

# Visualizing, Characterizing, and ● Analyzing Pharmaceutical Constituents with Raman Imaging

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Senior Applications Specialist

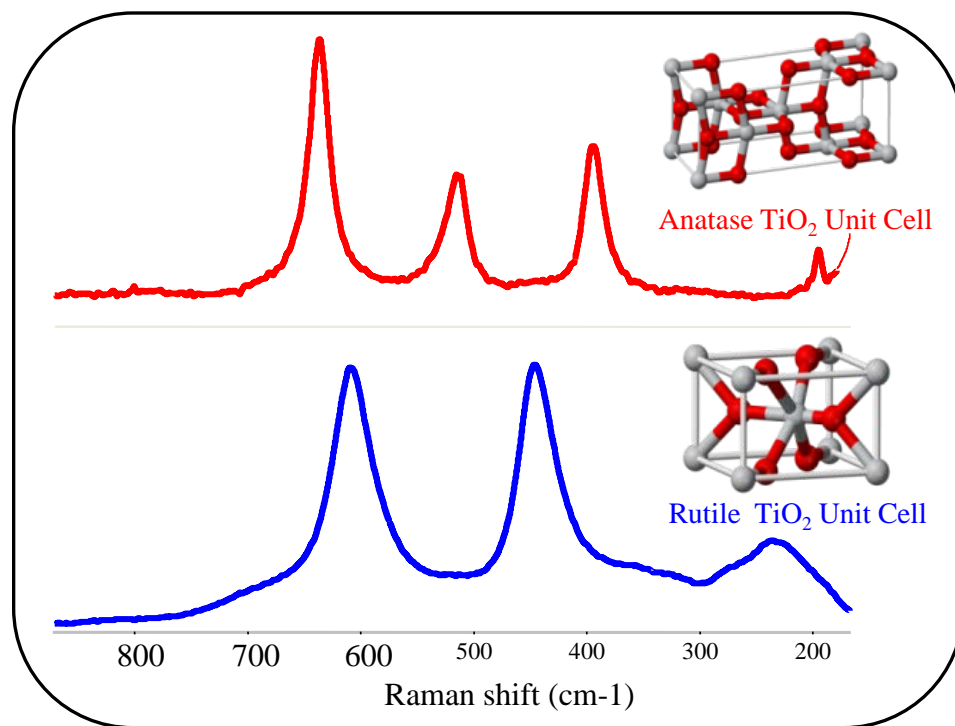
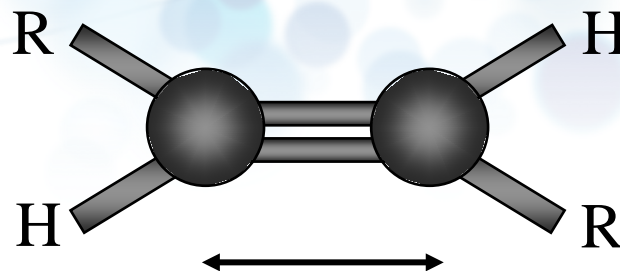
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# Agenda

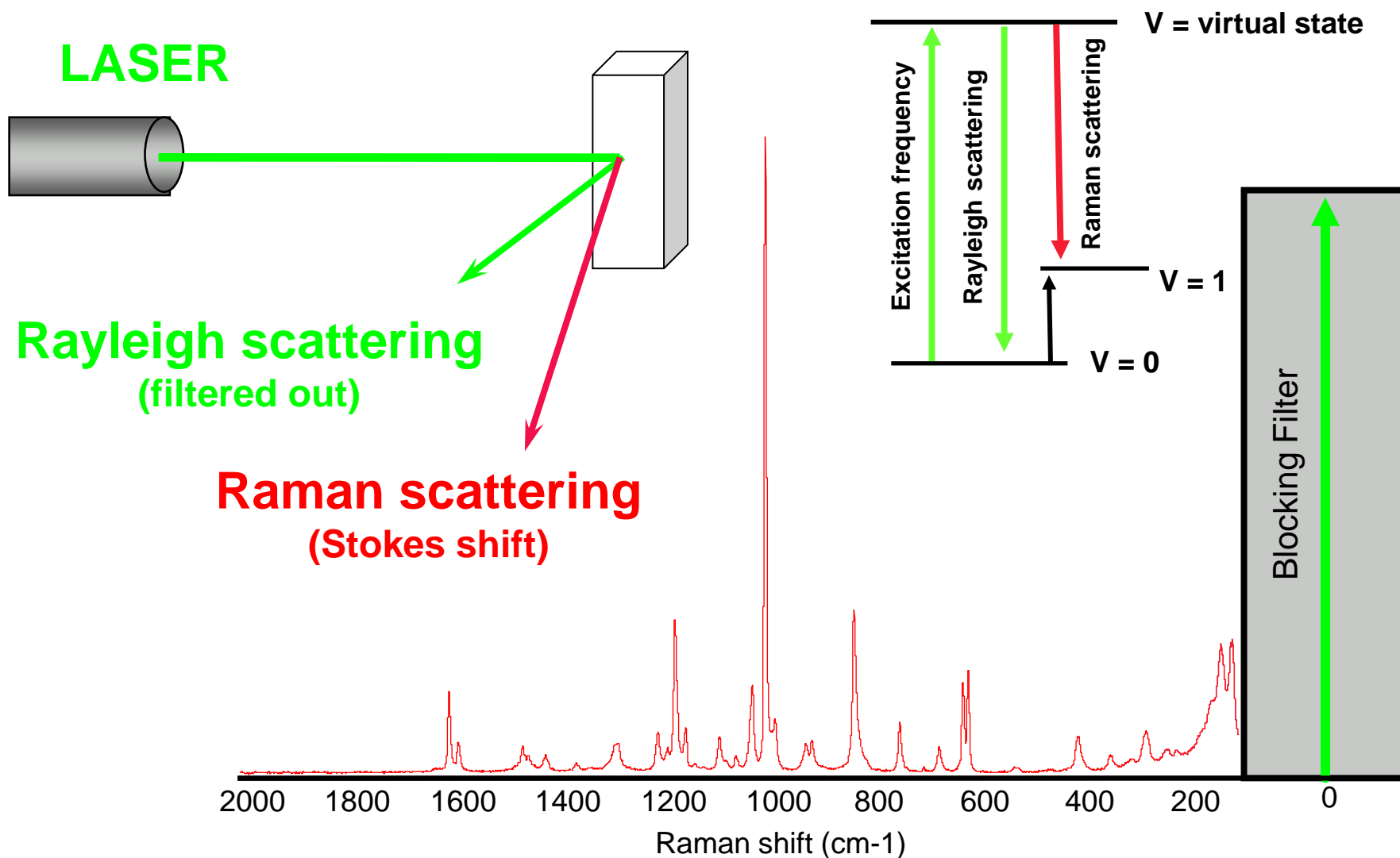
- Brief overview of Raman spectroscopy & Raman imaging
- Introducing the Thermo Scientific™ DXR™xi Raman imaging microscope
- Raman imaging for pharmaceutical products
  - Examples
    - Pharmaceutical Tablet – homogeneity and content uniformity
    - Low Dose Tablet – distribution of polymorphs
    - Hot Melt Extruder Products – component characterization

# What is Raman Spectroscopy?

- Complementary technique to infrared (IR) spectroscopy
- Uses light to probe covalent chemical bonds by looking at vibrations
- Provides detailed molecular information: sensitive to even slight changes in bond angle or strength
- Useful for identifying unknown solids and liquids, including both inorganic and organic materials
- Can also detect sensitive changes in structure, morphology, and even temperature!

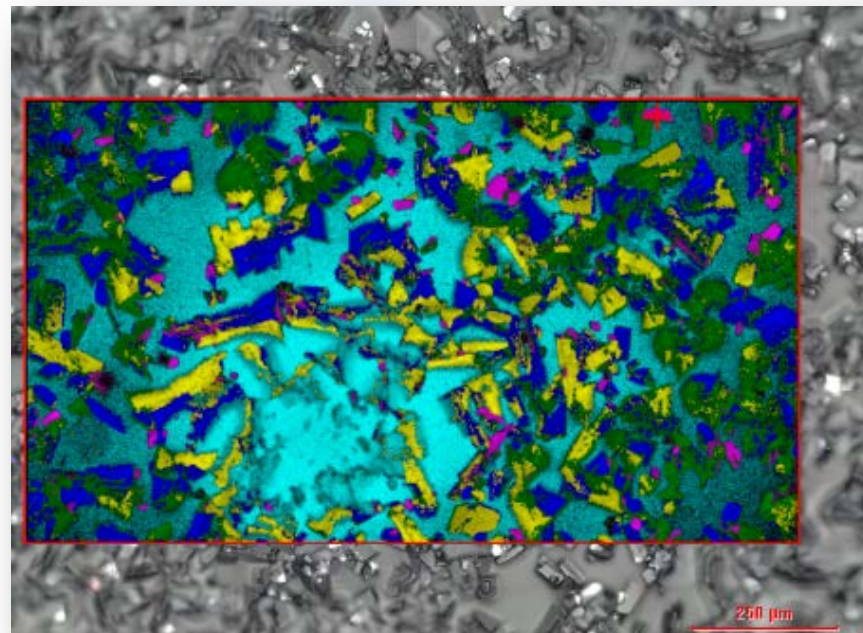


# Raman Spectroscopy – The Raman Effect



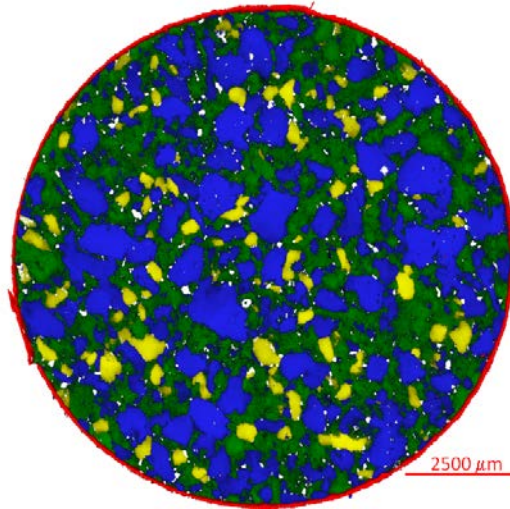
# What Can Raman Imaging Do?

- Extends the advantages of Raman analysis across the sample
- Rapid collection of vast amounts of spectroscopic data
- Provides visual images depicting differences in molecular structure and chemical environment
- Raman images provide views of the samples that are not always apparent in the visual images



# Application Areas for Raman Imaging

## Pharmaceuticals



### Other Application Areas

Polymers and Packaging

Semiconductors and Thin Films

Carbon Nanomaterials

Geology / Mineralogy

Life Sciences

# Introducing the Thermo Scientific DXRxi Raman Imaging Microscope

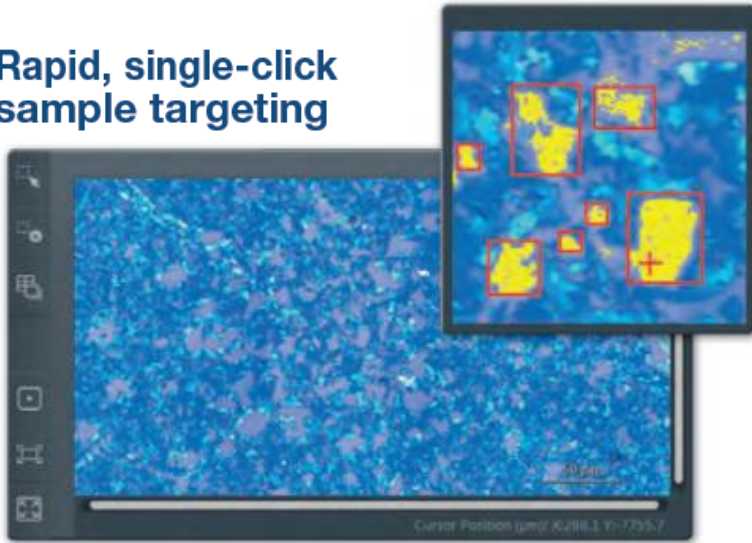
A total imaging system: hardware and software integration combines **powerful performance** with **image-centric** analysis and **ease of use**



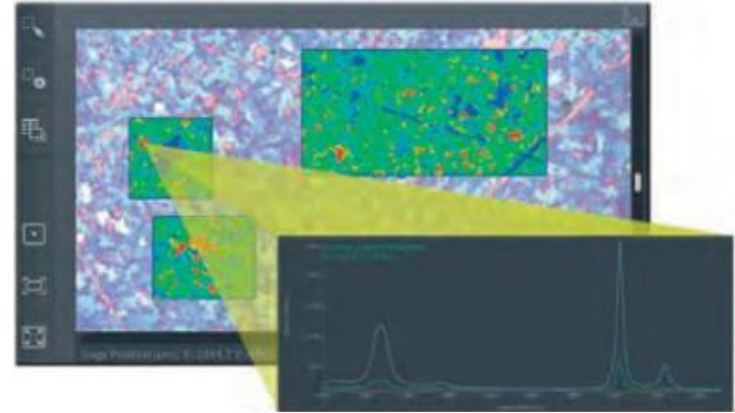
*A completely **new approach** to Raman imaging!*

# Intelligent Workflow with Excellent Flexibility

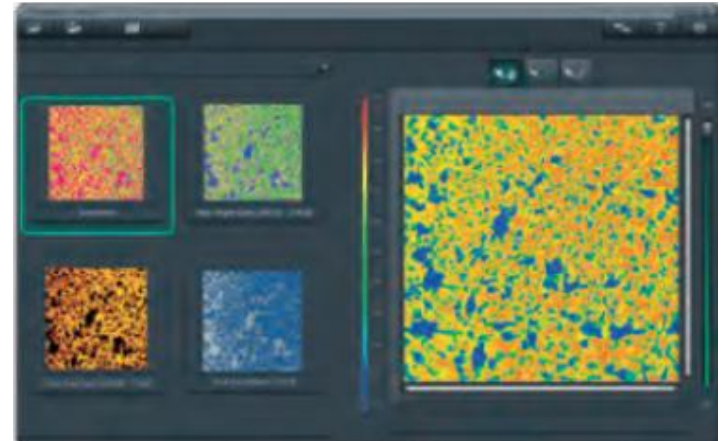
**1** Rapid, single-click sample targeting



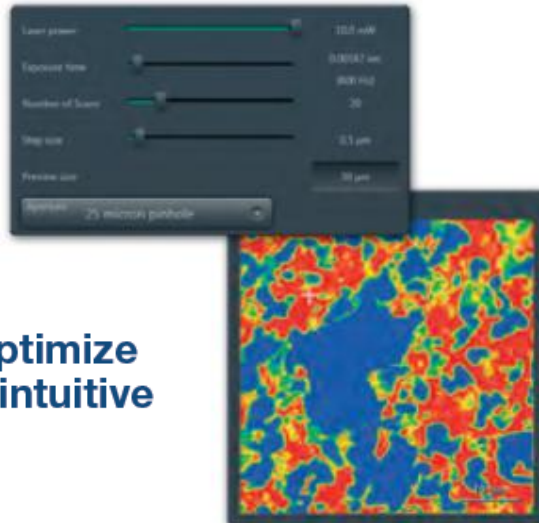
**3** Quickly prioritize multiple regions of interest and run



**4** Information-rich images reveal a multitude of material characteristics



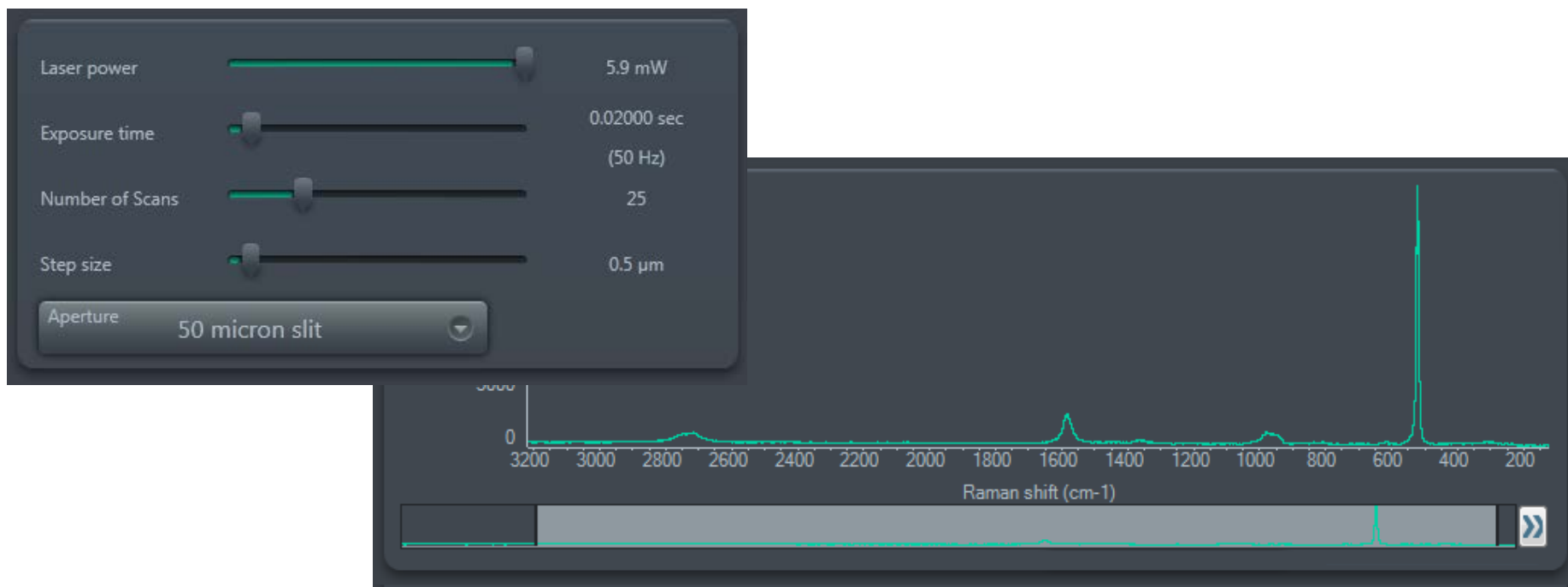
**2** Confidently optimize settings with intuitive controls





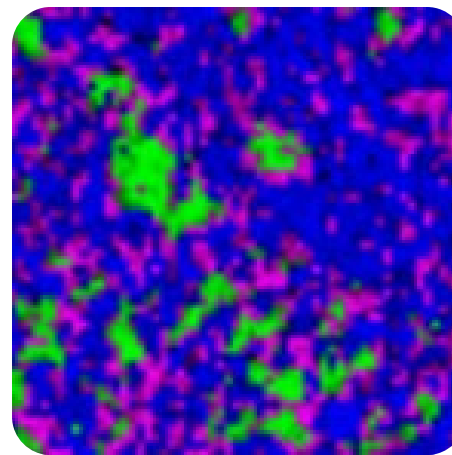
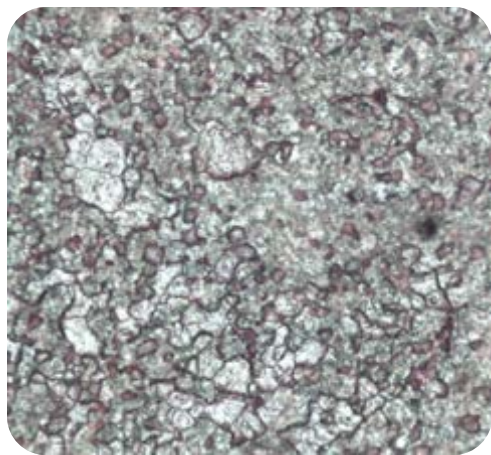
# No Raman Expertise Required to get the **Best** Results

- Visual controls and instantaneous, continuous visual feedback
  - NO lengthy trial and error
  - NO guesswork
  - You can see when parameters are optimal
  - Focus quickly on the problem, not the technique



# Raman Image Preview

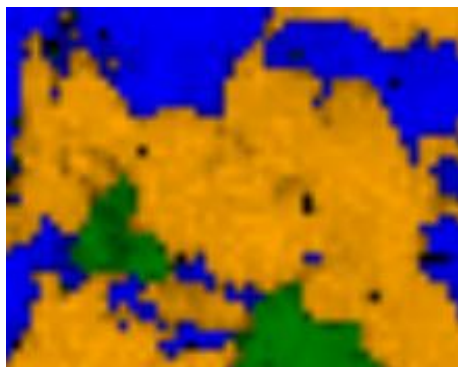
- Just like using a visual image to inspect the sample now it is possible to use a Raman image preview of the sample.
- Don't waste time guessing at your region of interest
- Don't wait until an image is collected to learn if parameters were ideal
- Rapidly see and identify constituents and domains without the wait



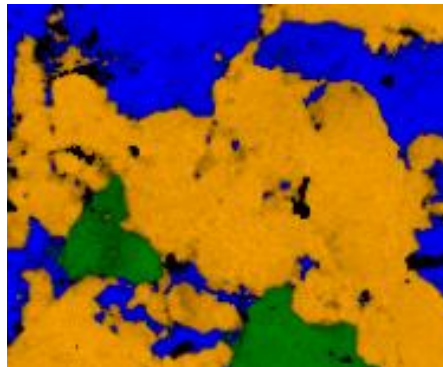
Preview in seconds!

# Get There Faster By Getting Just What You Need

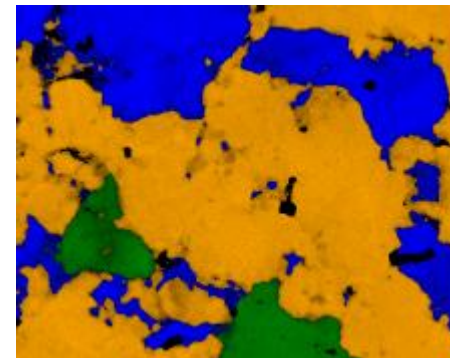
- Optimize **image** collection, not individual spectra
  - Quickly and visually balance image collection time with necessary detail level
  - Remove unanticipated results somewhere in an image
  - Stop any time if results are good enough rather than wait for multiple scans of each point in entire image to finish, one at a time



20 micron image pixels  
1900 spectra, 2 scans  
1 minute



5 micron image pixels  
30,000 spectra , 2 scans  
4 minutes



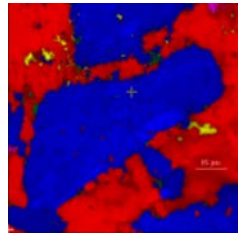
1 micron image pixels  
191,000 spectra , 2 scans  
25 minutes

# Image-centric vs. spectral-centric at same “spectral speed”

100 x 100 microns 1 micron spacing (10,000 spectra); 500 Hz data collection; 10 “co-adds”

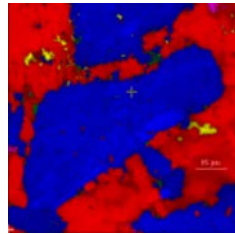
**DXRxi**, rastering entire images to desired quality level, like other microscopes

20 seconds



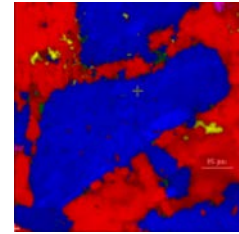
Single scan of entire image with MCR, 10,000 spectra

1 minute



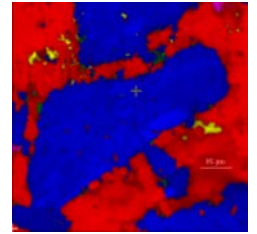
3 scans of entire image with MCR

200 seconds



10 scans of entire image with MCR

Some Time Later....



**Other Raman Imaging Systems**, building images one spectrum at a time



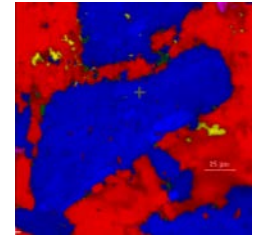
1000 co-added spectra, no useful image information



3000 co-added spectra, no useful image information



10,000 spectra collected

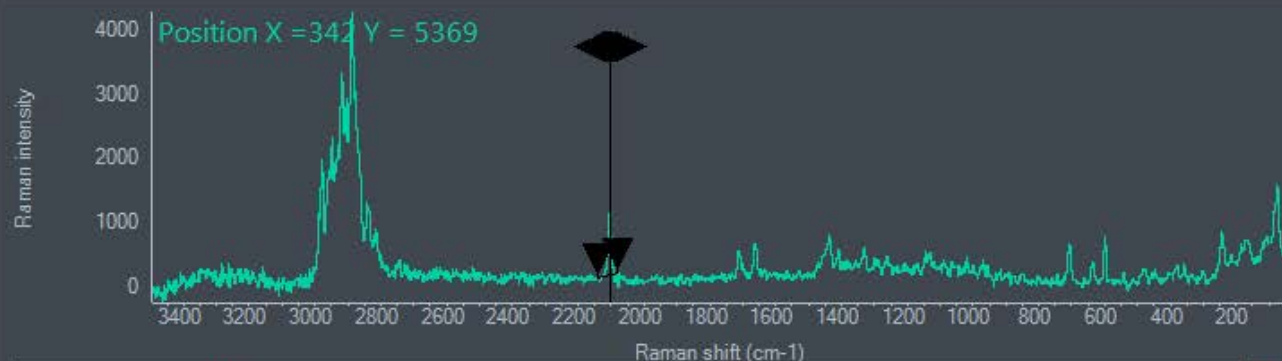
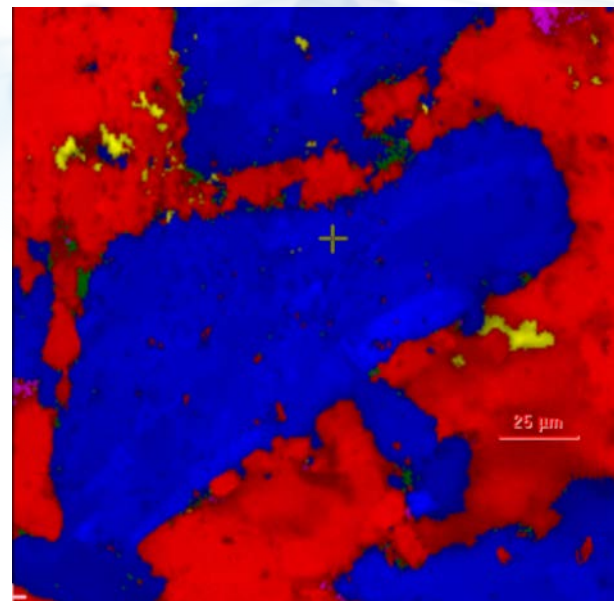


MCR Processed Map

# Built-In Expertise: Profiles and MCR (Multivariate Curve Resolution)

- Standard profiles (correlation, chemigram, peak area, peak height, peak ratios, peak shift) applied immediately via graphical interface
- Component analysis calculated *in real-time*

***One-click application of image profiles is a unique concept – adds value at every step of the workflow***



Profile: Peak Height

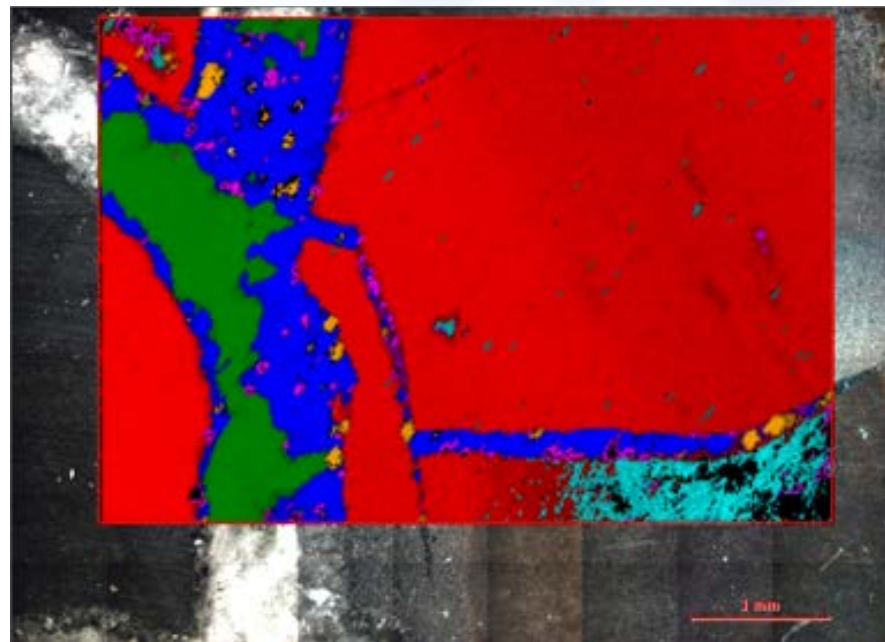
Position: 2103.04

Baseline Start: 2079.99

Baseline End: 2142.56

# Data Processing Concurrent With Data Collection

- Raman images with component identification are created in real time
  - Without configuring a spectroscopic method
  - Without prior operator knowledge of what's in the sample
  - Without waiting for an entire image data set to be collected
- Instant and obvious interpretation even if you don't know what you're looking for



# Integration and Cross-Compatibility

- Access to raw data
  - All data (chemical image, video image, spectra) can be quickly exported using a full array of formats
  - HDF5 provides open-source solution for compatibility with third party packages
  - Send data to OMNIC and Specta with a single click!



# Microscopy Options

- Supports a wide variety of sample measurement options, including:
  - Single and dual microscope slide holders
  - Heating and cooling stages – even during imaging!
  - Rotating stage insert
  - Industry standard wafer holders and SEM accessories
  - ‘Breadboard’-style holder for custom configurations
  - Holder for the Thermo Scientific K-Alpha XPS!
- Integrated Olympus research grade optics for peak performance and stability:
  - High NA and long working distance objectives
  - Optional brightfield and darkfield optics
  - DIC and visual polarizers for more challenging samples
  - Available with transmission illumination



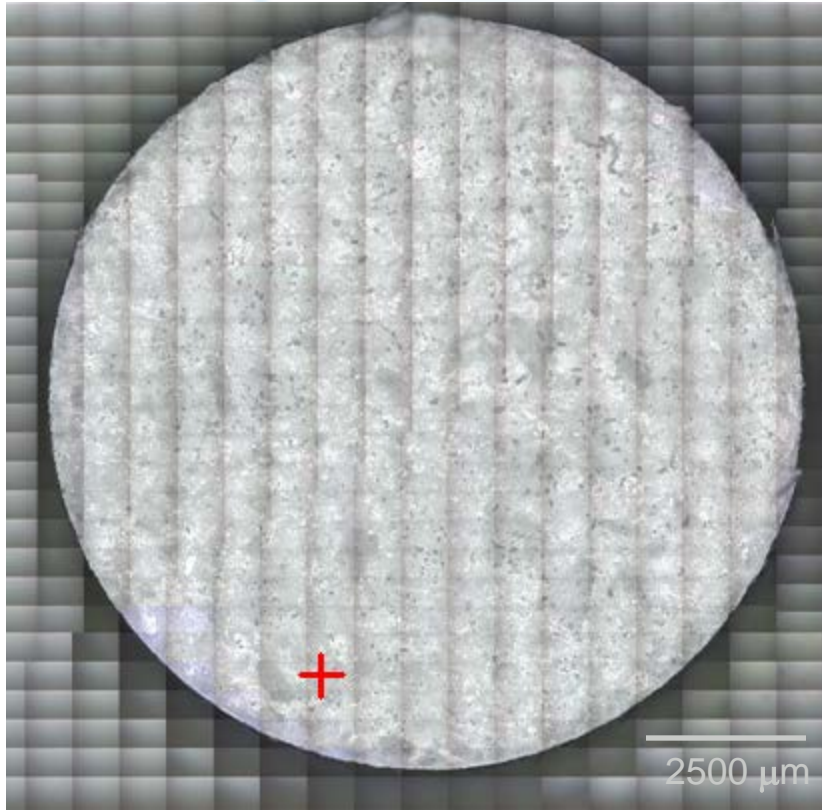


# Pharmaceutical Formulations

- Typically complex multi-component mixtures
- Need to identify and verify components
  - Known components
  - Impurities
  - Identify changes in components during processing
- Distribution of components
  - Homogeneity
  - Particle size
  - Content uniformity



# Tablet Imaging Example



Video Mosaic Image

(10X objective, 100X total magnification)

## Migraine Relief Tablet

11 mm diameter, 676 mg

### APIs

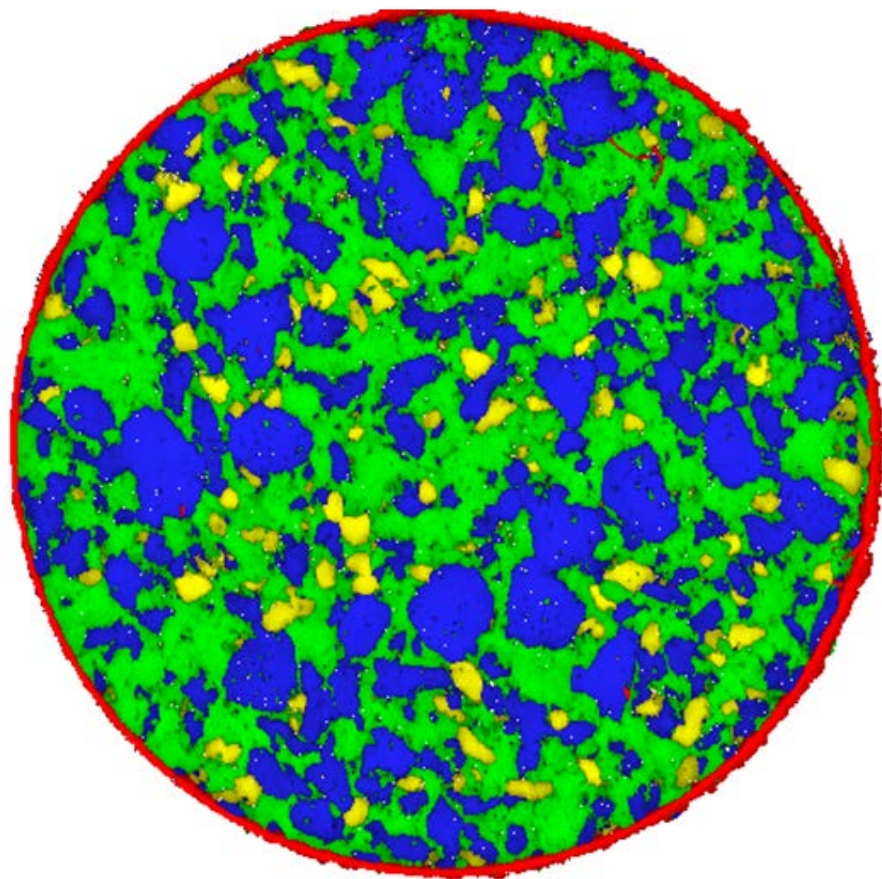
Acetaminophen	250 mg (37%)
Aspirin	250 mg (37%)
Caffeine	65 mg (9.6 %)

### Inactive

corn starch, microcrystalline cellulose, sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium starch, glycolate, crospovidone, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol, povidone, stearic acid, talc, titanium dioxide

# Imaging the Whole Tablet

Raman MCR Image



Area Imaged - 11 x 11 mm<sup>2</sup>

10X objective

Image Pixel Size - 25 μm

226,000 spectra

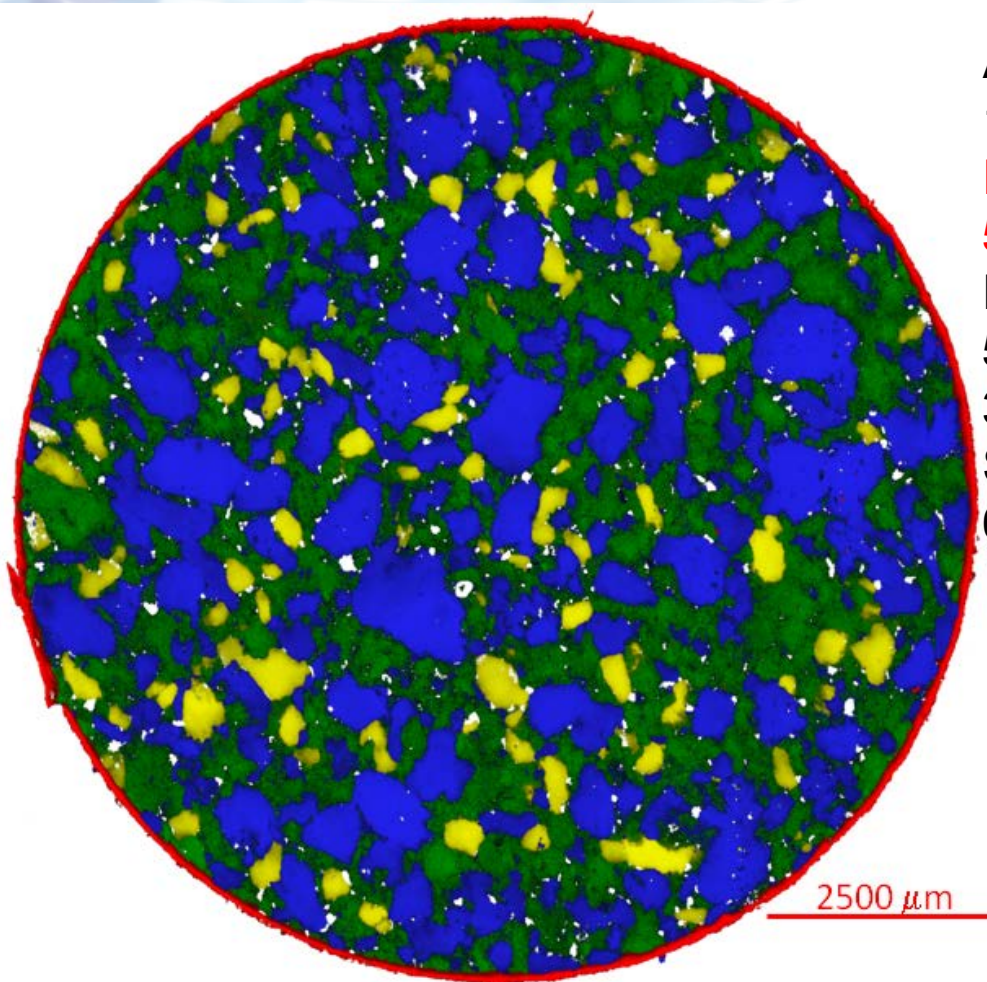
Exposure Time 1.8 ms (550 spectra per s)

532 nm laser,

**8 minute collect time!!**

■ Aspirin ■ Acetaminophen ■ Caffeine ■ Titanium Dioxide

# Higher Resolution Image – Whole Tablet



Area Imaged - 11 x 11 mm<sup>2</sup>

10X objective

Image Pixel Size - 5 μm

5.4 million spectra

Exposure Time 1.8 ms (550 spectra per s)

532 nm laser

36 GB file

Size only computer limited (128 GB RAM)

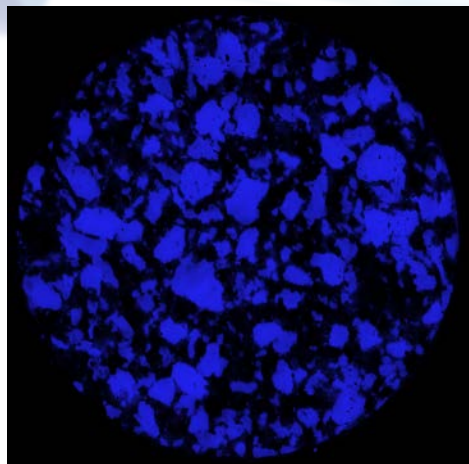
6 hour collection time (3 hr estimated)

## Image Analysis % Area of Particles

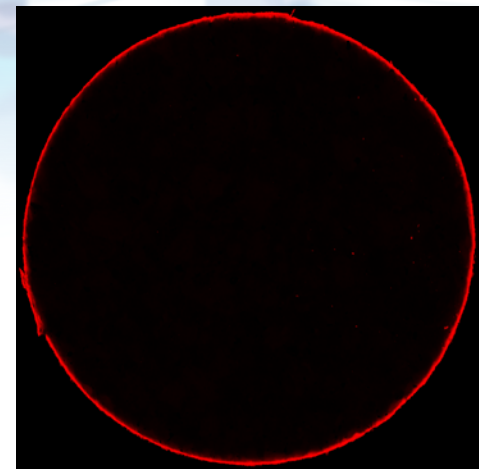
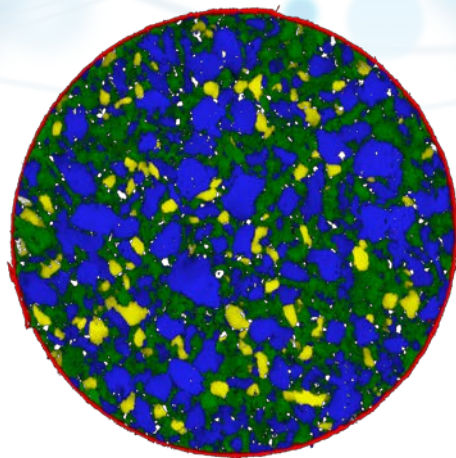
Component	Calculated % (Surface Area)	Reported %
Aspirin	38.6	37
Acetaminophen	35.4	37
Caffeine	7.7	9.6

■ Aspirin ■ Acetaminophen ■ Caffeine ■ Titanium Dioxide

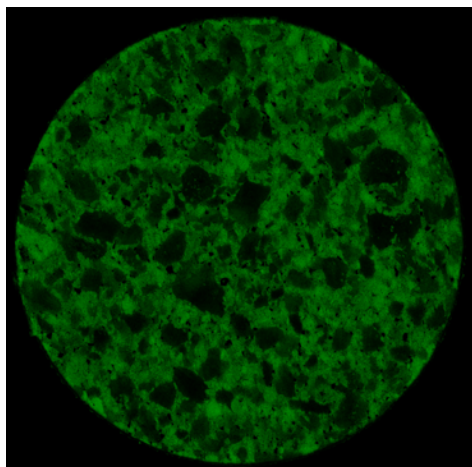
# Tablets Components – From Multivariate Curve Resolution (MCR)



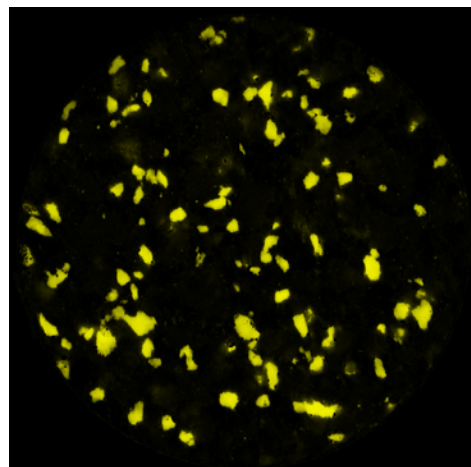
Aspirin



Titanium Dioxide

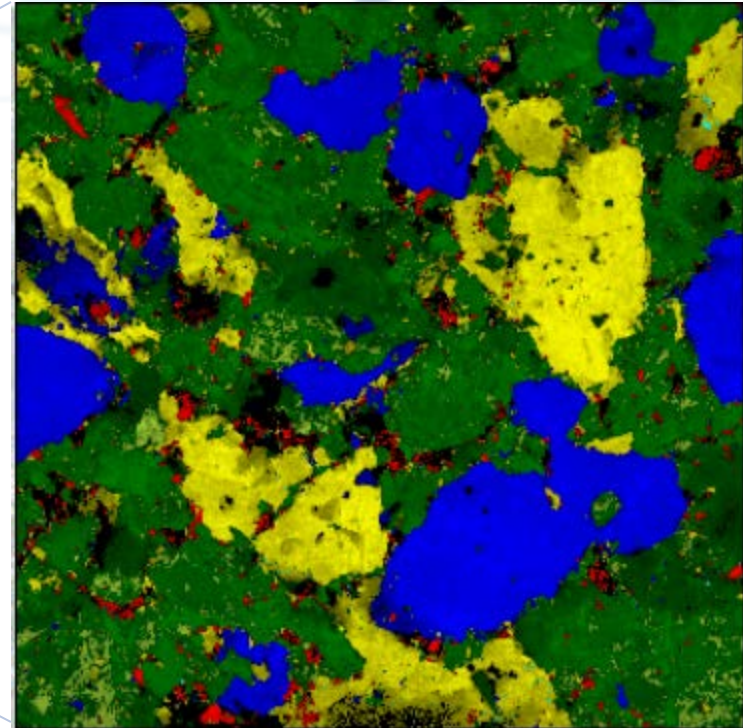
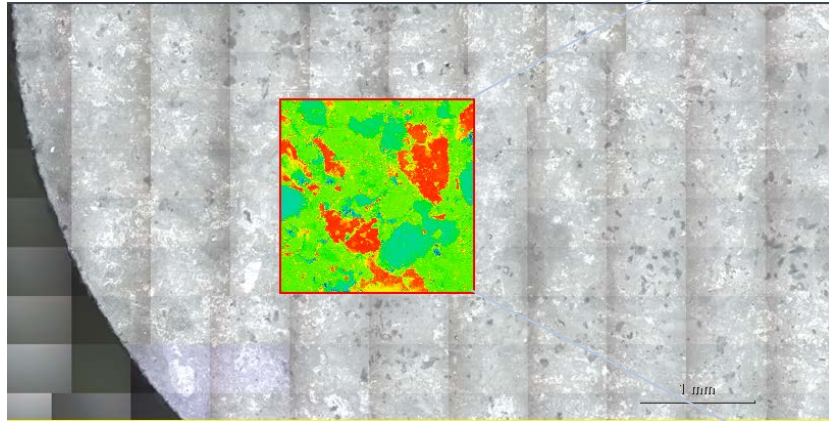


Acetaminophen



Caffeine

# Small Area – Longer Exposure Time

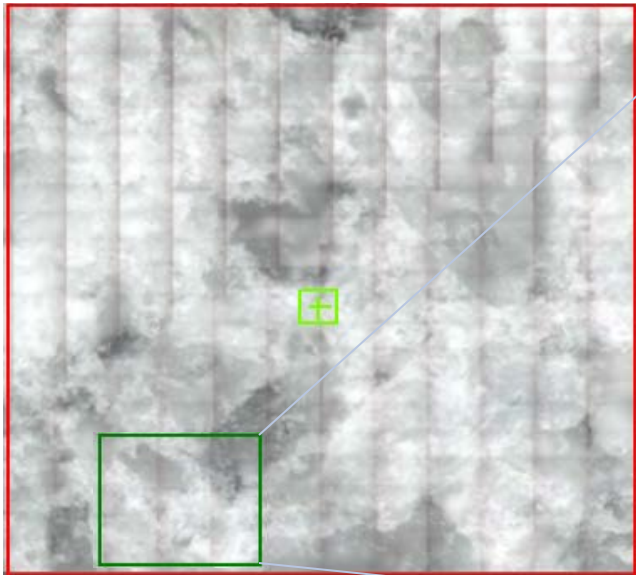


1.6 x 1.7 mm<sup>2</sup>  
50X Objective  
5 micron image pixel size  
116000 spectra  
Exposure time 5 ms (200 spectra per s)  
532 nm laser  
5 averaged scans  
55 minutes

500 μm

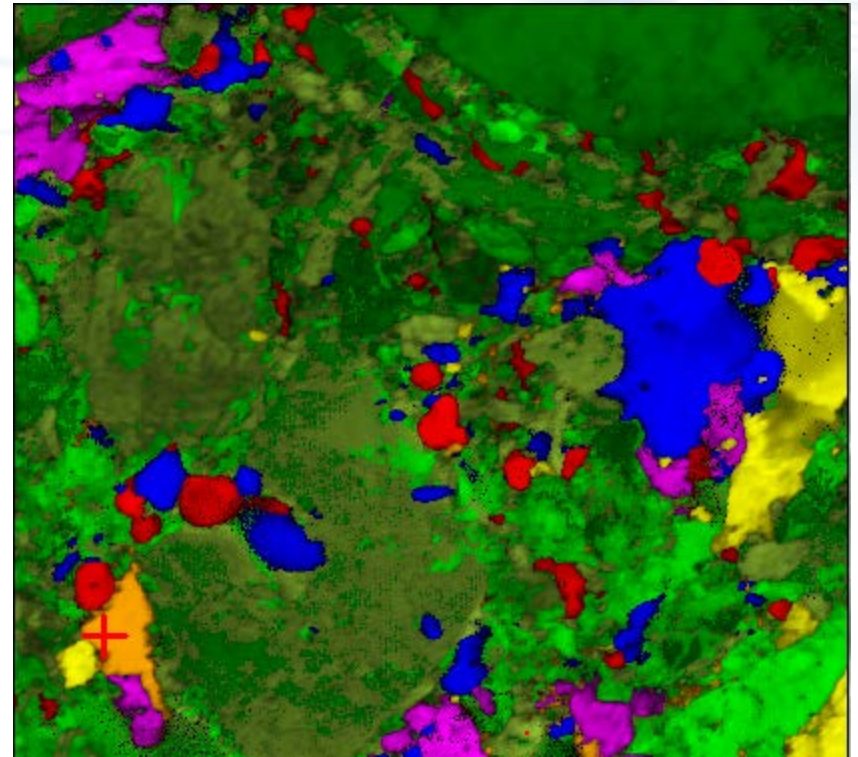
Blue – Caffeine, Green -  
Acetaminophen, Yellow – Aspirin,  
and Red – starch

# Smaller Area, Higher Resolution, Longer Exposure Time



500  $\mu\text{m}$

225 x 250  $\mu\text{m}^2$   
100X Objective  
0.5 micron image pixel size  
229000 spectra  
Exposure time 10 ms (100 spectra per s)  
532 nm laser  
5 averaged scans  
3 hr collect



100  $\mu\text{m}$

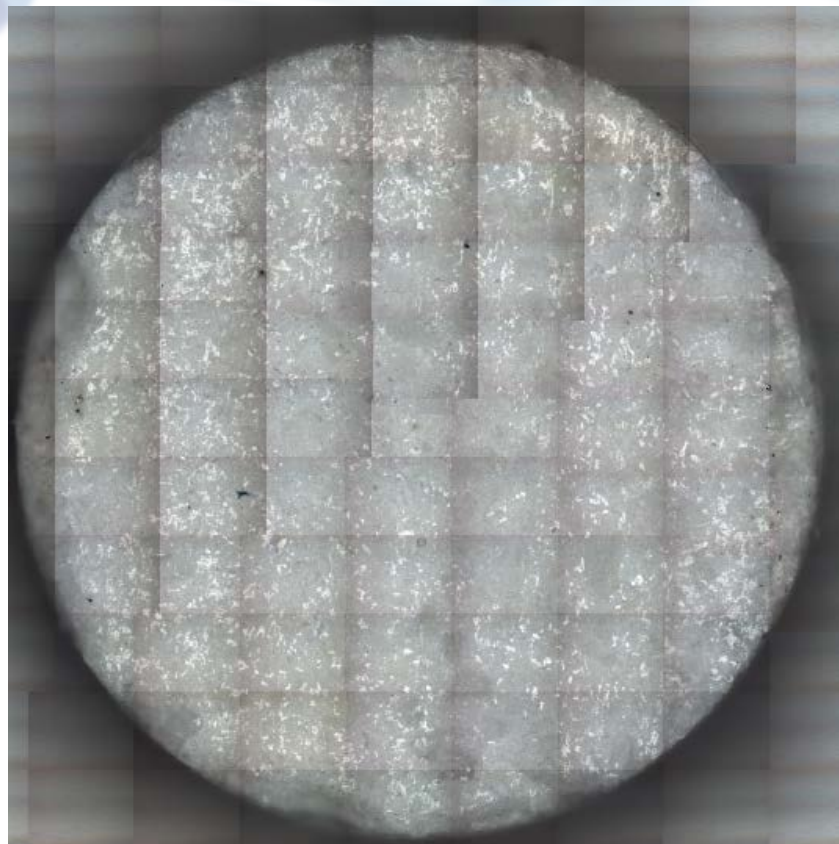
Blue – Aspirin, Green – Acetaminophen,  
Yellow – Caffeine, Red – starch, Fuchsia –  
microcrystalline cellulose, Orange – sodium  
lauryl sulfate.

# Summary of Tablet Imaging

- Possible to Image an entire 11 mm diameter tablet in 8 minutes
- Higher resolution images on whole tablets are possible but may not be necessary and there are other alternatives to imaging the whole tablet (select regions, multiple regions)
- Raman imaging can give spatial distribution of components including particle size estimates and relative percentages based on areas occupied by different components
- APIs tend to be strong Raman scatterers. Weaker excipients may require longer exposure times and possibly better spatial resolution to differentiate them.



# Low Dose Tablet Example



Video Mosaic Image  
(10X objective, 100X total magnification)

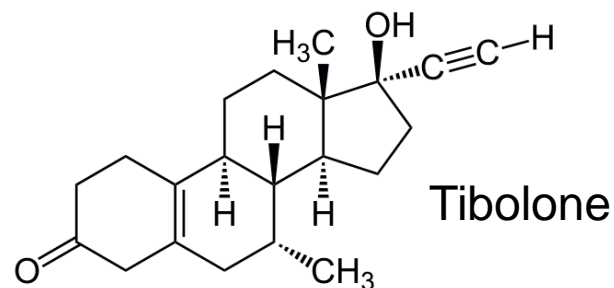
## Tibolone Tablet

3% Tibolone

A synthetic steroid used in hormone replacement therapy

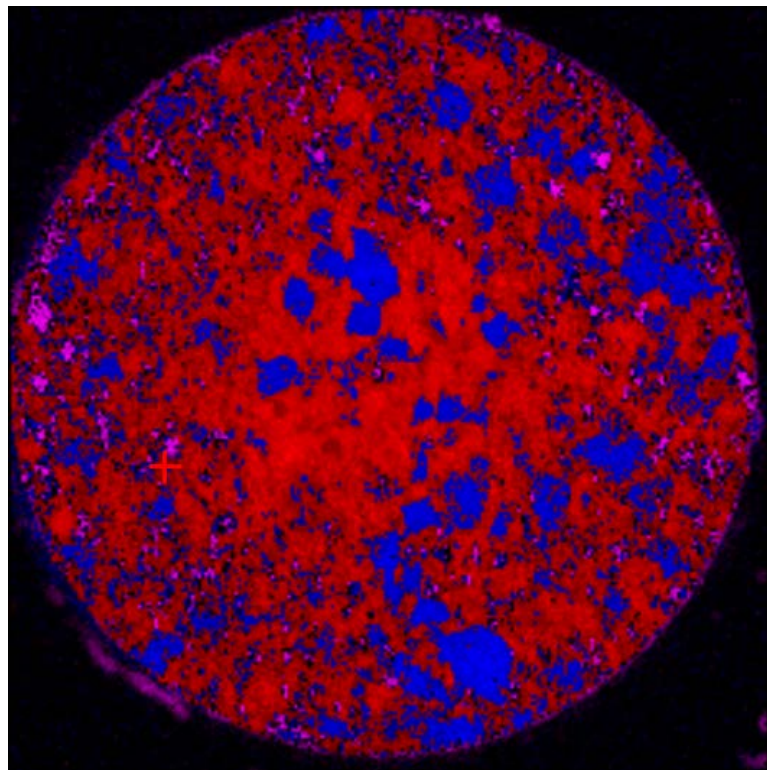
6 mm diameter

Polymorphs (monoclinic, triclinic)



# Raman MCR Image of Low Dose Tablet

## Raman MCR Image



5.7 x 5.7 mm<sup>2</sup> area

10X objective

25 μm image pixel size

52000 spectra

Exposure Time 20 ms (50 spectra per s)

532 nm laser

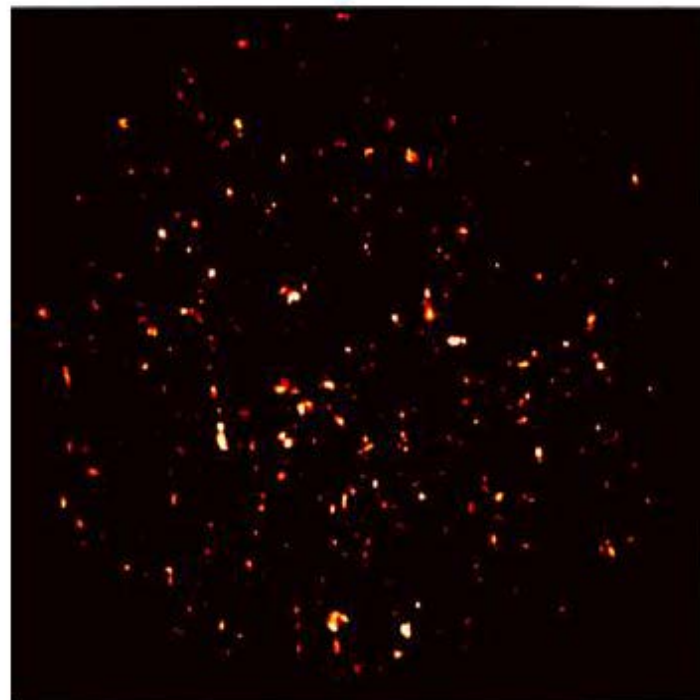
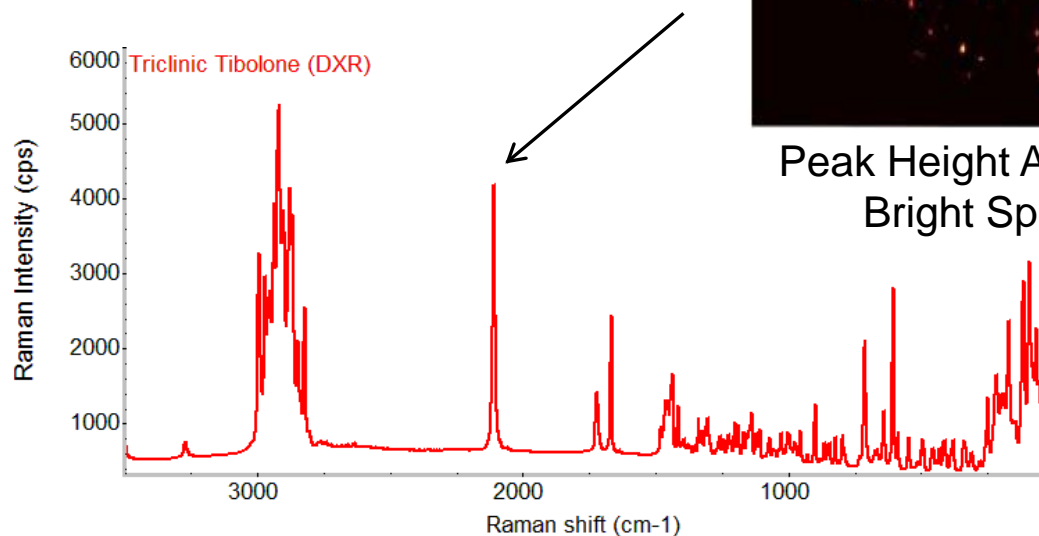
10 averaged scans

3 hr collect

Tibolone was not readily differentiated  
using MCR

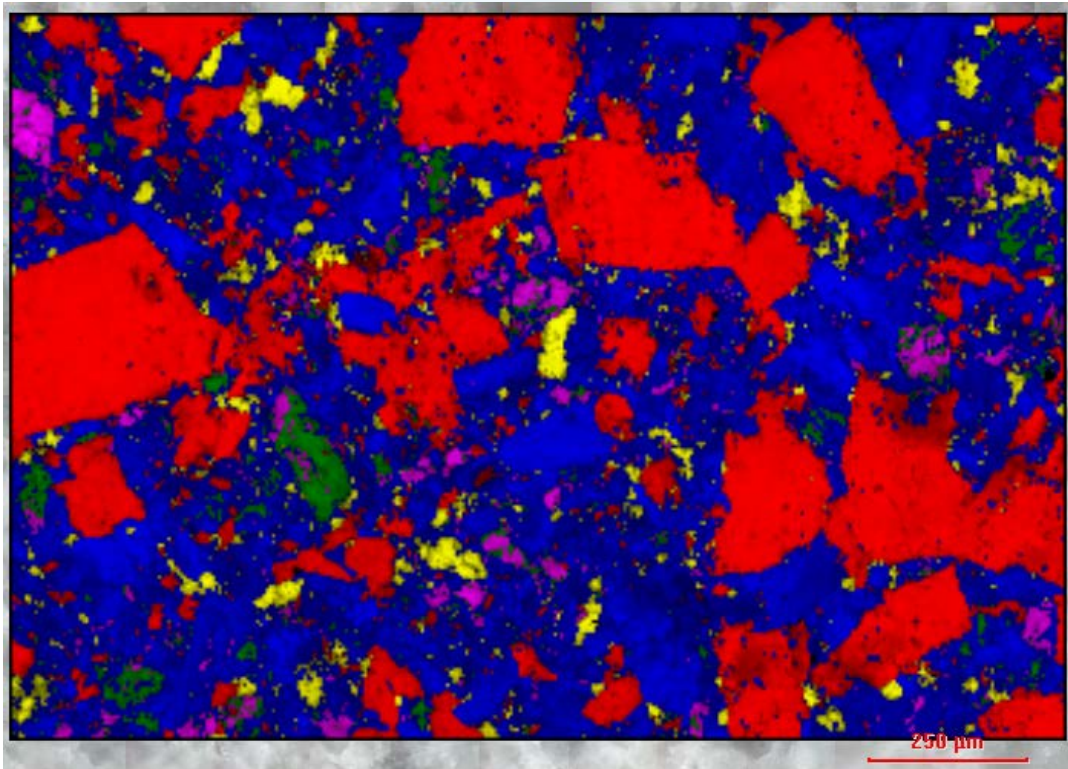
■ Starch ■ Lactose ■ Fluorescent Compound

# A Peak Height Profile Readily Shows the Location of the Tibolone



Peak Height Analysis at 2102 cm<sup>-1</sup>  
Bright Spots are Tibolone

# Smaller Area, Higher Resolution, More Scans



■ Tibolone ■ Starch ■ & ■ Lactose ■ Fluorescent Compound

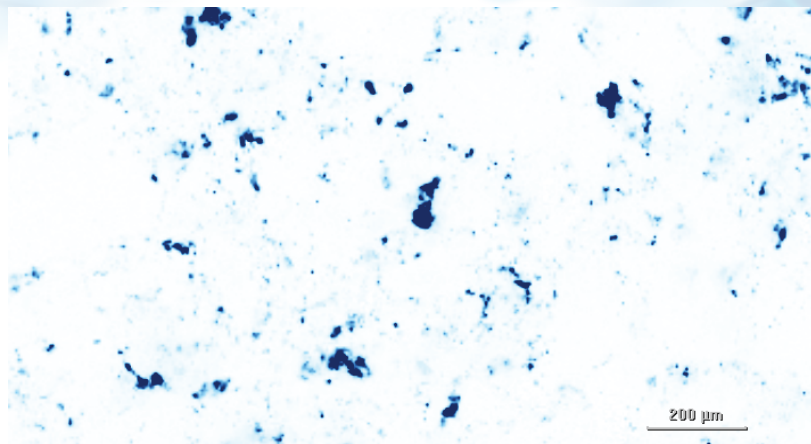
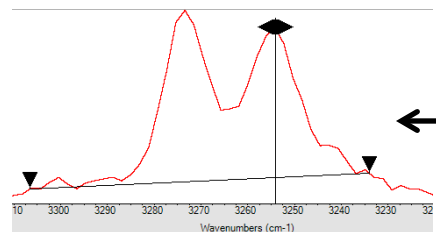
1.1 x 1.6 mm<sup>2</sup> area  
10X objective  
5 μm image pixel size  
75000 spectra  
Exposure Time 20 ms (50 spectra / s)  
532 nm laser  
25 averaged scans  
10 hr collect

Tibolone is one of the components defined by the MCR analysis

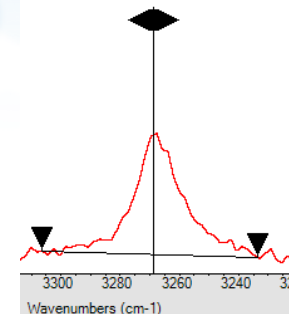
# Distribution of Polymorphs of Tibolone

All Tibolone (peak at 2102  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )

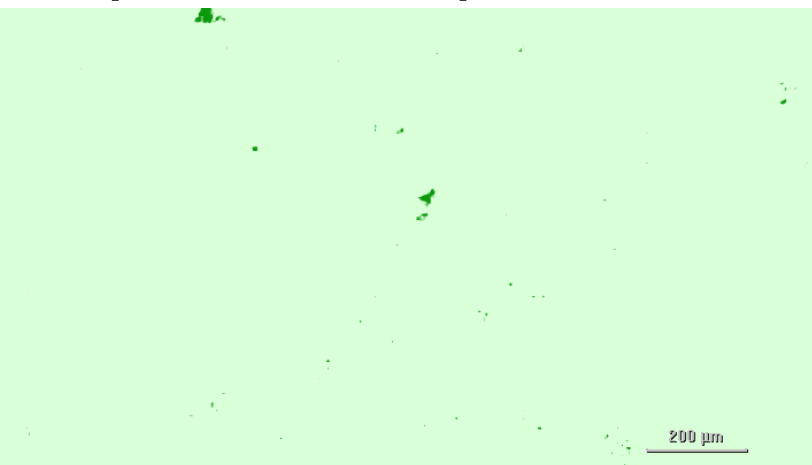
3273, 3254  $\text{cm}^{-1}$



3267  $\text{cm}^{-1}$



**B (monoclinic)**



**C (triclinic)**



# Summary of Low Dose Tablet Imaging

- Lower dose tablets are commonly encountered pharmaceutical products
- Other profile options (peak height etc.) might be better choices than MCR for displaying the spatial distribution of low concentration components.
- Multiple options are available in the OMNICxi software for generating different types of Raman images based on different aspects of the spectra.
- Whole tablet imaging is possible
- Evaluation of the presence and distribution of polymorphs is possible.

# Raman Imaging of Hot Melt Extruder (HME) Samples

Hot melt extrusion is a novel way of formulating solid dosage pharmaceutical products (tablets, granules, pellets, and transdermal films)

Has been used extensively for a long time in the plastics industry

API and other components are combined with a pharmaceutically approved thermoplastic polymer (usually at higher temperatures).

Screw threads control the mixing and transport properties at various stages.

Final form depends on the die and post extruder processing.



# HME General Processing Advantages

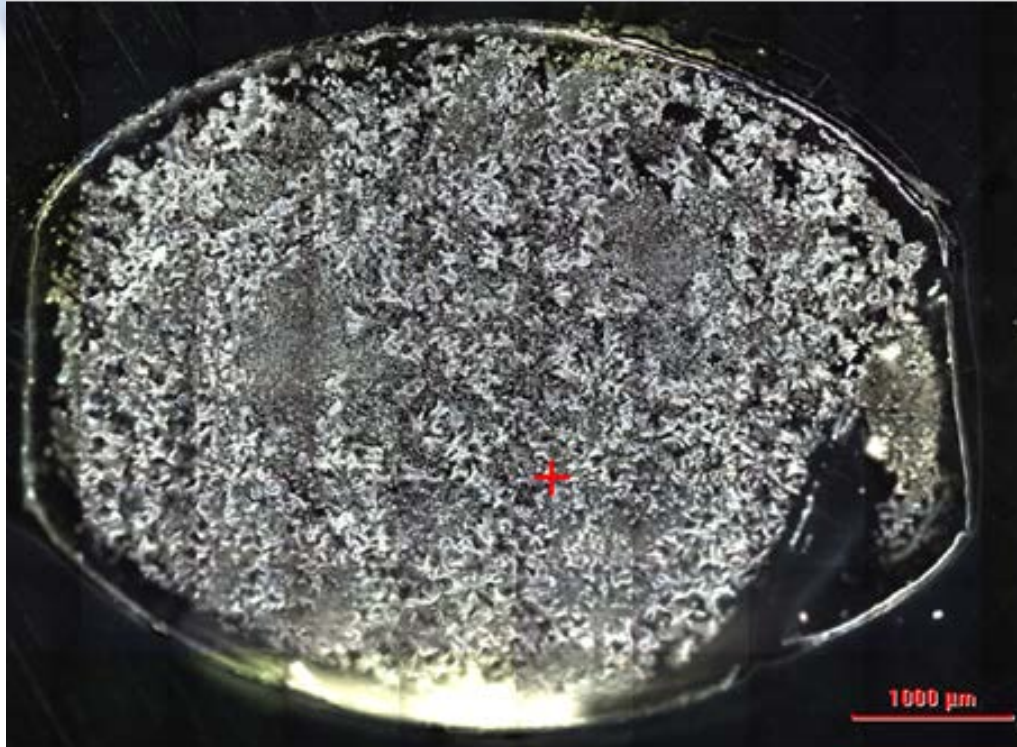
- Continuous process – inline monitoring and control
- Establish stable solid solutions
  - Increase the availability of poorly soluble ingredients
- Flexibility to easily produce different dosage products
- Availability of time release forms
- Taste masking
- Special dosage form designs (films, rods, etc...)
  - Die change provides different shapes for special applications
- Reduce the consumption of solvents
  - Compare to wet granulation process



# Raman Imaging of HME Products

- Hot melt extrusion produces new forms using new processes
- Processing can effect the components
- Monitoring components
  - Changes in molecular structure
- Spatial distribution and particle size of components
- Identification of unknowns (impurities and defects)

# Example of Raman Imaging of HME Products\*



HPMCAS (hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose acetate succinate or hypromellose acetate succinate) polymer carrier

Ibuprofen (25-33%) and ibuprofen (25-33%) + D-mannitol (7-15%).

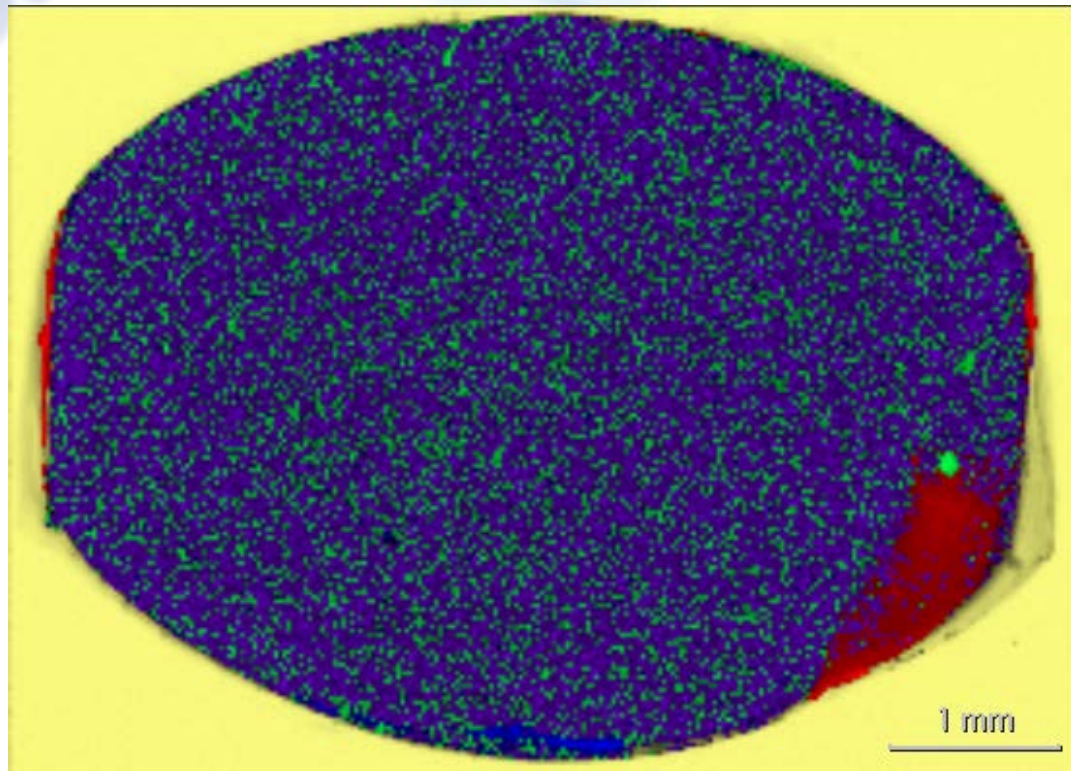
Cross-sections mounted in epoxy for analysis

To evaluate the spatial distribution of components and to look for any unforeseen changes caused by processing conditions

Video Mosaic Image  
(10X objective, 100X total magnification)  
Darkfield Illumination

\* HME Samples Provided by Dr. Adrian Kelly, School of Engineering, Design and Technology, Bradford University, UK

# Raman Image of HME Product



6.35 x 4.6 mm<sup>2</sup> area

10X objective

25 μm image pixel size

46736 spectra

Exposure Time 10 ms (100 spectra /s)

780 nm laser

100 averaged scans

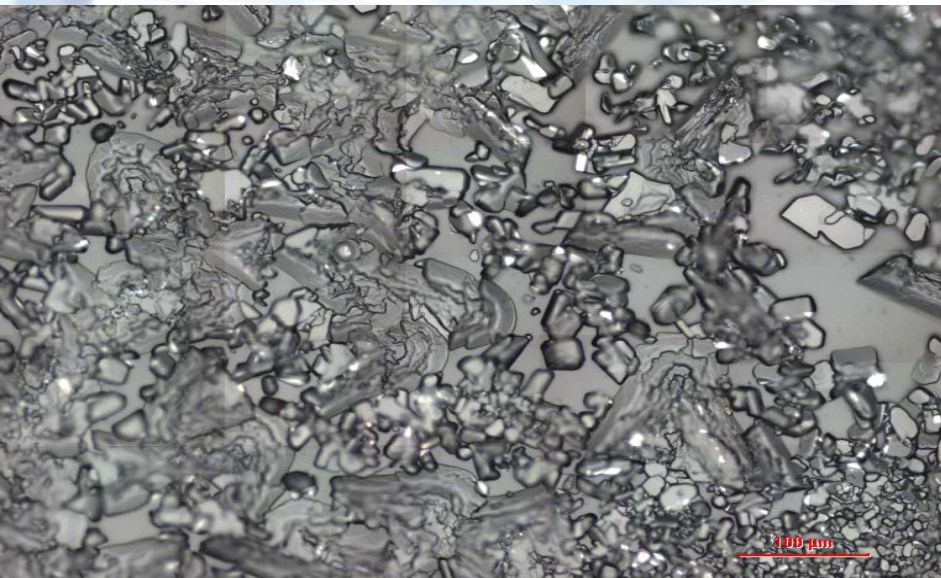
## Image Analysis % Area of Particles

Component	Calculated % (Surface Area)	Reported %
ibuprofen	23	25

## Raman MCR Image

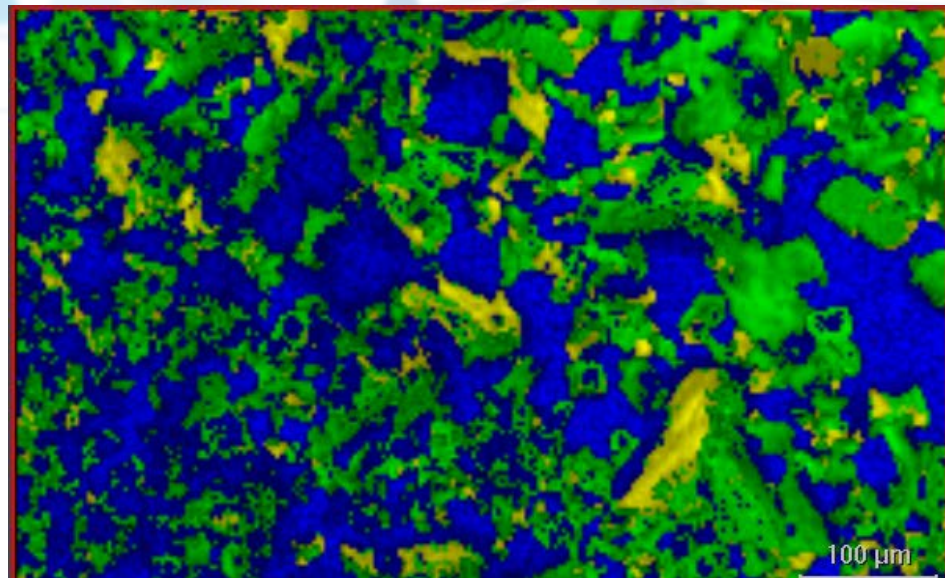
purple – HPMCAS, green – ibuprofen, yellow – epoxy,  
red – cyanoacrylate, blue – inorganic impurity

# Smaller Area, Higher Resolution, Raman Imaging



Video Image

(50X objective - brightfield illumination)

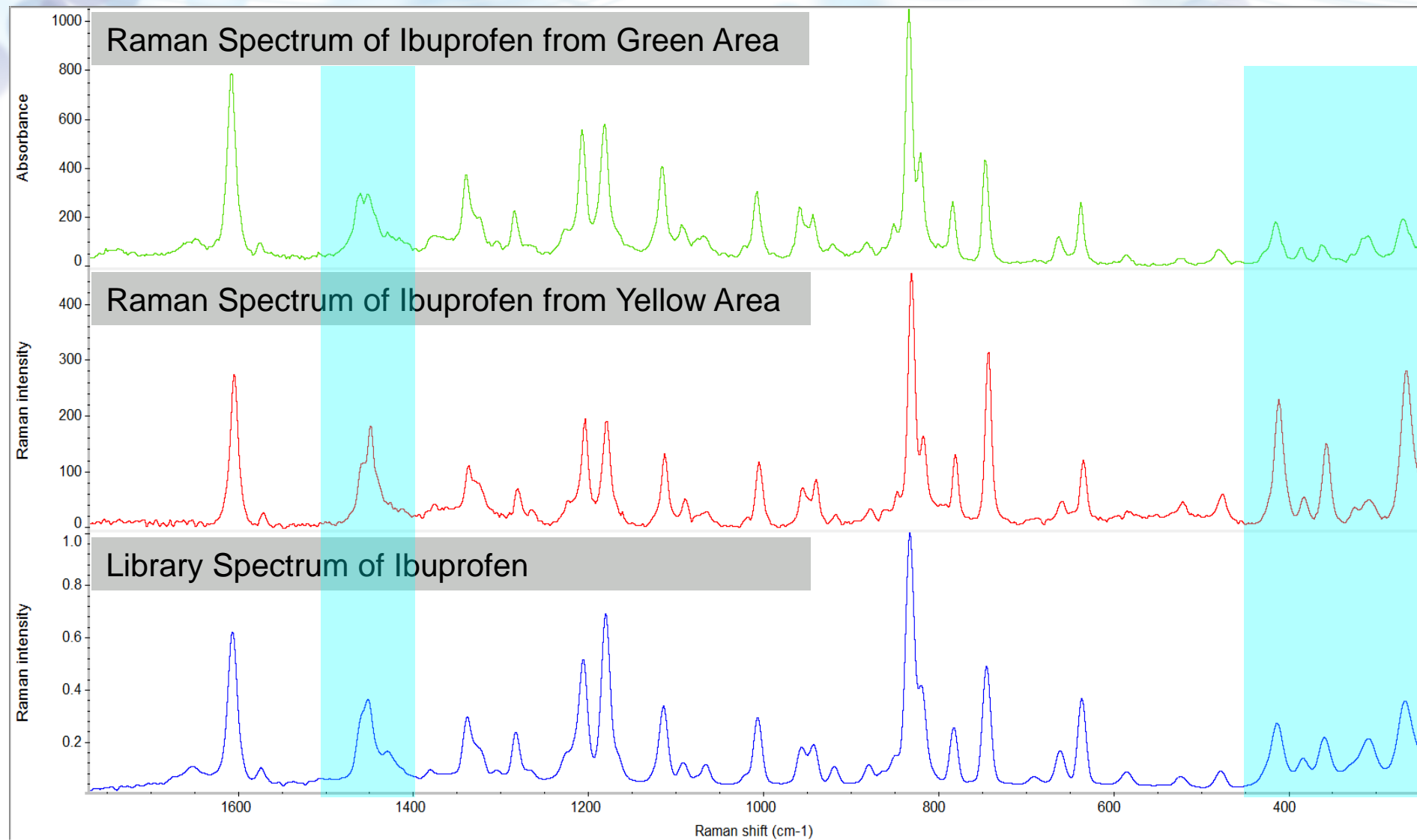


Raman MCR Image

blue – HPMCAS, green – ibuprofen, yellow – ibuprofen

50X objective, 780 nm laser, 24 mW, 687 x 423  $\mu\text{m}$  area, 3.0  $\mu\text{m}$  image pixel size, 32289 spectra, 0.0100 s exposure time, 100 scans

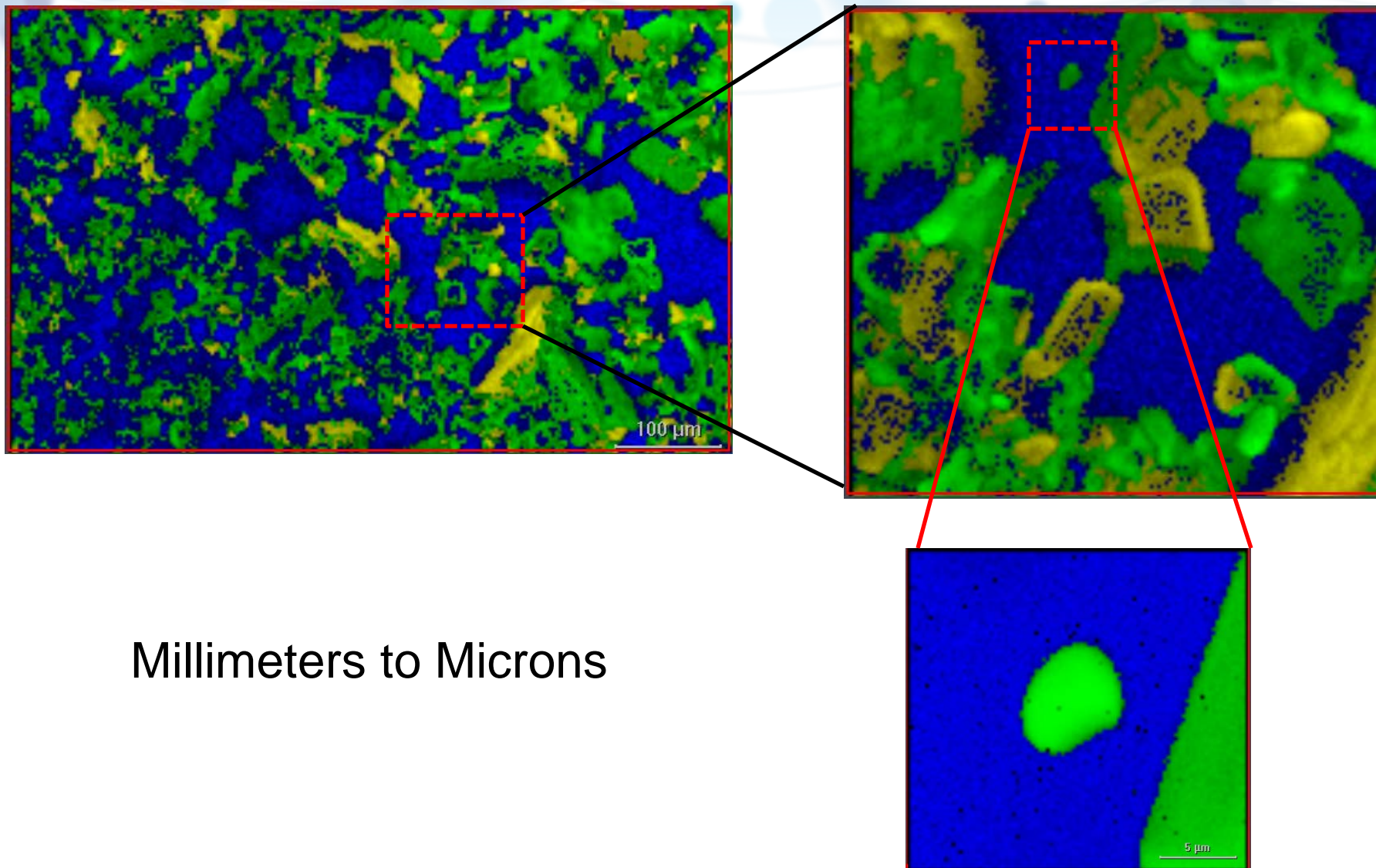
# Subtle Differences in Ibuprofen Spectra



# Differences in the Raman Spectra of Ibuprofen

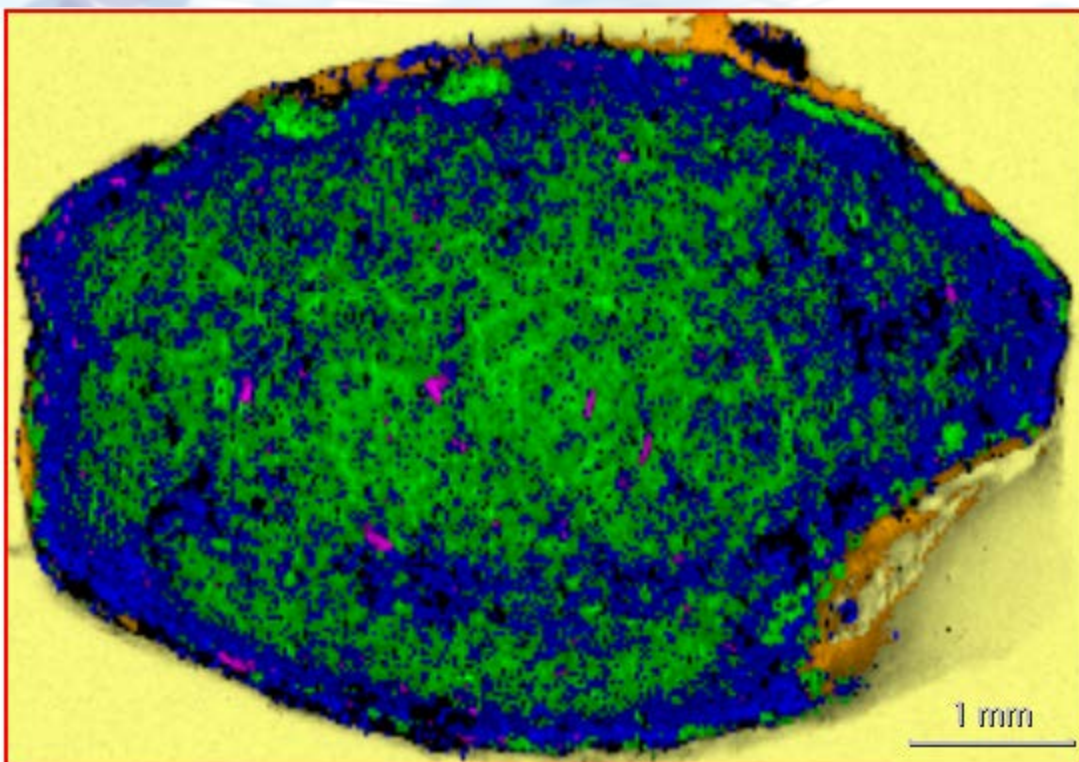
- **Ibuprofen is a mixture of stereoisomers**
  - Not distinguishable with this type of experiment (ROA required)
- **The active form is S (+) ibuprofen**
- **Different polymorphs of ibuprofen have been reported**
  - Phase I (thermodynamically stable) & Phase II (metastable)
- **Degree of crystallinity effects the Raman spectra**
  - Crystallinity versus amorphous
- **Co-crystallization of ibuprofen with other components can alter the Raman spectrum**
- **Ibuprofen association with other carriers (polyvinyl pyrrolidone (PVP) can cause slight differences in Raman spectra**
- **The observed differences in the ibuprofen spectra in these products does not match with any of these effects**
  - However it does illustrate how sensitive Raman imaging can be

# Raman Imaging – From Whole Samples to Small Particles



Millimeters to Microns

# Hot Melt Extruder Product – Ibuprofen & D-Mannitol



6.65 x 4.65 mm<sup>2</sup> area

10X objective

25 μm image pixel size

49476 spectra

Exposure Time 10 ms (100 spectra /s)

780 nm laser

100 averaged scans

## Raman MCR Image

blue – HPMCAS, green – ibuprofen, yellow – epoxy,  
orange – cyanoacrylate, fuchsia – D-mannitol



# Summary of Raman Imaging of Hot Melt Extruder Products

- Raman imaging allows evaluation of the spatial distribution of components in hot melt extruder products. This is not generally available with the typical inline monitoring of the products.
- Raman can be used to monitor any changes in molecular structure and chemical environment including molecular associations that might be induced during the HME processing.
- There are many options for Raman imaging from imaging whole samples down to small particles (millimeters to microns). This is important for these types of samples where there can be a significant range in particle sizes.

# Let the Power of Raman Imaging Work for You

- Raman imaging is clearly a very useful analytical tool for evaluating pharmaceutical products
- Raman imaging extends the power of Raman spectroscopy across greater areas and further expands the utility of Raman spectroscopy
- Raman imaging gives you the ability to identify materials and to assess subtle differences in molecular structure and chemical environment
- The DXRxi Raman imaging microscope will help you:
  - Get results and solve problems quickly with exceptional performance
  - Allow more people to solve problems without the need for a central expert
  - Walk up and use the system within minutes, anytime, without a significant learning curve



# Thank you!

- Thank you for attending!
- Visit [thermoscientific.com/DXRxi](https://thermoscientific.com/DXRxi) for more information on the Thermo Scientific DXRxi Raman imaging microscope

Accelerate your work

Visualize your answers

