

Raman Imaging and Scanning Electron Microscopy

RISE® Microscopy

Correlative Molecular and Ultrastructural Imaging



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Molecular and Ultrastructural Imaging

Correlative Raman imaging and scanning electron microscopy for comprehensive sample analysis offers a new dimension in imaging: see both the form and substance of your samples at the highest resolution.

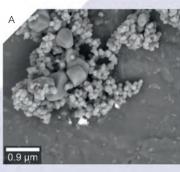
RISE® microscopy will benefit ...

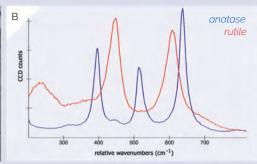
... researchers looking for a deeper understanding of their samples through quick and straightforward measurements controlled with an intuitive user interface.

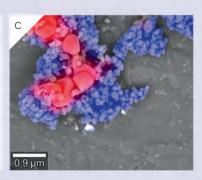
RISE® microscopy is well suited to ...

... investigations in materials science, nanotechnology, forensics, geosciences, life sciences, pharmaceutical research and many other fields of application.

Applications

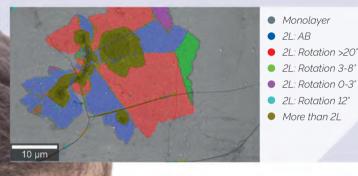






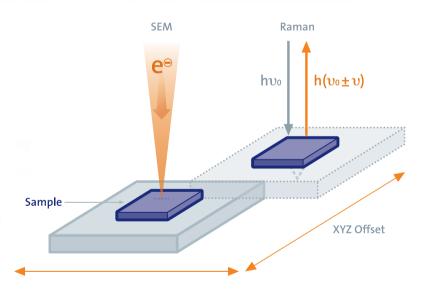
Titanium dioxide

(A) Two modifications of titanium dioxide, anatase and rutile, were mixed and imaged with an SEM. (B) In the Raman spectrum anatase (blue) can be easily distinguished from rutile (red). (C) RISE image derived from Raman spectra and SEM data.



Twisted bilayer graphene

CVD-grown, bilayer graphene (here on Si/SiO₂) is often twisted and folded. These structural properties cannot be differentiated by SEM or EDS. However, variation in peak intensities of graphene's Raman bands and changes in the FWHM (full width at half maximum) of the bands allow for the determination of the stacking order and the twist angles of the layers. These features can be correlated with the structural features by RISE microscopy.

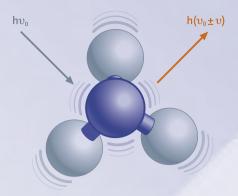


Principle of RISE® Microscopy

Samples are automatically transferred from one measuring position to the other within the vacuum chamber of the combined Raman-SEM instrument, streamlining the workflow and drastically improving ease of use.

The Raman Principle

- A Raman spectrum describes the energy shift of the excitation light (laser) as a result of inelastic scattering by the molecular bonds in a sample.
- Each molecule and chemical compound produces a particular Raman spectrum when excited and can be easily identified by this unique 'fingerprint'.
- Raman spectroscopy is a well-established and nondestructive method for analyzing the molecular composition of a sample.



Inelastic scattering of light by a molecule



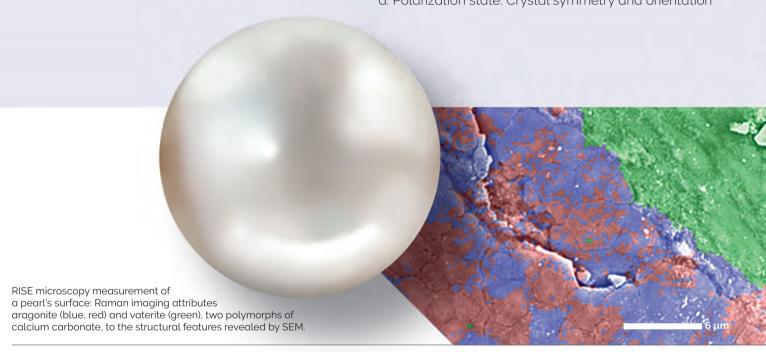






Additional sample information from Raman spectra:

- a. Peak intensity: Quantity of a specific compound
- b. Peak shift: Identification of stress and strain states
- c. Peak width: Degree of crystallinity
- d. Polarization state: Crystal symmetry and orientation



RISE® Microscopy

RISE systems combine all features of a stand-alone SEM and a WITec research-grade confocal Raman imaging microscope within one instrument to provide:

- Quick and convenient switching between Raman and SEM modes.
- Automated sample transfer from one measuring position to the other within the vacuum chamber.
- An integrated software interface for user-friendly measurement control.
- Easy correlation of the experimental results and image overlay.
- SEM and Raman imaging capabilities without compromise.
- A truly confocal optical path.
- Research-grade optical imaging.

Common vacuum chamber

Fully integrated chemical and structural analyses accelerate correlative measurements



Confocal Raman Imaging

WITec confocal Raman imaging systems combine Raman spectroscopy with confocal microscopy to offer:

- Complete Raman spectral acquisition at every image pixel with diffraction-limited resolution (~300 nm).
- Unprecedented performance in speed, sensitivity and resolution.
- Outstanding depth resolution ideally suited to 3D image generation and depth profiles.
- Ultrahigh-throughput spectroscopic capability for the highest sensitivity.
- Nondestructive imaging. No staining or other specialized sample preparation is required.



Scan table

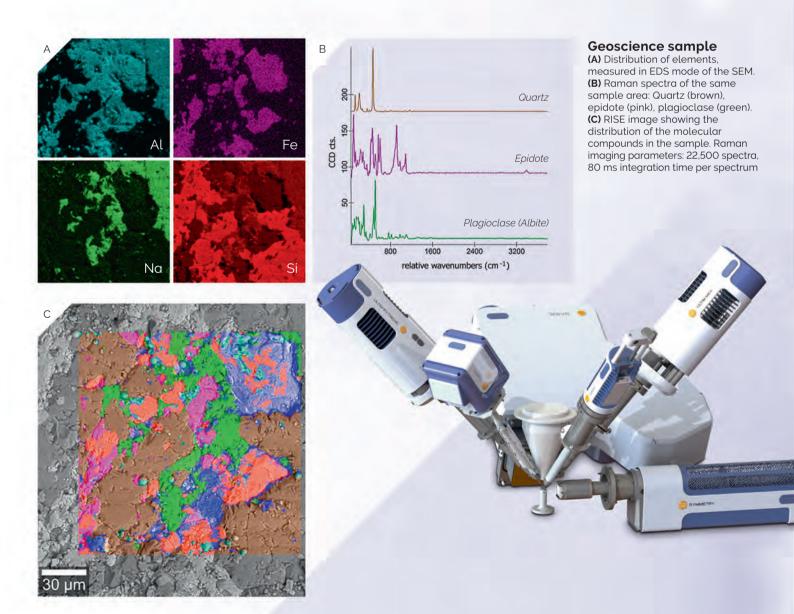
The sample remains inside the vacuum chamber during both the SEM and Raman measurements to ensure a streamlined workflow.

Benefits

of combined RISE® microscopy and energydispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS)

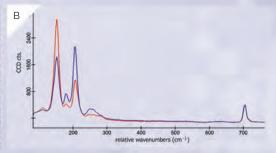
Take full advantage of Oxford Instruments' analytical tools for SEM systems to characterize the chemical properties of a sample. EDS can detect elemental composition and Raman spectroscopy can identify molecules and their bonding characteristics.

	RISE [®]	EDS
Chemical Sensitivity	Molecular and bonding information, crystallinity material stress and strain, crystal orientation	Elements / Metals Atomic number
Field of view	Surface 2D and sub-surface 3D volume chemical analysis	Surface and structural 2D analysis
Region of interest	Sub-micron and large-area molecular information	Nanoscale atomic information
Kinetic	Analysis of chemical dynamics possible	Analysis of elemental changes possible
Mode of operation	Independent Raman operation possible	Simultaneous SEM and EDS data acquisition



Applications

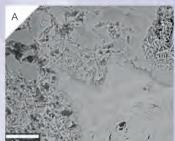
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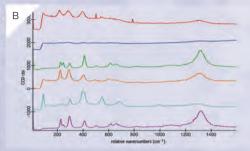


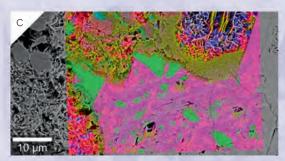
Abalone shell

(A) RISE image of a polished cross-section reveals the layered structure of the nacre (mother-of-pearl). It consists of aragonite, a crystal form of calcium carbonate.

(B) Raman spectra can enable the differentiation of crystal orientations (blue, red), revealing the anisotropy of the aragonite phase.

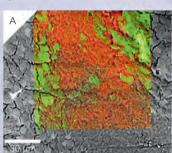


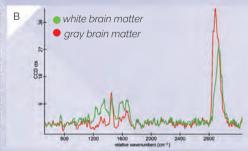




Iron mineralogy

(A) In the SEM image a piece of hematite (Fe_2O_3) shows some structural characteristics. (B) Hematite, geothite and vonsenite were identified from their Raman spectra. The spectra of crystal forms of hematite are depicted in green, orange and purple, those of geothite (FeO(OH)) in red and cyan. The spectrum of vonsenite ($Fe^{2+}_2Fe^{3+}(BO_3/O_2)$) is shown in blue. (C) Correlation of Raman and SEM data resulted in the RISE image.





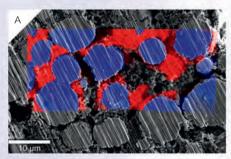


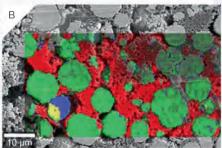
Brain tissue

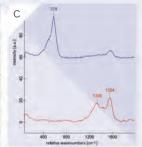
(A) RISE image of a hamster brain tissue sample. In the color-coded Raman image the white brain matter is shown in green and the gray matter in red. (B) The corresponding Raman spectra reveal the different spectral characteristics of the white and gray brain matter.

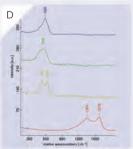
LT GaAs sample

The color-coded Raman image, showing the gold substrate (yellow) that can be clearly distinguished from GaAs (red), is correlated with the ultrastructure of the sample.



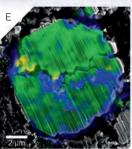






Cathode of a fast-cycled Li-NMC battery

(A) Cross section of an uncycled cathode. Particles embedded in amorphous carbon (red) contain uniformly-distributed lithium nickel cobalt manganese oxide (blue). (B) Cross section of a cycled and rapidly charged cathode. Compared to the uncycled cathode the particles appear inhomogeneous. One particle (bottom left) shows a completely different composition, including a spectrum (blue) identical to the Li-NMC spectrum of the uncycled electrode. (C) Typical Raman spectra of Li-NMC (blue) and amorphous carbon (red) of the uncycled cathode. (D) Raman spectra of molecules detected in the cycled cathode. Changes in peak positions and peak width indicate variance of Li-NMC composition. (E) RISE image of a particle of a cycled cathode that reveals changes in Li-NMC composition and substantial structural degradation.









RISE®: Correlative Raman-SEM Imaging

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