

**HORIBA Scientific**  
**Raman Spectroscopy**  
**Particle Characterization**



# **Analysis Techniques for Modern Battery Design and Manufacture**

Sergey Mamedov, Ph.D., Jeffrey Bodycomb, Ph.D.

April 21, 2022

# Overview

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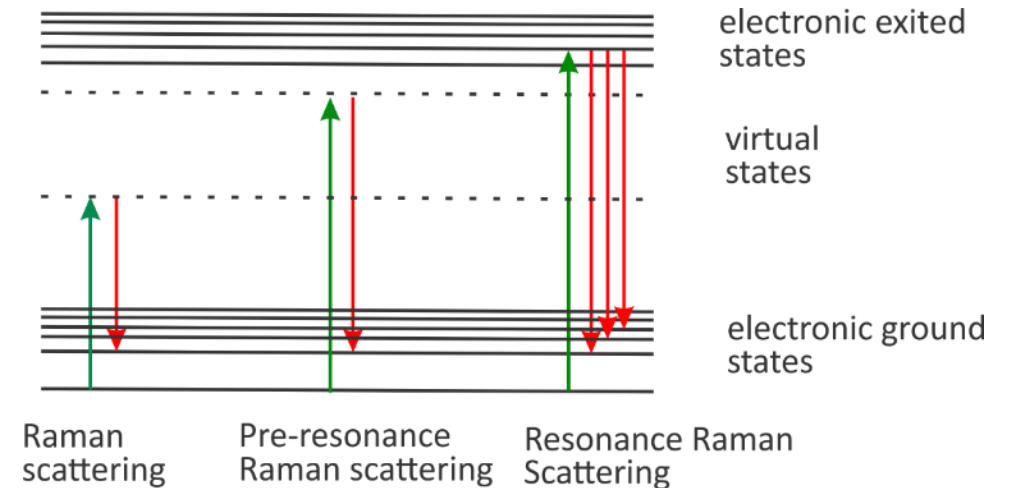
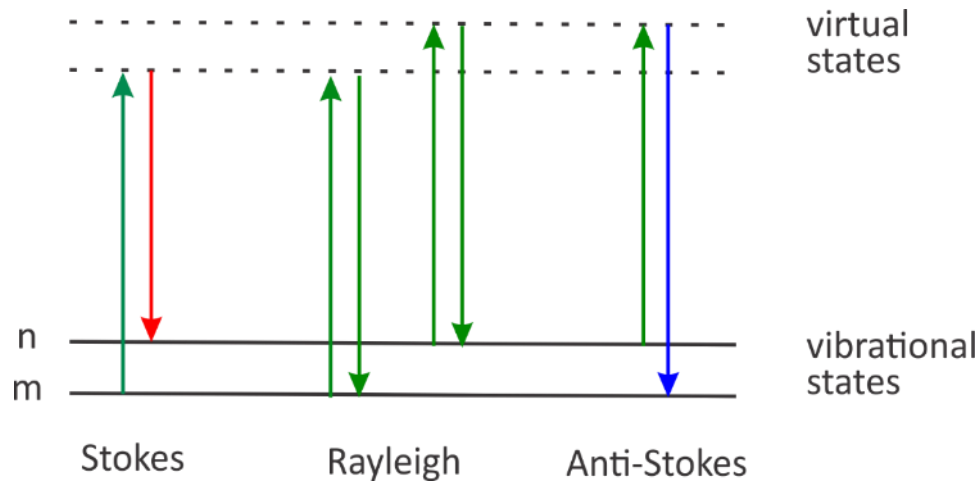
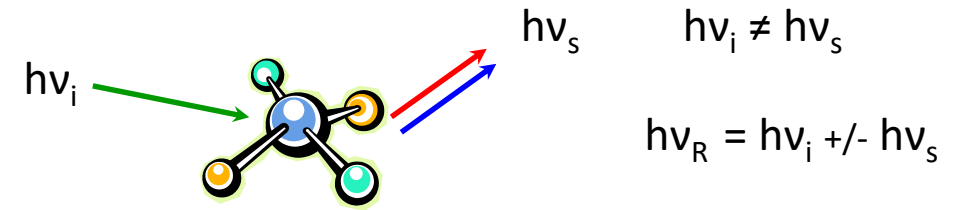
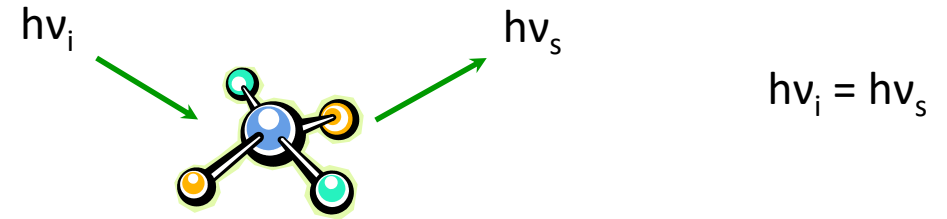
- ✓ ***Basics of Raman spectroscopy***
- ✓ ***Raman spectroscopy of mixed metal oxides: NCM***
- ✓ ***A few examples of chemical analysis of Li-ion batteries***
- ✓ ***Beyond: applications of micro-XRF in Li-ion batteries industry***

# What is the Raman Effect?

When light hits molecules, the predominant mode of scattering is **elastic scattering**, called **Rayleigh scattering**. It increases with the fourth power of the frequency and is more effective at short wavelengths.

It is also possible (approximately **1 in 10<sup>7</sup> photons**) for the incident photons to **interact** with the molecules in such a way that energy is either **gained** or **lost** so that the scattered photons are shifted in frequency.

Such **inelastic scattering** is called **Raman scattering**.



# Raman Effect

Raman observes laser energy changes as it excites a molecular vibrations.

The unit used is relative to the energy  $\omega$      $\omega$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 1/λ (cm)     $\omega_{\text{raman}} = [1/\lambda_{\text{laser}} \pm 1/\lambda_{\text{peak}}]$

Laser – 473 nm = 21141.6 cm<sup>-1</sup>

21141.6 cm<sup>-1</sup> – 520.6 cm<sup>-1</sup> = 20621.0 cm<sup>-1</sup>    **Si band — 520.6 cm<sup>-1</sup>/64.6 meV**

20621.0 cm<sup>-1</sup> = 484.94 nm

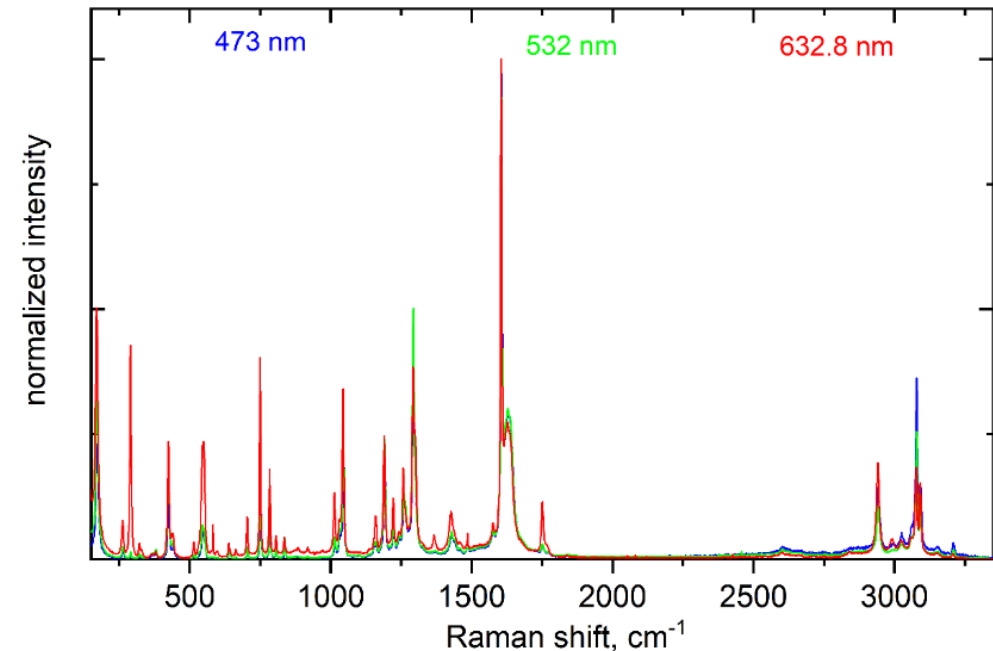
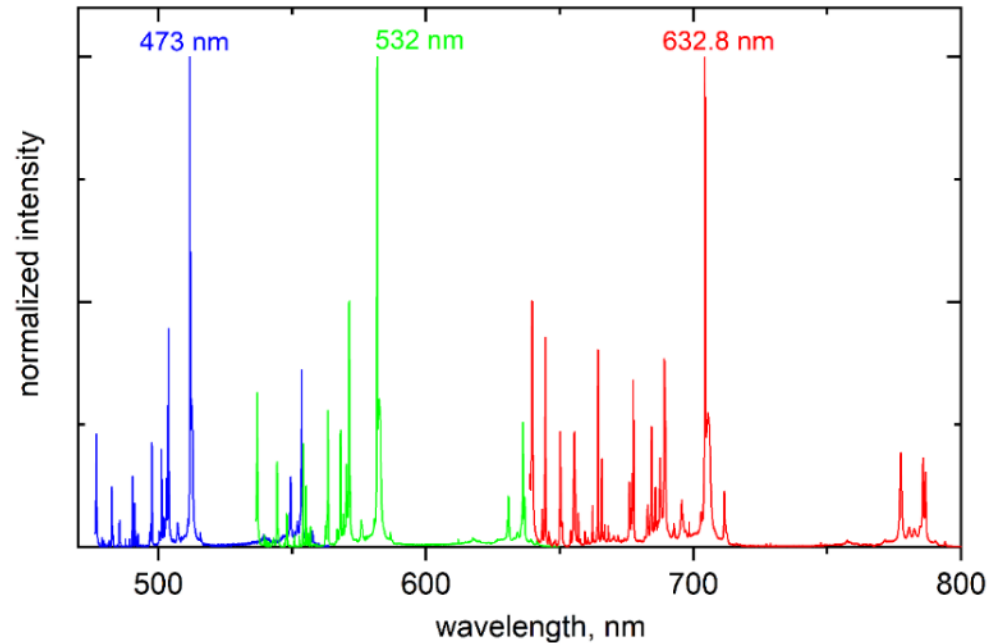
λ = 11.94 nm

Laser – 632.8 nm = 15802.8 cm<sup>-1</sup>

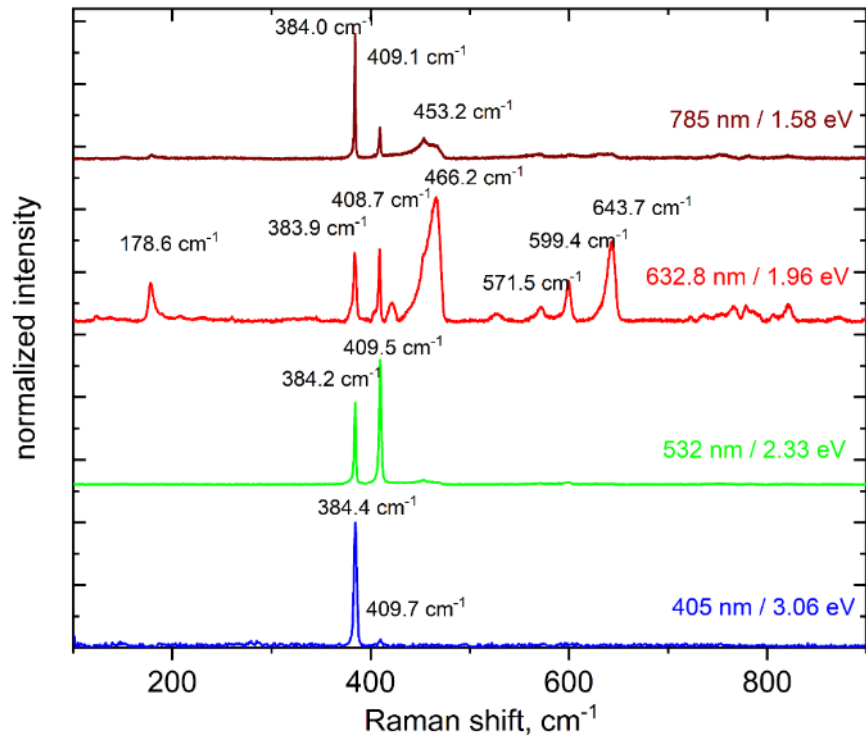
15802.8 cm<sup>-1</sup> – 520.6 cm<sup>-1</sup> = 15282.2 cm<sup>-1</sup>

15282.2 cm<sup>-1</sup> = 654.36 nm

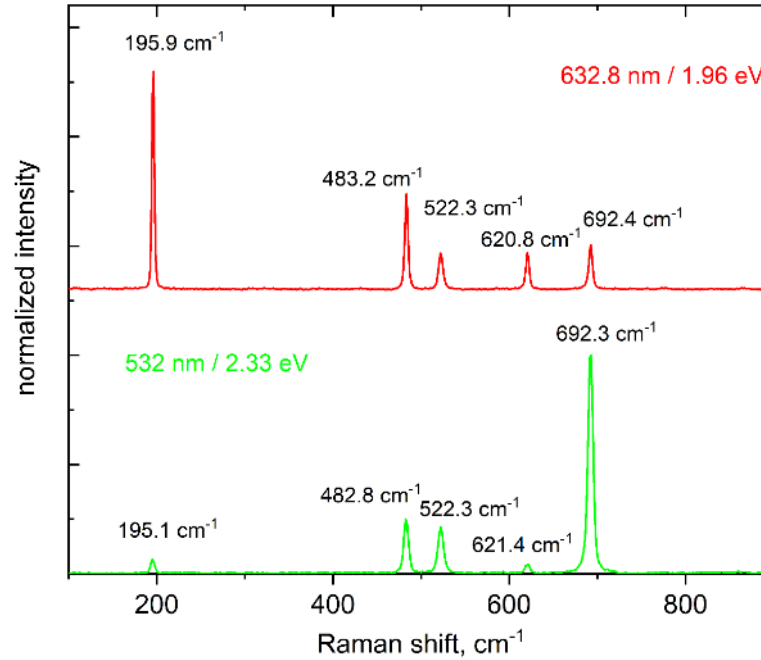
λ = 21.56 nm



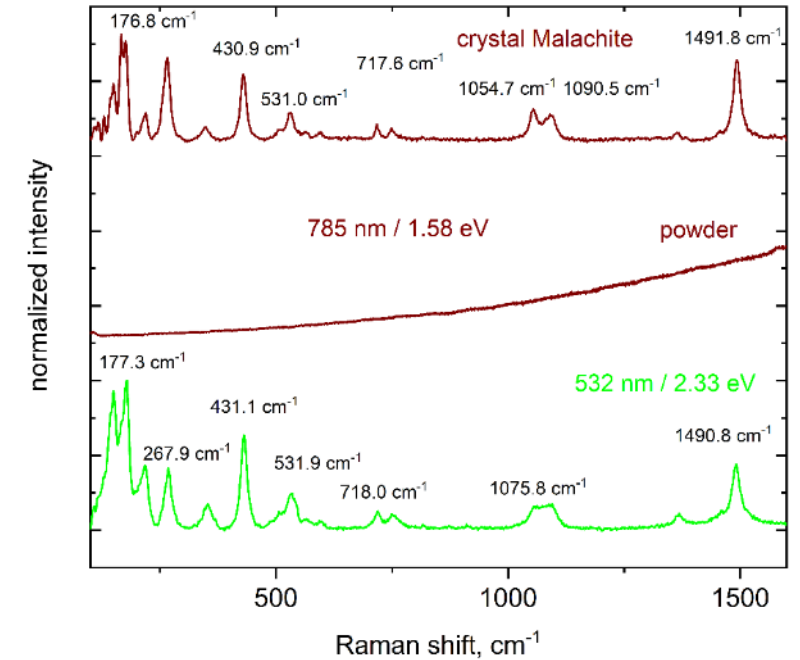
# Raman Effect



$\text{MoS}_2$  - indirect gap: 1.23 eV  
direct gap – 1.80 eV



$\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$  - direct gap: 0.6 eV/0.75 eV



$\text{Cu}_2\text{CO}_3(\text{OH})_2$  - direct gap 2.2-2.4 eV

# Instrumentation and Software



## *LabRam Evolution*

Focal length 800 mm  
Laser: 532 nm  
Grating: 600 gr/mm  
CCD Synapse 1024 x 256 pixels  
100x objective  
LabSpec 6 Spectroscopy Suite



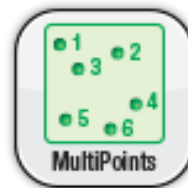
View Sharp



Nav Sharp



Multi-Points



Particle Finder



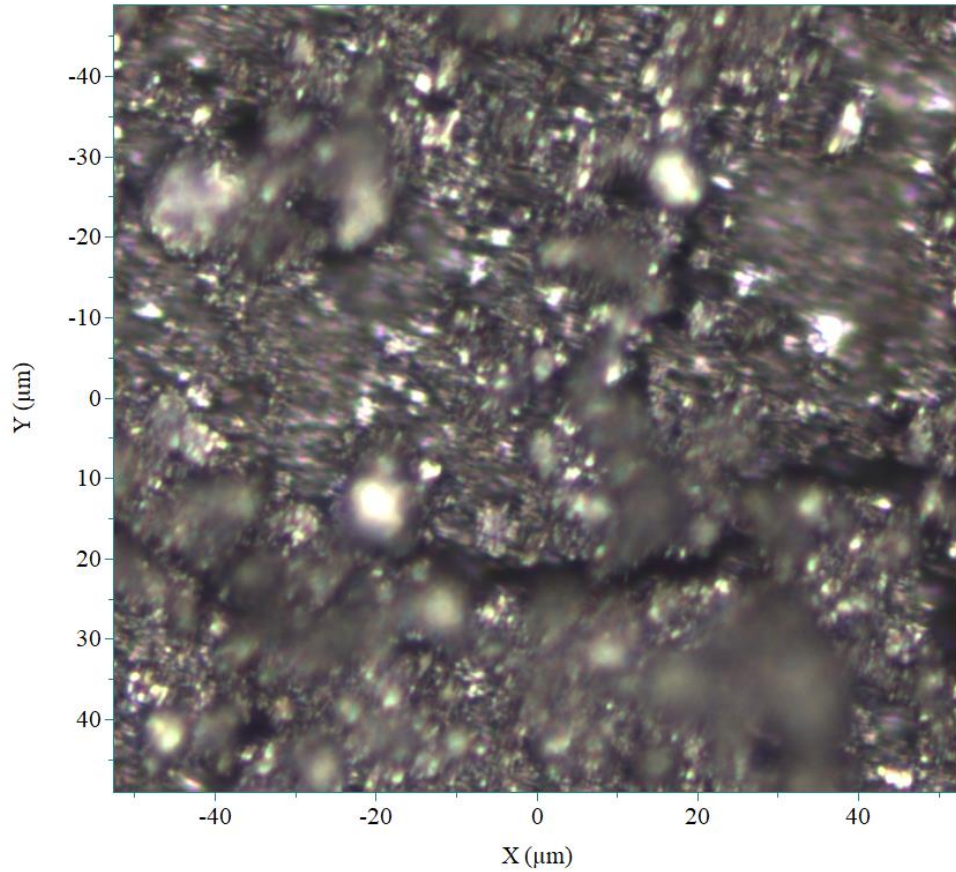
Multivariate analysis



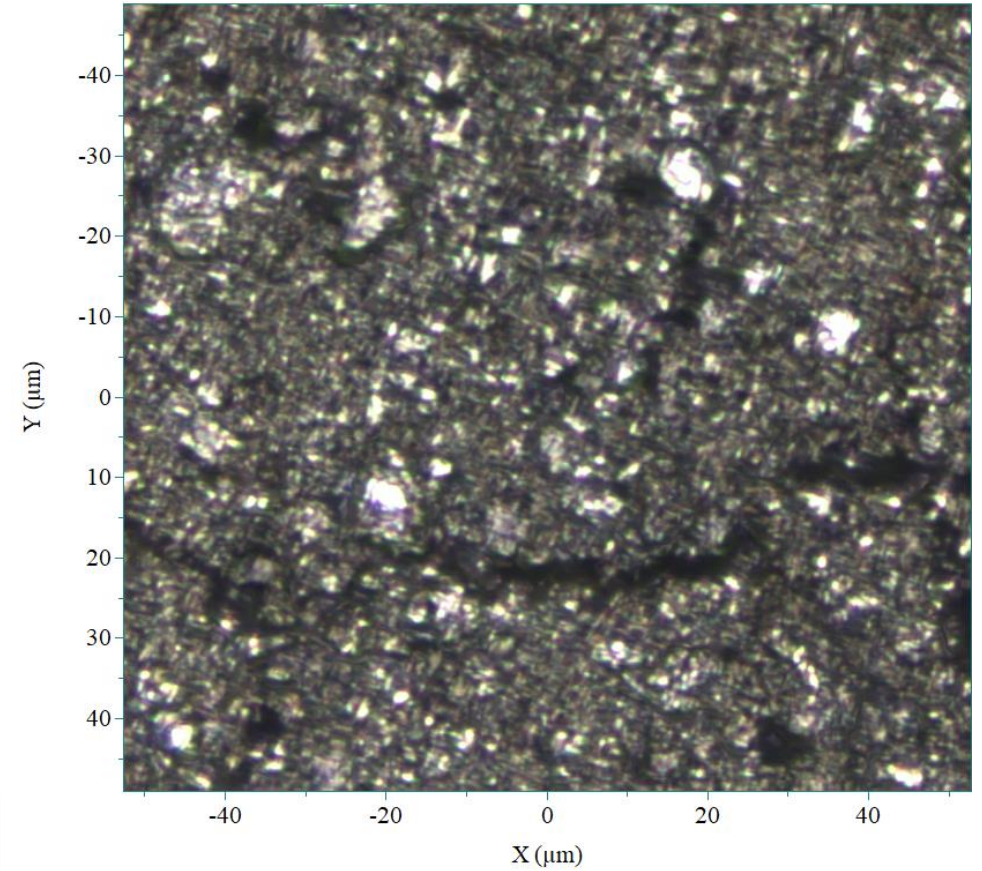


# View Sharp

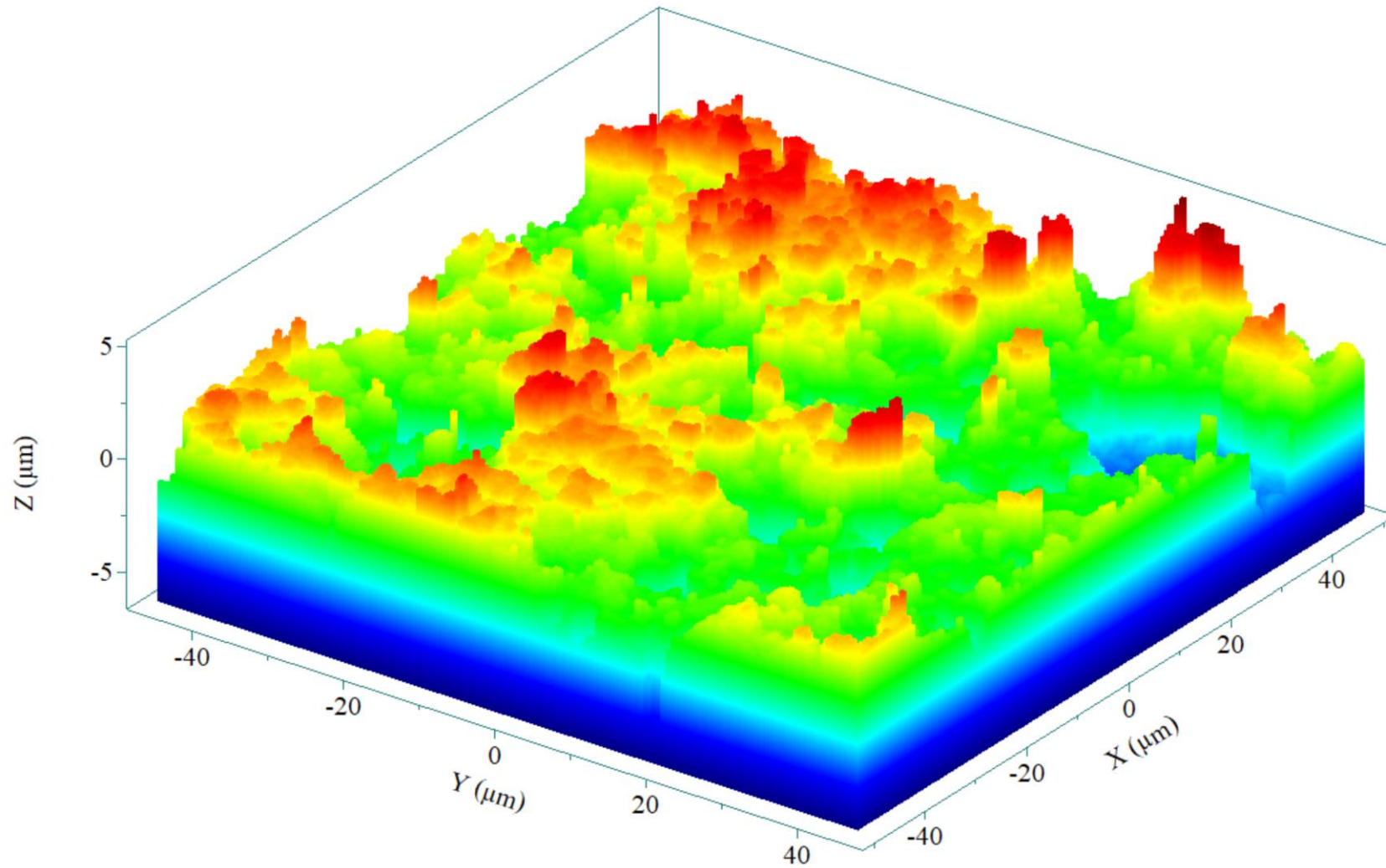
Optical image



View Sharp Optical image

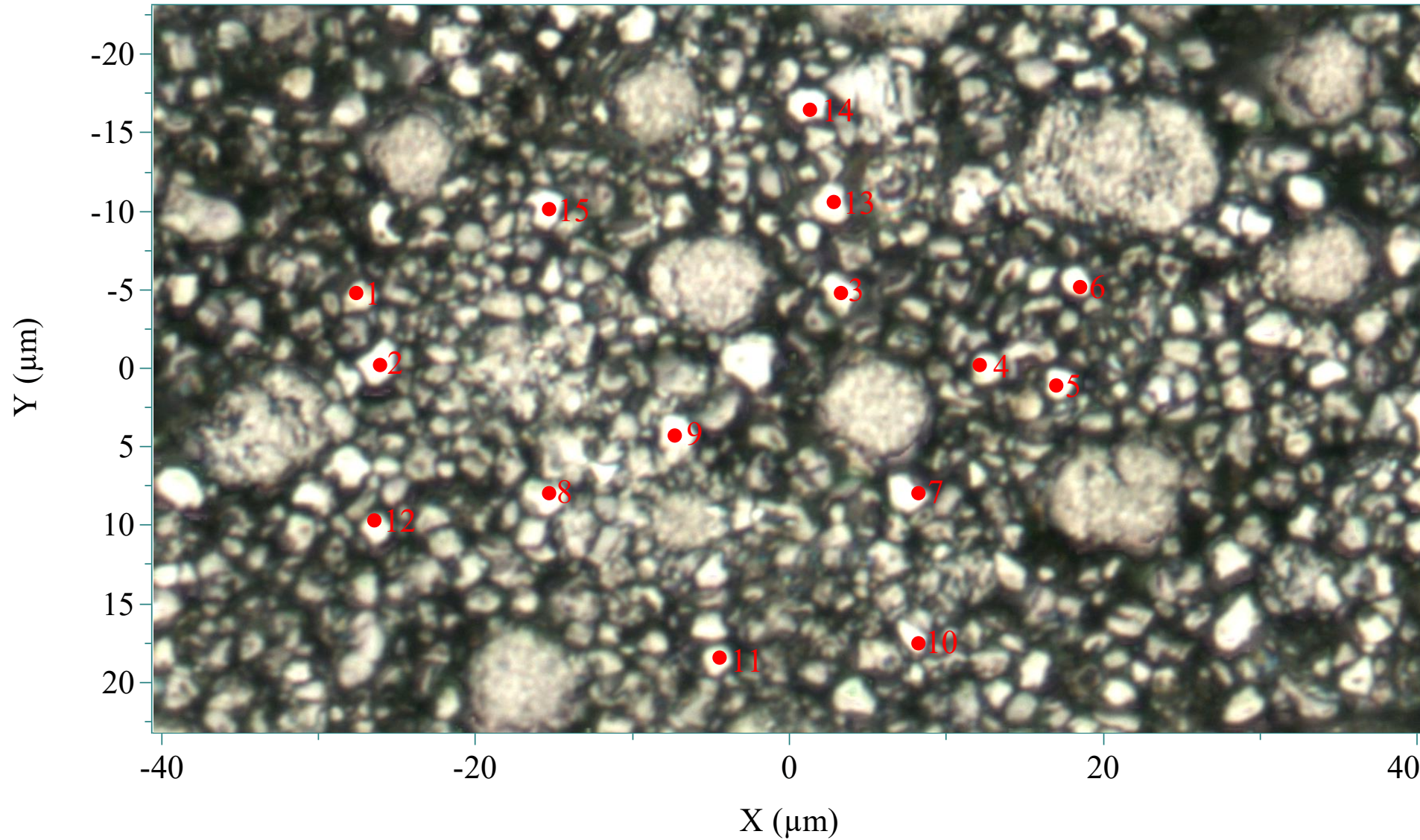


# View Sharp – Z-profile = Topology



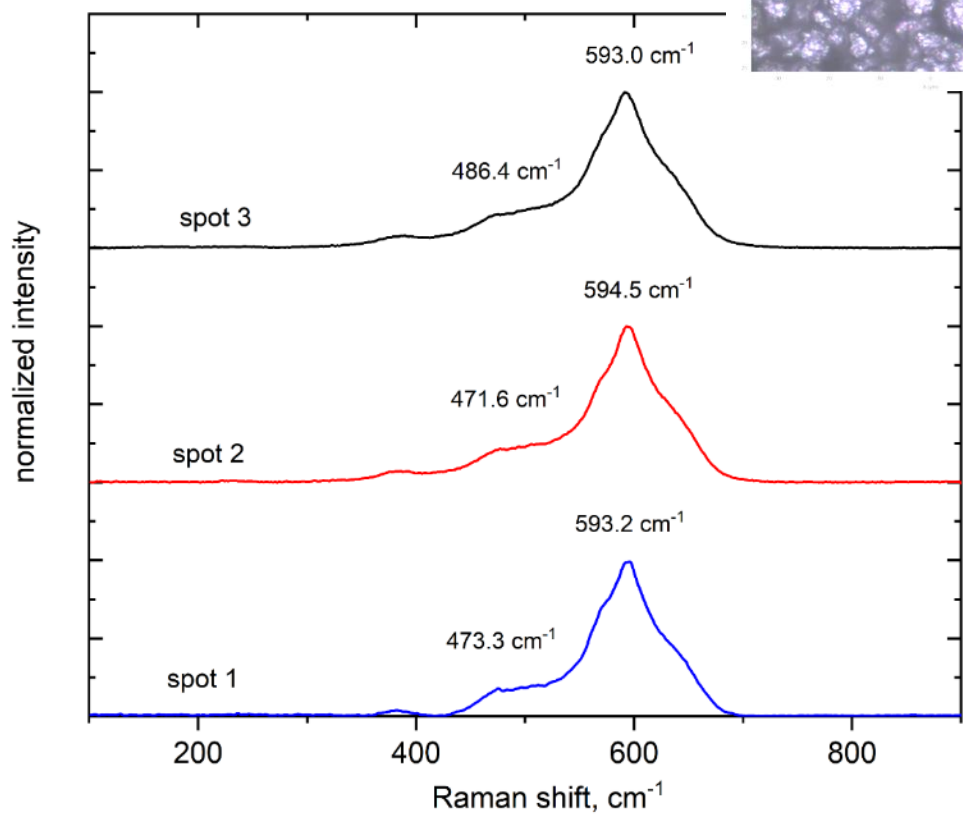
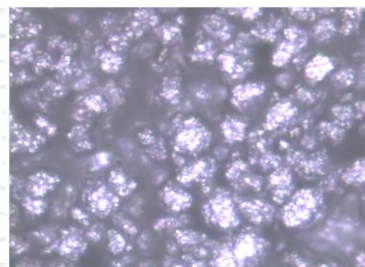


# View Sharp – Particle Finder – Multi Points

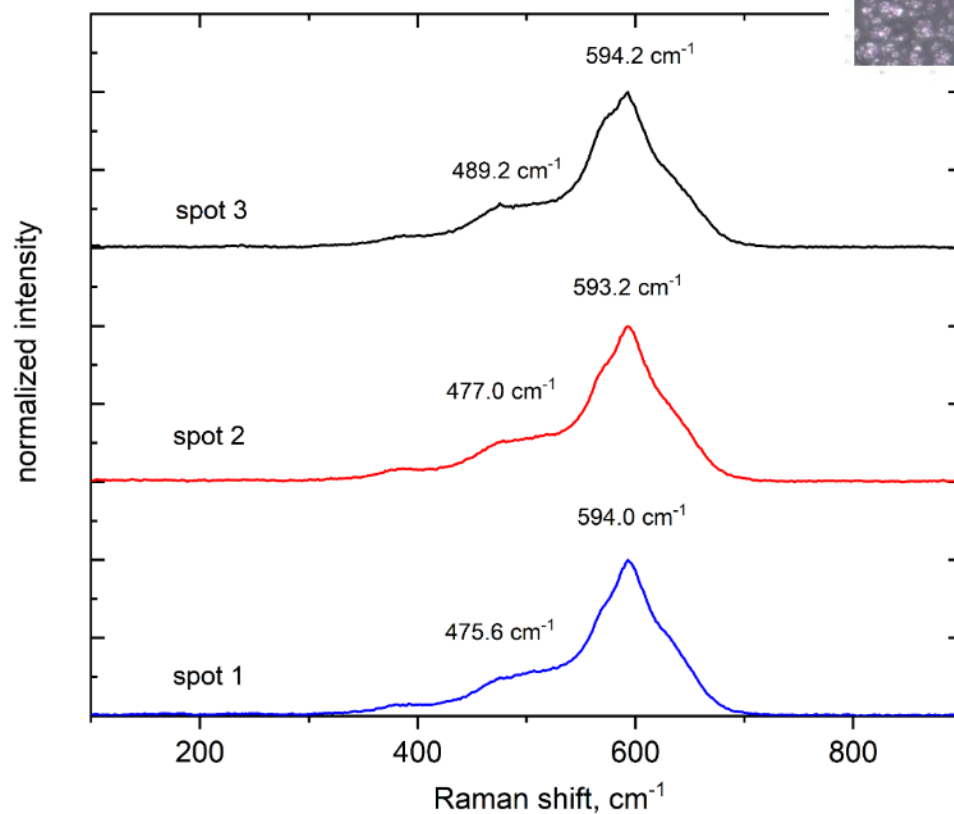
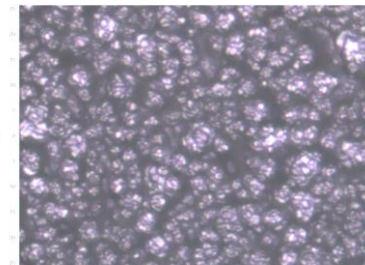


# Raman spectroscopy of NCM 1:1:1

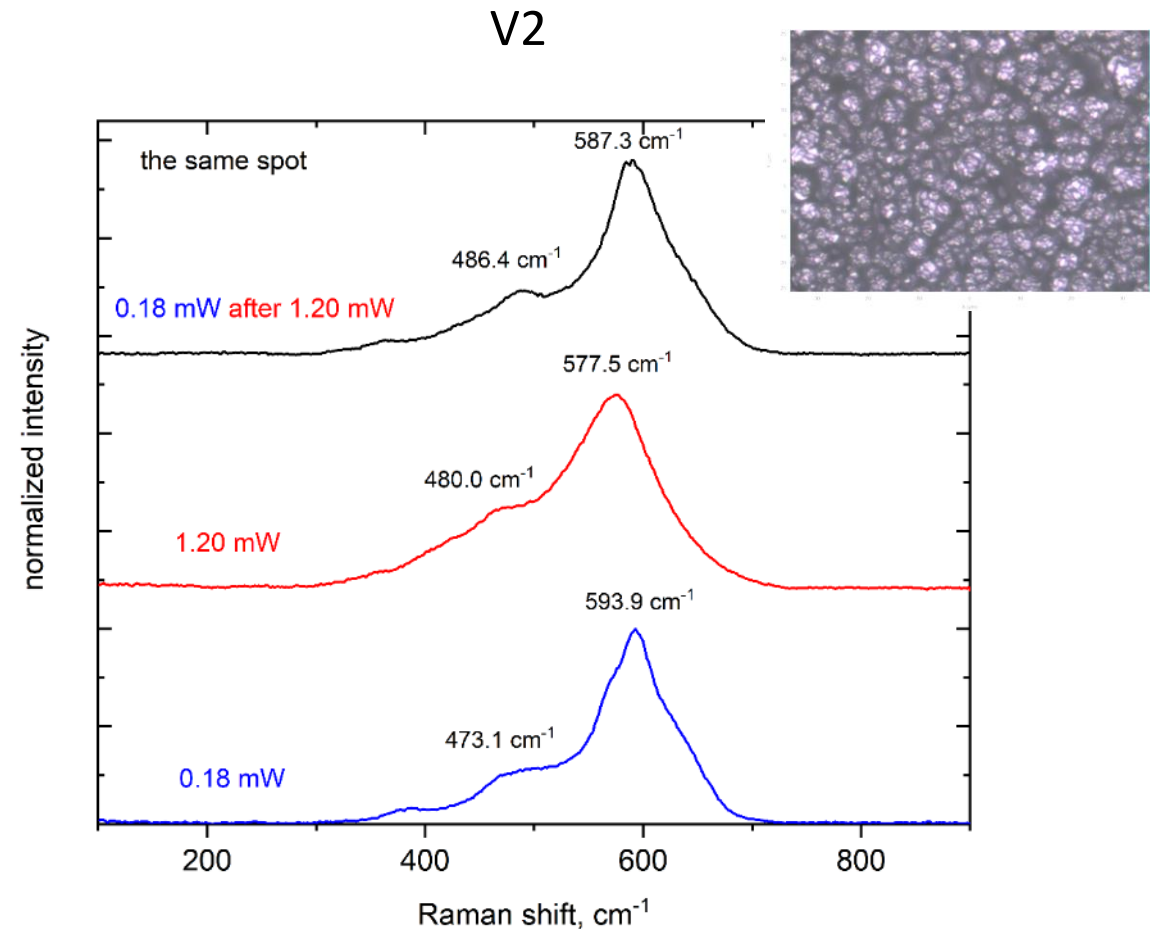
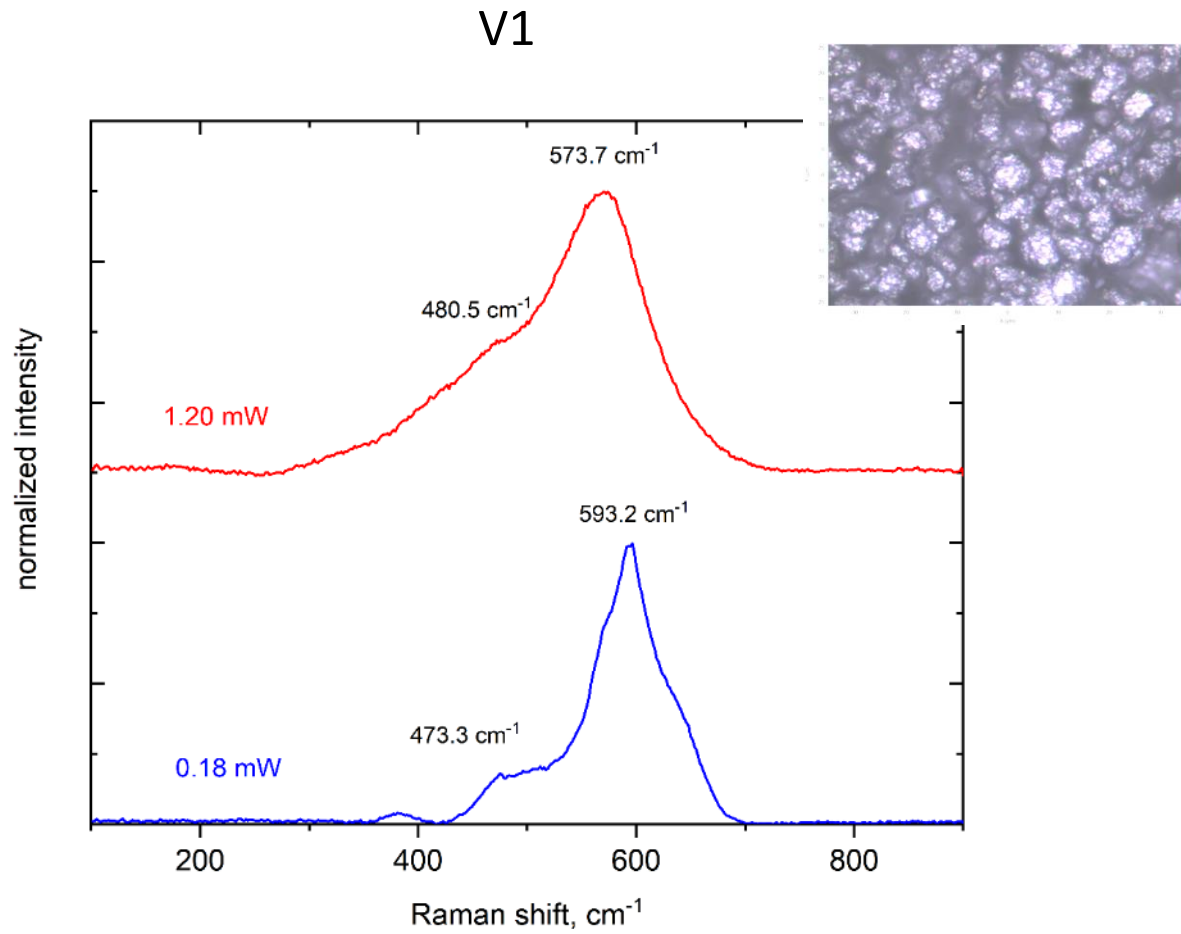
V1



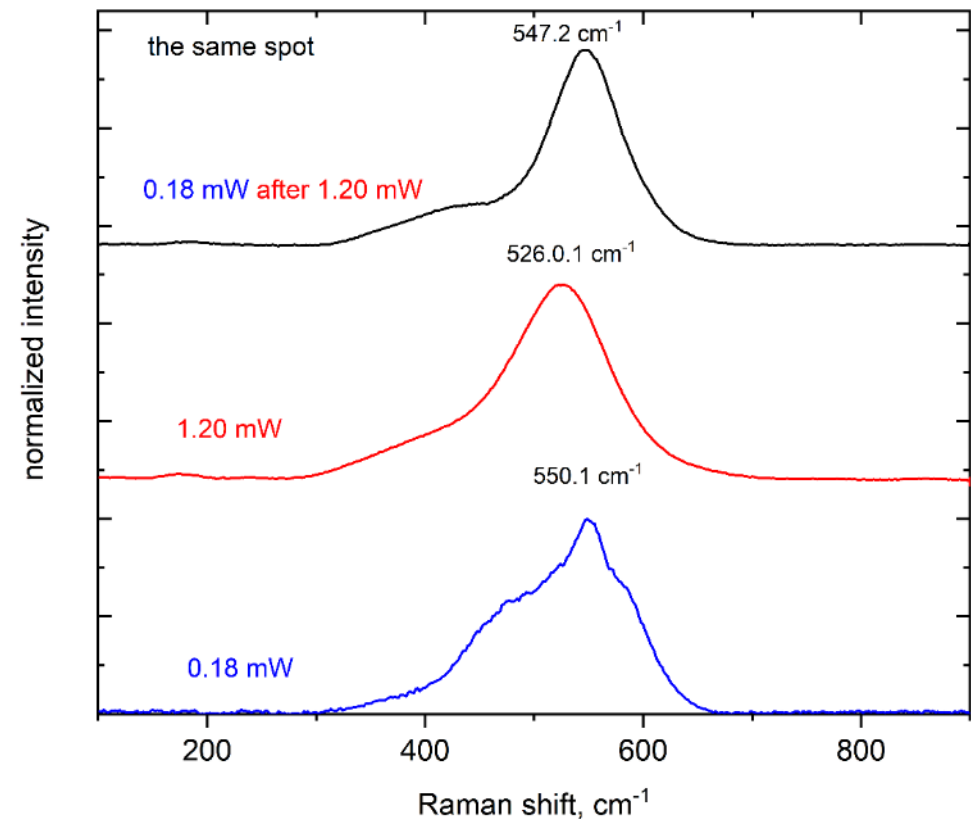
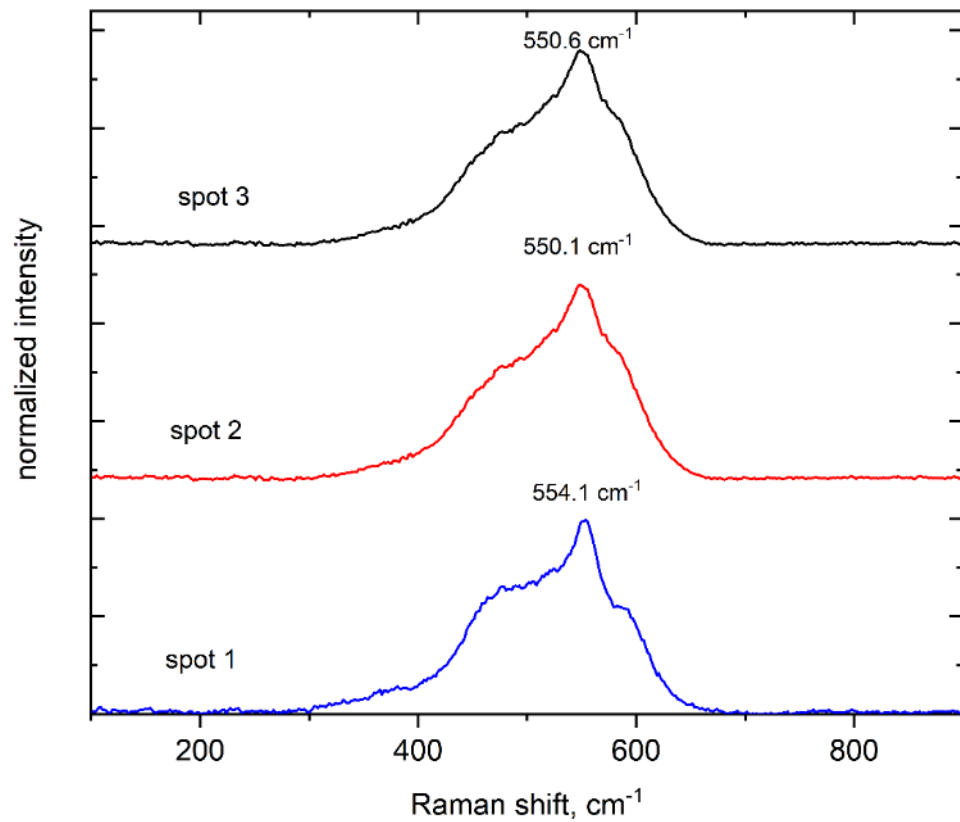
V2



# Raman spectroscopy of NCM 1:1:1

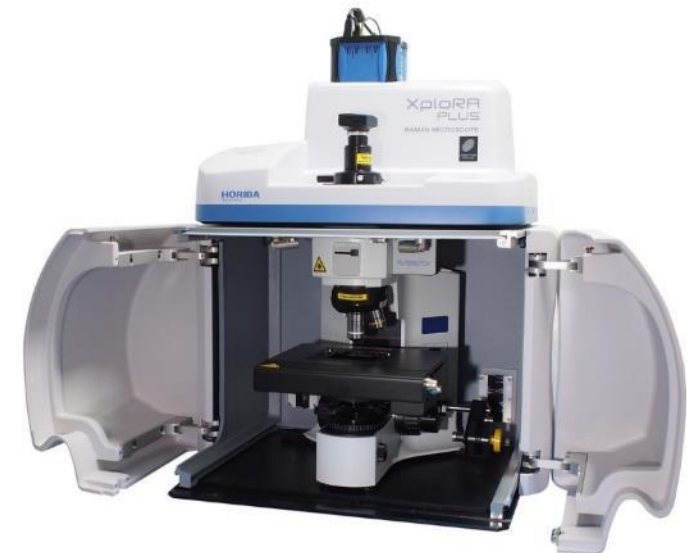
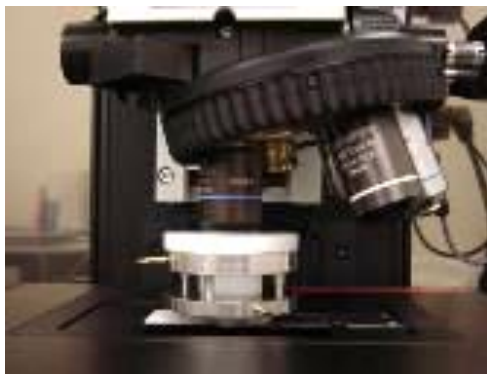
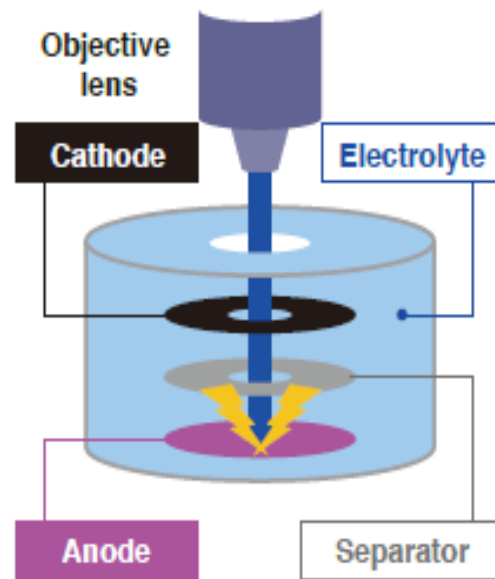
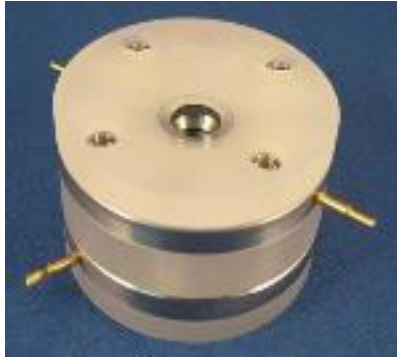


# Raman spectroscopy of NCM 8:1:1





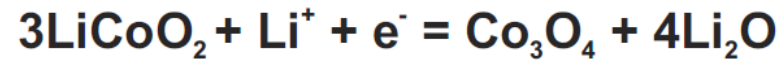
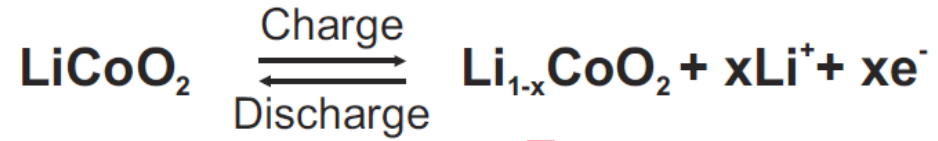
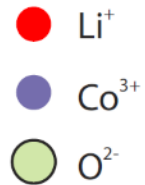
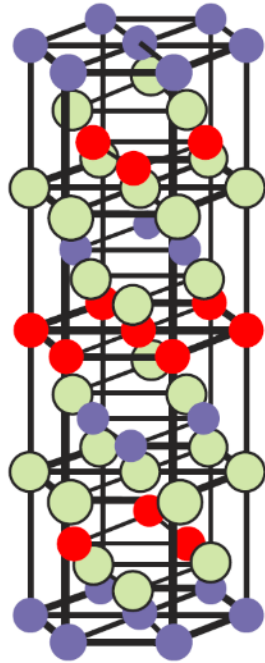
# Instrumentation





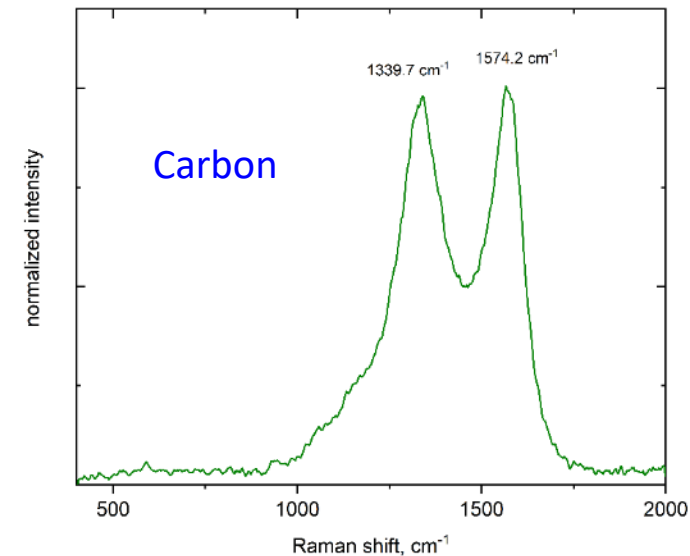
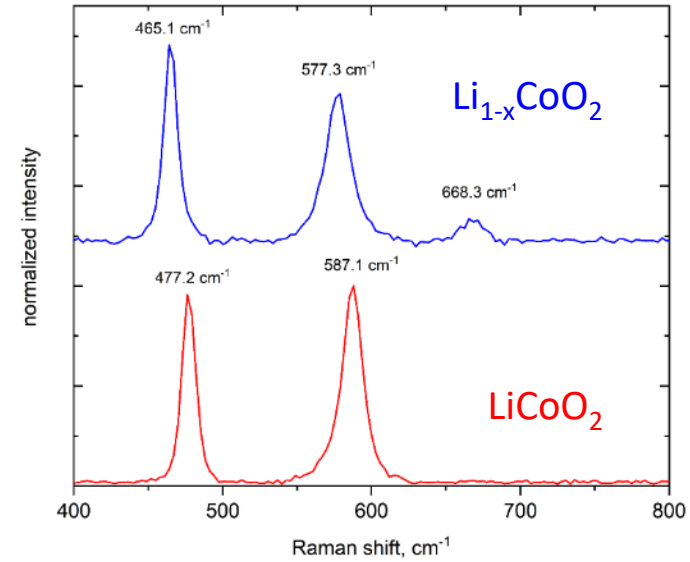
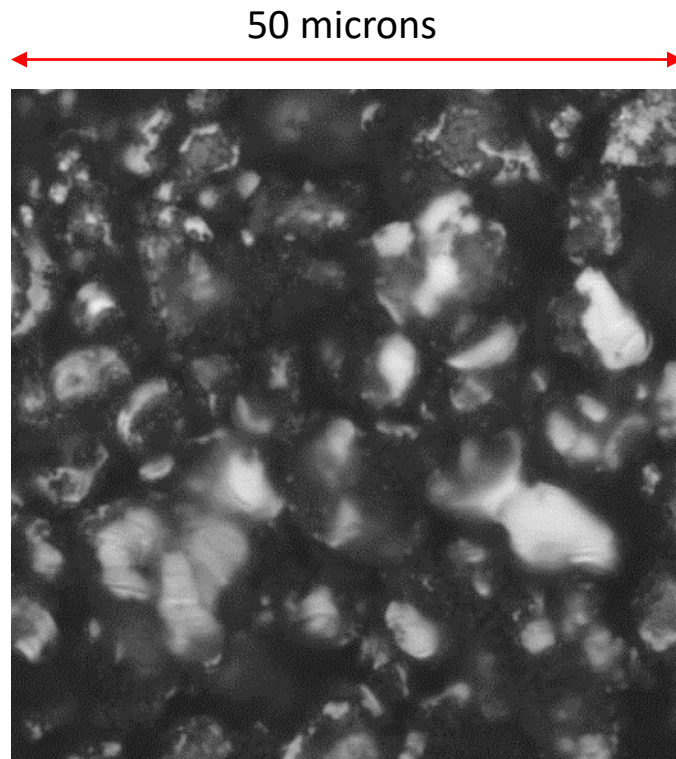
# LiCoO<sub>2</sub> cathode

LiCoO<sub>2</sub> Crystal structure

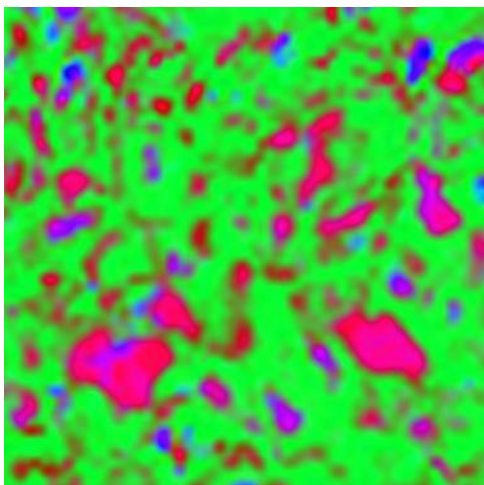
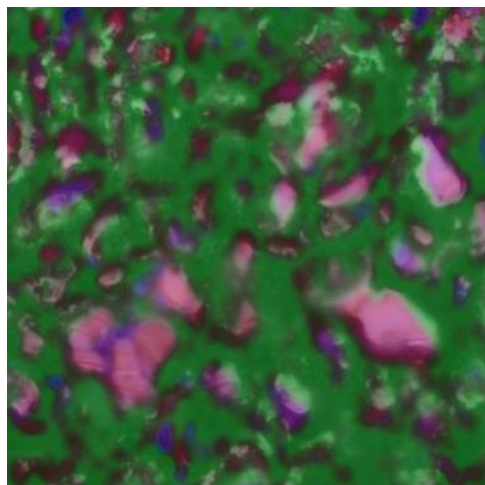
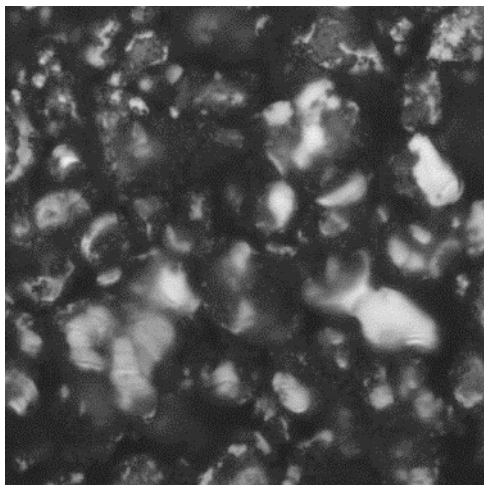


# LiCoO<sub>2</sub> cathode

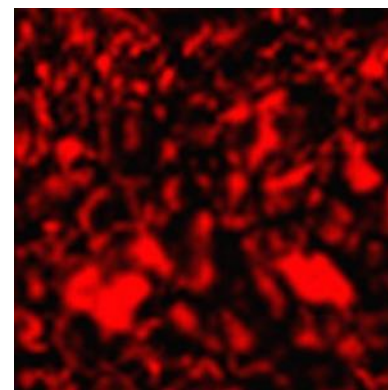
Ideally, charging - discharging processes are reversible. However, degradation = irreversible changes occur in cathode or anode.



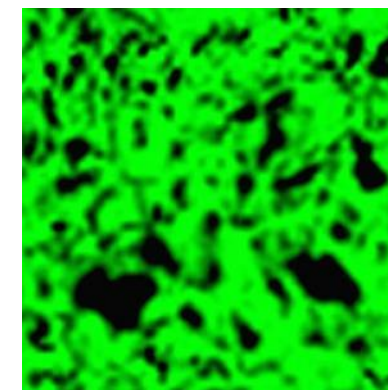
# LiCoO<sub>2</sub> cathode



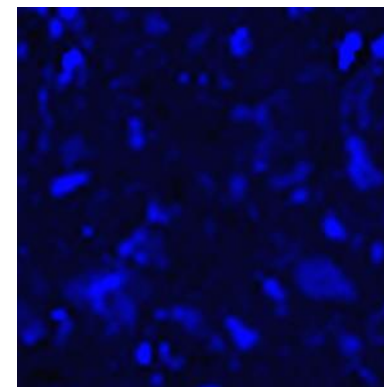
LiCoO<sub>2</sub>



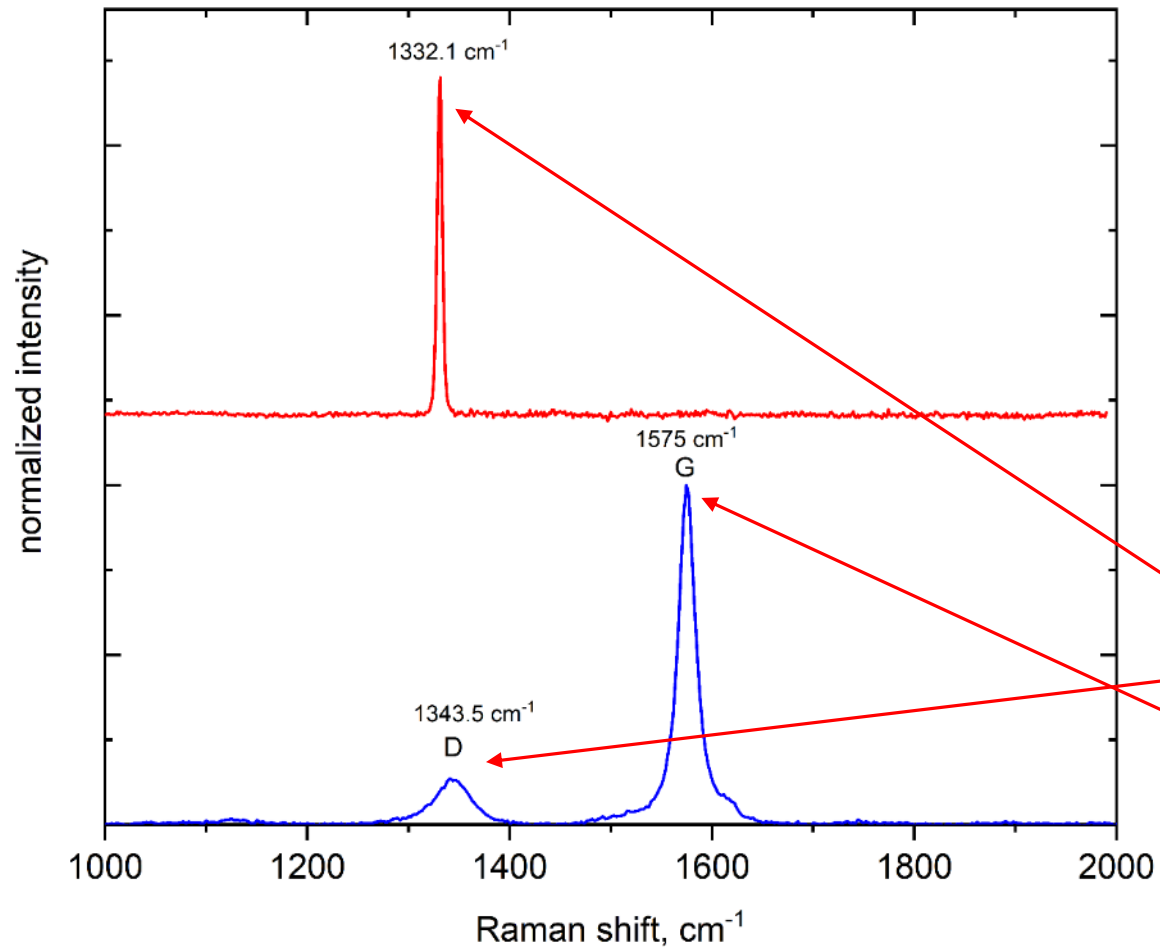
Carbon



Li<sub>1-x</sub>CoO<sub>2</sub>



# Carbon based anodes

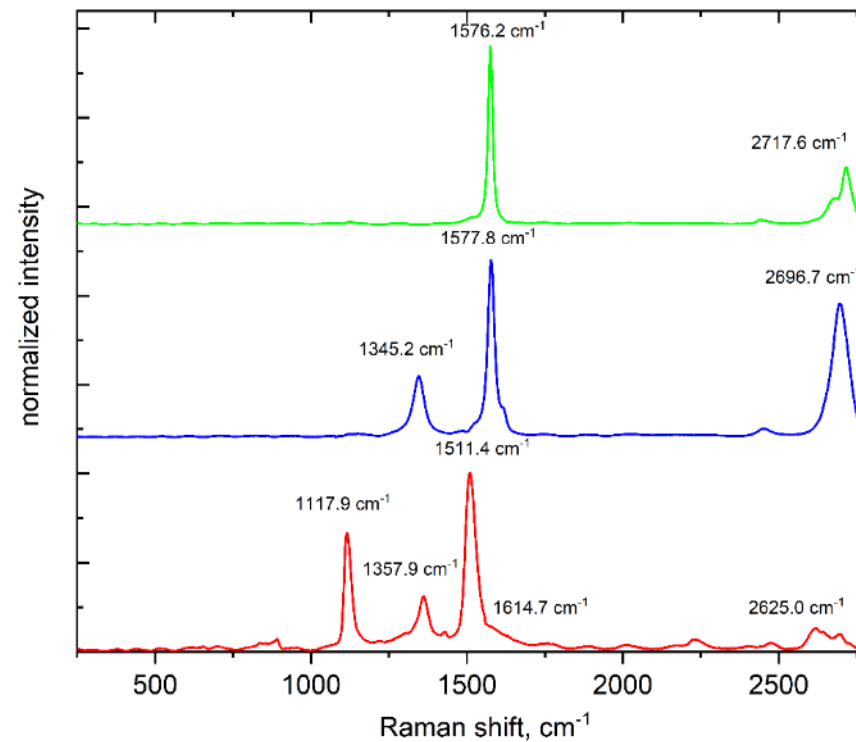
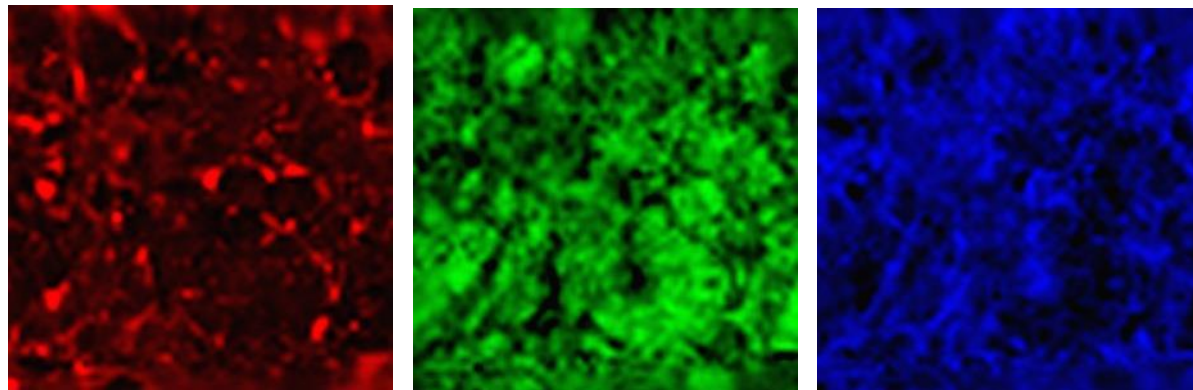
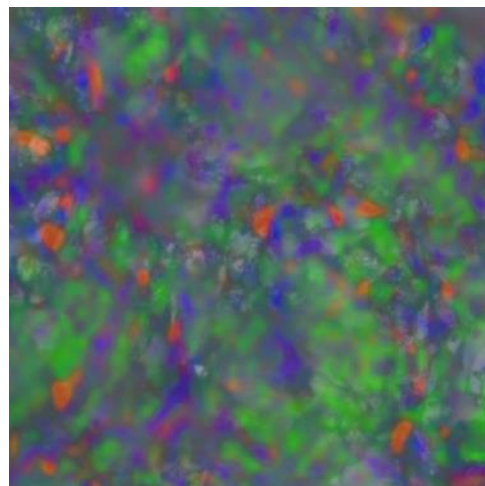
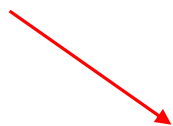
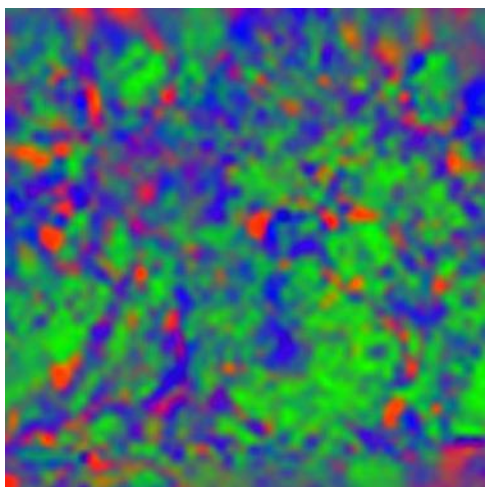
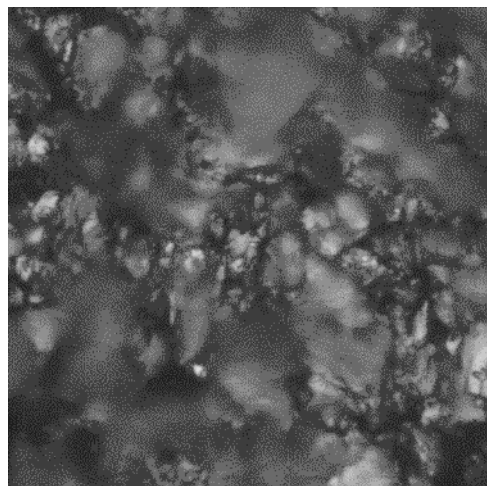


$I_G/I_D$  ratio is a measure of disorder

Nature of vibrations	Mode frequency ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	FWHM ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	Scattering cross section relative to the $1332 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ mode	Depolarization ratio
$sp^3$ or $sp^{2a}$	$\sim 1150$	80	1 or $57^b$	0.24
$a\text{-C}^c$	1200	152	$233^d$	0.24
$a\text{-C}^c$	1300	132	$233^d$	0.23
$sp^3$	1332	7	1	0.26
$D^c$	1345	250	176	0.24
$a\text{-C}^e$	$\sim 1470$	80	$233^d$	0.23
$G^c$	1560	110	57	0.23

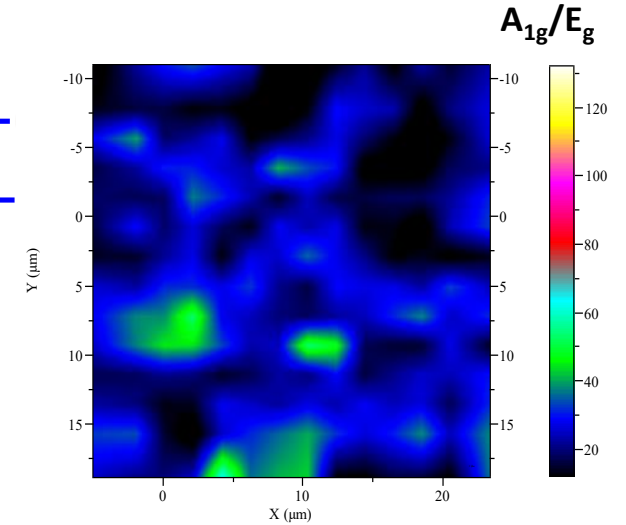
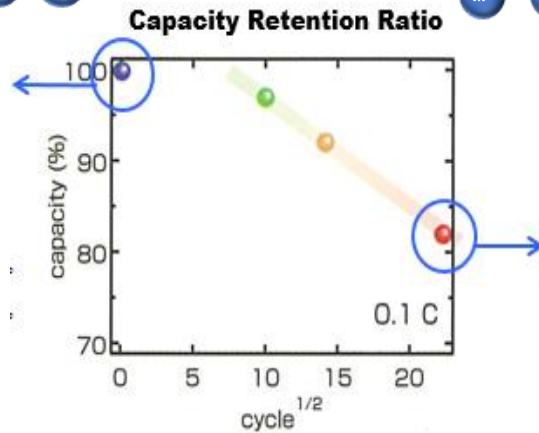
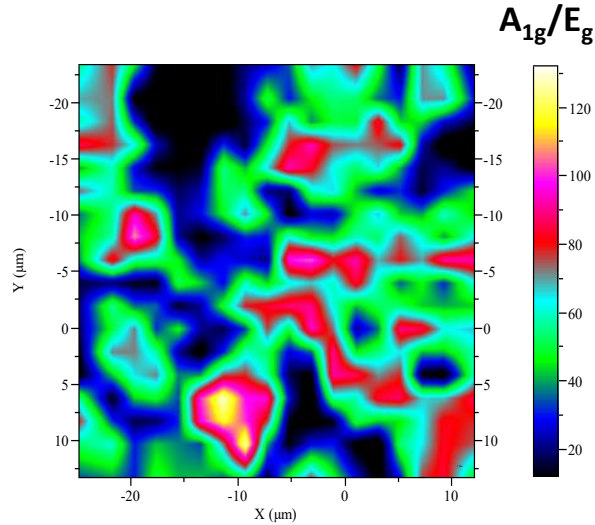
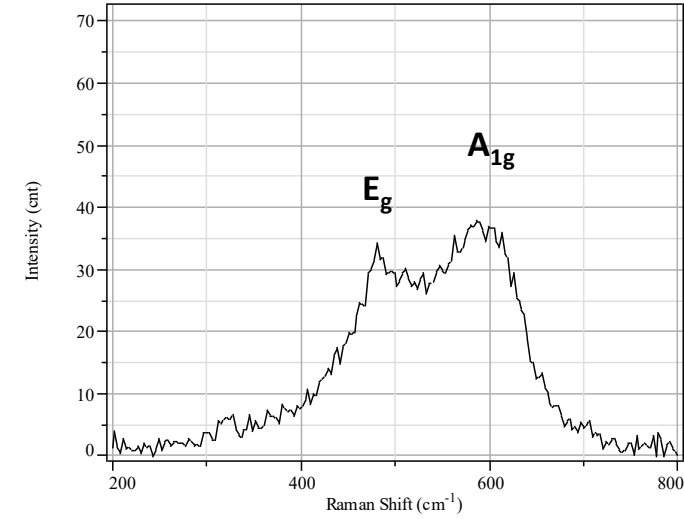
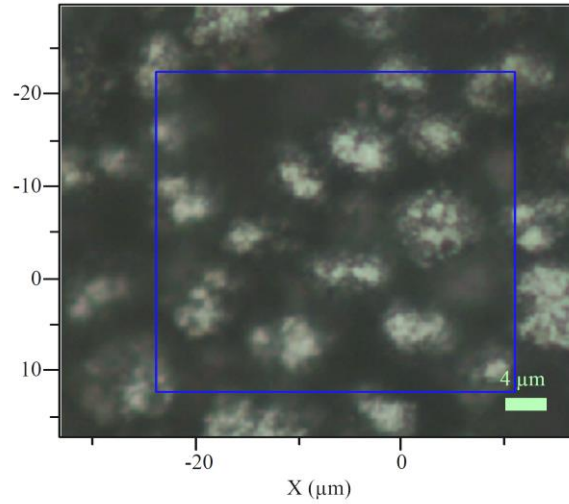
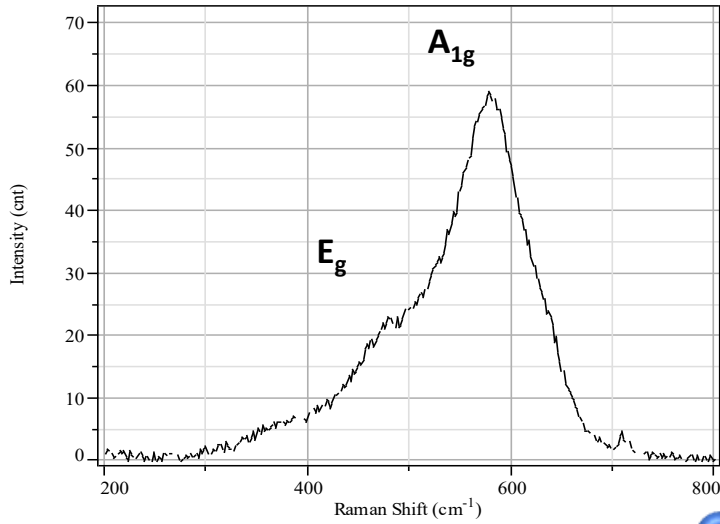


# Carbon based anode

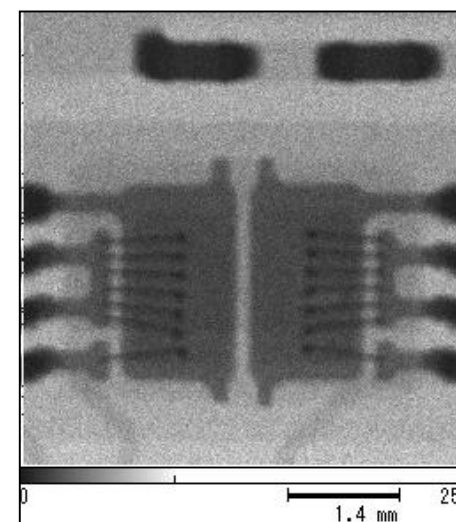
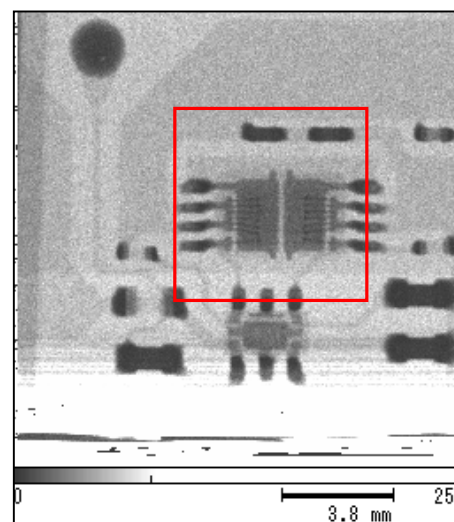
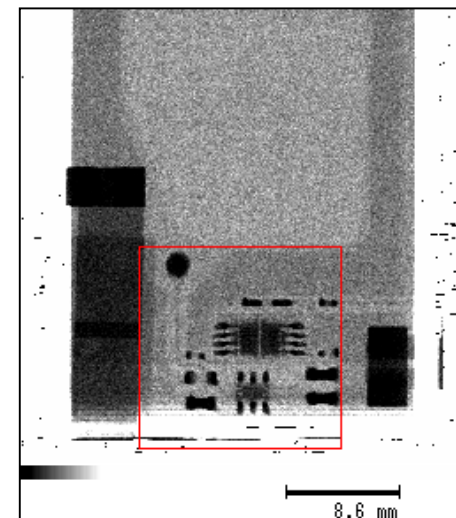
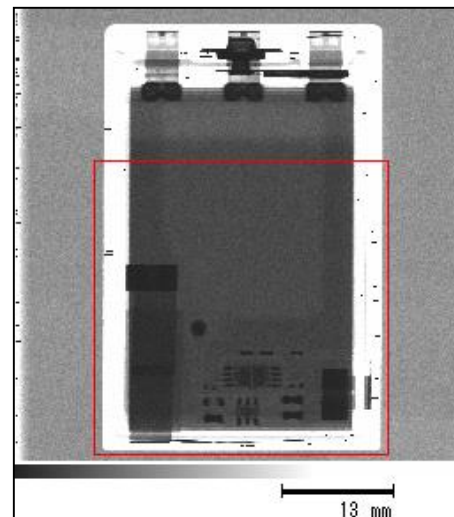




# NMC cathode

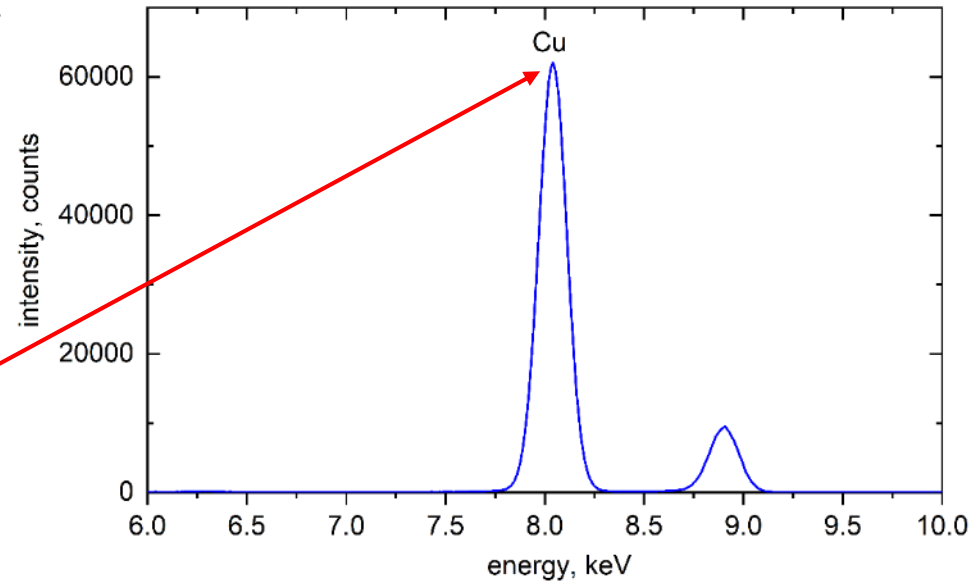
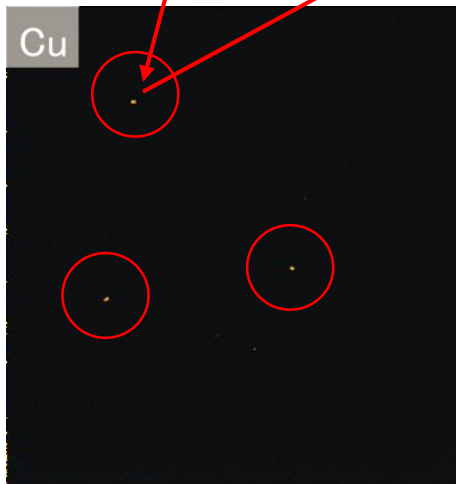
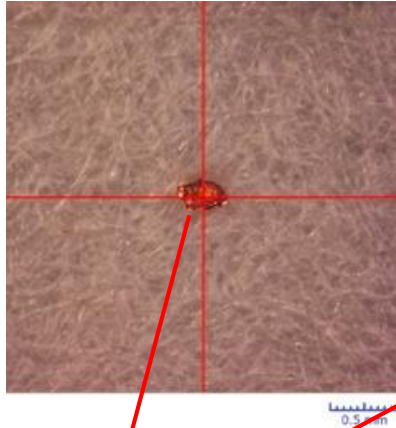


# Micro-XRF – Li-ion batteries

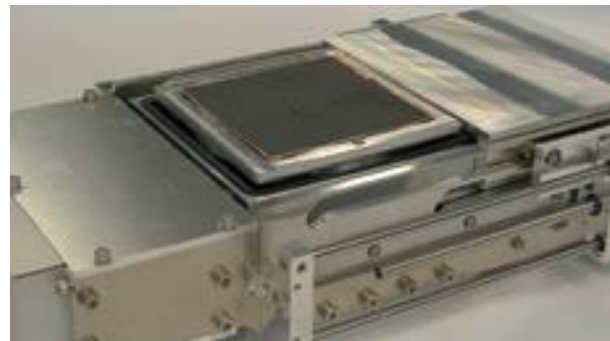


# Micro-XRF – Li-ion batteries

Contamination on separators is causing short circuits, which lead to malfunction.



The transfer vessel controls the environment between a glove box and a device.



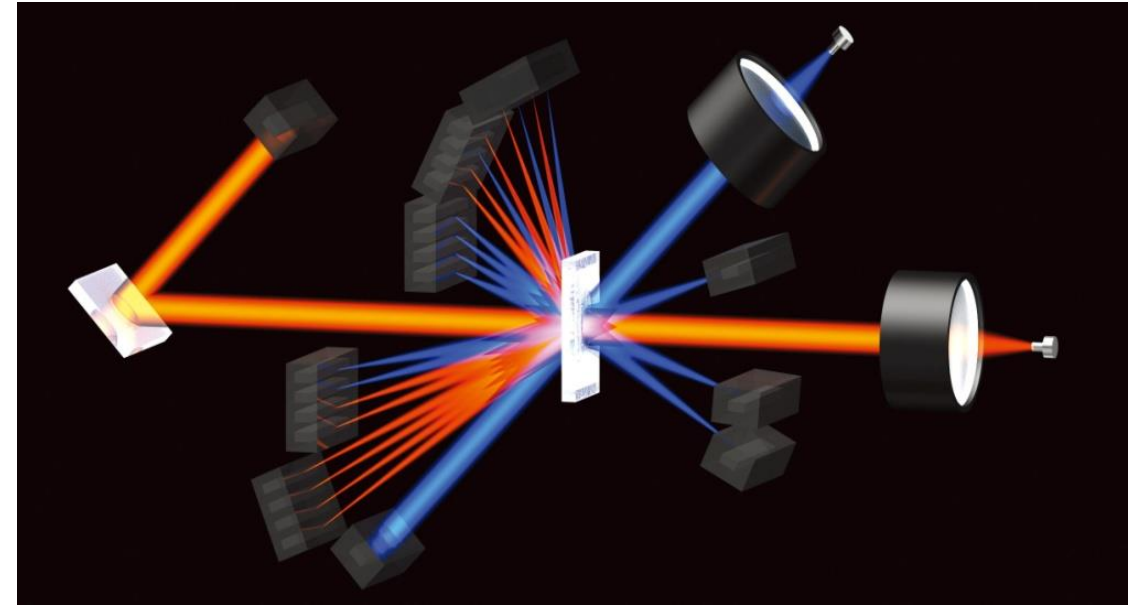
XGT-9000



# Particle Characterization (Jeff Bodycomb)

## The LA-960 and laser diffraction

- Converts scattered light to particle size distribution
- Quick, repeatable
- Powders, suspensions
- Most common technique



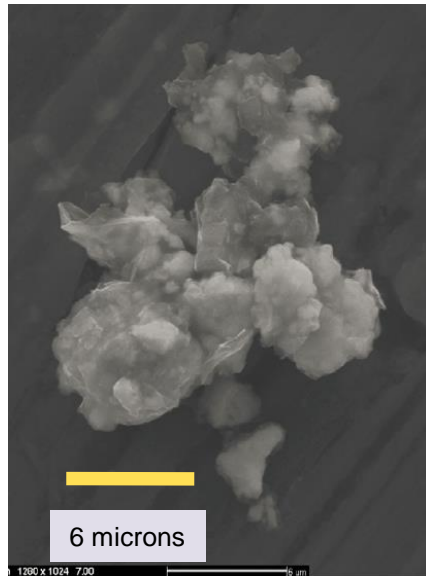
# But my battery is solid!

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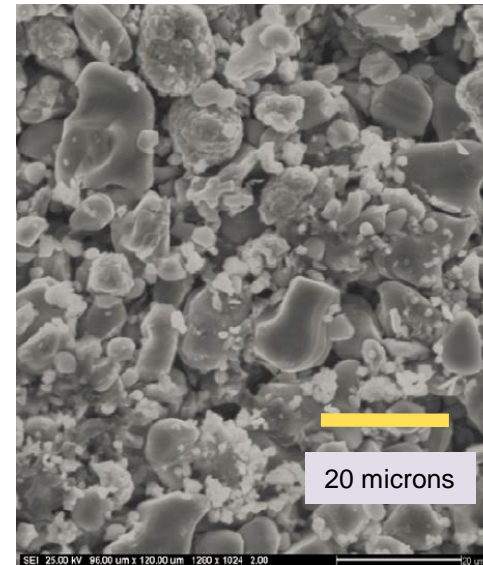
A battery is usually solid and quite durable.

But what if we look inside a Li-ion battery?

Anode



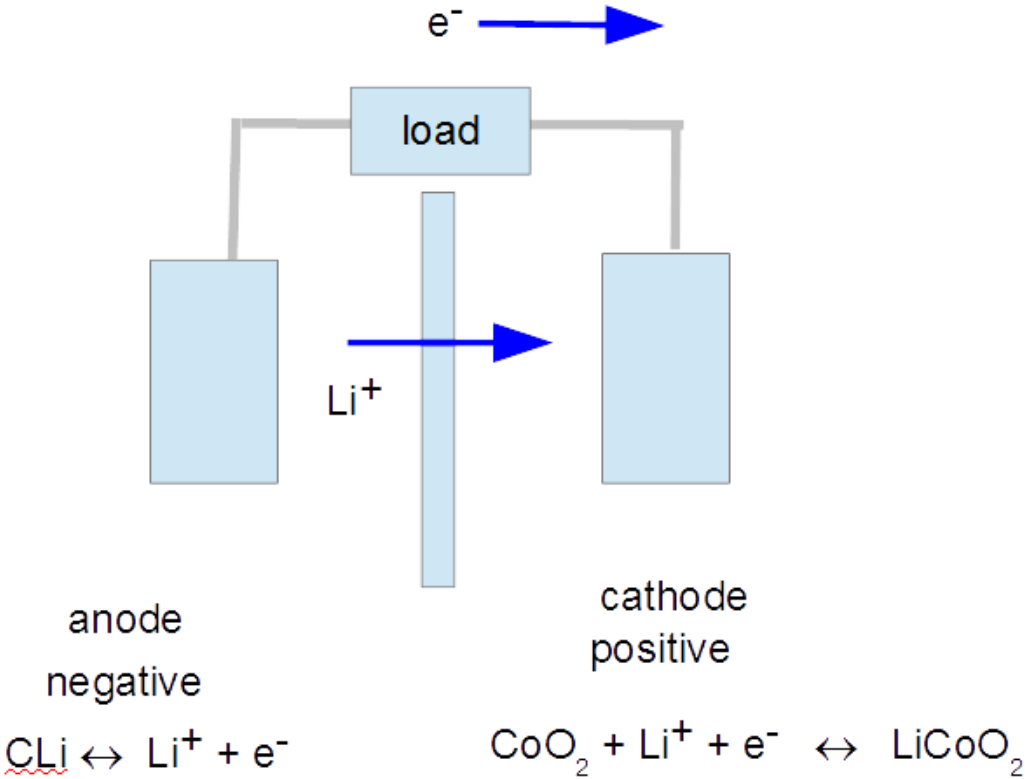
Cathode



## Particles!



# Battery Basics



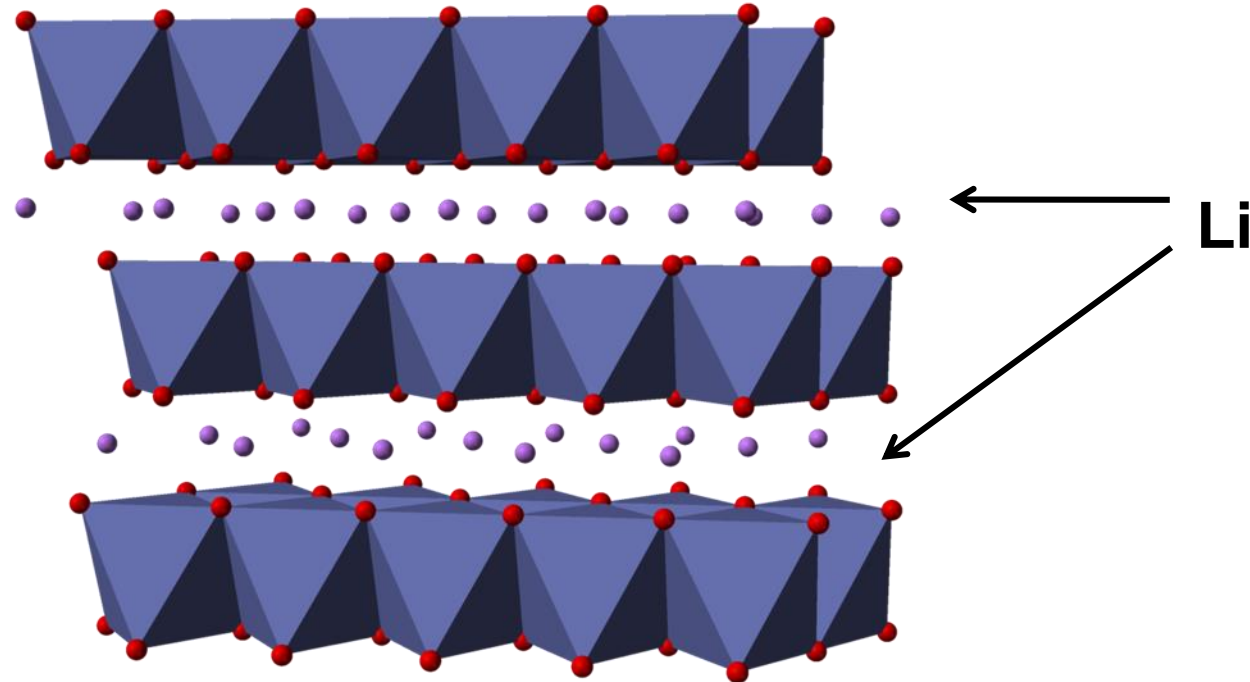
**Chemistry sets potential (voltage)...**  
**But the voltage drops due to resistance (electrical and ionic).**

# Microscopic View



Li moves into  $\text{CoO}_2$  octahedra slabs

How fast can the LI get in there?



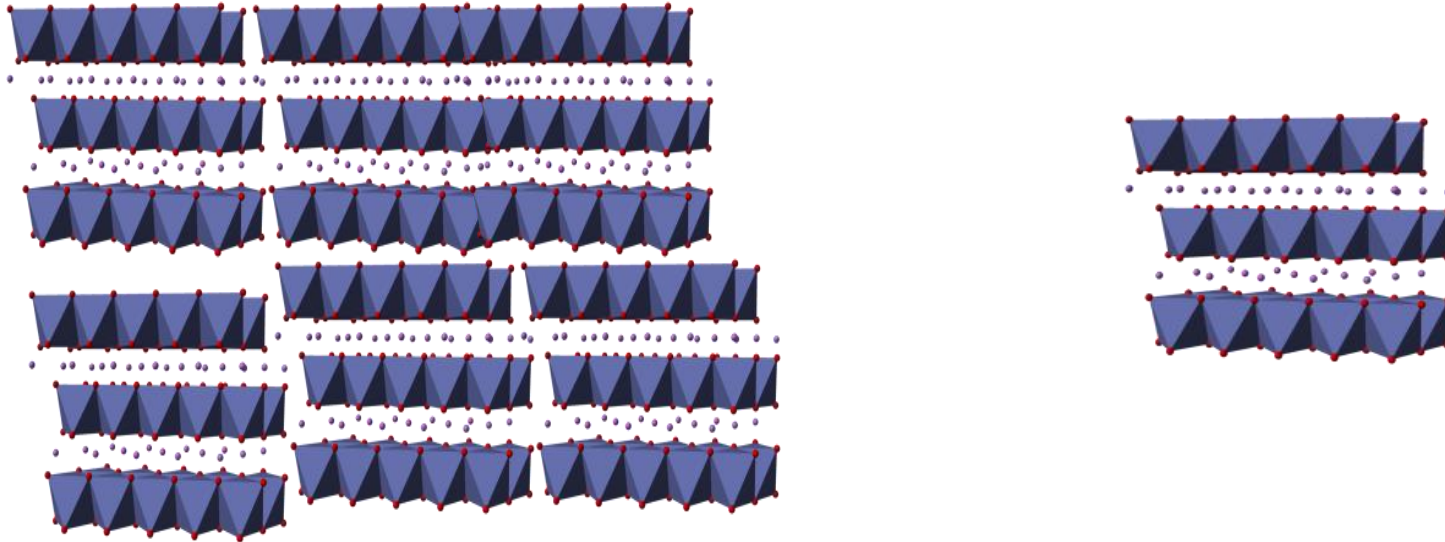
# Particle Size!

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Need to consider diffusion of  $\text{Li}^+$  into  $\text{CoO}_2$  when considering charge/discharge rate (or power, not energy)!

As particles get smaller, area for diffusion increases

Also, area for undesirable side reactions increases



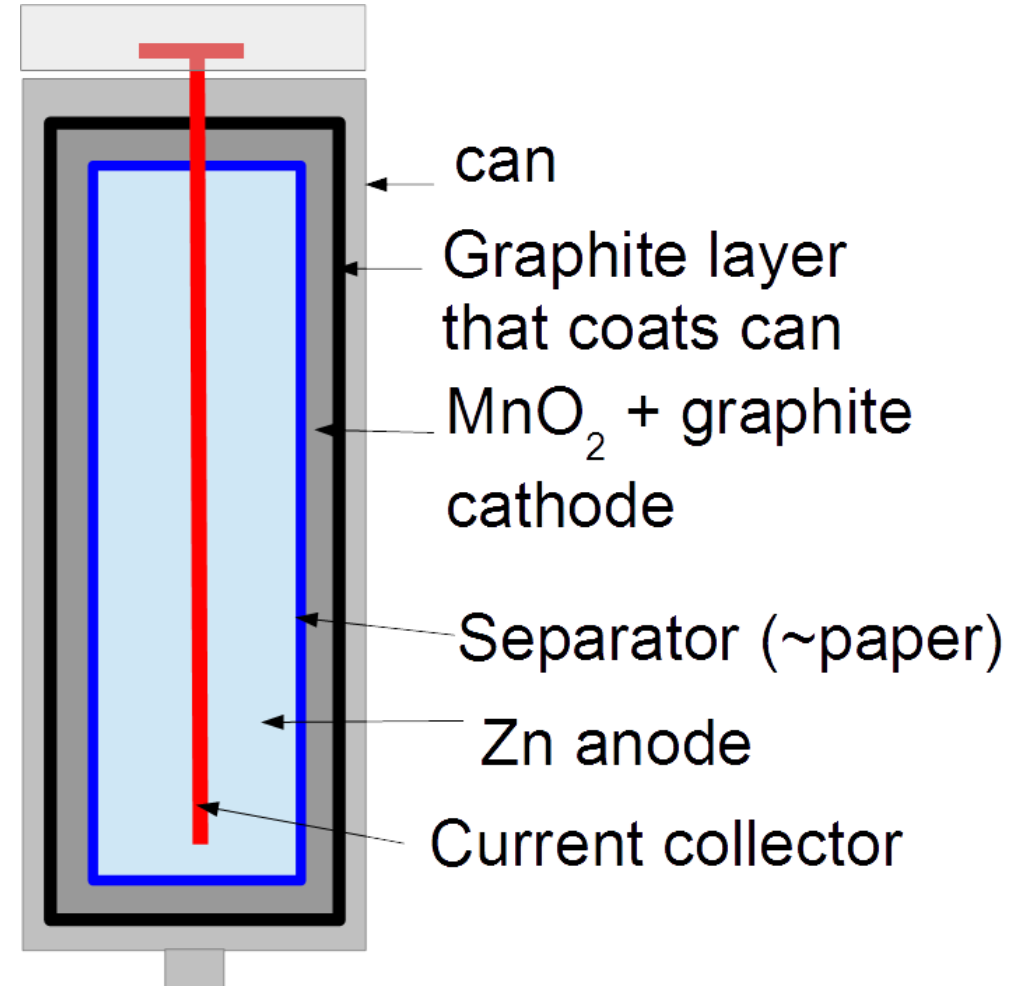
# Alkaline battery

## Graphite particle size

- Smaller particles
  - lower resistivity at low loadings (5%)
  - lowers flex strength
- D90's from 10 to 100 microns

**MnO<sub>2</sub> powder is ~100's of microns**

**Anode is Zn powder (D50 of 50~200 microns) in gel**



# Measuring graphite

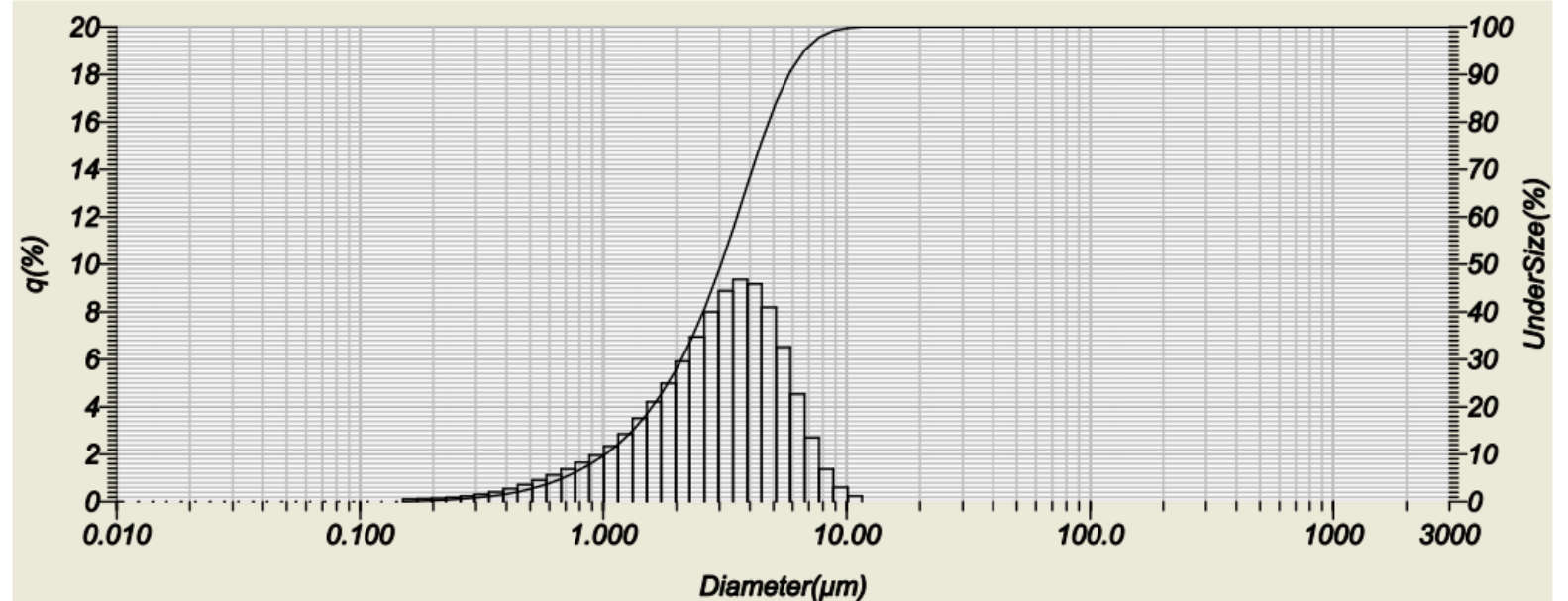
Laser diffraction

Dispersed in 0.01% Tween 20

10 minutes ultrasonic

D50: 3.05 micron

D90: 5.80 micron



Small for imaging

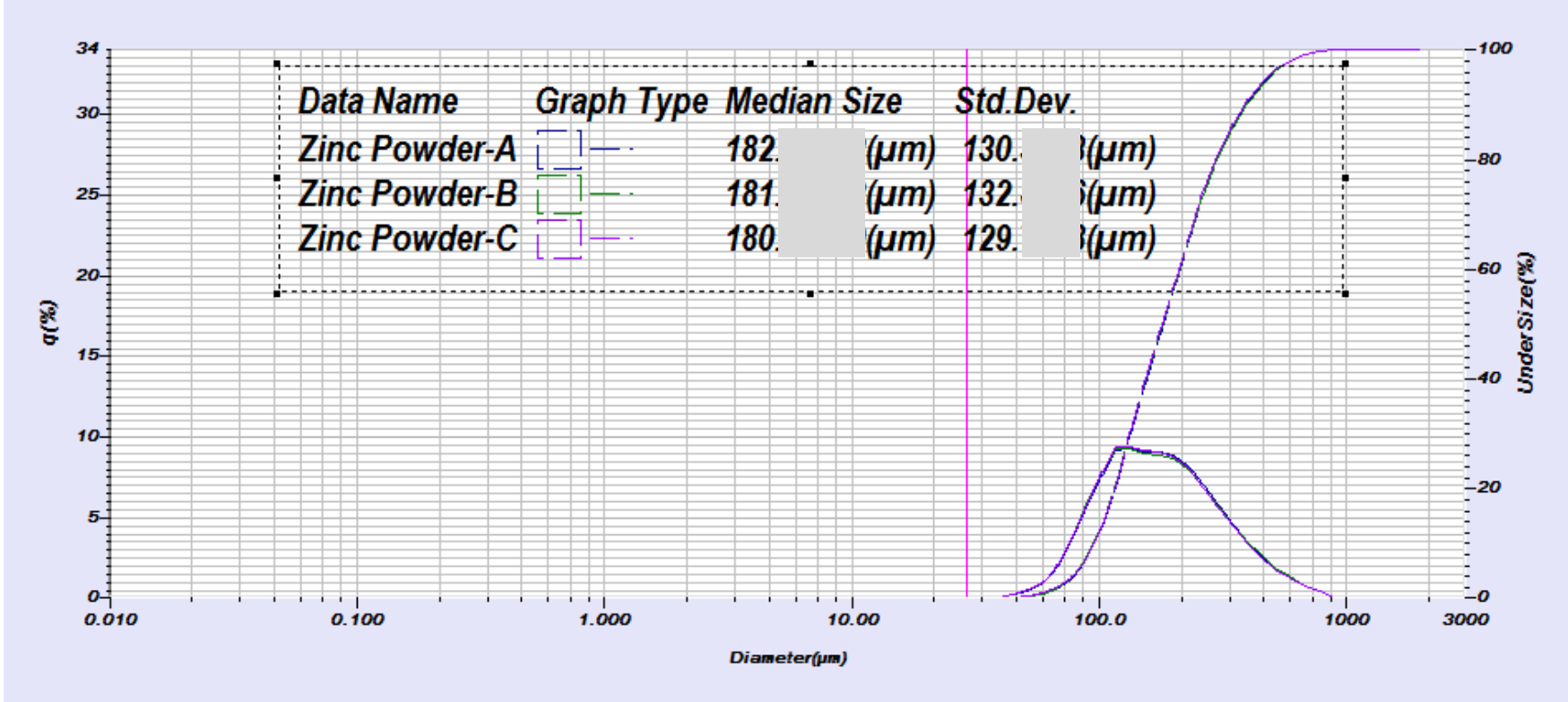
Large for dynamic light scattering (DLS)

Diffraction and the LA-960 is your friend



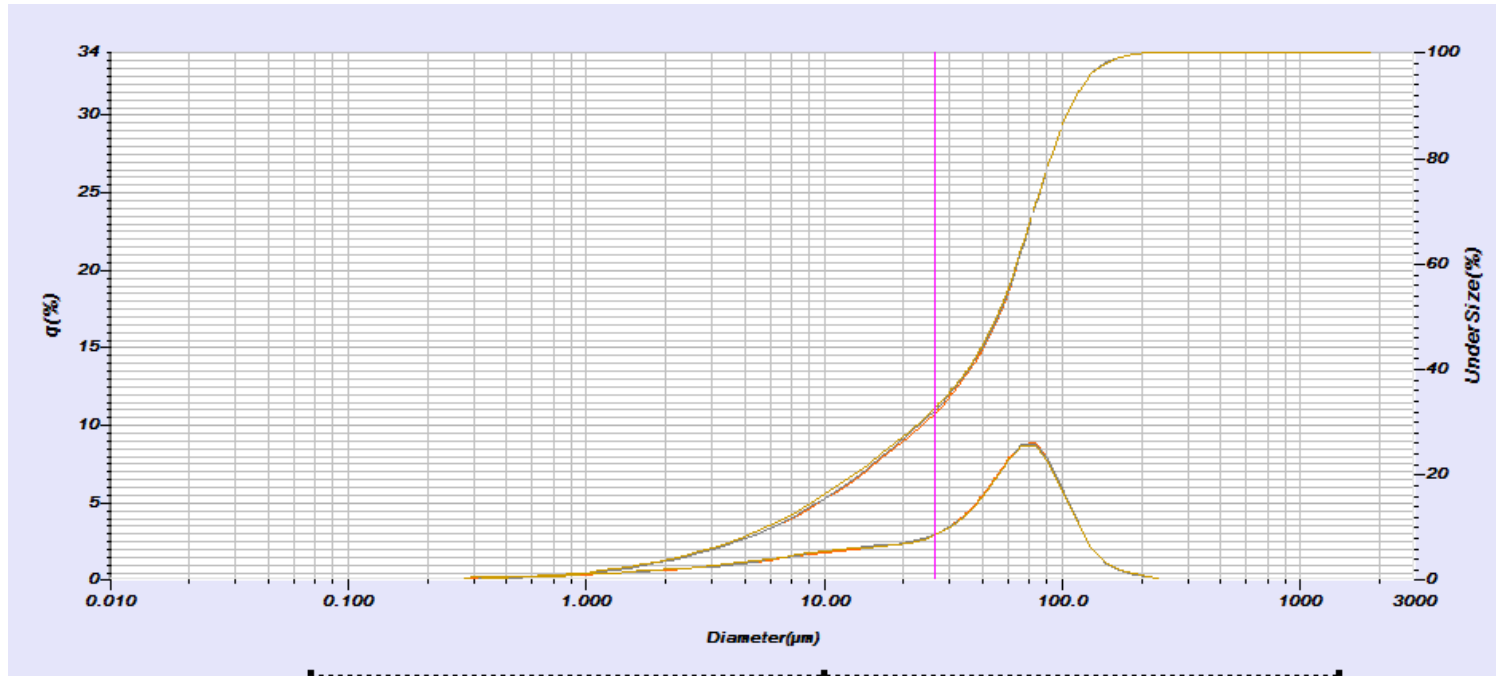
# Measuring Zinc Powder

This sample was measured dry by laser diffraction...there is no need to disperse it in liquid.



# Measuring MnO2

Yes, laser diffraction works here as well.



# LiCoO<sub>2</sub>

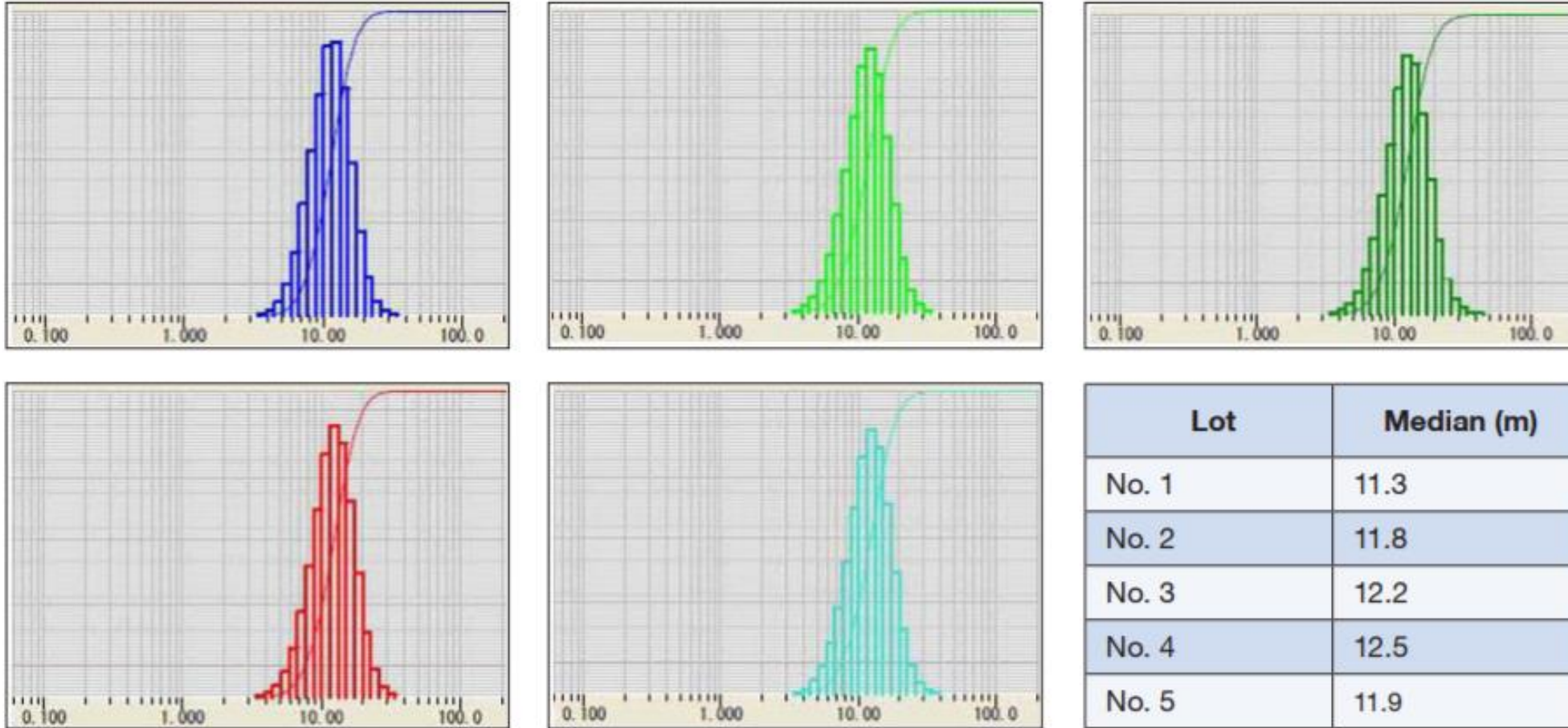
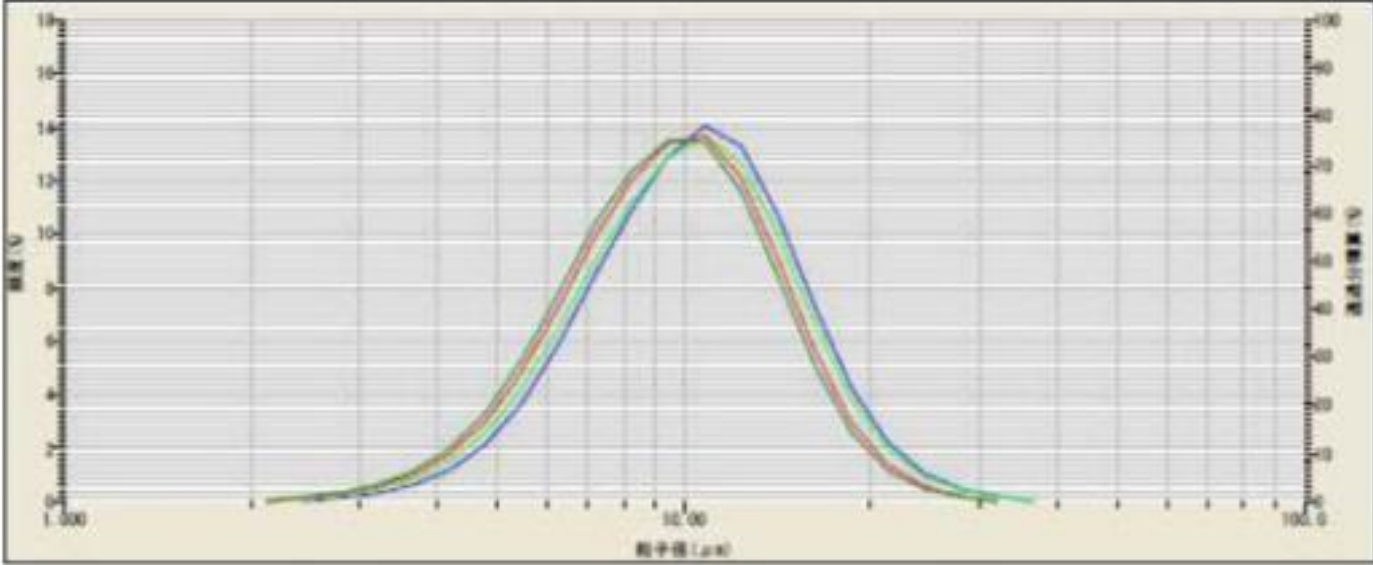


Figure 1 and Table 1: Five lots of LiCoO<sub>2</sub> powder

# Lithium Manganese Oxide

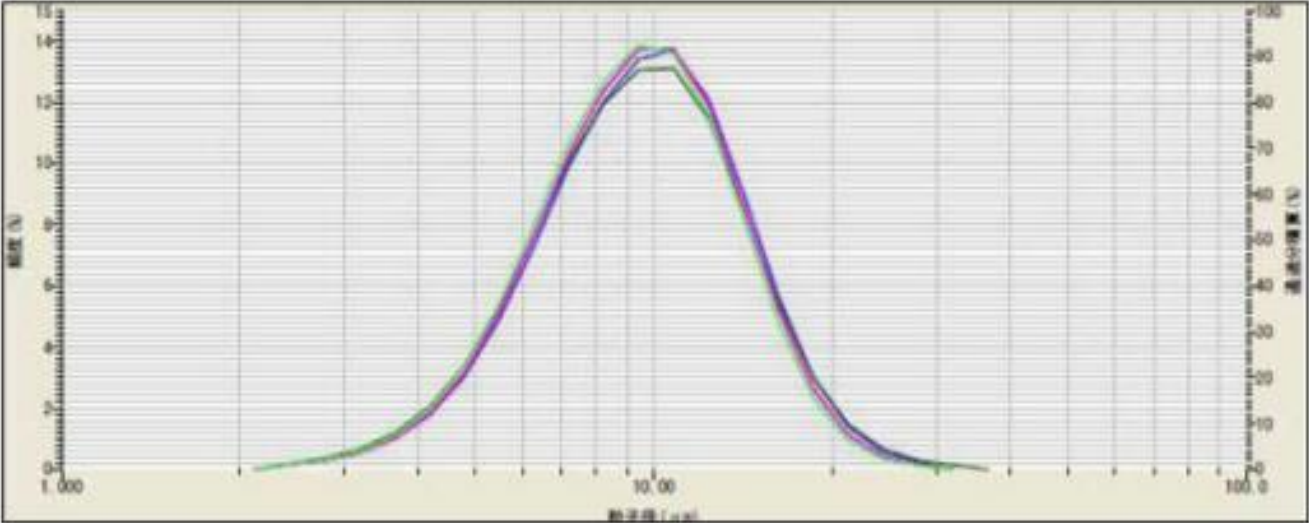
This is an example of using ultrasound to break up loose agglomerates of particle.



Ultrasound	Median (m)	Color
None	10.46	blue
1 min	10.14	light green
3 min	9.67	red
5 min	9.42	dark green

Figure 2 and Table 2: The effect of ultrasound on  $\text{LiMn}_2\text{O}_4$

# Repeats (different days)



	Median (m)
Day 1	9.75
Day 2	9.52
Day 3	9.18
Day 4	9.49
Day 5	9.5
Mean	9.49
COV	1.90%

Figure 3 and Table 3: Method validation testing on multiple days of  $\text{LiMn}_2\text{O}_4$

**1.90% CoV!**



# Great repeatability with the LA-960

Repeated runs with  
0.5% CoV

Great tool to track  
changes in your  
process.

Sample	LiMn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Li <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>3</sub>
R1	9.75	16.70
R2	9.93	16.6
R3	9.75	16.7
R4	9.66	16.6
R5	9.83	16.7
R6	9.78	16.6
R7	9.76	16.8
R8	9.75	16.8
R9	9.79	16.8
R10	9.6	16.9
Ave	9.76	16.7
COV	0.90%	0.51%

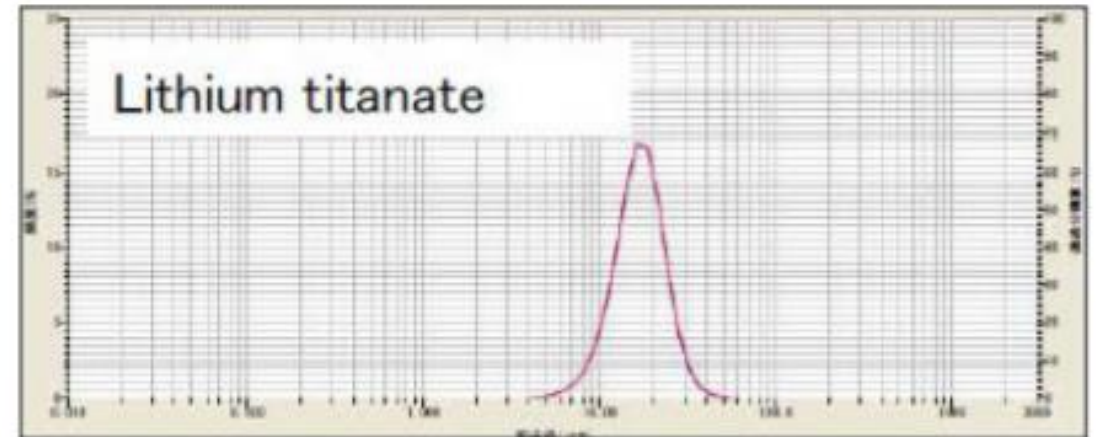
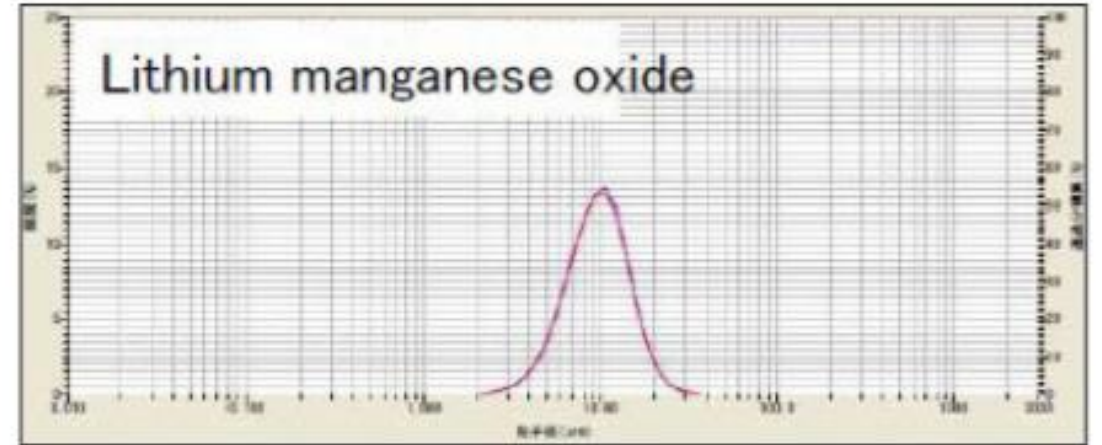
Figure 6: Reproducibility over 10 results for LiMn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Li<sub>2</sub>TiO<sub>3</sub>

# Two different analyzers!

	950 1	950 2	$\Delta$
LiMnO	9.75	9.64	0.1
LiTi	16.7	16.9	0.2

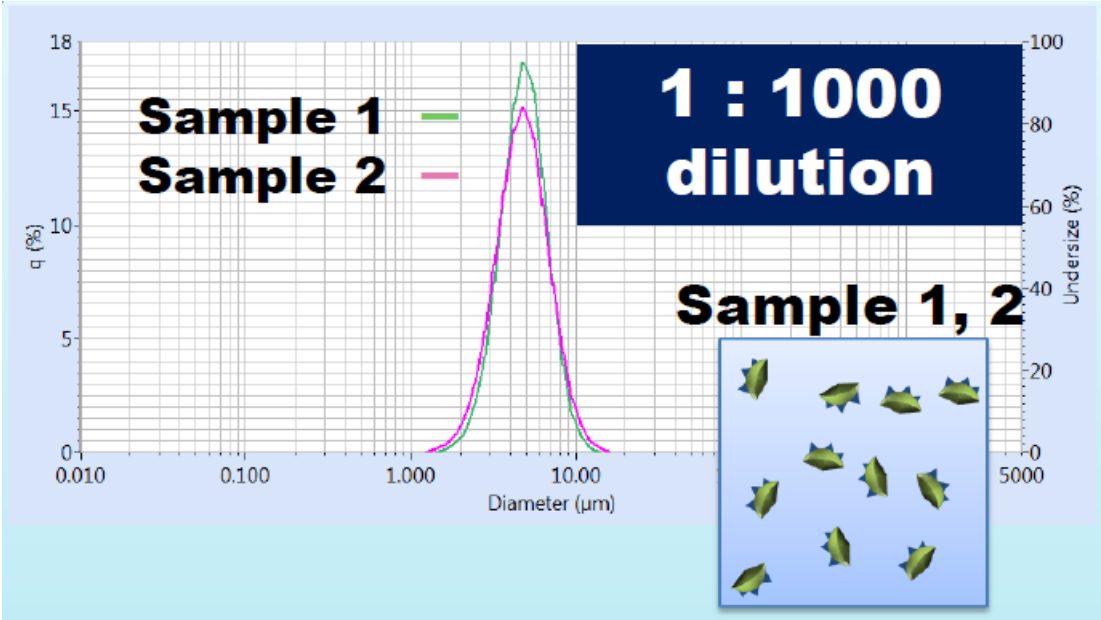
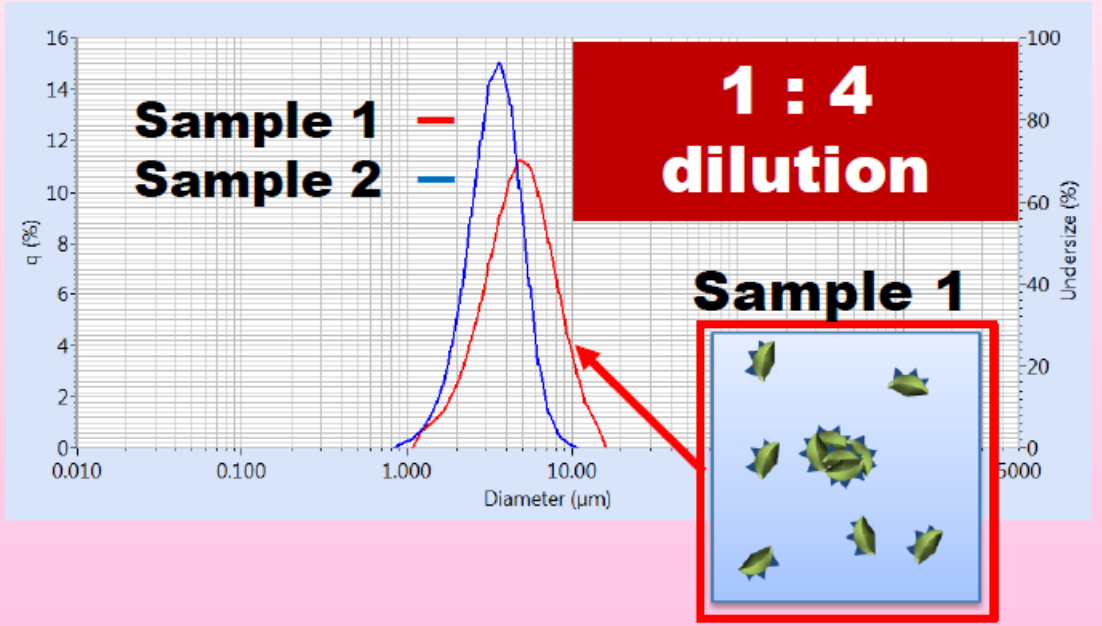
Figure 7: Instrument to instrument agreement for  $\text{LiMn}_2\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{Li}_2\text{TiO}_3$  on two different LA-960 systems

This is important when manufacturing or using the powders at multiple sites.



# Less dilution?

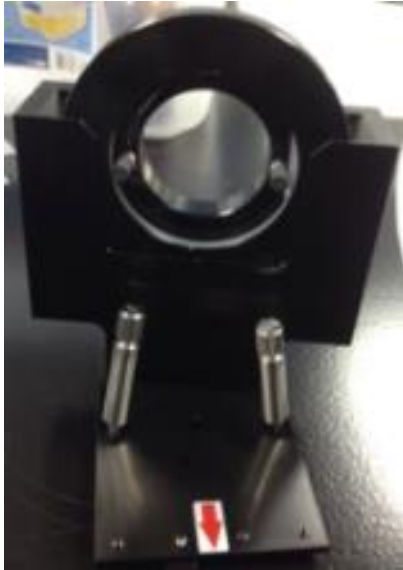
Battery Electrode: Sample 1 and 2 had different performance.



High dilution can suppress the interesting aggregation.

# High Concentration Cells

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HL Cell

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Volume (mL)	0.5 – 2 mL
Ranger ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	0.01 – 500

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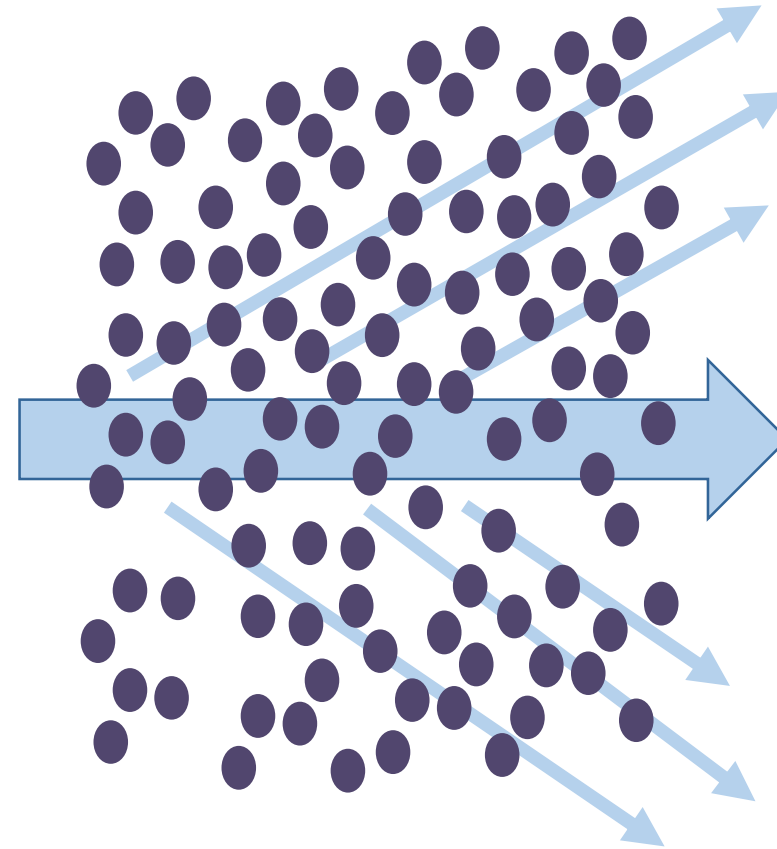
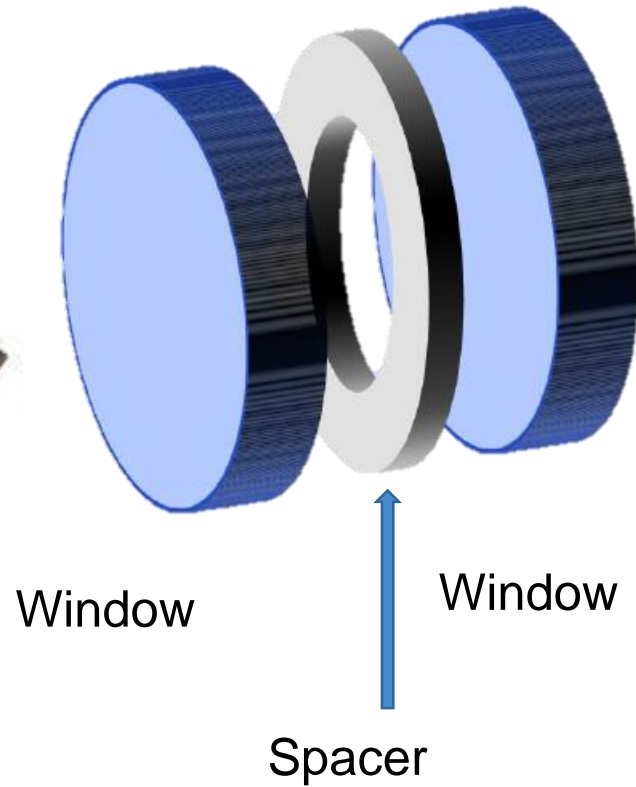
Paste Cell

---

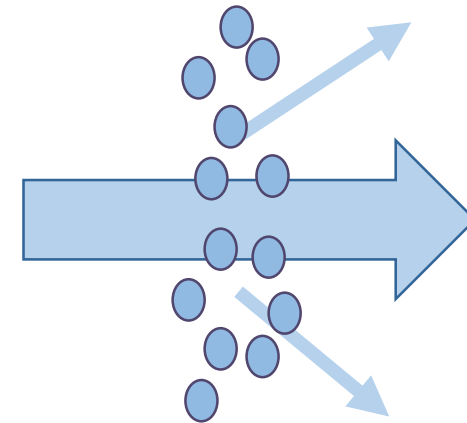
Volume (mL)	~0.3
Ranger ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	0.01 - 100

---

# How?



Long path



Short path

**Narrow spacer means short optical path length.**



# The future?: Nanoparticles

The screenshot shows the top portion of a research article page on ACS Publications. At the top left is the ACS Publications logo with the tagline 'Most Trusted. Most Cited. Most Read.'. To the right is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search text, DOI, authors, etc.' and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar is a teal banner with the word 'communication.' on the left and a 'SIGN UP NOW' button on the right. Underneath the banner are navigation links: 'RETURN TO ISSUE', '< PREV', 'RESEARCH ARTICLE', and 'NEXT >'. The journal title 'ACS APPLIED MATERIALS & INTERFACES' is displayed in a large, stylized font. The article title 'Cobalt Nanoparticles Chemically Bonded to Porous Carbon Nanosheets: A Stable High-Capacity Anode for Fast-Charging Lithium-Ion Batteries' is shown in bold black text. Below the title, the authors are listed: 'Vinodkumar Etacheri<sup>\*†‡</sup>, Chulgi Nathan Hong<sup>†§</sup>, Jialiang Tang<sup>†</sup>, and Vilas G. Pol<sup>\*†</sup>'.

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ACS APPLIED MATERIALS  
& INTERFACES

**Cobalt Nanoparticles Chemically Bonded to Porous Carbon Nanosheets: A Stable High-Capacity Anode for Fast-Charging Lithium-Ion Batteries**

Vinodkumar Etacheri<sup>\*†‡</sup>, Chulgi Nathan Hong<sup>†§</sup>, Jialiang Tang<sup>†</sup>, and Vilas G. Pol<sup>\*†</sup>

**Since surface area is important...nanoparticles are exciting.**

# Nanoparticles

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**Everything below 1 micron (always)?**

**Just need size?**

**Want zeta potential (yes, charge is important in slurries!)**

**SZ-100**

**Fast, repeatable**



# Nanoparticles

---

**Need distribution details?  
Need concentration?**

**ViewSizer 3000**



Omoshiro-okashiku  
Joy and Fun



Terima kasih  
谢谢  
Gracias  
Σας ευχαριστώ πάρα πολύ  
धन्यवाद  
شُكْرًا  
Danke  
Tack ska du ha  
Grazie  
**THANK YOU**  
Obbrigado  
Большое спасибо  
Cảm ơn  
Merci  
감사합니다  
ขอบคุณครับ  
ありがとうございました  
Dziękuję