



EUROPEAN
SPALLATION
SOURCE



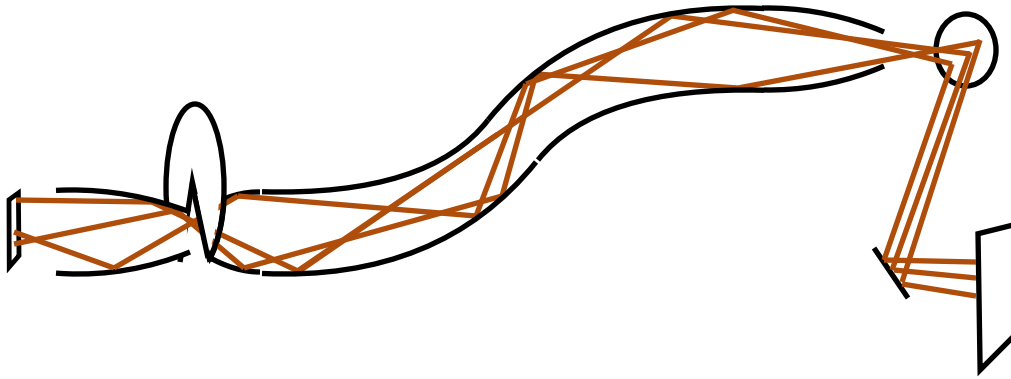
Introducing Effects of Surface Physics in McStas Union

PRESENTED BY MADS BERTELSEN

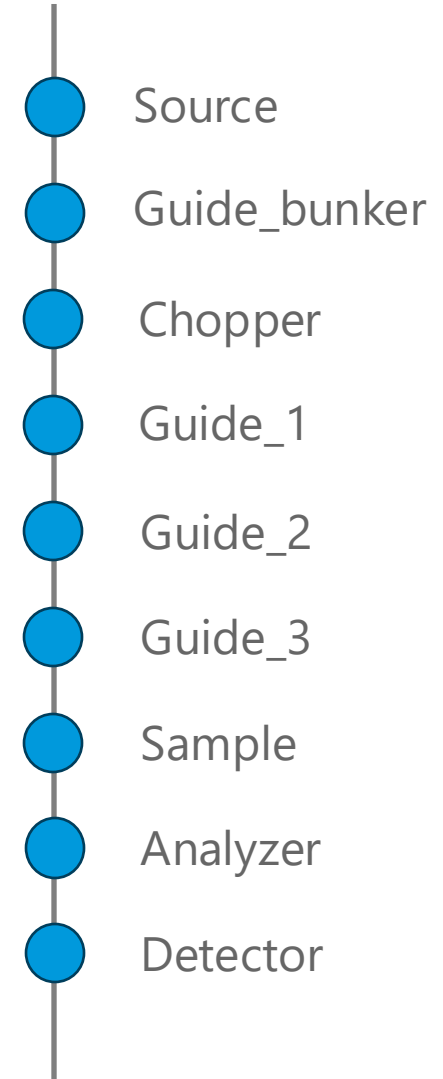
2025-07-11

Introduction

McStas instrument structure



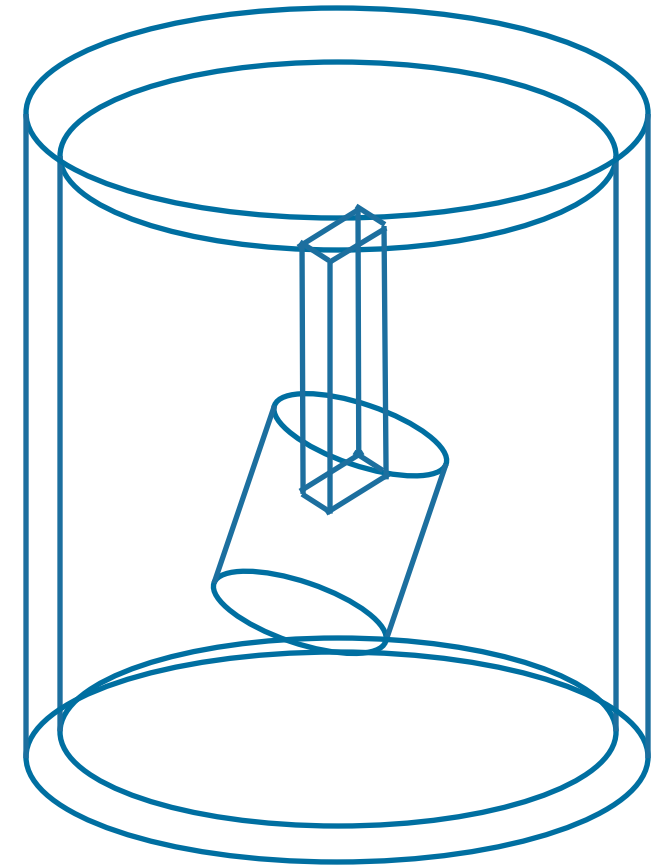
Component sequence



Union components

Geometry

- Geometry constructed from simple shapes
- Each assigned a material
- All shapes given a priority value
- Can overlap
- In overlap, largest priority value decides material

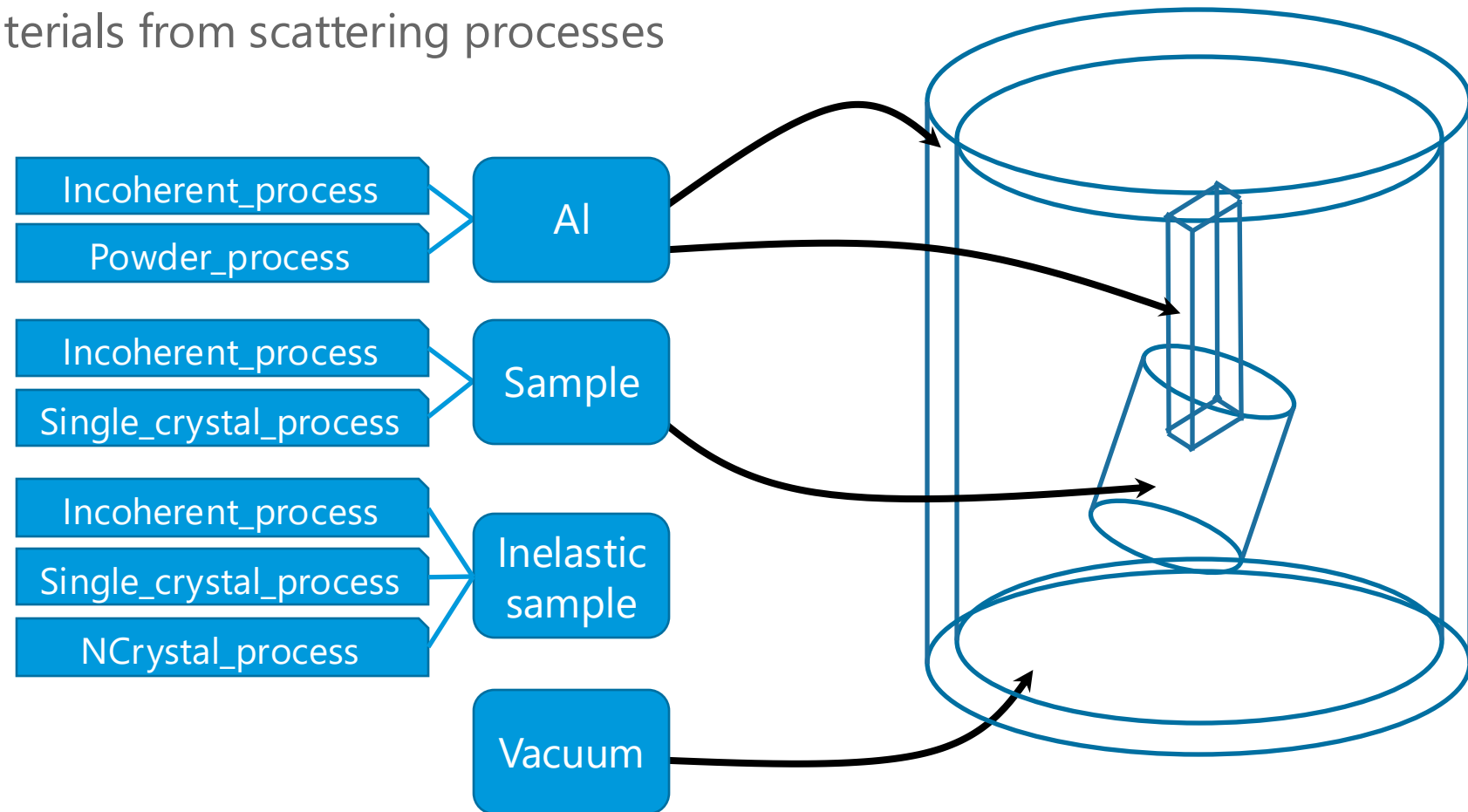


Boxes, cylinders, cones, spheres

Union components

Geometry

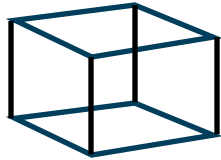
- Assemble materials from scattering processes



Union components

Using the Union components

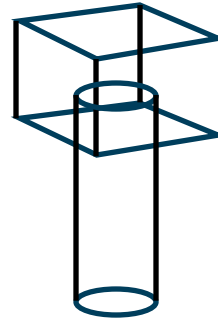
Typical sample component



Single_crystal.comp

Geometry
Raytracing
Absorption
Scattering
- Incoherent
- Single crystal Bragg
Multiple scattering loop

Union components



Union_cylinder.comp

Union_init.comp

Incoherent_process.comp

Incoherent scattering

Single_crystal_process.comp

Single crystal scattering

Union_make_material.comp

Union_box.comp

Union_master.comp

Raytracing
Absorption
Sampling scattering physics
Multiple scattering

Union_stop.comp

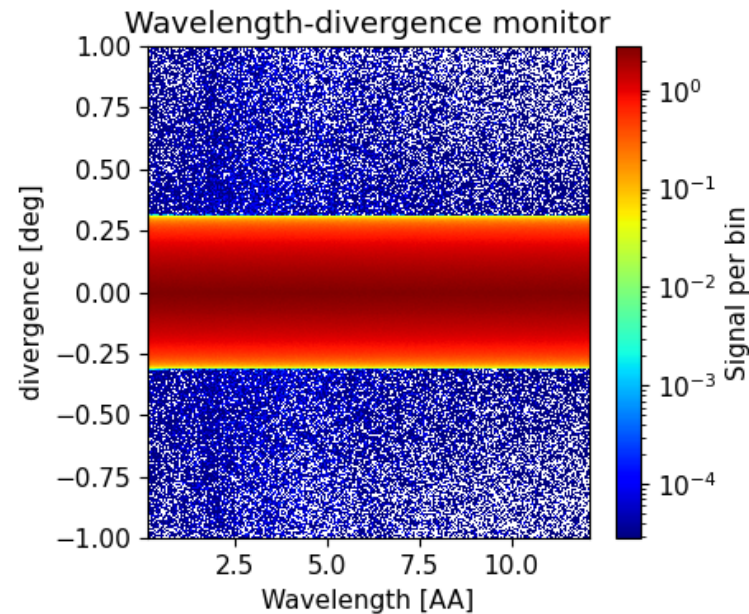
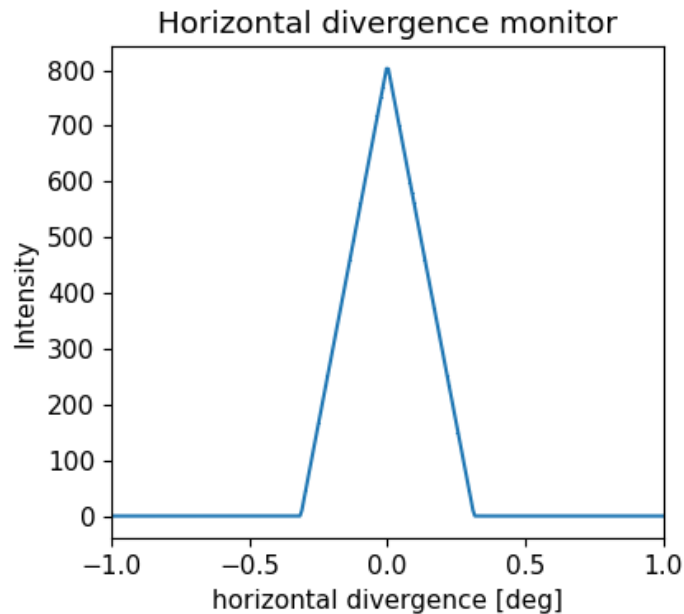
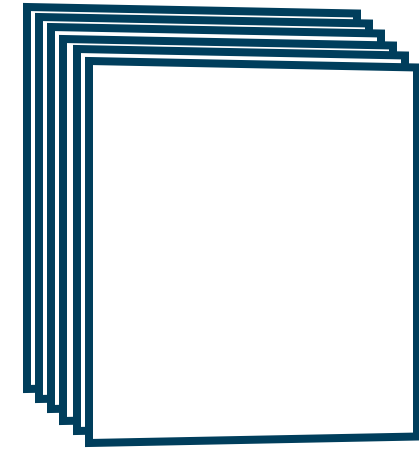
Union components

Simple example - colimator

- Lets make a colimator
- Absorbing blades limit divergence

NCrystal

McStas



Cd

Air

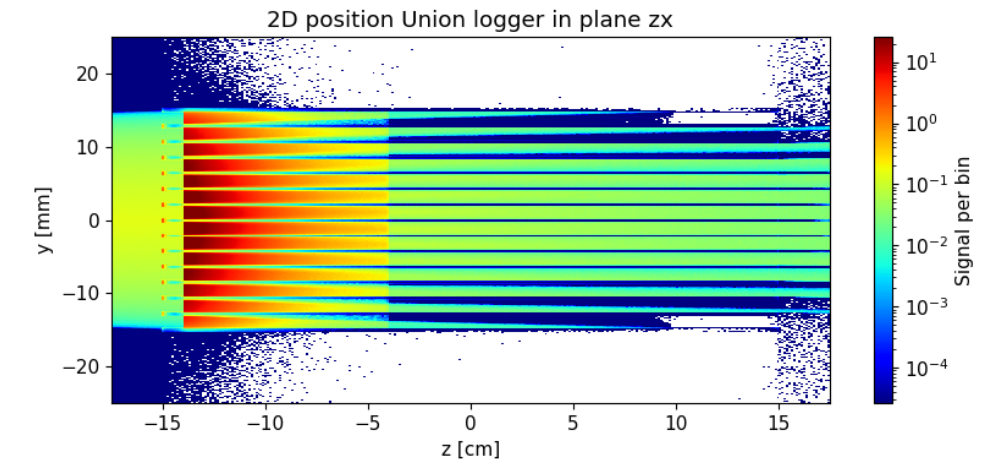
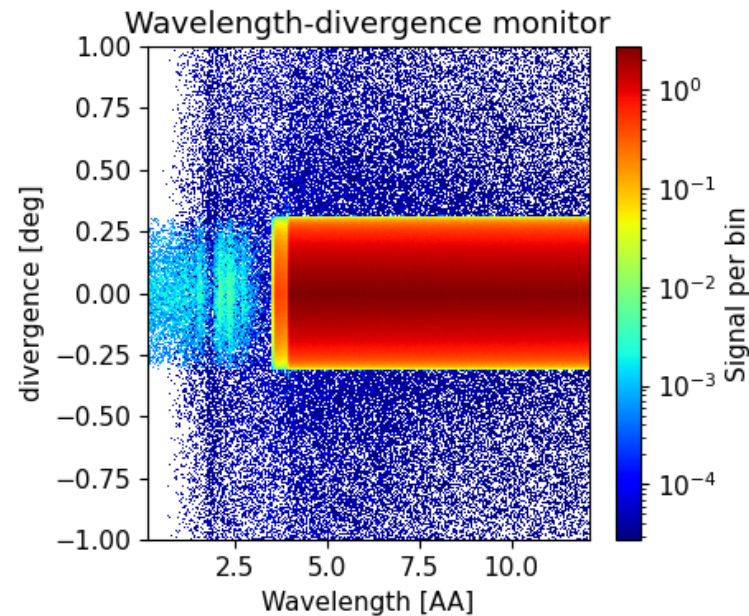
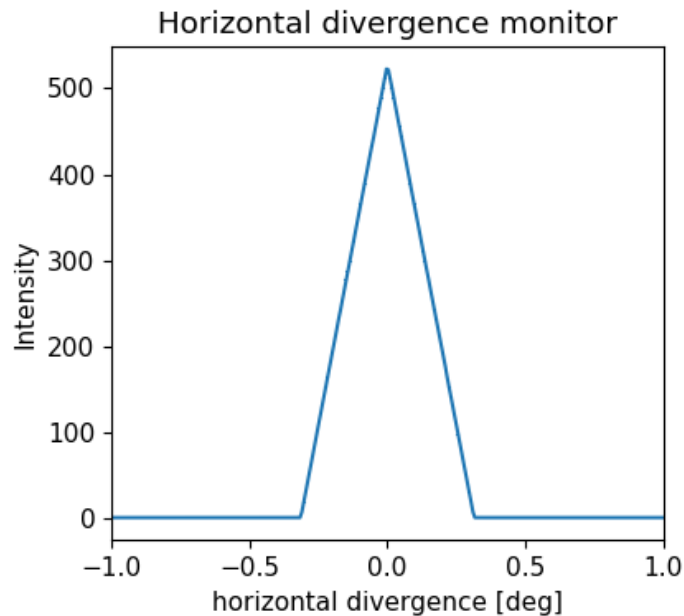
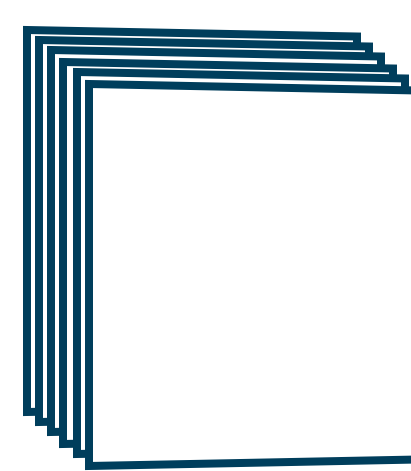
Union components

Simple example - filter

- Lets make a colimator
- Absorbing blades limit divergence
- Add a Be block, now its a filter

NCrystal

McStas



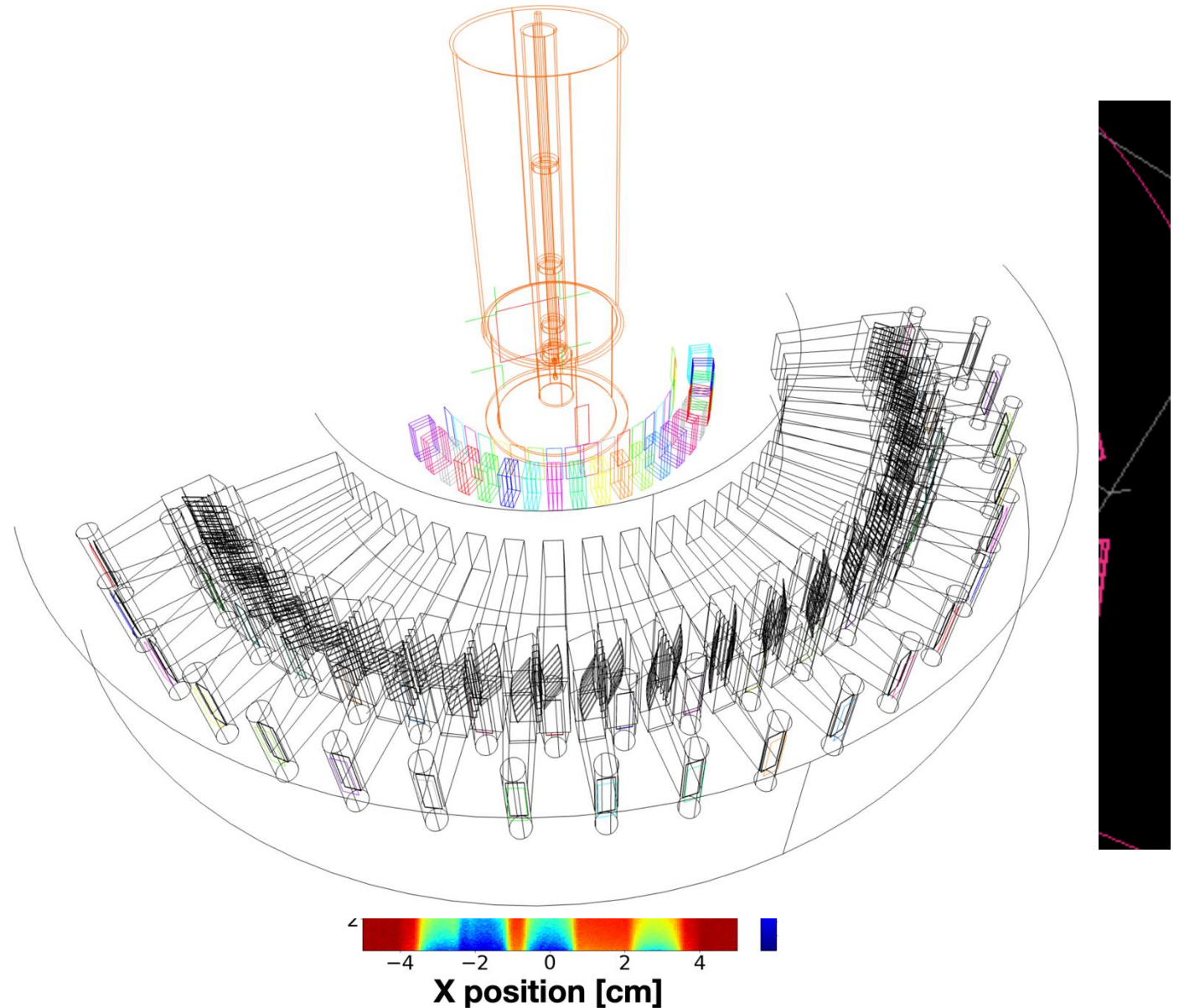
Cd

Air

Be

Use cases

- Samples
- Sample holder
- Air
- Sample environment
- Collimators
- Filters
- Beam monitors
- Monochromators
- Detectors
- Instrument backends





Union components

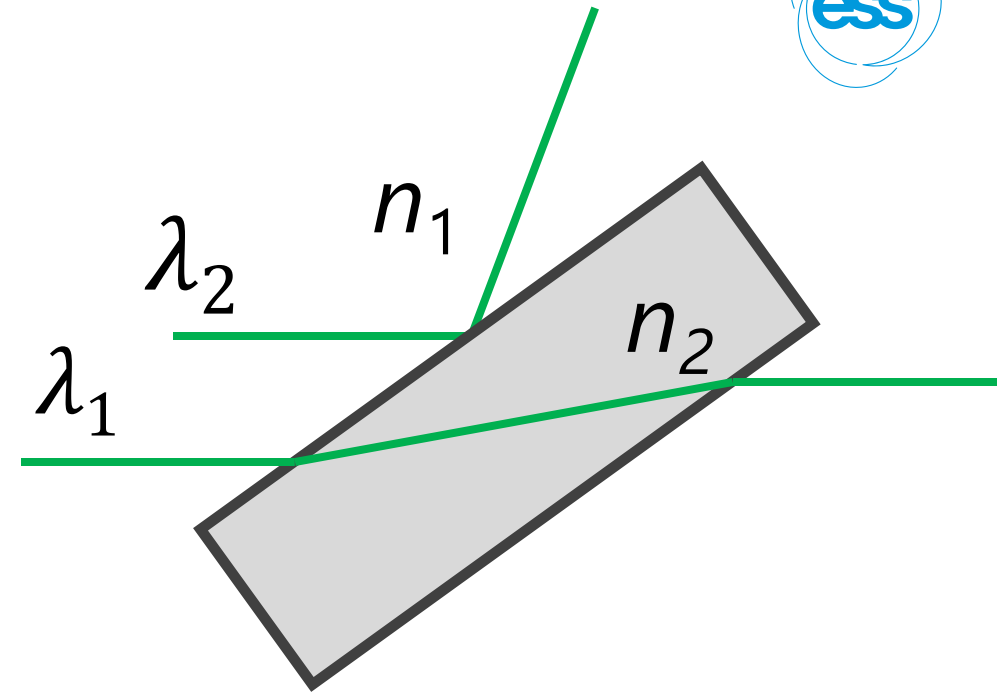
Assumptions

- Bulk scattering, scattering properties independent of position in material
- Gravity not simulated
- Polarization not supported
- No physics when rays cross an interface

Interface physics update

Refraction

- Code from Refractor.comp by E. Farhi, B. Cubitt
- Scattering length density provided with material definitions
- Refraction calculation require SLD for both materials
- Snells law with fall of



$$n = \sqrt{1.0 - (\lambda * \lambda * SLD / \pi)}$$

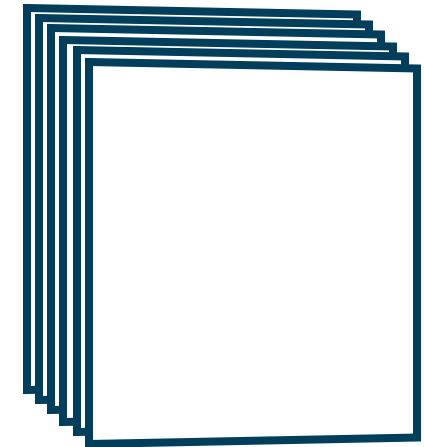
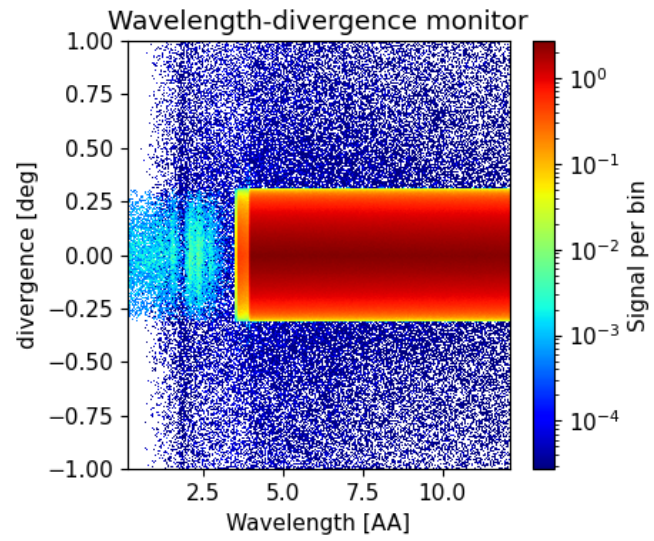
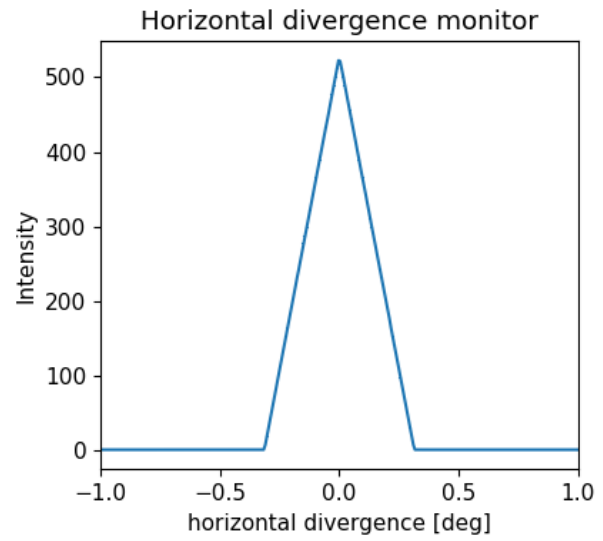
$$n_1 \sin(\theta_1) = n_2 \sin(\theta_2)$$



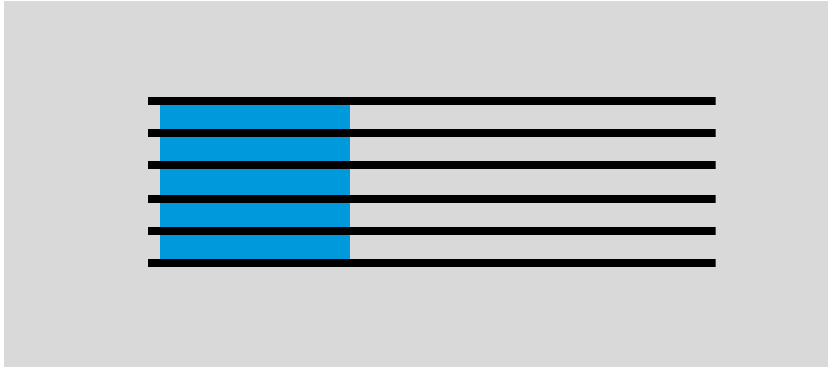
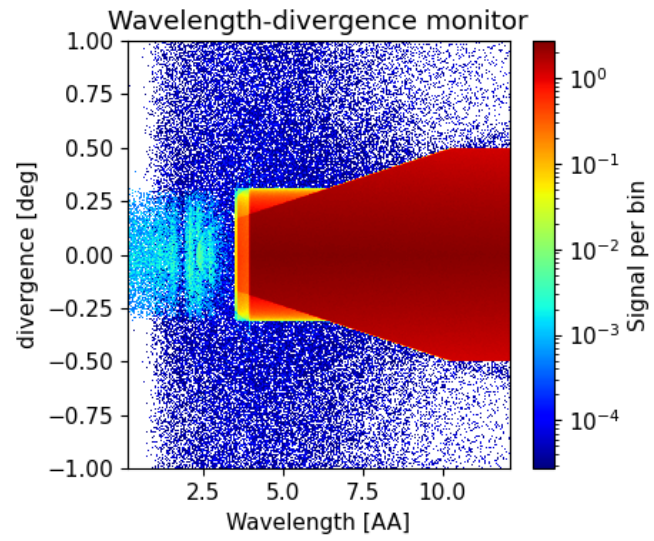
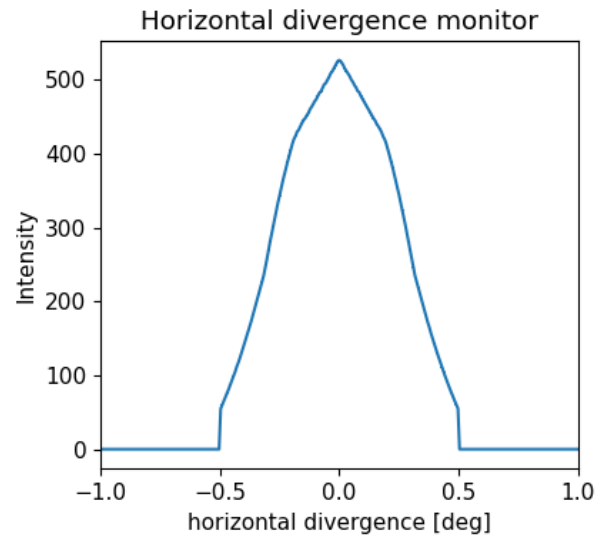
Interface physics update

Simple example - filter

No refraction

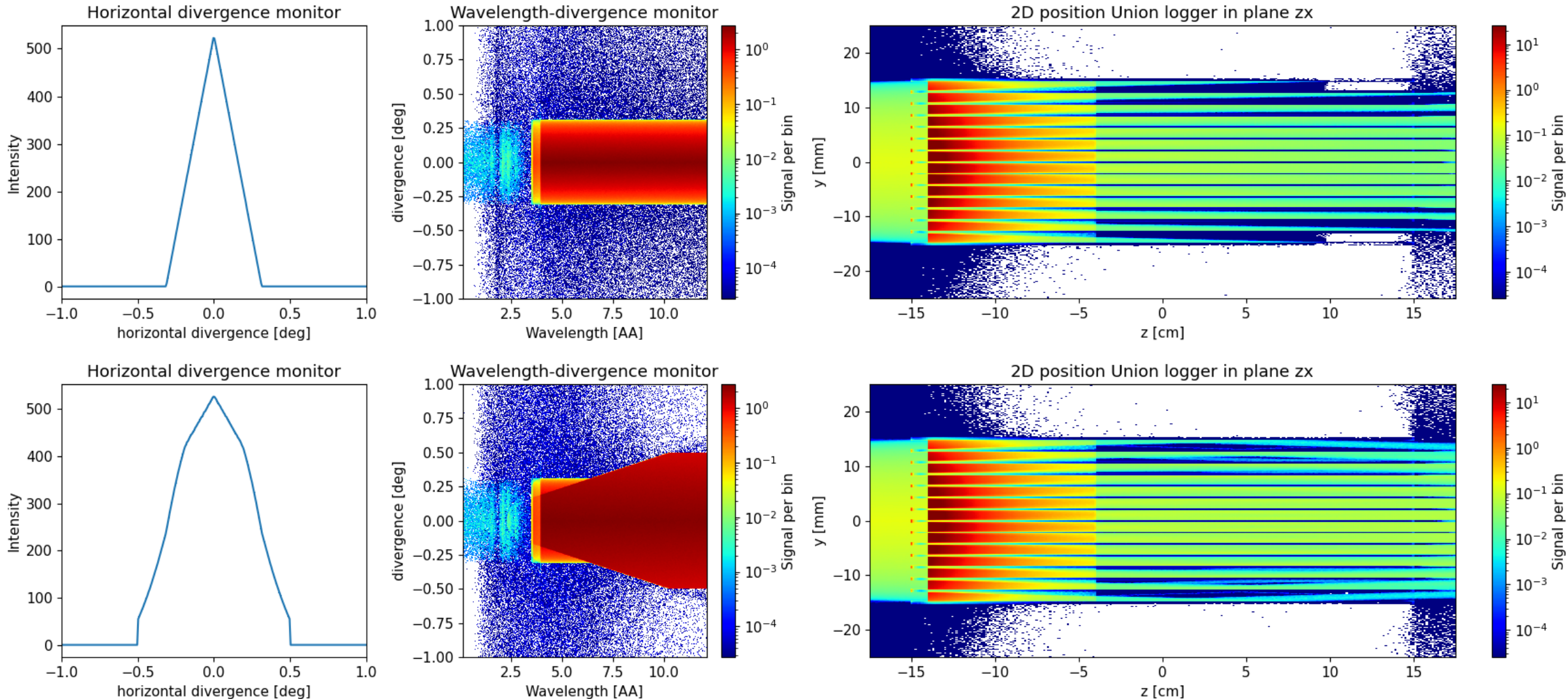


Refraction



Interface physics update

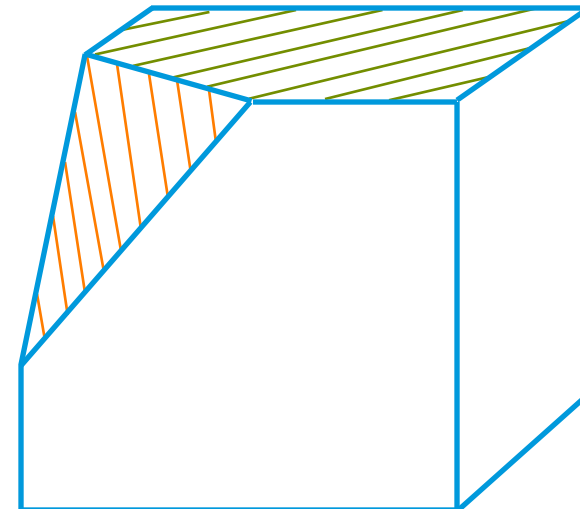
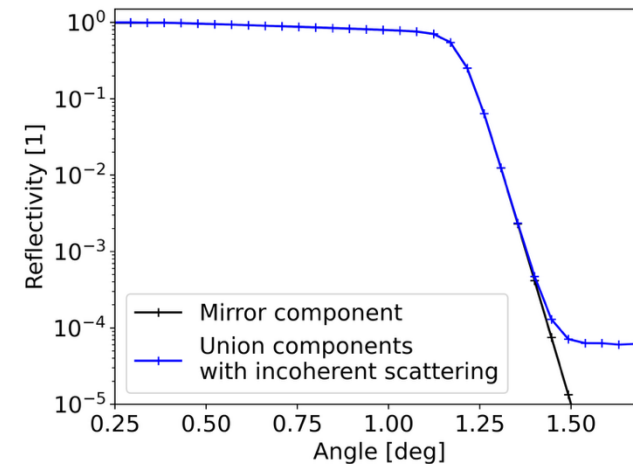
Simple example - filter



Interface physics update

Surface processes

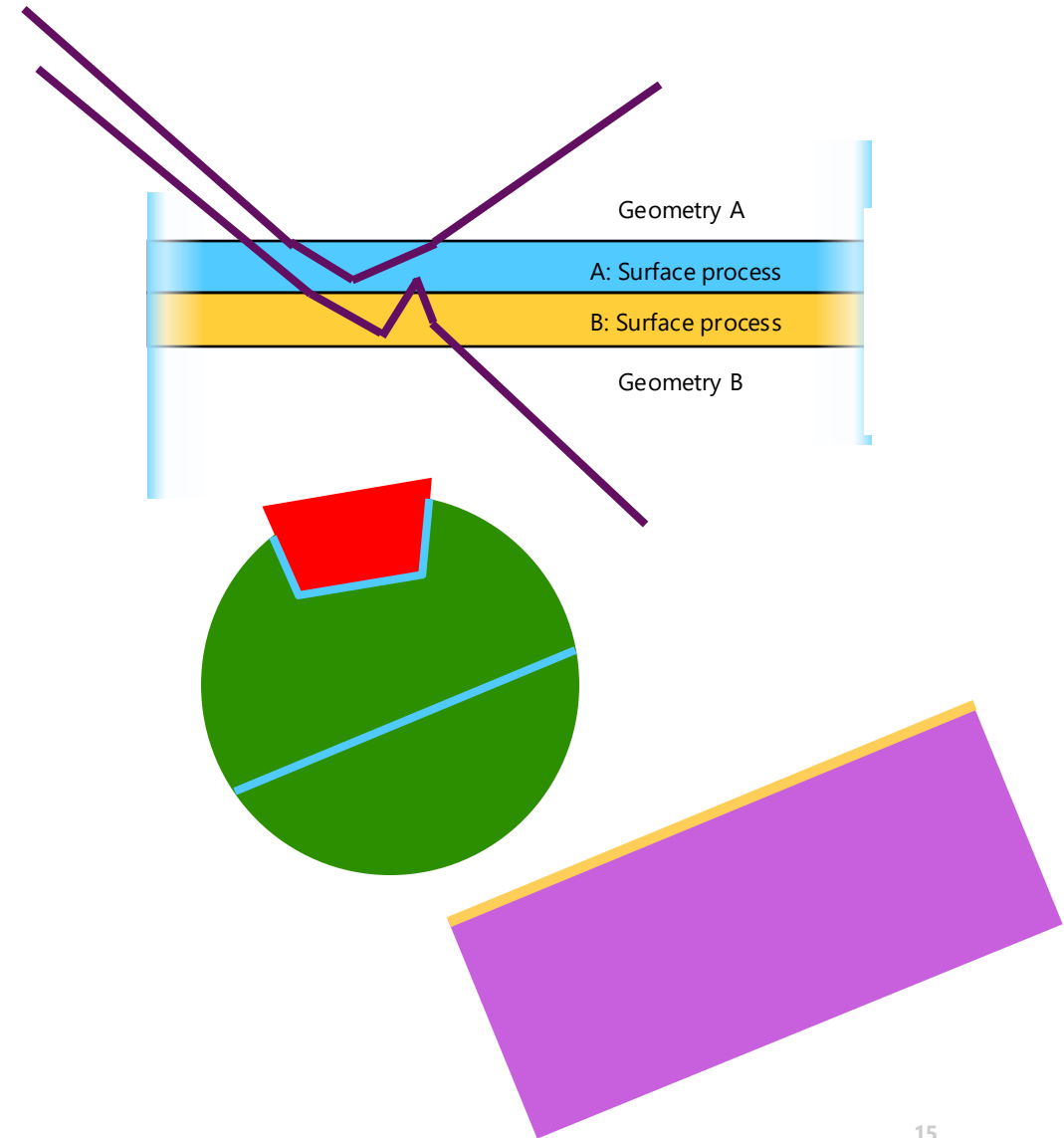
- Surface process components
 - Gets normal vector, initial wavevector and weight
 - Returns final wavevector and weight
- Allows
 - Reflectivity curve
 - Thin absorbing paints
 - ...
- Can be attached to geometry faces
 - Each outside face
 - ... and one for all cuts in inside of material



Interface physics update

Surface stacks

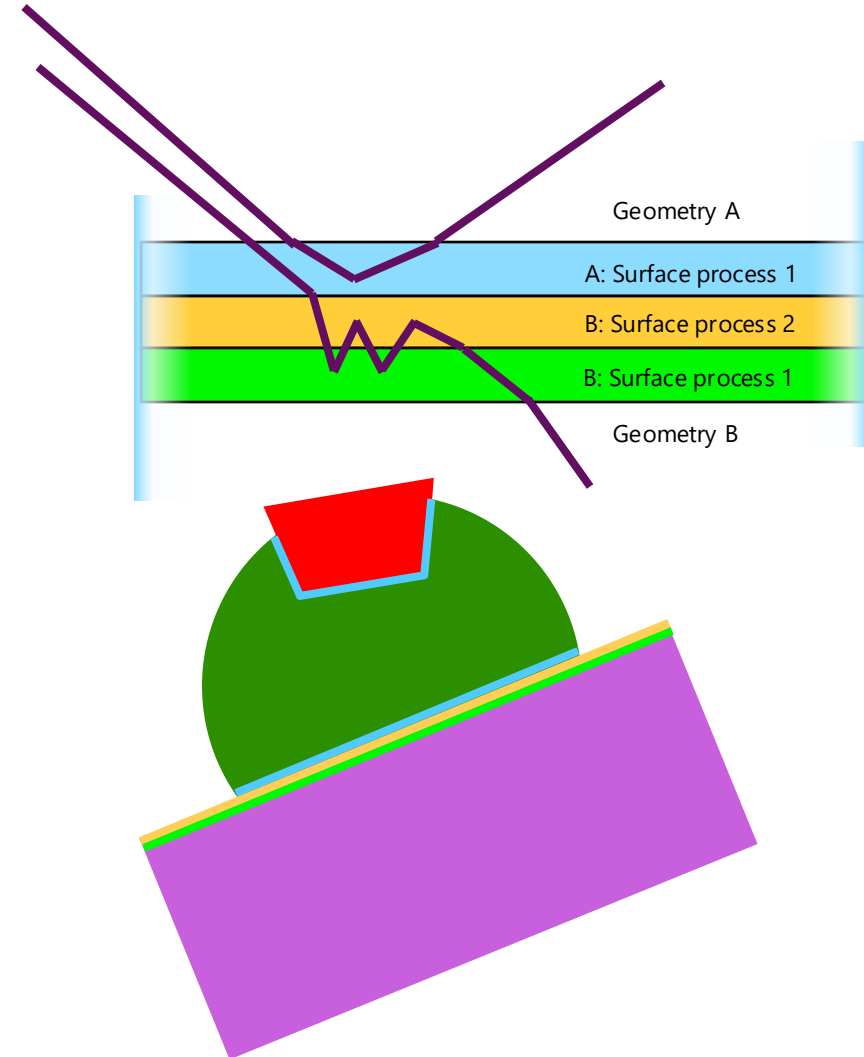
- Surface process components
 - Gets normal vector, initial wavevector and weight
 - Returns final wavevector and weight
- Allows
 - Reflectivity curve
 - Thin absorbing paints
 - ...
- Can be attached to geometry faces
 - Each outside face
 - ... and one for all cuts in inside of material



Interface physics update

Surface stacks

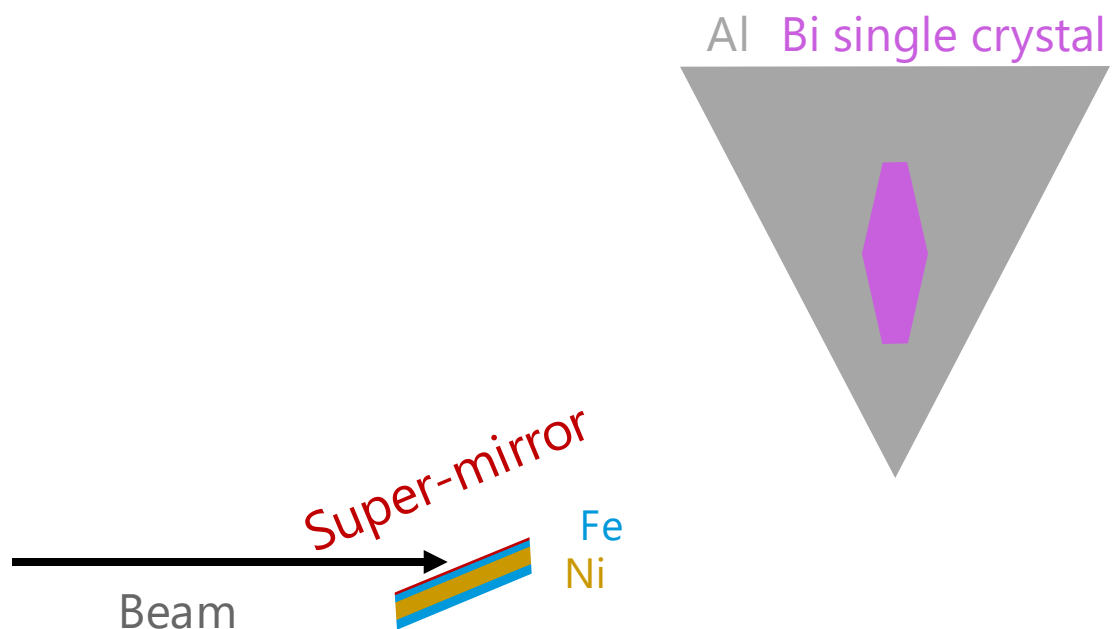
- Surface process components
 - Gets normal vector, initial wavevector and weight
 - Returns final wavevector and weight
- Allows
 - Reflectivity curve
 - Thin absorbing paints
 - ...
- Can be attached to geometry faces
 - Each outside face
 - ... and one for all cuts in inside of material
 - Several processes can be combined into a stack



Interface physics demo

NCrystal

McStas
 n



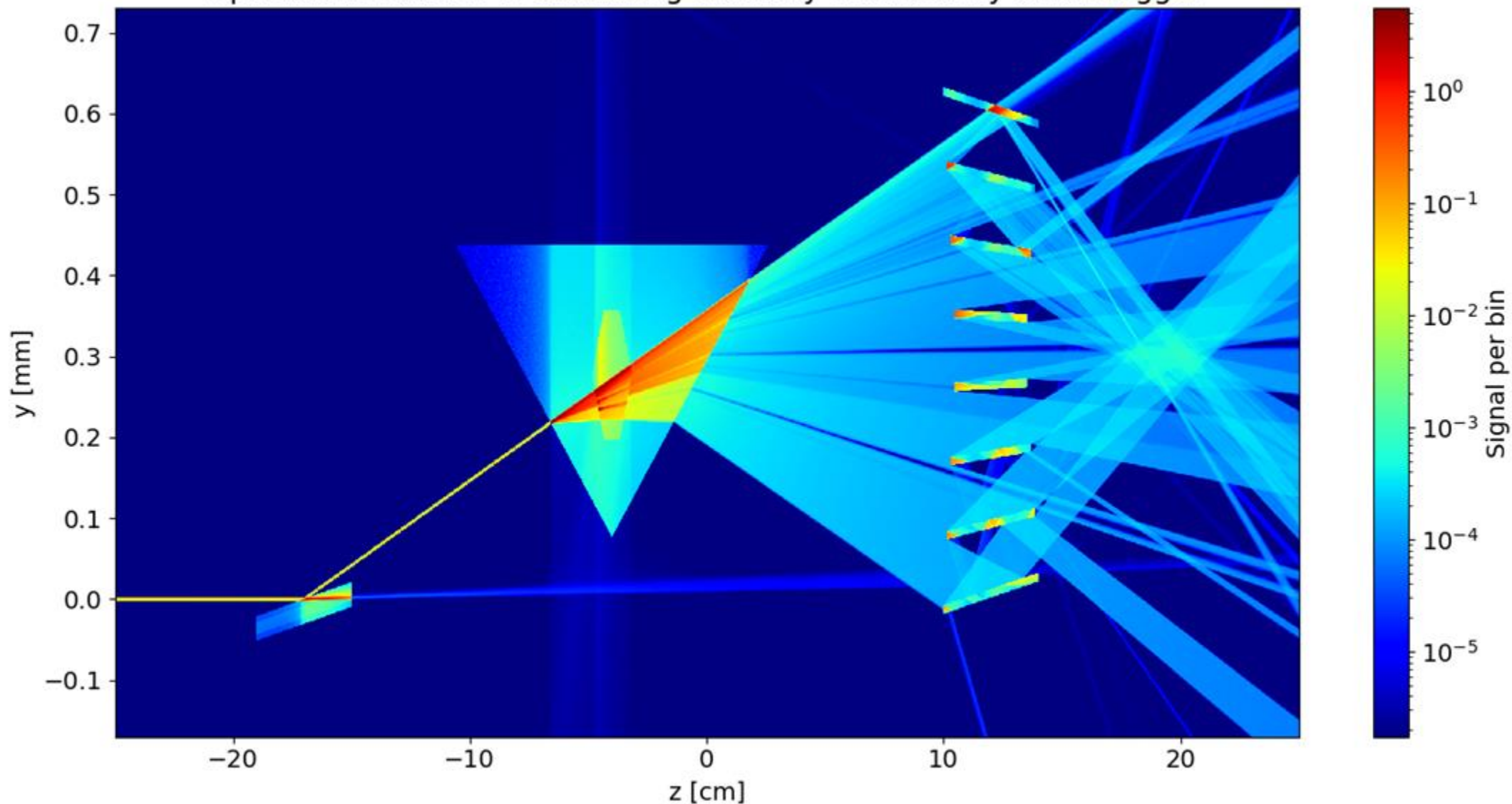
Interface physics demo

NCrystal

McStas
 n



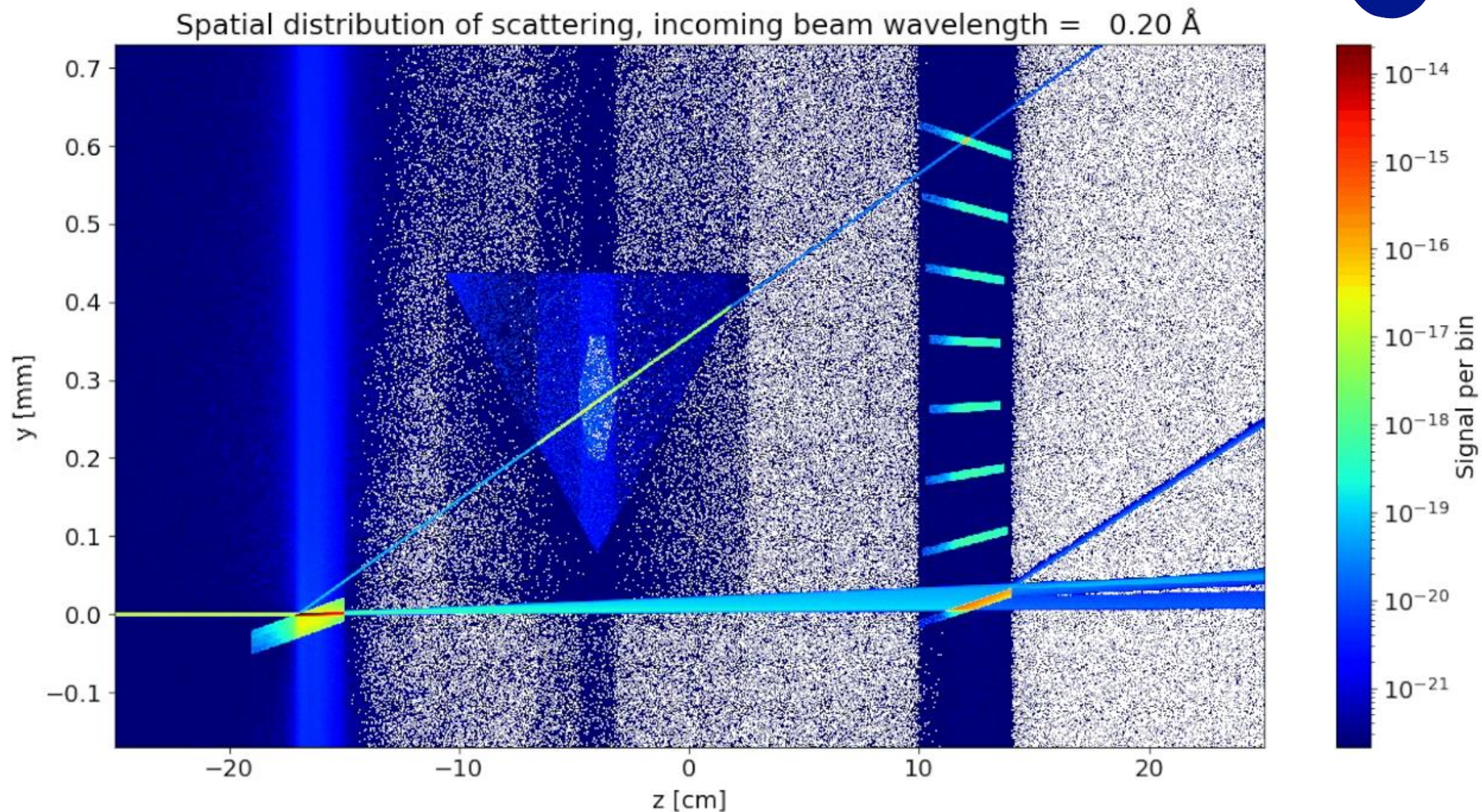
Spatial distribution of scattering intensity recorded by Union logger



Interface physics demo

NCrystal

McStas
n



Interface physics use-case

Surface physics relevant for

- Optics
 - *Guides*
 - *Focusing optics*
 - *Refractive optics*
 - *.. in sample environments*
- Reflectometry
 - Sample
 - Substrate

Conclusion

- Union components constitutes a powerful tool in McStas to simulate complex systems
- Newly added interface physics expands their use case to optics, reflectometry and more
- Remaining limitations:
 - No simulation of gravity
 - Lack support for polarization



Thanks for your attention!