

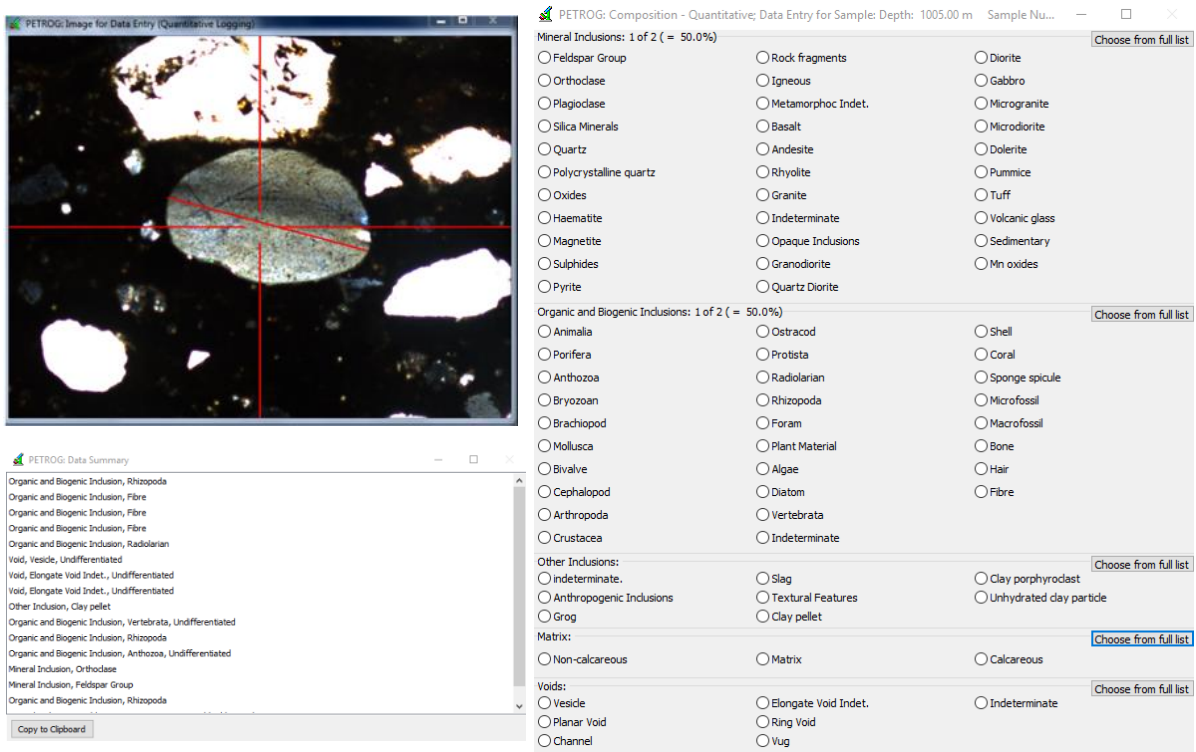
PETROG™

for Ceramic Petrography

Thin section ceramic petrography is a versatile research tool that can be applied to the compositional characterisation of archaeological pottery, building materials and plaster-based artefacts, as well as the interpretation of their raw materials and production technology (e.g. Quinn 2013; Reedy 2008). Quantitative data collection and analysis plays an important role in the classification of ancient and historic ceramic specimens and the determination of their production location or provenance. It is also key to the reconstruction of ceramic technology, including paste preparation and vessel manufacture.

PETROG™ is uniquely able to provide support for archaeologists:

- Acquisition of the petrographic information from thin sections, combining compositional and textural data, and analysing them both together and separately;
- Digital SteppingStage with automated or user defined interval and area parameters

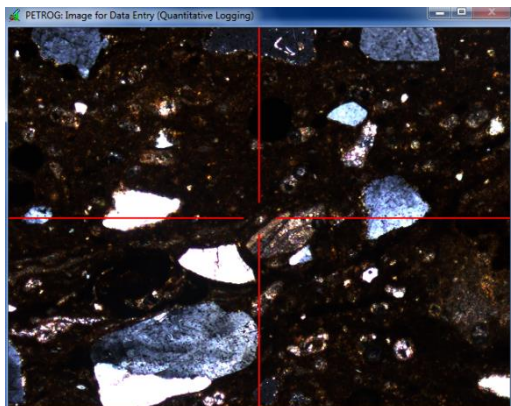


- Logging of inclusions via predefined and user specific databases
- Accurate long and short axis measurement of inclusions and voids using the calibrated microscope camera feed.
- Analysing images concurrently with the data, providing considerably more insight than can be gleaned from either separately;
- Combining descriptive and numerical data, as appropriate to the quality of the material and the depth of analysis required;

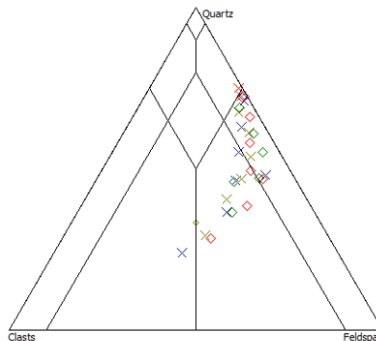
PETROGTM

for Ceramic Petrography

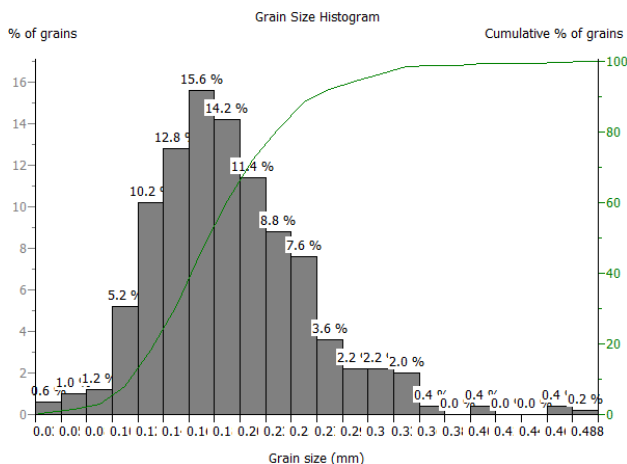
- Cataloguing, managing, sharing and archiving data and images simultaneously;



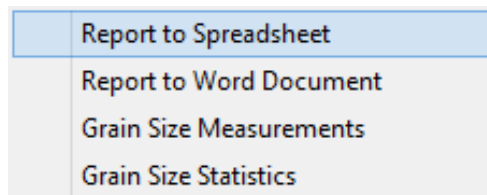
- Analysis of compositional data, including triangular diagrams and pie charts, and direct comparison with imported XRD data;



- Analysis of textural data, including grain size distribution histograms, mean, mode, standard deviation, sphericity and orientation.



- Reporting, in pre-formed reports using Word and as numerical data for use in Excel or more detailed statistical analysis packages.



In **“How can Archaeologists Make Better Arguments?”** Michael E. Smith quoted Haber (1999:312) as saying “The fundamental question of all serious fields of scholarly inquiry [is]: How would you know if you are wrong?” in support of his thesis that archaeologists should strive to be more rigorously scientific, which in turn means basing their work on sound data. PETROG is the sound, rigorous basis for petrographic data that has transformed the practice of petrography in the 21st century, and is now available with dictionaries, knowledge base and interface tailored to the needs of archaeologists working with ceramics and all ancient materials and artefacts.



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