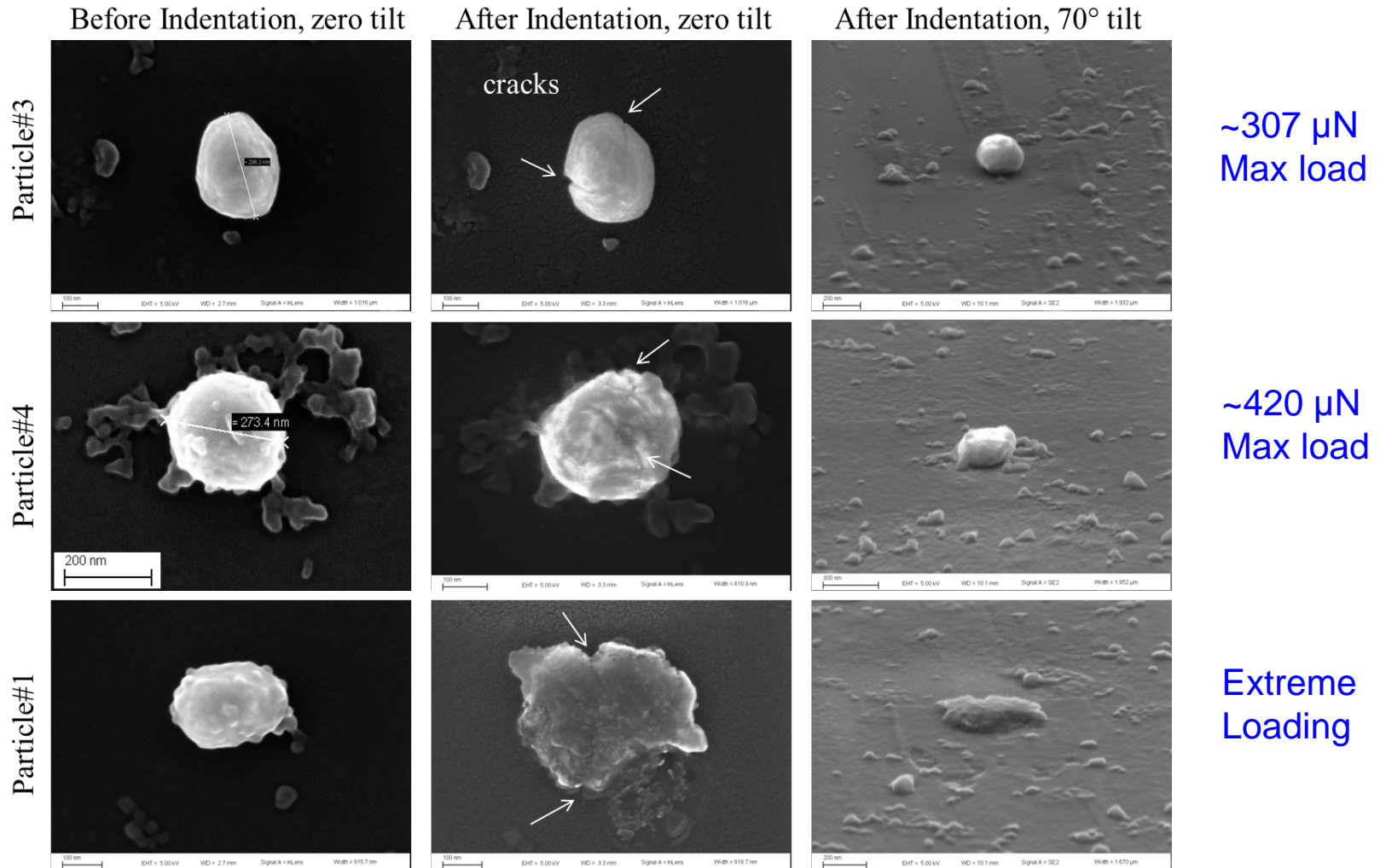
Displacement control, Strain rate $\sim 0.05 \text{ s}^{-1}$



- Compressed 4 particles
- Significant plastic deformation/ shape change and stayed intact
- Displacement excursion corresponded to??? *Ex situ* observation
- Strain Energy Density before displacement excursion $\sim 675 \text{ MJ/m}^3$
 - Strain at displacement excursion $\sim 16\%$

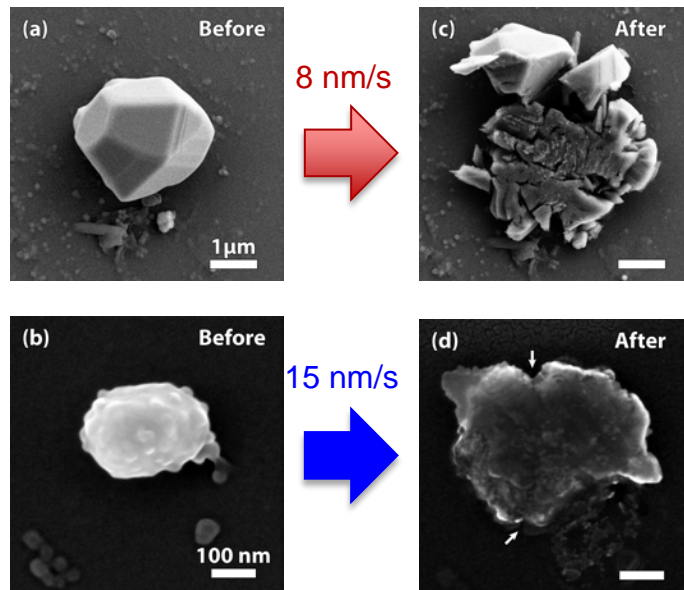
Tip could not keep up with large displacement gained during fracture.

Ex Situ SEM observation – 0.3 μm



Different deformation behavior and load at first fracture may differ from particle-to-particle due to orientation differences and different pre-existing defect densities. However, overall, the sub-micron sized alumina particles exhibited significant plastic deformation before fracture.

Micro-compression Summary



Particle Identifier	Diameter (μm)	Nominal Strain Rate (s ⁻¹)	Strain Energy Density Before Displacement Excursion (MJ/m ³)	Strain at displacement excursion (%)
Large Particles				
SEM-LP1	2.9	0.03	47	5
SEM-LP2	2.6	0.006	106	5
SEM-LP4	2.9	0.005	70	5
SEM-LP5	2.9	0.003	203	7
Avg Large Particles	2.8	-	106±69	5.5 ± 1
Small Particles				
SEM-SP2	0.17	0.09	494	11
SEM-SP3	0.29	0.05	366	12
SEM-SP4	0.28	0.05	607	13
SEM-SP5	0.29	0.05	675	16
*TEM-SA2	0.38	*0.005	573	32
*TEM-SB1	0.24	*0.009	1066	27
Avg Small Particles	0.26	-	630±238	18 ± 9

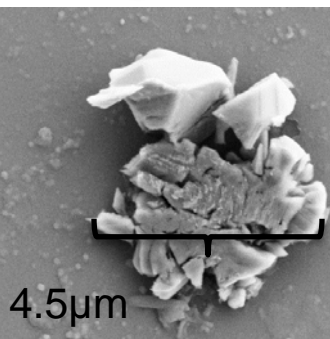
	Micron	Sub-micron
# Pre-existing Defects	High	Moderate
Energy Density Input	Low	Moderate
Governing Mechanism(s)	Fracture	Plasticity + Fracture
Response to Compression	Crack initiation & Propagation	Dislocation nucleation, slip, crack initiation & propagation

- Micron sized particles - brittle fracture
- Sub-micron sized particles - substantial plastic deformation before fracture and/or coordinated shear deformation.
 - **6x** higher strain energy density input
 - dislocation nucleation
 - **3x** higher accumulated strain
 - In some cases, became polycrystalline.

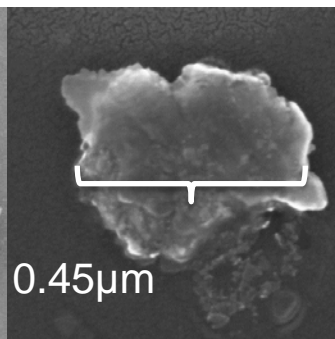
Ceramic Particle RT Deformation - Alumina

- Deformation behavior influenced by **numbers of internal defects**, orientation, size.

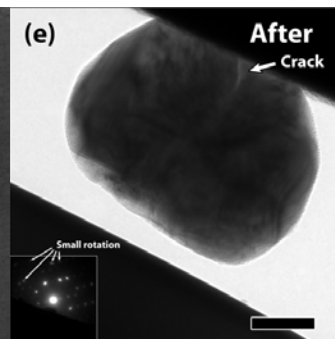
Verified		Micron	Sub-micron	Single Crystal Nano	Bicrystal Nano
	# Pre-existing Defects	High	Moderate	None	Grain Boundary
	Energy Density Input	Low	Moderate	High	Low
	Governing Mechanism(s)	Fracture	Plasticity + Fracture	Plasticity	Fracture
	Response to Compression	Crack initiation & Propagation	Dislocation nucleation, slip, crack initiation & propagation	Dislocation nucleation, Slip	Crack initiation & propagation
	Compression Testing	SEM	SEM and TEM	MD Simulation	MD Simulation



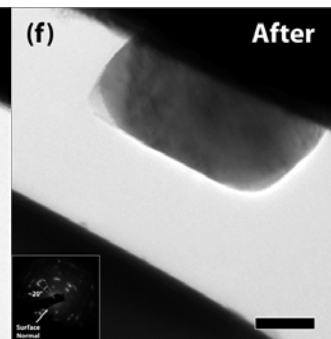
3.0µm - Fracture and Fragmentation



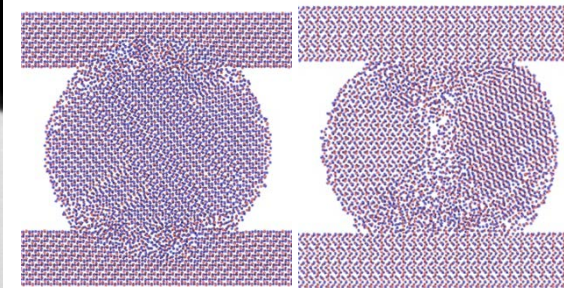
0.3µm – plastic deformation, shape change, cracking



0.3µm - Dislocation Plasticity & through particle fracture



0.3µm - Coordinated Shear Deformation - Polycrystalline



10 nm - Coordinated Shear Deformation
10 nm - Fracture