

# McStas 1.10

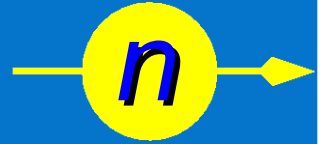
*new release of the flexible neutron ray-tracing package -  
improved support for virtual experiments*

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# Agenda

- Very short intro
- New Features in 1.10
  - Language extensions, Polarisation support, Optimisation feature, reciprocal space calculator, TOF acceptance diagram on-the-fly
- Conclusion



# McStas introduction

- Flexible, general simulation utility for neutron scattering experiments.
- Original design for Monte carlo Simulation of triple axis spectrometers
- Developed at RISØ, ILL

- V. 1.0 by K Nielsen & K Lefmann (1998)
- Currently V. 1.9.1 (1.10 in beta – out 2006)
- Currently 2.5+1 people full time plus projects
- Apx. 100 users worldwide, some contributors
- Infrastructure:

GNU GPL license  
Open Source  
Please contribute!

Project website at  
<http://www.mcstas.org>

[neutron-mc@risoe.dk](mailto:neutron-mc@risoe.dk) mailinglist  
[mcstas@risoe.dk](mailto:mcstas@risoe.dk) developer contact



# McStas introduction

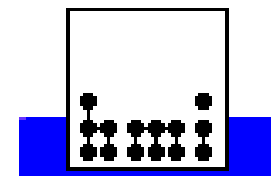
- Users at major labs



Forschungszentrum Jülich  
in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft



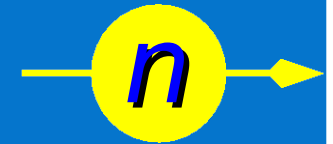
NIST



JAEA and KEK Joint Project



# McStas introduction



- Portable code (Unix/Linux/Mac/Win32)
- Write in (simple) 'instrument' language
- 'Component' files (~100) inserted from library
  - Sources, optics, samples, monitors
- If needed, write your own components
- GUI / commandline functionality
- Tools for plotting and datahandling included

File Simulation Neutron site Help (McDoc)

Instrument file: **h8\_test.instr**

Simulation results: mcstas.sim

Status: Done

Insert Tools Desktop Window Help

```

Monochromator : (DM = 3.3539)
A1 = 20.60, A2 = 41.20
Ki = 2.662 Angs-1 Energy
Velocity = 1676 m/s, L
Detector: D0_Source_I=9
0_Source.psd"
Detector: D1_SC1_Out_I=
8 "D1_SC1_Out.psd"
Detector: D2_A4_I=3.957
Detector: D4_SC2_In_I=4
4_SC2_In.psd"
Detector: D5_SC2_Out_I=
"D5_SC2_Out.psd"
Detector: D7_SC3_In_I=
_SC3_In.psd"
Detector: D8_SC3_Out_I=
D8_SC3_Out.psd"
Detector: D10_SC4_In_I=
D10_SC4_In.psd"
Detector: He3H_I=2.3390
Simulation finished.
mcplot mcstas.sim
mcplot mcstas.sim
  
```

Run simulation h8\_test.instr

Instrument source: **h8\_test.instr** HTML docs

Instrument parameters (D=floating point, I=integer, S=string):

Lambda (D):

Output to (dir):   force Browse...

Neutron count:   gravity (BEWARE) Random seed:

Simulate # steps:   Plot results, Format: PGPLOT

Clustering: None (single CPU) Number of nodes:

Inspect component: 

- Source D0\_Source

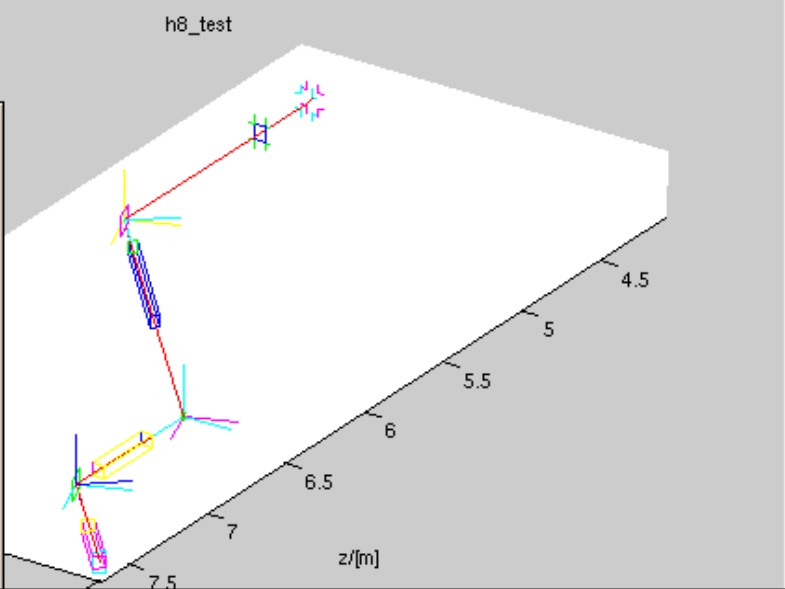
First component: 

- Source D0\_Source

Last component: 

- Source D0\_Source

Start

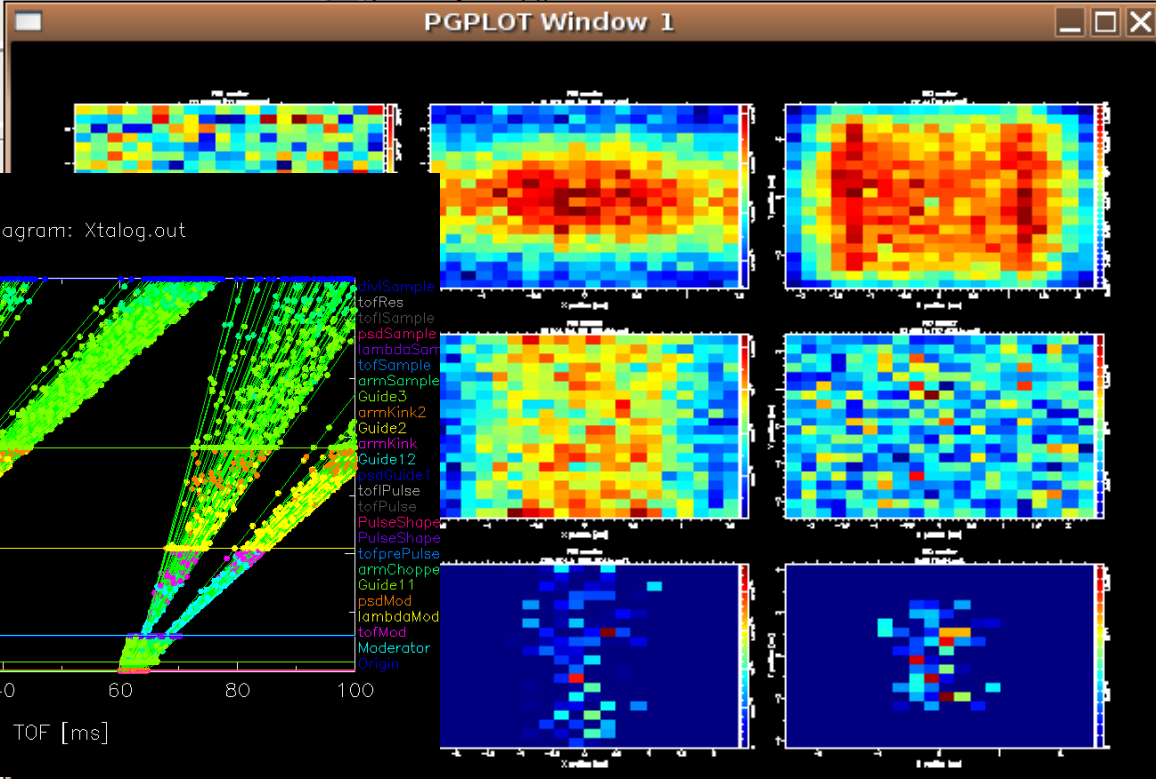


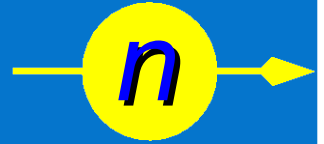
```

File Edit Search View
/* end of INITIALIZE */
TRACE
/* Source description */
/* a flat constant source
COMPONENT Source = Source
radius = 0.10,
dist = 2.7473,
xw = 0.031, yh = 0.054,
EO = Ei,
dE = 0.5)
AT (0,0,0) ABSOLUTE
COMPONENT D0_Source = PSD
xmin = -0.015, xmax = 0.
ymin = -0.027, ymax = 0.
nx=20, ny=20, filename=
AT (0, 0, 0.0001) RELATIVE
/* SC1 collimator. 40'=3 s
COMPONENT SC1 = Guide(
wl = 0.031, hl = 0.054,
  
```

```

ESS_moderator_shor
Moderator ...
Monitor_Optimizer ...
Source_adapt ...
Source_div ...
Source_gen ...
Source_Maxwell_3 ...
Source_Optimizer ...
Source_simple ...
Virtual_input ...
Virtual_output ...
  
```





# Implementation

- Three levels of source code:
  - Instrument file (All users)
  - Component files (Some users)
  - ANSI c code (no users)

# What is McStas used for?



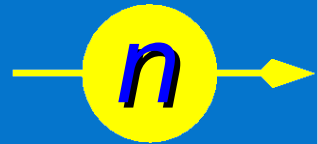
- Instrumentation
  - Planning
  - Optimization
- Virtual experiments (See E Farhi talk)
- Data analysis
  - “I am seeing this strange effect, could it be due to....”
- Test spectrometer for students and novice users



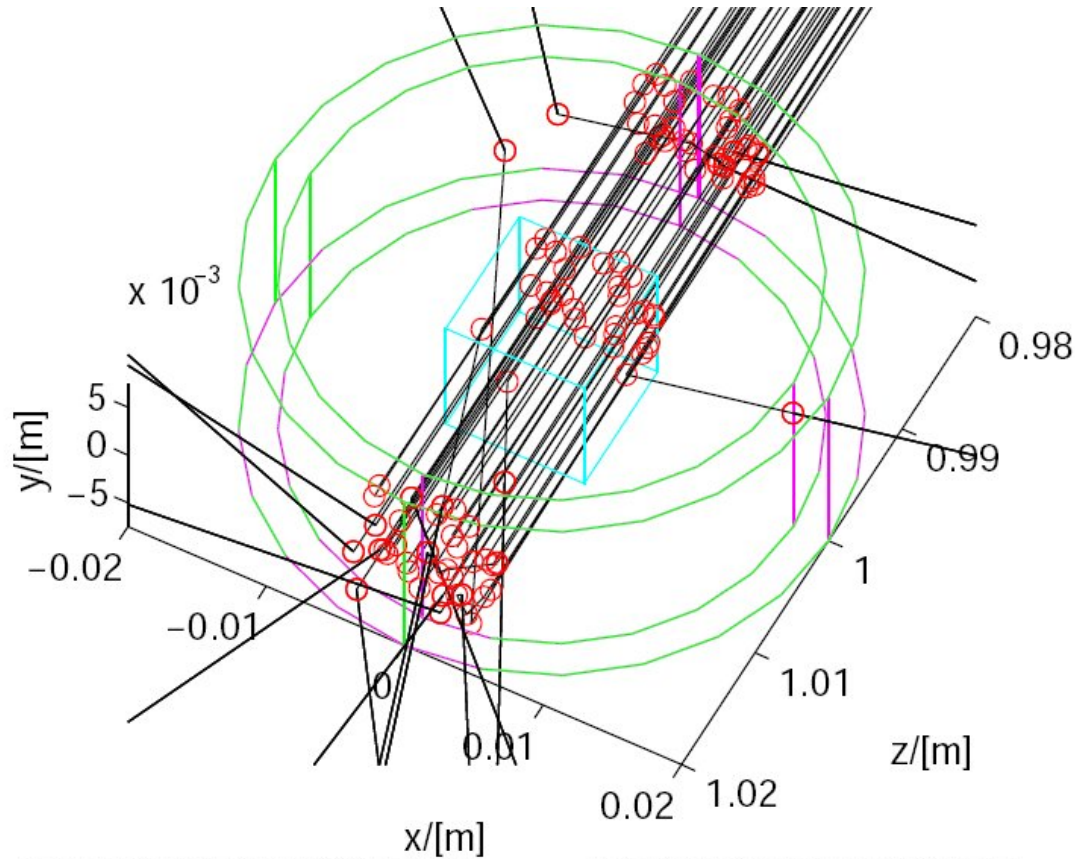
# New Features



- Feature highlights from mcstas-1.10  
(november 2006)



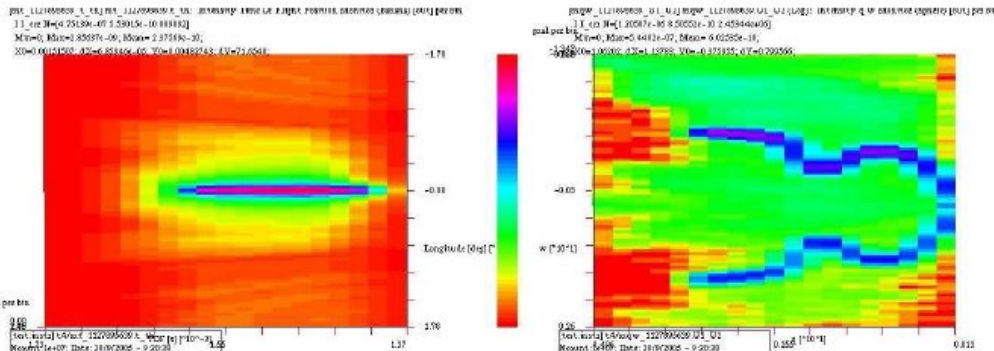
# New – concentric comps



Components *inside* components.

Example: Liquid He (Isotropic\_Sqw) inside Al Cryostat.

Al Powder lines separated from He rotons.



HII3-CT-2003-





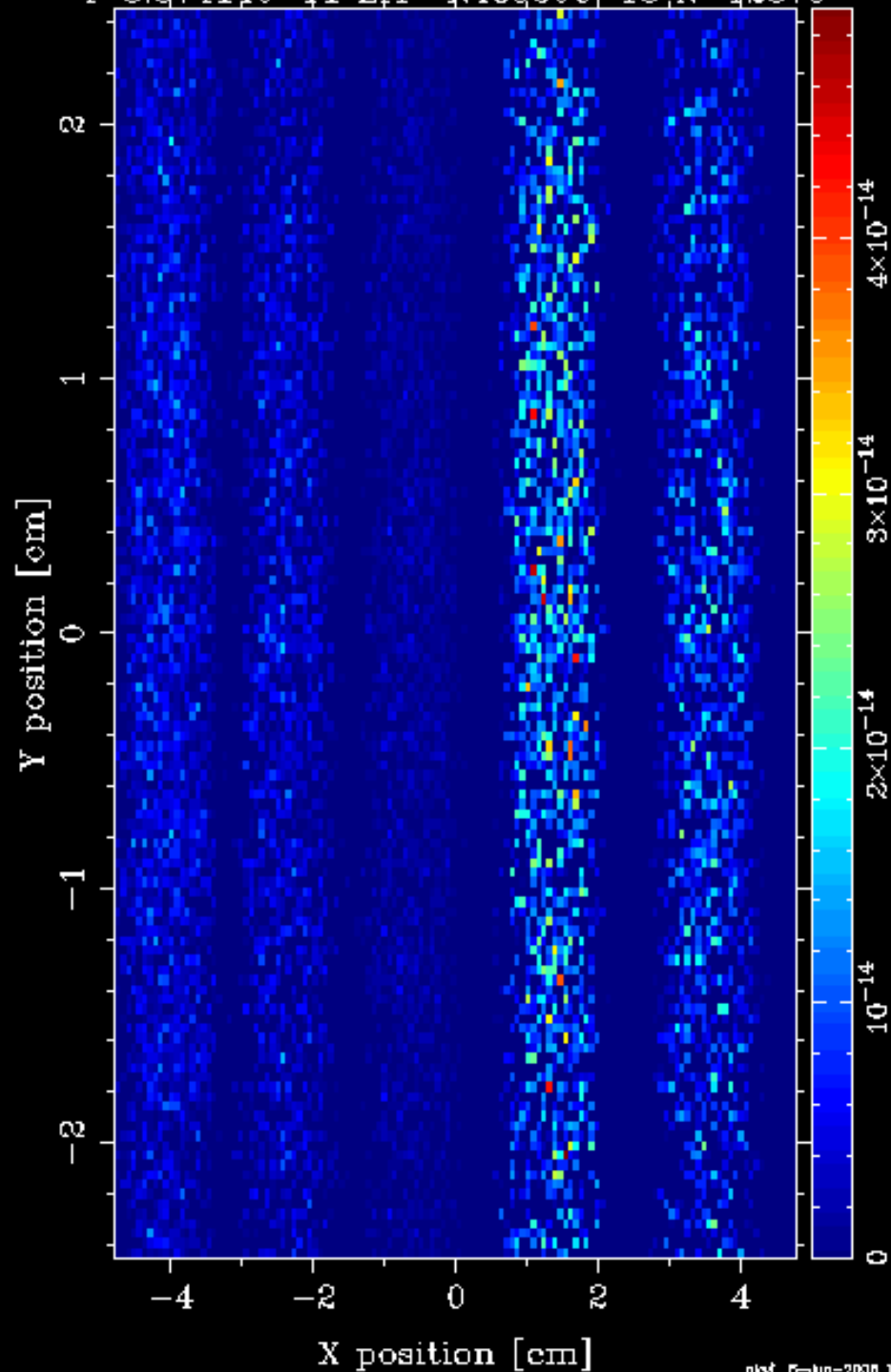
# New – *WHEN* keyword

- *Mix* contributions from several scattering components
  - Phonon + Single crystal / ...
- Use to *parametrize* which sample component to use
  - Vanadium/Powder/Single crystal/...
- Use to *skip* certain parts of the instrument in certain configurations
  - With/without collimator

D7\_SC3\_In [D7\_SC3\_In.psd]

X0=0.283295; dX=2.75749; Y0=0.0156319; dY=1.29919;

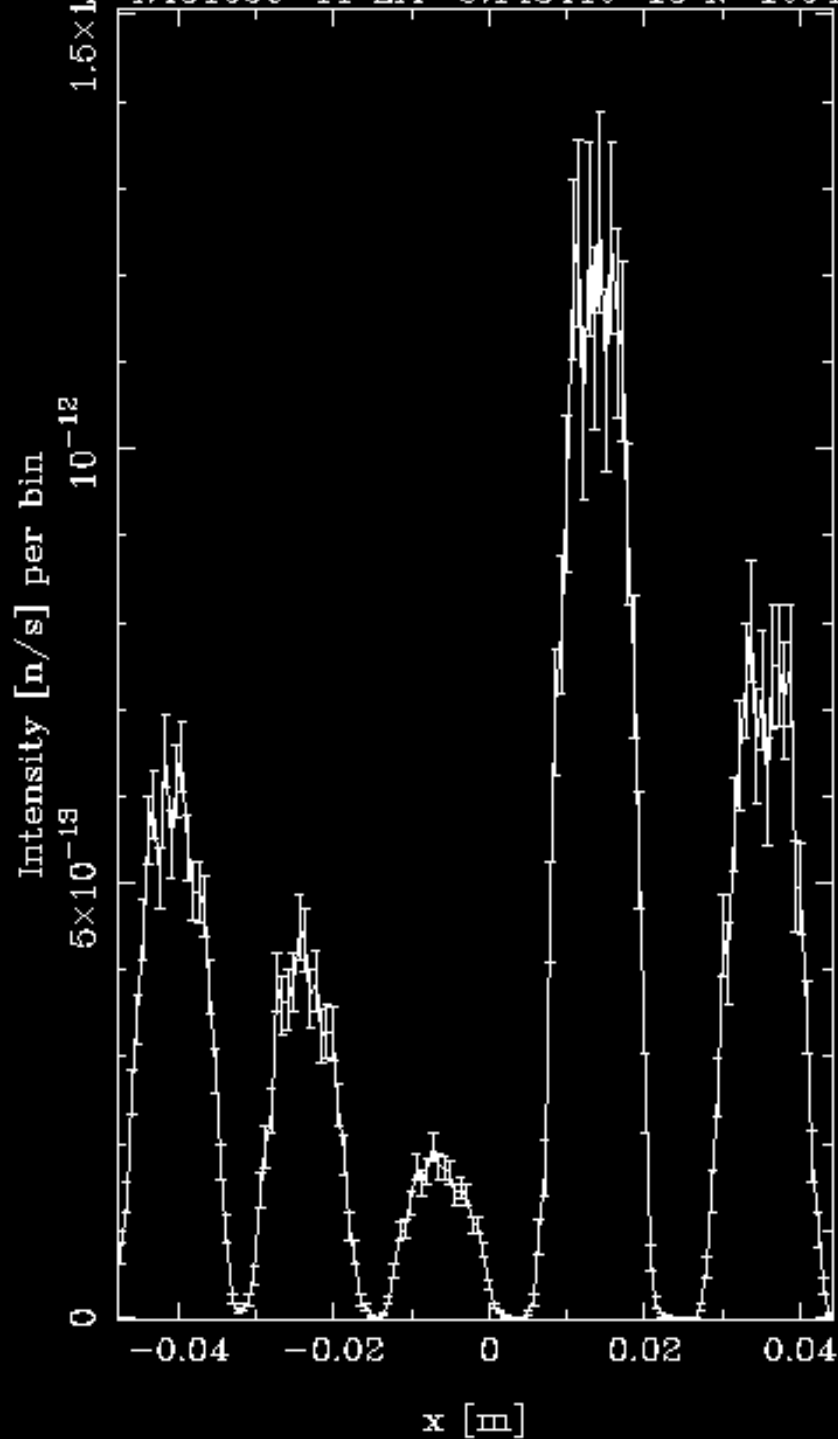
I=3.37414e-11 Err=4.48959e-13 N=12875



Lines [Lines\_1148025579.x]

X0=0.00303455; dX=0.0275439;

I=4.43165e-11 Err=5.14841e-13 N=16943

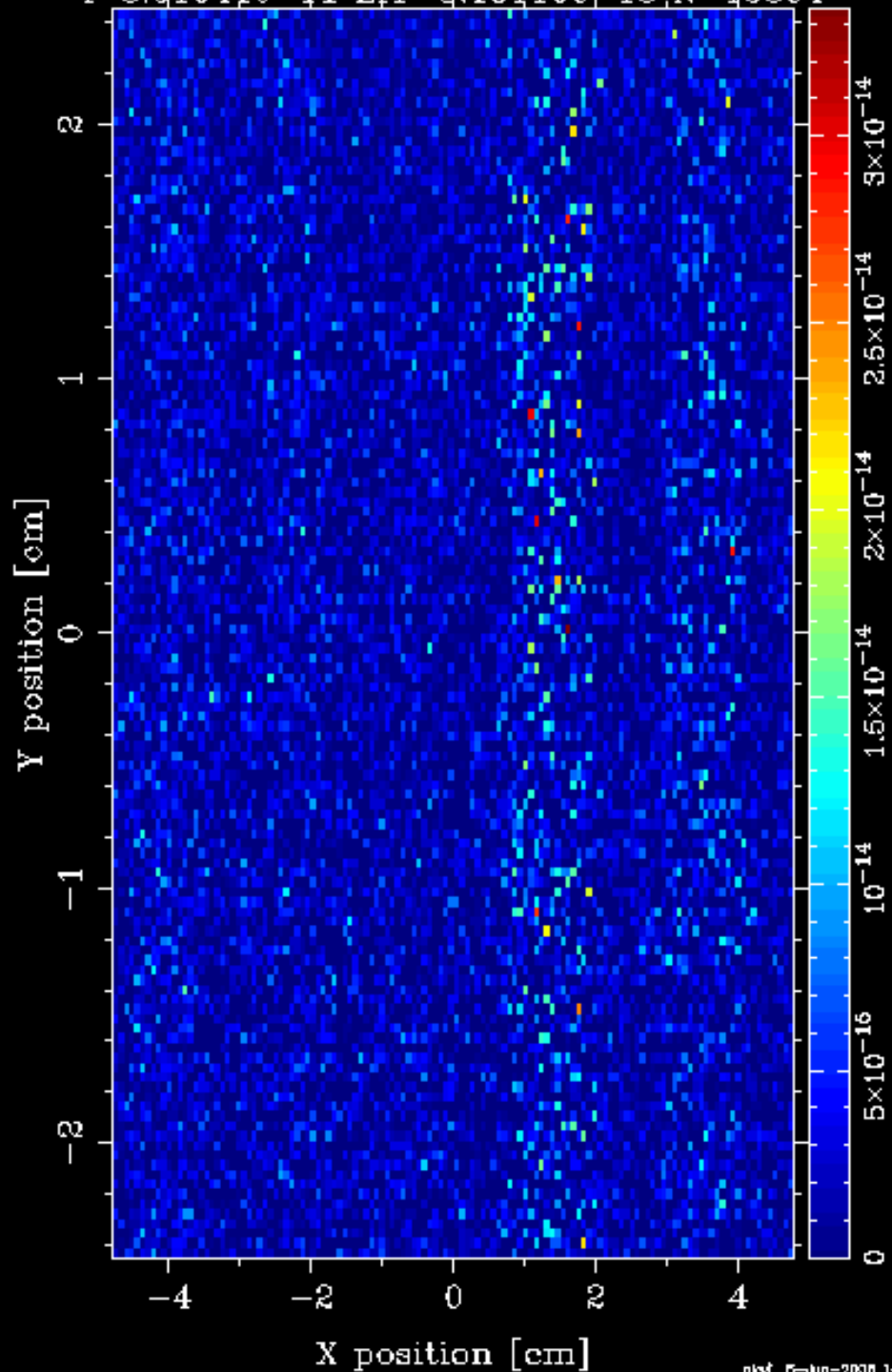


Pet  
PS

D7\_SC3\_In [D7\_SC3\_In.psd]

X0=0.0597548; dX=2.74726; Y0=0.0161714; dY=1.39802;

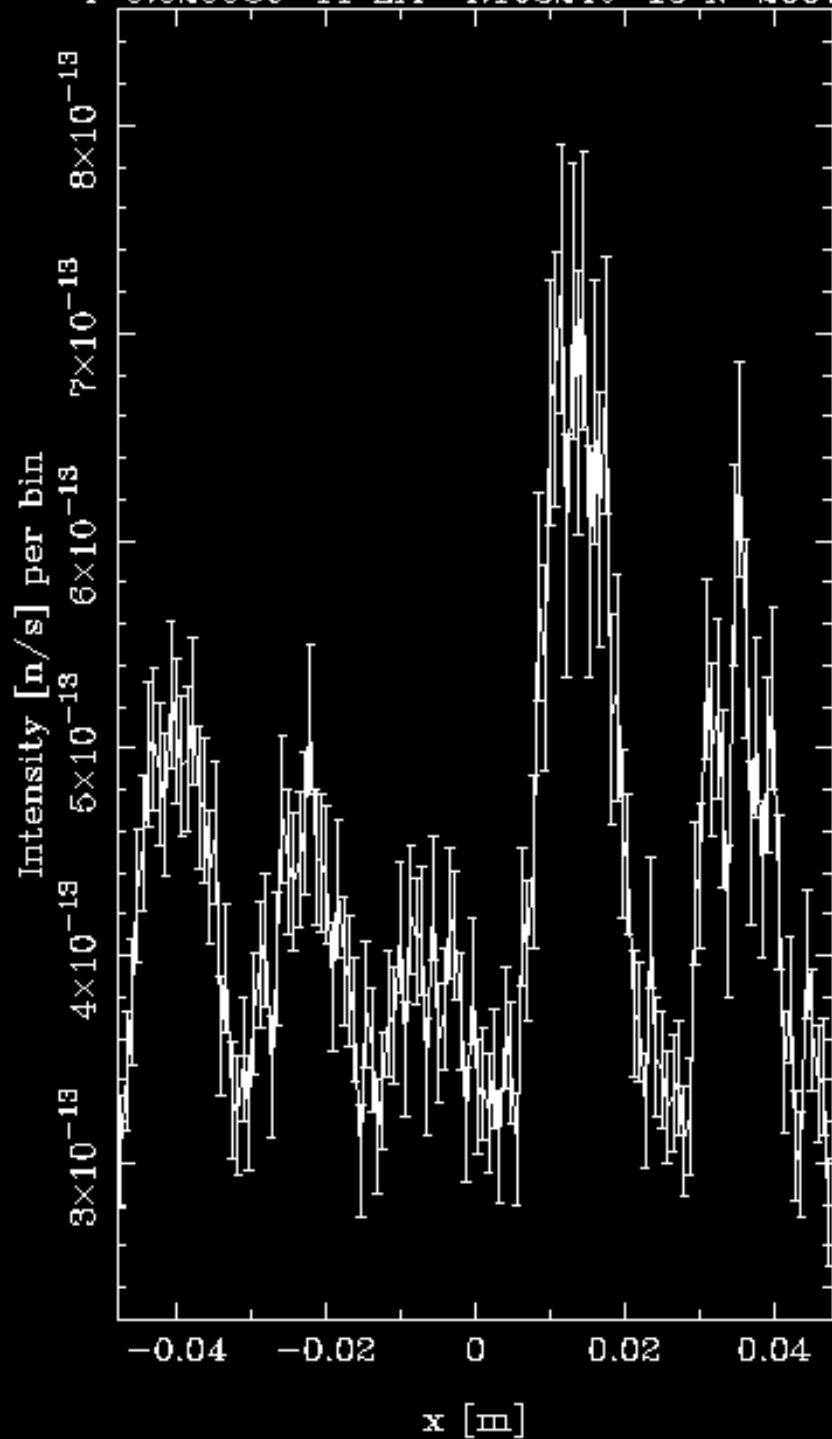
I=3.01641e-11 Err=3.18116e-13 N=15364



Lines [Lines\_1148025702.x]

X0=0.000511493; dX=0.0273964;

I=5.52598e-11 Err=4.16824e-13 N=28873

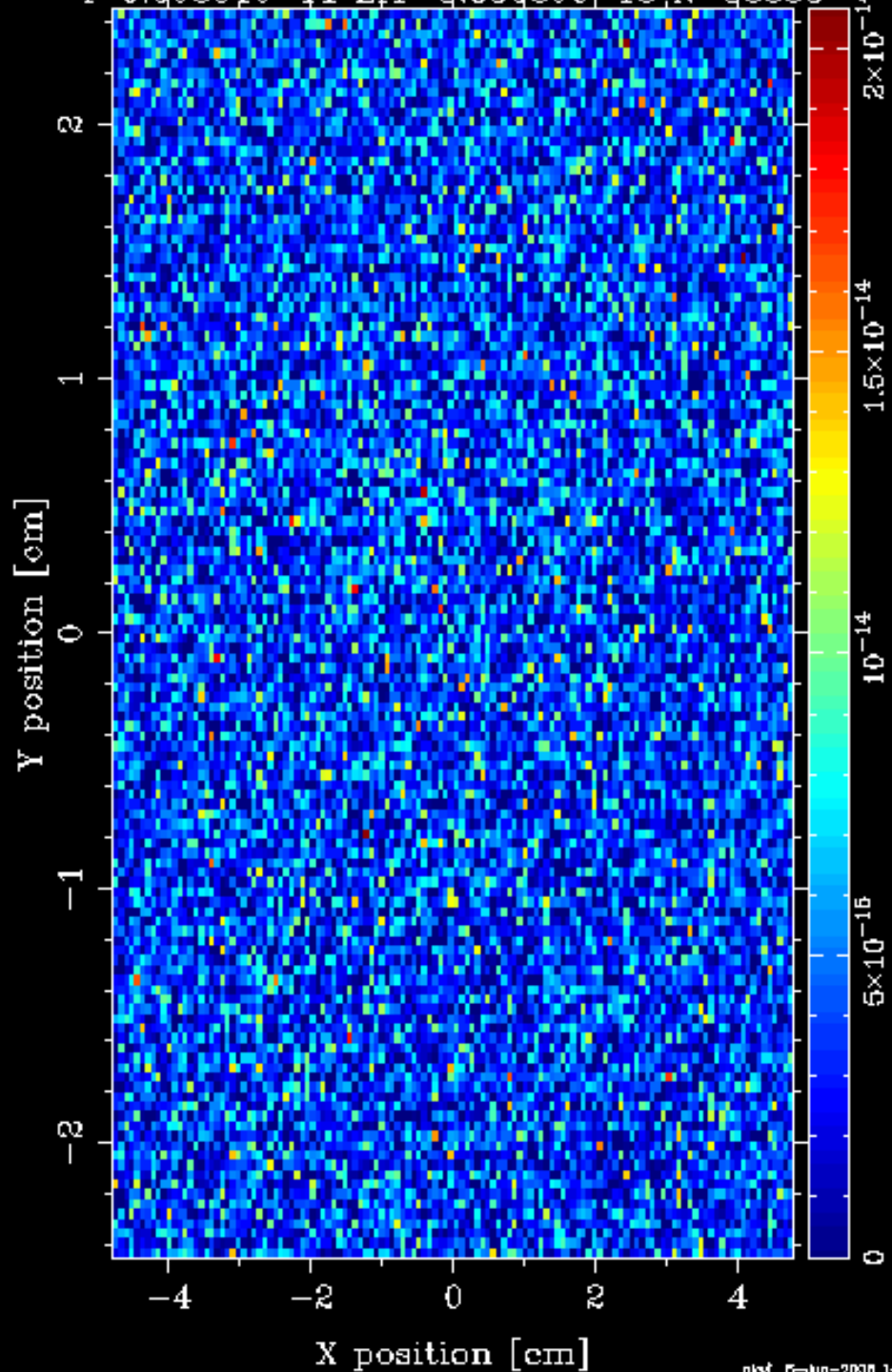


Pet  
PS

D7\_SC3\_In [D7\_SC3\_In.psd]

X0=-0.0172499; dX=2.7395; Y0=0.0197249; dY=1.40621;

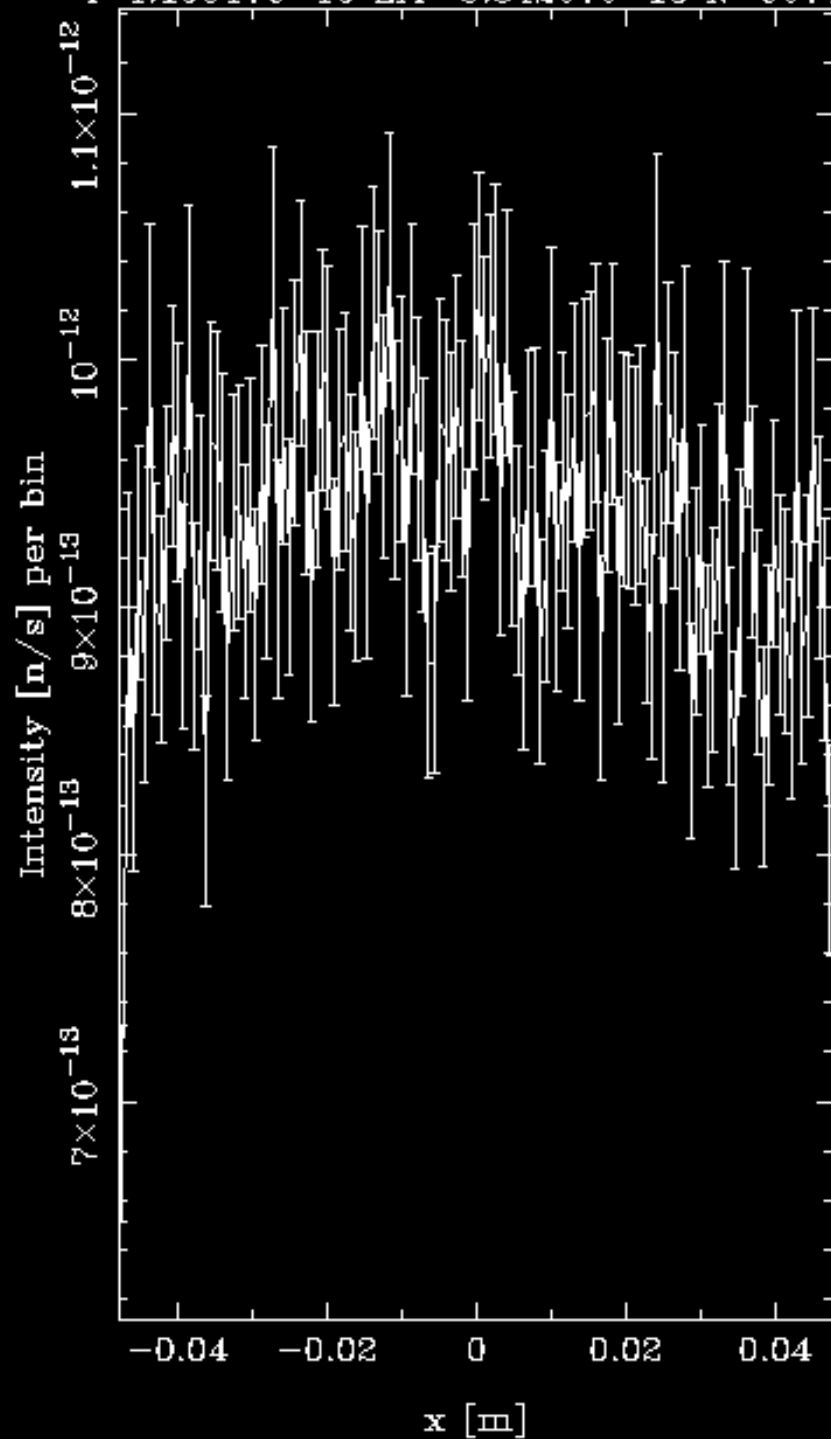
I=6.09851e-11 Err=3.83689e-13 N=33388



Lines [Lines\_1148025787.x]

X0=-0.000149018; dX=0.0272566;

I=1.19917e-10 Err=5.34267e-13 N=66741



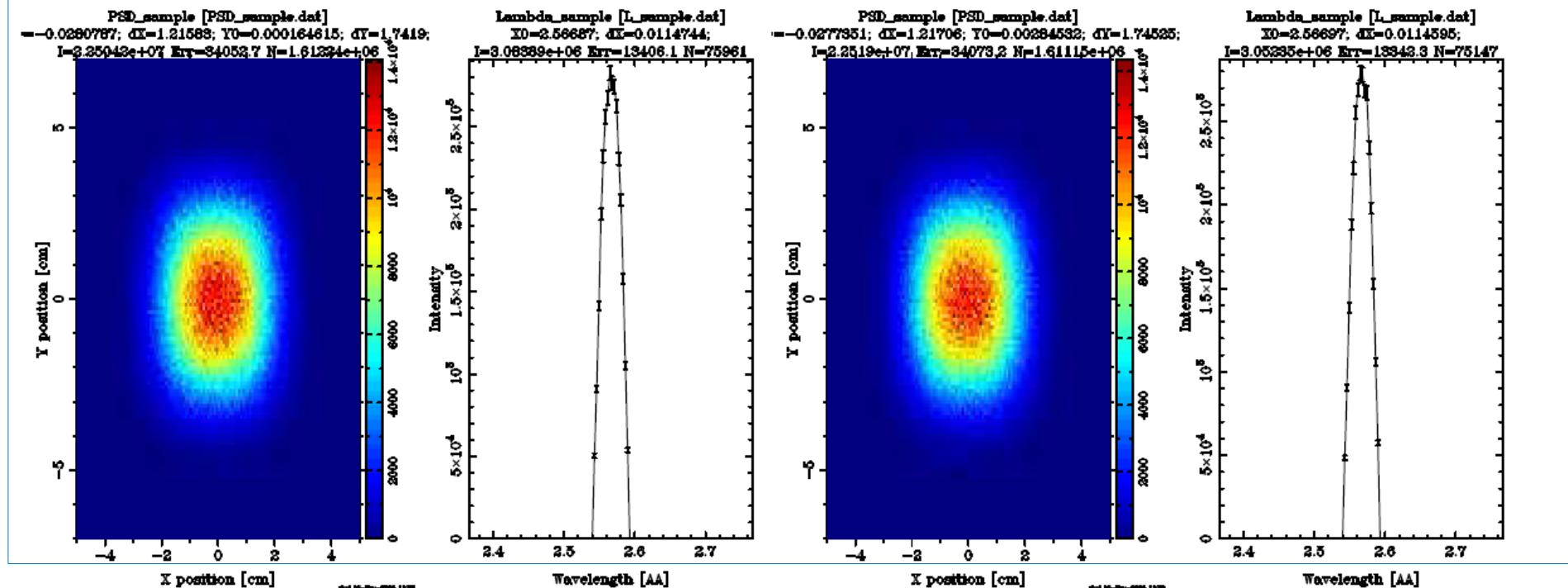
# New – JUMP keyword



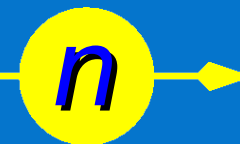
- Use to *teleport* to component
- *Iterate* a given component

Example: 49 versus 1 guide element for curved guide desc.

473 (29064) vs. 196 (11481) lines of instr (c)code.



# NEW TAS frontend template



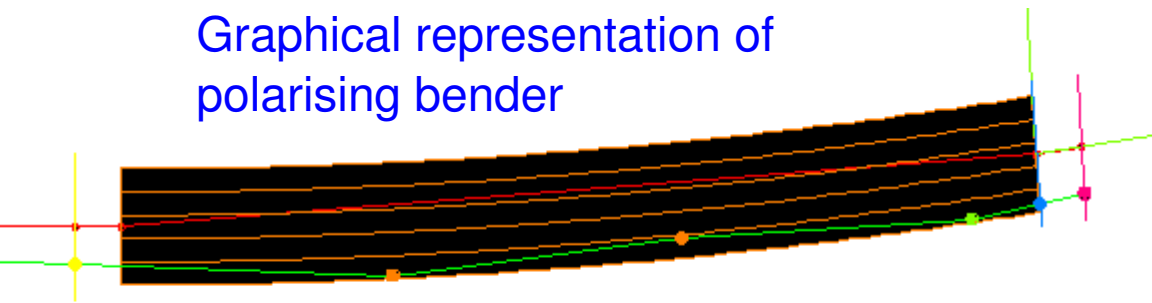
- Scan directly in reciprocal space,  $\hbar \omega$  etc.
- Tested ILL Tasmad code
- Currently ILL IN20 (configurable), more will follow
- Easy resolution function calculation using Res\_Sample
- Cooper-Nathans method still needs to be implemented



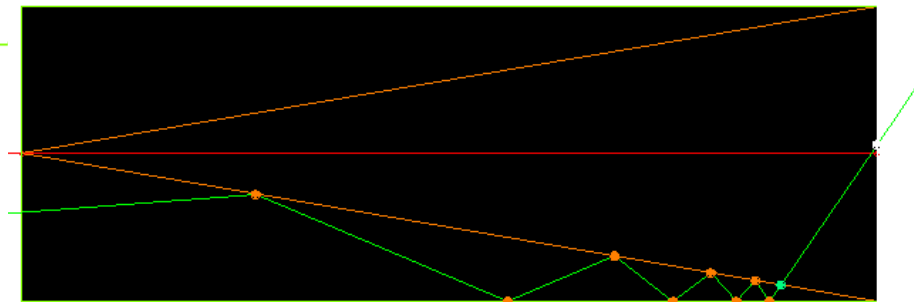


- Support under development (started spring 2006, will be in mcstas-1.10)
- Work primarily by Peter Christiansen (RISØ), input from Rob Dalglish (ISIS)
- Full 3D polarisation handling
- Main components:
  - Monochromator\_pol.comp (Polarising monochromator/analyzer)
  - Pol\_bender.comp (Polarising bender)
  - Pol\_guide\_vmirror.comp (Guide with semi-transparent, polarising mirror)
  - Pol\_mirror.comp (Polarising mirror)
  - Pol\_simpleBfield.comp (Numerical precession in analytical magnetic fields)
  - Polarisation monitors

Graphical representation of polarising bender



Graphical representation of guide with polarising vmirror



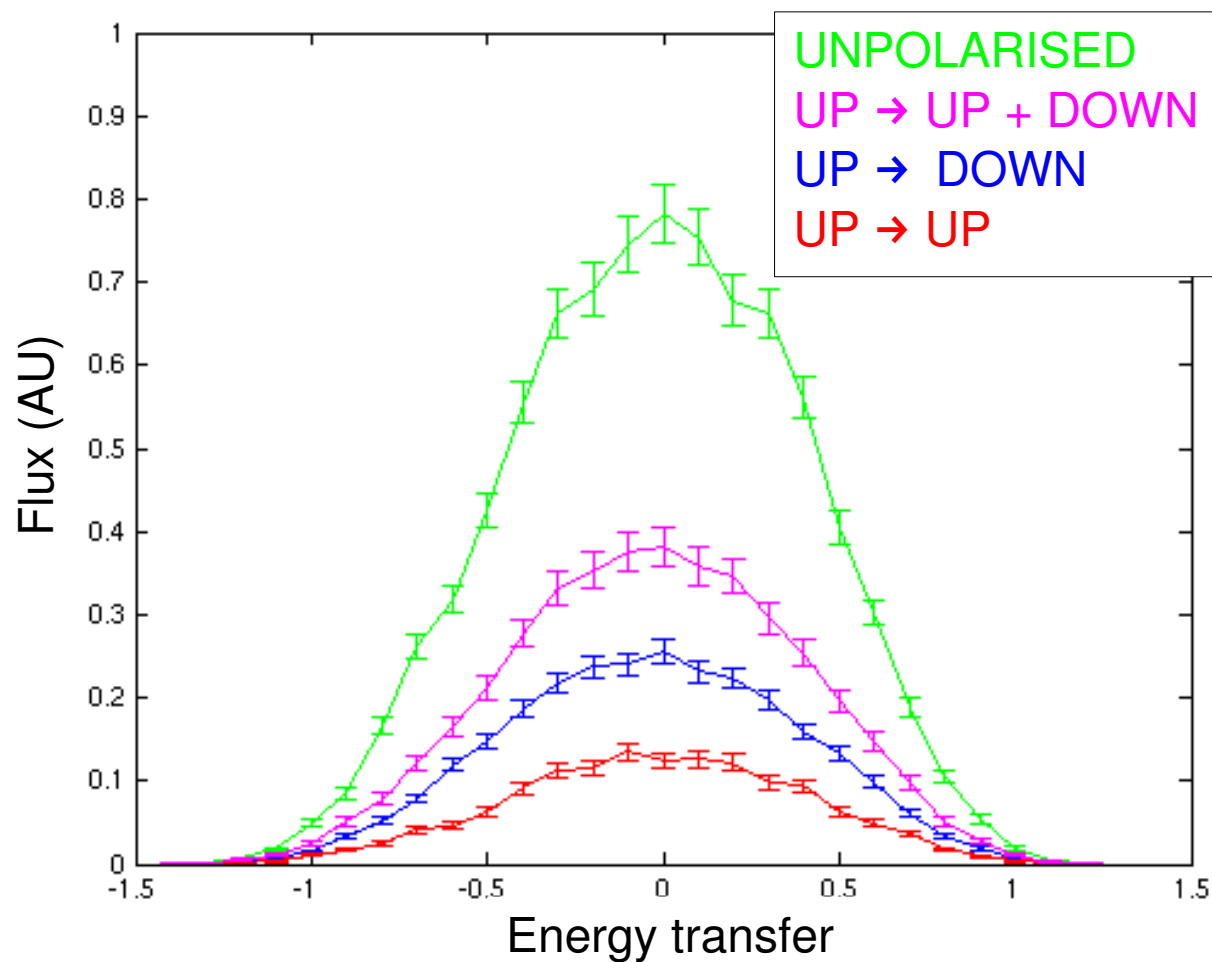
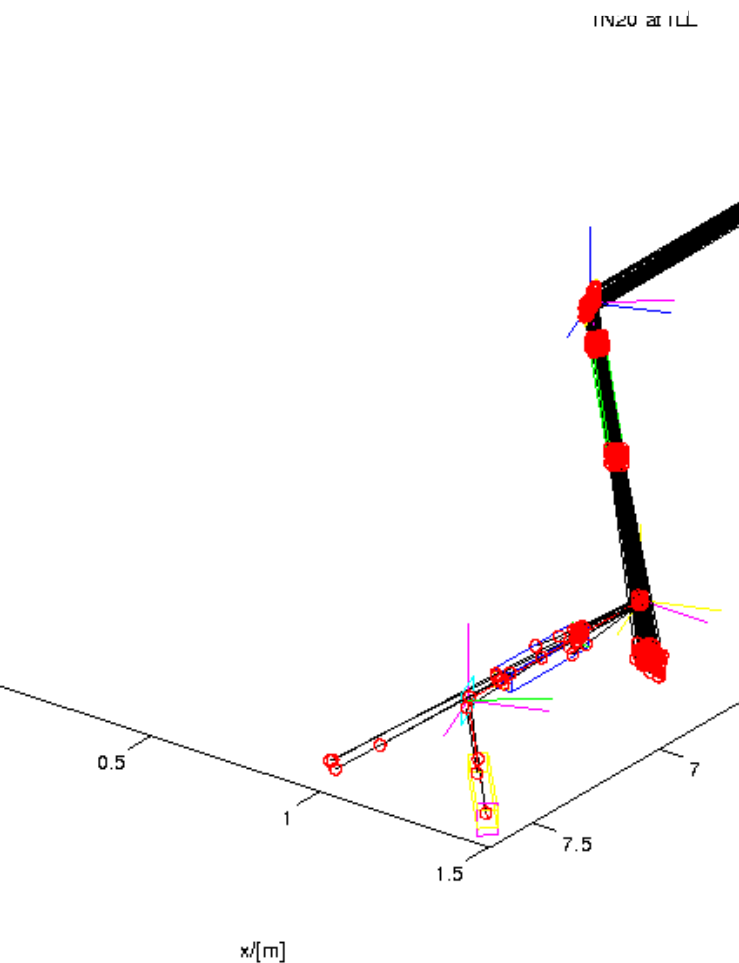
**NOTE: Peter Christiansen has left McStas, for continuation  
RISØ is hiring a 2 year Post Doc**



## TAS + Vanadium, NSF+SF

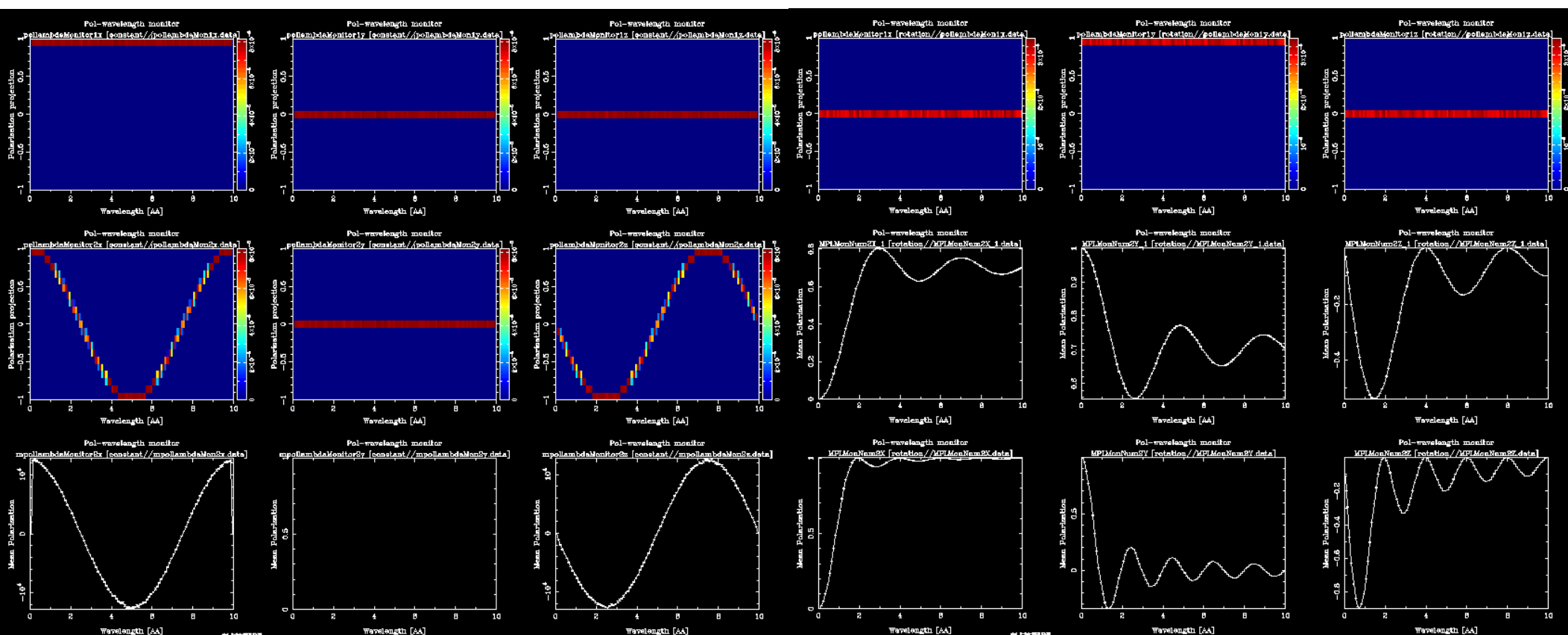


RISO





# McStas: Reproducing graphs from the literature (Seeger & Daemen)



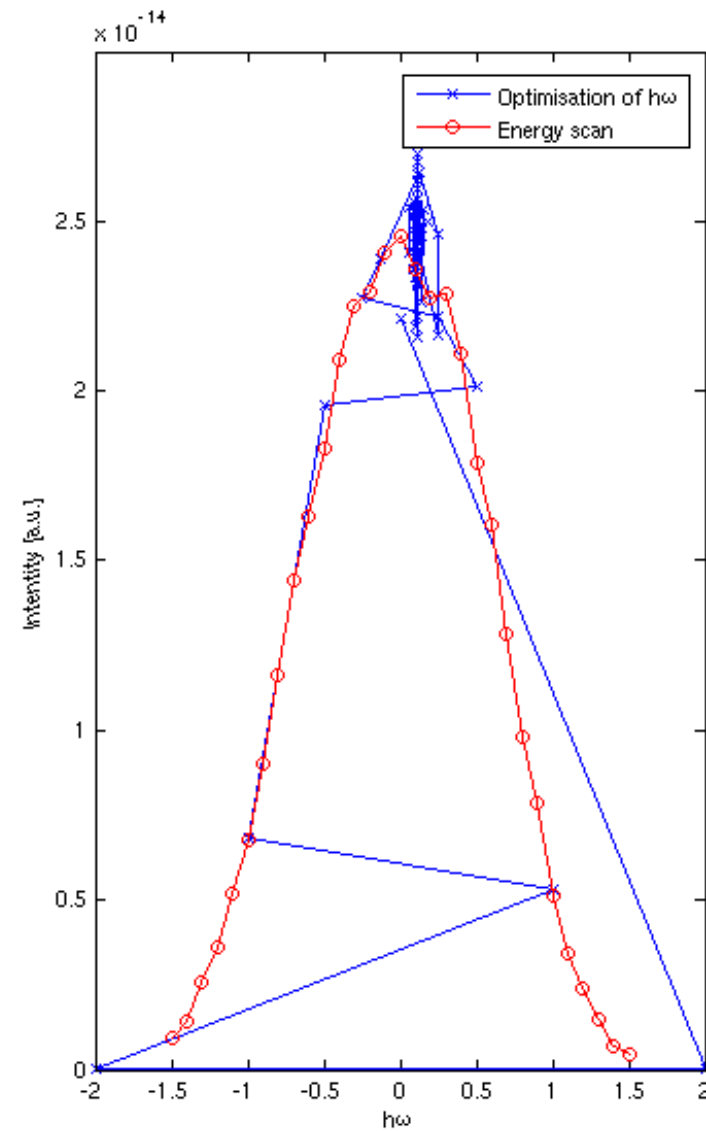
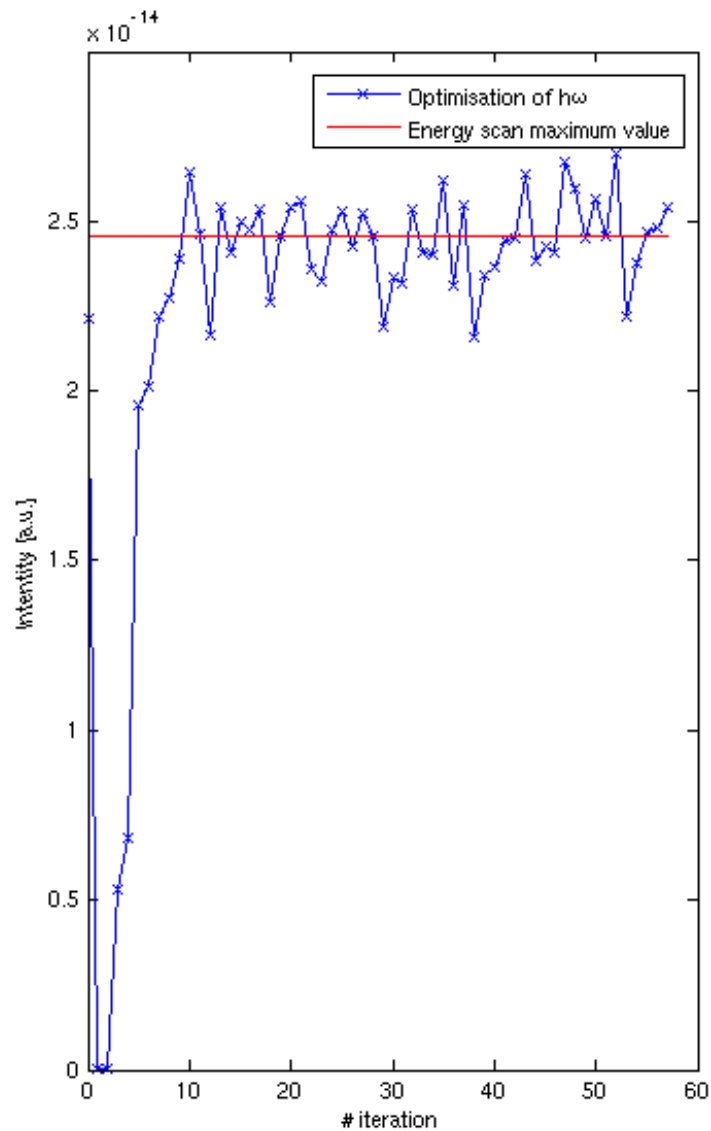


# Tool/Core workover

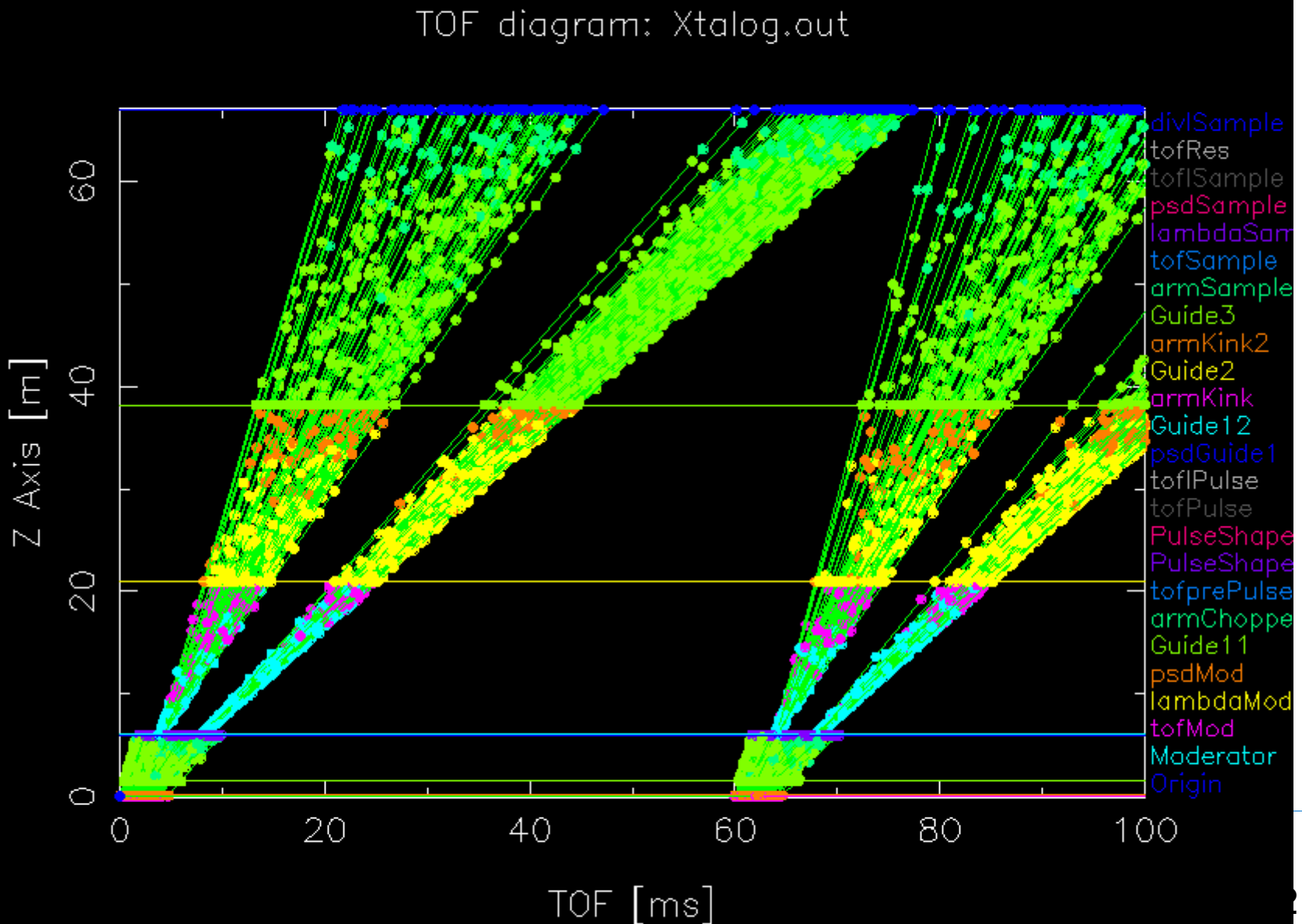
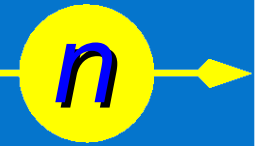
## General package workover

- Support for read-in of MCNP event files
- New 'merging/conversion' tool mcformat (Can assemble a scan dataset from similar subfolders – GRID use)
- The new McStas release supports POSIX threading on multi-core processors. Same mechanism used when running on Grids/clusters (MPI recommended).

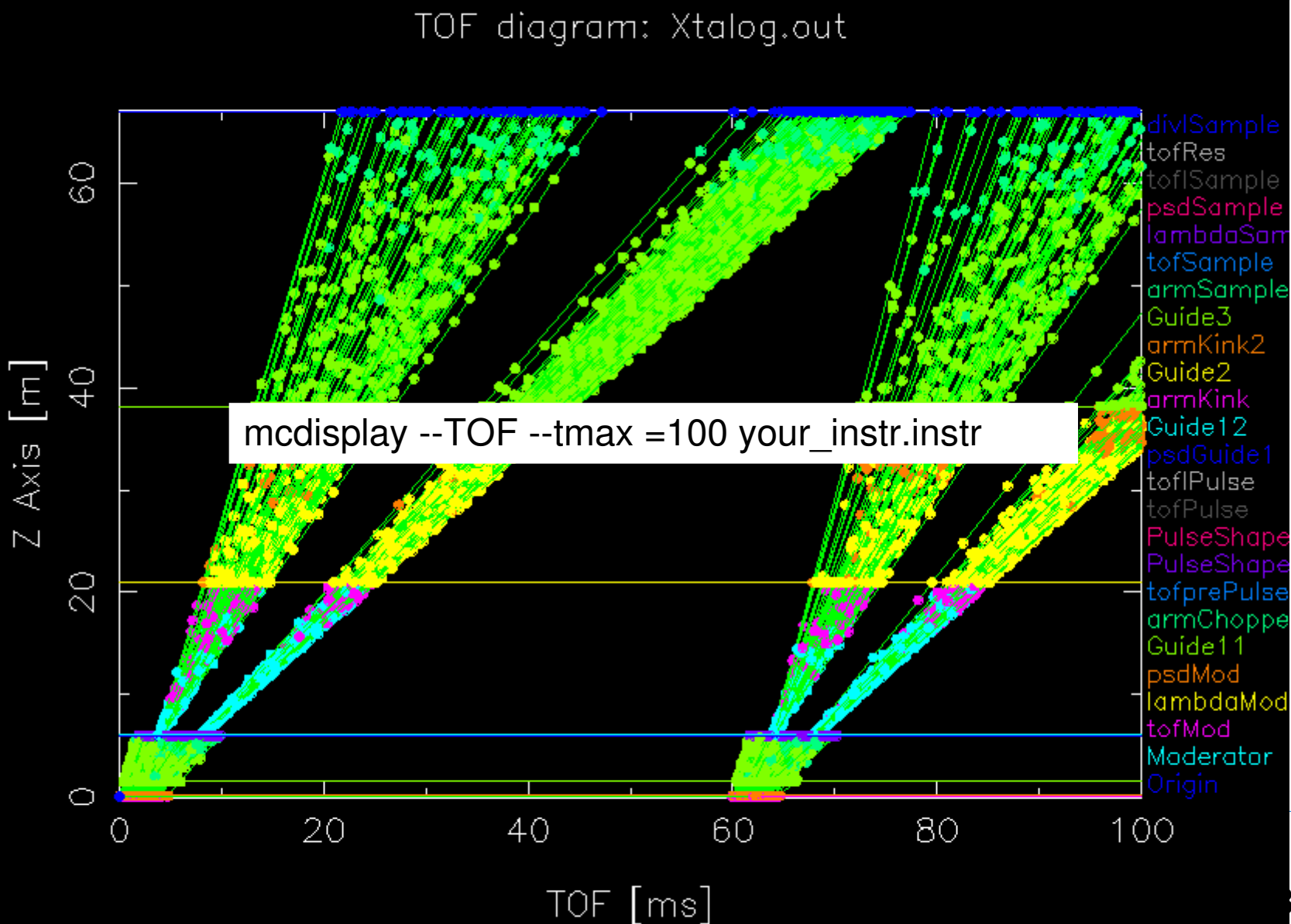
# Optimisation support



# TOF acceptance diagrams



# TOF acceptance diagrams

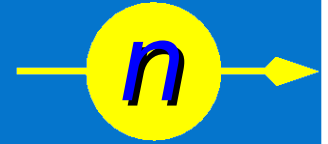




# Release date

- Planned release date of McStas 1.10 in November 2006
- Subscribe to [neutron-mc@risoe.dk](mailto:neutron-mc@risoe.dk) to stay informed (see <http://www.mcstas.org>)





# The future

- Foresee increased work on components
- Emphasis on testing/validation using theory/data
- Virtual experiments
- Virtual neutron school
- Plan to seek funding for parallel effort in X-ray scattering (ESRF + Copenhagen Univ. interest)

# Funding



- Currently in EU FP6 (NMI3-MCNSI JRA):

nmi3

EU Contract n°: H113-CT-2003-505925

- Hope to be in FP7 as well.
- Contributions (manpower, code, funding etc.) very welcome.



# Conclusion

- McStas is / has
  - User-friendly, multi-platform, mature
  - TAS, TOF, DIFF, SANS, ...
  - Many sample models
- With the new keywords you can have:
  - Realistic samples with sample environment description
  - Easier description of curved guide systems / complex geometries
- Next release (fall 2006) will also include:
  - First polarisation code (Long awaited!)
  - Reciprocal space calculator
  - Optimisation tool
  - TOF Chopper acceptance diagrams
  - Focus now on:
    - Testing / validation of existing components
    - Virtual experiments
- Future:
  - Possibly X-ray 'sister-package'