



Designing and building the SAEMPL light scattering instrument

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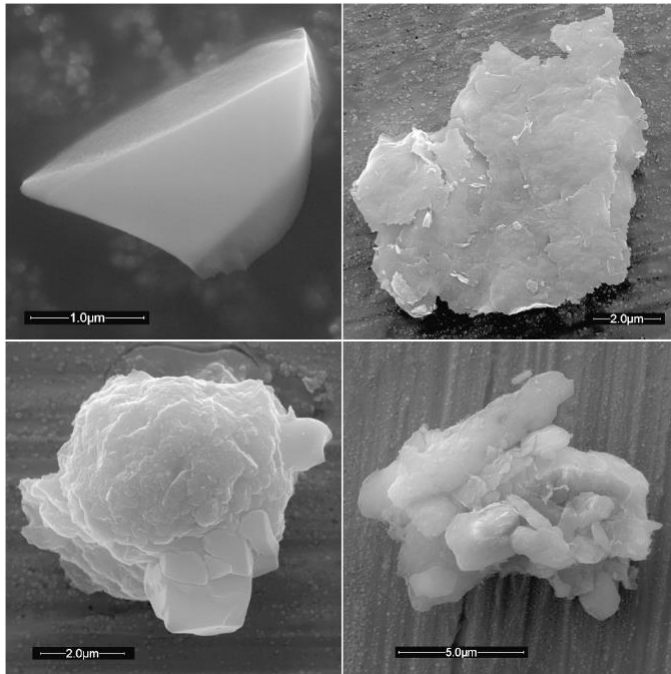
Dept. of Physics

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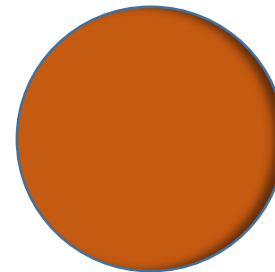
Light scattering models



- Approximate numerical scattering models are very popular
 - Particles are often assumed to be spherical
- Questions:
 - How well do our approximations work?
 - Can we verify / create better models using empirical data?



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- The ideal Mueller matrices for a linear polarizer \mathbf{M}_p and a quarter wave plate \mathbf{M}_q are:

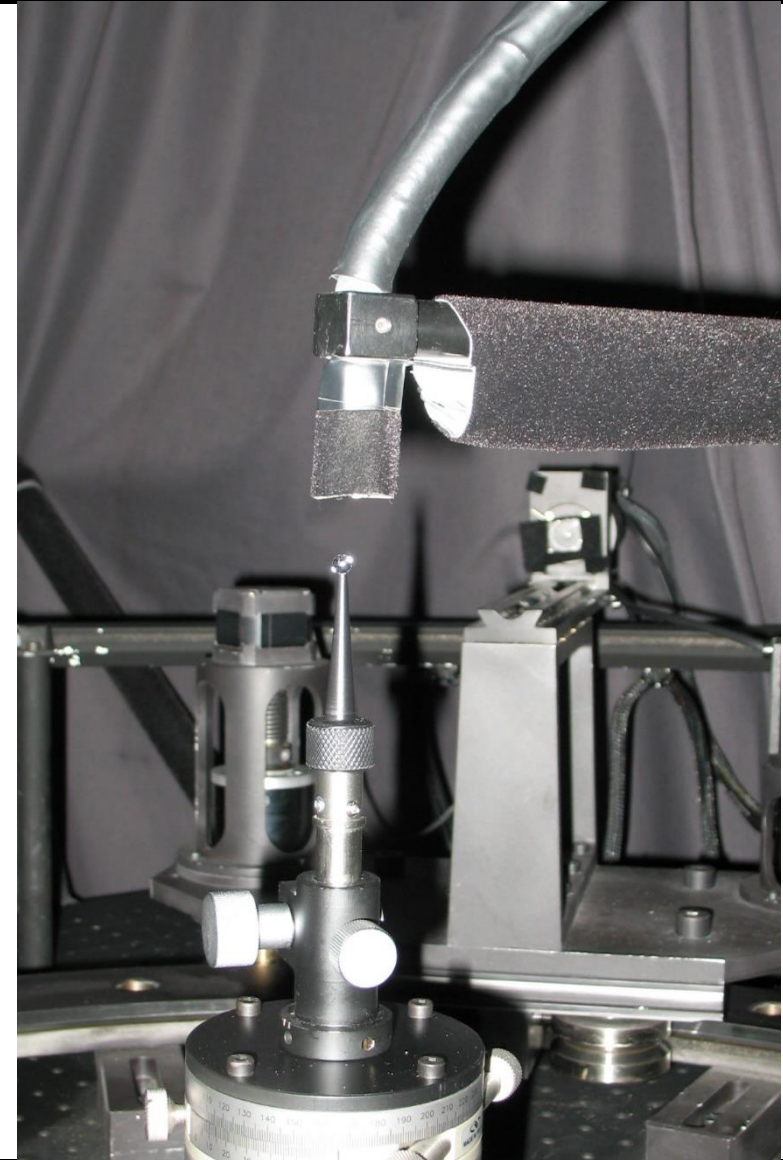
$$\bullet \mathbf{M}_p(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \cos(2\theta) & \sin(2\theta) & 0 \\ \cos(2\theta) & \cos^2(2\theta) & \sin(2\theta)\cos(2\theta) & 0 \\ \sin(2\theta) & \sin(2\theta)\cos(2\theta) & \sin^2(2\theta) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\bullet \mathbf{M}_q(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos^2(2\theta) & \sin(2\theta)\cos(2\theta) & \sin(2\theta) \\ 0 & \sin(2\theta)\cos(2\theta) & \sin^2(2\theta) & -\cos(2\theta) \\ 0 & -\sin(2\theta) & \cos(2\theta) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $\mathbf{I}_s = \mathbf{M}_p(\theta_4)\mathbf{M}_q(\theta_3)\mathbf{M}\mathbf{M}_q(\theta_2)\mathbf{M}_p(\theta_1)\mathbf{I}_i$
- By choosing suitable values for the four angles, we can isolate individual elements of \mathbf{M}

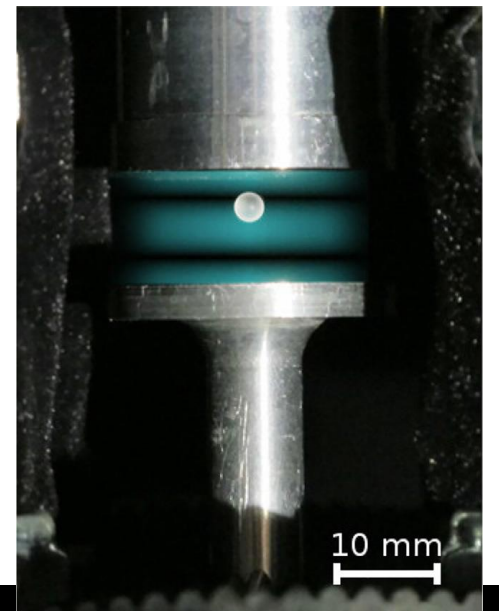


- Arizona(1973)
 - Hg lamp with polarizer, flow of 110 nm latex spheres
- Amsterdam (2001)
 - Mineral aerosol samples, HeNe laser, polarized
- Granada (2010)
 - Further development of Amsterdam setup
 - Tunable Ar-Kr laser, laminar flow, static holders



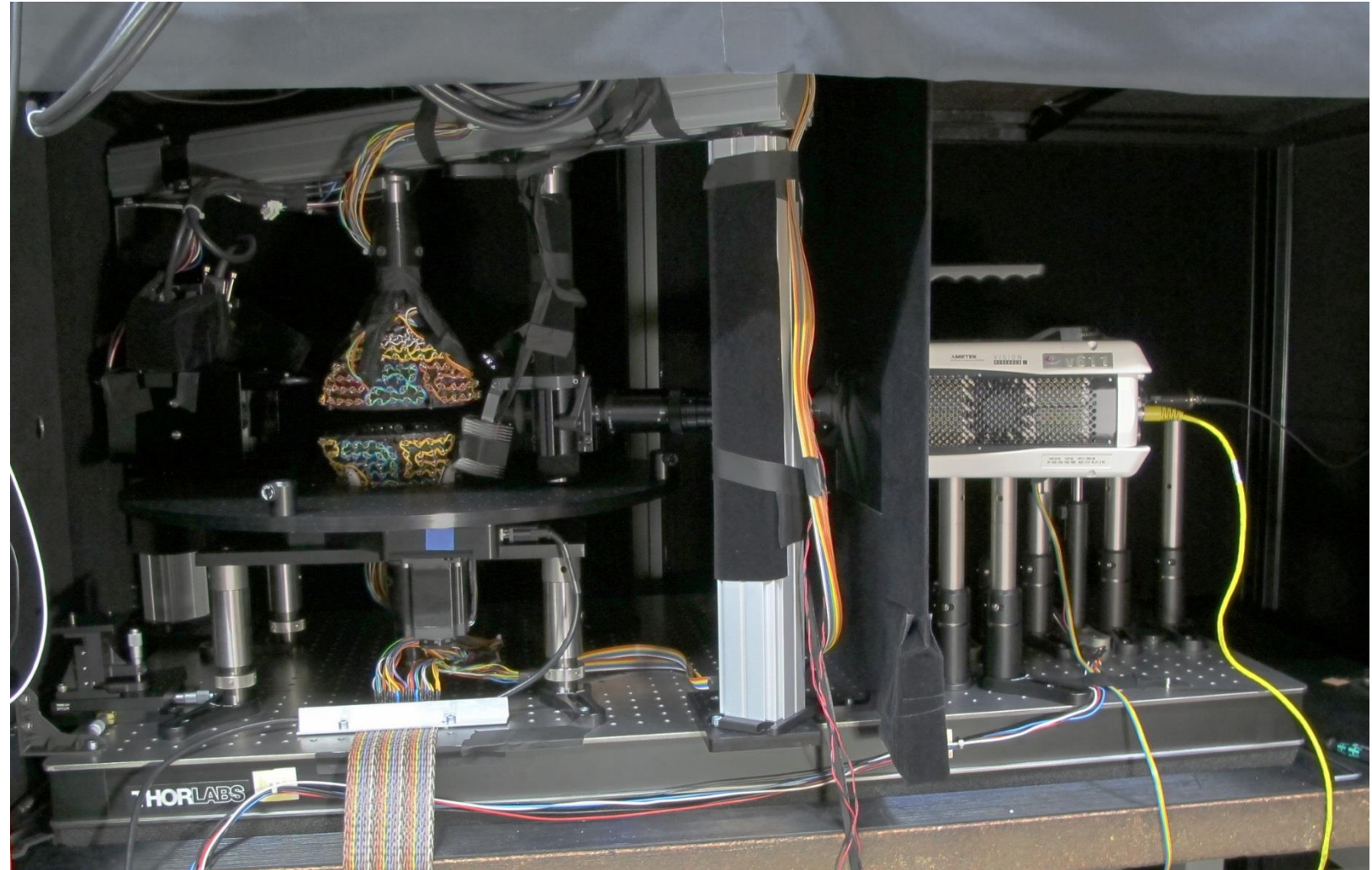
Holding the sample

- Surfaces: Easy 😊
- Aerosols: Laminar flow
 - Provides enough light, gives good average properties
 - No info about the individual particle
- mm-scale samples: Physical holder
 - Holder always contributes to the scattering
- Our approach: Acoustic levitator
 - No contact
 - Suitable for fragile samples





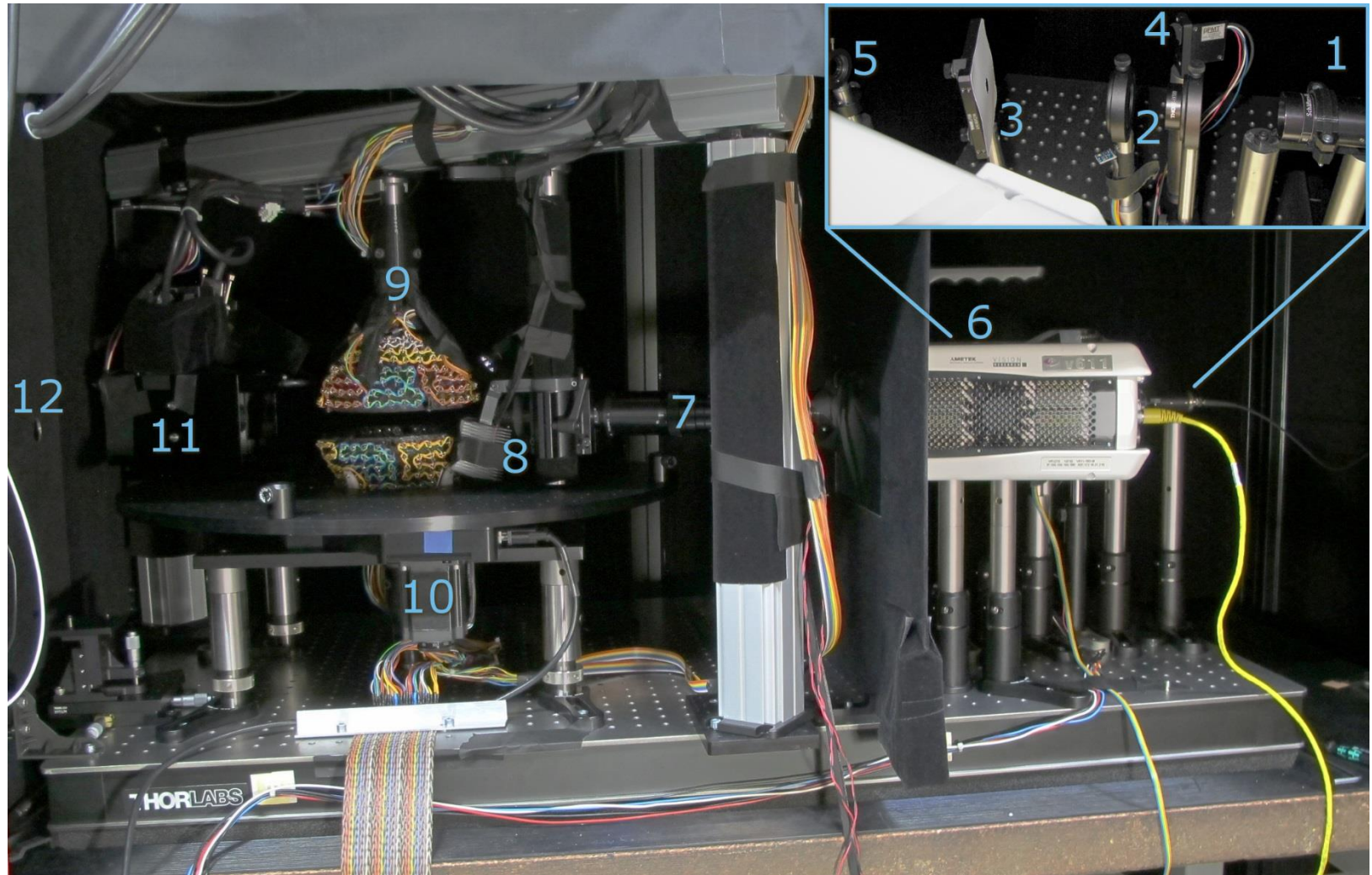
- 4 major parts
 - Light source
 - Sample levitator
 - Analyzer
 - Camera imaging
- Enclosed in black velvet compartments



Scatterometer system design



- 4 major parts
 - Light source (1...5)
 - Sample levitator (9)
 - Analyzer (10, 11)
 - Camera imaging (6,7,8)
- Enclosed in black velvet compartments



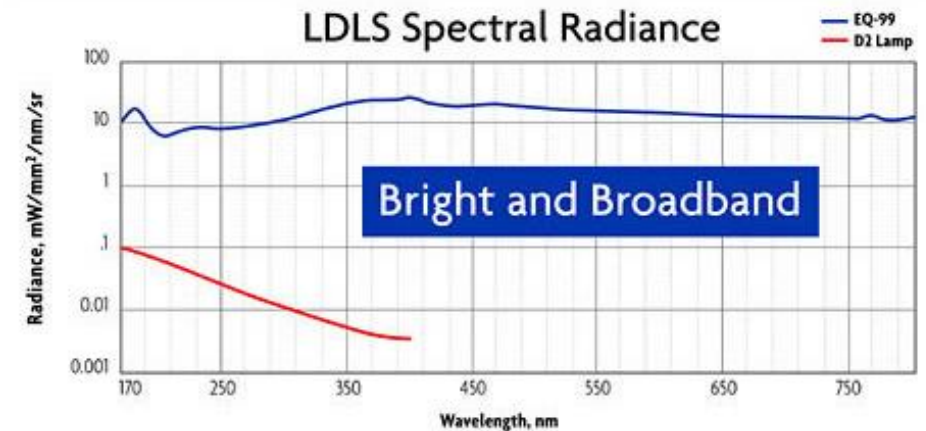


- Fiber coupled
 - Temperature control
 - Easy to swap out
- Light source 1: Melles Griot Ar-Kr laser
 - Same as in Granada
 - High stability, 14 wavelengths (blue to red)
 - Quarter wave plate, linear polarizer, second quarter wave plate, reference photomultiplier tube (PMT), adjustable aperture



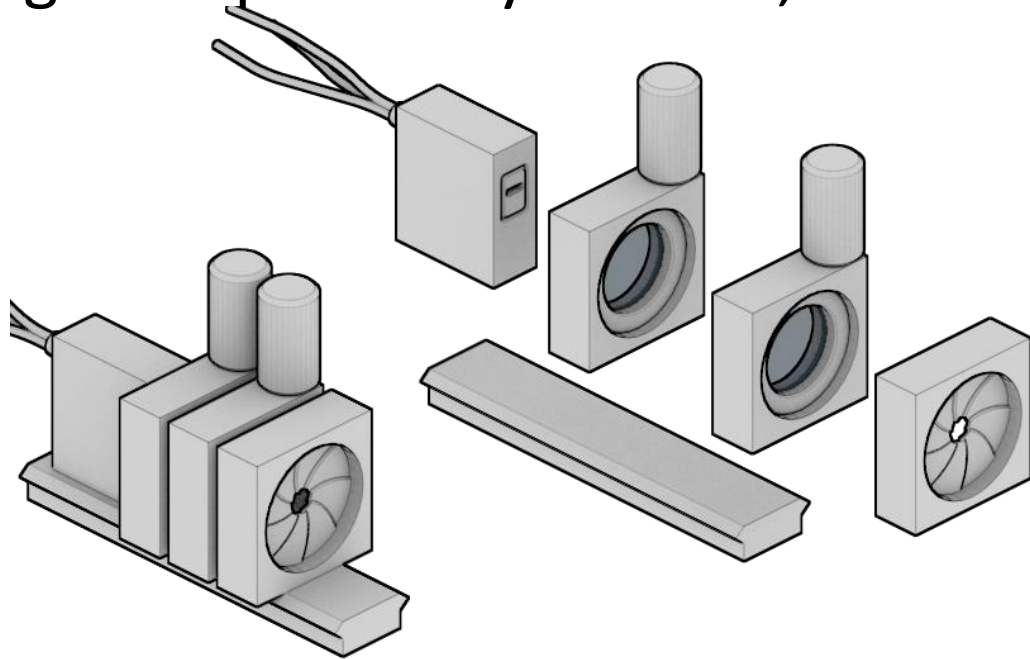


- Light source 2: Energetic LDLS
 - Laser Driven Light Source
 - Broadband light source with laser stabilized arc
 - Wavelengths picked out by filters
- Line filter, linear polarizer, quarter wave plate, reference PMT, adjustable aperture



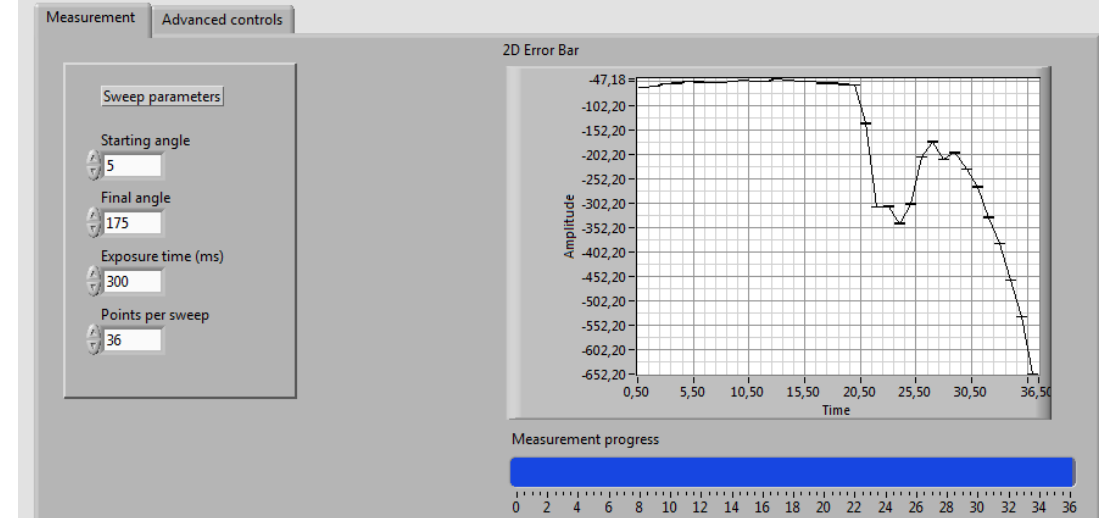


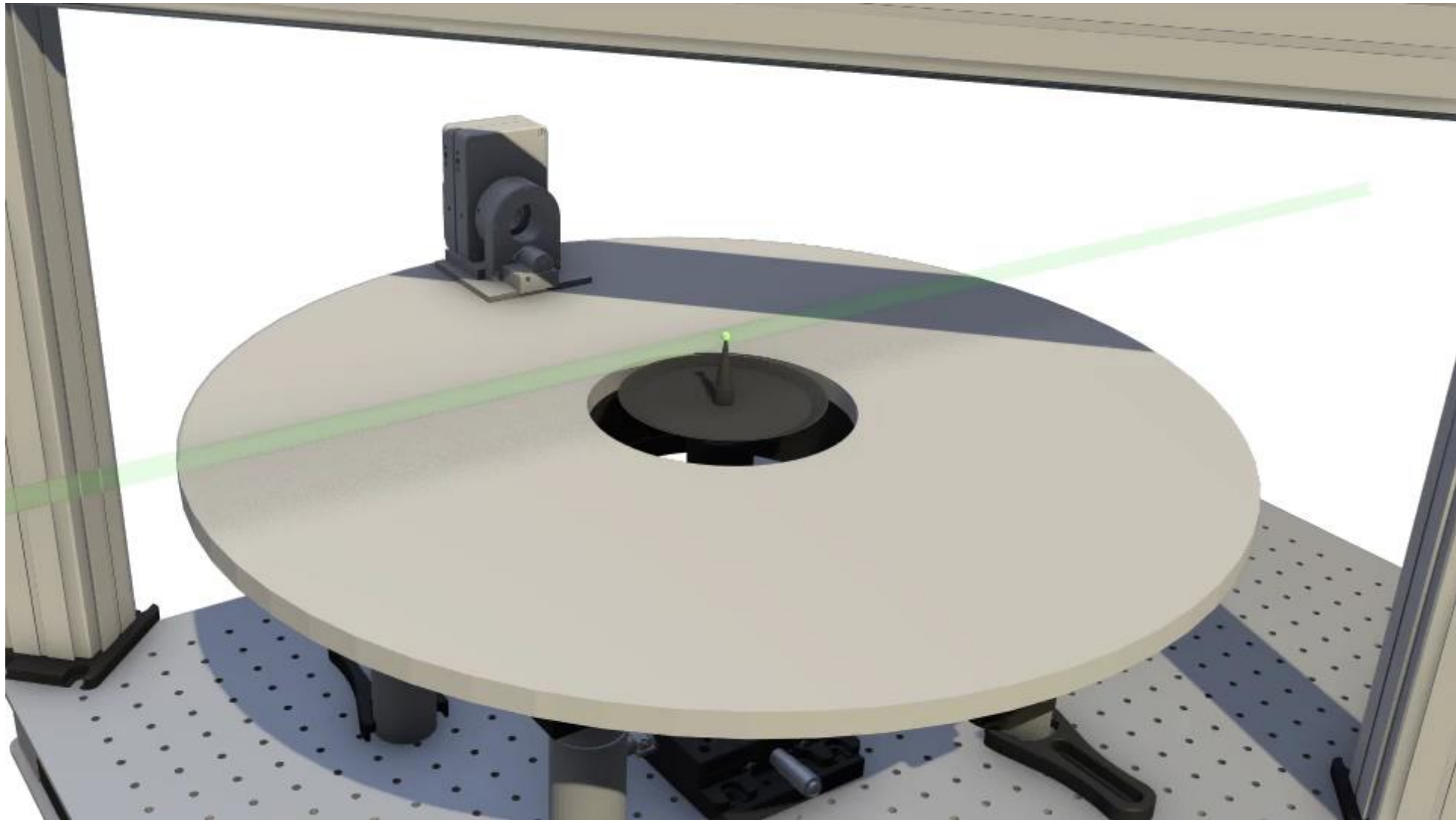
- Analyzer: Hamamatsu microPMT
 - Can see individual photons
 - Integrated high voltage source
- Motorized shutter, quarter wave plate, linear polarizer, PMT
- Signal captured by a 14-bit, 250 MHz 8-channel oscilloscope card



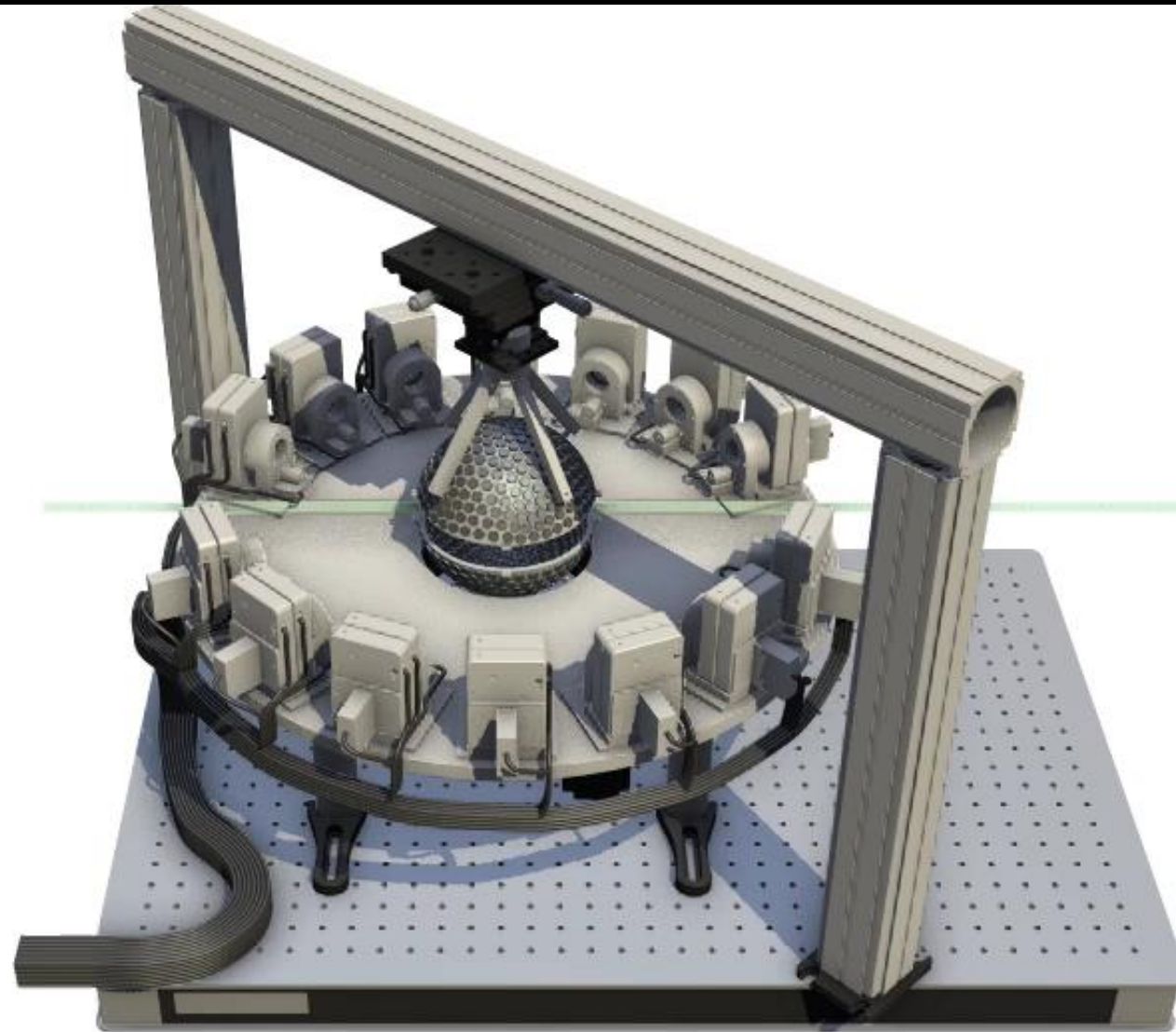


- Data acquisition & system control implemented in NI LabVIEW
- PXIe platform allows n-channel oscilloscope input (max 64)
 - Onboard FPGA:s allow realtime data processing
- Automated sweeps & polarization configurations
- Formats and saves data





PMT analyzer design





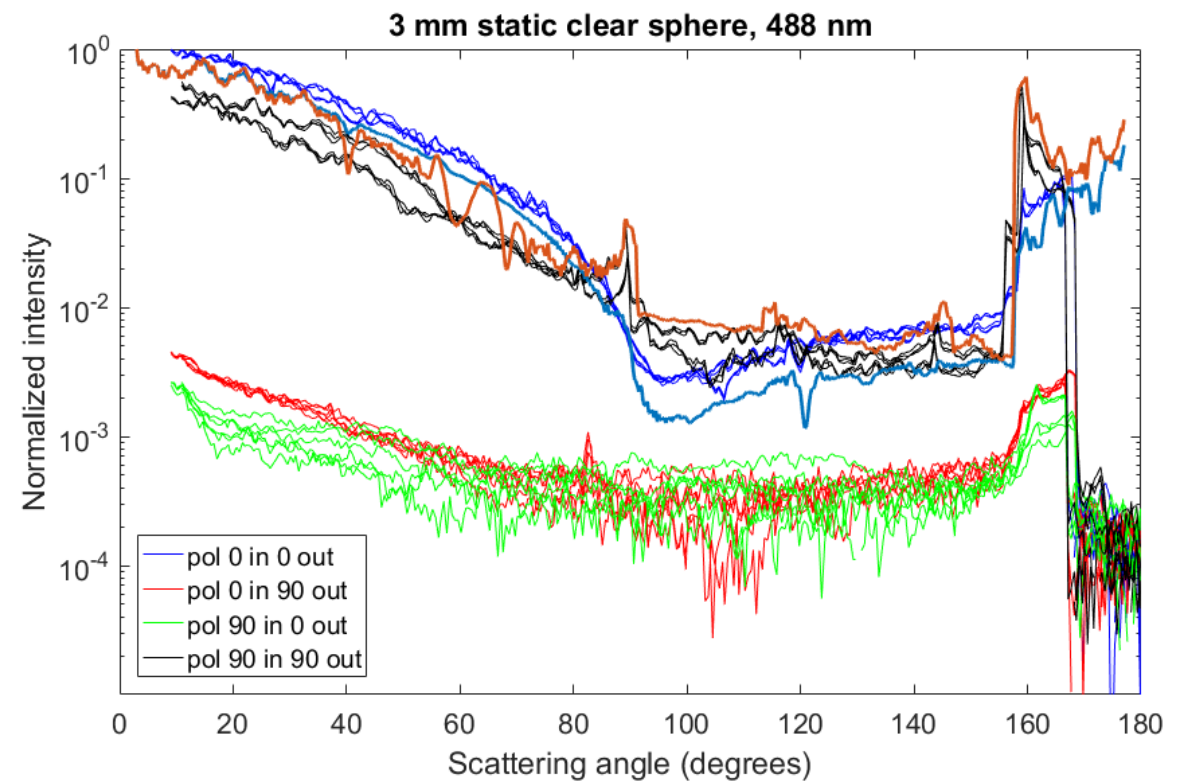
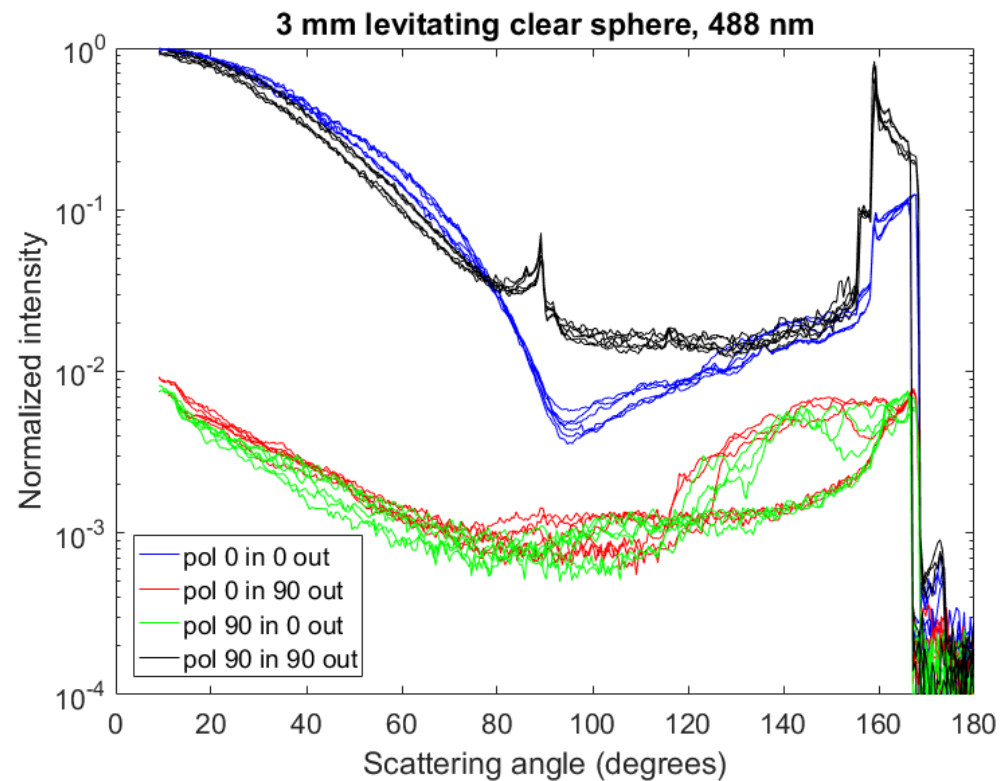
- Camera: Phantom v611
 - 1Mfps – doesn't miss any movements
 - Large sensor, high sensitivity
- Navitar 12x microscope objective
- Illumination by focused 850 nm near IR LEDs
 - PMTs currently protected by a shortpass filter
 - Planned: Gated PMTs & stroboscopic LED drivers
 - Simultaneous measurement & imaging



Measurements

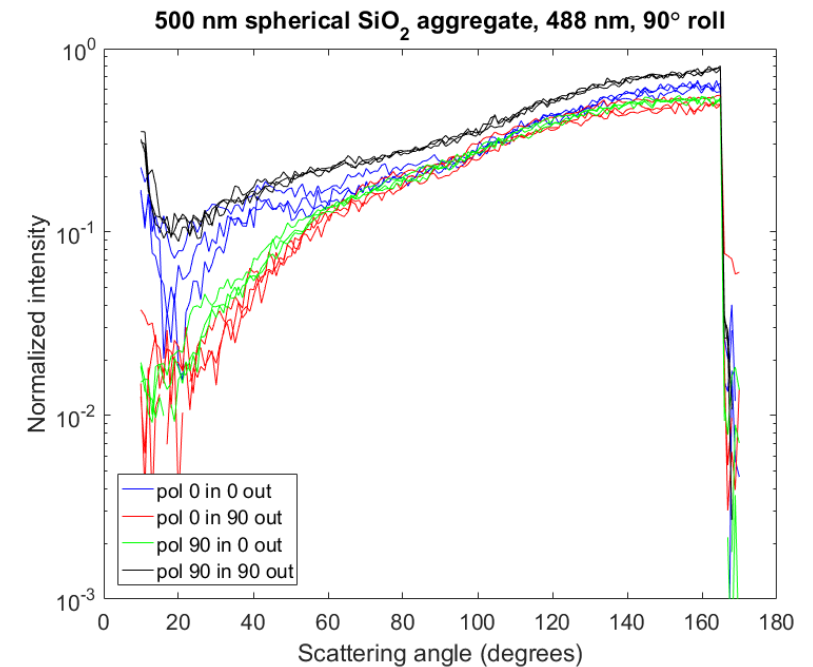
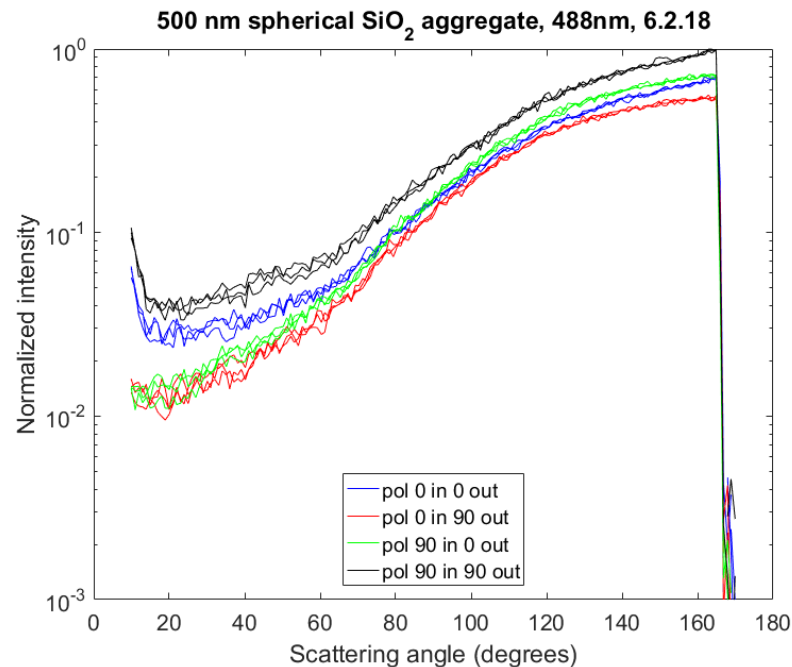
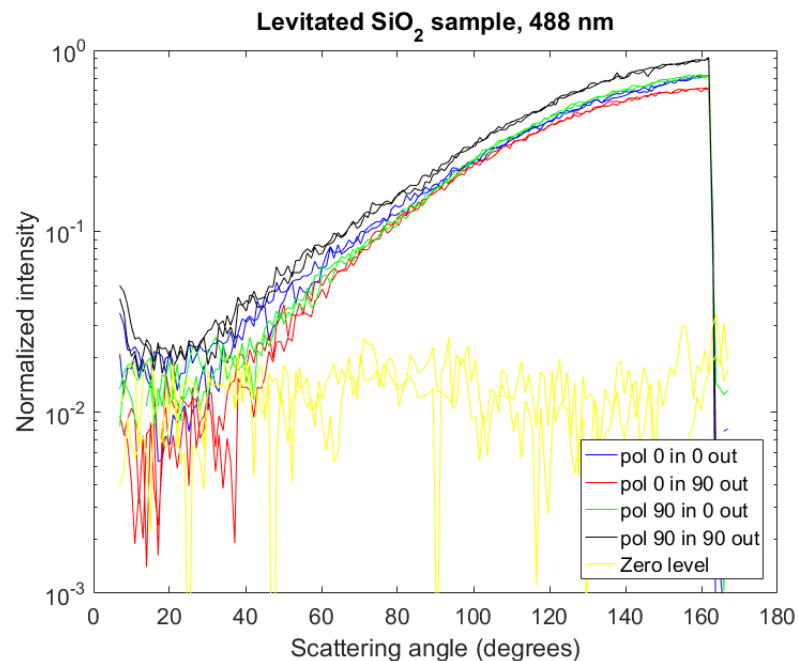


- 3 mm glass spheres
 - Easy to simulate using Mie scattering
 - Allows comparison to other instruments





- SiO₂ dust agglomerates
 - 0.1-10 μm irregular grains (left graph)
 - 500 nm microspheres (middle & right graph)
 - Natural clumping, 1-3 mm pieces, ~15% packing density





Thank you!

Questions?