

# INTRODUCTION TO NEUTRON SCATTERING

**Sylvain PETIT**

Laboratoire Léon Brillouin

CEA – CNRS – Université Paris-Saclay

91190 Gif sur Yvette, France

[sylvain.petit@cea.fr](mailto:sylvain.petit@cea.fr)



# References



<https://www.neutron-sciences.org/>

Articles from

Eric Ressouche, Mechthilde Enderle, Stéphane Raymond

And many others ...

# Explore matter

## Different states of matter :

liquid, solid, gas, plasmas,  
Liquid crystals, smectics, nematics,  
macro-molecules,  
Magnetic phases, superconductors, Kondo,  
spin liquids, Luttinger liquids...

## Correlations ?

How move the atoms ?  
How move the magnetic moments ?  
Are these movements correlated ?

## Phase Transitions

spontaneous broken symmetry,  
quantum phase transition, topological phase transition ...

1895 : RX discovery (Röntgen)

1913, Bragg (son and father) use XR to determine the structure of NaCl and of many other salts (Nobel prize 1915)



# Explore matter with neutrons

**Diffraction with massive particles ?**

YES if  $\lambda \approx d$

☺ :  $\lambda$  of thermal neutrons  $\approx$  few Å

# Explore matter with neutrons

## Diffraction with massive particles ?

**Complementary** to Xrays because the interaction between neutrons and matter is different from the interactions between light and matter :

- + isotopes
- + magnetism
- + volume

AND :

$E \approx$  typical energy of excitations (meV): **spectroscopy in reciprocal space**

# Explore matter with neutrons

**More generally, neutron scattering allows to :**

Measure correlations between atomic positions  
in space and time

Measure correlations between magnetic moment  
orientations  
in space and time

Where are the atoms ?

What do they do ?

# A neutron is ...

- Not charged

$$mv = \hbar k \quad E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$$

$$S = 1/2$$

- Carries a spin  $1/2$

$$S_z = \pm 1/2$$

- Also a « wave of matter »

# A neutron is ...

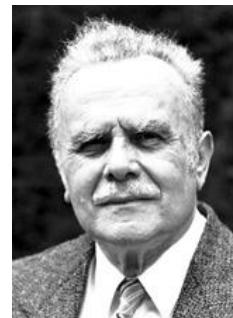
**1911** : nucleus (Rutherford)

**1913** : « planets model » (Bohr)

**1932** : neutron discovery (J. Chadwick)

**1940-1950** : construction of reactors in the US and in Canada  
(Chalk River's NRX reactor, ORNL's graphite reactor)  
E. Wollan et C. Shull : diffraction

**1956**: construction of the first 3-axis spectrometer at Chalk-River by B. Brockhouse.



Bertram N. Brockhouse



Clifford G. Shull

# Producing neutrons

In Europe:

*Reactors*

ILL-Grenoble (France)

~~LLB-Saclay (France)~~

FRMII-Munich (Germany)

~~HMI-Berlin (Germany)~~

*Spallation source*

ISIS-Didcot (UK)

PSI-Villigen (Switzerland)



And also :

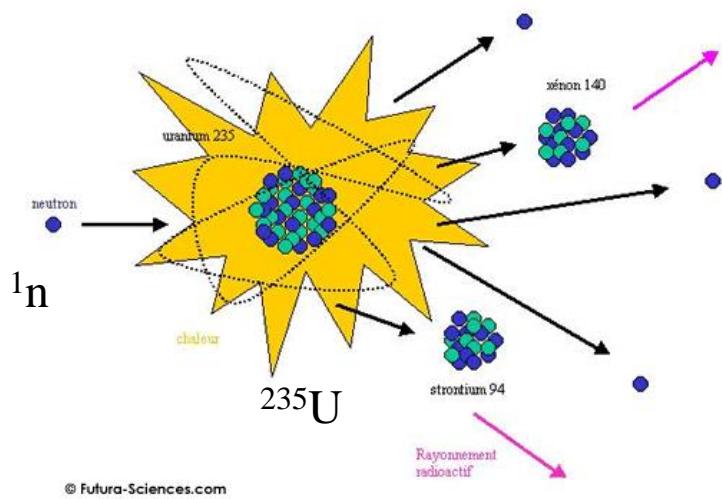
Dubna (Russia), JPARC (Japan)

SNS, DOE labs (USA), ANSTO  
(Australia)

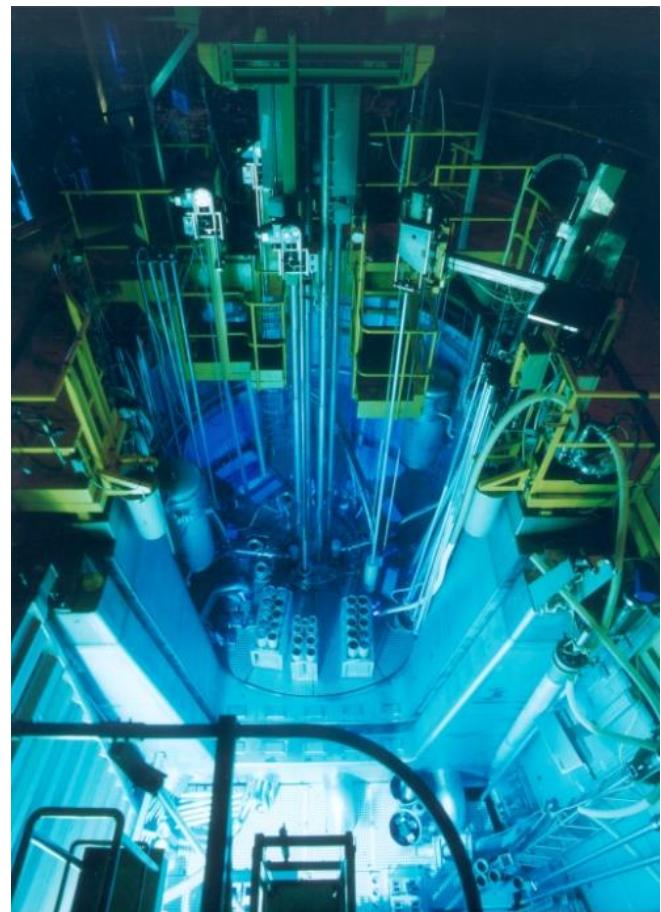
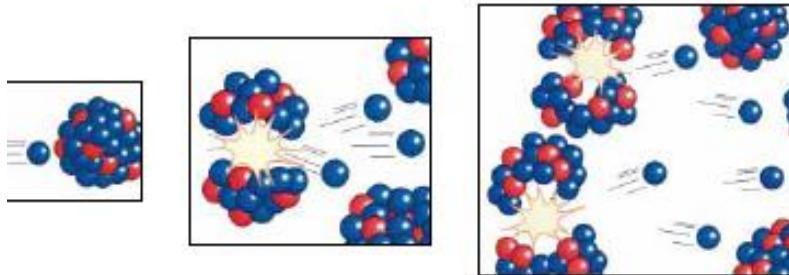
Canada, India, ...



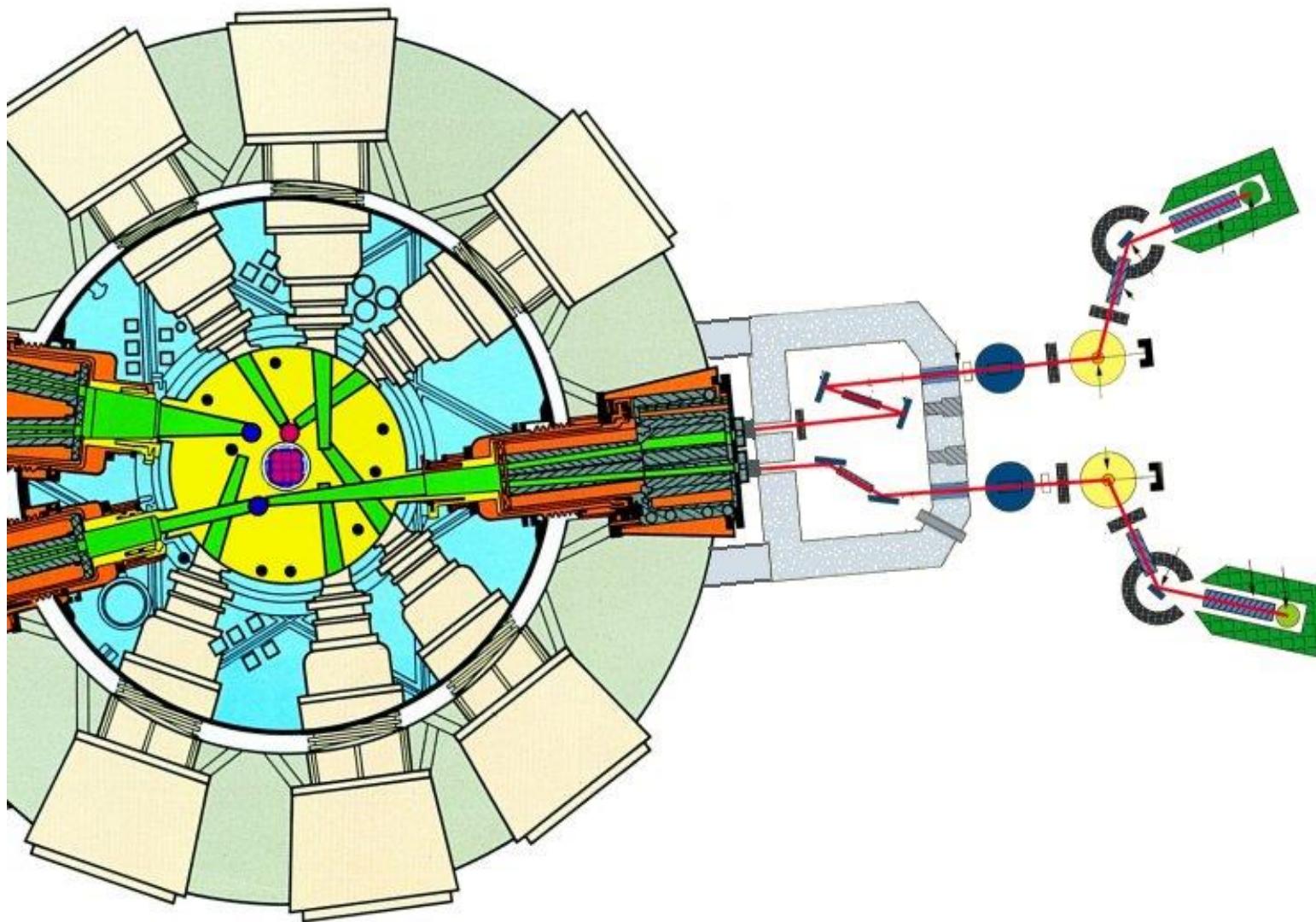
# Producing neutrons



© Futura-Sciences.com



# Producing neutrons



# Producing neutrons



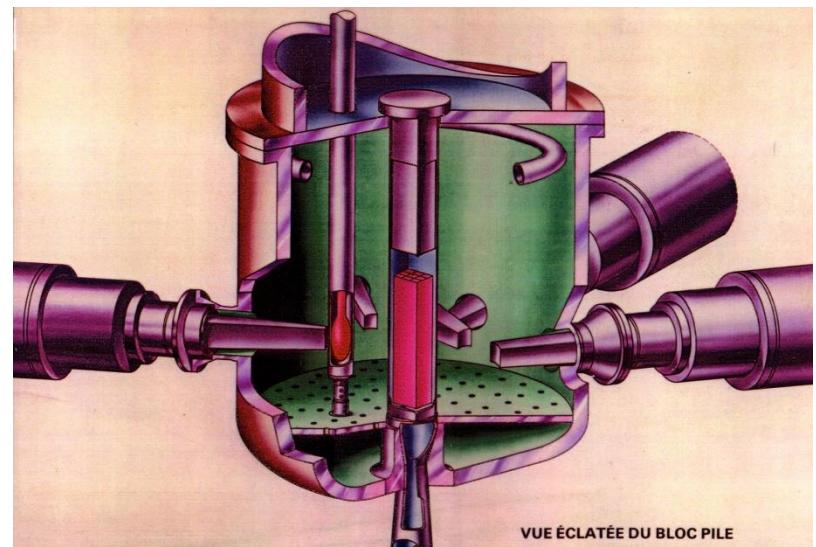
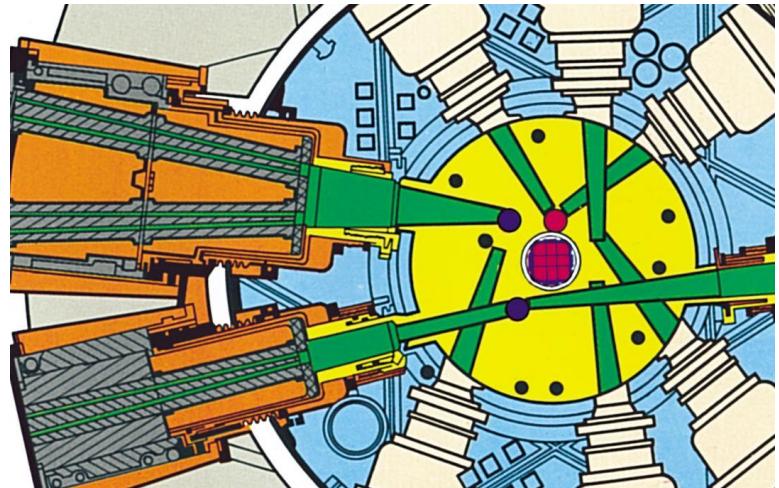
# Producing neutrons

## Orphée reactor

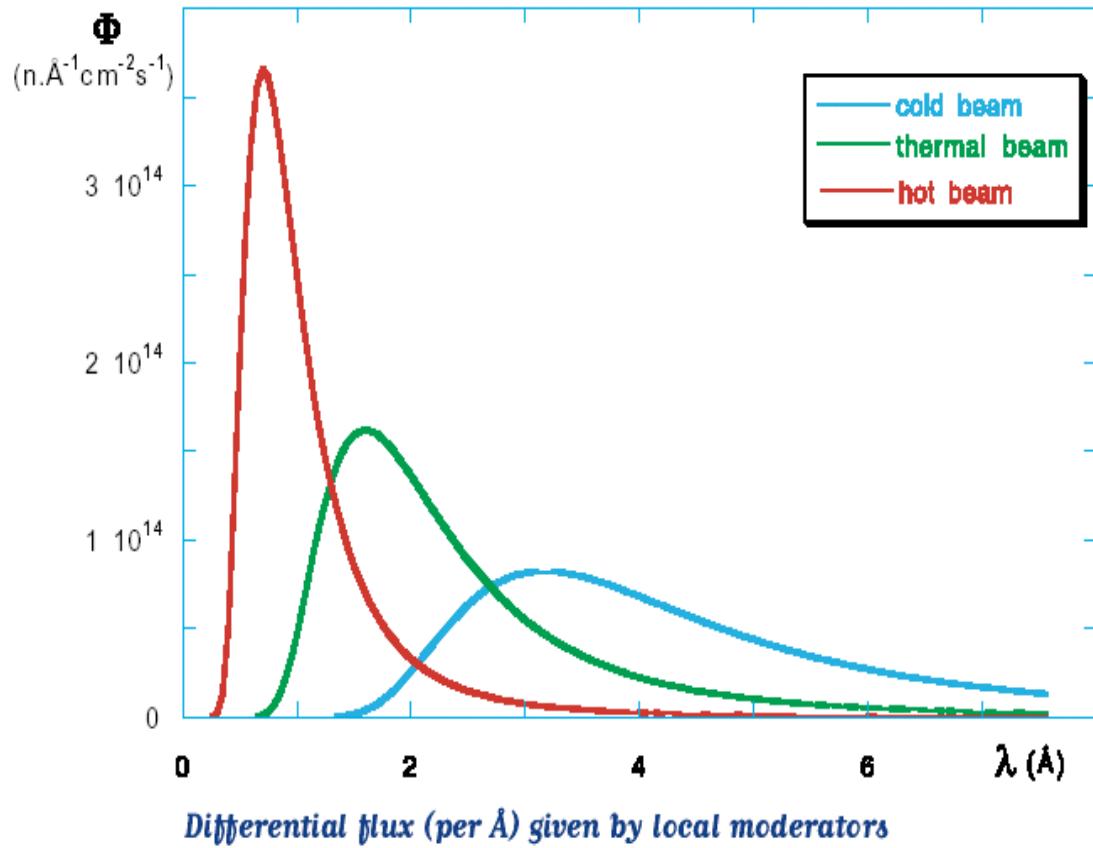
4 thermal beam tubes

2 hot beam tubes

3 cold beam tubes



# Producing neutrons



## Hot neutrons

Structure of liquids and crystals

## Thermal neutrons

Condensed matter

## Cold neutrons

Condensed matter and soft matter

# Neutron-matter interaction

**Strong Interaction** : the neutron enters into the nucleus, forms a composite nucleus and eventually evaporates.

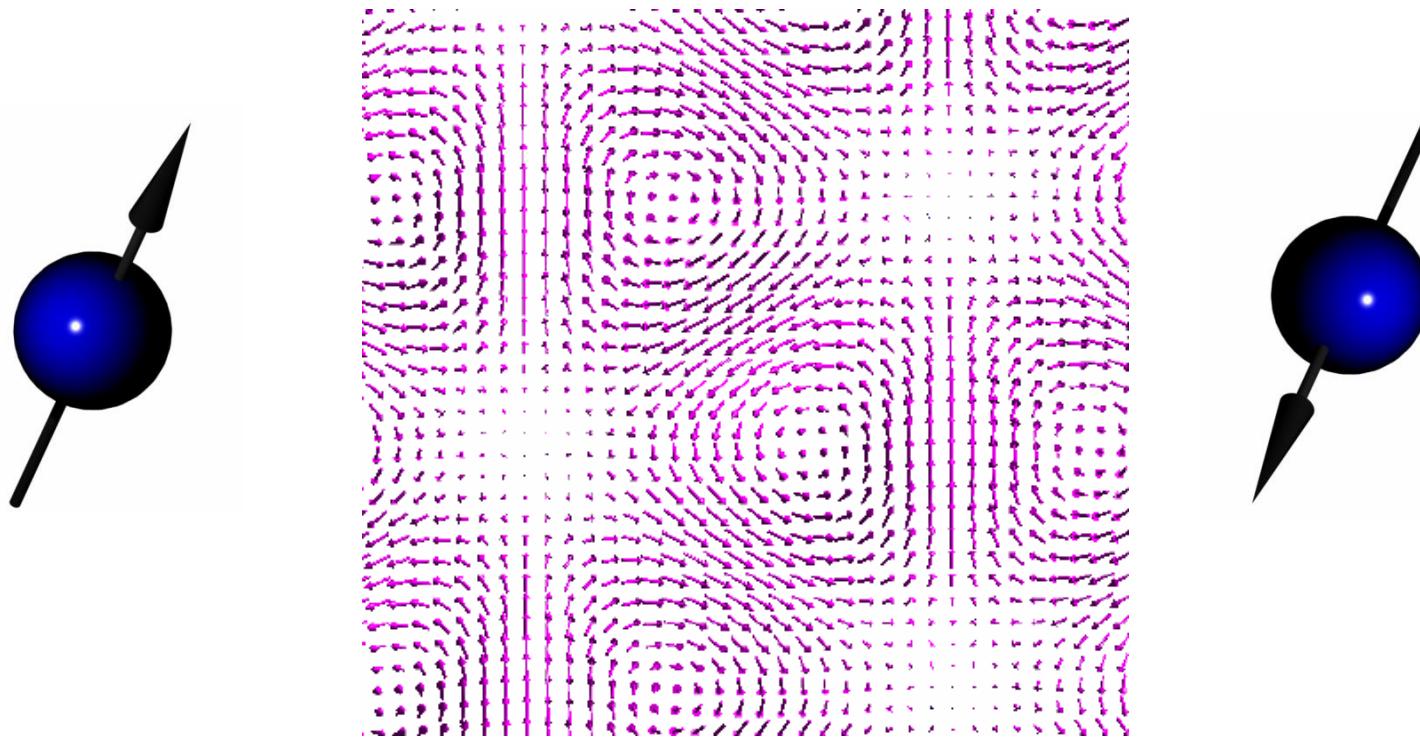
$$\hat{V}_n(\vec{r}) = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{M} b \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{R}).$$

b = « scattering length »  
positive or negative  
depends on the isotope

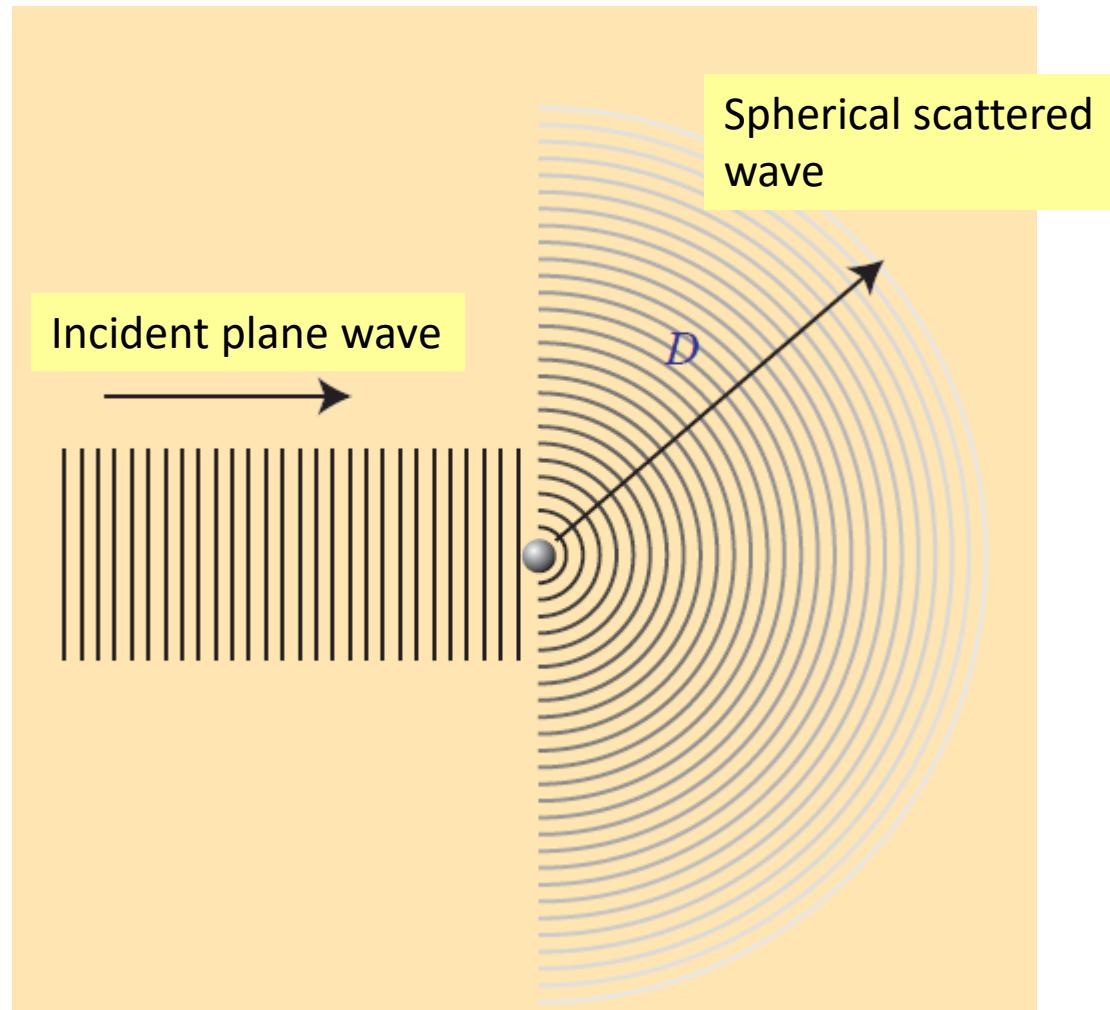
# Neutron-matter interaction

**Dipolar magnetic Interaction** between the spin of the neutron and the assembly of spins within the sample

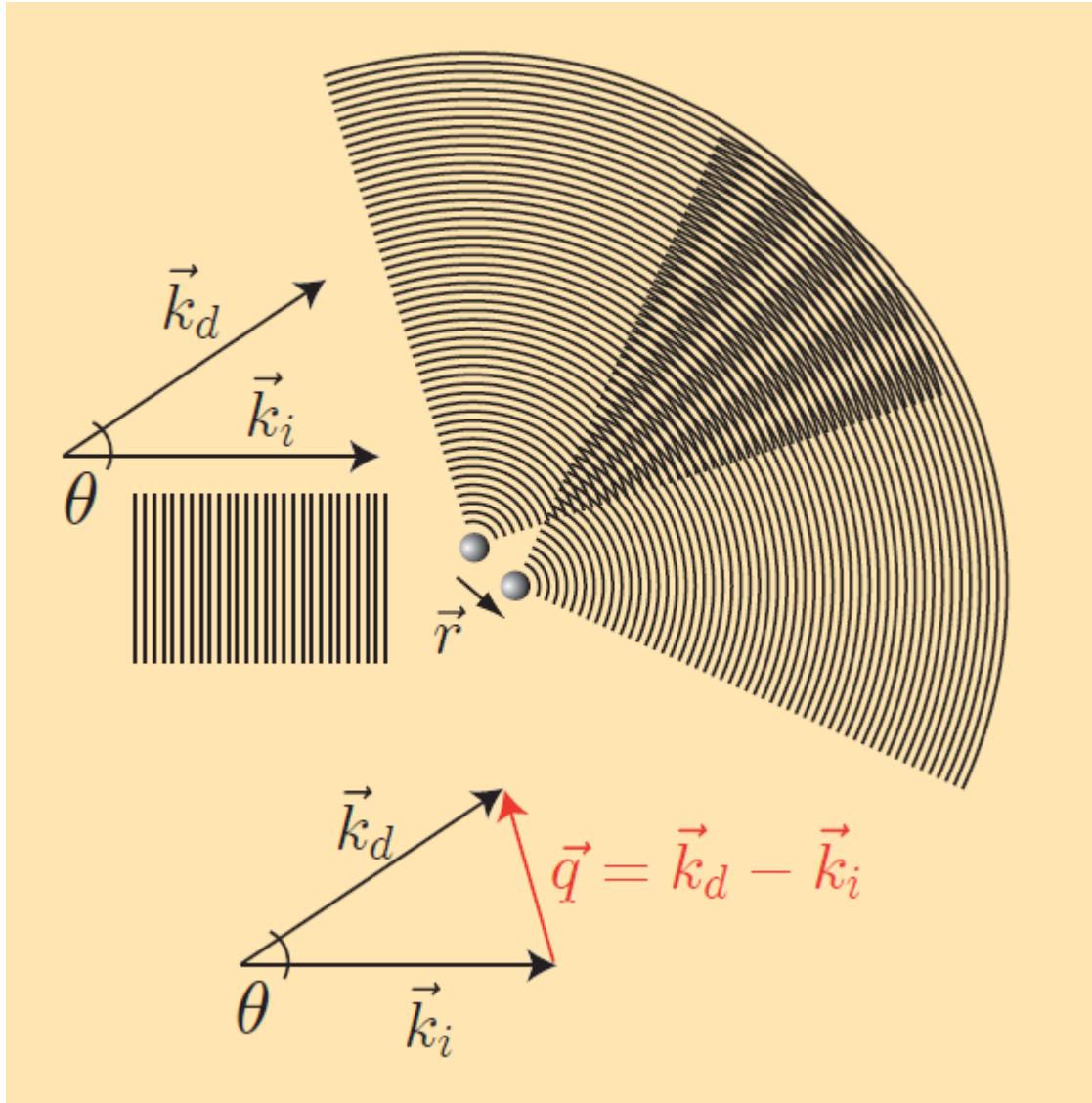
$$E_{ne} = -\mu_n \cdot B_e \quad B_e(R) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \left( \text{rot}\left(\frac{\mu_e \times R}{R^3}\right) - e v_e \times \frac{R}{R^3} \right)$$



# Diffraction



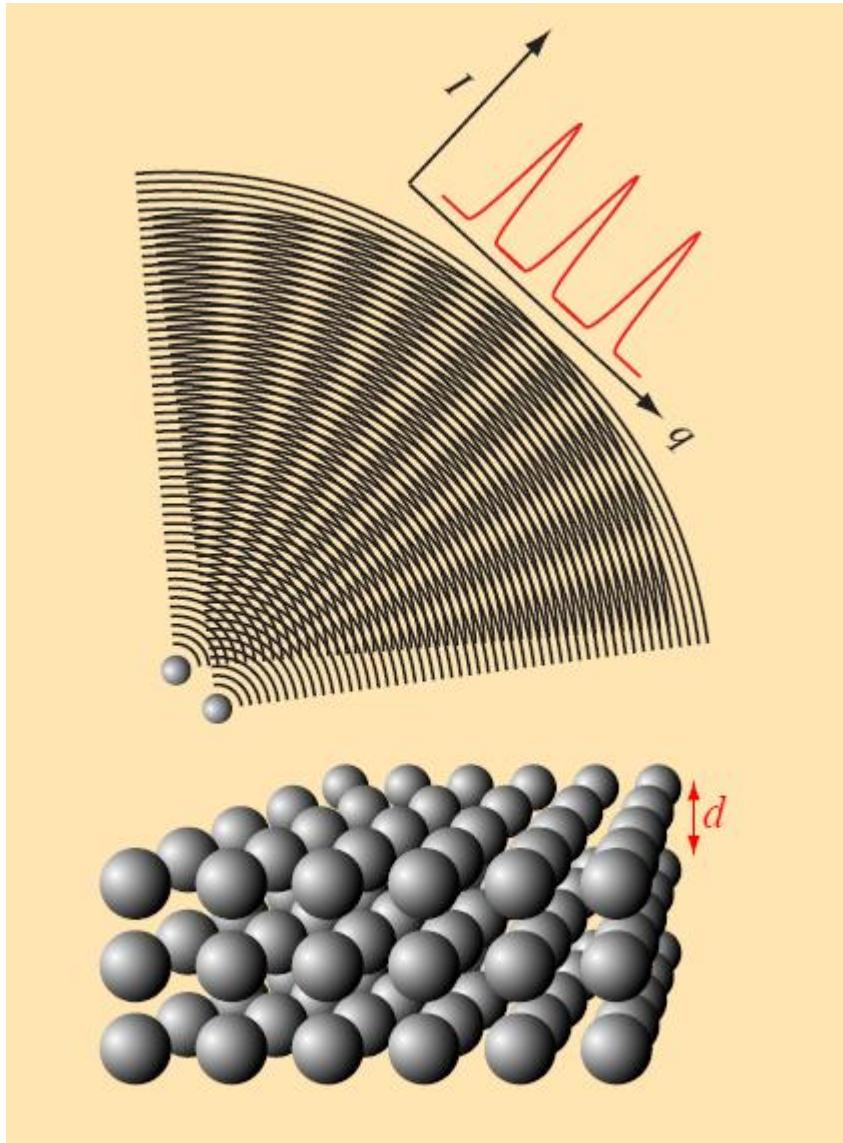
# Diffraction



Phase difference

$$\Delta\phi = \vec{r}(\vec{k}_d - \vec{k}_i)$$

# Diffraction



Sum of partial waves

Incident amplitude

$$\psi = \frac{\psi_0}{D} \times \sum_{i=1}^n b_i e^{iqr_i}$$

D = distance to the detector

Scattered intensity :  $\psi^2 = \psi\psi^*$

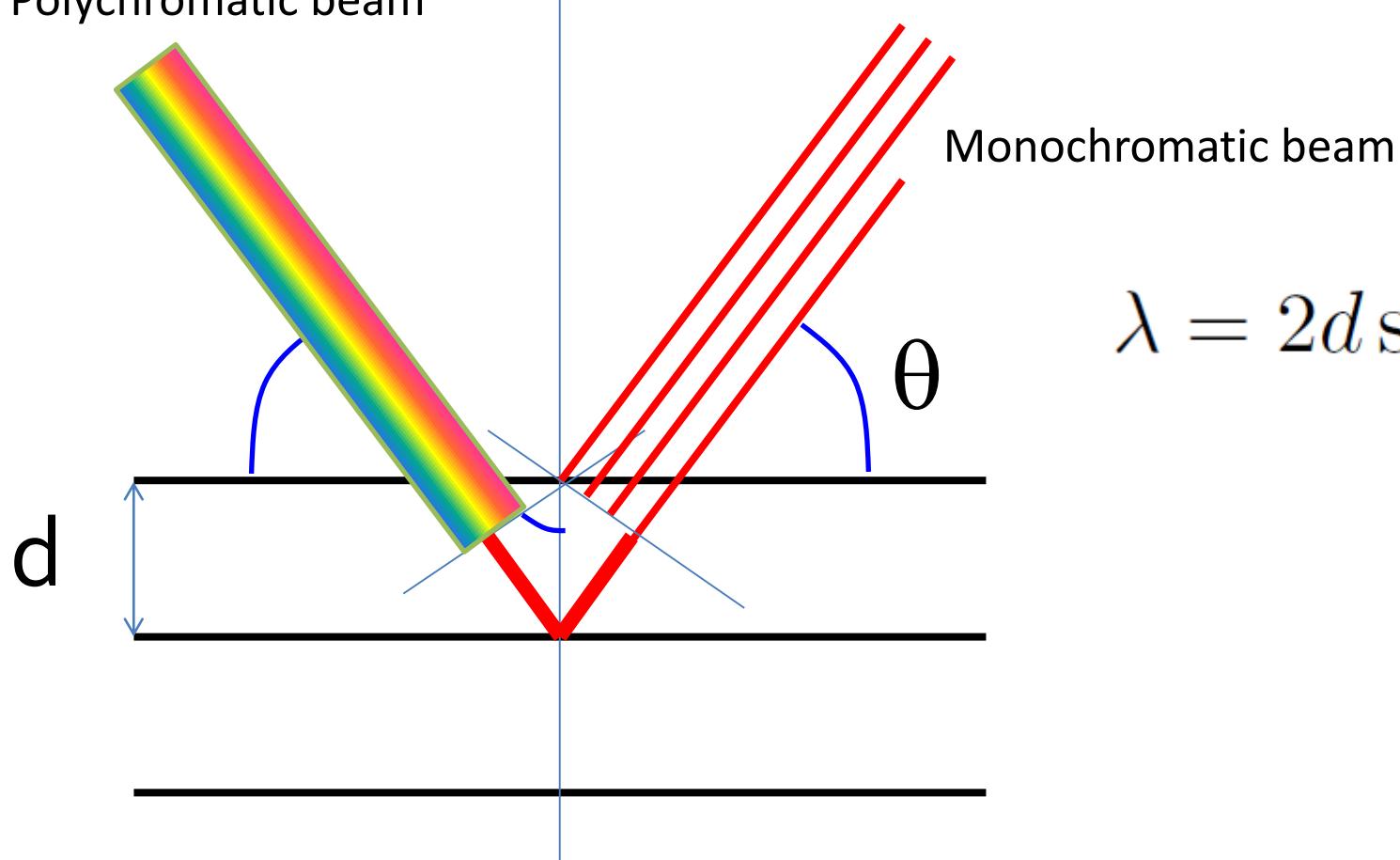
$$\begin{aligned}\psi^2 &= \frac{\psi_0^2}{D^2} \times \left[ \sum_i^n b_i e^{iqr_i} \times \sum_j^n b_j e^{-iqr_j} \right] \\ &= \frac{\psi_0^2}{D^2} \times \sum_i^n \sum_j^n b_i b_j e^{iq(r_i - r_j)}\end{aligned}$$

## CONSEQUENCE 1:

*It is possible to prepare a monochromatic neutron beam*

# Monochromatic neutron Flux

Incident  
Polychromatic beam



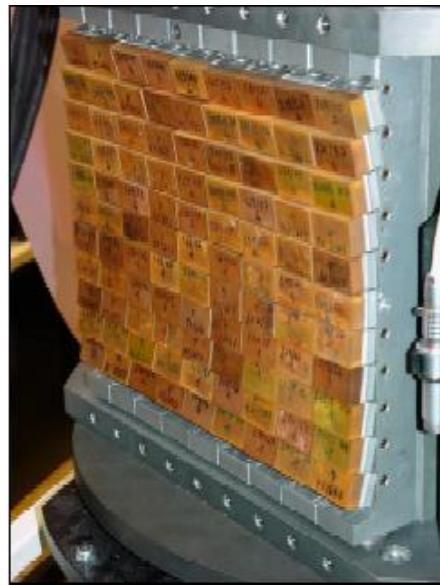
$$\lambda = 2d \sin \theta$$

# Monochromatic neutron Flux



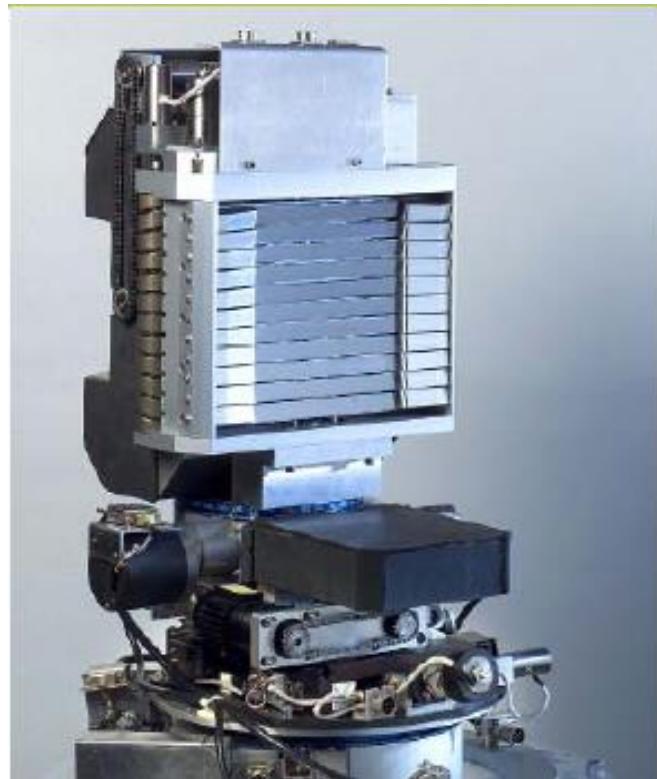
Graphite

- Low absorption
- Strong reflectivity
- d-spacing
- Single crystals
- « low » Cost

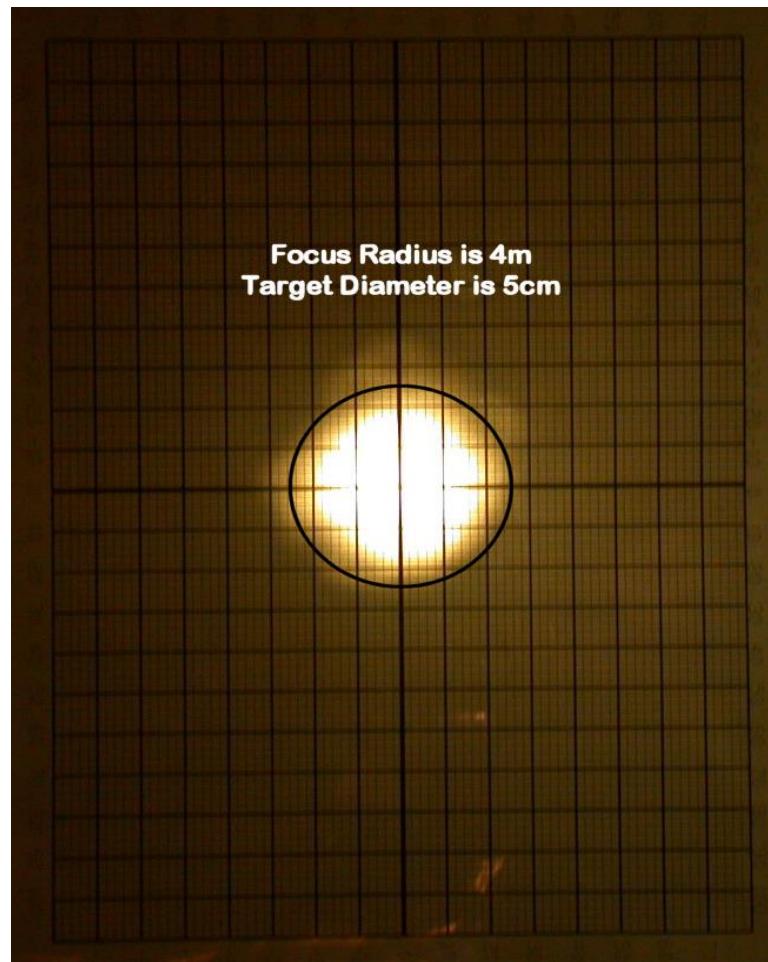
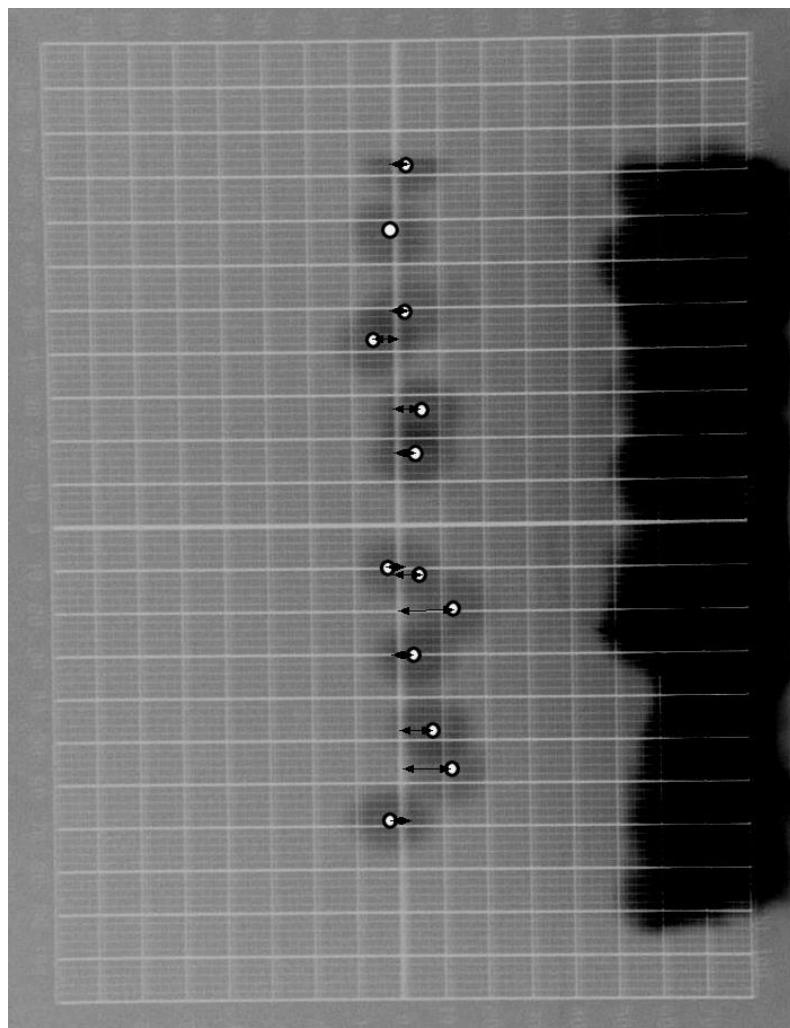


Cu

# Monochromatic neutron Flux

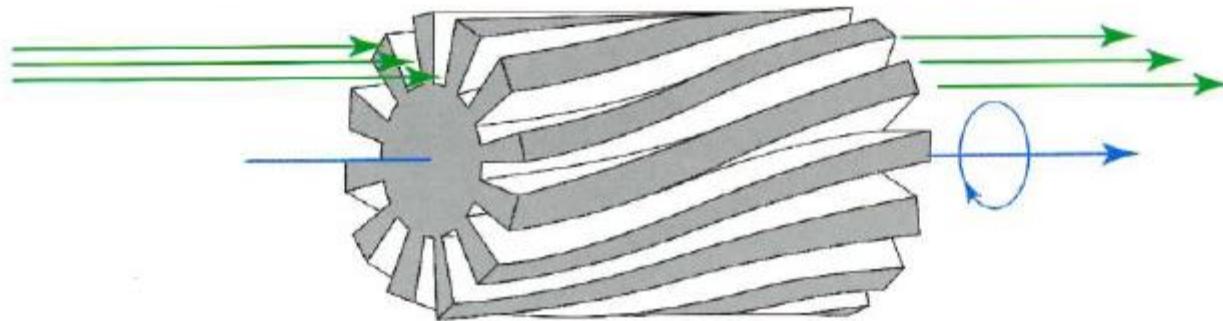


# Monochromatic neutron Flux



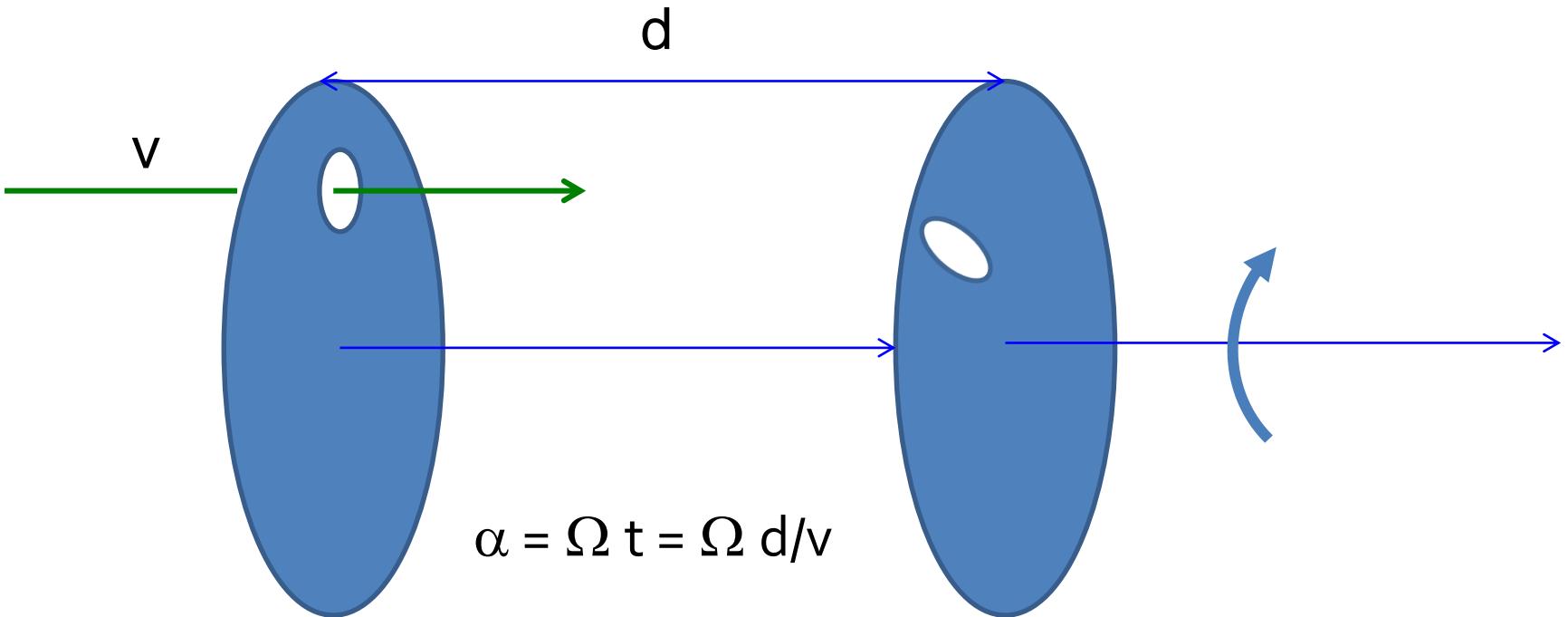
# Monochromatic neutron Flux

Velocity selector



# Monochromatic neutron Flux

Disk Chopper

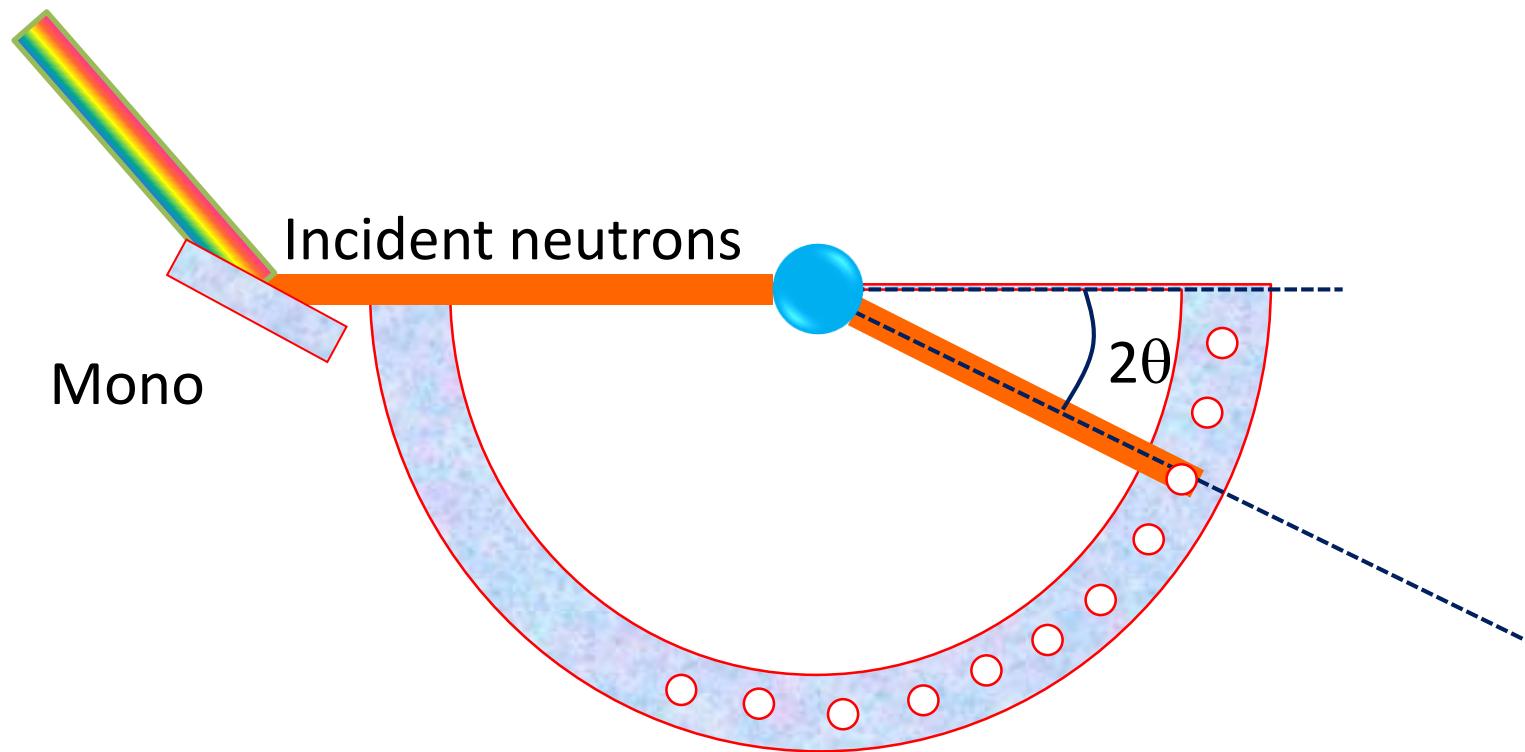


Produces a pulse of a given energy

## CONSEQUENCE 2

*diffractometer*

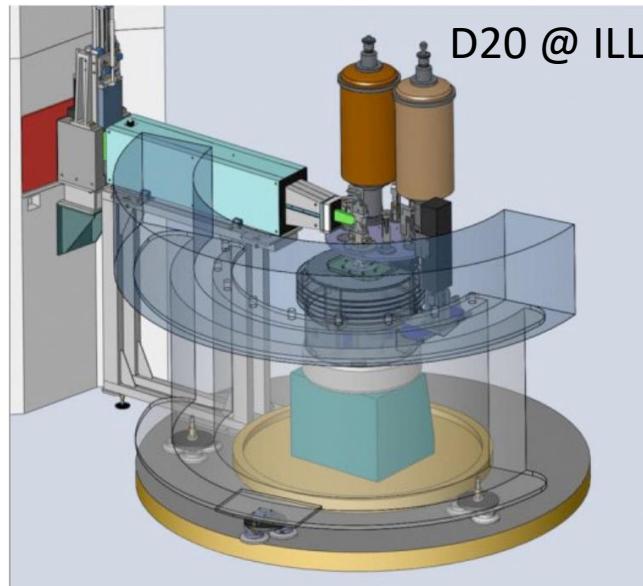
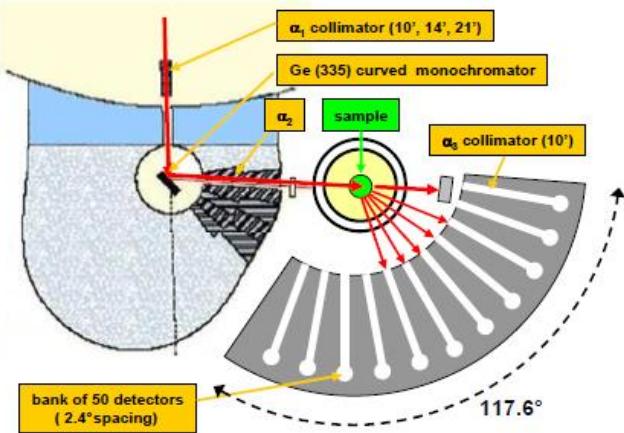
# Powder diffractometer



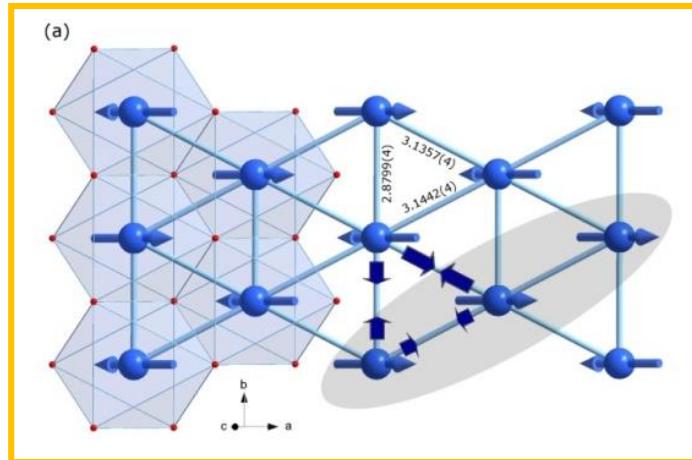
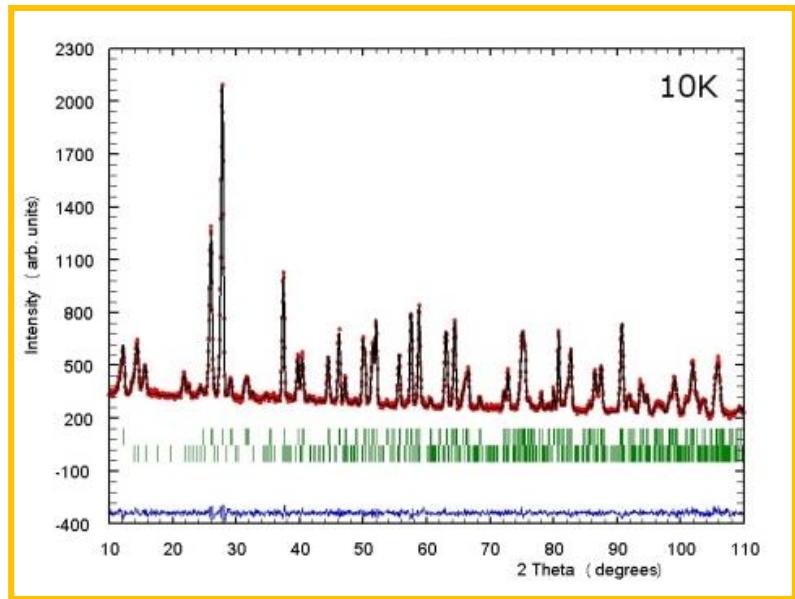
# Powder diffractometer

High Resolution Powder Diffractometer

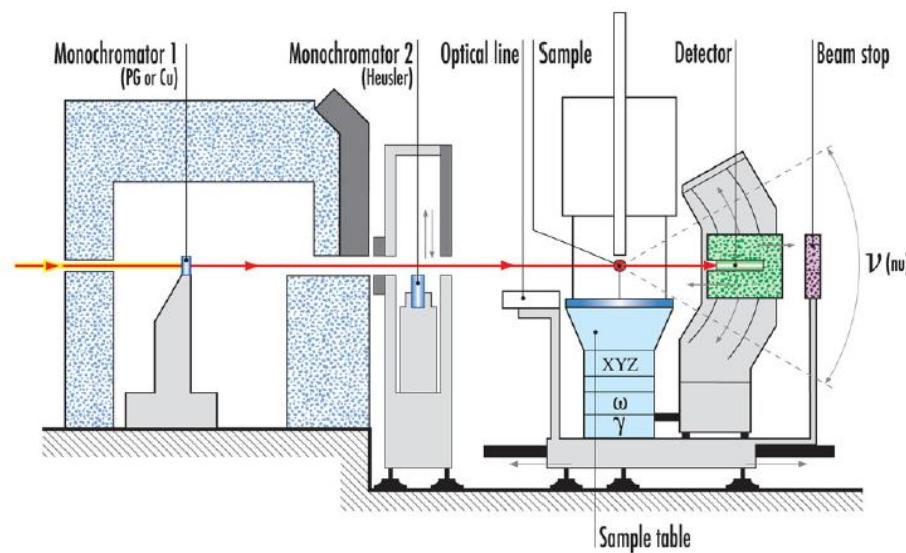
3T2 @ LLB



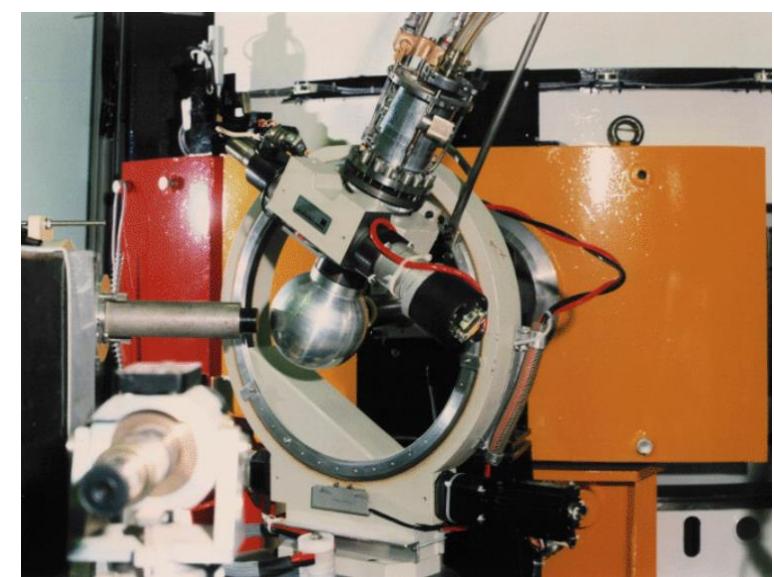
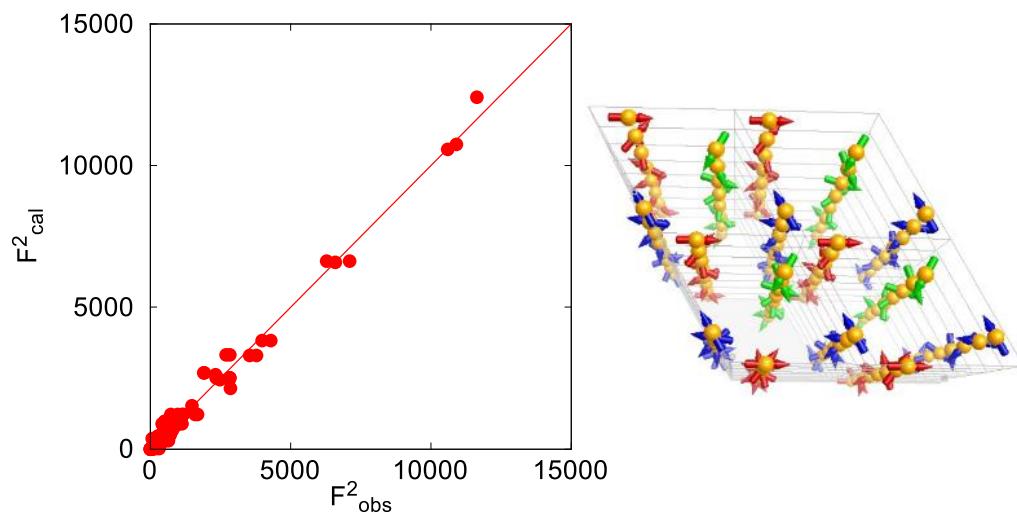
Pcr file !!



# Xcrystal diffractometer

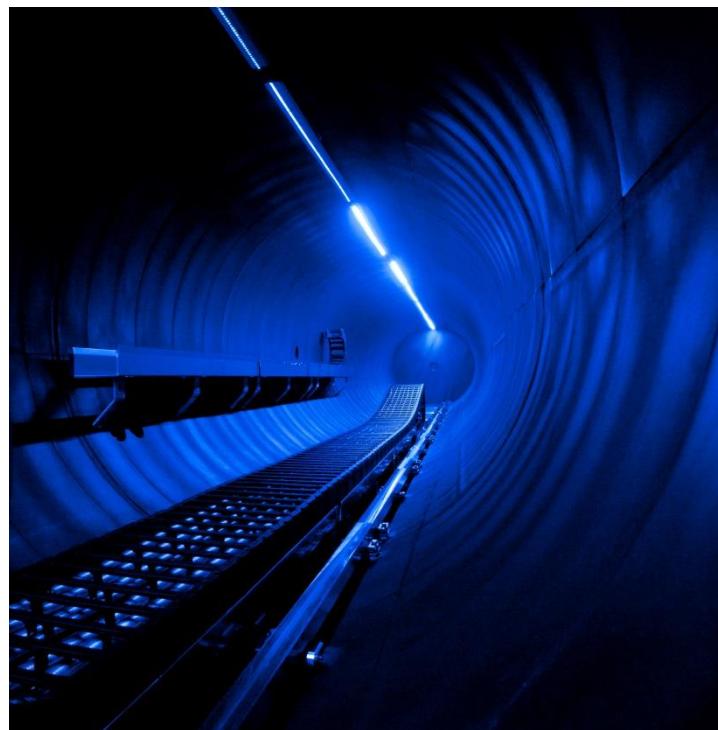


D23 (CRG CEA, ILL)  
Lifting arm



D9 (ILL)  
Eulerian cradle

# SANS



## Compressibility, form of macromolecules, interfaces : Sticks, spheres, ...

C. Loupiac et al. (2002), *Eur. J. Biochem.*, 269 : 4731-4737

(PACE, LLB, Saclay)

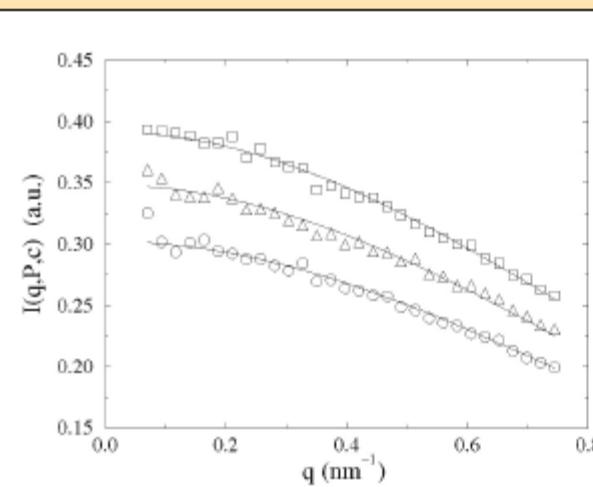


Fig. 1. Scattering spectra  $I(q, P, c)$  of  $\text{MbN}_3$  at  $p^2\text{H}$  6.6, as a function of the wave-number transfer  $q$ . The measurements were performed at room temperature. The protein concentration,  $c$ , at atmospheric pressure is  $11.7 \text{ mg cm}^{-3}$  and the pressures,  $P$ , are: 54 ( $\circ$ ), 154 ( $\triangle$ ), and 302 ( $\square$ ) MPa. Fits of Eqn 6 to the data are shown as full lines.

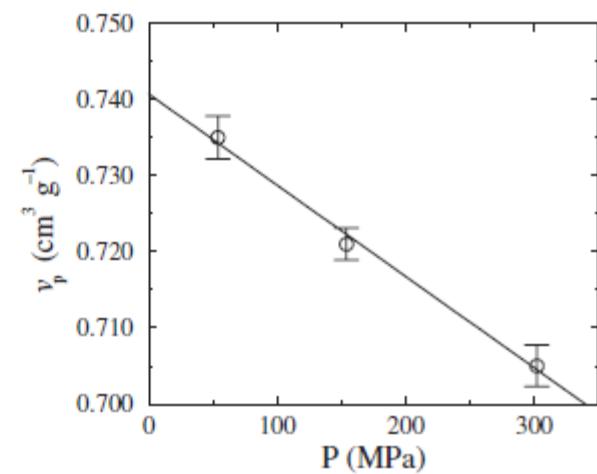


Fig. 7. Partial specific volume  $v_p(P)$ , of  $\text{MbN}_3$  as a function of pressure,  $P$ . The almost linear variation of  $v_p(P)$  with  $P$  allows the isothermal compressibility of the hydrated protein to be computed:  $\kappa_{T,p} = (1.6 \pm 0.1) \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ MPa}^{-1}$ .

# Take-home message (until now)...

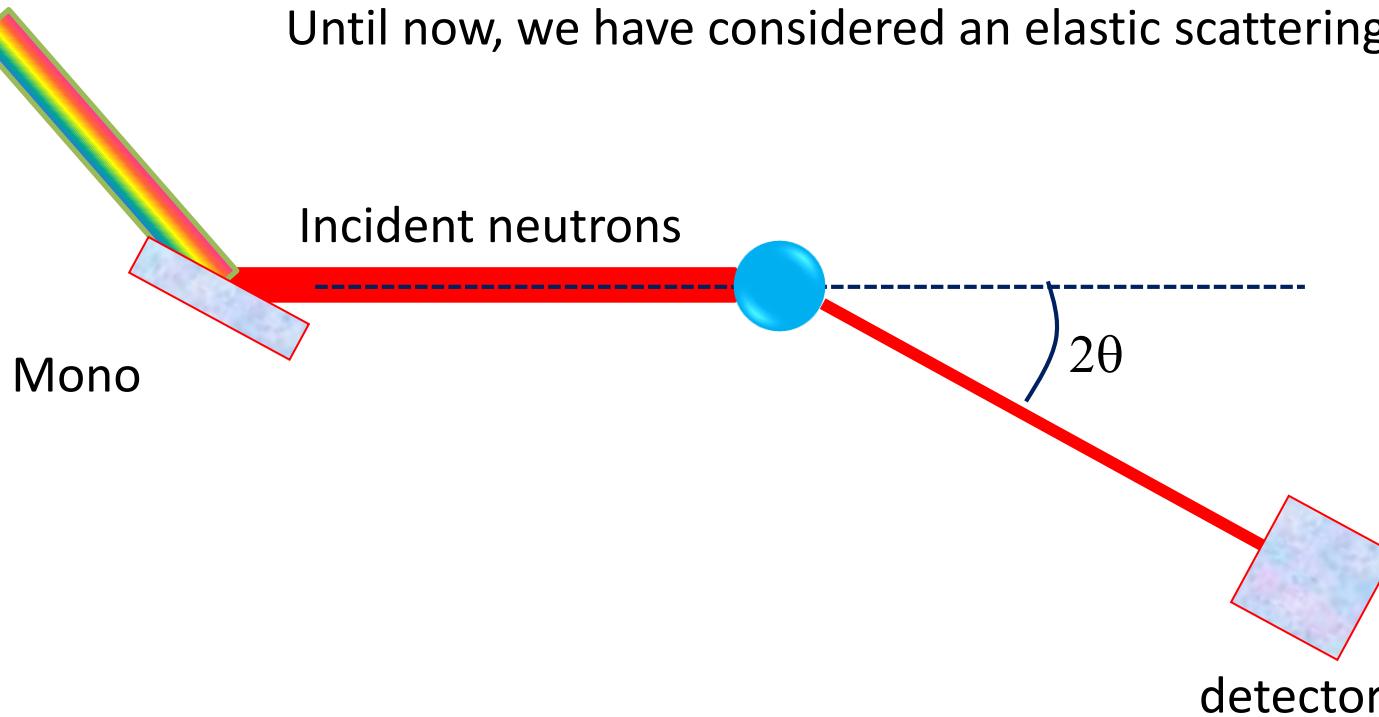
1. Neutron diffraction allows to study crystalline and magnetic structures.
2. Any kind of materials (condensed or soft matter : macromolecules, biologie, crystals ..)
3. sensible to the volume and not to the surface
4. Do not destroy the sample (but radioactive)

## CONSEQUENCE 3

*Inelastic neutron scattering*

# Inelastic neutron scattering

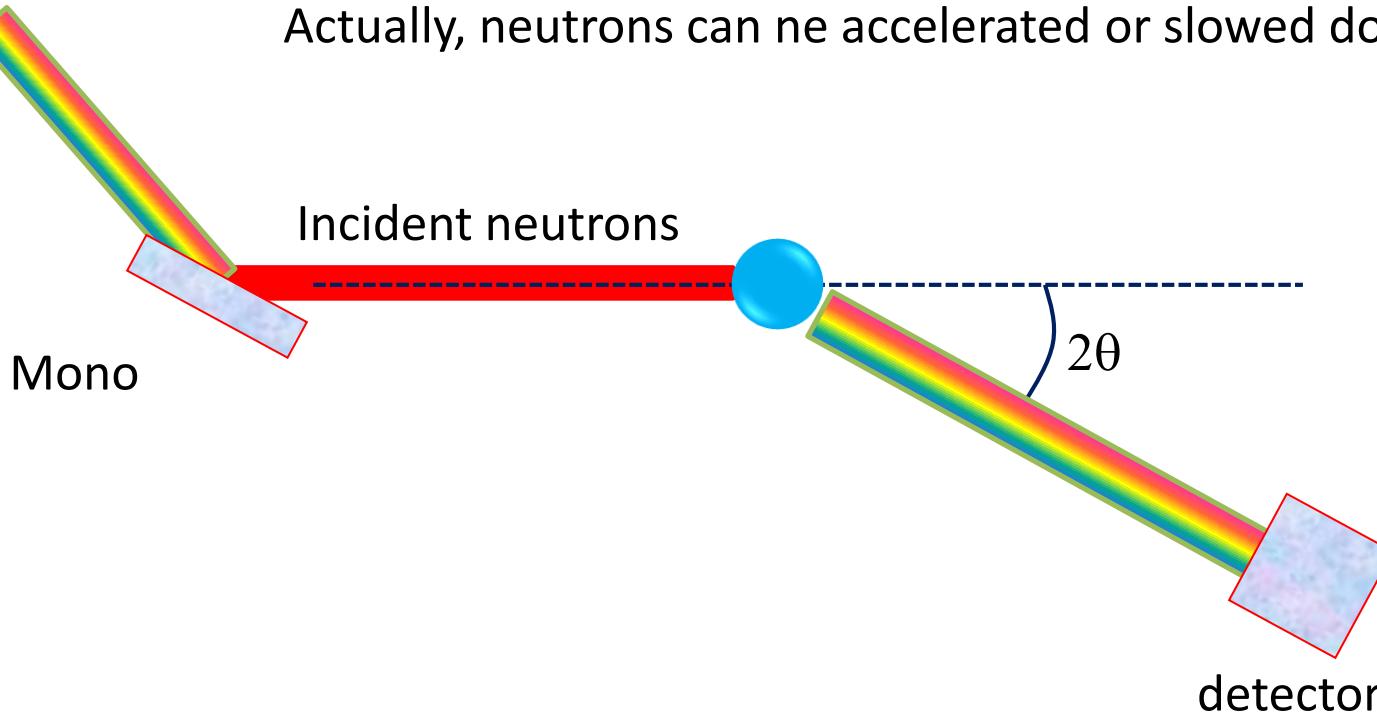
Until now, we have considered an elastic scattering



$$\# \text{ neutrons in the detector} \approx \frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E}$$

# Inelastic neutron scattering

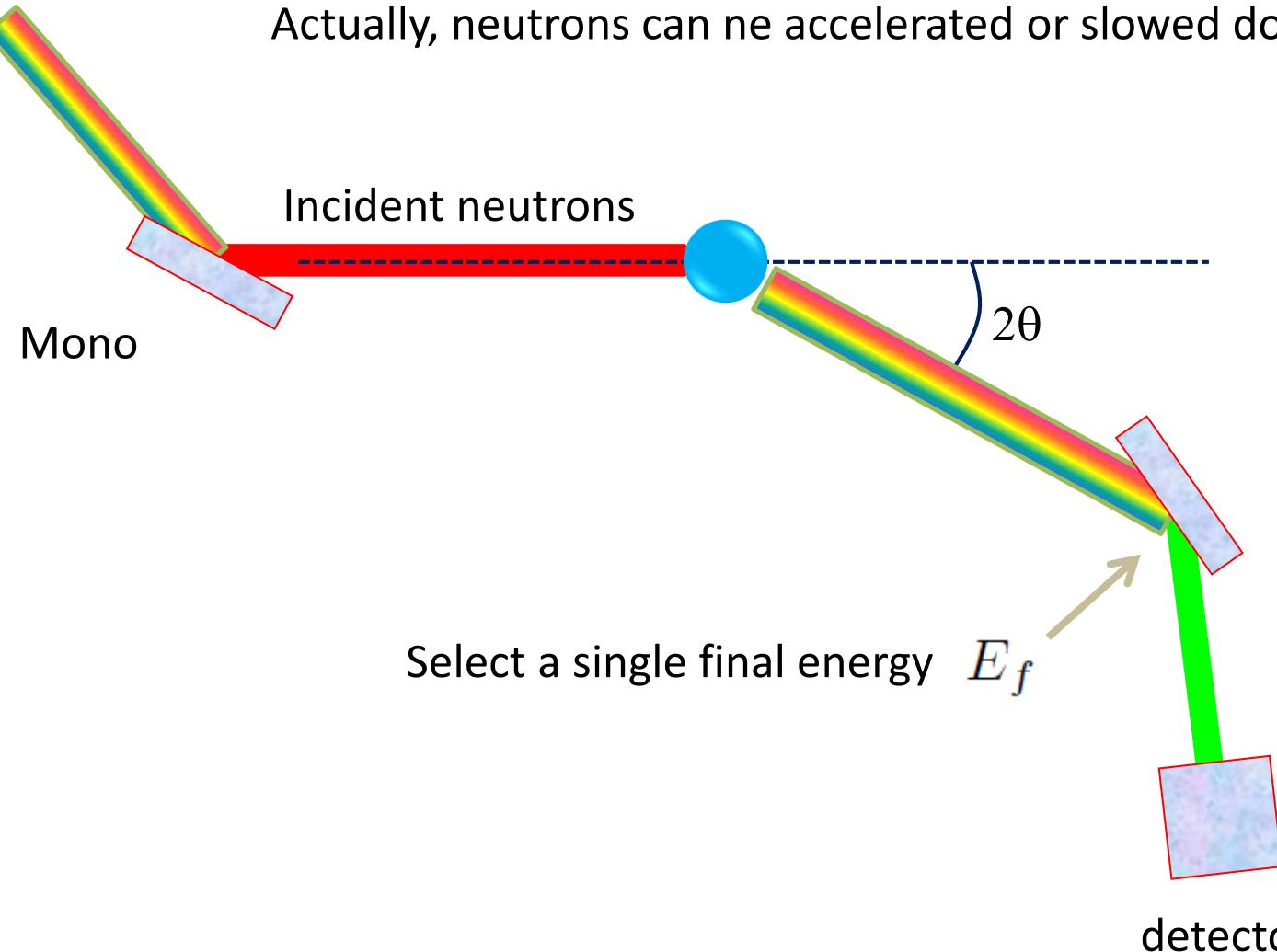
Actually, neutrons can be accelerated or slowed down :



$$\# \text{ neutrons in the detector} \approx \frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E}$$

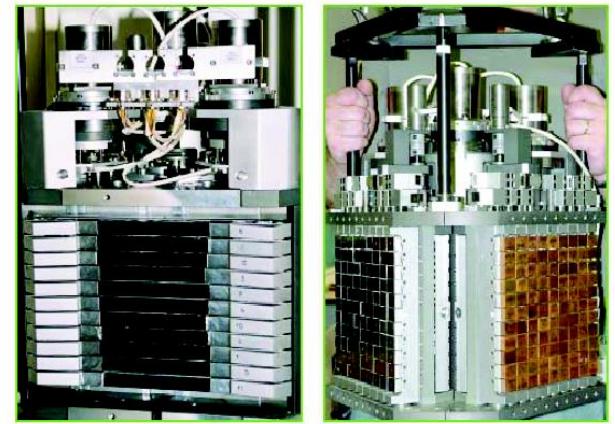
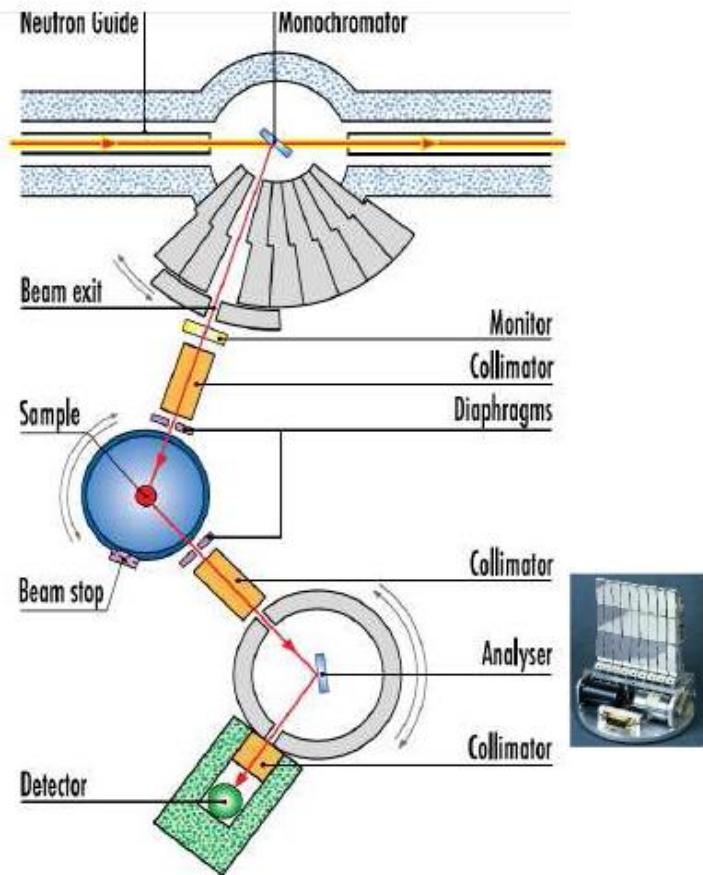
# Inelastic neutron scattering

Actually, neutrons can be accelerated or slowed down :

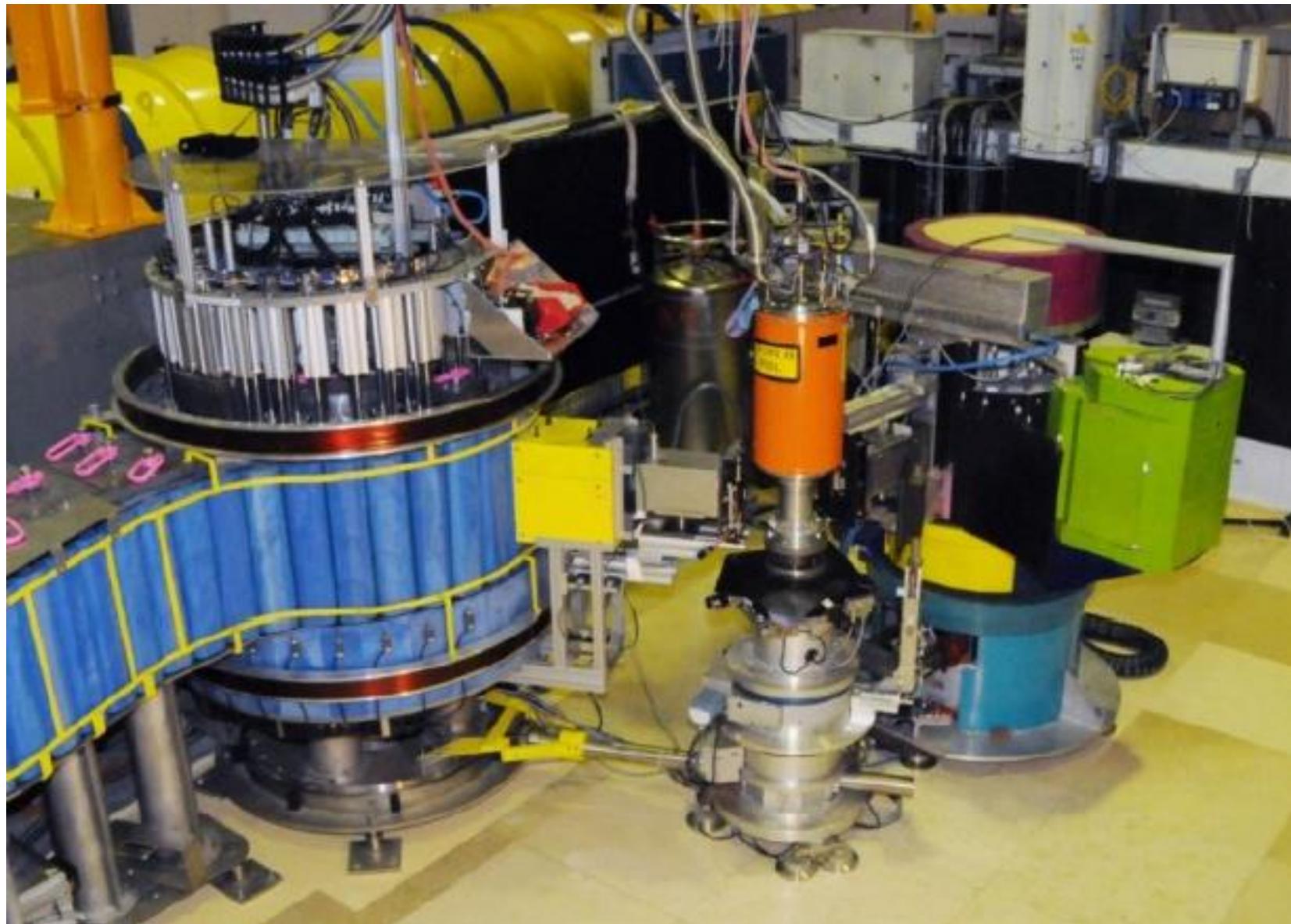


# Inelastic neutron scattering

Triple axis spectrometer  
(IN8, IN20, IN12, IN22 @ ILL)

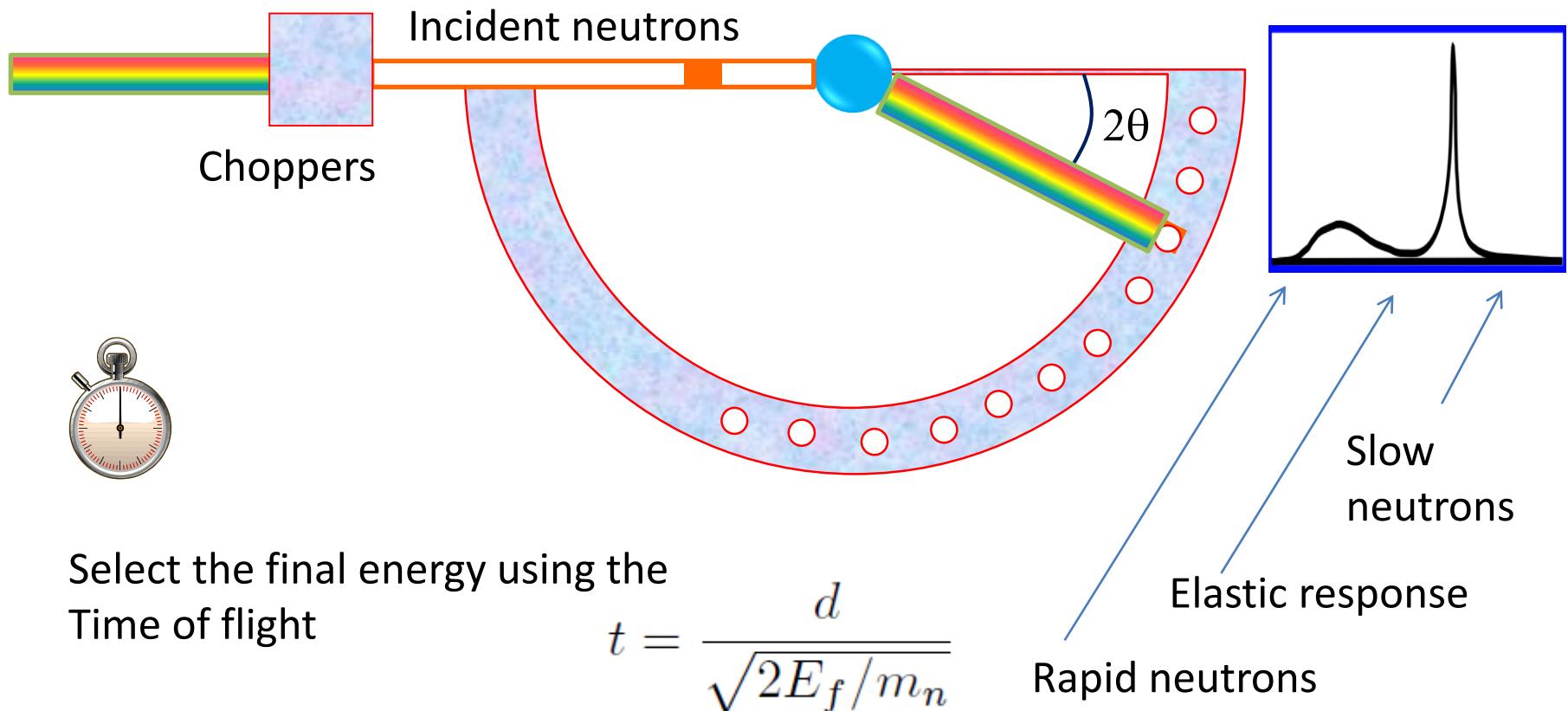


# Inelastic neutron scattering



# Inelastic neutron scattering

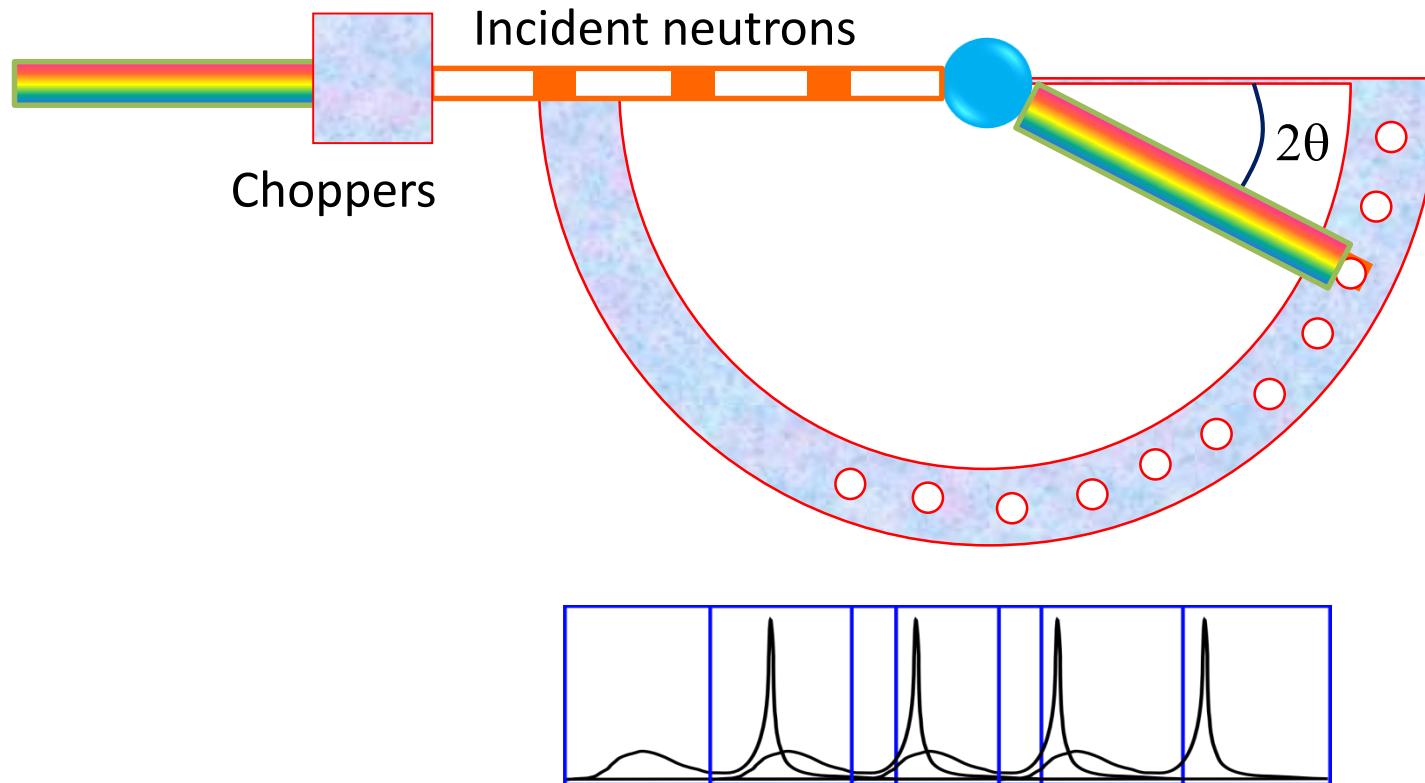
Actually, neutrons can be accelerated or slowed down :



Select the final energy using the  
Time of flight

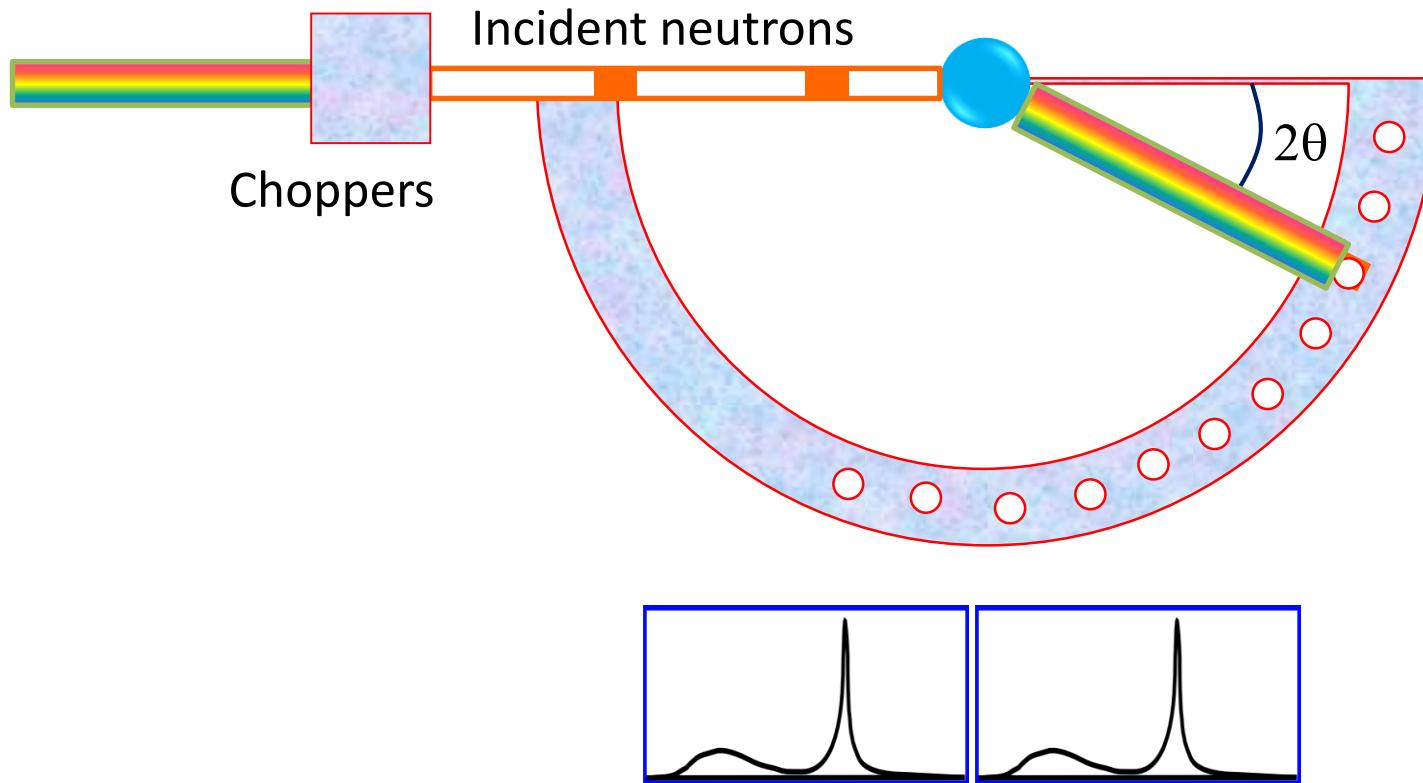
# Inelastic neutron scattering

The incident beam  
must be chopped



# Inelastic neutron scattering

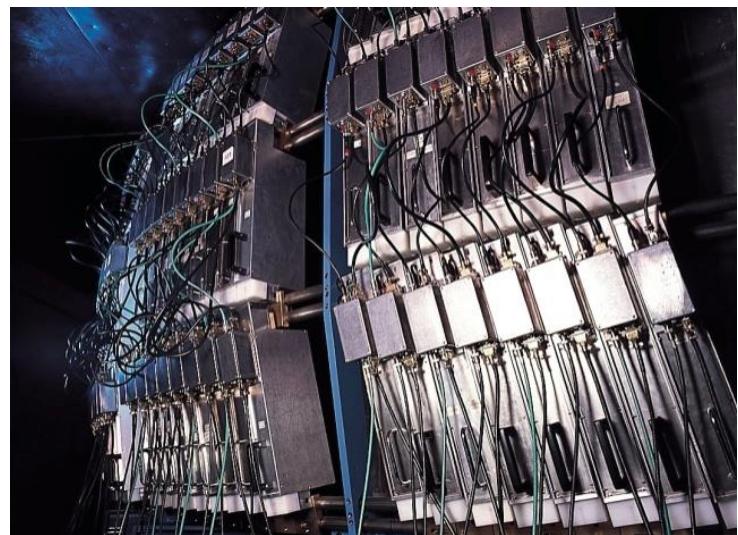
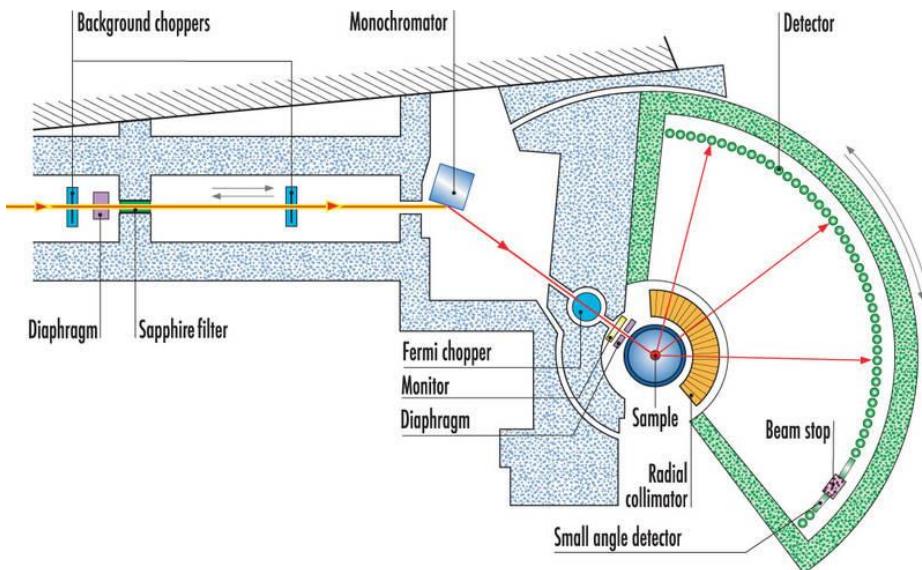
The incident beam  
must be chopped



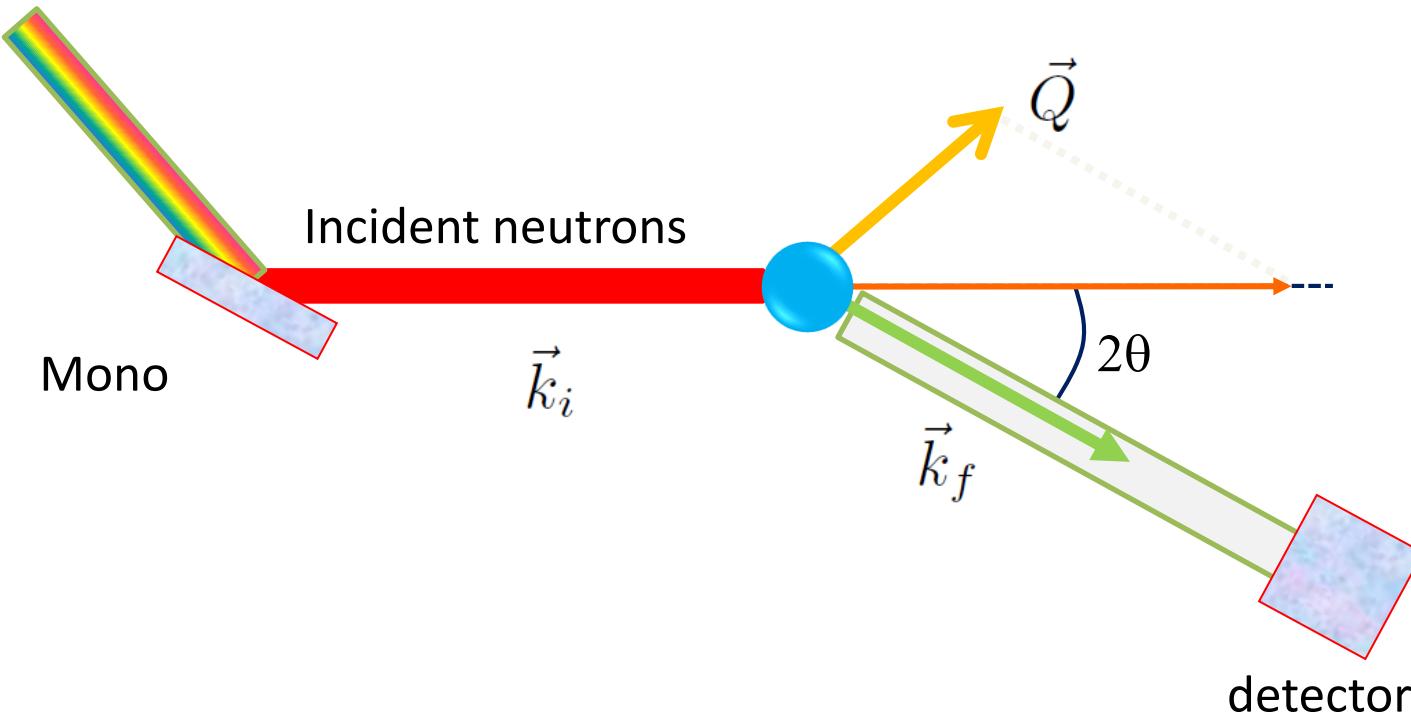
# Inelastic neutron scattering

Time of flight spectrometers  
IN4, IN5, IN6-Sharp @ ILL  
FOCUS @ PSI

...



# Comments



Scattering vector

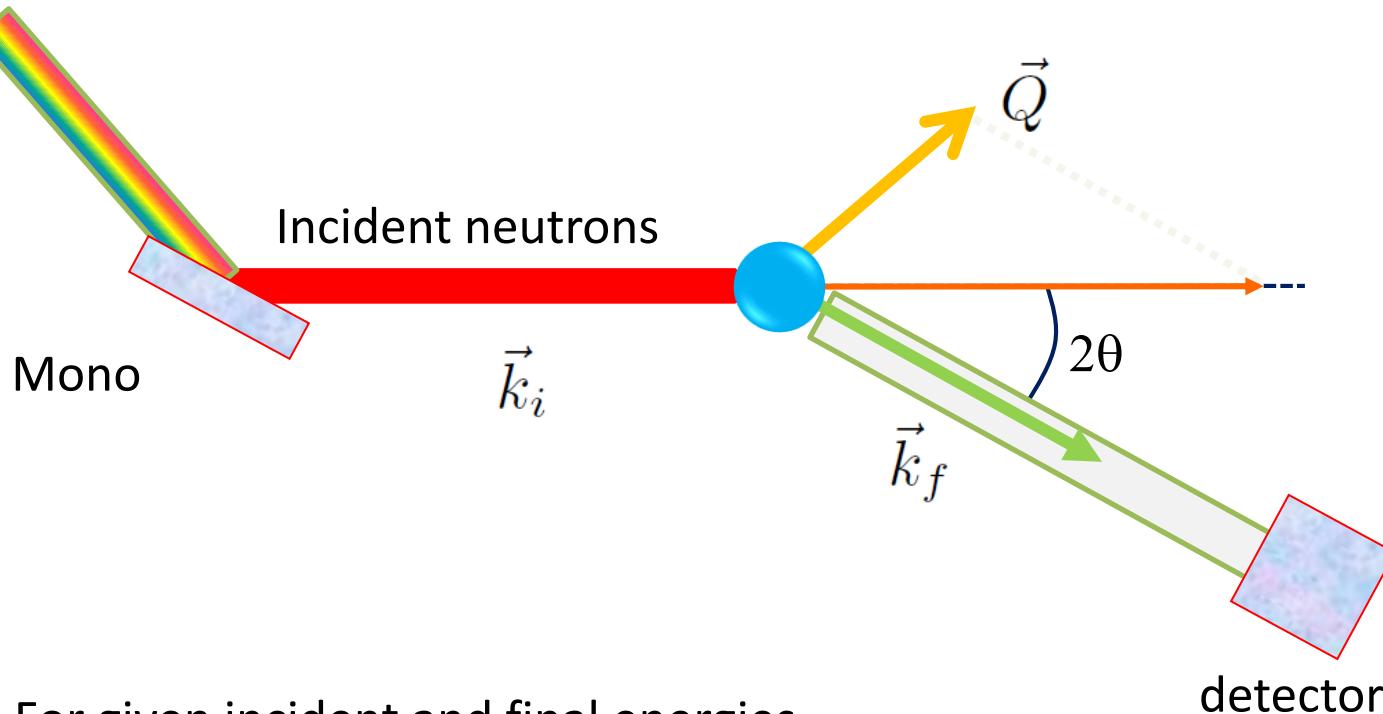
$$\vec{Q} = \vec{k}_i - \vec{k}_f$$

Energy conservation

$$E_\lambda + E_i = E_{\lambda'} + E_f$$

Energy transfer

$$E = \hbar\omega = E_i - E_f = E_{\lambda'} - E_\lambda$$

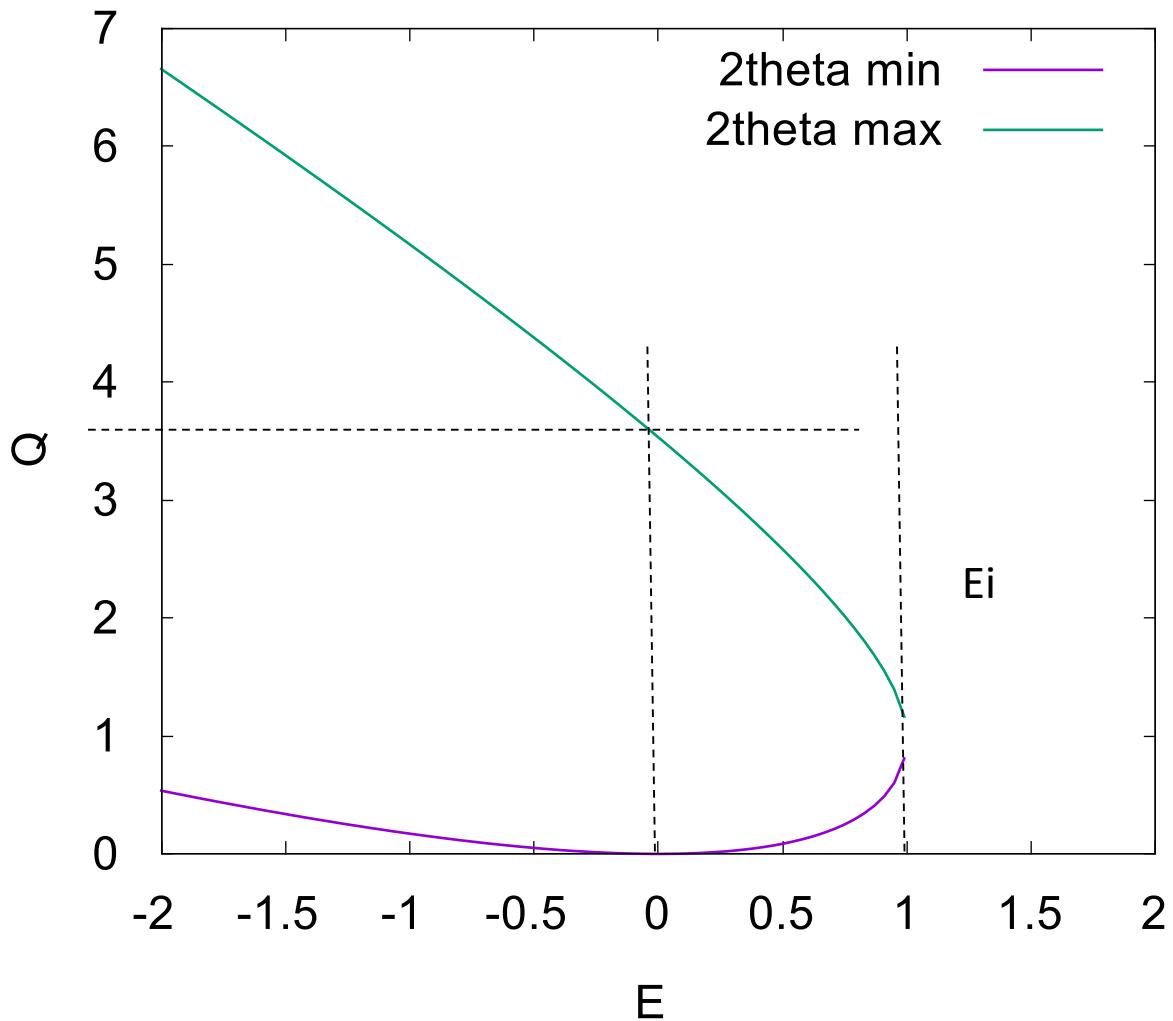


For given incident and final energies,  
 $\theta$  imposes  $|Q|$  but NOT the vecteur  $Q$

$$\vec{Q} = \vec{k}_i - \vec{k}_f \quad \hbar\omega = k_i^2 - k_f^2$$

$$Q^2 = k_i^2 + k_f^2 - 2k_i k_f \cos 2\theta$$

# Comments

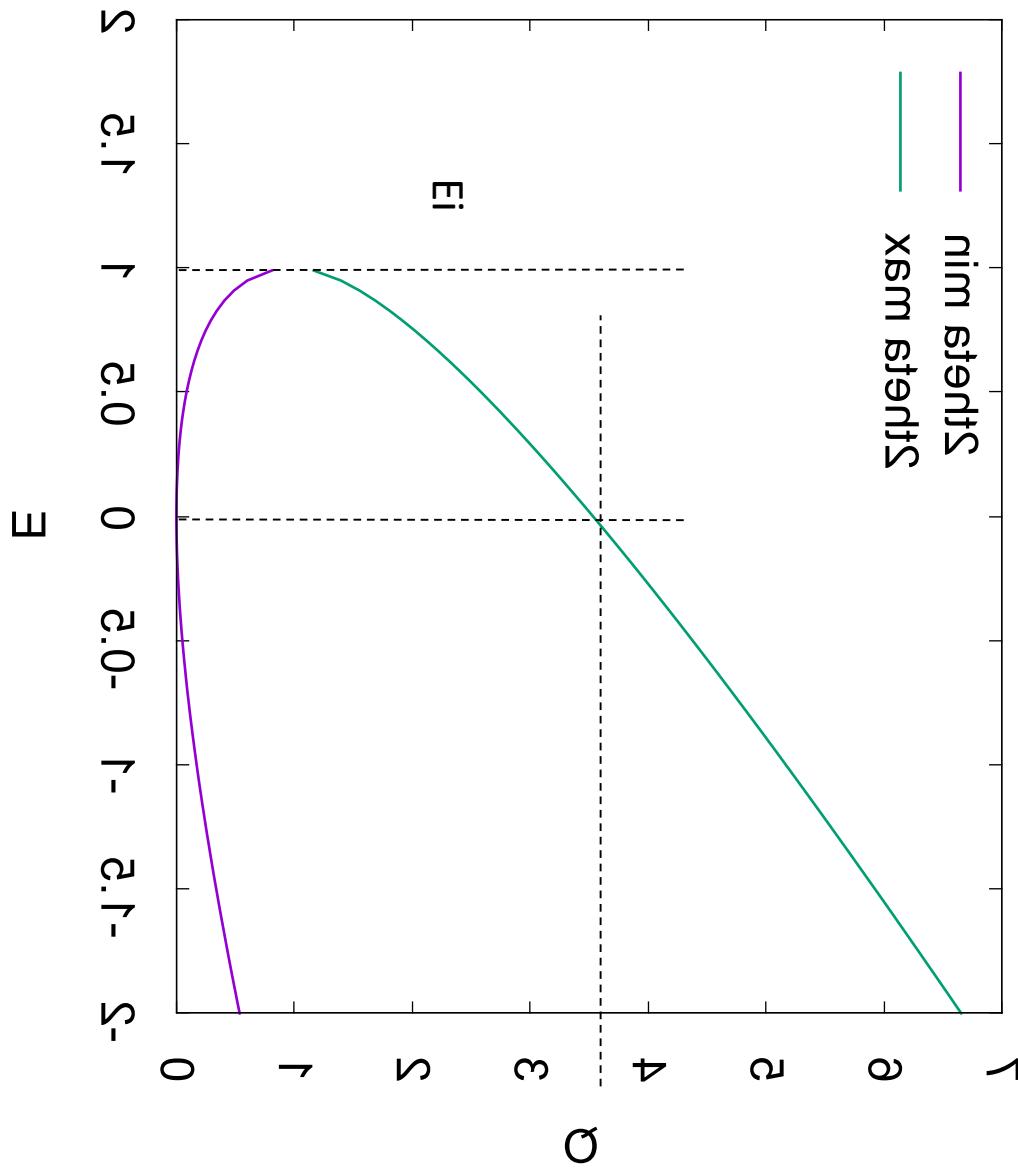


$$\begin{aligned} Q^2 &= k_i^2 + k_f^2 - 2k_i k_f \cos 2\theta \\ &= 2k_i^2 (1 - \cos 2\theta) \\ &= 4k_i^2 \sin^2 \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$Q = 2k_i \sin \theta$$

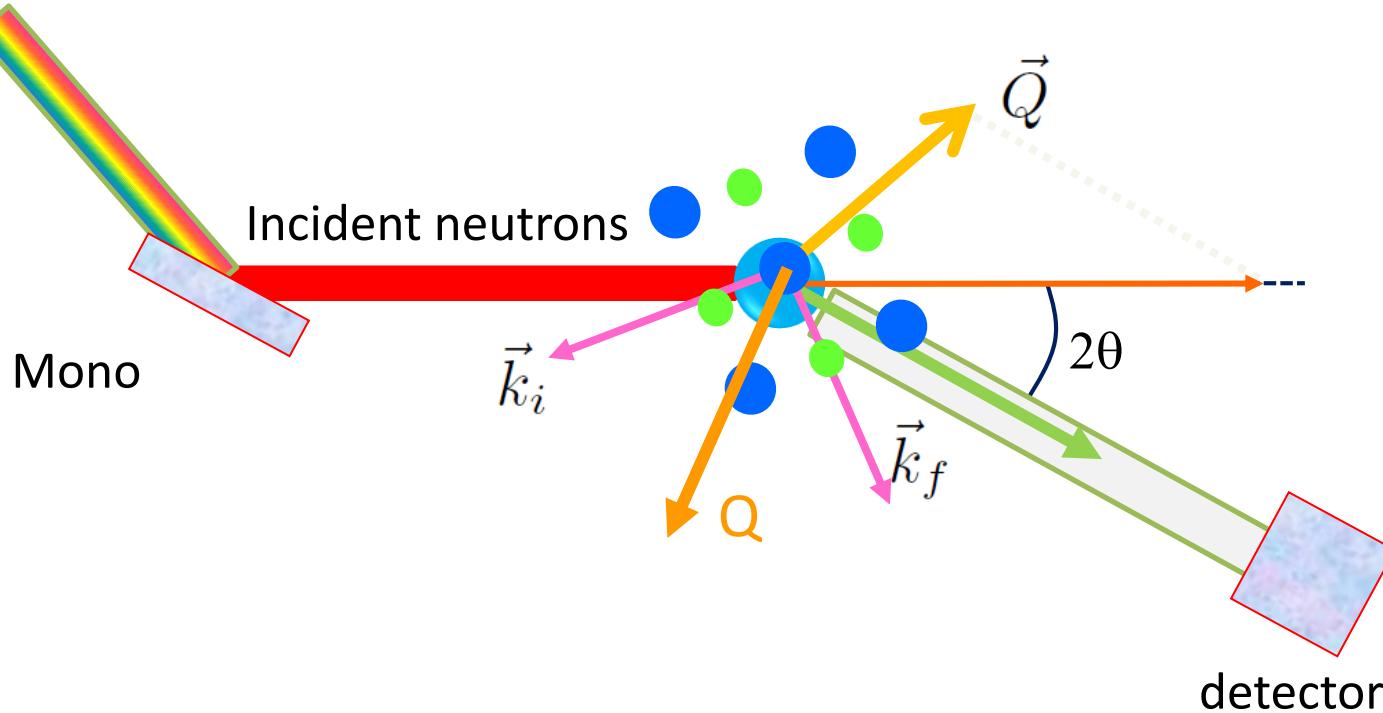
$$\frac{2\pi}{d} = 2\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \sin \theta$$

# Comments



$$\begin{aligned} Q^2 &= k_i^2 + k_f^2 - 2k_i k_f \cos 2\theta \\ &= 2k_i^2 (1 - \cos 2\theta) \\ &= 4k_i^2 \sin^2 \theta \\ Q &= 2k_i \sin \theta \end{aligned}$$

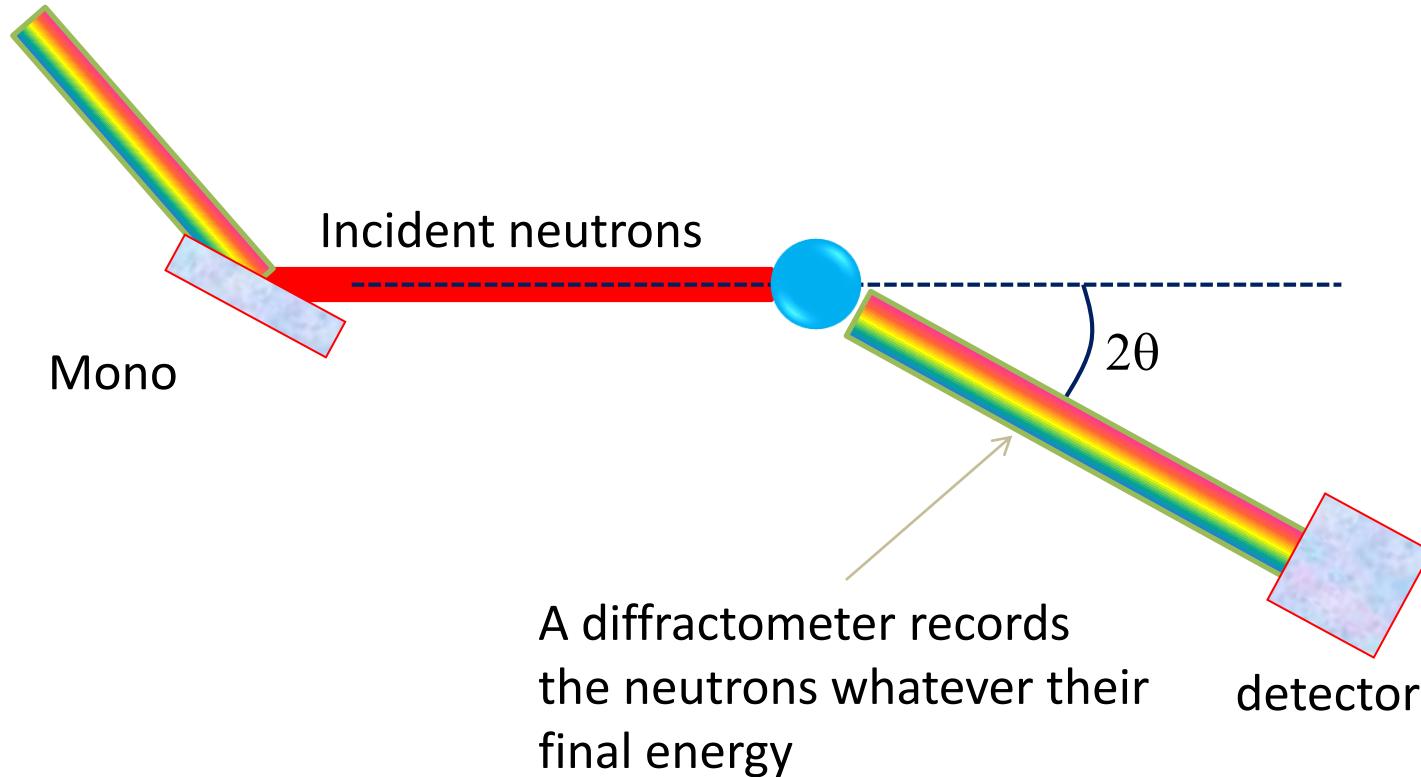
$$\frac{2\pi}{d} = 2\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \sin \theta$$



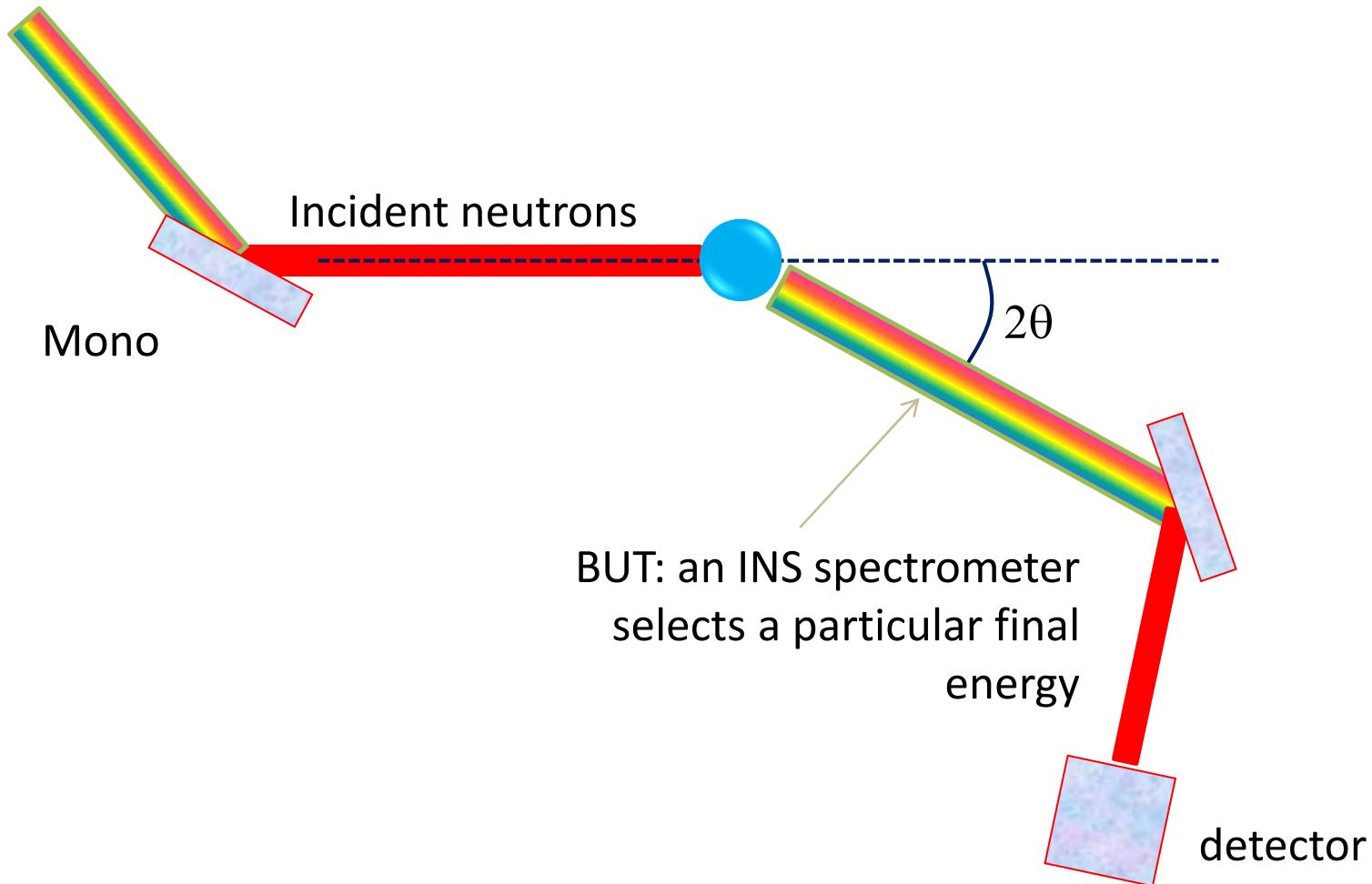
The scattering wavevector is defined in the lab frame :

$$\vec{Q} = \vec{k}_i - \vec{k}_f$$

# Comments



# Comments

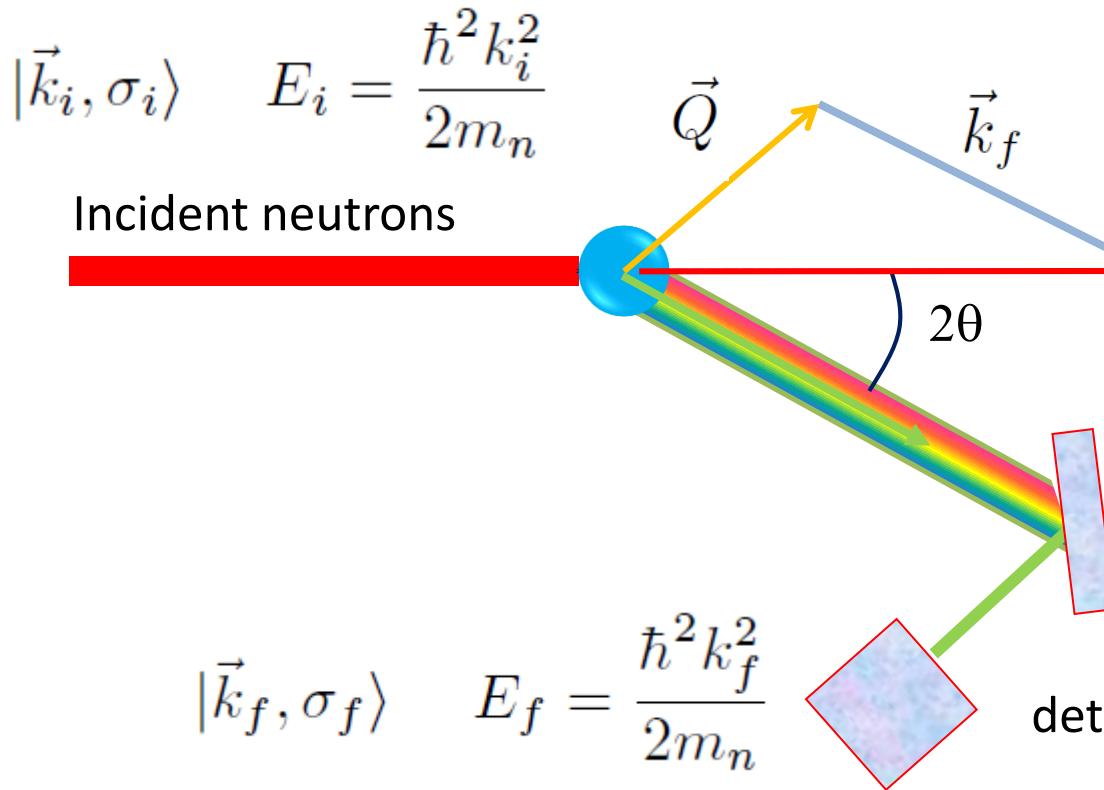


What about the neutron spin ?

*Is it possible to manipulate it ?*

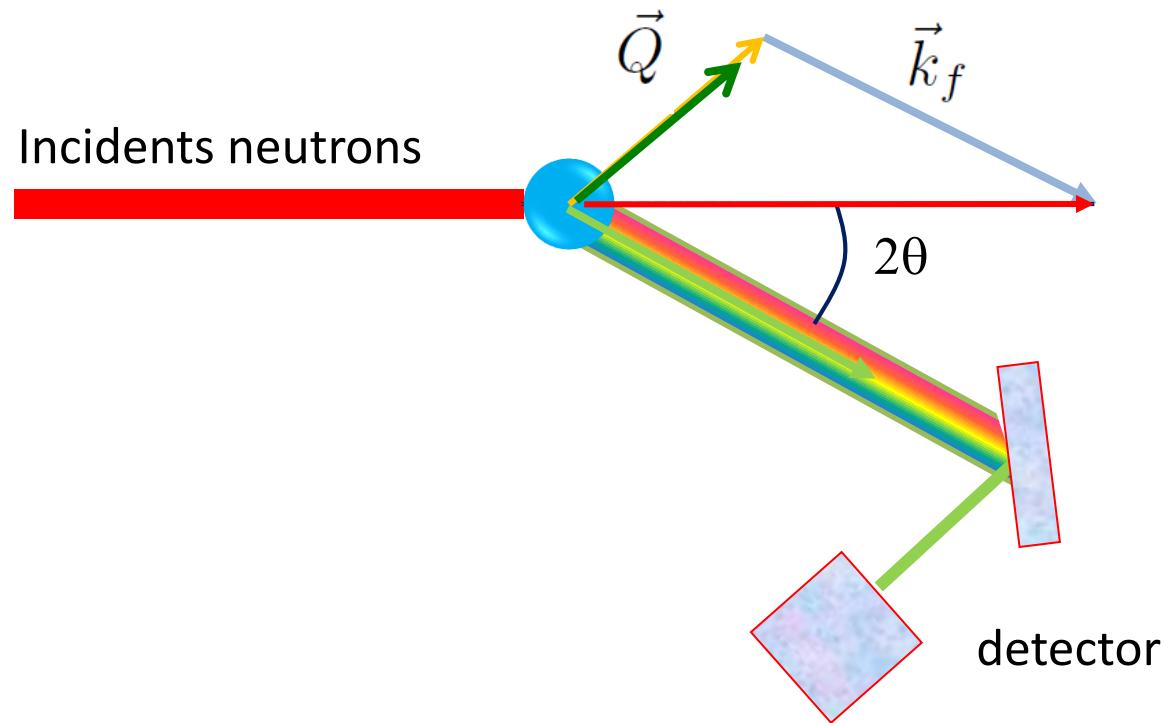
*What about novel information ?*

# Neutron spin



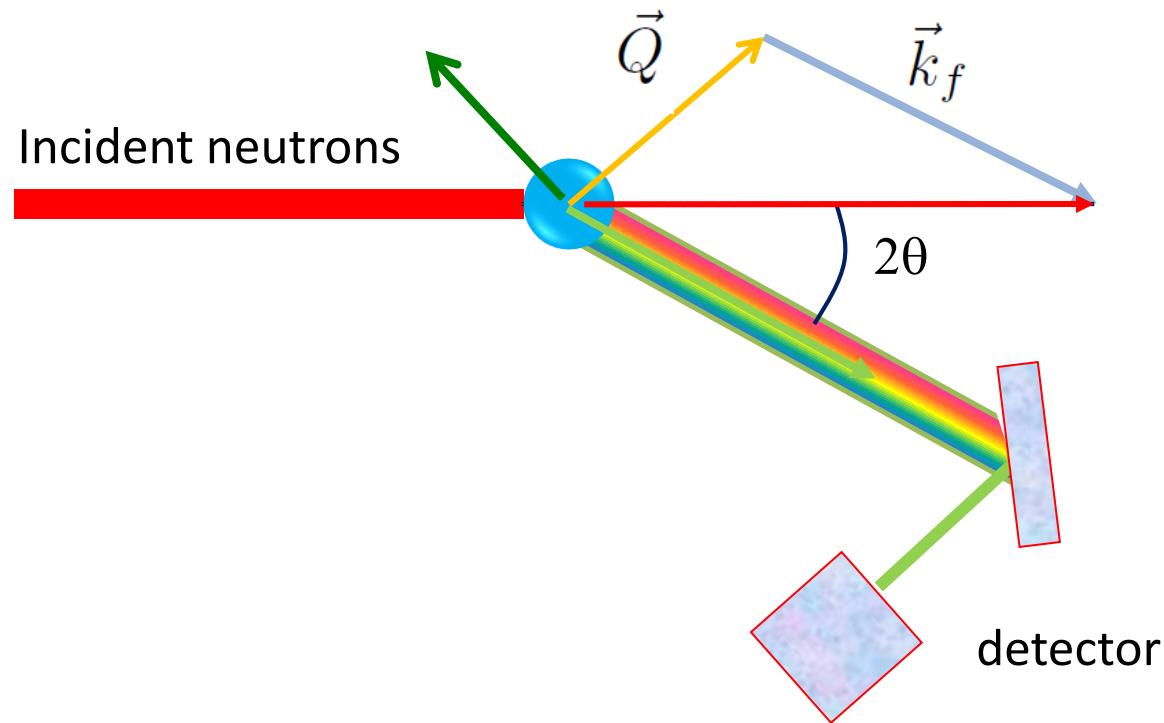
$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E}$  depends on the direction of the neutron spin

# Neutron spin



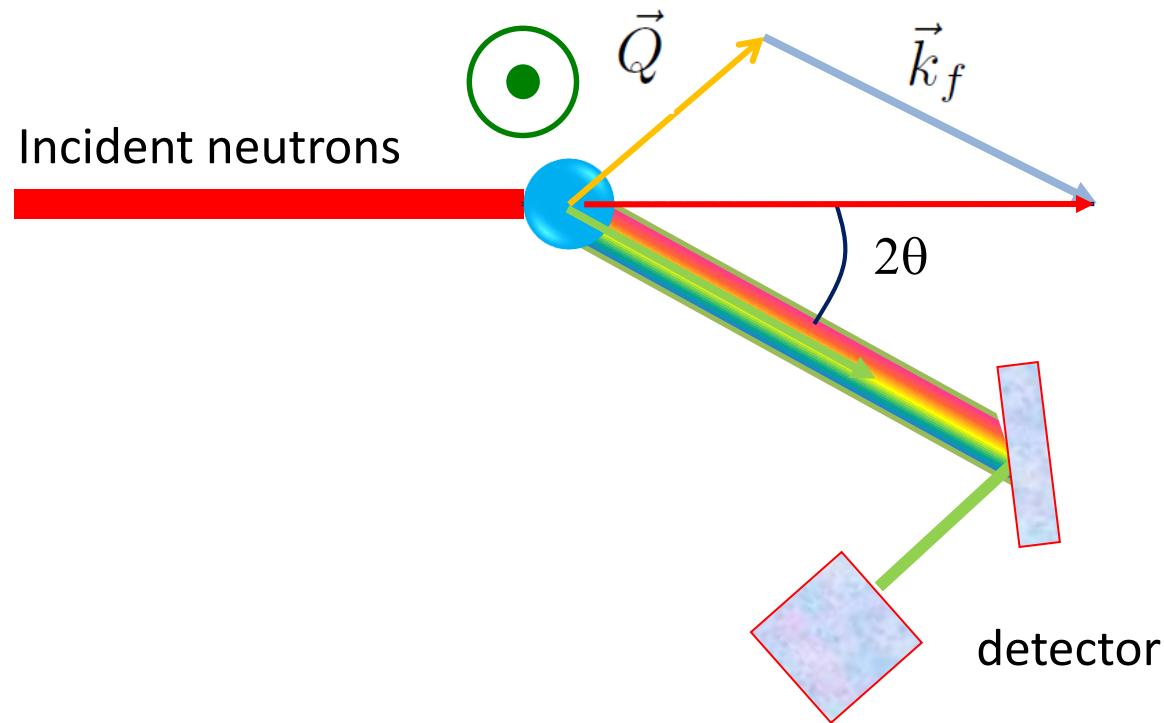
Neutron spin is parallel to  $Q$  (« x »)

# Neutron spin



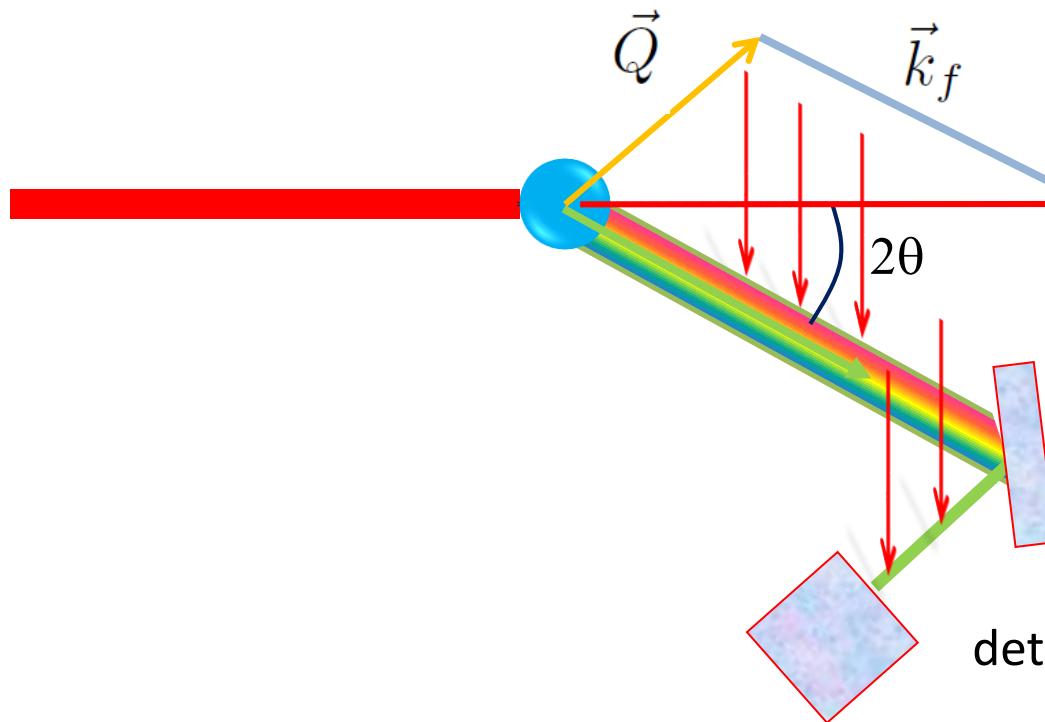
Neutron spin is perpendicular to  $Q$  in the scattering plane (« y »)

# Neutron spin



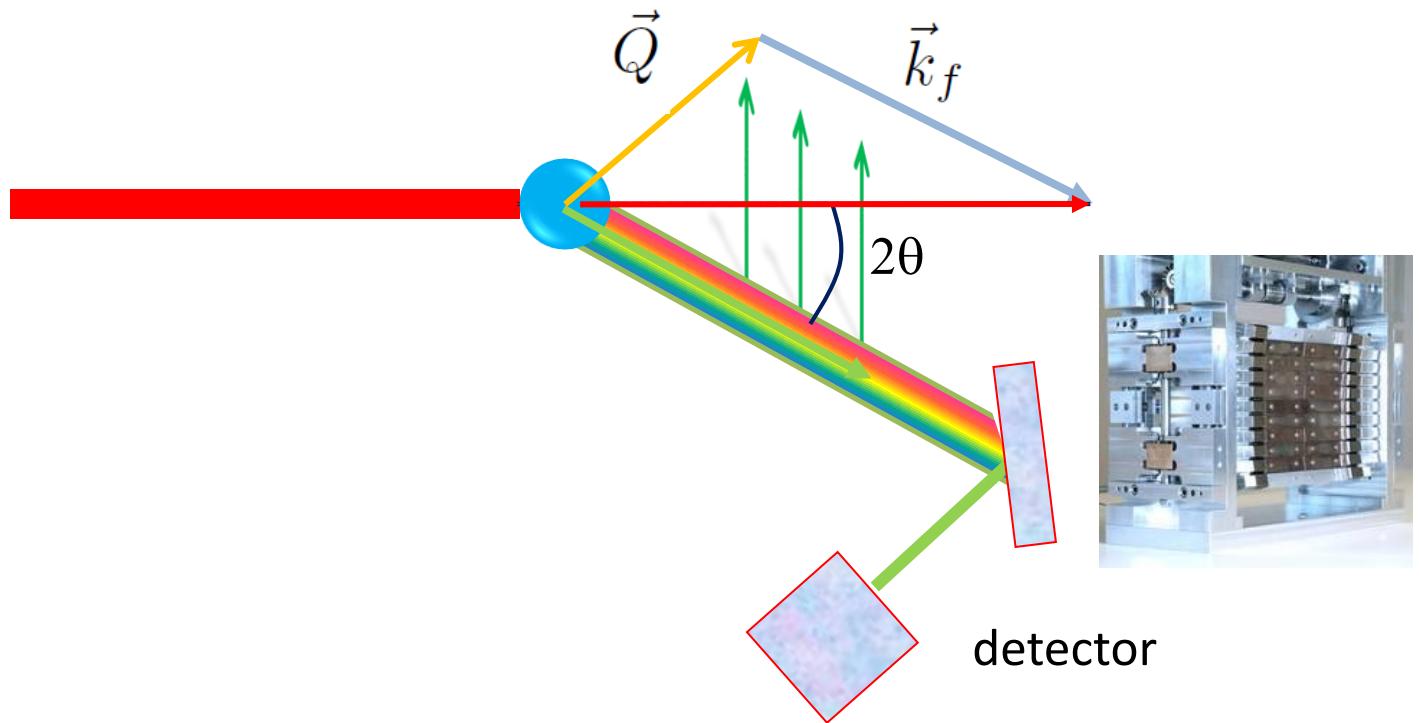
Neutron spin is perpendicular to Q AND to  
the scattering plane (« z »)

# Neutron spin



The analyser also selects the final spin direction (= polarisation) by projecting onto a given direction (fixed by the set up = a strong magnetic field)

# Neutron spin



The analyser also selects the final spin direction (= polarisation) by projecting onto a given direction (fixed by the set up = a strong magnetic field)

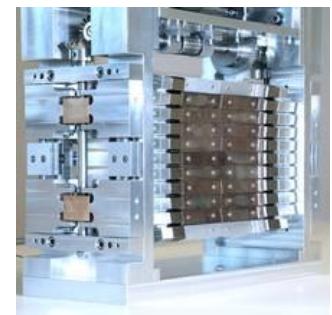
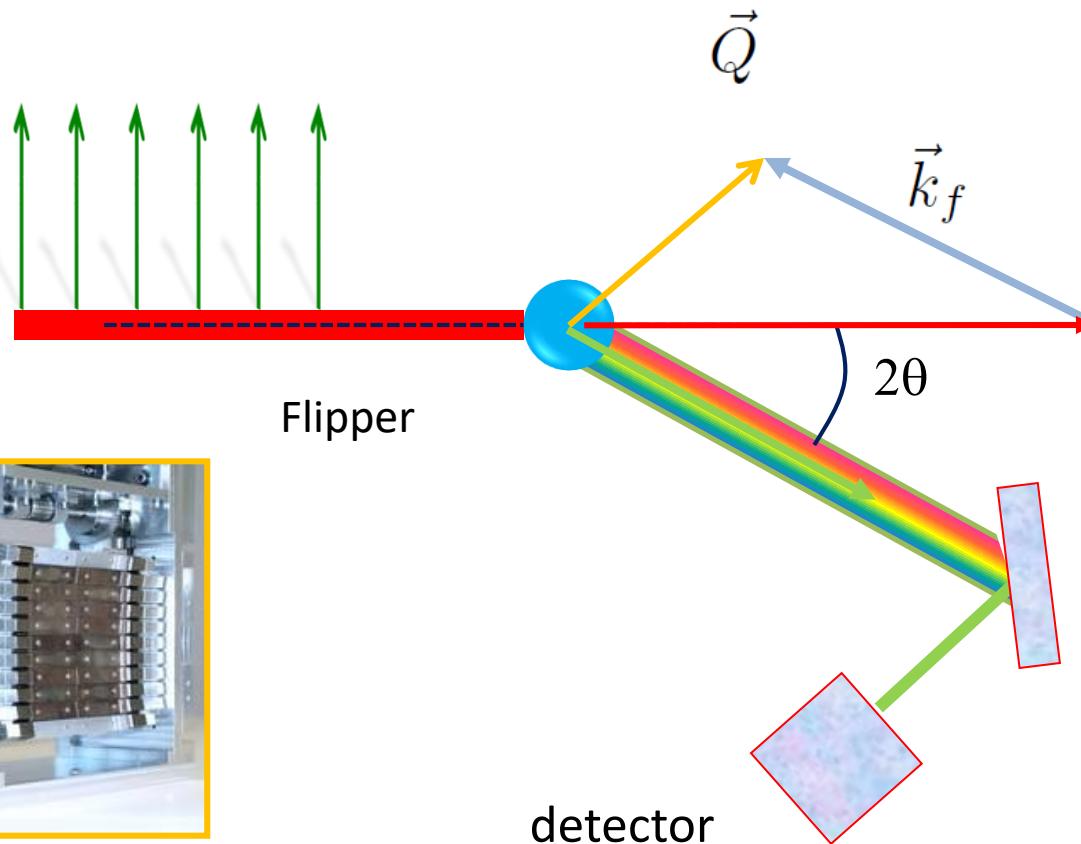
# Example



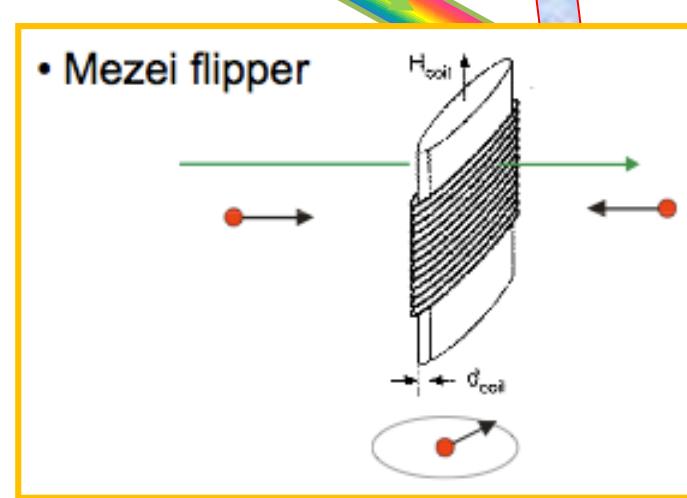
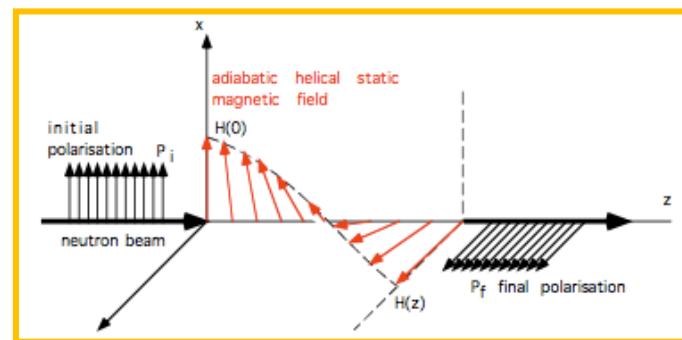
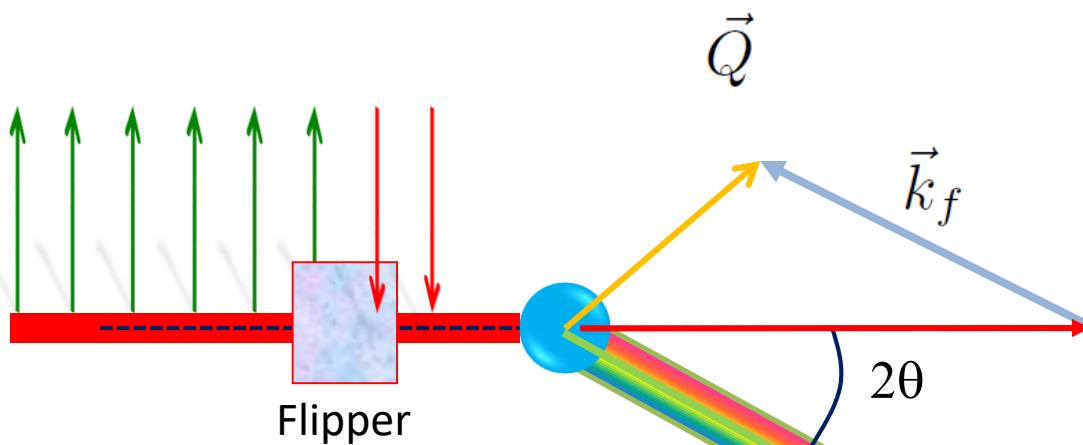
Bender



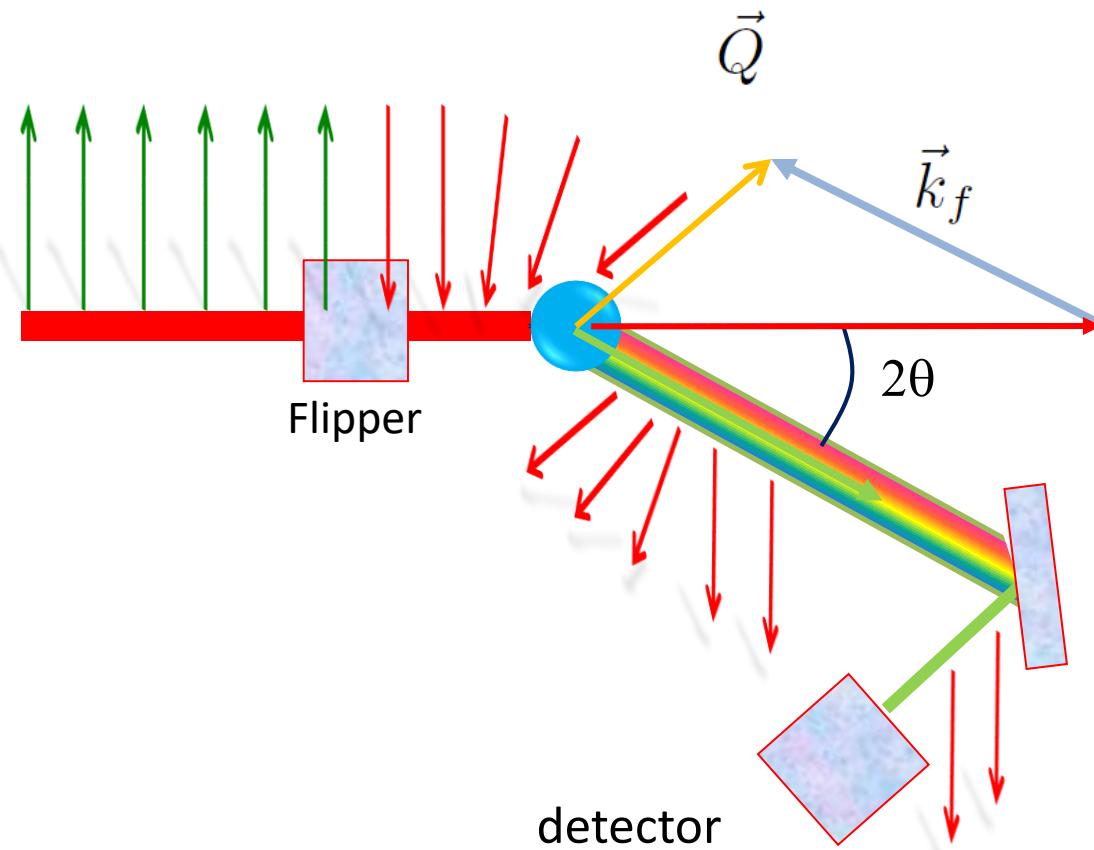
Mono  
Heussler



# Example

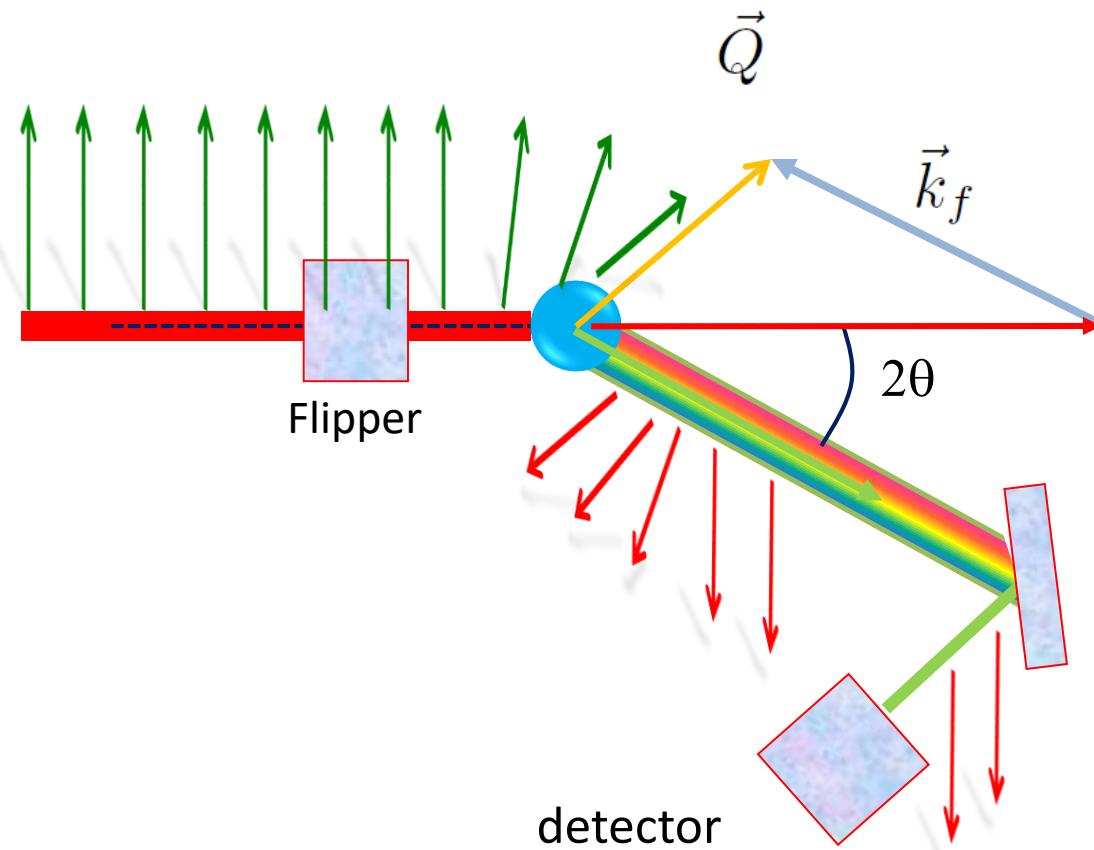


# Example



Channel  $I_x^-$

# Example



Channel  $I_{x}^{+-}$

# Novel information

$$I_x^{++} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{--} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 - M_{ch}$$

$$I_x^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 + M_{ch}$$

$$I_y^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 + R_y$$

$$I_y^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 - R_y$$

$$I_y^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_y^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_z^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 + R_z$$

$$I_z^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 - R_z$$

$$I_z^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

$$I_z^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

Depending on the incident  
and scattered neutron spin,  
new correlation functions  
appear

$M^z$

# Novel information

$$I_x^{++} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{--} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 - M_{ch}$$

$$I_x^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 + M_{ch}$$

$$I_y^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 + R_y$$

$$I_y^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 - R_y$$

$$I_y^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_y^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_z^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 + R_z$$

$$I_z^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 - R_z$$

$$I_z^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

$$I_z^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

Depending on the incident  
and scattered neutron spin,  
new correlation functions  
appear

$M^y$

# Novel information

$$I_x^{++} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{--} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 - M_{ch}$$

$$I_x^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 + M_{ch}$$

$$I_y^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 + R_y$$

$$I_y^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 - R_y$$

$$I_y^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_y^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_z^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 + R_z$$

$$I_z^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 - R_z$$

$$I_z^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

$$I_z^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

Depending on the incident  
and scattered neutron spin,  
new correlation functions  
appear

$$M = M^z + M^y$$

# Novel information

$$I_x^{++} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{--} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 - M_{ch}$$

$$I_x^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 + M_{ch}$$

$$I_y^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 + R_y$$

$$I_y^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 - R_y$$

$$I_y^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_y^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_z^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 + R_z$$

$$I_z^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 - R_z$$

$$I_z^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

$$I_z^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

Depending on the incident  
and scattered neutron spin,  
new correlation functions  
appear

« Interference term »

$$M_{ch} = i (M_{\perp}^{z*} M_{\perp}^y - M_{\perp}^{y*} M_{\perp}^z)$$

$$R_y = N M_{\perp}^{y*} + N^* M_{\perp}^y$$

$$R_z = N M_{\perp}^{z*} + N^* M_{\perp}^z$$

# Flipping ratio technique

$$I_x^{++} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{--} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 - M_{ch}$$

$$I_x^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 + M_{ch}$$

$$I_y^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 + R_y$$

$$I_y^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 - R_y$$

$$I_y^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_y^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_z^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 + R_z$$

$$I_z^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 - R_z$$

$$I_z^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

$$I_z^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

$$R = \frac{|N|^2 + |\mathbf{M}_{\perp}|^2 + P(NM_{\perp}^{Z*} + N^*M_{\perp}^Z)}{|N|^2 + |\mathbf{M}_{\perp}|^2 - P(NM_{\perp}^{Z*} + N^*M_{\perp}^Z)}$$

- ILL : D3, D23
- LLB : 5C1, 6T2

**The incident beam is up or down. The strong H field imposes the « z » channel.**

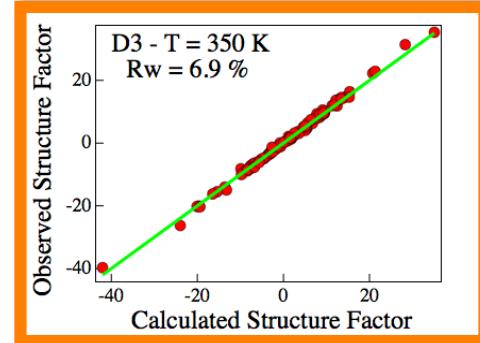
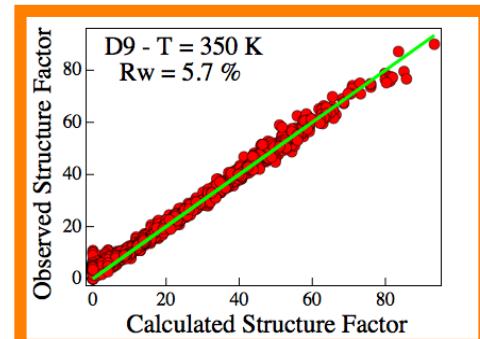
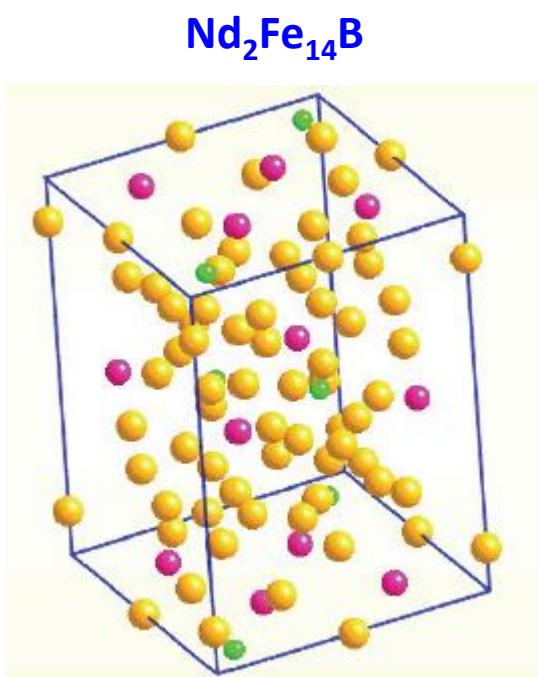
**All neutrons are recorded whatever the final spin direction.**



# Flipping ratio technique

$$R = \frac{|N|^2 + |\mathbf{M}_\perp|^2 + P(NM_\perp^{Z*} + N^*M_\perp^Z)}{|N|^2 + |\mathbf{M}_\perp|^2 - P(NM_\perp^{Z*} + N^*M_\perp^Z)}$$

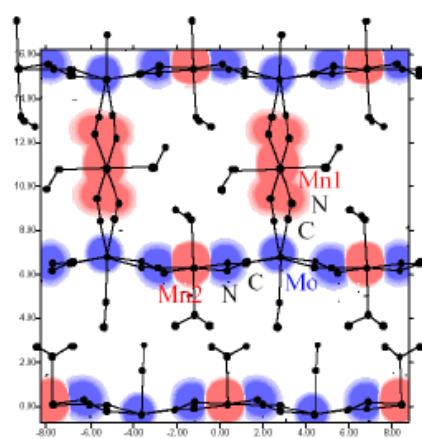
Improves precision since R depends linearly on Mz



↓

T(K)	350 K	400 K	450 K
Nd1	1.62(3)	1.37(3)	1.13(2)
Nd2	1.65(3)	1.50(3)	1.24(2)
Fe1	1.95(5)	1.80(5)	1.63(4)
Fe2	2.16(5)	2.23(5)	1.99(4)
Fe3	2.12(4)	2.02(4)	1.78(3)
Fe4	3.01(4)	2.99(4)	2.79(4)
Fe5	2.29(2)	2.18(3)	2.04(2)
Fe6	2.31(3)	2.19(4)	2.03(3)

# Magnetization density



Mn(CN)Mo (B. Gillon et al, Inorg. Chem. **46**, 1090 (2007)).

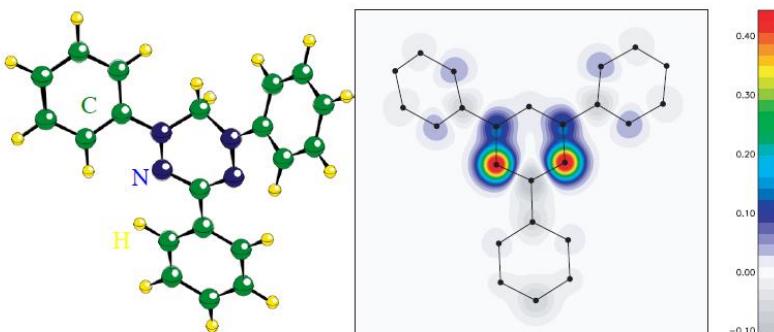
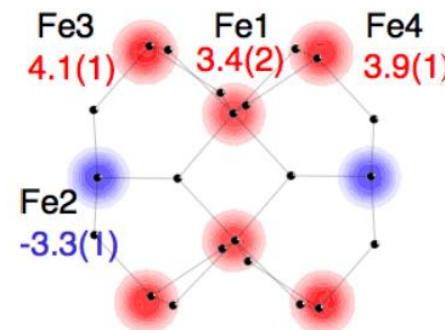
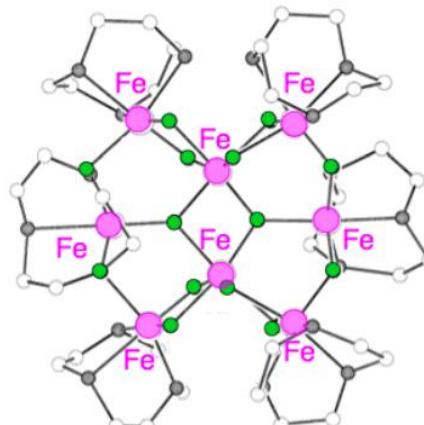
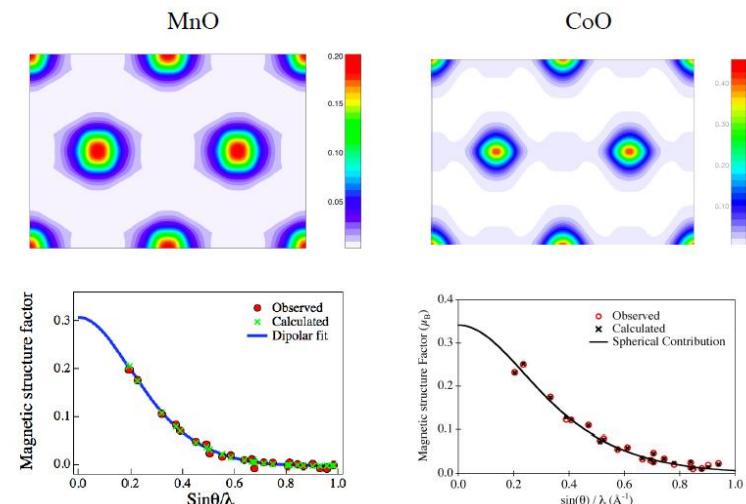


Fig. 4. View of the TPV molecule (left) and experimental magnetization distribution (right) as measured by polarized neutron diffraction.



**Fig. 3.** View of the Fe<sub>8</sub> molecular cluster (left) and experimental magnetization distribution (right) as measured by polarized neutron diffraction. From Ref. [23].

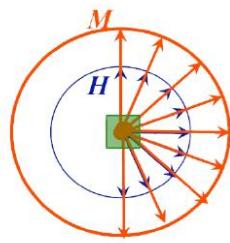


**Fig. 5.** Magnetization distribution in direct space (up) and form factor in reciprocal space (bottom) for MnO (left) and CoO (right). From Refs. [19] and [30].

# Local susceptibility

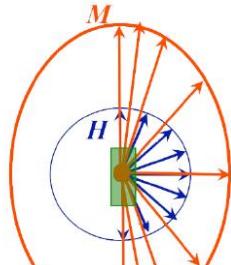
## Shape of the local anisotropy tensor

CUBIC,  $\chi_{11} = \chi_{22} = \chi_{33}$



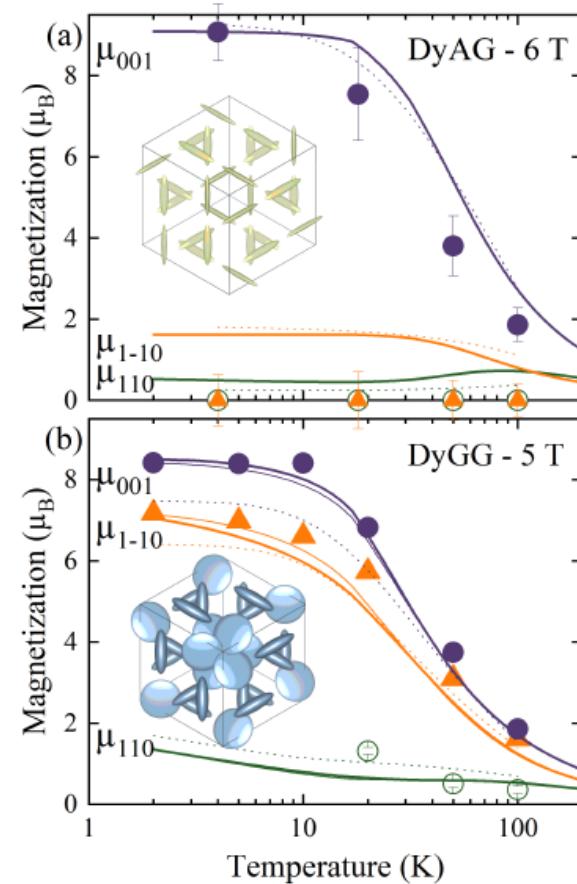
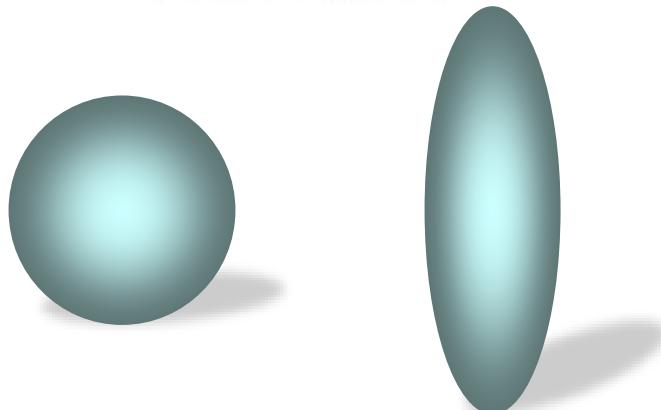
$$\chi_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \chi_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \chi_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

UNIAXIAL  $\chi_{11} = \chi_{22} < \chi_{33}$



$$\chi_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \chi_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \chi_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

Fig. 6. Atomic site susceptibility tensor.



# Chirality

$$I_x^{++} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{--} \propto |N|^2$$

$$I_x^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 - M_{ch}$$

$$I_x^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}|^2 + M_{ch}$$

$$I_y^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 + R_y$$

$$I_y^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^y|^2 - R_y$$

$$I_y^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_y^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^z|^2$$

$$I_z^{++} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 + R_z$$

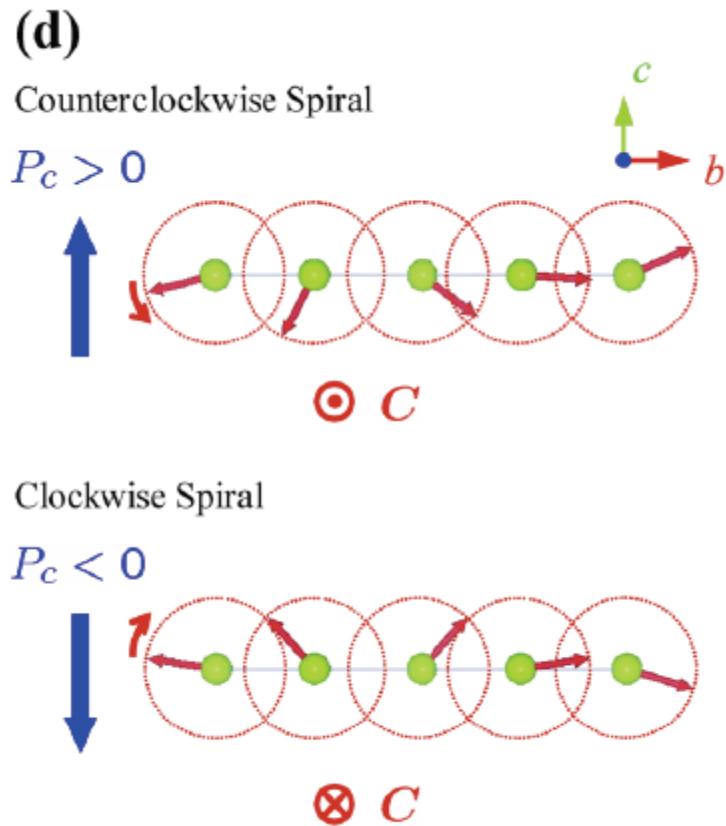
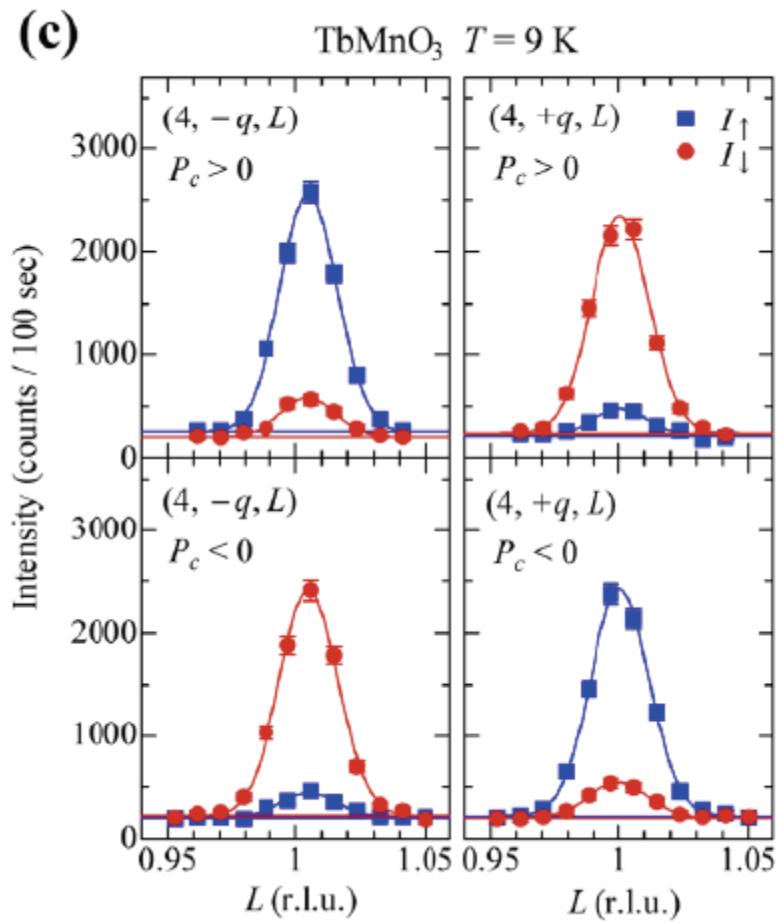
$$I_z^{--} \propto |N|^2 + |M_{\perp}^z|^2 - R_z$$

$$I_z^{+-} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

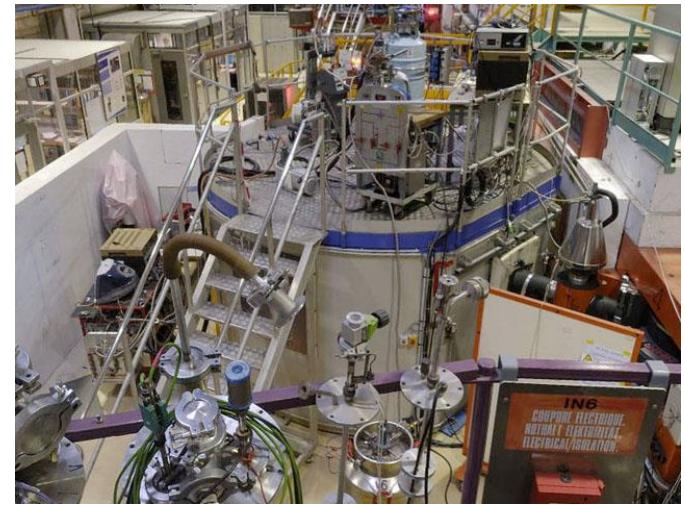
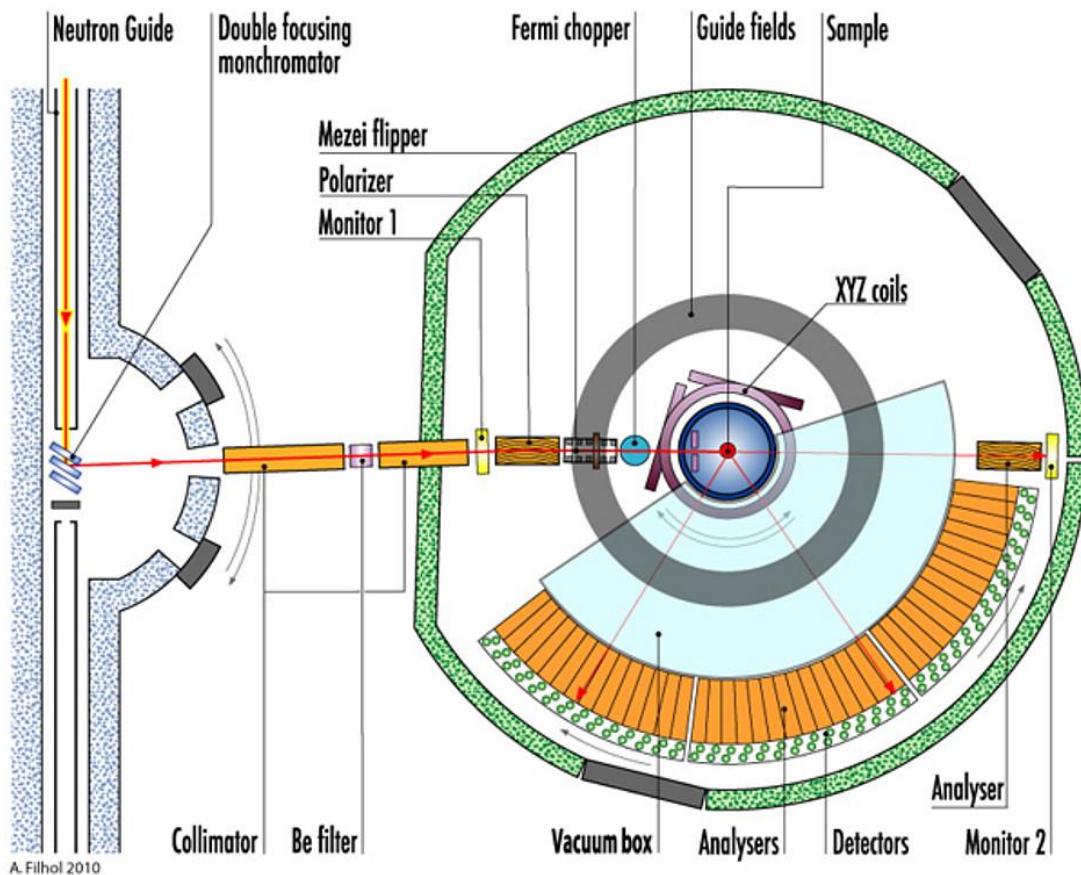
$$I_z^{-+} \propto |M_{\perp}^y|^2$$

Chiral terms

# Chirality

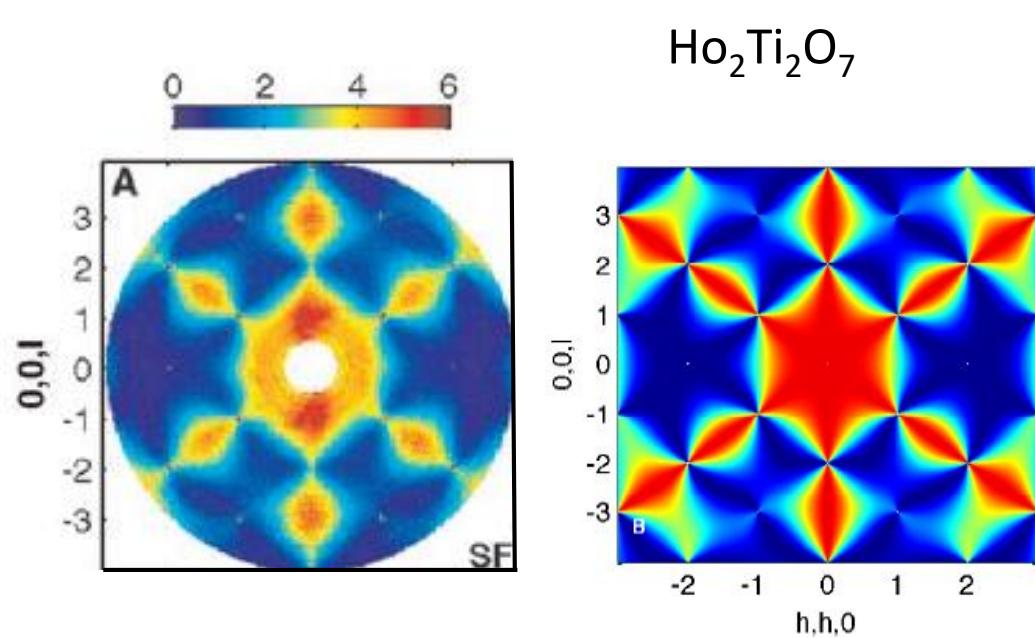
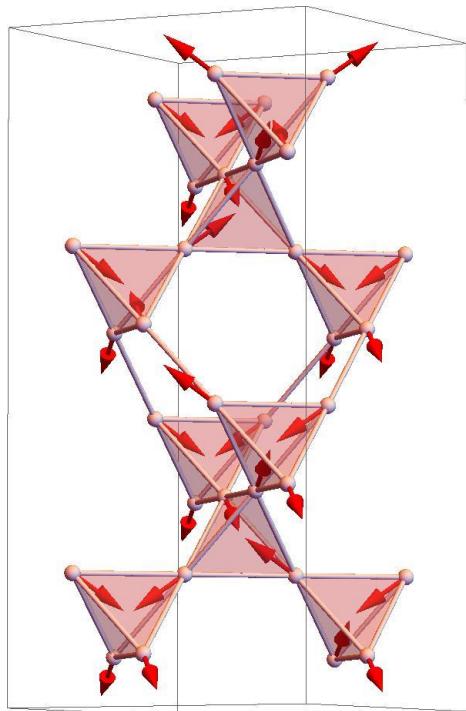


# Magnetic diffuse scattering



D7@ILL

# Magnetic diffuse scattering



Tom Fennell, Science (2009)

# Cross sections, scattered intensities



# Cross sections and scattered intensities

## Fermi Golden rule

$$W = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar^2} |\langle k_f, \sigma_f, \lambda' | V | k_i, \sigma_i, \lambda \rangle|^2 \delta((E_i + E_\lambda) - (E_f + E_{\lambda'}))$$



# Cross sections and scattered intensities

Probability for spin states  $\sigma_i$

$$\partial\sigma = \frac{1}{F_i} \sum_{\sigma_i, \sigma_f} p_{\sigma_i} \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} p_\lambda W D$$

Incident flux

$$F_i = \frac{1}{V} \frac{\hbar k_i}{m_n}$$

Density of final states with  $k_f$

$$\begin{aligned} D &= \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \partial \vec{k}_f \\ &= \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \partial \Omega k_f^2 \partial k_f \\ &= \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} k_f \frac{m_n}{\hbar^2} \partial \Omega \partial E_f \end{aligned}$$

Probability for state  $\lambda$

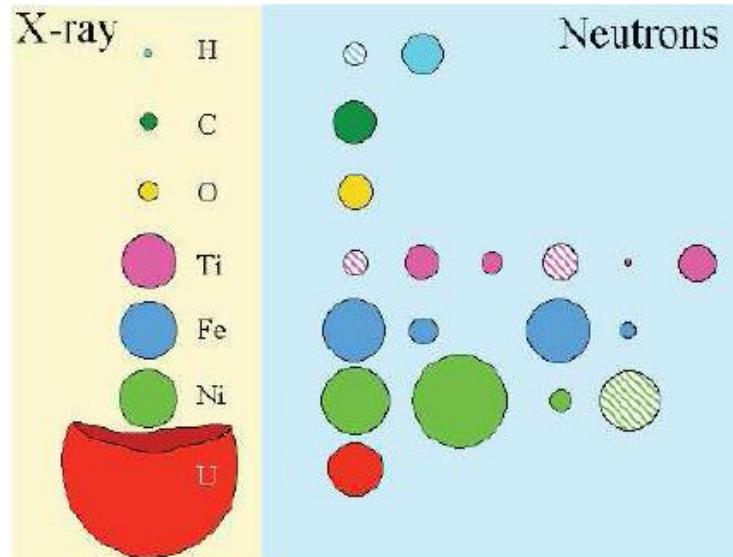
$$p_\lambda = \frac{e^{-E_\lambda/T}}{\sum_\lambda e^{-E_\lambda/T}}$$

# Cross sections and scattered intensities

Interaction with nuclei

$$\hat{V}_n(\vec{r}) = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{M} b \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{R}).$$

b = scattering length  
*positive or negative,  
depends on the isotope*



$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E'} = \frac{k_f}{k_i} \sum_{i,j} b_i b_j \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt \langle e^{iQ \cdot R_i} e^{-iQ \cdot R_j(t)} \rangle e^{-i\omega t}$$

# Cross sections and scattered intensities

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E'} = \frac{k_f}{k_i} \sum_{i,j} b_i b_j \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt \langle e^{iQ \cdot R_i} e^{-iQ \cdot R_j(t)} \rangle e^{-i\omega t}$$

Frozen lattice

$$R_i(t) = R_m^o + r_\ell$$

Nothing moves !

Cell

Atom position within  
the unit cell

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E'} &= \frac{k_f}{k_i} \delta(\omega) \sum_{m,n,\ell,\ell'} b_\ell b_{\ell'} e^{iQ \cdot (R_m^o + r_\ell - R_n^o - r_{\ell'})} \\ &= \delta(\omega) \sum_{m,n} e^{iQ \cdot (R_m^o - R_n^o)} \sum_{\ell,\ell'} b_\ell b_{\ell'} e^{iQ \cdot (r_\ell - r_{\ell'})} \\ &= \delta(\omega) \sum_{m,n} e^{iQ \cdot (R_m^o - R_n^o)} |F(Q)|^2 \end{aligned}$$

« simple » definition  
of the structure  
factor :

$$F(Q) = \sum_\ell b_\ell e^{iQ \cdot r_\ell}$$

# Cross sections and scattered intensities

$$F(Q) = \sum_{\ell} b_{\ell} e^{iQ \cdot r_{\ell}}$$

# Cross sections and scattered intensities

Scattering lengths depend on the isotope

$$b_i = \langle b \rangle + \Delta b_i$$

$$b_i b_j = \langle b \rangle^2 + \langle b \rangle (\Delta b_i + \Delta b_j) + \Delta b_i \Delta b_j$$

$$\langle \Delta b_i \rangle \equiv 0$$

$$\langle \Delta b_i \Delta b_j \rangle = \langle \Delta b_i \Delta b_j \rangle \delta_{i,j} = \langle b^2 \rangle - \langle b \rangle^2$$

$$|F(Q)|^2 = \sum_{\ell, \ell'} \langle b \rangle^2 e^{iQ(r_\ell - r_{\ell'})} + N(\langle b^2 \rangle - \langle b \rangle^2)$$

Coherent scattering                          Incoherent scattering

# Cross sections and scattered intensities

## Values of $\sigma_{coh}$ and $\sigma_{inc}$

Nuclide	$\sigma_{coh}$	$\sigma_{inc}$	Nuclide	$\sigma_{coh}$	$\sigma_{inc}$
$^1H$	1.8	80.2	V	0.02	5.0
$^2H$	5.6	2.0	Fe	11.5	0.4
C	5.6	0.0	Co	1.0	5.2
O	4.2	0.0	Cu	7.5	0.5
Al	1.5	0.0	$^{36}Ar$	24.9	0.0

- Difference between H and D used in experiments with soft matter (contrast variation)
- Al used for windows
- V used for sample containers in diffraction experiments and as calibration for energy resolution

# Cross sections and scattered intensities

## Vibrating lattice

$$R_i(t) = R_m^o + r_\ell + u_{m,\ell}(t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E'} &= \frac{k_f}{k_i} \sum_{m,n} e^{iQ(R_m^o - R_n^o)} \sum_{\ell,\ell'} b_\ell b_{\ell'} e^{iQ(r_\ell - r_{\ell'})} \\ &\quad \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt \langle e^{iQ u_{m,\ell}} e^{-iQ u_{n,\ell'}(t)} \rangle e^{-i\omega t} \end{aligned}$$

## Series expansion

$$e^{\langle Q u_{m,\ell} Q u_{n,\ell'}(t) \rangle} \approx 1 + \langle Q u_{m,\ell} Q u_{n,\ell'}(t) \rangle + \dots$$

Elastic term

$$F(Q) = \sum_\ell b_\ell e^{iQ r_\ell} e^{-W_\ell}$$

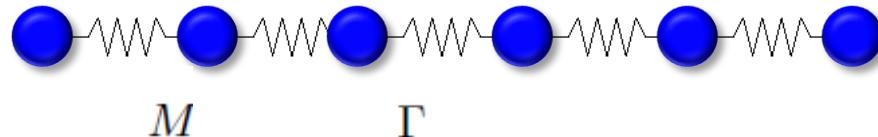
Inelastic term (phonons)

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E'} = \sum_s A_s [(1 + n(\omega_{Q,s})) \delta(\omega - \omega_{Q,s}) + n(\omega_{Q,s}) \delta(\omega + \omega_{Q,s})]$$

$$F_s(Q) = \sum_\ell b_\ell e^{iQ r_\ell} e^{-W_\ell} \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_\ell \omega_{q,s}}} (\vec{Q} \cdot \vec{e}_{q,\ell})$$

# Collective excitations

Monoatomic chain



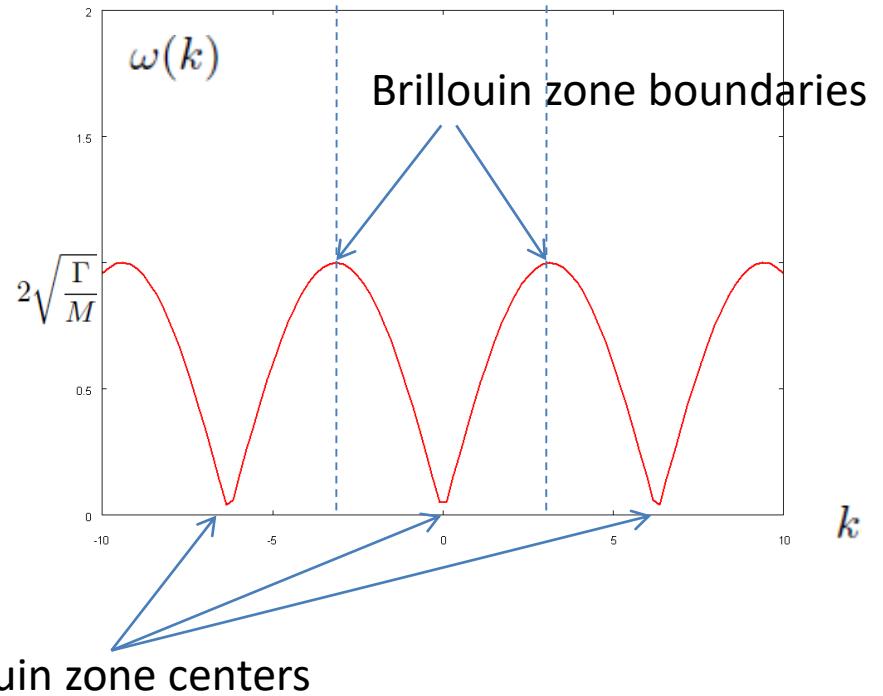
$$M \frac{d^2}{dt^2} u_m = \Gamma (u_{m+1} + u_{m-1} - 2u_m)$$

Fourier transform

$$-M\omega^2 = \Gamma (e^{ika} + e^{-ika} - 2)$$

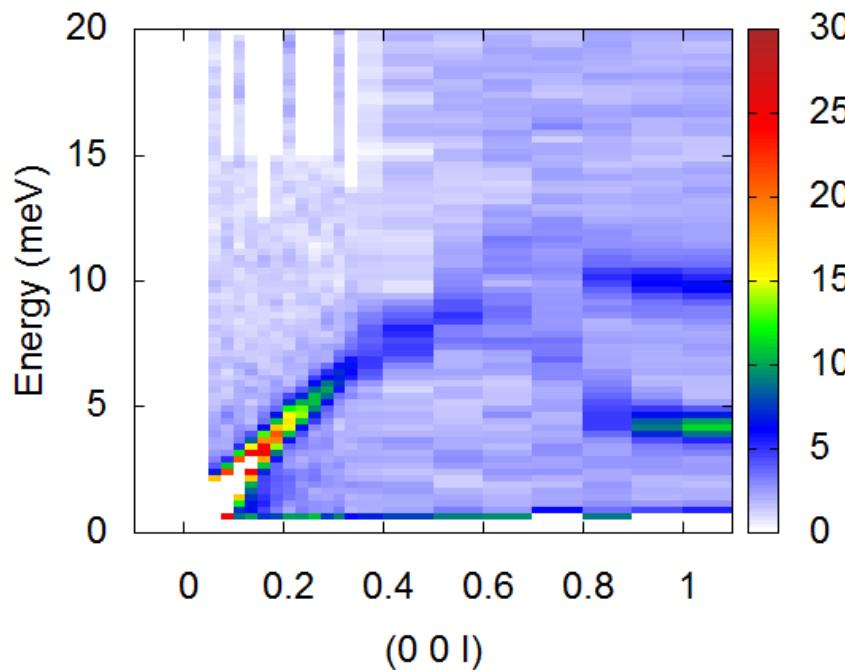
$$\omega(k) = 2\sqrt{\frac{\Gamma}{M}} \sin \frac{ka}{2}$$

Dispersion relation



# Collective excitations

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E'} = \sum_s A_s [(1 + n(\omega_{Q,s})) \delta(\omega - \omega_{Q,s}) + n(\omega_{Q,s}) \delta(\omega + \omega_{Q,s})]$$



Direct measurement of the  
force constants

# Cross sections and scattered intensities

Magnetic Interaction between the dipolar field created by both the spins and the orbital motion of unpaired electrons :

$$E_{ne} = -\mu_n \cdot B_e$$

$$B_e(R) = \frac{\mu_o}{4\pi} \left( \text{rot}\left(\frac{\mu_e \times R}{R^3}\right) - e v_e \times \frac{R}{R^3} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E'} = \frac{k_f}{k_i} (\gamma r_o)^2 \sum_{i,j} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt \langle \vec{S}_{\perp,i} \vec{S}_{\perp,j}(t) e^{iQ \cdot R_i} e^{-iQ \cdot R_j(t)} \rangle e^{-i\omega t}$$

# Cross sections and scattered intensities

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E'} &= \frac{k_f}{k_i} (\gamma r_o)^2 \sum_{i,j} e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_i^o - \mathbf{R}_j^o)} \sum_{\ell,\ell'} f_\ell(\mathbf{Q}) f_{\ell'}^*(\mathbf{Q}) e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_\ell - \mathbf{r}_{\ell'})} e^{-W_\ell - W_{\ell'}} \\ &\times \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt \left\langle \sum_{a,b} S_{i\ell}^a \left( \delta_{a,b} - \frac{\mathbf{Q}^a \mathbf{Q}^b}{\mathbf{Q}^2} \right) S_{j\ell'}^b(t) \right\rangle e^{-i\omega t}\end{aligned}$$

Frozen spins



$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E'} &= \frac{k_f}{k_i} (\gamma r_o)^2 \sum_{i,j} e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_i^o - \mathbf{R}_j^o)} \sum_{\ell,\ell'} f_\ell(\mathbf{Q}) f_{\ell'}^*(\mathbf{Q}) e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_\ell - \mathbf{r}_{\ell'})} e^{-W_\ell - W_{\ell'}} \langle \mathbf{S}_{\perp,i\ell} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{\perp,j\ell'} \rangle \delta(\omega) \\ &= \frac{k_f}{k_i} (\gamma r_o)^2 \left| \sum_{i,\ell} e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_i^o + \mathbf{r}_\ell)} f_\ell(\mathbf{Q}) e^{-W_\ell} \mathbf{S}_{\perp,i\ell} \right|^2 \delta(\omega)\end{aligned}$$

Magnetic structure factor

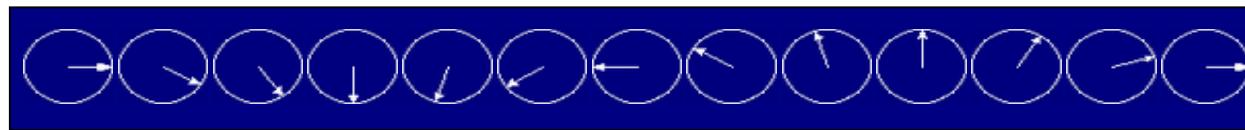
# Cross sections and scattered intensities

TWO FORMULAE:

$$F_N(\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_{\ell} b_{\ell} e^{i\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{r}_{\ell}} e^{-W_{\ell}}$$

$$\mathbf{F}_M(\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_{\ell} \mathbf{S}_{\ell\perp} e^{i\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{r}_{\ell}} e^{-W_{\ell}}$$

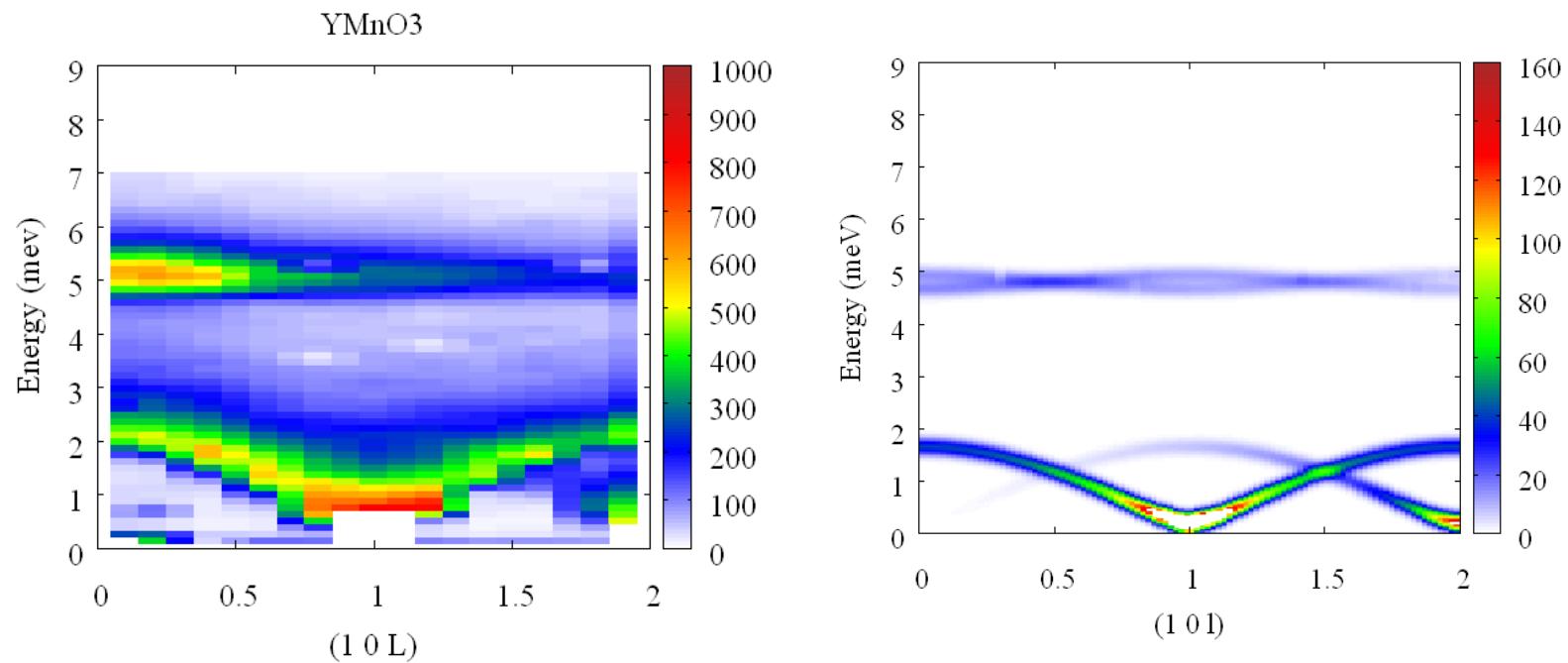
# Collective excitations



$$\xleftarrow{\text{Phase}} \text{Wavelength} \quad \lambda = \frac{2\pi}{k}$$

- Spin waves are precessions of the spins in conventional magnets around the (local) magnetization
- Described by bosonic particles ( $S=1$ )
- INS allows one to measure the dispersion of these particles

# Collective excitations



Spin wave in spins in multiferroic  
Y<sub>2</sub>MnO<sub>3</sub>  
(meas. and calculations)

Direct measurement of  
exchange couplings

# Take-home message

1. neutron scattering makes it possible to study the correlations in time and space of the particles that constitute matter.
2. all kinds of condensed matter systems: macromolecules, biology, crystalline and magnetic structures
3. does not degrade the sample
4. sensitive to volume, not surface
5. sensitive to magnetism

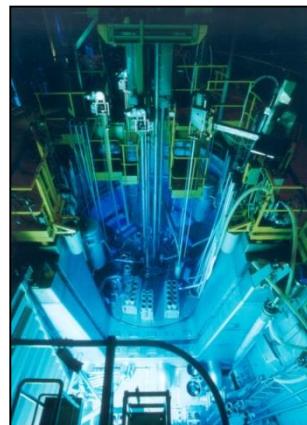
Collective excitations

Magnetic and crystalline  
structures

Large scale structures

Quasi-elastic scattering

Reflectometry (surface)



# Today : ILL



D20, D2B, D1B

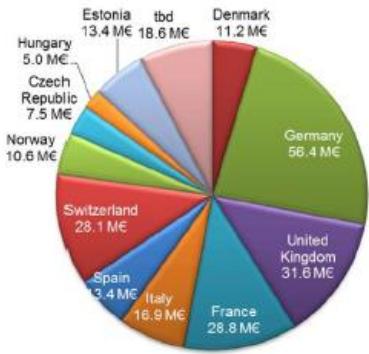
D23, D3, D9, D10

IN4, IN5, IN6

IN8, IN29, IN12, IN22

# Tomorrow, ESS (Lund, Suède)

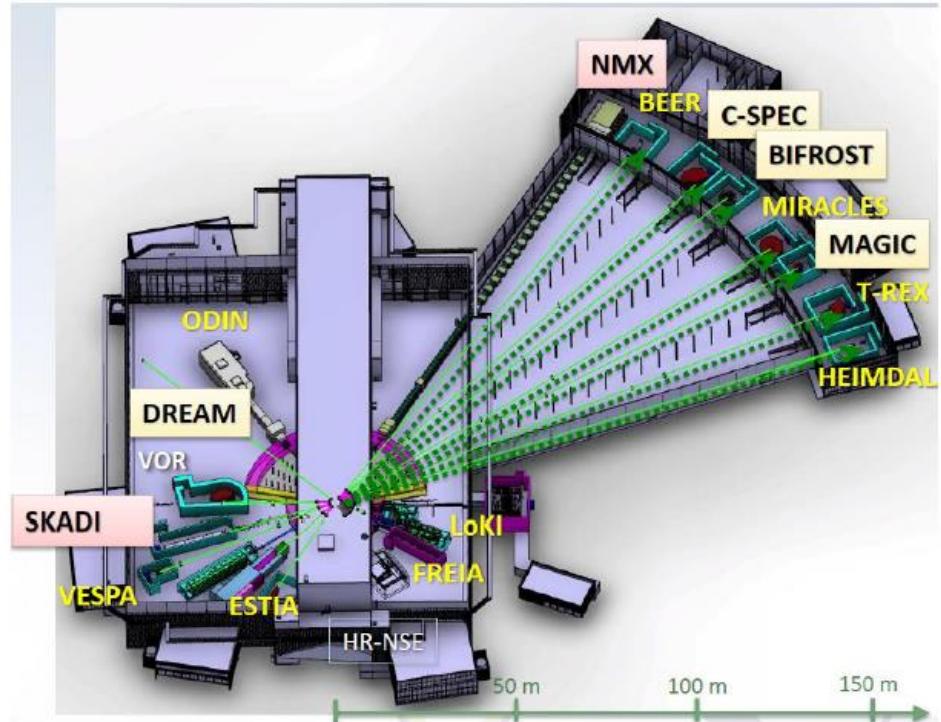
NEW EUROPEAN FACILITY : READY IN 2024 ...



LLB teams are heavily involved in several ESS instruments:

DREAM	diffractometer	24% LLB
SKADI	SANS	50% LLB
MAGIC	diffractometer	59% LLB
BIFROST	INS spectrometer	24% LLB
CSPEC	INS spectrometer	50% LLB
NMX	biocrystallography	15% LLB/IBS

LLB Budget : 35M€ for instruments

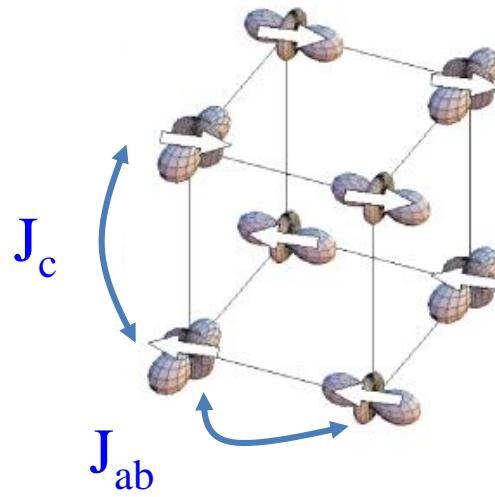
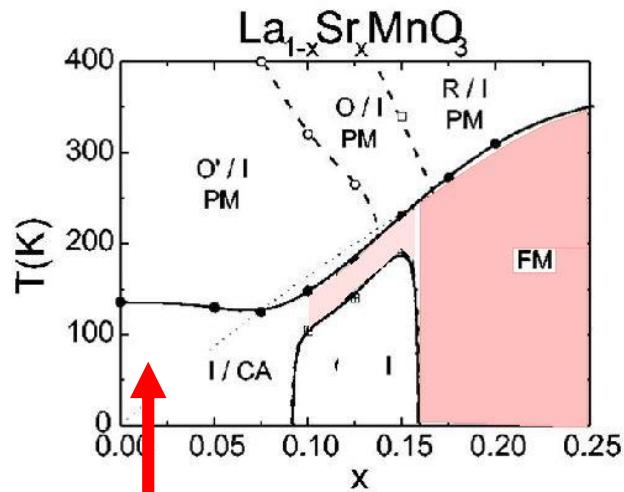




# EXAMPLES

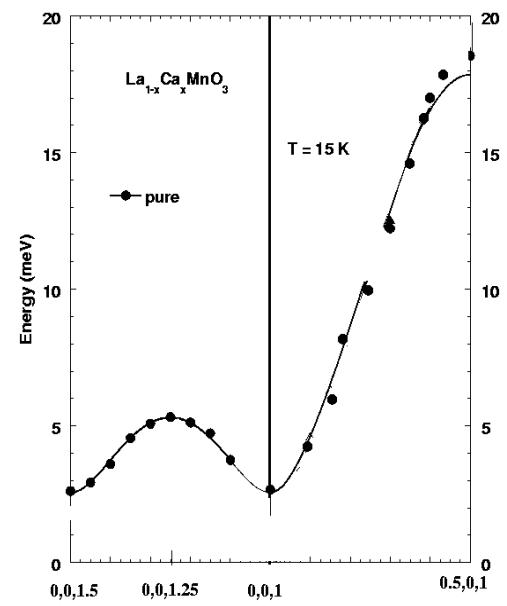
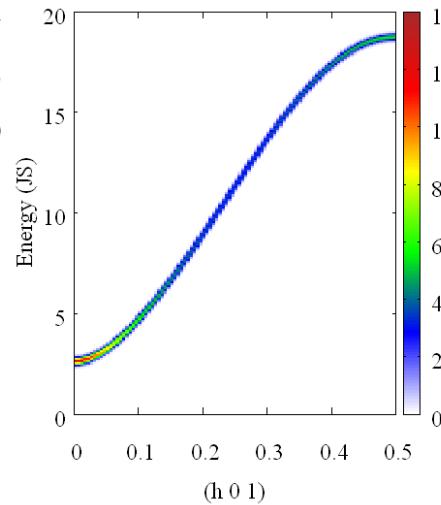
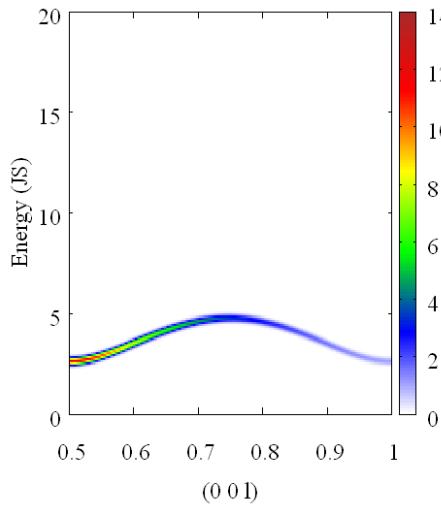


# Manganites



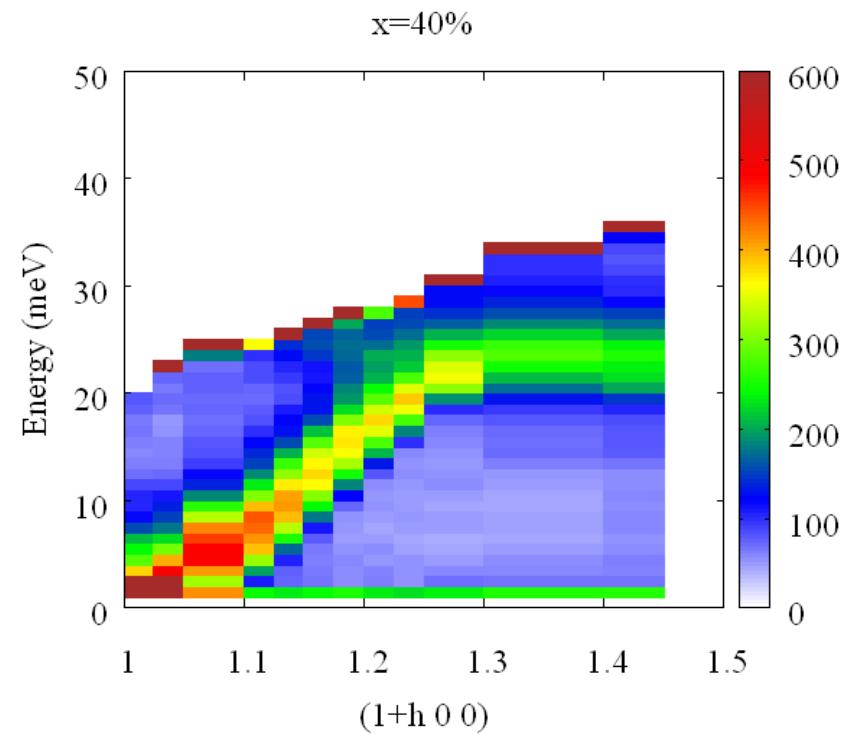
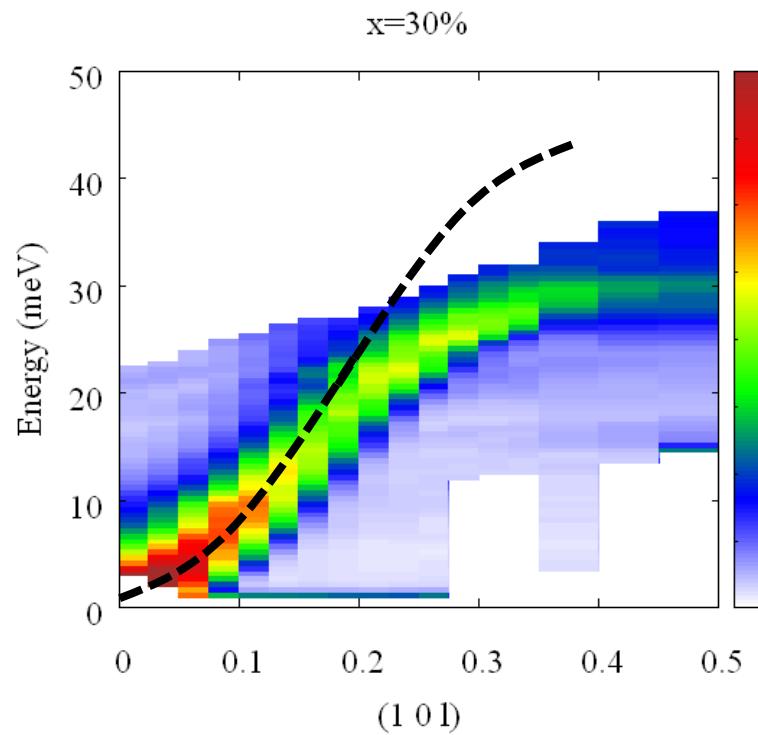
$$J_c \sim 0.5 \text{ meV}$$

$$J_{ab} \sim -0.8 \text{ meV}$$



# Manganites

## Spin waves in CMR manganites



# Pyrochlore ferromagnet $\text{Yb}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$

QUANTUM EXCITATIONS IN QUANTUM SPIN ICE

PHYS. REV. X **1**, 021002 (2011)

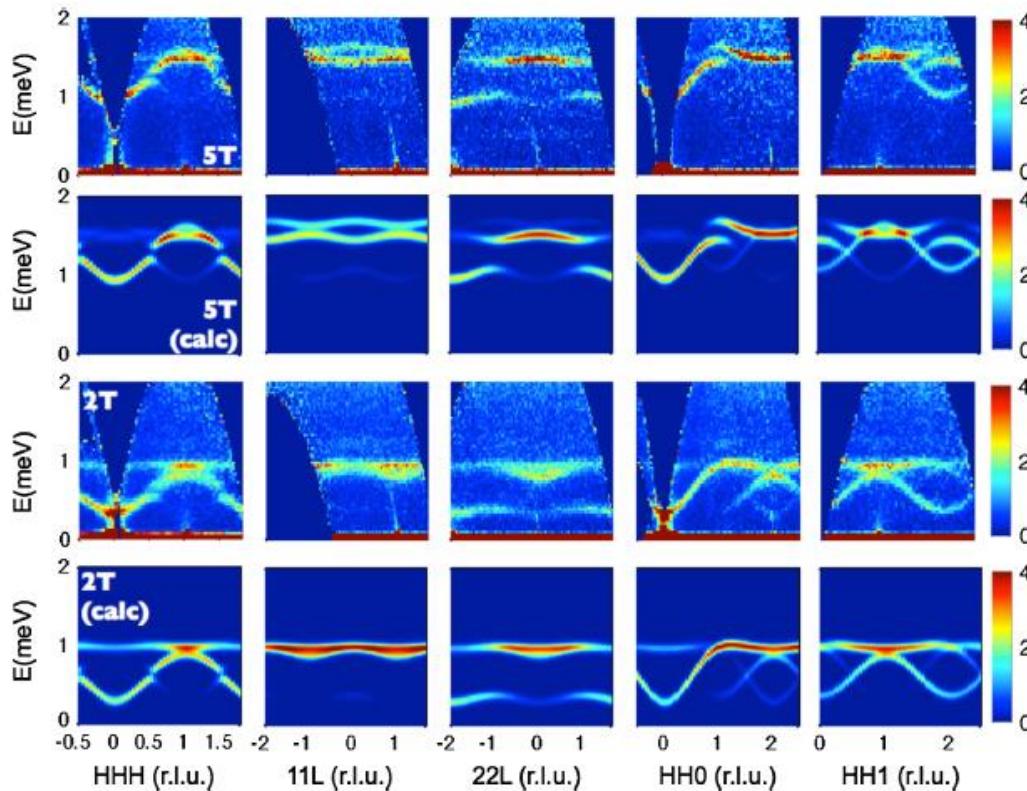


FIG. 1. The measured  $S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$  at  $T = 30$  mK, sliced along various directions in the HHL plane, for both  $H = 5$  T (first row) and  $H = 2$  T (third row). The second and fourth rows show the calculated spectrum for these two field strengths, based on an anisotropic exchange model with five free parameters (see text) that were extracted by fitting to the 5 T data set. For a realistic comparison to the data, the calculated  $S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$  is convoluted with a Gaussian of full-width 0.09 meV. Both the 2 T and 5 T data sets, composed of spin wave dispersions along five different directions, are described extremely well by the same parameters. (Note that r.l.u. stands for reciprocal lattice units.)

# Pyrochlore antiferromagnet $\text{Er}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$

PRL 109, 167201 (2012)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
19 OCTOBER 2012

## Order by Quantum Disorder in $\text{Er}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_7$

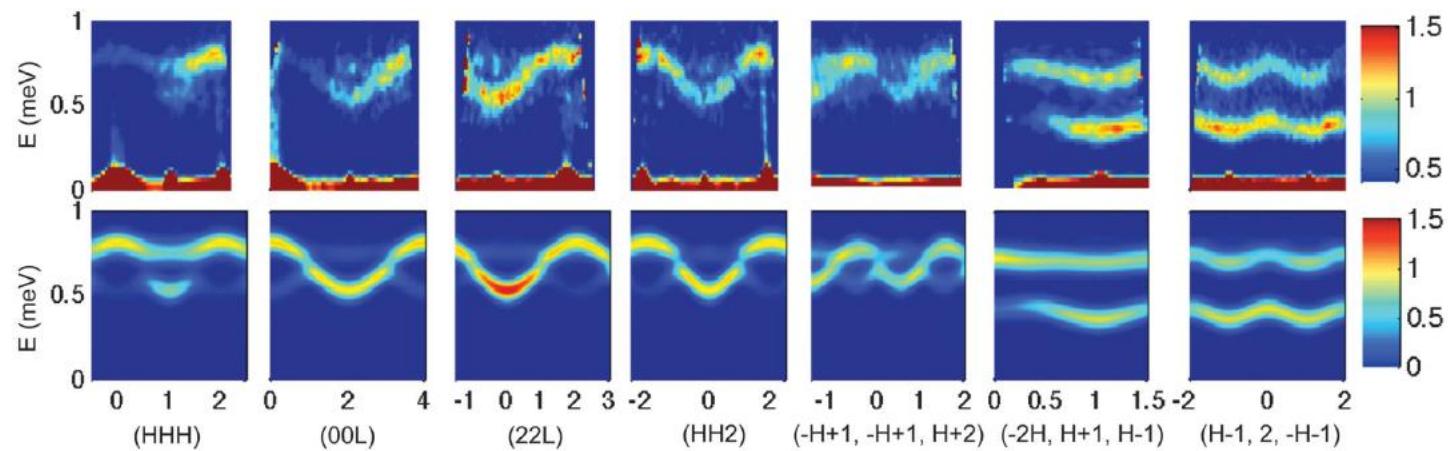
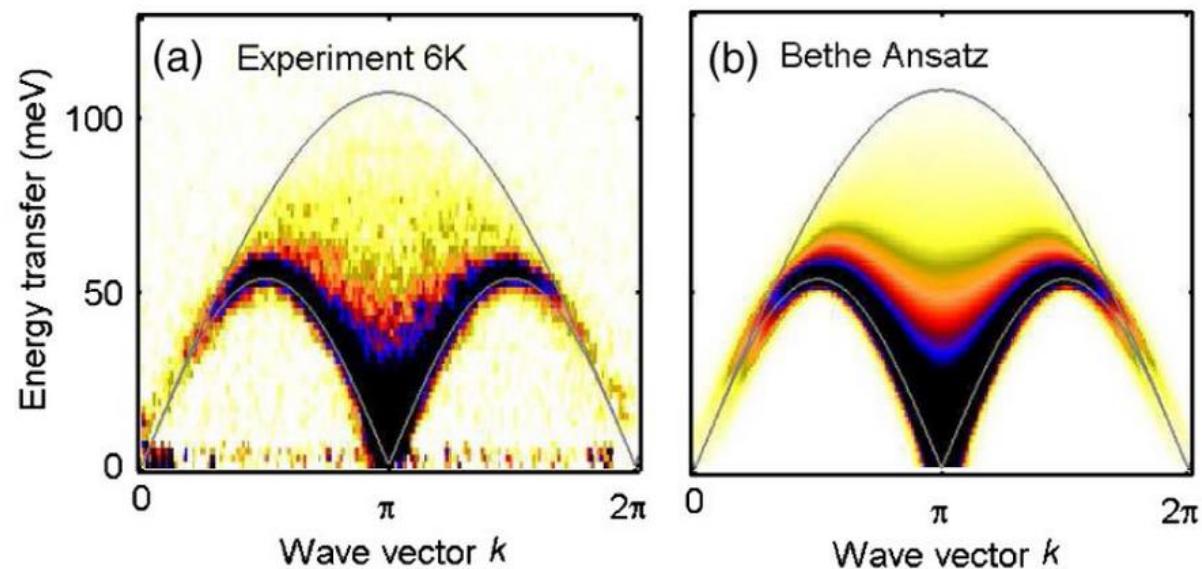
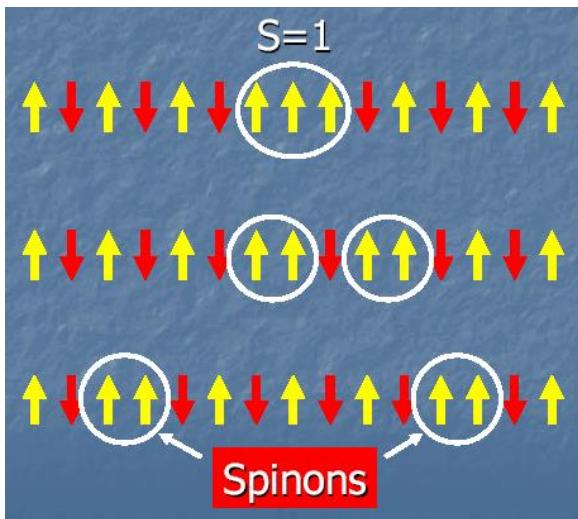


FIG. 1 (color). The measured  $S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$  at  $T = 30$  mK,  $H = 3$  T sliced along several directions. The first five columns show  $S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$  in the  $HHL$  plane, with the field applied along  $[1\bar{1}0]$ , while the last two columns show  $S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$  for the field along  $[111]$ . Top row: measured  $S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$ . Bottom row: calculated  $S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$ , based on an anisotropic exchange model with six free parameters (see text) that were extracted by fitting to the measured dispersions.

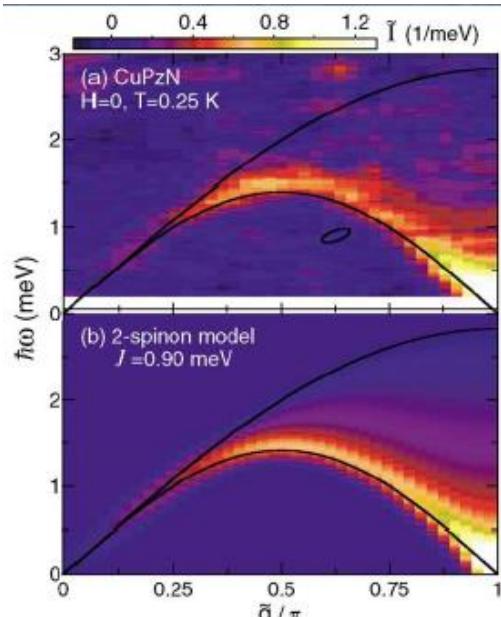
# Quantum magnets

In some systems, quantum fluctuations prevent from long range magnetic ordering. Excitations are not spin waves any more...

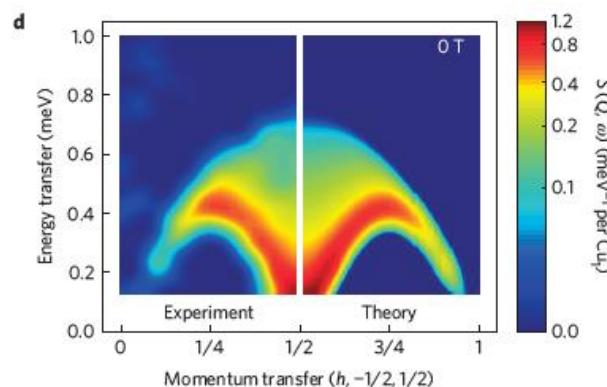
*Frustration, low dimension, spin =1/2, 1*



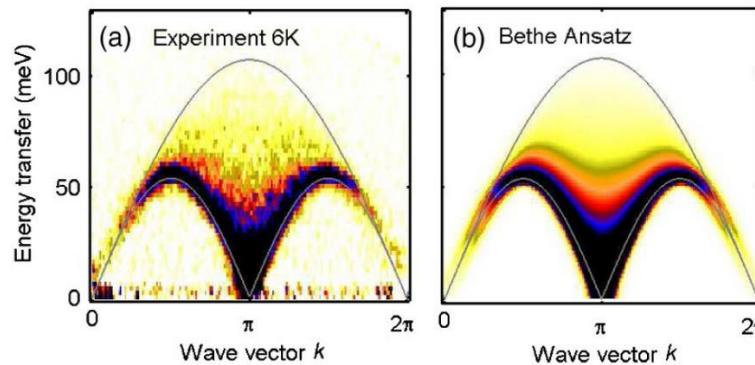
# Quantum magnets



CuPzN, Stone et al, PRL 2003



CuSO<sub>4</sub> 5D<sub>2</sub>O Mourigal et al, Nature Physics 2013



KCuF<sub>3</sub>, Lake et al, Nature Materials 2005

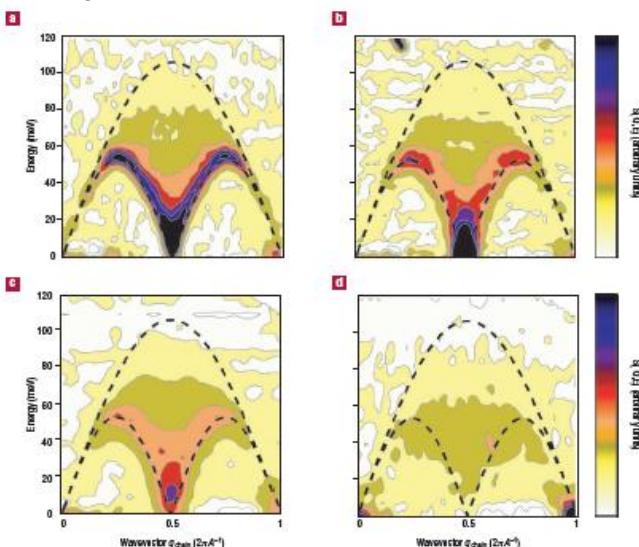
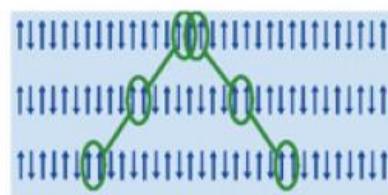
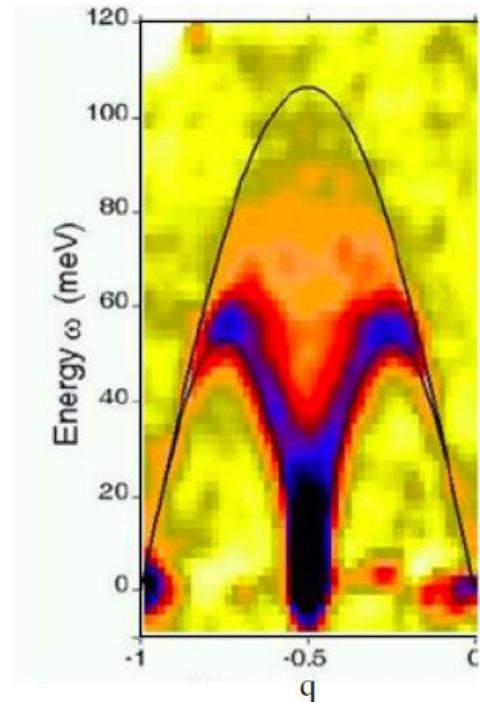


Figure 1 Inelastic neutron scattering data for KCuF<sub>3</sub>. The data is plotted as a function of  $E$  and  $q$  parallel to the chains for the temperatures a,  $T = 6 \text{ K}$ , b,  $T = 50 \text{ K}$ , c,  $T = 150 \text{ K}$  and d,  $T = 200 \text{ K}$ . The colours indicate the site of the neutron scattering cross-section  $S(q, E)$  and the superimposed black dashed lines indicate the region where the multi-spinon continuum is predicted at  $T = 0 \text{ K}$  by the Muler Ansatz equation (1). The data was collected using the MAPS time-of-flight spectrometer at ISIS, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, UK.

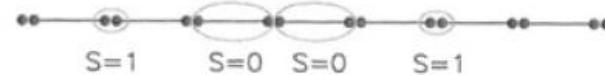
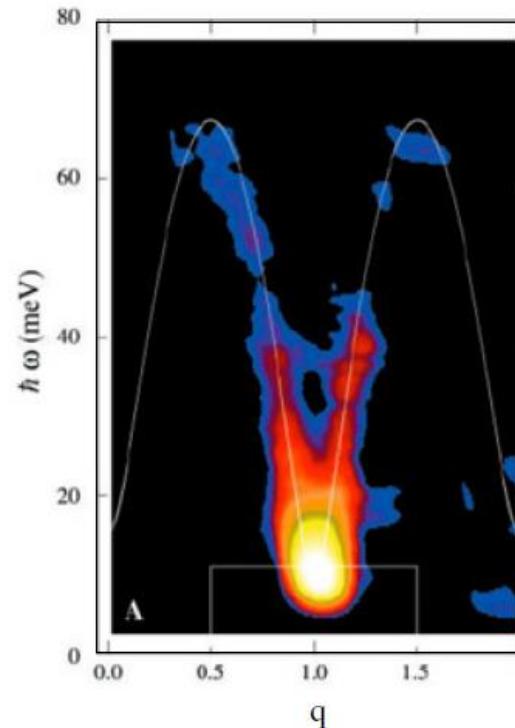
# Quantum magnets

$S = \frac{1}{2}$  KCuF<sub>3</sub>



Spin correlations decay as power law  
Spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  particles : continuum  
gapless

$S = 1$  Y<sub>2</sub>BaNiO<sub>5</sub>



Spin correlations decay exponentially  
Spin 1 excitation : well defined mode  
(Haldane) Gapped spectrum