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# **Neutron Sources**

**Christine Darve** 

### African School of Fundamental Physics and its Applications



# Outline



- Neutrons properties and their interactions
- How to generate intense neutron beams using high power proton linear accelerator: The example of the ESS

for further reading

• Applications using Neutrons

## **General Applications**



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# **Neutron Coherency Length**



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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.

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

## Small-Angle (SANS/SAXS)



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Figure 32. Sequence of two-dimensional corrected SANS pattern from magnetic sample of Cu(NiFe) metal-alloy in the external magnetic field

calculated scattering curve corresponds to the scattering from four independent Gaussian particles as indicated by D1-D4. b) Fit results to the measured scattering curve shown in a). Fitting ..... proversion of the scattering curve shown in a). Fitting ......



## Polymers



an average radius of microgel-core ( $\sim 1$  nm), and average arm numbers  $N \sim 17$ .

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## Contrast Variation

Spherical high density lipoprotein (sHDL), a key player in reverse cholesterol transport and the most abundant form of HDL, is associated with cardiovascular diseases.

Small angle neutron scattering with contrast variation was used to determine the solution structure of protein and lipid components of reconstituted sHDL. Apolipoprotein A1, the major protein of sHDL, forms a hollow structure that cradles a central compact lipid core. Three apoA1 chains are arranged within the low resolution structure of the protein component as one of three possible global architectures: (i) a helical dimer with a hairpin (HdHp), (ii) three hairpins (3Hp), or (iii) an integrated trimer (iT) in which the three apoA1 monomers mutually associate over a portion of the sHDL surface. Crosslinking and mass spectrometry analyses help to discriminate among the three molecular models and are most consistent with the HdHp overall architecture of apoA1 within sHDL













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#### Review

### Nanocomposites for food packaging applications

#### Henriette M.C. de Azeredo\*

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## Fuel Cells & Hydrogen Economy

Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A 605 (2009) 115-118



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### Neutron radiography characterization of an operating proton exchange membrane fuel cell with localized current distribution measurements

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### ARTICLE INFO

Available online 5 February 2009

Keywords: Neutron radiography Fuel cell Proton exchange membrane Water management Current distribution

### ABSTRACT

Neutron radiography has proven to be a powerful tool to study and understand the effects of liquid water in an operating fuel cell. In the present work, this experimental method is coupled with locally resolved current and ohmic resistance measurements, giving additional insight into water management and fuel cell performance under a variety of conditions. The effects of varying the inlet humidification level and the current density of the  $50 \text{ cm}^2$  cell are studied by simultaneously monitoring electrochemical performance with a  $10 \times 10$  matrix of current sensors, and liquid water volumes are measured using the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) neutron imaging facility. A counter flow, straight channel proton exchange membrane (PEM) fuel cell is used to demonstrate localized performance loss corresponds to water-filled channels that impede gas transport to the catalyst layer, thereby creating an area that has low current density. Furthermore, certain operating conditions causing excess water accumulation in the channels can result in localized proton resistance increase, a result that can only be accurately observed with combined radiography and distributed electrochemical measurements.

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## Solar Cells



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THE JOURNAL OF CHEMICAL PHYSICS 133, 074902 (2010)

# Phase-sensitive neutron reflectometry measurements applied in the study of photovoltaic films

J. W. Kiel,<sup>1,2</sup> M. E. Mackay,<sup>2,a)</sup> B. J. Kirby,<sup>3</sup> B. B. Maranville,<sup>3</sup> and C. F. Majkrzak<sup>3,a)</sup> <sup>1</sup>Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, USA

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(Received 4 May 2010; accepted 5 July 2010; published online 20 August 2010)

Due to low charge carrier mobilities in polymer-based solar cells, device performance is dictated by the nanoscale morphology of the active layer components. However, their morphological details are notoriously difficult to distinguish due to the low electron contrast difference between the components. Phase-sensitive neutron reflectivity (PSNR) is uniquely suited to characterize these systems due to the large, natural scattering length density difference between two common device materials, poly(3-hexylthiophene) and [6,6]-phenyl-C61-butyric acid methyl ester (PCBM). Using PSNR we find a high concentration of PCBM at the substrate and near but not at the air interface. Herein we discuss the method of applying PSNR to polymer-based solar cells, the results obtained, and an evaluation of its effectiveness. © 2010 American Institute of Physics.



Courtesy: STFC, UK

# Hydrogen Storage



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### Hydrogen Storage in a Microporous Metal–Organic Framework with Exposed Mn<sup>2+</sup> Coordination Sites

Mircea Dincă,<sup>†</sup> Anne Dailly,<sup>‡,⊥</sup> Yun Liu,<sup>§,∥</sup> Craig M. Brown,<sup>§,#</sup> Dan. A. Neumann,<sup>§</sup> and Jeffrey R. Long<sup>\*,†</sup>

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*Figure 7.* Initial D<sub>2</sub> adsorption sites within 1m'. Light blue spheres represent D<sub>2</sub> centroids, while the transparent orange sphere shows the position of a partially occupied, extraframework  $Mn^{2+}$  ion site. Hydrogen atoms and methanol molecules are omitted for clarity.

# YBCO

- YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-x</sub>
- High-Tc superconductor
- x=0.07, Tc=93K most efficient





PACS numbers: 74.70.Ya

# **Forefront of Science**



#### letters to nature

 Bappaig H, L. & Anderson, P. W. Deficition on drawareness of the destrict and thermal memory. *Rep. Natl.* 83, 81, 151–1162 (1991).
Barkson, N. Berger seminal phase-soft-ment conductance. *Rep. Rev. Lett.* 57, 1381–1364 (1996).
Barkson, M. Beiger and Gragmann coherements and results and Rev. *Bet 33*, 300–3005 (1996).
Barkson, M. Beiger and S. Berger and B. Berger and

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# Superconductivity in the non-oxide perovskite MgCNi<sub>3</sub>

T. He\*, Q. Huang†, A. P. Ramirez‡, Y. Wang§, K. A. Regan\*, N. Rogado\*, M. A. Hayward\*, M. K. Haas\*, J. S. Slusky\*, K. Inumara\*, H. W. Zandbergen\*, N. P. Ong§ & R. J. Cava\*

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electronic states of these materials'. Here we report that the perovskite-structured compound MgCNi<sub>3</sub> is superconducting with a critical temperature of 8 K. This material is the threedimensional analogue of the LnNi<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>C family of superconductors, which have critical temperatures up to 16 K (rd. 2). The infinerant electrons in both families of materials arise from the partial filling of the nickd *elsates*, which generally leads to ferromagnetism as is the case in metallic Ni. The high relative proportion of Ni in MgCN<sub>3</sub> suggests that magnetic interactions are important, and the lower *T<sub>c</sub>* of this three-dimensional compound—when compared to the LnNi<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>C family—conductivity.

The variable stoichiometry compound MgC,Ni, (where 0.5 > x > 1.25) has been previously reported; it was supposed to have a perowskie structure by analogy<sup>14</sup>. Neither its crystal structure nor its physical properties had been determined previously. In this study, samples with nominal formula MgC,Ni, for x = 1.5, 1.25, 1.1, 1.0 and 0.9 were prepared. The starting materials were bright Mg flakes (AkIrich Chemical), fine Ni powder (Mfa AESAR). The starting materials were mixed in 0.5-g batches, and pressed into pelets. The pelets were placed on Ta foil, which was, in turn, placed on an Ak20, boat, and fired in a quartizable for half an hour at 600°C, followed by one hour at 900°C. After cooling, they were



**Figure 1** The powder neutron diffraction pattern at ambient temperature for the sample of nominal composition MgC<sub>1.25</sub>Ni<sub>3</sub> and the perovskite crystal structure for the super-conducting compound MgCNi<sub>3</sub> (inset). Neutrons of wavelength 1.5402 Å were employed (Cu 311 monochromator), with collimators of 15', 20' and 7' of arc before and after the monochromator, and after the sample, respectively. The neutron scattering lengths employed in the structure refinement were 0.538, 0.665 and 1.030 (cm<sup>-12</sup>) for Mg, C and Ni, respectively. Data are shown as crosses, and the difference plot between model and data shown directly below. The vertical lines (bottom) show the Bragg peak positions for the MgCNi<sub>3</sub> phase. The sample contains 2 wt% graphite (about 25 mol.%) in agreement with the nominal composition. Positions of the graphite peaks are shown as vertical lines above those for MgCNi<sub>3</sub>. The refinement agreement, weighted profile agreement, and  $\chi^2$  values obtained were R = 5.14%,  $R_w = 6.39\%$  and  $\chi^2 = 1.258$ , indicating the high quality of the structural model.

above those for MgCN<sub>0</sub>. The refinement agreement, weighted profile agreement, and  $\chi^2$ values obtained were R = 5.14%,  $R_{\mu} = 6.39$ % and  $\chi^2 = 1.258$ , indicating the high quality of the structural model.

# **Buckminster Fullerenes**



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### High resolution neutron powder diffraction: a case study of the structure of $C_{60}$

BY W. I. F. DAVID<sup>1</sup>, R. M. IBBERSON<sup>1</sup> AND T. MATSUO<sup>2</sup>

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High resolution time-of-flight neutron powder diffraction has been used to determine the detailed structure of  $C_{60}$  as a function of temperature. Rapid data collection coupled with high resolution has enabled subtle aspects of the 86 K orientational glass transition and precursor effects of the 260 K order–disorder transition to be observed. This surveying capability complements traditional single crystal methods. The power of the Rietveld method of profile refinement is demonstrated in the elucidation of the detailed crystal structure of the orientationally-ordered low temperature phase and in the evaluation of the departure from isotropic scattering of the  $C_{60}$  molecule in the disordered high temperature phase. The counter-intuitive success in obtaining high-order cubic-harmonic coefficients, albeit to poorer precision than single crystal X-ray measurements, confirms the efficacy of the Rietveld profile refinement method. The collapse of three dimensions of diffraction information on to the one dimension of a high resolution powder diffraction pattern can still lead to an impressive amount of structural information that substantiates the assertion made by W. H. Bragg

'the second method [powder diffraction], first used independently by Debye and Hull, can be used when the crystal is in powder, and can, therefore be employed when no single crystal can be obtained of sufficient size. All the spectra of the different planes are thrown together on the same diagram or photograph, and must be disentangled. This is not as difficult as it may seem ...'.



# **Diffraction:** Zeolites



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**Applications:** 

graphic model (upper line). The upper and lower sets of short vertical lines indicate reflections of the impurity compound RUB-23 and RUB-29. respectively. The lower curve shows the difference between the observed and calculated data. The plot is enlarged in the high angle range between Detergents: Ion exchange capability 0° < 20 < 75° to emphasize agreement between the data and the model. Gas separation: Microporosity **Dessicants:** Adsorption Catalysis: acidity, porosity, high surface area

Large Unit Cell!

Fig. 1. Observed neutron diffraction intensities (crosses) for deuterium-exchanged RUB-29 superimposed on those computed from the crystallo-

Source: B Toby NIST

# **Batteries**



## Experimental vi diffusion in Li<sub>x</sub>Fe

### SHIN-ICHI NISHIMURA<sup>1</sup>, GENKI KOBA AND ATSUO YAN

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**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 ary Information, Table S1. The structure can be agonal close-packed oxygen sub-array, in which Li, Fe tial 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  $\lambda_4$  groups connecting neighbouring planes or arrays. The d ellipsoids indicate Li, Fe, P and O atoms, respectively. le 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>.

# **Research at Large Facilities**







## Science with Neutrons



# **Further Reading**

- B.T.M. Willis & C.J. Carlile 'Experimental Neutron Scattering', Oxford University Press
- G.L. Squires 'Introduction to the Theory of Thermal Neutron Scattering', Cambridge University Press / Dover
- W.I.F. David, K. Shankland, L.B. McCusker, and C. Bärlocher (Eds.) 'Structure Determination from Powder Diffraction Data' IUCr Monographs 13
- Liyuan Liang, Romano Rinaldi, and Helmut Schober, eds, 'Neutron Applications in Earth, Energy and Environmental Sciences', ISBN 978-0-387-09415-1, Springer 2009
- A Furrer, J Mesot, T Strässle, 'Neutron Scattering in Condensed Matter Physics;, World Scientific,
- Google, ISI Web of Science, ScienceDirect..





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# EXTRA SLIDES

## Secondary particle produced at J-PARC

