

# News in SIMRES MCPL support and McStas bindings

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# Introduction

## Recent development in neutron simulation packages:

- Large and growing library of user contributed components in McStas
- Radiation transport (MCNP, Geant4): progress in simulation of neutron optics (guides)
- Vitess, SIMRES: other ray-tracing packages developed in parallel to McStas have features not available in McStas x miss many features that McStas has
- Monte Carlo Particle Lists (MCPL) – a great tool for putting everything together

*(more details in the following talks)*

## Few facts about SIMRES:

- ✓ Developed from specialized tool (ResTrax for TAS) into general neutron ray-tracing program
- ✓ Desktop application with a friendly GUI (component editors, 3D view, scripting, commands for scanning and event analysis)
- ✓ Few but highly configurable and detailed components, quite general (most of current instruments can be simulated, monochromatic & ToF)
- ✓ Adaptive variance reduction + reverse tracing = much faster in many situations
- ✓ Difficult to add new components, limited options for sample models (good for powder diffraction)

## Aim

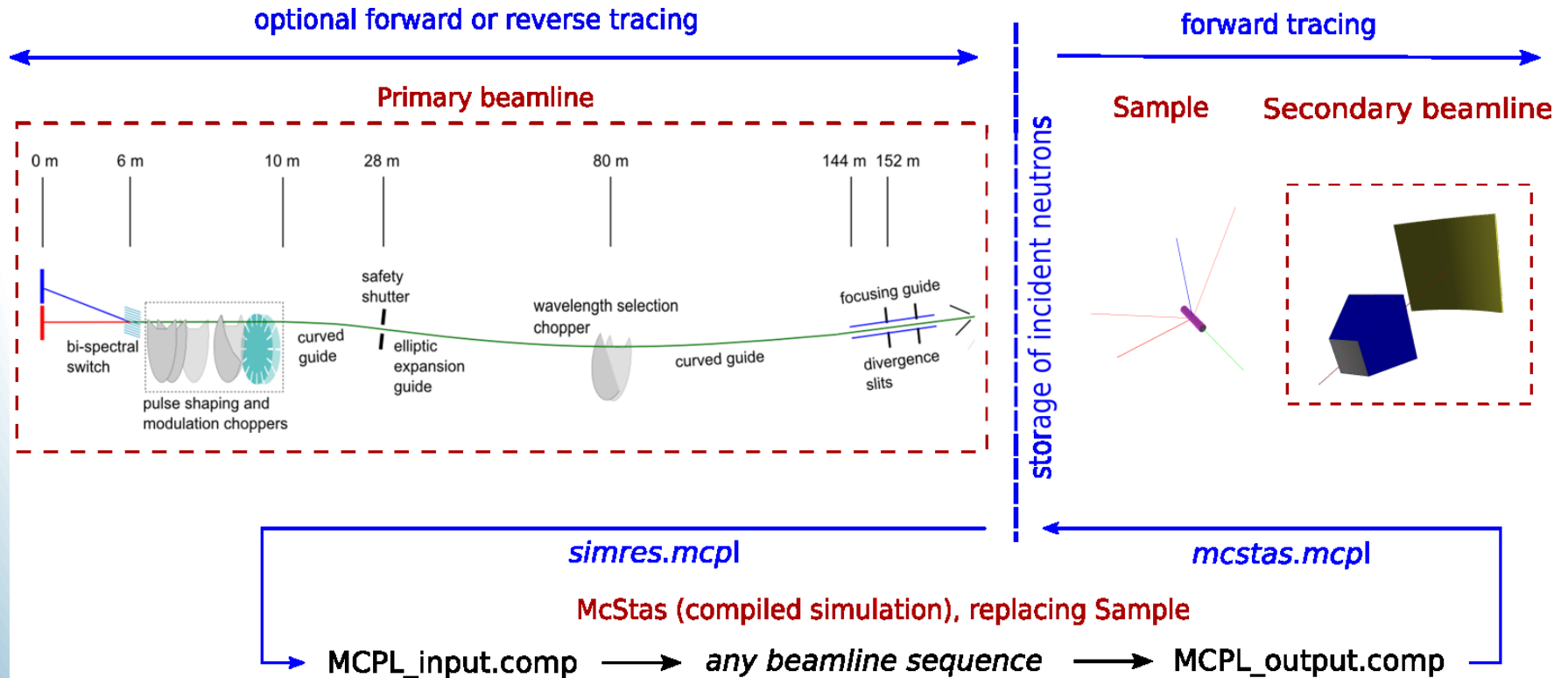
Employ MCPL to combine McStas and SIMRES in a single simulation & exploit the synergy effects:

- ✓ Much higher simulation speed provided by SIMRES in many configurations involving samples & other bottle necks
- ✓ Employ the large McStas library of samples (and other components)
- ✓ Benefit from high configurability allowed by the McStas meta-language framework.

## Newly implemented in SIMRES:

- ✓ **MCPL import & export** to/from SIMRES monitors  
NOTE: includes guide surfaces, scattering events in a sample, back-trace monitors, ...
- ✓ Possibility to **launch McStas simulation from SIMRES**, exchange instrument parameters & neutron lists
- ✓ Control of a **combined simulation** SIMRES -> McStas (-> SIMRES)

# How does it work



- ✓ Independent on McStas environment  
Only instrument executable is needed ...
- ✓ A very general meaning of "Sample"  
= anything between the primary and secondary sections  
of the SIMRES instrument

# Simple McStas code: *SIMRES* -> *McStas* -> *SIMRES*

```
DEFINE INSTRUMENT SIMRES_MCPL_SCRYST(string input="simres.mcpl",  
int repetition=1, string export="mcstas.mcpl")
```

obligatory parameters  
required setting

```
TRACE
```

```
COMPONENT Origin = Progress_bar()  
AT (0, 0, 0) ABSOLUTE
```

*imported from SIMRES monitor*

```
/* MCPL import */
```

```
COMPONENT src = MCPL_input(filename=input, repeat_count=repetition,  
polarisationuse=0, doubleprec=1, ...)  
AT( 0,0,0) RELATIVE PREVIOUS
```

```
/* Sample axis, position is relative to the SIMRES monitor */
```

```
COMPONENT Sample_axis = Arm()  
AT (0, 0, 0.04) RELATIVE src
```

```
/* SAMPLE. Other components can be placed before or after the sample. */
```

```
COMPONENT sample = Single_crystal(xwidth=0.003, yheight=0.003, zdepth=0.003,  
mosaic = 30, reflections="SiO2_quartza.lau")  
AT(0, 0, 0) RELATIVE Sample_axis
```

```
/* MCPL export. This is where SIMRES will continue */
```

```
COMPONENT vout = MCPL_output(filename=export, doubleprec=1, ...)  
AT(0, 0, 0) RELATIVE Sample_axis
```

```
END
```

*... neutron goes back to the SIMRES monitor*

## Simple McStas code: *SIMRES* -> *McStas*

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DEFINE INSTRUMENT SIMRES_MCPL_SCRYST(string input="simres.mcpl",
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AT( 0,0,0) RELATIVE PREVIOUS

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COMPONENT Sample_axis = Arm()
AT (0, 0, 0.04) RELATIVE src

/* SAMPLE. Other components can be placed before or after the sample. */
COMPONENT sample = Single_crystal(xwidth=0.003, yheight=0.003, zdepth=0.003,
mosaic = 30, reflections="SiO2_quartza.lau")
AT(0, 0, 0) RELATIVE Sample_axis

/* DETECTOR. */
COMPONENT xymon = PSDcyl_monitor(nr=360, ny=100, filename="cylmon.dat", ...)
AT (0, 0, 0) RELATIVE Sample_axis

END
```

obligatory parameters  
required setting

*imported from SIMRES monitor*

↓

*Tracing stops here*

# Use cases

## Engineering diffractometer BEER@ESS

### 1. Standard medium resolution strain mapping

*An experiment with a small gauge volume of 1x1x3 mm<sup>3</sup> in duplex steel.*

### 2. High resolution strain mapping employing the beam modulation method.

### 3. Single crystal diffraction

*Measurement of a small single crystal ( $\alpha$ -SiO<sub>2</sub>) using a white beam on BEER.*

### 4. Simultaneous diffraction and SANS measurement

*A rod sample in axial strain geometry (typical for thermo-mechanical loading experiments).*

## Event based analysis of lattice strain distributions

### Deconvolution method employing particle lists

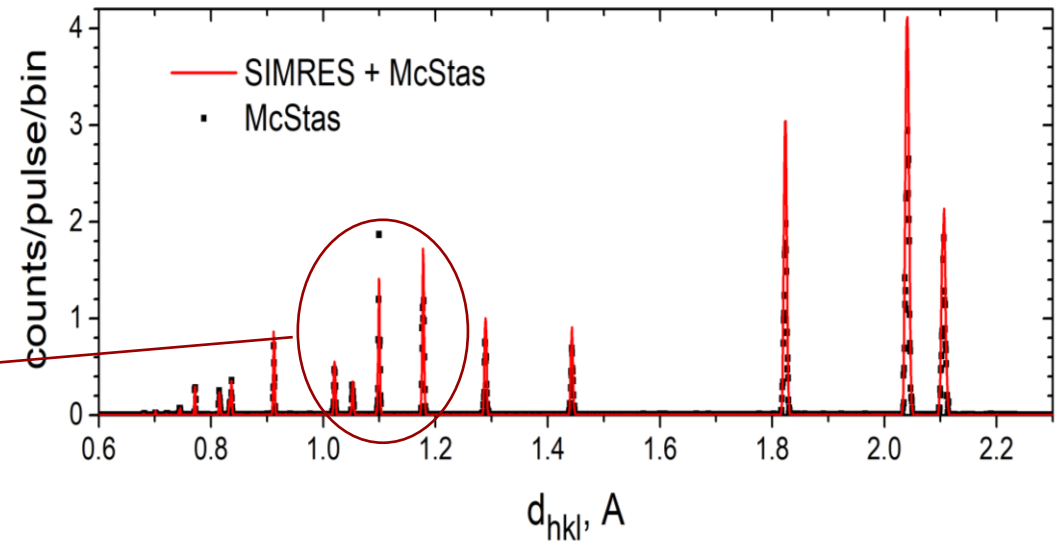
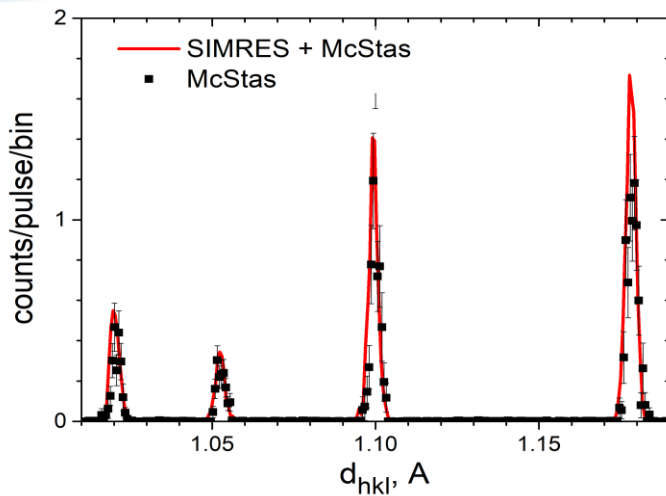
- Treatment of pseudo-strains and strain gradient smearing in a steel tube
- Test on synthetic data for STRESS-SPEC@FRMII and BEER@ESS

# Medium resolution strain mapping

## The engineering diffractometer BEER (ESS)

- **Source:** bi-spectral, W2 beamport of ESS
- **Resolution choppers:** a pair of choppers, 280 Hz in optically blind mode.
- **Wavelength bandwidth:** from 1 Å to 3 Å.
- **Primary collimation:** vertically focusing neutron guide, primary slit 1x3 mm<sup>2</sup>
- **Sample:** rod (diameter=10 mm, length = 50 mm), duplex steel, axial strain geometry
- **Secondary collimation:** Radial collimator with gauge FWHM = 1 mm (ENGIN-X setup).
- **Detector:** cylindrical, resolution 2x5 mm

Using McStas components:  
PowderN  
ExactRadialCollimaor  
NPI\_tof\_dhkl\_detector.comp

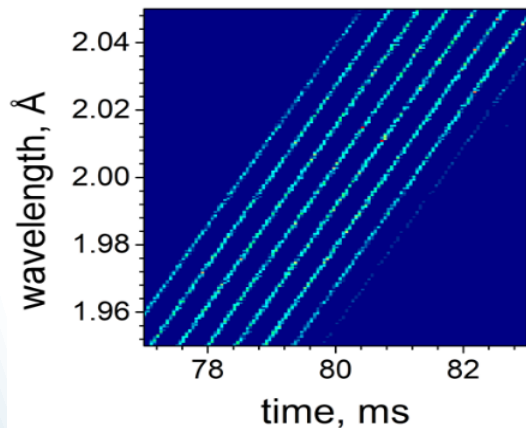


	Rel. error (primary beam)	Computing time
SIMRES + McStas	1.1 %	56 s
McStas	1.8 %	1110 s

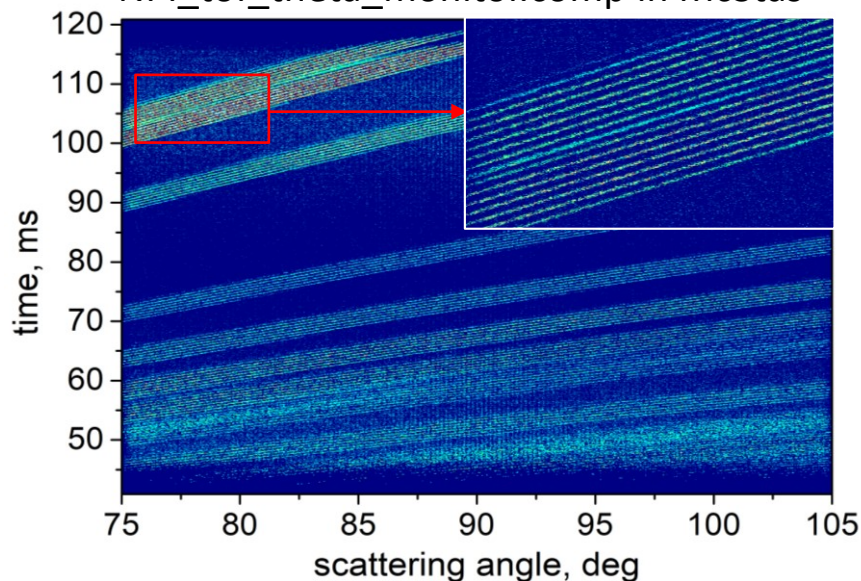


# BEER in modulation mode

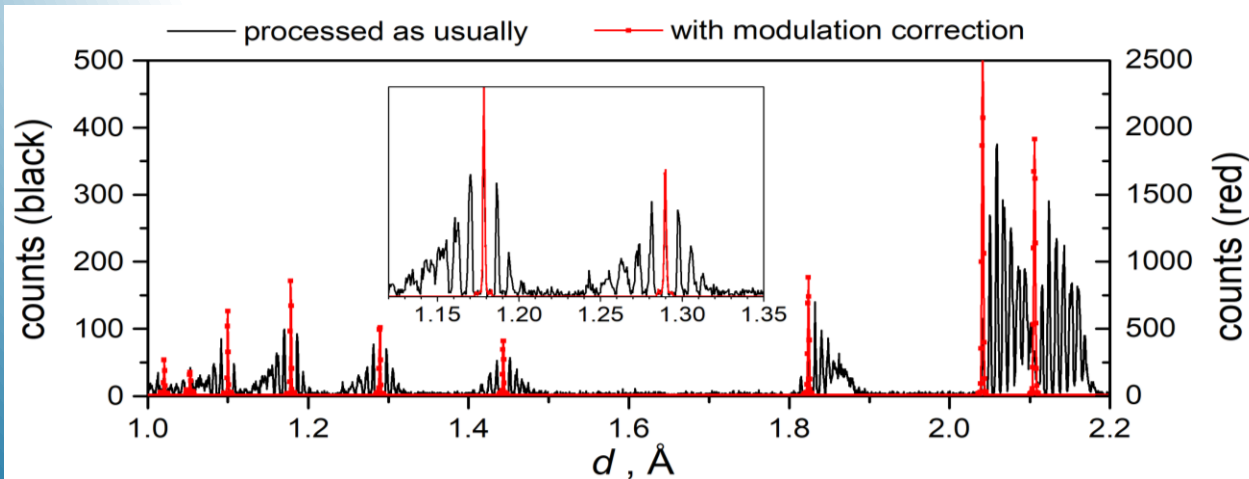
Modulated primary beam by SIMRES



Scattering pattern by PowderN and NPI\_tof\_theta\_monitor.comp in McStas



Modulated data – event processing by McStas NPI\_tof\_dhkl\_detector.comp

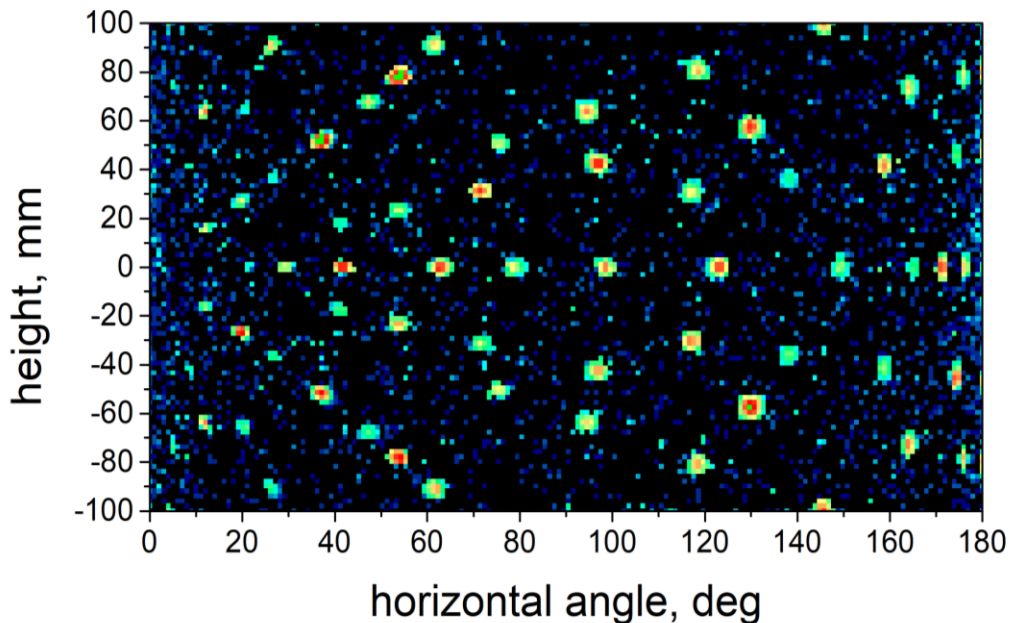


- *black*: standard processing
- *red*: reconstructed diffractogram

# Single crystal diffraction

## Using `Single_crystal.comp` of McStas

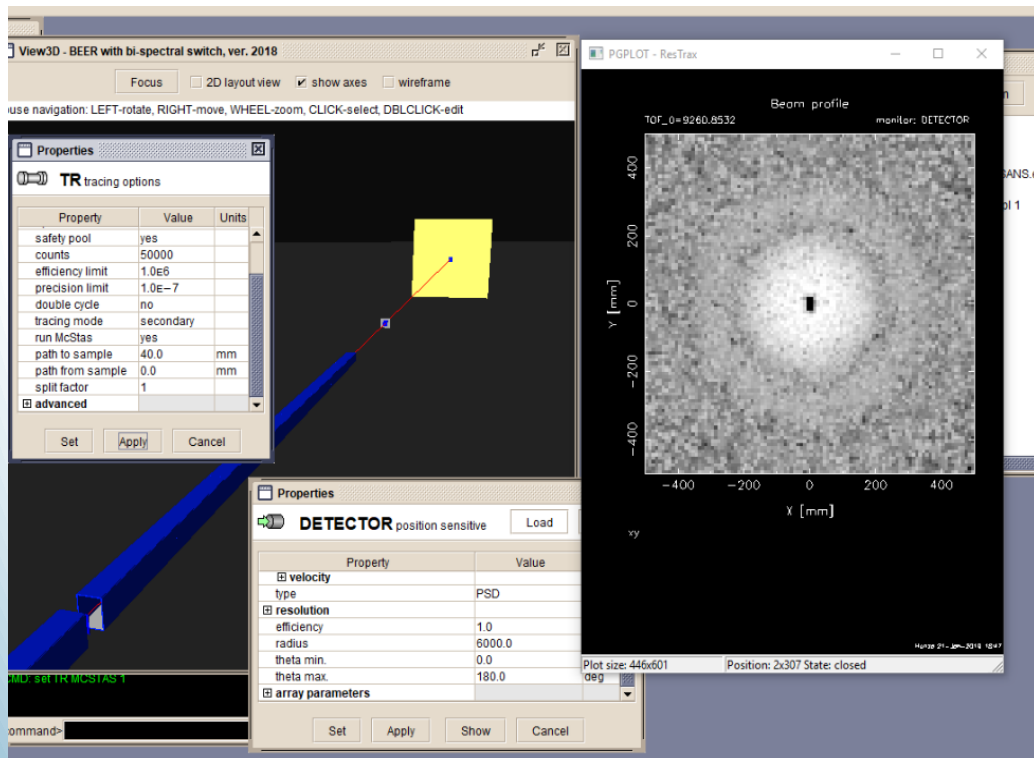
- **Choppers:** switched off (white beam).
- **Wavelength bandwidth:** from 0.5 Å to 2.7 Å.
- **Primary collimation:** divergence slit 15x15 mm (6 m before the sample)  
primary slit 4x4 mm<sup>2</sup> at 50 mm the sample.
- **Sample:**  $\alpha$ -SiO<sub>2</sub> cube 3x3x3mm<sup>3</sup>, mosaicity 30' (data file `SiO2_quartza.lau`)
- **Detectors:** cylindrical (`PSDcyl_monitor`) and 4PI (`PSD_monitor_4PI`) monitors, and 1x1m<sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup>He detector at 90° (`PSD_Detector`).



Single crystal diffraction pattern ( $\alpha$ -SiO<sub>2</sub>) recorded by the SIMRES detector.

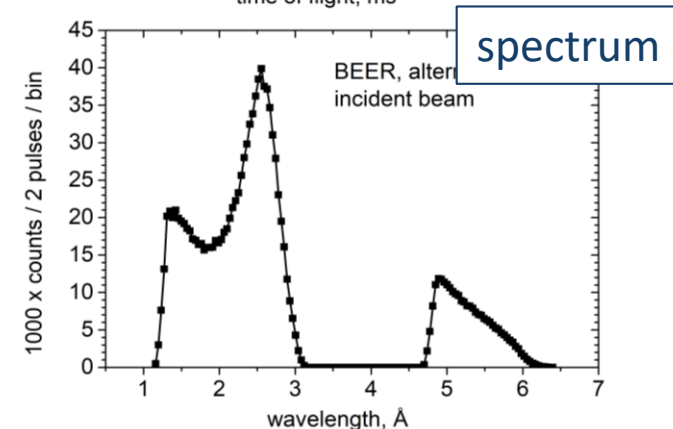
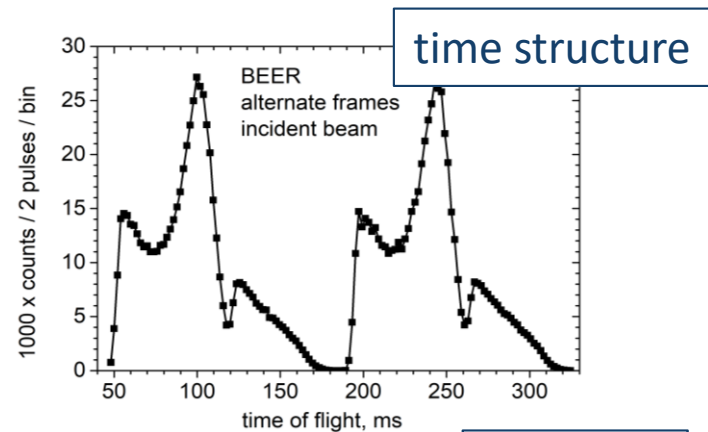
- Primary beam simulated by SIMRES.
- Sample simulation redirected to McStas.
- The secondary beam traced by both McStas and SIMRES.

# Simultaneous diffraction and SANS measurement



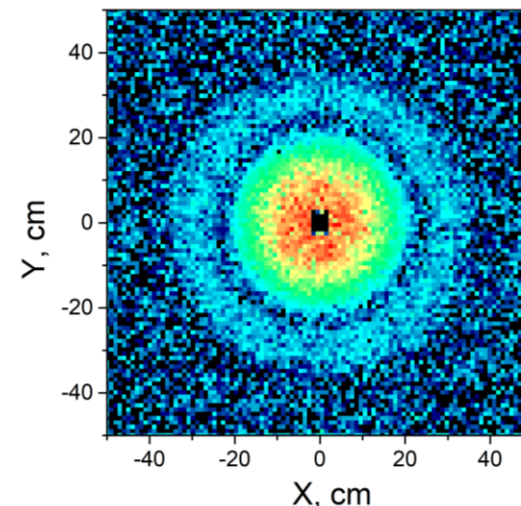
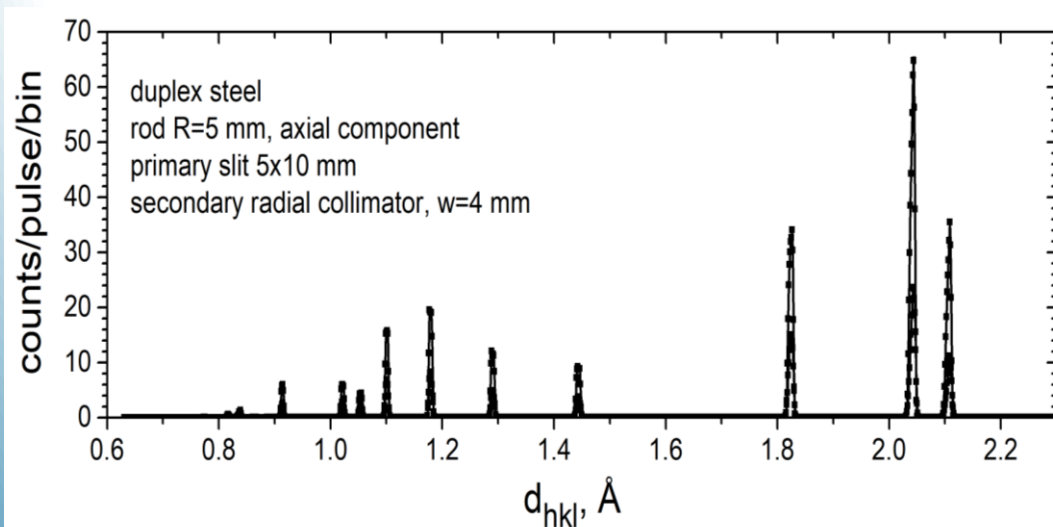
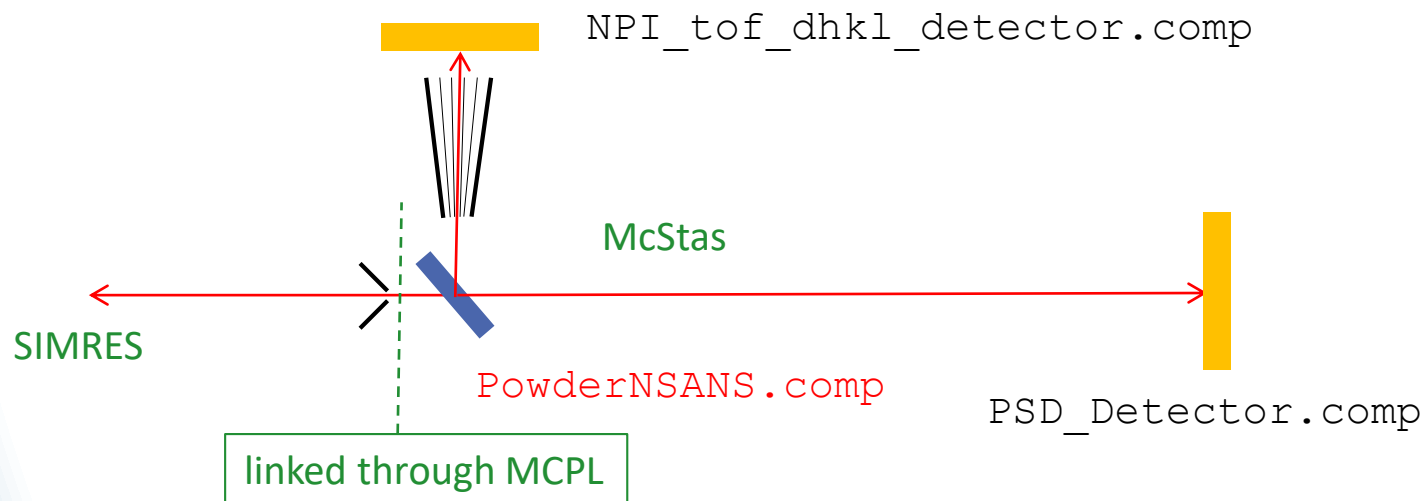
- Screenshot of the SANS pattern shown in the SIMRES
- SANS sample simulated by McStas.

## BEER, alternating frame mode



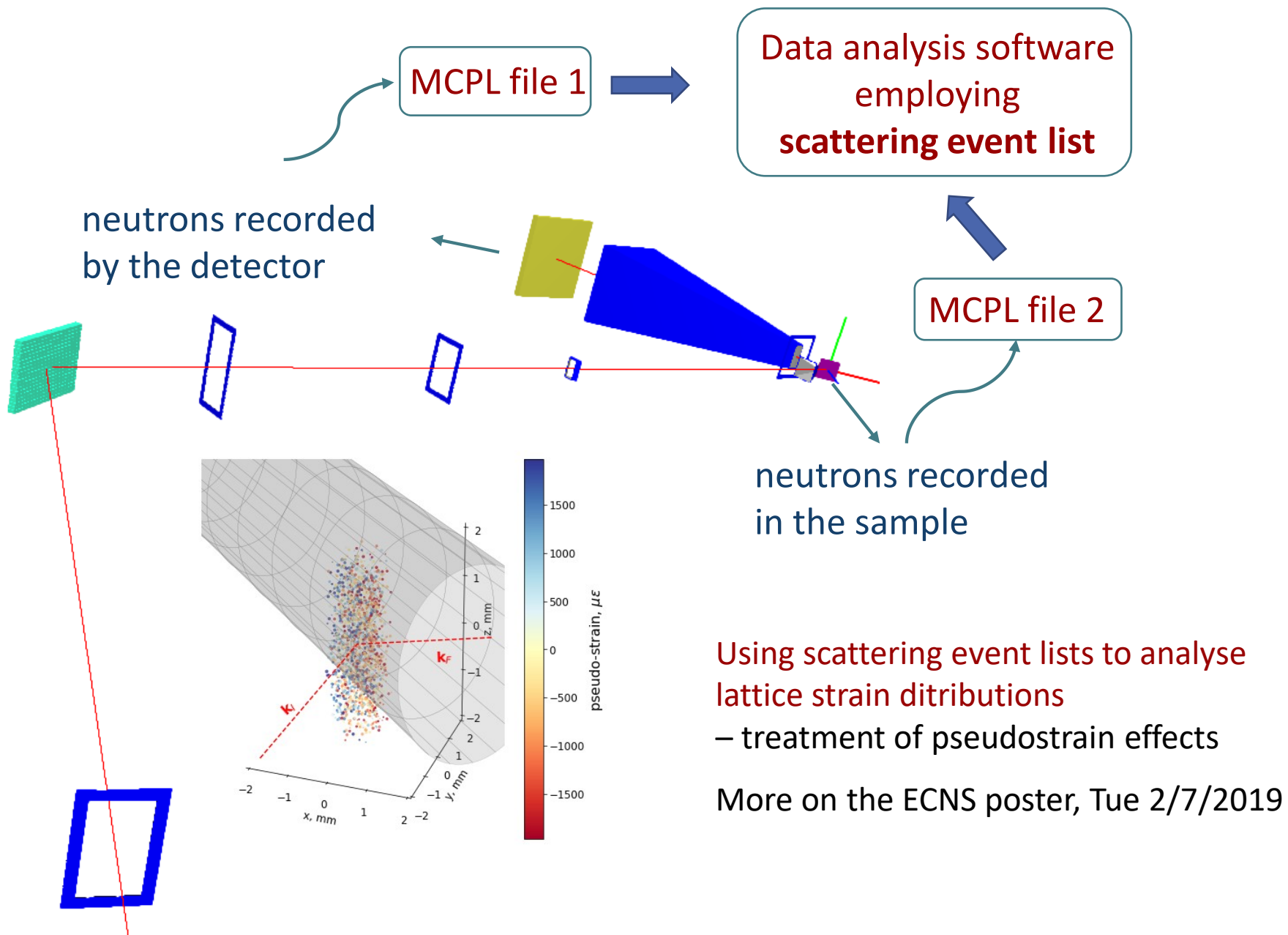
- Time structure and spectrum of the primary beam simulated
- Used as MCPL input to the subsequent McStas simulation of the sample and secondary beamline.

# Simultaneous diffraction and SANS measurement



Diffraction and SANS pattern produced simultaneously by McStas.  
Primary beam simulated by SIMRES.

# Scattering event lists



# Conclusions

## Benefits

- ✓ Higher simulation speed by more than an order of magnitude,
- ✓ Wider library of components which can be used to configure the instrument model,
- ✓ Combining components available only in SIMRES or McStas
- ✓ No extra effort needed for code porting and maintenance.

## Limitations

- ✓ Ray tracing algorithm of SIMRES does not permit to employ McStas sources
- ✓ Parallel computing: not available in SIMRES.  
No principal obstacle for McStas to employ parallel computing on its part of the ray-tracing job (?)

**Thank you for your attention**