



# Neutron Sources

PART 1

Christine Darve European Spallation Source





This lecture relies on the precious input and materials from:

- ESS: Axel Steuwer, Mats Lindroos, Colín Carlite, Ferenc Mezei, Konstantín Batkov, Luca Zaníní
- EPFL: Giorgio Margaritondo
- INFN/ESS: Santo Gammíno
- CNRS/ESS: Sebastien Bousson and Alex Mueller

A special thanks to Mats Lindroos, who donated the money received for his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday to invite few students to this school.

# Outline

## PART 1

EUROPEAN SPALLATION SOURCE

- Background for neutron course
- Neutrons properties and their interactions
- Applications using Neutrons

### PART 2

- How to generate intense neutron beams
- High power proton linear accelerator

#### PART 3

• Examples of world-wide neutron sources

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Context - Reference to ASP2012 Classes:

- Keteví Assamagan: Nuclear Physics (July 16 and 18)
- Lenny Rívkín: Particle beam dynamics, beam optics, instrumentations and light sources
- Lyn Evans: Accelerator sciences and the LHC
- Herman Winick: Light Sources

# Electro-magnetic Spectrum



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#### Neutron Microscope - Length scales EUROPEAN SPALLATION SOURCE Length scale in nm 0.01 0.1 0.3 1.0 3.0 10 30 100 atomic and organic surfaces and multilayers viruses inhomogeneities molecules magnetic cracks and voids micelles critical phenomena structures magnetic defects proteins pharmaceuticals internal strain supermolecules polymers

1.0

2.0

neutron wavelength in nm

0.3

0.1

# Neutron Microscope - Time and energy scales

#### Time scale (seconds) 10<sup>-13</sup>

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10<sup>-7</sup>

Crystal fields magnons and phonons spin relaxation single particle spin fluctuations tunneling polymer reptation excitations diffusion glassy dynamics molecular excitations libration





# Ionizing Radiation

Ionizing radiation is radiation composed of particles that individually carry enough energy to liberate an electron from an atom or molecule without raising the bulk material to ionization temperature.



When ionizing radiation is emitted by or absorbed by an atom, it can liberate a particle.

Such an event can alter chemical bonds and produce ions, usually in ion-pairs, that are especially chemically reactive.

Note: Neutrons, having zero electrical charge, do not interact electromagnetically with electrons, and so they cannot *directly* cause ionization by this mechanism.

→ High precision non-destructive probe ... why?

ASP2012 – July 31<sup>th</sup>, 2012



- 1920 **E. Rutherford**: disparity between the atomic number of an atom and its atomic mass could be explained by a neutral particle within atomic nucleus.
- 1930 V. Ambartsumian and D. Ivanenko: proved that the nucleus cannot consist of protons and electrons only.
- 1931 W. Bothe and H. Becker: interactions of α-particles with light nuclei (Li, Be, B) produce an unusually penetrating radiation.
- 1932 Irène Joliot-Curie and F. Joliot: interactions of *beryllium radiation* with hydrogen-containing compounds ejects energetic protons (moderation).

# 80th Birthday - June 1st, 2012

(	Driginal Message
Subject:	The neutron's 80th birthday
Date:	Frí, 01 Jun 2012 12:29:01 +0200
From:	Francoise Vauquois <u><vauquois@ill.fr< u="">&gt;</vauquois@ill.fr<></u>
To:	gen_l@ill.fr '

Dear all,

It is 80 years today since the publication by the Royal Society of Cambridge Physicist James Chadwick's famous paper proving the existence of the neutron - on 1 June 1932. Chadwick was awarded the Nobel Prize for his paper two years later.

Chadwick's discovery launched the development of neutron research, which has since made incontestably decisive breakthroughs for modern science. And the ILL has been world-leading in this domain! 2012 is also the fortieth anniversary of the start of experiments with neutrons at ILL, in 1972.

You will find more on the history of Chadwick's discovery on the ILL website: http://www.ill.eu/fr/news-events/presse/communiques-de-presse/lill-fete-les-80-ans-du-neutron-1062012/

You can also hear the ILL director, Andrew Harrison, interviewed for the occasion by the BBC, by visiting the BBC's site, on <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01j6tOn">http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01j6tOn</a>

The French newspaper Le Figaro has also marked the occasion: http://www.lefigaro.fr/sciences/2012/05/24/01008-20120524ARTFIG00844-le-neutron-fete-ses-80-ans-cette-annee.php

and so did Spain's Muy interesante: http://www.muyinteresante.es/el-neutron-cumple-80-anos? utm\_source=twitter&utm\_medium=socialoomph&utm\_campaign=muy-interesante-twitter689

# James Chadwick 1932 ( $\alpha$ ,n) reaction



 ${}^{4}_{2}He + {}^{9}_{4}Be \rightarrow {}^{12}_{6}C + {}^{1}_{0}n$ 

"Whatever the radiation from Be may be, it has most remarkable properties" CaBendish Ballorafory, Cambridge, 24 Elbuary 1932

Dear Bohr.

2 endre the proof of a letter 2 sere written to Nature" and which will appen either this week a next. I thought you might like to know about it beforehand.

The suggestion is That & particles eject from beryllium (and also from form) particles which no nett charge, and which publicly have a man of the pertin. as you will see 2 put This forward rather continuity, but ? Think the evidence is really rather strong. Whatever the rediction from Be may be it has mont remarkable properties. I have made man referements which I do not mention in The

letter to Nature" and they can all be interpreted readily on the assumption That particles are neutrons. Feather has en some pictures in the repension champer I we have already friend about 20 cases recoil atoms . about 4 of there show an abruft and find at is almost certain that this one arm this took represents a recoil atom and the other a other particle probably an & particle. They a disintegrations due to the cepture of the neutron Nix a Oil. I enclose two phytographs

le recivil atem, and the

are printed



Neutron chamber



To amplifier and oscílloscope



Note: X-rays are emitted by electrons outside the nucleus, while gamma rays are emitted by the nucleus.

1.675 × 10 <sup>-27</sup> kg Mass	939.57 MeV	$m_n \approx m_p + 2.5 m_e$
Mean lifetime	15 min	$n \longrightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$
Composition	udd	hadron
Electric charge	0	high penetration
Magnetic moment	$-1.04\mu_B$	feels the nucleus



$$E = k_B T$$

$$E = k_B T = \frac{1}{2} m v^2 = \frac{h}{2m\lambda^2}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$$
Boltzmann distribution
$$De Broglie$$

$$E[meV] = 0.0862 T[K] = 5.22 v^{2} [km/s] = 81.81 \frac{1}{\lambda^{2}} [A]$$

Source	Energy	Temperature	Wavelength
cold	0.1-10	1-120	30-3
thermal	5-100	60-1000	4-1
hot	100-500	1000-6000	1-0.4



- Wavelengths comparable to interatomic spacings (1-5 Å)
- Energies comparable to structural and magnetic excitations (1-100 meV)
- Neutrons interact only weakly with matter
- Neutrons are deeply penetrating (bulk samples can be studied)
- Neutrons are scattered with a strength that varies randomly from element to element (and isotope to isotope) - tuning?
- Neutrons have a magnetic moment :  $\mu_n = -1.913 \ \mu_N$

Neutron scattering is therefore an ideal probe of magnetic and atomic structures and excitations



- Neutrons see the Nuclei
  - 2. Neutrons see Elementary Magnets
- Neutrons see light Atoms next to Heavy Ones
- Neutrons measure the Velocity of Atoms
- 5. Neutrons penetrate deep into Matter
- 6. Neutrons are Elementary Particles



# Why neutrons? See http://www.ill.eu

**Electrically Neutral** – neutrons are non-destructive and can penetrate deep into matter. This makes them an ideal probe for biological materials and samples under extreme conditions of pressure, temperature, magnetic field or within chemical reaction vessels.

Microscopically Magnetic – they possess a magnetic dipole moment which makes them sensitive to magnetic fields generated by unpaired electrons in materials. Precise information on the magnetic behavior of materials at atomic level can be collected. In addition, the scattering power of a neutron off an atomic nucleus depends on the orientation of the neutron and the spin of the atomic nuclei in a sample. This makes the neutron a powerful instrument for detecting the nuclear spin order.

Ångstrom wavelengths - neutron wavelengths range from 0.1 Å to 1000 Å, making them an ideal probe of atomic and molecular structures, be they single atomic species or complex biopolymers.

Energies of millielectronvolts - their energies are of the same magnitude as the diffusive motion in solids and liquids, the coherent waves in single crystals (phonons and magnons), and the vibrational modes in molecules. It is easy to detect any exchange of energy between a sample of between 1 microeV (even 1 neV with spin-echo) and 1eV and an incoming neutron.

Randomly sensitive – with neutrons the variation in scattering power from one nucleus to another within a sample varies in a quasi-random manner. This means that lighter atoms are visible despite the presence of heavier atoms, and neighboring atoms may be distinguished from each other. In addition, contrast can be varied in certain samples using isotopic substitution (for example D for H, or one nickel isotope for another); specific structural features can thus be highlighted. The neutron is particularly sensitive to hydrogen atoms; it is therefore a powerful probe of hydrogen storage materials, organic molecular materials, and biomolecular samples or polymers.

CD – Neutrons Sources

# The Nobel Prize in Physics 1994



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.

> Bertrees N. Brechburns, McMaster Chievenity, Manifana, Outstrie, Canada, restinct one half of the 1956 Mided Prine in Physics for the development of annhous spectroscopy

> > Bruckhouse made use

neutrons, which change both direction and

energy when they collide with atoms. They

they start or enced amunic oscillations in

crystals and second movements in lapsials

measured energies of phonoes (atomic

spin wores in magnets.

liquids charge with time.

and melts. Neutrons can also interact with

With his 3-axis spectrosyster Brockhouse

offering and magnesis (magnetic support).

He also studied how atomic structures in

of inelastic scattering i.e. of

Olfford G. Shall, JeYF, Geodeldge, Manuslanm, USA, ancies are help of the 1994 Noted Polar in Physics for kwelepment of the neutron differenties technique.



Shall made one of alastic scattering i.e. of neutrons which change direction without losing energy when they collide with anothe,

Because of the wave ranses of newtrans, a diffraction pattern can be recorded which indicates where in the sample the atoess any situated. Even the placing of light elements such as hydrogen in metallic hydrides, or hydrogen, carbon and excepts in organic substances can be determined.

The pattern also shows how anomic dipoles are oriented in magnetic materials, since neutrons are affected by magnetic forces. Shull also made use of this phenomenon in his neutron diffraction technique.





# Neutrons reveal structure and dynamics

Neutrons show where atoms are



Optentions received the disortions of the neutrons and a differention pattant is districted. The pattern shows the previously of the phone relative

to and protector

for wards and done of a cartain seastangh termigi - more charmonic and convictions



Have it started

how it continues

shorts properties of polynamy.

Neutrons show what atoms remember of data and a president when data many realised in advances of such other to family and main, from here there is in fact some hard order. The street parent more informed other tarradiculture former determine and some



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#### Neutrons show what atoms do

3-axis spectrometer with recentation provesses and restatable assessts



Crystal that starts and Remarkly managing of a contain, wave longth IBRARDY - INDAD printing stations

Deckhowe and Studi state their passeering contributions at

the first machine treatmen in the USA and Canada back in the

FHEn and FHEIR. It was show that the neuroscient of the neuroscient

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advanced neuron numering installations have been built and

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and the restrons Buch situation in a distant last



#### Forther reading

hand is office and in \$11 may

Research reactor

Neutrons bounce

against atomic nuclei.

They also react to the

magnetism of the

atoms.

Drywai thus some and



# Historic - Why neutrons?

In half a century we have developed neutron scattering science enormously with an effective gain in source performance of only a factor of 4 !

Cliff Shull - Neutron diffraction - showing where atoms are:





Bert Brockhouse - Spectroscopy - showing what atoms do:





Using nowadays technique..



Díffractometers - Measure structures - Where atoms and molecules are 1 - 10 Ångström

→ To analyze the structure of a material from the scattering pattern produced when a beam of radiation or particles (such as X-rays or neutrons) interacts with it

Spectrometers - Measure dynamics - What atoms and molecules do



 $\rightarrow$  To measure properties of light over a specific portion of the electromagnetic spectrum

"Spectroscopy" Particles IN (photons, ions electrons, etc...) DETECTOR-ANALYZE (nergy, momentum, plarization, etc...)

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2010 African School on Fundamental Physics and its Applications - Stellenbosch, South Africa



# X-Ray and Neutron beam

#### Complementarity between X-rays and Neutrons SPALLATION



# Consider ESS/MaxIV equal in terms of functionality

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SOURCE

# Complementarity between X-rays and Neutrons

# Neutrons

- Particle beam (neutral subatomic partícle)
- Interactions with the nuclei and the magnetic moment of unpaired electrons (in the sample)
- Scattered by all elements, also the light ones like the hydrogen isotopes
- Deep penetration depth (bulk studies of samples)
- Less intense beam measuring larger samples

# Synchrotron radiation

- Light beam (electromagnetic wave)
- Interactions with the electrons surrounding the nuclei (in the sample)
- Mainly scattered by heavy elements
- Small penetration depth (surface studies of samples)
- Very intense beam measuring small or ultra-dílute samples

# Complementarity between X-rays and Neutrons

# Neutrons Applications

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- Magnetic structures & excitations
- Organic structures using the H-D isotope effect
- Bulk studies (strains, excitations)
- Low-energy spectroscopy e.g. molecular vibrations

# SR Applications

- Proteín-crystal structures
- Fast chemical reactions
- Surface studíes (defects, corrosion)
- Hígh-energy spectroscopy e.g. measurements of electron energylevels



# Complementarity between X-rays and Neutrons



X-rays interact with electrons. → X-rays see high-Z atoms. Neutrons interact with nuclei. → Neutrons see low-Z atoms.



#### Material for Li-battery seen by X rays (left) and Neutrons (right)

T. Kamiyama, et al.

# Neutron beam and X-Ray for Medical Applications

## iThemba Particle Therapy Centre [iTPTC]



# **Spot Scanning Principle**



Final Dose Distribution



Few Spots



# Complementarity between X-rays and Neutrons

#### Hen Egg-White Lysozyme

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Neutrons and X-rays are complementary





...see magnetic atoms



...see inside materials



...see líght atoms



..see isotopes



...see atoms move

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ASP2012 – July 31th, 2012



# Scattering and Diffraction



## Neutron Scattering Techniques



Seattering length & (10<sup>-12</sup>cm)

# Isotope specific contrast



# Scattering - coherence and incoherence



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 $\sigma_{incoh} = 4\pi \left( \left\langle b^2 \right\rangle - \left\langle b \right\rangle^2 \right)$ 

## WHY NEUTRON SCATTERING IS USEFUL

When used as a probe for small samples of materials, neutron beams have the power to reveal what is invisible using other radiations. Neutrons can appear to behave either as particles or as waves or as microscopic magnetic dipoles, and it is these specific properties which enable them to uncover information which is often impossible to access using other techniques.

Isotopes and spin?



spallation Diffraction = Coherent Elastic Scattering of plane wave

 $\sigma_{tot}$ =number of neutrons scattered in all directions per sec/incident flux

Scattered spherical wave: -b exp(ikr)/b





# Scattering

• Cross section:  $d\sigma = \frac{(\# \text{ particles scattered into solid angle }\Delta\Omega/s)}{(\# \text{ particles incident/sec})(\# \text{ scattering centers/area})}$ 





## Neutron Scattering XS

Coherent XS~ Signal Incoherent XS~ Background Absorption XS~1/Intensity





The neutron diffraction pattern of sulfuric acid tetrahydrate at 4.2 K as seen by the 90 degree detectors on HRPD, and fitted with the existing X-ray derived structural model for the deuterated species.



Neutrons Source

## Neutron cross sections

N	ST Ce	enter fo	r Neut	tron I	Researc	h			T	Sta	National Institution	tute of nology
Home	IC	P	Expe	riment	S		UserPropo	sal	Instrum	ents	Sit	еМар
Neutron scattering lengths and cross sections												
Neutron scattering lengths and cross sections												
Isotope	conc	Coh b	Inc b	Coh	xs Inc	xs So	catt xs Ab	SXS CNO	F Ne			_
Fe		9.45		11.2	2 0.4	11	.62 2.5	6 si p s	CI Ar			_
54Fe	5.8	4.2	0	2.2	2.2 Neutron scattering lengths and cross sections							
56Fe	91.7	9.94	0	12.4	Isotope	conc	Coh b	Inc b	Coh xs	Inc xs	Scatt xs	Abs xs
57Fe	2.2	2.3		0.66	Gd		6.5-13.82 <i>i</i>		29.3	151.(2.)	180.(2.)	49700.(125.)
58Fe	0.3	15.(7.)	0	28	152Gd	0.2	10.(3.)	0	13.(8.)	0	13.(8.)	735.(20.)
	1				154Gd	2.1	10.(3.)	0	13.(8.)	0	13.(8.)	85.(12.)
				155Gd	14.8	6.0-17.0i	(+/-)5.(5.)-13.16i	40.8	25.(6.)	66.(6.)	61100.(400.)	
			156Gd	20.6	6.3	0	5	0	5	1.5(1.2)		
NOTE: The above are only thermal neu dependent cross sections please go to			157Gd	15.7	-1.14-71.9 <i>i</i>	(+/-)5.(5.)-55.8i	650.(4.)	394.(7.)	1044.(8.)	259000.(700.)		
Select the element and you will get a li			158Gd	24.8	9.(2.)	0	10.(5.)	0	10.(5.)	2.2		
Feature section of neutron scattering le 3, 1992, pp. 29-37.			160Gd	21.8	9.15	0	10.52	0	10.52	0.77		



PRL 100, 250404 (2008)

#### PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending 27 JUNE 2008

#### Measurements of the Vertical Coherence Length in Neutron Interferometry

D. A. Pushin,<sup>1,\*</sup> M. Arif,<sup>2</sup> M. G. Huber,<sup>3</sup> and D. G. Cory<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Nuclear Science and Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA <sup>2</sup>National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA <sup>3</sup>Department of Physics, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA (Received 19 March 2008; published 26 June 2008)

The study and use of macroscopic quantum coherence requires long coherence lengths. Here we describe an approach to measuring the vertical coherence length in neutron interferometry, along with improvements to the NIST interferometer that led to a measured coherence length of 790 Å. The measurement is based on introducing a path separation and measuring the loss in contrast as this separation is increased. The measured coherence length is consistent with the momentum distribution of the neutron beam. Finally, we demonstrate that the loss in contrast with beam displacement in one leg of the interferometer can be recovered by introducing a corresponding displacement in the second leg.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.100.250404

PACS numbers: 03.75.Dg, 03.65.-w, 42.50.-p



Diffraction of X-rays or neutrons by polycrystalline samples is one of the most important, powerful and widely used analytical techniques available to materials scientists. For most crystalline substances of technological importance, the bulk properties of a powder or a polycrystalline solid, averaged throughout the sample, are required; in general a single-crystal data, even if they can be obtained, are usually of little interest except for determination of the crystal structure or for studying some other fundamental physical property. By J Ian Langford and Daniel Louer

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X-rays interact with the atoms in a crystal.



According to the 2 $\theta$  deviation, the phase shift causes constructive (left figure) or destructive (right figure) interferences.



# Diffraction - Bragg

- Bragg / Laue scattering
- Coherent elastic scattering

Two beams with identical wavelength and phase approach a crystalline solid and are scattered off two different atoms within it. The lower beam traverses an extra length of 2dsin  $\theta$ . Constructive interference occurs when this length is equal to an integer multiple of the wavelength of the radiation.





Diffraction - Bragg

# Using the grains as internal strain gauges



# Diffraction: Texture

- ISIS: GEM instrument
- Near 4<sup>¶</sup> coverage

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## Example:

- Cold rolled copper, simulating manufacturing process for archeometry 2mm thick disks
- $20x20mm^2$  beam
- 2 min counting times

Neutron texture analysis on GEM at ISIS W. Kockelmann, L.C. Chapon and P.G. Radaelli *Physica B, Vol. 385-386 (1), pp639-643 (2006)* CD – Neutrons Sources





# Diffraction: Stress and Strain





Applications: Residual stresses Fatigue/Structural Integrity Welds Alloy development Microstructure/Texture Phase transformation In\*situ-experiments



# Example - Diffraction



# Spallation Sources: Time of Flight

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Fast, short-wavelength neutrons arrive earlier at detector!

Ice!!





Figure 2. Neutron diffraction patterns of D<sub>2</sub>O ices before and after phase transitions: (a) from ice VIII (dashed line) to a mixture of hda + lda ices (solid line) at 125 K; (b) from the mixture of hda + lda ices (solid line) to ice lc (dashed line) at 160 K; (c) from ice lc (solid line) to the hexagonal phase, "smectic B" type structure (dashed line), at 190 K; (d) from "smectic B" type ice (dashed line) to ice ln (solid line) at 230 K. The diffraction patterns also contain peaks from the aluminum sample can and cryostat. EUROPEAN



**Figure 2** Neutron diffraction patterns measured at the FePO<sub>4</sub>–LiFePO<sub>4</sub> binary phase diagram. a,b, Rietveld relation time-of-flight neutron diffraction profile measured for L (a) and the angle-dispersive neutron diffraction profile 620 K (b). Two different neutron diffractometers were used information for each measurement as explained in the points are plotted using the common scale  $Q = 4\pi \sin Q$  range for VEGA and HERMES for comparison. Specific composition and temperature are given in the inset phase Delacourt *et al.*<sup>6</sup> and Dodd *et al.*<sup>20</sup>. Observed intensity  $Y_{\text{cak}}$  are represented by red plus signs and the green sublue curve at the bottom represents the residual difference parameters are summarized in Supplementary Information impurity phase was identified, and the crystal structure with the space group *Pmma*.

### Batteries

► [010]



**Figure 3** Anisotropic harmonic lithium vibration in LiFePO<sub>4</sub> shown as green thermal ellipsoids and the expected diffusion path. The ellipsoids were refined with 95% probability by Rietveld analysis for room-temperature neutron diffraction data. Expected curved one-dimensional continuous chains of lithium motion are drawn as dashed lines to show how the motions of Li atoms evolve from vibrations to diffusion.



of LiFePO<sub>4</sub> and possible lithium pathways. a,b, The projected along the [010] (a) and [001] (b) directions. hways are parallel to these directions. The structures I parameters obtained through this work and ury Information, Table S1. The structure can be agonal close-packed oxygen sub-array, in which Li, Fe tal sites to form (1) corner-sharing FeO<sub>6</sub> octahedra that a distorted two-dimensional square lattice perpendicular ng LiO<sub>6</sub> octahedra aligned in parallel chains along the  $J_4$  groups connecting neighbouring planes or arrays. The d ellipsoids indicate Li, Fe, P and O atoms, respectively. e lithium migration paths: c, along the [010] direction tetrahedral sites; and d, along the [001] direction dral sites. One-dimensional diffusion along the [010] y the computational method<sup>15,16</sup>.



# Small Angle Neutron Scattering





Small Angle Scattering

Scattering Vector

# $\sin \theta = Q\lambda / 4\pi = \lambda / 2d$





Small angle  $\rightarrow$  small Q  $\rightarrow$  large distances long  $\lambda$  (cold neutrons) = 6 Å, d = 200 Å, 2  $\theta$  = 1.7°



# SANS: Experimental Setup





SANS: applications





# Small Angle Instruments





# Scattering

• Cross section:  $d\sigma = \frac{(\# \text{ particles scattered into solid angle }\Delta\Omega/s)}{(\# \text{ particles incident/sec})(\# \text{ scattering centers/area})}$ 





SANS: Scattering of plane wave

 $\sigma_{tot}$ =number of neutrons scattered in all directions per sec/incident flux





SANS: Particles: contrast!



# SANS: quick example

Protein based drugs:
Typically proteins in solution to be injected
Long shelf life (up to 2 years)
Control of release profile is desirable

Fast action: Monomeric and dimeric insulin

Medium action: Hexameric insulin







Slow action: Large complexes of hexameric insulin



Knowledge and control of solution properties of the proteins are crucial

Source: L Arleth, Uni Copenhagen



## **SANS contrast 2**





SANS gives the possibility of **not** seing everything at the same time....

# SANS: Different Shapes





SANS: Selective Deuteration

# sensitivity and selectivity isotopic substitution/contrast variation





# Neutron Reflectivity

REFLECTED

PEAKS

SPECULAR

REFRACTED TRANSMITTED

DIFFRACTION PEAKS

• Basic principle





DIFFRAC

10

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# Neutron Reflectivity

## Neutron reflectometry to investigate the delivery of lipids and DNA to interfaces (Review)

Tommy Nylander Physical Chemistry 1, Lund University, Box 124, SE-221 00 Lund, Sweden

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(Received 6 May 2008; accepted 1 August 2008; published 19 December 2008)

The application of scattering methods in the study of biological and biomedical problems is a field of research that is currently experiencing fast growth. In particular, neutron reflectometry (NR) is a technique that is becoming progressively more widespread, as indicated by the current commissioning of several new reflectometers worldwide. NR is valuable for the characterization of biomolecules at interfaces due to its capability to provide quantitative structural and compositional information on relevant molecular length scales. Recent years have seen an increasing number of applications of NR to problems related to drug and gene delivery. We start our review by summarizing the experimental methodology of the technique with reference to the description of biological liquid interfaces. Various methods for the interpretation of data are then discussed, including a new approach based on the lattice mean-field theory to help characterize stimulus-responsive surfaces relevant to drug delivery function. Recent progress in the subject area is reviewed in terms of NR studies relevant to the delivery of lipids and DNA to surfaces. Lastly, we discuss two case studies to exemplify practical features of NR that are exploited in combination with complementary techniques. The first case concerns the interactions of lipid-based cubic phase nanoparticles with model membranes (a drug delivery application), and the second case concerns DNA compaction at surfaces and in the bulk solution (a gene delivery application). © 2008 American Vacuum Society. [DOI: 10.1116/1.2976448]





# Fission and Spallation

# FISSION

#### Courtesy of Konstantín Batkov

#### Example

$$n + {}^{235}U \longrightarrow {}^{95}Sr + {}^{139}Xe + 2n$$

#### Why incident neutron?

- ► Zero electric charge ( $\Rightarrow$  no Coulomb's repulsion) allows the neutrons of very low energy to approach the nucleus at  $I \ll L_{nucl}$
- Very high fission cross-section with <sup>235</sup>U.

#### Prompt neutrons

• Average energy:  $\sim 1 \, {
m MeV}$ 

#### Why 235U?

- Most of heavy nuclei can undergo the fission reaction initiated by neutrons, but <sup>235</sup>U has very high cross section with thermal neutrons.
- No fission threshold energy ⇒ incident neutrons can be very slow.

#### **Fission fragments**

Beta radioactive

# Chain Reaction



**Spallation Neutron Yield** (i.e. multiplicity of emitted neutrons) determines the requirement in terms of the accelerator power (current and energy of incident proton beam).

**Spallation Neutron Spectrum** (i.e. energy distribution of emitted neutrons) determines the damage and activation of the structural materials (design of the beam window and spallation target)

Spallation Product Distributions

determines the radiotoxicity of the residues (radioprotection requirements).

#### **Energy** Deposition

determines the thermal-hydraulic requirements (cooling capabilities and nature of the spallation target).

→ Sub-critical Reaction

ASP2012 – July 31<sup>th</sup>, 2012

# Fission and Spallation

EUROPEAN SPALLATION





# Fission and Spallation





# Energy efficiency is key for high intensity neutron beam production

#### Fast neutrons produced / joule heat deposited in target station

Fission reactors:	~ 109	(in ~ 50 liter volume)
Spallation:	~ 1010	(in ~ 2 liter volume)

Fusion: ~1.5x10<sup>10</sup> (in ~ 2 liter volume) (but neutron slowing down efficiency reduced by ~20 times)

Photo neutrons:	~ 109	(in ~ 0.01 liter volume)
Nuclear reaction (p, Be):	~ 108	(in ~ 0.001 liter volume)
Laser induced fusion:	~ 104	(in ~ 10 <sup>.9</sup> liter volume)

#### Spallation: most favourable for the foreseeable future