

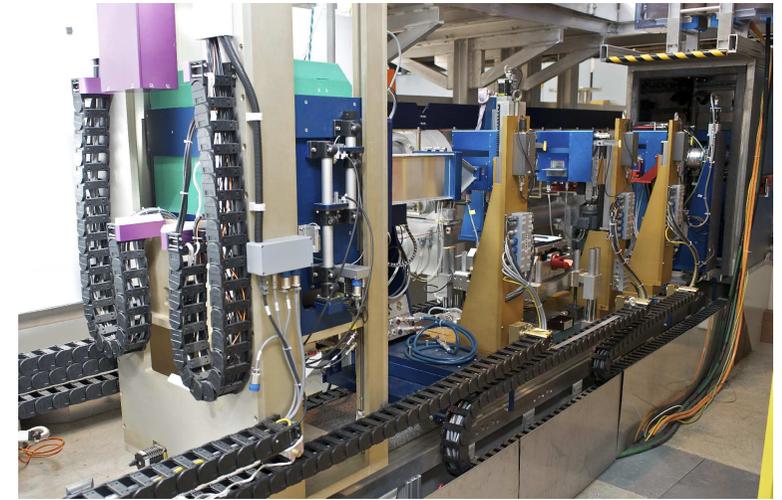


TOF reflectometry at PSI:  
from an optical bench set-up  
to a new instrument concept  
with a focus on small samples

## pre-history

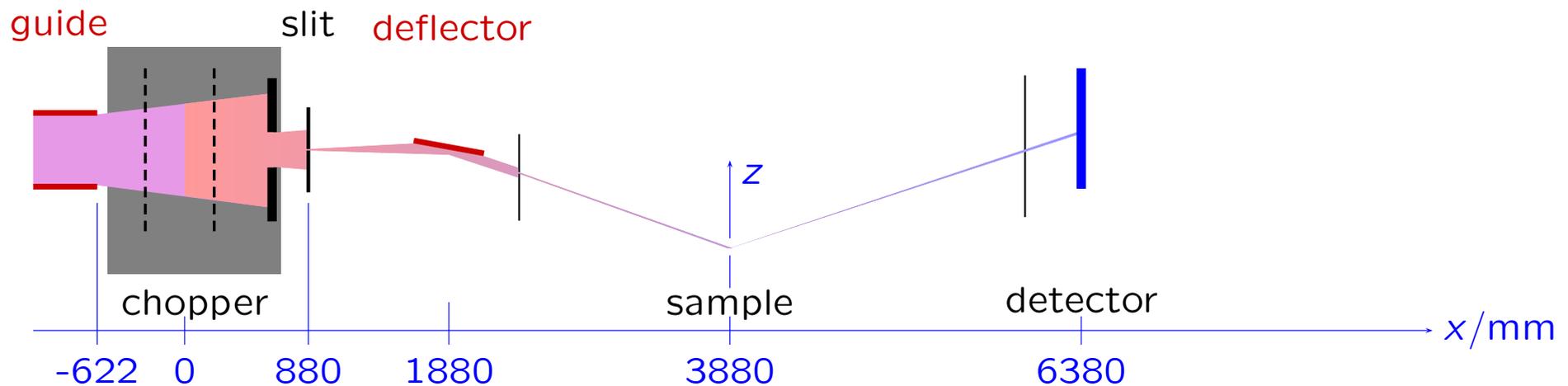
scientific case: liquid-air-interface

- ⇒ ○ vertical scattering geometry
- (variable) inclination of the beam
- TOF operation (double-blind-chopper)



variable resolution

- ⇒ ○ optical bench set-up
- high flexibility



## the optical bench

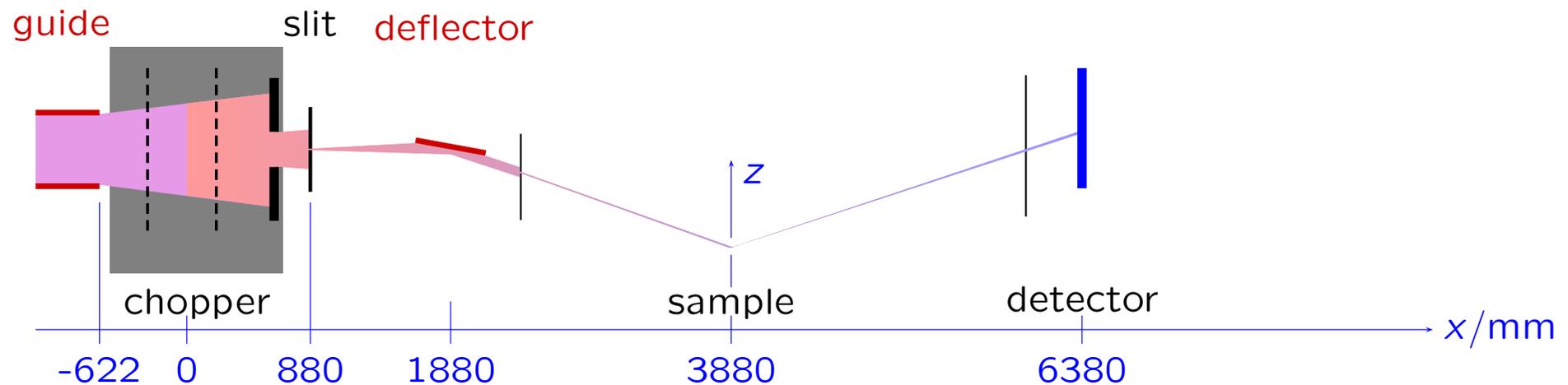
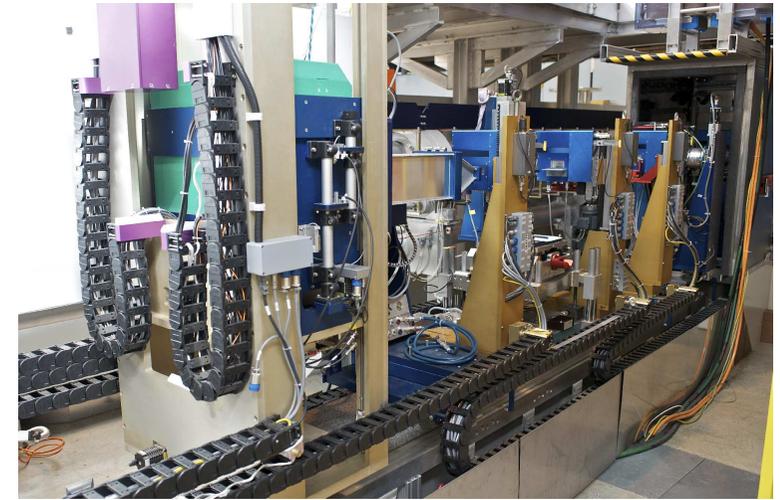
8 m granite block

maximum length chopper to detector = 10 m

$2\theta \in [-3^\circ, 12^\circ]$

$\lambda \in [2 \text{ \AA}, 18 \text{ \AA}]$

detectors:  $^3\text{He}$  single and area ( $180 \times 180 \text{ mm}^2$ )



## options

trough



polarisation  
polarisation analysis

1T electromagnet  
large gap



cryomagnet  
(horizontal, 6 T)



## actual usage of Amor

(Amor is the only reflectometer at SINQ)

liquid/air interfaces < 10%

liquid/solid interfaces < 30%

magnetic samples > 50%

non-magnetic solid samples > 10%

majority of the samples is < 2 cm<sup>2</sup>

some are < 5 × 5 mm<sup>2</sup>

⇒ adaption of Amor for small magnetic samples

## innovations:

non-magnetic sample table for 1t load

$\omega \in [\pm 4^\circ]$  for heavy set-up

$\omega \in [\pm 15^\circ]$  else



## innovations:

shielding of the detector and flight tube

⇒ background from sample(environment) only

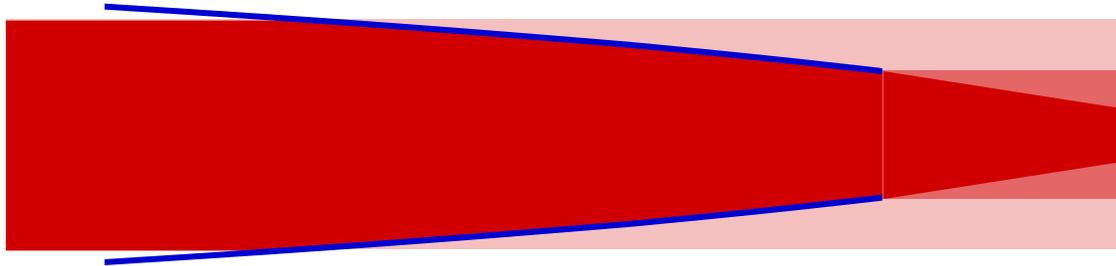


## innovations:

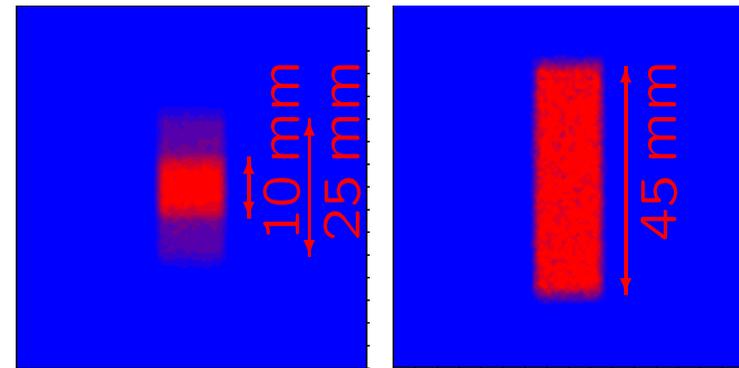
focusing guide element for small samples

focusing in the sample plane

including the guide field



McStas simulation  
of the beam spot:



with lens

without lens

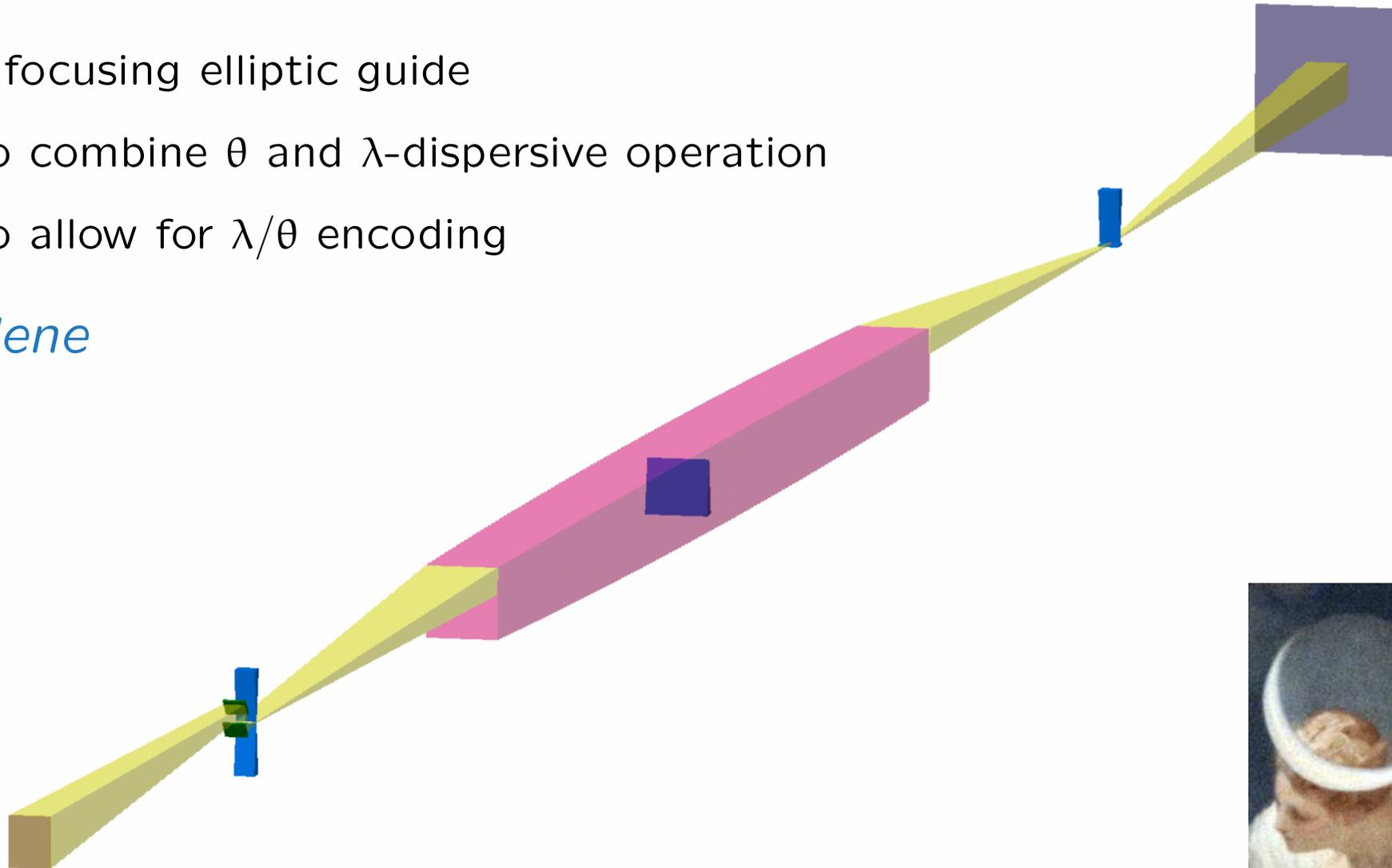
measured gain for samples of  $< 10$  mm width  $\approx 3$

## innovations:

2D focusing elliptic guide

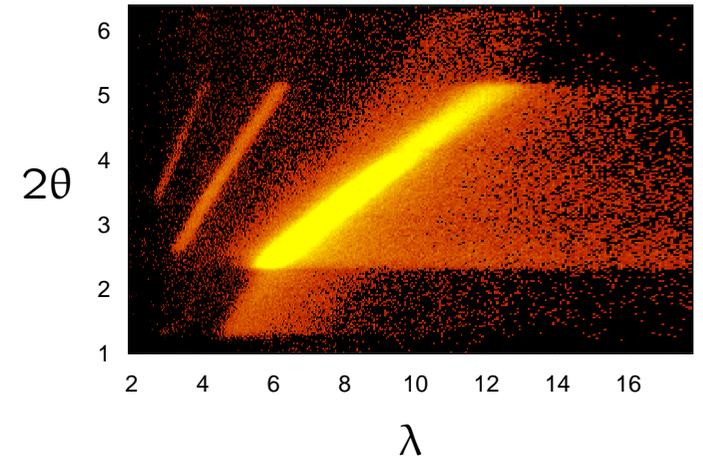
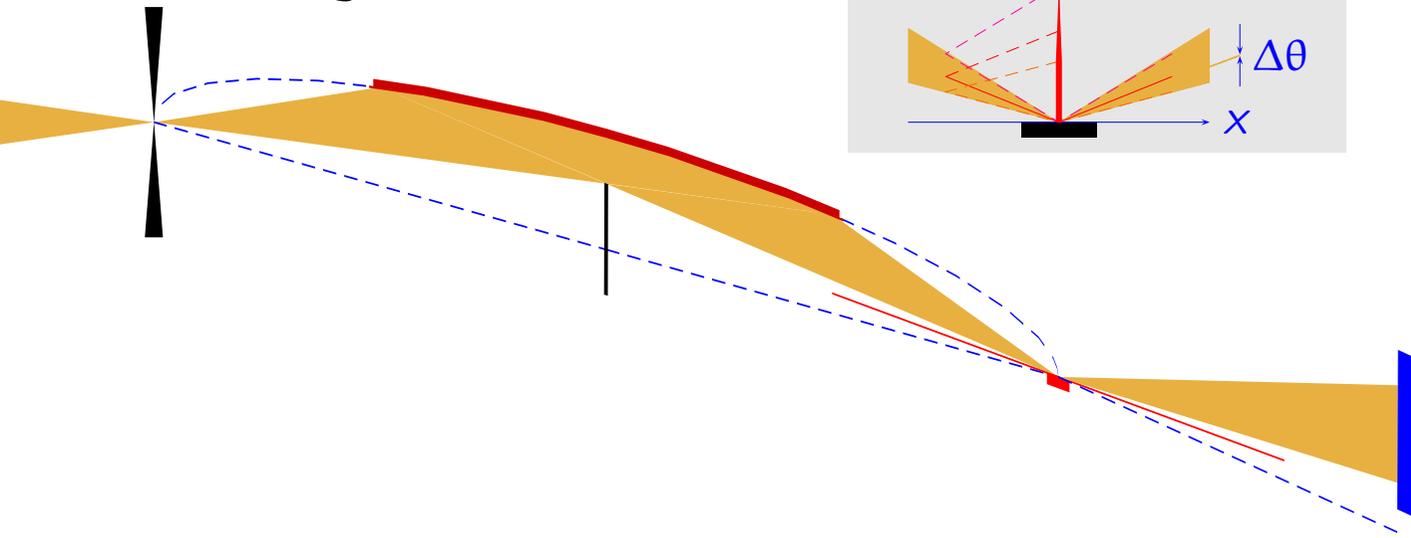
- to combine  $\theta$  and  $\lambda$ -dispersive operation
- to allow for  $\lambda/\theta$  encoding

*Selene*

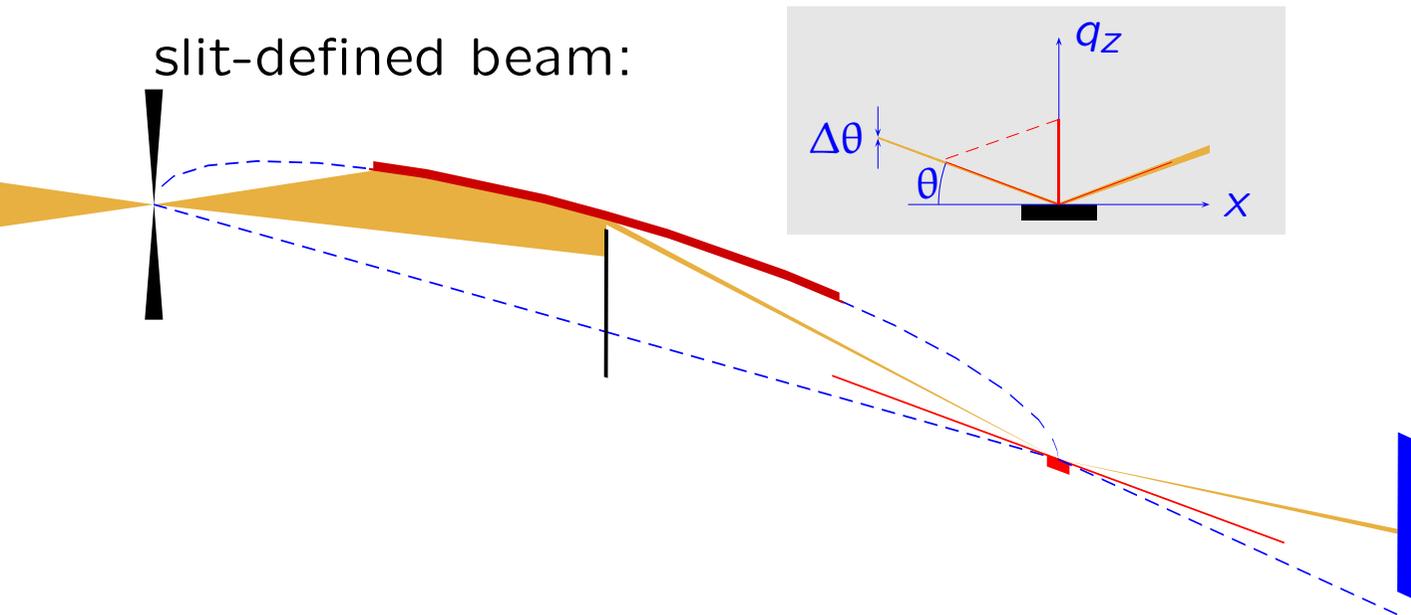


# Selene: principle

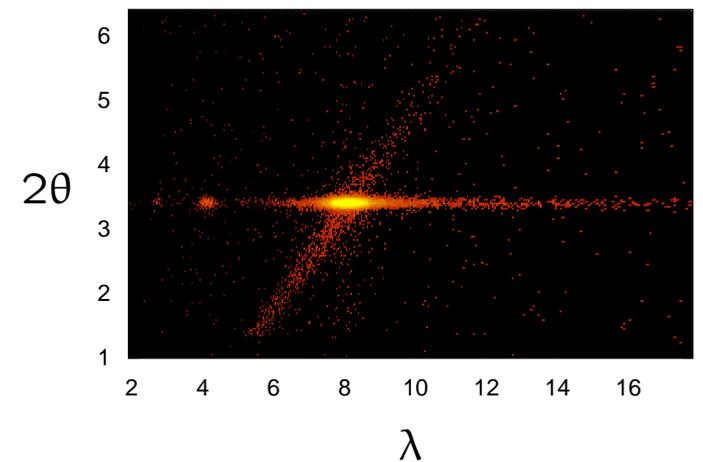
convergent beam:



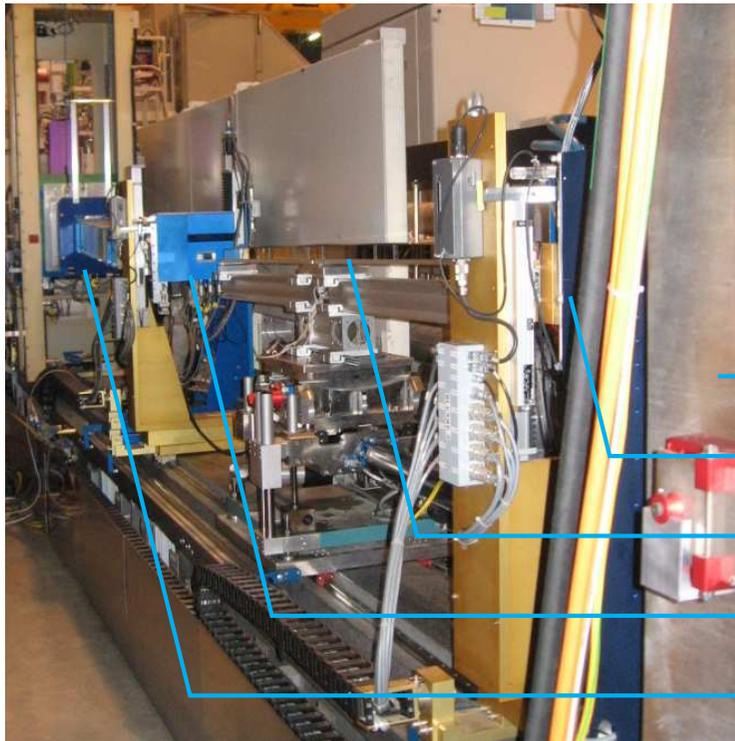
slit-defined beam:



sample: Ni/Ti multilayer



## Selene: realisation



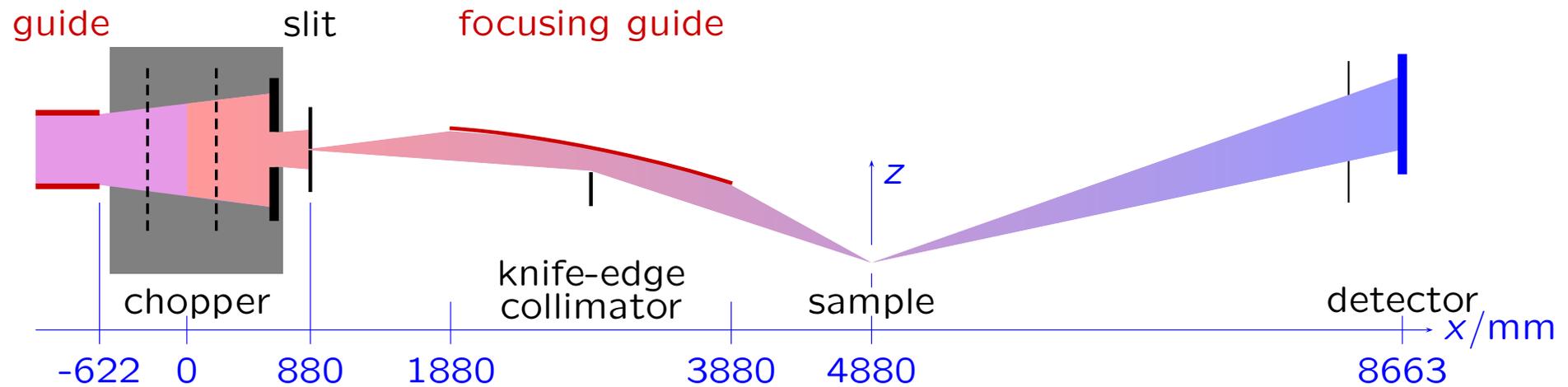
chopper housing

1<sup>st</sup> slit

elliptic reflector (SwissNeutronics)

sample (hidden by diaphragm)

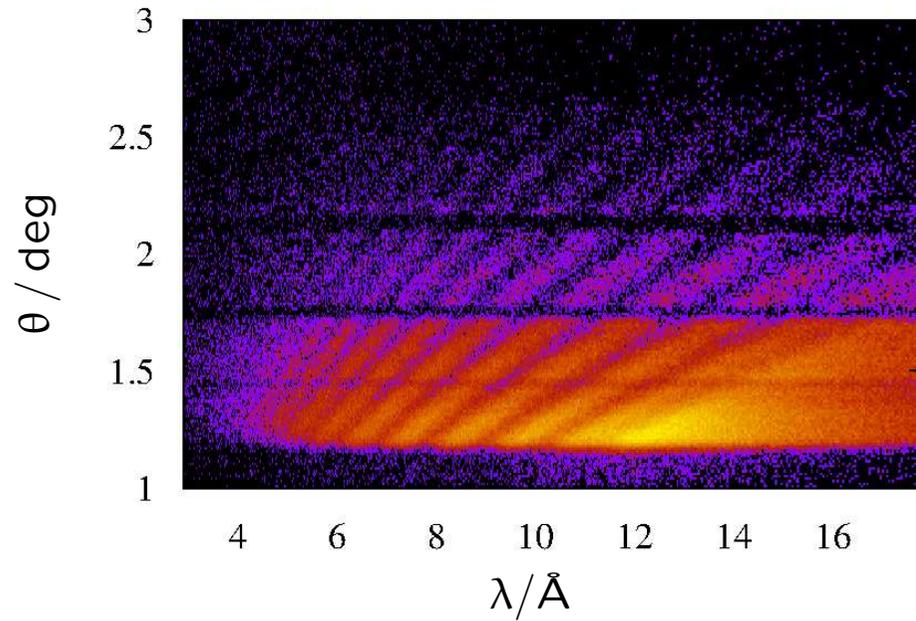
detector



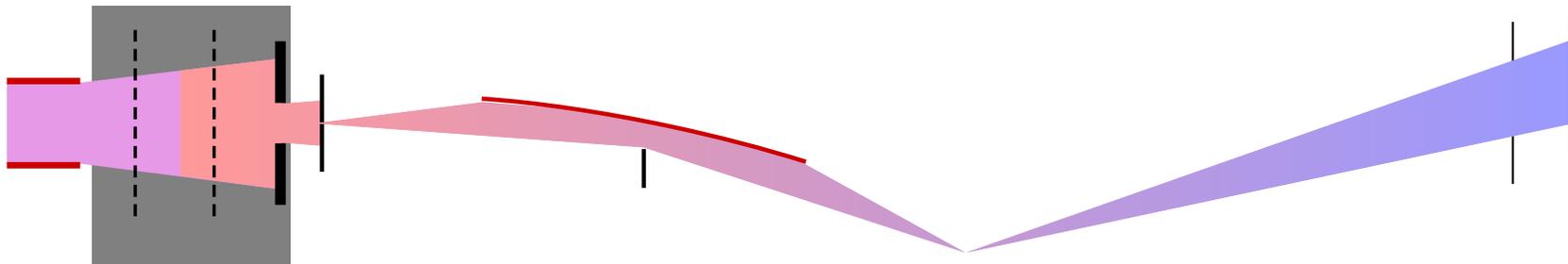
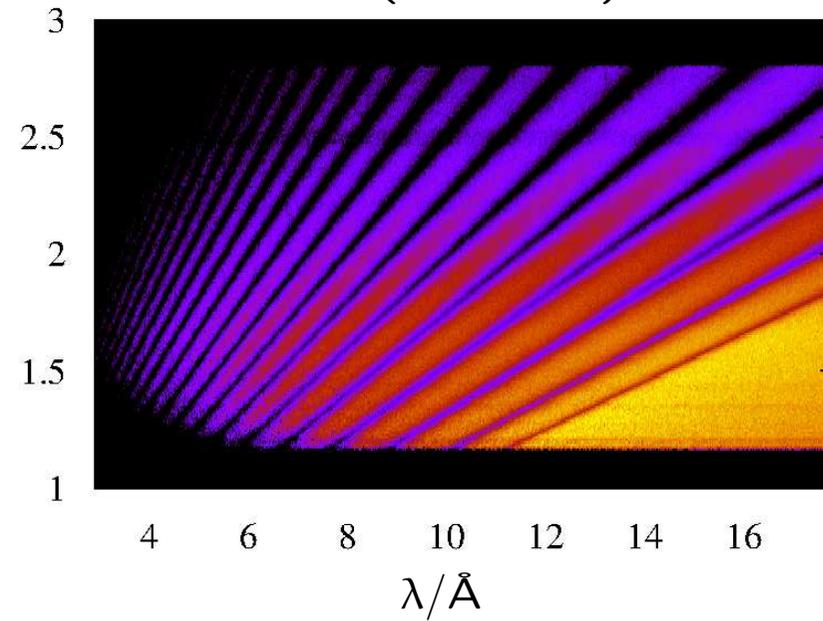
## Selene

measurements: 1000 Å Ni film on glass,  $9 \times 9 \text{ mm}^2$

measured

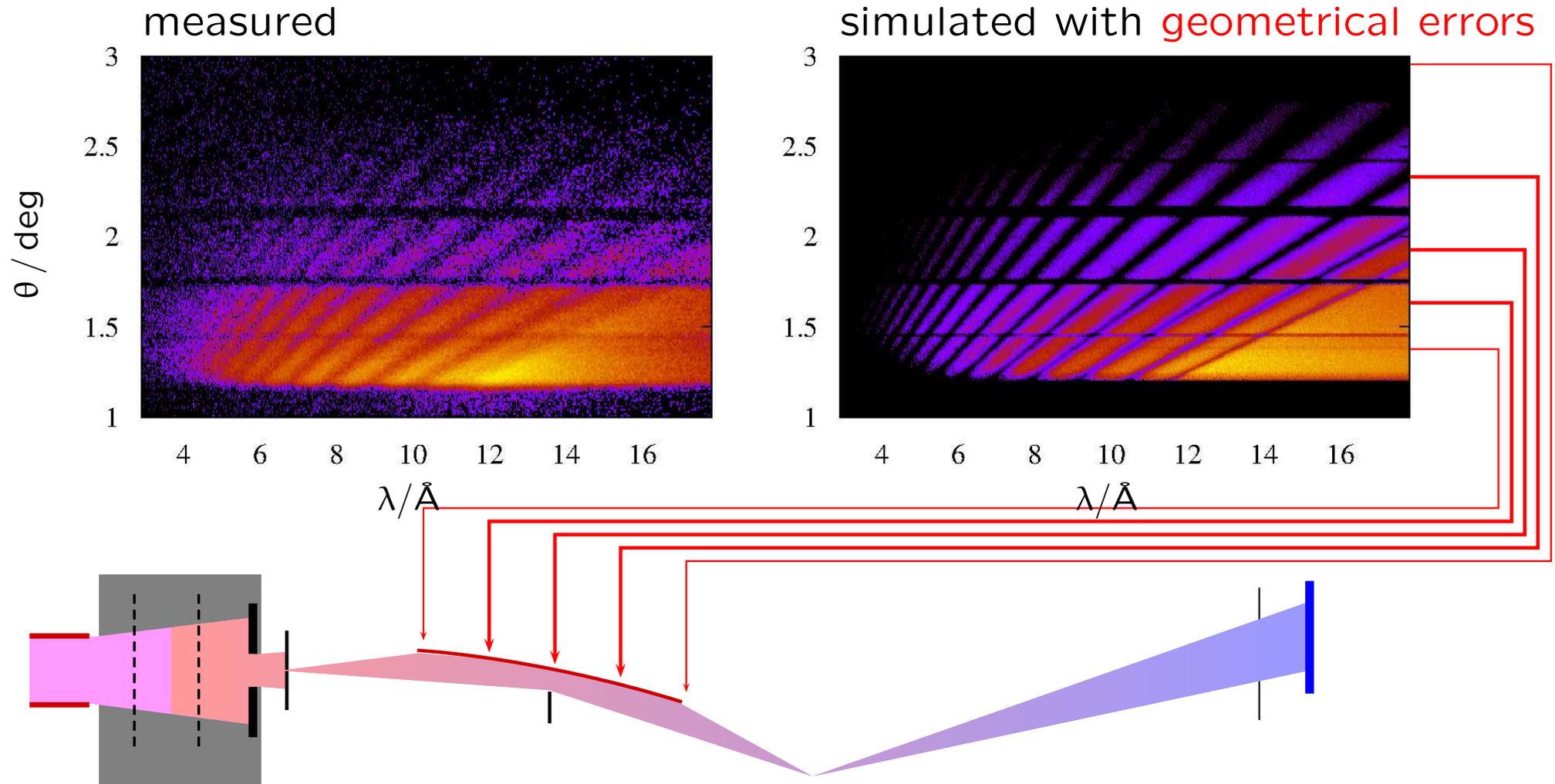


simulated (McStas)



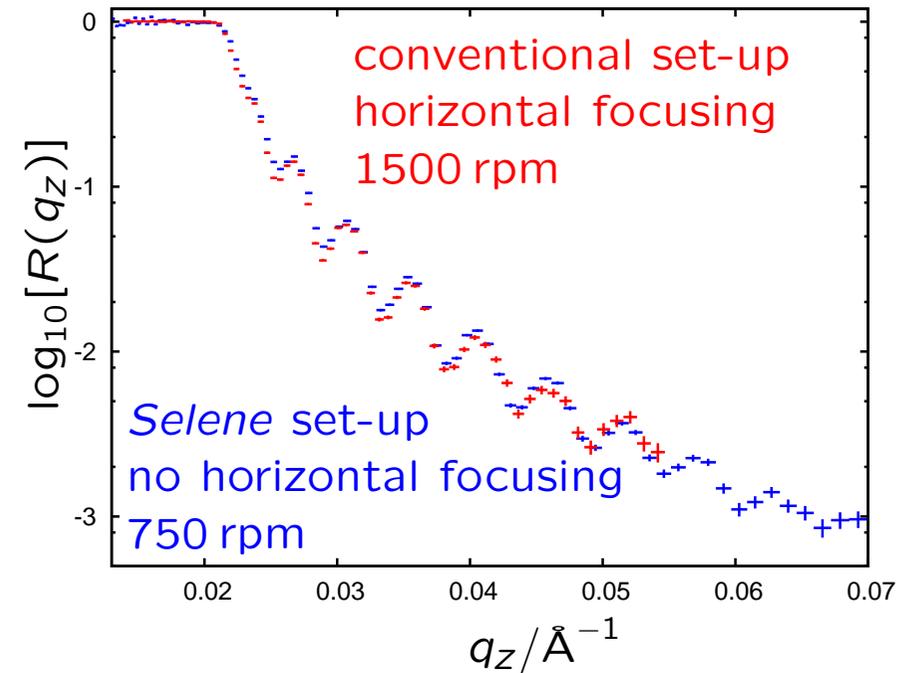
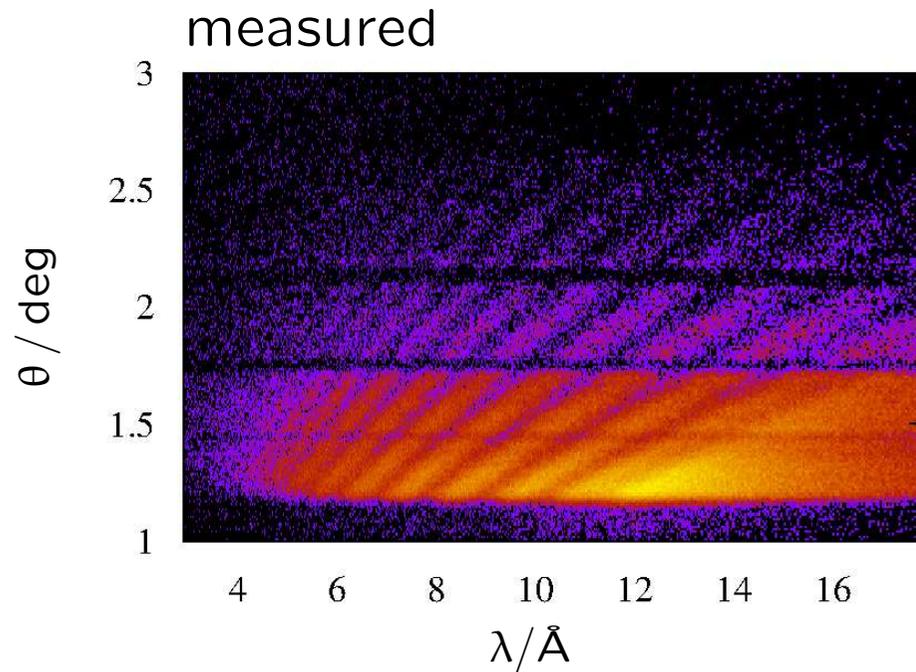
## Selene

measurements: 1000 Å Ni film on glass,  $9 \times 9 \text{ mm}^2$



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measurements: 1000 Å Ni film on glass,  $9 \times 9 \text{ mm}^2$



measurement time:

conventional	5 h
<i>Selene</i>	<u>45 min</u>

gain-factor 6.7

## Selene

focusing in the sample plane

+ counting time reduced by 60%

focusing in the scattering plane

+ counting time reduced by 90%

± off-specular & incoherent scattering set limits

– high-precision guide and careful alignment needed

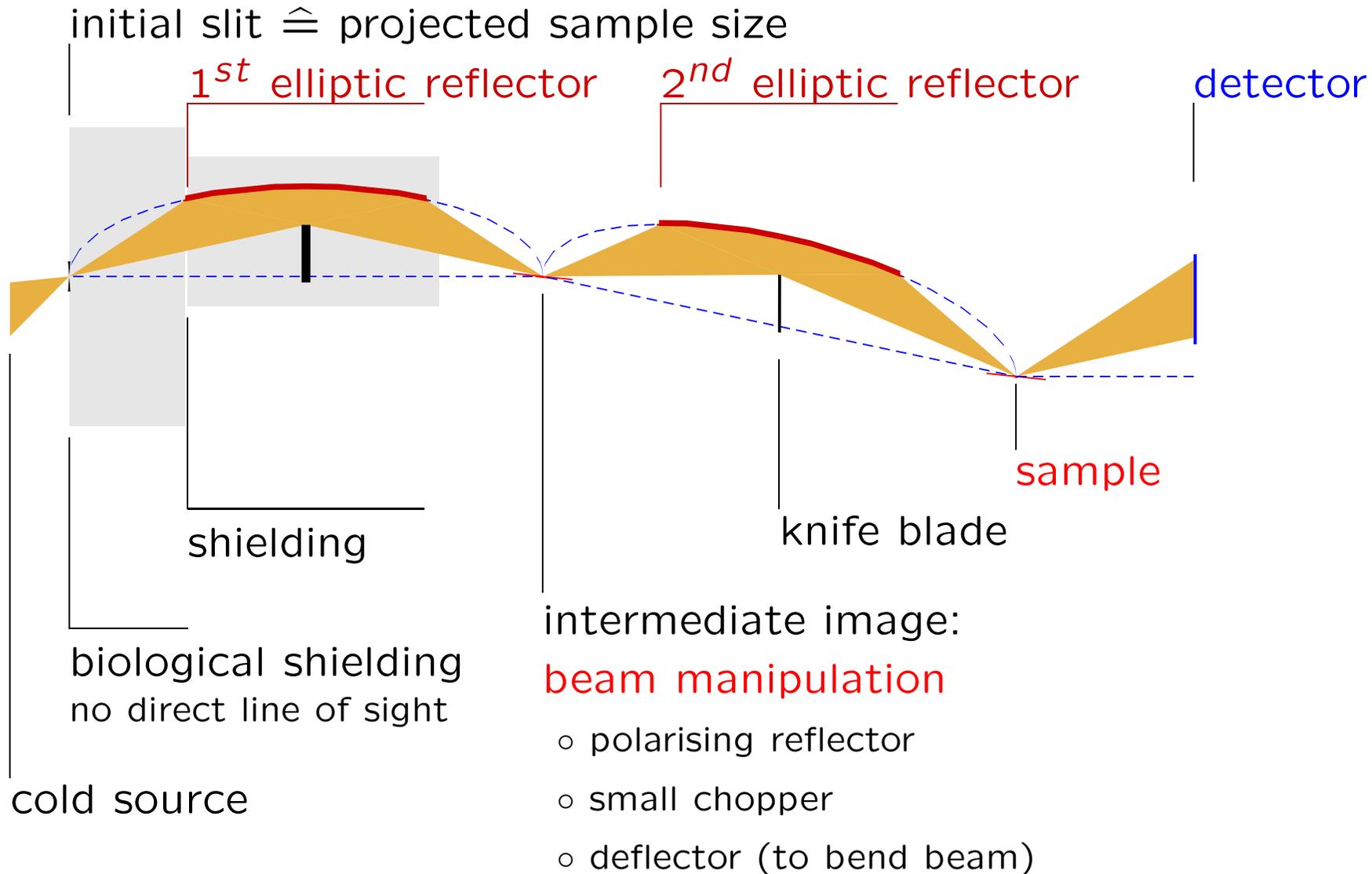
→ improvements under development

– coma aberration

→ correction possible

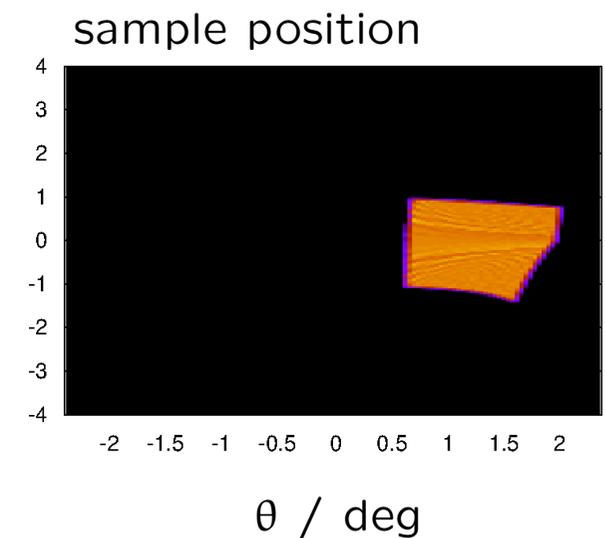
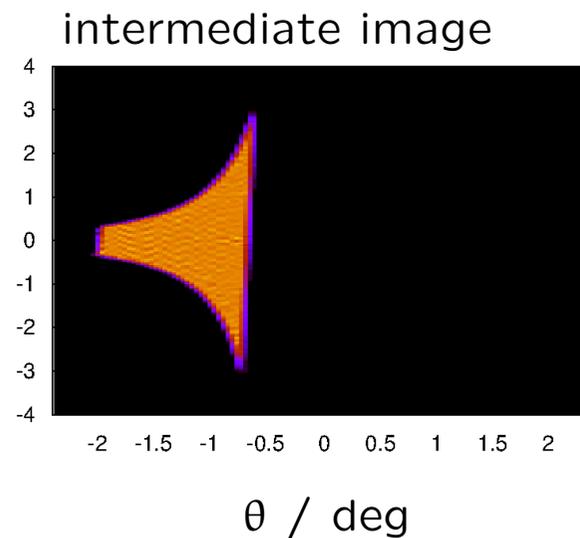
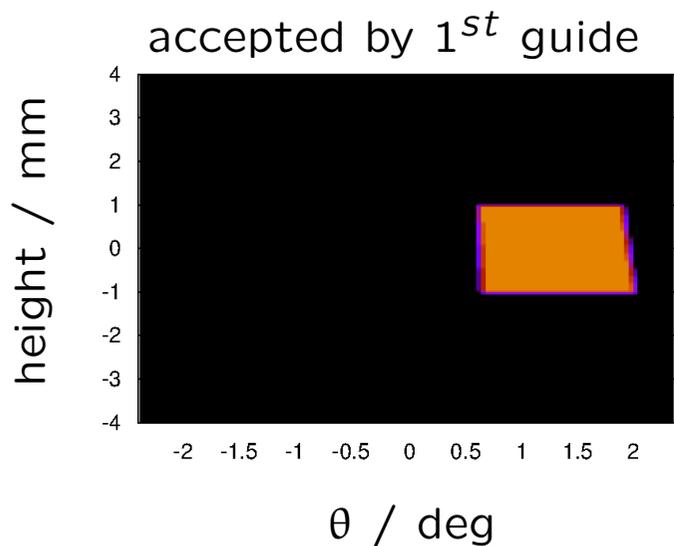
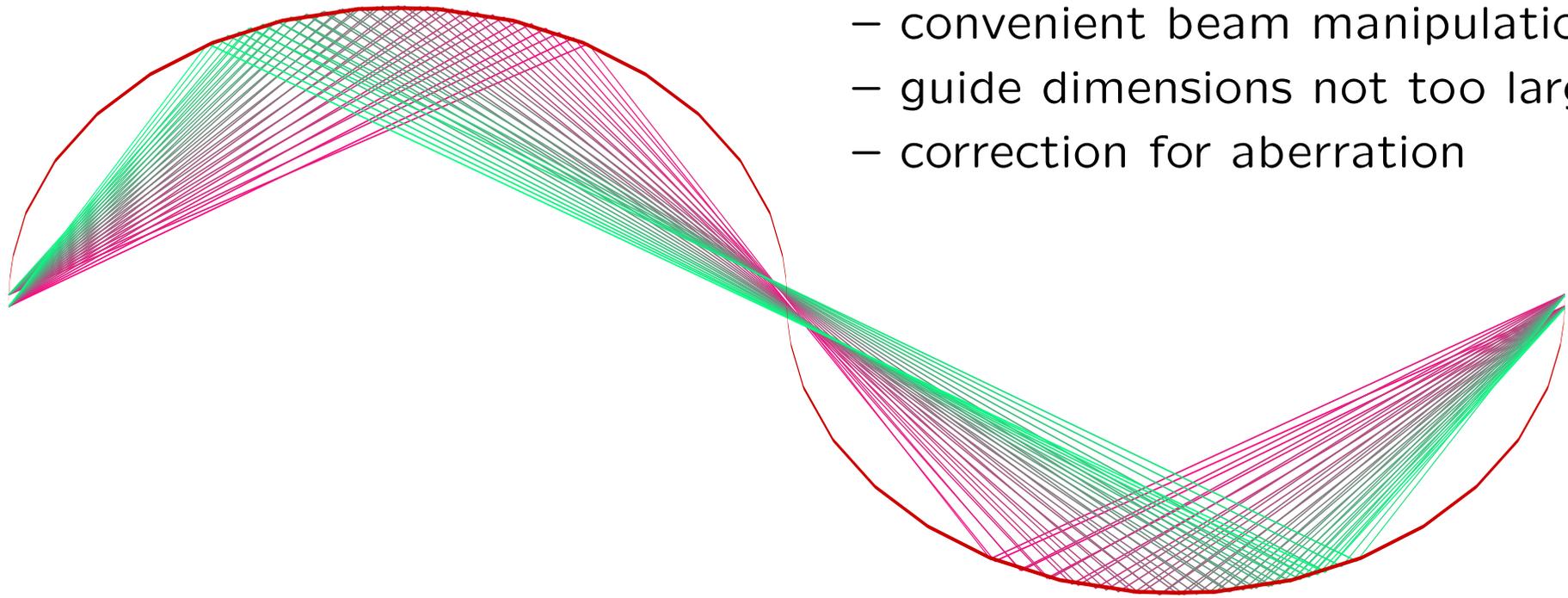
## Selene as an instrument concept (TOF)

cut in the scattering plane  
stretched by 10 normal to incident beam



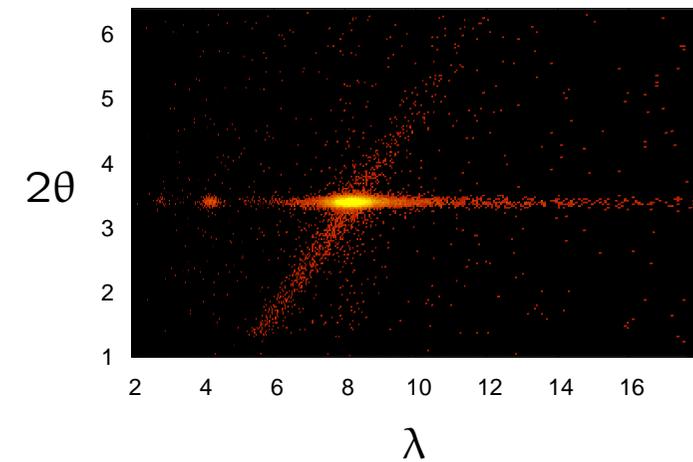
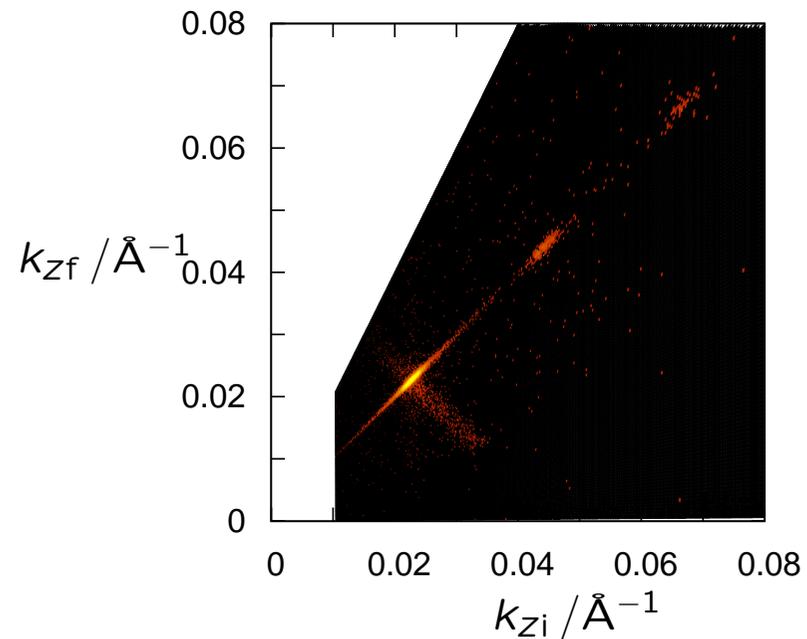
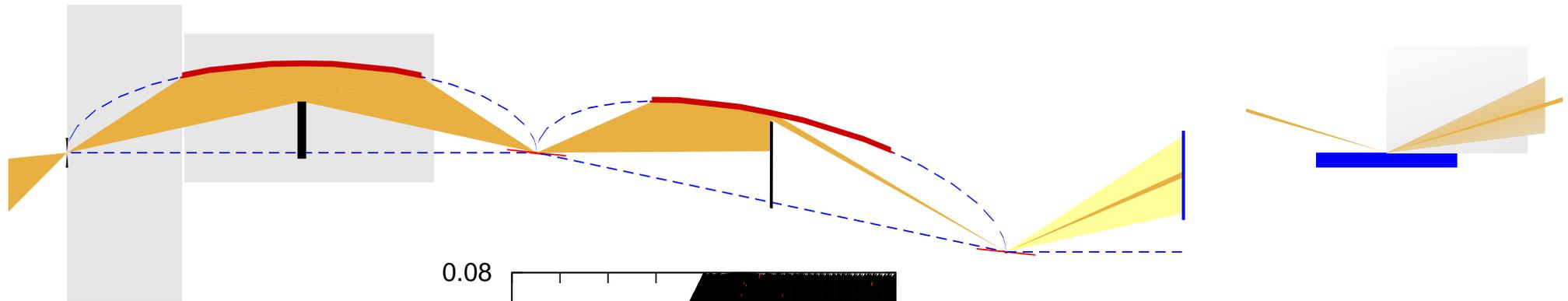
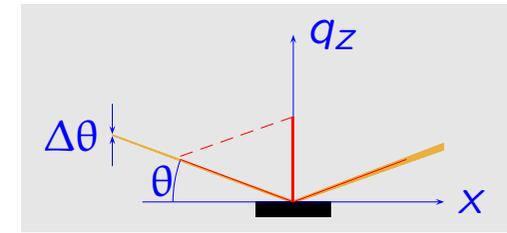
## why 2 ellipses?

- convenient beam manipulation
- guide dimensions not too large
- correction for aberration



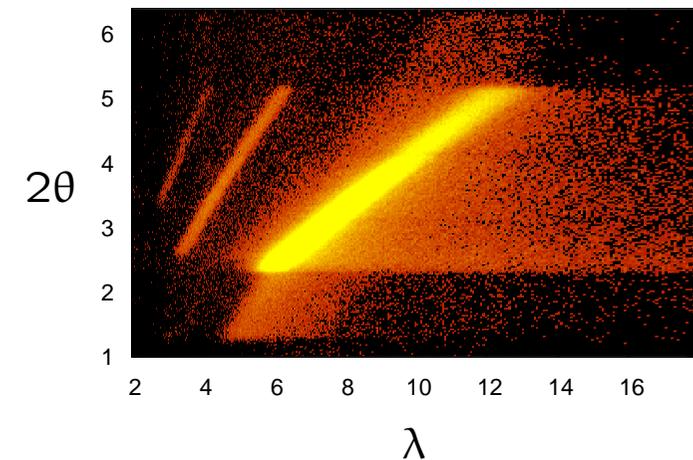
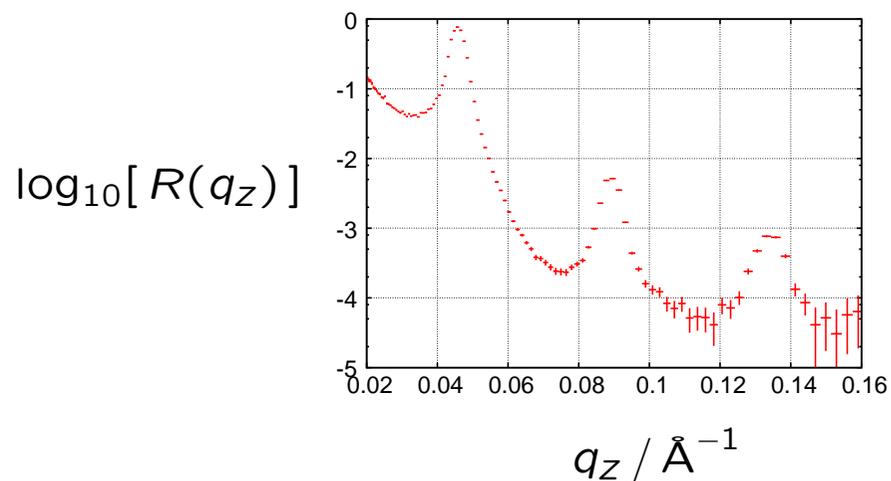
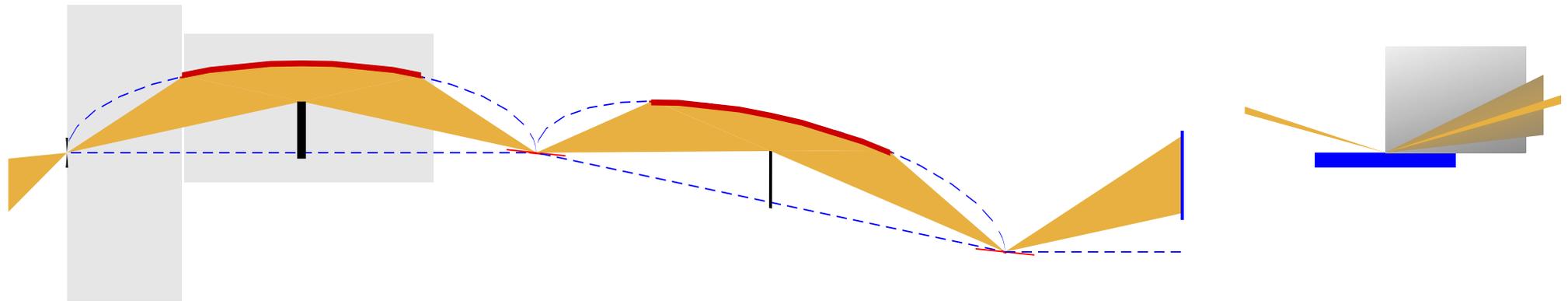
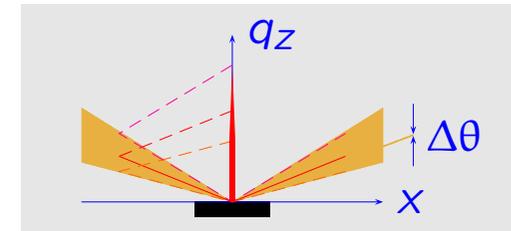
## mode: almost conventional

- beam is still convergent
- off-specular measurements are feasible



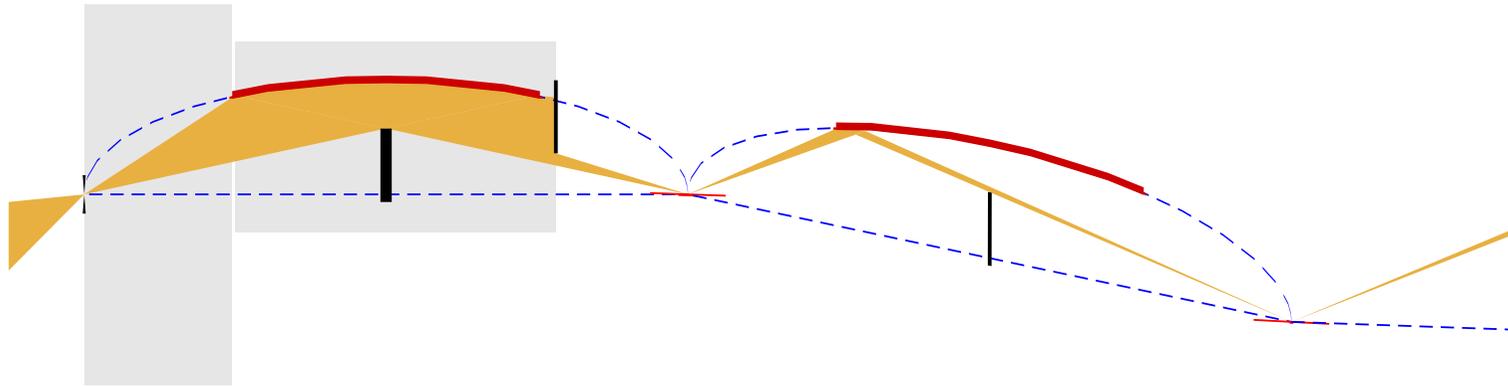
## mode: high-intensity specular reflectivity

- energy- and angle-dispersive  $\Rightarrow$  gain  $> 10$
- for fast scanning ( $T, H, E \dots$ )
- or if off-specular scattering is no problem

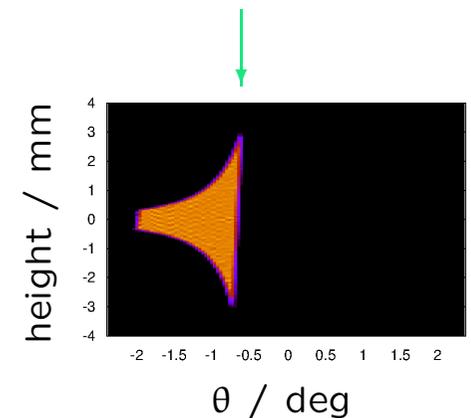
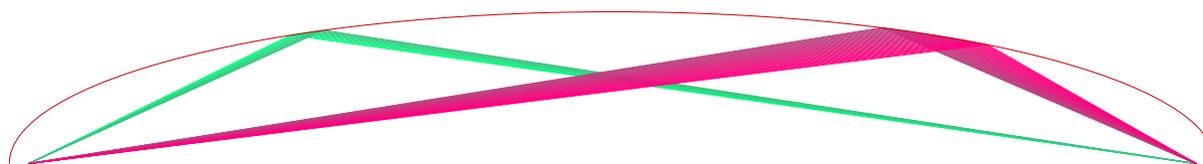


## mode: low-divergent beam

- uses the focusing due to coma aberration
- corresponds to Montel optics used at synchrotrons
- for high  $q_z$  resolution

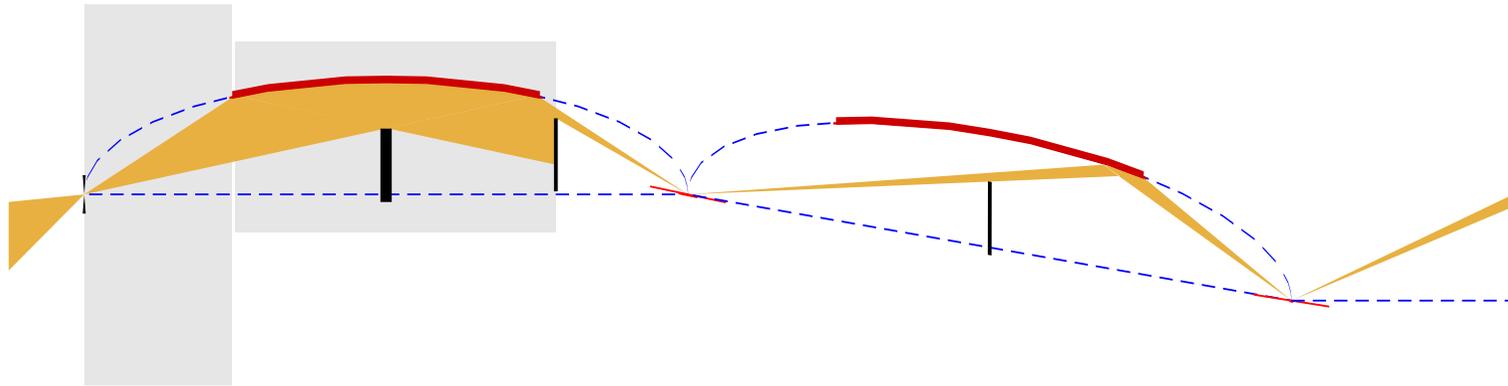


point source at focal point: intensity is a function of  $\theta$

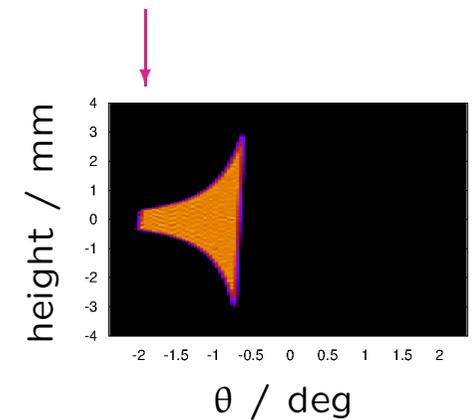
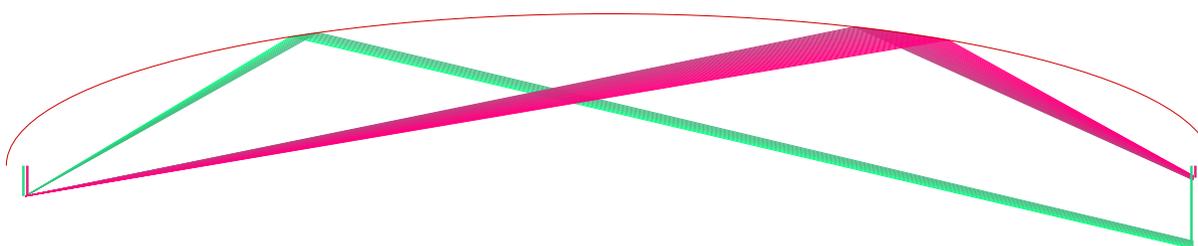


## mode: small spot size

- uses the focusing due to coma aberration
- scanning mode possible

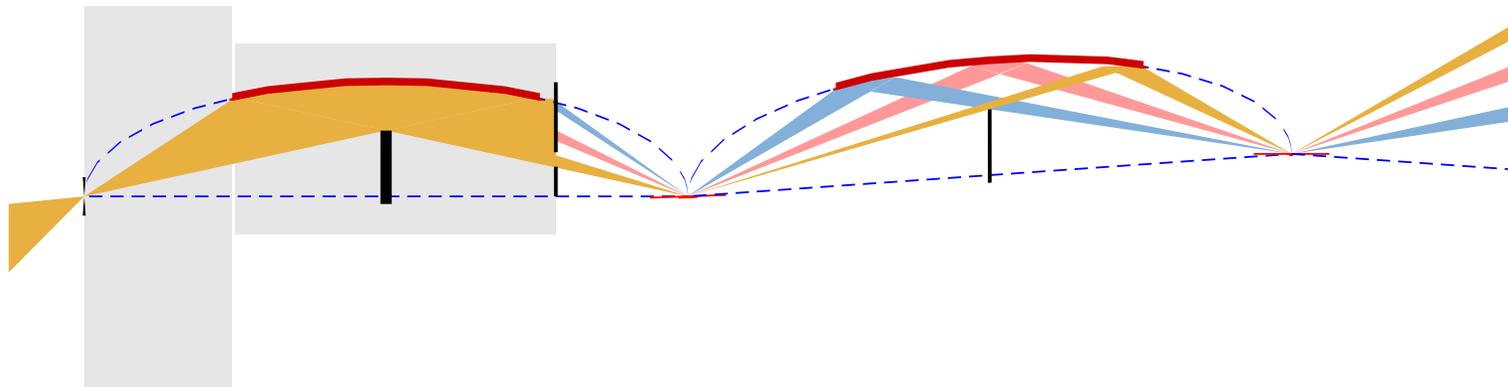


point source off focal point: image is a function of  $\theta$



## mode: wide $q$ -range

- shift diaphragm (chopper) between pulses
- vary  $\theta$  with fixed sample position
- suited for liquid surfaces

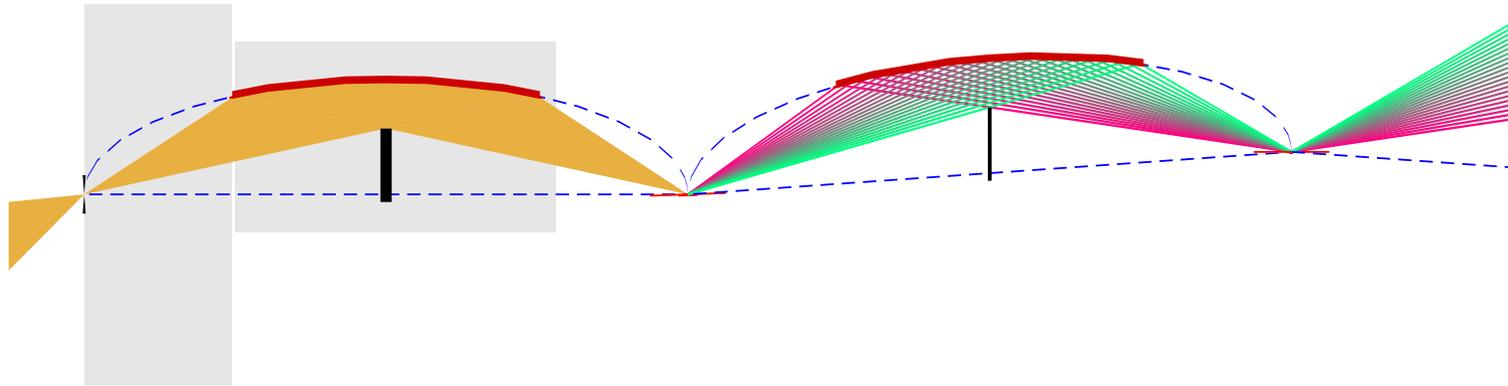


e.g.  $\lambda = 2 \text{ \AA} \dots 8 \text{ \AA}$

$\theta$	$q_z / \text{\AA}^{-1}$
$0.5^\circ$	0.014... 0.055
$1.5^\circ$	0.042... 0.165
$2.5^\circ$	0.070... 0.275

## mode: angle/energy encoding

- use a ml-monochromator at the intermediate image
- spectral analysis of the beam:  $\lambda / \theta$  encoding
- large  $\lambda$  on small  $\theta \Rightarrow$  wide  $q_z$ -range



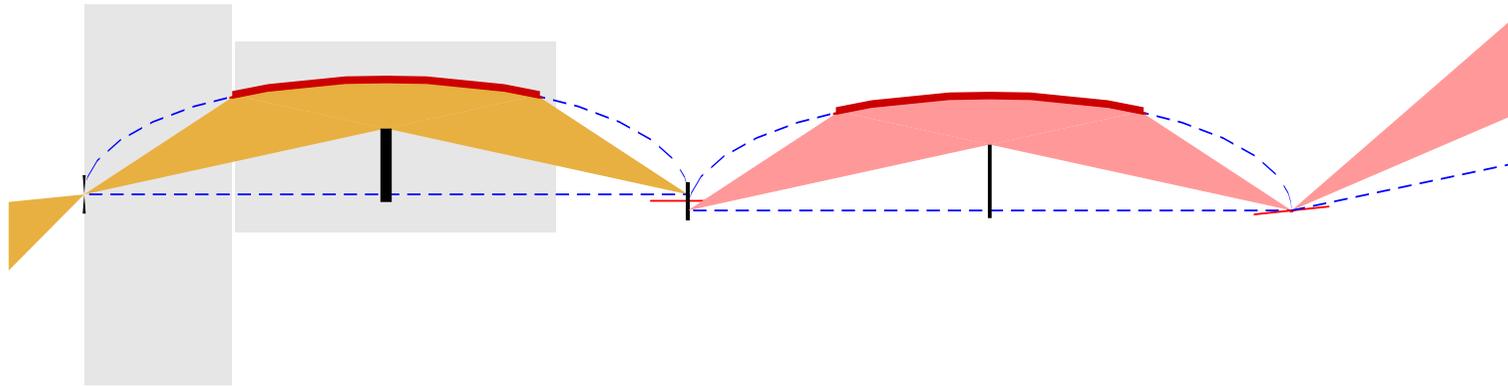
e.g.  $\lambda = 2 \text{ \AA} \dots 8 \text{ \AA}$

$\theta = 0.5^\circ \dots 2.5^\circ$

$\Rightarrow q_z = 0.014 \text{ \AA}^{-1} \dots 0.275 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$

## mode: high $q_z$ -resolution

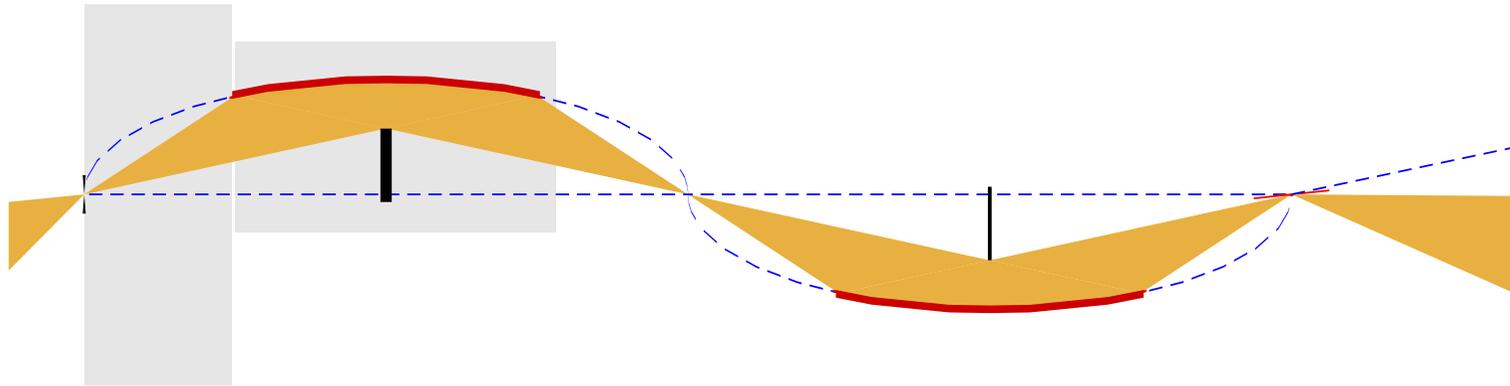
- double PG-monochromator at the intermediate image
- high resolution for  $\Delta\lambda/\lambda$ , i.e. specular reflectivity
- moderate resolution for  $q_x$



- convergent beam is used to recover losses due to the combination of TOF and monochromator

## mode: pure TOF

- free choice where to put the choppers



e.g. chopper behind 1<sup>st</sup> slit at  $x = 2$  m  
 $\Rightarrow \Delta\lambda/\lambda = \text{const.} = 5\%$

## Selene is a guide concept...

- prevents direct line of sight
  - **reduces radiation** in the guide
    - allows for **convenient beam manipulation**
  - reduces illumination of the sample environment
    - allows for a **convergent beam** set-up  
⇒ flux gain > 10



combination with focusing in the sample plane

- beam spot of the order of  $0.1 \times 1 \text{ mm}^2$  reachable
- **flux gain > 100** for **high-intensity specular reflectometry**

**tests:**  $[\text{La}_{2/3}\text{Sr}_{1/3}\text{MnO}_3 / \text{SrTiO}_3]_4 / \text{NGO}$ ,  $4 \times 5 \text{ mm}^2$

- no focusing in sample plane
- TOF mode,  $\lambda \in [2 \dots 18 \text{ \AA}]$
- measurement time:

conventional	6.5 h
<i>Selene</i>	45 min
gain-factor	8.3

