



**Starkey & Associates Inc.**  
SAGDesign and Process Engineering

## BIOGRAPHY – John Starkey

BASc Mining - U of T

P.Eng. Consulting Engineer.

12 yrs operations at Kidd Creek, and INCO

12 yrs engineering at Kilborn

15 yrs consulting

President, Starkey & Associates Inc.

- Est'd partners, capabilities, in USA, Russia & Australia
- Added 2 full time engineers in 2009, Oakville office
- International - due diligence study for Polyus Gold 2009
- Lead engineer for the Berezitovy Au mill - 2008 startup
- Provide engineering, consulting and testing services
- 15 year patent agreement for SAGDesign test



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# **SELECTION OF GRINDING EQUIPMENT TO MATCH THE ENTIRE ORE BODY USING SAGDESIGN TECHNOLOGY**

**Mining Magazine Congress  
Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario  
October 9, 2009**

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Starkey & Associates Inc.  
Oakville, ON

# Agenda

- 1. Where are we today***
2. What is a 'good' design
3. SAGDesign Database
4. Mill sizing calculations
5. Conclusion

# 1. Where are we today

Question - Are we grinding to push tonnage or recover metal?

## Some things observed recently

- Various consultants give widely divergent predictions (discuss)
- Consultants think that if a SAG mill works it is overdesigned
- Some use other tests and hope they work (they don't)
- JK cannot size new mills accurately over 15 kWh/t (no data)
- SPI is a scoping test
- SMC does not correlate with SPI
- Full DW test cannot be done deep in the mine (explain)

# 1.1 The result

## Our response as individuals and the industry

- HPGR is looked to as a way out because SAG designers have not got their act together in a consensus mode
- New grads are confused (discuss Tuscon story)
- Experts use flawed assumptions to solve the problem
- Back to basics is required
- A new technology has been introduced
- Only one person is teaching in the Universities
- The lecture includes SAGDesign technology
- Other methods are private, require expensive software or just don't work very well

## 1.2 SAGDesign SAG Mill at Dawson in Salt Lake City



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1. Where are we today

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## 2. What is a 'Good' Design

- Steady feed at design t/h so good metallurgy is possible
- This is 80<sup>th</sup> percentile not 50<sup>th</sup> based on entire ore body
- No SAG mill scats
- No ball mill scats
- No spillage during operation
- Way to measure T80
- Way to control T80, screen, trommel, cyclone, or classifier,
- Can grind hardest ores
- Always meet design t/h
- Proper Instrumentation for optimization
- SAG efficiency is equal to lab (benchmark)
- BM efficiency = Bond Wi (including fines and diam corr)

## 2.1 How to achieve a good SAG and BM design

- Take proper samples considering, geology and mine plan
- Do SAGDesign tests
- Minimum 10 for design guarantee (Outotec's)
- If unfamiliar with SAGDesign use other method(s) for comparison
- Determine:
  - P80 for good metallurgy
  - % availability (considering country)
  - Design t/h
- Calculate the required motor power for 80<sup>th</sup> percentile data
- Calculate the required mill sizes paying attention to future considerations in selecting the flowsheet and the T80.

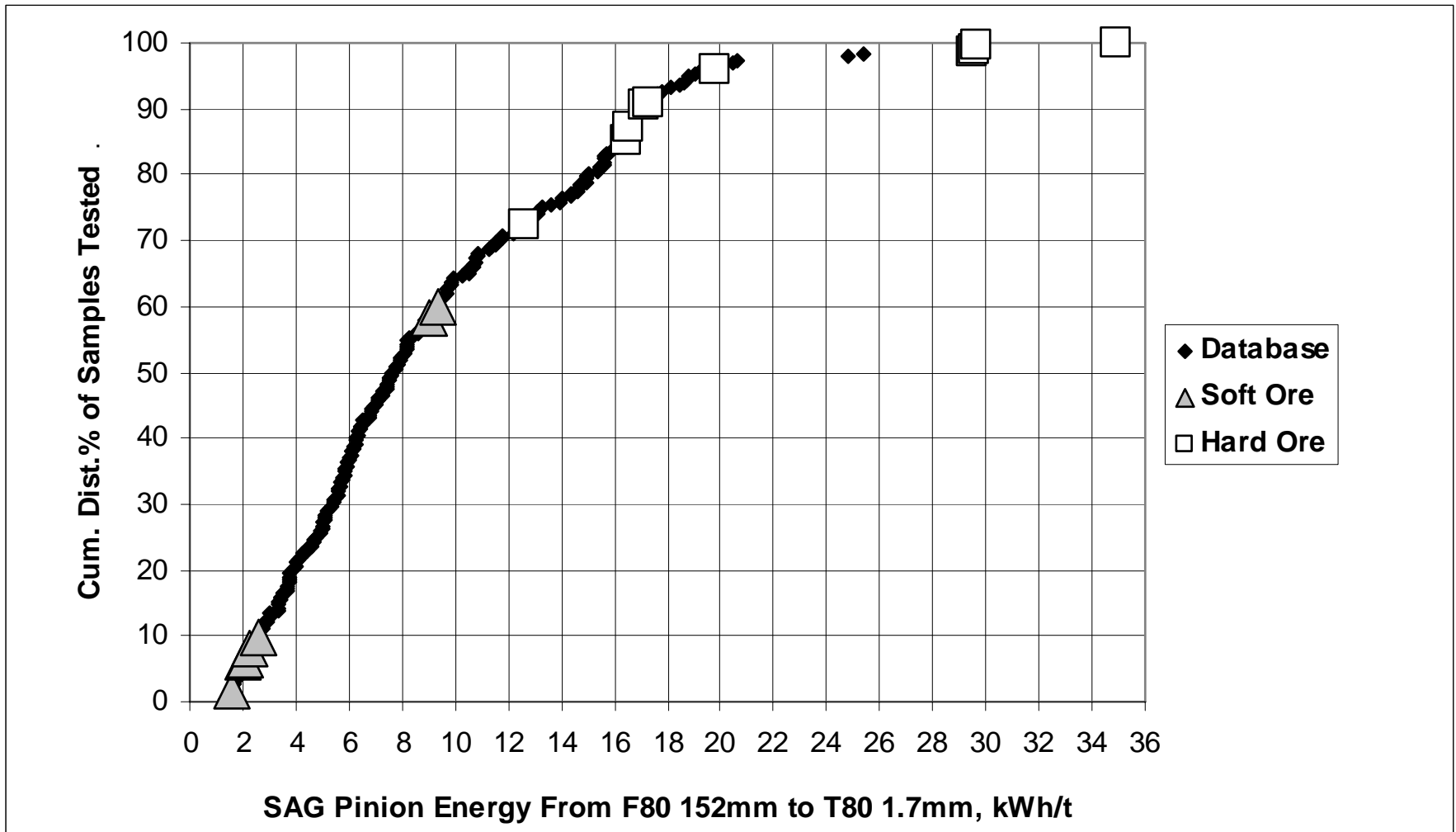
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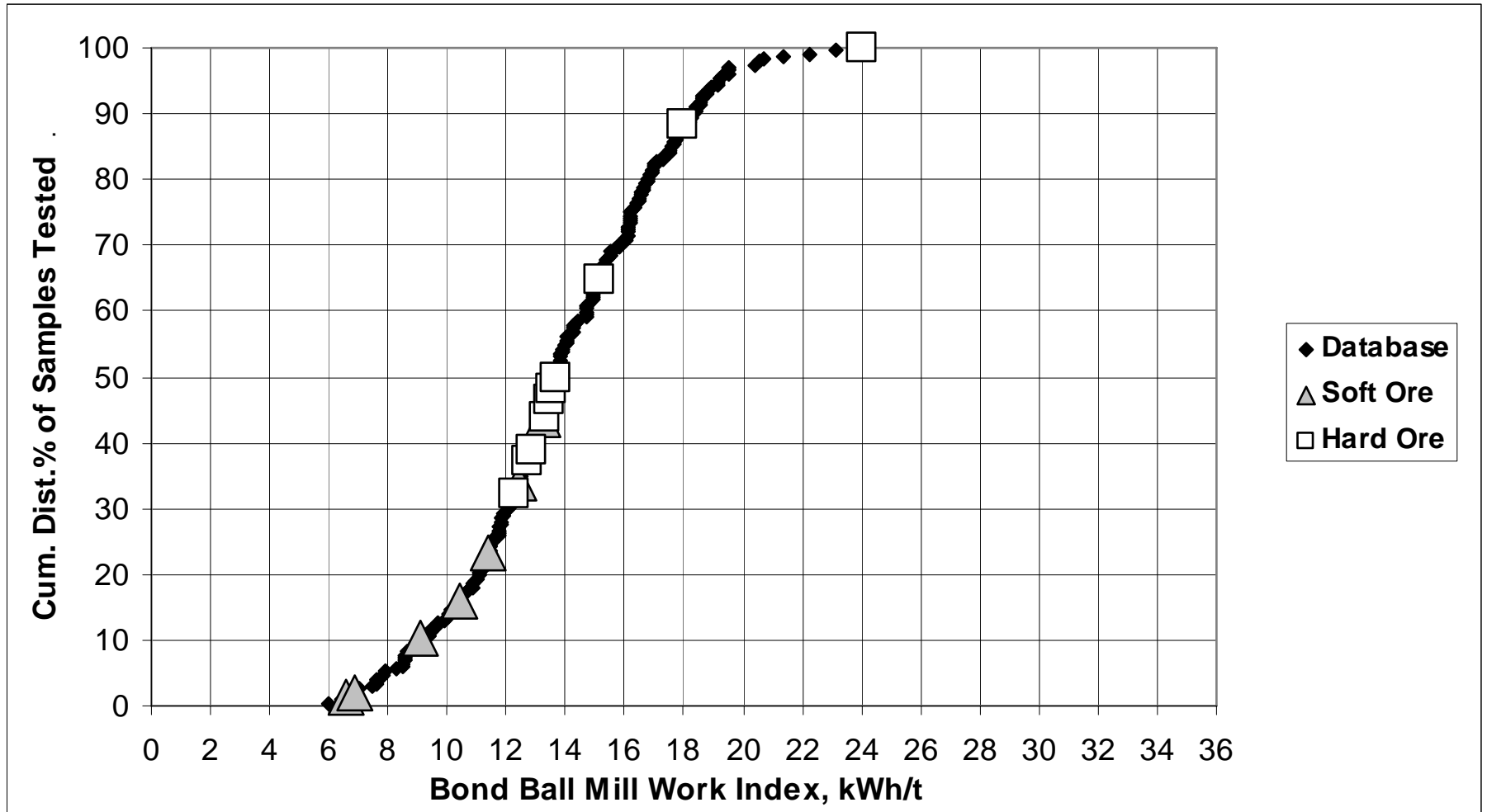
### 3. SAGDesign Database

- Needed to analyse all SAGDesign test data to date – 5 yrs
- 35 projects, 232 tests
- Trend SAG  $W = f(\text{Bond } W_i)$ . Not accurate
- Compare hard and soft ores to DB
- Study new discoveries
- Present info at CIM Toronto, METSOC Sudbury, SME Tucson

**Figure 1 – SAG Pinion Energy Vs Cum. Dist.% of Samples Tested**



**Figure 2 – Bond Ball Mill Work Index Vs Cum. Dist% of Samples Tested**



**Figure 3 – Database SAG and Bond Data by Year – Including Soft and Hard Ore**

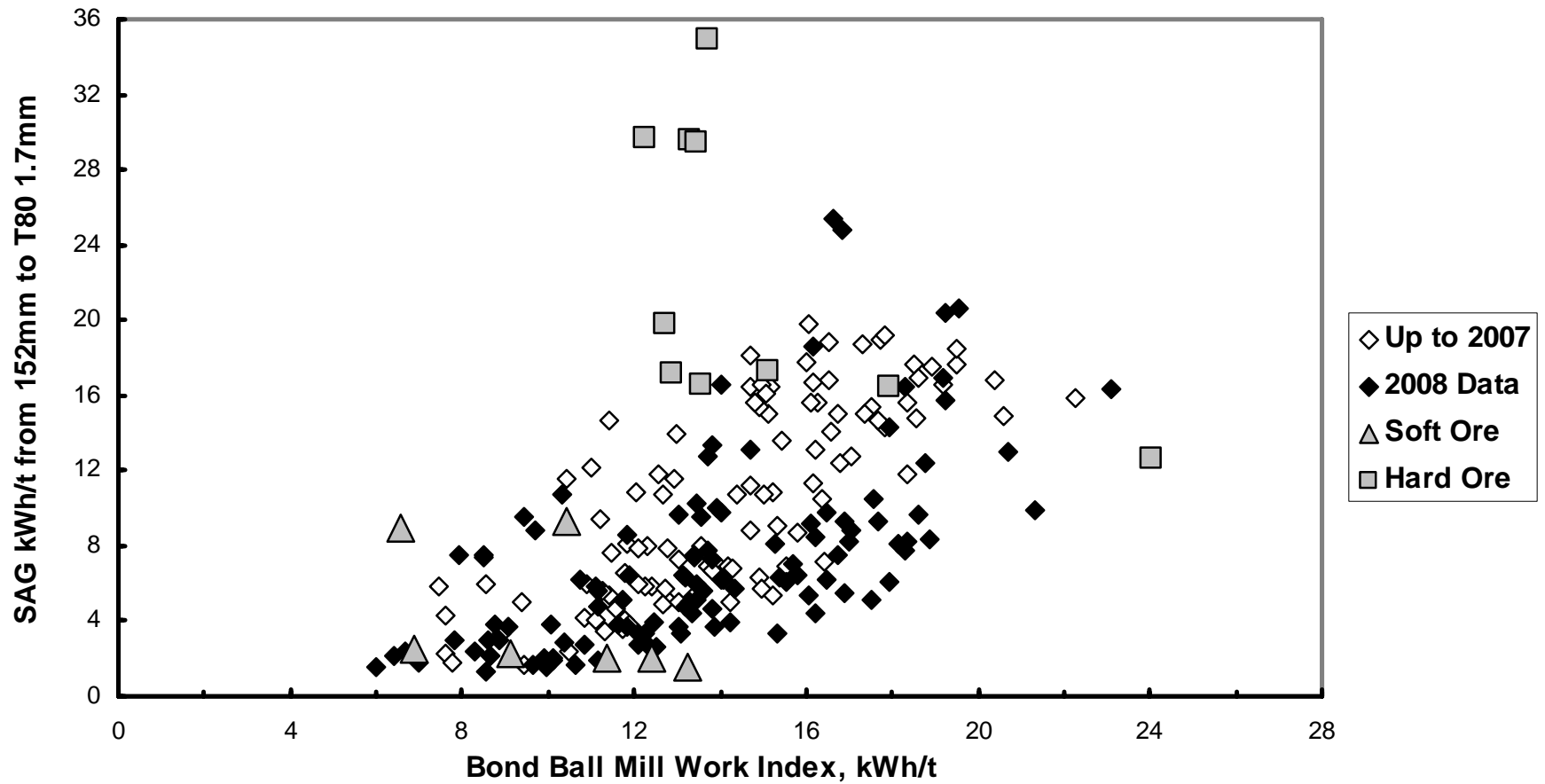


Fig. 4 – SAG Pinion Energy Vs Ratio of SAG/Bond BM Wi Including Soft and Hard Ore

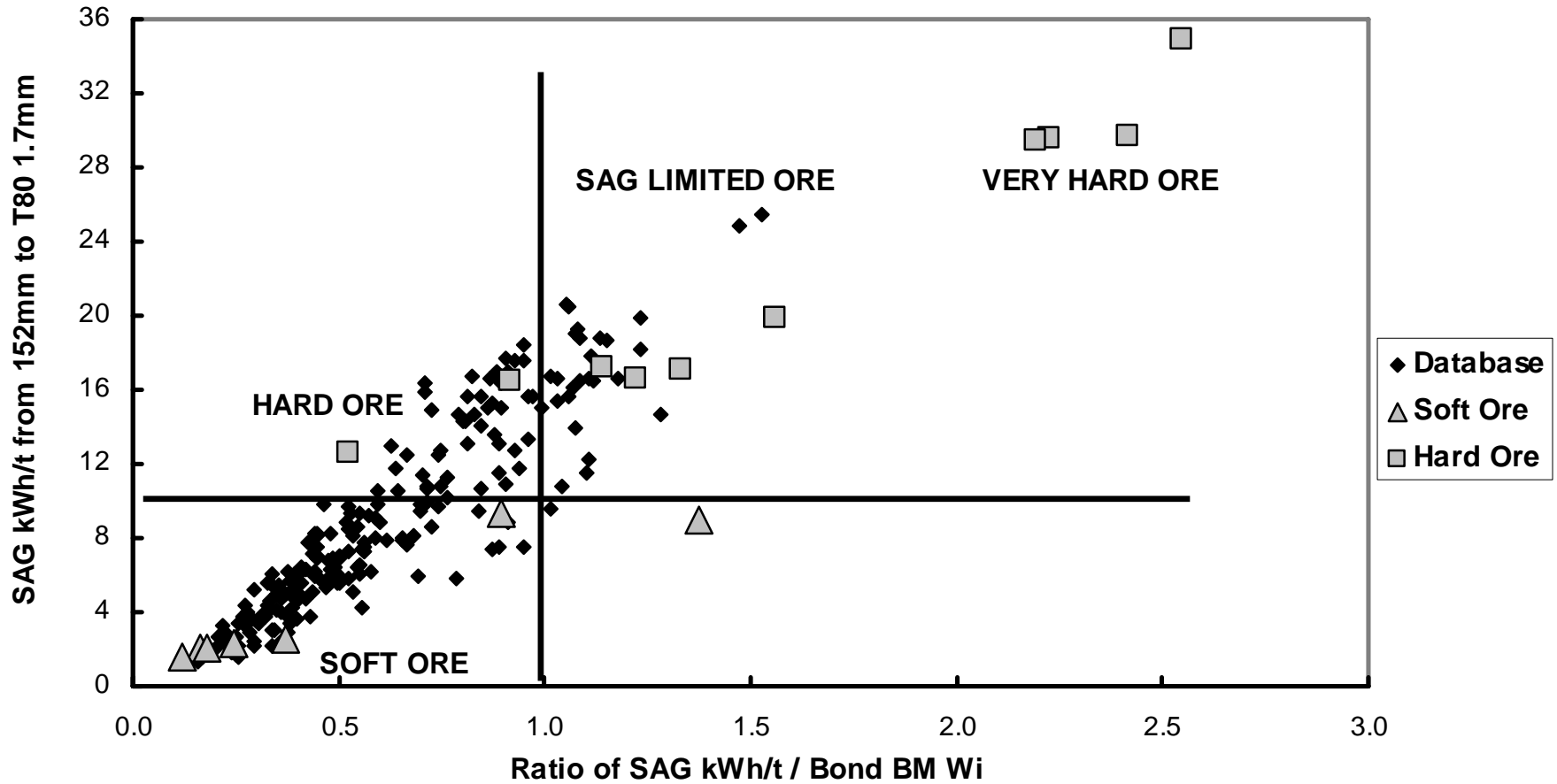
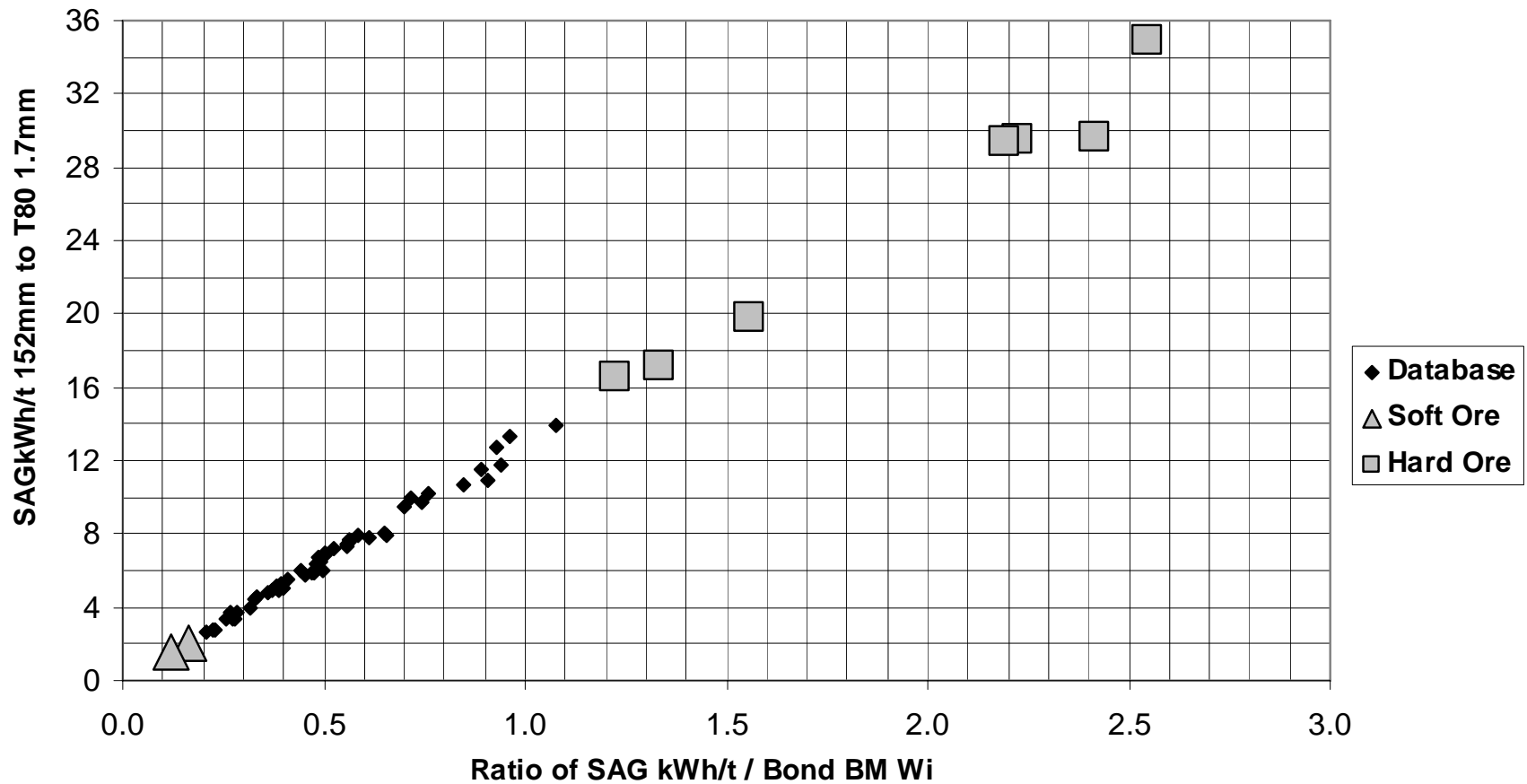


Fig. 5 – SAG kWh/t to 1.7mm Vs Bond BM Wi, 58 Samples with Bond Wi 12 - 14



## 3.1 New Discoveries

Wide variance in SAG W for constant Bond of 13

Energy shifts occur at 2 mm and over 10 mm

Identified macro/micro ratio as key parameter

Consider ratio in design

Calculate mill sizes

Works on every ore

## 3.2 Rotating Mill grinding tests using steel

<u>Test</u>		<u>F80</u>	<u>Mill, In.</u>	<u>Sample</u>
	<u>Remarks</u>			
Bond BM	2	12 x12	10 kg	BM design
Bond RM	10	8 x 20	20 kg	RM design
SPI	12.7	12 x 4	5 kg	Scoping
MacPherson	19	18 x 6	200 kg	Pilot plant
SAGDesign	19	19.2 x 6.4	15 kg	SAG/BM design

Shift in hardness at 2 mm and 10 mm

Tests do a good job for what they were designed to do

SAGDesign most comprehensive

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# Typical mill design calculations

CASE 1 - No pebble crusher. Fixed rpm new SAG and ball mills. 80th% ore.

## A - Calculation of Unit Pinion Energy for SAG Mill and Ball Mill

Reduction for pebble crush 0%

Item	Units		80th%
SAG Mill to 12 mesh US Std.	kWh/t		29.5
Adjust SAG Energy to "T80" $\mu$	1700	SAGDesign test T80	0.0
Total SAG Shell Energy	kWh/t		29.5
B Mill Pinion Energy to "P80" $\mu$	74	design P80	12.3
SAGDesign Bond BM $W_i$	kWh/t		13.4
Total Grinding Energy	kWh/t		41.8
Design SAG Feed - mt/h	215	design t/h	2.2
		Measured Ratio, SAG/BM	

## B - Calculation of Unit Motor Energy for Fixed speed SAG Mill and Ball Mill (Metered Energy)

Item	Factors		80th%
SAG Energy kWh/t * @	1.06	* SAG Motor - corrected for efficiency loss with synchronous motor & clutch	31.3
BM Energy kWh/t ** @	1.06	** BM Motor - corrected for efficiency loss with synchronous motor & clutch	13.0
	0.88	BM diameter correction factor - see Table F	11.4

## C - Calculation of Unit Motor Sizing for Fixed Speed SAG Mill and Ball Mill

Item	Factor***		80th%
SAG Motor kWh/t* @	1.10	SAG Mill operating allowance factor	34.4
BM Motor kWh/t** @	1.05	Ball Mill operating allowance factor	12.0
		Installed unit energy	46.4

Note \*\*\* Includes for SAG operating margin and for ball mill operating margins.

## D - Motors Required for Fixed Speed SAG Mill and Ball Mill

215 t/h 80th%

SAG Mill Motor, kW		7,394
Ball Mill Motor, kW		2,576

## E - Mill Dimensions, Motor Specification, Fixed Speed SAG Mill

Adjust mill D & L to provide req'd kW

Mill	Speed % Crit	Dia, Ft (ID Shell)	A ID - 0.5'	B 26% Load	C 75% Crit	EGL Length	Calculated Motor		Mill Dimensions		
							HP	kW	Instal HP	Dia, ft	EGL, ft
	fixed			10% steel							
SAG Mill	75	32.00	986	4.17	0.1838	13.12	9,916	7,394	10,000	32	13.1
Ball Mill	75	16.00	167	5.02	0.1838	22.37	3,454	2,576	3,500	16	22.4

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# Conclusions

- Take samples that represent the entire ore body
- Design with confidence to achieve t/h stability
- Measure and calculate - is preferred method
- Use the right test
- SAGDesign - for ores over 15 kWh/t (in SAG mill)
- BM Wi can not be used alone for SAG mill design
- SAGDesign - only method that reports in kWh/t at any T80
- The program is affordable..... and fast.....

# References

Six papers available on [SAGDesign.com](http://SAGDesign.com) website

- SAGDesign Testing – What It Is and Why It Works. SAG 2006
- Comparison of Ore Hardness Measurements for Grinding Design for the Tenke Project. CMP 2007
- SAGDesign Testing Review - Case Studies. 2008 IMPC-XXIV
- New Discoveries in the Relationship Between Macro Vs Micro Grindability. CIM 2009
- Impact on Mill Design and Flotation Control of new Discoveries in the Relationship Between Macro and Micro Grindability. METSOC 2009
- Impact on Grinding Mill Design of Recent New Discoveries



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***Thank you !***

***Your questions are welcomed.***