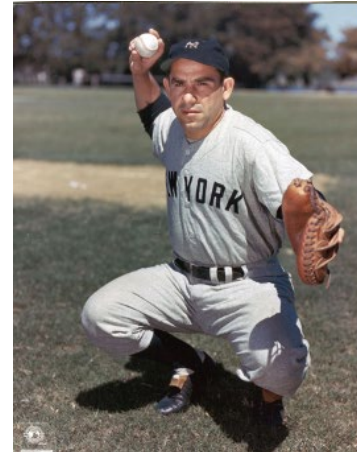




Prediction is very  
difficult, especially  
about the future

*Niels Bohr*



The future ain't  
what it used to be

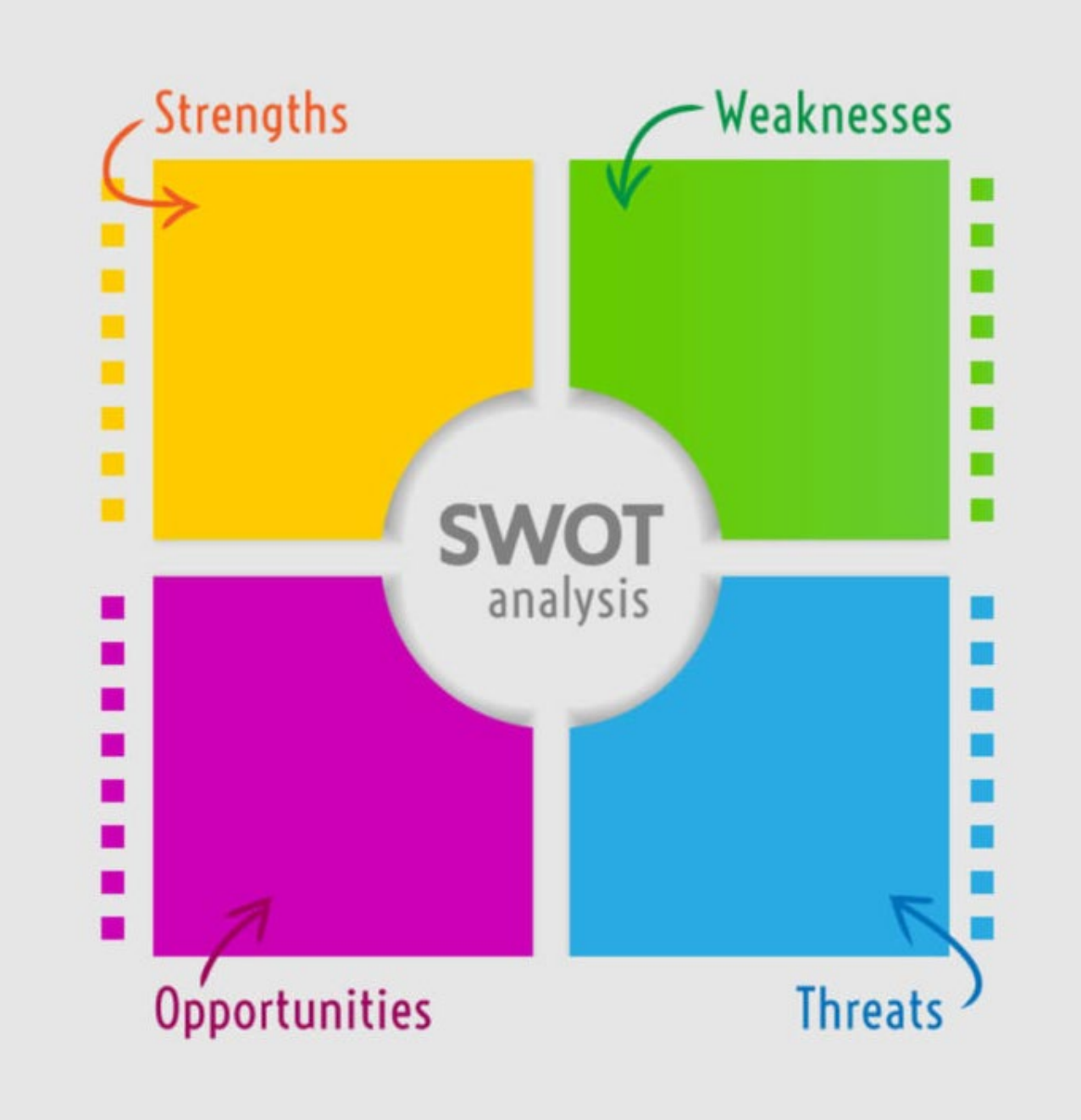
*Yogi Berra*

# The future of neutrons

---

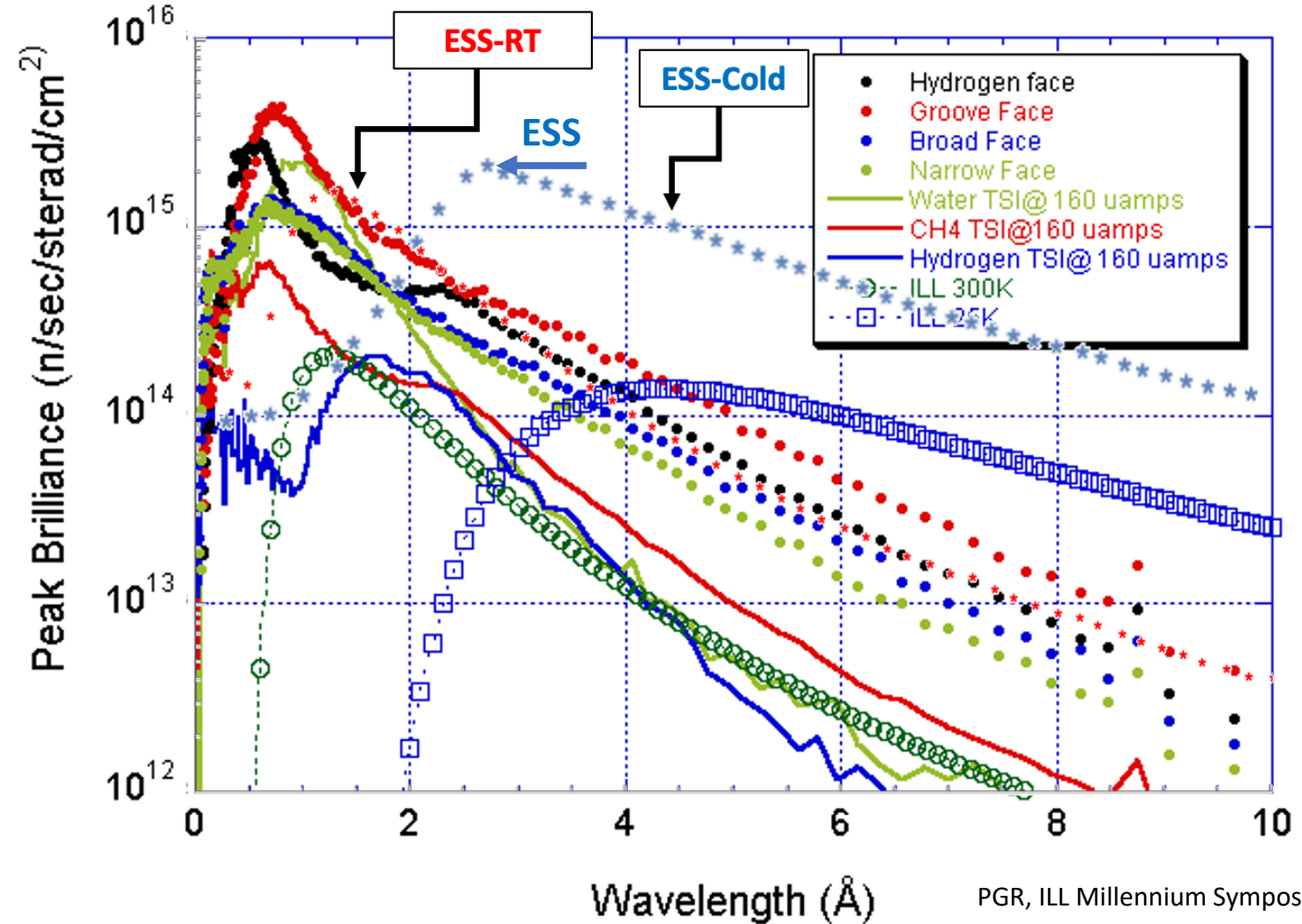
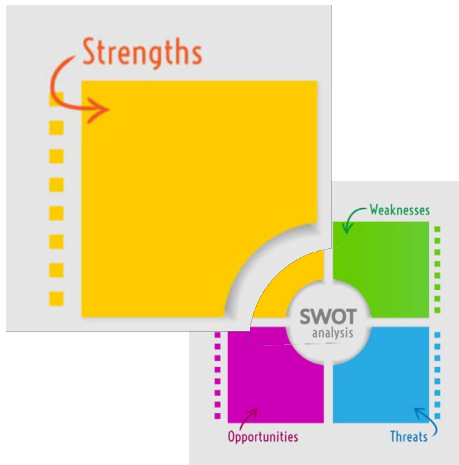
*Paolo G. Radaelli*  
Clarendon Laboratory, University of Oxford

50 years of UK@ILL: Grenoble, 29 November 2023



# Neutrons are great!

*and I mean really great*



**The Nobel Prize in Physics 1994**

Oliver G. Dickel, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA  
 Klaus von Klitzing, University of Bonn, Germany  
 Robert B. Laughlin, Stanford University, California, USA

**Neutrons reveal structure and dynamics**

Neutrons show where atoms are

Neutrons show what atoms do

Neutrons are more than X-rays

Neutrons reveal inner stresses

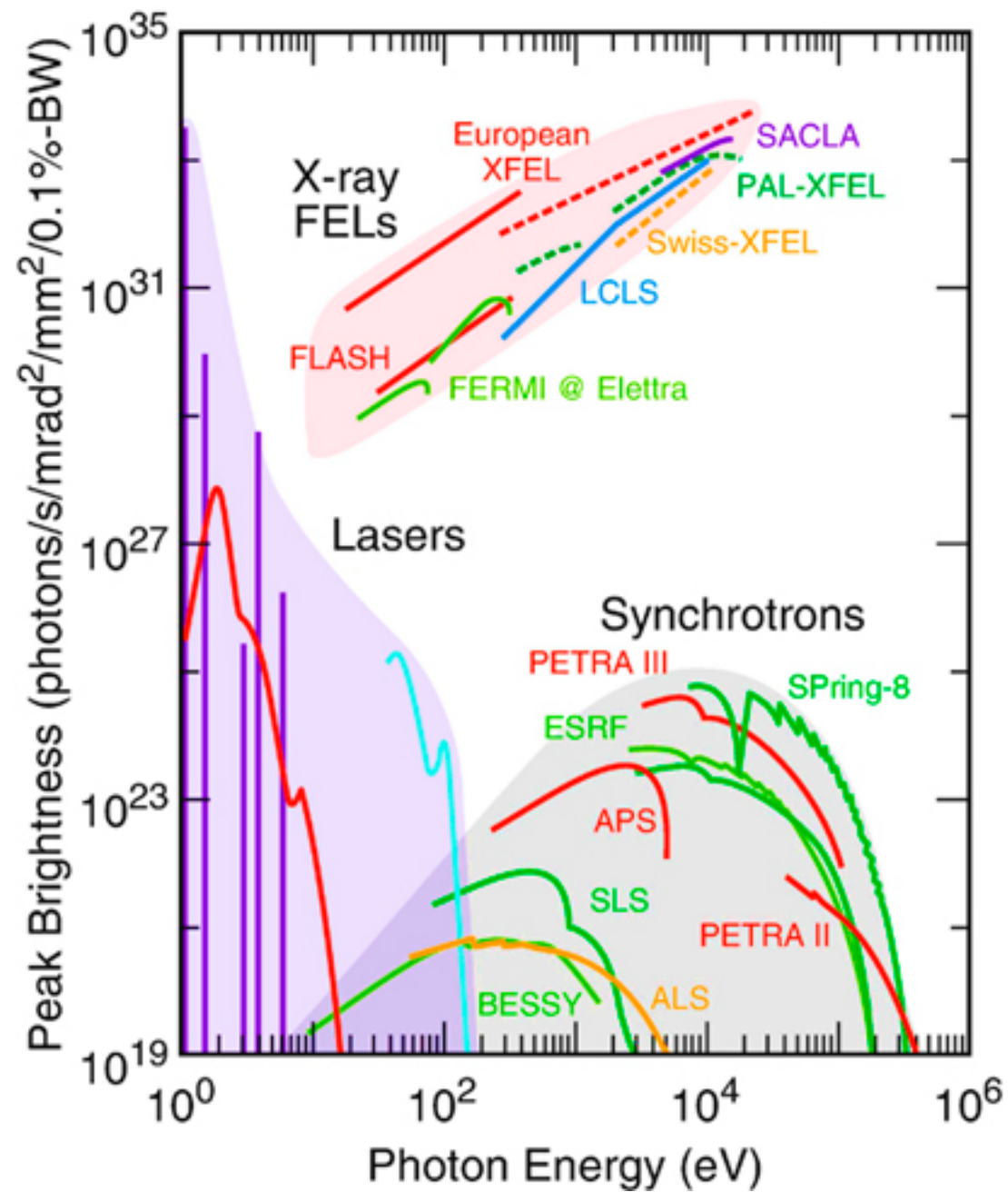
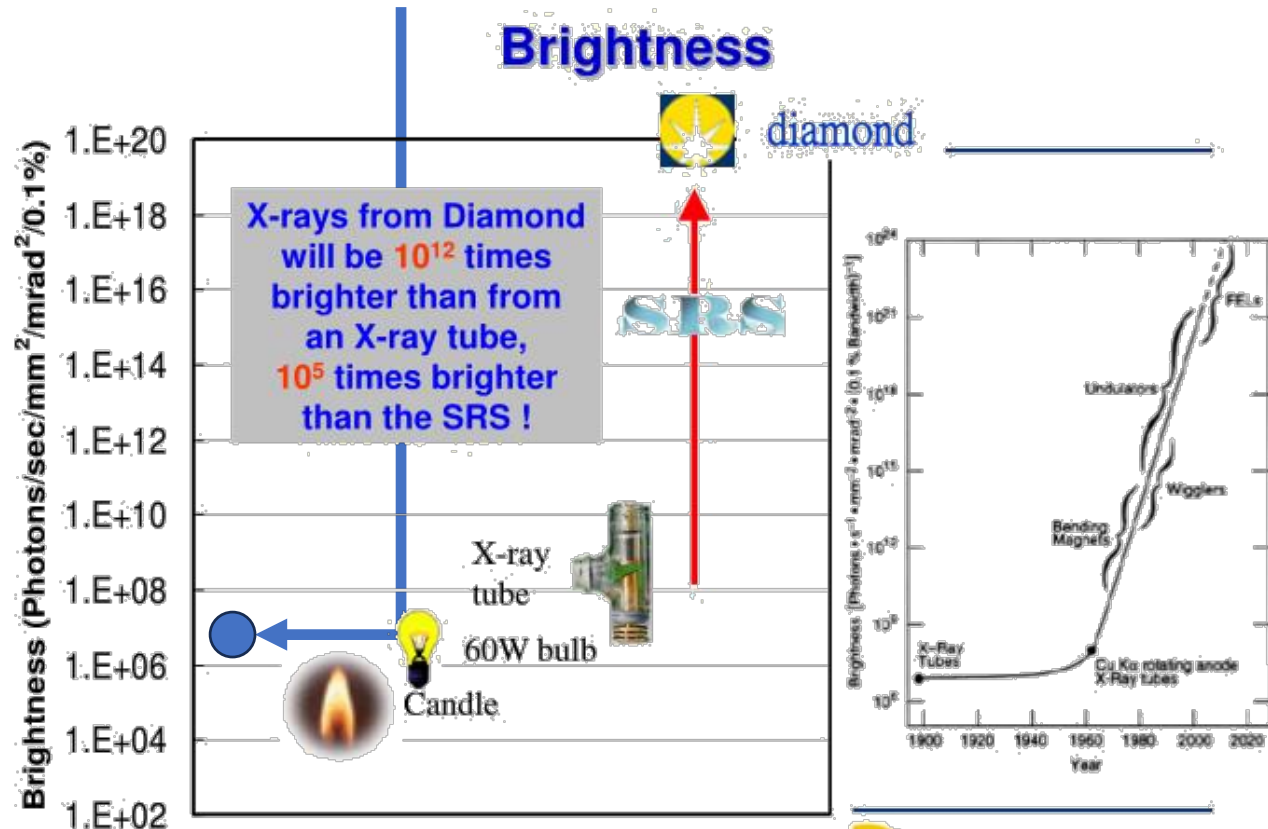
Neutrons show what atoms react to

Other results:

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

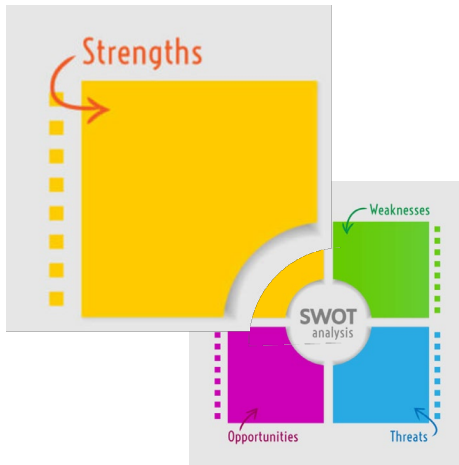
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

# ESS@5MW



# There are/will be rather a lot of them available

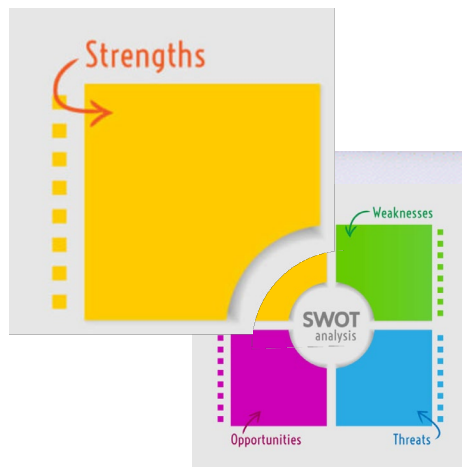
*...at least now, specially for UK scientists*



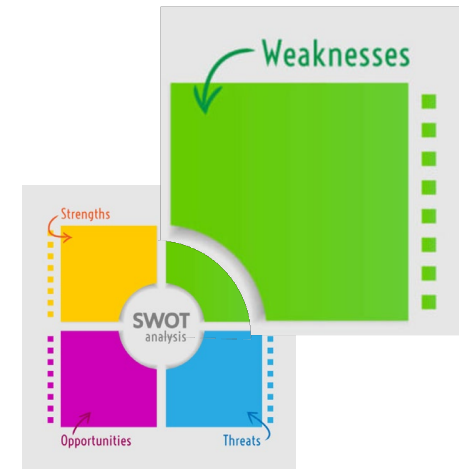
ISIS Neutron and Muon Source



# A wide spectrum of science and technology



# ***Not many weaknesses but some... specifically for the UK***

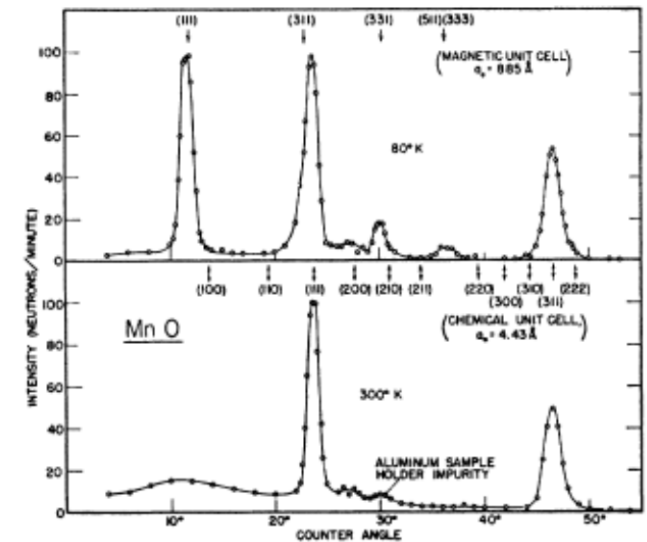
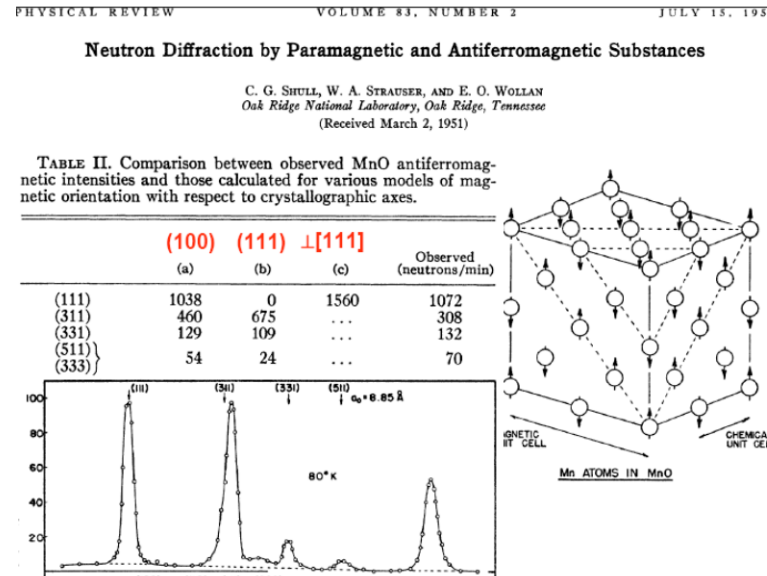
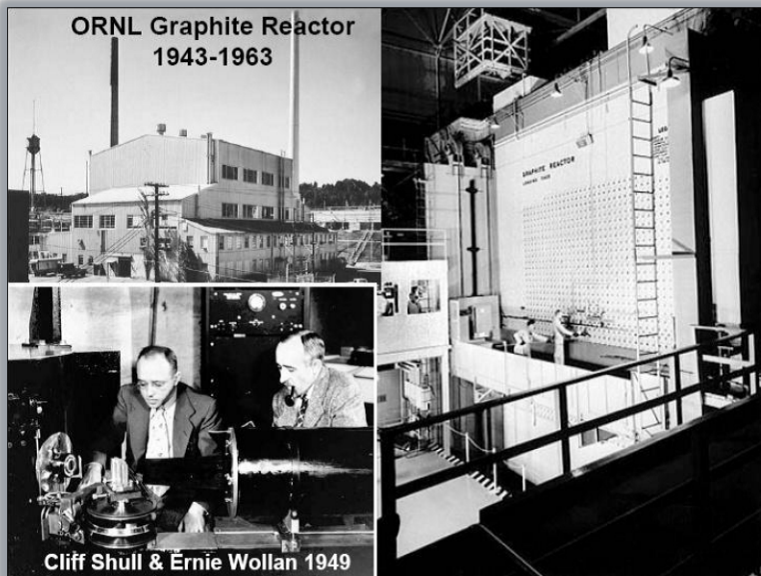


- Little **direct community involvement** with sources/instrumentation, e.g., compared with our colleague in PP or Astro. The disengagement with ESS is a particularly egregious case...
- The UK neutron community needs to fight '**one grant at a time**', often against UKRI priority areas that seem somewhat disconnected with the worldwide landscape (again, compare/contrast with PP/Astro consolidated grants).
- #1 challenge – **Quantum Materials** (SNS-STs) not in strong focus in UK.
- The '**high-impact**' science base may be narrower than one thinks...

# First determination of magnetic structure performed at ORNL



- Clifford G. Shull received 1994 Nobel prize in Physics.



- First direct evidence of antiferromagnetism in MnO.
- Neel model of ferrimagnetism confirmed in  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ .
- First magnetic form-factor data obtained in Mn compounds.
- Production of polarized neutrons by Bragg reflection from ferromagnets demonstrated.



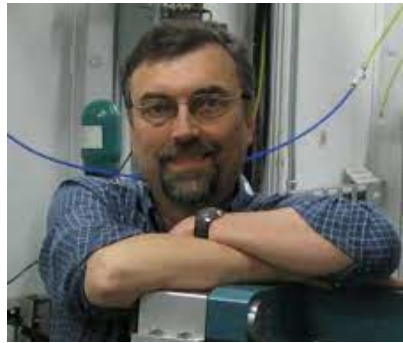
plest ordered perovskite structures with a  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_x$  stoichiometry consists of 1:1: $n$  stacking of cubic perovskite building blocks with Cu atoms on the cube corners, Y or Ba atoms in the center of the cube, and O atoms on the cube edges. From powder x-ray diffraction data Cava *et al.*<sup>3</sup> proposed an orthorhombic unit cell with  $a \approx 3.822 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b \approx 3.891 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = \approx 11.677 \text{ \AA}$ . Grant *et al.*<sup>4</sup> proposed a tetragonal unit cell with  $a \approx 3.89 \text{ \AA}$  and  $c \approx 11.65 \text{ \AA}$ . Both reports speculate that the structure of the superconducting material is a 1:1:3 variant of the perovskite unit cell with ordered Y and Ba cations and an unspecified number of oxygen atoms. A single-crystal x-ray diffraction study by Hazen *et al.*<sup>6</sup> determined the structure of  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_x$  ( $x$  reported as  $\approx 6.5$ ) as tetragonal with space group  $P\bar{4}m2$  and confirmed the 1:1:3 stacked perovskite derivative structure. This structure contains  $\text{CuO}_2$  planes and ordered oxygen vacancies in the BaO and YO planes. In all of these studies the oxygen atom positions and occupations are difficult to locate because of

we have no means of determining whether defects play any direct role in the superconducting properties of these materials.

We acknowledge valuable discussions with Janet Brown, J. M. Cowley, W. J. Skocpol and S. Zahurak. The low-temperature experiments were partially supported by the NSF.

*Note added in proof:* We have recently learned of neutron diffraction experiments by J. J. Capponi *et al.* *Europhys. Lett.* **3**, 1301-1308 (1987) which also indicate the presence of long range order in the oxygen vacancies.

Received 16 April; accepted 6 May 1987.



Carlo Segre



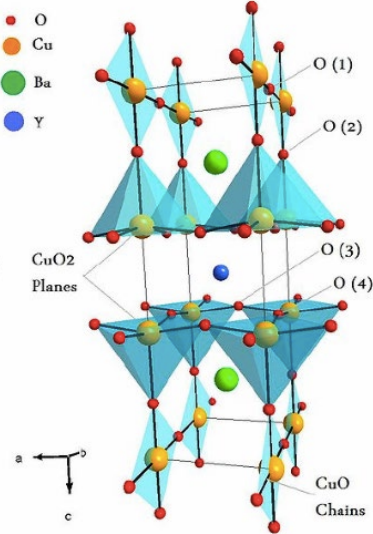
Bill David



Jim Jorgensen

this system. The sample studied here exhibits, previously reported,<sup>2</sup> a metallic resistance together with a sharp superconducting transition at 92.5 K (width of 3 K) which shows that the superconductor is homogeneous.

Neutron powder diffraction data were collected on a sample of  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_y$  using the special-environment diffractometer at the Intense Pulsed Neutron Source (IPNS) and analyzed with the Rietveld refinement technique.<sup>7</sup> The sample was found to have an orthorhombic 1:1:3  $\text{ABO}_3$  perovskite structure with space group and lattice constants  $a = 3.8864(1) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 3.8864(1) \text{ \AA}$ , and  $c = 11.6807(2) \text{ \AA}$  similar to those proposed by Cava *et al.*<sup>3</sup> Three orthorhombic space groups were modeled:  $Pmm2$ ,  $P222$ , and  $Pmmm$ . The structure was initially solved in the acentric space group  $Pm$  and refined to  $Pmm2$ . The positions of Cu atoms at the positions  $[0, 0, 1/2]$  and  $[1/2, 1/2, 1/2]$  and of Y atoms at  $[1/2, 1/2, 1/2]$  and  $[0, 0, 1/2]$  were refined.



RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 35, NUMBER 16

1 JUNE 1987

Oxygen ordering in the crystal structure of the 93-K superconductor  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$  using powder neutron diffraction at 298 and 79.5 K

J. E. Greedan and A. H. O'Reilly  
Department of Chemistry, Institute for Materials Research,  
McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada L8S 4M1

C. V. Stager  
Department of Physics, Institute for Materials Research,  
McMaster University, Hamilton Canada L8S 4M1  
(Received 30 March 1987)

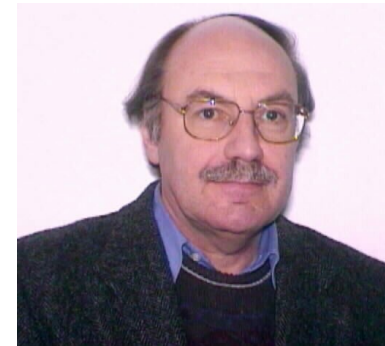
EUROPHYSICS LETTERS

15 June 1987

*Europhys. Lett.*, **3** (12), pp. 1301-1307 (1987)

Structure of the 100 K Superconductor  $\text{Ba}_2\text{YCu}_3\text{O}_7$  between (5 ÷ 300) K by Neutron Powder Diffraction.

J. J. CAPPONI(\*), C. CHAILLOUT(\*), A. W. HEWAT(\*\*), P. LEJAY(\*\*\*),  
M. MAREZIO(\* \*\*), N. NGUYEN(\* \*\*), B. RAVEAU(\* \*\*), J. L. SOUBEYROUX(\*\*),  
J. L. THOLENCE(\*\*\*) and R. TOURNIER(\*\*\*)

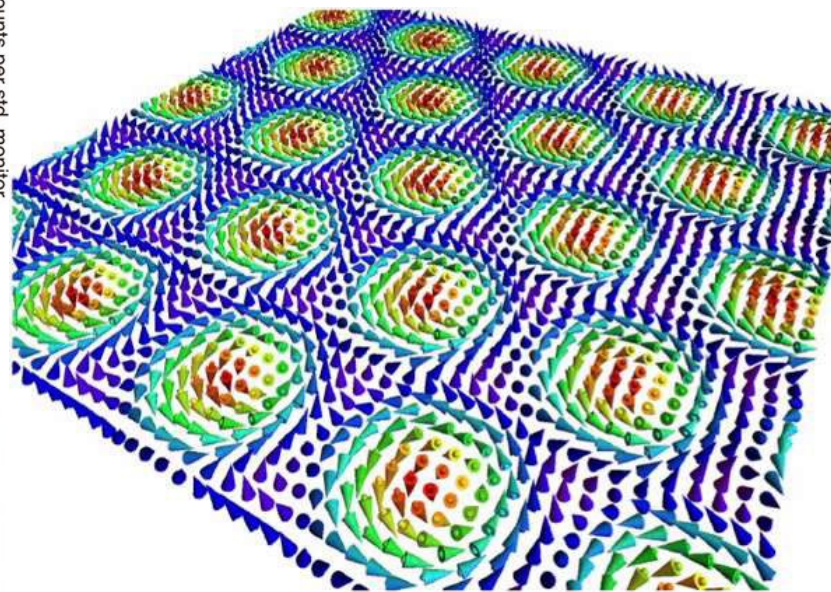
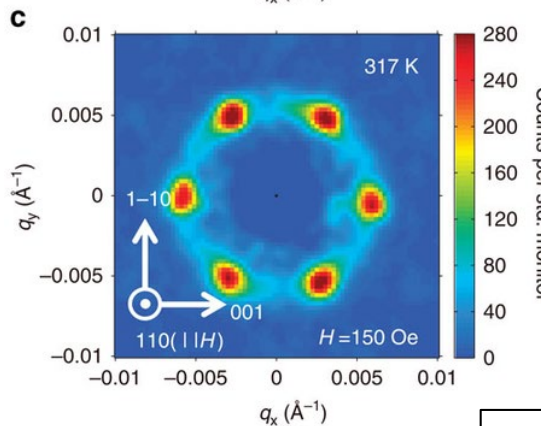
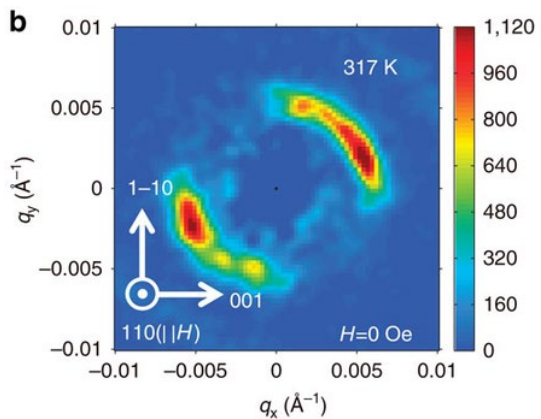


Alan Hewat



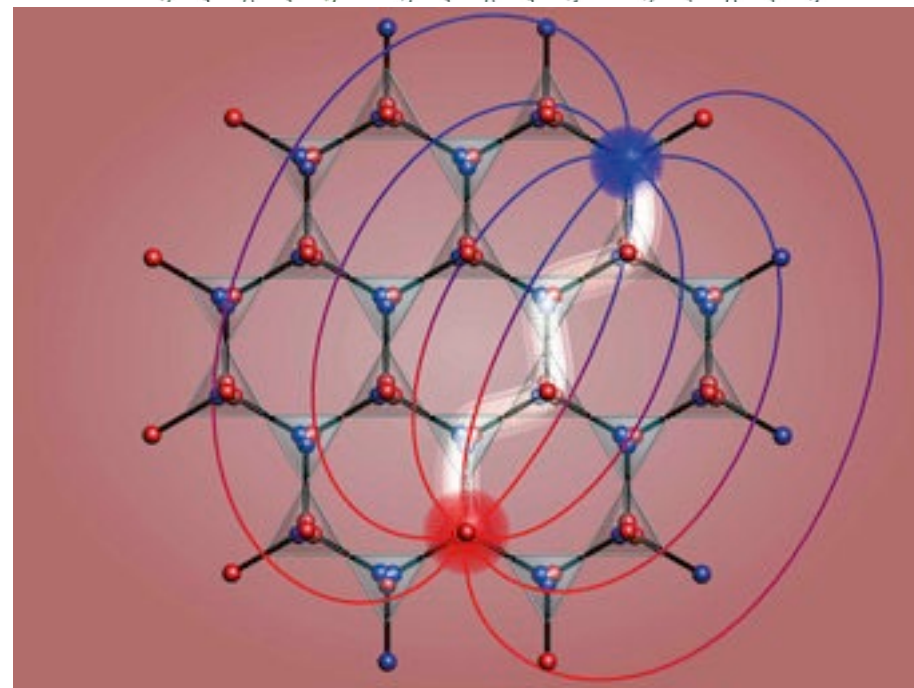
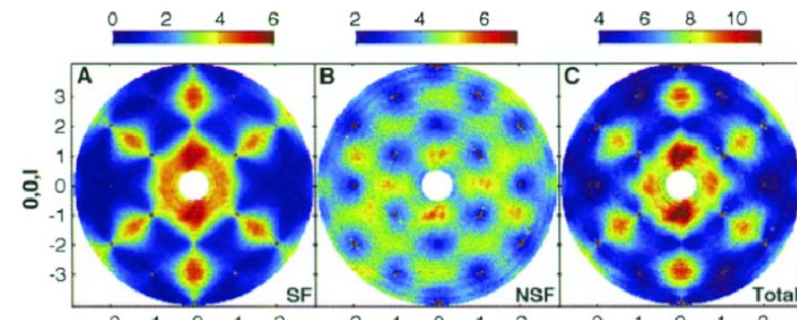
Massimo Marezio

# ...and more recently...



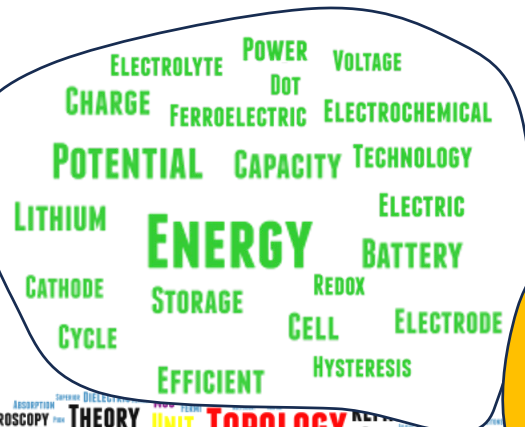
Magnetic skyrmions

Spin ice/monopoles



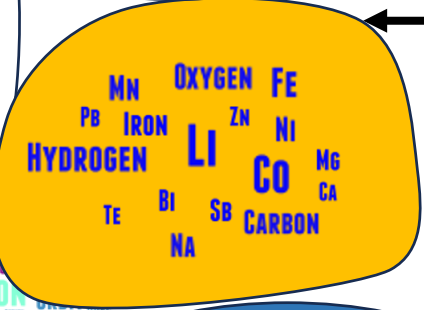


General

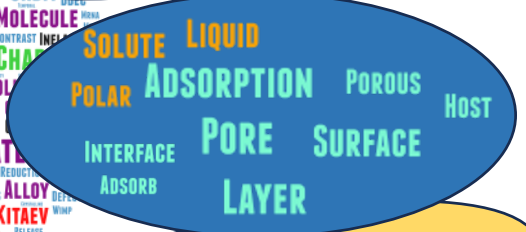
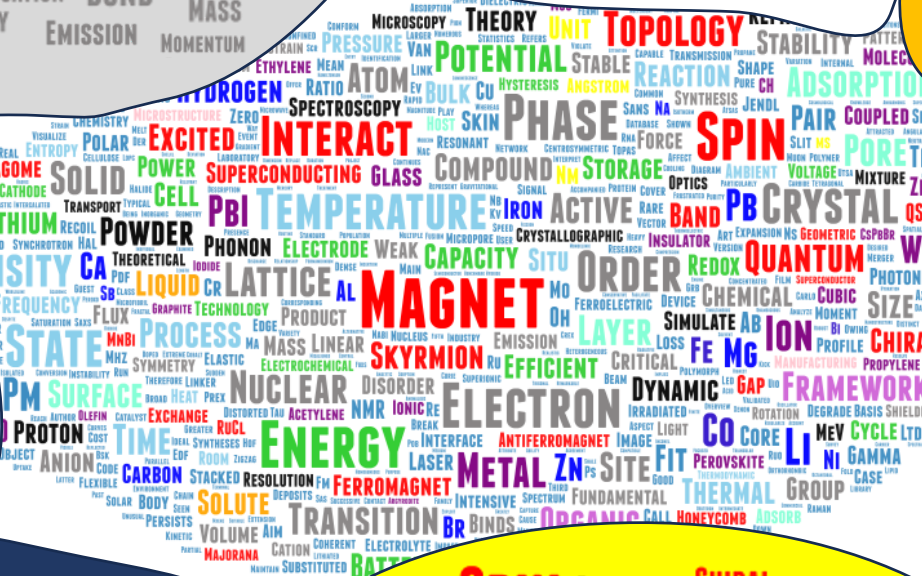
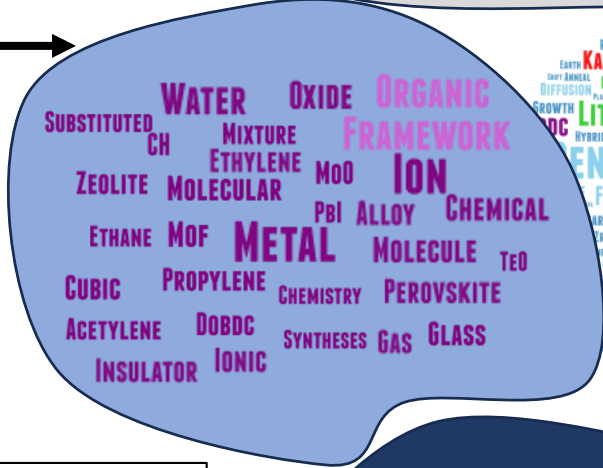


Units

Elements

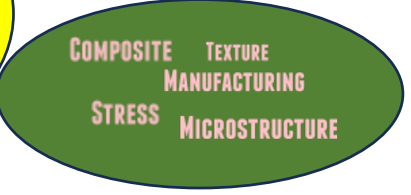
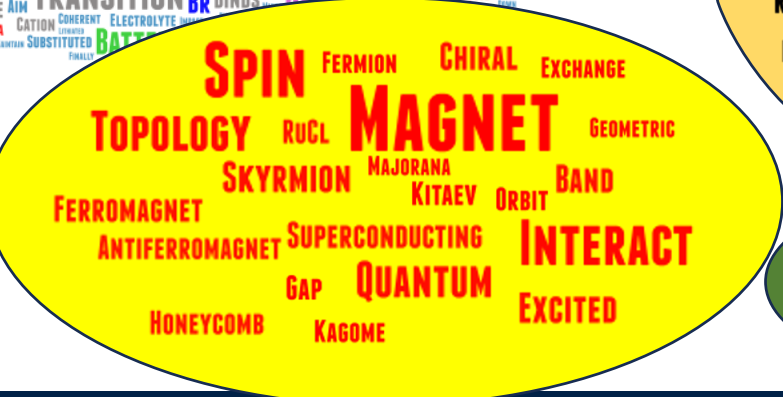
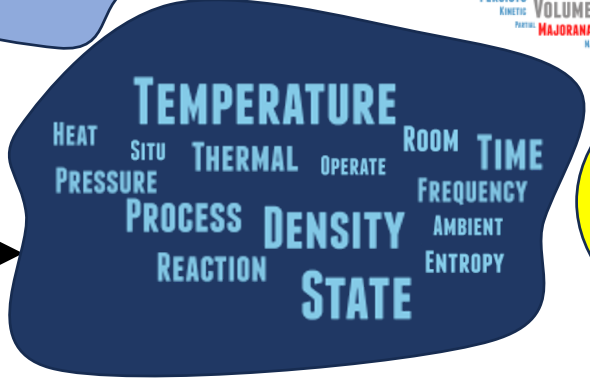


Materials & compounds



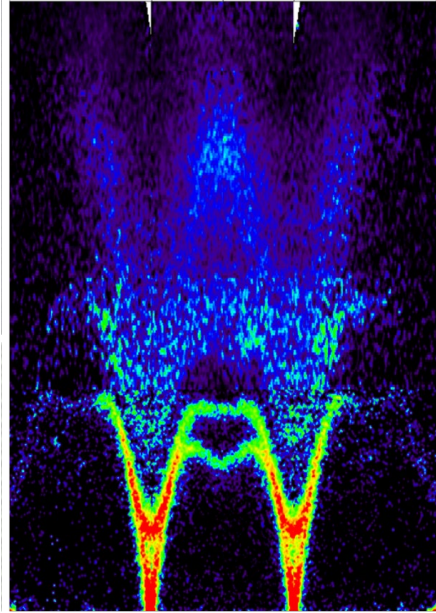
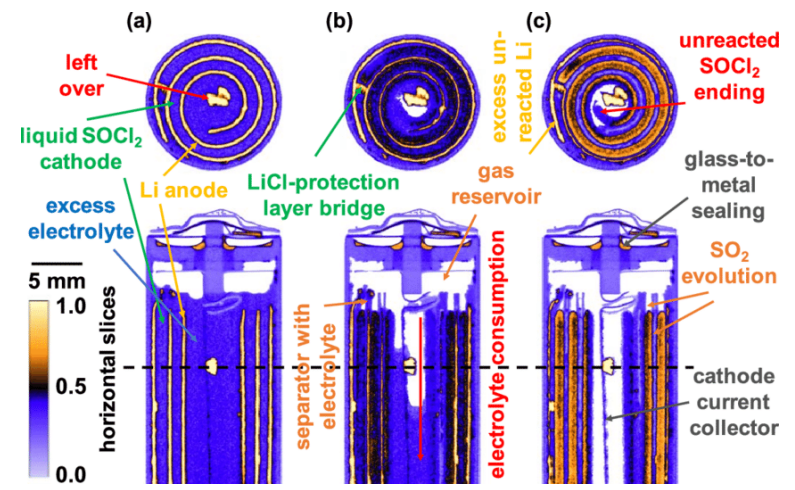
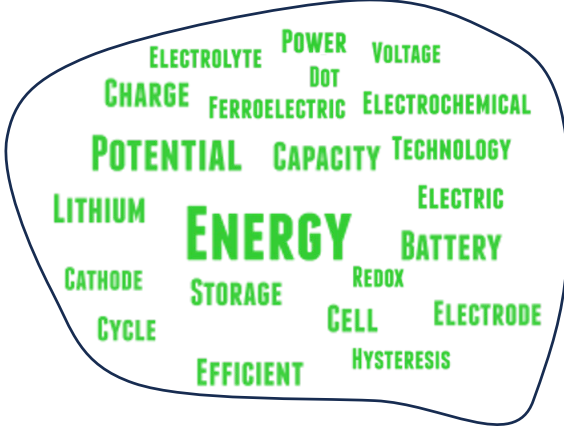
Techniques

Sample state

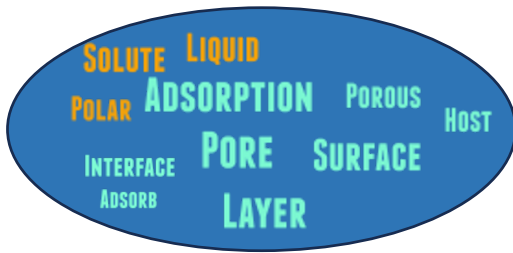
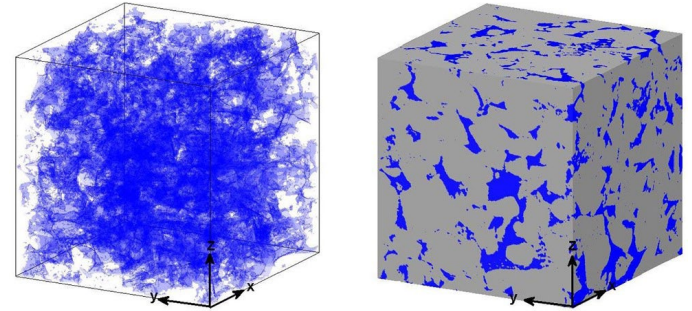




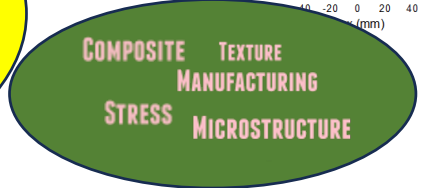
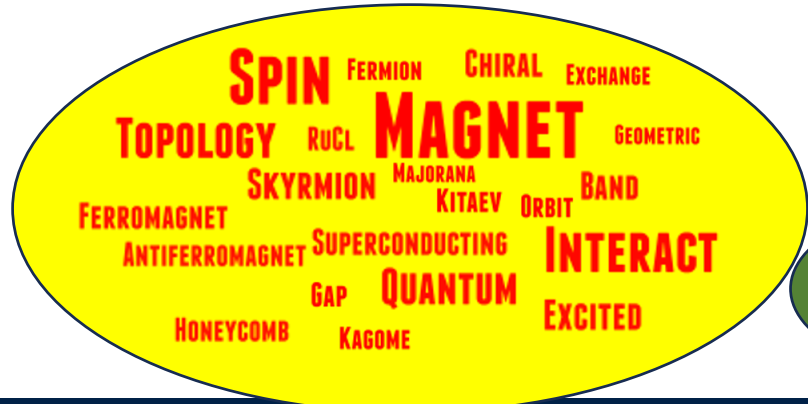
# Energy & Environment



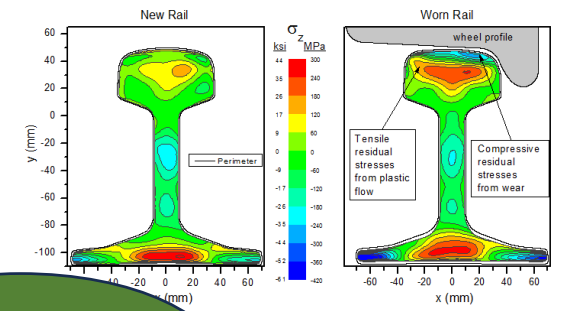
# Quantum Matter Quantum Materials



# Heterogeneities, interfaces, disorder

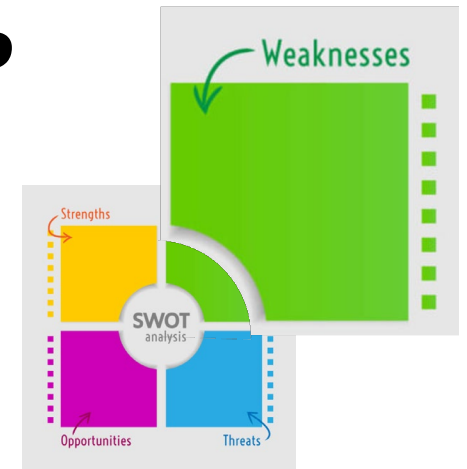


# Engineering



# Yes, but what about the next 25 years?

## Quotes from SNS-STC workshop



"SNS-STC...will enable us to discover **fundamental properties of materials**" – *Paul Langan, ORNL*

"Without neutron scattering, we would know very little...about certain material systems like **superconductors and magnetic materials**" – *Efrain Rodriguez, U. Maryland*

"Understanding materials '**from the bottom up**'" – *Adrian Brugger, Columbia U.*

"...to remain **competitive and world-leading**'" – *Olivier Delaire, Duke U.*

"...broader spectrum of materials...**materials science and CMP...new states of matter**'" – *Stephen Wilson, UCSB*

"...**Solid-state chemistry... not so large crystals**'" – *Weiwei Xie, Louisiana State U.*

"...**Interfaces and heterostructures... predictably design** new materials" – *Laura Green, Florida State U.*

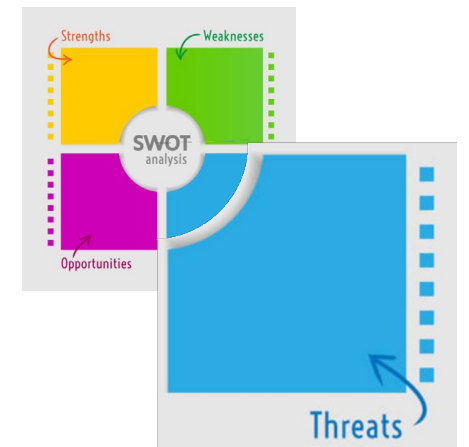
"...Fast time resolution information...**minutes or seconds**'" – *Claire White, Princeton*

"...vastly different **lengthscales...sub-nm to  $\mu\text{m}$ ...all in one shot**'" – *Martin Mourigal, Georgia Tech*

# Are neutrons coupled with the science of the future?

*Science is moving on...*

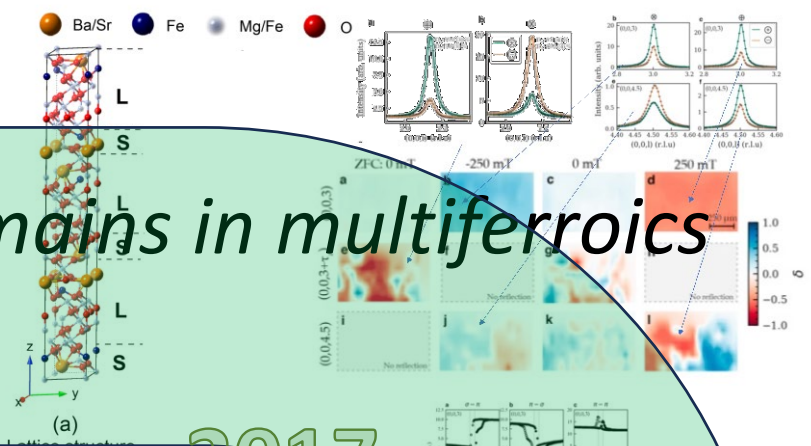
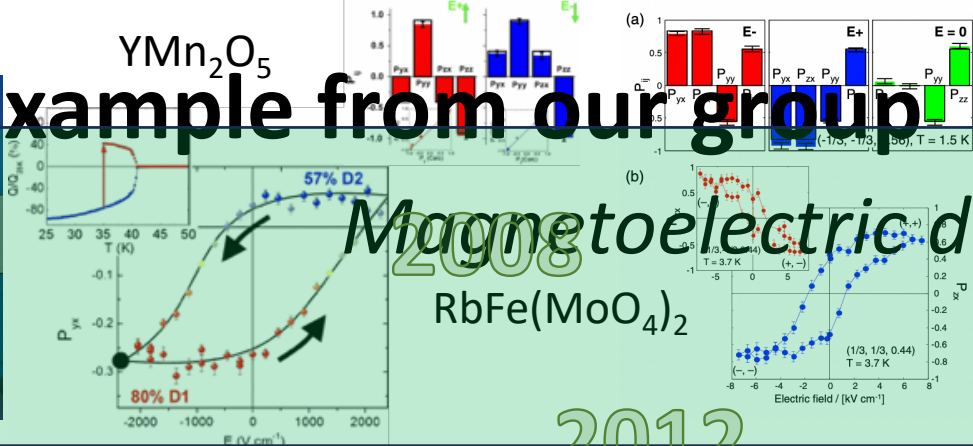
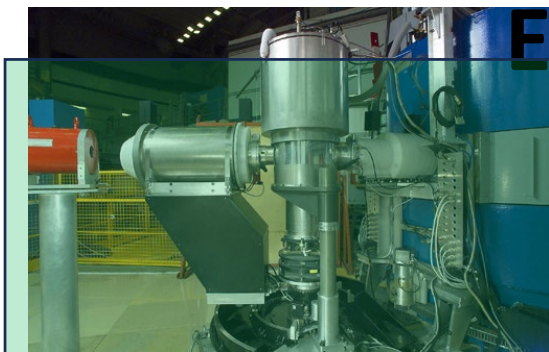
- ...from bulk materials to devices (e.g., skyrmions, multiferroics...)
- ...from 3D to 2D (VdW heterostructures, twisted graphene)
- ...from  $Q-\omega$  to the time and space domains



Spherical polarimetry

# Example from our group

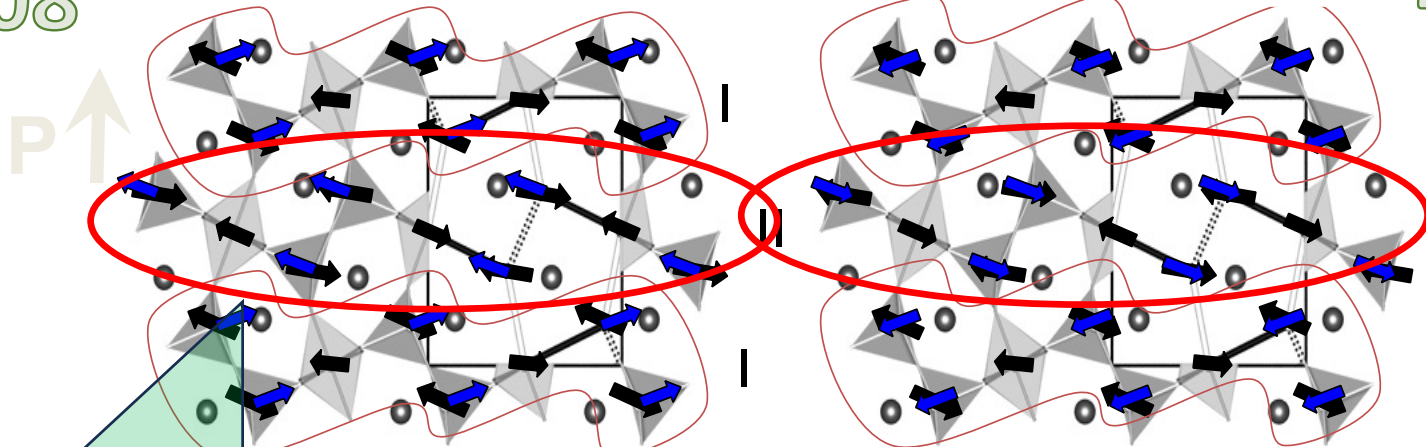
## Magnetolectric domains in multiferroics



2008

2012

2017



**Ba<sub>0.5</sub>Sr<sub>1.5</sub>Mg<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>12</sub>O<sub>22</sub>**  
(Y-type hexaferrite)

2017

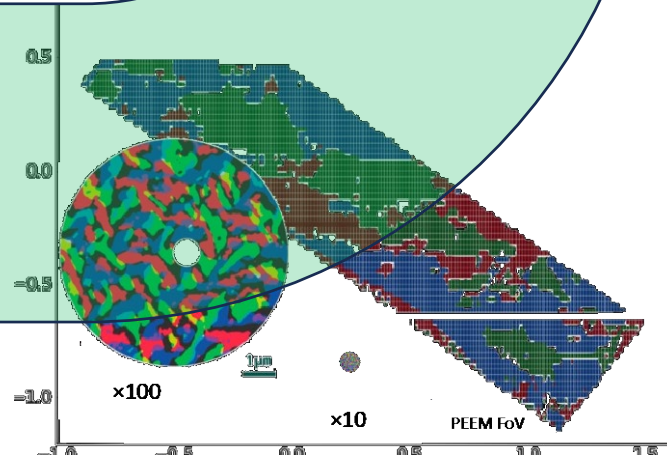
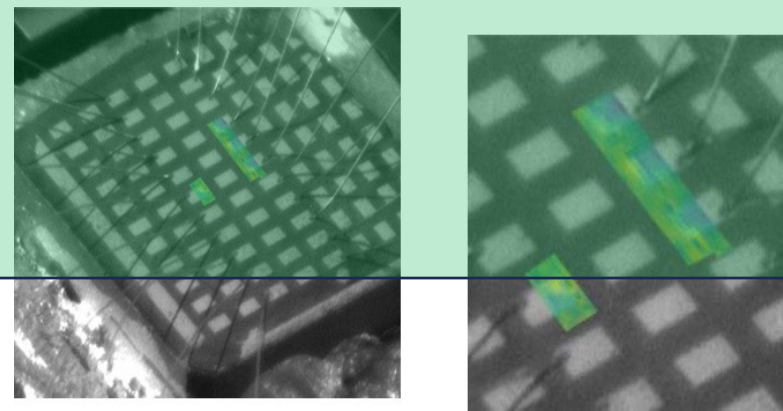
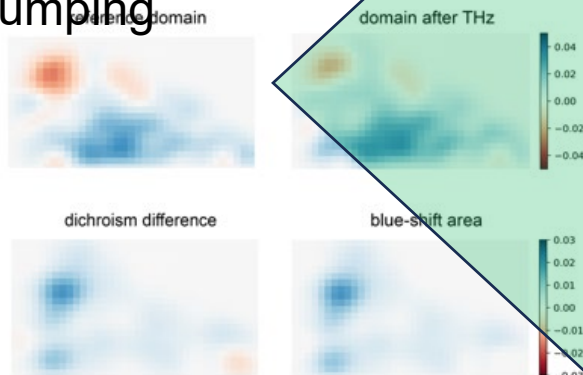
Crystals and films – BiFeO<sub>3</sub>

FE devices – BiFeO<sub>3</sub>

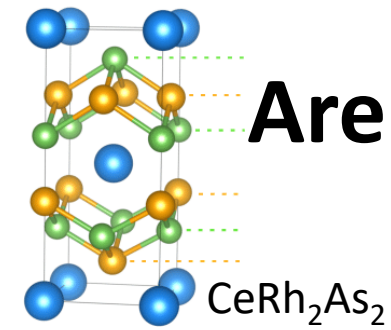
2022

Hexaferrite – THz pumping

2018







# Are neutrons coupled with the science of the future?

*Results from ERC PE3 Consolidator panel – 11/23*

*E. Hassinger (MPI – Dresden)* Exotic quantum states by locally-broken inversion symmetry in extreme conditions.

*J. Herzen (T.U. Munich)* Material Decomposition in X-ray Phase-Contrast Imaging with Coherent Sources

*Nicola Poccia (Leibnitz-I – Dresden)* 3D Cuprate Twistronics as a platform for high temperature topological superconductivity

*Michael Sentef (U. Bremen)* Cavity quantum materials

*Basile Gallet (CEA)* Physically-Based Ocean Transport

*Amir Ariel (Weizmann)* Biophysical Models of Bacterial Growth

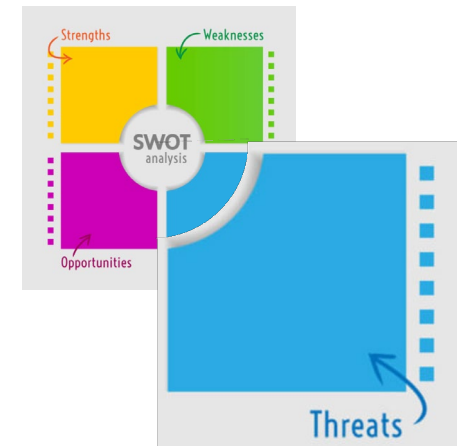
*Yonatan Anahory (Jerusalem)* Majorana zero mode control and detection platform

*Moshe Ben Shalom (Tel Aviv)* Switching Polytypes and Symmetries by Discrete vdW Sliding

*Chase Broedersz (Vrije U. Amsterdam)* Learning the dynamic statistical folding of bacterial chromosomes

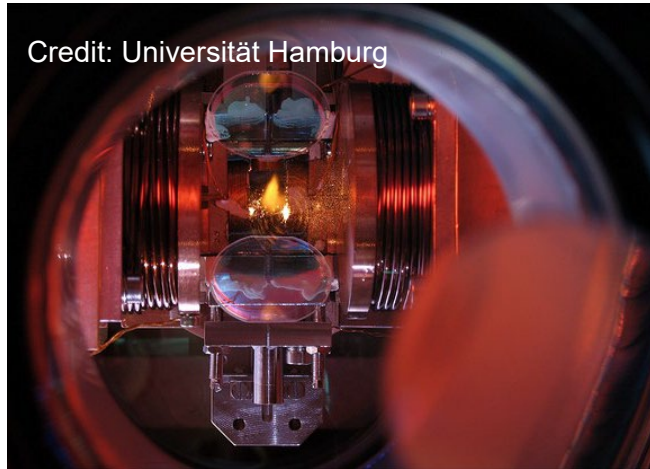
*Lev Vidmar – (I. Josef Stefan)* Boundaries of quantum chaos

*Chiara Ciccarelli (Cambridge)* Picosecond superconductivity-driven spin-torques



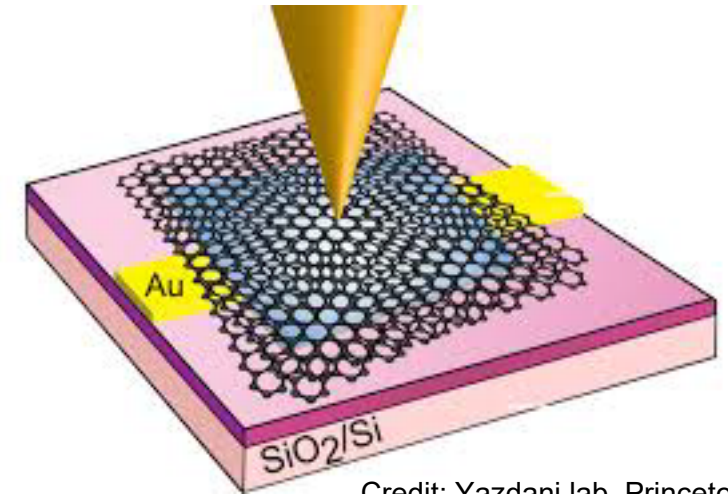
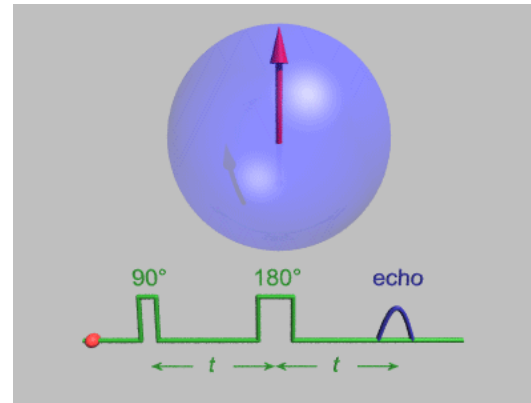
# Many opportunities but no low-hanging fruits

*Can neutrons do something in...?*



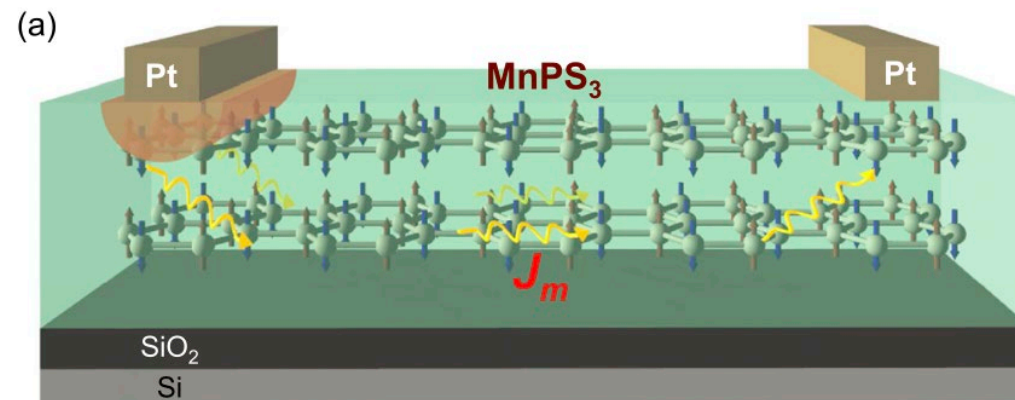
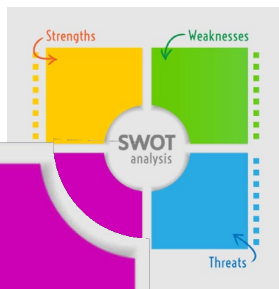
Non-equilibrium many-body phases (e.g., time crystals)

Radically new techniques  
(e.g., Spin Echo in the 1970s)



Credit: Yazdani lab, Princeton

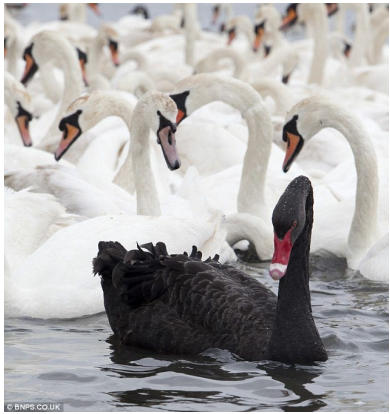
'Twistronics'



Structure & dynamics in 2D magnets

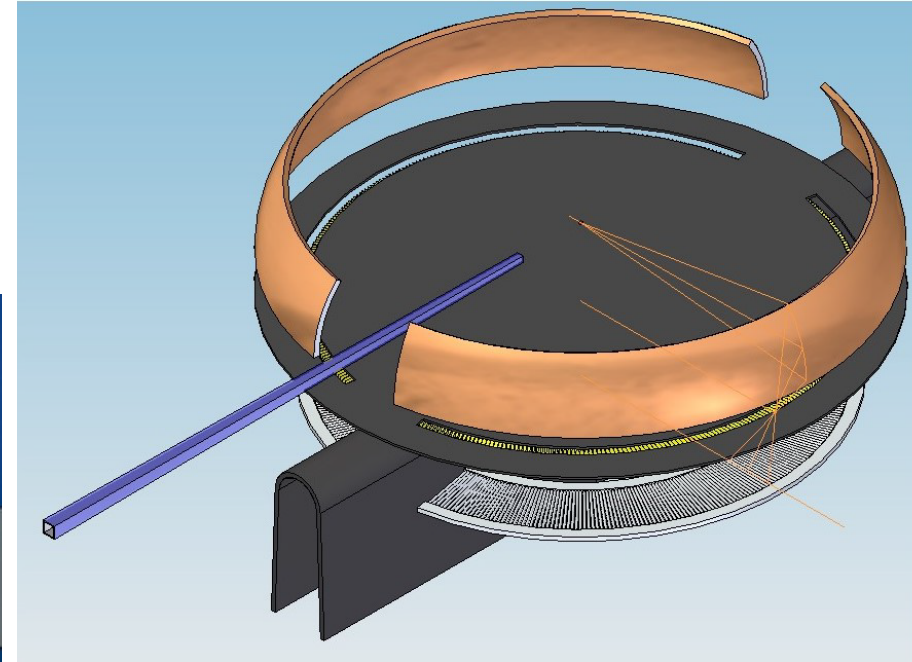
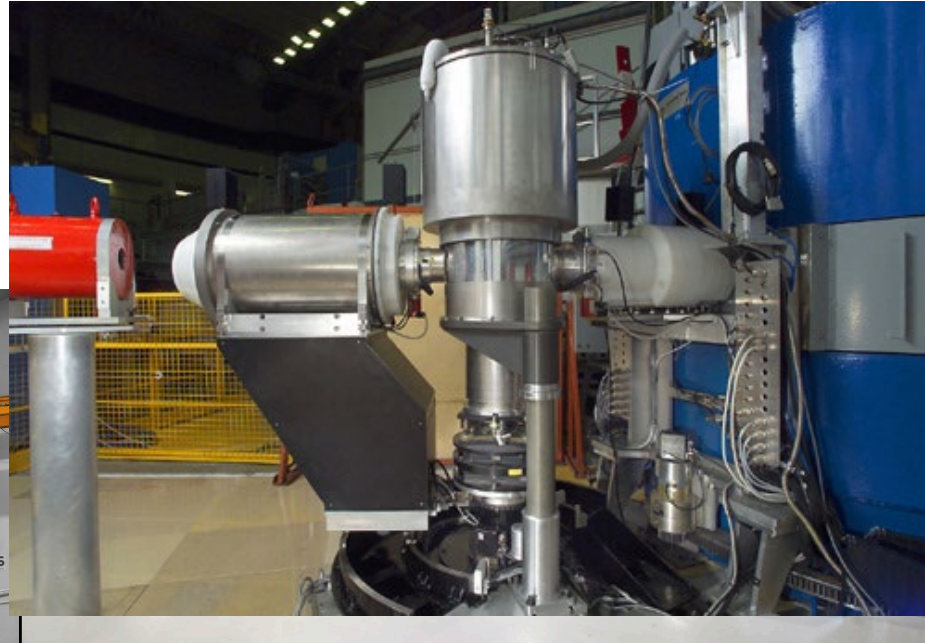
Credit: W. Xing *et al.*, PRL 2019

Opportunities



# 'Black swan' instruments

*lessons from neutrons...  
& synchrotron*



Mushroom (ISIS-Endeavour)



BIFROST (ESS)

Manipulating  $\mu$ -RUXS @ Diamond  
(e.g., D3, IN20, cryopad).



NEUTRONS  
FOR SOCIETY

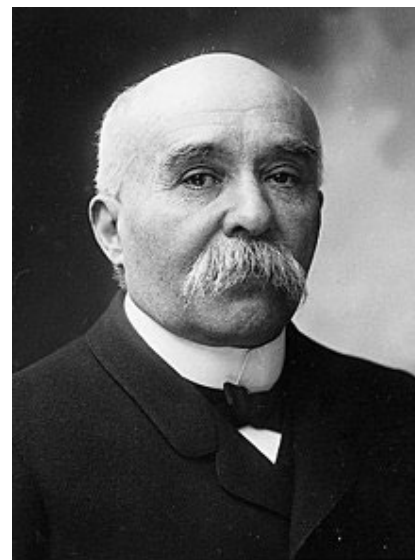
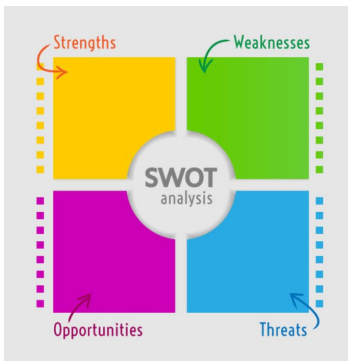
# And finally....

## *A few pearls of wisdom*



Work on something that will make money  
or else something that will interest  
theorists

*Bell Labs Management*



Generals always prepare to fight the  
last war, especially if they had won it.

*Georges Clemenceau*



*Thank you for listening*