

*Trond Ramsvik*  
*TS / MME*

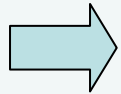


- *Introduction*
  - *Motivation, Origin of Breakdown, Materials*
- *Experimental Setup*
- *Field Emission*
- *Breakdown Field*
- *Local Field*
- *Automatic Spark Conditioning*
- *Effect of Residual Gas*
- *Further work*
- *Conclusions*

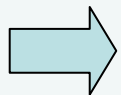


*With a DC spark-test system, materials can be subjected to high electric fields, and their properties and responds to different treatments can be examined relatively easy and quickly.*

**Goal: To find materials that withstand the highest field without breakdown or have low level of deterioration even when breakdown events occur.**



*Need to understand the details of the breakdown phenomena*





# Introduction: Origin of Breakdown

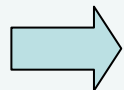


- *The physics of breakdown is still not perfectly understood*
- *Commonly accepted that breakdown at small gaps ( $d \leq 0.5$  mm) is initiated by an electron field emission based mechanism from one or a few microprotrusions\**
- *Process towards breakdown. Suggested Models:*
  - “Anode-initiated”
    - electron bombardment of anode
      - release of gas and/or anode material through intense localized heating or electron stimulated desorption (ESD)
      - Avalanche ionization of the released species
  - “Cathode-initiated”
    - The microprotrusion on the cathode becomes unstable
      - ohmic heating from high field emission current density
      - fracture of the surface due to the tensile stress produced by the electric field
  - *Exchange*
    - Avalanche of mutual secondary emission of ions, electrons between the electrodes



## **Criteria:**

- *low vapor pressure*
- *high tensile strength*
- *high melting point*
- *high thermal conductivity*
- *high electrical conductivity*

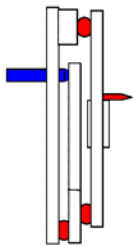
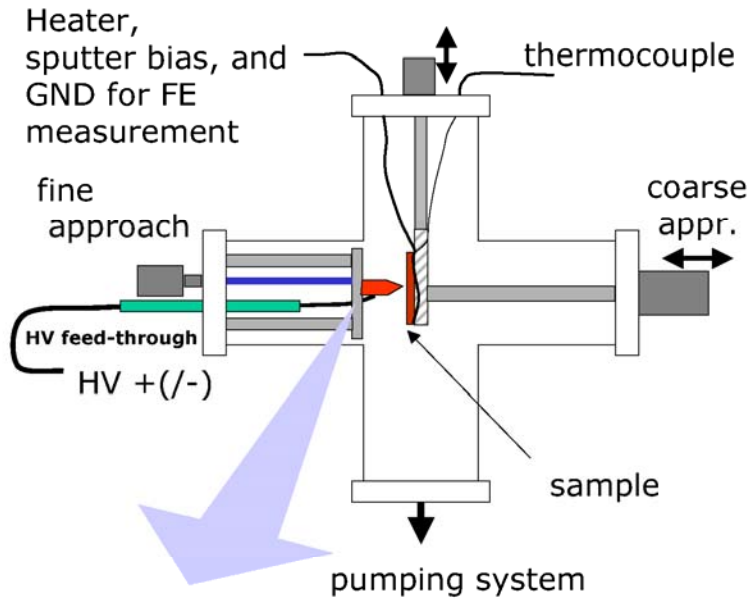


*Molybdenum & Tungsten*

# Experimental Setup

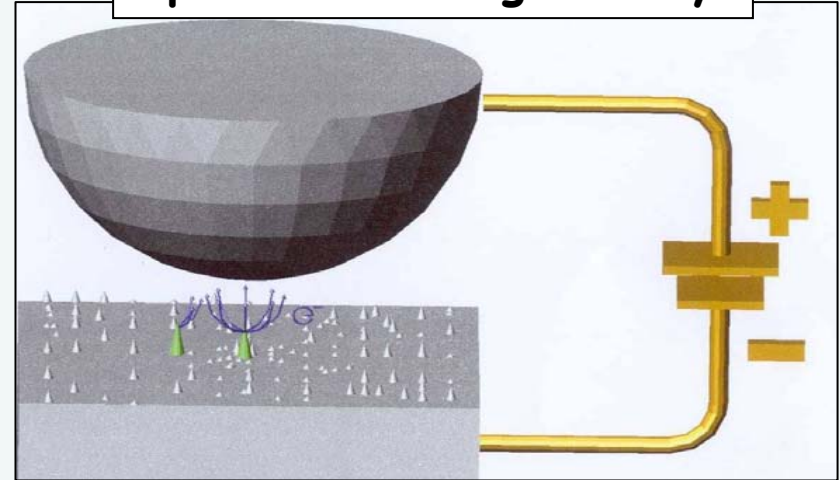


## Spark test UHV chamber

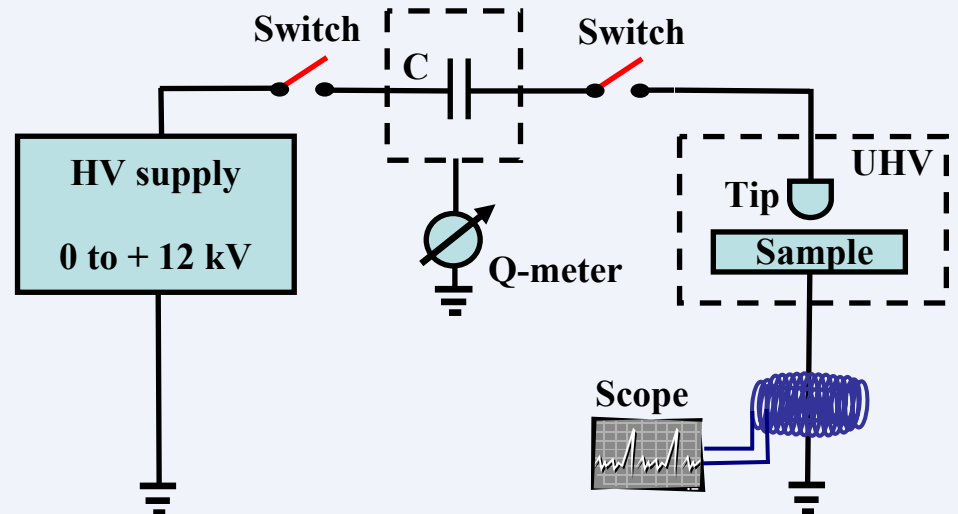


differential lever :  
~0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  accuracy  
~ 5  $\mu\text{m}$  backlash

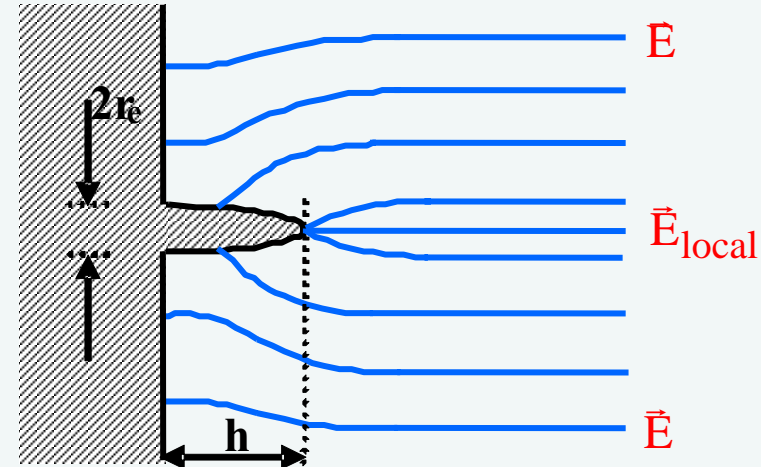
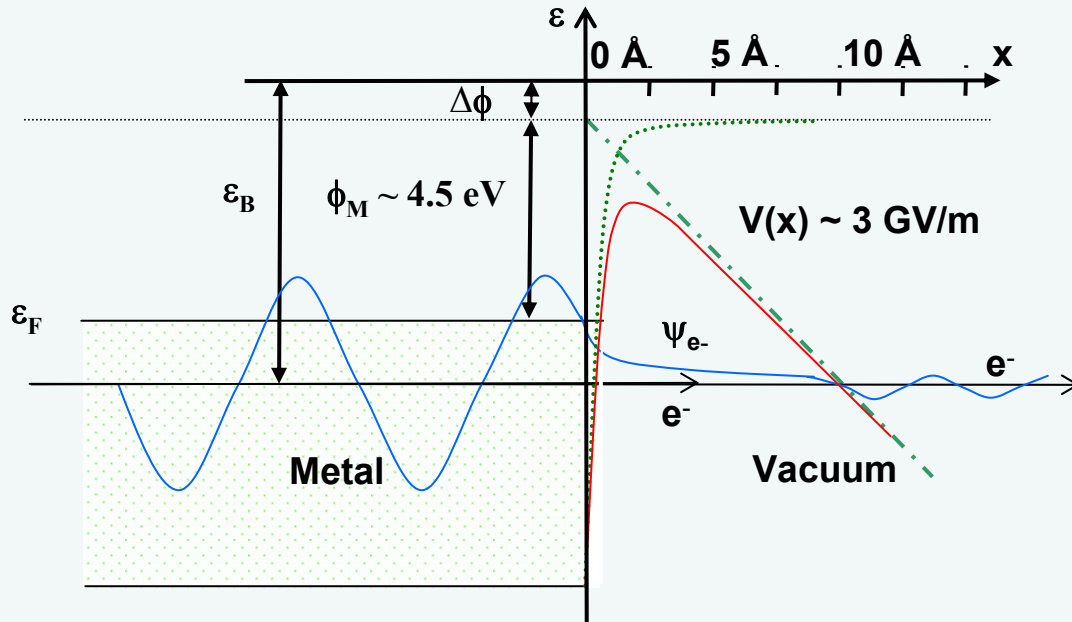
## Sphere / Plane geometry



## Breakdown Measurements



# Field Emission



$$\vec{E}_{local} = \beta \vec{E}_{applied} = \beta \vec{E}$$

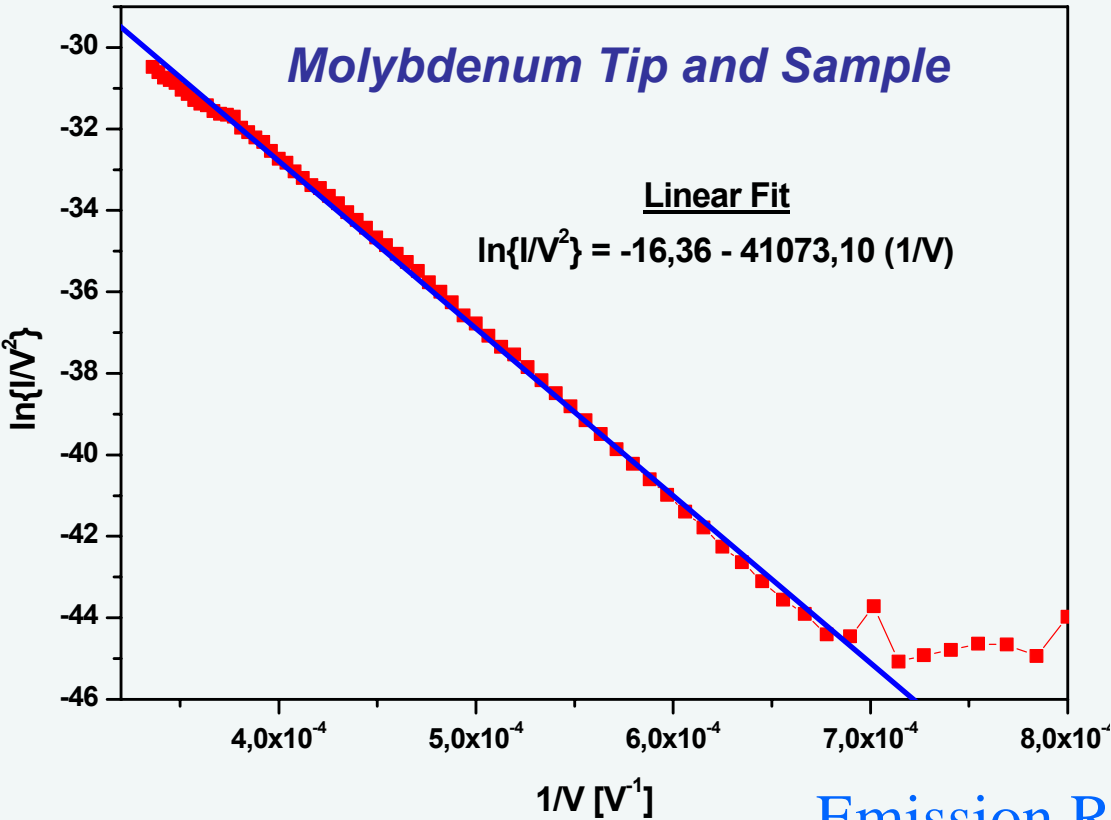
$$V \approx E d$$

## Fowler – Nordheim plot:

$$\ln \left[ \frac{I_{FN}}{V^2} \right] = \ln \left[ \frac{1.54 \times 10^{-6} A_e \beta^2}{\phi d^2} \times 10^{4.52 \phi^{-\frac{1}{2}}} \right] - \frac{2.84 \times 10^9 d \phi^{1.5}}{\beta} \frac{1}{V}$$

- R. A. Millikan and C. C. Lauritsen, Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. (US), 14, 45-49 (1928)
- R. H. Fowler and L. Nordheim, Proc. Roy. Soc. A 119 (1928) 173.

# Fowler - Nordheim plot



Enhancement factor:

$$\frac{d\left(\ln\left(\frac{I_{FN}}{V^2}\right)\right)}{d\left(\frac{1}{V}\right)} \propto \frac{d\phi^{1.5}}{\beta}$$



$\beta \approx 23$

Emission Radius:

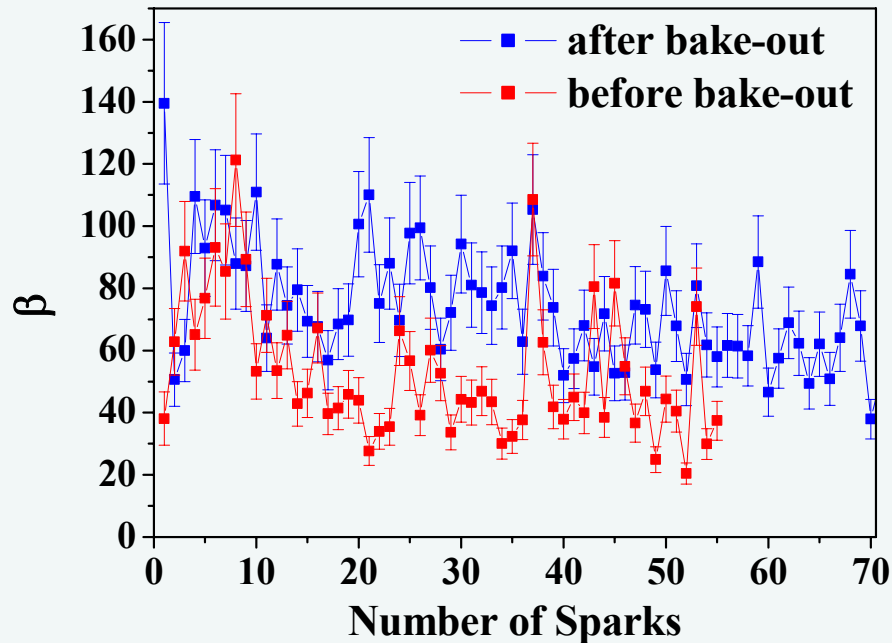
$$\left[ \ln\left(\frac{I_{FN}}{V^2}\right) \right]_{V=\infty} \propto \ln\left\{ \frac{A_e \beta^2 10^{4.52\phi^{\frac{1}{2}}}}{\phi d^2} \right\} \Rightarrow \underline{r_e \approx 62 \text{ nm}}$$





## Molybdenum Tip and Sample

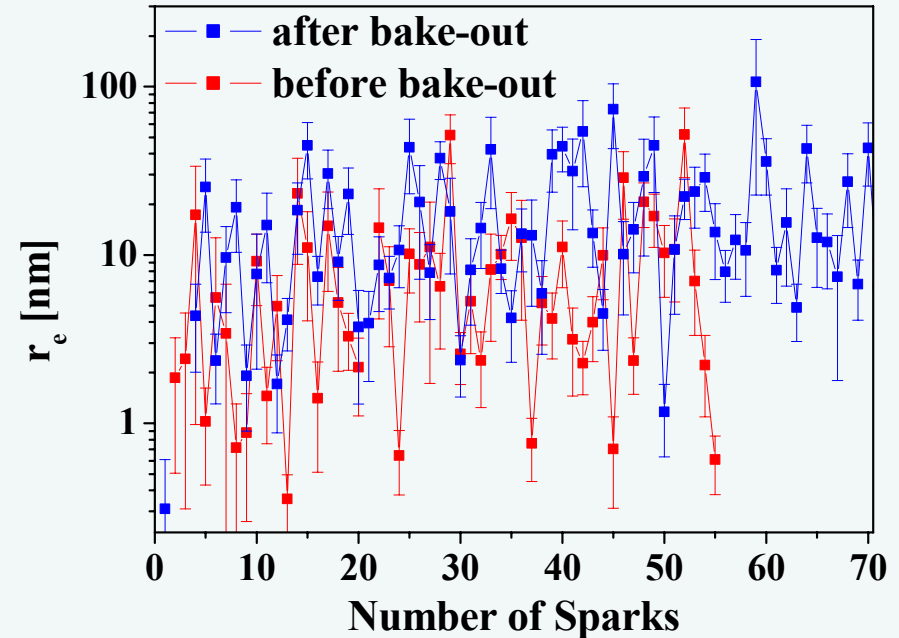
Enhancement Factor ( $\beta$ )



Before bake-out:  $\beta \sim (40 \pm 10)$

After bake-out:  $\beta \sim (60 \pm 10)$

Emission Radius ( $r_e$ ) [nm]

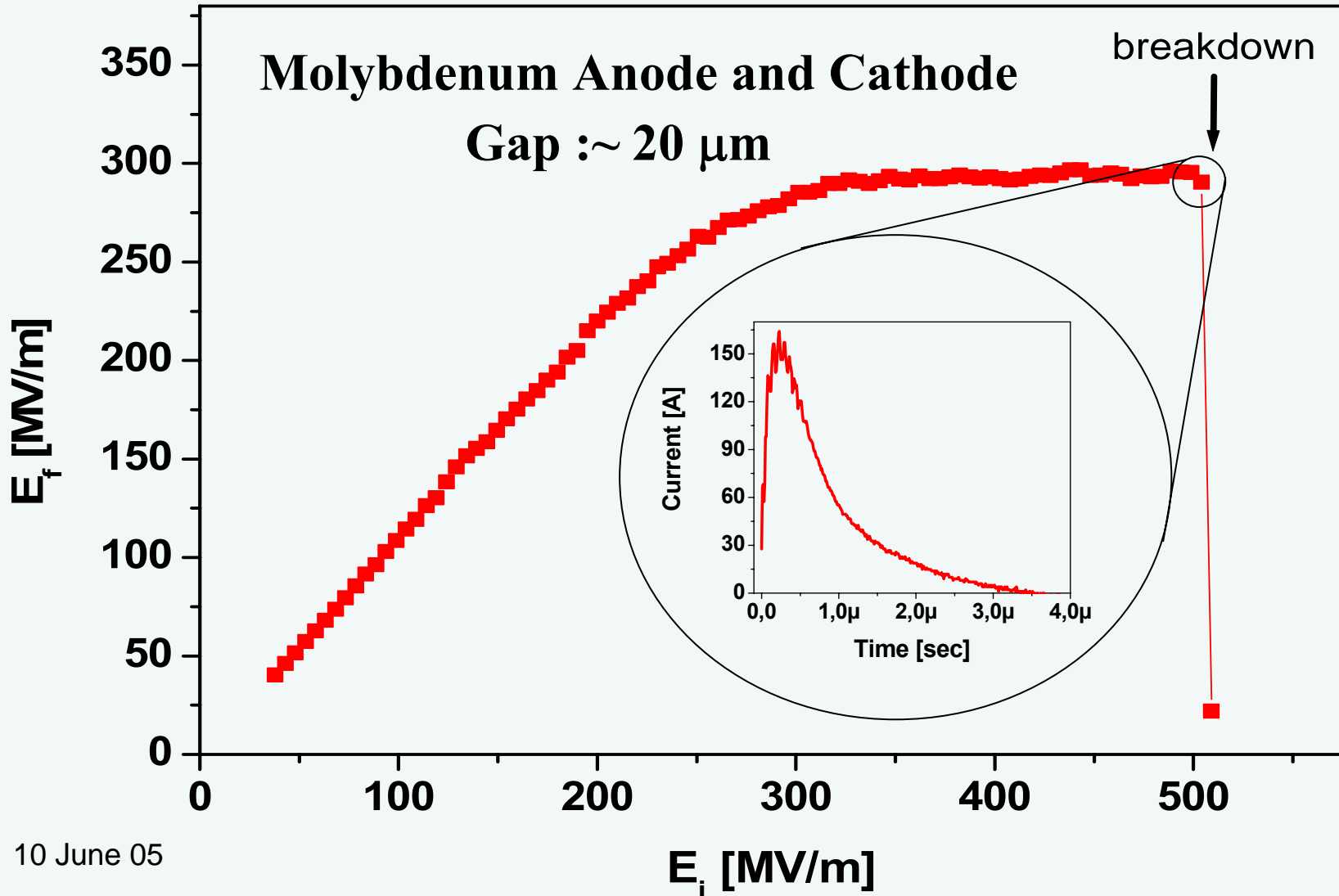


$r_e \sim (2 \rightarrow 11)$  nm

$r_e \sim (5 \rightarrow 40)$  nm

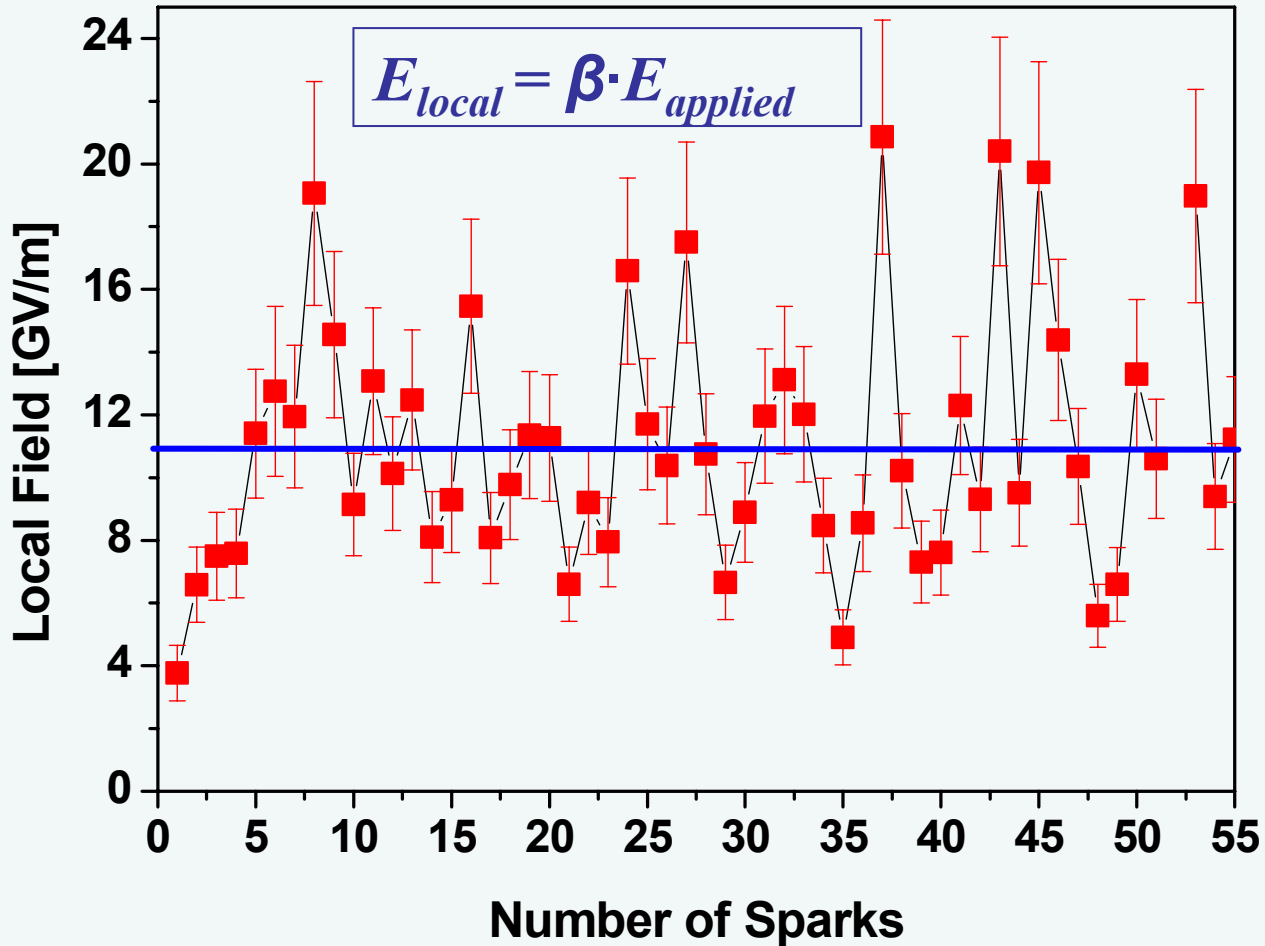
*High uncertainty*

The voltage over the gap is increased until breakdown occurs





## Field evaporation $\leftrightarrow$ Tensile Strength



*Measured tensile strength of Mo\*:*

**750 MPa**

$$\sigma = \frac{\epsilon_0 E^2}{2}$$

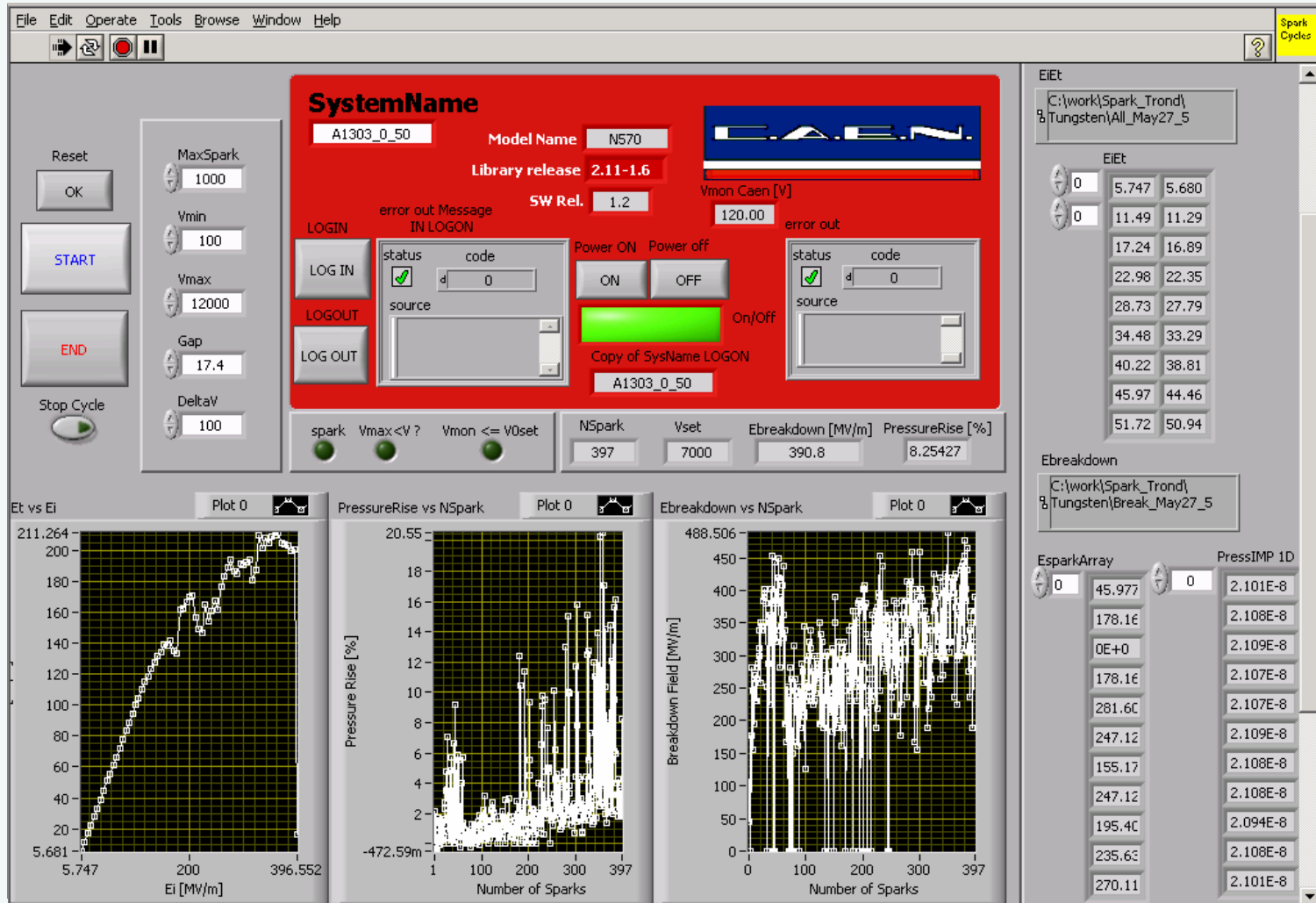
$E_{local} \approx 11 \text{ GV/m}$   
(max 21 GV/m)



$\sigma_{tensile} \approx \underline{520 \text{ MPa}}$   
(max  $\sim 1950 \text{ MPa}$ )

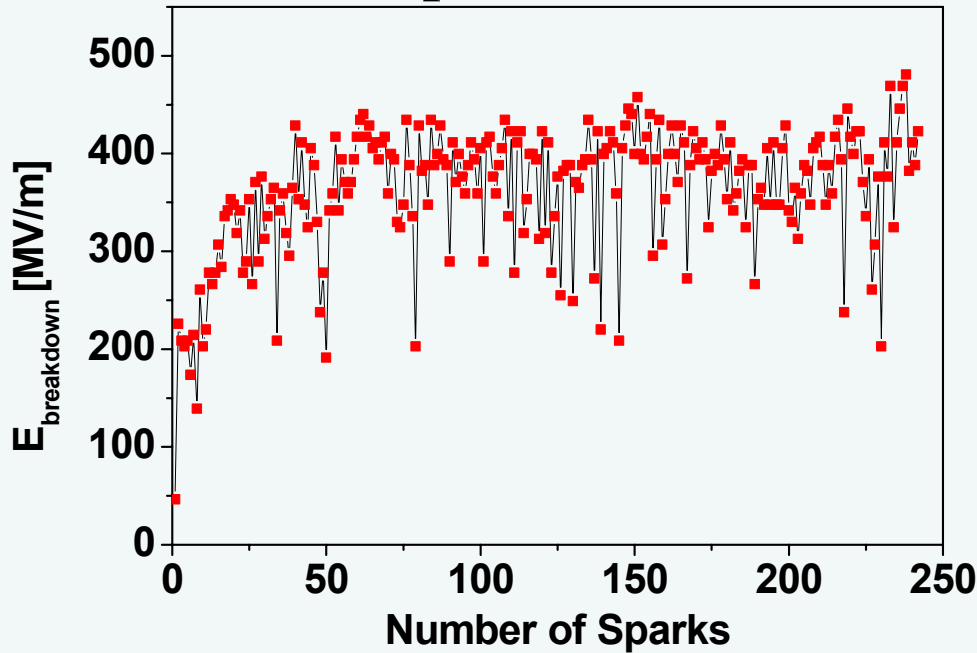


## Results of Spark Conditioning

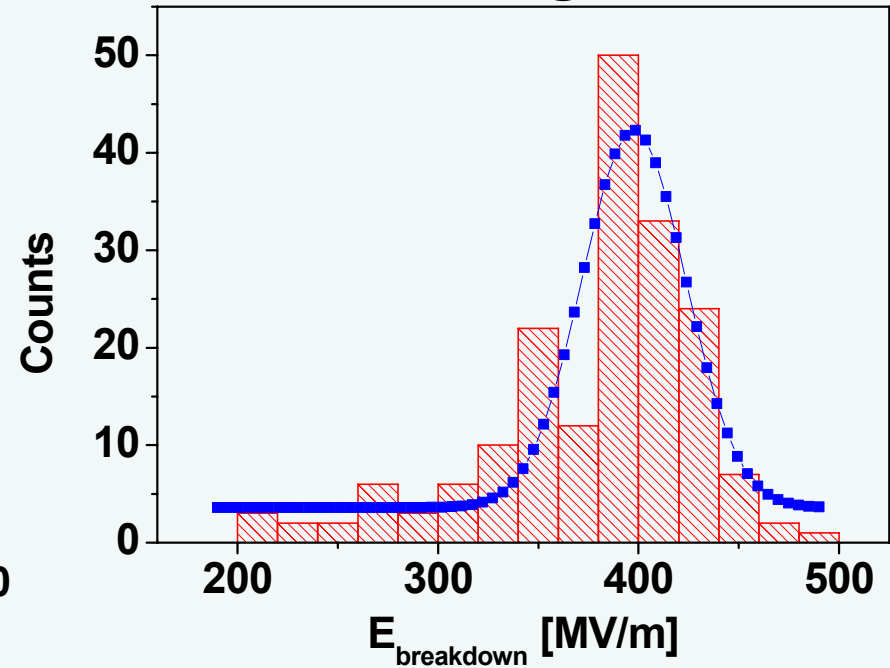


## Molybdenum (Mo) - Tip and Sample

### Spark Scan



### Histogram

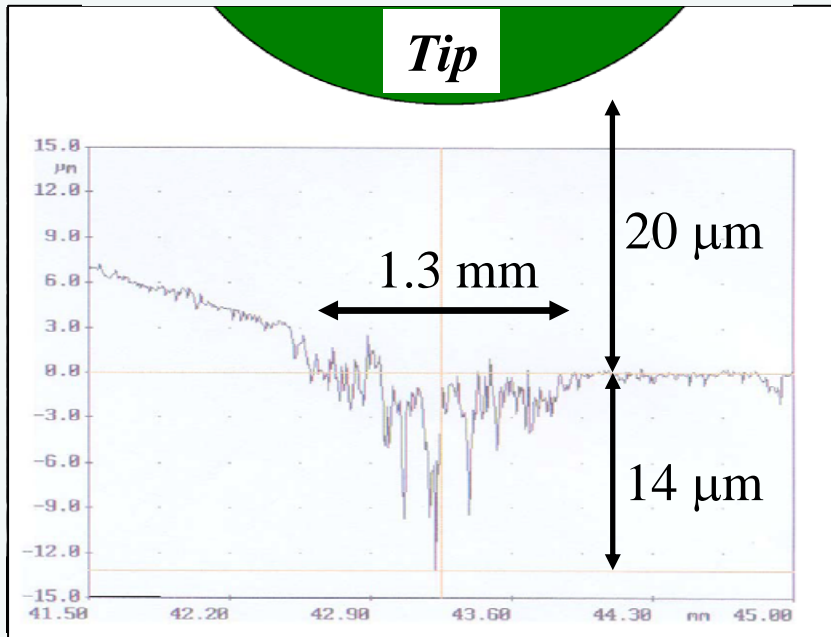


$$E_{\text{breakdown}}^{\text{sat}} \cong (398 \pm 4) \text{ MV/m at } \sim 4 \times 10^{-8} \text{ mbar}$$

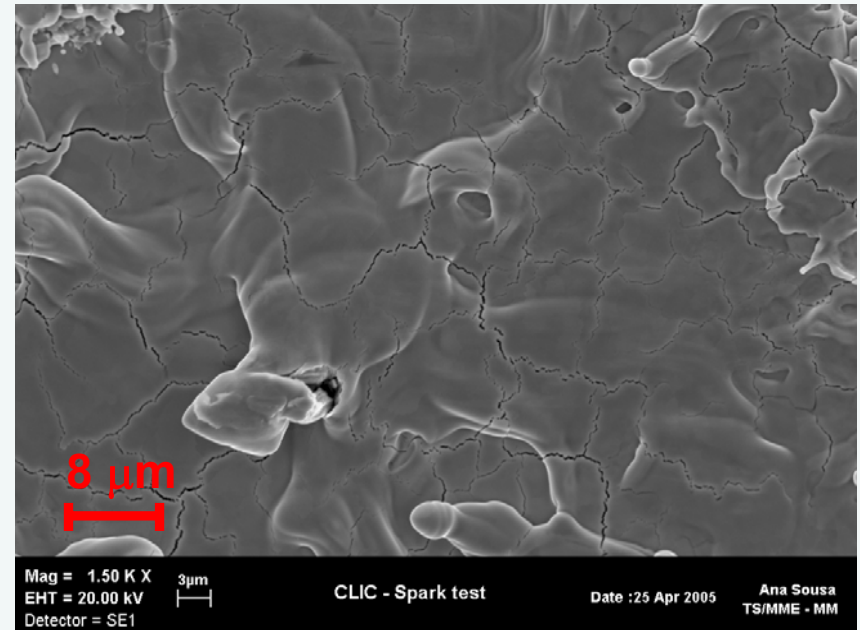
*Molybdenum surface after ~ 1600 sparks*

*Average energy per spark: 0.8 J*

*Depth Profile / Inside Spot*



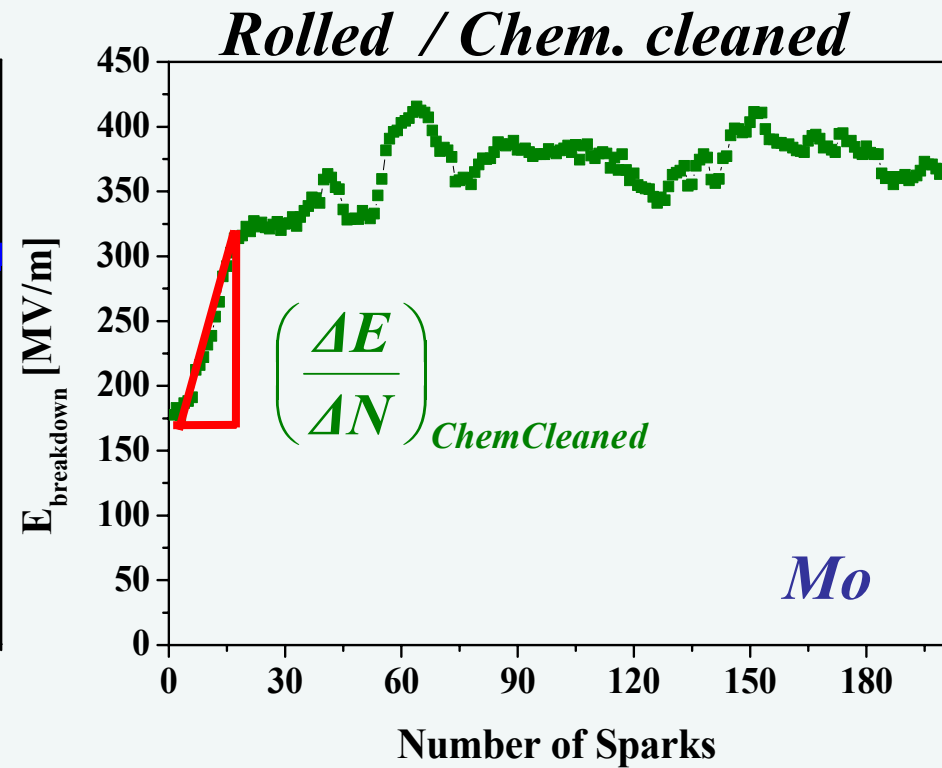
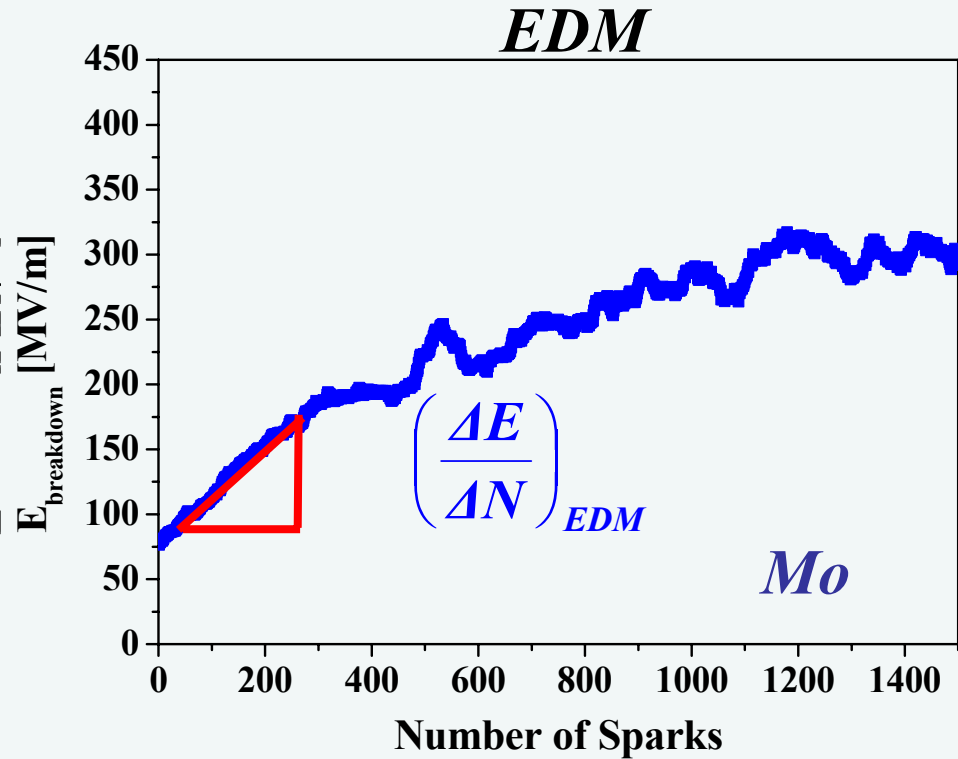
*Inside spot*



*Local Melting smoothes out the surface*



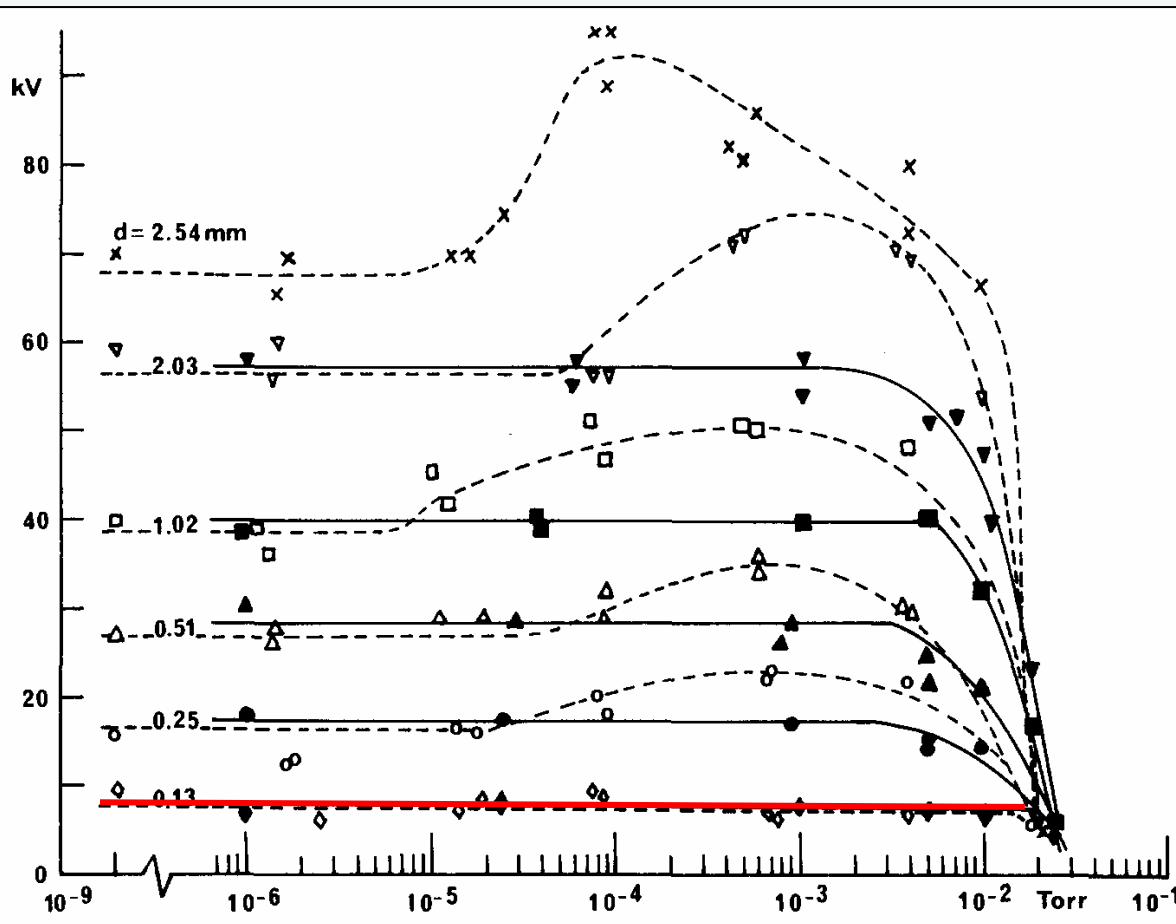
*Number of micro-protrusions strongly reduced*



$$\left( \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta N} \right)_{EDM} \approx 0,4 \frac{MV/m}{spark}$$

$$\left( \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta N} \right)_{ChemCleaned} \approx 8 \frac{MV/m}{spark}$$

$$\frac{\left( \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta N} \right)_{CC}}{\left( \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta N} \right)_{EDM}} \approx 20$$



From literature:

- *Pressure effect on the breakdown field significant for large gaps*
- *Breakdown field deteriorates at pressures typically above  $10^{-2}$  mbar*

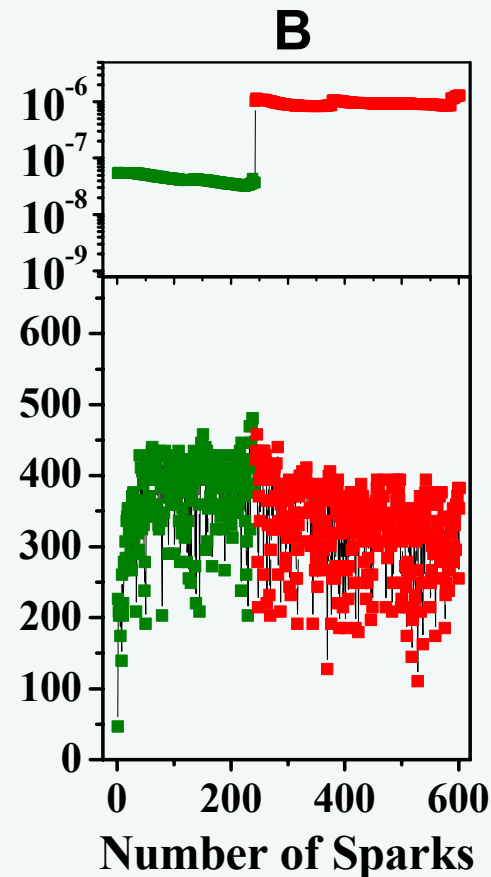
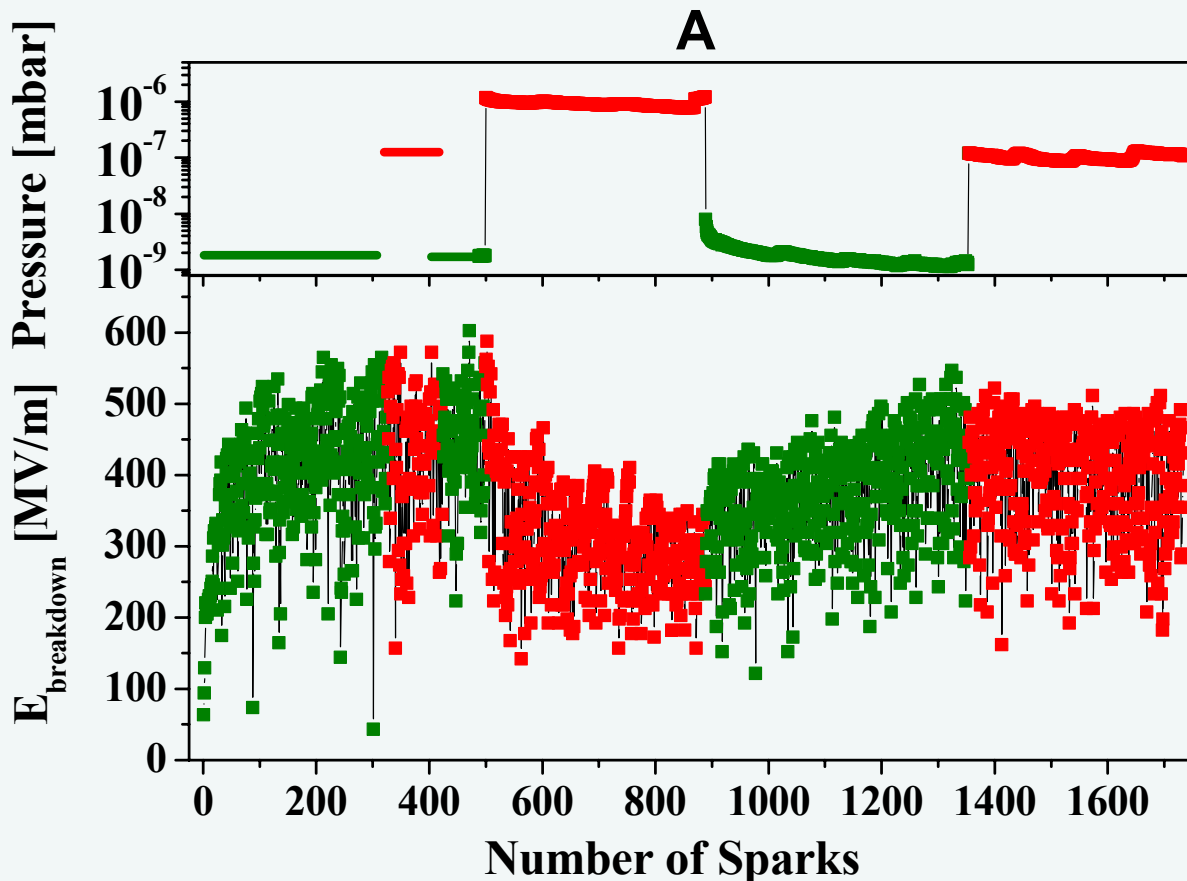
R. Hackham and L. Altchek, J. Appl. Phys., 46, 627-36 (1975)

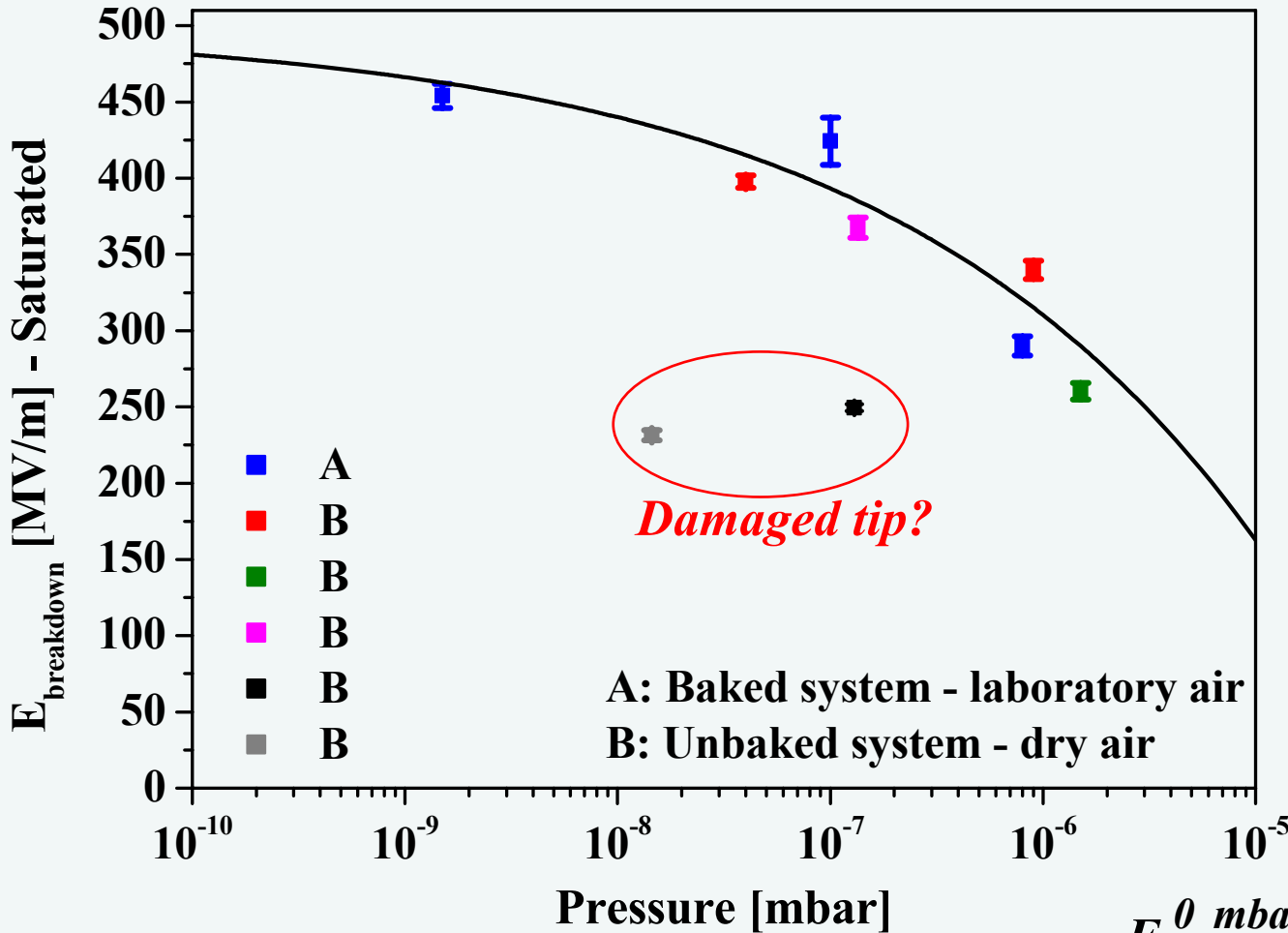




*Baked system  
Laboratory Air*

*Unbaked system  
Dry Air*





*From  $\sim 1 \times 10^{-9}$  mbar  
to  $\sim 1 \times 10^{-6}$  mbar*



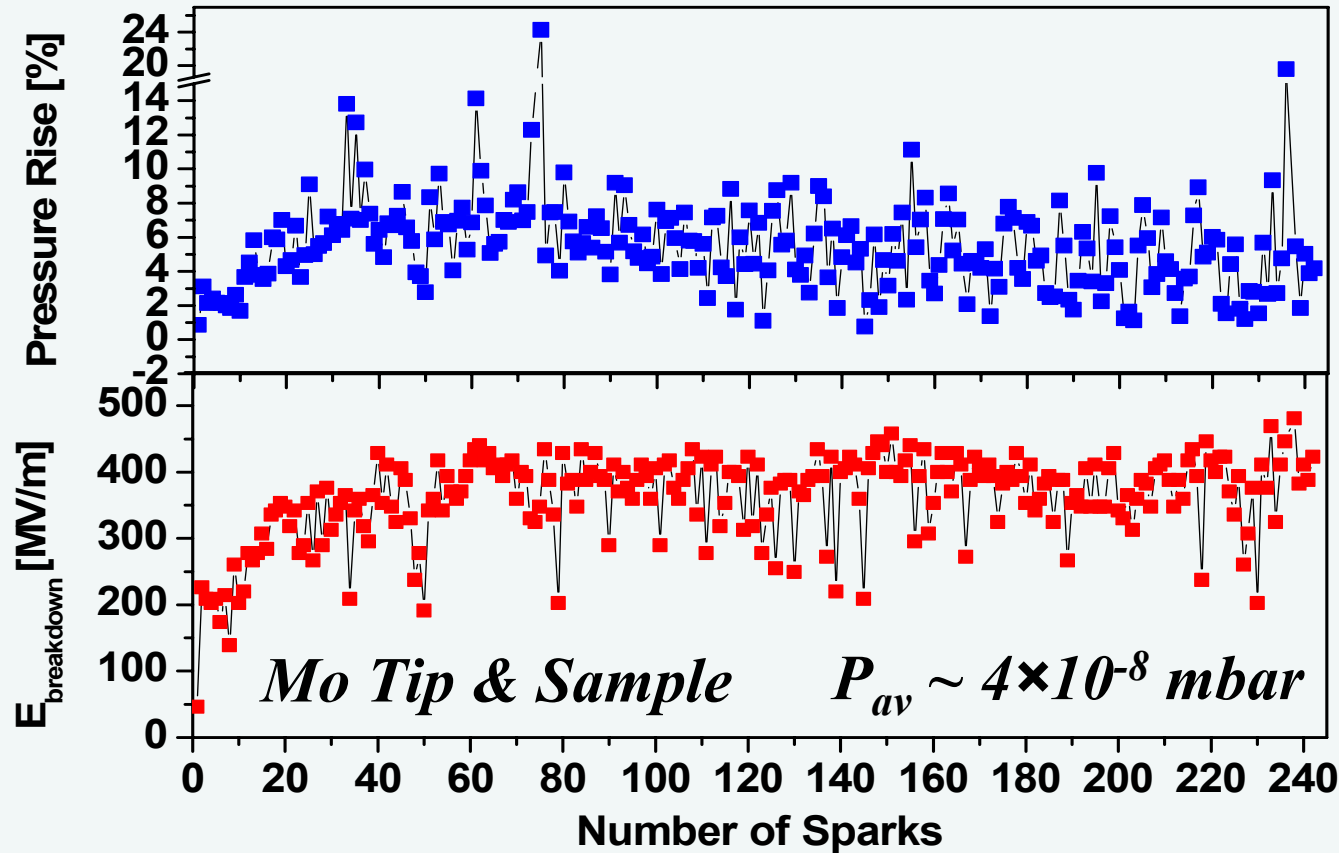
*The saturated  
breakdown  
field is reduced  
by  
 $\sim 150$  MV/m*

$$E_{breakdown}^{0 \text{ mbar}} \approx 500 \text{ MV/m}$$

$$k \approx 6000 \text{ MV/m (mbar)}^{-1}$$

$$n \approx 1/4$$

$$E_{breakdown} = E_{breakdown}^{0 \text{ mbar}} - k \cdot \{P\}^n$$



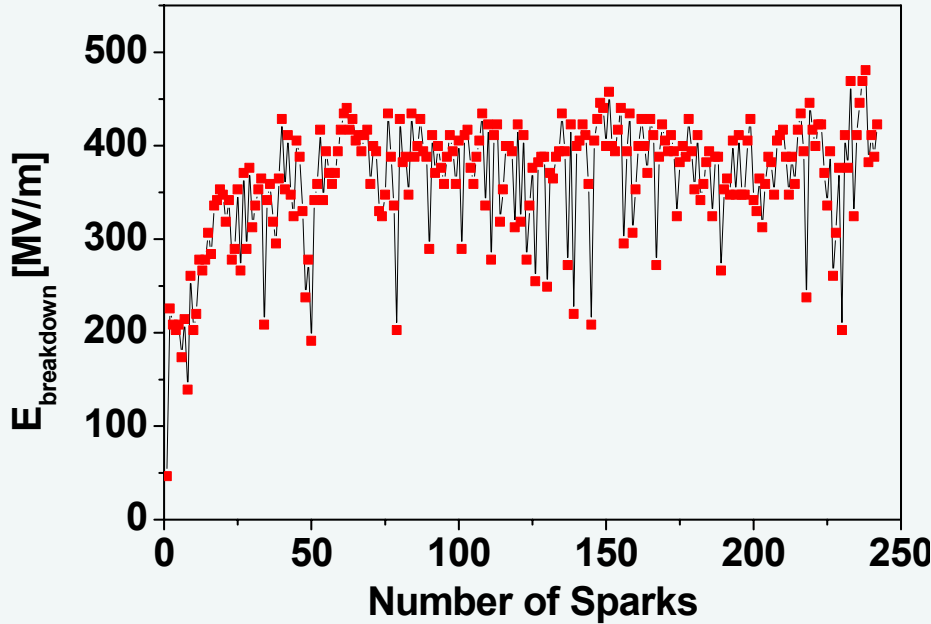
*At start: Follows the amount of energy deposited over the gap*

*Slight decrease in pressure rise during spark*

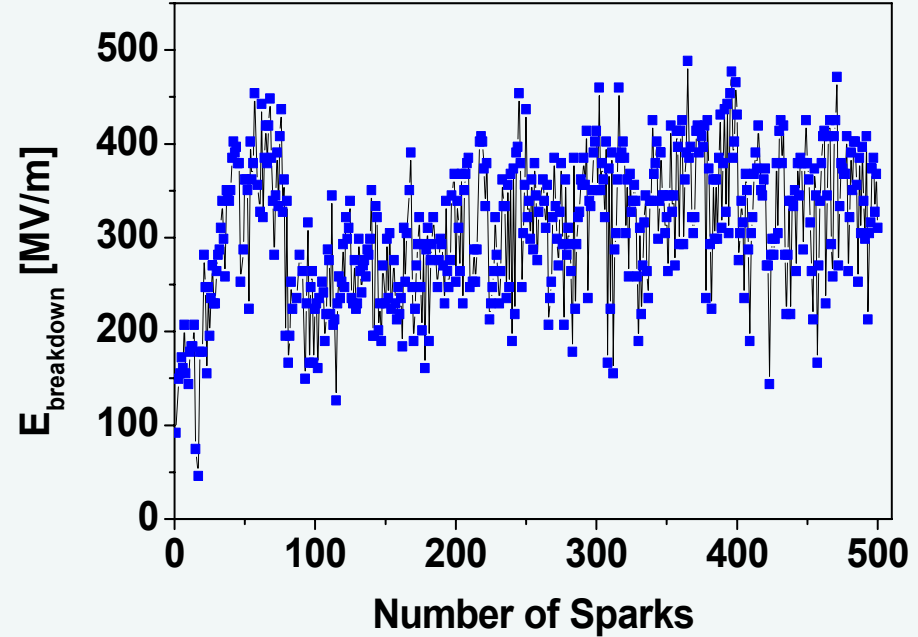
*Pressure rise typically in the order of a few percentage per spark*



## Molybdenum

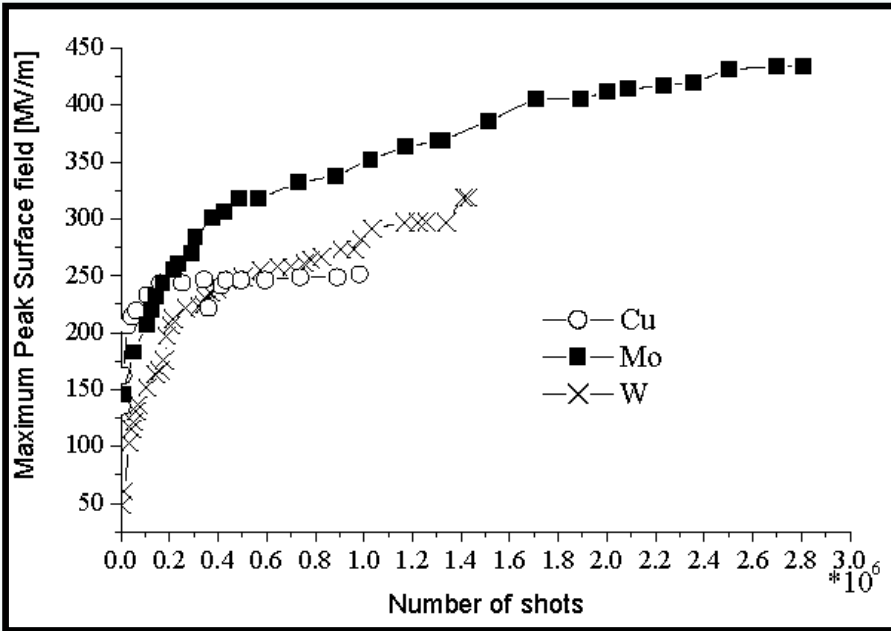


## Tungsten

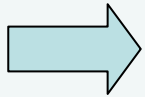


**Mo:**  $E_{\text{breakdown}}^{\text{sat}} \cong (398 \pm 4) \text{ MV/m at } \sim 4 \times 10^{-8} \text{ mbar}$

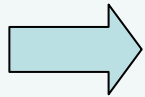
**W:**  $E_{\text{breakdown}}^{\text{sat}} \cong (349 \pm 6) \text{ MV/m at } \sim 2 \times 10^{-8} \text{ mbar}$



	$E_{break}^{sat}$ (DC) [MV/m]	Max. surface field in RF [MV/m]
<b><i>Cu</i></b>	170 <sup>†</sup>	260
<b><i>W</i></b>	350 <sup>‡</sup>	340
<b><i>Mo</i></b>	400 <sup>‡</sup>	420



*DC and RF breakdown measurements give similar breakdown fields*



*Superior behavior of both Mo and W with respect to Cu.*

***OBS!***  
***Not saturated!***

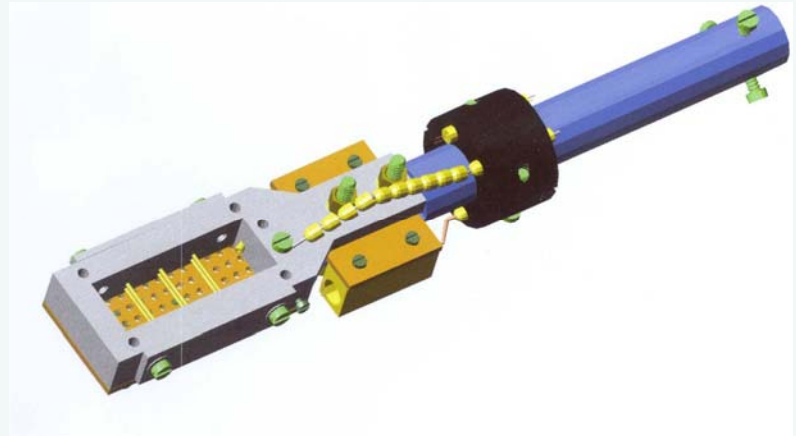
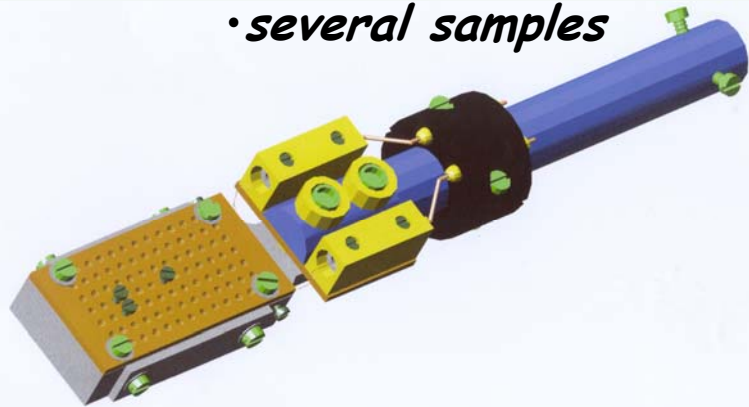
<sup>†</sup>*M. Kildemo, S. Calatroni and M. Taborelli, PRST-AB, 7, 092003 (2004)*

<sup>‡</sup>*Saturation breakdown field measured at  $(2-4) \times 10^{-8}$  mbar*

- *Installing new sampleholder and manipulator*

- *XYZ movements*
- *E-beam heating* → *~ 1000°C*  
→ *"In-situ" annealing*

- *several samples*



- *more experiments to study the effect of residual gas on the Mo breakdown field*
- *pressure rise studies at UHV ( $\sim 1 \times 10^{-9}$  mbar)*
- *other materials: CuZr, Ti, Mo-Re alloys, W-films, ...*



- *Surface preparation techniques influence the conditioning speed*
- *There is a residual gas effect on the breakdown field also for high vacuum and small gaps*
  - *From  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  mbar to  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  mbar a reduction in the saturated breakdown field of  $\sim 150$  MV/m is seen*
- *Molybdenum shows higher DC saturation breakdown field than Tungsten after extensive spark conditioning*
  - *Similar to the results found for RF*



# *Contributors*

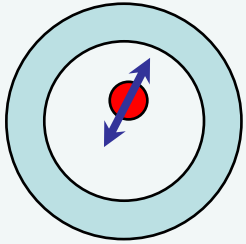
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- *Morten Kildemo*
- *Sergio Calatroni*
- *Mauro Taborelli*
- *Holger Neupert*
- *Gonzalo Arnau Izquierdo*
- *Ahmed Cherif*
- *Ana Sousa E Silva*
- *Alessandra Reginelli*



# Movement of electrons in RF



$$M \frac{d^2 z}{dt^2} = qE_0 \cos \omega t$$

*Phase of  
RF field*

$$z = z_0 + \frac{qE_0}{M\omega^2} (\cos \varphi - \cos \omega t) - \frac{qE_0}{M\omega} \left( t - \frac{\varphi}{\omega} \right) \sin \varphi$$

$$\omega = 2\pi \cdot 33 \times 10^9 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

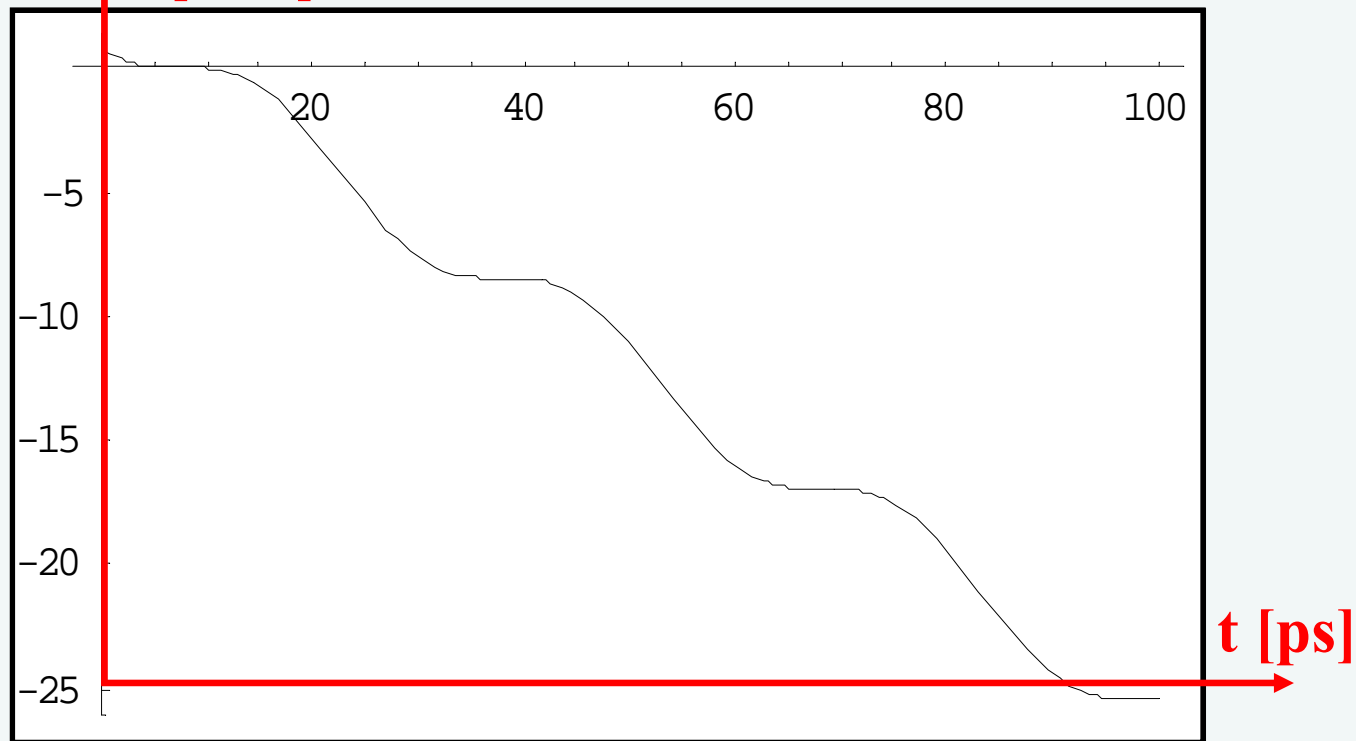
$$q = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

$$E_0 = 330 \times 10^6 \text{ MV/m}$$

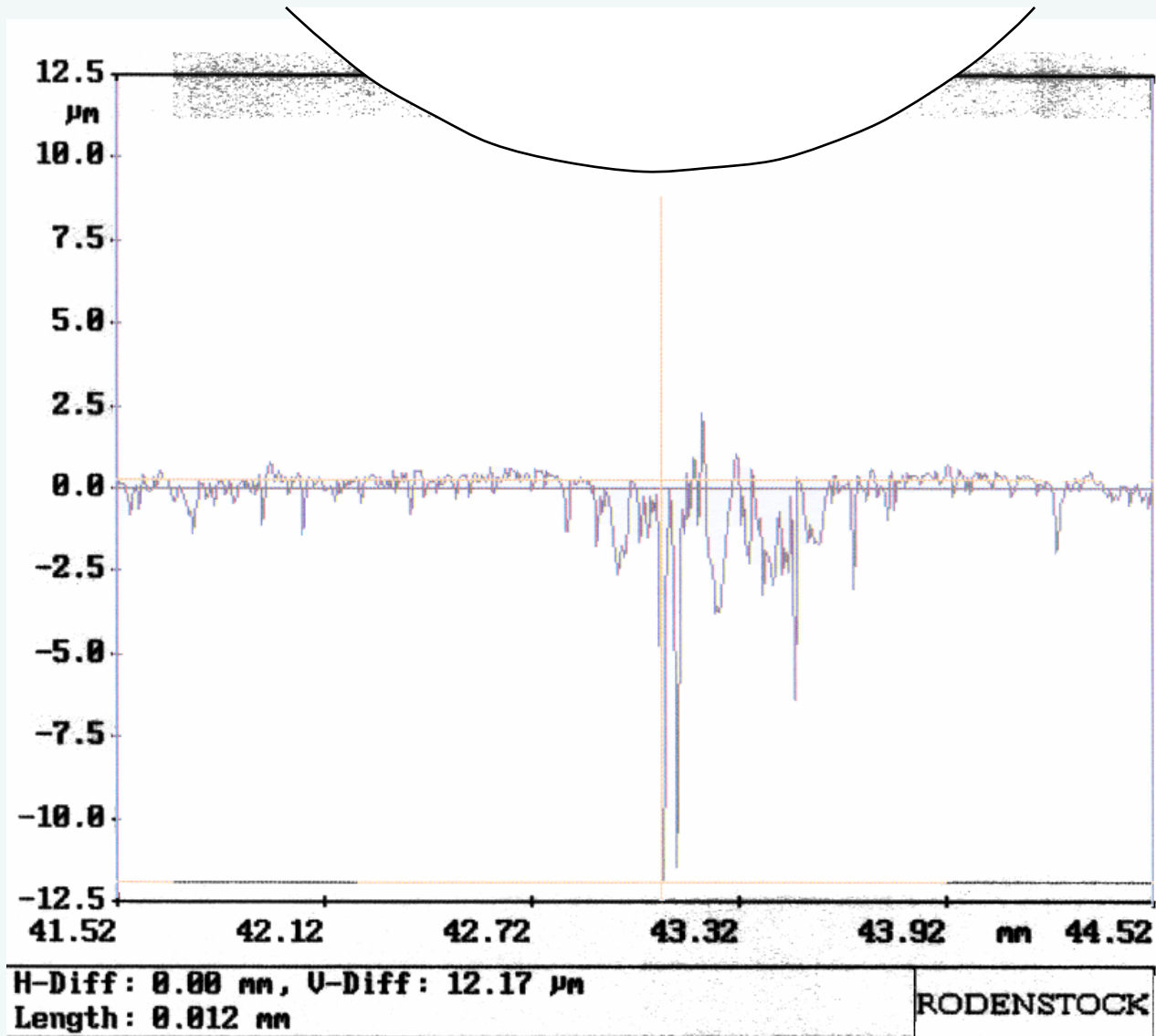
$$M_e = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$

$$\varphi = \pi/2$$

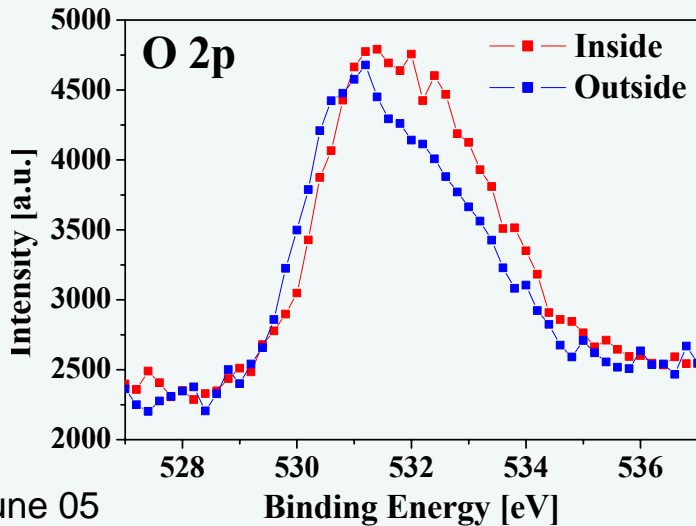
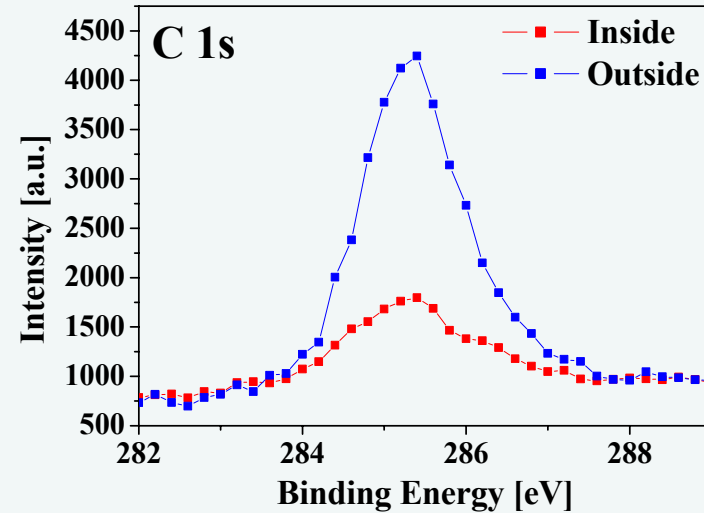
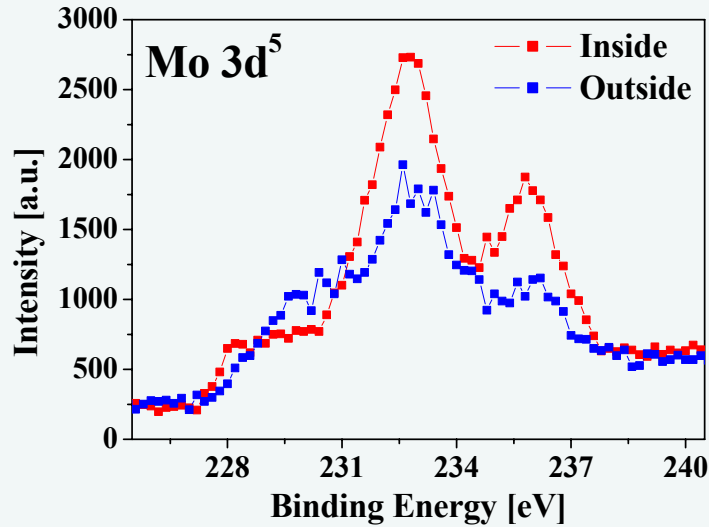
$$z_0 = 0$$



# Depth profile / ca. 100 sparks

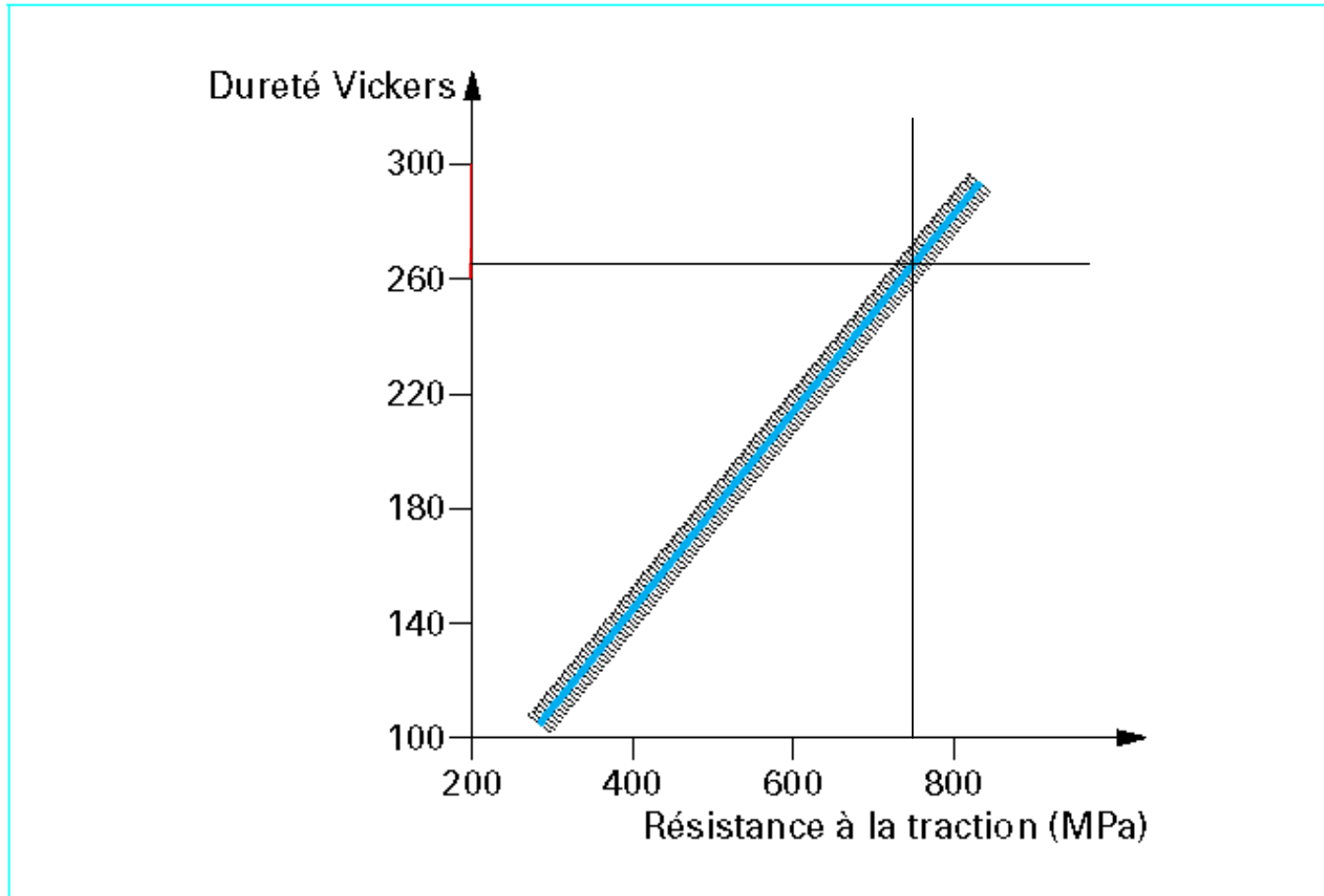


*After ~1600 sparks and exposed to air*

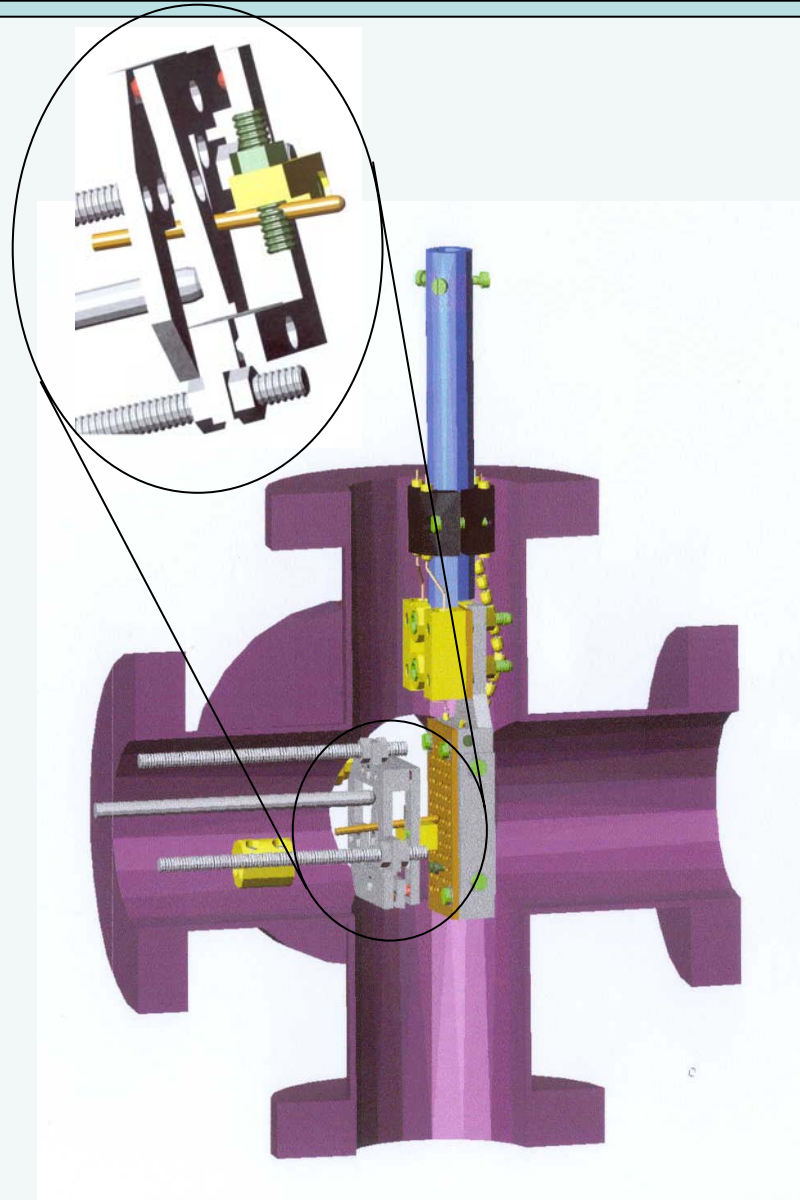


- *Carbon reduced*
- *Oxygen unchanged*
- *Molybdenum peaks stronger*

# Vickers $\leftrightarrow$ Tensile Strength



C. Bourgès Monnier, “Propriétés du molybdène et des alliages à base de molybdène”, Ecole des mines, Paris



10 June 05

# Details of experimental setup

