

Chapter 3: X-ray Diffraction and Crystal Structure Determination

Learning Objectives

- To describe crystals in terms of the stacking of planes.
- How to use a dot product to solve for the angles between planes and directions
- Describe a way to determine the crystal structure of a material using X-rays.

Relevant Reading for this Lecture...

- *Pages 83-87.*

1

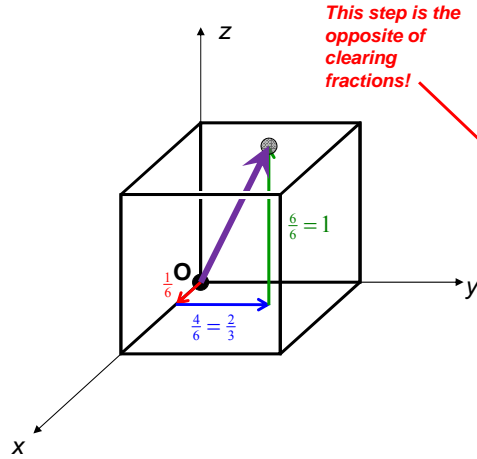
Recap of Miller Indices

- 1) Last time we showed how to use vectors and Miller indices to define planes and directions in crystals.
- 2) Let's start with a worked example of (2) and then move into today's lecture.

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In class example #2: SOLUTION

In a cubic unit cell, draw correctly a vector with indices [146].



This step is the opposite of clearing fractions!

Select your origin. Put it wherever you want to.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{indices} \quad [1 \quad 4 \quad 6] \\ \hline \text{Div. by } 6 \quad \frac{1}{6} \quad \frac{4}{6} \quad \frac{6}{6} \end{array}$$

These fractions denote how far to step in the x, y, or z directions (away from the origin).

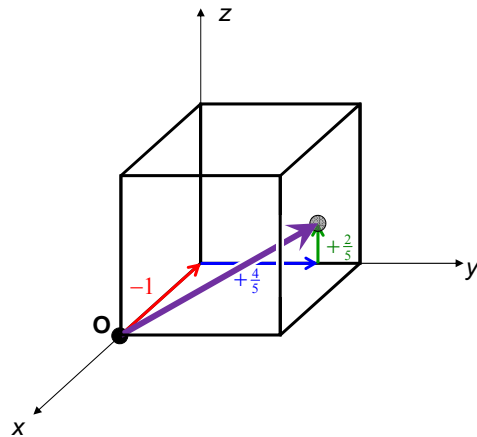
NOTE: It would be "wise" to select the origin so that you can complete the desired steps within the cell that you are using!

3



In class example #3:

In a cubic unit cell, draw correctly a vector with indices $[\bar{5}42]$.



NOTE: It would be "wise" to select the origin so that you can complete the desired steps within the cell that you are using!

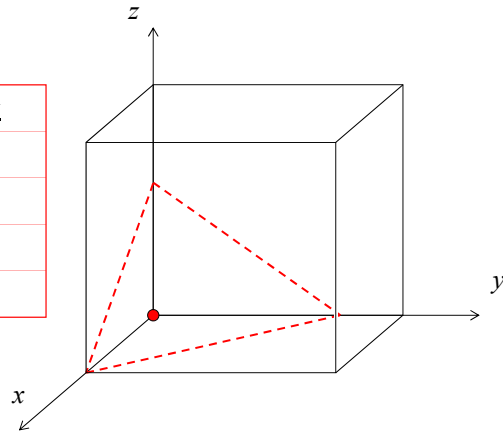
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MILLER INDICES FOR A SINGLE PLANE

What is the plane bounded by the dash lines?

	x	y	z
Intercept			
Reciprocal			
Clear			
INDICES			



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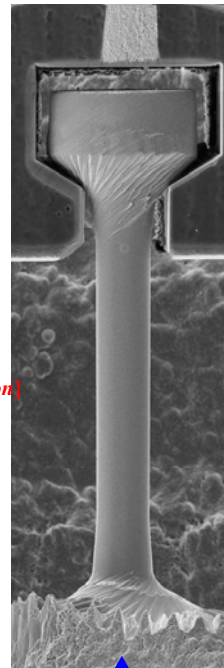
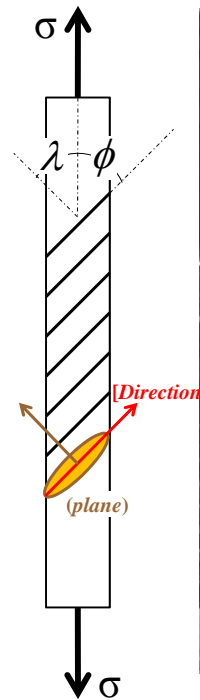


Remember this?

- When materials deform, they normally prefer to deform via shear in the closest packed directions on the closest packed planes!

The tensile axis is in a different direction than the shear direction.

We'll address this in more detail when we discuss mechanical properties!



video



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Sometimes it is necessary to determine the angle between a couple of directions or planes.

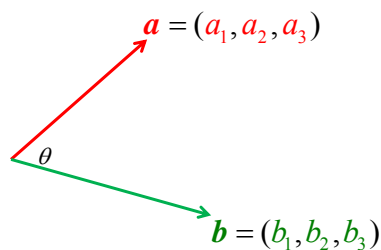
Use the cosine law

Sometimes it may be necessary to determine whether a direction lies on a particular plane.

Use the dot product

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Vector dot products



“ \mathbf{a} dot \mathbf{b} ” = sum of each vector index with its counterpart vector

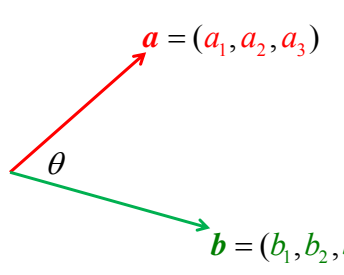
$$\vec{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{b}} = a_1 \times b_1 + a_2 \times b_2 + a_3 \times b_3$$

Example: Find the dot product of \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} if $\mathbf{a} = (1,2,3)$ and $\mathbf{b} = (4,5,6)$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = (1,2,3) \cdot (4,5,6) = 1 \cdot 4 + 2 \cdot 5 + 3 \cdot 6 = 4 + 10 + 18 = 32$$

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Finding the angle between 2 vectors



$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}$ also equals the magnitude of \mathbf{a} times the magnitude of \mathbf{b} times the cosine of the angle between vectors.

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = a_1 \cdot b_1 + a_2 \cdot b_2 + a_3 \cdot b_3 = |\mathbf{a}| |\mathbf{b}| \cos \theta$$

Vector Magnitudes

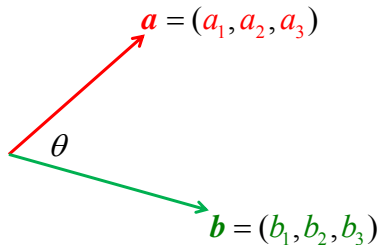
$$|\mathbf{a}| = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \quad |\mathbf{b}| = \sqrt{b_1^2 + b_2^2 + b_3^2}$$

Re-arrange and solve for $\cos \theta$. This yields the familiar cosine law:

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{|\mathbf{a}| |\mathbf{b}|} = \frac{a_1 \cdot b_1 + a_2 \cdot b_2 + a_3 \cdot b_3}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \times \sqrt{b_1^2 + b_2^2 + b_3^2}}$$

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Finding the angle between 2 vectors



Example: Find the angle between \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} if $\mathbf{a} = (1, 2, 3)$ and $\mathbf{b} = (4, 5, 6)$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{|\mathbf{a}| |\mathbf{b}|} = \frac{1 \cdot 4 + 2 \cdot 5 + 3 \cdot 6}{\sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2} \times \sqrt{4^2 + 5^2 + 6^2}} = \frac{32}{\sqrt{14} \sqrt{77}} = 0.9746$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}(0.9746) = \underline{\underline{12.93^\circ}}$$

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Angle between planes: Dot Product

We can define planes using vectors perpendicular to them!

Normal vectors have the same indices as the planes!

$$D = u \cdot \vec{a} + v \cdot \vec{b} + w \cdot \vec{c} \qquad D' = u' \cdot \vec{a} + v' \cdot \vec{b} + w' \cdot \vec{c}$$

$$\vec{D} \cdot \vec{D}' = |\vec{D}| \cdot |\vec{D}'| \cos \delta$$

$$\cos \delta = \frac{\vec{D} \cdot \vec{D}'}{|\vec{D}| \cdot |\vec{D}'|} = \frac{u \cdot u' + v \cdot v' + w \cdot w'}{\sqrt{u^2 + v^2 + w^2} \sqrt{(u')^2 + (v')^2 + (w')^2}}$$

Equations work with Miller indices!

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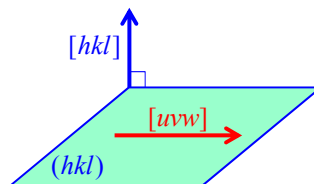
How to tell if a direction lies on a plane

If the dot product of the vector and plane = 0,
then the vector lies on the plane

$$\vec{D} = u\vec{a} + v\vec{b} + w\vec{c} \qquad \vec{P} = h\vec{a} + k\vec{b} + l\vec{c}$$

$$[uvw] \qquad (hkl)$$

$$\vec{D} \cdot \vec{P} = |\vec{D}| \cdot |\vec{P}| \cos \delta = u \cdot h + v \cdot k + w \cdot l = 0$$



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In Class Example

Which members of the $\langle 111 \rangle$ family of directions lie within the (110) plane?

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In Class Example: SOLUTION

Which members of the $\langle 111 \rangle$ family of directions lie within the (110) plane?

The [110] direction is perpendicular (i.e., normal) to the (110) plane.

The directions that lie on this plane will give a zero dot product with [110].

$$[110] \cdot [hkl] = 1 \cdot h + 1 \cdot k + 0 \cdot l$$

Now substitute in the members of the $\langle 111 \rangle$ family and see which give a zero dot product. The $\langle 111 \rangle$ family is:

$$[111], [\bar{1}\bar{1}1], [1\bar{1}\bar{1}], [11\bar{1}], [\bar{1}\bar{1}\bar{1}], [1\bar{1}\bar{1}], [\bar{1}1\bar{1}], [\bar{1}\bar{1}1]$$

Substitute each direction in for $[hkl]$ as shown below:

$$[110] \cdot [111] = 1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 1 = 2$$

$$[110] \cdot [\bar{1}\bar{1}1] = -1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 1 = 0 \leftarrow \text{This one is on the (110) plane.}$$

etc...

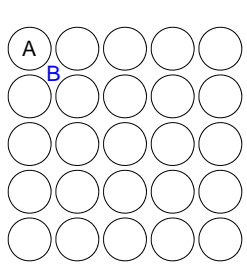
Look for all instances where the dot product = zero.

SOLUTION: $[\bar{1}\bar{1}1], [1\bar{1}\bar{1}], [1\bar{1}\bar{1}],$ and $[\bar{1}1\bar{1}]$

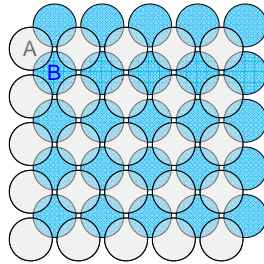
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Atomic packing and the unit cell

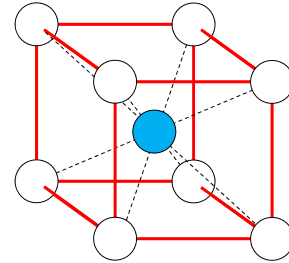
- We can visualize crystals structures as stacked planes of atoms.



(a) Non-close-packed layer A.



(b) Stack next layer on B sites.
Yields ABABAB... stacking.
BCC packing.



(c) The BCC unit cell

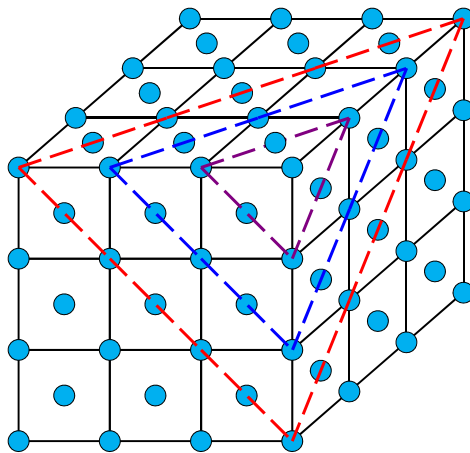
- (a) A square grid of spheres. (b) A second layer, B, nesting in the first, A; repeating this sequence gives ABABAB... Packing resulting in (c) the BCC crystal structure.

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Now that we understand planes – how do crystal structures compare?

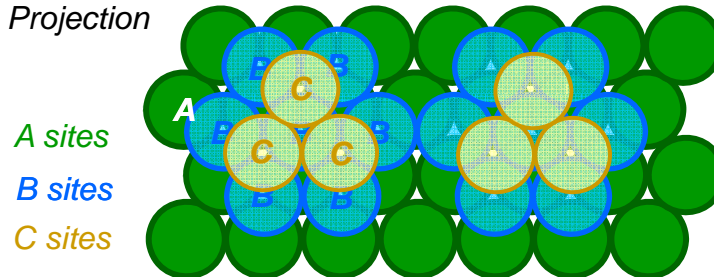
Close Packed Stacking Sequence in FCC



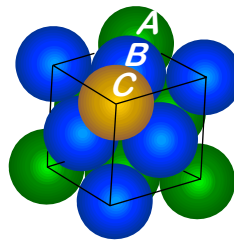
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What is the Close Packed Stacking Sequence in FCC?

- ABCABC... Stacking Sequence
- 2D Projection



- FCC Unit Cell

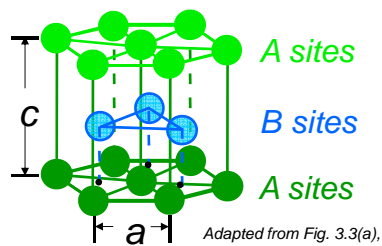


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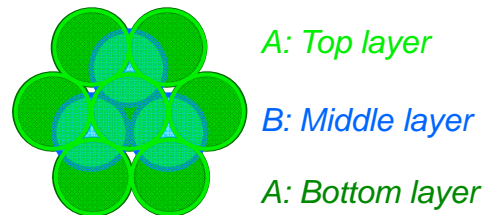


Hexagonal Close-Packed Structure (HCP)

- ABAB... Stacking Sequence
- 3D Projection



- 2D Projection



- Coordination # = 12

- $APF = 0.74$

- $c/a = 1.633$

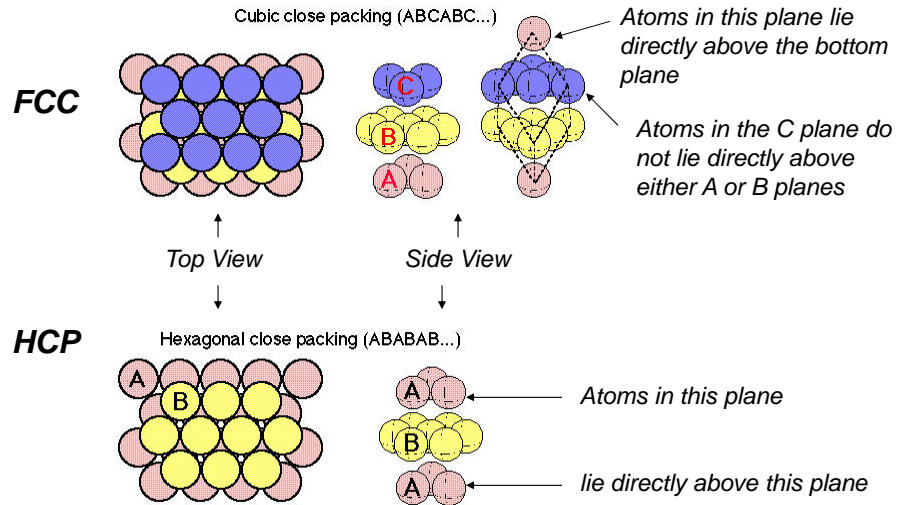
6 atoms/unit cell

ex: Cd, Mg, Ti, Zn

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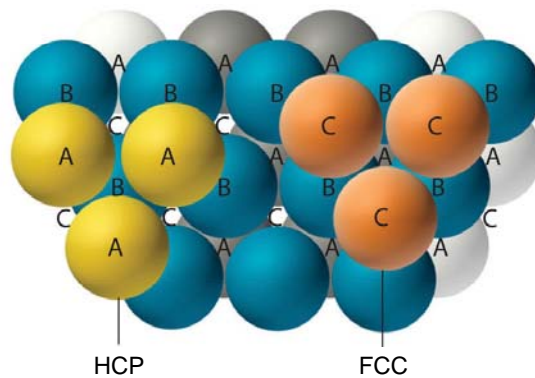


A comparison of the stacking sequence of close packed planes in HCP & FCC crystals



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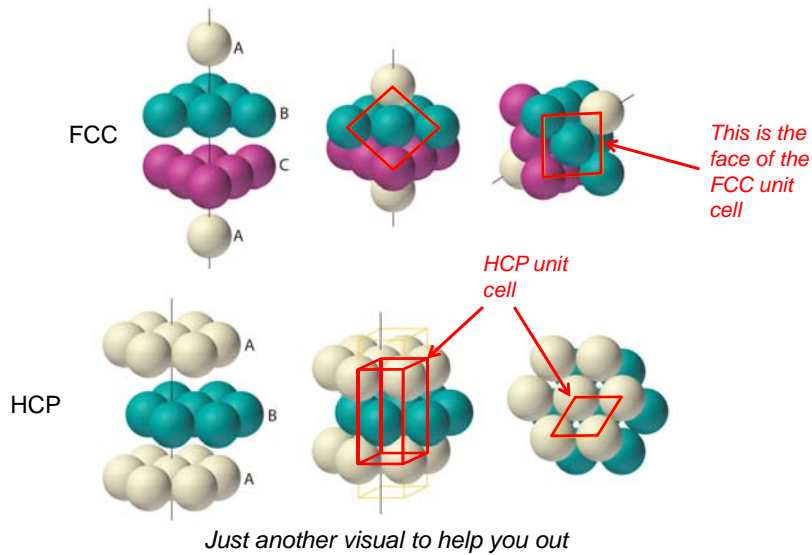
A comparison of HCP and FCC stacking sequence of close packed planes



This is similar to Figs. 3.30 – 3.32 on pages 78 and 79 of your book.

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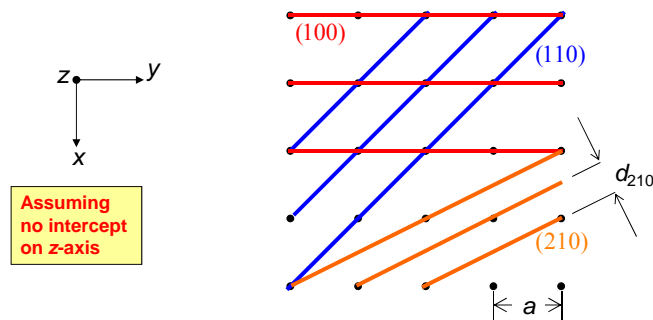
A comparison of the stacking sequence of close packed planes in HCP & FCC



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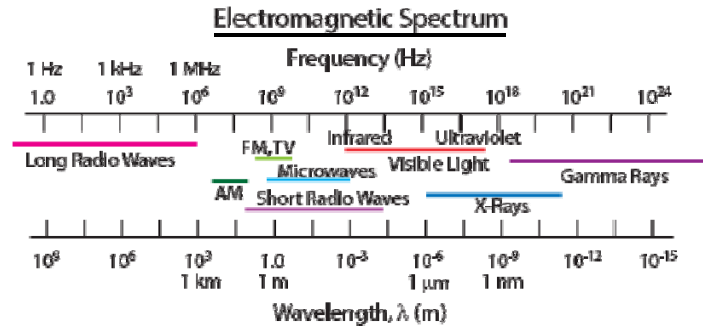
How Can We Determine Crystal Structures?

- Measure the inter-planar spacing.
- The inter-planar spacing in a particular direction is the distance between equivalent planes of atoms.
 - Function of lattice parameter
 - Function of crystal symmetry (i.e., how atoms are arranged)



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How do we Measure this Spacing? X-Ray Diffraction

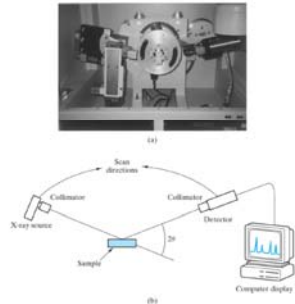
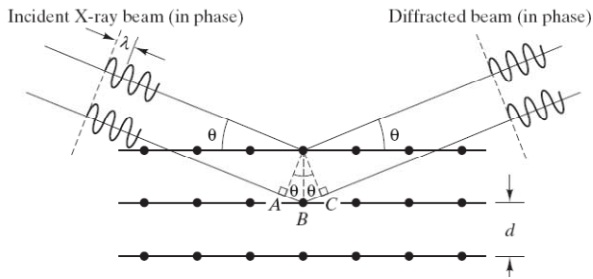


- Diffraction gratings must have spacing comparable to the wavelength (λ) of diffracted radiation (X-rays).
- In crystals: diffraction gratings are planes of atoms. Spacing is the distance between parallel planes of atoms.
- We can only resolve a spacing that is bigger than λ .
(This is why we use X-rays... they are approximately the same size as planar spacings)

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Bragg's Law:



Bragg's Law:

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

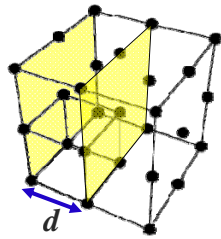
Where:

- θ is half the angle between the diffracted beam and the original beam direction
- λ is the wavelength of X-ray
- d is the interplanar spacing

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Bragg's Law:

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



Interplanar spacing:

$$d_{hkl} = \frac{d}{n} = \frac{a_0}{\sqrt{h^2 + k^2 + l^2}} = \frac{\lambda}{2 \sin \theta}$$

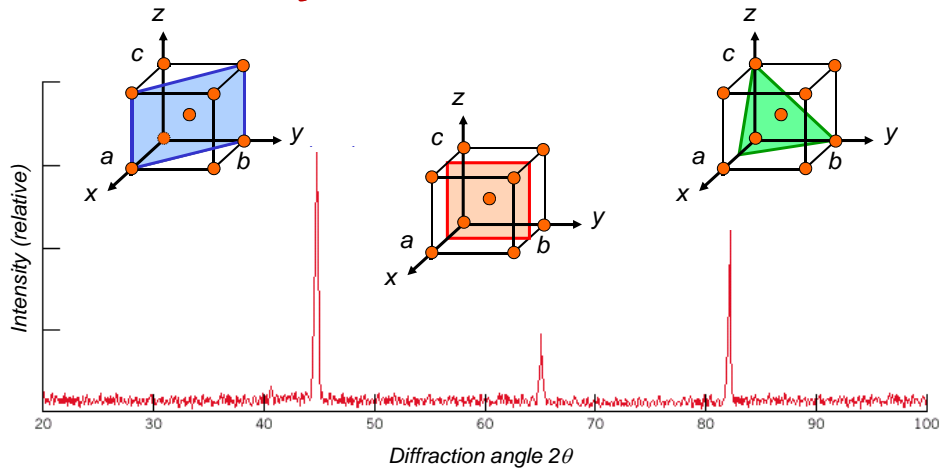
Lattice parameter
Miller Indices

Order of reflection (integer)

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X-Ray Diffraction Pattern



Diffraction pattern for polycrystalline α -iron (BCC)

Adapted from Fig. 3.40, Callister and Rethwisch 4e. P. 86

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Why do different crystals diffract different planes?

Reflection Rules of X-Ray Diffraction for the Common Metal Structures

Crystal structure	Diffraction does not occur when	Diffraction occurs when
Body-centered cubic (bcc)	$h + k + l = \text{odd number}$	$h + k + l = \text{even number}$
Face-centered cubic (fcc)	h, k, l mixed (i.e., both even and odd numbers)	h, k, l unmixed (i.e., are all even numbers or all are odd numbers)
Hexagonal close packed (hcp)	$(h + 2k) = 3n, l$ odd (n is an integer)	All other cases

It's based on atomic arrangement.

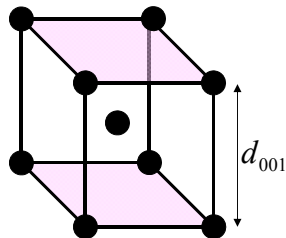
Thus, there are rules that define which planes diffract.

Some reflections aren't observed. WHY?

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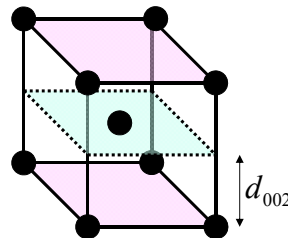
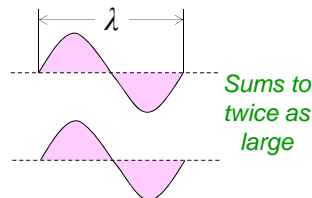


Why is the {100} not an allowed reflection in BCC?



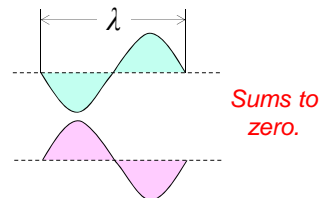
Diffraction from (001) planes.

Diffracted X-rays are in phase (i.e., they line up perfectly).



Diffraction from (002) planes.

X-rays diffracted from (002) are shifted 180° out of phase (i.e., they do not line up perfectly).



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Related to equations 3.16 and 3.16 on page 84.

In Class Example

What would be the (hkl) indices for the three lowest diffraction-angle peaks for BCC metal?

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In Class Example: SOLUTION

What would be the (hkl) indices for the three lowest diffraction-angle peaks for BCC metal?

First, satisfy reflection criteria for BCC (i.e., $h + k + l = \text{even number}$).

Second, combine d -spacing equation with Bragg's Law:

$$d_{hkl} = \frac{d}{n} = \frac{a_0}{\sqrt{h^2 + k^2 + l^2}} = \frac{\lambda}{2 \sin \theta}$$

Re-arrange so that we can determine θ ; you will get:

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\lambda}{2a_0} \sqrt{h^2 + k^2 + l^2}$$

Now we plug in hkl values such that the reflection rule is satisfied. NOTE: smallest θ corresponds to smallest combination of hkl values.

Indices	$h + k + l$	$h^2 + k^2 + l^2$	BCC
100	odd	1	no
110	even	2	YES ←
111	odd	3	no
200	even	4	YES ←
210	odd	5	no
211	even	6	YES ←

A great variation on this question would be:
What are the reflection angles

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Summary

- We can use the dot product as a means to identify angles between planes and directions (this will be important when we get to mechanical behavior!)
- Crystal structure can be determined by measuring inter-planar spacing.
- We use X-ray Diffraction to measure this spacing.
- Inter-planar spacing can be calculated using:

$$d_{hkl} = \frac{d}{n} = \frac{a_0}{\sqrt{h^2 + k^2 + l^2}} = \frac{\lambda}{2 \sin \theta}$$

- Bragg's Law: $n\lambda = 2d \sin \theta$
- Depending on crystal types, certain {hkl} planes will diffract and can be used to identify the crystal structure. We have a set of selection rules to help us identify them. (*You do not need to memorize these rules – they would be given to you on an exam, if a question was asked.*)

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