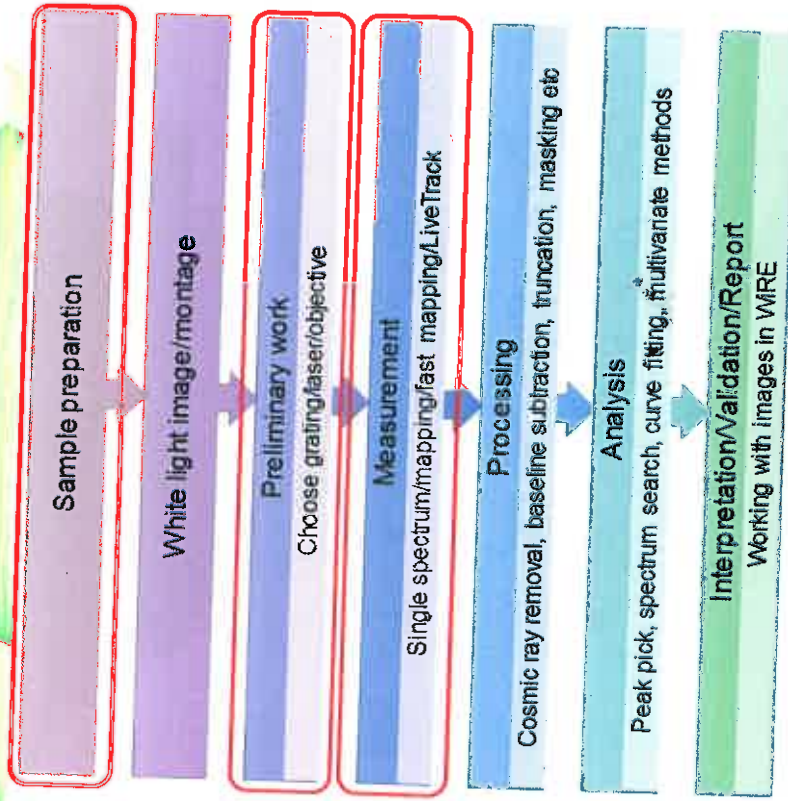


## Summary

- Overview of inVia
- Laser safety
- Sample preparation
- Operating the microscope
- Experiment setup (objectives, lasers, gratings)
- Measurement setup in WiRE
- Notification area
- Tips and tricks
- Instrument stability (environmental, laser)
- Alignment procedures (daily and weekly)
- Differences between inVia Qontor/Reflex/Basis
- Troubleshooting alignment procedures
- Good practices

*Summary overview important*



## Sample preparation

The following aspects of sample preparation / presentation are important when collecting Raman map data:

- **Choice of substrate** for mounting the sample, if the sample is thin or transparent. Some substrates have Raman or fluorescence bands that may cover the Raman data from the sample  
Some examples include:
  - a powder or solid sample – metal slide → *metal slide usually doesn't generate any noise.*
  - a liquid sample – vial or well → *plan compressible a hard plate etc. → some glass substrates these are better than quartz*
  - a graphene sample – metal slide
  - a cell culture or tissue specimen (dry) – suitable slide (CaF<sub>2</sub>, Mica, Quartz)
  - a biological specimen in water – Petri dish
- **Sample flatness** to maintain the laser focus (and good signal intensity) throughout map data acquisition.  
Worse case scenario – the sample may strike the objective.  
Some examples include
  - a pharmaceutical tablet – mill the tablet flat (*small & smooth*)
  - a powder sample – compress powder onto slide

## Sample preparation

- **Sample immobilisation** for accurate and repeatable movement during map data acquisition. Options include magnets, sticky tape, clamps. Some examples include:
  - a sample fixed to a slide – clamp slide to stage plate
  - a thin film for depth profiling – use magnets to hold film flat to stage plate



High Speed Encoded Stage (HSES)



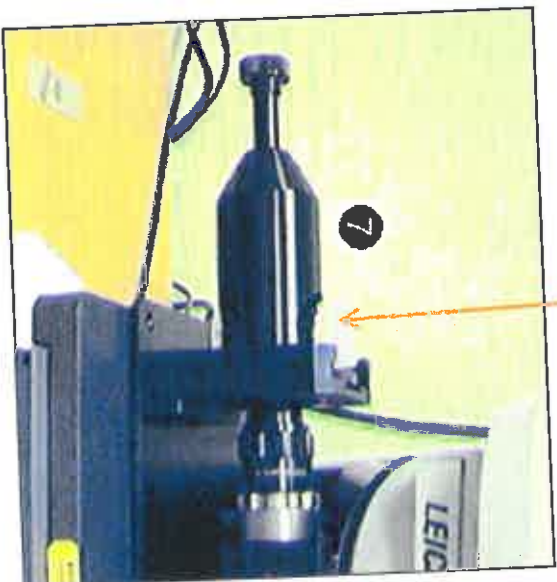
HSES accessory kit

## Sample preparation – liquids and gases

*Sample preparation*

- Place in a sealed vial
- Option to measure from above as standard or horizontally with the macro sampling kit
- Horizontally – do not need to worry about air bubbles
- Glass may fluoresce, better to use quartz
- Water has its own spectrum which may cover Raman data from dilute solutions
- Choice to use a low magnification microscope objective with a large depth of field OR a high NA microscope objective

*Using a quartz vial. If quartz for liquid samples. That can be placed on the stage*



Vial or Cuvette