

#### In vivo skin analysis by Raman spectroscopy

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Measure

Quantify



#### Contents

- *in vivo* Raman spectroscopic skin analysis
- Non-invasive, quantitative analysis of topical product penetration



#### Raman spectroscopy







#### Raman spectroscopy





#### in vivo molecular skin analysis by Raman spectroscopy



#### gen2-SCA: spatially resolved analysis of the molecular composition of the skin

#### SkinTools 3: data analysis



#### skin hydration: water concentration profile







v20200727 RiverD – in vivo skin analysis by Raman spectroscopy



#### skin hydration: water concentration profile



In vivo skin analysis by Raman spectroscopy



#### Raman spectroscopy & in vivo skin analysis





#### Raman spectroscopy & in vivo skin analysis





#### gen2-SCA

#### in vivo skin analysis by confocal Raman spectroscopy







RiverICon 4.3 Instrument control software

- Raman-measurement templates with user selected:
  - measurement range
  - step-size
  - signal collection time
- Selection of measurement locations in skin surface image
- Autofocusing
- Automated profile measurements at all selected measurement locations



## in vivo molecular skin analysis by Raman spectroscopy



#### > 150 papers in peer-reviewed scientific literature



# in vivo molecular skin analysis by Raman spectroscopy



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## Skin penetration of chemicals: quantitative in vivo analysis





#### In vivo skin penetration analysis



26 April 2022



## Example: retinol & propylene glycol

- 0.3% retinol in 70% ethanol 30% PG
- Volar forearm
- 70  $\mu$ l on skin area of 4 x 4 cm<sup>2</sup>
- 10 min



Caspers *et al.* Translational Biophotonics (2019), https://doi.org/10.1002/tbio.201900004



## Skin penetration: retinol & propylene glycol





## Skin penetration: retinol & propylene glycol





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#### Skin penetration: retinol – effect of formulation



26 April 2022



Material

#### SkinTools 3 library of calibrated materials

Caffeine	
Hydrocortisone	
Ibuprofen	
Lidocaine	
Salicylic Acid	
Testosterone	
Hydroquinone	
L-Ascorbic Acid	
Nicotine	
Diclofenac	
Glycolic acid	

Use

API



Material

Typical limits of detection: ~ 0.1 – 1 mass%

Use Excipient Excipient

Levulinic Acid

2-phenoxy ethanol

Benzoic Acid

Sorbic Acid

Ethylparaben

Isobutylparaben

	Material	Use
-	3-Methylsalicylic Acid	Fragrance
	Methyl Salicylate	Fragrance
	Benzyl Alcohol	Fragrance
	Coumarin	Fragrance
2	4-Methylsalicylic Acid	Fragrance
	Benzoin	Fragrance
	Vanillin	Fragrance
	Geraniol	Fragrance
	Menthol	Fragrance
	Phenethyl Alcohol	Fragrance
	Laurocapram	Penetration enhancer
	DMSO	Penetration enhancer
	Citric Acid	Preservative
	Methylparaben	Preservative
	Propylparaben	Preservative
	Isopropanol	Preservative
	Sodium Benzoate	Preservative
	Bisfenol A	Preservative

Preservative

Preservative

Preservative

Preservative

Preservative

Preservative

#### Material

α-Tocopherol Adenosine Glycine L-Alanine Nicotinamide PCA Retinol Serine Squalane

Oxybenzone Uvinul A Plus Avobenzone Ethylhexyl triazone Tinsorb S

Skin Conditioning Agent Skin Conditioning Agent

Use

**UV** Filter UV filter UV filter UV filter UV filter



## SkinTools 3 library ... add your own materials









#### Accessible body areas - examples



forehead

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# Arm, scalp and axilla compared





#### Human skin: Transcutol experiments





- Van der Bend patch with 15  $\mu$ l Transcutol
- 30 minutes application
- Skin surface wiped clean before Raman measurements
- 2 subjects (--- ---)

unpublished



#### • gen2-SCA + SkinTools 3 for

- non-invasive analysis of molecular composition of the skin
- quantitative analysis of the penetration of topical products
- simultaneous analysis of actives and vehicles/excipients
  - optimisation of formulations
  - insight in mode of penetration
- Limit of detection: ~ 0.1-1 mass%
  - molecule dependent: e.g. some UV-filters LoD ~ 0.01 mass%
- skin ≠ skin:
  - differences in molecular composition of the skin
  - *in vivo* skin penetration/permeation dependent on anatomical location.







proderm Webinar: Raman Spectroscopy in dermatology trials

26. April 2022

#### **Stephan Bielfeldt**

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Our ambition? Excellence.



# Agenda

- Confocal Raman Spectroscopy on skin, how does it work?
- Measurement of water in the skin
- NMF and skin lipids: Molecules crucial for an intact barrier
- Measurement of skin penetration and permeation
- Summary and conclusions

#### In Vivo Measurement of Raman Spectra at Different Skin Depths Inverse Confocal Microscopy



Raman Shift [cm<sup>-1</sup>]



## Characteristics of the Raman device (2<sup>nd</sup> Generation)

- "gene2-SCA Ultimate" manufactured by RiverD International B. V., Rotterdam, Netherlands
- built-in two lasers (671 nm and 785 nm)
- Fingerprint (FP): 400 1800 cm<sup>-1</sup>
- High Wave Number (HWN): 2500 3800 cm<sup>-1</sup>
- Movable table in two dimensions
- Adjustable pinholes: 25, 50 and 100  $\mu m$
- Resolution: 3, 5 and 10 µm
- Typical measurement times:
- FP spectrum: 5 sec.
- HWN spectrum: 1 sec.





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#### Water Measurement with Confocal Raman Spectroscopy High Wave Number Spectra of the Skin





#### Water Measurement with Confocal Raman Spectroscopy Assessment of Profiles Across SC and Viable Epidermis



Water profile of 1 subject on volar forearm (10 repetitions)

#### Validation of Confocal Raman Spectroscopy Depth Detection: Fit Model to Detect the SC Border with CRM is Confirmed with Confocal Reflectance Microscopy



Böhling, A., Bielfeldt, S., Himmelmann, A., Keskin, M., & Wilhelm, K. P. (2014). Comparison of the stratum corneum thickness measured in vivo with confocal Raman spectroscopy and confocal reflectance microscopy. Skin Research and Technology, 20(1), 50-57.

#### Water Profiles: Example of Moisturizer and Emollient Effects Two Observations: Increase of Water Gradient and SC Swelling

Long term moisturizer effect (Glycerol 10%)

Short term emollient effect





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# Which Skin Components Contribute to the Raman Spectrum in the Epidermis?

- Keratin (ca. 70% of dry wt.)
- Water (20-70% of total wt.)
- NMF (20-30% of dry wt.)
  - Free Amino Acids 40%
  - PCA 12%
  - Lactate 12%
  - Urea 7%
- Lipids
  - Cholesterol
  - Ceramides / Free Fatty Acids



Stratum corneum

Stratum granulosum

Stratum spinosum

Stratum basale

#### Raman Spectrum of Skin: A Complex overlap of Spectra Multiple Components Analysis and Advanced Fit Model applied

Single Fingerprint spectra of main skin components





His Ala UCA Intensity (a.u.) lactate urea ceramide water 400 600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600 1800

Raman Shift [cm<sup>-1</sup>]

Raman Shift [cm<sup>-1</sup>]



#### **From Filaggrin to Natural Moisturization Factor (NMF)** Right side: The typical Distribution of Total NMF in SC as measured with CRS



Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology, 124(1), 36-43.



#### NMF Content as a Marker for Filaggrin Mutations in Atopic Dermatitis Comparison of two Allel, one Allel, and no Filaggrin Mutations



Low NMF content cannot be completely explained by mutations of the Filaggrin gene!

Subject with dry skin but no acute eczema can show a very low NMF-content!

O'Regan, G. M. et al (2010). Journal of allergy and clinical immunology, 126(3), *5*74-*5*80.



#### Skin Lipids can be assessed in the Finger Print Spectrum and at High Wave Number (HWN): Lipid to protein ratio



2600

2800

3000

3200

Raman Shift (cm<sup>-1</sup>)

3600

3800

Caspers, P. J., Lucassen, G. W., Bruining, H. A., & Puppels, G. J. (2000). Automated depth-scanning confocal Raman microspectrometer for rapid in vivo determination of water concentration profiles in human skin. Journal of Raman spectroscopy, 31(8-9), 813-818.

#### HWN-Measurement of Total Lipids in the Epidermis Discrimination between Atopic Eczema and healthy skin





#### Washout of NMF and Lipids from Scalp by Shampooing



Shampooing on a test area

Head holder

Scalp measurements



#### Results: Wash out of NMF and Lipids: n = 3; 3 Washes Washing procedure: 1 ml of 10 % LES shampoo, 1 min washing, 30 sec rinse



Measurement at baseline and 30 min after the last washing



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#### Semi-Quantitative Assessment of Niacinamide, 5% Different Solvent mixtures; n = 1; 2 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> for 30 min. on Volar Forearm; 8 repetitions



PG = propylene glycol PGML = Propylene glycole monolaurate DMI = dimethyl isosorbite NMP = n-methyl 2-pyrrolidone MO = mineral oil MG = Mygliol 812N ®



Niacinamide

Mohammed, D., Matts, P. J., Hadgraft, J., & Lane, M. E. (2014). In vitro-in vivo correlation in skin permeation. *Pharmaceutical research*, 31(2), 394-400.



#### **Quantitative Measurement of Skin Penetration**

Received: 1 August 2019 Revised: 29 August 2019 Accepted: 2 September 2019

DOI: 10.1002/tbio.201900004

FULL ARTICLE

RANSLATIONAL BIOPHOTONICS

#### Method to quantify the in vivo skin penetration of topically applied materials based on confocal Raman spectroscopy

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#### Abstract

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Correspondence Gerwin J. Puppels, Erasmus MC, University This article describes a unique noninvasive capability to determine the concentration (in mg/cm<sup>3</sup>) and total amount of topically applied materials in the skin (in  $\mu$ g/cm<sup>2</sup> of skin surface). It is based on in vivo confocal Raman spectroscopy. A theoretical derivation is given of a general method to calcu-



#### Penetration of Caffeine 2% into Stratum Corneum Application on 3 areas (volar forearm) for 1, 2 and 3 hours, n = 3



In water

In water + penetration enhancer

#### Permeation (Depletion) of Caffeine 2% into Viable Epidermis Application on 1 area (volar forearm) measured after 1, 2 and 3 hours, n = 3



In water

In water + penetration enhancer

# **Summary and Conclusions**



In vivo Confocal Raman Spectroscopy is a method of many talents

There is a large portfolio of applications that still develop rapidly

Skin moisturization can be assessed based on water profiles across the SC

All main components of SC can be analyzed from the fingerprint spectrum

Specific test locations (Scalp, Axilla, ...) and Subject panels can be measured (children, aged people, ...)

Penetration of molecules into SC and from SC to viable epidermis can be measured quantitatively