JESSICA investigates the neutronic performance

of cold moderators

By measurement of:

- Thermal time of flight spectra
- Wavelength dependent neutron pulse widths
- Determination of n/p ratio

and validation of Monte-Carlo-models

Moderator Geometry



COSY (COoler SYnchrotron) 150 MeV- 2.5 GeV





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Experimental Setup



A view into the JESSICA hall



Cold Moderator System

Test setup at ZAT





Opened moderator vessel at JESSICA

Wavelength Dependent Time Structure of the Neutron Pulses



Wavelength dependent TOF-Spectra



New Evaluated S(α , β **) Data**

The following thermal libraries have been evaluated for MCNPX:

- H in H₂O ice at T=20, 77, 113, 165, 218, 248, 273 K
- H in light water at T= 273, 278, 293, 308 K
- para and ortho H in liquid H₂ at T=14, 16, 20 K
- para and ortho H in gaseous H₂ at T=20, 25 K
- H in solid methane at T=31, 57, 77, 89 K
- AI at T=20 K

Comparison of TOF-Spectra for water at T=293 K between MCNPX and JESSICA



time in μs

Comparison of TOF-Spectra for ice between MCNPX and JESSICA



Comparison of Energy-Spectra between MCNPX and JESSICA



• For the first time we compared Monte Carlo simulations with experimental data on an absolute scale!

• Simulation of the whole history: From 1.3 GeV protons down to a few meV neutrons in a complex geometry

• Applied a new developed data base for neutron transport below 4 eV

Energy Spectra for Ice, methane-clathrate, and solid methane

Does methane hydrate combine the properties of solid methane and ice ?



• We see an increase of the neutron flux in the energy range from 8 meV to 300 meV for a methane-hydrate moderator compared to solid methane.

• The maximum is comparable to solid methane.

• MC-simulation of methaneclathrate currently not possible due to missing neutron scattering kernels.

