Dynamic critical scattering by XPCS in the ordering AuAgZn2 alloy

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The dynamics of the order fluctuations in the AuAgZn\$_2\$ close to the critical point (Tc~609 K) was observed by coherent x-ray scattering [1]. With the high beam intensity of the ID10 ESRF beamline and with the new pixel detector, the dynamics was measured with a few tens of millisecond resolution. The intensity connected to the diffuse scattering corresponding to fluctuations was unambiguously distinguished from the surface pretransitional ordering occurring in this system close to T\$_c\$. The variations of the fluctuation time with temperature and wave vectors were measured in this system belonging to the universality class of Ising second order transition with a non-conserved order parameter. The direct observation of the critical slowing down in the vicinity of the second-order transition led to an estimate of the dynamic exponent z=1.96(11), in rough agreement with theory (model ``A" of [2]).



Figure 1: (a) Fluctuation times τ (q,T) for various temperatures and the Lorentzian fits. (b) Temperature variations of $\tau 0(T)$. An estimate of the exponent yielded zv = 1.235(70).

References

[1] F. Livet, M. Fèvre, G. Beutier, F. Zontone, Y. Chushkin and M. Sutton, Phys. Rev. B 92, 094102 (2015)
[2] - P. C. Hohenberg and B. I. Halperin, Rev. Mod. Phys. 49, 436 (1977)