Chemical and Biological Applications of Raman Spectroscopy

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Raman spectroscopy

Raman spectroscopy is an invaluable technique for investigations of pharmaceutically and medically relevant molecules. It is used in many fields where non-destructive microscopic chemical analysis and imaging is required. Both Biologists and Chemists use Raman Spectroscopy to identify chemical compounds, their functional groups, and to determine the conformation of complex biomolecules, such as proteins and DNA. It can be used to rapidly characterise the chemical composition and structure of a sample, whether solid, liquid, gas, gel, slurry or powder. It is particularly amenable to *in vivo* measurements.

Raman spectroscopy and the infrared absorption spectroscopy, are the most widely used techniques which give information about the structure and properties of molecules by providing detailed characteristics of their vibrational transitions. Raman analysis can provide key information easily and quickly. The Raman spectroscopy is based on an inelastic light scattering by molecules (the Raman effect). In the Raman scattering process, a photon interacts momentarily with a molecule and is then scattered into surroundings in all directions. During the brief interaction with molecule, photon loses or gains energy which is then detected and analyzed.



Light scattered from a molecule





Optical microscopy images

Surface enhanced Raman spectroscopy

The enhancement of the Raman signal has been obtained in surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) by molecules adsorbed on rough metal surfaces (silver, metal nanoparticles). SERS can be used to identify the specific single nucleotide polymorphisms and to identify and classify microorganisms at the species and subspecies level. This technique has been also applied for rapid identification of microorganisms in clinical diagnosis.



Nanoparticles = nano amplifier



Rough Au surface



http://www.thermoscientific.com

Simplified Raman spectrometer layout



Biology

Characterisation of Biomolecules



SERS-based immunoassay: The illustration of the sandwich interaction among the Raman reporter labeled immunoAuNP, the antigen, and the immunosubstrate.

C-C Lin, Y-M Yang, Y-F Chen, T-S Yang, H-C Chang, *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2008, 24, 178–183



The Raman and SERS spectra of DTNB and IgG. (a) the Raman spectrum of DTNB (1 mM DTNB in d_2H_2O); (b) SERS spectrum of BSA-IgG-AuNP; (c) SERS spectrum of TNB-BSA-IgG-AuNP. Radiation of 633 nm was used for excitation.

C-C Lin, Y-M Yang, Y-F Chen, T-S Yang, H-C Chang, *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*, 2008, 24, 178–183



SERS spectra for protein A detection in immunoassay. (a) SERS spectrum of protein A (1 μ g/mL). (b) SERS spectrum of the immunostrate/protein A/TNB-labeled immuno-AuNP. The spectra were obtained using 633 nm excitation.

Alkaline Phosphatase



Time-dependent SERS spectra of alkaline phosphatase catalyzed hydrolysis of BCIP, $C_{\text{BCIP}} = 0.4 \text{ mg/mL}$, $C_{\text{ALP}} = 4.1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ M}$; a) background without ALP, time: 1, 5, 10, 30, 45 min

C. Ruan, W. Wang, B. Gu, Anal.Chem. 2006, 78, 3379-3384

6-Mercaptopurine (6-MP)



SERS spectrum of 10^{-3} M 6MP with 488-nm laser excitation

A. Vivoni, S-P. Chen, D. Ejeh, C. M. Hosten, Langmuir, 16, 2000, 3310-3316

chamomile (Chamomilla recutita) inflorescence



Microscopic image of chamomile (*Chamomilla recutita*) inflorescence (A), FT-Raman spectrum (B) Raman mapping showing the distribution of polyacetylenes (C) and carotenoids (D).

Drug/DNA Interactions



Comparative SERS and resonance Raman spectra

Single Cell and Viral Analysis

Pathogens



SERS signals for urinary tract bacteria: Enterococcus spp., Proteus mirabilis, Escherichia coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Klebsiella oxytoca, Citrobacter freundii



Intrinsic SERS signals for adenovirus (Ad), rhinovirus (rhino), and HIV

P.J. Vikesland, K.R. Wigginton, Environ.Sci.Technol., 2010, 44, 3656-3669



Medicine

ApoE-knok-out Mouse



Optical micrograph of the lumen side of an aorta from an ApoE knock-out mouse. A globule is marked with a green circle. Raman spectra of globule (green), a fatty region (red), and a proteinaceous-rich region (blue)

Optical Probes in Living Cells



A) The photomicrograph of the cells, (B) SERS spectra mapping of the BG-AuNPs in the living cell indicated in the rectanglar box, (C)SERS spectra of BG in the living cell

Y. Wang, D. Li, P. Li, W. Wang, W. Ren, S. Dong, E. Wang, *J Phys Chem C*, 2007, 111, 16833-16839



Raman spectra at 784 nm excitation pf (a) normal breast, (b) malignant, (c) benign tissue

Geology and Mineralogy

Gemstone Identification





Differences between glass and diamond



Differences between citrine and topaz



Differences between emerald and two tanzanites

A. L. Jenkins and R. A. Larsen, Spectroscopy , 2004, 19 (4)



Figure 1: Different tetrahedral arrangements

Mineral Identification



http://www.horiba.com Raman Application Note, Geology 01



Natrolite and orthoclase Raman spectra



a) Raman imaging of different types of carbonates crystals, b) High spectral resolution map of two dolomite crystals based on the small spectral shift existing between the two crystals spectra

http://www.horiba.com Raman Application Note, Geology 01

Forensic science

Analysis of Fibers



FT-Raman spectra of three fibers: Modacrylic, Nylon and Polyester

M.H. Wall, L. De Noble, R. Hartman, Spectroscopy, 2005



Raman spectra from an 'inked' and 'uninked' paper fiber



Raman spectra taken for different pens: (a) green $Bic^{\mathbb{R}}$, (b) blue Parker ball pen^{\mathbb{R}}, (c) red Berol^{\mathbb{R}}



Raman spectra taken from a suspect on an insurance claim document

Chemistry, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics

Compound Distribution in Tablets



Colour-coded Raman images of a pharmaceutical tablet the spatial distribution of the various components

Molecular Interactions



Raman spectra of glutathione (GSH), monochlorobimane (MCB), and their complex.

M. Hepel, M. Stobiecka, *Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology A*, 2011, 225, 72-80.



SERS spectra of hypericin (3x10-6 M) at (A) pH 4 and (B) pH 7; (C) SERS spectrum of hypericin – HSA complex and (D) difference spectrum between the SERS of the complex and SERS of hypericin at neutral pH

P.Miškovský, D. Jancura, S.Sánchez-Cortés, E.Kočišová, L.Chinsky, JACS, 1998, 120, 6374-6379



SERS spectra of Rhodamine 6G adsorbed on AgNPs (1) and their complexes with Pluronic L121 (2). C_{Rh6G} = 250 nM



Salicylic acid, Aspirin tablet and Acetylsalicylic acid Raman spectra



 γ -butyrolactone (GBL), a precursor to GBH (Liquid Ecstasy)



M.H. Wall, L. De Noble, R. Hartman, Spectroscopy, 2005

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- 14. Raman Application Note <u>http://www.horiba.com</u>

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