



Introduction to



# Neutron Spin Echo Spectroscopy

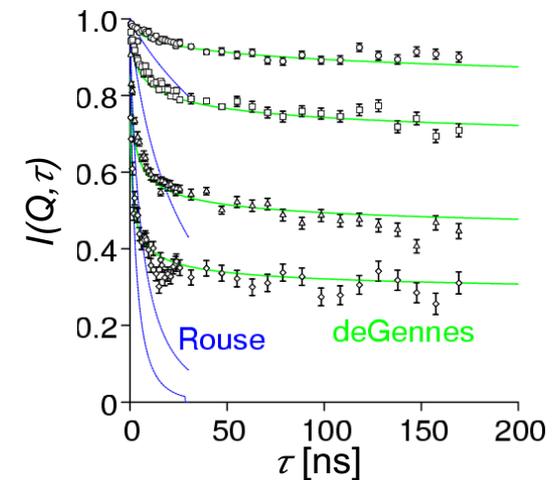
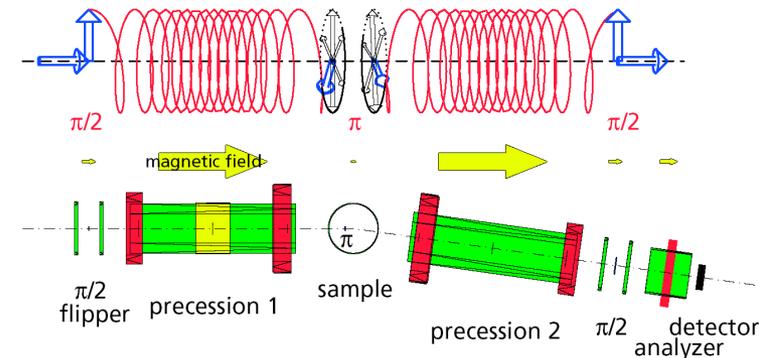
Piotr A. Żołnierczuk

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1. Introduction
2. The Principles of NSE
3. The SNS-NSE Spectrometer
4. Examples
5. Summary

# Neutron Spin Echo in A Nutshell

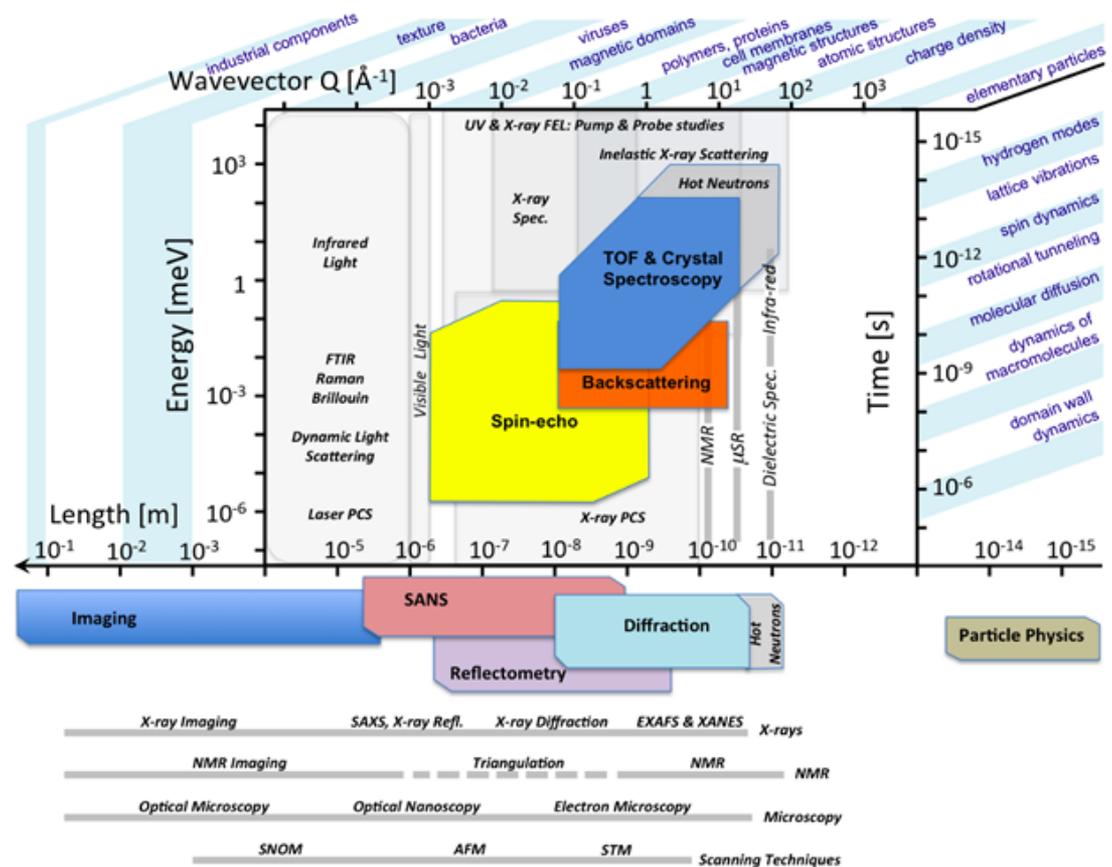
- NSE measures very small velocity changes by using neutron magnetic moment as a “clock”
- NSE “end-product” is the Intermediate Scattering Function:  $I(Q, \tau)$
- NSE can use broad wavelength band while maintaining very good resolution
- NSE is a complementary technique to SANS in that it provides the dynamic information about the system
- NSE is “counting intensive”: long counting times, large samples



# Neutron and X-Ray Instruments Zoology

## With NSE one can study:

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



Source: ESS

# NSE Spectrometers in the World



## 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
- C2-3-1 iNSE, ISSP JRR-3M, Tokai, Japan
- BL-15 SNS-NSE – JCNS/ORNL, Oak Ridge, USA
  
- MUSES [NSRE] – Laboratoire Léon Brillouin, Saclay, France
- RESEDA [NSRE] – FRM-II, Garching, Germany
- VIN-ROSE [NSRE] – J-PARC, Tokai, Japan
- MIRA [TAS+MIEZE] – FRM-II, Garching, Germany
- FLEXX [TAS+NSRE] – HZB, Berlin, Germany
- SESANS [SE+SANS] – TU Delft, Holland

# The Principles of Neutron Spin Echo

# Inelastic Neutron Scattering

Dynamic Structure Factor

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega dE} \sim S(Q, \omega)$$

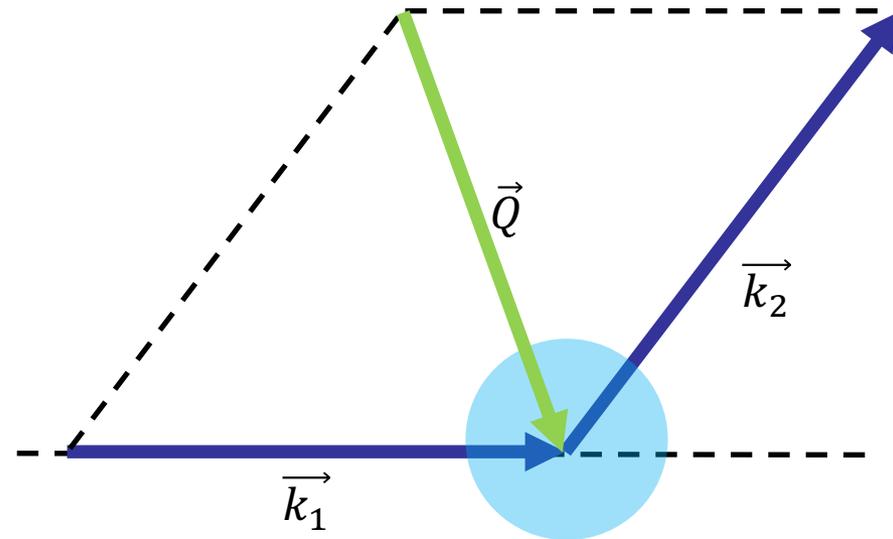
Neutron scattering kinematics:

$$\Delta E = \hbar\omega = (mv_1^2 - mv_2^2)/2$$

$$\vec{Q} = \vec{k}_1 - \vec{k}_2$$

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

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv} \quad (\text{Louis de Broglie, 1924})$$



Bloch Equation:

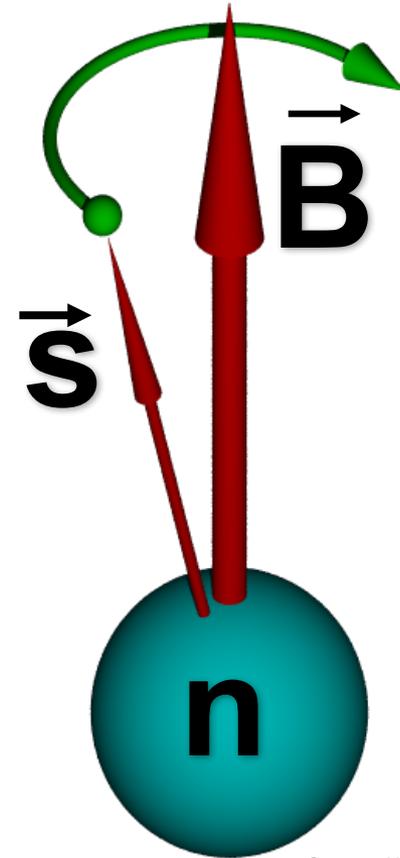
$$\frac{d\vec{s}}{dt} = \gamma \vec{s} \times \vec{B}$$

Larmor Frequency

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

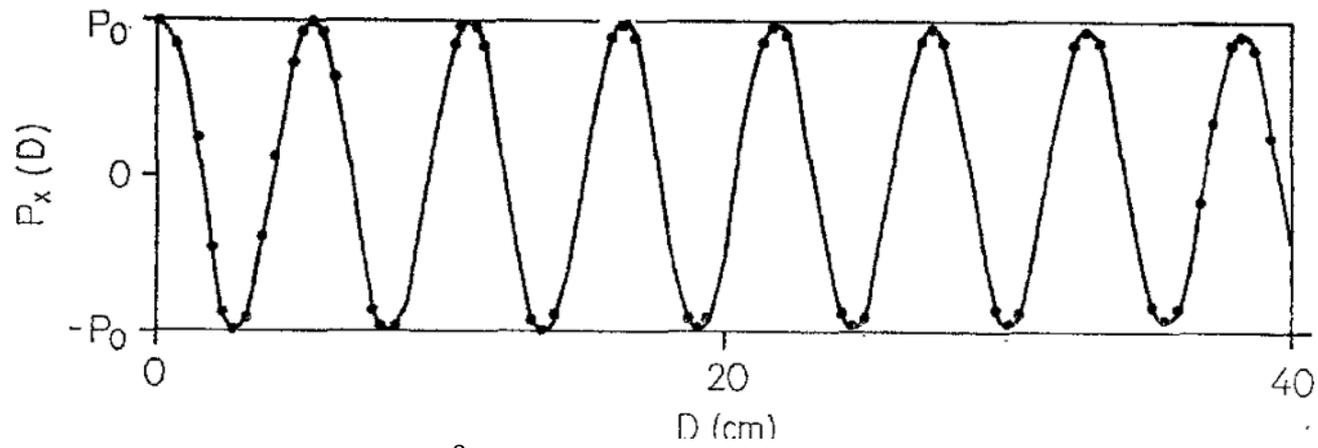
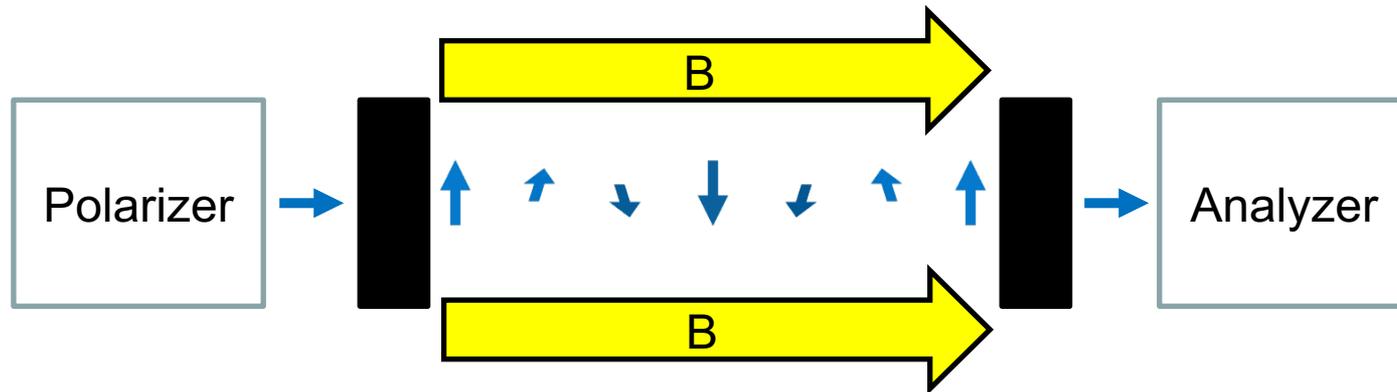
Neutron Gyromagnetic Ratio

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



Source: Wikipedia

# Larmor Precession (II)

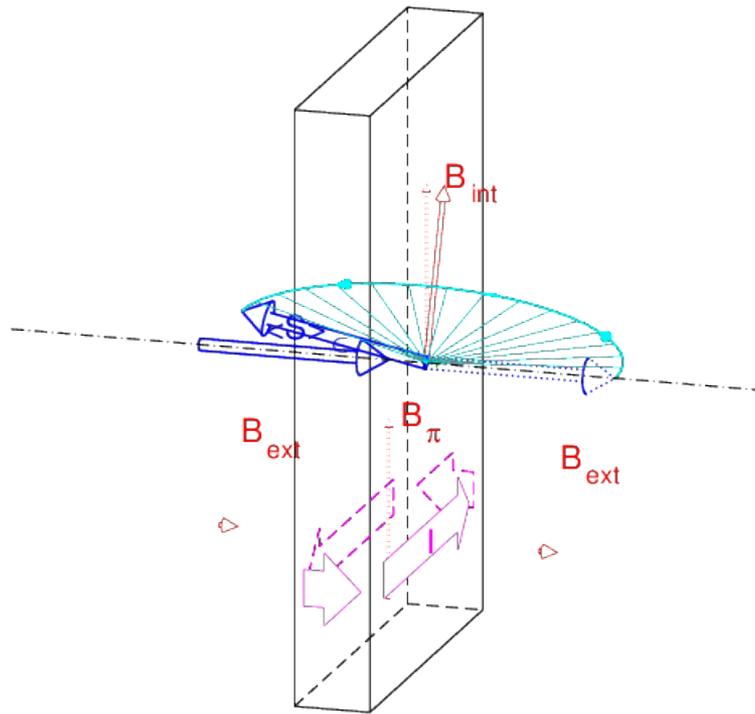


$$B=1.6 \text{ mT} \quad \lambda=1.6 \text{ \AA}$$

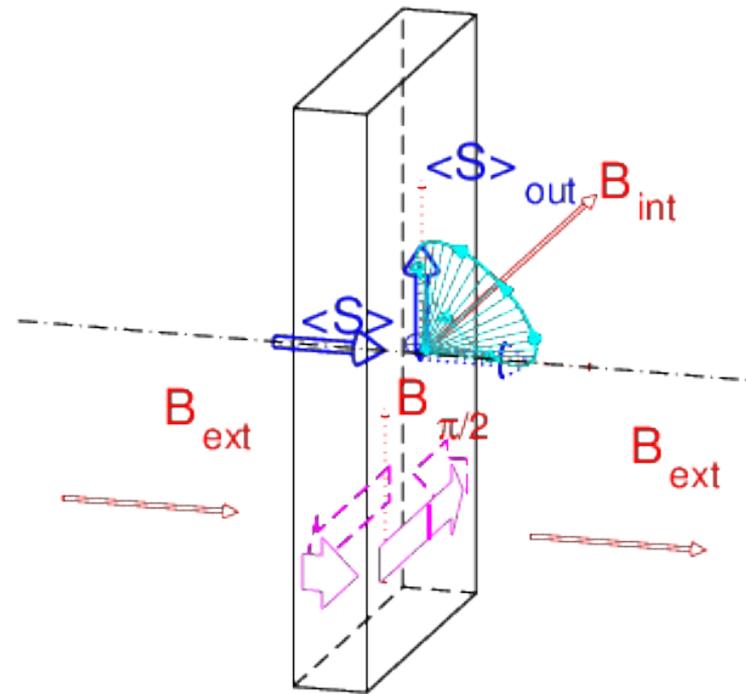
# Neutron Spin Manipulation

## Mezei Flippers

### $\pi$ -flipper



### $\pi/2$ -flipper



## Larmor Precession (III)

Accumulated phase:

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

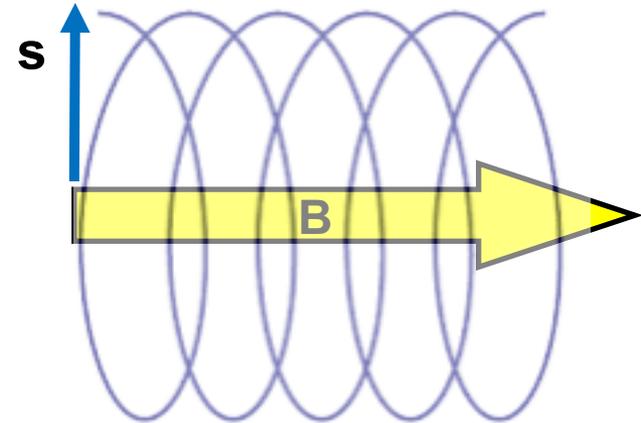
or

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

for example:

$$\lambda = 8\text{\AA}, B = 0.4\text{T}, l = 1.2\text{m}$$

$$\rightarrow \varphi / 2\pi \cong 3 \times 10^4 \text{ [Number of Turns]}$$



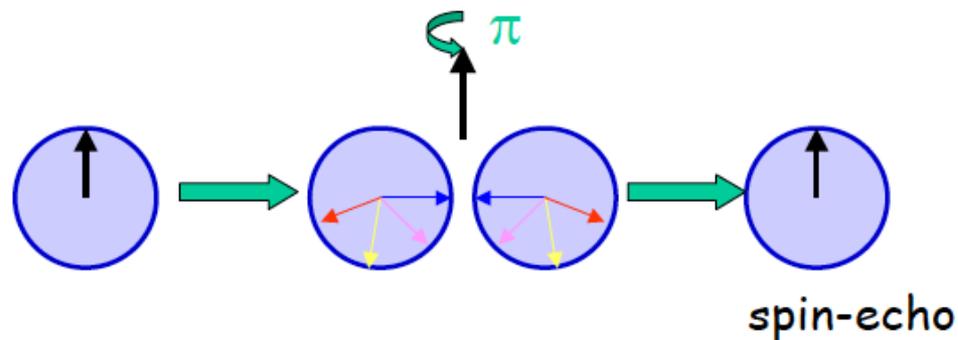
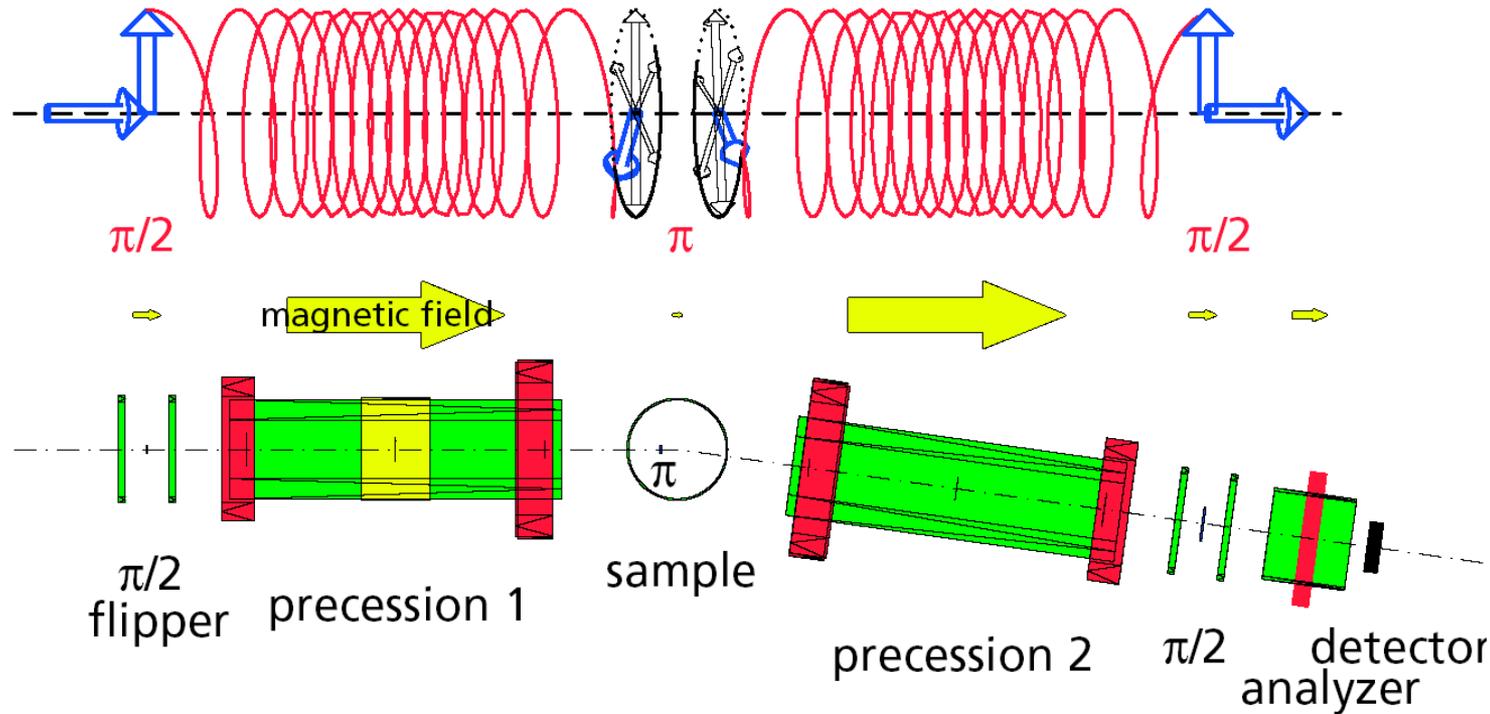
Notes:

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

# Neutron Spin Echo (I)

neutron spin

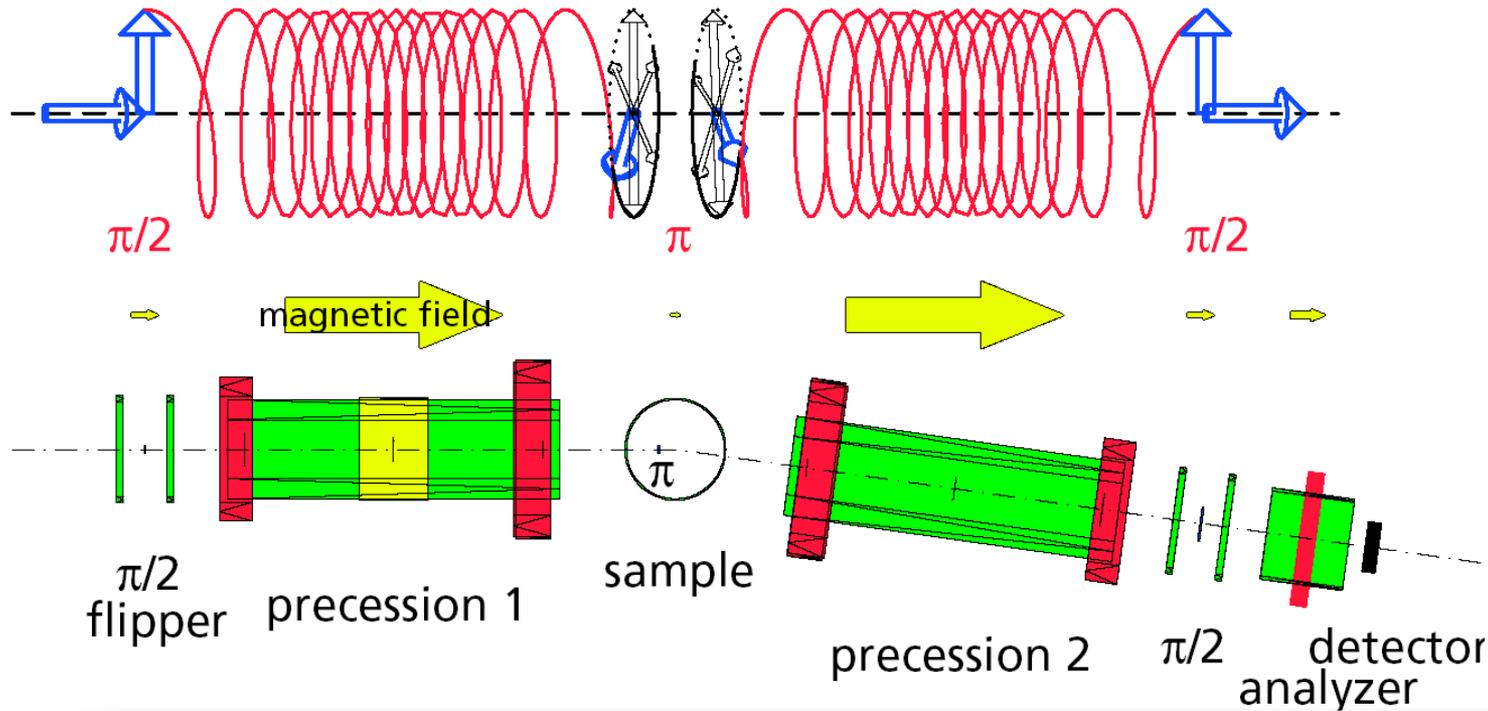
spin rotation



# Neutron Spin Echo (II)

neutron spin

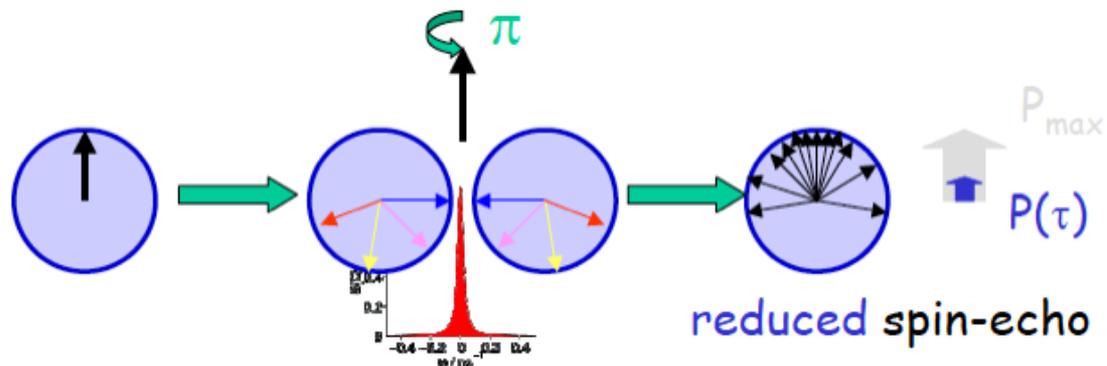
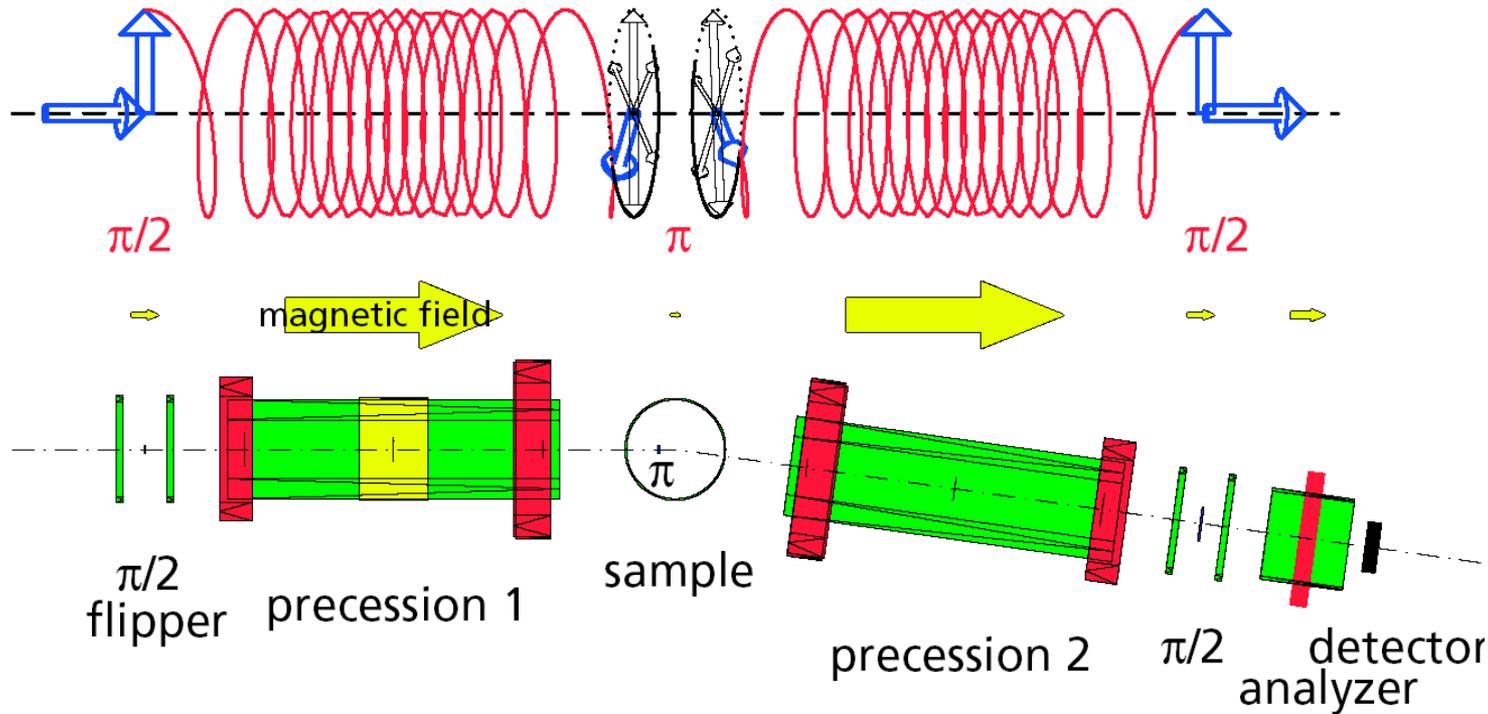
spin rotation



# Neutron Spin Echo (Inelastic)

neutron spin

spin rotation



## Neutron Spin Echo

Energy change (quasi-elastic scattering)

$$\Delta E = \hbar\omega = \frac{1}{2}mv_1^2 - \frac{1}{2}mv_2^2 \cong m v dv$$

Accumulated phase:

$$\phi_2 - \phi_1 = \gamma \left( \frac{B_2 l_2}{v_2} - \frac{B_1 l_1}{v_1} \right) = \gamma B l \left( \frac{1}{v_2} - \frac{1}{v_1} \right) \quad \leftarrow B_1 l_1 = B_2 l_2$$

$$\Delta\phi \cong \gamma B l \frac{\hbar\omega}{mv^3} = \frac{\gamma}{2\pi} \left( \frac{m}{h} \right)^2 J \lambda^3 \omega$$

or

$$\Delta\phi = \tau\omega$$

where we define Fourier time  $\tau \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\gamma}{2\pi} \left( \frac{m}{h} \right)^2 J \lambda^3$

For quick computation  $\tau \cong 0.186 J \lambda^3$

where  $[\tau] = \text{ns}$ ,  $[J] = \text{Tm}$  and  $[\lambda] = \text{Å}$

Example:  $\lambda = 8\text{Å}$ ,  $J = 0.56 \text{Tm} \rightarrow \tau \cong 50\text{ns} \rightarrow \Delta E \cong 0.01 \mu\text{eV}$

# Neutron Spin Echo

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

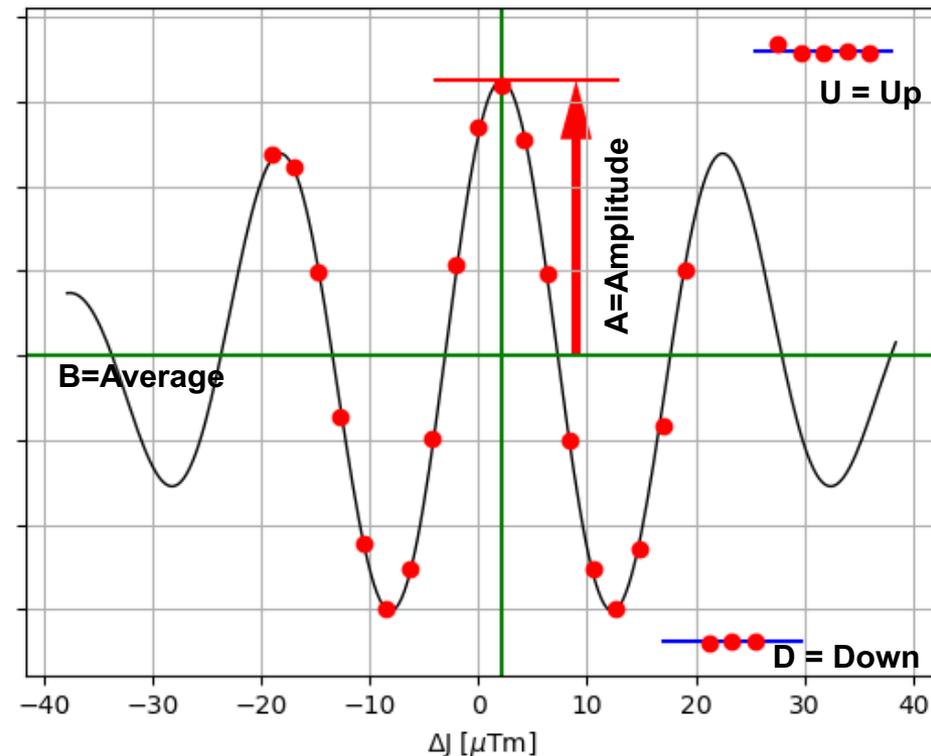
$$I \sim \frac{1}{2} \left[ S(Q) \pm \int S(Q, \omega) \cos(\omega \tau) d\omega \right]$$

Fourier transform  
(Real part)

$$B \sim S(Q)$$

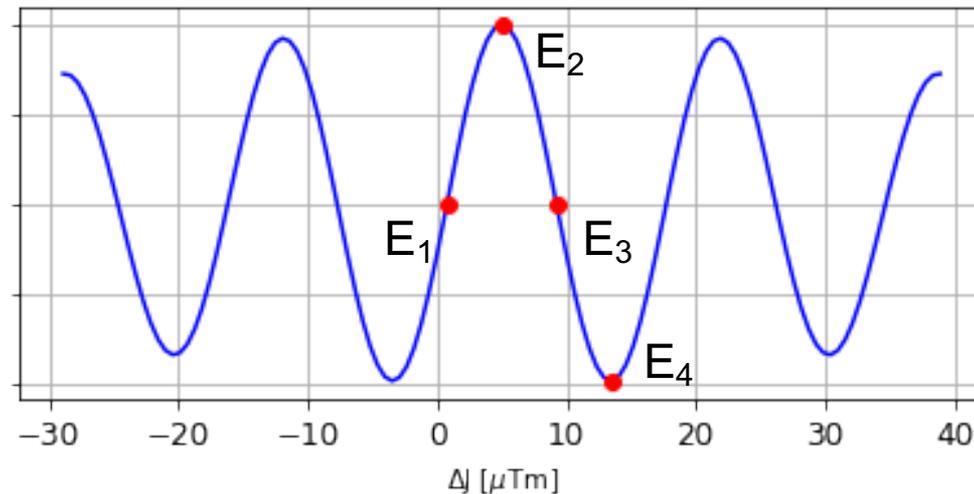
$$A \sim I(Q, \tau) = \mathcal{F}[S(Q, \omega)]$$

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



# Standard 4-point echo evaluation

$\Delta\lambda/\lambda_0 \sim 15\text{-}20\%$



90-degree steps

$$E_1 = B + A \sin(\varphi_0)$$

$$E_2 = B + A \cos(\varphi_0)$$

$$E_3 = B - A \sin(\varphi_0)$$

$$E_4 = B - A \cos(\varphi_0)$$

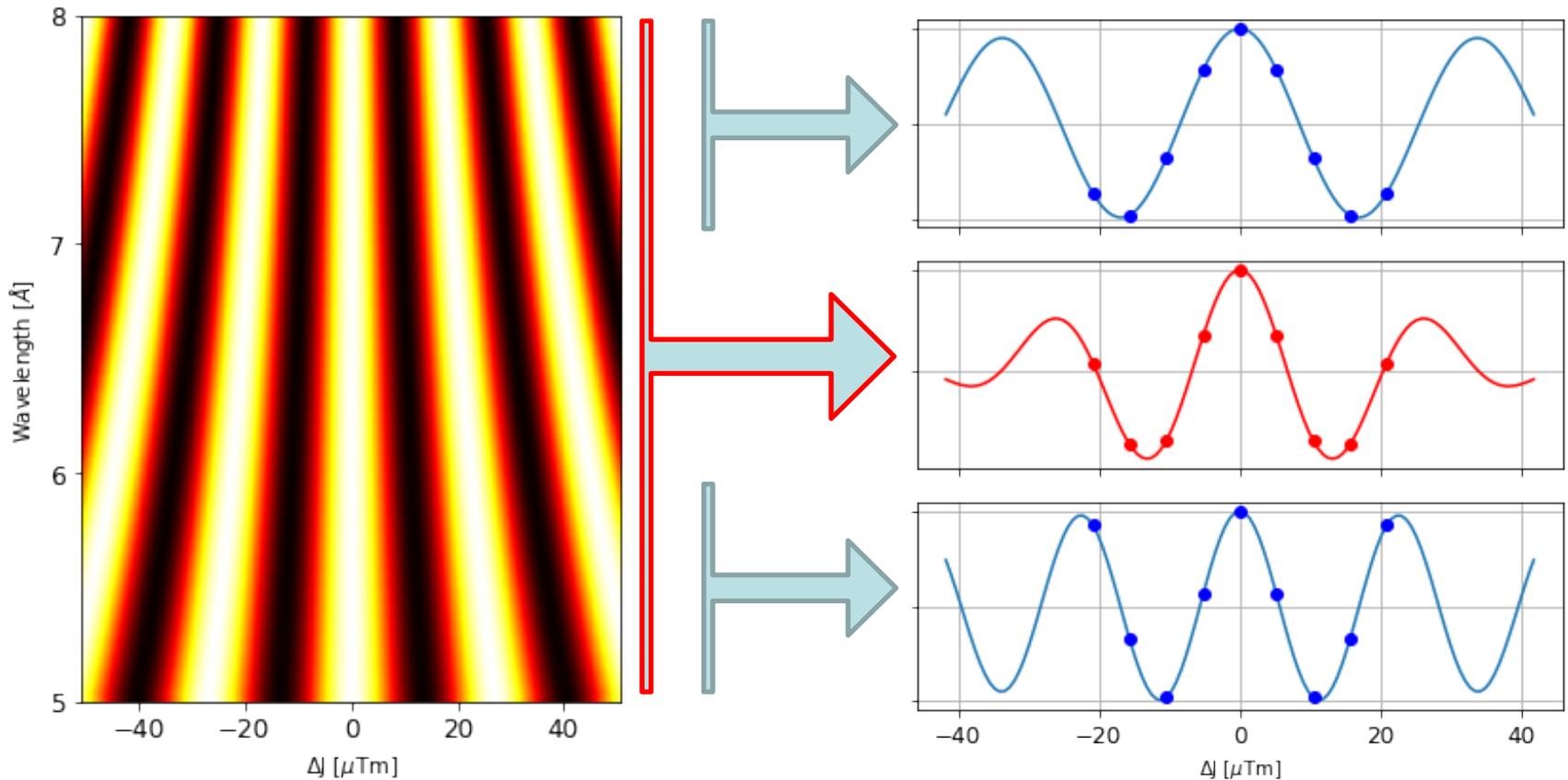


$$B = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1..4} E_i$$

$$A = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1..4} (E_i - B)^2}$$

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

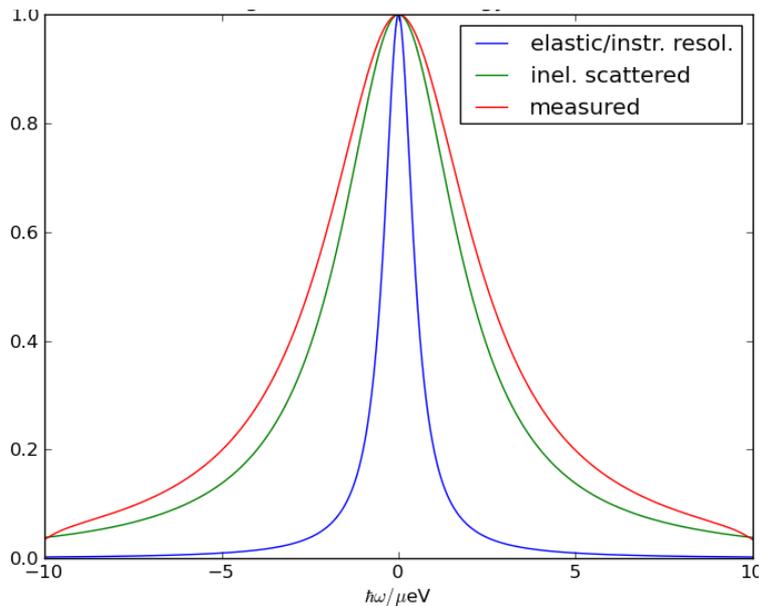
Echo Signals



- 1) F. Mezei, Nucl. Inst. Methods **164**, 153-156 (1979)
- 2) B. Farago, Time-of-Flight Neutron Spin Echo: Present Status in F.Mezei, C.Pappas, T.Gutberlet Neutron Spin Echo Spectroscopy, Springer (2003)

# Energy and Time Domain (Backscattering ↔ NSE)

Dynamic Structure Factor  
 $S(Q, \omega)$

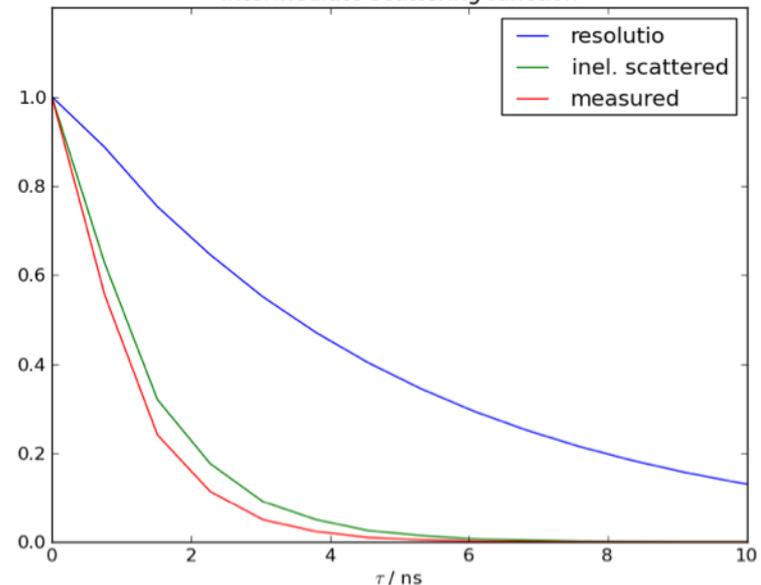


$$I_D(Q, \omega) = S(Q, \omega) * R(Q, \omega)$$

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

Intermediate Scattering Function  
 $I(Q, \tau)$

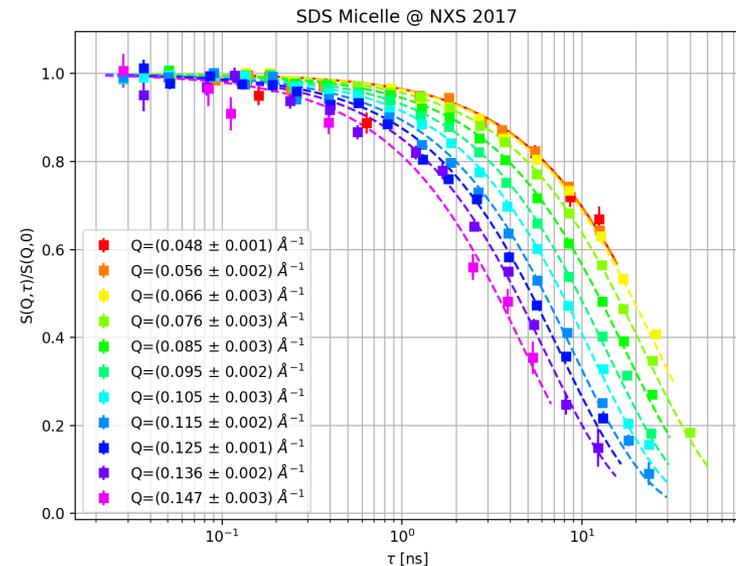
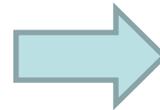
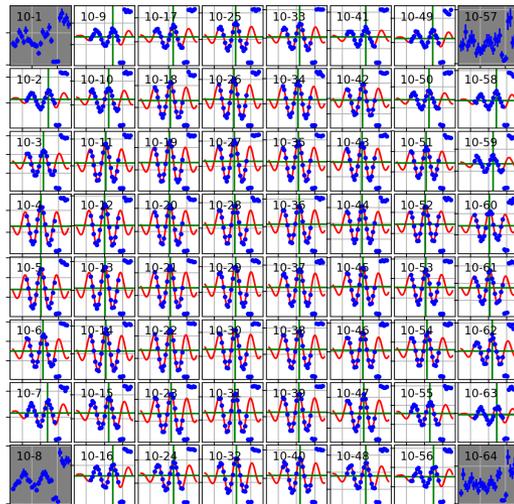
*F.T.*



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

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

SamSDSMicelle (./fits\_8327 echo[10])



## 1. Resolution

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

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

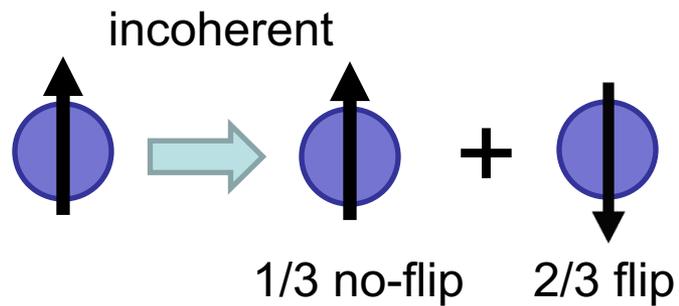
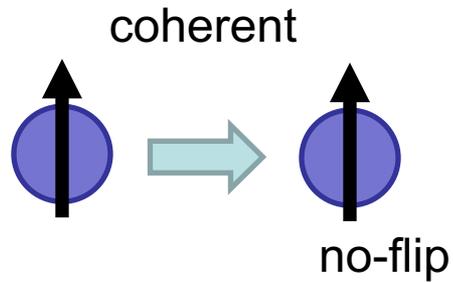
## 3. Background:

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

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

## 5. Group results

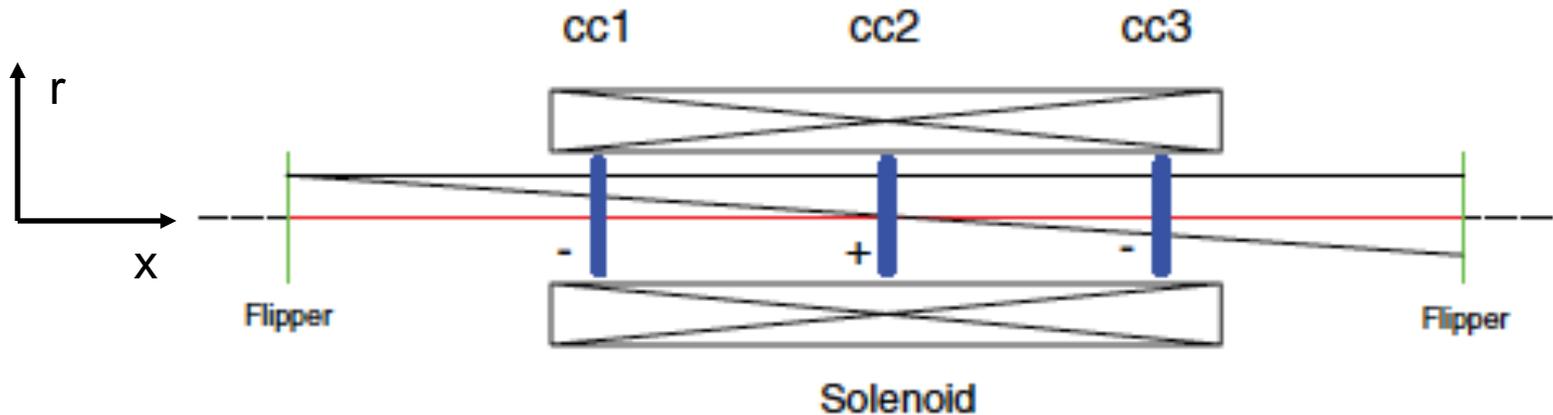
# Complications



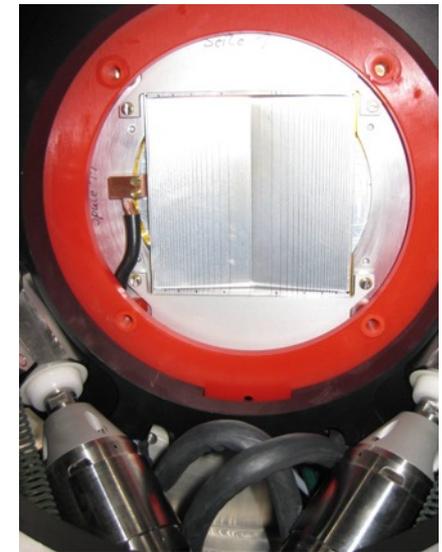
$$I_{\text{up}} = I_{\text{coh}} + \frac{1}{3} I_{\text{inc}}$$

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

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

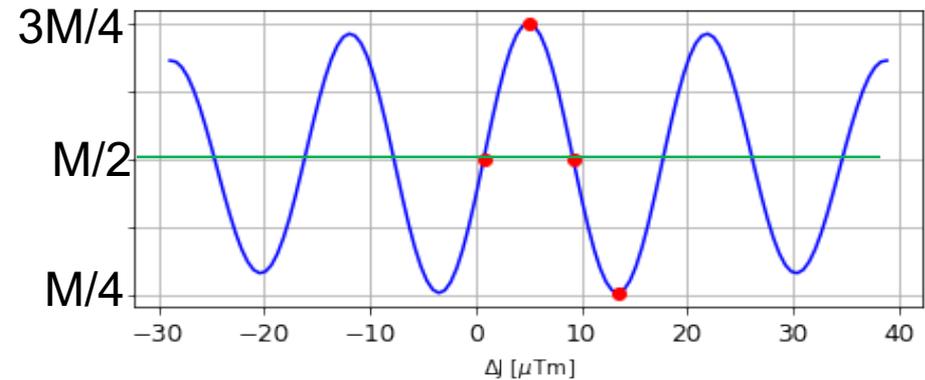
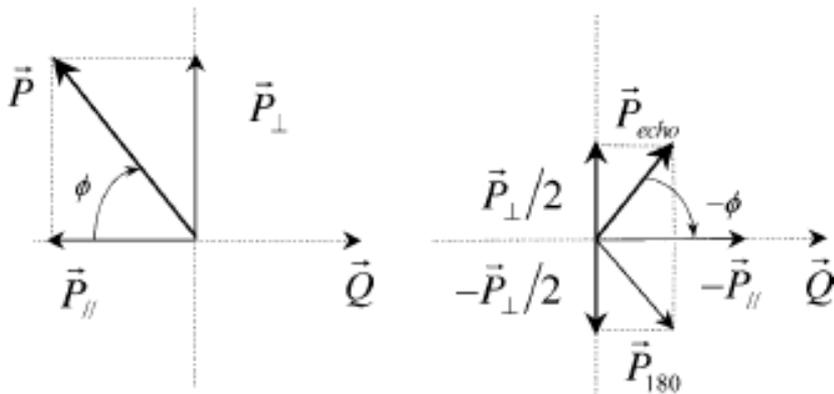
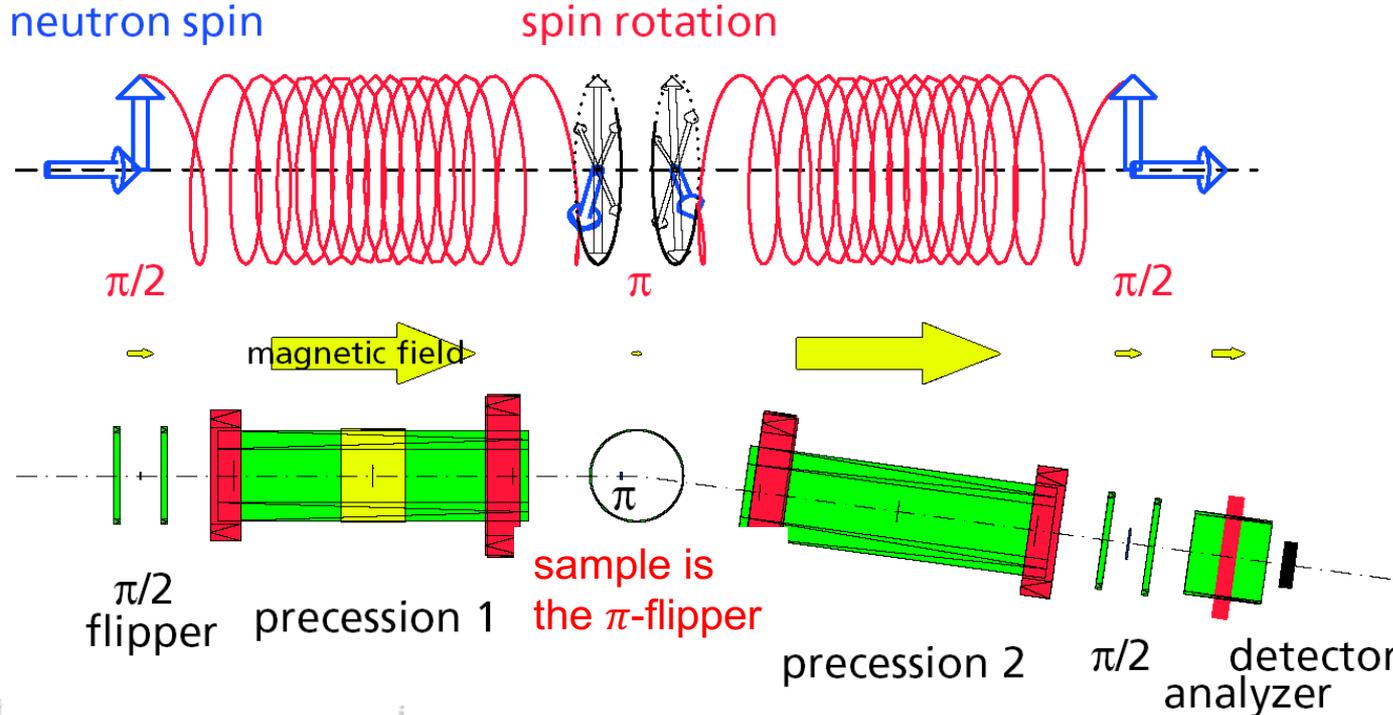


- Problem:
  - Field integral  $J = Bl$  the same for all trajectories
  - Solenoid field  $B(r) \sim r^2$
- Solution:
  - correction coils with current distribution that varies as  $r^2$



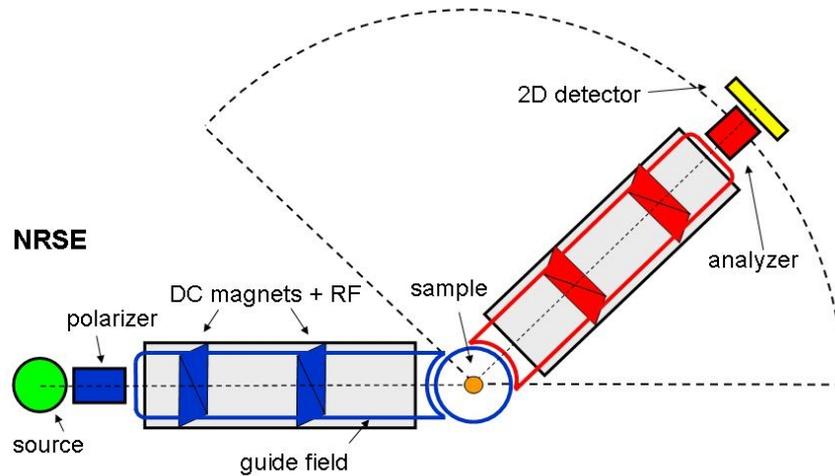
# Theme Variations

# Paramagnetic NSE



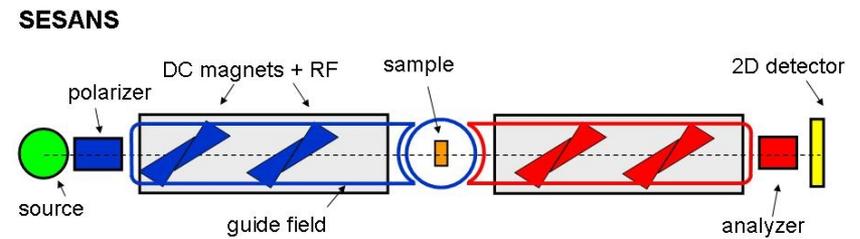
# “Non-standard” NSE Instruments

## NSRE



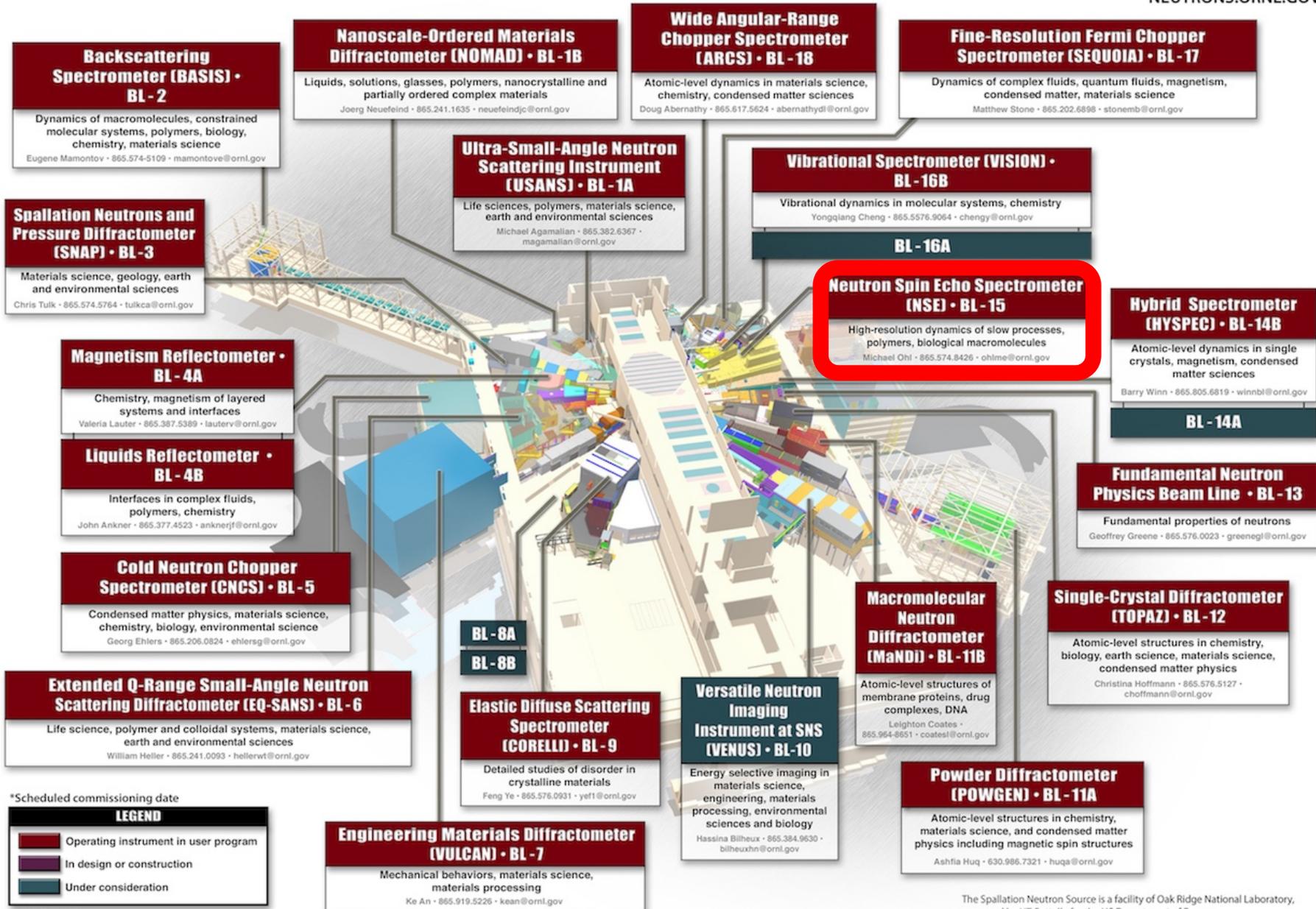
RF field instead of solenoid

## SESANS



Spin Echo encoded SANS

# SNS-NSE: NSE Spectrometer at SNS



**Backscattering Spectrometer (BASIS) • BL - 2**

Dynamics of macromolecules, constrained molecular systems, polymers, biology, chemistry, materials science

Eugene Mamontov • 865.574.5109 • mamontove@ornl.gov

**Nanoscale-Ordered Materials Diffractometer (NOMAD) • BL - 1B**

Liquids, solutions, glasses, polymers, nanocrystalline and partially ordered complex materials

Joerg Neufeind • 865.241.1635 • neufeindjc@ornl.gov

**Wide Angular-Range Chopper Spectrometer (ARCS) • BL - 18**

Atomic-level dynamics in materials science, chemistry, condensed matter sciences

Doug Abernathy • 865.617.5624 • abernathyd@ornl.gov

**Fine-Resolution Fermi Chopper Spectrometer (SEQUOIA) • BL - 17**

Dynamics of complex fluids, quantum fluids, magnetism, condensed matter, materials science

Matthew Stone • 865.202.6896 • stonemb@ornl.gov

**Spallation Neutrons and Pressure Diffractometer (SNAP) • BL - 3**

Materials science, geology, earth and environmental sciences

Chris Tulk • 865.574.5764 • tulkca@ornl.gov

**Ultra-Small-Angle Neutron Scattering Instrument (USANS) • BL - 1A**

Life sciences, polymers, materials science, earth and environmental sciences

Michael Agamalian • 865.382.6367 • magamalian@ornl.gov

**Vibrational Spectrometer (VISION) • BL - 16B**

Vibrational dynamics in molecular systems, chemistry

Yongqiang Cheng • 865.5576.9064 • chengy@ornl.gov

**BL - 16A**

**Neutron Spin Echo Spectrometer (NSE) • BL - 15**

High-resolution dynamics of slow processes, polymers, biological macromolecules

Michael Ohl • 865.574.8426 • ohlme@ornl.gov

**Hybrid Spectrometer (HYSPEC) • BL - 14B**

Atomic-level dynamics in single crystals, magnetism, condensed matter sciences

Barry Winn • 865.805.6819 • winnbl@ornl.gov

**BL - 14A**

**Magnetism Reflectometer • BL - 4A**

Chemistry, magnetism of layered systems and interfaces

Valeria Lauter • 865.387.5389 • lauterv@ornl.gov

**Liquids Reflectometer • BL - 4B**

Interfaces in complex fluids, polymers, chemistry

John Anknier • 865.377.4523 • anknierj@ornl.gov

**Cold Neutron Chopper Spectrometer (CNCS) • BL - 5**

Condensed matter physics, materials science, chemistry, biology, environmental science

Georg Ehlers • 865.206.0824 • ehlersg@ornl.gov

**Fundamental Neutron Physics Beam Line • BL - 13**

Fundamental properties of neutrons

Geoffrey Greene • 865.576.0023 • greenejl@ornl.gov

**Extended Q-Range Small-Angle Neutron Scattering Diffractometer (EQ-SANS) • BL - 6**

Life science, polymer and colloidal systems, materials science, earth and environmental sciences

William Heller • 865.241.0093 • hellerwt@ornl.gov

**BL - 8A**  
**BL - 8B**

**Elastic Diffuse Scattering Spectrometer (CORELLI) • BL - 9**

Detailed studies of disorder in crystalline materials

Feng Ye • 865.576.0931 • yef1@ornl.gov

**Versatile Neutron Imaging Instrument at SNS (VENUS) • BL - 10**

Energy selective imaging in materials science, engineering, materials processing, environmental sciences and biology

Hassina Bilheux • 865.384.9630 • bilheuxhn@ornl.gov

**Macromolecular Neutron Diffractometer (MaNDI) • BL - 11B**

Atomic-level structures of membrane proteins, drug complexes, DNA

Leighton Coates • 865.964.8651 • coatesl@ornl.gov

**Single-Crystal Diffractometer (TOPAZ) • BL - 12**

Atomic-level structures in chemistry, biology, earth science, materials science, condensed matter physics

Christina Hoffmann • 865.576.5127 • hoffmann@ornl.gov

**Powder Diffractometer (POWGEN) • BL - 11A**

Atomic-level structures in chemistry, materials science, and condensed matter physics including magnetic spin structures

Ashfia Huq • 630.986.7321 • huqa@ornl.gov

**Engineering Materials Diffractometer (VULCAN) • BL - 7**

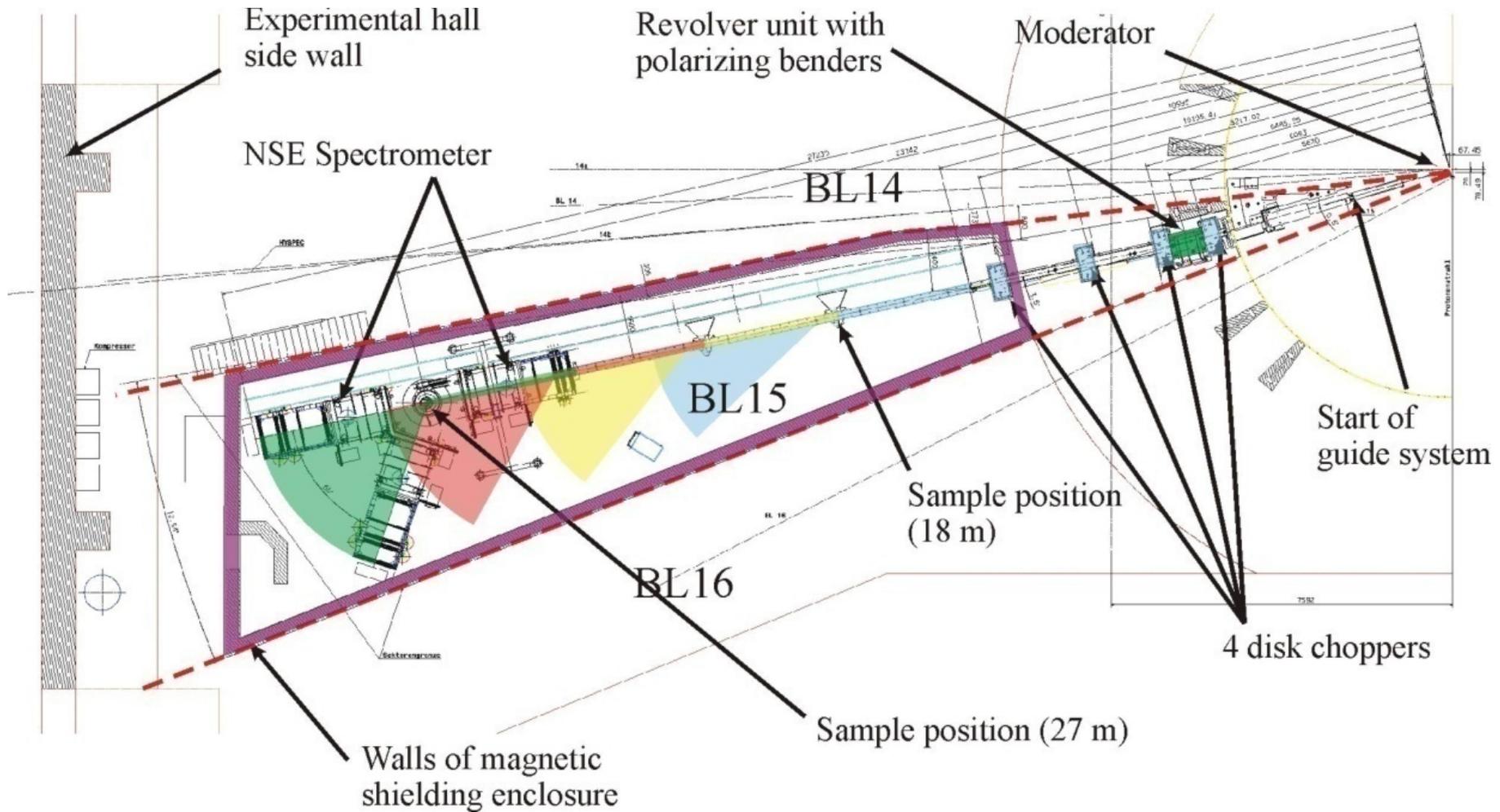
Mechanical behaviors, materials science, materials processing

Ke An • 865.919.5226 • kean@ornl.gov

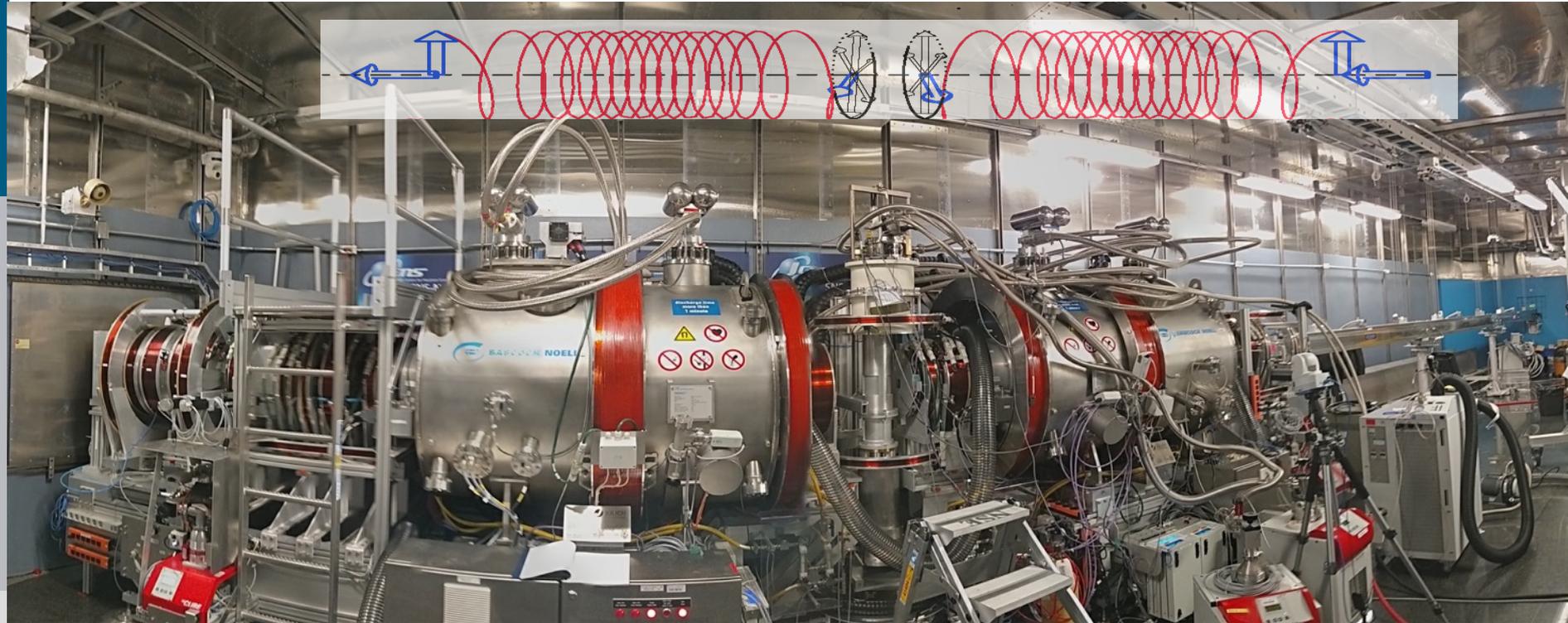
\*Scheduled commissioning date

**LEGEND**

- Operating instrument in user program
- In design or construction
- Under consideration



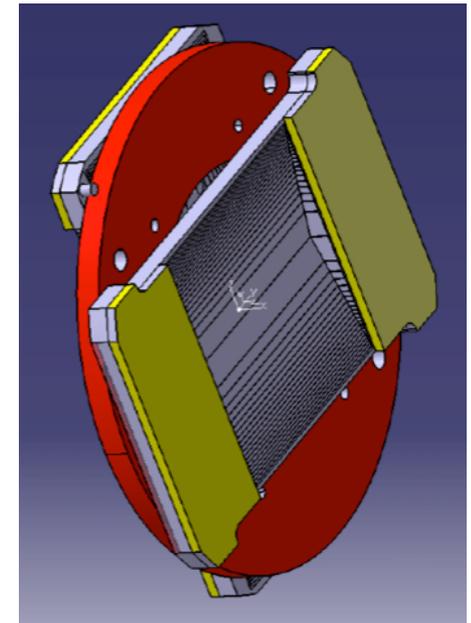
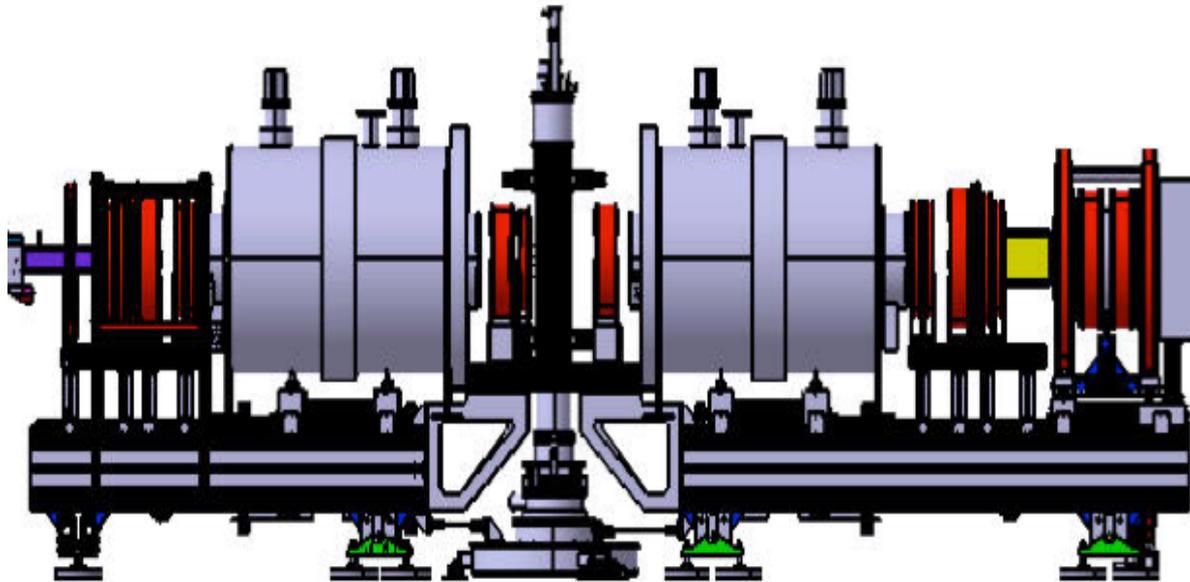
# SNS-NSE: IN11-Type NSE



Typical neutron wavelengths:  
 $\lambda = 2 - 14 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\Delta\lambda = 2.5, 3.6 \text{ \AA}$

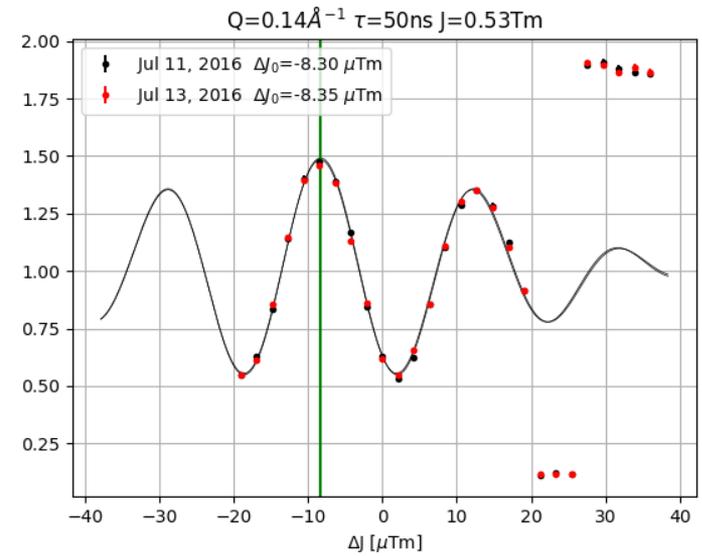
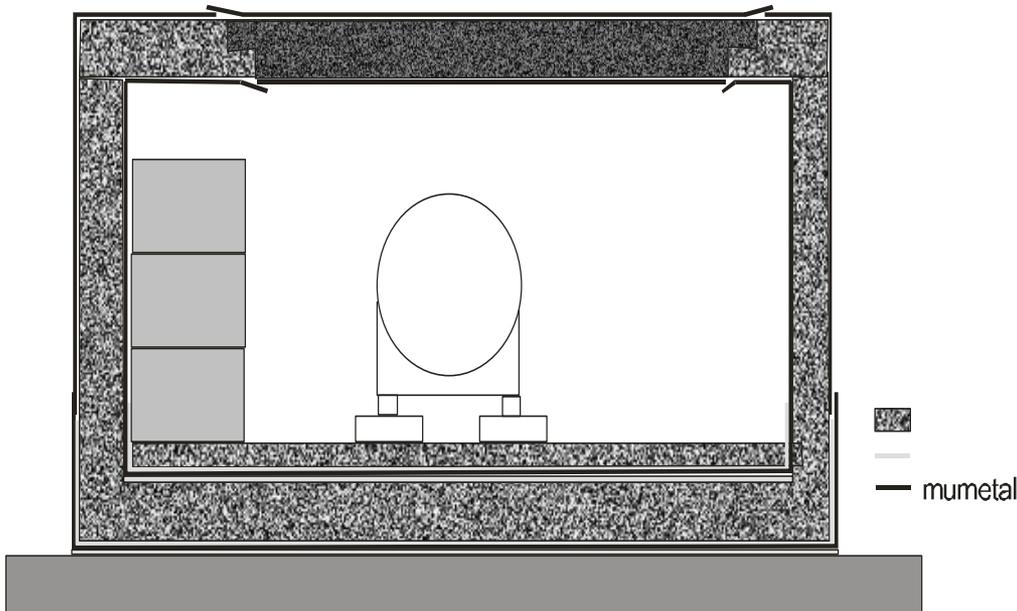
$J_{\max} \sim 0.56 \text{ Tm}$   
 $2\theta = 3.5^\circ - 79.5^\circ$

SNS-NSE: the first NSE with superconducting main coils



“Pythagorean” correction  
coils:  $r^2 = y^2 + z^2$

# Magnetic Shielding

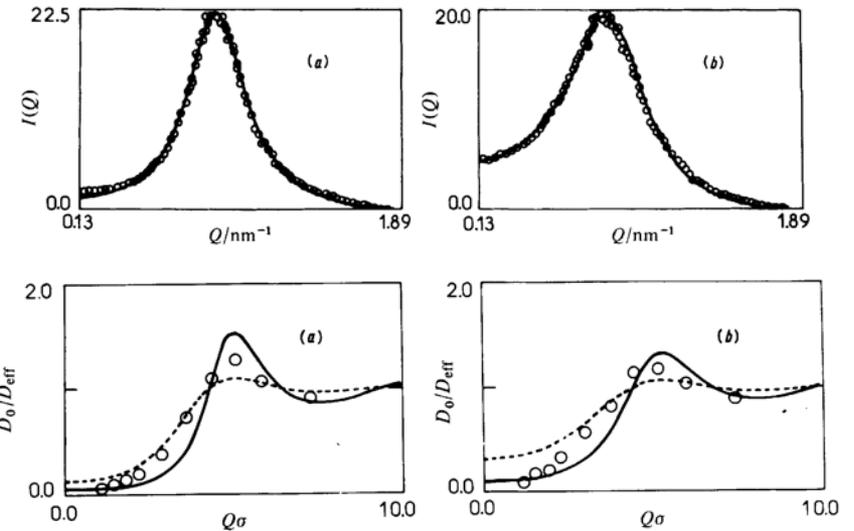
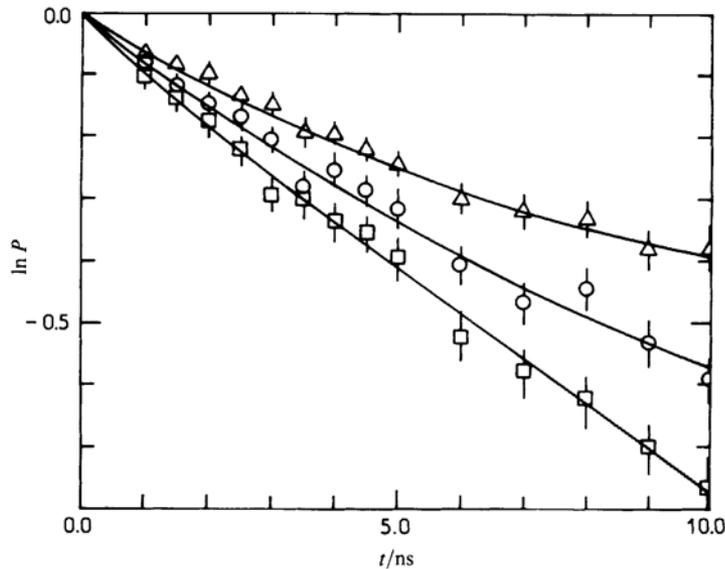
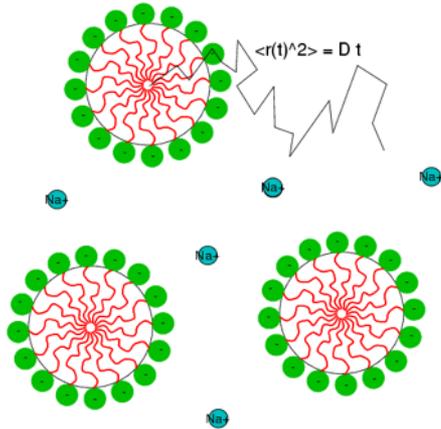


$\Delta\phi \rightarrow 1 \text{ deg}$

Two "historical" examples:

1. SDS Micelles (1981)
2. Reptation Model (2002)

Several recent results from SNS-NSE

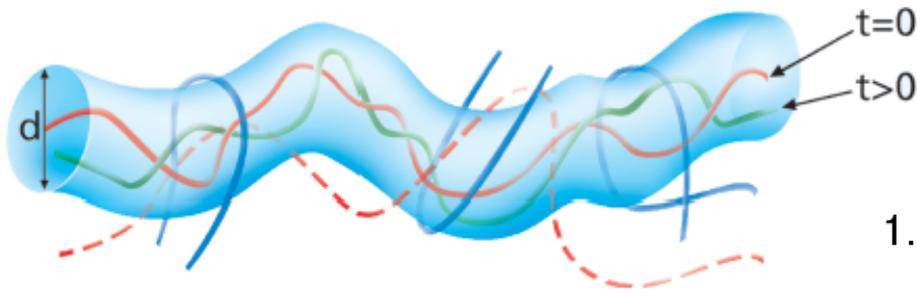


$$\frac{I(Q, t)}{I(Q, 0)} = e^{-D_{\text{eff}}(Q)Q^2 t}$$

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

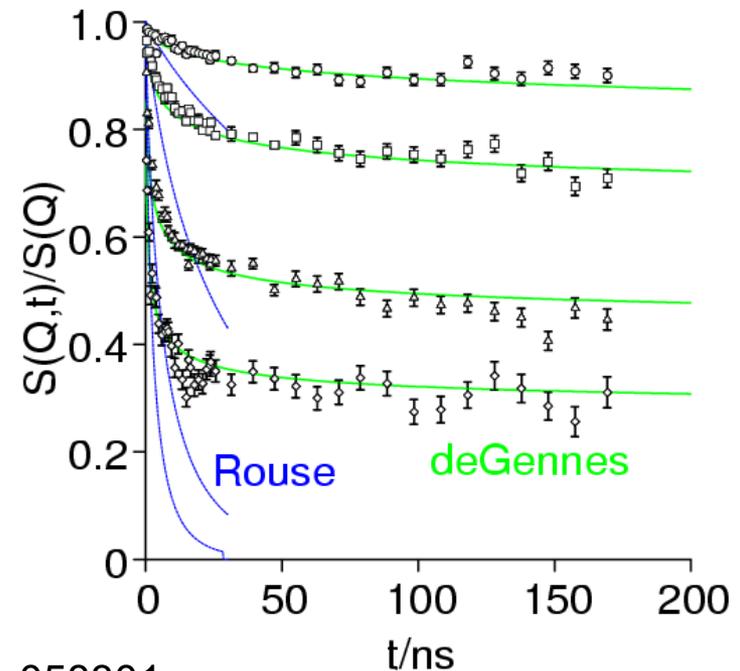
$$D_0 = \frac{kT}{6\pi\eta R}$$

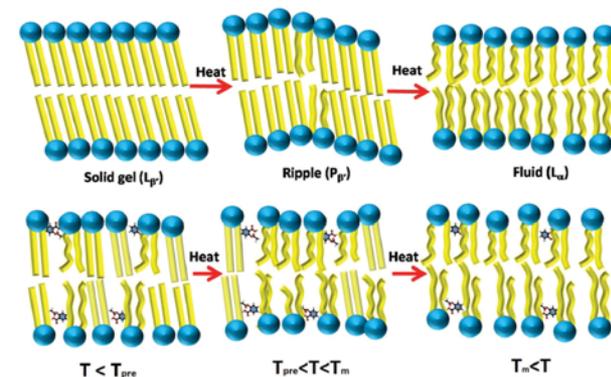
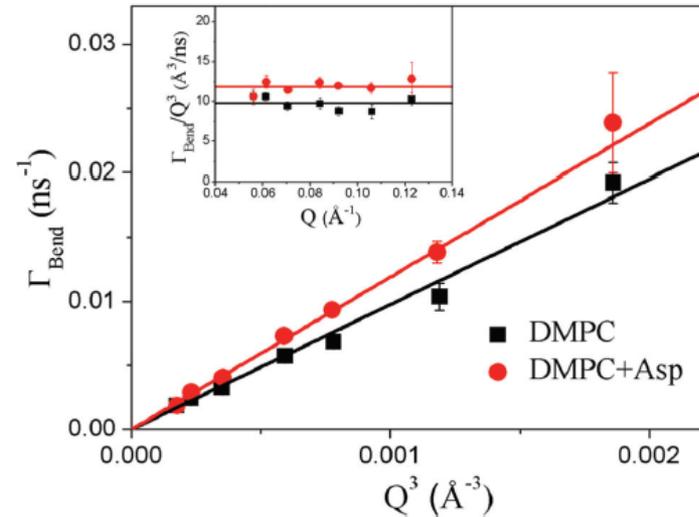
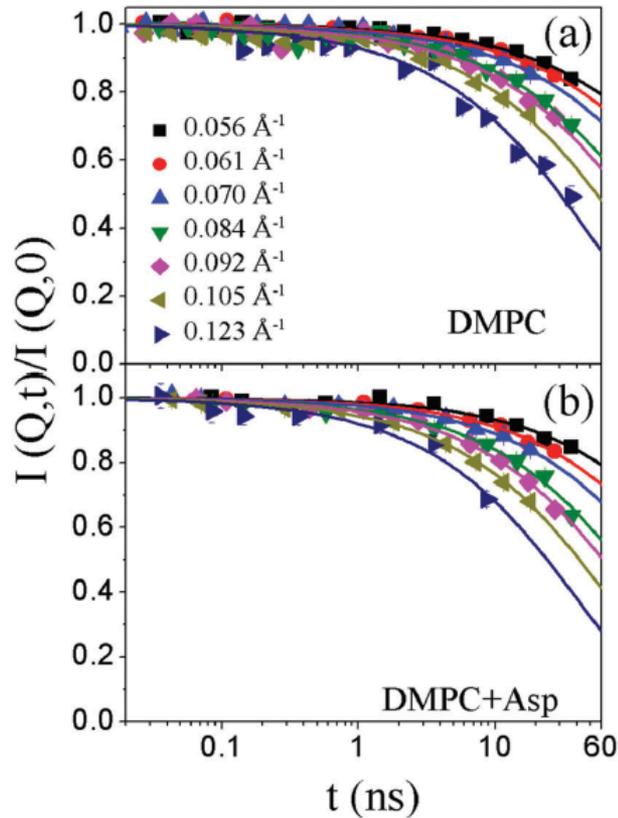
# Reptation Model (de Gennes/Edwards)



Coherent scattering, labeled chain

Melt of long chain linear PE

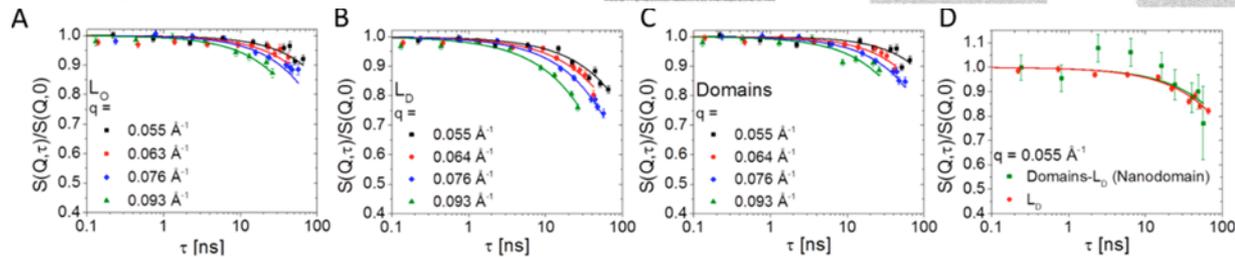
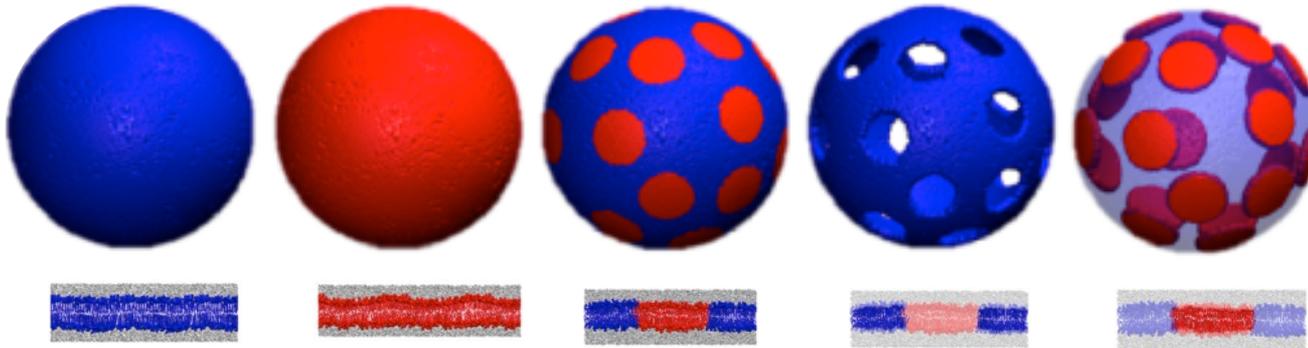




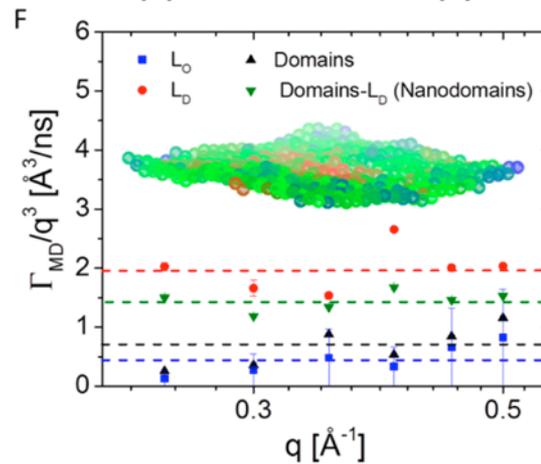
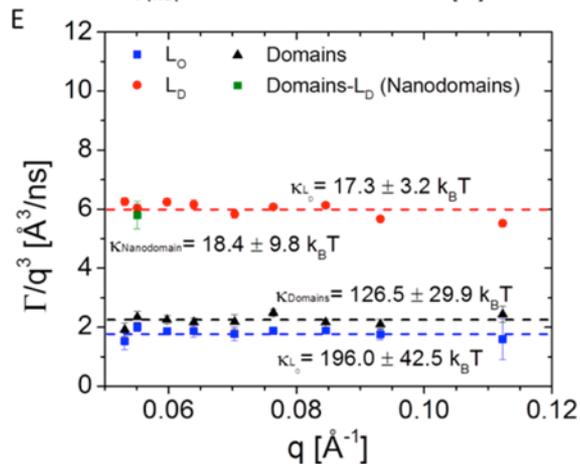
$$\frac{I(Q, t)}{I(Q, 0)} = \exp(-(\Gamma_{\text{Bend}} t)^{2/3})$$

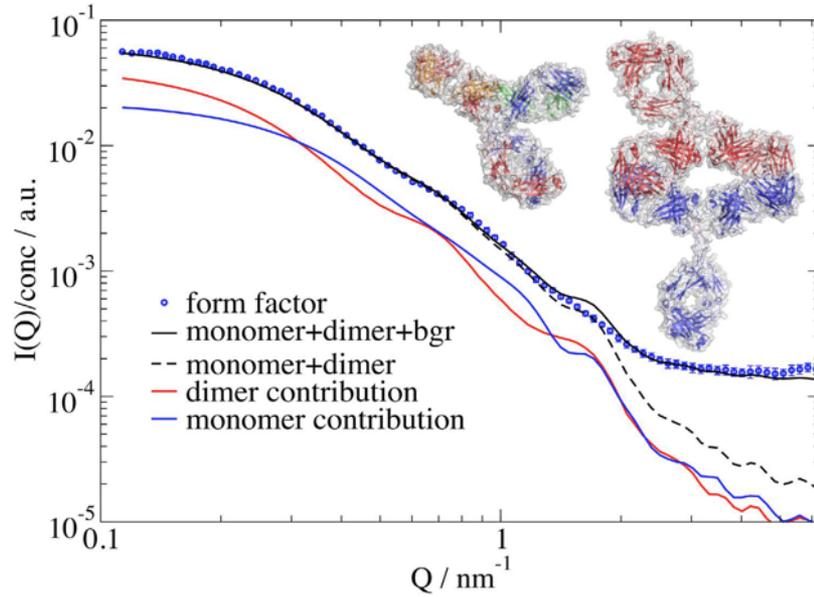
$$\Gamma_{\text{Bend}} = 0.025 \gamma_k \left(\frac{k_B T}{\kappa}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{k_B T}{\eta}\right) Q^3$$

# Mechanical Properties of Nanoscopic Lipid Domains



$$\frac{S(Q, t)}{S(Q, 0)} = \exp(-(\Gamma(Q)t)^{2/3})$$

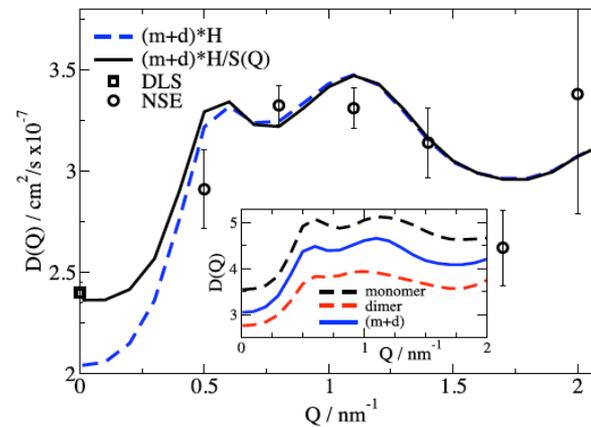
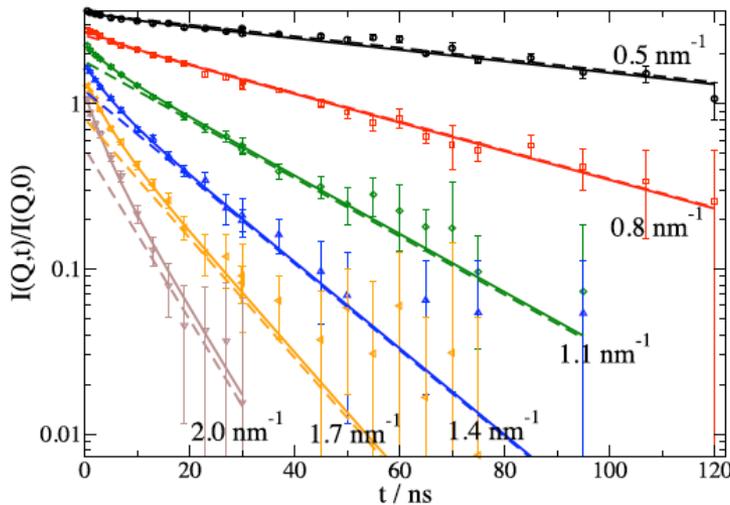




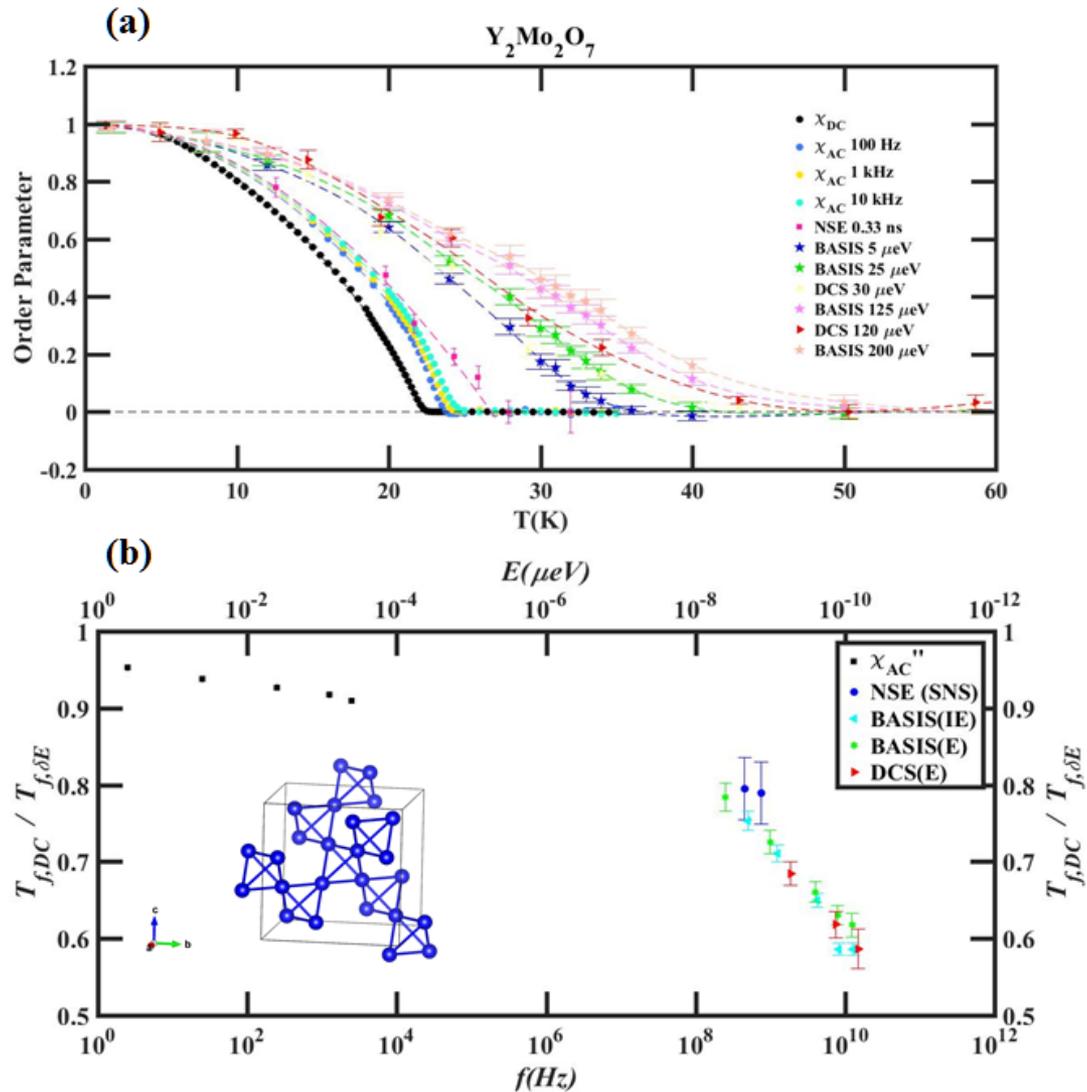
$$F(Q, t) = F_{trans}(Q, t) \cdot F_{rot}(Q, t) \cdot F_{int}(Q, t)$$

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

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



# Example of Paramagnetic NSE



- NSE
  - a high resolution neutron spectroscopy
  - measures the intermediate scattering function  $S(Q, \tau)$
  - need large samples, scattering intensity
- 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 a proposal!!

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