

# Ligand Dynamics in Metal-Organic Frameworks

Wei Zhou, Nick Butch, Craig Brown



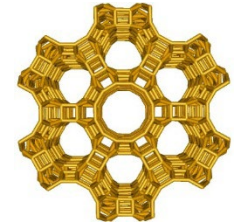
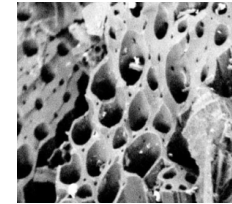
CHRNS Summer School 2023

# Outline

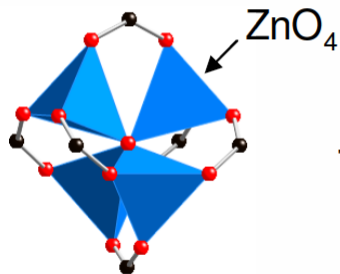
- Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs)
  - What are MOFs
  - Why ligand dynamics matter
- $\text{Mn}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]_2 \cdot \text{pyrazine}$ 
  - Physical Properties
  - Review data from other techniques
  - Compare behaviour with related compounds
- SIFSIX-1-Cu
- Categories of experiments performed on DCS

# Porous adsorbents

- Porous Carbon / Activated Carbon
- Zeolites
- Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs)  
(also called “coordination polymer”)



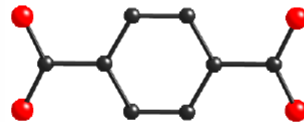
**Inorganic SBU**



connector

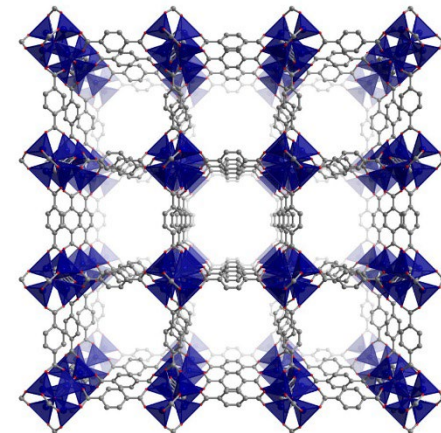
**Organic SBU**

(SBU: secondary building unit)



linker

**3D network**

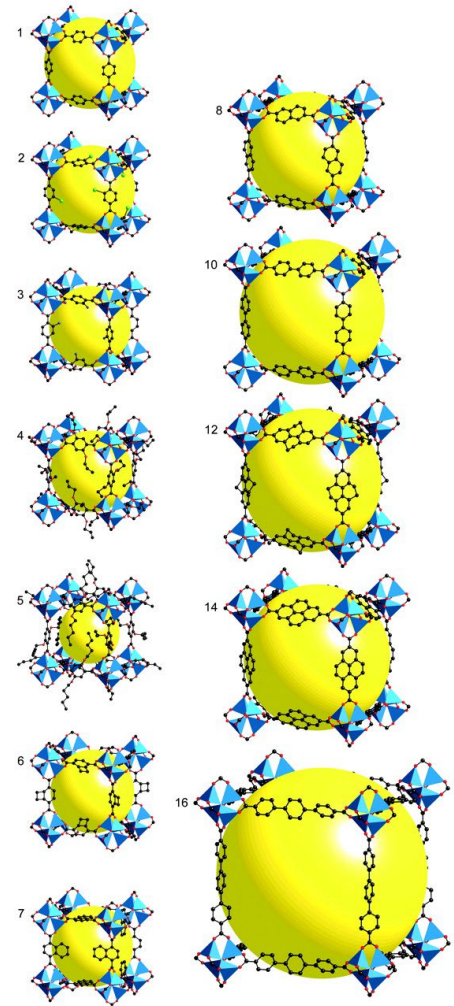


Highly porous, crystalline structure  
 (“crystal sponge”)

\* MOF-5, O. M. Yaghi *et al.*, *Nature* 402, 276 (1999).

# Porous MOFs

- Well-defined structures: well-defined pore geometry
- Versatile chemistry: various metal clusters and numerous organic linkers possible
- Tunable pore size & functionality
- Structural flexibility
- Many promising gas-adsorption related applications: gas storage and separation etc.

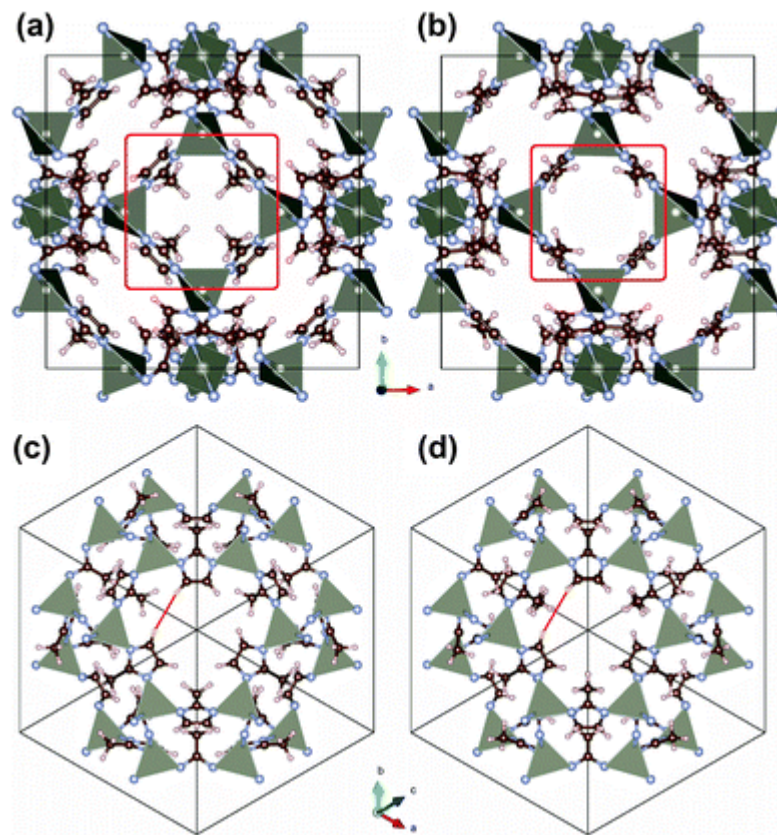


\* IRMOF-n, O. M. Yaghi *et al.*, **Science** 295, 469 (2002).

# Why ligand dynamics matter

- The atoms in a crystal are NOT static.
- Ligand dynamics influence the gas adsorption.

e.g., The linkers in ZIF-8 aid in the diffusion of surprisingly large guest molecules through the otherwise small micropores, by swinging, or partially rotating.



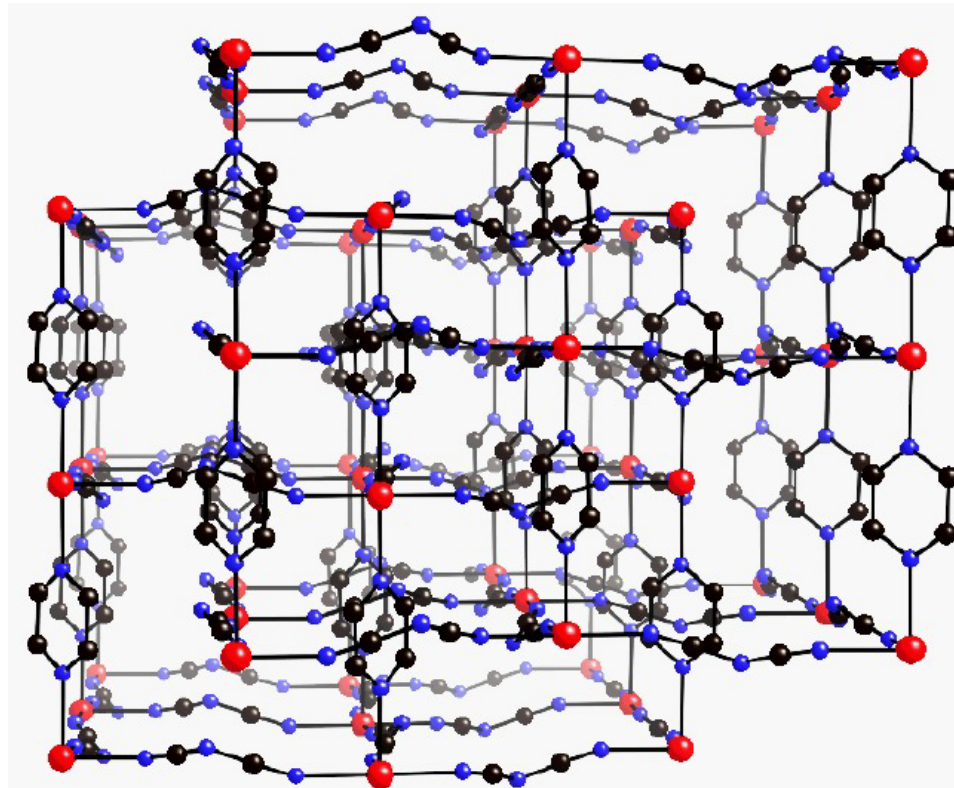
\* Gate-opening effect in ZIF-8, A. J. Ramirez-Cuesta and J. Silvestre-Albero *et al.*, **Chem. Commun.** 52, 3639 (2016).  
A. Gonzalez-Nelson *et al.*, **Nanomaterials**, 9, 330 (2019).

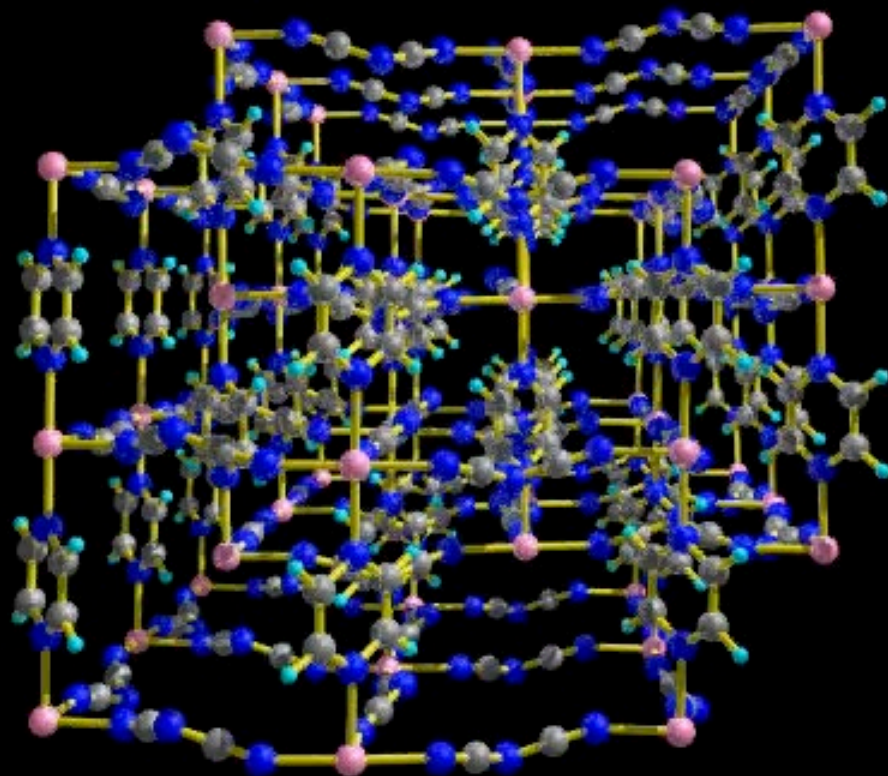
# Common techniques used

- Various techniques can be used to probe the ligand dynamics of MOFs:
  - NMR
  - IR/Raman scattering
  - Neutron scattering
  - DFT lattice dynamic calculation, MD simulation
  - ...

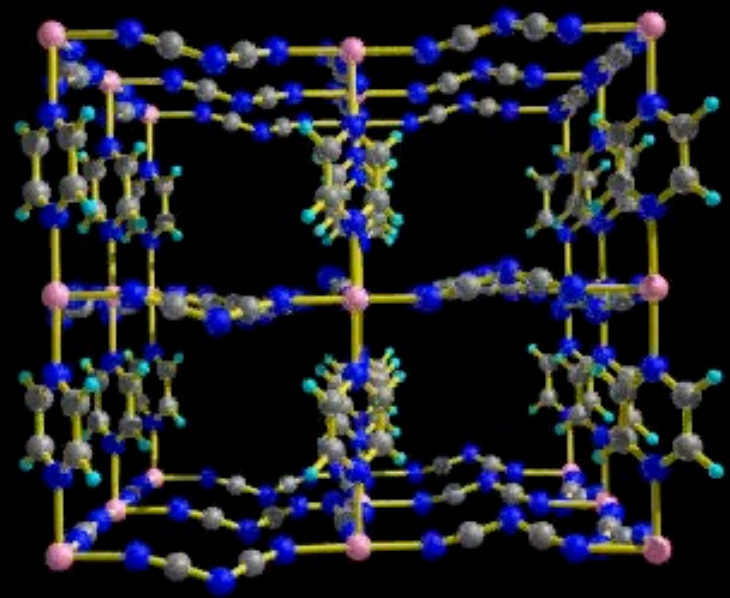
# Mn[N(CN)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>.pyrazine

- In this MOF, the rotational dynamics of pyrazine is relatively simple, making it a good example to learn how to use neutron scattering to study dynamics of a material.

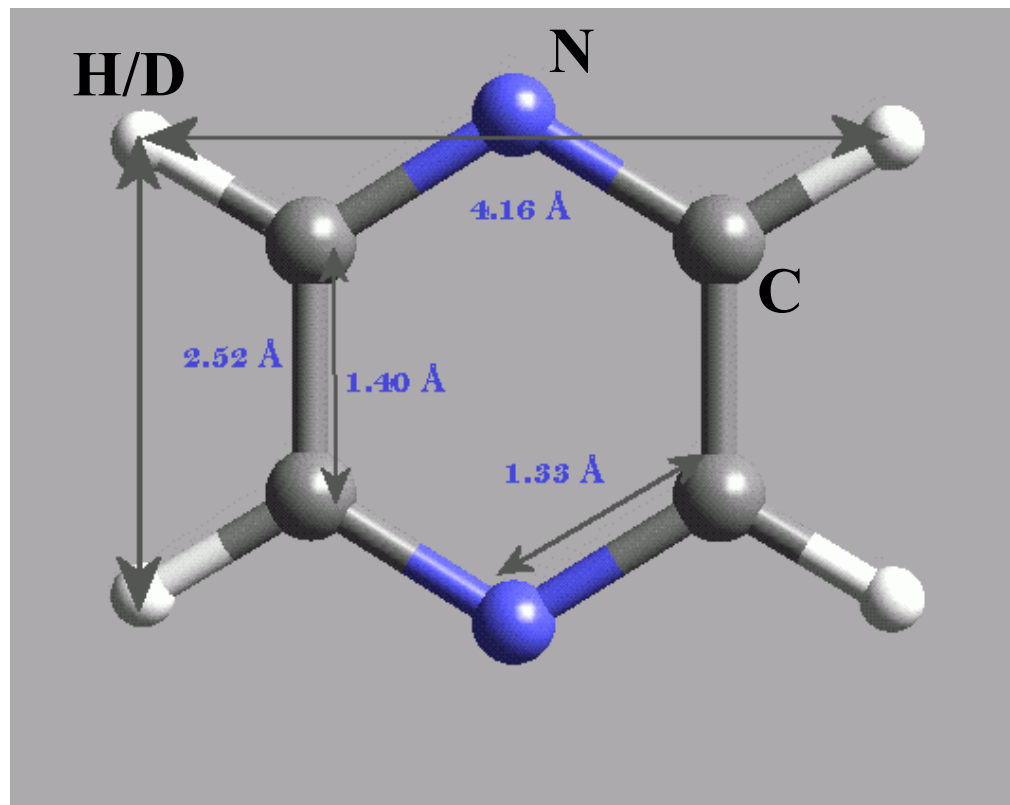








# Pyrazine



# Interactions

The neutron-nucleus interaction is described by a

**scattering length**

Complex number

real  $\rightarrow$  scattering      imaginary  $\rightarrow$  absorption

Coherent scattering  
Depends on the average  
scattering length

Incoherent scattering  
Depends on the mean square  
difference scattering length

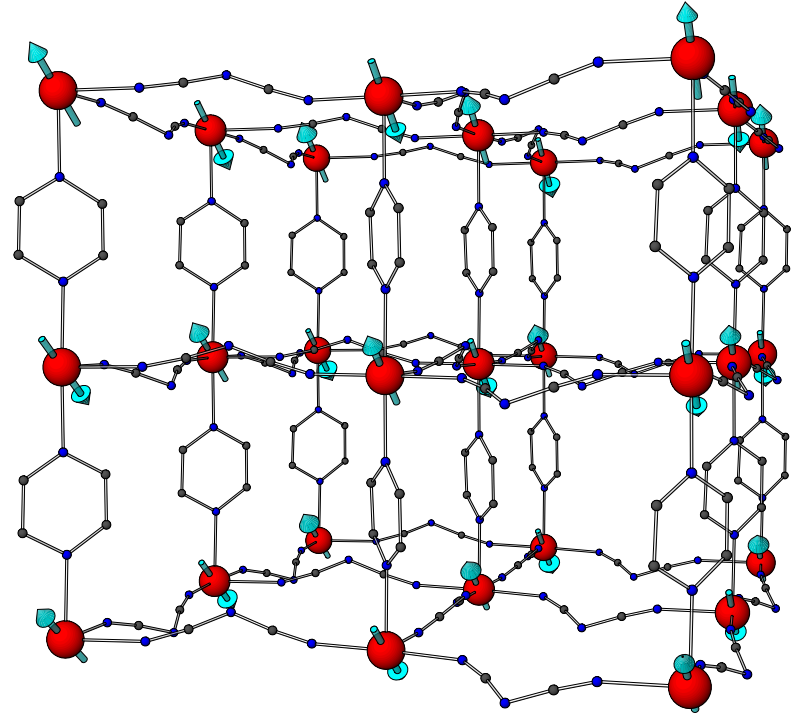
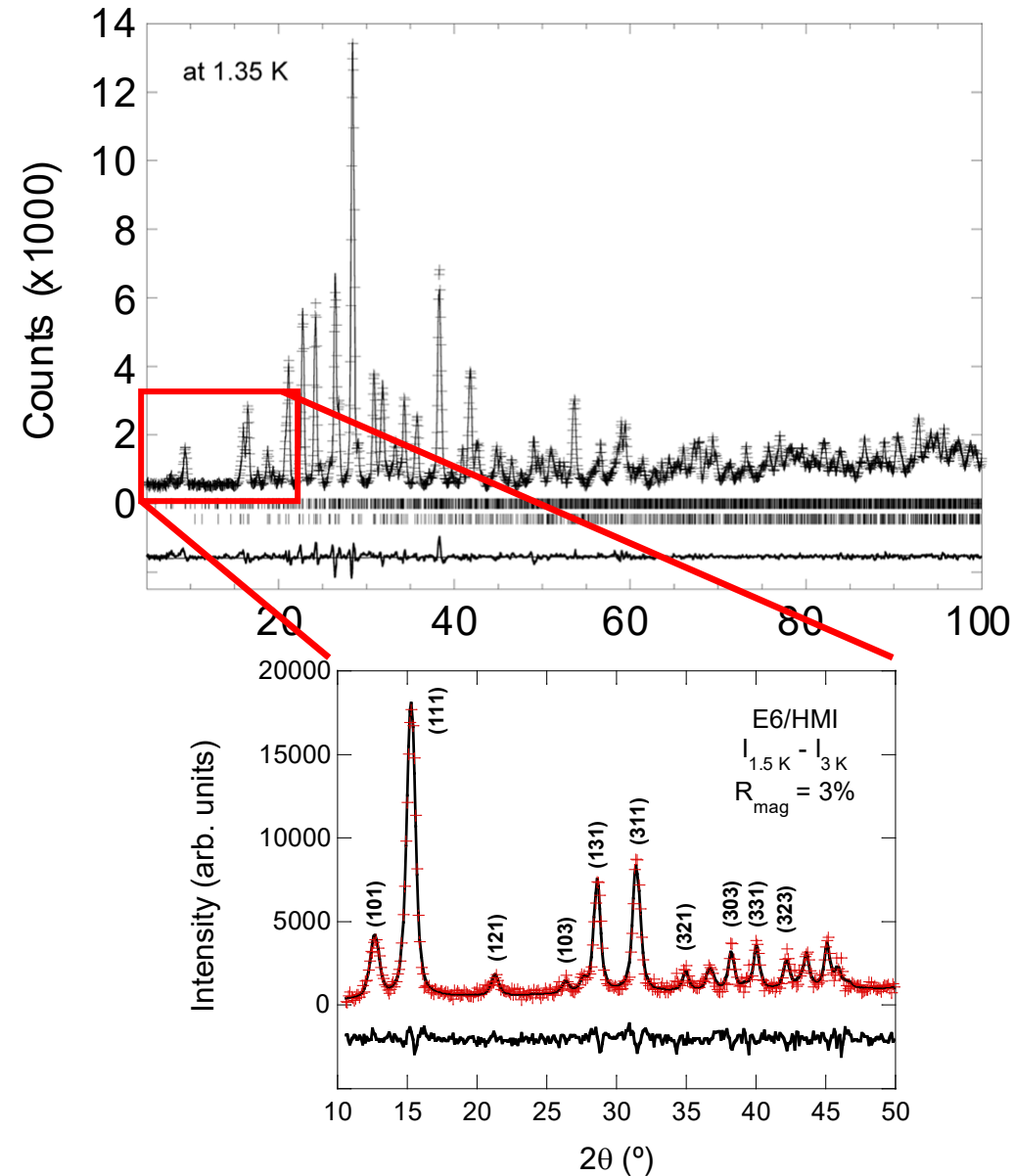
**STRUCTURE**

**DYNAMICS**

# Structure and dynamics

- **Deuterated** sample for coherent Bragg diffraction to obtain structure as a function of temperature
- **Protonated** to observe both single particle motion (quasielastic) and to weigh the inelastic scattering spectrum in favor of hydrogen (vibrations)
  - **Deuteration** can help to *assign* particular vibrational modes and provide a '*correction*' to the quasielastic data for the paramagnetic scattering of manganese and coherent quasielastic scattering.

# Magnetic Structure



- One of the interpenetrating lattices shown.
- $a$  is up,  $b$  across,  $c$  into page
- Magnetic cell is  $(\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2})$  superstructure
- Exchange along Mn-pyz-Mn chain  $40x$

J. L. Manson *et al.*  
 J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000  
 J. Magn. Mag. Mats. 2003

# Mn[N(CN)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>.pyrazine

1.3 K



- 3-D antiferromagnetic order below ~2.5 K
- Magnetic moments aligned along  $a$  ( $4.2 \mu_B$ )
- Monoclinic lattice ( $a=7.3 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b=16.7 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c=8.8 \text{ \AA}$ )

~200 K



- Phase transition to orthorhombic structure
- Large Debye-Waller factor on dicyanamide ligand
- Diffuse scattering

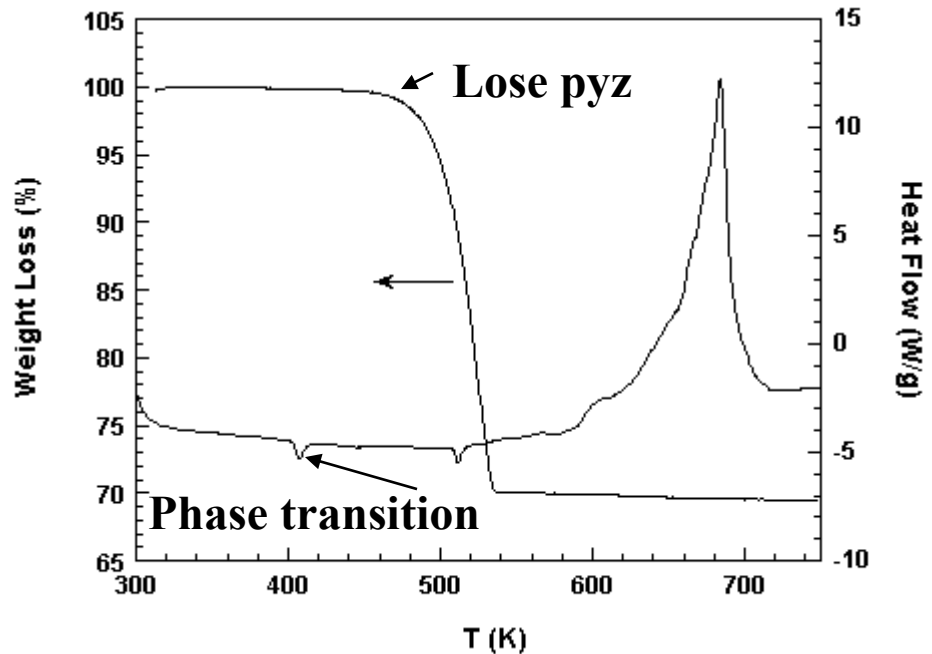
408 K



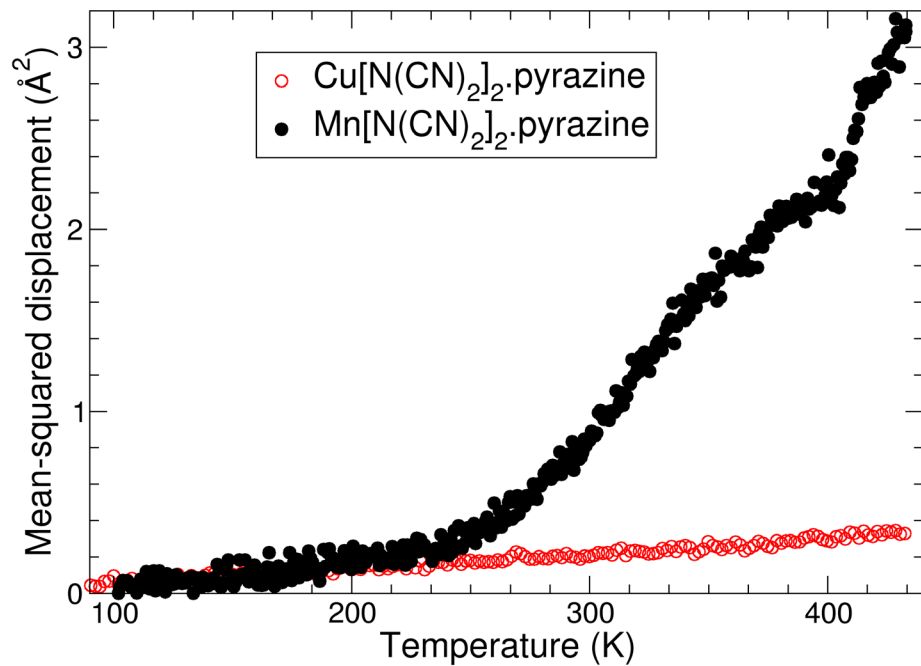
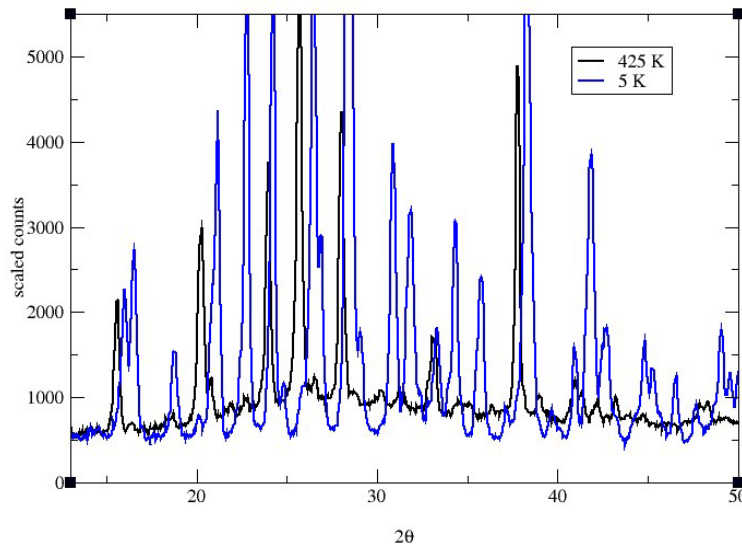
- Phase transition
- Large Debye-Waller factors on pyrazine

~435 K

- Decomposes and loses pyrazine.



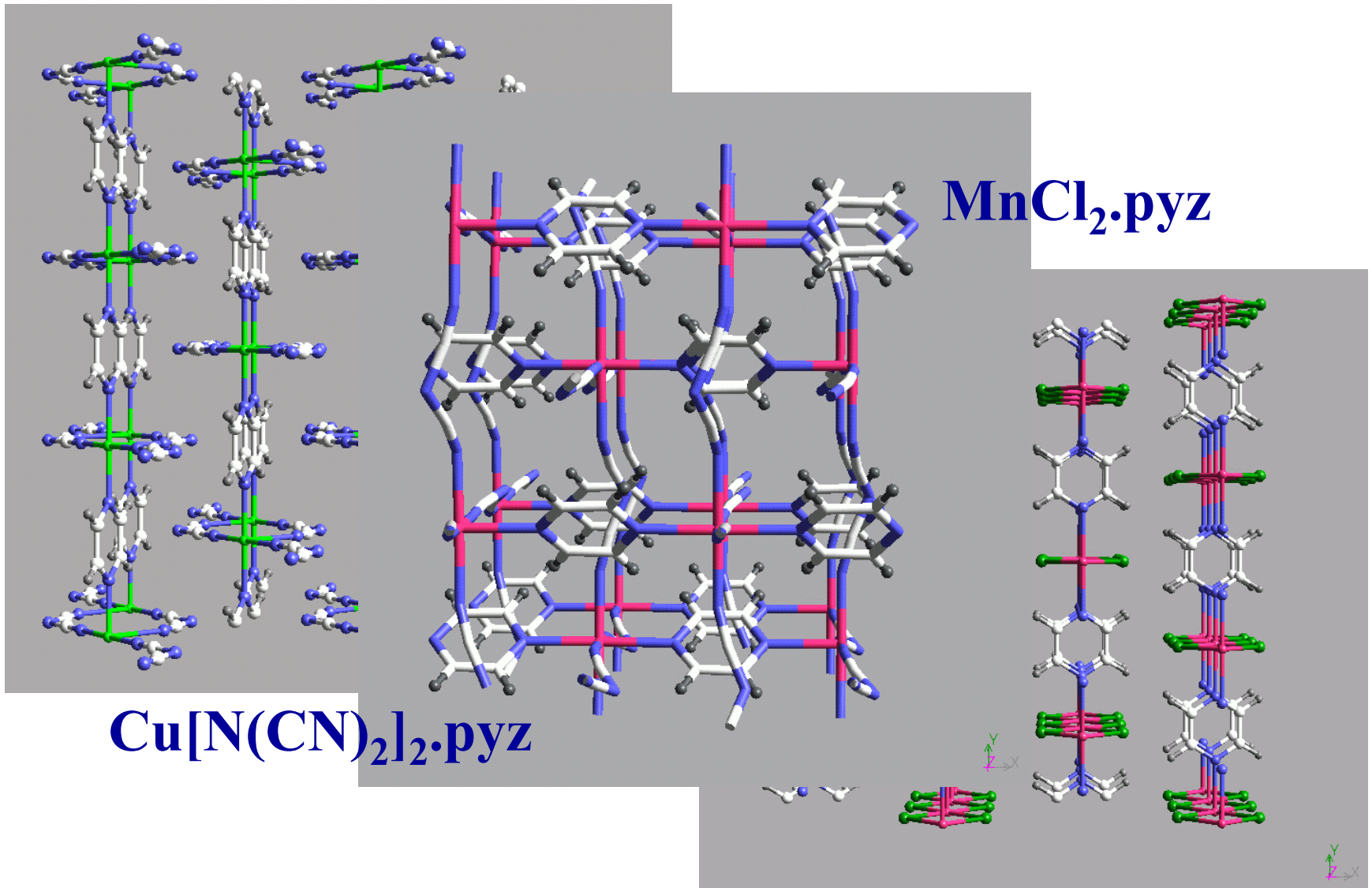
# As a function of Temperature



# The other compounds

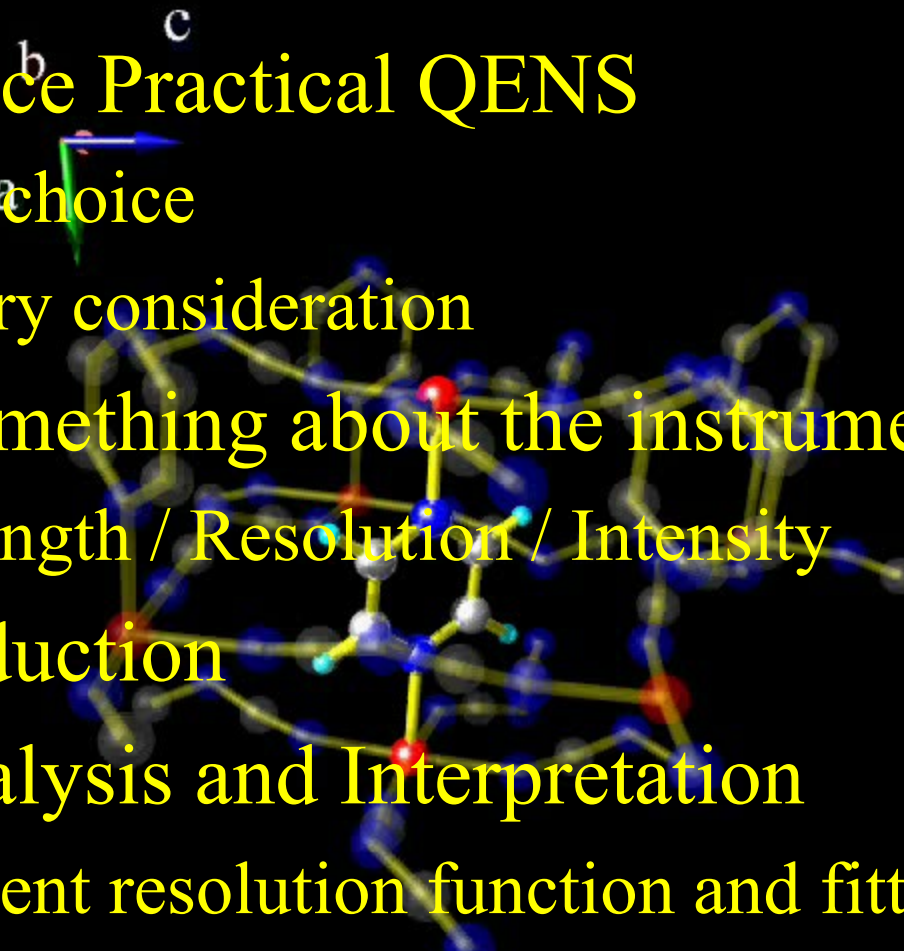
$\text{MnCl}_2 \cdot \text{pyz}$

$\text{Cu}[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]_2 \cdot \text{pyz}$

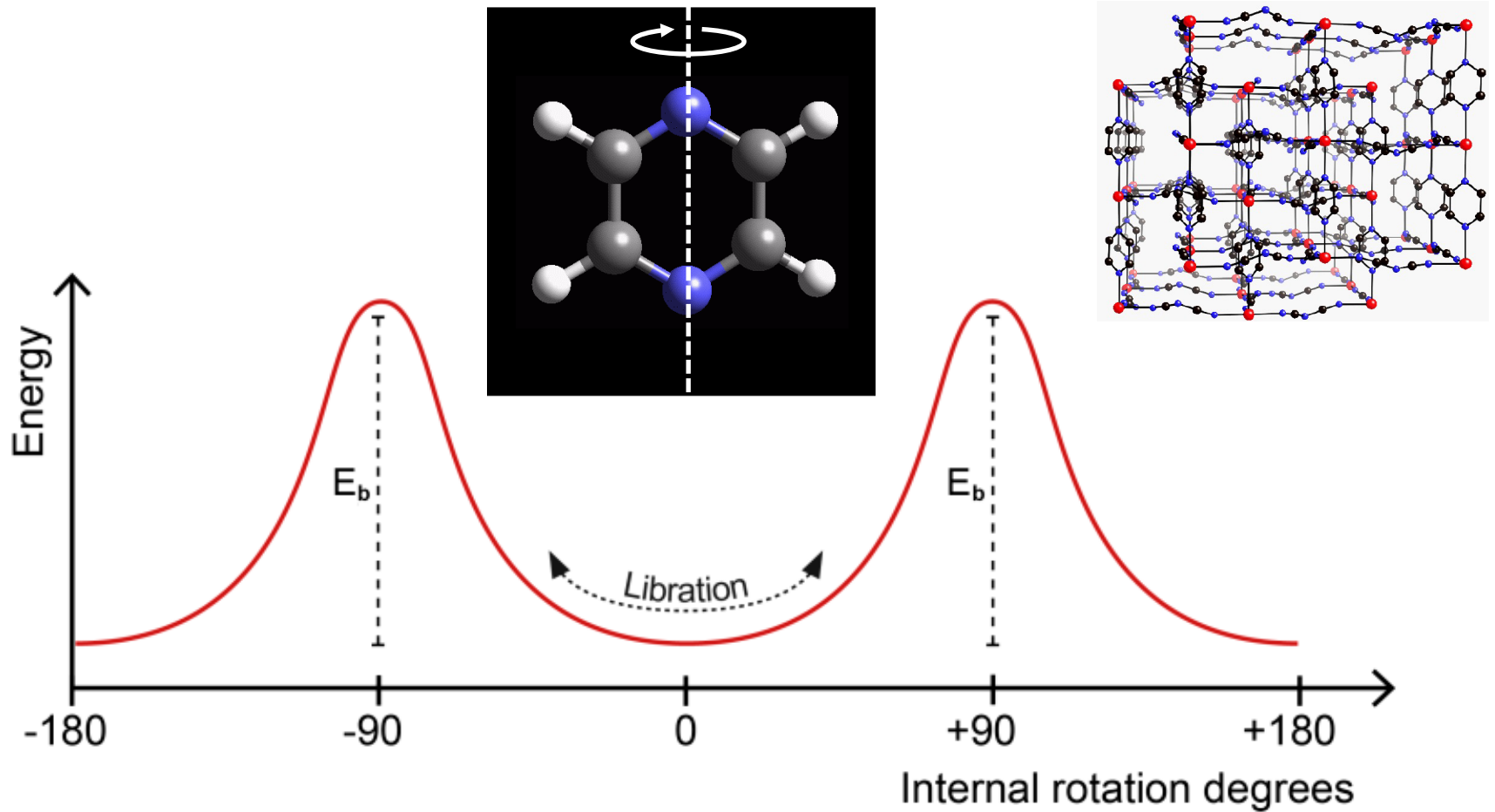




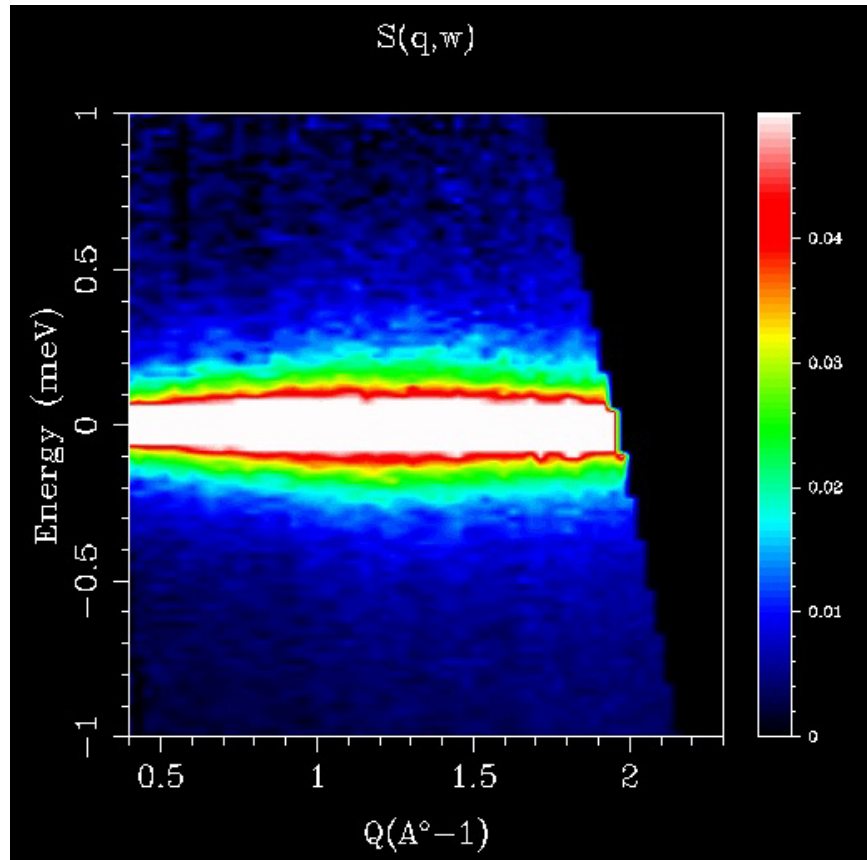
# AIMS

- Experience Practical QENS
    - sample choice
    - geometry consideration
  - Learn something about the instrument
    - Wavelength / Resolution / Intensity
  - Data Reduction
  - Data Analysis and Interpretation
    - instrument resolution function and fitting
    - extract EISF and linewidth
    - spatial and temporal information
- 

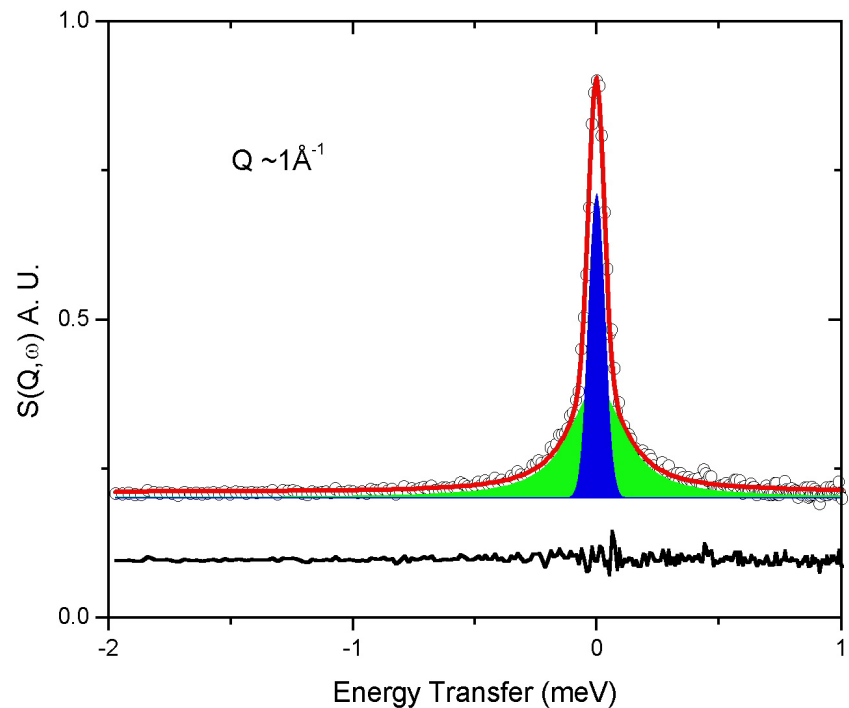
# Rotational potential curve



# The Measured Scattering



$$EISF = \frac{I_{\text{elastic}}}{I_{\text{total}}}$$



# Quasielastic Scattering

- The intensity of the scattered neutron is broadly distributed about zero energy transfer to the sample
- Lineshape is often Lorentzian-like
- Arises from atomic motion that is
  - Diffusive
  - Reorientational
- The instrumental resolution determines the timescales observable
- The  $Q$ -range determines the spatial properties that are observable
- (The complexity of the motion(s) can make interpretation difficult)

# Types of Experiments

- Translational and rotational diffusion processes, where scattering experiments provide information about time scales, length scales and geometrical constraints; the ability to access a wide range of wave vector transfers, with good energy resolution, is key to the success of such investigations
- Low energy vibrational and magnetic excitations and densities of states
- Tunneling phenomena
  
- **Chemistry** --- e.g. clathrates, molecular crystals, fullerenes, MOFs
- **Polymers** --- bound polymers, glass phenomenon, confinement effects
- **Biological systems** --- protein folding, protein preservation, water dynamics in membranes
- **Physics** --- magnetic systems, adsorbate dynamics in mesoporous systems (zeolites and clays) and in confined geometries, metal-hydrogen systems, glasses
- **Materials** --- negative thermal expansion materials, low conductivity materials, hydration of cement, carbon nanotubes, proton conductors, metal hydrides, hydrogen diffusion, CH<sub>4</sub> dynamics....