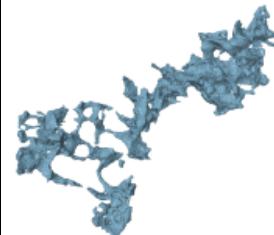
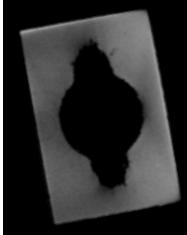
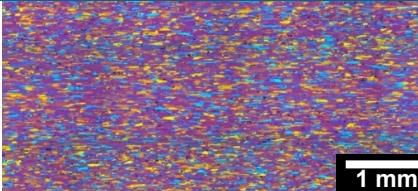
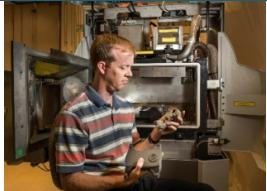




Assessing the Impact of Image Acquisition/Processing Method on 3D Reconstructions



MS&T 2018
Wednesday Oct.
17, 2018

PRESENTED BY

Thomas Ivanoff, Jonathan Madison, Josh Koepke,
and Bradley Jared





Why 3D Analysis?

3D Reconstructions and Assessment Metrics

- Common methods and measures

Image Processing Workflow

Impact of Image Processing

- Area of focus: segmentation

Impact of Acquisition Technique

- Microcomputed X-ray tomography
- Destructive serial sectioning Robo-Met.3D®

Summary



Robo-Met.3D®
UES, Inc.

Why Study Microstructure/Structure in 3D?



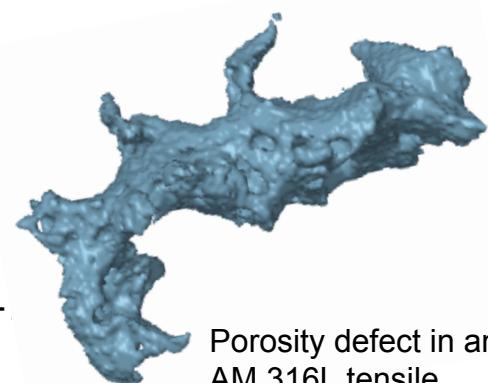
2D characterization techniques are inadequate for characterization of certain 3D aspects of microstructure (e.g. morphology and topology)

3D shapes and distributions influence the mechanical and physical properties of materials

3D reconstructions used to develop and validate computational models

Powerful computer hardware is reasonably priced and commercial software packages are available for 3D reconstruction, visualization, and analysis

- DREAM.3D, Matlab, Paraview, IDL, Mimics, 3Matic, etc



Porosity defect in an AM 316L tensile dogbone

Importance of 3D materials science is increasing:

- *Materials Characterization*, 2017, vol. 124, pp. 241 – 249
- *Surface and Coatings Technology*, 2017, vol. 310, pp. 70-
- *JOM*, 2011, vol. 63, no. 3
- *MRS Bulletin*, 2008, vol. 33, no. 6
- *Scripta Materialia*, 2006, vol. 55, no. 1



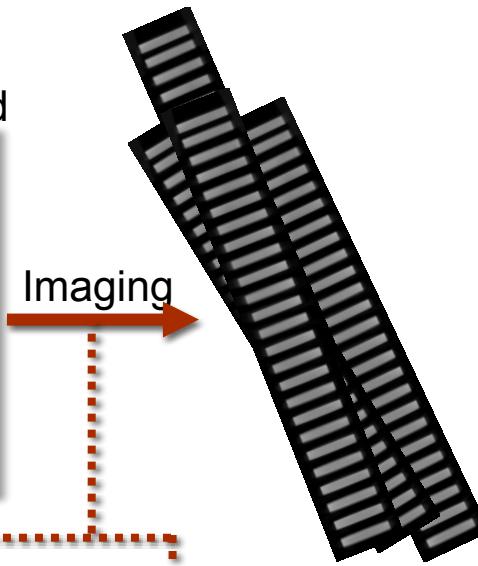
Part to be reconstructed



3D reconstruction



Part to be reconstructed



Non-destructive

- Micro-computed tomography
- Synchrotron

Destructive

- Mechanical-serial-sectioning
- Tri-beam (SEM) serial sectioning



Nikon Avonix M2 225/450 kV
Helical Scanner

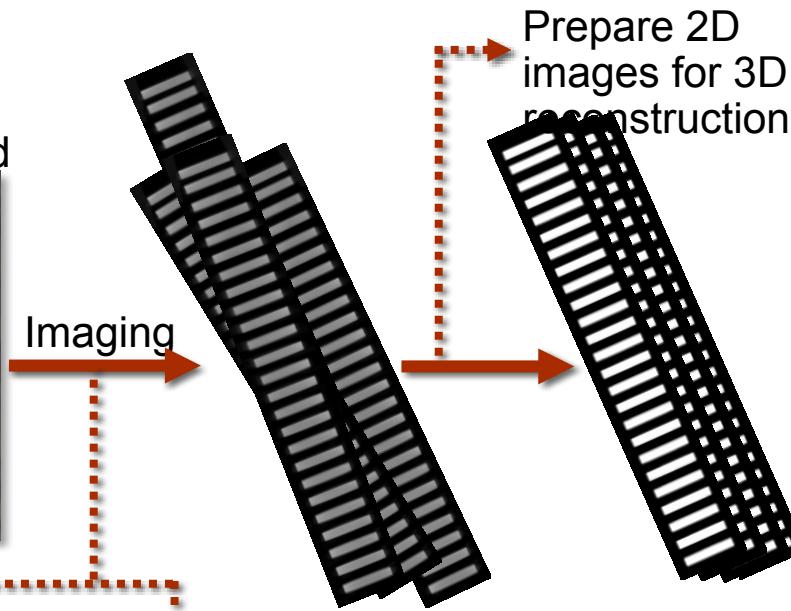


Robo-
Met.3D
UFS, Inc.

3D reconstruction



Part to be reconstructed



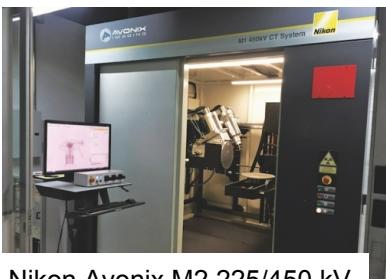
Non-destructive

- Micro-computed tomography
- Synchrotron

Destructive

- Mechanical-serial-sectioning
- Tri-beam (SEM) serial sectioning

Focused ion beam



Nikon Avonix M2 225/450 kV
Helical Scanner

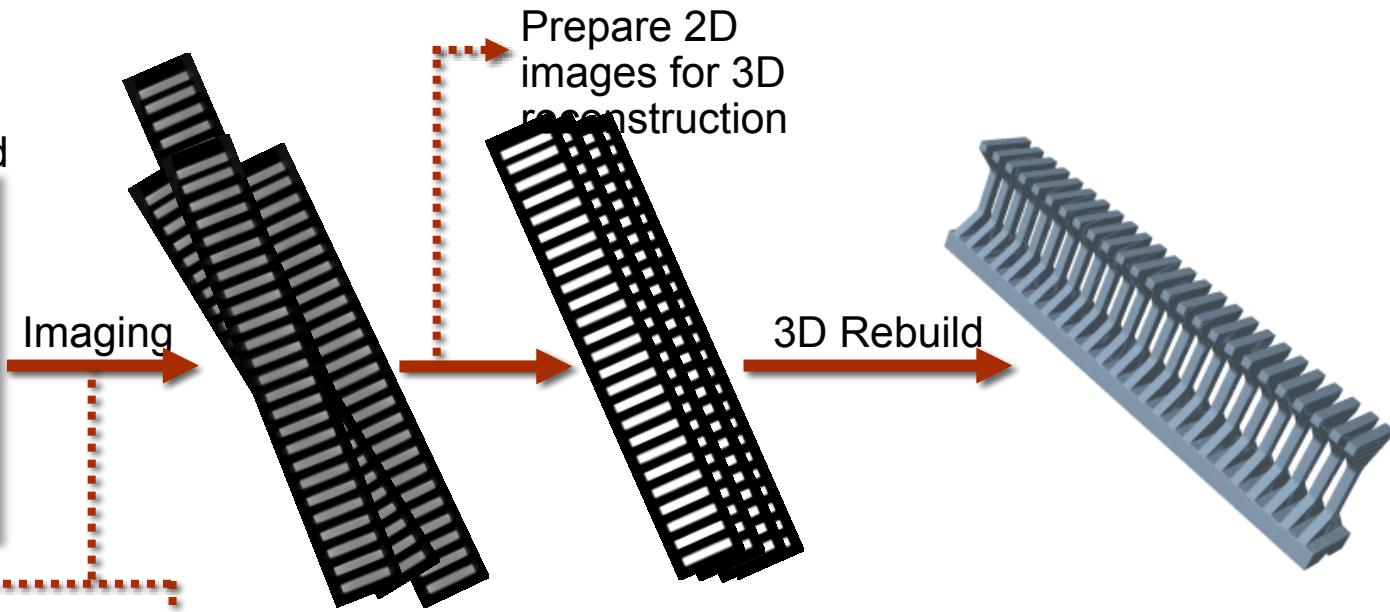
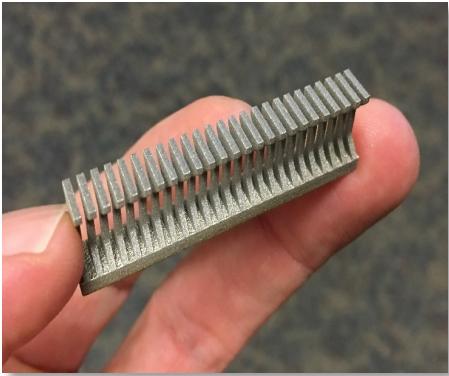


Robo-Met.3D
UFS, Inc.

3D reconstruction

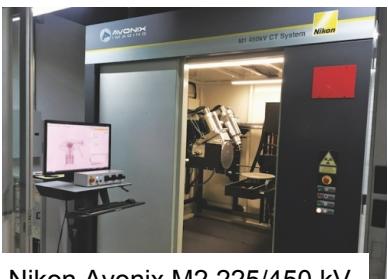


Part to be reconstructed



Non-destructive

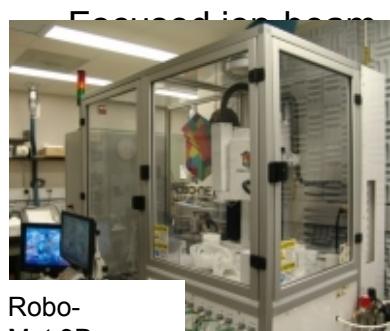
- Micro-computed tomography
- Synchrotron



Nikon Avonix M2 225/450 kV
Helical Scanner

Destructive

- Mechanical-serial-sectioning
- Tri-beam (SEM) serial sectioning



Robo-Met.3D
UFS, Inc.

3D reconstruction



Part to be reconstructed

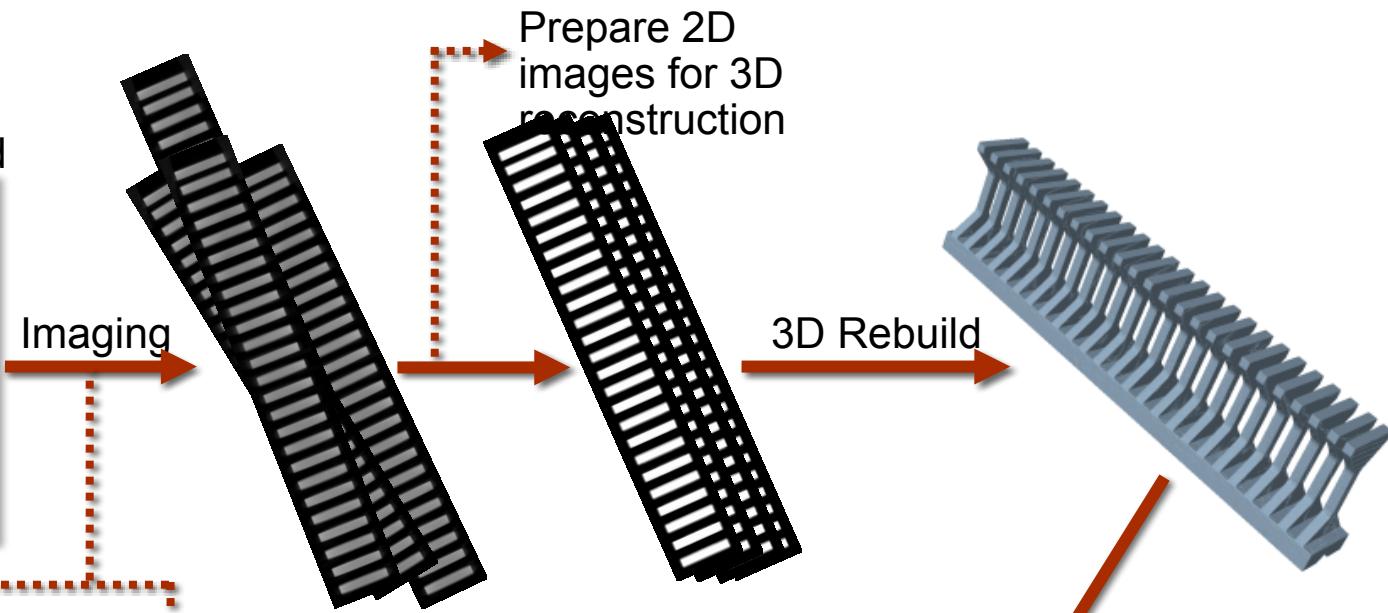


Non-destructive

- Micro-computed tomography
- Synchrotron



Nikon Avonix M2 225/450 kV
Helical Scanner

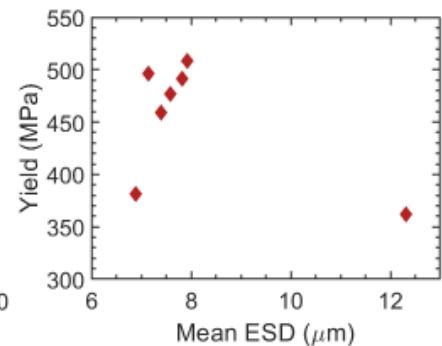
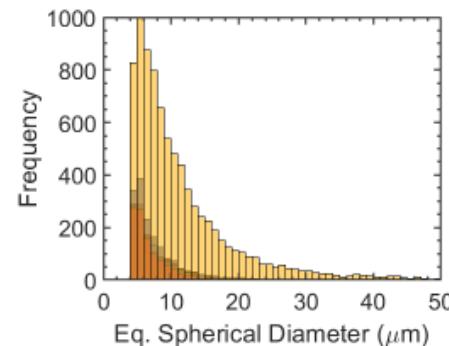


Destructive

- Mechanical-serial-sectioning
- Tri-beam (SEM) serial sectioning

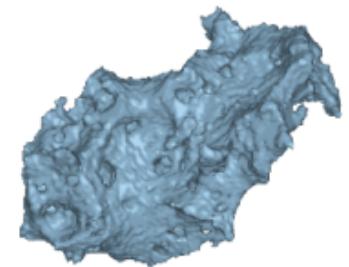
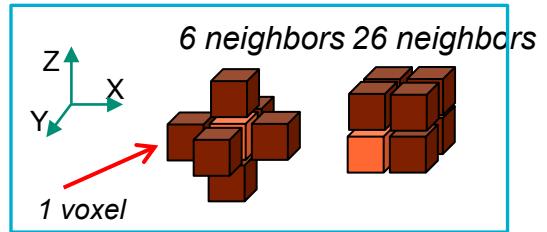


Robo-Met.3D
UFS, Inc.



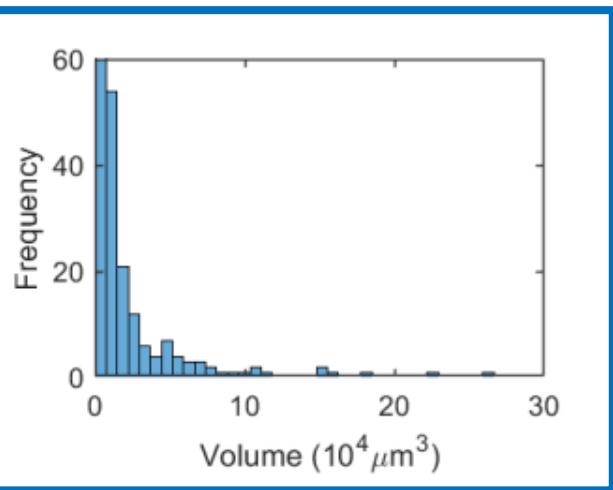


3D Voxels



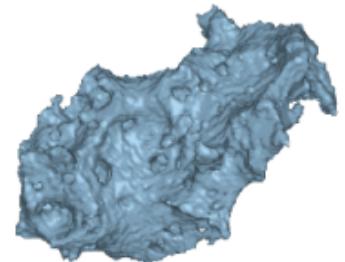


First order



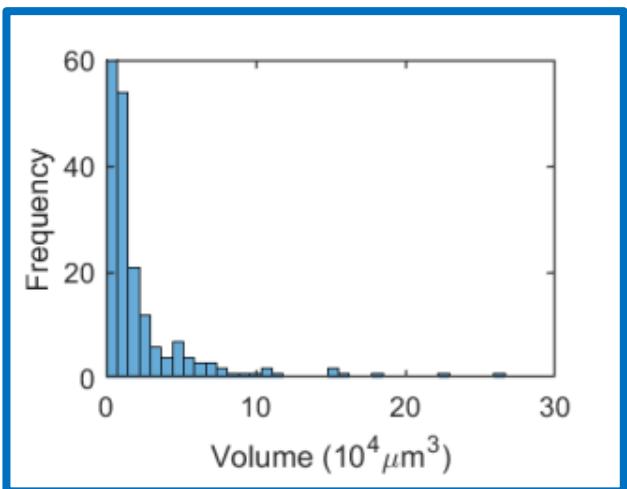
Characterize individual bodies:

- Measure volume by counting voxels
- Calculate equivalent spherical diameters

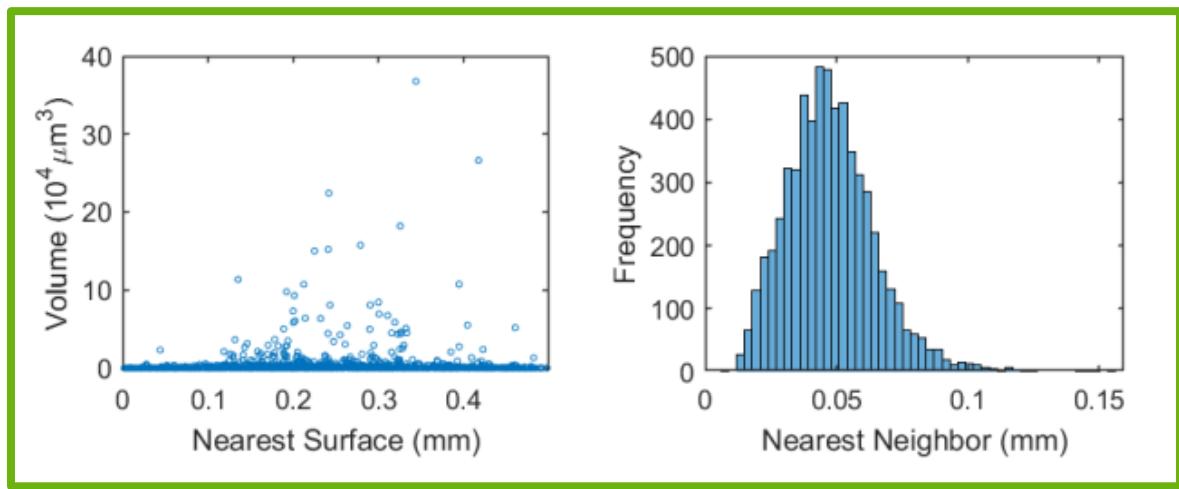




First order

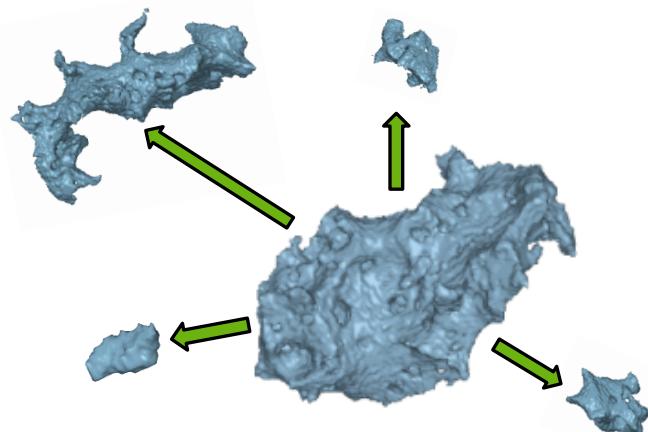


Second order



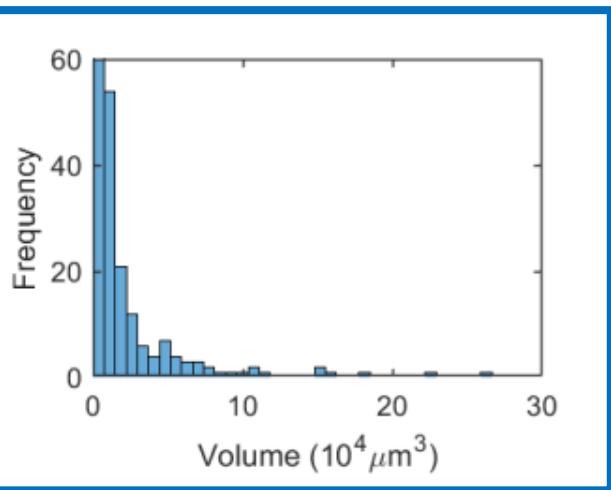
Analyze body networks:

- Determine void locations within the specimen
- Find nearest neighbor distances
- Relate spatial information to other void metrics

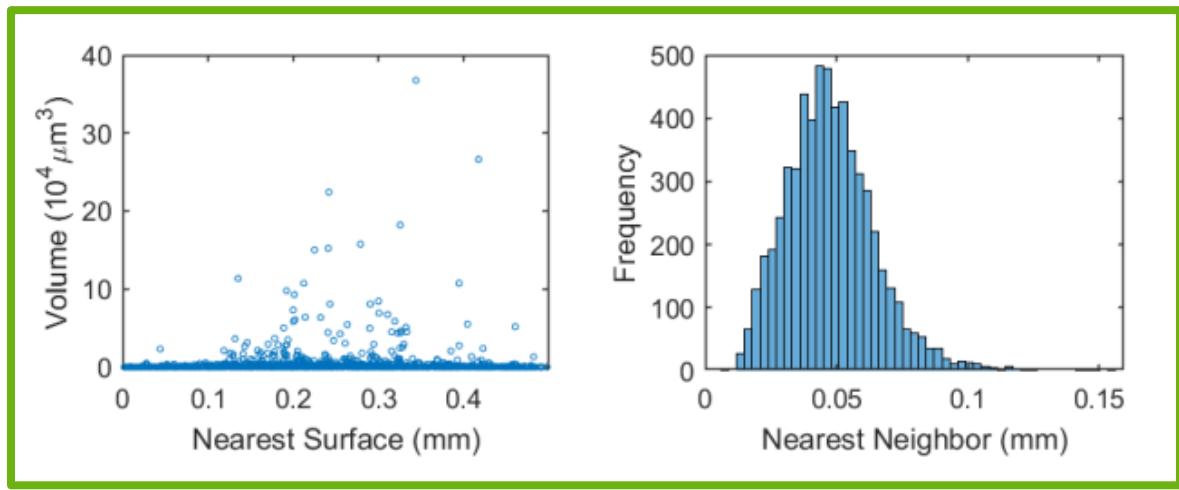




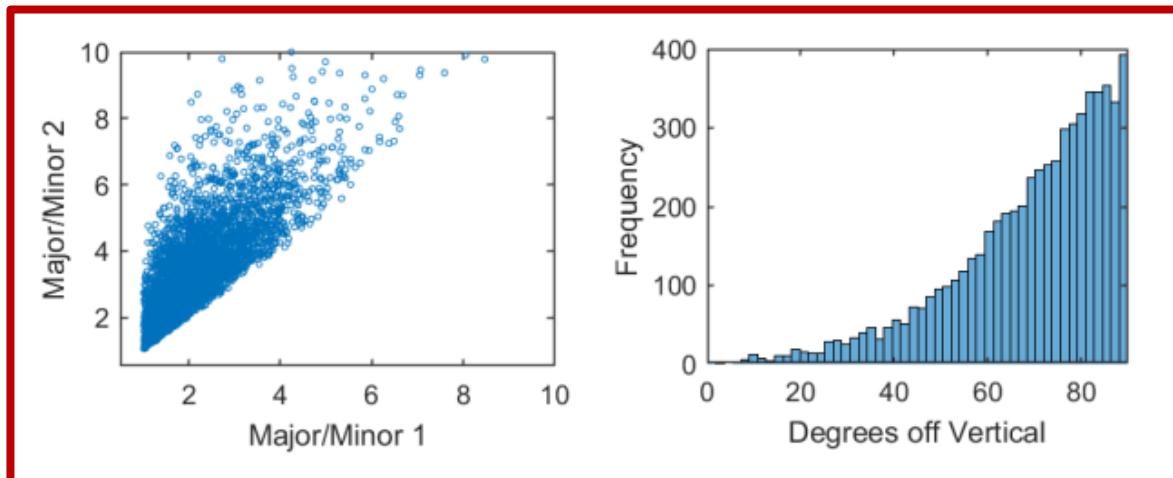
First order



Second order

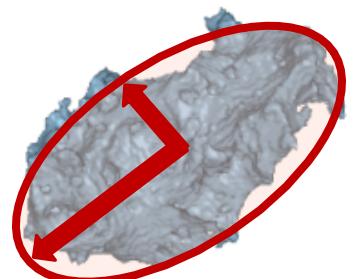


Third order



Characterize body shape, size and morphology:

- Fit shapes to voids. Find aspect ratios and shape parameters
- Measure orientation of voids



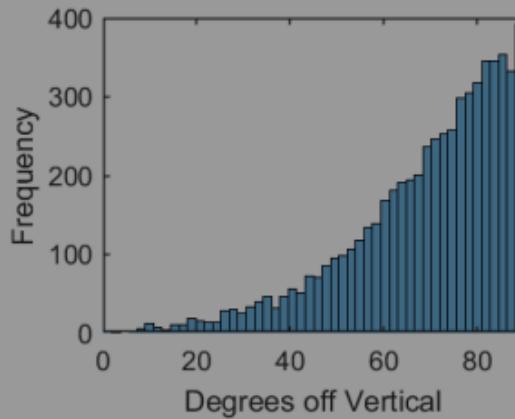
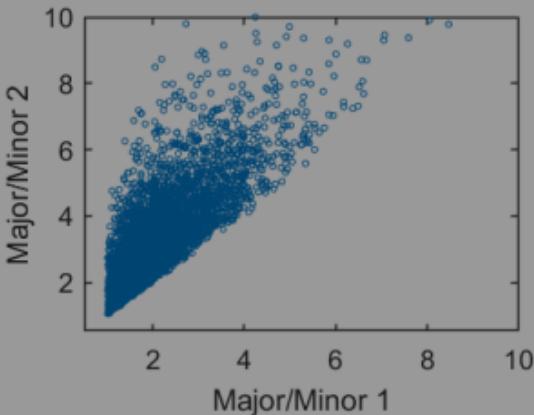
Ellipse fit



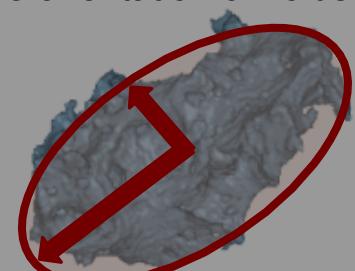
First order

Second order

- 1) How does image processing impact 3D assessment metrics?
- 2) How does imaging technique impact 3D assessment metrics?



- Fit shapes to voids. Find aspect ratios and shape parameters
- Measure orientation of voids



Ellipse fit

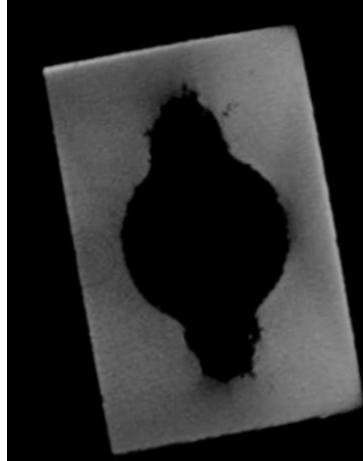
Image Processing



Images prepared for 3D reconstruction and porosity analysis by:

- Pre-processing to improve image quality, remove extraneous data and accentuate features of interest.
- Segmentation to create binary images. Individual voxels represent either material or voids.

Pre-Processing



Raw Data

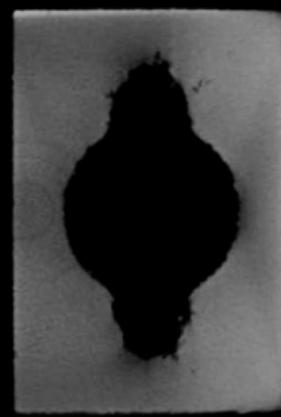


Image Preparation



Image Processing

Feature Identification



Segmentation

7 Image Processing Toolbox



Over 20 image processing and three-dimensional analysis scripts created. Each is fully customizable and adaptable for different data sets. These scripts allow automated, batch processing necessary for organization and analysis of big data.

Image preparation (6)

Automated image preparation scripts:

- Rotations
- Cropping
- Image selection and renaming
- Image alignment procedures
- Region of interest definition
- Image noise reduction

File organization:

- Creates uniform file locations.
- Reports metadata

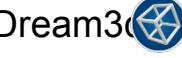
Matlab  Dream3d 
Fiji/ImageJ 

Image Processing (5)

Normalizing image intensity:

- Bimodal histogram analysis. Normalizes image intensity throughout an image stack.

Image smoothing:

- Three dimensional smoothing filters with customizable options.

Advanced filtering:

- Removes uneven background intensity while preserving local image features

Matlab  Dream3d 

Segmentation (4)

Global threshold:

- Multiple threshold values can be selected and compared.
- Different segmentations can be thresholded.
- Adapts to local image criteria. Accepts custom or established threshold methods.
- Full customization of local search areas and paths.
- Allows baseline filtering.

Matlab 

3D Reconstruction (8)

Reconstruction:

- Interactive 3D visualizations.
- Create flythrough movies and rendered images.

Quantitative analysis:

- Individual features of interest and statistical distributions.
- Selectively analyze certain regions or features.
- Plotting and visualization of statistical measures.

Matlab  IDL 

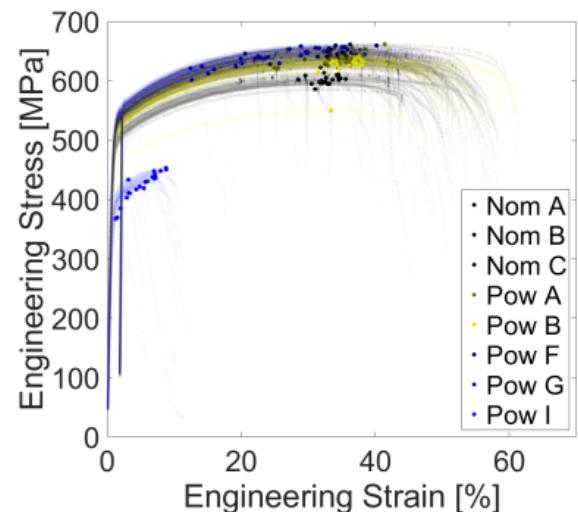
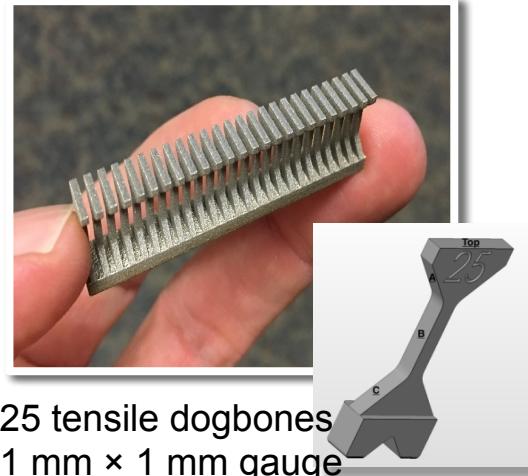
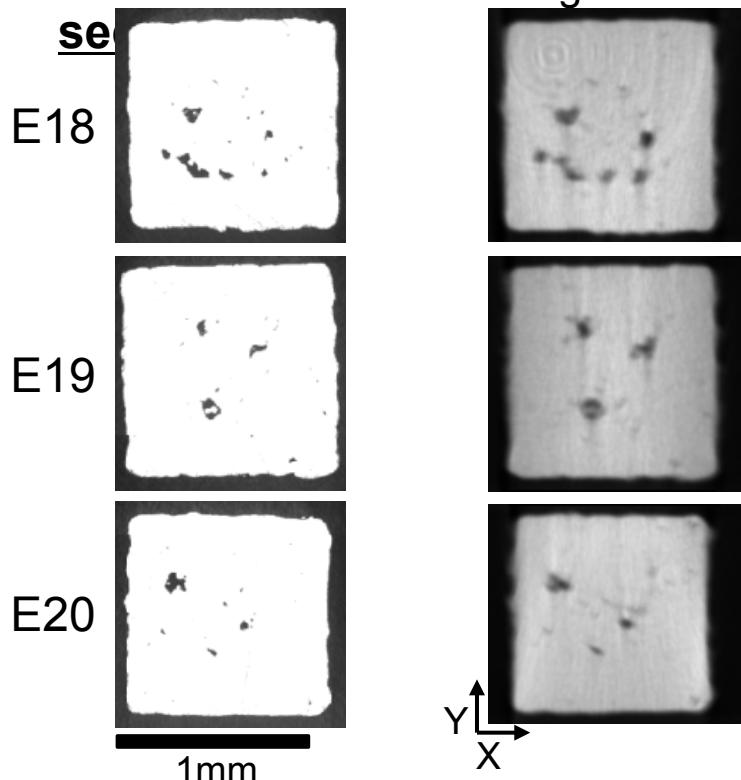
Case Study

Characterizing porosity in AM 316L stainless steel

- Structure-property relationships and qualifying AM components

Characterized gauge region in 3 tensile dogbones using:

- X-ray micro-computed tomography (CT)
- ~~Serial~~ ~~destructive~~ serial sectioning ~~CT~~ with Robo-Met.3D®



High throughput mechanical test data from Nathan Heckman et al.

Image Processing: Segmentation



Global segmentation on 8-bit grayscale (voxel intensity between 0 – 255)

- Threshold values 10 – 45.
 - Voxel intensity value below threshold = black
 - Voxel intensity value above threshold = white

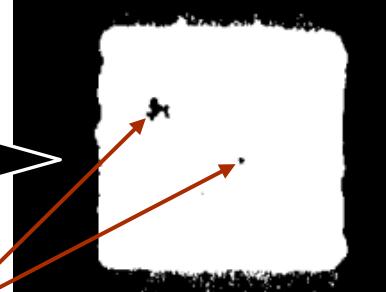
Quantify how threshold value impacts assessment metrics

Serial sectioning



Voids

Low threshold (80)



Lose image detail
Create image artifacts

Middle threshold (155)



Accurate representation

High threshold (230)



Loses object edges
False voids possible

Image Processing: Segmentation

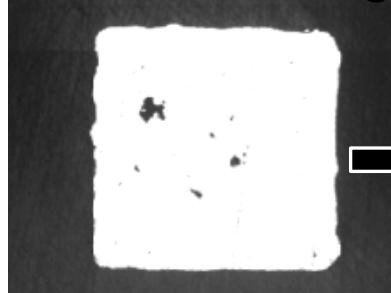


Global segmentation on 8-bit grayscale (voxel intensity between 0 – 255)

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 - Voxel intensity value below threshold = black
 - Voxel intensity value above threshold = white

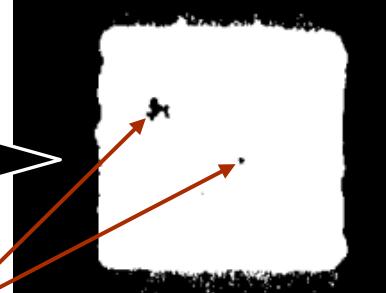
Quantify how threshold value impacts assessment metrics

Serial sectioning



Voids

Low threshold (80)



Lose image detail
Create image artifacts

Middle threshold (155)



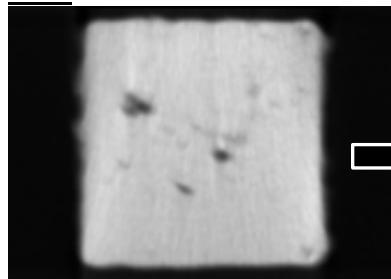
Most accurate
representation

High threshold (230)



Loses object edges
False voids possible

CT



Low threshold (100)



Retain object edges
Lose all void detail

Middle threshold (160)



Retain object edges
Capture some detail

High threshold (210)

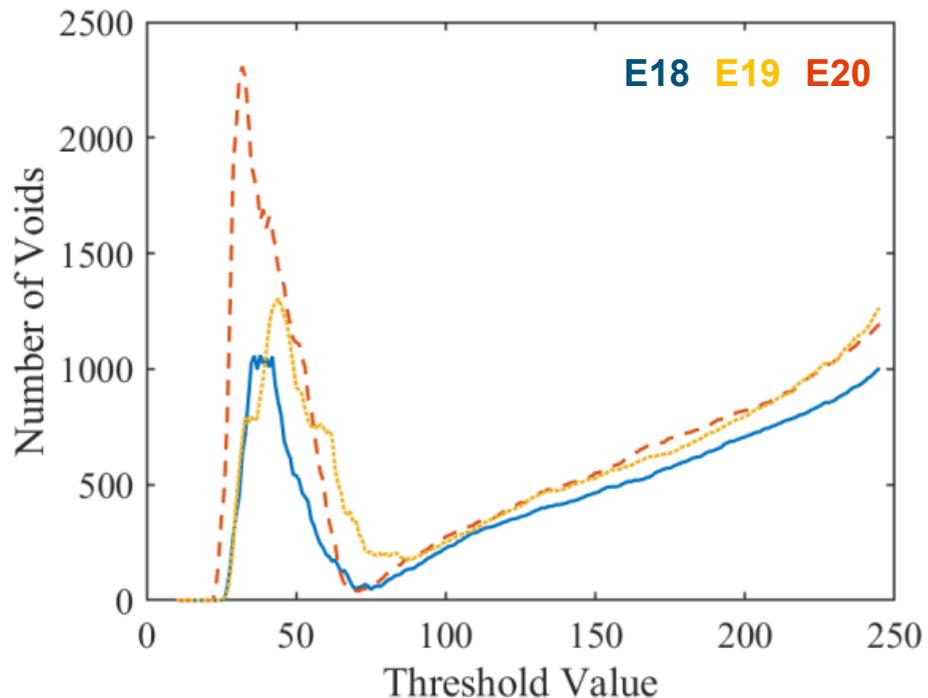


Lose object edges
Capture voids (slightly
enlarged)

Impact of Segmentation: **Serial Sectioning**



Number of Voids - **Scalar**

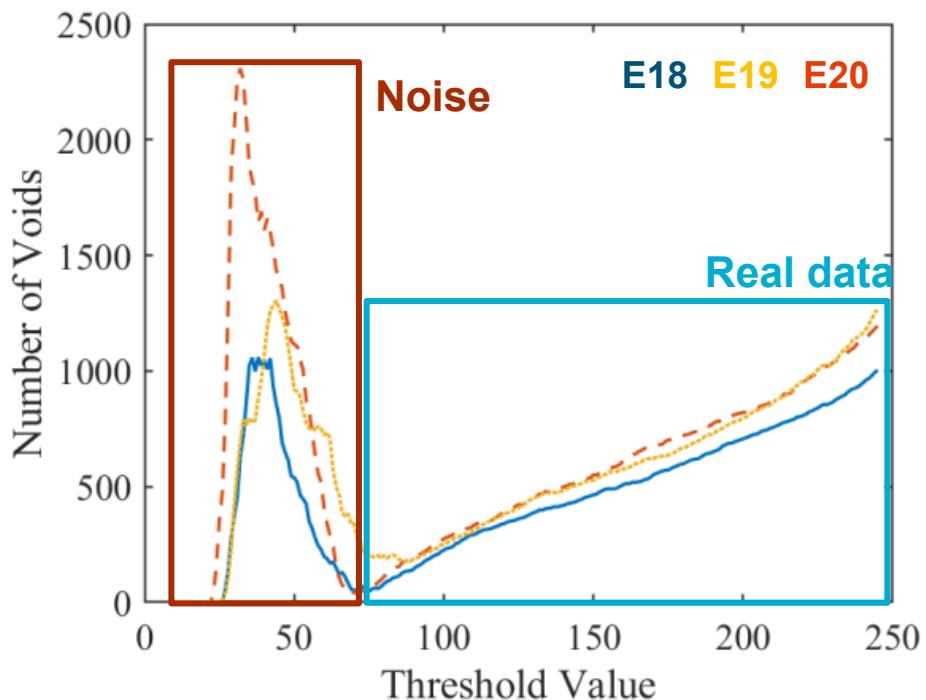


What is a 'good' threshold value?

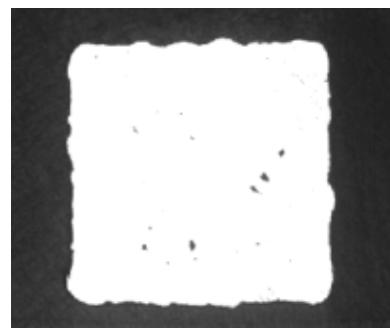
Impact of Segmentation: **Serial Sectioning**



Number of Voids - **Scalar**



What is a 'good' threshold value?



Original



Threshold 50



Threshold 150



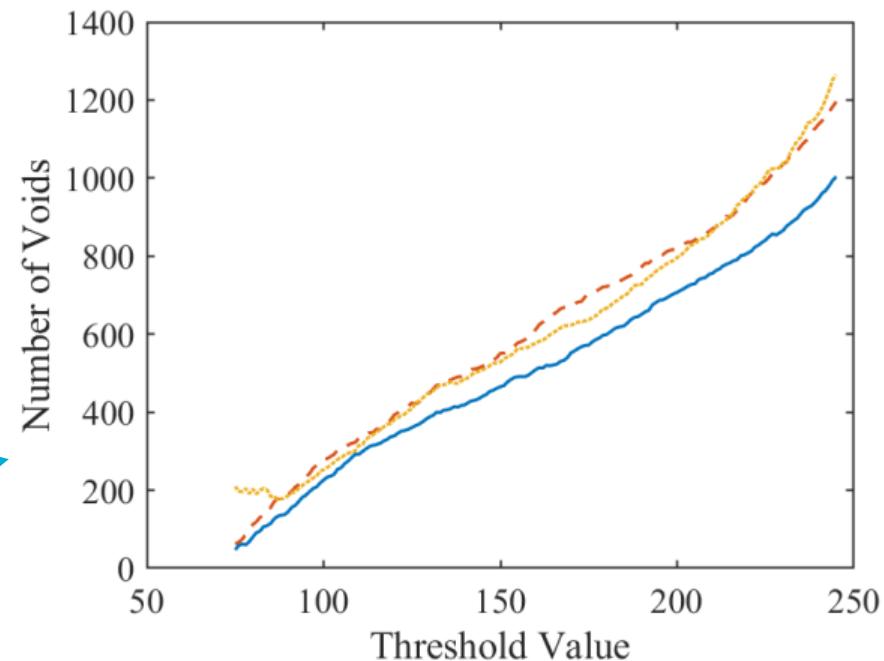
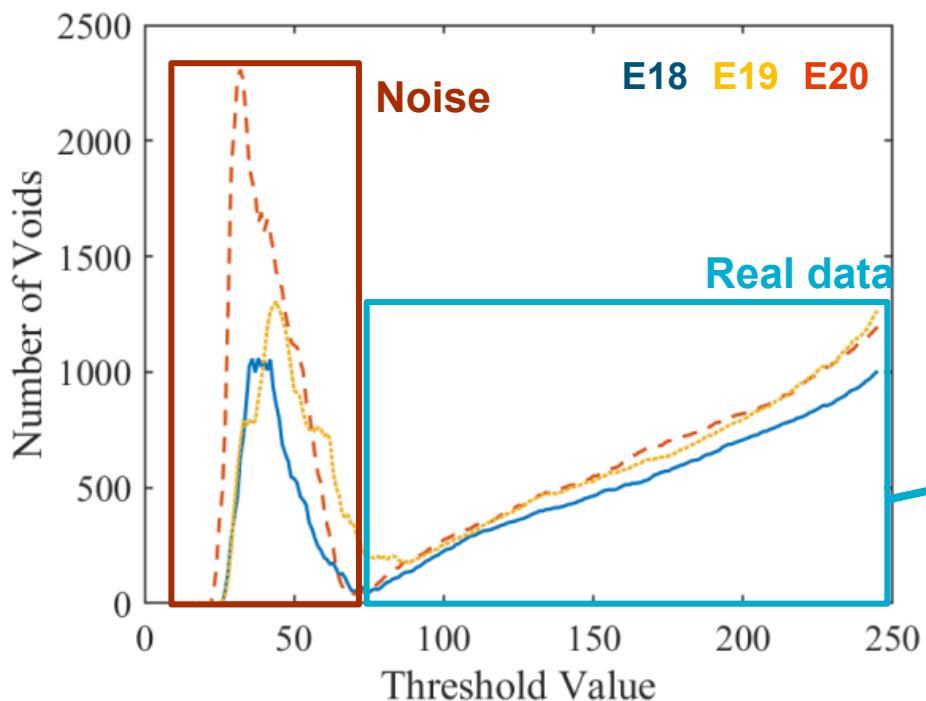
Threshold 200

E18

Impact of Segmentation: **Serial Sectioning**



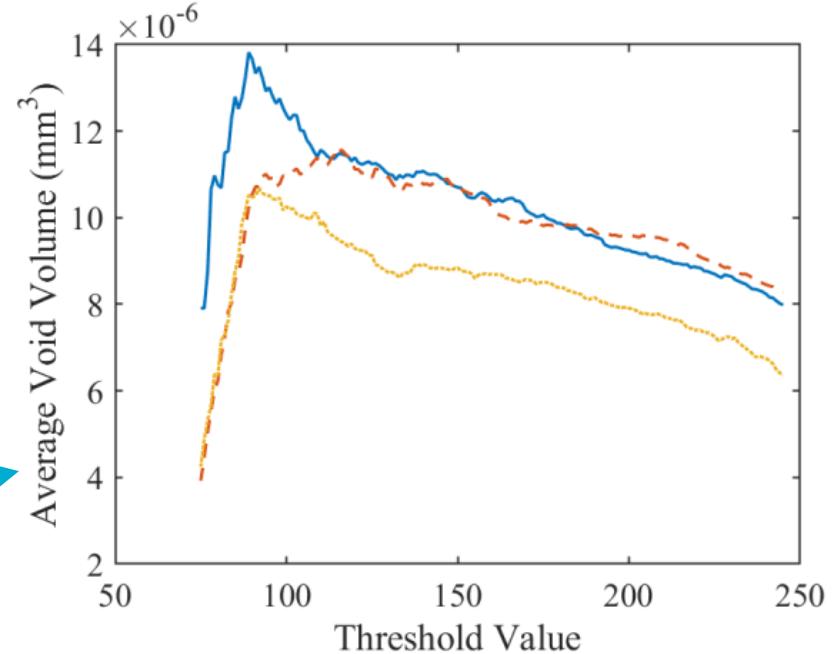
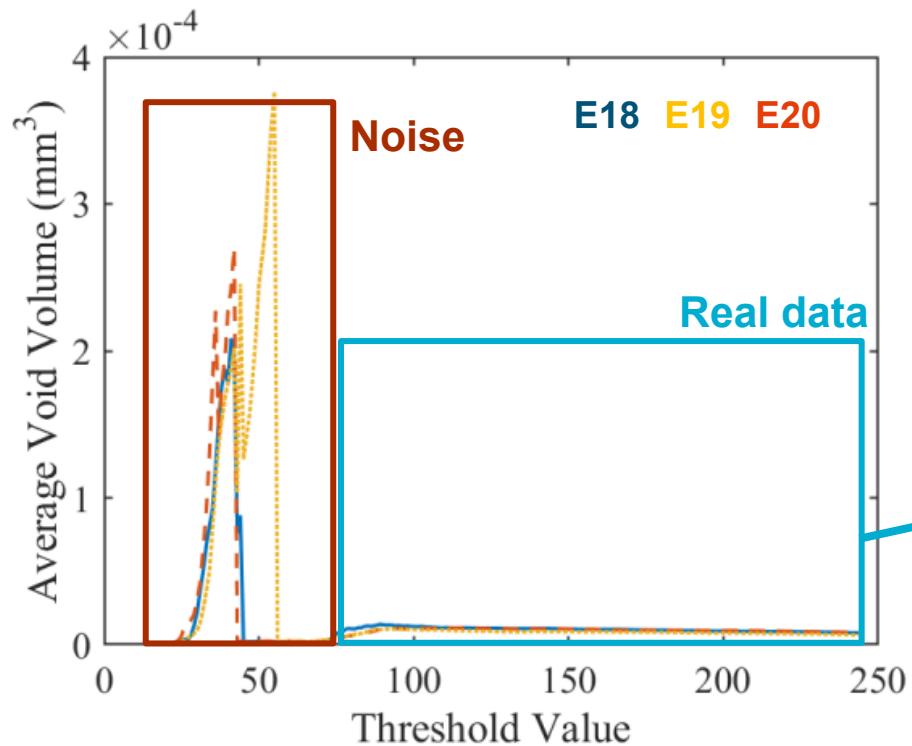
Number of Voids - **Scalar**



Impact of Segmentation: **Serial Sectioning**



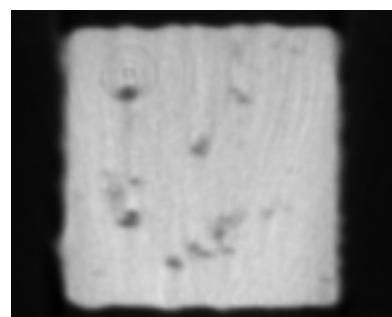
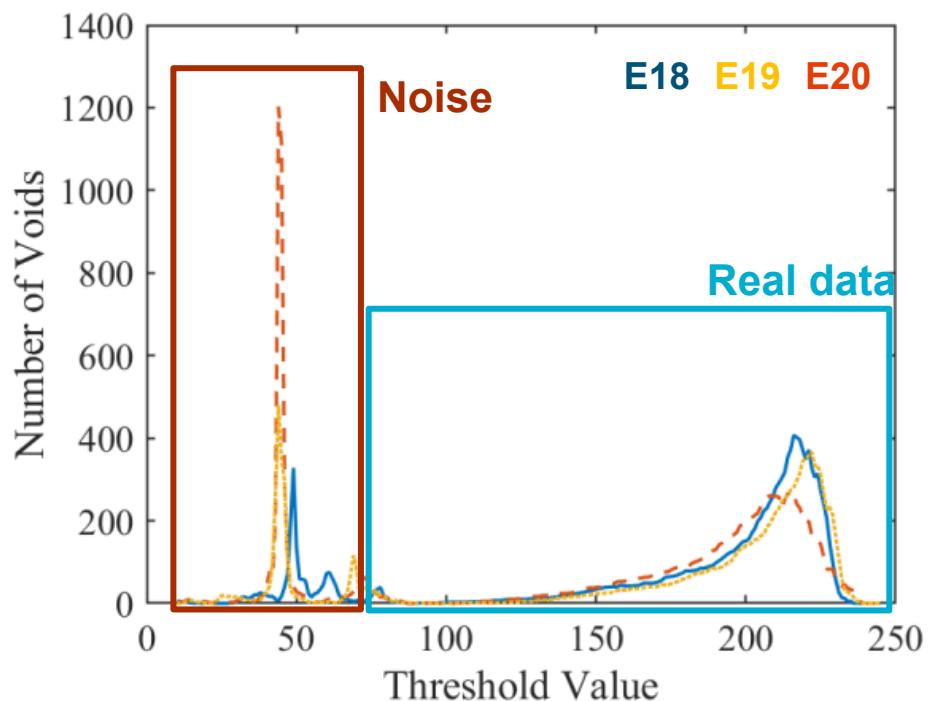
Average Void Volume - **Scalar**



Impact of Segmentation: CT



Number of Voids - **Scalar**



Original



Threshold 50



Threshold 150

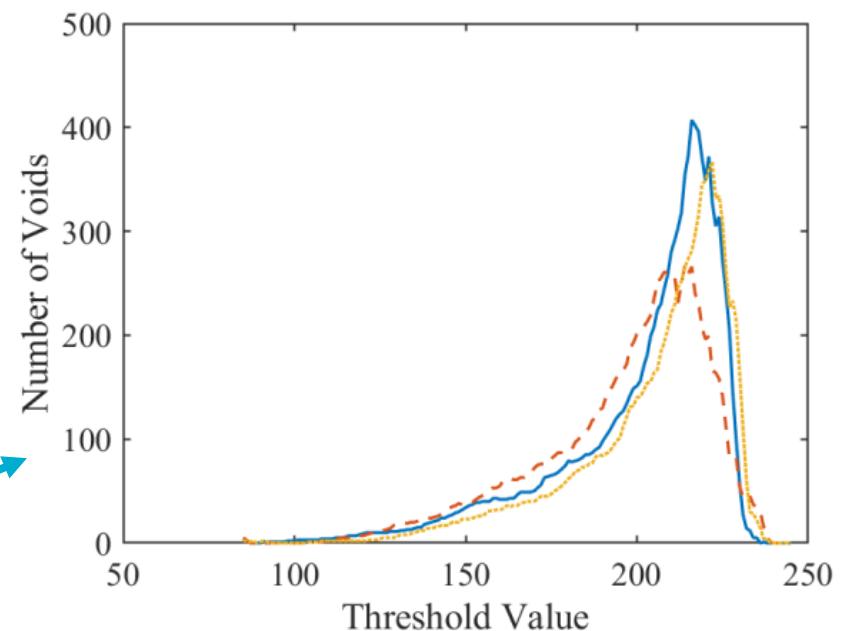
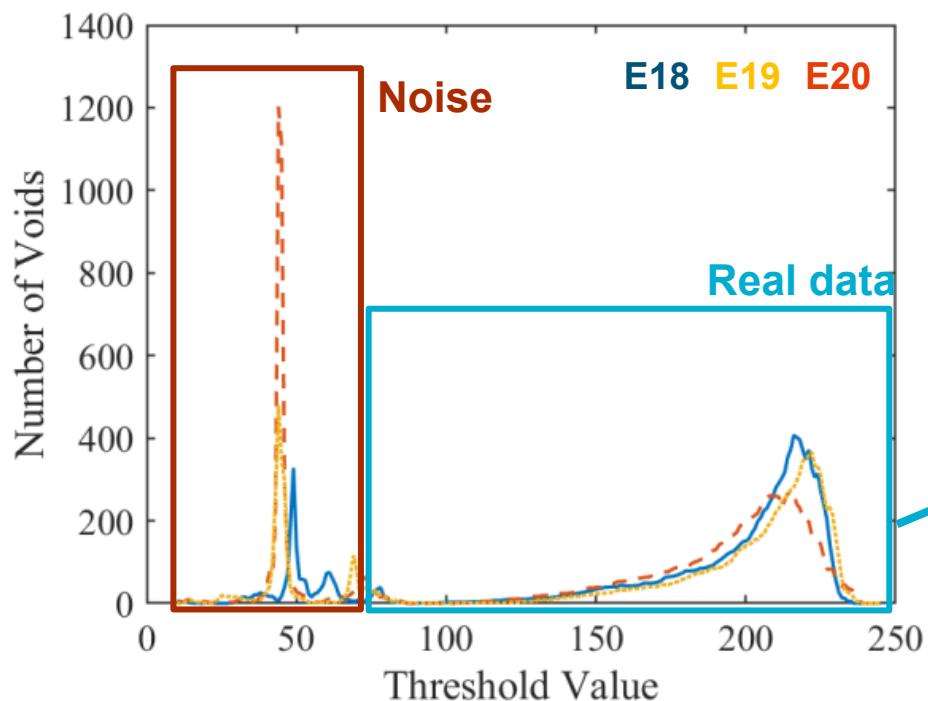


Threshold 200

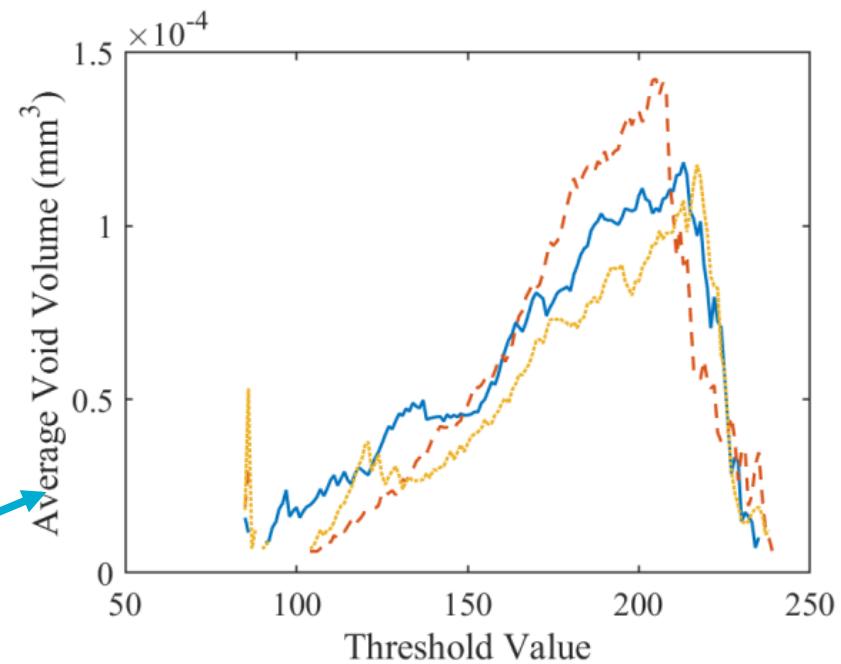
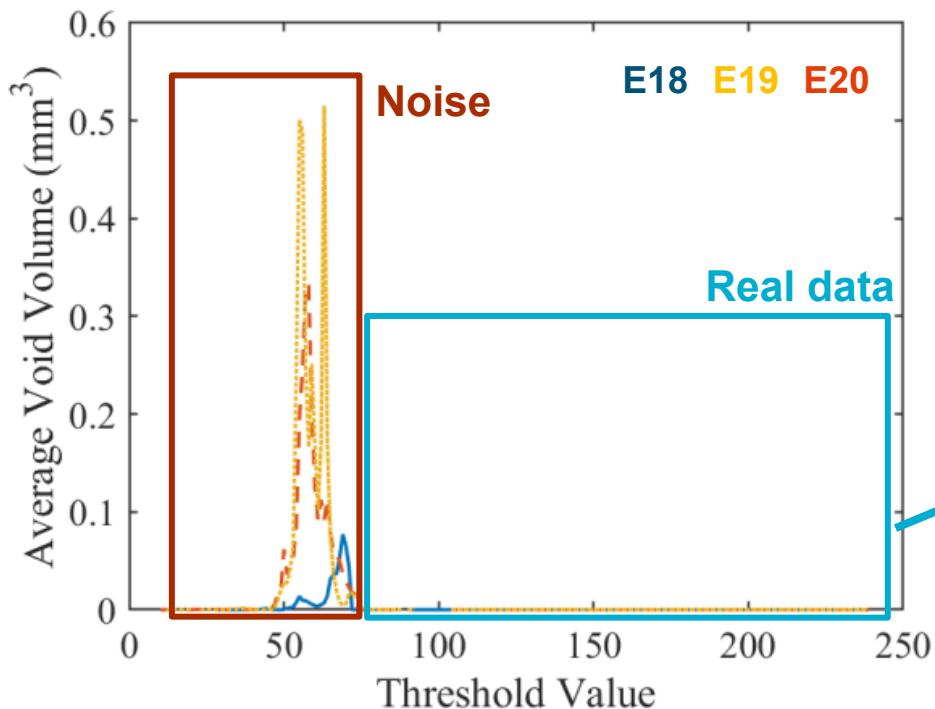
Impact of Segmentation: CT



Number of Voids - **Scalar**



Impact of Segmentation: CT

Average Void Volume - **Scalar**

Impact of Acquisition Technique



Approximately equal minimum void volume

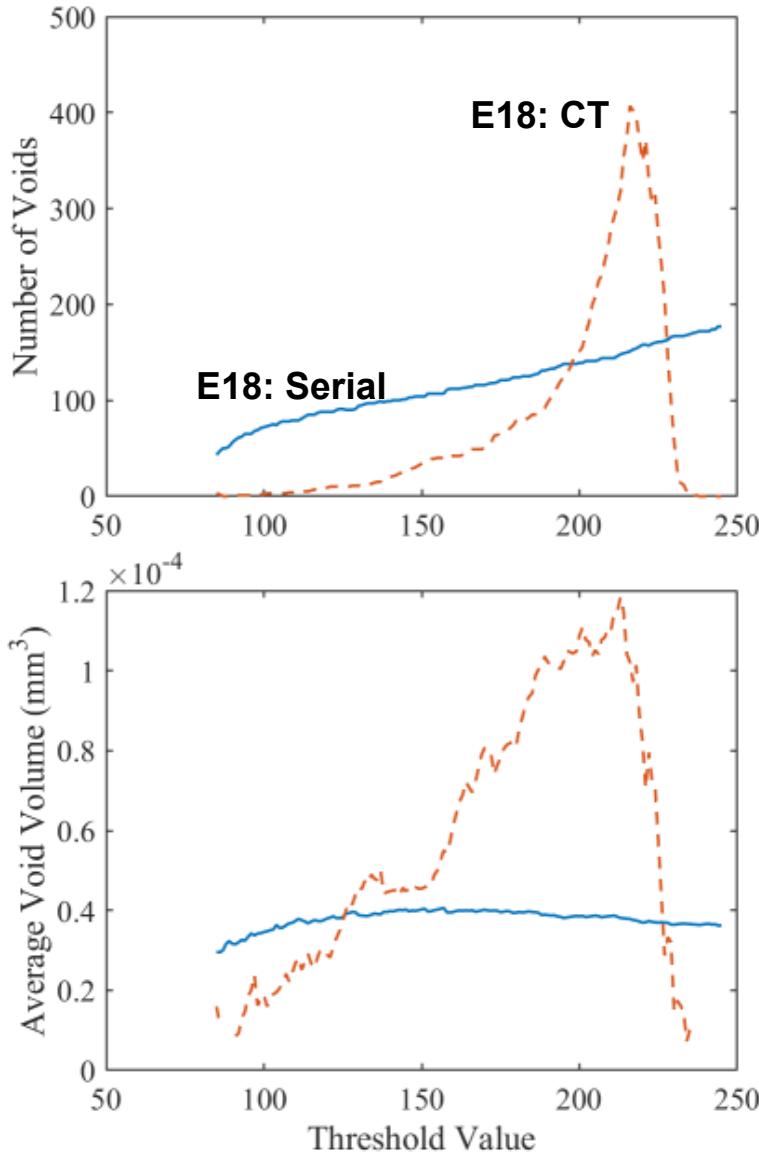
- Serial Sectioning: 64 voxels $\sim 6144 \mu\text{m}^3$
- Micro-CT: 8 voxels $\sim 5832 \mu\text{m}^3$

3D measurements from serial sectioning and CT data are different

- More variability noted in CT data

Potential causes for differences?

- Lower resolution of CT compared to serial sectioning
- Alignment differences (serial data is slightly tilted)
- Imaging technique (imaging characteristics)



Impact of Acquisition Technique



Approximately equal minimum void volume

- Serial Sectioning: 64 voxels $\sim 6144 \mu\text{m}^3$
- Micro-CT: 8 voxels $\sim 5832 \mu\text{m}^3$

3D measurements from serial sectioning and CT data are different

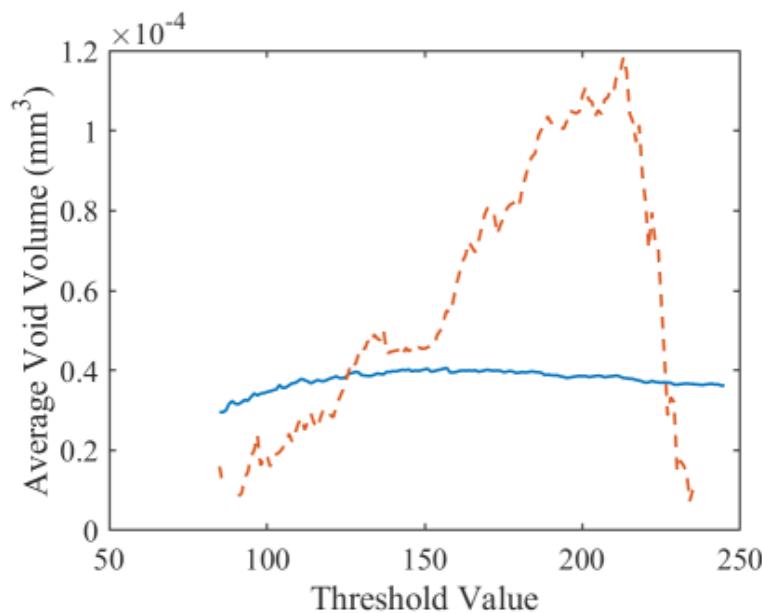
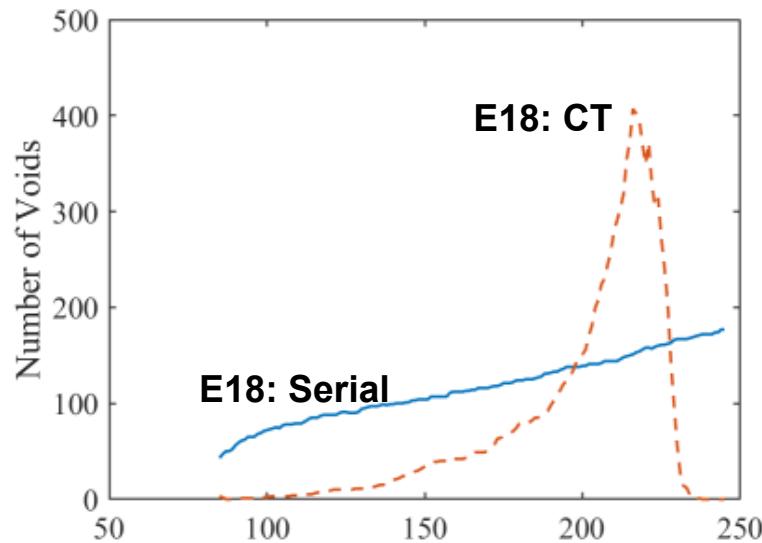
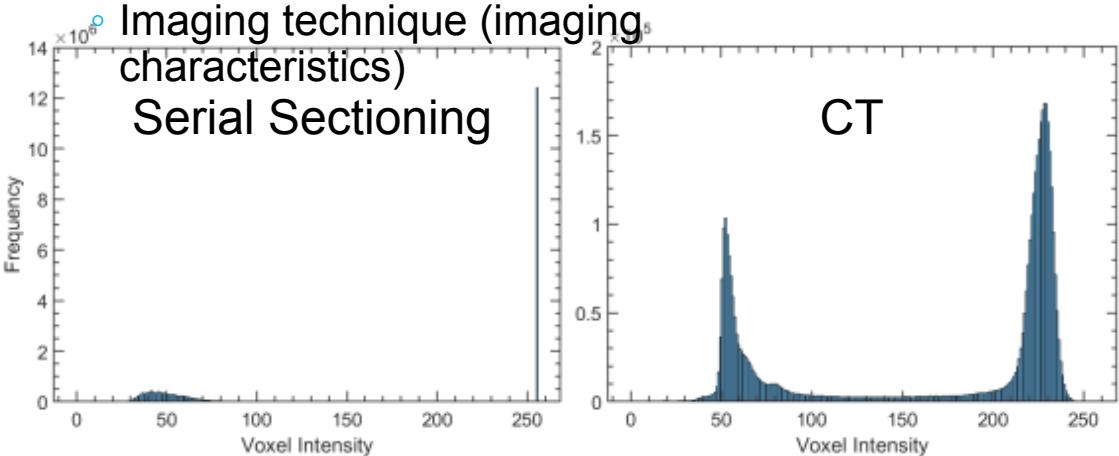
- More variability noted in CT data

Potential causes for differences?

- Lower resolution of CT compared to serial sectioning
- Alignment differences (serial data is slightly tilted)

◦ Imaging technique (imaging characteristics)

Serial Sectioning





Summary

Image Processing

Segmentation value can significantly impact assessment metrics

- Sensitivity to segmentation value varies with assessment metric

First-order assessment metrics can change considerably with the image acquisition technique

- CT exhibited more variability than serial sectioning

Quantification of the impact of image processing decisions on assessment metrics are needed to:

- 1) Understand uncertainty in assessment metrics
- 2) Optimize imaging characteristics for particular assessment metrics
- 3) Move toward automated image processing

Recommendations

Imaging characteristics should be optimized for feature identification and for a specific assessment metric of interest

It is worthwhile to determine uncertainties associated with different assessment metrics

Qualification/inspection criteria should be based upon an optimized imaging procedure and selected assessment metrics with acceptable variability

Image Straightening

Images were initially tilted in the YZ and XZ planes

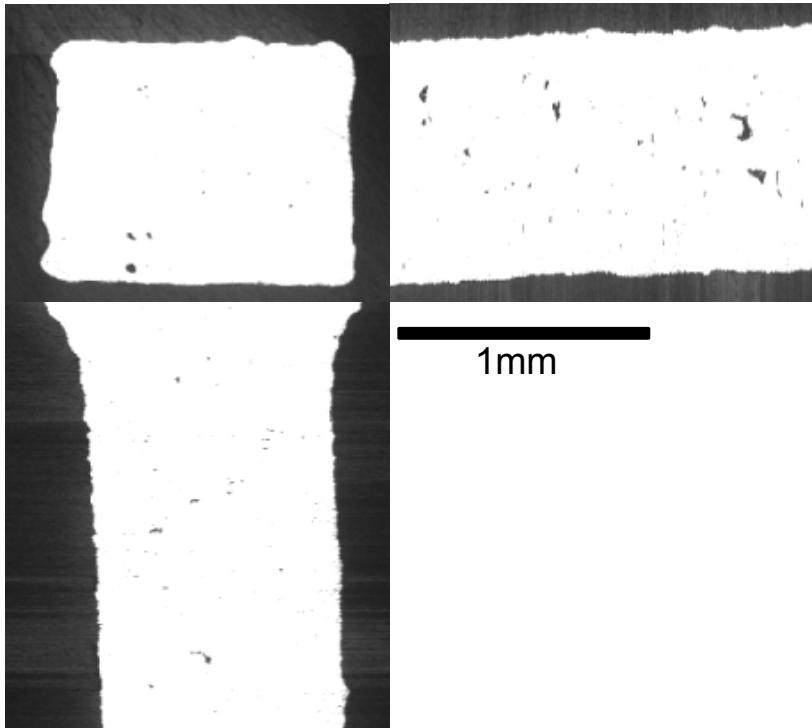
- Tilting is from their alignment in the metallography puck

Each specimen was straightened in these planes

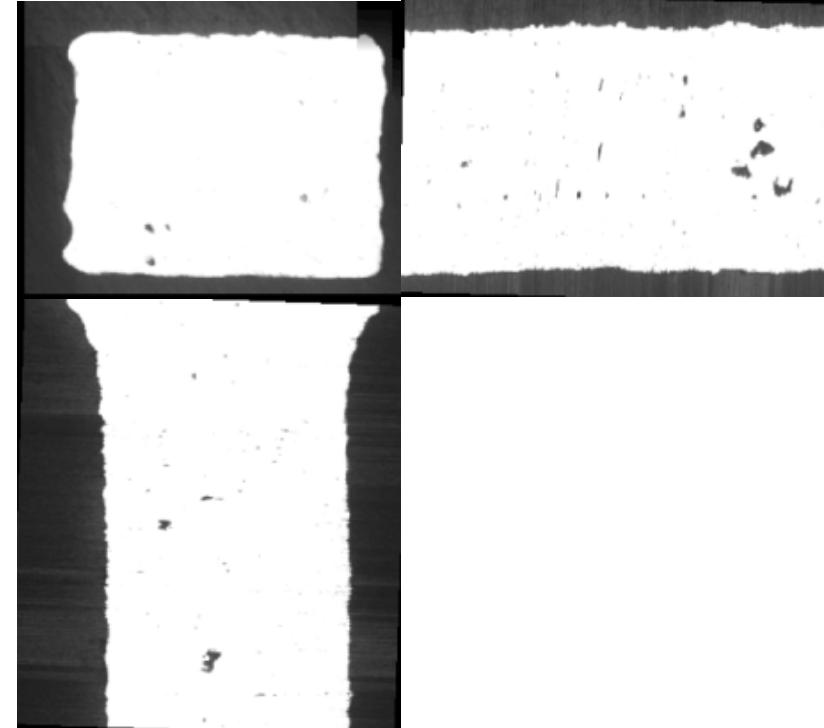
- Demonstrated on E20

Specimens were analyzed before and after straightening

Before straightening



After straightening



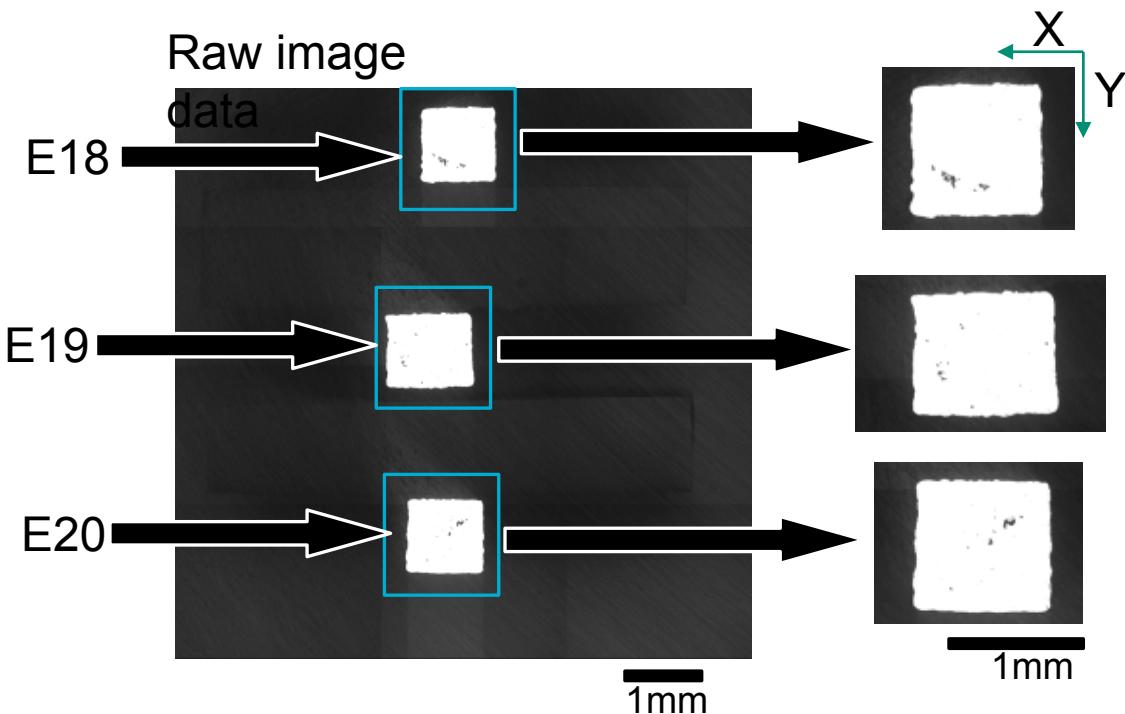
Mechanical Serial Sectioning Data



Specimens were simultaneously imaged in the same metallography puck

Specimens were characterized individually by cropping each from the original image stack

Image slices were then aligned in the XY plane



Case Study

Characterizing porosity in AM 316L stainless steel

- Structure-property relationships and qualifying AM components

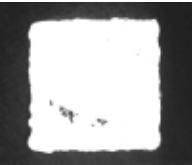
Characterized gauge region in 3 tensile dogbones using:

- X-ray micro-computed tomography (CT)
- Destructive serial sectioning with Robo-Met.3D®

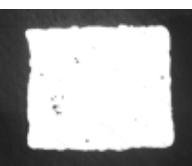
Serial sectioning

data

E18



E19



E20

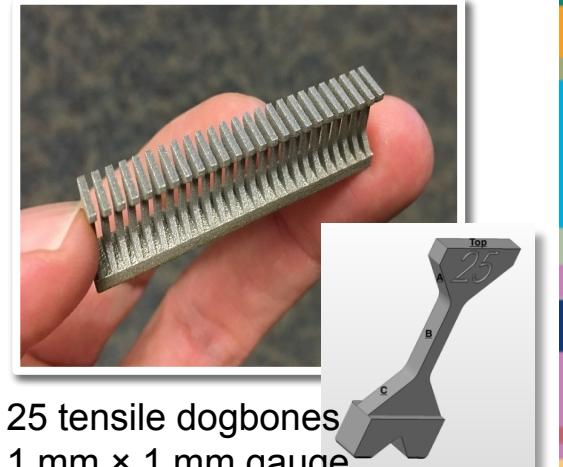
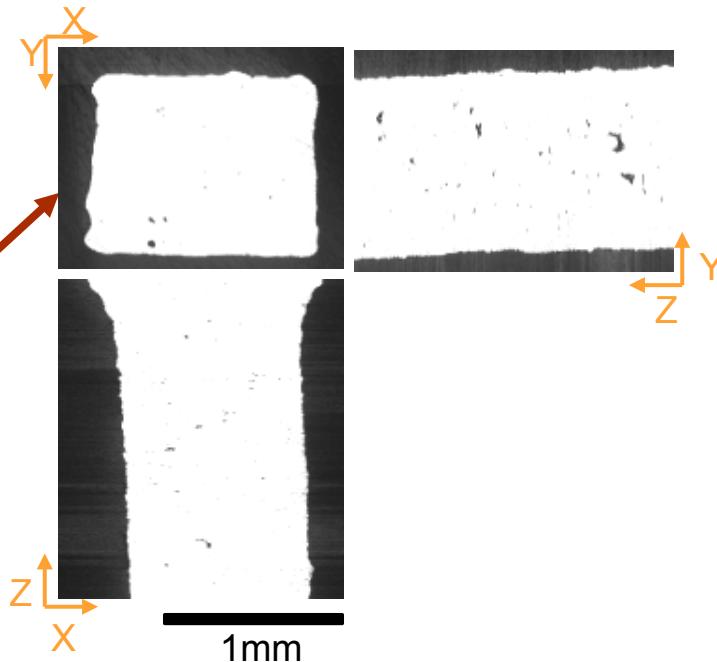
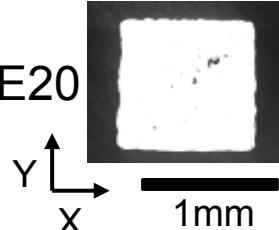


Image Preparation: Serial Sectioning



Align images and perform tilt corrections

- Tilt corrected using a bilinear rotation algorithm

Specimens were analyzed before and after straightening

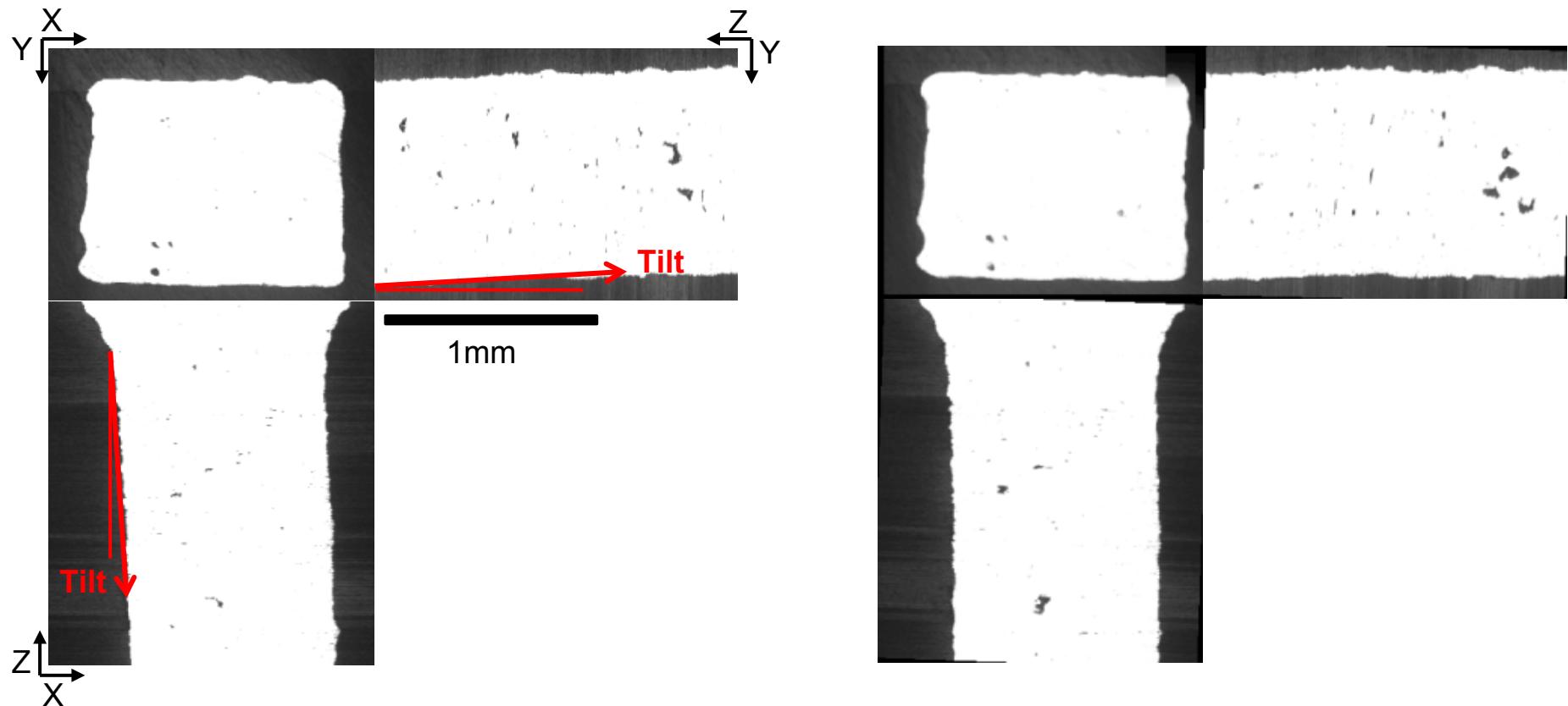




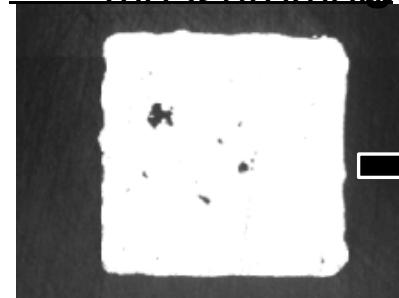
Image Processing: Segmentation

Global segmentation on 8-bit grayscale scale (voxel intensity between 0 – 255)

- Threshold values 10 – 45.
 - Voxel intensity value below threshold = black
 - Voxel intensity value above threshold = white
- Voids are black. Material is white

Need to quantify how changing the threshold value effects 3D

Serial sectioning



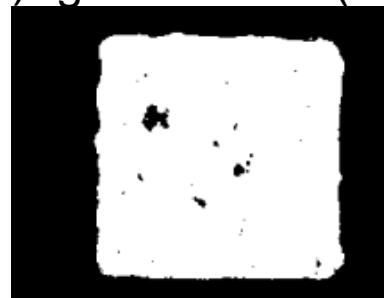
E20 image 143; Serial sectioning



Loses image detail and creates image artifacts

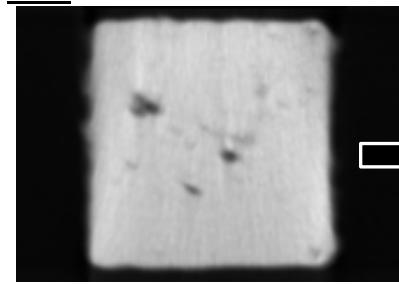


Most accurate representation



Loses detail around the object edges and creates false voids

CT



E20 image 117; Micro-CT



Loses all void detail but retains object edges



Retains object edges and catches some detail



Catches all voids (slightly enlarges their sizes) and loses detail around object