UK Neutron Scattering Group

ILL's importance in the UK neutron landscape

Ross Stewart ISIS Neutron and Muon Source Chair: UK Neutron Scattering Group currently



Arbe, et al., Phys. Rev. Research 2, 022015(R) (2020)

UK Neutron

IoP/RSC Neutron Scattering Group (1972)

Mission: To support and develop the UK neutron community in a rapidly changing global neutron landscape, and to represent UK neutron scattering externally.

Aims

- Organise and support events to develop UK neutron user links and discuss results from neutron experiments
- Provide links to and from UK-funded neutron sources (ISIS, ILL and ESS) and the **European Neutron Scattering Association**
- Represent neutron scattering and its UK users within the IOP and RSC learned societies
- Actively support early career researchers in the UK to engage with neutron facilities

Prizes

- BTM Willis Prize
- annual early career prize and lecture
- Don McK Paul Thesis Prize awarded biannually
- Thomas-Penfold Poster Prize

All presented at the annual Neutron and Muon Science and User Meeting (co-organized by NSG)



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Ross Stewart Chair STFC)







Richard Campbell Treasurer (University of Manchester)

IoP/RSC Neutron Scattering Group (1972)

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Harwell Neutron Summer School - 1972



ILL and me

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D7, Feb 1999 Taken with the Otto Schärpf polaroid camera



Me and ILL



 1999 – 2005; D7 with Amir Murani
2006-2008; IN4 with Hannu Mutka and Steph Rols





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D7



T Fennell, P P Deen, A R Wildes, K Schmalzl, D Prabhakaran, A T Boothroyd, R J Aldus, D F McMorrow & S T Bramwell, Magnetic Coulomb Phase in the Spin Ice Ho2Ti2O7. *Science*, *326*(5951), 415–417

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Importance of ILL to **me** (and others)

- Job & training (5-yr contracts)
- Mentors (Rainford, Ritter, Murani, Paul, Mutka, ...)
- **Opportunity** (Millennium project, PASTIS and ³He)
- Science (college system, science directors)
- Amazing instruments (D7...)
- Less amazing instruments (IN3, T3 ...)

JK Neutron

ILL: World-leading capabilities for UK scientists

Polarized neutrons – started at Oak Ridge, developed here Schweizer, Forsyth, Tasset, Brown, Schärpf, Mezei, Hayter, …

- and now: D007, D33, D3 – CryoPad/Mag2Pol, WASP

3-axis spectroscopy – all best in class Dorner, Currat, Stirling, Kulda, …

- and now: ThALES, PASTIS for TAS/flatcone, Lagrange

Plus: True backscattering, spin-echo, SX diffraction, fundamental physics ...



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Wide-angle ³He – a long road



Wide-angle ³He – a long road





Wide-angle ³He – a long road



PASTIS - now



³He cells at ISIS - P-LET



- Best cellT1 ~ 50 hours
- Cells are 20 cm tall with similar OD
- 2 litres of gas
- Covers entire LET detector (3 st.)
- Cell changes take around 20 s (2)

PLET



A Arbe, et al., Phys. Rev. Research 2 022015 (2020)

TAS and TOF – both essential

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La₂Zr₂O₇ – rigid unit "floppy" modes on kagome planes - strongly anharmonic



MERLIN

One-phonon scattering from DFT

Voneshen et al., arXiv 1809.06265

Options other than ILL: MERLIN (MER = Med Resolution...), ID28



2 days on MERLIN & Sum over a lot of BZ

2 hours on IN8 at the Γ-point

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Data from D. Voneshen



UK community, NMSUM '23

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What are our current and future *threats*?



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Miscellaneous Series No.1 (2022)

Sixth Protocol

to the Convention of 19 January 1967, as amended by the Protocol of 6 July 1971, between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on the Construction and Operation of a Very High Neutron Flux Reactor, as further amended by the Agreement of 19 July 1974 between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning that Government's Accession to the 1981, the Third Protocol of 27 July 1976, the Second Protocol of 9 December and the Fifth Protocol of 1 July 2013 between the above-mentioned three Governments

Paris, 15 September 2021

[The Protocol is not in force]

Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs by Command of Her Majesty March 2022 "The very-high-flux-reactor shall operate at least until 31 December 2030. By 31 December 2027 at the latest, the Governments shall decide on the continuation of the operation of the reactor. Unless by this date the Governments agree by consensus to extend the operation of the reactor, the final shutdown of the reactor shall take place on 31 December 2030. If the Governments agree by consensus to extend the operation of the reactor, the final shutdown of the reactor shall take place on 31 December 2033."

ILL 6th Protocol, p7

Questions arising from NMSUM '23...

How do we ensure that instruments at the ILL are not closed due to lack of staff?

□ Some facilities are coming to the end of their lifetimes. How will this affect the capacity of neutron scattering for UK users? Will ESS make up for lost capacity at ILL?

□ We are alarmed by the winding down of the ILL instruments. Why spend money building new instruments if you cannot run all of your current ones (often unique/world-leading)?

□ What can our community do to keep the ILL operating beyond 2030/2033?

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Future perspectives

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Future Perspectives on Neutron Scattering

17 January 2024 Institute of Physics, London, UK Confirmed invited speakers include:

- · Prof. Andrew Boothroyd, University of Oxford,
- · Dr Helen Beadman, Science and Technology Facilities Council,
- Prof. Serena Cussen, University of Sheffield,
- Dr Fabrizia Foglia, University College London,
- · Prof. Mike Hayward, University of Oxford,
- Prof. John Holbrey, Queen's University Belfast,
- Dr Alex O'Malley, University of Bath,
- Dr Paz Vaqueiro, University of Reading.

https://iop.eventsair.com/fpns2024/register



Thank you