



VESPA: a Vibrational Excitation Spectrometer with Pyrolytic-graphite Analyzers

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1. VESPA: what is it?



<u>V. E. S. P. A.</u> (Vibrational Excitation Spectrometer with Pyrolytic-graphite Analysers)

A crystal-analyser inversegeometry time-of-flight spectrometer fully devoted to *Neutron Vibrational Spectroscopy (NVS)*





It'll be the **only** inelastic instrument at **ESS** focused on **molecular vibrations** in **chemistry** and **material science!**

Why vibrational spectroscopy?







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Vibrational spectroscopy is a technique widely used in scientific and technological research, fundamental as well as applied:

- probing potential energy surfaces and interatomic interactions;
- permitting the identification of bonds and functional groups, as well as their transformations;

•determining the **vibrational density of states** (related to various thermodynamic properties).







Vibrational spectroscopy: cross-sections and intensities

 σ (Raman)~10⁻²⁸ cm²/molec.; J_{ph} (Nd:YAG)~10²⁰ cm⁻²s⁻¹

σ (Neutr.)~10⁻²⁴ cm²/molec.; J_n (ILL)~10¹⁵ cm⁻²s⁻¹

 σ (IR)~10⁻¹⁸ cm²/molec.;

 $J_{\rm ph}$ (Globar)~10²⁰ cm⁻²s⁻¹













So why neutron vibrational spectroscopy?

- In Raman, polarizability normally grows with Z: possible problems to detect protons.
- In IR (sensitive to electric dipole), H-bond provides a strong signal, but can be distorted by the so-called electric anharmonicity (not vibrational).
- Molecules with a high symmetry: many modes are optically inactive (e.g. in C₆₀ more than 70%!).







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vibrational eigenvectors.

Conclusions

NVS is complementary to optical spectroscopies and is

often crucial for studying proton dynamics!

Comparison of IR, Raman and INS spectra of nadic anhydride

Example: nadic anhydride (C₉H₈O₃) on TOSCA (courtesy of S. F. Parker)







2. VESPA: research areas



* Neutron Vibrational Spectroscopy (+ Diffraction/PDF)









* Neutron Vibrational Spectroscopy (+ Diffraction/PDF)







*high-pressure

* Neutron Vibrational Spectroscopy (+ Diffraction/PDF)

*gas loading High-performance polymers *high-pressure Bioprotectants Currently not enough... *gas analysis *photocatalysis *photocatalysis Amino-acids Renewable . Photolysis /solar cells *electrical cell A: constant & high resolution Applied, industrial catalysis **B**: intensity DFT-bench Molecules in confinement Short H boo **C:** bandwidth (i.e. 'one shot') ^{*}gas loading, reactor *gas analysis Water in minerals *photocatalysis *electrical cell

- science
- * techniques



A+B+C simultaneously is not available worldwide! *gas loading

3. VESPA: complementary & unique



Existing **NVS** instruments at spallation sources:

- VISION (US): about 3x oversubscribed;
- TOSCA (UK): about 2x oversubscribed.







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- Chopper system for choosing desired resolution ($\Delta E/E_0$).
- Not unconventional, but increased coverage (Ω=1.196 sr), increased flux and resolution (ESS source / instrument length).
- Constant resolution $\Delta E/E_0$ possible because of long pulse.







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Neutron guides & choppers





• guide starts from 2 m after the moderator.

•1st chopper position: 6.5 m;

•3 PSC pairs (H, M, L; optical blind chop.) + FOC + 2×sFOC (1, 2);

•all choppers are counterrotating double disks: trapezoidal transmission;

• *T*₀-chopper still undecided.





5. VESPA: choppers & resolution



- 3 subframes in one "shot" use of the complete ESS pulse (wavelength frame multiplication);
- equivalent rel. resolution for the fingerprint region (optical blind choppers);
- energy resolution can be selected (3 configurations).

Chopper	Low-	Mid-	High-
parameters	Res.	Res.	Res.
WFM-PSC1 (m)	6.50	6.80	6.50
WFM-PSC2 (m)	7.44	7.44	6.80
z _o (m)	0.94	0.64	0.30
Final Energy			
Resolution:	1.1%	0.7%	0.4%









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6. VESPA: high resolution



TOSCA: D. Colognesi *et. al, Appl. Phys. A* **74**, S64 (2002). **VISION:** L. Daemen, private communication (2015).









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Hi-resolution examples: bioprotectants

ALLS SICIET SILVER

VESPA resolution is 2x better than TOSCA (1.5-2%)!



TOSCA: spectra of dry trehalose (red line) and a mixture of trehalose plus 2.5 wt-%. glycerol (black line).

- Hydrogen bonding network greatly affected by addition of 2.5% glycerol!
- Bioprotectant system (cryo/lyo stem cells), not present in mammals.

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from S. Magazù et al., J. Phys.Chem. B115,11004 (2011).







Perfectly suited for the *ESS* long pulse... making new spectroscopy (*i.e.* high pressure, catalysis, hydrogen storage etc.) possible with neutrons!









SC 8. VESPA: secondary spectrometer





- 1 high resolution.



	Backscattering bank	Equatorial banks
2θ (deg.)	152-174	75-105
Q (Å ⁻¹)	31.37-2.77	24.92-1.74
d (Å)	0.2-2.3	0.25-3.6



- 2×2 sets of HPOG analysers (40° & 60°) in forward- and backscattering: Ω= 1.20 sr;
- 3^{rd} proposed set of Cu (?) analysers ($\approx 60^{\circ}$) for upgrade at a later point: $\Omega = 1.52$ sr (28% more coverage).





Secondary spectrometer details from *VISION* (SNS, USA).







C 9. VESPA: sample environment



- Sample size: 30x30 mm² or less;
- closed-cycle refrigerator (*in-situ* temperature studies etc.);
- sample changer (high-throughput).







Data modeling

- ESS Data Management & Software Center (DMSC);
- DTU Copenhagen (DFT calculations GPAW);
- other possible collaborations...





- Sample sticks and cells: *in-situ* measurements, high pressure cells, flow cells, gas manifold, photo-lamp/ battery cell;
- low-temperature sample changer;
- hardware/software interface.









High-performance polymers Hydrogen storage **Bio**protectants has... Ami A: constant & high resolution **B:** intensity Applied, industrial catalysis DFT-benchm C: bandwidth (i.e. in 'one shot') tolecules in confinement AND most importantly... Short H-bonding Water in Minerals A+B+C simultaneously! repositories





VESPA: a strong support from









This talk is dedicated to the dear memory of **Dr. Marco Zoppi** (1946-2015).



VESPA (formerly called **VSI**) is an instrumental proposal for **ESS** originally conceived by Marco in 2012. He passed away unexpectedly in June this year.







Many thanks to the audience members for their kind attention to the presentation of *VESPA*...



