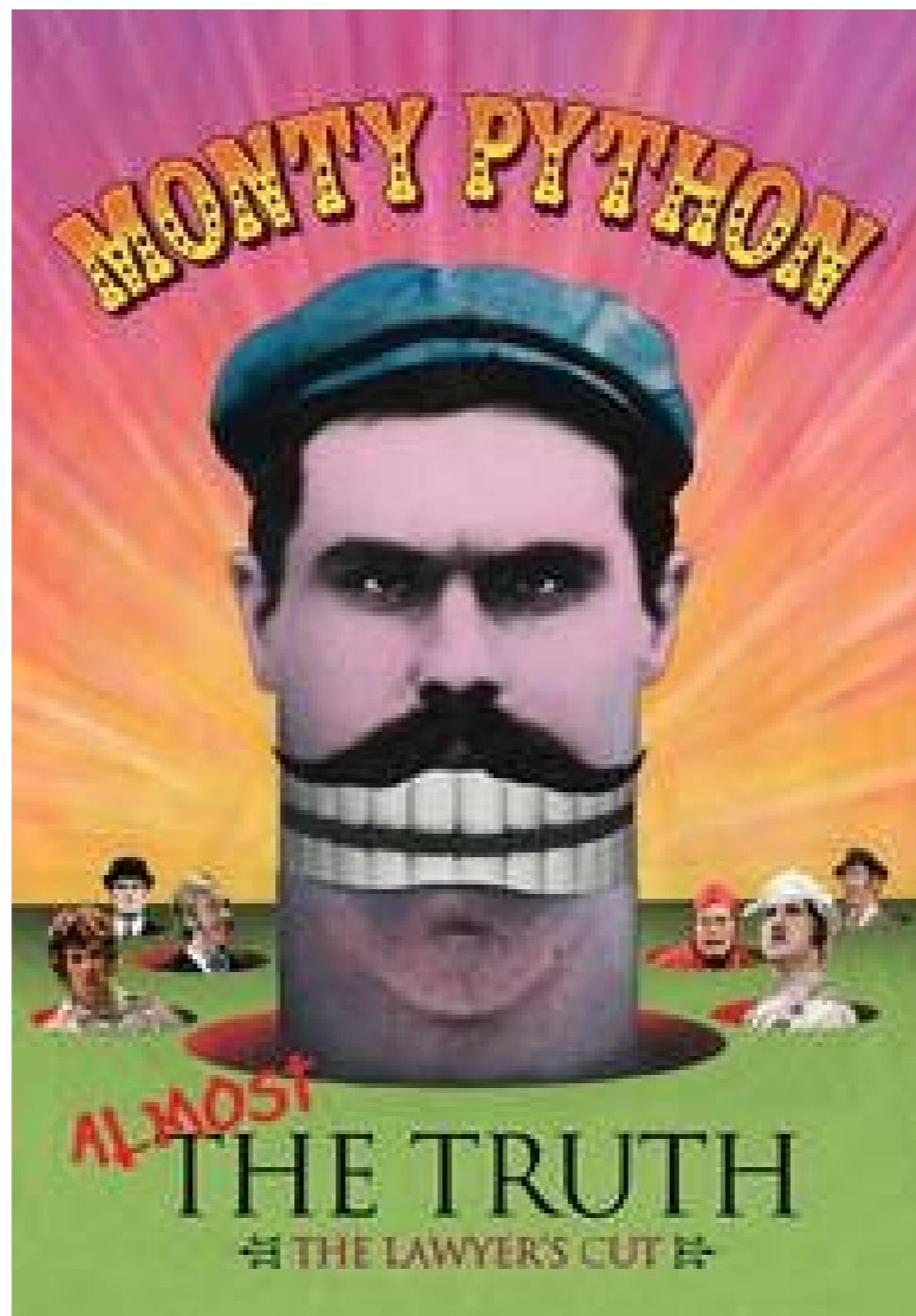


And now for something  
completely different....?



# neutron imaging



EUROPEAN  
SPALLATION  
SOURCE

Markus Strobl  
Instrumentation Division@ ESS

# Vienna

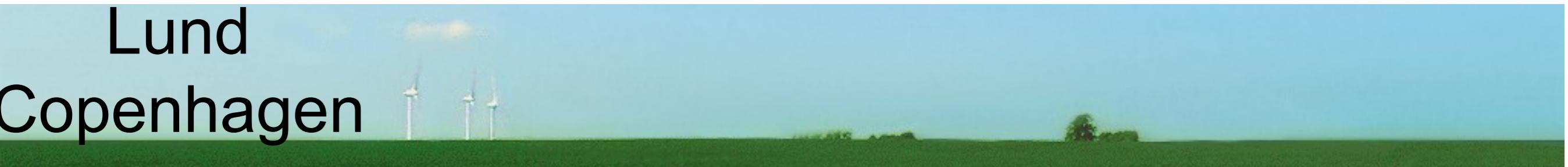


# Berlin

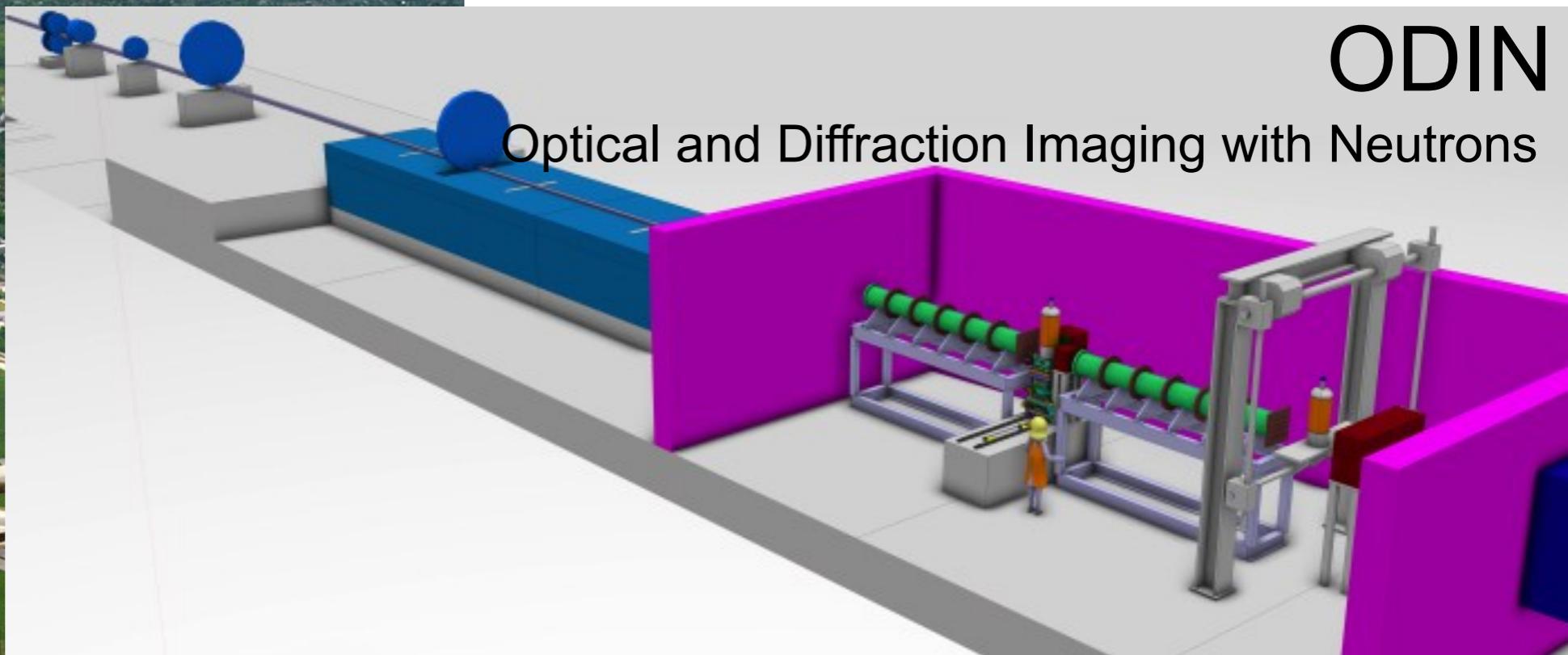
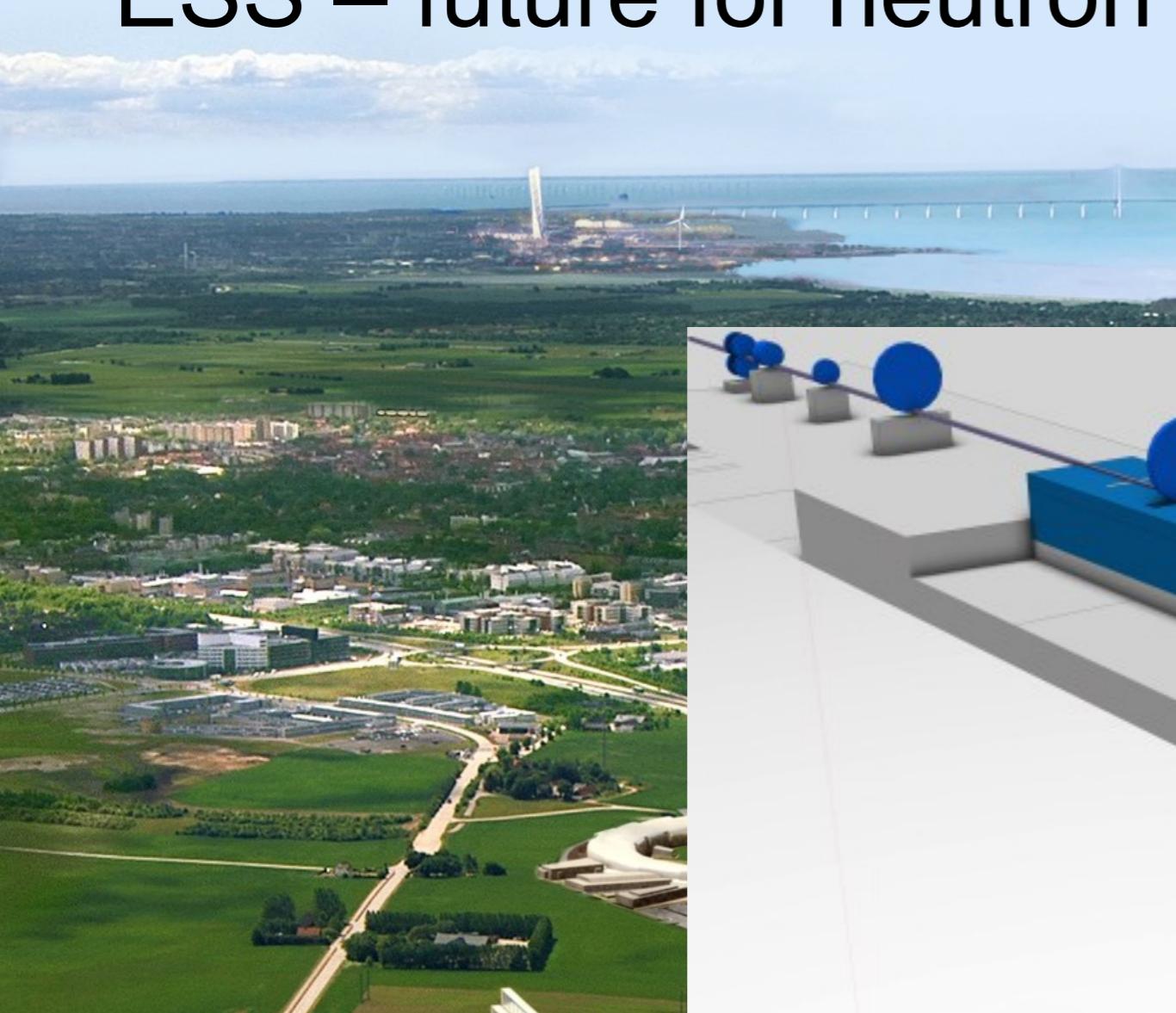
Helmholtz Zentrum



# Lund Copenhagen



# ESS – future for neutron scattering in Europe



One out of the two first instruments endorsed by the ESS SAC for a build decision!

# Is neutron imaging in fact just another scattering technique?



When do we talk about an image?

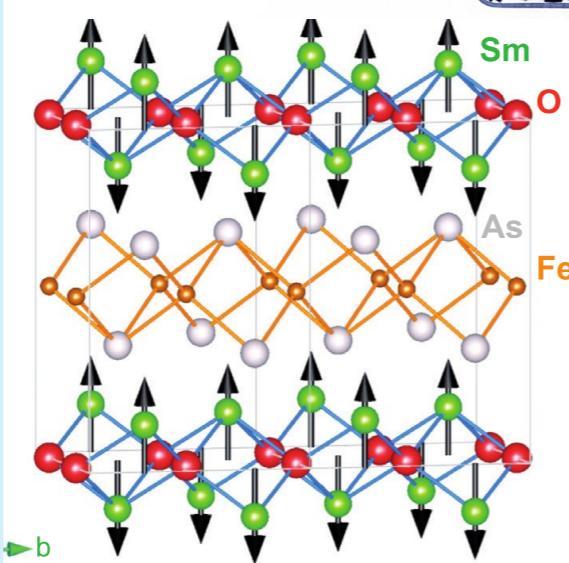
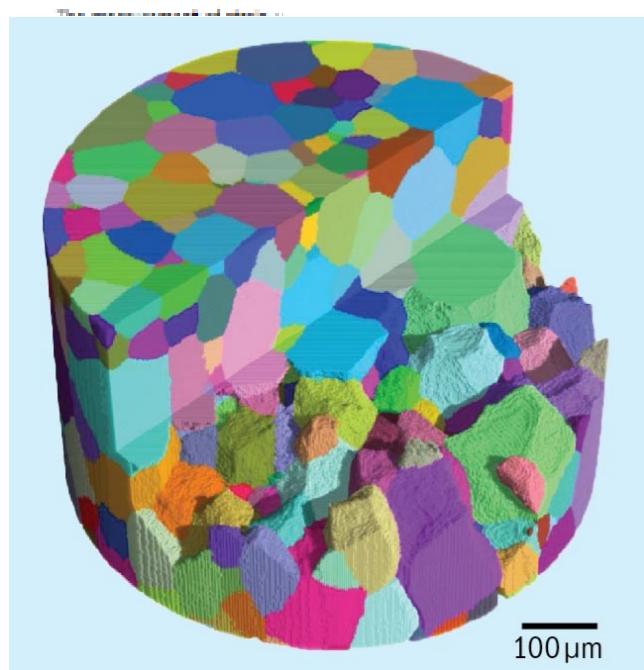
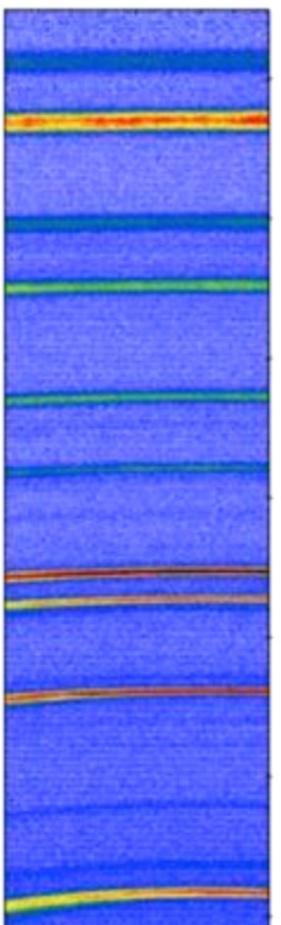
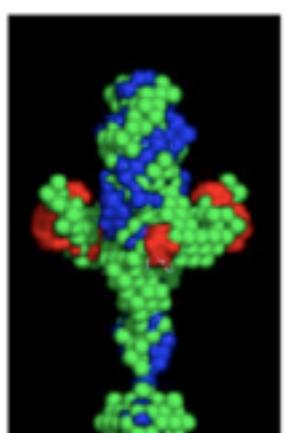
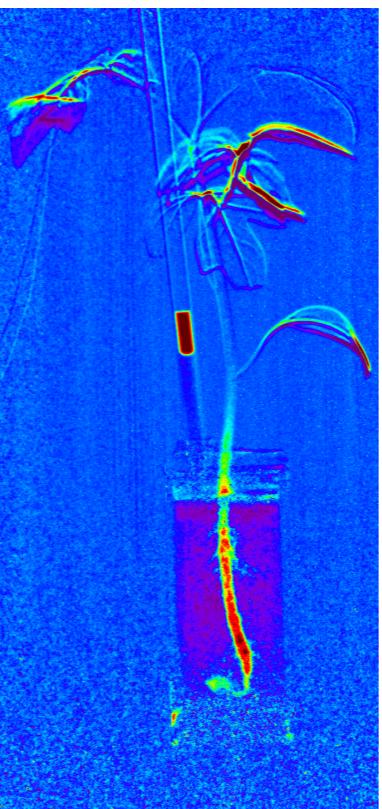
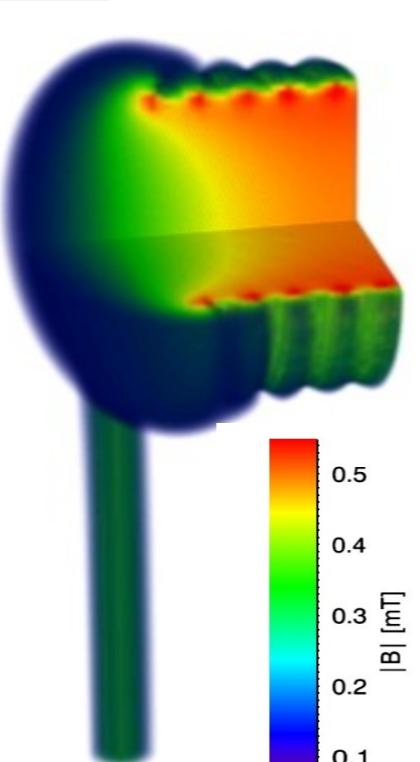
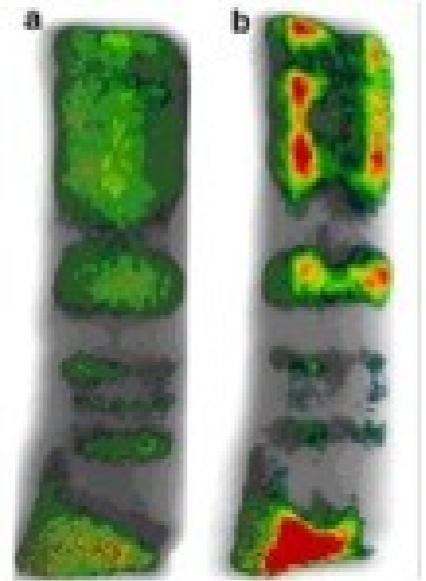
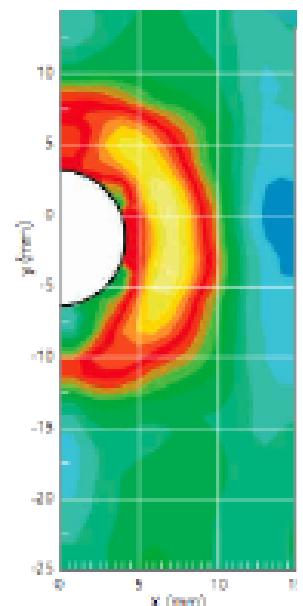
When about imaging?



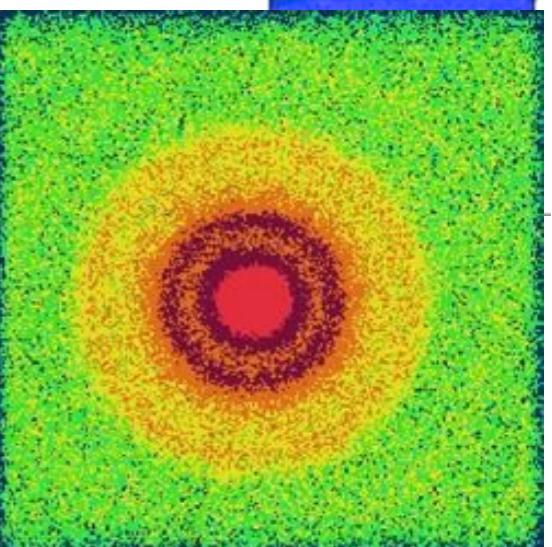
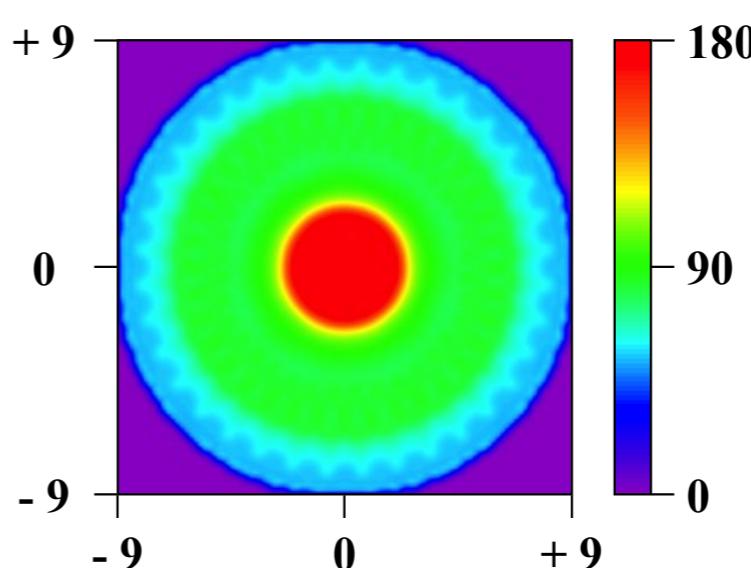
AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT



# images



Position  $y$  / mm



reflection



# images



## transmission

“transmission” image  
with light  
i.e. photograph



# Contrast

- Radiation used
- Materials examined
- Instrumentation

# Contrast

## Transmission

- Cross sections:

Microscopic cross section:  $\sigma$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{number of interacting particles / unit time} \cdot \text{unit cone } d\Omega}{\text{number of incident particles / unit time} \times \text{unit area} \cdot \text{unit cone } d\Omega} = [\text{area}]$$

Unit of  $\sigma$ : 1 barn =  $10^{-24}$  cm<sup>2</sup>

Macroscopic cross section :  $\Sigma$  (i.e.  $\mu$  linear attenuation coefficient)

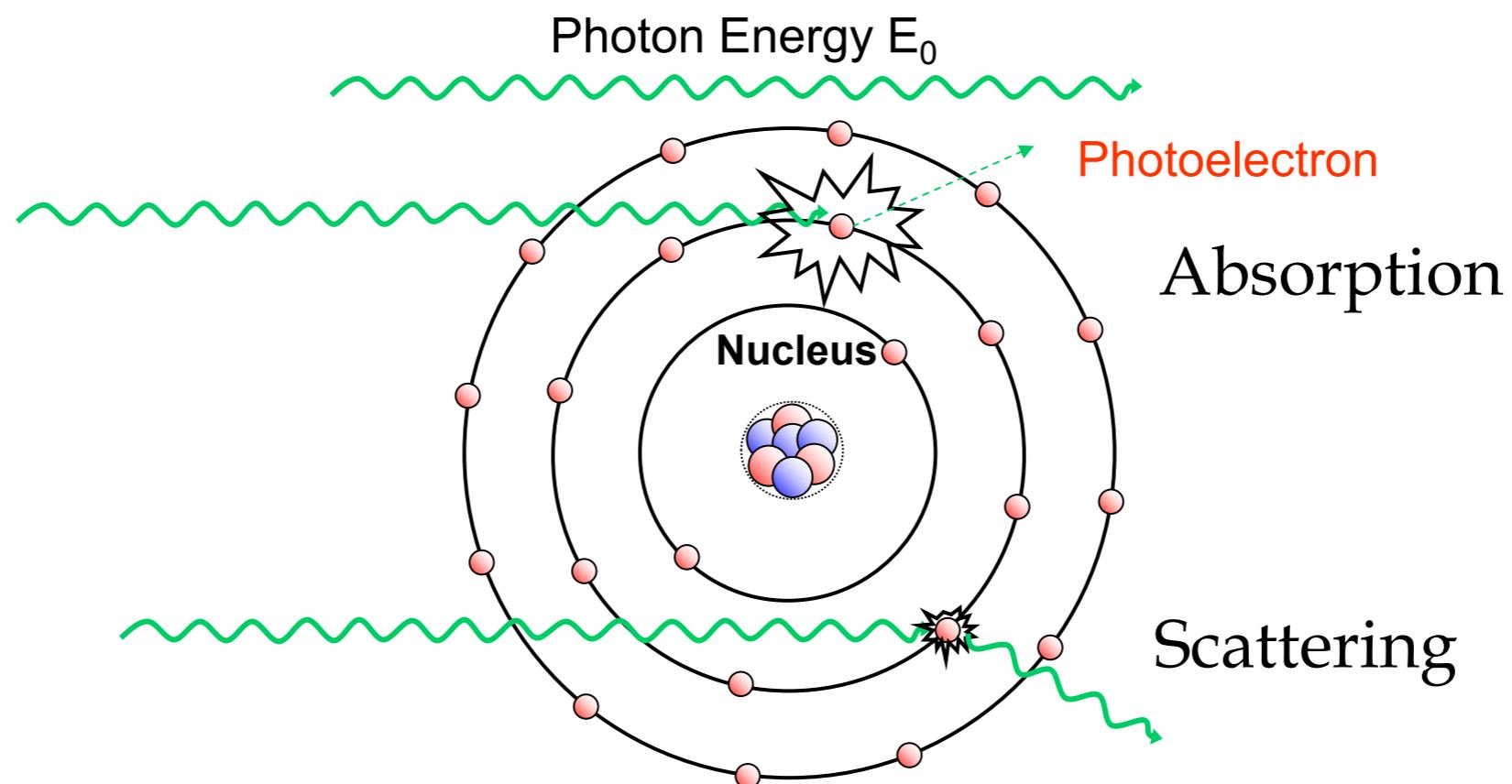
$$\Sigma = N \cdot \sigma, \quad N = \text{number of nuclei per cm}^3.$$

Unit of  $\Sigma$  is [cm<sup>-1</sup>].

$$I = I_0 e^{-\int \Sigma(x) dx}$$

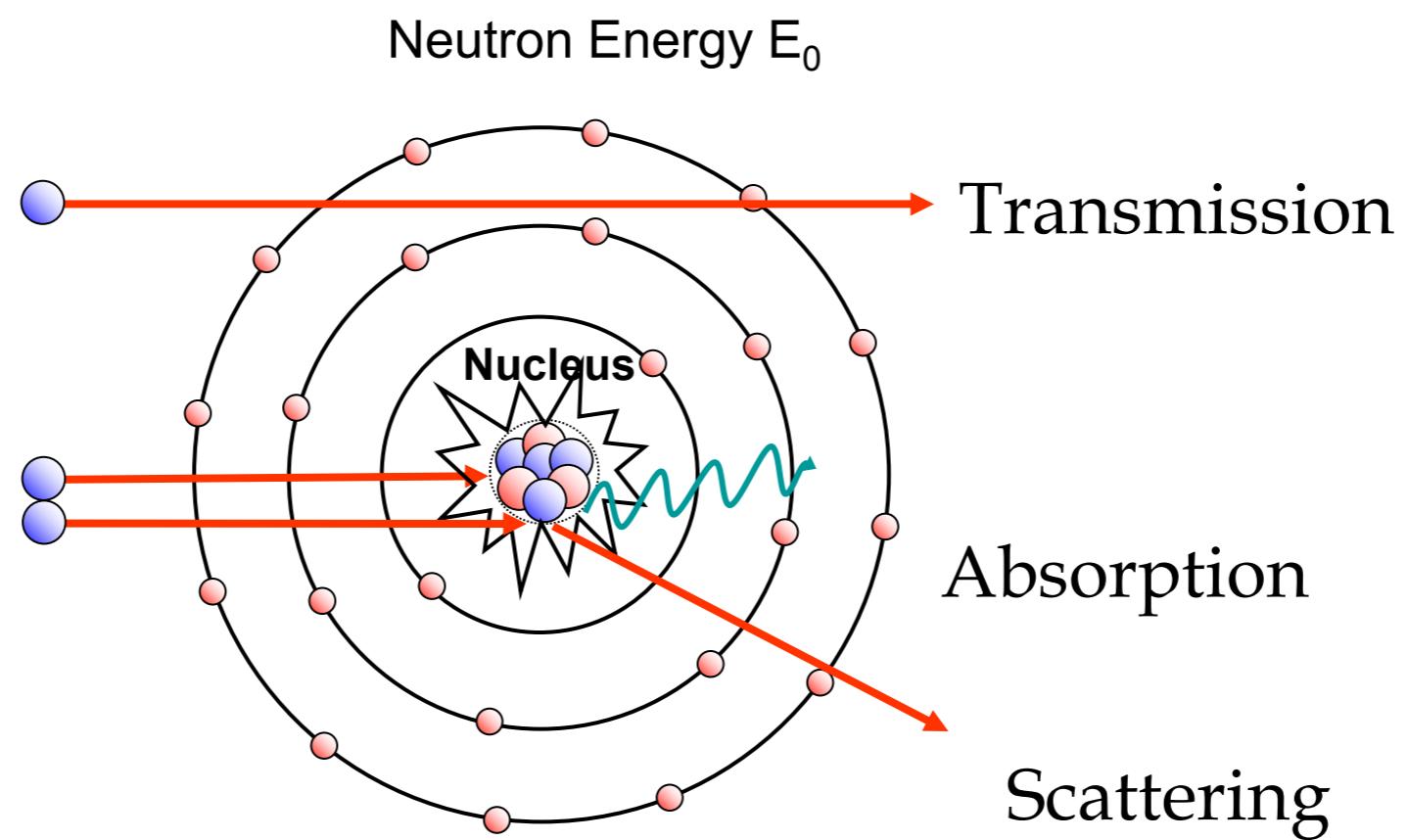
# Contrast

## X-ray interaction with matter

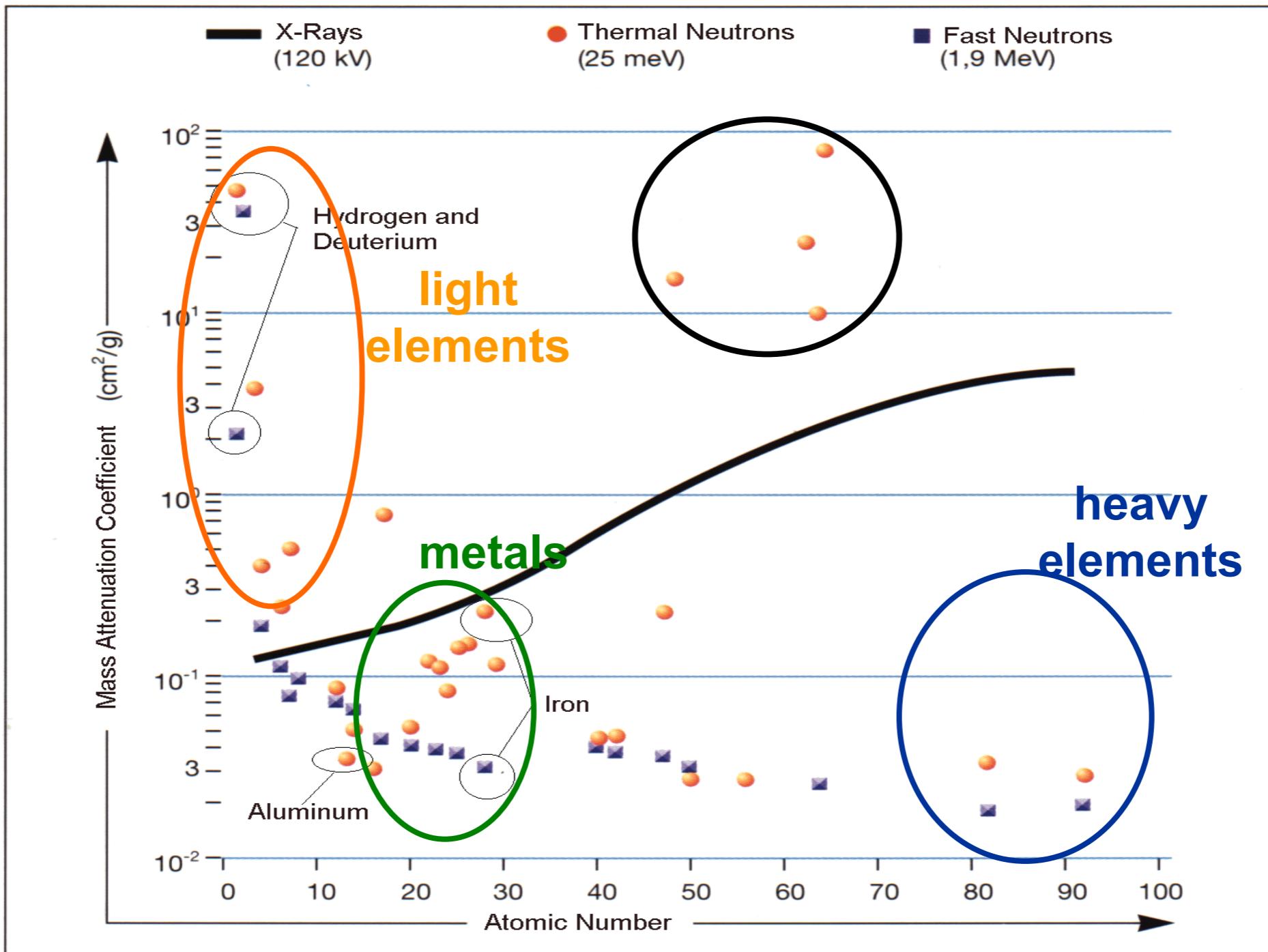


# Contrast

## neutron interaction with matter

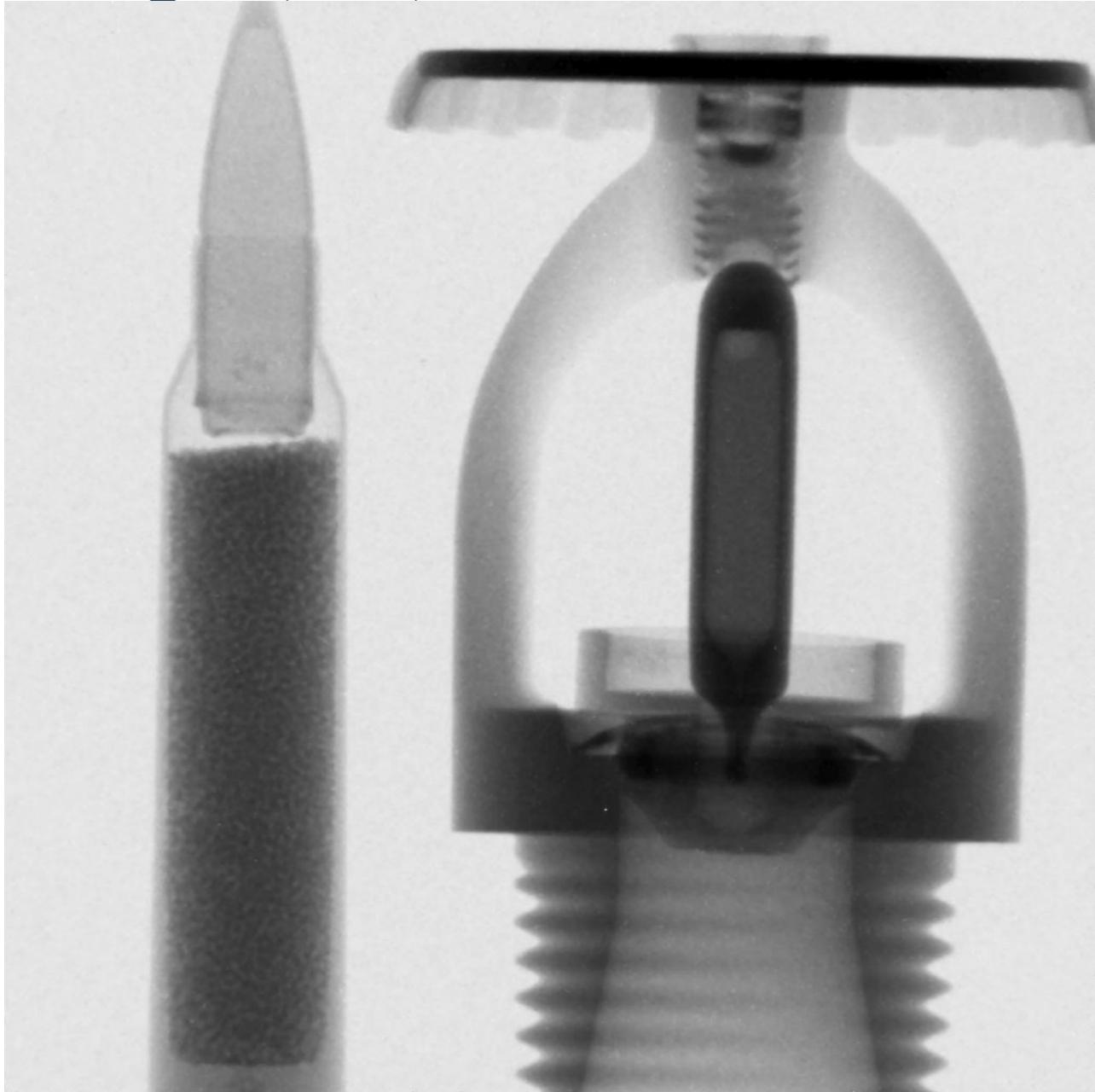


# Contrast

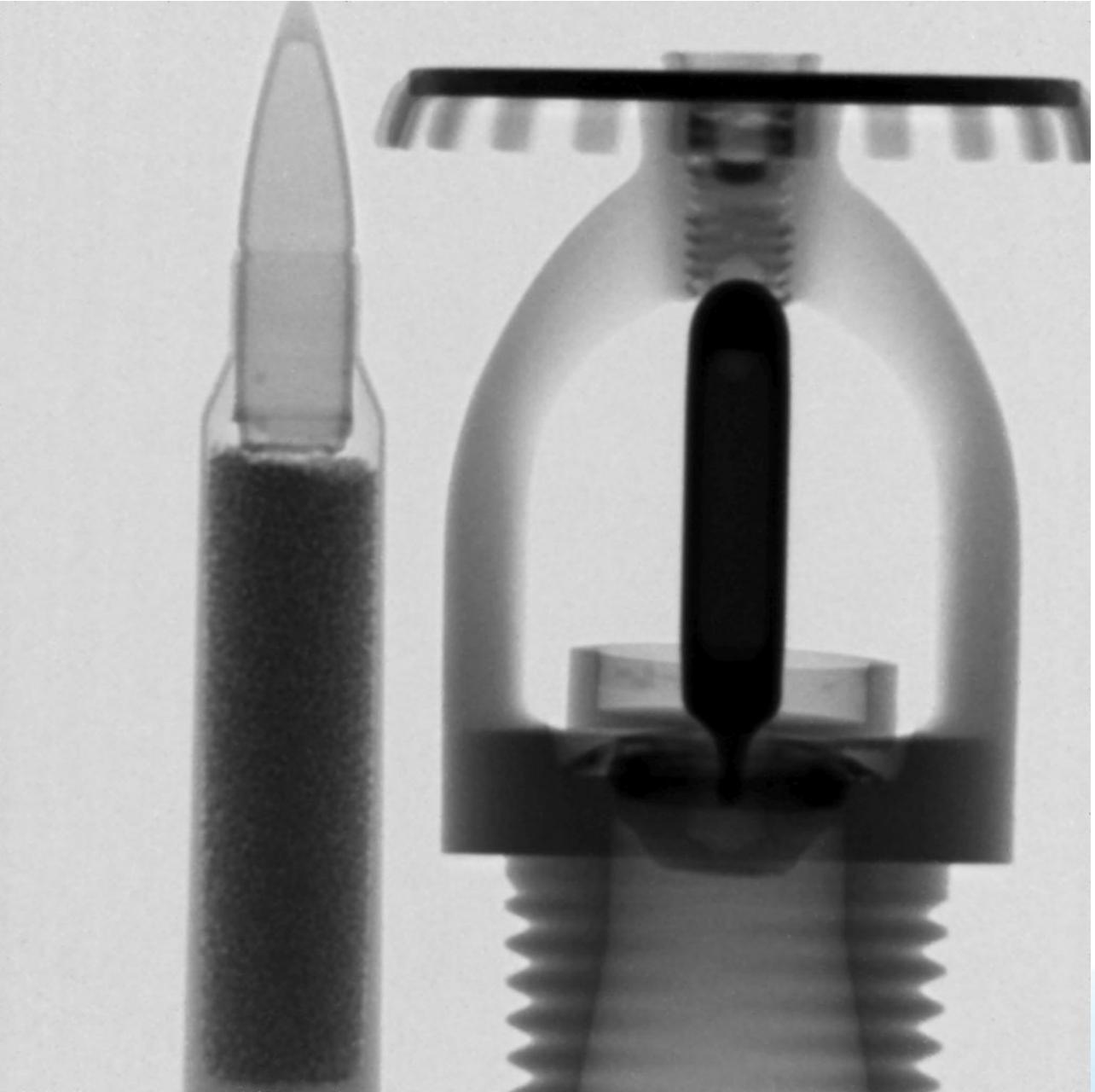


# Contrast

Thermal neutrons

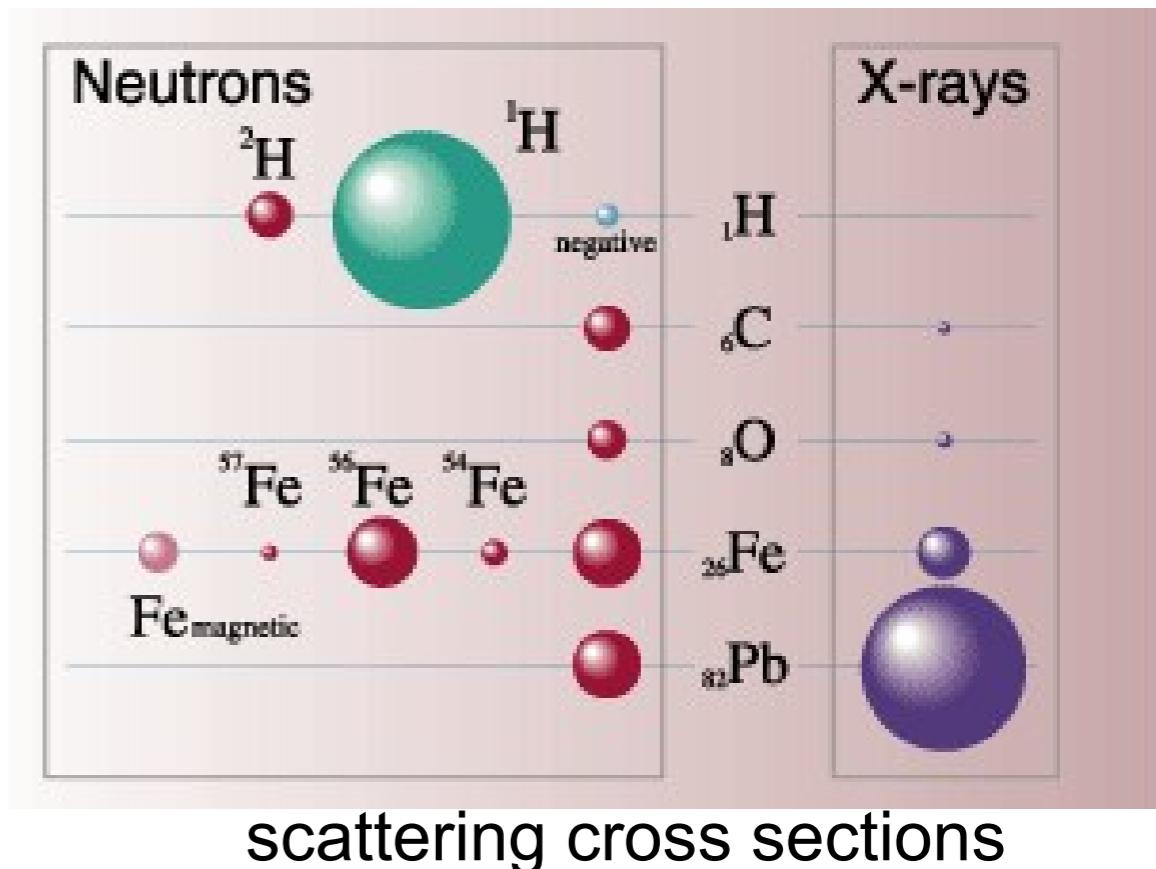
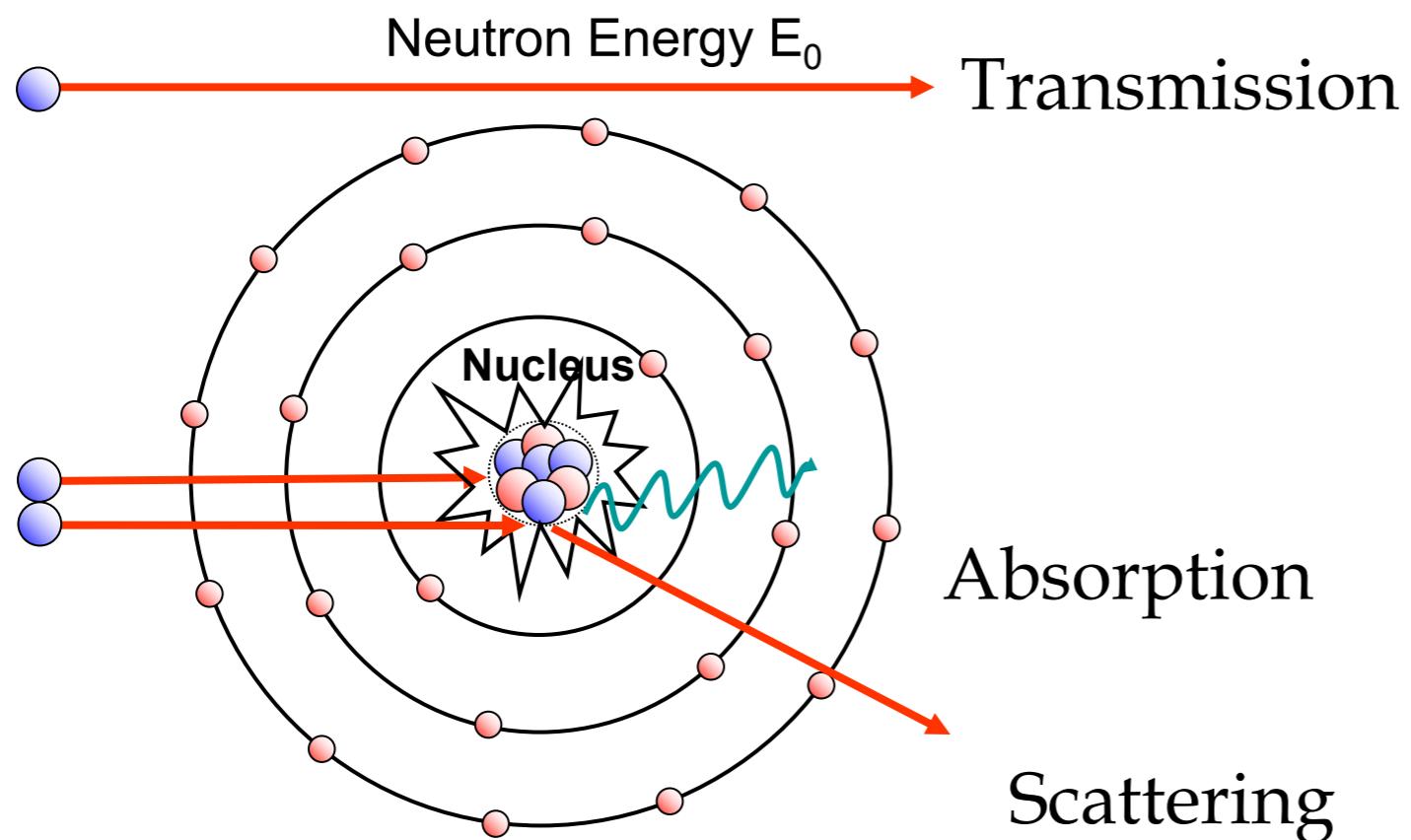


Cold neutrons



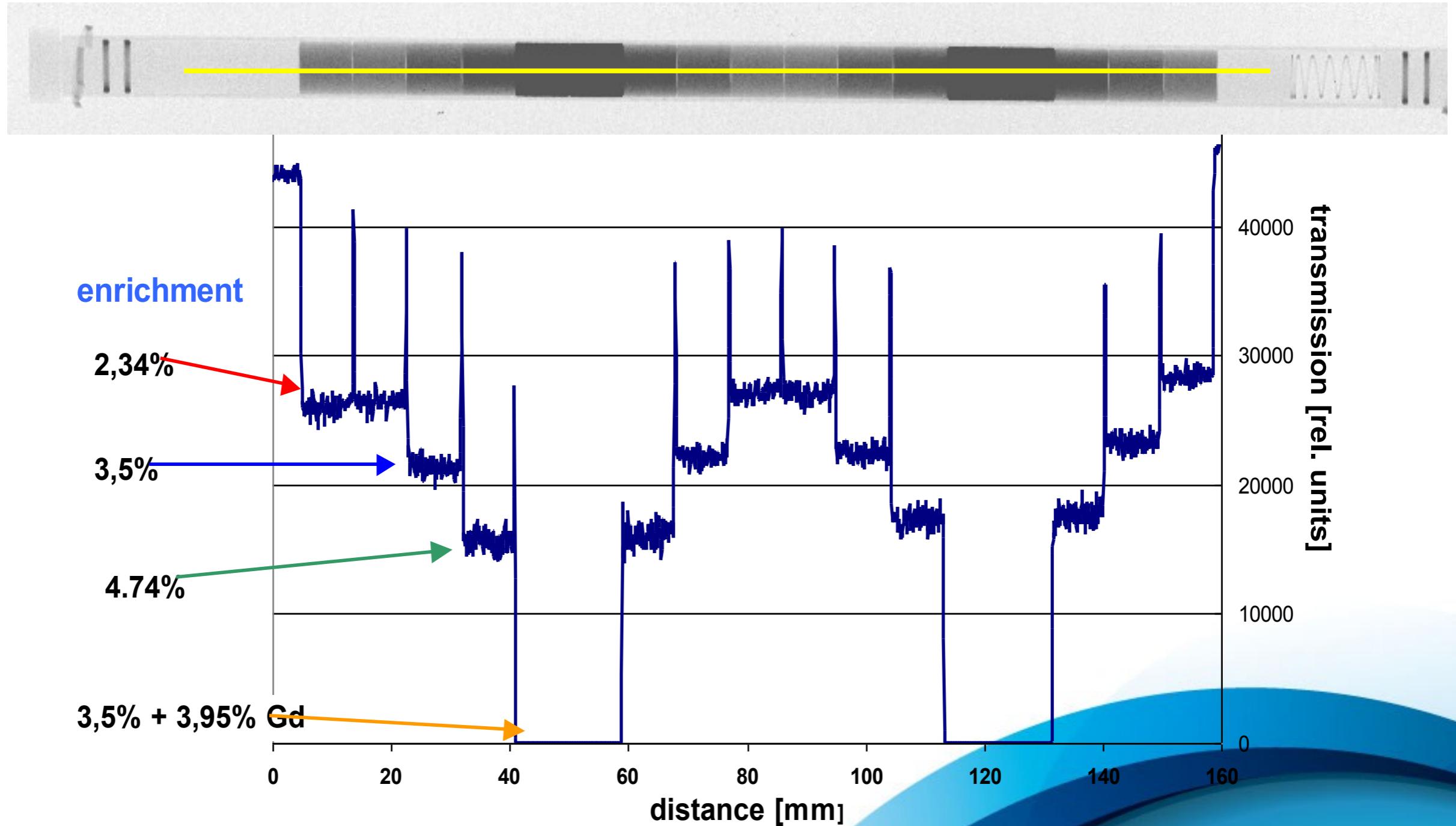
X-ray

# Contrast

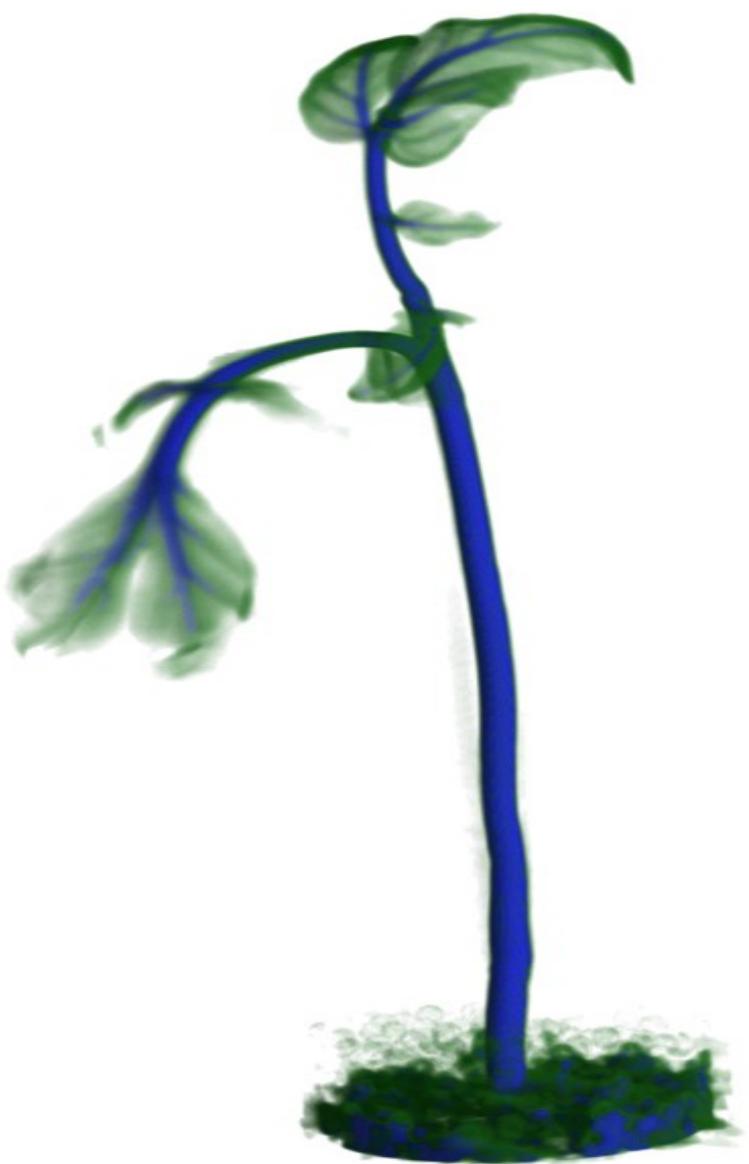


# Contrast

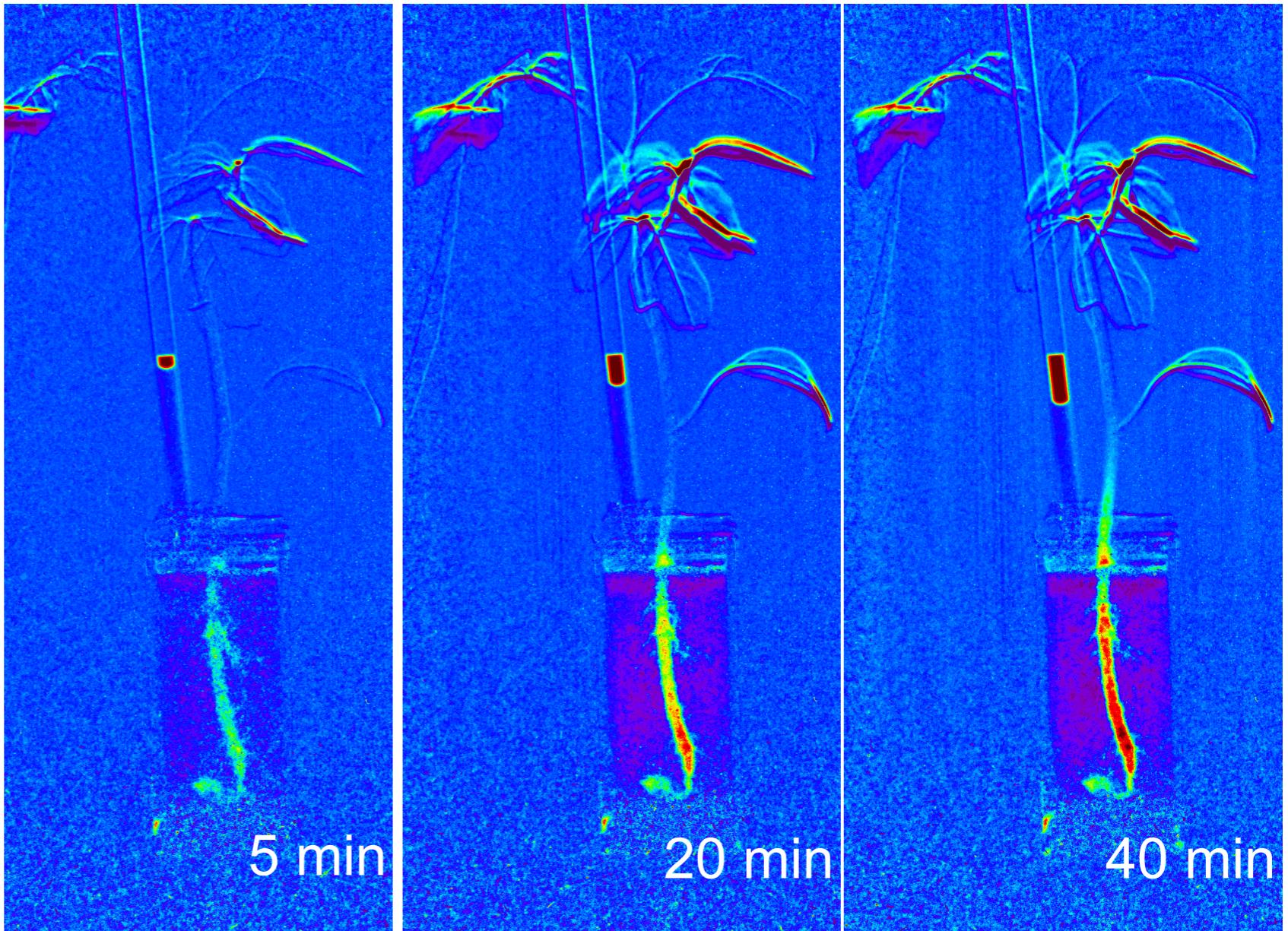
Determination of the U-235 content (enrichment) in nuclear fuel elements



# Contrast

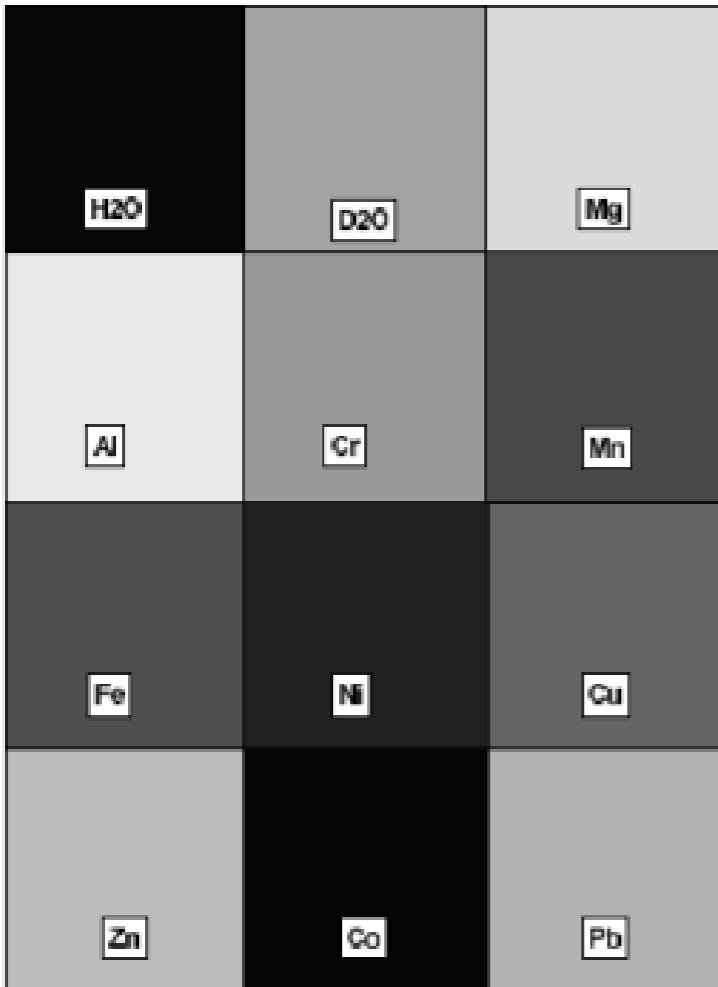


$H_2O$  ↘  $D_2O$

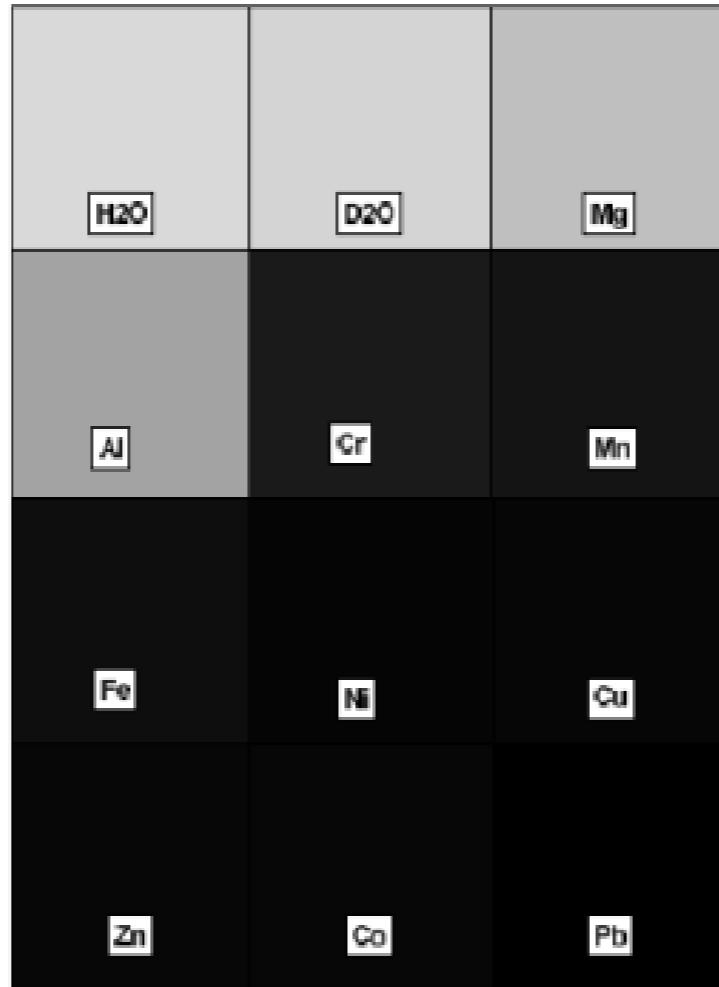


# Contrast

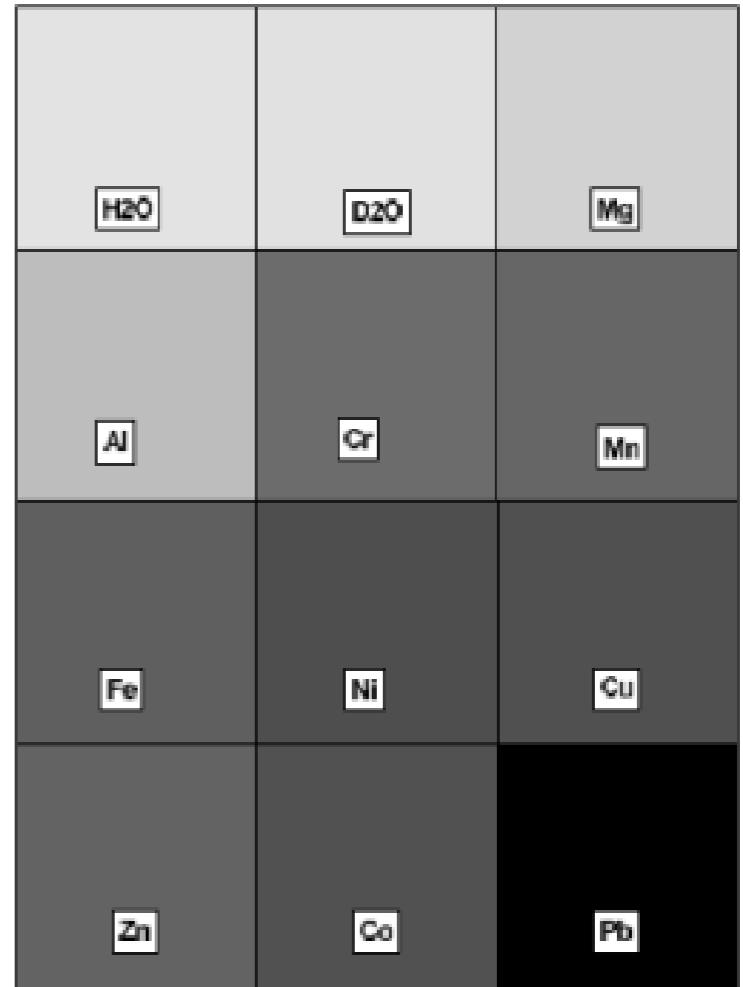
Neutronen (thermisch)



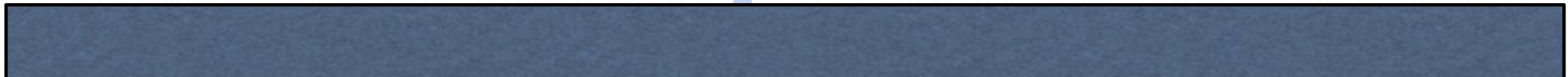
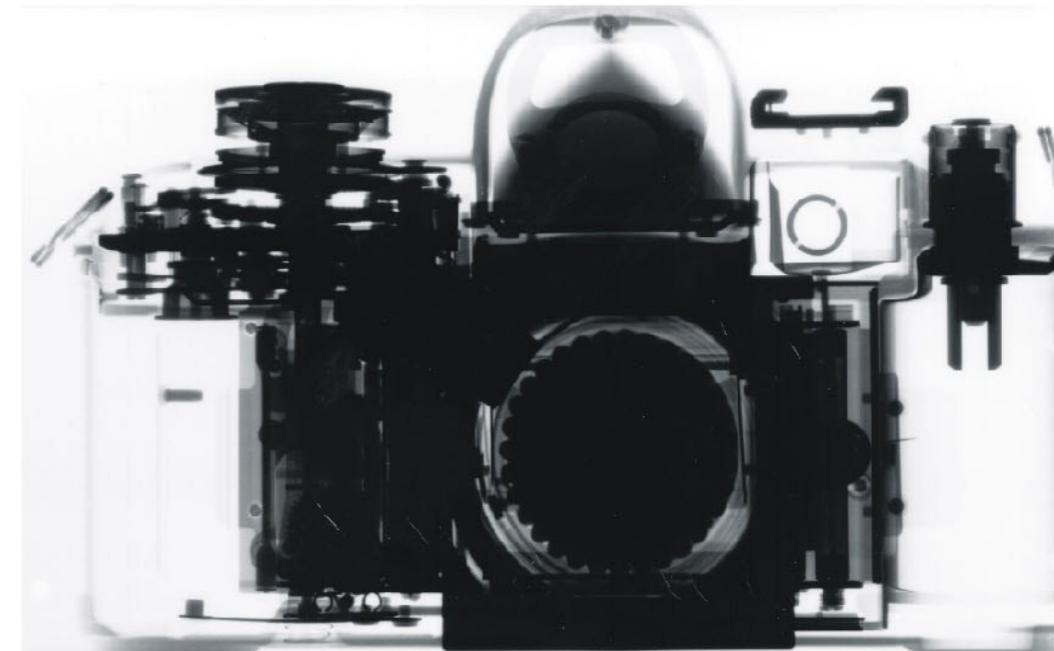
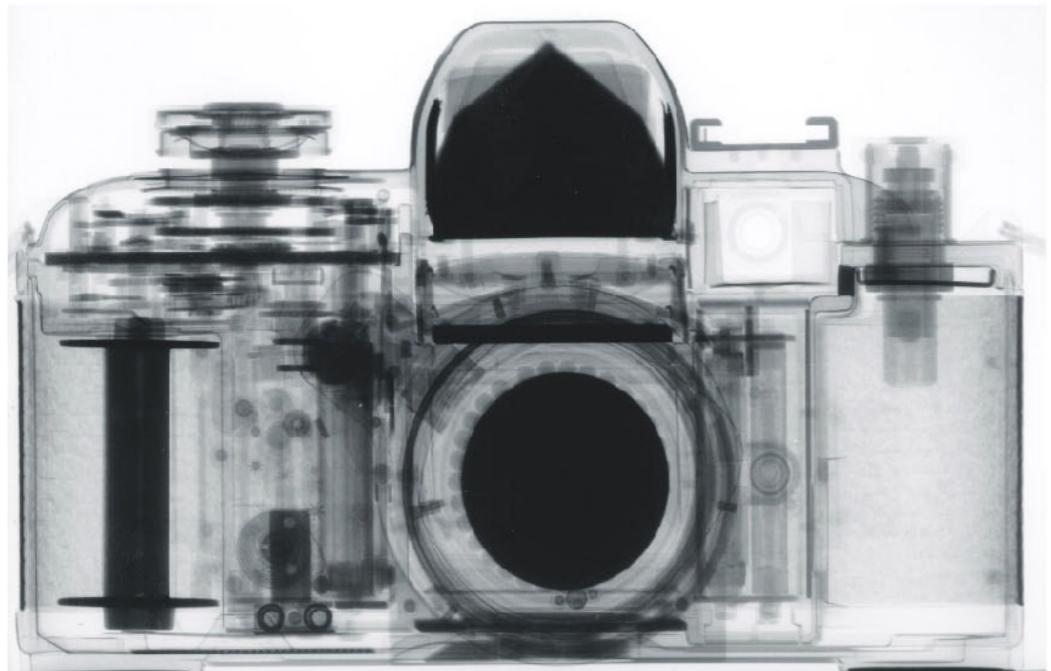
Röntgen (100keV)



Röntgen (250keV)

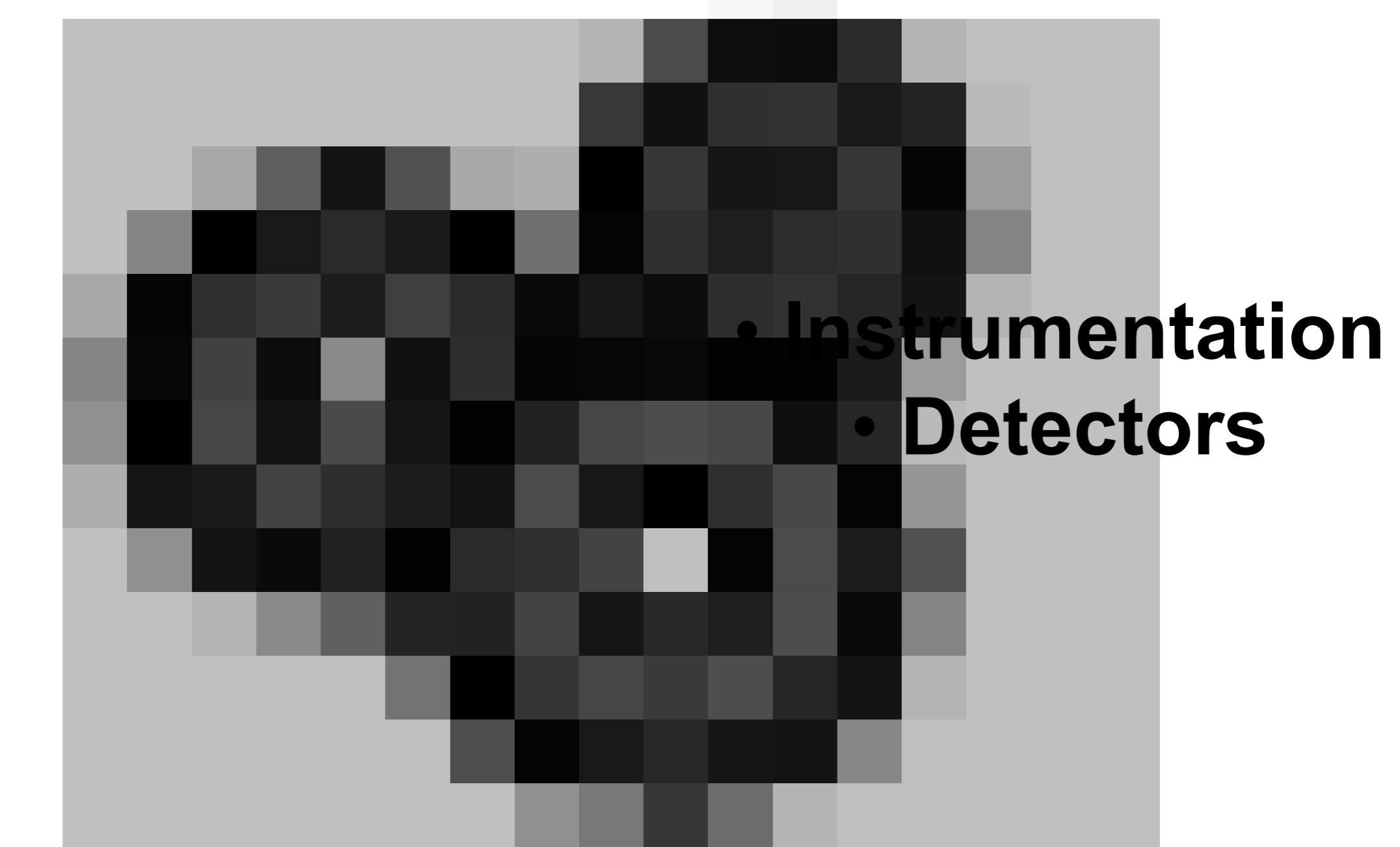


# Contrast



# Contrast

# Resolution



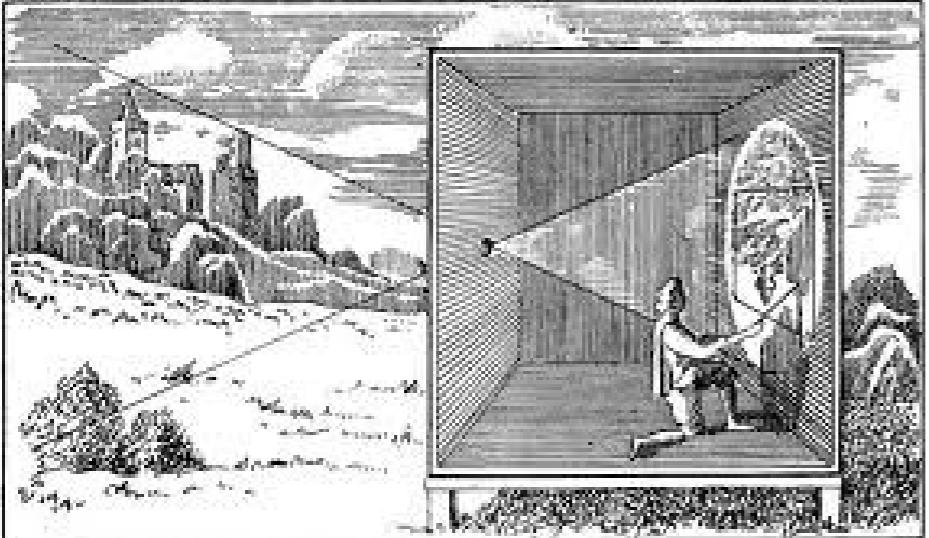


# images



## No optics



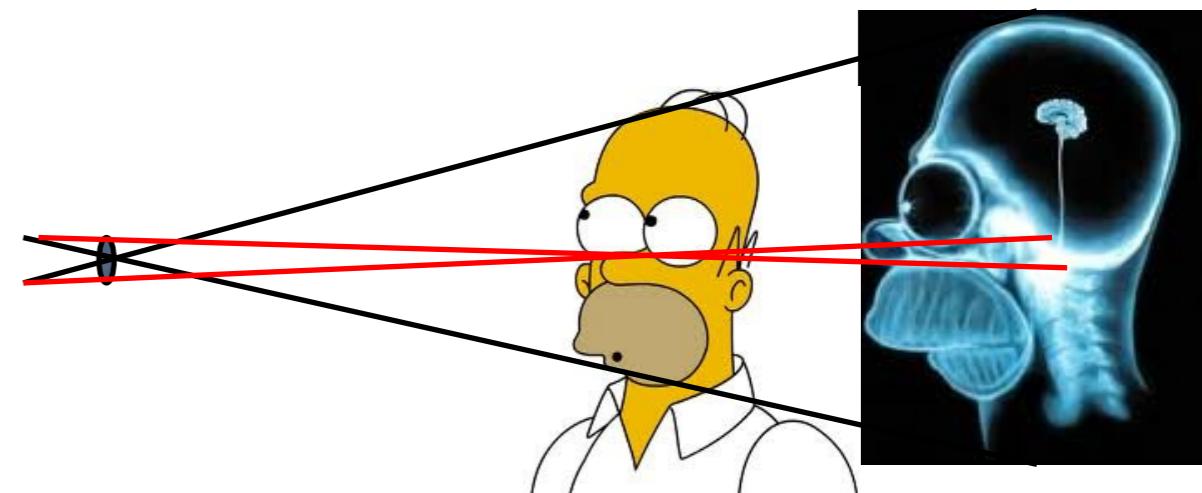
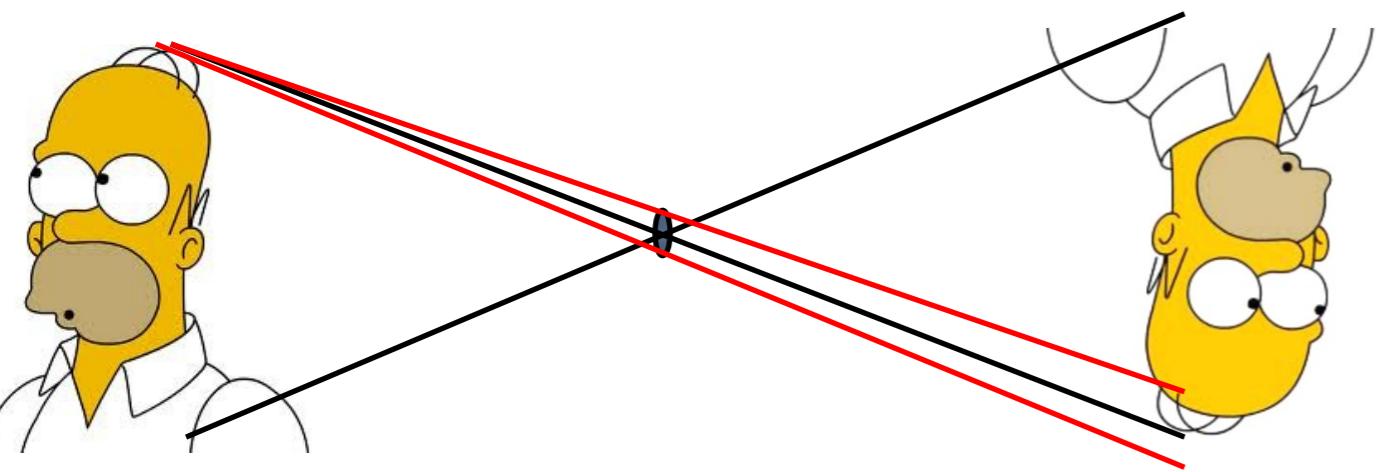


Camera obscura

# images



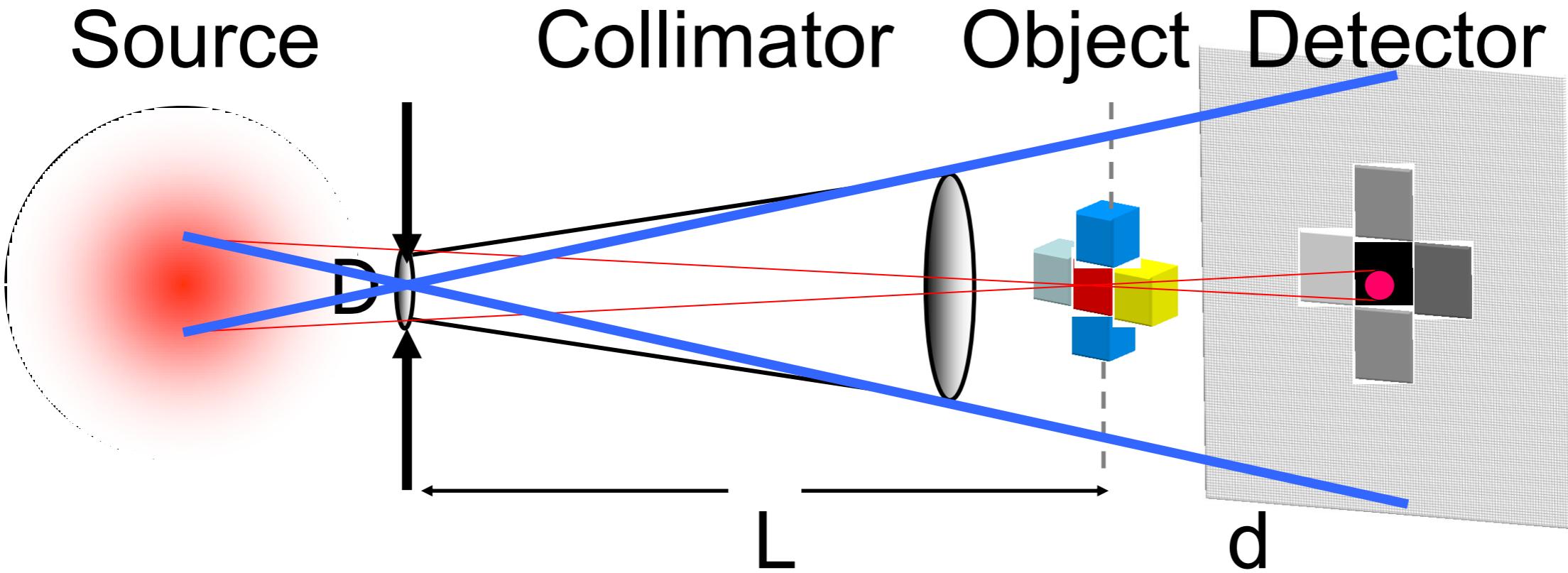
No optics



But spatial resolution!

Clearly a condition for imaging!

# Resolution



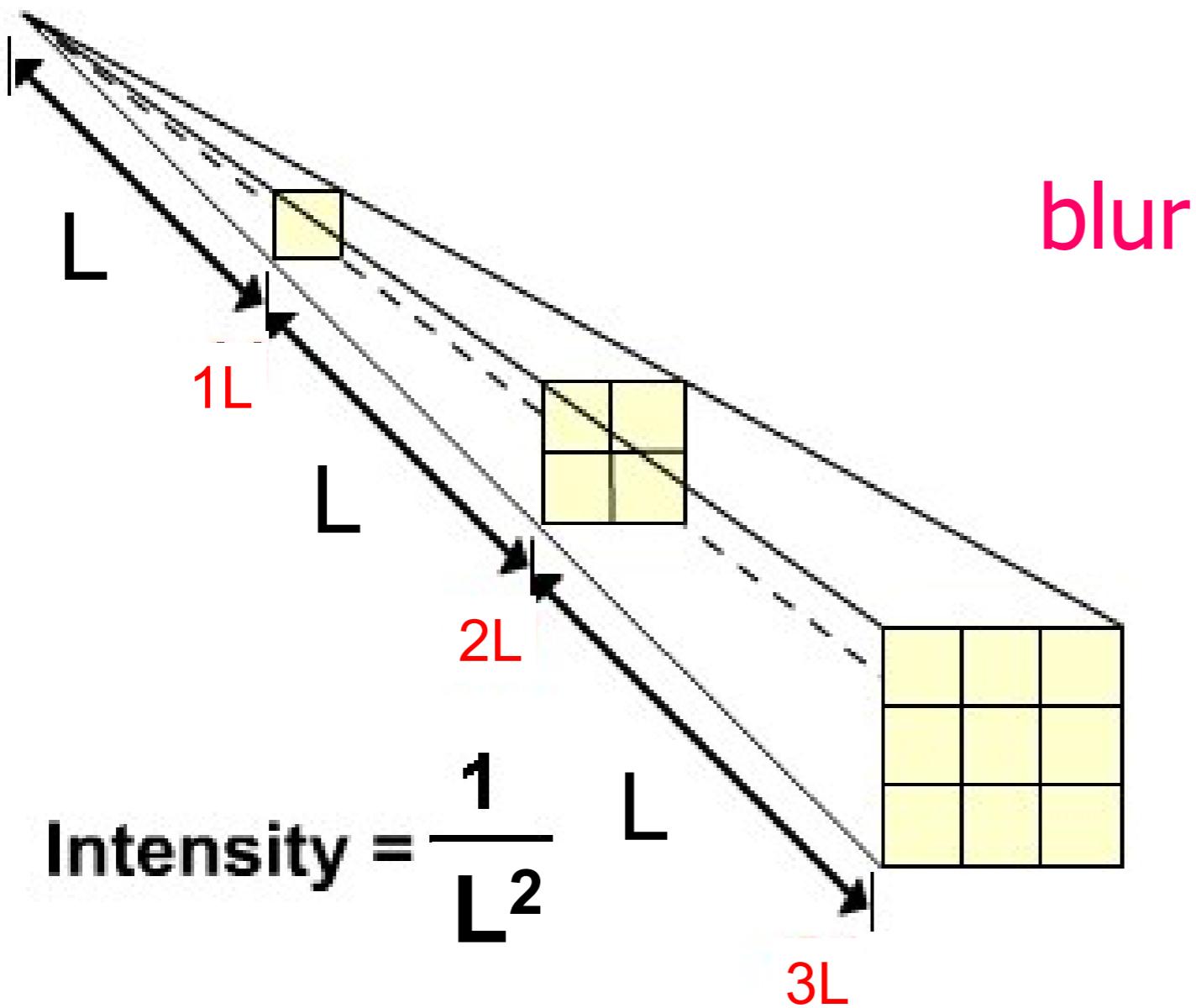
blur  
collimation ratio

$$b = \frac{d}{L/D}$$

typical: several 100

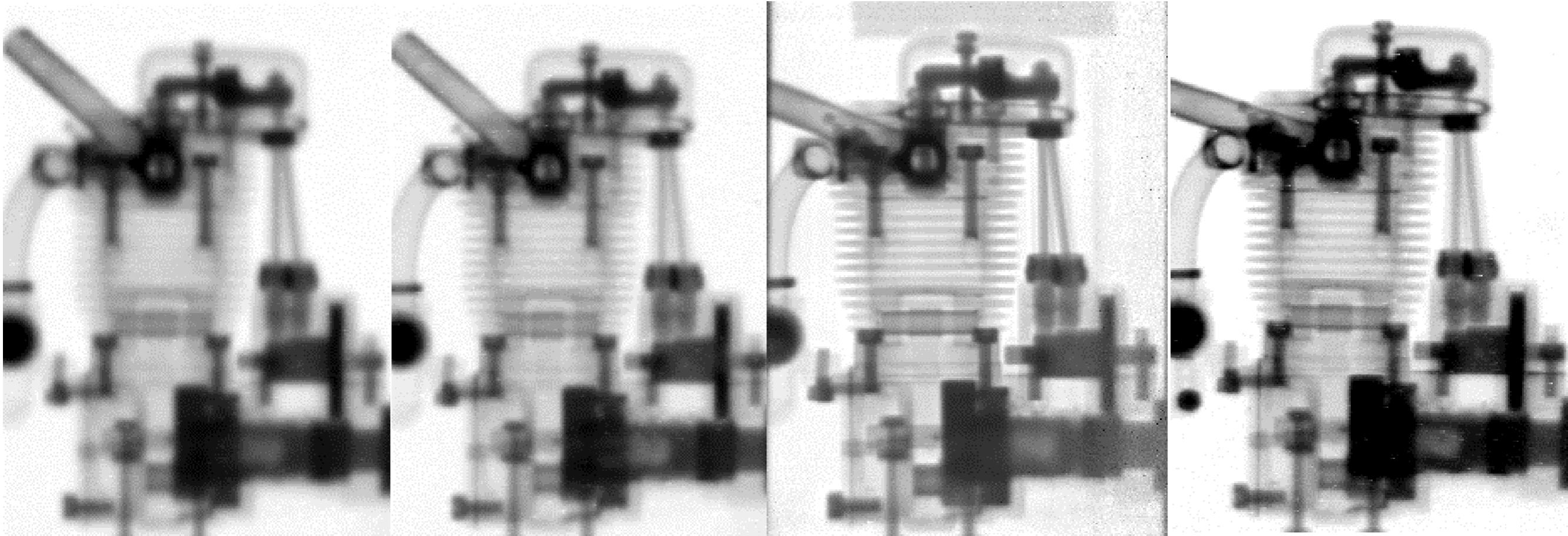
# Resolution

flux limitations  $10^9 \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$



$$b = \frac{d}{L/D}$$

# Resolution



L/D=71

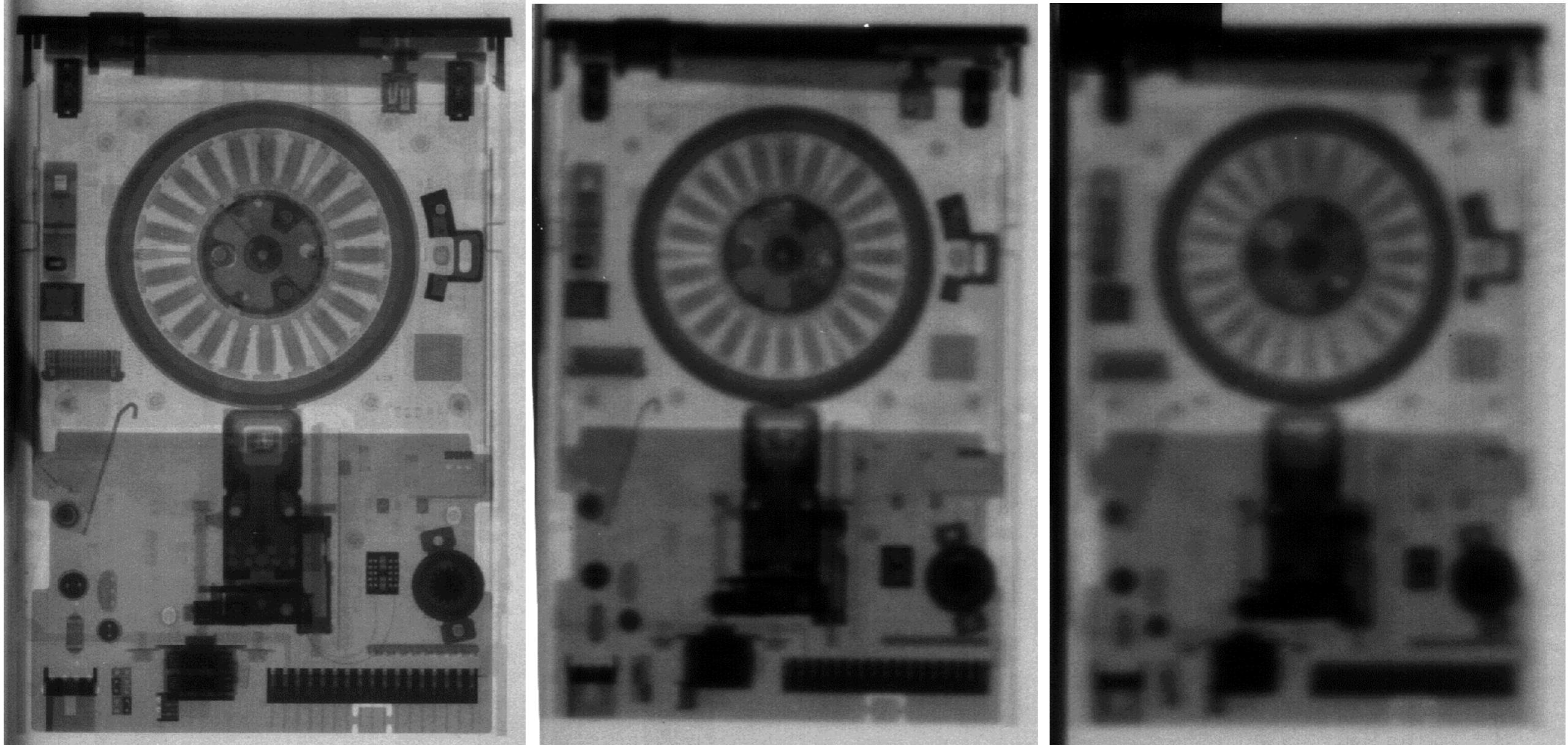
L/D=115

L/D=320

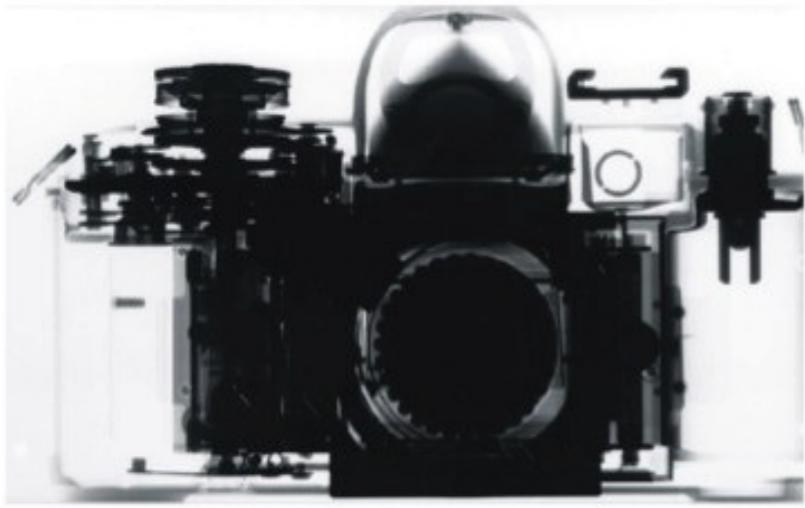
L/D>500.

Radiographs of a small motor taken at different beam positions  
with different L/D ratios.

# Resolution



Radiographs of a 3,5" floppy drive in 0 cm, 10 cm and 20 cm distance from a film + Gd sandwich taken at a cold neutron guide with  $L/D=71$ .



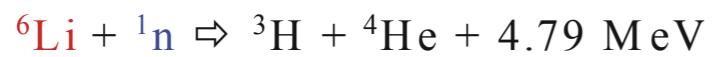
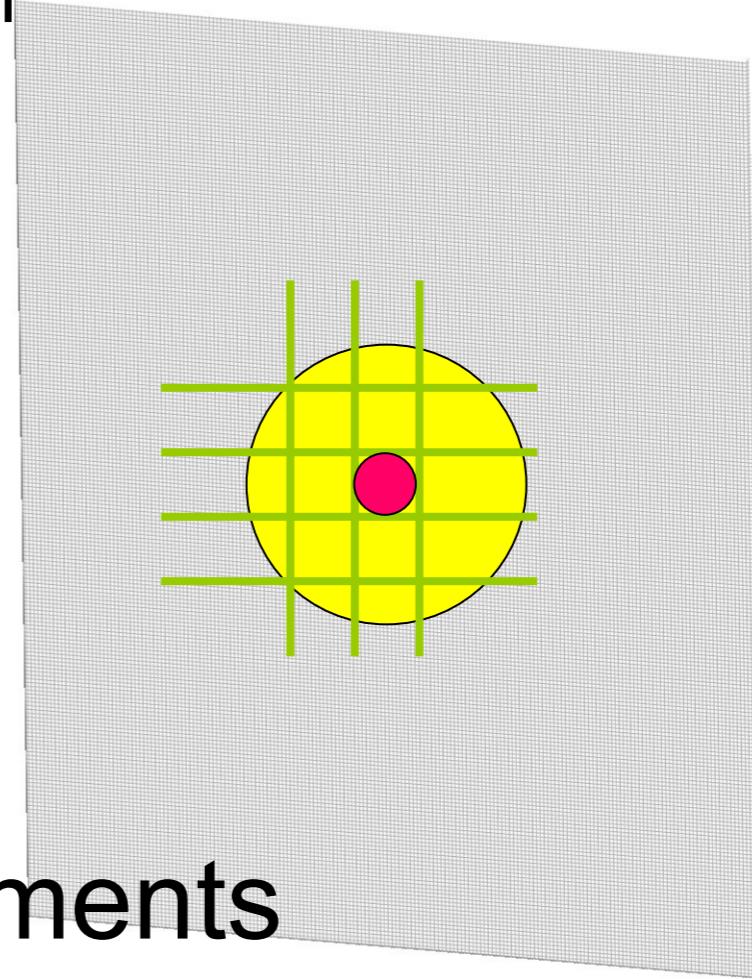
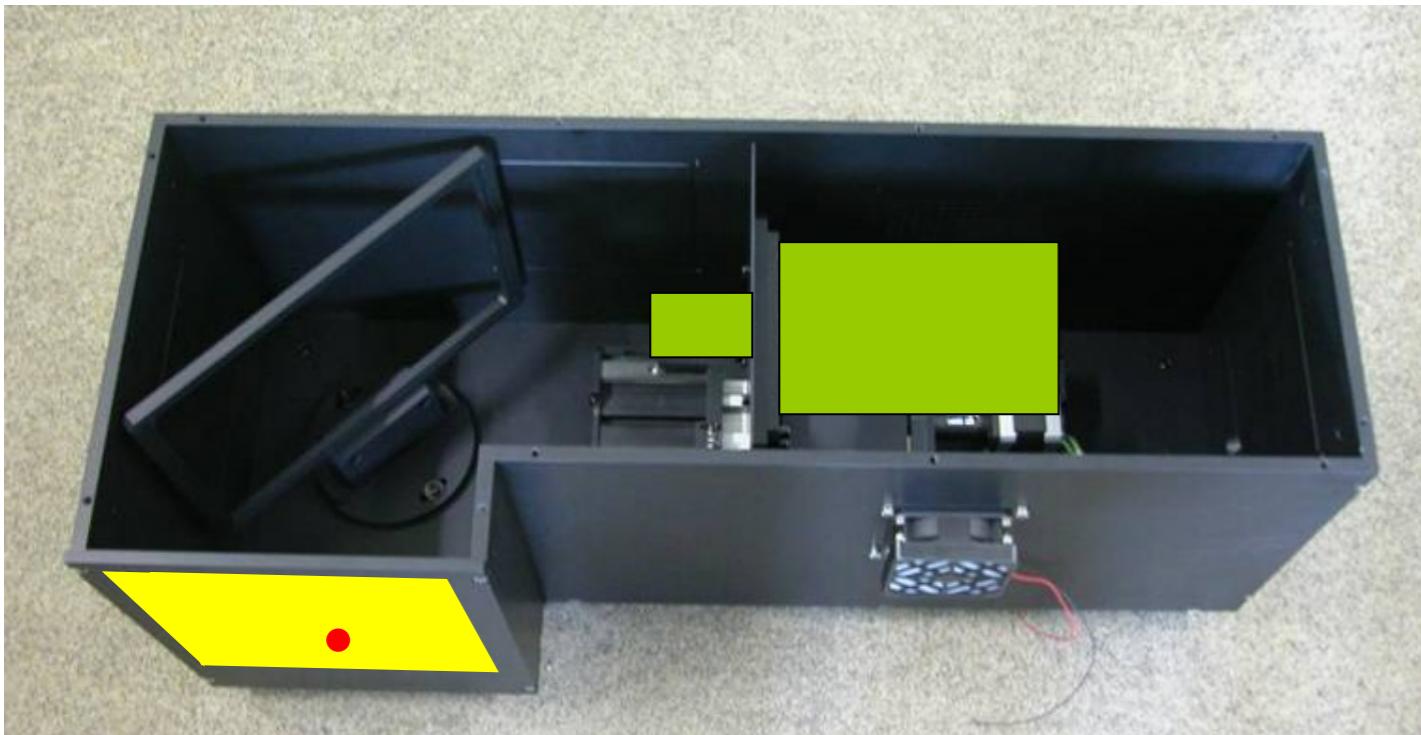
# images



Detection?  
No optics



# Resolution Detector



recent developments  
LiF-ZnS/Ag

~~PSI: development of advanced scintillators →  $\approx 30 \mu\text{m}$~~

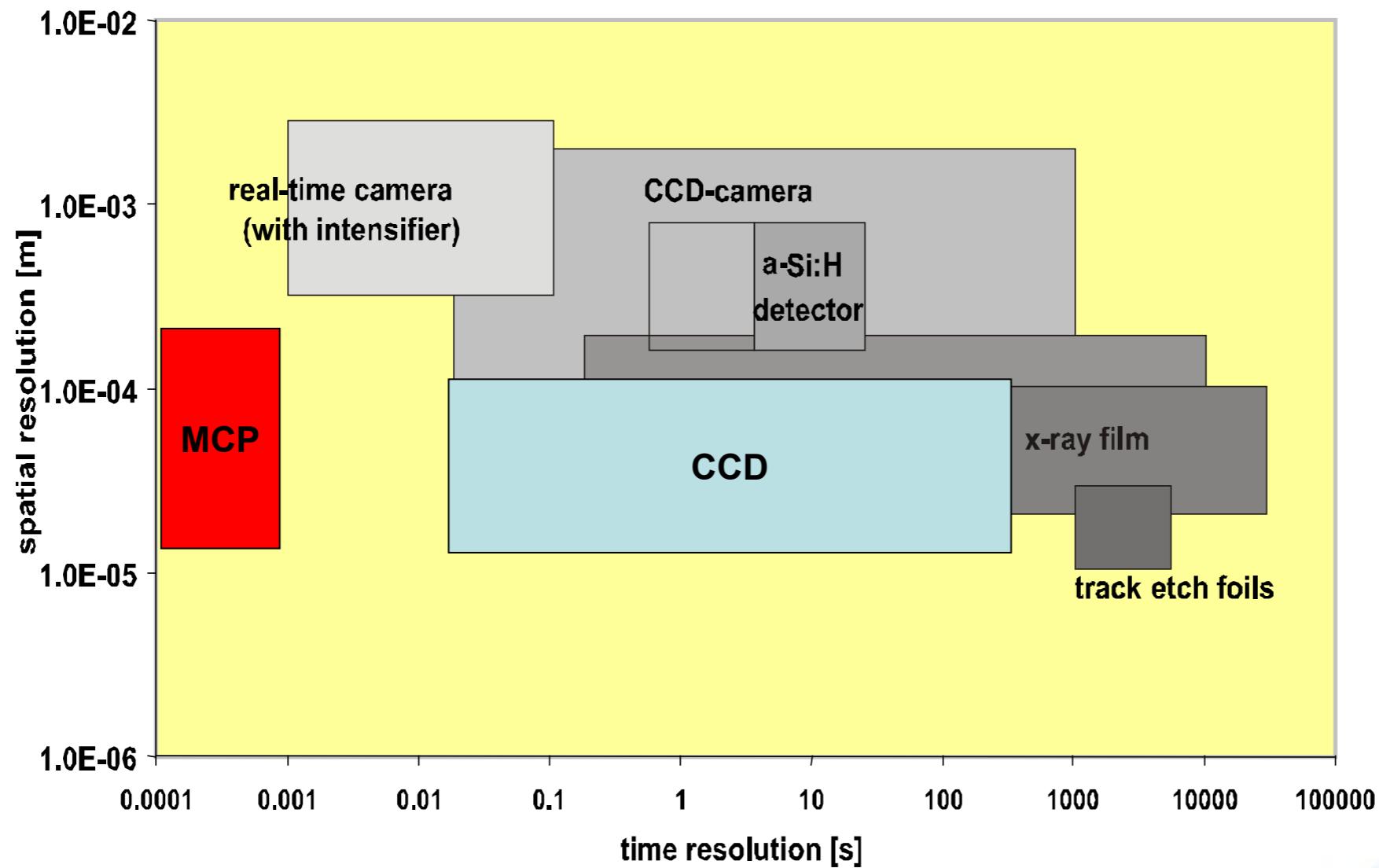
~~HZB: adapting X-ray scintillators (GADOX) →  $\approx 15 \mu\text{m}$~~

~~NIST (UCLA Nova Scientific Inc.): MCP-detectors →  $\approx 13 \mu\text{m}$~~



# Resolution

## Imaging Detectors



# Resolution of DIGITAL detectors

Routine resolution today  $50\text{ }\mu\text{m}$

Best today  $<15\mu\text{m}$

Aiming at  $1\mu\text{m}$

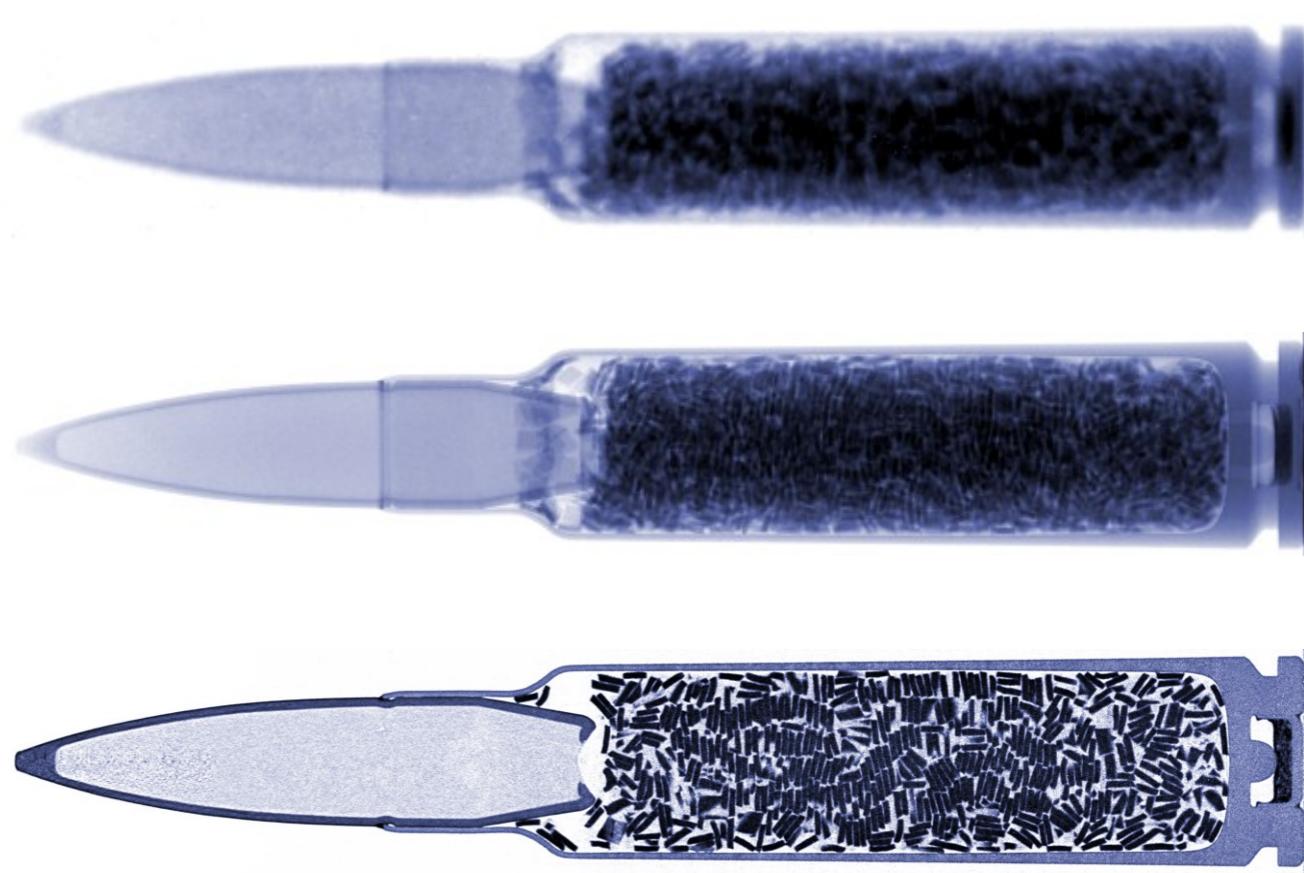
Firearm Cartridge  
Fiskeyssoft

Cartridge type  $7.5 \times 55\text{mm}$  Swiss  
Sample size  $\varnothing 12.65\text{mm} \times 77.7\text{mm}$   
Voxel size  $13.2\mu\text{m}$

Recorded at

**ICON**  
Imaging with Cold Neutrons

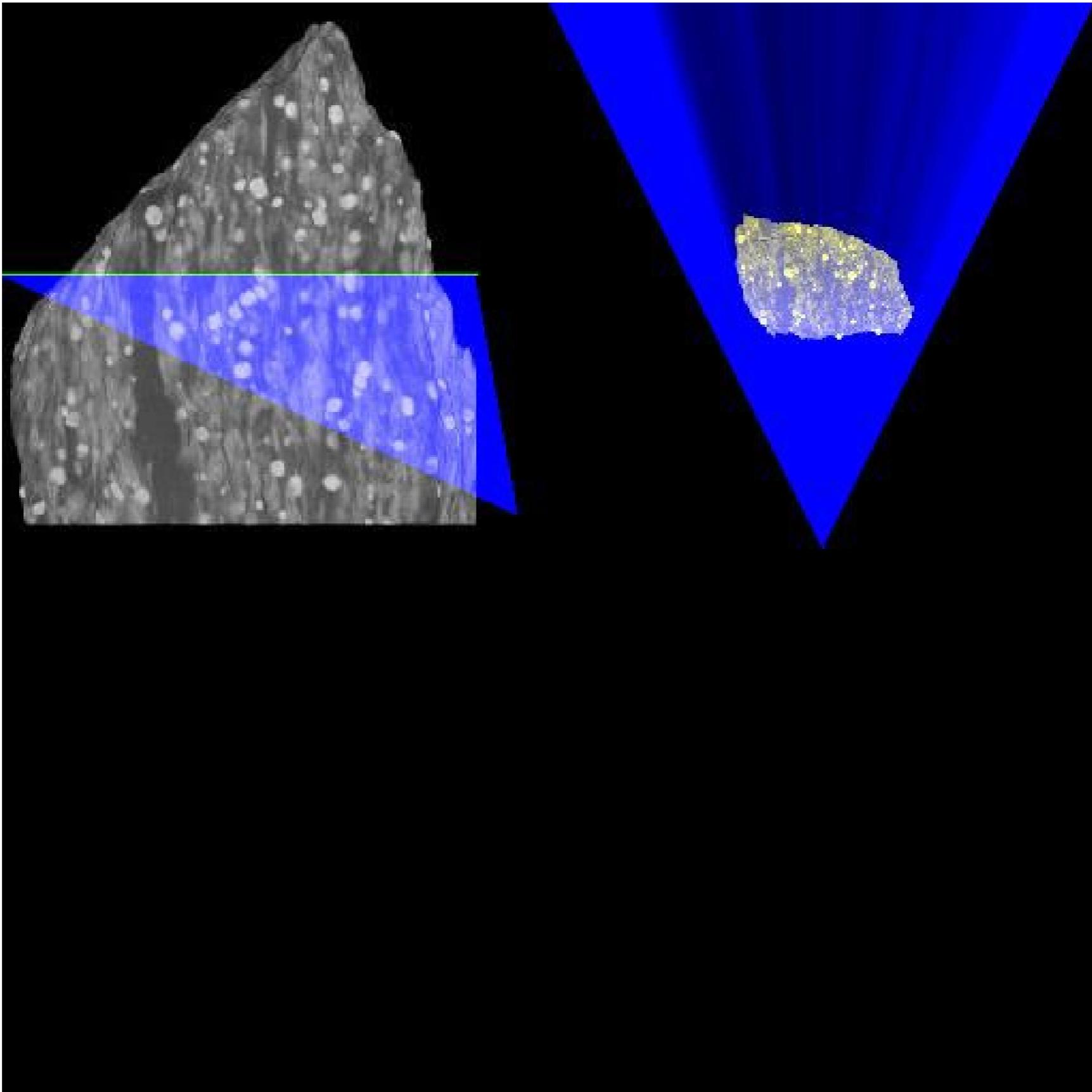
PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT  
**PSI**



Transmission also enables tomography: 3D imaging!

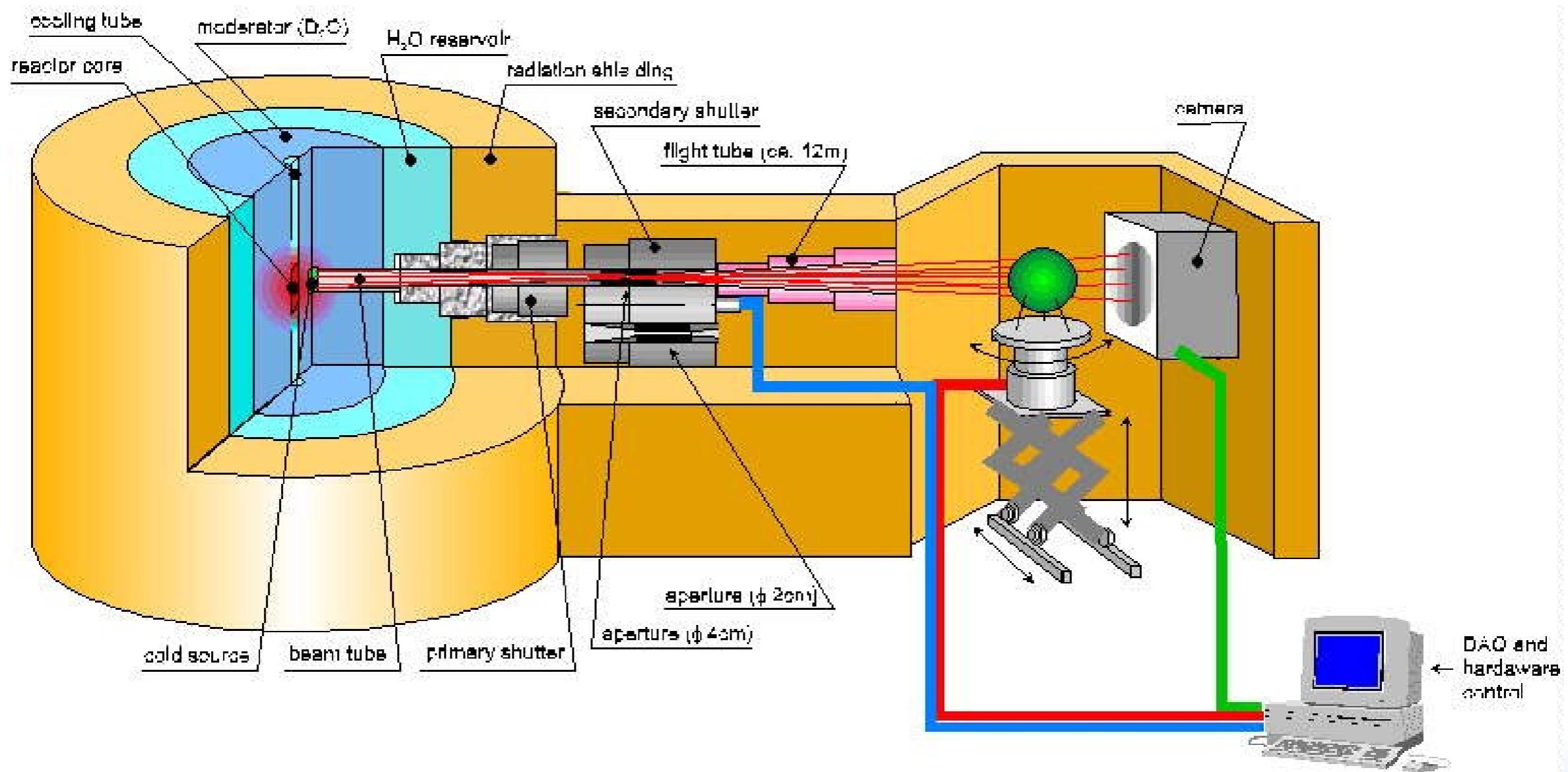
# reconstruction

Radon  
Transform



Fourier  
Slice  
Theorem

# So now we have it all...



...do we really?

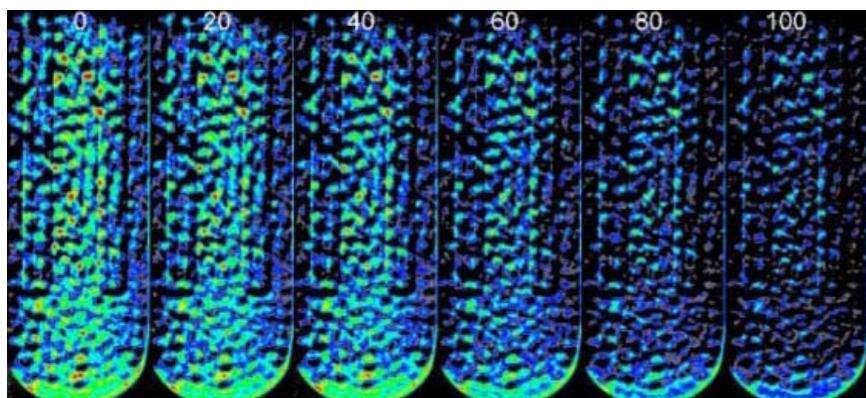
# Neutron imaging

*Some advantages:*

High penetration power

High sensitivity to Hydrogen

Low radiation damage



# Neutron imaging

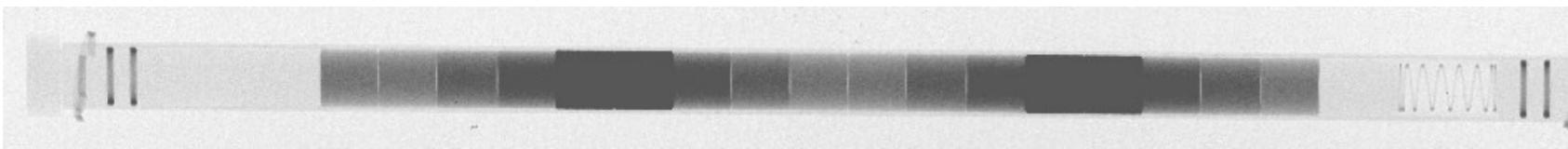
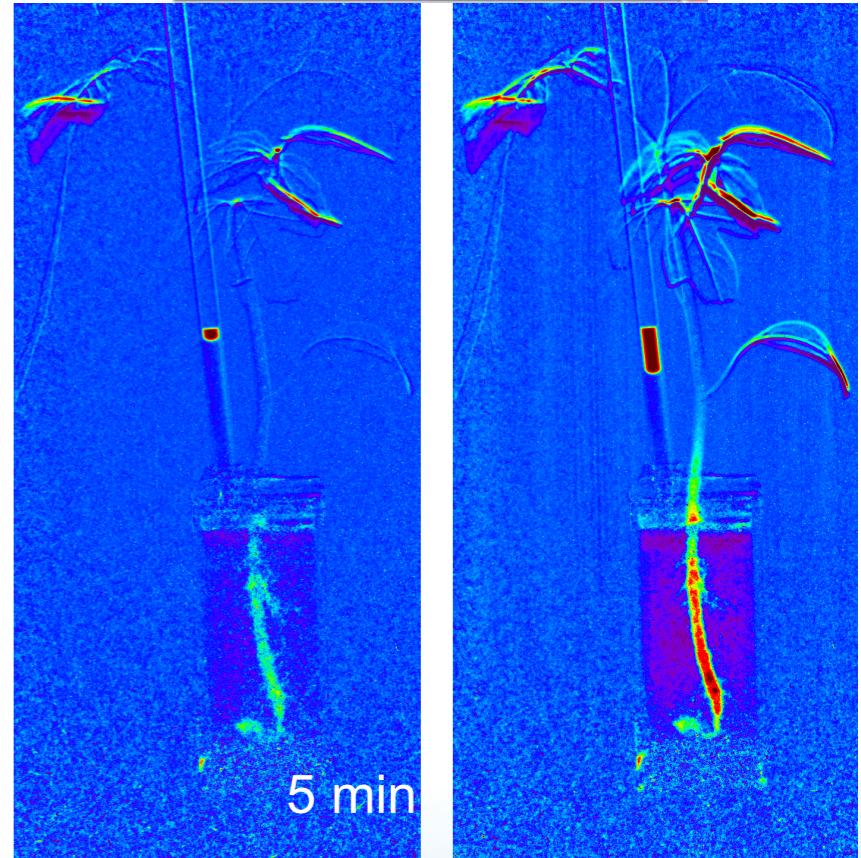
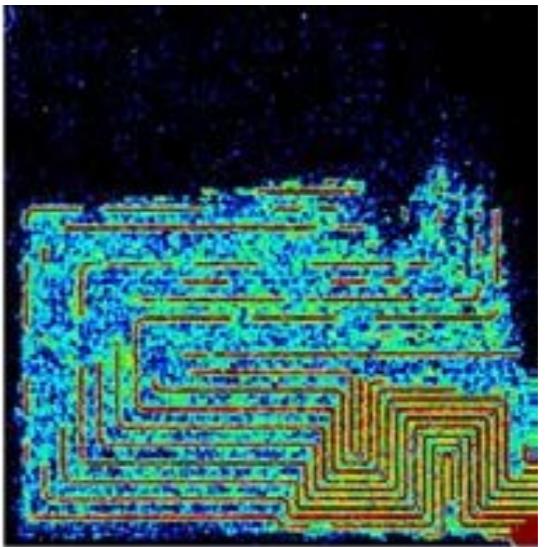
## *Some advantages:*

# High penetration power

# High sensitivity to Hydrogen

# Low radiation damage

# Isotope sensitive



## Enrichment of fuel element

# Neutron imaging

*...also some disadvantages*

Low phase space density – slow



Low spatial resolution



Expensive

# Neutron imaging

*Some advantages:*

High penetration power

High sensitivity to Hydrogen

Low radiation damage

Isotope sensitive



EUROPEAN  
SPALLATION  
SOURCE

# Neutron imaging

*Some advantages:*

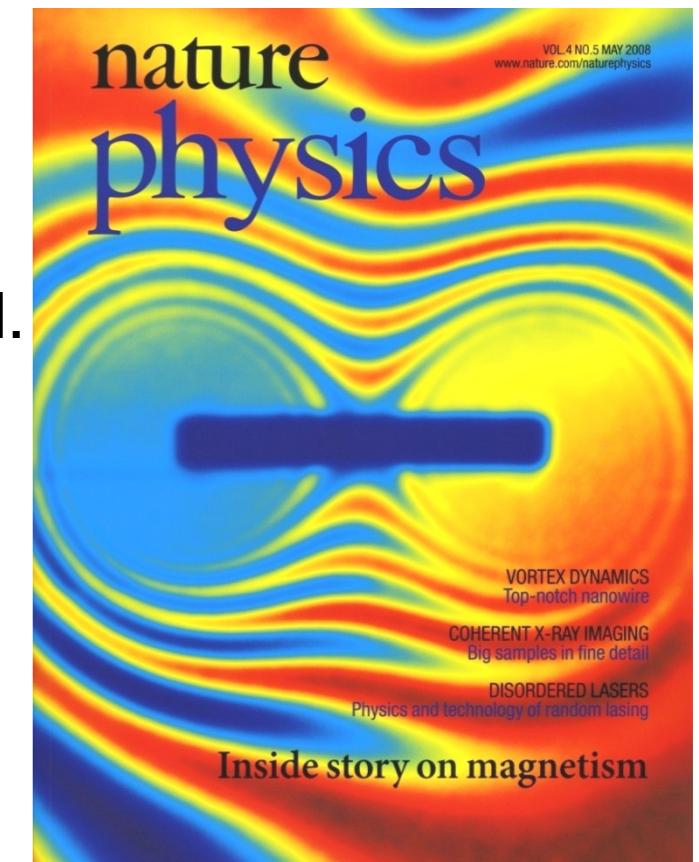
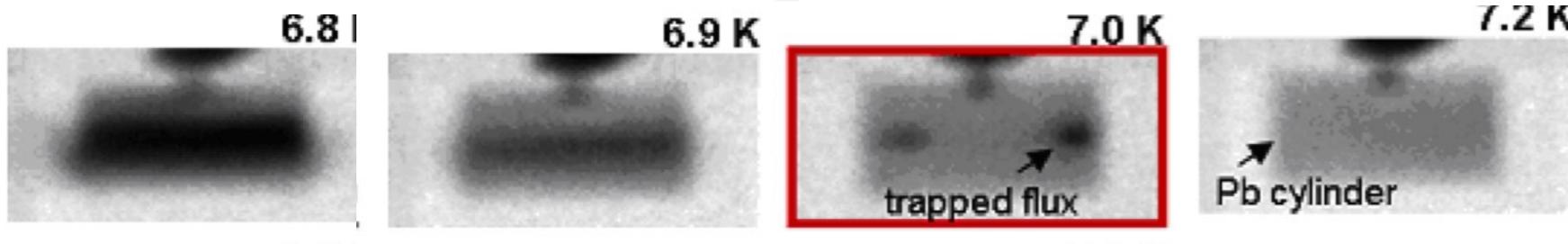
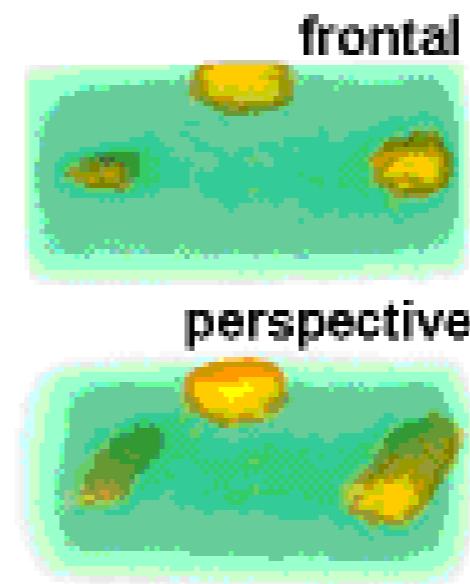
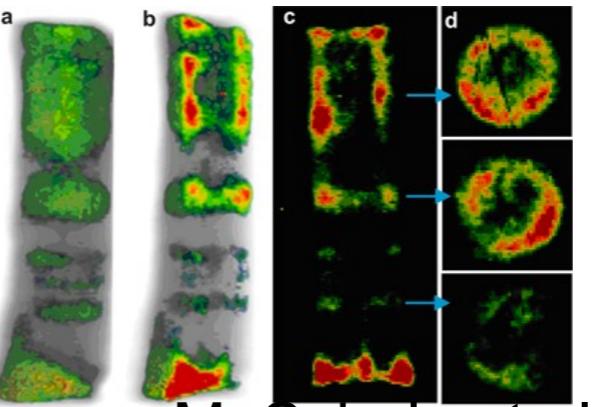
High penetration power

High sensitivity to Hydrogen

Low radiation damage

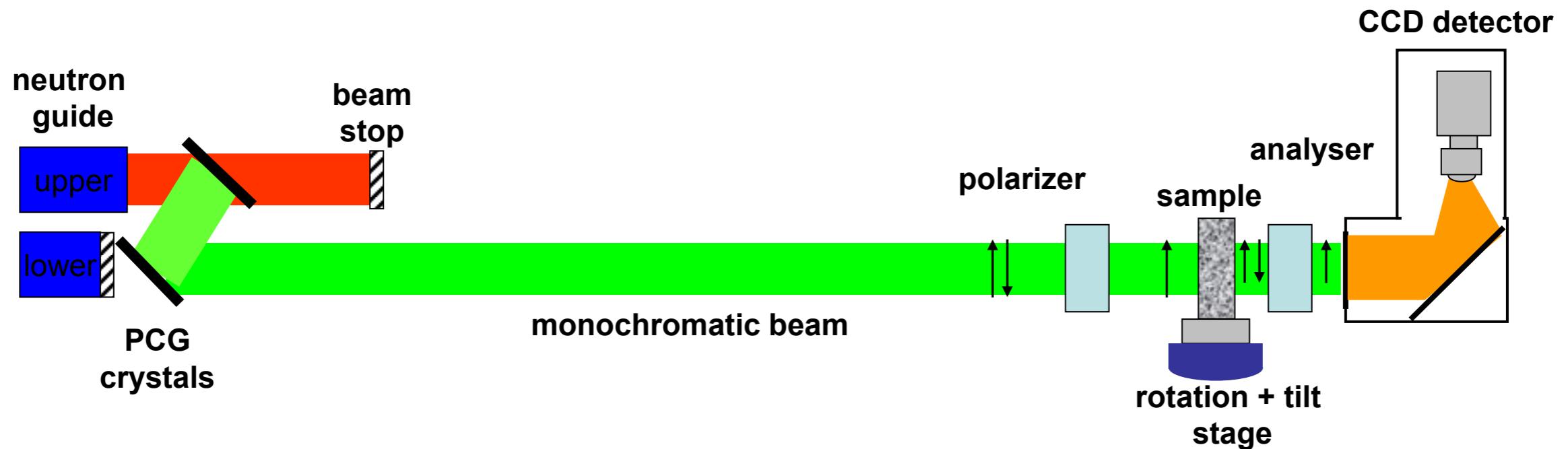
Isotope sensitive

**Magnetic moment**



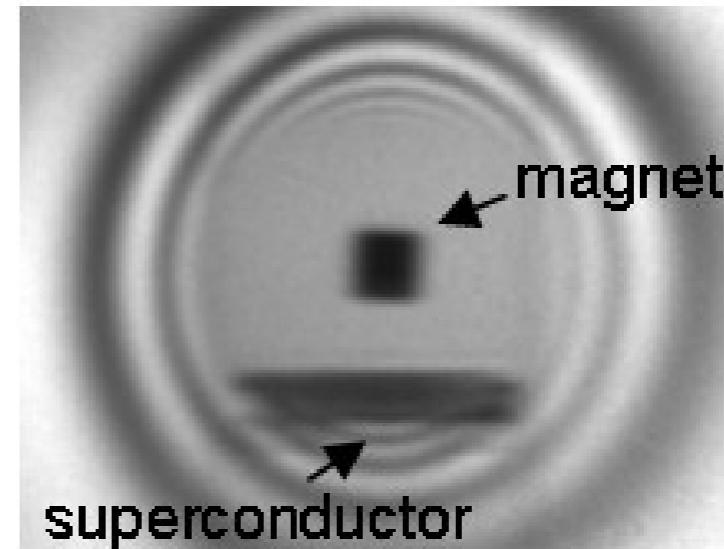
N. Kardjilov, I. Manke, M. Strobl,  
A. Hilger et al.  
Nat. Phys. 4 (2008)

# Polarised neutron imaging



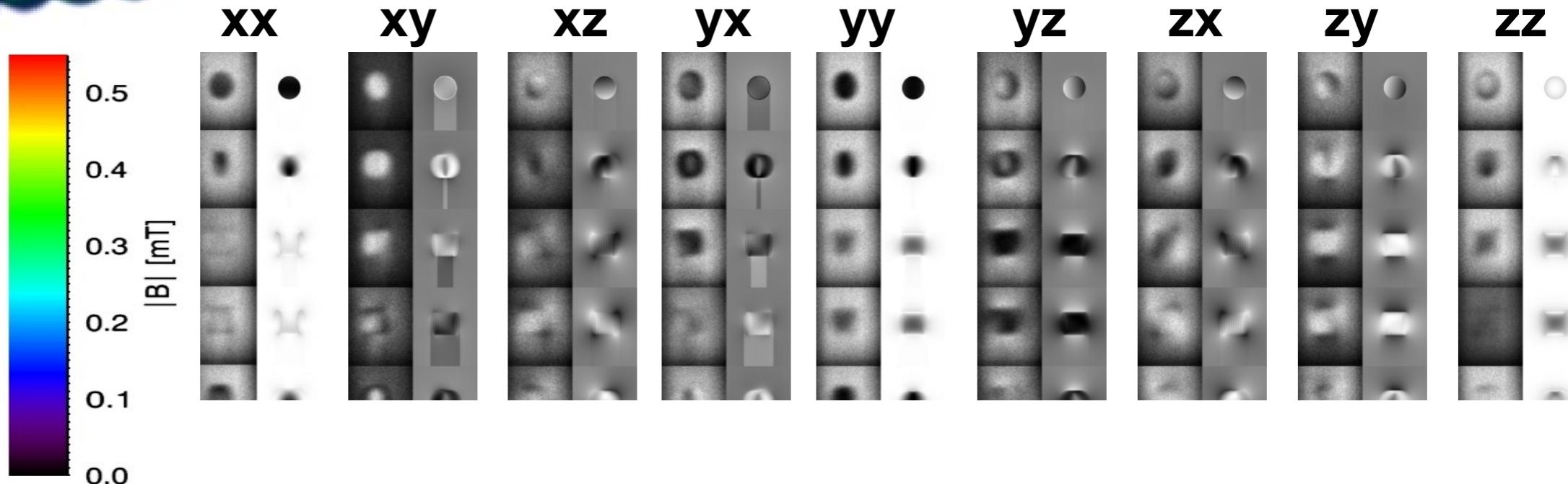
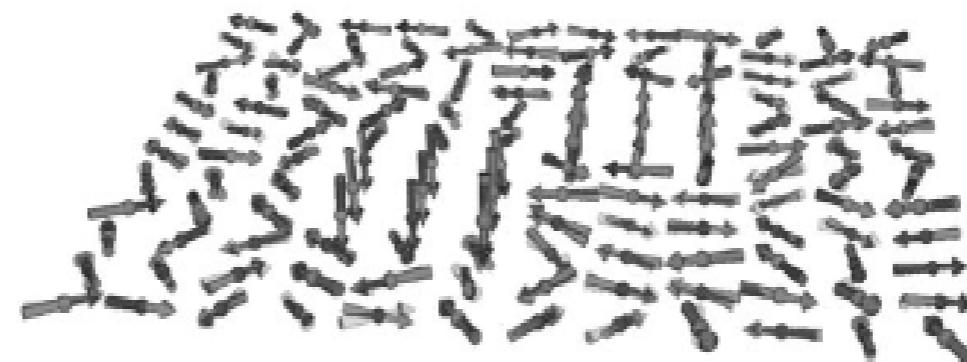
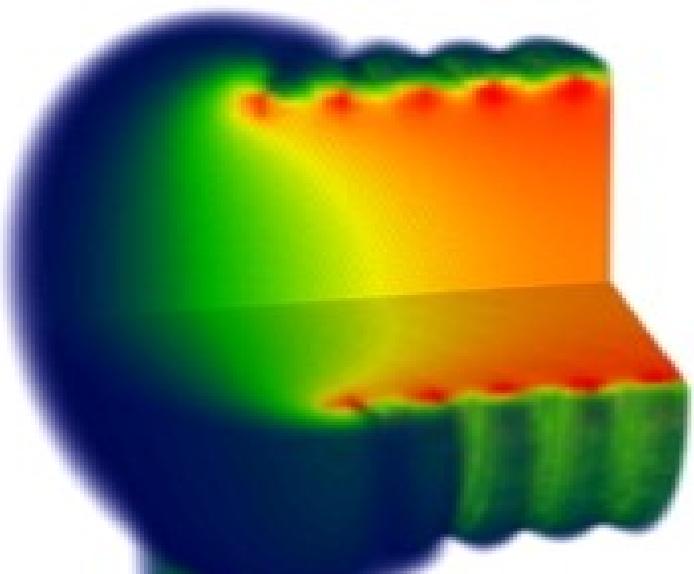
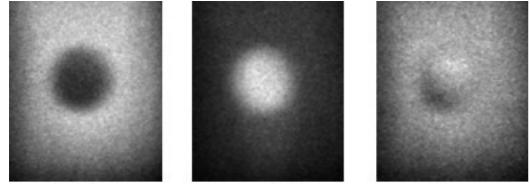
$$I(x, y) = I_0(x, y) \cdot \exp\left(- \int_{\text{path}} \sigma \cdot ds\right) \cdot \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos \varphi(x, y))$$

$$\varphi = \int_{\text{path}} \frac{\lambda m_n \gamma_n B}{h} ds$$



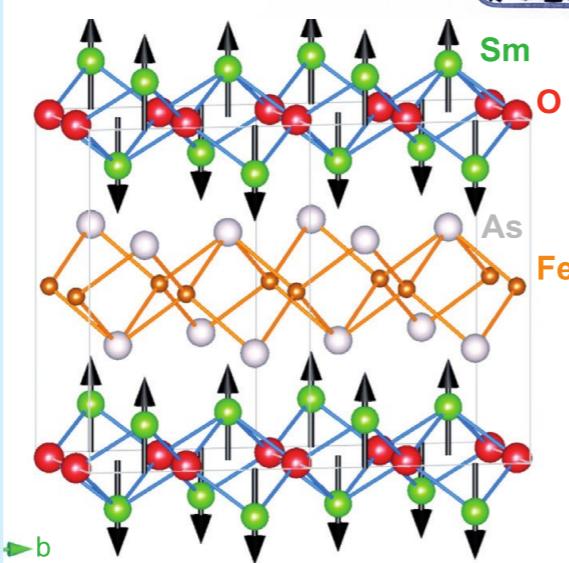
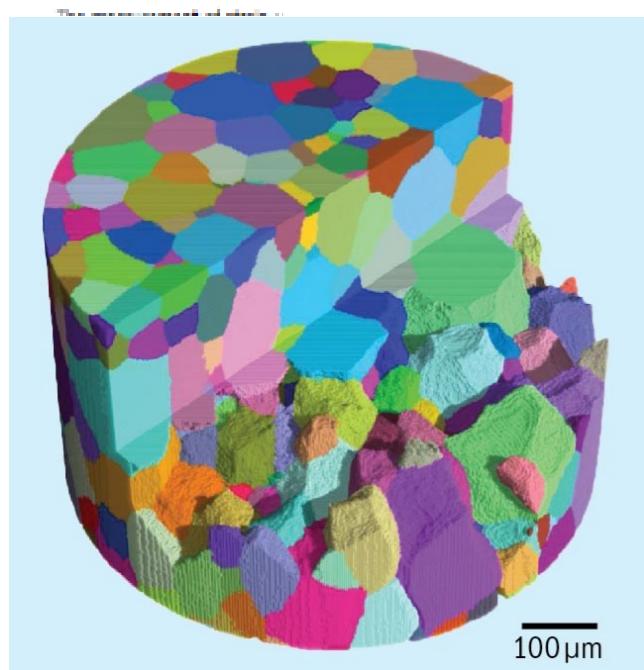
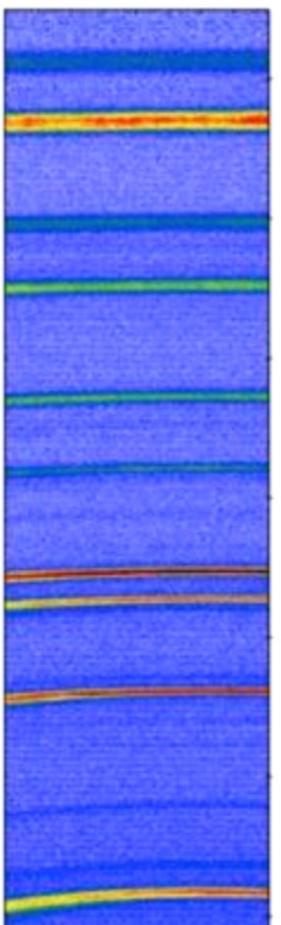
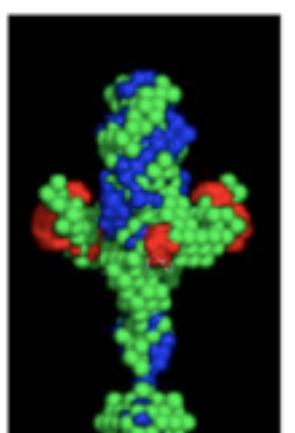
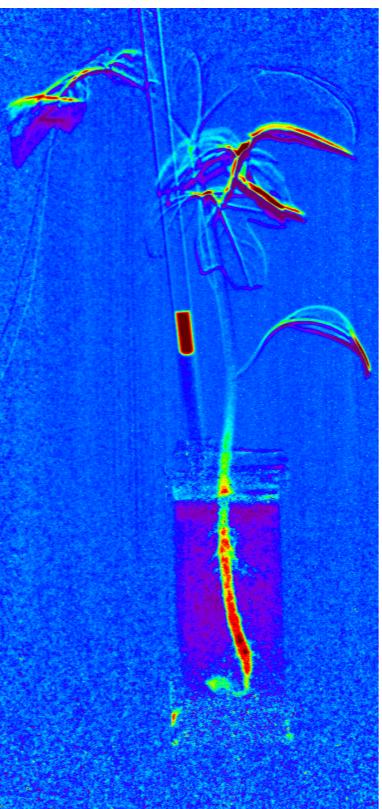
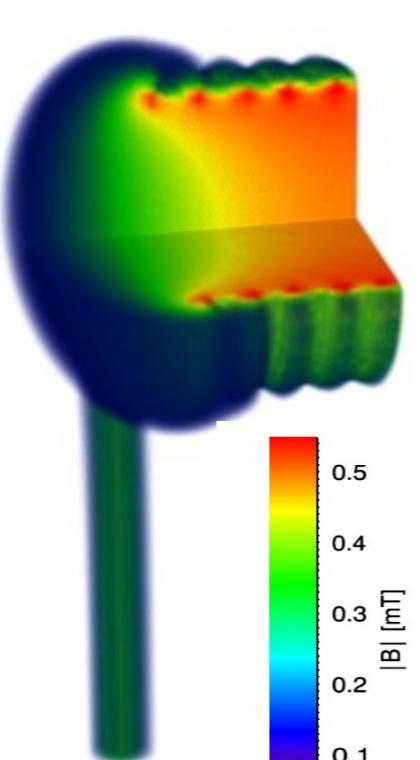
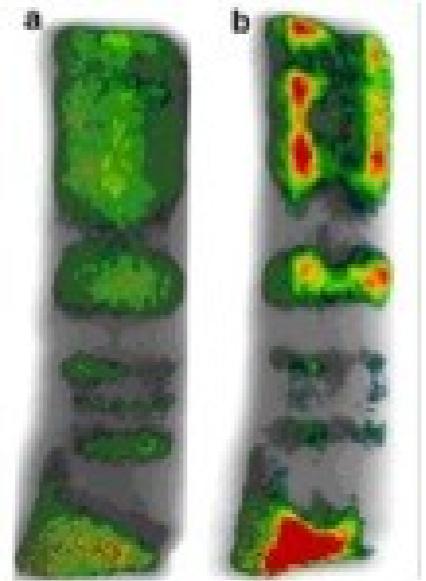
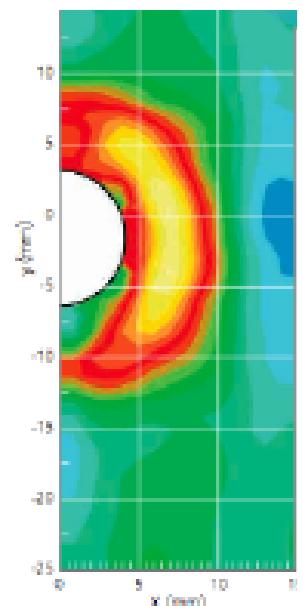
# Polarized neutron imaging

*3D vector quantification through polarimetric imaging*

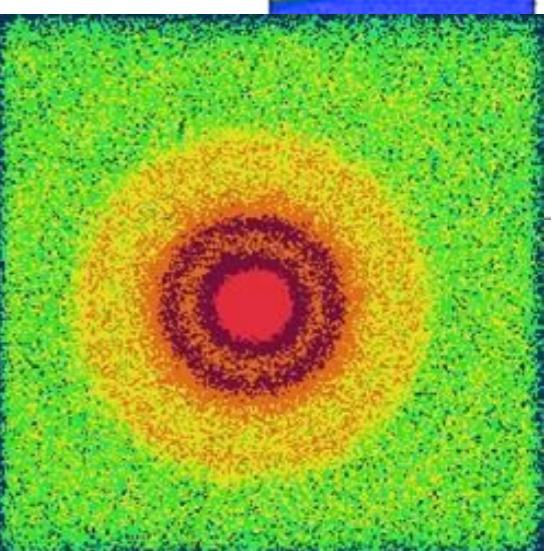
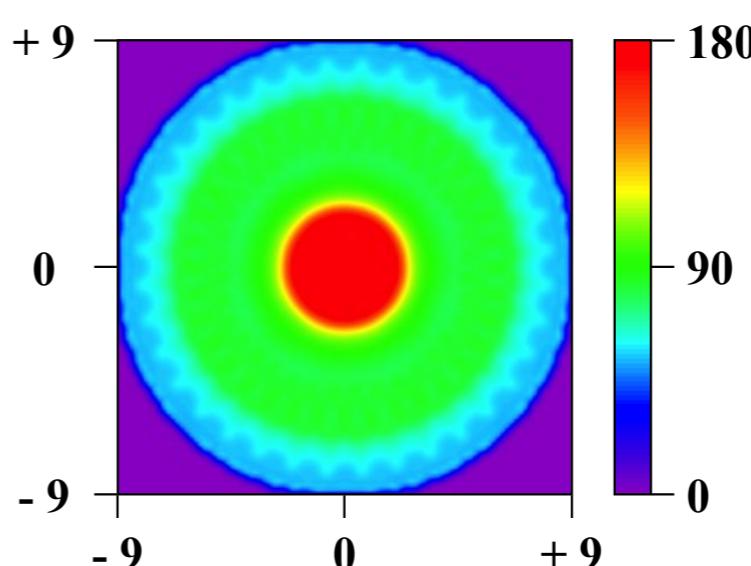


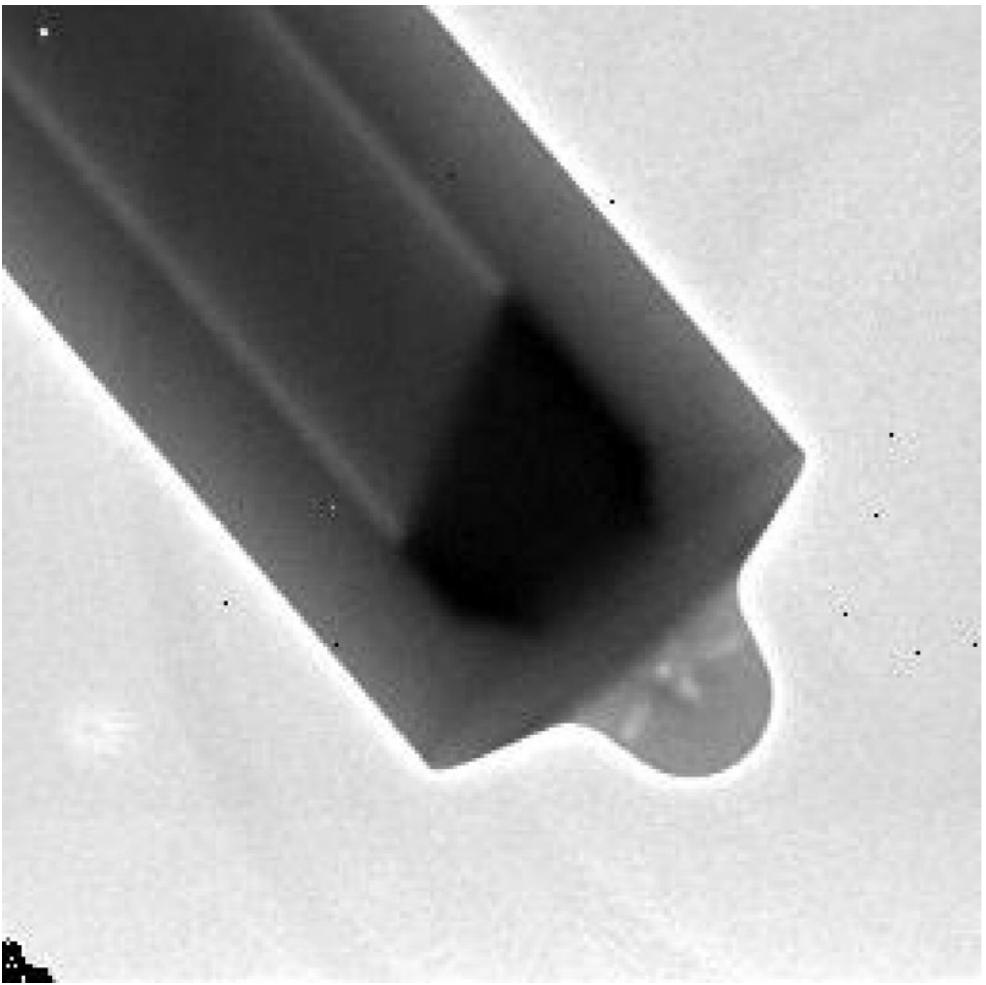


# images



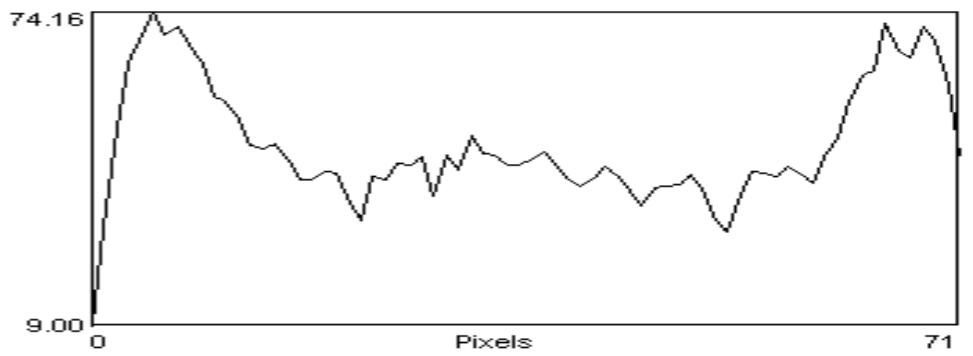
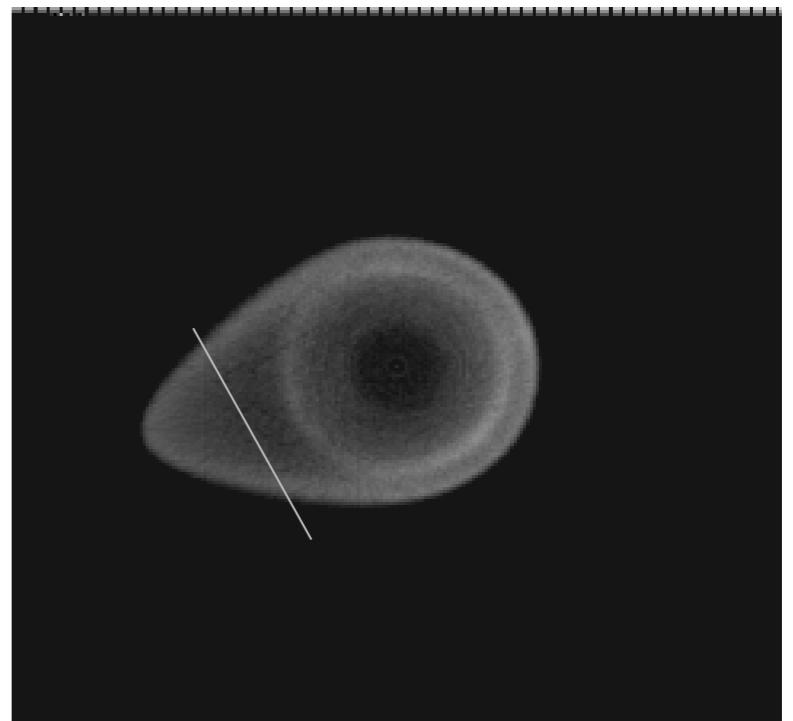
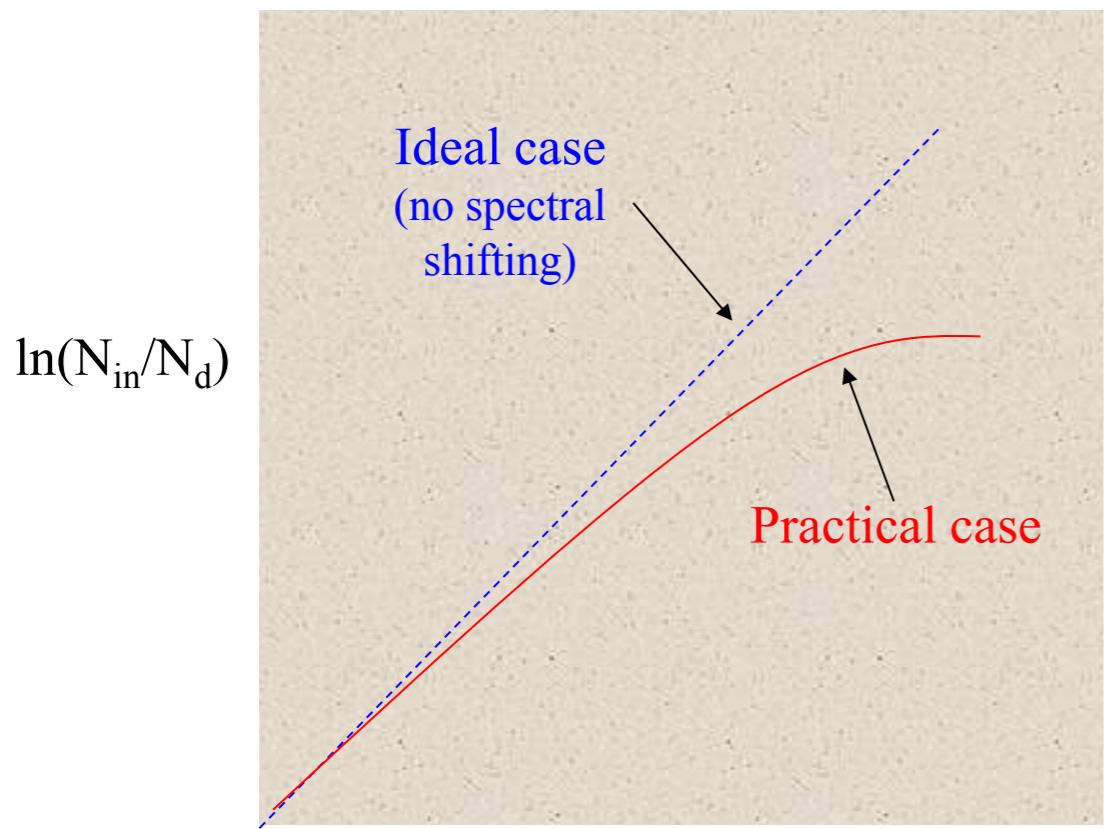
Position y / mm





What about scattering now?

Artifacts!



Thickness of a homogeneous absorber

# Contrast

Interaction of neutrons with matter:

**Scattering & Absorption**

$$I = I_0 e^{-\int \Sigma(x) dx}$$

Cross sections:

Microscopic cross sections :  $\sigma = \sigma_a + \sigma_s$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{number of interacting particles / unit time} \cdot \text{unit cone } d\Omega}{\text{number of incident particles / unit time} \times \text{unit area} \cdot \text{unit cone } d\Omega} = [\text{area}]$$

Unit of  $\sigma$  : 1 barn =  $10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2$

Macroscopic cross section :  $\Sigma$  (i.e.  $\mu$  linear attenuation coefficient)

$$\Sigma = N \cdot \sigma, \quad N = \text{number of nuclei per cm}^3.$$

Unit of  $\Sigma$  is  $[\text{cm}^{-1}]$ .

# Total neutron cross section

## Total neutron cross section

**Most significant**

Defines the Bragg edge position

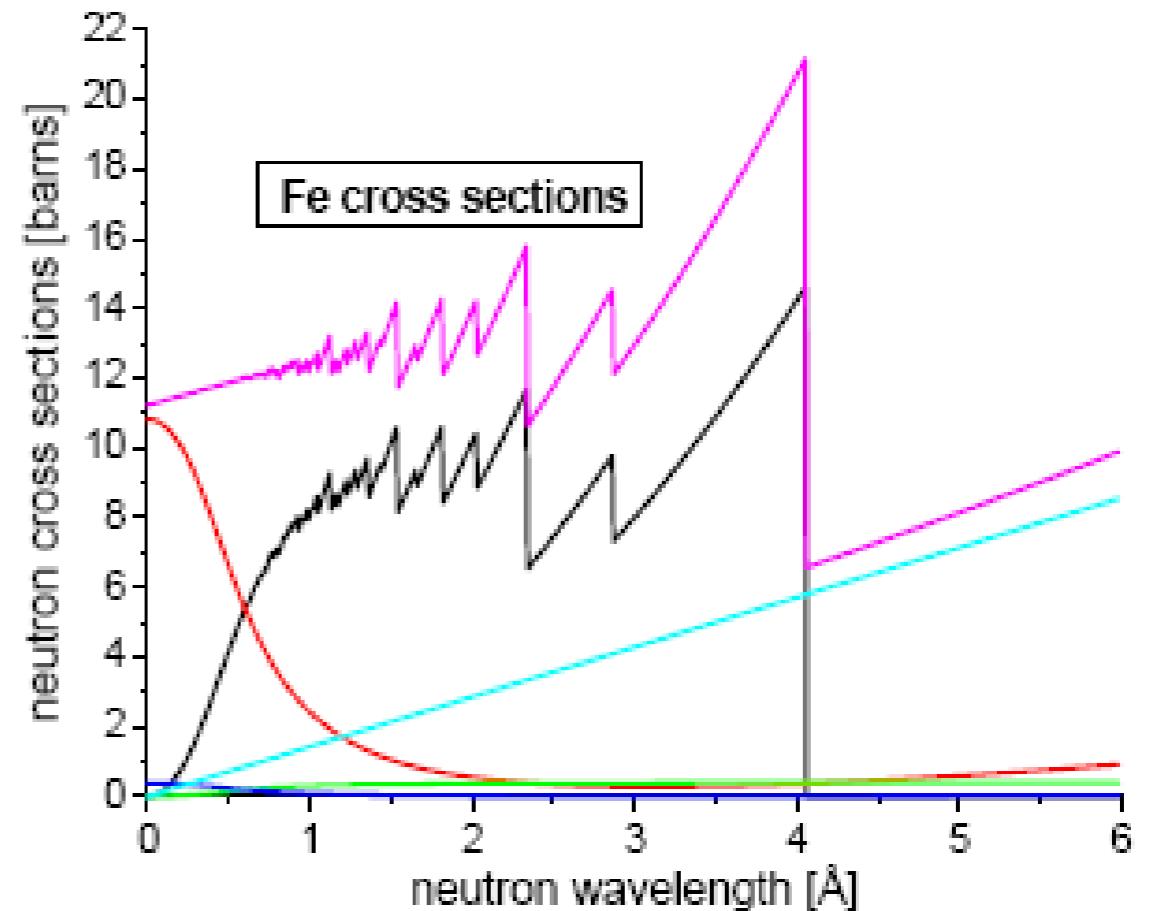
$$\sigma_{coh}^{el}(\lambda) = \frac{\lambda^2}{2V_0} \sum_{d_{hkl}=0}^{2d_{hkl} < \lambda} |F_{hkl}|^2 d_{hkl}$$

$$\sigma_{inc}^{el}(\lambda) = \bar{\sigma}_{inc} \sum_n \frac{\lambda^2}{2B_{iso,n}} (1 - e^{(-\frac{2B_{iso,n}}{\lambda^2})})$$

$$\sigma_{total}^{inel}(\lambda) = (\bar{\sigma}_{coh} + \bar{\sigma}_{inc}) \left( \frac{M/m}{M/m + 1} \right)^2 \sum_n \left( 1 + \frac{9\varphi_3(\theta)\varphi_3(\theta)\lambda^2}{2M^2/m^2 B_{iso}} \right) - \dots$$

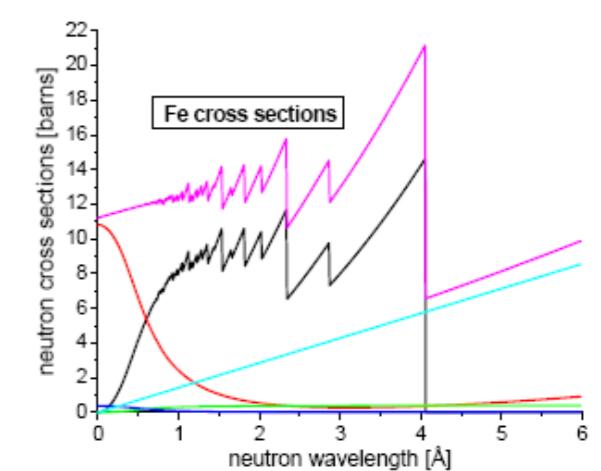
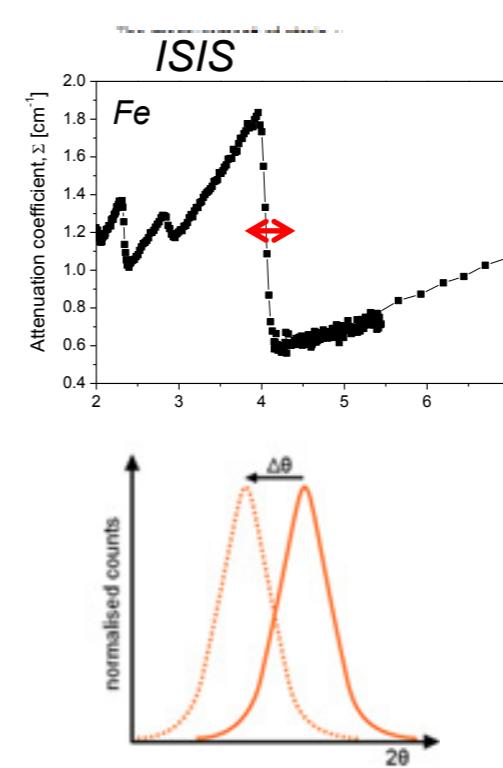
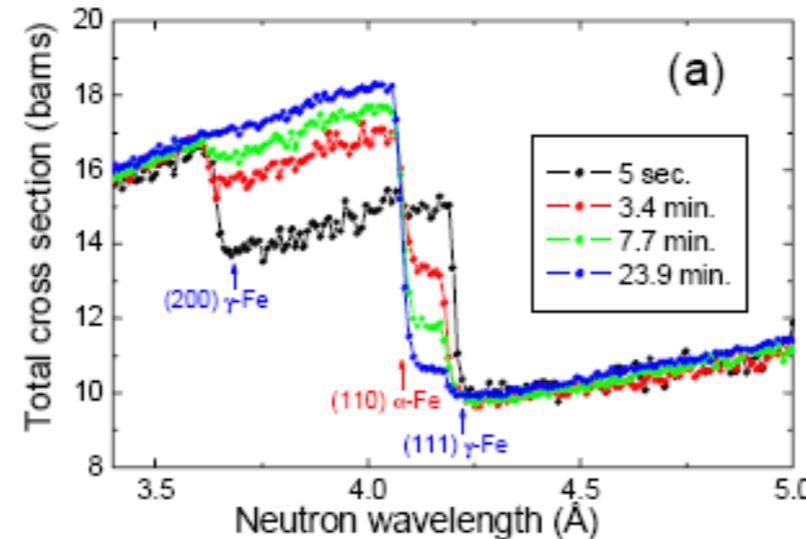
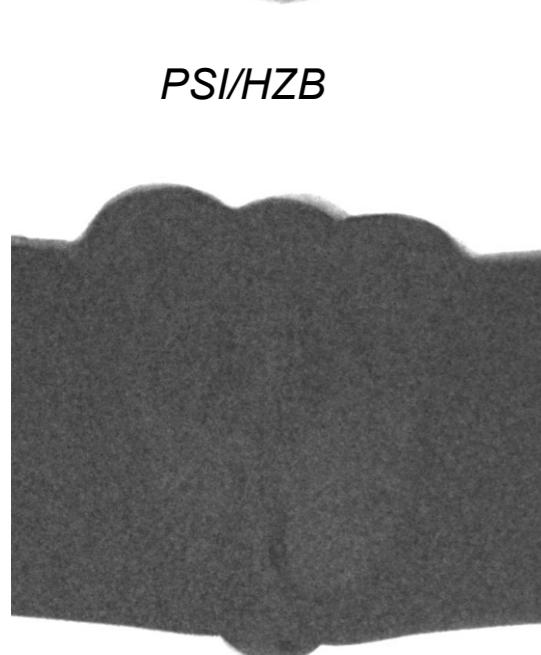
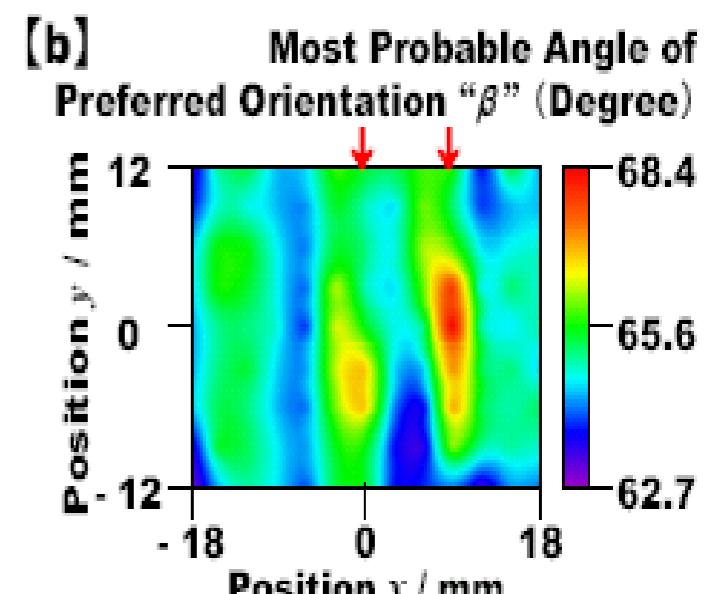
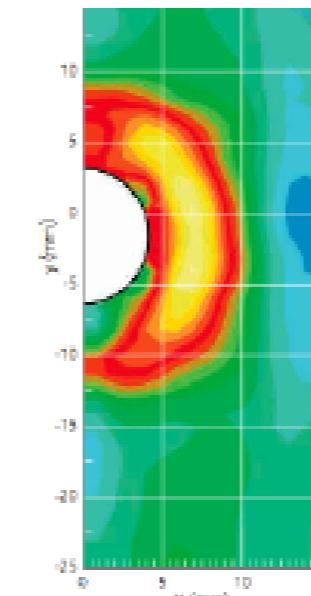
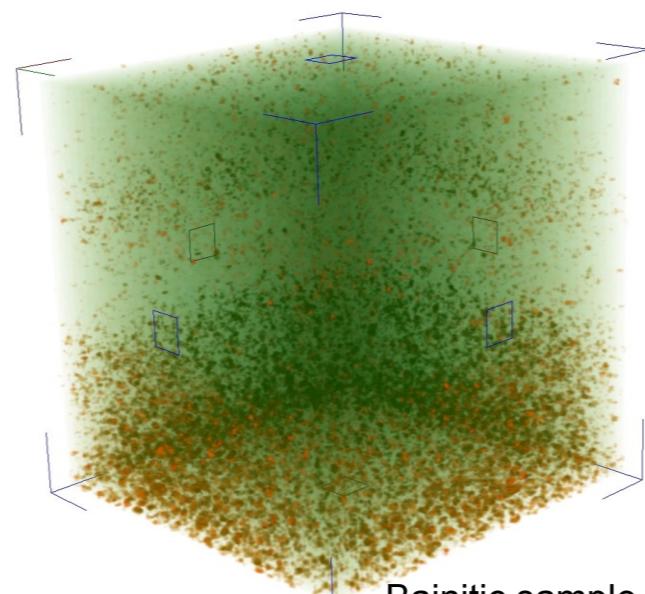
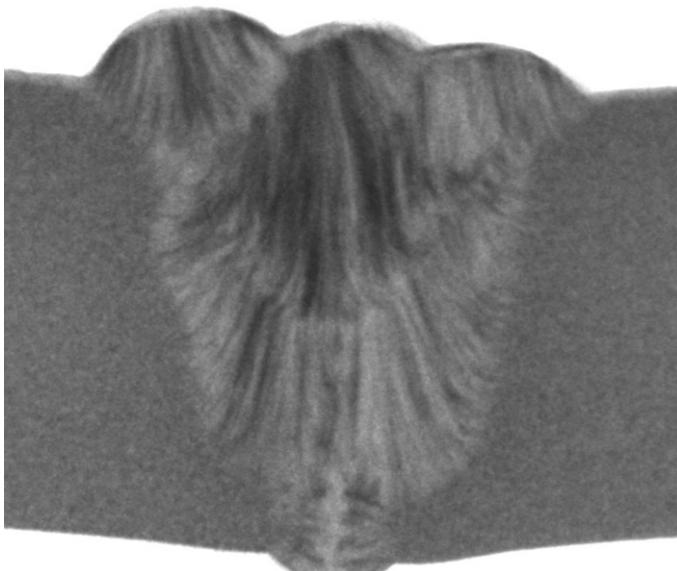
$$\sigma_{abs}(\lambda) = B \cdot \frac{m\lambda}{h} = \frac{\sigma_{abs}^{2200m/s}}{1.798\text{\AA}} \cdot \lambda$$

$$\boxed{\sigma_{total}(\lambda)}$$

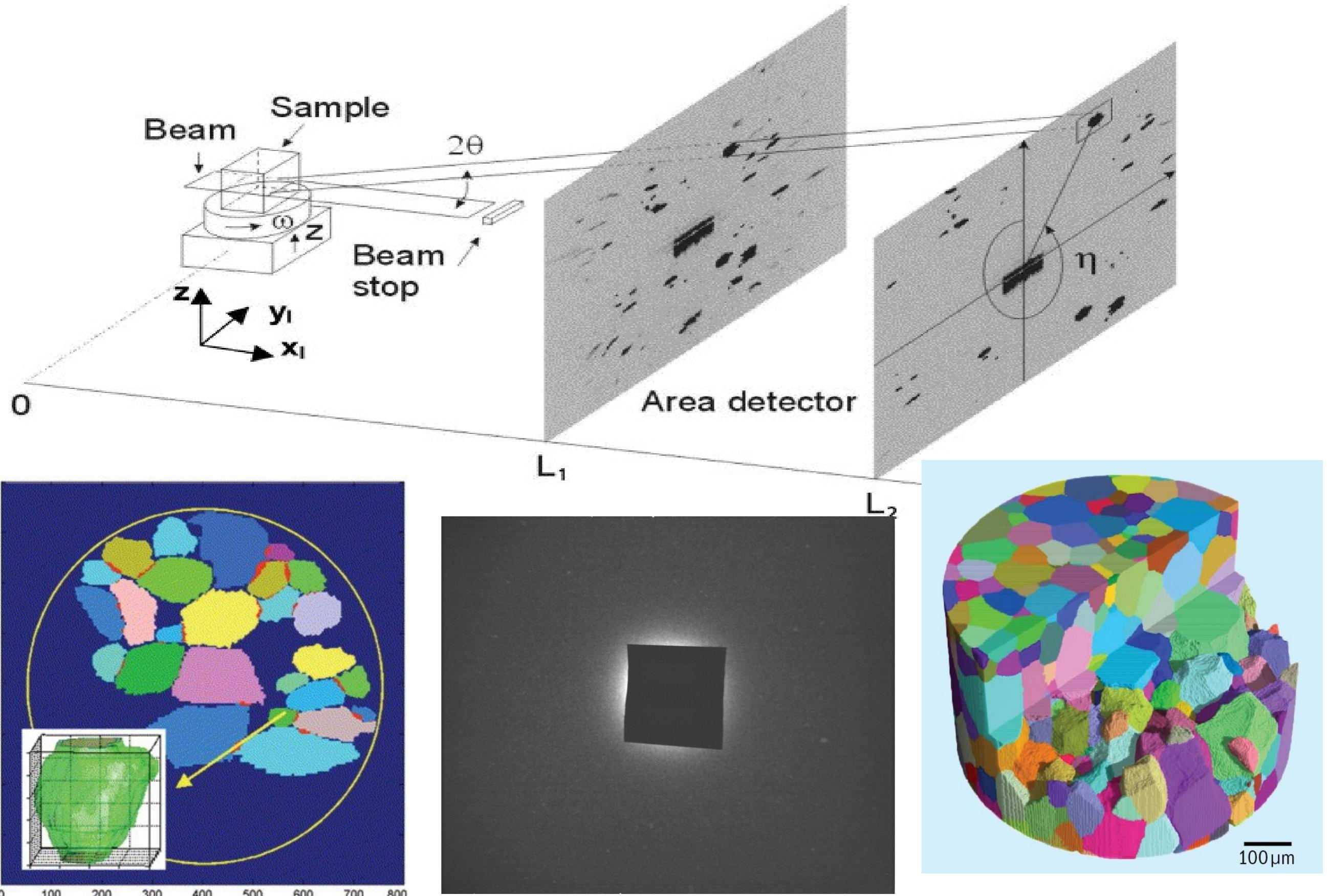


# Energy resolved

## Examples cryst. inhom. / phase distribution /strain / grain structure

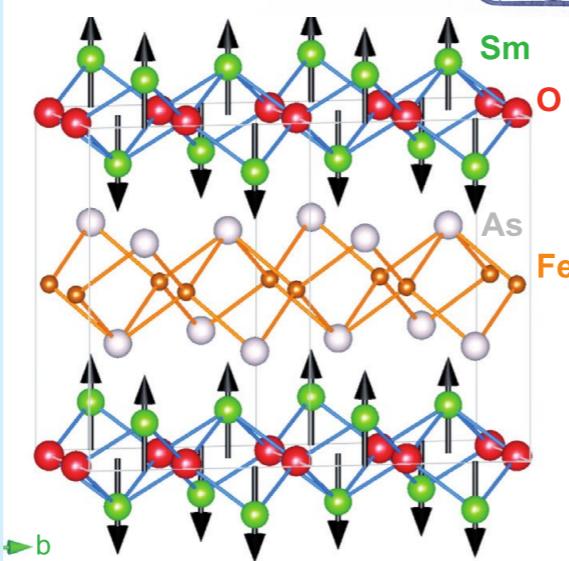
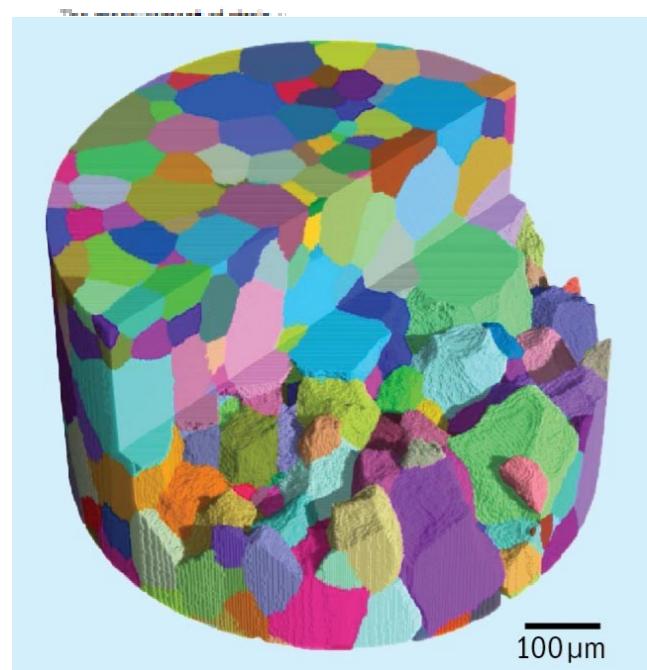
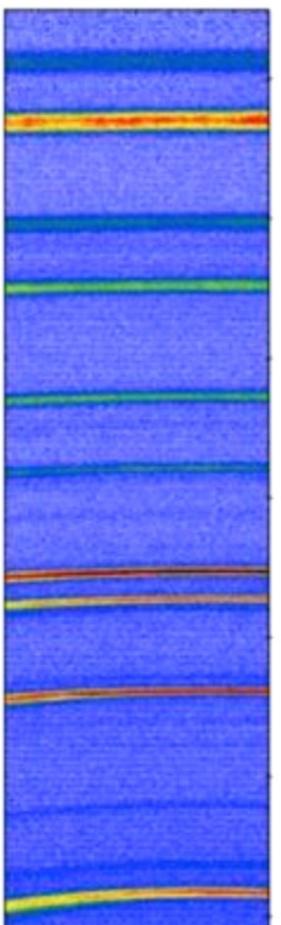
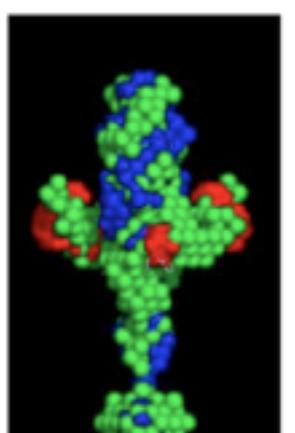
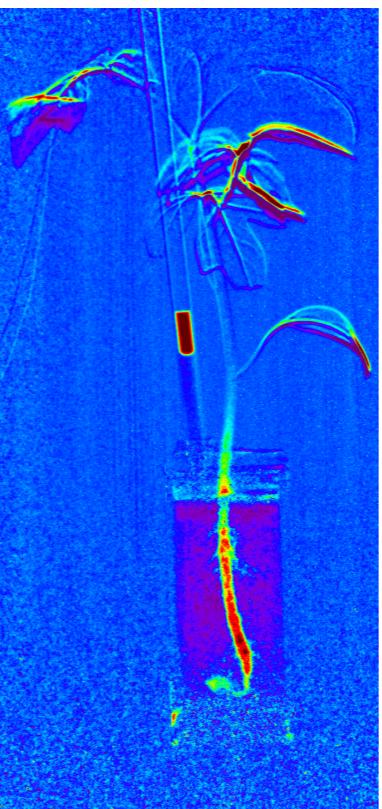
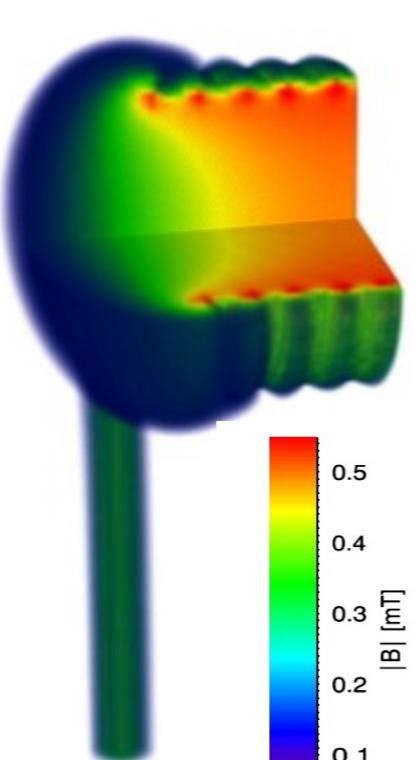
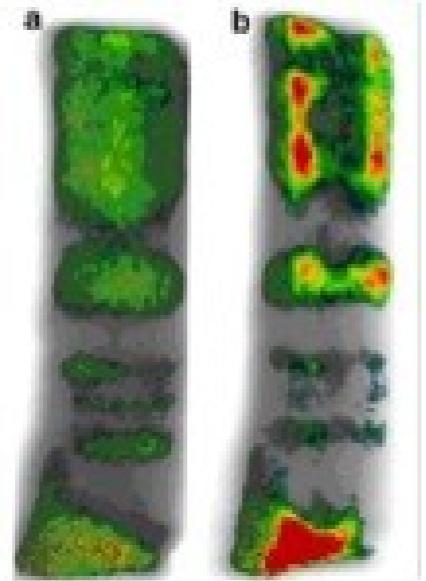
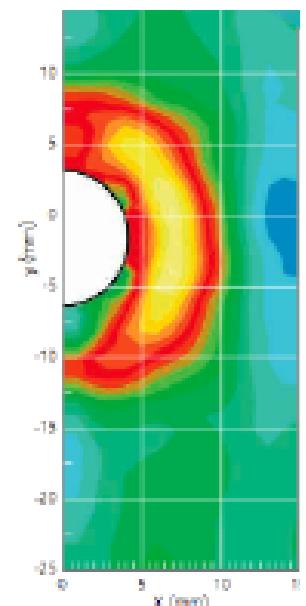


# 3D-XRD, diffraction imaging

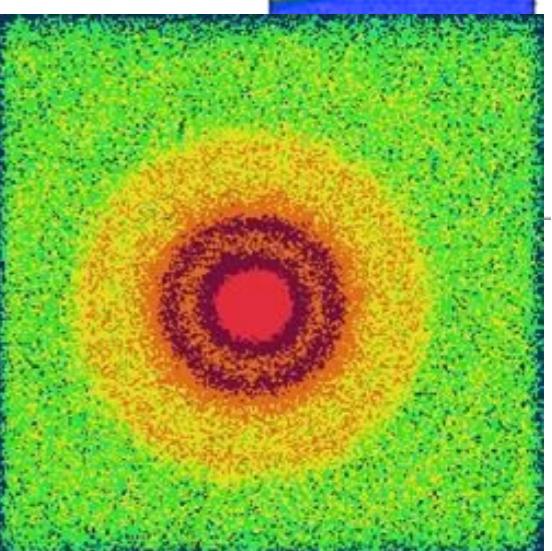
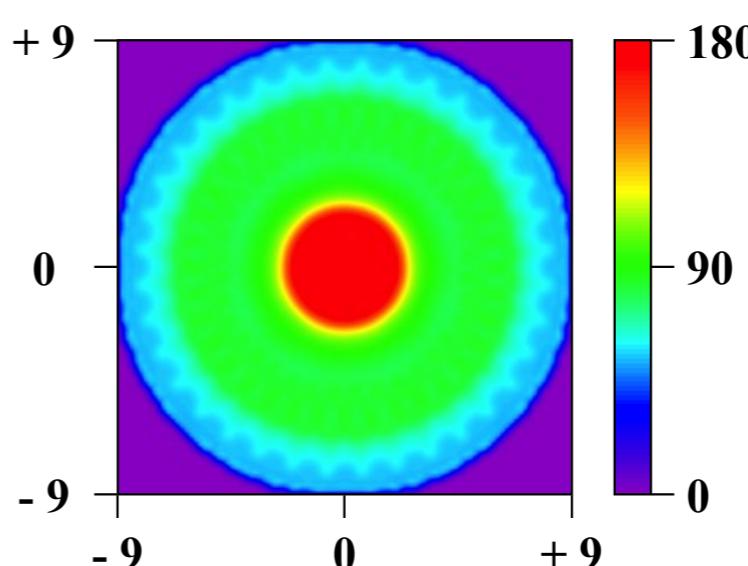




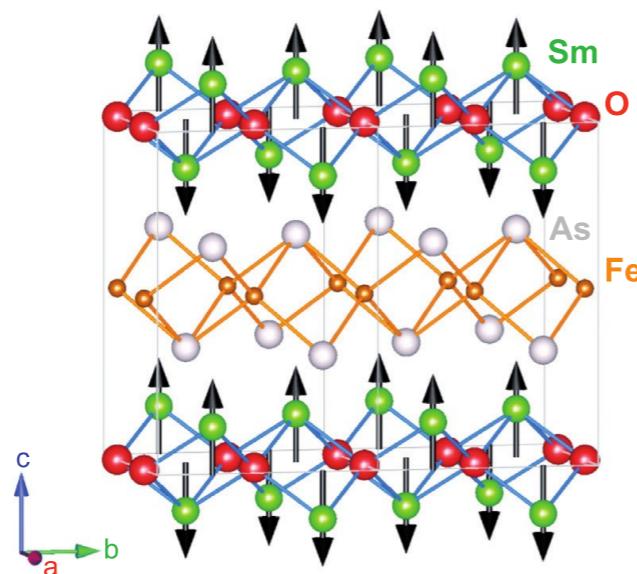
# images



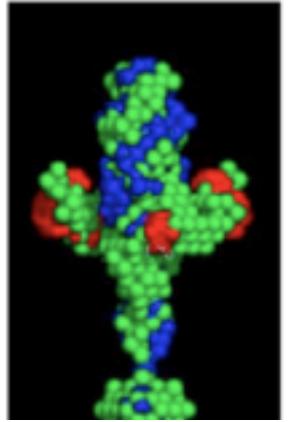
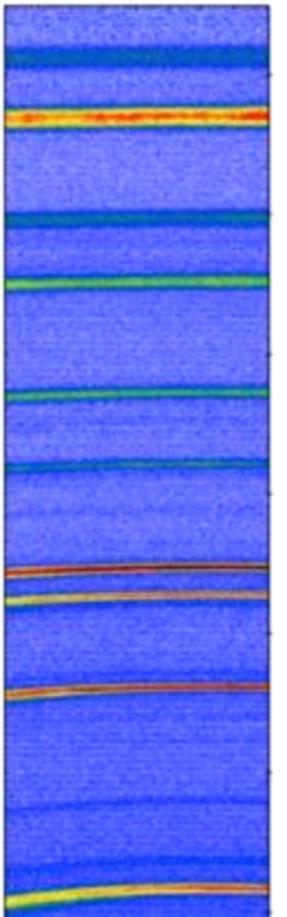
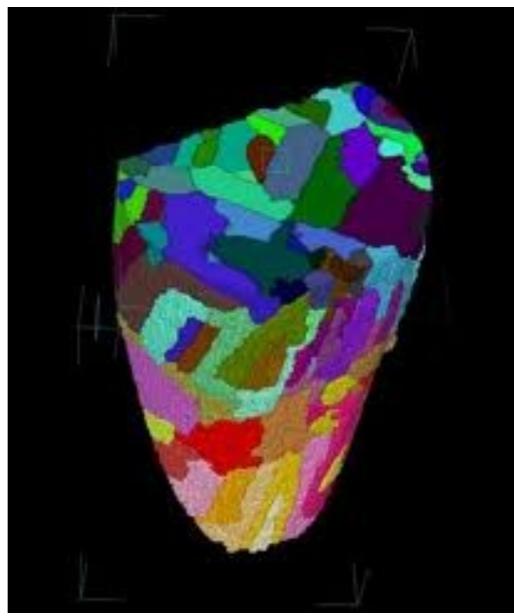
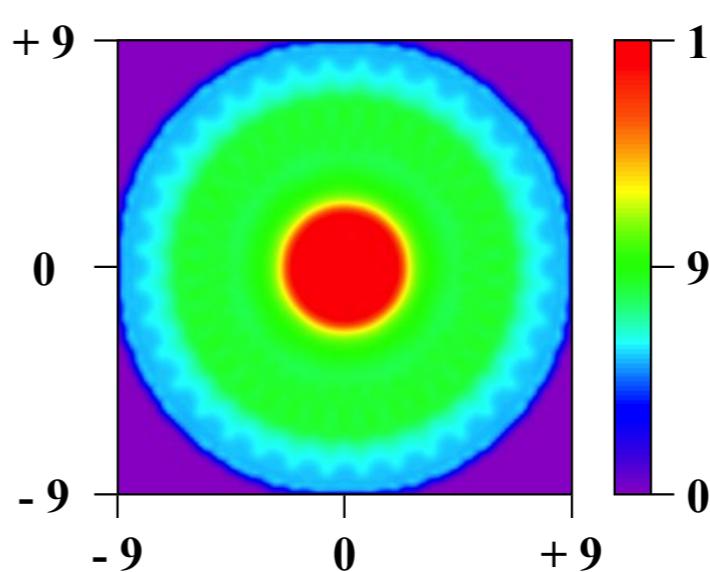
Position y / mm



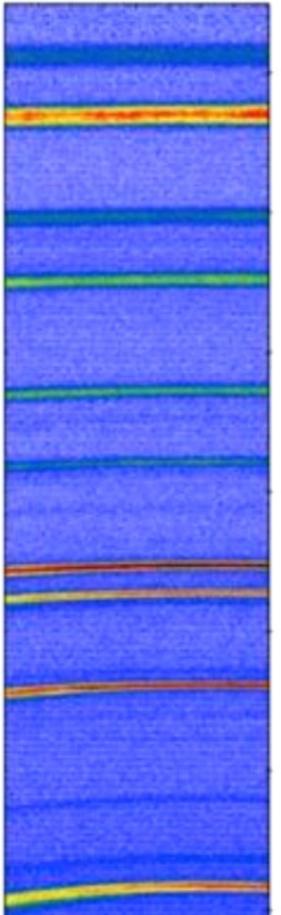
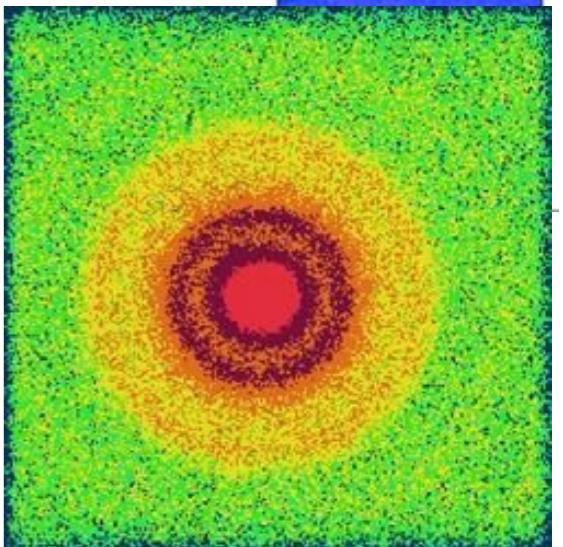
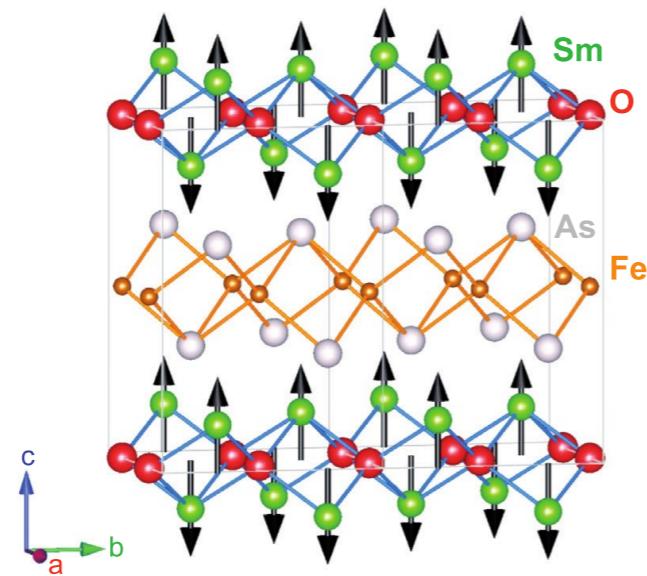
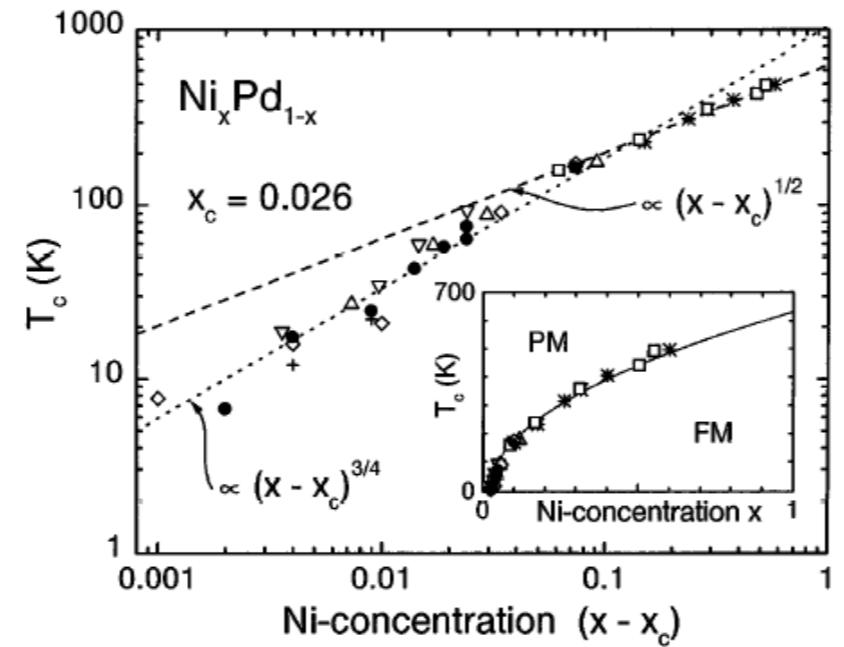
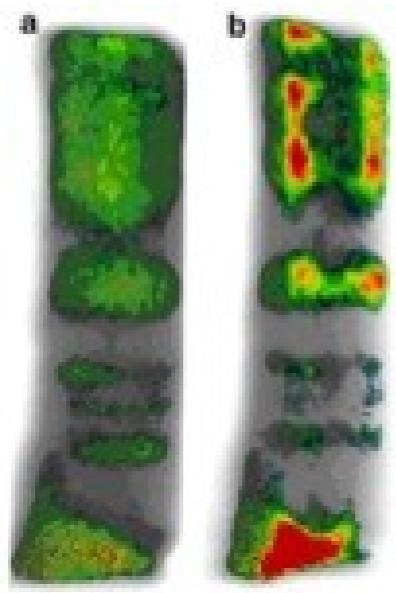
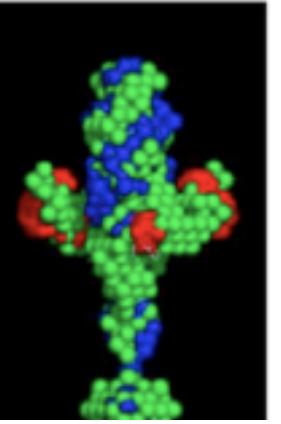
# images



Position *y* / mm

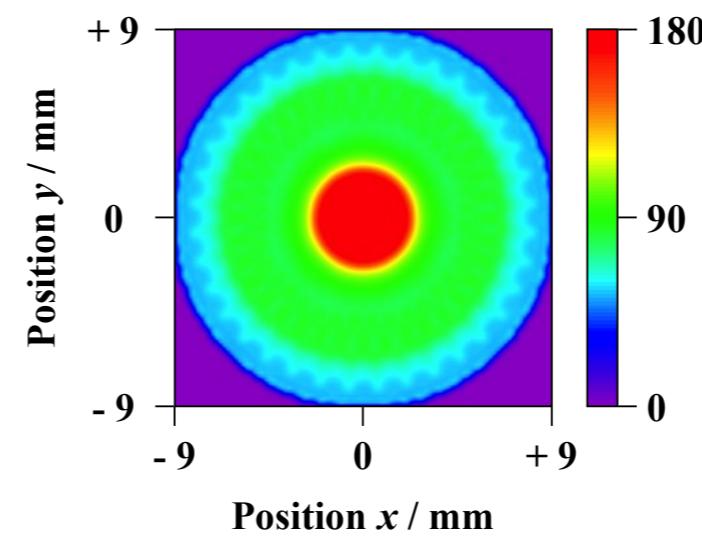
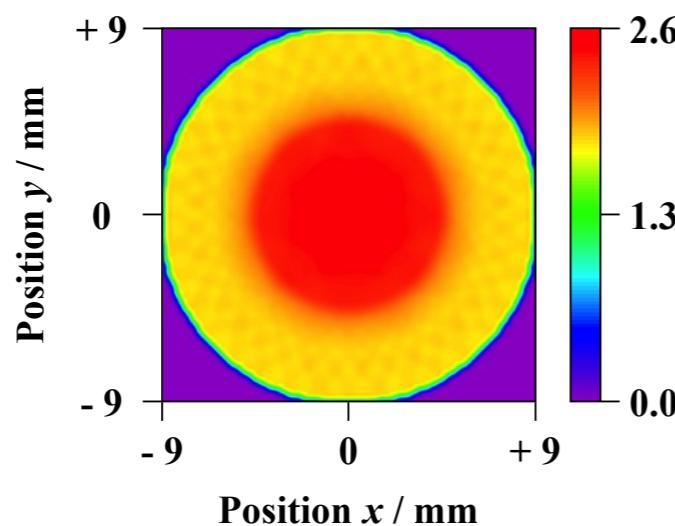
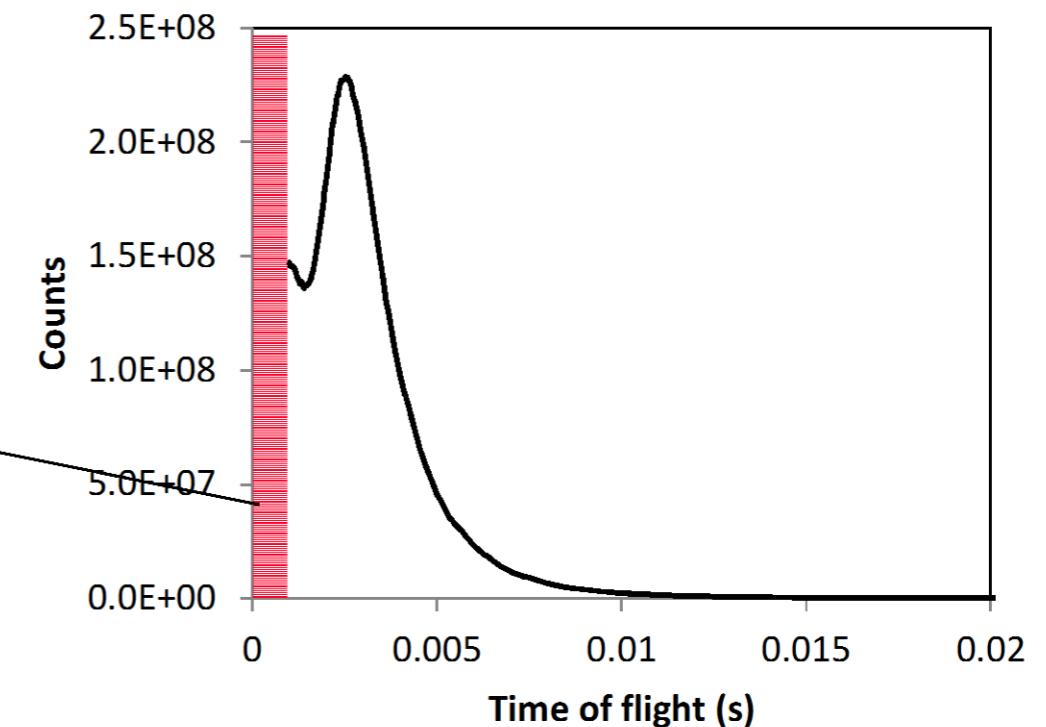
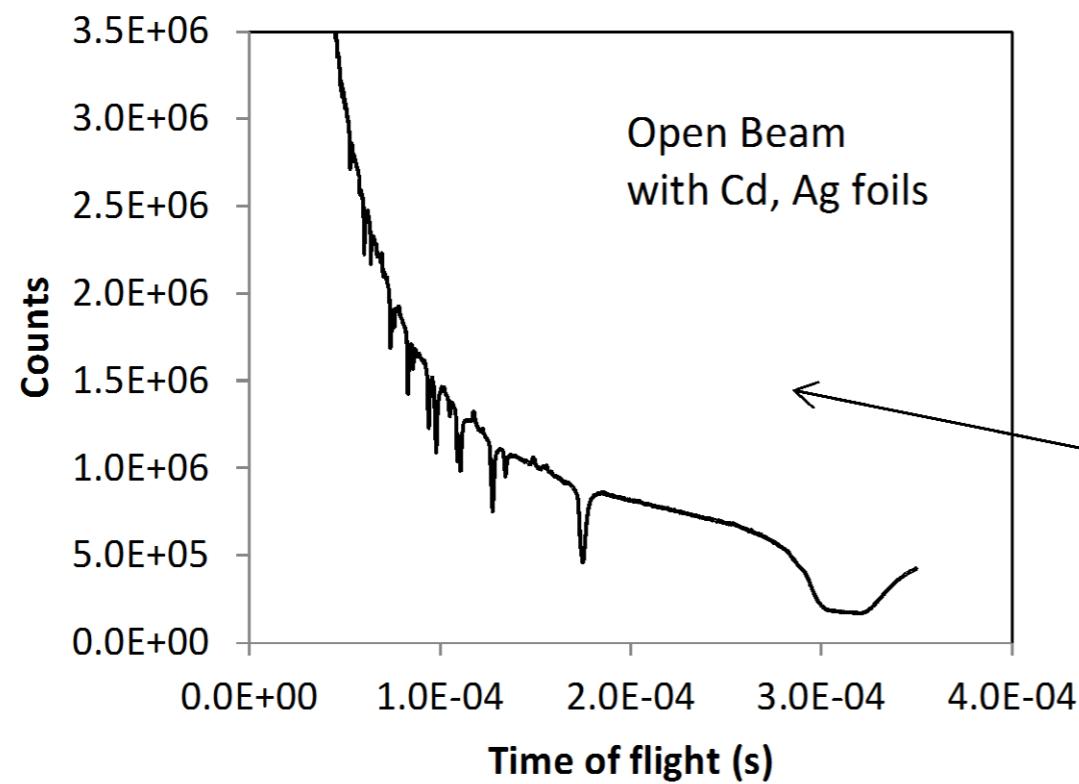


# images

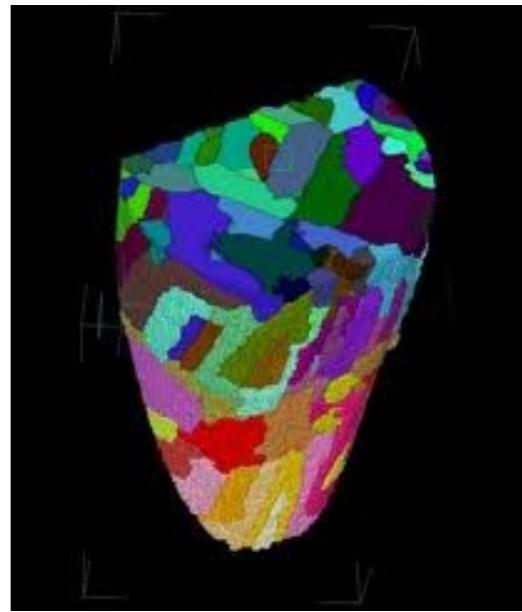


# images

Entire neutron spectrum can be measured in one experiment with event counting detector providing XYT

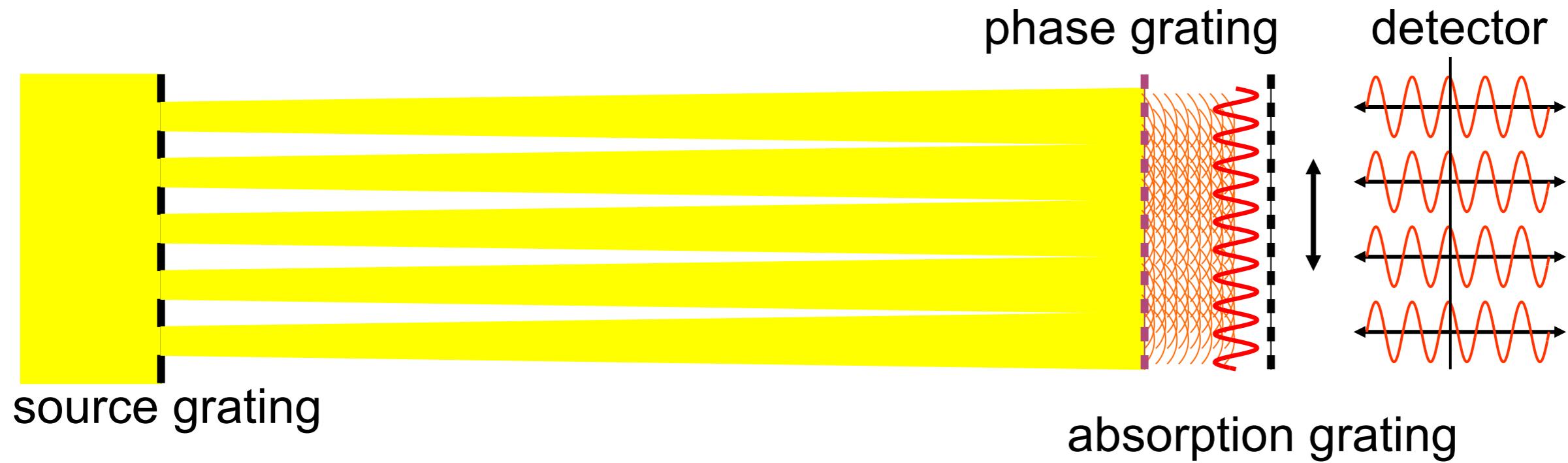


# images



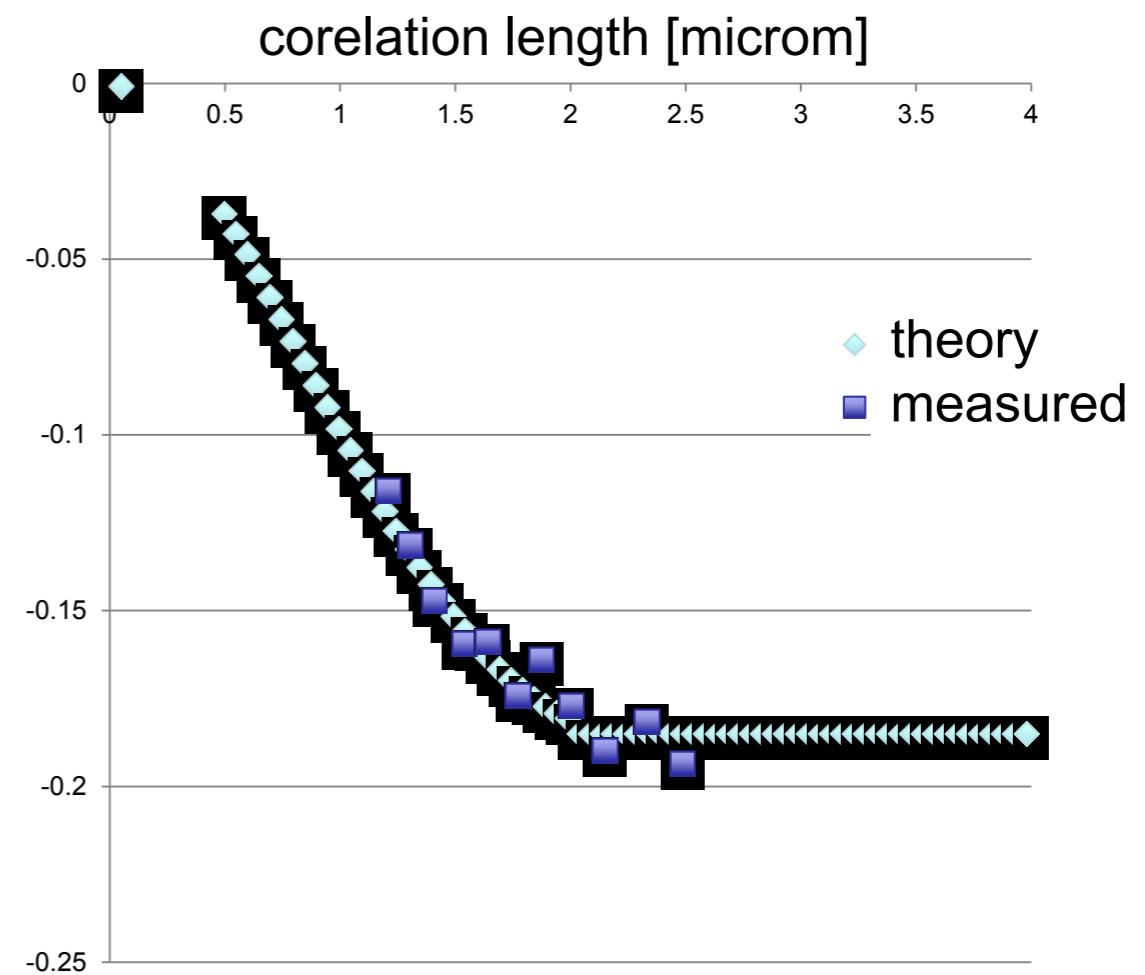
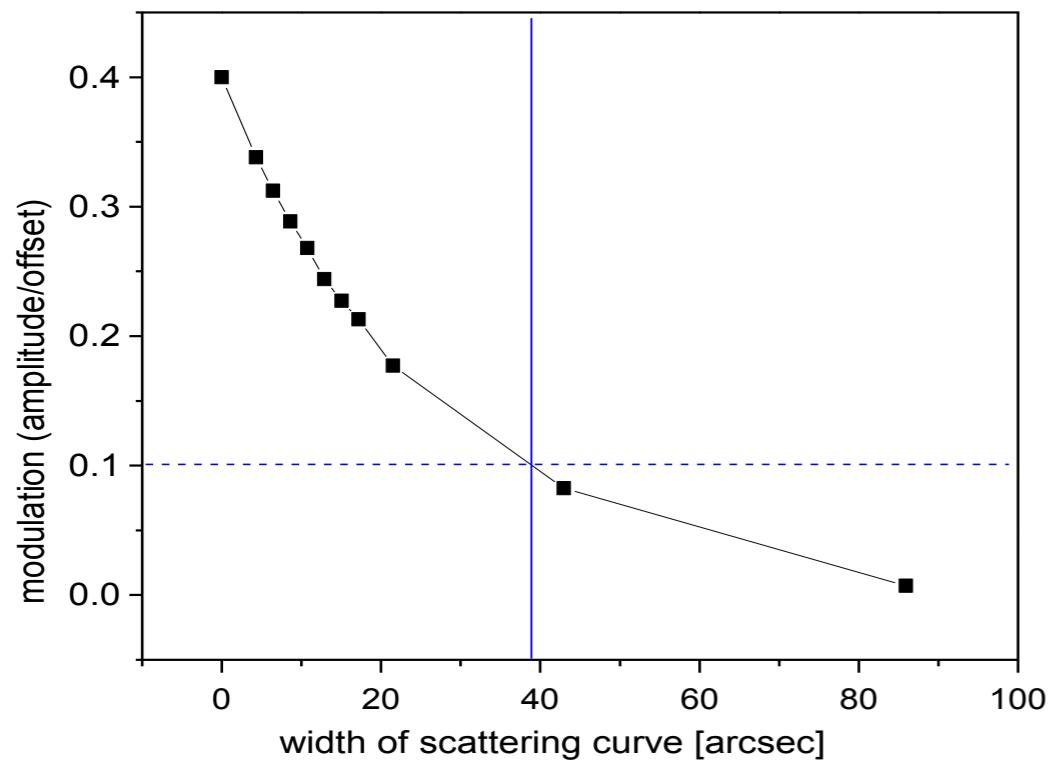
# modulated imaging beam?

## Grating Interferometer



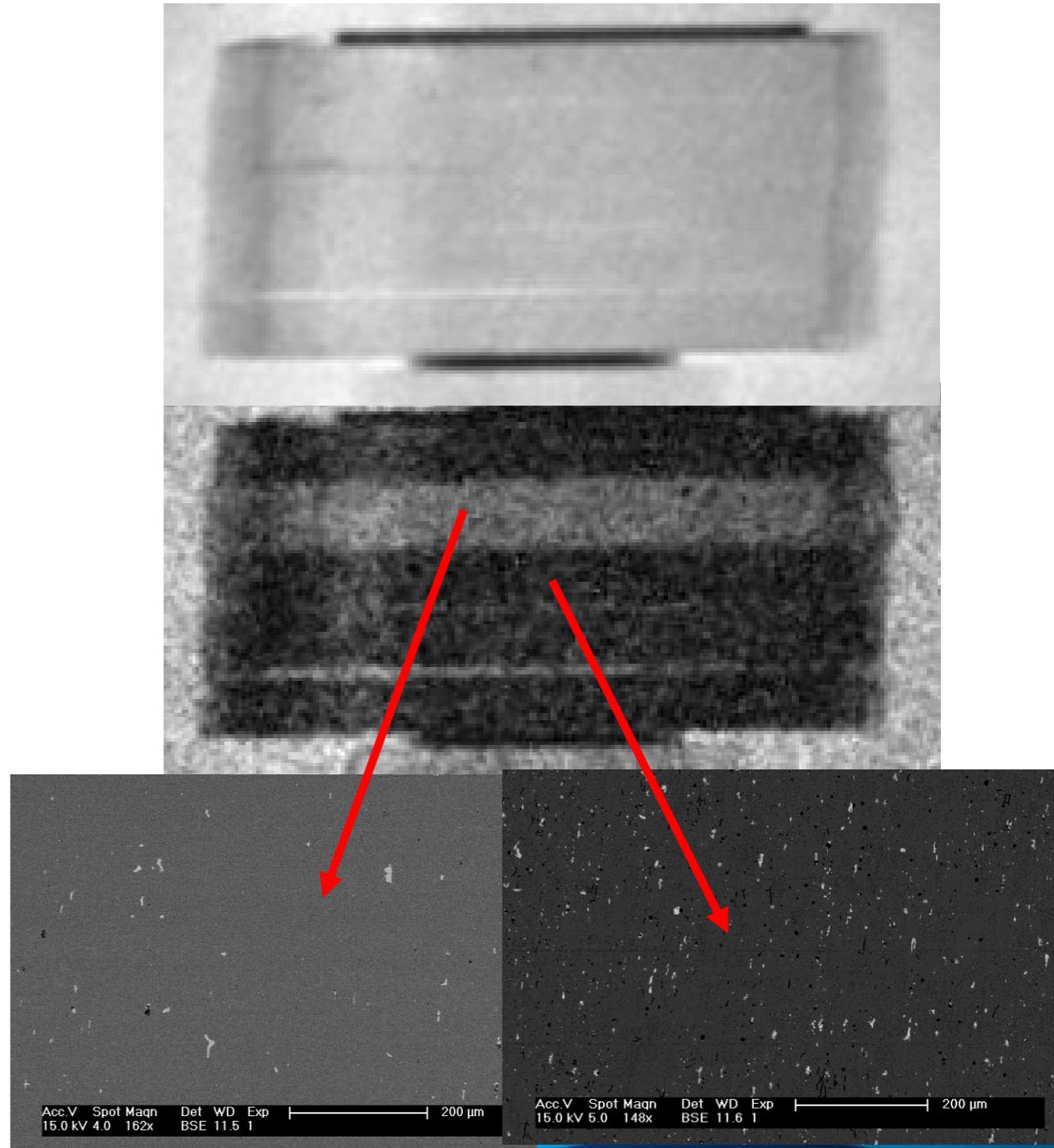
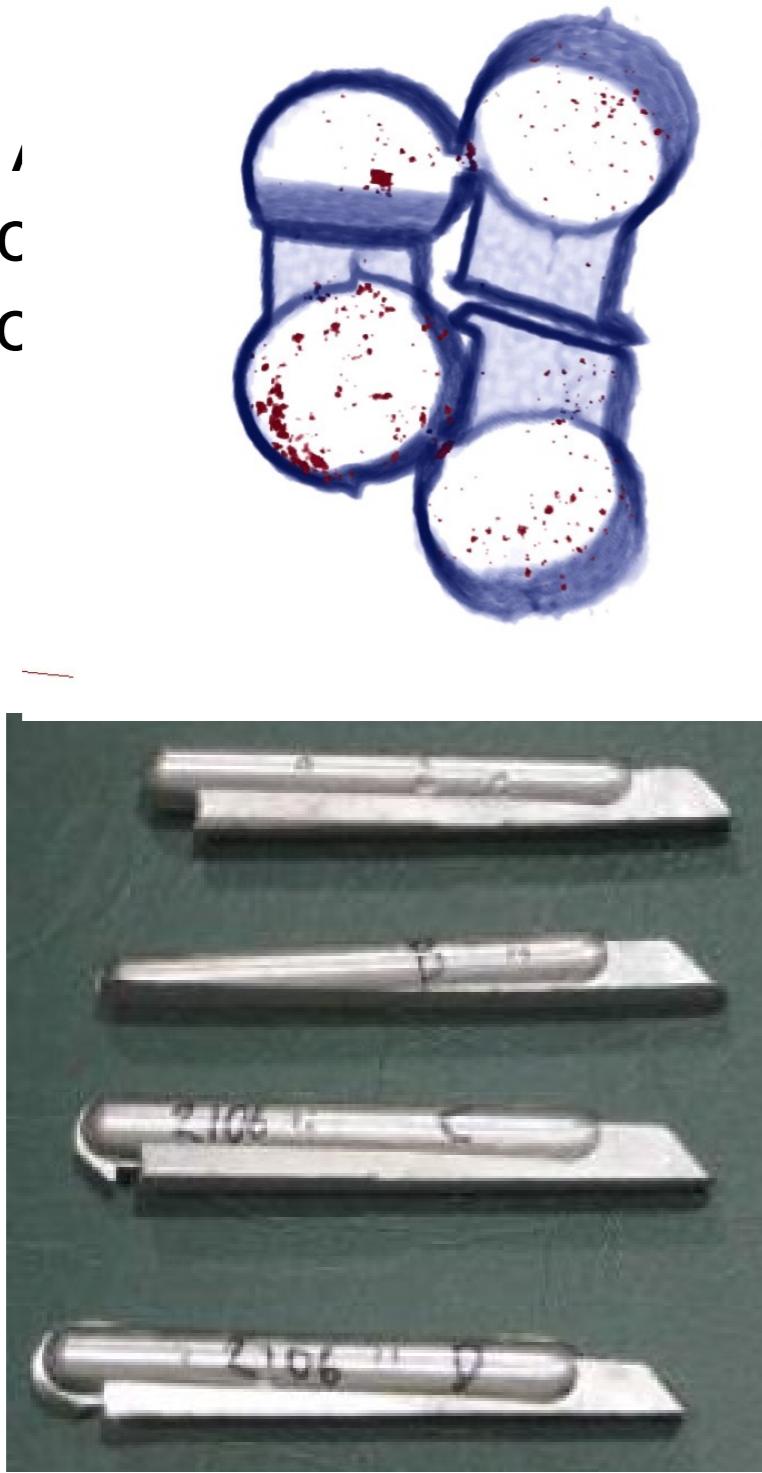
# modulated imaging beam?

## Dark field contrast



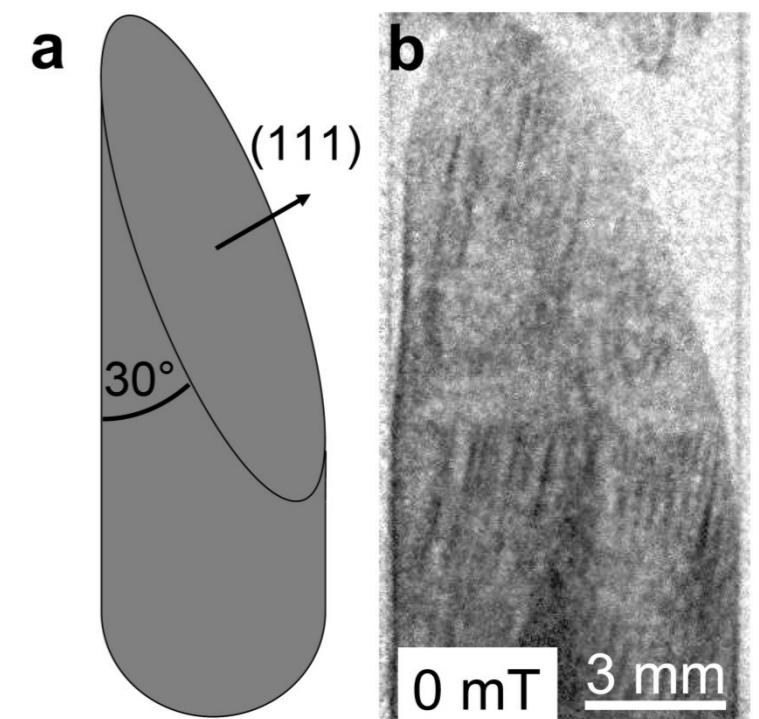
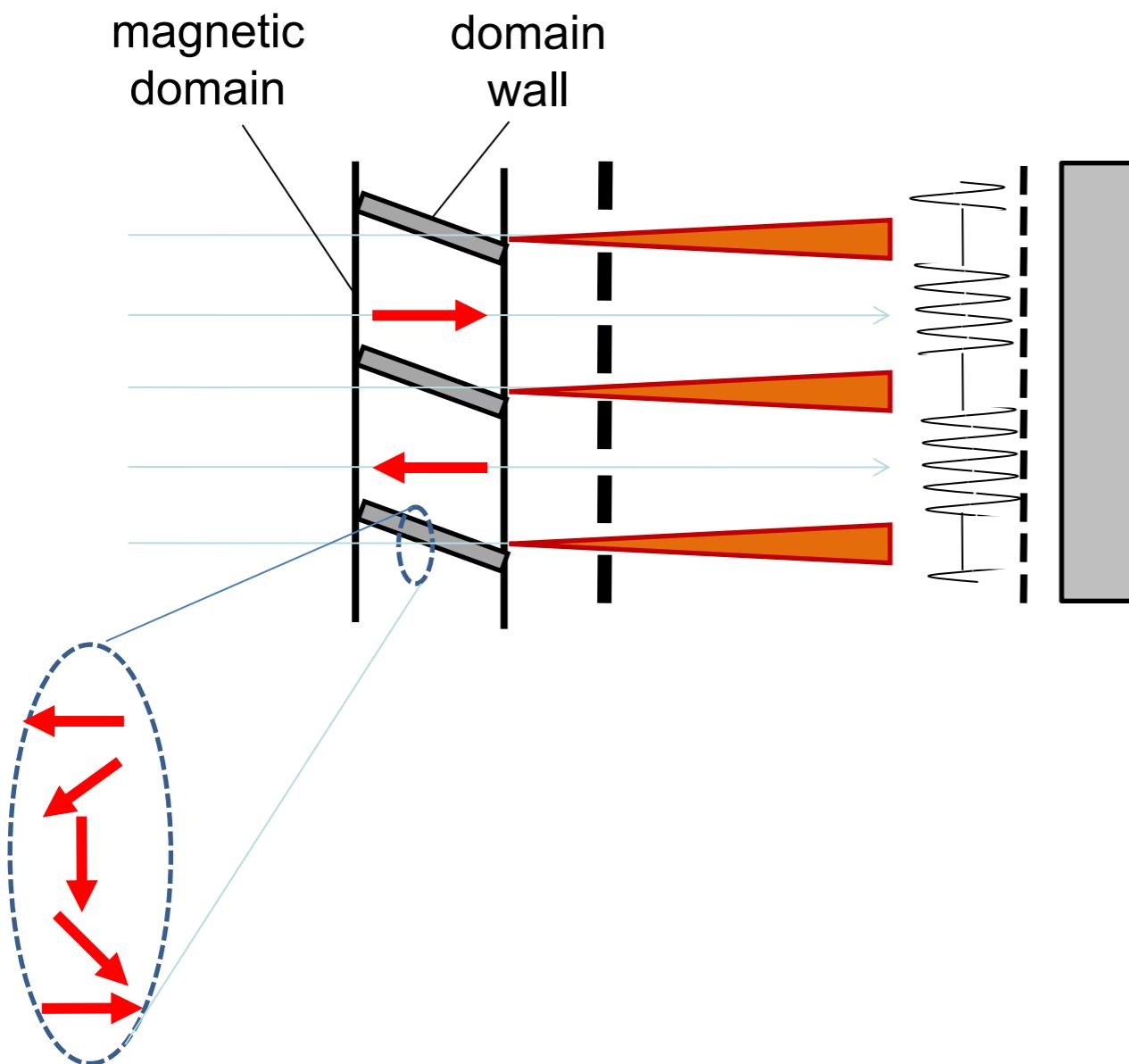
$$P_\theta(t) = w(\theta, t)^2 = \int_{path} \frac{\sigma(x, y)N(x, y)}{R^2(x, y)} \cdot ds$$

# Dark field contrast



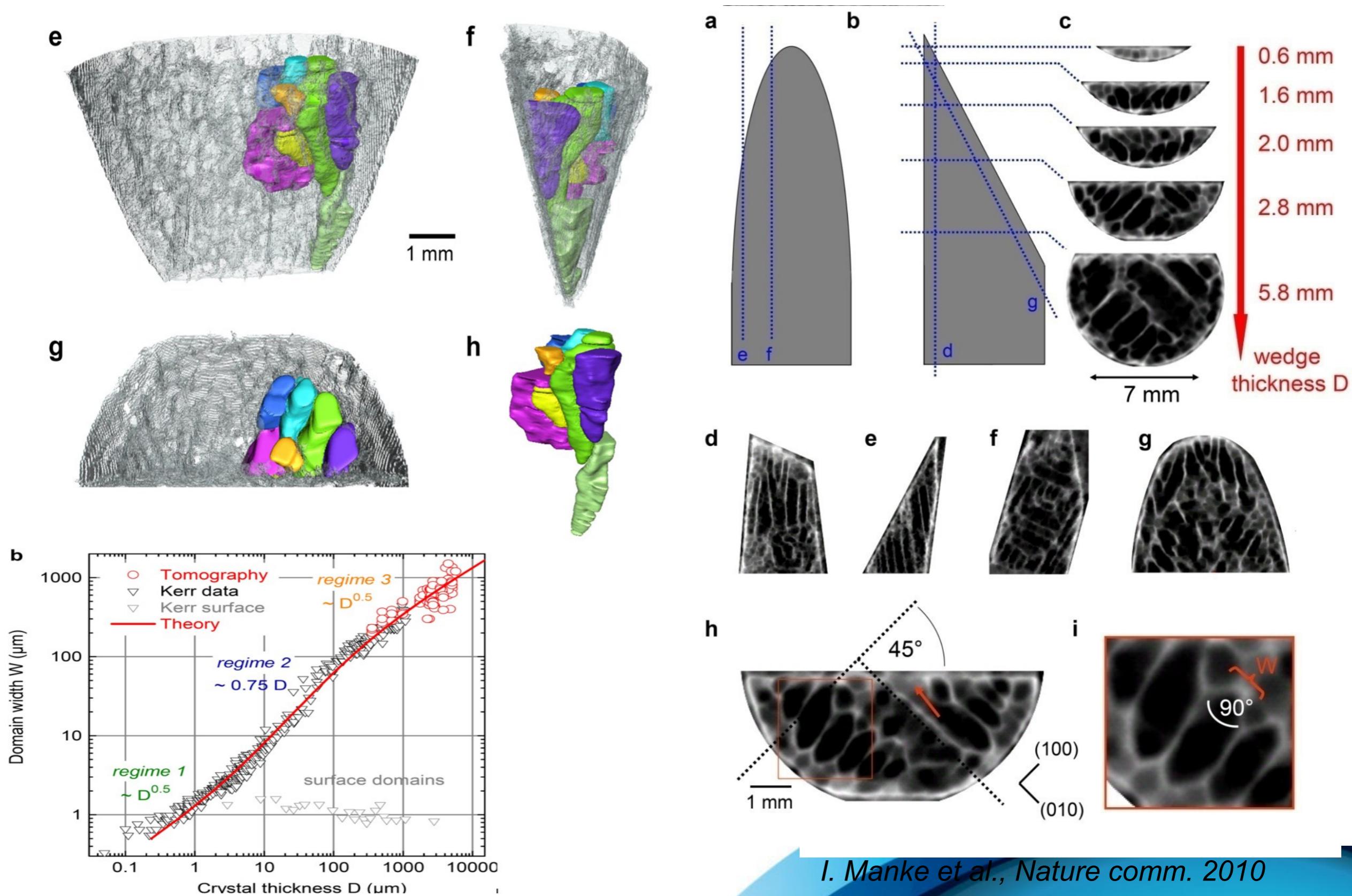
A. Hilger et al. JAP (2010)

# Dark-field NI



K. M. Podurets et al. Phys. B 1989  
M. Strobl et al. APL 2007  
Ch. Grünzweig et al. APL 2009

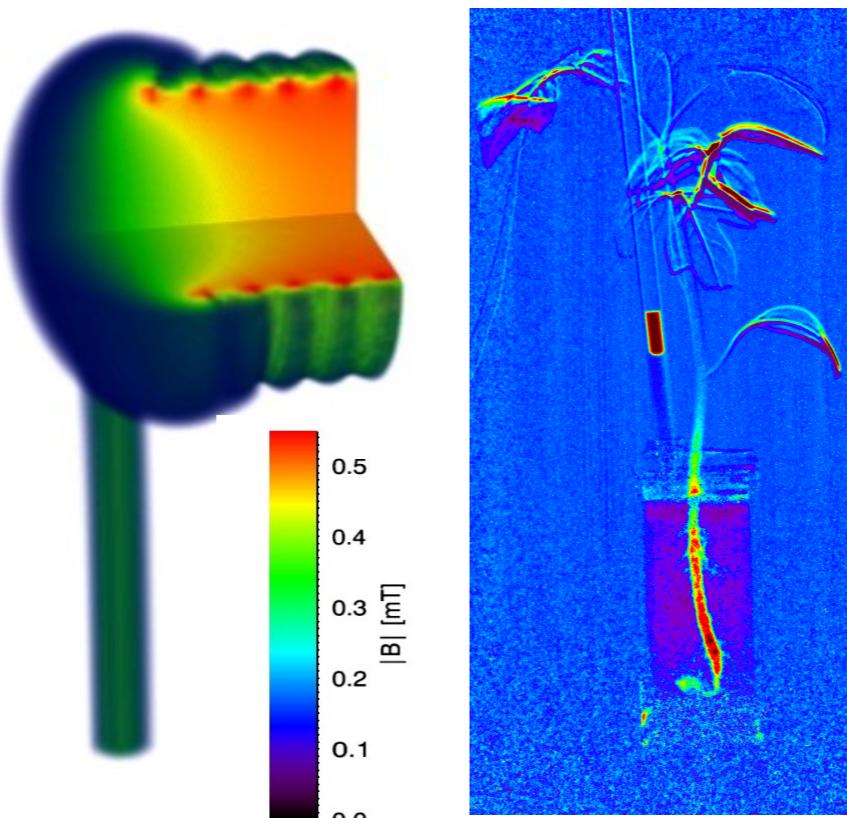
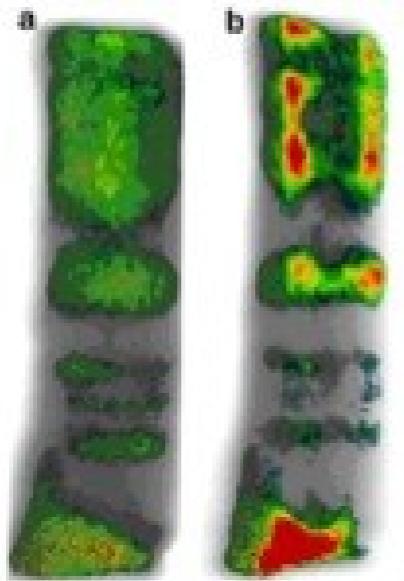
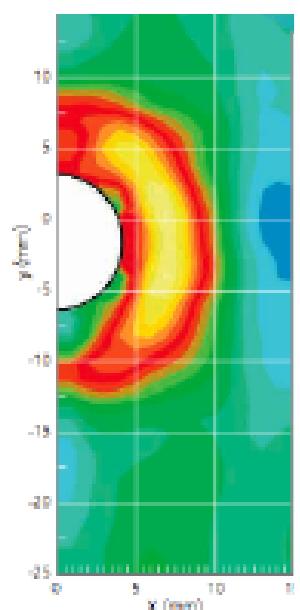
# Dark field contrast



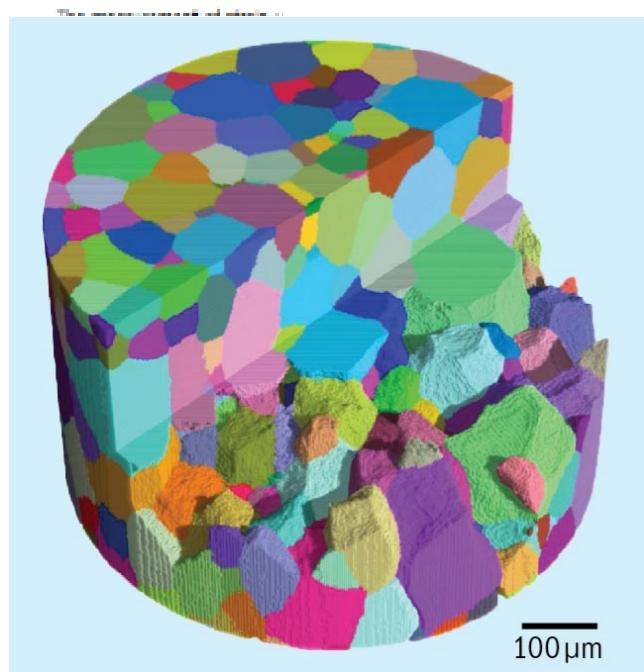
I. Manke et al., Nature comm. 2010



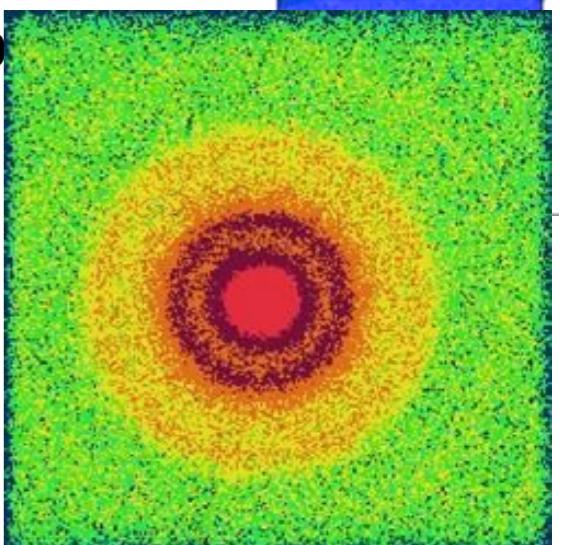
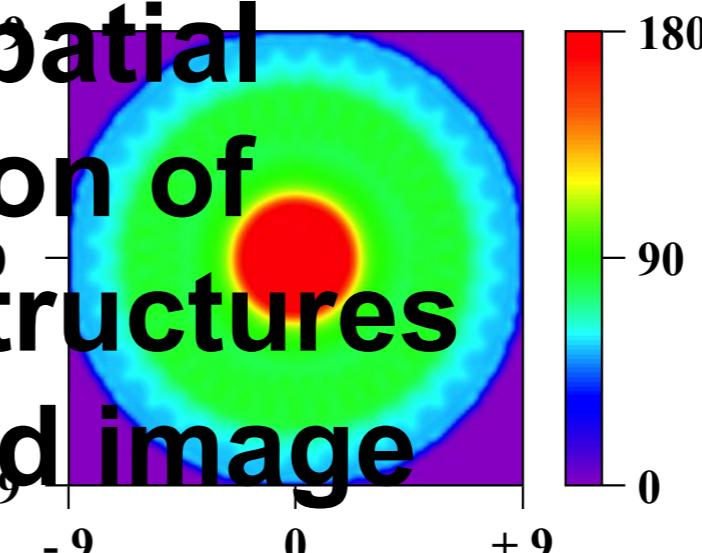
# images



No matter how  
Contrast  
Is  
Achieved



**Direct spatial correlation of individual structures in object and image**





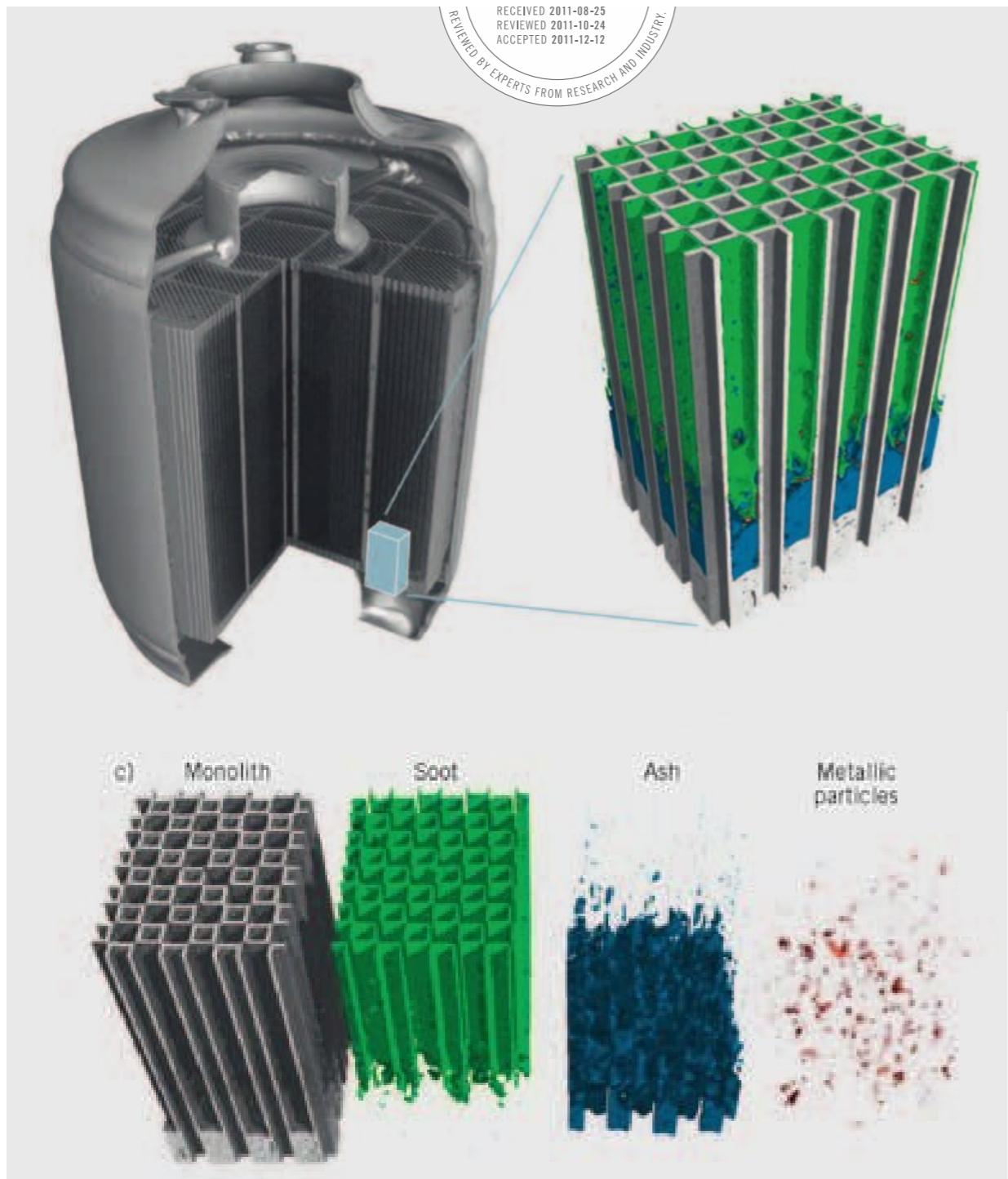
Courtesy E. Lehmann, PSI



EUROPEAN  
SPALLATION  
SOURCE

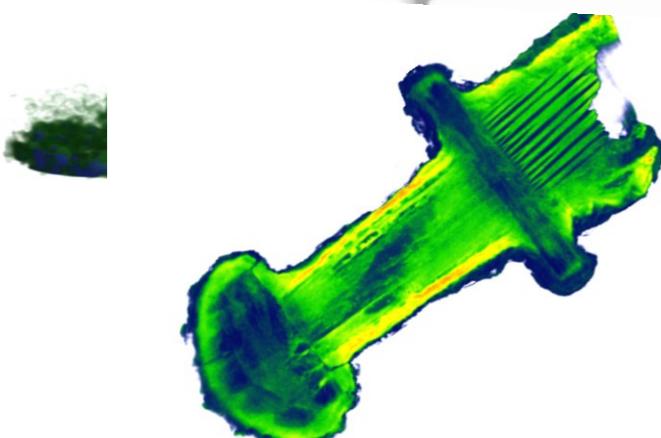
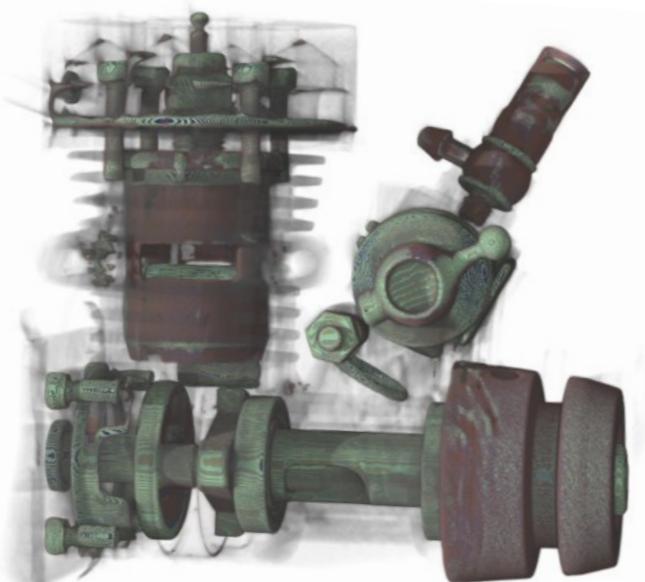
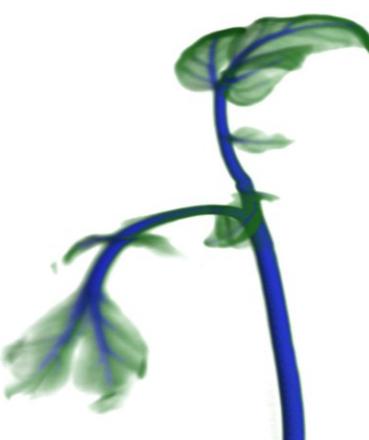
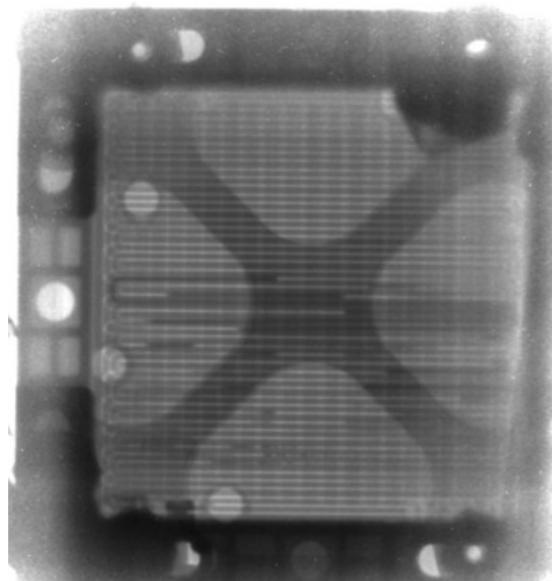
Markus Strobl  
Instrumentation Division@ ESS

# Neutron imaging applications

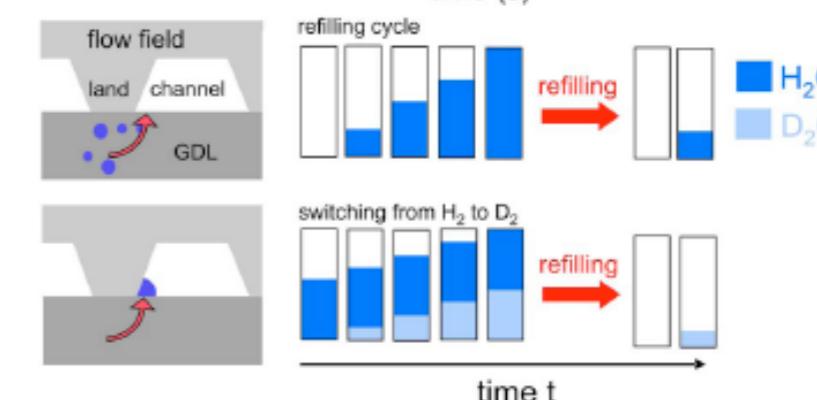
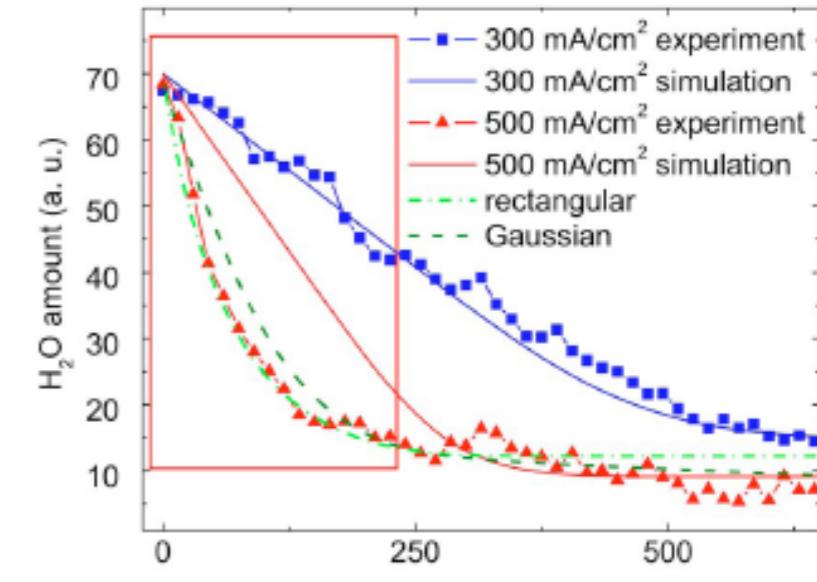


# Introduction Neutron imaging

## Imaging Applications



R&D  
Biology  
& Agriculture  
Geology  
Archeology  
Paleontology  
Art History  
Material science  
& Engineering  
Industry  
etc.



I. Manke,.., M.Strobl et al., APL(2008)

## Reviews on neutron imaging

M. Strobl et al.

J. Phys. D (2009)

&

N.Kardjilov..M.Strobl et al.  
Materials Today (2011)