Neutron and X-ray Scattering of Quantum Materials

Ellen Fogh

Laboratory for Quantum Magnetism École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

Thorsten Schmitt

Spectroscopy of Quantum Materials
Paul Scherrer Institute

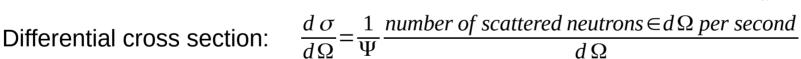
Outline for today

- Recap from last week (Chapters 1-2 + 4)
- Neutron diffraction (Chapters 9-10, except 9.1.5-8)
 - Crystals
 - Powders
 - Magnetic diffraction
 - Instruments

From last week: Basic scattering theory

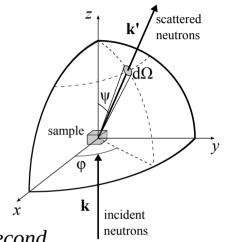
Flux:
$$\Psi = \frac{number\ of\ neutrons\ hitting\ a\ surface\ per\ second}{surface\ area\ perpendicular\ the\ beam}$$

Cross section:
$$\sigma = \frac{number\ of\ scattered\ neutrons\ per\ second}{\Psi}$$





$$\frac{d^{2}\sigma}{d\Omega dE_{f}} = \frac{1}{\Psi} \frac{number\ of\ scattered\ neturons \in d\ \Omega \wedge with\ energies \in the\ interval\ [\ E_{f}\ , E_{f} + dE_{f}\]\ per\ second}{d\ \Omega dE_{f}}$$

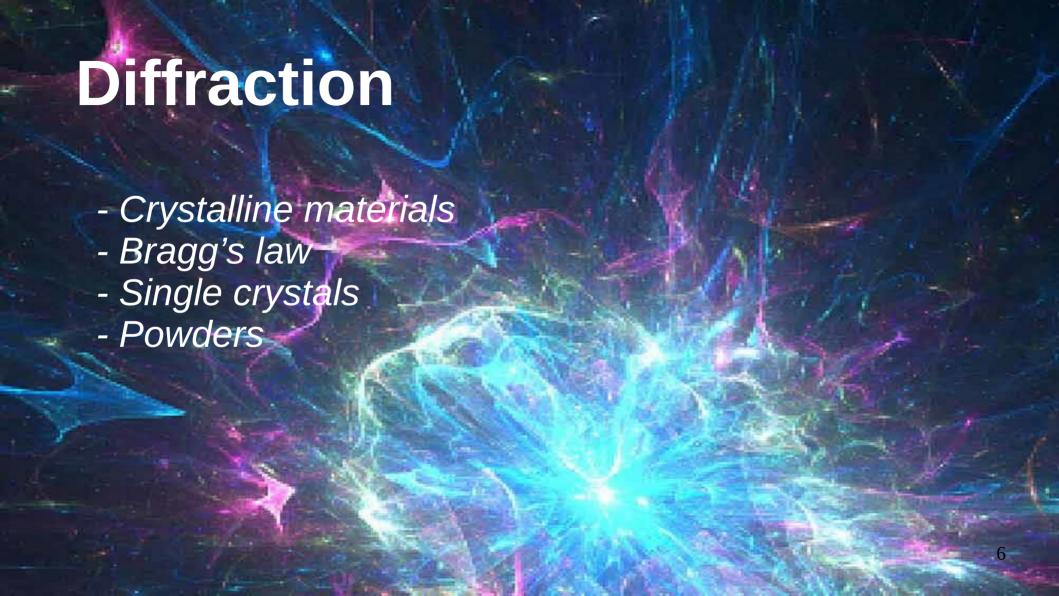


Absorption and beam attenuation

- Good absorbers: Cd, Gd, ³He, B
- Useful for shielding and neutron detectors
- Sometimes possible to substitute with less absorbing isotope. Examples
 - SrCu₂(BO₃)₂: use ¹¹B instead of ¹⁰B
 - Gd₃Ga₅O₁₂: use ¹60Gd instead of any of the other Gd isotopes
- Isolating isotopes is expensive

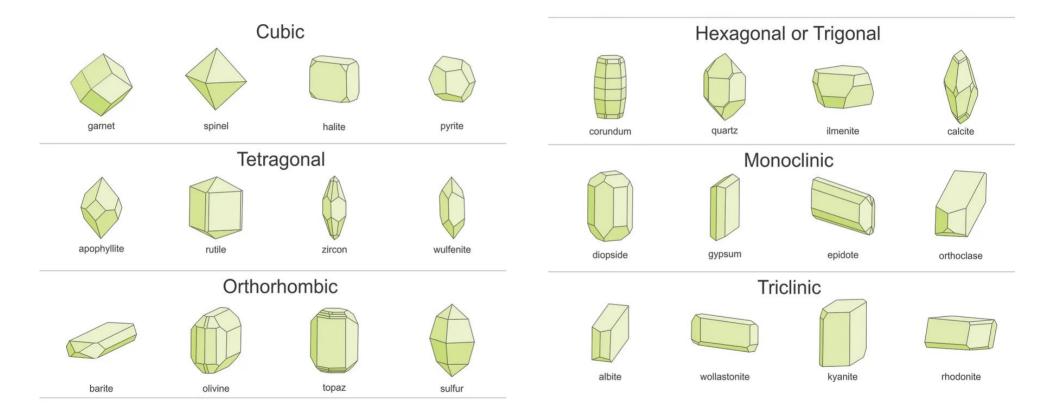
Incoherent scattering

- Creates isotropic scattering (meaning no q-dependence)
- Comes from the fact the scattering cross sections vary over the sample
- Useful for correcting for detector efficiency
- Otherwise it mostly shows up as unwanted background

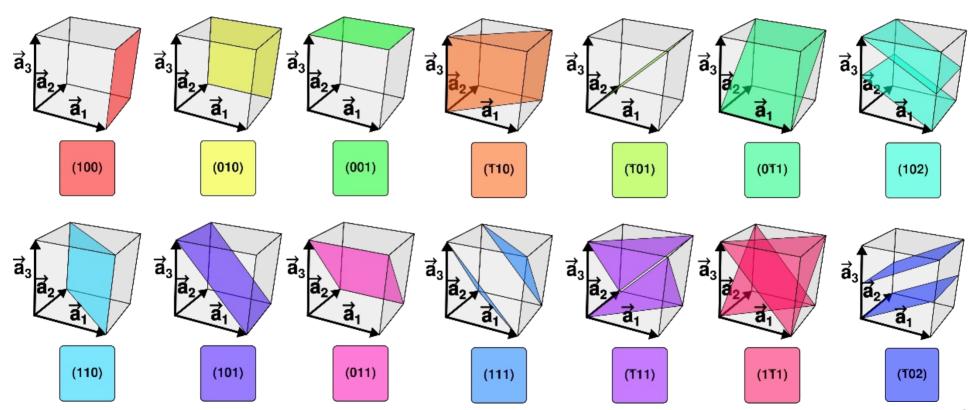


How do we define a crystal?

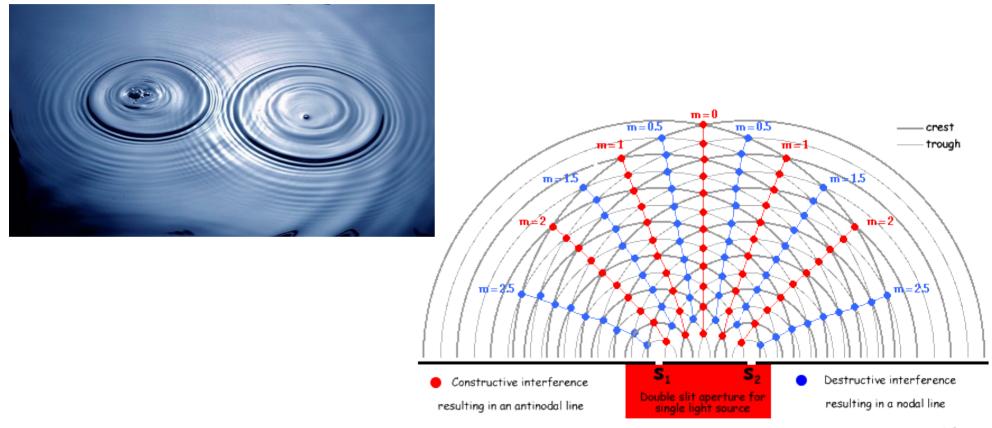
Crystal symmetries and defining a lattice



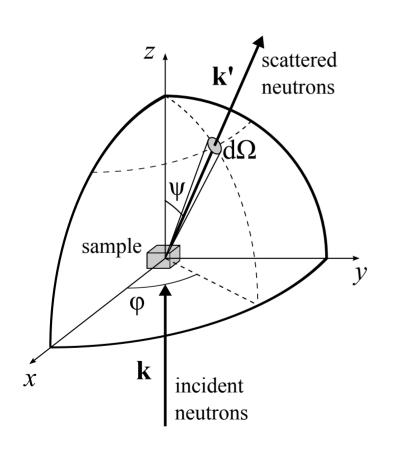
Crystal planes and Miller indices



Interference of waves



Scattering only from reciprocal lattice vectors



Reciprocal lattice vectors:

$$\tau = Ha^* + Kb^* + Lc^*$$

 τ is perpendicular to the (HKL) plane

$$|\mathbf{\tau}| = \frac{2\pi}{d}$$

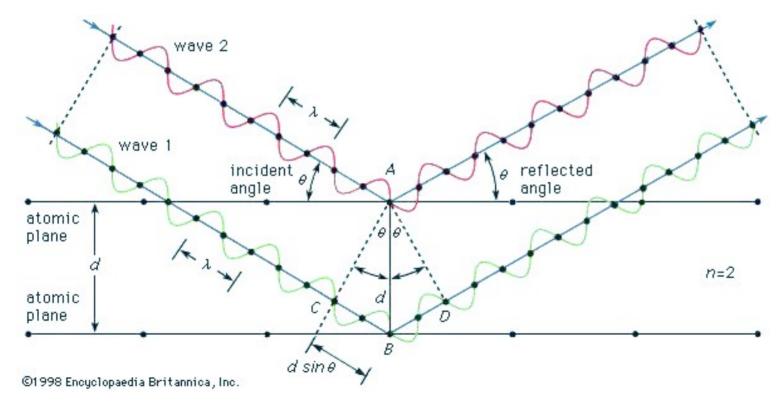
Scattering vector:

$$q = k - k'$$

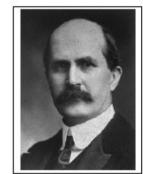
Diffraction from the lattice planes happens only when $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{\tau}$

Bragg's law

$n\lambda = 2d\sin\theta$



Nobel Prize 1915

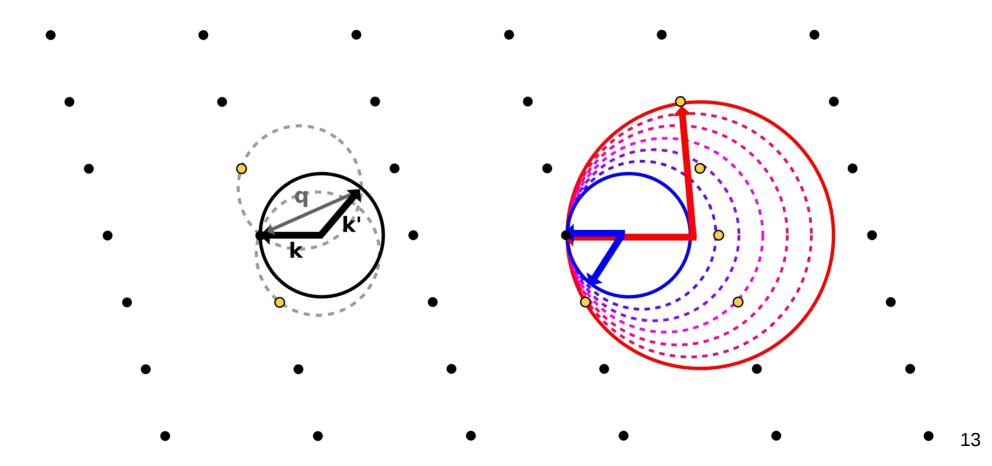


W. H. Bragg

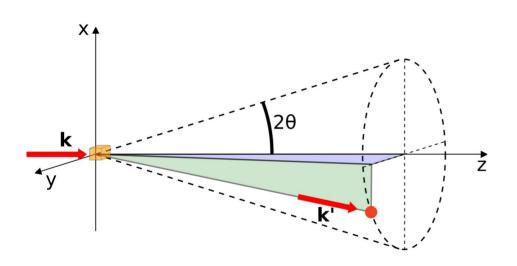


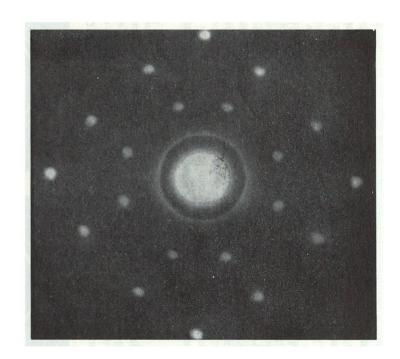
W. L. Bragg

The Laue condition and the Ewald's sphere

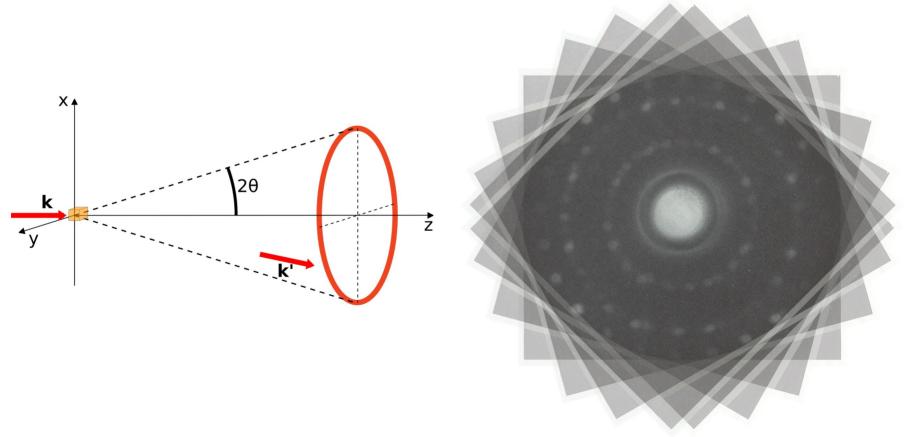


Single-crystal diffraction

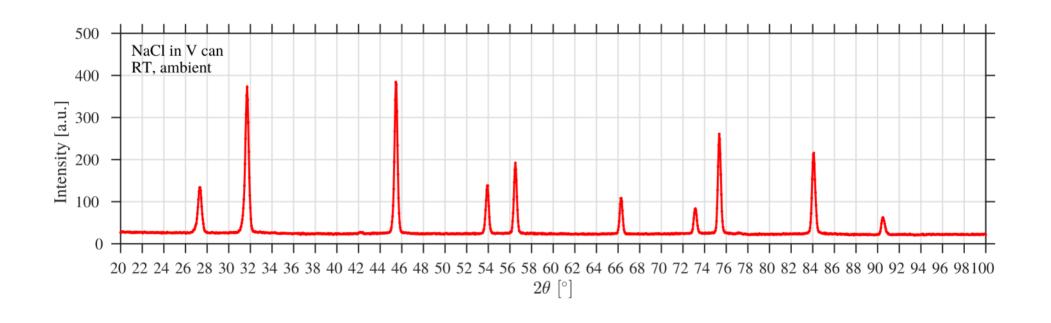


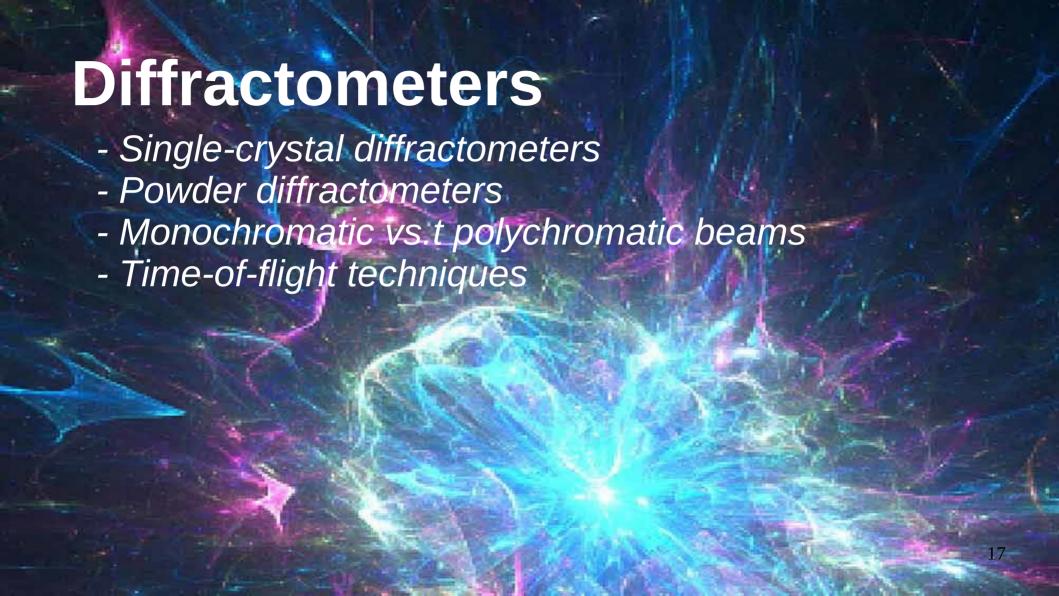


Powder diffraction

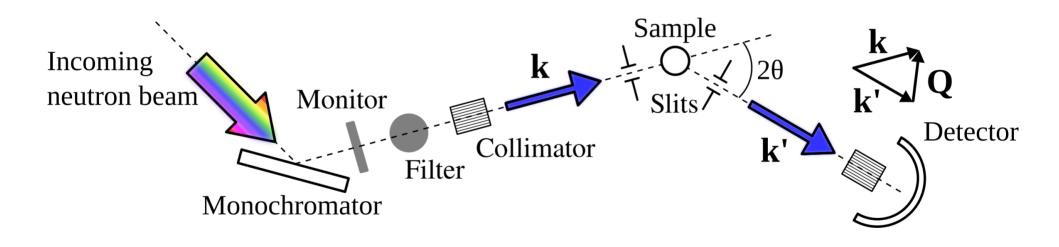


Powder diffraction

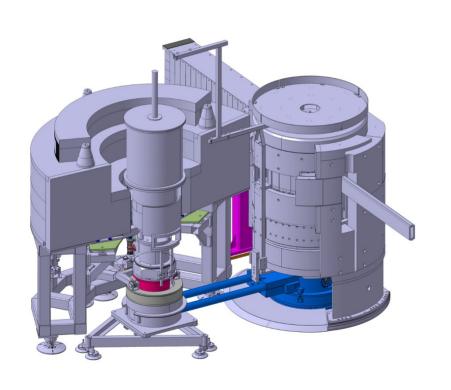




Two-axis neutron diffractometer

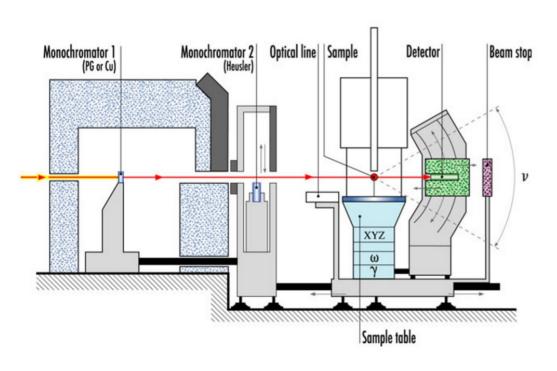


DMC: powder diffractometer at the PSI



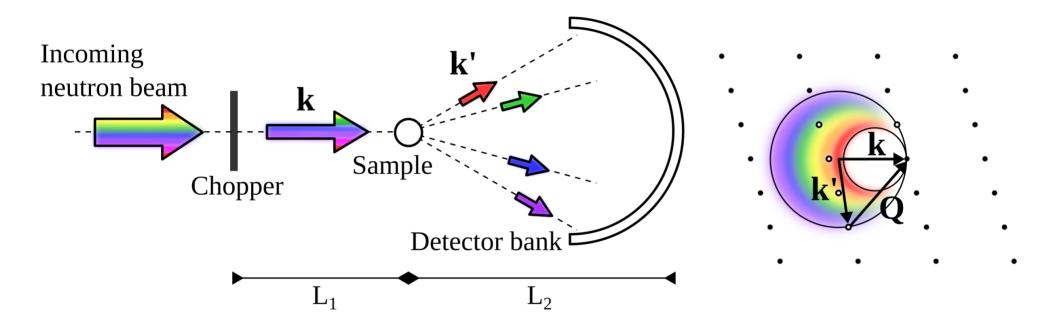


D23: single-crystal diffractometer at the ILL

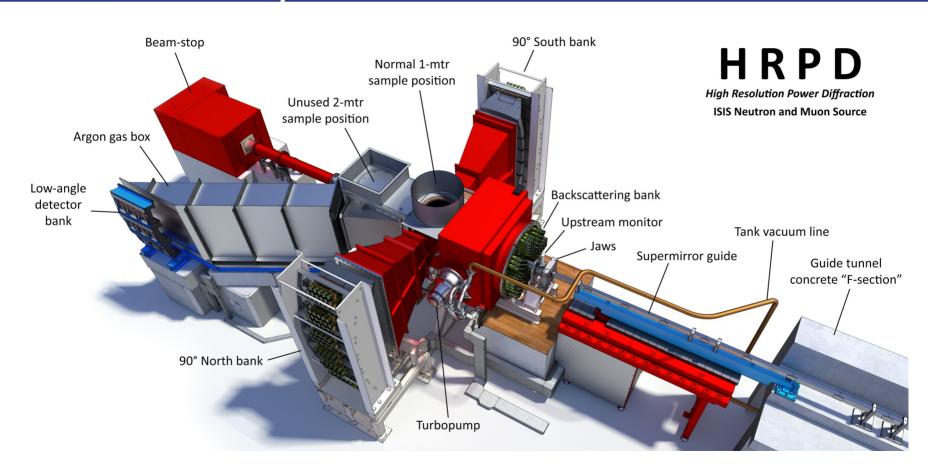




Time-of-flight neutron diffraction



HRPD: TOF powder diffractometer at ISIS



TOPAZ: single-crystal diffractometer at SNS

