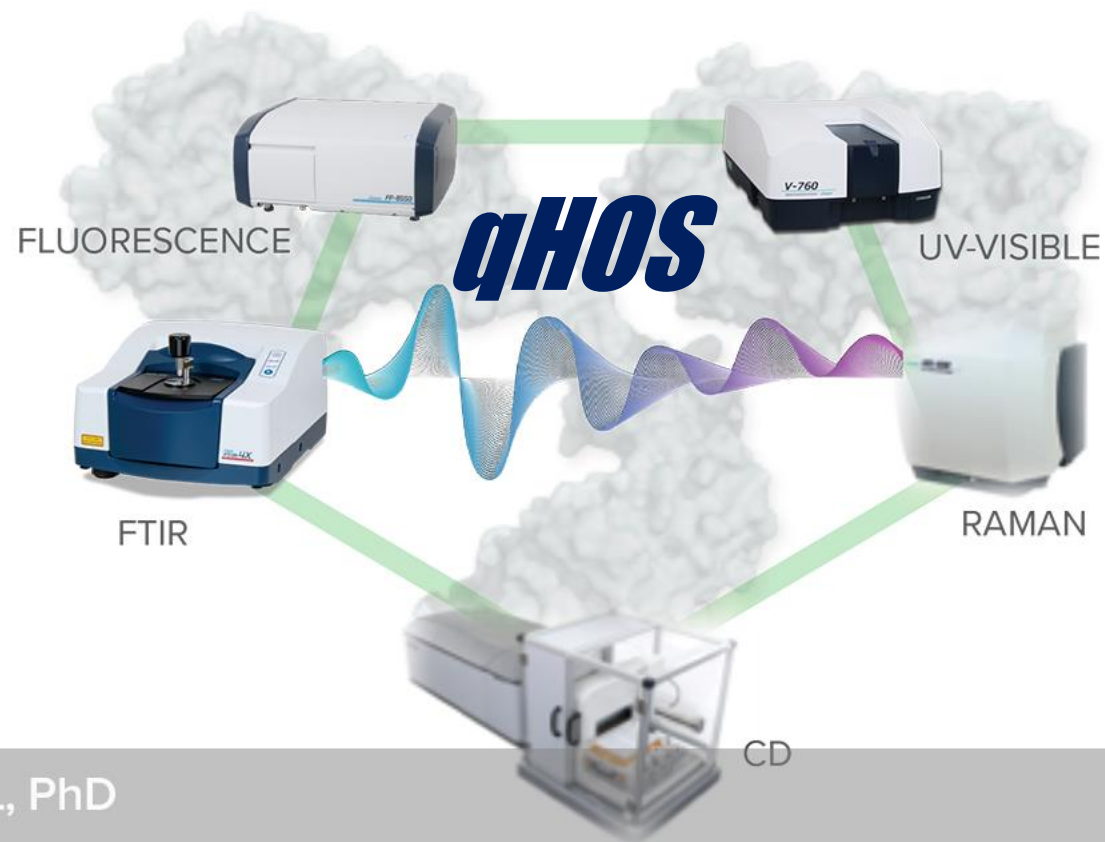


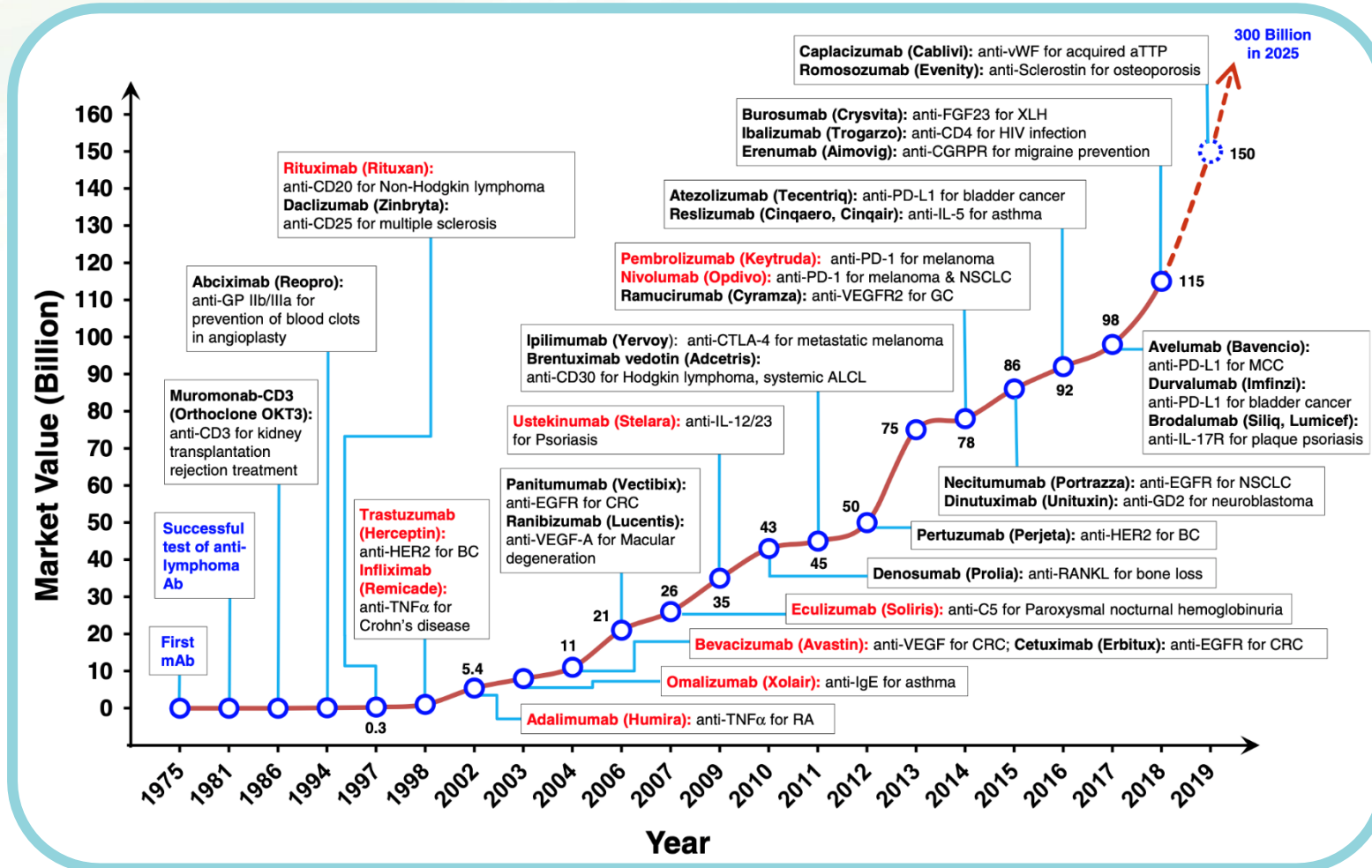
# Orthogonal Similarity Assessment of Monoclonal Antibodies Using **CIRCULAR DICHROISM,** **FTIR** and **RAMAN**



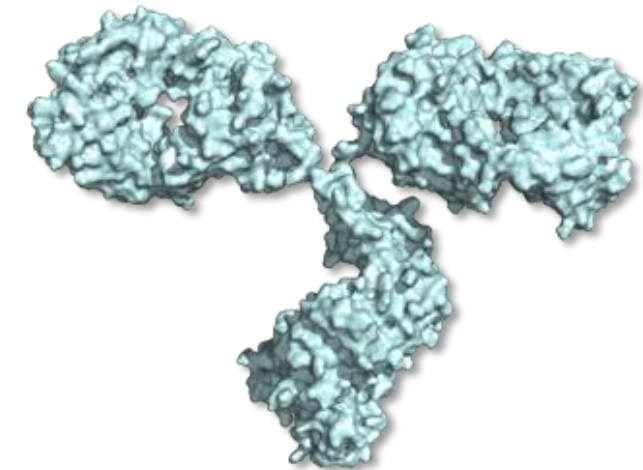
WEBINAR WITH FORREST KOHL, PhD

**JASCO**

# Antibody therapeutics market



**CGCR of therapeutic monoclonal antibody is nearly 10% !!**



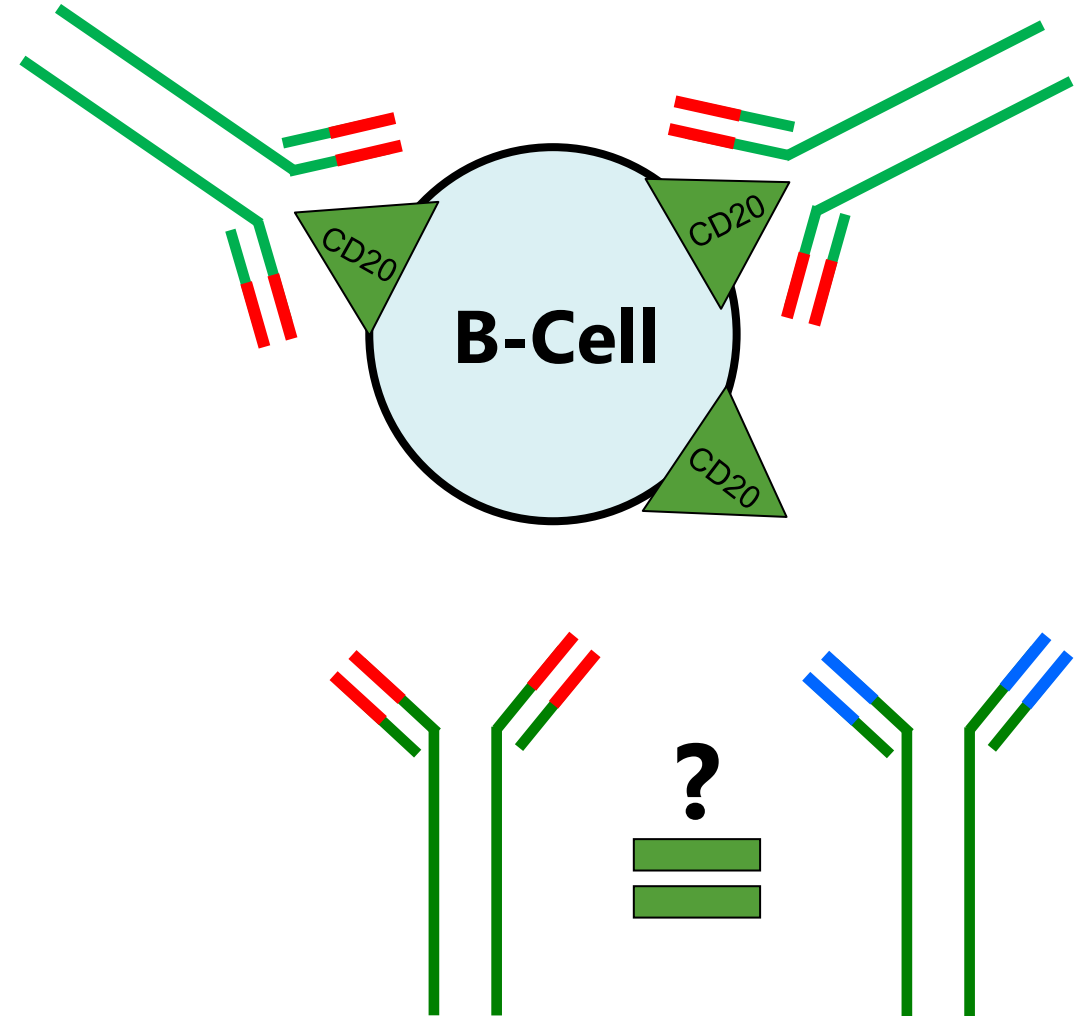
Lu et al. *J. Biomed. Sci.* (2020) 27:1. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12929-019-0592-z>

# Rituximab

**Rituximab (Rituxan):**  
anti-CD20 for Non-Hodgkin lymphoma  
**Daclizumab (Zinbryta):**  
anti-CD25 for multiple sclerosis

**Rituximab binds to CD20  
protein in B-cell membrane**

**Structure needs to be  
correct to bind effectively**



# Necessity of objective assessment

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HARMONISATION OF TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION OF PHARMACEUTICALS FOR HUMAN USE

ICH HARMONISED TRIPARTITE GUIDELINE

**COMPARABILITY OF BIOTECHNOLOGICAL/BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO CHANGES IN THEIR MANUFACTURING PROCESS**

**Q5E**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HARMONISATION OF TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTRATION OF PHARMACEUTICALS FOR HUMAN USE

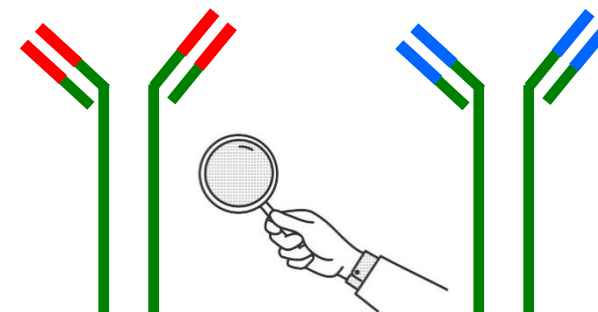
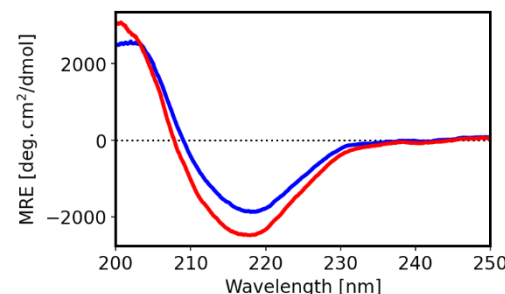
ICH HARMONISED TRIPARTITE GUIDELINE

**SPECIFICATIONS: TEST PROCEDURES AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA FOR BIOTECHNOLOGICAL/BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS**

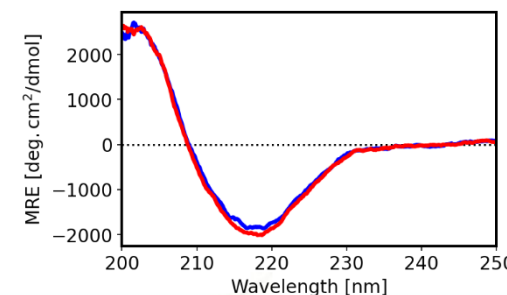
**Q6B**

## Development of Therapeutic Protein Biosimilars: Comparative Analytical Assessment and Other Quality-Related Considerations

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)



**Are there significant differences in these spectra ?**



# Necessity of objective assessment

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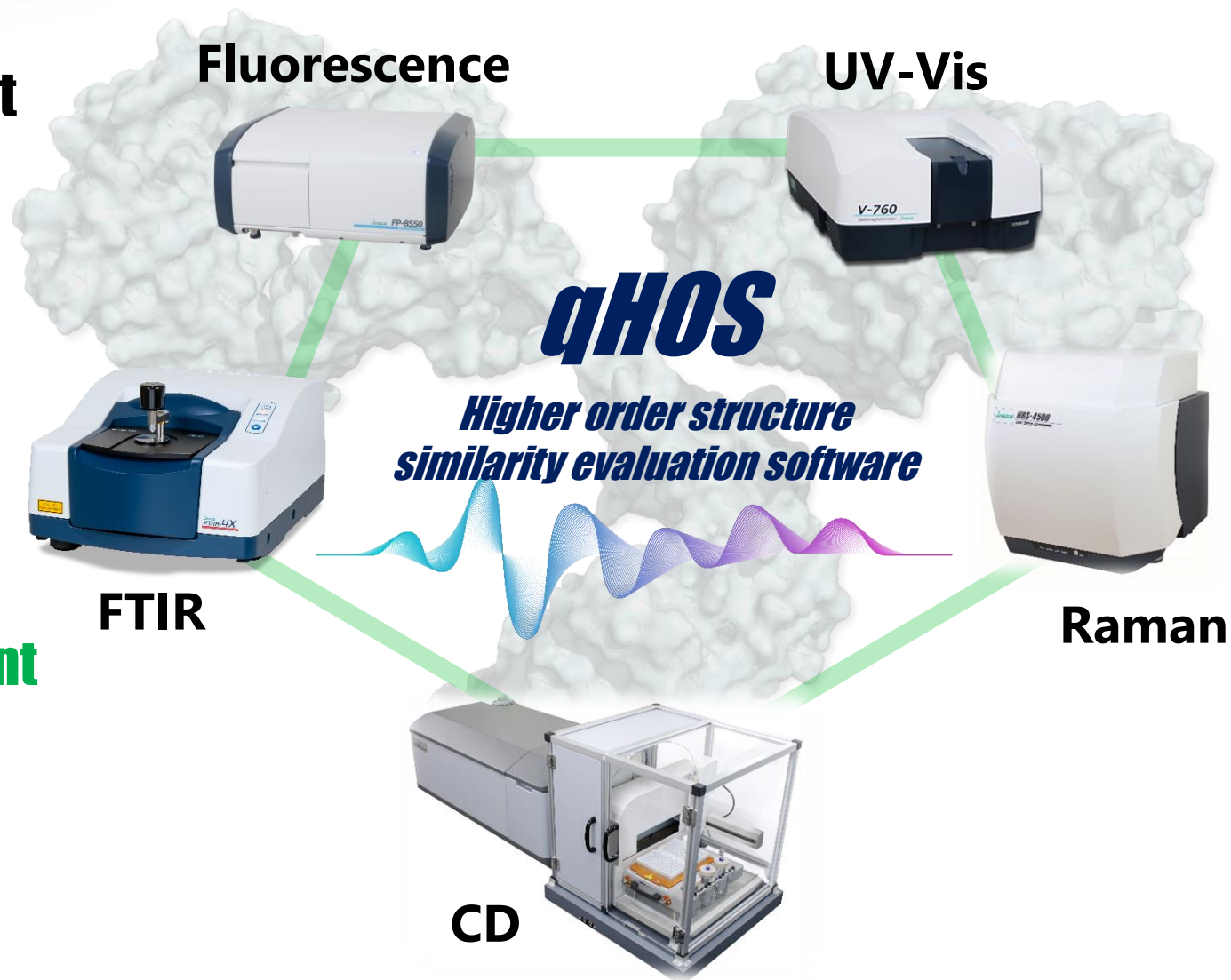
**“Emphasis should be placed on developing orthogonal quantitative methods to definitively identify any differences in product attributes.”**

From FDA Guidance (*Development of Therapeutic Protein Biosimilars: Comparative Analytical Assessment and Other Quality-Related Considerations*)



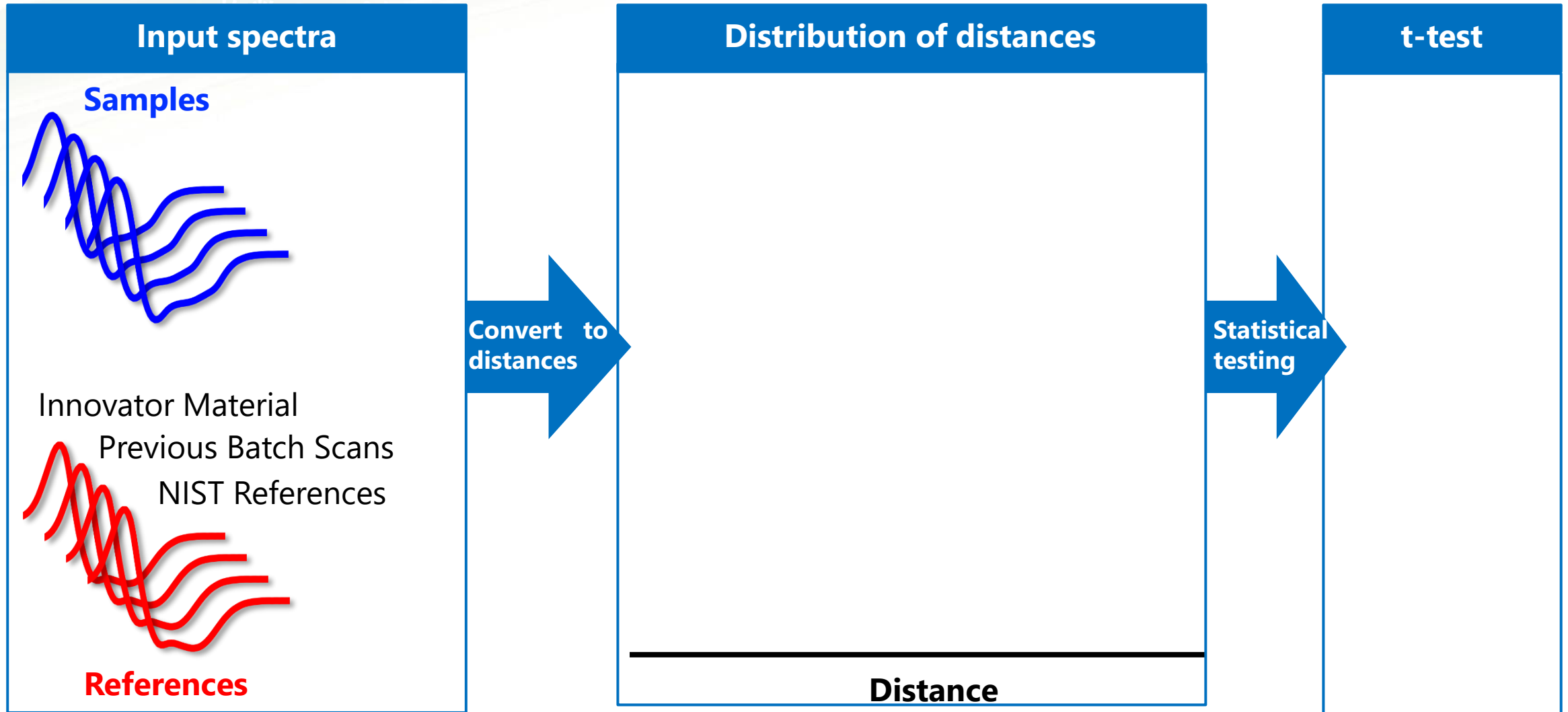
# *qHOS* Concept and strong point

- Statistical similarity assessment
- Robust evaluation using **noise** weighting method
- Student, Welch, **TOST t-test** implementation
- Auto concentration correction
- **Orthogonal similarity assessment**
- Regulatory compliance with spectra manager CFR™



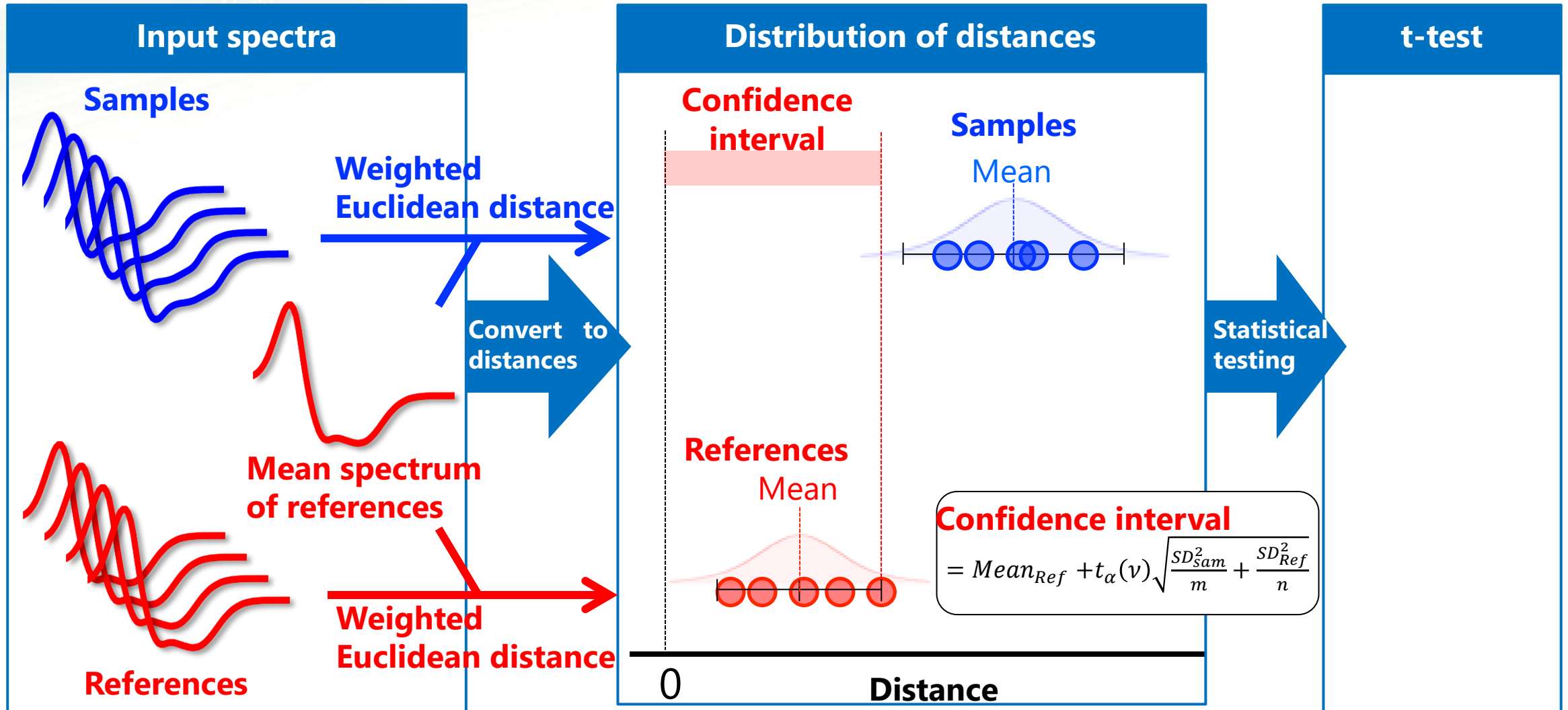
# Scheme of ***qHOS***

# Scheme of *qHOS*

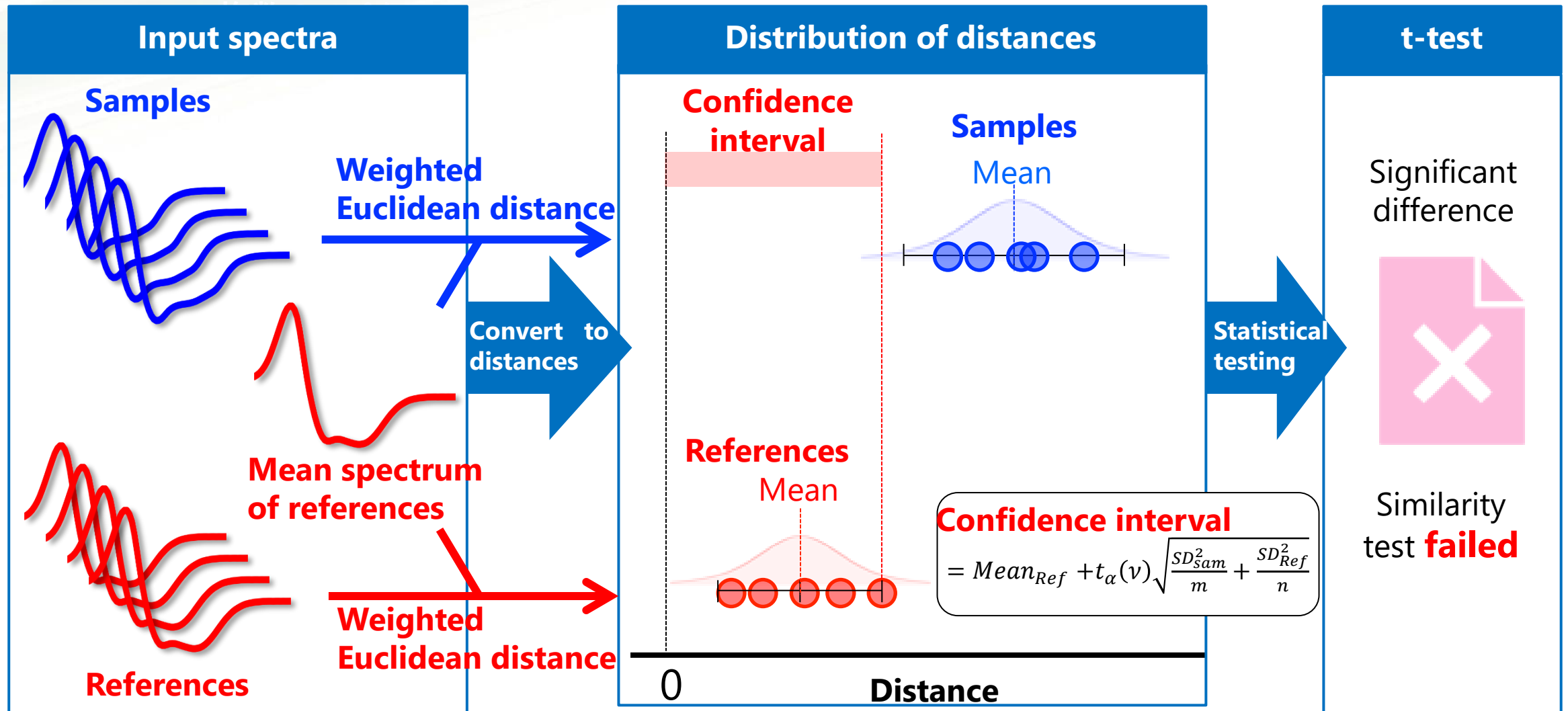




# Scheme of *qHOS*

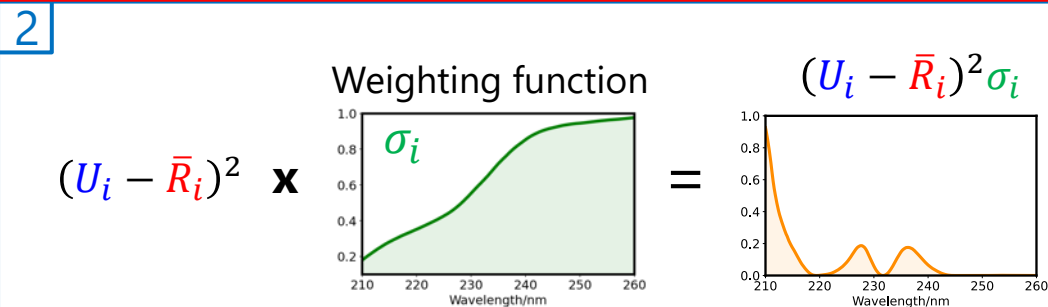
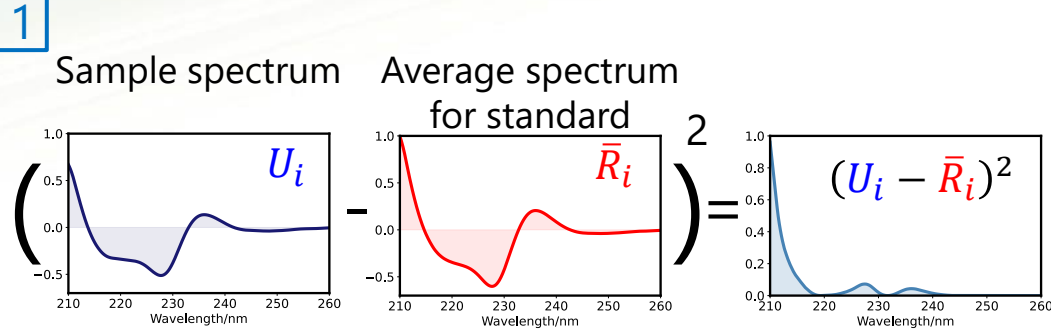


# Scheme of *qHOS*



# Similarity testing scheme of the *qHOS*

## Calculation of distance between standard and sample spectra



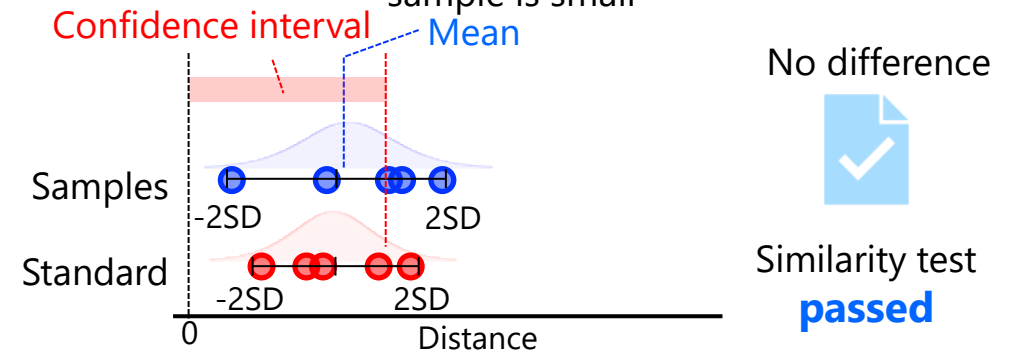
3

Weighted Euclidean distance:

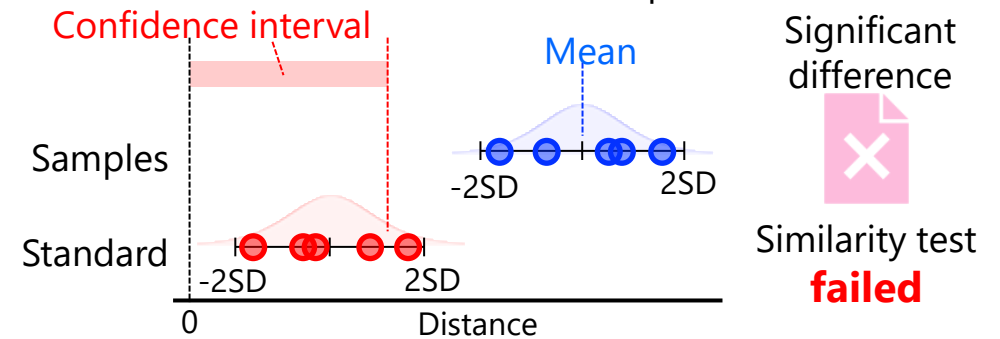
$$E = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=\lambda_1}^{\lambda_n} (U_i - \bar{R}_i)^2 \sigma_i}$$

## Evaluate difference in distance between standard and sample

The difference in distance between the standard and the sample is small



There is a large difference in the distance between the standard and the sample



Confidence interval =  $Mean_{std} + t_{\alpha}(v) \sqrt{\frac{SD_{sam}^2}{m} + \frac{SD_{std}^2}{n}}$

$t_{\alpha}(v)$  : t-value at significance level  $\alpha$

$m$  : Number of sample

$n$  : Number of standard

# Weighting method for Euclidean distance

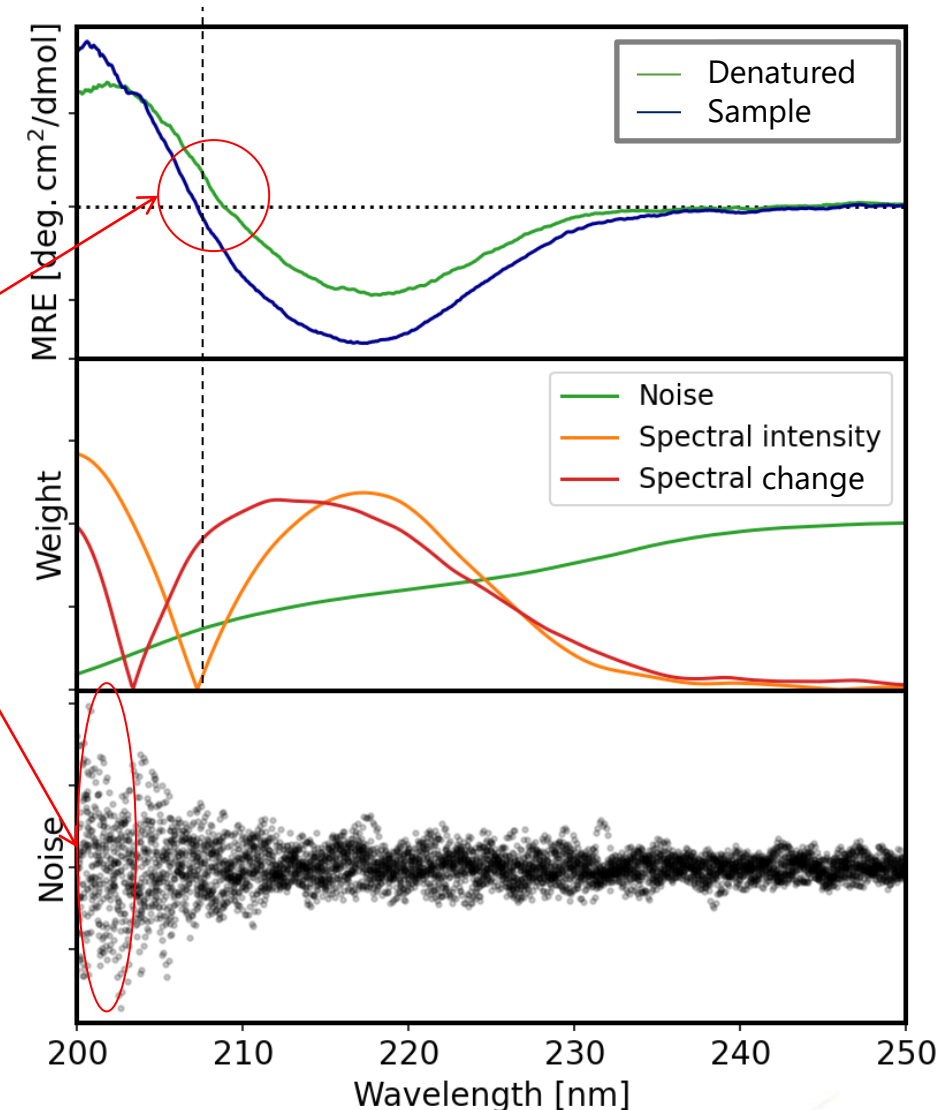
Method	Feature	Details
Noise <b>JASCO</b>	Weighting to spectral regions with low noise	Uses the noise (light level) in the spectrum and use it as a weighting function
Spectral intensity (Weighted spectral distance; WSD)	Weighting to spectral regions with high spectral intensity	Uses the absolute value of the intensity of the spectrum as a weighting function
Spectral change <b>JASCO</b> <div>From pH, temp etc.</div>	Weighting the regions where the spectrum changes	Perturbs the reference, examines the region where the spectrum changes, and use it as a weighting function

# Problem of spectral intensity weighting

Example of similarity assessment

Spectral intensity weighting erases inherent spectral differences and weights noisy regions.

Spectral intensity weighting weights regions of high intensity, but since CD spectra are created by a combination of positive and negative Cotton effects, actual changes do not always occur in regions of high intensity.





# Three types of t-test

Test	Description
<b>Student's t-test</b>	This method tests for significant differences in spectral distances, taking into account the variance in reference spectral distances.
<b>Welch's t-test</b>	This method tests for significant differences in spectral distances, taking into account the variances in both standard and sample spectral distances. Data for multiple reference and unknown samples are used.
<b>TOST (Equivalence t-test)</b>	This method tests for significant differences in spectral distances, taking into account the variances in both reference and sample spectral distances. In this method, a range (equivalence margin) is set in which the distance of each reference and the distance of each sample are equivalent. This test is based on the guidelines for similarity tests by the FDA and ICH.

# TOST vs Welch's T-test

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If we run **Samples** and compare to a limit based on a **Reference**

**T-Test asks: "Are the samples different?"**

**Fail** → Products are different

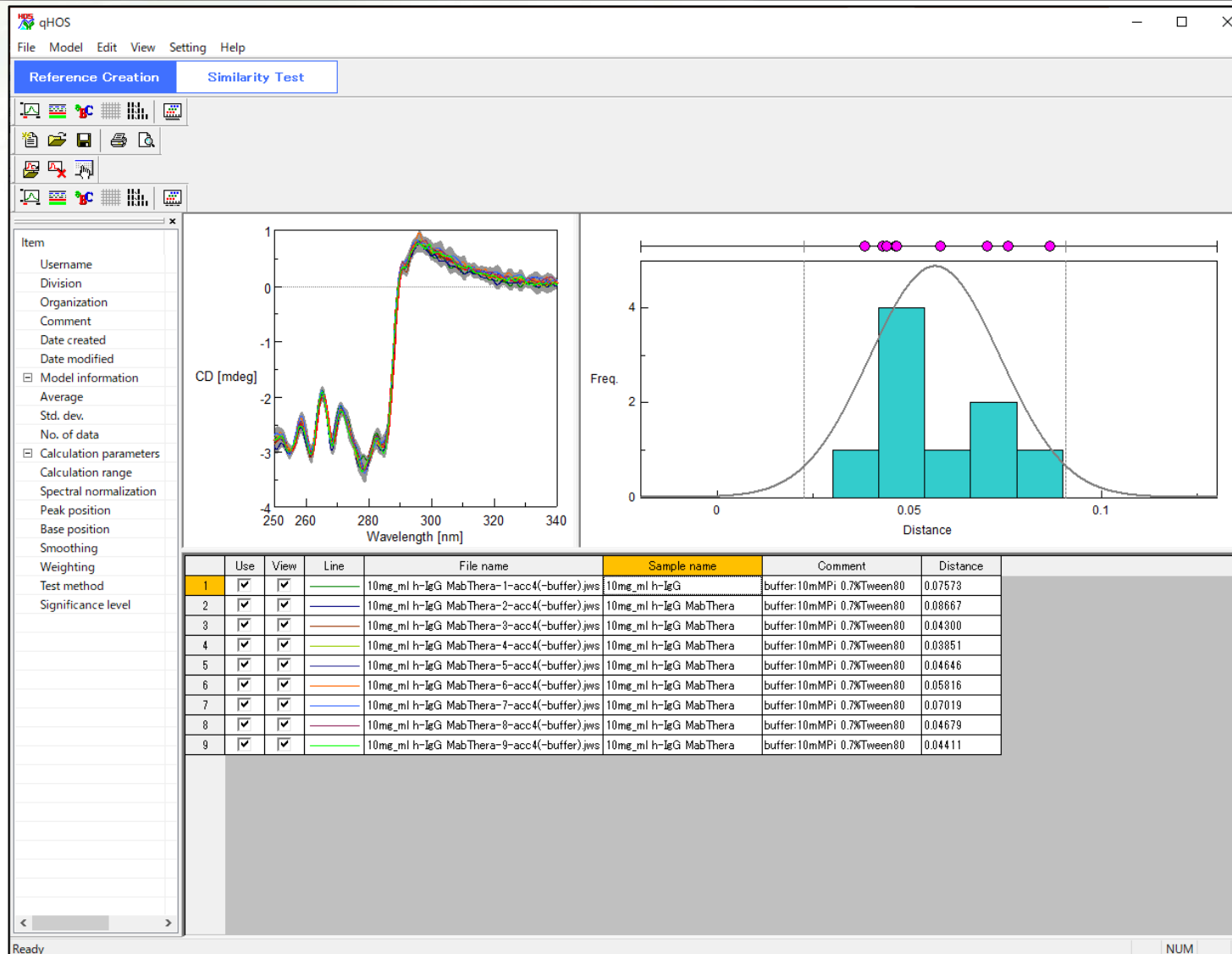
**Pass** → Products are not necessarily the same, we just can't prove they are different.

**TOST asks: "Are the samples the same?"**

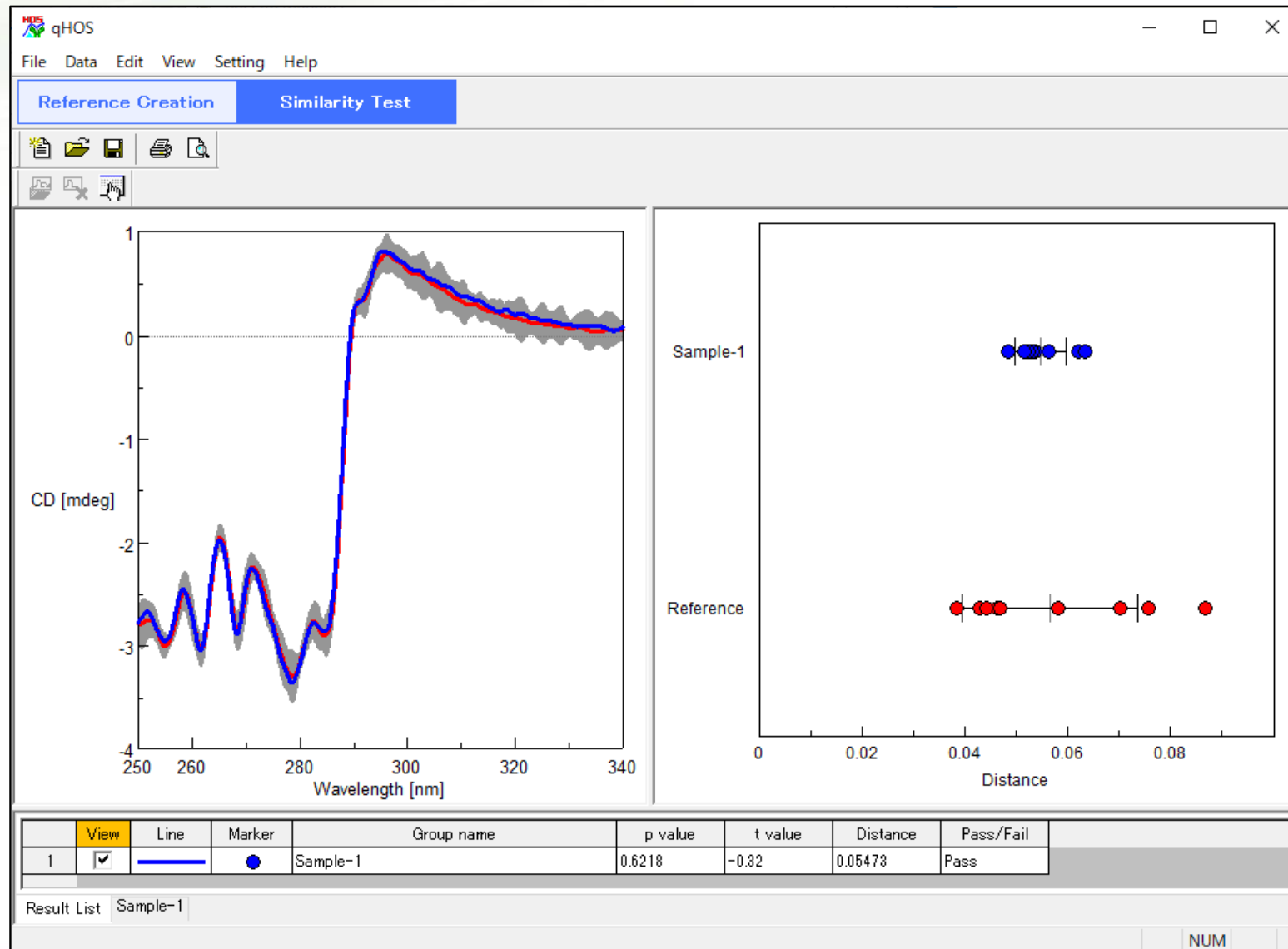
**Fail** → Products are not the same.

**Pass** → Products are equivalent

# User interface: Reference Creation



# User interface: Similarity Test

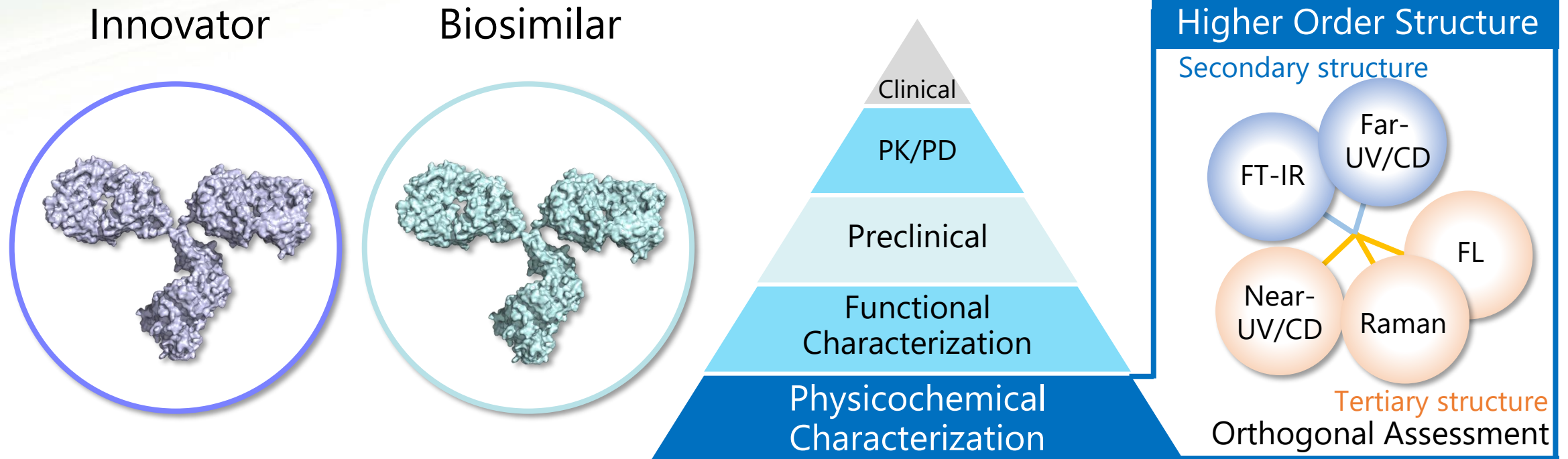


# ***qHOS Application***

Raman, FTIR, and CD  
of Monoclonal Antibodies



# HOS similarity assessment for biosimilar



Increasing the importance of analytical characterization of biosimilars. Regulatory authorities recommend orthogonal assessment of biosimilar quality attributes using multiple instruments based on different principles.

# System for comprehensive orthogonal assessment

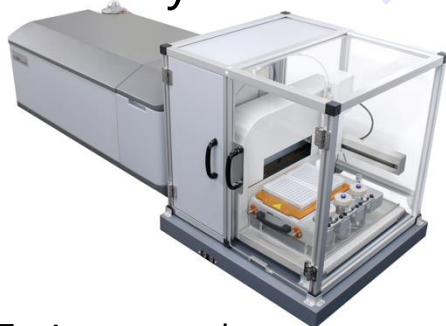
## *JASCO products*

### **qHOS** *Higher order structure similarity evaluation software*

- ❑ Statistical significance testing
- ❑ Support for multiple instruments

### **HTCD Plus** *Circular Dichroism*

Secondary and Tertiary



- ❑ Automated measurement
- ❑ High throughput and high sensitivity

### **FT/IR-4X** *Infrared spectrometer*

Secondary



- ❑ High S/N and resolution with small body
- ❑ One drop ATR measurement

### **NRS-4500** *Raman microscope*

Tertiary



- ❑ Microanalysis
- ❑ Chemical imaging

Multiple spectroscopic techniques provide orthogonal similarity assessments of secondary and tertiary structures, and data can be statistically analyzed using the single qHOS platform.

# Materials and Methods

## Materials

### Rituximab

**MabThera<sup>®</sup> (Innovator)**

**RIABNI<sup>™</sup> (Biosimilar)**

**Anti CD20 monoclonal antibodies**

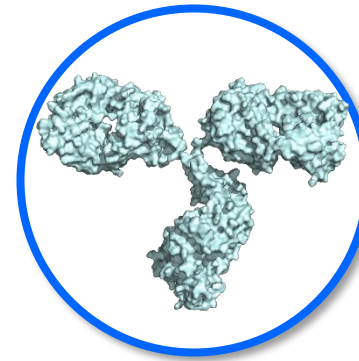
Both samples were prepared to 10 mg/mL

Additive : Sodium citrate dihydrate 7.4 mg/mL,

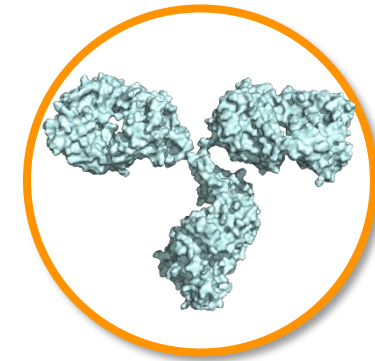
Sodium chloride 9.0 mg/mL, Sodium hydroxide 9.0 mg/mL,

Polysorbate 80 0.7 mg/mL

**MabThera<sup>®</sup>**



**RIABNI<sup>™</sup>**



### Trastuzumab

**Herceptin<sup>®</sup> (Innovator)**

**Anti HER2 monoclonal antibody**

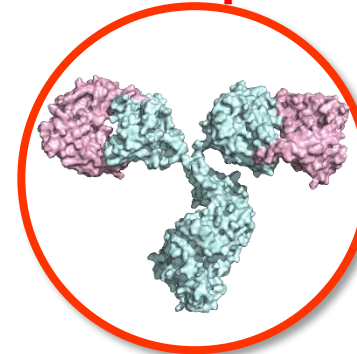
The powder was dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O to a concentration of 10 mg/mL

Additives: trehalose hydrate 4.7 mg/mL,

L-histidine hydrochloride hydrate 0.11 mg/mL,

L-histidine 7.4 x 10<sup>-2</sup> mg/mL, polysorbate 2.1 x 10<sup>-2</sup> mg/mL

**Herceptin<sup>®</sup>**



# Materials and Methods

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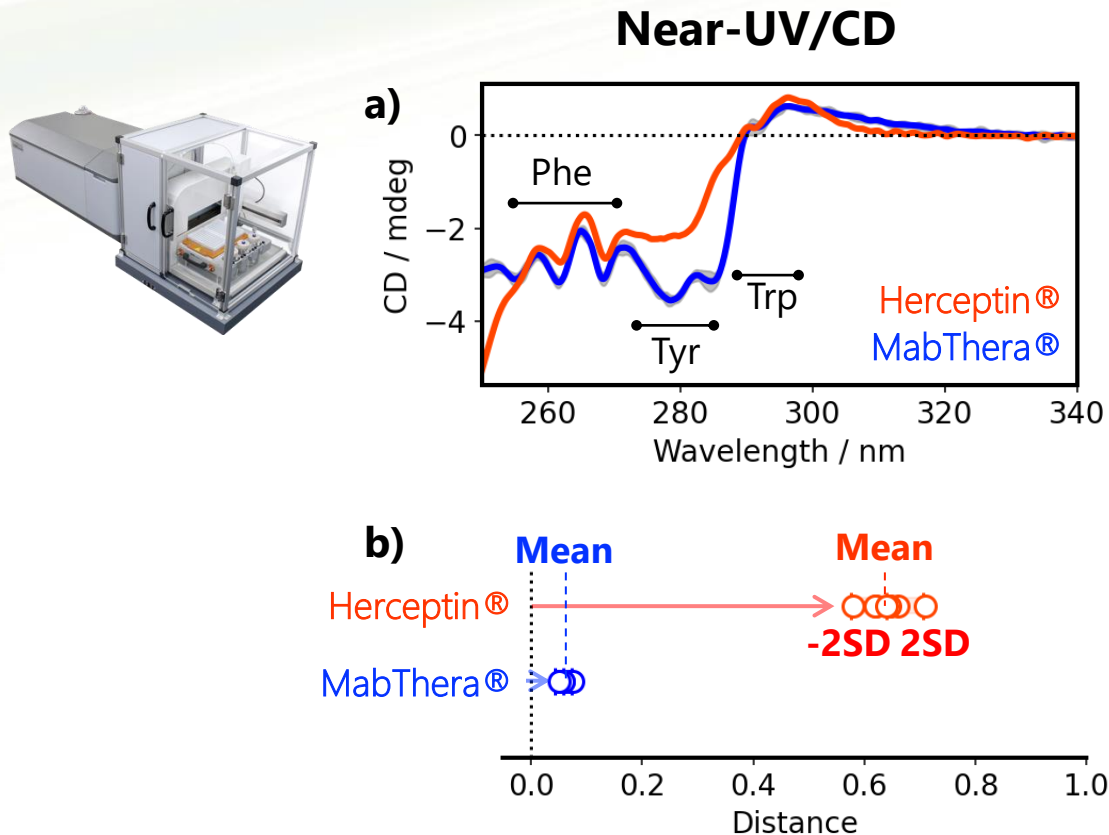
## Methods

Far-UV/CD	
Optical path length : 0.2 mm Band width : 1.0 nm	Auto washing : On Scanning speed : 20 nm/min
Near-UV/CD	
Optical path length : 0.5 mm Band width : 1.0 nm	Auto washing : On Scanning speed : 50 nm/min
ATR FT-IR	
Detector : TGS Resolution : 4cm <sup>-1</sup>	ATR crystal : Diamond Number of scans : 128
Raman	
Laser : 532 nm Exposure : 45 sec	Grating : 900 gr/mm Number of scans : 32
Analysis	
Weighting : Noise Significance level : 0.05 (95% confidence Interval)	

4 measurements

1 Method

# Similarity of tertiary structure for different antibody drugs



## Result of t-test

t-value = 49

p-value = 0.0

Similarity **failed**



Figure 1. Similarity assessment of the tertiary structure of MabThera® and Herceptin®, antibody drugs with different targeting and formulation conditions.

The shapes of the near-UV/CD spectra of MabThera® and Herceptin® differ significantly (Fig. 1a). Similarly, the distribution of distances between MabThera® and Herceptin calculated from the CD spectra show a significant difference (Fig. 1b). The p-value obtained from the t-test is below the significance level of 0.05, indicating that Herceptin® has a different tertiary structure to MabThera®.



# Similarity assessment for secondary structure of biosimilar

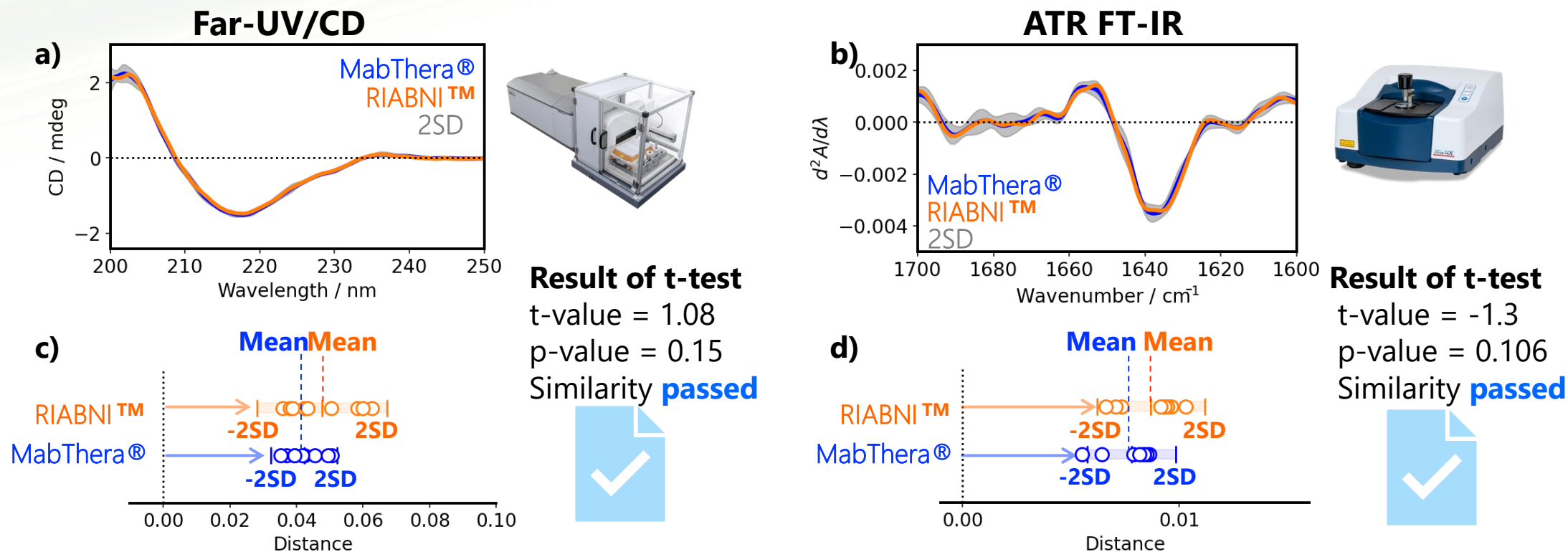


Figure 2. Orthogonal similarity assessment for the secondary structure of MabThera® and RIABNI™

The far-UV/CD and FTIR spectra of the biosimilar RIABNI™ are in excellent agreement with those of the innovator MabThera® (Figs. 2a and 2b), and the distributions of the distances between MabThera® and RIABNI™ are close to each other (Figs. 2c and 2d). The p-value is larger than the significance level of 0.05.

# Similarity assessment for tertiary structure of biosimilar

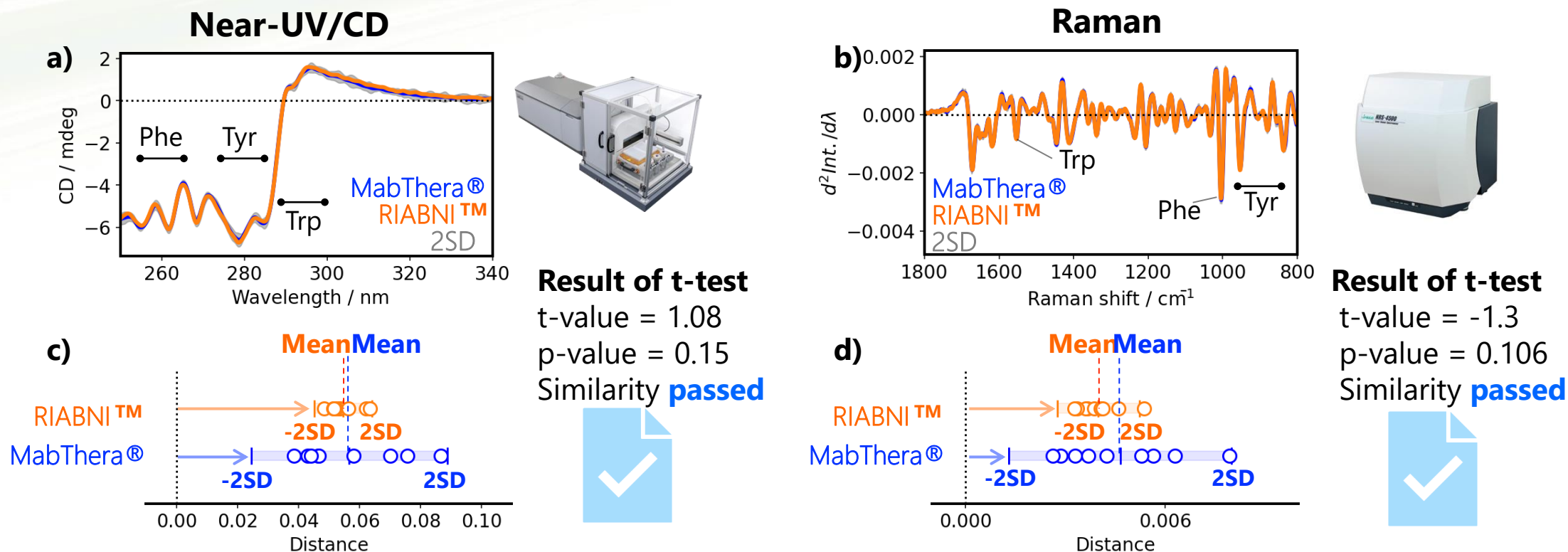
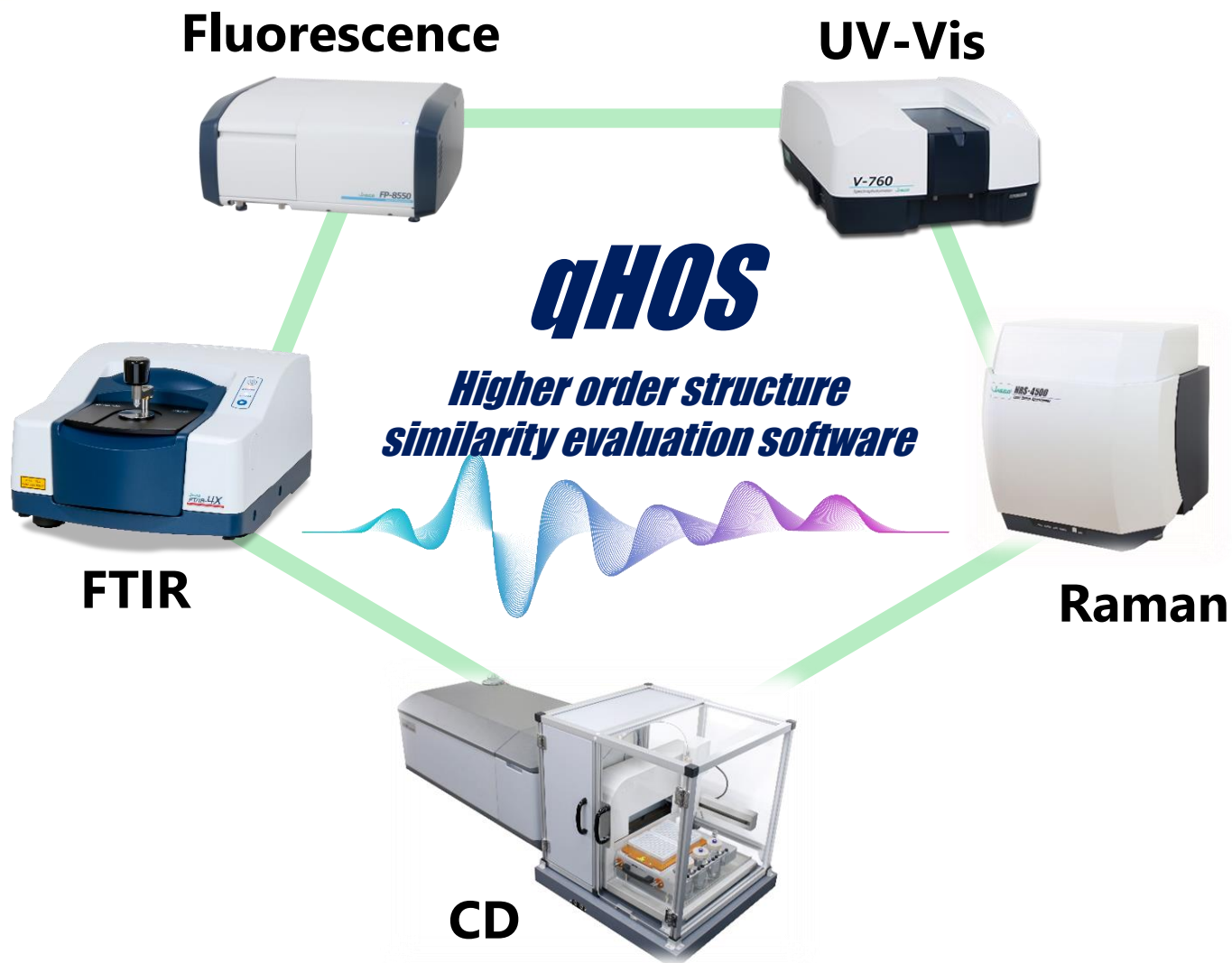


Figure 3. Orthogonal similarity assessment for the tertiary structure of MabThera® and RIABNI™

Similar to the secondary structure, the tertiary structure of MabThera® and RIABNI™ show excellent agreement in the near-UV/CD and Raman spectra (Figs. 3a and 3b), and the distribution of the distances between MabThera® and RIABNI™ are close to each other (Figs. 3c and 3d). The p-value is larger than the significance level of 0.05.

- Statistical similarity assessment
  - **For any sample**
- Robust evaluation using noise weighting method
- Student, Welch, **TOST t-test** implementation
- Auto concentration correction
- **Orthogonal similarity assessment**
- Regulatory compliance with spectra manager CFR™



# JASCO Educational Resources

## Many Webinars:

- Circular Dichroism
- FTIR Theory, Instrumentation, and Techniques
- Raman Microscopy and Imaging
- SFC Theory and Applications
- VCD

## E-books and Posters

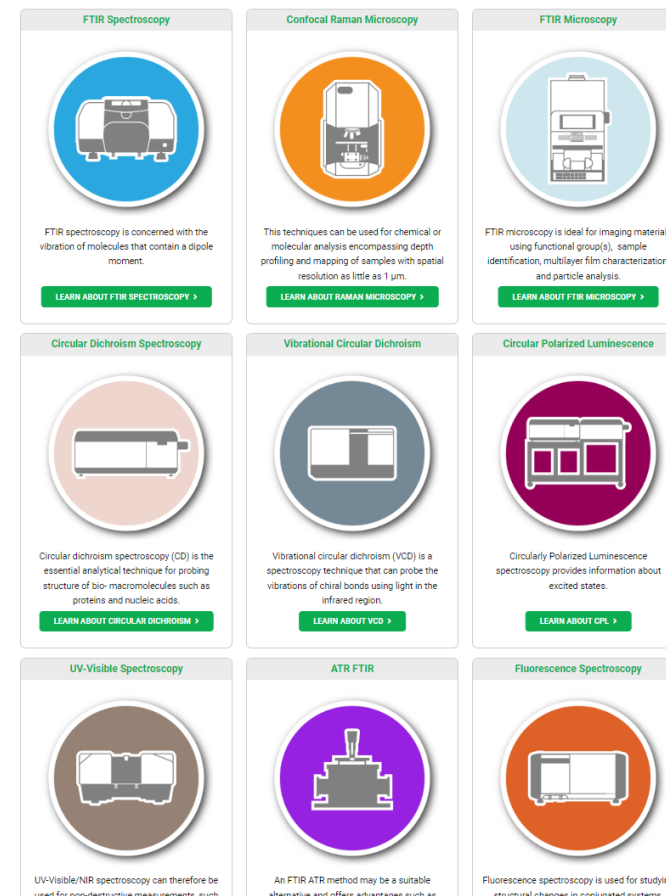
- Raman
- Fluorescence
- FTIR
- CD

## KnowledgeBase



Repository of literature categorized by technique and field.

## Theory explanation:





# **Thank You For Attending!**

*Questions?*