

# Detection of Substances of Forensic Significance Using Microfluidics and SERS



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**Funding**



# Our Research

## **Real world applications**

Homeland security, medicine, drug trafficking



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## **The devices**

Inexpensive and reproducible





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## **Real world applications**

Homeland security, medicine, drug trafficking

## **The devices**

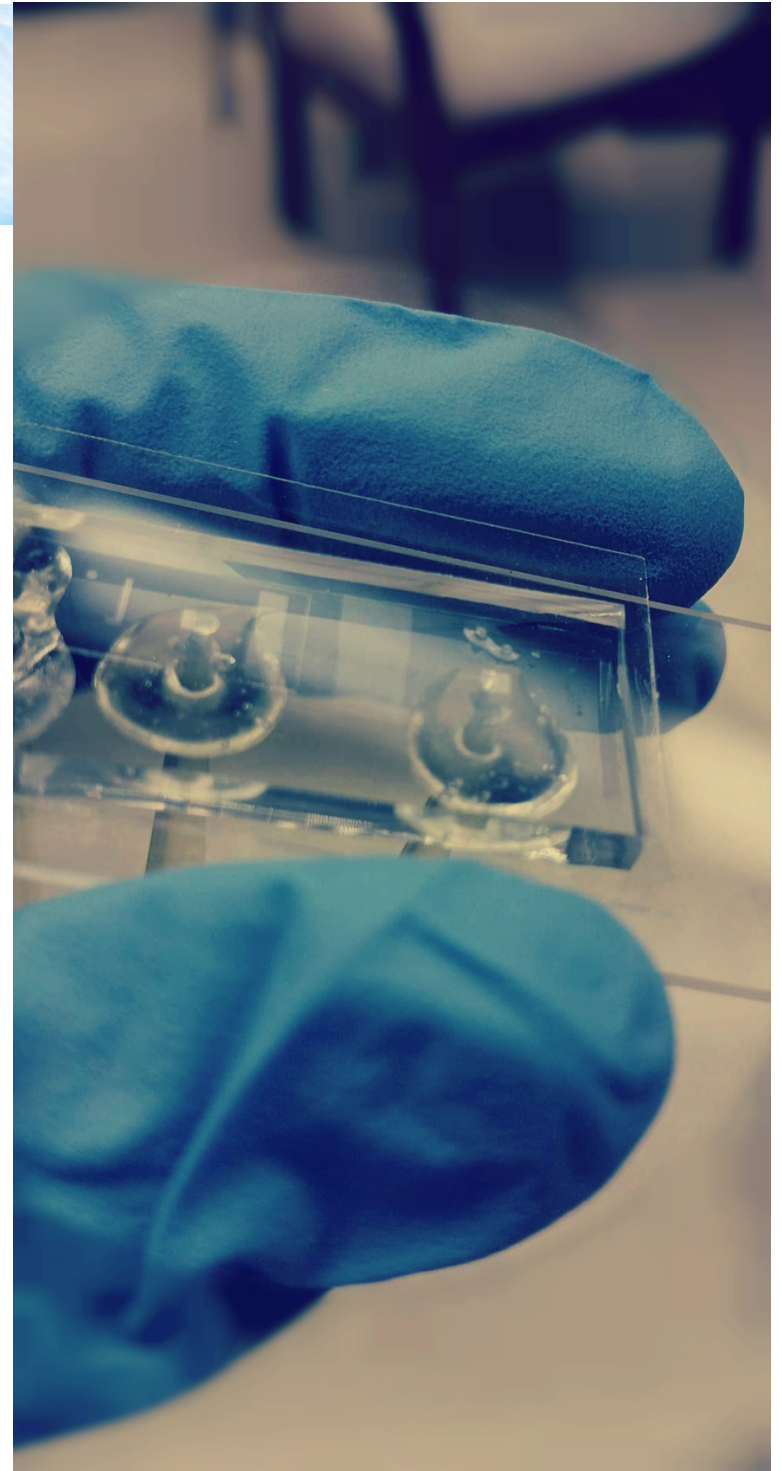
Inexpensive and reproducible

## **Microfluidics**

Control small amounts of fluid in a predictable way

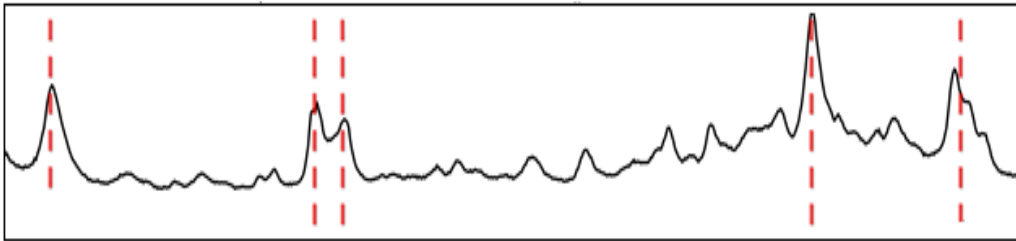
## **Surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS)**

Analyze composition, small sample volume



# This Summer:

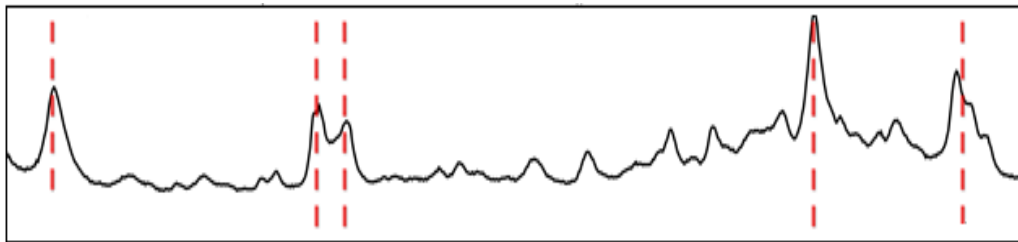
- Relate Raman spectra to concentration



**Known  
concentration**

# This Summer:

- Relate Raman spectra to concentration

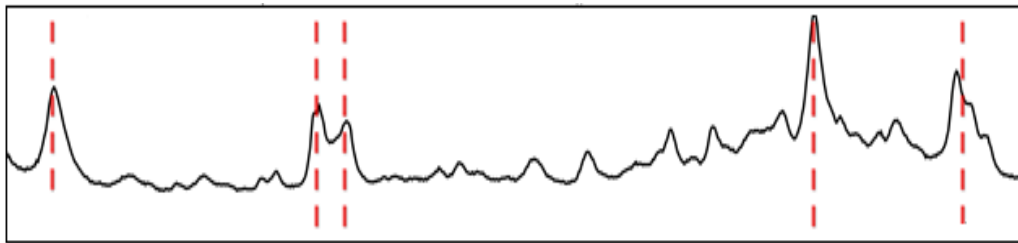


➔ **Known**  
← **concentration**

- Get Raman spectra for different concentrations

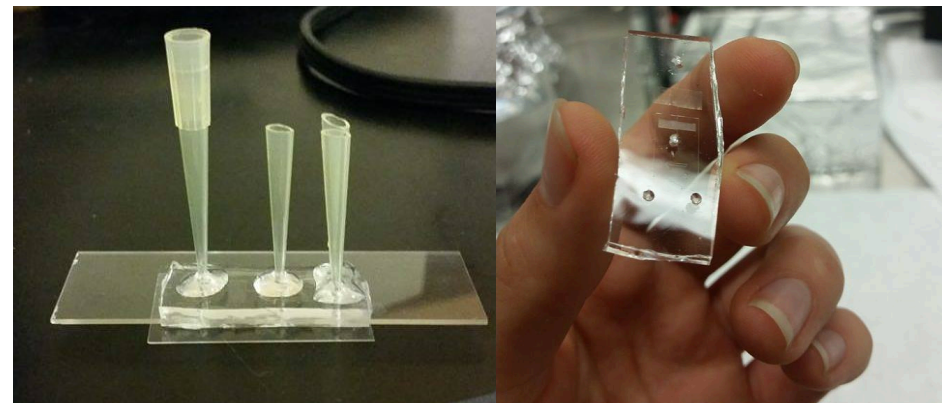
# This Summer

- Relate Raman spectra to concentration



➔ **Known**  
➔ **concentration**

- Get Raman spectra for different concentrations
- Build devices



# Data Collection



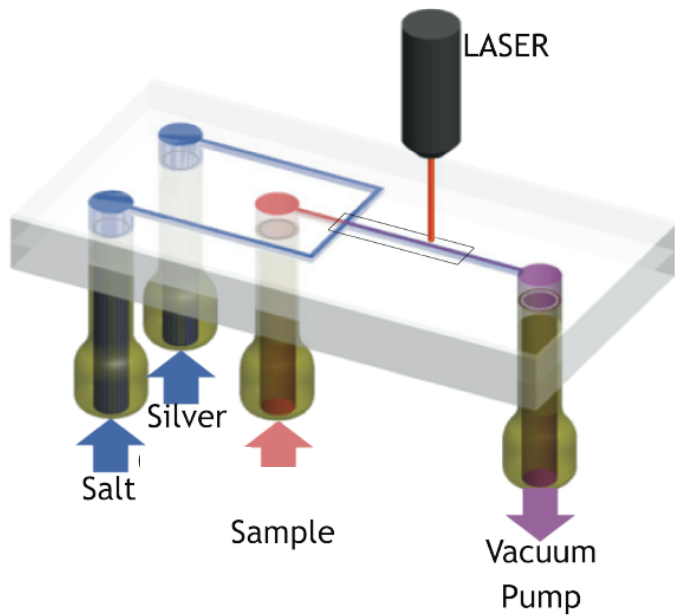
**Sample preparation**

2

3



# Data Collection



## Sample preparation

- 0.1-100  $\mu\text{M}$  sample
- Flow salt (LiCl)
- 20 nm AgNPs

2

3

# Data Collection

1

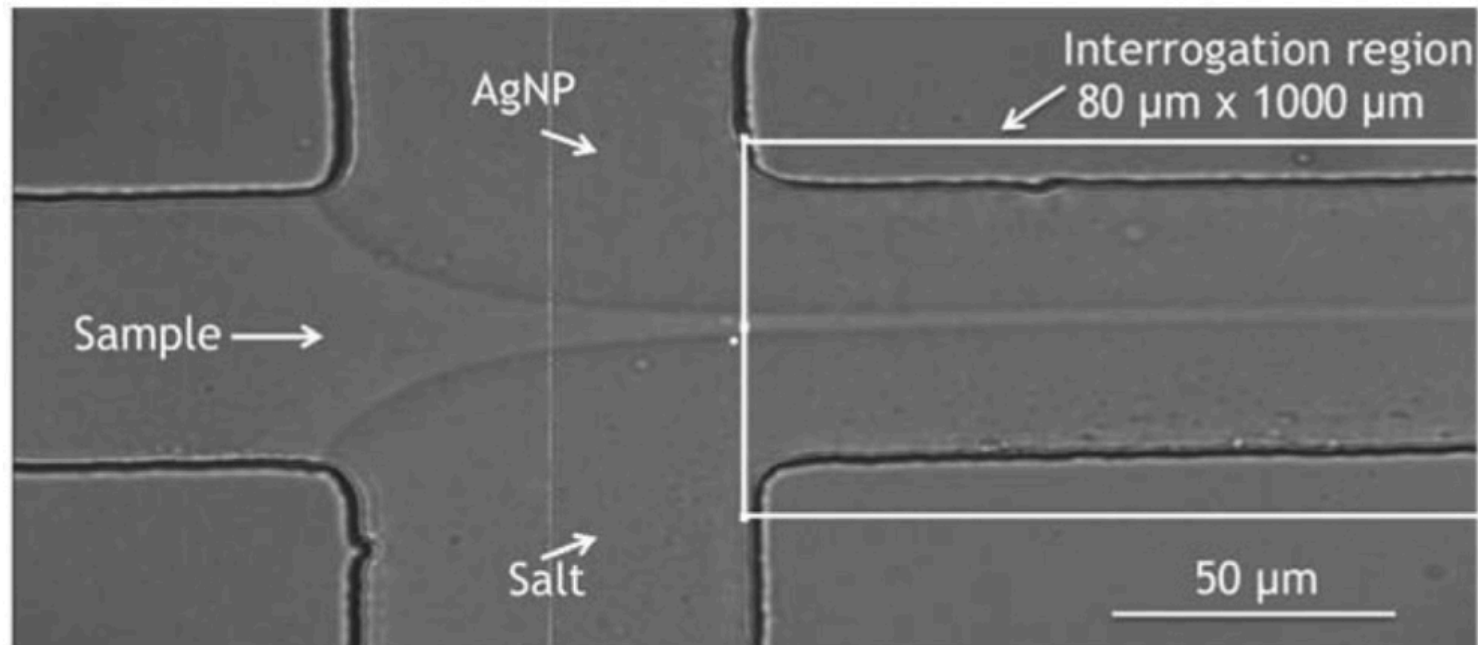
**Microscope & fluidic processes**

2

3



# Data Collection

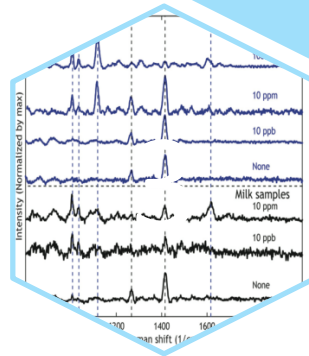


- Low velocity creates separated flow
- Mixture of fluids purely driven by diffusion
- Salt induces aggregation of silver necessary for strong signal

# Data Collection

1

2

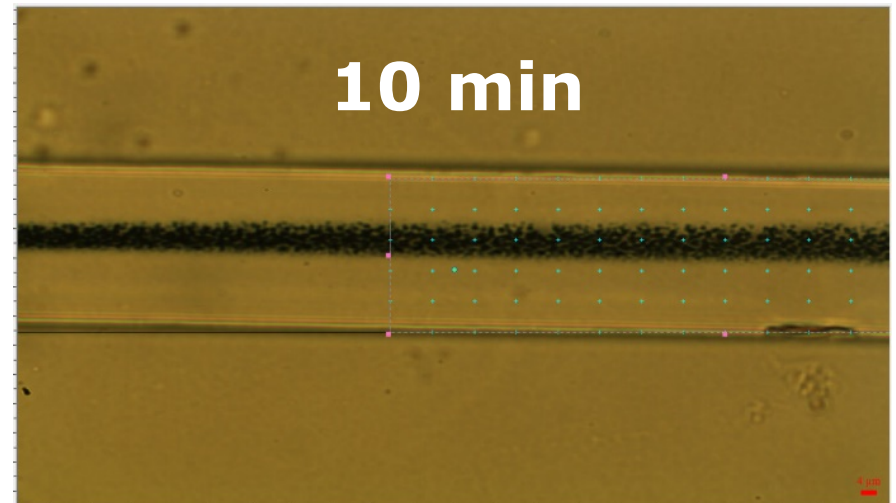
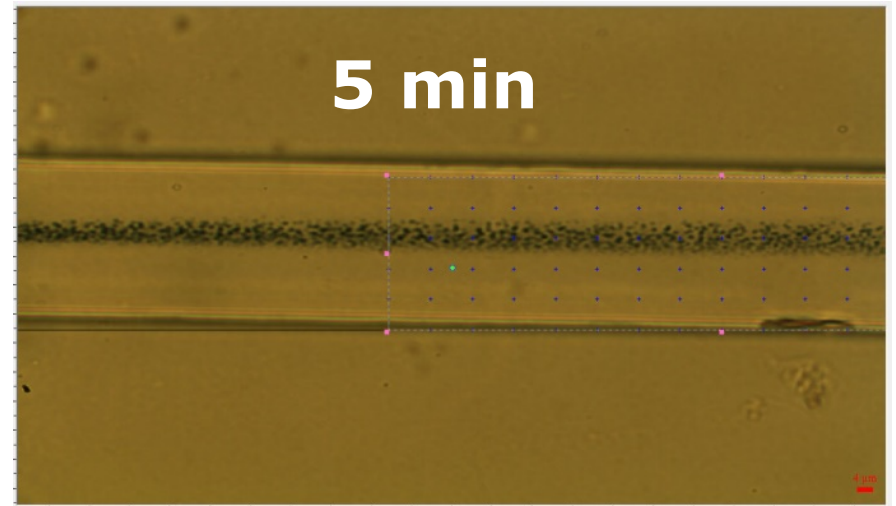


**Laser and SERS**

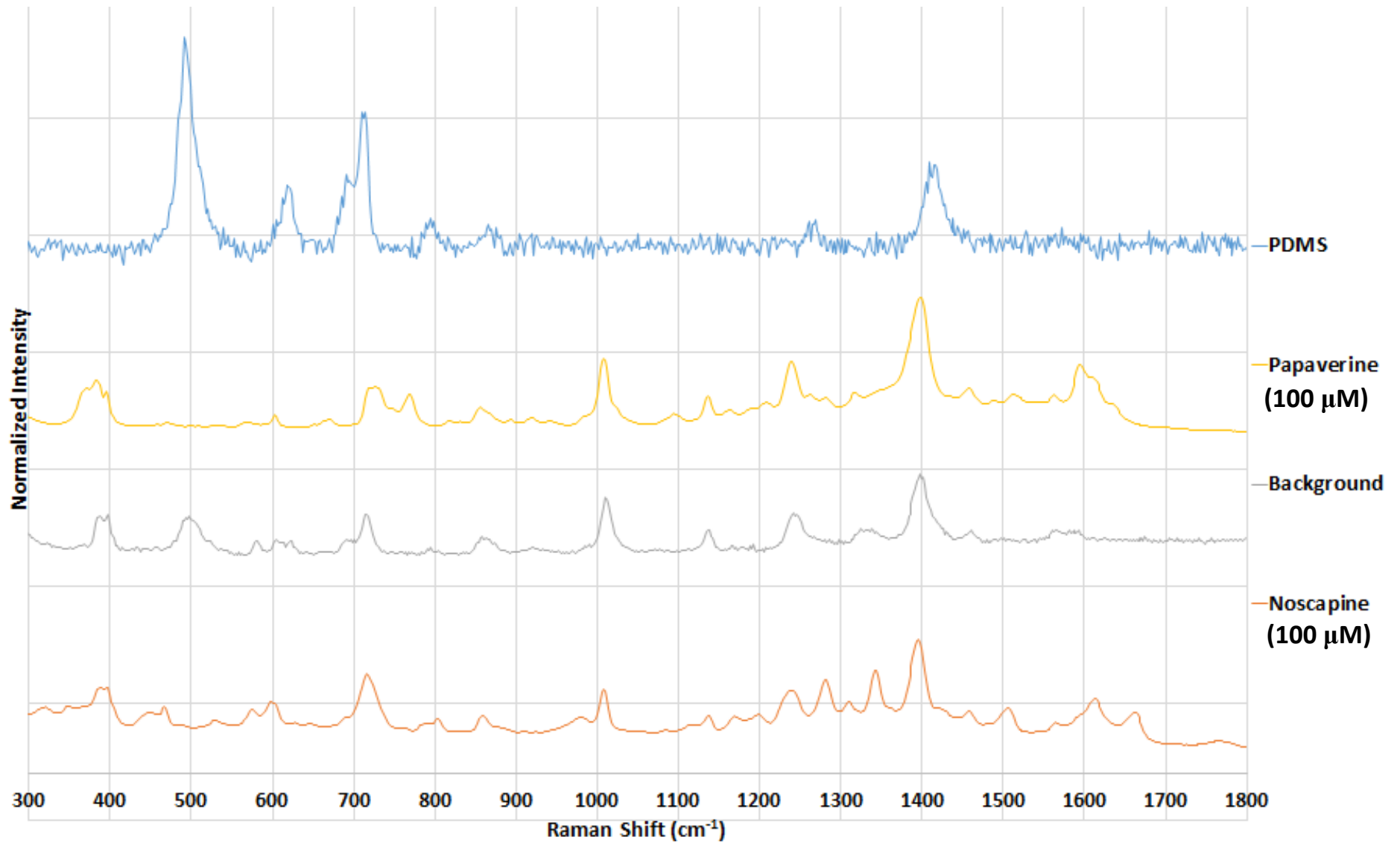


# Data Collection

- Map channel section with 633 nm laser
- Run device 4-5 times
- Stop after 10-12 minutes

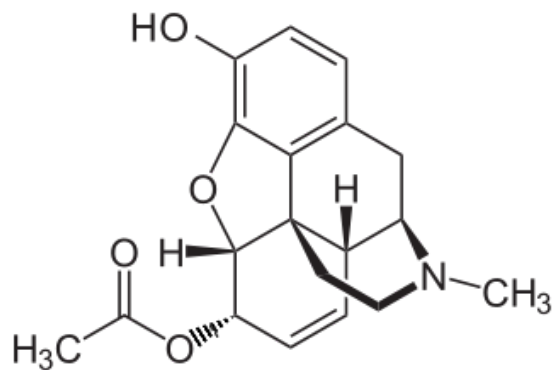
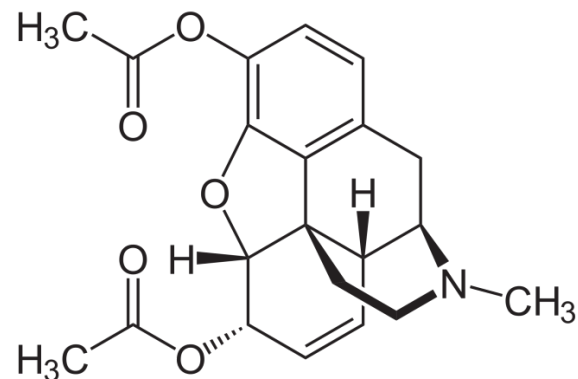
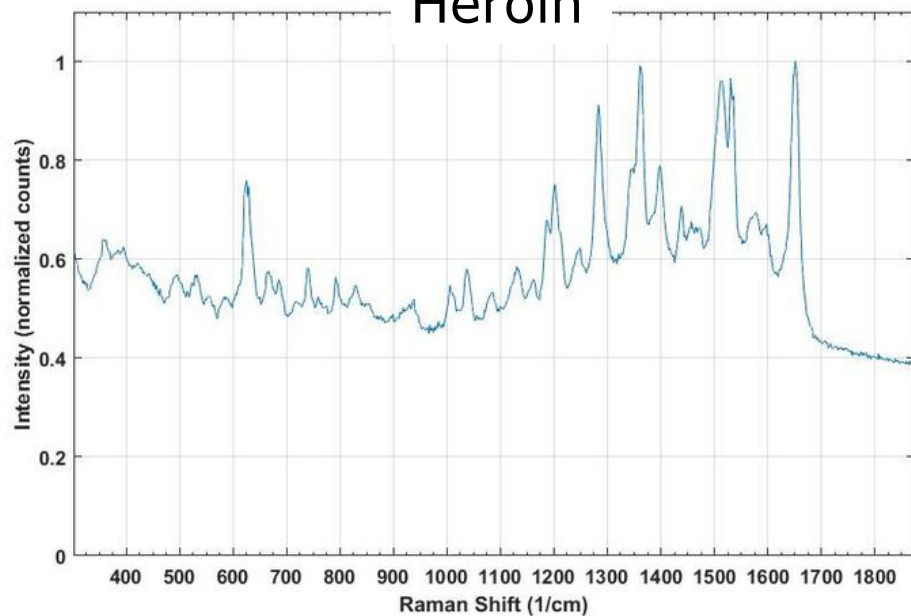


# Data – Noscapine/Papaverine

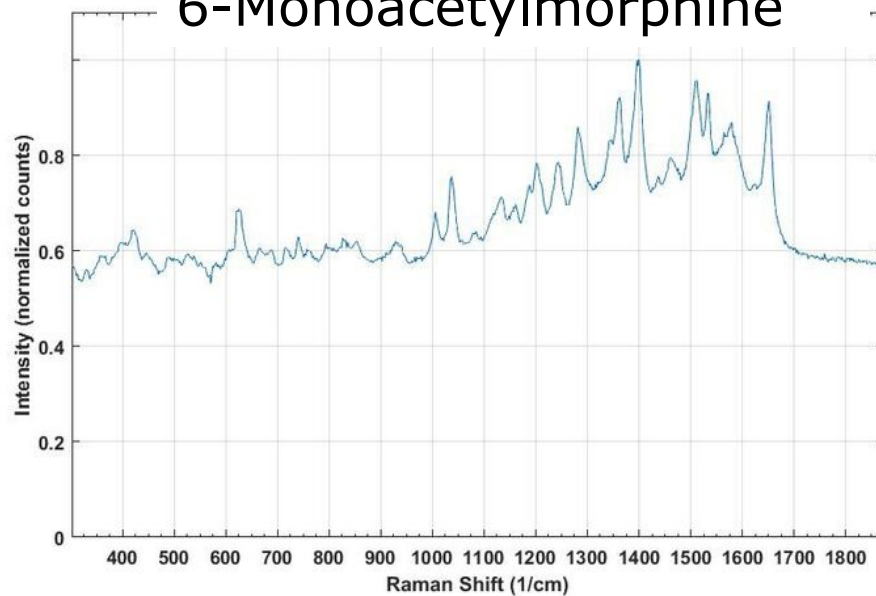


# Data – References

## Heroin



## 6-Monoacetylmorphine



# Progress to date

## **Lab work**

Microfluidic devices, Raman microscope

## **Papaverine and noscapine**

Gathered data for 100uM

## **Reference spectra**

Heroin, morphine, 6-MAM





# Future work

- Test broader range of concentrations
- Obtain data for other substances
- Spectra-concentration relationship



# Acknowledgments

Thank You!

