

High Pressure Experiments with in situ X-ray and Neutron Measurements

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Talk overview

Why high pressure? - It is a great example for extreme conditions, and it is fun!

- 1. Background on high pressure
- 2. High pressure techniques for X-ray scattering
- 3. Opportunities for high pressure science with APS-U
- 4. High pressure neutron scattering: techniques, development and science examples



Extreme condition environments

Wikipedia:

"An 'extreme environment' contains conditions that are hard to survive for most known life forms."

- Alkaline/acidic: below pH 5 or above pH 9
- Extremely cold/hot: below -17°C or above 40°C
- Under pressure: e.g. habitats deeper than
 2000 m
- Under radiation
- Hypersaline
- Without water or oxygen



Salt lake



Sandy desert



Mount Everest



Source: Wikipedia

Extreme condition environments



Courtesy of Ken Littrell, GP-SANS, HFIR

High radiation environments -In situ measurements on 'hot' samples

> High magnetic field environments



Low temperature environments – Cryostats and dilution fridges

High temperature environments – levitation for measurements of melts





Courtesy of Joerg Neuefeind, NOMAD, SNS High pressure conditions

High pressure conditions:

kbar = 0.1 GPa

Ambient conditions:

atmospheres)

1 atmosphere = 14.696 psi = 760 Torr = 1.013 bar = 101 kPa



China Philippines Philippines Indonesia Australia

987

Deepest point of the ocean at depth of ~10900 m and ~0.1 GPa pressure

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Photo Source: Wikipedia

Wikipedia: <u>Magnitude of pressure</u>

Planetary sciences

The understanding of the interior of planets and other solar bodies requires high pressure studies.



Pressure and temperature in the earth core ~360 GPa and 5000 K. Pressure and temperature in Jupiter's core about 3000-4500 GPa and ~24000 K.





Neutron star, pressure from 3.2×10^{22} to 1.6×10^{25} GPa.

High pressure, high temperature industry High pressure is also important for industrial applications.

Haber-Bosch process for ammonia production occurs at 15-25 MPa and 400-500°C.



A historical (1921) highpressure steel reactor at KIT, Germany





Polyethylene is often made by high pressure processing. The initial discovery applied 0.14 GPa for synthesis. Diamond is made by high pressure, high temperature processing. The first diamonds were made under ~10 GPa and 2300 K.



Fig. 3. Man-made diamonds. (a) 1-mm. diamond shown with phonograph needle. (b) $0.2\text{-}0.5\text{-}\mathrm{mm}.$ octahedra

Bundy et al, Nature 176, 51, 1995.

Photo Source: Wikipedia

High pressure science

High pressure is becoming increasingly important in diverse aspects of science.

Food processing (high pressure pasteurization)



Room temperature superconductivity



Image from Science News, LaH₁₀ reported in PRL 122, 027001 (2019).

Novel semiconductors 107 10⁶ 10⁵ -10⁴ . <u>ש</u> ອັ₁₀3 10² 10 Energy (eV Better absorption of solar spectrum for r8-Si (Si-XII) in PRB 78, 161202(R) (2008).



What is pressure?



For a radius of 2 μm, an applied force of ~0.120 N already achieves 10 GPa!



Indentation:





History of high pressure science

Percy Williams Bridgman father of high pressure studies

1919: appointed full professor in Harvard, aged ~37

New pressure apparatus (1905), Bridgman anvils

Invented the Bridgman seal

Studied over 100 materials under pressure

Received the Nobel Prize in 1946 for his studies of the properties of matter at high pressure and the invention of his high pressure apparatus.







History of high pressure science

Based on the shape of Bridgman anvils, the diamond anvil cell was developed at NIST.

Two intimately related scientific and technological achievements occurred in the field of high pressure research at the NBS laboratory during the second-half of the 20th century: the invention of the diamond anvil high pressure cell [1] in 1958 and the development of the optical ruby fluorescence method of pressure measurement [2] in 1972. These two developments together stimulated the profound advances in high pressure research that evolved in the latter part of the 20th century.







Fig. 4. A schematic diagram of the opposed diamond anvil assembly to illustrate the 180° optical transmission characteristics and the concept of Bridgman opposed anvils. A thin metal gasket containing a 250 μ m diameter hole for encapsulating a sample (liquid or solid or both) is squeezed between the two anvils.



<u>DAC development at NIST</u>

2. High pressure X-ray scattering



For a radius of 200 µm, we now need to apply a force of ~1200 N (equivalent to ~130 kg) to achieve 10 GPa.

Such a radius enables sufficient sample size for X-ray experiments while loads/forces can be locked in with screws.

For X-rays the DAC is the main pressure device.





The sample is loaded into the gasket together with a ruby (for pressure measurement) and a pressure transmitting medium (for hydrostatic conditions).

Pressure is then applied by bringing the anvils closer together and the gasket flowing inward.





from Phys.org

- Large pressure range from very low pressures to ~300 GPa is accessible in a DAC.
- With double-stages, pressures up to 600 GPa have been reached.
- Large temperature range from ~1.4 K to ~5000 K can be additionally applied.
- Modifications allow easy adaption to more specific questions:
 - membranes for rate control on de/compression,
 - perforation for low signal samples,
 - designer anvils for transport measurements
 - additional dynamic compression etc.



A large variety of different DACs have been created for different purposes.

Mao-type symmetric cells



Panoramic cells



Often used with Be gasket



Seat made from WC or cBN (for transparency in beam)



Photo Source: https://eel.stanford.edu/research/research-facilities

A large variety of different DACs have been created for different purposes.

Deflection cell:



Boehler-Almax Plate DAC

Conical anvils



Boehler-style cut



DAC experiments require substantial support infrastructure.



HPCAT online and offline ruby systems



GSECARS/COMPRES <u>gas</u> <u>loader</u>



HPCAT laser driller



Laser-heating in the diamond cell

Samples can be heated to ~5000 K using a YAG or CO_2 laser. This can be done in situ during X-ray scattering.



DACs can also be combined with other extremes such as ultra-low temperatures or magnetic fields.



High pressure science with X-ray scattering

Intensity (a.u.)

2



Rate dependence of metastable phase formation in germanium [1].





[2] Somayazulu et al, PRL 122, 27001 (2019)

[1] B. Haberl et al, PRB 89, 144111 (2014).
[3] Z. Zeng, Nat. Comm. 8, 322 (2017).

High pressure science with X-ray scattering



XRD pattern of Fe+H₂O reaction compound which suggests the possible presence of hydrogenbearing iron peroxide in the lowermost mantle [1]. Pressure tuning of the spin-orbit coupled ground state of Sr_2IrO_4 measured for example through the pressuredependence of the Ir L₃ edge [2].



J. Liu et al, Nature 551, 494 (2017).
 D. Haskel et al, PRL 109, 27204 (2012).



Complications for X-ray scattering in a DAC

Most scattering techniques are also possible in a DAC although data quality is often inferior.

Powder diffraction: environment not hydrostatic enough for Rietveld.

Laser heating: huge temperature gradients (1000 K!) that can even result in different crystal grain sizes.

EXAFS: Diamond glitches.

PDF: Limited diffraction aperture, background changes with pressure.

Single crystal diffraction: all of the above.



High Pressure Science at the APS



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3. Opportunities for high pressure science with APS-U



HPCAT, Sector 16

HPCAT offers 5 experimental stations and various offline laboratory support facilities



- **16-BM-B**: multi-array capabilities, including large volume Paris-Edinburg (PE) press for *in situ* viscosity measurements of melts/liquids, longitudinal and shear elastic moduli.
- 16-ID-B and 16-BM-D: x-ray diffraction and in situ laser and resistive heating (ambient to >500 GPa, ~10K up to 4000+K) for multiphase P-T phase diagram development, understanding kinetics, and determining solid-melt boundary. X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XANES and XAFS) can be performed in tandem with diffraction in 16BM-D.
- **16-ID-D**: x-ray Raman spectroscopy, x-ray emission spectroscopy, inelastic x-ray scattering for understanding bonding and electronic structure.
- **16-ID-E**: an approved x-ray enclosure fielding special request and unique measurements.



General purpose table at 16-ID-B

Large volume press At 16-BM-B





HPCAT, Sector 16, after APS-Upgrade





Contact: Maddury Somayazulu <u>zulu@anl.gov</u>



and experimental tables

APS-U beamline POLAR, to come online in 2024 Focus: Magnetism at extreme pressure conditions*



Contact: Daniel Haskel haskel@anl.gov

*See Appendix A

APS-U Polar beamline: brilliant focused beams for extreme pressure science*

Brilliant sub-micron beams (400 nm) will enable in situ magnetic X-ray scattering and spectroscopy at multi-Mbar pressures (< 7 Mbar). Lanthanides/Actinides: Magnetism, Kondo/heavy fermion, mixedvalence superconductivity



*See Appendix A

Diamond anvil cell program at GSECARS*

The DAC program at GSECARS provides state-of-the-art experimental techniques to study key geoscience topics in the entire pressure-temperature range of the Earth's deep interior with full characterization of the sample *in situ* at high P-T conditions with combination of synchrotron x-ray probes and online optical techniques:

- micro-x-ray diffraction (time resolved)
- inelastic x-ray scattering (x-ray Raman)
- x-ray emission spectroscopy
- x-ray fluorescence microprobe
- x-ray absorption and radiography

on-line time resolved optical spectroscopy (Raman, Brillouin, absorption, emission) on-line laser heating (CW & pulse)





Contact: Vitali Prakapenka <u>vitali@uchicago.edu</u>

*See Appendix A



APS-U: MBA upgrade and DAC program

X-ray emission spectroscopy, time-domain experiments, dynamic compression and pulse laser heating are main techniques that will benefit from APS-U, not a new concept but **next level of experiments**.

Electron Beam Profiles

MBA: tightly focused (100-300nm), high brilliance, high energy x-ray beam – natural requirements for sophisticated Now **DAC** experiments 1.594 µs X-ray Laser **High P-T** T=3.672 µs Synchrotron insulato hybrid fill CdTe 500 ns. 86 mA Laser pulse X-ray detector 1 mm

- Complexity of high-pressure phase diagram and melting covering the TPa range
- Element partitioning in the presence of molten phases
- Hydrogen reaction with minerals
- Water in the deep mantle
- Density and structure of silicate liquids and glass
- Structure solution of metastable phases (multi-grain single-crystal approach)
- Synthesis of novel materials

Coherent X-ray techniques:

Scanning transmission x-ray microscopy, X-ray holography, Coherent x-ray diffraction imaging, Phase-contrast imaging, X-ray photon correlation spectroscopy, Ptychography, Magnetism





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Extreme conditions programs at Sector 3 & 30

- The Nuclear Resonance programs at Sector 3 & 30 offer the following techniques:
 - Synchrotron Mössbauer spectroscopy (SMS)
 - Nuclear resonant inelastic x-ray scattering (NRIXS)
 - Mössbauer Microscope (MM)
- These techniques allow measuring speed of sound, isotope fractionation, valence, phase fractions, texture, Mössbauer hyperfine parameters and magnetism
- SMS and NRIXS measurement are routinely performed at extreme conditions:
 low temperature, down to 4 K;
- combined low temperature and high pressure (4 K, 150 GPa);
- bigh pressure and high temperature (3500 K 150 GPg)
- high pressure and high temperature (3500 K, 150 GPa).





Reduced horizontal emittance will enable 1 µm focused beam

Increased current from 100 to 200 mA

The APS-U brilliance enhancement will greatly benefit the extreme conditions programs at Sector 3 & 30 by:

- Enabling measurements at much higher pressures and temperatures to reach Earth core conditions.
- Resolve different phases synthesized in the diamond anvil cell, namely a high pressure Mössbauer Microprobe program can be envisioned;
- Allow more accurate measurements at high P, T in the laser-heated diamond anvil cell.

These improvements will boost studies of Earth and planets deep interiors as well as new extreme conditions for physics and chemistry studies.



Contact: Jiyong Zhao **jzhao@anl.gov** Melting studies at the Earth core conditions using synchrotron Mössbauer spectroscopy





4. High pressure neutron scattering



Neutron scattering facilities at ORNL



Will focus on developments and science at ORNL although similar efforts are ongoing world-wide.



High pressure neutron scattering

The diamond anvil cell for synchrotron scattering or optical techniques is sufficiently versatile for most *in situ* studies.

BUT:

For a diamond with 200 μ m culet diameter^{*}, the volume of the sample chamber is 0.0003 mm³.

The minimum-size on typical high flux instruments is ~1 mm³ on well scattering samples.





*Note that chamber diameter = below $\frac{1}{2}$ culet diameter

High pressure neutron scattering



For a radius of 2 mm, we need to apply a force of ~120 kN to achieve 10 GPa. This is equivalent to 13 metric tons.



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Photo source: Wikipedia
High Pressure Neutron Scattering

Fundamental challenge in high pressure neutron scattering: Neutron scattering needs large samples, high pressure needs small samples.

- To accommodate the necessary large sample volumes, a variety pressure cells exist for neutron scattering.
- These are often optimized for specific science questions and/or neutron scattering techniques.



High Pressure Neutron Scattering

Various dedicated high pressure cells* are used to enable a large variety of science from materials science, physics, geoscience and chemistry to soft matter science.



Gas cells for up to 0.7 GPa with gas intensifiers such as the SITEC



0.2 GPa extended McHugh cell for SANS



Clamp cells for up to 2 GPa at ultra-low temperature and high field



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Diamond anvil cell for ultra-high pressures



Uwatoko palm-cubic cell for up 7 GPa

*See Appendix B

38

High Pressure Science at SNS and HFIR



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39

Complications for HP neutron scattering

Most neutron scattering techniques are also possible within a neutron pressure cell.

Similar issues as for X-rays: hydrostaticity, diamond dips (glitches), limited apertures etc.

TOF white beam: background corrections can be highly complex and computationally intensive.

Additional key issue: the sample is (too) small and the background is (too) high.



Innovations in High Pressure Neutron Scattering

World-wide, many developmental efforts are under way to innovate pressure capabilities for *in situ* neutron scattering.

To provide new capabilities, there are several parameters that can be addressed:

- More neutron flux
- Reduced backgrounds*
- New/different pressure cells

Example: neutron diffraction in a DAC

There is active research and development tackling all three components.



Many efforts are underway **world-wide** to develop neutron diffraction at megabar levels in the DAC.

Such development also occurs on SNAP, the SNS dedicated high pressure time-of-flight white beam diffractometer [1].



Neutron diamond anvil cell on SNAP [2]





Panoramic diamond cell inside a membrane press. The sample volume was ~0.05 mm³ [1].

First generation diamond anvil cell developed on SNAP:

- Maximum pressures of 100 GPa were achieved.
- Single crystal diamond anvils allow removal of diamond peaks.
- Membrane press enabled online
 pressure increase.
- Gasket made from stainless steel.





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44

[1] R. Boehler, M. Guthrie et al. High Pres. Res. 33, 546 (2013).

Then very large CVD anvils became available.

10 carat, 9 mm tall CVD anvil with pyramidal design



Cracked under 3 tons!

9 mm CVD anvil with conical anvil design



Even 6 mm anvils have been ok to 12 tons!





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46

Next generation DAC designed for SNAP [1].

- Opening aperture allows $Q = 1.3 22 \text{ Å}^{-1}$ on SNAP.
- Pressure can be increased online.
- Cell can be cooled to ~5 K.
- Maximum pressure of 45 GPa on ~0.15 mm³.
- Incident beam is collimated with hBN right up to anvil.

This particular design relied on two key components, large CVD anvils and machined gaskets for added support [1].

Machined stainless steel gasket

ر.



6 mm conical CVD anvils inside steel seats.



Conical anvil design.





R. Boehler, J.J. Molaison, B. Haberl, Rev. Sci. Instr. 88, 83905 (2017).
 M. Guthrie et al, PRB 99, 184112 (2019).

The latest generation SNAP DACs finally broke the 'sound barrier' of the megabar (=100 GPa).



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48

[1] R. Boehler, M. Guthrie, B. Haberl, manuscript in preparation.

Rietveld refinement of Ni at ~100 GPa. The data are refined while being kept separate in the individual columns of the detector [1]





49

A key desire is science on hydrides. Here, nickel deuteride was synthesized inside a DAC. The angular resolution on SNAP was used to better assess (and eliminate) backgrounds.







Although the entire experiment was conducted below 120 K, the cell blew out at ~ 20 GPa.

We need to improve anvil technology for hydrogen compatibility.



[1] B. Haberl et al., JAP 130, 215901 (2021).

Conclusions

- High pressure experiments can be very hard.
- There are world-class high pressure facilities at the APS and SNS/HFIR. The earlier you communicate with us, the more we can help to design the best possible experiment.
- High pressure is fun!

https://forms.office.com/g/eWZx7Wnibb



Thank you!

Acknowledgment: Neutron DAC developments were in part funded through the ORNL LDRD scheme. Experiments used resources of the Spallation Neutron Source and the High Flux Isotope Reactor, a DoE Office of Science User Facility operated by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and at the Advanced Photons Source, a DoE Office of Science User Facility operated by Argonne National Laboratory.





Reference Material

- "Techniques in High Pressure Neutron Scattering" by Stefan Klotz, CRC Press (2016).
- "High-Pressure Physics by John Loveday", CRC Press (2012).
- "High-pressure studies with x-rays using diamond anvil cells" by Guoyin Shen & Dave Mao, Reports on Progress in Physics **80**, 016101 (2017).
- "SPECIAL TOPIC: X-ray techniques at the HPCAT at the Advanced Photon Source", Review of Scientific Instruments **86**, Issue 7 (2017).



A. Further details on APS-U & high pressure science



APS-U Polar beamline

APS-U Electron source size ~ x 75 reduction Focus: 10 um to ~100 nm



~ x100 flux gains in 100-300 nm beams Electronic/magnetic response at high P Mapping of phase/electronic inhomogeneity



Higher Pressures: x10 gains, to ~ 7 Mbar Higher fields (new SC magnet): H=9/1/1 Tesla, 1.4 K X-ray Circular/Linear dichroism





X-ray Circular/Linear Dichroism: X-ray polarization control APS-U: Round undulator vacuum chambers









APS: Crystal optics (Diamond phase plates) APS-U: Polarizing superconducting undulators Linear H/V; Circular/Elliptical x-ray polarizat

x10 flux gains vs phase plates E < 15 keV Enables polarization control E >15 keV



x1000 gains in polarized flux and polarized coherent flux in 100-300 nm beams
 New frontiers in studies of electronic matter, especially at high pressures

APS-U Polar beamline



Extend pressure range of XAS/XMCD from ~ 1 Mbar to 6-7 Mbar Also probe structural/electronic inhomogeneity ~ 300 nm resolution

X-ray polarization control at Polar beamline



APS-U undulator: L-H, L-V, RCP, LCP



APS: diamond ¼ wave plates LCP, RCP 2.8-14 keV, **beam** attenuation

APS-U: LCP, RCP, L-H. L-V 2.8-27 keV Large flux gains below 14 keV (x5-30) Access resonances 14-27 keV 5f element L-edge, 4d elements K-edge

Diamond anvil cell program at GSECARS

Multiple optical axes (x-ray, lasers, spectroscopy/ imaging) should be aligned with sub-micron precision on sample in the DAC

X-ray Laser Thermal insulator Gasket X-ray detector spectrometer

100 GPa equals 1 million bar (Mbar) or about 1 million atmospheres

13-IDD





XRD, sXRD, XES on-line laser heating, Raman and VIS-IR spectroscopy

13-BMD



X-ray energy 15, 29 keV beam size ~ 20 µm

sXRD on-line laser heating, Raman and VIS spectroscopy X-ray energy 5-80 keV beam size ~6 x 12 µm

XRD, sXRD on-line Brillouin, Raman VIS-IR spectroscopy

13-BMC

B. Science examples using variety of neutron pressure cells



B. Neutron gas pressure cells

- Up to 0.7 GPa gas pressure,
- Inert gases as well as H_2/D_2 available,
- Cooling down to 5 K possible,
- Routinely used at many beamlines for diffraction and inelastic scattering,



SITEC Gas Intensifier rated to 7 kbar

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[1] A. dos Santos et al. accepted with Review of Scientific Instruments.

Gas pressure cell with radial SNAP collimator



B. Neutron gas pressure cells







Gas pressure cell used on VISION

H₂ as 2D hindered rotor in organic clathrate cages measured on VISION.

J=1 → J=1 Center of mass "rattling" fundamental

 $(\mathfrak{v}) = (\mathfrak{v}) + \mathfrak{v} +$

Energy (meV)

Diamond anvil cell gas loader can be used as portable H₂ intensifier





61

Source: Daemen (ORNL), see T.A. Strobel et al, PRL 120, 120402 (2018).

B. SANS pressure cells



Extended McHugh cells – SANS reaction cell for *in situ* pretreatment

- For acid pretreatments, stainless steel is not good but tantalum < 1 mpy corrosion rate
- Reaction cell Stainless steel with surface alloyed tantalum





Tantalum and Allovs in Sulfuric Acid



B. SANS pressure cells

Morphological changes in cellulose and lignin components of biomass occur at different stages during steam pretreatment



- In-situ time-resolved neutron small-(1) angle scattering data. Top row (horizontal sector) highlights cellulose morphological changes and bottom row (vertical sector) lignin.
- (1) A schematic summarizing the fundamental processes responsible for the morphological changes of cellulose and lignin components during steam explosion pretreatment.

Pingali et al. Cellulose 21, 873 (2014); Nishiyama et al. Cellulose 21, 1015 (2014); Langan et al. Green Chemistry 16, 63 (2014). Contact: Venky Pingali pingalis@ornl.gov.



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B. Piston-cylinder clamp cells

Very useful for inelastic neutron scattering due to the large sample volumes possible, the relative ease of cooling and the possibility to insert cell into a magnet.



NiCrAl cell that can be cooled to 300 mK and allows maximum pressures of 2.2 – 3 GPa. CuBe cell available through US-Japanese collaboration with a maximum pressure of 1.8 GPa.





CuBe cell for maximum pressure of 2 GPa available with in situ optical pressure measurement. Sample size is 15 mm height and 4.5 mm diameter.

Source: Podlesnyak, Lumsden, Loguillo, Rucker, Tian, Matsuda (ORNL), Uwatoko (University of Tokyo)



B. Piston-cylinder clamp cells Inelastic neutron measurements on CNCS and SEQUOIA.



"Pressure effect on hydrogen tunneling and vibrational spectrum in a-Mn" Clamp cells and INS (CNCS and SEQUOIA) were used to measure the pressure effect of the tunneling mode and vibrational spectra of hydrogen in a-MnH_{0.07} for pressures up to 3 GPa [2].



[1] G. Perren, et al. PRB 92, 54413 (2015), Editor's suggestion [2] A.I. Kolesnikov et al., PRB 94, 134301 (2016).



B. Piston-cylinder clamp cells

Single crystal diffraction at HB3A: Magnetic precursor of the pressure-induced superconductivity in Fe-ladder compound



66 National Laboratory 0,5 1.0 1.5

14

16

20

18

B. Diffraction on SNAP in the Paris-Edinburgh cell

- Key elements are a 200 ton press and toroidal anvils,
- 10 GPa with cubic boron nitride anvils,
- 20 GPa with polycrystalline diamond anvils,
- Cooling down to 85 K,
- gasket made from TiZr (no diffraction peaks).







B. Diffraction on SNAP in the PE cell



[1] A. M. Schaeffer *et al.* Nature Communications 6, 8030 (2015).
[2] Tapan Chatterji, *et al.* Phys Rev. B 91, 104412 (2015).



- Opening aperture of 120°.
- Pressure is applied in press and clamped in via a simple spring mechanism.
- Cell can be cooled to \sim 5 K.
- Sample volume is up to 2 mm³.







Original Vascomax design [1]



Optimized CuBe design with conical anvils [2]

B. Haberl et al, High Pressure Research 37, 495 (2017).
 B. Haberl et al, Re. Sci. Instr. 89, 092902(2018).



Properties of Versimax® (polycrystalline diamond sintered in SiC matrix from Sandvick):

- Diffraction pattern shows diamond-cubic SiC (3C) peaks.
- Held up to load of ~13 GPa without any support.
- Transmission on VISION is equivalent to single crystal diamond.



[1] B. Haberl et al, High Pressure Research 37, 495 (2017).

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Versimax® is not transparent, so a pressure load curve for the 3 mm anvils was measured on SNAP using NaCl as pressure calibrant.





INS on hydrogen-rich samples is possible at SNS

Inelastic neutron spectrum from ~1.6 mm³ of hexamethylbenze loaded into the DAC.




B. Clamped diamond cell with Versimax® anvils

Single crystal diffraction is possible at SNS and HFIR.

HB-3A

Hexaferrite ~0.1 mm³ crystal with Pb as pressure medium inside the DAC within CCR. Neutron wavelength λ =1.546 Å with half-lambda filter [2].



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73



Single crystal diffraction from a ~240 µm thick single crystal of MnP loaded with KBr measured at 6 K [1].



Hexaferrite ~0.1 mm³ crystal with deuterated glycerin as pressure medium inside the DAC [2].

B. Haberl et al, High Pressure Research 37, 495 (2017).
B. Haberl et al, Re. Sci. Instr. 89, 092902(2018).

C. Development in pressure cell specific collimation for neutron scattering



C. Incident and scattered beam collimation

Collimation (or shielding) is often critical to reduce background and remove parasitic cell scatter.

- Typically, cells were masked with neutron absorbing material, e.g. Cd, Gd, B.
- Very sophisticated masks are colloquially called incident beam collimation.
- Radial collimation instead is true collimation that collimates out unwanted scatter.



Wide-angle DAC covered in Cd.



C. Incident beam collimation

Custom collimation can be fabricated through 3Dprinting:

- A form of 3D-printing (powder bed and inkjet printing) allows for 3D-printing of B_4C powder.
- The 3D-printed collimator is infiltrated with superglue which contains some hydrogen. This can now be replaced by infiltration with aluminum [1].



Superglue and aluminum infiltrated incident-beam B₄C collimators for Paris-Edinburg cell on SNAP [2].



C. Incident beam collimation

2.0

2.5

d-spacing [Å]

3.0

3.5

4.0

1.5







Collimator set-up



1.5

1.0

1.0

[1] B. Haberl et al, Review of Scientific Instruments 92, 093903 (2021).

C. Incident beam collimation

3D-printing also allows for complex designs of hydrogen-free collimators from neutron absorbing materials.



New collimator design printed from B₄C for single crystal diffraction in a wide-angle DAC typically used on SNS's CORELLI beamline [1]



C. Scattered beam collimation

Radial collimation uses geometric considerations to only let scatter originated from the sample arrive on the detector.



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[1] A. dos Santos et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 89, 092907 (2018).

C. Incident and scattered beam collimation

Monte Carlo Ray Tracing allows for further improved radial collimations through computer optimization[1]. Cell consists of a CuBe insert in an Al sleeve.



[1] F. Islam et al., Journal of Neutron Research 22 (2020) 155–168

80

C. Incident and scattered beam collimation

Collimation reduces cell scatter and increases ratio of sample-to-background signal:

- Incident beam collimation optimizes for illumination of the sample.
- Radial collimation selects for only sample scatter to arrive on the detector.

These developments are critical for high pressure neutron scattering since sample volumes and hence sample scatter are small.

