

# Introduction to Neutron Spin Echo Spectroscopy

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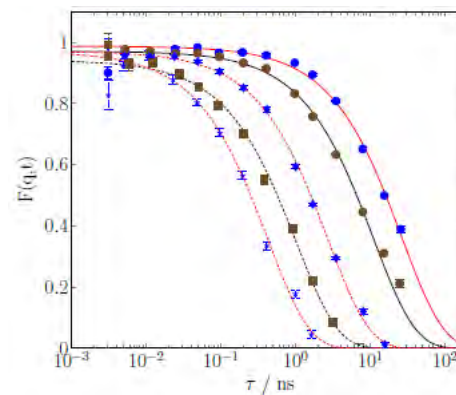
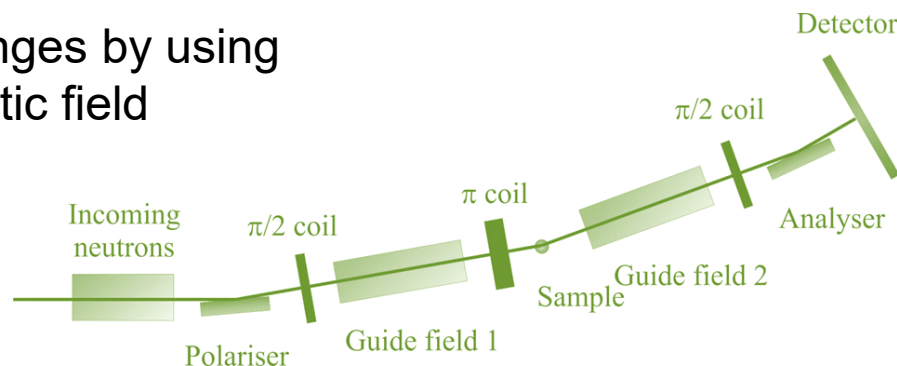
Piotr A. Zolnierczuk

Jülich Centre for Neutron Science, Forschungszentrum Jülich

- 1. Basic Principles of NSE**
- 2. NSE Spectrometers and variations**
- 3. The NSE Spectrometer @ SNS**
- 4. Science Examples**
- 5. Summary and References**

## Neutron Spin Echo in a Nutshell

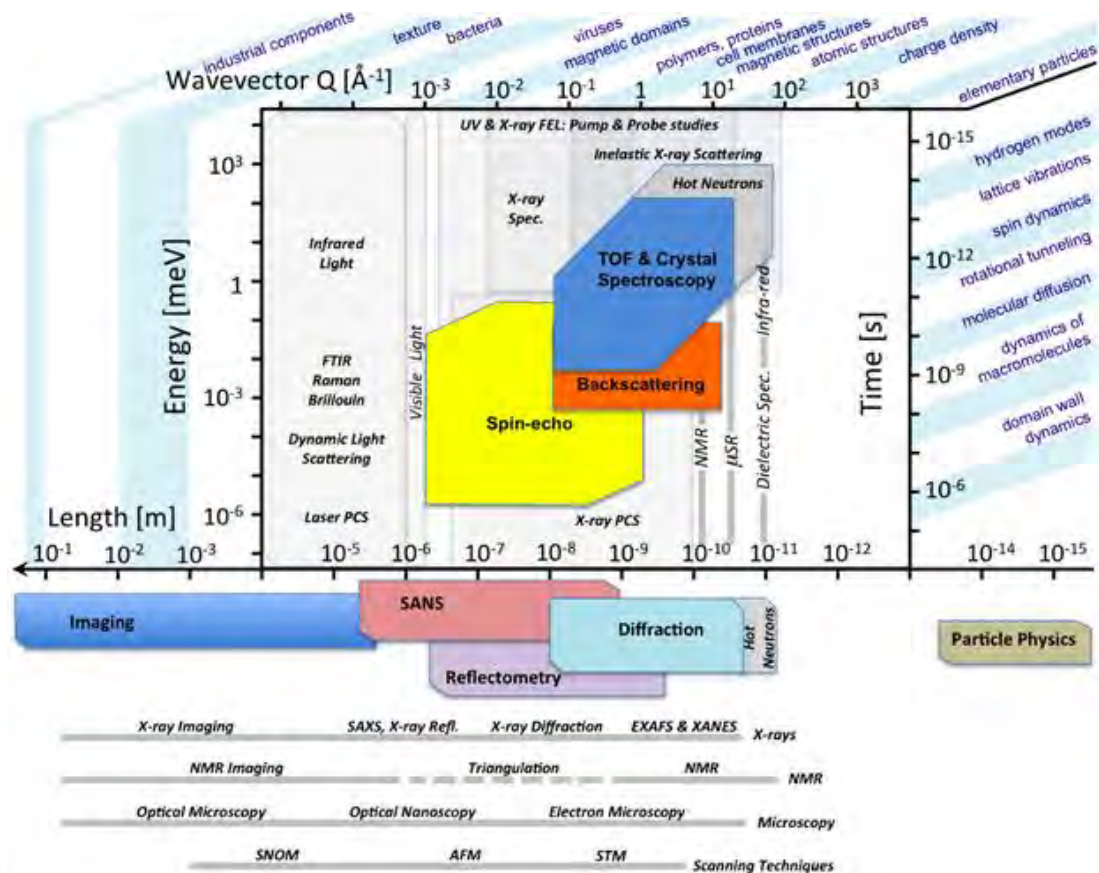
- Measures very small velocity changes by using neutron spin precession in magnetic field
- Broad  $\Delta\lambda/\lambda$  and high resolution
- Intermediate Scattering Function:  $I(Q, \tau)$
- Counting intensive and large samples
- Complementary to SANS/SAXS



# Neutron and X-Ray Instruments Landscape

## NSE can study:

- Coherent Dynamics
  - Diffusion
  - Shape fluctuations
  - Polymer dynamics
  - Glassy systems
- Incoherent Dynamics
  - Hydrogen
- Magnetic Dynamics
  - Spin Glasses



# NSE : From an Idea to a Instrument

1972 → 1978

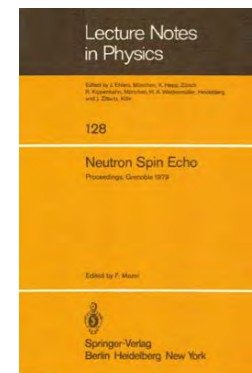
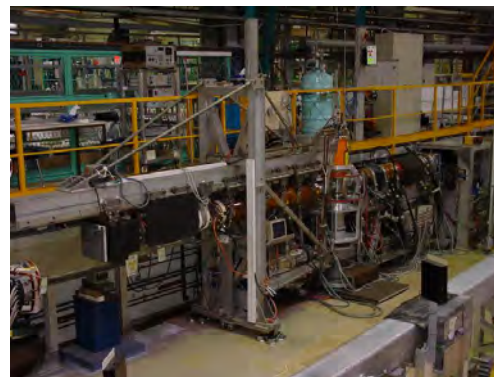
## Neutron Spin Echo: A New Concept in Polarized Thermal Neutron Techniques

F. Mezei

Institut Laue-Langevin, Grenoble, France\* and  
Central Research Institute for Physics, Budapest, Hungary

Received July 7, 1972

A simple method to change and keep track of neutron beam polarization parallel to the magnetic field is described. It makes possible the establishment of a new focusing effect we call neutron spin echo. The technique developed and tested experimentally can be applied in several novel ways, e.g. for neutron spin flipper superior characteristics, for a very high resolution spectrometer for direct determination of the Fourier transform of the scattering function, for generalised polarization analysis and for the measurement of neutron particle properties with significantly improved precision.



### THE IN11 NEUTRON SPIN ECHO SPECTROMETER

P.A. DAGLEISH, J.B. HAYTER and F. MEZEI  
Institut Laue-Langevin,  
156X, 38042 Grenoble Cédex,  
France



### INTRODUCTION

The first full-fledged Neutron Spin Echo spectrometer was built at the Institut Laue-Langevin on the H142 cold neutron guide and it is called IN11. The basic design was made back in 1973 and IN11 was meant to serve as much as an experimental facility for development and testing, as a regular user instrument. Consequently, the only design feature which was pushed to an optimum is flexibility of both the hardware and the software, whereas for all the other features like resolution, neutron intensity etc. safe and fairly inexpensive middle-of-the-road solutions have been adopted.

# Basic Principles of Neutron Spin Echo



# Inelastic Neutron Scattering

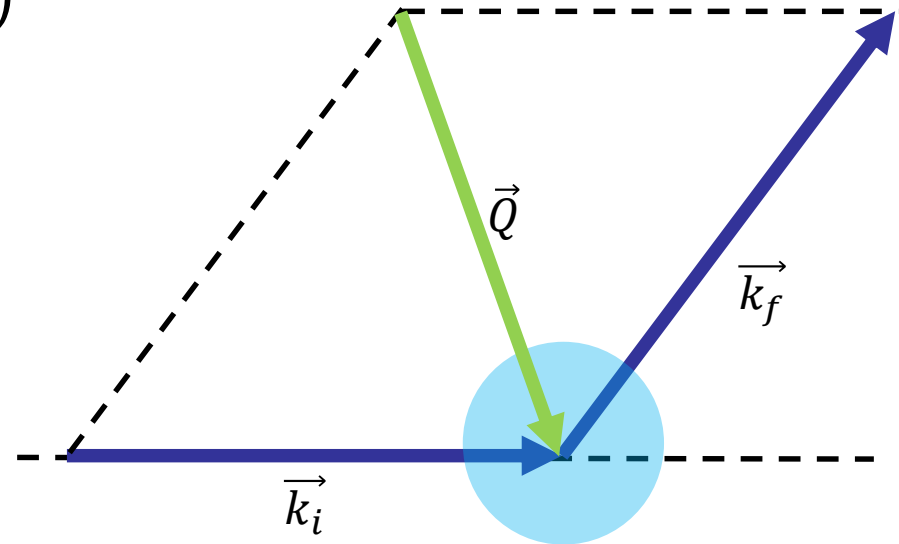
Neutron scattering kinematics

$$\Delta E = \hbar\omega = \frac{1}{2}(mv_i^2 - mv_f^2)$$

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

Dynamic Structure Factor

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE} = \frac{\sigma}{4\pi} \frac{k_f}{k_i} N S(\vec{Q}, \omega)$$



$$|\vec{k}| = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$$

(Louis de Broglie, 1924)

## Larmor Precession (I)

Bloch Equation

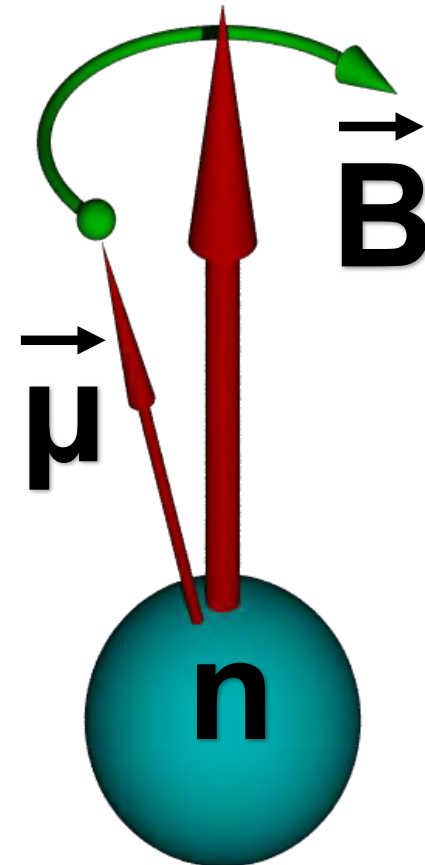
$$\frac{d\vec{\mu}}{dt} = \gamma\vec{\mu} \times \vec{B}$$

Larmor Frequency

$$\omega_L = |\gamma B|$$

Neutron Gyromagnetic Ratio

$$|\gamma/2\pi| \approx 30 \text{ MHz/T}$$





## Larmor Precession (II)

Accumulated phase

$$\varphi = \omega_L t = \gamma B l \frac{1}{v}$$

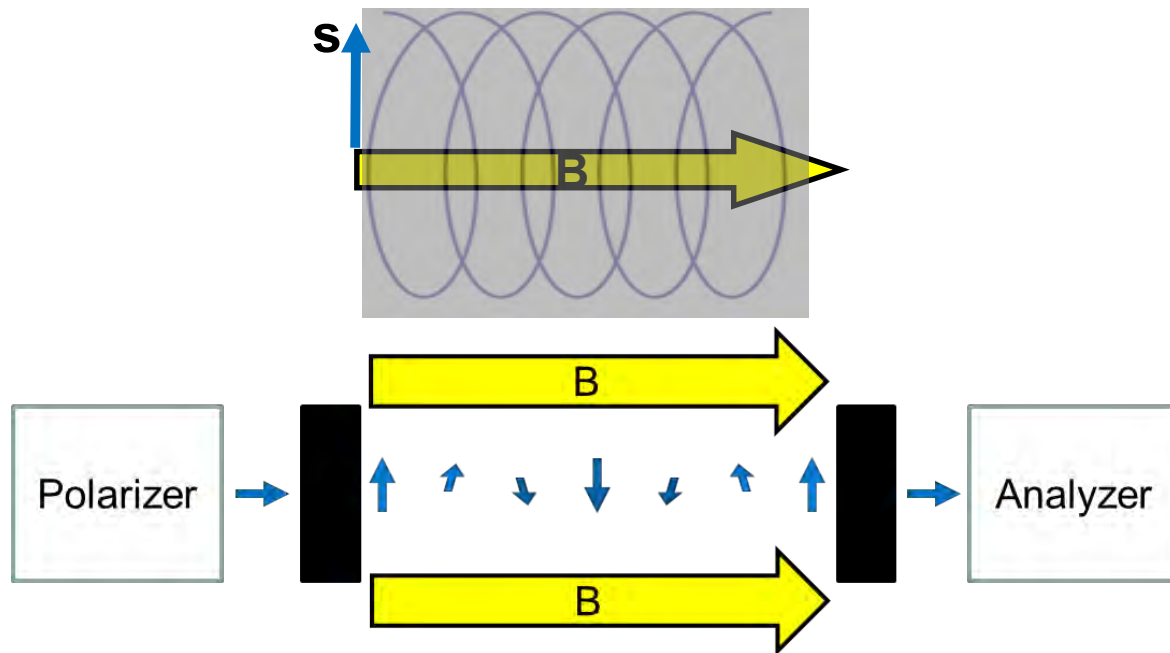
or

$$\varphi = \gamma \frac{m}{h} J \lambda$$

for example:

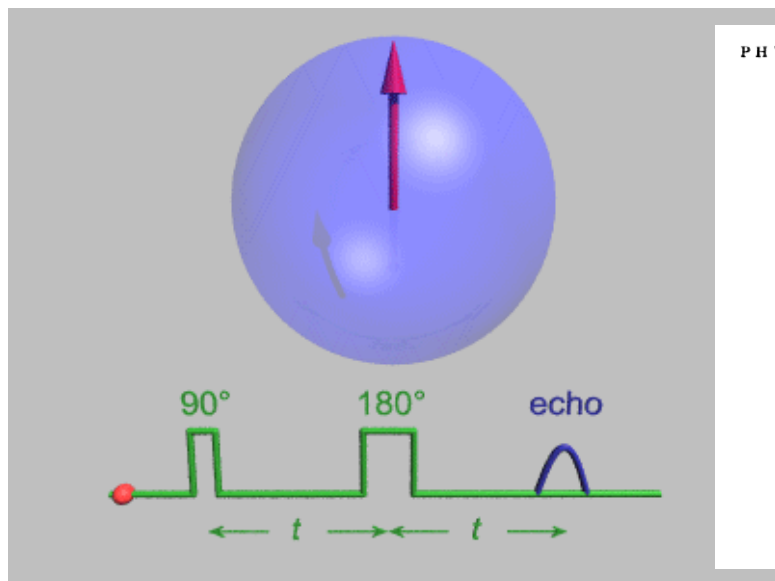
$$\lambda = 8 \text{ \AA}, \quad B l = 0.5 \text{ Tm}$$

$$\rightarrow \varphi / 2\pi \cong 3 \times 10^4 \text{ [nr. of turns]}$$



Notes:  $J \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} B l$  or more precisely  $J \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int \vec{B} \cdot \vec{dl}$

# HAHN Echo



PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 80. NUMBER 4

NOVEMBER 15, 1950

## Spin Echoes\*†

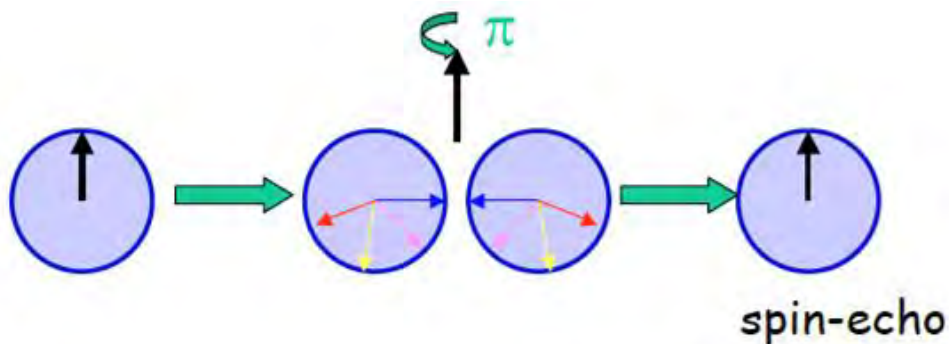
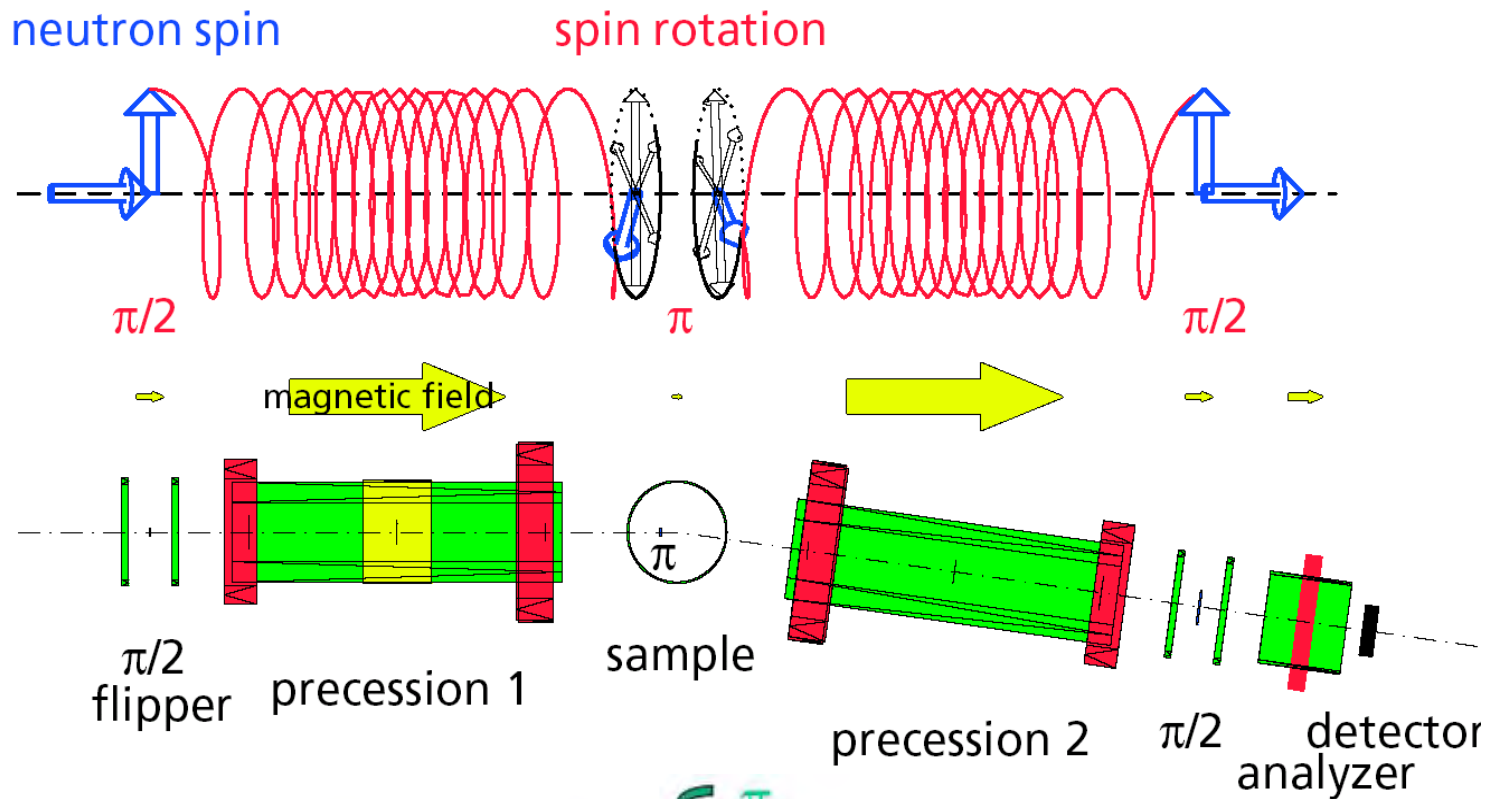
E. L. HAHN‡

*Physics Department, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois*

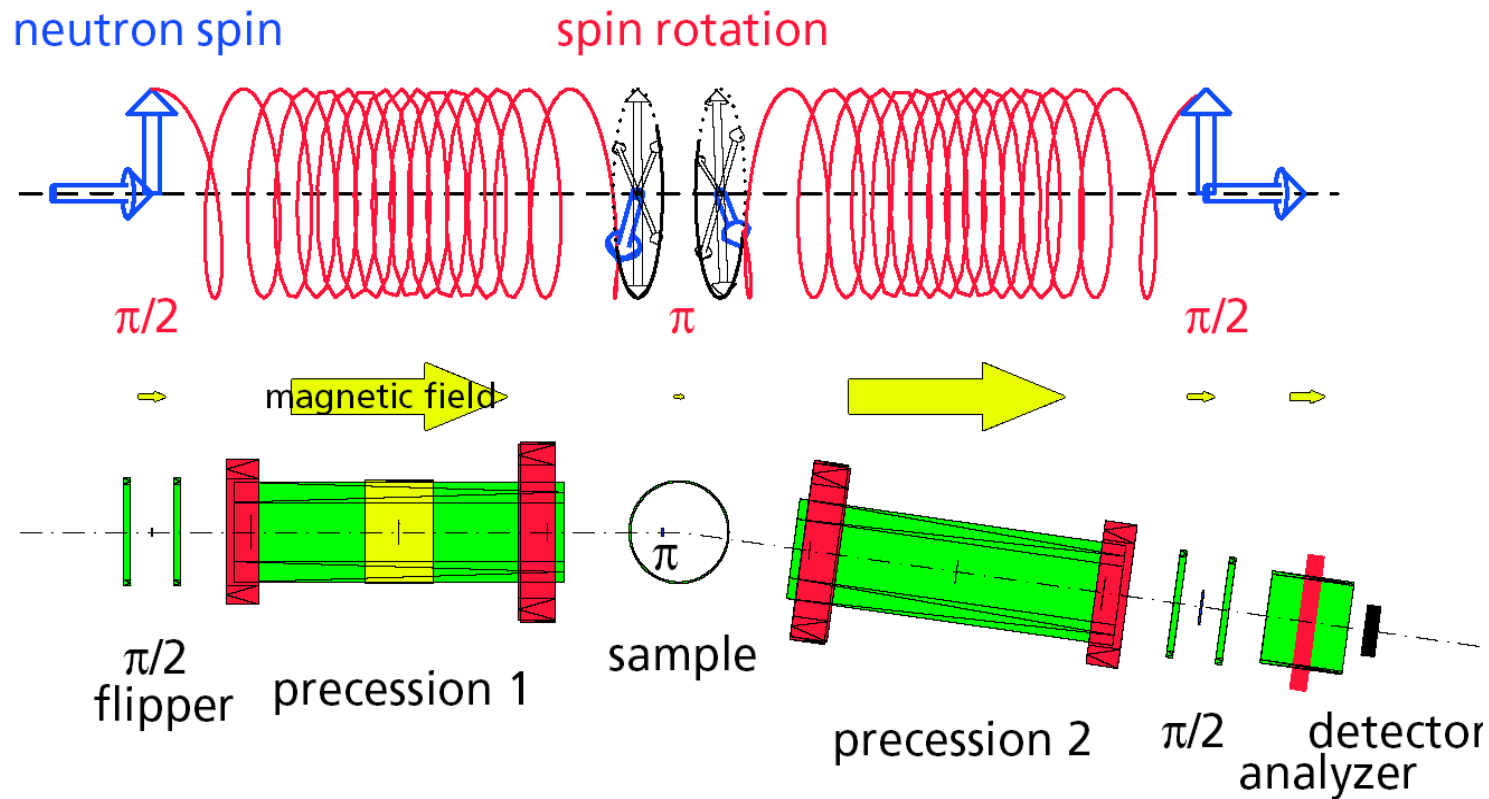
(Received May 22, 1950)

Intense radiofrequency power in the form of pulses is applied to an ensemble of spins in a liquid placed in a large static magnetic field  $H_0$ . The frequency of the pulsed r-f power satisfies the condition for nuclear magnetic resonance, and the pulses last for times which are short compared with the time in which the nutating macroscopic magnetic moment of the entire spin ensemble can decay. After removal of the pulses a non-equilibrium configuration of isochromatic macroscopic moments remains in which the moment vectors precess freely. Each moment vector has a magnitude at a given precession frequency which is determined by the distribution of Larmor frequencies imposed upon the ensemble by inhomogeneities in  $H_0$ . At times determined by pulse sequences applied in the past the constructive interference of these moment vectors gives rise to observable spontaneous nuclear induction signals. The properties and underlying principles of these spin echo signals are discussed with use of the Bloch theory. Relaxation times are measured directly and accurately from the measurement of echo amplitudes. An analysis includes the effect on relaxation measurements of the self-diffusion of liquid molecules which contain resonant nuclei. Preliminary studies are made of several effects associated with spin echoes, including the observed shifts in magnetic resonance frequency of spins due to magnetic shielding of nuclei contained in molecules.

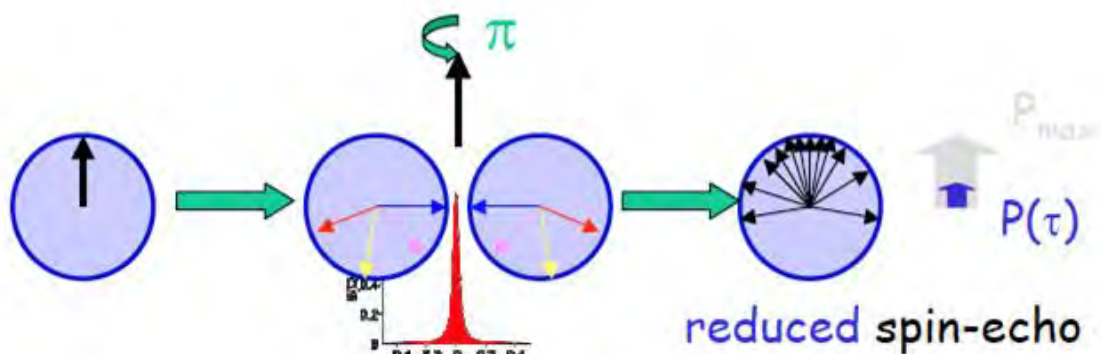
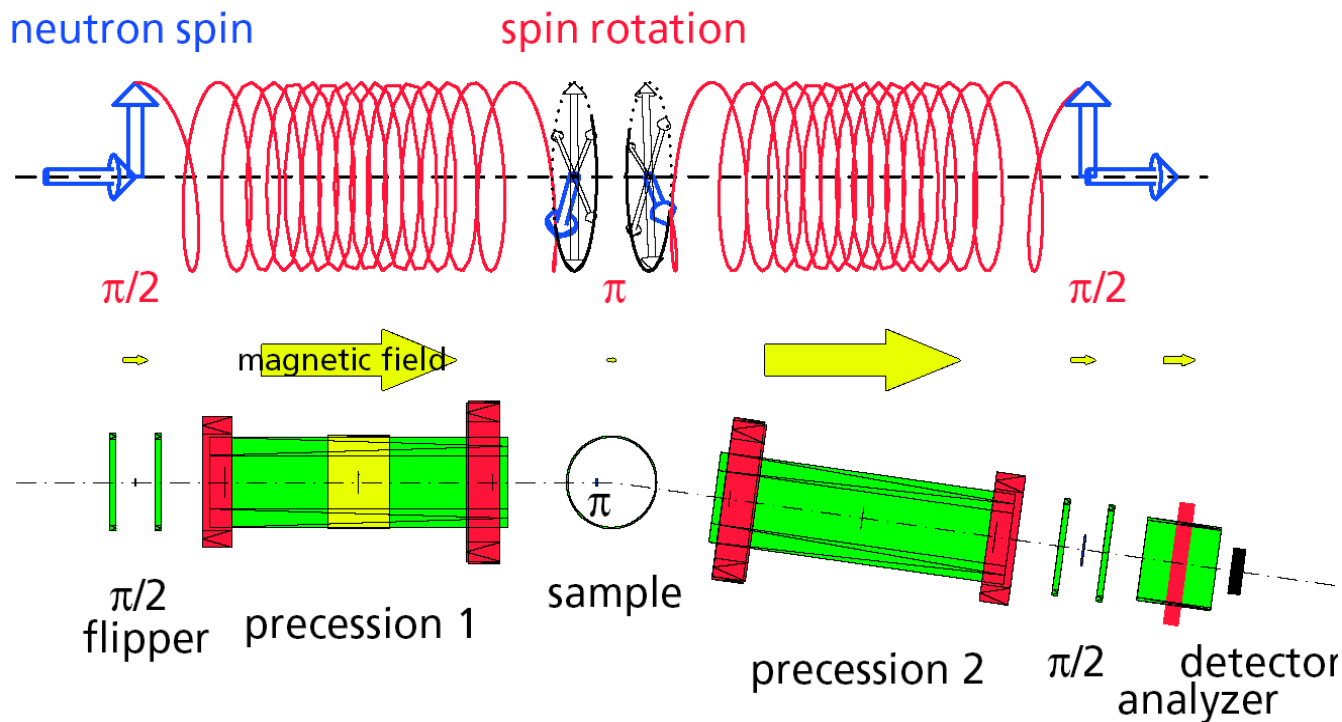
# Neutron Spin Echo (I)



## Neutron Spin Echo (II)

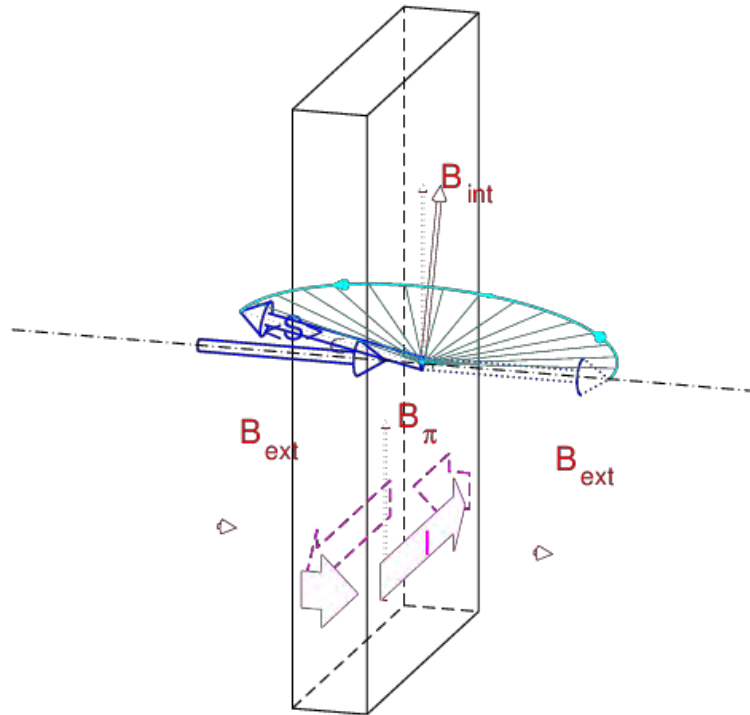


# Neutron Spin Echo (inelastic)

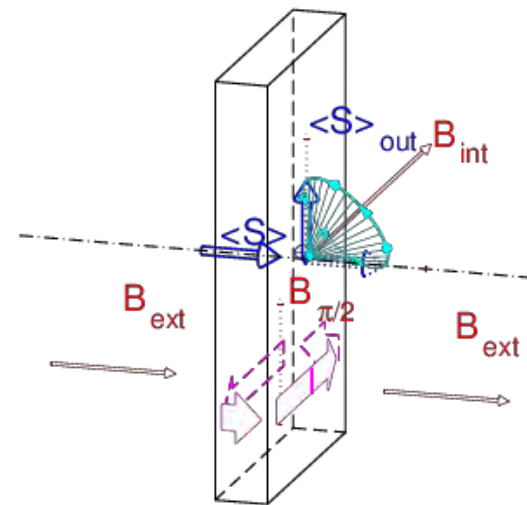


# Neutron Spin Manipulation Mezei Flippers

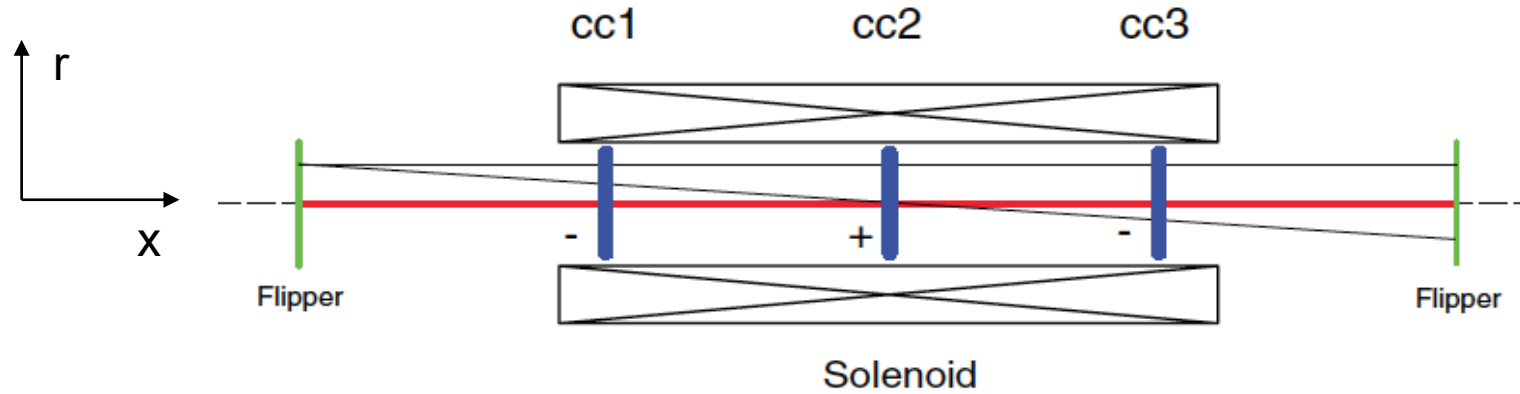
$\pi$ -flipper



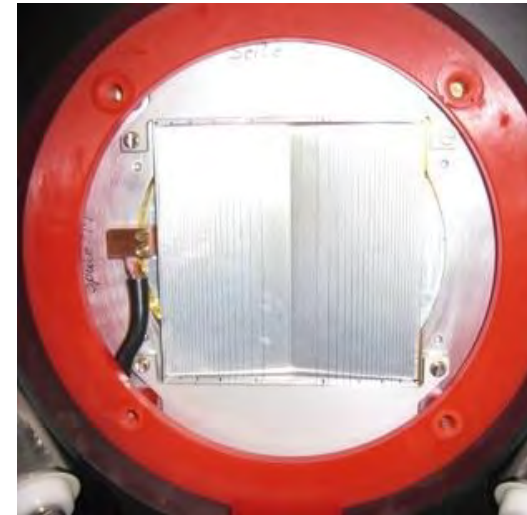
$\pi/2$ -flipper



# Correction Coils



- Problem:
  - $J = Bl$  the same for all trajectories
  - Solenoid field  $B(r) \sim r^2$
- Solution:
  - correction coils





# Neutron Spin Echo Signal

NSE Signal:  $I \sim \langle \cos \phi \rangle = \langle \cos \omega \tau \rangle$

Fourier time

$$\tau \cong 0.186 J \lambda^3 \text{ [ns]}$$

$$[J] = Tm, [\lambda] = \text{Å}$$

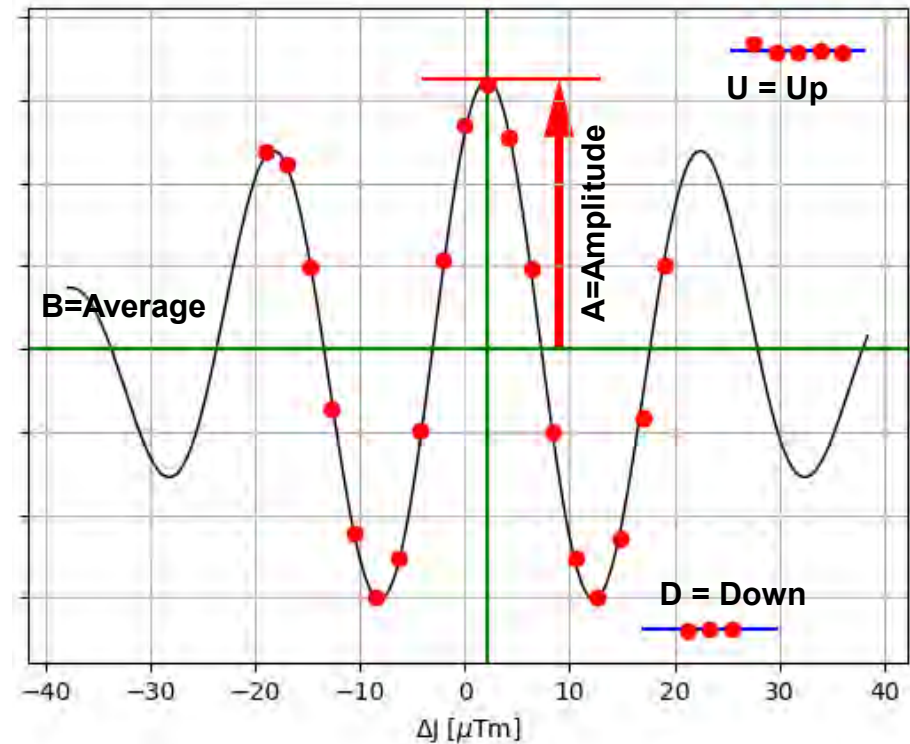
$$I \sim I(Q) \pm \int S(Q, \omega) \cos(\omega \tau) d\omega$$

Fourier transform  
(Real part)

$$B \sim I(Q)$$

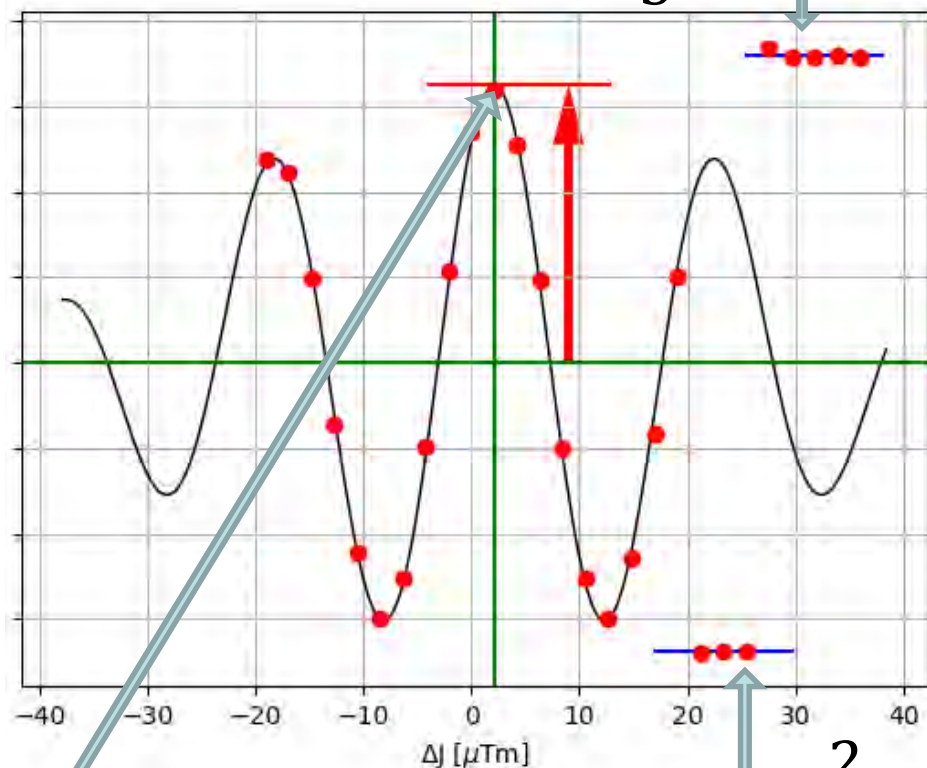
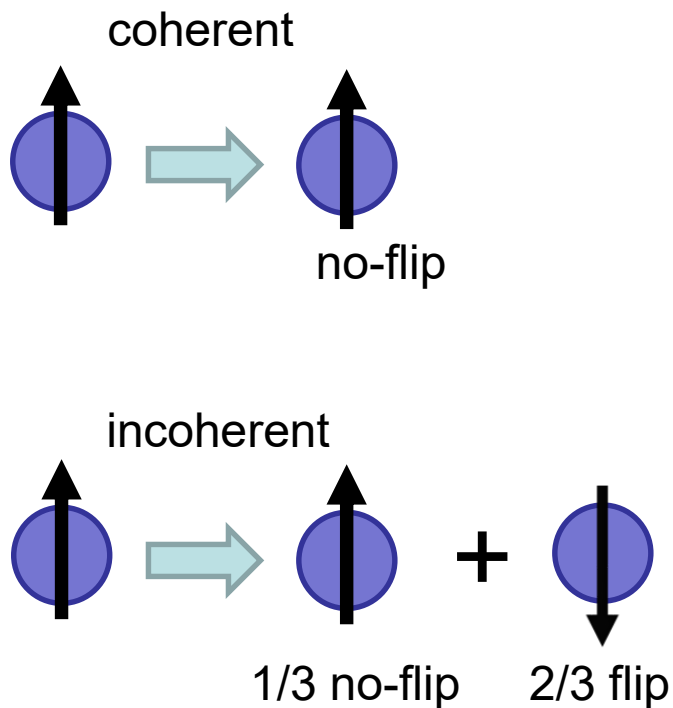
$$A \sim I(Q, \tau) = \mathcal{F}[S(Q, \omega)]$$

$$\frac{I(Q, \tau)}{I(Q, 0)} = \frac{2A}{U - D}$$



# Coherent/Incoherent Scattering in NSE

$$I_{\text{up}} = I_{\text{coh}} + \frac{1}{3} I_{\text{inc}}$$



$$I_{\text{down}} = \frac{2}{3} I_{\text{inc}}$$

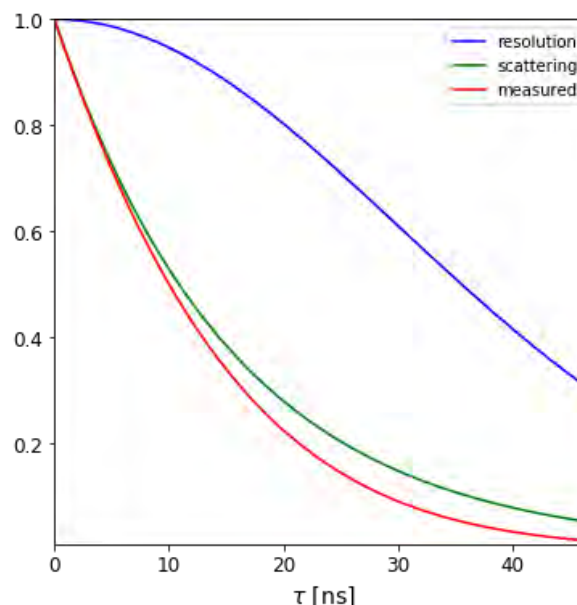
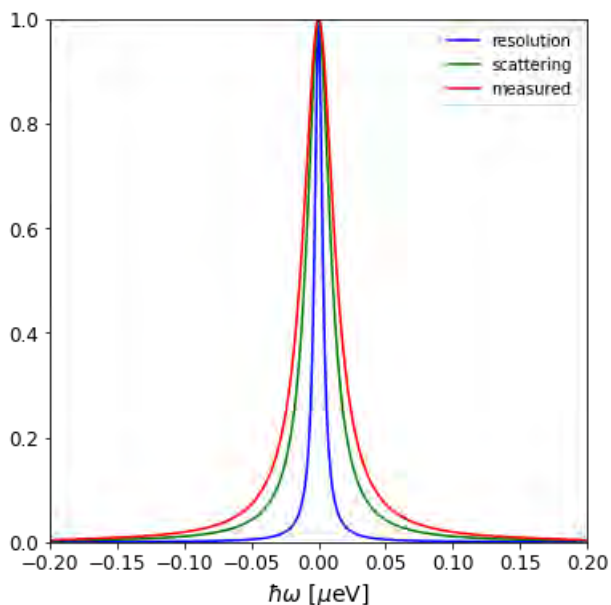
$$I_{\text{echo}} = I_{\text{coh}} f_{\text{coh}}(\tau) - \frac{1}{3} I_{\text{inc}} f_{\text{inc}}(\tau)$$

# Energy and Time Domain (QENS/INS ↔ NSE)

QENS: Dynamic Structure Factor

NSE: Intermediate Scattering Function

$$S(Q, \omega) \xleftarrow{\text{Fourier Transform}} I(Q, \tau)$$



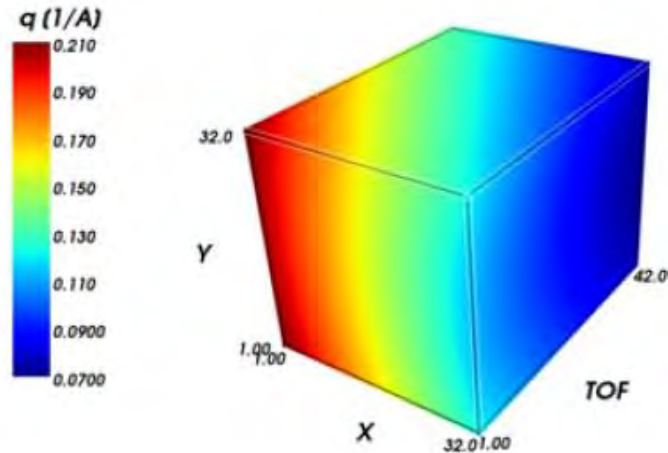
$$I_D(Q, \omega) = S(Q, \omega) * R(Q, \omega)$$

$$I_D(Q, \tau) = I(Q, \tau) R(Q, \tau)$$

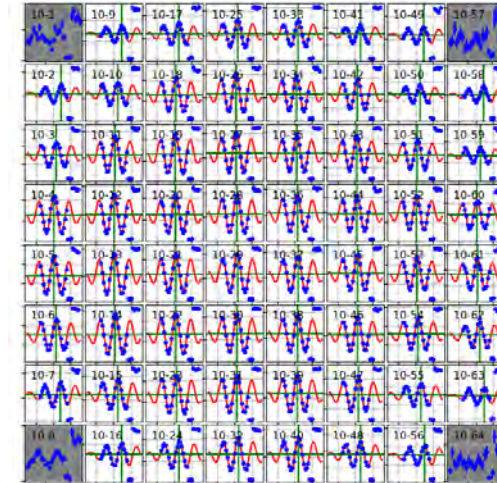
To get  $S(Q, \omega)$  we have to de-convolute instrument resolution

To get  $I(Q, \tau)$  we just divide out instrument resolution

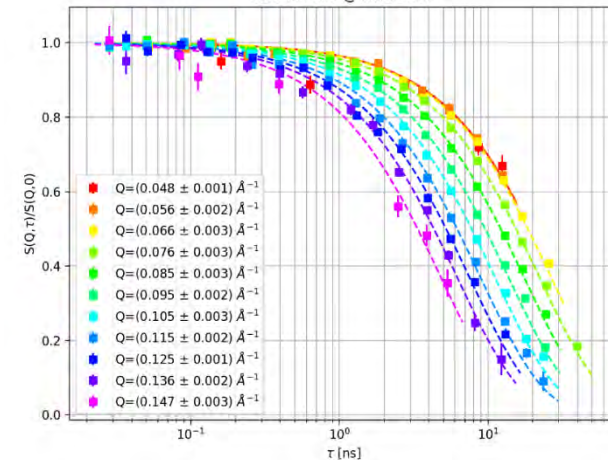
# NSE Data Reduction



SamSDSMicelle (/fits\_8327 echo[10])



SDS Micelle @ NXS 2017



## 1. Resolution

- symmetry phase (echo)
- get  $R(Q, \tau; \text{pixel})$

## 2. Sample: $I_{raw}(Q, \tau; \text{pixel})$

## 3. Background:

- $I_{bgr}(Q, \tau; \text{pixel})$
- correction  $\rightarrow$   
 $I_{sig}(Q, \tau; \text{pixel})$

## 4. Compute $I(Q, \tau; \text{pixel}) = \frac{I_{sig}(Q, \tau)}{R(Q, \tau)}$

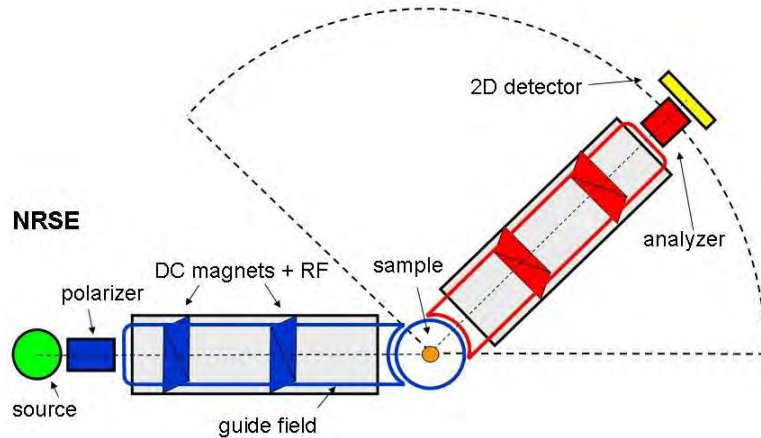
## Some NSE Theme Variations



# Resonance and SANS Spin Echo

## NRSE

### Neutron Resonance Spin Echo

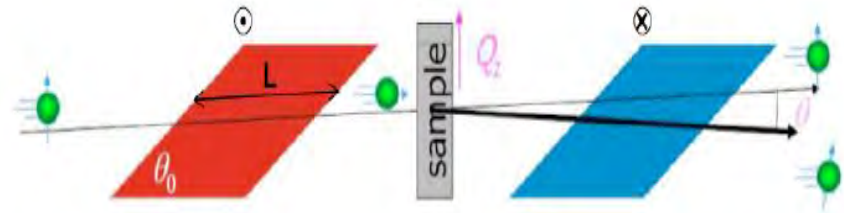


RF field instead of solenoid

- more compact design.
- shorter Fourier times

## SESANS

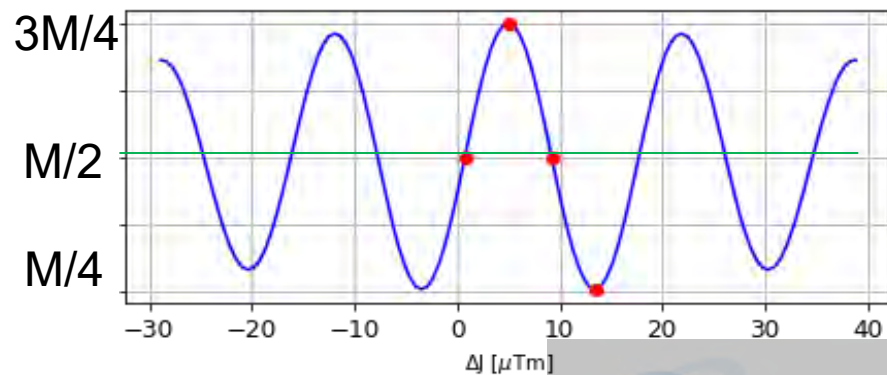
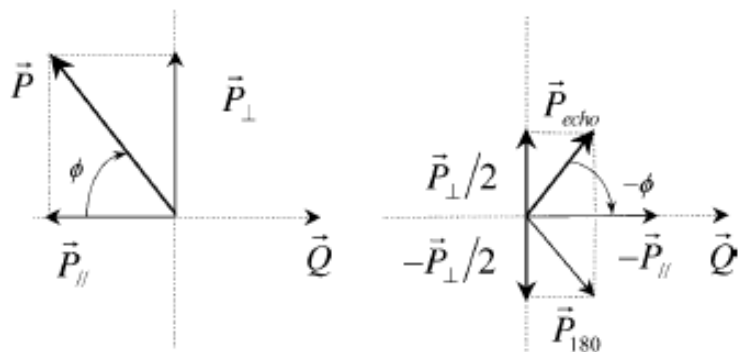
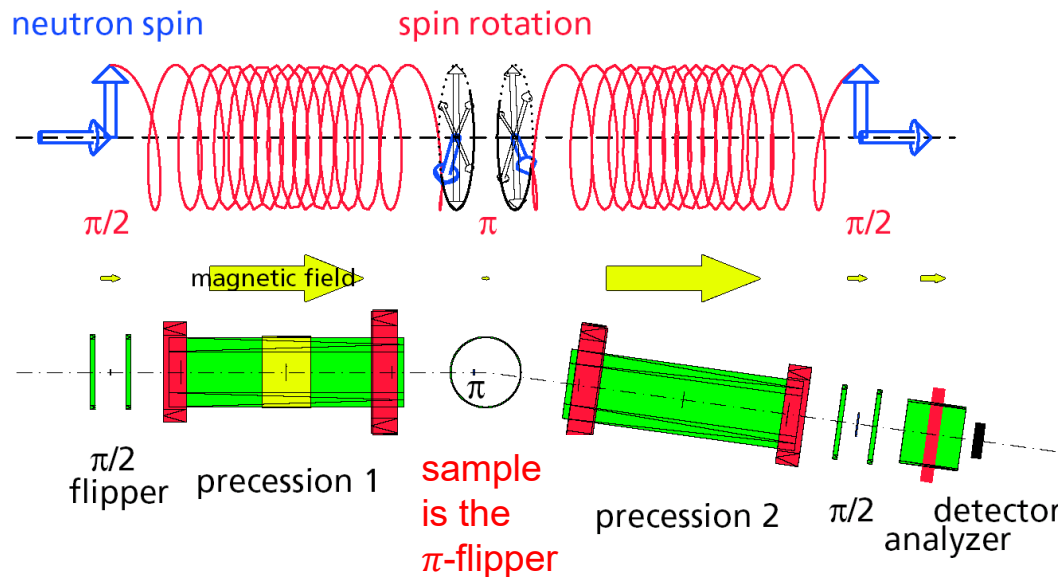
### Spin Echo SANS



Spin Echo encoded SANS

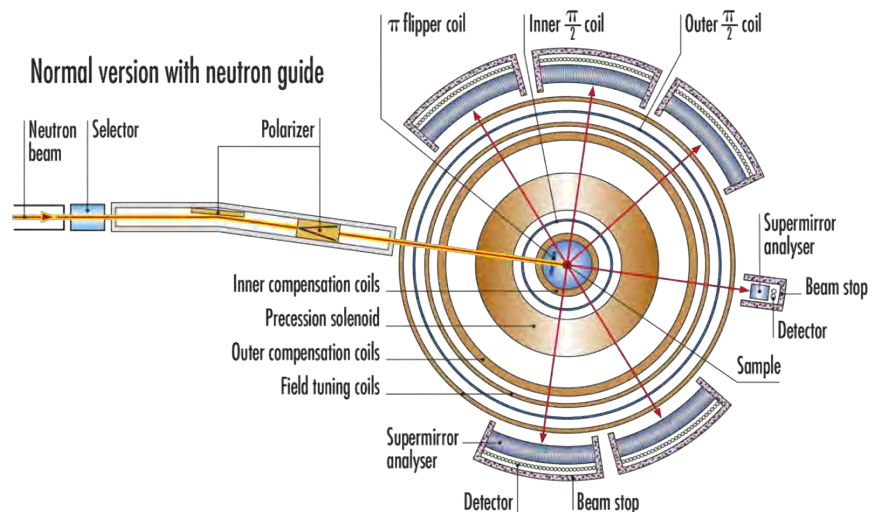
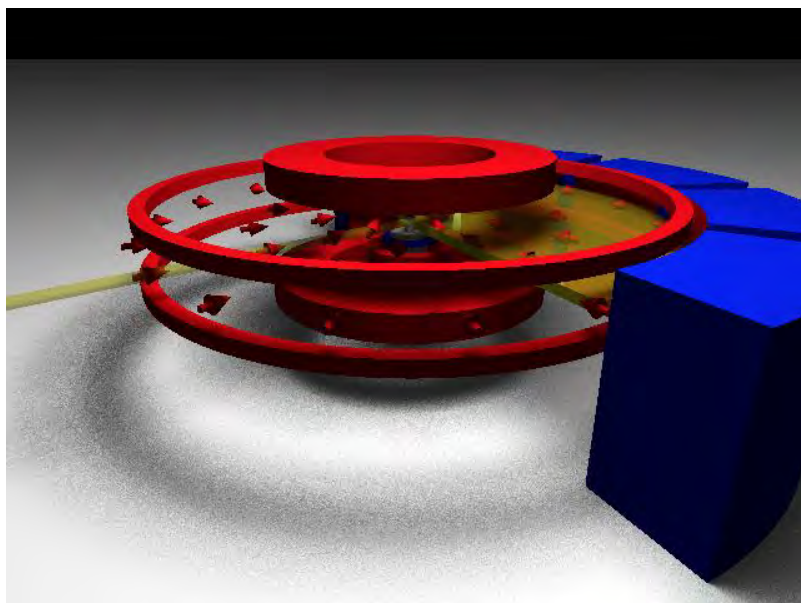
- tilted magnetic field
- angle encoded in spin precession

# Paramagnetic NSE



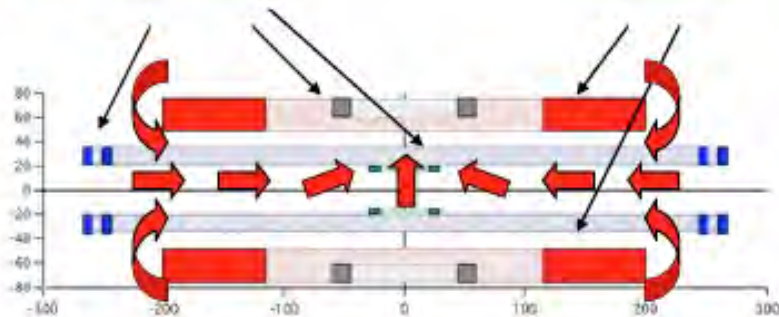


# Wide Angle Neutron Spin Echo



correction coils

main coils



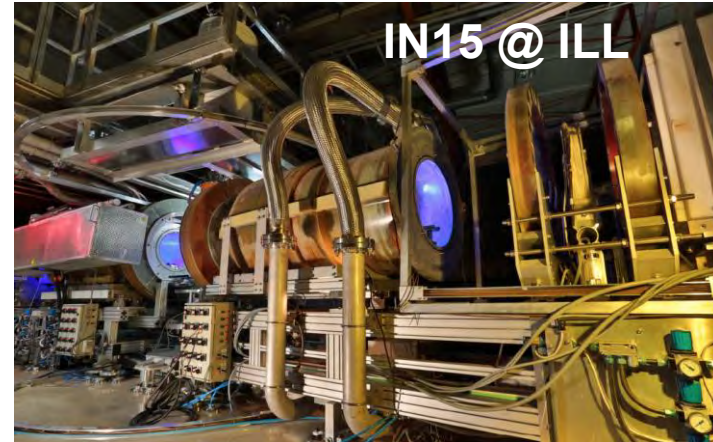
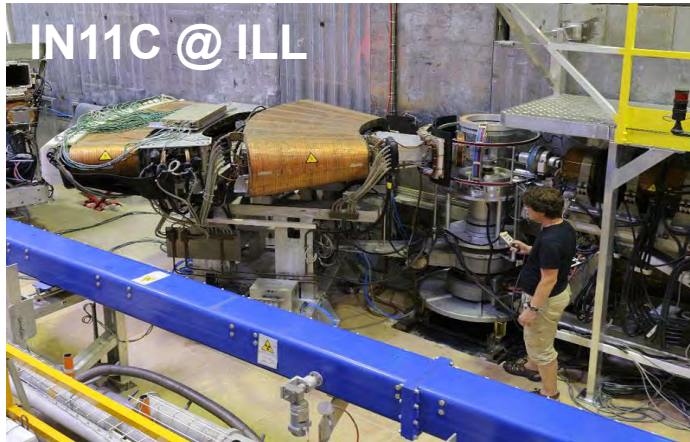
- Large angular coverage
- Higher Q (up to  $3\text{\AA}^{-1}$ )

# NSE Spectrometers in the World





# NSE's around the World



## All NSE Spectrometers

### Classic “IN11-Type”

- IN11 - Institute Laue-Langevin, Grenoble, France
- IN15 - Institute Laue-Langevin, Grenoble, France
- J-NSE – JCNS hosted by FRM-II, Garching, Germany
- NG-A NSE – NIST, Gaithersburg, USA
- [BL-15 SNS-NSE – FZJ & ORNL, Oak Ridge, USA](#)
- C2-3-1 iNSE, ISSP JRR-3M, Tokai, Japan

### Other

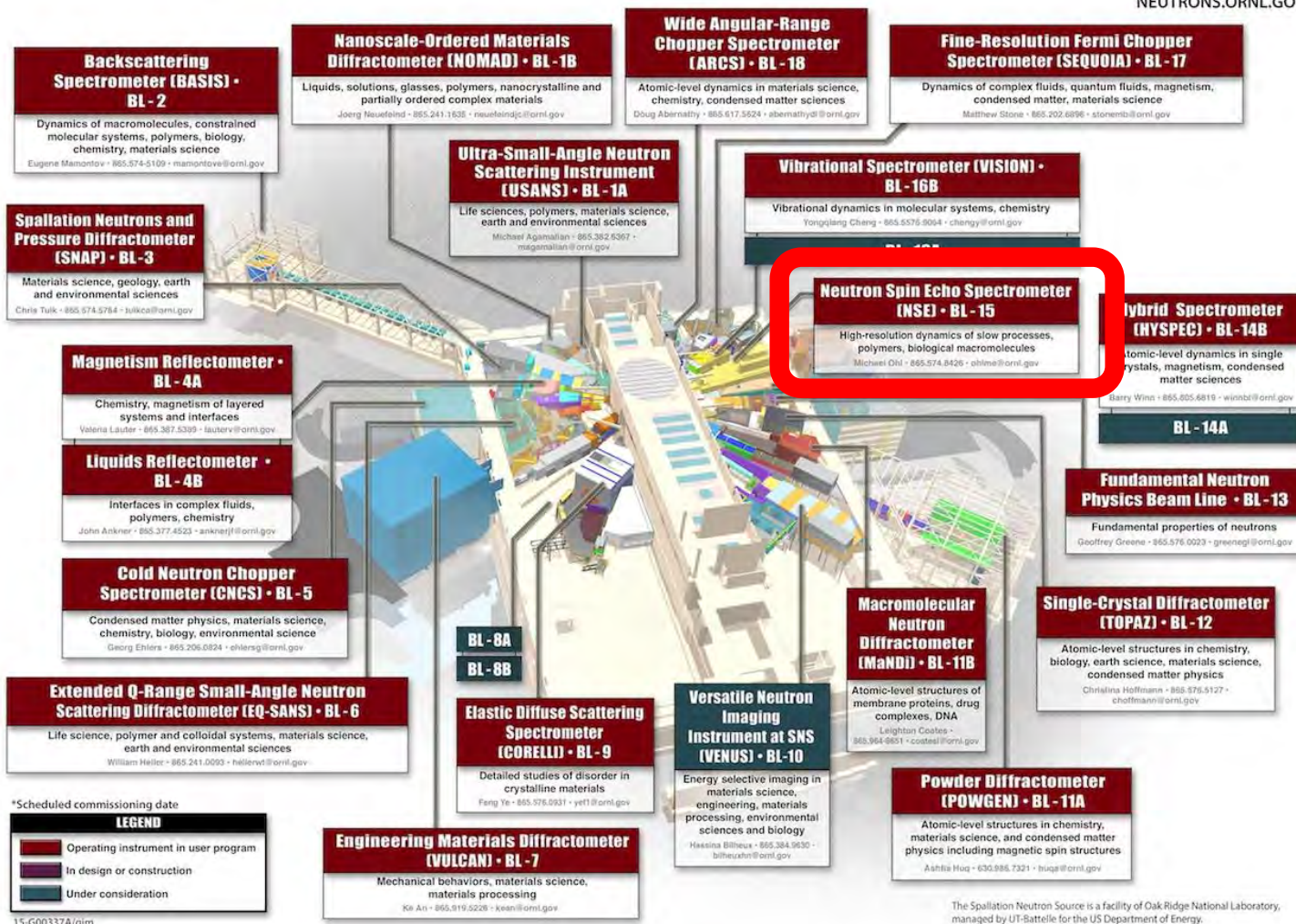
- MUSES [NRSE] – Laboratoire Léon Brillouin, Saclay, France
- RESEDA [NRSE] – FRM-II, Garching, Germany
- MIRA [TAS+MIEZE] – FRM-II, Garching, Germany
- FLEXX [TAS+NRSE] – HZB, Berlin, Germany
- Larmor [SE+SANS] – ISIS, Didcot, UK
- SESANS [SE+SANS] – TU Delft, Holland
- C2-3-1 iNSE, ISSP JRR-3M, Tokai, Japan

# SNS-NSE: NSE Spectrometer at SNS



# Spallation Neutron Source

NEUTRONS.ORNL.GOV



15-G00337A/gjm

The Spallation Neutron Source is a facility of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, managed by UT-Battelle for the US Department of Energy.



## SNS-NSE is an IN11-Type NSE



main precession	SC coils, actively shielded
field integral	$J = 0.56 \text{ Tm}$
moderator	cold-coupled hydrogen
neutron guide h x b	Ni coated $4 \times 8 \text{ cm}^2$
wavelength selection	system of 4 choppers
wavelength frame	$2\text{\AA} < \lambda < 14\text{\AA}$ BW $3.6\text{\AA} - 2.4\text{\AA}$
max. scattering angle	$29/42/56/79^\circ$ conf. dependent)
sample size	$30 \times 30 \text{ mm}^2$
analyzer	3 rotatable supermirrors
temperature range	TFS: - $80+375\text{K}$ Cryo: $5\text{K}$ to $650\text{K}$

moderator - sample distance:  
→ 18 m, 21 m, 24 m, 27 m  
sample - detector distance:  
→ 4 m

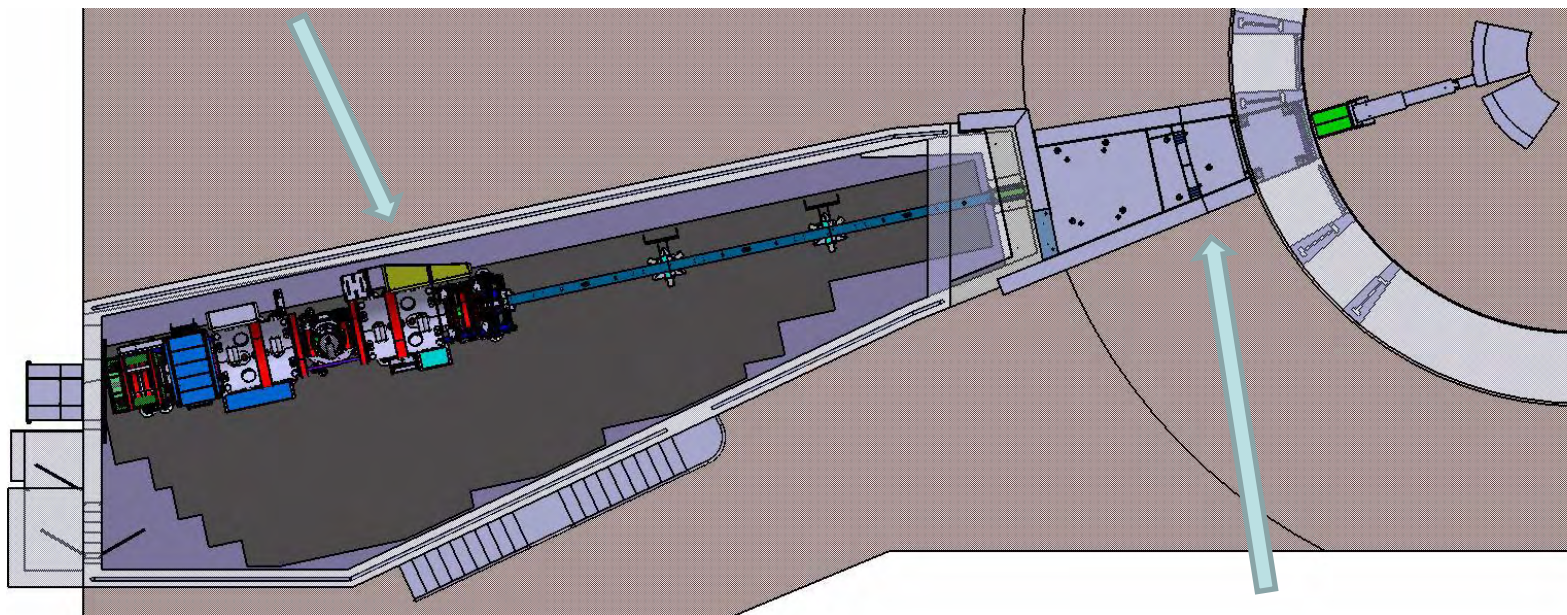
$30 \times 30 \text{ cm}^2$   $^3\text{He}$  DENEX detector  
→  $32 \times 32$  pixels  
TOF up to 99 channels (typical 42)  
→  $d\lambda \sim 0.07\text{\AA}$  for @ 42 TOF

mu metal shielding,  
shielding factor 137  
→ echo phase stability

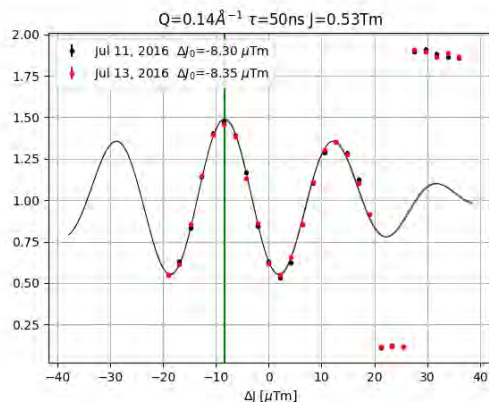
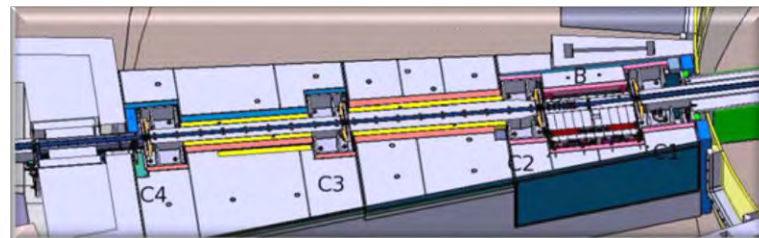


# SNS-NSE Instrument Layout

## Instrument Cave & Magnetic Shielding



## Choppers & Polarizers



Phase Stability  $\Delta\phi \ll 1^\circ$

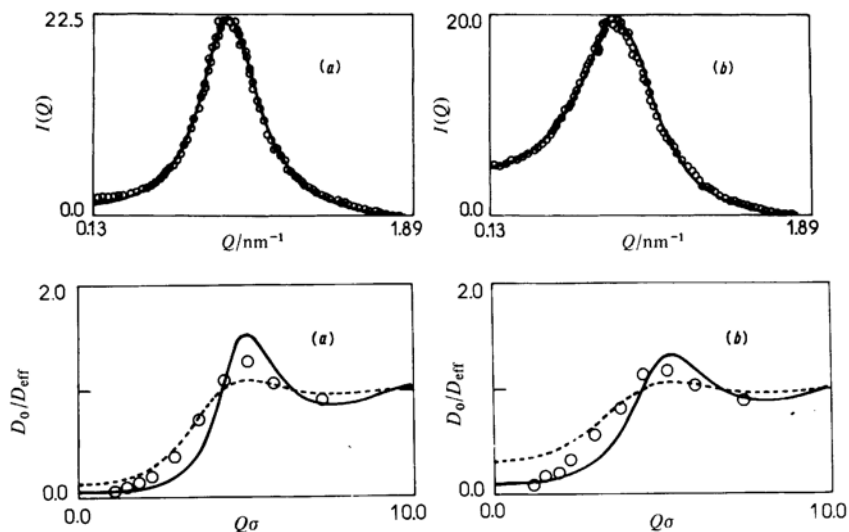
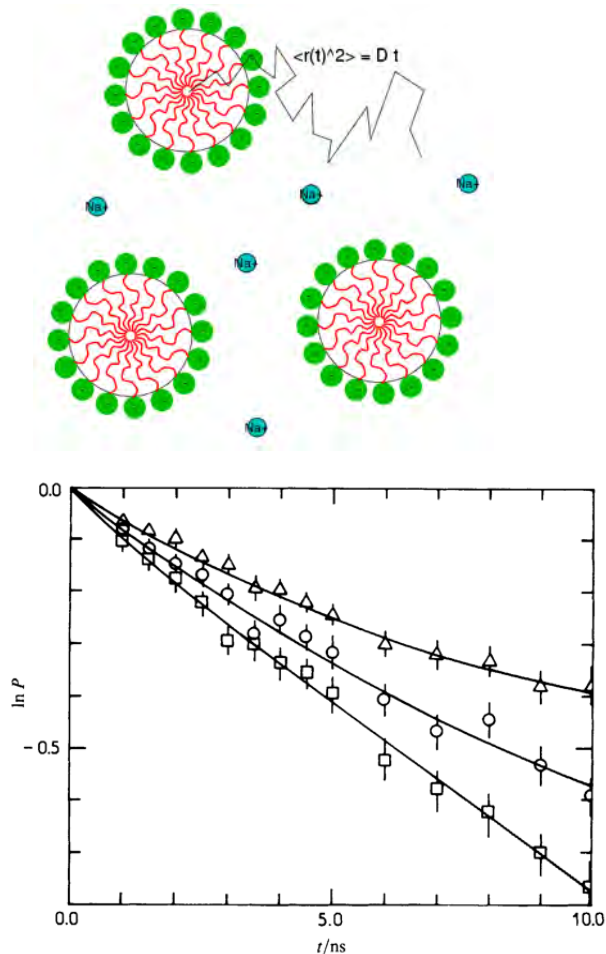


# SNS-NSE Science Examples



# SDS Micelles

J. Hayter, J. Penfold, *J. Chem. Soc., Faraday Trans. 1*, 1981, 77, 1851-1863



$$\frac{I(Q, t)}{I(Q, 0)} = e^{-D_{eff}(Q)Q^2 t}$$

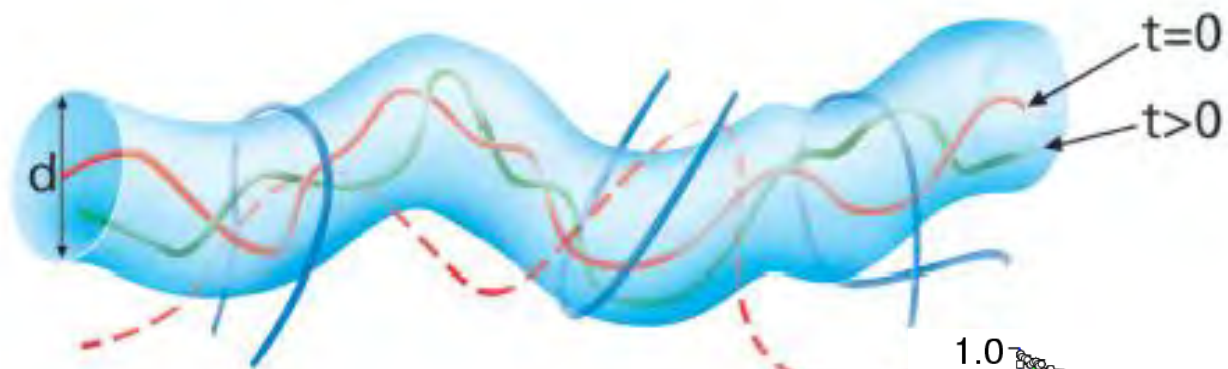
$$D_{eff} = D_0 H(Q) / S(Q)$$

$$D_0 = \frac{kT}{6\pi\eta R} \quad \text{Stokes-Einstein}$$



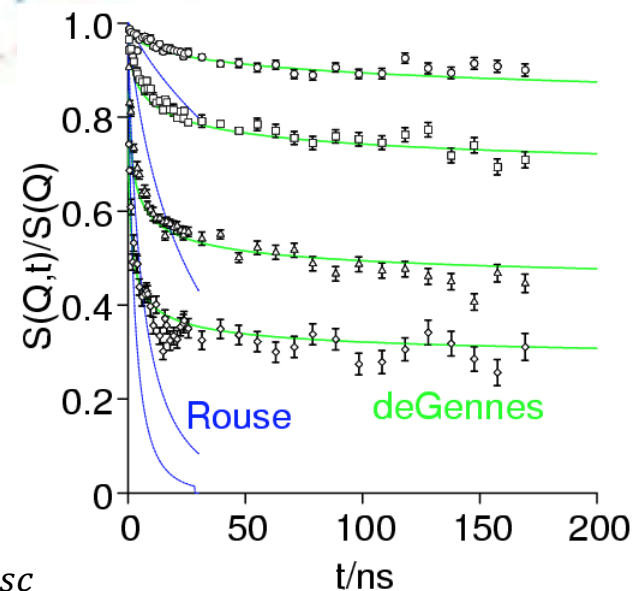
# Reptation Model (de Gennes/Doi/Edwards)

A. Wischniewski et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **90** (2003), 058301



Coherent scattering, labeled chain

Melt of long chain linear PEP



$$\frac{S(Q, \tau)}{S(Q, 0)} = [1 - F(Q)]S^{loc} + F(Q) S^{esc}$$

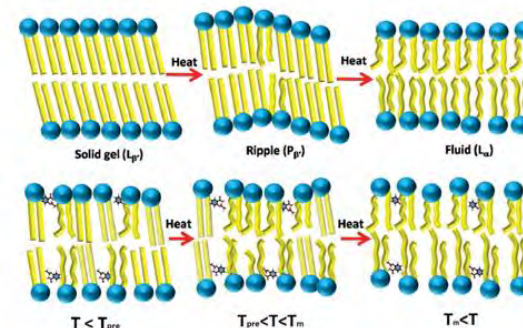
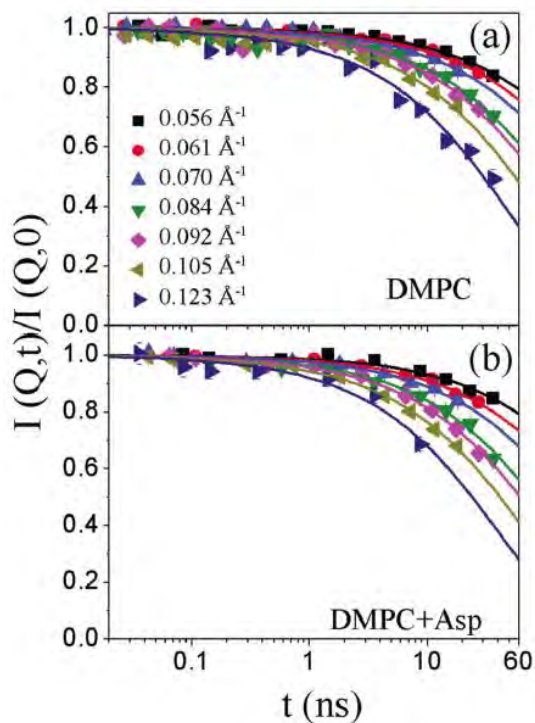
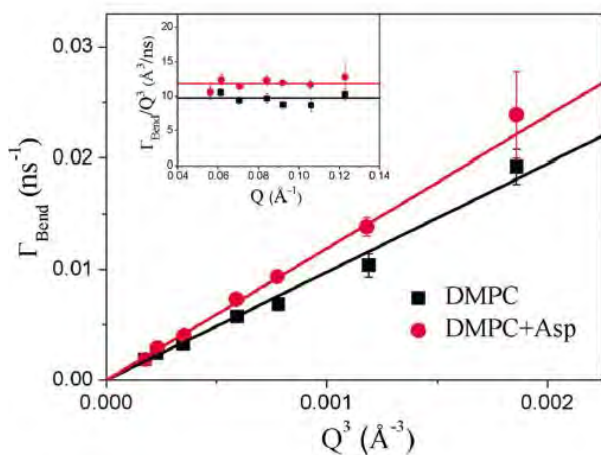
# Aspirin modulates the dynamical behavior of membranes

V. K. Sharma et al., Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 2017

## Zilman-Granek Model

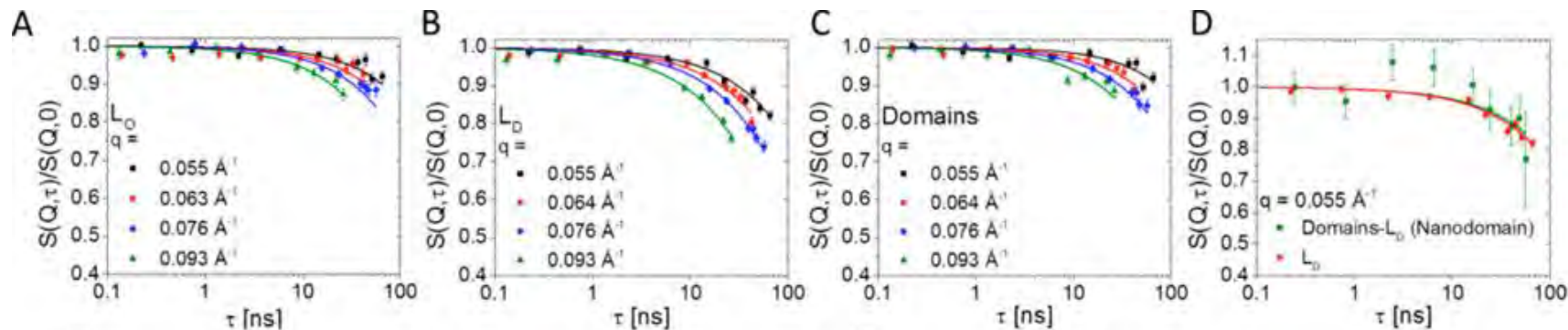
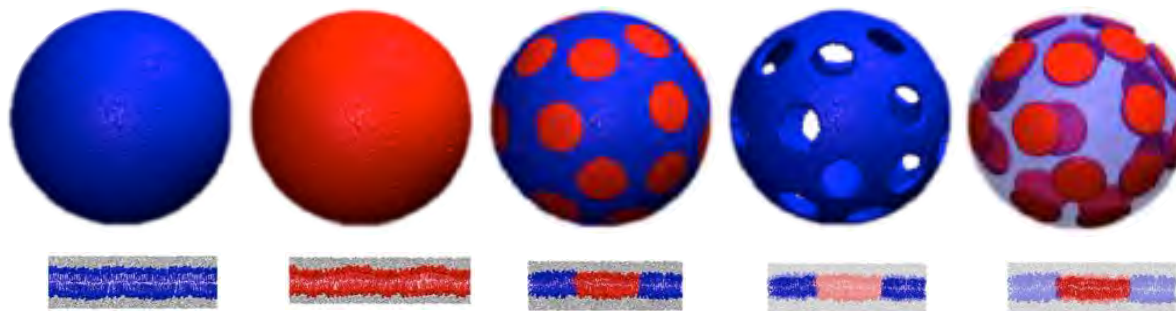
$$\frac{I(Q, t)}{I(Q, 0)} = \exp(-(\Gamma_{\text{Bend}} t)^{2/3})$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{Bend}} = 0.025 \gamma_k \left(\frac{k_B T}{\kappa}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{k_B T}{\eta}\right) Q^3$$



# Mechanical Properties of Nanoscopic Lipid Domains

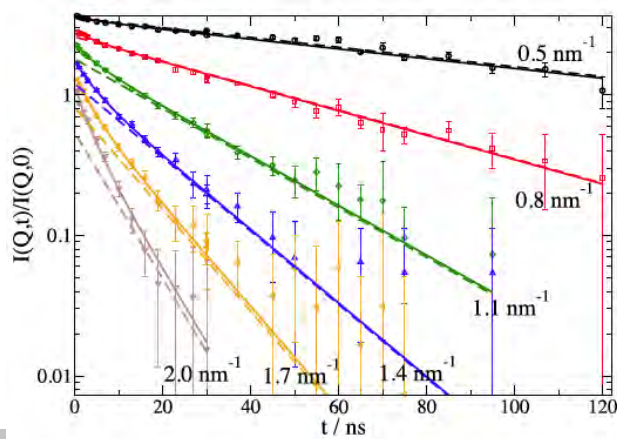
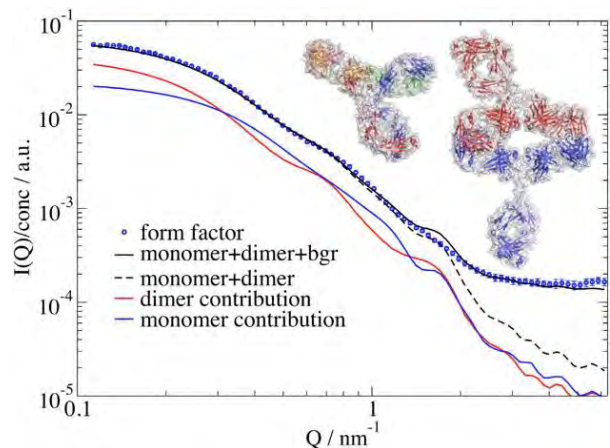
*J. Nickels et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2015, 137 (50)*



$$\frac{S(q, \tau)}{S(q, 0)} = \exp(-(\Gamma(q)\tau)^{2/3}) \quad \Gamma(q) = 0.0058 \left(\frac{k_B T}{\kappa}\right)^{1/2} \frac{k_B T}{\eta} q^3$$

# Fast antibody domain motion

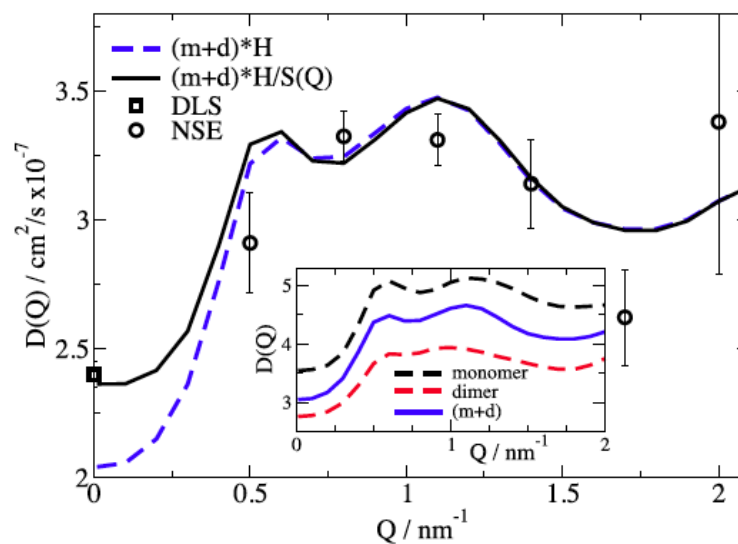
L.R. Stingaciu et al. Scientific Reports 2016



$$F(Q, t) = F_{trans}(Q, t) \cdot F_{rot}(Q, t) \cdot F_{int}(Q, t)$$

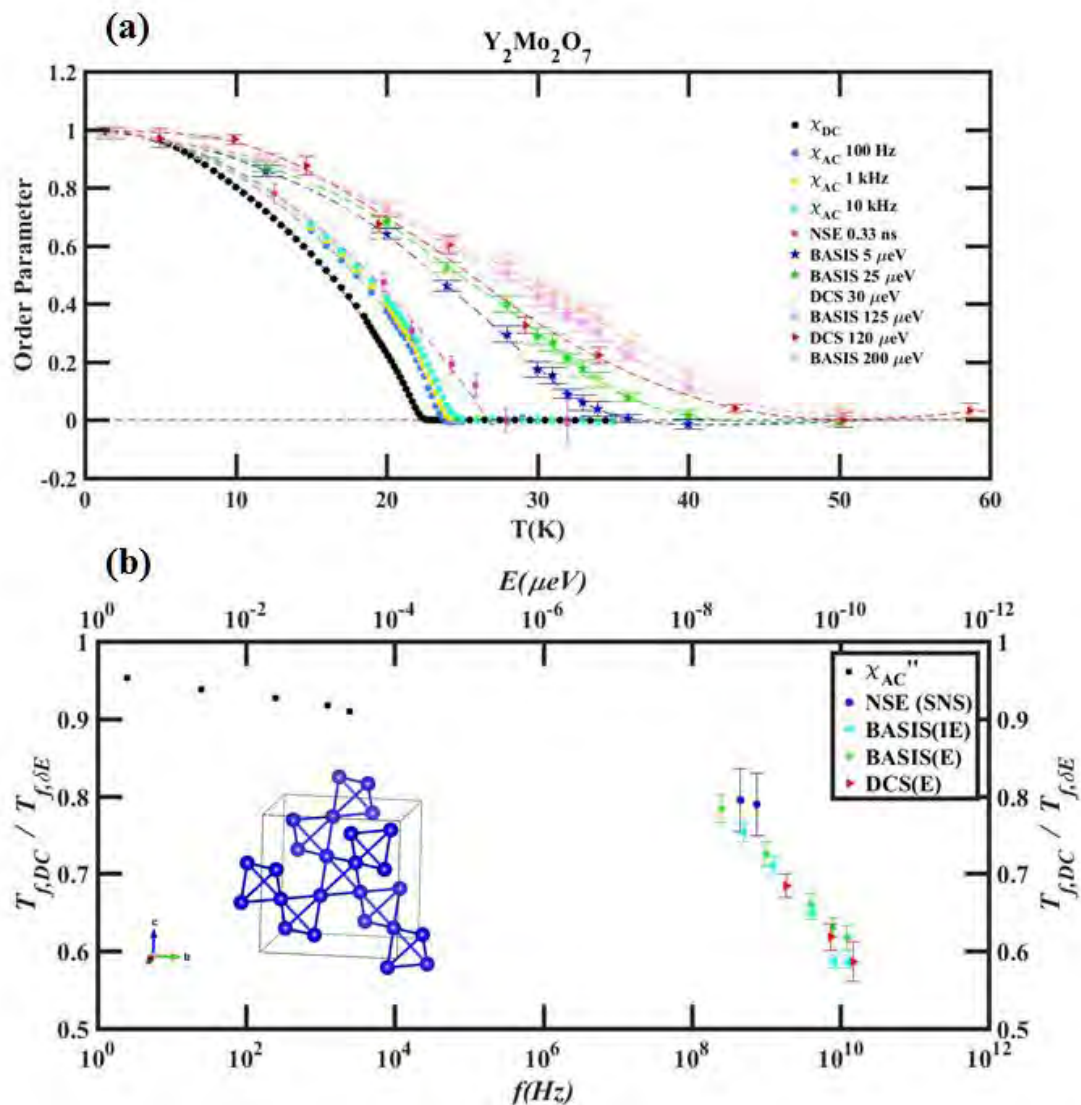
$$F_{trans}(Q, t) = \exp(-Q^2 D_T t)$$

$$F_{int}(Q, t) = \left\langle \sum_{\alpha, \beta} b_{\alpha} b_{\beta} \exp(iQR_{\beta}^{eq}) \exp(-iQR_{\alpha}^{eq}) \cdot f_{\alpha\beta}(Q, \infty) \cdot f'_{\alpha\beta}(Q, t) \right\rangle$$





# Example of Paramagnetic NSE



## Summary

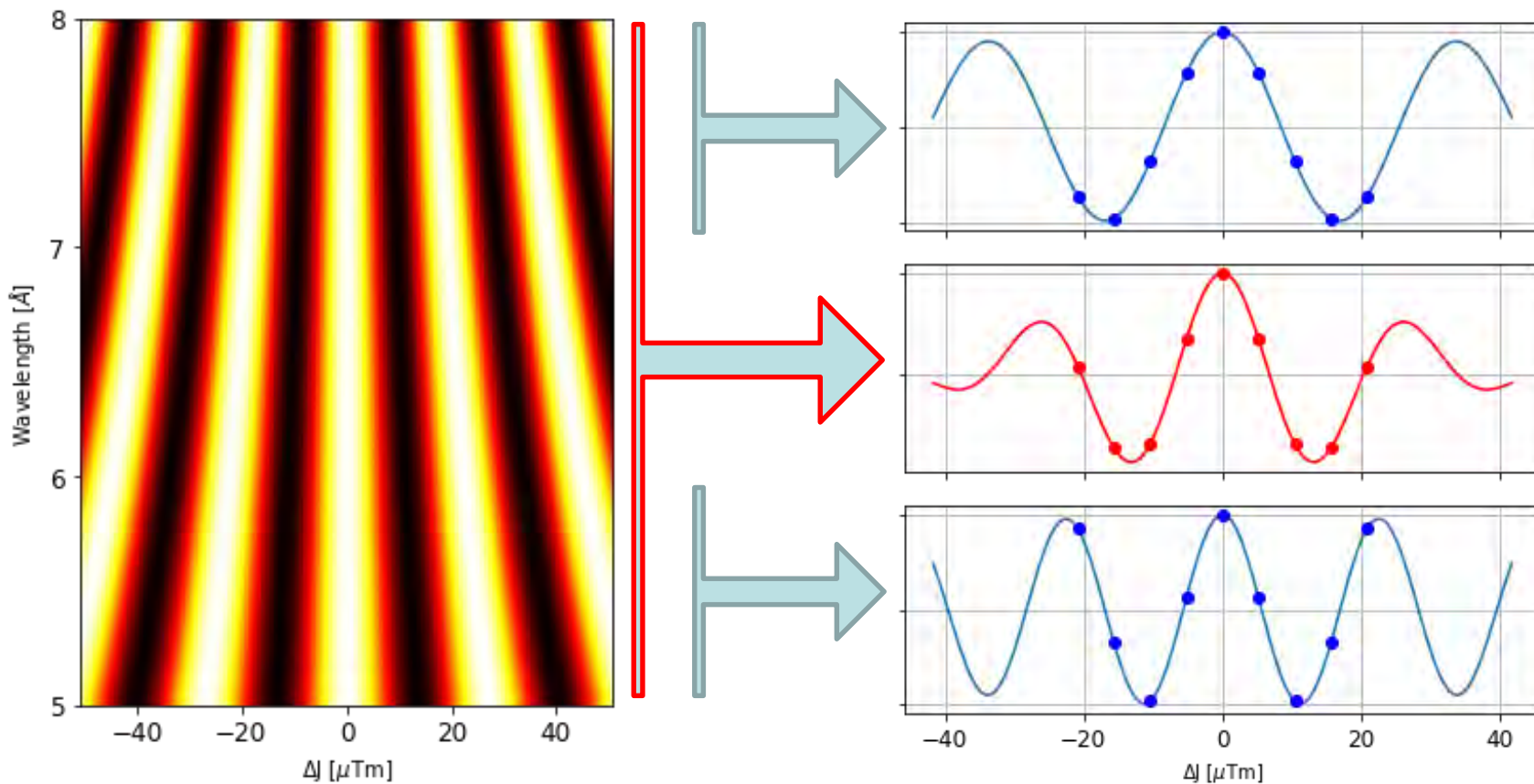
- NSE
  - high resolution neutron spectroscopy
  - complementary to SANS/SAXS
  - measures the intermediate scattering function  $I(Q, \tau)$
- SNS-NSE (BL-15)
  - the first NSE at a Spallation Source
  - the first one with superconducting coils
  - the only one with magnetic shielding
  - available in user program – write and submit proposals!
  - see <http://neutrons.ornl.gov/nse>

## Suggested Literature

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4. F. Mezei, C. Pappas, T. Gutberlet (Eds.): Neutron Spin-Echo Spectroscopy, Lecture Notes in Physics 601, Springer, 2003.
5. D. Richter, M. Monkenbusch, A. Arbe, J. Colmenero, Neutron Spin Echo in Polymer Systems, Adv. in Polymer Science 174, Springer, 2005
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<http://doi.org/10.1016/j.crhy.2007.10.001>
7. C.Pappas, G. Ehlers, F. Mezei, Neutron Spin Echo and Magnetism in Neutron Scattering from Magnetic Materials, ed. T. Chatterji, Spinger 2006
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[https://www.ill.eu/fileadmin/users\\_files/documents/links/documentation/NeutronDataBooklet.pdf](https://www.ill.eu/fileadmin/users_files/documents/links/documentation/NeutronDataBooklet.pdf)
9. G.L. Squires, Introduction to the Theory of Thermal Neutron Scattering, Cambridge Univ. Press, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (2012)

$\Delta\lambda/\lambda_0$  up to ~50%

Echo Signals



**Time-of-Flight and NSE why we don't measure 4 points**