MORE RECIPROCAL SPACE

Andrew Baczewski PHY 491, October 12th, 2011



OVERVIEW

- Today, we will answer the following questions:
 - How do we classify crystallographic planes using Miller indices?
 - What is a Brillouin Zone and how is it related to the Wigner-Seitz cell?
 - How do we describe scattering from a lattice with a basis?
 - How do we actually use X-ray diffraction to characterize crystals?

BRAGG SCATTERING

• In the previous lecture, we discussed the Bragg condition:

- A monochromatic beam of X-rays is incident on a crystalline sample
- The beam undergoes specular reflection at well-defined crystallographic planes
- Constructive interference between reflected rays gives rise to diffraction peaks

• The Bragg condition gives a relationship between angle of incidence/reflection, wavelength of the interrogating beam, and the distance between crystallographic planes.

 $2d\sin\theta = n\lambda$

- When this equality is satisfied, a diffraction peak will be observed.
- We developed the notion of a **reciprocal lattice** to derive the Bragg condition formally:

• Bragg scattering occurs when the scattering vector is a reciprocal lattice vector associated with the crystal Bravais lattice.

•We were able to re-write the Bragg condition as follows: $|ec{\mathbf{G}}|^2 = 2ec{\mathbf{G}}\cdotec{\mathbf{k}}$

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BRAGG SCATTERING (CONT.)

- We hand-wavily concluded, that we can show a direct equivalence between the two Bragg conditions: $2d\sin\theta = n\lambda \longleftrightarrow |\vec{\mathbf{G}}|^2 = 2\vec{\mathbf{G}}\cdot\vec{\mathbf{k}}$
- Our argument was based upon the physical interpretation of the reciprocal lattice vector, G $\vec{\mathbf{G}} = h\vec{\mathbf{b}}_1 + k\vec{\mathbf{b}}_2 + l\vec{\mathbf{b}}_3$
- Here, h, k, and I, are integers called Miller indices.
- A single fixed set of Miller indices describes an infinite set of crystallographic planes
- We claimed that the magnitude of **G** is related to the **real space distance between these planes**

$$d(hkl) = \frac{2\pi}{|\vec{\mathbf{G}}|} \text{ and } |\vec{\mathbf{G}}|^2 = 2\vec{\mathbf{G}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{k}} \longrightarrow 2d(hkl)$$

• Aside from being the glue that holds together the two ends of this derivation, Miller indices are used to label crystallographic planes, and their associated diffraction peaks.

$)\sin(\theta) = \lambda$

• Other than defining a reciprocal lattice vector, these 3 integers, **h**, **k**, **l**, refer to families of crystallographic

• Other than defining a reciprocal lattice vector, these 3 integers, **h**, **k**, **l**, refer planes, that can be brought into coincidence by translation by a lattice vector.

• For a given plane, how do we construct these indices?

- Define a unit cell with respect to a set of real lattice vectors
- Find the intercepts of the plane at **integer multiples** of the lattice vectors

•3, 2, 2

- Take the *reciprocals* of these integers
 1/3, 1/2, 1/2
- Clear fractions with a common multiplier
 - •2, 3, 3 (multiplied 1/3, 1/2, 1/2 by 6)
- Remove **common multiples**
 - •None in this example



INDEXING CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC PLANES

• The only 'exceptions' arise for rhombohedral and hexagonal systems, wherein a 4th index is sometimes added.

• Some of the simpler planes are illustrated to the right.



• This triplet of integer indices is referred to as Miller indices, and they don't just refer to crystal planes Indices are enclosed by (), [], {}, or <> - the type of brace indicates physical significance

• (hkl) : crystallographic **planes**, as discussed so far

•{hkl} : family of planes that are mapped onto each other under lattice's group of symmetries

- •[hkl]: crystallographic direction defined by real lattice vector with components h, k, l
- •<hkl>: family of directions mapped onto each other under lattice's group of symmetries

GEOMETRIC INTERPRETATION

- There is one last feature of reciprocal lattice vectors & Miller indices worth noting • In general, one geometrically defines a plane in terms of a vector that is normal to it. • The reciprocal lattice vector with components h, k, l, is normal to the set of planes (hkl)!
 - It is actually the shortest normal vector with integer components.



• Reciprocal lattice vector with components h, k, l is orthogonal to plane (hkl), and its magnitude scales inversely with the distance between consecutive (hkl) planes.





(100)

(|||)

• Consider the (III) and (I00) planes of Silicon.



• Which has the higher areal density of Si atoms?

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EXAMPLE

(100)

(|||)

• Both have 2 atoms per planar cross-section in the conventional unit cell.

• Area of (100) cross-section in unit cell = a^2

• Area of (111) cross-section in unit cell = $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a^2$

•The (III) plane has the higher areal density

• If you stumble upon a single crystal Si wafer, chances are it will be cleave on one of these two faces

• You will see these indices in a number of contexts outside of X-ray diffraction:

- Chemical reactivity depends on surface orientation
- Grains in polycrystals
- Anisotropic elastic, optical, and electrical properties



WIGNER-SEITZ REDUX

• Now that we understand the reciprocal lattice, let's revisit the Wigner-Seitz unit cell

• Wigner-Seitz cell: primitive cell such that for a fixed lattice point, the WS cell is the **volume** surrounding it that is closest to that point

Algorithm for construction

- Choose a lattice point
- Find its nearest neighbors
- Draw a line from the point to its neighbors
- Bisect this line with a plane
- Planes bound the Wigner-Seitz cell





bcc and **fcc** Wigner-Seitz cells (respectively)

BRILLOUIN ZONES

• In real space, this was just a convenient method for constructing high symmetry primitive cells

• In reciprocal space, the Wigner-Seitz construction produces what is called the **first Brillouin zone**

•Wigner-Seitz cell and first Brillouin zone refer to equivalent mathematical constructs, one is in real space, the other is in reciprocal space.

• A convenient duality exist for **bcc** and **fcc** lattices • Reciprocal lattice of bcc = fcc • Reciprocal lattice of fcc = bcc • The bcc first Brillouin zone is congruent to the fcc Wigner-Seitz cell, and vice-verse!



fcc and bcc first Brillouin Zones (respectively)

BRILLOUIN ZONES (CONT.)

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BRILLOUIN ZONES (CONT.)

•So why do we care?

•Bragg condition: diffraction peak will be observed if scattering vector, $\Delta ec{K}=ec{k'}-ec{k}$, is a reciprocal lattice vector

$$|\vec{\mathbf{G}}|^2 = 2\vec{\mathbf{G}}\cdot\vec{\mathbf{k}} \longrightarrow \vec{\mathbf{k}}\cdot\Delta\hat{\mathbf{K}} = \frac{1}{2}|\Delta$$

• The projection of the incident wave vector along the reciprocal lattice vector producing diffraction must be half the magnitude of the reciprocal lattice vector.

• k vectors that satisfy this criterion define a plane in reciprocal space, that we call Bragg plane

• The boundaries of the first Brillouin zone (and higher) will be **Bragg planes!**





BRILLOUIN ZONES (CONT.)

•Here is a summary of what we know about X-ray scattering now:

- From the real space lattice, we can construct a reciprocal lattice
- From the reciprocal lattice, we can construct the first Brillouin zone, using Wigner-Seitz construction
- From the Brillouin zone, we can find Bragg planes, which describe incident wave-vectors at which Bragg scattering occurs.
- We can work this backwards just as easily!
- You will see that the Brillouin zone is an important concept in electronic structure as well.
 - Namely, the potential that electrons feel moving around in the lattice is also periodic.
 - Electronic dispersion will be heavily modified in the vicinity of Bragg planes
 - Basic content of the nearly free electron model.

BRAGG SCATTERING WITH A BASIS

• Before moving onto electronic structure, we will consider Bragg scattering in one more context: with a basis assigned to the underlying Bravais lattice.

• We previously defined the scattering amplitude for a lattice with a trivial basis: $F(\Delta \vec{\mathbf{K}}) = \int d\vec{\mathbf{r}} \ n(\vec{\mathbf{r}}) e^{-i\vec{\Delta}\vec{\mathbf{K}}\cdot\vec{\mathbf{r}}}$

• To add a basis, we need to introduce a quantity known as the **geometric structure factor**.

• For a lattice with a basis consisting of n identical atoms at $\{\vec{\mathbf{d}}_1,\ldots,\vec{\mathbf{d}}_n\}$ and a scattering vector $\Delta ec{\mathbf{K}}$

$$S_{\Delta \vec{\mathbf{K}}} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} e^{i\Delta \vec{\mathbf{K}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{d}_j}}$$

• This is just a phase shift that arises due to scattering from the basis atoms at each lattice point.

STRUCTURE FACTORS

• Previously, we saw that the intensity of a Bragg peak was proportional to the modulus square of the Fourier coefficient associated with the scattering vector (which was zero unless it was in the reciprocal lattice).

• It is now proportional to the modulus square of the geometric structure factor as well!

$$I \sim V^2 |n_{\vec{\mathbf{G}}}|^2 \rightarrow I \sim V^2 |n_{\vec{\mathbf{G}}}|^2 |S_{\vec{\mathbf{G}}}|$$

• The net result of adding the geometric structure factor is the extinction or enhancement of certain Bragg peaks.

• When the Fourier coefficient of the density is non-zero, the structure factor may still be zero!

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STRUCTURE FACTORS (CONT.)

• For the diamond crystal structure, recall that we have an **fcc** lattice with a basis of **2** atoms:

• (0,0,0) and (1/4, 1/4, 1/4) - components using Cartesian basis

The reciprocal lattice is a **bcc** with primitive vectors:
(-1/2,1/2,1/2), (1/2,-1/2,1/2), and (1/2,1/2,-1/2)

• On the right, the structure factor is evaluated a number of different reciprocal lattice vectors

$$S_{\Delta \vec{\mathbf{K}}} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} e^{i\Delta \vec{\mathbf{K}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{d}_j}}$$

• Diffraction peaks associated with white spots are **removed** from the usual fcc diffraction pattern

4π/a

STRUCTURE FACTORS (CONT.)

- Not much changes when you add a polyatomic basis.
- Structure factor will now have to depend upon the charge distribution at each basis site
- Constructing structure factors for large crystals is essential to study of proteins using X ray crystallography
 - Here, the unit cell may have a basis on the order of 10,000 atoms

CONCLUSIONS

• In summary:

- Miller indices are triplets of integers used to index crystal planes and directions
- The Brillouin zone is just the Wigner-Seitz cell in reciprocal space
- The boundaries of the Brillouin zone are Bragg planes
- The introduction of a basis to the Bragg scattering problem, extinguishes certain Bragg peaks that would otherwise be there in the case of a trivial basis.