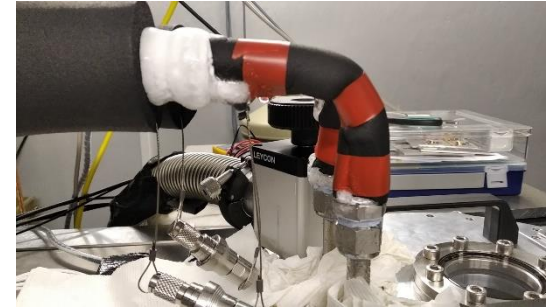


We have input from:

- PGAA, NePoMuc, Hereon (Solis), Powder diffractometers, Stress-Spec, AdvMat-group, Tof-Tof, Imaging
- A large number of instrument specific SE exists
- In addition, a large variety of SE needs is evident where the SE group would need to be involved, besides the supply and maintenance of standard equipment.
 - (1) HT equipment – control rack, measurements at different atmospheres
 - (2) Transport boxes for sensitive materials (i.e. batteries), glove box in E-Halle
 - (3) Advanced LT equipment (ADR cryostats) - including sample changer
 - (4) Load rig upgrades – support here for LT/HT measurements
 - (5) High pressure equipment (gas pressure cells) + infrastructure
 - (6) Humidity measurements or environment?

PGAA and NDP Sample Environment Needs

- PGAA needs only vacuum (<0.01 mbar), it is available
- NDP needs, they are available at PGAA
 - Vacuum ($<10^{-5}$ mbar) or He atmosphere in the chamber
 - Cooler (Jubalo, $<-20^{\circ}\text{C}$)
 - Portable potentiostat
- NDP needs, maybe interesting for other instrument, too
 - Evacuated or argon-filled transfer boxes (more of them) to transport the sensitive (flammable) samples (typically Li-ion batteries) between the sample preparation lab and the NDP measurement.
 - It should be compatible with other instruments, too.
 - The chamber needs to be modified to dock this box and to move the sample to sample position

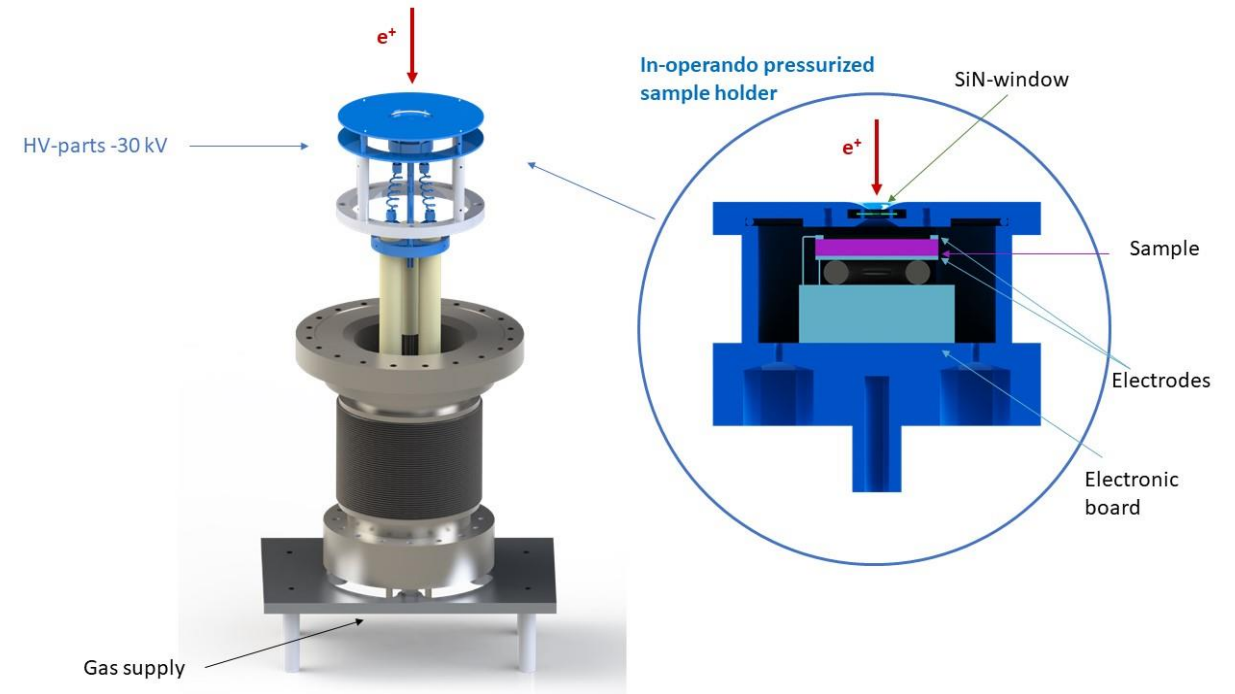


NEPOMUC – CDBS Sample Environment Needs

- Positron beam experiments require ultra-high vacuum ($< 10^{-7}$ mbar)
- Sample needs to be at high voltage (up to -30 kV)

- Sample environment (planned, partially realized)
 - High T \rightarrow upto 1300 K
 - Low T \rightarrow down to ~ 10 K
 - Higher gas atmosphere at sample upto 2 bar
 - Humid environment at sample
 - Application of electric fields / various potentials

- Sample transfer
 - Evacuated or argon-filled transfer boxes (more of them) to transport the sensitive (flammable) samples



Cryogenic load frame

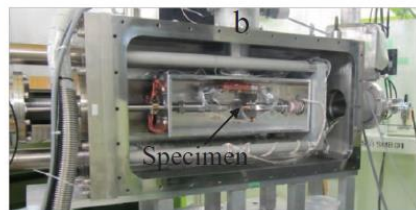
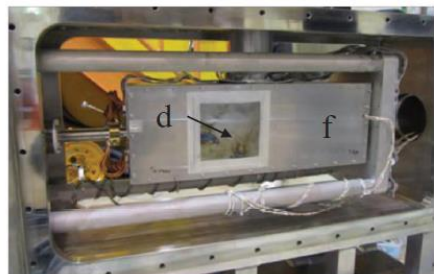
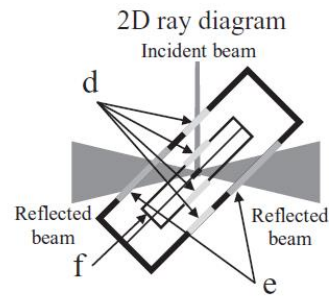
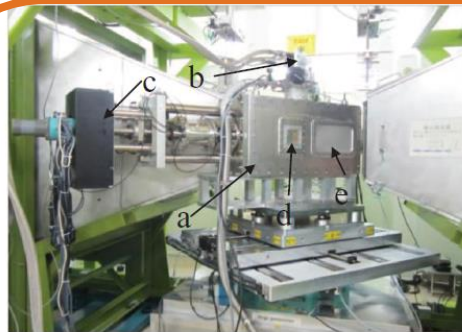
In situ mechanical behavior at cryogenic temperatures

Applications: cryogenic texture processing of zirconium nuclear alloys, strain sensitivity of superconducting magnet wires, cryogenic structural steels and low temperature shape memory alloys for space applications materials

Neutron Diffraction @STRESS-SPEC
+ compatible with SANS @SANS1
+ compatible with imaging for Bragg edge imaging and nGI

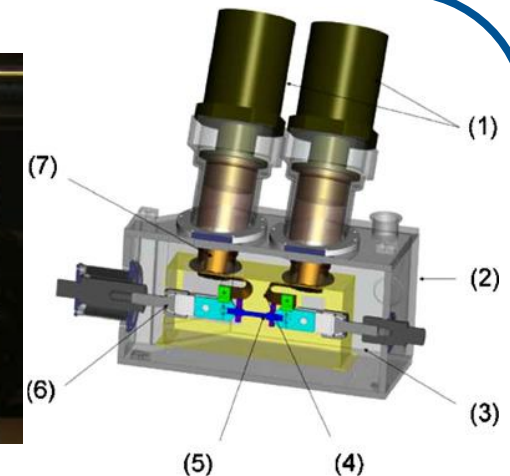
Temperatures below 75 K
Applied load up to 50 kN
+ rotation??

@JParck



(a) vacuum vessel, (b) GM refrigerator, (c) loading driver, (d) vanadium windows, (e) aluminum windows, and (f) thermal shield.

@ISIS



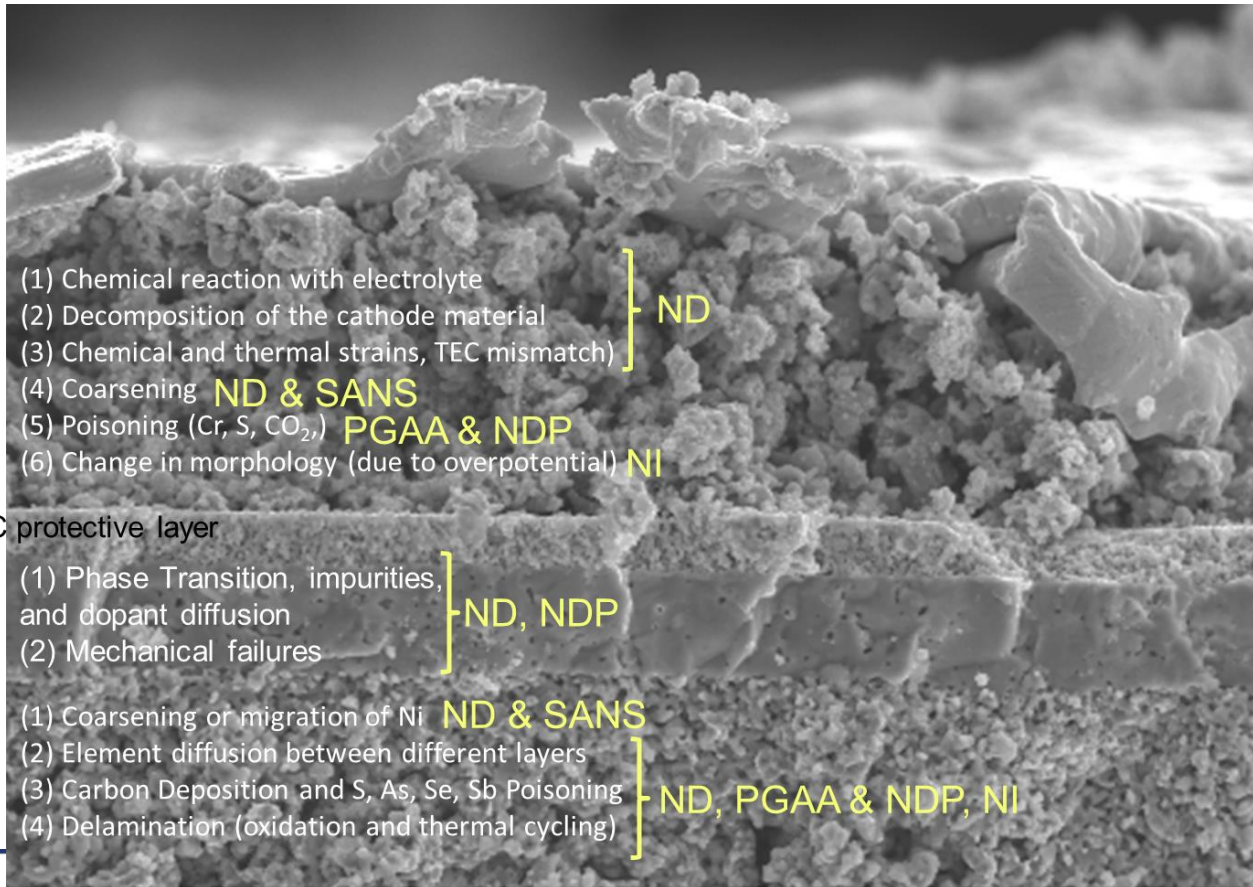
(1) two Leybold 1245 CCRs; (2) an outer vacuum vessel with aluminium windows to provide access for the incident and scattered neutrons; (3) the infrared radiation shield which is connected by thermal links (7) to the first stages of the CCRs; (4) the thermal links connecting the CCR second stages to the rig jaws; (5) the test sample; and (6) the 50 kN hydraulic stress rig.

Electrochemical cell

In situ electrochemical characterization

Applications: electrodes for high temperature fuel cells and electrolyzers, gas separation membranes and electrochemical reactors

Neutron Diffraction @STRESS-SPEC
+ compatible with SANS @SANS1?
+ compatible with imaging → tomography (+ rotation)



Temperatures up to 500 °C or more
Different atmospheres: O₂, air, H₂, CO...
wires

Diffraction: phase transformations and chemical stability, chemical and thermal strains at real operation conditions, proton diffusion...

SANS: nanocatalyst exsolution and nanocatalyst coarsening

Imaging: water / hydrogen / Li distribution

Sample Environment for Powder Diffraction

Sample environment already in use for SPODI

- CCR cryostats (SPODI equipment, modified FRM II standard)
- High-temperature furnace (SPODI equipment, FRM II standard)
- Automatic sample changer (SPODI equipment)
- Potentiostats for batteries (SPODI equipment)
- Tensile rig (SPODI equipment)
- Electric field setup (SPODI equipment)
- 5.5 T magnet (from FRM II pool)

Operation of ERWIN and FIREPOD besides SPODI will enhance the demand for sample environment

- Common pool for three diffractometers
- Supply of standard sample environment equipment
- Maintenance of standard sample environment equipment

Projects with sample environment group

- Completion of the cryogenic sample changer for CCR
- Use of robotic arms on cryostats - automated sample stick exchange
- High temperature measurements at different atmospheres, including gas flow rates using an exchange sample stick

Requirements for sample environment group

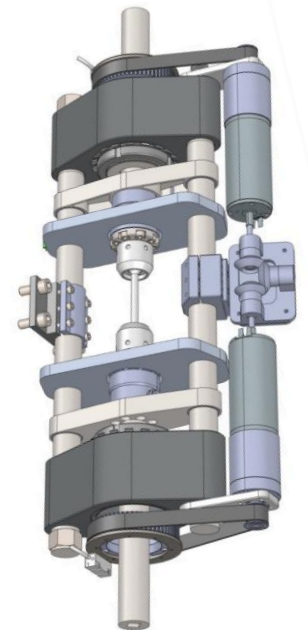
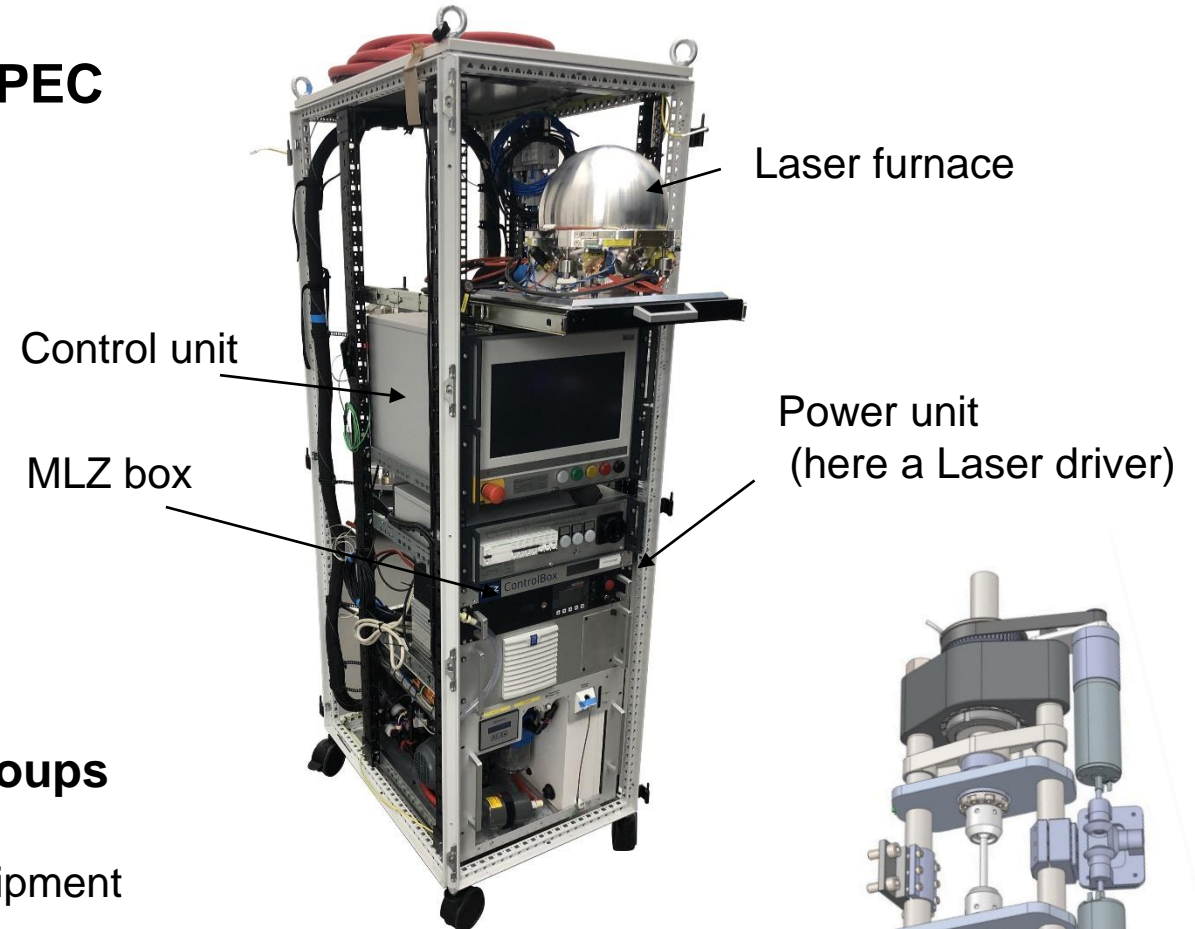
- Maintenance of cryostats
- Maintenance of high-temperature furnaces
- Support in the "automated sample change at low temperatures" projects
- Establishment of ADR cryostats and support to enable automated measurements
- Support in the project "High temperature measurements at different atmospheres"
- Support in the use of magnets

Sample environment used already at STRESS-SPEC

- High temperature furnaces (up to 1550° C)
- *Mirror furnace (own devices)*
- *Load rigs (own devices)*
- Cryostats (occasionally)
- Adapted devices for batteries (occasionally)

Projects/Sample environment needs

- Laser furnace as replacement of mirror furnace
- Common HT control rack – **SE/Instrument control groups were involved from the start**
 - Modular design to control different types of HT equipment
 - Would be useful to have also for all other HT applications/instruments
- Light weight load frame (50 kN) for robot
- Additional Heating and cooling capacities for load rigs



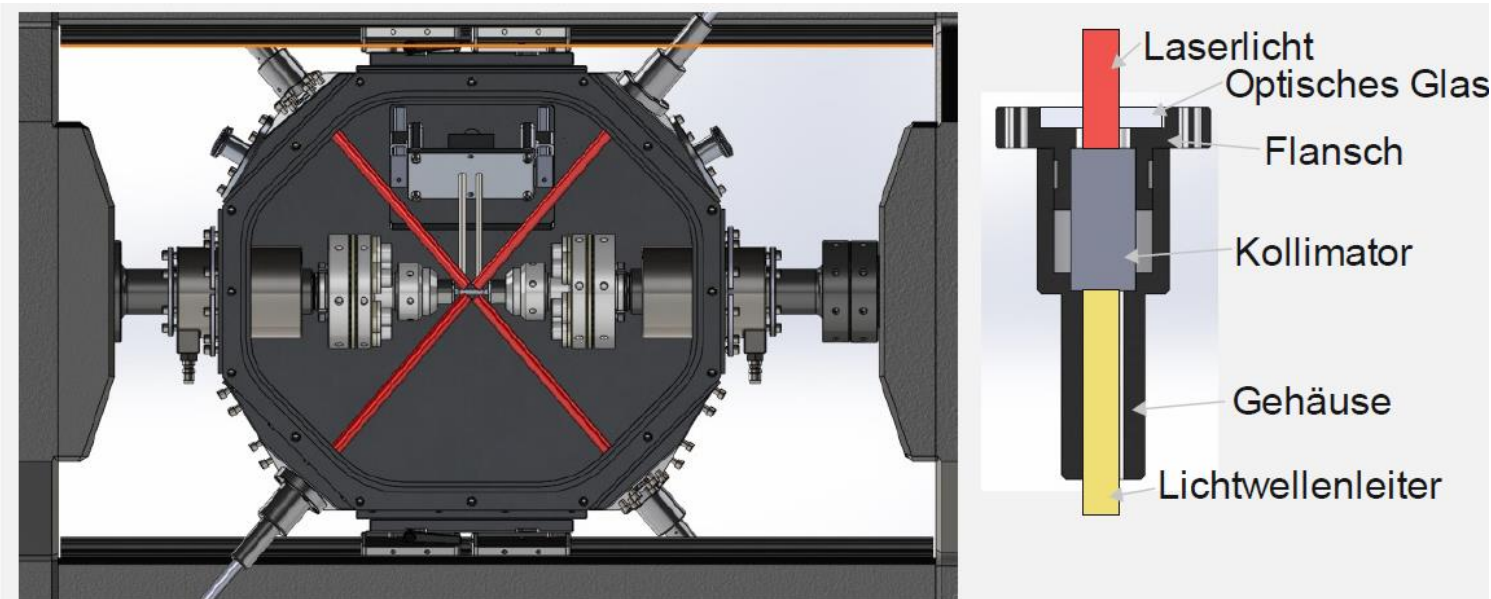
Light weight tensile rig
(< 30kg)

Testing machine designed to perform in-situ compression, tensile and fatigue experiments



Sample environment for:

- STRESS SPEC
- SANS-1
- ANTARES



For samples with high conductivity that cannot be brought to high temperatures with conventional resistance heating. Four infrared lasers with 70 W each provide the power to heat common samples up to 1200 °C.

-> Control rack for laser heating has to be built

Abbildung 1: Gesamtansicht der Prüfmaschine (oben) mit CAD-Zeichnung der Ofenkammer mit Strahlenoptik sowie der Kollimatorbefestigung (unten links bzw. rechts).

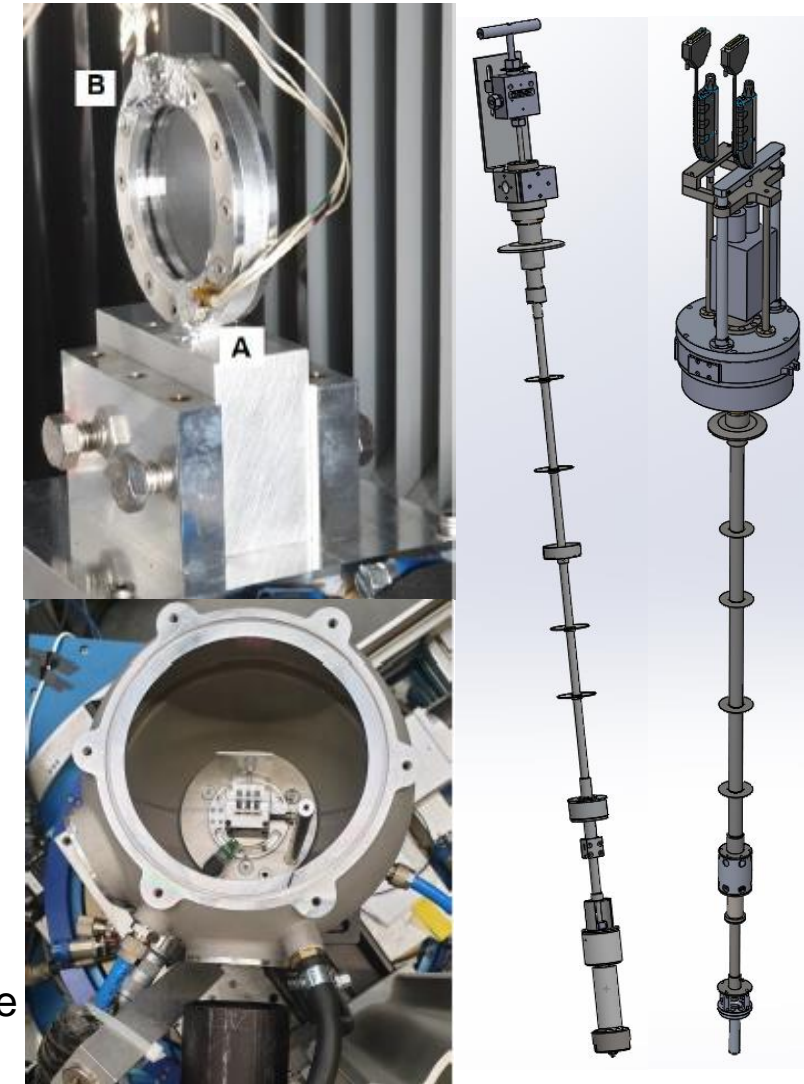
Electrochemistry infrastructure at FRM II

- Sample preparation:
 - Ar Glovebox with mg scale, pouch cell sealer, coin cell crimper, spin coater
 - Büchi Vacuum oven(s) for pre drying of cell parts, electrodes, separators
 - Electrochemical cells for transmission/flexion geometry (SANS/GISANS), 2 and 3 electrode versions
 - Transfer port for vacuum system on Glovebox
- Experiment:
 - Potentiostats with TTL connection to beamline
 - Cell holders (reusable cells, pouch cells) for sample stages
 - Vacuum suitcase and transfer system on PGAA for inert sample loading
 - Heating system (<120°C) for Electrochemical cells (relevant for polymer batteries)

Target
Beamlines:
SANS-1
PGAA
Stress Spec
SPODI
ERWIN?

TOFTOF

- Requirements for the sample environment group
 - Maintenance and support of already existing sample environments:
 - Cryostat (CCR-17)
 - Dilution unit
 - High temperature furnace
 - 2.2 T magnet
- Actual projects:
 - Raman spectroscopy in situ with neutrons
 - Optical cell (10 – 100 °C), available, not tested with neutrons
 - Sample stick, CCR-17, under construction
 - High pressure
 - Up to 200 MPa (10 – 100°C), available
 - Up to 500 MPa, CCR-17, under construction
 - Humidity measurements (membranes and thin films)
 - Up to now humidity generator from E13 will be used
 - Humidity chambers for TOFTOF, LaDiff, and SANS / RefSANS (E13) available
 - Possibility to combine with Raman for TOFTOF and LaDiff



TOFTOF

- Future projects:
 - Humidity measurements
 - Measurement of different kind of humidities (H_2O , D_2O , Ethanol, ...) and there mixtures and logging them with NICOS
 - Design of new humidity generator:
 - Controlling over NICOS
 - Designed for transportation
 - High pressure:
 - Using the motor-drive pressure pump from sample environment group at TOFTOF with NICOS
- Scientific areas:
 - Material science, batteries, soft matter, magnetism



General requirement: **Short distance between sample and detector** for high spatial resolution

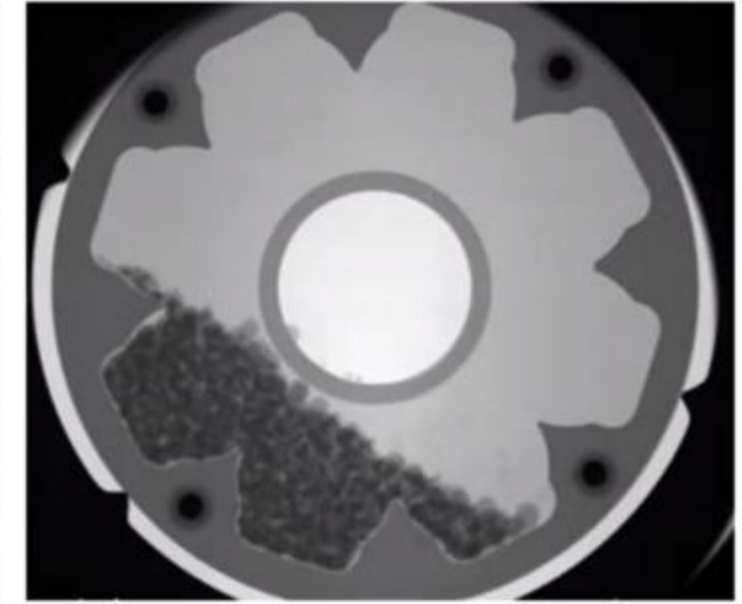
- Most pool sample environment not optimized for neutron imaging (too bulky)
- This will probably not change...

Existing *dedicated* sample environment at ANTARES:

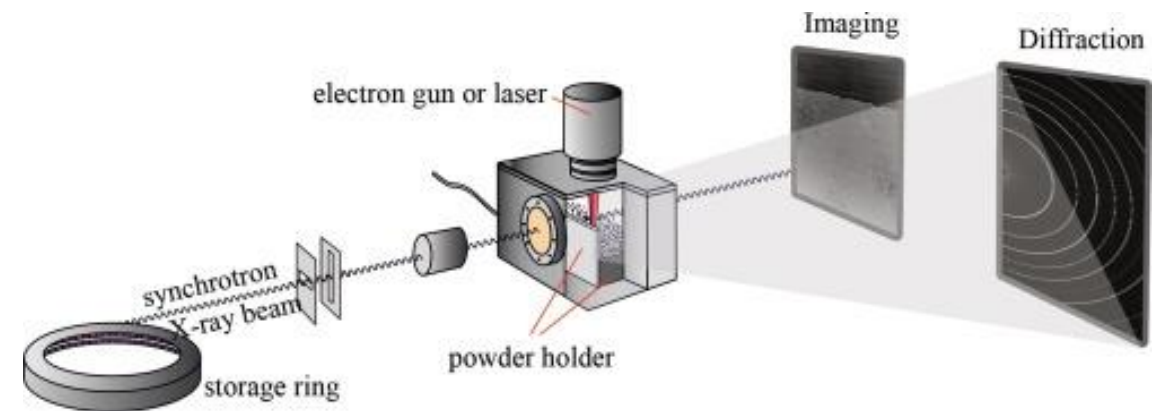
- Bottom-loading ^3He cryostat (500mK)
- CCR with 50mm sample tube diameter (4K)
- CC from PUMA (4K)
- Custom vacuum furnace for H-diffusion in metal, magnetism, etc. (up to 400°C, no dedicated control box, need to use control box of „battery furnace“)
- TUM Tensile rig designed in collaboration with M. Hofmann, R. Gilles, P. Jüttner
- Helmholtz magnet (0.4T, normal conducting) for polarized neutrons + nGI

→ We are well-equipped but mostly independent of pool equipment

- Setup for in-situ microwave freeze-drying experiments (designed by M. Hilmer, TUM Weihenstephan)
- Upgrade tensile rig for tomography?
- In-situ setup for additive manufacturing by SLM:
 - In-situ study of texture evolution during printing
 - Defect evolution as function of printing parameters
 - No clear plans yet, but MLZ should try to address this field
 - Joint development for diffraction, SANS, imaging?



Freeze-drying setup test at BNC, Hungary



C. Ioannidou, et. al, J. Mat. Des., **219** (2022) 110790 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matdes.2022.110790>