Quasielastic Neutron **Scattering**

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OUTLINE

- **Background – the incoherent scattering cross section of H**
- **Neutrons and QENS**
- **Experiment Design**
- **Connection to Molecular Dynamics Simulations**
- **The Elastic Incoherent Structure Factor (EISF)**
- **The Role of Instrumentation**
- **Restricted Diffusion Example – Tethered Molecules**
- **References and Summary**

Incoherent and Coherent Scattering

- **Origin – incoherent scattering arises when there is a random variability in the scattering lengths of atoms in your sample – can arise from the presence of different isotopes or from isotopes with non-zero nuclear spin combined with variation in the relative orientation of the neutron spin with the nuclear spin of the scattering center**
- **Coherent scattering – gives information on spatial correlations and collective motion.**
	- **Elastic: Where are the atoms? What are the shape of objects?**
	- **Inelastic: What is the excitation spectrum in crystalline materials – e.g. phonons?**
- **Incoherent scattering – gives information on single-particles.**
	- **Elastic: Debye-Waller factor, # H-atoms in sample, Elastic Incoherent Structure Factor – geometry of diffusive motion (continuous, jump, rotations)**
	- **Inelastic: diffusive dynamics, diffusion coefficients.**
- **Good basic discussion:**
	- **"Methods of x-ray and neutron scattering in polymer science", R.-J. Roe, Oxford University Press. (available)**

3 Managed by UT-Battelle Managed by **University Press (1971). (out of print)** utron school August 2013 – **"Theory of Thermal Neutron Scattering", W. Marshall and S. W. Lovesey, Oxford**

Neutron Properties – H is our friend!

- **Isotopic sensitivity of H**
	- **H has a large incoherent neutron scattering cross-section**
	- –**H and D have opposite signed scattering lengths**
	- –**D has a much smaller cross section**
- •**The signal from samples with H are often dominated by the incoherent scattering from H**
- $\begin{array}{cc} \text{\tiny{4}} & \text{\tiny{Man}} \text{\large{d}} \text{\large{y}} \text{\large{n}} \text{\large{a}} \text{\large{m}} \text{\large{d}} \text{\large{c}} \text{\large{s}} \text{\large{t}} \text{\large{r}} \text{\large{u}} \text{\large{c}} \text{\large{t}} \text{\large{c}} \text{\large{f}} \text{\large{a}} \text{\large{c}} \text{\large{f}} \text{\large{a}} \text{\large{c}} \text{\large{f}} \text{\large{a}} \text{\large{e}} \text{\large{f}} \text{\large{a}} \text{\large{e}} \text{\large{f}} \text{\large{a}} \text{\$ •The **Q** and ω ranges probed in QENS experiments is well-suited to the "self" part of the

Quasi-elastic Neutron Scattering (Why Should I Care?)

- **Applicable to wide range of science areas**
	- **Biology – dynamic transition in proteins, hydration water**
	- **Chemistry – complex fluids, ionic liquids, porous media, surface interactions, water at interfaces, clays**
	- **Materials science – hydrogen storage, fuel cells, polymers, proton conductors**
- **Probes true "diffusive" motions**
- • **Range of analytic function models**
	- •**Useful for systematic comparisons**
- **Close ties to theory – particularly Molecular Dynamics simulations**
- **Complementary**
	- **Light spectroscopy, NMR, dielectric relaxation**
- 5 Managed by UT-Battelle afhoefdoress with Other Metrions-• **Unique – Answers Questions you cannot address with other methods**

Neutrons AND (QENS OR quasi-elastic OR quasielastic)

Quasi-Elastic Neutron **Scattering • Neutron exchanges small amount of energy**

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- **with atoms in the sample**
- **Harmonic motions look like flat background**
- **Vibrations are often treated as Inelastic Debye-Waller Factor**
- Maximum of intensity is always at ω = 0
- **Samples the component of motion along Q**
- •**Low-Q – typically less than 5 Å-1**

 $k_{\overline{f}}$

Experiment Design

- σ is the microscopic cross section (bn/atom) 10⁻²⁴ cm²/atom
- *n* **is the number density (atom/cm3)**
- $\boldsymbol{\varSigma}$ is the macroscopic cross-section (cm⁻¹)

$\Sigma = n \sigma$

The transmission, *T***, depends on sample thickness,** *t***, as:**

$$
T = \exp(-\Sigma t)
$$

• **Good rule of thumb is** *T* **= 0.9**

5 – 15 mmole H-atoms for ≈10 cm2 beam (BaSiS, HFBS, CNCS, DCS)

An Example – Water

$$
n = \frac{1 \text{ gm}}{\text{cm}^3} \times \frac{1 \text{ mole}}{18 \text{ gm}} \times \frac{6.02 \times 10^{23}}{\text{mole}} = \frac{3.34 \times 10^{22}}{\text{cm}^3}
$$

$$
\sigma = 2 \times \left(80 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2\right)
$$

$$
\Sigma = \sigma n = \frac{5.34}{\text{cm}}
$$

sample thickness =
$$
t = \frac{-\ln(0.9)}{5.34} = 0.2
$$
 mm

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QENS Spectra

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Incoherent Intermediate Scattering Function, $S(Q,\omega)$, and Molecular Dynamics Simulations

- • **Intermediate Scattering Function**
	- **time dependent correlation function**
	- –**incoherent scattering –> no pair correlations, self-correlation function**
	- **calculable from atomic coordinates in a Molecular Dynamics Simulation**

$$
I_{inc}(\mathbf{Q},t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i} \langle \exp\{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{i}(t)\} \exp\{-i\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{i}(0)\}\rangle
$$

 $-$ S_{inc}(Q,*ω*) – the Fourier transform of *I_{inc}(*Q,*t)*

$$
S_{inc}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I_{inc}(\mathbf{Q}, t) \exp(-i\omega t) dt
$$

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QENS and Molecular Dynamics Simulations

• **Same atomic coordinates used in classical MD are all that is needed to calculate** *Iinc(Q,t)*

1,3 diphenylpropane tethered to the pore surface of MCM-41

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The Elastic Incoherent Structure Factor (EISF)

- • **A particle (H-atom) moves out of** volume defined by 2π /Q in a time **shorter than set by the reciprocal of the instrument sensitivity, dω(meV) – gives rise to quasielastic broadening.**
- **The EISF is essentially the probability that a particle can be found in the same volume of space at some subsequent time.**
- **The ratio of the Elastic Intensity to** the total Intensity A_E

$$
EISF = \frac{A_E}{A_E + A_Q}
$$

 2π /Q

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QENS and Neutron Scattering Instruments

- \bullet **Probe Diffusive Motions**
	- $-$ Length scales set by Q, 0.1 Å $^{-1}$ < Q < 3.7 Å $^{-1}$, 60 Å > d > 1.7 Å.
	- **Time scales set by the width of instrument energy resolution**, typically at least 0.1 meV (fwhm) but higher resolution -> longer times/slower motion
- \bullet **Energy transfers ~ [±] 2 meV (or less)**
	- High resolution requirements emphasizes use of cold neutrons (but long λ limits Q)
	- **Incident neutron wavelengths typically 4 Å to 12 Å (5.1 meV to 0.6 meV)**
- Why a variety of instruments? (Resolutions vary from 1 μeV to100 μeV)
	- **Terms in the resolution add in quadrature – typically primary spectrometer (before sample), secondary spectrometer (after the sample)**
	- **Improvement in each resolution term cost linearly in neutron flux (ideally)**
	- **Optimized instrument has primary and secondary spectrometer contributions approximately equal**
	- **Factor of 2 gain in resolution costs at a minimum a factor of 4 in flux**

Role of Instrumentation

- \bullet **Currently about 25 neutron scattering instruments in the world useful for QNS (6 in the U.S., including NSE)**
- • **U.S. instruments – Opportunity is Good- Competition is High**
	- **NIST Center for Neutron Research**
		- **Disc Chopper Spectrometer**
		- •**High Flux Backscattering Spectrometer**
		- •**Neutron Spin Echo**
	- **Spallation Neutron Source**
		- **BaSiS – near backscattering spectrometer (3 eV)**
		- •**Cold Neutron Chopper Spectrometer (CNCS) (10 – 100 eV)**
		- \bullet **Neutron Spin Echo (***t* **to 400 nsec)**
- \bullet **Trade-offs**
	- **Resolution/count rate**
	- –**Flexibility**
	- –**Dynamic range**
	- – **Neutron vs Q**
		- large λ -> high resolution -> long times/slow motions
		- **large limited Q-range, limited length scales**

The High-Resolution Neutron Spectrometer Landscape

Backscattering

Cold Neutron Chopper

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Restricted Diffusion – Tethered Molecules

Samples – typical 0.7 g

240 K < T < 340 K

Simple Fit – Lorentzian + δ

Elastic Scans – Fixed Window Scans

 18 M

Simple Fit to data (HFBS – NCNR) 30 Å diameter pore, 320 K, Q = 1 Å-1

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EISF – 30 Å DPP sample, saturation

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Lorentzian Γ (Q)

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Simple Analytical Model – e.g.
\n**Diffusion in a Sphere**
\n
$$
S_s(Q, \omega, r, D) = A_0^0(Qr)\delta(\omega) + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{(l,n) \neq (0,0)} (2l+1)A_n^l(Qr) \frac{\left(x_n^l\right)^p D}{\left[\left(x_n^l\right)^p D_{r^2}\right]^2 + \omega^2}
$$
\nEISF:
$$
A_0^0(Q) = \left[\frac{3j_1(Qr)}{Qr}\right]^2
$$

22 Managed by UT-Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy National x-ray/neutron school August 2013 Volino and Dianoux, Mol. Phys. **41**, 271-279 (1980).

Extend to a Sum over Spheres of Varying Size (15 H-atoms)

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DPP – 29 Å diameter pores – 370 K (BaSiS - SNS) – Beyond the EISF – Fitting the Model to the Full Data Set

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\mathbf{R}_M – How extended is the motion?

- •*RM* **decreases with increasing pore diameter!**
- • *RM* **generally is larger at higher DPP surface coverage**
- • **Small pores and high coverage tend to drive DPP into the pore center where there is more volume available for motion**

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$\boldsymbol{D_M}$ – How fast is the motion?

- •• D_M increases with pore diameter **while the radius decreases**
	- – **Diffusion in the pore volume depends on how crowded it is**
- • *DM* **increases with surface coverage in large pores**
	- **More molecules are forced into the more open volume of the pore and away from the pore surface**

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Two Instruments – Two Resolutions –Two Dynamic Ranges – 3.0 nm 320 K

E.J. Kintzel, et al., J. Phys. Chem. C **116**, 923-932 (2012).

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Two Instruments

 $T(K)$

Geometry – nearly identical –

determined by intensity measurements

Example 2: Dendrimers – Colloidal Polymer – pH responsive

Dendrimers bind to receptors on HIV virus preventing infection of T cells. Sharpharpm C & E News 83, 30 (2005)

"Trojan horse" – folic acid adsorbed by cancer cell delivering the anti-cancer drug as well

Sciences Press Release for the U.S. Department of Energy National x-ray/neutron school August 2013 **James R. Baker Jr., Univ. of Michigan Health**

SANS Results – Global Size Constant, Redistribution of Mass **35**

Samples: 0.05 gm protonated dendrimer in 1 ml deuteratedsolvent

Molecular Dynamics Simulations

Basic

Acidic

Methodology

- **Determine center-of-mass translational motion with pulsed field-gradient spin echo NMR**
	- – **Could have been determined directly from QENS measurement but this tied down parameter set**
- **Measure (dendrimer + deuterated solvent) – (deuterated solvent) -> dendrimer signal**
- Vary pH to charge dendrimer amines (α = 0 (uncharged), α = 1 (primary amines charged), α = 2 (fully charged))

 $\bigl(Q, \omega\bigr)$ = $S_{\rm int}\bigl(Q, \omega\bigr)$ \otimes $S_{\rm \scriptscriptstyle COM}\bigl(Q, \omega\bigr)$ $S(Q, \omega) = S_{\text{int}}(Q, \omega) \otimes S_{COM}(Q, \omega)$

modeled localized internalmotion as

$$
S_{\rm int}(Q,\omega) = A_0^0(Qr)\delta(\omega) + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{(l,n)\neq(0,0)} (2l+1)A_n^l(Qr)\frac{\left(x_n^l\right)^2 D}{\left[\left(x_n^l\right)^2 D \sqrt{r^2}\right]^2+\omega^2}
$$

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Localized Motion of Dendrimer Arms

32 Managed by UT-Battelle National x-ray/neutron school August 2013 **Localized motion increases as amines are charged!**

Reference Materials - 1

- \bullet **Reference Books**
	- –**Quasielastic Neutron Scattering**, M. Bee (Bristol, Adam Hilger, 1988).
	- – **Methods of X-Ray and Neutron Scattering in Polymer Science**, R. –J. Roe (New York, Oxford University Press, 2000).
	- **Quasielastic Neutron Scattering and Solid State Diffusion**, R. Hempelmann (2000).
	- – **Quasielastic Neutron Scattering for the Investigation of Diffusive Motions in Solids and Liquids, Springer Tracts in Modern Physics**, T. Springer (Berlin, Springer 1972).

Reference Materials - 2

- **Classic Papers**
	- **L. Van Hove**
		- Phys. Rev. **95**, 249 (1954)
		- Phys. Rev. **95**, 1374 (1954)
	- **V. F. Sears**
		- Canadian J. Phys. **44**, 867 (1966)
		- Canadian J. Phys. **44**, 1279 (1966)
		- Canadian J. Phys. **44**, 1299 (1966)
	- $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}}$ **G. H. Vineyard**
		- Phys. Rev. **110**, 999 (1958)
	- **S. Chandrasekhar**
		- "Stochastic Problems in Physics and Astronomy", Rev. Mod. Phys. **15**, 1 (1943) (not really QNS but great reference on diffusion models)
- **Data Analysis – DAVE – NIST Center for Neutron Research** http://www.ncnr.nist.gov/dave/

SUMMARY

- • **QENS is an excellent technique to measure diffusive dynamics**
	- **Length scales/geometry accessible through Q-dependence**
	- **Many analytic models form a framework for comparison and parametric studies**
	- **Large range of time scales (sub-picosecond < t < nanosecond (100's nsec for NSE)**
	- **H-atom sensitivity**
- • **Instrument selection is a critical decision – the resolution must match the time scale of the expected motion**
- •**World-class instrumentation is currently available in the U.S.**
- •**Natural connection to theory (Molecular Dynamics Simulations)**
- •**Analysis Software – DAVE at the NCNR at NIST – available from the NCNR Web site**

