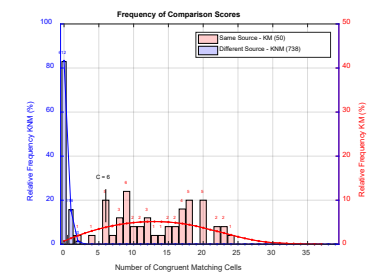
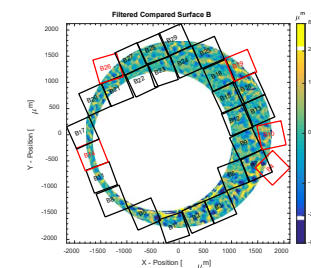
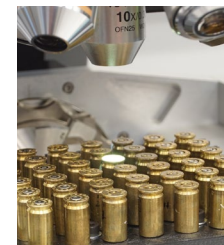


Firearms and Toolmarks

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Team Members

Zhe Chen, Maria Nadal, Brian Renegar, Harry Song, John Song, Michael Stocker, Robert Thompson, Ted Vorburger, James Yen, Nien-Fan Zhang, and Alan Zheng



Agenda

- Firearms and toolmarks overview
Johannes Soons
- A metrology foundation for firearm and toolmark examination
Michael Stocker
- Reference Population Database of Firearm Toolmarks (RPDFT)
Alan Zheng
- Digital preservation of the President John F. Kennedy assassination ballistic artifacts
Robert Thompson and T. Brian Renegar

Disclaimers

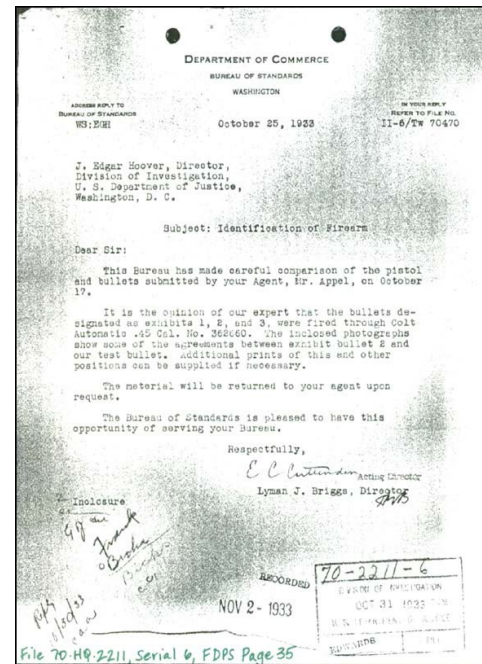
- Certain commercial equipment, instruments, or materials are identified in this presentation to specify the experimental procedure adequately. Such identification is not intended to imply recommendation or endorsement by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), nor is it intended to imply that the materials or equipment identified are necessarily the best available for the purpose.
- Points of view in this presentation are mine and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of NIST.
- This presentation has not been reviewed by the NIST Editorial Review Board.

Forensics@NIST – 1930s

- NIST was the nation's first federal crime lab
- Expertise in firearms and documents helped solve hundreds of crimes
- NIST helped Division of Investigation (FBI) establish its crime lab



NBS's William Souder using a comparison microscope: "one of the nation's best and least known criminologists," The Washington Post, 1954



1933 letter from the NIST acting director to J. Edgar Hoover reporting a firearm identification

Toolmark identification: forensic science discipline concerned with determining if a toolmark was produced by a particular tool¹

Firearm “tools”

- Revolver
- Pistol
- Rifle
- Shotgun



Source: SWGGUN

Common toolmark evidence

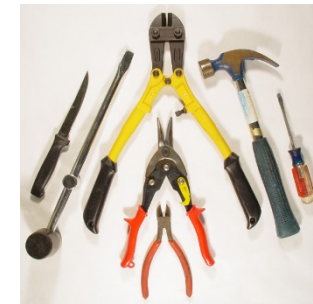
- Bullet
- Cartridge case
- Magazine



aegisacademy.com

Non-firearm tools

- Screwdriver
- Pry bar
- Wire cutter
- Pliers
- Lock pick



Source: SWGGUN

Common toolmark evidence

- Lock
- Safe
- Window frame
- Wire

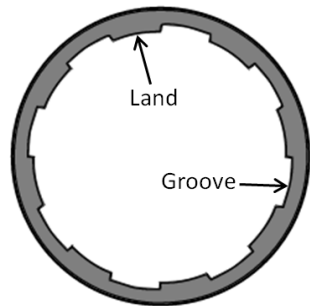
¹Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners, Glossary, 6th Edition, 2013, www.afte.org

Bullets and cartridge cases: Regions of interest

Bullets have striated (and impressed) toolmarks from the barrel rifling

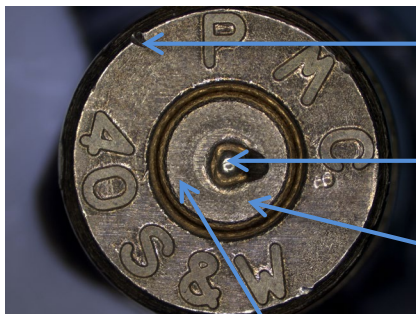


MGM/UA; Centralia College – H. Ebiari



Areas “engraved”
by barrel lands

Cases have impressed and striated toolmarks from various sources



Ejector mark

Firing pin impression

Breech face impression

Aperture shear (striae)

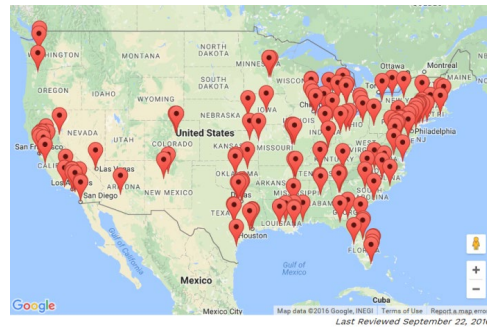
- Magazine marks
- Chamber marks
- Extractor mark

Casings constitute >> 90 % of NIBIN database entries for firearm identification.

Automated comparisons

National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN)

- National network administered by the ATF for the acquisition and **search** of firearm toolmark images to solve and prevent crimes
- NIBIN uses proprietary correlation algorithms and criteria
- NIBIN is an investigative search engine. **A high score does not imply an identification.**
- High scoring images are manually compared. Identification requires comparison of the evidence by a forensic examiner.

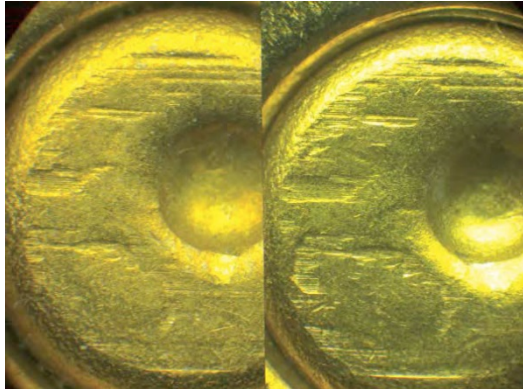


- 220 stations¹
- 4.2 million ballistic samples¹
- 45 million images¹
- 67,000 investigative leads in FY 2019¹

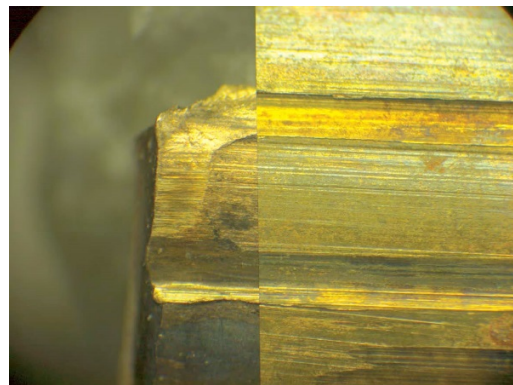
Casings constitute >> 90 % of NIBIN database entries for firearm identification.

¹ <https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/fact-sheet/fact-sheet-national-integrated-ballistic-information-network> (accessed October 2020)

Firearm identification – Current practice¹



Toolmarks on cartridge cases²



Striated toolmarks on bullets²

Compare class characteristics - Measurable features that indicate a restricted group source

Compare individualizing toolmarks (subjective):

- Does the agreement exceed the best agreement demonstrated between toolmarks from different tools?
- Is the agreement consistent with the agreement demonstrated by toolmarks from the same tool?

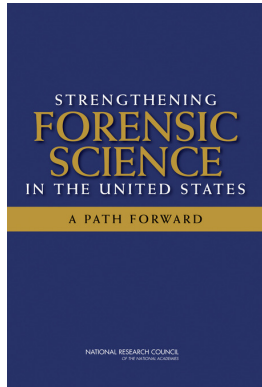
Render an opinion:

- Identification
- Exclusion
- Inconclusive
- Unsuitable

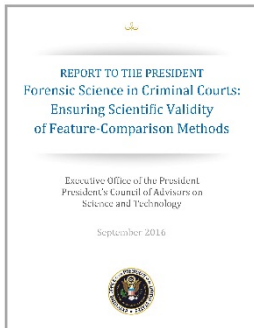
¹AFTE Theory of Identification, AFTE Journal – Volume 43, Number 4, Page 287, 2011.

²Robert M. Thompson, "Firearm Identification in the Forensic Science Laboratory

Current practice is under scrutiny



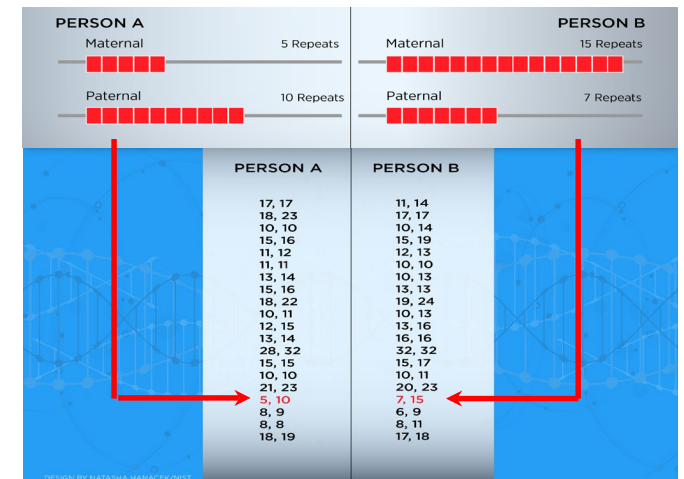
- NAS 2009 “..the decision of the toolmark examiner remains a **subjective decision** based on unarticulated standards and **no statistical foundation for estimation of error rates.**”
- PCAST 2016: “PCAST finds that firearms analysis currently falls short of the criteria for foundational validity, because there is only a single appropriately designed study to **measure validity and estimate reliability.**”
- PCAST 2016: “A second – and more important – direction is ... to convert firearms analysis **from a subjective method to an objective method...**”



Toolmarks are not DNA (nor fingerprints)

DNA:

- Identification is based on measuring a combination of independent, known, “class” characteristics, i.e., measurable features that indicate a restricted group source
- Population frequencies can be estimated for each feature (independence yields very low random match probability)
- A person’s DNA profile does not change.



Toolmarks:

- The individualizing features are not known in advance, may change over time, and may not repeat.
- Many different ways in which firearms are manufactured and used, yielding different individualizing features.
- Population data can (currently) only be assessed through comparisons of toolmarks with ground truth.

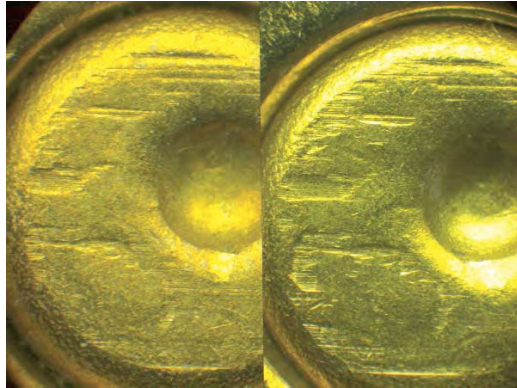


Key challenges

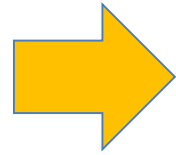
- **A match in class characteristics is far from sufficient for identification**
- **Significant variability in marks observed from the same firearm**
 - Firing conditions (internal ballistics)
 - Sample deformation/fragmentation
 - Firearm use, wear, and maintenance
 - Ammunition component effects
 - Measurement methods
- **Similarities in marks produced by different firearms**
 - Sub-class characteristics (consecutively manufactured firearm components)
 - Ammunition manufacturing effects transferred to firearm evidence
- **No full consensus on objective, quantitative, comparison criteria**
- **No consensus on how to express the weight of evidence (uncertainty)**
- **No comprehensive ground-truth population data**

Metrology: From 2D to 3D

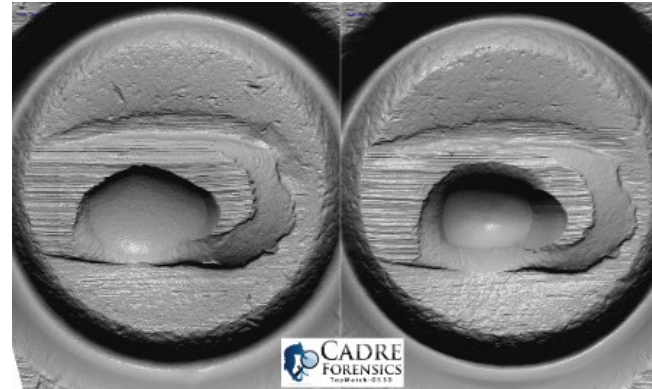
2D reflectance microscopy images



Comparison microscopy¹



3D topography images



Virtual comparison microscopy

Pretty picture, but
how accurate is it?



Leica

Advantages:

- Higher reproducibility and focus on actual topography
- Measure once, compare often
- Well suited for numerical analysis

Status:

- Already common for database search
- Virtual comparison microscopy is starting to be used in case work



¹Robert M. Thompson, "Firearm Identification in the Forensic Science Laboratory"

Physical standards for measurement traceability and quality control

- Provide SRM bullets and cartridge cases
- Provide reference images for comparison
- Laboratories regularly compare/check their measurements with the reference



SRM 2460 Standard Bullet



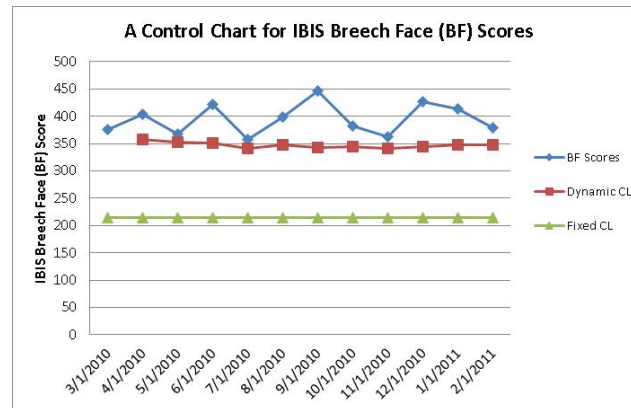
SRM 2460a Standard Bullet Replica



SRM 2461 Standard Cartridge Case



Enter measured image into NIBIN

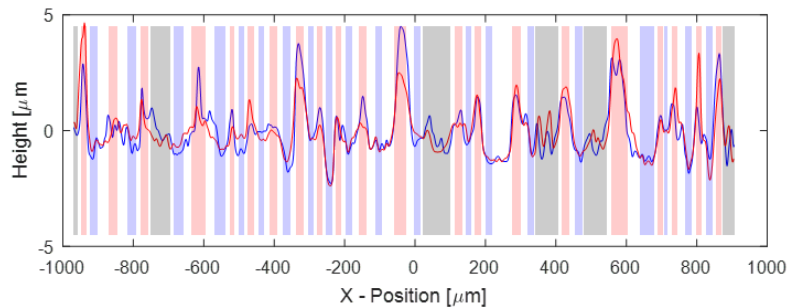
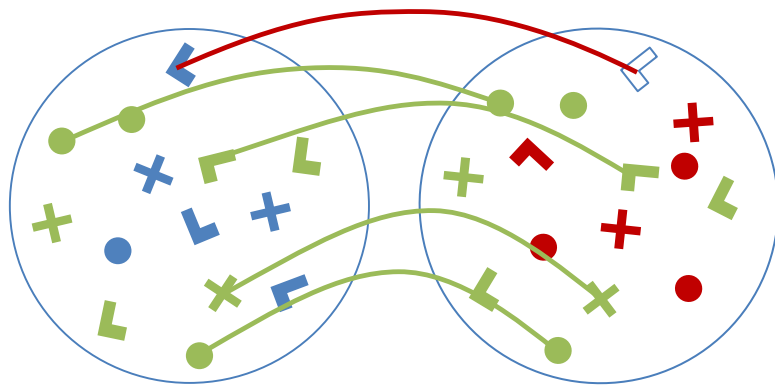


Track similarity score with reference image

Objective similarity metrics

Number/Quality of Matching Features

Reference Sample Questioned Sample

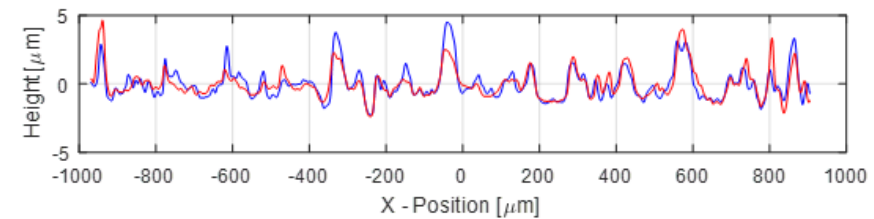
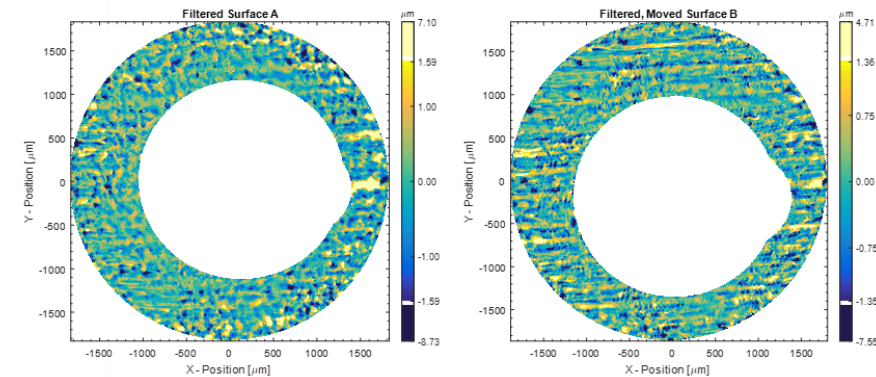


Bullet A
Bullet B

E.g., Congruent Matching Striae (CMS)

Area or Profile Similarity (e.g., correlation coefficient)

Reference Sample Questioned Sample

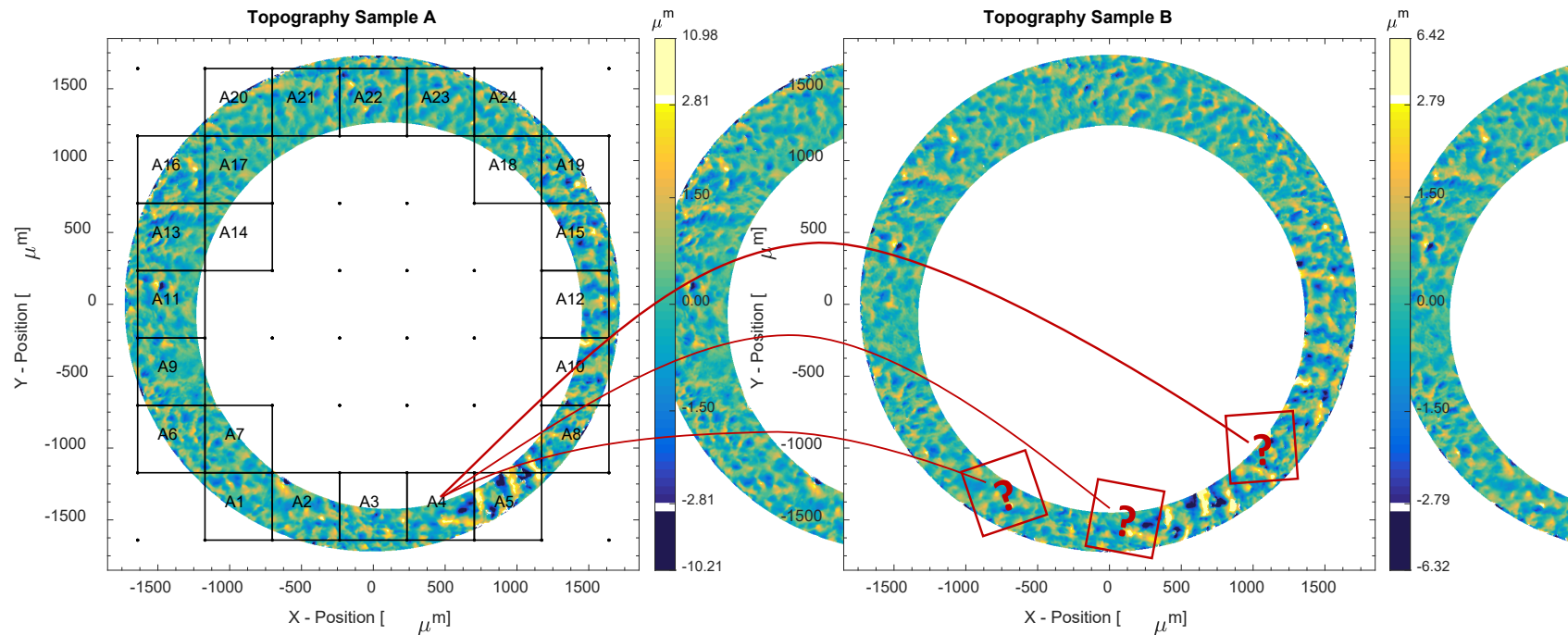


Bullet A
Bullet B

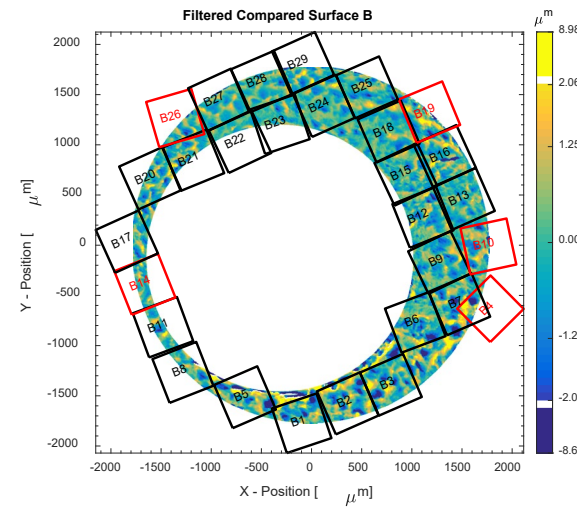
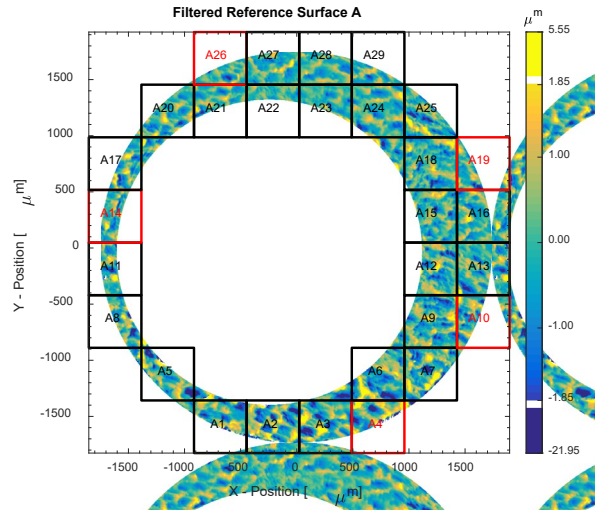
E.g., Pearson correlation coefficient (ACCF) after band-pass filtering and registration

Objective similarity metrics

Congruent Matching Cells (CMC)

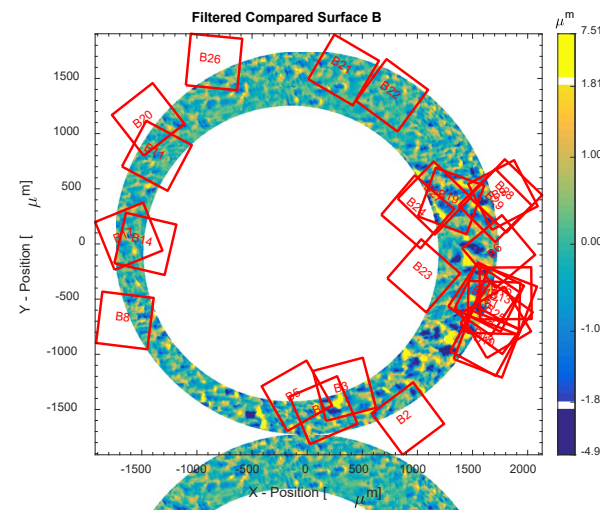
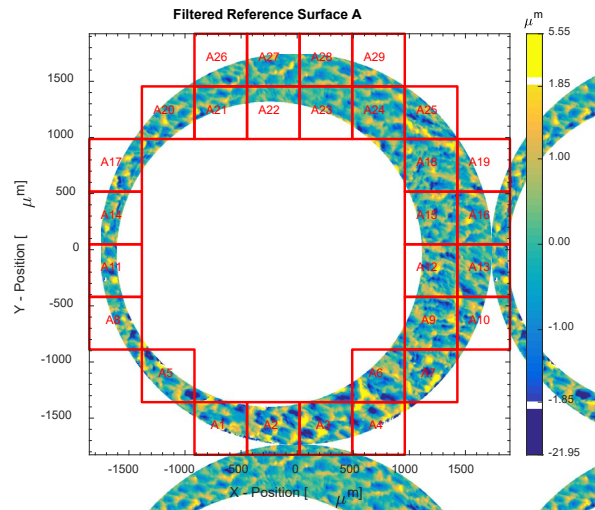


Breach face impressions from the same firearm



24 CMCs

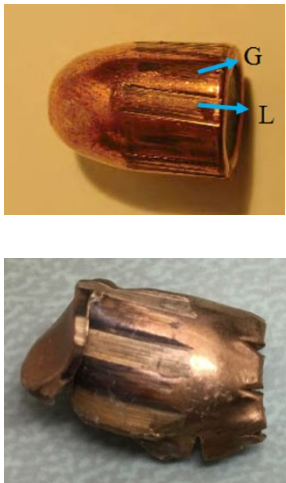
Breach face impressions from different firearms



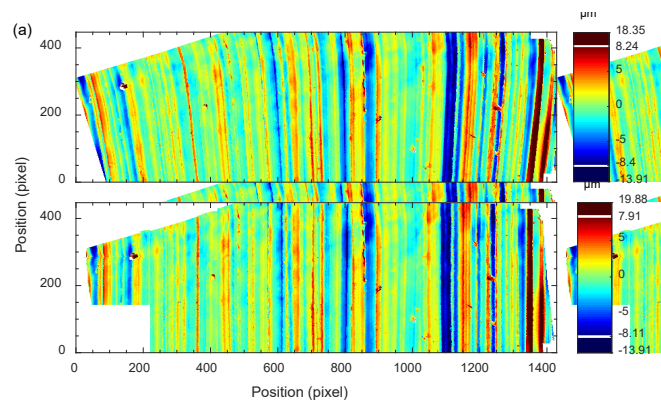
0 CMCs

Objective comparison of deformed bullets

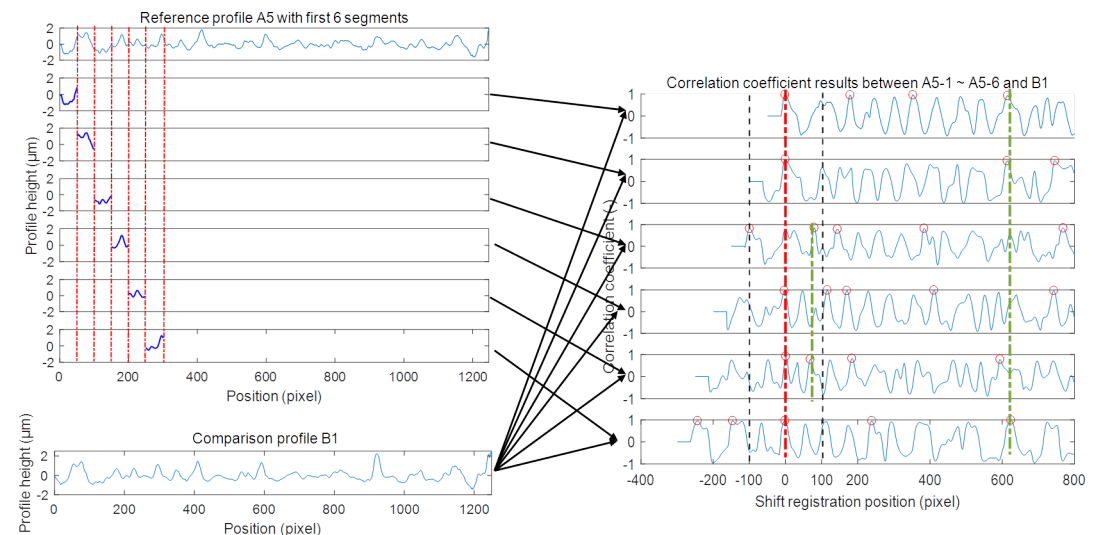
- Profile obtained as weighted average of “straightened” marks
- Application Congruent Matching Profile Segment (CMPS) method
 - Profile equivalent of Congruent Matching Cells (CMC)
 - Low sensitivity to lateral scale variations.



“Straightening” of striated marks



Split reference profile into segments and evaluate the congruency of the profile segment registration positions



Z. Chen, et al., “Fired bullet signature correlation using the Congruent Matching Profile Segments (CMPS) method, *Forensic Science International*, 305, (2019).

Z. Chen, et al., “Pilot study on deformed bullet correlation,” *Forensic Science International*, 306, (2020).

Feasibility study on the objective comparison of breech face impressions for inoperable firearms

Challenge: Test fires cannot be obtained from inoperable firearms

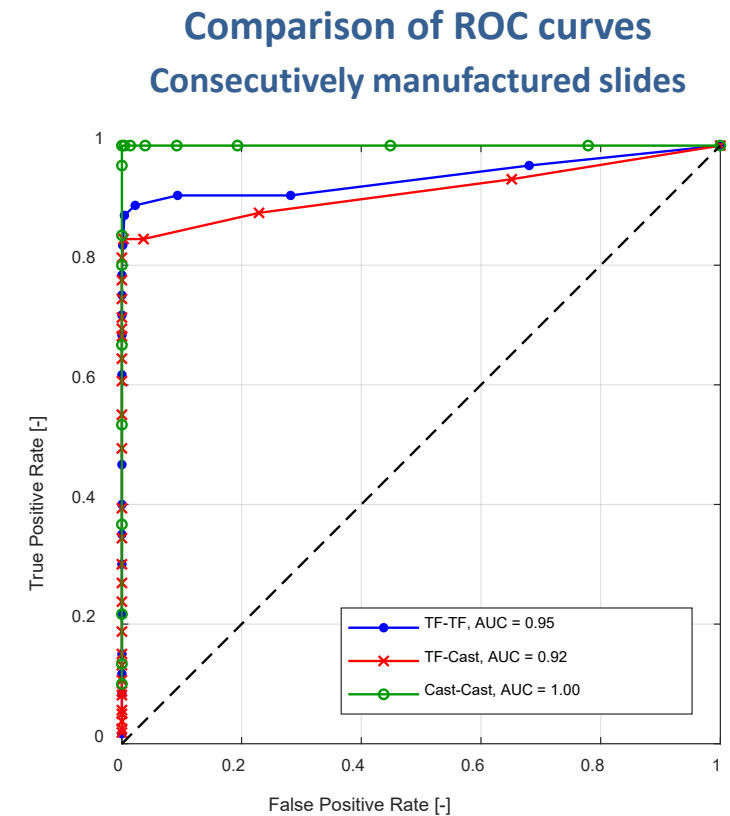
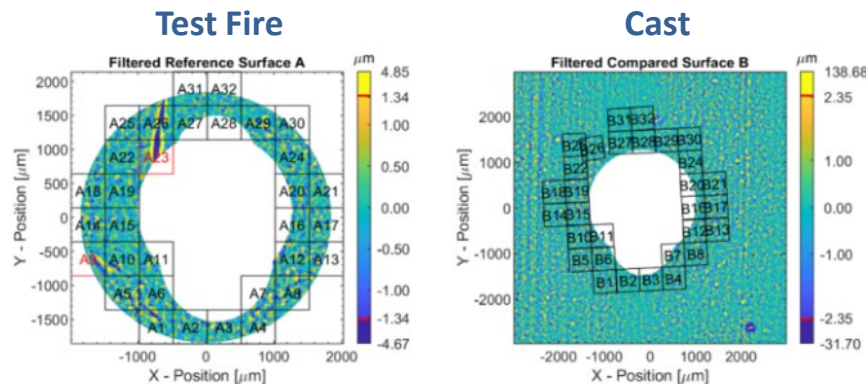
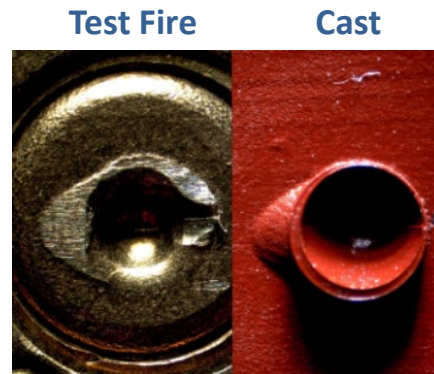
- Cast firearm breech face surface
- Objective comparison (CMC) of cast with “evidence” cartridge case.



<https://www.pewpewtactical.com/reasons-guns-fail/>



Casting of breech face surface



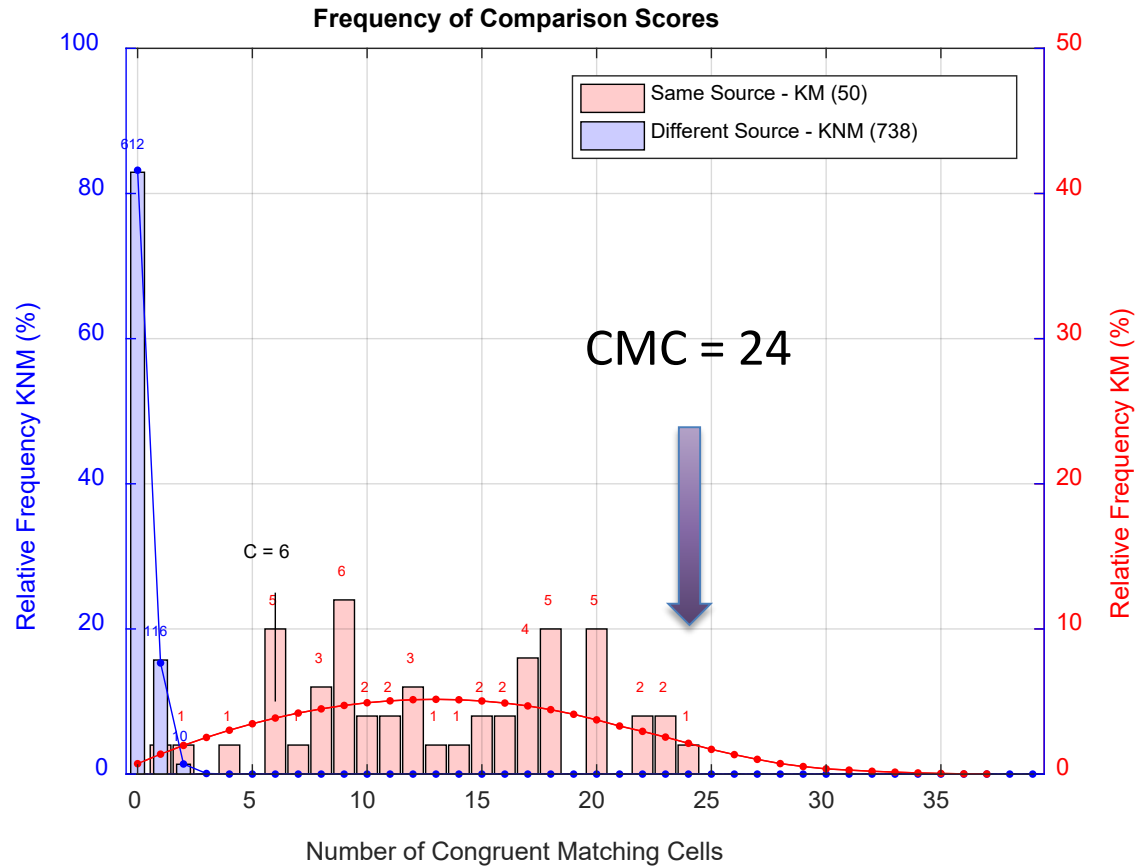


www.nist.gov/forensics/ballisticsdb

Open-access research database of firearm toolmarks on bullets and cartridge cases:

- Firearms representing major class/subclass characteristics
- Consecutively manufactured firearm components
- Firearm firing many rounds (persistence/decay)
- Firearm firing different ammunition brands
- Firearms known to present identification challenges

Characterizing the Weight of the Evidence



- Characterize score distributions for “relevant” **known matching** and **known non-matching** comparisons
- Characterize the weight of evidence:
 - Error rates
 - Likelihood ratio
 -

J.F. Song, et al., "Estimating Error Rates for Firearm Evidence Identifications in Forensic Science," *Forensic Science International*, 284, (2018).

J.F. Song, et al., "Evaluating Likelihood Ratio (LR) for firearm evidence identifications in forensic science based on the Congruent Matching Cells (CMC) method, 317,(2020).

Reference Population Database of Firearm Toolmarks

Infrastructure for weight of evidence estimation:

- Database of ground-truth toolmark images indexed by meta data
- Database of (multiple) comparison scores indexed by meta data

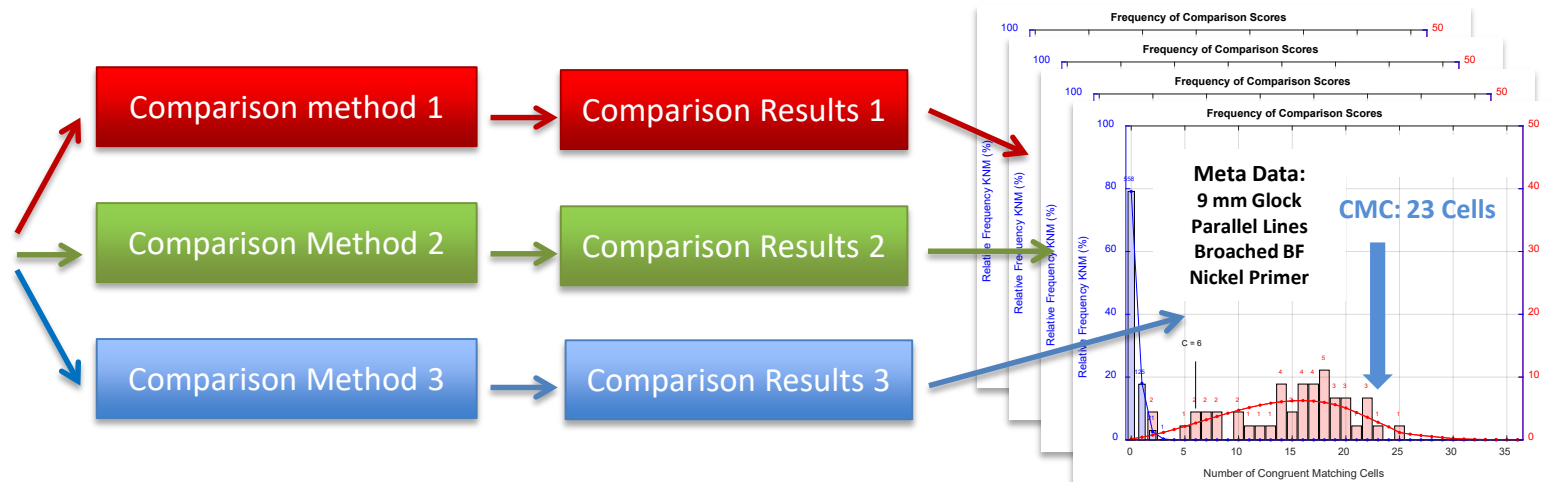
RPDFT



Netherlands Forensic Institute
Ministry of Justice and Security



Indexed reference
toolmark images



Scenario:

- Forensic lab submits meta data and comparison score(s)
- System generates statistical distribution of scores relevant to meta data
- Statistical distributions are used to calculate the weight of evidence

NIST Contributions

- Characterization and improvement of measurement methods



- Physical and documentary standards

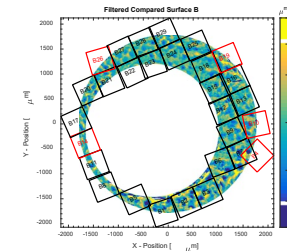


- Research and population databases

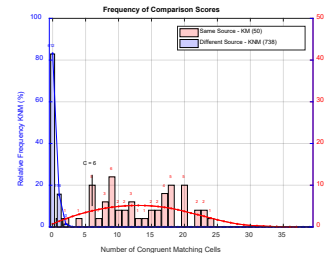
www.nist.gov/forensics/ballisticsdb



- Development and evaluation of objective comparison methods



- Estimation of the weight of the evidence.



Firearm and Toolmark Identification

Challenges:

- No consensus on “best” comparison metric(s)
- No consensus on “best” processing parameters
- Human skill/expertise is difficult to mimic (subclass)
- Large variability in same-source pattern similarity (firearm, ammo, time)
- Evaluation and expression of weight of evidence is still a **major** challenge.

Outlook:

- Significant and promising research efforts
- Results are finding their way into standards, products, and forensic labs
- 3D metrology and virtual comparison microscopy are now applied in both search and 1-1 case work
- Application of computer aided techniques to 1-1 case work comparisons is still a few years out.

Thank You

soons@nist.gov

Susan Ballou, Zhe Chen, Maria Nadal, Brian Renegar, Robert Ramotowski, Harry Song, John Song, Michael Stocker, Robert Thompson, Ted Vorburger, James Yen, Clarence Zarobila, Nien-Fan Zhang, Xiaoyu Alan Zheng

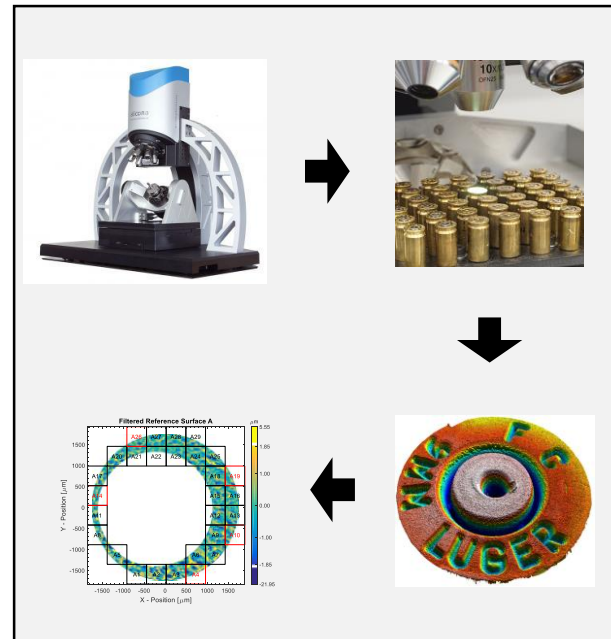


A Metrology Foundation for 3D Ballistic Imaging

2D



3D



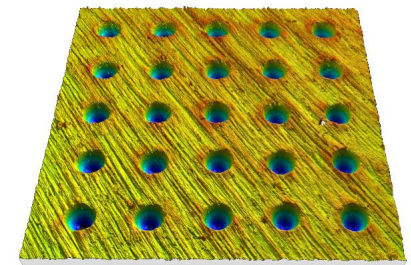
Introducing objectivity
by focusing on actual
surface topography

1. Higher reproducibility
2. Suitable for numerical analysis
3. Measure once and compare often



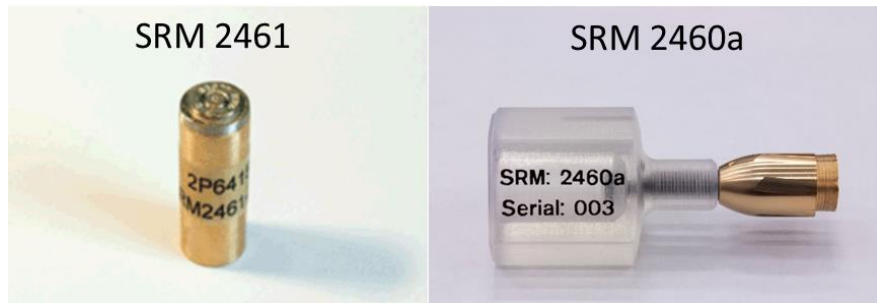
Goals

- Facilitate successful implementation, from purchase to process control, of 3D ballistic imaging equipment in forensic laboratories, ultimately improving the quality of 3D surface topography data.
- Introduce reference standards for the application of 3D optical surface topography measurement to firearm toolmark analysis to provide accuracy and traceability.
- Introduce performance specifications and measurement/quality assurance protocols to standardize terminology and measurement practices



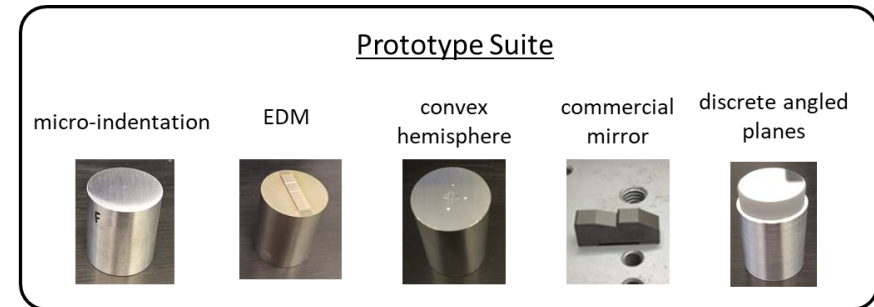
Motivation

Current SRM cartridge case and bullets



- Perfect artifacts for quality control
- Sensitive to various instrument parameters
- Can determine when something is wrong
- Does not provide a means to fix the problem
- Does not provide easy way to demonstrate traceability

New Proposed Prototype Suite



- Provide means to verify instrument specifications
- Provides a means to address individual error sources (you can fix the problems)
- Provides direct traceability path to SI unit of length



Instrument Survey

3D Surface Topography Microscope Manufacturers:

1. Alicona / FV
2. Nanofocus/Conf
3. Sensofar / FV & Conf & Int
4. Evoxfinder / FV & PS
5. Gelsight/Photometric Stereo
6. Zygo / Int
7. Bruker / Int
8. Balscan / FV & PS
9. ALIAS / Int

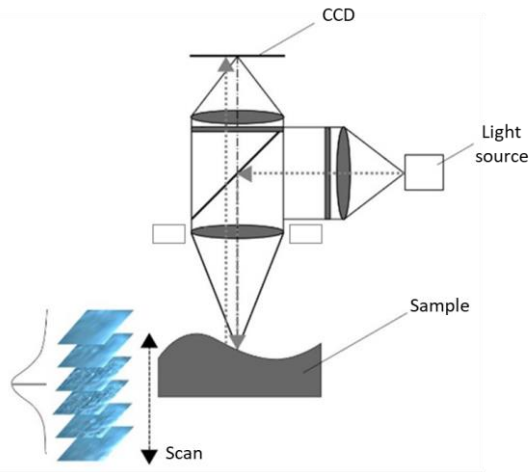
Focus Variation - FV Confocal Microscopy - Conf

Photometric Stereo - PS Interferometric - Int



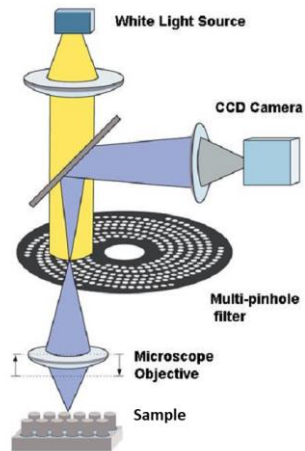
3D Topography Methods

Focus Variation

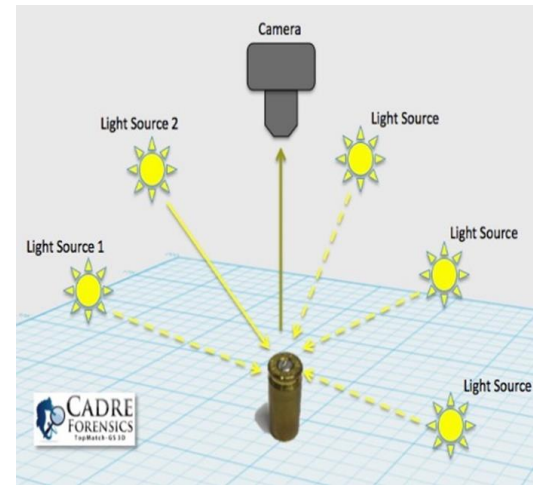


(Diagram from ISO 25178 Part 606)

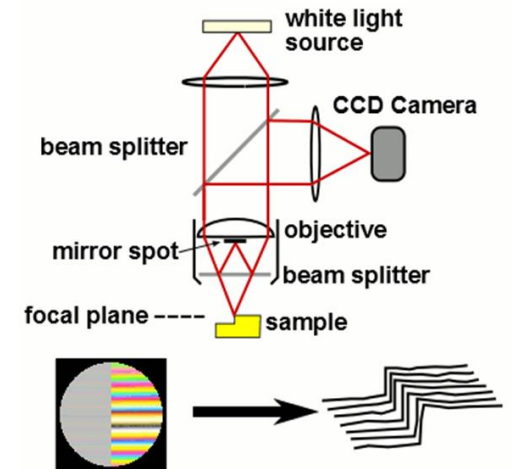
Confocal Microscopy



Photometric Stereo



Interferometric



Commercial Products

Alicona



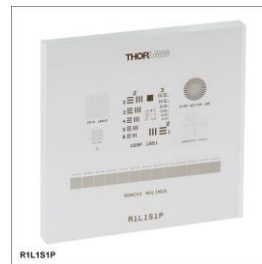
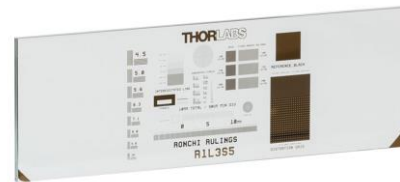
Lateral and Vertical Calibration Standard



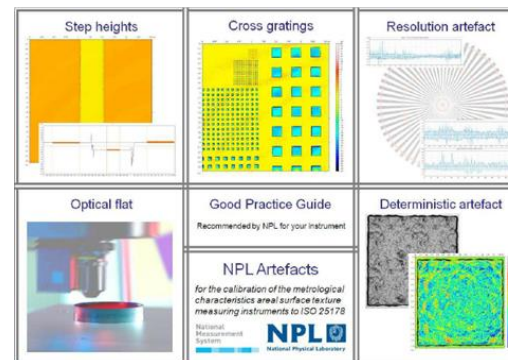
Roughness Standard

Thorlabs

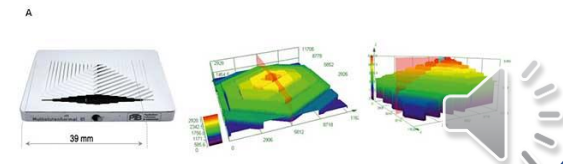
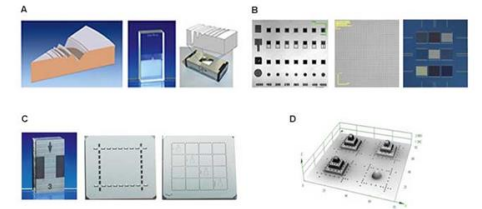
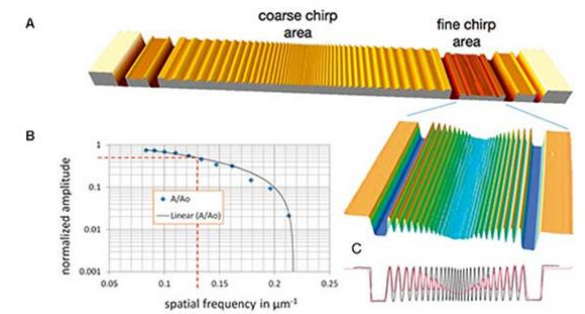
2D chrome-on-glass scale and resolution combination targets



NPL Areal Bento Box (sold through Rubert and Co. Ltd.)



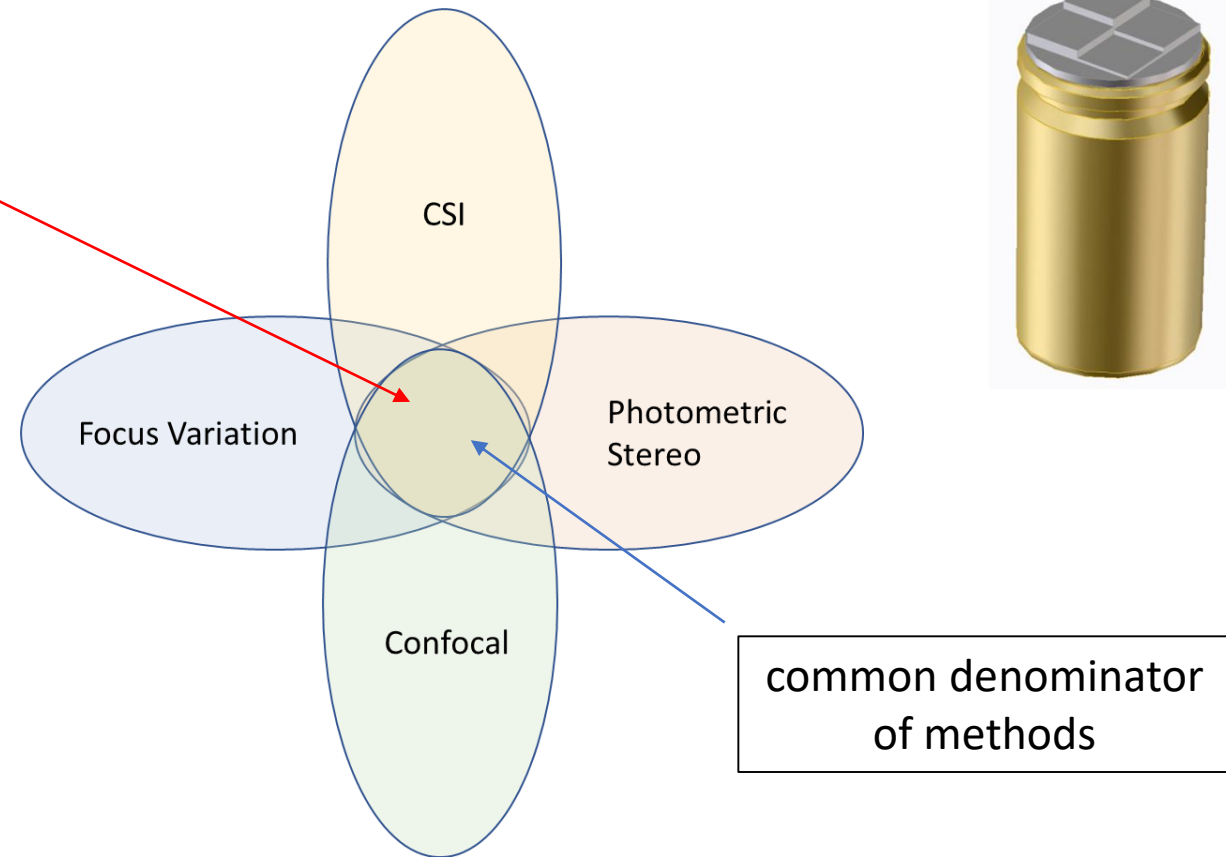
PTB research Chirped lateral resolution target and various areal artifacts



Measurability

Design Challenges for *Measurability*:

1. Form factor for certain instruments
2. Relevant dimensional scales
3. Surface contains nominal roughness (or contrast mechanism)
4. Surface normals close to numerical aperture (NA) of optical system
5. Need to avoid surface discontinuities (vertical transitions)



Other Challenges:

- The determination of minimum instrument requirements for forensic applications is an active topic of research, both for VCM and automated comparisons.
- The definition of areal instrument performance parameters, test procedures, and artifacts is still being standardized within ISO.



Performance Specifications

Performance Specification	Physical Artifact
1. XY Scale	X
2. XY Linearity	X
3. Z Scale	X
4. Z Linearity	X
5. Lateral Resolution	X
6. Maximum Measurable Slope (convex)	X
7. Maximum Measurable Slope (concave)	X
8. Aberration Correction (field curvature)	X
9. Measurement Stitching	SRM 2461
10. Instrument Noise	SRM 2461



Prototype Summary

XY Array



micro-indentation



micro-endmill



micro-laser
ablation

Z Step Height



EDM



endmilling



gage blocks

MMS



convex
hemisphere



discrete
angled planes



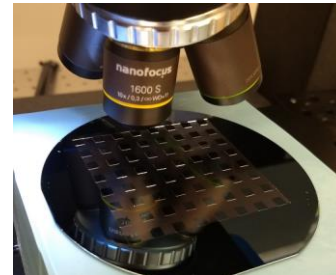
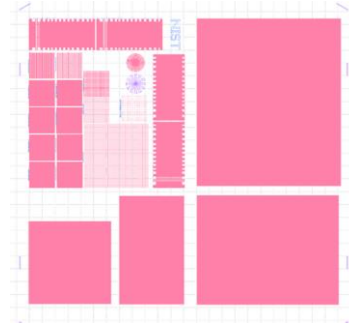
convex
hemisphere

Aberration Correction



commercial mirror

Si Development



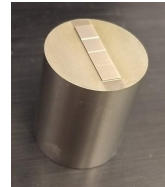
Prototype Summary

XY Array



micro-indentation

Z Step Height



EDM

MMS



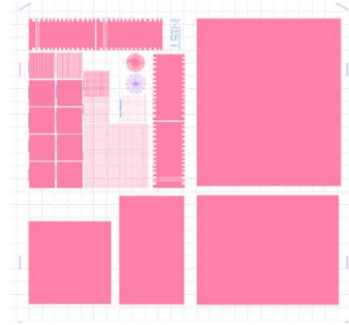
convex hemisphere

Aberration Correction



commercial mirror

Si Development



micro-endmill



endmilling



discrete angled planes



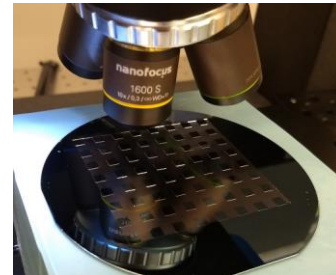
micro-laser ablation



gage blocks



convex hemisphere

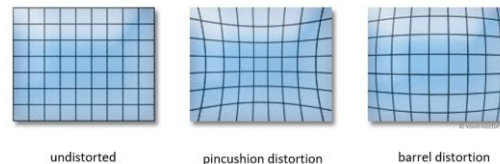
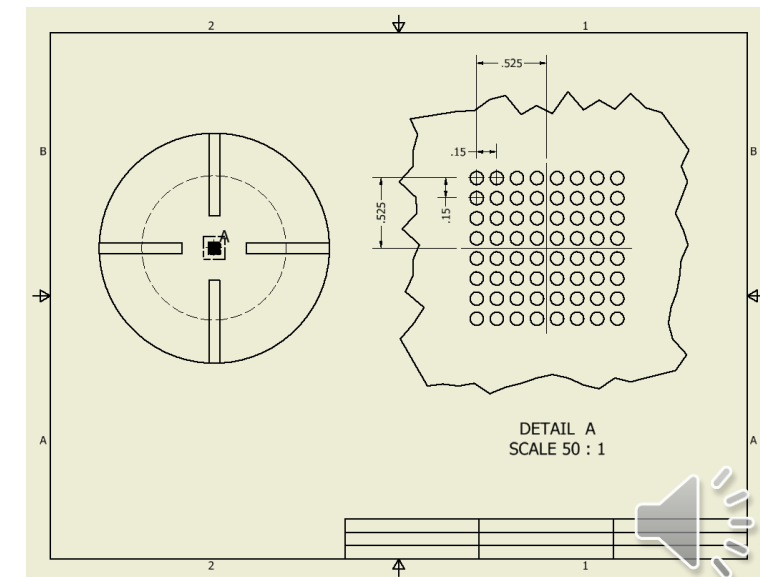
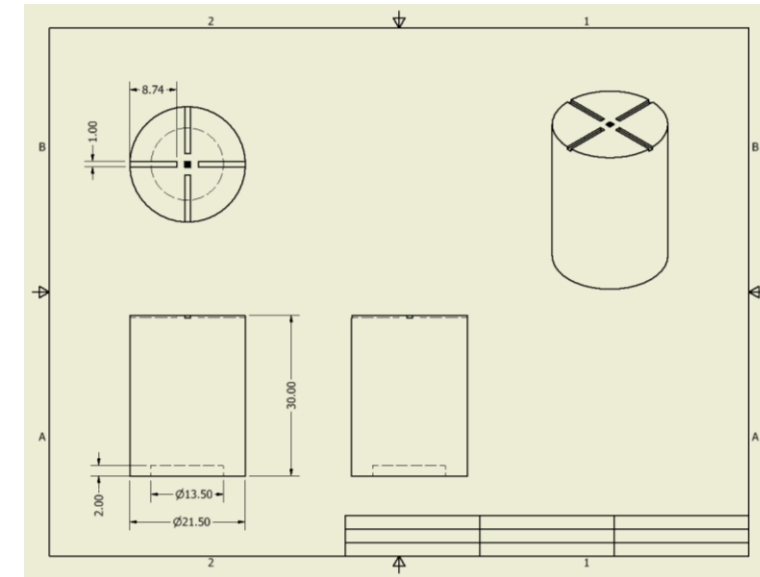
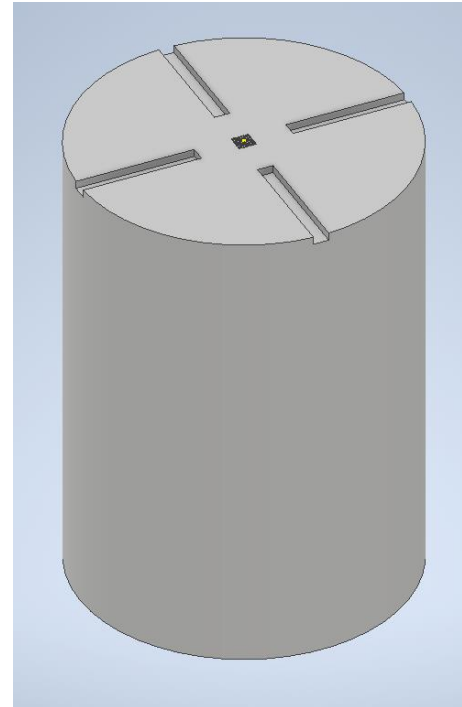


Prototype Design – XY Array

Addresses XY Scale and Linearity

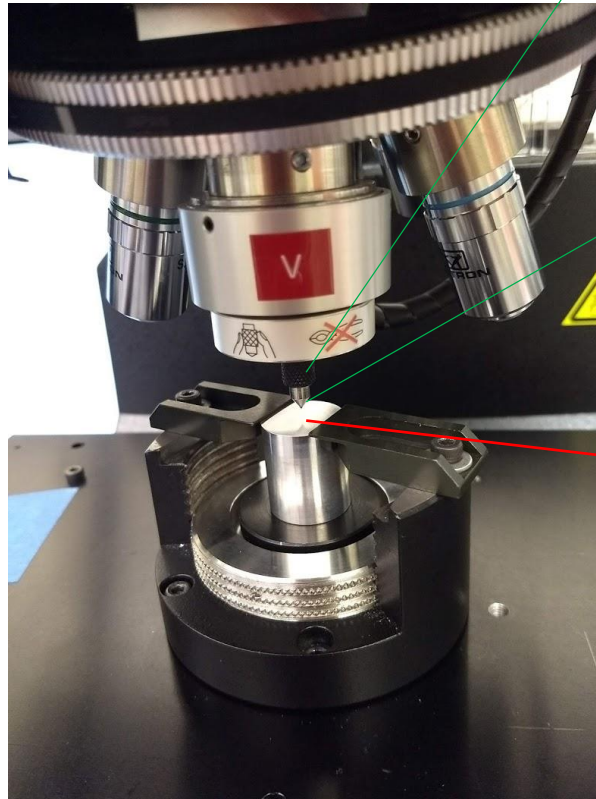
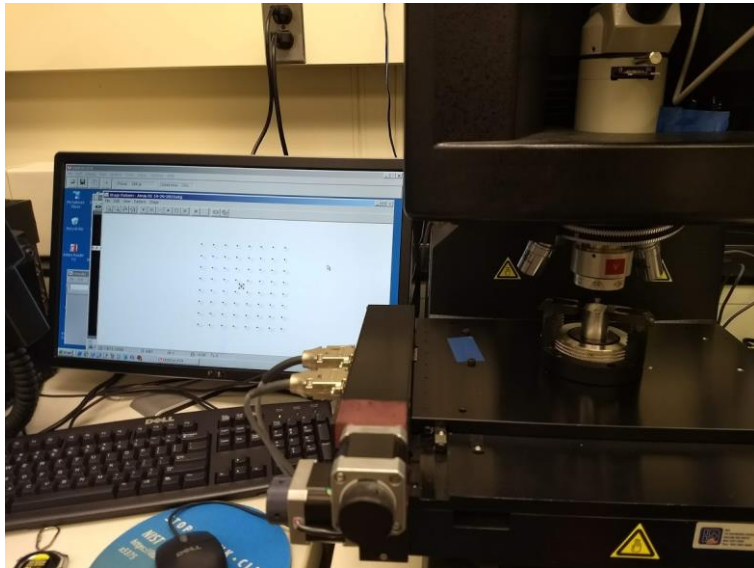
Design Features

- Current design based on array of small hemi-spherical features
- Will allow for measurement of scale and linearity
- Array dimensions: nominally 100 μm diameter at 150 μm pitch.
- Hemi-spherical features have maximum surface normal of 22° to facilitate measurability
- Fiducial lines pointing to array in center to help locate in microscope.
- Machined on a cylindrical blank that is the size of a 12 gauge shot shell
- Also allows for evaluating distortion

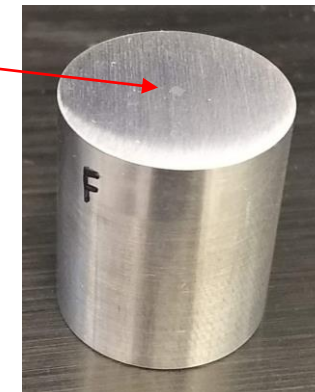
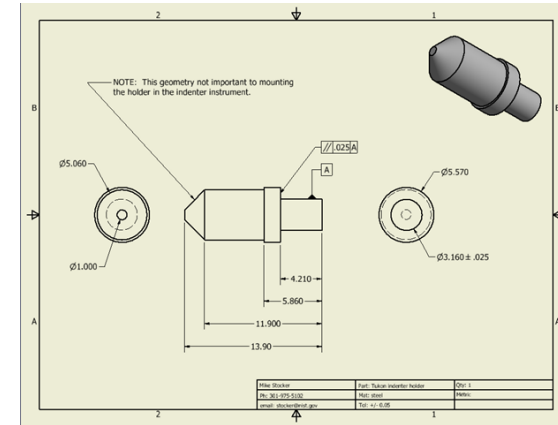
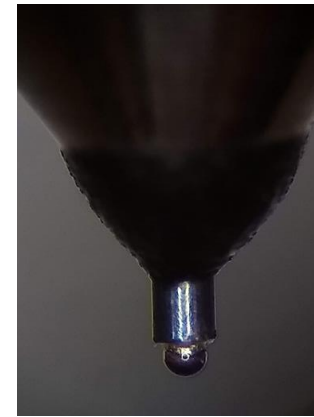


Prototype Fabrication – XY Array

Automated Hardness Indenter Instrument

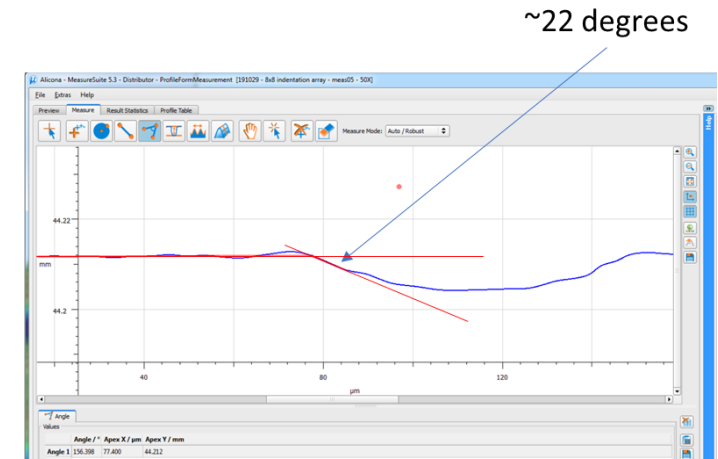
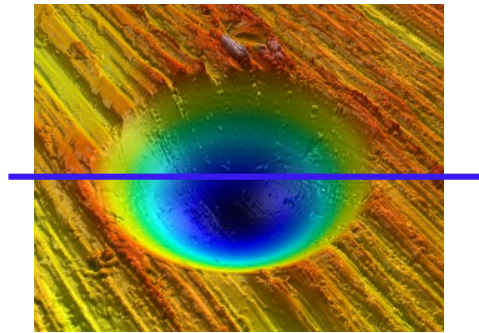
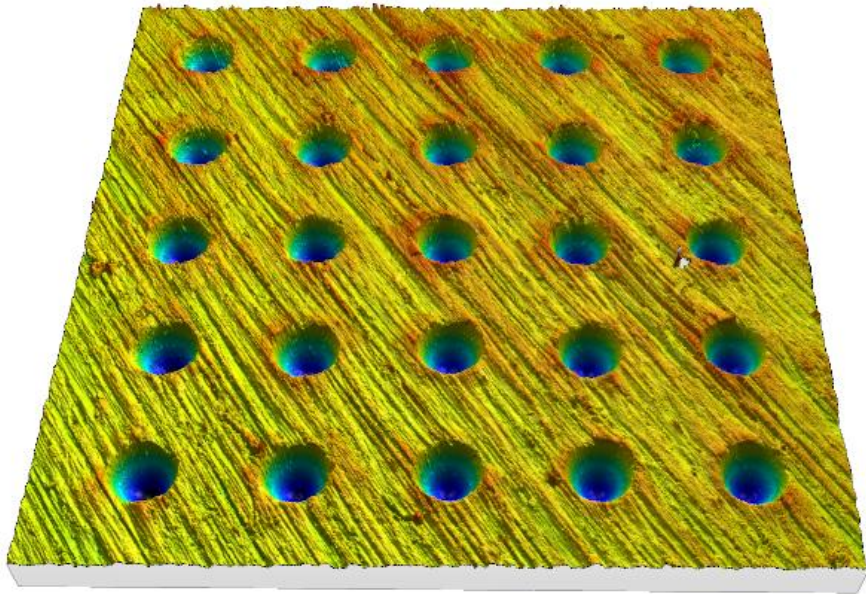


160 μm diameter micro-indenter

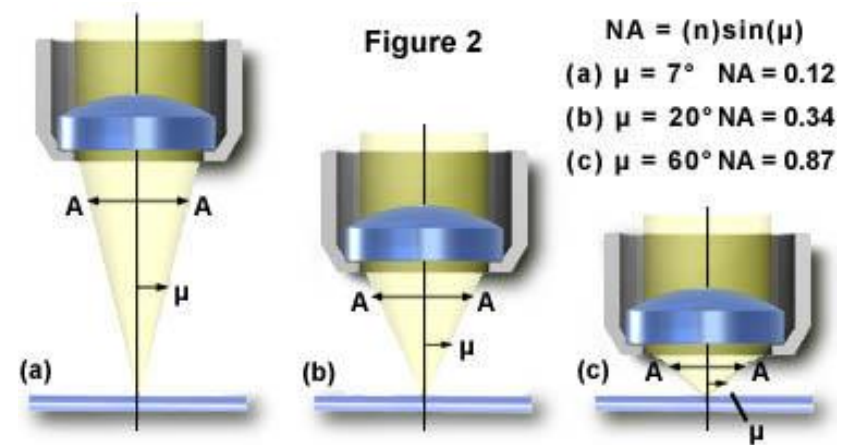


Prototype Fabrication – XY Array

Able to achieve excellent geometry with micro-indentation



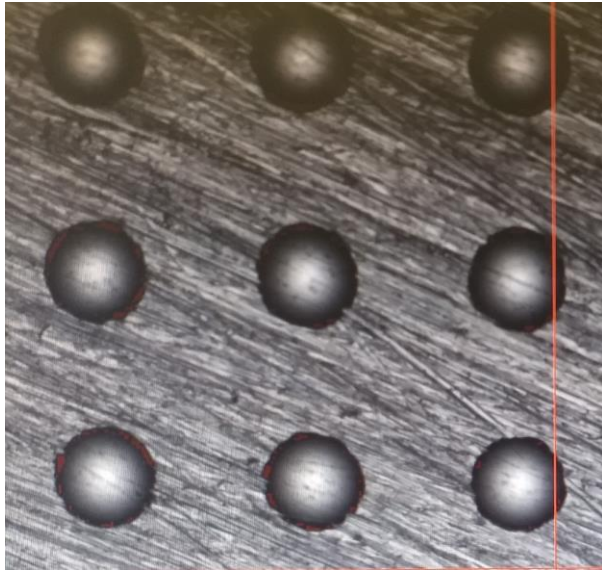
Microscope numerical aperture (NA)



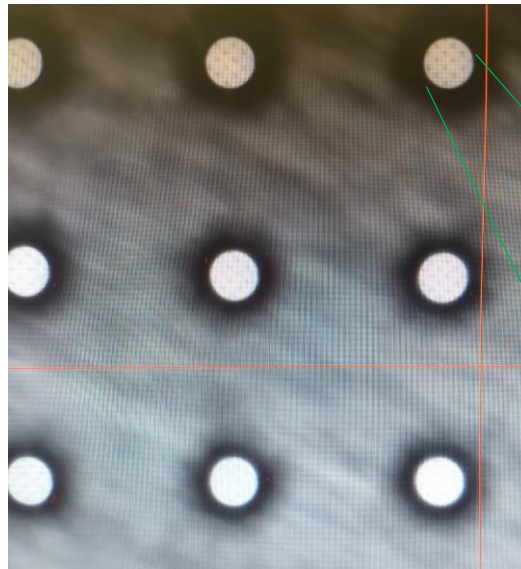
Prototype Fabrication – XY Array

Fabrication Challenges

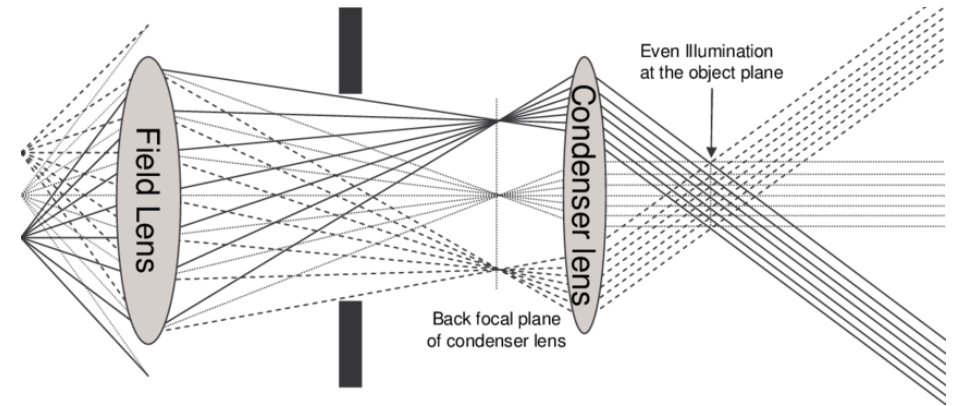
Focused approx. at bottom of indentation



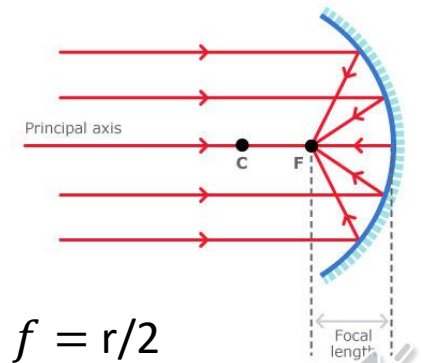
Focused approx. 40 μm above bottom of hemispherical indent



Koehler Illuminated Microscope



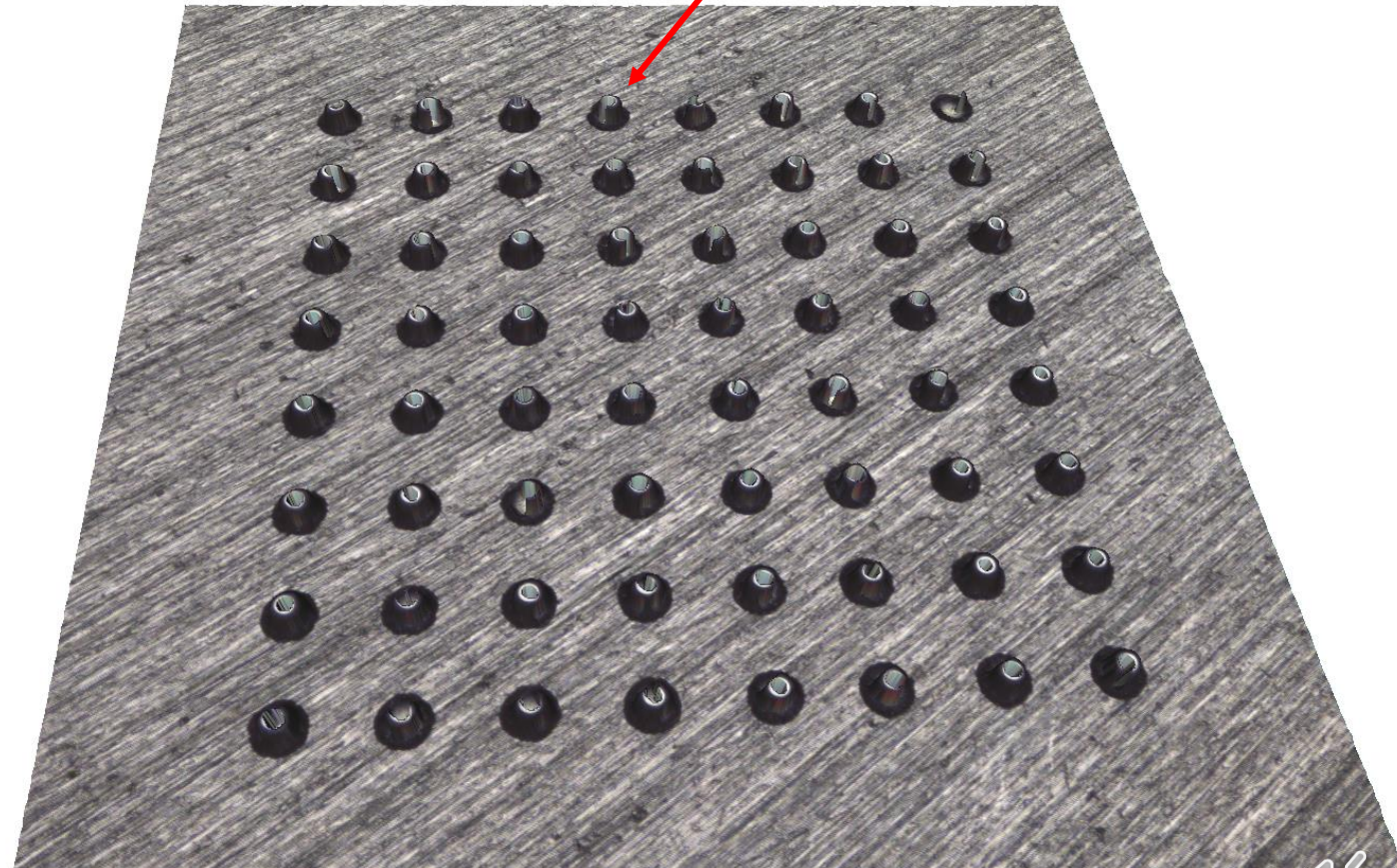
Spherical Reflector



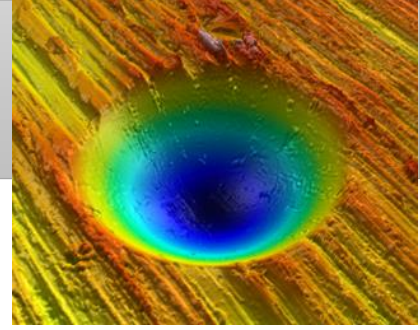
Prototype Fabrication – XY Array

- Some instruments can't correctly determine the actual surface topography with the image of the source coming into focus, usually at low magnification, high depth of field
- 1) Microscope objective magnification/depth of field and 2) focal length of indentation are factors in presence of this error
- Solutions:
 1. Preliminary etching (NaOH) on our aluminum sample significantly reduces the optical power of the indentation.
 2. Larger diameter impressions for lower magnification (larger FOV) measurements

Error creates a positive **protruding shape**, instead of the actual spherical impression

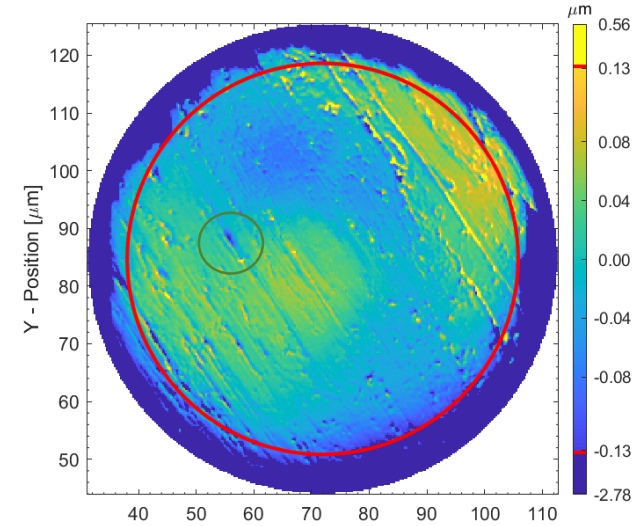
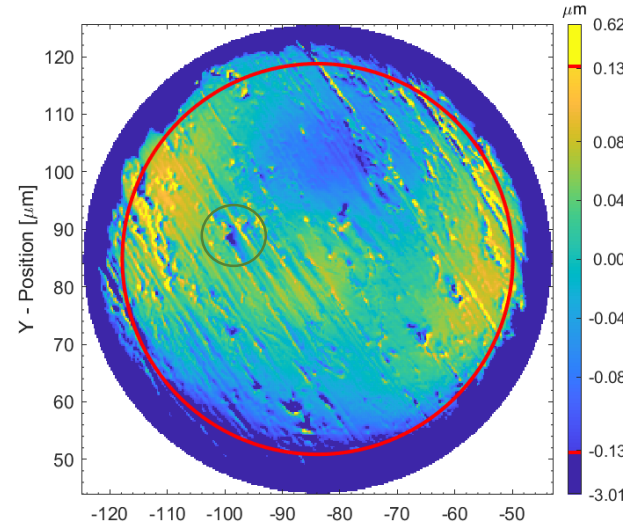


XY Array Sphericity



50X (Top Left Corner, NanoFocus)

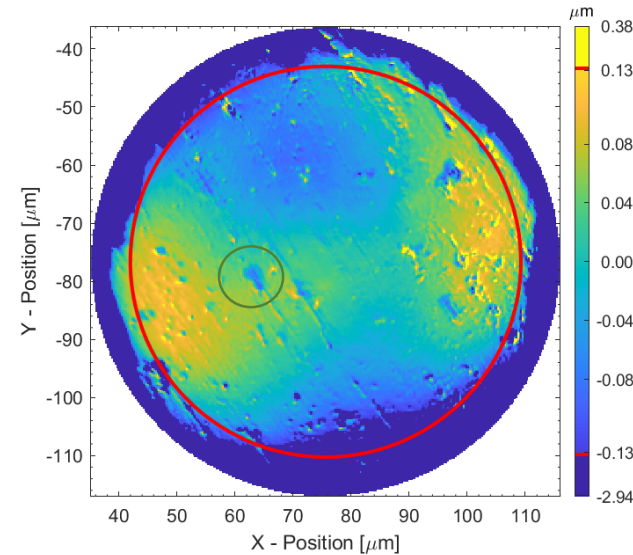
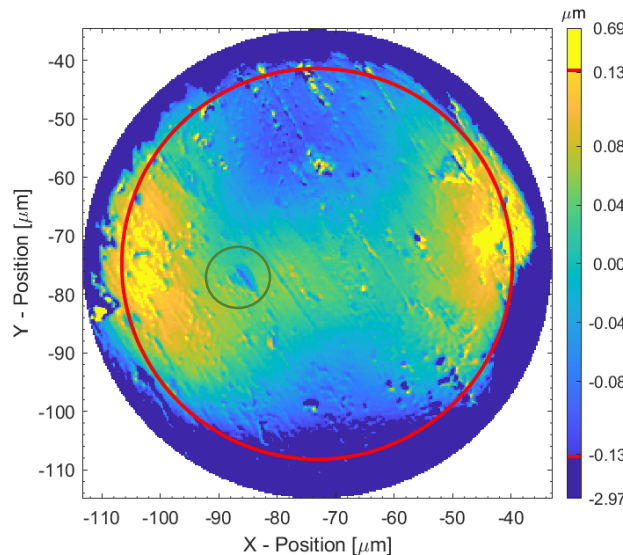
S90 = 57 nm
R90 = 84.29 μm



S90 = 44 nm
R90 = 84.14 μm

Sphericity deviation
indentation topography
(estimated for data within
90 % of intersection radius)

S90 = 65 nm
R90 = 84.85 μm



S90 = 58 nm
R90 = 84.37 μm

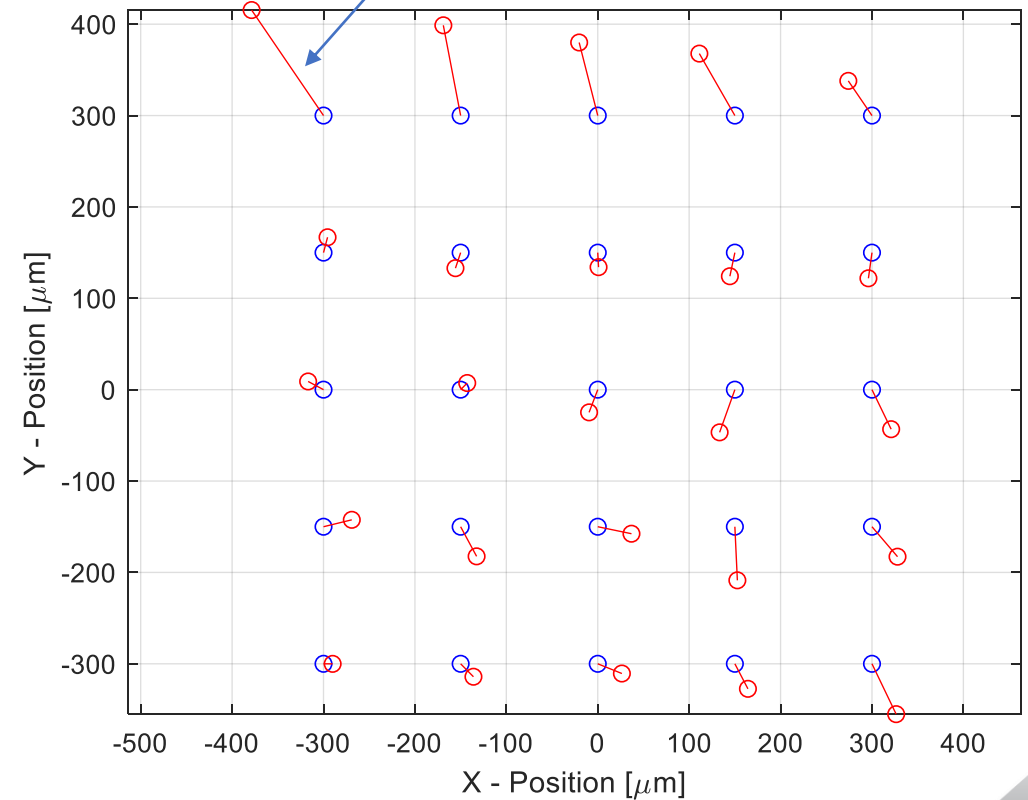
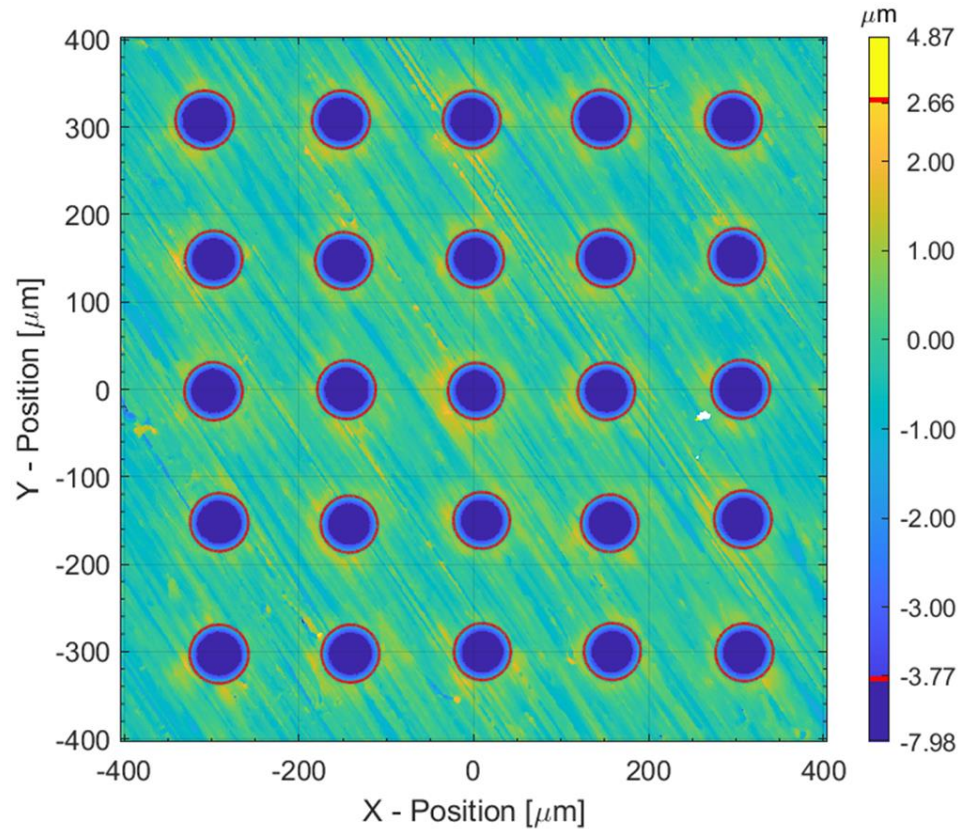


XY Array Positional Analysis

Position errors relative to best fit nominal grid (10X magnified)

20X (Top Left Corner, Nanofocus)

Maximum error: 14 μm

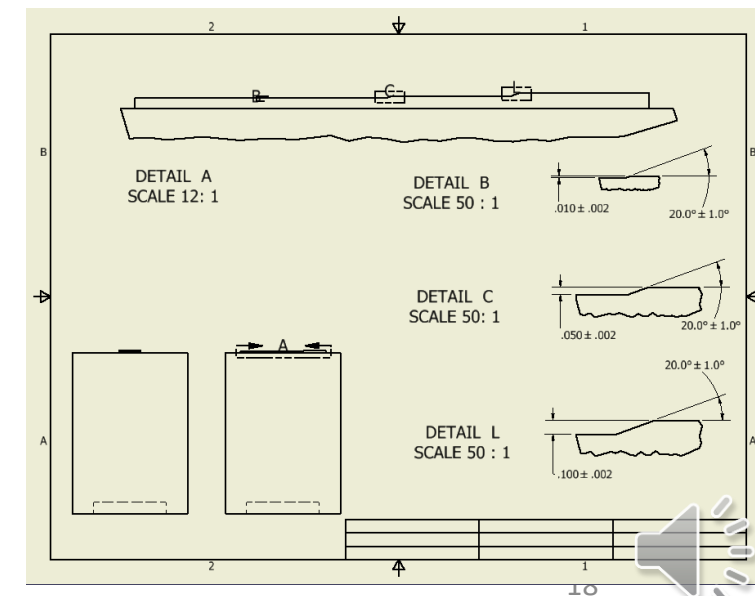
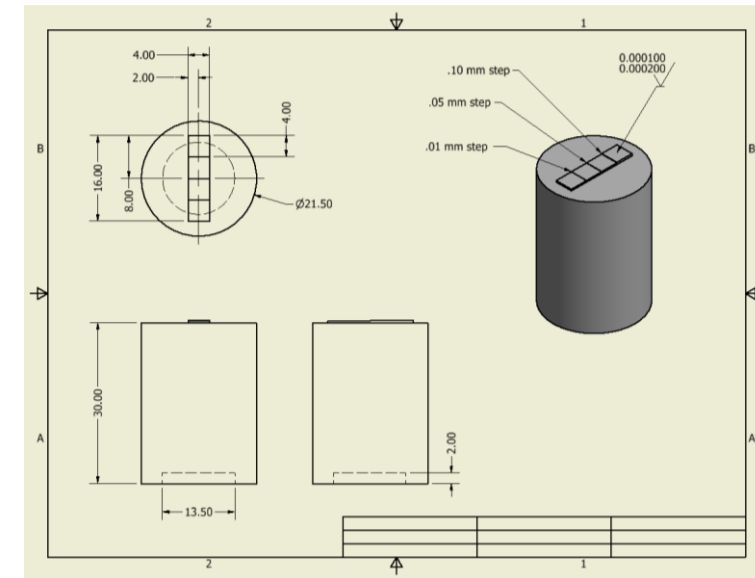


Prototype Design – Z Step

Addresses Z Scale and Linearity

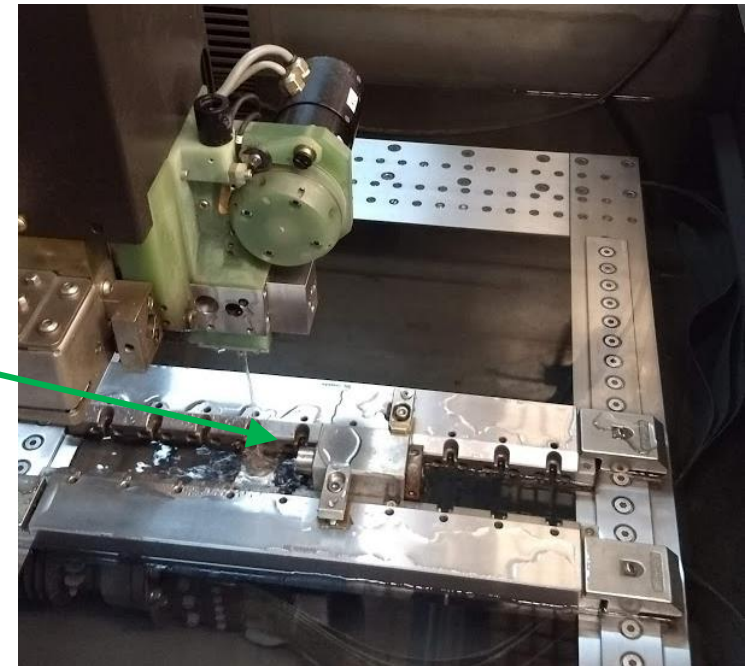
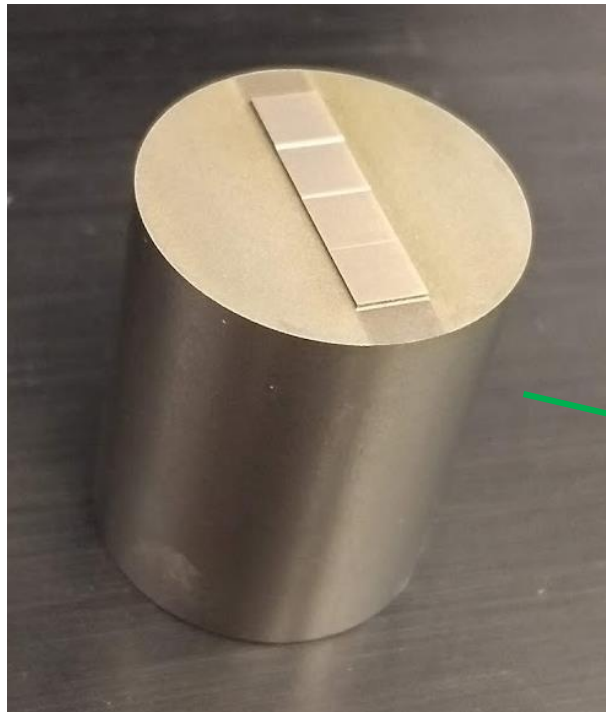
Design Features

- Current design based on array of Qty=4 2mm x 2mm parallel pads.
- Pads at defined vertical spacings, providing 3 nominal steps of 100 μm , 50 μm , and 10 μm .
- No surface discontinuities. 20° transition region between pads for measurability
- Nominal surface roughness to be achieved through:
 1. Native machined marks
 2. Etching
 3. Media Blasting
- Machined on a cylindrical blank that is the size of a 12 gauge shot shell



Prototype Fabrication – Z Step

Fabrication technique is wire Electrical Discharge Machining (EDM)



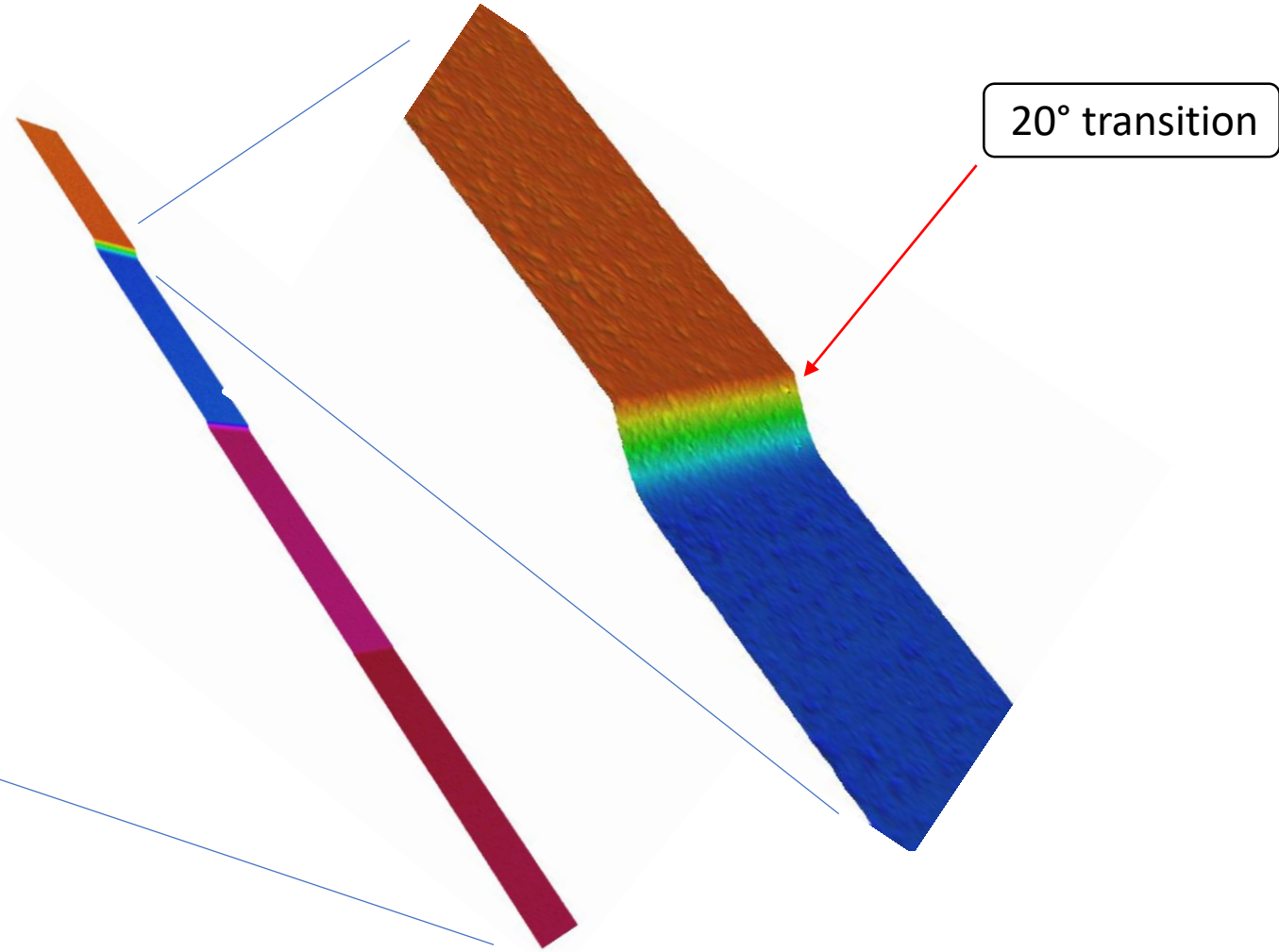
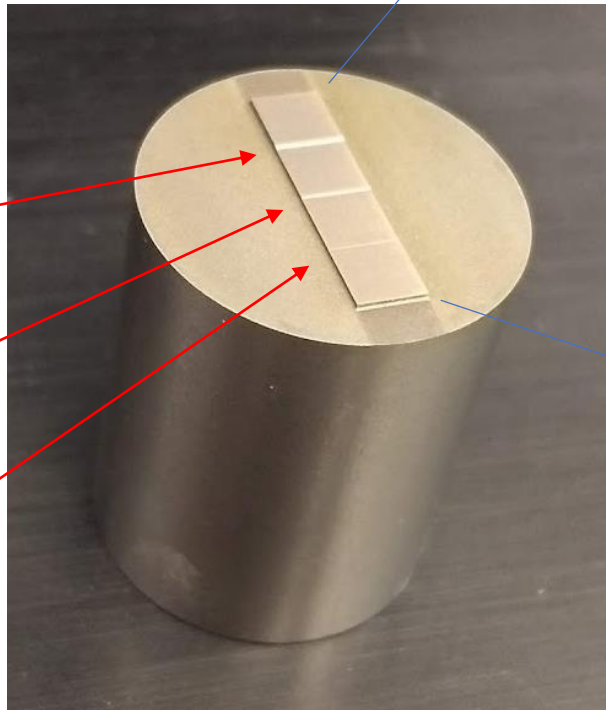
Prototype Fabrication – Z Step

- Planar surfaces cut with NIST wire-EDM
- We're able to hit the target surface roughness of 100 nm to 150 nm

100 μm Step

50 μm Step

10 μm Step



Performance Specifications

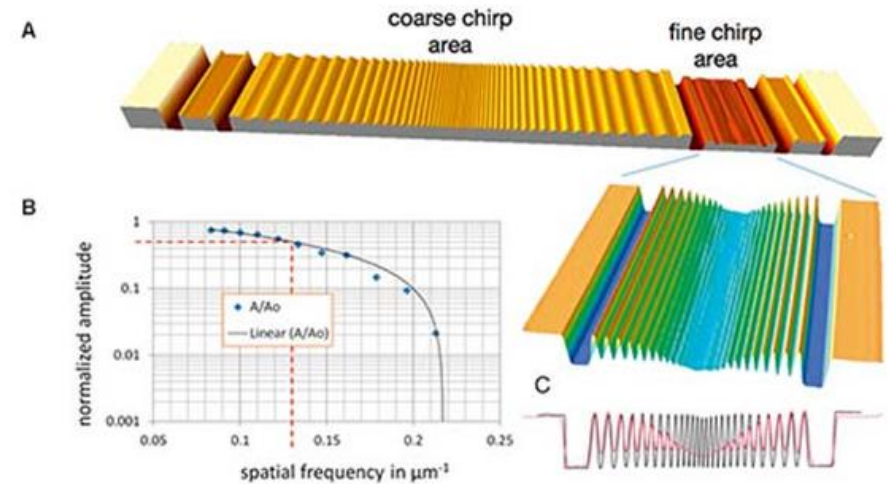
Performance Specification	Physical Artifact
1. XY Scale	✓
2. XY Linearity	✓
3. Z Scale	✓
4. Z Linearity	✓
5. Lateral Resolution	X
6. Maximum Measurable Slope (convex)	✓
7. Maximum Measurable Slope (concave)	✓
8. Aberration Correction (field curvature)	✓
9. Measurement Stitching	SRM 2461
10. Instrument Noise	SRM 2461



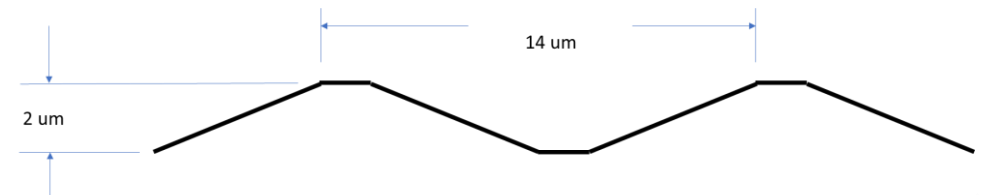
Lateral Resolution

- We recognize the importance of this specification
- We don't have a solid solution for evaluating this across the spectrum of instruments that will be used in the forensic laboratories
- We are currently considering three options:
 1. 2D optical resolution using a siemens star (not preferred)
 2. Diamond turning a non-sinusoidal "chirped-style" profile that could be used to provide a *Go-No Go* for lateral resolution, but not necessarily an actual measurement of the instrument's resolution limit
 3. Evaluating the difference in spatial frequency content between a known surface and a measurement of that surface from an instrument being tested

PTB Chirped Array



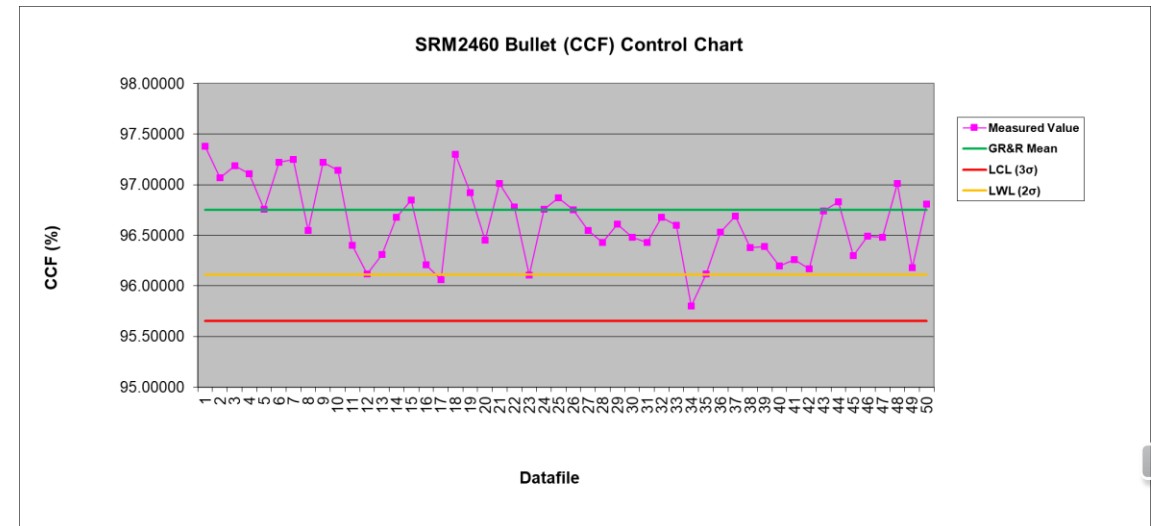
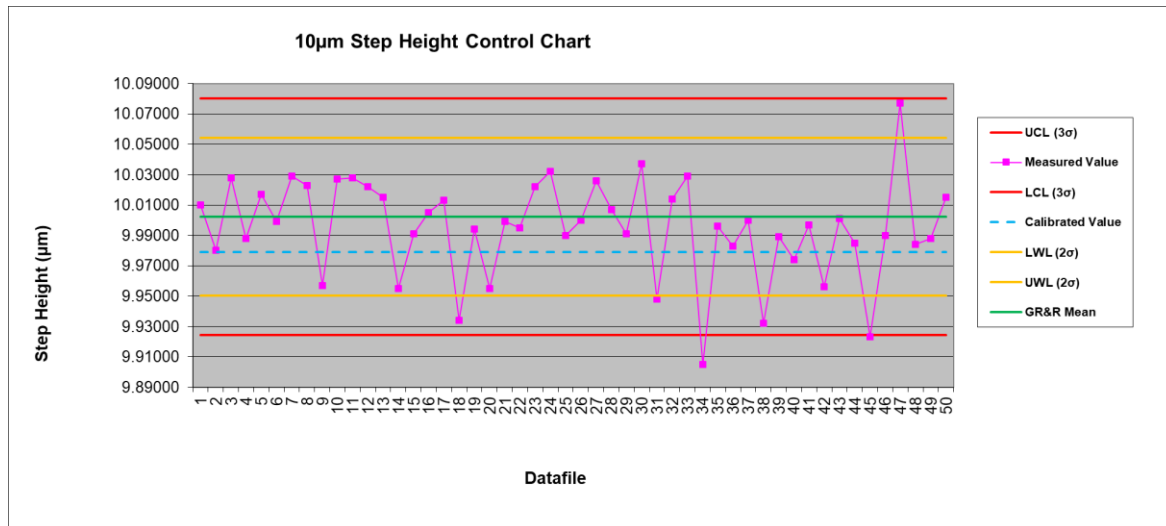
Possible Diamond-turned profile



Quality Assurance

NIST and FBI FTU Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):

- QA implementation on their 3D Surface Topography Instruments
 - Detailed QA protocols
 - Detailed measurement protocols
 - Uncertainty budget development
 - Measurement consultation and troubleshooting
 - Results will be used in TWG documents



SUPPLEMENTAL SLIDES

Reference Population Database of Firearm Toolmarks (RPDFT)



Xiaoyu Alan Zheng¹, Johannes Soons¹, Erich Smith², Martin Baiker³

1. National Institute of Standards and Technology

2. Federal Bureau of Investigation

3. Netherlands Forensic Institute

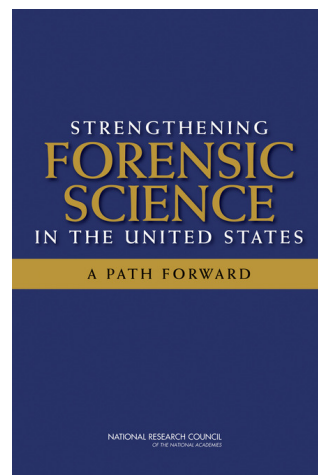


NIST FORENSIC
SCIENCES

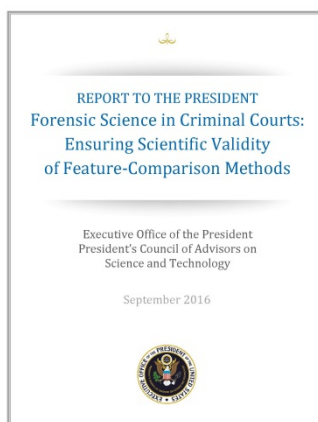


Netherlands Forensic Institute
Ministry of Justice and Security

Motivation



- NAS 2009 “..the decision of the toolmark examiner remains a **subjective decision** based on unarticulated standards and no statistical foundation for **estimation of error rates.**”



- PCAST 2016: “PCAST finds that firearms analysis currently falls short of the criteria for foundational validity, because there is only a single appropriately designed study to **measure validity and estimate reliability.**”

“If firearms analysis is allowed in court, the scientific criteria for validity as applied should be understood to require **clearly reporting the error rates seen in appropriately designed black-box studies.**”

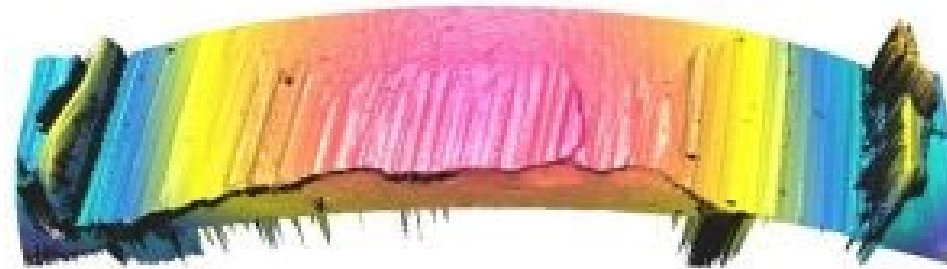
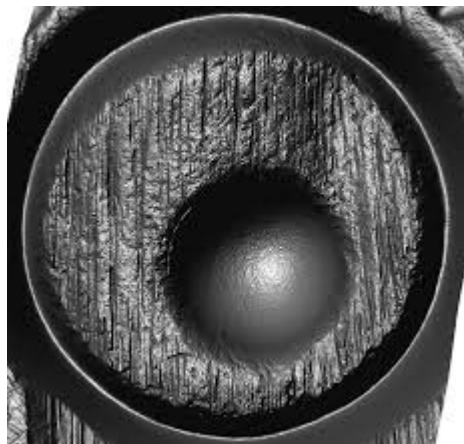
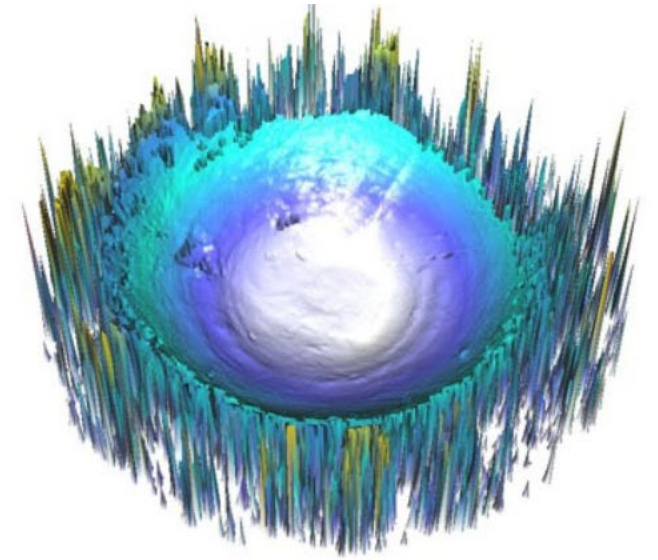
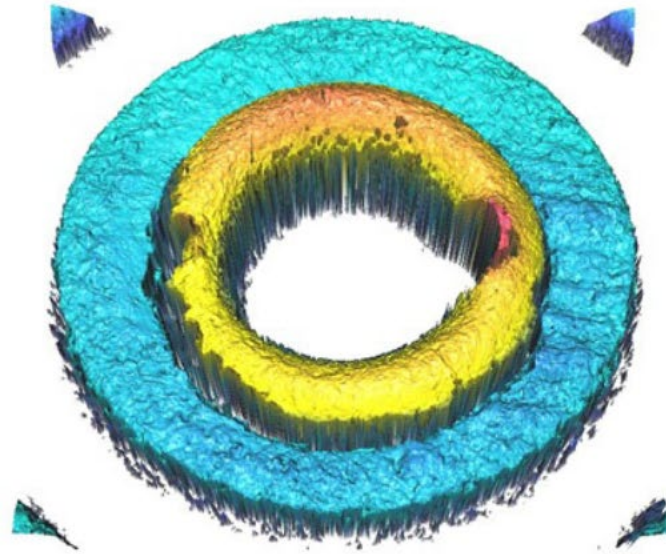
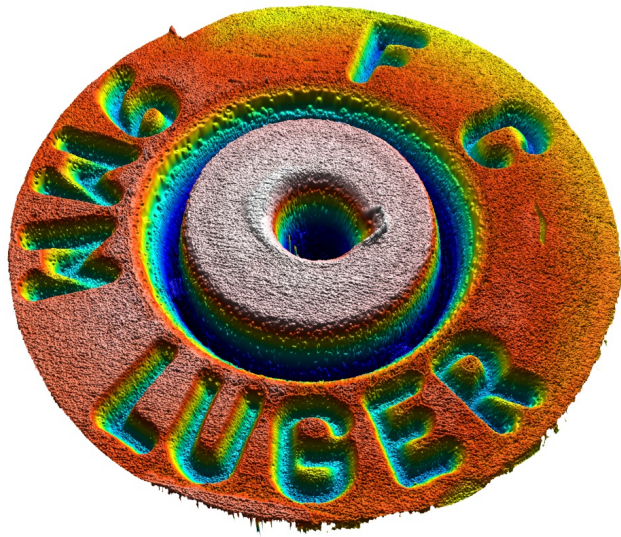
“A second – and more important – direction is ... to convert firearms analysis **from a subjective method to an objective method...**”

Goals

- Establish a national database of ground truth firearm and toolmark comparison scores
- Build a database of statistical distributions using the relevant population on the fly
- Provide an objective measure of similarity
- Provide a statistical statement of uncertainty
- Provide reference data for continued innovation of correlation algorithms



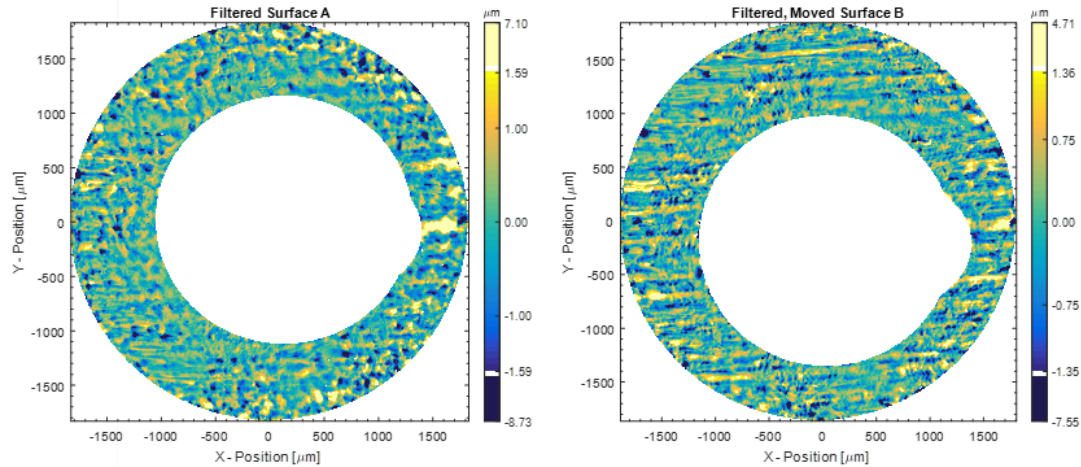
3D Measurements



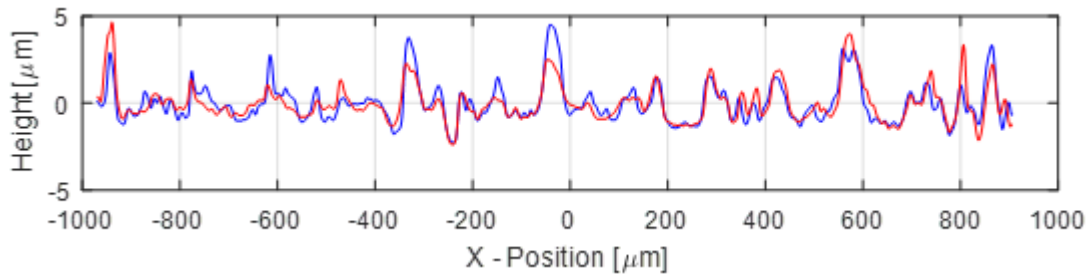
Bullet Land Engraved Area

Algorithms

Area Based Correlation



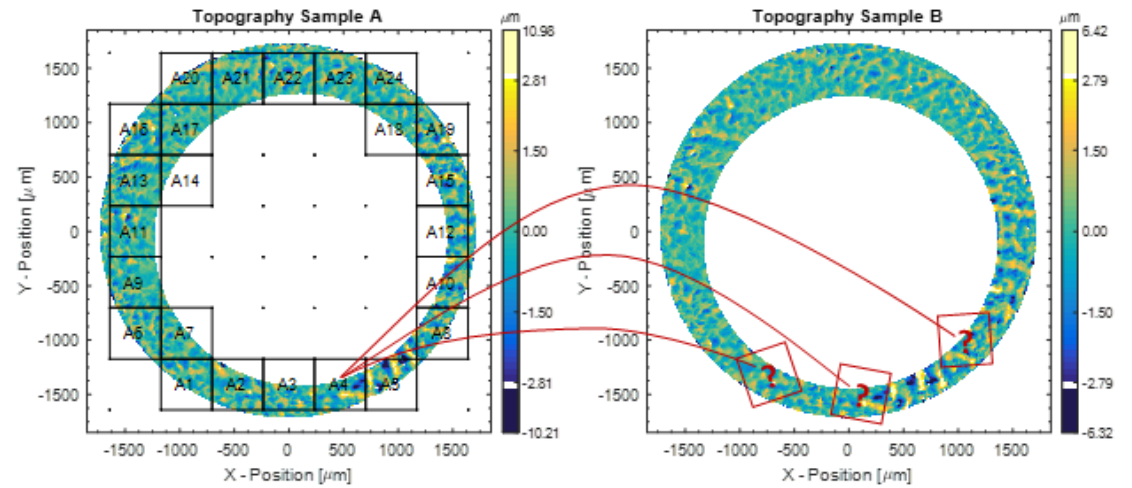
Areal Cross Correlation Function ($ACCF_{MAX}$)



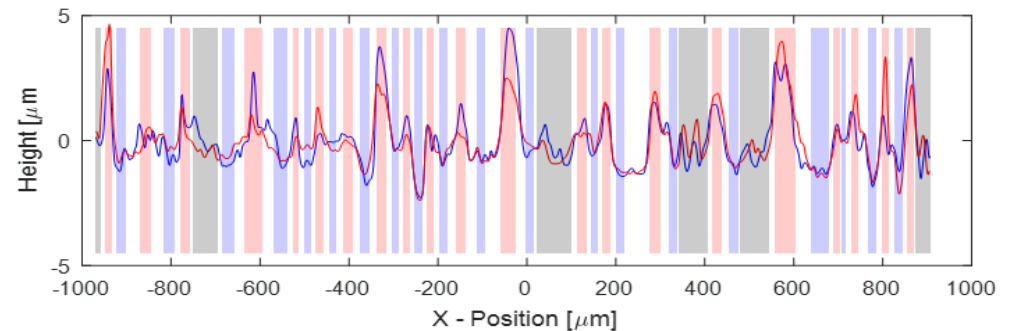
Cross Correlation Function (CCF_{MAX})

Bullet A
Bullet B

Feature Based Correlation

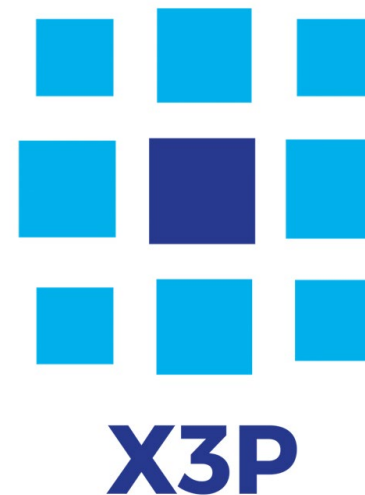


Congruent Matching Cells (CMC)



Consecutive Matching Striae (CMS)

Standardization



- Standard for Toolmark Topography Comparison Software
- Standard for Implementation of 3D Technologies in Forensic Laboratories
- Standard for 3D Measurement Systems and Measurement Quality Control

- Unambiguous file exchange standard
- OpenFMC.org
- ISO25178-72 XML 3D Profile

Collaboration



- Firearms expertise
- Consecutively manufactured reference collection
- Multi-instrument capabilities
- Communication
Access to database for laboratories



NIST

- Algorithm Suite
- Metrology Expertise
- Standardization
- Statistics



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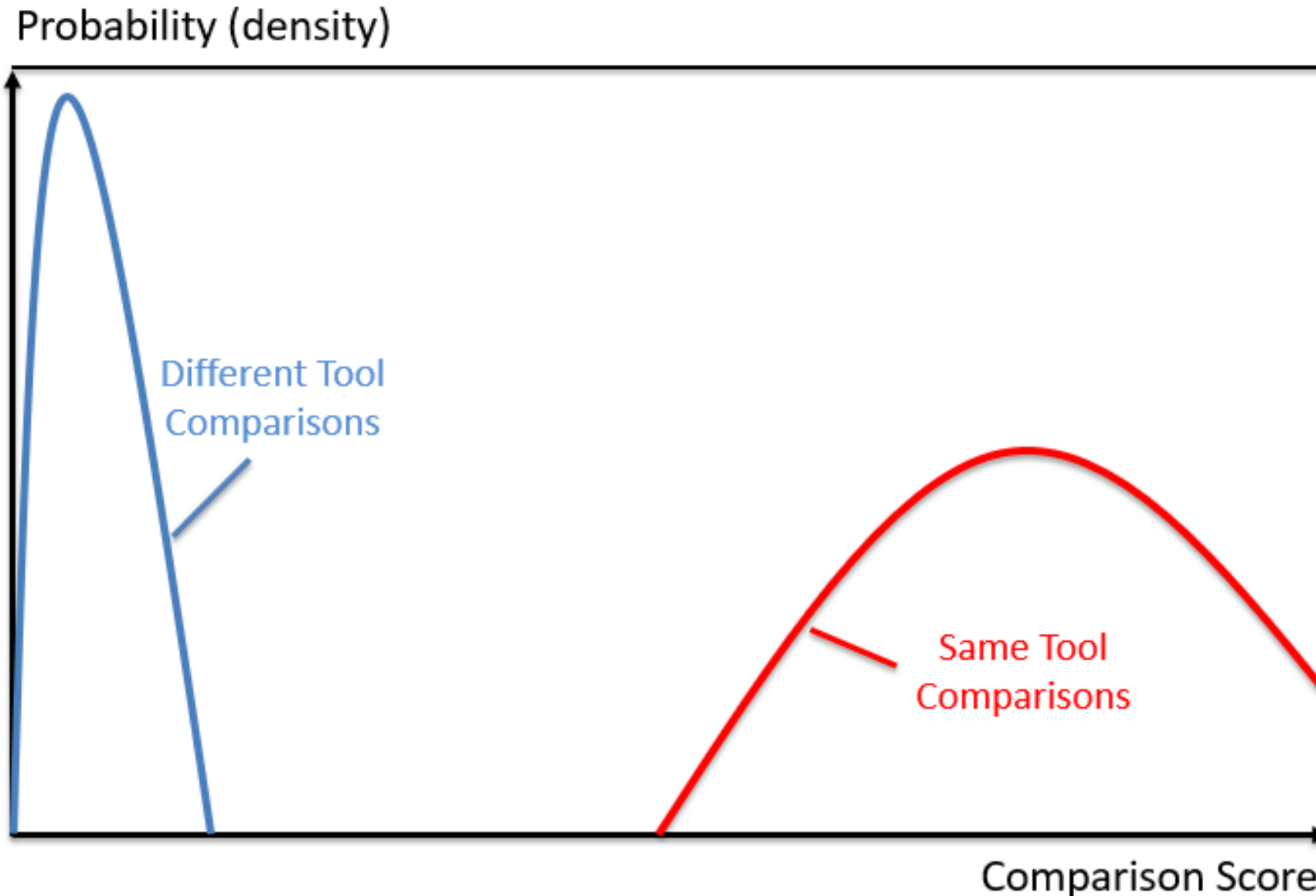
- Firearm and Toolmark expertise
- Software platform for distribution database
- Software development
- Scratch 2.0

What is **RPDFT** ?

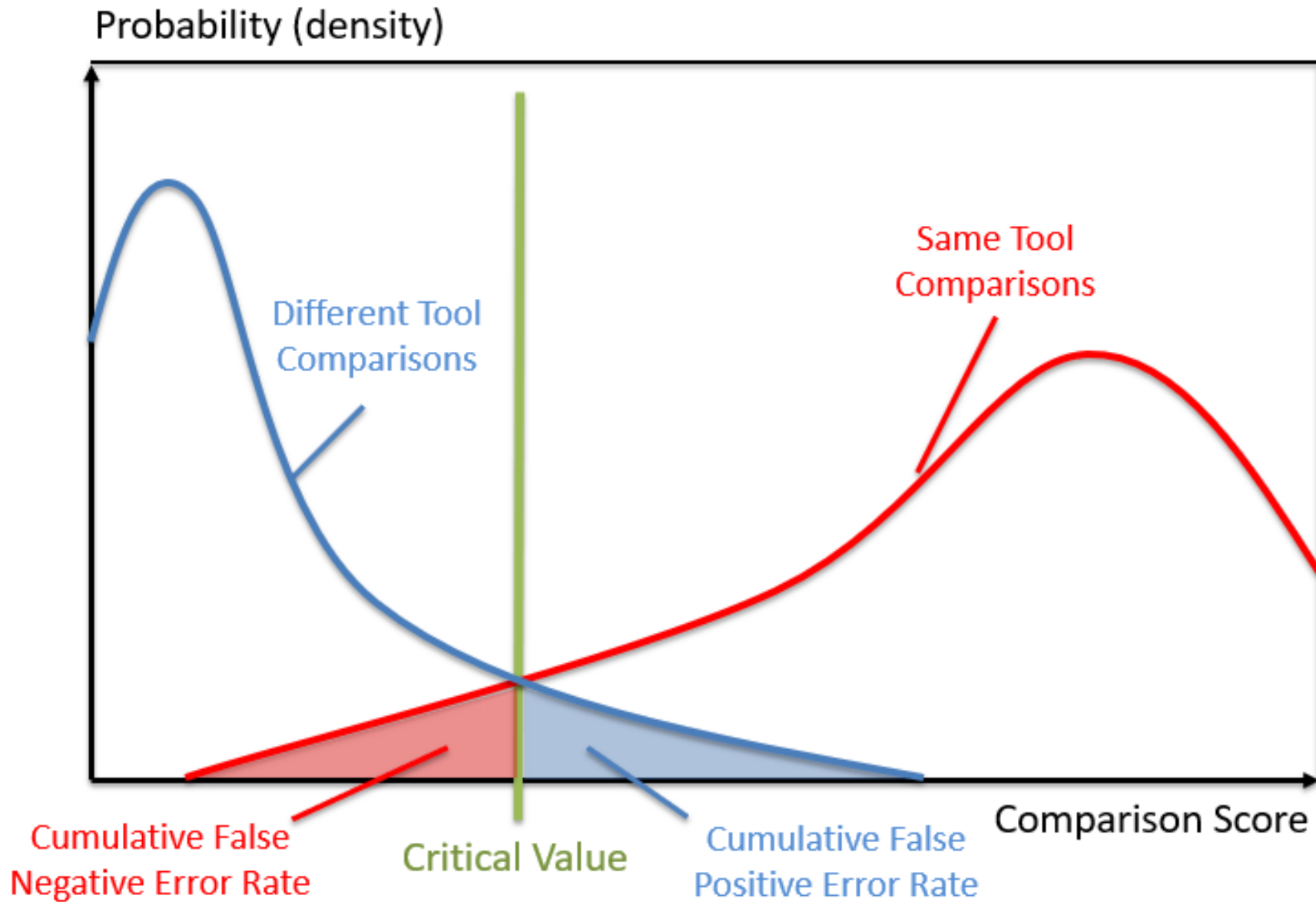


Firearm 1	Firearm 2	FA1 Metadata	FA2 Metadata	Comparison Score
FA-1 Firearm Meta Data	FA-1 Firearm Meta Data	FA-1, Cartridge Case Meta Data, Measurement Meta Data	FA-1, Cartridge Case Meta Data, Measurement Meta Data	78
FA-1 Firearm Meta Data	FA-2 Firearm Meta Data	FA-1, Bullet, Measurement Meta data	FA-2, Bullet, Measurement Meta data	4
...
FA-N Firearm Meta Data	FA-N Firearm Meta Data	FA-N, Cartridge Case/Bullet, Measurement Meta data	FA-N, Cartridge Case /Bullet, Measurement Meta data	N

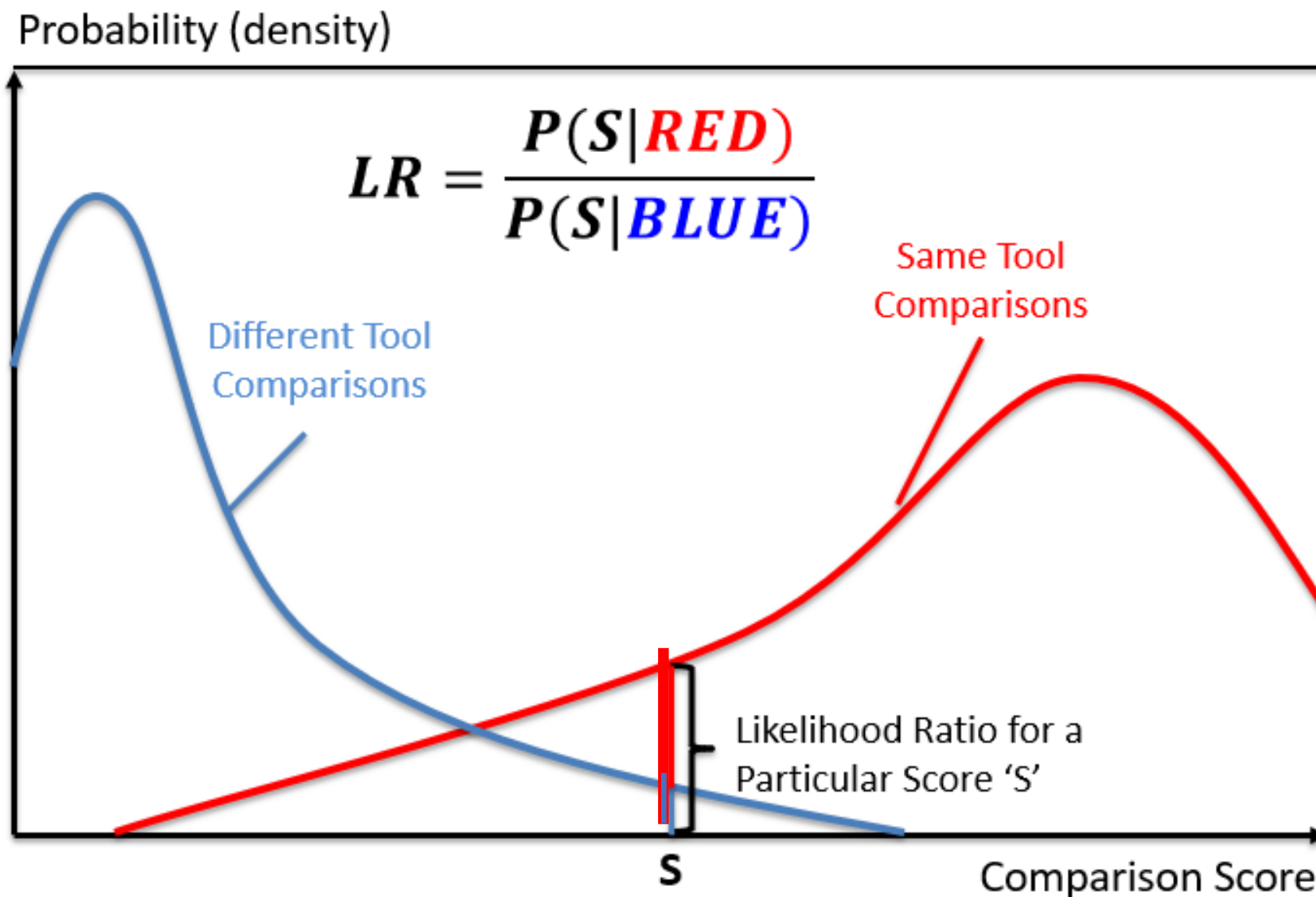
Perfect World



Error Rates



Likelihood Ratios



Relevant Populations



Relevant Populations



- An important assumption in the statistical models we use is that the background population is representative of the relevant population.
 - Similar to why you would never visually compare a Glock to a Hi-Point.
 - In our framework, putting a Glock correlation score in a Hi-Point background population is erroneous.
- The **RPDFT** is a database filled with pairwise correlations of ground truth results.
 - Each correlation result has its relevant meta data stored with it.
 - These meta data indexed results are pulled on demand to build the relevant population.

Hierarchical Meta Data

- The system tries to build relevant populations using class characteristics as specific as possible.
 - A minimum number (TBD) of data points are required before the distribution can be created.
 - If that minimum number can't be met, the system moves up a level in the hierarchy to satisfy the minimum data requirement.
 - Moving up the hierarchy could negatively affect your statistics due the loss of specificity.



Mfg: Glock
Model: G19
BF Mfg: Broach
FP Mfg: Turning
Barrel Mfg: Hammer Forge
of LEA: 6



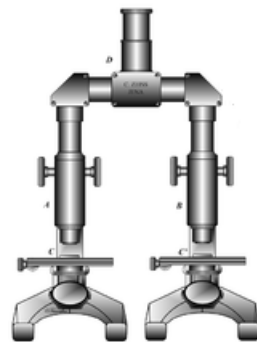
Mfg: Remington
Model: UMC
Caliber: 9 mm Luger
Primer Mat.: Nickel
Case Mat.: Brass

Bullet Weight: 115 Grain
Twist: Right
Surface Mat.: Copper

Workflow Example



Questioned Item



FA Examiner

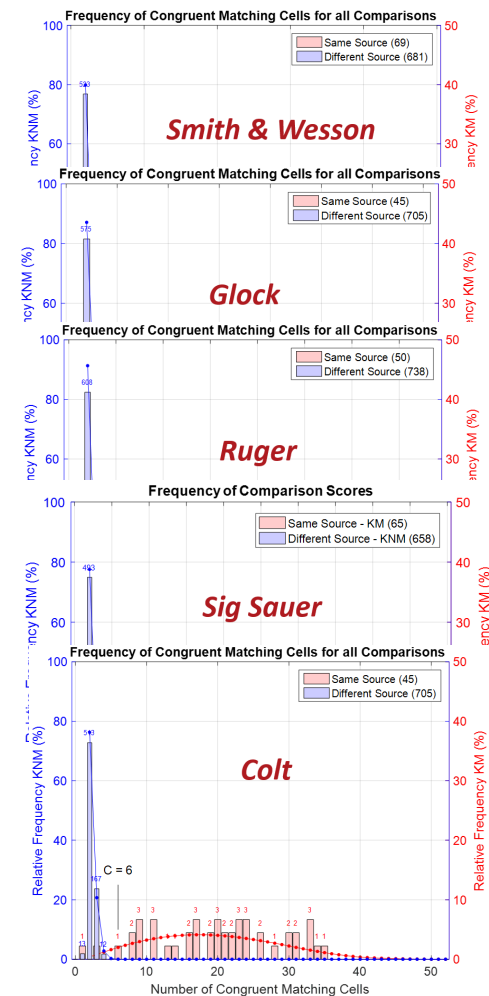
Suspect Firearm



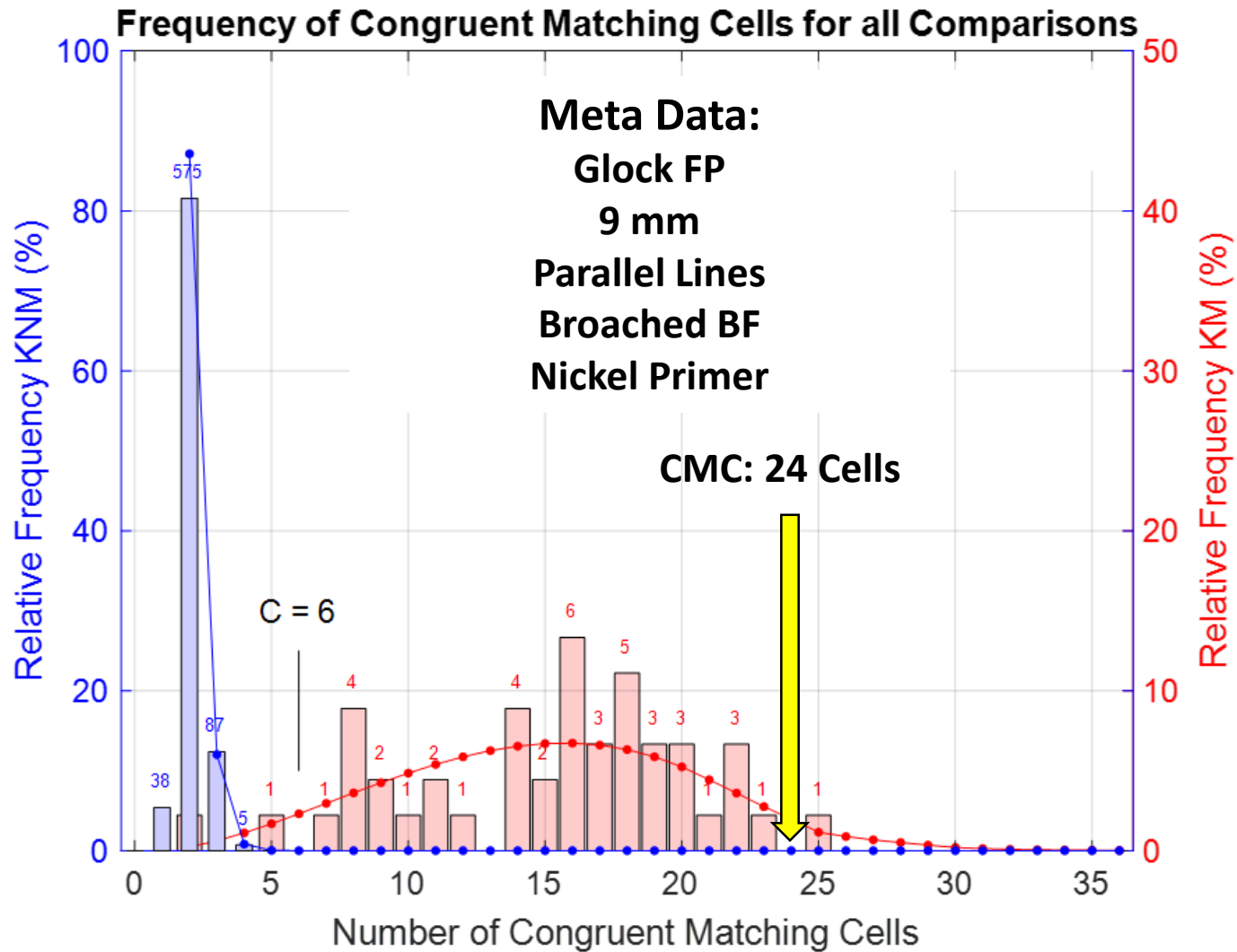
Correlation Algorithm

CMC Correlation Score:
24 Cells

RPDFT Distributions
Organized by Brand



Workflow Example



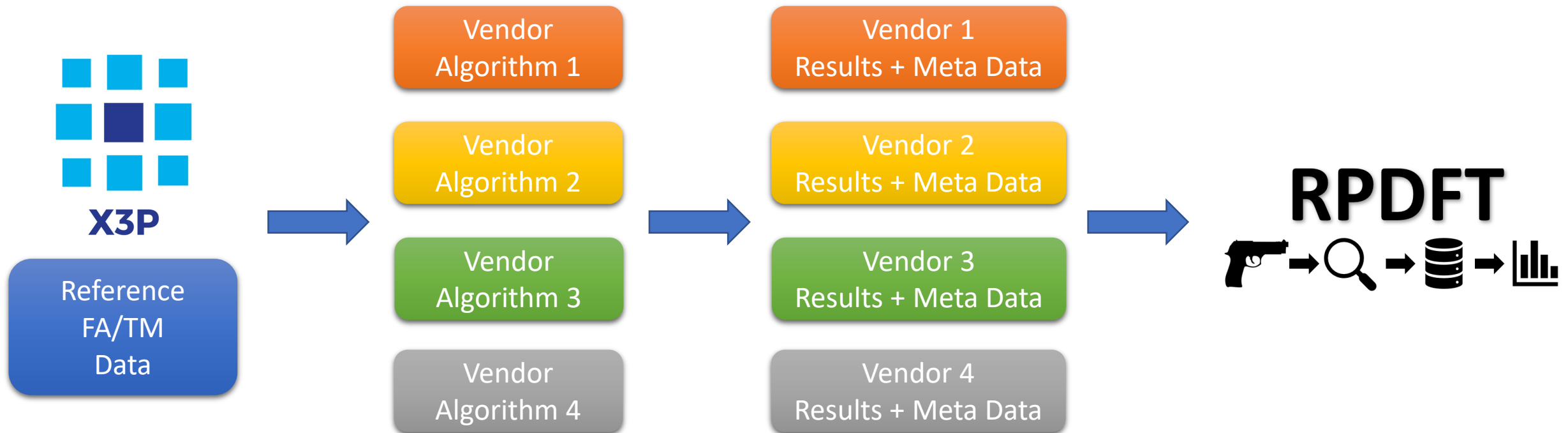
Statistics are then calculated based on the relevant population distributions

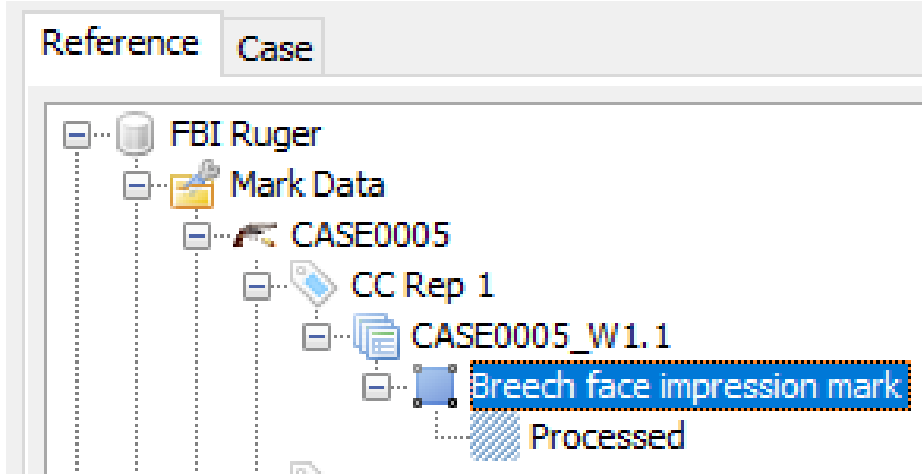
National Framework

- FBI with the aid of NIST and the TWG3D2T will maintain the reference data and distributions. Updates to the **RPDFT** will occur periodically based on need.
- Laboratories will submit their correlation result along with meta data to **RPDFT** and request the weight of evidence (WOE).
- **RPDFT** will pull the relevant population to build the background distribution and report WOE back to the requesting laboratory.



Commercial Vendor





Add new firearm

Name / item number:

Description:

Firearm type:

Firearm brand:

Firearm model:

Barrel manufacturing method:

Breach face manufacturing method:

Ejector manufacturing method:

Firing pin manufacturing method:

Caliber:

Serial number: Unknown

Number of lands:

Twist direction:

Rifling type:

Add cartridge case evidence

Name:

Description:

Primer material:

Casing material:

Caliber:

Brand:

Repetition:

Add dataset

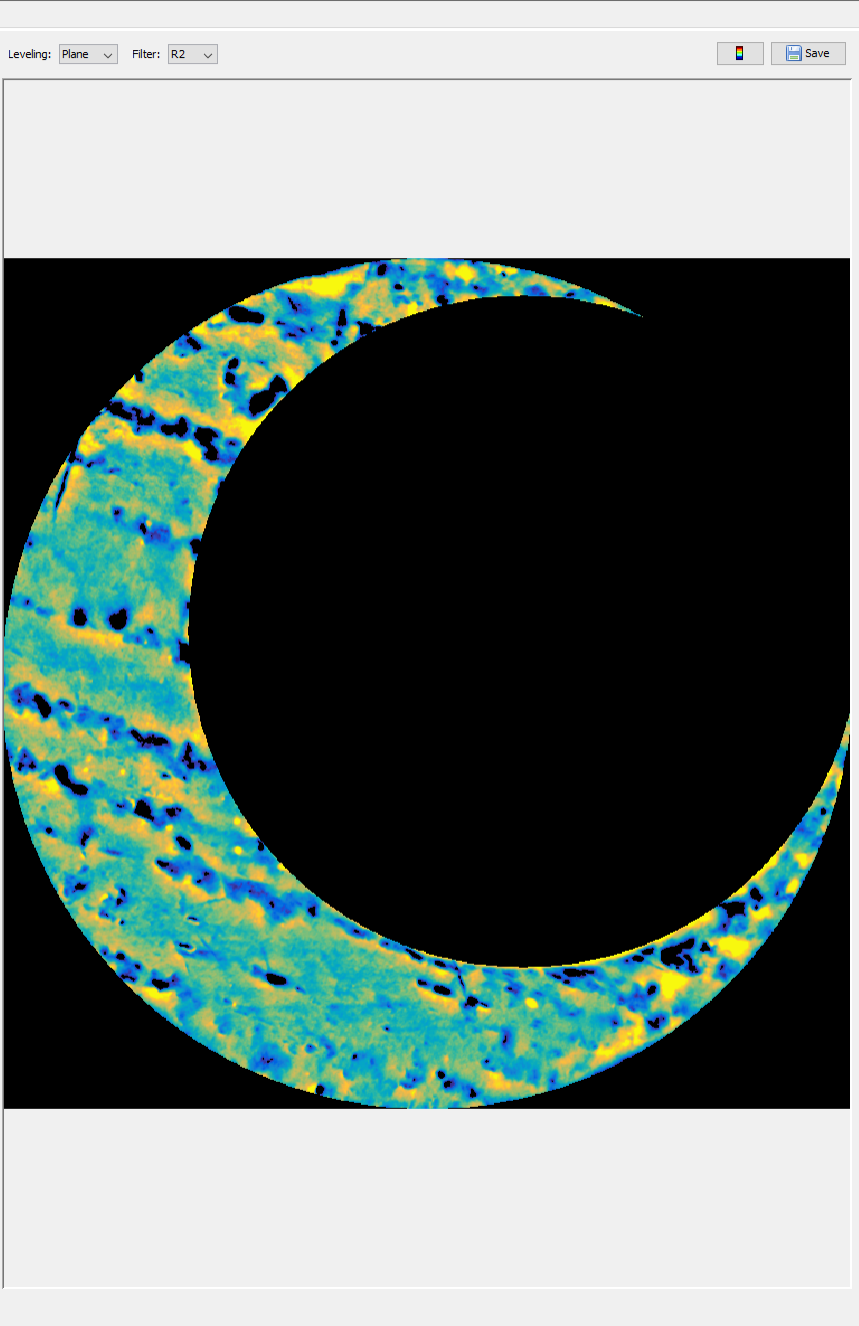
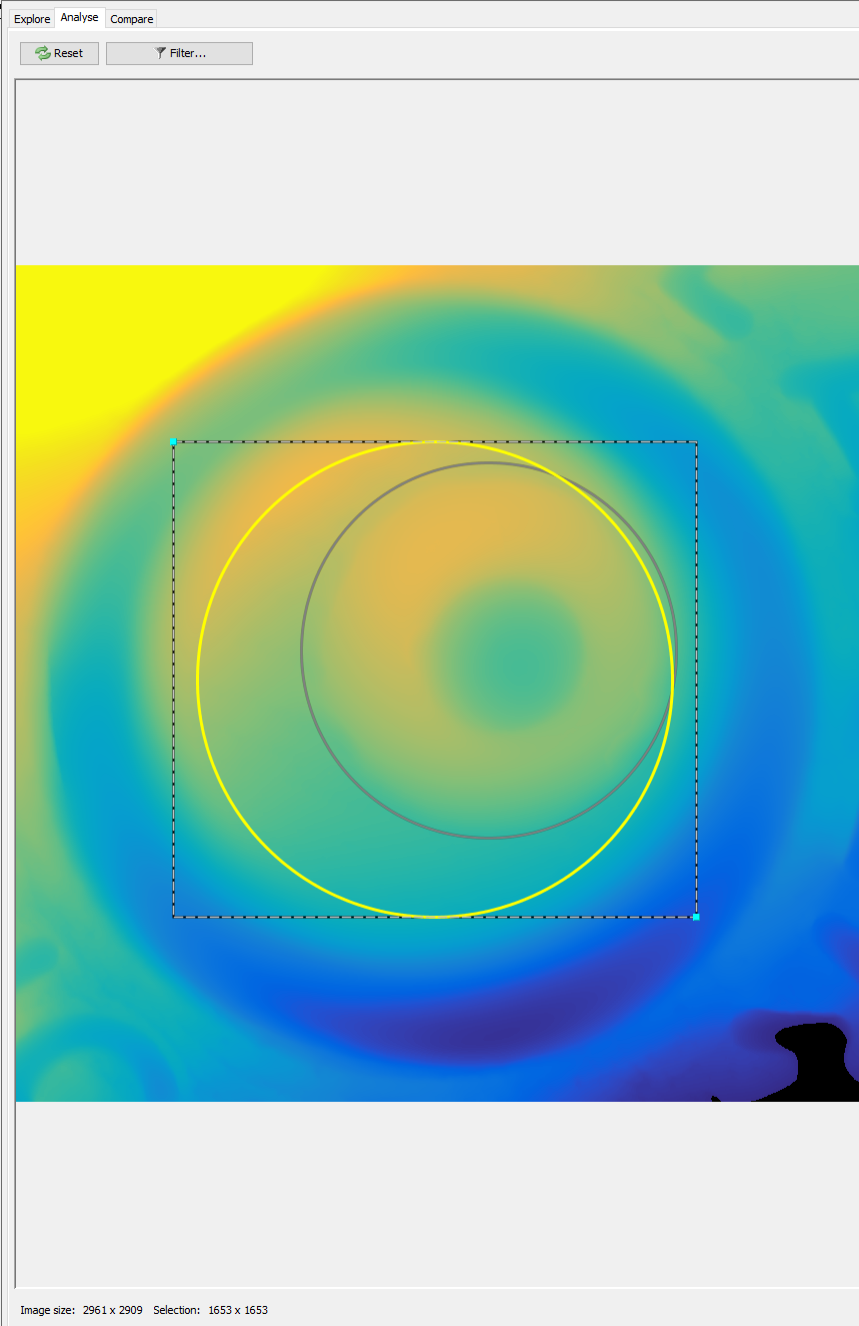
Name:

Description:

File:

Casting Material:

- Reference Case
- CASE0044
 - CASE0058
 - CASE0068
 - CASE0085
 - CASE0101
 - CASE0106
 - CASE0123
 - CASE0130
 - D1055
 - D1098
 - D1110
 - D1114
 - D1122
 - D1167
 - D1183
 - D1195
 - D1204
 - D1225
 - D1280
 - D1300
 - D1303
 - D1389
 - D1495
 - CC Rep 1
 - D1495_CC1**
 - Breach face impression mark
 - CC Rep 2
 - CC Rep 3
 - CC Rep 4
 - CC Rep 5
 - CC Rep 6
 - CC Rep 6_1
 - CC Rep 6_2
 - CC Rep 7
 - CC Rep 8
 - CC Rep 9
 - D1519
 - D1524
 - D1537
 - D1631
 - D1656
 - D1703
 - D1707
 - D1757
 - D1781
 - D1902
 - D1925
 - D1978
 - D1993
 - D1993_CB1
 - D1993_CB10
 - D1993_CB11
 - D1993_CB12
 - D1993_CB2
 - D1993_CB3
 - D1993_CB4
 - D1993_CB5
 - D1993_CB6
 - D1993_CB7
 - D1993_CB8
 - D1993_CB9
 - D1994
 - D2007
 - D2025
 - D2030
 - D2045
 - D2108
 - DISP0023
 - DISP0041
 - DISP0045
 - DISP0062
 - DISP0064
 - DISP0068
 - DISP0088
 - DISP0090
 - DISP0099
 - DISP0114
 - Mark Comparison Results
 - Glock
 - Ruger



Processing parameters

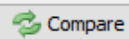
Name	Value
angle accuracy	0.1
cut borders after smooth...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
extra sub samp	4.0
image subsampling	1.0
index subsampling	5.0
interpolate data	<input type="checkbox"/>
median fit size	10.0
recal	<input type="checkbox"/>
sampling	2000.0
shape noise removal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
slope correction	0.0
times median	15.0
use mean	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Restore Defaults

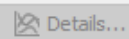
Mask layers

Shape	Background
<input type="radio"/> Circle	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Circle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

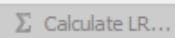
Add Remove



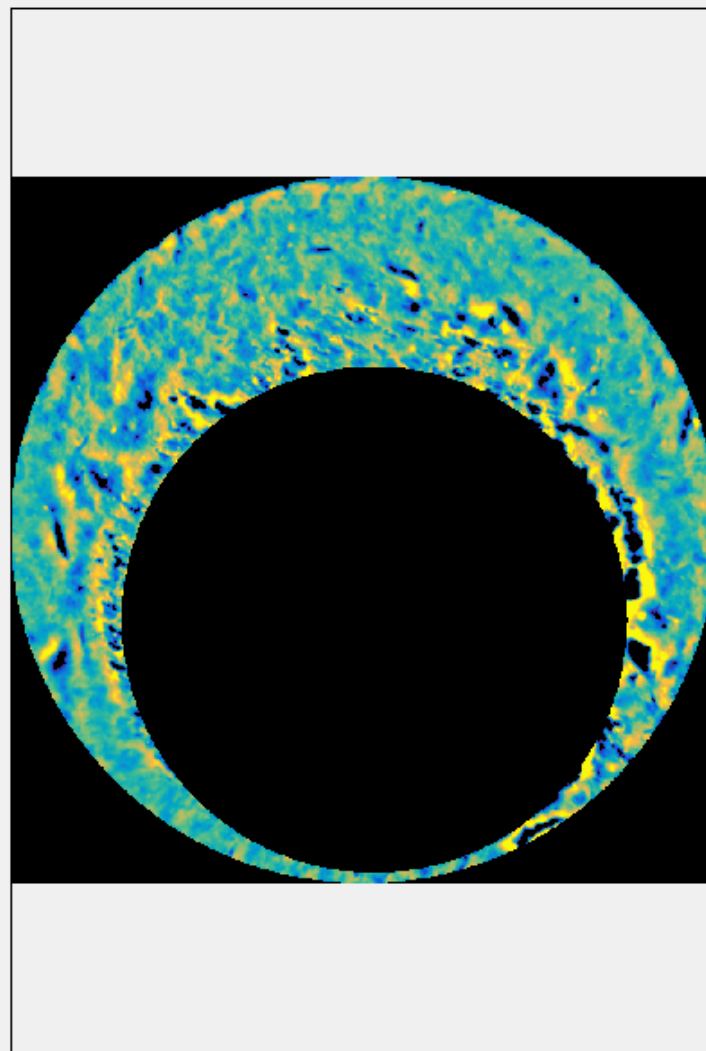
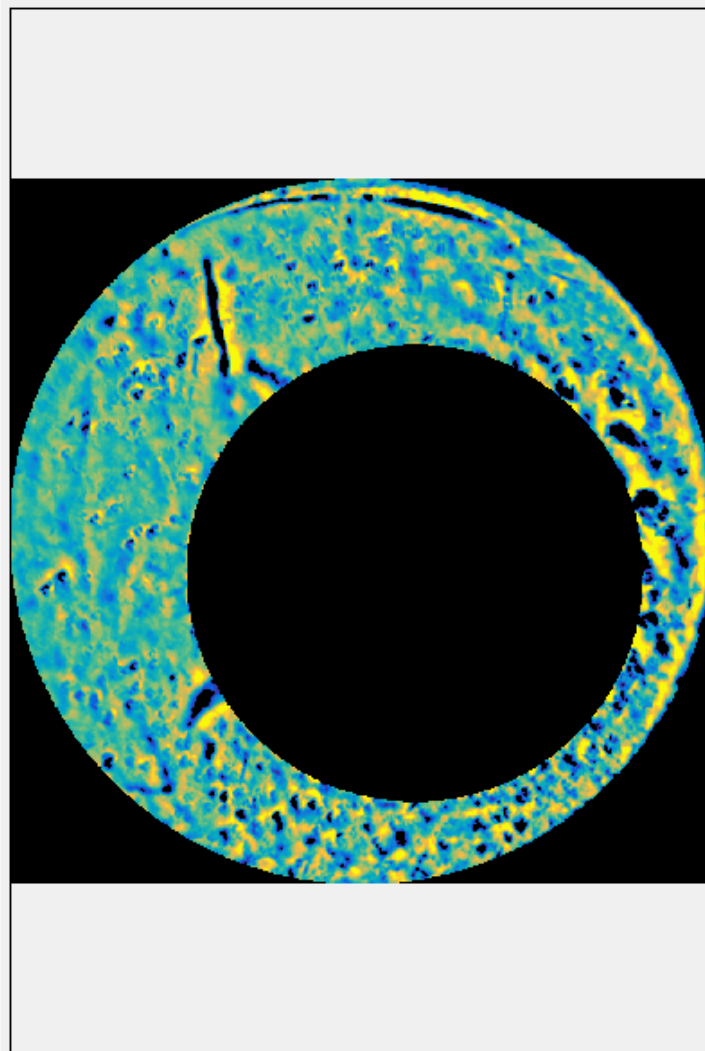
Compare



Details...



Calculate LR...



Registration parameters

Striation Impression

Name	Value
cut border after smoothin...	<input type="checkbox"/>
filtertype	lowpass
inclusion threshold	0.5
max scaling	3.0
max translation	0.1
part mark perc	8.0
partial comp brute force	<input type="checkbox"/>
partial profile comp scale ...	1.0
partial profiles eval scales	[[250.0]; [100.0]; [50.0];...
pass	[[250.0]; [100.0]; [50.0];...
remove zeros	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Restore Defaults

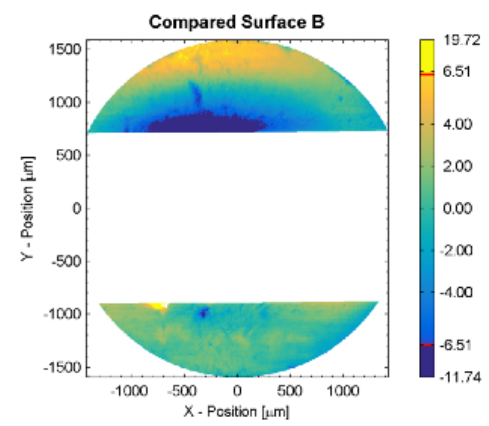
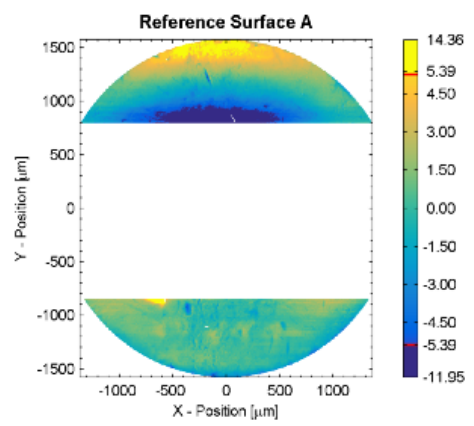
- Mark Data
 - CASE0005
 - CASE0008
 - CASE0012
 - CASE0016
 - CC Rep 1
 - CASE0016_W1.1
 - Breach face impression mar
 - Processed
 - CC Rep 1_1
 - CASE0016_W1.2
 - Breach face impression mar
 - Processed
 - CC Rep 1_2
 - CASE0020
 - CASE0023
 - CASE0041
 - CASE0044
 - CASE0058
 - CASE0068
 - CASE0085
 - CASE0101
 - CASE0106
 - CASE0123
 - CASE0130
 - D1055
 - D1098
 - D1110
 - D1114
 - D1122
 - D1167
 - D1183
 - D1195
 - D1204
 - D1225
 - D1280
 - D1300
 - D1303
 - D1389
 - D1495
 - D1519
 - D1524
 - D1537

Reference Surface (A)

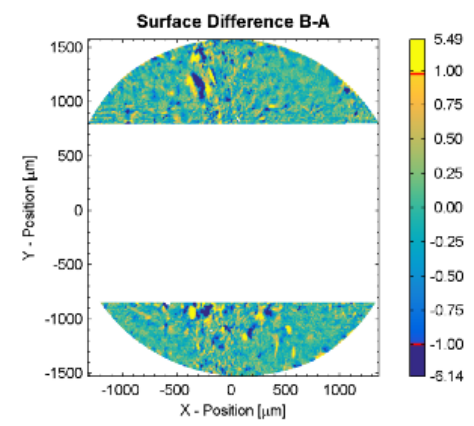
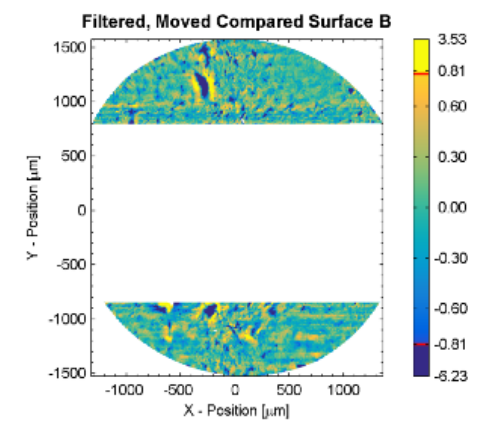
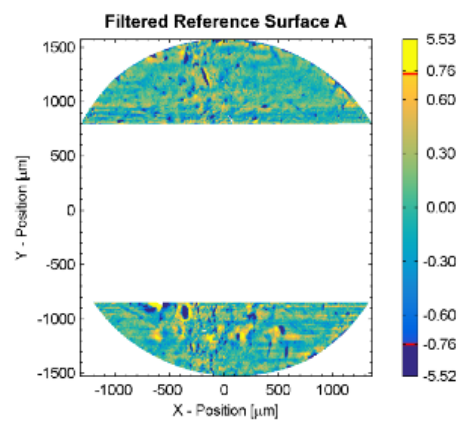
Collection:	Firearm ID:
Firearm Brand:	Specimen ID:

Compared Surface (B)

Collection:	Firearm ID:
Firearm Brand:	Specimen ID:



Date comparison:	2020-10-05
ROI:	
Correlation Coefficient:	20.08 %
Sq(A):	0.3811 μm
Sq(B):	0.4056 μm
Sq(B-A):	0.4976 μm
Sq(B) / Sq(A):	106.4358 %
Sign. Diff. DsAB:	160.23 %
Overlap:	94.19 %
Data spacing (X):	3.5003 μm
Data spacing (Y):	3.5002 μm
Cutoff length low-pass filter:	15 μm
Cutoff length high-pass filter:	250 μm



Scratch, Research only, 2020-04-26

Create score distribution [X]

General filter options

Mark category: Impression marks Striation marks

Mark type:

Pooling method: Firearm brand Manufacturing method

Mark-specific filter options

Firearm brand:

Firearm model:

Caliber:

Rifling type:

Ammunition brand:

Material (primer):

Casting material:

Breechface class:

Additional options

Saved KM scores:	180
New KM scores:	0

Calculate KM scores

Saved KNM scores:	1265
New KNM scores:	5695

Calculate KNM scores



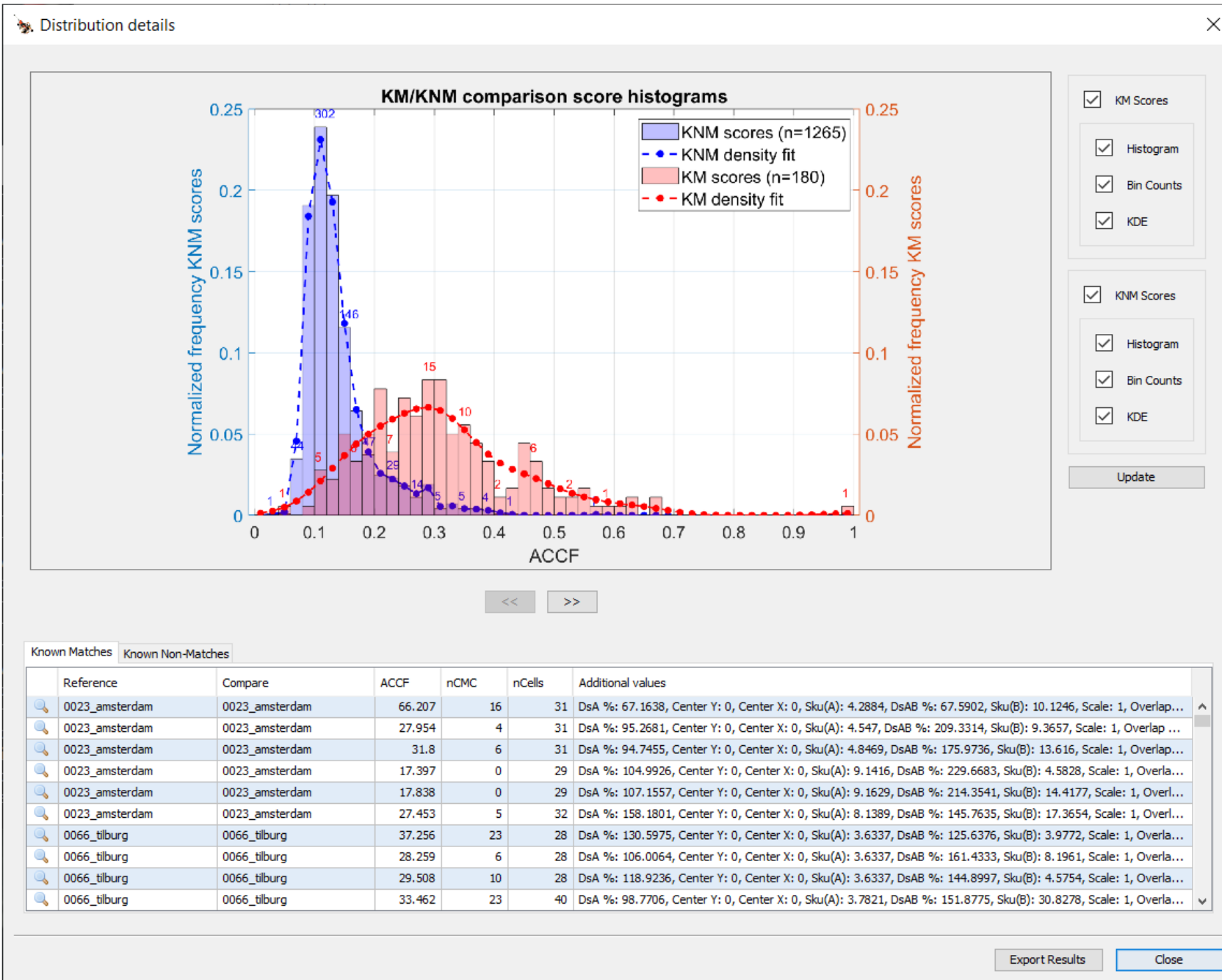
Toolmark Type Selection



Mark Specific Class Characteristics
Firearm and Ammunition



Database statistics for # of KM and
KNM based on filter set above



Distribution details

KM/KNM comparison score histograms

- KNM scores (n=1265)
- KNM density fit
- KM scores (n=180)
- KM density fit

KM Scores

 Histogram

 Bin Counts

 KDE

KNM Scores

 Histogram

 Bin Counts

 KDE

Known Matches Known Non-Matches

	Reference	Compare	ACCF	nCMC	nCells	Additional values
	0023_amsterdam	0023_amsterdam	66.207	16	31	DsA %: 67.1638, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 4.2884, DsAB %: 67.5902, Sku(B): 10.1246, Scale: 1, Overlap...
	0023_amsterdam	0023_amsterdam	27.954	4	31	DsA %: 95.2681, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 4.547, DsAB %: 209.3314, Sku(B): 9.3657, Scale: 1, Overlap ...
	0023_amsterdam	0023_amsterdam	31.8	6	31	DsA %: 94.7455, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 4.8469, DsAB %: 175.9736, Sku(B): 13.616, Scale: 1, Overlap...
	0023_amsterdam	0023_amsterdam	17.397	0	29	DsA %: 104.9926, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 9.1416, DsAB %: 229.6683, Sku(B): 4.5828, Scale: 1, Overla...
	0023_amsterdam	0023_amsterdam	17.838	0	29	DsA %: 107.1557, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 9.1629, DsAB %: 214.3541, Sku(B): 14.4177, Scale: 1, Overl...
	0023_amsterdam	0023_amsterdam	27.453	5	32	DsA %: 158.1801, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 8.1389, DsAB %: 145.7635, Sku(B): 17.3654, Scale: 1, Overl...
	0066_tilburg	0066_tilburg	37.256	23	28	DsA %: 130.5975, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 3.6337, DsAB %: 125.6376, Sku(B): 3.9772, Scale: 1, Overla...
	0066_tilburg	0066_tilburg	28.259	6	28	DsA %: 106.0064, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 3.6337, DsAB %: 161.4333, Sku(B): 8.1961, Scale: 1, Overla...
	0066_tilburg	0066_tilburg	29.508	10	28	DsA %: 118.9236, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 3.6337, DsAB %: 144.8997, Sku(B): 4.5754, Scale: 1, Overla...
	0066_tilburg	0066_tilburg	33.462	23	40	DsA %: 98.7706, Center Y: 0, Center X: 0, Sku(A): 3.7821, DsAB %: 151.8775, Sku(B): 30.8278, Scale: 1, Overla...

Milestones



- **Test Database Population**
 - Initial target populations will only include Glock and Ruger firearms.
 - Currently there are 393 Glock, 314 Ruger Firearms entered into the database.
- **Data Pre-Processing and Ground Truth Correlations**
 - Approximately 80% of the data has been trimmed and filtered, ready for correlations.
 - Over 3000 KM scores can be generated. A subset of the total # of KNM scores will be used.
- **Statistics**
 - NIST, FBI, and NFI statisticians have had an initial meeting to discuss strategies for statistical model fits, LR calculations, and given sample data.
 - Nien-fan Zhang and James Yen at NIST are currently conducting tests on the sample data.

Future Milestones



- **Complete software development**
 - Complete implementation of requirements in the software development process.
 - Testing and validation of routines and results.
 - Implement full statistical reporting package.
- **Reference Database population**
 - Conduct reference population measurements at the FBI.
 - Implement a full QA protocol for their 3D instrument.
- **Parameter Optimization**
 - Optimize correlation and analysis parameters to suit sub-populations.
- **Pilot test at FBI**
 - The completed RPDFT system will be pilot tested at the FBI using old case work and proficiency test sets.
 - Pilot RPDFT with FBI web portal for external laboratories to gain access.

Questions?

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Johannes Soons (NIST) johannes.soons@nist.gov

Erich Smith (FBI) edsmith2@fbi.gov

Martin Baiker (NFI) m.baiker@nfi.nl

Digital Preservation of the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Bullet Artifacts



**Project Team: Robert M. Thompson, T. Brian Renegar, Michael Stocker,
Alan Zheng, Johannes Soons**

Certain commercial equipment, instruments, or materials are identified in this presentation in order to specify the experimental procedures adequately.

Such identification is not intended to imply recommendation or endorsement by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, nor is it intended to imply that the materials or equipment identified are necessarily the best available for the purpose.

Overview

- **Project background (What was needed? Why NIST?)**
- **Phase 1**
 - **Photography**
 - **3D LEA/GEA Scans (Confocal)**
- **Phase 2**
 - **3D surface scans (Focus Variation)**
 - **Complete 3D Surface Models including surface color**
- **Phase 3**
 - **Data Processing and Merging**
 - **Transfer to NARA**
- **Preview of 3D Surface Models**

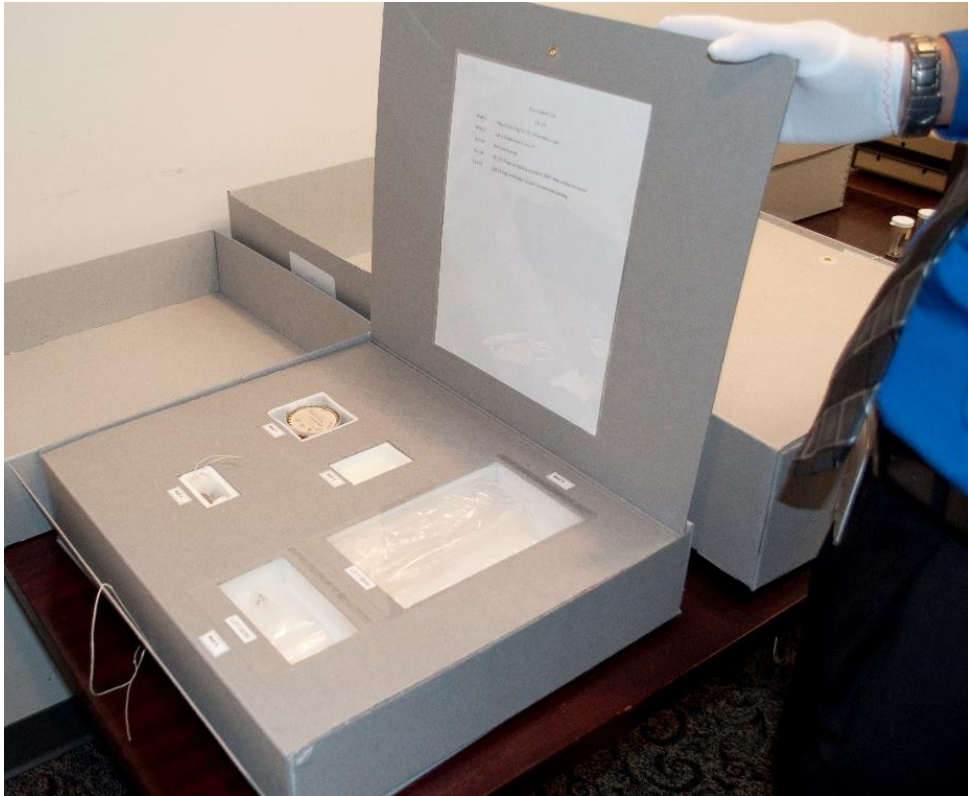
Project Motivation

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) receives numerous requests for access to the physical JFK assassination artifacts

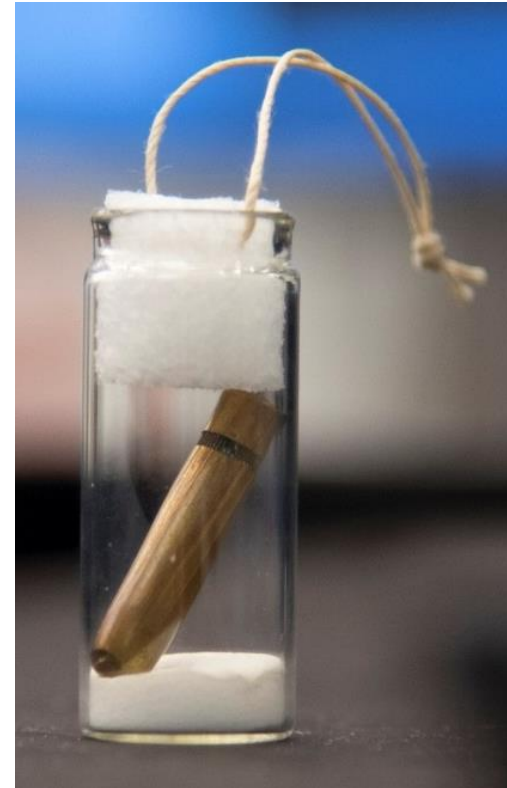
1. Digitally preserve the artifacts (56 years old!)
2. Facilitate access to the general public



NARA, College Park, MD



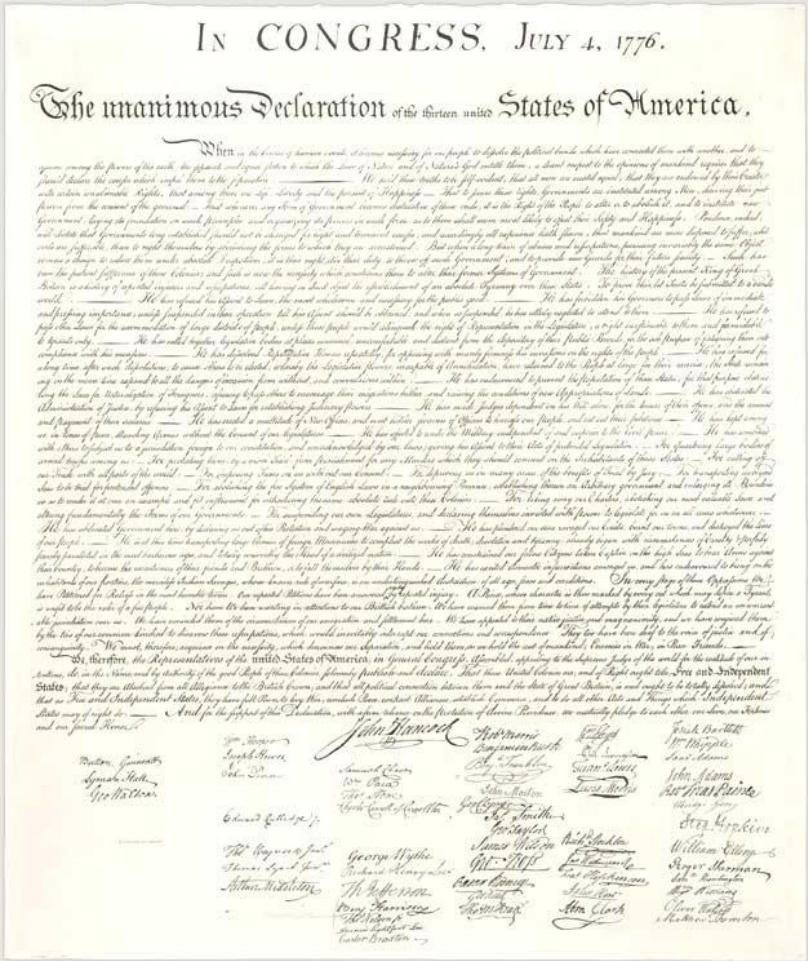
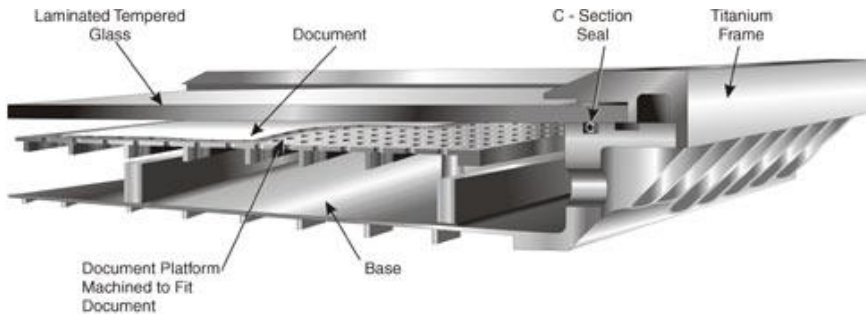
Several JFK artifacts in their protective case



CE399 (Stretcher Bullet)

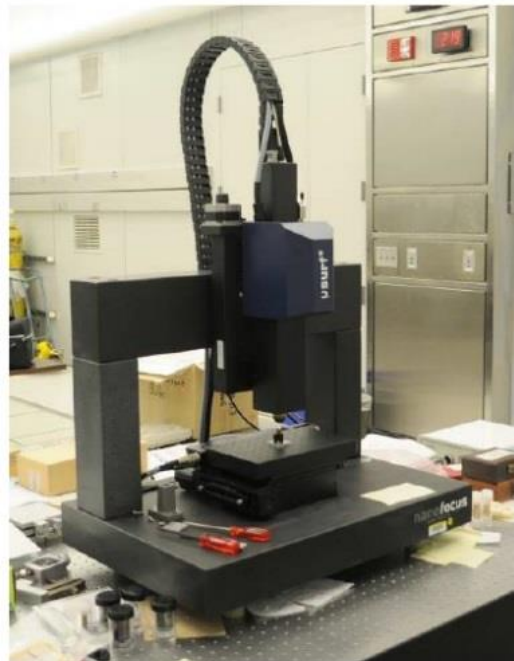


NIST Technology in Artifact Preservation

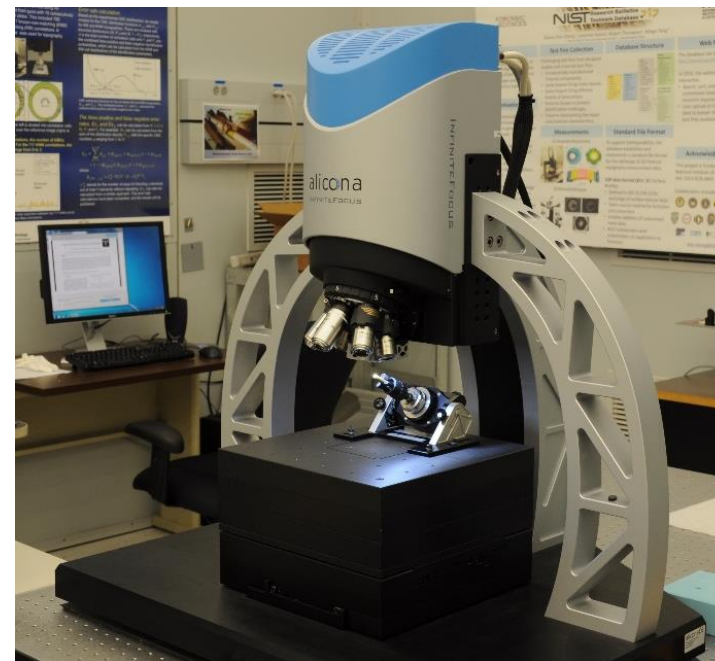


NIST Technology in Artifact Preservation

- State of the art 3D surface imaging microscopes
 - Confocal
 - Focus Variation
- Expertise in surface topography measurements
- Expertise in Forensic Science



NanoFocus μ surf - Confocal

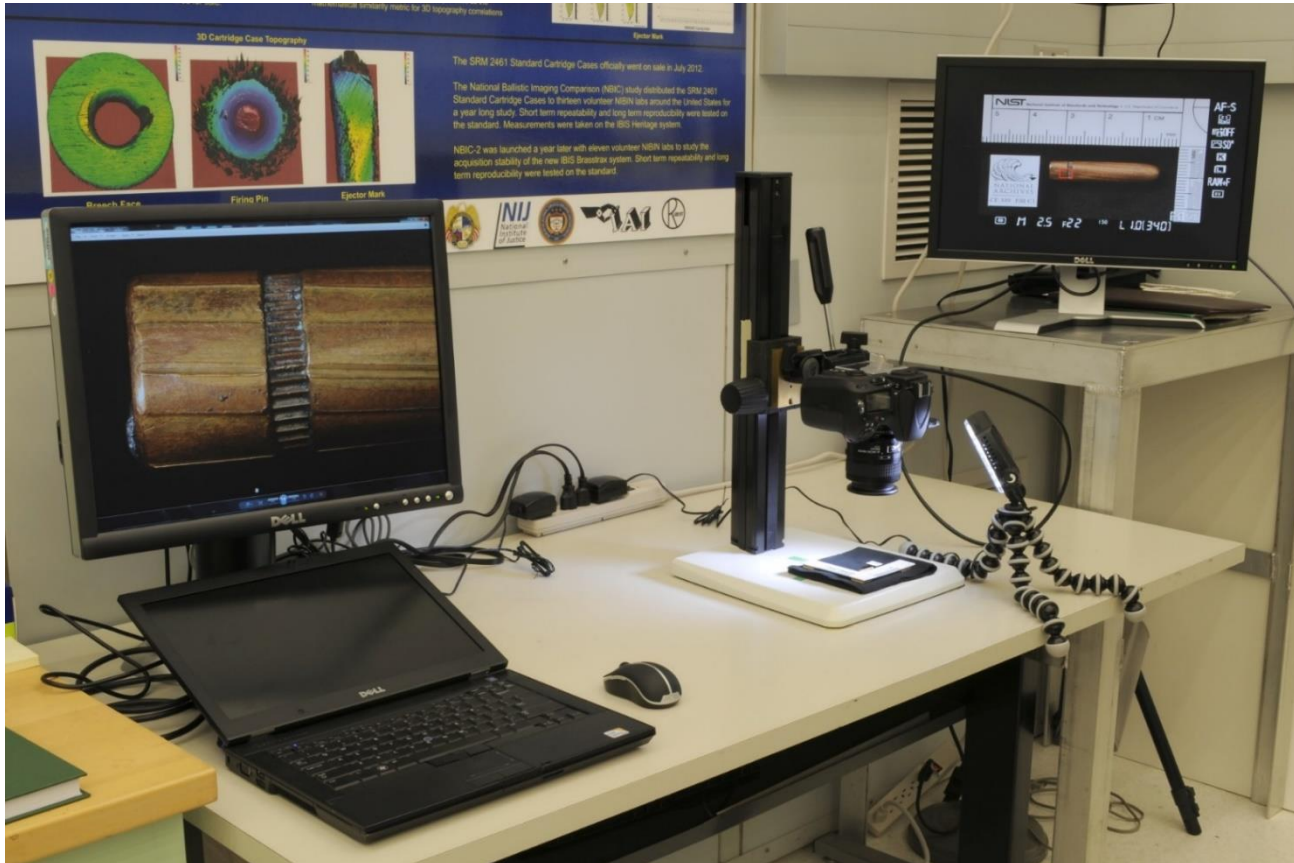


Alicona Infinite Focus G5 – Focus Variation

Phase 1 (2013 - 2014)

- **Scans of 6 bullet/fragment artifacts**
- **Digital Photography**
- **Film “analog” Photography**
- **Confocal Microscopy**
 - **3D Scans of forensically relevant areas -
Land Engraved Areas/Groove Engraved
Areas (LEA/GEA)**

Digital Camera Setup



- Captured image review station (left)
- Camera setup on microscope stand (center)
- Live video feed from camera (right)



Overhead view of camera station

Camera Setup

Digital Photography (Renegar)

- Camera Nikon D800 (**36 Megapixel**) – FX Full Frame mode
 - White Balance Manual - 5560K
 - ISO 100
 - Lens Nikon AF Micro-Nikkor 60 mm, f/2.8
 - Exposure Mode Manual
 - Release Electronic Remote Trigger
 - Mount Copy stand (microscope mount)
 - Lighting LED arrays
 - Image format High res JPG & Raw (.NEF)
-

Film Photography (Thompson)

- Camera Nikon FE
- Film Kodak Ektar 100
- ISO 100
- Lens Nikon AF Micro-Nikkor 105 mm, f/2.8
- Exposure f/11 at 1/4 sec - 1/8 sec
- Lighting (4) Flood; Daylight Spectrum



Renegar w/ digital setup



Thompson w/ film setup

Procedure for Digital Photography

- Each day Color & Grayscale Calibration
- Calibrated X-Y scale bars in all shots, NIST & NARA logos
- Photograph each artifact from each position/orientation
 - Pristine bullets
 - All 4 LEAs and 4 GEAs photographed
(Scribe marks from previous forensic examiners are visible!)
 - Nose & Base
 - Fragments
 - Top and bottom photographed
 - Different focal planes taken to capture all features
- Exposure bracketing (EV)
 - up to 5 shots each pose (-0.7, -0.3, 0, +0.3, +0.7)

Over 375 images
captured

Assassination Ballistic Artifacts



<u>Exhibit #</u>	<u>Description</u>
CE399	“Stretcher Bullet”
CE567	Nose fragment recovered from Presidential vehicle
CE569	Base fragment recovered from Presidential vehicle
CE572-A	Test Fire from recovered Carcano 6.5mm rifle
CE572-B	Test Fire from recovered Carcano 6.5mm rifle
CE573	“Walker Bullet” recovered from General Walker’s house

Assassination Ballistic Artifacts



<u>Exhibit #</u>	<u>Description</u>
CE399	“Stretcher Bullet”
CE567	Nose fragment recovered from Presidential vehicle
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CE572-B	Test Fire from recovered Carcano 6.5mm rifle
CE573	“Walker Bullet” recovered from General Walker’s house

Assassination Ballistic Artifacts



Exhibit

CE399

CE567

CE569

CE572-A

CE572-B

CE573

Description

“Stretcher Bullet”

Nose fragment recovered from Presidential vehicle

Base fragment recovered from Presidential vehicle

Test Fire from recovered Carcano 6.5mm rifle

Test Fire from recovered Carcano 6.5mm rifle

“Walker Bullet” recovered from General Walker’s house

Assassination Ballistic Artifacts



Exhibit

Description

CE399

“Stretcher Bullet”

CE567

Nose fragment recovered from Presidential vehicle

CE569

Base fragment recovered from Presidential vehicle

CE572-A

Test Fire from recovered Carcano 6.5mm rifle

CE572-B

Test Fire from recovered Carcano 6.5mm rifle

CE573

“Walker Bullet” recovered from General Walker’s house

Assassination Ballistic Artifacts



<u>Exhibit #</u>	<u>Description</u>
CE399	“Stretcher Bullet”
CE567	Nose fragment recovered from Presidential vehicle
CE569	Base fragment recovered from Presidential vehicle
CE572-A	Test Fire from recovered Carcano 6.5mm rifle
CE572-B	Test Fire from recovered Carcano 6.5mm rifle
CE573	“Walker Bullet” recovered from General Walker’s house (7 months prior to JFK assassination)

CE399 “Stretcher Bullet”



NIST image 2013

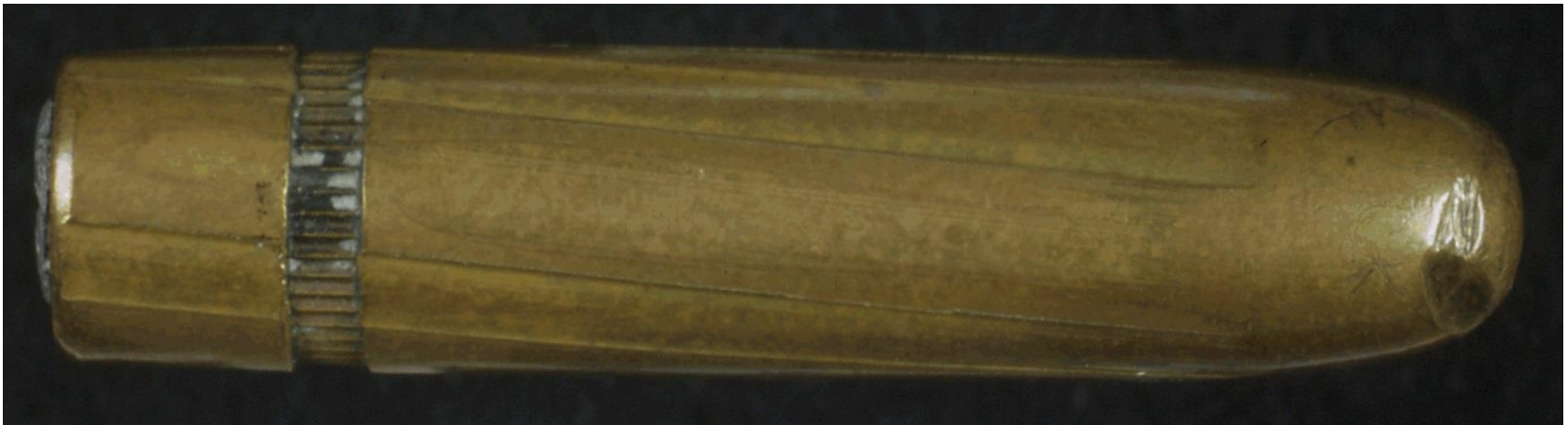


Current image of CE399 available to public on several internet sites (NARA image, circa 1985)

CE399 “Stretcher Bullet”



NIST image (Digital capture, 2013)



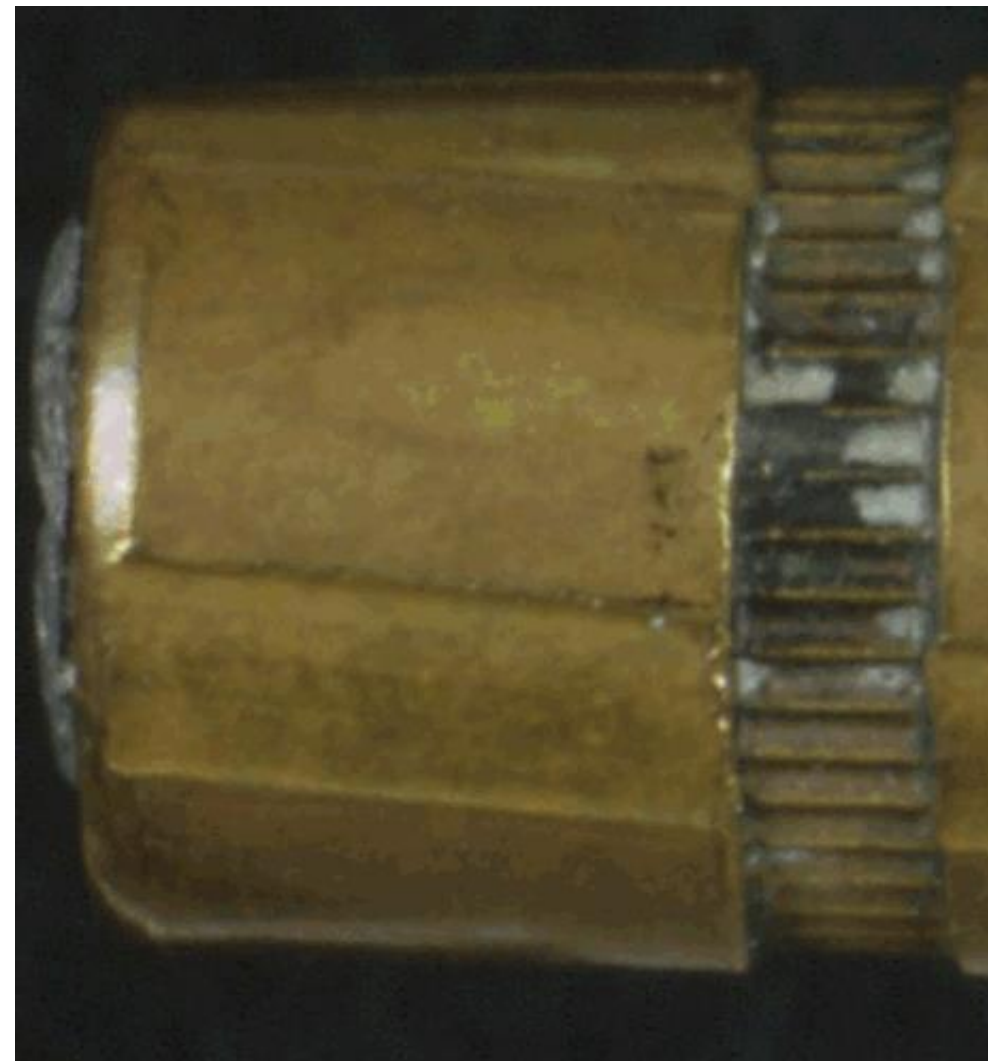
Existing NARA image (Film/scanned, 1985)

CE399 "Stretcher Bullet"

Close-up showing level of detail



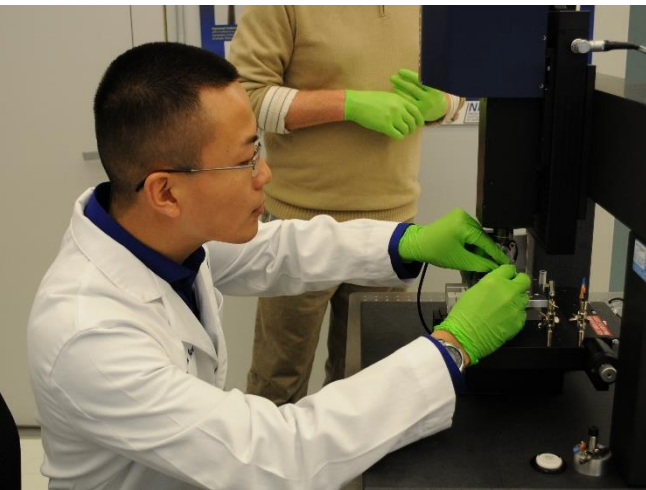
NIST (2013)



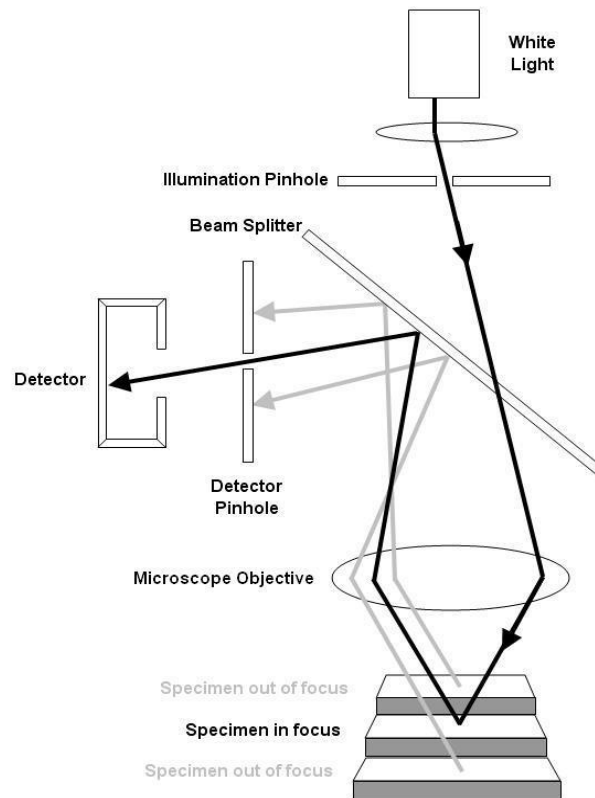
NARA (1985)

3D Scans of Forensically Relevant Areas – Confocal Microscopy

- Objective is scanned vertically through focus. Image “Slices” are captured at specific intervals.
- Pinhole apertures are used to reject out of focus light
- Computer calculates Z height of each pixel based on intensity distribution through slices.



Zheng mounting CE572-A for measurement
on confocal microscope



ASME B46.1-2019



NanoFocus μsurf Disc-scanning confocal

3D Scans of Forensically Relevant Areas – Confocal Microscopy

Shaded areas indicate regions that were scanned



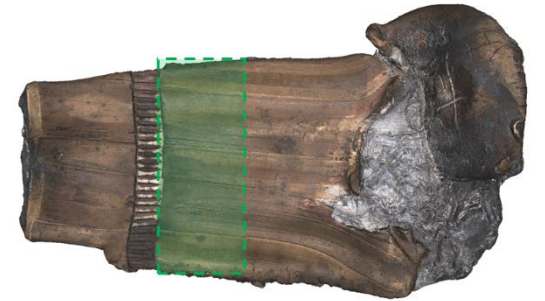
CE399 (stretcher)
CE572-A (test fire)
CE572-B (test fire)



CE567 (nose frag)



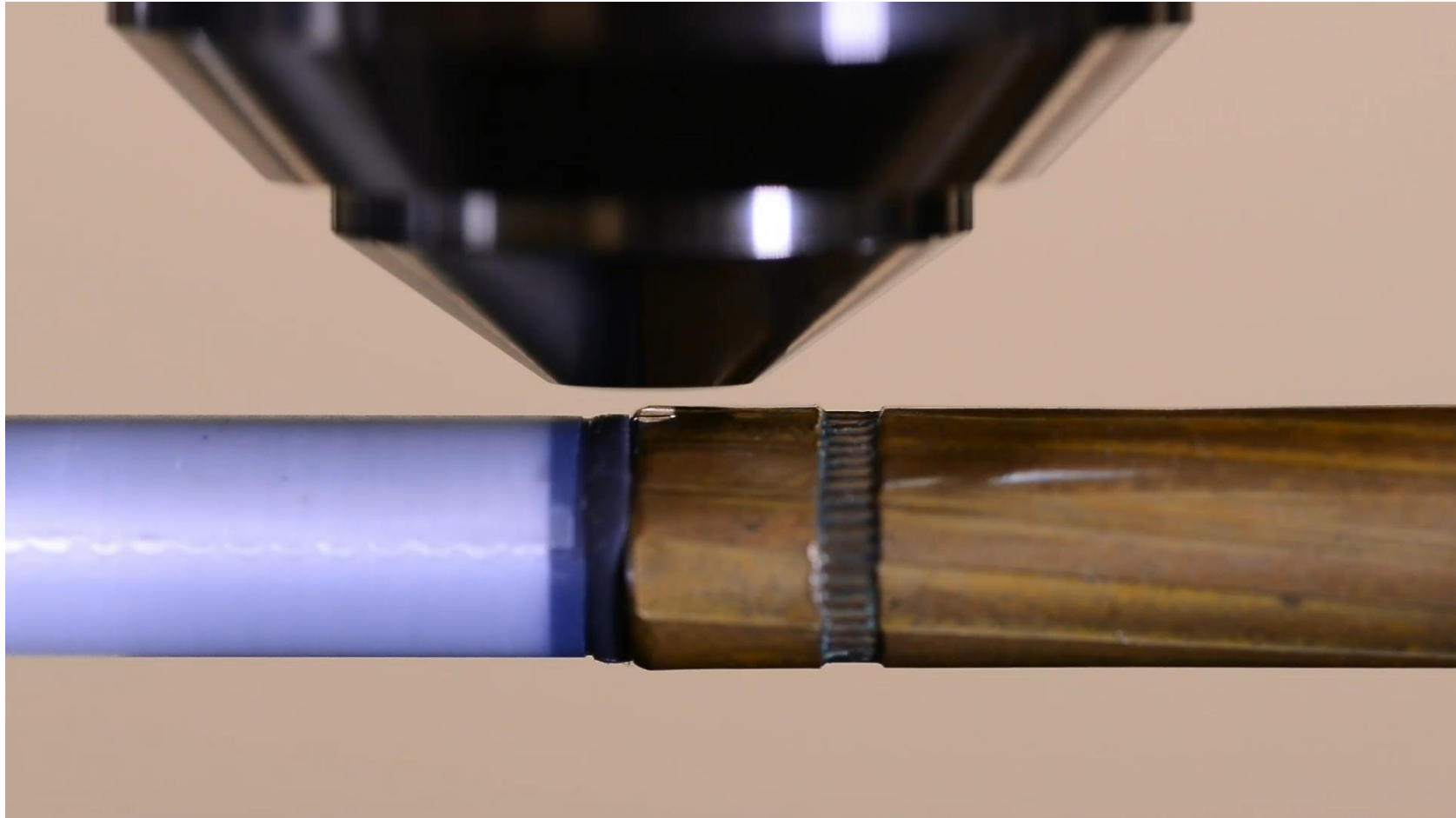
CE569 (base frag)



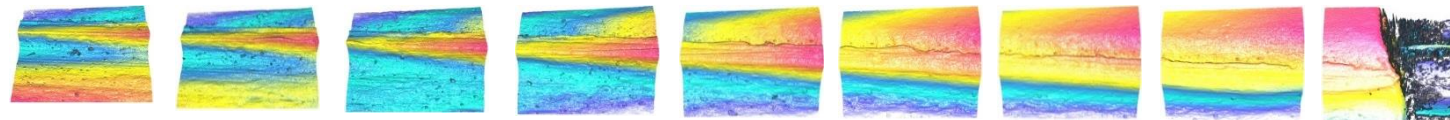
CE573 (walker)

3D Scans of Forensically Relevant Areas – Confocal Microscopy

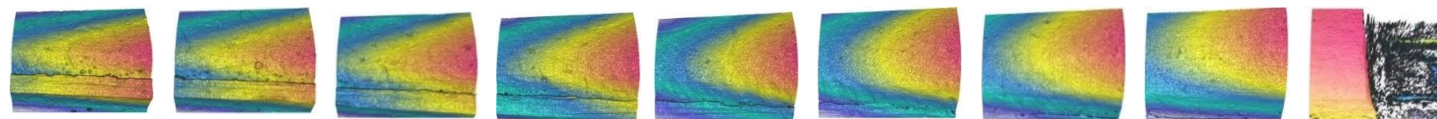
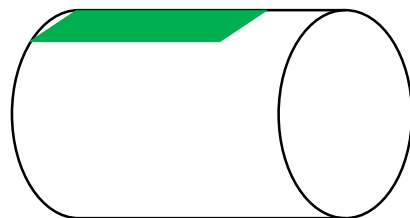
Time-lapse of CE399 Measurement Strip: 9 images stitched together – 32X Speed



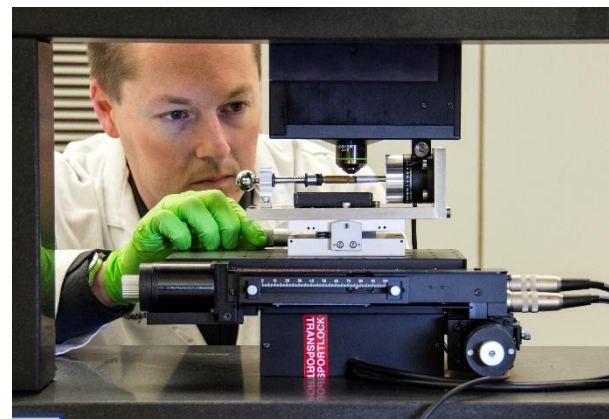
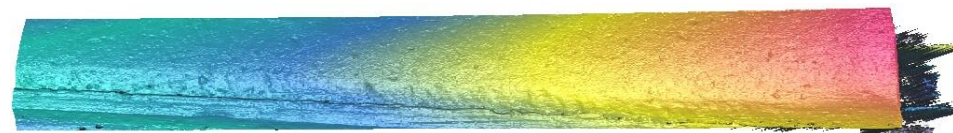
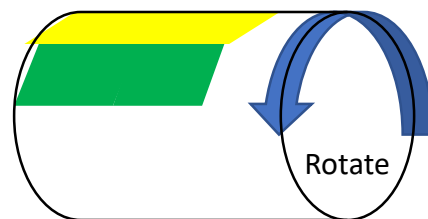
Rotary Stage Animation



Position 1 Complete

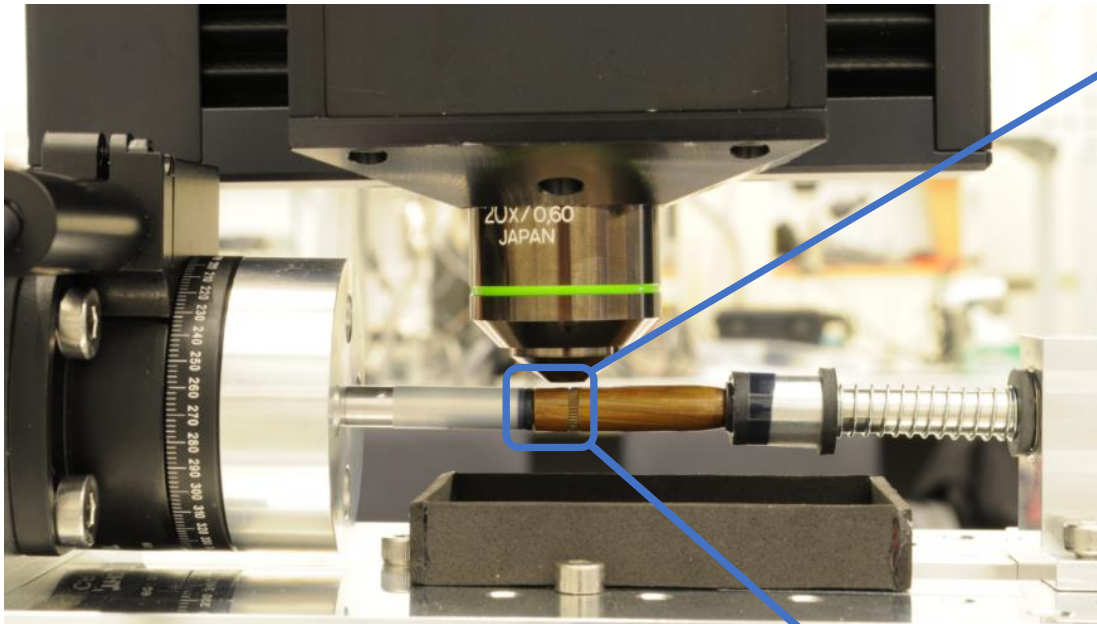


Position 2 Complete



Renegar aligning CE399 for measurement

3D Scans of Forensically Relevant Areas – Confocal Microscopy



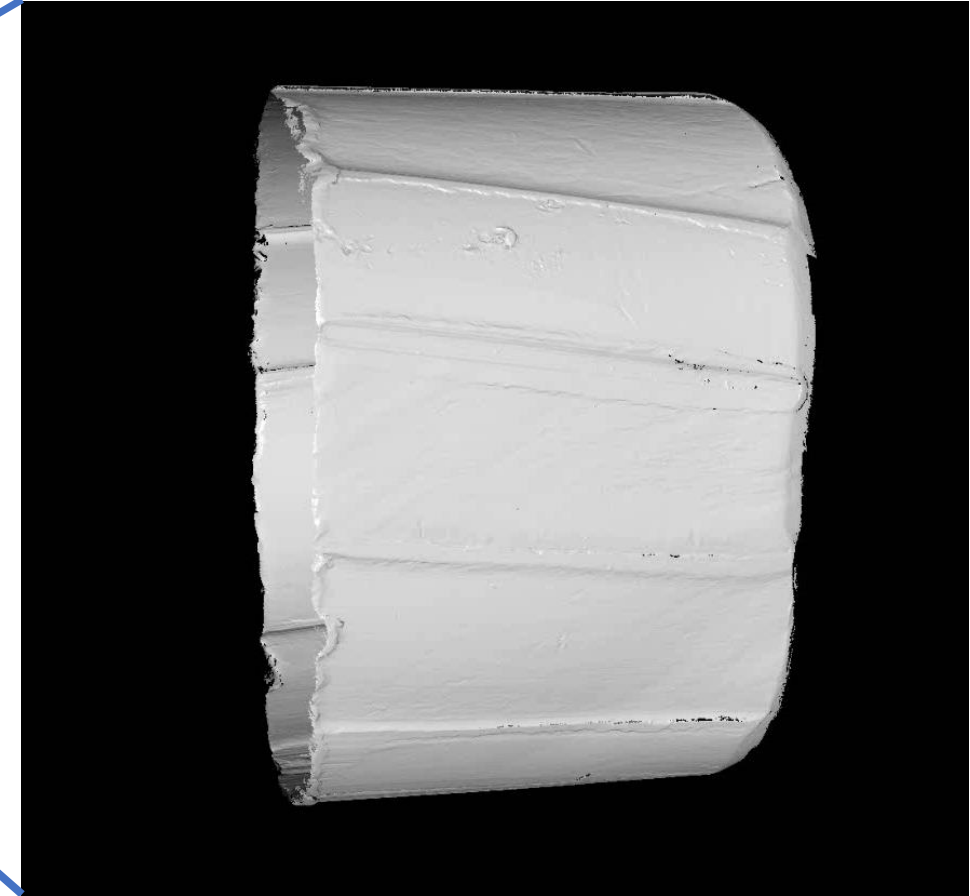
Confocal microscope scanning CE399

20X Objective

- CE399 (stretcher)
- CE572-A (test fire)
- CE572-B (test fire)
- CE573 (walker)

10X Objective

- CE567 (nose frag)
- CE569 (base frag)



3D Render of CE399 after merge

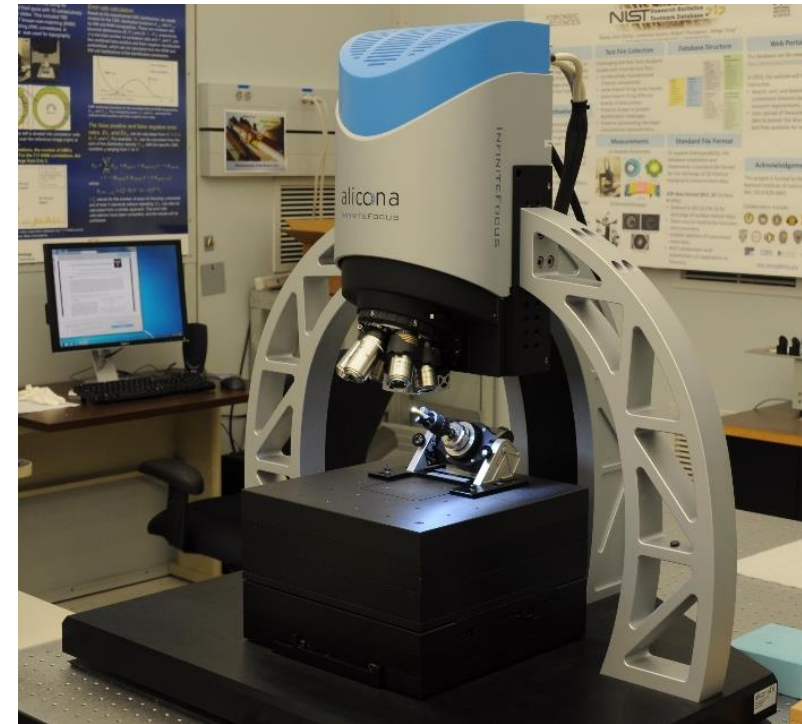
Phase 2 (2015 – 2016)

- **Worked with CE399, CE567, CE569, and CE573**
- **Focus Variation Microscopy**
 - **Complete 3D Surface Models**
 - **Surface color information**

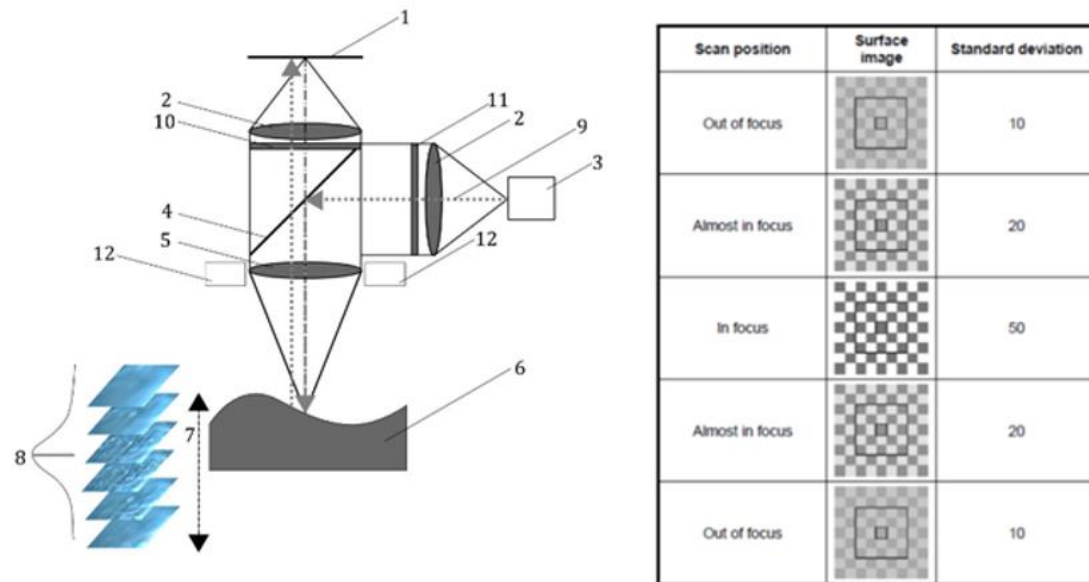
Instrumentation

Focus variation topography microscopes collect through-focus data and analyze pixel positions to determine where they were in best focus, enabling a 3D surface to be generated.

Alicona InfiniteFocus G5



Focus Variation — pixel vs neighbors

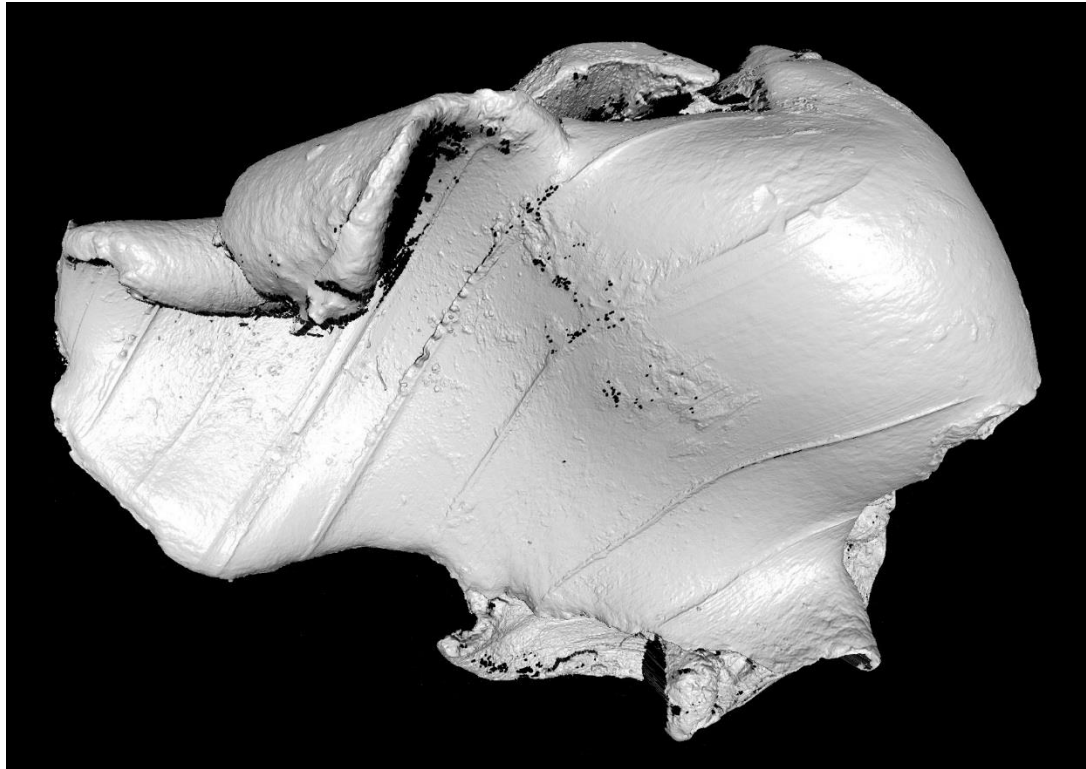


Schematic diagram of a measurement device based on focus variation: (1) CCD sensor, (2) lenses, (3) white light source, (4) semi-transparent mirror, (5) objective lens with limited depth of field, (6) sample, (7) vertical movement with driving unit, (8) contrast curve calculated from the local window, (9) light rays from the white light source, (10) optional analyser, (11) optional polarizer and (12) optional ring light

Topography vs Color Information

The focus variation method gave us the ability to acquire accurate topography in addition to capturing color information from the surface

CE567 - 3D Topography Data

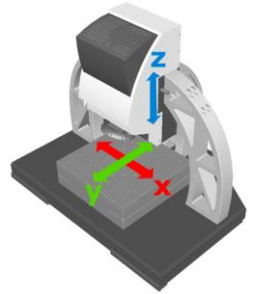


CE567 - Surface Color Information

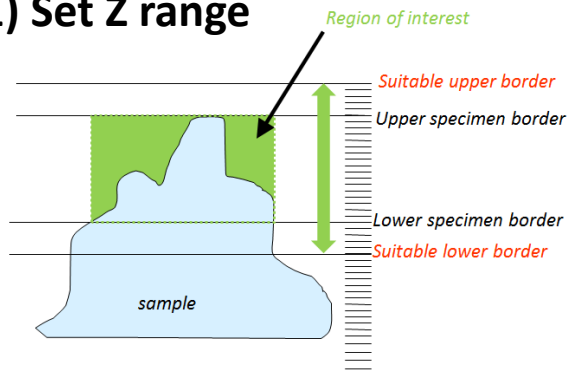


Image Field Measurements – Focus Variation

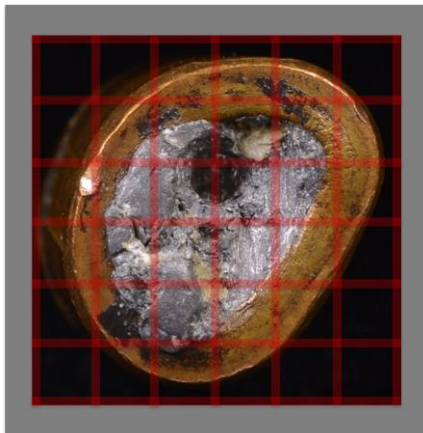
Measurements performed in the XY plane



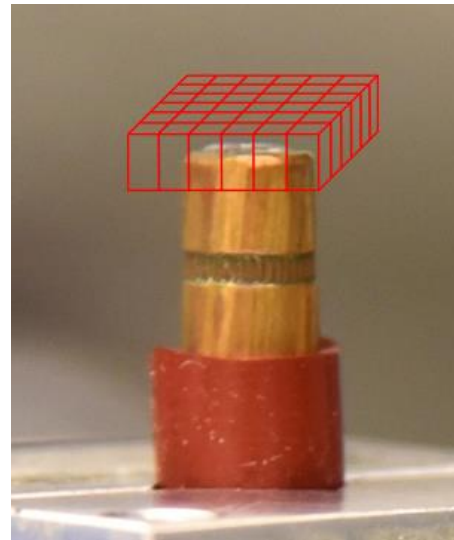
1) Set Z range



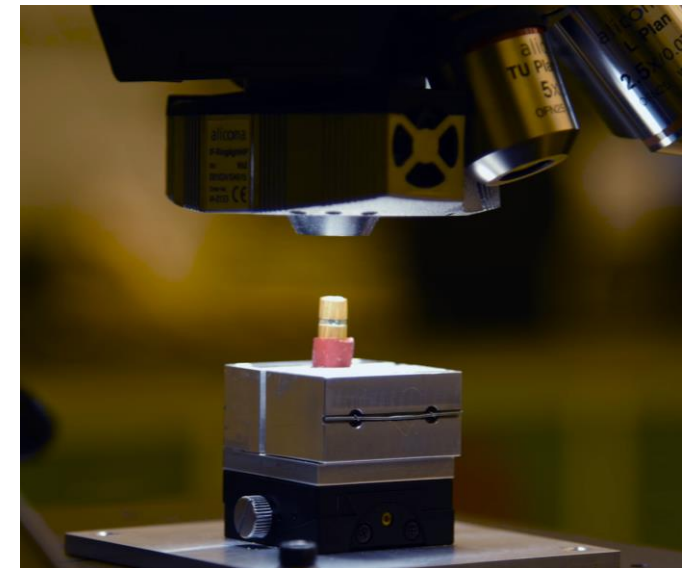
2) Set XY range



Results in an array of through focus data acquisitions



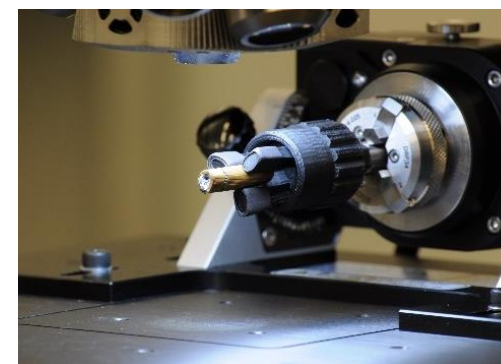
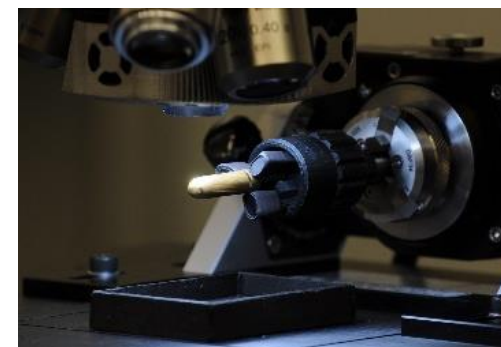
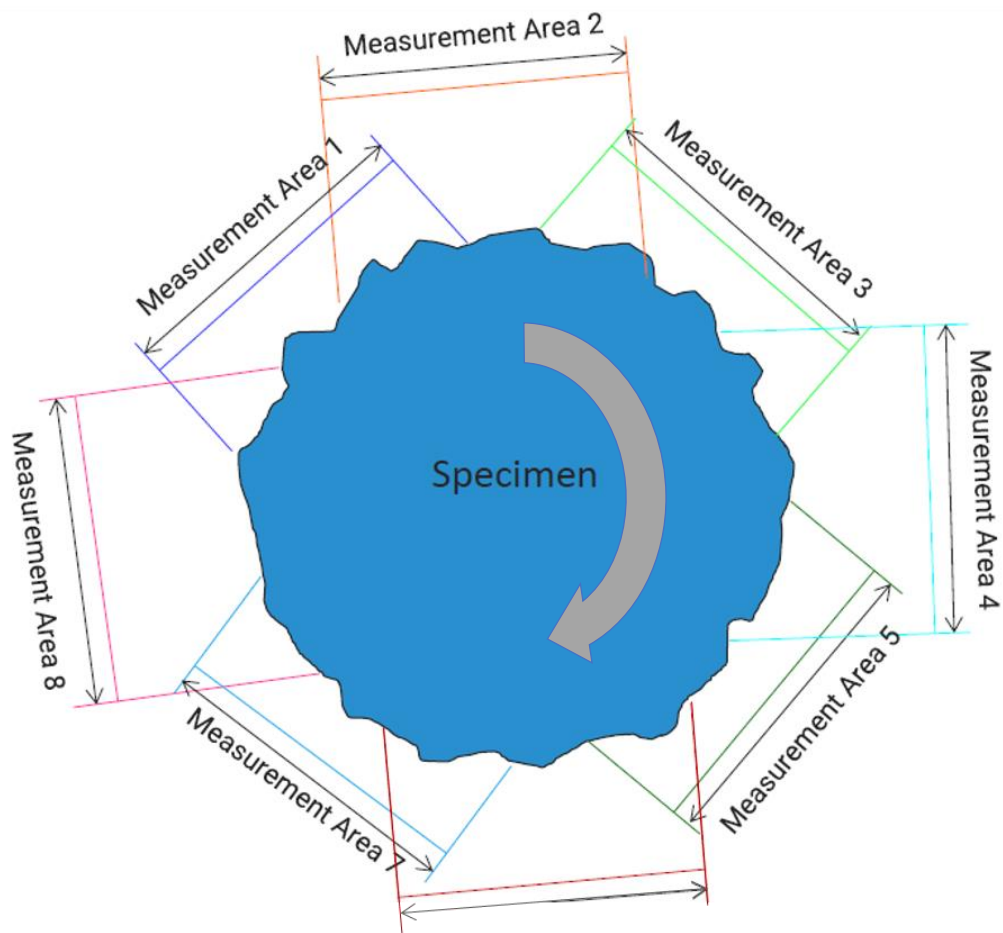
Time-lapse of an image field acquisition



Real3D Rotation Measurements – Focus Variation

Measurements performed utilizing rotary axis

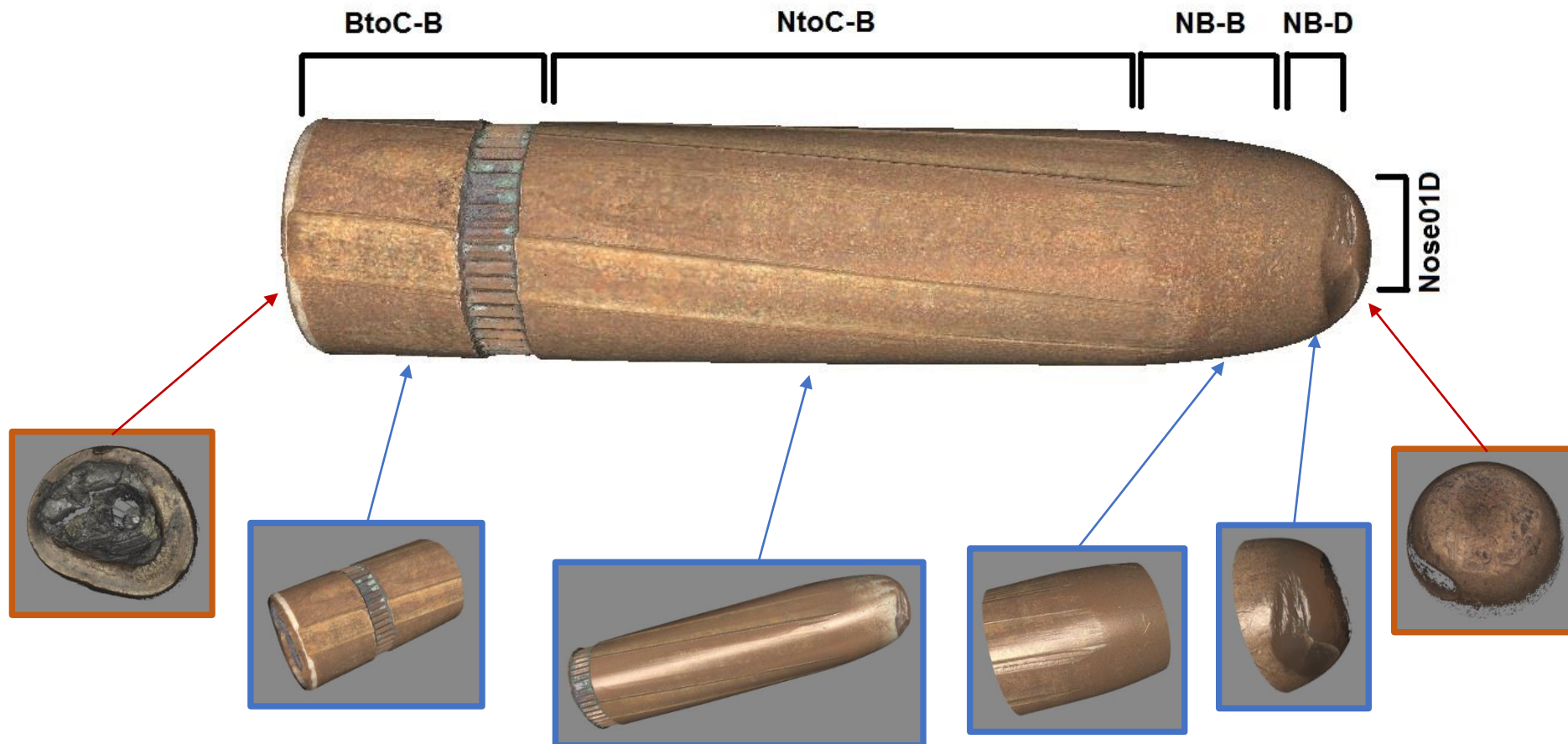
CE399 in different orientations



Stocker measuring CE399 on focus variation microscope

CE399 Measurement Plan

Building CE399 model with image field and rotary stage measurements



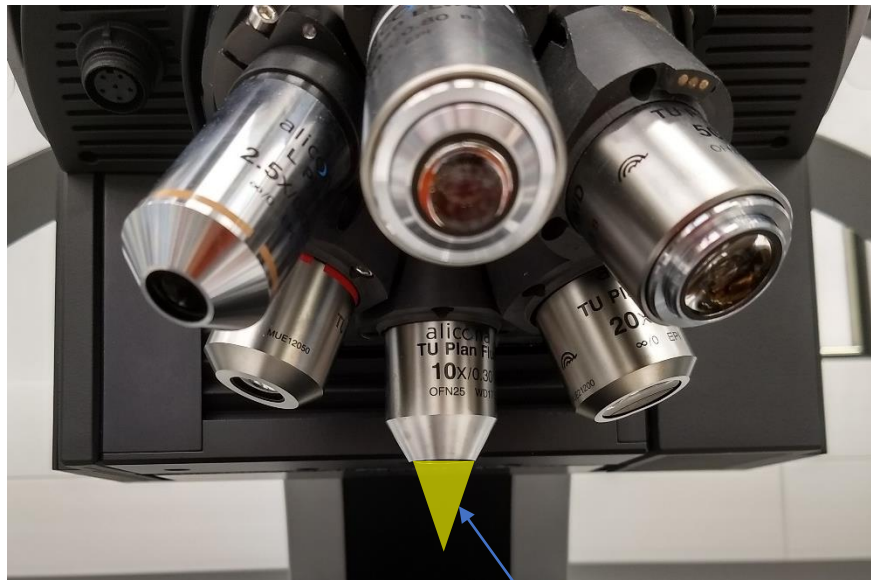
■ - Image Field Measurements

■ - Real3D Rotary Stage Measurements

Illumination modes

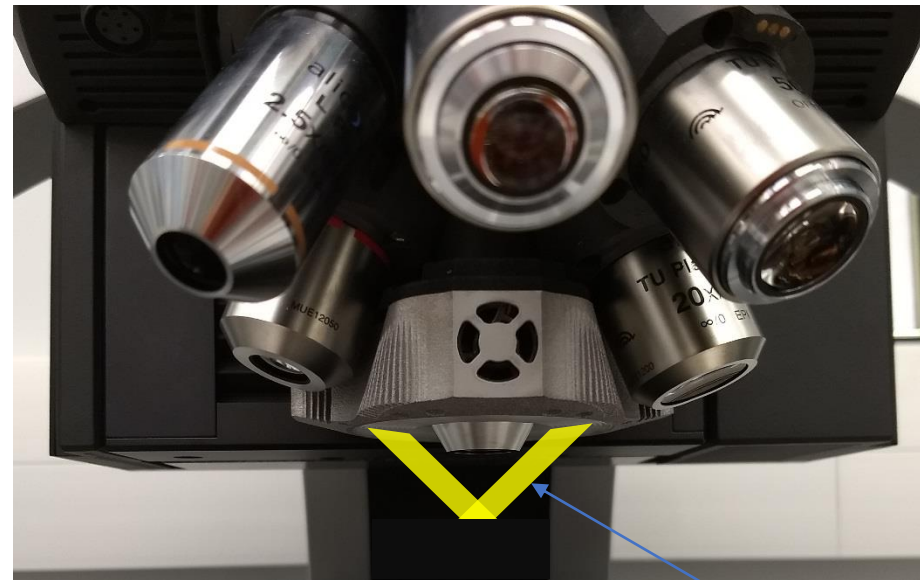


Coaxial Illumination



Coaxial produces a cone of illumination that comes through the microscope objective

Ring Light Illumination



Ring light produces an annular ring of illumination that comes in at a shallower angle. (Also segmentable)

Illumination modes

Geometry related intensity hot spots

Hot spots (banding) due to illumination angle matching surface normal that reflects light straight back into objective



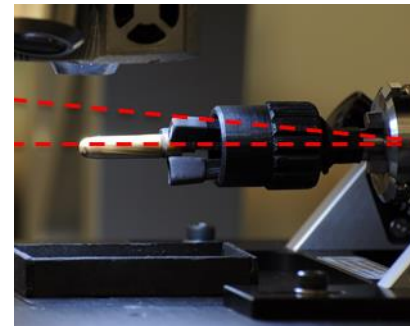
RL-03

	<u>Meas05</u>	<u>Meas12</u>
	10 deg	0 deg
	25 ms	15 ms

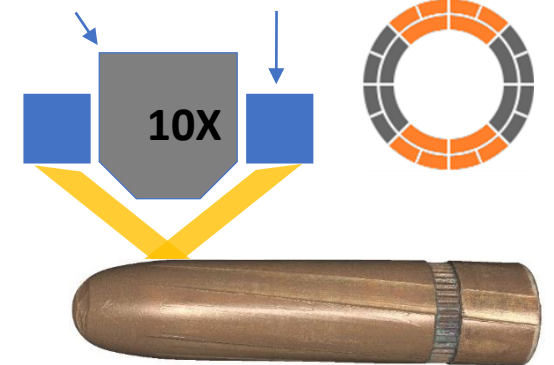
Experimented with a few different variables:

1. Exposure time
2. Fixture angles
3. Ring light segmentation

Fixture Angle

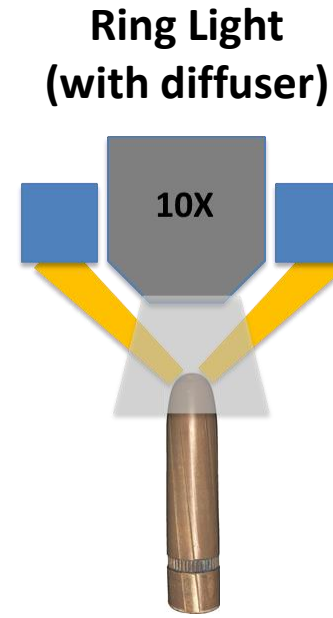
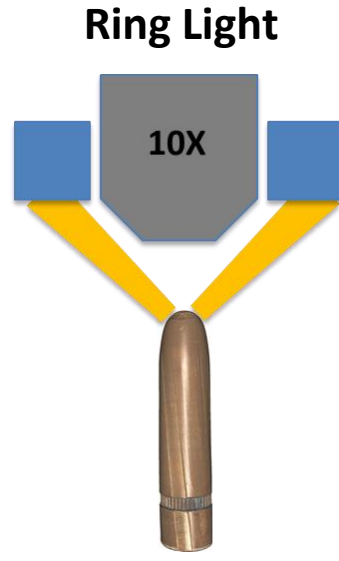
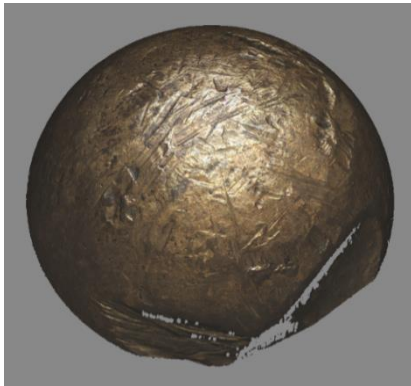
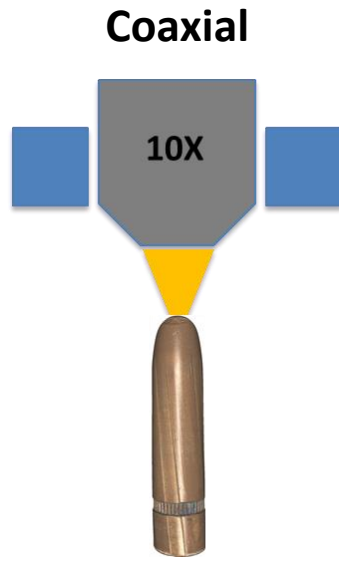


Objective Ring Light



ILLUMINATION MODES

Experimenting with different configurations
on nose measurements



Diffuser cone

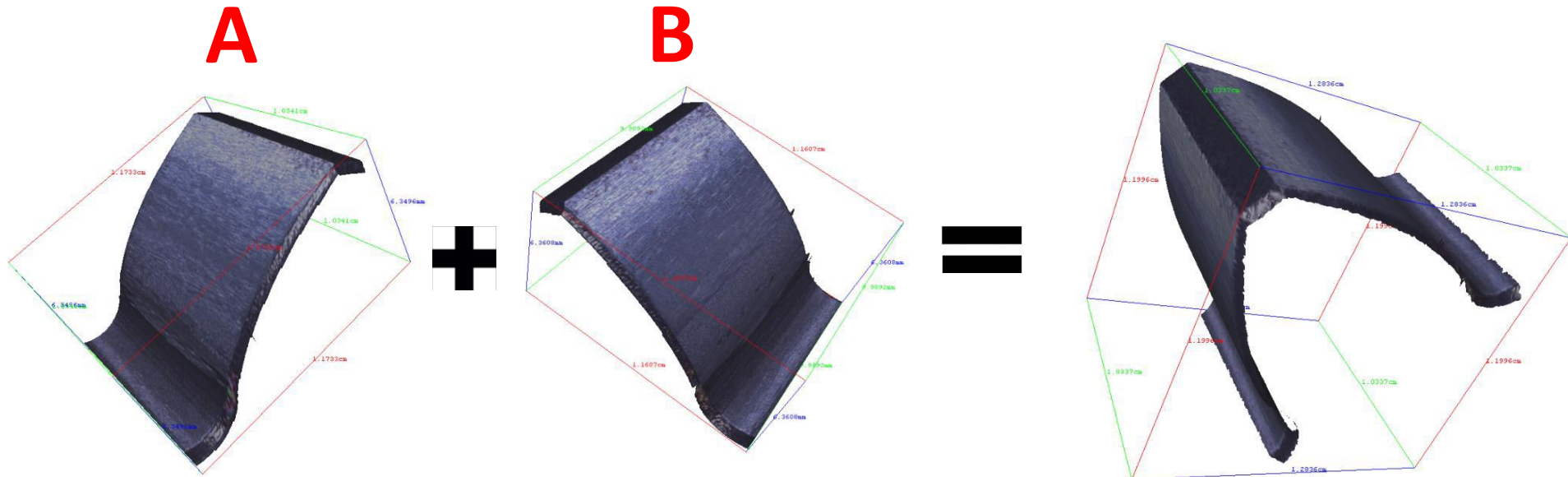
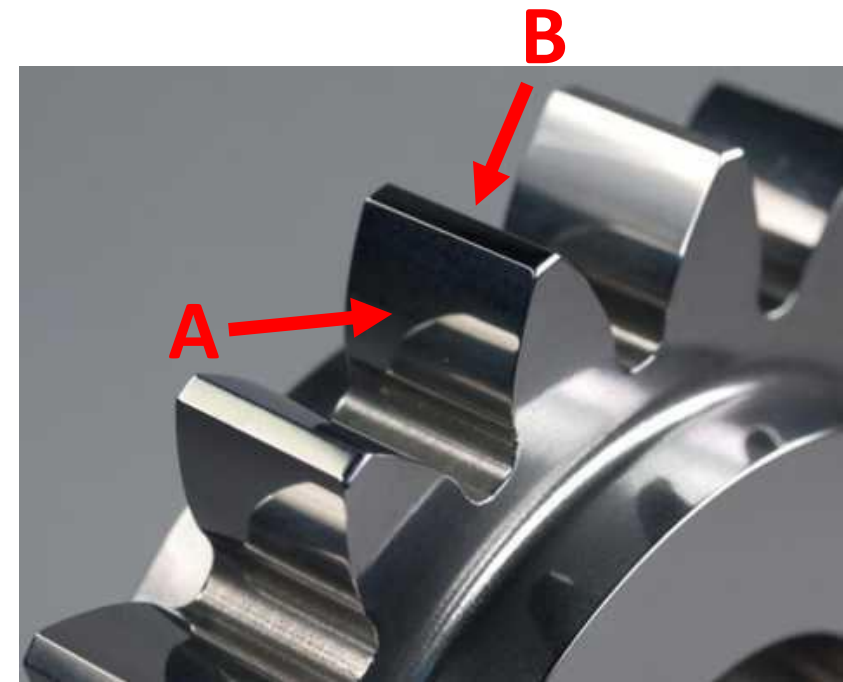
Phase 3 (2016 – 2019)

- **Data Processing**
 - **Merging**
 - **Data format**
- **Transfer to NARA / Public Release**

3D Data Fusion

Taking independently measured 3D datasets, aligning and fusing together to form a single 3D dataset

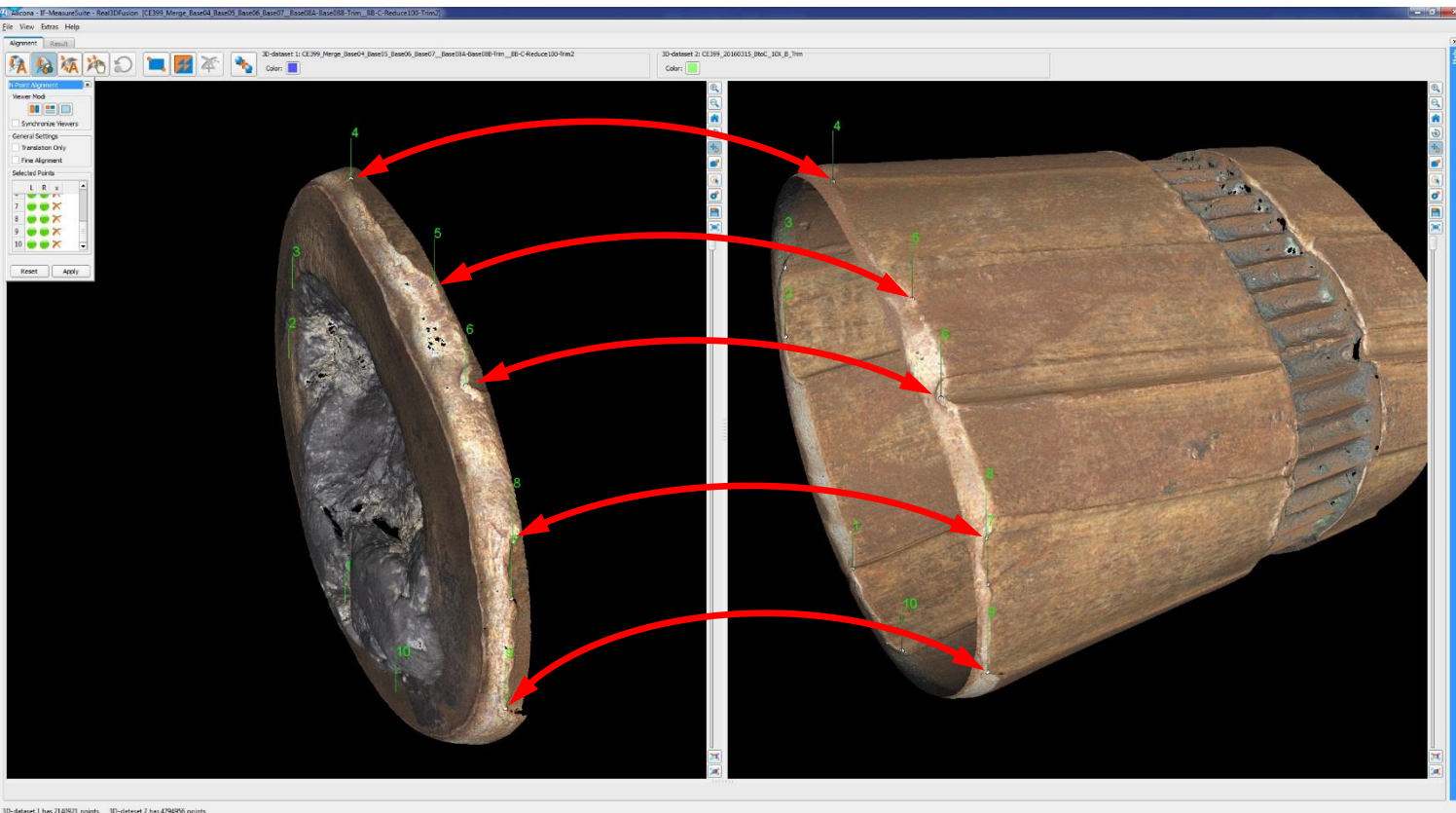
Necessary when multiple sides or surfaces of an object are measured and to be combined



Data Fusion Process

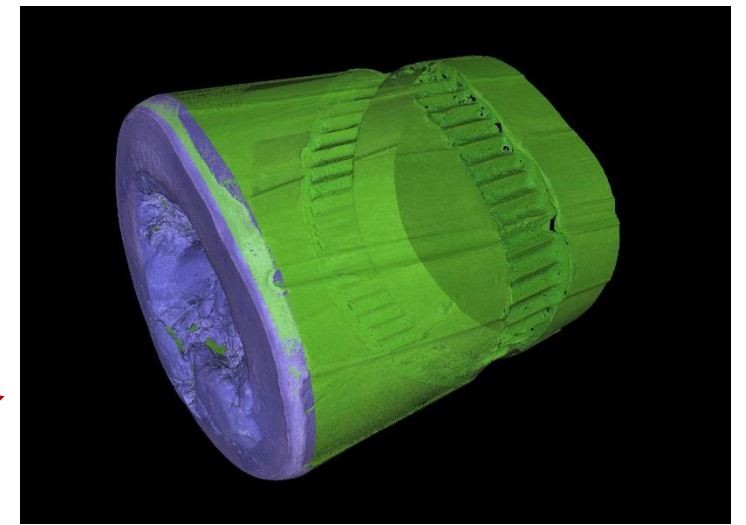
3 step process:

1. Manual alignment
2. Automatic alignment (fine adjust)
3. Merging (Fusing)

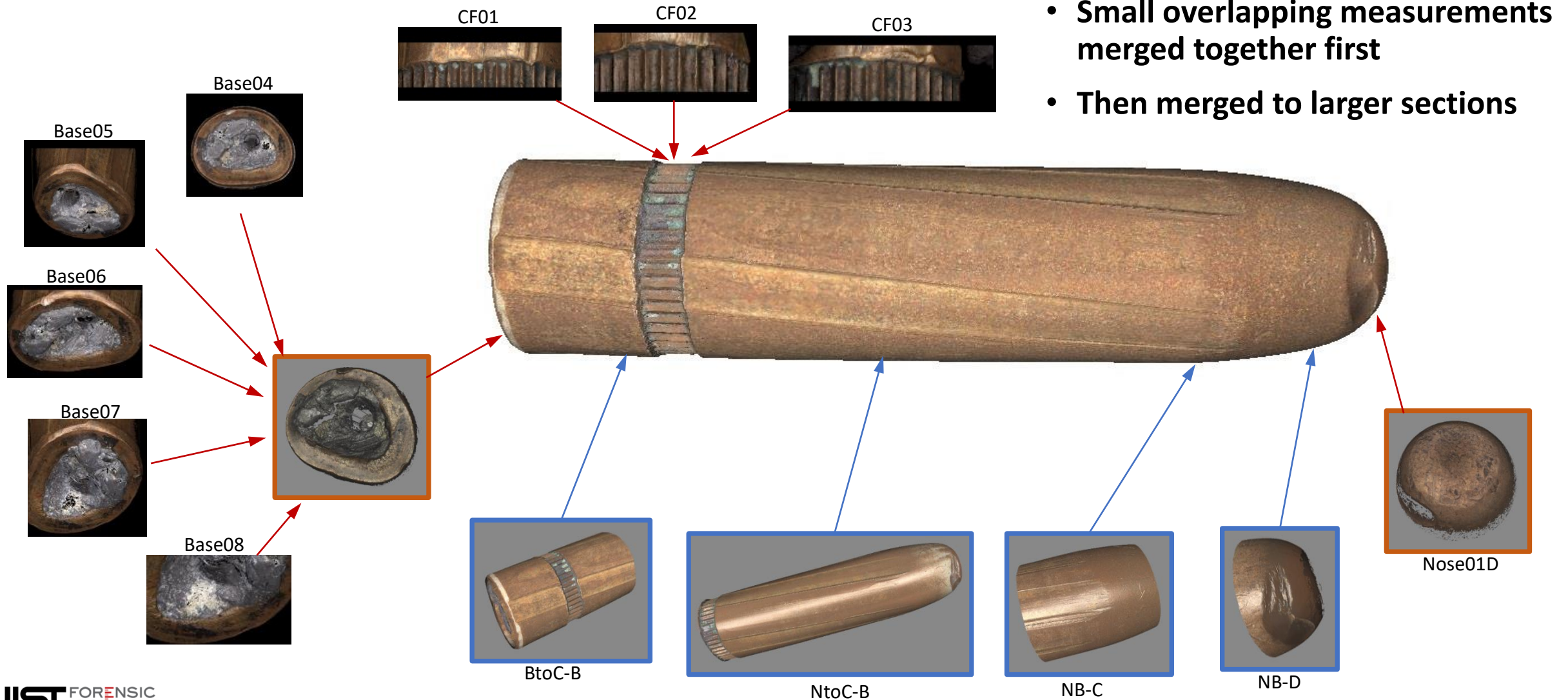


CE399 - Base

CE399 - Base to Cannelure



CE399 Merge Diagram (Roadmap)



CE567 Merge Diagram (Roadmap)



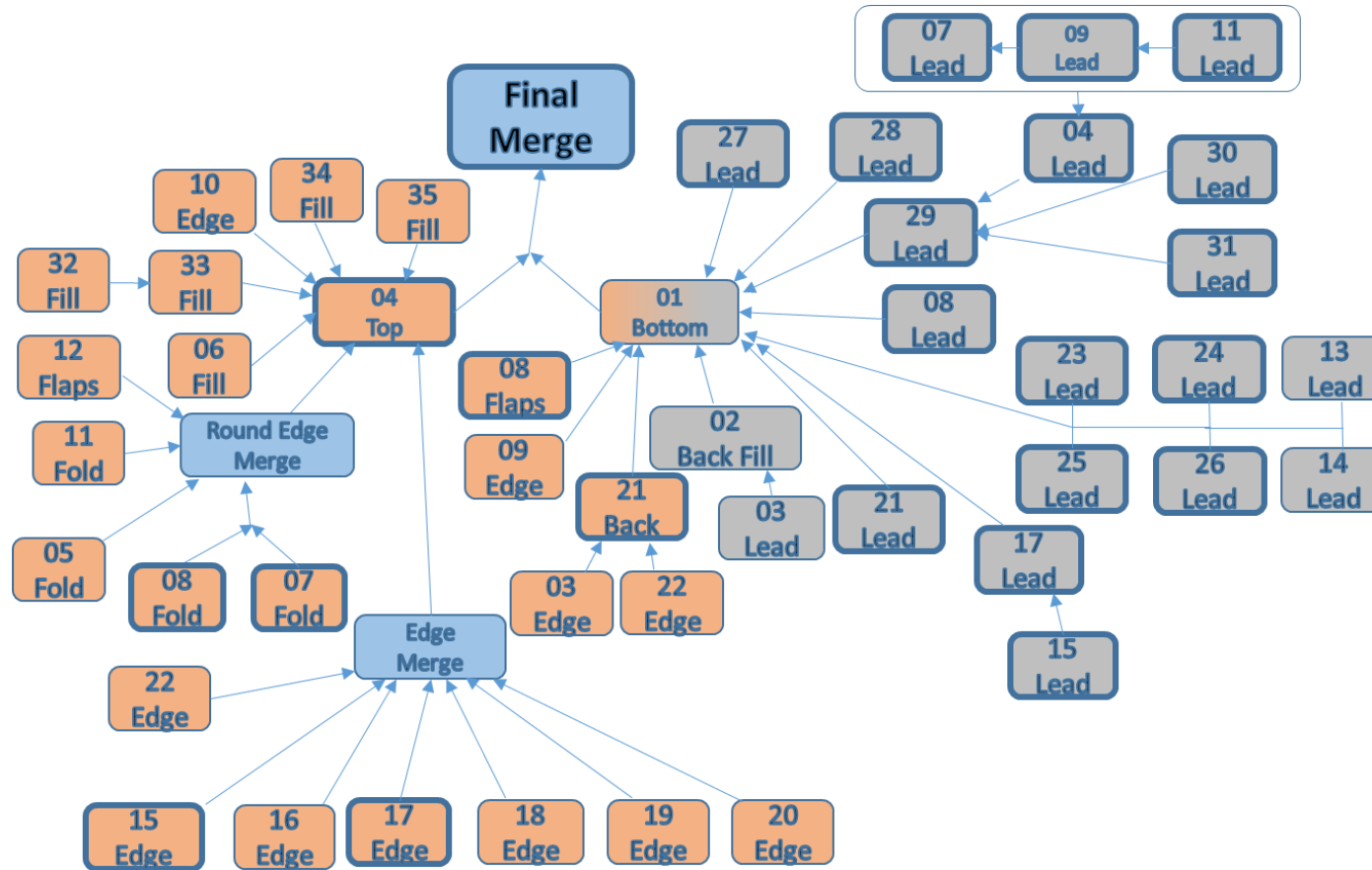
Soons explaining dataset alignment



Copper side



Lead side



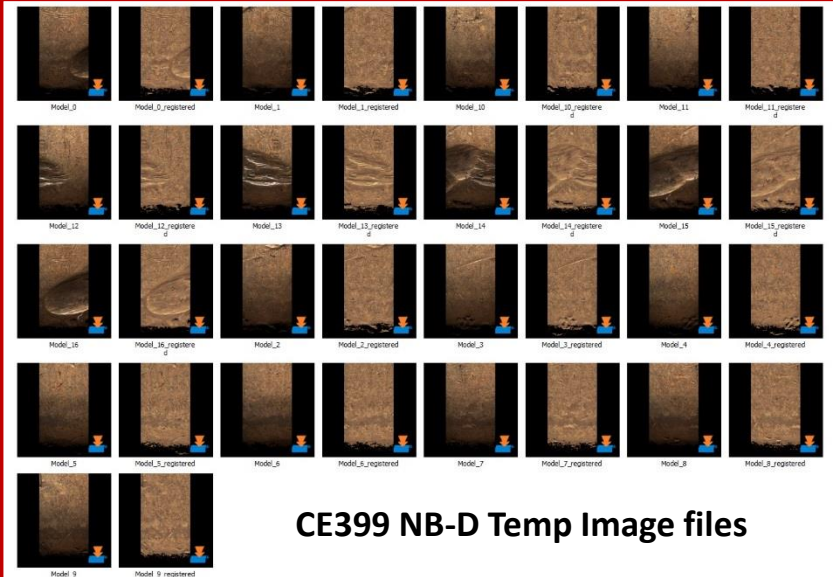
Data Storage

- Measurement results stored
 - 3D Result Files
 - Saved Temp Files (for offline assembly as necessary)
 - Merged files (trimmed, decimated, etc.)

>13 Billion Measured Points
1+ Terabyte of 3D Data



CE399 Result Files



CE399 NB-D Temp Image files

Artifact	Measurement Runs used	Total # 3D Images
CE399 (stretcher)	22	1699
CE567 (nose frag)	35	1636
CE569 (base frag)	37	935
CE573 (walker)	32	1559
Total	126	5829

Data Decimation

Detail/resolution versus Area

- Necessary to decimate data while merging, and for visualization requirements by users

Individual images



Measurement strips



Assembled measurements



Fully merged 3D model



Assembly of CE399 measurements

~ 18 million points (triangles)

High detail, Small areas

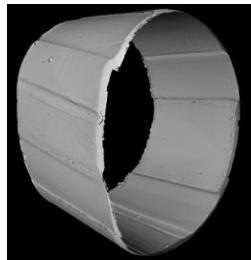


Lower res., Large area

ALL DATA IS AVAILABLE (eg. Final Merge files to Individual Images)

Public Release

- **3D Data & Images on NARA site**
 - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/149274356> (direct link to files: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/149279166>)
 - 25 files in a ZIP'ed array. 10 GB each file. **250 GB download size!** (446 GB uncompressed)
 - “Readme” file includes instructions on how to view 3D data files using publicly available software
- **NIST Article & video**
 - Article: <https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2019/12/kennedy-assassination-bullets-preserved-digital-form>
 - Photo essay: <https://www.nist.gov/featured-stories/preserving-kennedy-assassination-bullets-digital-form>
 - Blog article: <https://www.nist.gov/blogs/taking-measure/how-jfk-assassination-bullets-were-digitally-preserved-nist>
 - Video: <https://youtu.be/JdBp3TU8r34>





CE399

Questions?

