

Wolfgang Kreuzpaintner



2005 – 2010: PhD student



2010 – 2015: postdoc, 2015 – 2018: Akademischer Rat a.Z.



2018 – 2019: research fellow



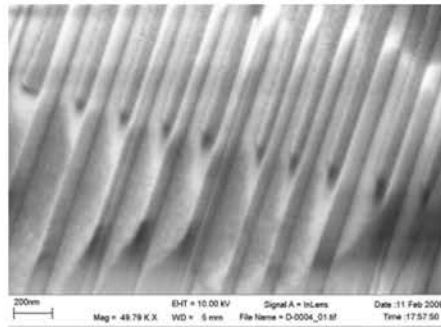
Since 2019: researcher / full professor



Presenter Background

Scientific background

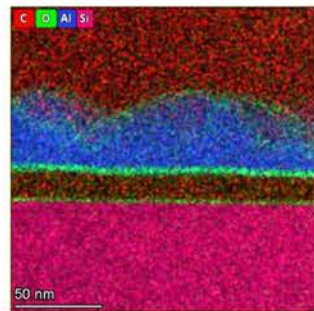
- Thin film, multilayer and interface magnetism, magnetic nanostructures
- energy materials



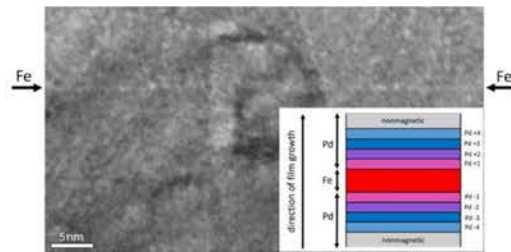
Gd nanowires



Ni nanodots

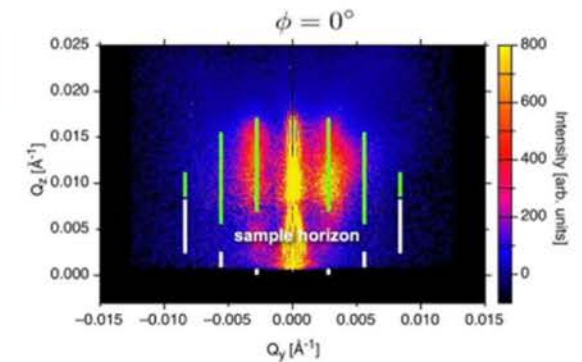
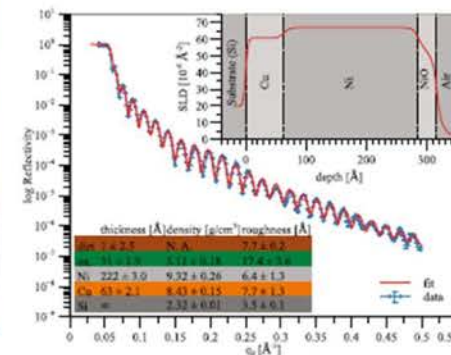
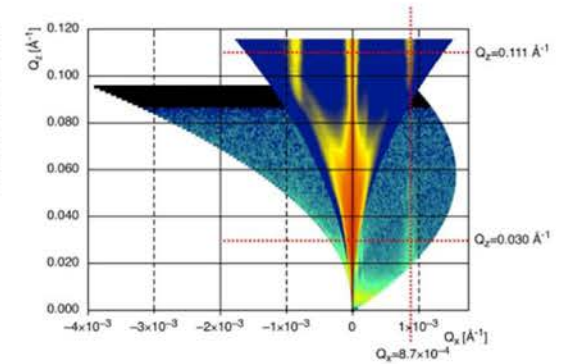
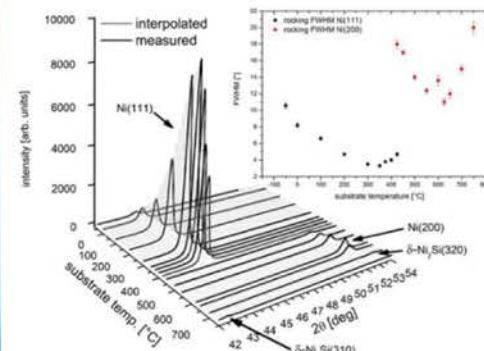


PTB-7



Pd/Fe(1ML)/Pd

X-ray & Neutron scattering



Specialised thin films of high quality

nature

S. Tauchert, M. Volkov, D. Ehberger, D. Kazenwadel, M. Evers, H. Lange, A. Donges, A. Book, W. Kreuzpaintner, U. Nowak, and P. Baum, *Polarized phonons carry angular momentum in ultrafast demagnetization*, Nature 602, 73 – 77 (2022).
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-04306-4>

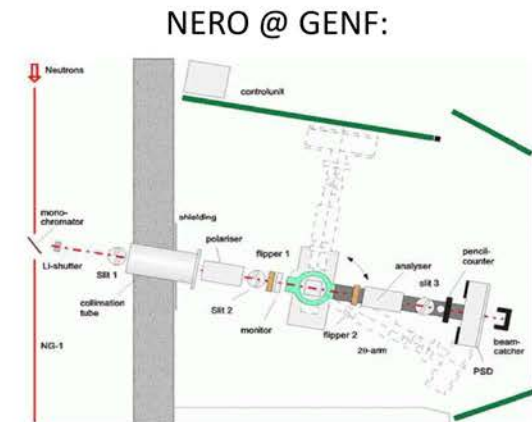
User of various neutron reflectometers (mostly NERO, Amor, Maria, REFSANS)

Presenter Background

Beamlines

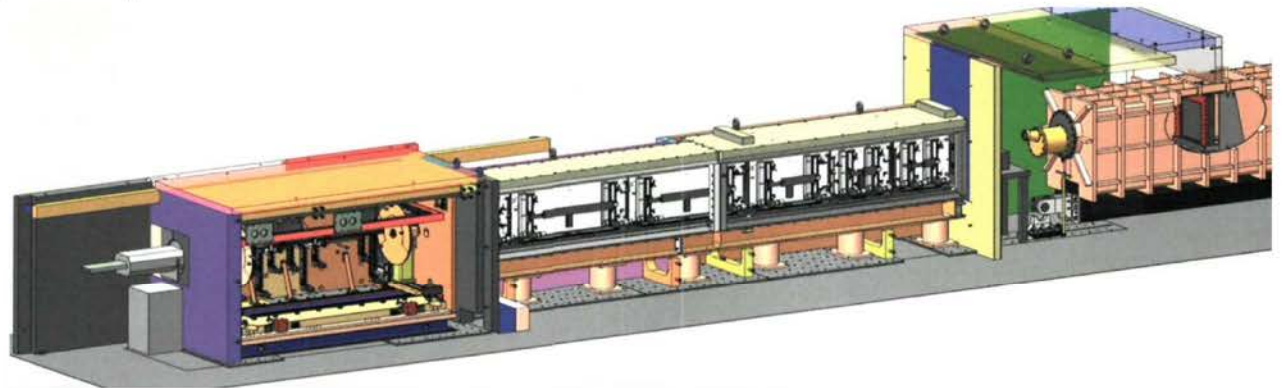
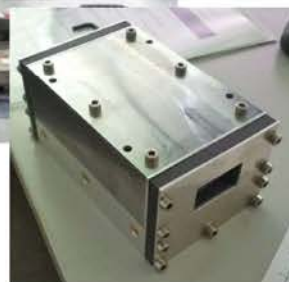
- NERO:
(monochromatic)

- internal user and support with user operation
- pre-characterization of user samples (x-ray, PPMS, etc.)
- lab introduction
- support with data processing and analysis (specular/off-specular & polarized/unpolarized)



- REFSANS:
(ToF)

- internal and friendly user (taking part in the commissioning)
- debugging (2D ToF detector → own software to read and process list mode files)
- fixing (drives of neutron optics)
- improving (suggesting chopper upgrade → done in 2009/2010)
- improvise sample environments
- improvised polarizer



REFSANS @ FRM2

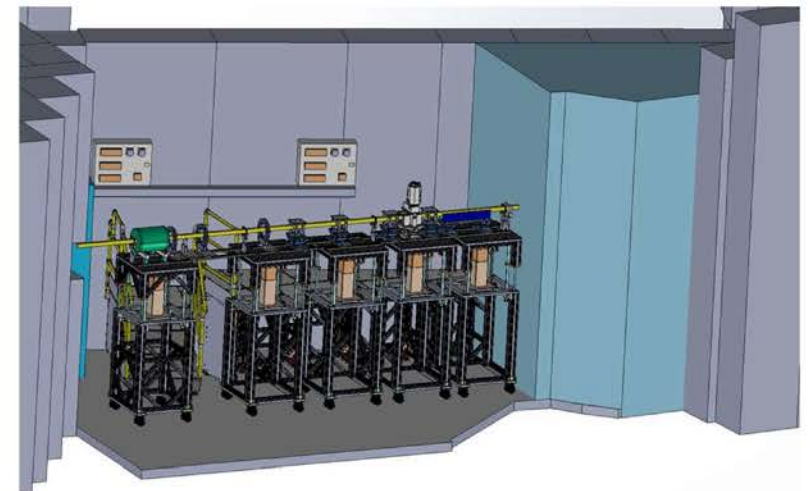
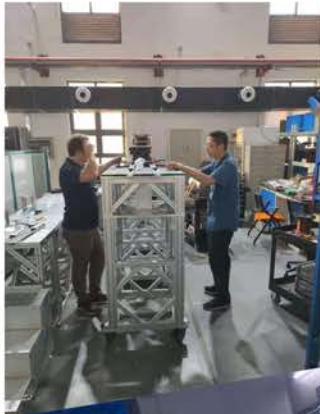
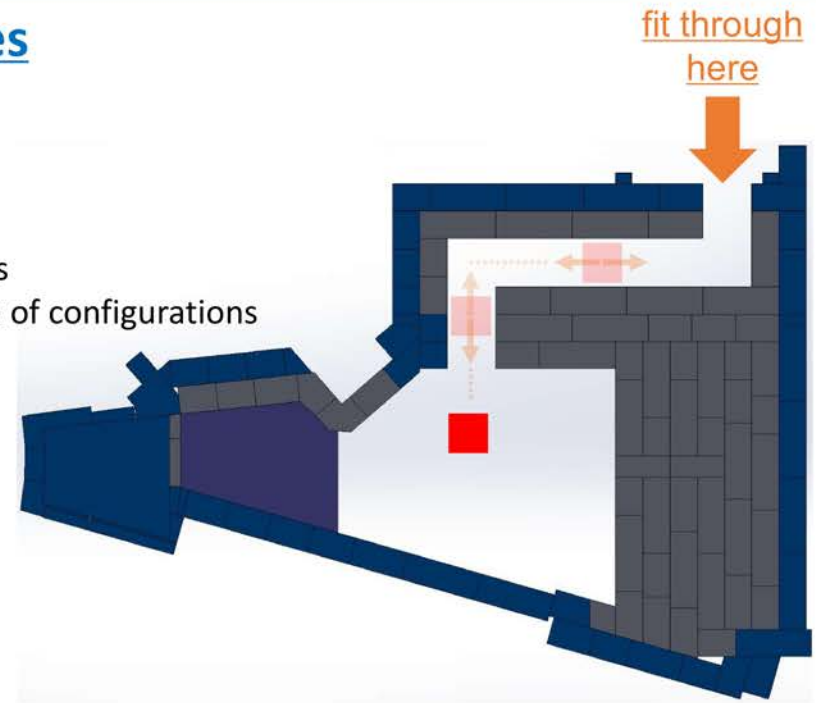
Presenter Background

Beamlines

- BL20: - construction work for partially completed beamline
(ToF) - existing hutch, choppers, detectors

Challenges:

- test-beamline for 3 groups (detector, chopper and polarized neutrons)
- Groups have very different requirements → simple and quick change of configurations



Presenter Background

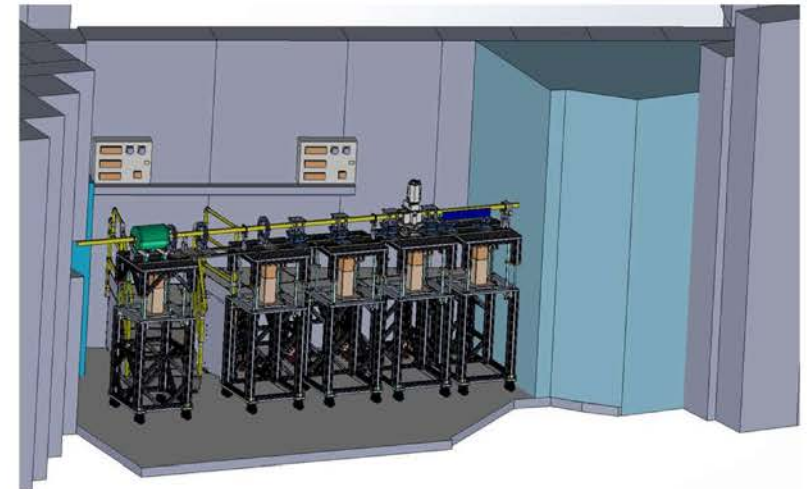
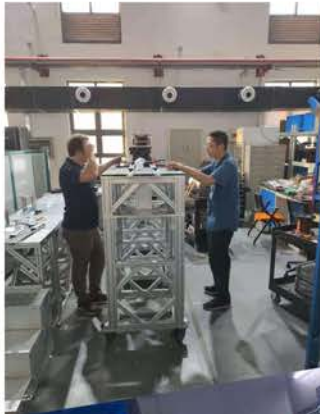
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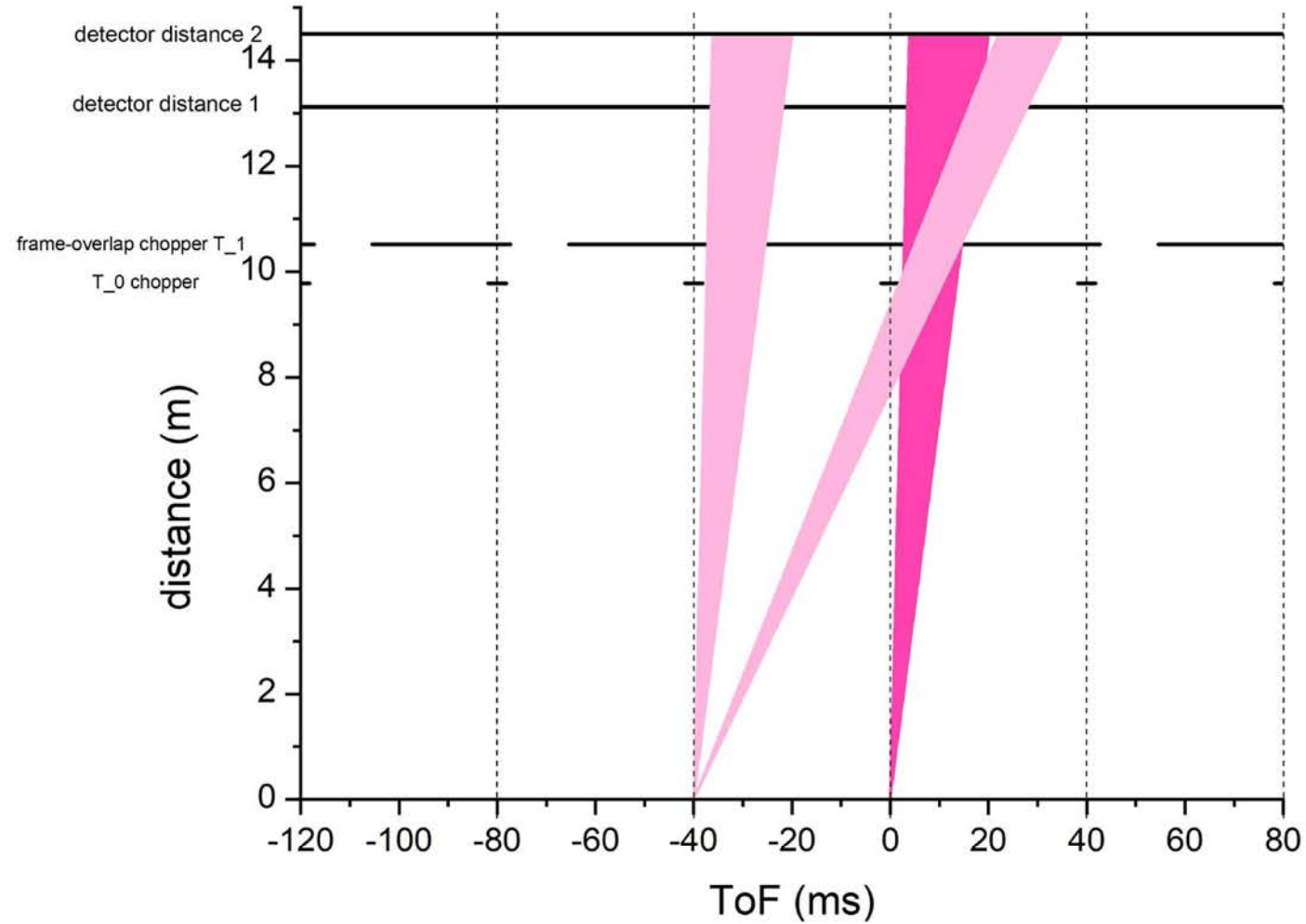
- test-beamline for 3 groups (detectors)
- Groups have very different requirements

Design and build a fully modular beamline from "what exists"
(A beamline that can fully be (dis-)assembled and re-aligned in less than 1 day)
and quick change of configurations



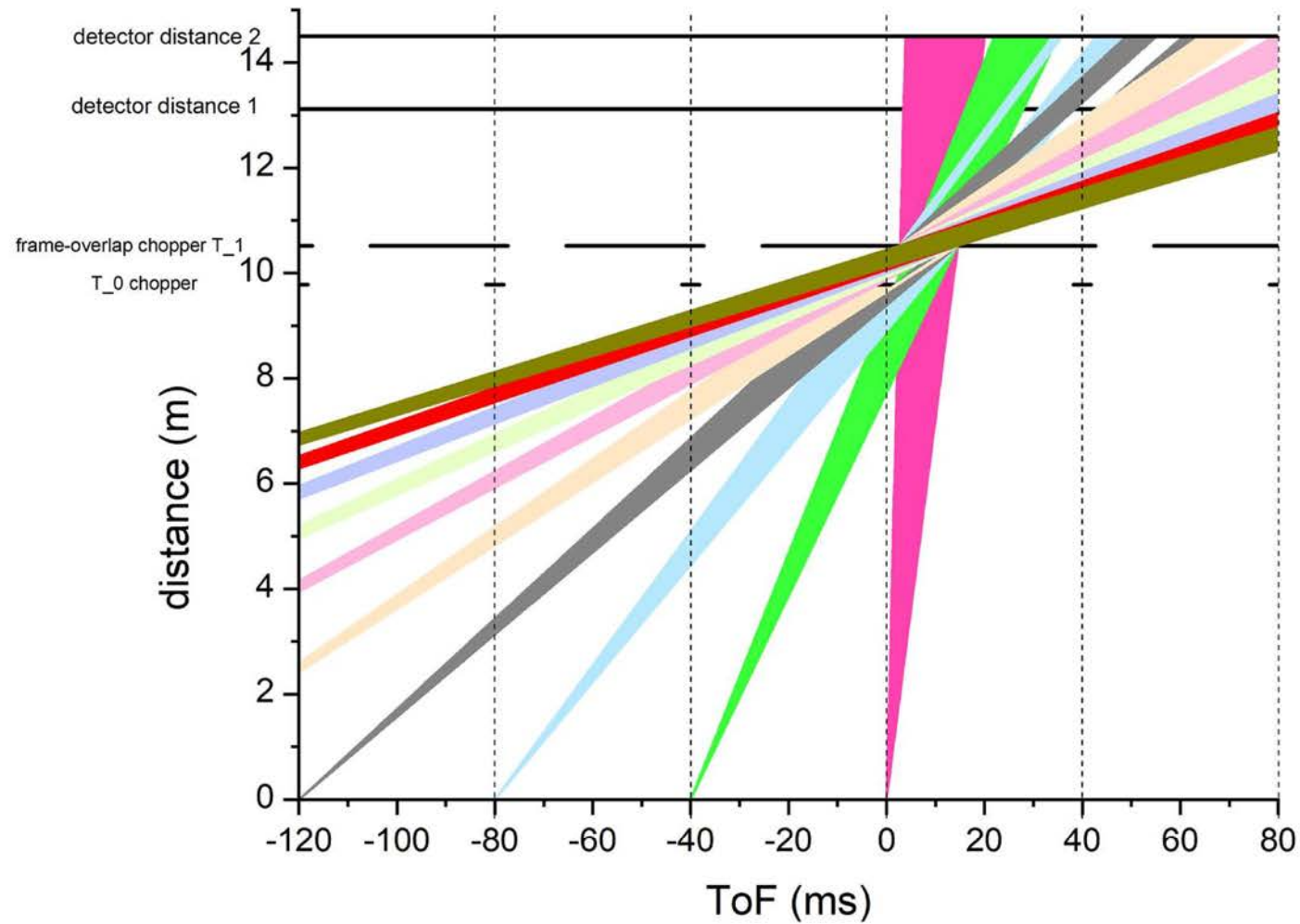
Presenter Background

Neutron Optics



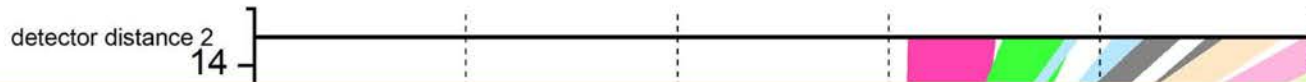
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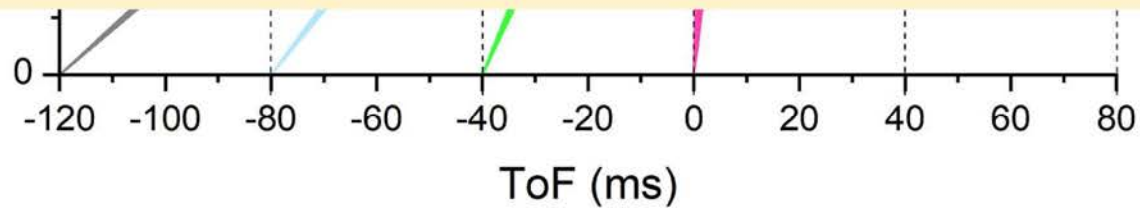
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Neutron Optics



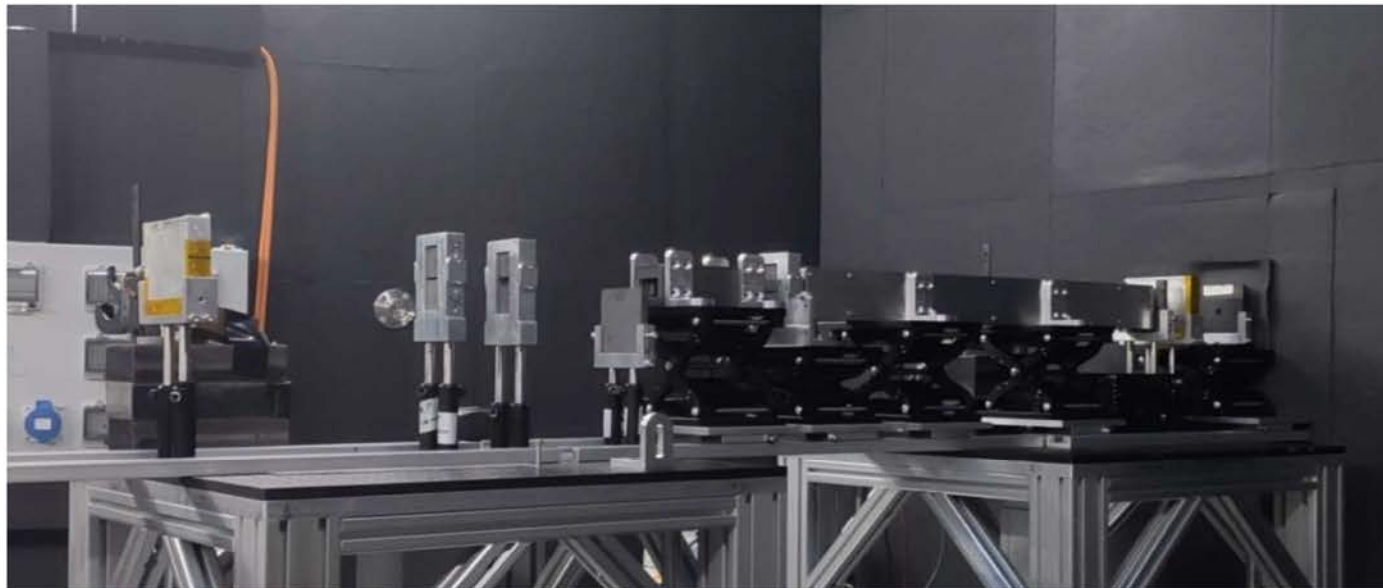
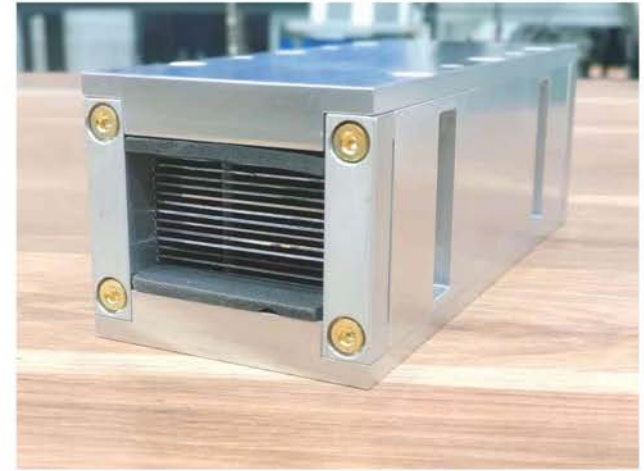
Simulations ...

```
AT(0,0,0) RELATIVE origin
*** Define the geometry inside hatch ***
***** Define the instrument components *****
*** Specify monitor read after hatch (read) ***
COMPONENT hatched_monitor_n_hatched = L_monitor
  radius=0.1,
  hatched_monitor_n_hatched,
  xsize=0.1,
  yheight=0.1,
  Lmin=Lmin,
  Lmax=Lmax,
  restore_neutron=1
AT(0, 0, 11.000) RELATIVE origin
*** TOF monitor inside the hatch (not read) ***
COMPONENT tof_monitor = TOF_monitor
  R=100,
  Rname="TOF_monitor_n_hatched",
  xsize=0.1,
  ysize=0.1,
  ymax=0.1,
  Lmin=Lmin,
  Lmax=Lmax,
  restore_neutron=1
AT(0, 0, 11.500) RELATIVE origin
*** PSD monitor inside the hatch (not read) ***
COMPONENT psd_monitor_2 = PSD_monitor
  rx=100,
  ry=100,
  Rname="PSD_monitor_n_hatched",
  xsize=0.05,
  yheight=0.05,
  restore_neutron=1
AT(0, 0, 11.500) RELATIVE origin
*** First collimator slit in hatch (unread) ***
COMPONENT slit_n_hatched = S
  radius=0.01
AT(0,0,11.640) RELATIVE origin
*** Second collimator slit in hatch (unread) ***
```



Presenter Background

Neutron Optics



Presenter Background

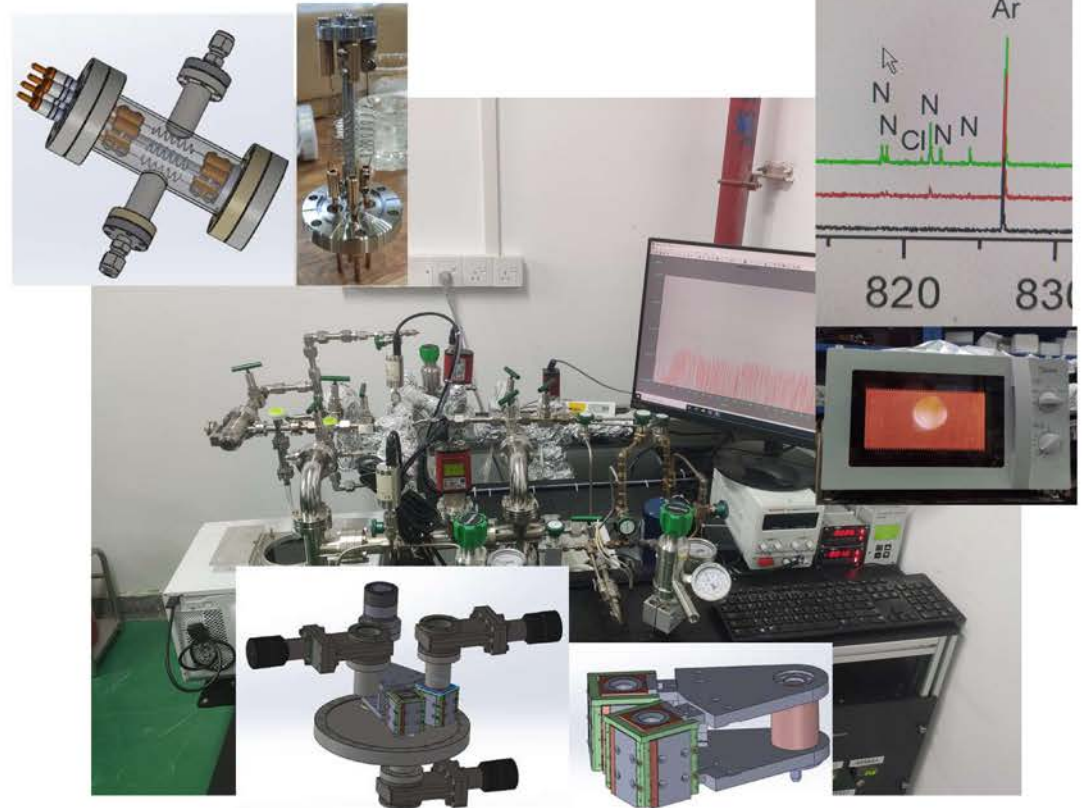
^3He – spin filters



1st generation ^3He filling station

Workhorse to fill cells:

- Mainly commercial components



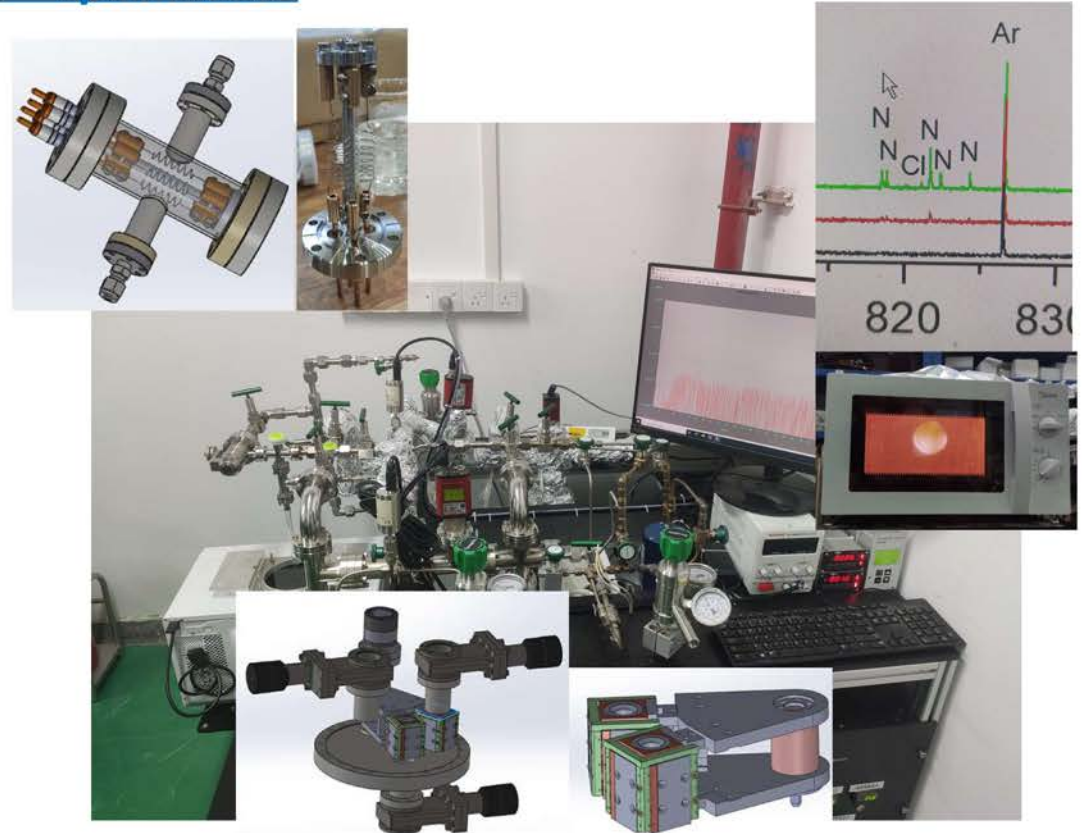
2nd generation ^3He filling station

Research-centered filling station:

- sophisticated pumping and gas analysis system
- Self-developed ^3He gas purifier
- Microwave-discharge-cleaning
- etc.

Presenter Background

^3He – spin filters



2nd generation ^3He filling station

Research-centered filling station:

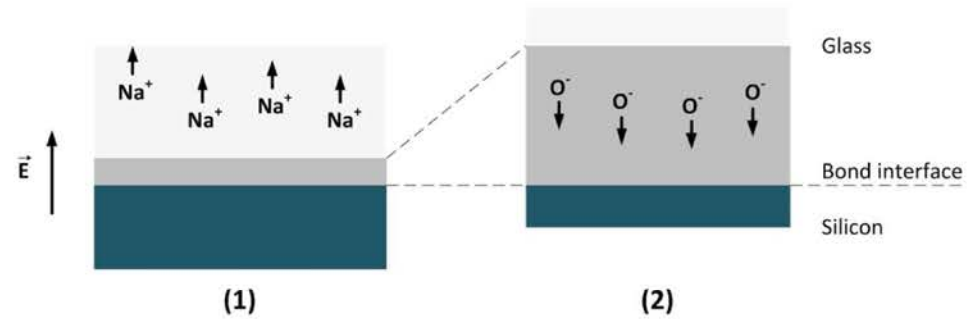
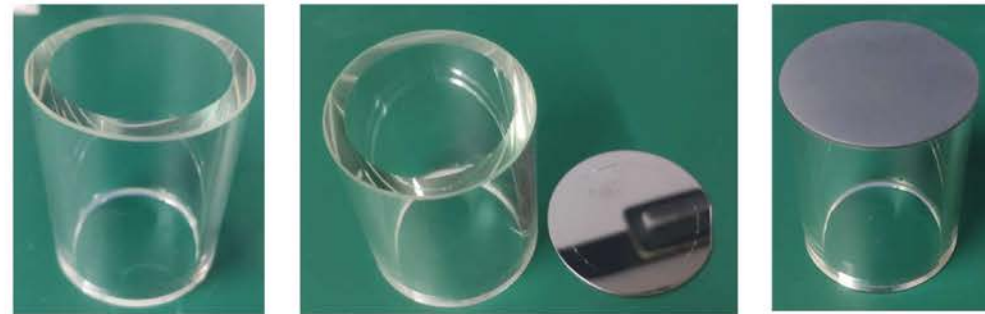
- sophisticated pumping and gas analysis system
- Self-developed ^3He gas purifier
- Microwave-discharge-cleaning
- etc.

Presenter Background

^3He – spin filters

Solving the GE180 glass crisis ... in a new way!

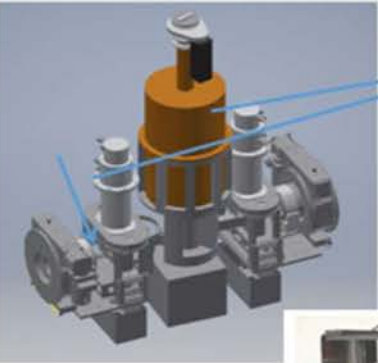
Apply a coating to the inside of a glass cell to control the interaction of ^3He with the surface?



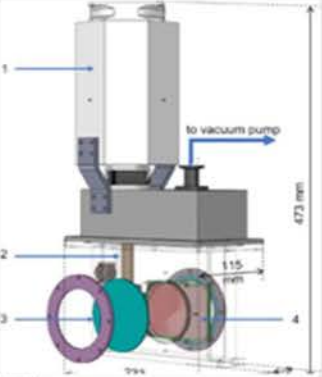
Presenter Background

Sample Environments

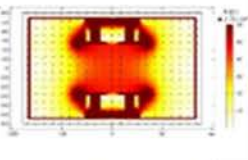
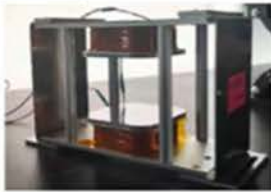
Project leader SNP



cryoflipper

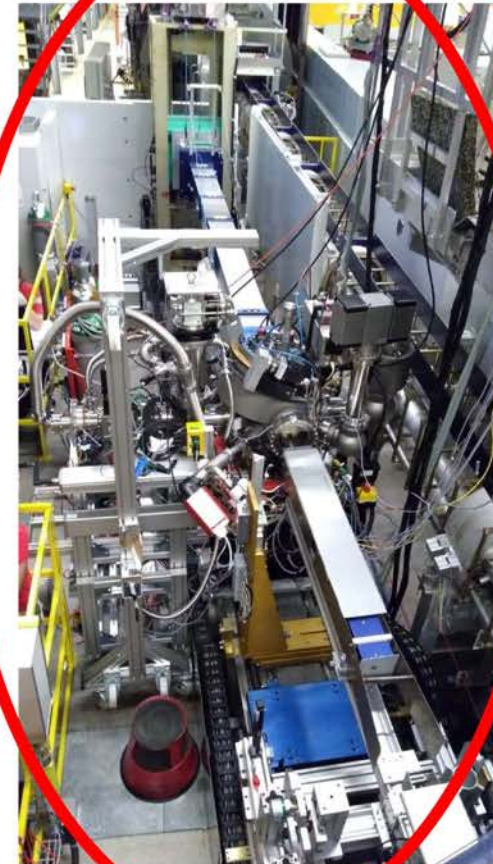


guidefields



Y.-C. Dong, T.-H. Wang, W. Kreuzpaintner, X.-T. Liu, Z.-H. Li, Y.-D. Kang, J.-P. Zhang, L. Tian, C.-Y. Huang, B. Bai, and X. Tong, *Miniaturized time-of-flight neutron spin flipper using a high- T_C superconductor*, Nucl. Sci. Tech. 33, 145 (2022).
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s41365-022-01134-7>

Patent pending in China



Development of *In Situ* Thin Film Growth Capabilities for Polarized Neutron Reflectometry

Wolfgang Kreuzpaintner



For a review on the topic:

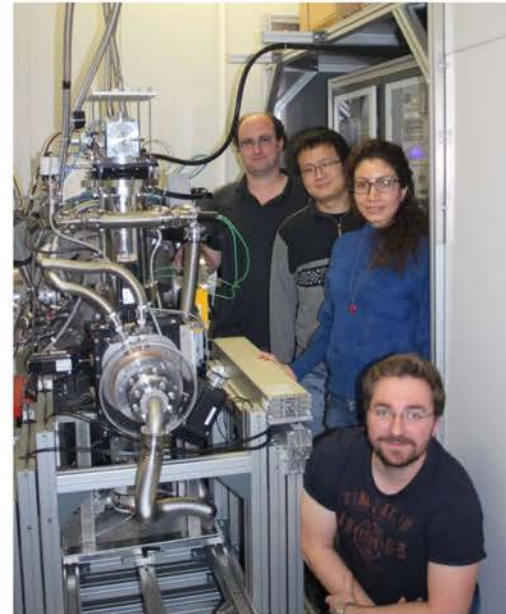
W. Kreuzpaintner, A. Schmehl, A. Book, T. Mairoser, J. Ye, B. Wiedemann, S. Mayr, J.-F. Moulin, J. Stahn, D.A. Gilbert, H. Gabold, Z. Inanloo-Maranloo, M. Heigl, S. Masalovich, R. Georgii, M. Albrecht, J. Mannhart, and P. Böni, *Reflectometry with Polarized Neutrons on In Situ Grown Thin Films*, Phys. Status Solidi B, 2100153 (2021).

<https://doi.org/10.1002/pssb.202100153>

Outline

Introduction

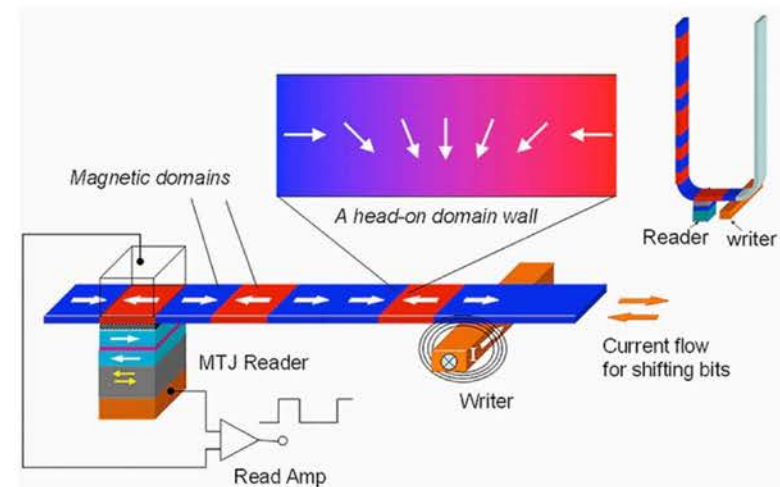
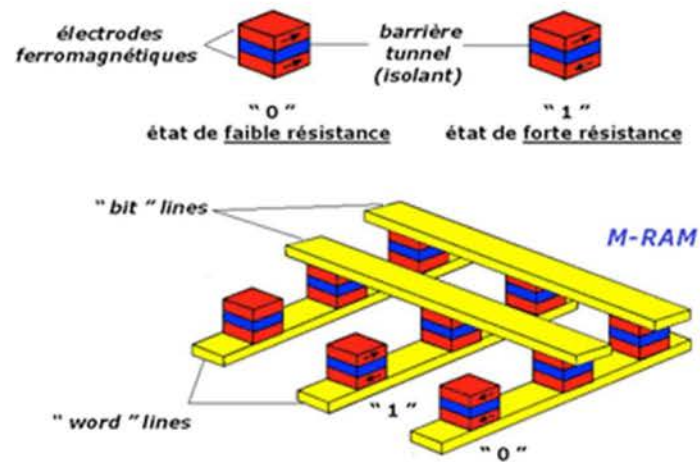
- *In situ* Thin Film Deposition Setup
- Early *in situ* Experiments
- Speeding up the Measurements
- Current Experiments / Possibilities
- Latest Developments



Conclusion and Outlook

Introduction

Magnetic layers and hetero-structures are the basic building blocks of a large number of magneto-electronic devices.



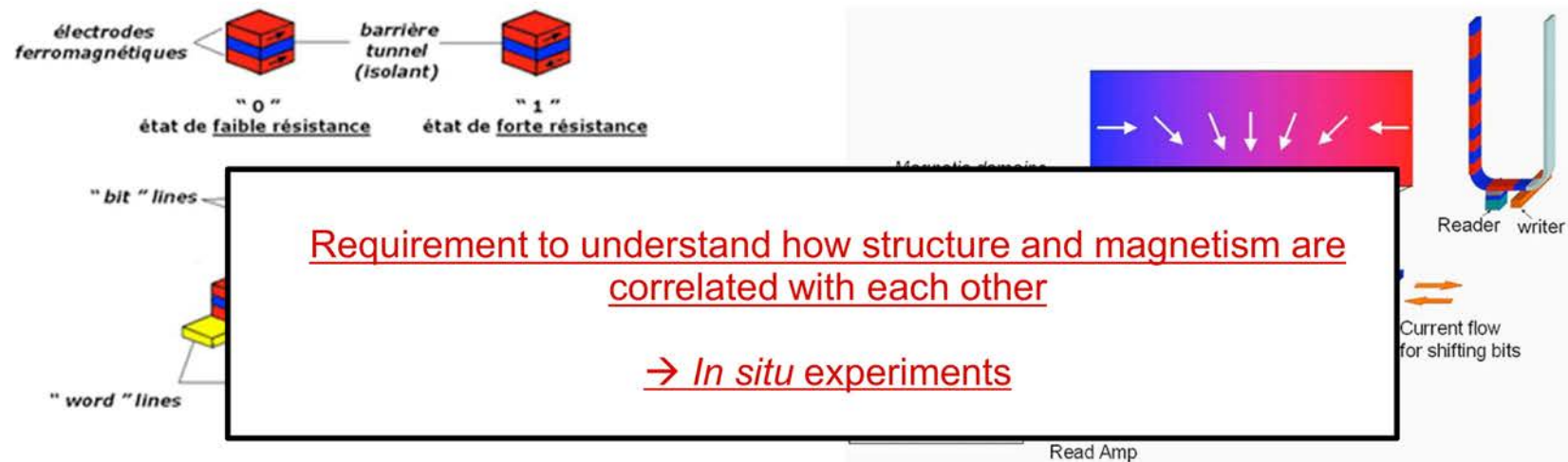
<http://www2.cnrs.fr/sites/en/image/fig4albertfert.gif>

Performance of all devices:

- strongly relies on the magnetic properties of the layers
- is a function of the morphology and microstructure of the layers (functions of growth conditions).

Introduction

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Introduction

Common Practice:

- Structural *in situ* characterization of thin films is common practice (LEED/RHEED, STM, x-ray reflectivity, GISAXS, etc.)
- Magnetic x-ray scattering (XMCD)



<http://m.eet.com/media/1172820/1a%20overal%20lab%20x%20420.jpg>



<http://www.esrf.eu/files/live/sites/www/files/about/synchrotron-science/ESRF-02-386.jpg>

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<http://m.eet.com/media/1172820/1a%20overal%20lab%20x%20420.jpg>

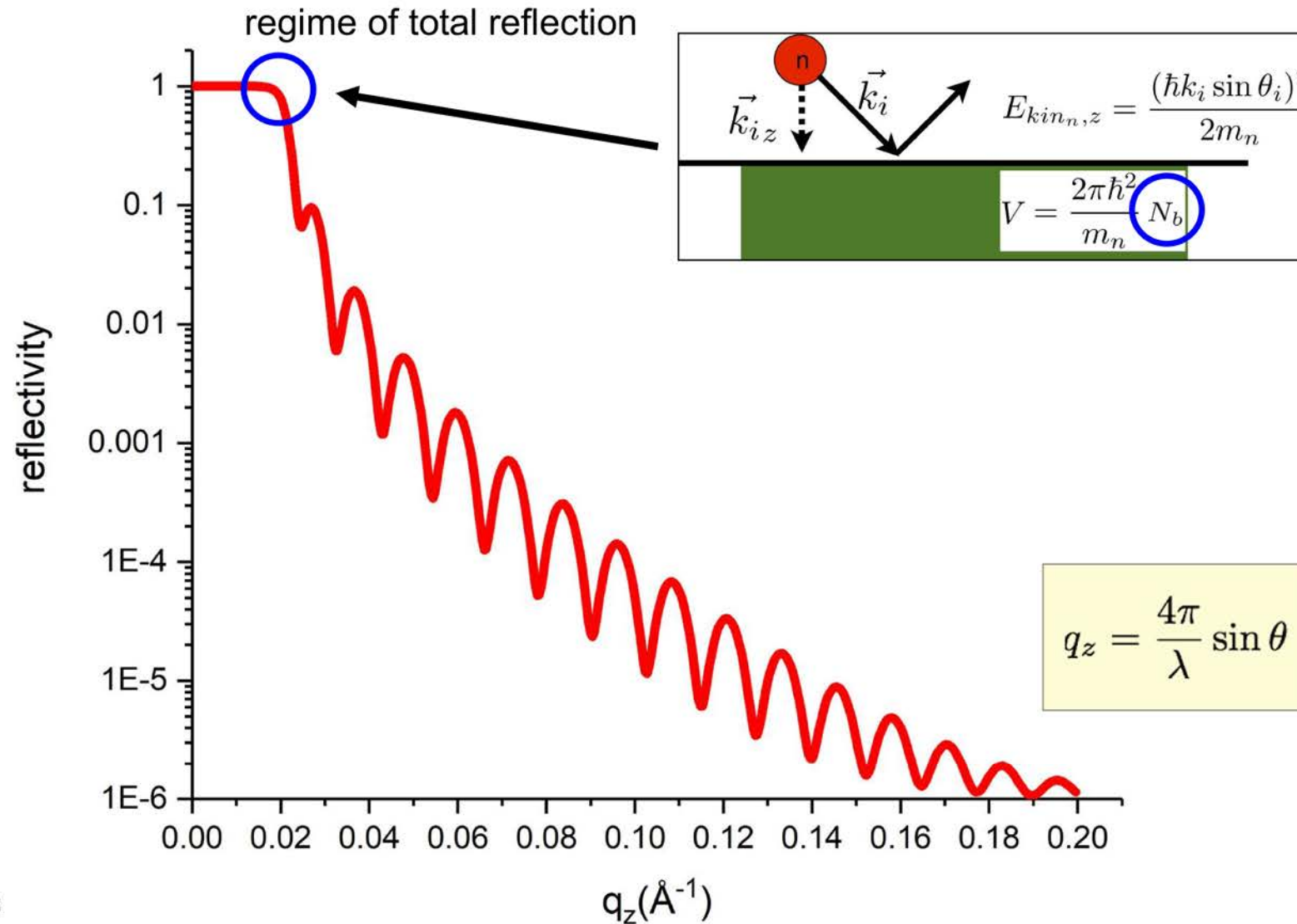


Neutrons ?

<http://www.esrf.eu/files/live/sites/www/files/about/synchrotron-science/ESRF-02-386.jpg>

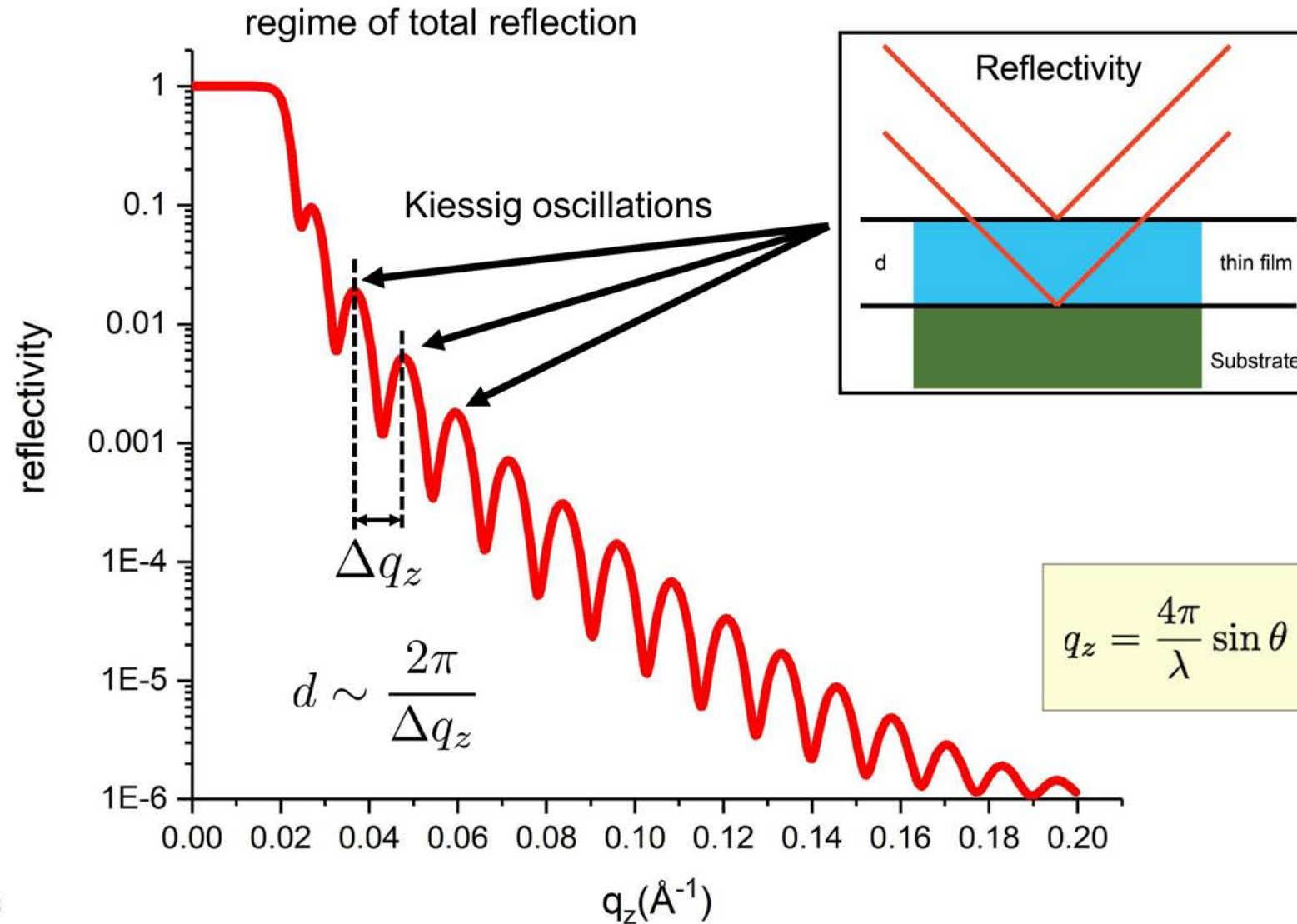
Introduction

Polarized Neutron Reflectometry



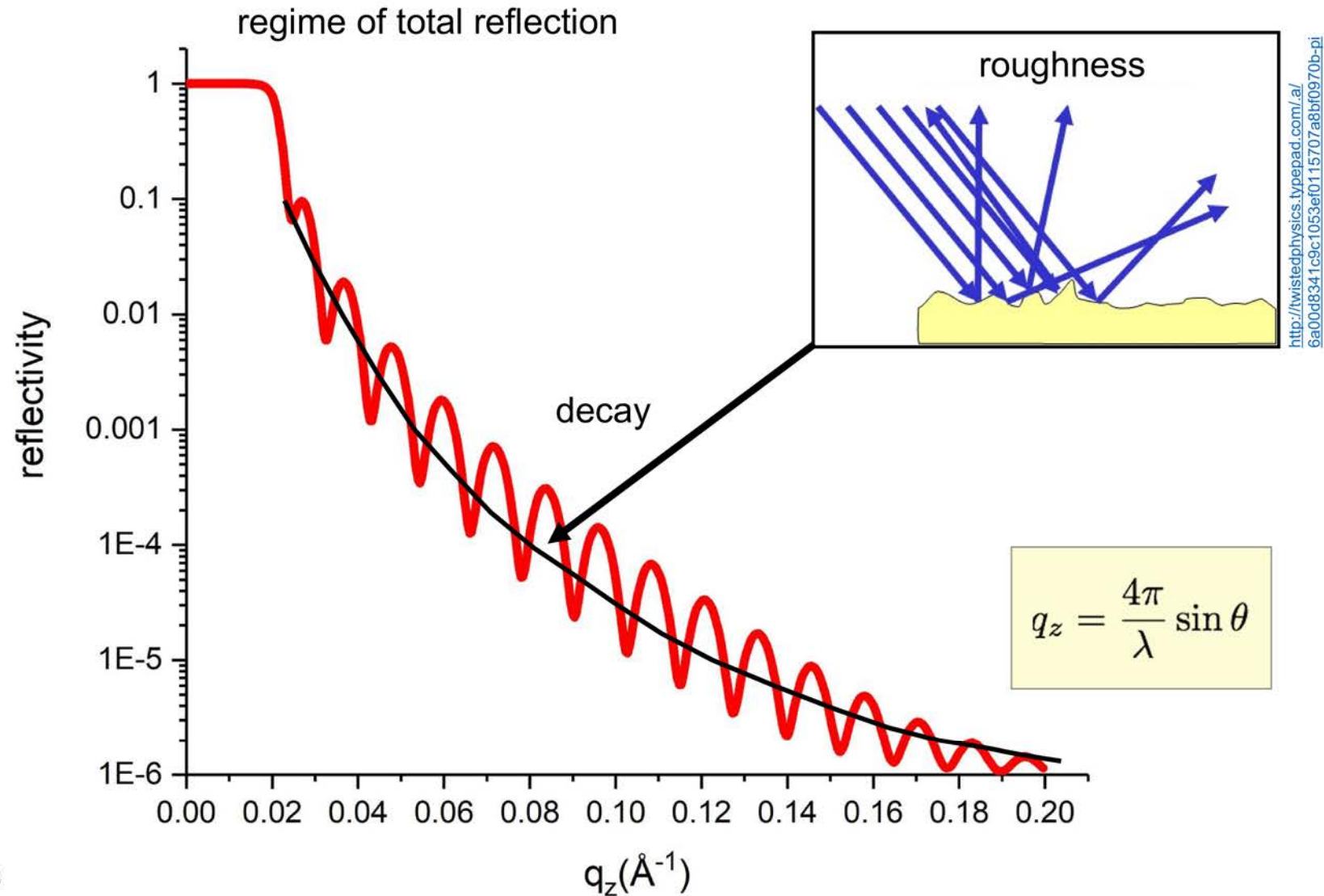
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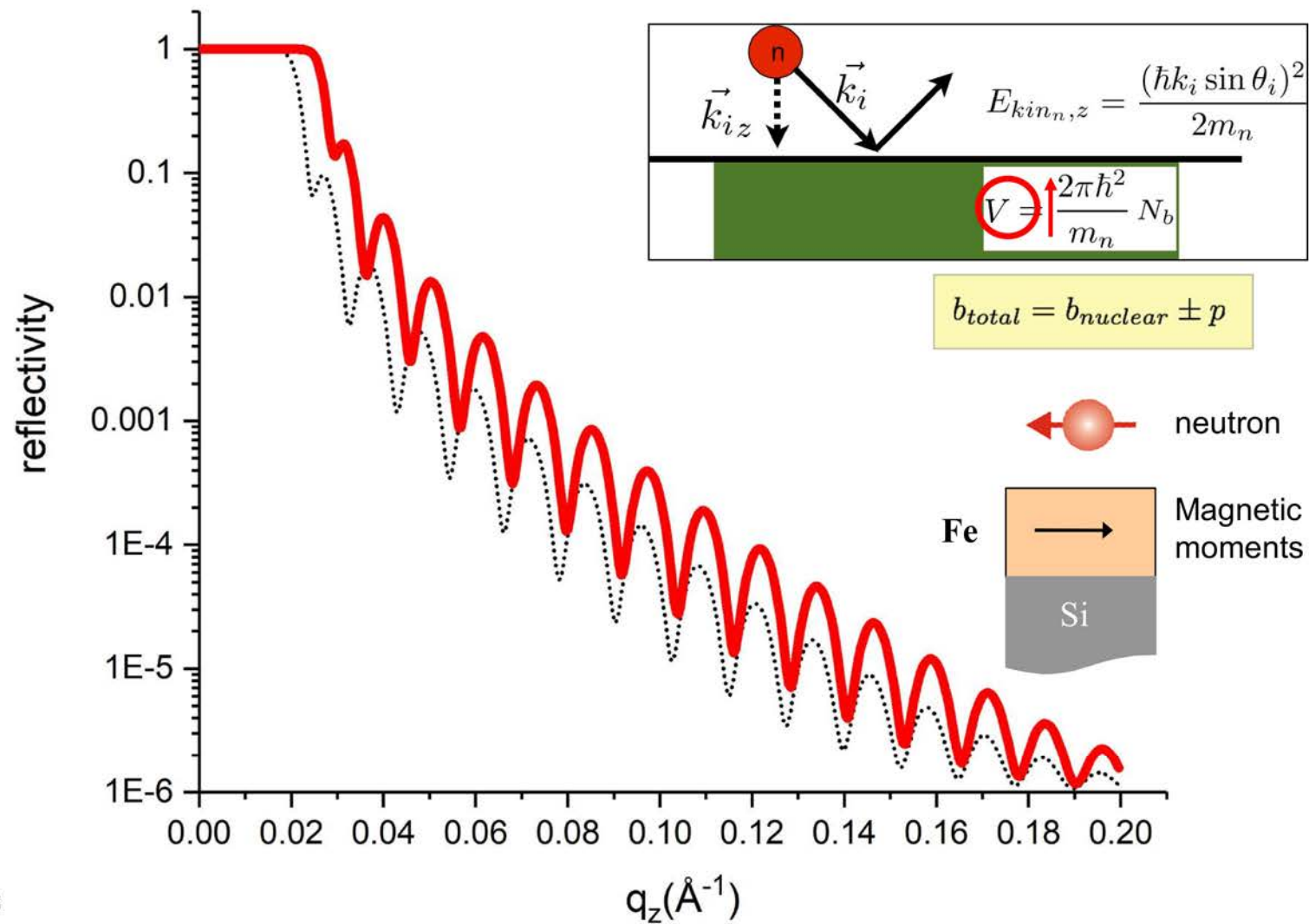
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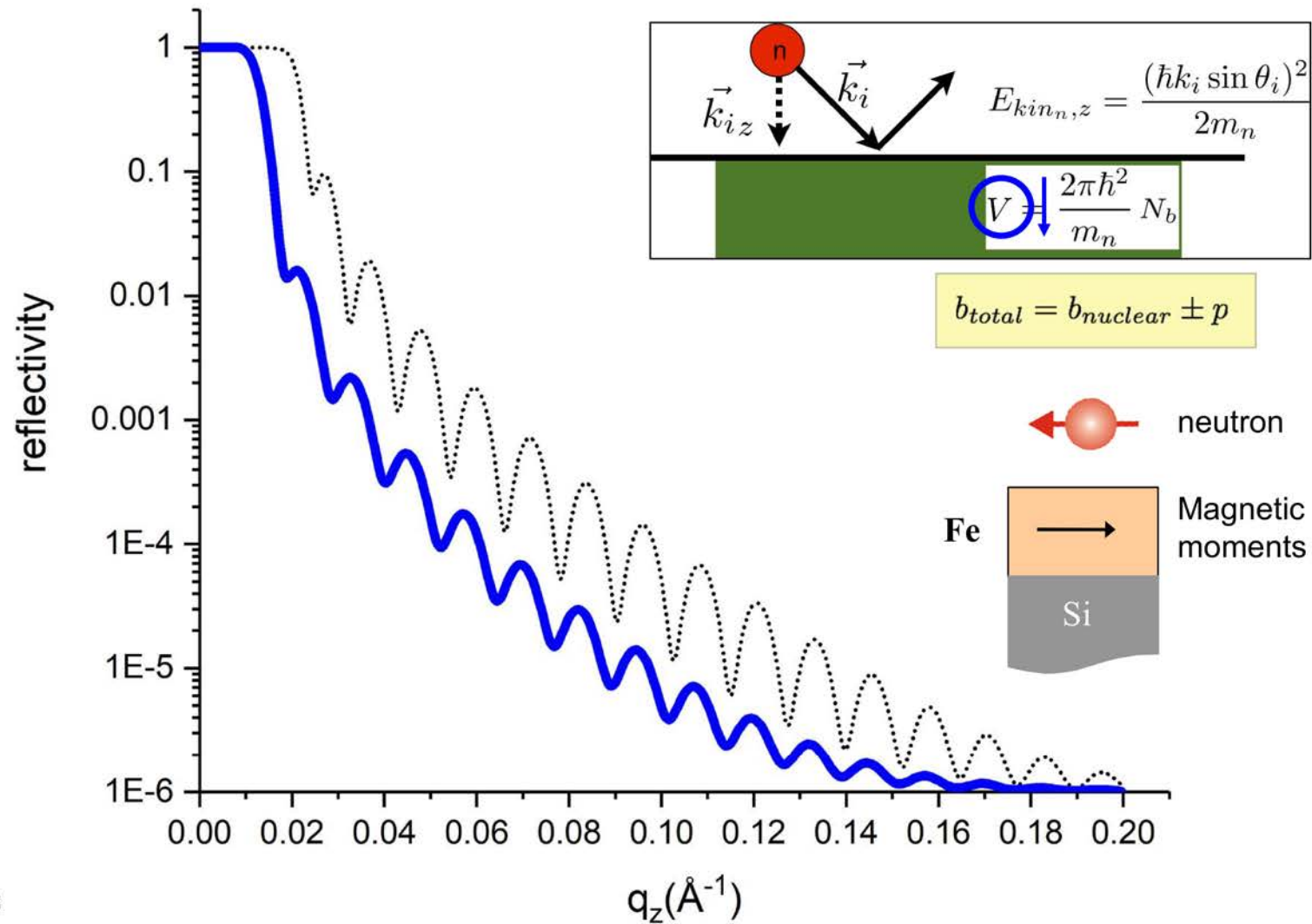
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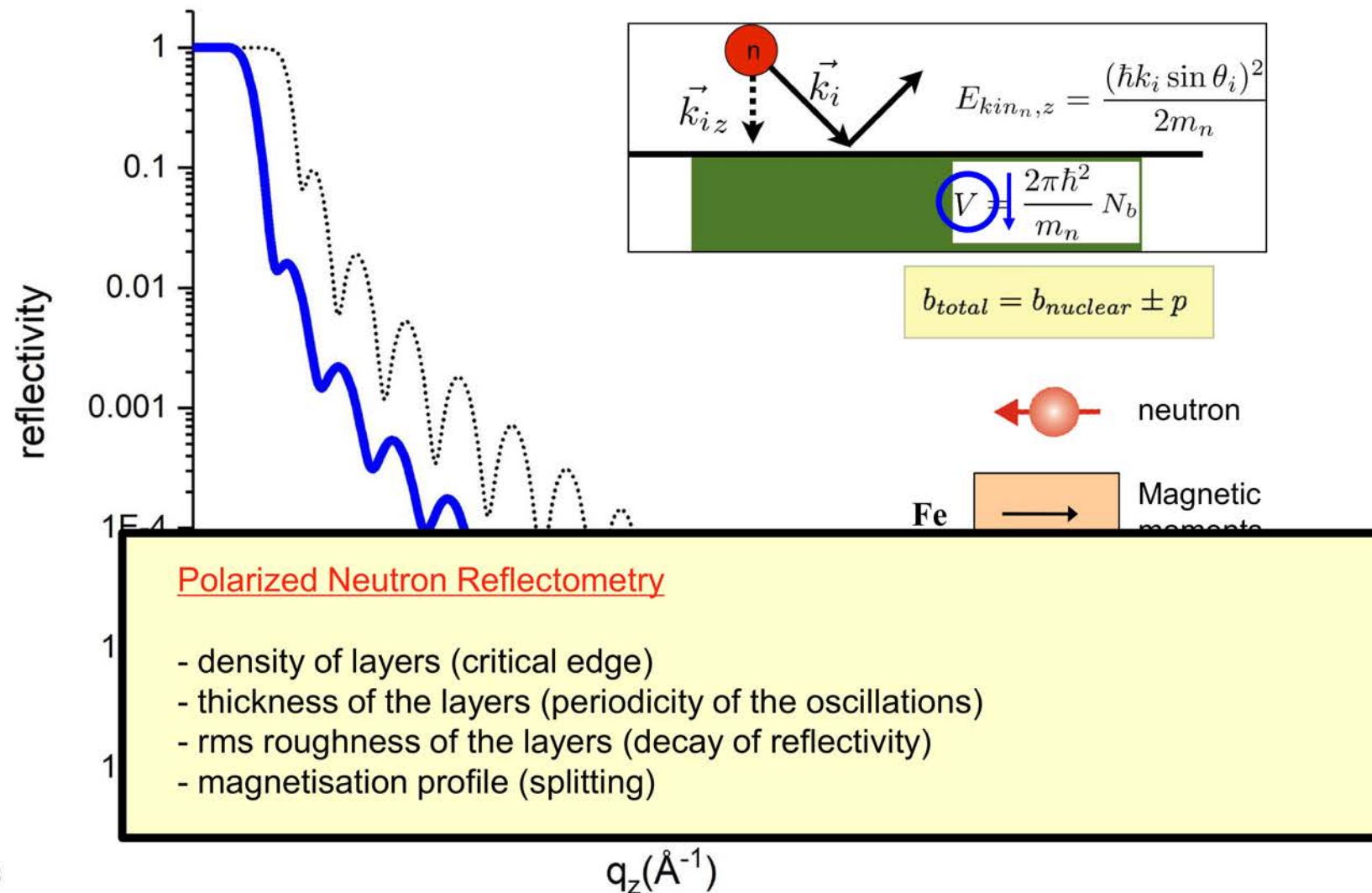
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Polarized Neutron Reflectometry



Introduction

Polarized Neutron Reflectometry



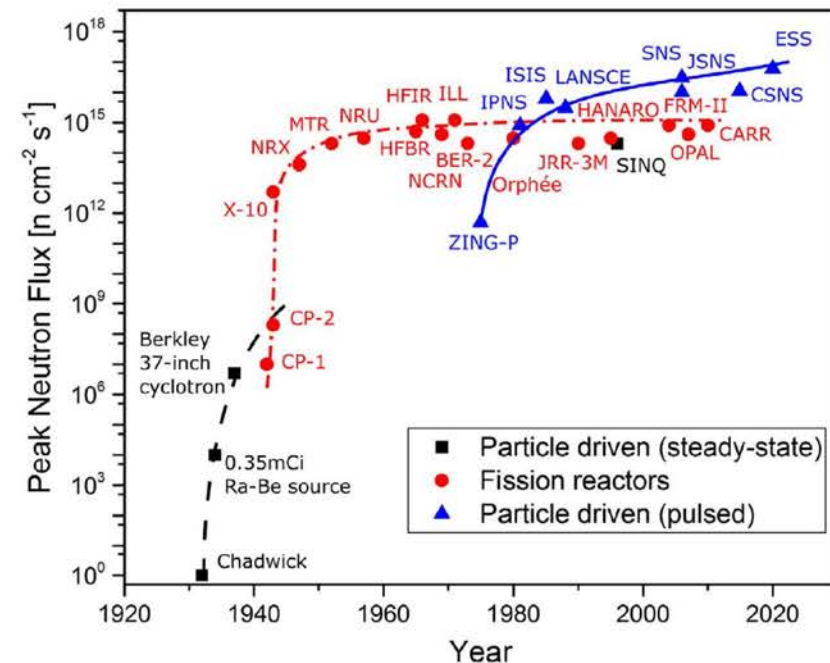
Introduction

Advantages of *in situ*:

- very same sample (not comparing similar samples)
- no capping layer, which could influence the magnetization of the free film
- measuring as function of film thickness flexibility in reacting to results and in adapting research strategy

Why now?

- scientific relevance because of current development in magnetic storage devices
- today new neutron sources being built
- modern neutron optics available



Introduction

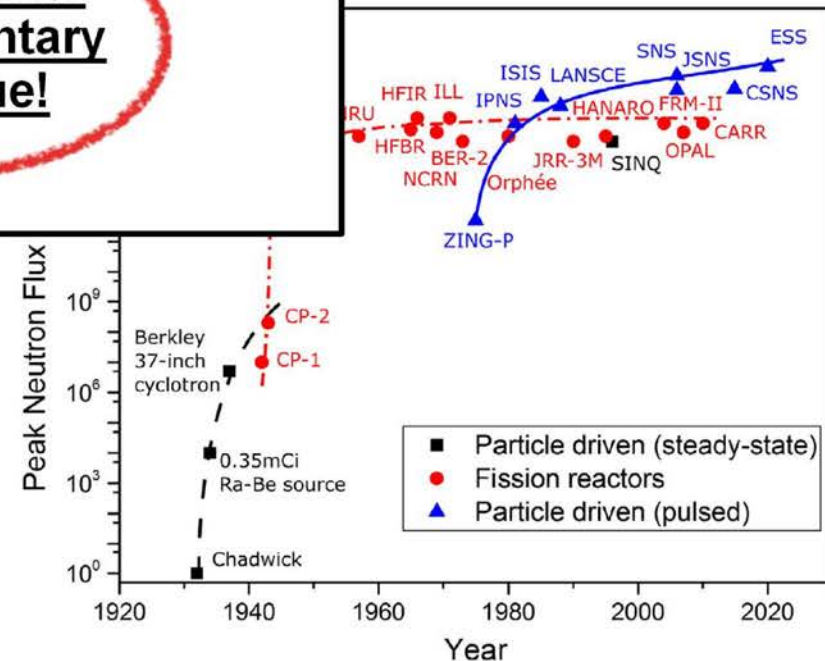
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very powerful
complementary
technique!

Why now?

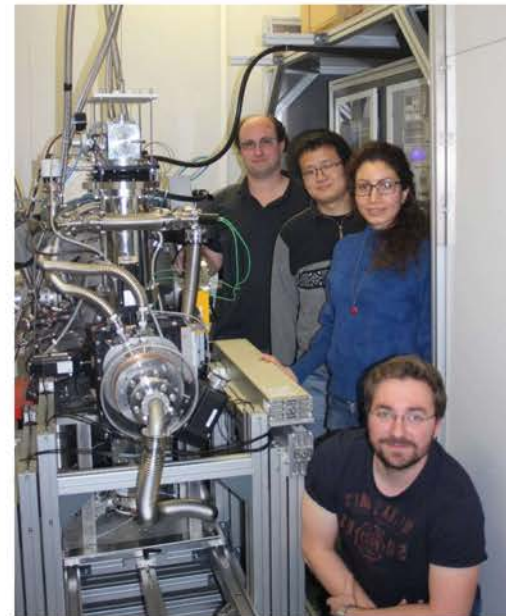
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Outline

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- *In situ* Thin Film Deposition Setup
- Early *in situ* Experiments
- Speeding up the Measurements
- Current Experiments / Possibilities
- Latest Developments



Conclusion and Outlook

In situ Thin Film Deposition Setup

Starting Point

Pre-requisite:

sample must be prepared in the neutron beam under at least HV (or ideally UHV) conditions



TRR 80

„From Electronic Correlations to Functionality“

DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

Initial Construction of in-situ chamber:

Experimentalphysik VI
Institut für Physik
Universität Augsburg

Team:

Andreas Schmehl*
Thomas Mairoser*
Alexander Herrnberger

*Alumni (since 2013)

1st funding period: 01/2010 - 12/2013 (acting PI since Aug. 2013) → approx. 450,000 €

2nd funding period: 01/2014 - 12/2017 (PI) → approx. 470,000 €

3rd funding period: 01/2018 - 12/2021 (acting PI until End of 2018, than advisor) → approx. 440,000 €

2022/2023 TU Munich – Uni Augsburg → relocation costs

since 2023 Paul-Scherrer Institut → operational costs

In situ Thin Film Deposition Setup



- footprint: less than 1m²
- total system weight: 700kg
- deposition method: sputtering with three 2" sources (DC & RF operation)
- Materials: elements, alloys, oxides, nitrides, silicides, etc.

Andreas Schmehl, Thomas Mairoser, Alexander Herrnberger, Cyril Stephanos, Stefan Meir, Benjamin Förg, Birgit Wiedemann, Peter Böni, Jochen Mannhart, and Wolfgang Kreuzpaintner, *Design and realization of a sputter deposition system for the in situ- and in operando-use in polarized neutron reflectometry experiments*, Nucl. Inst. Meth. Phys. Res., A 883, 170-183 (2018).
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2017.11.086>

In situ Thin Film Deposition Setup

Support Infrastructure



- 4-circle diffractometer (Siemens D500)
- UHV chamber for coating tests
- class 100/1000 clean-room environment

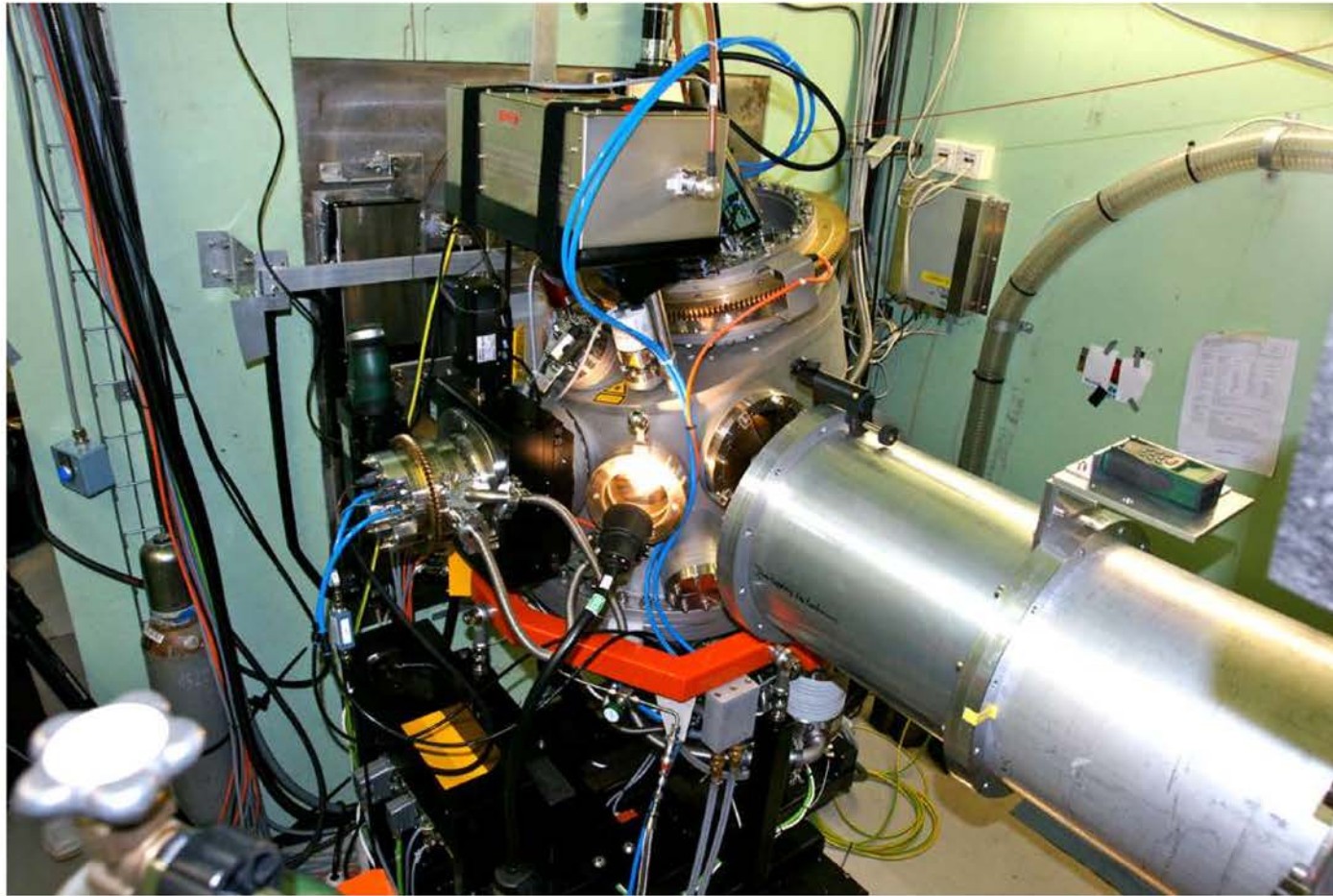


- 2x 2-circle x-ray reflectometer (Siemens D5000, D500-8)
- AFM/MFM
- SEM
- fume hood

S. Mayr, C. Randau, and W. Kreuzpaintner, *Automatic Attenuator Upgrade for a Siemens D500 Diffractometer via a Generic Software Library to Overcome Hardware Limitations*, Nucl. Inst. Meth. Phys. Res., A 855, 61-64 (2017). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2017.02.088>

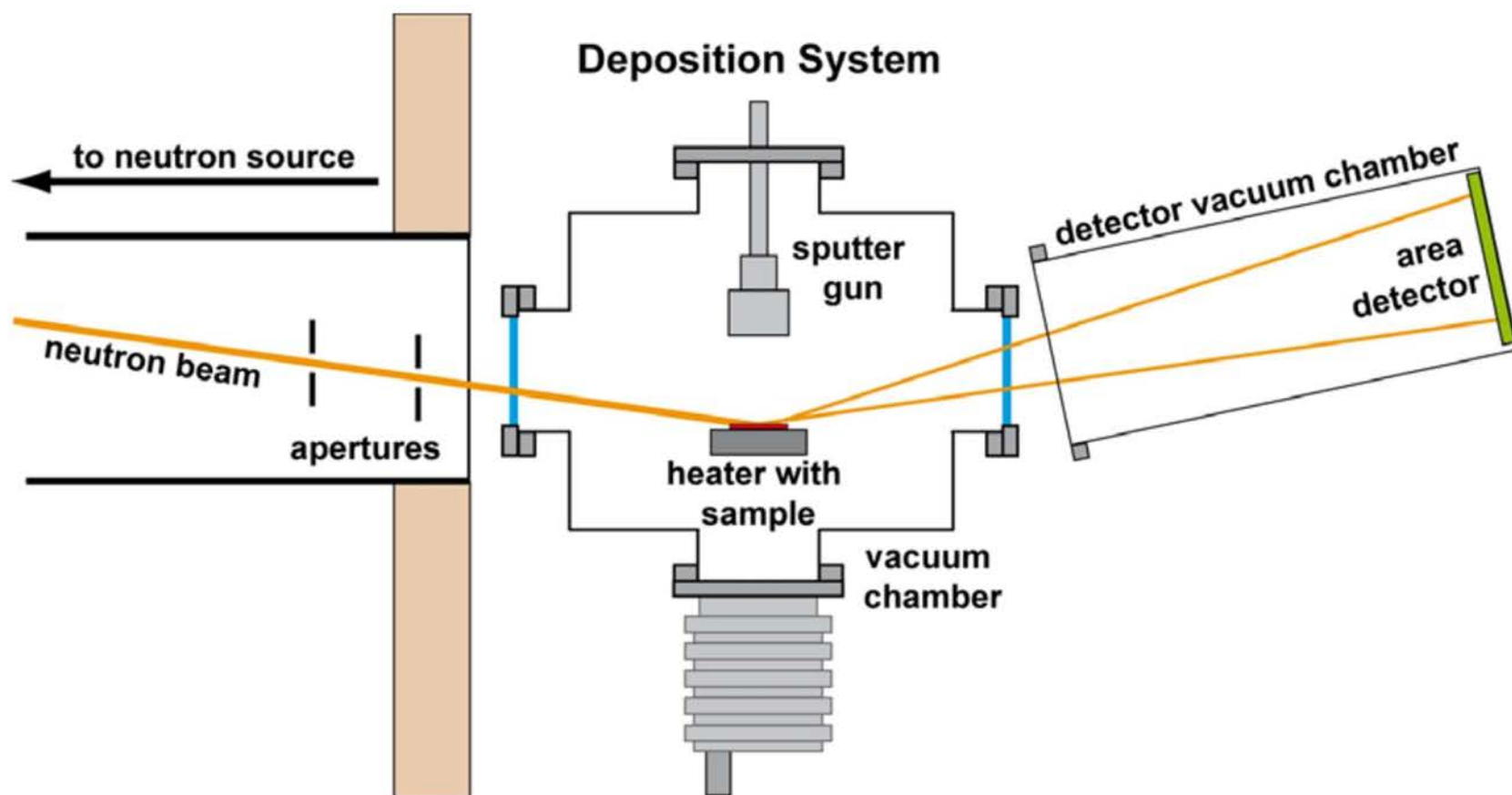
In situ Thin Film Deposition Setup

In situ Thin Film Deposition Setup installed at REFSANS



In situ Thin Film Deposition Setup

Scattering Geometry

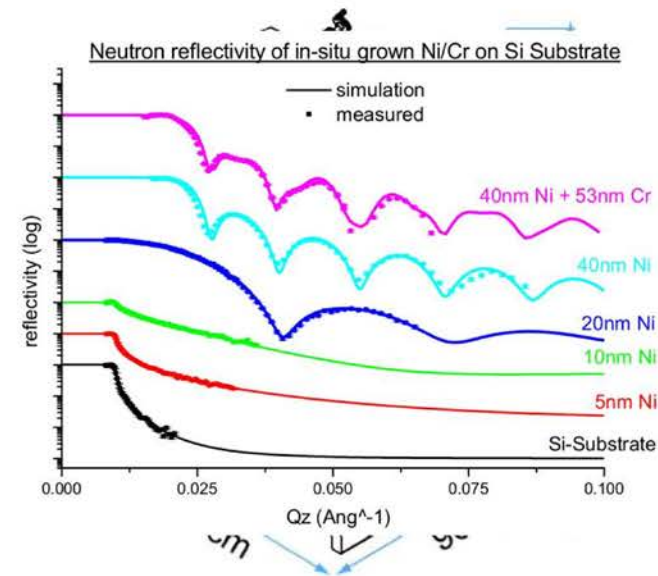


Outline

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- *In situ* Thin Film Deposition Setup

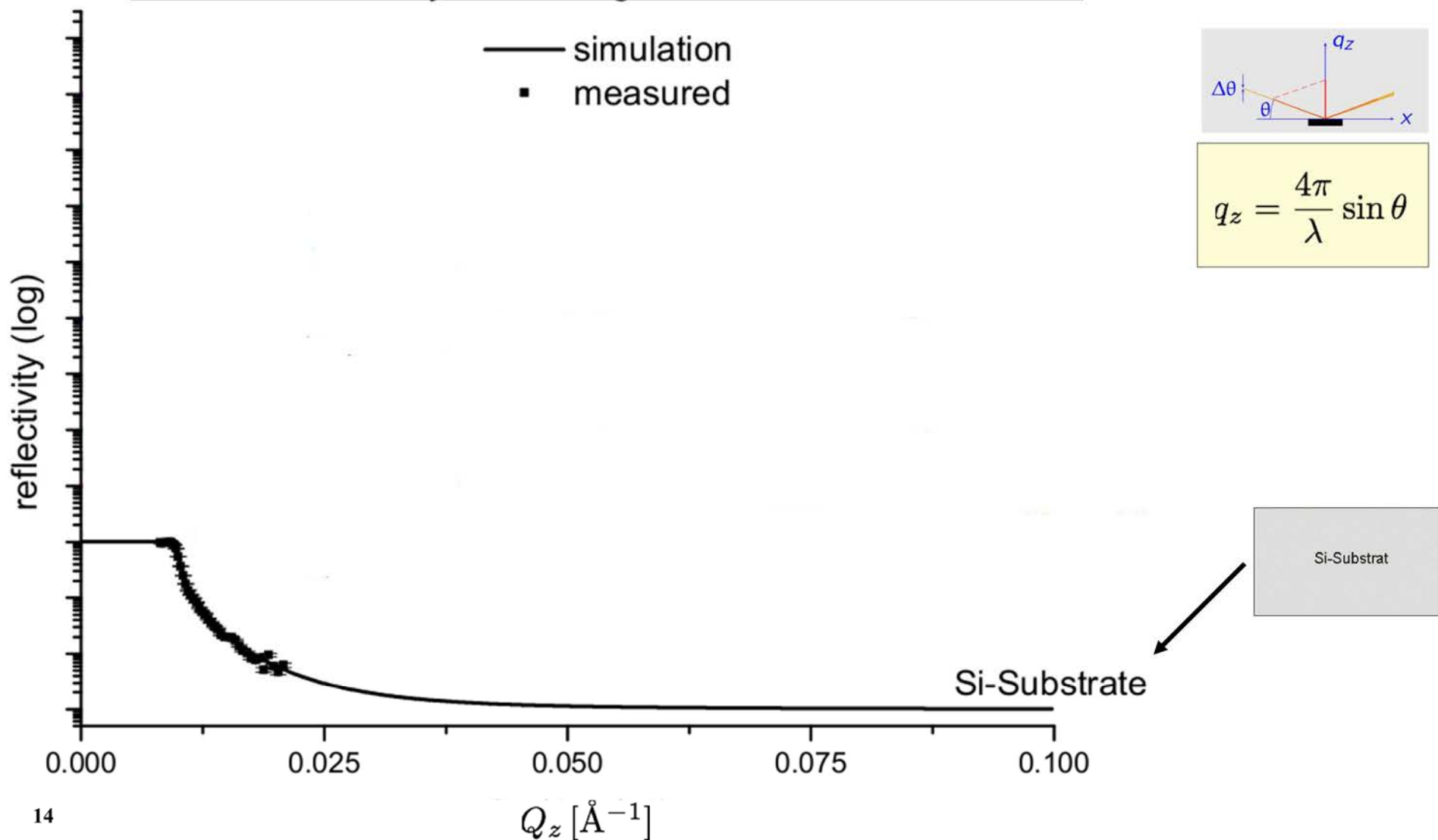
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Conclusion and Outlook

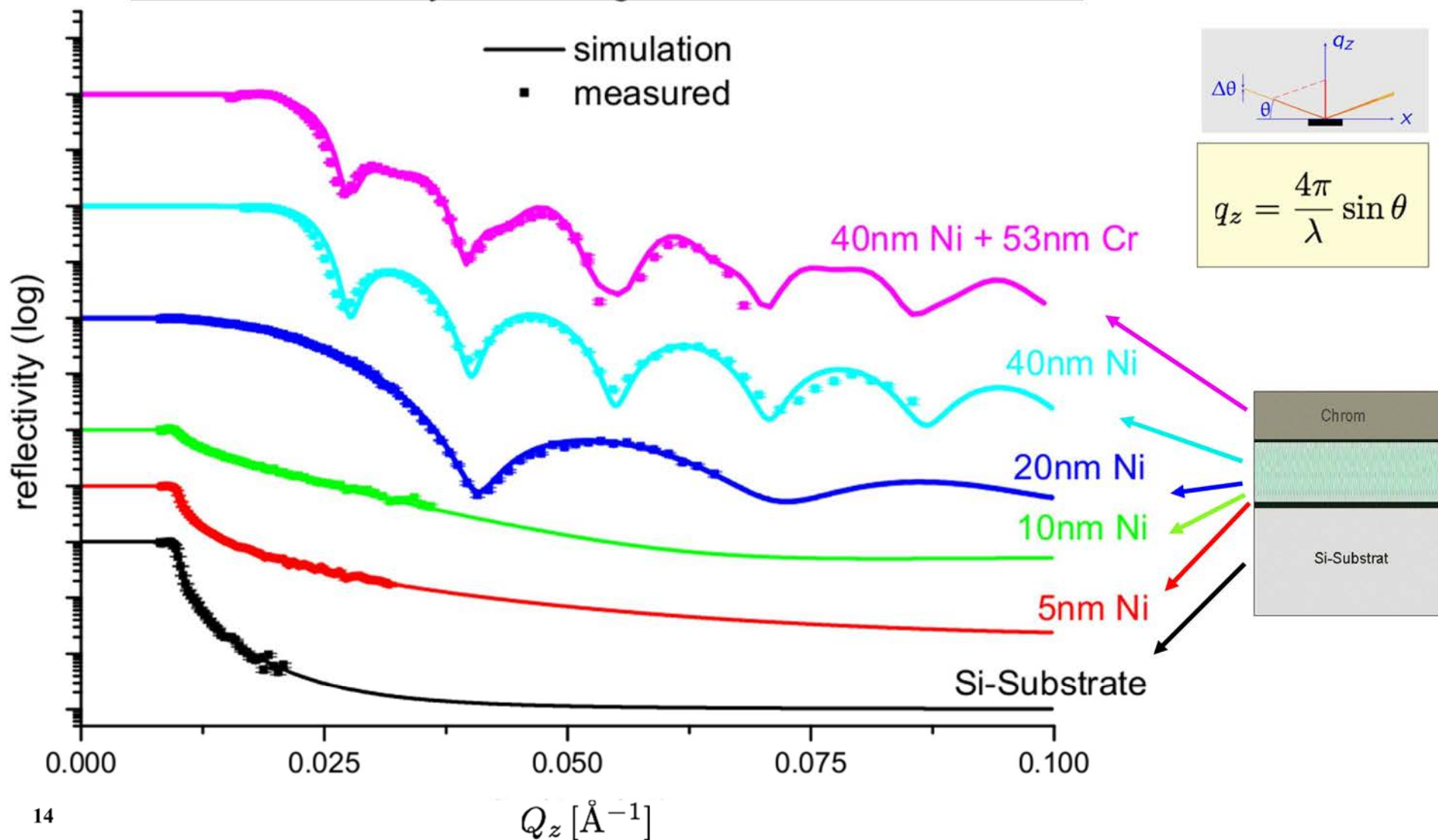
Early *in situ* Experiments

Neutron reflectivity of in-situ grown Ni/Cr on Si Substrate



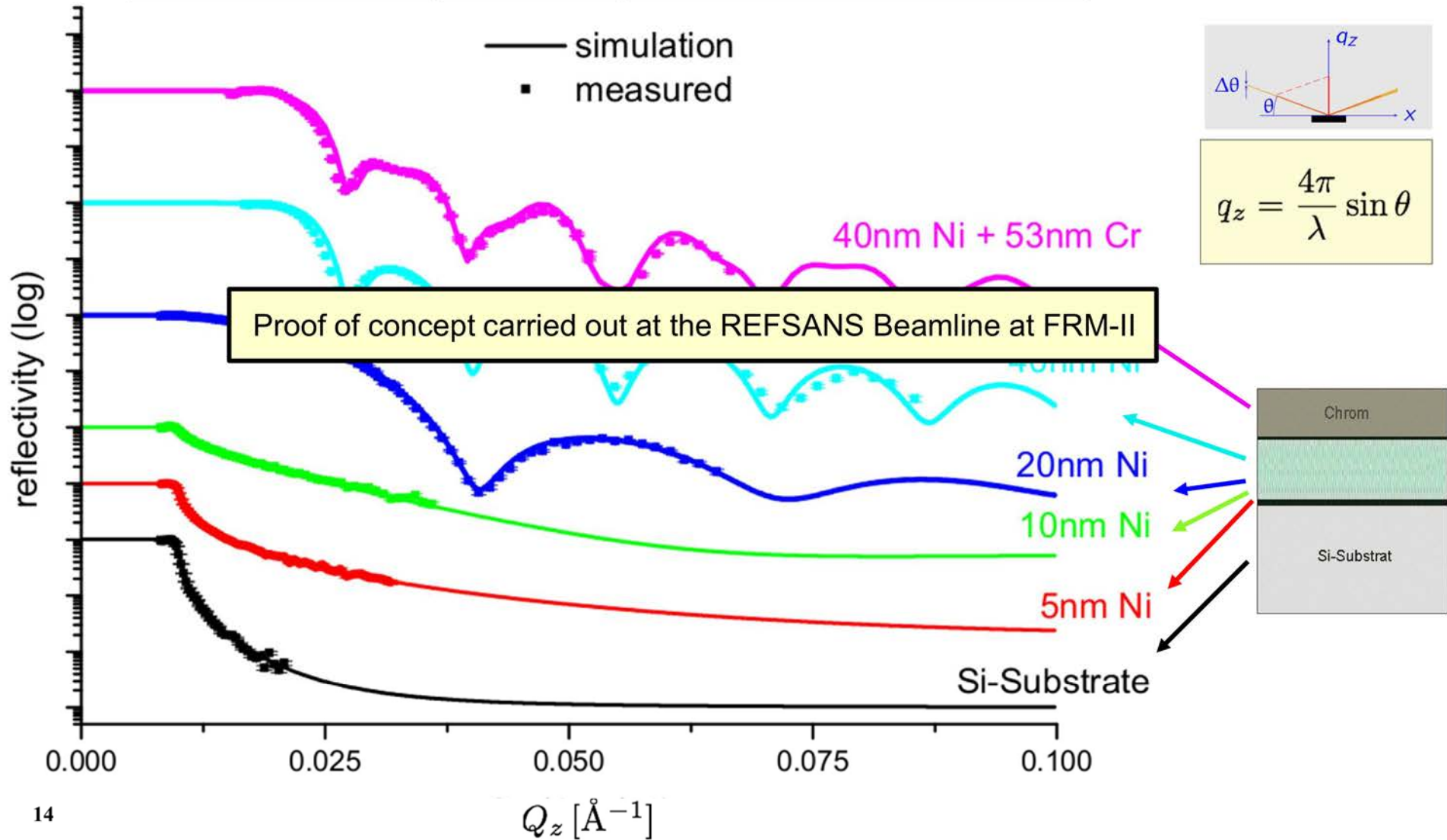
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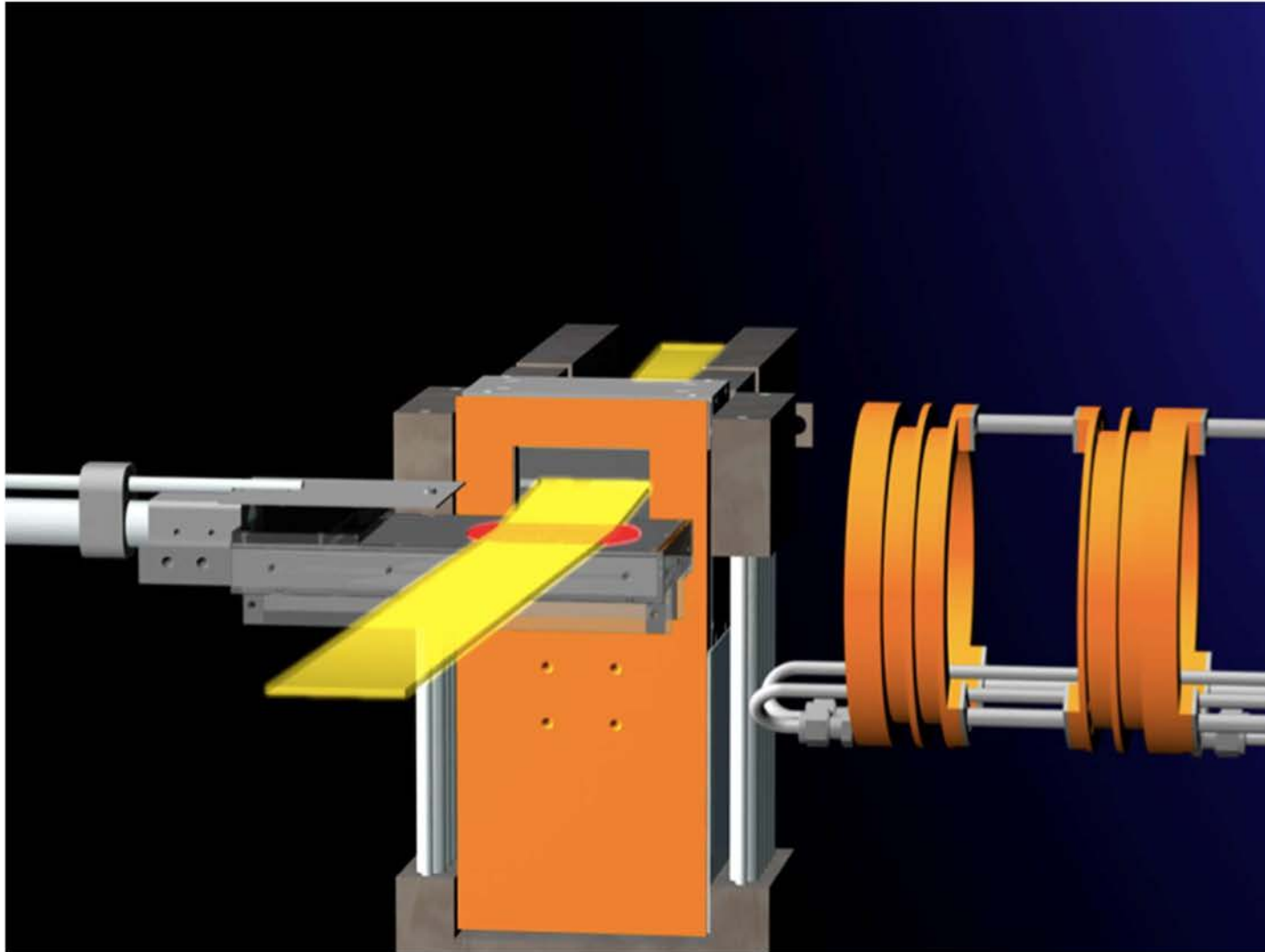


Early *in situ* Experiments

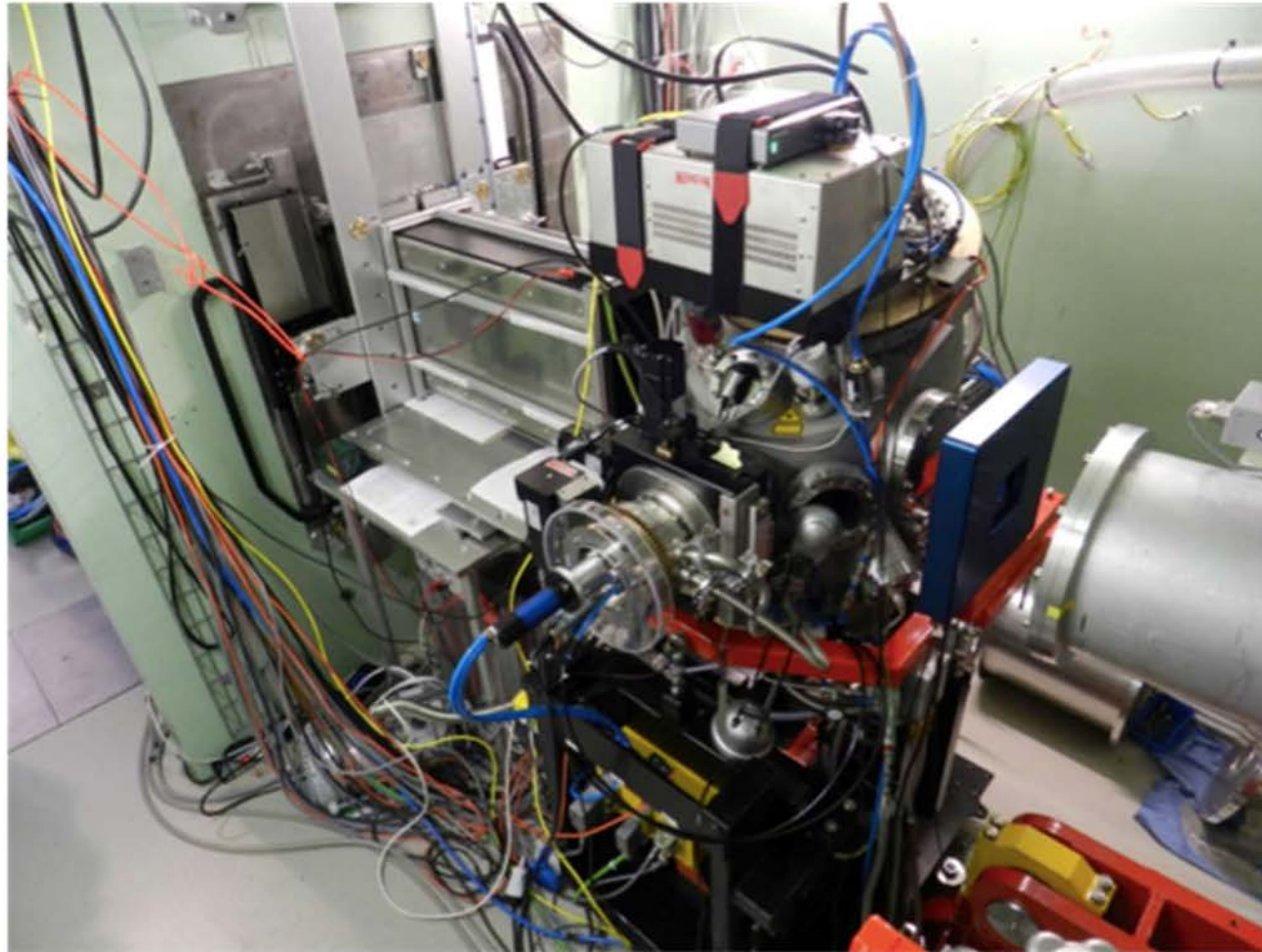
Neutron reflectivity of in-situ grown Ni/Cr on Si Substrate



Early *in situ* Experiments

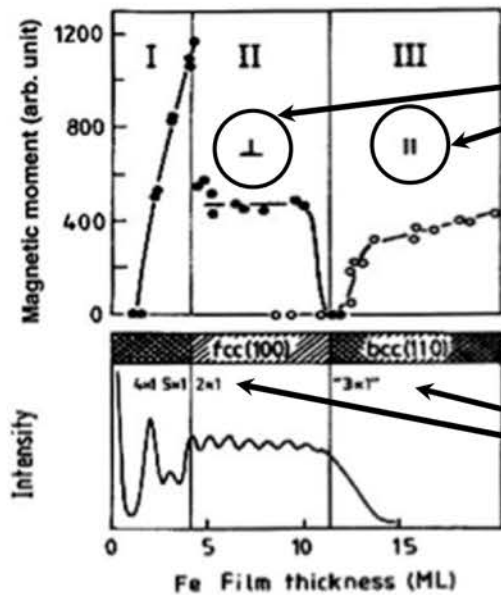


Early *in situ* Experiments



Kreuzpaintner et al., *Application of a portable ^3He -based polarization insert at a time-of-flight neutron reflectometer*, *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A* 848 (2017) 144–152, DOI: [10.1016/j.nima.2016.12.017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2016.12.017)

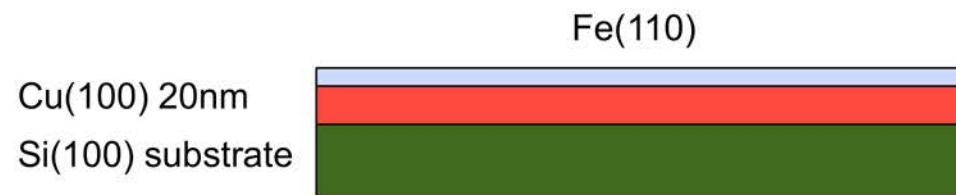
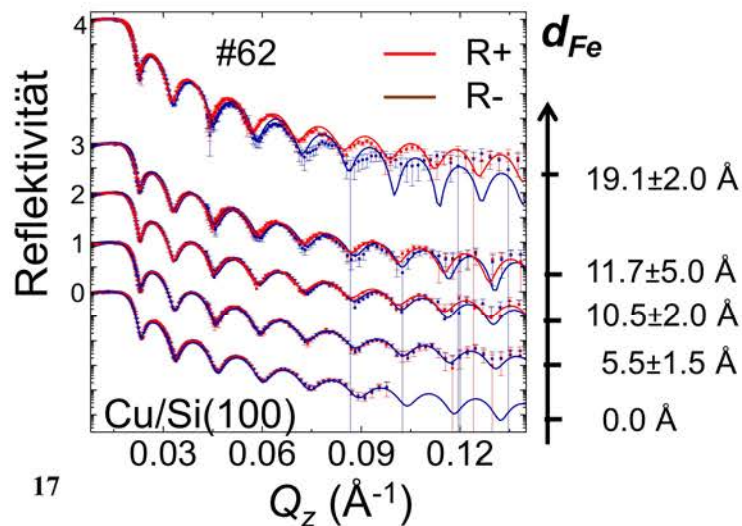
Early *in situ* Experiments



Intrinsic direction of the magnetization is function of thickness

Crystal Structure is function of thickness

M. Wuttig et al., Ultrathin Metal Films: Magnetic and Structural Properties. Springer 2004.



... but: 12 h data accumulation per layer and neutron polarization → total 24 hours!

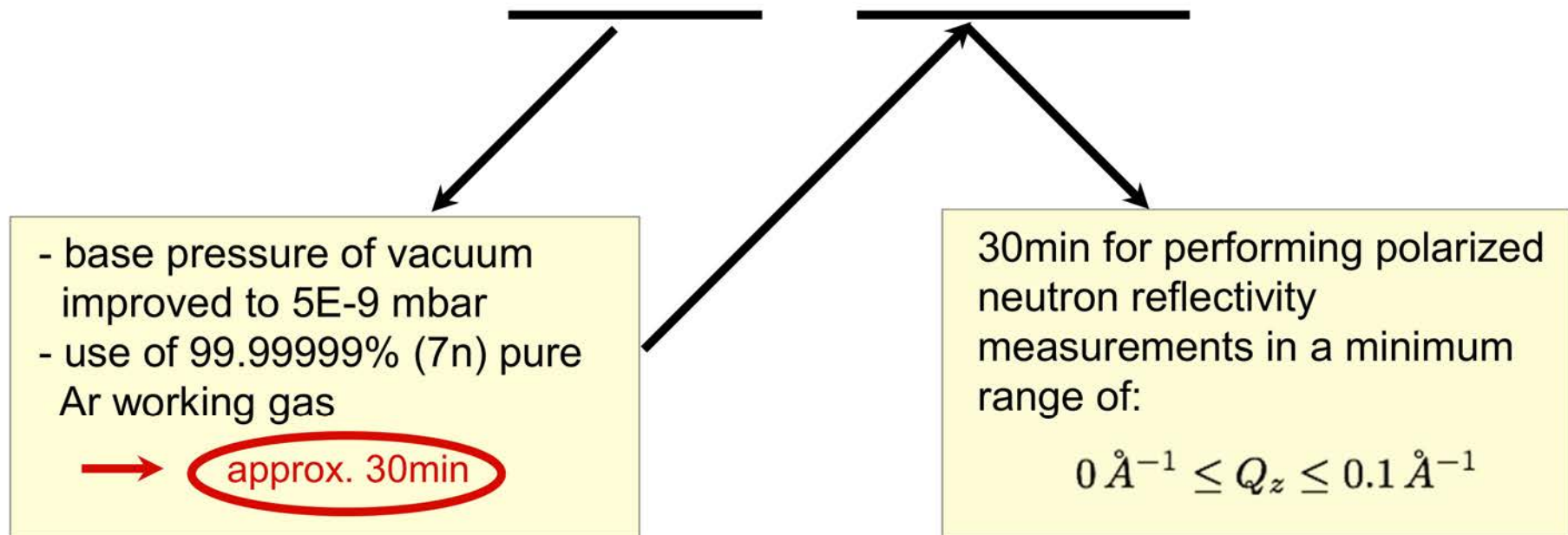
Early *in situ* Experiments

... too long data collection times, which leads to the big question of ...

„how clean does the surface of the sample really stay during the measurement due to absorption and desorption of „dirt“-adatoms in the vacuum?“

... which leads to the next big question of ...

„how can we make vacuum quality and measurement times compatible?“



Outline

Introduction

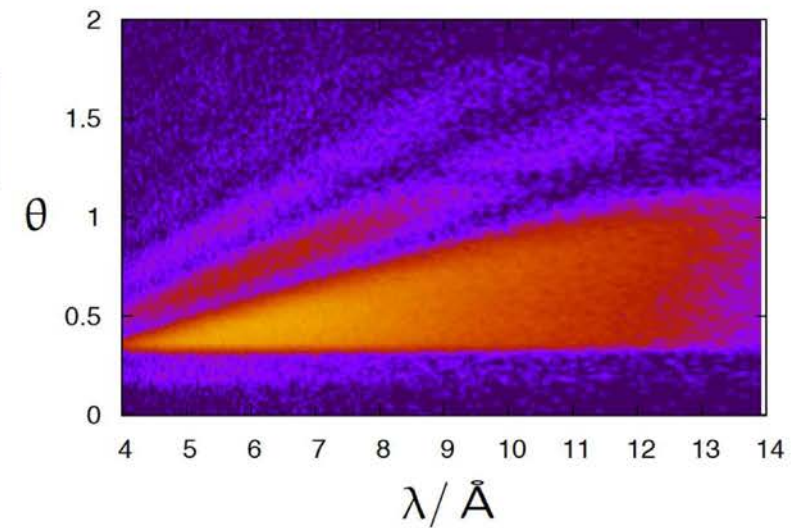
- *In situ* Thin Film Deposition Setup

- Early *in situ* Experiments

- Speeding up the Measurements

- Current Experiments / Possibilities

- Latest Developments



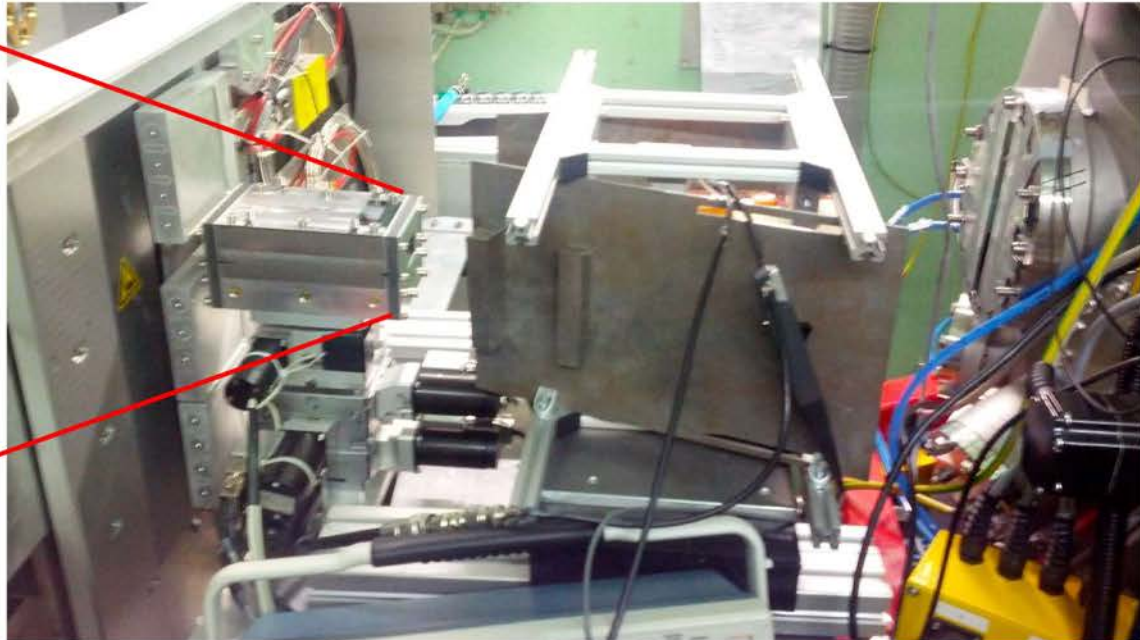
Conclusion and Outlook

Speeding up the measurements

Idea: polarizing supermirror (m=4) and flipper as part of sample environment



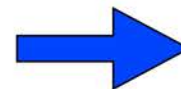
Polarizer Design and Construction: W. Kreuzpaintner



- Easier data treatment:

- No time dependence of polarisation and transmittance
- Less loss in flux
- Better signal to noise
- Real in-situ because sample does not need to be moved

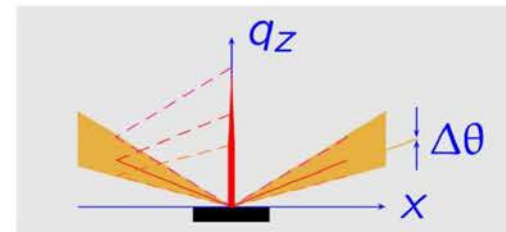
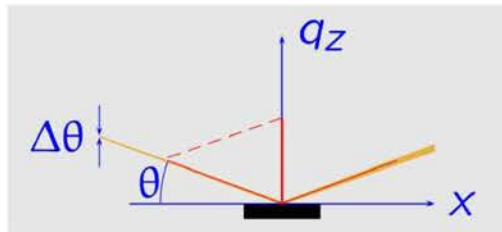
- Investigated system Fe/Cu/Si(100) non epitaxially grown
- Observation: reduction in measurement time from 24h to 16h



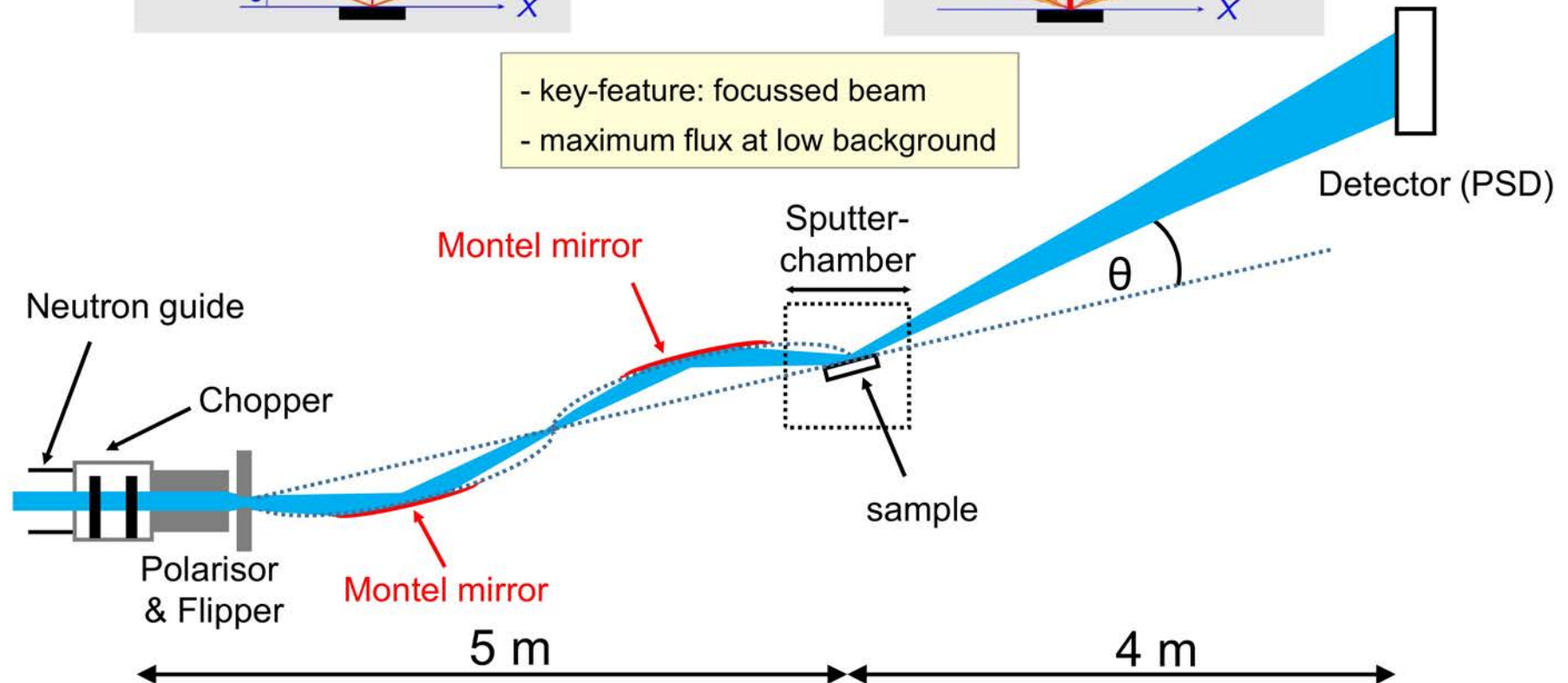
Need more flux to get to 30min!

Speeding up the measurements

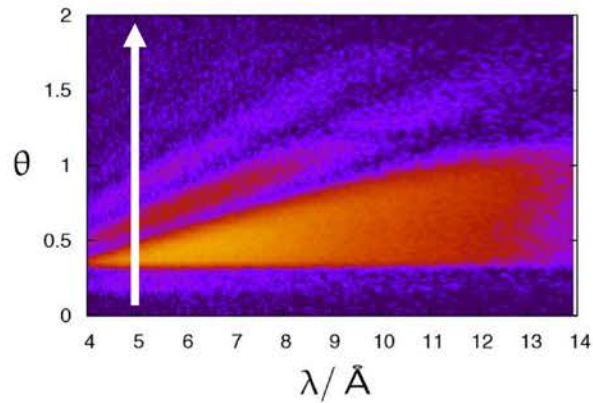
SELENE -- Elliptic (Montel) mirrors -- prototype on AMOR @ SINQ



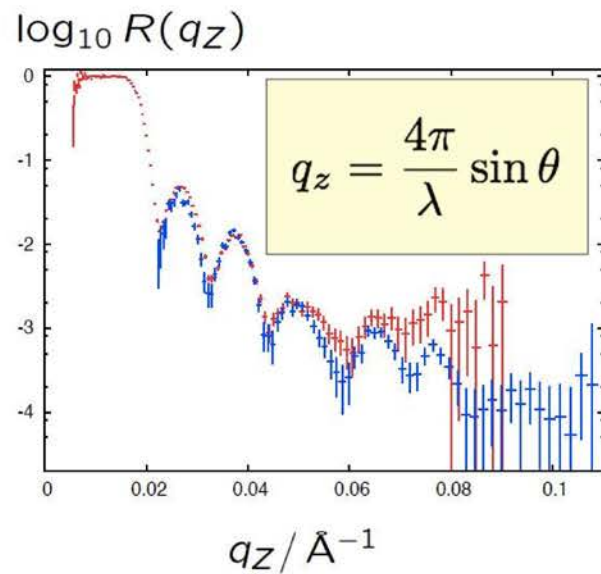
- key-feature: focussed beam
- maximum flux at low background



Speeding up the measurements

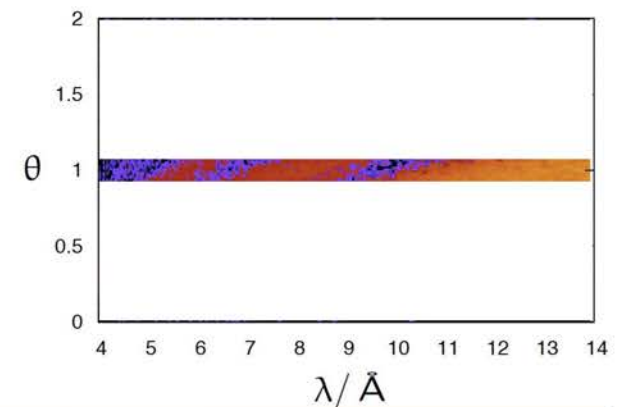
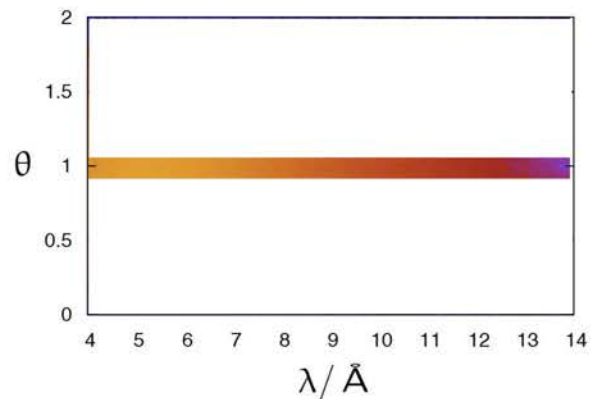
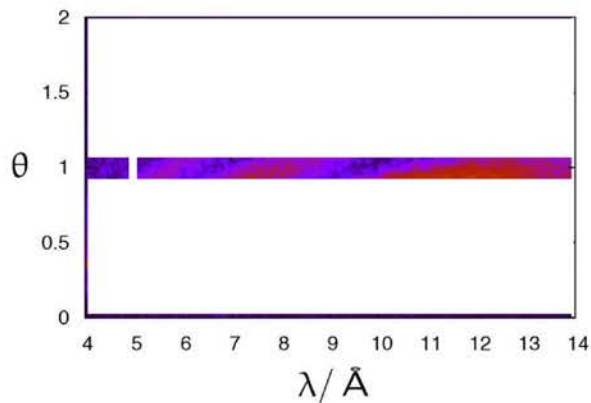


measured intensities

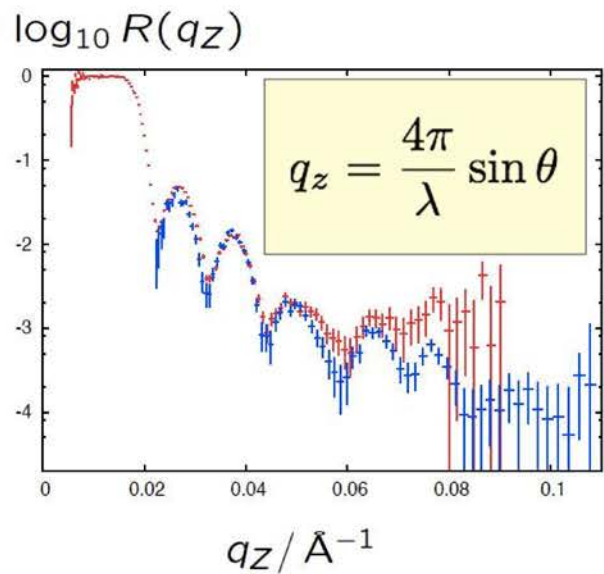


reflectivity curve

Speeding up the measurements

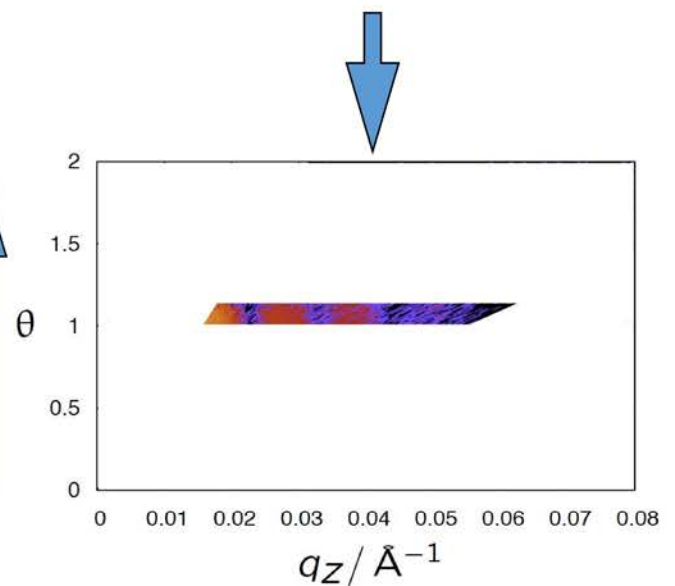


measured intensities / primary beam reference = normalised intensities



reflectivity curve

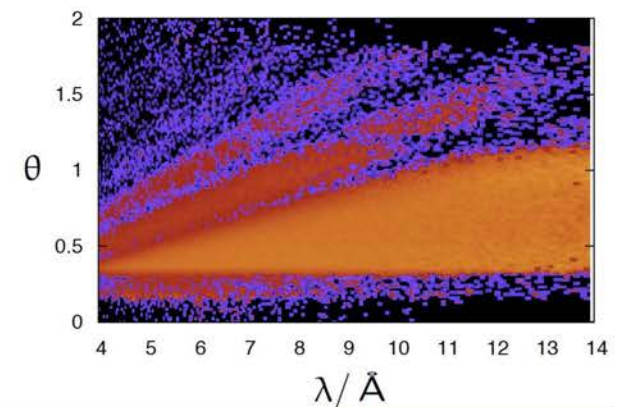
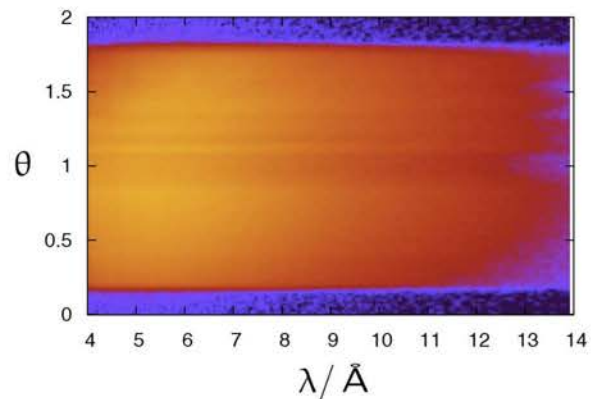
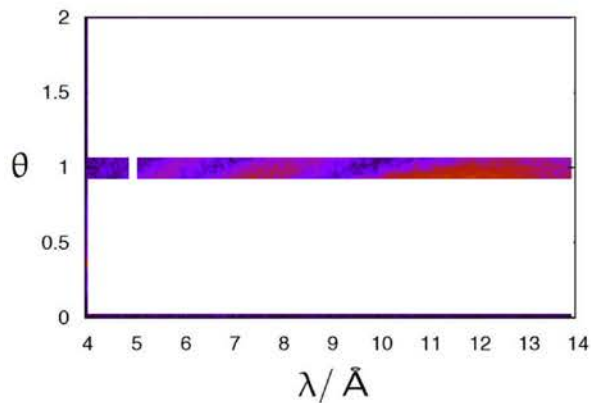
normalisation



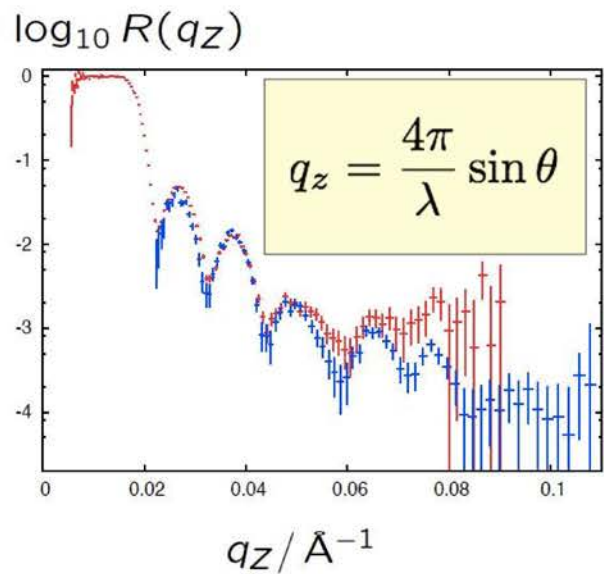
reciprocal space

Figures: Jochen Stahn

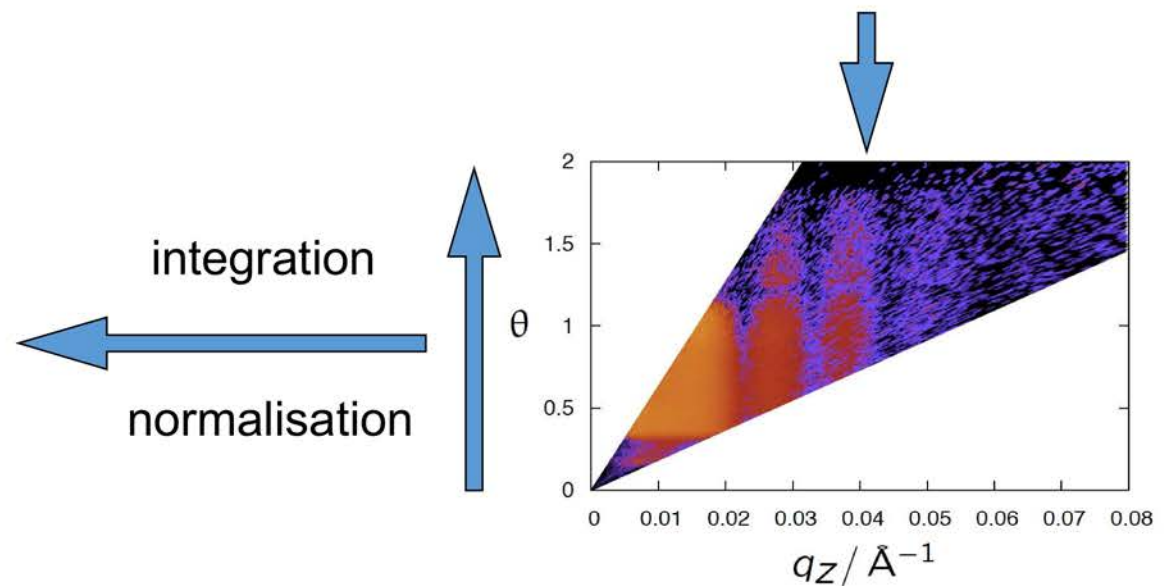
Speeding up the measurements



measured intensities / primary beam reference = normalised intensities



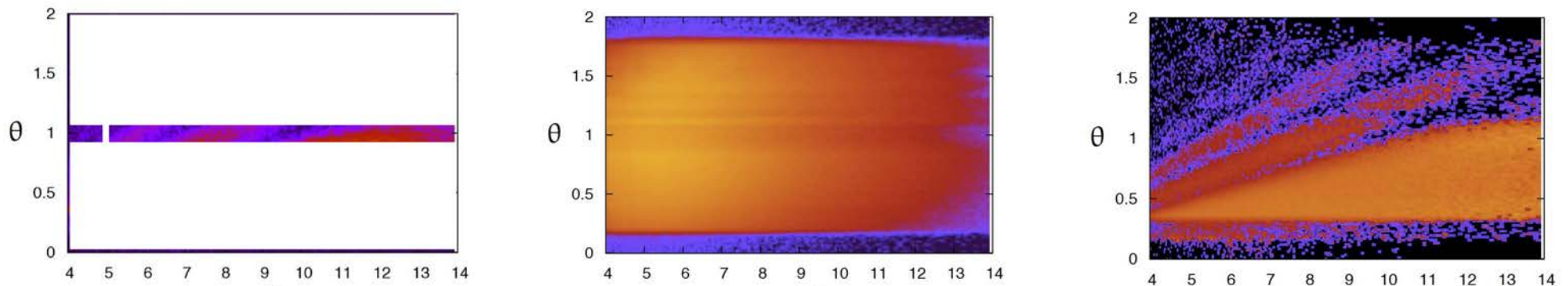
reflectivity curve



reciprocal space

Figures: Jochen Stahn

Speeding up the measurements

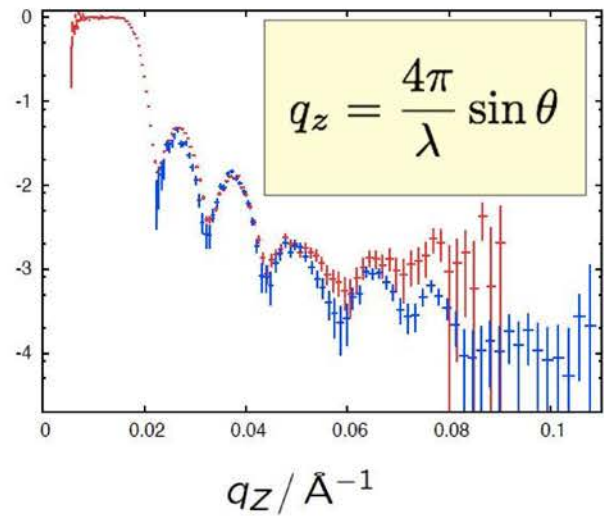


15 min per spin-direction !

measure

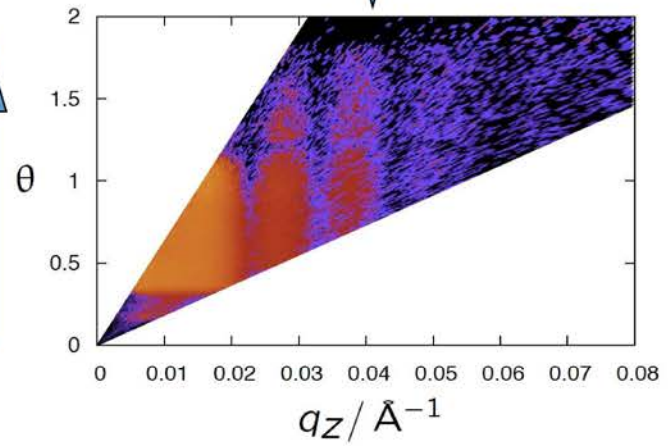
es

$\log_{10} R(q_z)$



reflectivity curve

integration
normalisation



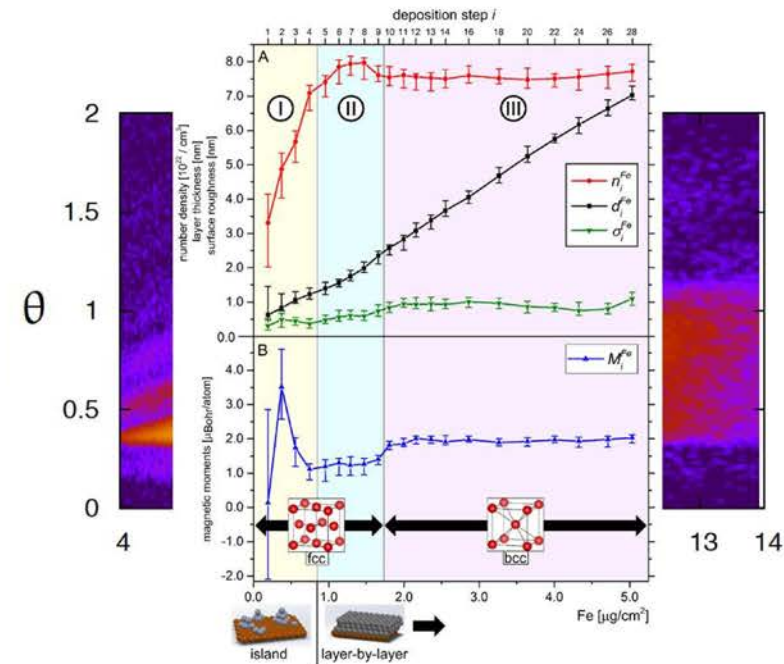
reciprocal space

Figures: Jochen Stahn

Outline

Introduction

- *In situ* Thin Film Deposition Setup
- Early *in situ* Experiments
- Speeding up the Measurements
- Current Experiments / Possibilities
- Latest Developments



Conclusion and Outlook

Current Experiments / possibilities

Selene:



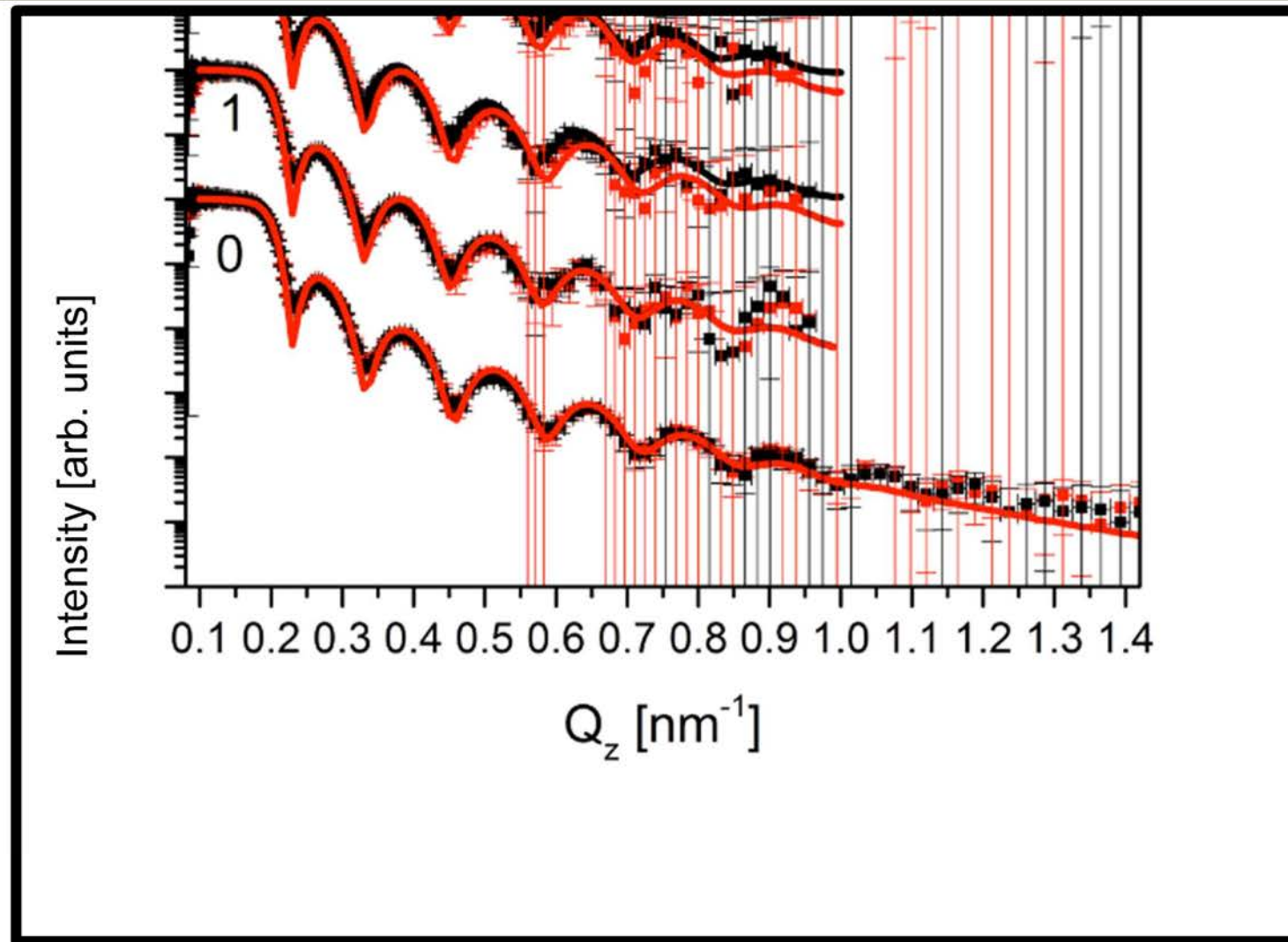
Neutrons



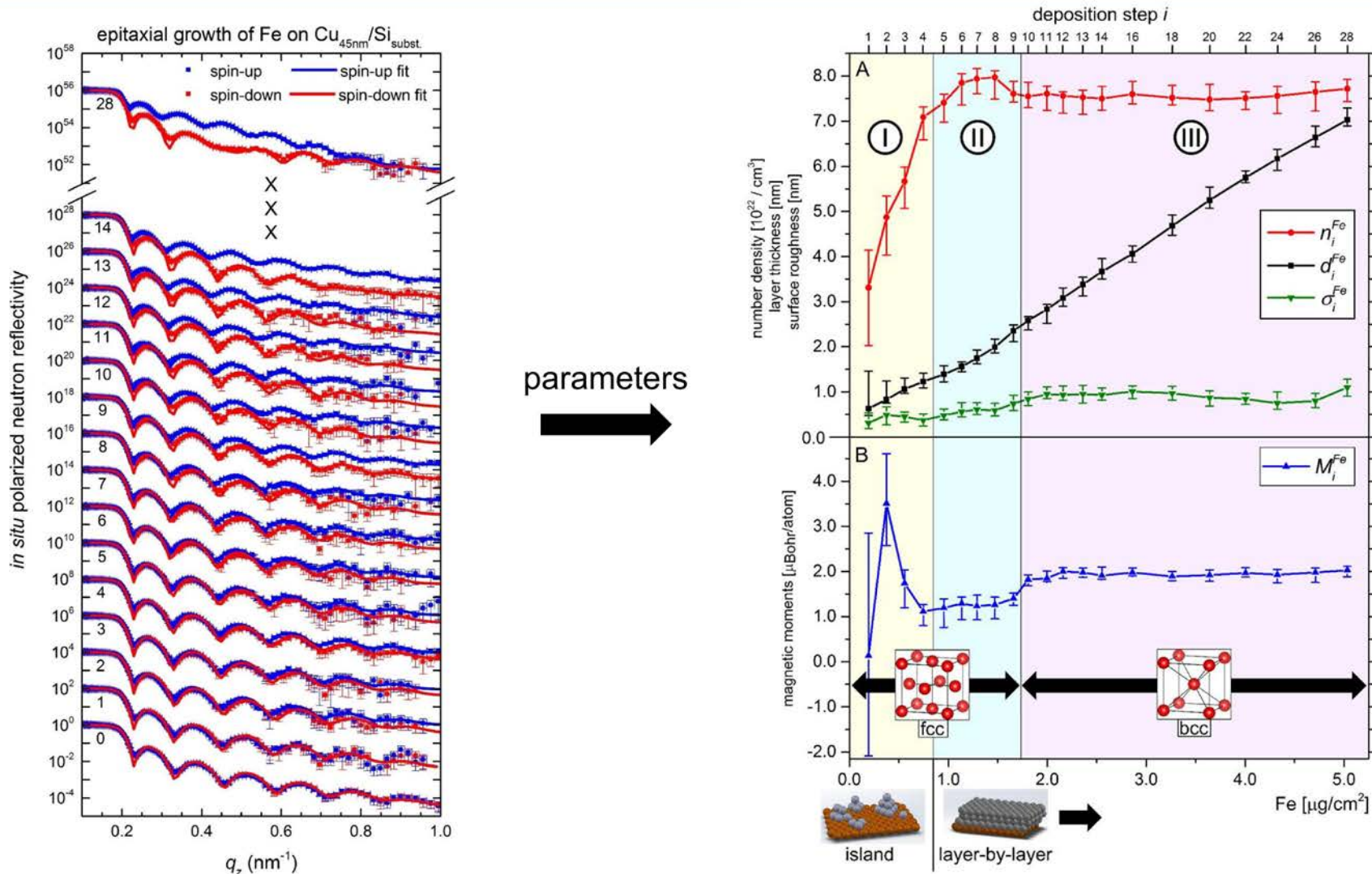
AMOR @ PSI

Current Experiments / possibilities

epitaxial growth of Fe on $\text{Cu}_{45\text{nm}}/\text{Si}_{\text{subst.}}$



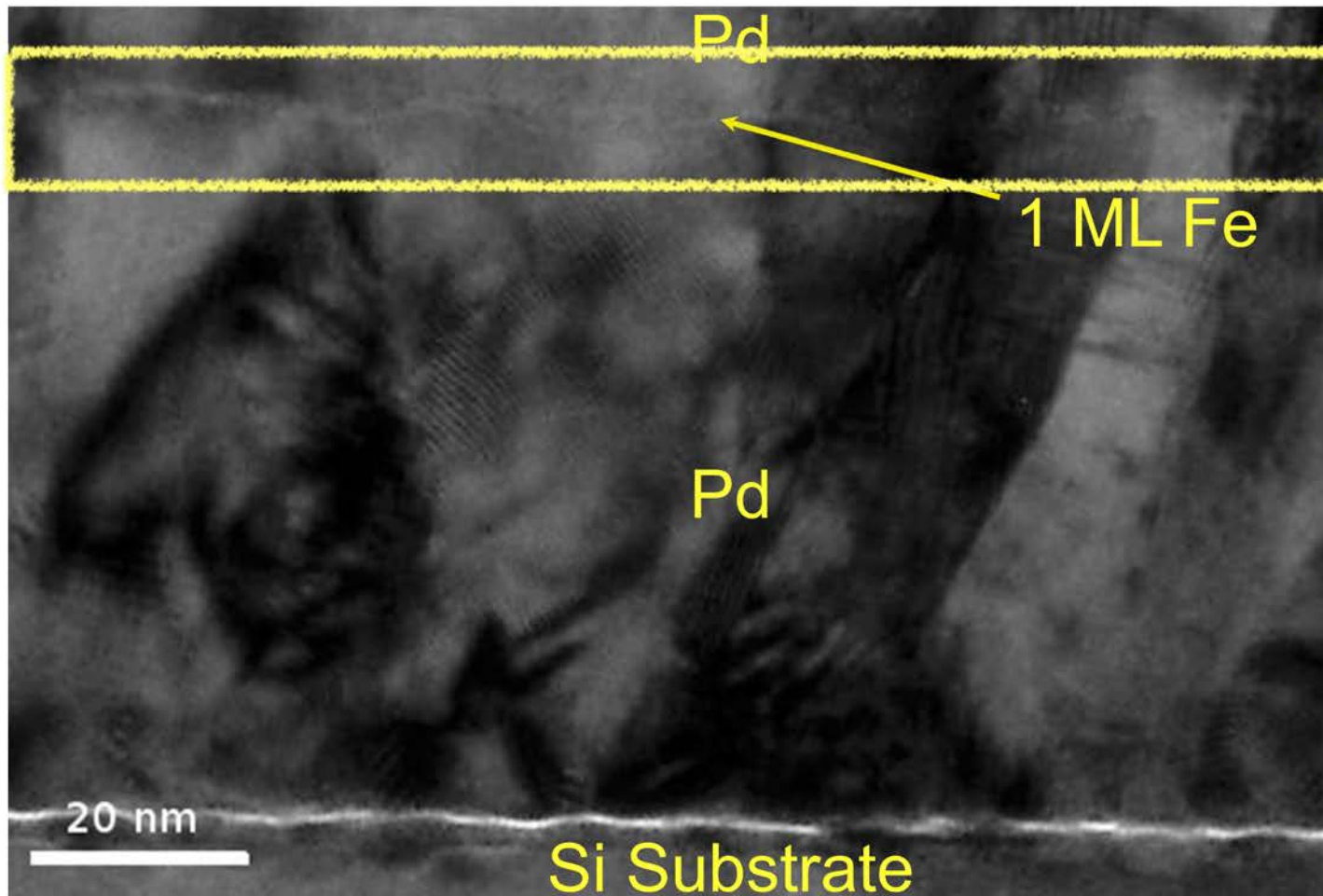
Current Experiments / possibilities



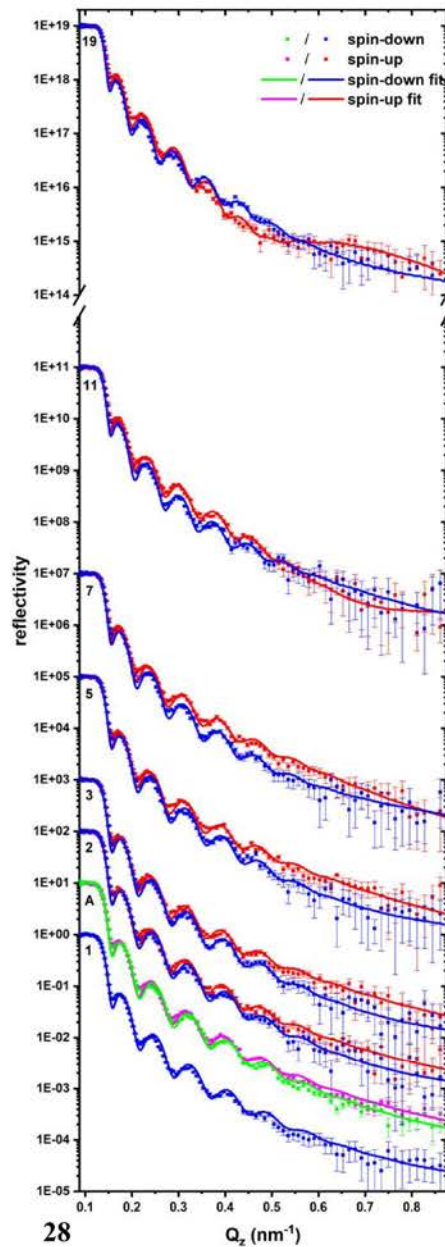
Wolfgang Kreuzpaintner, Birgit Wiedemann, Jochen Stahn, Jean-François Moulin, Sina Mayr, Thomas Mairoser, Andreas Schmehl, Alexander Herrnberger, Panagiotis Korelis, Martin Haese, Jingfan Ye, Matthias Pomm, Peter Böni, and Jochen Mannhart, *In situ Polarized Neutron Reflectometry: Epitaxial Thin-Film Growth of Fe on Cu(001) by dc Magnetron Sputtering*, PHYSICAL REVIEW APPLIED 7, 054004 (2017) <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevApplied.7.054004>

Current Experiments / possibilities

Fe-layer induced ferromagnetism in Pd



Current Experiments / possibilities



Fe-layer deposition step:

- continuous layer (rms roughness of Pd seed is reproduced by Fe)

Pd-cover-layer:

Structural parameters



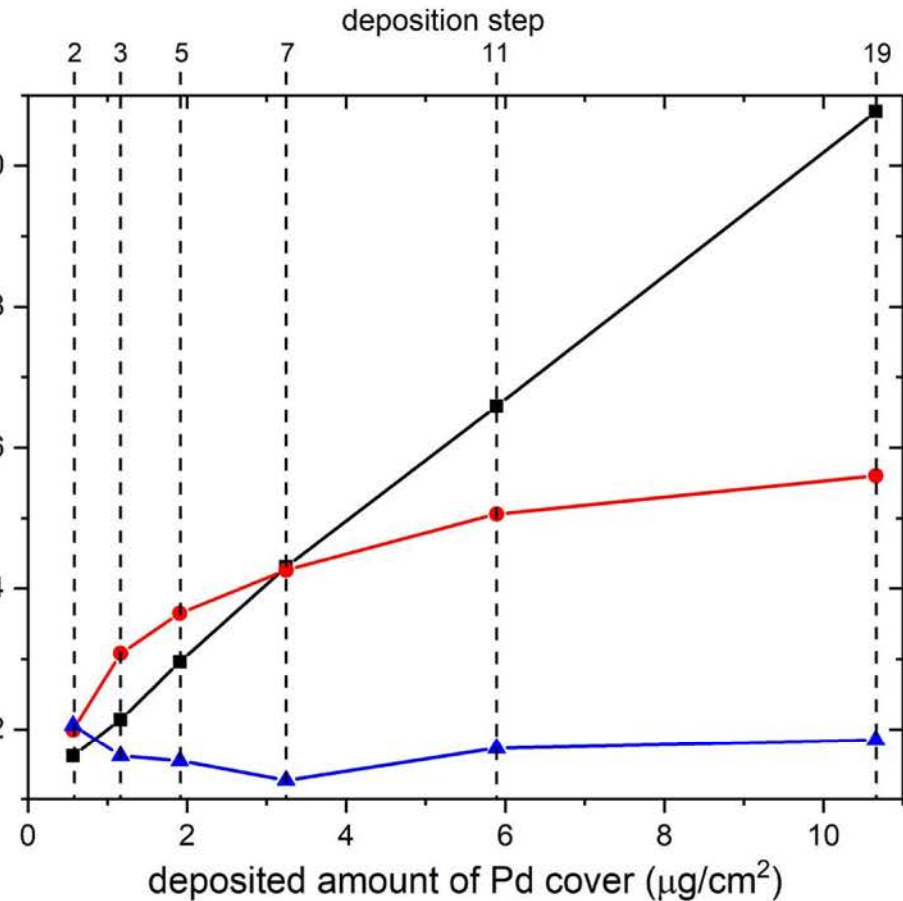
— layer thickness d^{Pd} (nm)

— number density n^{Pd} ($10^{22} / \text{cm}^3$)

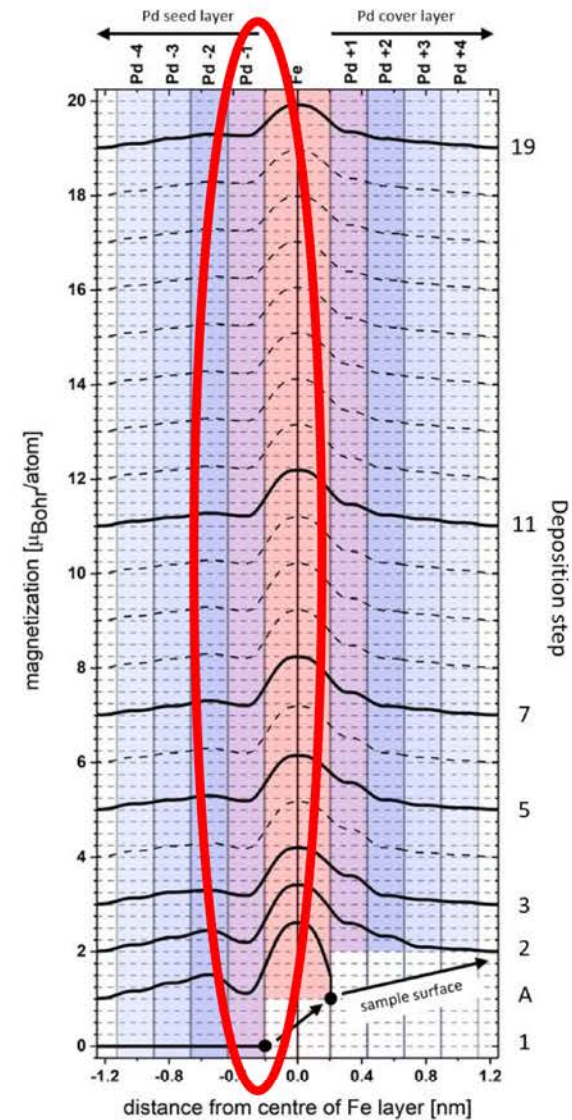
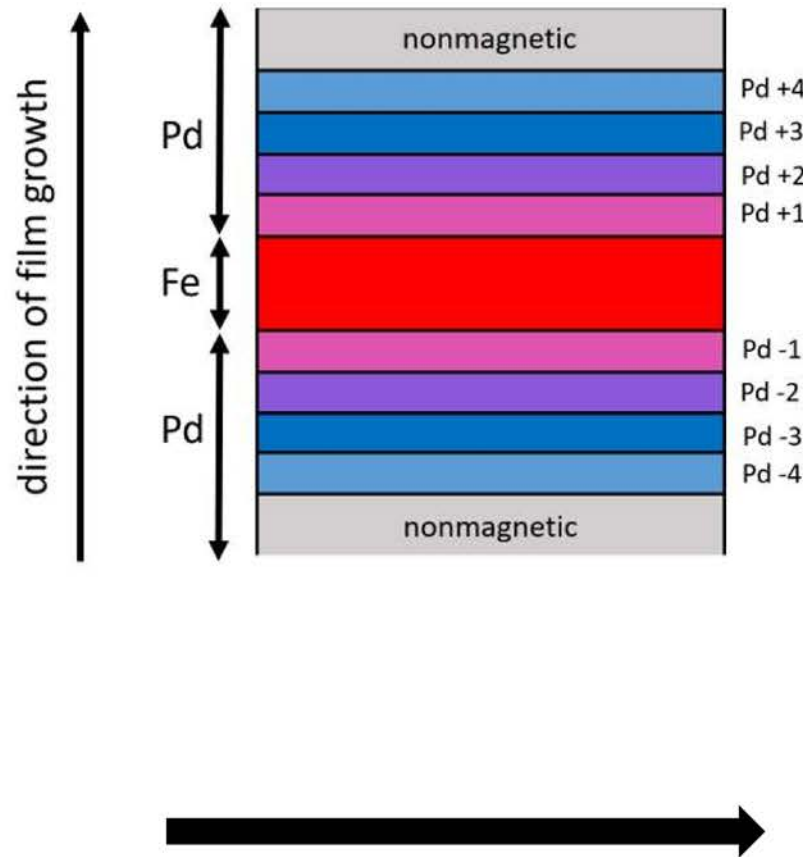
— rms surface roughness σ^{Pd} (nm)

Parameters:

- $H = 70 \text{ mT}$
- Room temperature

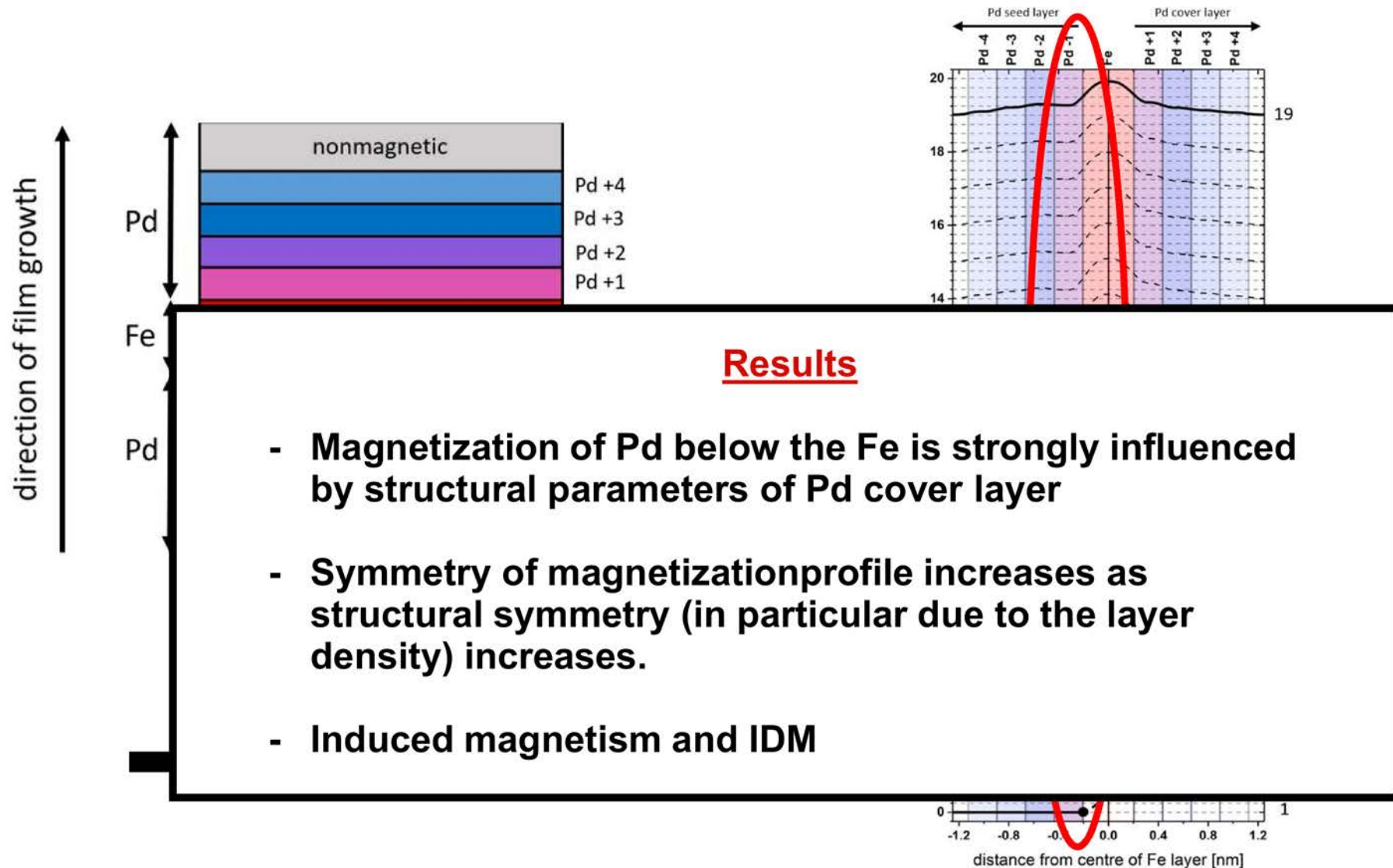


Current Experiments / possibilities



S. Mayr, J. Ye, J. Stahn, B. Knoblich, O. Klein, D.A. Gilbert, M. Albrecht, A. Paul, P. Böni, and W. Kreuzpaintner, *Indications for Interfacial Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya Interaction at the Pd/Fe/Pd Interface, Studied by In Situ Polarized Neutron Reflectometry*, Phys. Rev. B 101, 024404 (2020)
<https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevB.101.024404>

Current Experiments / possibilities



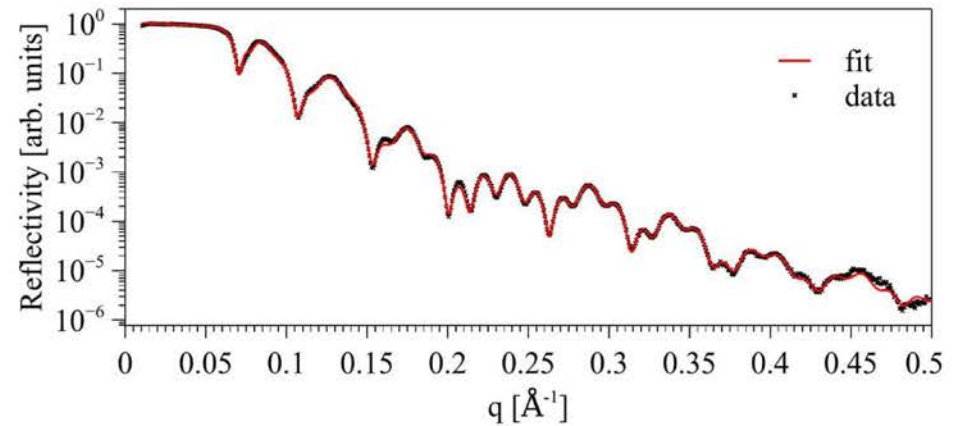
S. Mayr, J. Ye, J. Stahn, B. Knoblich, O. Klein, D.A. Gilbert, M. Albrecht, A. Paul, P. Böni, and W. Kreuzpaintner, *Indications for Interfacial Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya Interaction at the Pd/Fe/Pd Interface, Studied by In Situ Polarized Neutron Reflectometry*, Phys. Rev. B 101, 024404 (2020) <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevB.101.024404>

Current Experiments / possibilities

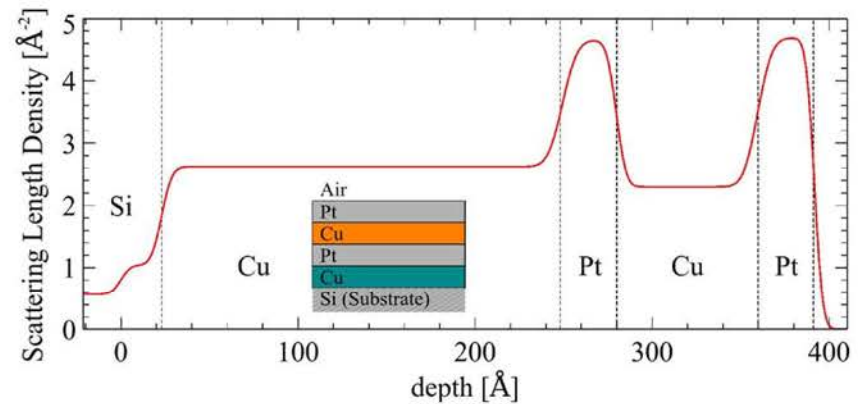
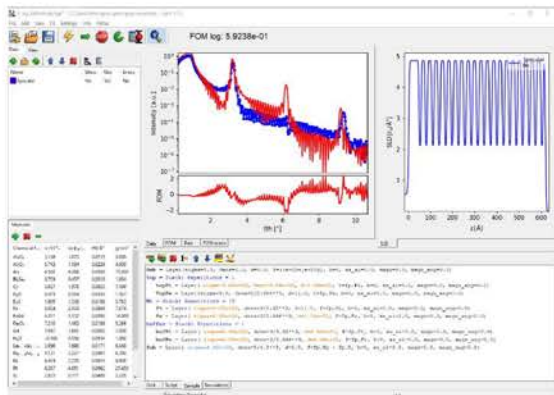
Solving the Phase Problem

Neutron reflectometry:

$$R = \frac{\text{\#reflected neutrons}}{\text{\#incident neutrons}}$$



Parameter Fitting:



<https://a.fsdn.com/con/app/proj/genx/screenshots/Screenshot%202021-04-28%20204628.png/max/max/1>

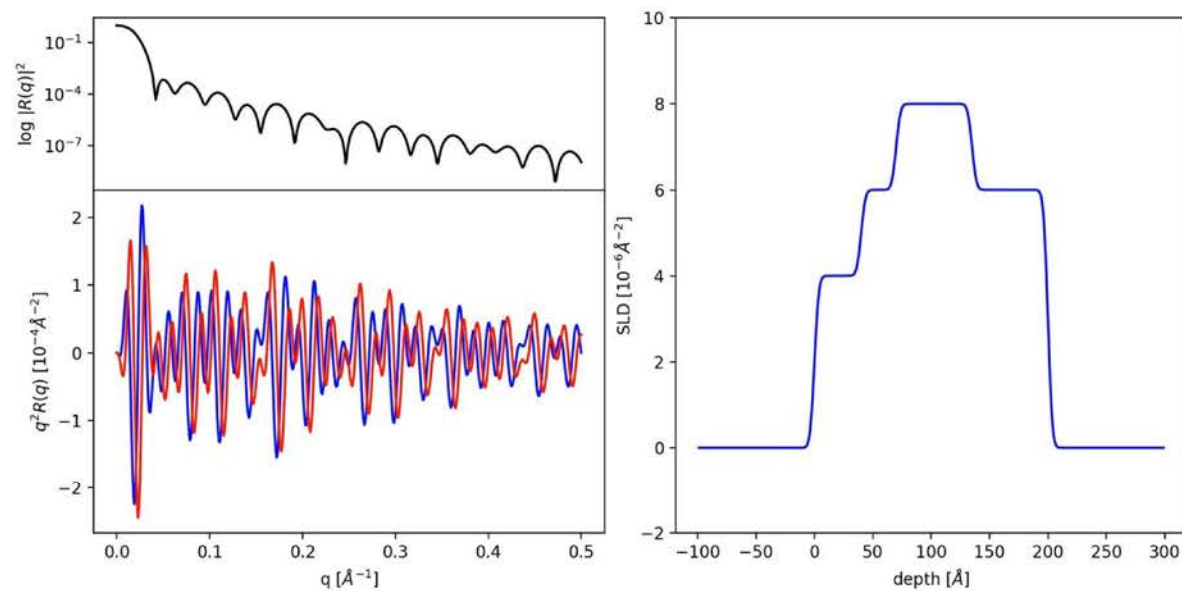
Current Experiments / possibilities

The phase problem:

$$|R(q)|^2 \sim \frac{16\pi^2}{q^4} \left| \int \frac{d\text{SLD}}{dz}(z) e^{iqz} dz \right|^2$$

Convolution of the SLD with the inverse fourier transform of
any phase yields the same reflectivity

Different SLDs yield the same reflectivity



Current Experiments / possibilities

A long standing Problem:

The collage features several scientific publications:

- PHYSICAL REVIEW B CONDENSED MATTER**: "Phase determination in x-ray and neutron reflectivity using logarithmic dispersion relations" by William L. Clinton (1993).
- PHYSICAL REVIEW B**: "Exact determination of the phase in neutron reflectometry" by C. F. Majkrzak and N. F. Berk (1995).
- PHYSICS LETTERS A**: "A proposal for the determination of the phases in specular neutron reflection" by H. Fiedeldey (1992).
- Current Opinion in Colloid & Interface Science**: "Phase-sensitive specular neutron reflectometry for imaging the nanometer scale composition depth profile of thin-film materials" (2012).
- Physica B: Condensed Matter**: "Phase determination and inversion in specular neutron reflectometry" (1998).
- Physics of Metals and Metallography**: "Experimental Approbation of Reference Layer Method in Resonant Neutron Reflectometry" (2019).
- Journal of Surface Investigation, X-ray, Synchrotron and Neutron Techniques**: "Use of gadolinium as a reference layer for neutron reflectometry" (2016).

At the bottom right of the collage, the text "... and more ..." is displayed.

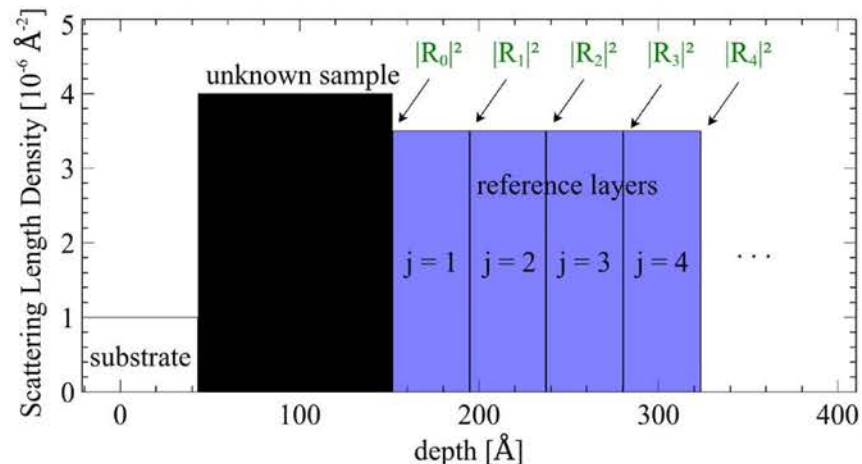
We propose a solution based on the “reference layer method”

Current Experiments / possibilities

Reconstructing the Phase information with the help of *in situ* grown additional layers

Variation of Reference Layers (for *in situ* use)

$$\frac{1 + |R_j|^2}{1 - |R_j|^2} = c_{\text{known},j} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix}$$



After measuring at least 3 reflectivities $|R_i|^2$ with known reference layers, one can retrieve the reflectivity of the initially unknown part

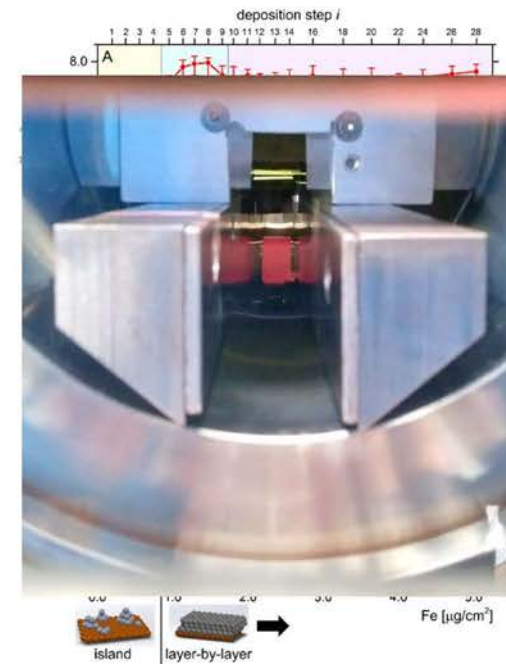
$$R_0 = \frac{\beta - \alpha + 2i\gamma}{\alpha + \beta + 2}$$

A. Book, S. Mayr, J. Stahn, P. Böni, and W. Kreuzpaintner, *Phase Reconstruction of a Cu(001) Seed Layer from in situ Polarized Neutron Reflectometry Data using Fe Reference Layers*, Nucl. Inst. Meth. Phys. Res., A 1023, 165970 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2021.165970>

Outline

Introduction

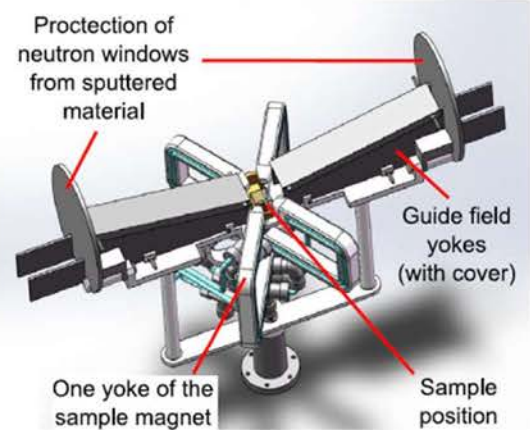
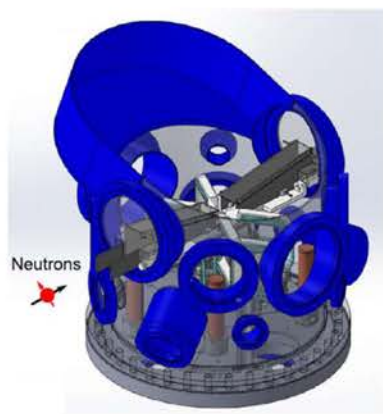
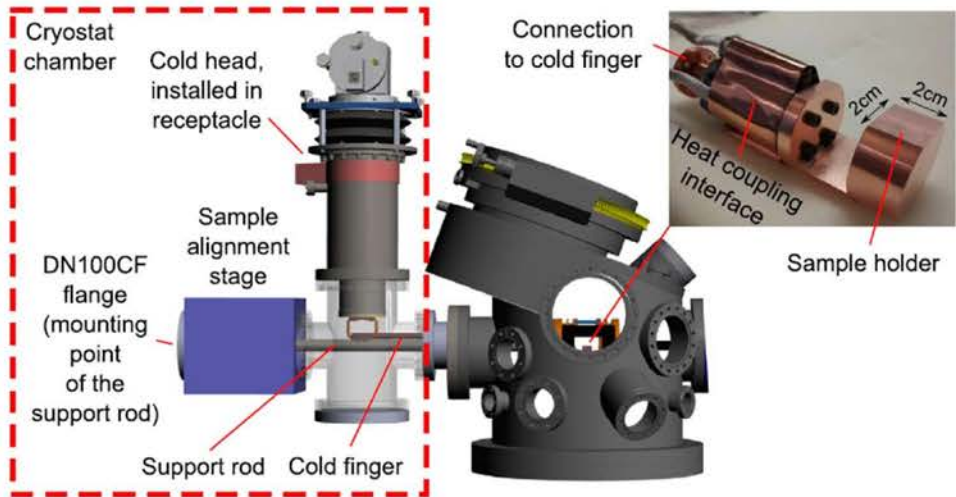
- *In situ* Thin Film Deposition Setup
- Early *in situ* Experiments
- Speeding up the Measurements
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- Latest Developments



Conclusion and Outlook

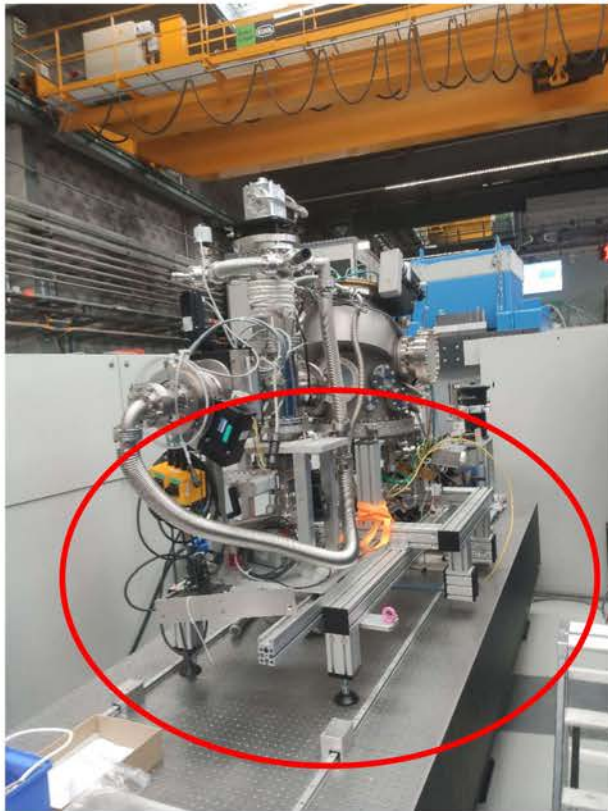
Latest Developments

Even more optimized sample environment



Latest Developments

Transferred and handed over to PSI



New stand to fit the upgrade of the Amor Beamline



https://www.psi.ch/sites/default/files/styles/primer_content_xl/public/2021-09/amor_areal.png?itok=rxOO5f0R



Christine Klauser

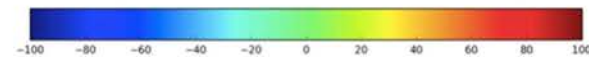
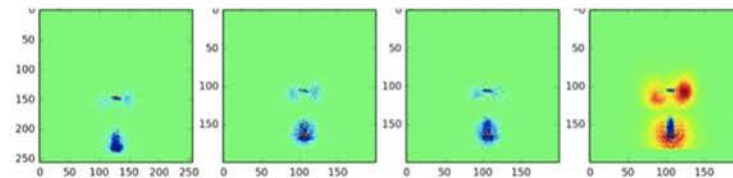


Jochen Stahn

Outline

Introduction

- *In situ* Thin Film Deposition Setup
- Early *in situ* Experiments
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Conclusion and Outlook

Conclusion and Outlook

Development

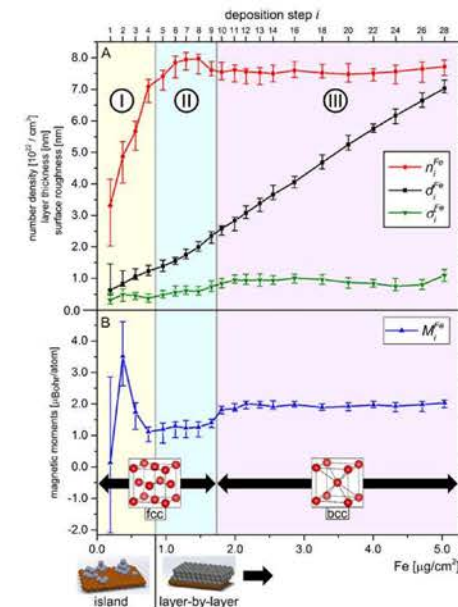
- sample environment
- methodology of *in situ* PNR
- fully completed
- Available for users on Amor @ PSI

Applications:

- layer-by-layer growth of Fe on Cu
- Pd/Fe/Pd trilayer
- Phase reconstruction

Increase of interest in the technique by external users

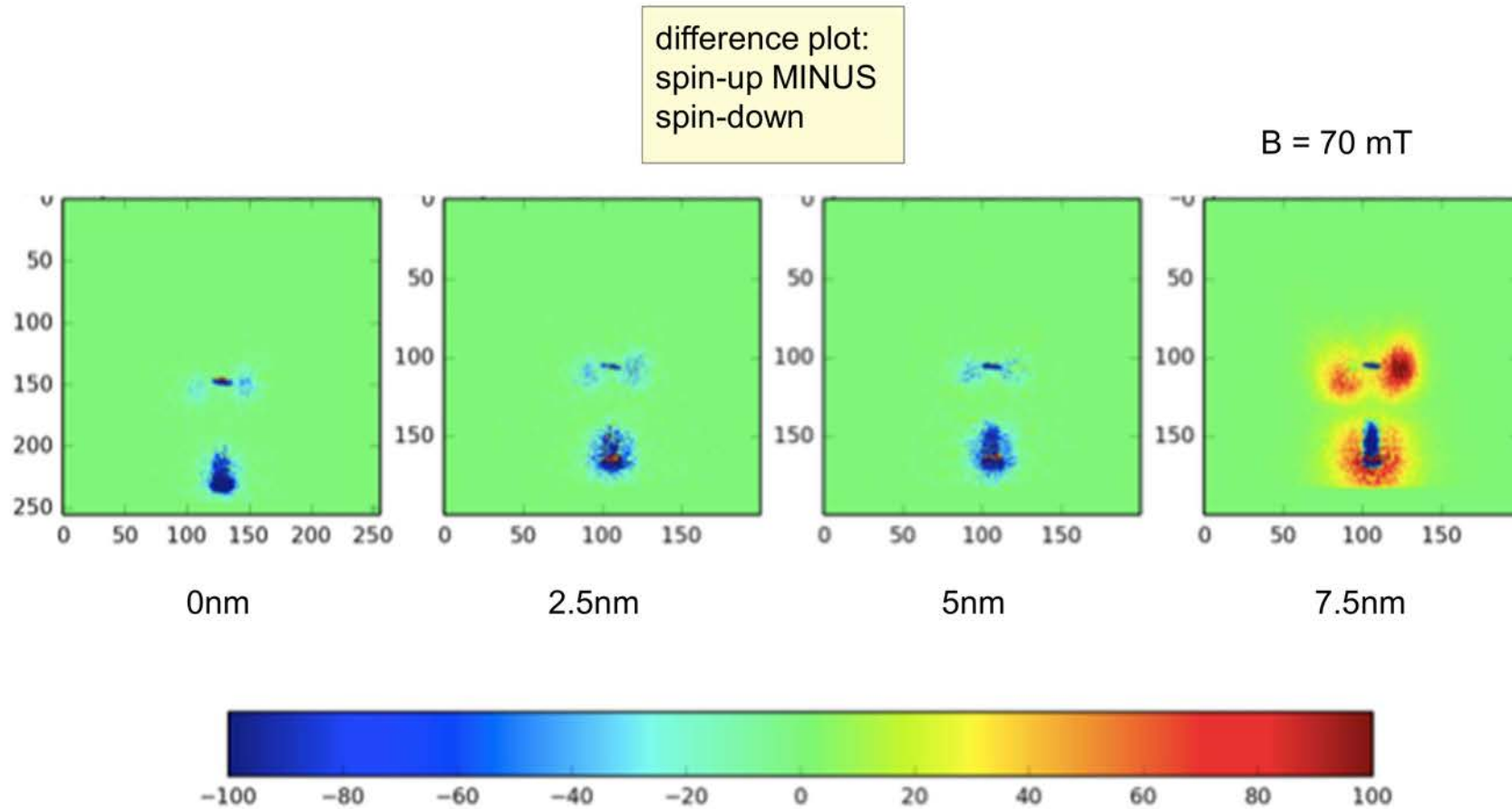
- Magnetism
- Soft matter (additionally → GISANS)



Conclusion and Outlook

ToF-GISANS test @ REFSANS:

- onset of magnetism on nanostructured surfaces (Fe on faceted Sapphire)



Conclusion and Outlook

J. Ye
A. Book
Z. Inanloo
R. Tang
L. Beddrich
C. Herb
S. Giemsa
S. Masalovich

S. Mayr
H. Gabold
B. Wiedemann
F. Meng
H. Schäfferer
A. Paul
P. Böni
R. Georgii

TU München, Physik-Department E21, James-Franck-Straße, 85748 Garching, Germany

and

Technische Universität München, Forschungsneutronenquelle Heinz Maier-Leibnitz (MLZ, FRM II), Lichtenbergstr. 1, 85747 Garching, Germany

T. Mairoser
A. Herrnberger
B. Förg
B. Knoblich
M. Albrecht

A. Schmehl
M. Heigl
C. Stephanos
O. Klein

Experimentalphysik IV, Institut für Physik, Universität Augsburg, Universitätsstraße 1 Nord, 86159 Augsburg, Germany

J. Mannhart

Max-Planck-Institut für Festkörperforschung, Heisenbergstraße 1, 70569 Stuttgart

D.A. Gilbert

Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996, USA

J.-F. Moulin
M. Pomm

M. Haese

Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht Zentrum für Material- und Küstenforschung, Max-Planck-Str. 1, 21502 Geesthacht, Germany

J. Stahn
A. Glavic

P. Korelis
Ch. Klauser

Paul Scherrer Institut, Laboratory for Neutron Scattering, 5232 Villigen PSI, Switzerland

Th. Saerbeck

Institut Laue-Langevin, CS 20156, 38042 Grenoble Cedex 9, France

Ch. Majkrzak
B. Maranville

P. Kienzle

NIST Center for Neutron Research, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-0001, USA

Thank you for your attention.

For a review on the topic:

W. Kreuzpaintner, A. Schmehl, A. Book, T. Mairoser, J. Ye, B. Wiedemann, S. Mayr, J.-F. Moulin, J. Stahn, D.A. Gilbert, H. Gabold, Z. Inanloo-Maranloo, M. Heigl, S. Masalovich, R. Georgii, M. Albrecht, J. Mannhart, and P. Böni, *Reflectometry with Polarized Neutrons on In Situ Grown Thin Films*, Phys. Status Solidi B, 2100153 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1002/pssb.202100153>