

Hochaufgelöstes konfokales Raman-Imaging

Neue Einblicke in der Polymeranalytik

AK Polymeranalytik, Darmstadt 2019

Dr. Jan Englert, WITec GmbH



WITec Headquarters – Partners & Network

Cutting-Edge Technologies in Microscopy & Spectroscopy



Headquarters
Germany



WITec Spain



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● WITec sales and service partners



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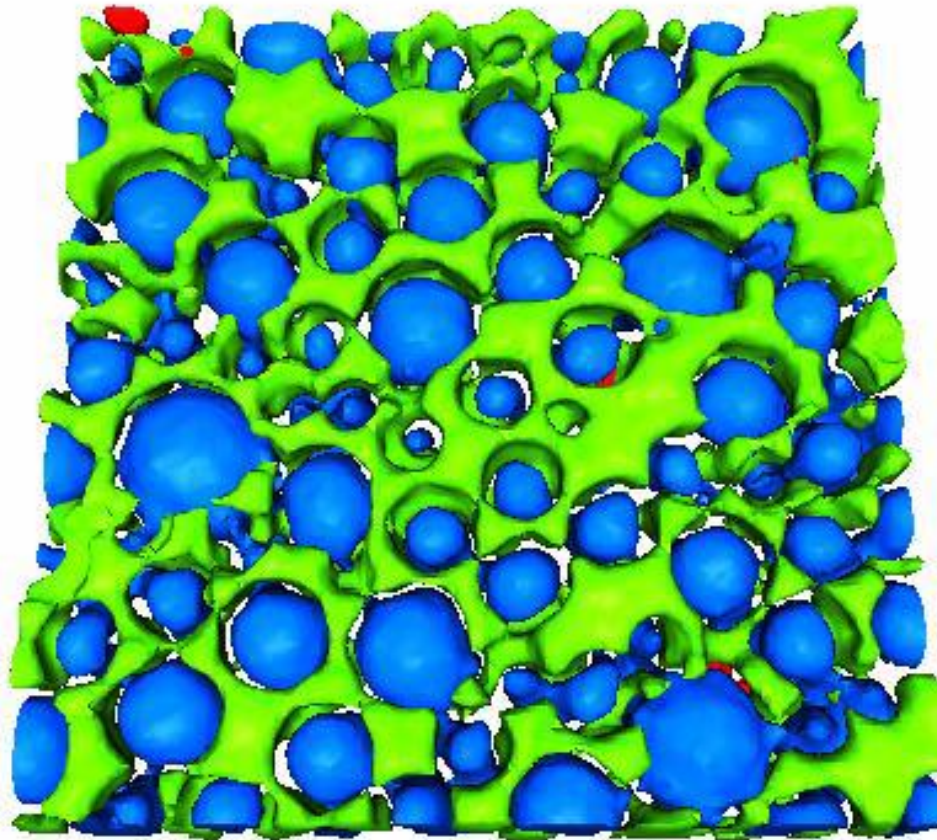


WITec Asian
Pacific

made
in
Germany

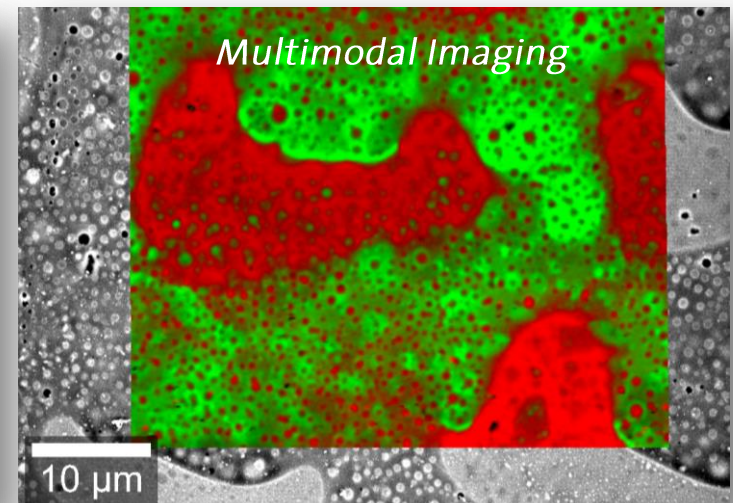
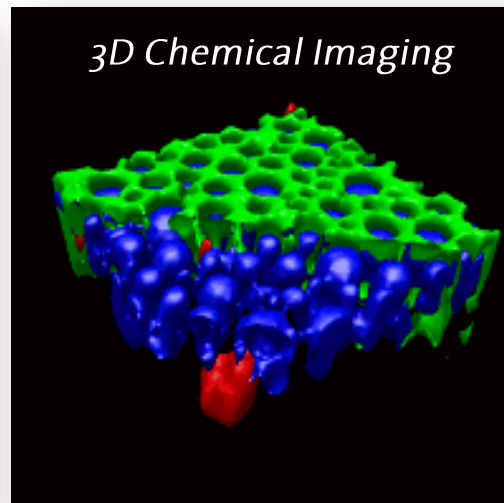
What can you expect?

3D High-Resolution Chemical Imaging



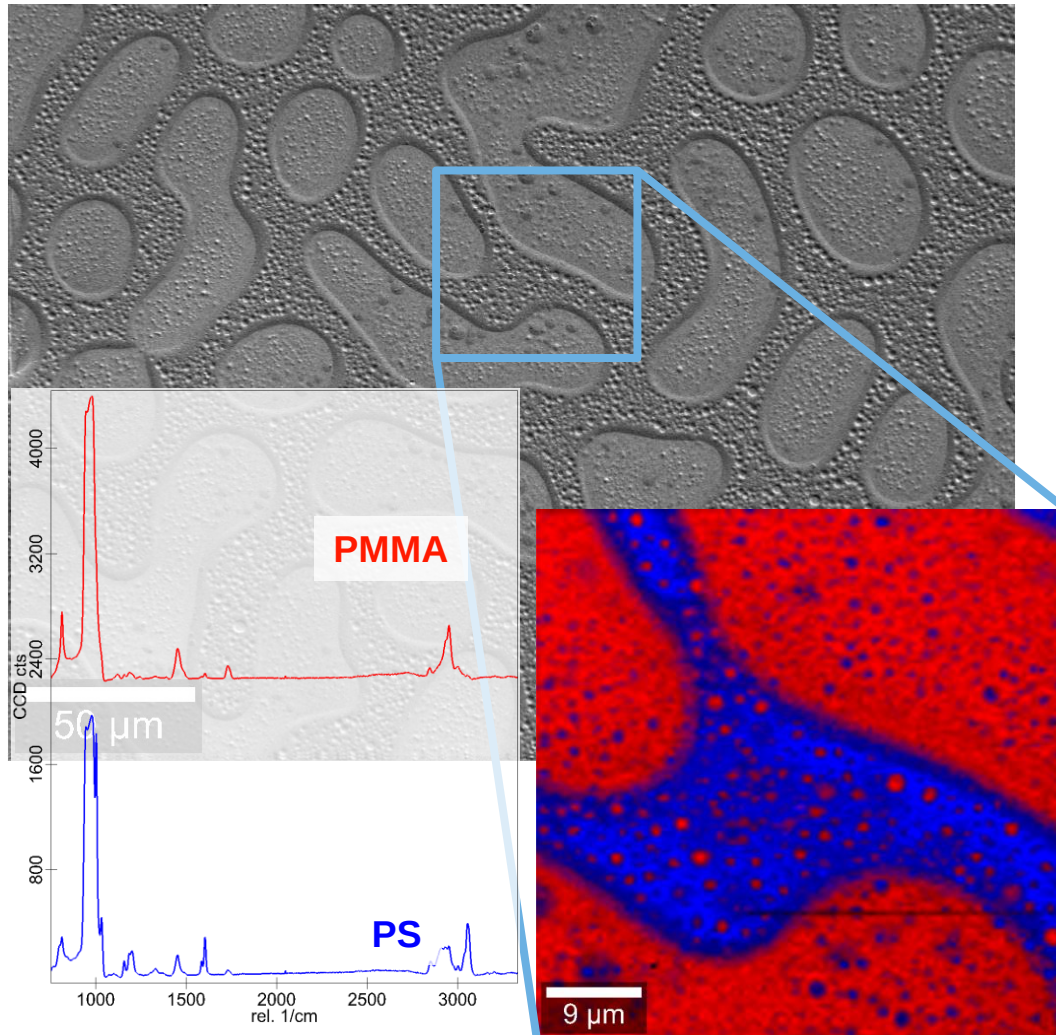
Products & Solutions

Cutting-Edge Technologies in Microscopy & Spectroscopy



Products & Solutions

Performance without compromises – Every component is vital



Measurement Workflow:

- Image Acquisition
 - High Resolution AOI
 - Large field of view
- Raman Acquisition
 - 50 mW 532nm Laser
 - 50 x 50 μm² scan area
 - 100 nm pixel size
 - 0.25 Mio. spectra
 - 2 ms Integration time/pixel
 - ~ 9 min. total integration time
- Spectral Analysis WITec SuiteFIVE
 - Software supported identification of components
 - Generation of component's maps
- Superimposition of color coded maps on SEM image

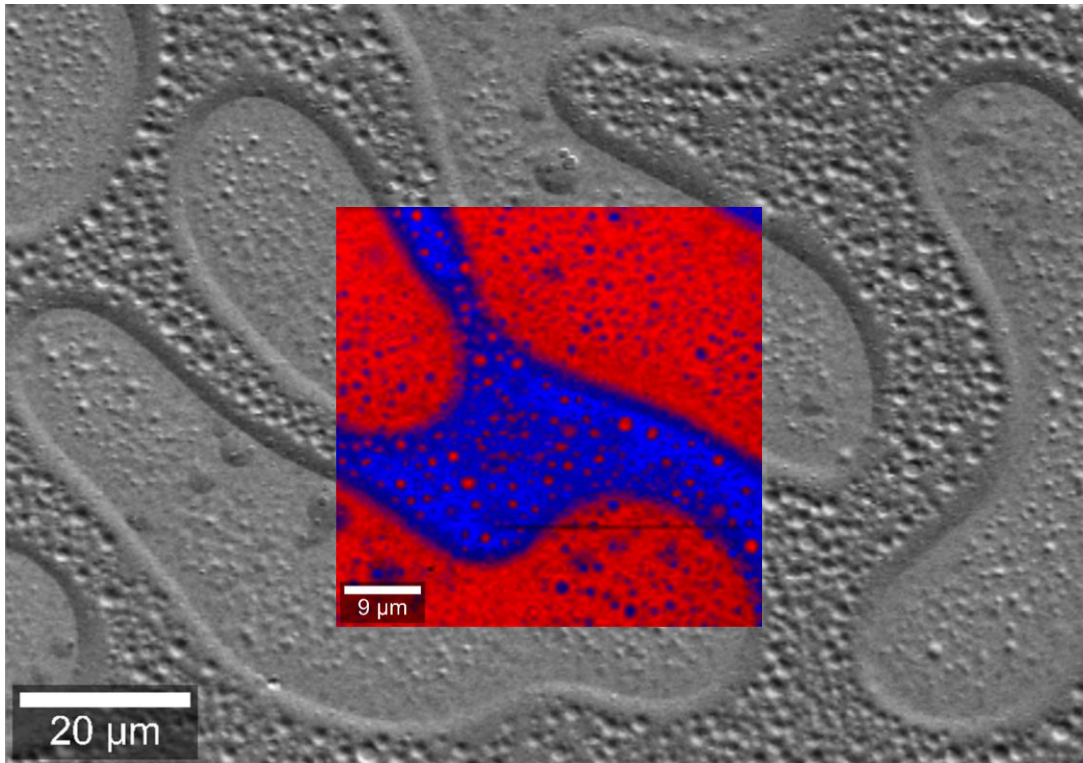


Download Brochure:

WITec RISE Microscopy

Products & Solutions

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Web Link Raman on Polymers:
www.witec.de/applications/polymers/



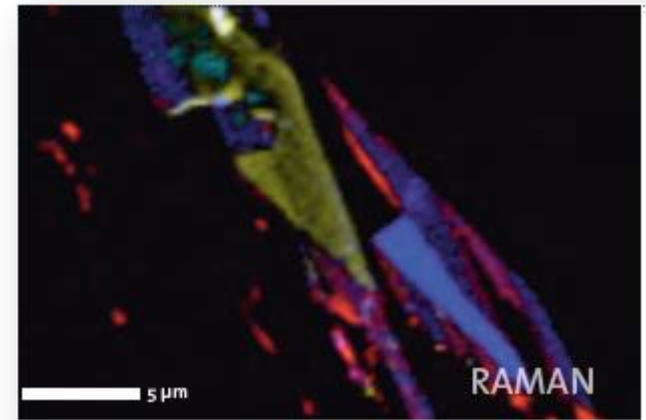
Download Brochure:
[WITec RISE Microscopy](#)

Products & Solutions

Integration of SPM and Optical Microscopy without compromise

alpha300 Series

The Instruments

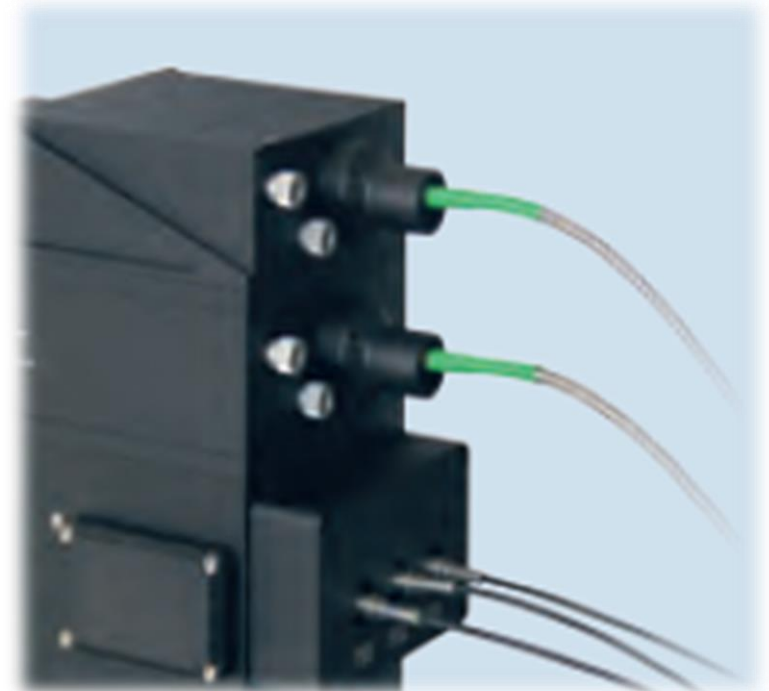
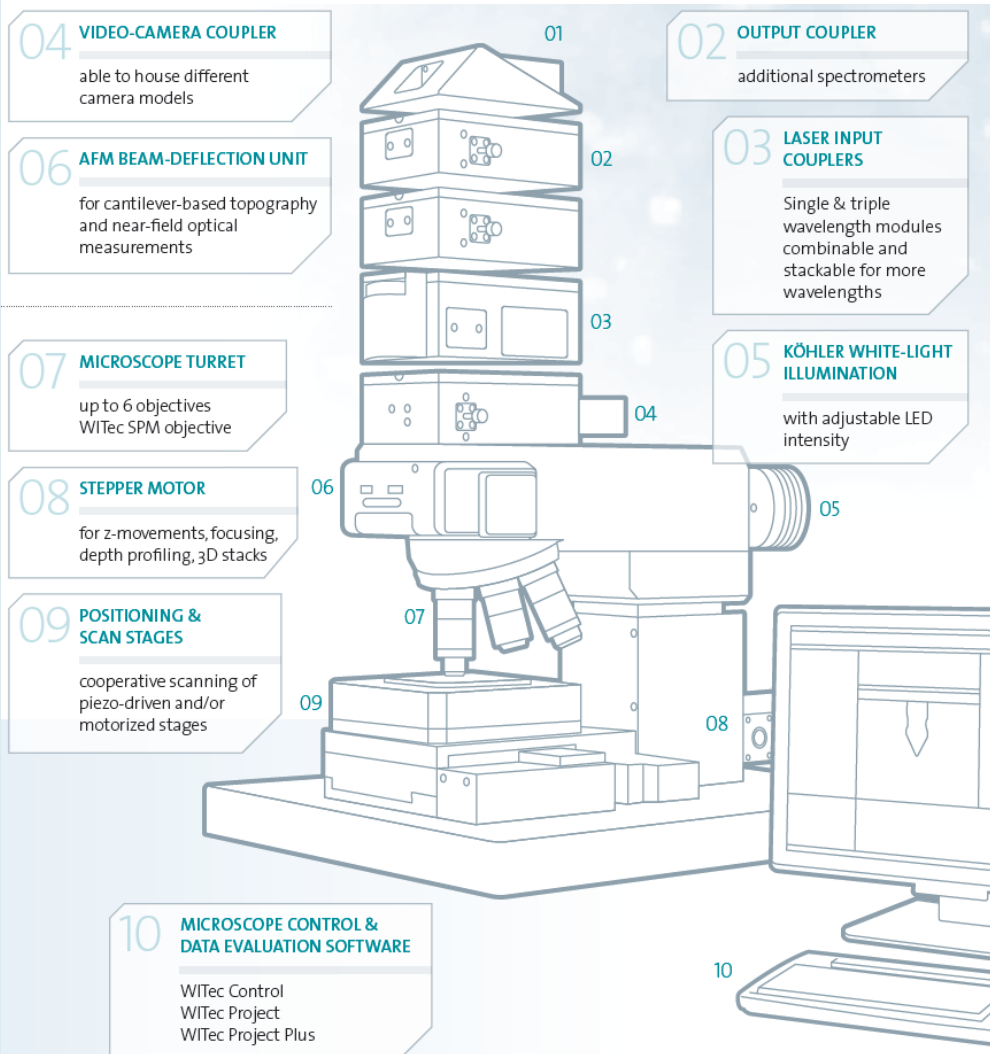


Download Brochure:

WITec alpha300 Microscope

Products & Solutions

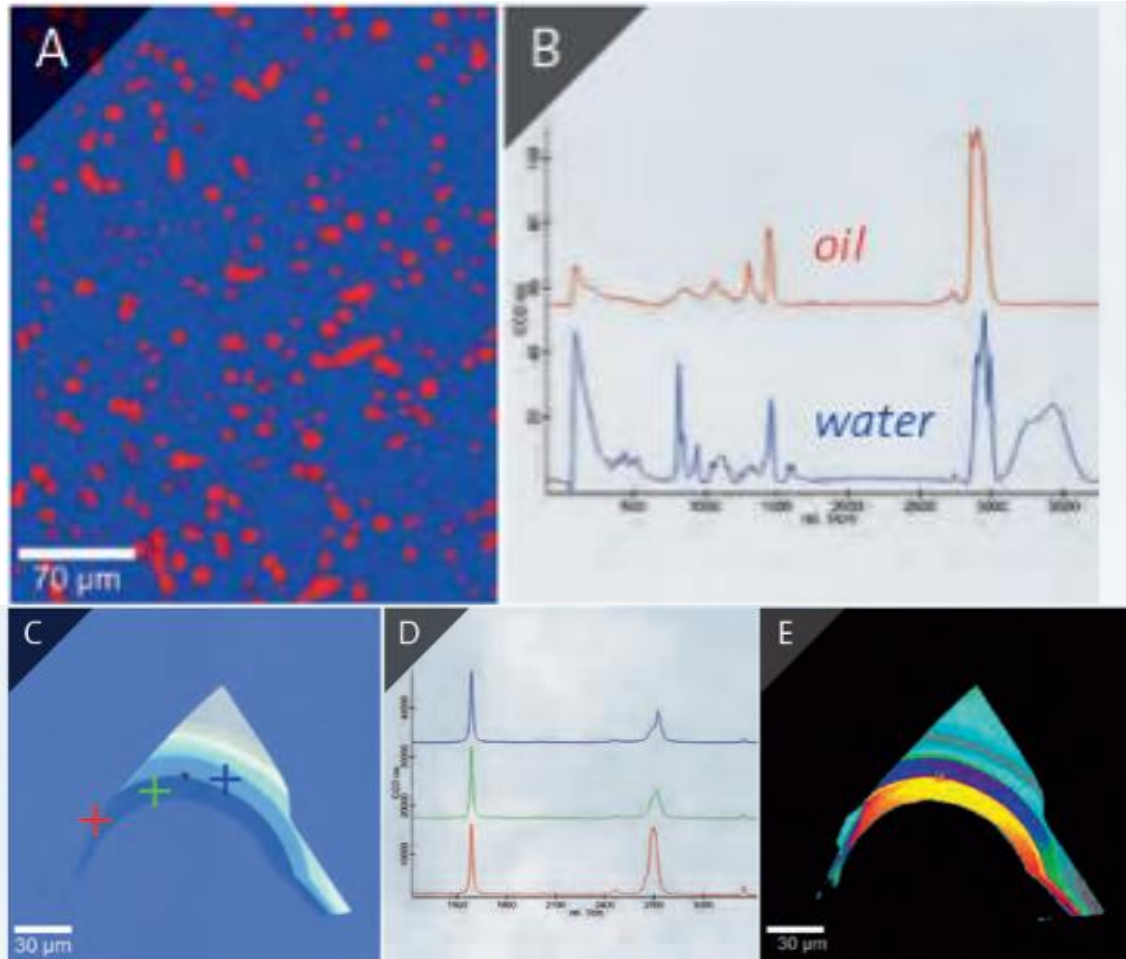
Flexible Beampath – Accepts new challenges by design



Download Brochure:
WITec alpha300 Microscope

Products & Solutions

When benchtop and upgrade capabilities count – WITec *alpha ACCESS*

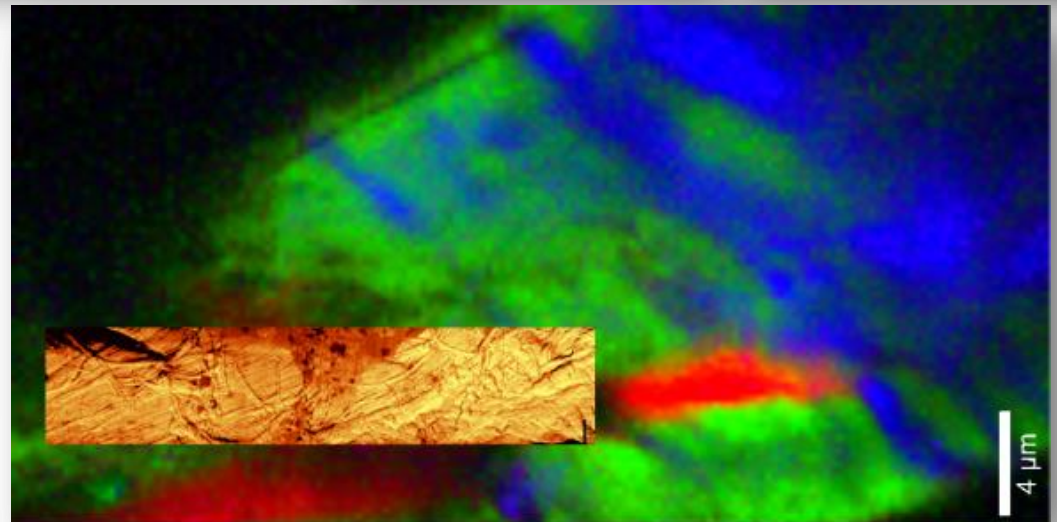
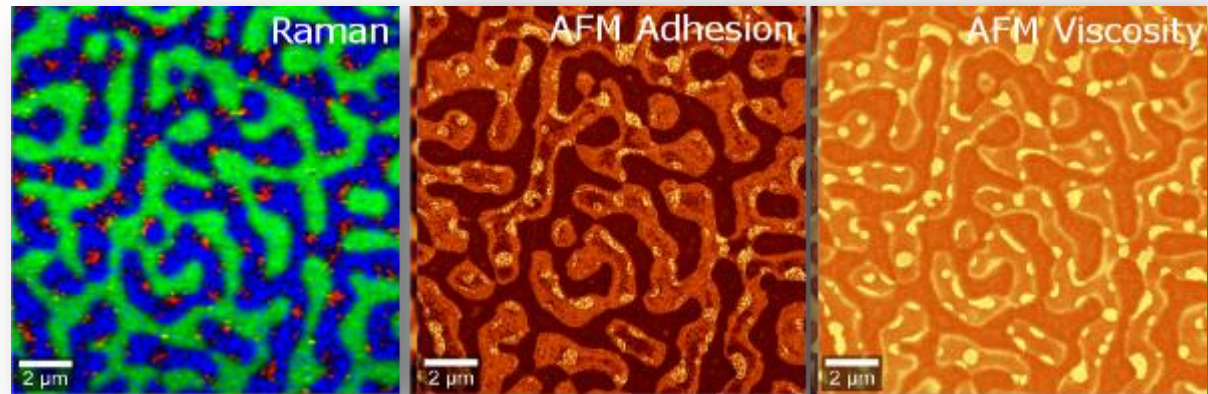


Download Brochure:
WITec alpha300 access

Gain entrance to the Raman world today –
Stay flexible for emerging challenges tomorrow

Products & Solutions

Chemical and Nanoscale Structural Imaging in one System – *alpha300RA*



Download Brochure:

WITec alpha300 Microscope



Web Link Raman on Polymers:

www.witec.de/applications/polymers/

Products & Solutions

When simplicity meets performance – WITec *apyron* Microscope

Laser wavelength selection from UV to NIR

Automated adjustment and calibration of spectrometer and microscope components, including filters, gratings and cameras

BENEFITS:

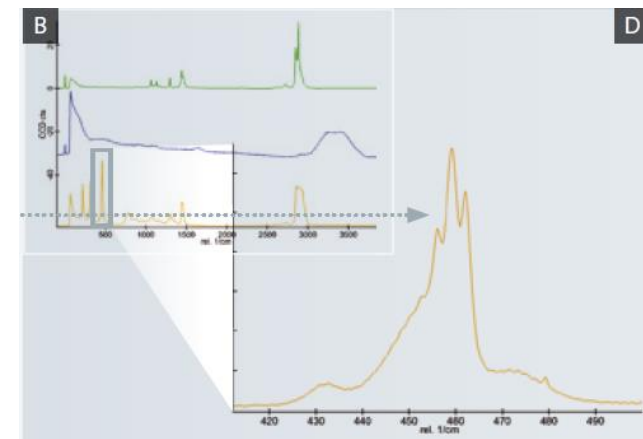
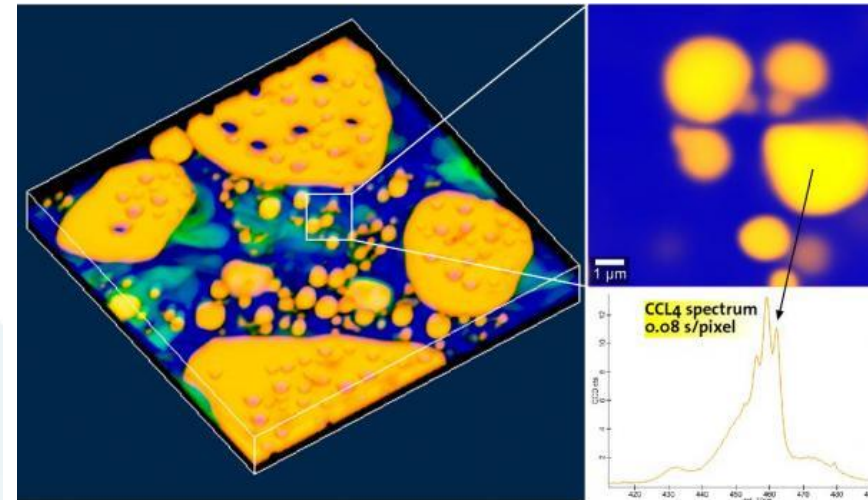
- User-friendly laser selection with a mouse click
- Consistently optimized system performance

Focus stabilization

Automated routine that employs a user selectable reference point to optimize the Raman signal and compensates for thermal and mechanical variations during long-term measurements

BENEFITS:

- Stable focus for sharp Raman images
- Lab environment-independent results



Class-leading Performance: Automatically



Download Brochure:

WITec apyron Microscope

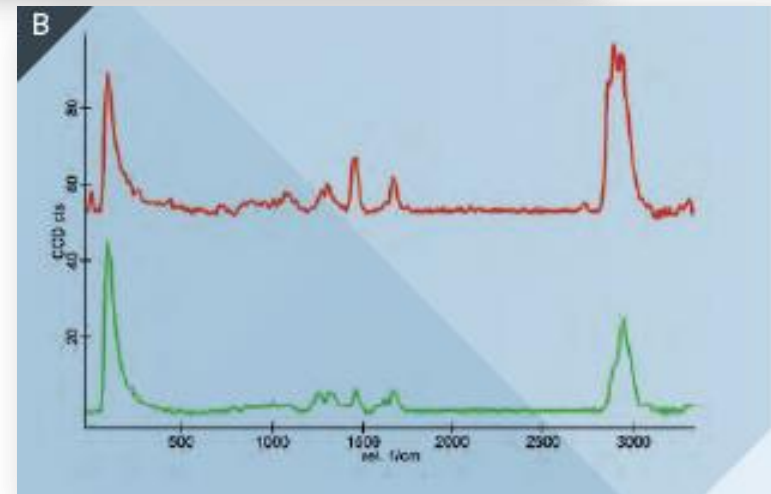
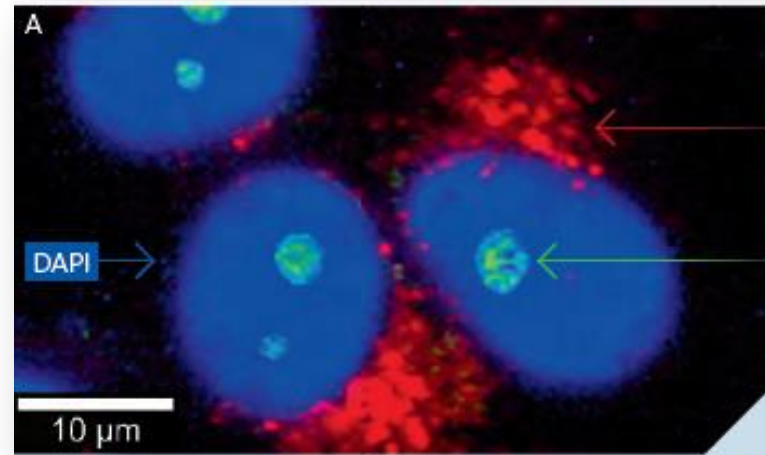


Video Link:

WITec apyron Microscope

Products & Solutions

Looking to your samples at a new angle – WITec inverted *alpha300 Ri*



Download Brochure:

WITec alpha300 Ri Microscope

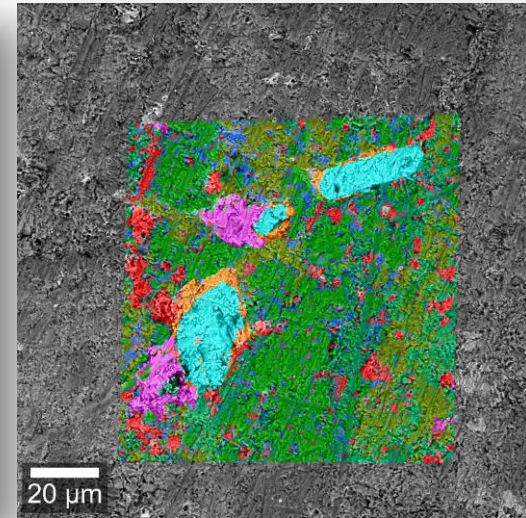
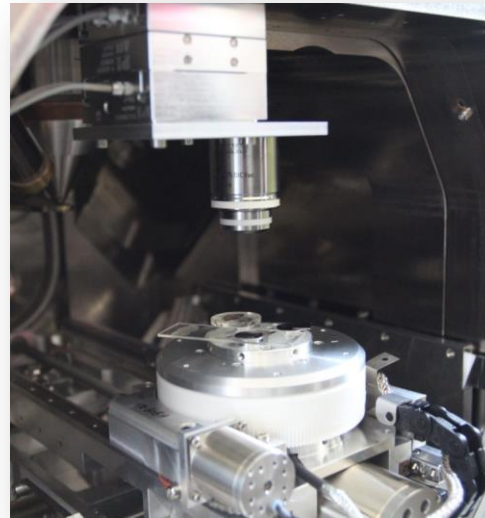


Video Link:

WITec Product release video @ Analytica Munich 2018

Products & Solutions

Correlative Microscopy with Raman integrated in SEM – RISE Microscopy



Download Brochure:
[WITec RISE Microscopy](#)



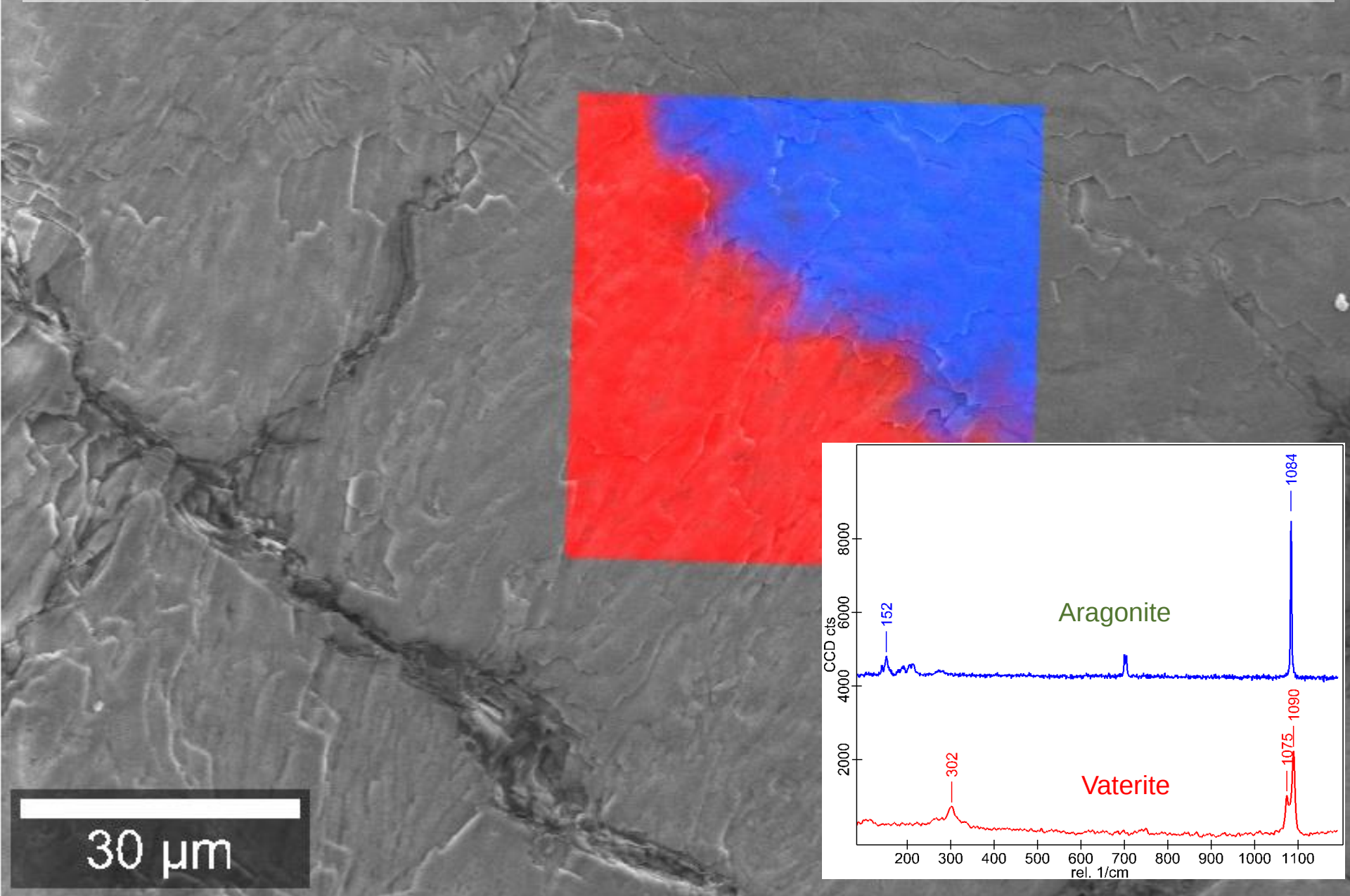
Download AppNote:
[One the RISE](#)



Video Link:
[RISE Extension on ZEISS Sigma300](#)

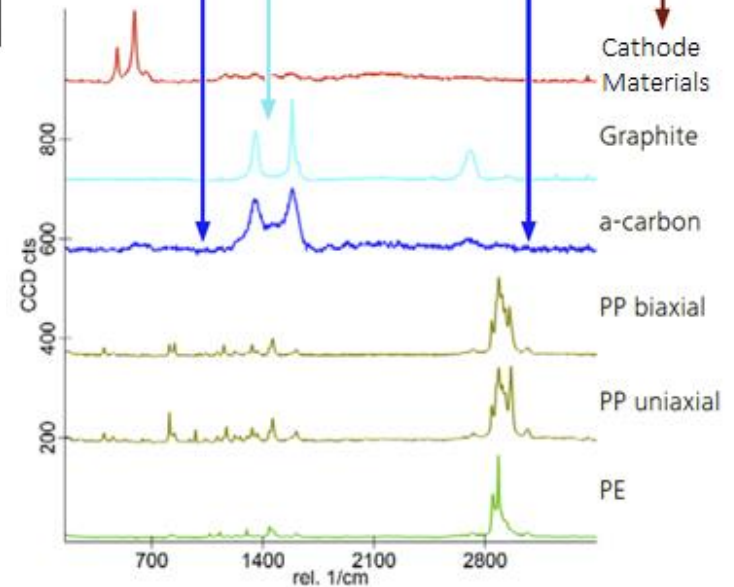
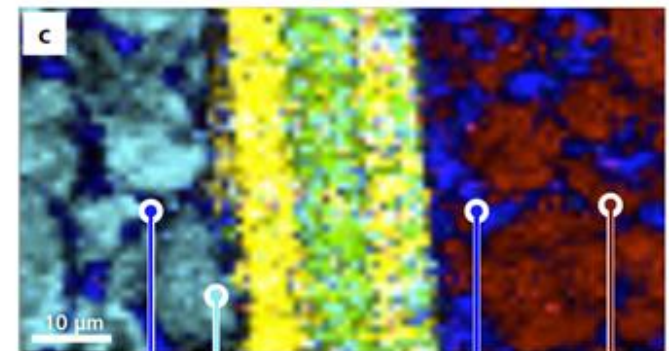
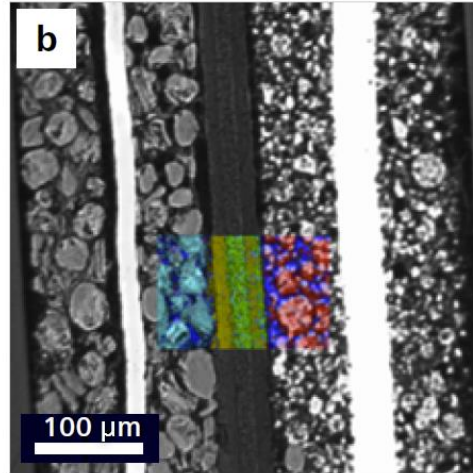
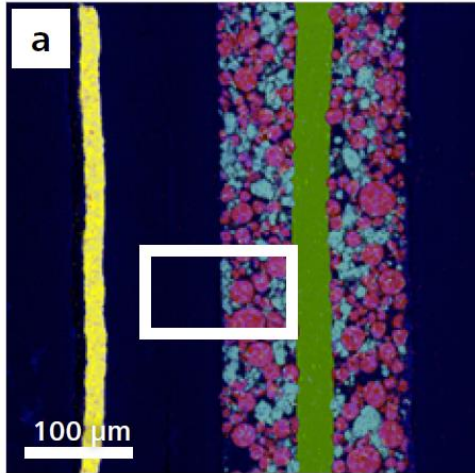
Multimodal Imaging – Raman & SEM

Integration of a fully confocal Raman Microscope inside a SEM



Application Example

Battery Separator (SEM/EDS/RISE)



- Commercial 18650 battery was cross-sectioned and imaged using correlative SEM, EDS and confocal Raman capabilities
- Results reviewed the multi-phase nature of the separator, including:
 - Uniaxial/Biaxial PP
 - PE



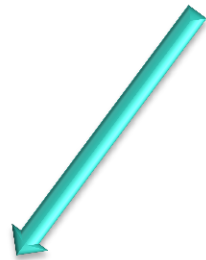
Web Link Battery Failure analysis:

www.zeiss.com/microscopy/

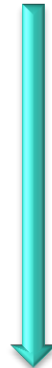
High resolution Raman Imaging

Outline

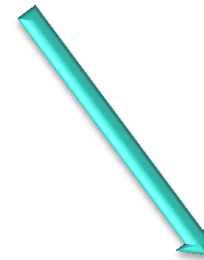
Confocal Raman Imaging



1. Confocal microscopy



2. Basics of Raman spectroscopy

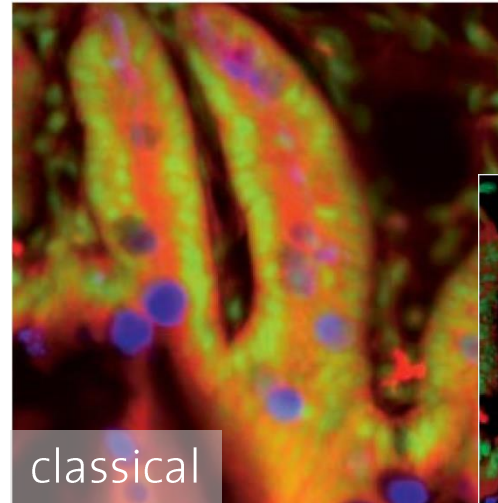
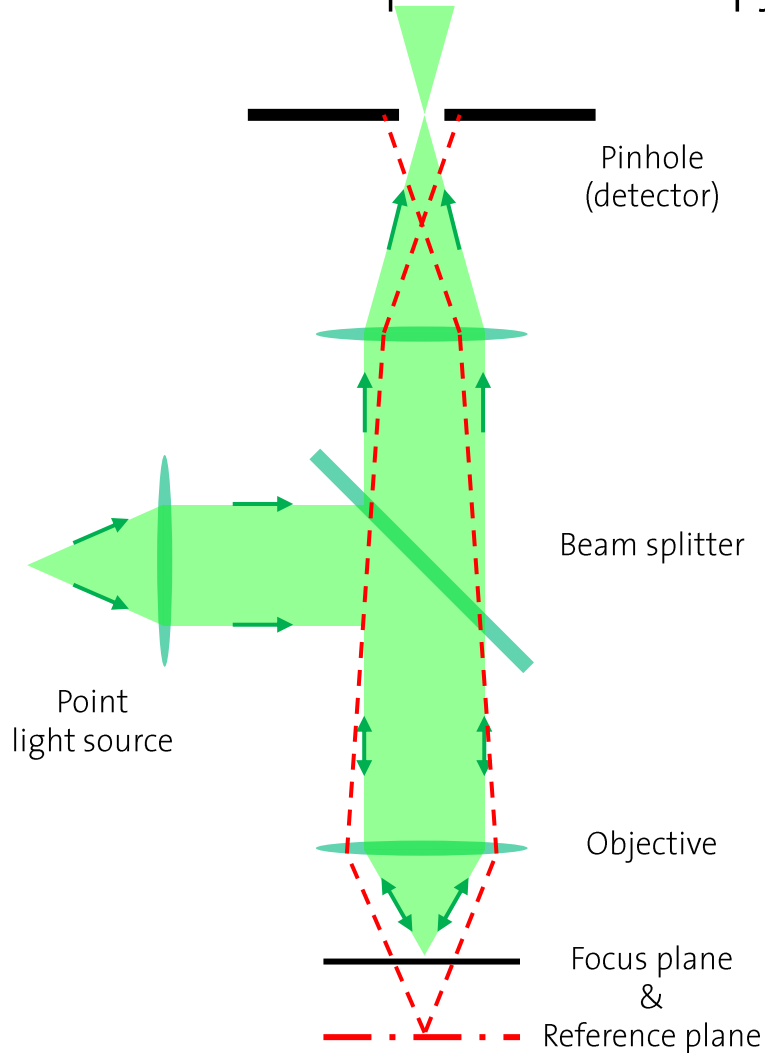


3. Throughput optimization

Diffraction limited Microscopy with chemical contrast at ultimate integration times

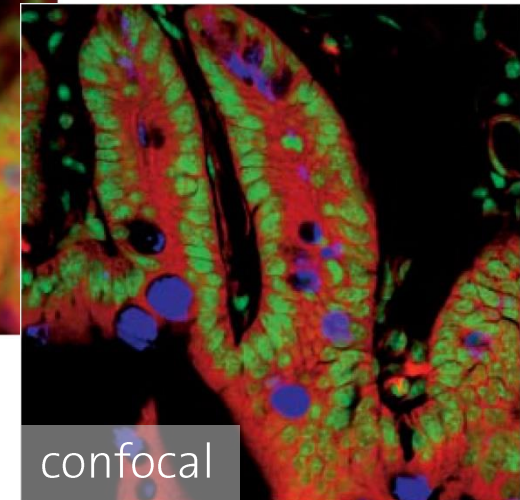
Basics of Confocal Raman Imaging

Resolution in optical microscopy



Triply-labelled
cell aggregate

Source: www.zeiss.de



Benefits of confocal microscopy:

- Less background which causes “blurring”
- 3D information by slicing the sample optically
- Enhanced resolution ...

Basics of Confocal Raman Imaging

Resolution in optical microscopy – lateral resolution

Resolution limit of an optical microscope?

Ernst Abbé (1840-1905): Diffraction Theory

$$\Delta x_{\min} \approx \lambda_{\text{exc}} / NA$$

NA is an inherent property of the used objective:

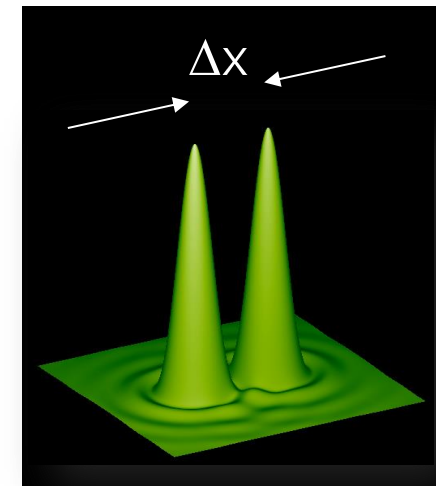
- defines collection angle/collection efficiency
- inverse proportional to the working distance



High resolution requires high NA, not high magnification



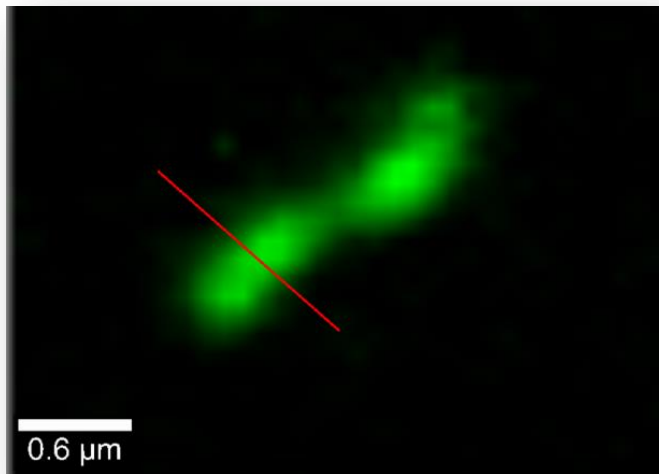
$$NA = n * \sin(\alpha)$$



Basics of Confocal Raman Imaging

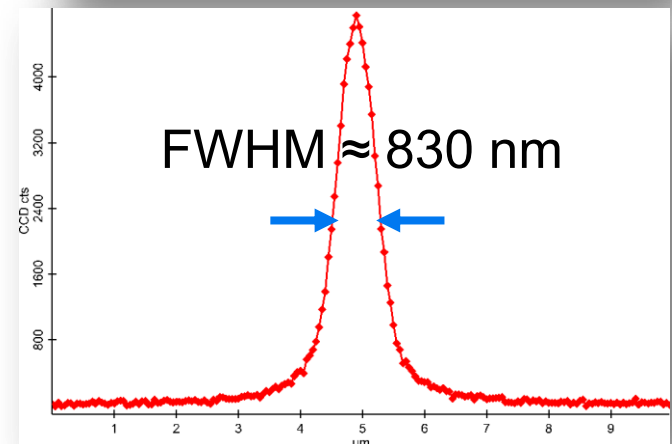
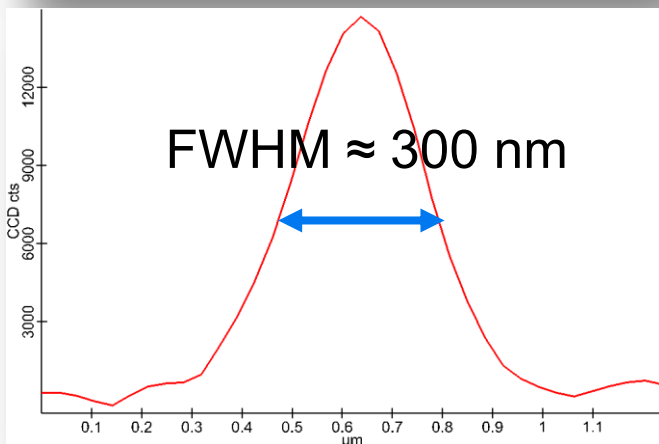
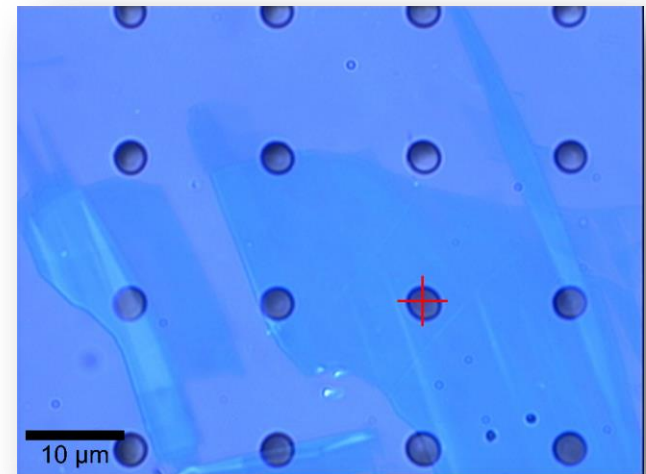
How can resolution of a confocal optical microscope be determined?

Isolated CNTs & suspended graphene – ideal system to measure resolution



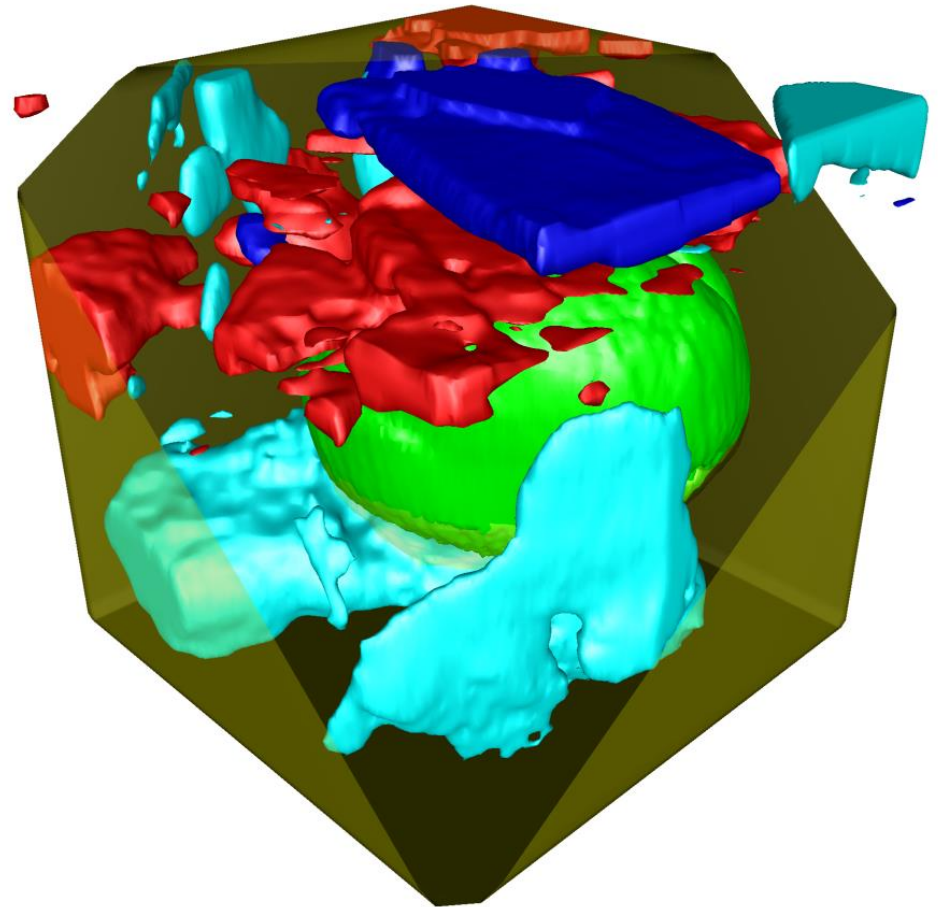
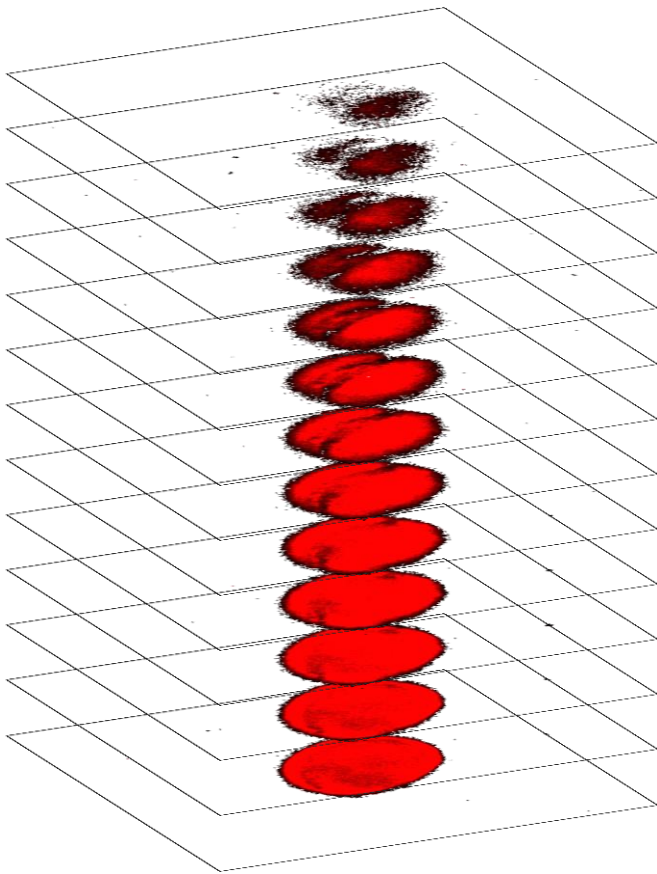
Excitation Laser:
532nm

Objective:
100x/0.90NA



Basics of Confocal Raman Imaging

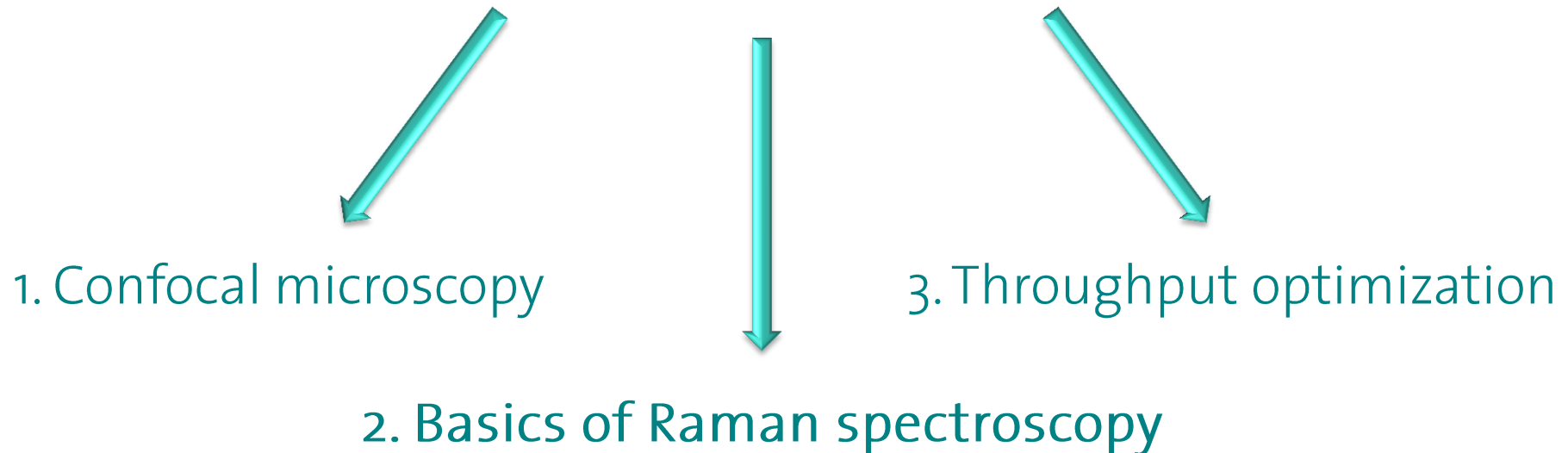
3D Reconstruction – getting an inside view



High resolution Raman Imaging

Outline

Confocal Raman Imaging



Diffraction limited Microscopy with chemical contrast at ultimate integration times

Basics of Raman Spectroscopy

Where do we come from

- non-resonant excitation (Stokes) or annihilation (Anti-Stokes) of a vibrational quantum
- energy shift between the exciting and scattered photon is characteristic for the molecules involved in the scattering process

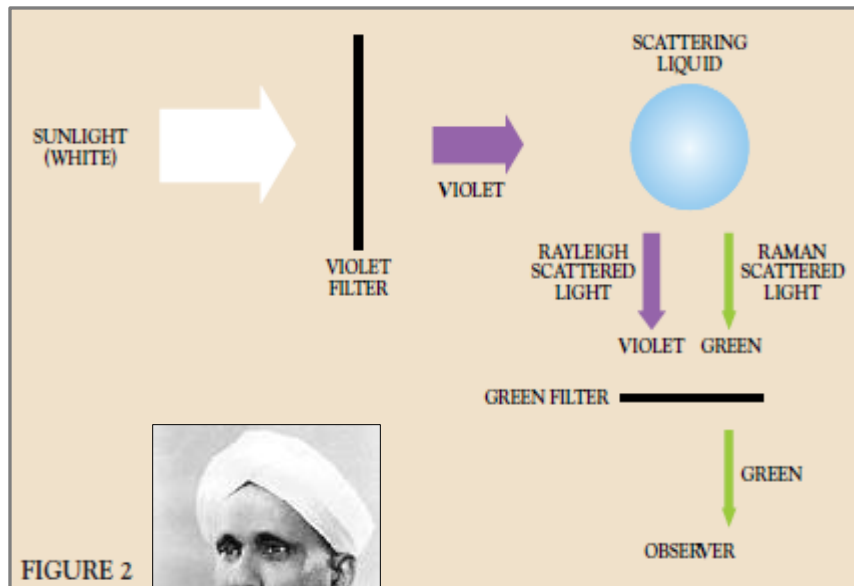
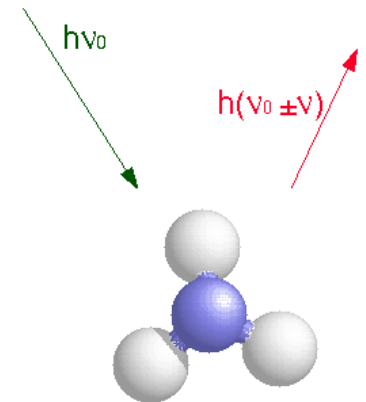


Image Courtesy:
 The Raman Effect
 American Chemical Society
 The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science



Although Raman's original experiments were done by visual observation, precise measurements were made with this quartz spectrograph and first made public by Raman in a lecture in Bangalore on March 16, 1928.

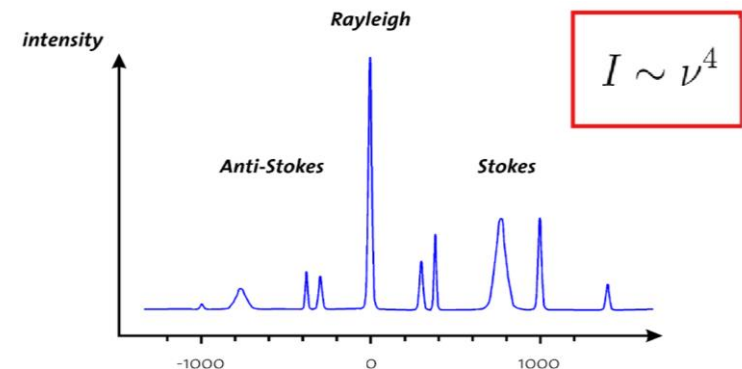
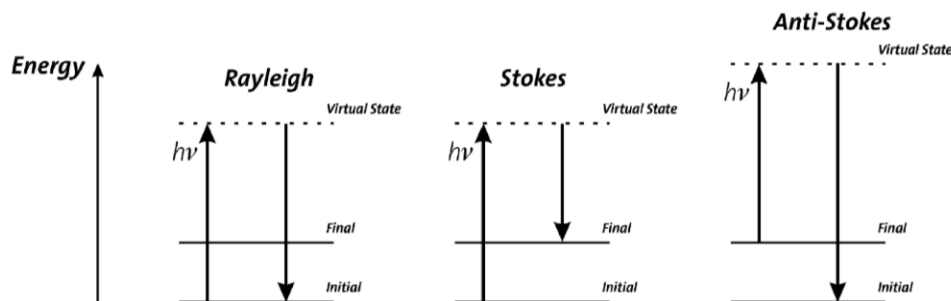
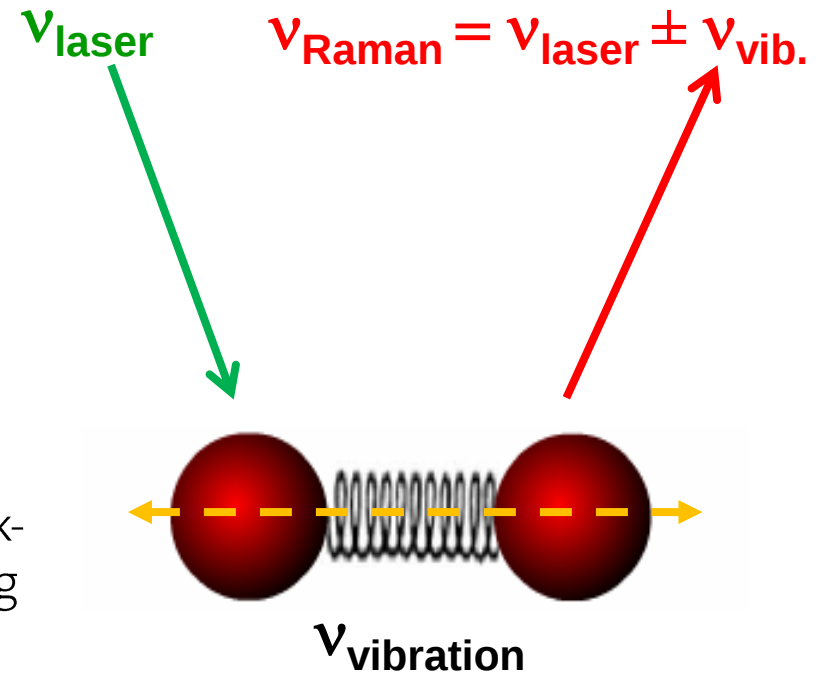
Image Courtesy:
 The Raman Effect
 American Chemical Society
 The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science

Basics of Raman Spectroscopy

What can be measured spectrally - Nitrogen

Raman effect:

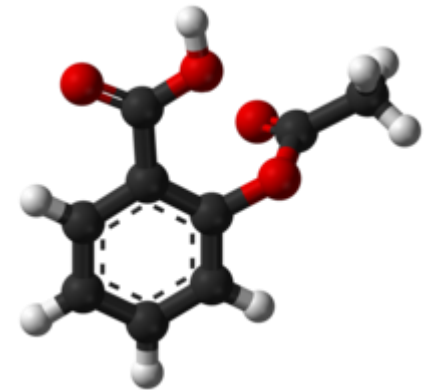
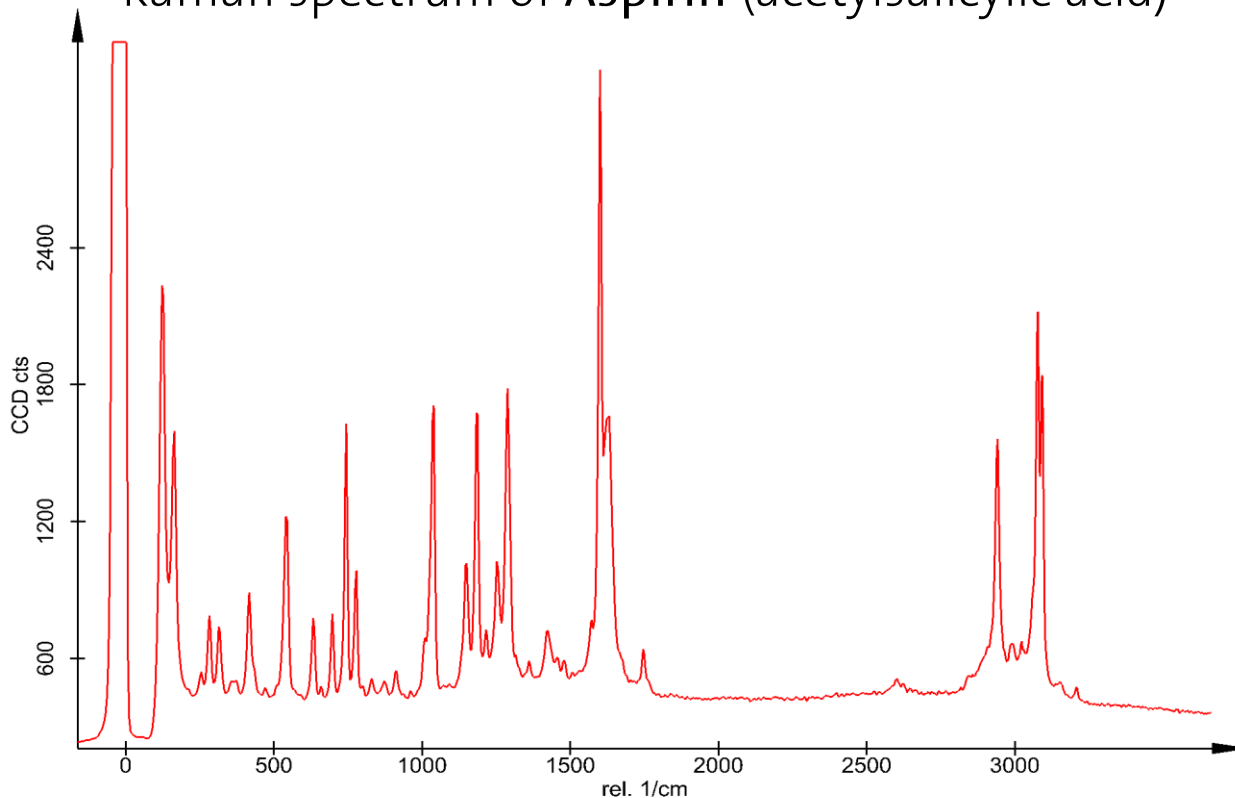
- non-resonant **excitation** of vibrational quantum states (vibs) – comparable to IR
- $N_{\text{vibs}} = 3N_{\text{atoms}} - 3v_{\text{transl.}} - 3v_{\text{rot.}}$
- energy shift between the excitation and scattered photon is characteristic for the back-driving force and hence the nature of bonding within the target (C-C vs. C=C or C=O etc.)



Basics of Raman Spectroscopy

What can be measured spectrally – organic molecules

Raman spectrum of **Aspirin** (acetylsalicylic acid)



$C_9H_8O_4 \rightarrow 57$ Eigenvibrations

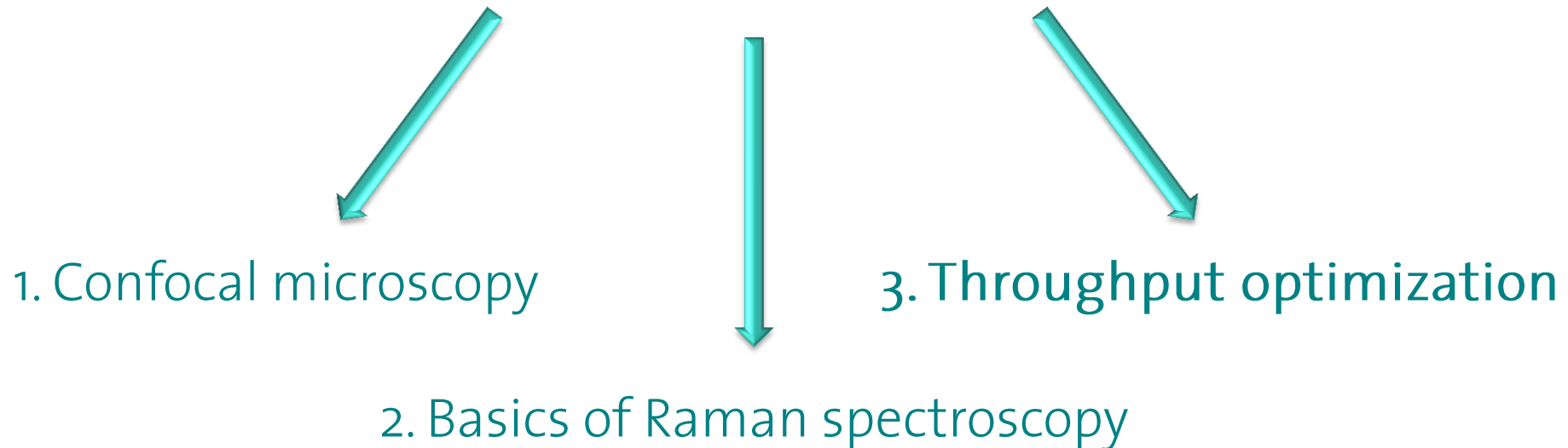


- theoretical prediction 1923 by A. Smekal
- experimentally discovered 1928 by Sir Chandrasekhara Raman, Nobel Prize 1930

High resolution Raman Imaging

Outline

Confocal Raman Imaging



Diffraction limited Microscopy with chemical contrast at ultimate integration times

Basics of Raman Spectroscopy

Hurdles and Challenges for Imaging – Low Signal Intensity

Confocal Microscope

Low photon throughput (Pinhole)

Raman Process

Low quantum yield ($10^{-3} - 10^{-4}$)

long acquisition/integration times can be anticipated

Standard Setup (Step-by-Step Mapping)

Range: $100 \times 100 \mu\text{m}^2$ @ 250nm steps

Resolution: $400 \times 400 \text{ px.} = 160\text{k px.}$

Pixel integration time: 500 ms

Total integration time: **~22 hours**

Optimized Setup (Continuous Imaging)

Range: $100 \times 100 \mu\text{m}^2$ @ 250nm steps

Resolution: $400 \times 400 \text{ px.} = 160\text{k px.}$

Pixel integration time: 2 ms

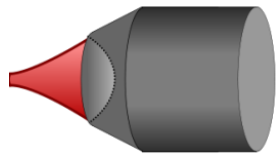
Total integration time: **~6 minutes**

- Short integration times needed (max. 100 ms / pixel)
 - System must have highest efficiency possible

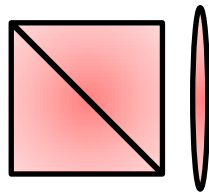
Basics of Raman Spectroscopy

Challenges for Imaging – Optimization of Beampath Efficiency

Objective



Coupling Element
& Filter



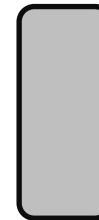
Focusing
Element



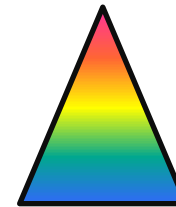
Pinhole /
Slit



Fibers /
Mirrors



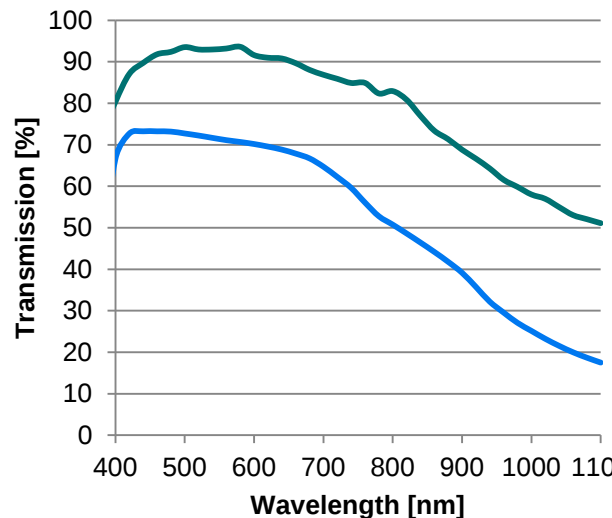
Spectrograph
& Grating



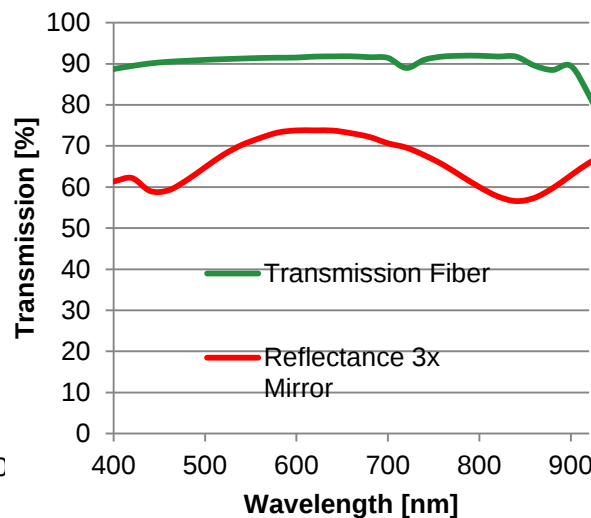
CCD
Camera



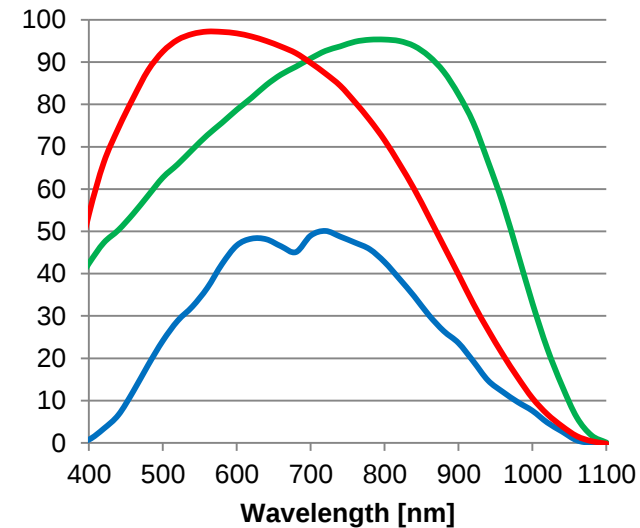
Objective



Fibers/Mirrors



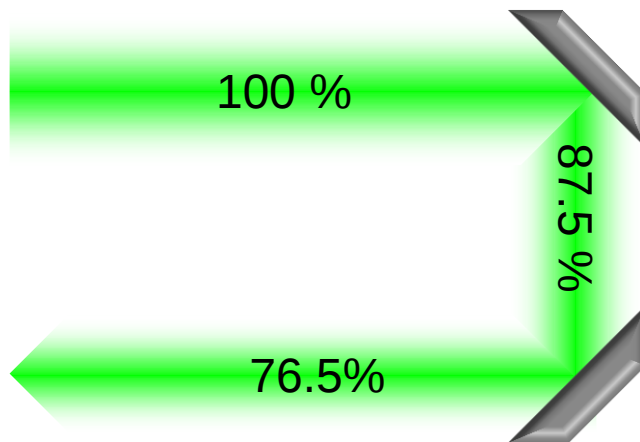
CCD-Detectors



Products & Solutions

Challenges for Imaging – Optimization of Beampath Efficiency

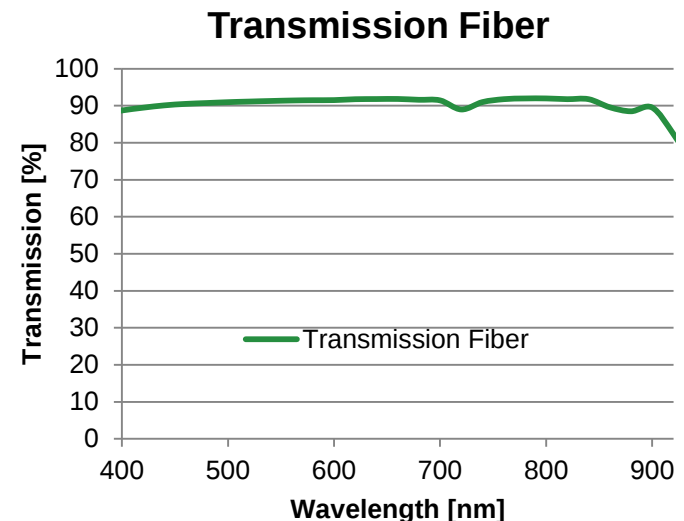
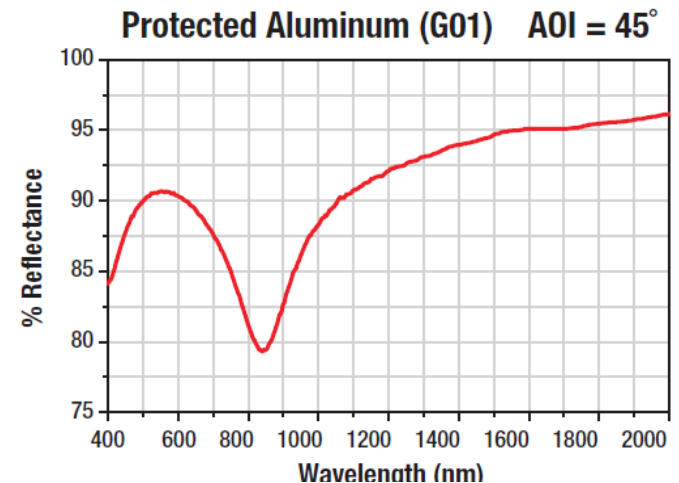
Mirrors vs. Optical Fibers: Reflectivity of Fresh Aluminum



Further benefits:

- no additional pinhole
- no additional entrance slit at spectrometer
- no additional optics for spectrometer aperture matching
- no additional optical table needed
- no restrictions in placing the optical periphery

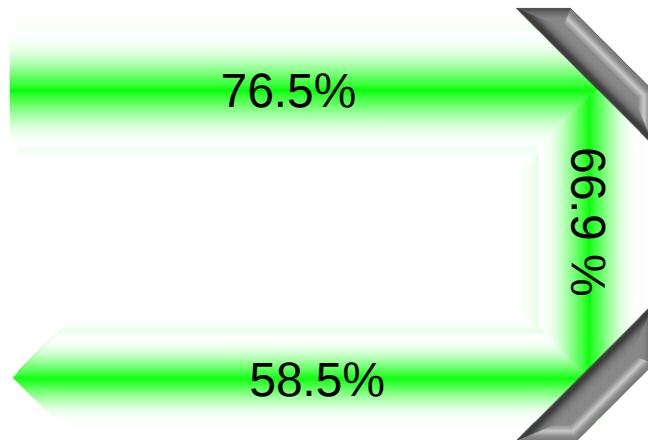
Source: thorlabs.de



Products & Solutions

Challenges for Imaging – Optimization of Beampath Efficiency

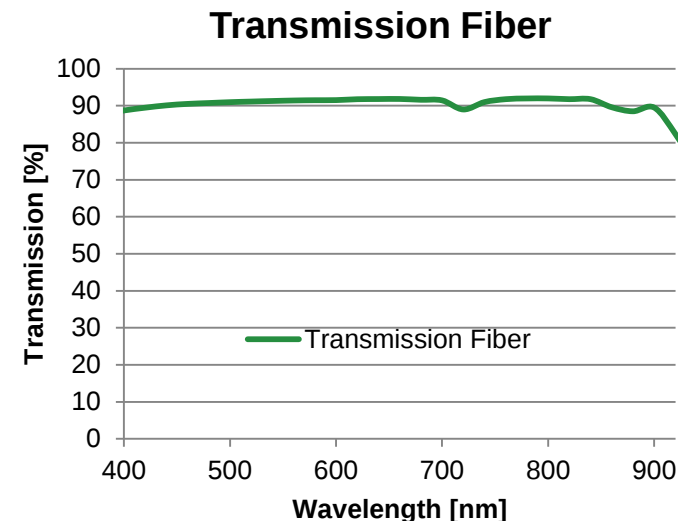
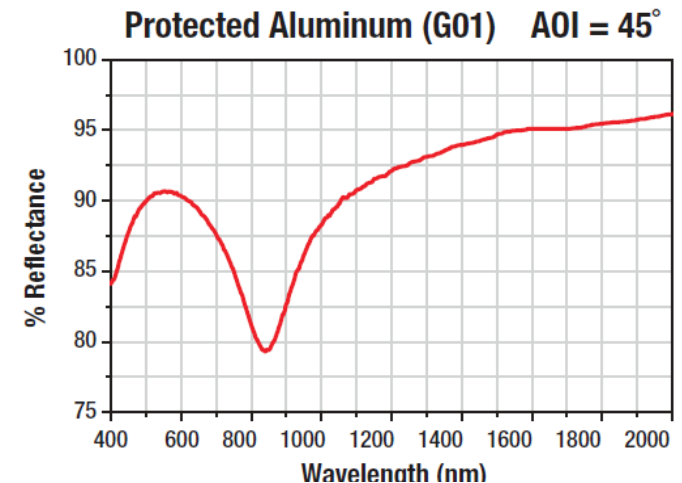
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Source: thorlabs.de



Products & Solutions

Challenges for Imaging – Optimization of Beampath Efficiency

Mirrors vs. Optical Fibers:
Reflectivity of Fresh Aluminum

Already 5 mirrors with 87.5% reflectivity

Lead to ~50% of signal loss!

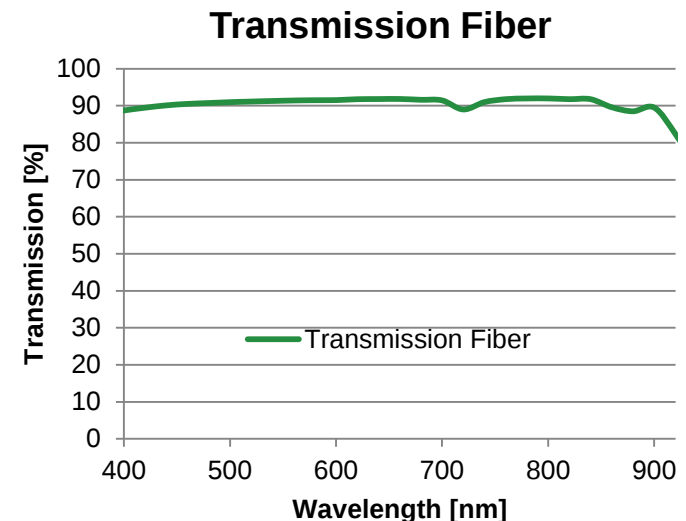
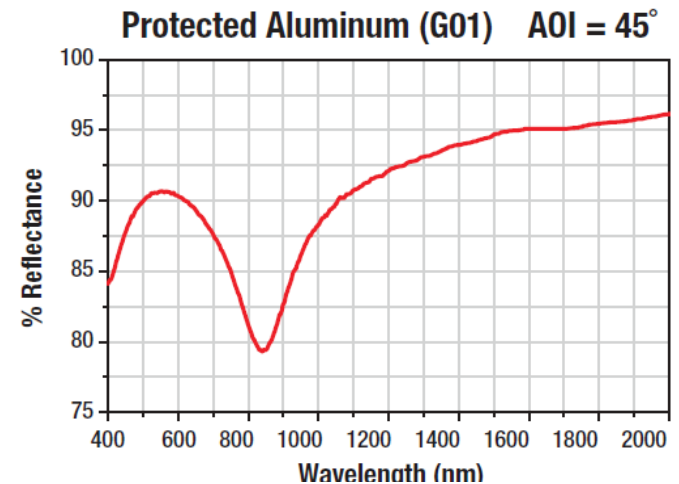
Alternative Technology

Optical fiber >75% total transmission
Including losses due to coupling/damping

Further benefits:

- no additional pinhole
- no additional entrance slit at spectrometer
- no additional optics for spectrometer aperture matching
- no additional optical table needed
- no restrictions in placing the optical periphery

Source: thorlabs.de

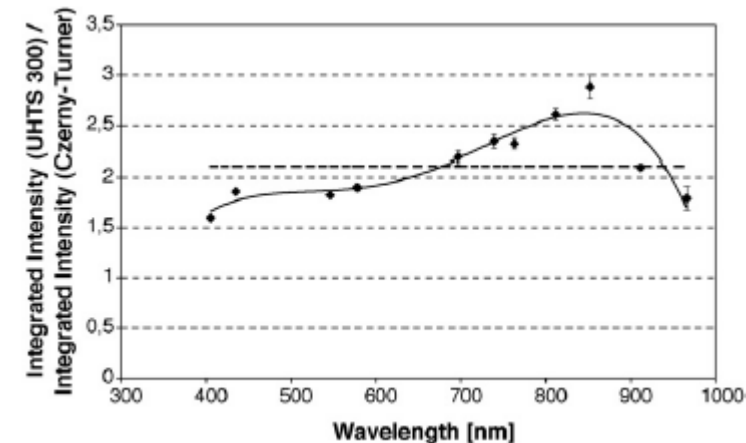


Spectroscopic System

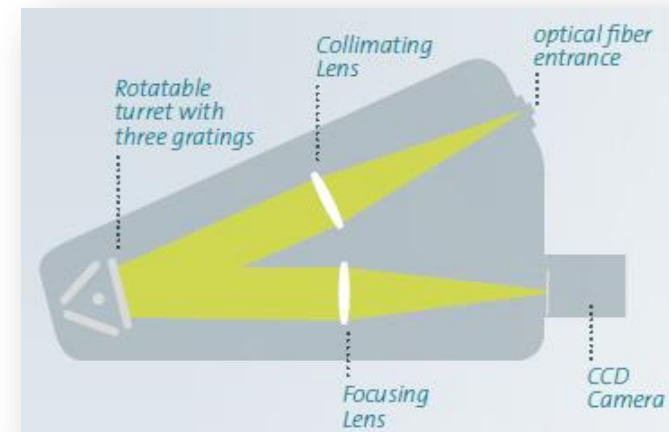


Ultra-High Throughput Spectrometers (UHTS)

- ✓ Lens-based imaging spectrometers
- ✓ Specifically designed for low light intensities
- ✓ Peak throughput >70%
- ✓ Symmetric peak shape (coma/astigmatism free)
- ✓ FC/APC optical fibre port
- ✓ Automatic triple-grating turret
- ✓ Can be fitted with FI- and BI-CCDs
- ✓ Fully Software controlled



➡ Best spectrometer available
for Raman Imaging



Download Brochure:

WITec Spectroscopy Solutions

Fast Raman Imaging

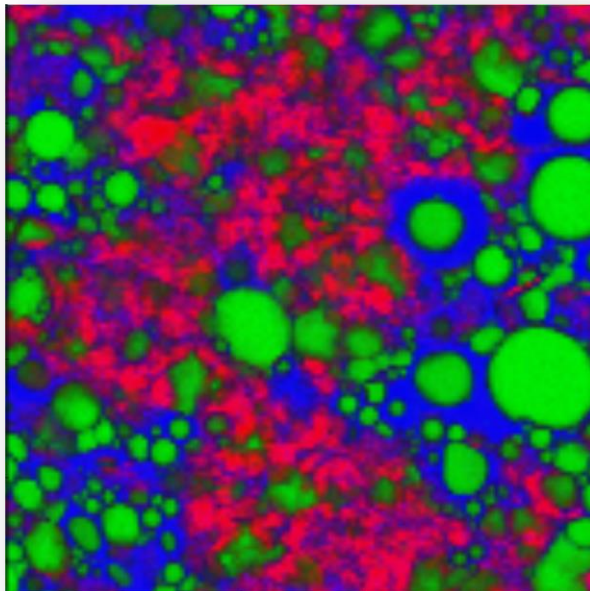
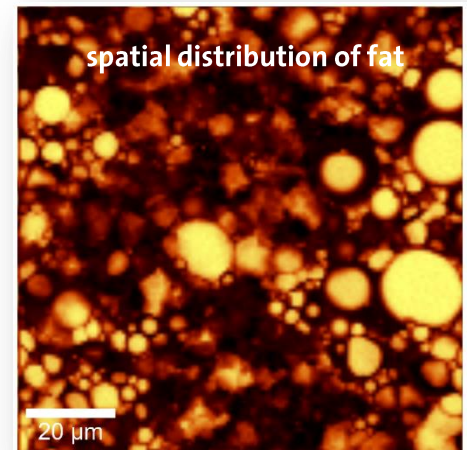
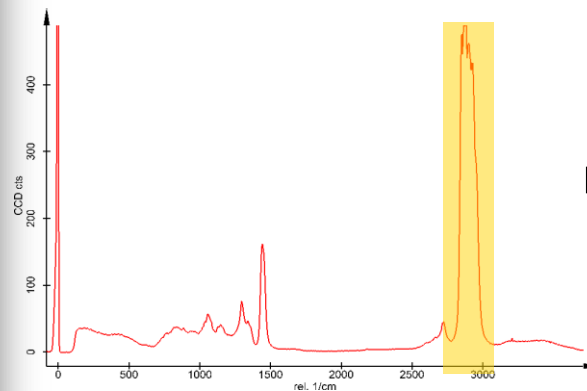
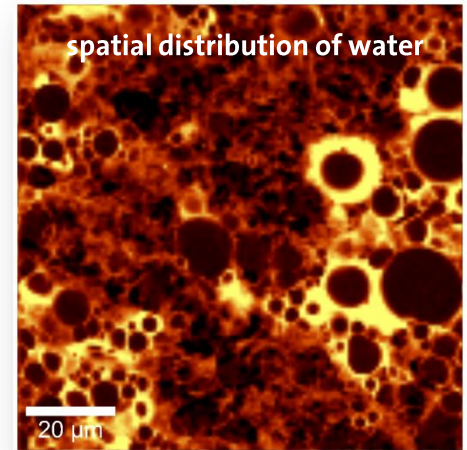
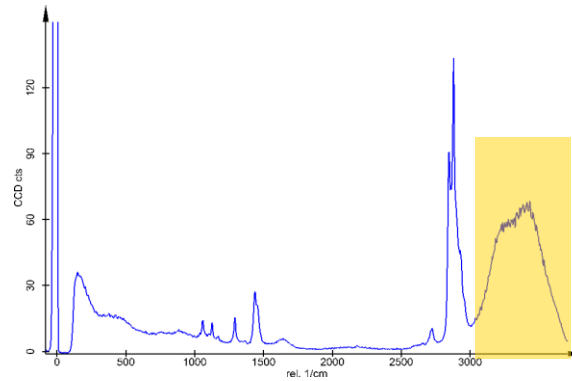
From Spectroscopy to Fast Imaging

Sample: 2 immiscible phases

Excitation: 532nm, 2 mW

Range: 100 x 100 μm^2

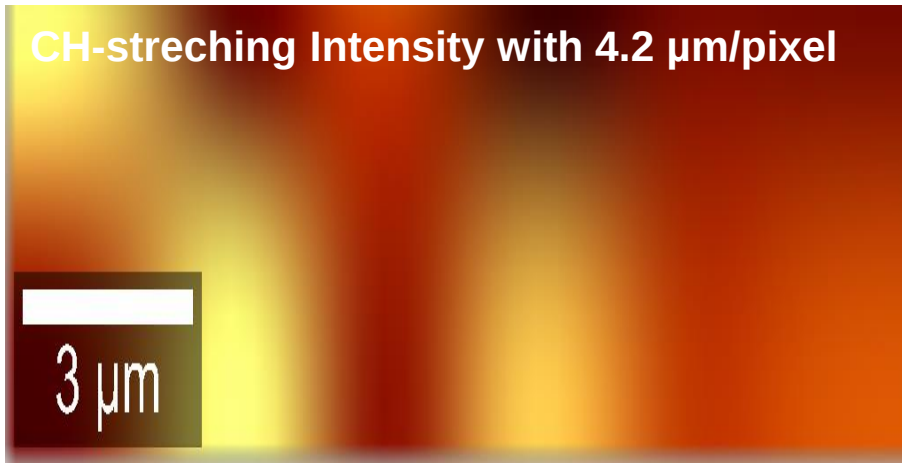
Resolution: 180 x 180 spectra



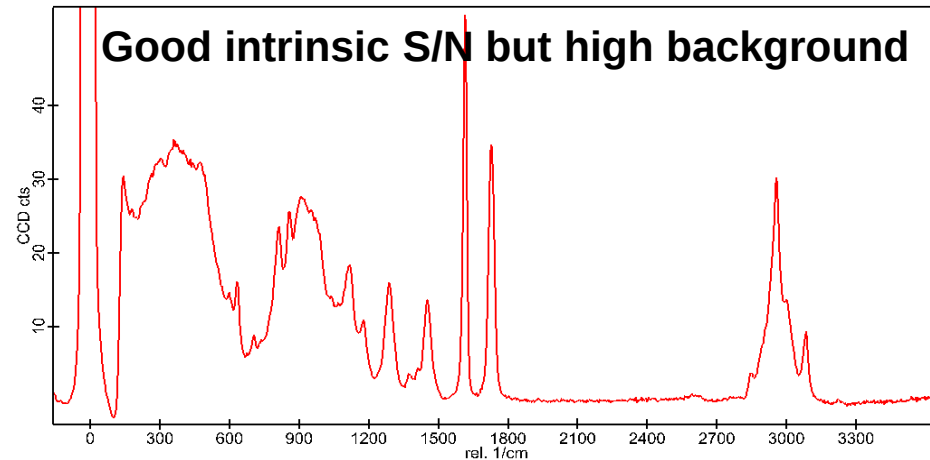
Fast Raman Imaging

The benefits of high resolution with fast scanning times (PET/PMMA blend)

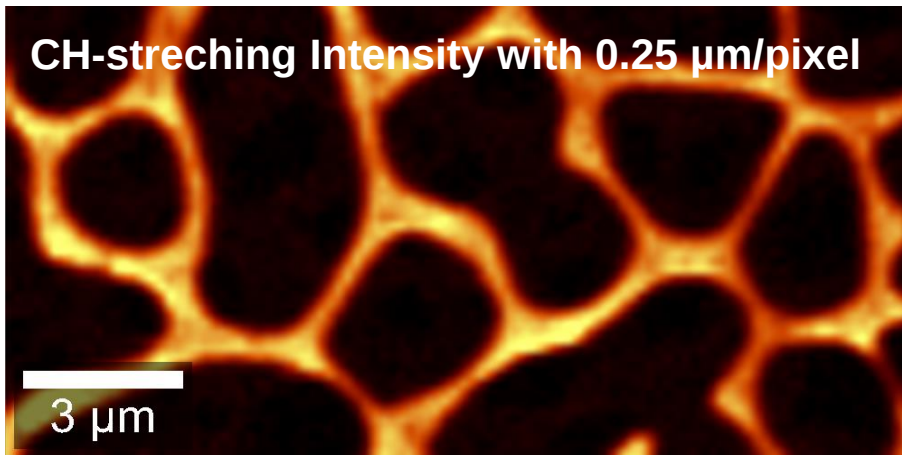
CH-stretching Intensity with 4.2 $\mu\text{m}/\text{pixel}$



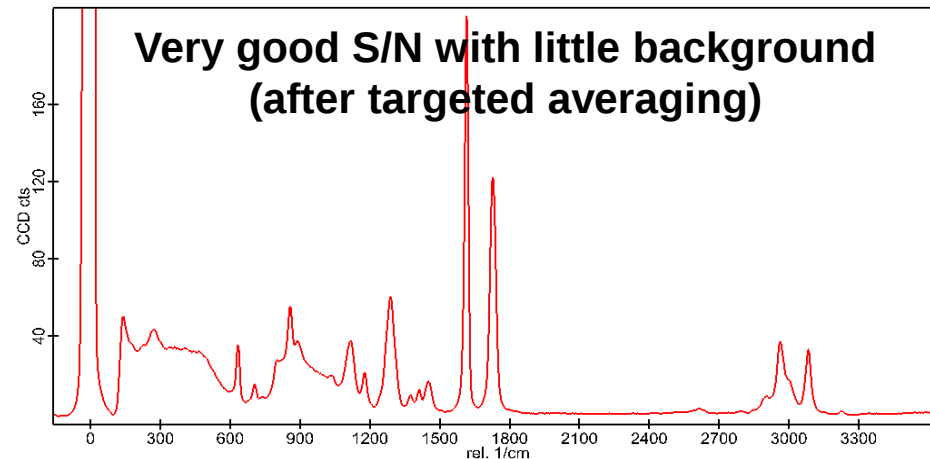
Good intrinsic S/N but high background



CH-stretching Intensity with 0.25 $\mu\text{m}/\text{pixel}$



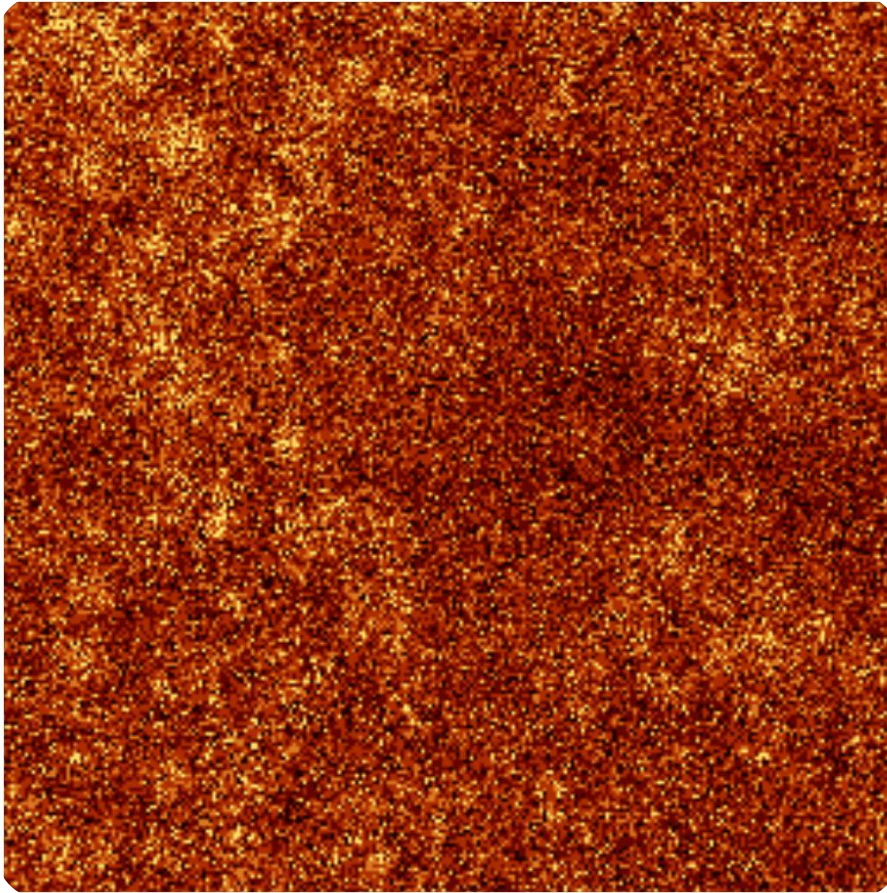
Very good S/N with little background
(after targeted averaging)



- Starting at **low spatial resolution** with **high individual S/N** (few spectra) spatial information **cannot be recovered**
- Starting at **high spatial resolution** with **low individual S/N** (many spectra) spectral averaging can **recover Signal**

Fast Raman Imaging

Fast Imaging: Confocal & Layer by Layer



Evaluated band: CH-stretching (3D Reconstruction)

Scan Range XY: 100 x 100 μm^2 (180x180 pixel)

Scan Range Z: 30 μm (32 layers (~1 μm step))

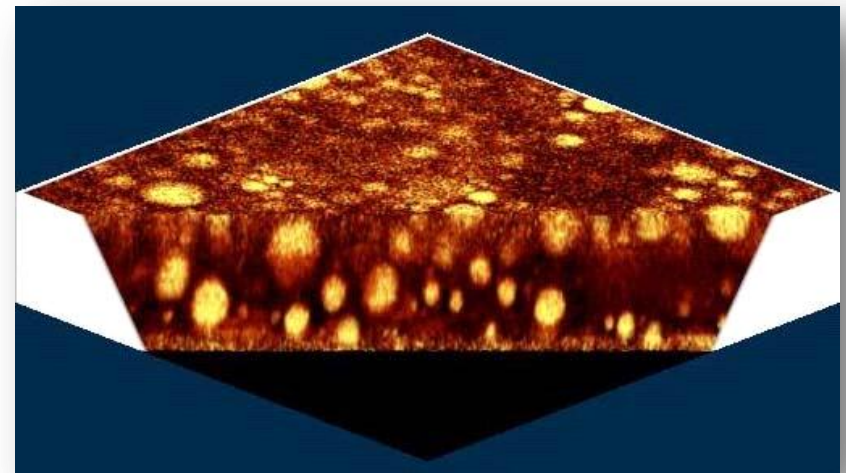
Total No. of spectra: 1.04 Mio.

Integration 500ms /spectrum (comparison)

$\Rightarrow$ 1 image 4.5 hours, 32 images = 6 days

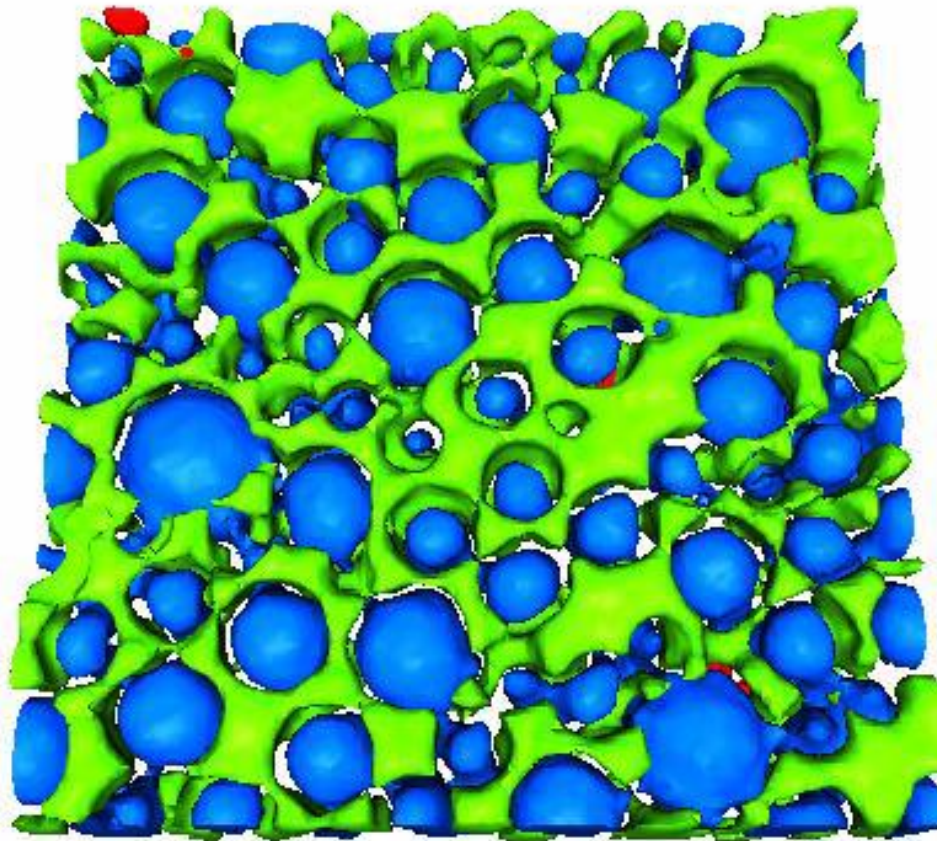
WITec system: Integration 1 ms /spectrum

$\Rightarrow$ 1 image 32s , 32 images = 18 minutes



Fast Raman Imaging

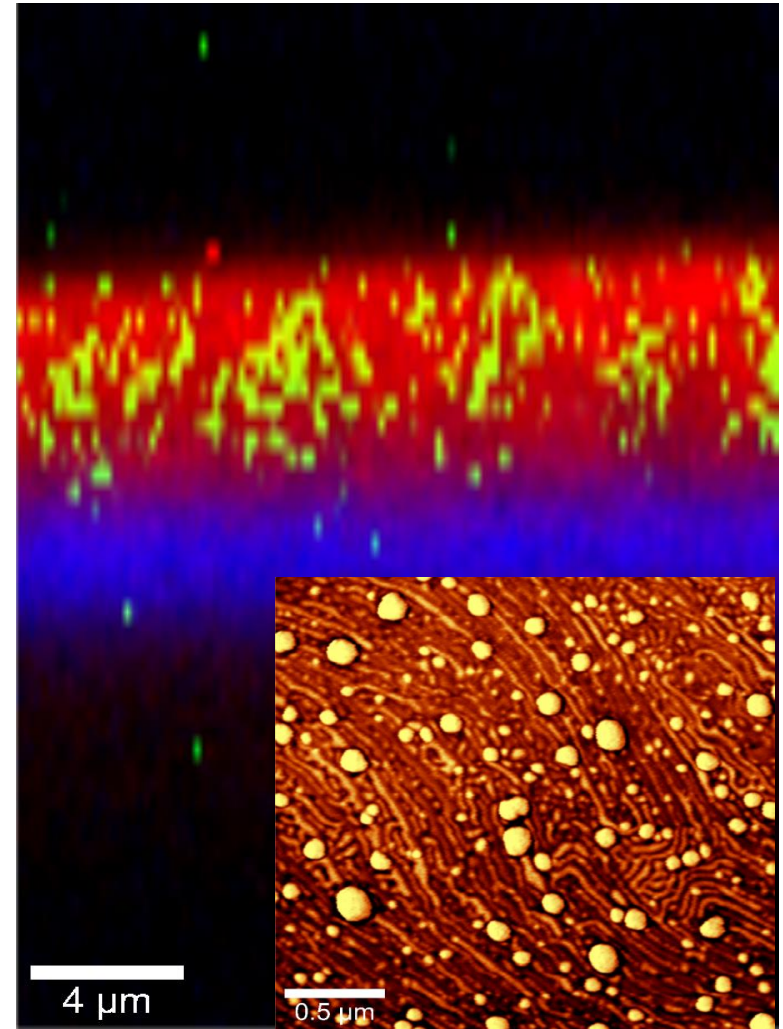
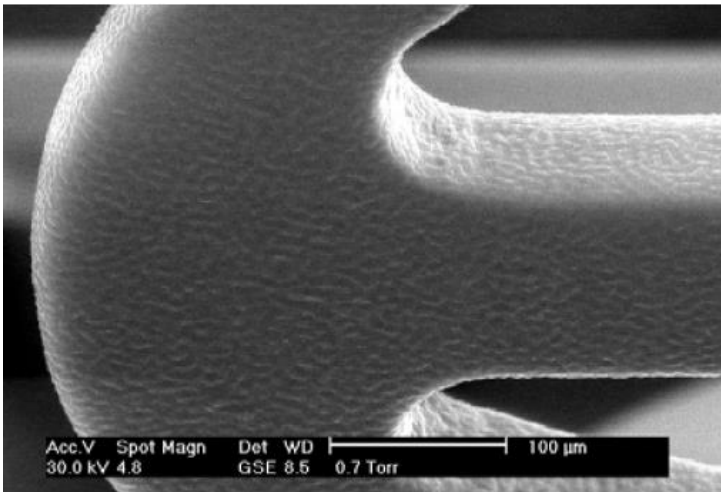
Fast Imaging: Confocal & Layer by Layer



Video Link: [WITec Large Area Confocal Imaging](#)

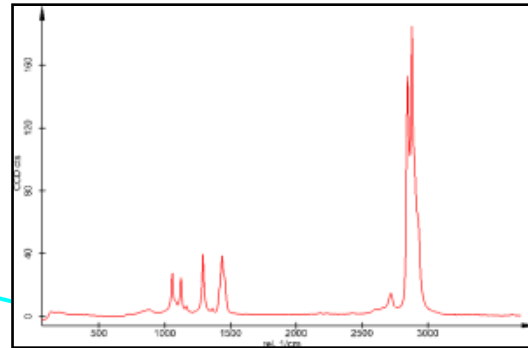
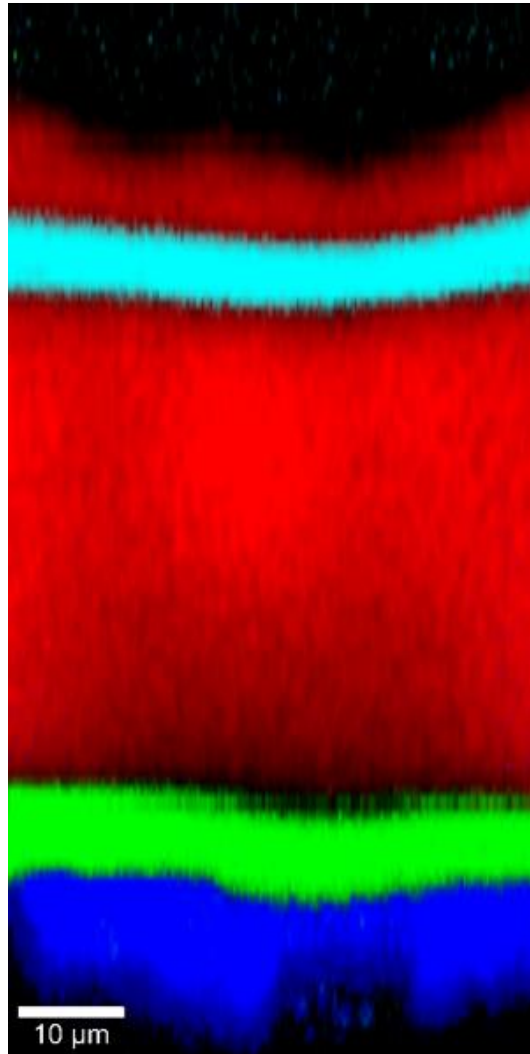
Fast Raman Imaging: Depth Scans

Imaging molecular loading within polymers (drug eluting stents)



Fast Raman Imaging: Depth Scans

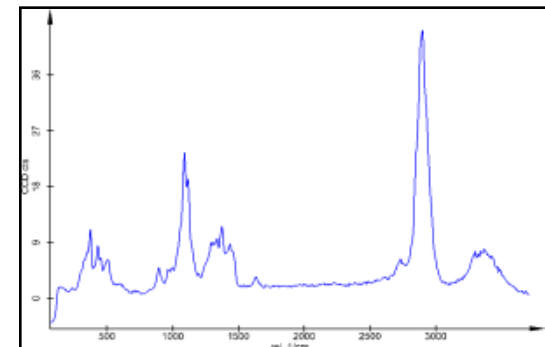
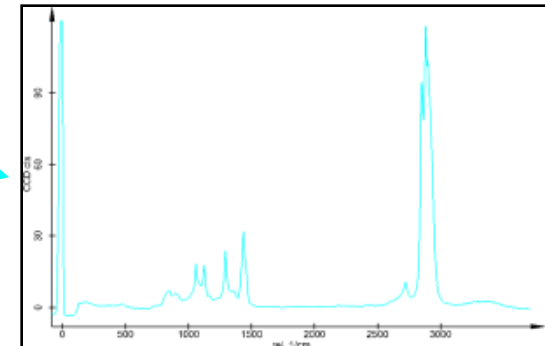
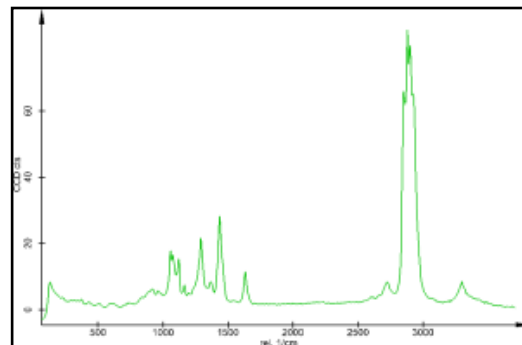
Packing Technology: Optically deconstructing juice containers



**inner coating of a
fruit juice container**

multilayer polymer film

50μm x 100 μm² depth scan,
120 x 200 = 24000 spectra, 0.05 s.
100x objective (NA= 1.25), 532nm

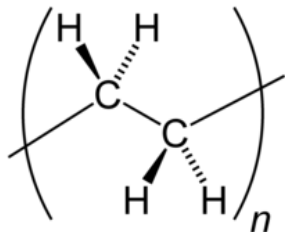


Download AppNote Polymers:

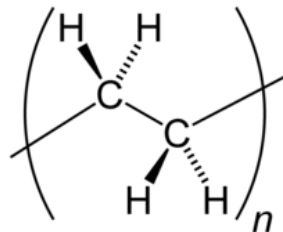
Correlative Raman Microscopy on Polymers

Fast Raman Imaging: Depth Scans

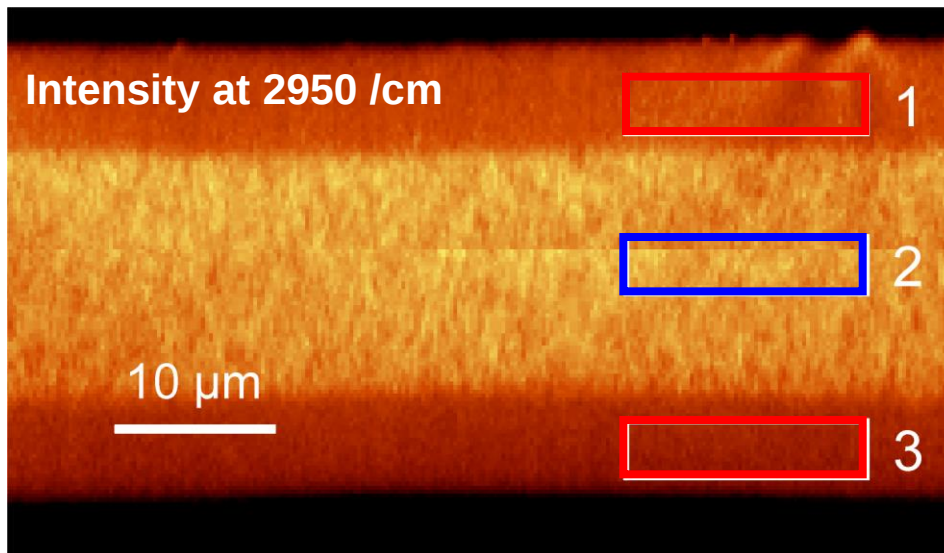
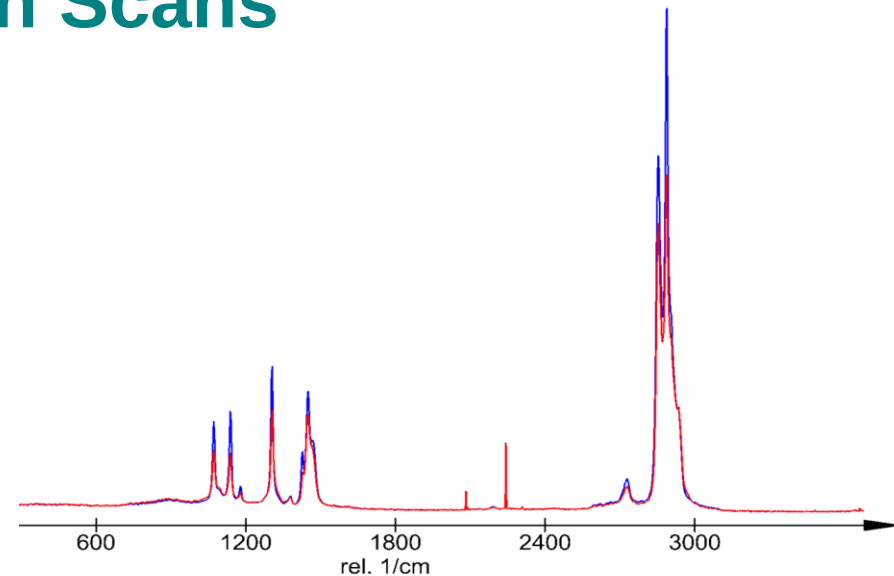
Imaging minimal chemical differences



**High density PE
(HDPE)**



**Linear low density PE
(LLDPE)**



Raman Spectral Imaging

Depth profiling

60 x 35 micrometer x-z scan

240 x 140 pixel (= 33 600 spectra)

100 ms per spectrum

10 mW @532 nm

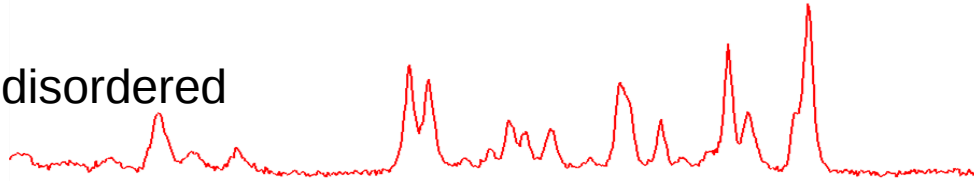
Fast Raman Imaging: Molecular Orientations

Imaging differences polymer orientation

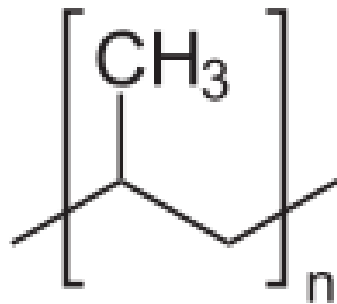
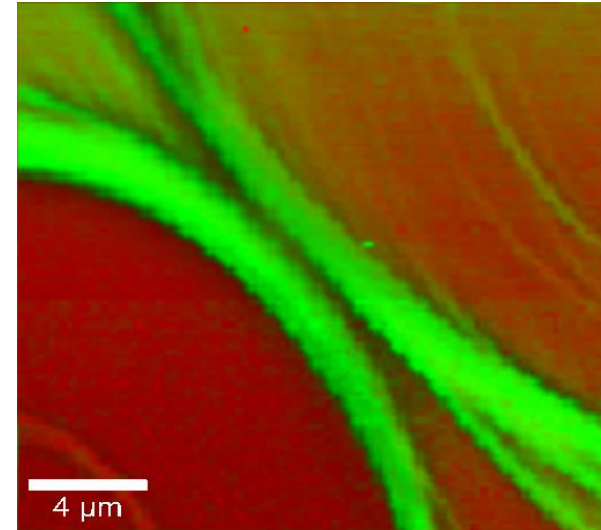
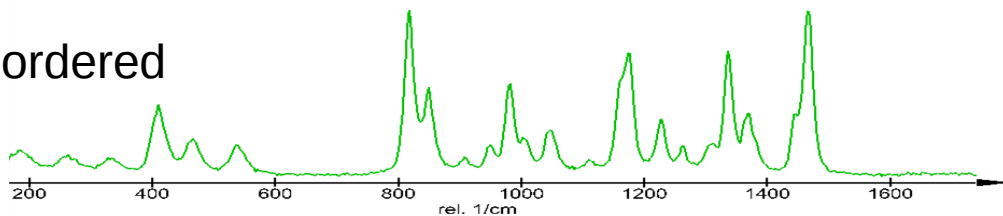
delta (ord-disord.)



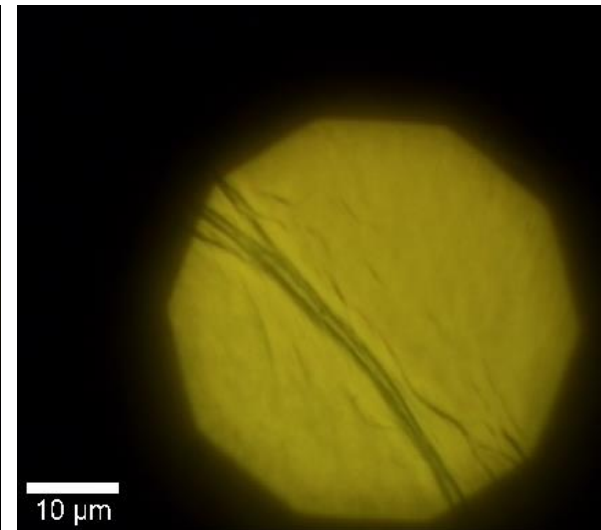
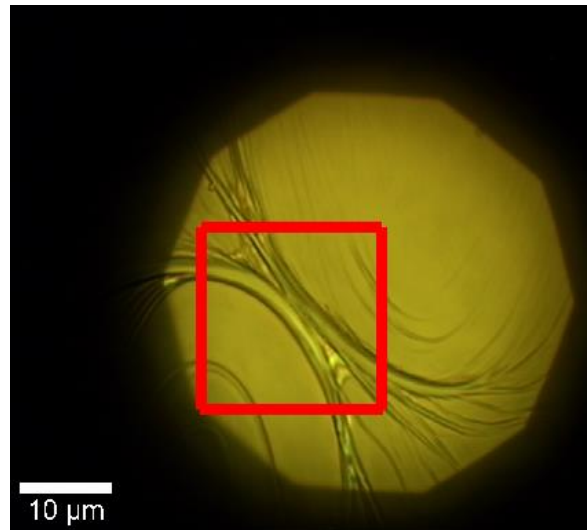
disordered



ordered

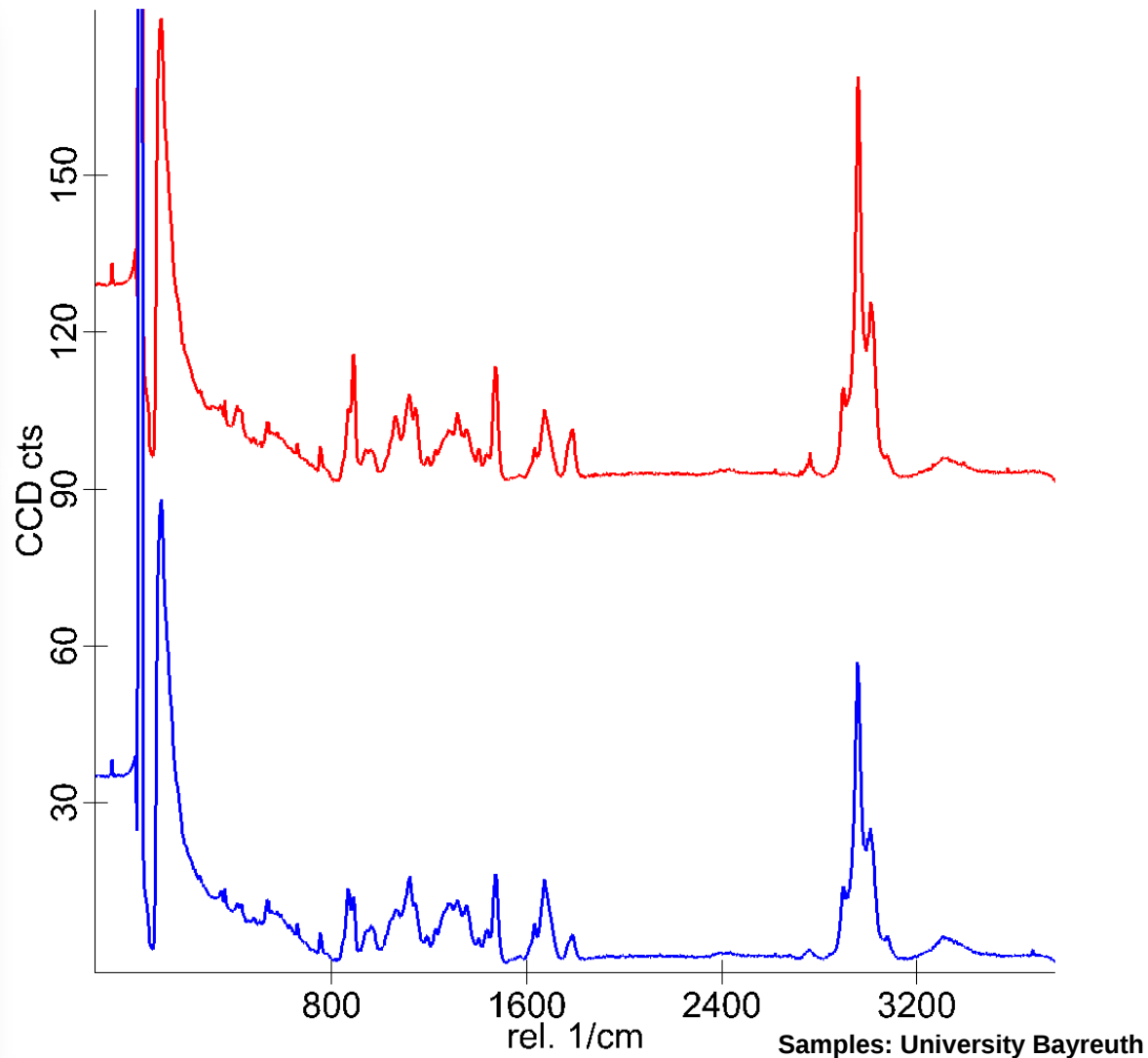
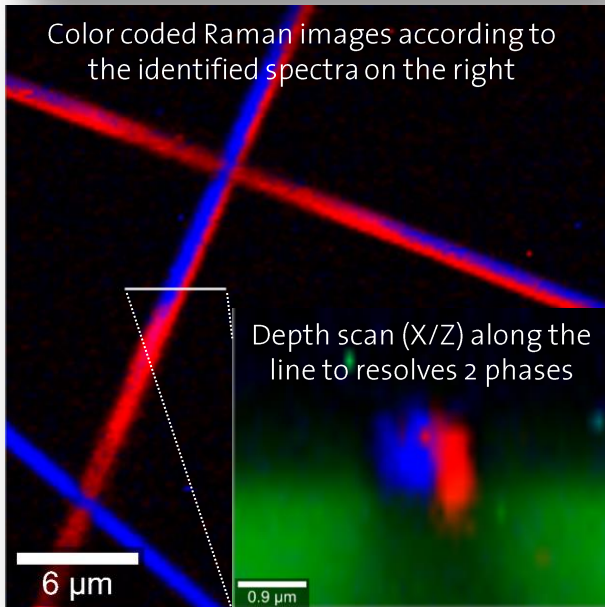
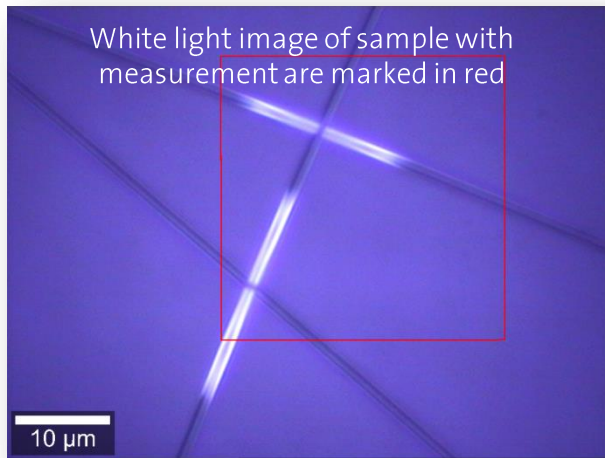


polypropylene



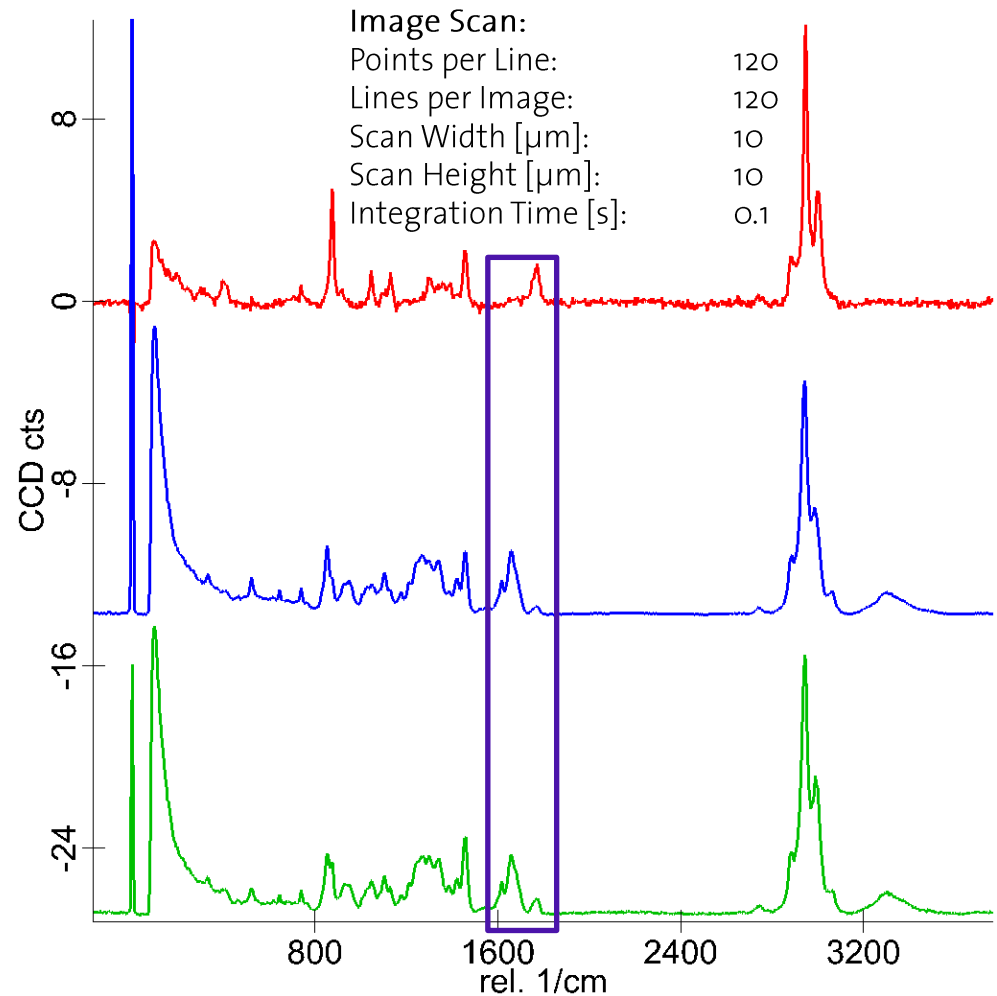
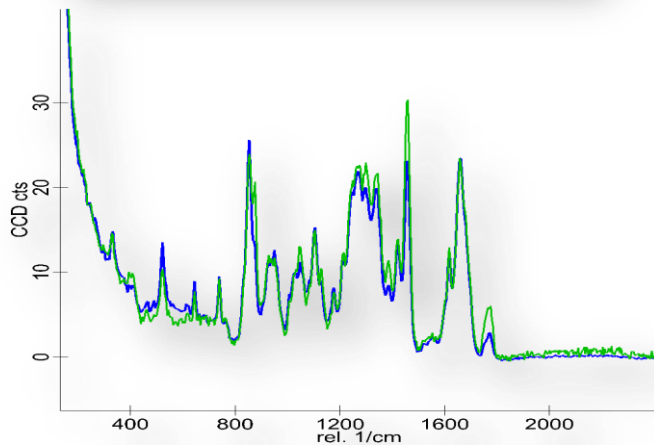
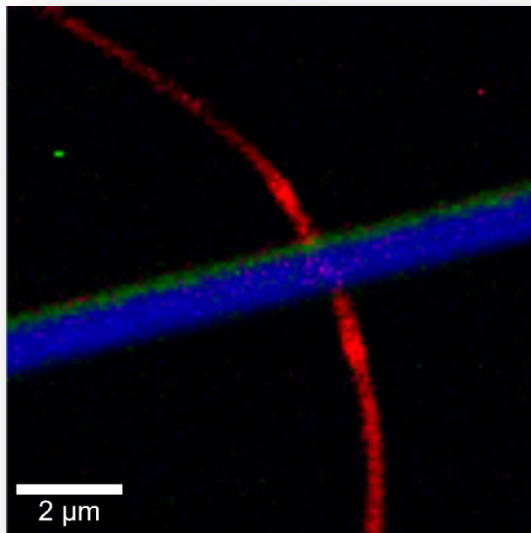
Fast Raman Imaging

Generating Chemical Contrast – Pushing Resolution Limits



Fast Raman Imaging

Generating Chemical Contrast – Pushing Resolution Limits



Multimodal Imaging – AFM & Raman

Correlating Topography and Chemistry

Confocal Raman Microscopy

- identification of chemical phases
- lateral resolution $\approx 200\text{-}300\text{ nm}$
- depth resolution up to 500 nm
- sensitivity: $< 30\text{ nm}$ layer thickness
in milliseconds

AFM

- high resolution topographic imaging
- mechanical properties on the nm scale
(stiffness, adhesion, viscosity..)

Switching between the measurements methods
upon a turn of the turret.



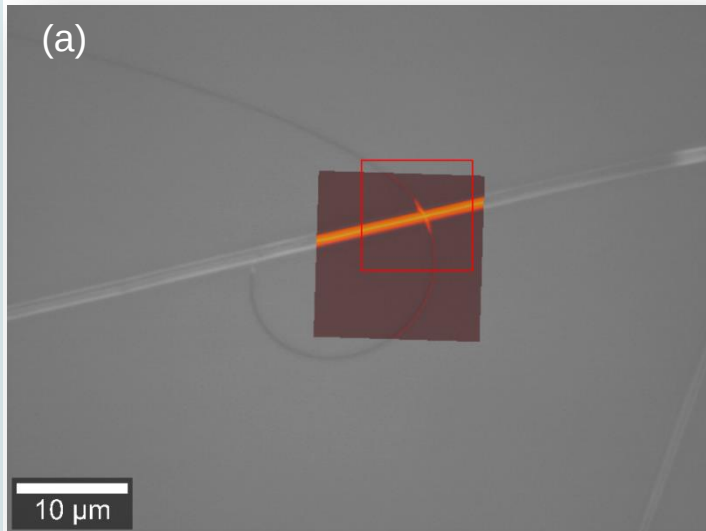
Download Brochure:



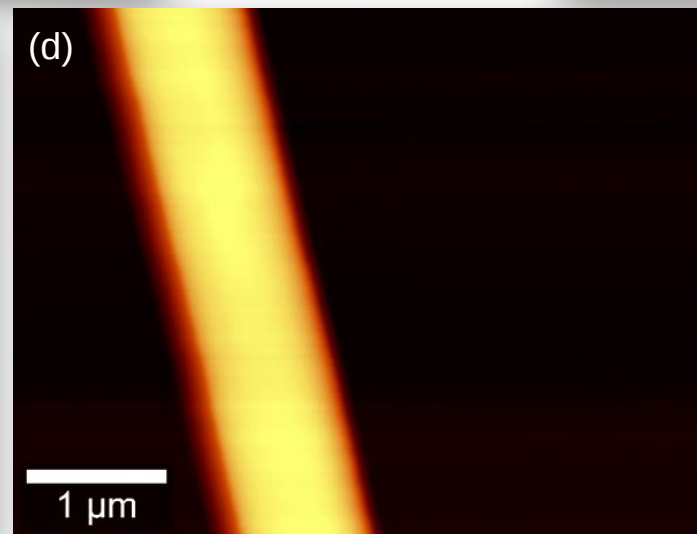
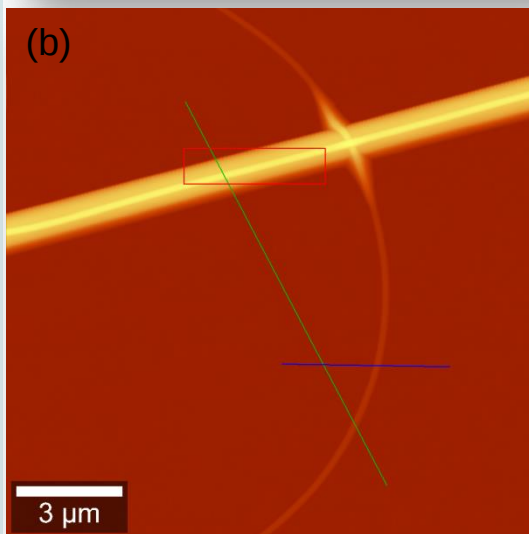
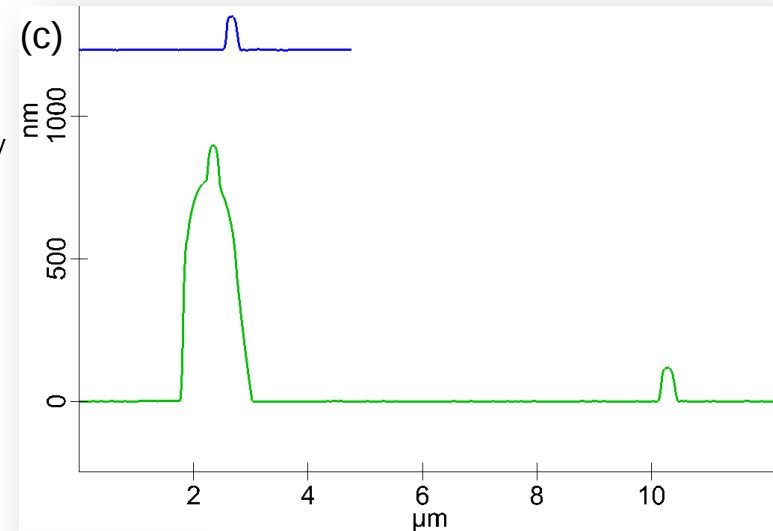
WITec Atomic Force Microscopy
WITec alpha300 Multimodal Imaging Platform

Fast Raman Imaging

Generating Chemical Contrast – Pushing Resolution Limits

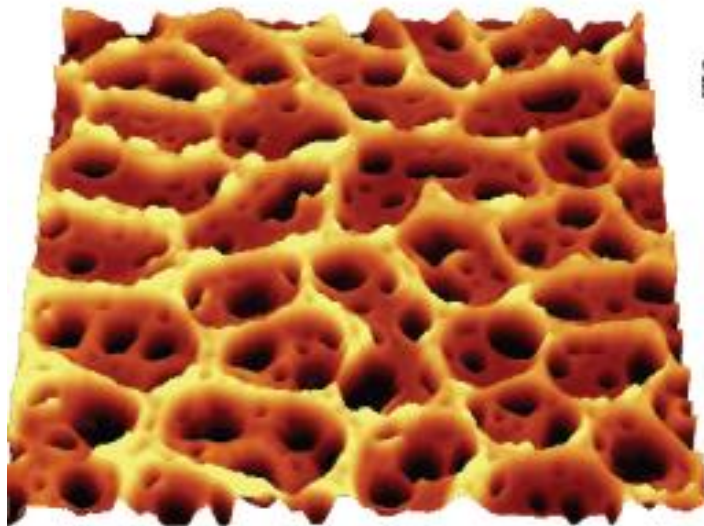
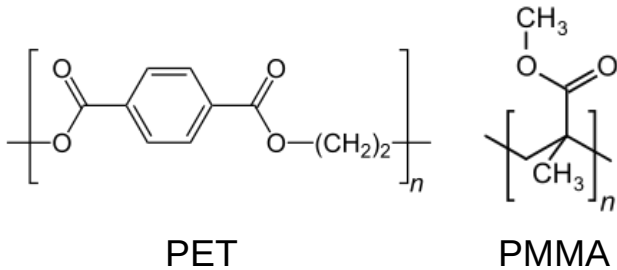


- (a) White-light Microscopy image of target fibers overlain with AFM topography
- (b) AFM with cross sections indication
- (c) Color coded cross sections with absolute topography
- (d) AFM scan along a homogenous fiber without small fiber attached

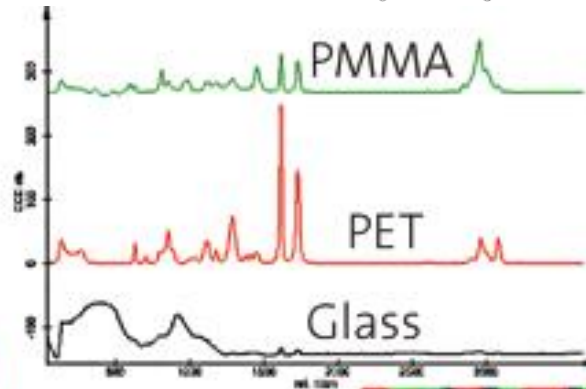


Multimodal Imaging – AFM & Raman

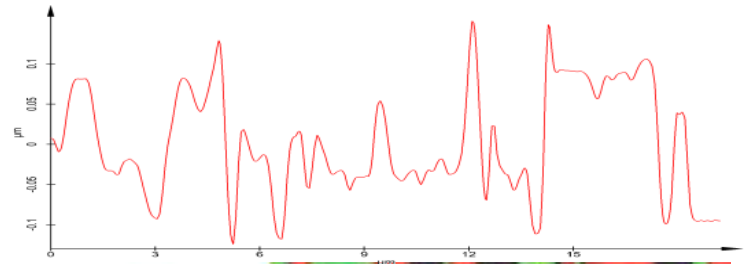
Correlating Topography and Chemistry



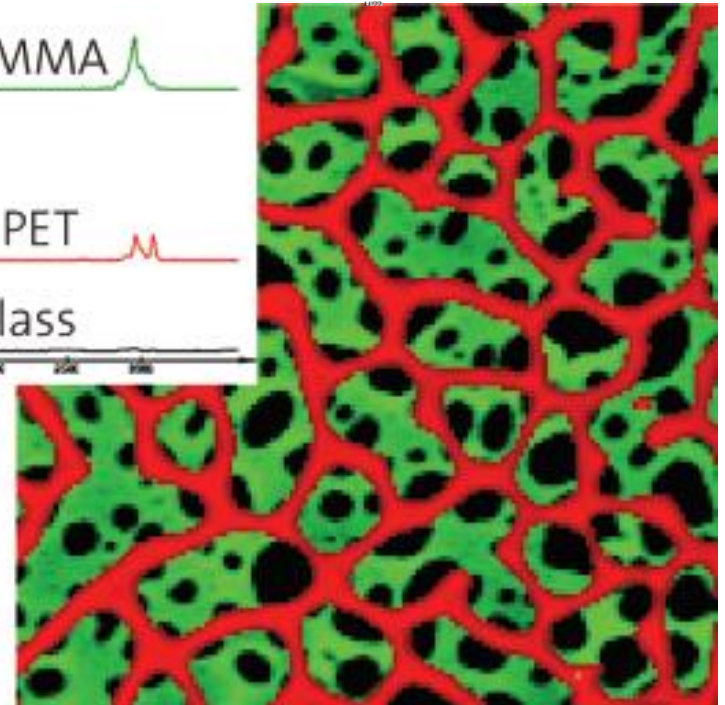
A 20x20x0.2 μm^3 scan area



C



B

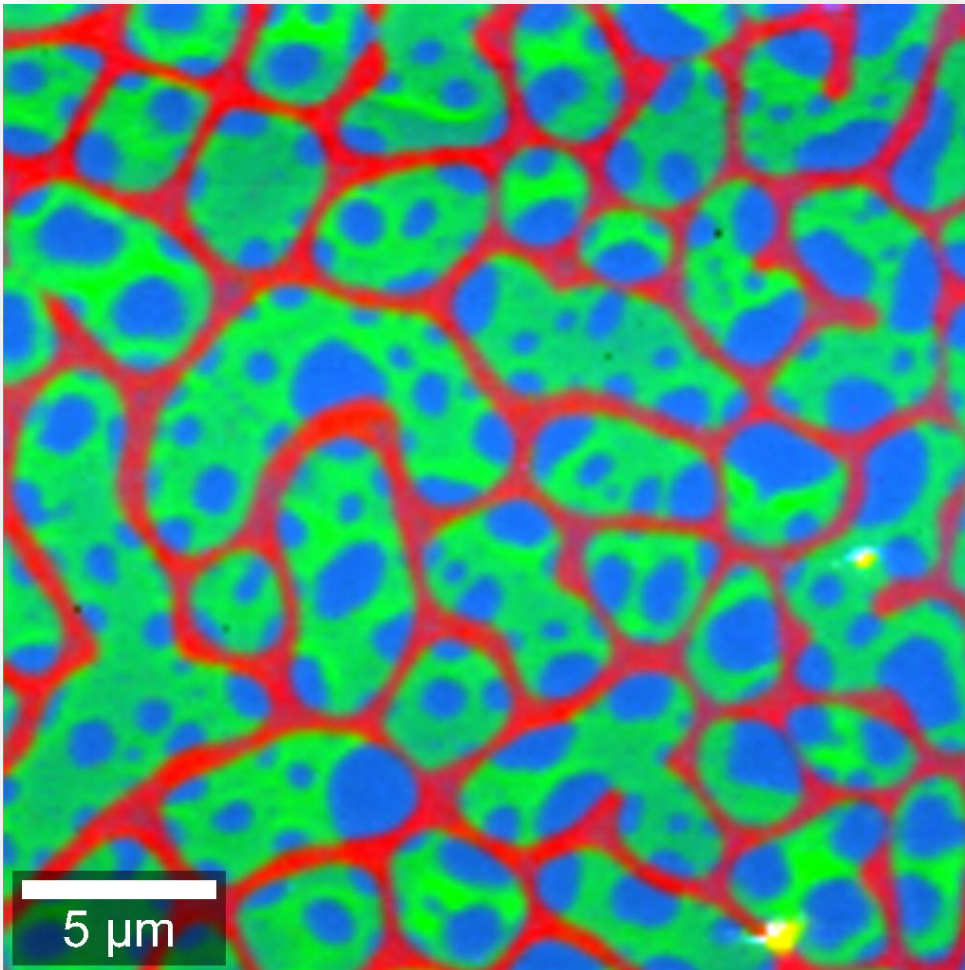


20x20 μm^2 scan area, 150x150 pixel

- 0.05 s integration time
- total 22500 spectra

Multimodal Imaging – AFM & Raman

Correlating Topography and Chemistry



WITec SuiteFIVE

TrueComponent Analysis

Live Demo
during coffee break ...



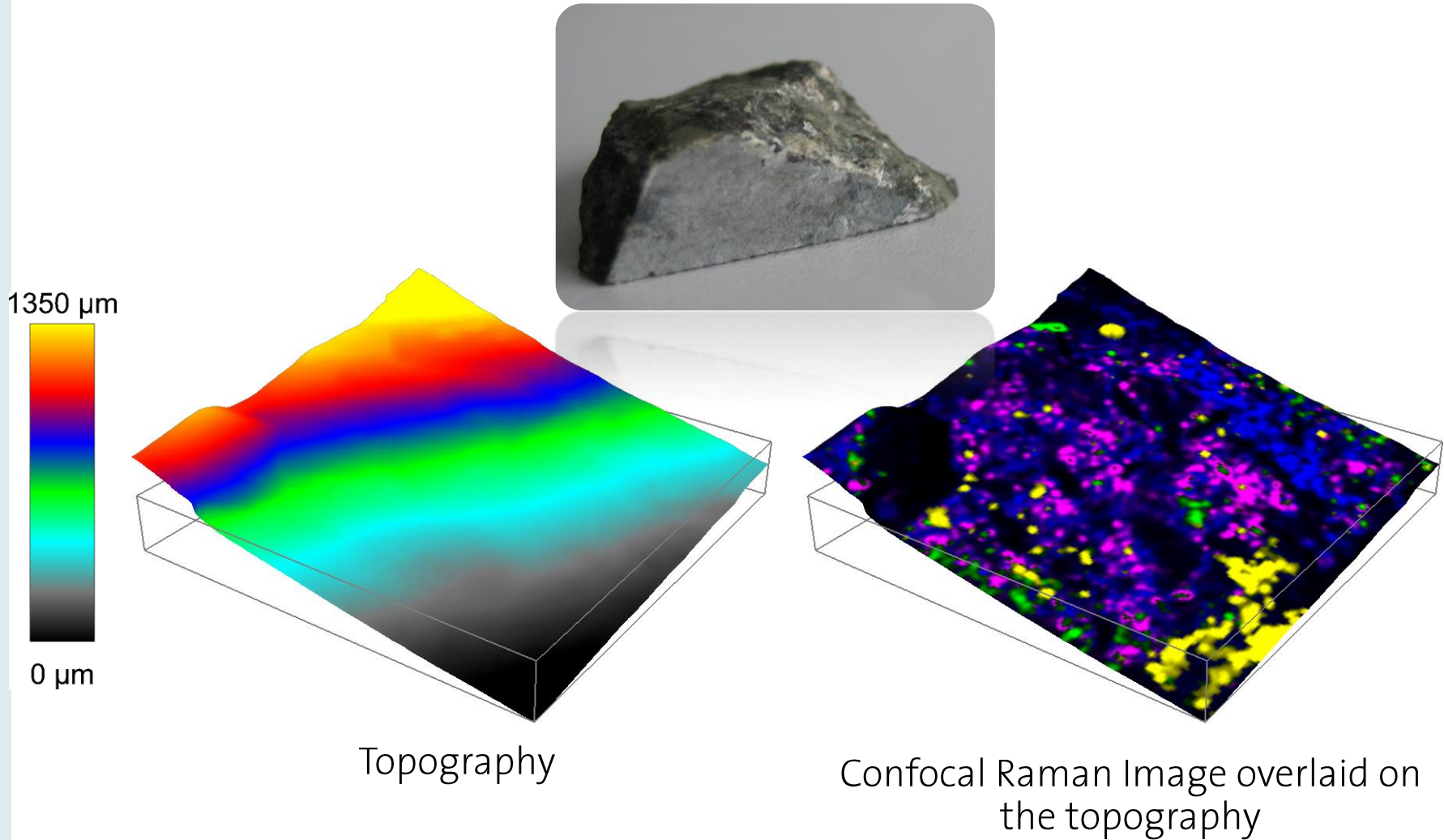
Video Link: [WITec SuiteFIVE – Revolutionizing Raman Imaging](#)



Download AppNote: [SuiteFIVE](#)

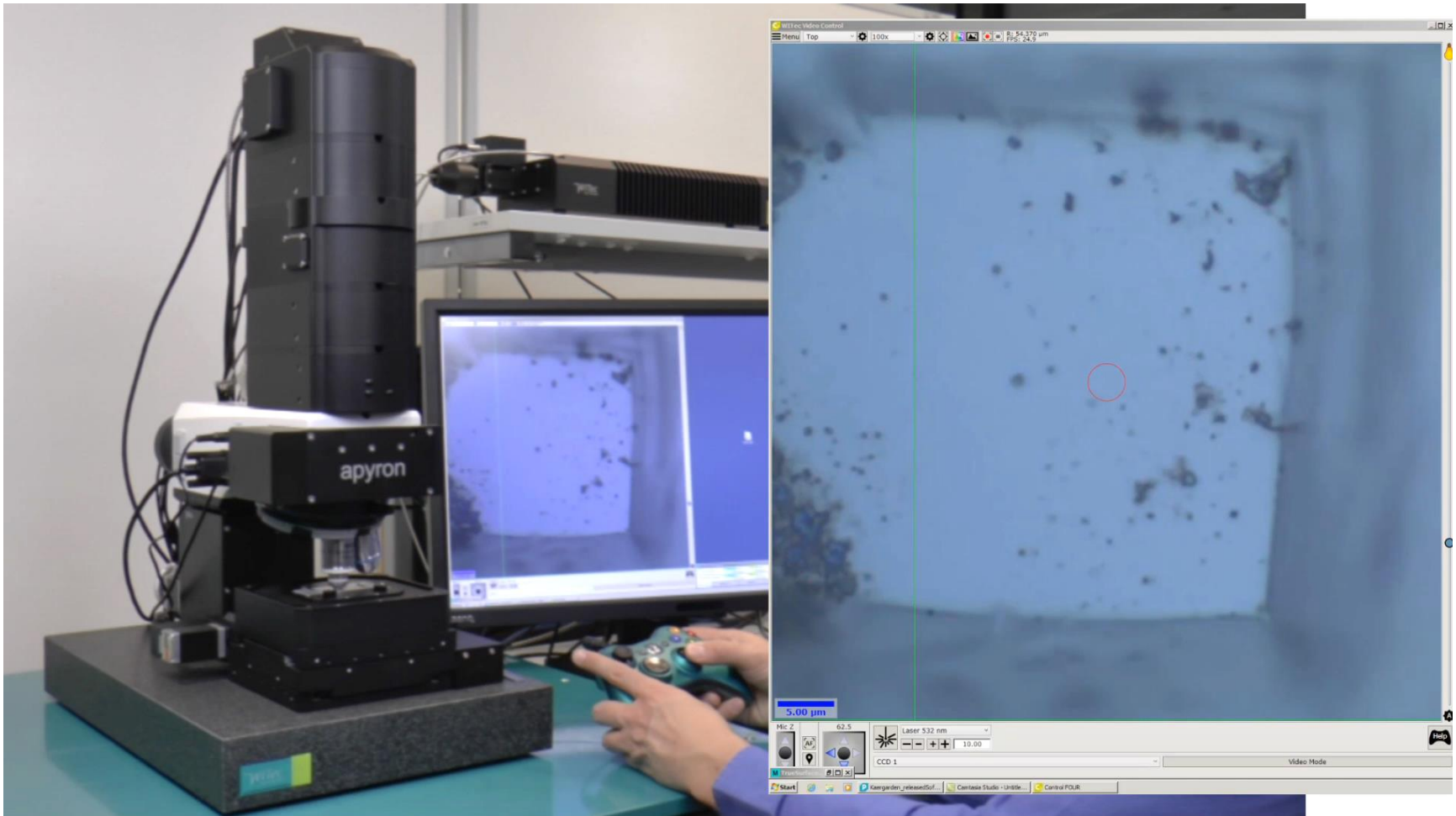
Fast Raman Imaging

Generating Chemical Contrast – Confocality and Rough Surfaces



WITec TrueSurface – Get all the information

From the inventors of topography corrected confocal Raman



Video Link: [TrueSurface Microscopy - Performance Redefined](#)



Download AppNote: [TrueSurface](#)

WITec ParticleScout – Saves your time!

Find, Classify and Identify Particles

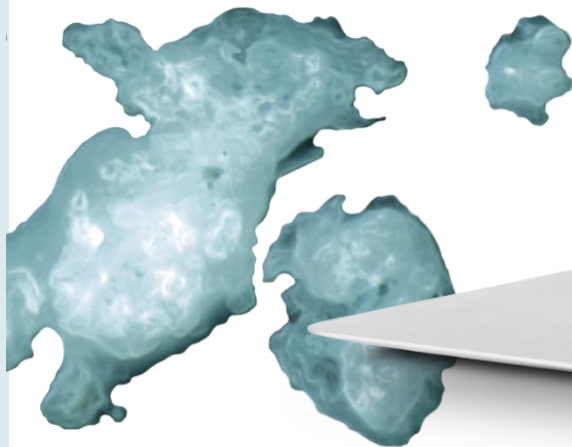


Video Link: [ParticleScout Video Introduction](#)



Download AppNote: [ParticleScout](#)

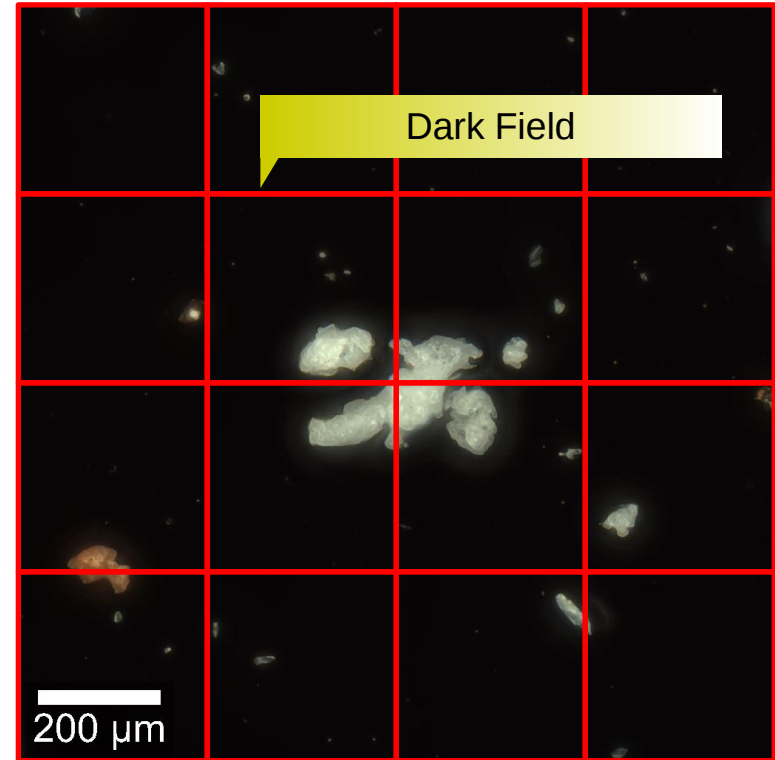
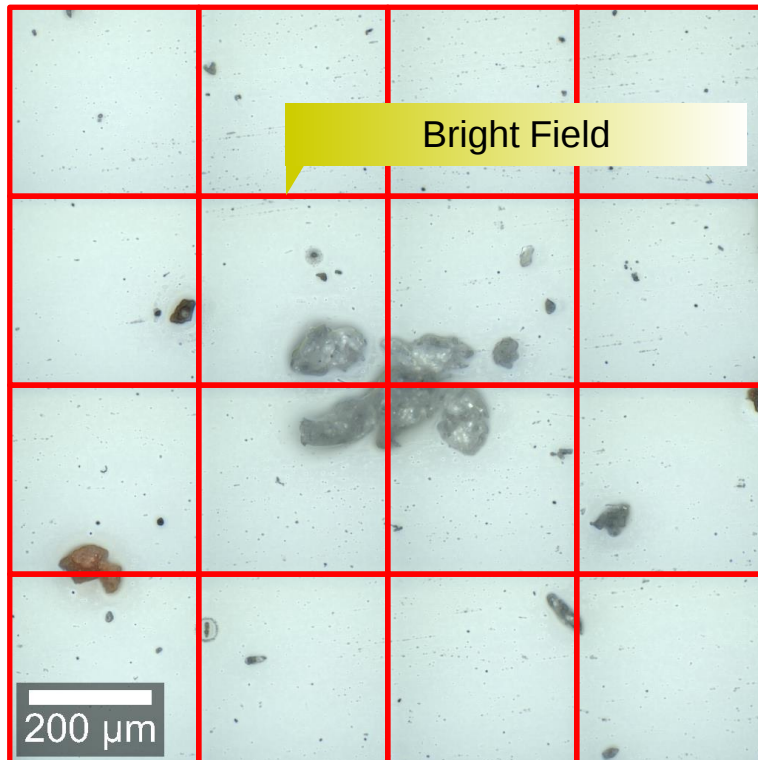
NEW



WITec ParticleScout – Saves your time!

Find, Classify and Identify Particles

Find

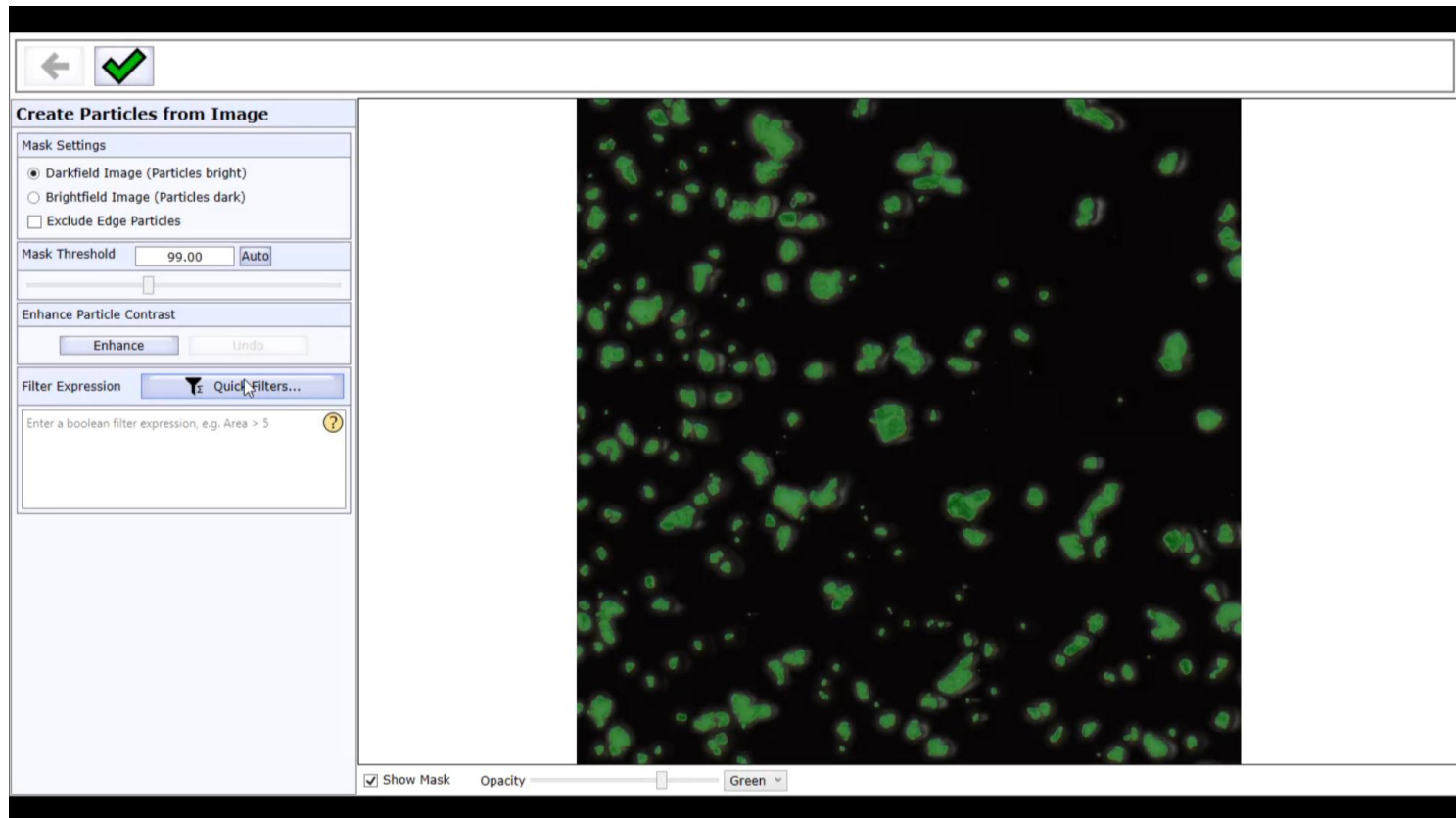


WITec ParticleScout – Saves your time!

Find, Classify and Identify Particles

Classify

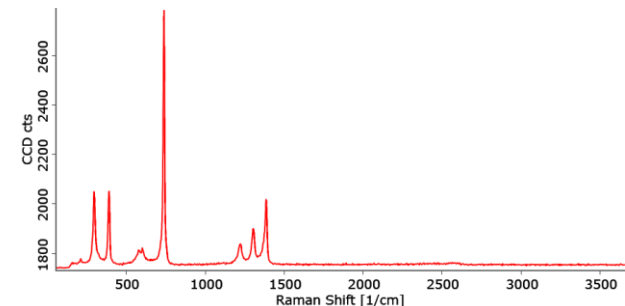
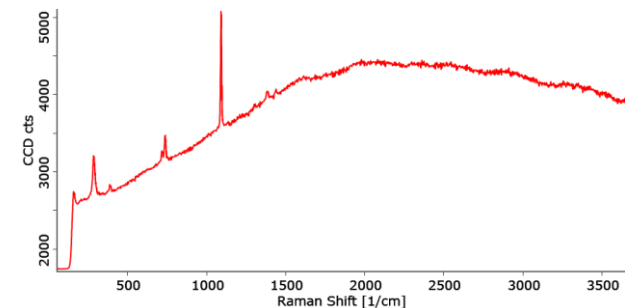
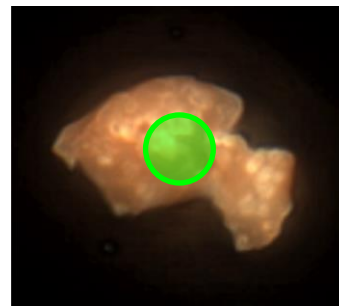
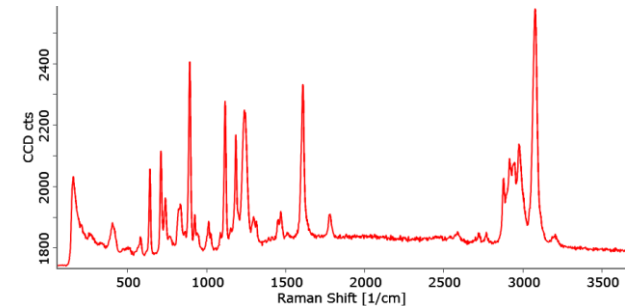
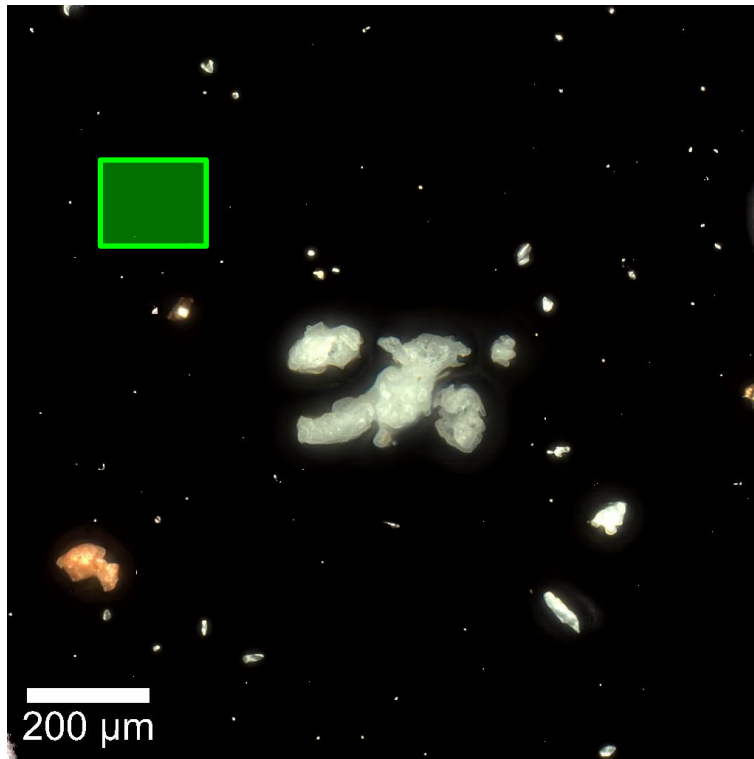
Generate Mask



WITec ParticleScout – Saves your time!

Find, Classify and Identify Particles

Raman spectral acquisition at each particle



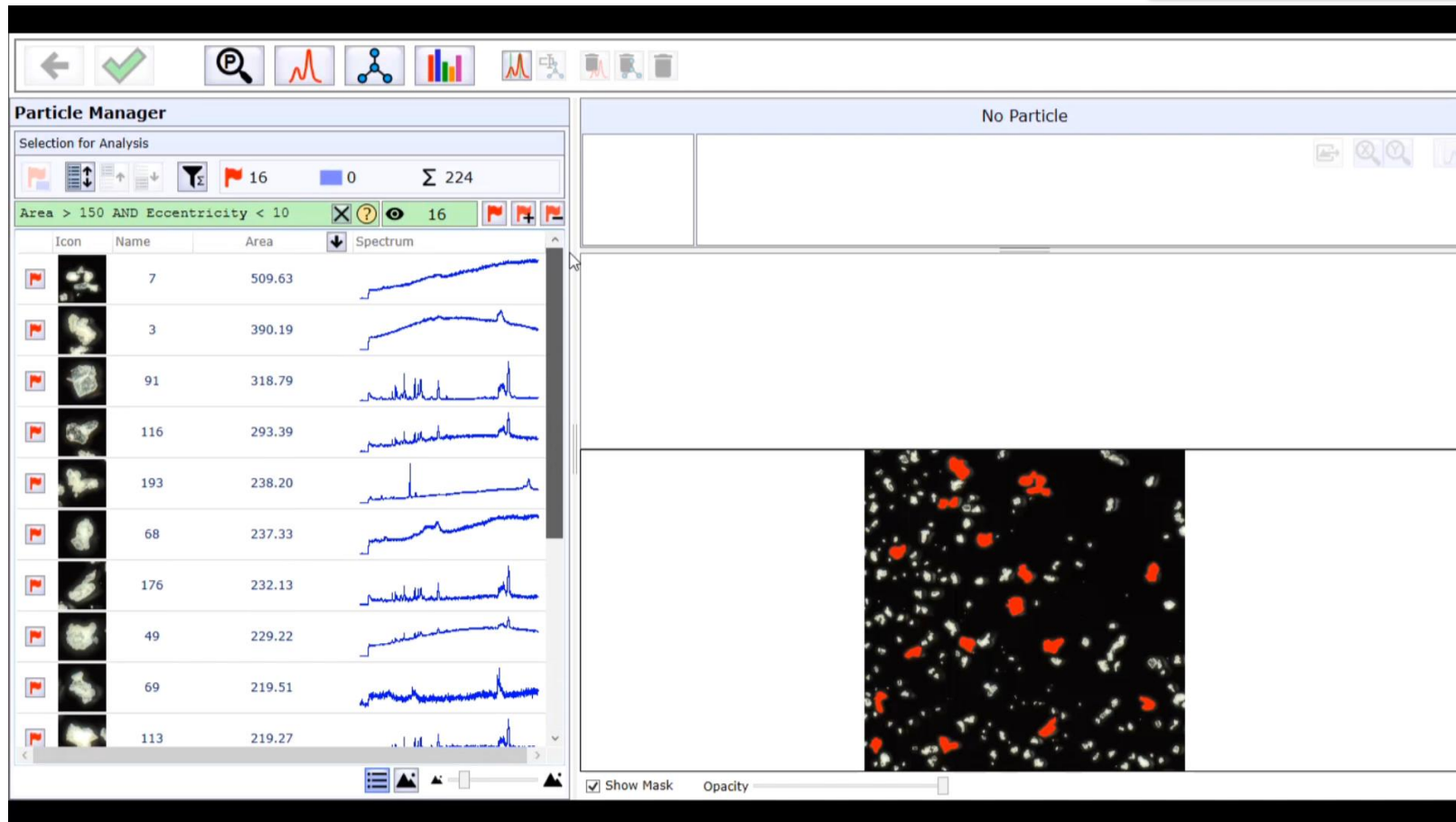
WITec ParticleScout – Saves your time!

Find, Classify and Identify Particles



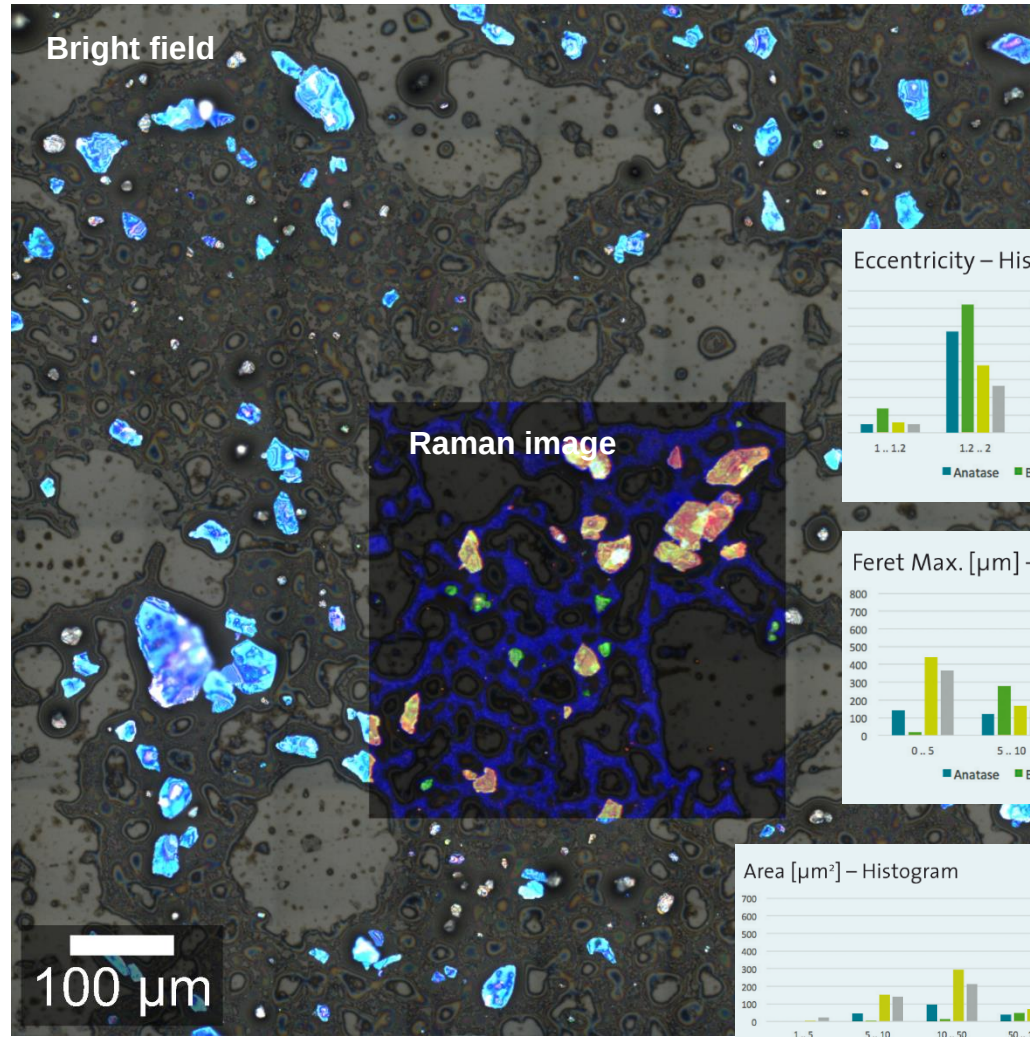
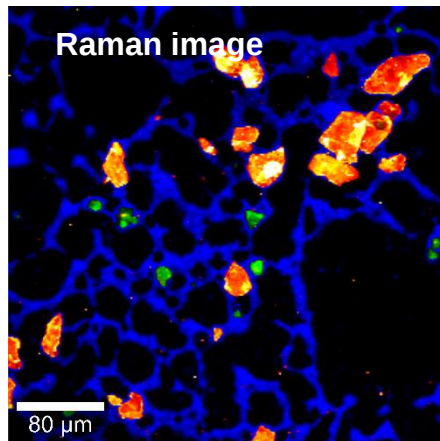
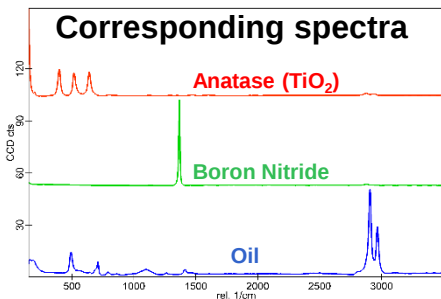
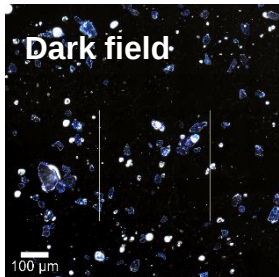
Identify

Database Search with WITec TrueMatch



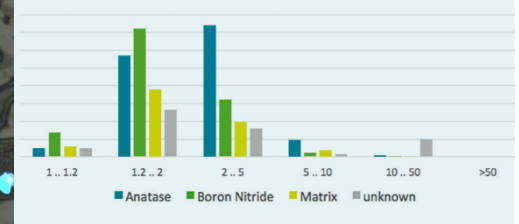
WITec ParticleScout – Saves your time!

Find, Classify and Identify Particles

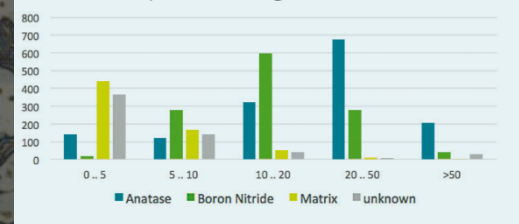


Report

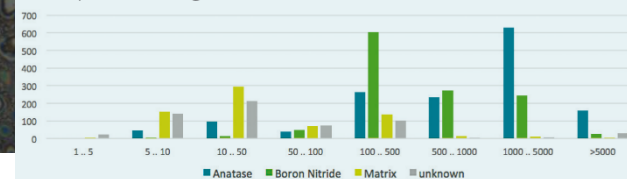
Eccentricity – Histogram



Feret Max. [µm] – Histogram



Area [µm²] – Histogram



Cosmetic Peeling Cream (3941 particles were analyzed)

Thank you for your kind attention

Further examples and information
can be found in:

„Confocal Raman Microscopy“
by T.Dieing, O.Hollricher & J.Toporski (eds.)

