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Project No. 2014P0803 Title of experiment Development and application of on-beam SEOP based $^3\text{He}$ spin filter at BL15 Name of principal investigator Takayuki OKU Affiliation J-PARC Center	Name of instrument scientist Jun-ichi Suzuki Name of Instrument/(BL No.) TAIKAN / BL15 Date(s) of experiment(s) 2014/05/21-2014/05/23

1. Outline of experimental method and results. (Experimental method and results should be reported including sample information such as composition, physical and/or chemical characteristics.)

We performed polarized small-angle neutron scattering demonstration experiments on silver behenate ( $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{43}\text{AgO}_2$ ). In this study, we aim to separate coherent and incoherent neutron scattering components from silver behenate by using polarized  $^3\text{He}$  gas as a neutron spin analyzer. Schematic drawing of the experiments is shown in Fig. 1. The polarization analysis set up consists of a supermirror based neutron spin polarizer, a neutron spin flipper, a sample area, a polarized  $^3\text{He}$  gas analyzer with a magnetic environment device and 2D detector bank. The size of the  $^3\text{He}$  cell was 35 mm in diameter and 55 mm in length. The pressure length-product of the cell was 11 amg $\cdot$ cm. The distance between the sample and the polarized  $^3\text{He}$  cell was almost 10 mm. So the  $^3\text{He}$  cell analyzer had a coverage angle of 26 degree. Considering the present geometry, the small angle detector bank must be fully covered by the  $^3\text{He}$  analyzer.

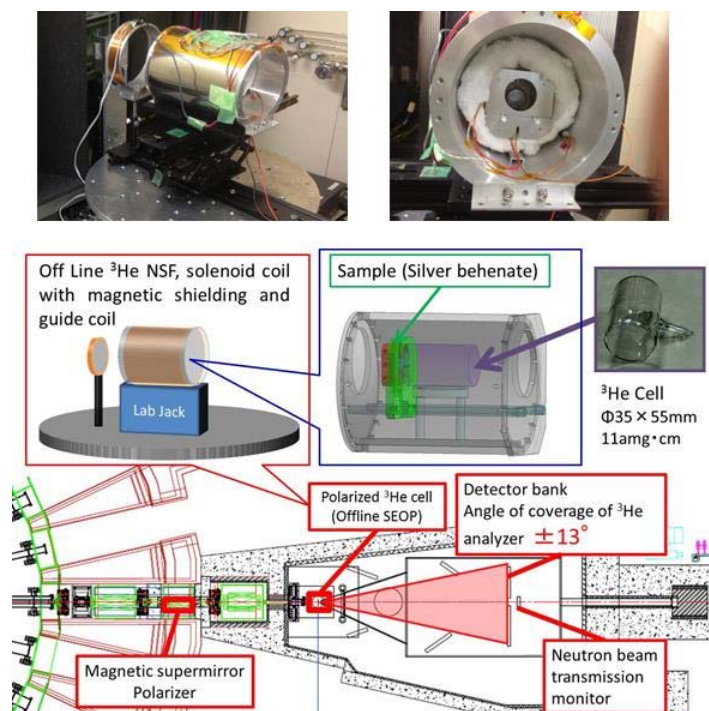


Fig.1 Schematic drawing of experimental setup.

The  $^3\text{He}$  gas was polarized by using spin-exchange optical pumping (SEOP) station and then brought into the beamline. The nuclei polarization of the gaseous  $^3\text{He}$  at the start of the experiment was 59.5% and the observed relaxation time at BL15 was 96.6 hours. The magnetic environment device for polarized  $^3\text{He}$  cell included the adiabatic fast passage (AFP) NMR, which was a technique to measure the polarization of the  $^3\text{He}$  nuclei and reverse the direction of the  $^3\text{He}$  nuclear spin with respect to a static magnetic field. So we could detect a spin

## 1. Experimental method and results (continued)

Figure 2 shows the two dimensional SANS patterns on the small angle detector bank measured with neutrons of  $\lambda=3.0$  Å. It took two hours to collect each pattern. The polarization of the  $^3\text{He}$  nuclei was decreased to 54 % at the end of the experiments. During these measurements, we did not change the polarity of the  $^3\text{He}$  nuclear spin. Three Debye-Scherrer rings from silver behenate were observed in the non-spin-flip (+, +) scattering pattern and relatively higher background was observed in the spin-flip (-, +) scattering pattern. It was confirmed that all the small angle detector banks were covered by the polarized  $^3\text{He}$  gas analyzer.

Figure 3 shows the one dimensional SANS profile. Because of the imperfect polarizing performance of the supermirror polarizer and the polarized  $^3\text{He}$  spin analyzer, these observed intensities include four components written as follows:

$$I_{\text{obs}}^{\text{SFon}} = N_+ I_{(+,+)} T_{++} + N_+ I_{(-,+)} T_{-+} + N_- I_{(+,+)} T_{++} + N_- I_{(-,+)} T_{-+},$$

$$I_{\text{obs}}^{\text{SFoff}} = N_- I_{(+,+)} T_{-+} + N_- I_{(-,+)} T_{++} + N_+ I_{(+,+)} T_{++} + N_+ I_{(-,+)} T_{-+},$$

where  $I_{\text{obs}}^{\text{SFon}}$  and  $I_{\text{obs}}^{\text{SFoff}}$  are the observed intensities with the spin flipper on and off,  $I_{(+,+)}$  and  $I_{(-,+)}$  are the intensity of the spin non-flip and spin flip components,  $N_+$  and  $N_-$  are injected neutron with up and down spin,  $T_{++}$  and  $T_{-+}$  are transmission of the polarized  $^3\text{He}$  analyzer of the neutron with spin being parallel and antiparallel to the  $^3\text{He}$  nuclear spin. The  $I_{(+,+)}$  and the  $I_{(-,+)}$  can be written by

$$I_{(+,+)} = I_{\text{coh}} + 1/3 I_{\text{inc}}$$

$$I_{(-,+)} = 2/3 I_{\text{inc}}$$

where  $I_{\text{coh}}$  and  $I_{\text{inc}}$  are the coherent and incoherent scattering components of the silver behenate, respectively. Figure 4 shows the  $I_{(+,+)}$  and  $I_{(-,+)}$  components calculated according with these equation. We succeeded in separating the coherent and incoherent scattering components by using the polarized  $^3\text{He}$  gas as a spin analyzer.

In conclusion, we performed polarized small-angle neutron scattering demonstration experiments on silver behenate with using the polarized  $^3\text{He}$  gas as a spin analyzer and

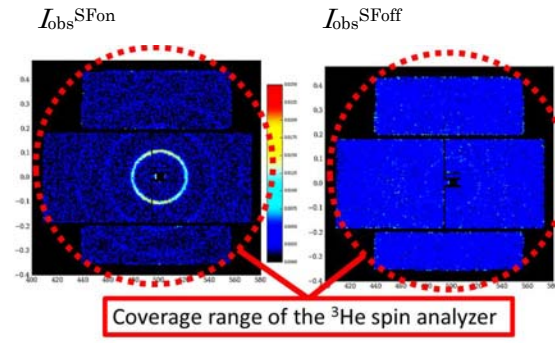


Fig.2 2D SANS intensities measured with the spin flipper on and off.

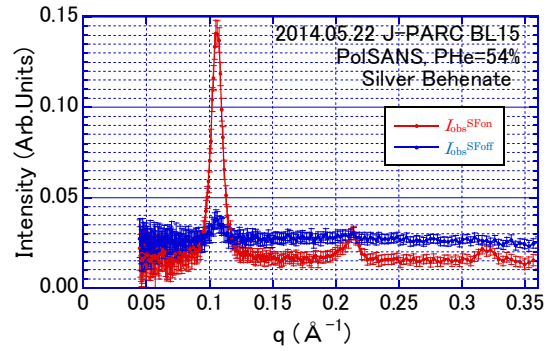


Fig.3 1D SANS intensities with the spin flipper on and off.

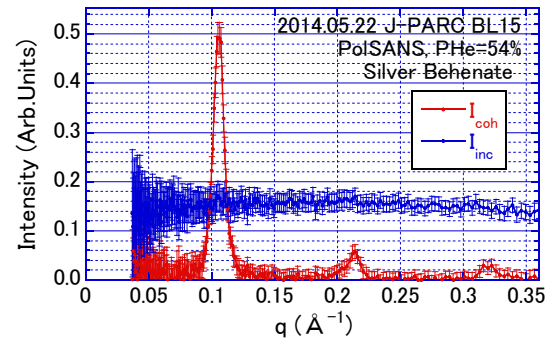


Fig.4 Coherent and incoherent scattering components of silver behenate.

succeeded in separating the coherent and incoherent scattering components. It was confirmed that the relaxation time of the polarized  $^3\text{He}$  gas at BL15 was long enough. Because the beam time of the BL15 is very tight and most of the experiments performed within a few days, the offline SEOP based polarized  $^3\text{He}$  analyzer is effective and realistic option for BL15.

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