

Fast compressive Raman microspectroscopy

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KEYWORDS: spontaneous Raman, microspectroscopy, compressive sensing, matrix completion

Spontaneous Raman microspectroscopy allows imaging a chemically heterogeneous system with high spatial resolution associated with superb molecular selectivity. Nevertheless, acquiring a large field-of-view hyperspectrum is slow and requires large data storage space. Lately, compressive sensing strategies have been used to speed up Raman microscopy by under-sampling the hyperspectrum, followed by computational reconstruction using efficient algorithms [1-6]. Most of these approaches are based on the use of inexpensive Digital Micromirror Device (DMD) that combines selected wavelengths in a single-pixel detector (typically faster and less noisy than conventional CCD-based hyperspectroscopy [3]). However, compressive spectrometer layouts have prohibitive losses for low-light levels applications, such as in the spontaneous Raman effect.

In this contribution, we present a new high-throughput programmable spectrometer layout with large spectral coupling bandwidths ($>1500\text{ cm}^{-1}$) [7] and its usage for fast Raman using the new matrix completion framework [8]. We exploit this spectrometer to implement a fast random wavelength selection sampling scheme of the hyperspectrum, a prerequisite necessary for using matrix completion algorithms. We then demonstrate 8X high-fidelity hyperspectral compression, with 5 ms effective pixel dwell times. By using a priori information of the hyperspectrum provided by the matrix completion algorithm, we show fast chemical imaging of biological specimens in a few seconds [9] (Fig. 1).

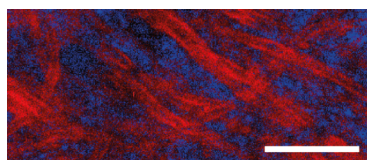


Figure 1. Representative results of the compressive Raman framework applied for imaging of biological specimens (brain tissues). The red stripes are the response of the lipids and blue represent protein-rich regions (red= lipids, blue=protein).

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