



## Shedding New Light on Materials Science with Raman Imaging

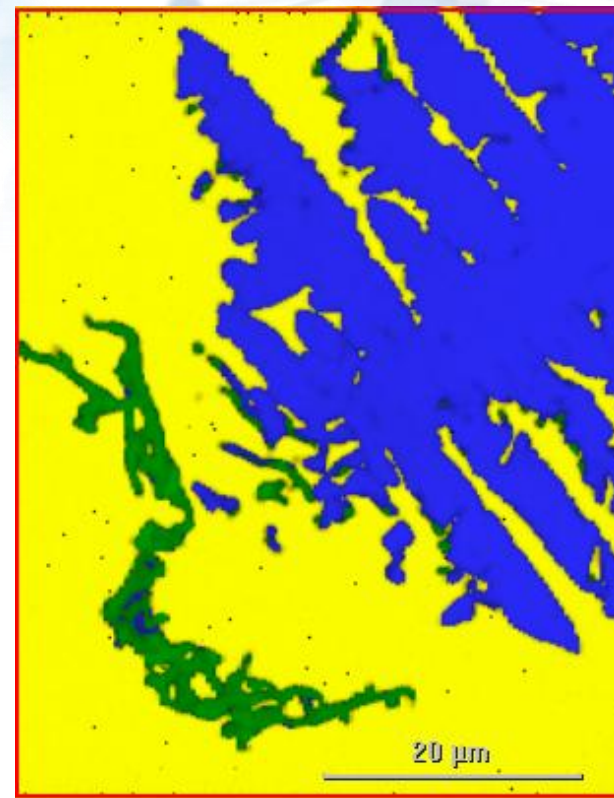
Robert Heintz, Ph.D.

Senior Applications Specialist



# Raman Imaging – Provides More Information

- Microscope problems aren't just about points, they're about areas and images!
- Raman imaging extends the advantages of Raman analysis across the sample
- Raman imaging generates visual images depicting differences in molecular structure and chemical environment
- Raman images provide unique views of the samples that are not always readily apparent in other forms of microscopy



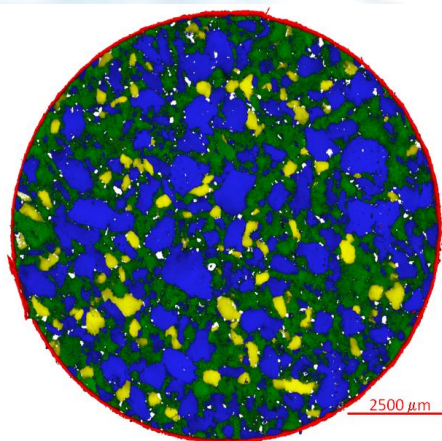
- Single Layer Graphene
- Multilayer Graphene
- Silicon Substrate

# Raman Imaging Solves More Problems



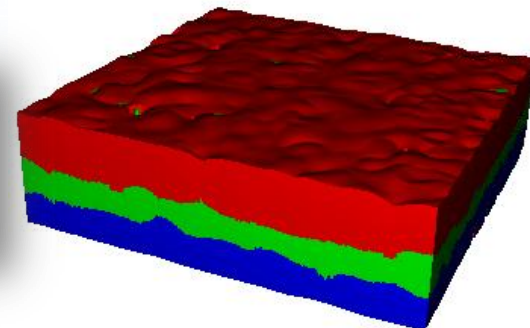
## Pharmaceuticals

Full tablet imaging for **content uniformity** and formulation analysis



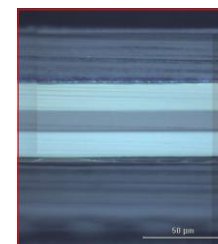
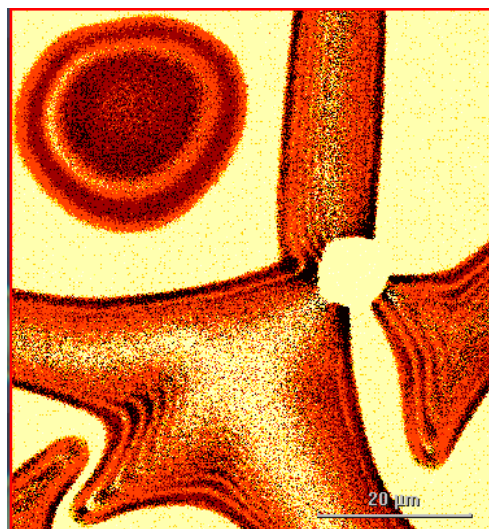
## Polymers and Packaging

Subsurface analysis to **identify inclusions**, **visualize defects**, and **verify layers** without sample preparation



## Semiconductors and Thin Films

Reveal variation in **stress distributions** and **morphology**, identify contaminants and defects





# The Thermo Scientific™ DXR™xi Raman Imaging Microscope

A total imaging system: hardware and software integration combines **powerful performance** with **image-centric** analysis and **ease of use**



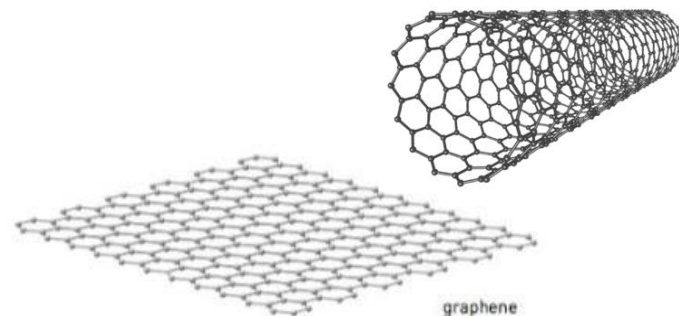
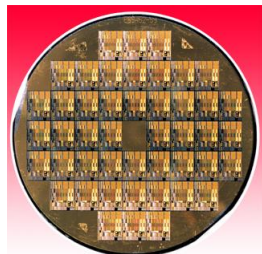
*This Instrument is easy to operate, allowing researchers to focus on their own area of expertise – not on the technique*

# Highlights of the DXRxi Raman Imaging Microscope

- The software provides a data pipeline that synchronizes the EMCCD detector with a state of the art motorized stage to manage and process the vast amounts of spectroscopic data generated at astounding speed
- This provides for exceptional Raman imaging performance
- The user interface was developed with imaging in mind and is both easy to use and has a clean and uncluttered design
  - Some Software Highlights
    - Sliders allow for easy selection of collection parameters while getting immediate visual feedback on how these selections effect the data
    - A live Raman imaging preview allows for quickly surveying the sample to identify areas of interest and evaluate image quality before investing the time required for imaging the whole area
    - Single and multiple region selection allows the user to define multiple areas of interest and to set the collection parameters independently for each region
    - A range of analysis options allow for generation of informative visual images from the spectroscopic data using a variety of different profile types including MCR (multivariate curve resolution). These profiles are available both live during data collection as well as post collection options

# Raman Imaging Provides a Unique View of Materials

- The information obtained from Raman imaging is essential for characterizing many different types of materials.
- Examples of Raman imaging in this presentation include,
  - Lithium ion battery components (phase differences, in situ changes)
  - Carbon based materials such as graphene (defects, number of layers, etc.)
  - Silicon materials (stress and morphology)



# Wide Spread Use of Lithium Ion Batteries

- Portable Electronic Devices

- Laptops
- Mobile Phones
- Tablets
- DVD Players
- Digital Cameras



- Cordless Tools

- Drills, Saws, Sanders



- Automobile\*

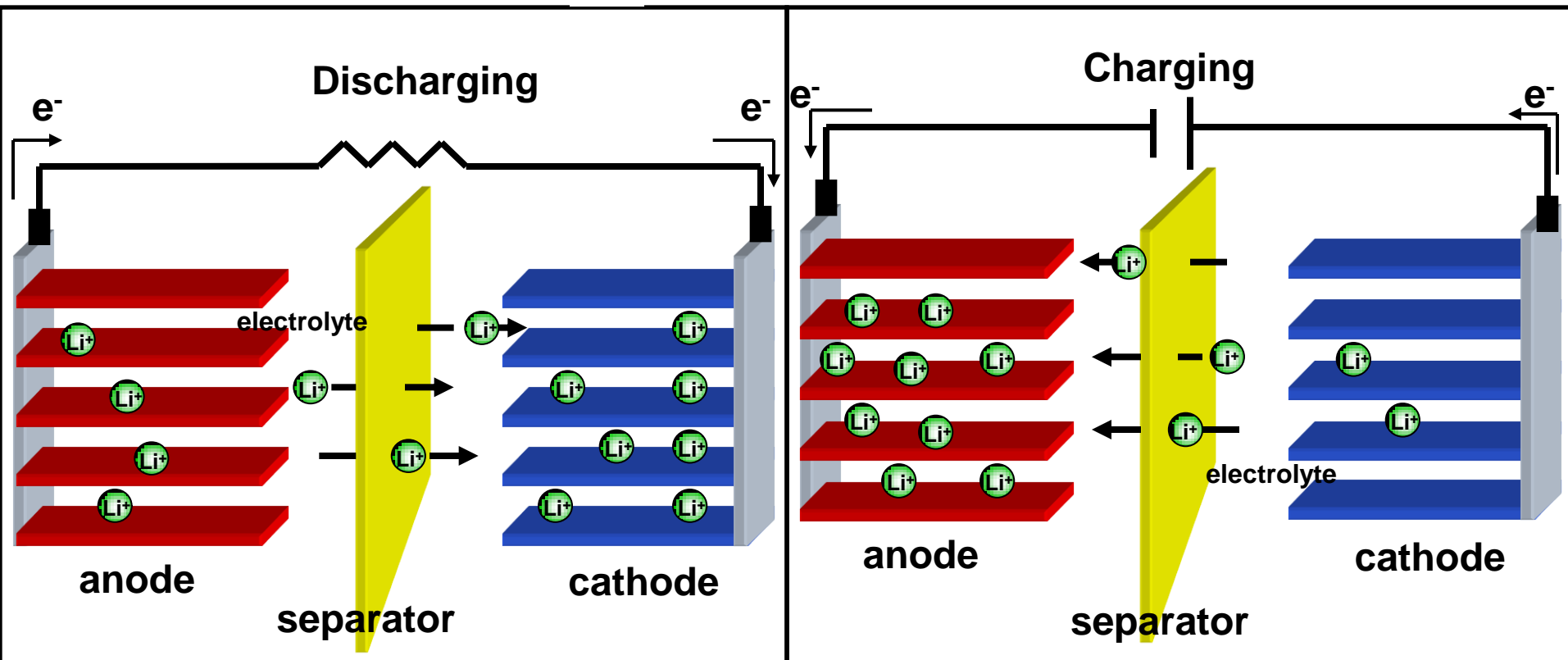
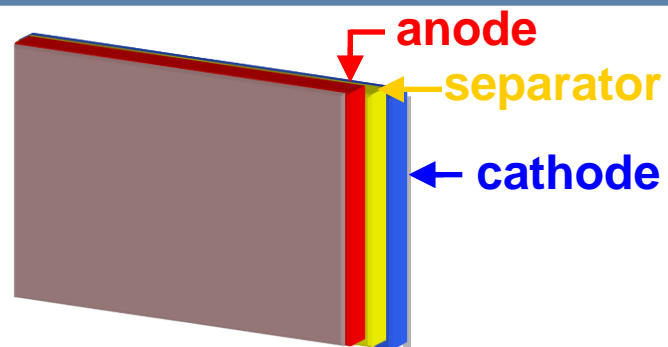
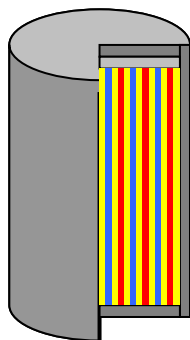
- Plug-in Hybrid-Electric Vehicles (PHEV)
- Electric Vehicles



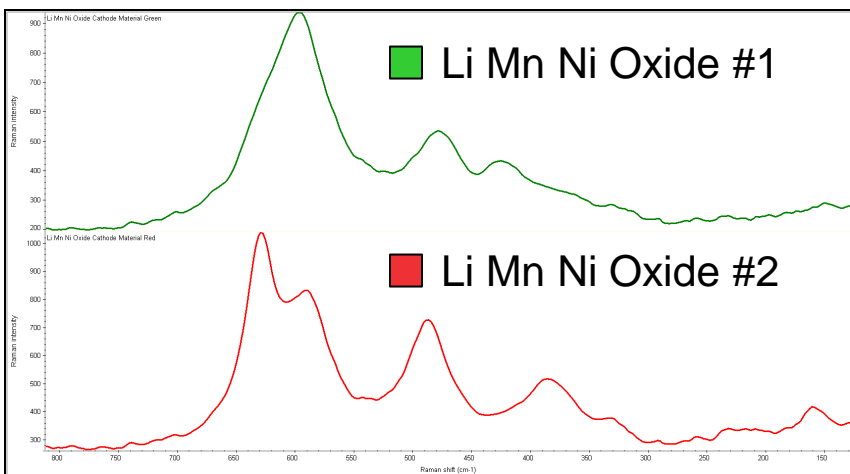
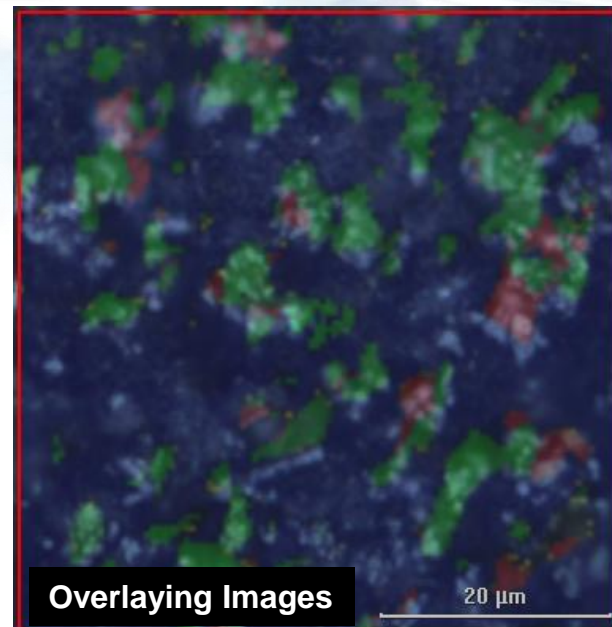
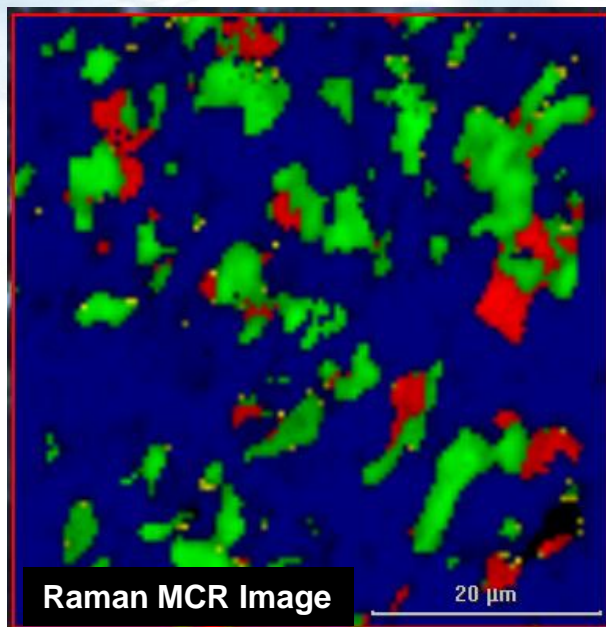
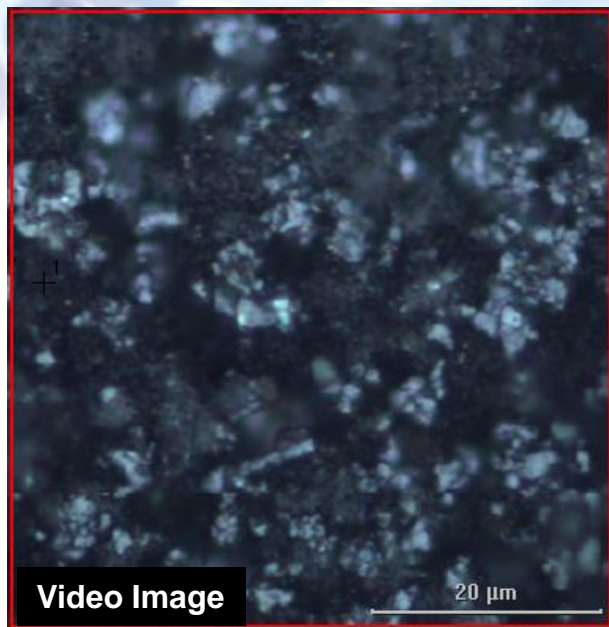
\*A substantial growth in lithium ion batteries in transportation is expected \$2 billion in 2011 and predicted to grow to \$14.6 billion by 2017



# Lithium Ion-Battery Components



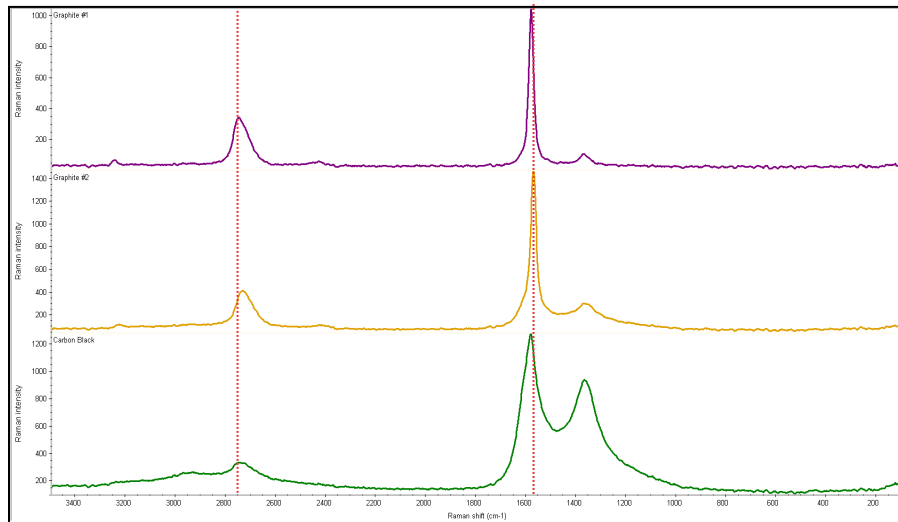
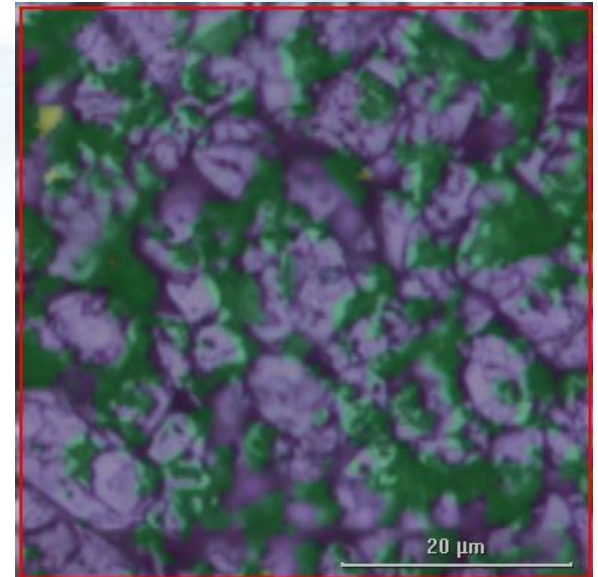
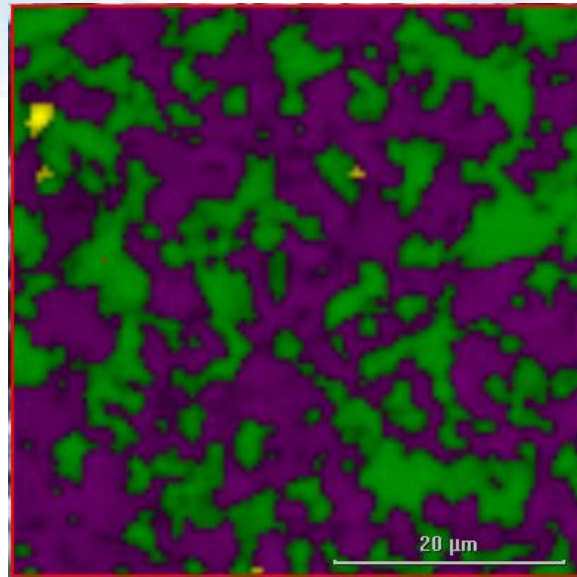
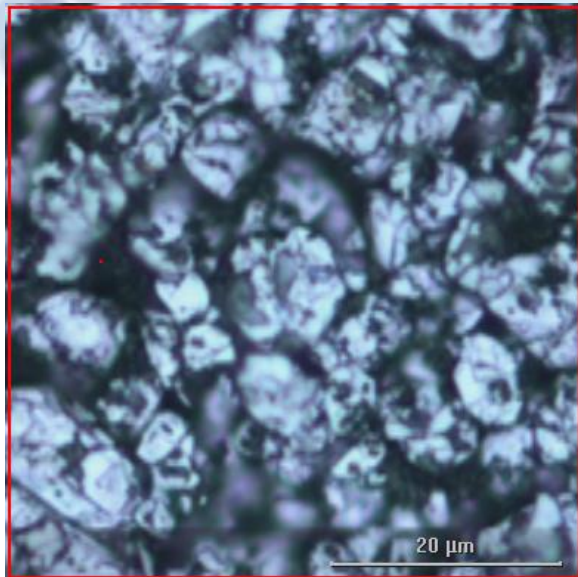
# Raman Imaging of a Li Mn<sub>x</sub> Ni<sub>y</sub> O<sub>z</sub> Cathode



- Carbon Black
- Li Mn Ni Oxide #1
- Li Mn Ni Oxide #2

455 nm laser (2 mW)  
52.5 x 54 μm<sup>2</sup> area  
0.5 μm image pixel size  
11554 spectra  
0.1 s exposure time  
50 scans

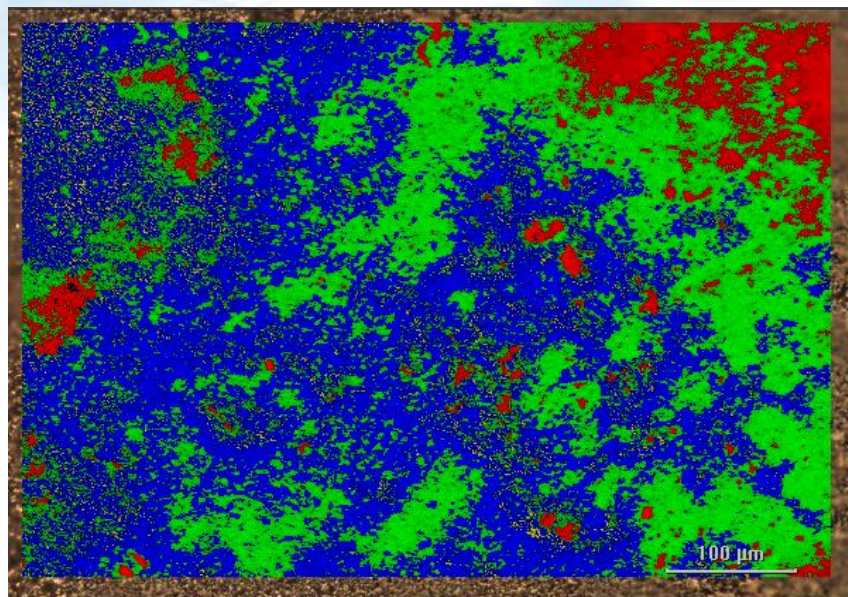
# Raman Imaging a Graphite Anode



- Graphite
- Graphite (shifted)
- Carbon Black

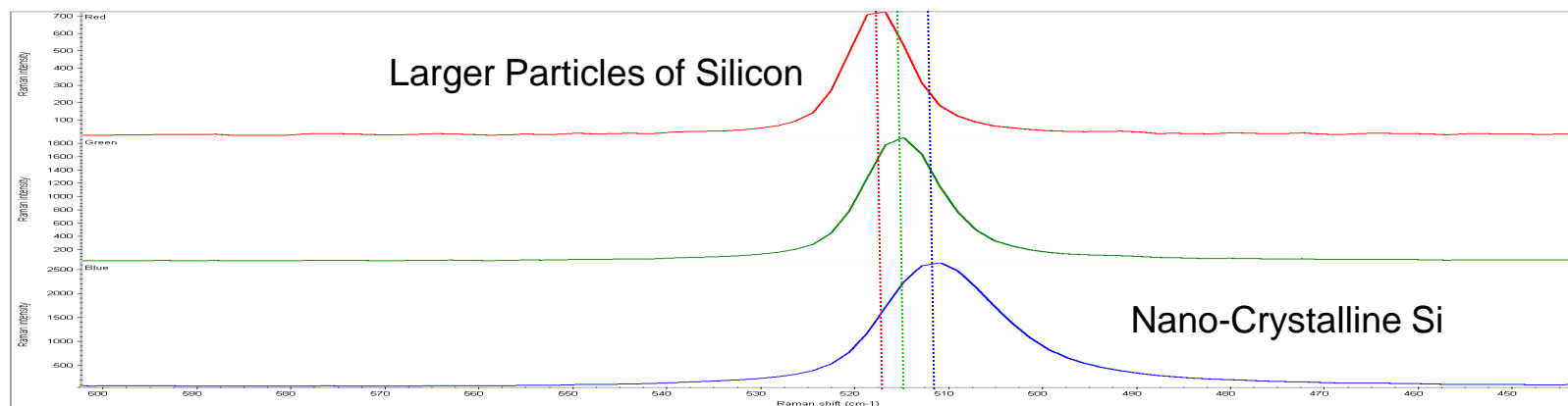
455 nm laser (2 mW)  
50 x 50 μm<sup>2</sup> area  
0.5 μm image pixel size  
10201 spectra  
0.1 s exposure time  
50 scans

# Nano-Crystalline Silicon Powder for Silicon Anodes



455 nm laser (0.2 mW)  
629 x 430 μm<sup>2</sup> area  
1.0 μm image pixel size  
270500 spectra  
0.020 s exposure time  
10 scans

Shift in the silicon peak position and change in peak shape with silicon morphology  
(from crystalline silicon to amorphous silicon)



# Battery Components can be Sensitive to Atmospheric Exposure

## *ex situ* transfer cell for sensitive materials

O-ring seal maintains inert gas environment



Wide variety of industry standard sample holders also provide compatibility with SEM analysis

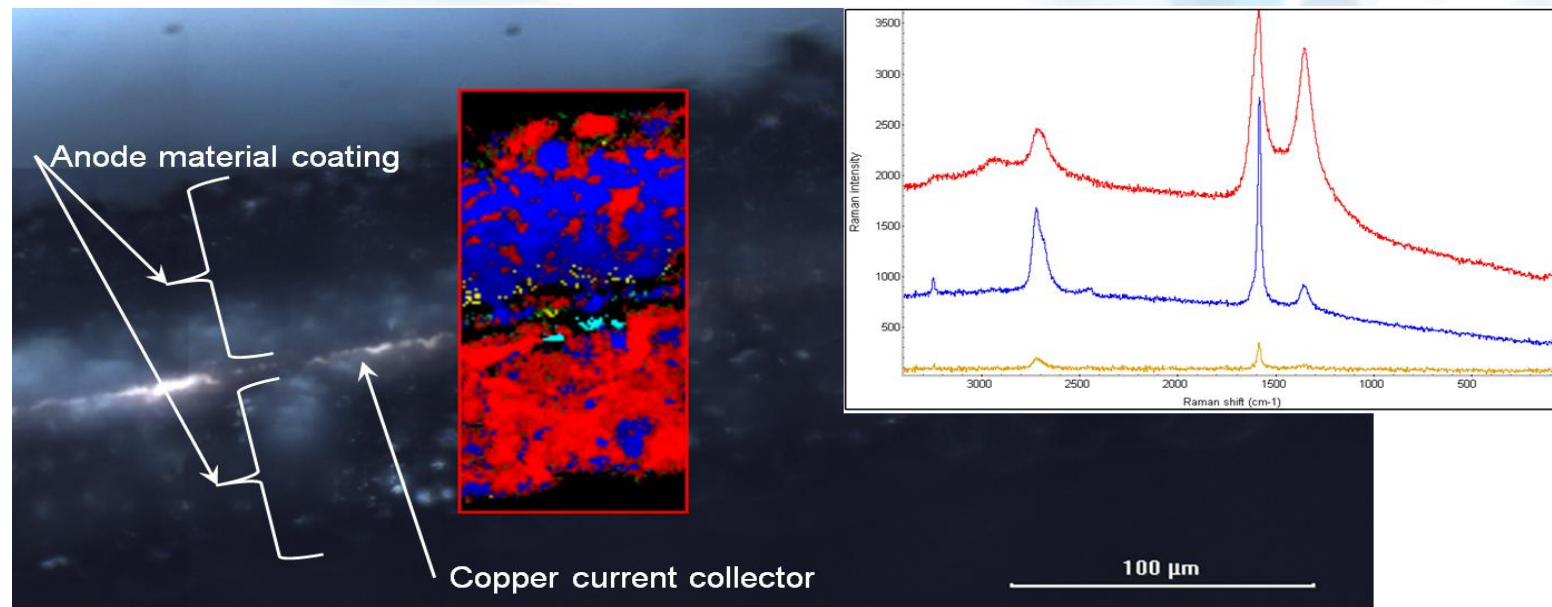
Interchangeable caps with a variety of sealed window materials



- Transfer cell maintains an inert environment surrounding the sample so it can be analyzed using instruments outside a glove box

# Ex situ Analysis of a Cross-Sectioned Anode Material

## Cross-sectioned anode material in the ex situ transfer cell

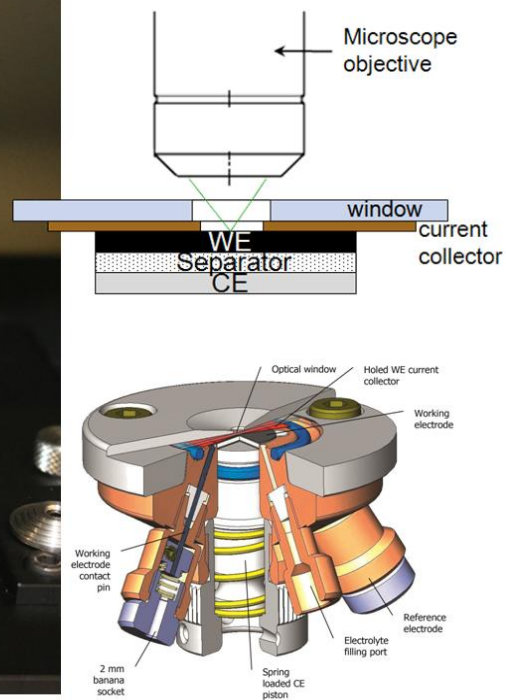
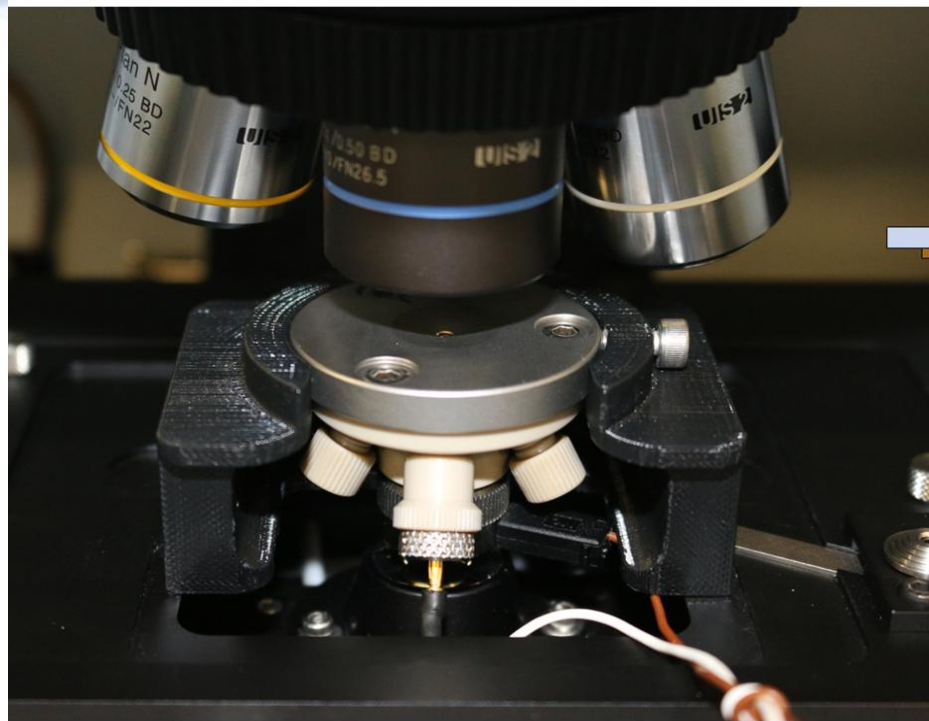


The red color indicates the presence of carbon black while the blue color represents graphite. The distribution of these materials on the two sides of the electrode is significantly different. The copper current collector is in the center.

50X long working distance objective, 532 nm laser (2.0 mW), area imaged 76 μm x 160 μm, image pixel size 1 μm, 0.2 s exposure time, 4 scans

Slide content courtesy of Dick Wieboldt , Thermo Fisher Scientific, Madison, WI USA

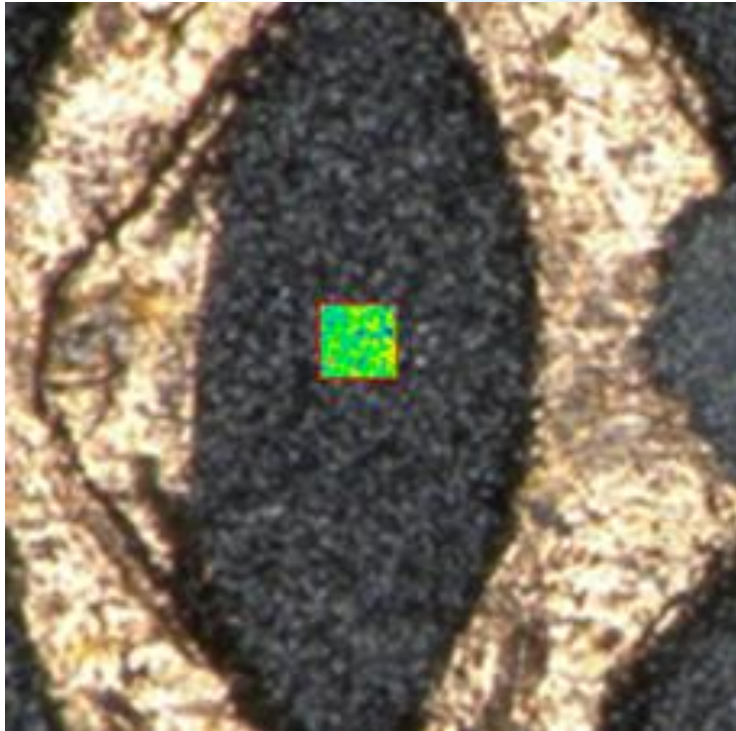
# Raman Imaging of Components in a Working Cell



## in situ cell

- Raman imaging of components in a working cell
- Monitor changes during charging and discharging cycles
- Electrode material was deposited on the copper mesh current collector

# *In situ* Raman Imaging: Lithiation of Graphite



- Graphite coated on wire mesh current collector
- Representative area examined by Raman imaging
- Raman images were collected during the charging cycle
- Looking at changes in the graphite anode material that occur with the intercalation of lithium ions that takes place during charging
- Intercalation of lithium ions causes an expansion of the graphite layers

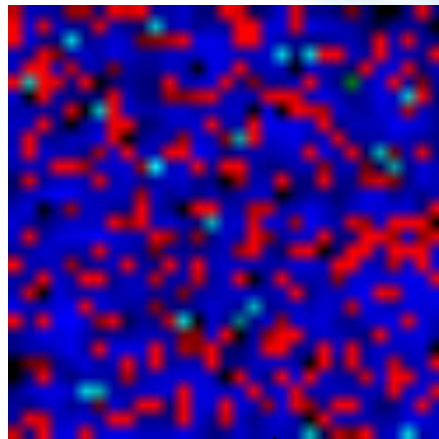
532 nm laser (2 mW), 30 x 30  $\mu\text{m}^2$  area, 1  $\mu\text{m}$  image pixel size, 0.01 s exposure time, 50 scans, Raman images were collected during the charging cycle (8 hours) of the cell.

*Slide content courtesy of Dick Wieboldt , Thermo Fisher Scientific, Madison, WI USA*

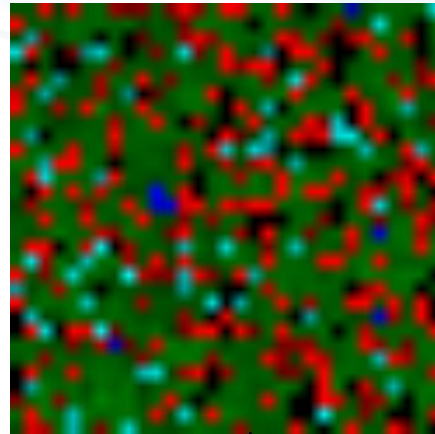


# Changes in the Anode are Reflected in the Raman Images

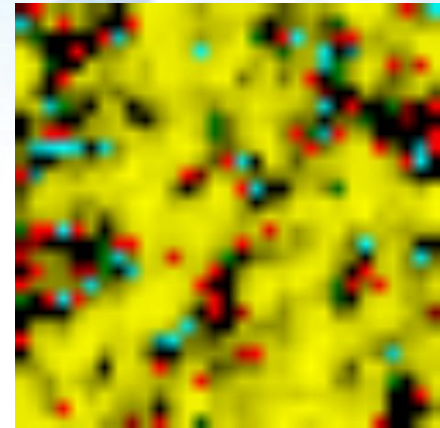
The change from blue to green is the shift in the graphite peak from 1580 to 1590  $\text{cm}^{-1}$



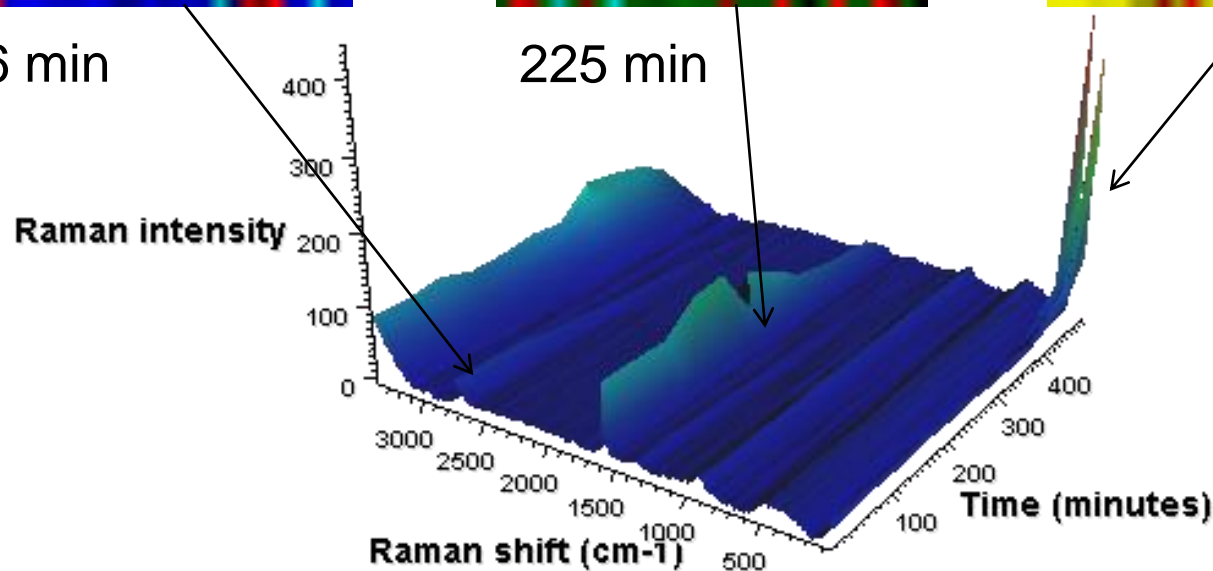
36 min



225 min



496 min

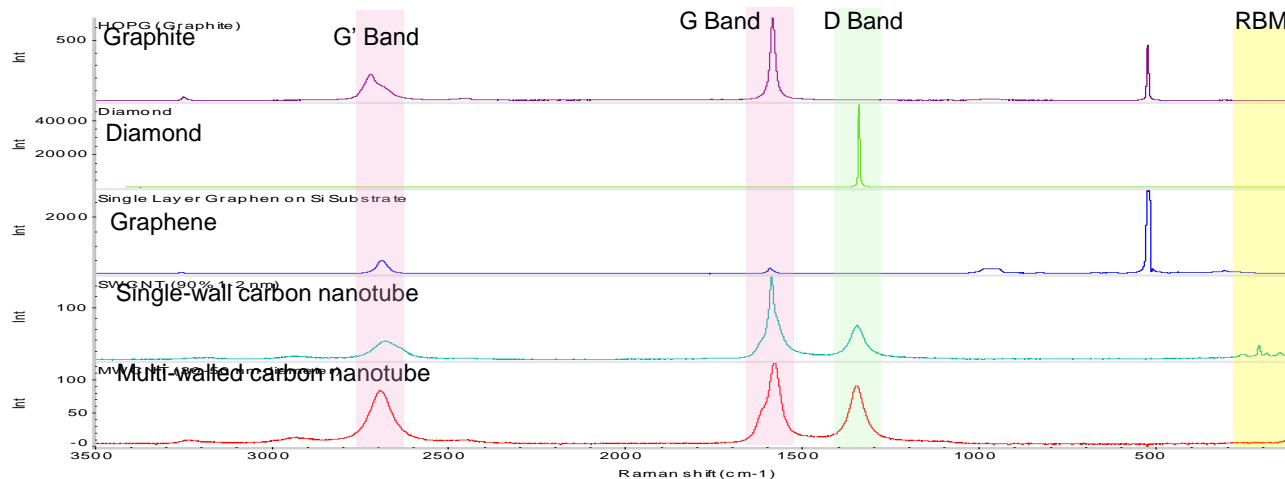


The shift to yellow indicates the appearance of a peak at 154  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

Slide content courtesy of Dick Wieboldt, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Madison, WI USA

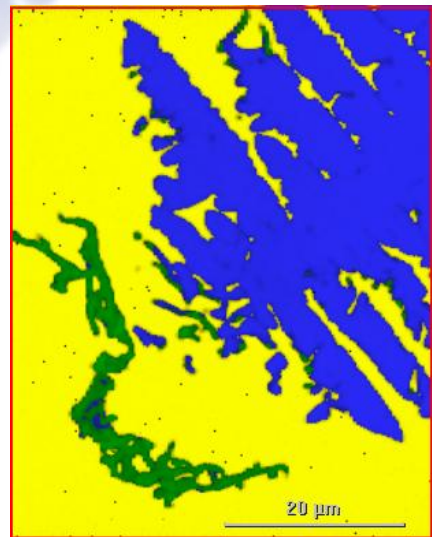
# Raman Imaging of Carbon Based Materials

- Raman imaging is an excellent choice for the analysis of carbon based materials.
- Raman analysis provides information on molecular structure (defects, grain boundaries, number of layers in graphene materials, diameters of single walled carbon nanotubes, etc.).
- Many different types of applications including, but not limited to,
  - Monitoring the results of the growth of CVD deposited graphene films
  - Evaluating thin graphene films (defects, number of layers, etc.)
  - Assessing graphene films as protective barriers

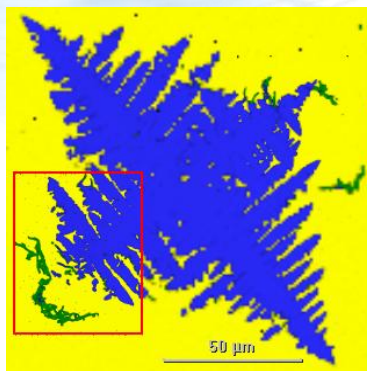


# Monitoring the Growth of CVD Graphene Films

## Dendritic Growth



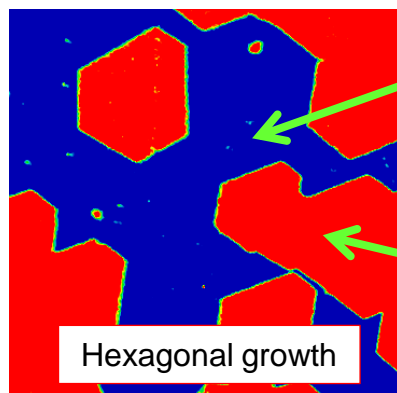
47 x 61  $\mu\text{m}^2$ , 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  image pixel size,  
72216 spectra, exposure time 0,0033 s,  
2 scans, 9 minutes



133 x 138  $\mu\text{m}^2$ , 1  $\mu\text{m}$  image pixel size,  
18626 spectra, exposure time 0,0033 s,  
2 scans, 3 minutes

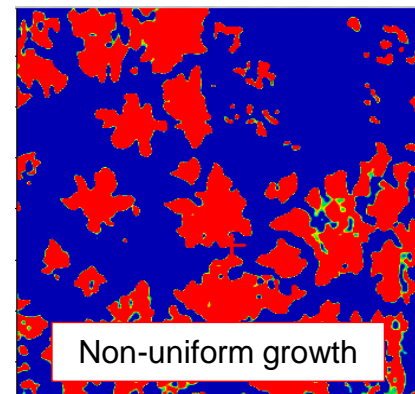
- Single Layer Graphene
- Multi - Layer Graphene
- Silicon Substrate

## MCR Image



175 x 175  $\mu\text{m}^2$  area  
0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  pixel size, 122,500 spectra,  
exposure time 0.010 s, 10 scans  
(approximately 3.4 hour collect time)

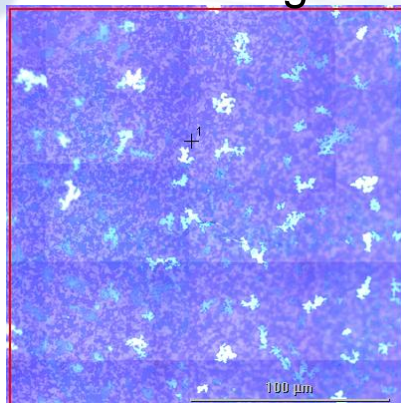
## Ratio of the 2D to G band of graphene:



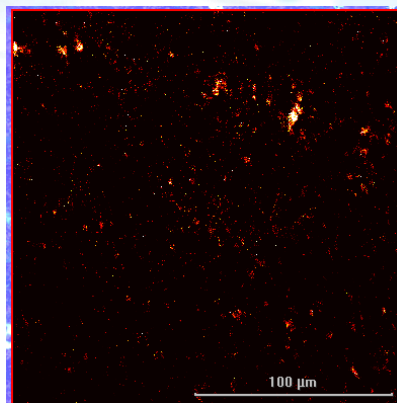
50 x 50  $\mu\text{m}^2$  area  
0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  image pixel size, 10,000 spectra,  
exposure time 0.010 s, 10 scans  
(approximately 17 minute collect time)

# Raman Imaging of a Multilayer CVD Graphene Film

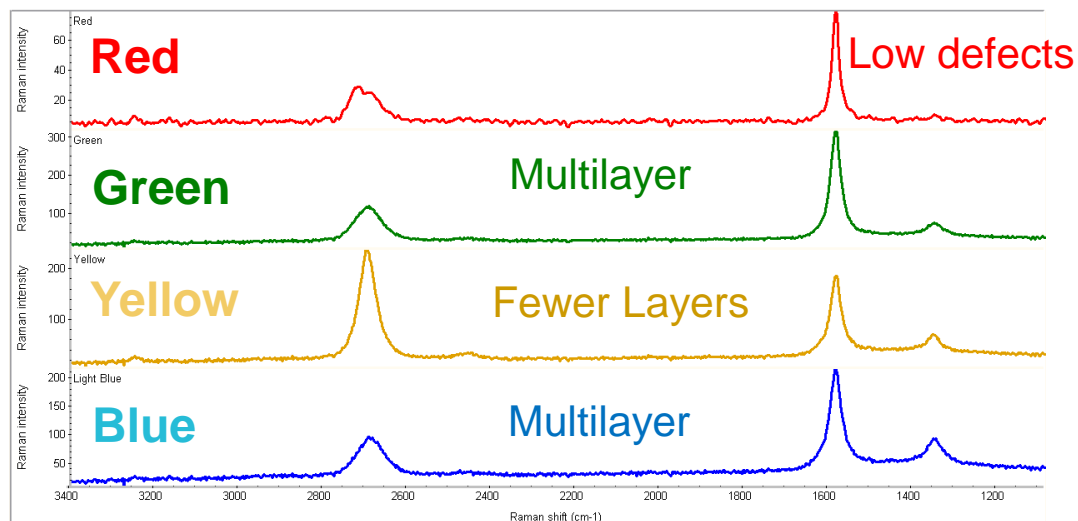
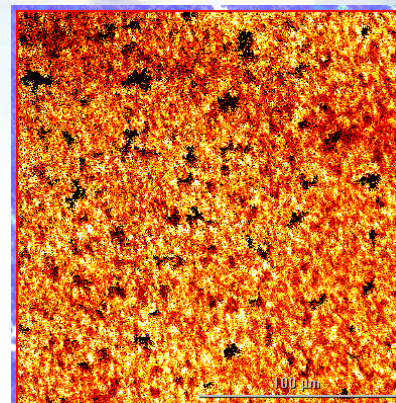
Video Image



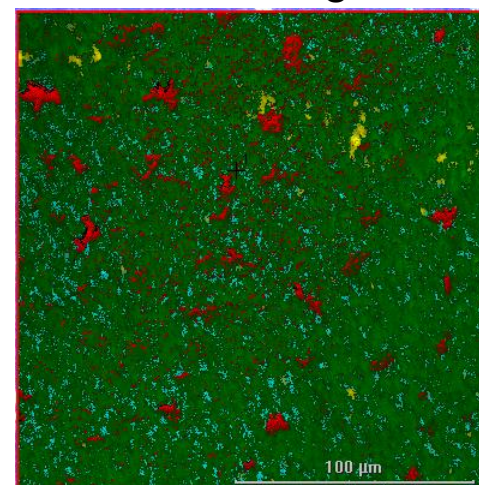
2D/G Ratio



D/G Ratio



MCR Image



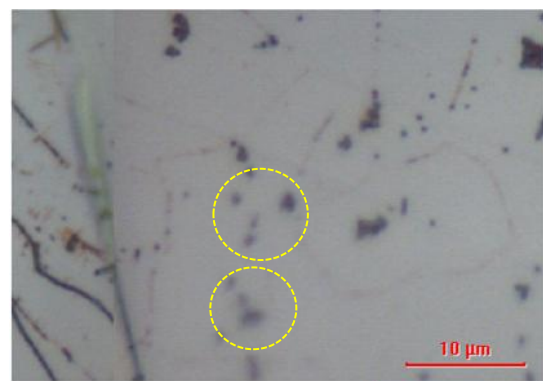
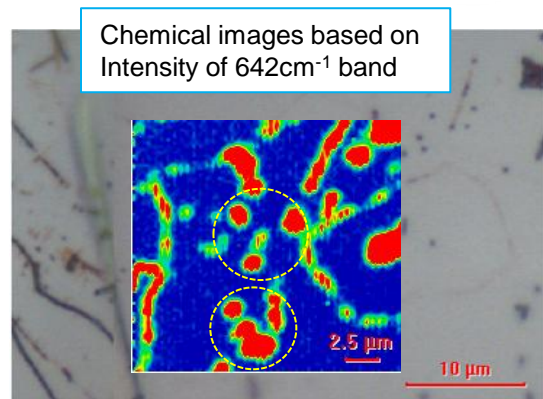
532 nm laser (10 mW), 100X objective, 200 x 201  $\mu\text{m}^2$  area, image pixel size 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , 162000 spectra, exposure time 0.01 s, 5 scans, 154 minute collection time

# Graphene as a Protective Coating

- Single layer graphene exhibits superior barrier properties
  - Impermeable to particles as small atomic He
  - Potential to inhibit corrosion or degradation of a variety of materials
  - Optically transparent
  - Ideal as protective film for Photovoltaic/solar cells
- Challenges to realize potential of graphene as a protective thin film
  - Defects are often present
  - Defects often lead to leaks which in turn leads to oxidation (decomposition)
  - Concentration and distribution of defects depends on growth conditions
- Imaging Raman microscopy can be used to evaluate the quality of the coatings as well as detecting the results of the failure of the coatings

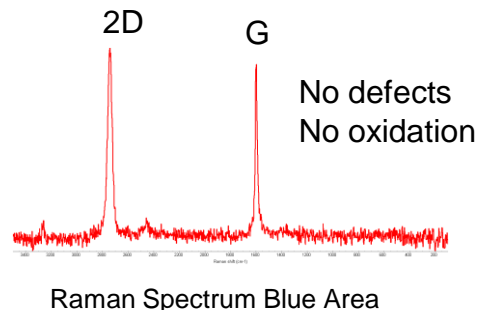
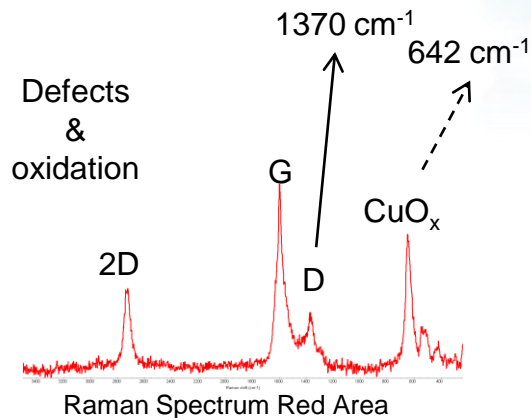
# Defects in the Coating Allows Oxidation of the Copper

Distribution of copper oxide formed on the copper surface

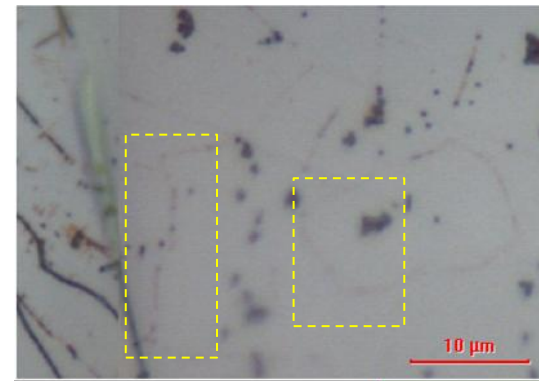
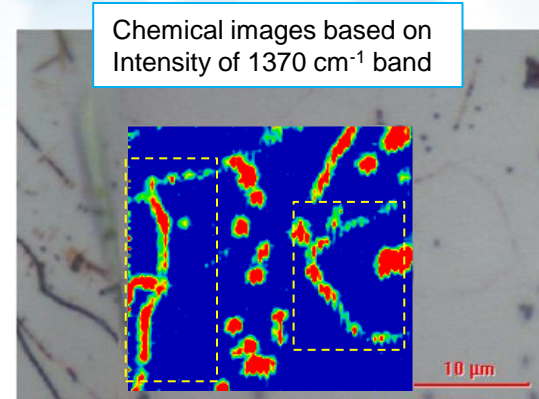


Optical Image – Discolored Points  
Graphene on Cu

One analysis  
Two parts of the puzzle



Distribution of defects in the graphene films

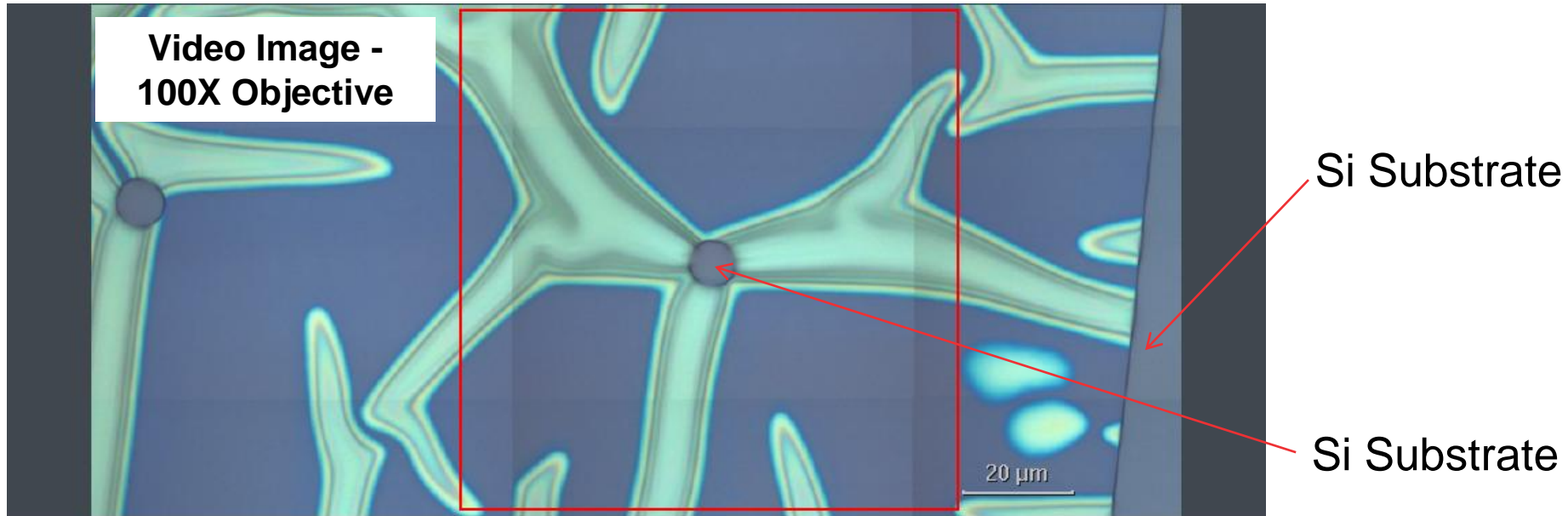


Optical Image/ - Discolored Lines  
Graphene on Cu

455 nm laser (2 mW), 100X objective, image pixel size  $0.25\ \mu\text{m}$ , 10000 spectra, 50 minute collection time

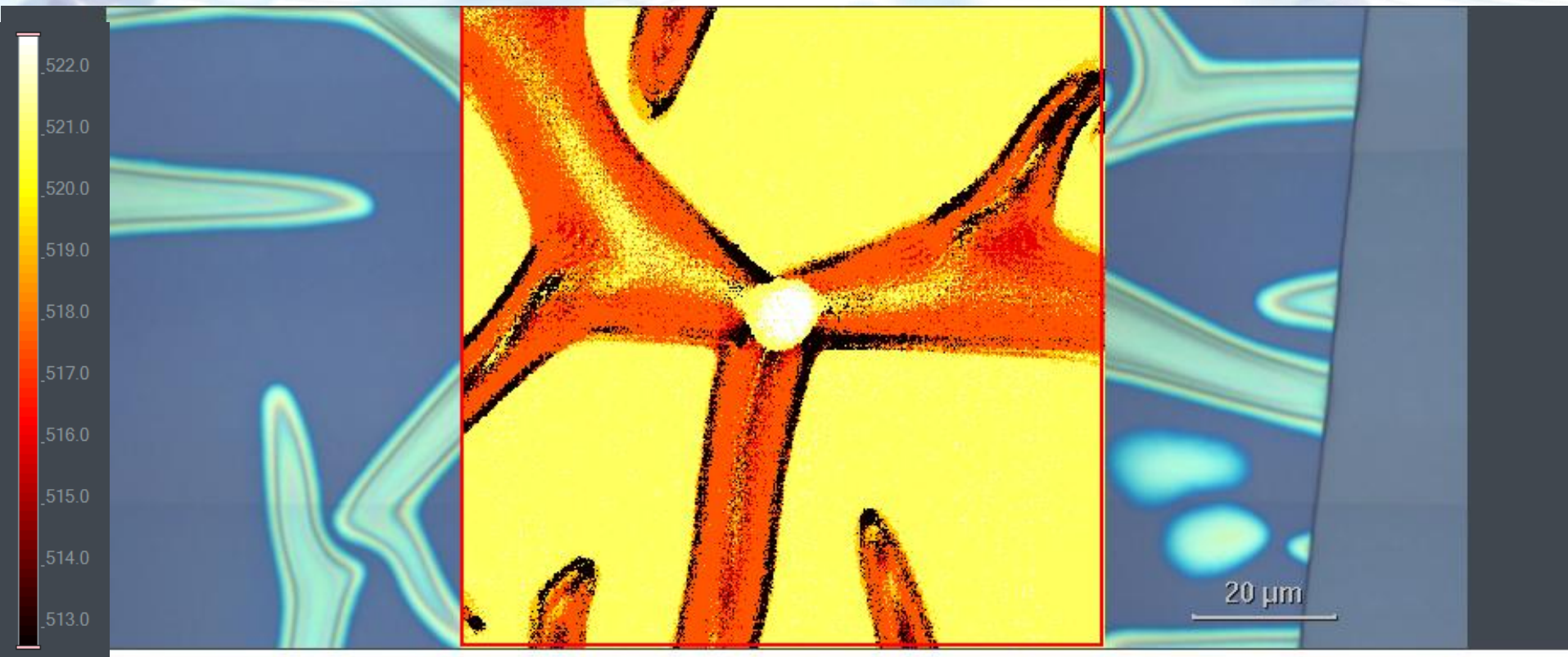
# Raman Imaging of Stress in Silicon Samples

Induced Stress in Si Epilayer  
Larger Lattice for Si/Ge alloy  
Lattice mismatch causes stress



Sample courtesy of Jose R. Sanchez-Perez (Professor Lagally's Group), Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Wisconsin Madison

# Stress Image – Shift in the Silicon Peak

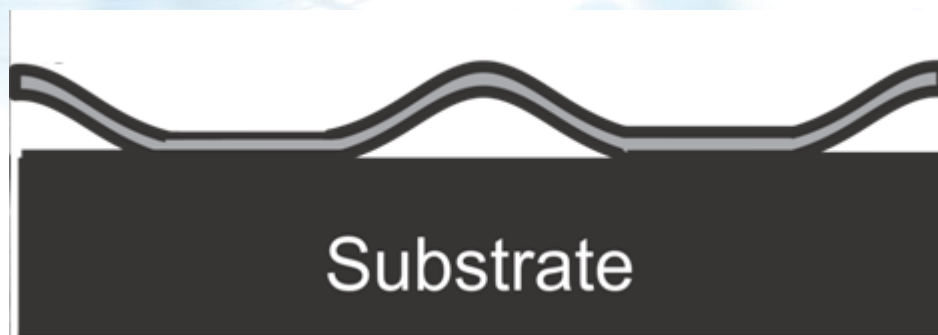


- Colors represent a shift in the location of the silicon peak for the Si epilayer
- White corresponds to the location of the Si substrate peak
- The darker the colors the more the peak has shifted to lower wavenumbers.
- The greater the shift the greater the stress

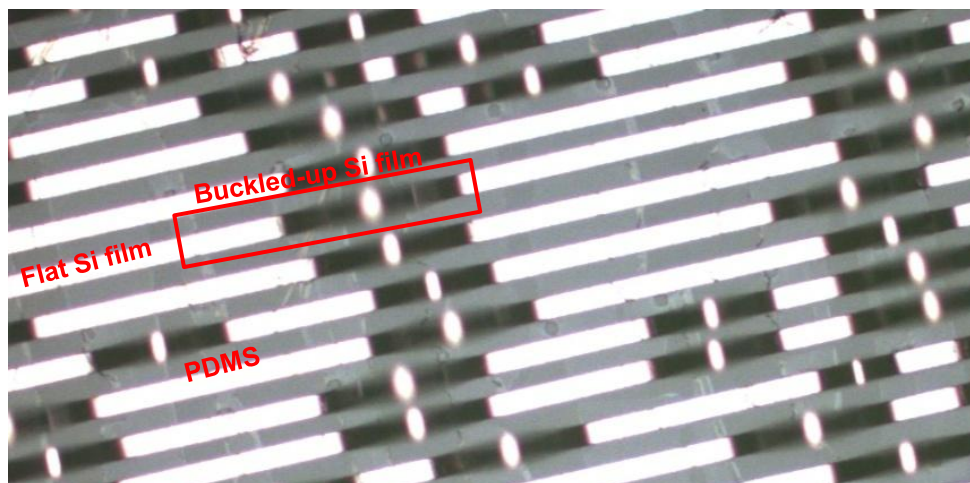
455 nm laser (1 mW), 91 x 91  $\mu\text{m}^2$  area, 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  image pixel size, 207025 spectra, exposure time 0.020 s, 20 scans



# Imaging of Silicon Nano-ribbons



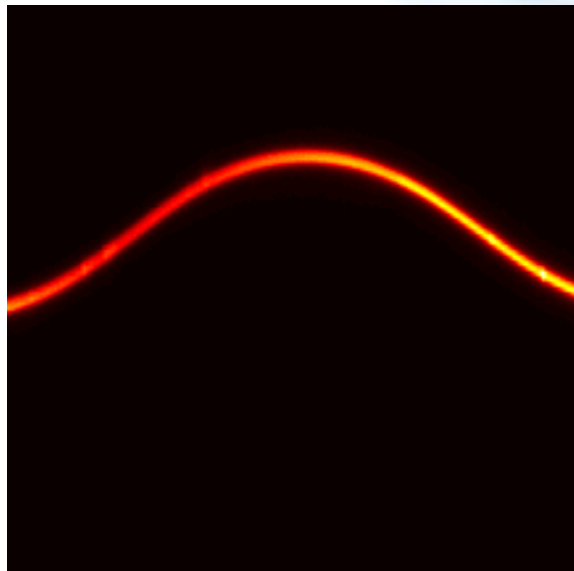
**220 nm thick Si nano-ribbon buckled-up on PDMS.**



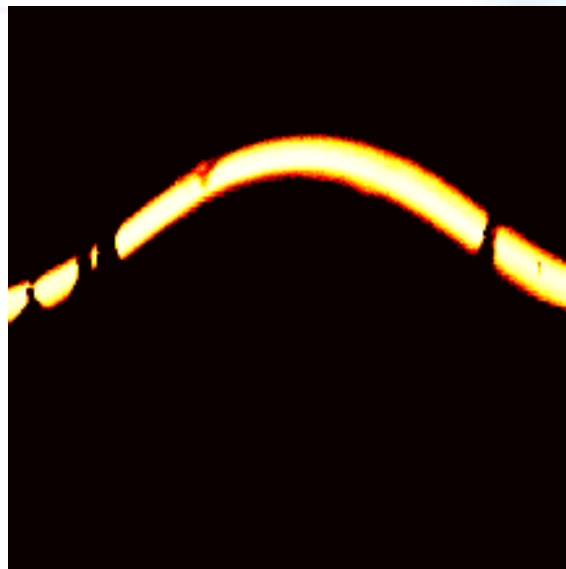
Sample courtesy of Dr. Francesca Cavallo (Professor Lagally's Group), Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Wisconsin Madison

# Raman Imaging - Silicon Nano-ribbons

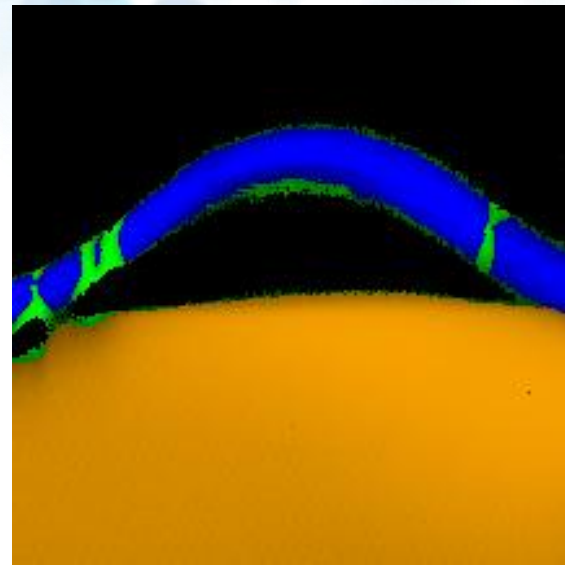
Confocal depth profiling cross-sections of the silicon ribbons



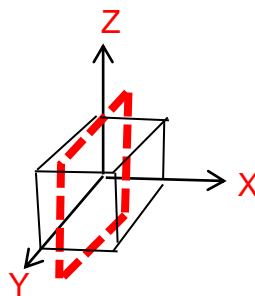
Peak Height



Correlation



MCR



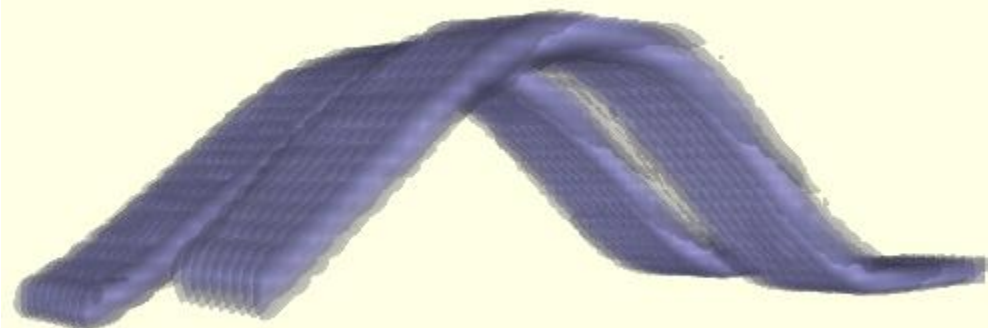
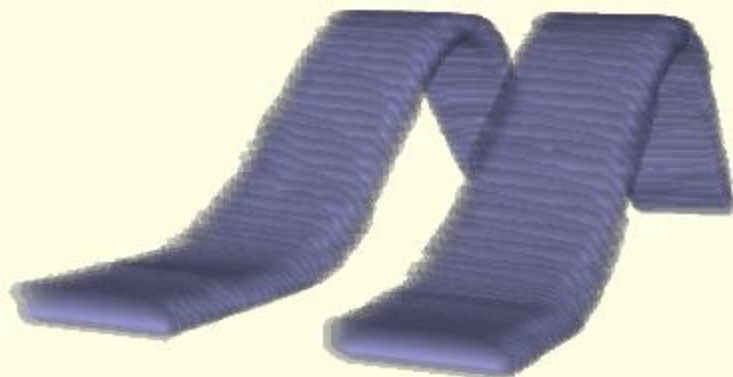
- PDMS
- Si
- Si + Fluorescing Material

455 nm laser (1 mW), 128 x 128  $\mu\text{m}^2$ , 1  $\mu\text{m}$  image pixel size, 0.010 s exposure time, 16384 spectra, 10 scans

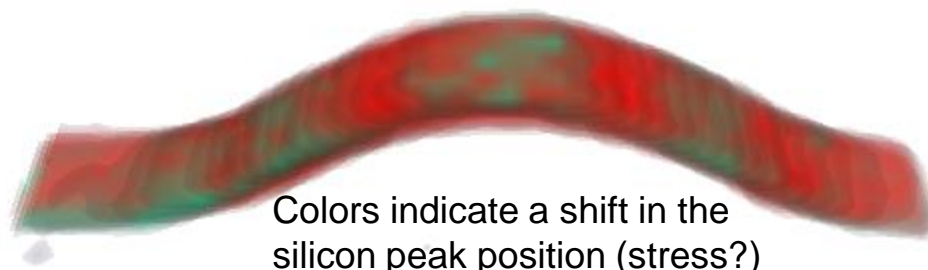
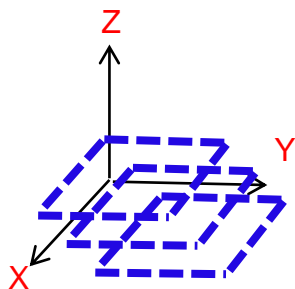
# 3-D Raman Images of Silicon Nano-ribbons

455 nm laser (1 mW),  $72 \times 157 \mu\text{m}^2$ ,  $1 \mu\text{m}$  image pixel size, 11304 spectra per region, 0.010 s exposure time, 10 scans, 40 slices, 1 micron spacing, 452160 spectra

## 3-D Images of Si Ribbons Based on the Silicon Peak



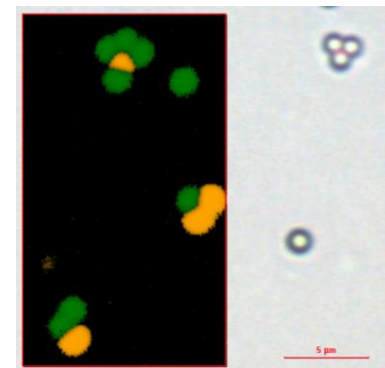
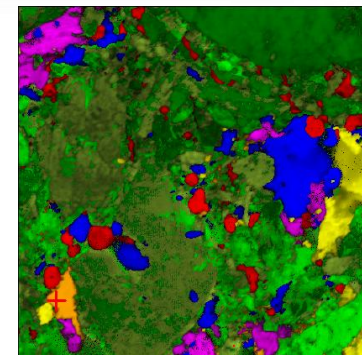
## 3-D Images of Si Ribbons Showing a Shift in the Silicon Peak Position



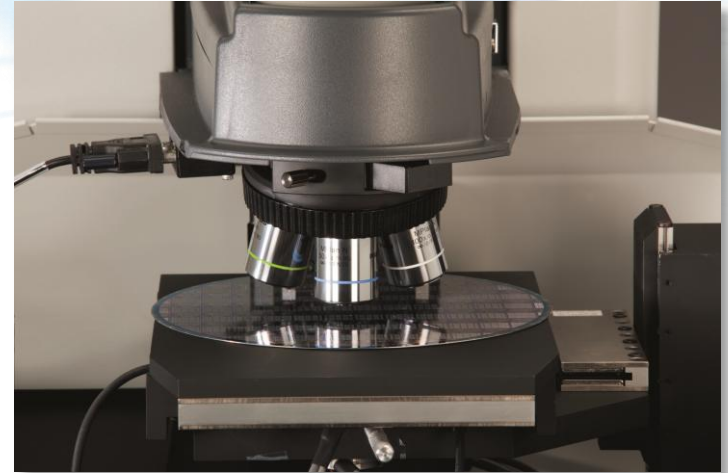
455 nm laser (1 mW),  $36 \times 168 \mu\text{m}^2$ ,  $2 \mu\text{m}$  image pixel size, 1615 spectra per region, 0.020 s exposure time, 100 scans, 41 slices, 1 micron spacing, 66215 spectra

# Raman Imaging Provides a Unique View of Materials

- Microscope problems are typically not just point analysis problems
- Imaging adds context and distribution information
- Raman imaging extends all the advantages of Raman spectroscopy across sample surfaces.
- Raman imaging not only provides a quick and efficient way to identify components and evaluate their spatial distribution but also can provide information on molecular structure and chemical environment (examples: morphology and stress)
- Vast amounts of data are generated very quickly and easily converted into visually stunning and informative images
- Many different applications can benefit from the power of Raman imaging



# The DXRxi Raman Imaging Microscope



Accelerate your work

**Visualize your answers**

