

# Electrostatic discharge sensitivity of titanium potassium perchlorate (TKP) at varying densities

Joseph D. Olles,

William B. Wente, and Ryan R. Wixom

Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM, U.S.A.

# Motivation

Why are we interested in ESD sensitivity of pyrotechnics?

How do we measure the sensitivity of pyrotechnics and what is different about this work?

Is the information valuable?

# ESD in manufacturing

Pyrotechnics are susceptible to ESD initiation

Standard established  $\sim 0.1\text{mJ}$

Leads to design decisions



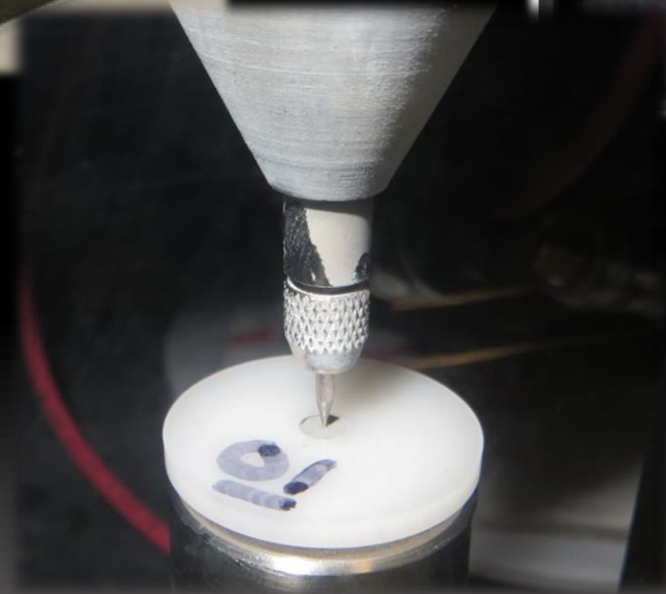
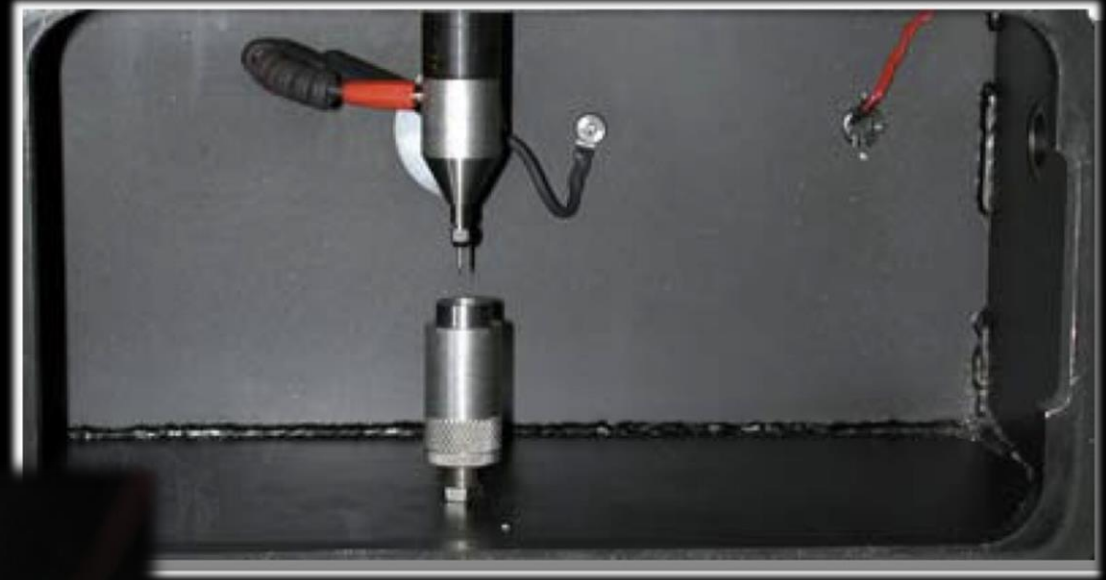
# ESD in research and design

Design constraints  
compromise  
performance/initiation

Drives research



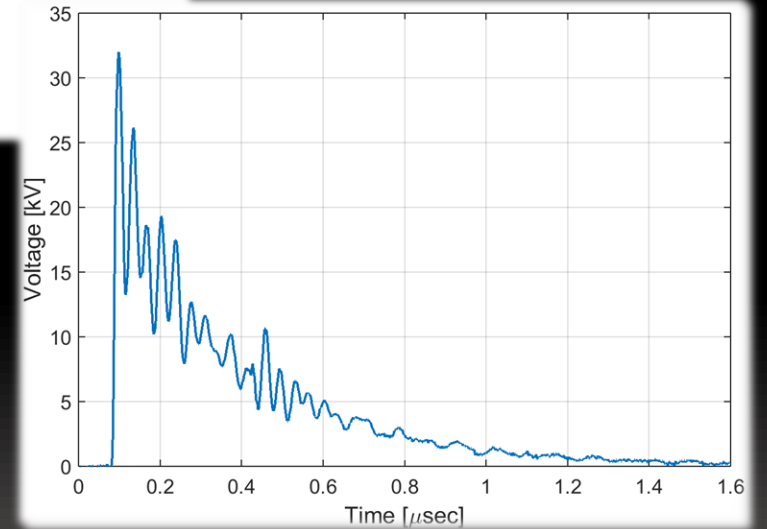
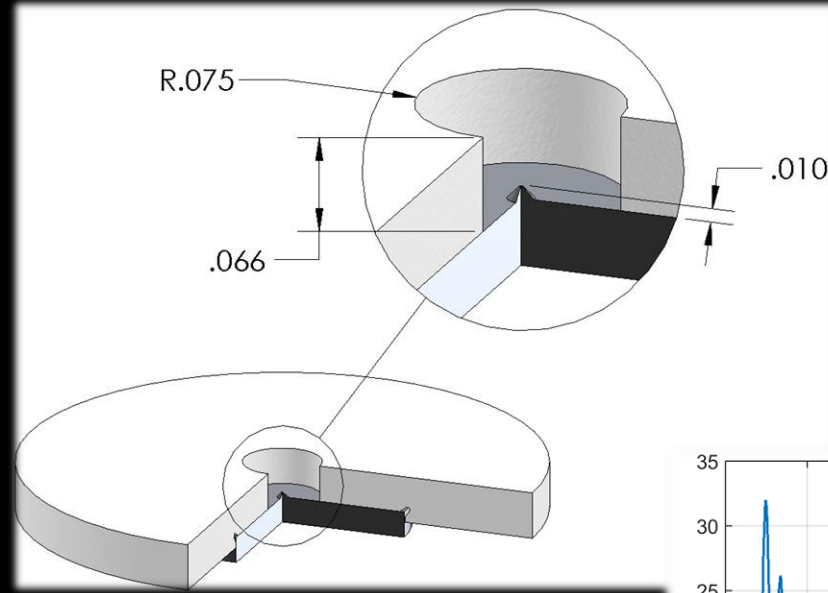
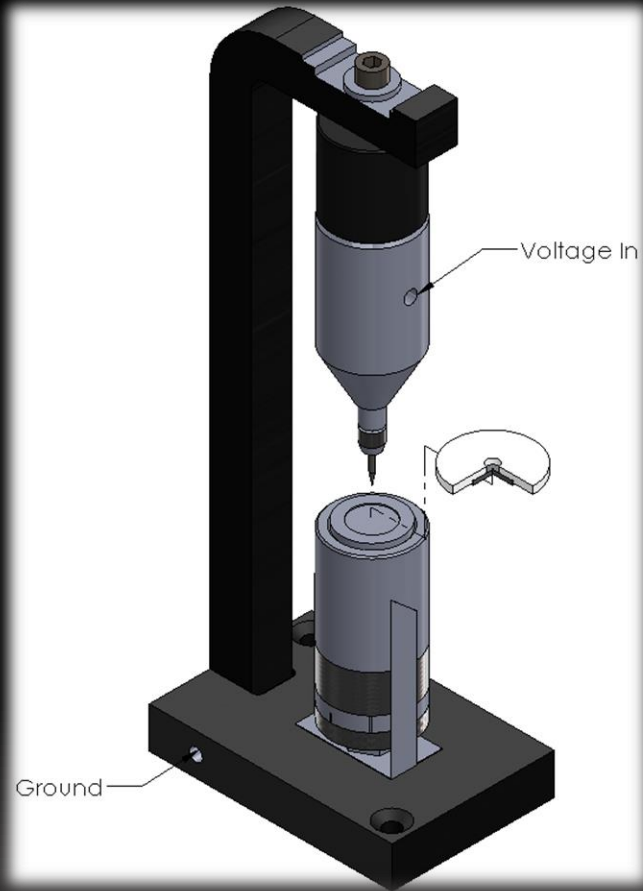
# Standard tester



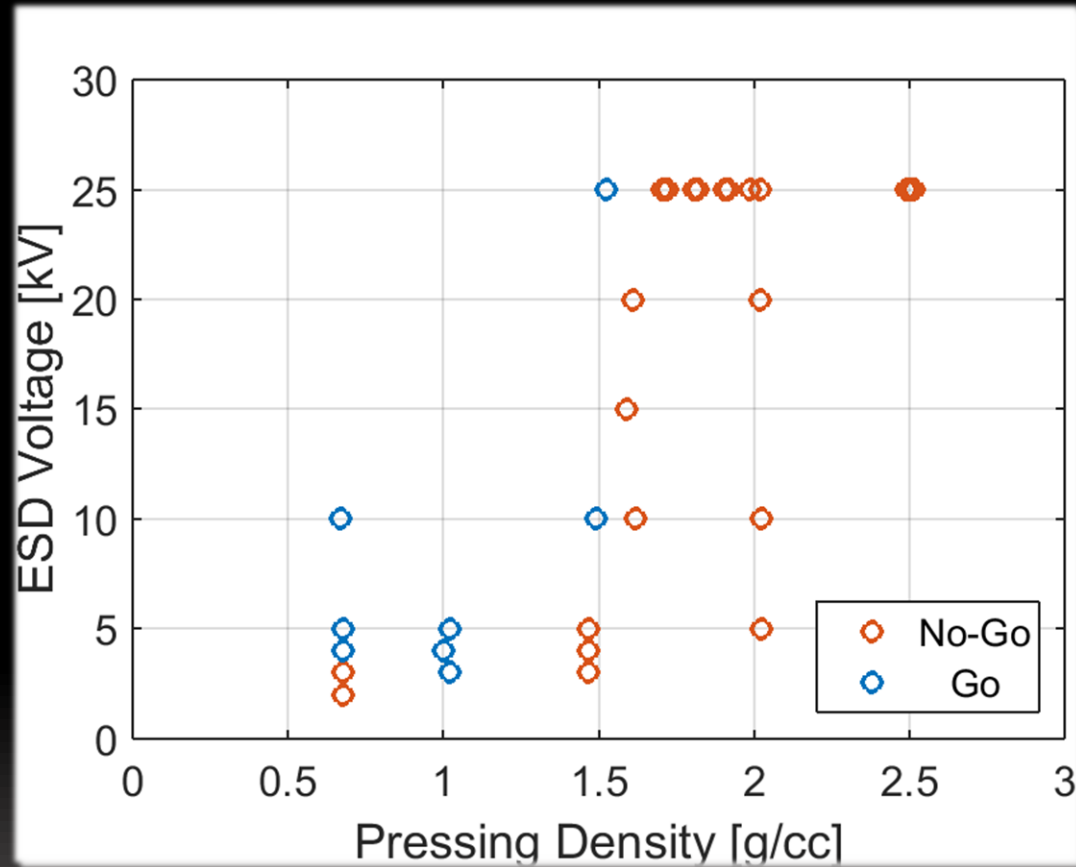
<b>MIL-STD-331C Parameters</b>	
Maximum Voltage [V]	25
Resistance [ $\Omega$ ]	500
Capacitance [pF]	500
Inductance [ $\mu$ H]	5

Electro-Tech Systems Inc. Model 931  
Human Body Model Waveform MIL-STD-331C

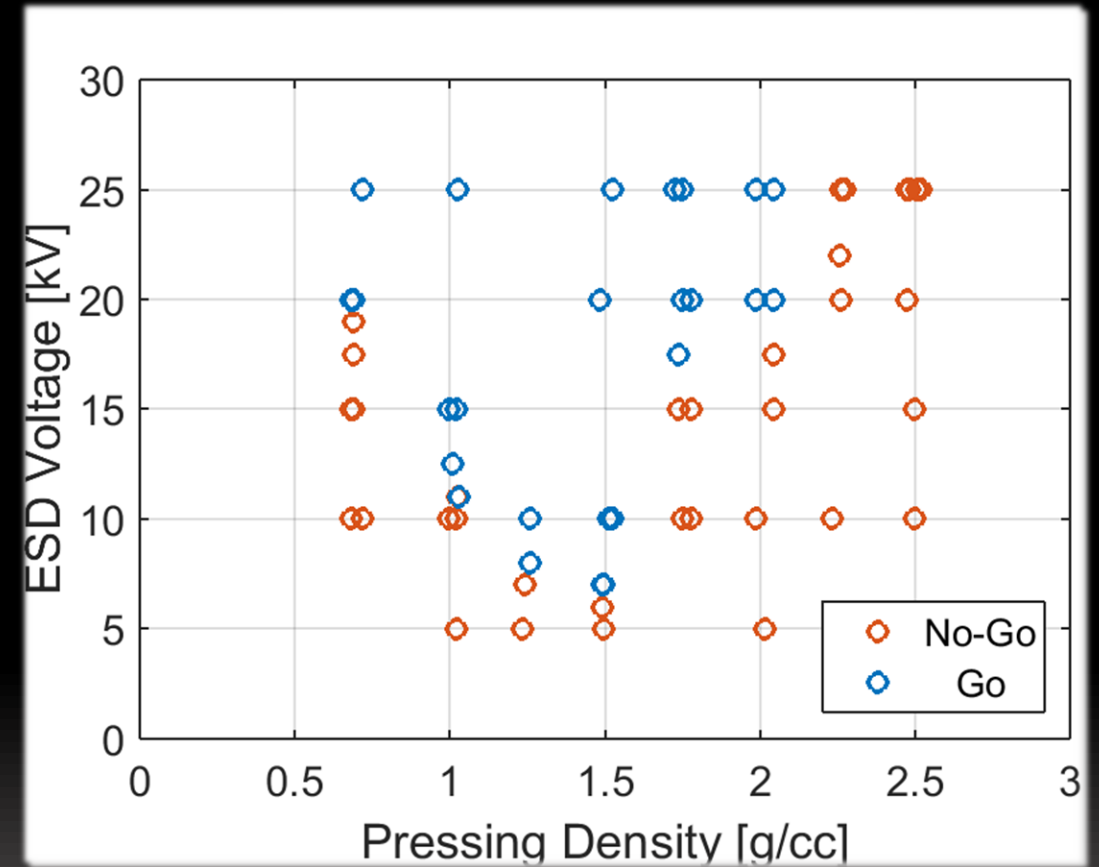
# Modifications to the tester



# ESD sensitivity with density



TKP-I



TKP-II

# High-speed video of ESD

No Go



Partial



Go

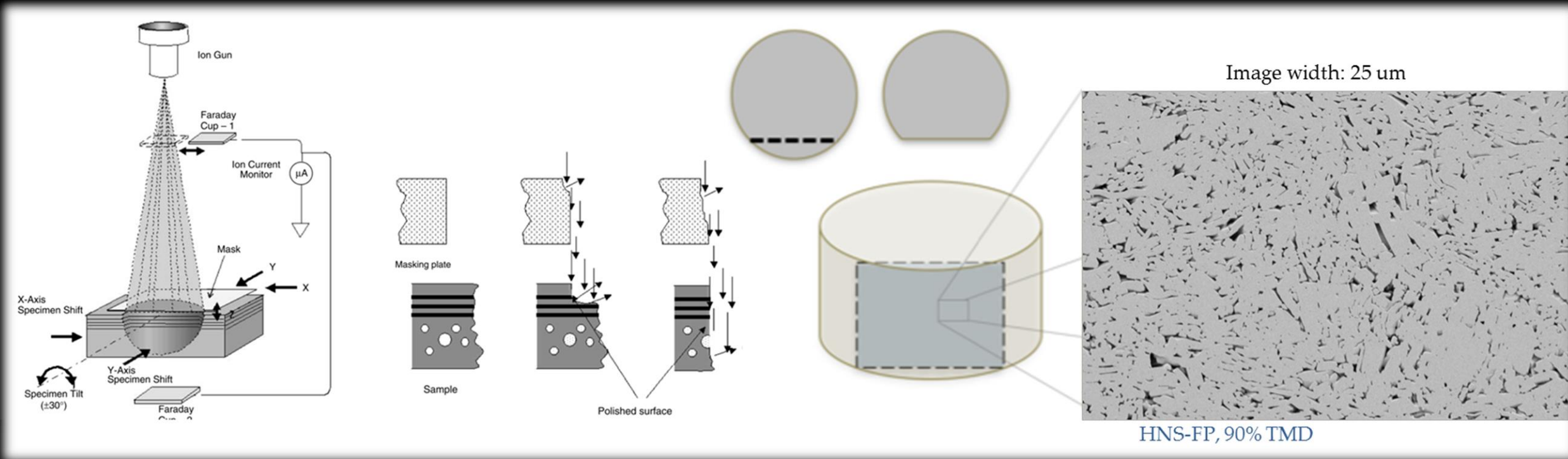


# High-speed video of ESD

Wicked Go!



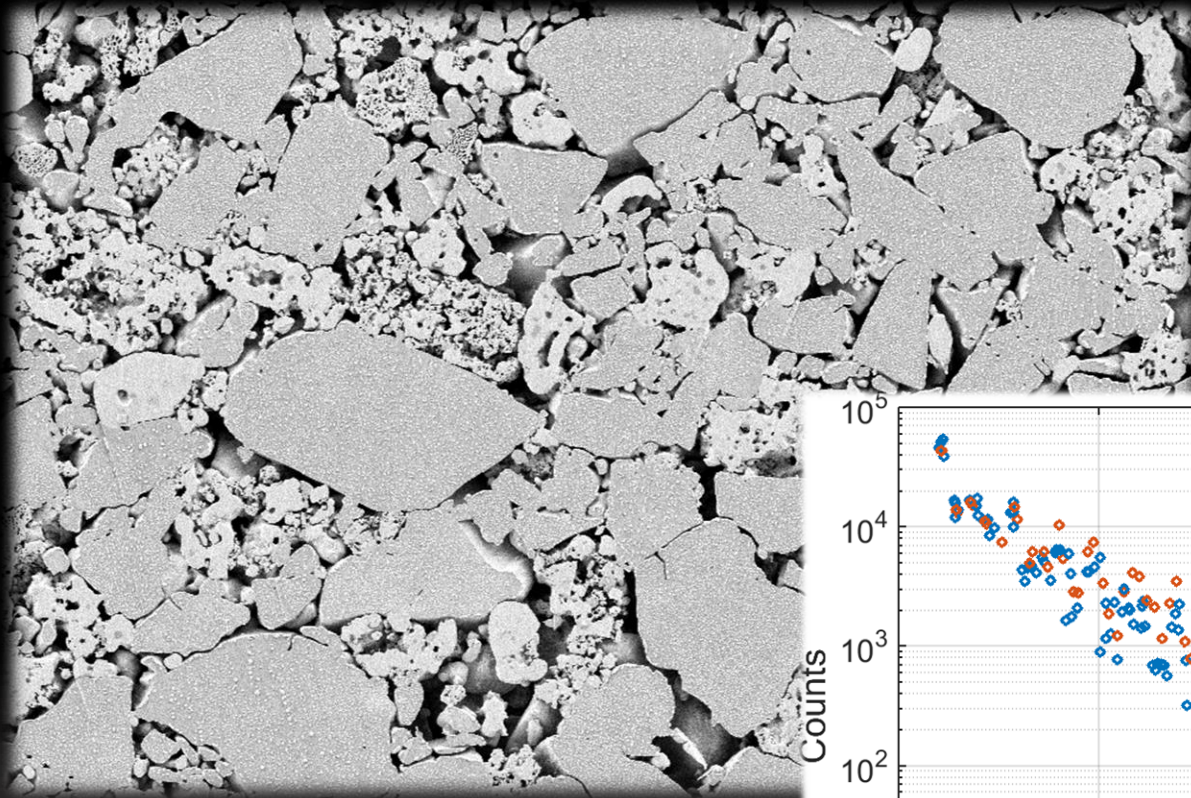
# Capturing porosity



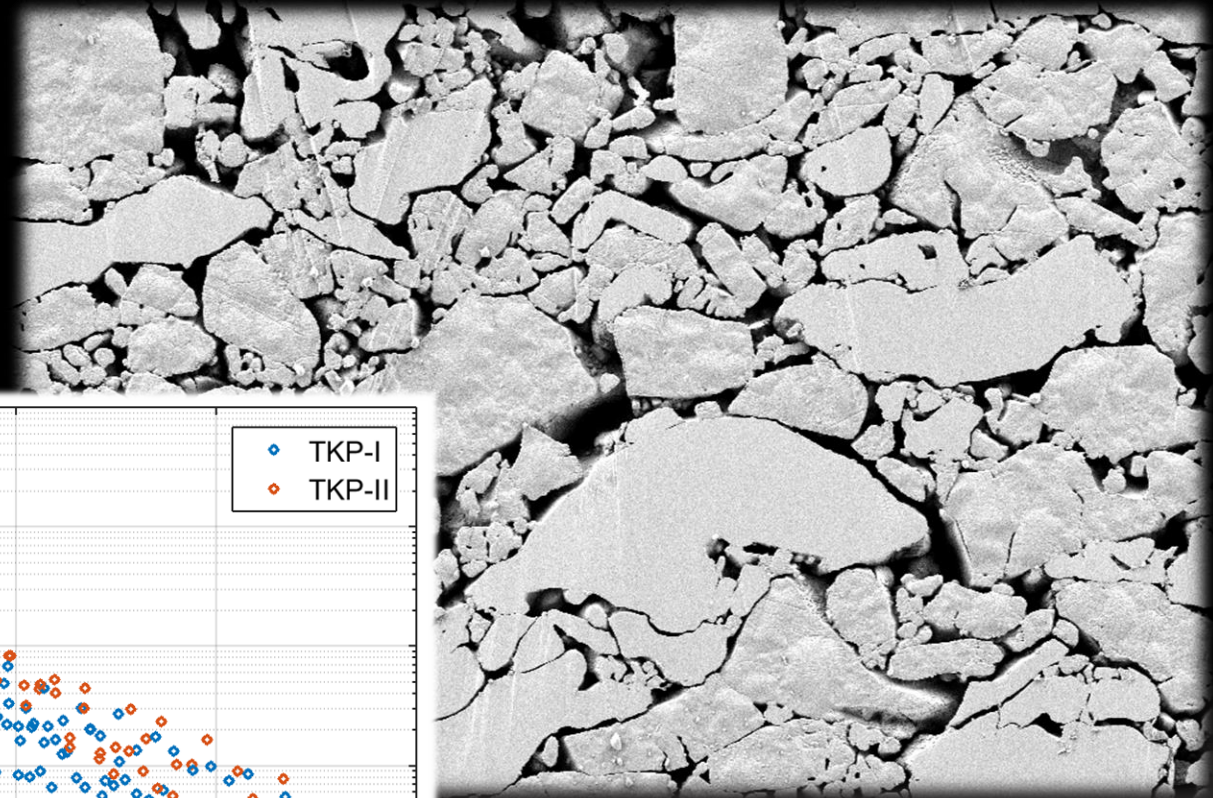
Cross-sectioned pellets, Ar-Ion beam milling technique

# Size and distance

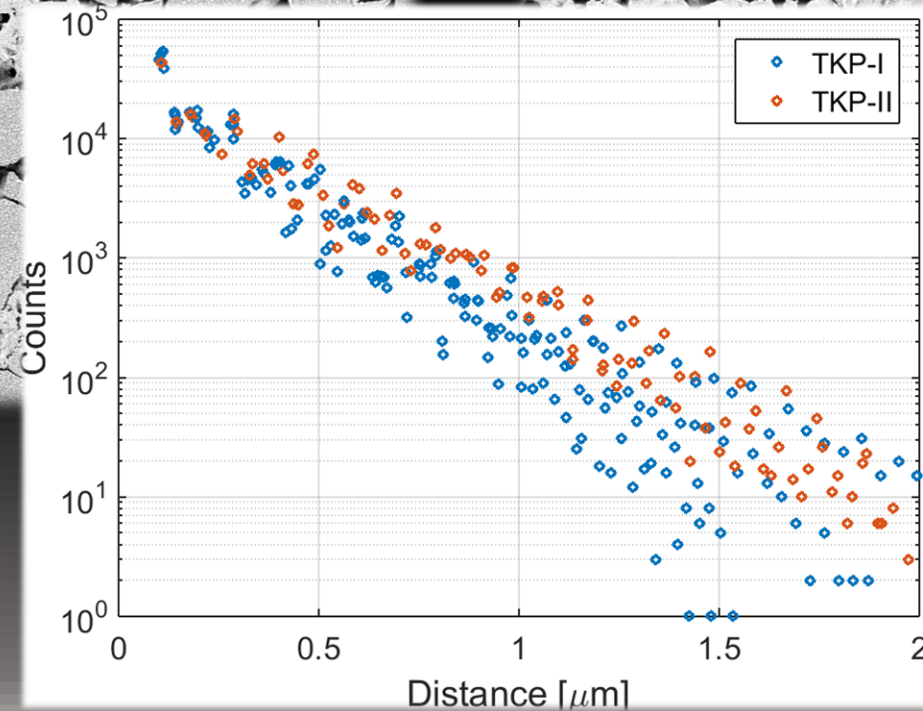
High density



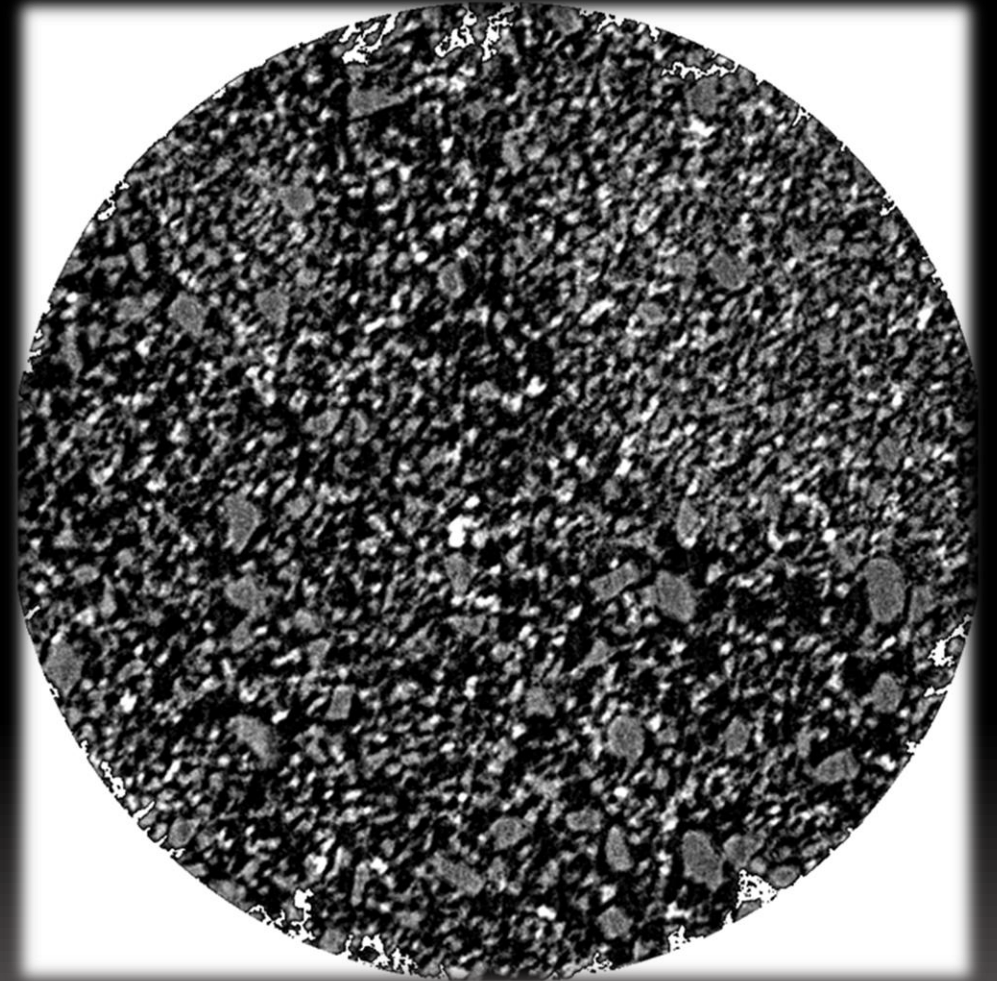
TKP-I



TKP-II

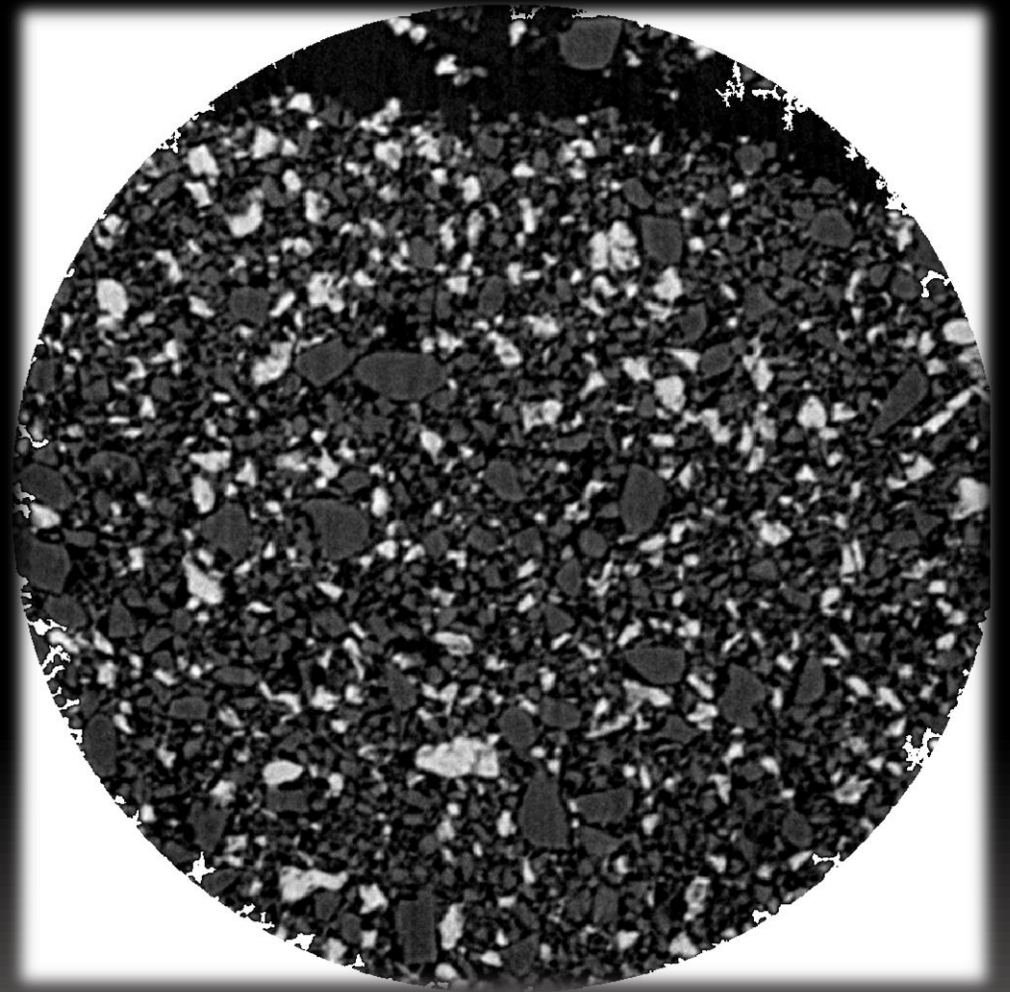


# CT of powder



TKP-I low density

# CT of powder



TKP-II low density

# Summary

Change in sensitivity based on the pressed powder density

Visualize particles and voids within a pressed powder cavity

ESD sensitivity seems to align with Euclidean distance of pores at a density

Micro-CT is promising for analysis of low density powders

## Acknowledgments

Duane Richardson, Marlene Barela,  
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