

Polarization-analysed SANS at the ESS

13/07/2026

Annika Stellhorn | annika.stellhorn@ess.eu



EUROPEAN
SPALLATION
SOURCE



scipp

Agenda



- 1 Introduction to Polarization Analysis
 - 1.1 Use Cases
 - 1.2 Data Reduction
 - 1.3 Polarization Components
- 2 Current Workflow for PA
 - 2.1 Scipp implementations
 - 2.2 Integration with unpolarized SANS
 - 2.3 Tests
- 3 Case SKADI: to be implemented
- 4 Future vision: instrument independent workflows?

1.1 Introduction to Polarization Analysis: Use Cases

$$\hat{V} = V_{nuc}^{coh} + V_{nuc}^{inc} + V_{nuc}^{spin} + V_{el}^{spin}$$

The diagram illustrates the components of the potential $\hat{V}$:

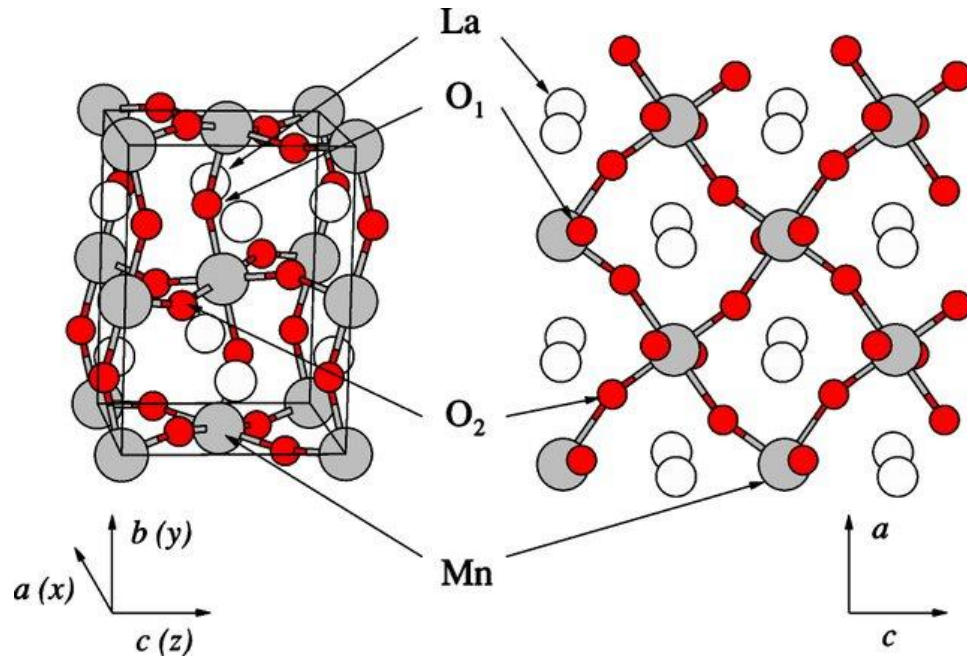
- V_{nuc}^{coh} : A 3x3 grid of black dots representing a coherent nuclear potential.
- V_{nuc}^{inc} : A 3x3 grid of black dots with red arrows pointing in various directions, representing an incoherent nuclear potential.
- V_{nuc}^{spin} : A 3x3 grid of black dots with red arrows pointing in various directions, representing a spin-dependent nuclear potential. Above this grid is the label $\vec{I}$.
- V_{el}^{spin} : A box labeled "Unpaired e^- " containing red arrows pointing in various directions, representing a spin-dependent electron potential. Above the box is the label $\psi_e(r)$.

1.1 Introduction to Polarization Analysis: Use Cases

$$\hat{V} = \boxed{V_{nuc}^{coh} + V_{nuc}^{inc}} + V_{nuc}^{spin} + \text{Unpaired } e^-$$

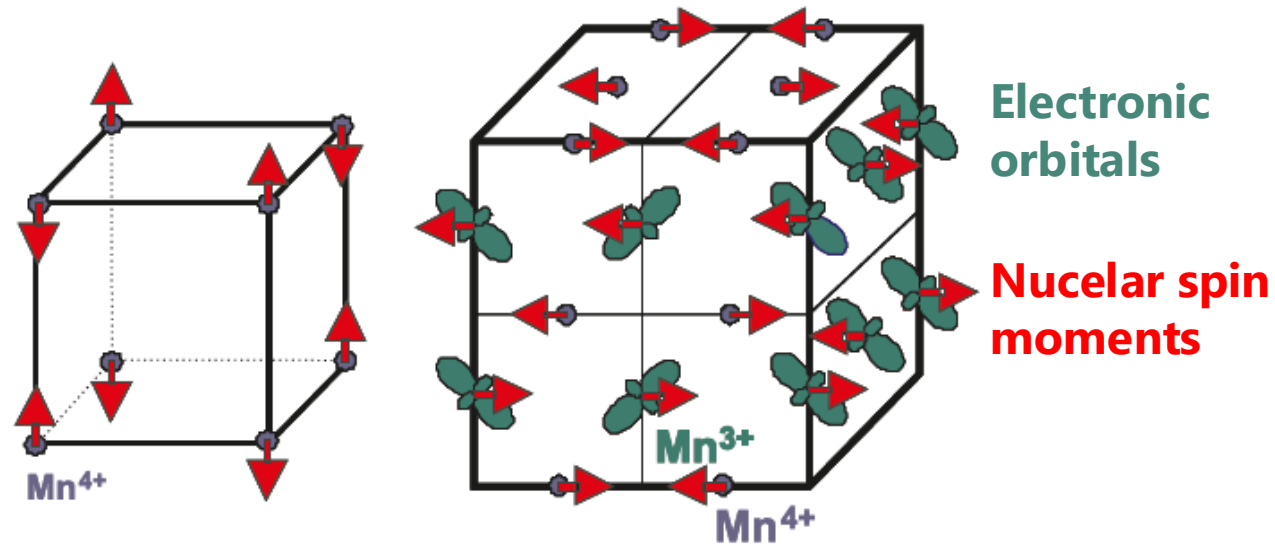
Diagram illustrating the components of the potential $\hat{V}$:

- $V_{nuc}^{coh} + V_{nuc}^{inc}$: Nuclear potential (coherent and incoherent parts).
- V_{nuc}^{spin} : Nuclear spin potential, associated with the nuclear spin vector $\vec{I}$.
- Unpaired e^- : Electron spin potential, associated with the electron wave function $\psi_e(r)$.



1.1 Introduction to Polarization Analysis: Use Cases

$$\hat{V} = V_{nuc}^{coh} + V_{nuc}^{inc} + \underbrace{V_{nuc}^{spin}}_{\vec{I}} + \underbrace{V_{el}^{spin}}_{\text{Unpaired } e^- \text{ } \psi_e(r)}$$



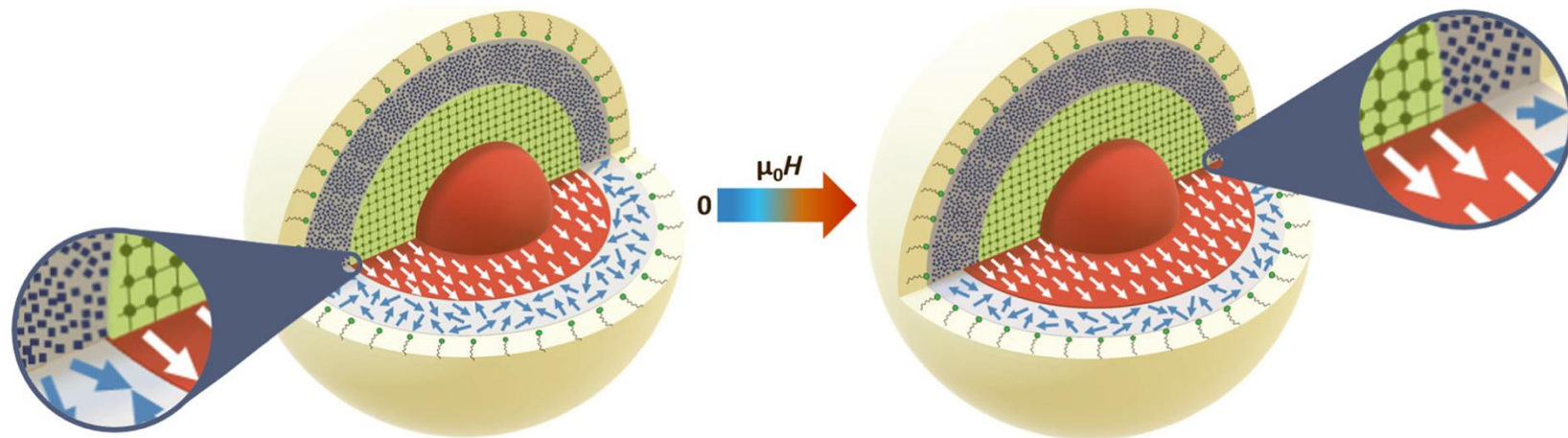
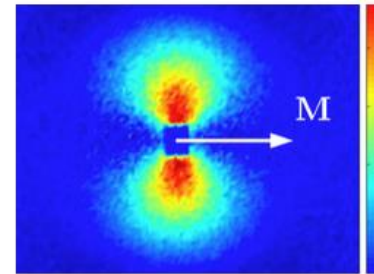
M. Angst, Laboratory course "Neutron Scattering", Ch. 12 (2015). Example: LaMnO₃

1.1 Introduction to Polarization Analysis: Use Cases

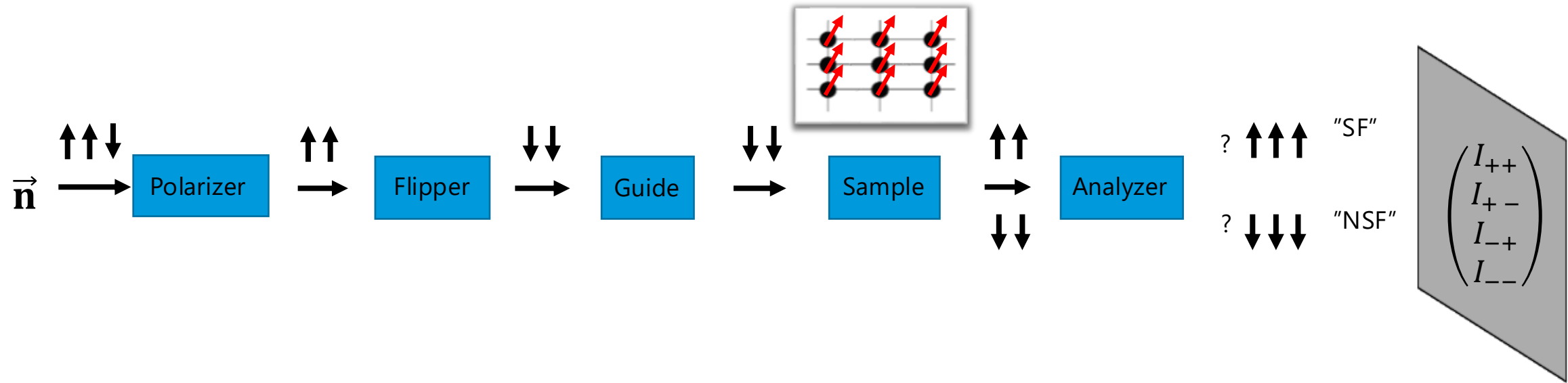
$$\hat{V} = V_{nuc}^{coh} + V_{nuc}^{inc} + V_{nuc}^{spin} + V_{el}^{spin}$$

Diagram illustrating the components of the potential $\hat{V}$:

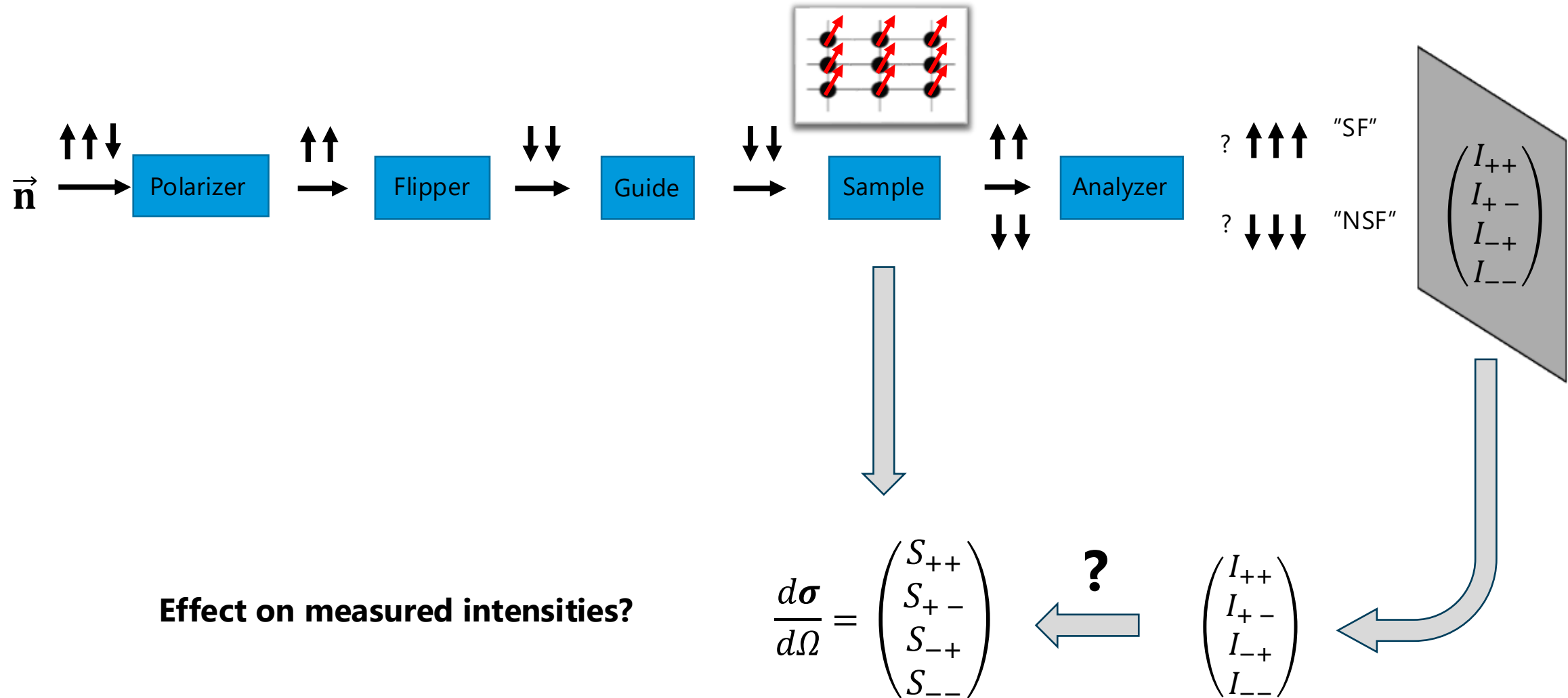
- V_{nuc}^{coh} : Coherent nuclear potential, represented by a 3x3 grid of black dots.
- V_{nuc}^{inc} : Incoherent nuclear potential, represented by a 3x3 grid of black dots.
- V_{nuc}^{spin} : Nuclear spin potential, represented by a 3x3 grid of black dots with red arrows indicating spin, labeled with $\vec{I}$.
- V_{el}^{spin} : Electron spin potential, represented by a box containing the wave function $\psi_e(r)$ and red arrows indicating spin, labeled "Unpaired e^- ".



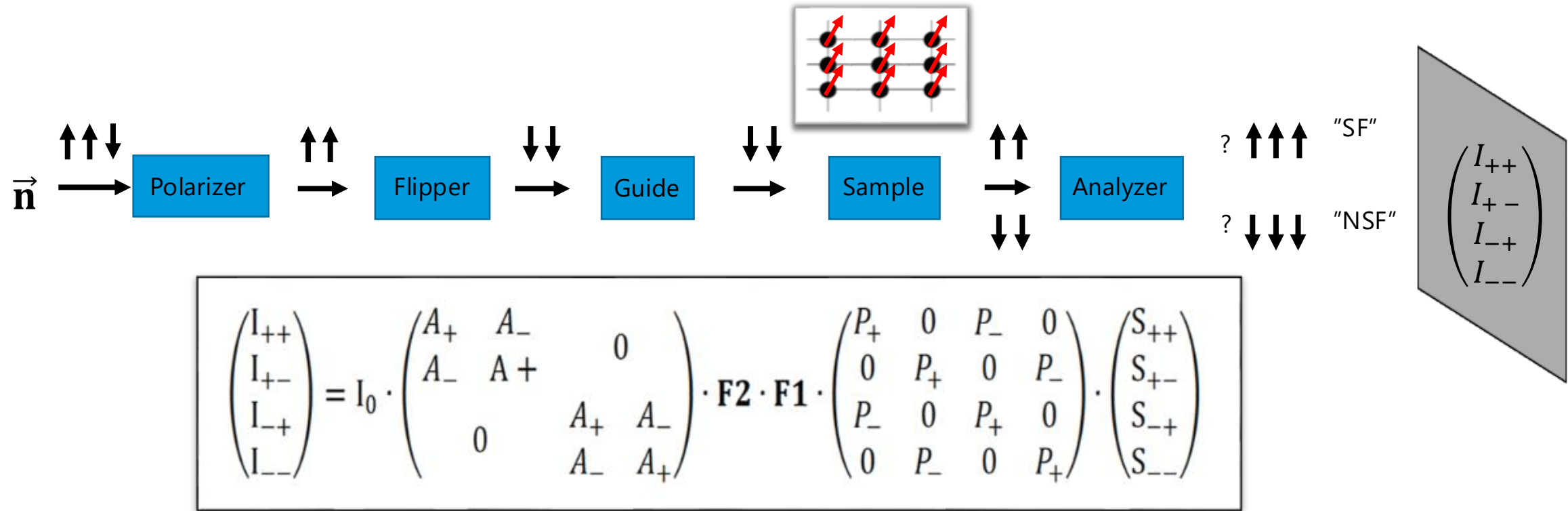
1.2 Introduction to Polarization Analysis: Data Reduction



1.2 Introduction to Polarization Analysis: Data Reduction



1.2 Introduction to Polarization Analysis: Data Reduction



$\mathbf{P}$ = Polariser spin-dependent transmission matrix

$\mathbf{A}$ = Analyser spin-dependent transmission matrix

$\mathbf{F1}, \mathbf{F2}$ = spin-flipper matrices, if present $\rightarrow$ If they work with 100% efficiency: $\mathbf{F1}, \mathbf{F2} = \mathbf{1}$ (**identity matrix**)

Supermirror: $P_{\pm} = T_p(1 \pm P)/2$, with T being the unpolarised neutron transmission.

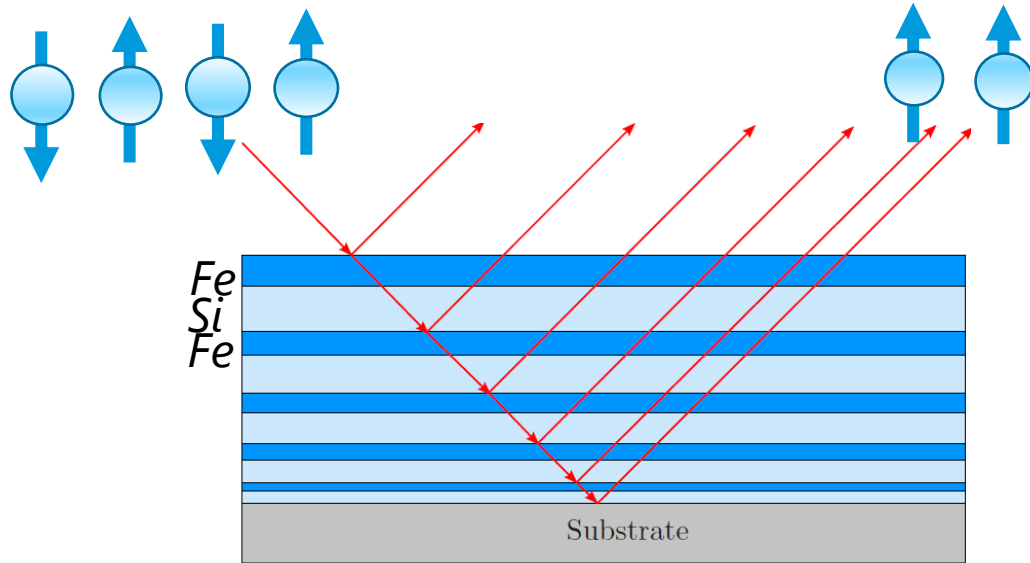
^3He spin filter: $P_{\pm} = \exp(-O) \exp(\pm O P_{\text{He}})$ with O = "Opacity" of ^3He cell and $P_{\text{He}} = ^3\text{He}$ polarisation

$[P, A] = 0 \rightarrow P$ & A commute, order does not matter

$[P, F] \neq 0 \rightarrow$ the matrices must be in order!

1.3 Introduction to Polarization Analysis: Polarization Components

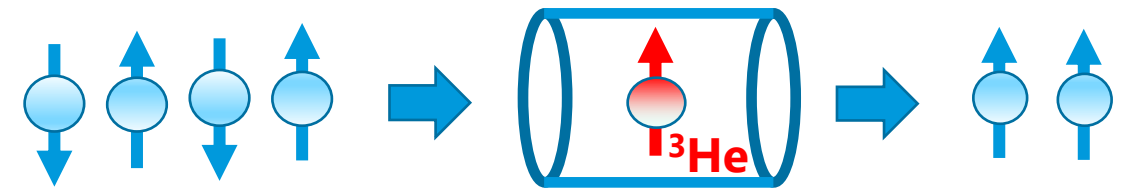
Supermirror



- Total reflection for one spin state, Transmission for other
- Time-independent
- Wavelength-dependent

$$P^{\pm}(t, \lambda) = T(\lambda)(1 \pm P)/2$$

^3He -cell



- Filled with polarized ^3He atoms
- Transmission of neutrons with $s_n \parallel s_{\text{He}}$
- Wavelength-dependent

(a) Ex-situ pumped: Time-dependent

(b) In-situ pumped: Time-independent

$$P^{\pm}(t, \lambda) = T^g(\lambda) \cdot \exp(-O(\lambda) \mp O(\lambda) \cdot P^{\text{He}}(t))$$

2.1 Current Workflow for PA: Scipp implementations

Which beamline components?

- Supermirrors
- ^3He -cells
- Flippers

Which polarization option?

- Half-polarized
- Full-polarized

Which DB characterization?

- Incoming **unpolarized** beam
- Incoming **polarized** beam

Transmission functions of elements:

$$\hat{T}^{\pm, He}(t, \lambda)$$

- Opacity from:
 - a) pressure ("in-situ")
 - b) Depolarization ("ex-situ")
- Choose to insert as P/A

$$\hat{T}^{\pm, SM}(\lambda)$$

- Parameters from commissioning
- Choose to insert as P/A

$$\hat{T}^{Flipper}$$

- Insert?
 - a) Yes: $f < 1$
 - b) No: $f = 1$



$\widehat{PA}$

Data-reduction at
ESS-DMSC



Annika Stellhorn
Simon Heybrock
Johannes Kasimir
Hal Lee

PA-reduction:

$$\begin{pmatrix} I^{++} \\ I^{+-} \\ I^{-+} \\ I^{--} \end{pmatrix}(t, \lambda) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{N} \sum_N PA \left(\frac{I(t, \lambda)}{\text{Beaml. - corrections}} \right) \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} S^{++} \\ S^{+-} \\ S^{-+} \\ S^{--} \end{pmatrix}(t, \lambda)$$

In-situ & single channel correction possible
Calculation performed on single events

2.2 Current Workflow for PA: Integration with unpolarized SANS

1. Data reduction to “non-polarization-related” corrections

- Masking
- Normalization
- Sample thickness correction
- $D(\lambda)$ determination

$$\begin{pmatrix} S^{++} \\ S^{+-} \\ S^{-+} \\ S^{--} \end{pmatrix}(t, \lambda) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_N PA \begin{pmatrix} I^{++} \\ I^{+-} \\ I^{-+} \\ I^{--} \end{pmatrix}(t, \lambda) \text{ *Beamline corrected*}$$

2. Define transmission fractions (similar to LoKI workflow)

- If ^3He -cell correction:
 - “sample” = ^3He -cell
 - Time-series of measurements for $P^{\text{He}}(t)$
 - Add depolarized ^3He -run
 - Get correction parameters
- If SM correction:
 - Fix correction parameters!

$$I(t, \lambda) = \frac{M_{\text{cell}}^{\text{trans}} M_{\text{nocell}}^{\text{inc}}}{M_{\text{cell}}^{\text{inc}} M_{\text{nocell}}^{\text{trans}}} \xrightarrow{\text{get}} \begin{matrix} A/P^{\pm}(t, \lambda) \\ P^{\text{He}}(t) \end{matrix}$$

2.2 Current Workflow for PA: Integration with unpolarized SANS

1. Data reduction to “non-polarization-related” corrections

- Masking
- Normalization
- Sample thickness correction
- $D(\lambda)$ determination

$$\begin{pmatrix} S^{++} \\ S^{+-} \\ S^{-+} \\ S^{--} \end{pmatrix}(t, \lambda) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_N PA \begin{pmatrix} I^{++} \\ I^{+-} \\ I^{-+} \\ I^{--} \end{pmatrix}(t, \lambda) \text{ Beamline corrected}$$

2. Define transmission fractions (similar to LoKI workflow)

- If ^3He -cell correction:
 - “sample” = ^3He -cell
 - Time-series of measurements for $P^{\text{He}}(t)$
 - Add depolarized ^3He -run
 - Get correction parameters
- If SM correction:
 - Fix correction parameters!
- If Sample correction:
 - Apply previously calculated correction parameters on “Beamline-corrected”-data

$$I(t, \lambda) = \frac{M_{\text{cell}}^{\text{trans}} M_{\text{nocell}}^{\text{inc}}}{M_{\text{cell}}^{\text{inc}} M_{\text{nocell}}^{\text{trans}}} \xrightarrow{\text{get}} \begin{matrix} A/P^{\pm}(t, \lambda) \\ P^{\text{He}}(t) \end{matrix}$$

$$I(t, \lambda) = PA \left(\frac{M_{\text{sample}}^{\text{trans}} M_{\text{DB}}^{\text{inc}}}{M_{\text{sample}}^{\text{inc}} M_{\text{DB}}^{\text{trans}}} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{get}} \begin{pmatrix} S^{++} \\ S^{+-} \\ S^{-+} \\ S^{--} \end{pmatrix}(t, \lambda)$$

2.2 Current Workflow for PA: Integration with unpolarized SANS

1. “Unpolarized” data reduction

$$I(\text{spin}, \lambda, t) \left(\frac{1}{\Omega(x, y)} \left(\frac{\sum_{\Delta t_{\text{shot}}} \sum_{\Delta t_{\text{bin}}} \frac{C(\text{channel}, \lambda, t, x, y) dt}{T_{\text{sample}}(\lambda) D(\lambda, x, y)}}{\sum_{\Delta t_{\text{shot}}} \sum_{\Delta t_{\text{bin}}} M(\text{channel}, t, \lambda)} \right) (\text{channel}, \lambda, \overline{t_{\text{pulse}}}) \right)$$

2. “Polarized” data reduction:

$$\sum_{\text{neutron pulses}} \left(\begin{pmatrix} C_{PA.corr}^{++}(\lambda) \\ C_{PA.corr}^{+-}(\lambda) \\ C_{PA.corr}^{-+}(\lambda) \\ C_{PA.corr}^{--}(\lambda) \end{pmatrix} \right) = \sum_{\text{neutron pulses}} \left(\text{inv} \begin{pmatrix} T_{11}(\lambda) & \cdots & T_{14}(\lambda) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ T_{41}(\lambda) & \cdots & T_{44}(\lambda) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} C_{mon.corr}^{++}(\lambda) \\ C_{mon.corr}^{+-}(\lambda) \\ C_{mon.corr}^{-+}(\lambda) \\ C_{mon.corr}^{--}(\lambda) \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

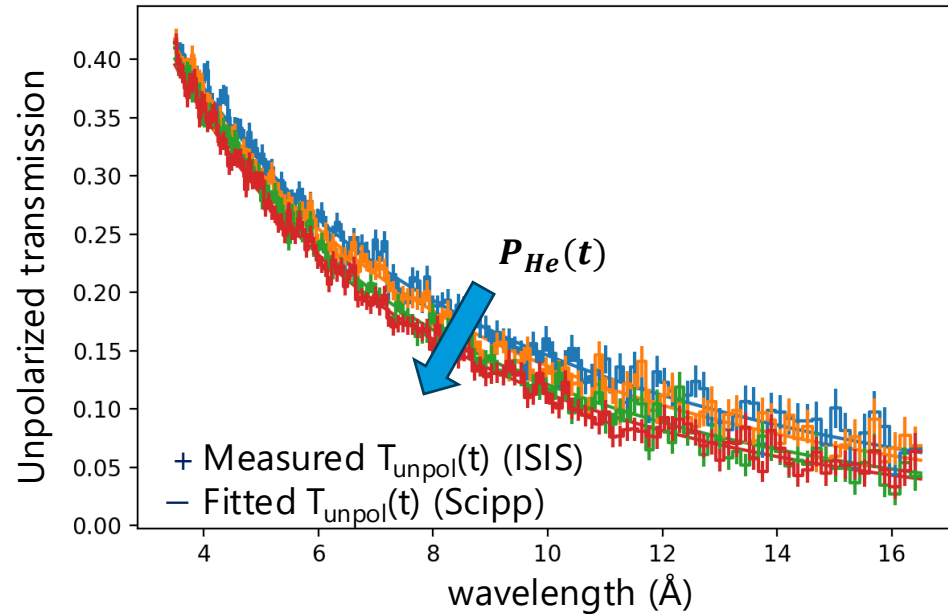
Sum up of
neutron pulses

Polarization
Efficiency
Matrices

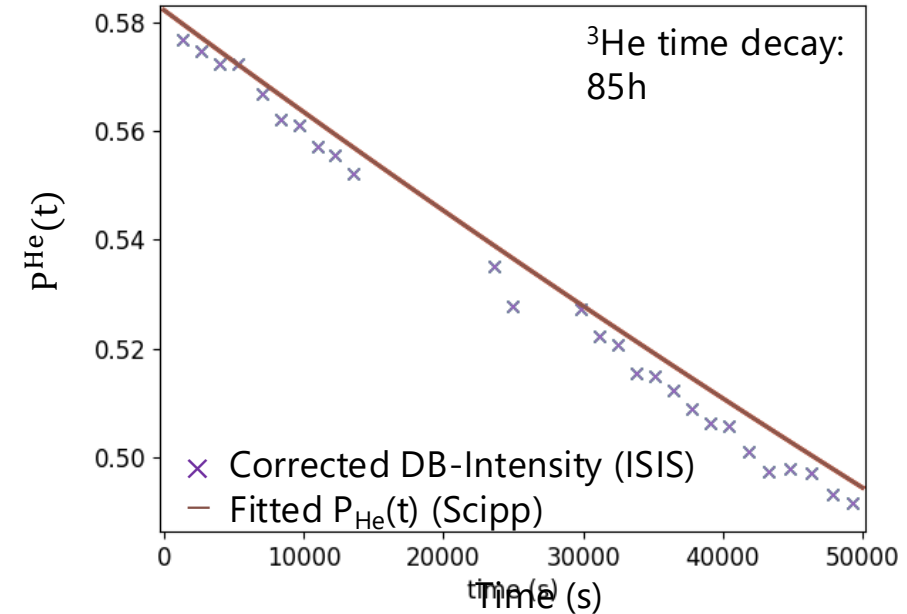
“Unpol.”
Beamline-
corrected I

2.3 Current Workflow for PA: Tests

Direct-Beam Transmission measurements:



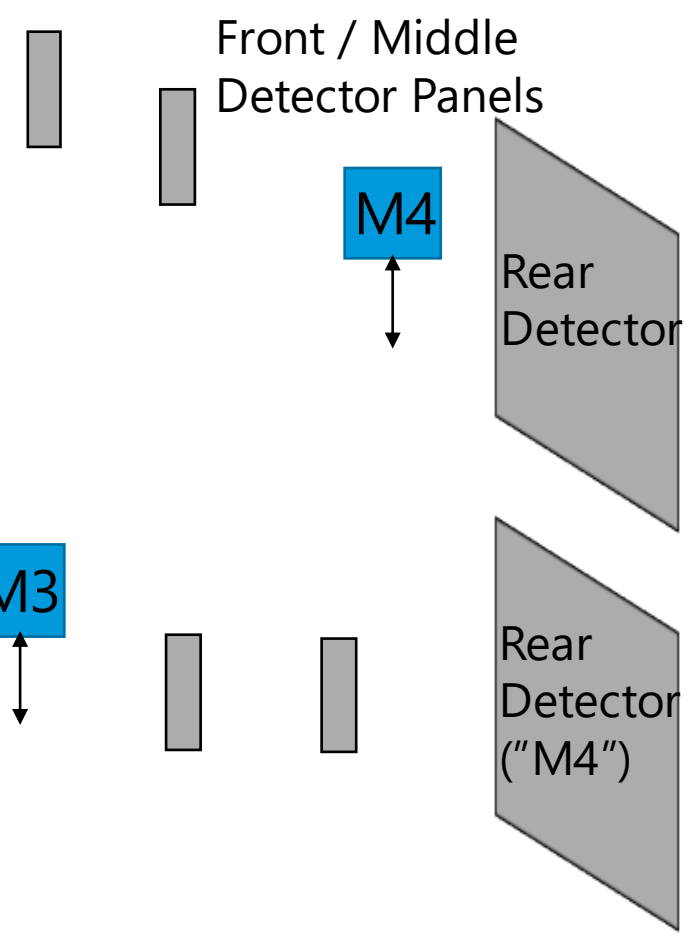
Fitting $P^{\text{He}}(t)$:



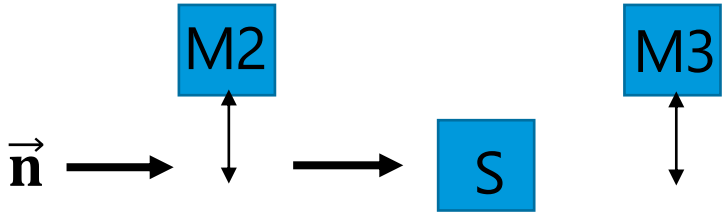
$$I(t, \lambda) = \frac{M_{\text{cell}}^{\text{trans}} M_{\text{nocell}}^{\text{inc}}}{M_{\text{cell}}^{\text{inc}} M_{\text{nocell}}^{\text{trans}}} \rightarrow A^{\text{unpol}}(t, \lambda) = T^g(\lambda) \cdot \exp(-O(\lambda)) \cdot \cosh(O(\lambda) \cdot P^{\text{He}}(t))$$

$$\rightarrow P^{\text{He}}(t) = C \cdot \exp(-t/T^1)$$

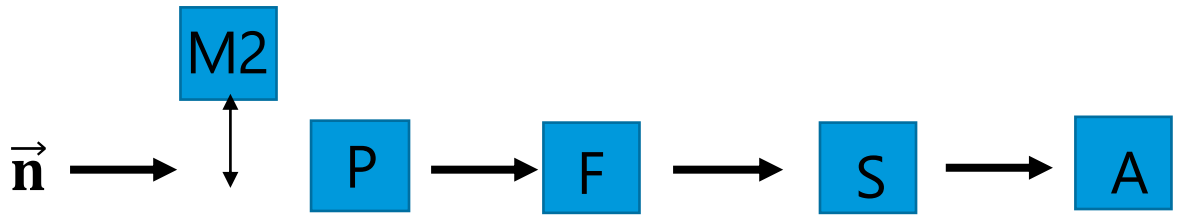
3. Case SKADI: Changes & to be implemented



LOKI:



SKADI:

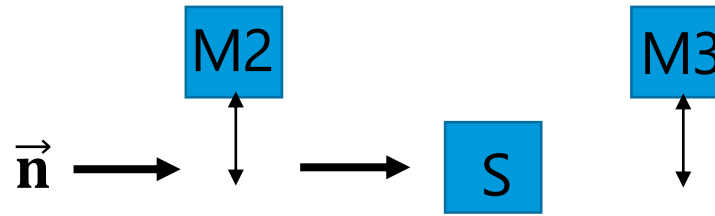


M2: Incident Beam Monitor

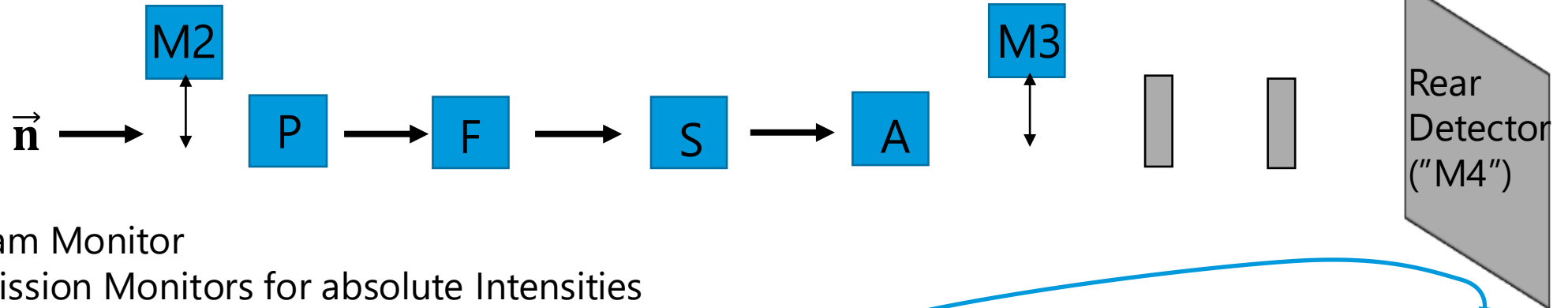
M3, M4: Transmission Monitors for absolute Intensities

3. Case SKADI: Changes & to be implemented

LOKI:



SKADI:

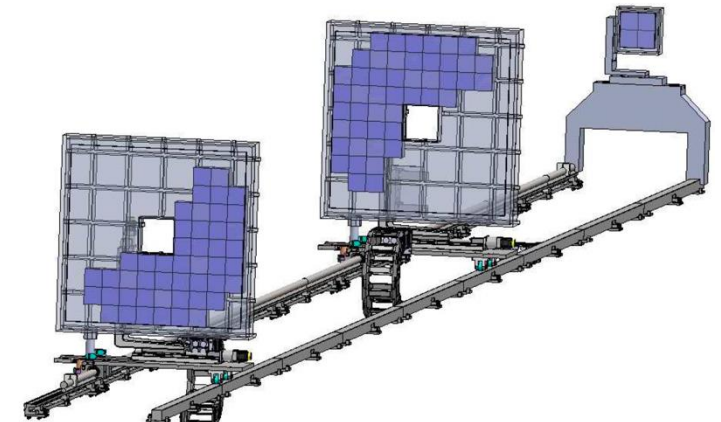


M2: Incident Beam Monitor

M3, M4: Transmission Monitors for absolute Intensities

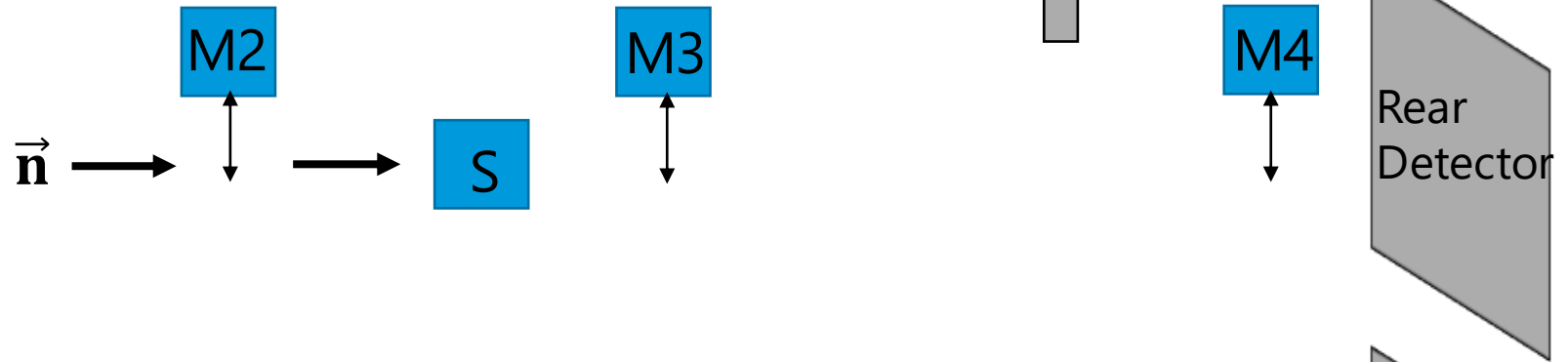
Changes in workflow from LoKI to SKADI & ToDo:

- Primary beam detector is not a separate 1D monitor, but the SANS 2D rear detector
- Additional beam profile masking
- Different detector arrangements
- 1st phase: Ex-situ ³He analyzer
- 2nd phase: In-situ ³He analyzer

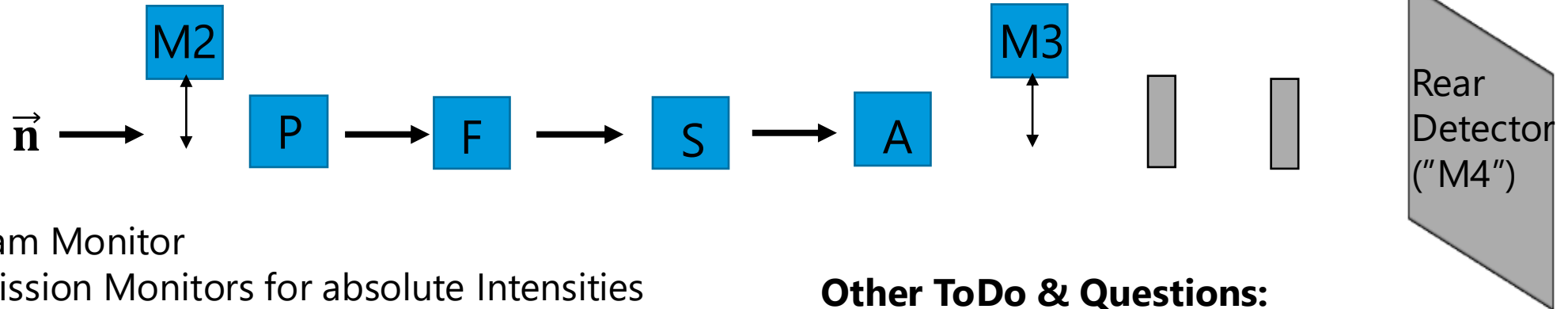


3. Case SKADI: Changes & to be implemented

LOKI:



SKADI:



M2: Incident Beam Monitor

M3, M4: Transmission Monitors for absolute Intensities

Changes in workflow from LoKI to SKADI & ToDo:

- Primary beam detector is not a separate 1D monitor, but the SANS 2D rear detector
- Additional beam profile masking
- Different detector arrangements
- 1st phase: Ex-situ ³He analyzer
- 2nd phase: In-situ ³He analyzer

Other ToDo & Questions:

- Reduction of full-PA test-measurements with incoming polarized beam missing
- Test supermirror matrix-component fitting
- Add option of sample depolarization
- Add interface for users?
- Proceed with previous scipp-workflow together with Oliver?
- Implementation of PA to Milans' script

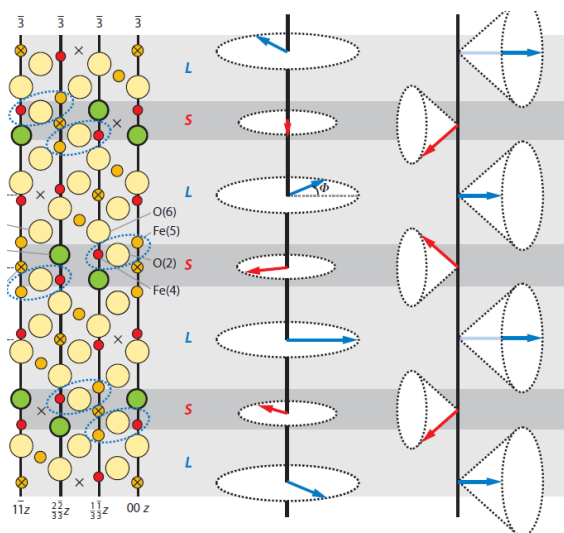
4. Future vision: instrument independent workflows?

Questions:

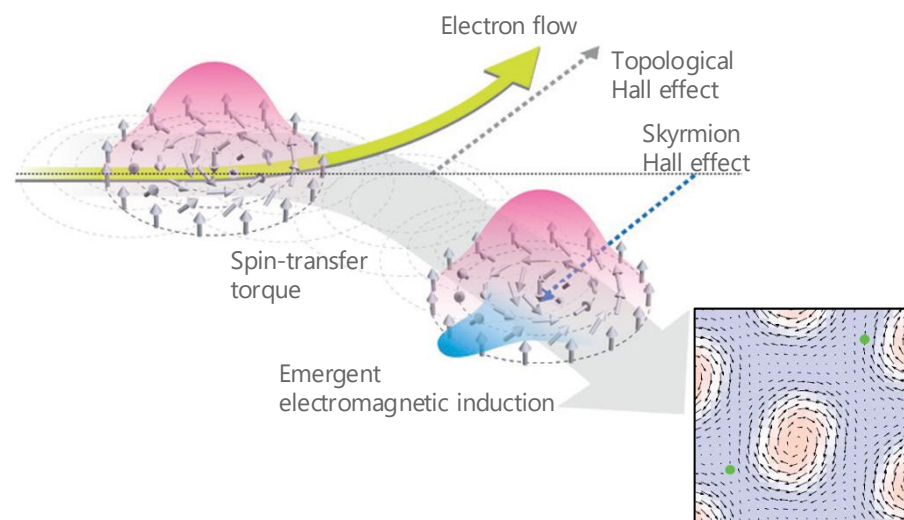
- Shall / can the SANS-workflow be transferred to other instruments?
 - E.g. Diffraction? Imaging?
- Plans for development of a GUI, including polarization components?
- Polarization-day for all polarization-equipped instruments?
 - Presenting status of data workflows
 - Presenting beamline-specific aspects
 - Discussing on "what can be taken over"?

ESS – the users' future choice for PA-measurements!!!

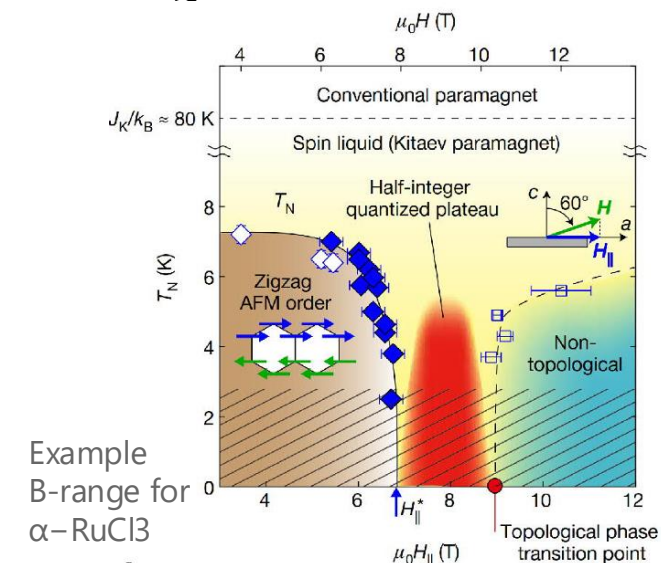
Ferroelectric materials



Skymions



Designer Quantum Matter



Attachments

A solid blue vertical bar is positioned on the left side of the slide, extending from the top to the bottom.