

Neutron Experiments to Determine Magnetic Structures

Stuart Calder

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ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle, LLC for the US Department of Energy

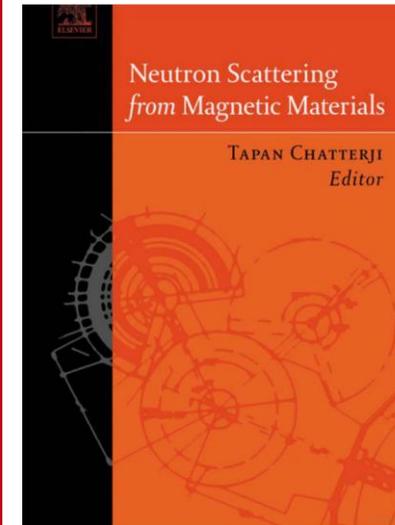
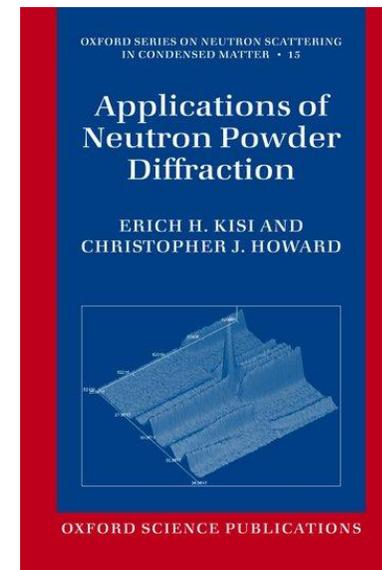
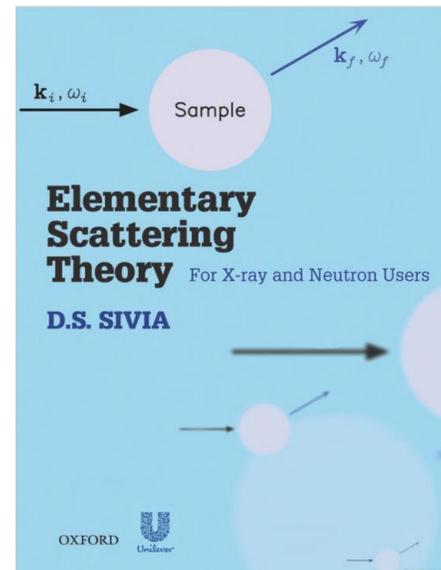
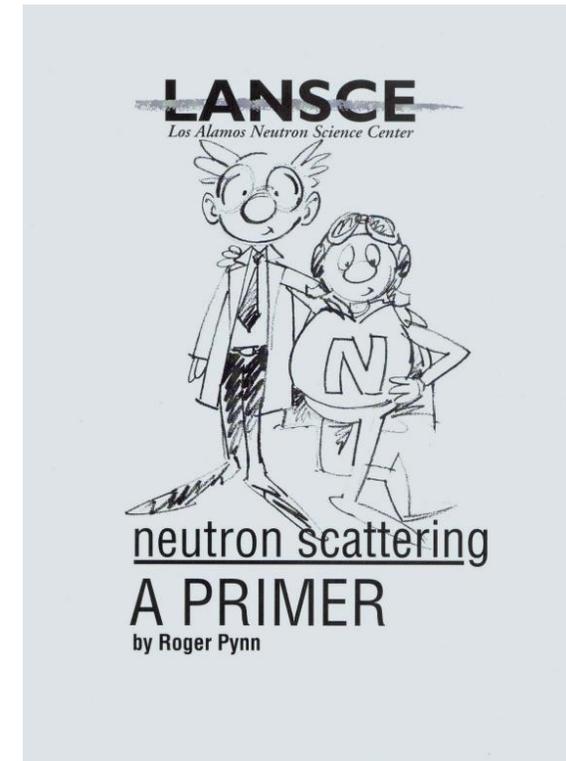
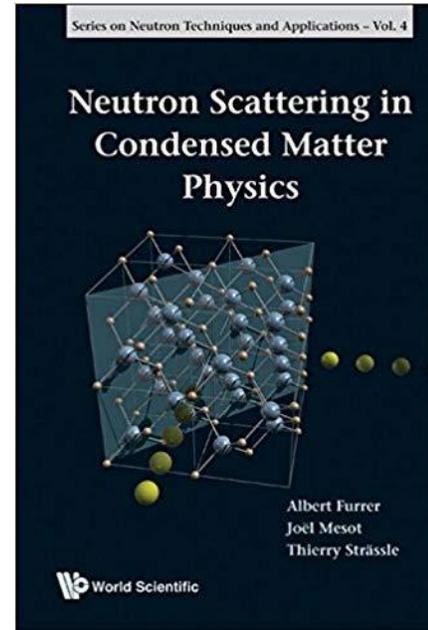
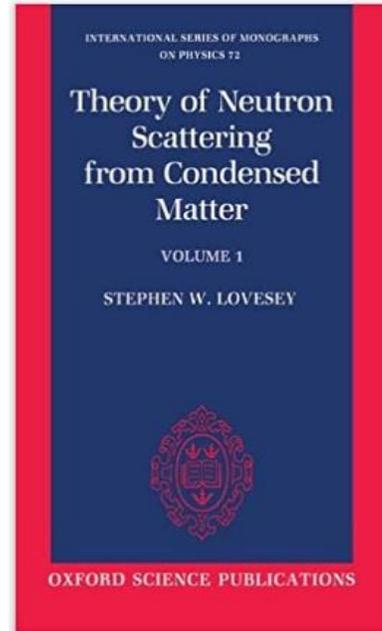
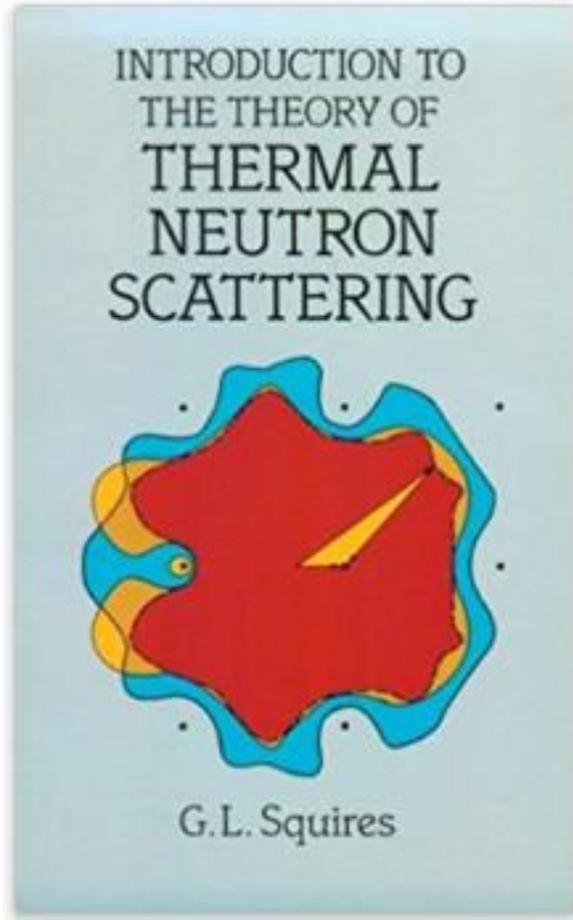


**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY**

Overview

- Why use neutrons?
- Neutron sources: A (very) brief history
- Theoretical concepts of neutron scattering (recap)
- Practical aspects of neutron scattering and refinements
- Where to perform experiments: Diffraction instruments at ORNL

Lots of references

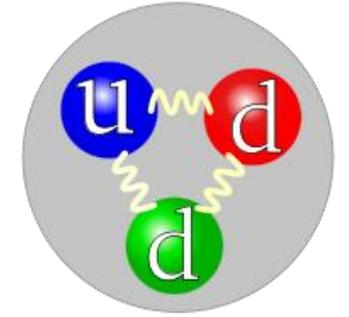


How to get microscopic structural information

- 3 main choices → Diffraction has strong advantages

Examples	Advantages	Disadvantages
Microscopy Optical, TEM, Field ion	Direct	Local information only
Scanning Probes AFM, STM, SEM	Direct	Local information only Surfaces only
Diffraction Probes Electron X-ray <u>Neutron</u>	Quantitative data on correlations and distribution of structural features Probes entire sample Neutrons → gives absolute values	Requires fitting

Why neutrons?



- **Wavelength:** Comparable to atomic distances (1- 5 Å)
 - Strong nuclear interaction with nuclei
- **No charge:** Can travel through thick samples (cm) and equipment
- **Neutron spin (μ_N):** dipole interaction with unpaired electrons $\rightarrow \mu = -(\mathbf{L} + 2\mathbf{S})\mu_B$
 - e.g. $3d^5 \text{ Fe}^{3+}$ $L=0$ and $S=5/2 \rightarrow 5\mu_B$
 - observed scattering of a similar magnitude to nuclear scattering (often smaller, sometimes larger)
- Magnetism can be investigated at a microscopic scale with a high precision
 - Magnetic structure
 - Quantitative moment size

\rightarrow The best probe for magnetic structure determination

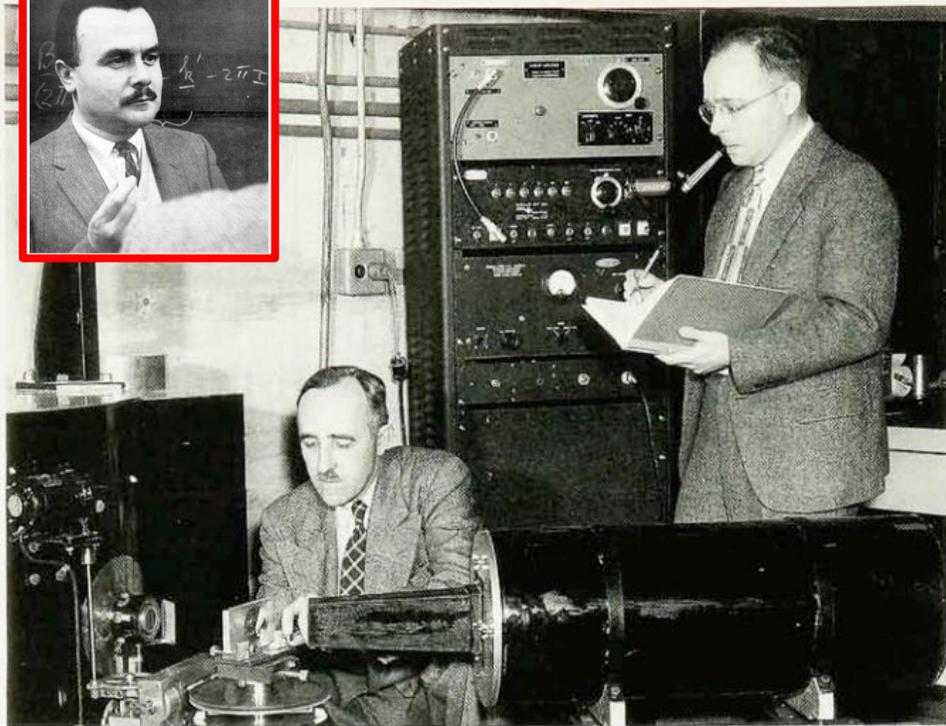
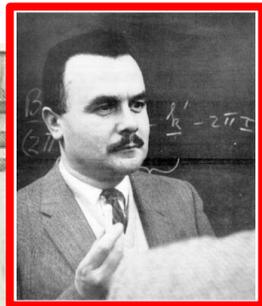
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Neutron Scattering

Bertram Brockhouse and Clifford Shull - 1994 Nobel Laureate in Physics

"If the neutron did not exist, it would need to be invented"



Clifford G. Shull (right) and Ernest O. Wollan shown around 1950 with a spectrometer they used for neutron scattering studies at Oak Ridge.

The Nobel Prize in Physics 1994

Neutrons behave as particles and as waves

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has awarded the 1994 Nobel Prize in Physics for pioneering contributions to the development of neutron scattering techniques for studies of condensed matter.

Neutrons reveal structure and dynamics

Neutrons bounce against atomic nuclei. They also react to the magnetism of the atoms.

Neutrons show where atoms are

Neutrons show what atoms do

Research reactor

Atoms in a crystalline lattice

Changes in the strength of the interactions can be measured in an inelastic process.

When the neutrons scatter with order in the crystal material, they create discrete lines (diffraction) - elastic scattering.

Atoms in a crystalline lattice

When the neutrons penetrate the sample they start at a certain wavelength in the crystal. If the neutrons create phonons or magnons they lose energy from the crystal. Their energy then shifts - inelastic scattering.

Crystal that scatters and diffracts neutrons of a certain wavelength (energy) - elastic, diffracted neutrons.

Crystal that scatters and diffracts neutrons of a certain wavelength (energy) - elastic, diffracted neutrons.

When it started, Brockhouse and Shull made their pioneering contributions at the first neutron reactor in the USA and Canada, built in the 1940s and 1950s. It was then that the techniques of neutron scattering became available for scientific research.

How it works: Neutrons are scattered by the nuclei of atoms. Some are scattered in the forward direction, some are scattered in the backward direction. The scattered neutrons are then detected by a detector.

Further reading: [http://www.nobelprize.org/nobelprize/physics/laureates/1994/shull-brockhouse.html](#)

Clifford G. Shull, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, winner one half of the 1994 Nobel Prize in Physics for development of the neutron diffraction technique.

Bertram H. Brockhouse, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, winner one half of the 1994 Nobel Prize in Physics for the development of neutron spectroscopy.

S Shull made use of elastic scattering i.e. of neutrons which change direction without losing energy when they collide with atoms. Because of the same reason of conservation, a diffraction pattern can be recorded which indicates where in the sample the atoms are situated. Even the placing of light elements such as hydrogen in metallic hydrides, or hydrogen, carbon and oxygen in organic substances can be determined. The pattern also shows how atomic dipole are oriented in magnetic materials, since neutrons are affected by magnetic forces. Shull also made use of this phenomenon in his neutron diffraction techniques.

B Brockhouse made use of inelastic scattering i.e. of neutrons, which change both direction and energy when they collide with atoms. They then start in usual atomic oscillations in crystals and record neutrons in liquids and solids. Neutrons can also interact with spin waves in magnets. With his 3-axis spectrometer Brockhouse measured energies of phonons (acoustic vibrations) and magnons (magnetic waves). He also studied how atomic reactions in liquids change with time.

Neutrons are more than X-rays

X-rays are scattered by the electrons around the atoms in a material. Neutrons are scattered by the nuclei of atoms and have a much longer wavelength than X-rays. This means that neutrons can penetrate deep into the material and scatter from the interior.

Neutrons reveal inner stresses

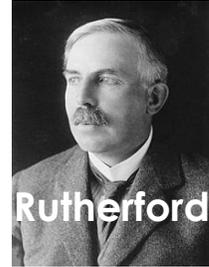
It is well known that in a stressed metal the atoms are displaced from their normal positions. Neutrons can be used to measure these displacements and hence the internal stresses in a material.

Neutrons show what atoms rearrange

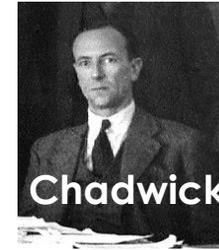
When a solid is heated, the atoms vibrate more vigorously. Neutrons can be used to measure the amplitude of these vibrations and hence the temperature of the solid.

How to get neutrons: A (very) brief history

- 1920: Rutherford predicted neutron
- 1932: Neutron discovered by James Chadwick



Rutherford



Chadwick

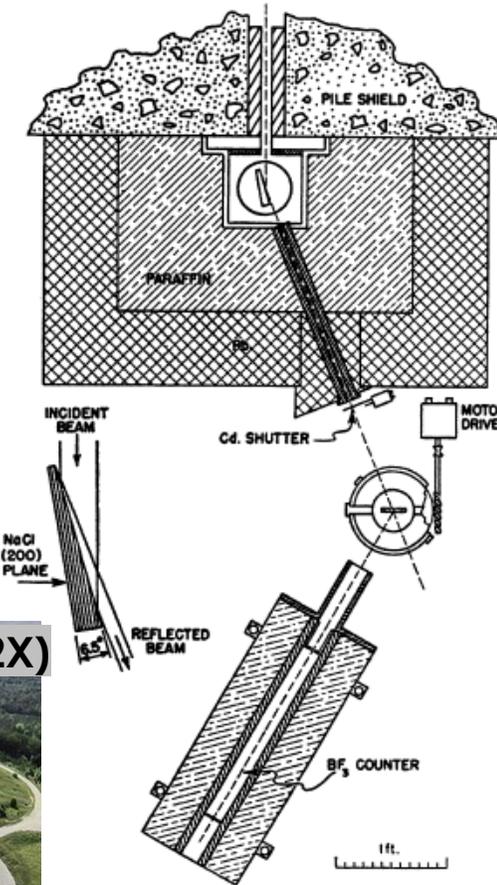
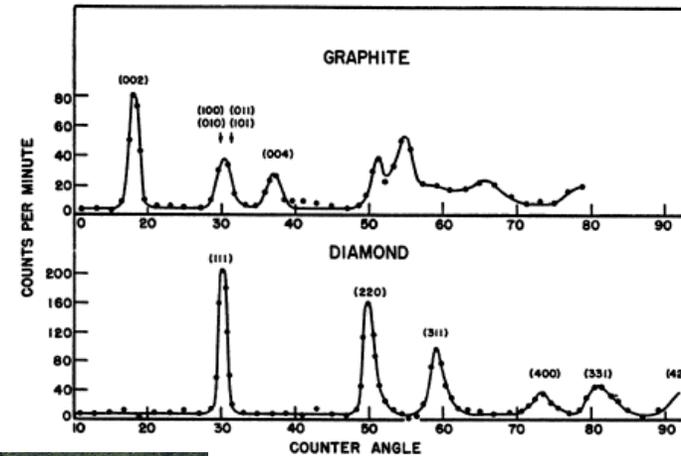
PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 73, NUMBER 8

APRIL 15, 1948

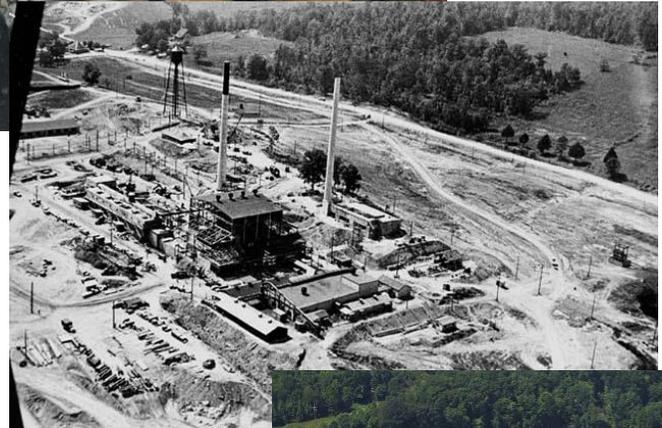
The Diffraction of Neutrons by Crystalline Powders

E. O. WOLLAN AND C. G. SHULL
Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee
(Received January 5, 1948)



Fermi

1942: First reactor, Chicago-Pile 1 (CP-1)



First neutron scattering 1943-1963 ORNL Graphite reactor

1965-present: HFIR

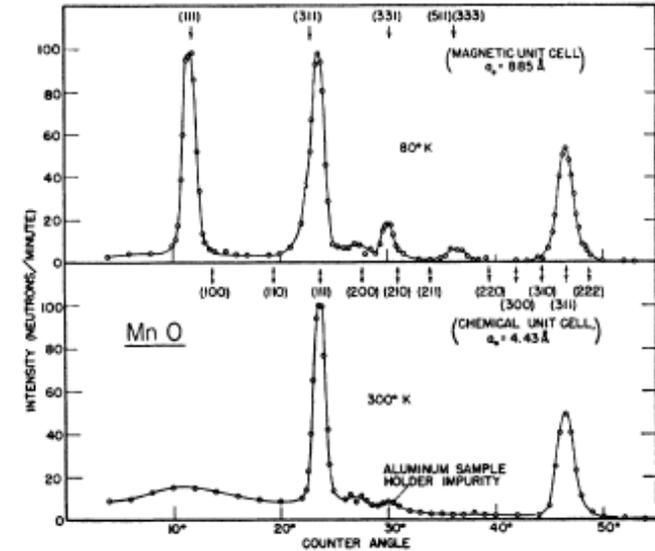
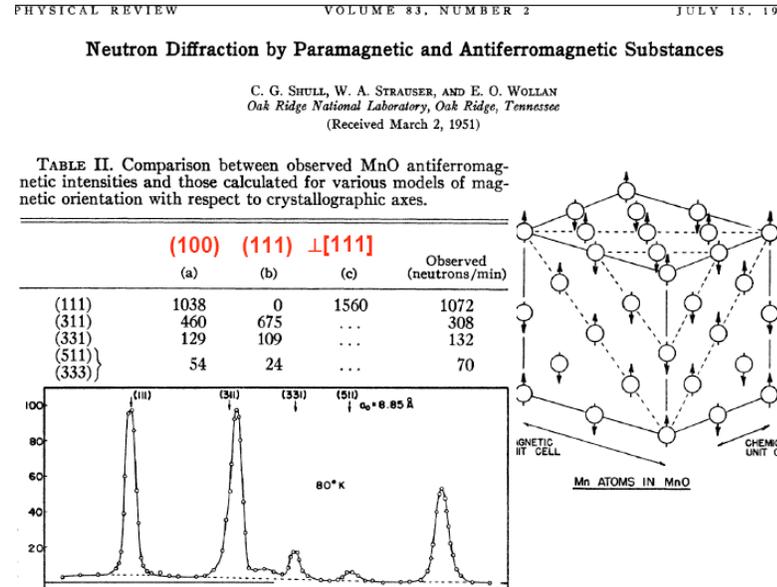
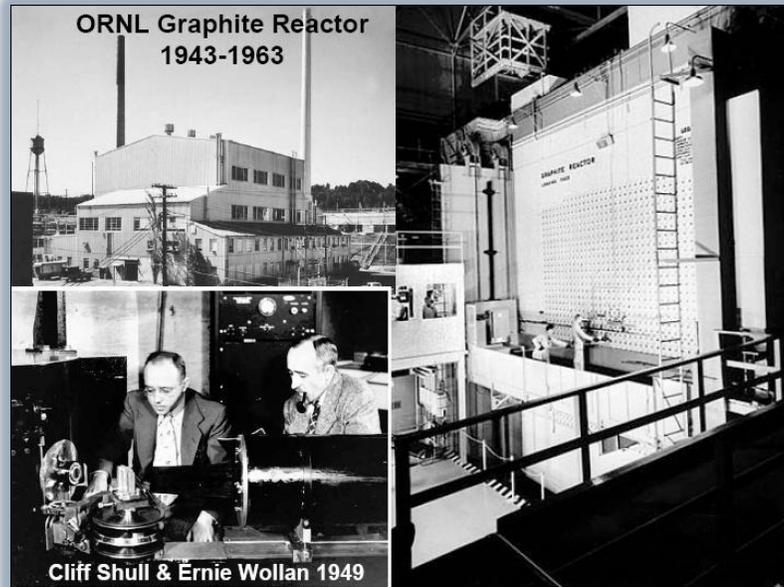


SNS: FTS (2006) and STS (202X)



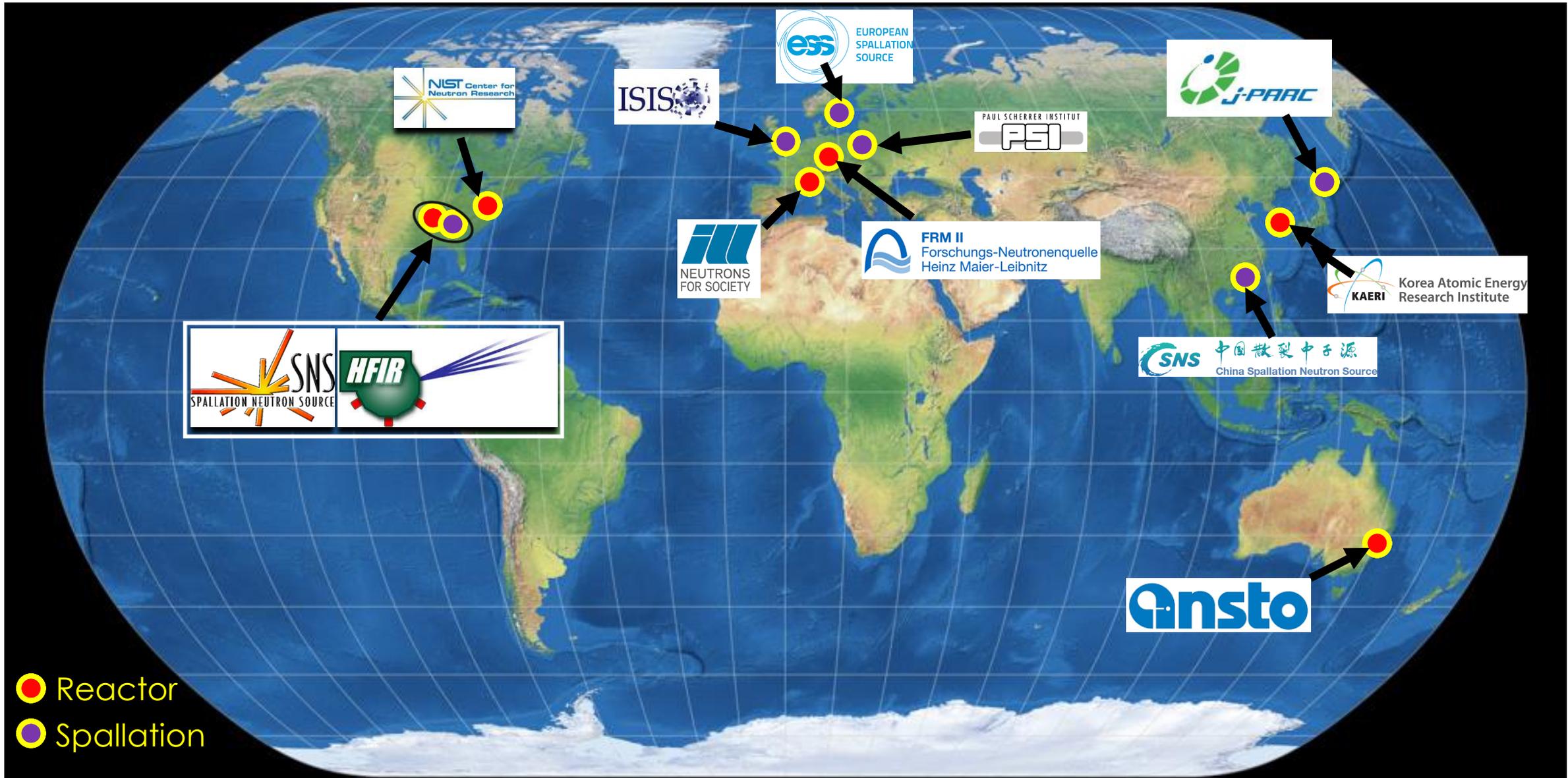
First determination of magnetic structure performed at ORNL

- Clifford G. Shull received 1994 Nobel prize in Physics.



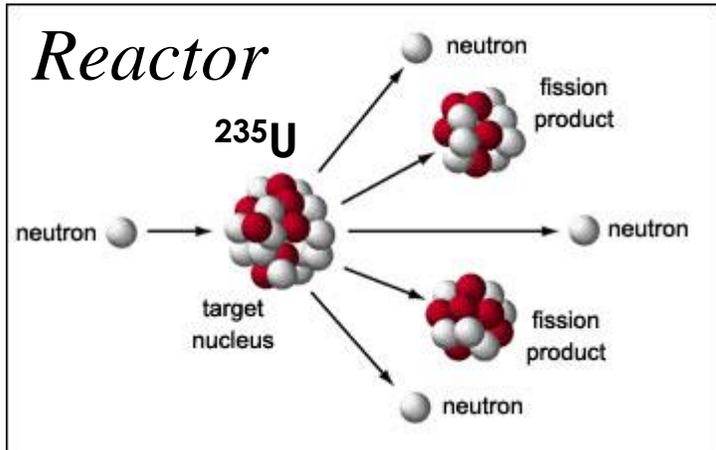
- First direct evidence of antiferromagnetism in MnO.
- Neel model of ferrimagnetism confirmed in Fe_3O_4 .
- First magnetic form-factor data obtained in Mn compounds.
- Production of polarized neutrons by Bragg reflection from ferromagnets demonstrated.

Neutron Sources around the world

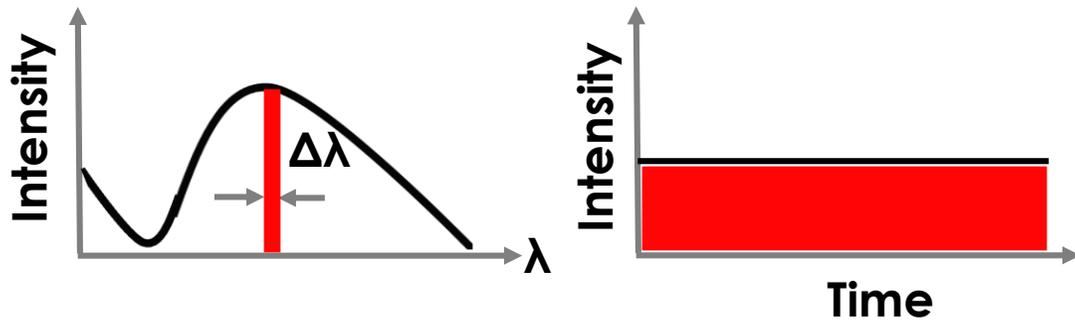


- Reactor
- Spallation

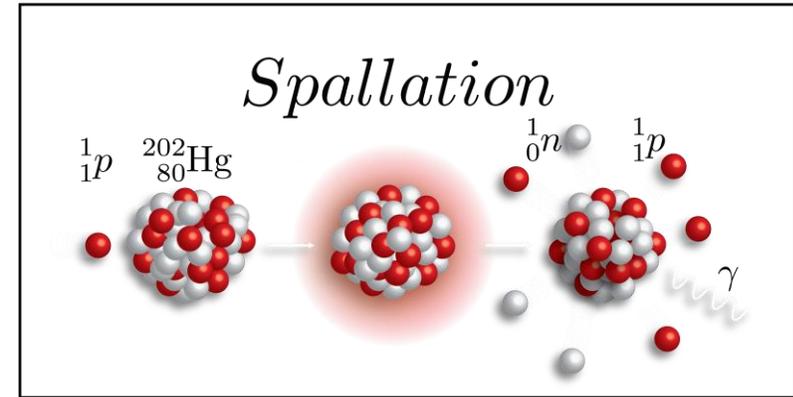
Neutron scattering: Reactor and Spallation source



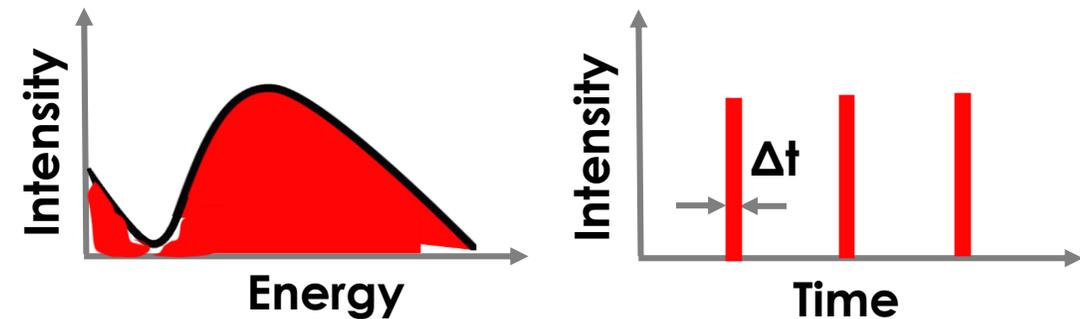
Fast neutrons are slowed by collisions in moderator (C, H₂O, D₂O) to produce thermal neutrons



Small $\Delta\lambda$ used, but source on all the time



A pulse of protons impacts on a target (Ta, Hg) to produce a shower of fast neutrons. These are slowed down in a moderator (H, CH₄)



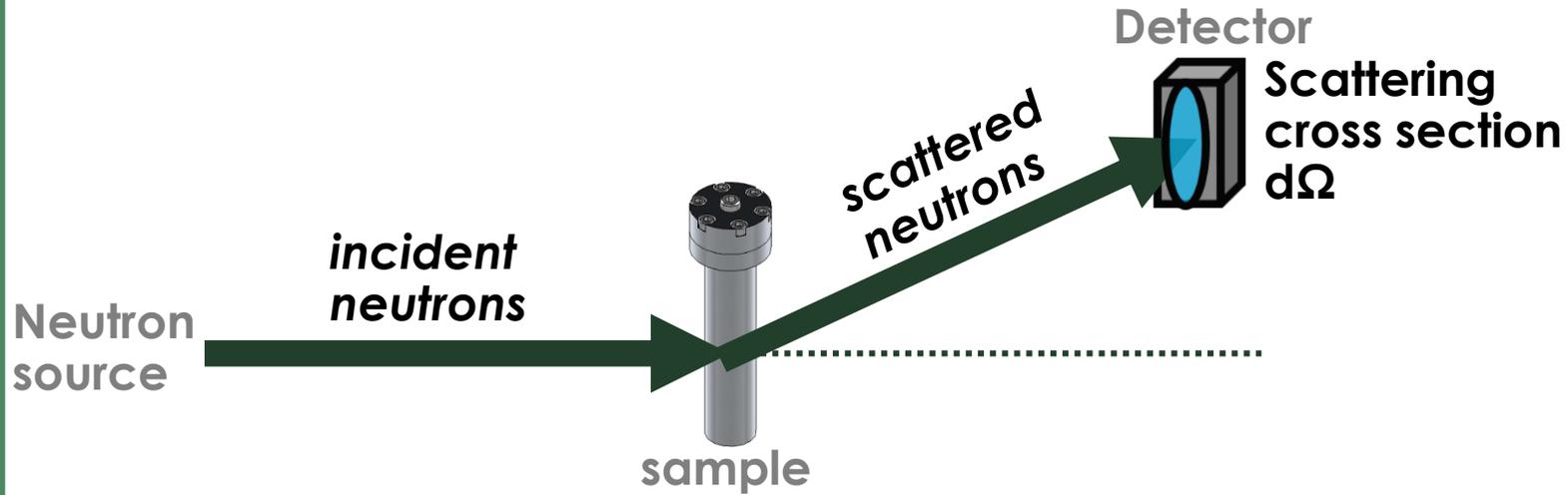
Each pulse of neutrons contains a broad spectrum of energy (λ)

Pulse of neutrons ~30 times per second

Overview

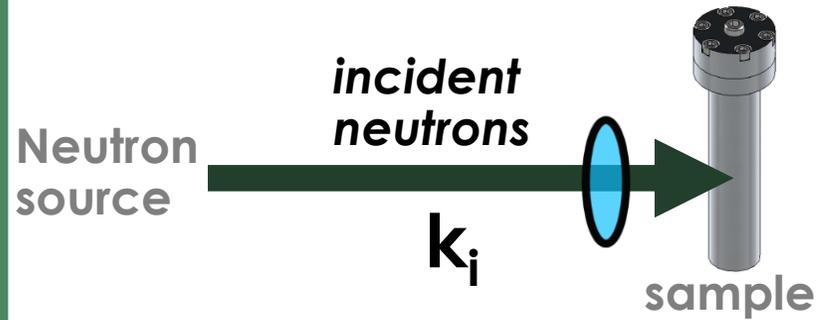
- Why use neutrons?
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Neutron Scattering



- Neutron source produces an incident beam of neutrons that scatters from a nucleus or unpaired electron [*sample*] into a defined cross-section $d\Omega$ [*detector*].

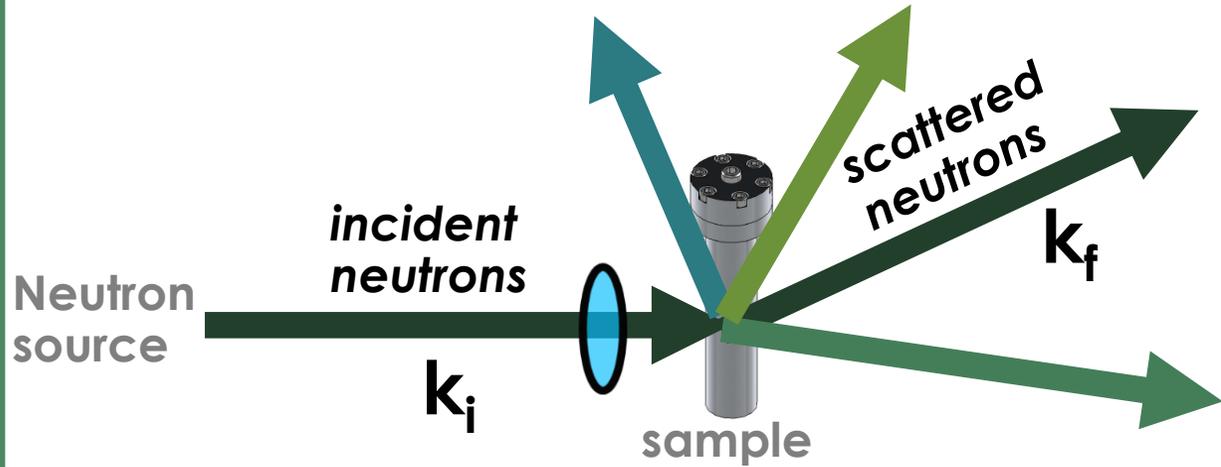
Neutron Scattering Cross section



The scattering cross section can be measured in absolute units.

Flux:	$\Phi = \frac{\text{Rate of neutrons through area}}{\text{area}}$	$10^6\text{-}10^9 \text{ n/cm}^2/\text{s}$
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Neutron Scattering Cross section

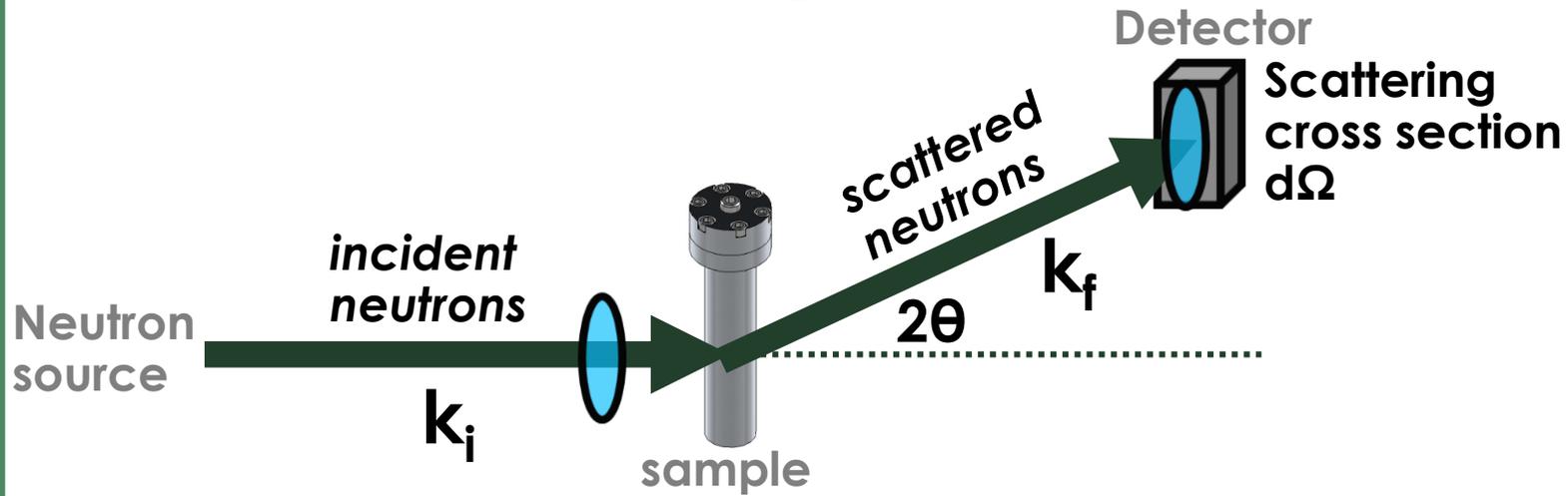


The scattering cross section can be measured in absolute units.

Flux:	$\Phi = \frac{\text{Rate of neutrons through area}}{\text{area}}$	$10^6\text{-}10^9 \text{ n/cm}^2/\text{s}$
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Rate of scattering: [Cross section]	$\sigma = \frac{\text{Rate of neutrons scattered}}{\Phi}$	Atom \rightarrow 1 barn = 10^{-24} cm^2 . Effective surface area of nucleus
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Neutron Scattering Cross section



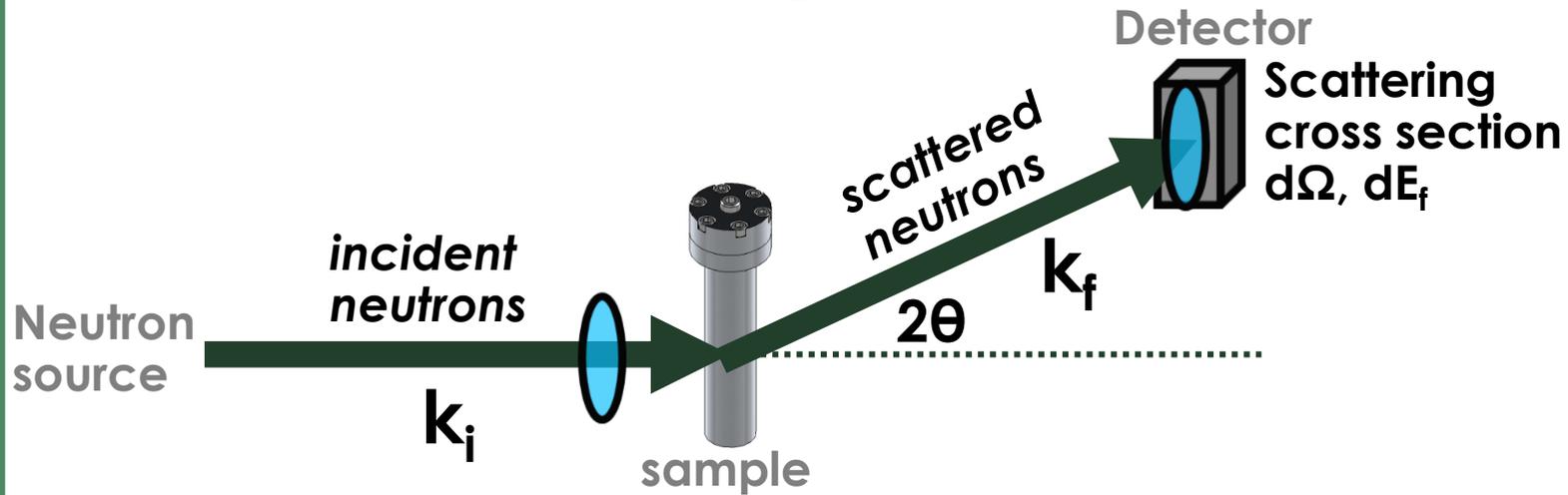
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Rate of scattering into a specific solid angle: [Differential cross section]	$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{Rate of neutrons scattered into } d\Omega}{\Phi \times d\Omega}$	Units of barn/steradian.
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Neutron Scattering Cross section



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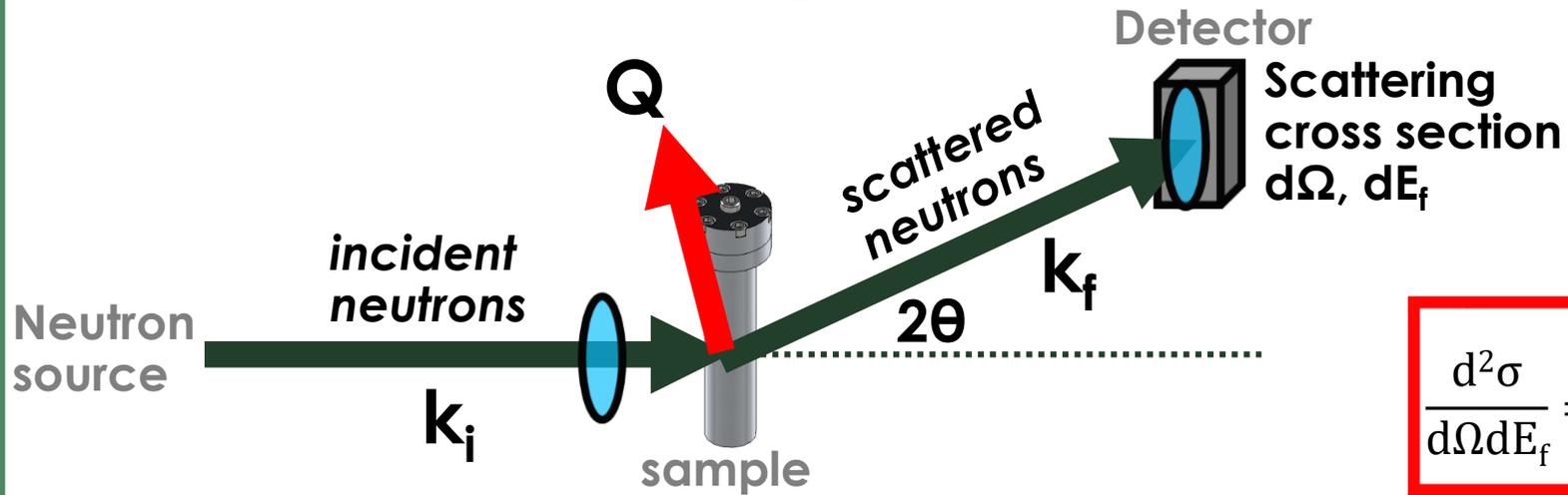
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Rate of scattering into angle within energy range: [Partial differential cross section]	$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE_f} = \frac{\text{Rate of neutrons into } d\Omega \text{ and } dE_f}{\Phi \times d\Omega \times dE_f}$	Units of barn/steradian/meV
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Neutron Scattering Cross section



The scattering cross section can be measured in absolute units.

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE_f} = \frac{k_f}{k_i} S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) \xrightarrow{\text{Diffraction}} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = S(\mathbf{Q})$$

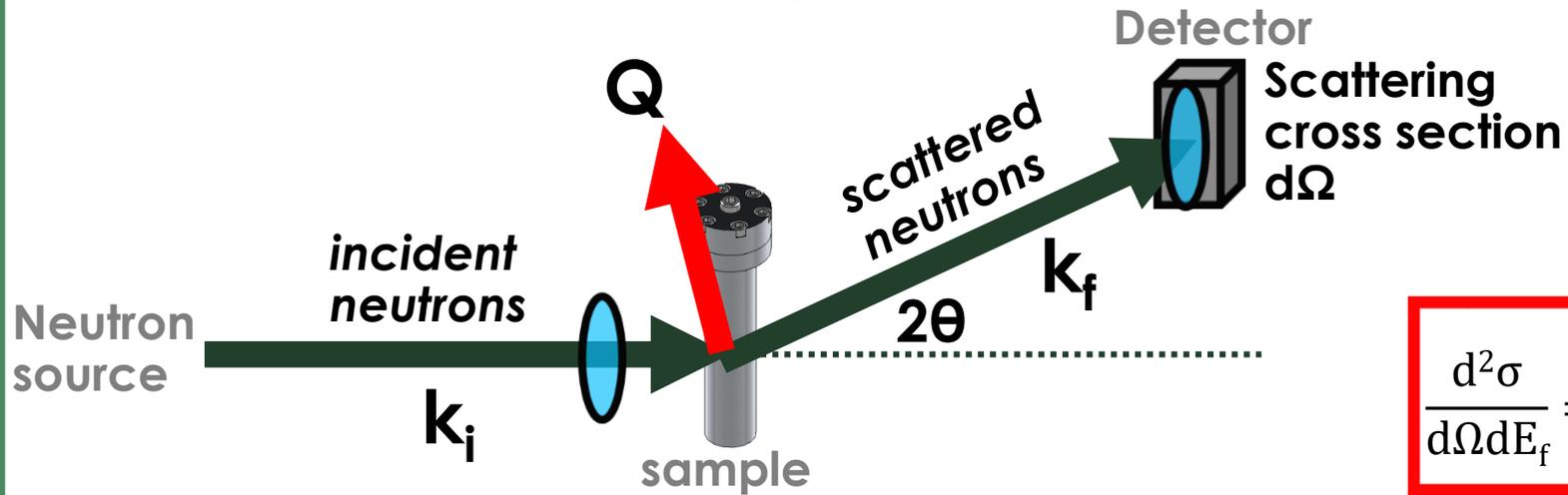
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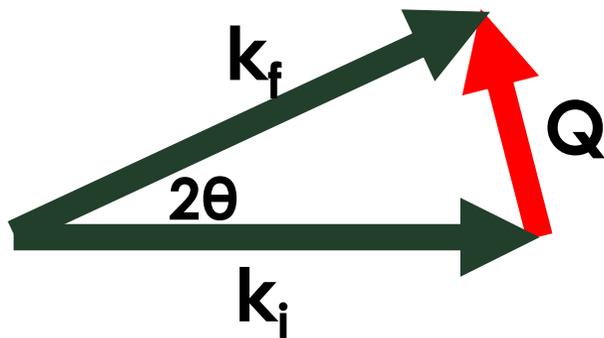
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Neutron Scattering



$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE_f} = \frac{k_f}{k_i} S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) \xrightarrow{\text{Diffraction}} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = S(\mathbf{Q})$$

Scattering triangle:



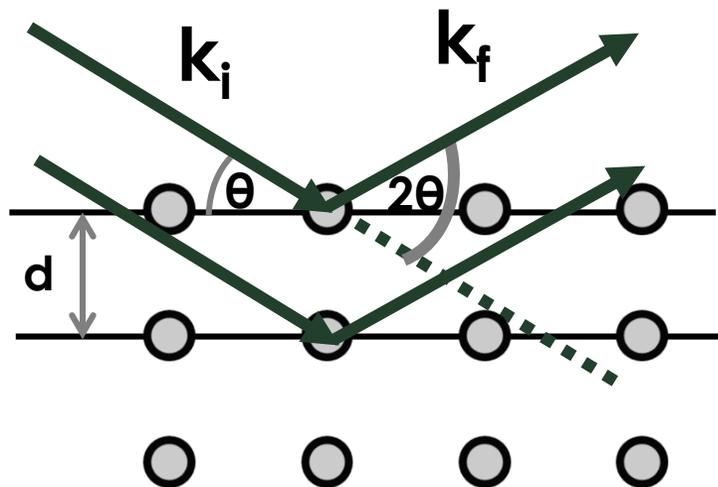
Momentum transfer: $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{k}_i - \mathbf{k}_f$

$$Q = \frac{4\pi \sin \theta}{\lambda} = \frac{2\pi}{d}$$

Elastic scattering: $|\mathbf{k}_i| = |\mathbf{k}_f|$

Neutron diffraction: Bragg scattering

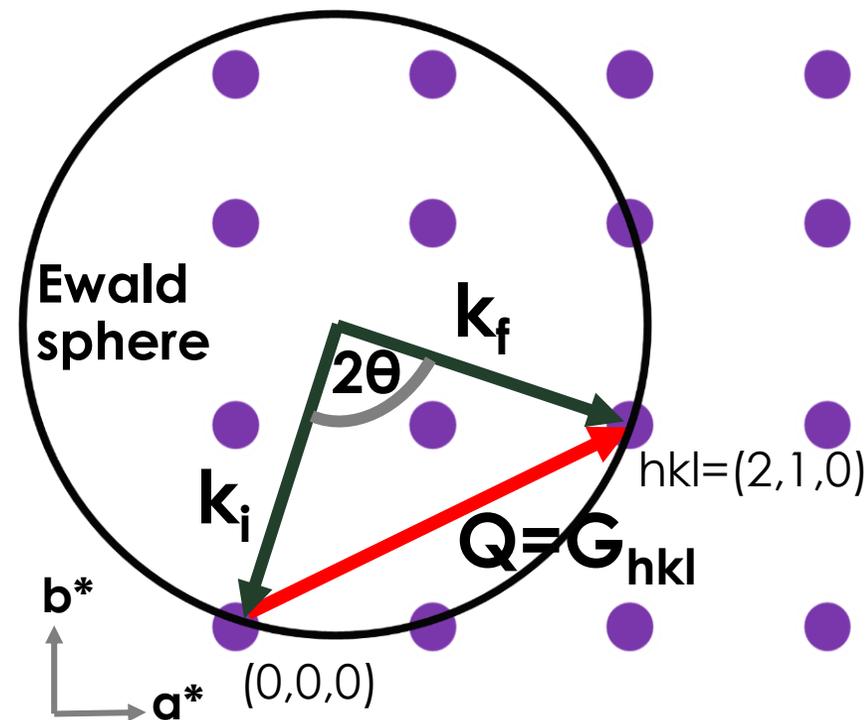
Diffraction from a crystal



Bragg peaks when: $\lambda=2d\sin\theta$

Braggs Law

Diffraction in reciprocal space



Bragg peaks when: $Q=G_{hkl}$

Scattering by a potential $V(r)$: Born approximation

- Neutron scattering can be treated as scattering from a central potential (nuclear or magnetic).
- This interaction potential with neutron and matter is weak.
 - Disregard multiple scattering
- This allows the use of the Born approximation.

→ **Neutron cross-section can be completely known and modelled**

→ **Work in reciprocal space**

Born approximation

- Wavefunction of scattering by a central potential:

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}) = e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} + \left[-\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\mathbf{r}' e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}'} V(\mathbf{r}') \Psi(\mathbf{r}') \right] \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}}{r}$$

- Expand integral (Born series):

$$-\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\mathbf{r}' e^{i\mathbf{k}_f\cdot\mathbf{r}'} V(\mathbf{r}') \Psi(\mathbf{r}') \approx -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\mathbf{r}' e^{i\mathbf{k}_f\cdot\mathbf{r}'} V(\mathbf{r}') \Psi(\mathbf{r}') e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} + \left(\frac{1}{4\pi}\right)^2 \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}'}}{|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|} V(\mathbf{r}) V(\mathbf{r}') + \dots$$

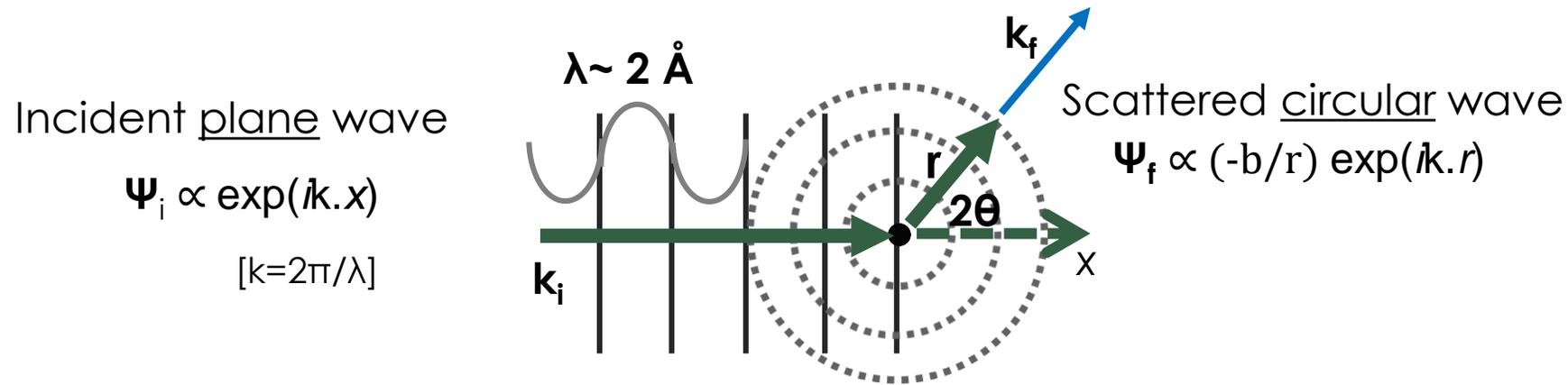
- Take first term (Born approximation):

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{Born}} = \left| \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\mathbf{r} e^{-i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{r}} V(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2$$

where $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{k}_f - \mathbf{k}_i$

- Cross section is proportional to the Fourier transform of the potential energy, $V(\mathbf{r})$.

Scattering potential: Scattering from a single fixed nucleus



Nuclear interaction potential:

$$V_{\text{Nuclear}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{m_n} b\delta(\mathbf{r})$$

- Very short range ($\sim 10^{-15} \text{ m}$)
- Isotropic scattering
 Diffraction theory: If waves of any kind scatter from an object of a size $\ll \lambda$ then the scattered waves are spherically symmetric (S-wave scattering).
- Scattering is elastic \rightarrow nucleus is fixed
- Details of the potential ($V(r)$) are unimportant.
 $V(r)$ can be described by a scalar parameter b that depends only on the nucleus and isotope [Fermi Pseudopotential]
 $b = \text{scattering amplitude} / \text{length}$ ($\sim 10^{-12} \text{ cm}$)

Scattering potential: Nuclear neutron diffraction

- Nuclear interaction potential:

$$V_{\text{Nuclear}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{m_n} b\delta(\mathbf{r})$$

- Diffraction intensity: $S(\mathbf{Q}) = |\sum_j b_j \exp(i\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j)|^2$ (sum over all nuclei in sample)

- Rigid crystal:

(sum over all reciprocal lattice vectors \mathbf{G} (h,k,l))

Number of unit cells in crystal

$$S(\mathbf{Q}) = N \frac{(2\pi)^3}{V_0} \sum_{hkl} |F_{hkl}(\mathbf{Q})|^2 \delta(\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{G}_{hkl})$$

Volume of unit cell

Structure factor

$$F_{hkl}(\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_j b_j \exp(i\mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j) \exp(-W_d)$$

(sum over nuclei in unit cell)

Scattering only when $\mathbf{Q}=\mathbf{G}$, i.e. at allowed (H,K,L) positions

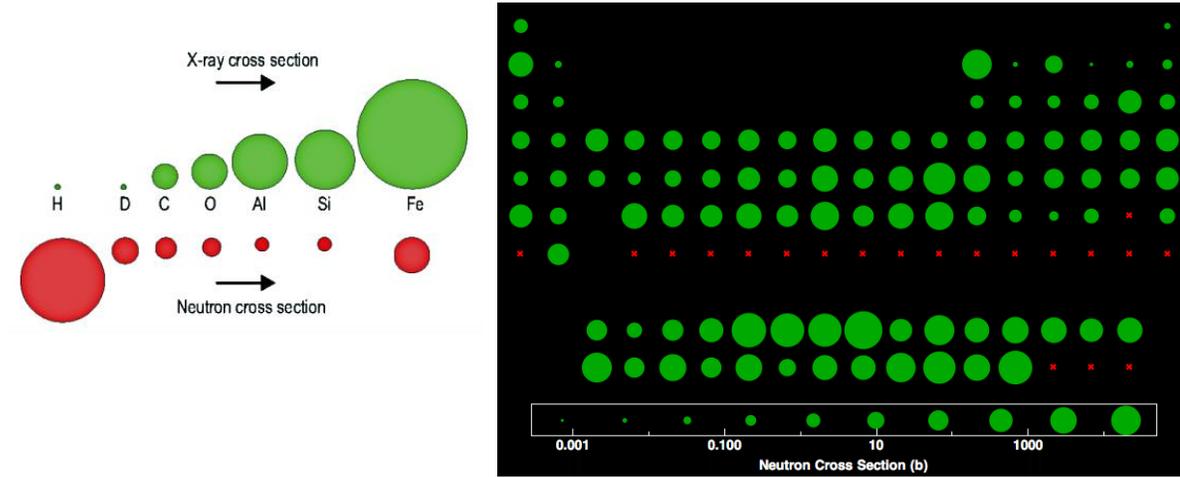
$W_d \rightarrow$ Debye-Waller factor for atomic thermal motion

Scattering length (b)

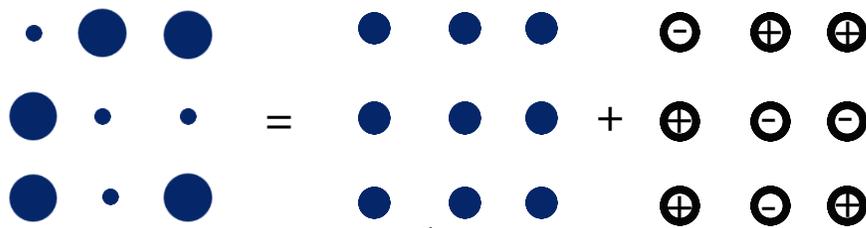
- Measured scattering depends on b, the scattering length
- b varies randomly with Z and isotope
 - offers advantages over x-rays
 - But need to check for absorption
- Coherent and incoherent nuclear scattering
- b varies with isotope and with nuclear spin orientation
- Consider a sample with two isotopes → b_1 and b_2

Structure factor (nuclear)

$$F_{hkl}(\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_j b_j \exp(i\mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j) \exp(-W_d)$$



Random b_1, b_2

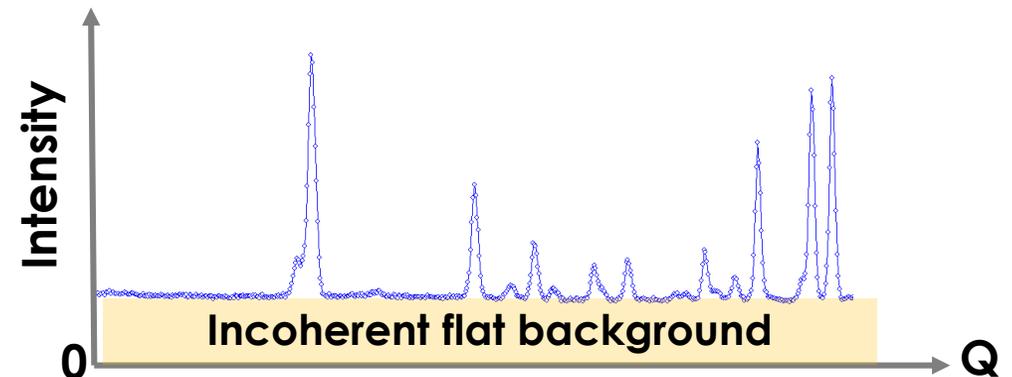


Mean b_{coh}
Coherent scattering
($b \rightarrow b_{coh}$)

Deviation from mean σ_{inc}
Incoherent scattering

$$S_{inc}(\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_j \frac{(\sigma_{inc})_j}{4\pi}$$

Values of b_{coh} and σ_{inc} tabulated:
<https://www.ncnr.nist.gov/resources/n-lengths/>



Scattering potential: Magnetic scattering

- Magnetic interaction potential: $V_{\text{Magnetic}}(\mathbf{r}) = -\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r})$

Magnetic scattering is due to interaction of the neutron spin $\boldsymbol{\mu}_n$ with the magnetic field of an unpaired electron, $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r})$.

- $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r})$ depends on electron spin and orbital currents
- Potential depends on direction of neutron spin \rightarrow vector interaction
- Neutrons are only sensitive to the component of the magnetic moment perpendicular to \mathbf{Q}
- Anisotropic scattering, unlike nuclear scattering.
- Depends on orientation of neutron spin \rightarrow polarization analysis can be powerful
- Depends on electronic states \rightarrow magnetic form factor is important

Scattering potential: Magnetic scattering

- Magnetic scattering is due to the interaction of the neutron spin with the magnetic field of an unpaired electron
- Interaction described by a potential:

$$-\boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{H} = -\gamma \mu_N \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{H}$$

Gyromagnetic ratio: $\gamma = -1.91$

Nuclear magneton: $\mu_N = (m_e \mu_B) / m_n$

Pauli spin operator: $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$

- Magnetic scattering length proportional to the electron radius $e^2/m_e c^2$:

$$r_0 = -\gamma e^2 / m_e c^2 = -0.54 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}$$

Magnetic and nuclear scattering lengths are comparable

Magnetic diffraction intensity

$$S_M(\mathbf{Q}) = C \sum_{\mathbf{G}_M} |F_M(\mathbf{G})|^2 \delta(\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{G}_M)$$

(sum over all magnetic reciprocal lattice vectors \mathbf{G}_M)

Scattering only when $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{G}_M$, i.e. at allowed (H,K,L) positions

Magnetic Structure factor:

$$F_M(\mathbf{G}) = \sum_j f_j(\mathbf{Q}) \mathbf{m}_{\perp j} \exp(i\mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j)$$

(sum over magnetically ordered nuclei in unit cell)

Form factor

Moment
(perpendicular to \mathbf{Q})

H,K,L in
reciprocal
space

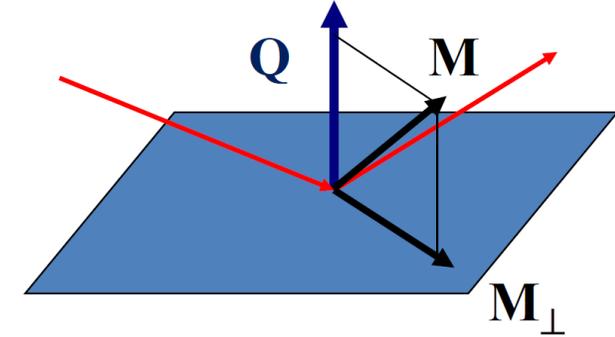
Neutrons Only Measure Moments Perpendicular to Q

- Scattering depends on Fourier transform of $V_{\text{magnetic}}(\mathbf{r}) = -\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r})$

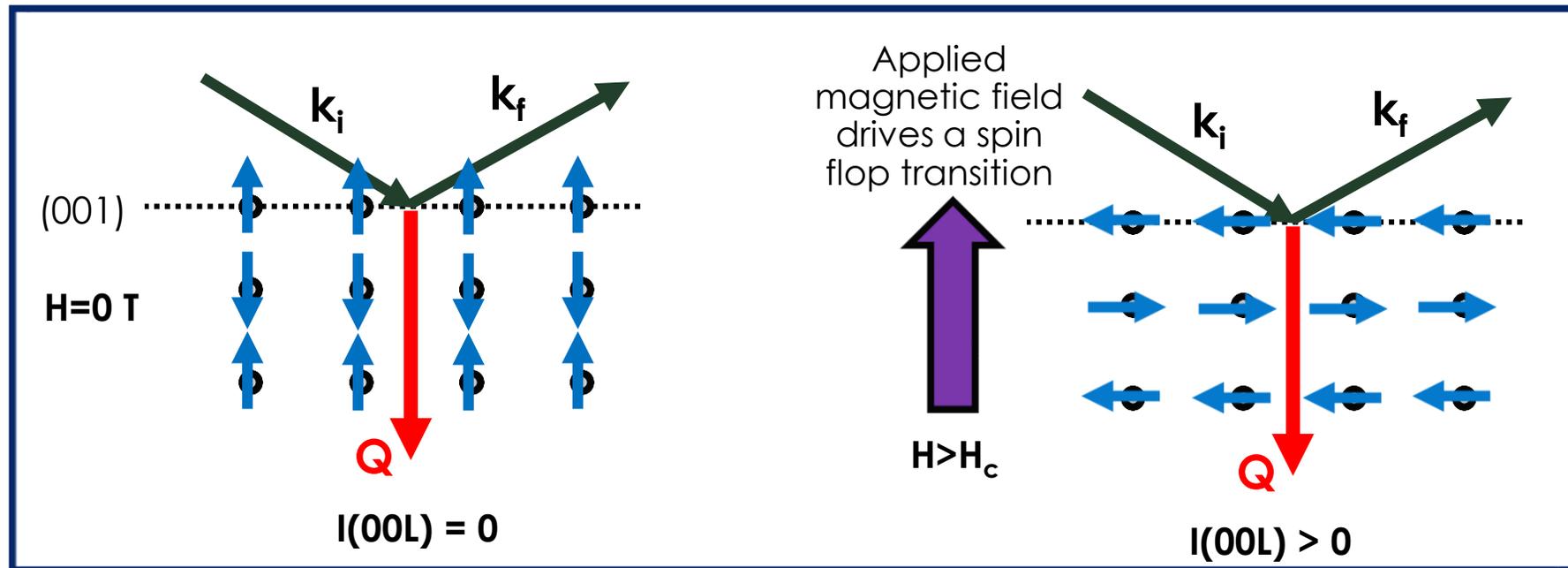
- From Maxwell's equation: $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = 0$

Fourier transform \rightarrow $i\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{Q}) = 0$

\rightarrow $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{Q})$ is perpendicular to \mathbf{Q} to be non-zero $M_{\perp}(\mathbf{Q}) = \mathbf{Q} \times (\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{Q})$



In experiments this can be a useful constraint:



Magnetic form factor

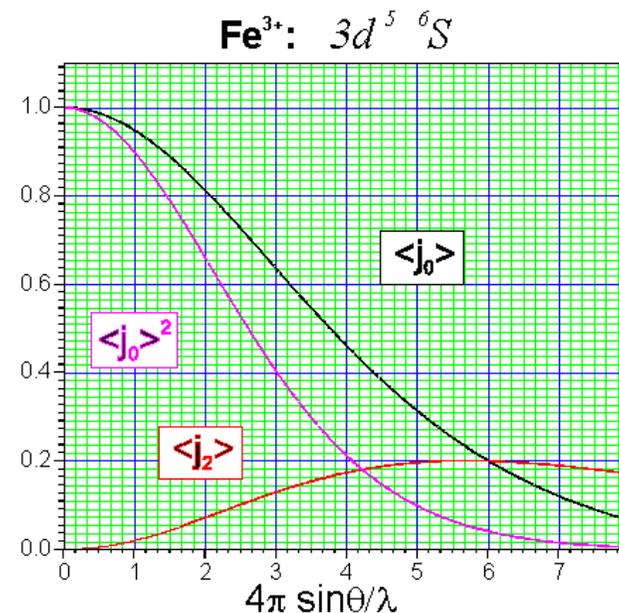
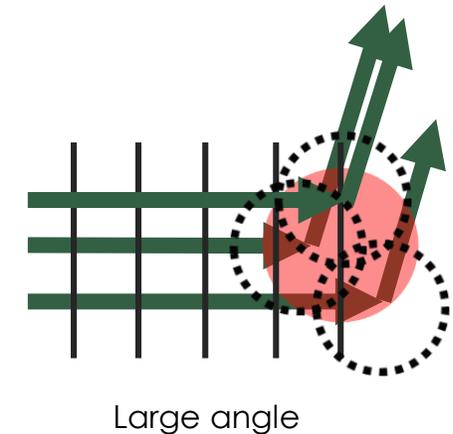
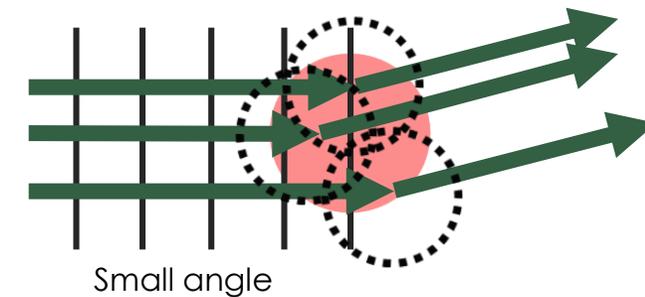
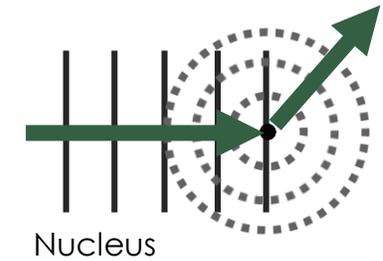
- Nuclear scattering of neutron is from a point charge → no form factor
- X-ray scattering is from charge cloud → form factor
- Magnetic scattering of neutron: $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r})$ depends on the electron spin and orbital motion → form factor
- Scattering decreases with increasing Q due to intra-atomic interference.
- Analytical expressions are tabulated in P.J. Brown International Tables of Crystallography, Vol. C, section 4.4.5. for j_1 (spin only), j_2 (orbital), j_3 (orbital), etc

$$f(Q) = c_1 \langle j_0(Q) \rangle + c_2 \langle j_2(Q) \rangle + c_3 \langle j_4(Q) \rangle + \dots$$

$$f(0) = 1$$

- Form factor depends on valance of ion.
- In general intensity drop-off more pronounced for higher Z

$$V_{\text{magnetic}}(\mathbf{r}) = -\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r})$$



Neutron measurements: Nuclear and Magnetic scattering

- The scattered intensity $S(\mathbf{Q})$ is given by:
- $S(\mathbf{Q}) = |F_N(\mathbf{Q})|^2 + P \cdot (F_{M\perp}(\mathbf{Q})F_N^*(\mathbf{Q}) + F_{M\perp}^*(\mathbf{Q})F_N(\mathbf{Q})) + |F_{M\perp}(\mathbf{Q})|^2$
- Unpolarized measurements \rightarrow no interference terms between nuclear and magnetic scattering
- $S(\mathbf{Q}) = |F_N(\mathbf{Q})|^2 + |F_{M\perp}(\mathbf{Q})|^2$
- The scattered intensity is simply the two components added together.

- **In refinements this means the nuclear and magnetic phases can be refined separately. (always case for Representational analysis)**
- **Measure at low Q to maximize scattered magnetic intensity.**
- **Make use of the constraint that neutrons only measure perpendicular component.**

Overview

- Why use neutrons?
- Neutron sources: A (very) brief history
- Theoretical concepts of neutron scattering
- **Practical aspects of neutron scattering and refinements**
- Where to perform experiments: Diffraction instruments at ORNL and around the world?

Powder

or

Single crystal ?

Advantages

- Often easier synthesis
- See everything
- Propagation vector
- If powders work then saved a lot of effort.
- Measurement more routine.

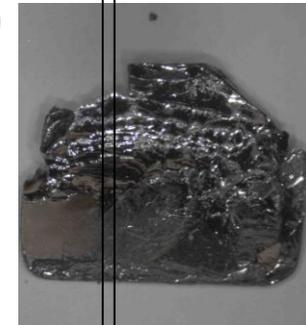


Disadvantages

- Information is averaged and lost.
- Hard to uniquely assign propagation vector.
- No domain info
- Field measurements hard to interpret quantitatively

Advantages

- Propagation vector unambiguously determined.
- Low background so can see smaller moments
- Directional dependence of field (or strain, etc)
- Domain information
- Smaller mass (~mg)



Disadvantages

- Synthesis can be hard
- Data correction: absorption, extinction, etc
- Need to search large reciprocal space (or have large detectors)
- Sample alignment considerations.

Things to consider for an experiment

- Magnetic scattering is often weak and only observable at low Q due to magnetic form factor. Preparation is key to a successful experiment.
- Characterization in the lab is crucial (XRD, Magnetization, Heat capacity, etc)
→ know your sample and where to look with neutrons
- Powders
 - Typically the more mass the better → experiment and data analysis greatly improved.
 - Use of Al can reduce background compared to V.
→ Extra peaks, but for magnetic structure determination usually not an issue.
- Single crystal
 - Small masses often feasible (< mg), check with instrument teams.
 - Know crystal quality before experiment (alignment/mosaic/domains/twinning/etc)

Basics of fitting diffraction data

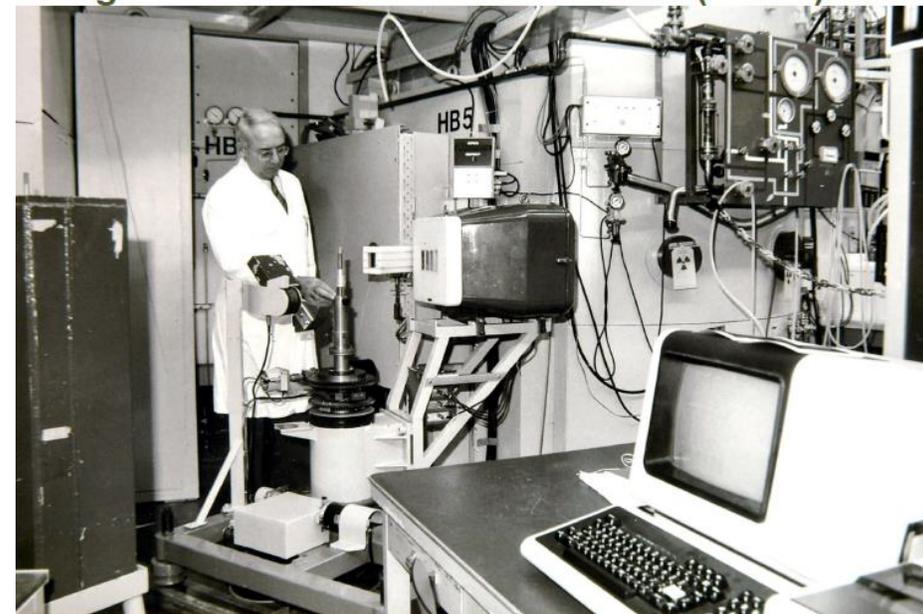
Measured peaks have position (Q or HKL), intensity and width

- **Peak positions:** determined by size and shape of unit cell
- **Peak intensities:** determined by the atomic number and position of the various atoms in the unit cell
- **Peak widths:** determined by instrument parameters as well as temperature, crystal size/quality, strain,
- Single crystal → integrated intensity of each peak is extracted. So in refinement only need to consider a few parameters (extinction, absorption)
- Powder → Overlapping peaks means modelling whole pattern. [Rietveld Refinement]

Fitting your data: Rietveld refinement (powder)

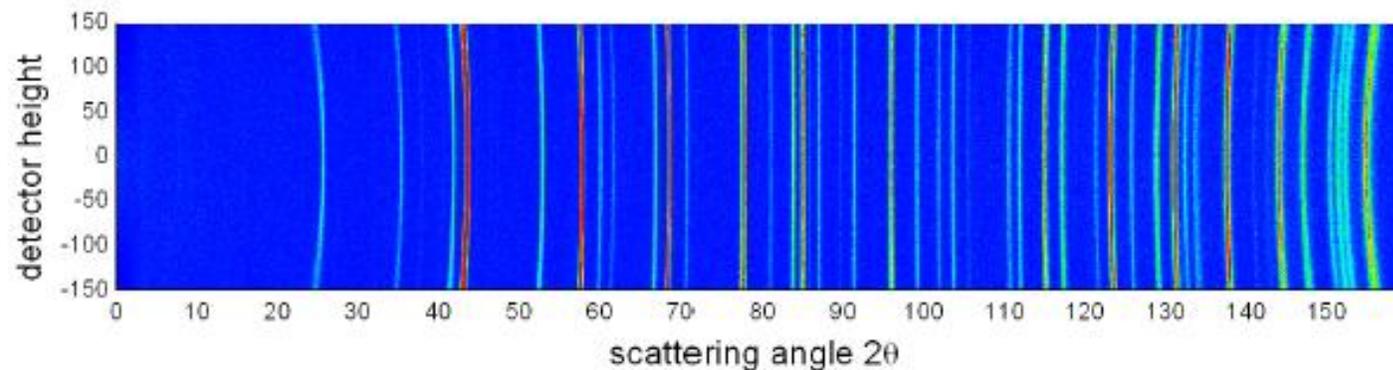
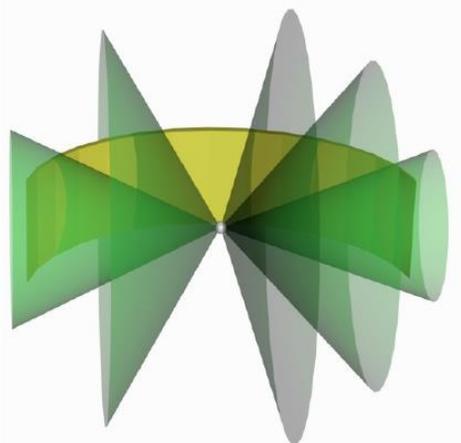
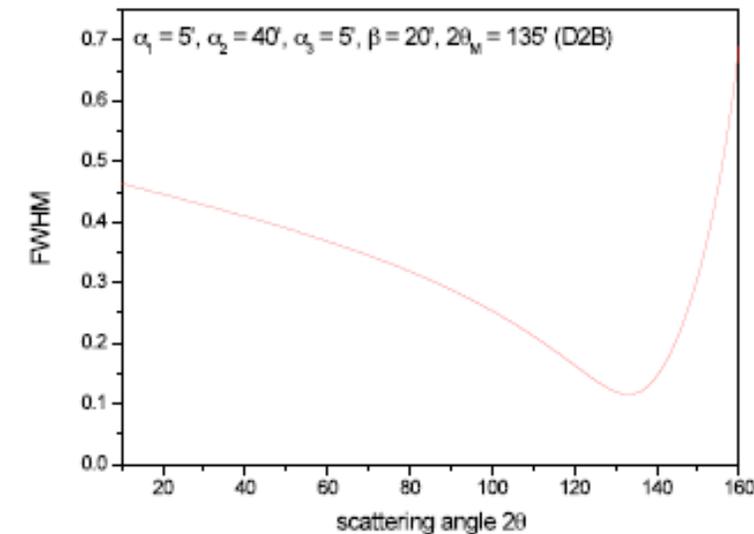
- Hugo Rietveld: *"The method of using the total integrated intensities of the separate groups of overlapping peaks in the least-squares refinement of structures, leads to the loss of all the information contained in the often-detailed profile of these composite peaks. By the use of these profile intensities instead of the integrated quantities in the refinement procedure, however, this difficulty is overcome and it allows the extraction of the maximum amount of information contained in the powder diagram."*
- If pattern can be modelled, the fit between observed data and model can be optimized.
- In powder, unlike single crystal, need to model experiment dependent parameters
 - Background
 - Peak broadening (sample/instrument)
 - Lattice constant
 - Absorption and sample shape
 - Preferred orientation
- Refinement → need a good starting model
- Neutron data usually required for determining occupancy.

Hugo Rietveld in the Petten Reactor (~1987)



Peak shape varies with scattering angle

- Cagliotta formula: $\text{FWHM}^2 = U \tan^2\theta + V \tan\theta + W$
- U, V, W parameters are a function of instrument collimation and monochromator G. Caglioti et al., Nucl. Instr. 3, 223-228 (1958)
- Does not take into account guides or focusing of monochromator.
- Spallation sources need extra terms to model resolution from pulse shape.
- Debye-Scherrer cone scattering causes asymmetric peak shapes at low/high angle in $I(Q)$ 1d plots.



If converted to 1d \rightarrow asymmetric at low 2θ , symmetric at $2\theta=90^\circ$

Overview

- Why use neutrons?
- Neutron sources: A (very) brief history
- Theoretical concepts of neutron scattering
- Practical aspects of neutron scattering: performing a successful experiment
- **Where to perform experiments: Diffraction instruments at ORNL**

Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL)



- Neutrons produced from a reactor core.
- Highest flux reactor based source in the U.S. (80 MW)



- Neutrons produced from an accelerator/target.
- Most intense pulsed neutron beam. (60Hz, 1.4 MW)



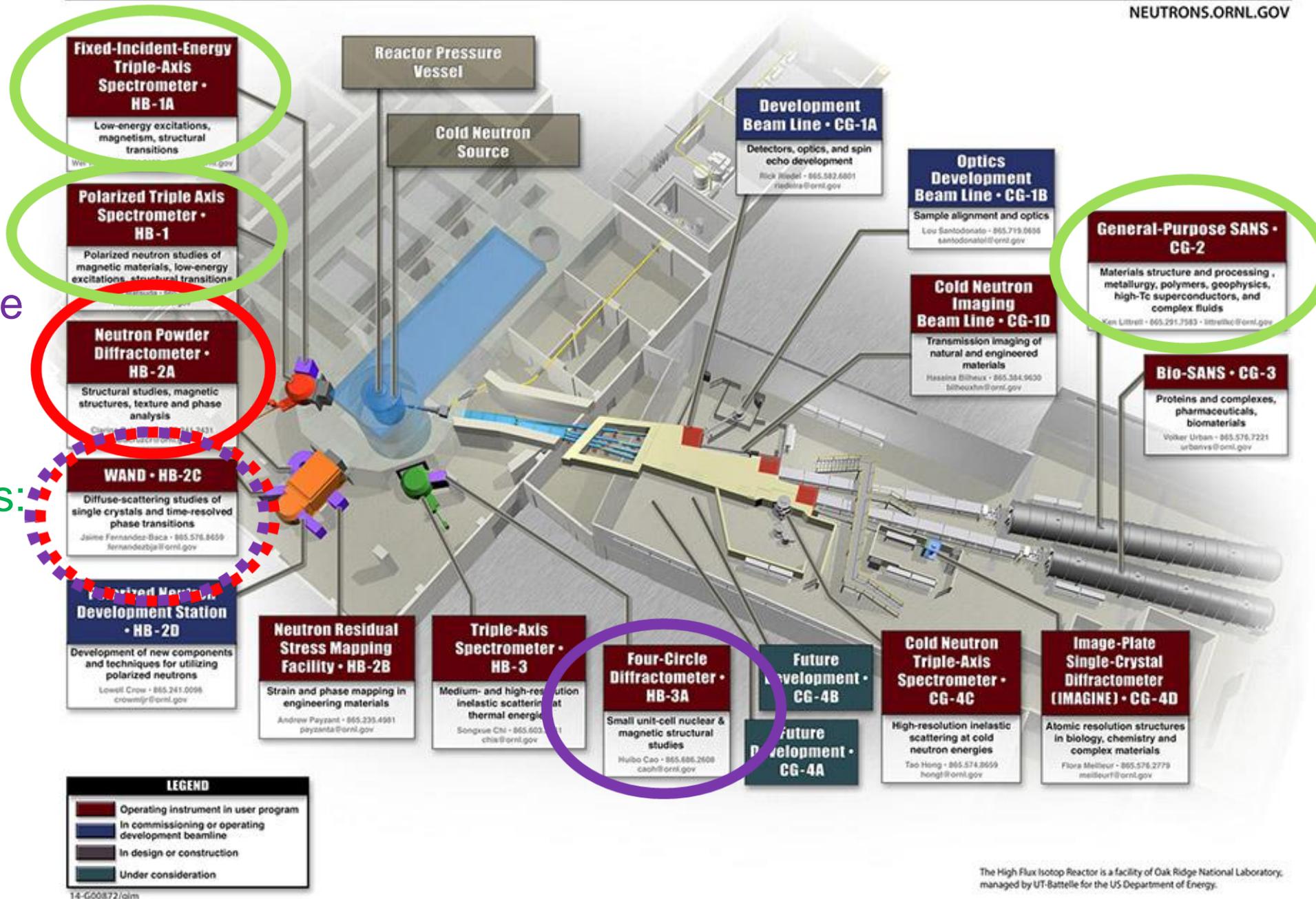
- Planned Second Target Station in 202X
- Most intense pulsed source of cold neutrons

- Several complimentary diffraction beamlines at ORNL.
- Science of the material will dictate choice of instrument(s).
- Second target station will add further capabilities.

HFIR

Magnetism:

- **HB-2A**
- **WAND²**
- **HB-3A Four-Circle (DEMAND)**
- **Additional options:**
 - HB-1A (low background)
 - GP-SANS (low Q)
 - HB-1 (polarization)

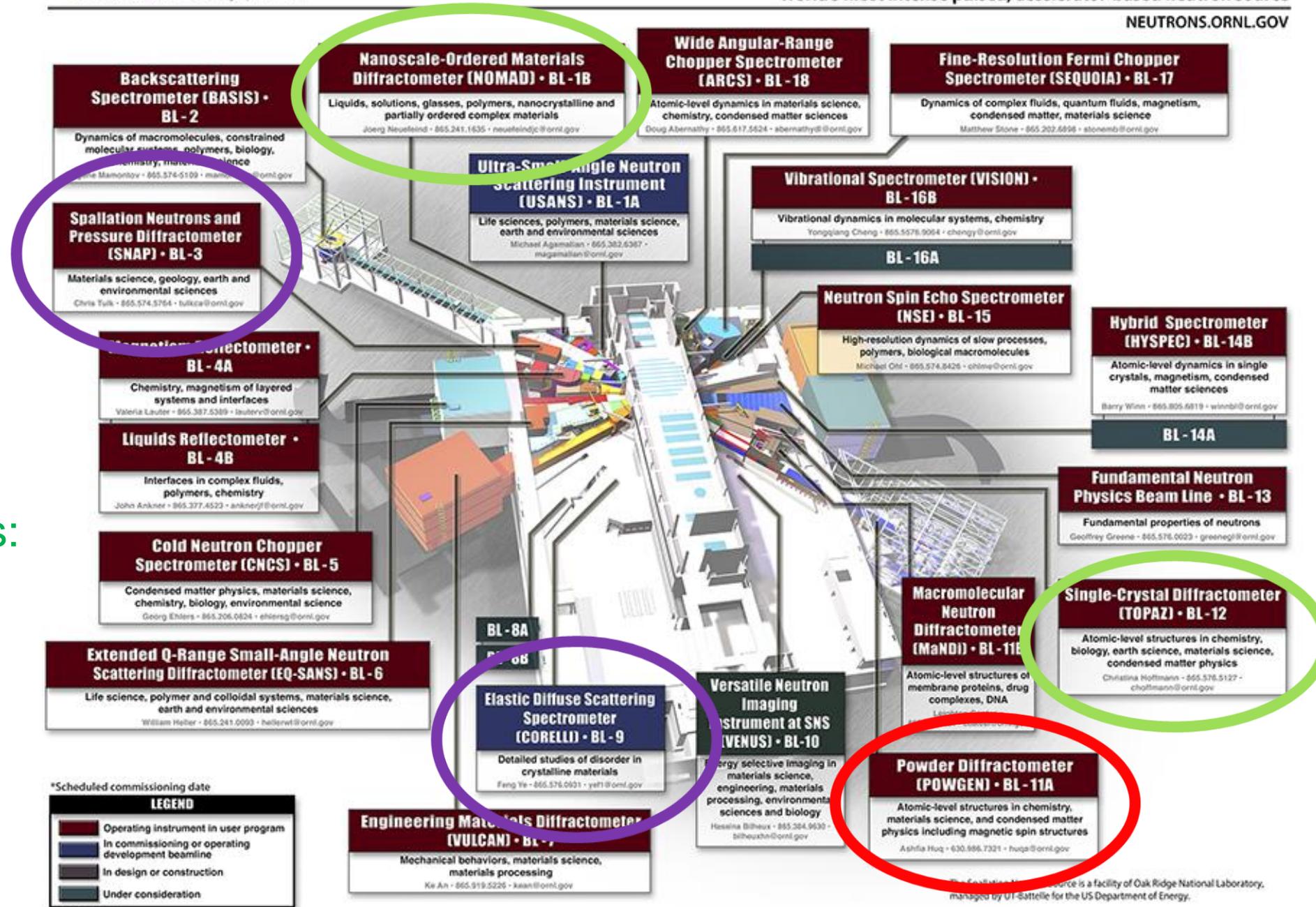


SNS

Magnetism:

- POWGEN
- CORELLI
- SNAP

- Additional options:
 - TOPAZ (large unit cells)
 - NOMAD (PDF)
 - HYSPEC (polarization)



Powder diffraction (ORNL)

- HB-2A (HFIR) → Majority of science is magnetism. Half-polarized option. Variety of sample environments.
- POWGEN (SNS) → Highest resolution for detailed crystal structure. Large Q available.
- WAND² (HFIR) → High flux, medium/low resolution

HB-2A: Instrument aims and layout

Applications	Neutron Beam	Resolution ($\Delta d/d$)	Q-range	Beam size at sample	Measurement times
Magnetic structure determination under extreme environments. Polarized capabilities.	Constant wavelength (vertically focused Ge monochromator)	$2.2e^{-3}$ (variable) Balance between high flux/resolution	$0.2-5.1 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ ($\lambda=2.41 \text{ \AA}$) $0.35-8 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$ ($\lambda=1.54 \text{ \AA}$)	60 x 30 mm Typical can sizes are 6-15 mm diameter and 50 mm height.	Variable. Refinable data in minutes. Magnetic structure in 0.5 - 8 hours. Typically need gram sized sample for magnetic structures.

Flexible open design to allow for variety of complex and easily changeable sample environments.

Temperature: 30mK – 1700K

Magnetic field: 8T

Pressure: 2 GPa (BeCu clamp cell)

6kbar (Al helium gas pressure cell)



HB2A instrument

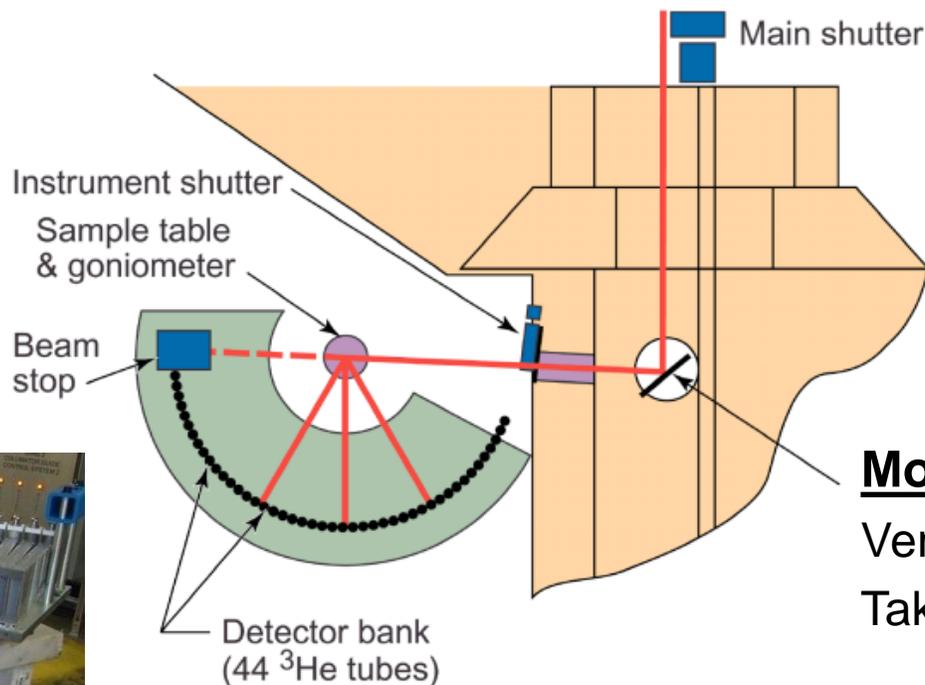
Ge(hkl)	λ (Å)	d_{\max} (Å)	$4\pi\sin\theta/\lambda$	Flux (n/cm ² s)
(113)	2.41	27.6	0.2-5.1	5×10^6
(115)	1.54	17.6	0.35-7.9	1×10^7

Detector bank:

44 ³He tubes (11 cm x 3 cm)

spaced at $\sim 2.7^\circ$ intervals

Scattering range (2θ): 2-155°

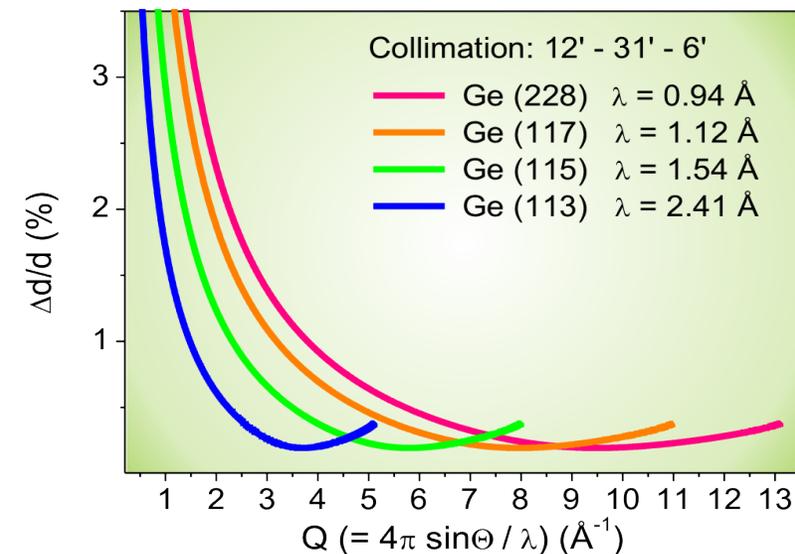


Monochromator:

Vertically focused: 15 Ge [HHL]

Take-off angle: 90°

Resolution:



Beam size:

2 x 1 inches

Collimation:

pre-monochromator (α_1): 12' or open (35') [Fixed]

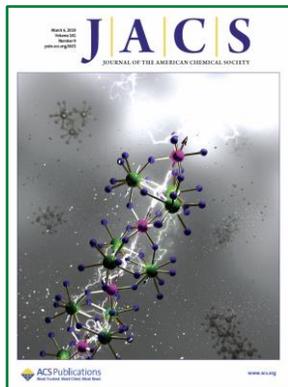
pre-sample (α_2): 6', 16', 21', 31', open

pre-detector (α_3) (x 44): 12' [Fixed]

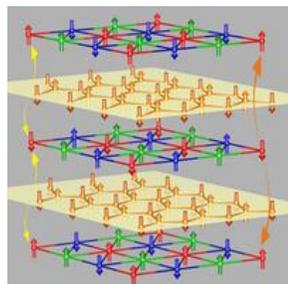


HB2A: What science is possible?

✓ Temperature dependence of crystal and magnetic structures (0.03 K < T < 700 K)



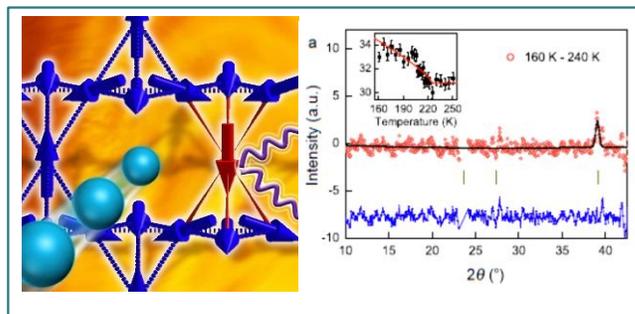
3-Sample changer available for measurements from 1.5 to 300 K. This allowed rare magnetic order of U(IV) ions to be investigated in a series of compounds.



V. O. Garlea et al., PRX 9, 011038 (2019)

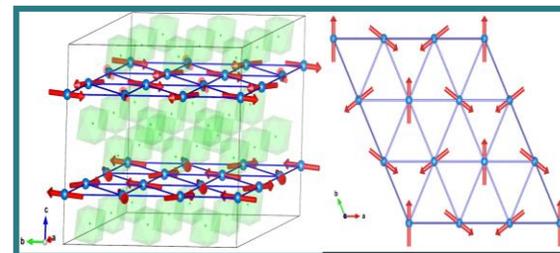
Magnetic structure and spin-orbit-driven excitation points to potential Weyl fermions

Stuart Calder (ORNL) et al.



Novel Physics in Triangular lattice antiferromagnets

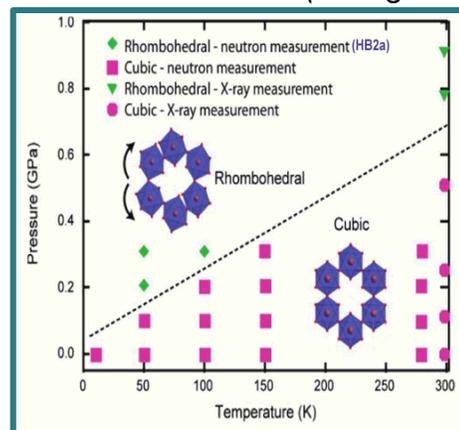
Haidong Zhou (UTK) et al.



✓ Pressure studies with He gas cells up to 6 kbar

Negative Thermal Expansion (NTE) in Cubic ScF₃

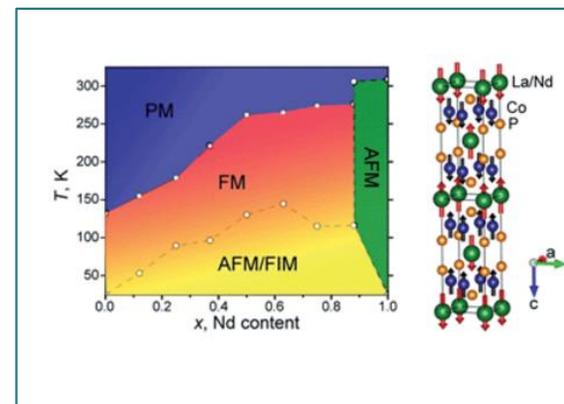
B. Greve and A. Wilkinson (Georgia Tech)



✓ Magnetic field induced phenomena, up to 6 Tesla

Magnetic pole reversal in La_{1-x}Pr_xCo₂P₂

M. Shatruk (FSU) et al.



✓ Development of High pressure cells to study magnetic materials at low T

C. dela Cruz (ORNL) and Y. Uwatoko (Univ. of Tokyo)

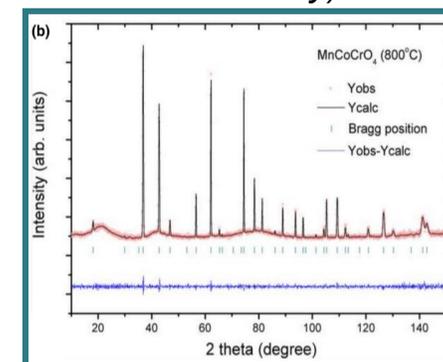


NiCrAl "Russian" pressure cell: 2.5 Gpa
BeCu clamp cell: 2 GPa

✓ High-temperature studies, up to 1200 C

Probing the Long term stability of Solid Oxide Fuel Cells

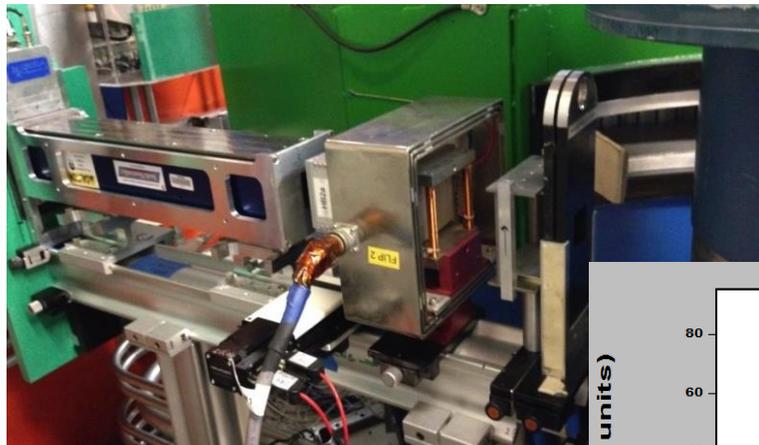
Y. Liu and J.W. Fergus (Auburn University)



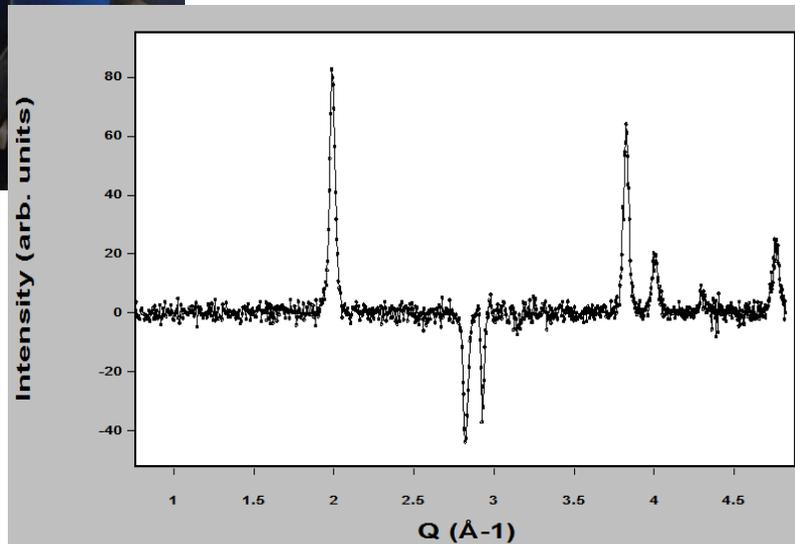
Recent developments

Polarized neutron diffraction at HB2A

- V-cavity polarizer commissioned.
- **Measurements of weak ferro- and ferri-magnets. $<0.01 \mu_B$**
- Almost perfect transmission of 50% and flipping ratio of 14.
- The difference scattering from neutron beam polarized parallel and antiparallel to the applied magnetic field gives an **improvement of nearly one order of magnitude in moment sensitivity.**



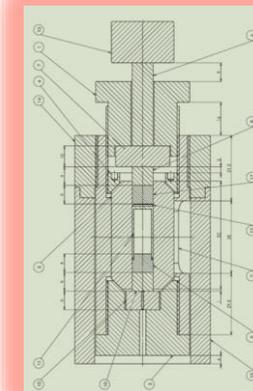
Flipping difference ($I_+ - I_-$)
obtained on CrO_2 powder



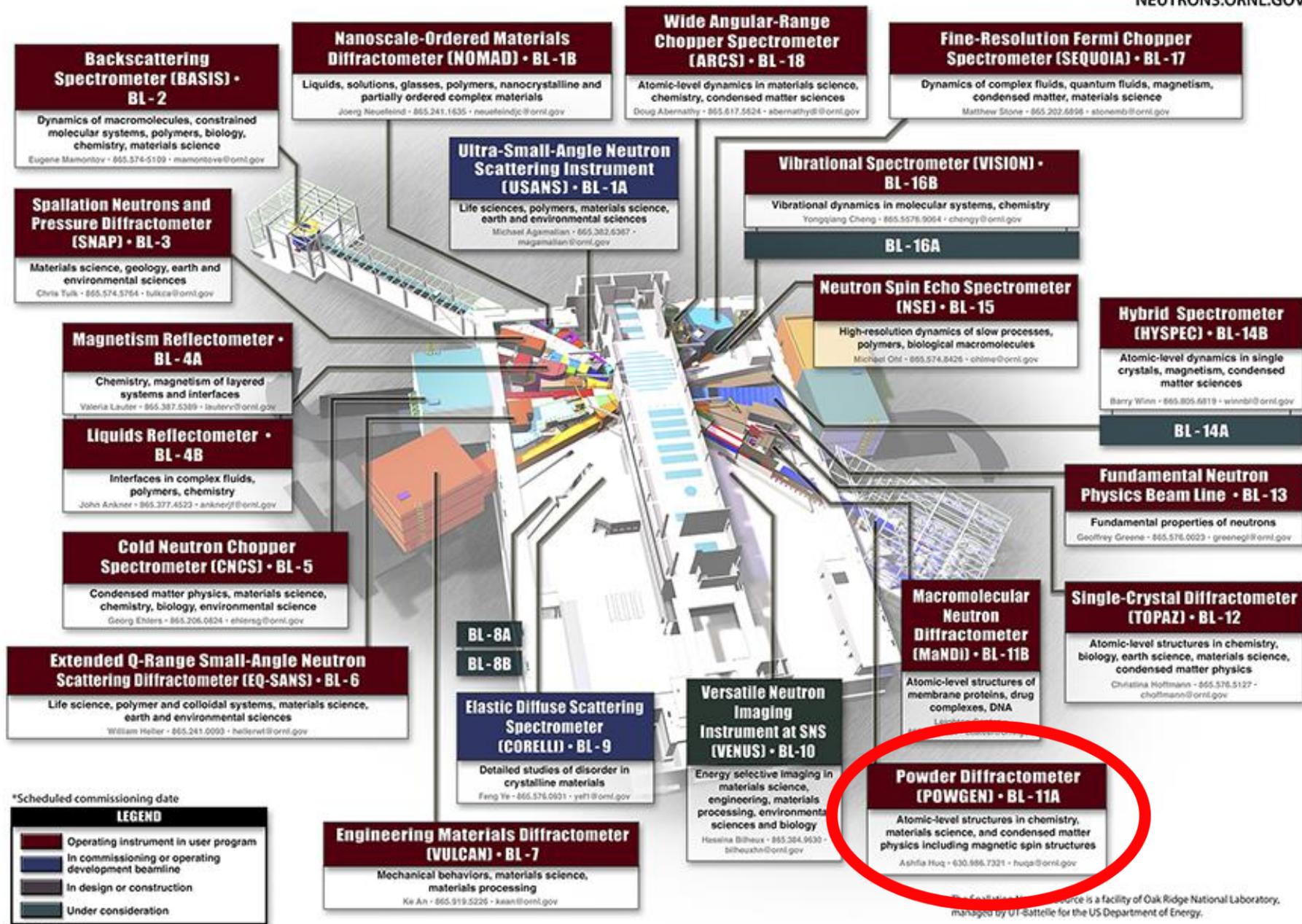
Design and development of a High Pressure Cell optimized for magnetic structure determination

- Collaboration with the Uwatoko group, ISSP, Univ. of Tokyo.
- Optimized for low-Q scattering
- Designed for pelletized samples to be pressurized up to **2 GPa**
- Compatible with low temperature liquid Helium cryostats to reach base temperatures of **1.5K**

NiCrAl "Russian" pressure cell: 2.5 GPa
Multigram sample in BeCu clamp cell: 1.5 GPa
***In-situ* Al-He gas cell: 6 kbar**

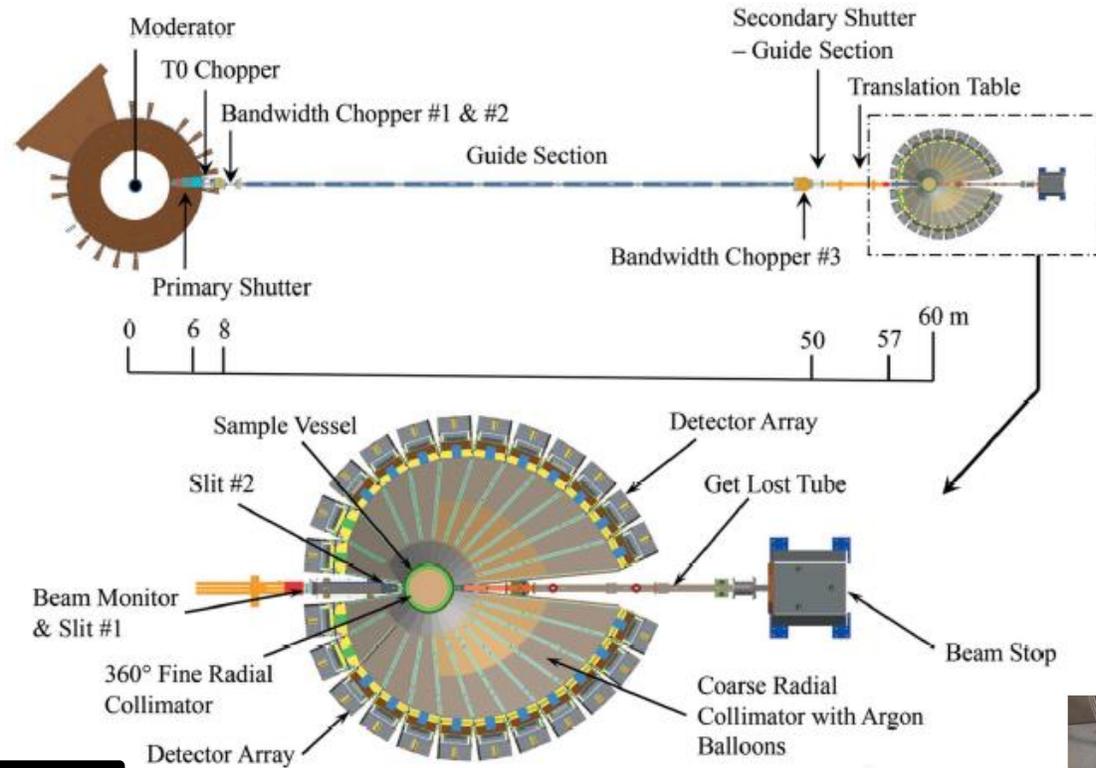


- POWGEN



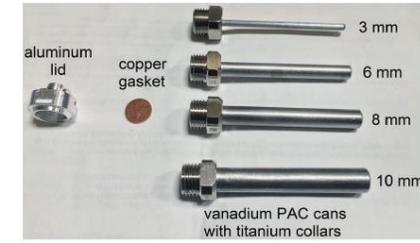
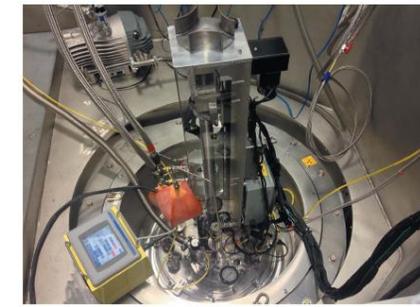
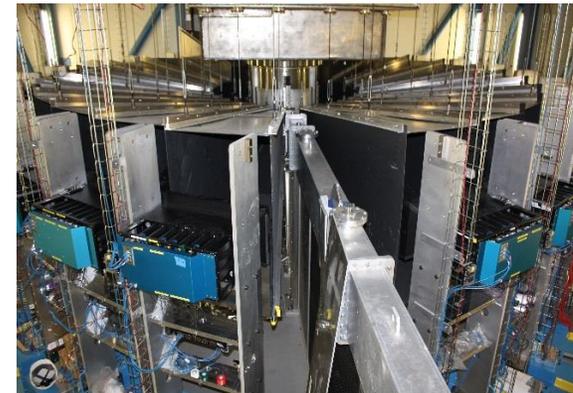
POWGEN (SNS)

- General purpose diffractometer that encompasses magnetic scattering.
- Alternative design to previous spallation diffractometers
→ data reduced to single pattern.
- Recently upgraded detector layout.
- Different wavelengths (Frames) available.



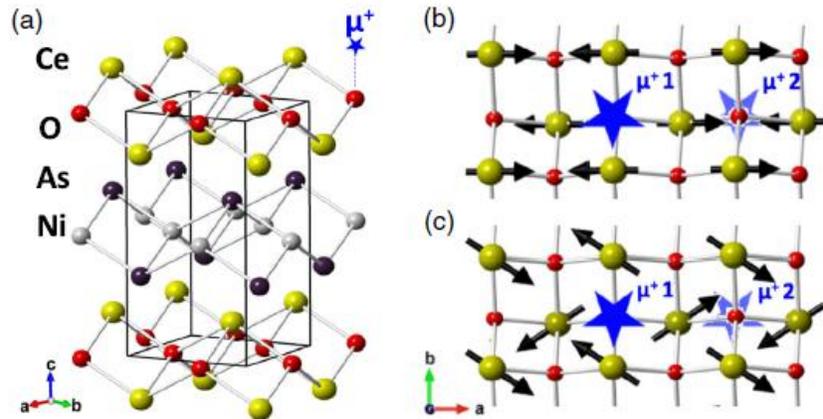
Standard settings for data collection at POWGEN for which the instrument is calibrated.

Frequency	λ_{center} (Å)	λ_{min} (Å)	λ_{max} (Å)	d_{min} (Å)	d_{max} (Å)	Q_{min} (Å ⁻¹)	Q_{max} (Å ⁻¹)
60	0.800	0.267	1.333	0.13	8.2	0.766	46.9
60	1.500	0.967	2.033	0.485	14.0	0.449	12.9
60	2.665	2.132	3.198	1.070	22.2	0.283	5.9
60	4.797	4.264	5.330	2.140	33.0	0.190	2.9



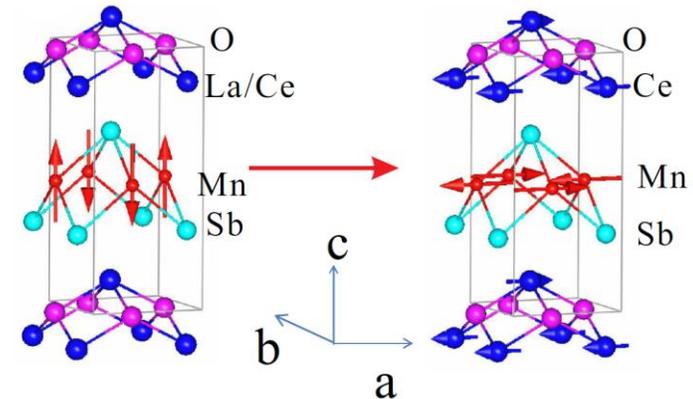
Science: magnetism plus structure

- **Large Q range for doing simultaneous structural and magnetic refinements:**
- magnetic structure, magnetoelastic coupling, etc.



(a) Crystallographic structure of CeNiAsO, (b) incommensurate spin density waves for $T_{N2} < T < T_{N1}$, and (c). coplanar commensurate order for $T < T_{N2}$.

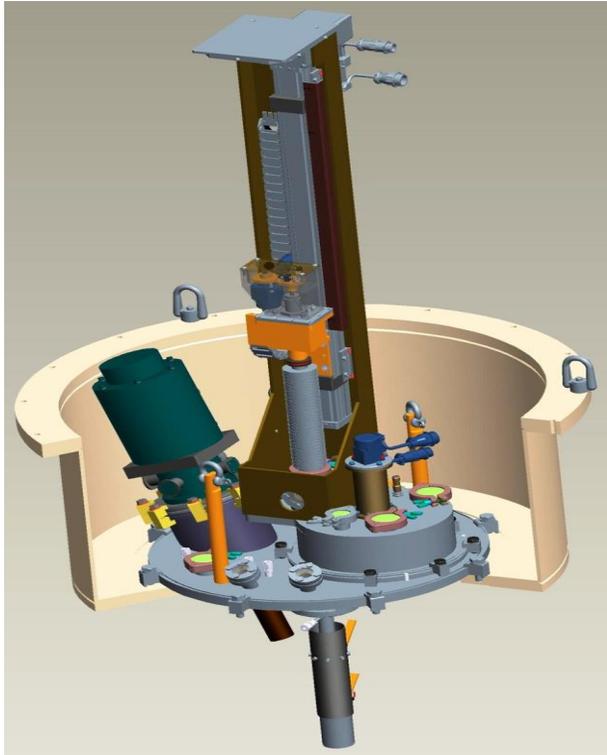
Wu et al., *Physical Review Letters*, 122, 197203 (2019)



Mn spin-reorientation in CeMnSbO

Zhang et al., *Physical Review B*, 93, 094413 (2016)

POWGEN Mail-in program

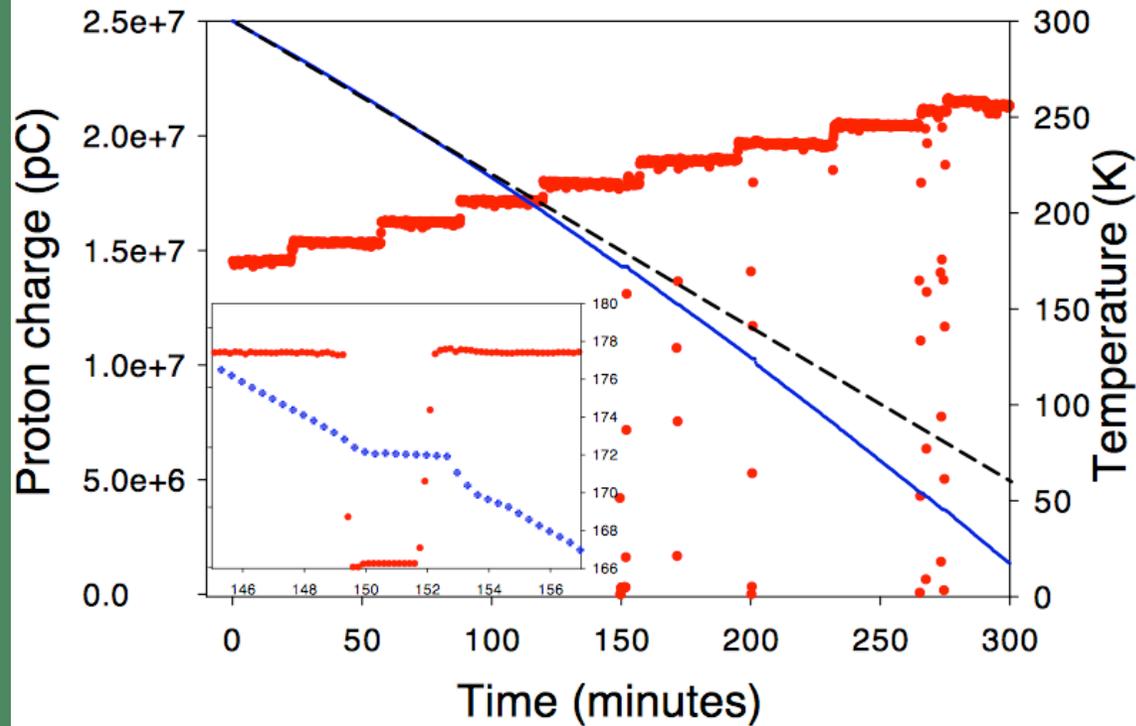


**24-sample PAC changer available for measurements from 10 to 300 K:
mail-in / rapid access proposals**

<https://neutrons.ornl.gov/powgen/mail-in>

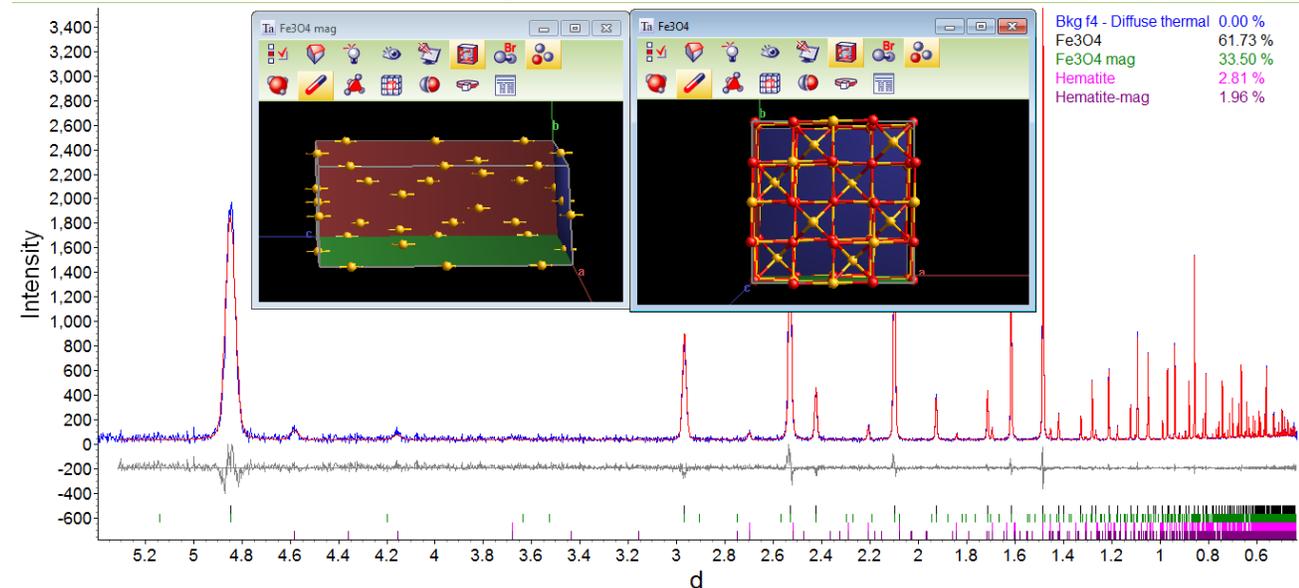
Magnetite (Fe₃O₄)

- Sample cooled down to 10 K at a nominal 1 K/minute
- Temperature controlled for a near constant DT/D(pcharge) = constant counting statistics
- Ramping accelerates with increasing beam power & halts when it trips



Plot of proton charge and controller set-point during data collection on Fe₃O₄.

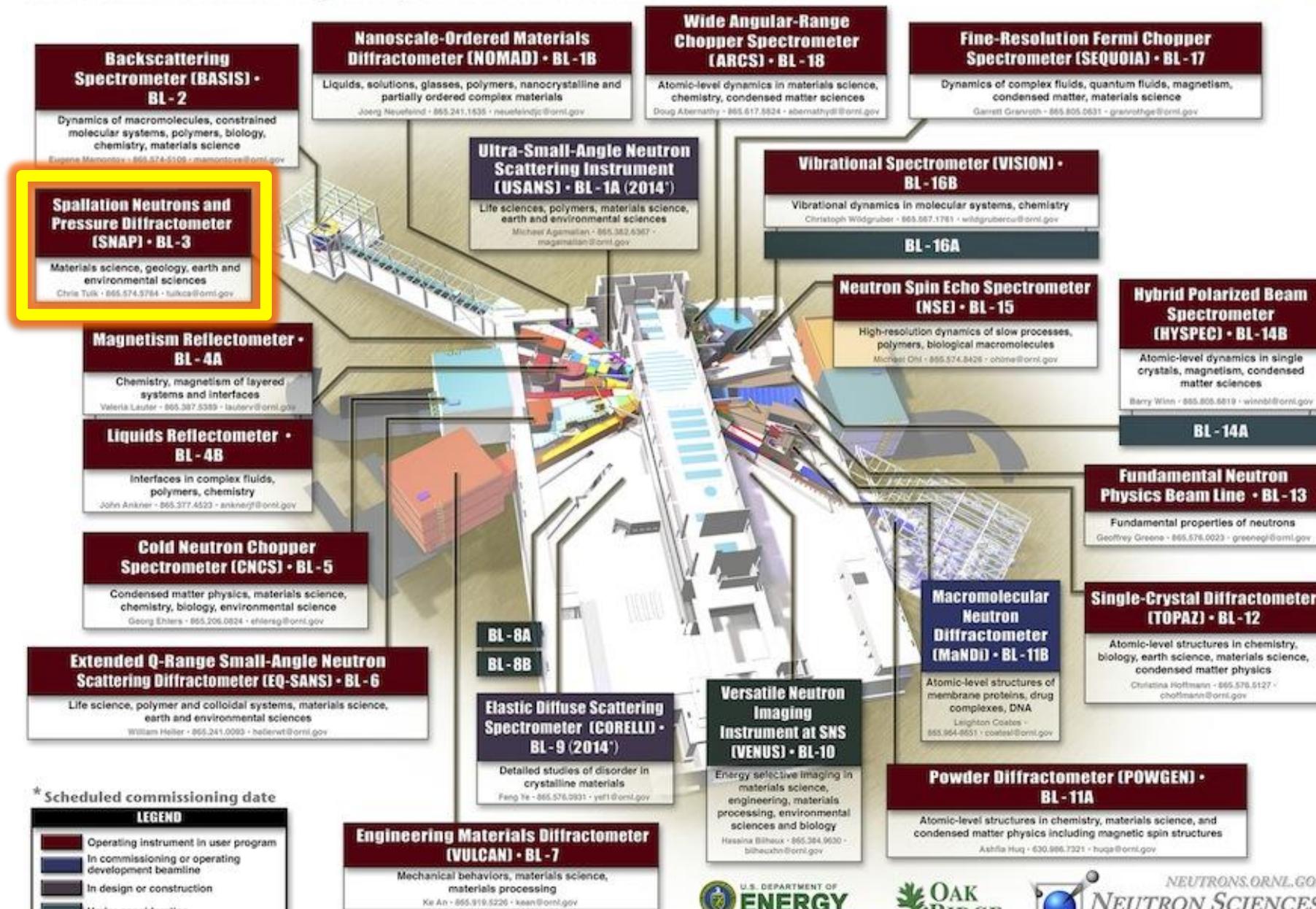
Magnetic structure refinement taken from a slice of temperature ramping data at 295 K



Spallation Neutron Source at Oak Ridge National Laboratory



The world's most intense pulsed, accelerator-based neutron source

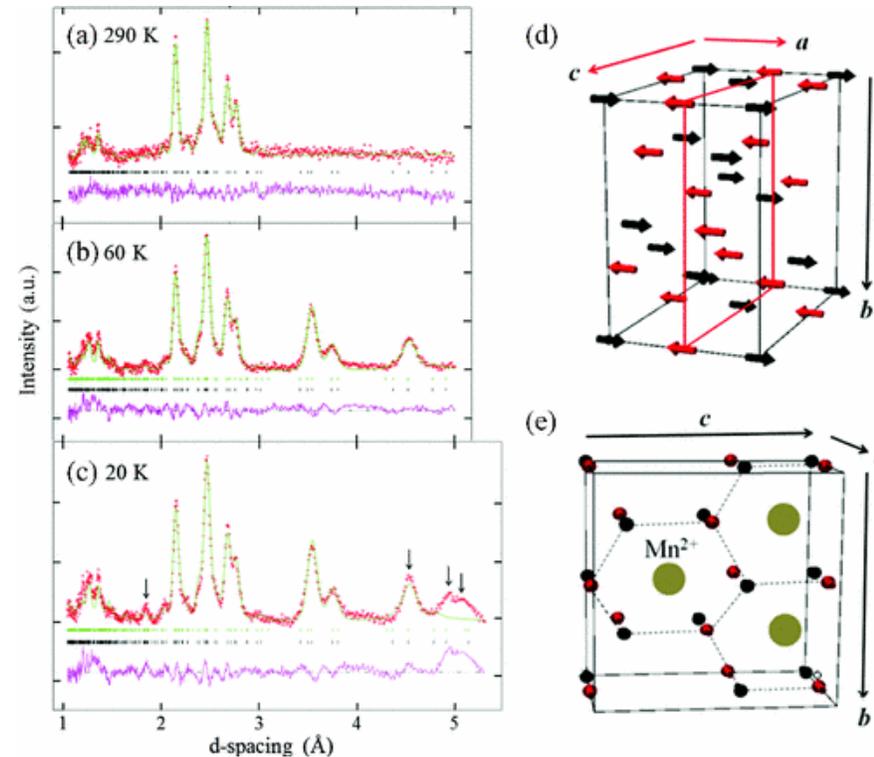


06-G00400T/gim

SNAP (SNS)

- Dedicated pressure beamline.
- Powders and single crystals possible.
- Accessible Q as low as 0.78 \AA^{-1} .
- Pressure 0-80 GPa at room temperature.
- 0-10 GPa between 85 and 300 K.
Furnace also available.

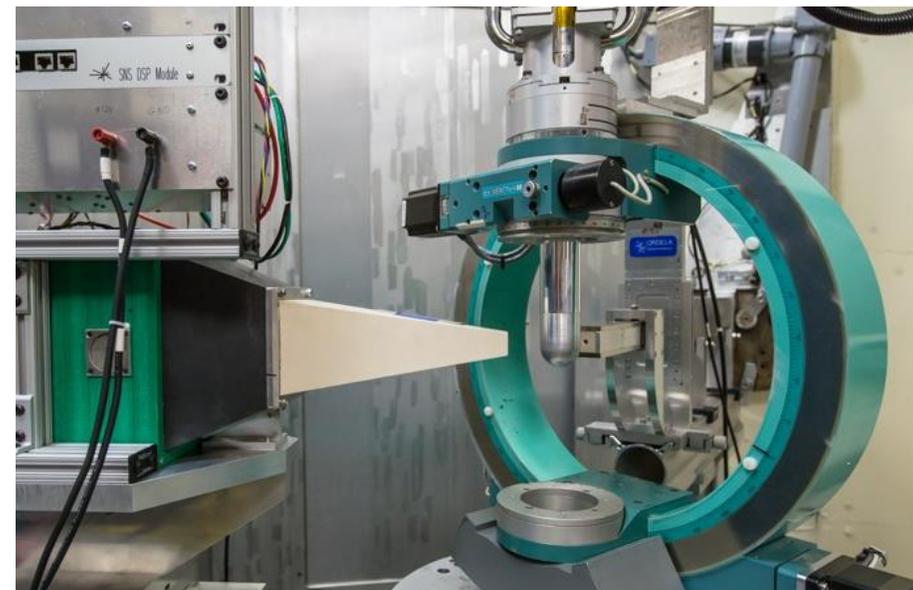
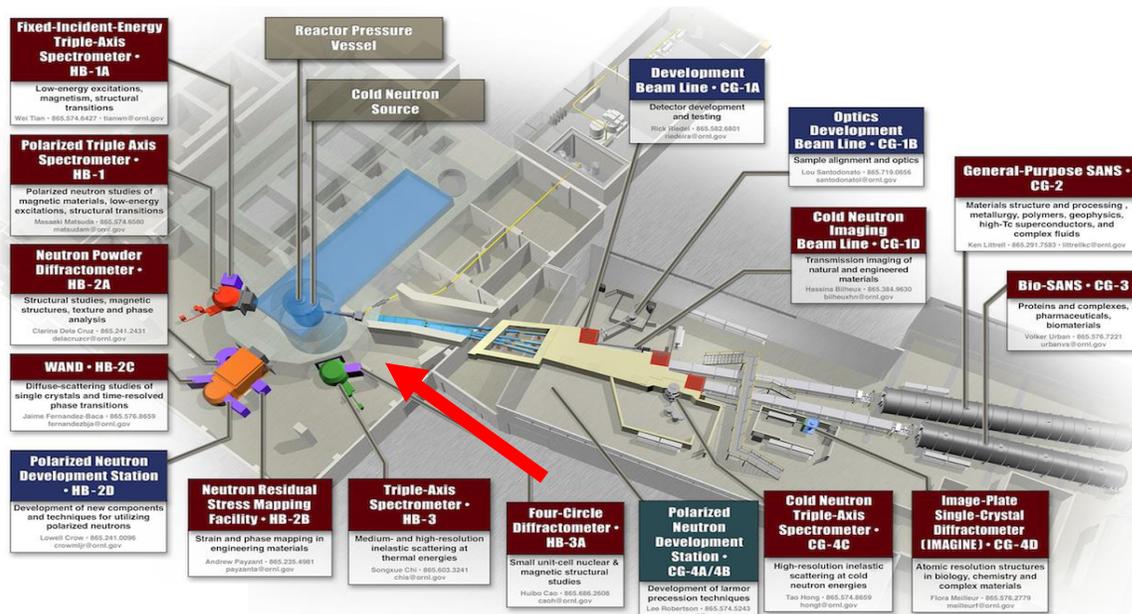
S. Hirai, et al. "Giant atomic displacement at a magnetic phase transition in metastable Mn_3O_4 " PRB 87 014417 (2013)



Single crystal diffraction (ORNL)

- HB-3A (DEMAND) → magnetic structure determination → new detector for larger Q coverage and use with extreme sample environments
- Corelli → Diffuse and large access to full reciprocal space.
- WAND² → Diffuse and standard diffraction. Very fast!

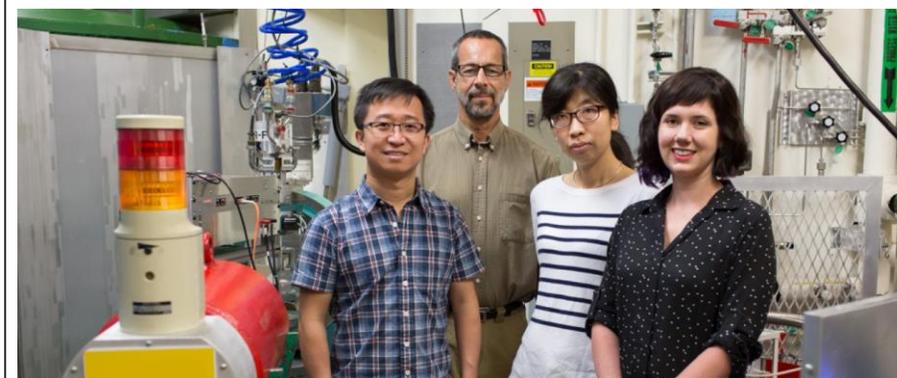
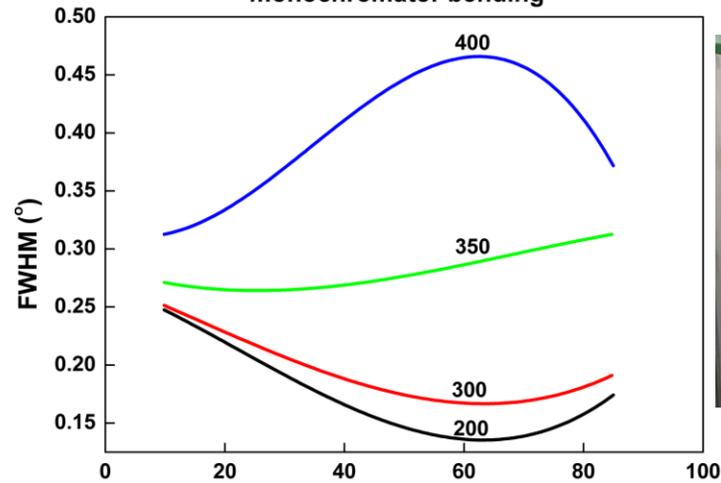
Current capabilities at DEMAND



Monochromator

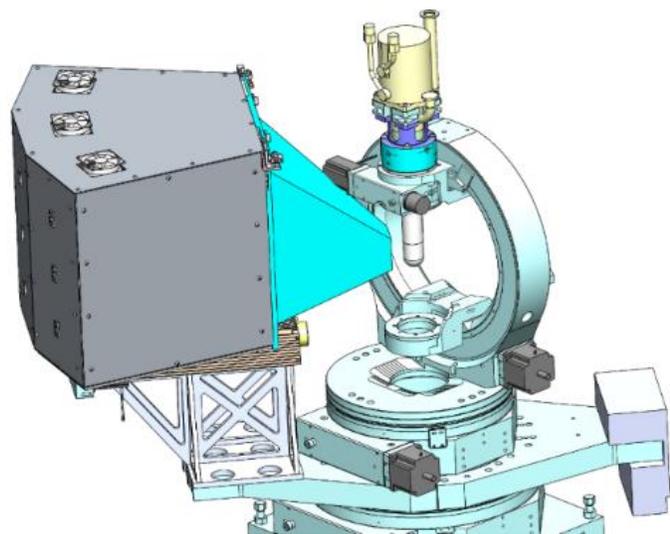


monochromator bending



Magnetism use 80% beam time

DEMAND – extreme sample environment and polarized neutron diffraction



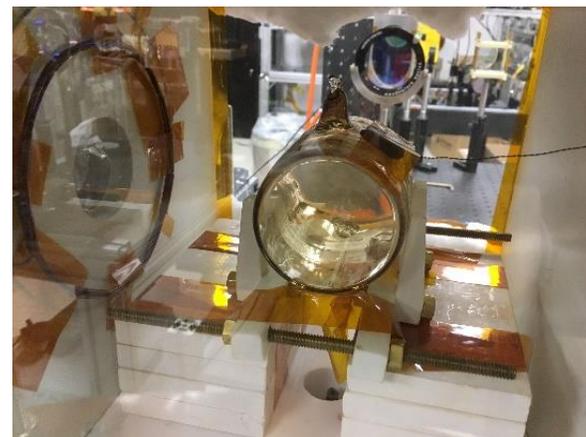
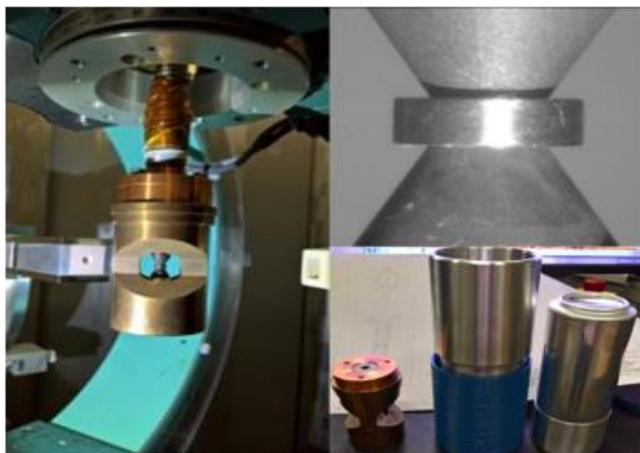
T = 50 mK - 800 K

H = 0 - 5 T

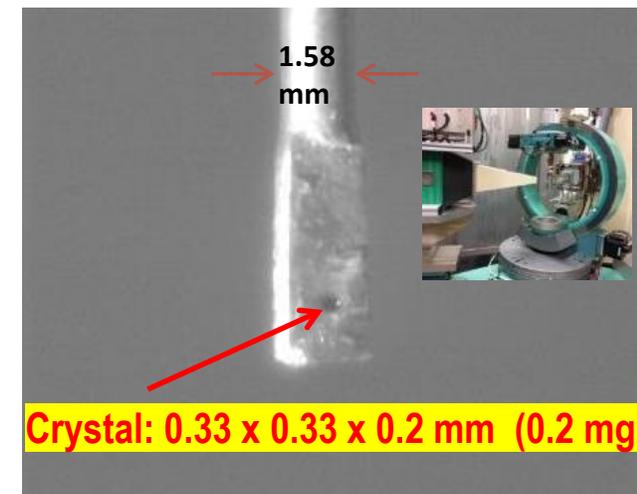
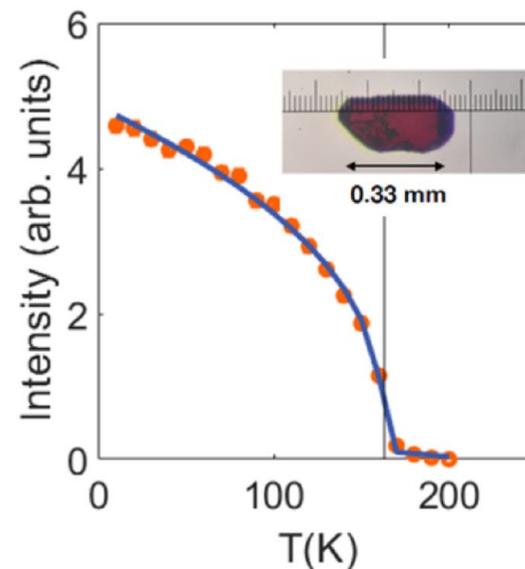
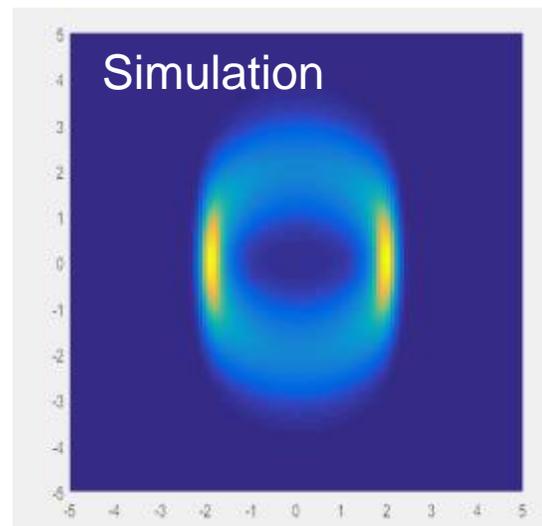
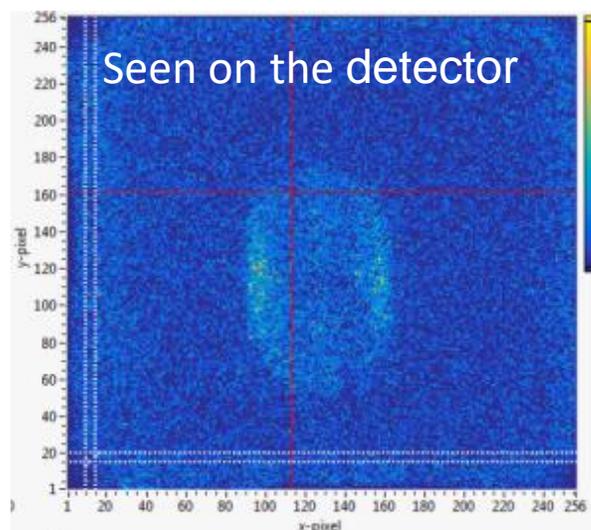
P = 0 - 10 GPa

E = 0 - 1100 Volts

**Unpolarized/polarized
neutron diffraction**

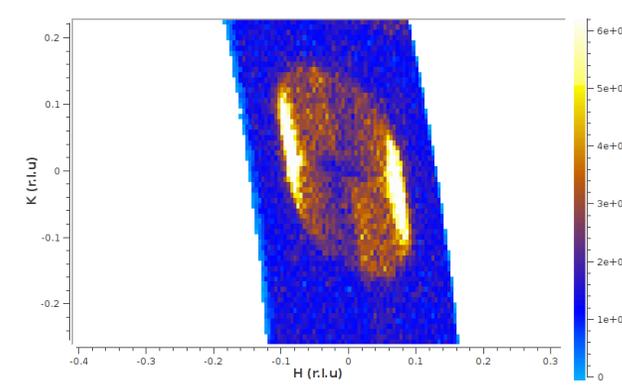
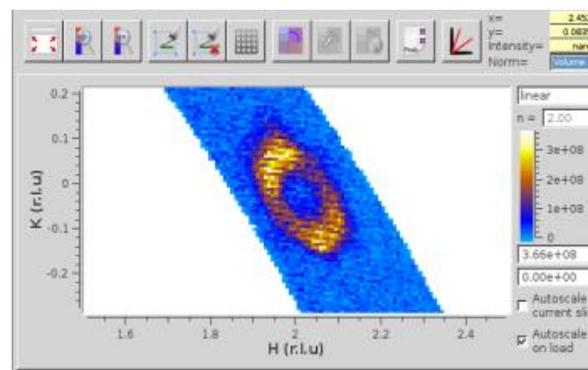


Capabilities at DEMAND - high flux



The circular distribution of k -vectors definitively confirms Fe_3PO_7 to have a “partially ordered” antiferromagnetic (AFM) helical state. One candidate for such a state is a short-range ordered AFM Skyrmion phase.

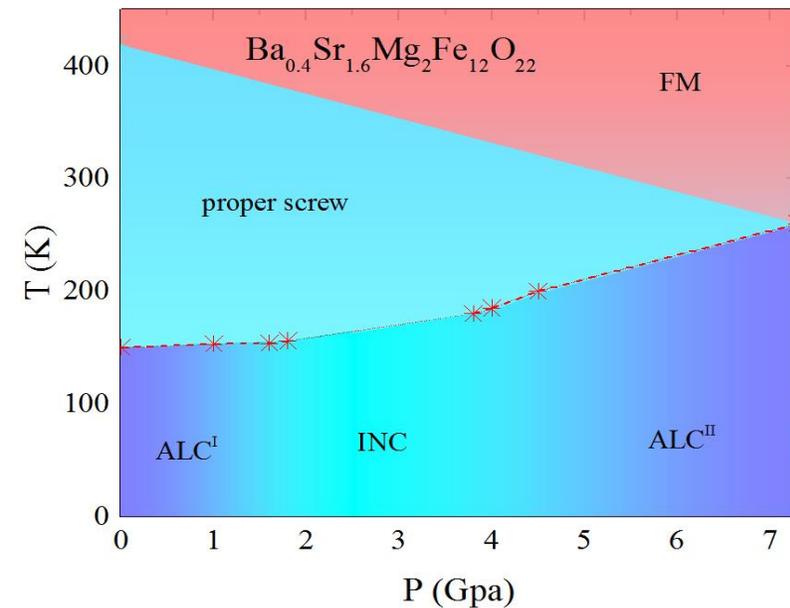
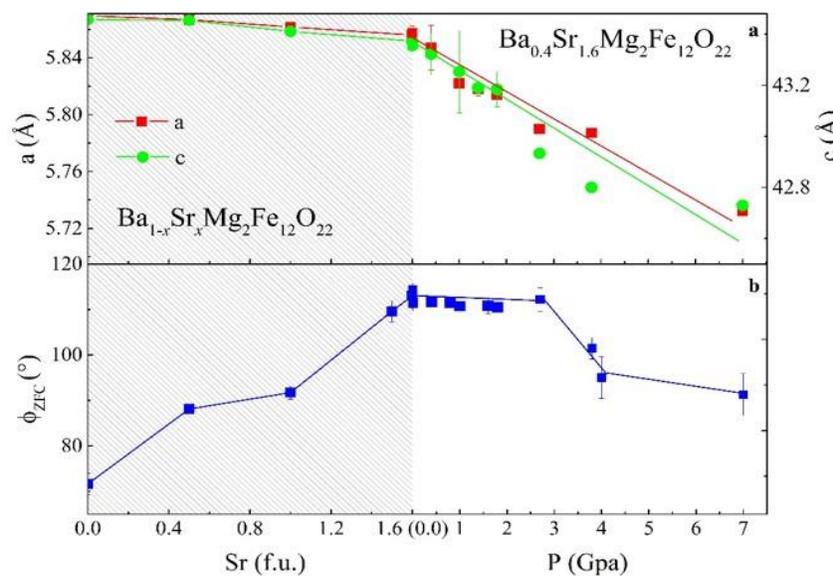
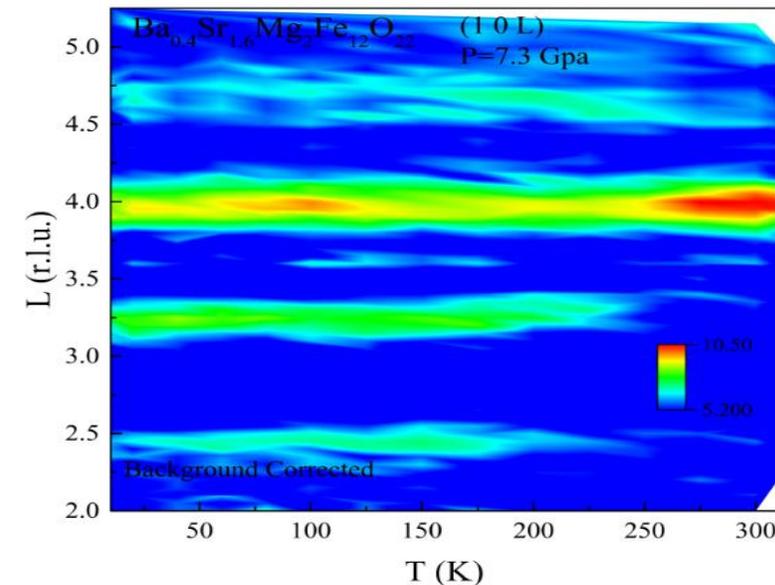
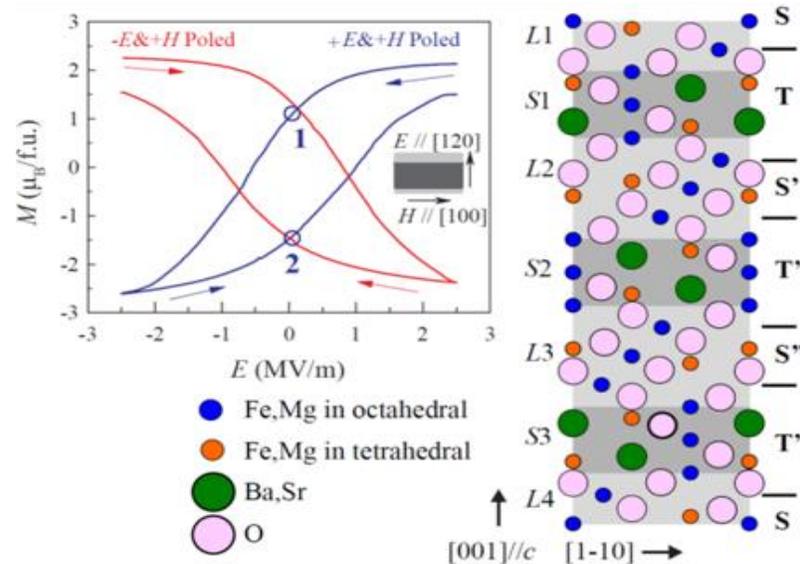
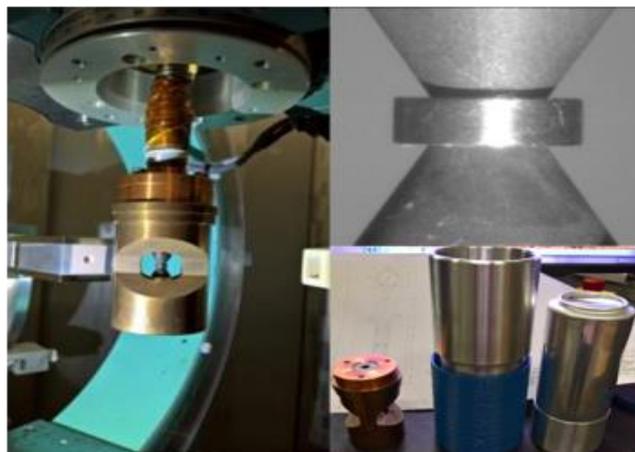
Kathryn Ross, Colin Sarkis, James Nielson (Colorado State University)
Huibo Cao (ORNL)



Sliced in HK-plane with MantidPlot

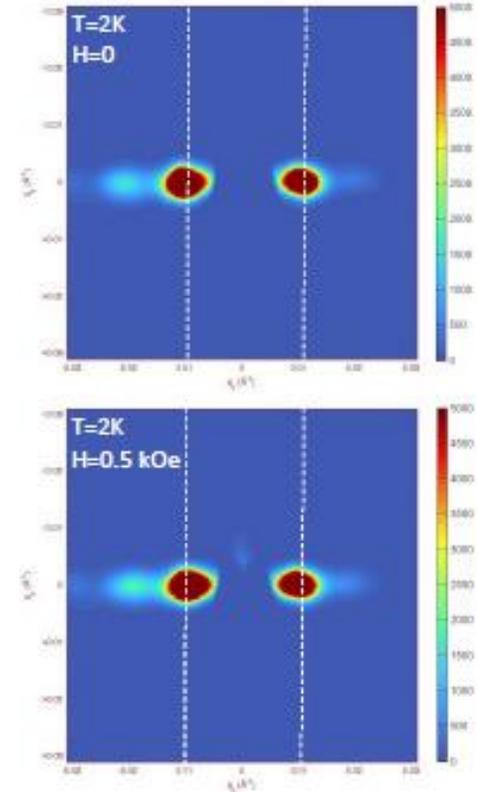
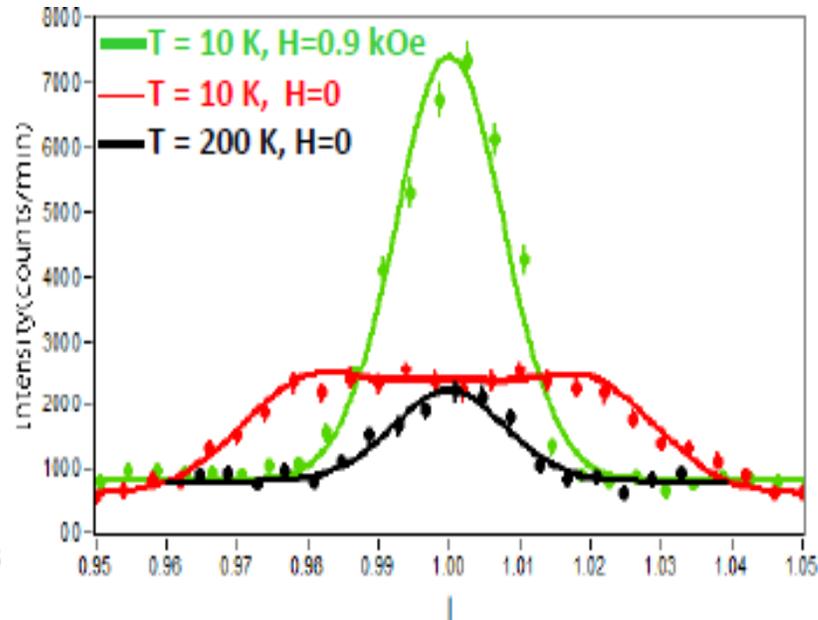
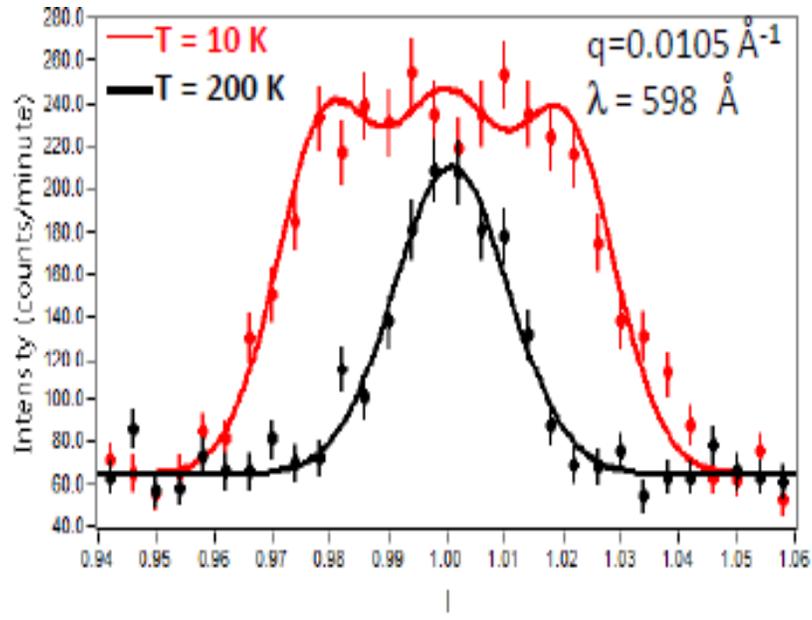
Capabilities at DEMAND - high pressure

Hydrostatic pressure to 7.4 Gpa
~0.1 mm³ crystal

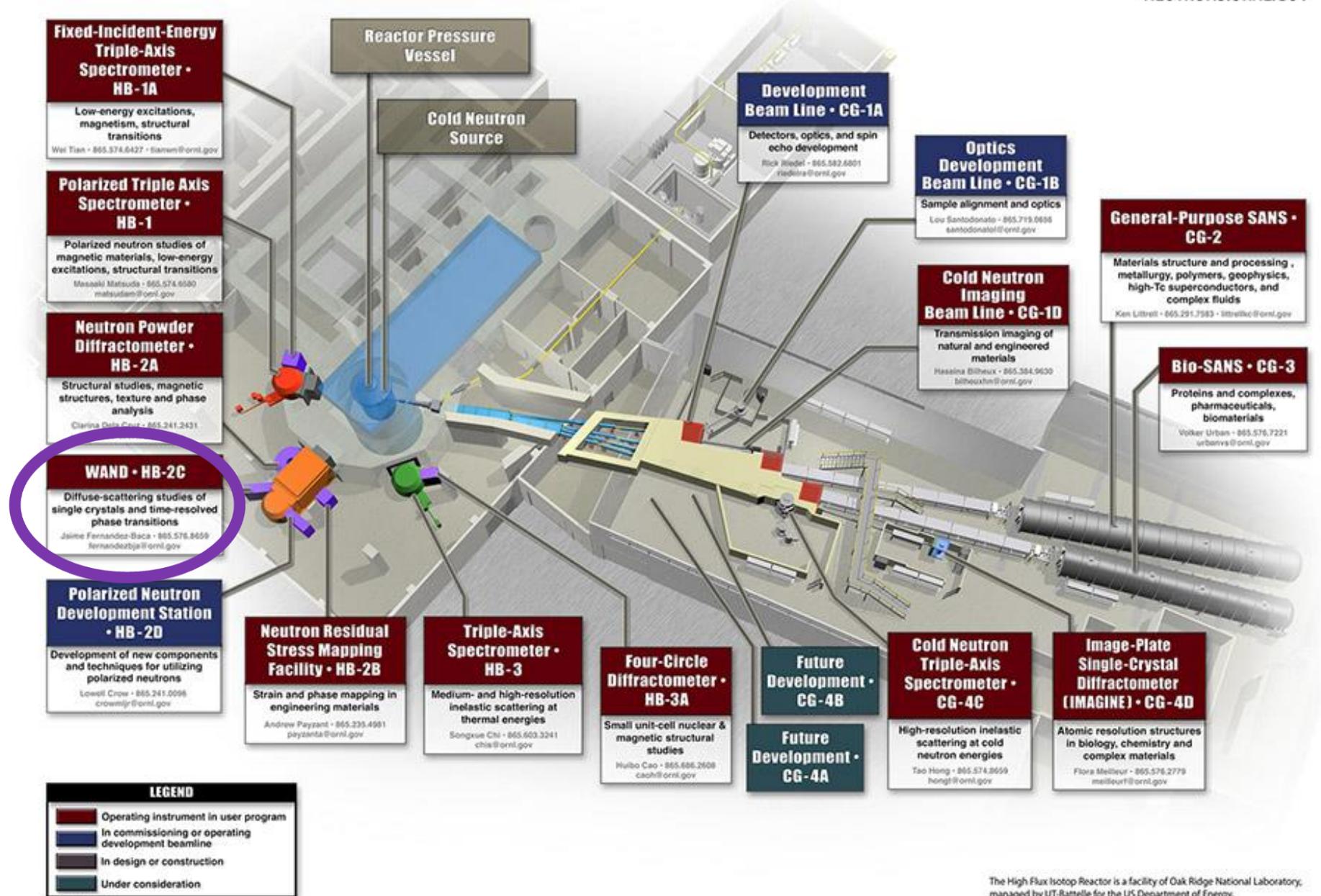


Zhai K., Wu Y., Shen S., Tian W.,
Cao H.B., Chai Y.S., Chakoumakos B.C.,
Shang D., Yan L., Wang F., Sun Y.,
Nature Communications, **8**, 519 (2017).

Capabilities at DEMAND - high q-resolution

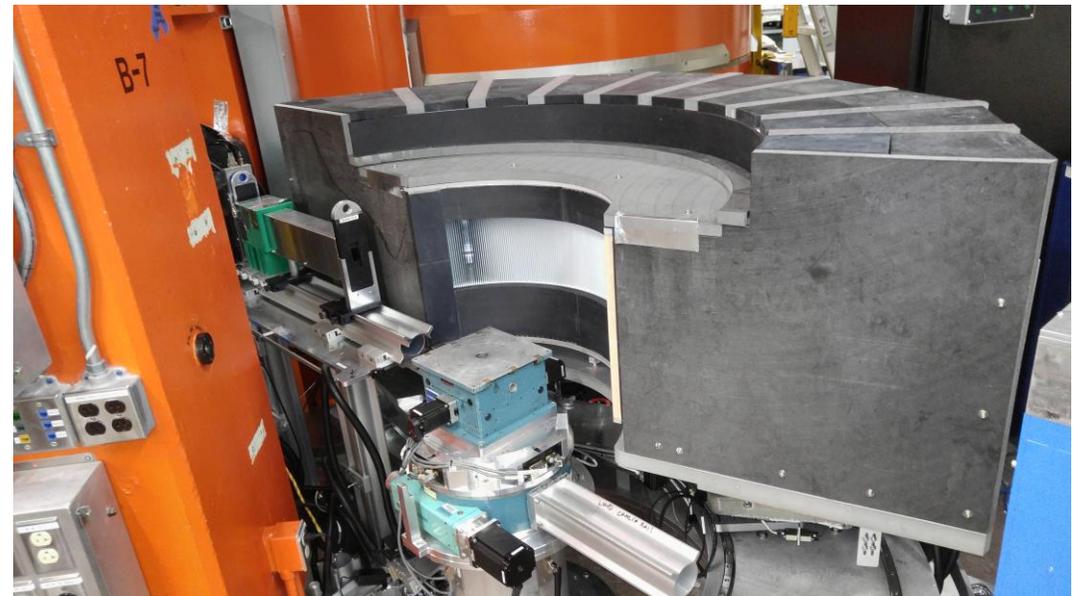


DEMAND ===== Cold neutron ===== \rightarrow SANS



WAND²

- Recently upgraded detector.
- 120 degree coverage in-plane.
- Plus/minus 7.5 degree out of plane.
- High flux, medium to low resolution.
- Array of complex sample environment with easy access to install.
- 0.05 K, 1000 K, 0-8 T, Pressure



WAND² - Science

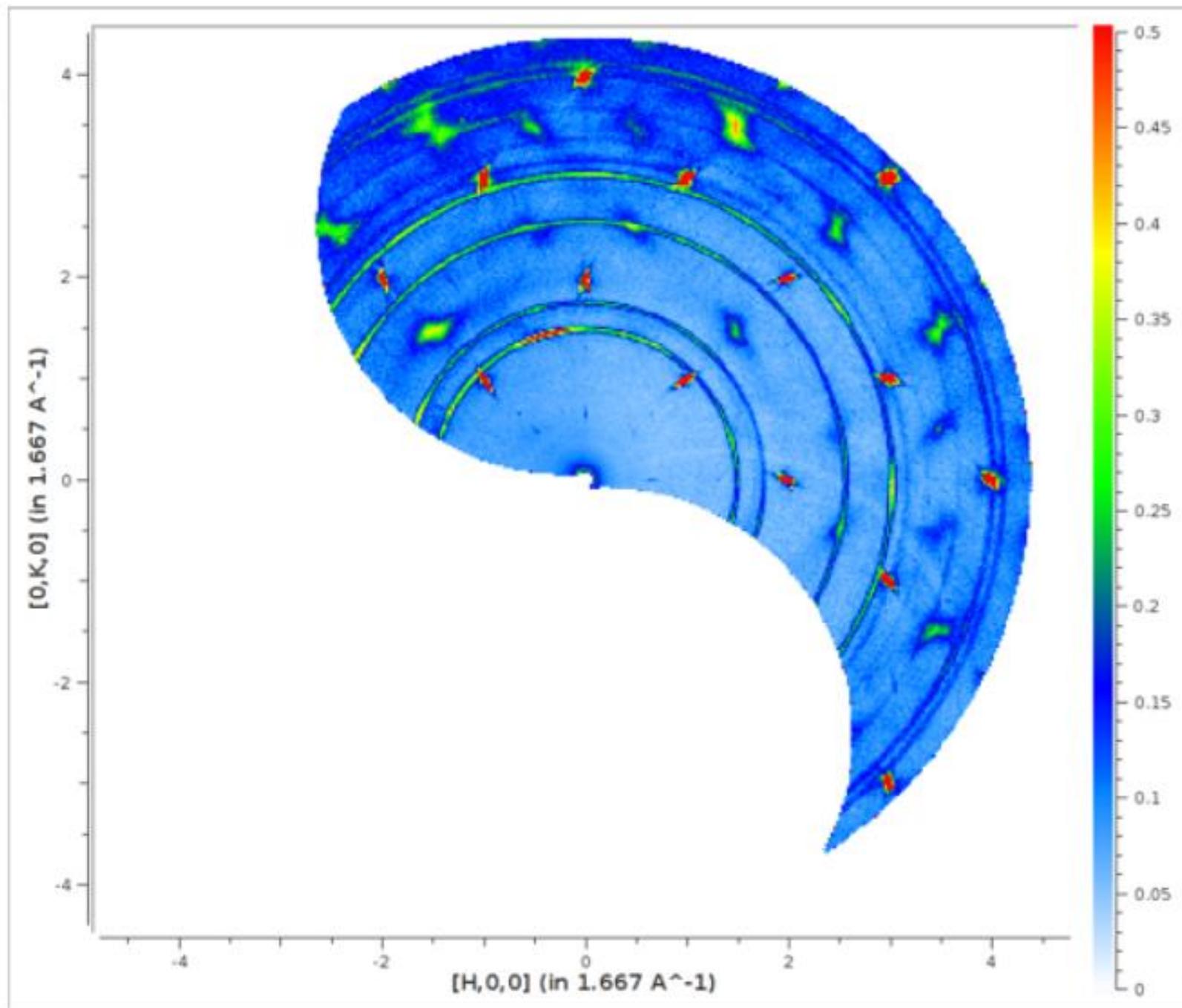
- LaSrCuO₄

Igor Zaliznyak

LSCO

T = 300 K; HK2

- 3D mapping of diffuse scattering



WAND² - Science

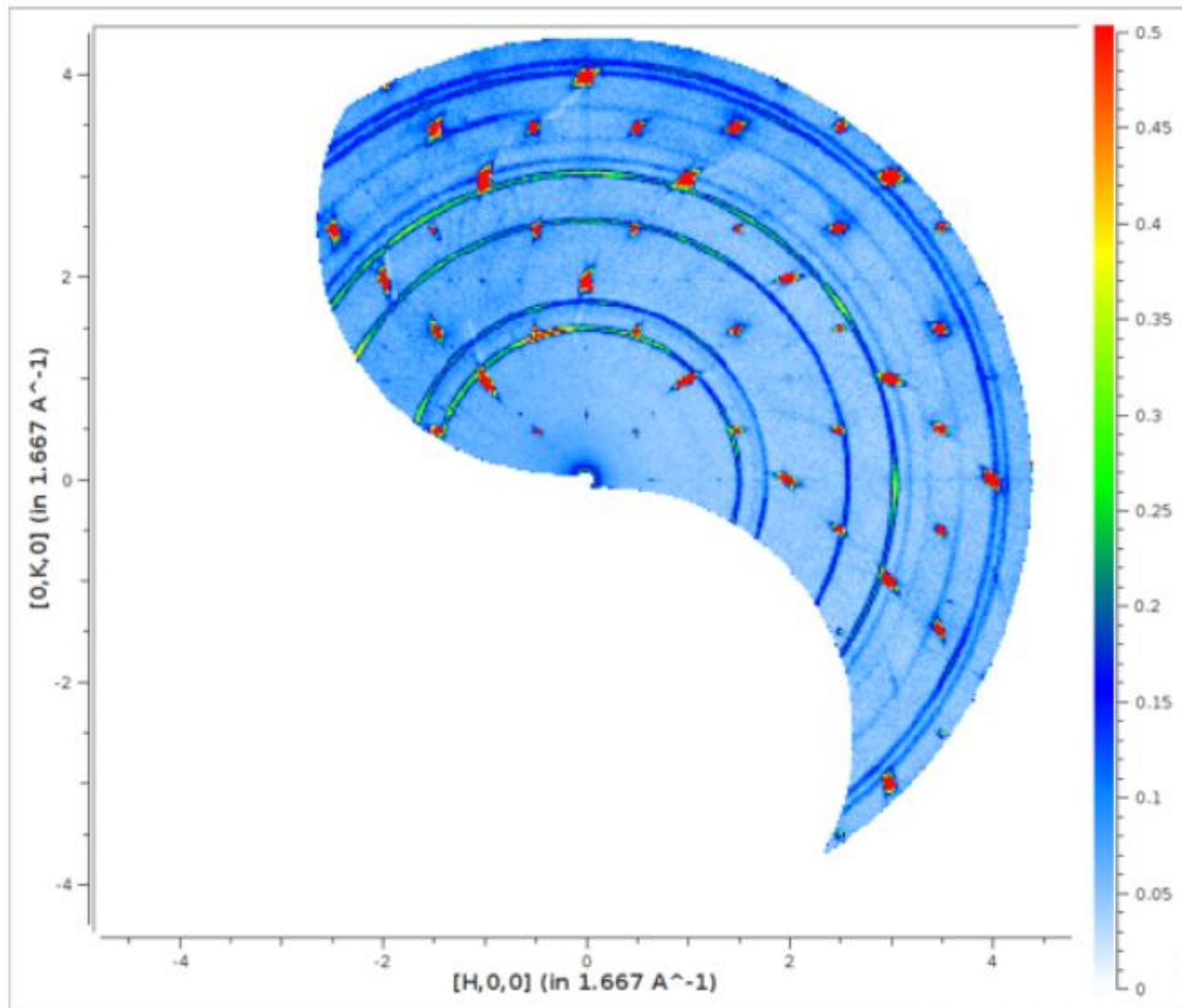
- LaSrCuO₄

Igor Zaliznyak

LSCO

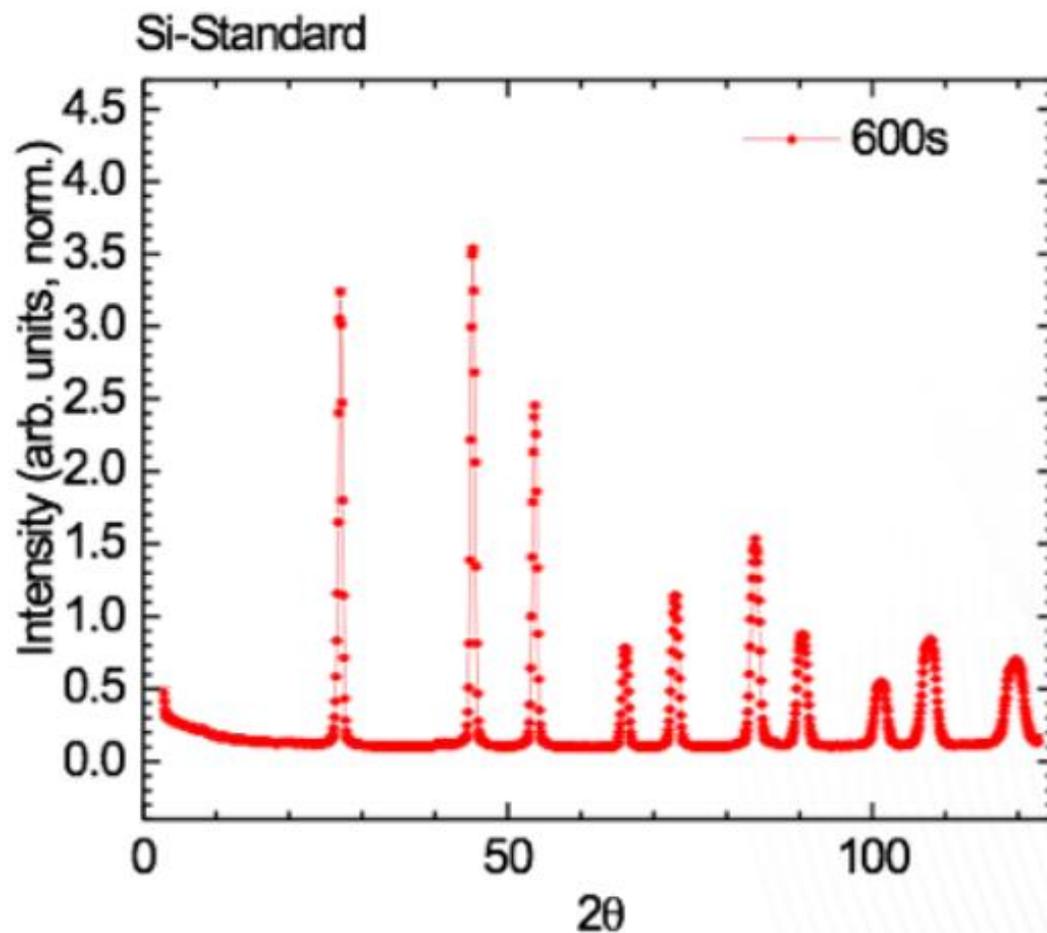
T = 4.5 K; HK2

- 3D mapping of diffuse scattering



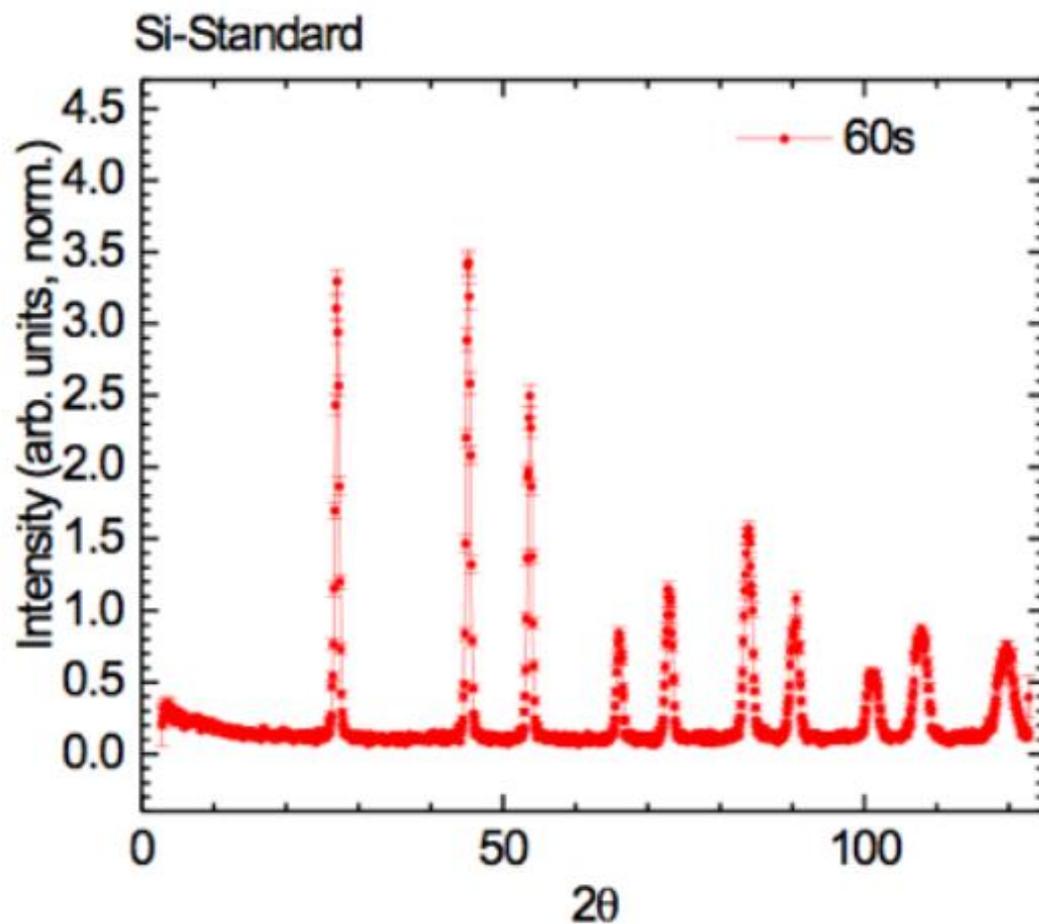
WAND²

- Shorter data collection time → In-situ synthesis
- Pump-Probe experiments
- Stroboscopic measurement for reversible processes



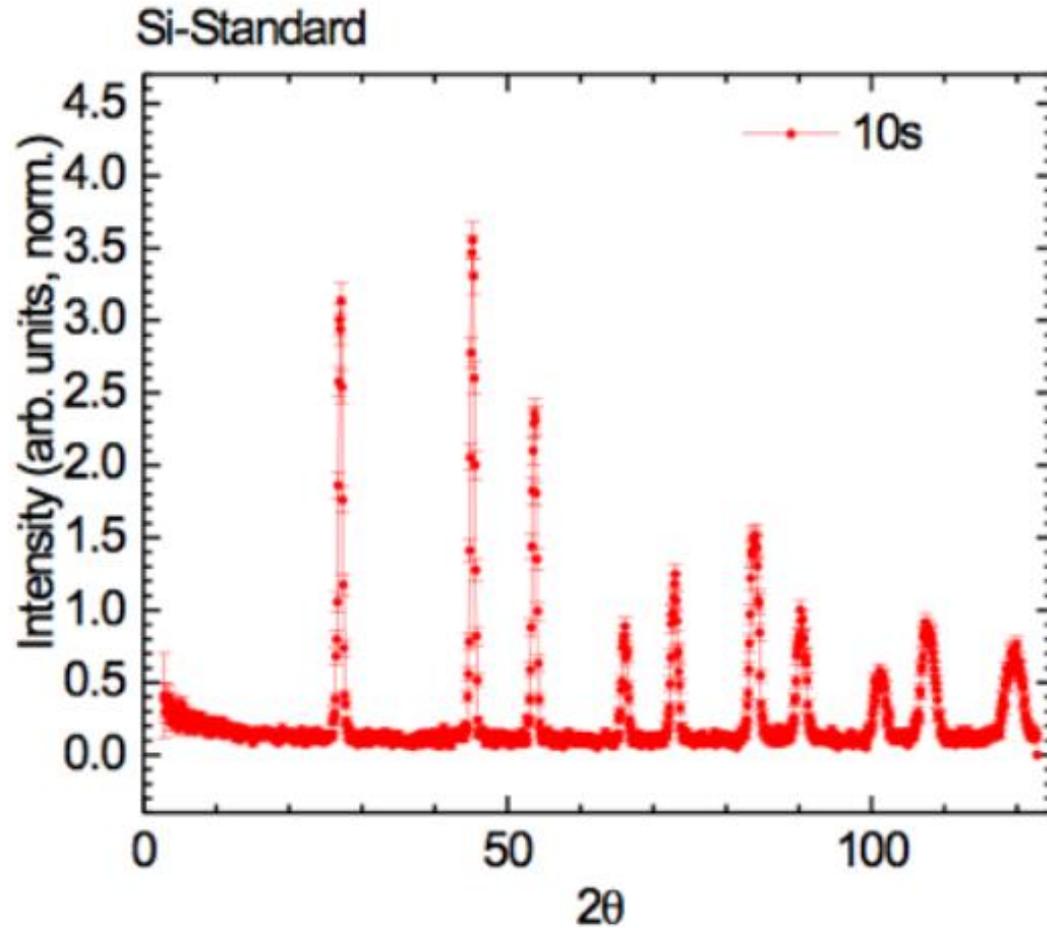
WAND²

- Shorter data collection time → In-situ synthesis
- Pump-Probe experiments
- Stroboscopic measurement for reversible processes



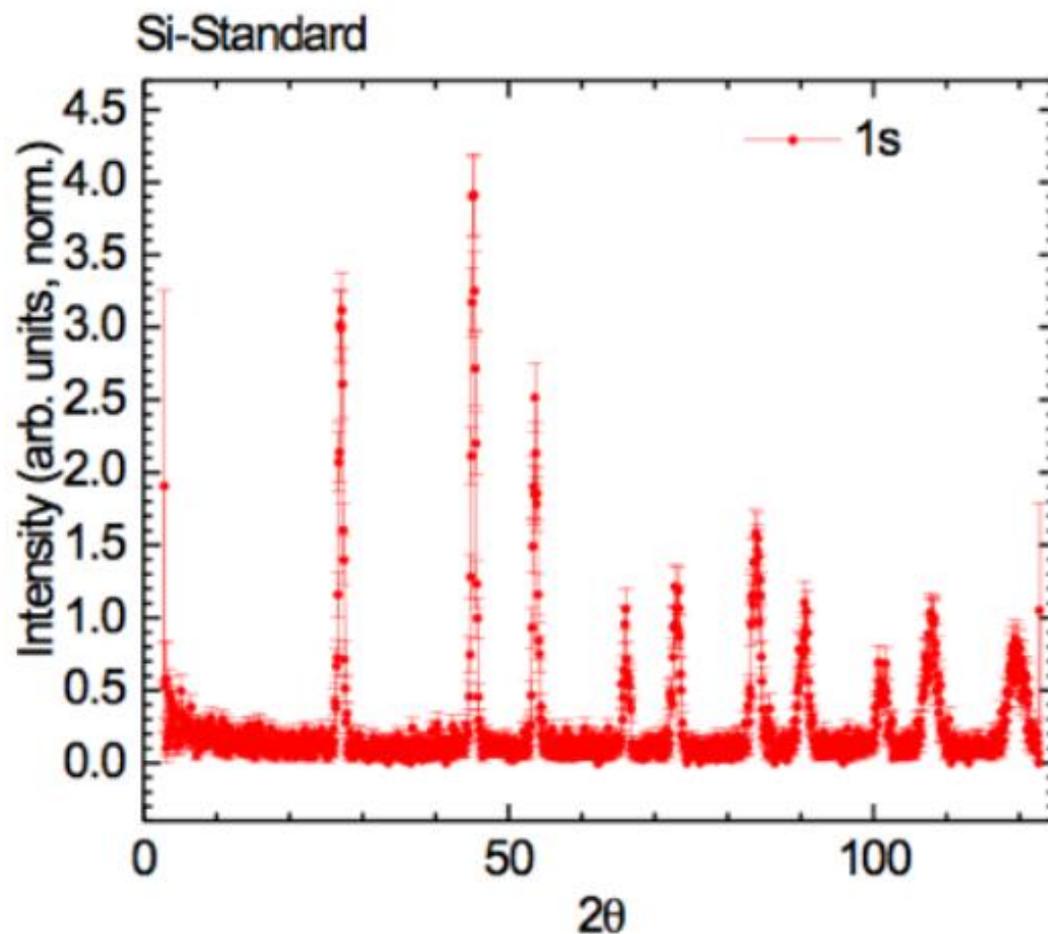
WAND²

- Shorter data collection time → In-situ synthesis
- Pump-Probe experiments
- Stroboscopic measurement for reversible processes



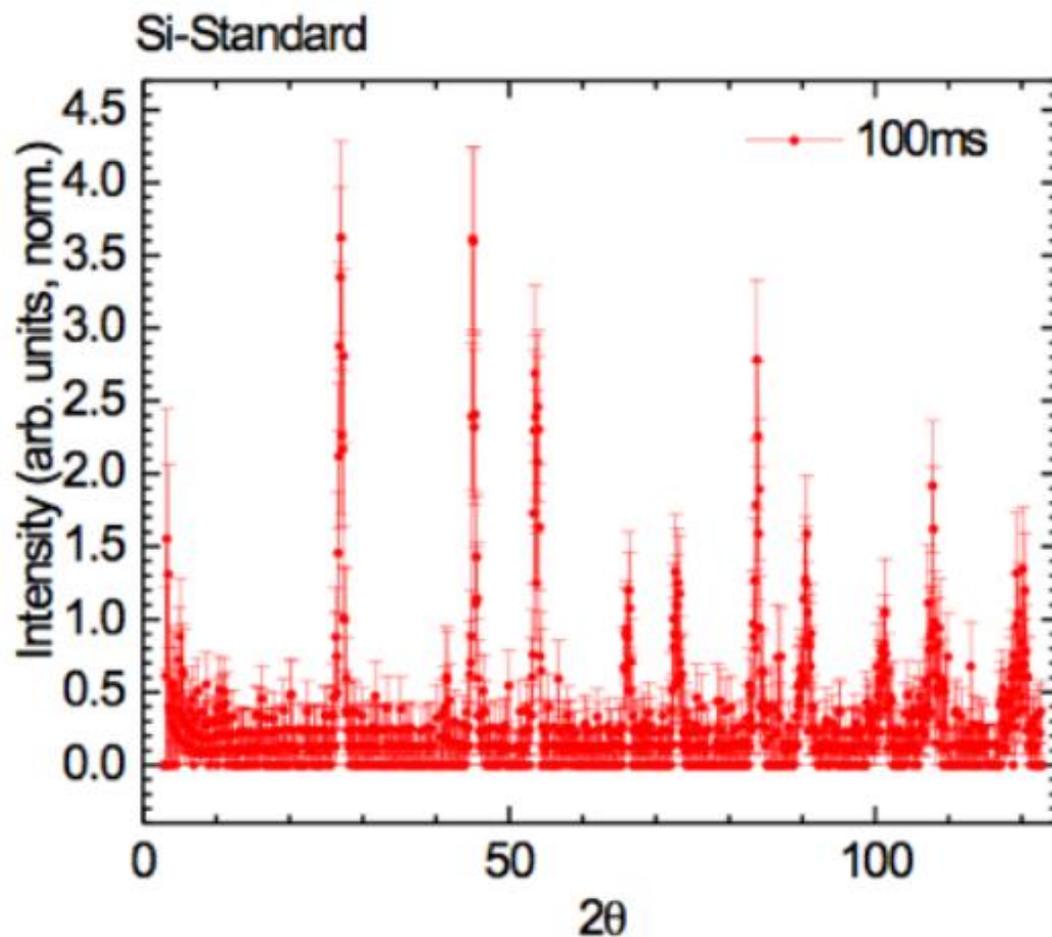
WAND²

- Shorter data collection time → In-situ synthesis
- Pump-Probe experiments
- Stroboscopic measurement for reversible processes



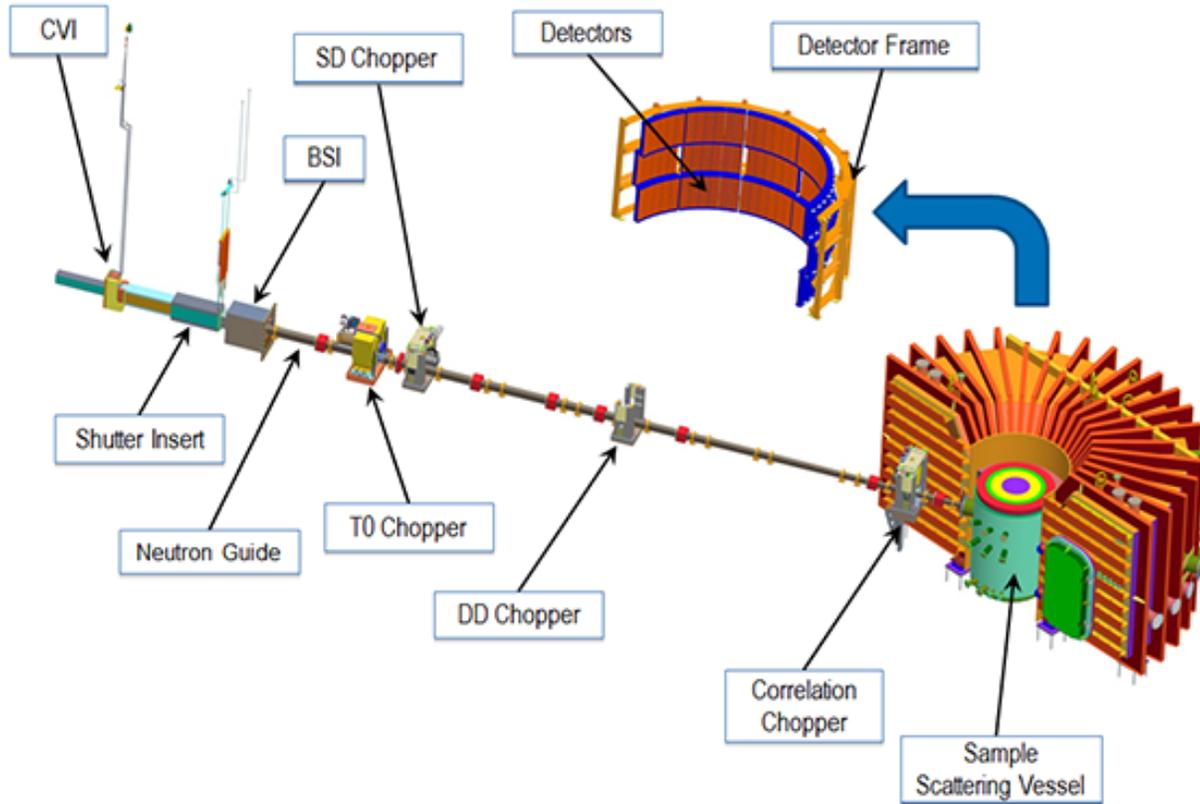
WAND²

- Shorter data collection time → In-situ synthesis
- Pump-Probe experiments
- Stroboscopic measurement for reversible processes

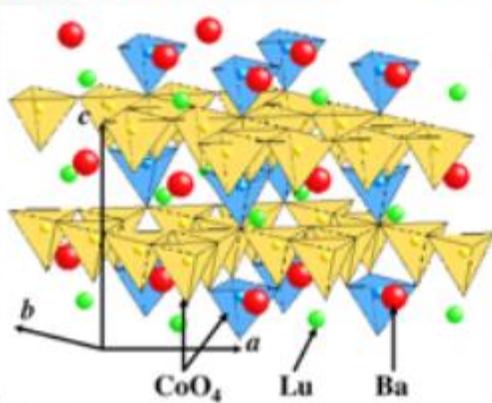


Corelli (SNS)

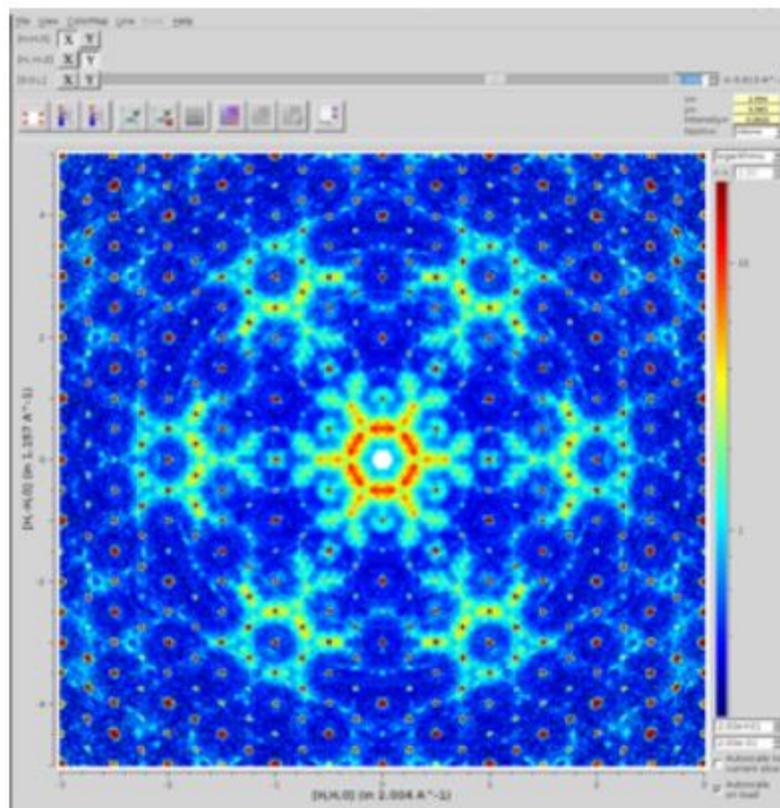
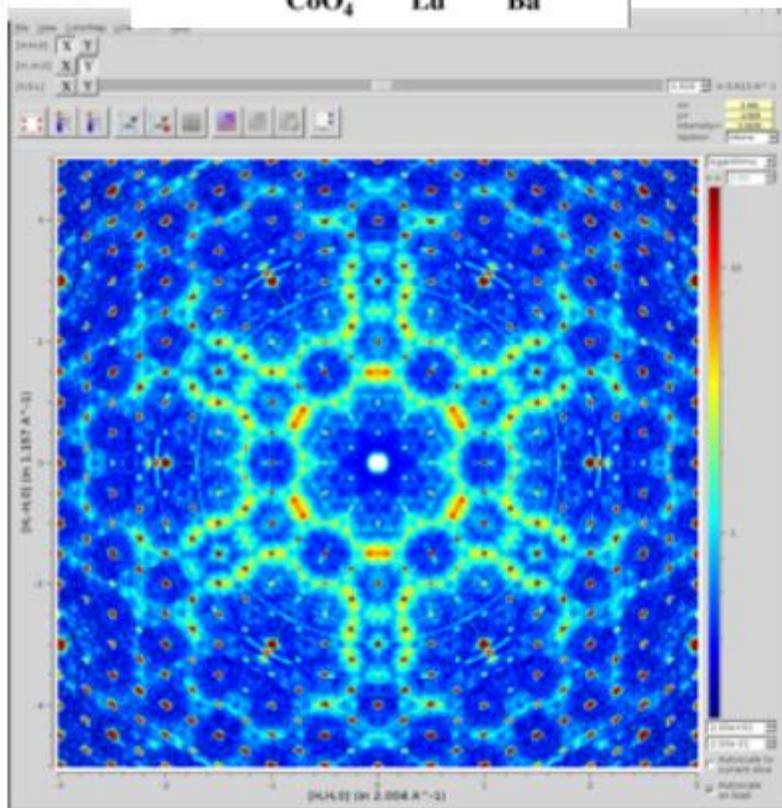
- Large detector coverage
- Most/all HKL covered for crystals
- Diffuse scattering.
- Magnets, pressure, dilution temperatures available.



CORELLI - Science



Magnetic diffuse scattering with alternating kagome/triangular lattices— $\text{LuBaCo}_4\text{O}_7$



PHYSICAL REVIEW B 93, 140403(R) (2016)

Simultaneous occurrence of multiferroism and short-range magnetic order in DyFeO_3

Jinchen Wang,^{1,2,3} Juanjuan Liu,¹ Jieming Sheng,¹ Wei Luo,¹ Feng Ye,^{2,3} Zhiying Zhao,^{4,5,6} Xuefeng Sun,^{4,5,6} Sergey A. Danilkin,⁷ Guochu Deng,⁷ and Wei Bao^{1,*}

¹Department of Physics, Renmin University of China, Beijing 100872, China

²Quantum Condensed Matter Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831, USA

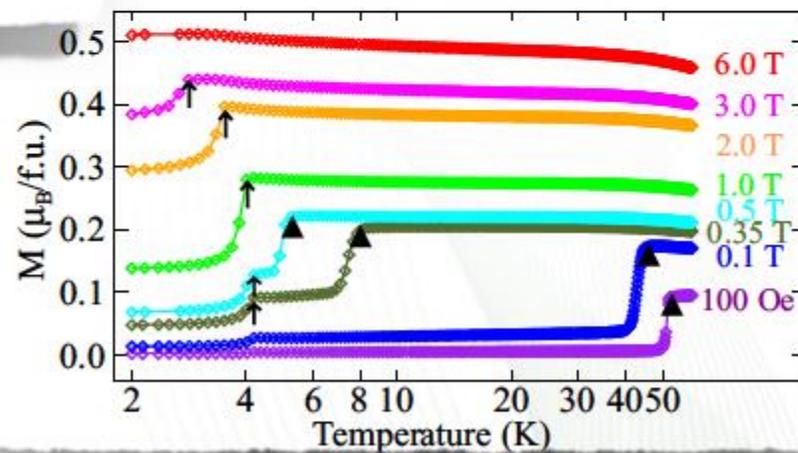
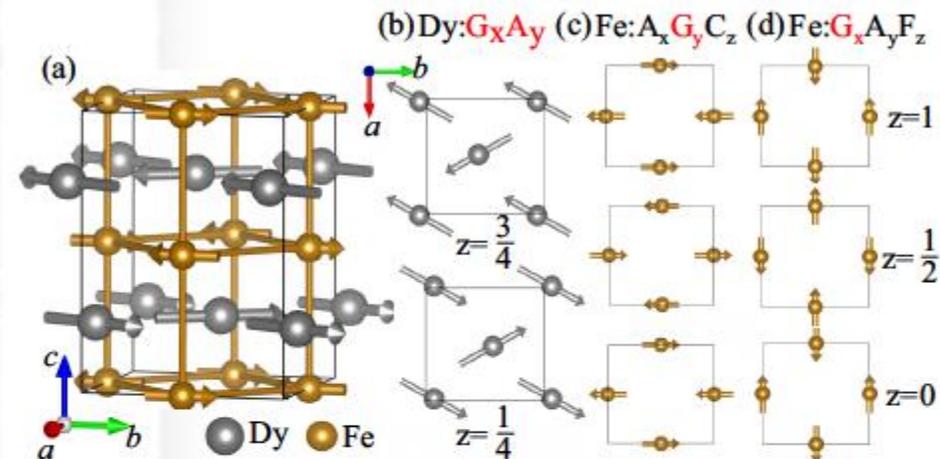
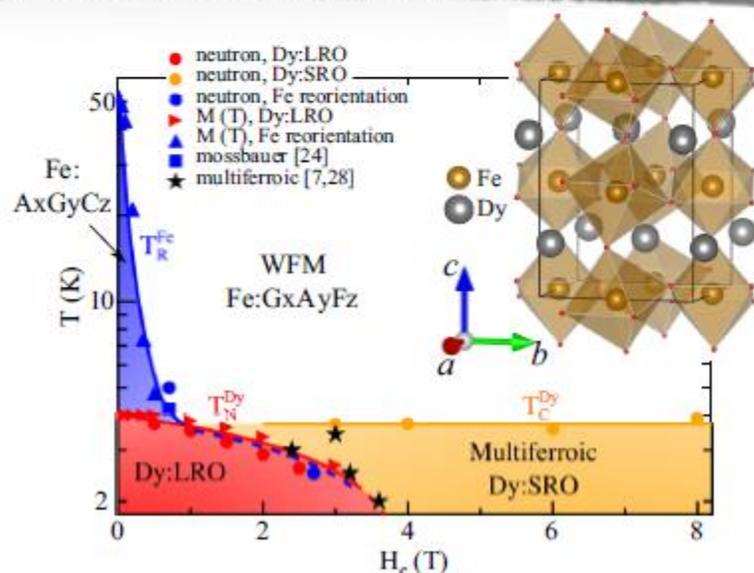
³Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky 40506, USA

⁴Hefei National Laboratory for Physical Sciences at Microscale, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, Anhui 230026, People's Republic of China

⁵Key Laboratory of Strongly-Coupled Quantum Matter Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Hefei, Anhui 230026, People's Republic of China

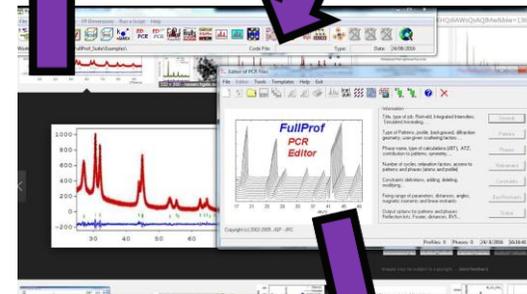
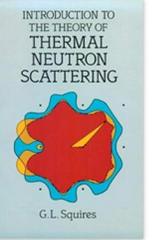
⁶Collaborative Innovation Center of Advanced Microstructures, Nanjing, Jiangsu 210093, People's Republic of China

⁷Brage Institute, ANSTO, Locked Bag 2001, Kirrawee DC NSW 2232, Australia



Conclusion: Determining a magnetic structure with neutron scattering

- Find a good problem and grow sample (powder or crystal)
- Do lots of characterization measurements in laboratory
- Understand background/theory of sample and neutron
- Apply for beamtime (speak to instrument scientist)
- Sample and experiment preparation are crucial (speak to instrument scientist)
- Perform measurement
- Analyze crystal structure (maybe need more measurements)
- Analyze magnetic structure: Starting model (magnetic symmetry) → compare to data → repeat
- If lucky write up paper
- Otherwise more data → Powder → single crystal → polarization → inelastic → etc



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