★ Vacuum tight

The two-axis diffractometer 7C2 is located on the hot source of the reactor Orphée. It is dedicated to structural investigations of liquids, glasses and amorphous materials.

The characteristics of 7C2 are detailed in "Position sensitive detection of thermal neutrons" Ed. P. Convert - B. Forsythe, Academic Press - London 1983.

The high energy neutrons provide a wide range of momentum transfer and reduced inelastic scattering. The detector is a curved multidetector filled with $^{10}BF_3$. The 640 cells cover a scattering angle 2θ = 128°(step 0.2°). The sample to detector distance is 1.5 m. Three monochromator crystals (Ge(111), Cu(111) and Ge(311)) allow for the three incident wavelengths: 1.1 Å, 0.7 Å and 0.58 Å. (computerised change of wavelength).

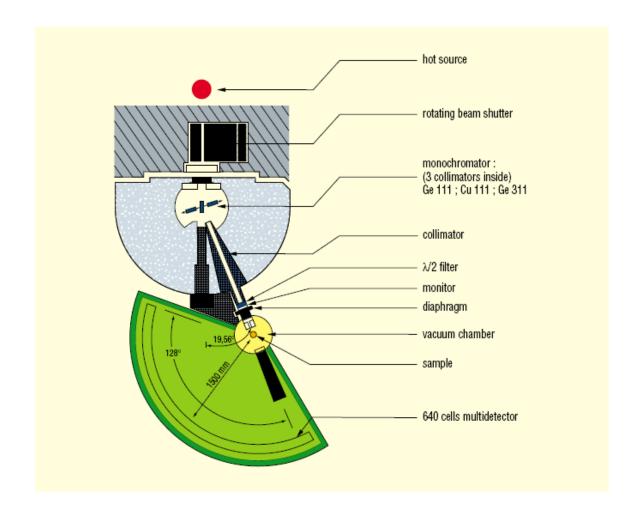
The beam is collimated between the hot source and the monochromator (3 types of collimation), and between the monochromator and the sample (4 types).

Hot Neutron Two-Axis Diffractometer

The sample is placed in a 600 mm diameter vacuum vessel. In this vessel can be added:

- a sample changer (5 positions) for room temperature experiments
- a furnace with a vanadium or niobium heater, covering a temperature range
 300 K - 1700 K
- a similar furnace that can be put upside down (manually), in order to mix liquids
- a thermal bath with a temperature range 200 K 350 K.

A cryostat is also available for temperatures from 1.5 K to 300 K. The cryostat tail in the beam is made from vanadium.



General layout of the diffractometer 7 C2.

The 7 C2 spectrometer is controlled via a PC type computer which drives the temperature (furnace, cryostat) and the sample changer at room temperature.

Standard programs for data reduction are available on the computers of the group. Guides are available for these analysis programs (in french and in english) as well as for the driving programme of 7 C2.

Projects:

The BF $_3$ detector will be replaced by a detection ensemble composed of 12 2D-microstrip detectors filled with 10 bars 3 He. This will result in an increase of the efficiency by a factor 4 at least. Each detector will have its own collimation, which will greatly improve the signal-to-back-ground ratio.

A new thermal bath working from 200 K to 500 K will be available soon.

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