

Low-level shock metamorphism induced by lightning

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Fulgurite

also known as "fossilized lightning"

Definition: "Solid material undergone physical and chemical change by lightning"

High Temperature Pressure features
Joule heating
Shock wave

Type I: Sand



(Pasek & Hurst, 2016)

Type II: Soil



(Pasek et al., 2012)

Type III: Caliche



(Pasek et al., 2012)

Type IV: Rock

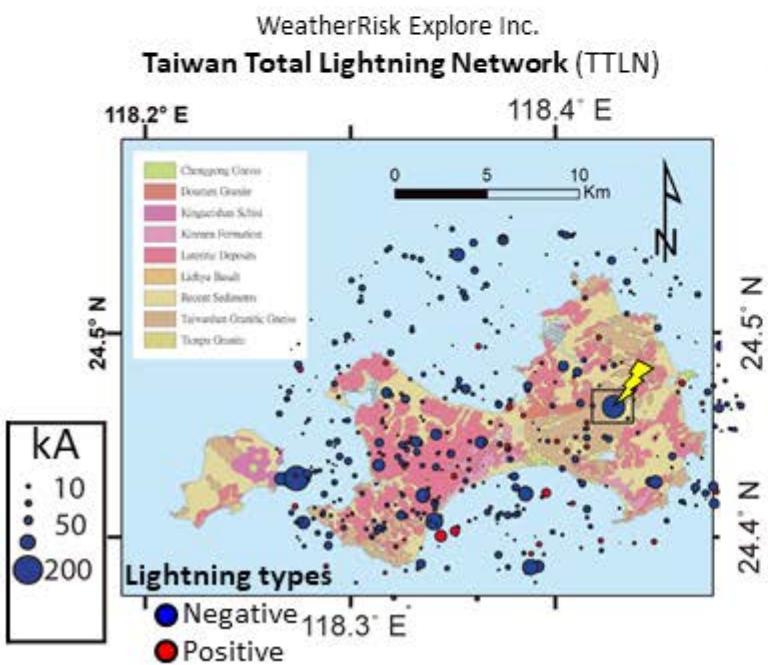


(Elmi et al., 2017)

Kinmen Island on May 7th, 2018

Peak current: 162 kA (typical: 10–30 kA)

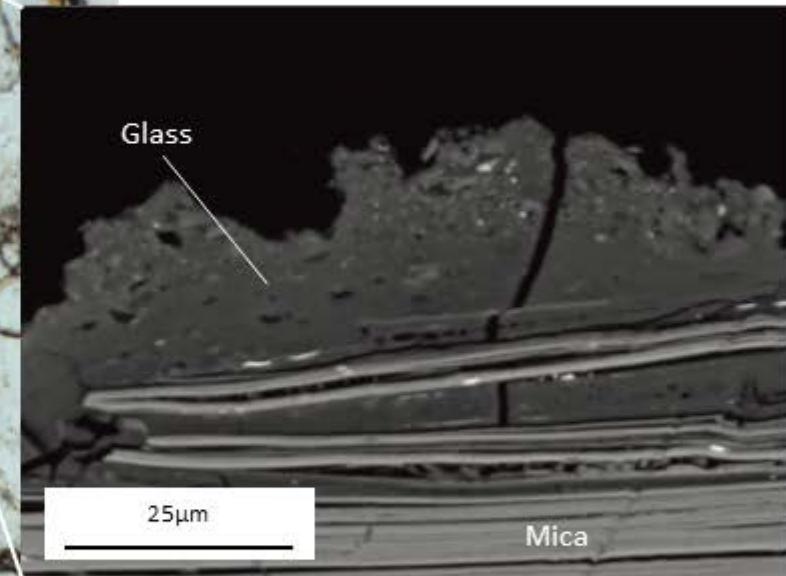
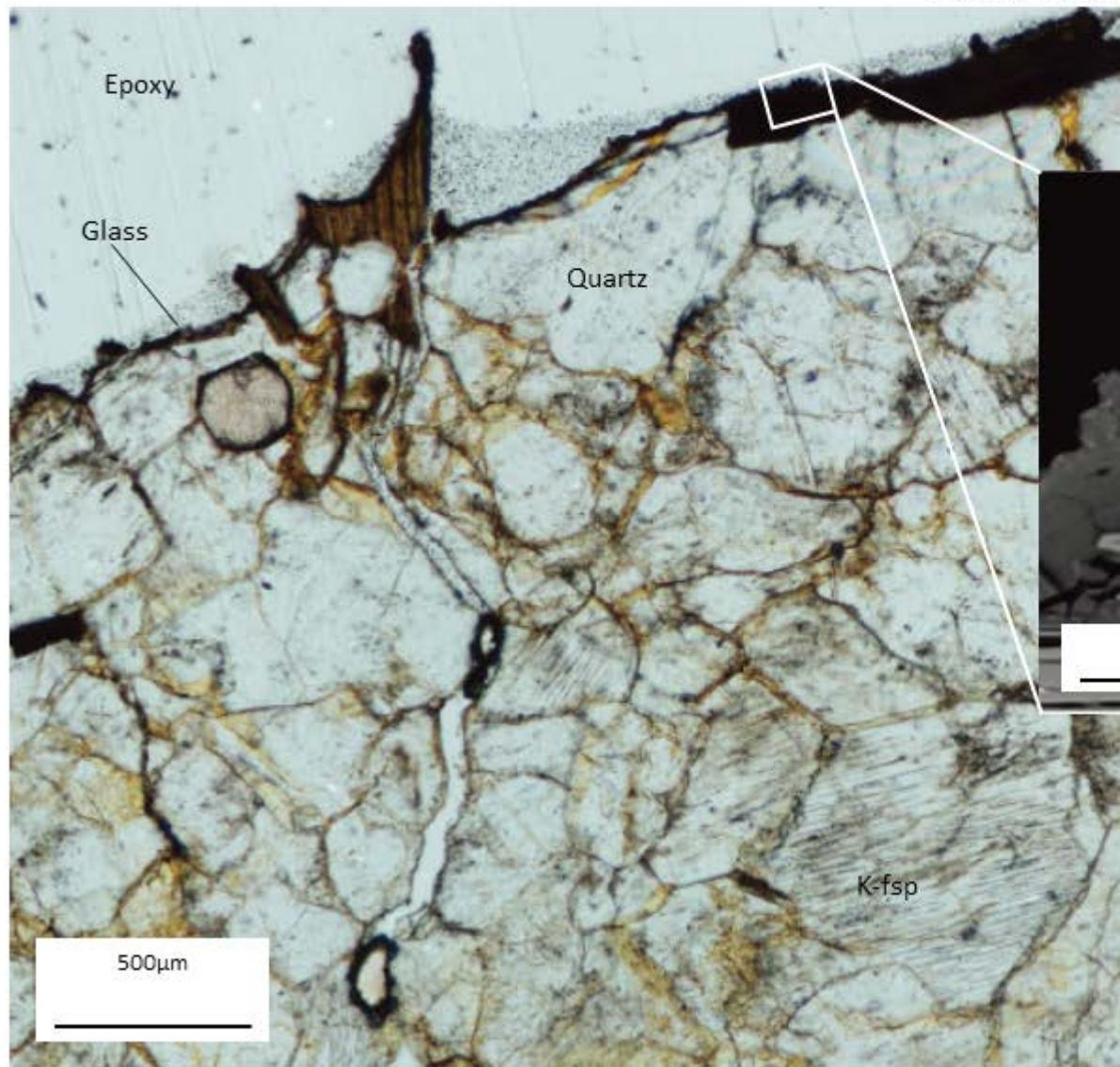
Reference sample



Kuo et al., 2021

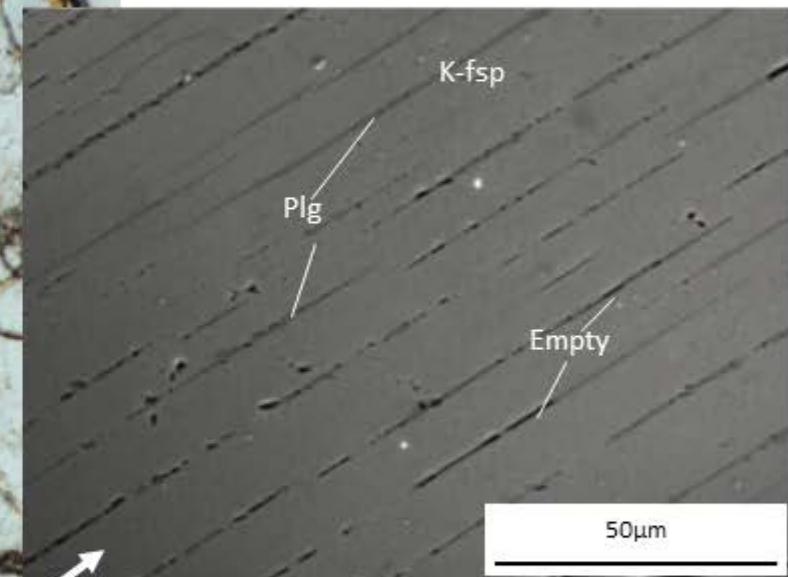
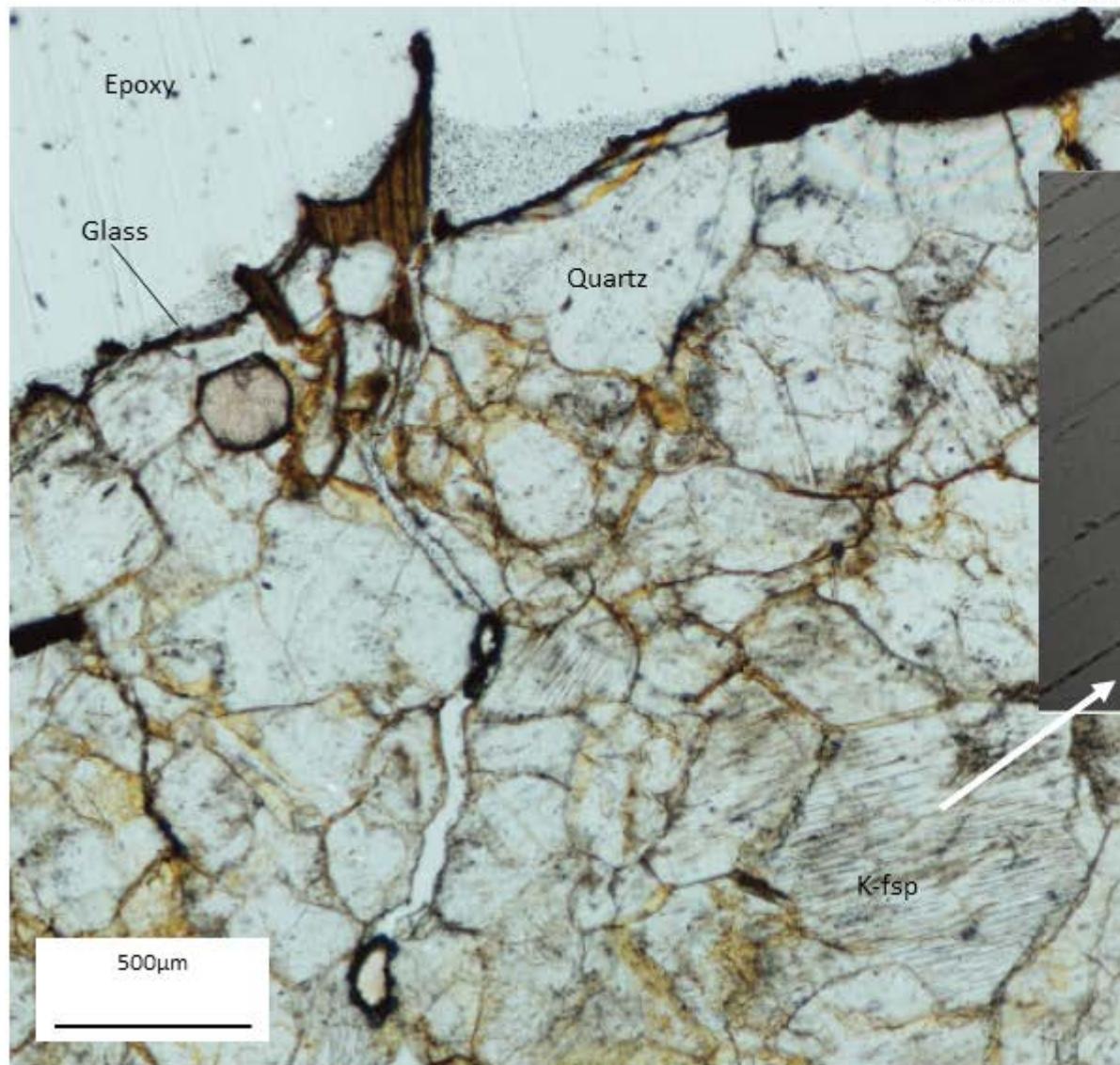
Microstructure

Kuo et al., 2021



Microstructure

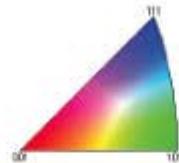
Kuo et al., 2021



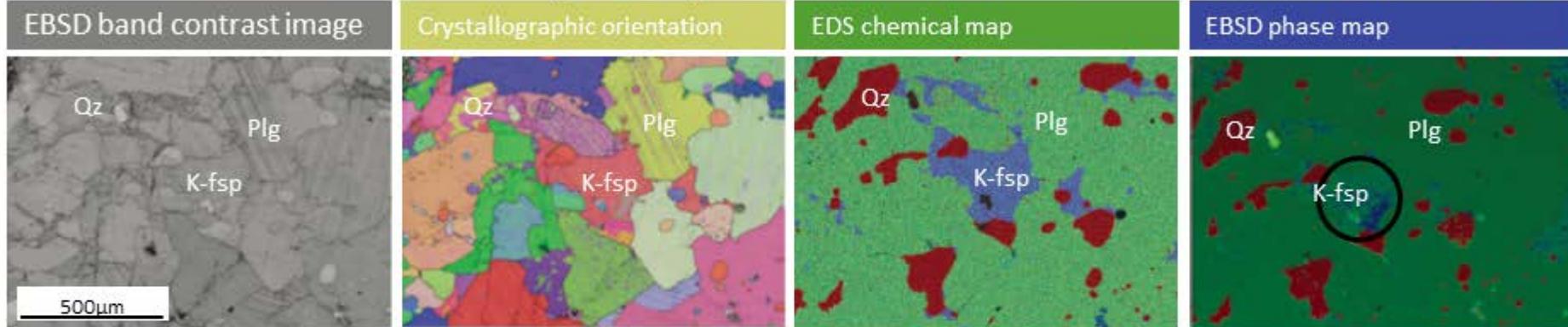
Reference granite

K-feldspar have no internal structure

K-feldspar is monoclinic



monoclinic feldspar triclinic feldspar quartz



Kuo et al., 2021

Fulgorite sample

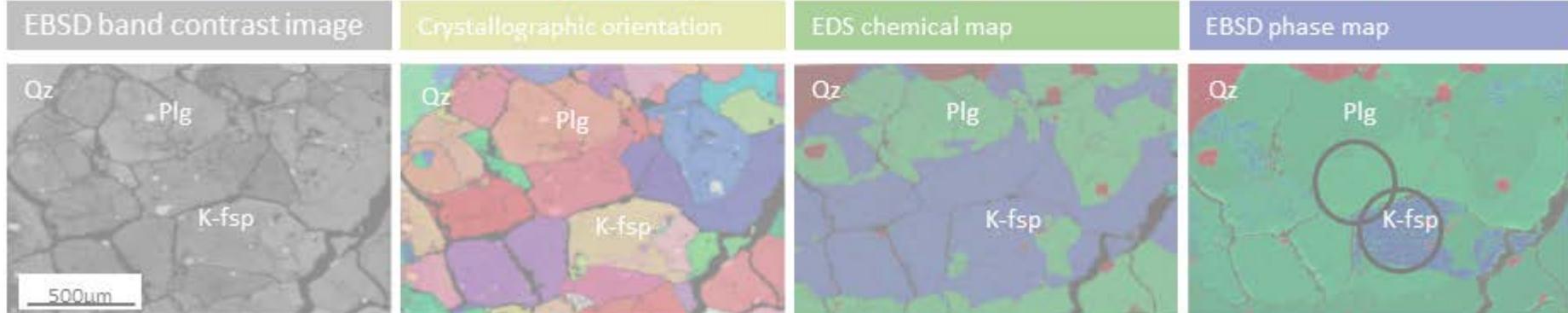
K-feldspar have exsolution lamellae

Subparallel to (100) plane

K-feldspar is monoclinic & triclinic



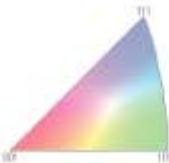
monoclinic feldspar triclinic feldspar quartz



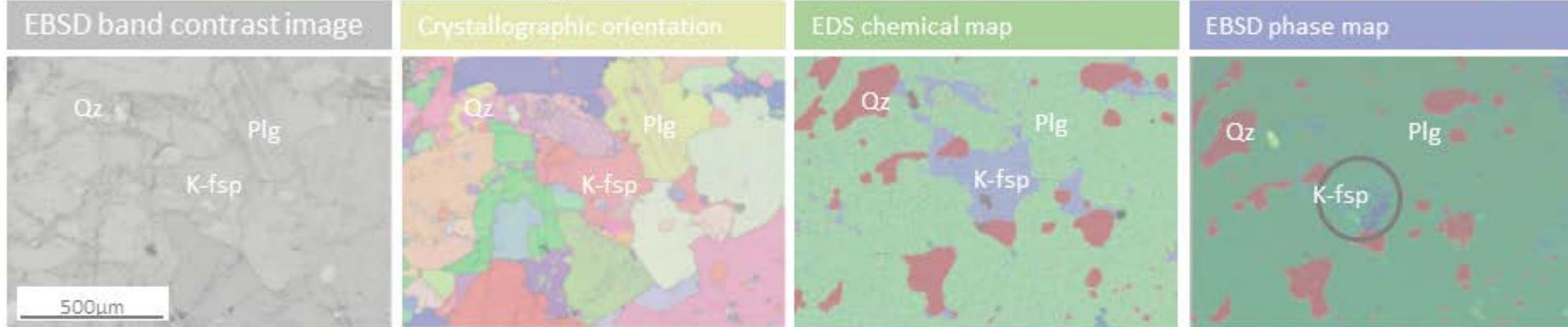
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Kuo et al., 2021

Fulgorite sample

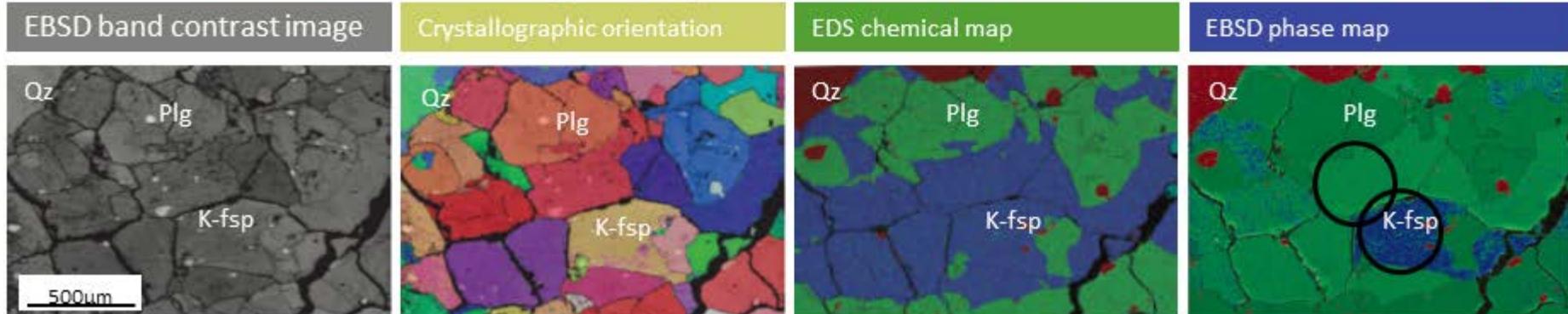
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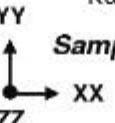
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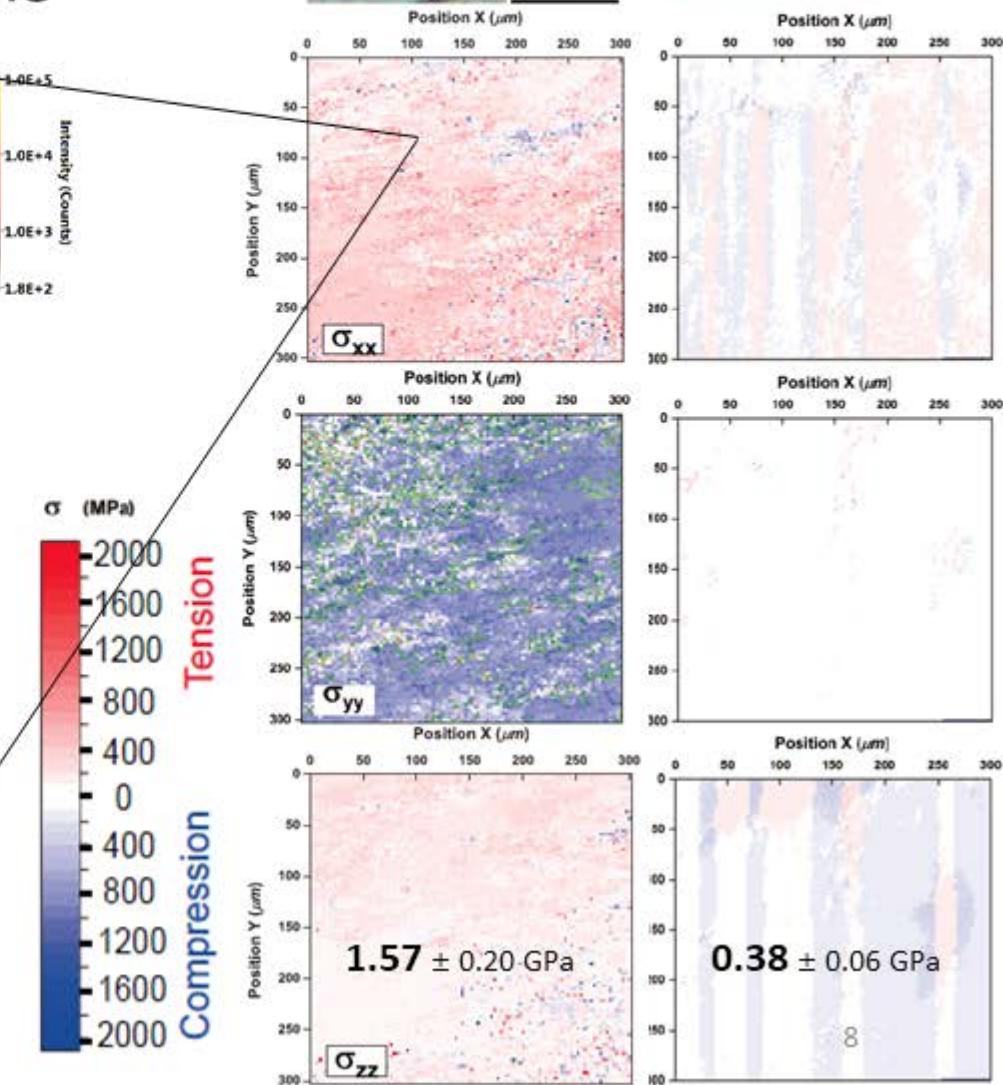
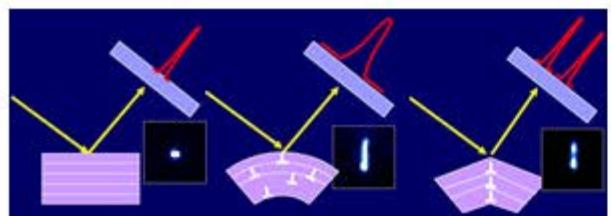
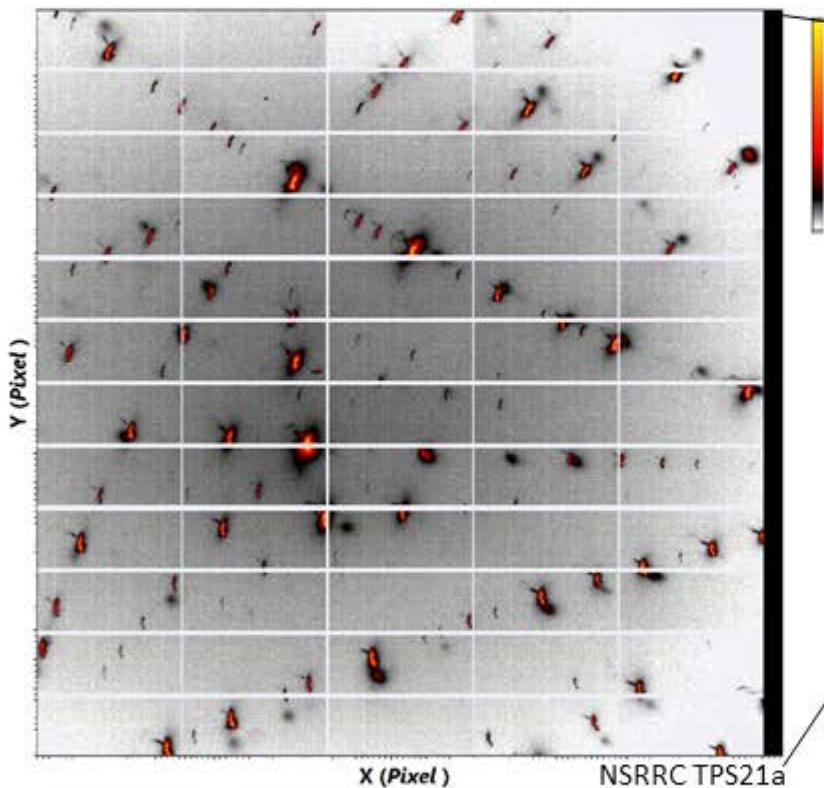
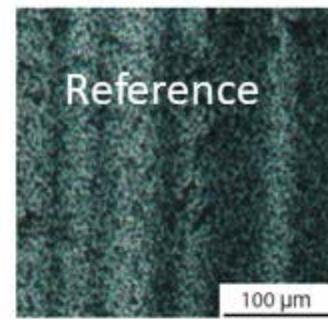
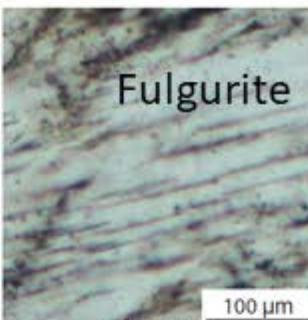


Residual stress

National Synchrotron Radiation Research Center

Laue diffraction analysis

Kuo et al., 2021
Sample coordinate




Pressure-related features

Exsolution
lamellae

Grain loses solubility during cooling or decompression (> 6 GPa) (Zhu and Ogasawara, 2002)

Phase
transformation

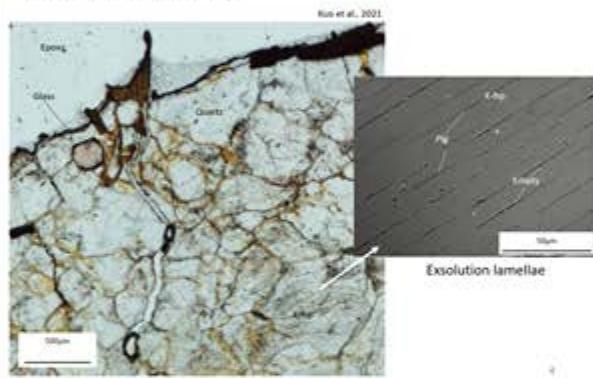
K-feldspar transforms into triclinic under high pressure (Hazen, 1976)

Residual
stress

High residual stress in K-feldspar grains

Fulgurite

Microstructure



Reference granite

K-feldspar have no internal structure

K-feldspar is **monoclinic**

Ebsd bright contrast image

Lattice spacing, orientation

Ebsd chemical map

Ebsd phase map

Crystallographic analysis



Na

K

Alumina whisker

Iron metal

Pyrope

Magnesio

Fulgurite sample

K-feldspar have dissolution lamellae

Subparallel to {100} plane

K-feldspar is **monoclinic & bimodal**

Ebsd bright contrast image

Lattice spacing, orientation

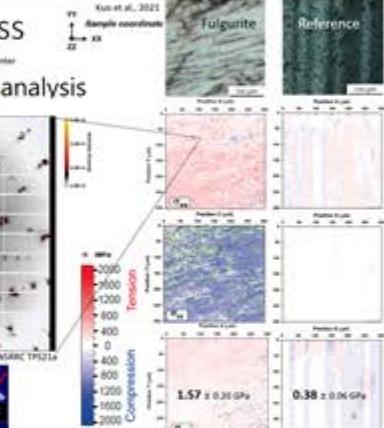
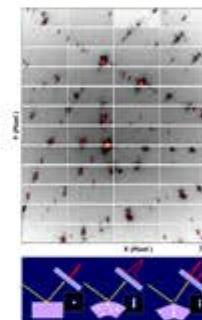
Ebsd chemical map

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Residual stress

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lightning strike -> shock metamorphic features

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Reference

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Thank you