

Scattering experiments with q and E resolution



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with special thanks to Helmut Schober

Scattering experiments with q and E resolution

Thermal neutrons around:

$$E = k_B T (300\text{K}) = 25 \text{ meV} \quad (\lambda = 1.8 \text{ \AA})$$

Very useful and handy for neutrons:

$$E \approx 2 k^2 \quad (E \text{ in meV, } k \text{ in \AA})$$

More precisely:

$$E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} = \frac{82 \text{ meV}}{\lambda^2 [\text{\AA}^2]}$$

Energy

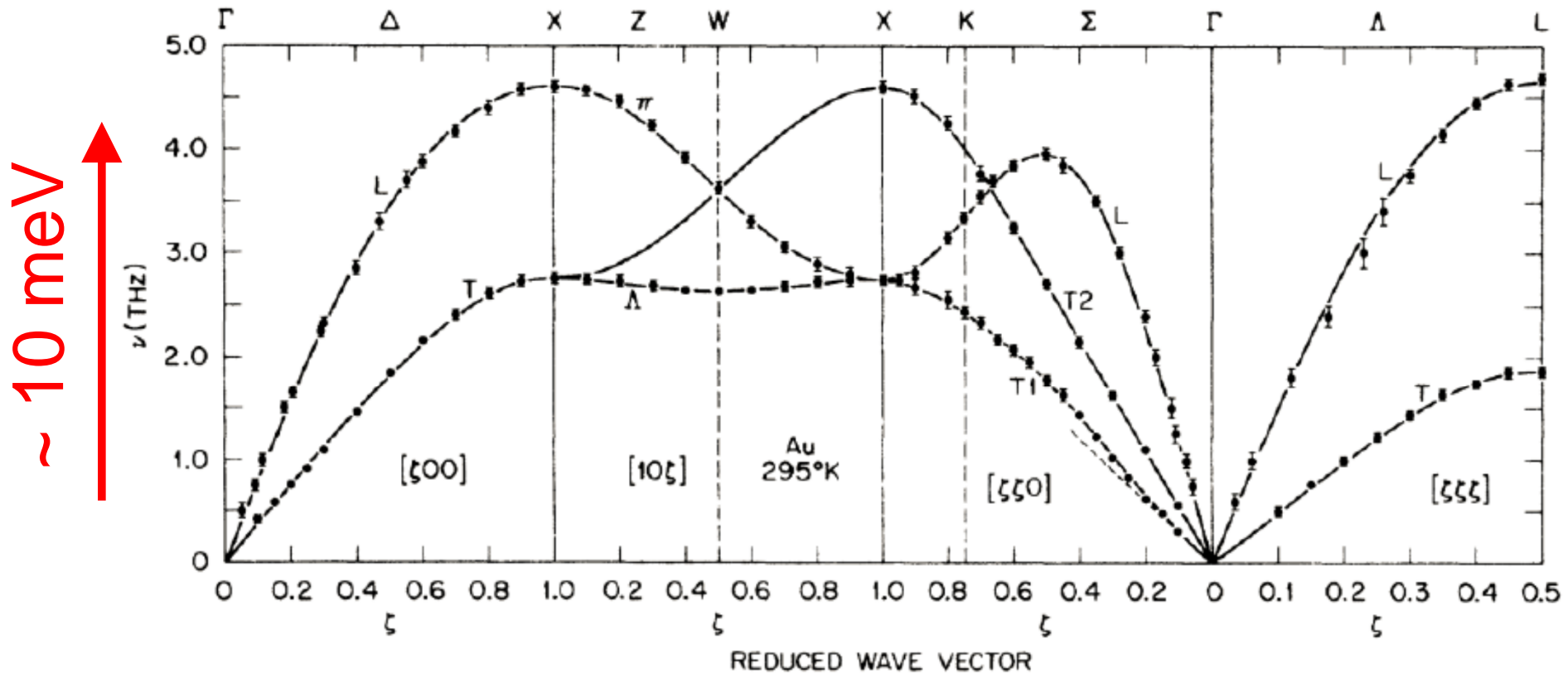
$$v = \frac{\hbar k}{m} = \frac{h}{m\lambda} = \frac{6.6261 \cdot 10^{-34} \text{ Js}}{1.6749 \cdot 10^{-27} \text{ kg}} = \frac{3956 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}}{\lambda [\text{\AA}]}$$

Velocity

$$T = \frac{L}{v} = 252.77 \mu\text{s} \cdot \lambda [\text{\AA}] \cdot L [\text{m}]$$

Time of flight

Phonon dispersion relation in gold



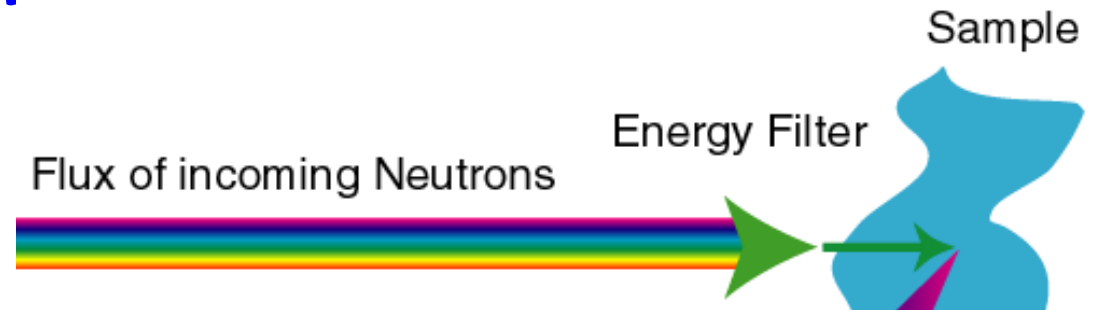
1 eV = 2.4×10^{14} Hz

2.4 THz = 0.01 eV

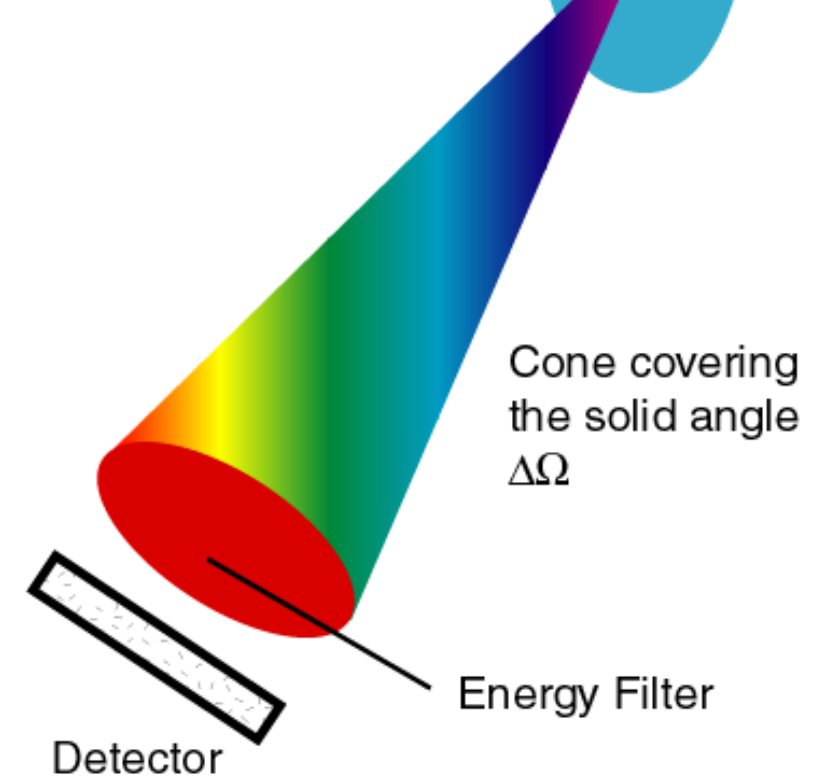
$\longrightarrow 1/\text{\AA}$

J. W. Lynn, H. G. Smith, and R. M. Nicklow, *Phys. Rev. B* **8**, 3493 (1973).

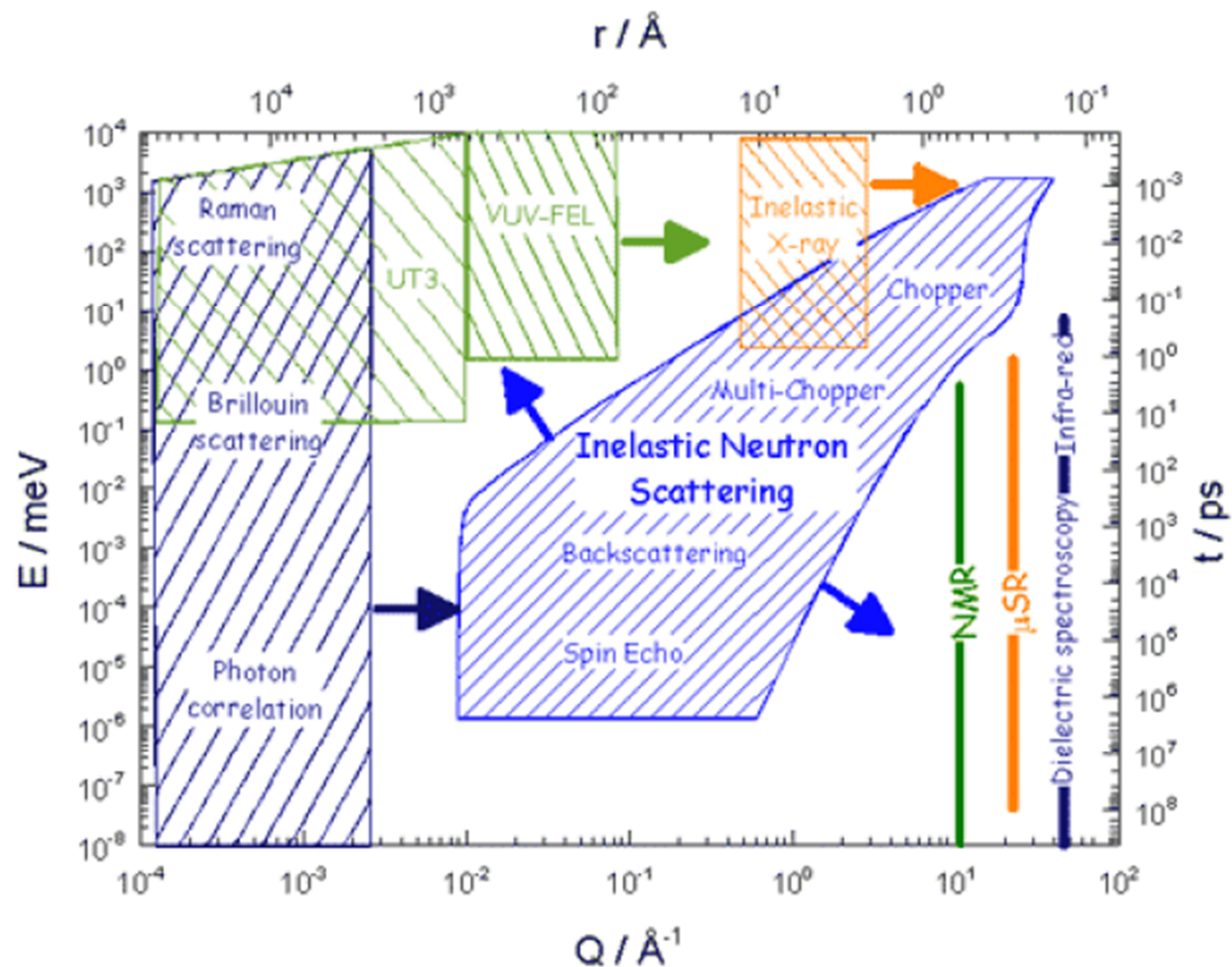
The scheme of a (any) scattering experiment



- Experimental information is contained in measured intensities I as a function of angle (i.e. q) and energy (E)
- Control parameters for energy resolution:
 - 1) Three-axis instruments (“Bragg energy”)
 - 2) Backscattering instruments (“Bragg energy”)
 - 3) Time of detection for time-of-flight instruments
 - 4) Magnetic field B for spin-echo (“precession”)
- Polarization resolution (magnetism)



Complementarity of techniques as seen in the reciprocal space



Source : http://www.ess-europe.de/en/data_images/N-complementarity.gif
 1 meV = 11°K

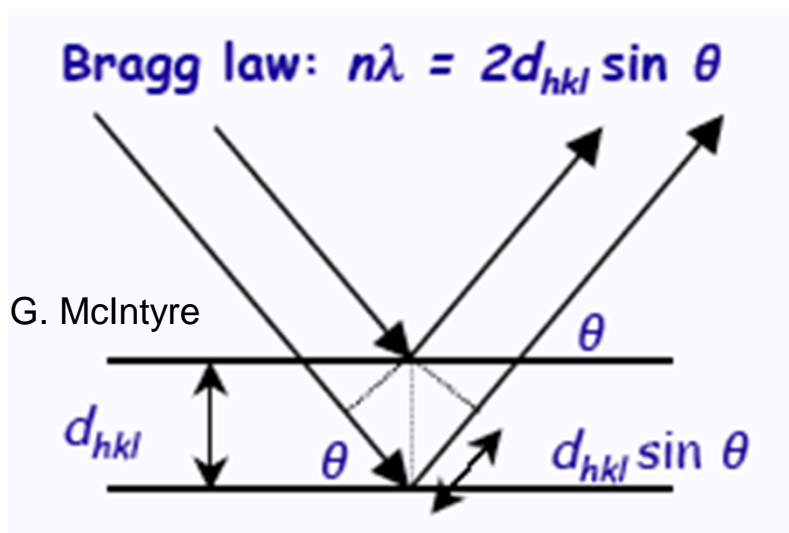
1) Three-axis spectrometer

Principle:

Energy selection via Bragg reflection from (monochromator) crystal

Three-axis spectrometer

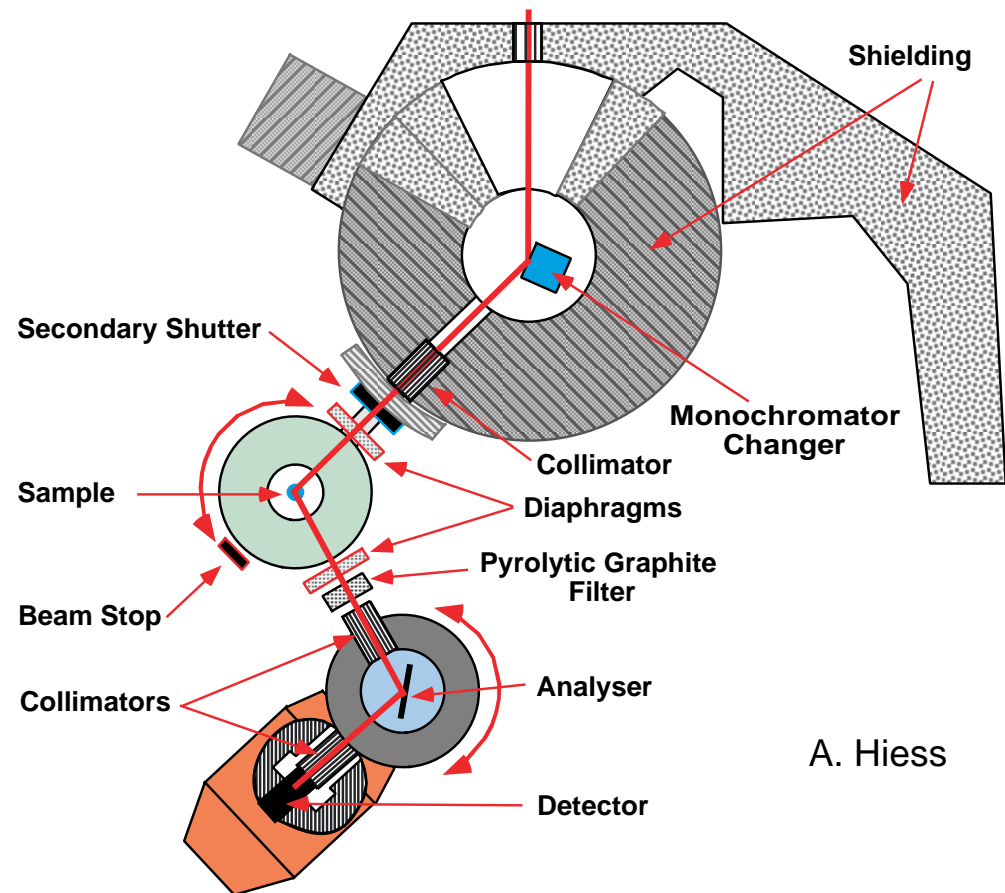
The father of all continuous wave instruments



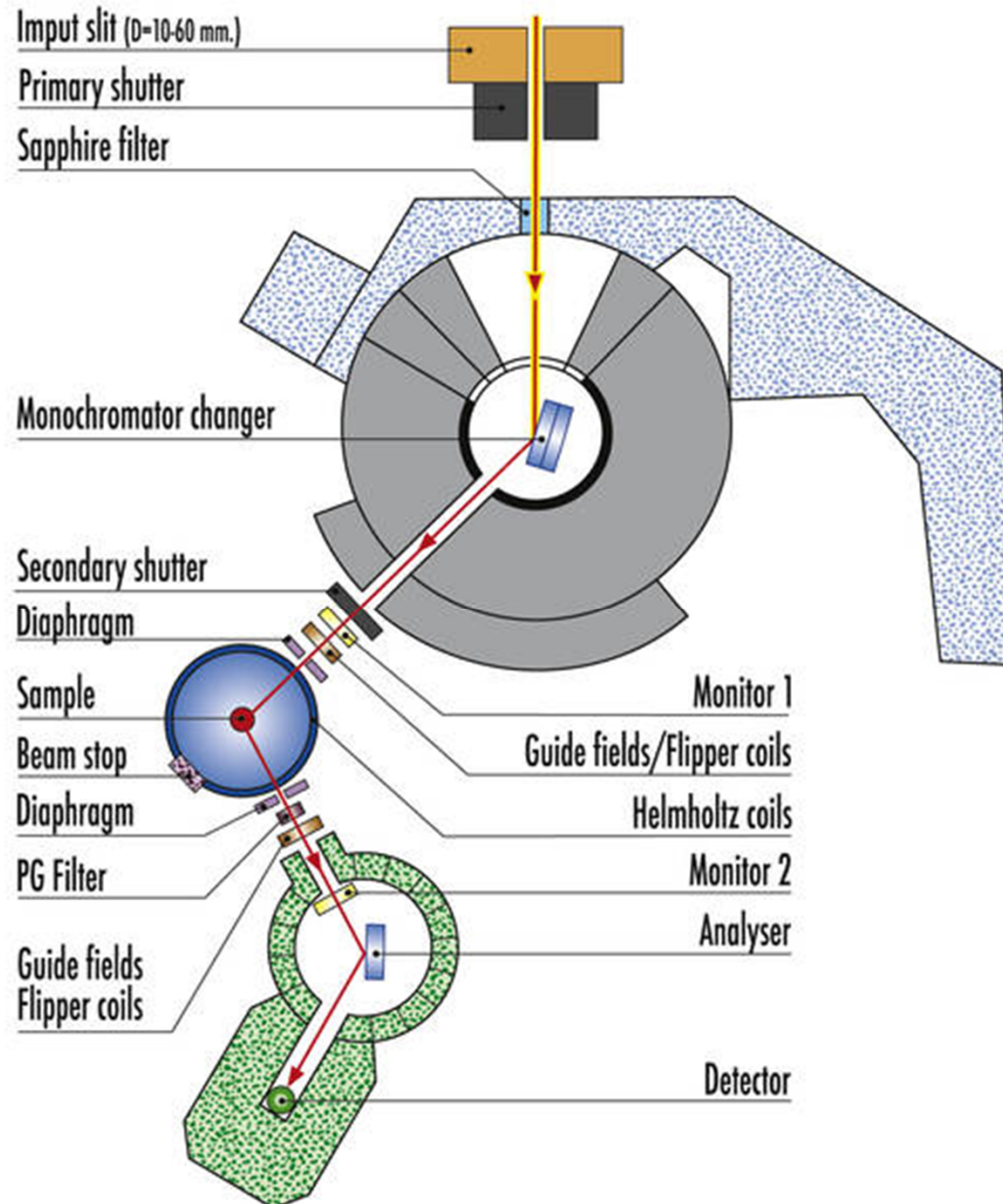
Energy selection via Bragg reflection from crystals

Point by point investigation of (Q, ω) -space

Diffractometer if analyzer is replaced by multidetector



IN20 Triple-axis spectrometer (ILL, Grenoble)



resolution $< 1 \text{ meV}$ (depending on conditions)

2)

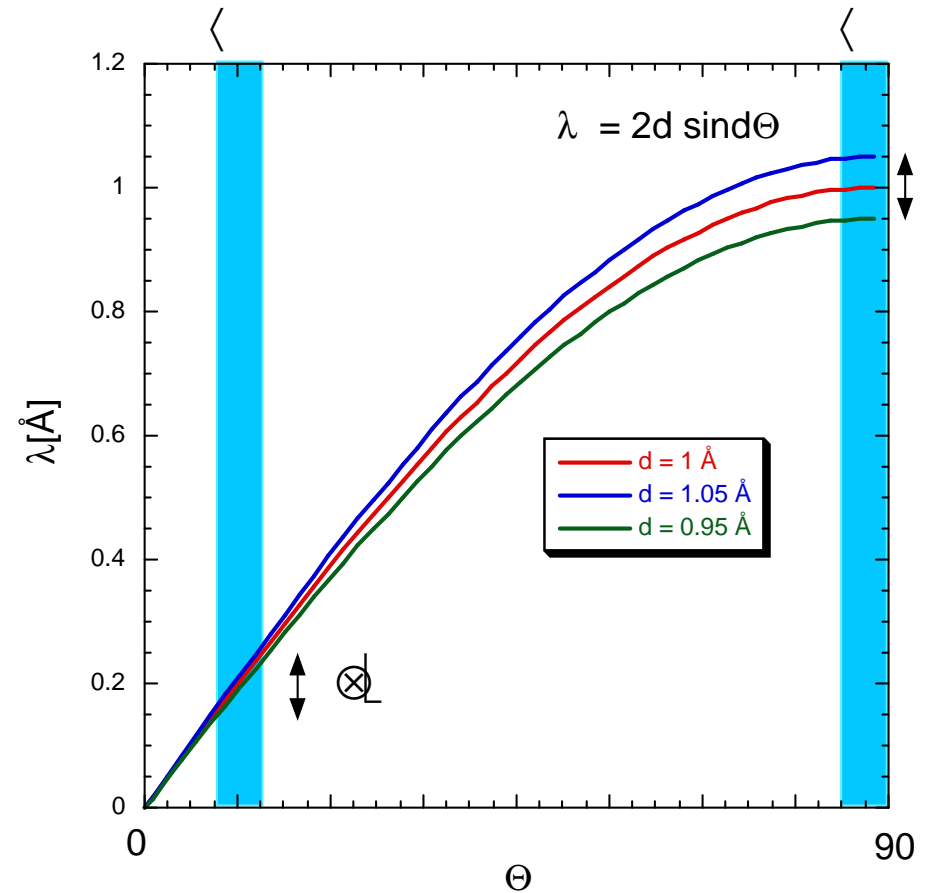
Backscattering spectrometer

Principle:

Energy selection via Bragg reflection from (monochromator) crystal,
pushed to the extreme by backscattering

Backscattering Spectrometer IN16 at the ILL

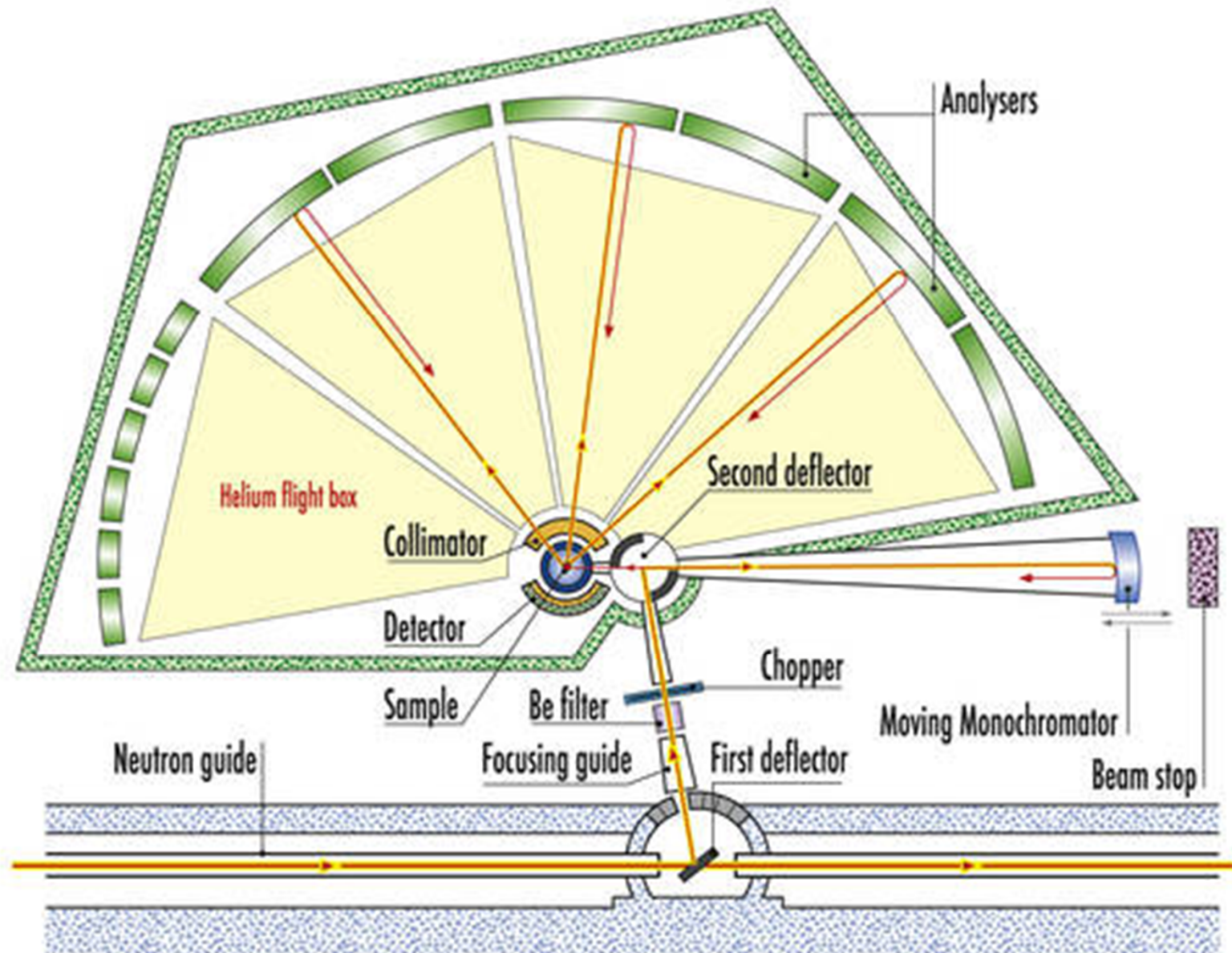
A very special three-axis spectrometer trimmed to
very high ($< 1\mu\text{eV}$) resolution
or to be used as a fine velocity sensor



Very successfully applied to x-rays

maximize intensity for a given
energy resolution

IN16 Backscattering spectrometer (ILL, Grenoble)



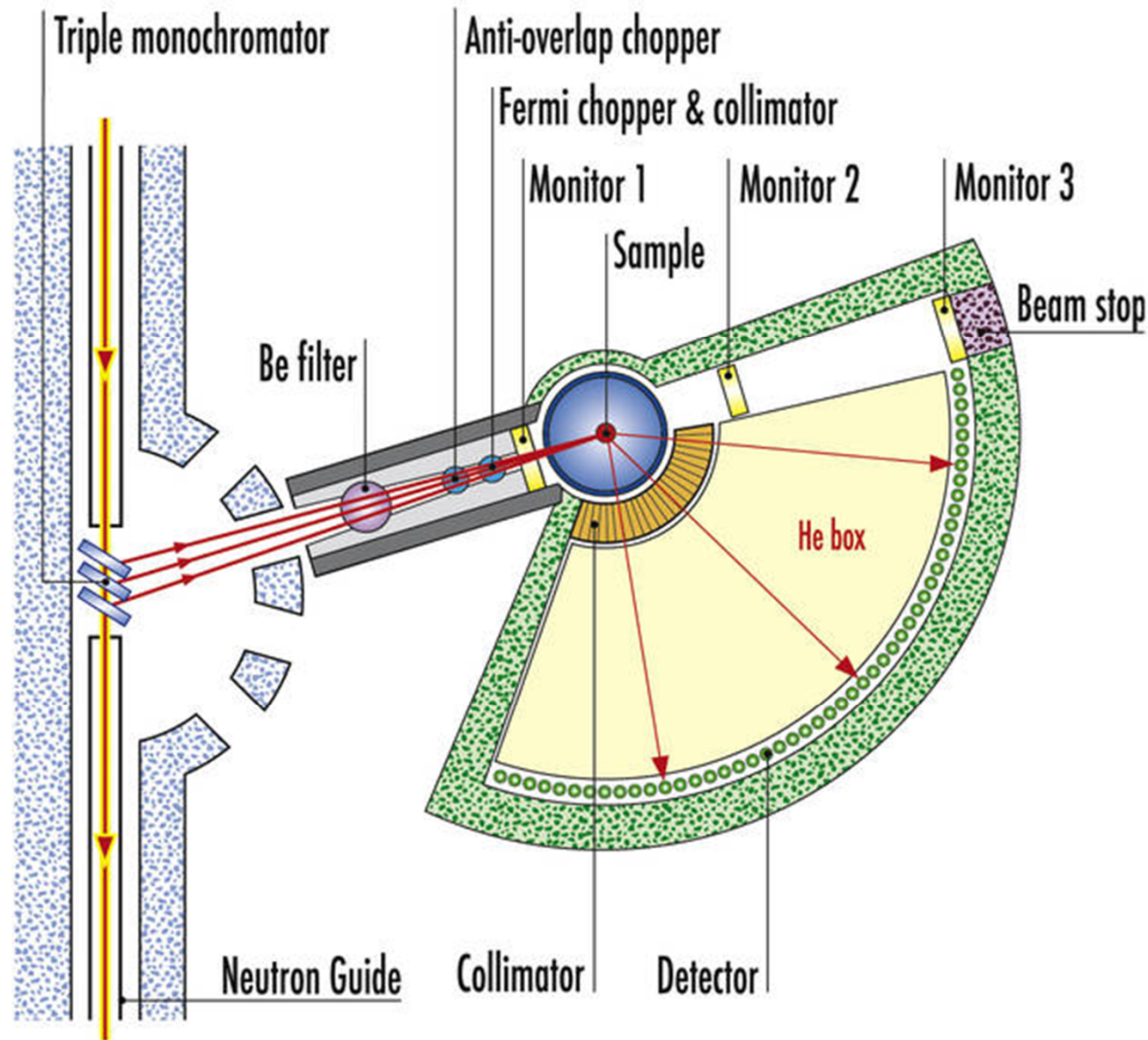
resolution $< 1\mu\text{eV}$ (depending on conditions)

3) Time-of-flight spectrometer

Principle:

Energy selection via neutron velocity (time of flight over a fixed distance)

IN6 time-of-flight spectrometer (ILL, Grenoble)



resolution $< 100 \mu\text{eV}$ (depending on conditions)

4)

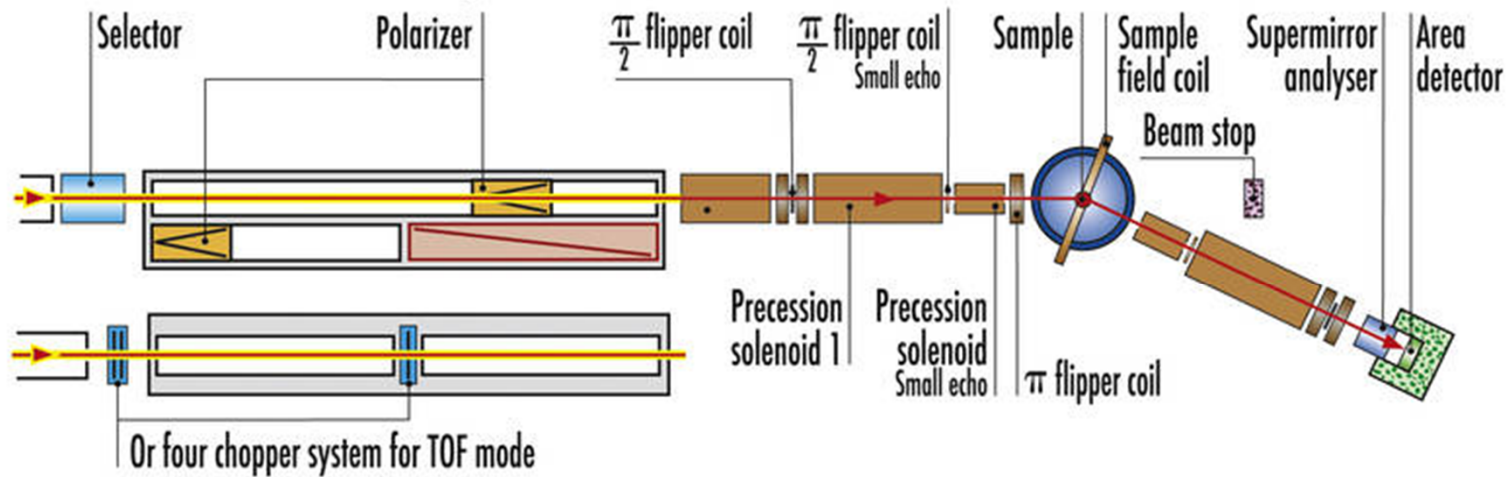
Spin-echo spectrometer

Principle:

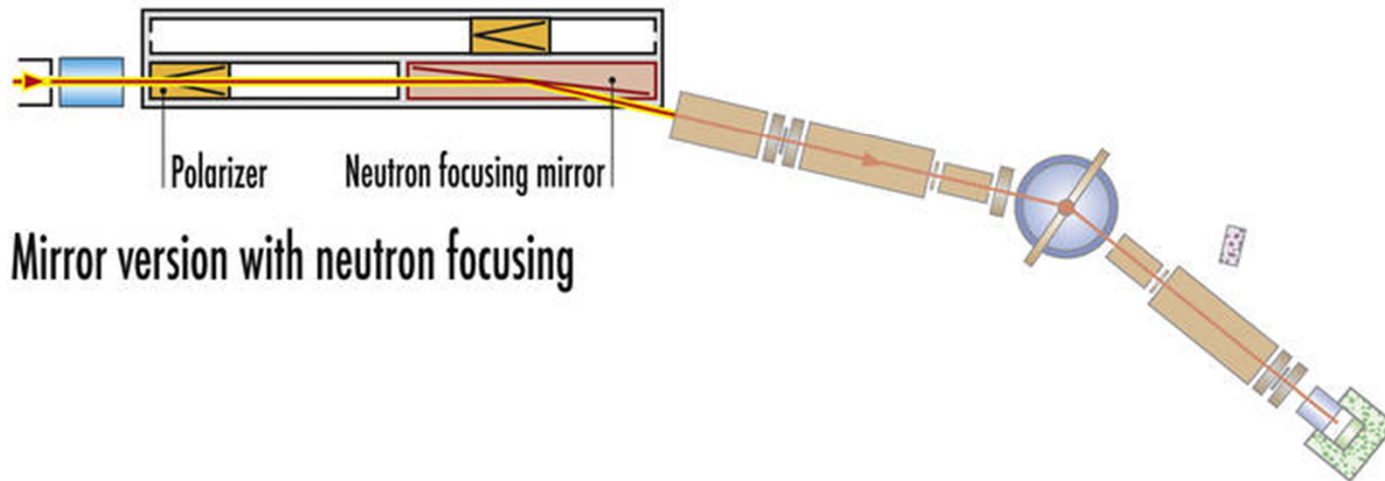
Energy selection via precession frequency of neutrons in magnetic field

IN15 Spin-echo spectrometer (ILL, Grenoble)

Normal version with neutron guide

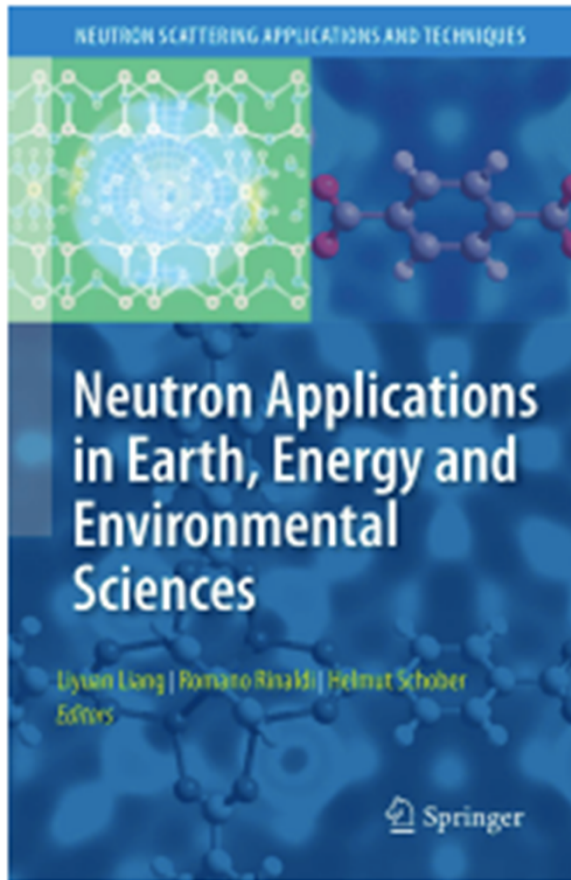


Mirror version with neutron focusing



resolution < 1 neV (depending on conditions)

Chapter on Instrumentation



- **Neutron Applications in Earth, Energy and Environmental Sciences**
- Series: [Neutron Scattering Applications and Techniques](#)
- Liang, Liyuan; Rinaldi, Romano; Schober, Helmut (Eds.)
- 2009, XVIII, 638 p. 35 illus., Hardcover
- ISBN: 978-0-387-09415-1
- [Online version available](#)