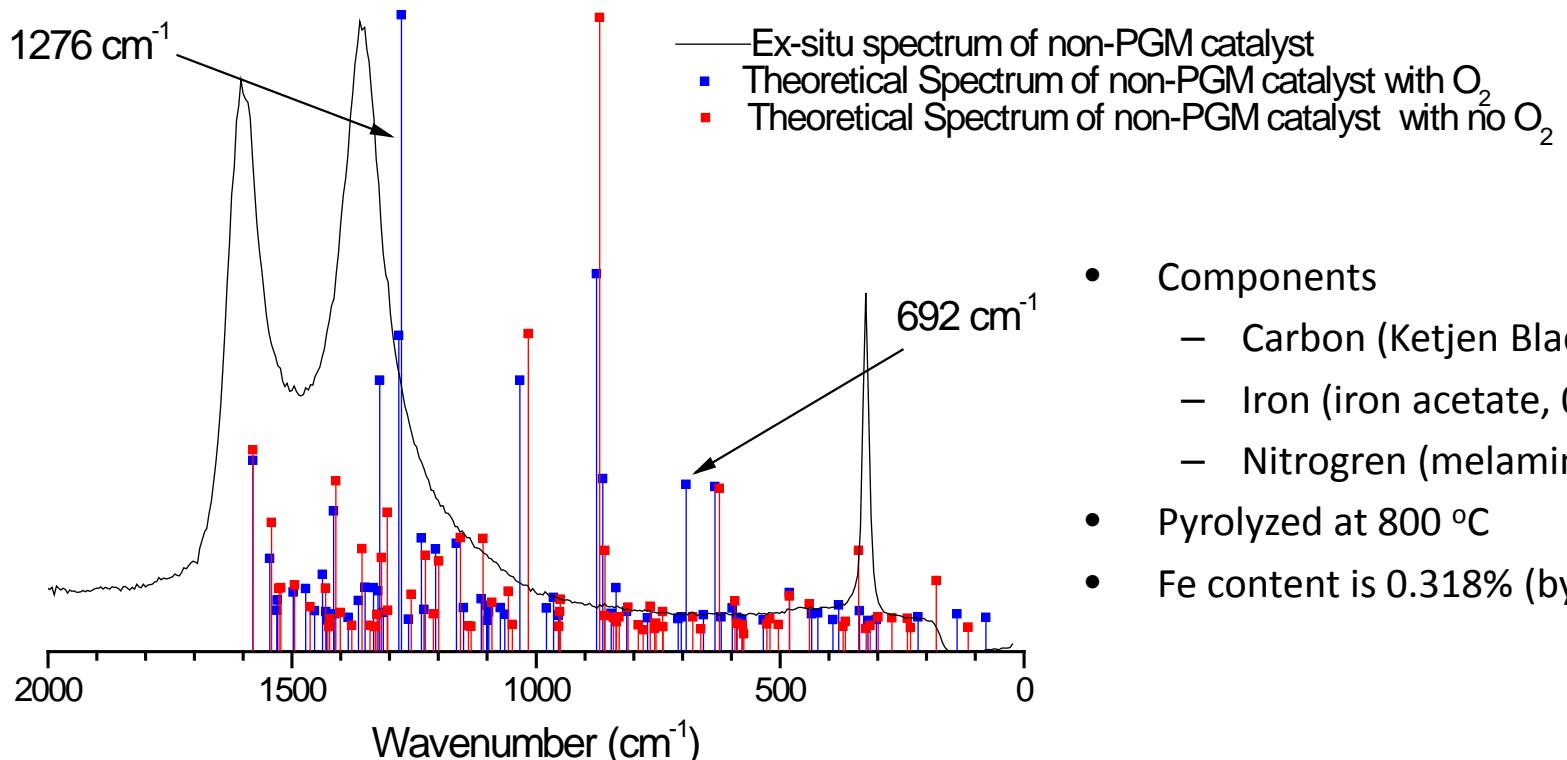


# **Operando Raman and Theoretical Vibration Spectroscopy of Non-PGM Catalysts**

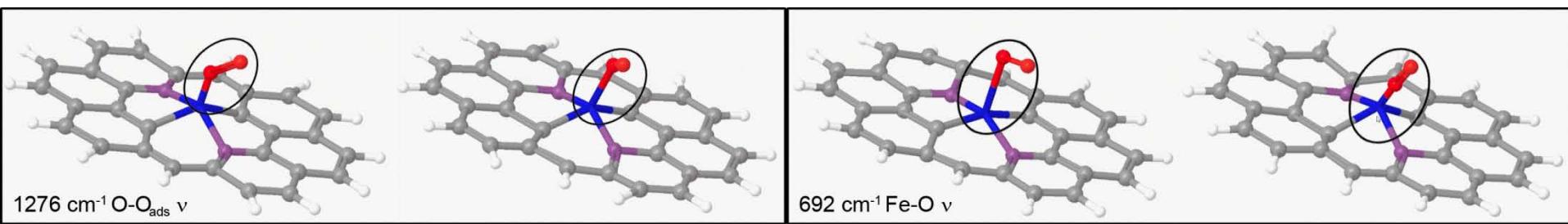
Ian Kendrick, Jennifer Monahan, Max Diem, Eugene Smotkin  
Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Northeastern University,  
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Presented at the CWG DOE

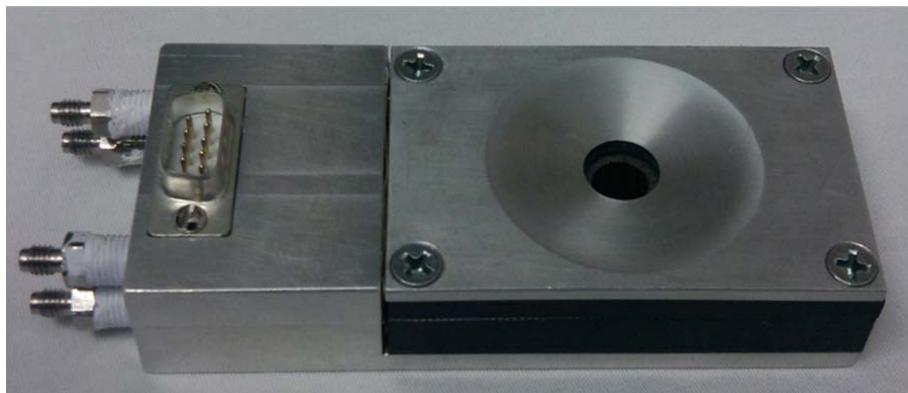
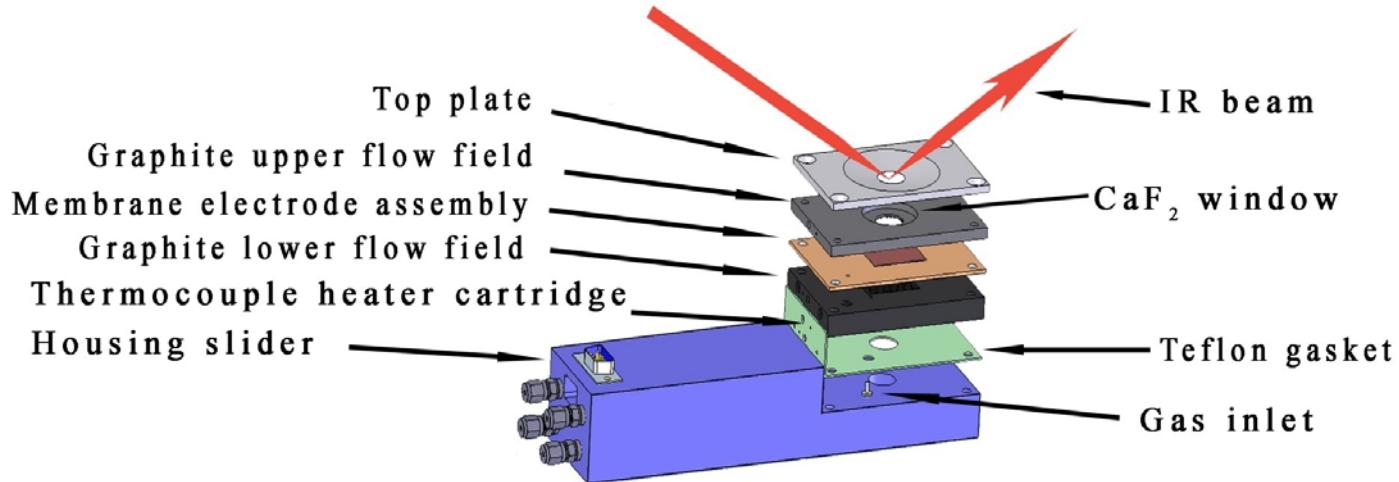




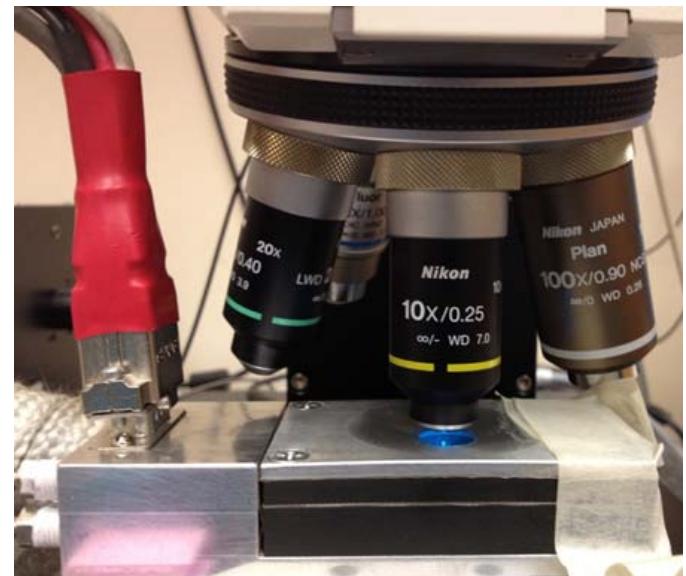
- Components
  - Carbon (Ketjen Black 600)
  - Iron (iron acetate, 0.75% wt Fe)
  - Nitrogen (melamine, 6.3 % wt N)
- Pyrolyzed at 800 °C
- Fe content is 0.318% (by ICP)

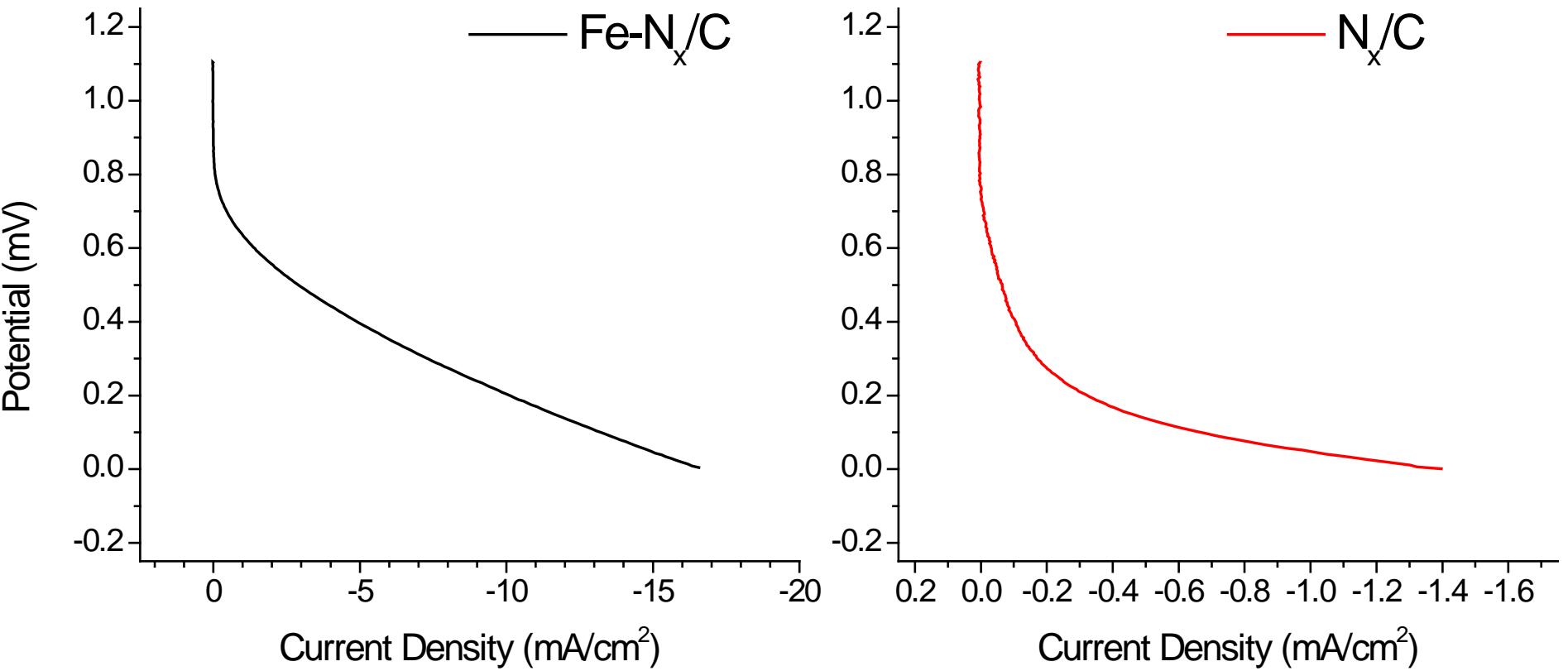


Nallathambi, V. *Electrochem. Solid State Lett.* **2011**, *14*, B55.



- Cell operating at 50 °C
- 200 sccm O<sub>2</sub>
- 10x objective
- 488 nm laser
- 23 mW
- CCD Detector





About a factor of 20 improvement with the addition of Fe.



- Confocal Raman Microscopy
- Bulk Nafion is at (+0)
- As the focal point is moved up the z-axis, peaks due to the carbon support and desorbed oxygen intensify as the Nafion peaks diminish.

Fe-N<sub>x</sub>/C electrode

+0

Nafion

Pt electrode

C E<sub>2G</sub> band

Nafion

+0 μm

C D band

+50 μm

O<sub>2</sub>

+100 μm

+150 μm

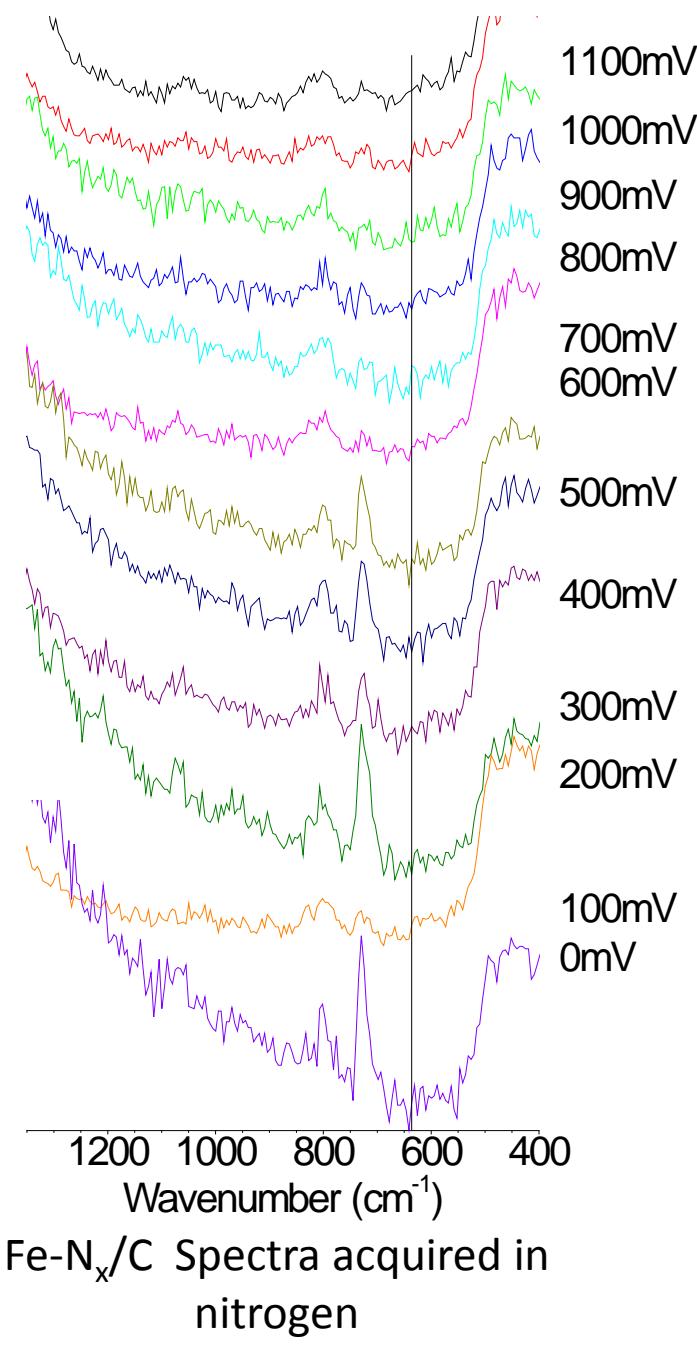
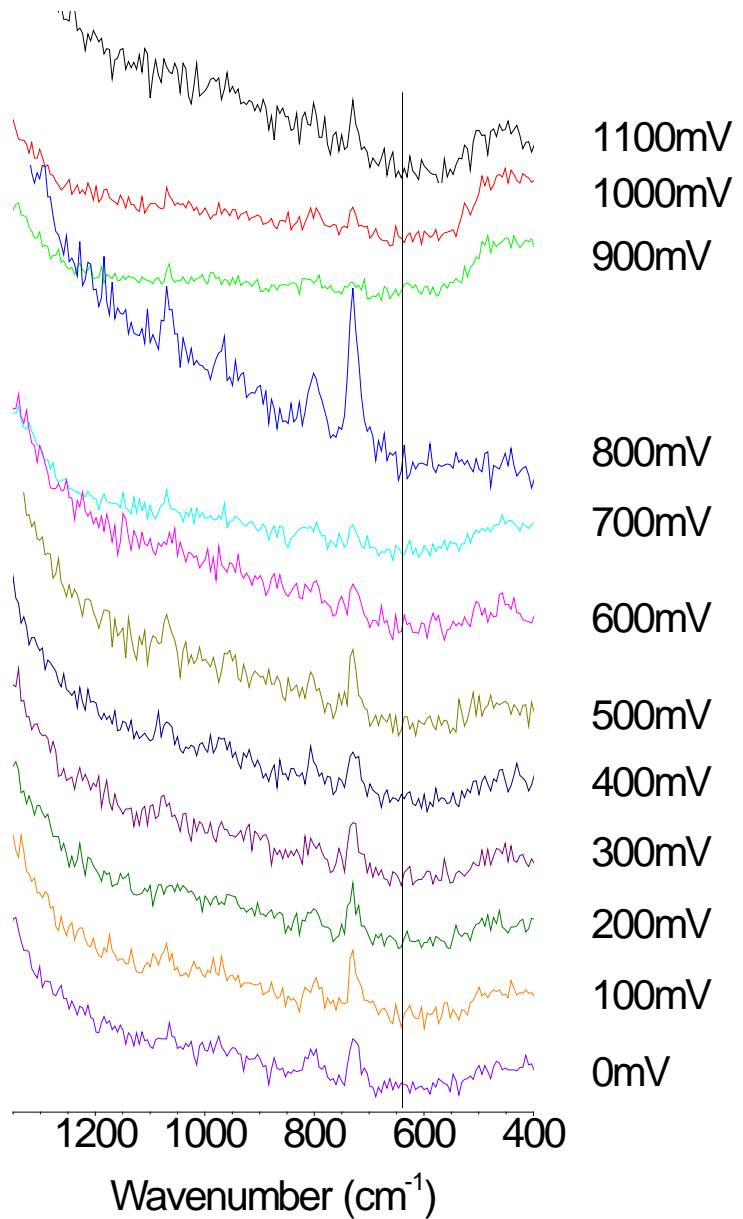
+250 μm

+350 μm

+500 μm



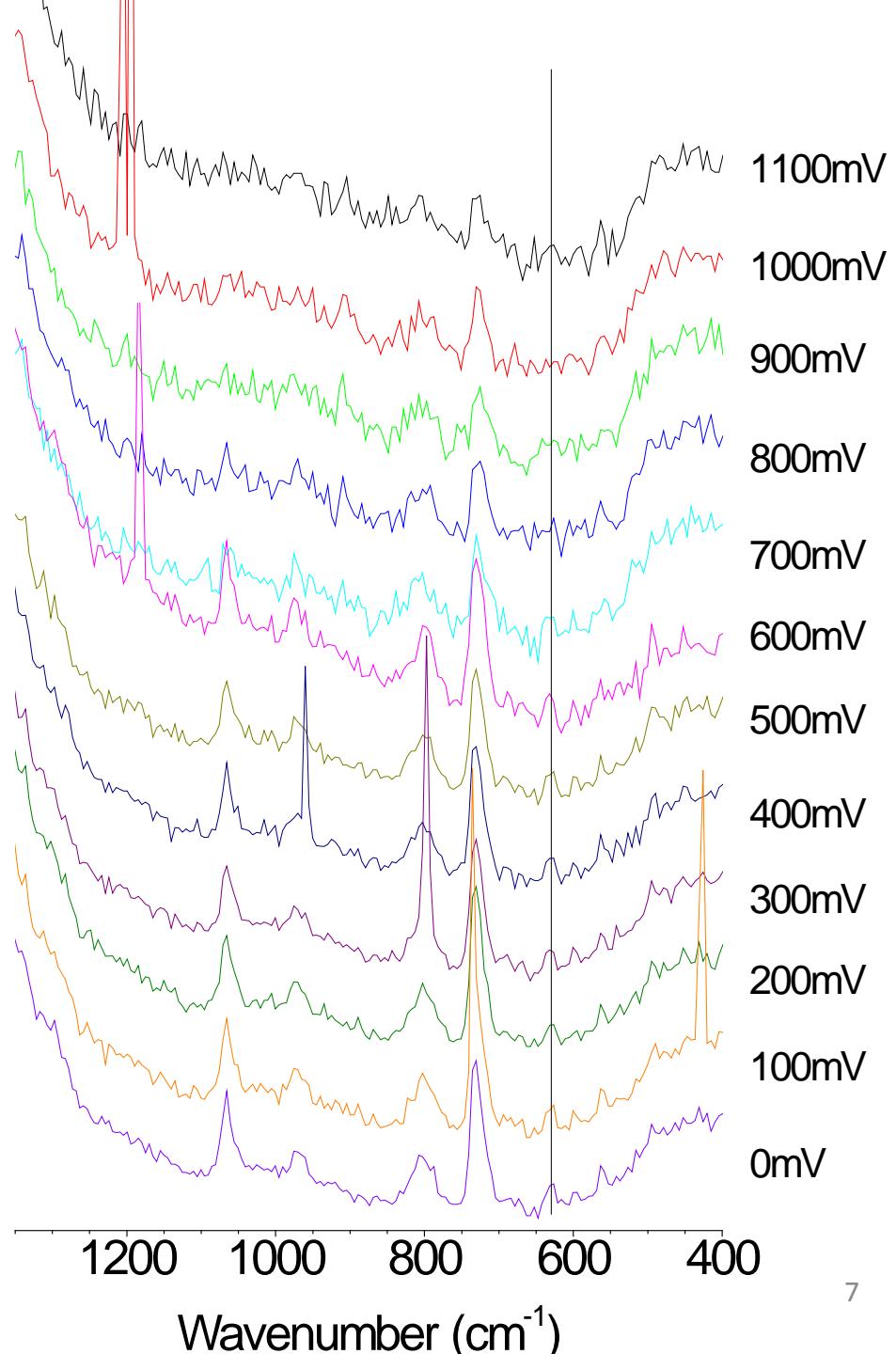
1600 1200 800 400 0



The peak at  $636 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  is not observed in either control



- Fe-N<sub>x</sub>/C catalyst
- Focal point at +350 μm
- At 700 mV, 636 cm<sup>-1</sup> appears.



# Acknowledgements

- Department of Energy
- Jennifer Monahan – Raman
- Nick Dimakis – Density Functional Theory
- Ian Kendrick, Fuel cell
- S. Mukerjee DOE program

