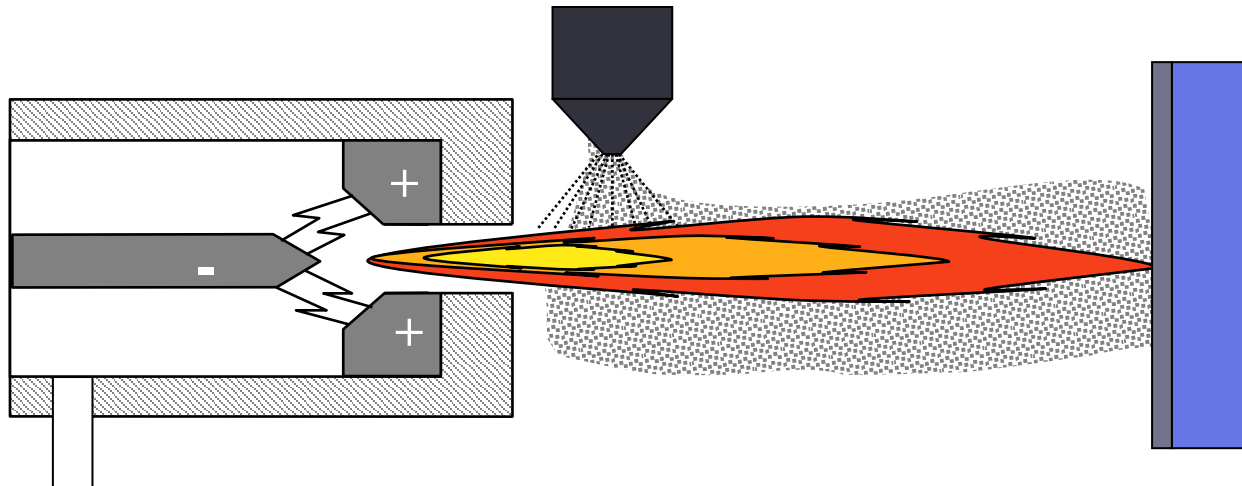


ULTRA-HIGH TEMPERATURE THERMAL BARRIER COATINGS

Maurice Gell, Eric Jordan,
Jeffrey Roth, Rishi Kumar
University of Connecticut

Jiwen Wang, Bally Nair
HiFunda LLC



DOE STTR Phase II Grant # DE-SC0007544
DOE UTSR 2014 Presentation

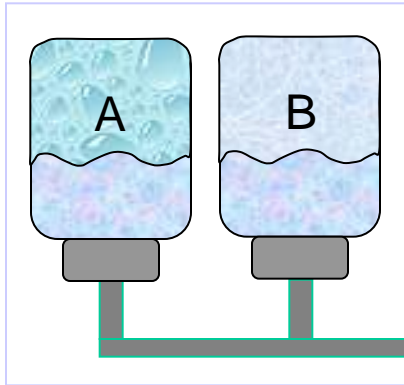


SPPS TBCs: Presentation Outline

- **Background**
 - **Processing, Microstructure & Properties**
- **SPPS YAG Thermal Barrier Coatings**
 - **Benefits**
 - **Processing & Microstructure**
 - **Engine Critical Properties**
 - **Industry Collaboration**
- **Summary & Conclusions**

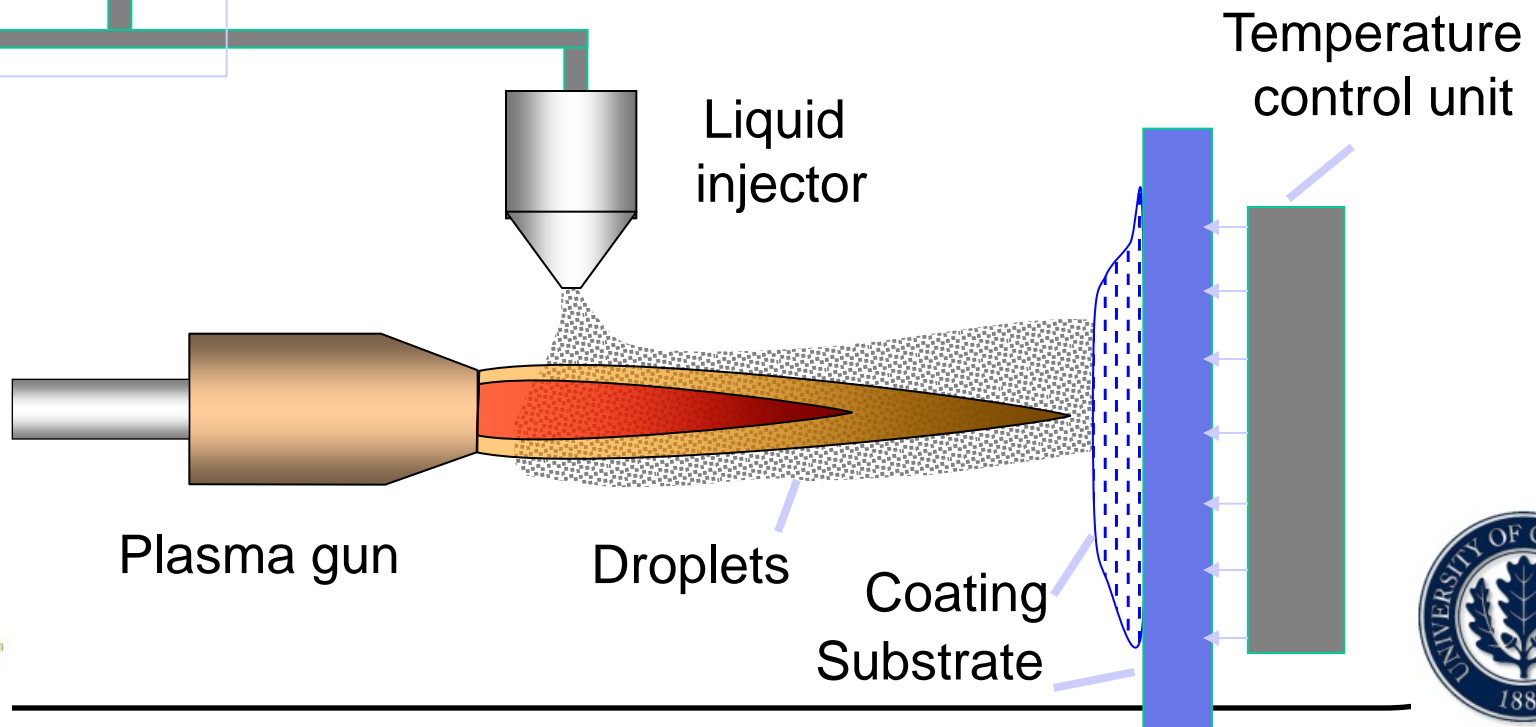
Solution Precursor Plasma Spray (SPPS) Process

Liquid reservoir



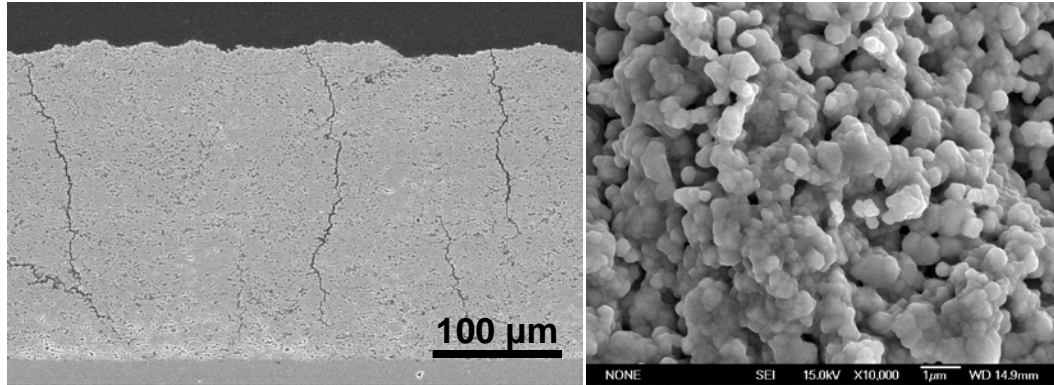
Solution Precursors

- A, B or A+B
- Multiple composition

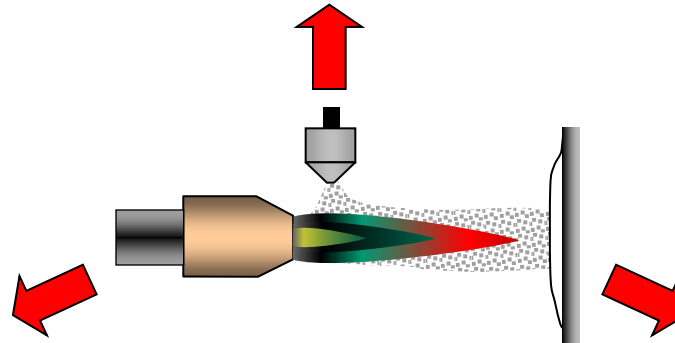


Solution Precursor Plasma Spray: Unique Microstructural Features

Through-thickness vertical cracks

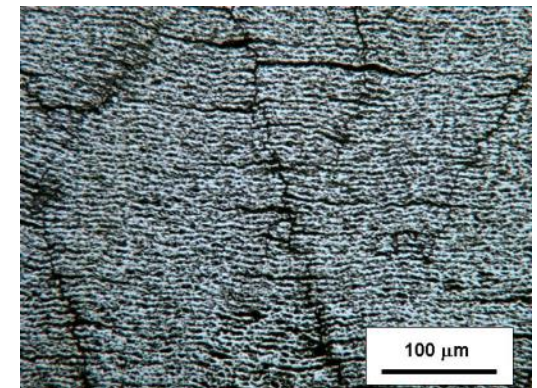
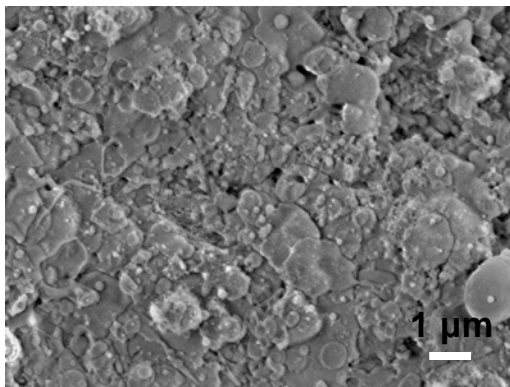


Varied nano/micro-scale porosity: 0~40%



Splat diameter $< 2 \mu\text{m}$
Splat thickness $< 1 \mu\text{m}$
Splat area is 1/2500 of that in APS TBCs

Layered porosity: inter-pass boundaries.



SPPS YAG TBCs: Project Objectives

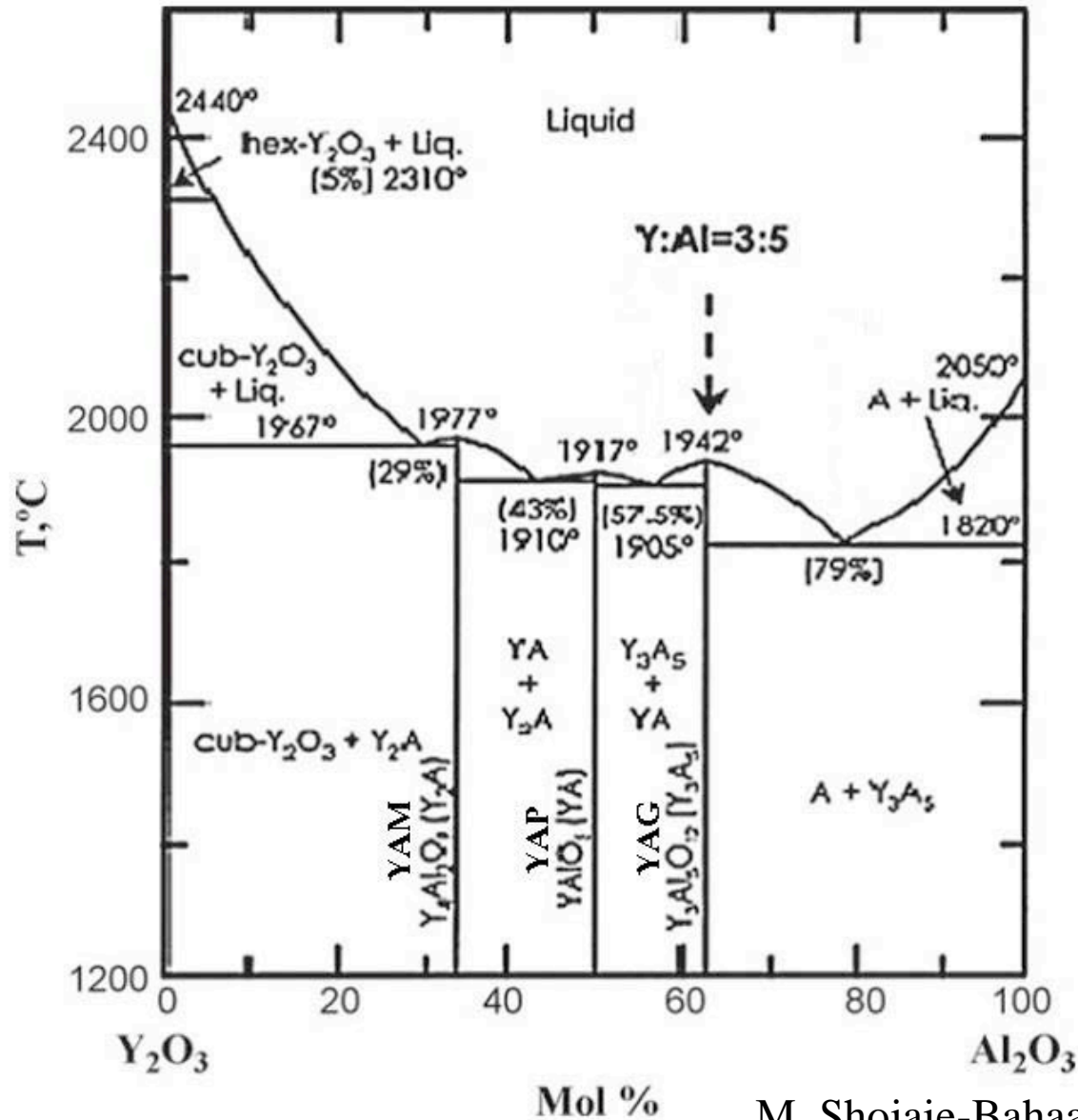
- **Develop a Higher Temperature (+200°C), Lower Thermal Conductivity Thermal Barrier Coating Using Yttrium Alumina Garnet (YAG) and the Solution Precursor Plasma Spray Process (SPPS)**
- **Demonstrate That YAG's Greater Thermal Expansion Mismatch Strains Can be Overcome By The Strain-Tolerant Microstructure of SPPS TBCs**

Anticipated Benefits

- **A New TBC That Can Tolerate Surface Temperatures of 1500°C Can Be Game-Changing For the Gas Turbine Industry Due to Higher Turbine Efficiencies and Lower Fuel Consumption**

Processing & Microstructure

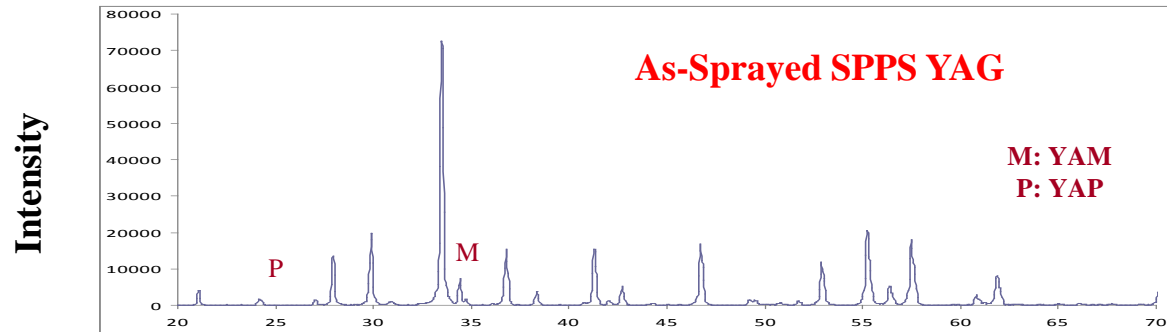
Yttria-Alumina Phase Diagram



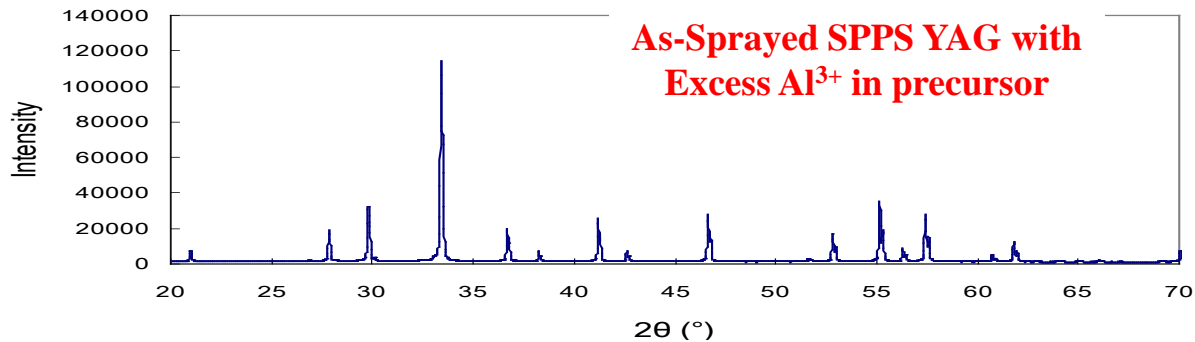
M. Shojaie-Bahaabad et al,
Ceramics Intl., Vol 35, 2009



Stoichiometric YAG Deposited By SPPS Process



- Predominantly YAG Phase with Minor Amounts of YAM and YAP



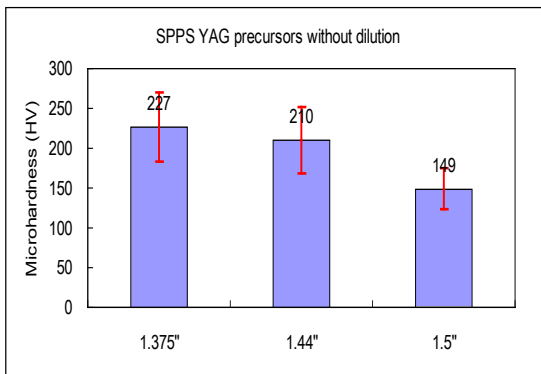
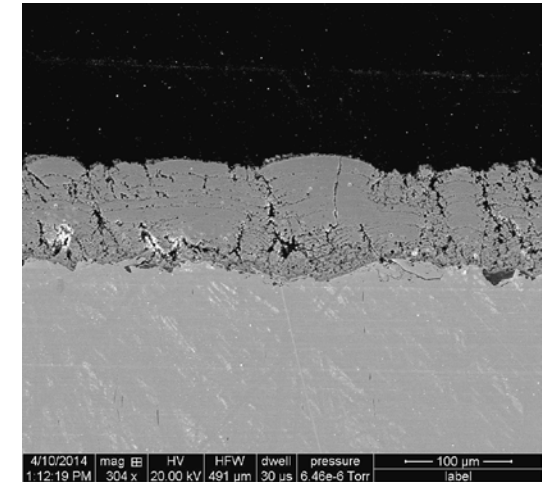
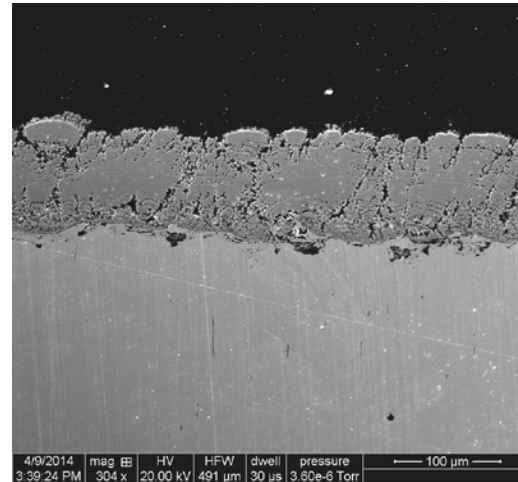
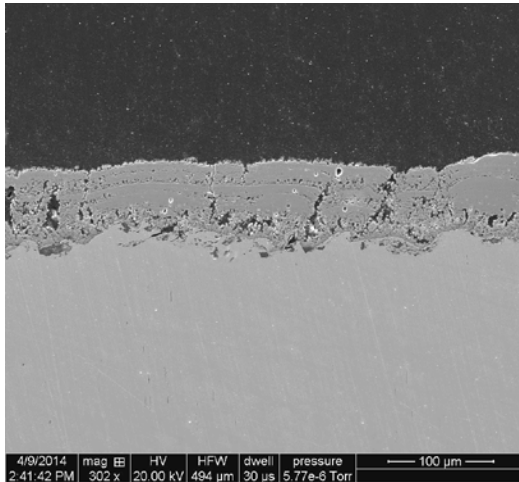
- Pure YAG phase

SPPS YAG TBC: Processing

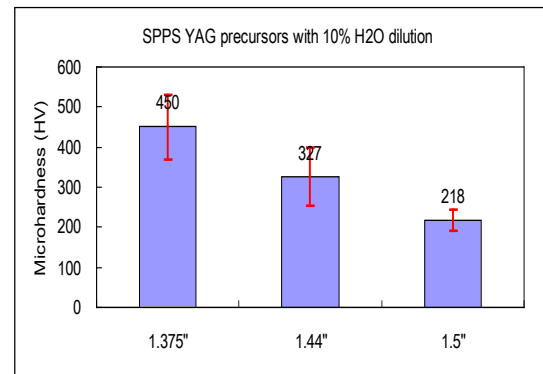
- **Over 100 Plasma Spray Trials**
- **Sulzer-Metco 9MB Plasma Torch**
- **42-45 KW Power**
- **Aqueous Precursor: Yttrium Nitrate,
Aluminum Nitrate,
Urea**
- **Key Processing Variables:**
 - **Precursor Energetics, Cation Loading, Viscosity**
 - **Stand-Off Distance**
 - **Atomizing Pressure**



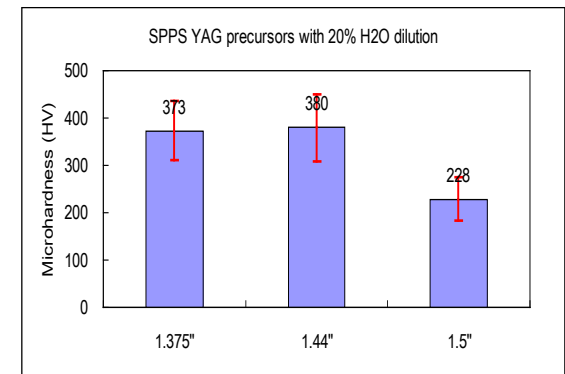
SPPS YAG TBCs: Effect of Precursor Concentration



SPPS YAG 5 wt% urea, 1.375", on SS.



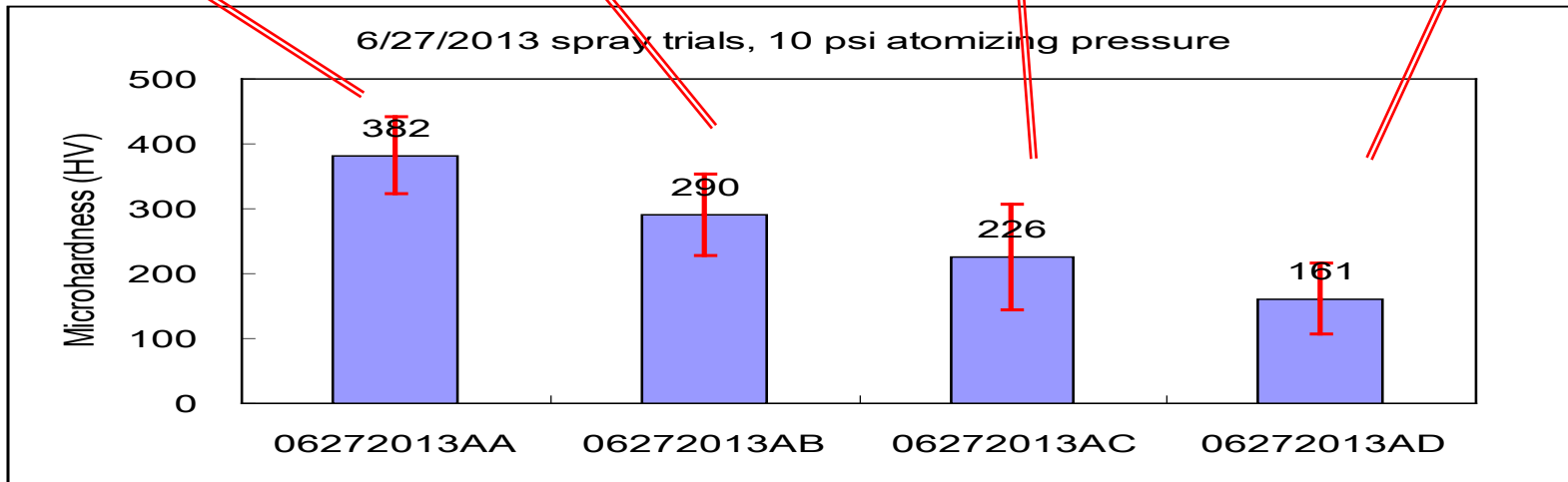
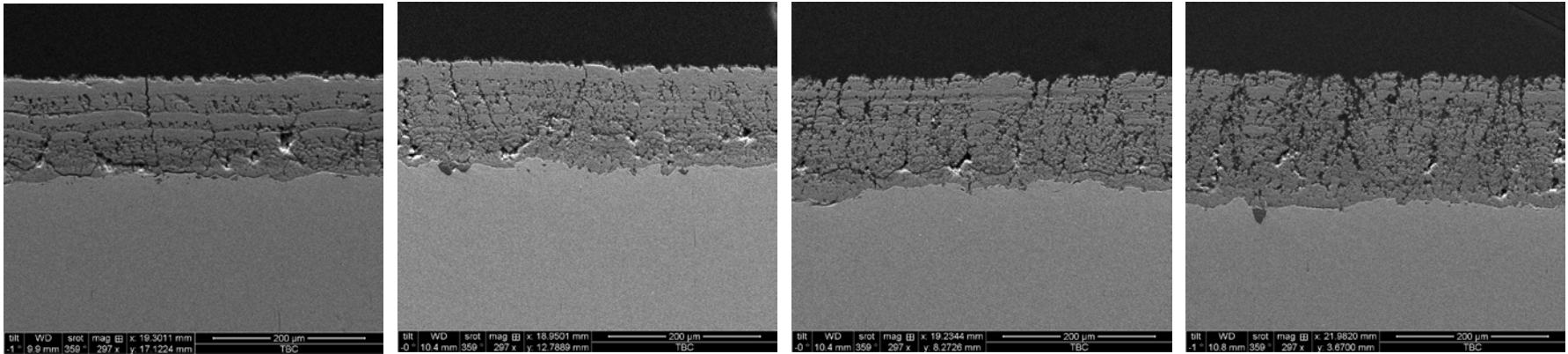
SPPS YAG 5 wt% urea, 10% H2O dilution, 1.375", on SS.



SPPS YAG 5 wt% urea, 20% H2O dilution, 1.375", on SS.

- Increased Precursor Dilution Produces Denser Harder TBCs

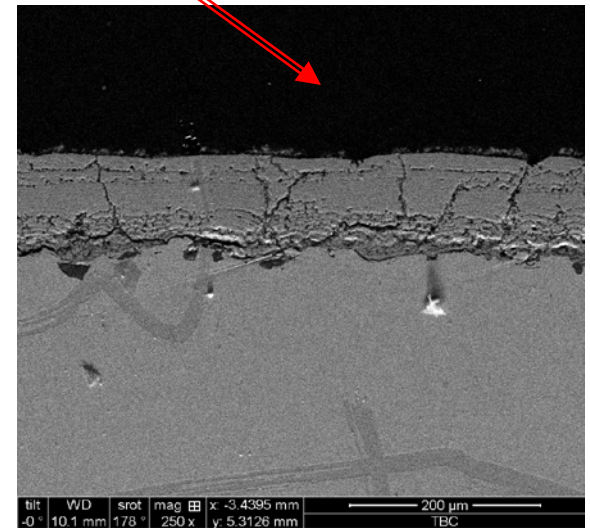
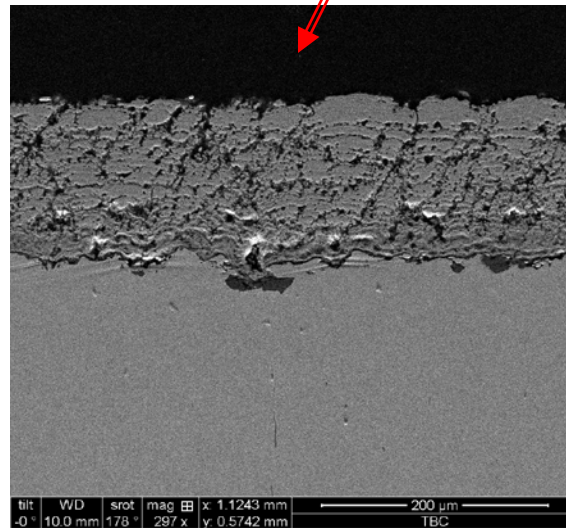
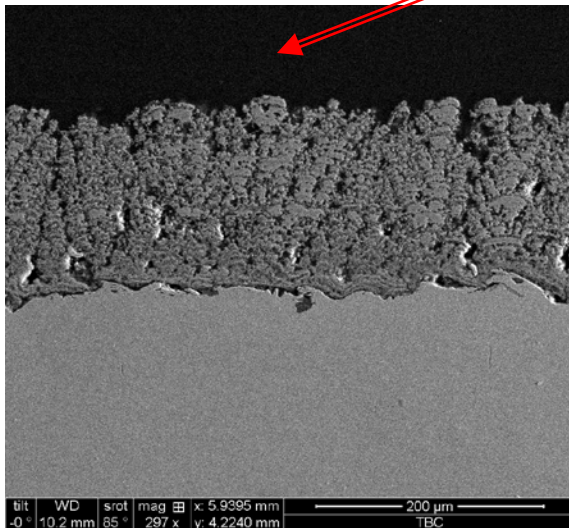
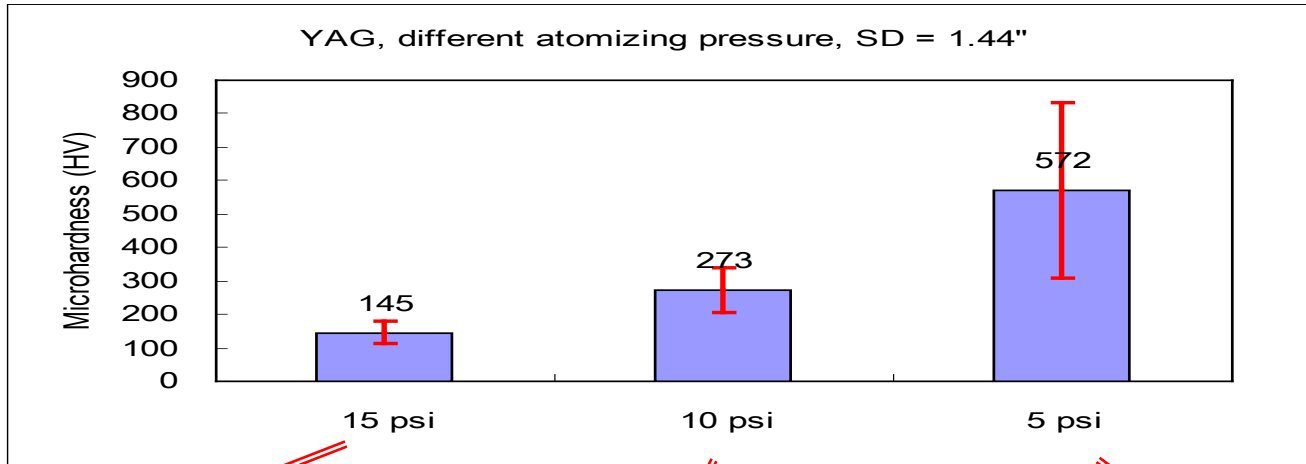
SPPS YAG TBCs: Stand-Off Distance



SD (cm) : 3.2 3.5 3.6 4.1

- **Decreased Stand-off Distance Increase Plasma and Substrate Temperature; Produces Denser, Harder YAG TBCs**

SPPS YAG TBCs: Atomizing Pressure

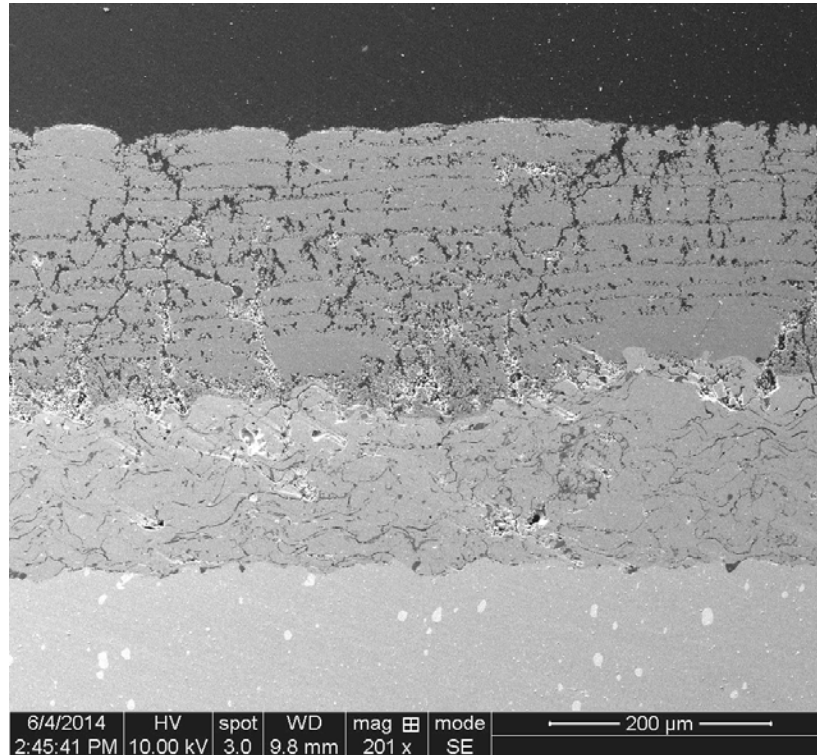


- **Reduced Atomizing Pressure Increases Plasma Temperature, Droplet Penetration and TBC Hardness**

Engine-Critical Properties

SPPS YAG TBCs: Standard Microstructure

--Used for Engine-Critical Properties Tests--



SPPS YAG

APS YSZ

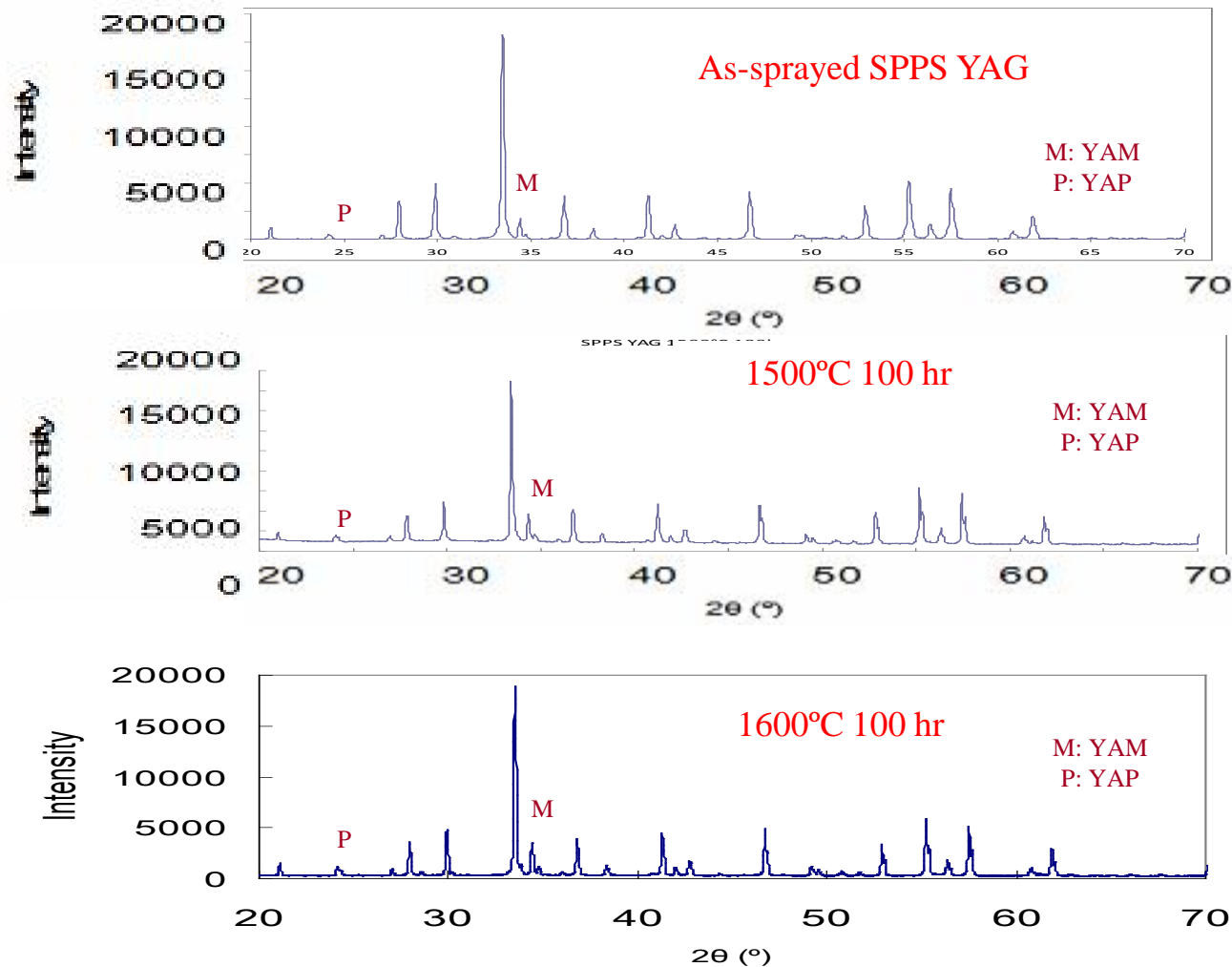
Bond Coat

Superalloy

- **Vickers Hardness: 200-400**
- **Porosity: 15-20%**

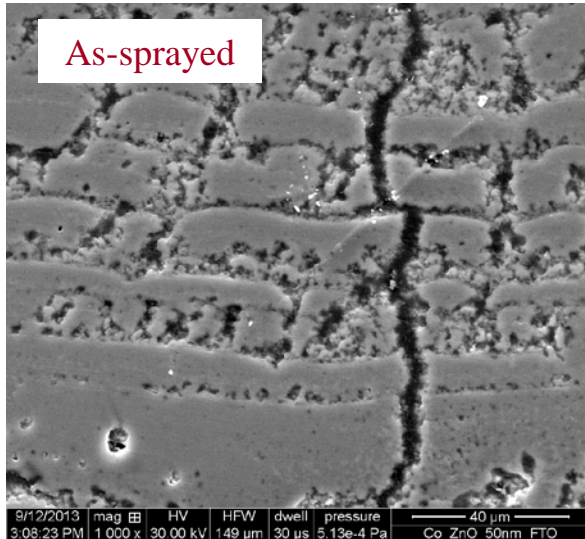


SPPS YAG TBCs: Phase Stability

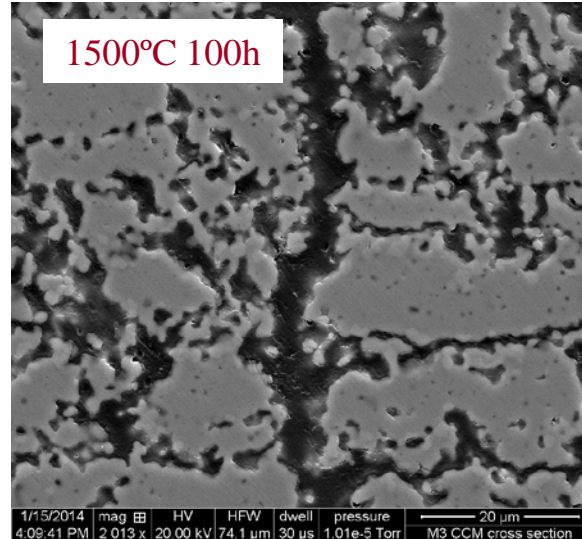


- **SPPS YAG TBCs Are Phase Stable To At Least 1600°C**

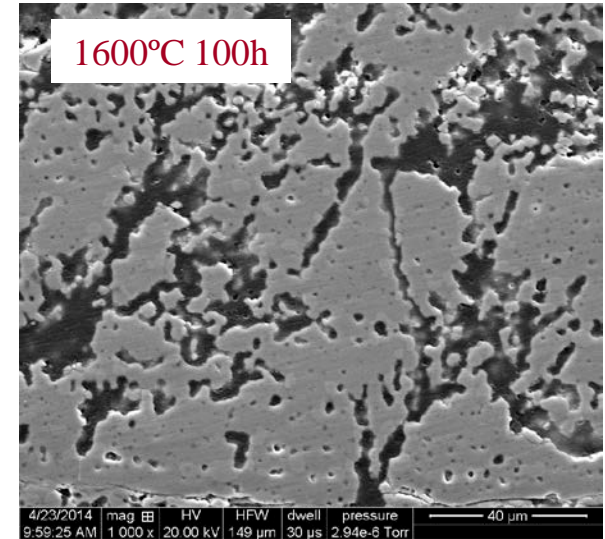
SPPS YAG TBCs: Sintering Resistance



HV = 380 ± 185



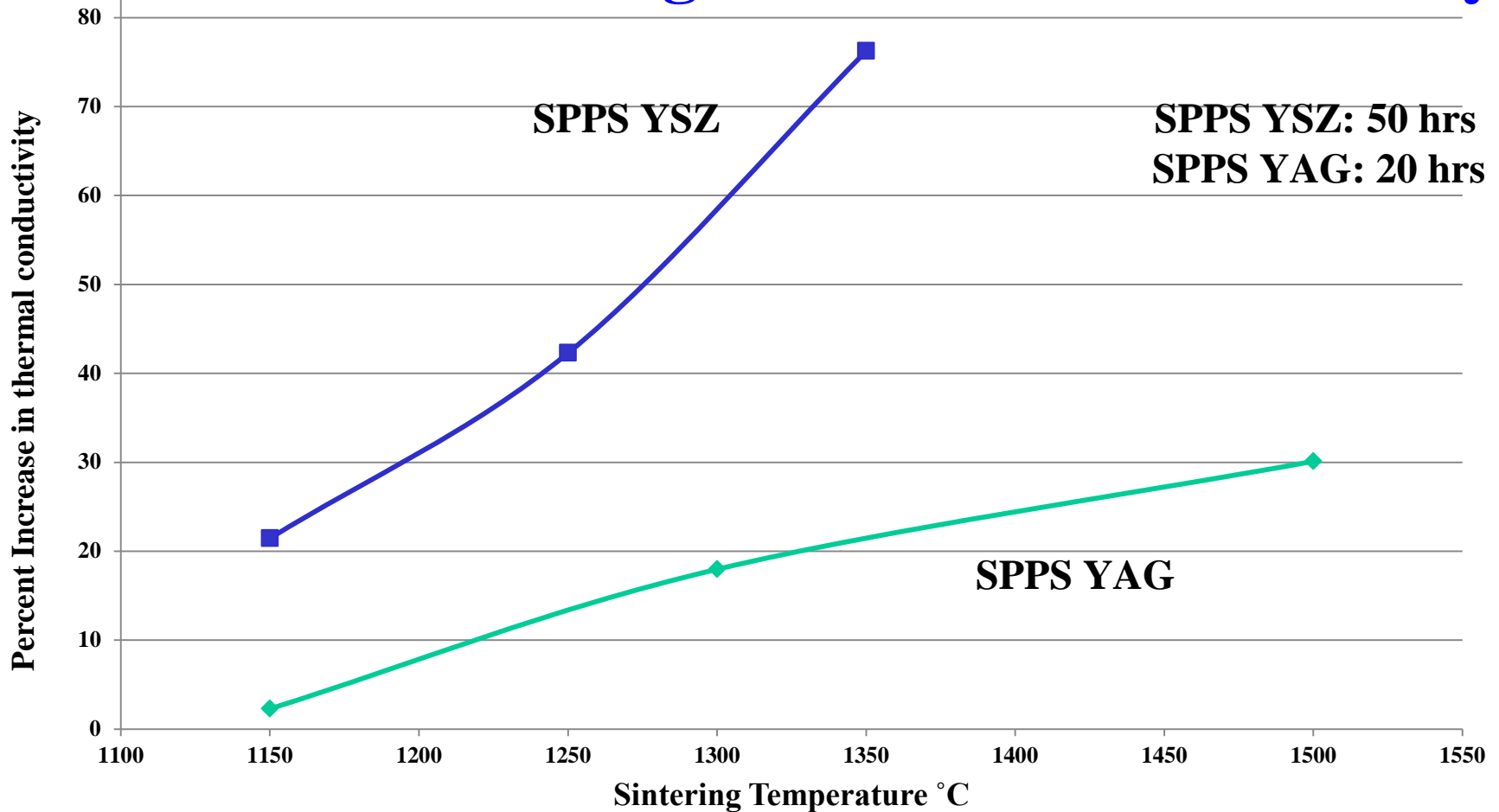
HV = 324 ± 122



HV = 378 ± 139

Sintering Effects Are Small Up to 1600°C

SPPS TBCs: Sintering & Thermal Conductivity



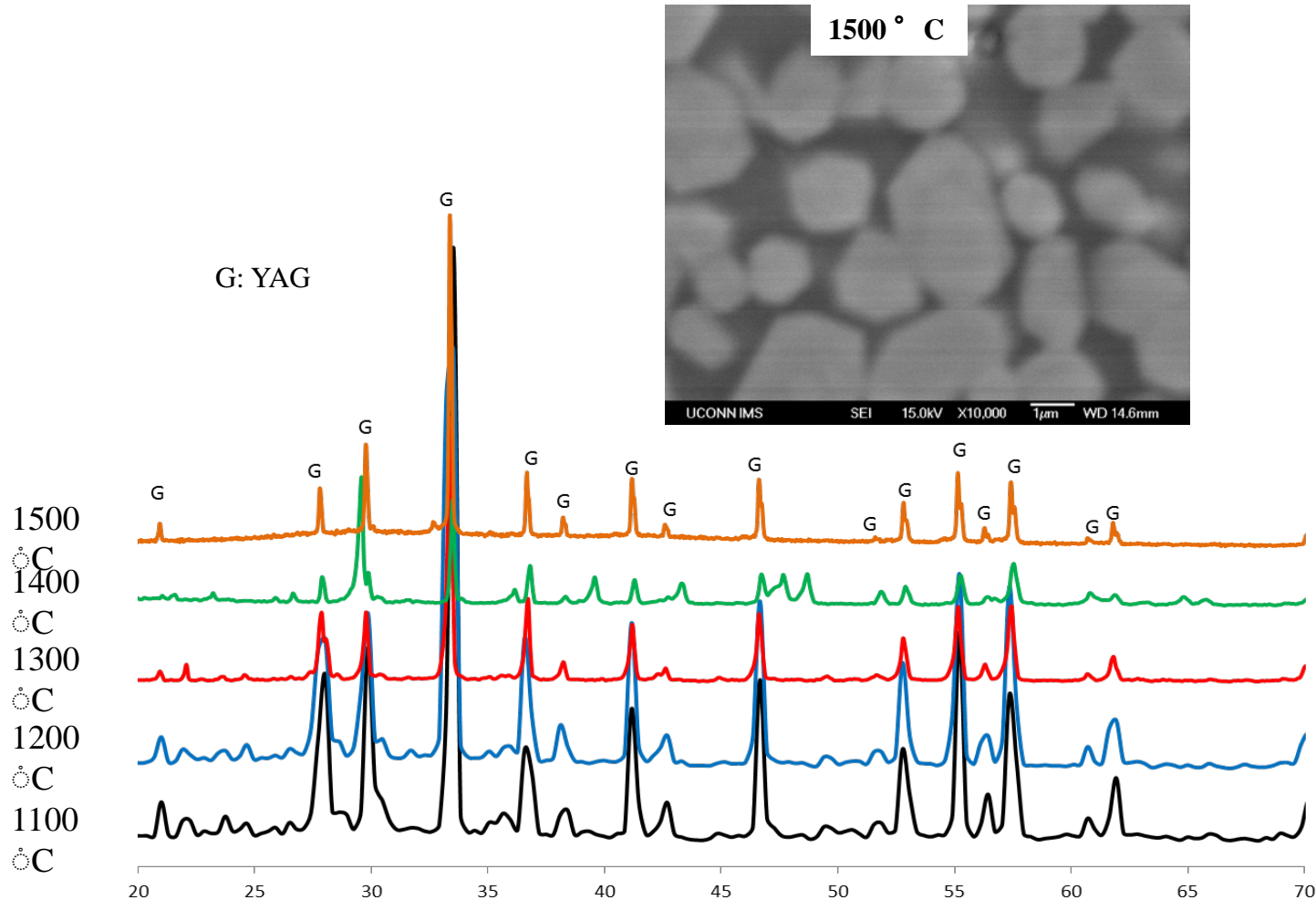
- **SPPS YAG TBCs More Sinter Resistant Than SPPS and APS YSZ**

CMAS Reactivity Study: YSZ & YAG

**Powders of YSZ, YAG, 50:50 w/o YSZ & CMAS,
50:50 w/o YAG & CMAS Prepared**

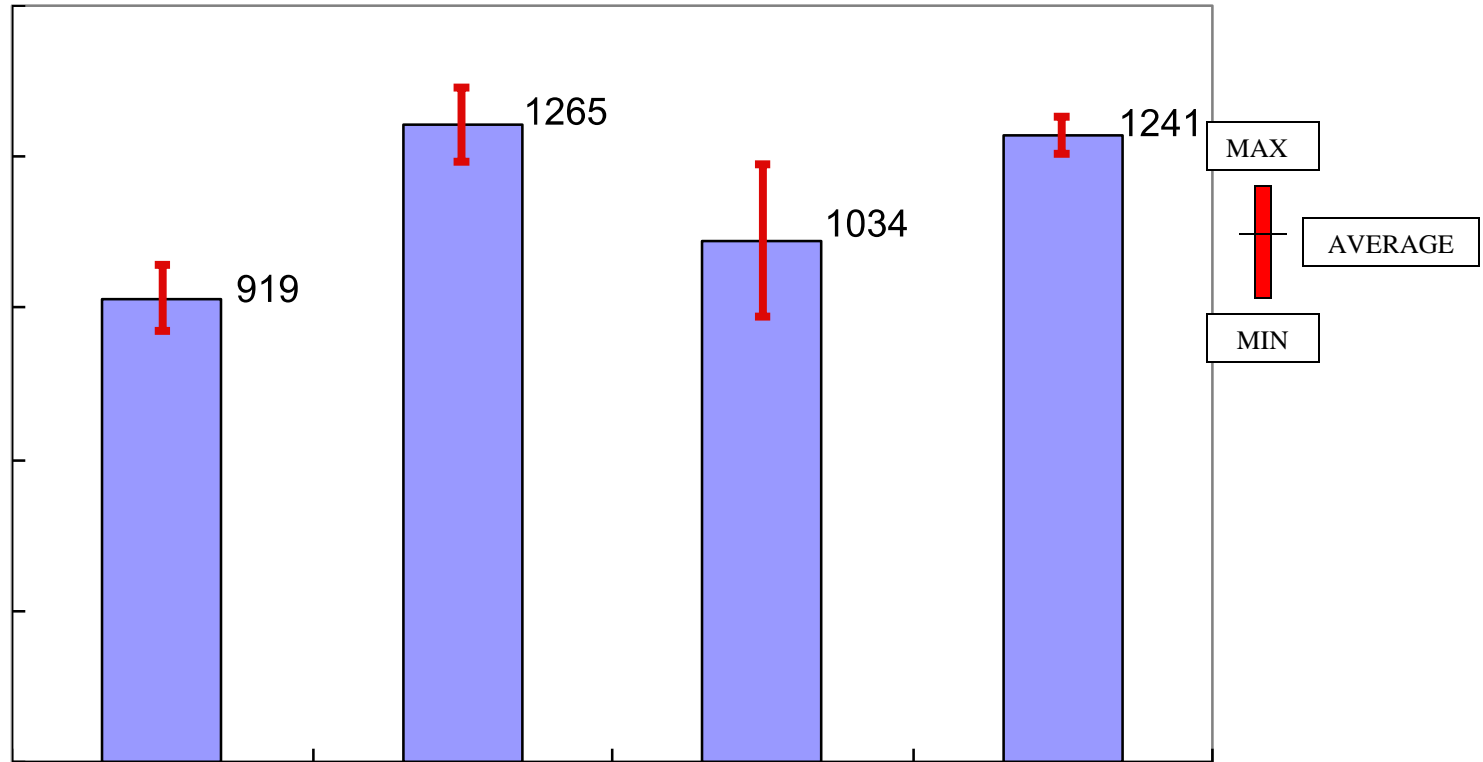
- **Powder Size: YAG 2-5 microns, YSZ 50 microns**
- **CMAS Powder: Industry Standard Composition,
1170°C Melting Temperature**
- **Powders Exposed For 24 hours at 1100° to 1500°C**
- **X-Ray Diffraction, SEM and EDAX Evaluations
Being Conducted**

Phase Stability: 50:50 w/o YAG/CMAS Powder



- **YAG Phase Stable To 1500°C In Presence of CMAS**

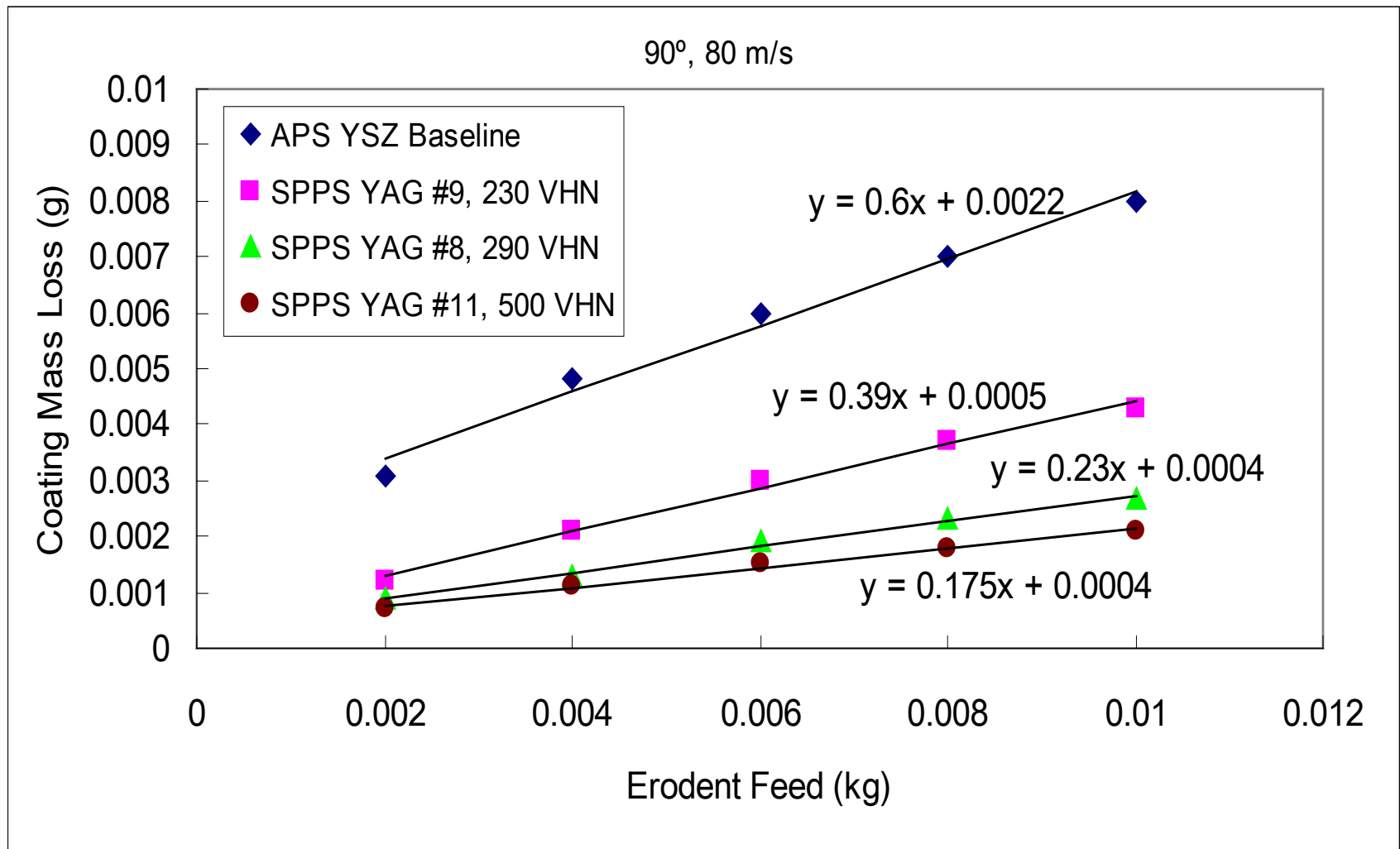
SPPS YAG TBCs: Thermal Cycle Life vs Hardness



- **SPPS Strain-Tolerant Microstructure Overcomes Higher Thermal Expansion Mismatch Stresses**

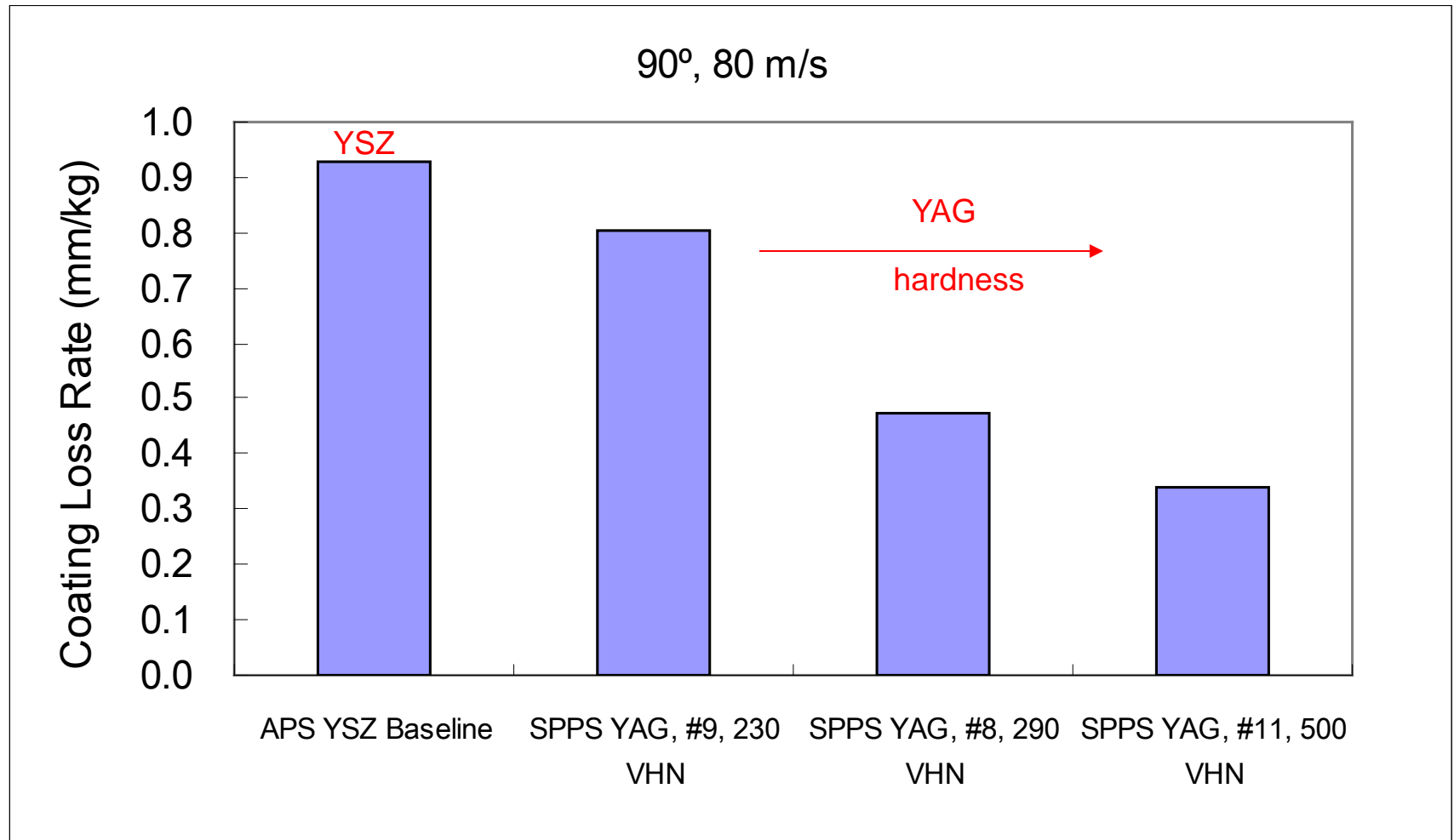
SPPS YAG TBCs: Erosion Rate vs Hardness

(Tests Performed at Penn State Univ. By Dr. D Wolfe)



SPPS YAG TBCs: Erosion Rate vs Hardness

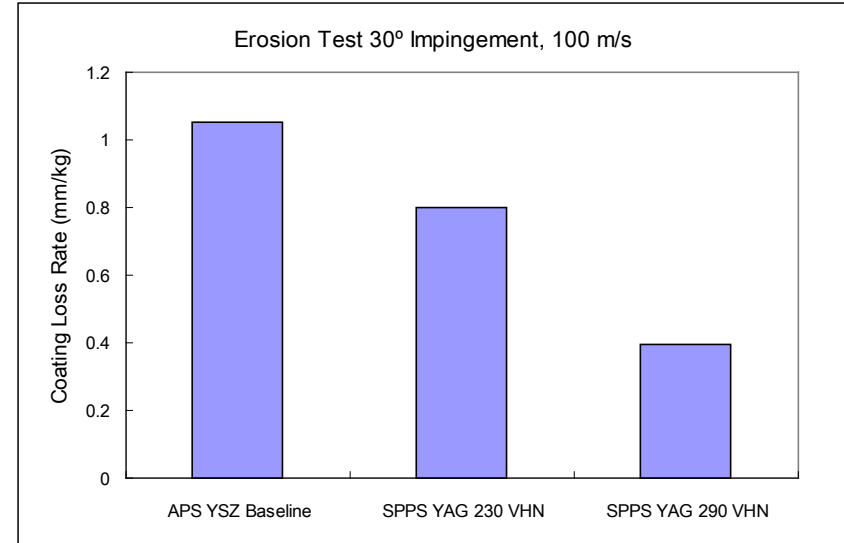
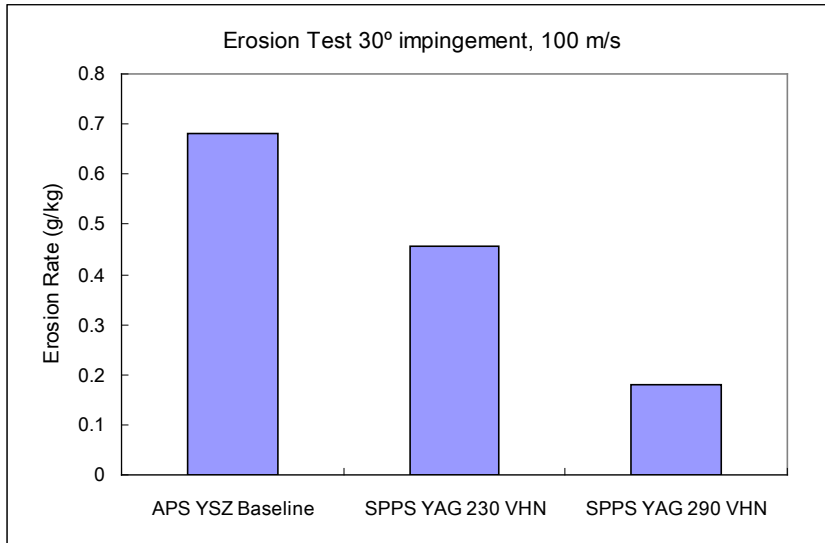
(Tests Performed at Penn State Univ. By Dr. D Wolfe)



SPPS YAG TBCs: Erosion Rate vs Hardness

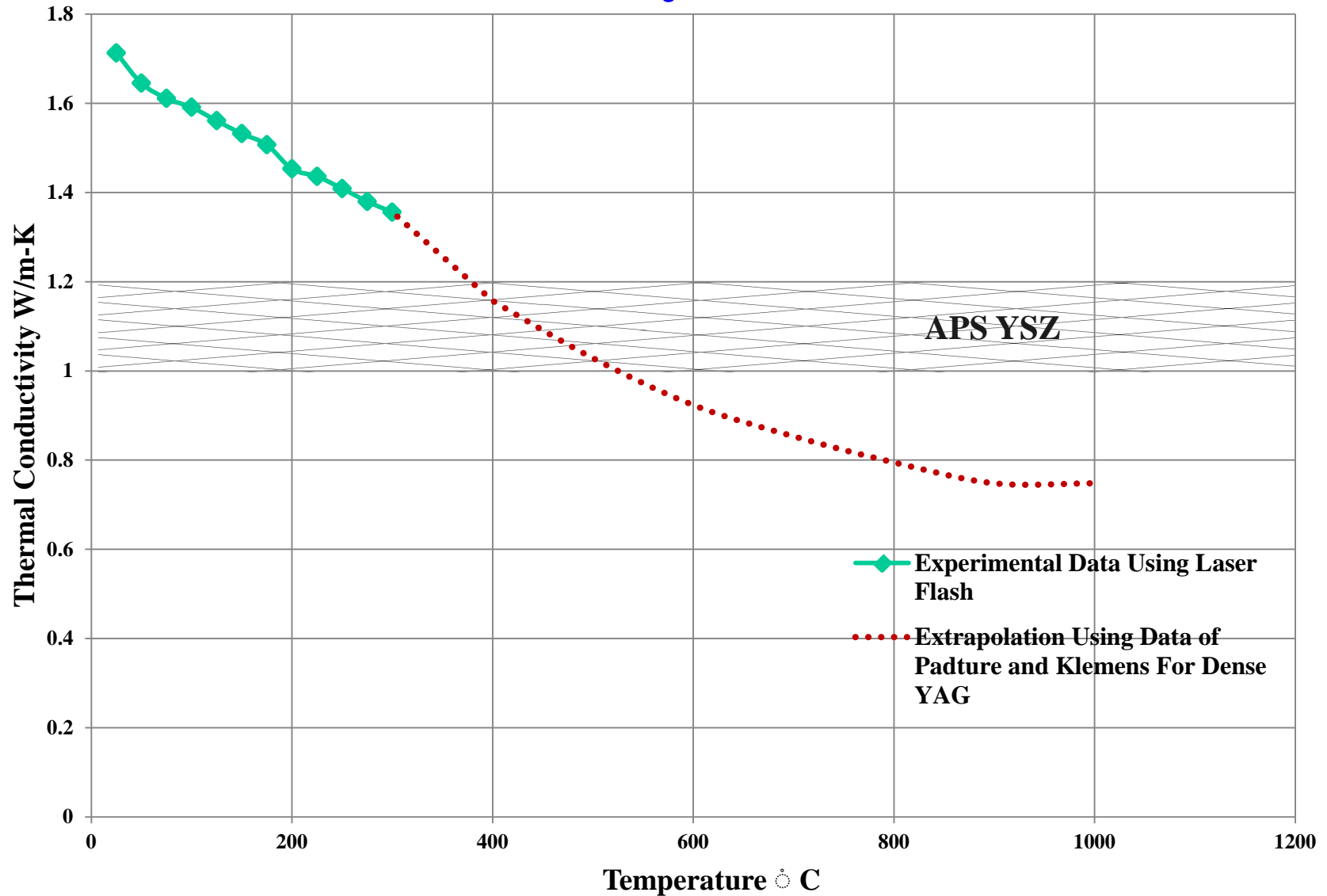
-30° Impingement-

(Tests Performed at Penn State Univ. By Dr. D Wolfe)



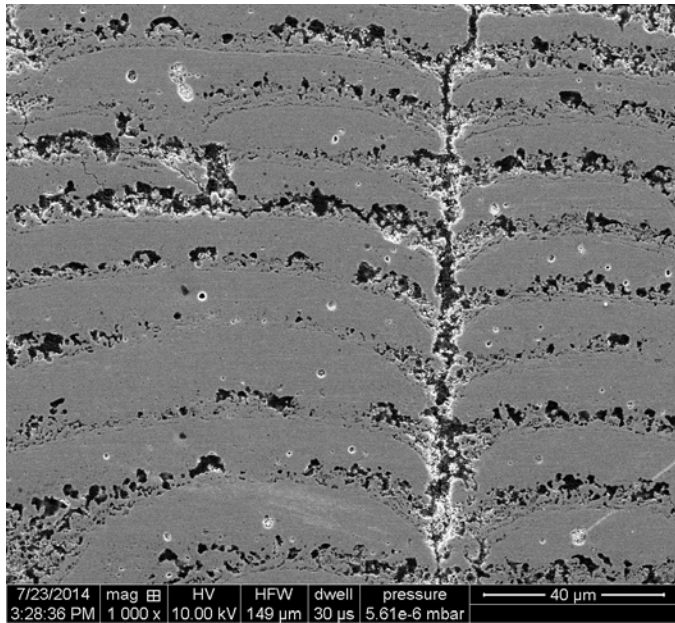
- **SPPS YAG Has Superior Erosion Resistance To APS YSZ In Both 30° 90° Impingement Erosion Tests.**

Thermal Conductivity of SPPS YAG TBCs

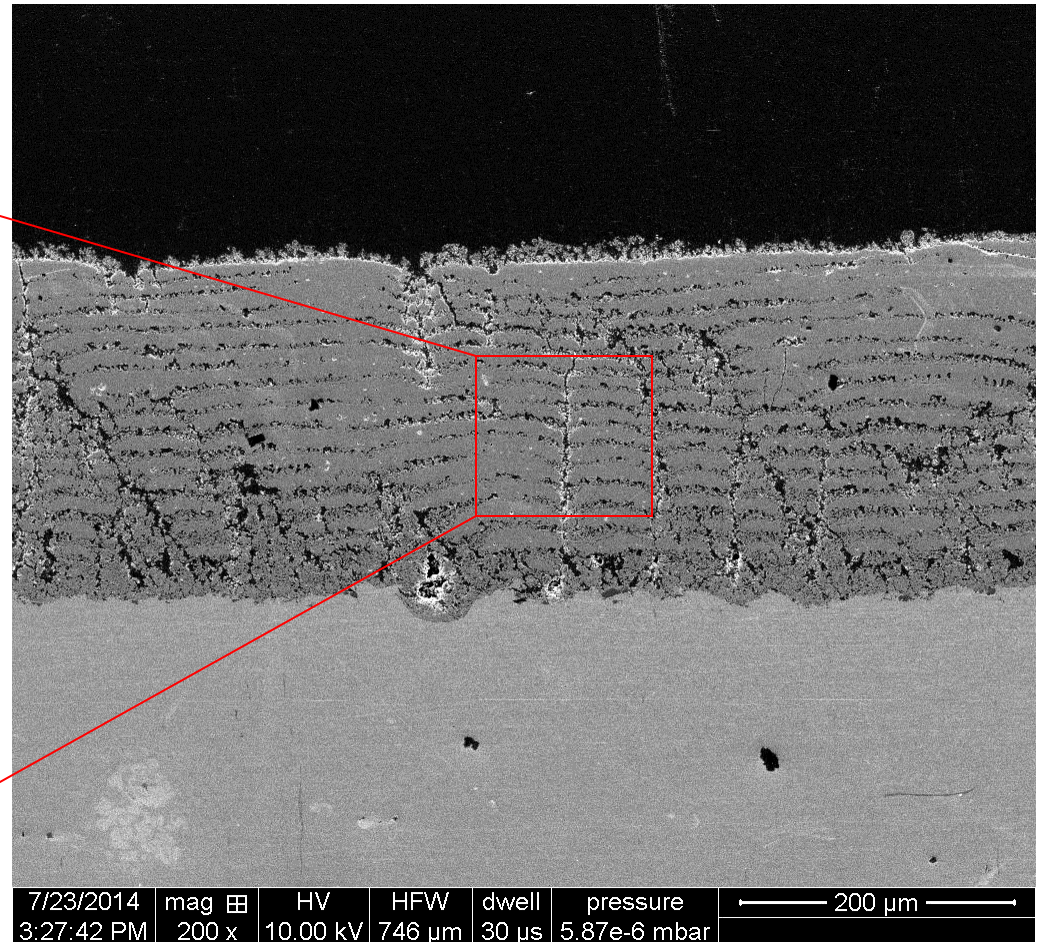


- **SPPS YAG TBC Th. Conductivity Estimated To Be Lower Than APS YSZ At Elevated Temperatures**

SPPS YAG TBCs with IPBs



HV= 324 ± 60



- Further Reductions in Thermal Conductivity Possible With IPBs & Small Compositional Modifications

Industry Partners

Engine Manufacturers

- **Solar Turbines**
- **Siemens Energy**
- **Pratt & Whitney**

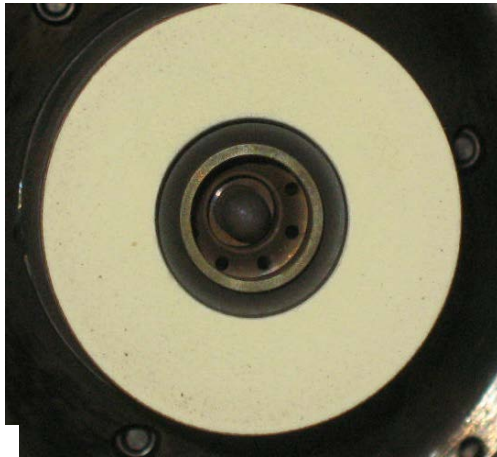
TBC Coating/Equipment Manufacturers

- **Praxair**
- **Progressive Surface**

Industry Partner Coordination

- **Solar and Siemens Provided Baseline and Bond Coated Superalloy Specimens Used In Program**
- **Solar and Siemens Supplied Specimens For SPPS YAG TBC Coating For Their Internal Evaluations**
- **Technology Transfer Initiated With Praxair & Progressive Engineering Teams Visiting UConn For Full-Day Briefings**
- **Praxair & Progressive Will Demonstrate Production Process & Economics For SPPS YAG TBCs**

Solar Turbines Demonstration Component --Fuel Nozzle Igniter--



- **Coordination Meeting Held with Praxair, Solar & UConn, 8-11-14**

Summary & Conclusions-I

- **SPPS YAG TBCs Show Potential For $>1500^{\circ}\text{C}$ Operation Based On Phase Stability, Sinter and CMAS Resistance**
- **This Represents A $>200^{\circ}\text{C}$ Advantage Over APS YSZ**
- **Durability of SPPS YAG TBCs Shown To Be Equal Or Greater Than APS YSZ In Thermal Cycle and Erosion Tests**
- **Initial Measurements Indicate SPPS YAG TBC Thermal Conductivity of $0.7 \text{ Watt/m}^{\circ}\text{K}$ at 1000°C (40% reduction compared to APS YSZ)**

Summary & Conclusions-II

- **Engine Manufacturers Continue To Show Strong Interest In SPPS YAG TBCs; Will Conduct In-House Testing**
- **Technology Transfer Being Conducted With TBC Coating Suppliers; They Will Conduct Demonstration Trials and Provide Process Economics**
- **SPPS YAG Continues to Show Strong Promise As Higher Temperature, Sinter-Resistant, Durable TBC**

Acknowledgements

- **Patcharin Burke, DOE Program Manager, DOE STTR Phase I & II Programs on SPPS YAG TBCs**
- **Our Industrial Partners: Solar Turbines, Siemens Energy, Pratt & Whitney, Praxair and Progressive Surface**