

Fundamental Neutron Physics Beamline at the Spallation Neutron Source at ORNL

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Abstract

We describe the Fundamental Neutron Physics Beamline (FnPB) facility located at the Spallation Neutron Source at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The FnPB was designed for the conduct of experiments that investigate scientific issues in nuclear physics, particle physics, astrophysics and cosmology using a pulsed slow neutron beam. We present a detailed description of the design philosophy, beamline components, and measured fluxes of the polychromatic and monochromatic beams.

1. Introduction

Cold neutrons and ultracold neutrons (UCN) have been employed in a wide variety of experiments that shed light on important issues in nuclear, particle, and astrophysics. These include the determination of fundamental constants, the study of fundamental symmetry violation, searches for new interactions in nature and tests of the fundamental laws of quantum mechanics. Their special combination of properties make them a good choice to address the expanded list of fundamental scientific questions which now confront us in the wake of the discoveries of dark matter and dark energy, which shows that 95% of the energy content of the universe reside in unknown forms. In many cases, experiments with slow neutrons provide information not available from existing accelerator-based nuclear physics facilities or high-energy accelerators [1, 2, 3].

For this reason, most major neutron user facilities have included, as a component of their scientific program, the investigation of fundamental interactions. The great majority of these facilities have been located at continuous-wave (CW) spallation sources or intense research reactors to take advantage of the highest neutron intensities available. However, many precision experiments could benefit from the special characteristics of pulsed mode spallation neutron sources, which enables experiments to use the time and energy structure of the slow neutron

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17 beam to advantage. The peak and average cold neutron fluxes from pulsed reactors like the
18 Frank Laboratory of Neutron Physics and spallation sources like the Los Alamos Neutron Sci-
19 ence Center (LANSCE), the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS), the Japanese Spallation Neutron
20 Source (JSNS), the ISIS spallation source at the Rutherford Appleton Lab, and the future Euro-
21 pean Spallation Source (ESS) are now high enough that a relatively broad class of fundamental
22 neutron physics experiments can be best performed at such facilities.

23 In this paper we describe the construction and commissioning of a pulsed slow neutron beam-
24 line and facility at the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS) at Oak Ridge National Laboratory which
25 is optimized to conduct certain experiments in this field. The design of the facility attempted to
26 preserve the advantages of pulsed spallation sources in reducing systematic errors in a broad class
27 of fundamental neutron physics experiments. One such feature is the well-known time structure
28 of the beam. It can be used to identify and analyze the neutron energy dependence of background
29 signals which are invisible at a CW source, to shape the beam phase space in special ways using
30 time-dependent neutron optical components, or to help perform absolute neutron polarization
31 measurements. Another feature of a spallation neutron source is the fact that the neutron source
32 is off by the time the slow neutrons arrive at the apparatus, which generally reduces background
33 signals in detectors. With improved neutron optics technology one can bend the slow neutron
34 beam enough to eliminate line-of-sight to the production target and to guide it far from the spal-
35 lation source so that the very high energy neutrons and gamma rays generated in spallation do
36 not adversely affect the physics experiments.

37 Furthermore, since this beamline is operated as a user facility with all beam time allocated
38 on the basis of independent peer reviews, it was essential to design the facility to accommodate
39 a wide variety of different types of slow neutron experiments and especially to avoid precluding
40 to the extent possible new unforeseen ideas for future experiments. An Instrument Development
41 Team for the beamline facility reached a consensus based on experience at other facilities com-
42 bined with feedback and discussions from potential future users in the form of the following
43 design principles:

- 44 1. Total intensity was to be maximized. Essentially all of the experiments in this field are
45 limited by statistics. The facility design must not include features that lead to a permanent
46 reduction in the neutron fluence (total number per second).
- 47 2. Cold neutron intensity is of the highest priority. Almost all of the experiments of relevance
48 for the areas of nuclear and particle physics prefer low energy neutrons. Slower neutron
49 beams raise the signal/background ratio in neutron decay experiments. The opportuni-
50 ties for creative manipulation of the beam properties (phase space, polarization, etc.) are
51 greater for cold neutrons.
- 52 3. The unique properties of a spallation neutron source should not be compromised in the
53 beamline design. The advantages that a spallation source offers experiments in this area
54 relative to a steady-state source are directly or indirectly rooted in the built-in use of neu-
55 tron time-of-flight and a corresponding potential for increase in the signal/background
56 ratio. Everything must be done to preserve this advantage while at the same time being
57 consistent with (1) and (2).
- 58 4. Accommodate the different demands of different classes of experiments consistent with
59 (1)-(3).
- 60 5. Leave as much floor space as possible. This allows for flexibility in the design of future
61 experiments.

62 In the remainder of this paper we describe the details of the design of the facility which we have
63 realized consistent with these principles and the physical constraints and properties specific to
64 the Spallation Neutron Source at ORNL. We hope that this detailed description of the beamline
65 design and properties will be useful both to potential scientific users and to the design of possible
66 future facilities at pulsed spallation sources such as the ESS [4]. The specific design choices
67 made for the SNS facility are by no means unique: we encourage the reader to contrast the SNS
68 facility with the other fundamental neutron beamlines constructed at pulsed spallation neutron
69 source, namely the pioneering beamline at LANSCE [5] and the fundamental neutron physics
70 beamline at the JSNS, which supplies a collection of three slow neutron beamlines with different
71 phase space profiles optimized for different subclasses of experiments [6, 7]. We also encourage
72 a comparison with the intense CW slow neutron beam facilities for fundamental neutron physics
73 already in operation or under development at PSI [8, 9, 10, 11], ILL [12], and NIST [13, 14].

74 2. The Spallation Neutron Source

75 The Spallation Neutron Source (SNS) is the most intense pulsed neutron source in the world,
76 designed to deliver a sub-microsecond proton pulse onto a mercury target at a repetition rate
77 of 60 Hz with time-averaged proton power of 1.4 MW. The released spallation neutrons are
78 moderated by supercritical hydrogen and water moderators. The resulting slow neutrons are
79 used for a variety of experiments. The SNS can support 24 instruments which can conduct
80 experiments simultaneously.

81 The SNS uses a cesium-enhanced, RF-driven multi-cusp ion source [15] to provide a 65 keV
82 H^- beam at 60 Hz with a pulse length of up to 1 ms. The normal conducting linac consists of
83 six drift tube linac (DTL) tanks, which bring the H^- beam energy up to 86.8 MeV, and four cou-
84 pled cavity linac (CCL) structures, which supply additional acceleration to bring the energy to
85 185.6 MeV. This is followed by a superconducting linac consisting of 11 medium-beta ($\beta=0.61$)
86 cryomodules and 12 high-beta ($\beta=0.81$) cryomodules. The medium-beta cryomodules each con-
87 tain 3 cavities and provide 10.1 MV/m, bringing the H^- ions up to an energy of 379 MeV. The
88 high-beta cryomodules (consisting of 4 cavities each) are designed to provide up to 15.9 MV/m
89 resulting in a maximum proton energy of 1.3 GeV. In June of 2014, the SNS was operating at
90 940 MeV of proton energy.

91 The H^- pulses arrive at the ring injection point via a 150-m long beam line which is used for
92 energy collimation (bending magnets) and transverse halo collimation (straight sections). The
93 ring consists of four straight sections as well as four arcs, with a total flight path corresponding
94 to 1 us of accumulated proton pulse length. The incoming H^- beam is stripped of its two elec-
95 trons by passing through a thin carbon or diamond foil, and is merged in phase space with the
96 circulating proton beam. Currently, the ring design allows operation at up to 1.0 GeV, but RF
97 systems and injection kickers have been designed to support 1.3 GeV operation with minimal
98 upgrades.

99 The protons are incident on a target of circulating mercury, producing spallation reactions as
100 they deposit their energy. The mercury is contained inside the stainless steel target module, one
101 of the components of the target system. The target module is made of two concentric vessels,
102 where the inner vessel contains the target mercury during normal operation, and the outer vessel
103 contains any mercury that may leak from the inner vessel. The main process loop contains
104 $\approx 1.4 \text{ m}^3$ of mercury, circulating at $\approx 325 \text{ kg/s}$, at a pressure of $\approx 0.3 \text{ MPa}$. The inner vessel
105 is cooled by flowing mercury, whereas the outer vessel is cooled by water. The two vessels are
106 separated by a helium-filled interstitial region, where there are two instruments present. A heated

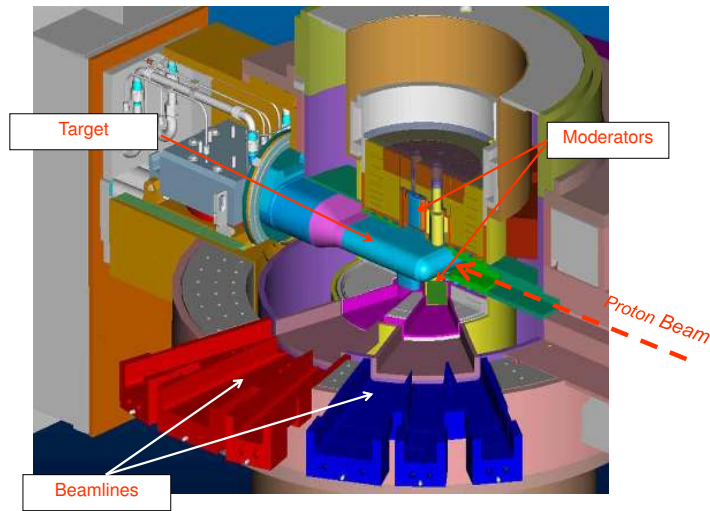


Figure 1: A cutaway view of the mercury target, surrounded by four moderators enclosed in a beryllium reflector. Each moderator is viewed by several beamlines. See text for details.

107 resistance temperature detector (RTD) is able to detect leakage as well as distinguish between
 108 mercury and water; an electrical conductivity probe detects the presence of mercury between the
 109 contacts [16, 17].

110 Spallation neutrons are moderated by undergoing repeated scattering primarily with hydro-
 111 gen and beryllium atoms. The configuration at the SNS includes four moderators, two of which
 112 are viewed from both sides of the target. Three moderators are supercritical hydrogen at ≈ 20 K,
 113 and one is liquid water at ≈ 320 K. The moderators are surrounded by a water-cooled beryllium
 114 inner reflector, which is then surrounded by water-cooled stainless steel [16, 18]. The configura-
 115 tion can be seen in Fig. 2. The viewed faces of all the moderators are 10 cm (horizontal) by 12
 116 cm (vertical).

117 The FnPB views the bottom downstream moderator, where the hydrogen is delivered through
 118 the bottom of the vessel via a jet, which forces the hydrogen to circulate. This moderator is fully
 119 coupled unpoisoned hydrogen (nominally parahydrogen) at 20 K (viewed from one side only),
 120 with a curved viewing surface and maximum moderator thickness of 60 mm (average of 55 mm).
 121 The moderator is surrounded by ≈ 20 mm of light water acting as a premoderator.

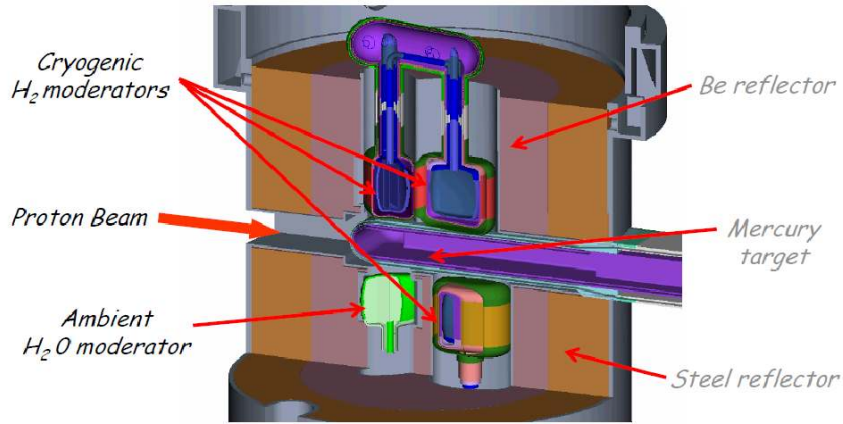


Figure 2: The mercury target vessel surrounded by 4 moderators inside of a beryllium reflector. FnPB views the bottom downstream moderator (bottom right in the figure). See text for details.

122 **3. Fundamental Neutron Physics Beamline - Overview**

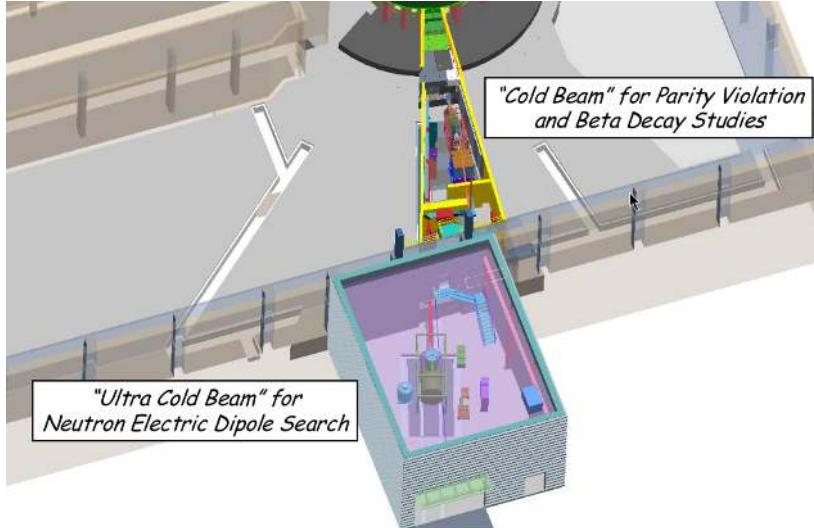


Figure 3: A top view of the Fundamental neutron Physics Beamline(s). 13A is the monochromatic line (left) and will extend into the external building to serve the nEDM experiment. 13B is the polychromatic beamline (right), shown with the NPDGamma experiment [19, 20, 21] installed in the experimental area.

123 The Fundamental Neutron Physics Beamline (FnPB) is one of three experimental areas which
 124 view this coupled liquid hydrogen moderator. These areas are “pie-like” slices, surrounding the

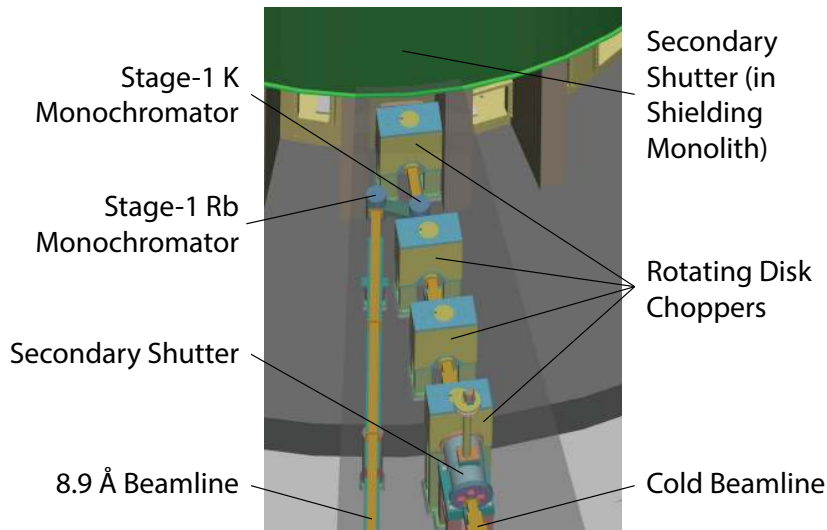


Figure 4: Schematic view of the Beamline 13 components, including bender guide, choppers, monochromator assembly, secondary shutters (cold and 8.9 Å lines), as well as straight (B/cold) and expanding (A/8.9 Å) guides. See text for details.

125 SNS target monolith. An overhead view of the FnPB is presented in Fig. 3. FnPB delivers
 126 neutrons to two smaller experimental areas via a beamline which is split shortly after it exits
 127 the target shielding monolith. Beamline 13A, or the “8.9 Å” line, delivers 8.9 Å neutrons to
 128 an external building expected to host an experiment to search for the neutron electric dipole
 129 moment [22]. These neutrons will be converted to UCN via the super-thermal processes in
 130 ^4He [23]. The external FnPB building begins at the outside wall of the SNS target building.
 131 Its volume is 2789.2 m³ with a useful floor area of 220.18 m² and height of the crane hook
 132 7.931 m. The bridge of the crane is parallel to the wall of the SNS target building. The nEDM
 133 experiment [22] requires an isolation pad, which is made of 1.22 m thick concrete, is 4.62 m
 134 wide and 7.28 m long, begins 21.90 m from the end of the 13A guide and is oriented so that its
 135 center is along the line of sight to the 13A guide. There is a second isolation pad to support the
 136 neutron guide (not yet installed) that begins at the external building boundary and extends to the
 137 main isolation pad. The guide isolation pad is made of 0.61 m thick concrete and is 1.30 m wide
 138 and 4.44 m long. The boundaries between the isolation pads and the external building floor are
 139 filled in with styrofoam.

140 Beamline 13B, or the cold beamline, is polychromatic and completely enclosed in a cave in
 141 the SNS target building. The broad distribution of slow neutron energies in this beam can serve
 142 a suite of experiments. The boundaries of the experimental area are shown in yellow in Fig. 3,
 143 with two labyrinth walls defining the entrance. The useful space is 2.84 m across on the upstream
 144 end of the cave and 5.38 m on the upstream end of the first labyrinth wall, with 12.65 m along
 145 the direction of the beam. The experimental area has a pit in the floor to accommodate a large
 146 magnetic spectrometer for the Nab experiment [24, 25]. The pit is 4.88 m long, 2.13 m wide,
 147 2.44 m deep and begins 16.02 m downstream of the moderator face.

148 *3.1. Shielding*

149 An extensive shielding package that satisfies the SNS radiological requirement of <0.25 mrem/hr
150 combined gamma and neutron radiation at the boundary between adjacent beamlines and in the
151 instrument hall at 2 MW power extends from the moderator outwards to the first labyrinth wall.
152 The individual shield blocks were designed so that there is no direct line of sight through joints
153 extending from the source to the experimental area. The shielding configuration starts with 2.5-
154 5.1 cm of steel around the guide, staggered periodically along the beamline to prevent neutrons
155 and gammas streaming through gaps in the shielding. The steel is followed by high density con-
156 crete up to 9 m from the moderator. The height of the beamline shielding is 4.45 m from the
157 instrument floor and extends from the source out to a distance of 7.4 meters. Here, the shielding
158 height drops to 3.96 m and continues to the experimental cave, ≈ 15.2 m downstream of the mod-
159 erator. The cave is covered by a 45 cm thick regular concrete roof. A 4.5 m^3 heavy concrete cube
160 beamstop begins at 6.91 m from the upstream end of the cave. Its support stand is 1.78 m wide,
161 1.65 m deep, 96.5 m tall and made of regular concrete. On the upstream face of the concrete
162 beamstop, a $0.30 \times 0.3 \times 0.3 \text{ m}^3$ cutout has been made to accommodate a ${}^6\text{Li}$ carbonate neutron
163 beam stop at the rear. This cutout is made at beam height, meaning its center is 1.8 m from the
164 cave floor.

165 In addition to the radiological shielding requirements, SNS guidelines also dictate that the
166 magnetic field should be <50 mG at the boundaries between adjacent beamlines. The FnPB itself
167 requires no modifications to comply with this requirement. However, before initial commission-
168 ing of 13B, magnetic shielding was installed for the NPDGamma experiment [19, 20, 21]. The
169 walls and ceiling of the experimental cave are lined with 0.635 cm plates of A1010 steel, whereas
170 the walls are lined with multiple plates to give 2.54 cm on the beam-left side and 2.54-5 cm on
171 the beam-right side.

172 *3.2. Neutron Guide*

173 Slow neutrons can be reflected from polished surfaces of various materials. For most ma-
174 terials, which possess neutron refractive indices slightly smaller than 1, neutrons will undergo
175 total external reflection from the optical potential V_{opt} of the medium if their angle of incidence
176 is below a critical angle θ_c , determined by the material density, the neutron coherent scattering
177 length, and the neutron wavelength. This critical angle is set by the condition $q^2/2m < V_{opt}$
178 where q is the momentum transfer perpendicular to the surface. In the case of natural nickel,
179 the critical angle is $\theta_c = 1.73 \text{ mrad} * \lambda$, where λ is given in \AA . The critical momentum transfer
180 is then $q_{c,Ni} = \frac{4\pi}{\lambda} \sin \theta_c = 0.0217 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$. Supermirrors are multilayers of reflective materials arranged
181 to increase the reflectivity above the critical angle of a uniform medium through interference
182 scattering. The effective critical angle for a supermirror is commonly specified by a parameter m
183 given in multiples of $q_{c,Ni}$.

184 The upstream portion of the neutron guide is curved in order to minimize background from
185 fast neutrons and gammas inside the experimental area. The beamline begins 1 m from the face
186 of the hydrogen moderator with a straight, rectangular shaped "core" guide that is 10 cm in width
187 and 12 cm in height. This first guide element is a 1.275 m long, $m = 3.6$ supermirror guide.

188 Following the core guide is a ~ 4.5 m long, five channel bender with a 117 m radius bend
189 towards the beam-left direction. The bender is composed of a series of straight, ~ 0.5 m long
190 sections of guide, each rotated about 0.22° relative to the previous section. Each segment consists
191 of 5 vertical channels, separated by partitioning septa of thickness 0.55 mm. The top, bottom,
192 and beam-right faces of the guide are coated with $m = 3.8$ supermirror. The beam-left faces are

193 coated with $m = 2.3$ supermirror. The first 1.8 m of this bender (four sections) is located in the
 194 primary shutter housing and is translated out of the beam path when the shutter is closed. The
 195 next 1.2 m of bender guide contains three sections and extends from the shutter housing to the
 196 first chopper housing. An additional 1.2 m (three sections) of bender follows from the chopper
 197 to the monochromator. Finally, 0.3 m of bender extends from the monochromator housing to the
 198 straight guide. Loss of direct line-of-sight to the moderator occurs at a distance of 7.5 m from
 199 the moderator.

200 The remaining guide is straight and extends from the end of the bender guide to the exper-
 201 imental area, terminating at 15 m from the face of the moderator. There are small gaps in this
 202 guide for the remaining three choppers as well as the secondary shutter. All surfaces of the
 203 straight guide are $m = 3.6$ supermirror and there are no partitioning septa.

204 All of the guide sections are enclosed in a vacuum tube evacuated with a dry roughing pump.
 205 All of the guide substrates are glass except the core guide, which is polished aluminum cooled
 206 with helium gas to lower the temperature and suppress possible interdiffusion of the supermirror
 207 layers which could degrade their reflectivity.

208 3.3. Choppers

209 The neutron choppers are rotating disks (axis of rotation parallel to the neutron beam) coated
 210 with a neutron-absorbent material, containing one or more apertures to allow neutrons to pass
 211 through. By adjusting the chopper phase relative to the proton pulse such that the aperture is
 212 aligned with the beam when neutrons of a desired energy (corresponding to a particular time of
 213 flight to the chopper) arrive at the chopper – a neutron energy band can be selected.

214 The FnPB includes two choppers located 5.5 m and 7.5 m downstream of the moderator, as
 215 well as housing to accommodate two more choppers at 9 m and 10.5 m if needed for specific
 216 experiments. The gaps in the guide are 58 mm for the first chopper position, and 56 mm for the
 217 remaining 3 positions. The FnPB choppers spin at 3600 revolutions per minute as the neutron
 218 pulses are delivered at 60 Hz. The chopper disks are made of carbon fiber composite with a
 219 coating containing ^{10}B (minimum of 0.13 g/cm^2) to absorb neutrons. The physical parameters of
 220 the choppers are listed in Table. 1.

Table 1: Parameters of the FnPB choppers

	Chopper 1	Chopper 2
Axis to beam center	25.0 cm	25.0 cm
Outer diameter	63.7 cm	63.7 cm
Cutout Angle	131°	167°
Cutout inner radius	18.6 cm	18.6 cm

221 An example of a chopped spectrum is shown in Fig. 5. Here, the first chopper was parked
 222 open, and the phase delay of the second chopper relative to the proton pulse was scanned. These
 223 data were taken during a special 5 Hz operating mode of the SNS, which is normally operated at
 224 60 Hz.

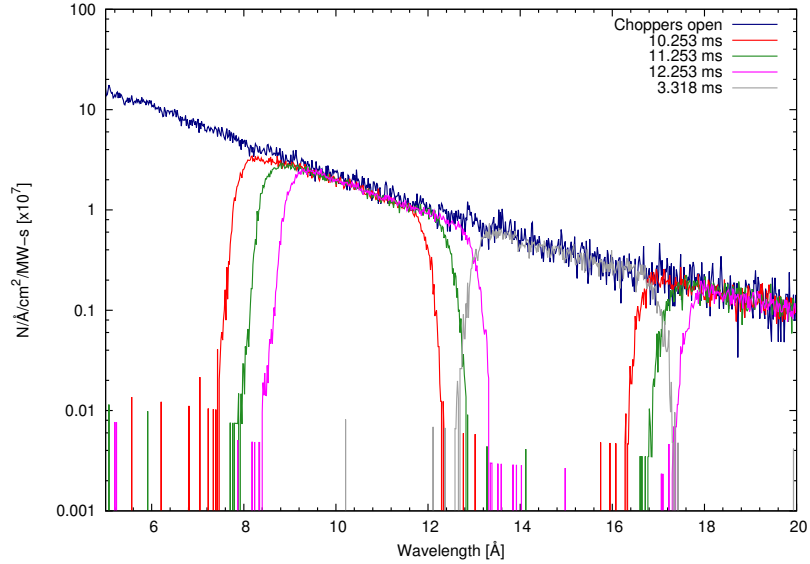


Figure 5: Unchopped spectrum (both choppers parked open) is shown in blue. The other spectra correspond to chopper 1 parked open and chopper 2 running with the phase delays indicated.

225 3.4. Monochromator Crystals

226 A double-crystal monochromator system based on the principles outlined in Ref. [26] was de-
 227 signed to direct the 8.9 Å beam towards the external building. If the two reflections in the double-
 228 crystal monochromator were from lattices with the same d -spacing, the outgoing monochromatc
 229 beam would emerge parallel to the cold beamline at its intersection with the first monochromat-
 230 ing crystal. Given the location of the external building and the desire to maximize the floor space
 231 for cold neutron experiments, one would ideally like for the monochromatic beam to be directed
 232 along the side wall of the 13B enclosure, which is at an angle of $\sim 10^\circ$ relative to the cold beam-
 233 line. By using a combination of two different intercalant atoms [27], and thus different crystal
 234 spacings, we direct the monochromatic beam at an angle of 9° relative to the cold beamline,
 235 along the said side wall, maximizing the separation of the two beamlines.

236 The first monochromator is stage-1 potassium intercalated graphite, and consists of an array
 237 of 24 crystals, each having dimensions 20 mm x 45 mm for a total area of 120 mm x 180 mm. It
 238 intersects the full beam (100 mm x 120 mm) and reflects neutrons of 8.90 Å with high probability,
 239 as well as λ/n wavelengths with lower probability. A mosaic of $\sim 3^\circ$ was chosen to match the
 240 divergence of the neutron guide.

241 Between the two monochromators, pyrolytic graphite crystals were inserted to remove the
 242 unwanted λ/n wavelength neutrons, one oriented to reflect $\approx 4.45\text{Å}$ ($\lambda/2$) neutrons and the other
 243 oriented to reflect 2.97Å ($\lambda/3$) neutrons. The mosaic widths (5°) of these crystals are broad
 244 enough that precise wavelength tuning is not required. Note that neutrons of 2.23Å ($\lambda/4$) are
 245 also reflected in second order by the $\lambda/2$ filter.

246 The second monochromator, stage-1 rubidium intercalated graphite, consists of an array of
 247 35 crystals, each having dimensions 20 mm x 45 mm for a total area of 140 mm x 225 mm. This
 248 monochromator reflects the beam of 8.90Å neutrons (as well as any remaining λ/n neutrons)

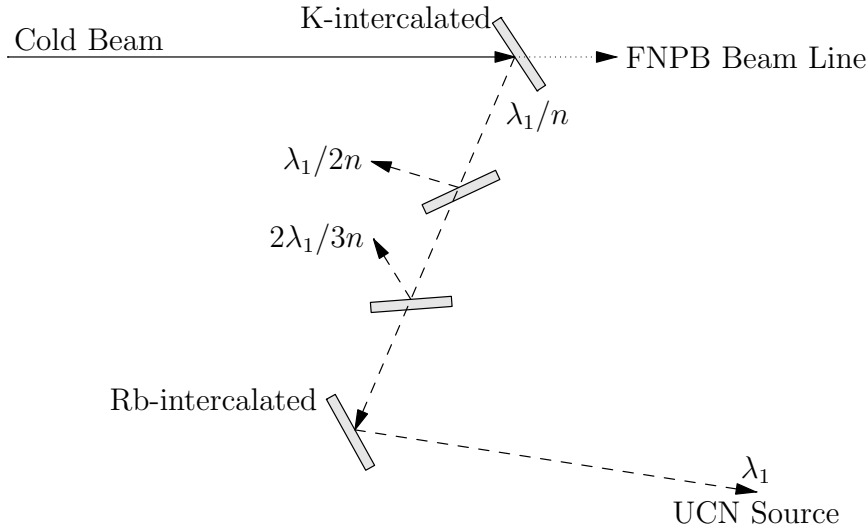


Figure 6: Top view of the monochromator. The upstream monochromator crystals are potassium intercalated in graphite, downstream monochromator crystals are rubidium intercalated in graphite, with pyrolytic graphite crystals in between. See text for details.

249 into the 13A ballistic guide. The orientations of the crystals as well as the primary and reflected
 250 beams are shown in Fig. 6. Detailed characterization measurements were carried out at the FRM2
 251 reactor in Munich with results presented in Ref. [27].

252 The monochromator housing begins 6.5 m downstream of the moderator and is accommodated
 253 by a 29.6 cm gap in the guide. Fig. 7 shows the arrangement of the crystals inside the
 254 monochromator housing. All components are mounted to the top flange of the chamber for ease
 255 of service and in addition, the chamber itself is designed to allow for the upstream crystal as-
 256 sembly to be retracted from the cold beam when not in use to avoid neutron damage as well as
 257 neutron loss in the cold beam.

258 3.5. Cold Beamline

259 A secondary shutter on the cold beamline is located beyond the end of the loss of sight to the
 260 moderator, starting 10.5 m downstream of the moderator face. It consists of a steel drum with
 261 a rotating cylinder inside containing 0.5 m of neutron guide in the open position and 0.48 m of
 262 steel in the closed position. The upstream end of the steel includes a beamstop of 2 cm thick
 263 ^6Li -phosphate tile weighing 218 g and containing 33.13 g of ^6Li .

264 The spectral flux was measured at the end of the cold beamline 15.15 m from the moderator
 265 face using an efficiency calibrated ^3He proportional counter [28]. As the neutrons make several
 266 bounces off the walls of the guide, the beam phase space is presumed to have little position
 267 dependence over the area of the guide exit. The energy of the neutrons was calculated based on
 268 time of flight from the moderator to the ^3He detector and calibrated using aluminum Bragg edges
 269 from windows along the beamline. This measured spectrum is compared to the flux spectrum
 270 calculated using a McStas [?] model of the beamline [29] in Figure 8.

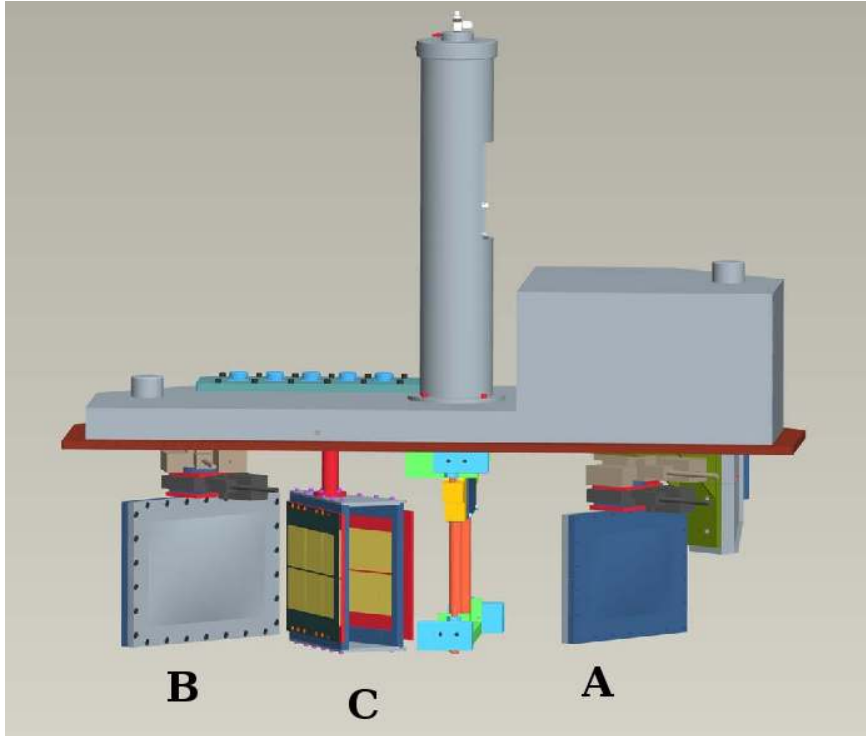


Figure 7: Monochromator crystal assemblies: (A) potassium intercalated in graphite, (B) rubidium intercalated in graphite, and (C) graphite λ/n filters, along with their housing. On the right, crystal assembly A can be retracted into the top of the housing when BL13A is not taking data. See text for details.

271 3.6. 8.9 Å beamline

272 The 8.9 Å, monochromatic beamline continues downstream of the monochromator assembly
 273 with an 8 m section of “ballistic” guide [30] in order to optimize neutron transport over long
 274 distances. The guide starts with a rectangular cross section 12 cm wide and 14 cm tall and
 275 expands to 20 cm by 30 cm. The top and bottom of the guide have reflectivity of $m = 3.6$ and the
 276 sides have $m = 2.2$.

277 The transverse distribution of neutrons passing through the monochromator assembly was
 278 measured at the end of the 8 m long ballistic section of the 13A guide. Several techniques
 279 were employed, including using the previously mentioned absolutely calibrated ^3He detector in
 280 combination with neutron-sensitive image plates, as well as a CCD camera [31]. The time-of-
 281 flight spectrum was measured with a ^3He detector behind a 1.27 cm radius pinhole, to keep the
 282 rates down. The image plates and CCD camera were used to establish and confirm the fraction
 283 of the total flux seen through the pinhole.

284 The spectrum of neutrons from the monochromatic beam is shown in Fig. 9 along with
 285 the calculated flux from McStas. In the model, the peak reflectivities of the first and second
 286 monochromators were taken to be 0.675 and 0.63, respectively. In Ref. [27], the ranges of
 287 the crystal reflectivities are given as 70-80% for the potassium and 65-75% for the rubidium

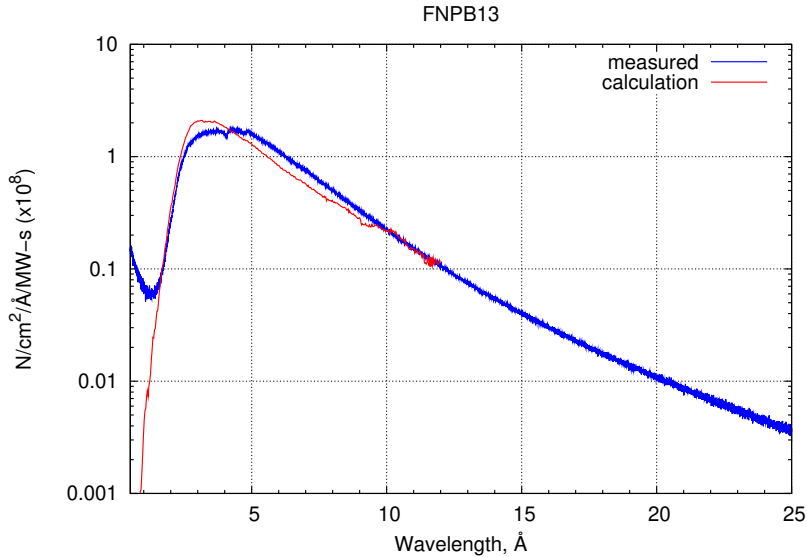


Figure 8: Measured and calculated neutron brightness per MW of proton power on the spallation target for the cold guide at the FnPB as a function of neutron wavelength.

288 monochromators. The middle of the range was used, with a 10% reduction due to neutron atten-
 289 uation. Additionally, in the Ref. [27] measurement, each crystal was tested individually, whereas
 290 in the FnPB measurement, the crystals were arranged in 2D monochromator arrays. To allow for
 291 possible misalignments, the peak reflectivities were scaled down by another 5%. The mosaics
 292 for each individual crystal were specified in the model. The disagreement between the modelled
 293 and measured spectra at 8.9Å (the wavelength of interest) is almost a factor of two. This is not
 294 currently understood. The measurements reported in Ref. [27] yield peak reflectivities that are
 295 down 15% (K-intercalated crystals) and 25% (Rb-intercalated crystals) from ideal values. The
 296 reflectivities are a function of wavelength, possibly explaining a small fraction of the difference.
 297 It's also possible that some of the disagreement is due to the imperfect modeling of guide. The
 298 decrease in measured flux from what was expected based on the McStas model has caused a
 299 modification in the planning of the nEDM experiment [32, 33], which is now expected to be
 300 using the cold beamline, BL13B.

301 4. Summary

302 The FnPB beamline at the Spallation Neutron Source has been commissioned and is now in
 303 operation for science experiments. Its measured performance is in reasonable agreement with
 304 simulations conducted in the design phase of the facility. Physics proposals are reviewed by the
 305 Fundamental Neutron Physics Proposal and Advisory Committee. NPDGamma [19, 20, 21], the
 306 first of the approved peer-reviewed experiments, has recently been completed. It will be followed
 307 by the $n-^3\text{He}$ hadronic parity violation experiment [34], the Nab beta decay experiment [24, 25],
 308 and the nEDM experiment [32, 33]. At present, the 8.9Å beamline is not included in the SNS
 309 user program due to interference with existing experiments.

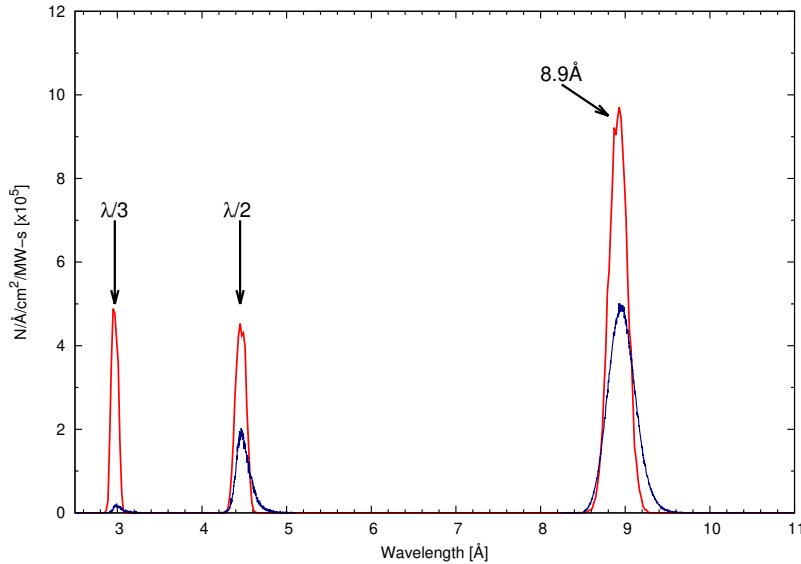


Figure 9: Measured (dark blue) and predicted (red) spectra for the 8.9 Å guide at the FnPB. A chopper upstream of the monochromator was used in order to separate neutrons of different wavelengths and several measurements at different chopper settings were combined to produce the final spectrum. Data were taken at a reduced repetition rate of 10 Hz.

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