

The Ø 160 km “Salerno Crater” (Italy)

- RAMAN Spectra of selected Rock Samples - by Harry K. Hahn, 30.6.2021 -

Summary :

Raman spectra of quartz samples collected at sample site **21** near Ascea on the west-coast of Italy (near Sapri) provide first indication for the Ø 160 km Salerno Impact Crater described in my hypothesis. The yet unknown Ø 160 km “Salerno Crater” belongs to a larger Secondary Impact Crater Chain, which was caused by impacting ejecta material that was ejected by the Ø 1270 x 950 km Permian Triassic Impact Crater (PTI), located in the Arctic Sea near Alaska, according to my hypothesis.

(→ weblink to my Permian Triassic Impact Hypothesis : → [Part 1 \(P1\)](#), [Part 2 \(P2\)](#) of my hypothesis)

The samples which I collected to proof the “Salerno Crater” did not provide the same clear evidence for a secondary impact crater, as for example the samples from Cabo de Creus in Spain, which provided solid evidence for the **130 x 110 km „Bay-of-Lyon Impact Crater“** ([Link2](#)), that belongs to the same Secondary Impact Crater Chain as the “Salerno Crater”, caused by the PT Impact-Event.

But the Raman spectra of quartz from sample site **21** at least provide first indication for a shock event.

The shifts of the main Raman bands (peaks) to the lower frequencies **261, 204 and 125 cm⁻¹** (Stone 1) and to **260 and 205 cm⁻¹** (Stone 2) which are visible in the Raman Spectra of these quartz-samples from sample site **21** at least give a first indication that the quartz was exposed to a **shock pressure in the range of 20 - 22 GPa**. The shock pressure probably was just below the treshold of 22 GPa so that the main quartz line at 464 didn't shift to a lower frequency (→ see explanation in the Appendix at page **28**)

Quartz in the samples from the sample site **20** also show shifts in one or two of the main Raman bands (peaks) to the lower frequencies **263 and 205 cm⁻¹**. The microscopic images of some of the analysed quartz grains in samples from site **21** & **20** may provide further proof for a shock event caused by an impact (see [page 5 & 6](#)). The images show complex micro-fracture-patterns in the analysed quartz grains. The spectra were made with a **BRUKER Senterra-II Raman Microscope** (wavenumber precision <0.1cm⁻¹)

→ Images of the analysed rock samples and photos of the sample sites are in the Appendix at [page 24](#).

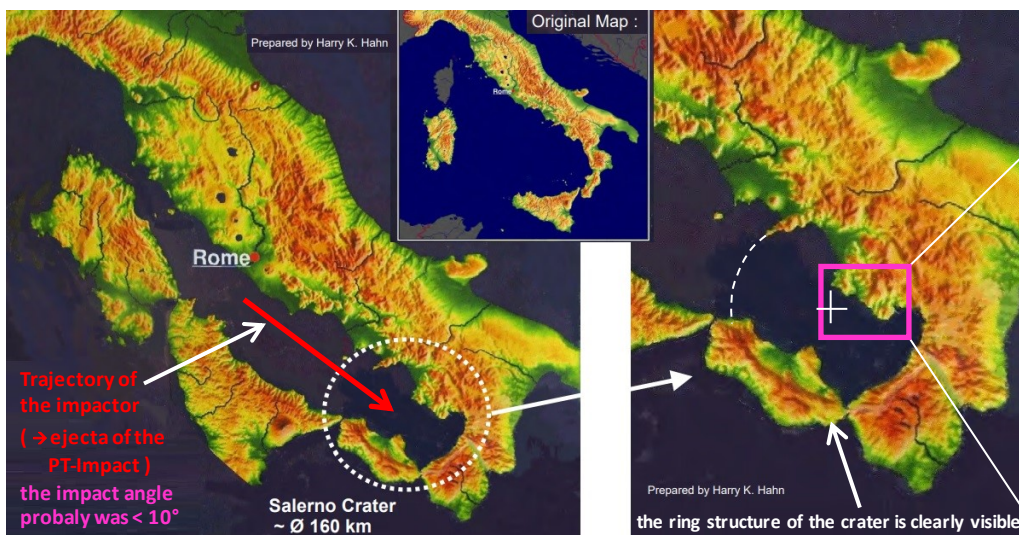
→ More images of all sample sites are available on www.permiantriassic.de or www.permiantriassic.at

→ **General Summary** of my Analysis : see [Part 6 \(P6\)](#) of my [PTI-hypothesis \(P1\)](#) / References : [page 29](#)

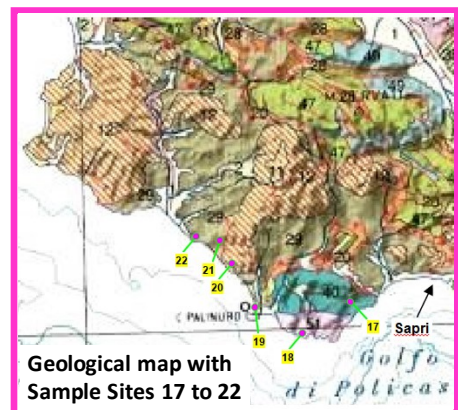
In order to really verify the sample sites **20** and **21** as sites which were effected by an impact event and which are part of the described “Salerno Crater” clear shock-metamorphic effects must be discovered in the rocks of these sample sites. This can also be done with the help of PDFs (planar deformation features). However this requires careful preparation of the samples and experience in PDF-analysis.

Therefore I want to ask scientists who read my studies to organize a professional analysis of samples from the center-area of the “Salerno Crater” in order to proof it as a secondary crater of the Permian Triassic Impact Event as described in my hypothesis. The age of the rock is Mesozoic (up to 252 Ma old)

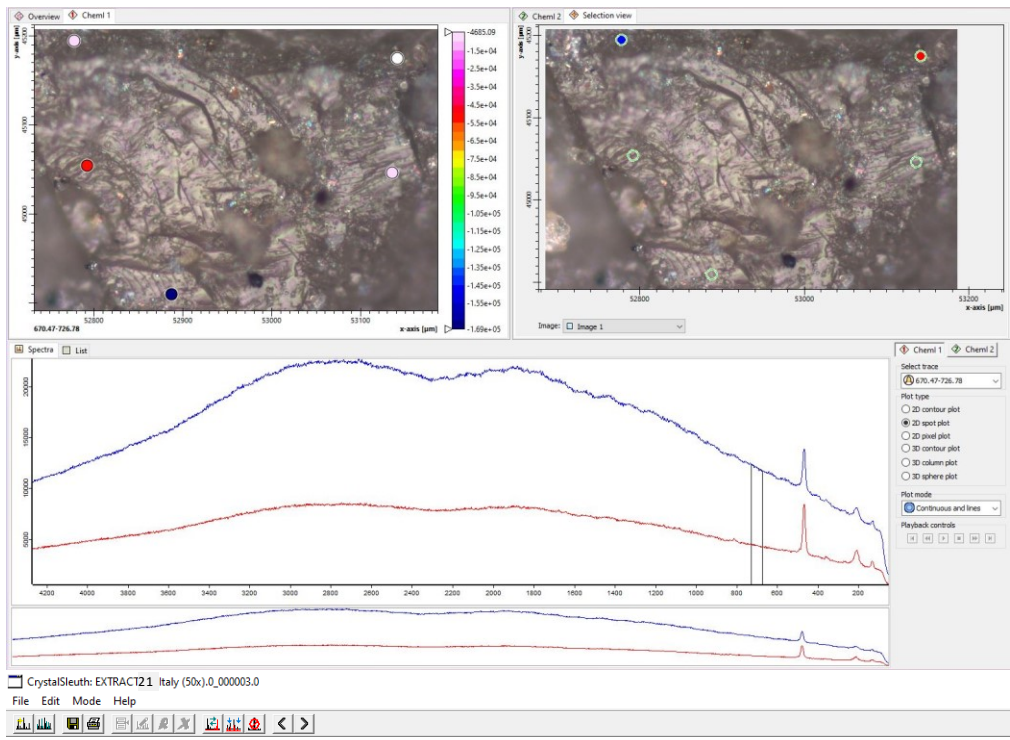
Note: A shock pressure of 20 GPa exceeds every pressure caused by normal terrestrial metamorphism. The indicated shock pressure of ≈20 GPa is lower than the shock pressure that occurred in other large impact craters on Earth. This indicates that the “Salerno Crater” was caused by an oblique impact, and that the impactor which formed the crater (→ ejecta of the PT-Crater) impacted with low velocity <8 km/s



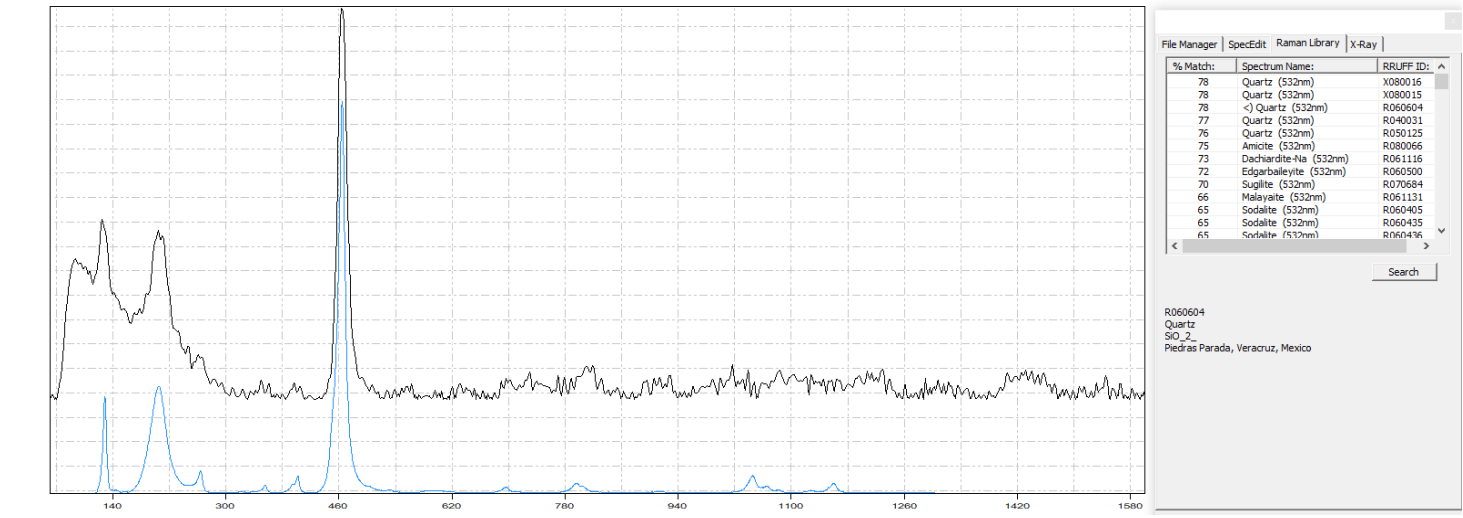
The manipulated topographic map on the left shows the probable position of the crust fragments which form Italy at the time of the P/T-Impact 253 Ma ago



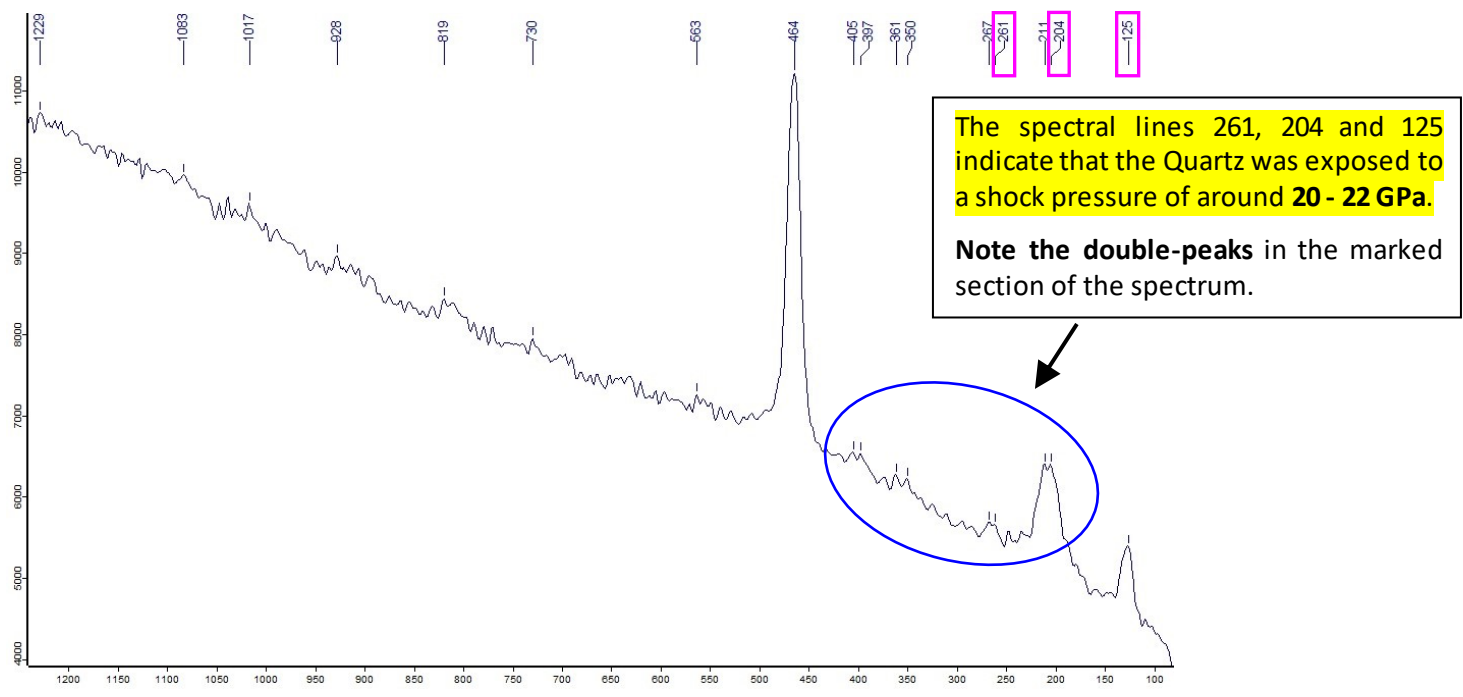
Sample Site **21** : Stone 1_spectra 1 indicates : **Quartz** (→ see RRUFF_CS results)



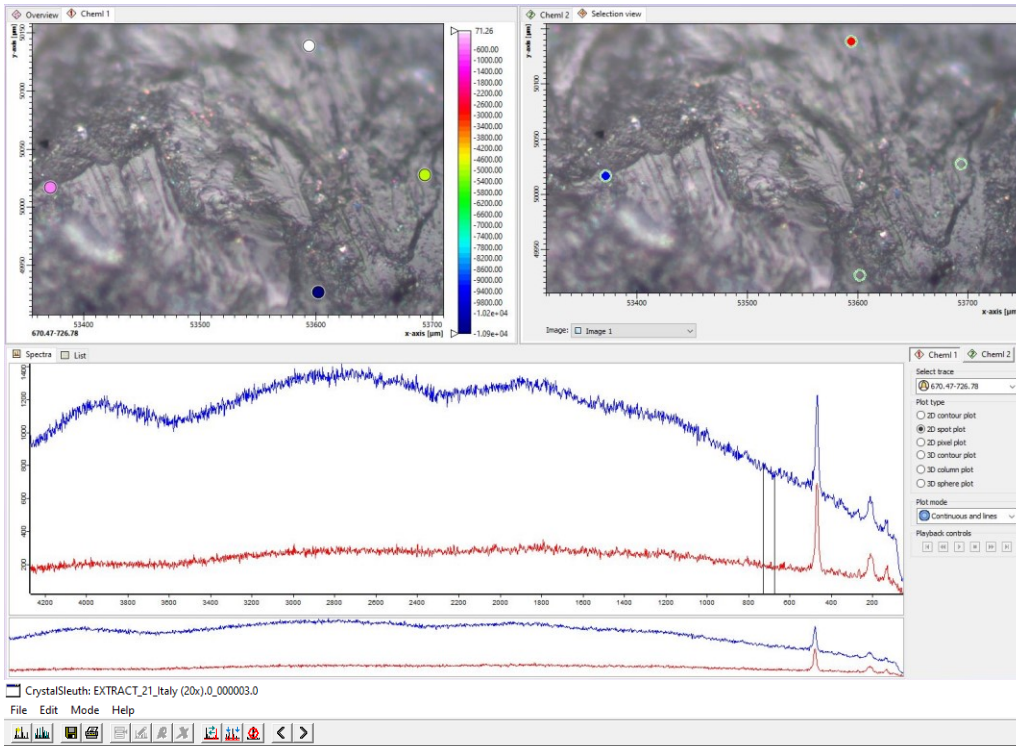
Sample :



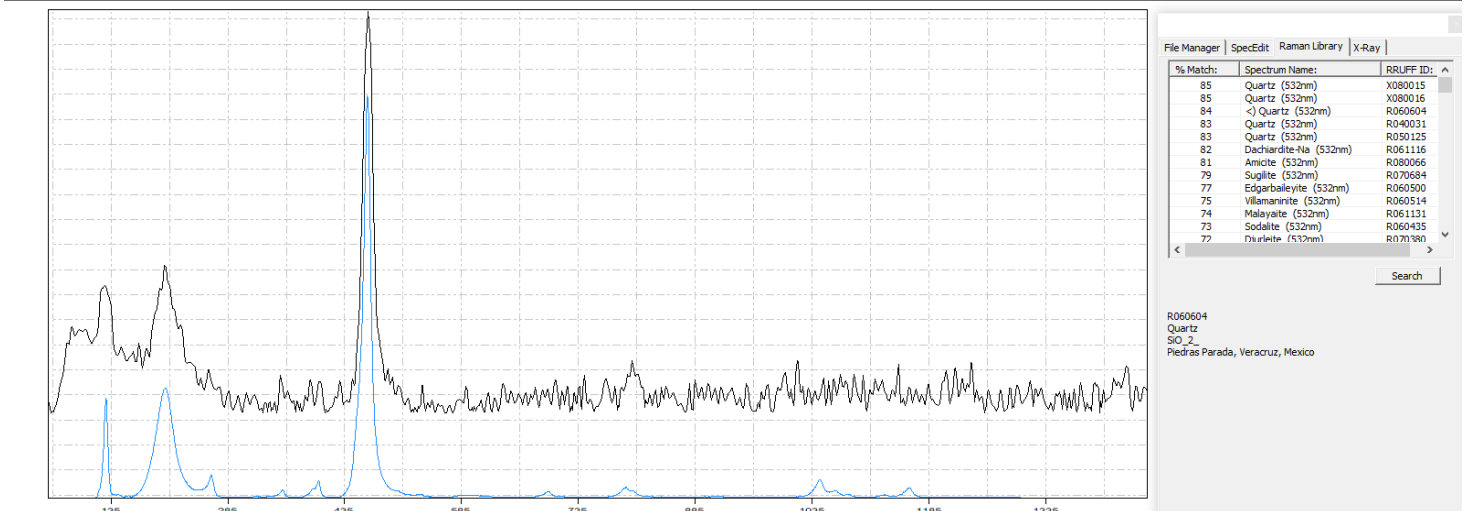
Indication for a shock event are the shifts of the marked Quartz spectral lines towards 261, 204 and 125



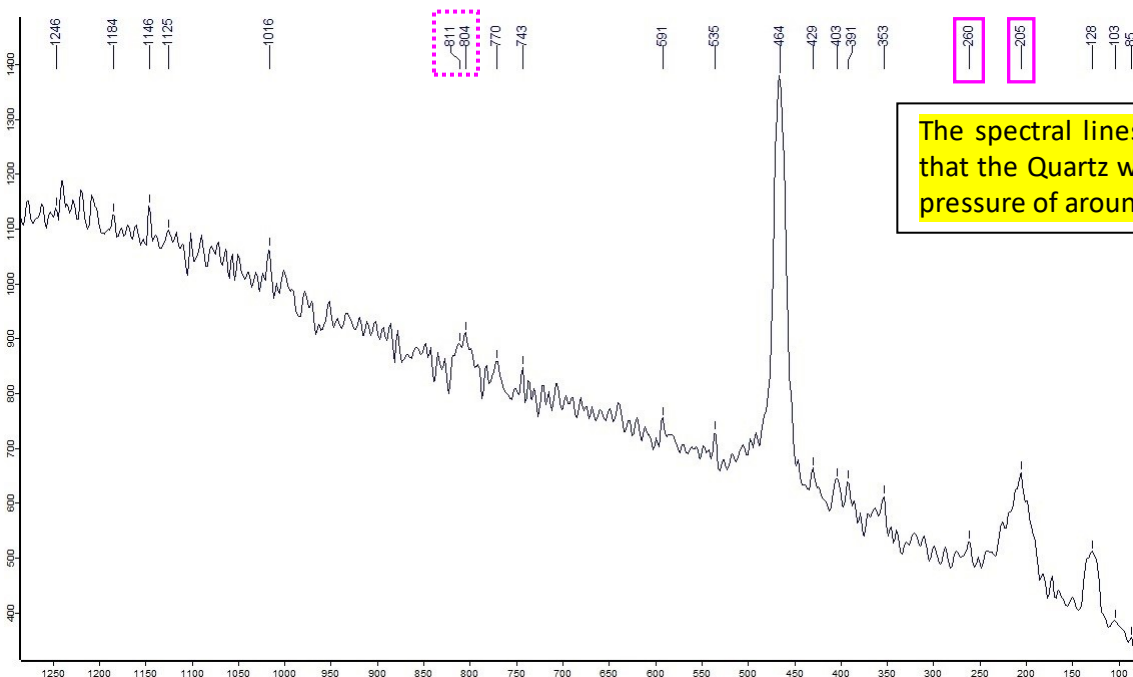
Sample-Site **21** : Stone 2_spectra 1 indicates : **Quartz** (→ see RRUFF_CS results)



Sample :

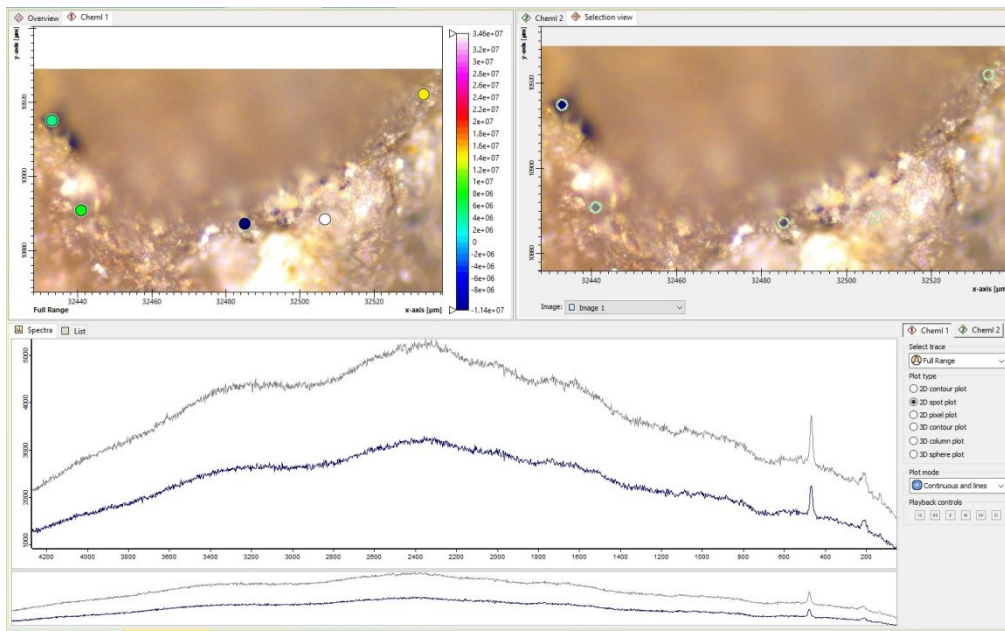


Indication for a shock event are the shifts of the marked Quartz spectral lines towards 260 and 205

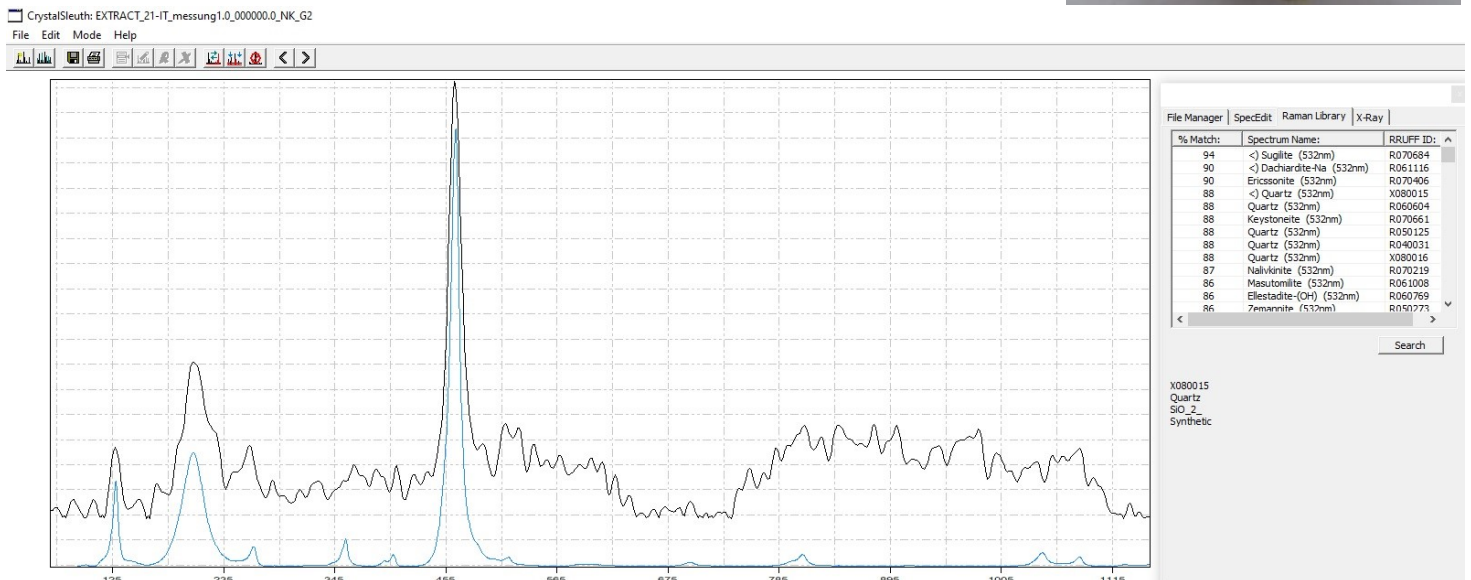


The spectral lines 260 and 205 indicate that the Quartz was exposed to a shock pressure of around 20 - 22 GPa.

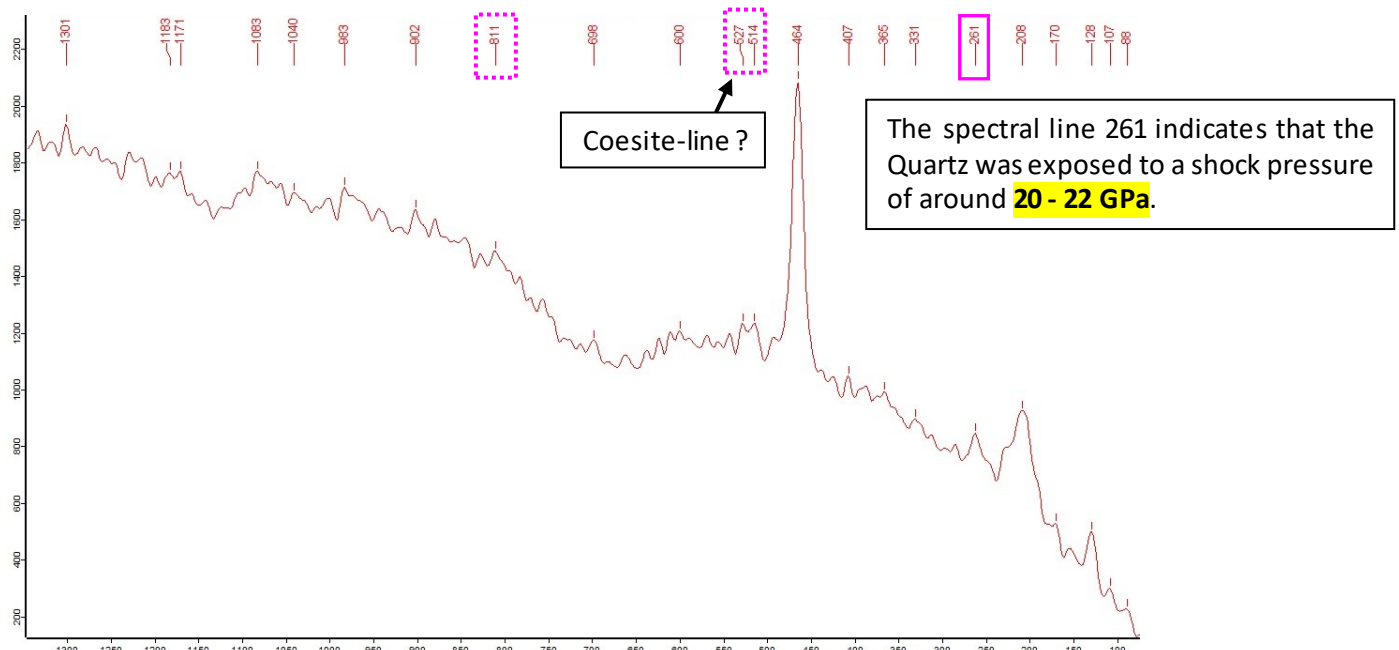
Sample Site **21**: Stone 2_spectra 2 indicates: **Quartz** (→ see RRUFF_CS results)



Sample:

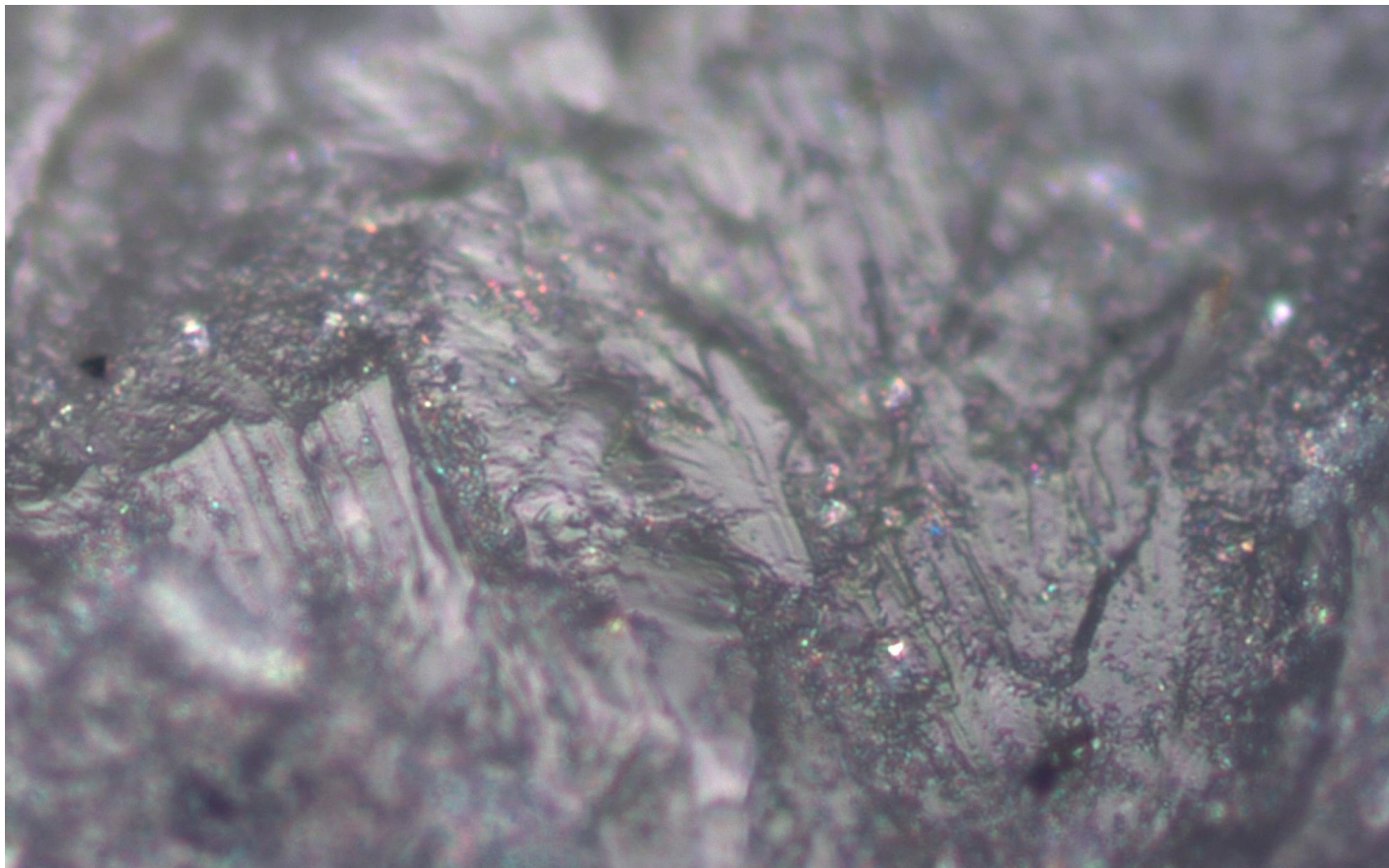


Indication for a shock event is the shift of the marked Quartz spectral line towards 261

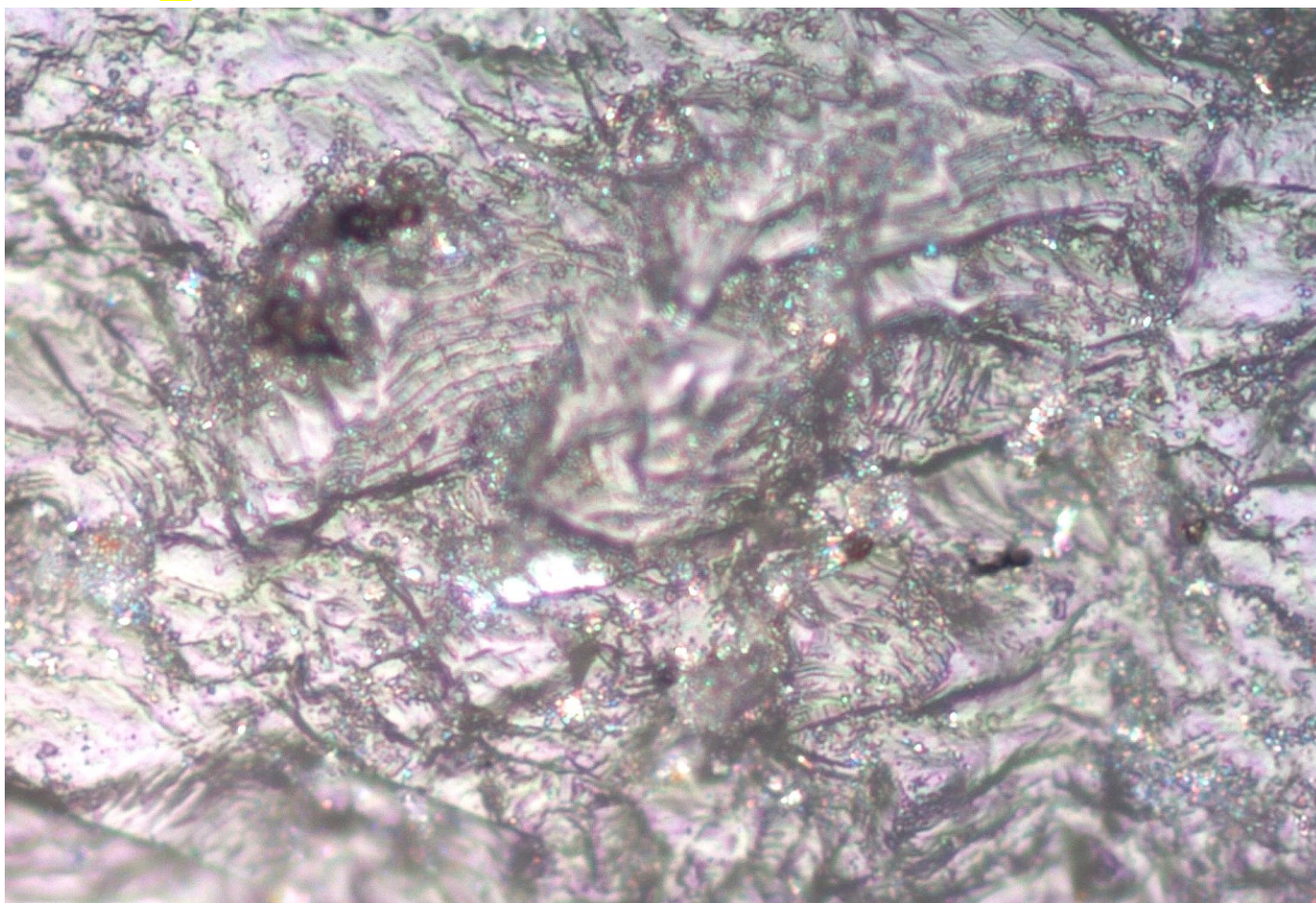


Microscopic Images : Sample from Site 21 → original state (no preparation for analysis)

Sample Site 21 : Stone 2_spectra 1 : Quartz - Image size : ~ 400 x 250 μm

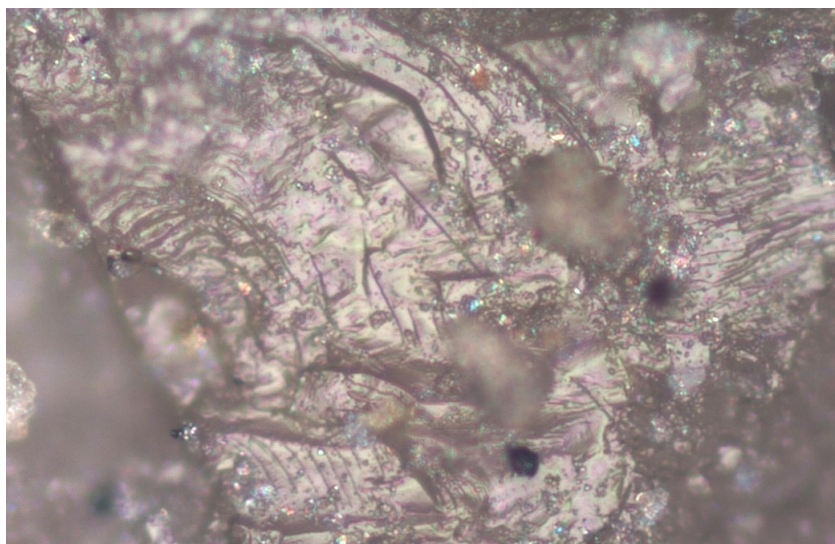


Sample Site 21 : Stone 2 : Quartz - Image size : ~ 400 x 300 μm

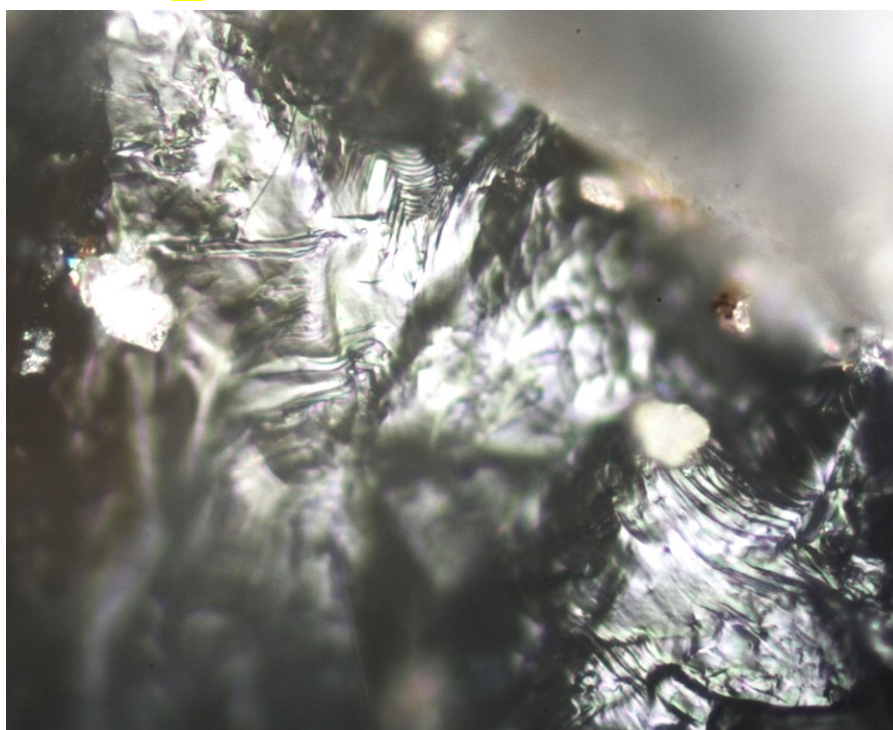


Microscopic Images : Sample from Site 21 → original state (no preparation for analysis)

Sample Site 21 : Stone 1_spectra 1 : Quartz - Image size : ~ 400 x 300 μm

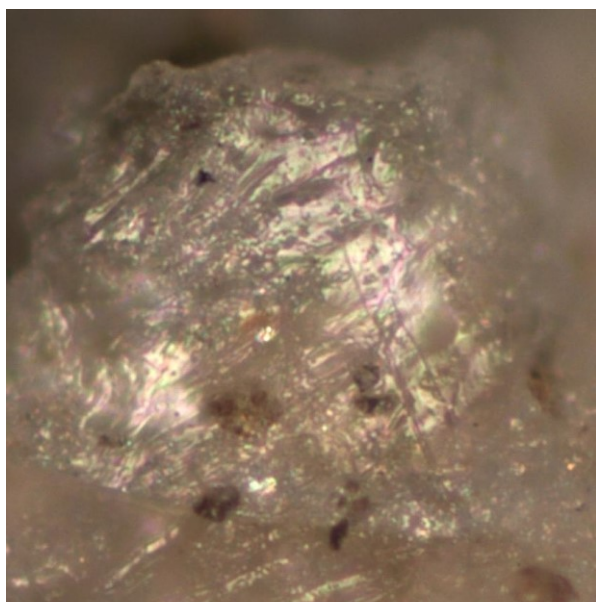


Sample Site 21 : Stone 1_spectra 2 : Quartz - Image size : ~ 250 x 200 μm



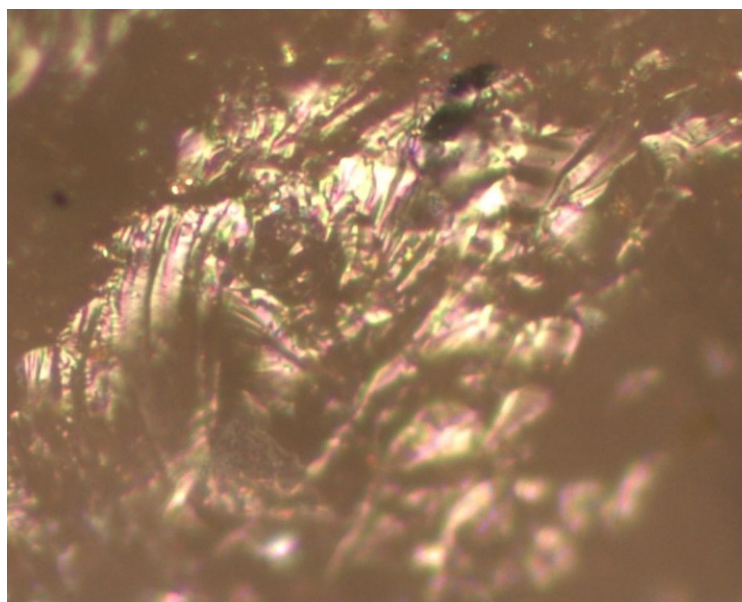
Sample Site 21 : Stone 1 : Quartz

Image size : ~ 200 x 180 μm

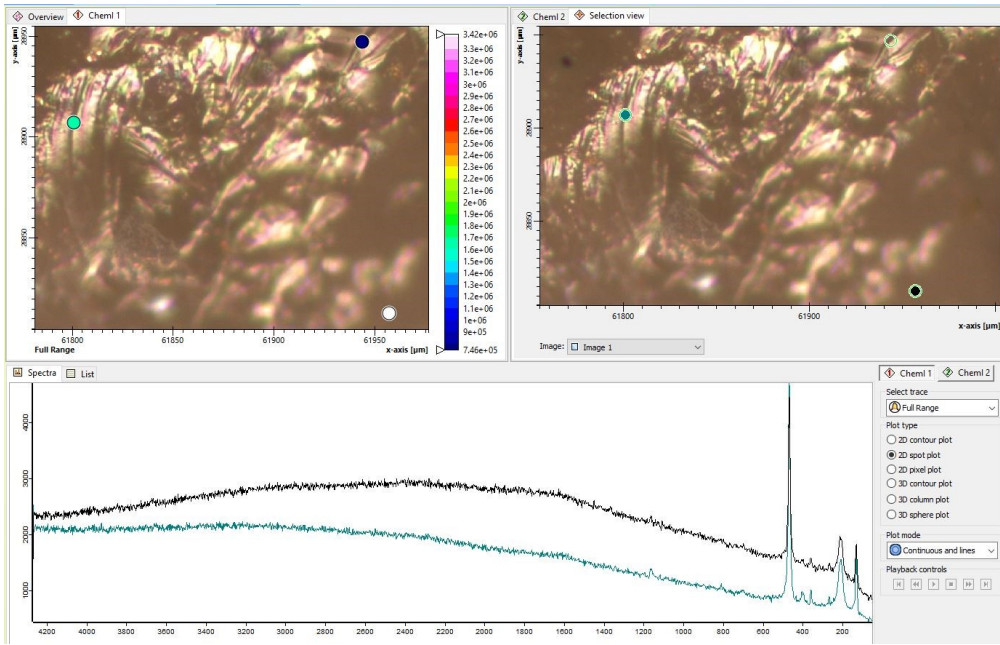


Sample Site 21 : Stone 3 : Quartz

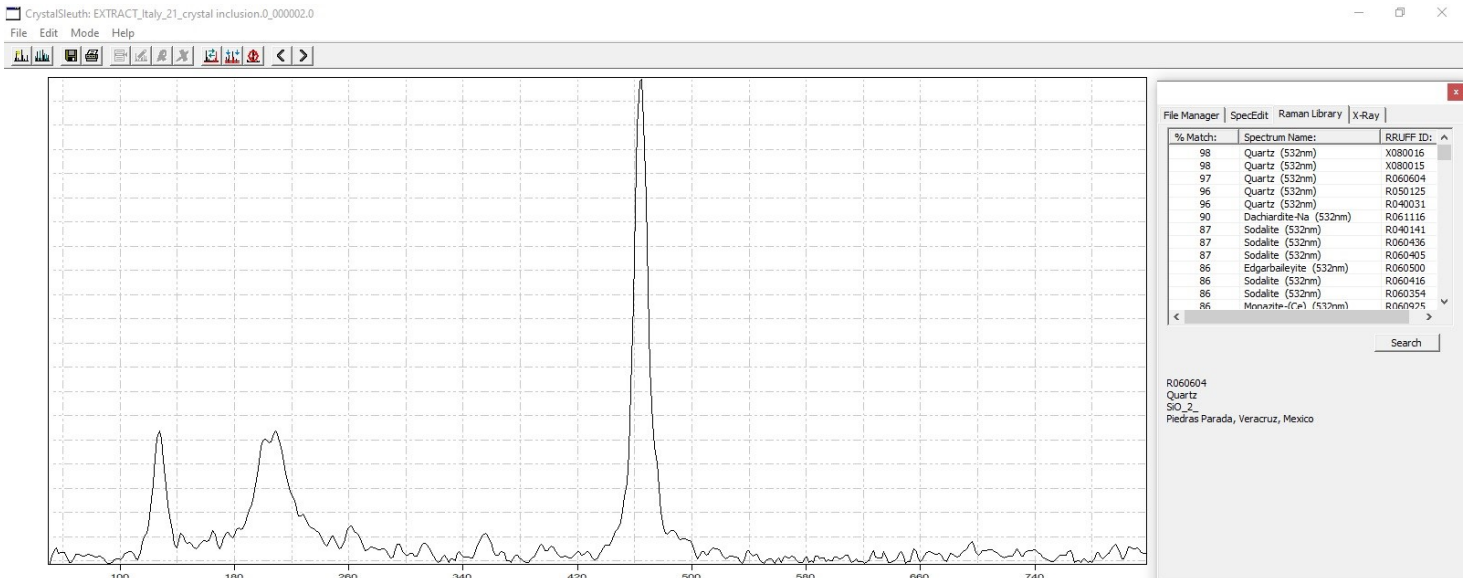
Image size : ~ 220 x 200 μm



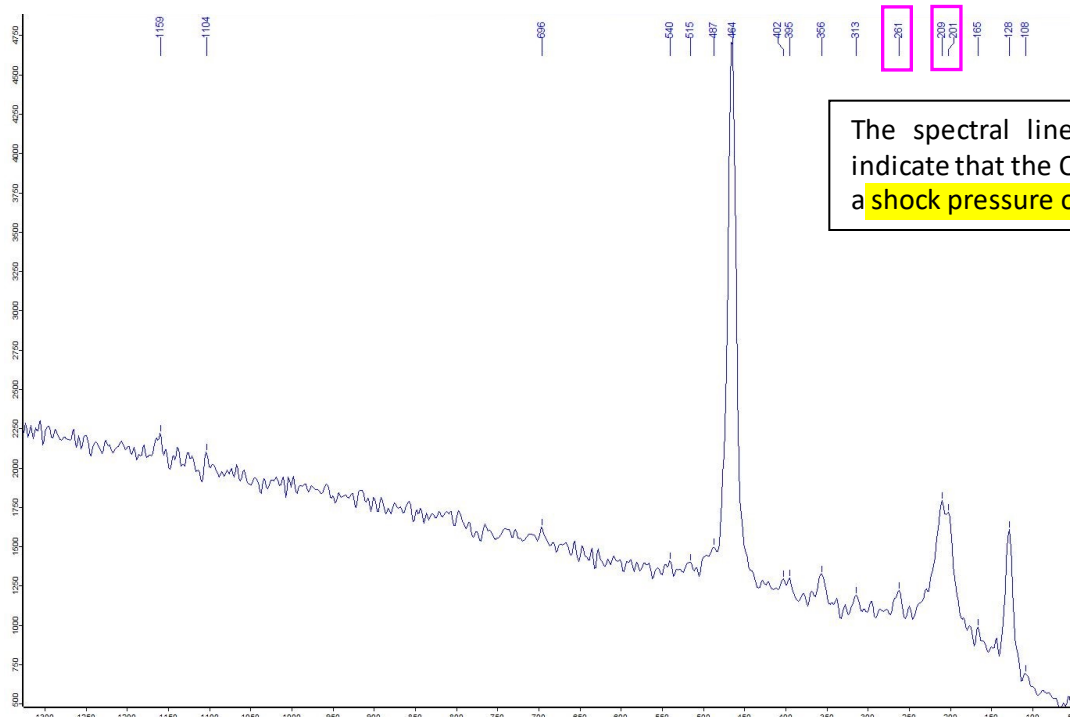
Sample-Site 21 : Stone 3_spectra 1 (crystal inclusion) indicates : Quartz (→ see RRUFF_CS results)



Sample :



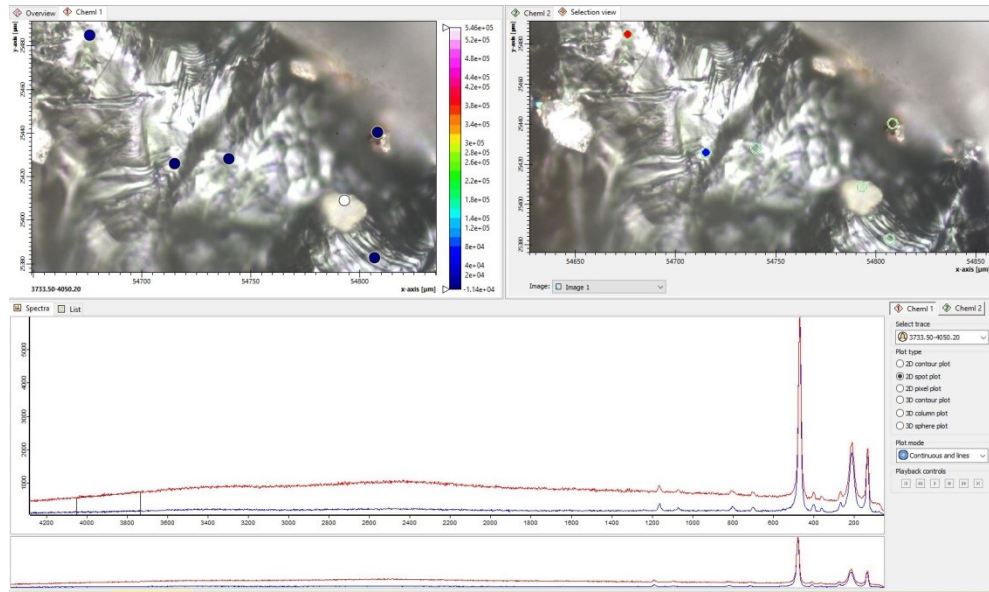
Indication for a shock event are the shifts of the marked Quartz spectral lines towards 261 and 201 (209)



The spectral lines 261 and 201 (209) indicate that the Quartz was exposed to a shock pressure of around 20 - 22 GPa.

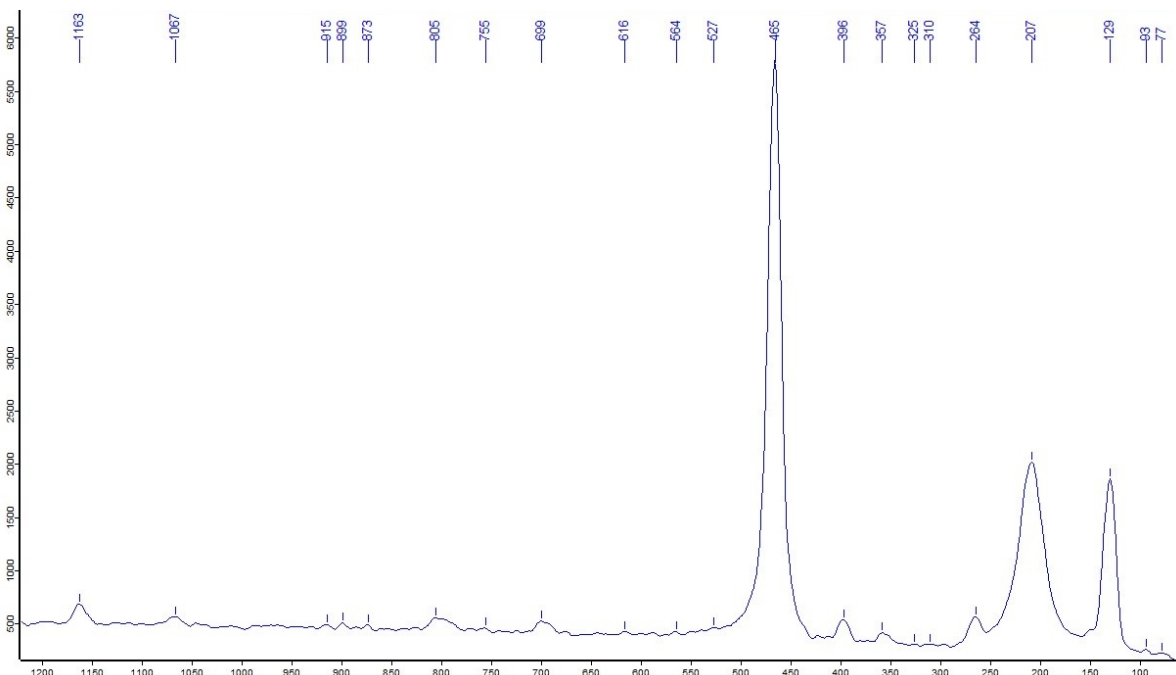
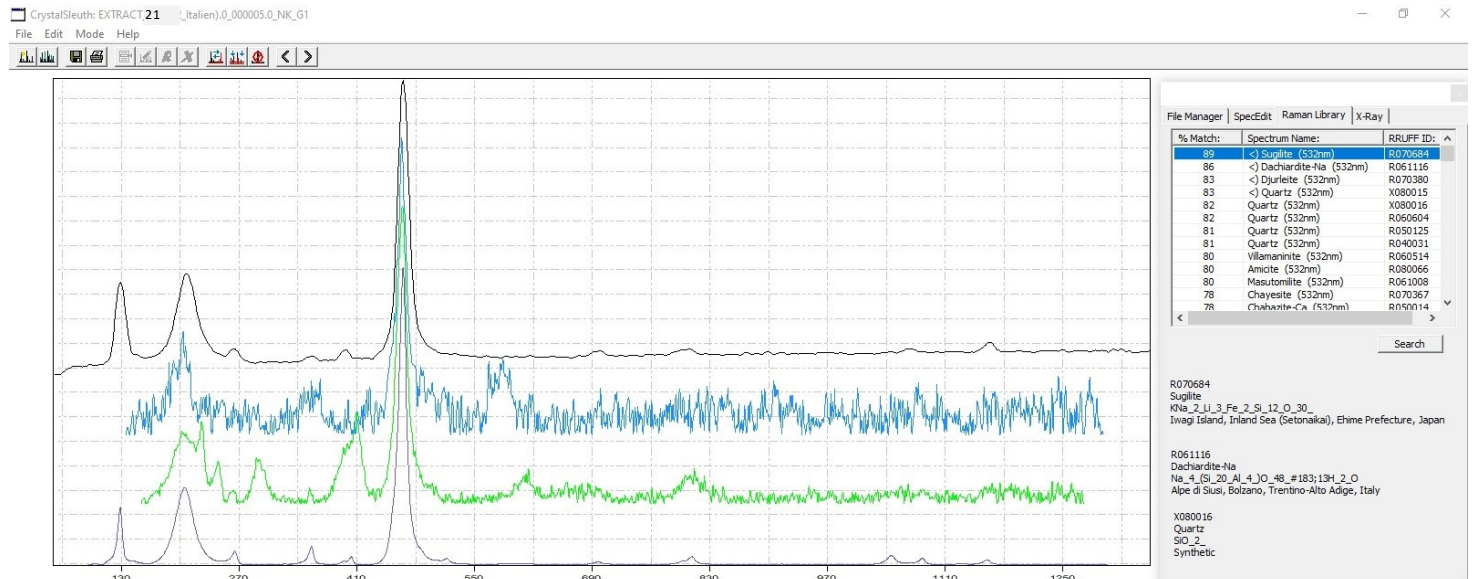
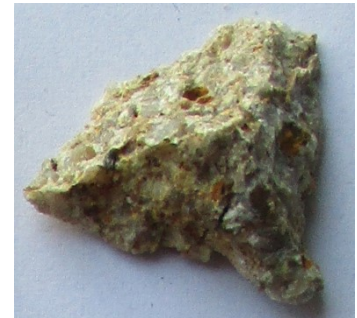
Sample Site **21**: Stone 1_spectra 2 indicates: **Quartz Sugilite, Dachardite-Na** (→ see RRUFF_CS results)

The spectral lines indicate that **Quartz** is the most probable mineral measured in this spectral analysis

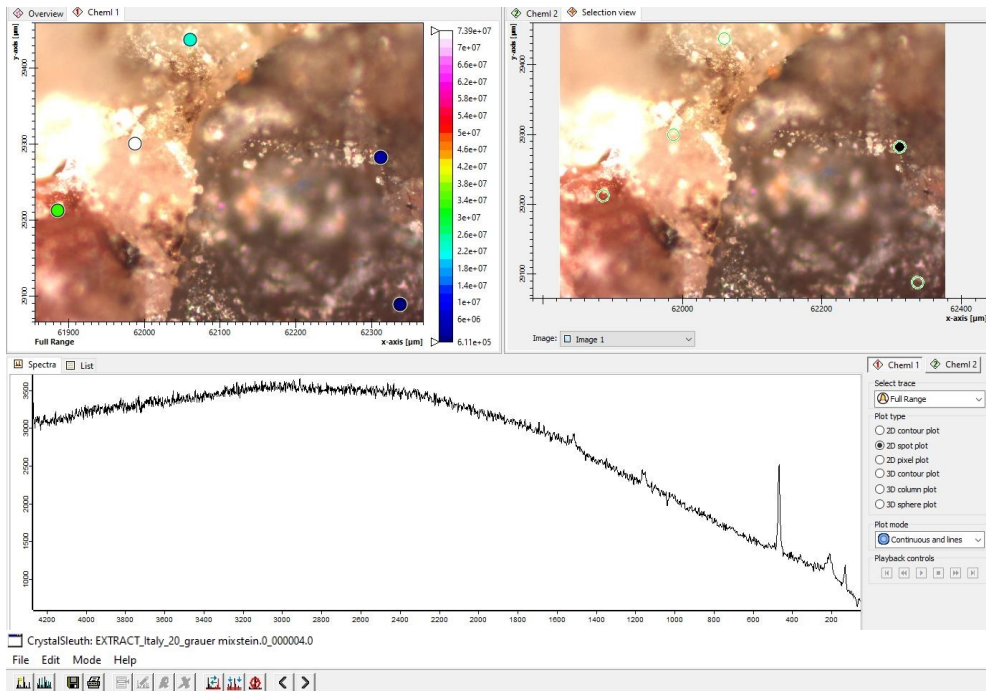


Note the fracture patterns on the microscopic image.

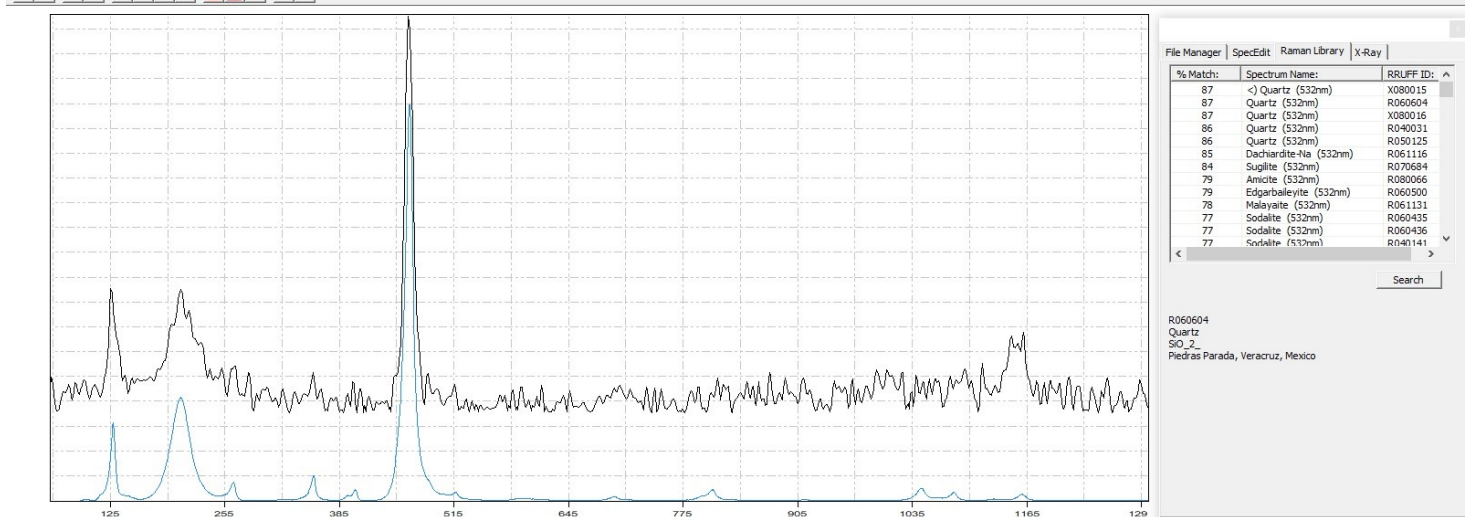
Sample:



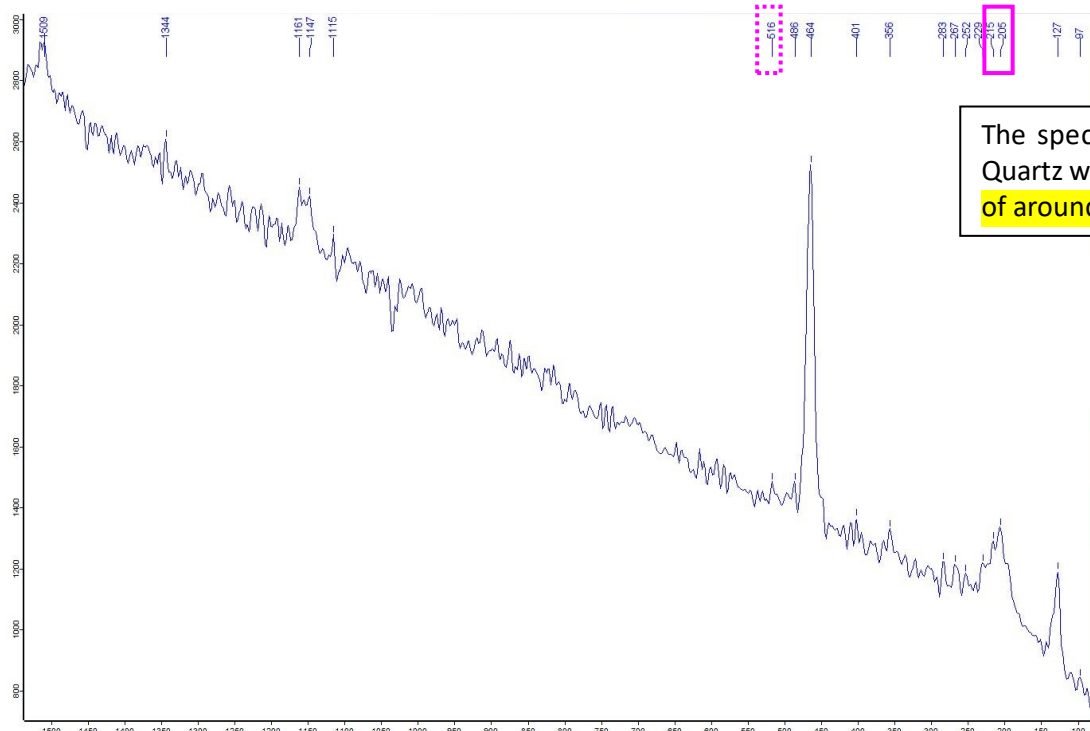
Sample Site **20**: Stone 4_spectra 1 indicates: **Quartz** (→ see RRUFF_CS results)



Sample :

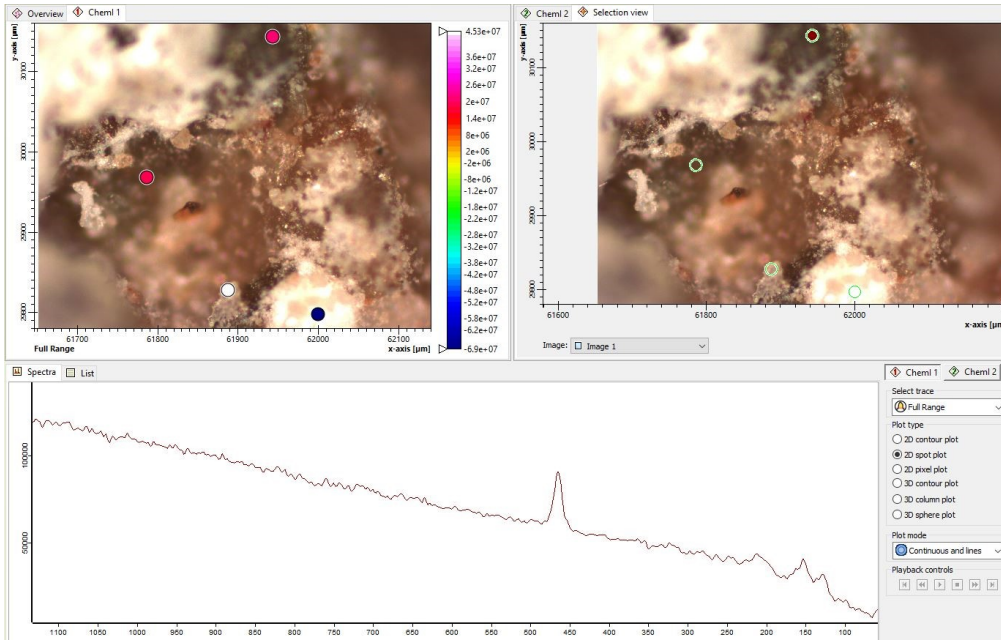


Indication for a shock event is the shift of the marked Quartz spectral lines towards 205

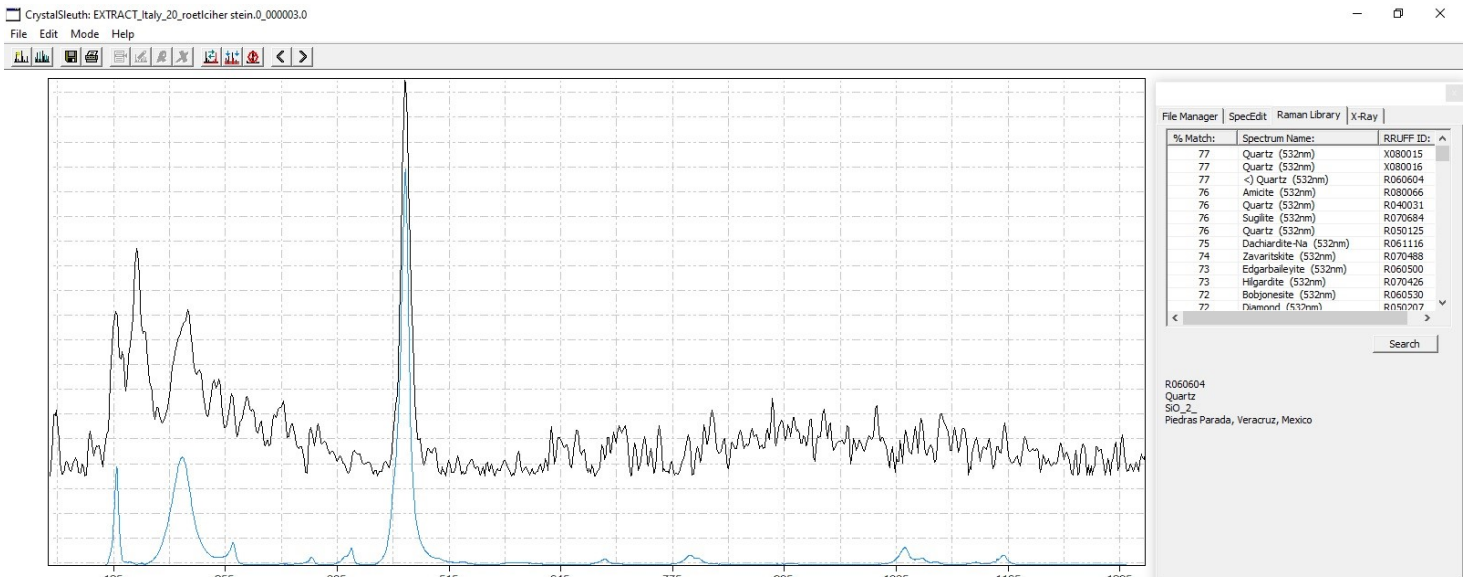


The spectral line 205 indicates that the Quartz was exposed to a **shock pressure of around 20 – 22 GPa.**

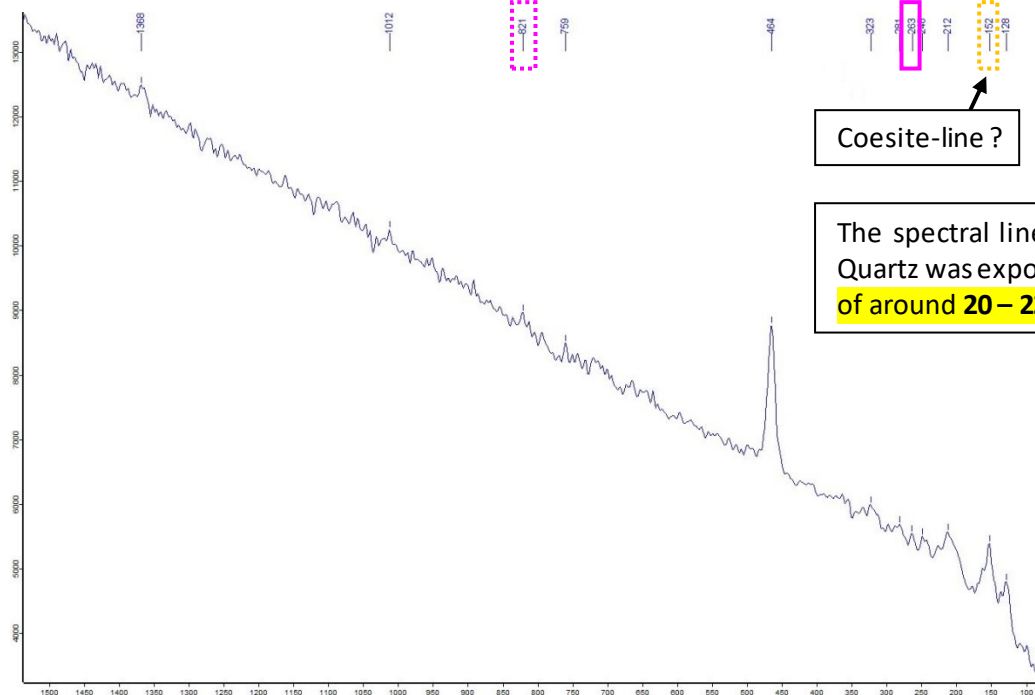
Sample Site **20**: Stone 5_spectra 1 indicates: **Quartz** (→ see RRUFF_CS results)



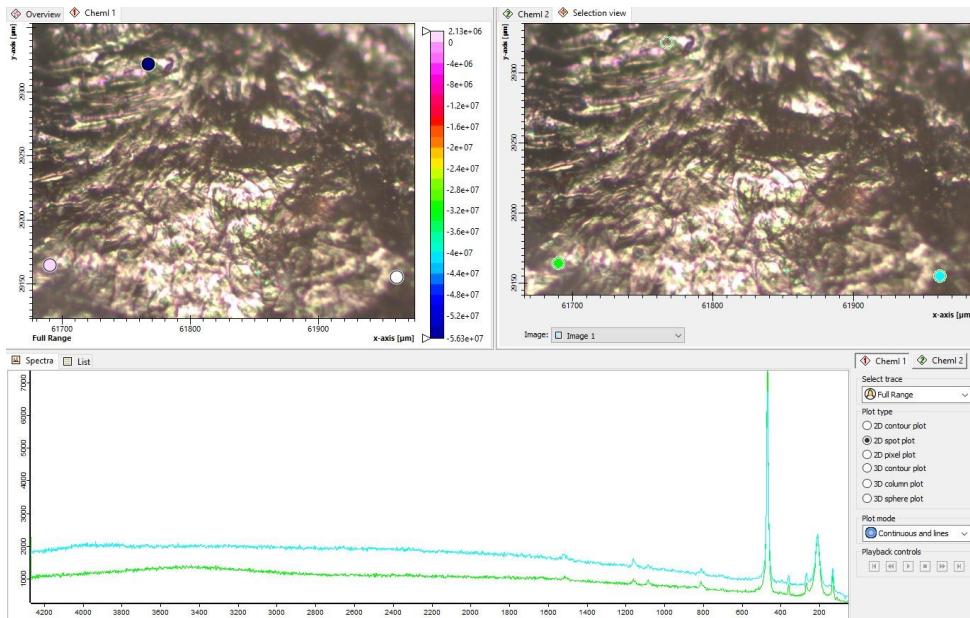
Sample :



Indication for a shock event is the shift of the marked Quartz spectral lines towards 263



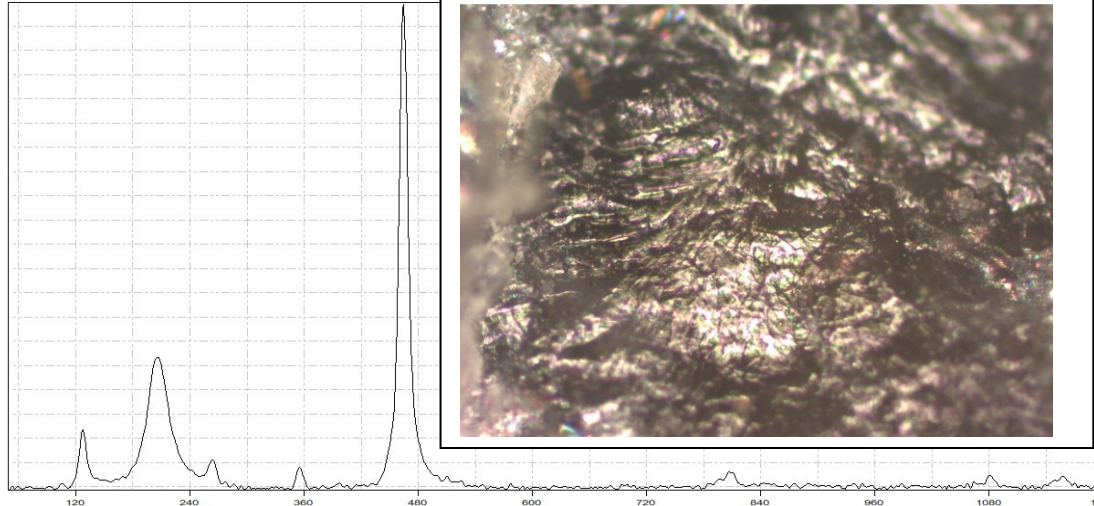
Sample Site **20**: Stone 6_spectra 1 indicates: **Quartz** (→ see RRUFF_CS results)



Sample :



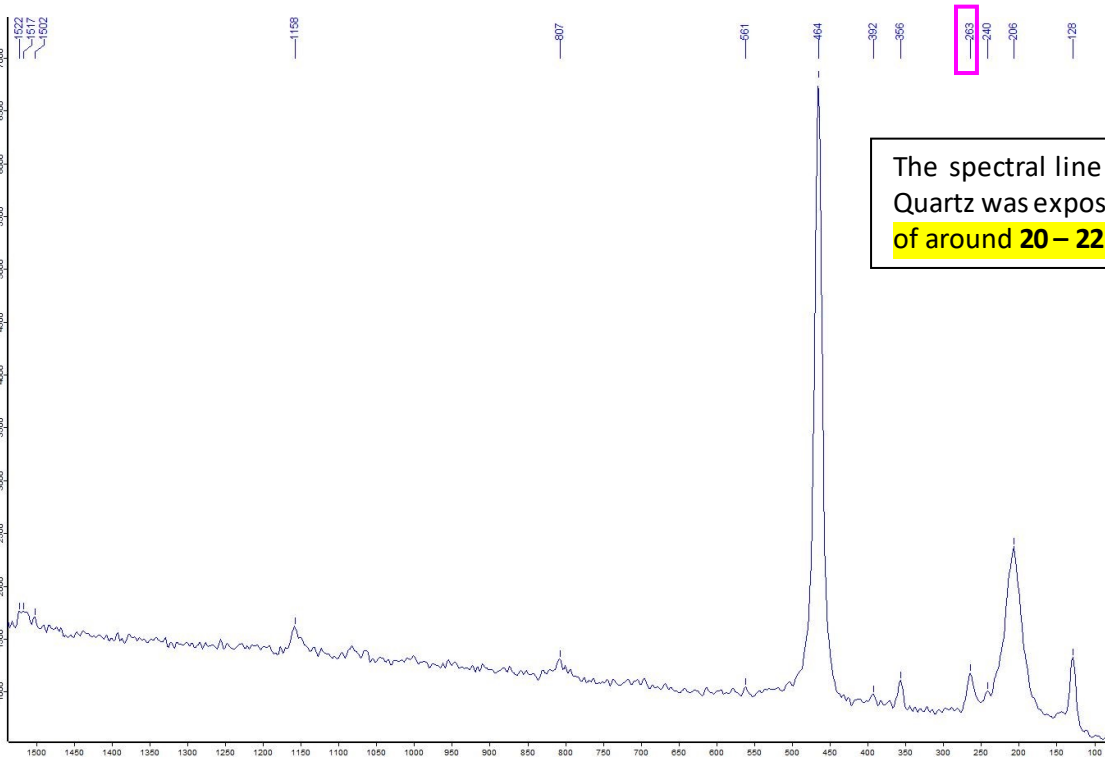
Microscopic Image : image size $\approx 350 \times 300 \mu\text{m}$



% Match:	Spectrum Name:	RRUFF ID:
99	Quartz (S32nm)	X080015
99	Quartz (S32nm)	X080016
99	Quartz (S32nm)	R050125
98	Quartz (S32nm)	R060604
98	Quartz (S32nm)	R040031
90	Dachardite-Na (S33nm)	R061116
86	Edgarbaileite (S32nm)	R060500
86	Sodalite (S32nm)	R060436
85	Sodalite (S32nm)	R040141
84	Sodalite (S32nm)	R060416
84	Sodalite (S32nm)	R060354
84	Amicite (S32nm)	R080066
84	Sodalite (S32nm)	R060405

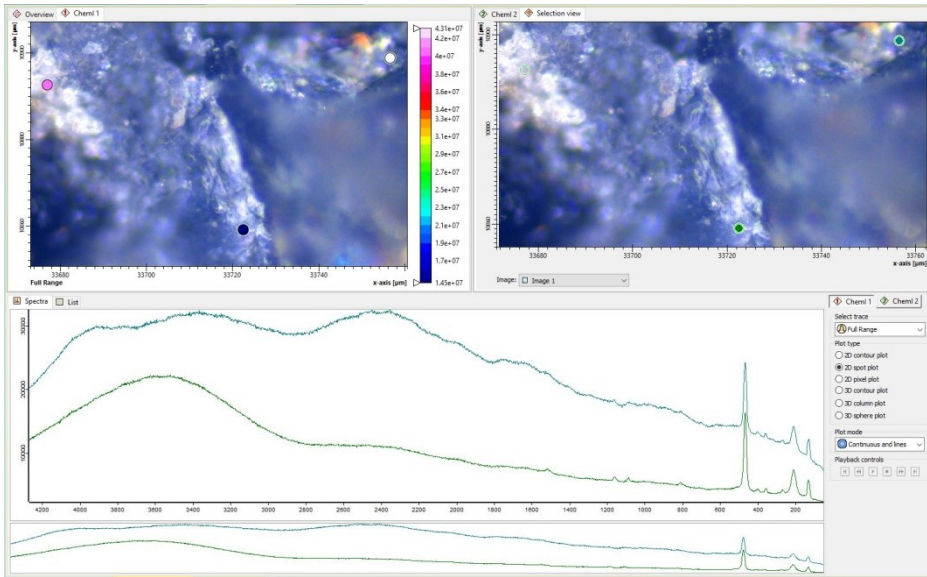
R050125
Quartz
SO_2
Linópolis, Minas Gerais, Brazil

Indication for a shock event is the shift of the marked Quartz spectral lines towards 263

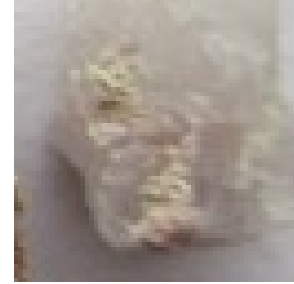


The spectral line 263 indicates that the Quartz was exposed to a **shock pressure of around 20 – 22 GPa.**

Sample Site **20**: Stone 3_spectra 1 indicates: **Quartz** (→ see RRUFF_CS results)

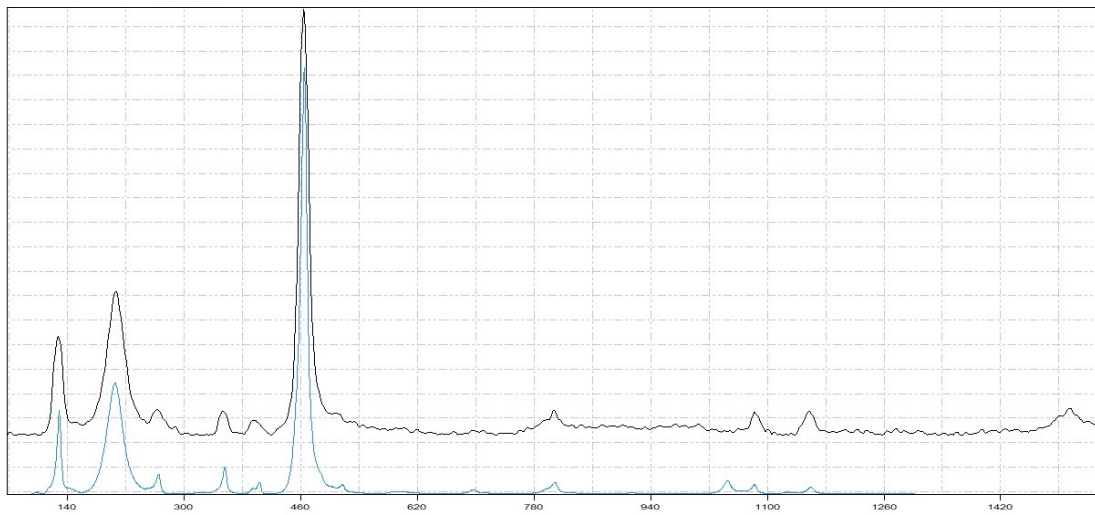


Sample :



CrystalSleuth: EXTRACT_20-IT (stone3)_0_000000_0_NK_G1

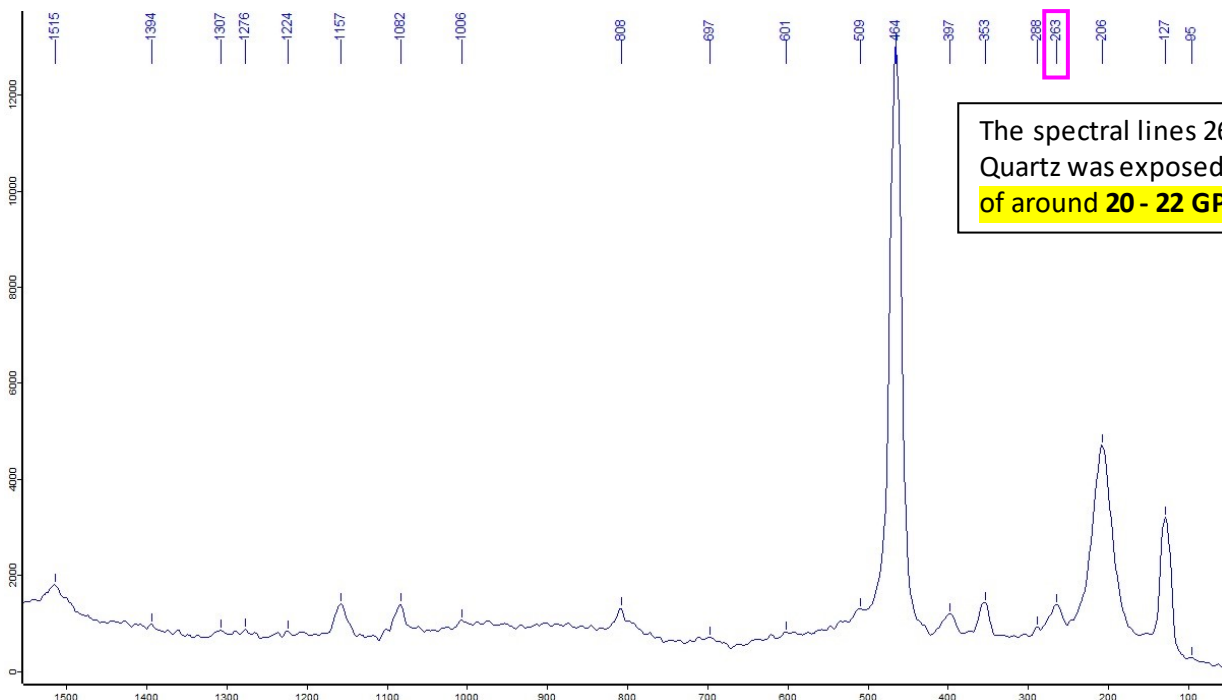
File Edit Mode Help



% Match:	Spectrum Name:	RRUFF ID:
97	<- Quartz (532nm)	X080015
97	Quartz (532nm)	X080016
96	Quartz (532nm)	R060604
96	Quartz (532nm)	R050125
96	Quartz (532nm)	R040031
90	Dachardite-Na (532nm)	R061116
86	Edgarbaleyite (532nm)	R060500
86	Amicite (532nm)	R080066
84	Sodalite (532nm)	R060435
83	Sodalite (532nm)	R060436
83	Sodalite (532nm)	R060354
83	Sodalite (532nm)	R040141
81	Synthetic (532nm)	R060405

X080015
Quartz
SiO₂
Synthetic

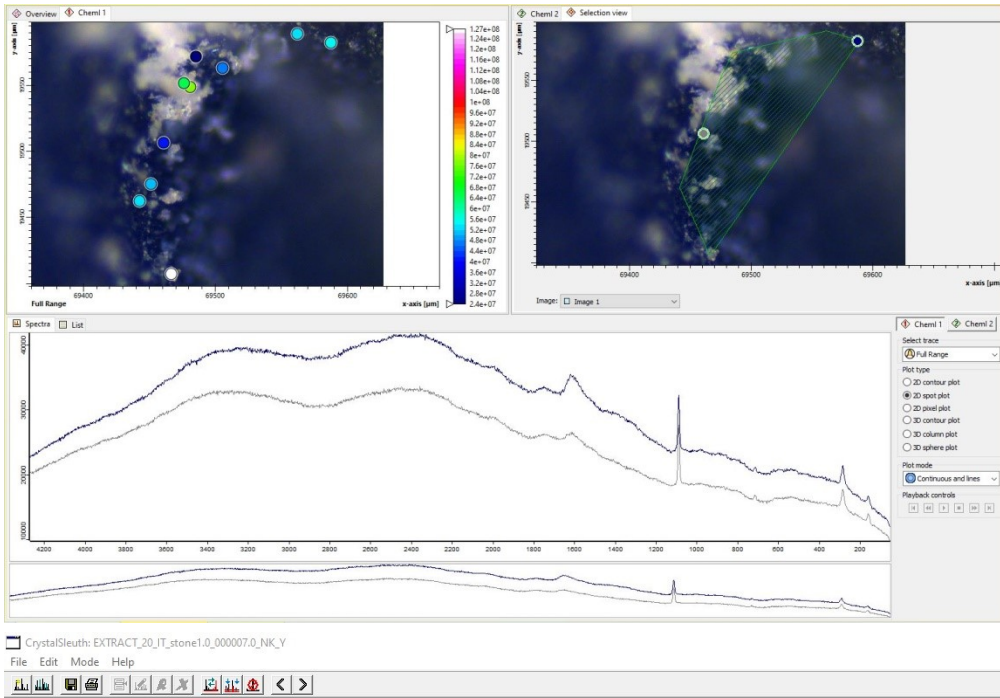
Indication for a shock event is the shift of the marked Quartz spectral lines towards 263



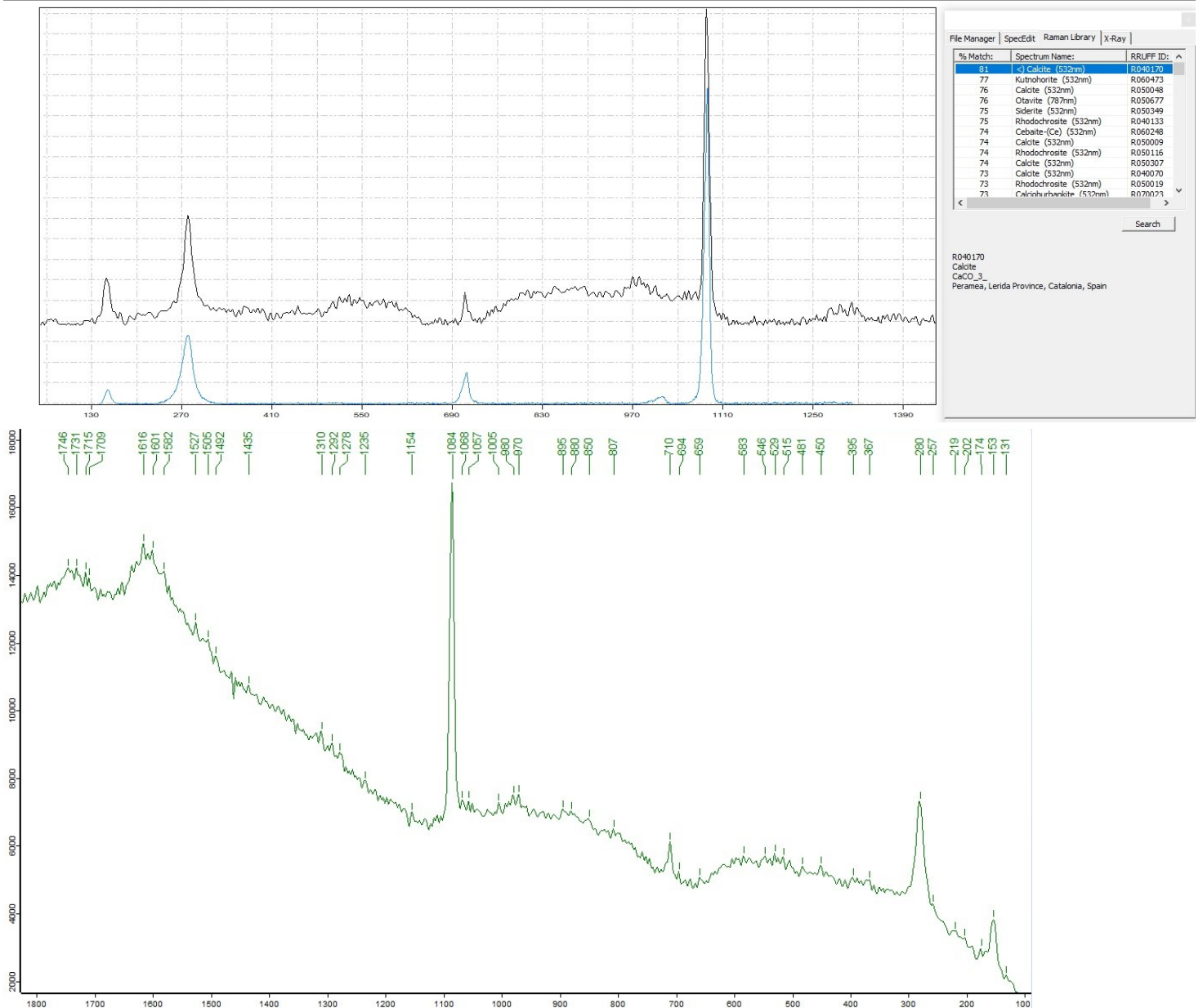
The spectral lines 263 indicates that the Quartz was exposed to a shock pressure of around 20 - 22 GPa.

OTHER SPECTRA FROM THE SAMPLES No's.: 20, 18, 17 and 22, 23 on the following pages :

Sample Site 20: Stone 1_spectra 1 indicates: Calcite (→ see RRUFF_CS results)

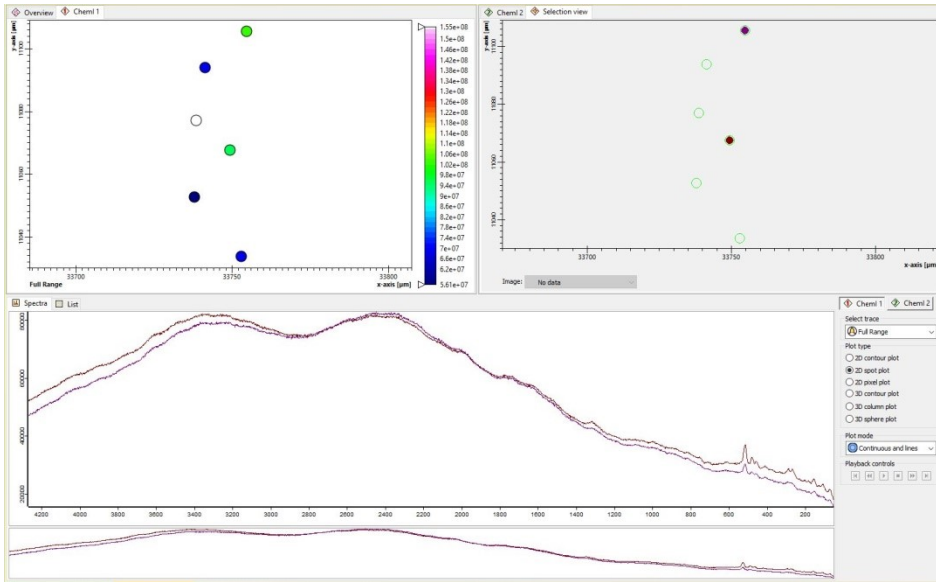


Sample :



Sample Site 20 : Stone 2_spectra 1 indicates : **Orthoclase , Microcline**

(→ see RRUFF_CS results)

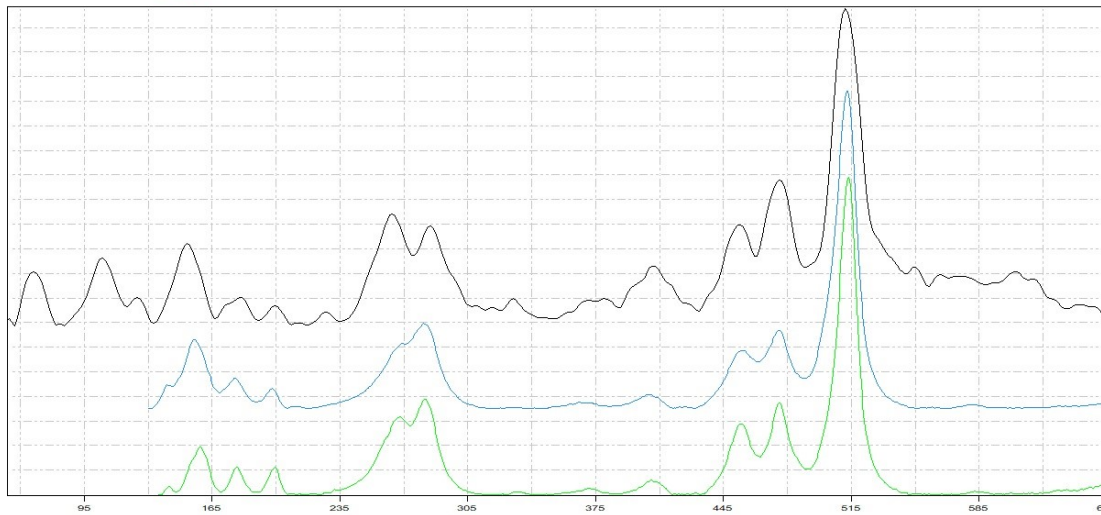


Sample :



CrystalSleuth: EXTRACT_20-IT (stone2)_0_000000_0_NK_G2

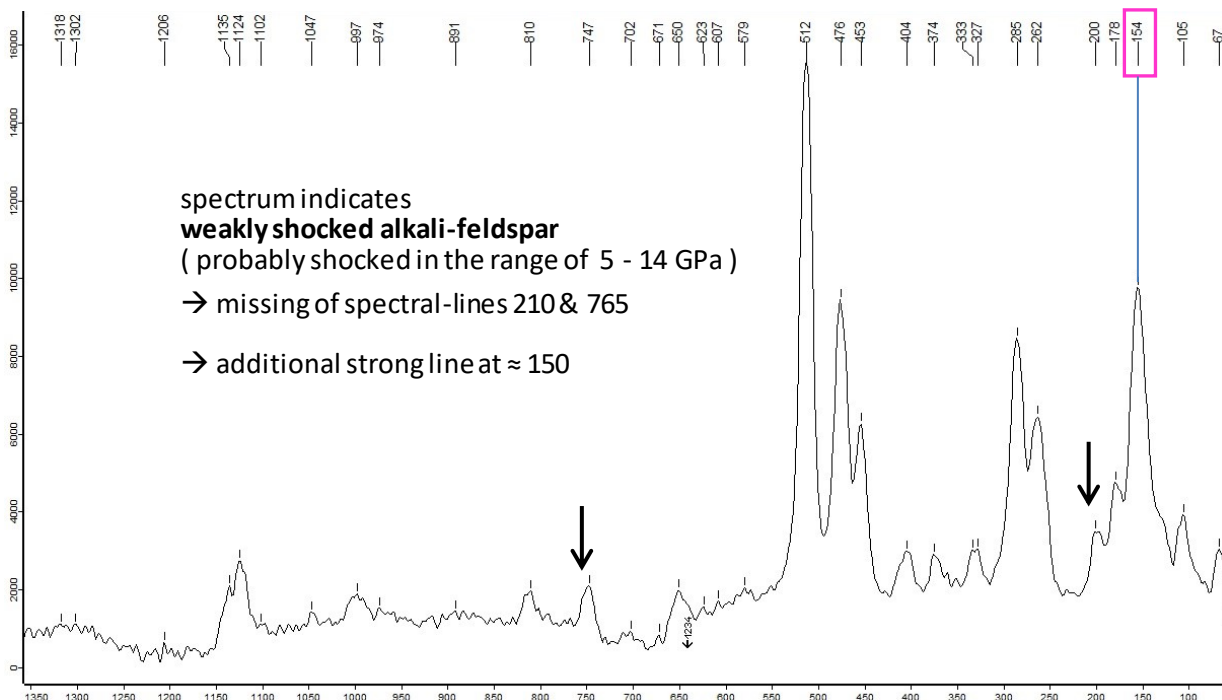
File Edit Mode Help



% Match	Spectrum Name	RRUFF ID
89	Microcline (532nm)	R050185
89	Orthoclase (532nm)	R050193
89	Orthoclase (532nm)	R040055
89	Microcline (532nm)	R050150
88	Orthoclase (532nm)	R070001
88	Microcline (532nm)	R040154
88	Microcline (532nm)	R050054
88	Orthoclase (532nm)	R050367
85	Orthoclase (532nm)	R060077
85	Labradorite (532nm)	R050104
84	Bytownite (532nm)	R070598
83	Nickelkumite (532nm)	R060573
81	Birchite (532nm)	R050546

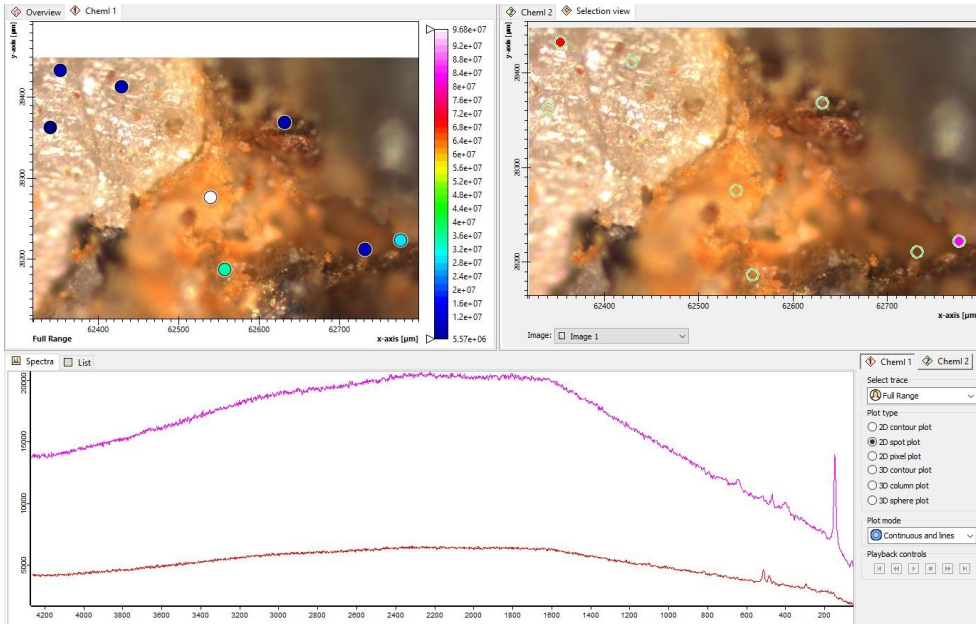
R050185
Orthoclase
KAS_3_O_8
Silca Bell Property, west of Hope, British Columbia, Canada

R050193
Microcline
KAS_3_O_8
Devil's Head, Douglas County, Colorado, USA



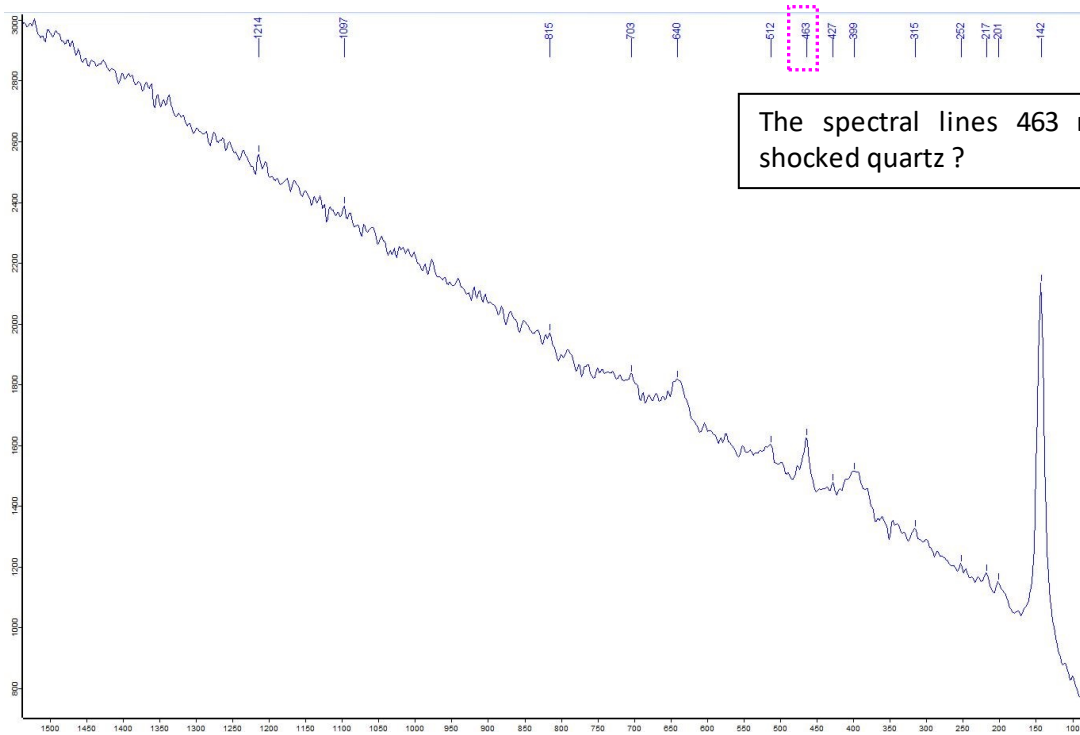
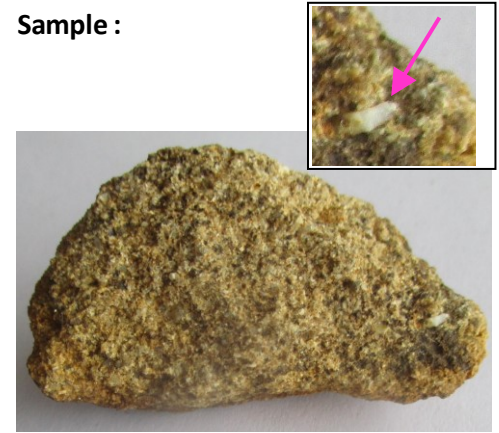
spectrum indicates
weakly shocked alkali-feldspar
(probably shocked in the range of 5 - 14 GPa)
→ missing of spectral-lines 210 & 765
→ additional strong line at ≈ 150

Sample Site 19 : Stone 1_spectra 1 (white crystal inclusion) indicates : **Microcline , (Quartz ?)**

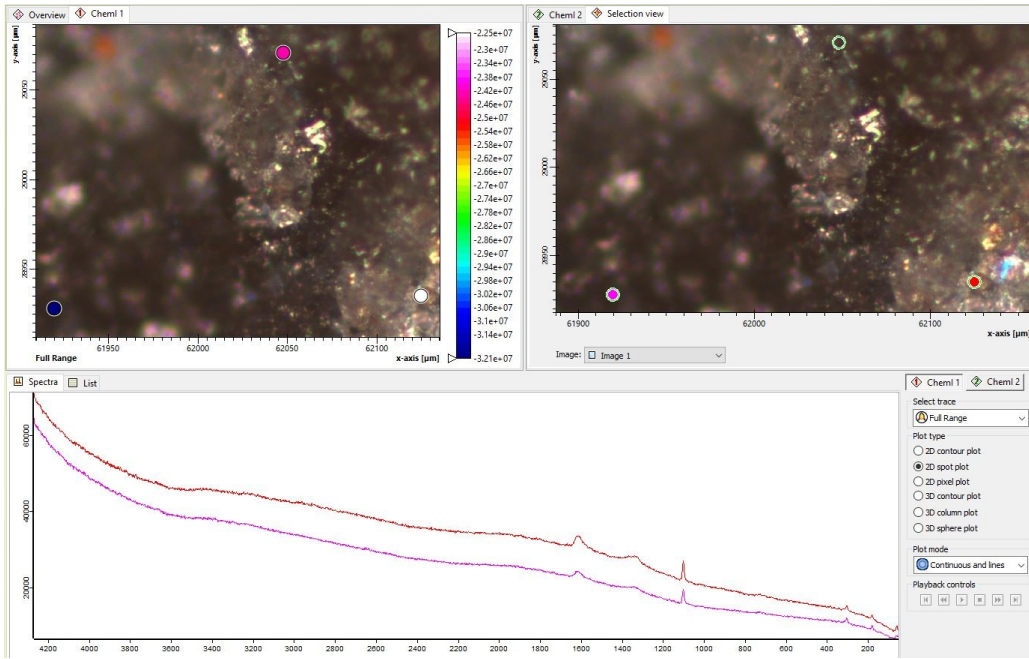


The spectrum may also indicate shocked quartz

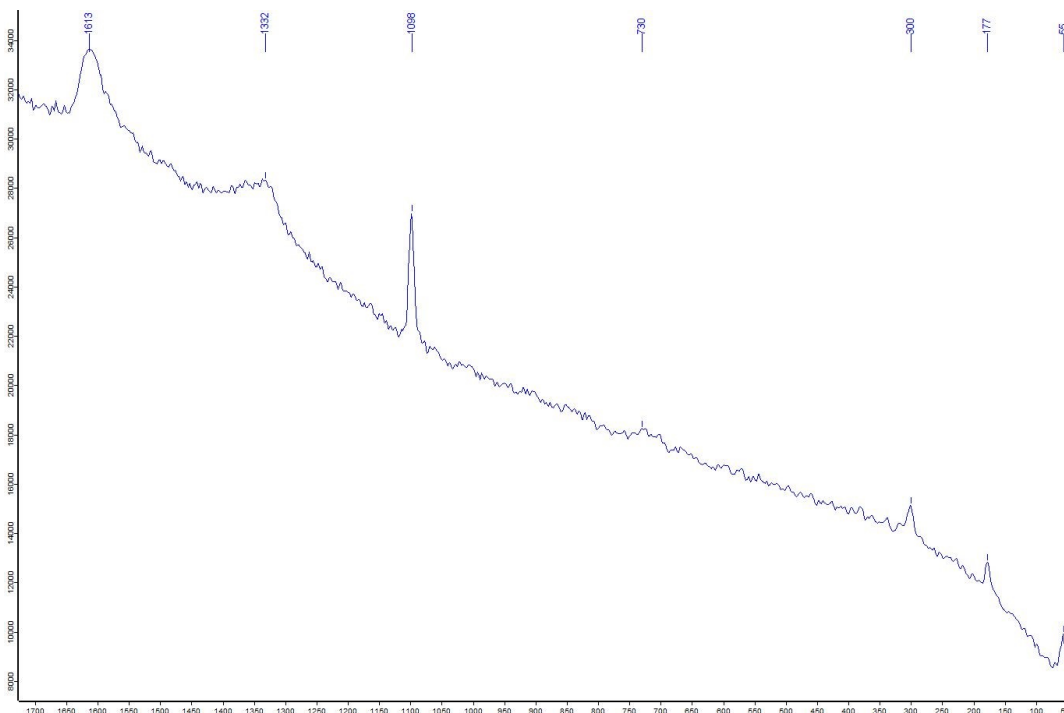
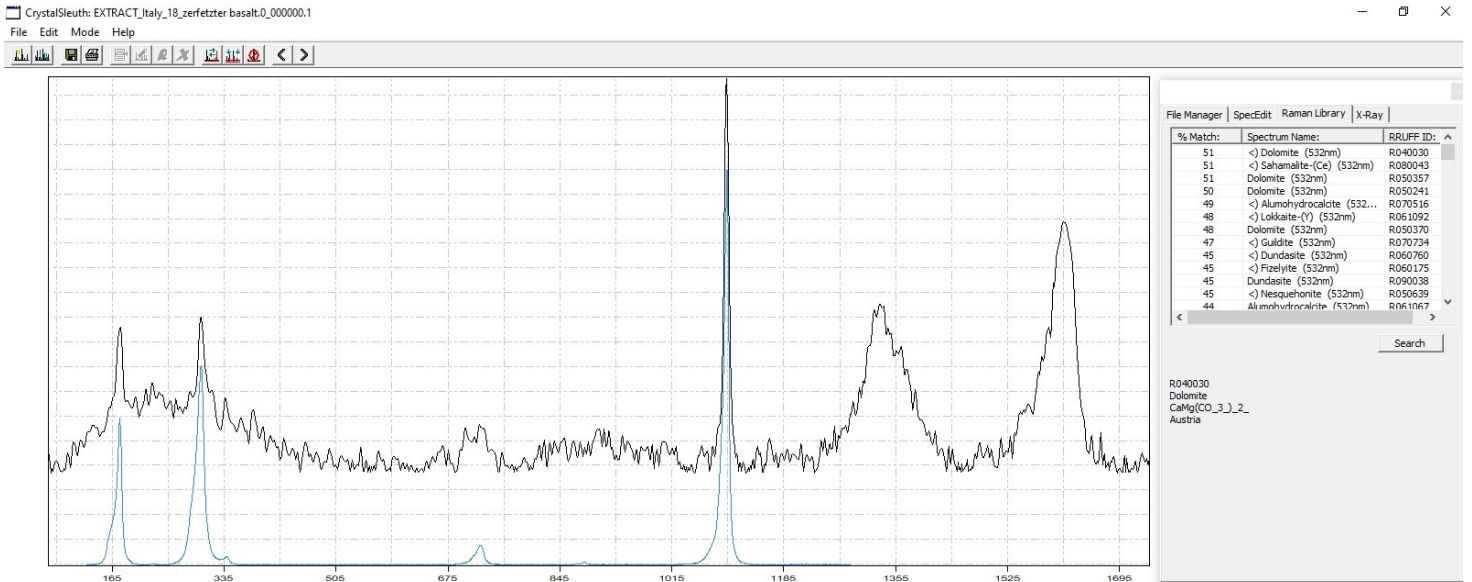
Sample :



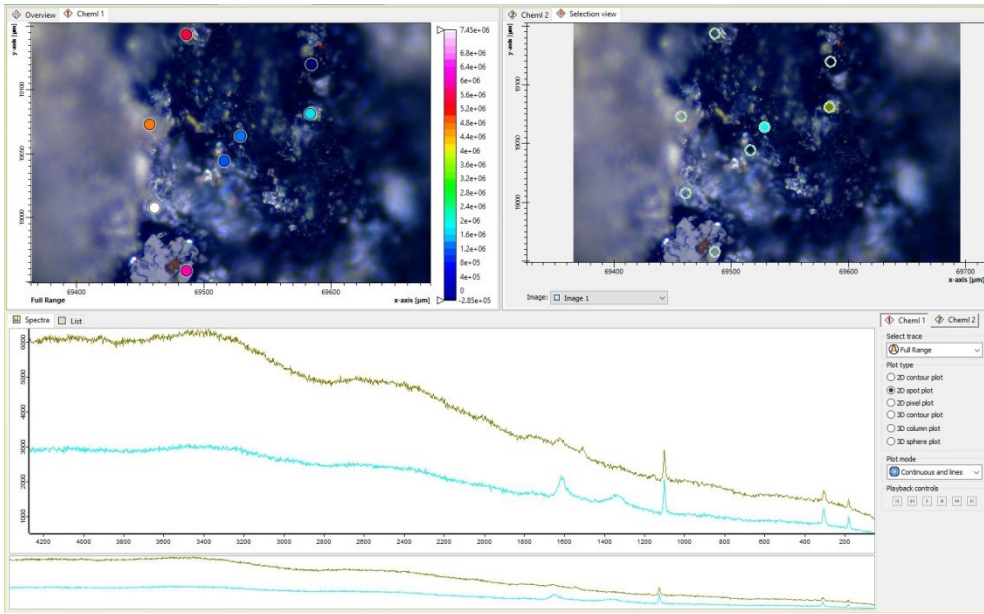
Sample Site 18 : Stone 2_spectra 1 (dark mineral) indicates : Dolomite , Sahamalite-(Ce) (→ RRUFF_CS)



Sample :



Sample Site 18: Stone 1_spectra 1 (dark mineral) indicates: Dolomite, Sahamalite-(Ce) (→ RRUFF_CS)

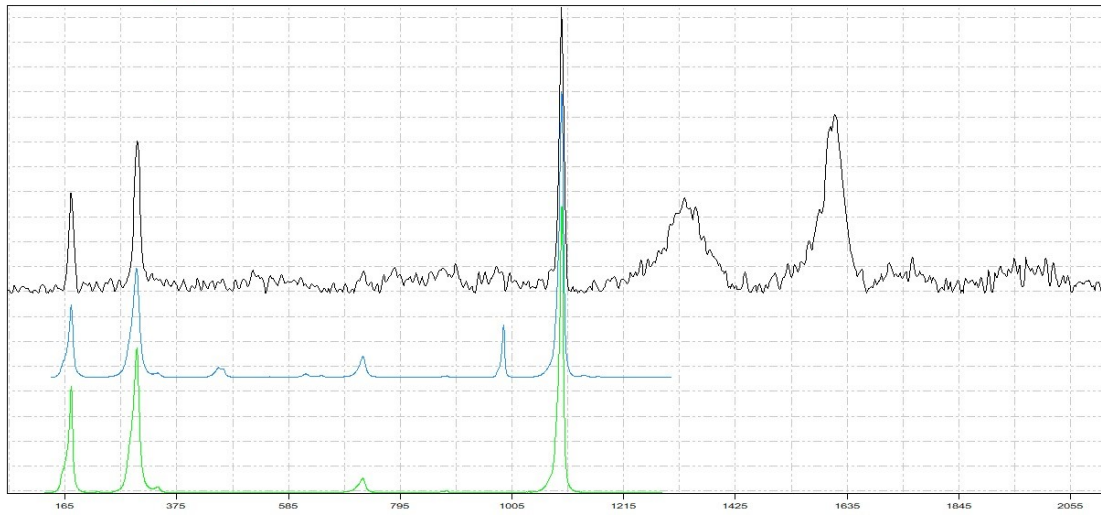


Sample :



CrystalSleuth: EXTRACT_18-A-B(T)_dunkel(black)_0_000000_0_NK_G1

File Edit Mode Help

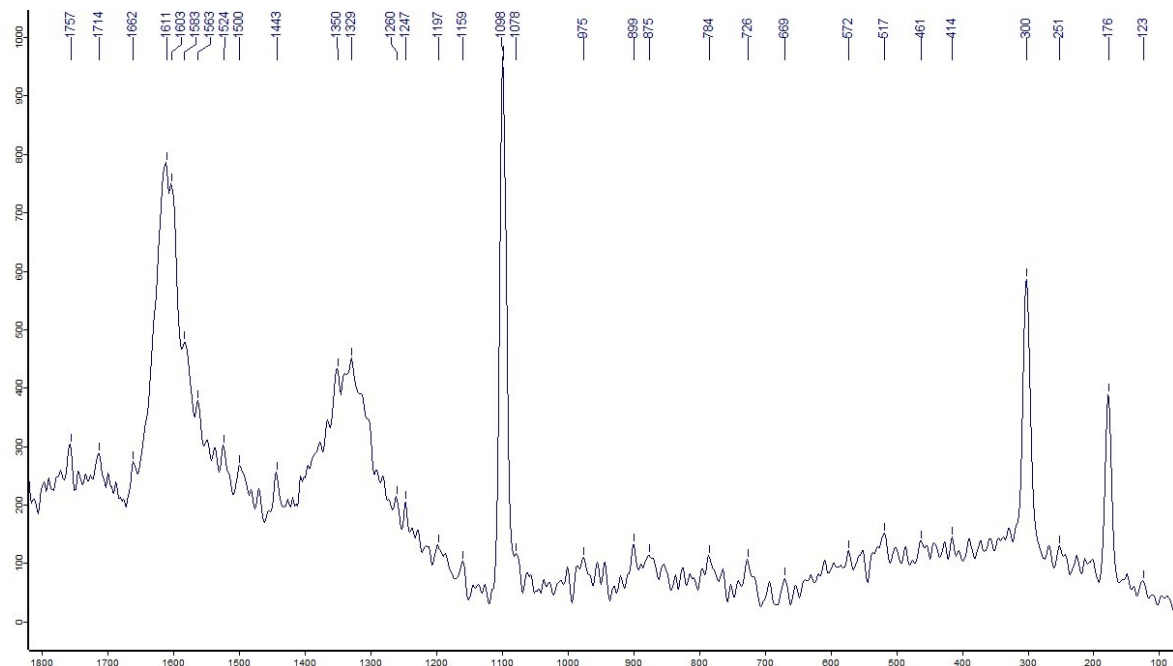


% Match:	Spectrum Name:	RRUFF ID:
58	< Sahamalite-(Ce) (532nm)	R080043
57	< Dolomite (532nm)	R040030
57	Dolomite (532nm)	R050357
56	Dolomite (532nm)	R050241
53	Dolomite (532nm)	R050370
48	Nesquehonte (532nm)	R050639
48	Dolomite (532nm)	R050272
45	Roselite (532nm)	R050294
44	Lokkaiite-(Y) (532nm)	R061092
44	Kimuraitite-(Y) (736nm)	R050586
44	Smithsonite (532nm)	R040035
44	Smithsonite (532nm)	R040051
43	Dolomite (532nm)	R050129

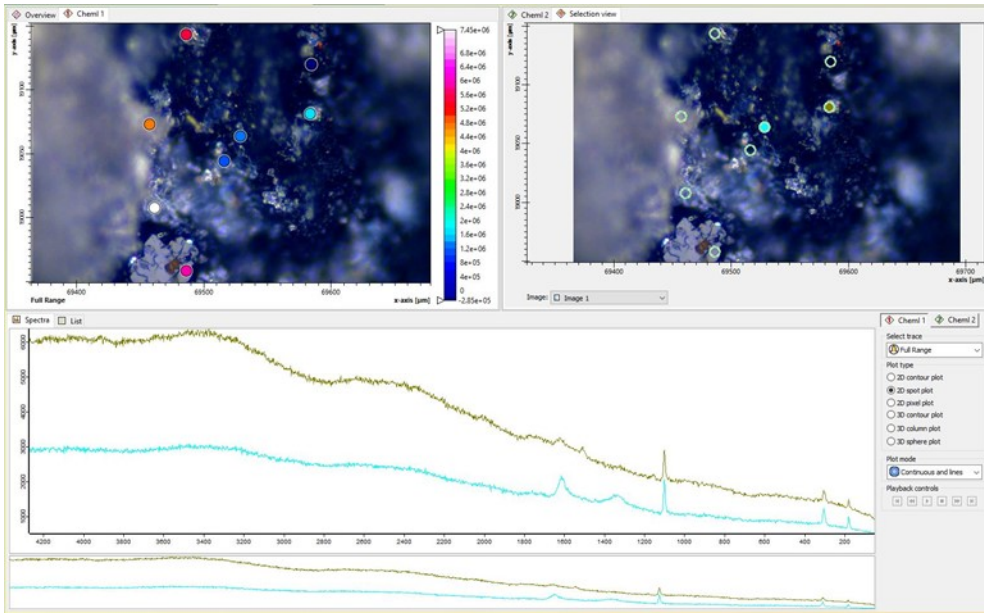
Search

R080043
Sahamalite-(Ce)
Ce₂Mg(CO₃)₄
Mountain Pass Mine (Sulfide Queen mine; Bastnaesite deposit; Mo

R040030
Dolomite
CaMg(CO₃)₂
Austria



Sample Site **18**: Stone 1_spectra 2 (dark mineral) indicates: **Dolomite, Sahamalite-(Ce)** (→ RRUFF_CS)

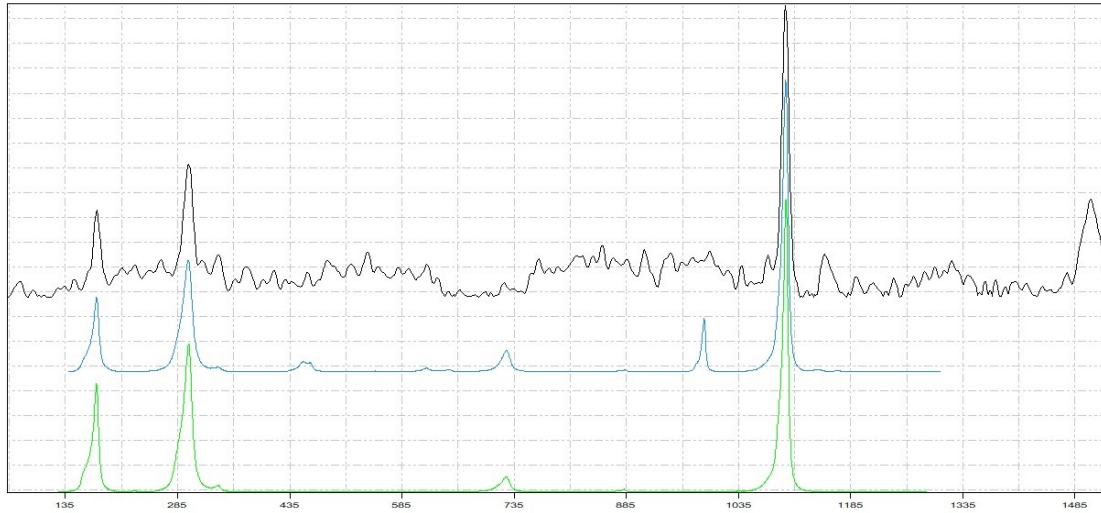


Sample :



CrystalSleuth: EXTRACT_18-A-B(T)_dunkel(black)_0_000007_1_NK_G2

File Edit Mode Help

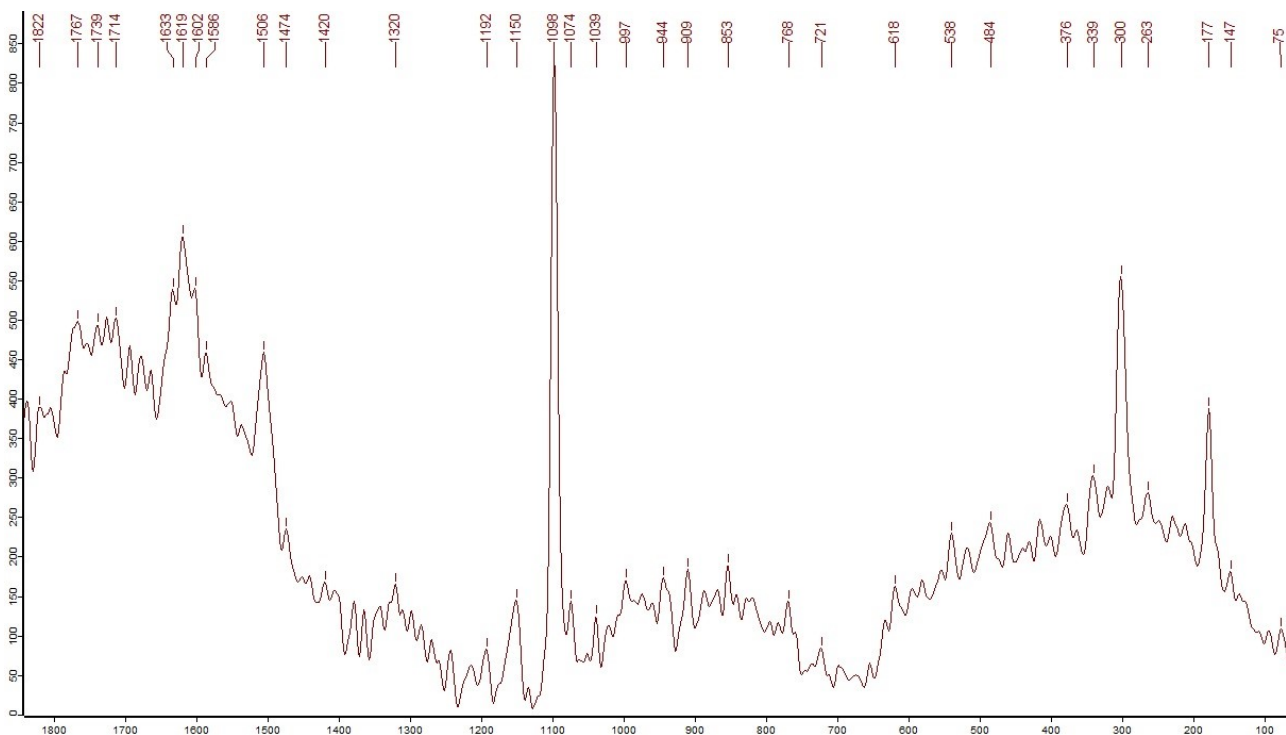


% Match	Spectrum Name	RRUFF ID
75	< Sahamalite-(Ce) (532nm)	R080043
73	< Dolomite (532nm)	R040030
73	Dolomite (532nm)	R050357
72	Dolomite (532nm)	R050241
69	Dolomite (532nm)	R050370
67	Alumhydrocalcite (532nm)	R070516
65	Nesquehonite (532nm)	R050639
64	Dundasite (532nm)	R060760
64	Dolomite (532nm)	R050272
64	Lokkaiite-(Y) (532nm)	R061092
63	Tengerrite-(Y) (532nm)	R050480
61	Kimuraita-(Y) (736nm)	R050586
61	Roselite (532nm)	R050794

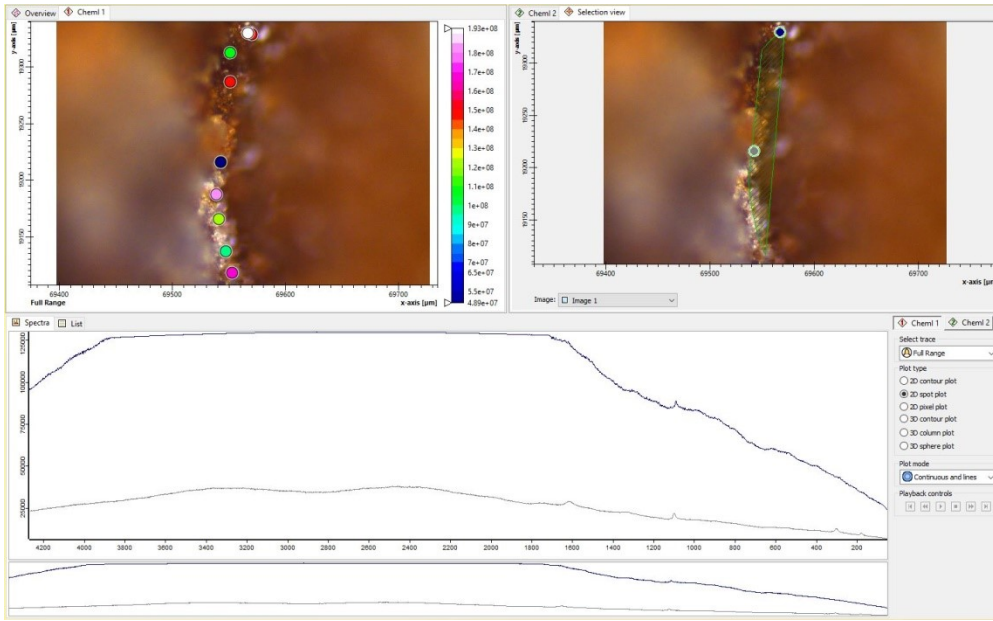
Search

R080043
Sahamalite-(Ce)
Ca₂Mg(CO₃)₂
Mountain Pass Mine (Sulfide Queen mine; Bastnaesite deposit; Mo)

R040030
Dolomite
CaMg(CO₃)₂
Austria



Sample Site 18 : Stone 1_spectra 3 (red mineral) indicates : Dolomite , Sahamalite (→ see RRUFF_CS)



Sample :



CrystalSleuth: EXTRACT_18-A-B(IT)_red_0_000000_0_NK_G2

File Edit Mode Help

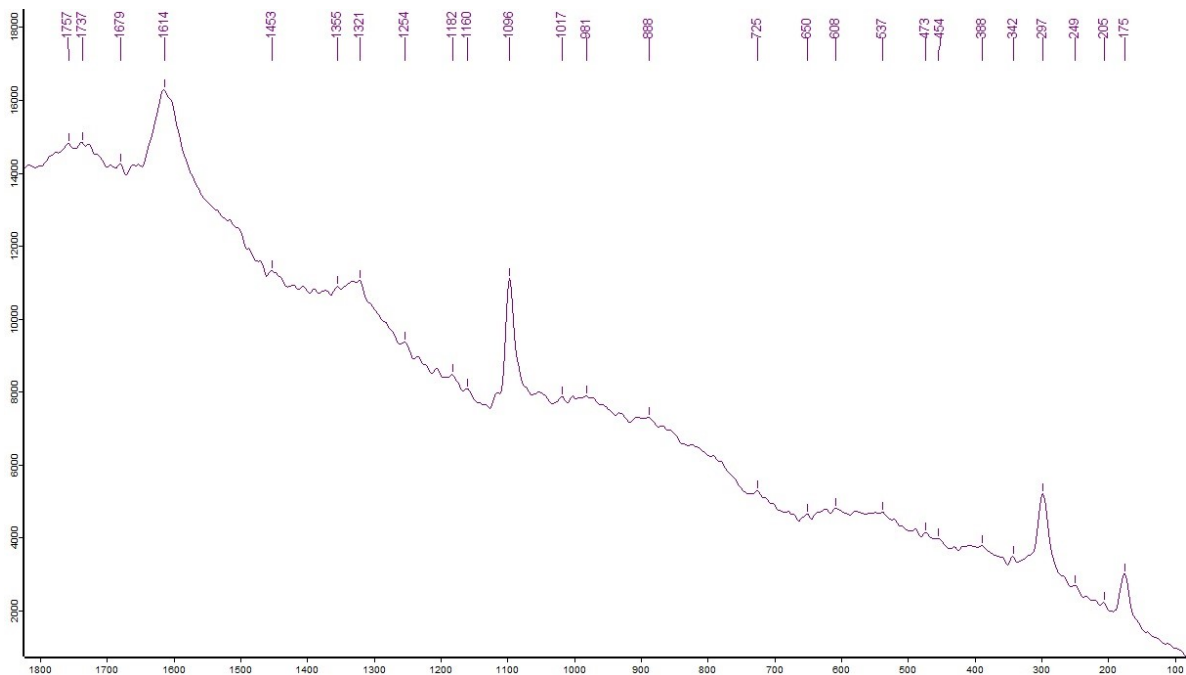


% Match	Spectrum Name	RRUFF ID
66	<-> Sahamalite-(Ce) (532nm)	R080043
66	Znucalite (532nm)	R070483
65	Falserite (532nm)	R070221
65	<-> Dolomite (532nm)	R040030
65	Runkite (532nm)	R050229
65	Gratonite (532nm)	R060956
65	Derbylite (532nm)	R070382
65	Isiolite (532nm)	R070495
65	Sonolite (532nm)	R070752
65	Yuksporite (532nm)	R060818
65	Imiterite (532nm)	R080014
65	Tengerite-(Y) (532nm)	R060480
64	Stillwellite-(Ca) (532nm)	R060911

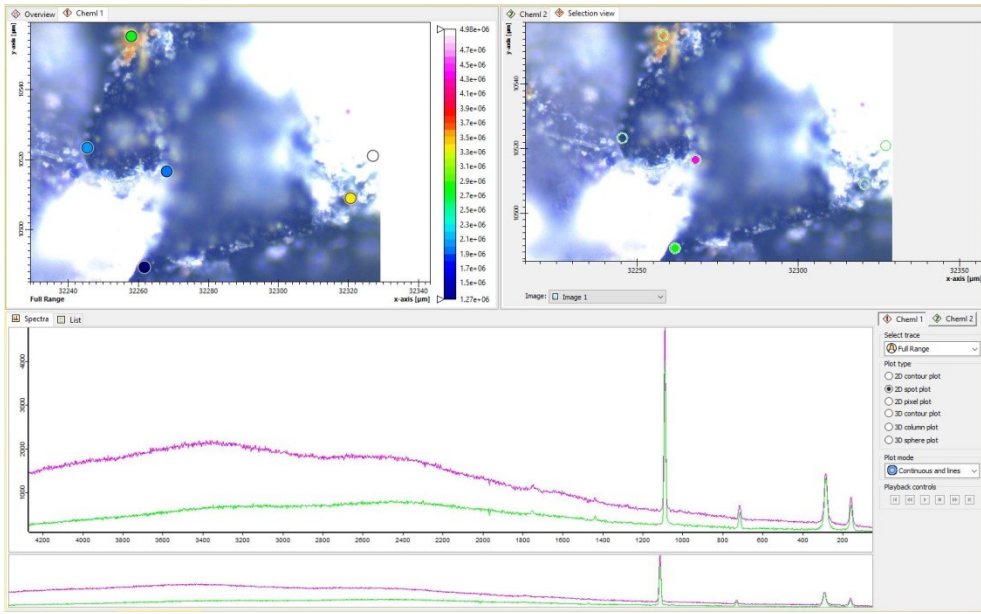
Search

R080043
Sahamalite-(Ce)
Ce₂Mg(CO₃)₄
Mountain Pass Mine (Sulfide Queen mine; Bastnaesite deposit; Mo

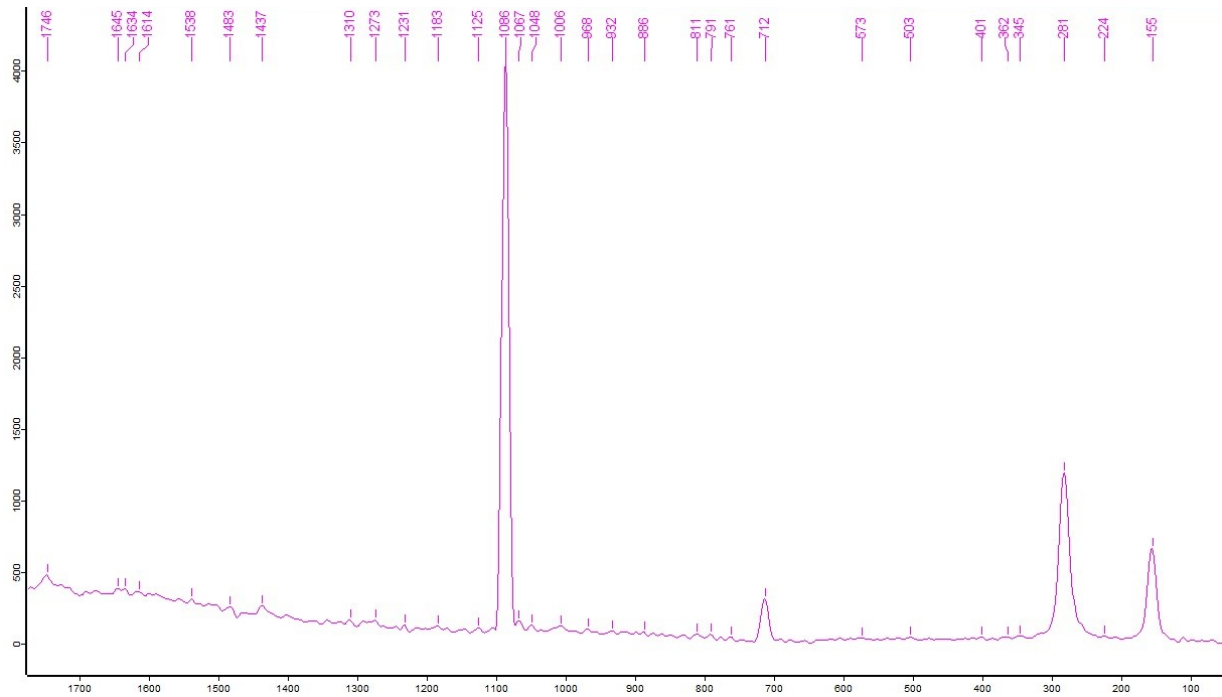
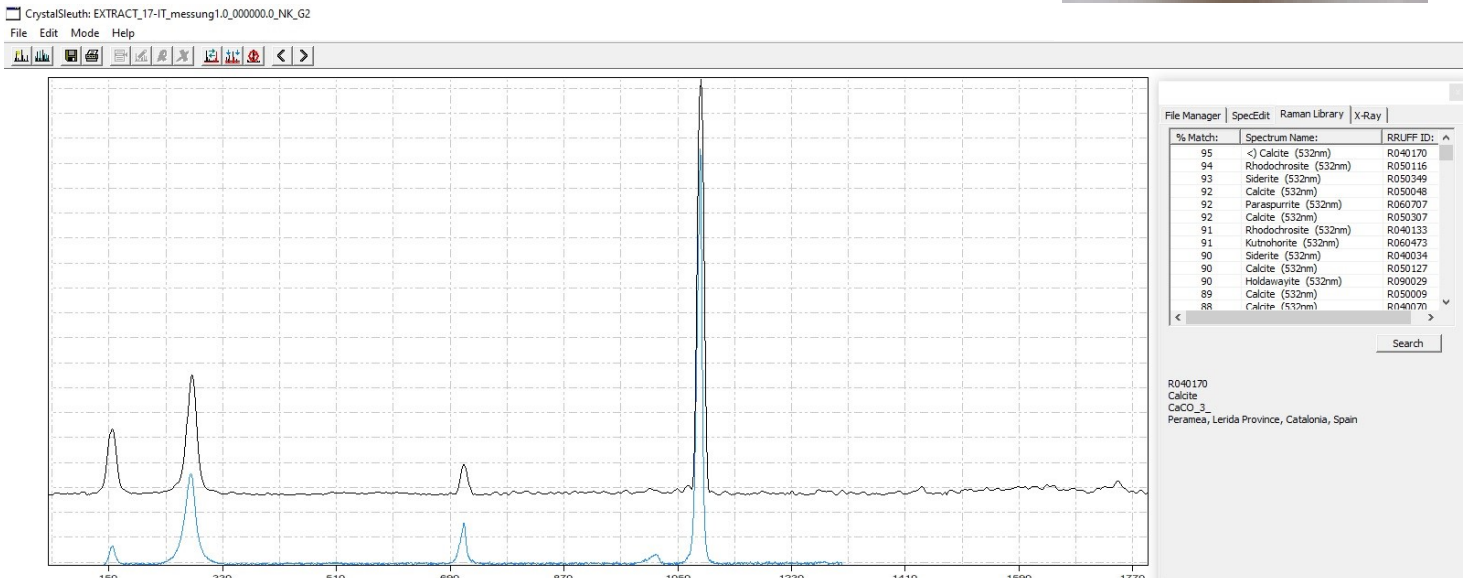
R040030
Dolomite
CaMg(CO₃)₂
Austria



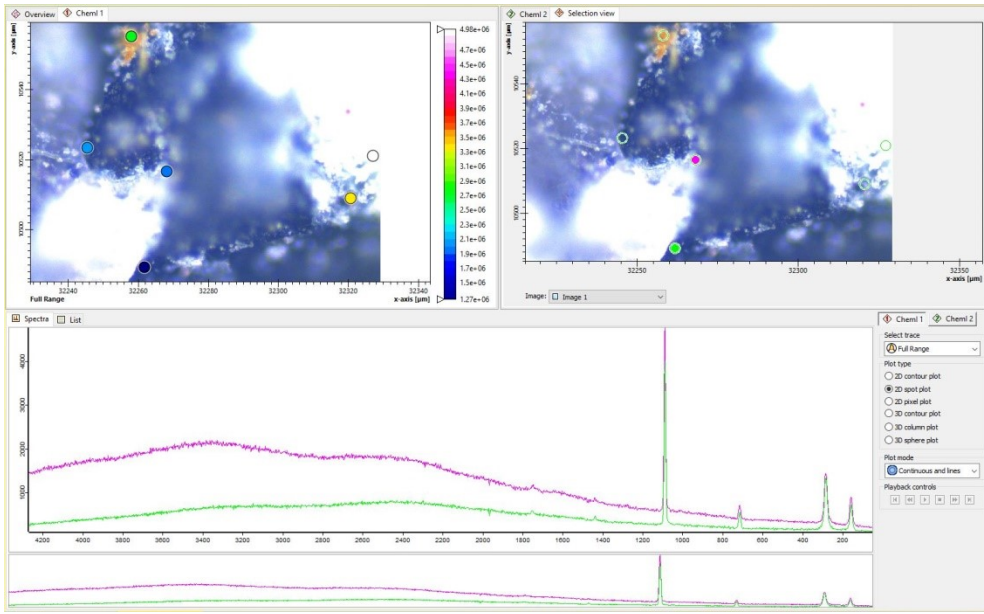
Sample Site **17**: Stone 1_spectra 1 indicates: **Calcite** (→ see RRUFF_CS)



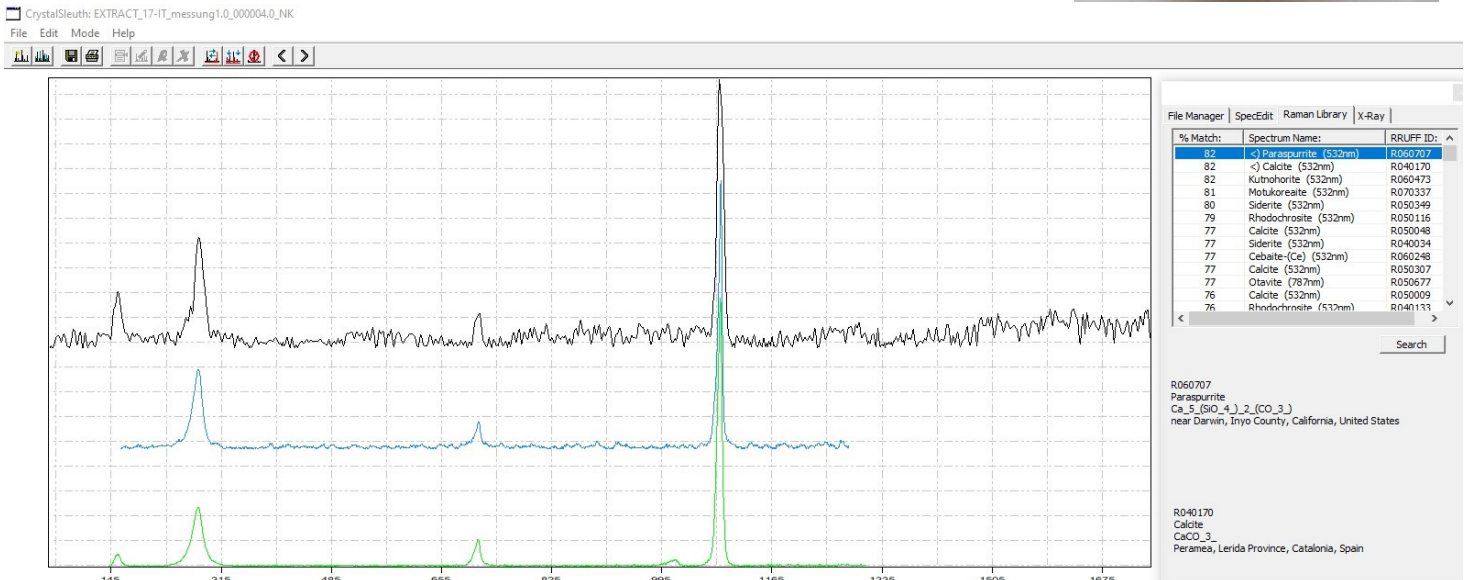
Sample:



Sample Site **17** : Stone 1_spectra 2 indicates : **Calcite , Paraspurrite** (→ see RRUFF_CS)

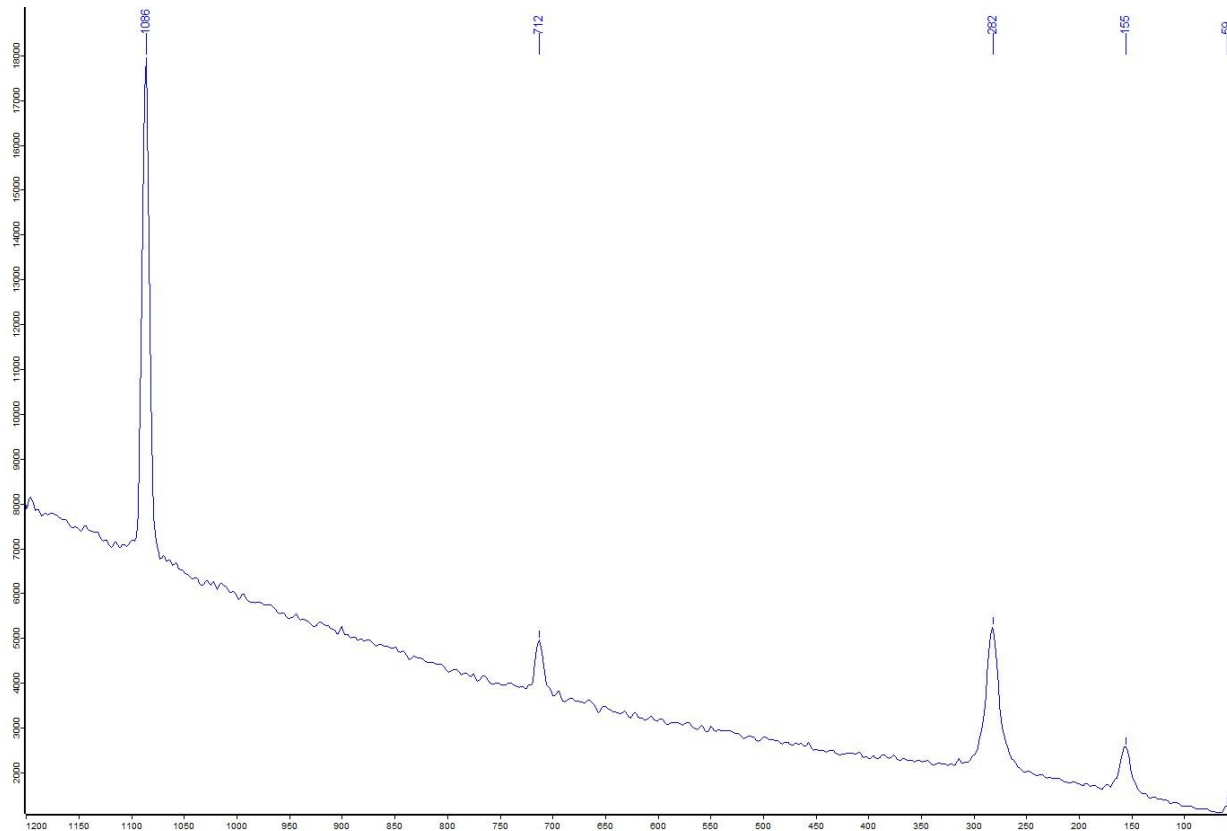
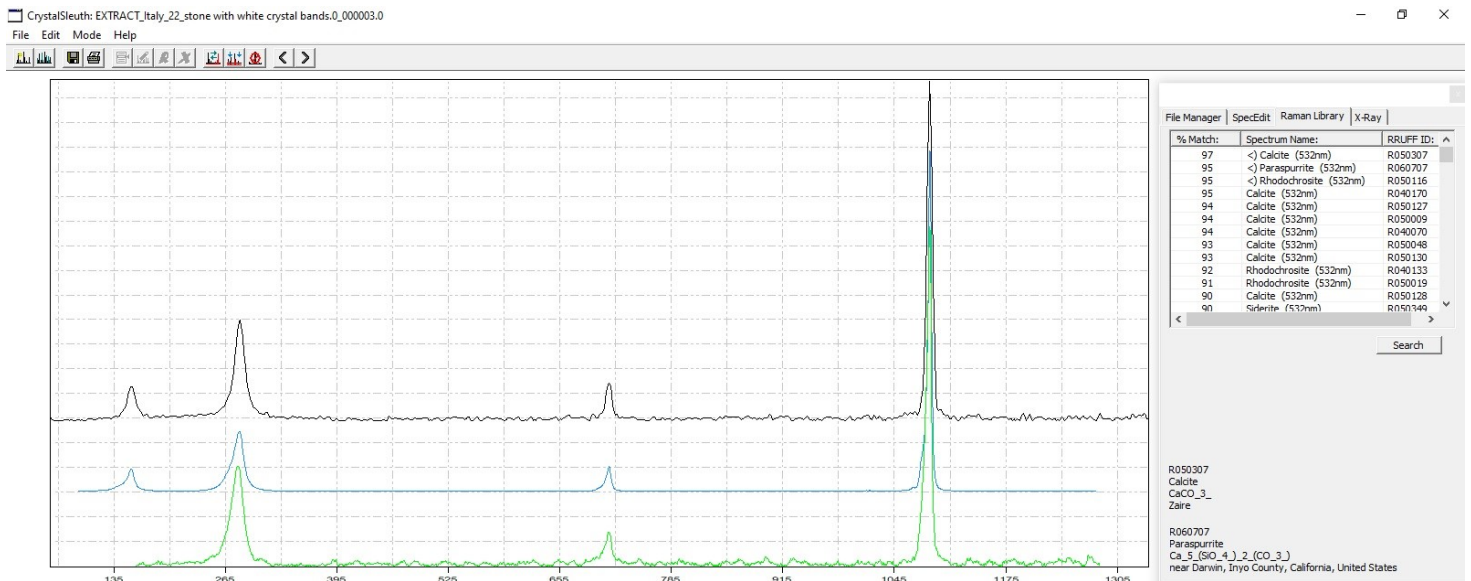


Sample :

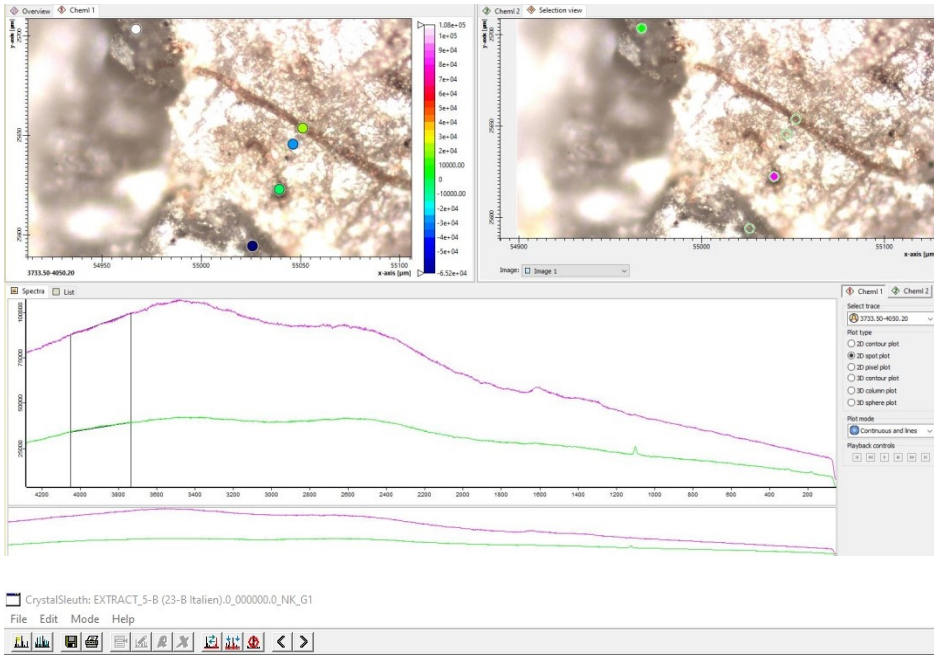


Sample Site **22**: Stone 1_spectra 1 indicates: **Calcite, Paraspurrite** (→ see RRUFF_CS)

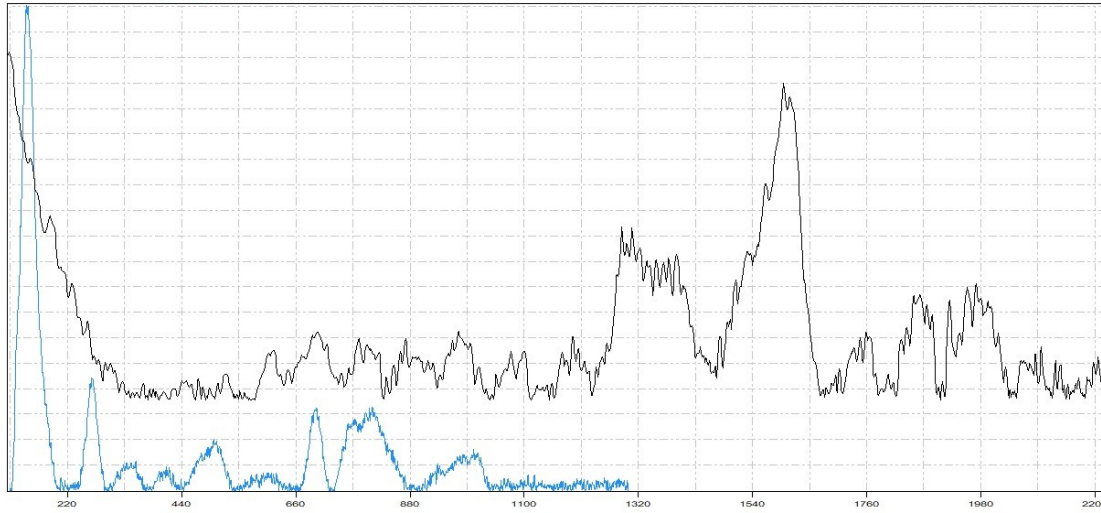
Sample :



Sample Site **23-B** : Stone 1_spectra 1 indicates : **Bokite** etc. (→ see RRUFF_CS results)

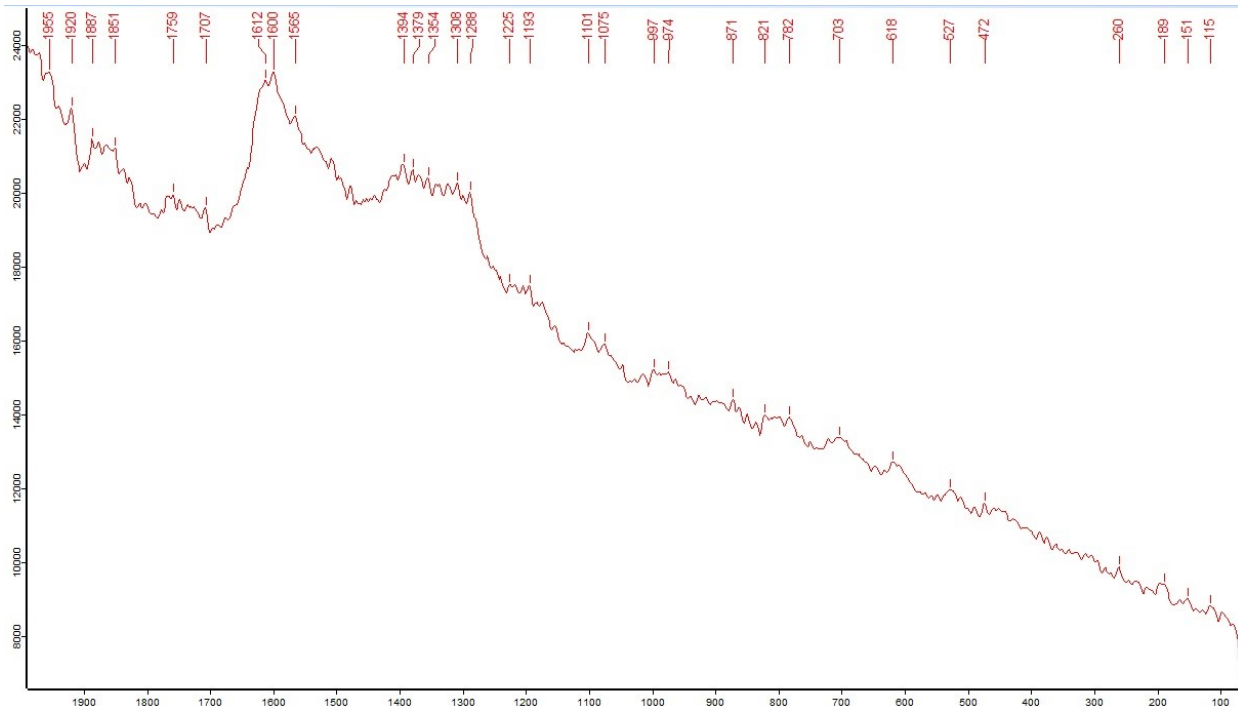


Sample :



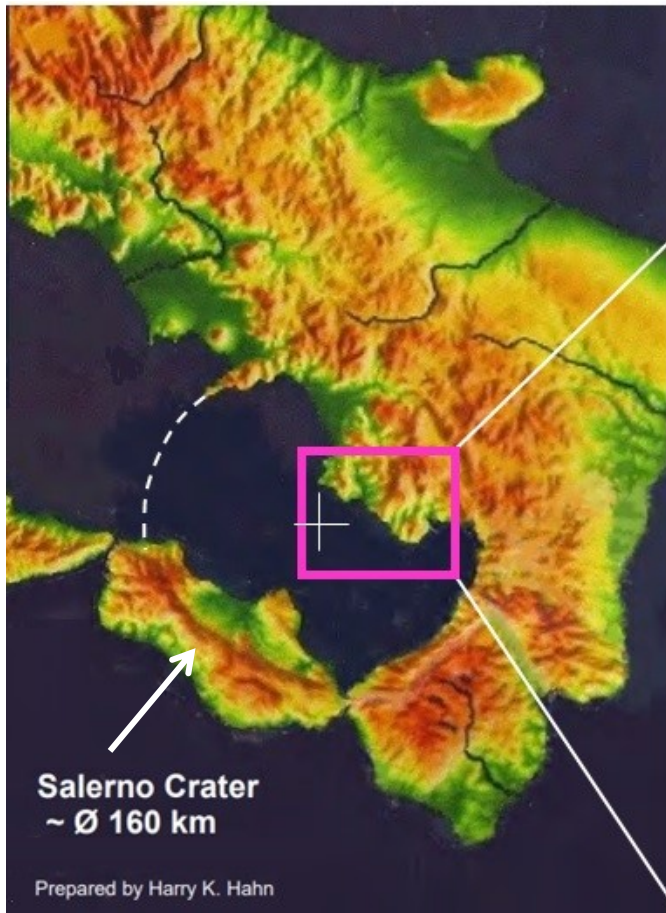
% Match	Spectrum Name	RRUFF ID
78	<1> Bokite (532nm)	R060590
78	Chalcopyrite (532nm)	R050222
78	Antimony (532nm)	R050554
78	Pyrrhotite (532nm)	R050290
78	Teclinite (532nm)	R060887
78	Pavonite (532nm)	R070566
78	Aqualite (532nm)	R070413
78	Tsumotoite (532nm)	R080099
78	Dravite (532nm)	R050059
78	Sibirite (532nm)	R050066
78	Calomel (532nm)	R070499
78	Mordenite (532nm)	R061118
78	Siferawit (532nm)	R061144

R060590
Bokite
(Al,Fe,K)₁₋₃(V,V,Fe)₈O₂₀#183;7.5H₂O
Monument #2 mine, Apache County, Arizona, USA

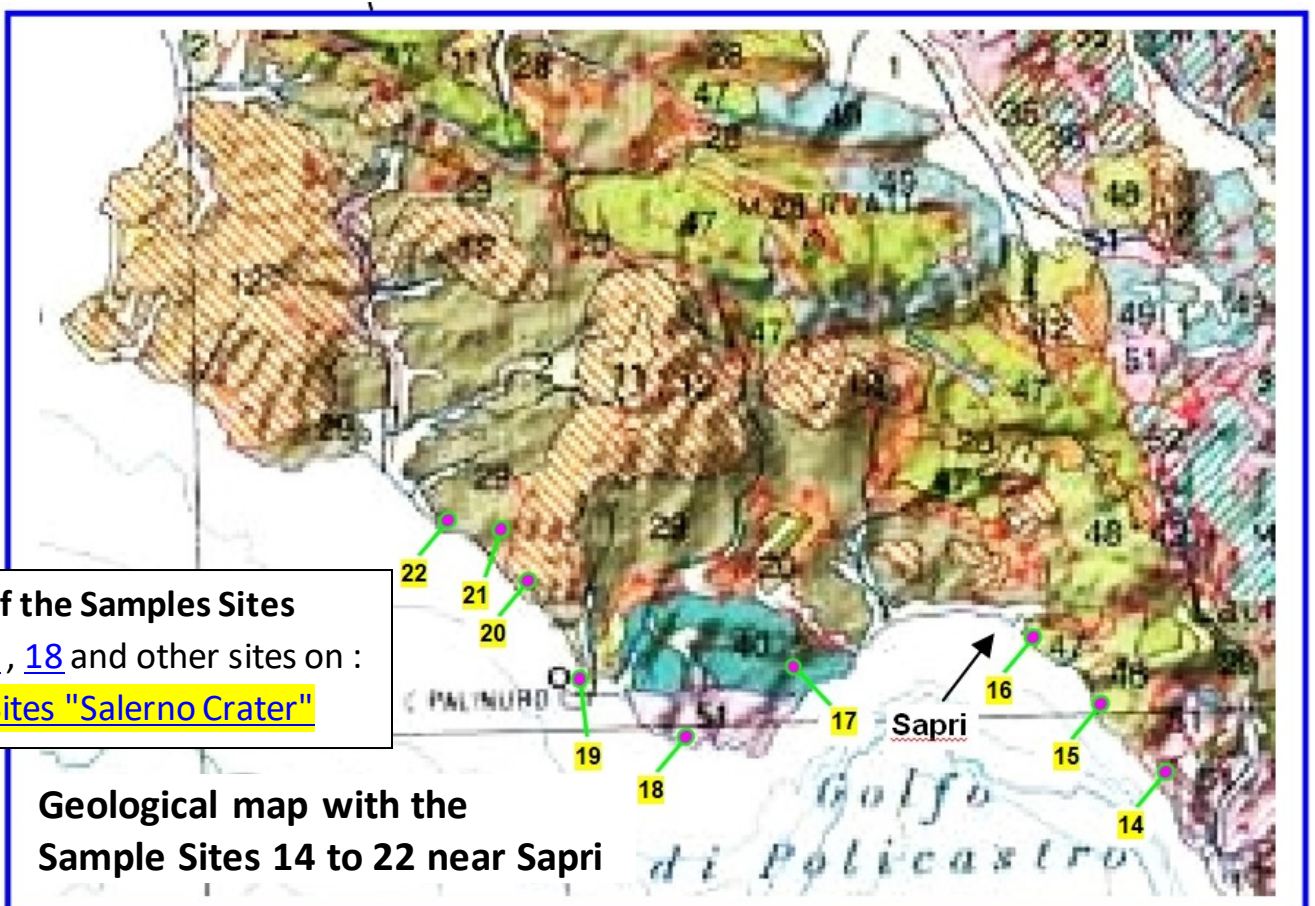
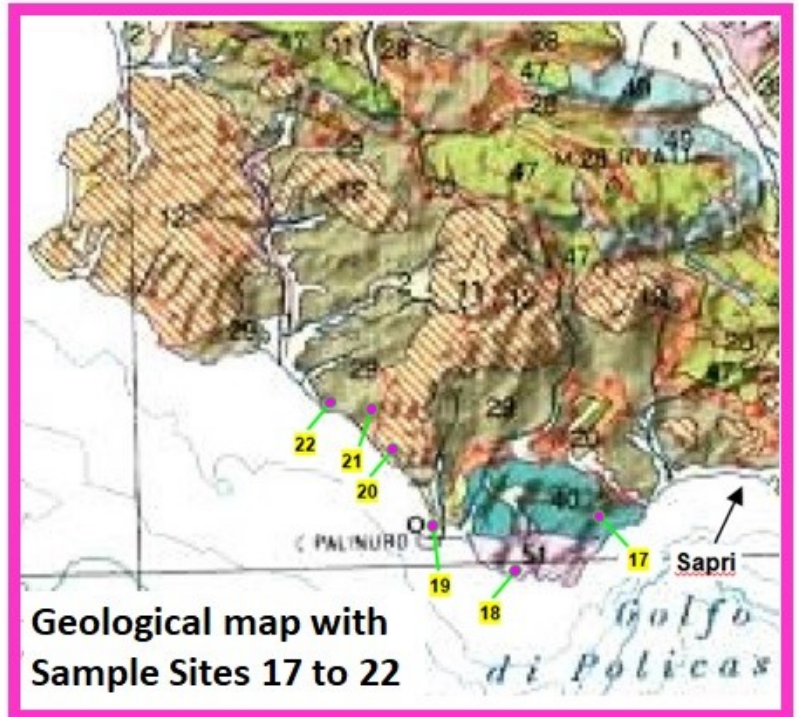


Appendix 1 : Photos of rock samples from sample sites 21-B and 18 to 23 → see next page !

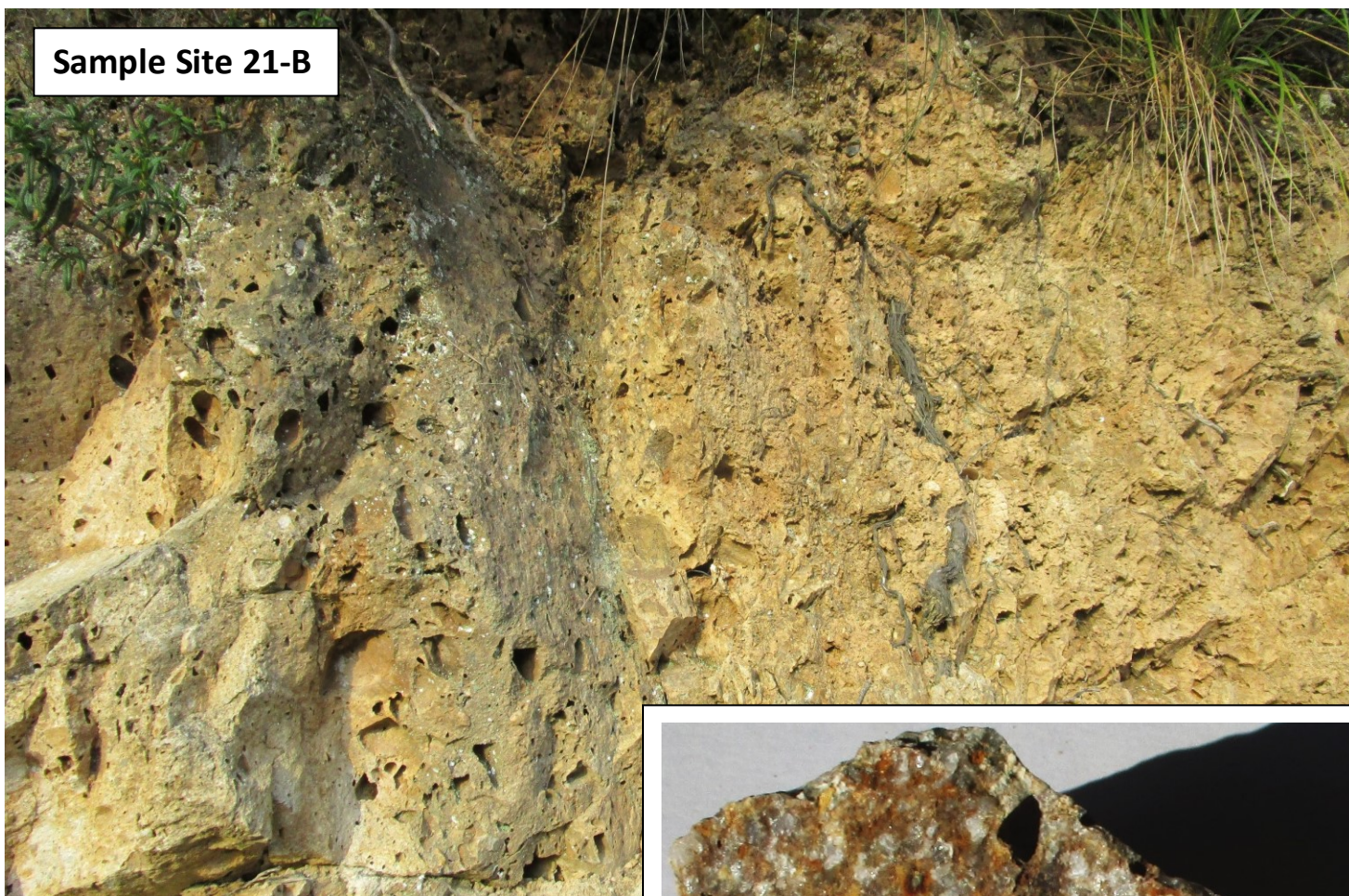
Note : Photos of all Samples Sites [18](#), [19](#), [20](#), [21-B](#), [22](#) & [23-B](#) and other sample sites are available on my website. → see weblink: [Sample Sites "Salerno Crater"](#)



The manipulated topographic map on the left shows the probable position of the crust fragments which form Italy, at the time of the P/T-Impact ≈253 Ma ago



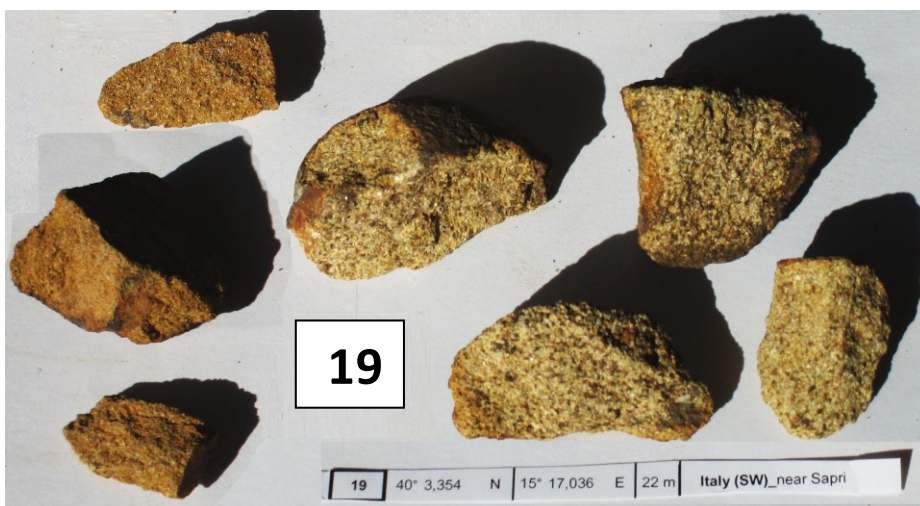
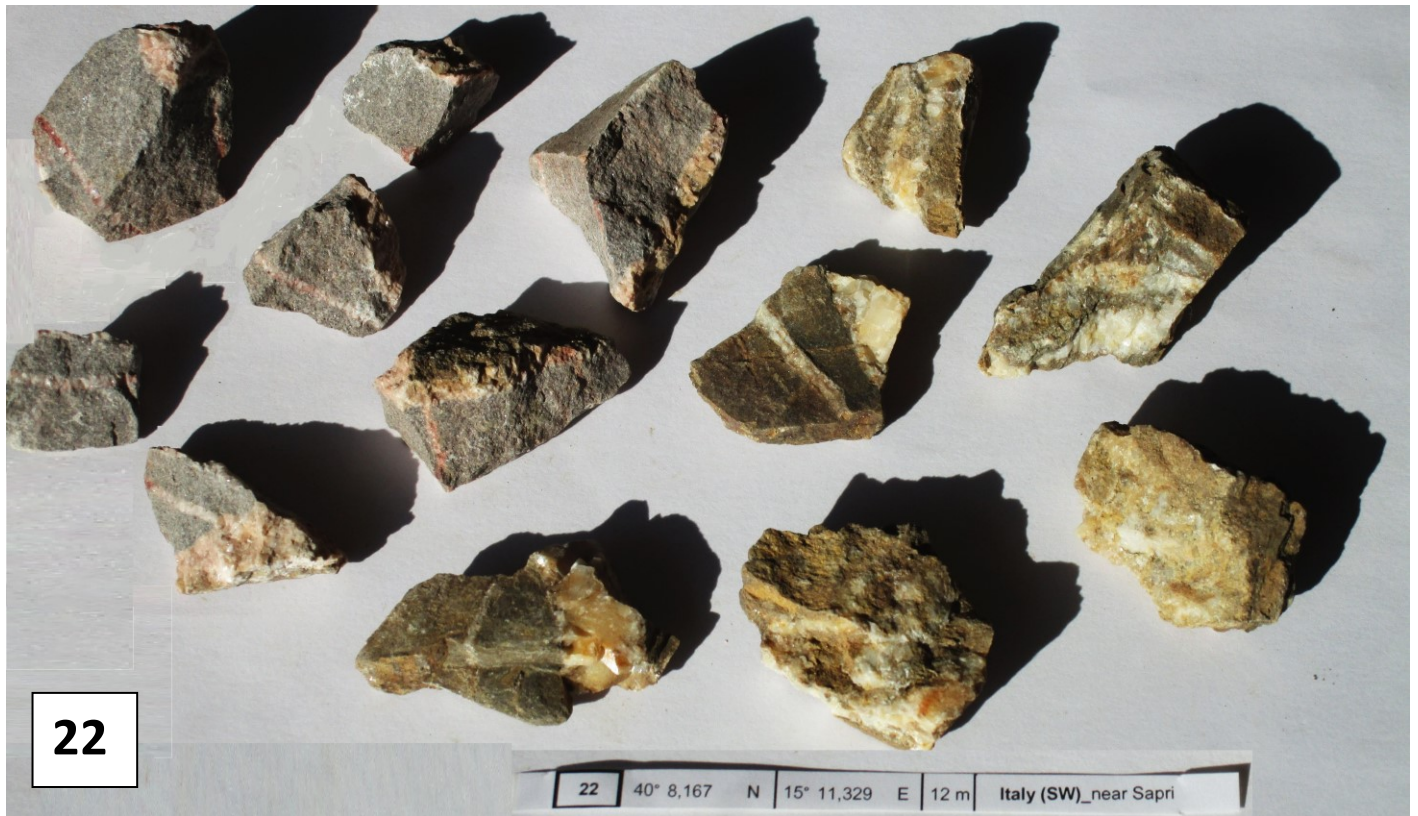
Sample Site 21-B



Note : All sample sites are relatively easy accessible over normal country roads.

21





Note : All sample sites are relatively easy accessible over normal country roads.

18-A



18-A 40° 0,337 N 15° 20,875 E 25 m Italy (SW)_near Sapri

Sample site 18



23-B



23-B 40° 39,800 N 14° 42,858 E 15 m Italy (SW)_near Sapri

Appendix 2 : A short overview : The Raman bands (peaks) of Quartz shocked with 22-26 GPa

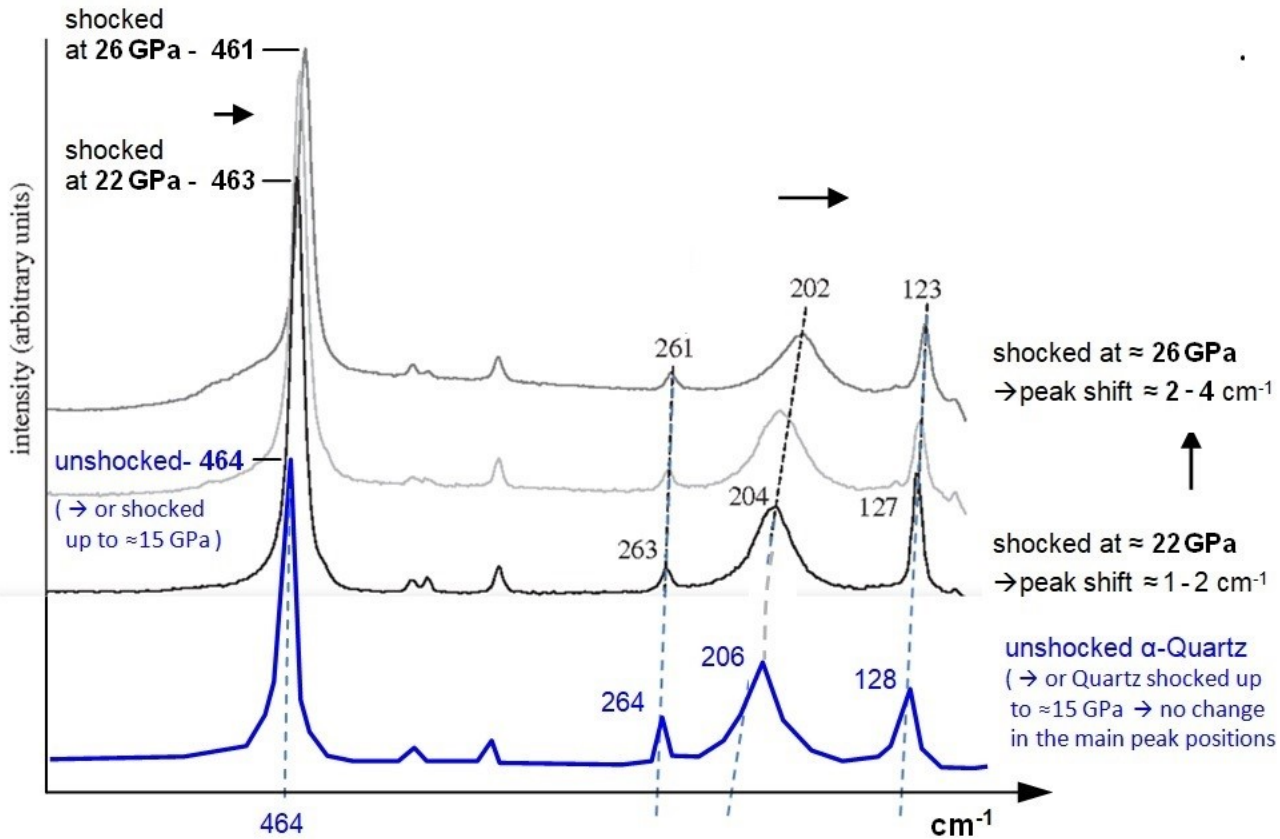
In order to verify a sample site as an impact site or impact structure, [shock-metamorphic effects](#) must be discovered in the rocks of the sample site. This can be done by different methods.

For example with the help of PDFs (planar deformation features) which are visible in the quartz with the help of a microscope. However this requires careful preparation of the samples and expertise.

Another, easier method, is the use of a RAMAN microscope. Micro-RAMAN Spectroscopy on quartz grains in the samples can provide the first evidence for a shock event, that was caused by an impact.

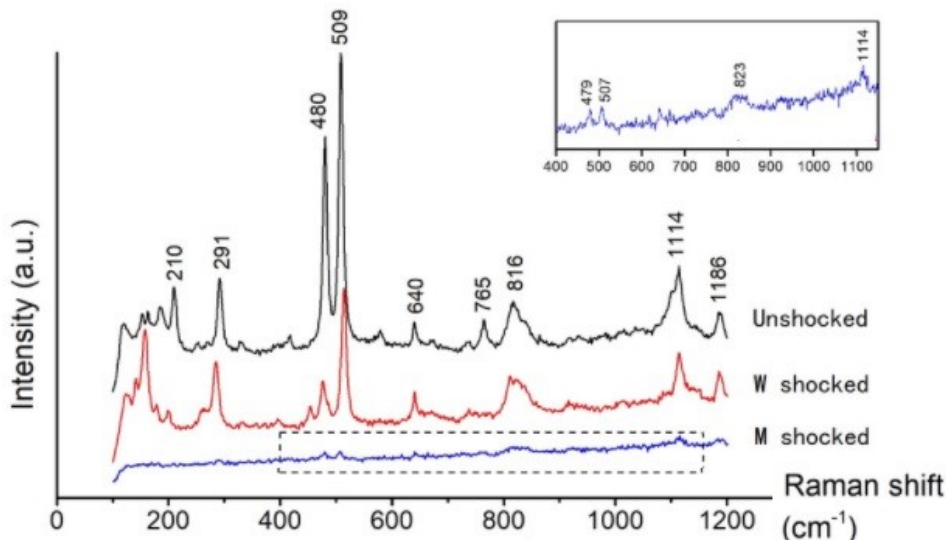
Mc Millan et al. (1992) and others have shown that the main RAMAN-peaks of Quartz shift towards lower frequencies if the Quartz was exposed the a shock-pressure > 15 GPa. → see diagram below

The shift of the main quartz RAMAN-peaks can be used to identify quartz that was shocked by an impact



Quartz shocked with 22 GPa and 26 GPa shows shifts of the main RAMAN-peaks of 1 - 4 cm⁻¹ to lower frequencies

Appendix 3 : Raman spectra of (W) weakly-shocked & (M) moderately-shocked Alkali-Feldspar



Weakly shocked alkali feldspar mainly developed irregular fractures and undulatory extinction. Note that the Raman-lines 210 and 765 are missing in the w-shocked feldspar, and an additional line at ≈ 150 appears.

The shock pressure for the w-shocked feldspar was estimated to be between 5 and 14 GPa

References :

Photos of all Sample Sites & Rock Samples are available on : [Sample Sites "Salerno Crater"](#) (or : [Samples "Salerno Crater"](#))

Raman spectra of quartz samples from the "Bay-of-Lyon Crater" : [Evidence for the Bay-of-Lyon Impact Crater](#) (or : [Link2](#))

The Permian-Triassic (PT) Impact hypothesis - by Harry K. Hahn - 8. July 2017 :

Part 1 : [The 1270 X 950 km Permian-Triassic Impact Crater caused Earth's Plate Tectonics of the Last 250 Ma](#)

Part 2 : [The Permian-Triassic Impact Event caused Secondary-Craters and Impact Structures in Europe, Africa & Australia](#)

Part 3 : [The PT-Impact Event caused Secondary-Craters and Impact Structures in India, South-America & Australia](#)

Part 4 : [The PT-Impact Event and its Importance for the World Economy and for the Exploration- and Mining-Industry](#)

Part 5 : [Global Impact Events are the cause for Plate Tectonics and the formation of Continents and Oceans \(Part 5\)](#)

Part 6 : [Mineralogical- and Geological Evidence for the Permian-Triassic Impact Event](#)

Alternative weblinks for my Study **Parts 1 - 6 with slightly higher resolution** : [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#), [Part 4](#), [Part 5](#), [Part 6](#)

Parts 1 – 6 of my PTI-hypothesis are also available on my website : [www.permiantriassic.de](#) or [www.permiantriassic.at](#)

Shock-metamorphic effects in rocks and minerals - <https://www.lpi.usra.edu/publications/books/CB-954/chapter4.pdf>

Shock metamorphism of planetary silicate rocks and sediments: Proposal for an updated classification system

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A Raman spectroscopic study of shocked single crystalline quartz - by P. McMillan, G. Wolf, Phillipe Lambert, 1992

<https://asu.pure.elsevier.com/en/publications/a-raman-spectroscopic-study-of-shocked-single-crystalline-quartz>

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<https://trace.tennessee.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1002&context=pursuit>

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[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339672303_A_Study_of_Shock-](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339672303_A_Study_of_Shock-Metamorphic_Features_of_Feldspars_from_the_Xiuyan_Impact_Crater)

[Metamorphic_Features_of_Feldspars_from_the_Xiuyan_Impact_Crater](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339672303_A_Study_of_Shock-Metamorphic_Features_of_Feldspars_from_the_Xiuyan_Impact_Crater)

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https://www.researchgate.net/publication/348675414_ExoMars_Raman_Laser_Spectrometer_RLS_a_tool_for_the_potential_recognition_of_wet_target_craters_on_Mars