



**HELMHOLTZ  
ZENTRUM BERLIN**  
für Materialien und Energie

# Upgrade of the cold three-axis spectrometer FLEX at BER II

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Klaus Habicht  
Leo Cussen

McStas ICNS 2009 satellite workshop  
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# Acknowledgements

F. Mezei	LANL, USA
C. Pappas	HZB, Germany
A. Tennant	HZB, Germany
T. Krist	HZB, Germany

## Outline of Talk:

Introduction	Current FLEX operation
	General layout of upgraded FLEX
Monte Carlo	Independent checks on the validity of MC method
	Simulations on FLEX's primary spectrometer
Conclusions	

# Current FLEX – usual operation

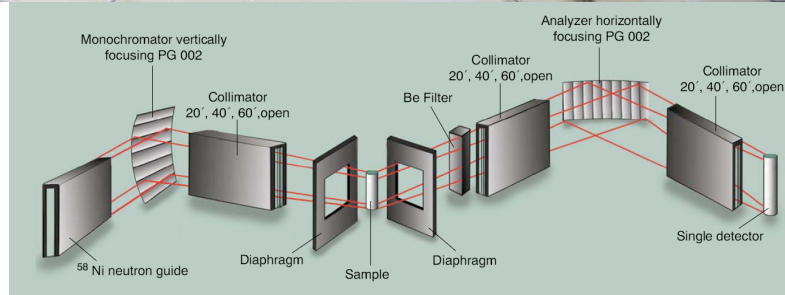


## low energy excitations in:

- quantum magnetism
- high- $T_c$  superconductors
- heavy fermions

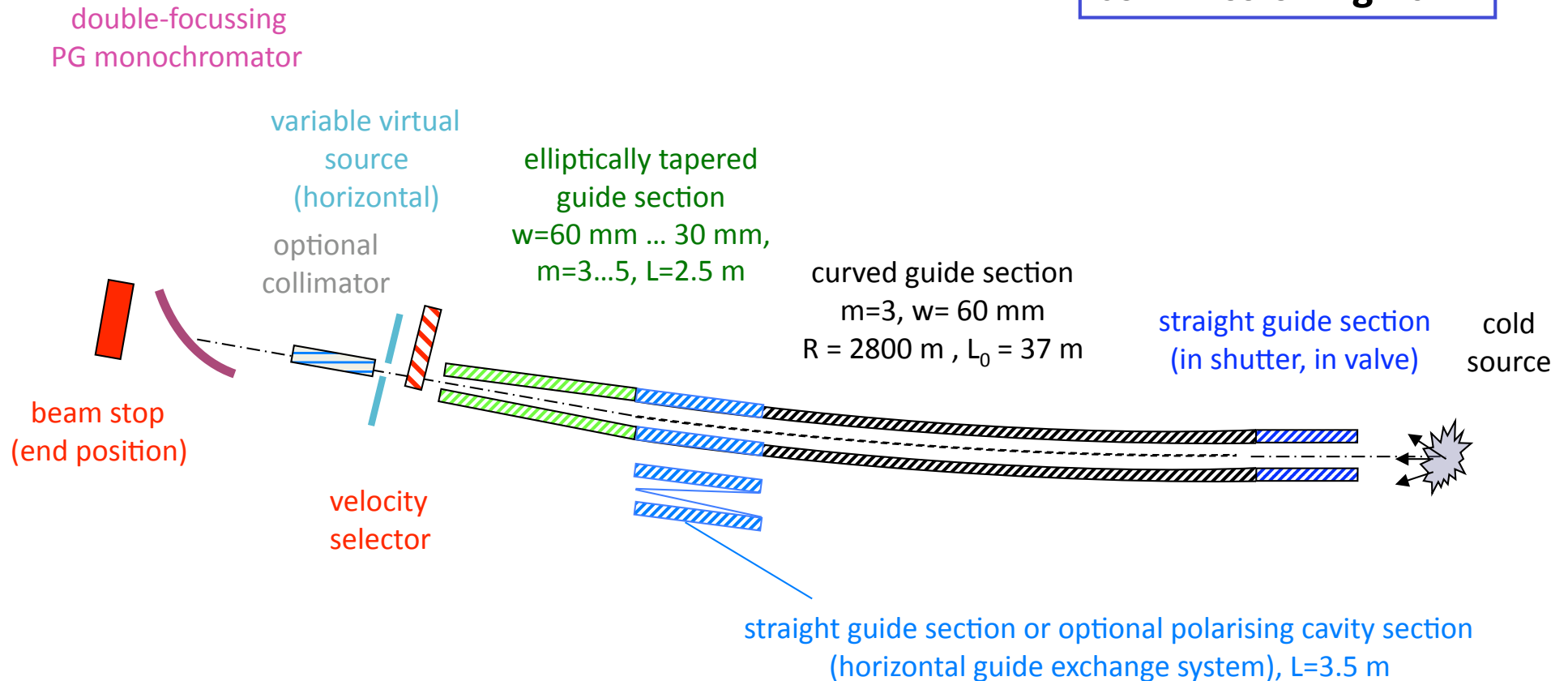
## experimental need for:

- good signal to noise
- high intensity
- but moderate wavevector resolution



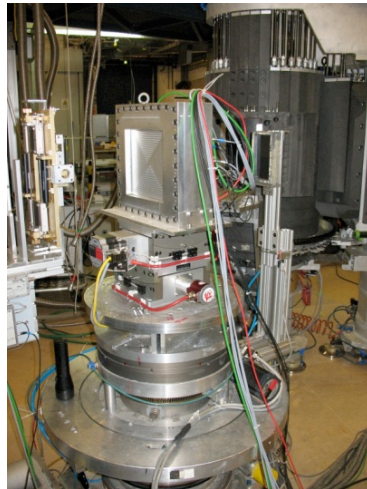
# Upgraded FLEX – primary spectrometer layout

commissioning 2011

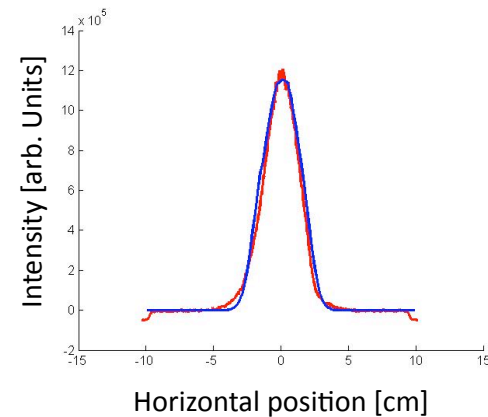
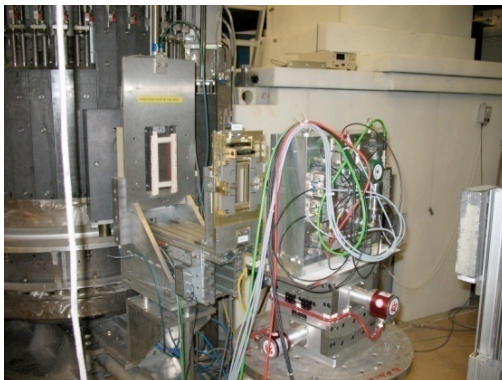
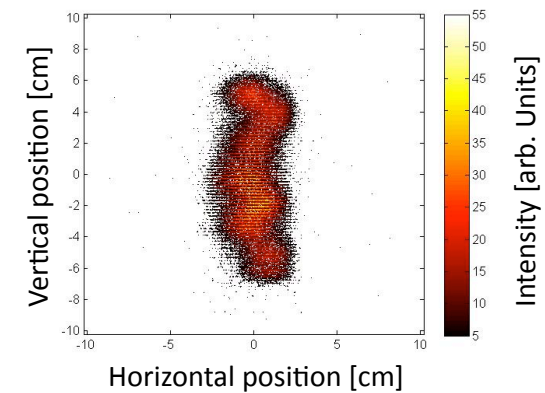
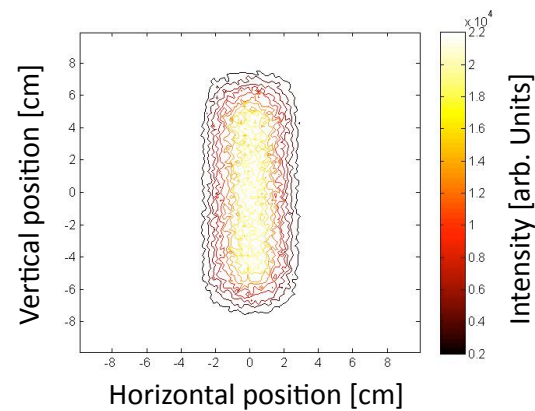


# Checks of Monte Carlo validity: PSD measurements

- sample position measurements at FLEX directly compared with Vitess simulations
- checked at various wavelengths and monochromator focusing radii



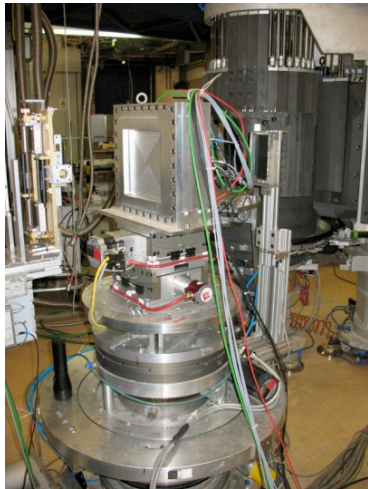
$k_i = 1.55 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  with flat monochromator



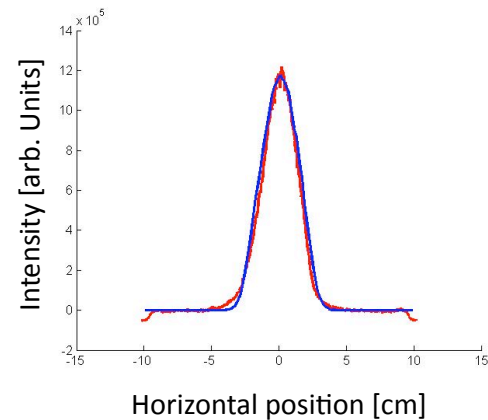
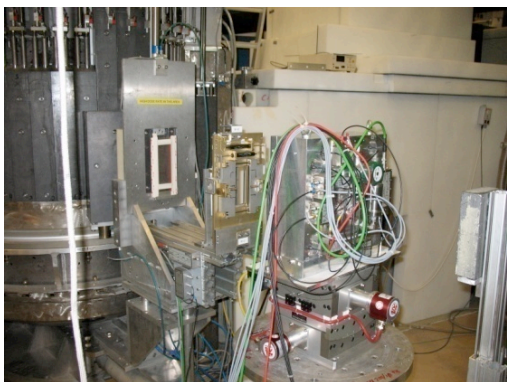
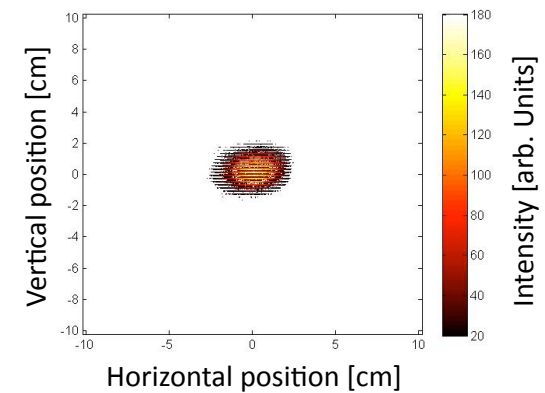
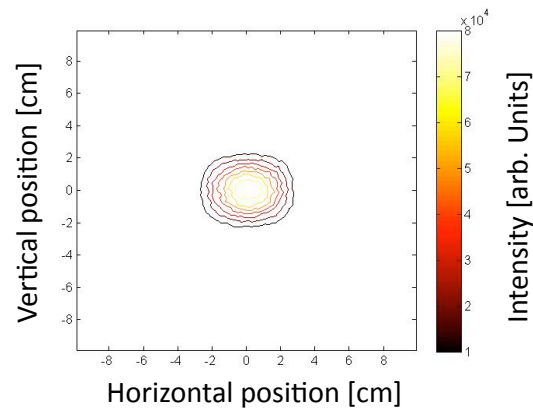


# Checks of Monte Carlo validity: PSD measurements

- sample position measurements at FLEX directly compared with Vitess simulations
- checked at various wavelengths and monochromator focusing radii

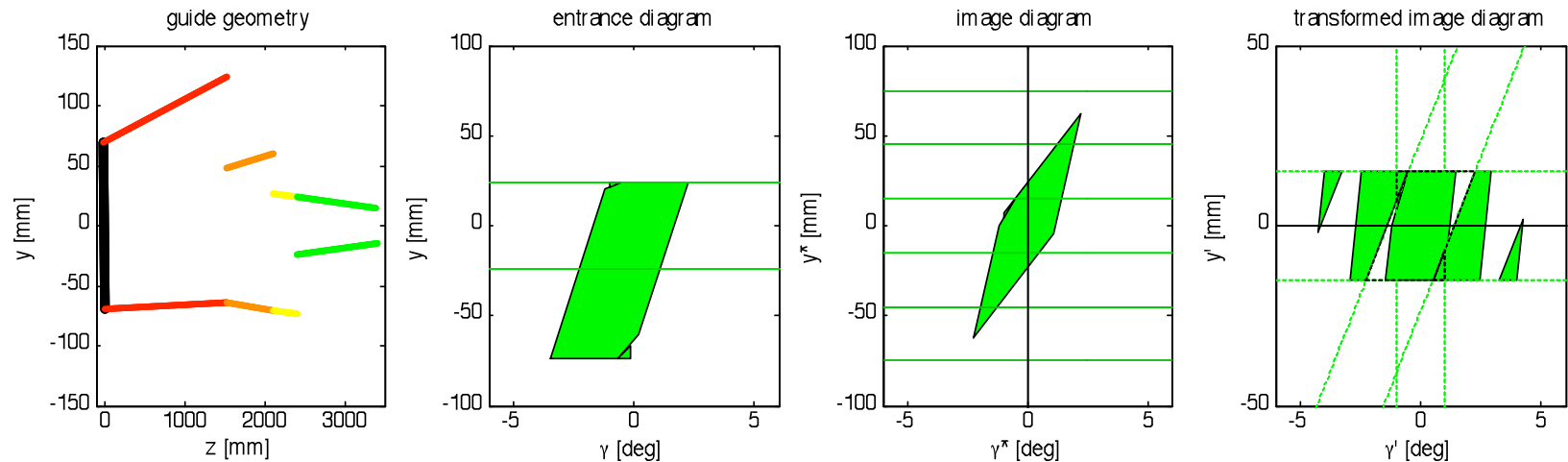


**$k_1 = 1.55 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  with vertically focused monochromator**



# Checks of M.C. validity: acceptance diagrams

- acceptance diagrams of horizontal status of current FLEX guide (NL1b) at in-pile section



section 4

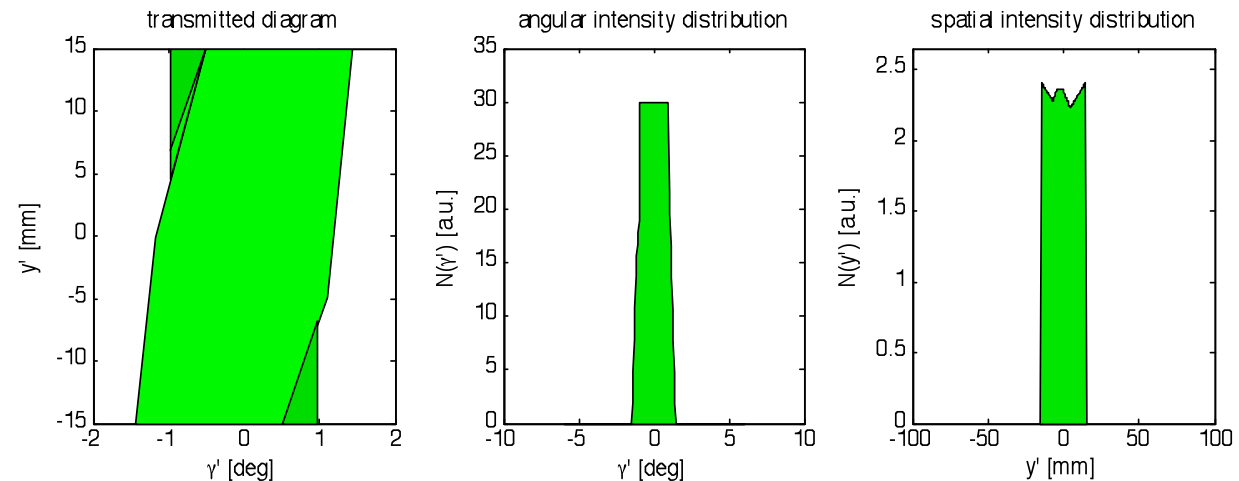
wavelength  $\lambda = 4.054$  Å

using parameter file ADinput horizontal NL1B 005.dat

total area of the transmitted polygon in  $y' \gamma'$  space:  
 $A_{\text{total}} = 69.859$  mm deg

area of the line-of-sight polygon in  $y' \gamma'$  space:  
 $A_{\text{line of sight}} = 65.374$  mm deg

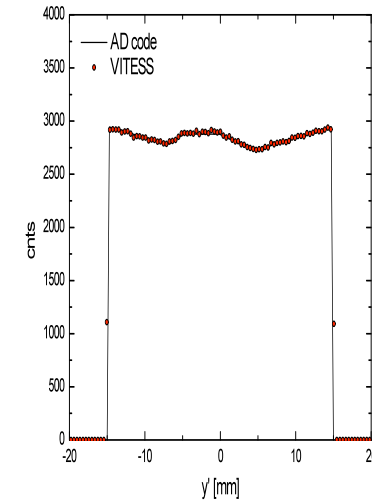
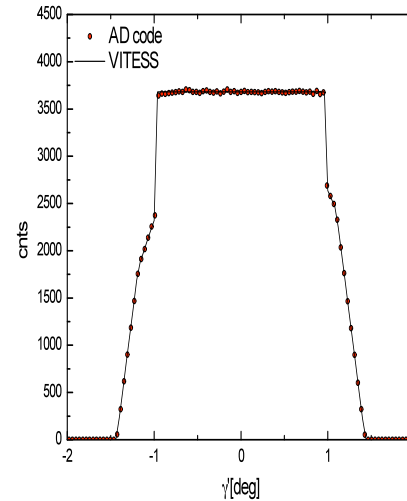
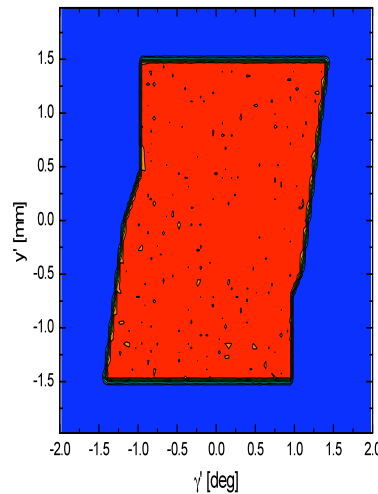
area of the reflected-neutron polygons in  $y\gamma$  space:  
 $A_{\text{ref}} = 4.485$  mm deg



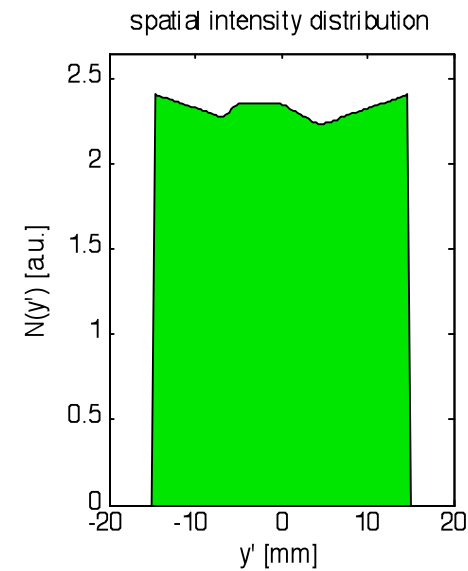
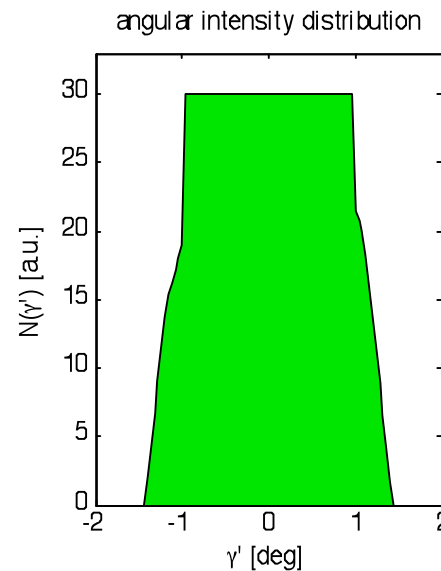
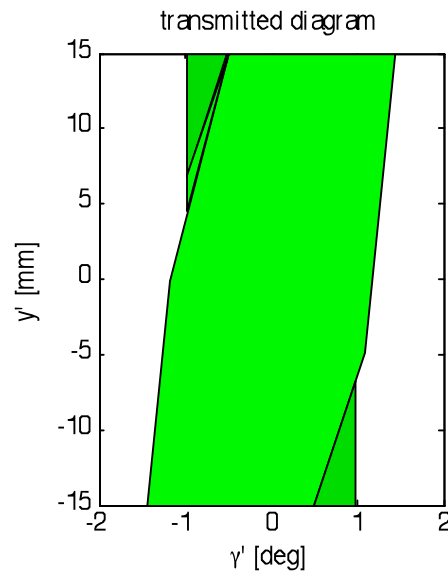
# Checks of M.C. validity: acceptance diagrams

- A.D. at the current in-pile section directly compared to Vitess M.C. simulations

VITESS



AD code

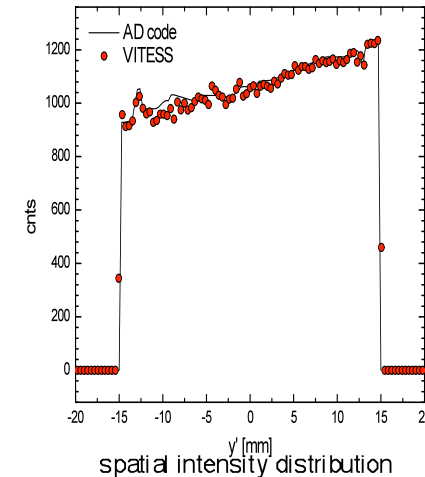
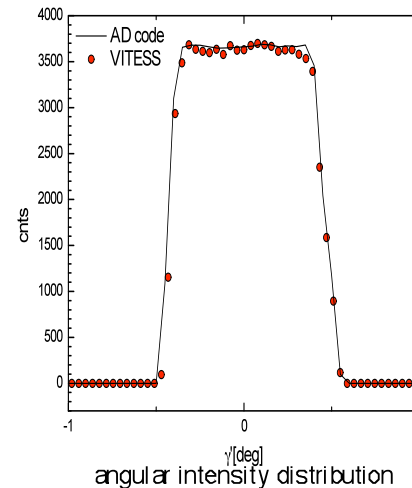
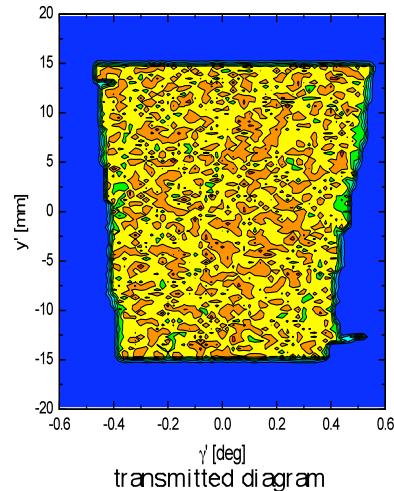




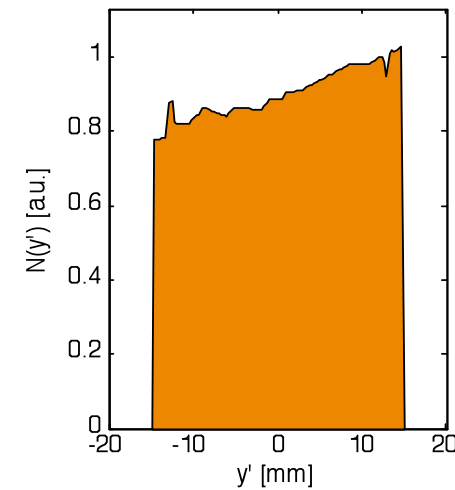
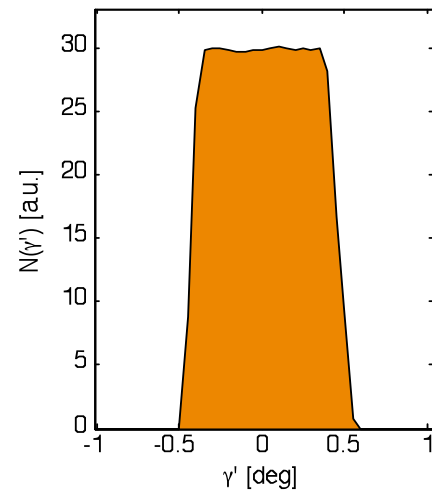
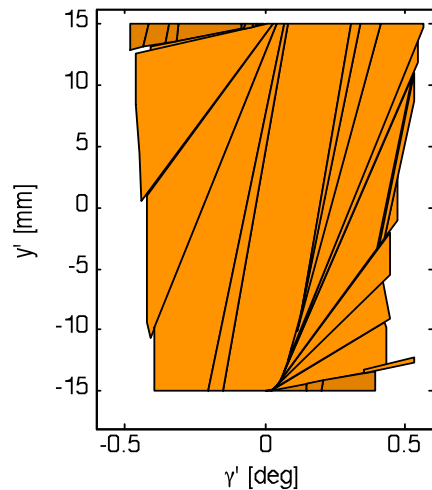
# Checks of M.C. validity: acceptance diagrams

- A.D. half way through FLEX's curved guide directly compared to Vitess M.C. simulations

VITESS



AD code

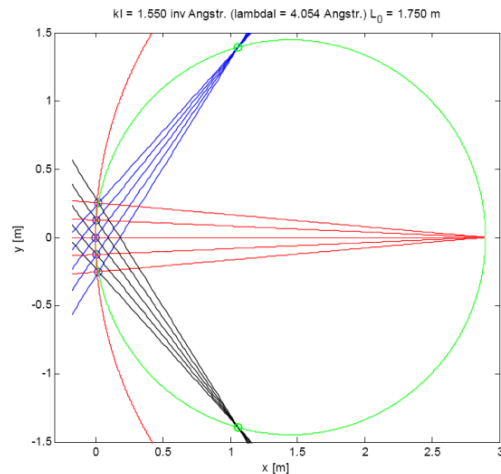
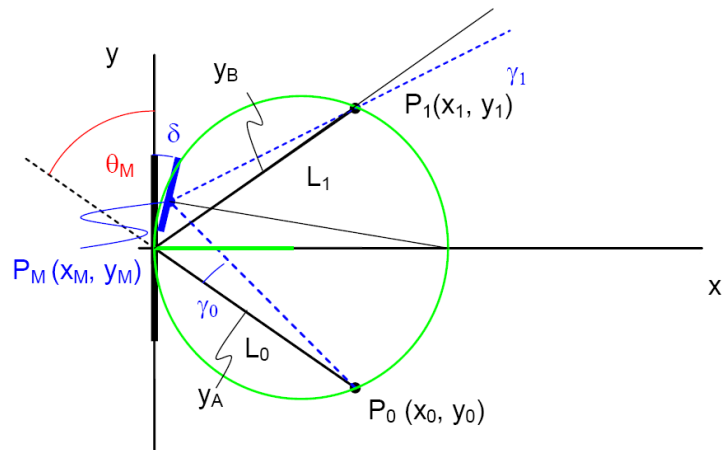


- test for Vitess code but also very helpful in checking the model parameters

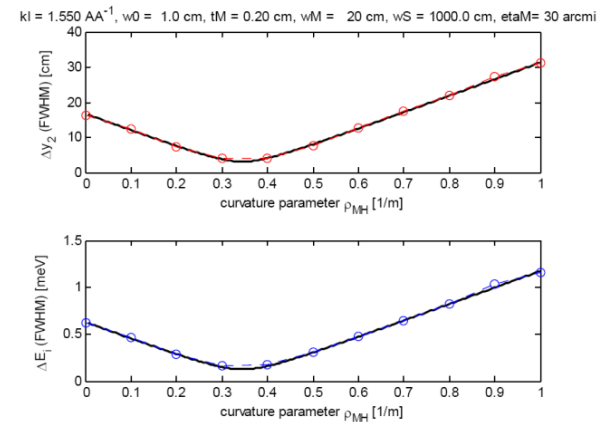
# Checks of M.C.: virtual source-monochromator

- McStas simulations versus the analytical Popovici model - widths

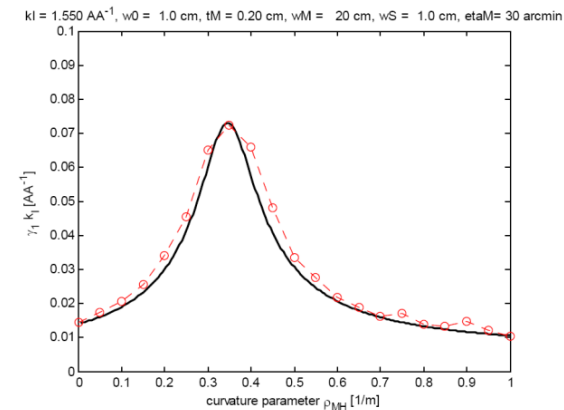
virtual source geometry – symmetric case



Spatial and monochromatic focusing



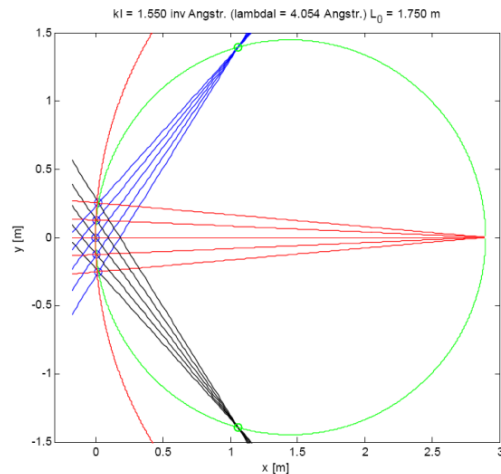
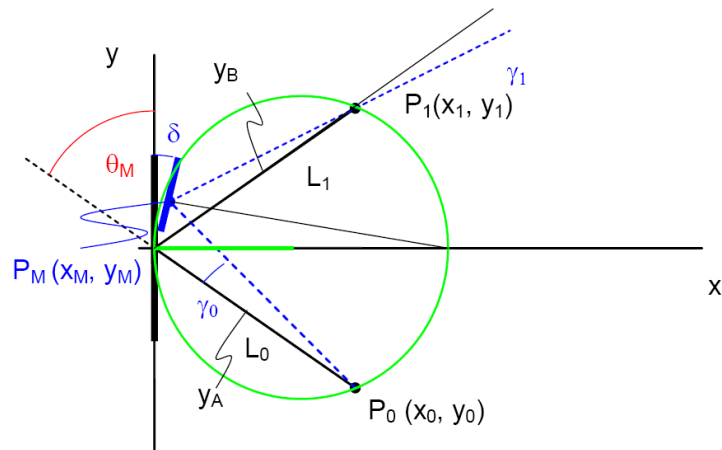
Width of transverse incident wavevector in scattering plane



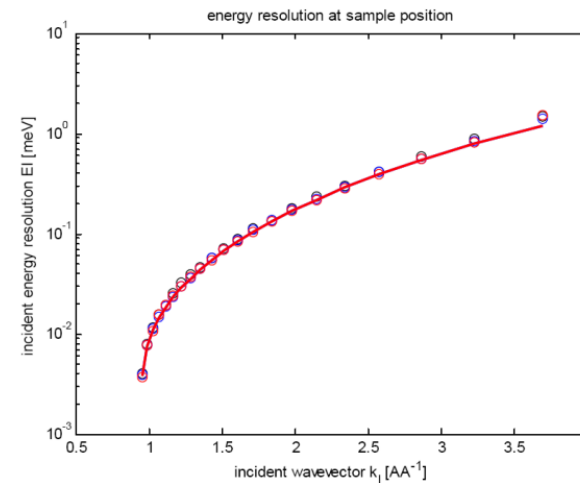
# Checks of M.C.: virtual source-monochromator

- McStas simulations versus the analytical Popovici model - widths

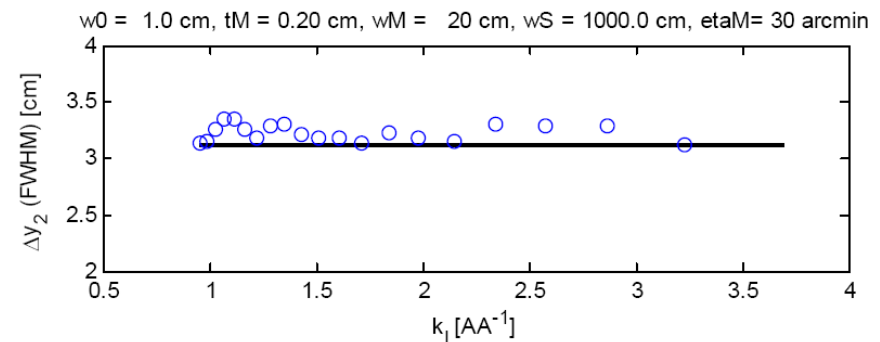
virtual source geometry – symmetric case



Wavevector dependence of energy width



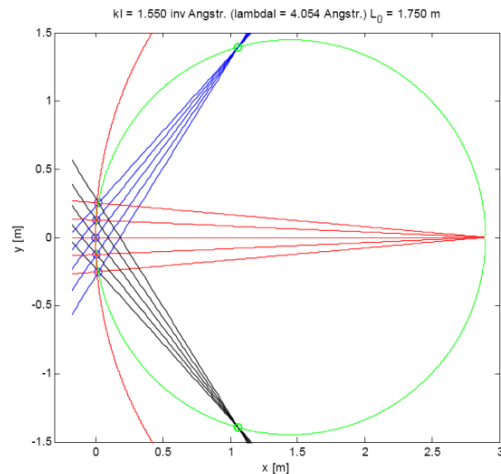
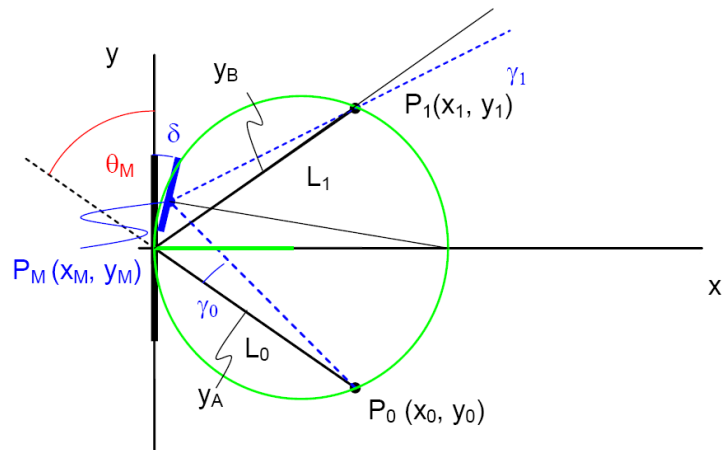
Wavevector dependence of horizontal spot size



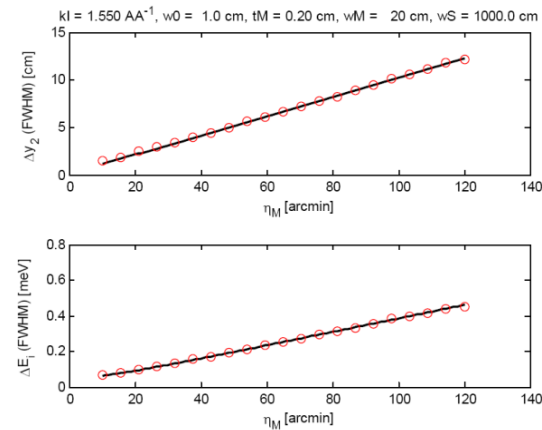
# Checks of M.C.: virtual source-monochromator

- McStas simulations versus the analytical Popovici model - widths

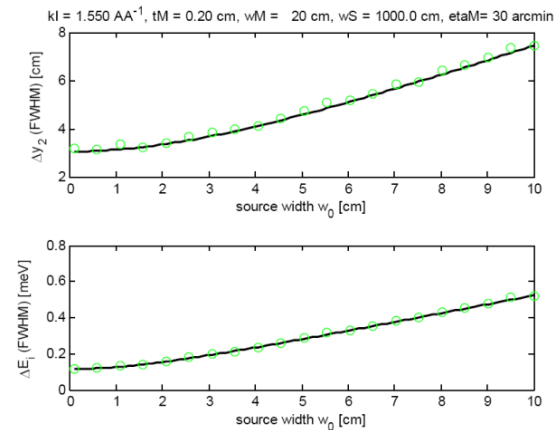
virtual source geometry – symmetric case



Mosaicity dependence of horizontal spot size and  $\Delta E$



Source width dependence of horizontal spot size and  $\Delta E$



- McStas simulations versus the analytical Popovici model - intensities

Figure 1 is a plot showing the intensity at the sample position (y-axis, ranging from 0 to 3) versus the horizontal curvature  $R_{MH}$  in  $m^{-1}$  (x-axis, ranging from 0 to 1.0). The plot displays three data series, each represented by open circles with error bars and a corresponding fitted curve. The red series shows the highest intensity, peaking at approximately 2.1 at  $R_{MH} \approx 0.35$ . The blue series shows intermediate intensity, peaking at approximately 1.1 at  $R_{MH} \approx 0.35$ . The black series shows the lowest intensity, peaking at approximately 0.6 at  $R_{MH} \approx 0.35$ . All three series exhibit a similar bell-shaped distribution centered around  $R_{MH} \approx 0.35$ .

Figure 1 is a plot showing the intensity at sample position (Y-axis, ranging from 0 to 8) versus the virtual source width  $w_0$  [cm] (X-axis, ranging from 0 to 10). The plot displays three data series, each represented by open circles with error bars and a corresponding fitted curve:

- Red Series:** Shows the highest intensity values, increasing from 0 at  $w_0 = 0$  to approximately 7.2 at  $w_0 = 10$  cm.
- Blue Series:** Shows intermediate intensity values, increasing from 0 at  $w_0 = 0$  to approximately 4.9 at  $w_0 = 10$  cm.
- Black Series:** Shows the lowest intensity values, increasing from 0 at  $w_0 = 0$  to approximately 2.4 at  $w_0 = 10$  cm.

The fitted curves are smooth, monotonically increasing functions that level off as  $w_0$  increases, indicating a saturation behavior. The error bars represent the uncertainty in the intensity measurements.

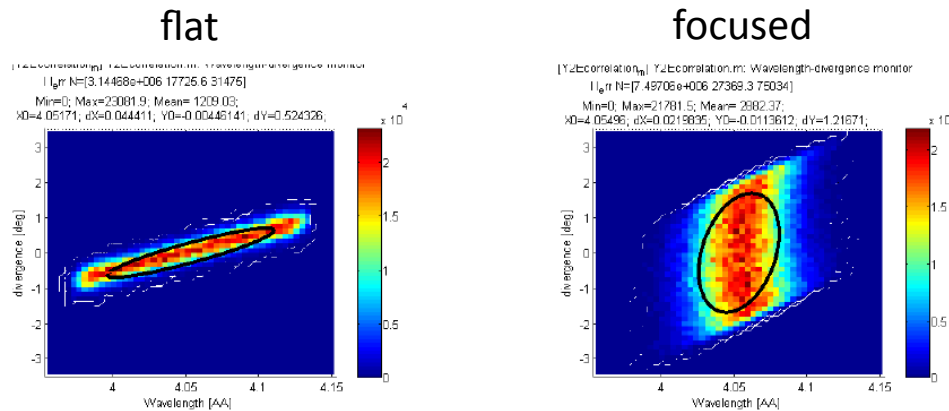
monitor width at the sample position:

- 3 cm
- 2 cm
- 1 cm

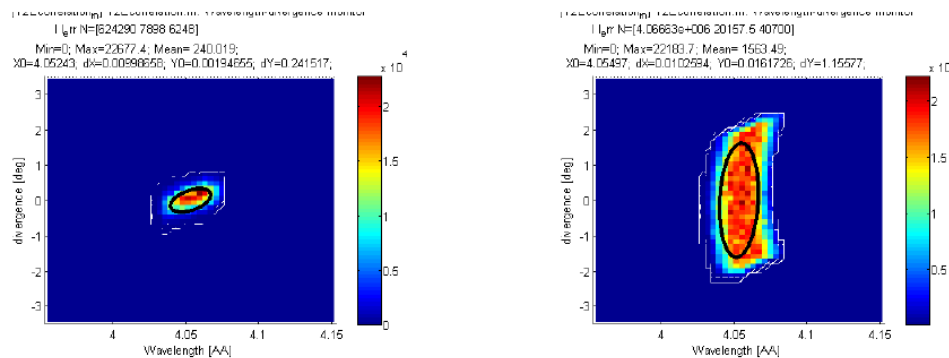
# Checks of M.C.: virtual source-monochromator

- McStas simulations versus the analytical Popovici model
- $(\Delta\lambda_i, \gamma_1)$  phase space element, virtual source width = 1 cm

10 cm sample width



2 cm sample width

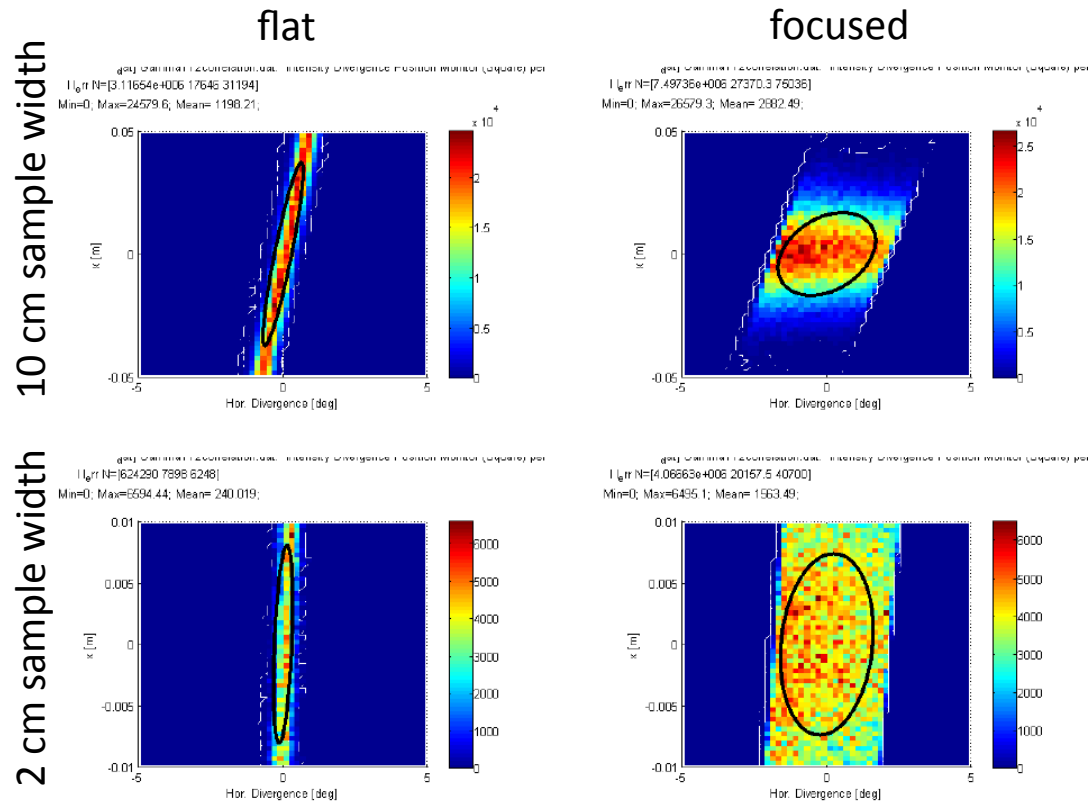


- horizontal focusing effects:  
→ increases beam monochromaticity (10 cm sample)  
→ larger divergence (Liouville's theorem)
- no pronounced structures in the intensity landscapes
- resolution ellipses from the gaussian Popovici approximation agree well (lines of 50% probability)



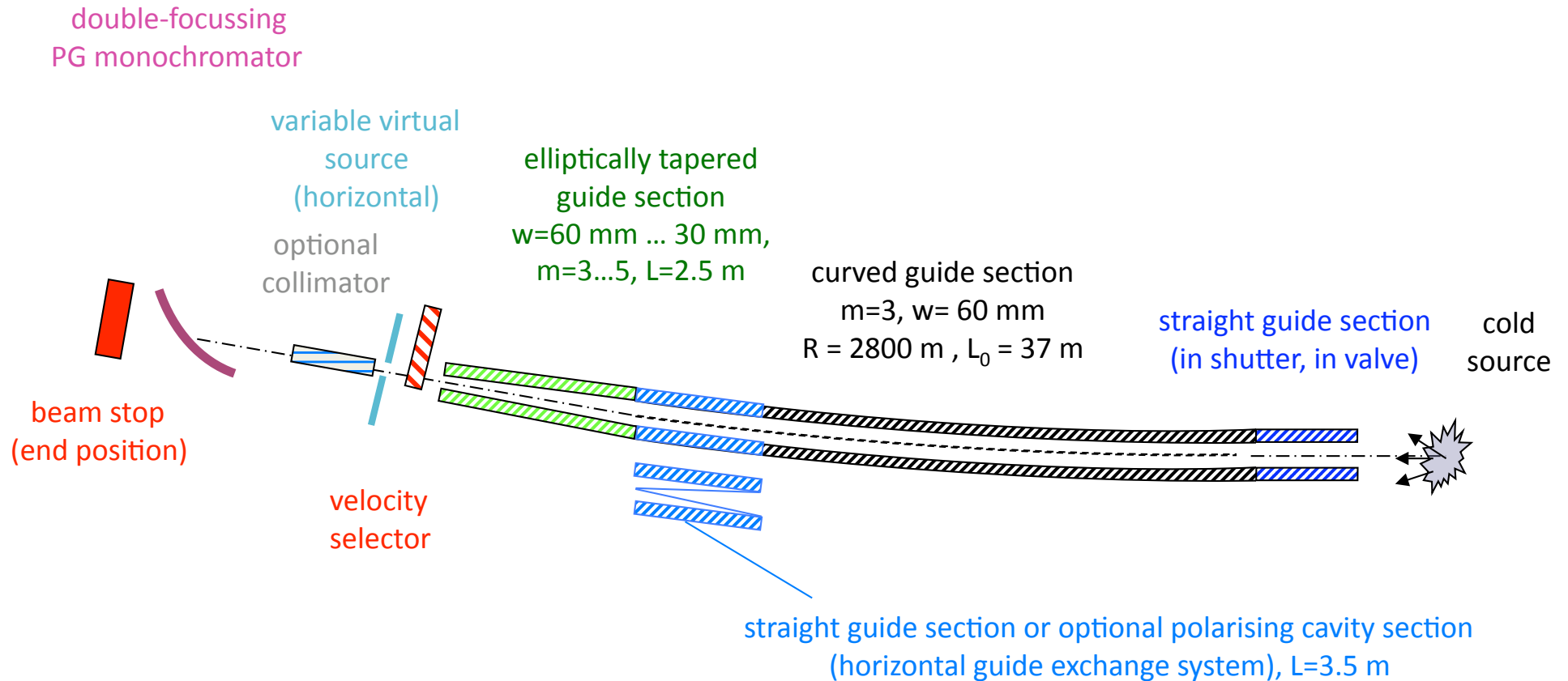
# Checks of M.C.: virtual source-monochromator

- McStas simulations versus the analytical Popovici model
- $(\Delta y_2, \gamma_1)$  phase space element, virtual source width = 1 cm

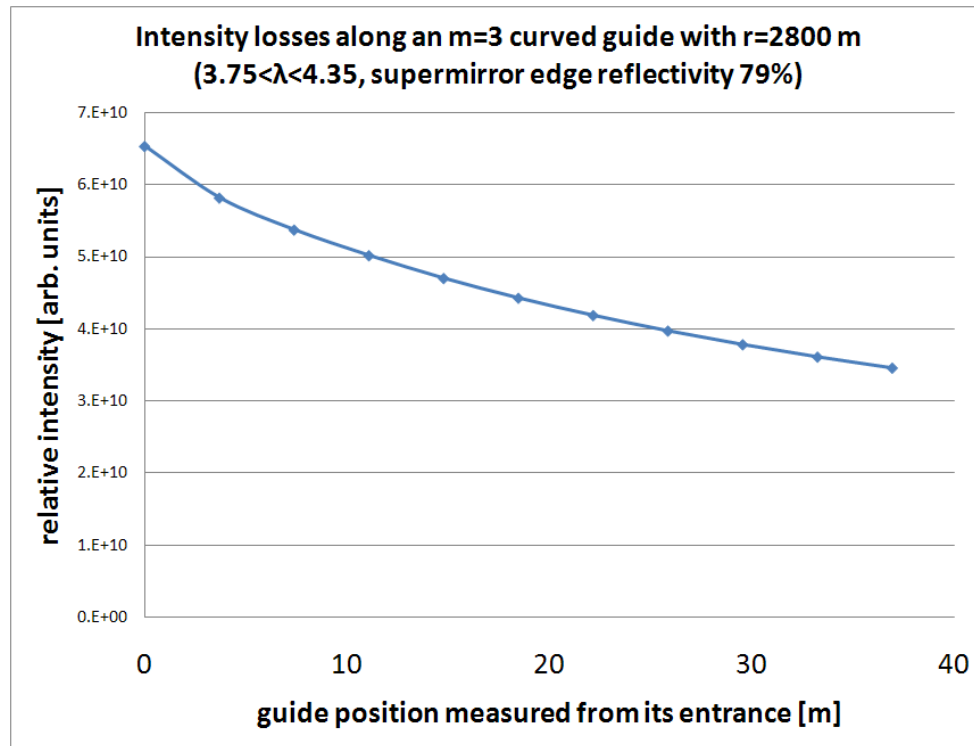


- horizontal focusing effects:
  - spatial focusing
  - increased divergence (Liouville's theorem)
- no pronounced structures in the intensity landscapes
- see some deviations but overall good agreement with the gaussian Popovici approximation (lines of 50% probability)

# Curved guide simulations



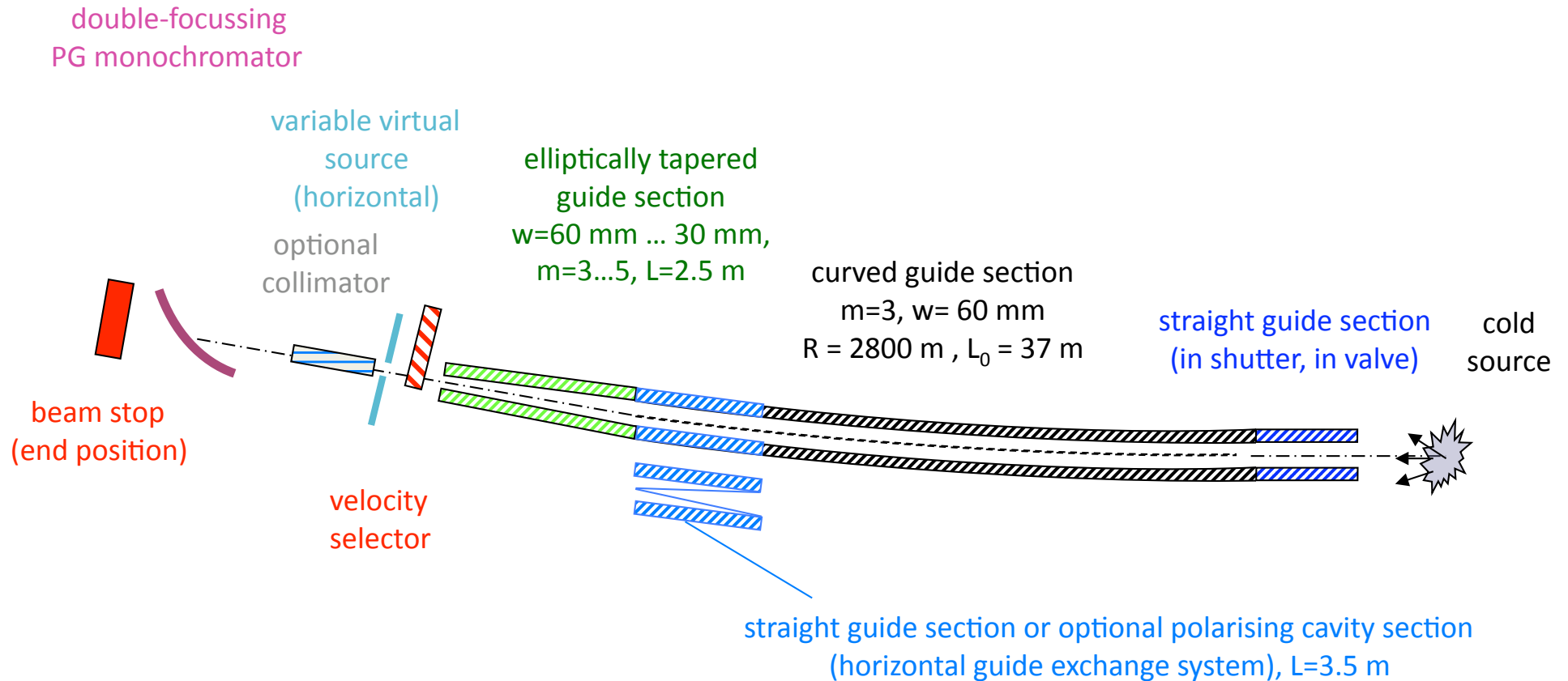
# Curved guide simulations



- about 53% of the neutrons survive down the NL1b guide
- vertical and horizontal beam divergences at the end of the guide drop to 70% from their initial values at the guide entrance (in agreement with intensity losses)
- $m_{\text{effective}} = 2.1$  at the end of the guide
- analytical cut-off wavelength  $\lambda^* = 1.26 \text{ \AA}$  for m=3 and  $1.89 \text{ \AA}$  for m=2 (compared to  $2.2 \text{ \AA}$  in current FLEX)

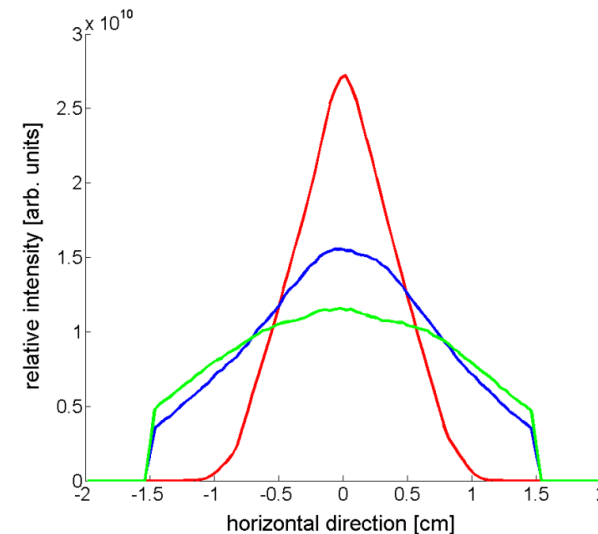
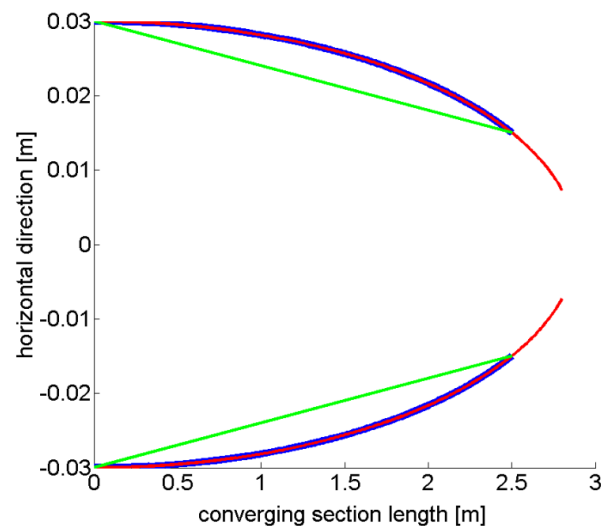
- the guide m coating and entrance position match almost perfectly with the beam that is delivered at that point (from “perfect” m=3 simulations)
- can extend our spectrum towards thermal range

# Elliptical section simulations



# Elliptical section simulations

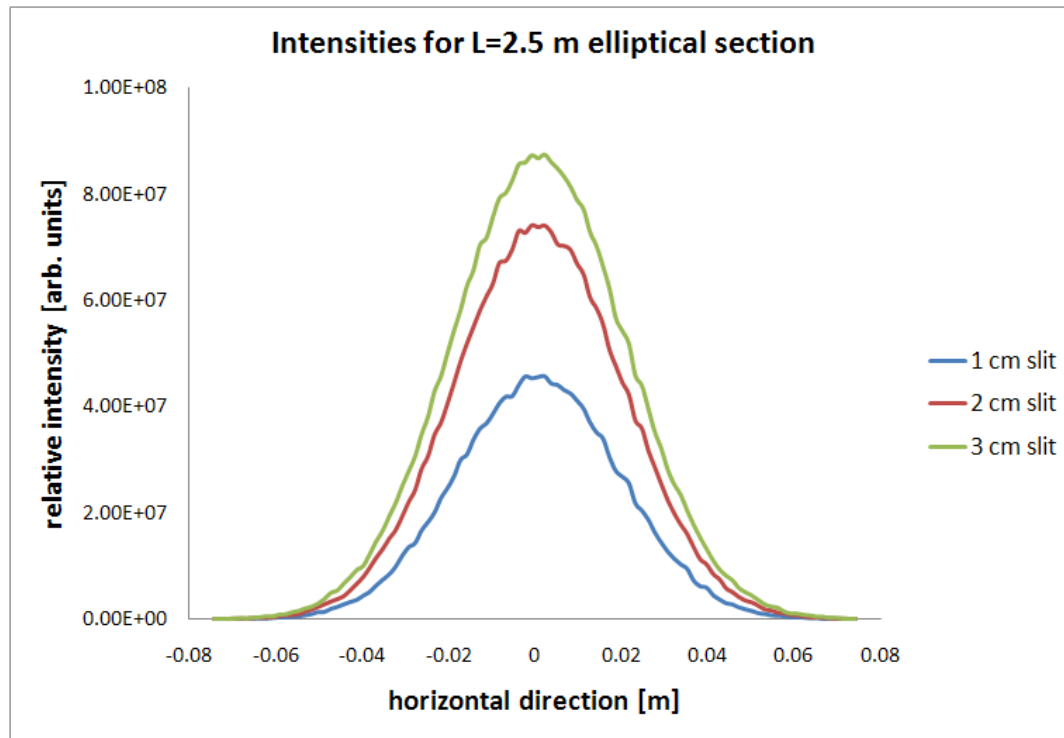
- Vitess results at the **virtual source position** for various converging sections



- neutrons are focused according to ray optics, at the ellipse's focal point (no wavelength dependence)
- for small slit sizes the extended ellipse offers large intensity gains at virtual source (and sample) position at the expense of increased beam divergence
- expect this since it spatially focuses more
- for vertical focusing it is better to use the monochromator, since an elliptical shape in this direction will only transport half of the neutron flux

# Elliptical section simulations

- Vitess-McStas results at the **sample position** for the 2.5m long converging section



- intensity gains for bigger slit sizes at virtual source are accompanied by losses in energy resolution
- in this case the FWHM of  $1 \times 1 \text{ cm}^2$  energy monitors are 43, 57 and 70  $\mu\text{eV}$
- beam divergence is unaffected by slit size...
- ...but depends on converging section shape (the more you try to focus, the higher the divergence)

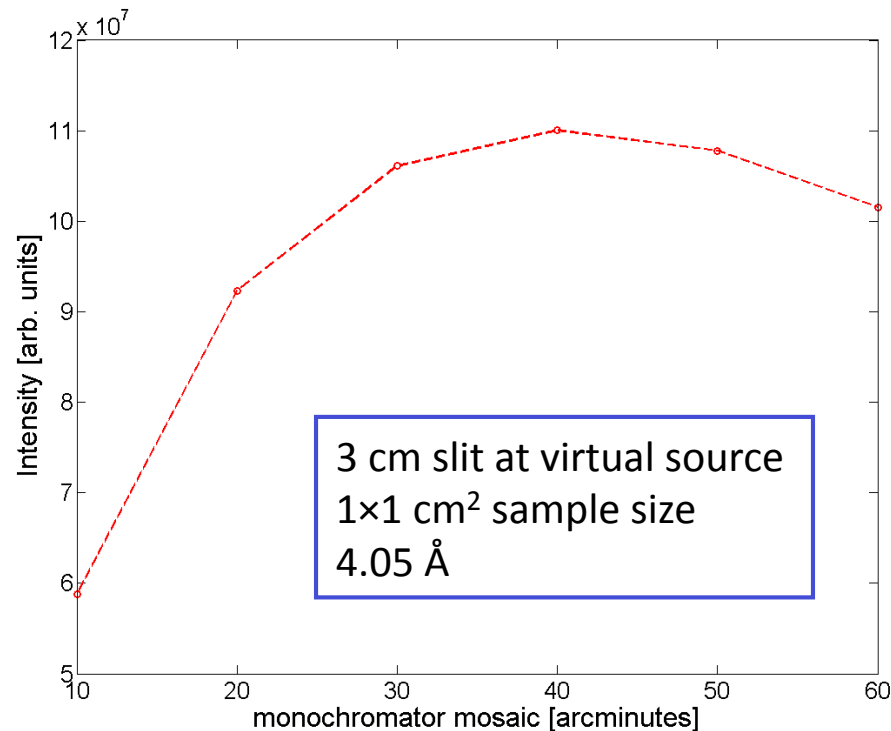
- we need the truly elliptical shape, otherwise divergence at sample position has a structure
- $\Delta E$  at sample position can be tailored for a particular experiment by changing slit size
- a slit at a PSD is equivalent to the slit at virtual source, hence experimentalist can select whether he needs more flux or better  $\Delta E$  after the experiment, by masking the detector



# Monochromator simulations

PG (002) monochromator tested with various virtual source slit and sample sizes

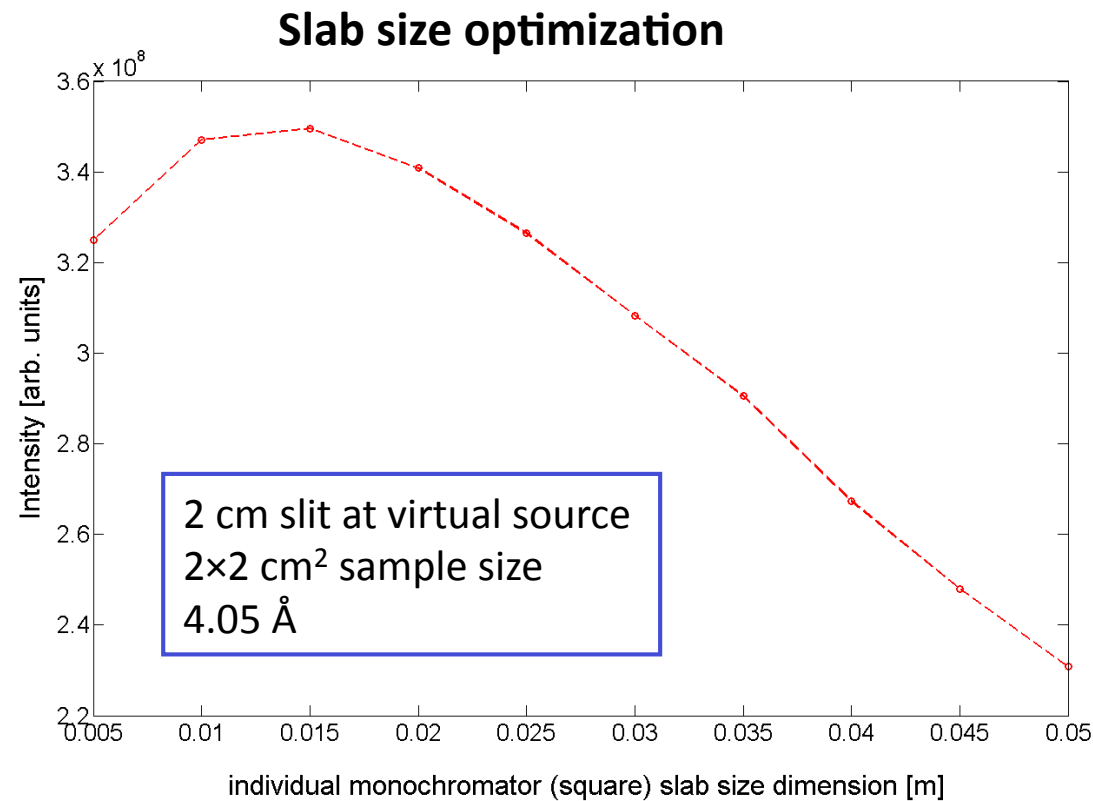
## Mosaic spread optimization



- the integrated intensity of monitors at sample position have a maximum (or plateau) at around 40 arcminutes
- beam is relatively uniform over a 3x3 cm<sup>2</sup> area
- upon reducing slit size, energy resolution gets better at the expense of neutron flux
- horizontal divergence stays relatively unaffected, because the horizontal radius of curvature dominates in divergence

# Monochromator simulations

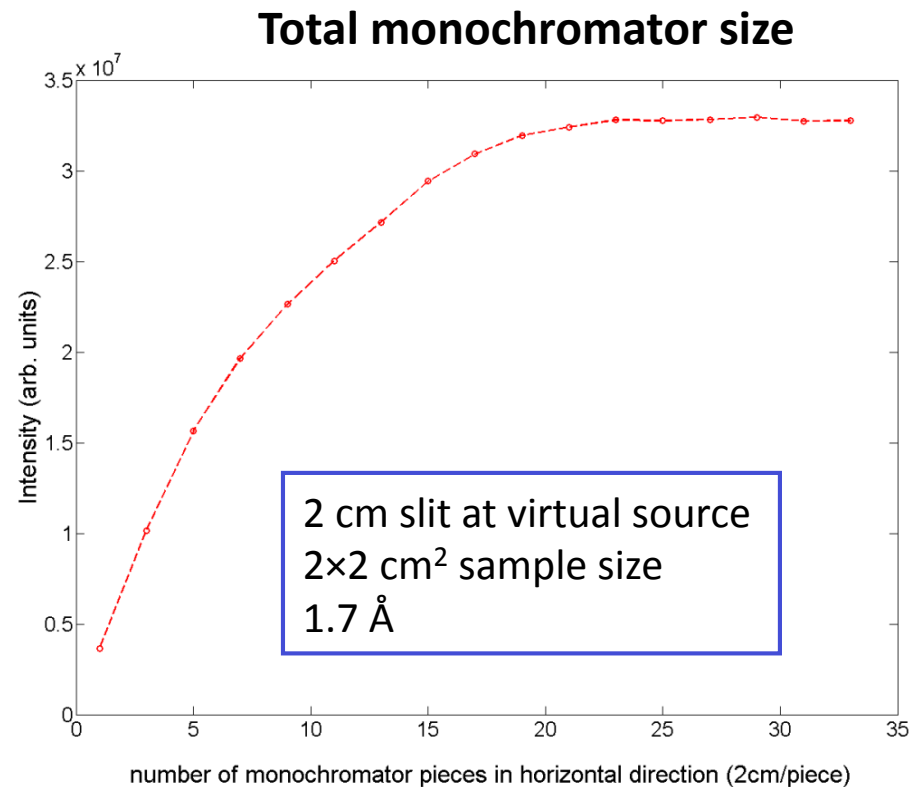
PG (002) monochromator tested with various virtual source slit and sample sizes



- a 1.5x1.5 cm<sup>2</sup> slab gives the highest flux
- a 0.5 mm gap has been assumed in between all slabs
- losses at low slab sizes are due to this gap
- energy resolution is unaffected by slab size

# Monochromator simulations

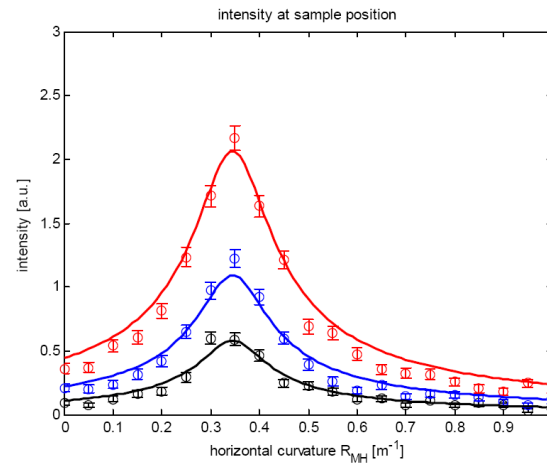
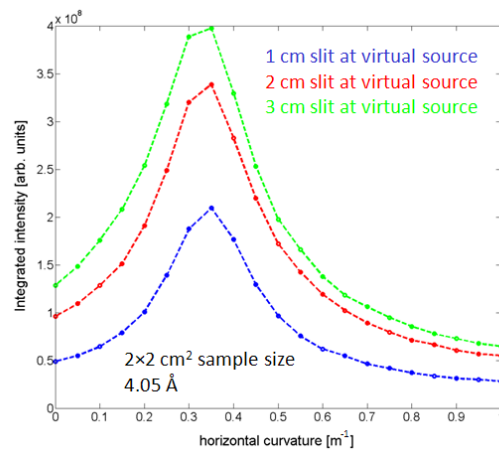
PG (002) monochromator tested with various virtual source slit and sample sizes



- use shortest FLEX wavelength, 1.7 Å, to get largest monochromator size needed in horizontal direction
- reach maximum after  $\approx 38$  cm
- simple geometrical calculation gives  $\approx 37$  cm!

# Monochromator simulations

## Horizontal focusing effects at sample position



- intensity gains of 3 - 4.5...
- ... at the expense of divergence
- energy spread is unaffected

Maximum possible gain from horizontal focusing (30' mosaicity)

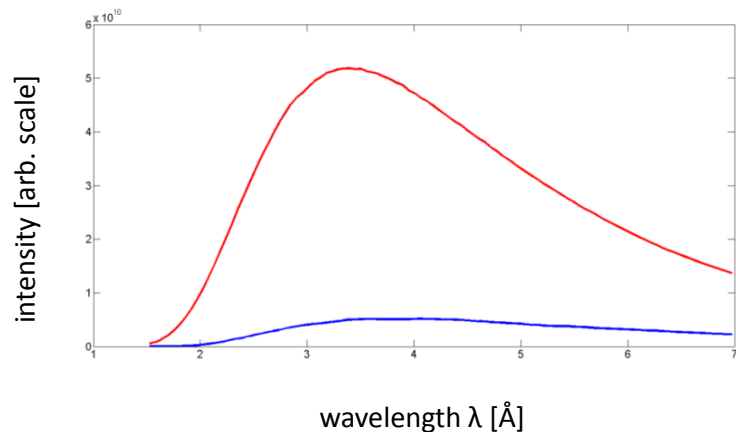
slit size	sample size	simple analytical model	"real" upgraded FLEX guide system
2 cm	2 cm	4.65	4.51
1 cm	2 cm	4.91	5.59
1 cm	1 cm	5.21	6.25

- simulations of complicated FLEX guide system agree well with simple case analytical model
- in the upgrade, we benefit all that is possible from horizontal focusing at sample position!

# Overall gain factors for FLEX 2011

Optimized instrument parameters with Vitess and McStas

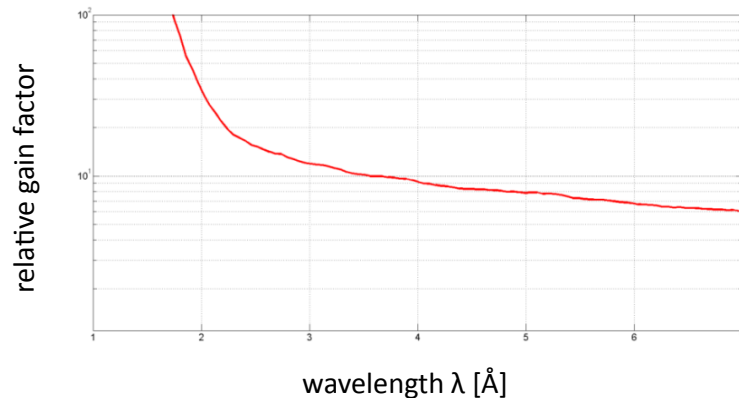
Intensity gains at the end of the guide system



Intensity gains at the sample position  
(excluding gains from cold source)

wavelength $\lambda$ [Å]	intensity gain at sample position	gain in energy resolution	total gain factor
2.36	12.9	1.08	13.9
4.05	6.8	1.34	9.1
6.6	5.5	1.72	9.5

Relative intensity gain for the guide system



- order of magnitude gain factors
- extended thermal neutron range
- enhanced polarized neutron flux

## Conclusions – future outlook

- thanks to Vitess and McStas Monte Carlo codes we have a good description of the primary spectrometer
- virtual source – horizontal monochromator focusing will match horizontal to vertical Q resolution
- energy resolution can be tailored by slit size (and collimators)
- big intensity gains, increased energy resolution and extended energy transfer from 8 to 20 meV, towards thermal range
- prefer Vitess for the guide system (especially elliptical section)
- McStas has been extensively tested and works perfect in the infinitely thin crystal limit approximation

- need a secondary spectrometer description
- polarized section simulations