



EUROPEAN  
SPALLATION  
SOURCE



# HighNESS - Work Package 2

Software Development

**PRESENTED BY D. DI JULIO, J.I. MÁRQUEZ DAMIÁN**  
**KICKOFF MEETING, 26-10-2020**

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## **Objectives:**

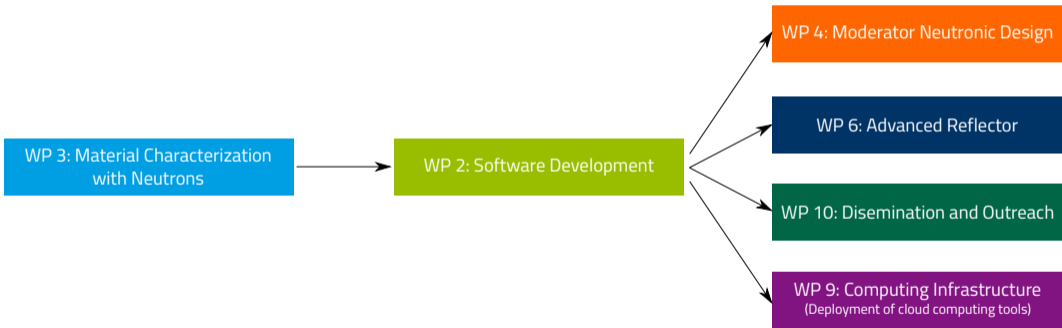
Development of software to describe low-energy neutron transport in reflectors and moderator materials.

## **Tasks:**

- 2.1. Develop models for magnesium hydride, nanodiamonds, intercalated graphite, and clathrate hydrates. Models will be implemented in NCrystal to be used in Geant4, MCNP, PHITS, or OpenMC.
- 2.2. Develop molecular modelling techniques, such as molecular dynamics and density functional theory, in order to provide input to the models in task 2.1.

## **Deliverables:**

- D2.1. Report and simulation software for nano-diamonds (M12)
- D2.2. Report and simulation software for  $\text{MgH}_2$  (M12)
- D2.3. Report and simulation software for intercalated graphite (M34)
- D2.4. Report and simulation software for clathrate hydrates (M34)



# Human Resources

- Giuseppe Gorini
- Marco Bernasconi
- Davide Campi
- + postdoc to be hired by UNIMIB.



Spagnolatti, I., Mussi, A., Bernasconi, M. et al. Vibrational properties of C20-based solids. *Eur. Phys. J. B* 37, 143–148 (2004).

A. Ruckhofer, D. Campi, M. Bremholm, P. Hofmann, G. Benedek, M. Bernasconi, W. E. Ernst and A. Tamtögl, Terahertz Surface Modes and Electron-Phonon Coupling on Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>(111), *Physical Review Research* 2, 023186 (2020).

Mostafa Jamalipour, Zanini, L. and Gorini, G. Implementation of Neutron Reflection with Nano-Dispersed Media in Geant4. *J. Synch. Investig.* 14, S75–S78 (2020).

Campi, D., Bernasconi M., Benedek G. Phonons and electron-phonon interaction at the Sb(111) surface. *Phys. Rev. B* 86, 075446 (2012)

# Human Resources



- Douglas Di Julio
- Thomas Kittelmann
- Jose Ignacio Marquez Damian
- Kemal Ramic

DiJulio, D.D., Lee, Y. J., Muhrer, G. Impact of crystallite size on the performance of a beryllium reflector. *Journal of Neutron Research*, vol. 22, no. 2-3, pp. 275-279, 2020

Cai, X.-X. and Kittelmann, T.NCrystal: A library for thermal neutron transport, *Computer Physics Communications* 246 (2020) 106851.

Granada, J. R, Márquez Damián, J.I, and Helman, C. Studies on reflector materials for cold neutrons. *EPJ Web of Conferences*, vol. 231, p. 04002. EDP Sciences, 2020.

Ramić, K. From Experiments to DFT Simulations: Comprehensive Overview of Thermal Scattering For Neutron Moderator Materials. PhD Thesis. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute ( 2018).

# Workflow

Task 2.2



Molecular Dynamics  
(liquids)

DFT  
(solids)

Atomic  
Structure

Frequency  
Spectra



Task 2.1



NCrystal

Magnetic  
Scattering

Incoherent  
Scattering

Bragg Scattering

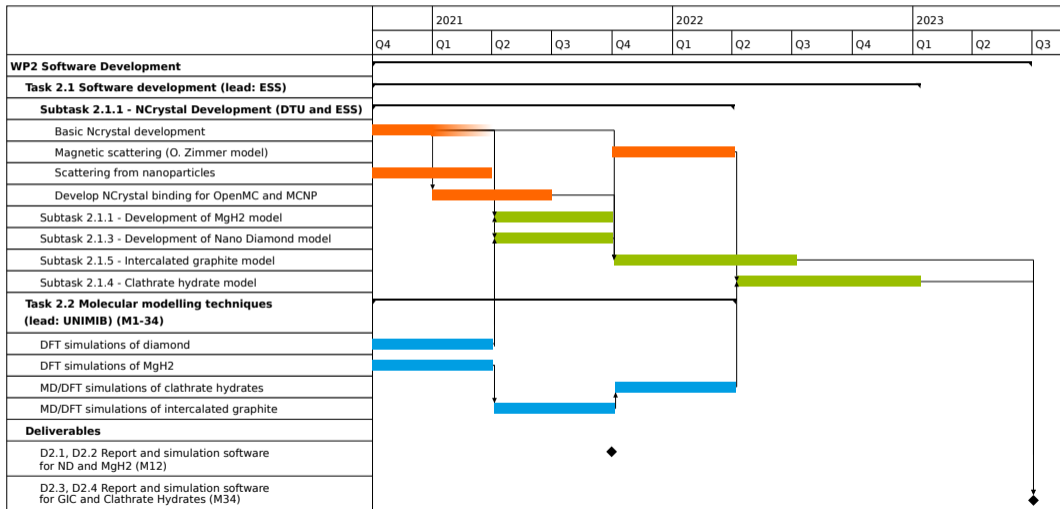
Small Angle  
Neutron Scattering

Dynamic  
Structure  
Factor



Neutronic  
Monte Carlo  
Simulation  
(OpenMC, MCNP,  
PHITS,  
Geant4, McStas)

# Preliminary Planning

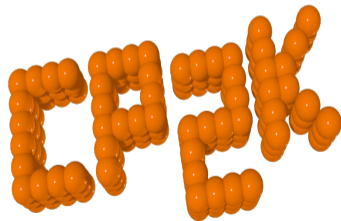




# Groundwork I

Simulation methods and codes at UNIMIB:

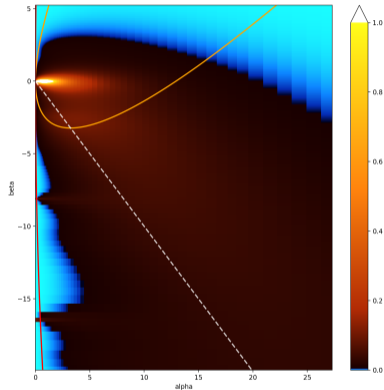
- Density Functional Perturbation Theory. Code: Quantum-Espresso
- Finite difference calculations of the dynamical matrix from supercell. Code: CP2k
- Vibrational density of states from velocity-velocity autocorrelation function within DFT molecular dynamics for strongly anharmonic systems. Code: CP2k
- Classical interatomic potentials (e.g. Tersoff-like) to compute phonon density of states for very large systems. Codes: LAMMPS, DL\_poly.



# Groundwork II

## Status of NCrystal 2:

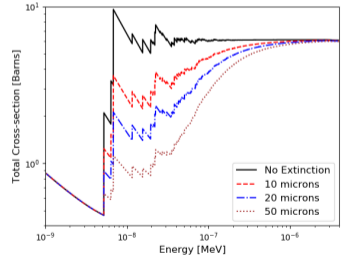
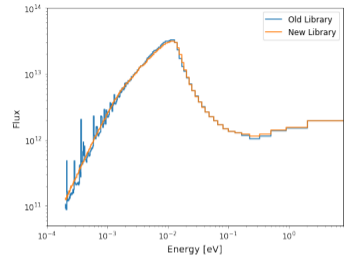
- Inelastic scattering in NCrystal is now based on scattering kernels
- For crystalline materials, scattering kernels can be generated on the fly from a DOS
- Other materials, like liquids, are supported through direct specification of a scattering kernel as tabulated  $S(q,\omega)$  or  $S(\alpha,\beta)$  values



# Groundwork III

Thermal scattering work at ESS:

- Processing of libraries using existing tools (NJOY)
- Improvement of neutronic codes (PHITS) to handle new libraries
- Inclusion of additional physics, such as extinction, into the creation of new libraries
- Generation of input for scattering kernels using path-integral molecular dynamics techniques





Thanks for your time.  
Questions?