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McStas

Simulating Polarized Neutron Scattering Experiments and Equipment with McStas

Erik Bergbäck Knudsen, DTU Physics

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Mcstas “particle” model

Neutron ray/package:

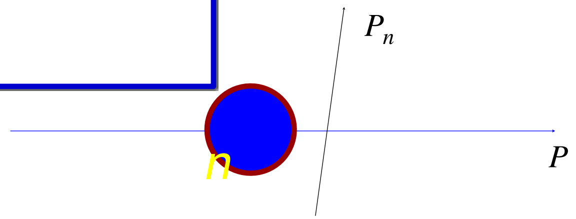
Weight: (p) # neutrons left in the package
Position: (x, y, z)

Velocity: (v_x, v_y, v_z)

Polarization: (s_x, s_y, s_z)

Time: (t)

$$P_n = \frac{1}{p}\sum_i^p P_i, \; n = raynumber$$



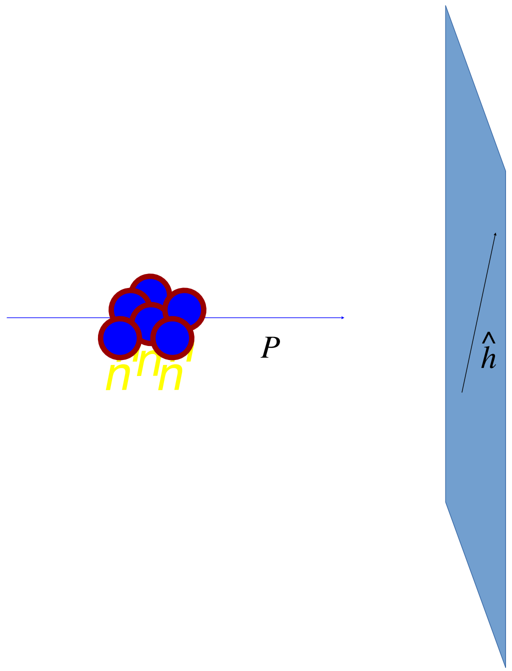
$$P_i = 2\left(\left\langle \hat{s}_{x,i}\right\rangle \hat{i}_{x,i} + \left\langle \hat{s}_{y,i}\right\rangle \hat{i}_{y,i} + \left\langle \hat{s}_{z,i}\right\rangle \hat{i}_{z,i}\right)$$

$$P = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{n=0}^{N} P_n$$

From G. Williams: *“Polarized neutrons”, Oxford Science Publ.*, 1988

McStas detectors/monitors

Monitoring: How and What do we monitor?



$$P_{\hat{h}} = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{N} p_n P_n \cdot \hat{h}}{\sum_n^N p_n}$$

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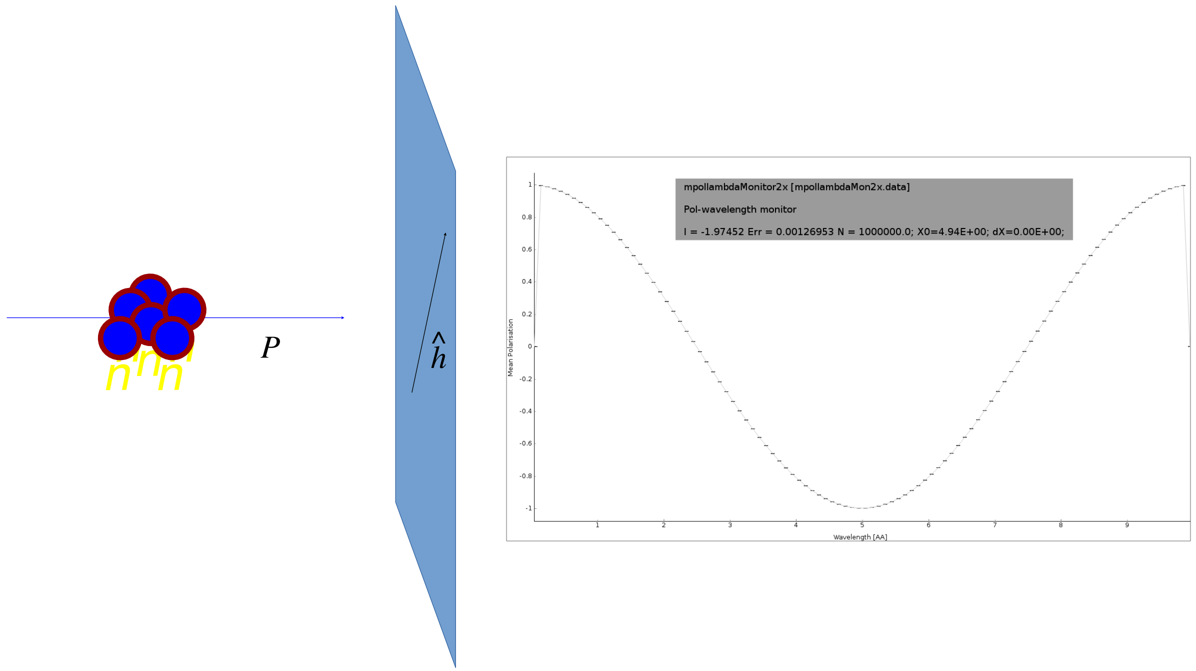
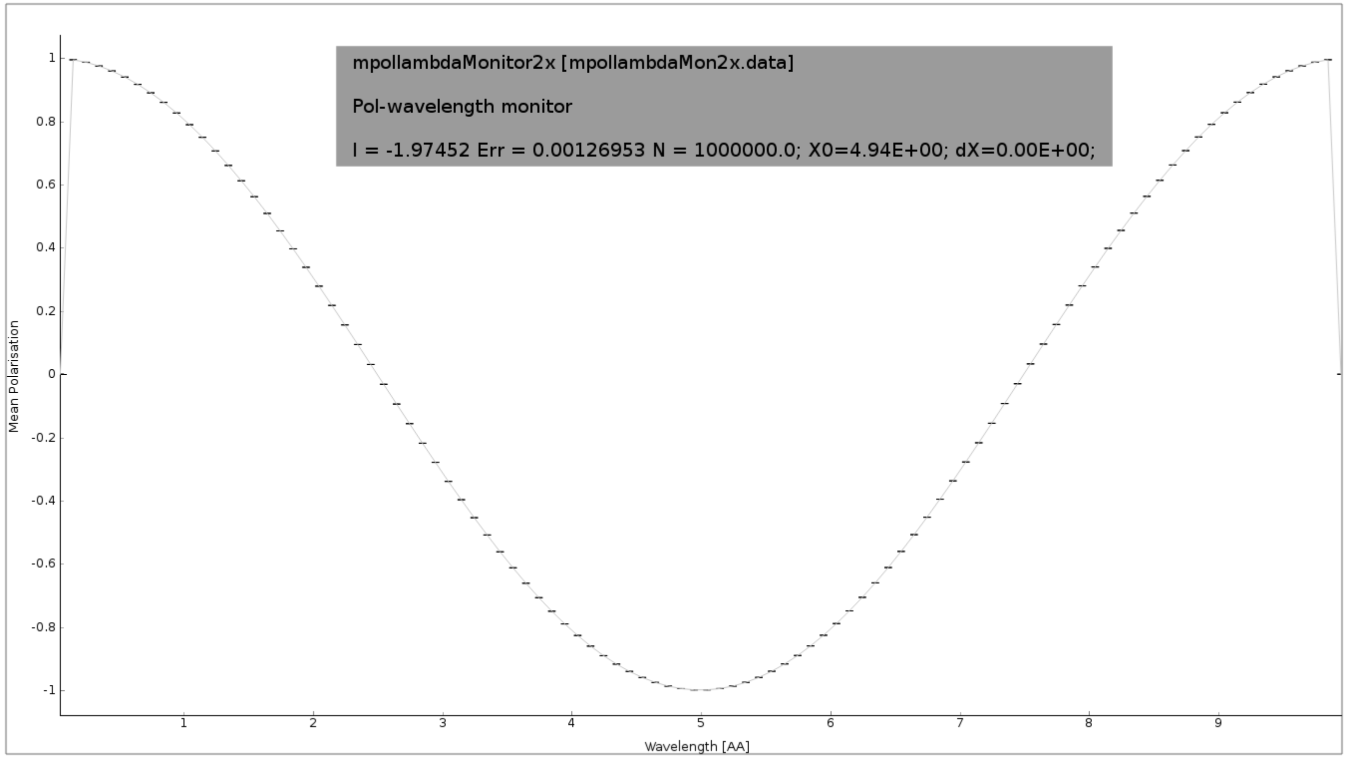
McStas detectors/monitors

Monitoring: How and What do we monitor?



McStas detectors/monitors

Monitoring: How and What do we monitor?



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Polarization monitors

- Available monitors:
- `Pol_monitor.comp`: 0D
- `PolLambda_monitor.comp`: 2D
- `MeanPolLambda_monitor.comp`: 1D

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McStas precession algorithm

- Magnetic fields in McStas
- The challenge:
  - Fast beam/ray transport: # $rays > 10^6$
  - Unknown magnetic field and field strength
  - >1 Magnet → nested fields.

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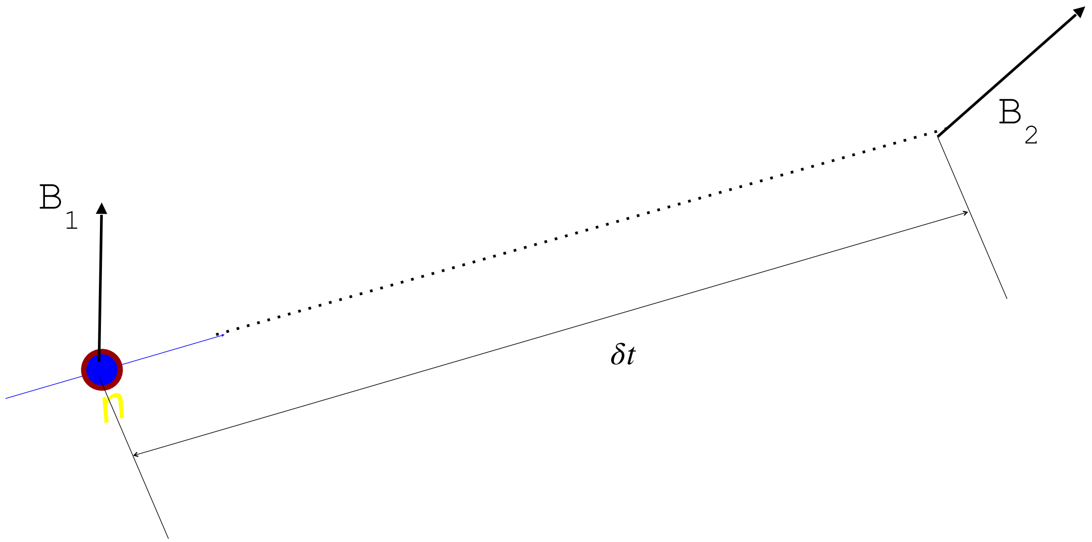
McStas precession algorithm

while $n_t < t_{target}$ **do**
- store neutron;
- sample magnetic field: $\mathbf{B}_1 = \mathbf{B}(n_x, n_y, n_z, n_t)$;
- propagate neutron: $\delta t(< \Delta t)$;
- sample magnetic field: $\mathbf{B}_2 = \mathbf{B}(n_x, n_y, n_z, n_t)$;
- **while** $|\mathbf{B}_1 - \mathbf{B}_2| > \delta B_{threshold}$ **do**
  - restore neutron;
  - $\delta t := \delta t/2$;
  - propagate neutron: $\delta t(< \Delta t)$;
  - sample magnetic field: $\mathbf{B}_1 = \mathbf{B}(n_x, n_y, n_z, n_t)$;
- precess polarization: $\mathbf{P_n}$ by ω around $\frac{\mathbf{B}_1 + \mathbf{B}_2}{2}$;

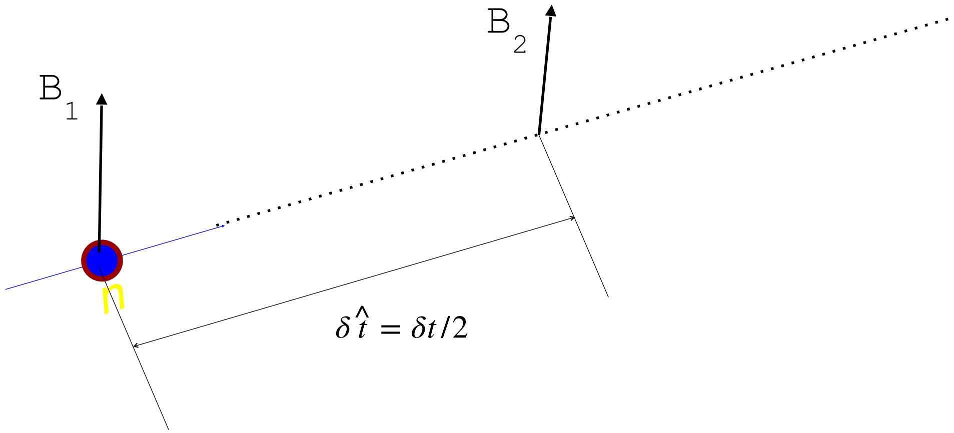
Algorithm 1: SimpleNumMagnetPrecession: Simplistic algorithm for tracking polarization of a Monte-Carlo neutron in a magnetic field. The neutron's state is stored as a position (n_x, n_y, n_z), a velocity $\mathbf{v}$, time n_t, and polarization vector $\mathbf{P_n}$.

From: Knudsen et.al., *J. Neutron Research*, 2014

McStas precession algorithm



McStas precession algorithm



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McStas precession algorithm

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McStas precession algorithm

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From: Knudsen et.al., *J. Neutron Research*, 2014

McStas precession algorithm

while $n_t < t_{target}$ **do**

store neutron;

sample magnetic f eld

propagate neutron: δ

sample magnet

while $|\mathbf{B}_1 - \mathbf{B}$

restore neutron;

$\delta t := \delta t/2;$

propagate neutron: $\delta t(< \Delta t);$

sample magnetic f eld: $\mathbf{B}_1 = \mathbf{B}(n_x, n_y, n_z, n_t);$

precess polarization: $\mathbf{P_n}$ by ω around $\frac{\mathbf{B}_1 + \mathbf{B}_2}{2}$;

```
void mc_pol_set_timestep(double dt);
```

```
void mc_pol_set_angular_accuracy(double domega);
```

Algorithm 1: SimpleNumMagnetPrecession: Simplistic algorithm for tracking polarization of a Monte-Carlo neutron in a magnetic f eld. The neutron's state is stored as a position (n_x, n_y, n_z), a velocity $\mathbf{v}$, time n_t, and polarization vector $\mathbf{P_n}$.

From: Knudsen et.al., *J. Neutron Research*, 2014

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McStas polarization components

Magnetic fields:

- Pol_FieldBox.comp
- Pol_constBfield.comp
- Pol_simpleBfield.comp
- Pol_simpleBfield_stop.comp
- Pol_triafield.comp

Monitors:

- Pol_monitor.comp
- MeanPolLambda_monitor.comp

Contrib:

- PolLambda_monitor.comp
- Foil_flipper_magnet.comp

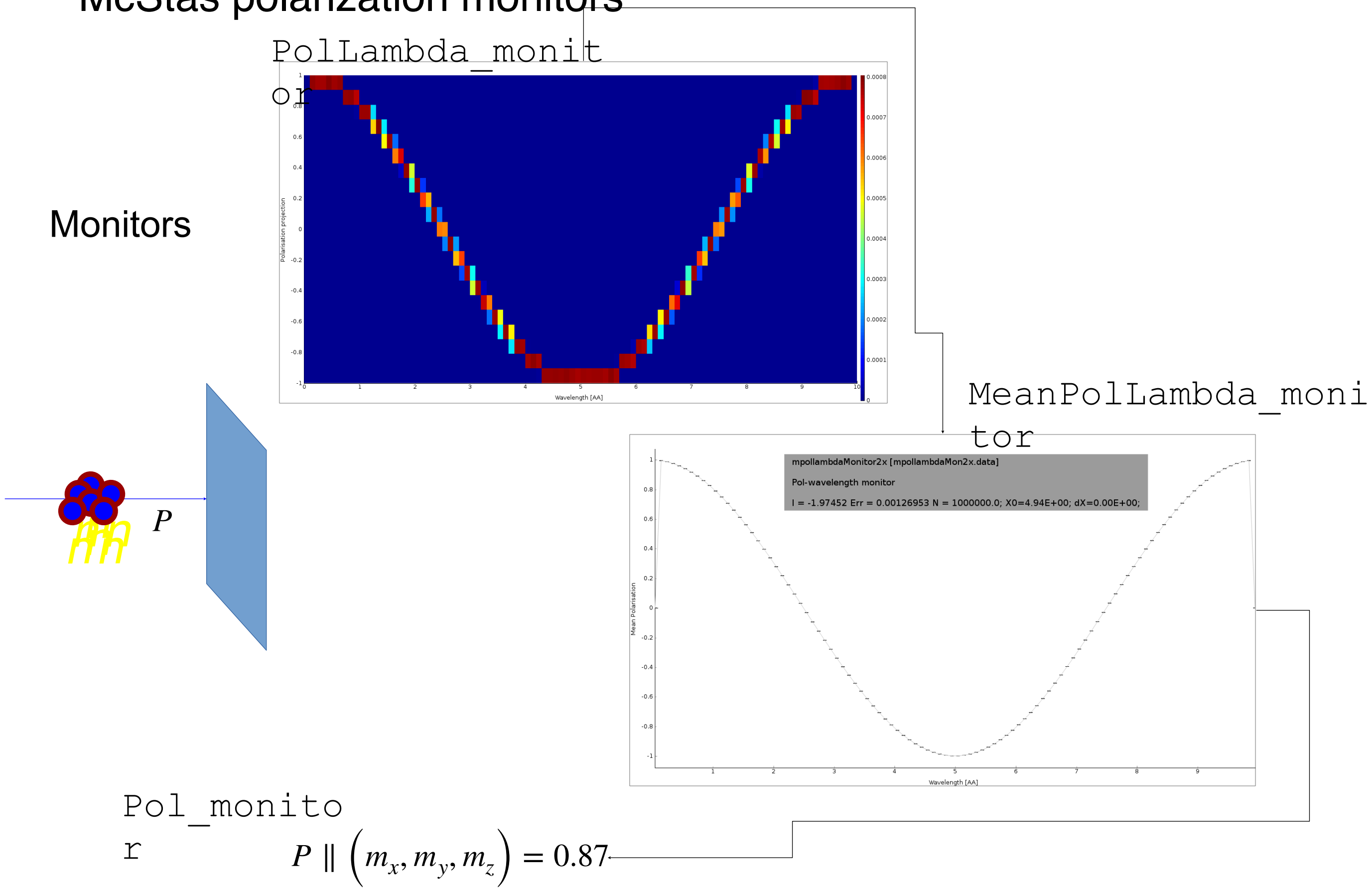
Optics:

- Monochromator_pol.comp
- Pol_bender.comp
- Pol_guide_vmirror.comp
- Pol_mirror.comp
- Pol_pi_2_rotator.comp
- Transmission_polarisatorABSnT.comp
- Pol_bender_tapering.comp

Idealized components:

- PolAnalyser_ideal.comp
- Set_pol.comp

McStas polarization monitors



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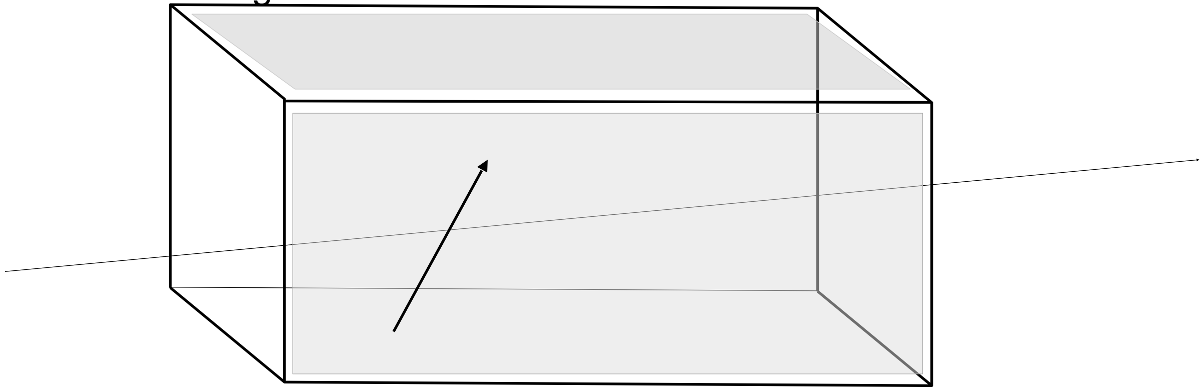
McStas magnetic fields

- `Pol_constBfield.comp`
- Single constant Magnetic field in a “box”.
- - user may specify a wavelength to flip.
  - blocking walls



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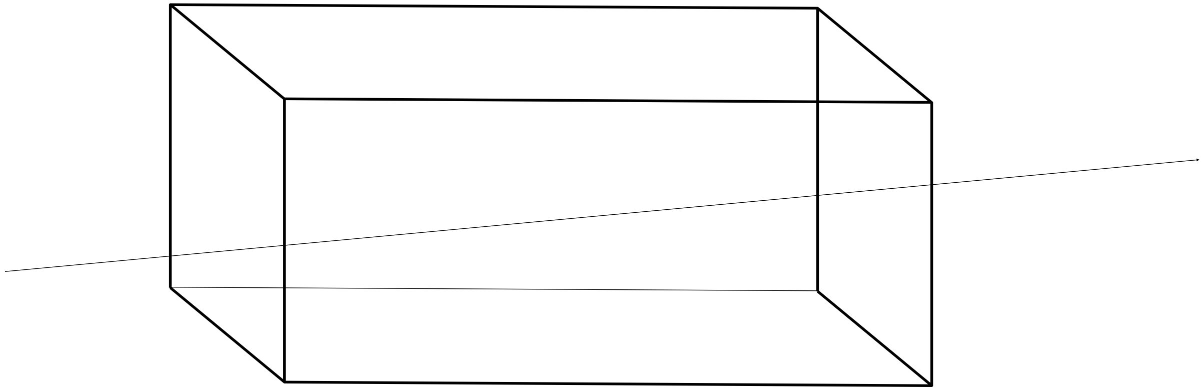
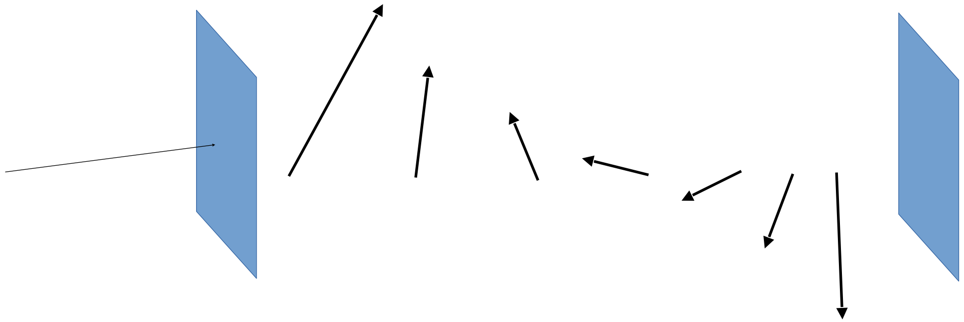
McStas magnetic fields

- `Pol_FieldBox.comp`
- Single Magnetic field in a “box”
- - optional user supplied field c-function



McStas magnetic fields

- `Pol_simpleBfield.comp`
- `Pol_simpleBfield_stop.comp`
  - - Entry/Exit contruction allows for nested magnetic field descriptions.
    - Any magnetic fields through user supplied c-function
    - Tabled magnetic fields



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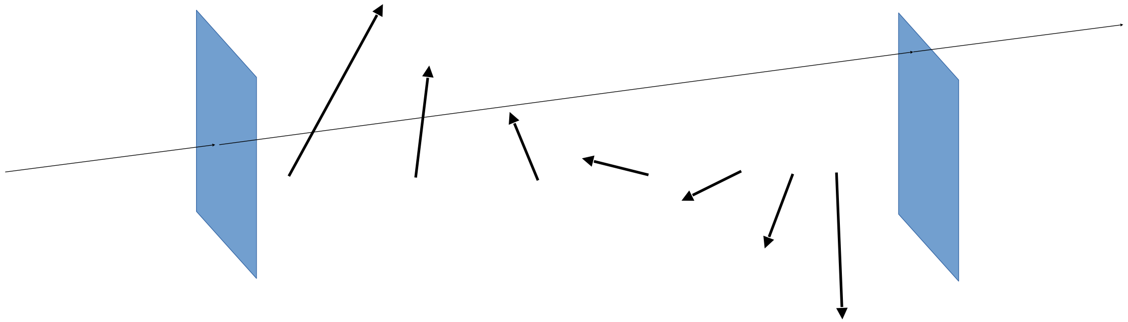
McStas Polarization Capabilities IV

- `Pol_simpleBfield.comp`
- `Pol_simpleBfield_stop.comp`
  - - Entry/Exit contruction allows for nested magnetic field descriptions.
    - Any magnetic fields through user supplied c-function
    - Tabled magnetic fields



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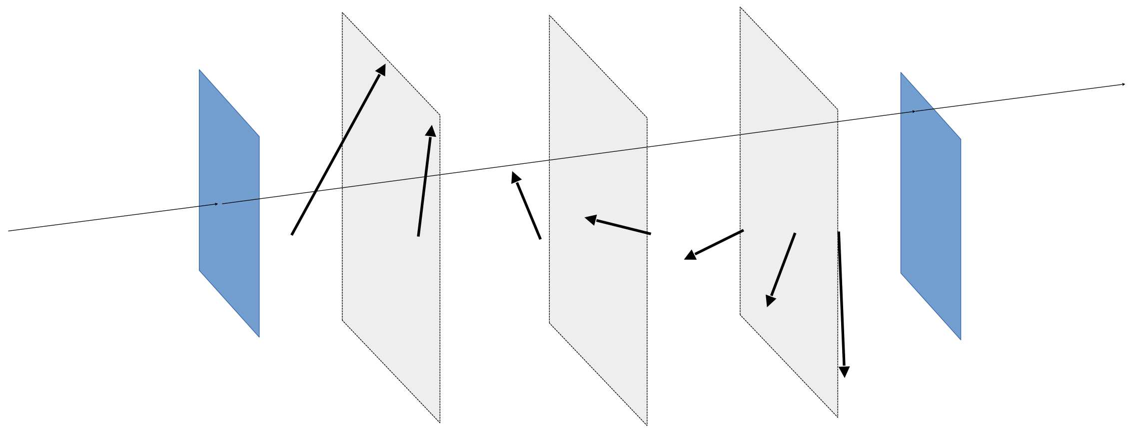
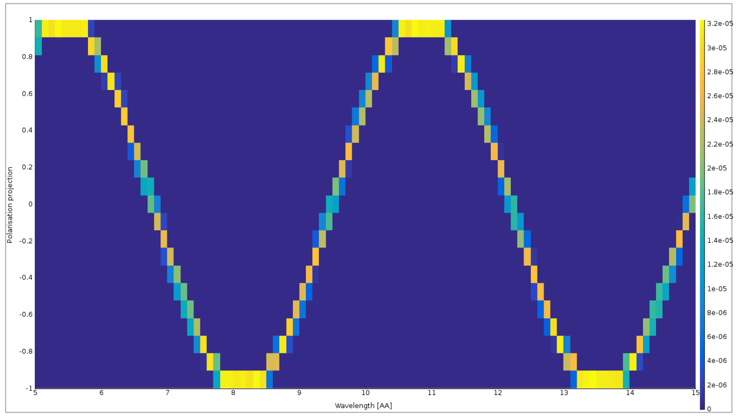
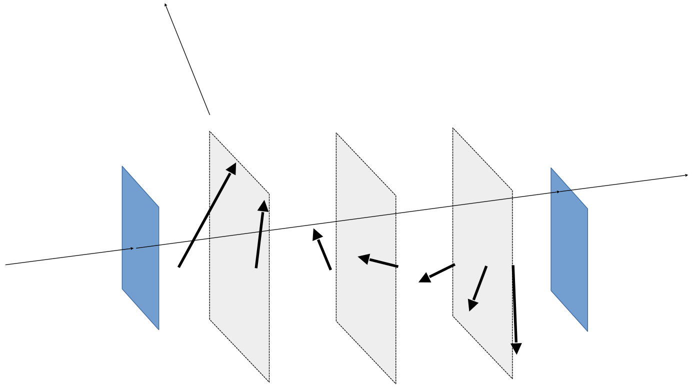
Pol_monitors along the way...

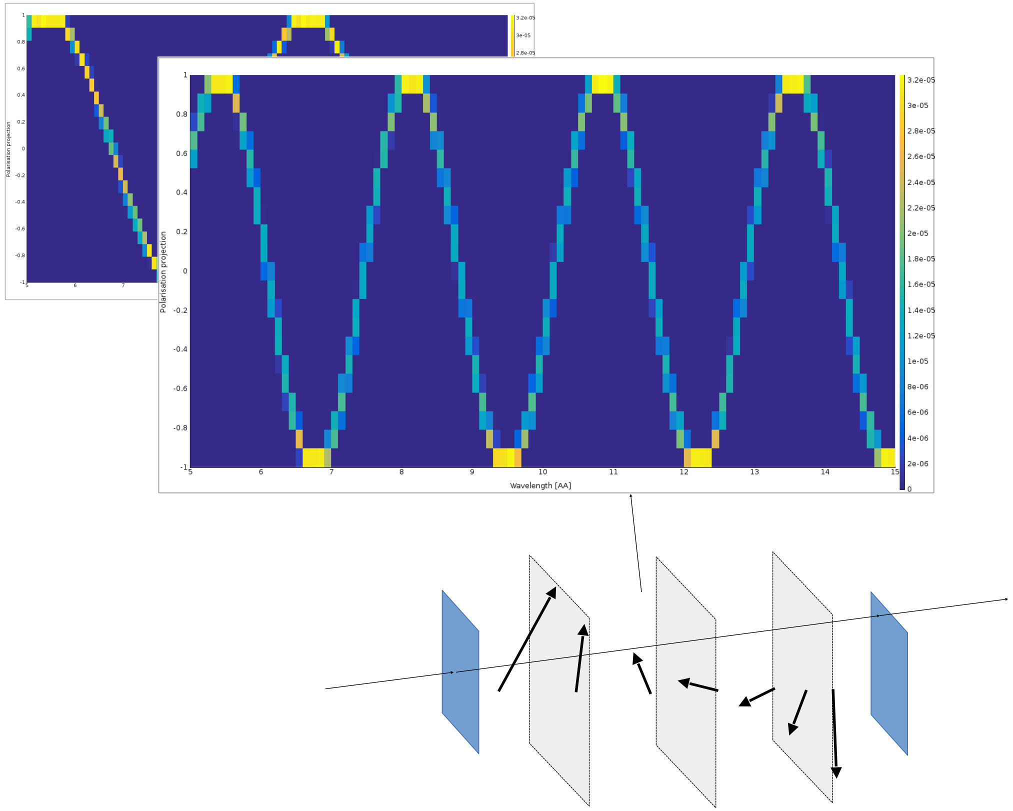


Pol_monitors along the way...





Pol_monitors along the way...



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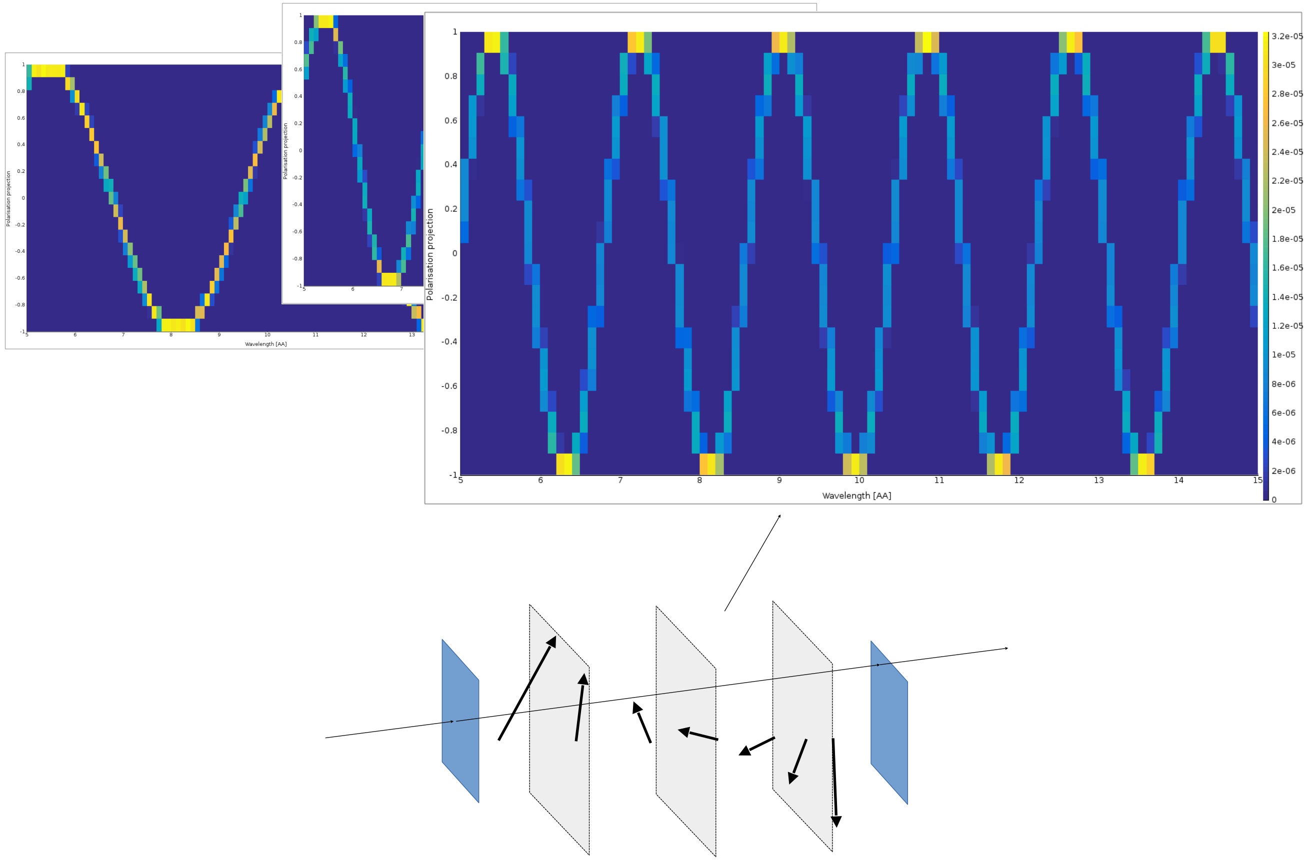
Pol_monitors along the way...



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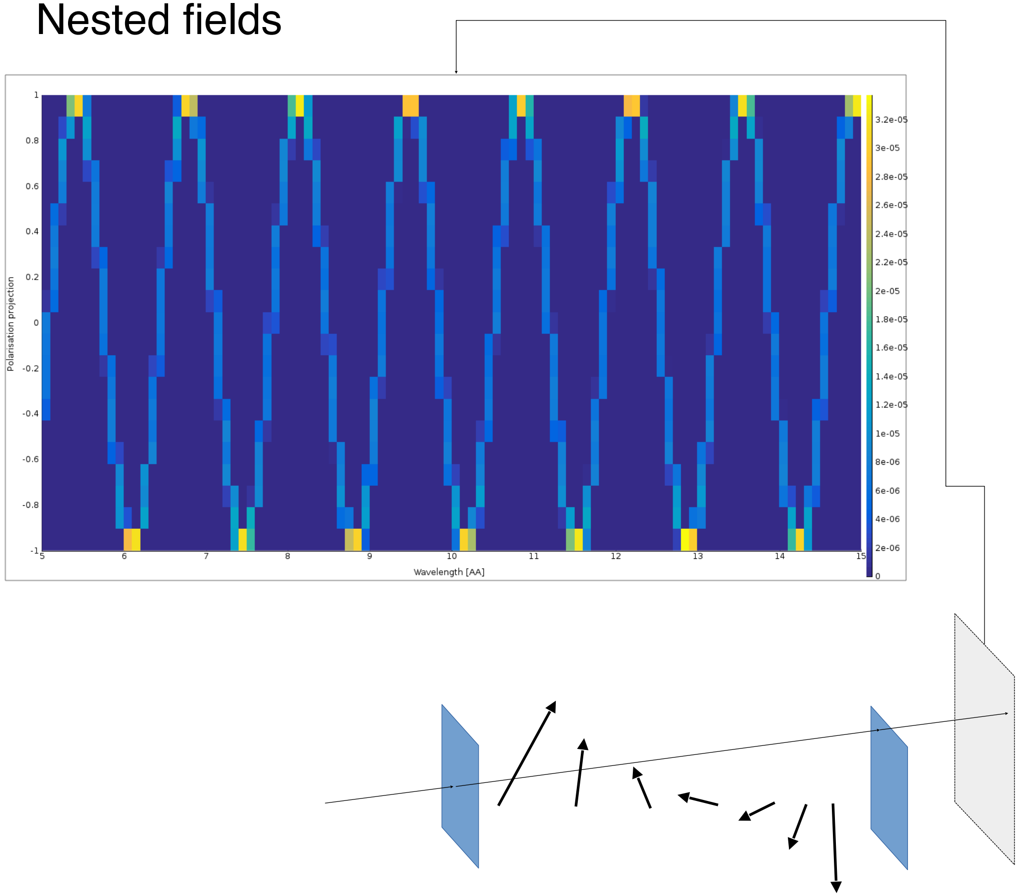
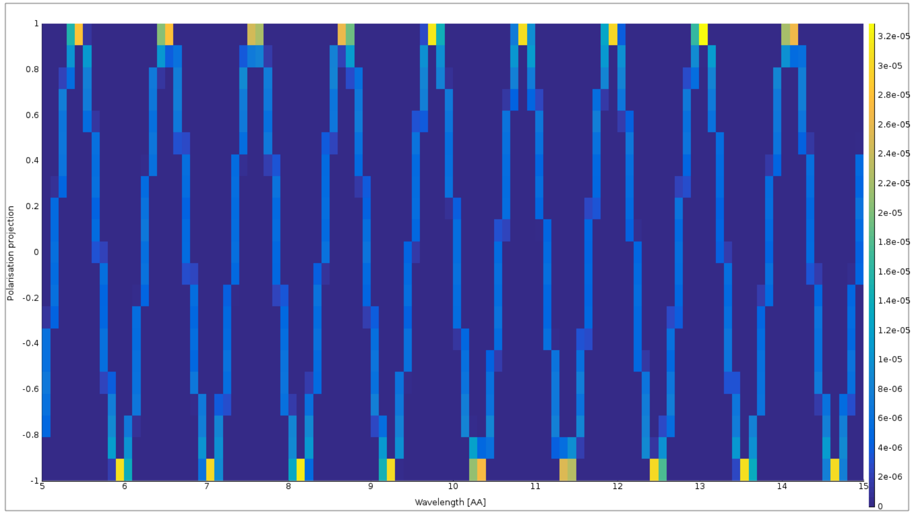
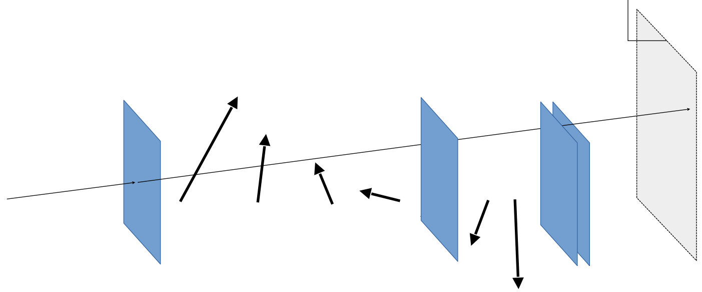
Nested fields



Nested fields





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Getting help

- Check example header.
- Use `mcdoc`
- Read/check the manual
- User mailing list: `mcstas-users@mcstas.org`
- Give us a call/write us an email!

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McStas components on the way

~~Things on the way~~

Magnetic fields:

- Pol_FieldBox.comp
  - Tabled fields
- Pol_constBfield.comp
- Pol_simpleBfield.comp
  - 3D entry/exit windows
- Pol_simpleBfield_stop.comp
- Pol_triafield.comp

Monitors:

- Pol_monitor.comp
- MeanPolLambda_monitor.comp
- PolLambda_monitor.comp
- Pol_PSD_monitor.comp

Contrib:

- Foil_flipper_magnet.comp

Optics:

- Monochromator_pol.comp
- Pol_bender.comp
- Pol_guide_vmirror.comp
- Pol_mirror.comp
- Pol_pi_2_rotator.comp
- Transmission_polarisatorABSnT.comp
- Pol_bender_tapering.comp
- Pol_McRadia.comp

Idealized components:

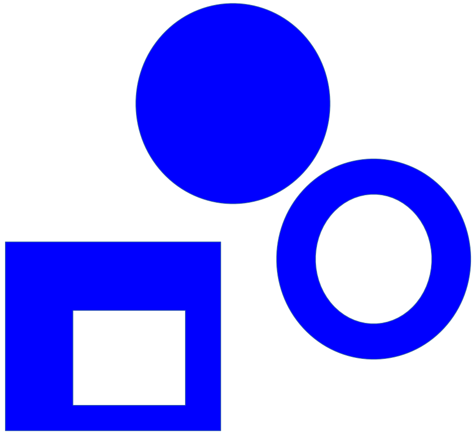
- PolAnalyser_ideal.comp

Sample component

- Magnetic_single_crystal.comp

McStas components on the way

Generalized Simple B-Fields: constant, functional, tabled, … but in more general shapes



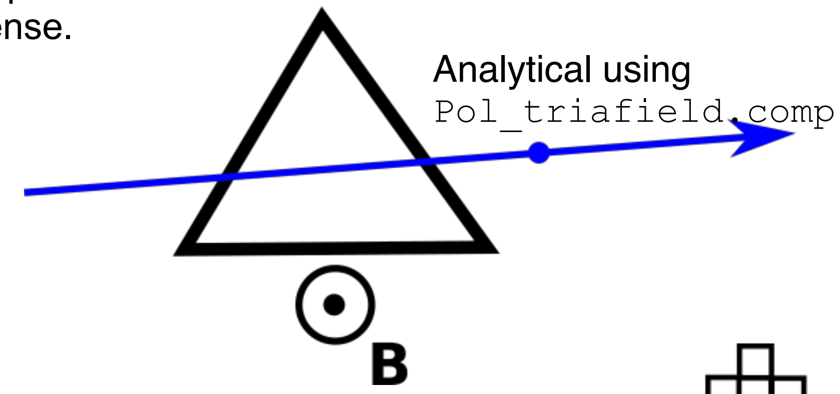
RF-flipper

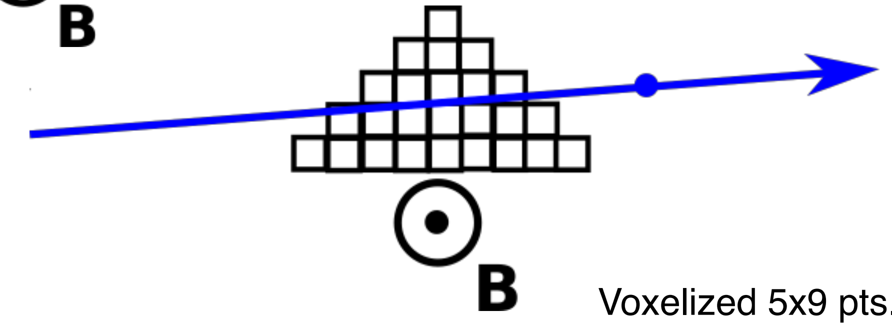
He3-objects

McStas components on the way

McRadia compared with analytical field description

Requires a mathematica license.





Voxelized 5x9 pts.

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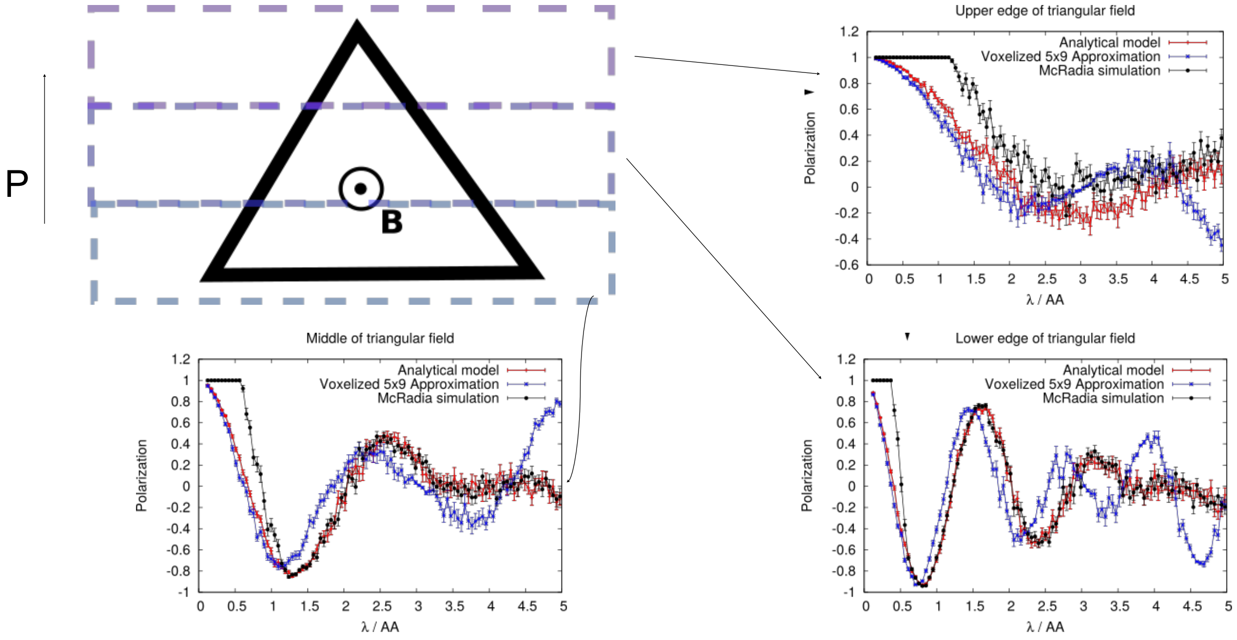
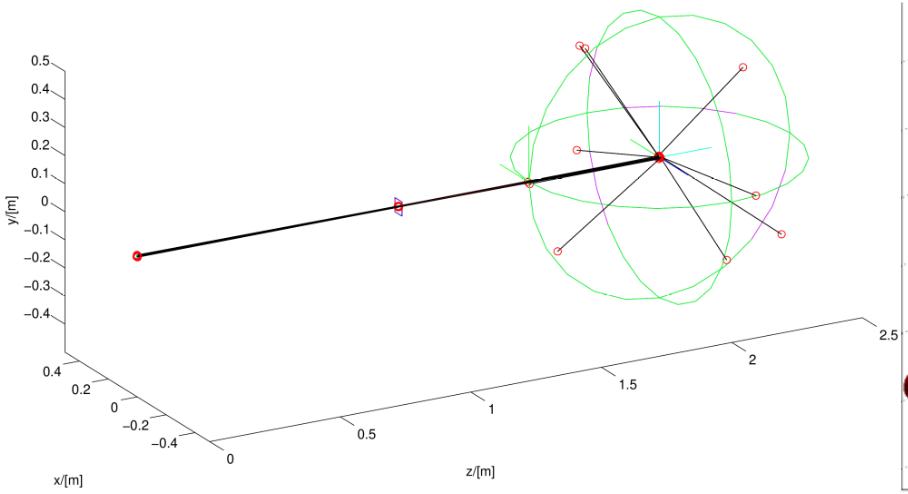
McStas components on the way

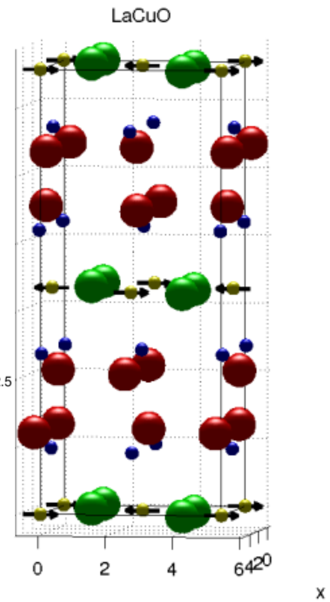
McRadia compared with other field descriptions



McStas components on the way

Magnetic single crystal





index	iontype	x	y	z	b_{coh}[fm]	g_S	S_x	S_y	S_z	g_L	L_x	L_y	L_z
1	Cu2+	0.5	0.5	0	7.718	2	0	-0.5	0	0	0	0	0
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮		⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

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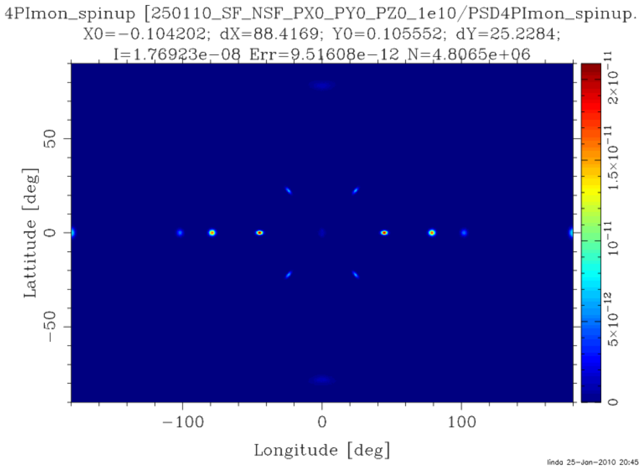
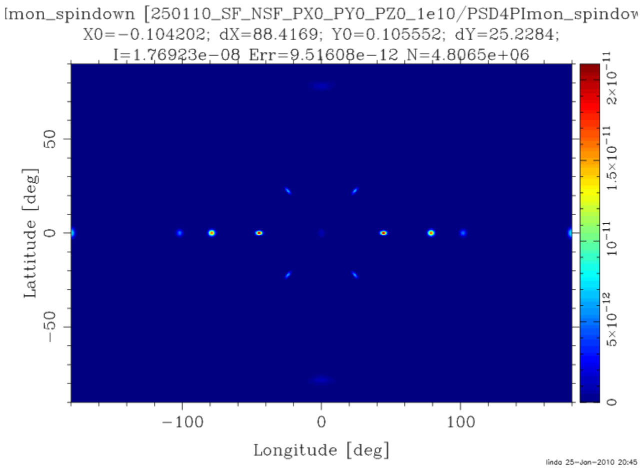
McStas components on the way

Magnetic single crystal – Unpolarized beam





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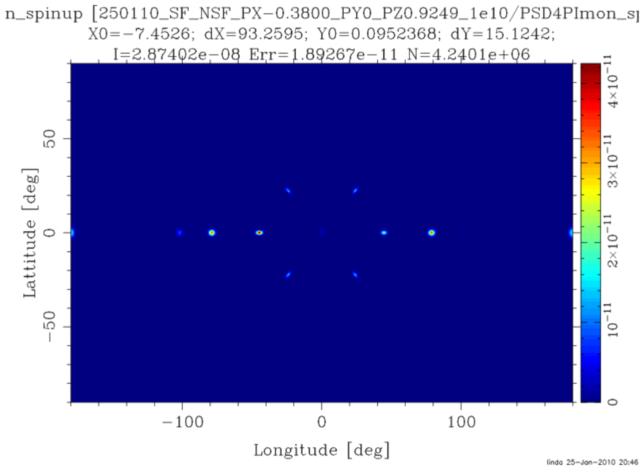
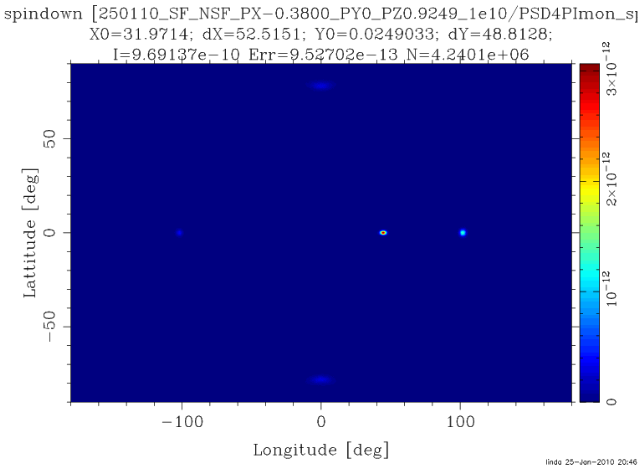
Magnetic single crystal – Polarized beam





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McStas components on the way

Magnetic single crystal

The magnetic scattering cross-section for a sample with localised spin+orbital angular moment $g\mathbf{J} = (g_S + g_L)\mathbf{J} = 2\mathbf{S} + \mathbf{L}$ is:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2\sigma}{\mathrm{d}\Omega_\mathrm{f}\mathrm{d}\mathrm{E}_\mathrm{f}} = \frac{k_f}{k_i}\sum_{i,f} P(\lambda_i)\left|\langle\lambda_f \mid \sum_j e^{i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{d}_j}\, U_j^{\sigma_i\sigma_f} \mid \lambda_i\rangle\right|^2 \delta(\hbar\omega + E_i - E_f)$$

where $\mid \lambda_i\rangle$ and $\langle\lambda_f \mid$ are the initial and final states of the sample with energies E_i and E_f respectively, $P(\lambda_i)$ is the distribution of initial states and

$$U_j^{\sigma_i\sigma_f} = \langle\sigma_f \mid b_j - m_j\mathbf{J}_{\perp j}\cdot\boldsymbol{\sigma} \mid \sigma_i\rangle$$

where $\mid \sigma_i\rangle$ and $\langle\sigma_f \mid$ are the initial and final spin states of the neutron, and $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ are the Pauli spin matrices working on the neutron state.

From: G. Shirane et.al. ,"Neutron Scattering with Triple-Axis Spectrometer", *Cambridge Univ. Press*, 2002

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McStas components on the way

Magnetic single crystal

If $\mathbf{P} = P(\xi, \eta, \zeta) = P\hat{\zeta}$.Thus, the matrix elements of $U^{\sigma_i \sigma_f}$ can now be written

$$
\begin{aligned}
U^{++} &= b - mJ_{\perp\zeta} \\
U^{--} &= b + mJ_{\perp\zeta} \\
U^{+-} &= -m\left(J_{\perp\xi} + iJ_{\perp\eta}\right) \\
U^{+-} &= -m\left(J_{\perp\xi} - iJ_{\perp\eta}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

where $m = \frac{r_0\gamma}{2} g f(\mathbf{Q})$ with r_0 the classical electron radius, $\gamma = 1.913$, g the Landé splitting factor and $f(\mathbf{Q})$ the magnetic form factor of a particular ion in the sample.