

Micro-Raman Sensor for Planetary Bodies and Healthcare Applications

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March 7, 2024

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Micro-Raman Sensor for Planetary Bodies and Healthcare Applications

Developed and demonstrated a Standoff Ultracompact micro-Raman (SUCR) sensor for planetary surface exploration under PICASSO program.

Objectives:

- Inspect and identify the minerals, organic, and biomarkers (amino acids) for life detection on the surface of Mars, Europa, Enceladus, and other planetary bodies.
- Characterize lunar regolith (minerals/glasses) and volatiles water-ice at the South pole on the lunar far side.
- Presently, using the micro-Raman sensor for Lunar simulant investigation, for example, NU-LHT-4M, JSC-1A, Feldspar Plagioclase, etc. under Moon to Mars Planetary Autonomous Construction Technology (MMPACT) and In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU) programs.

Micro-Raman Sensor for Planetary Bodies and Healthcare Applications

The big pivot is from Planetary Science to Healthcare applications, i.e., potential applications in the healthcare industry.

Our critical steps are:

Let customers know about our micro-Raman sensor performances.

Investigate the critical unknown, when it will be ready to use in the cancer research lab.

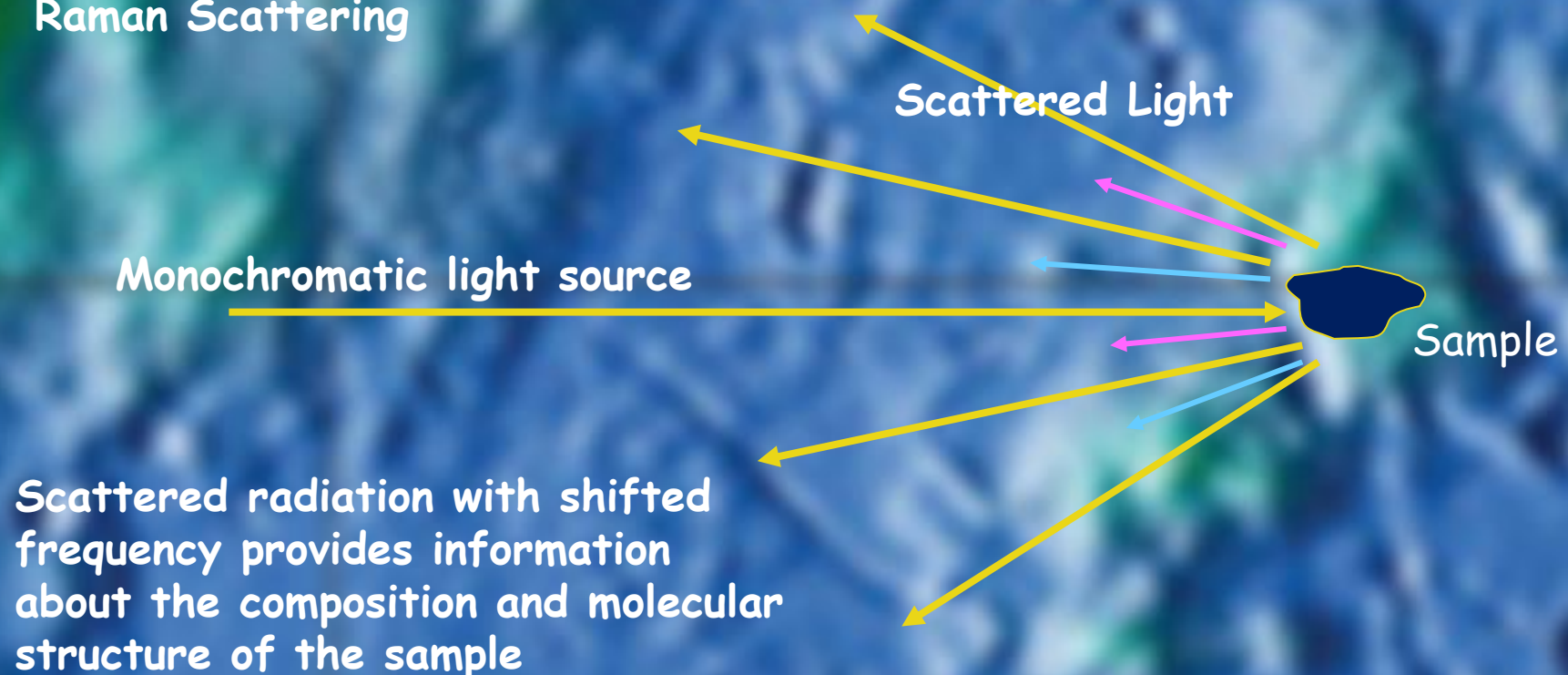
NASA technology helps Biological Material Research to monitor patients' health by detecting biomarkers, for example, Human Tissues, Cells, Urine, Saliva, etc. in space and hospital clinic

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Raman Spectroscopy

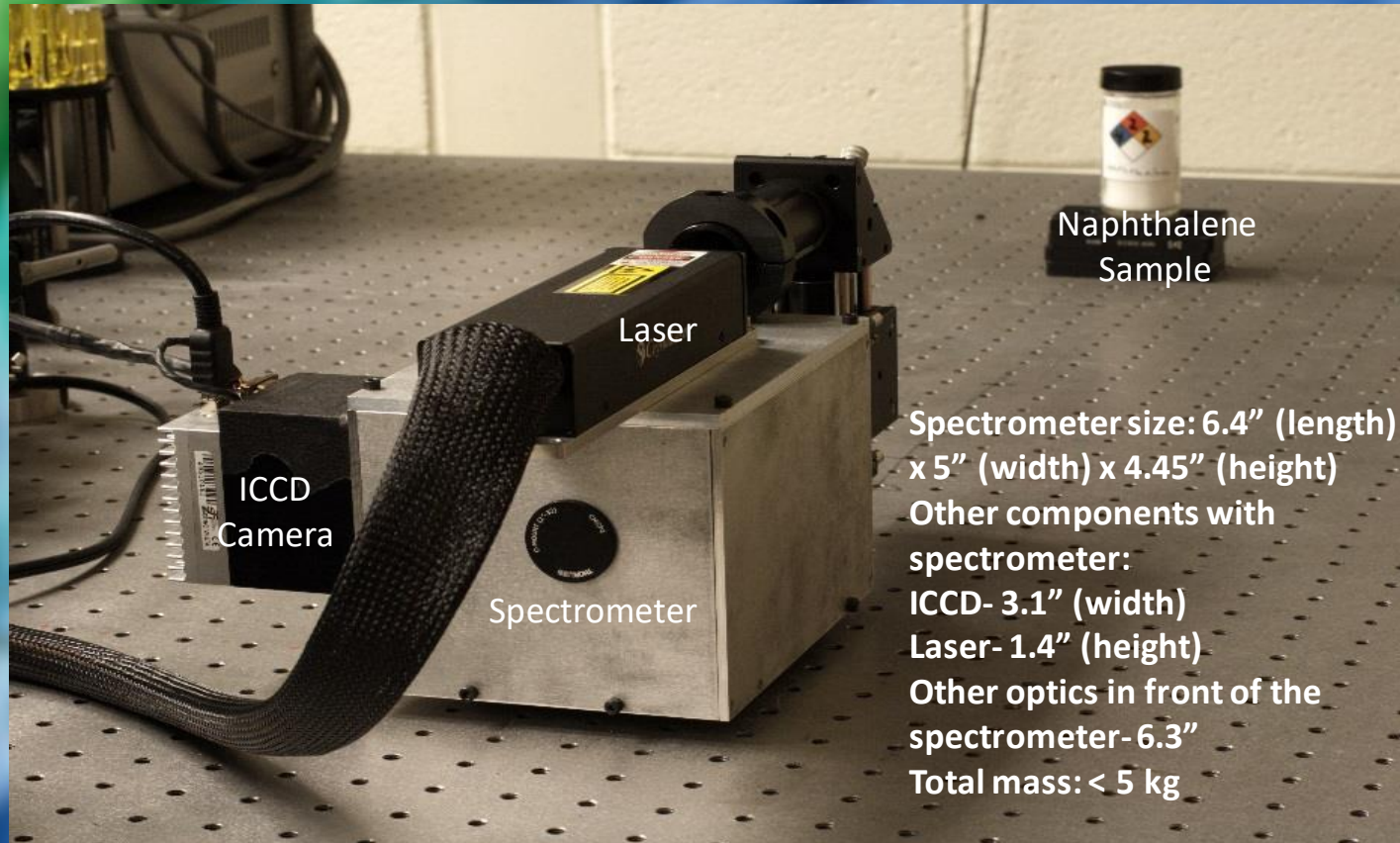
- Raman spectroscopy is a powerful technique for determining the composition and the structure of a solid, liquid, or gas material based on its vibrational spectra.
- It is an ideal for analyzing rocks and minerals because it produces spectra with very sharp peak, resulting in unambiguous detection.

Raman Scattering



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Standoff Ultra-Compact μ -Raman Sensor System



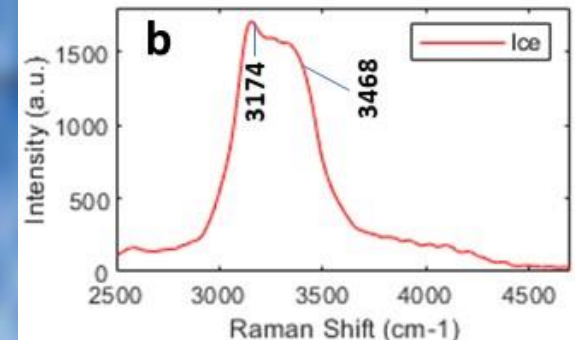
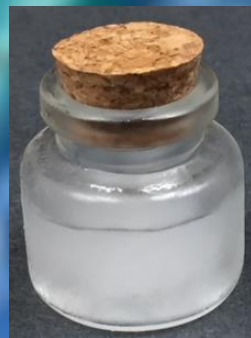
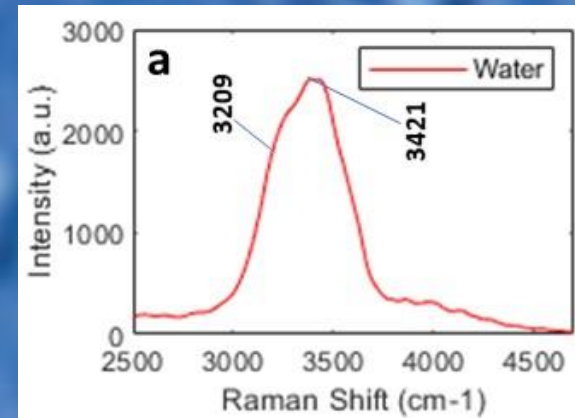
Integrated Stand-off Ultra-Compact Micro-Raman Sensor with a Laser, an ICCD camera, a grating, c-mount lenses and a slit inside spectrograph, and mounting optical components; and a target Naphthalene sample.

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Planetary Bodies

Water, ice, and biomarkers (amino acids) for life detection

Raman spectra of water and ice

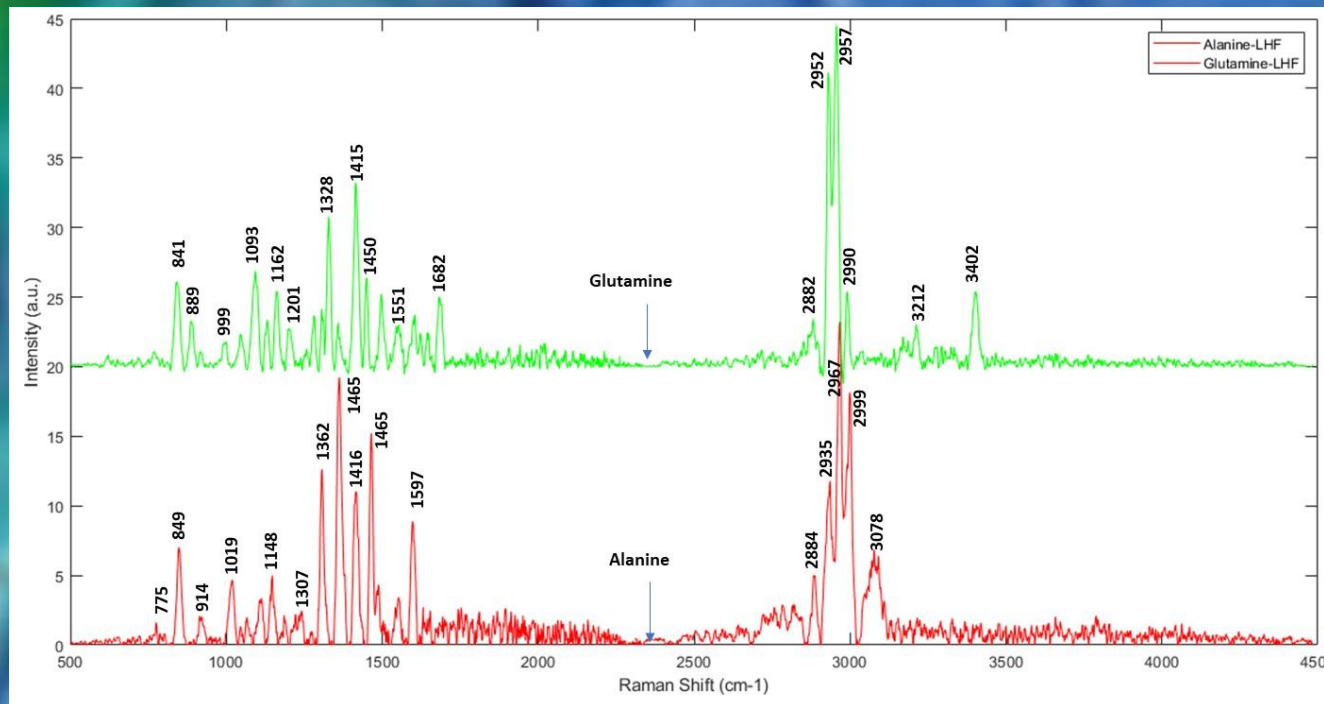


Raman spectra at high frequency region of water and ice obtained using a 532 nm pulsed laser with line shaped laser beam (10 μm width by 5 mm height) at a 6-cm target distance.

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Planetary Bodies

Raman Spectrum of biomarkers (Amino Acids, e.g., L-Glutamine and Alanine) at a 6- cm distance

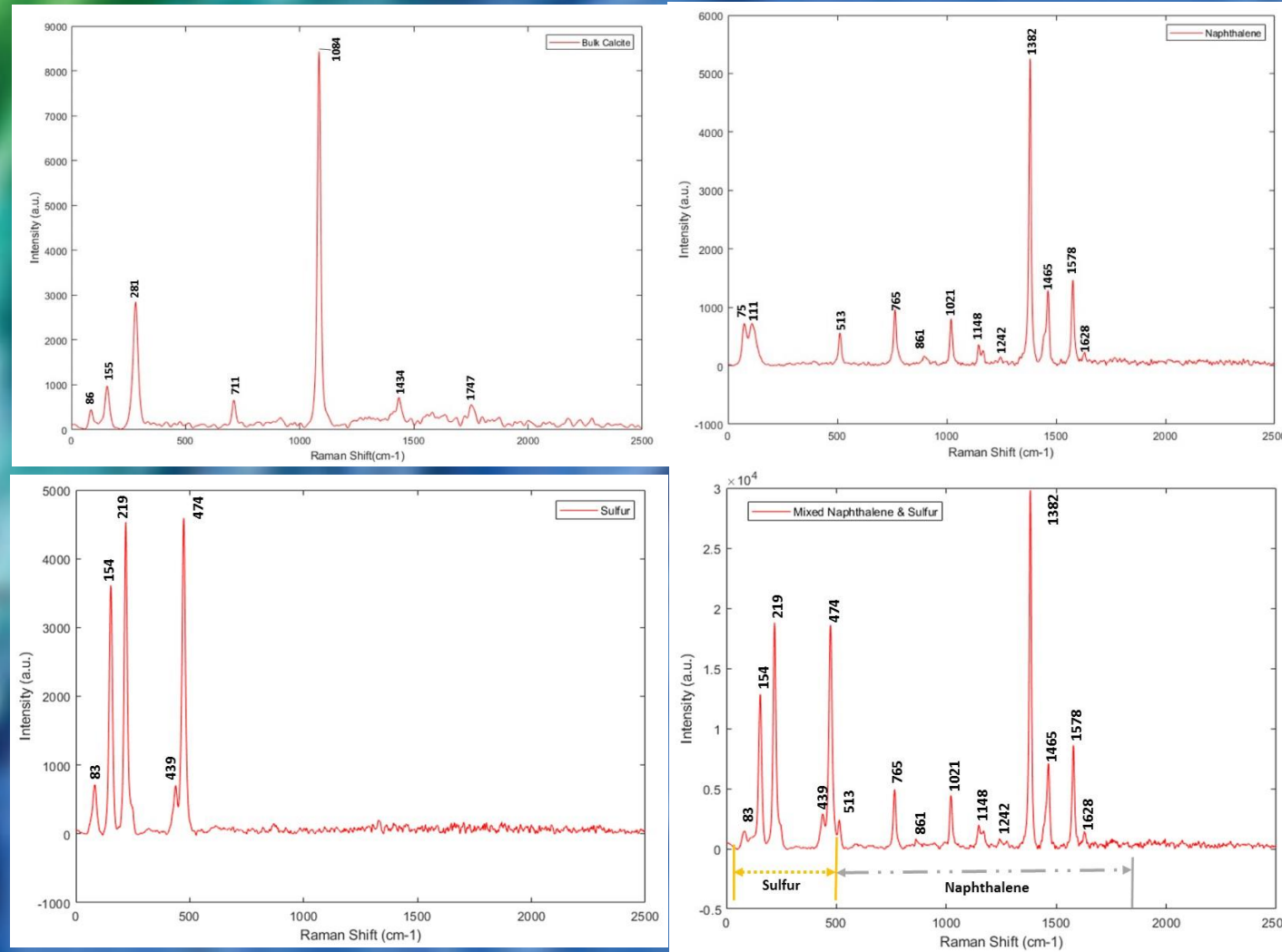


Sharp Raman peaks at low frequency (left) and high frequency (right) regions of L-glutamine and L-Alanine obtained using a 532 nm pulsed laser with a line shaped laser beam (10 μm width by 5 mm height) at a distance of 6 cm.

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Planetary Bodies

Raman Spectra of Calcite, Naphthalene, Sulfur, and Mixed Naphthalene/Sulfur

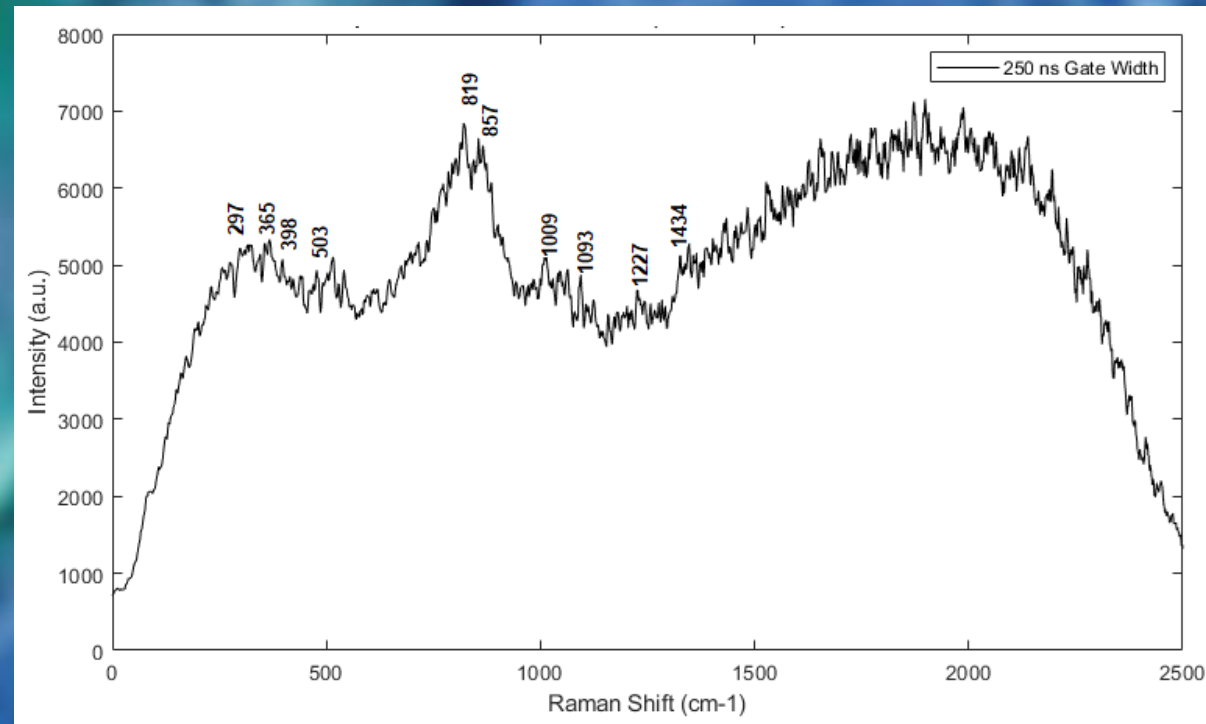


Sharp Raman peaks at low frequency region of calcite, naphthalene, sulfur, and mixed naphthalene/sulfur obtained using a line shaped laser beam (17.3 μm width by 5 mm height) at a target distance of 10 cm.

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Planetary Bodies

Raman spectrum of Lunar Simulant (NU-LHT-4M) on Glass Plate

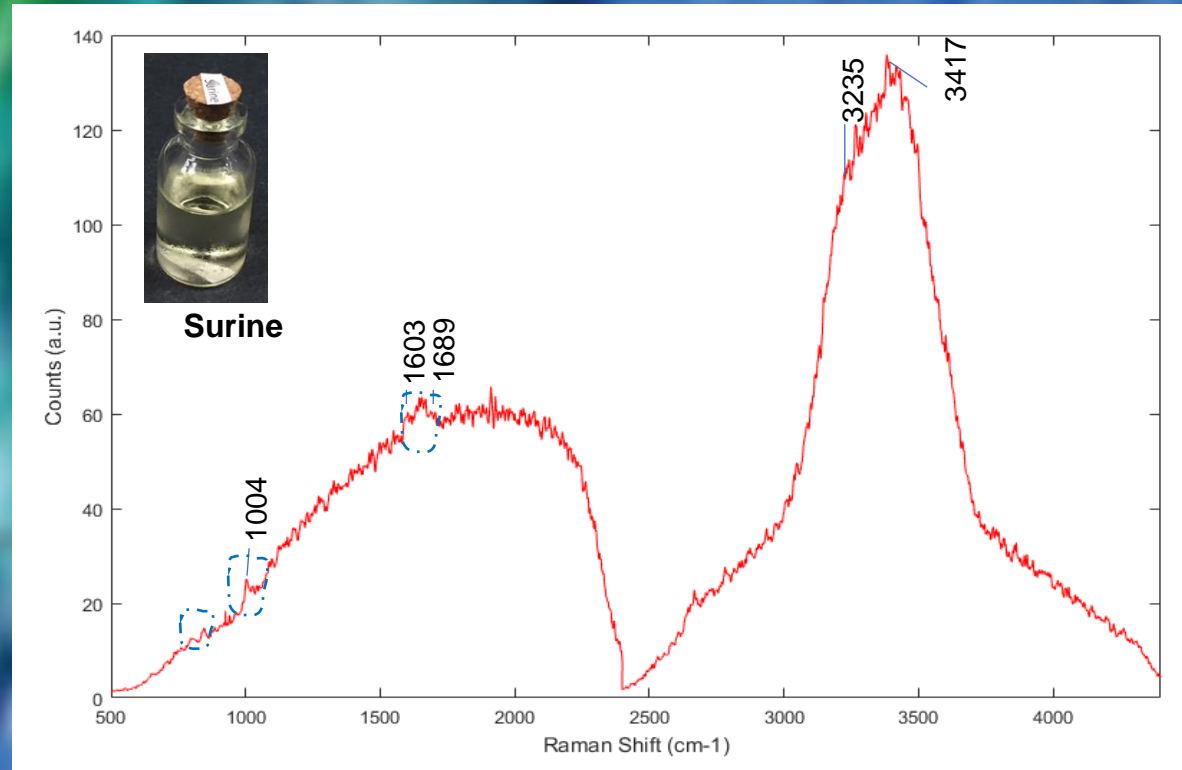


Raman spectra of olivine (819 and 857 cm⁻¹), pyroxene (297, 365, 398, 1009 cm⁻¹), and plagioclase (503 cm⁻¹) from Lunar Simulant (NU-LHT-4M) without baseline correction or smoothing

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Medical Application

Raman spectrum of Synthetic Urine using a 532 nm pulsed laser at 6 cm distance

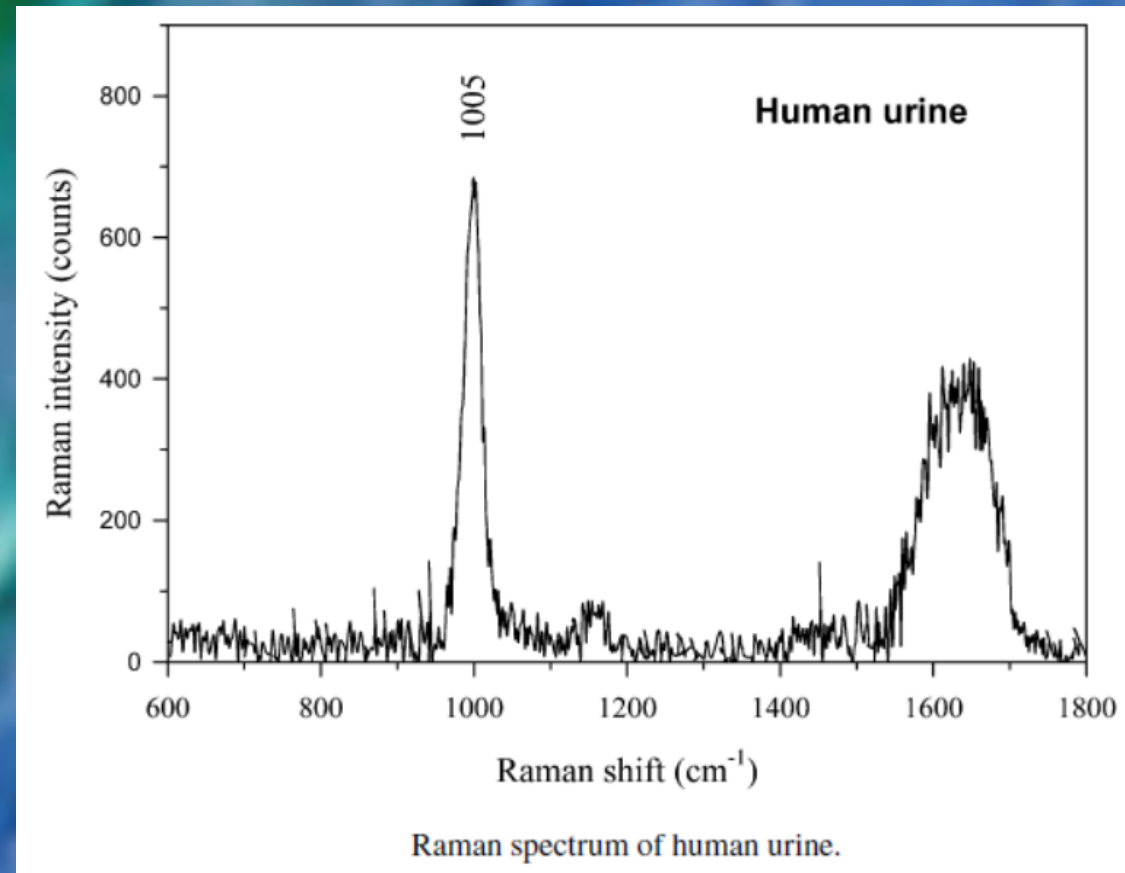


A sharp peak at around 1004 cm^{-1} and broad peak from 1603 to 1689 cm^{-1} are due to the non-biological urine spectrum and 3235 to 3417 cm^{-1} band is due to H_2O band.

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Medical Application

Raman spectrum of Human Urine using a 785 nm CW laser

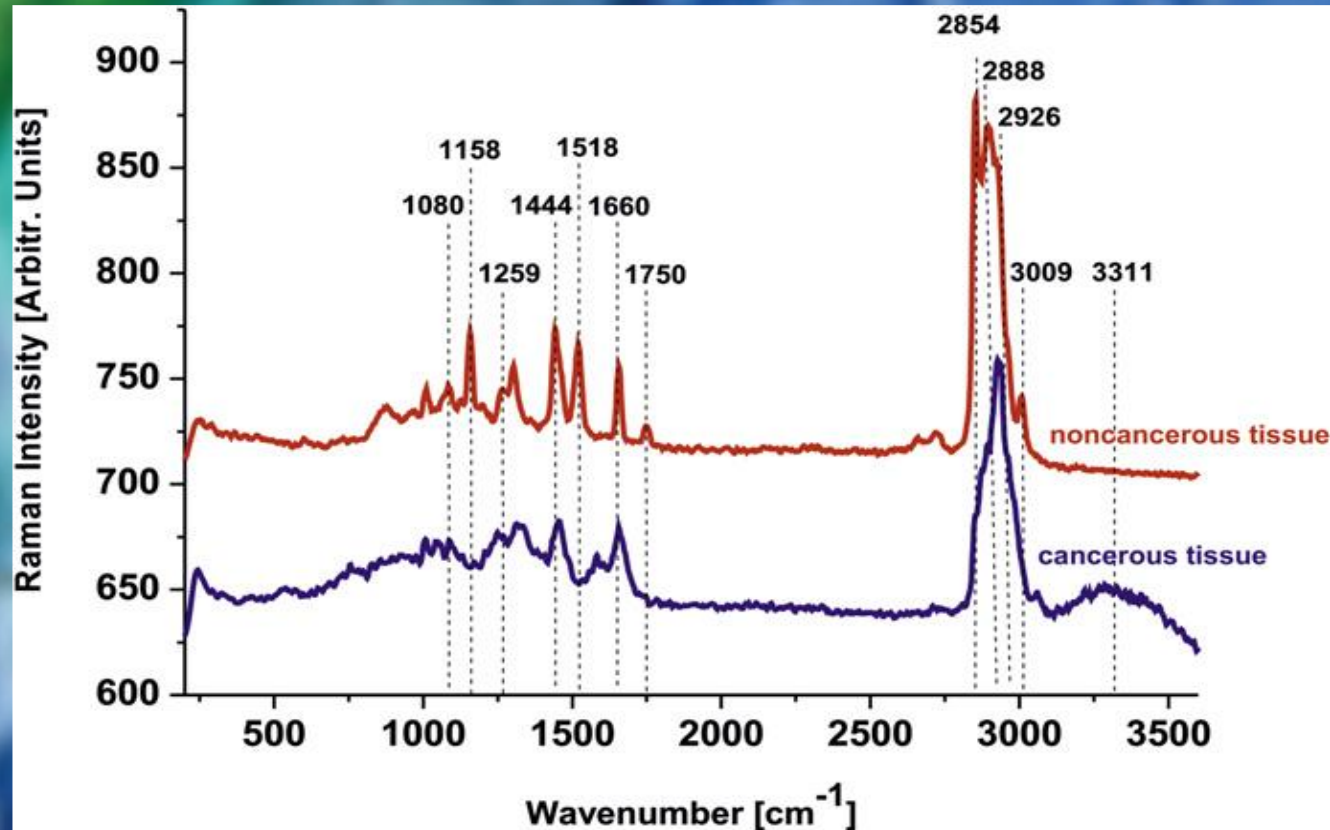


A peak at 1005 cm⁻¹ and a broadband around 1600 cm⁻¹ are from human urine.
Courtesy: Guimaraes, et al., Near Infrared Raman Spectroscopy (NIRS):
A technique for doping control, Spectroscopy 20 (2006), 185-194, IOS Press.

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Medical Application

Raman Spectra of normal and abnormal Breast Tissues of a Patient using a 532 nm (CW) laser



The Raman spectra of the noncancerous and cancerous (cancer) bulk breast tissue of a patient. (Courtesy: H. Abramczyk et. al., Raman 'Optical Biopsy' of human breast cancer, Prog. Biophys. and Mol. Biology 108, 74-81 (2012)).

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Publications

Journal Publication & News Release (under partial supports from NASA HQ PICASSO & IRAD programs)

- M.N. Abedin, A.T. Bradley, A.K. Misra, Y. Bai, G.D. Hines, and S.K. Sharma, "Standoff ultra-compact μ -Raman sensor for planetary surface explorations," *Applied Optics*, 57 (1), 62-68 (2018).
- Based on *Applied Optics* Paper, editors of The Optical Society of America (OSA) published a **News Release of "Powerful New Tool for Looking for Life Beyond Earth"**, which showed a large public interest in this technology.

Complimentary Letter:

- Received a letter from E. Nolan, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Publishing Officer from OSA about our published paper: " Standoff ultra-compact μ -Raman Sensor for Planetary Surface Explorations," in the *Journal of Applied Optics* (January Issue, 2018) that has **reached a potential audience of at least 12.7 million within three weeks.**

Patent:

- The U.S. Patent & Trademark Office issued a U.S. patent for invention 'Standoff Ultra-Compact Micro-Raman (SUCR) Sensor' on November 16, 2021 with Patent Number 11,175,232.