

# Novel method for studying hydrogen storage process in the nanometer length scale using count rate of neutrons scattered at a small angle and probabilistic structure generation

Arnab Majumdar, Martin Müller, Sebastian Busch

# Agenda

1

Scientific problem

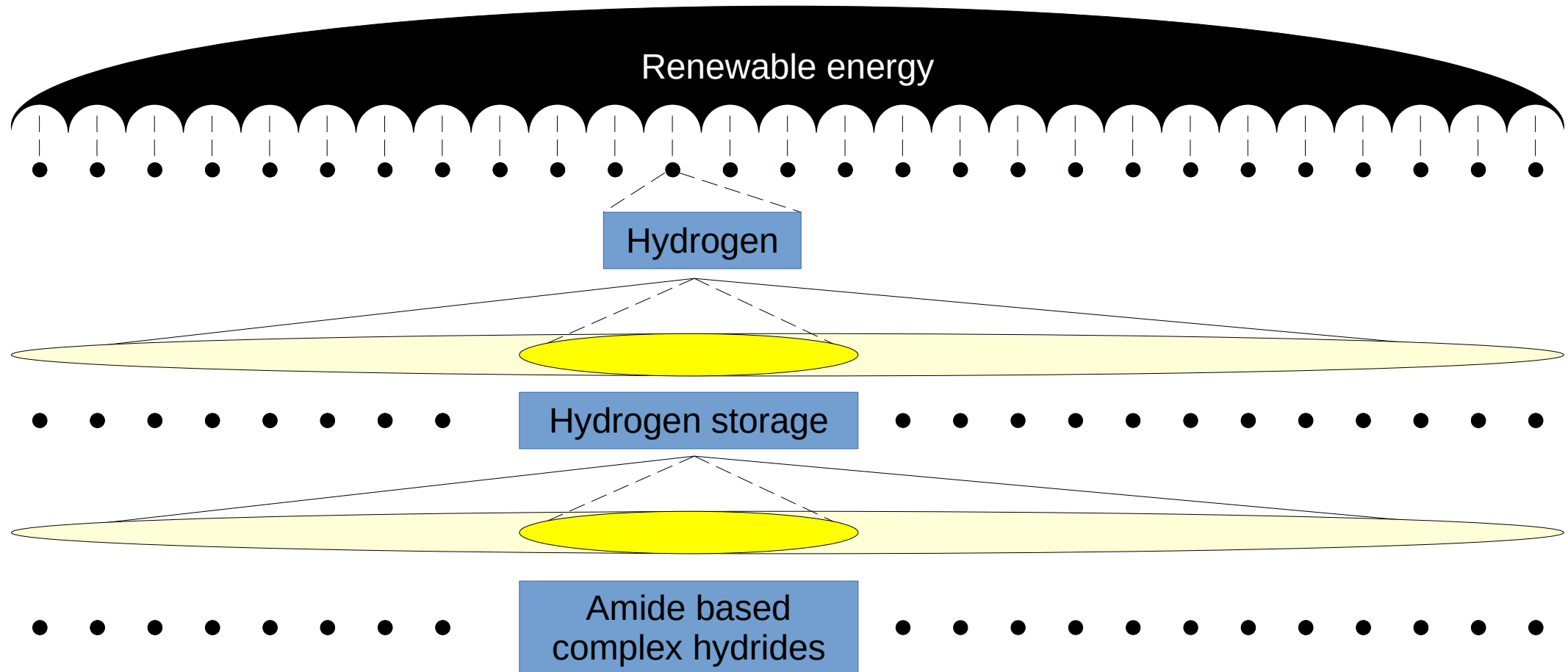
2

Calculation of neutron count rate from simulation

3

Structure generation using probabilistic simulation

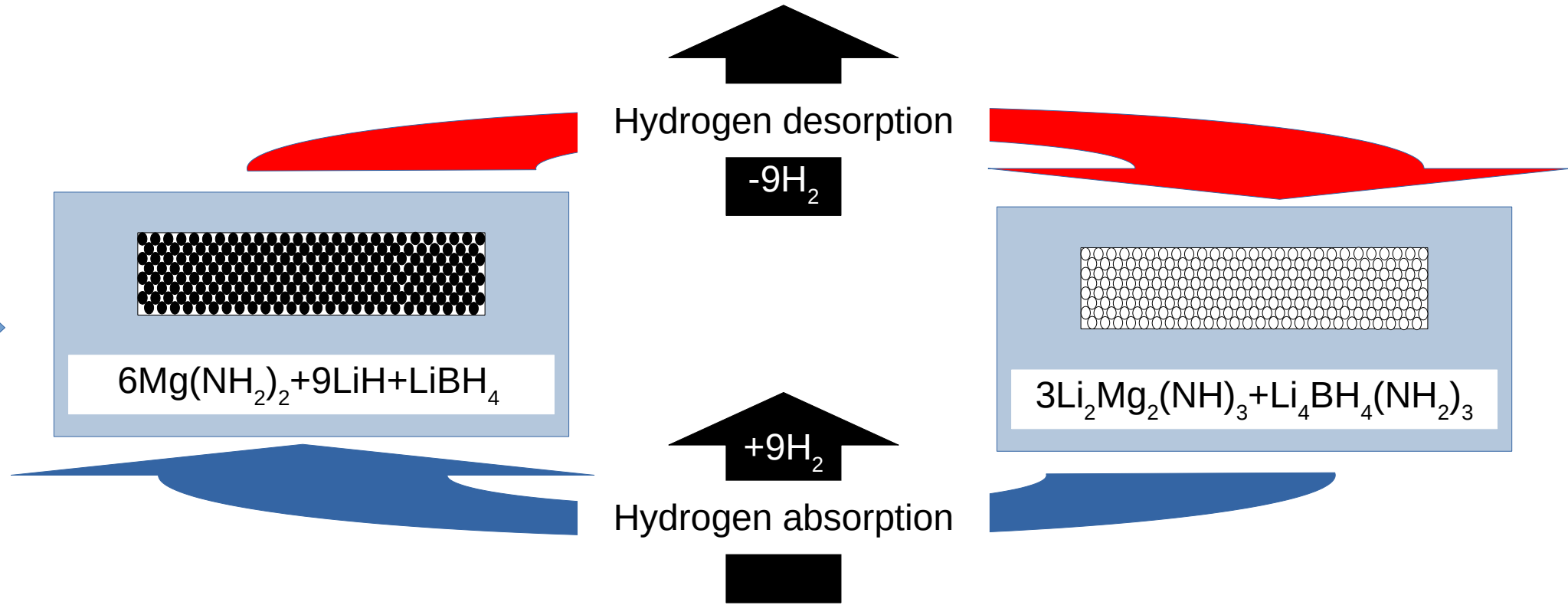
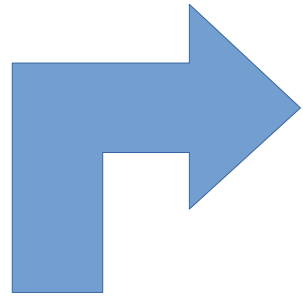
# Focus



# Hydrogen storage using amide based complex hydrides

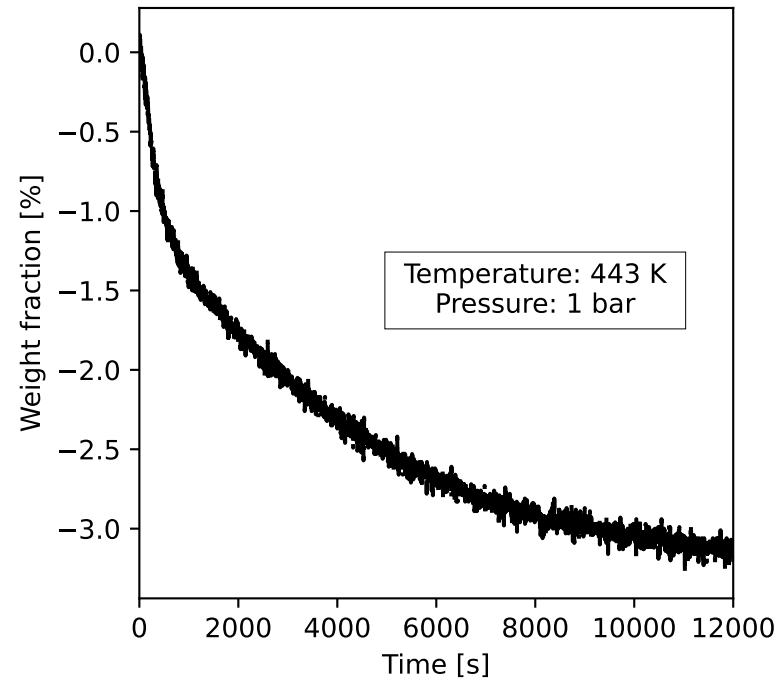


Ball milled sample

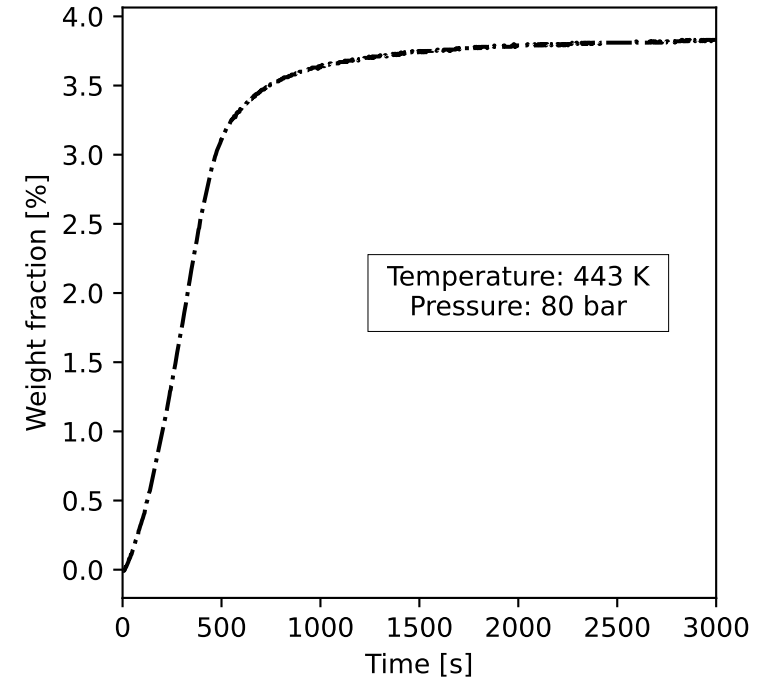


# Engineering length scale: Volumetry measurement

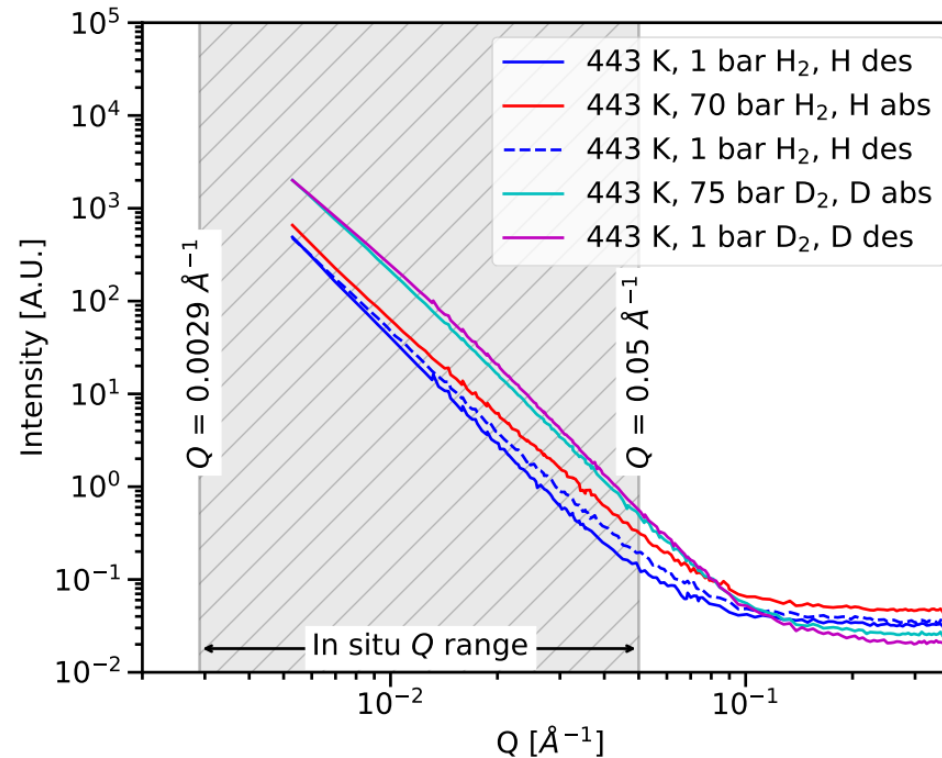
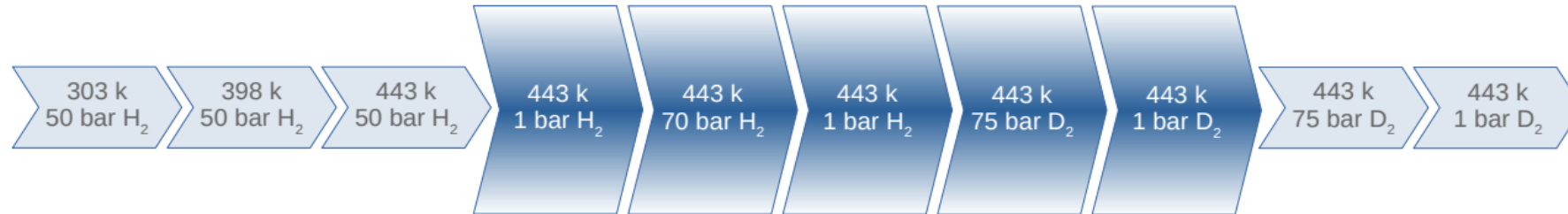
## Desorption



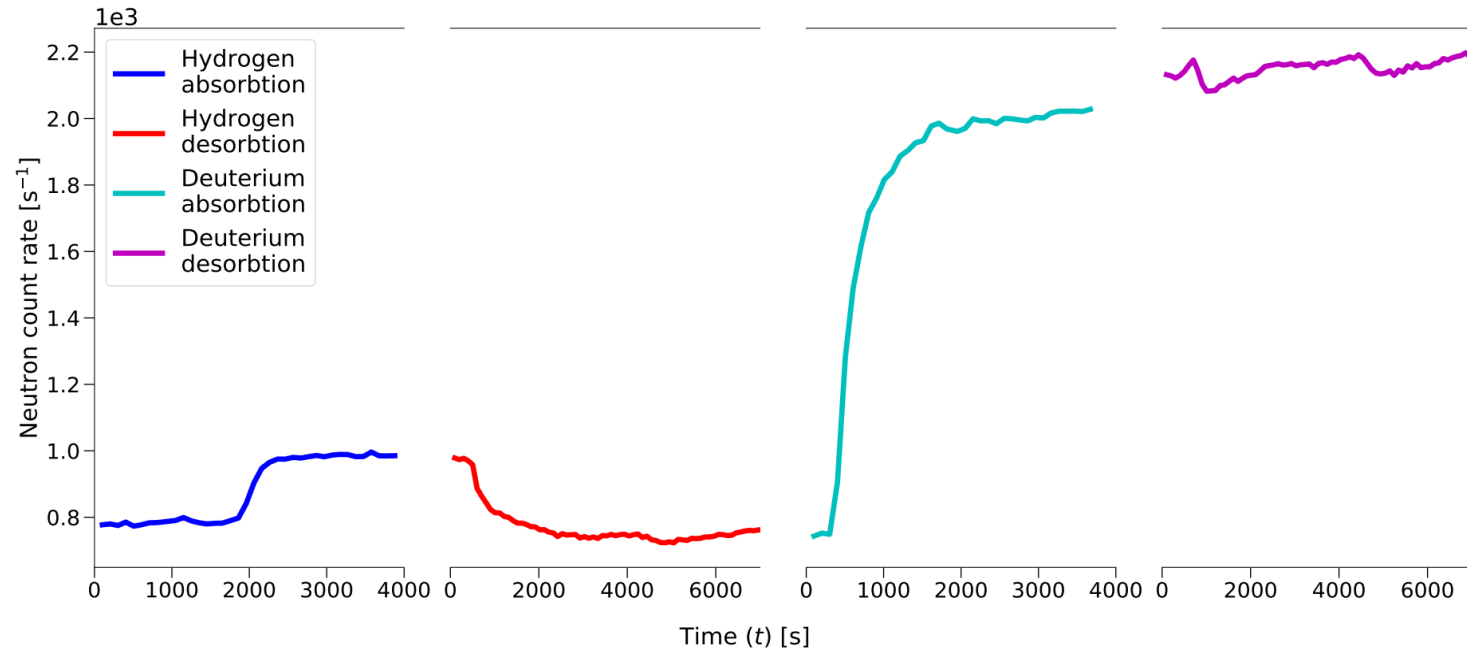
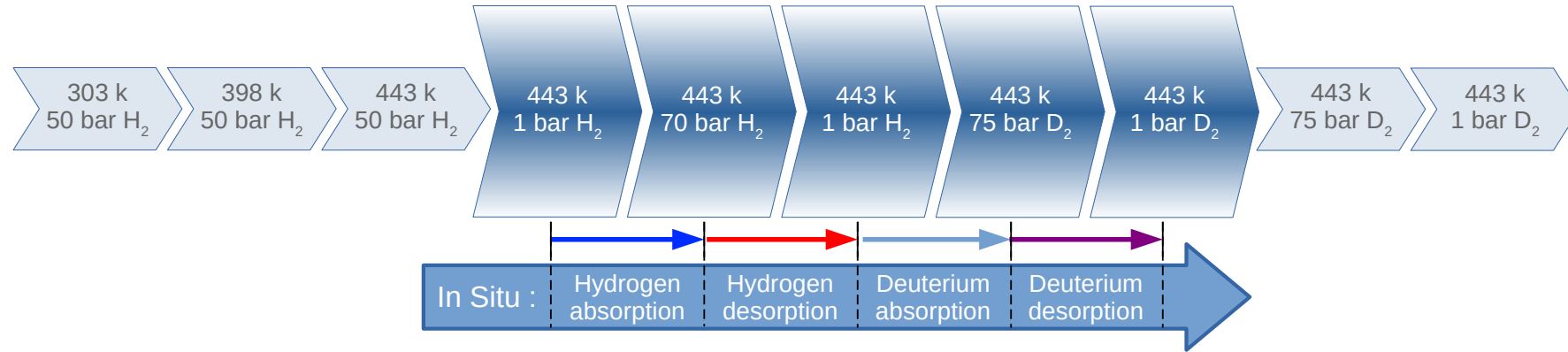
## Absorption



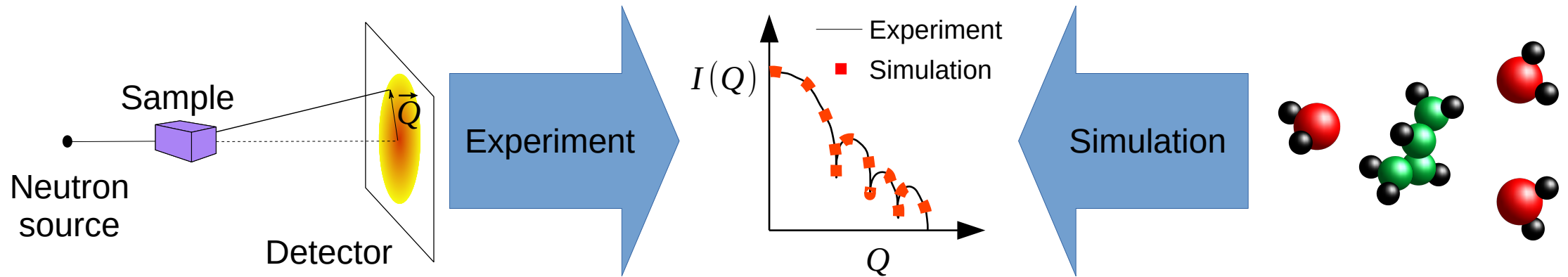
# Nanometer length scale: Small Angle Neutron Scattering (SANS) measurement



# Nanometer length scale: In situ SANS measurement



# Complementary use of simulations and SANS experiments





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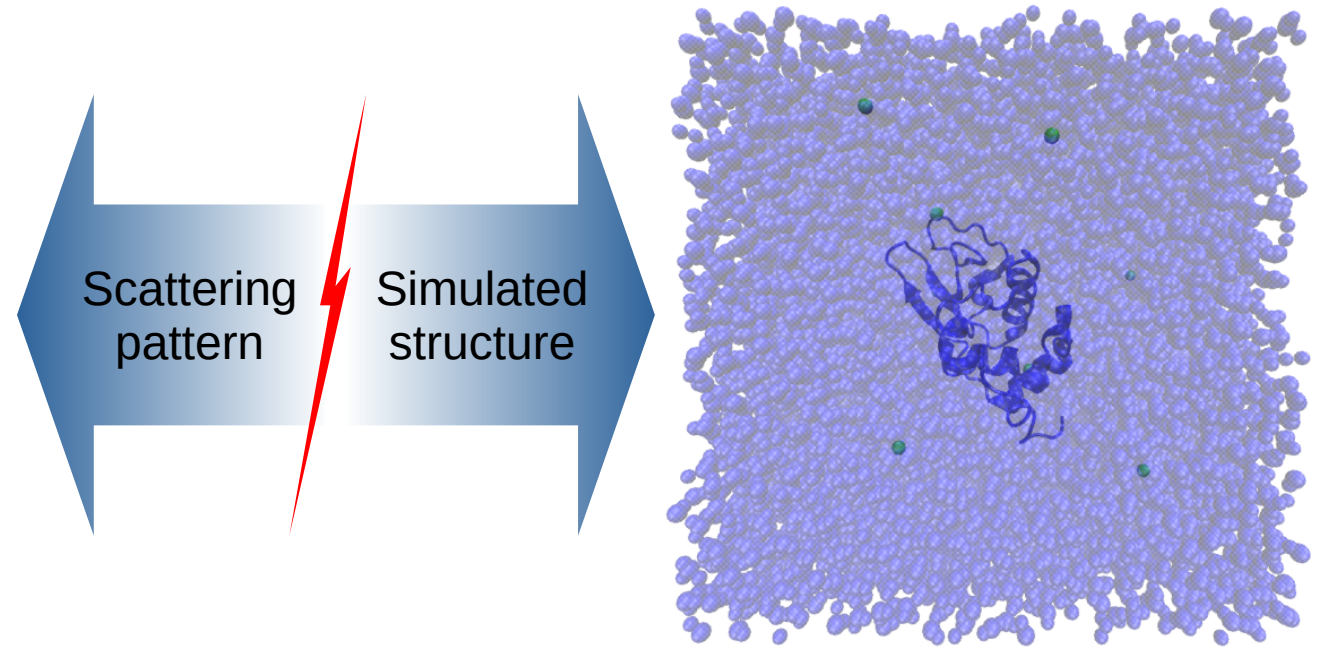
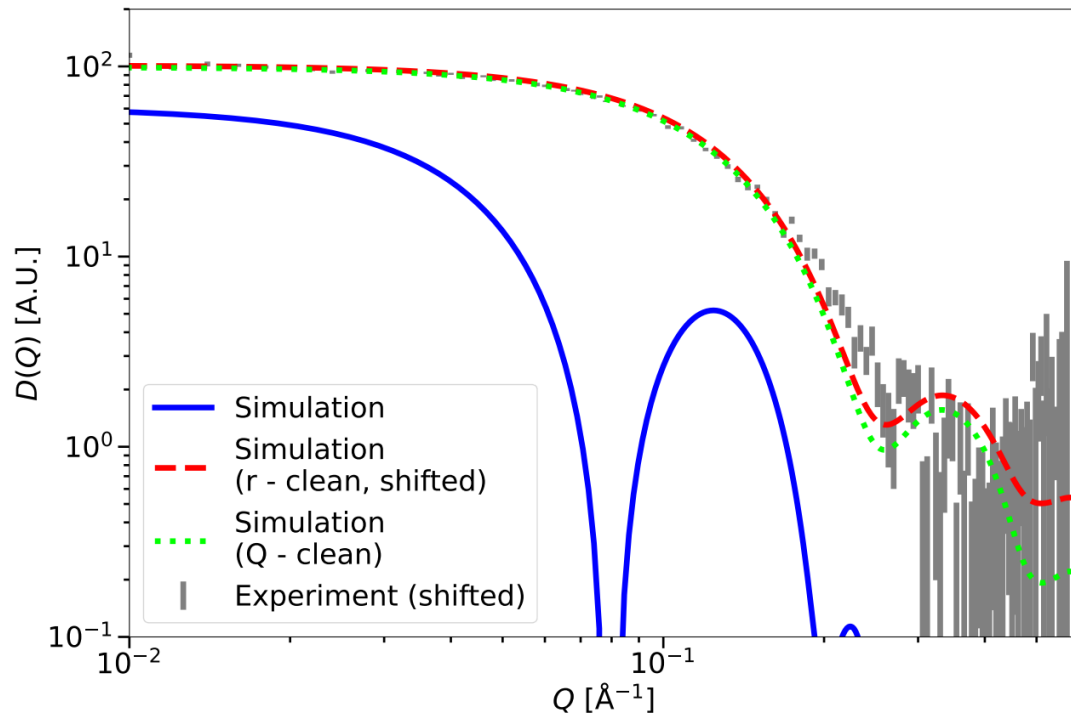
2

Calculation of neutron count rate from simulation

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Structure generation using probabilistic simulation

# Q - clean method: Removal of finite size effect

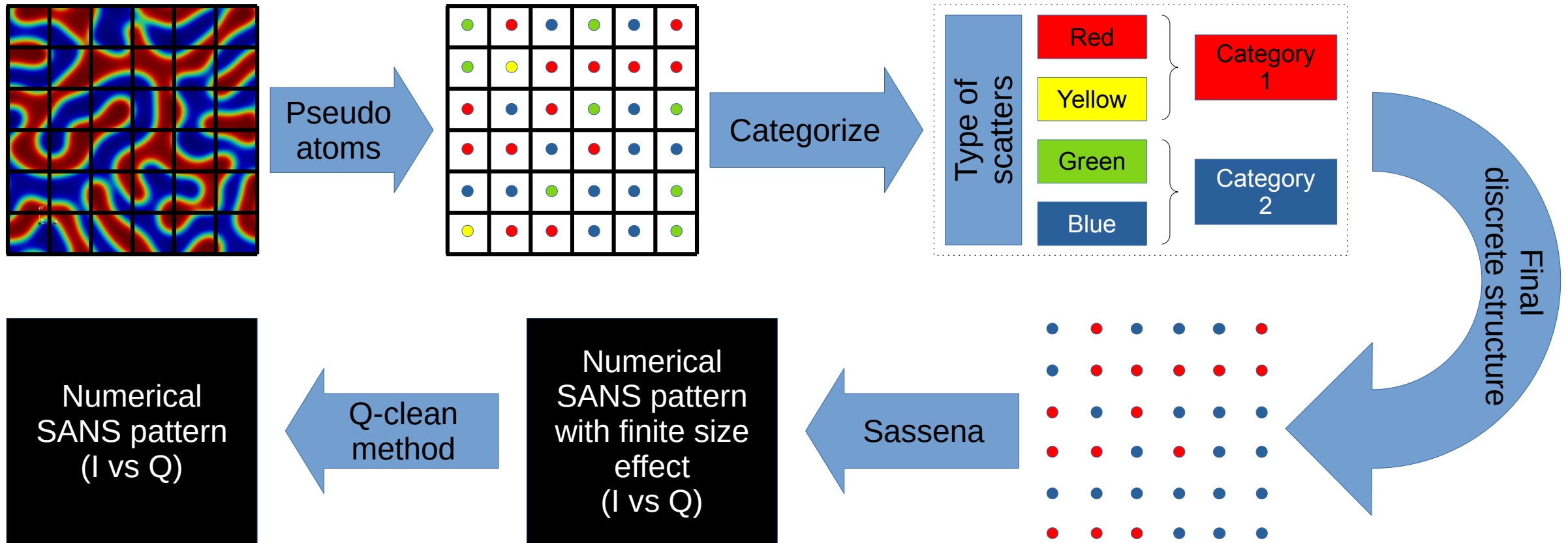


## Key publications:

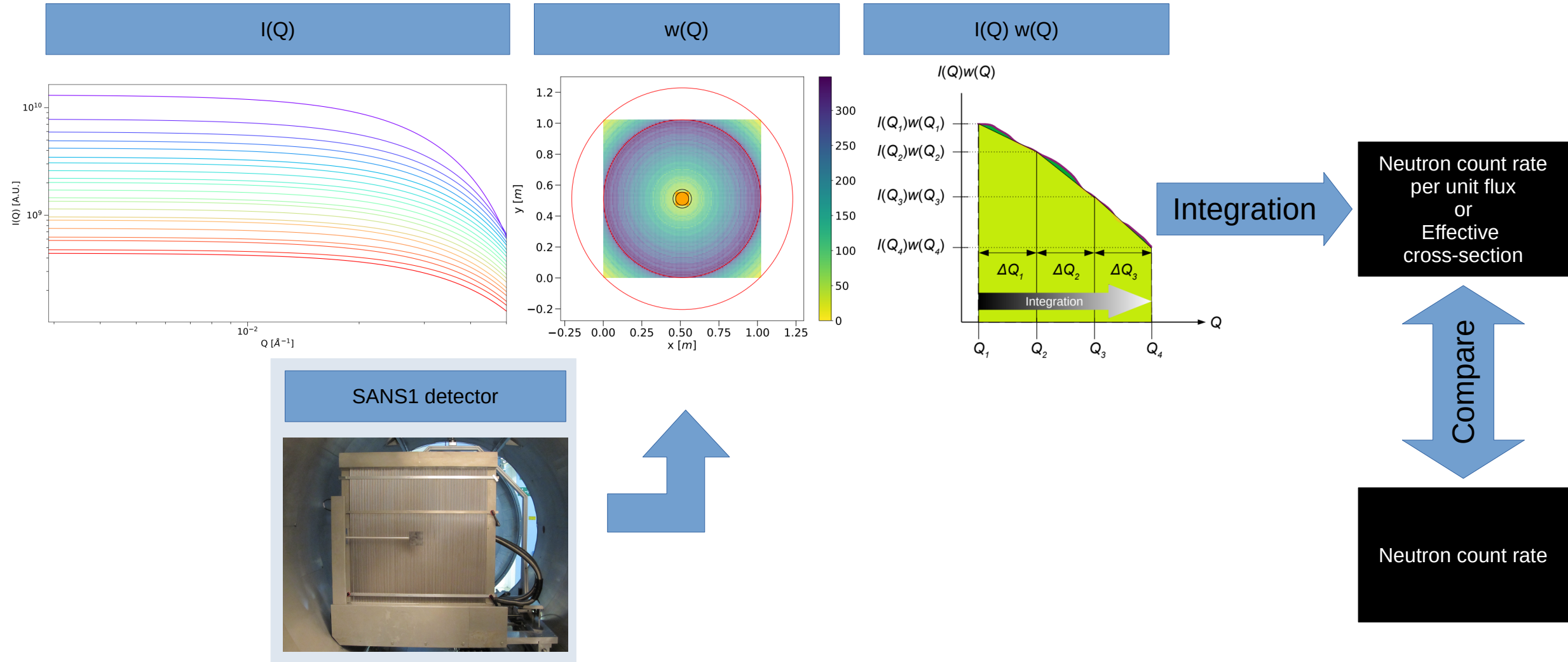
SANS measurement: J. Trewhella et al.\*

Calculation of diffraction pattern: A. Majumdar et al.\*\*

# Numerical method: Calculation of SANS pattern from SLD distribution

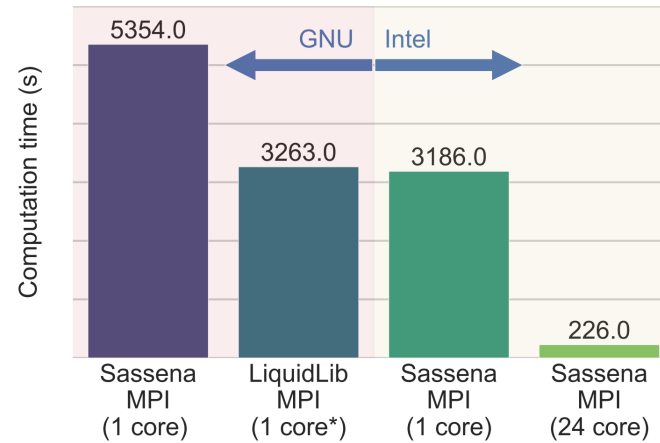
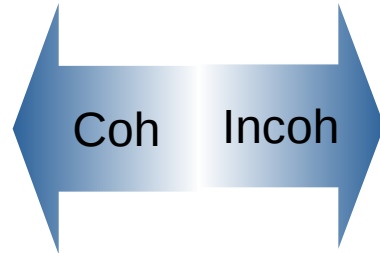
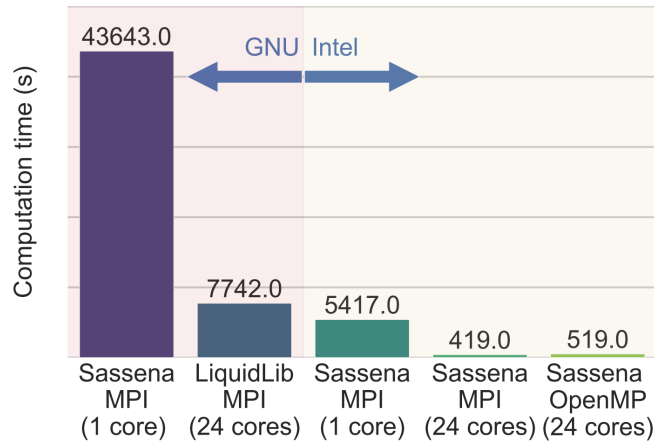


# Calculation of neutron count rate per unit flux or effective cross-section



# Sassena - Software development

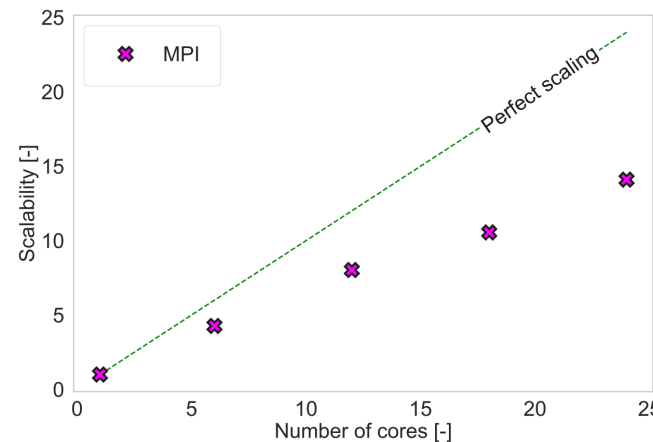
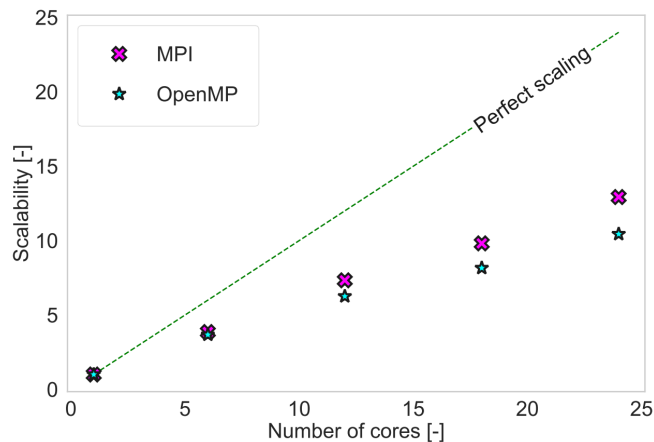
## Computation time (Base configuration)



Gitlab project  
(Sassena)



$$\text{Scalability (N cores)} = \text{Computation time (N cores)} \div \text{Computation time (1 core)}$$



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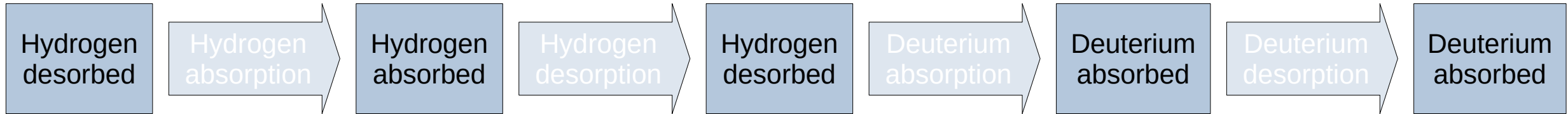
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Calculation of neutron count rate from simulation

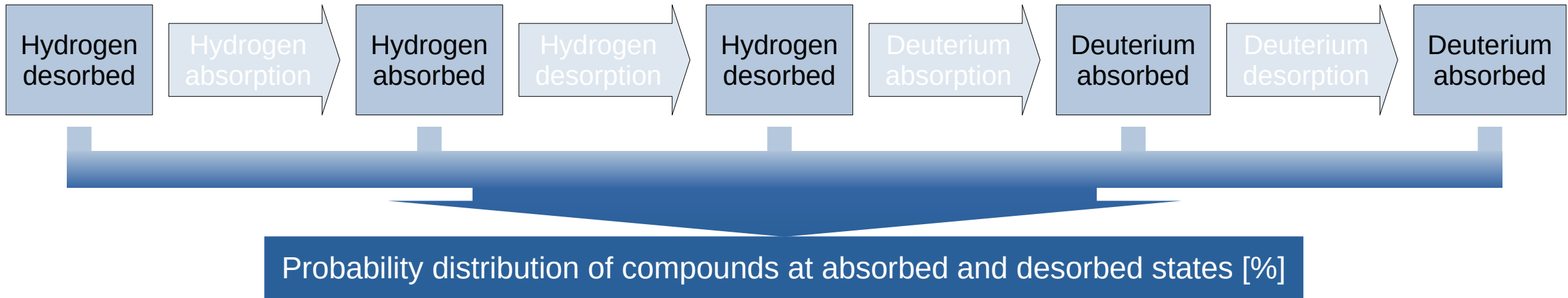
3

Structure generation using probabilistic simulation

# Probabilistic simulation: Generation of structures at end states of a process

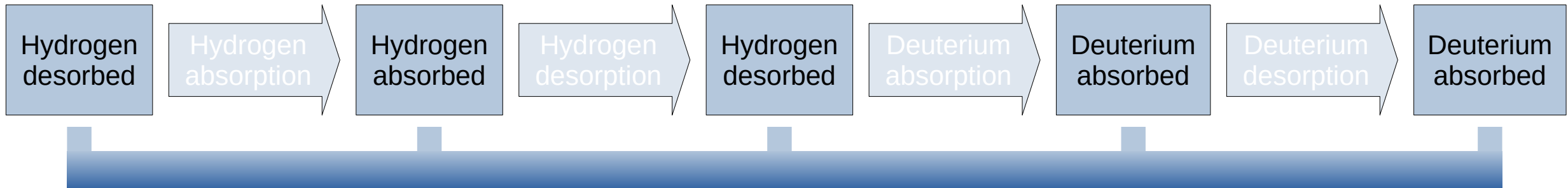


# Probabilistic simulation: Generation of structures at end states of a process



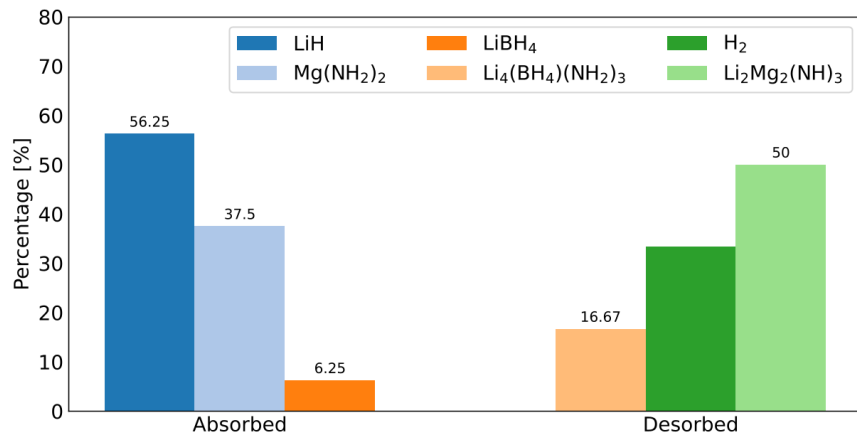


# Probabilistic simulation: Generation of structures at end states of a process

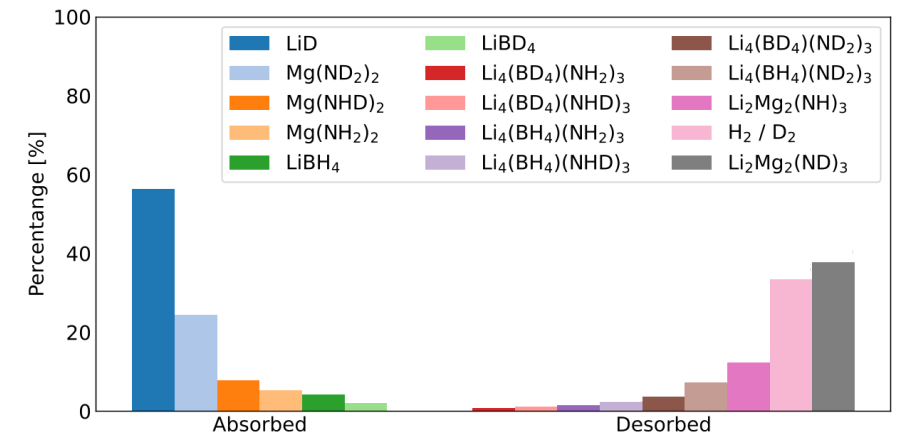


Probability distribution of compounds at absorbed and desorbed states [%]

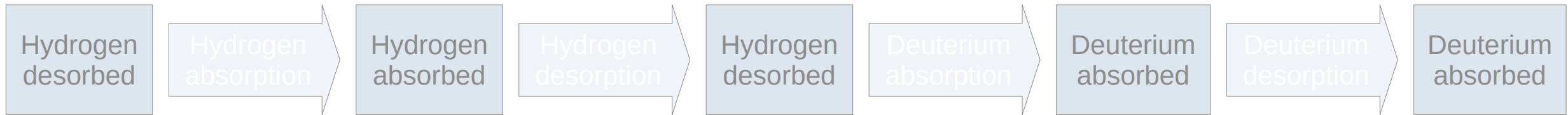
## Hydrogen absorbed and desorbed states



## Deuterium absorbed and desorbed states

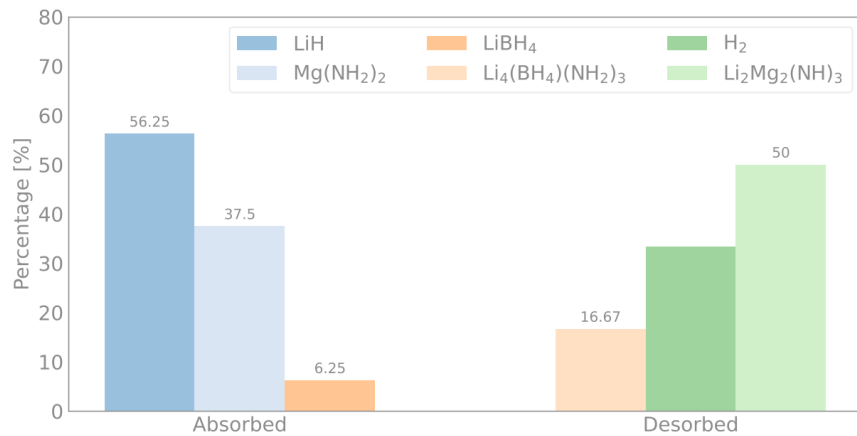


# Probabilistic simulation: Unknown parameters for generation of structures

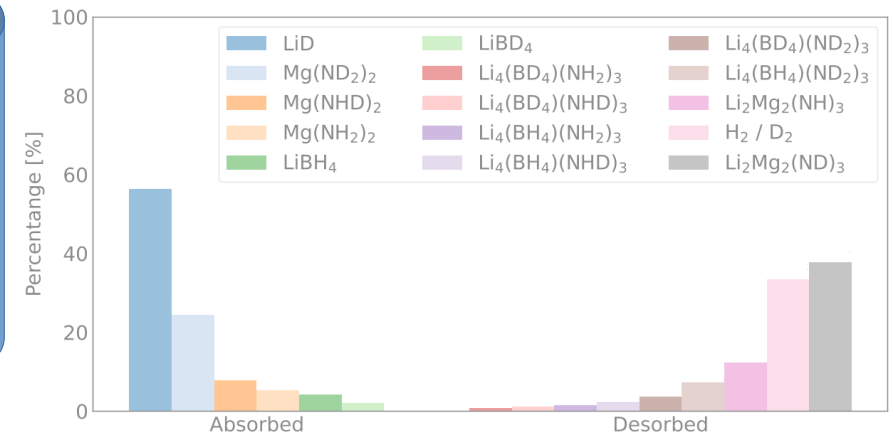


Probability distribution of compounds at absorbed and desorbed states [%]

Hydrogen absorbed and desorbed states



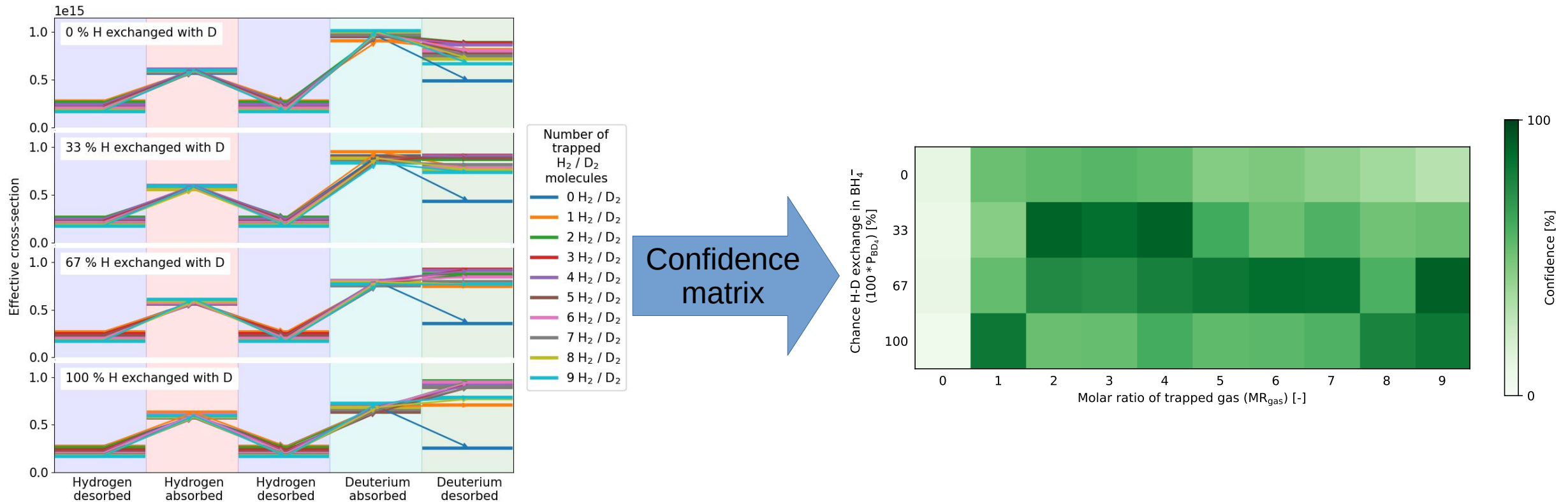
Deuterium absorbed and desorbed states



**Two unknowns**

- H-D exchange in BH<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>
- Amount of trapped gas

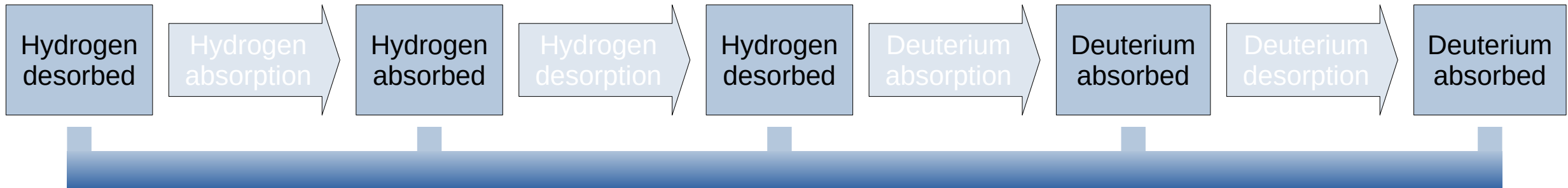
# Probabilistic simulation: Optimization of unknown parameters



## Values of unknowns after optimization

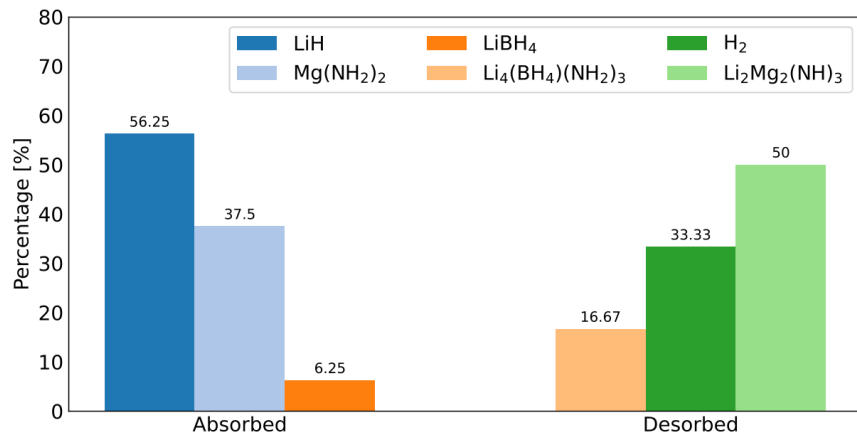
- 33% of  $\text{BH}_4^-$  subjected to H-D exchange
- 33.33% probability of having  $\text{H}_2 / \text{D}_2$  in structures generated for desorbed states

# Probabilistic simulation: Generation of structures at end states of a process

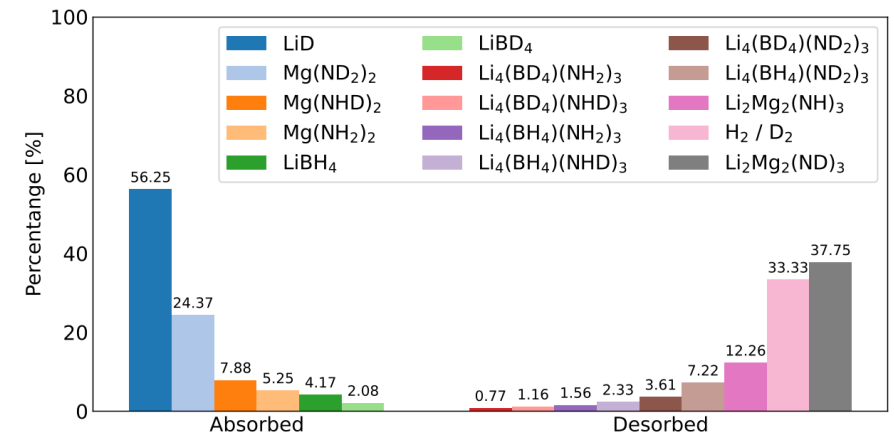


Probability distribution of compounds at absorbed and desorbed states [%]

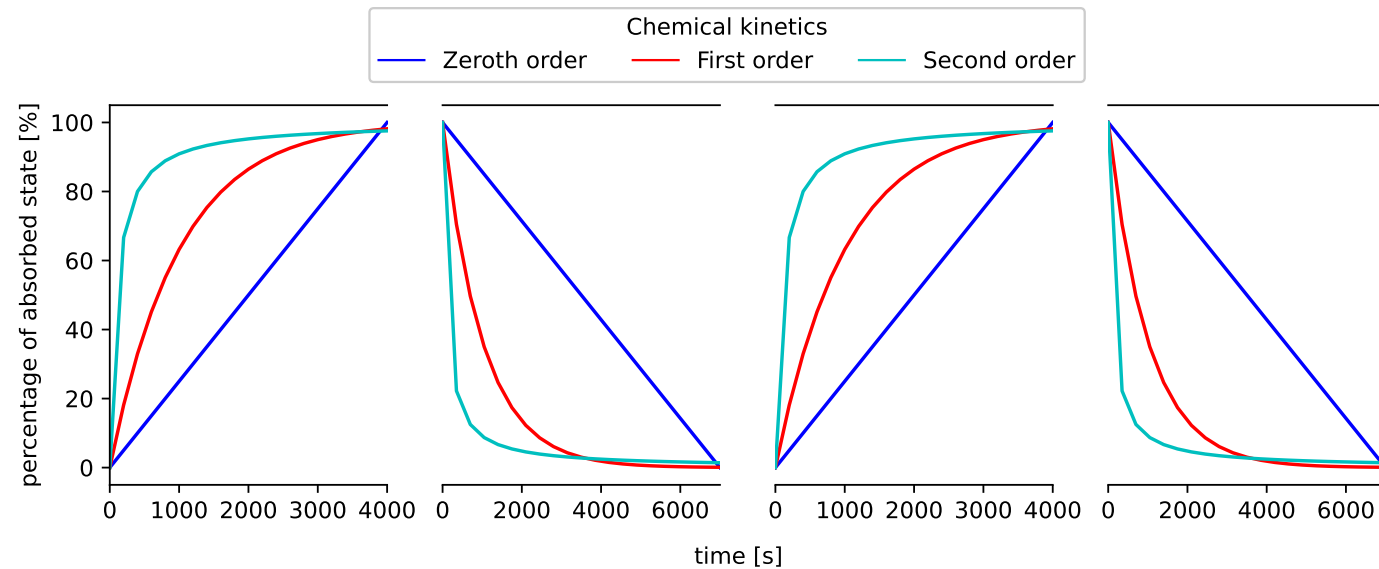
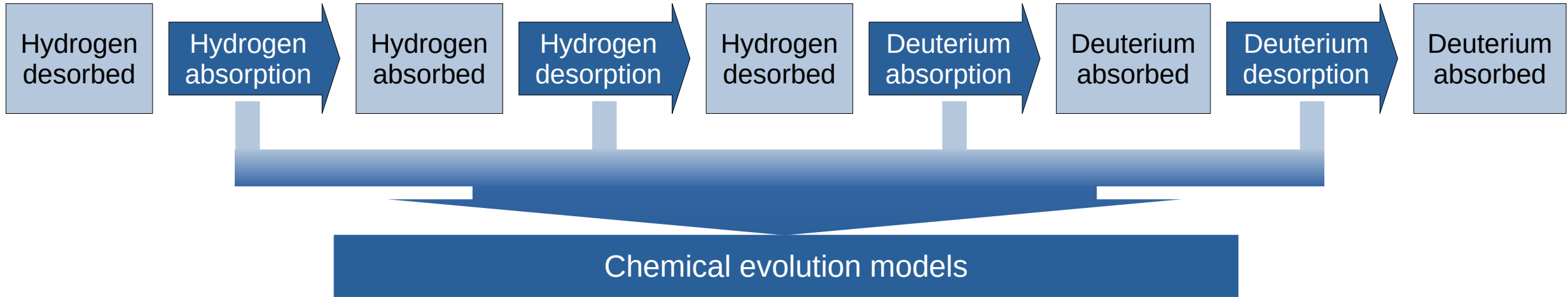
## Hydrogen absorbed and desorbed states



## Deuterium absorbed and desorbed states

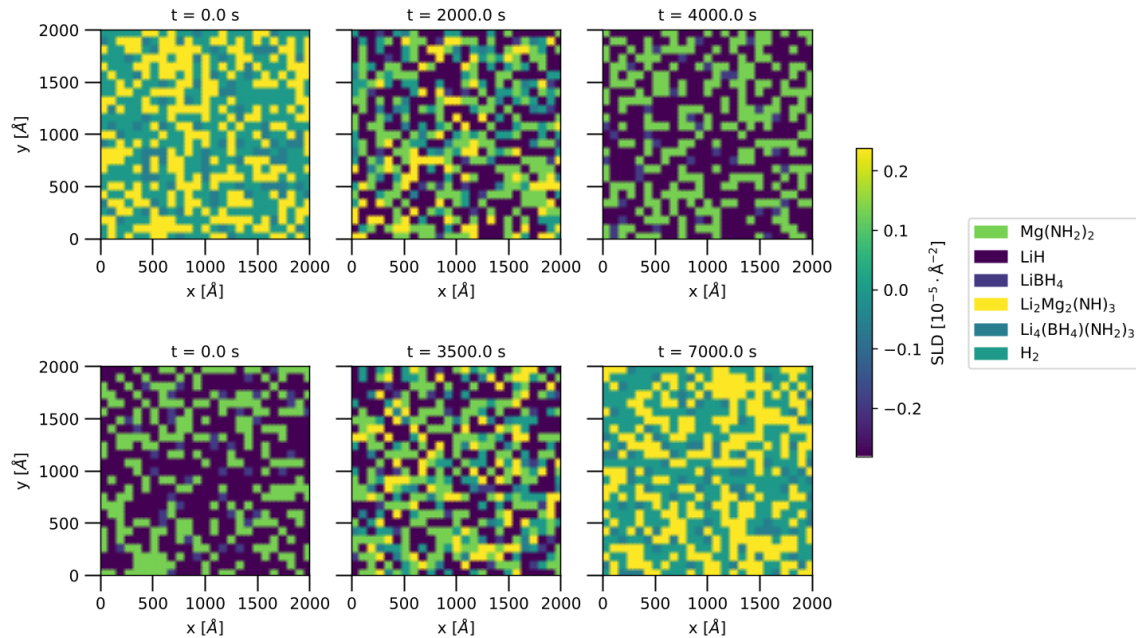


# Probabilistic simulation: Chemical evolution of generated structures

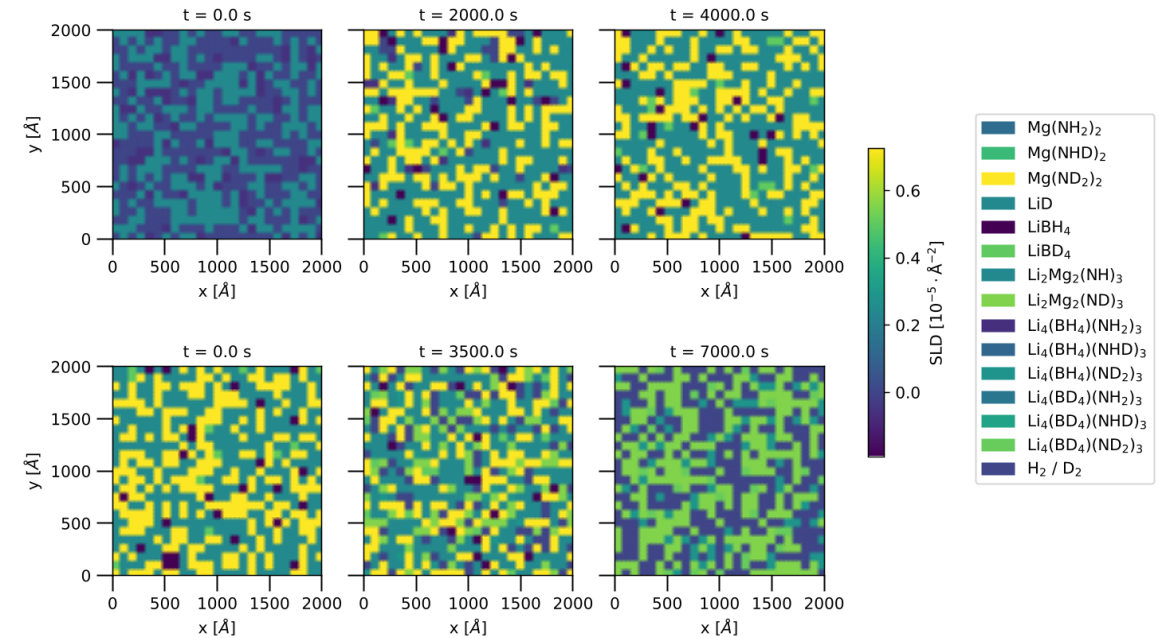


# Probabilistic simulation: SLD distribution of generated structures

## Hydrogen absorption



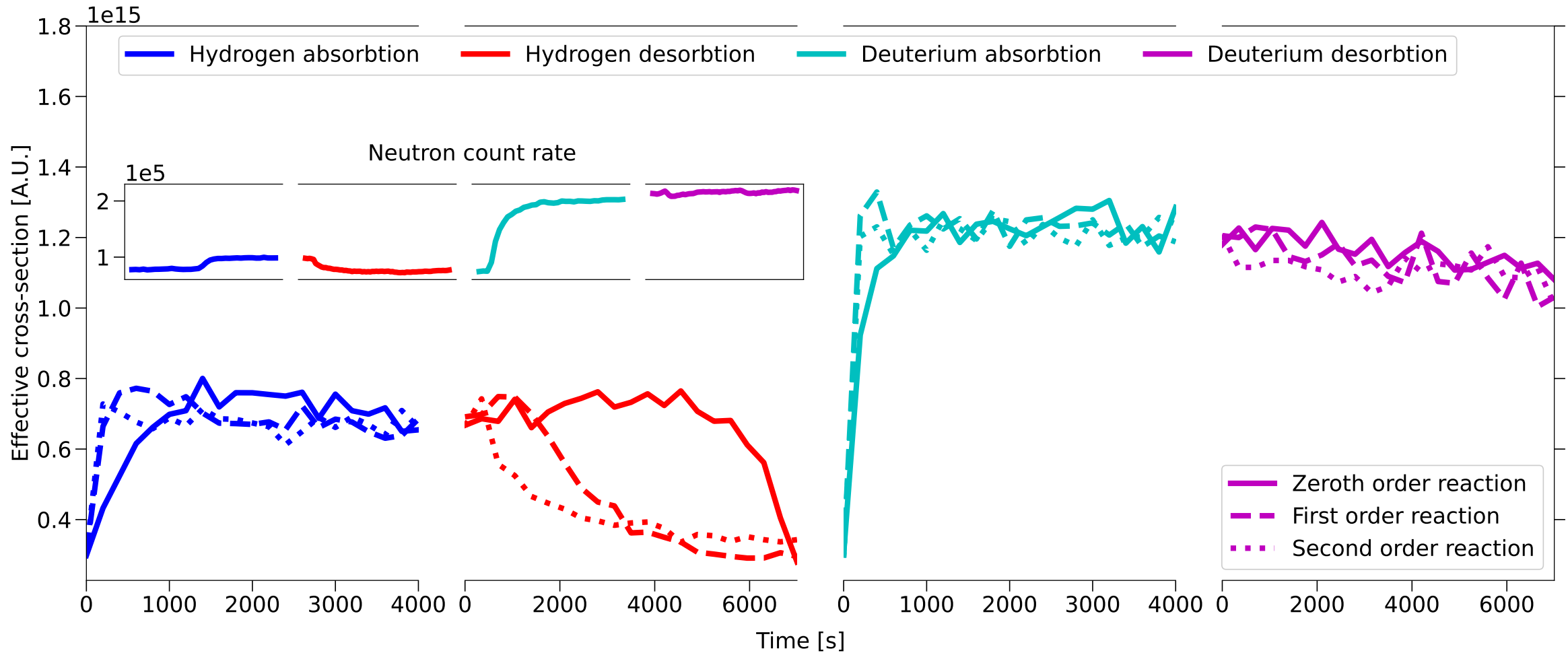
## Deuterium absorption



## Hydrogen desorption

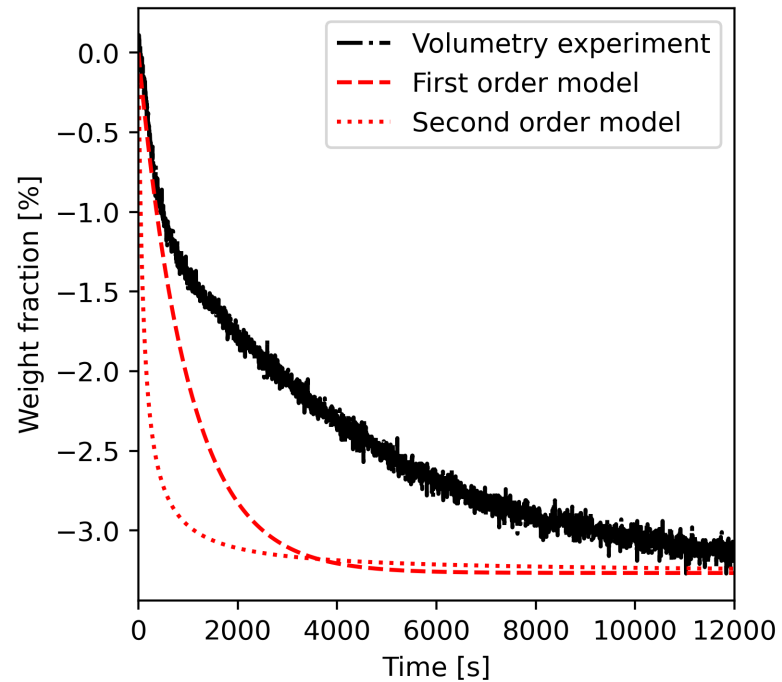
## Deuterium desorption

# Nanometer length scale: Neutron count rate vs effective cross-section

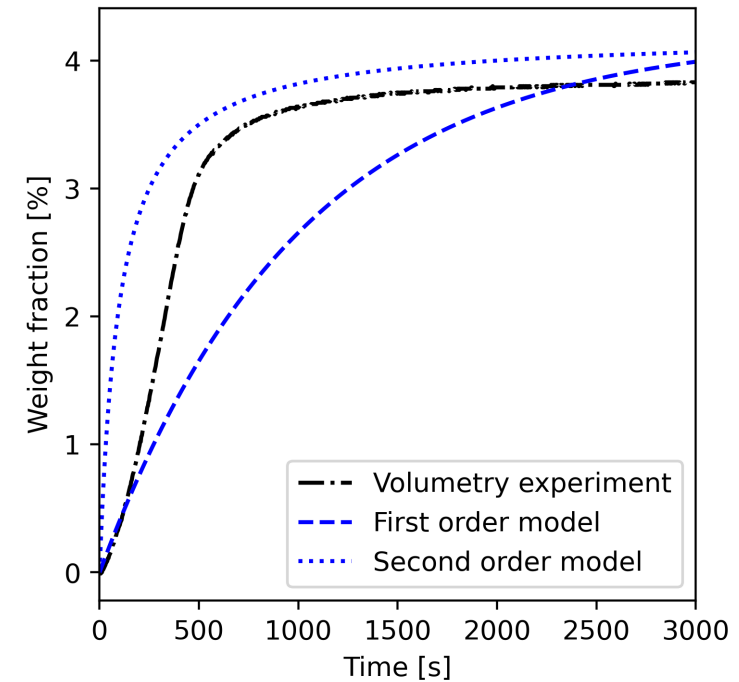


# Effect of nanoscopic phenomena on engineering length scale

## Hydrogen desorption



## Hydrogen absorption

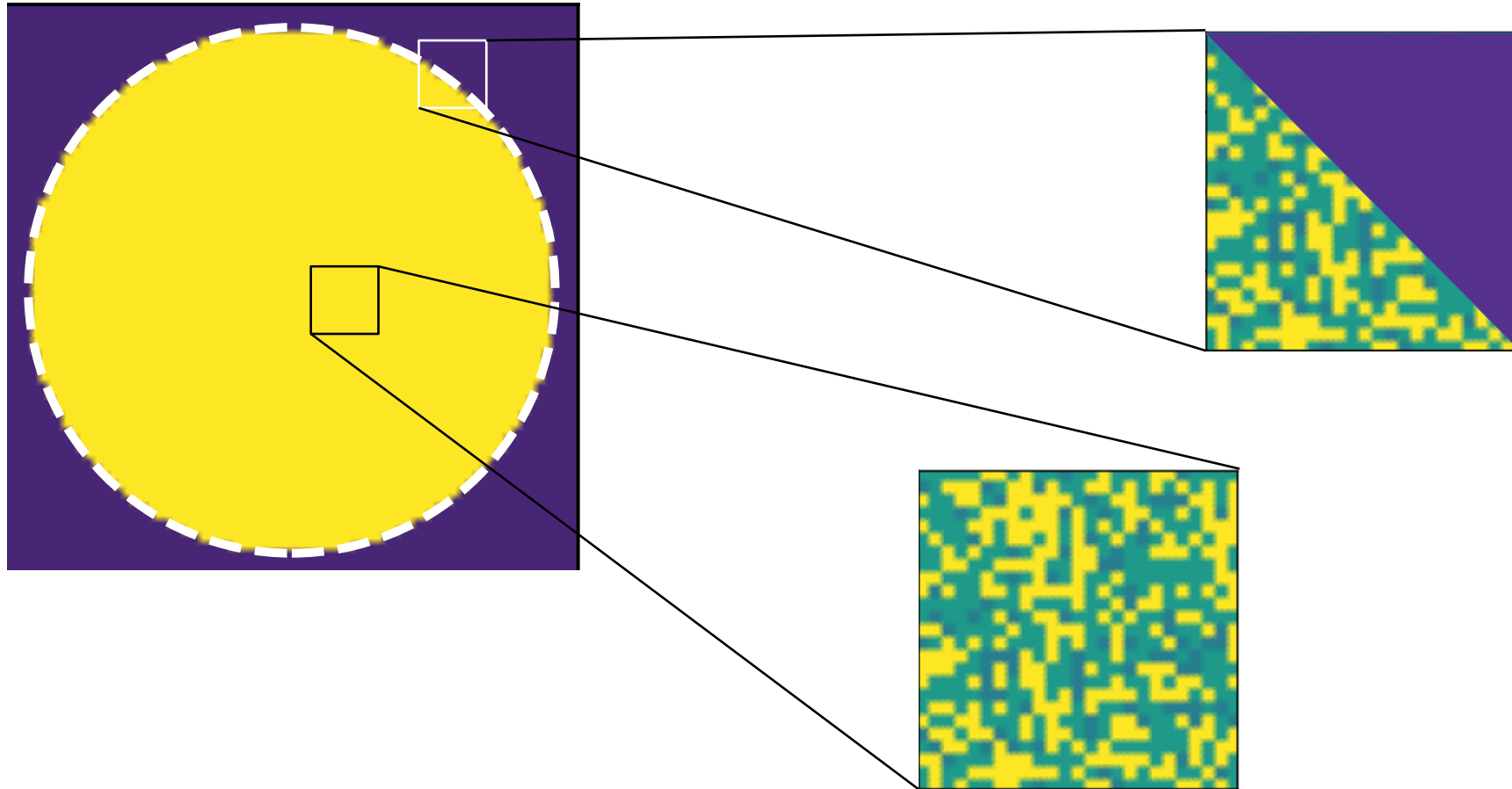




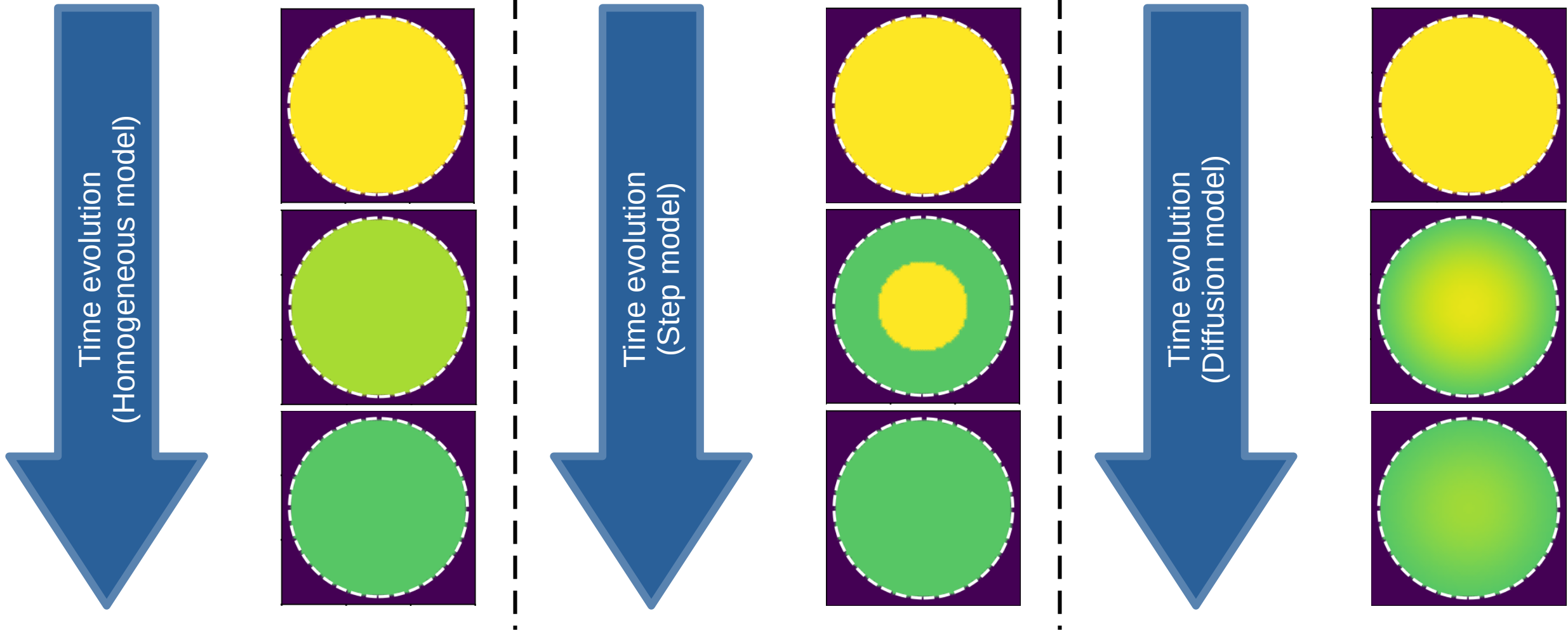
**Thank you**

# Backup

# Bigger length scale: Contrast between storage material and gas around it

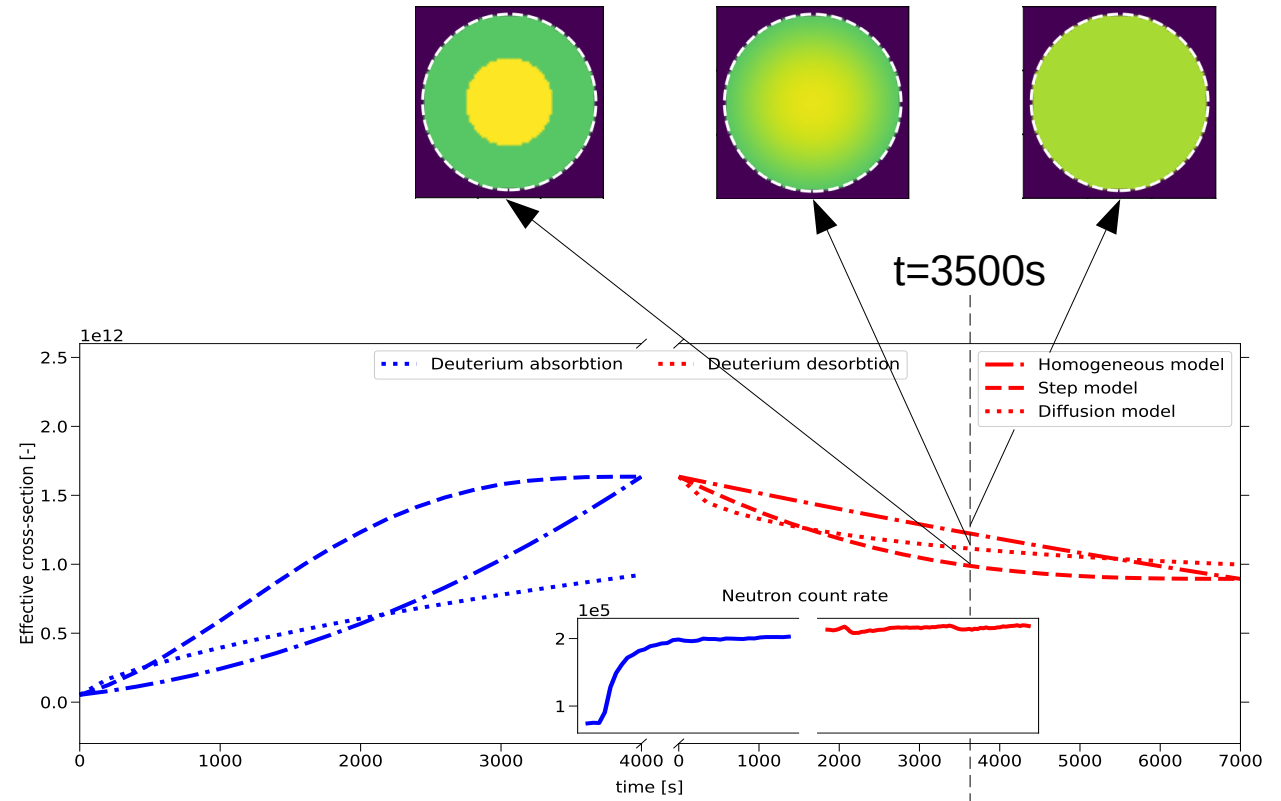
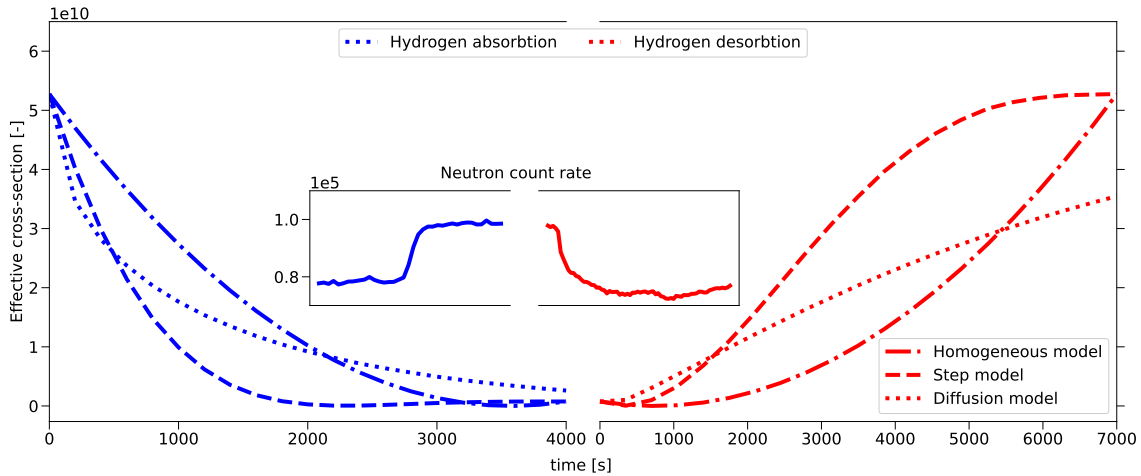
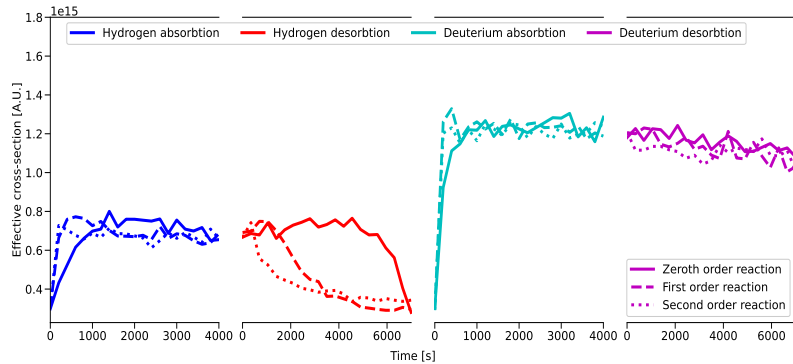


# Bigger length scale: Chemical diffusion in a single grain



# Bigger length scale: Neutron count rate vs effective cross-section

## Nanometer length scale: Probabilistic model



## Bigger length scale: Chemical diffusion in a single grain