

Elastic scattering and interference phenomena

Phenomenological approach through light – grating interaction

Plane wave:







Angular distance of the peaks<->determines distances of the slits (grating parameter)

The width of the peaks (FWHM) depends on the number *p* of illuminated slits FWHM~1/p

The **envelope** of the peaks determines the **width** *A* of one slit. FWHM~1/A

"Crystallography" = study of periodic objects

But in the end, what we are interested in may well be "the object"

A Crystal is an object associated with a regular (periodic or non-periodic) grating, defining its repetition





Information about the atomic arrangement inside the unit cell.

"Bragg-peaks" corresponding to different net planes)

The envelope that contains all the information on the detailed distribution of electron density inside a unit cell can only be sampled at certain discrete positions, the Bragg peaks that correspond to the basic long range periodicities, also called the Fourier components

Reconstruction of complex molecules through their Fourier components

Rosalind Franklin's X-ray diffraction pattern of DNA

Rosalind Franklin obtained this X-ray diffraction pattern, which triggered the idea that DNA was a helix.

Several years of modeling of one structure, one brilliant idea !

Ells, Antonyuk & Hasnain, Acta Cryst. (2002). D58, 456

Laue construction, scattering from 3D lattices



Interference condition: path difference must be integer multiple of λ :

$$h\lambda = \Delta = \Delta_2 - \Delta_1 = a_1 * \cos \alpha_f - a_1 \cos \alpha_i$$
 pour $h = 1, 2, 3...$

$$\vec{a}_1 * (\vec{k}_f \cdot \vec{k}_0) = h\lambda$$





Just to throw it in....

$$\vec{a}_{1} * (\vec{k}_{f} \cdot \vec{k}_{0}) = h\lambda$$
$$\vec{a}_{2} * (\vec{k}_{f} \cdot \vec{k}_{0}) = k\lambda$$
$$\vec{a}_{3} * (\vec{k}_{f} \cdot \vec{k}_{0}) = l\lambda$$

And what about powder diffraction ? Wavelength λ is fixed this time (monochromatic beam), but we offer all directions of In the form of crystallite orientations $\overrightarrow{k_0}$

> We lose 1 parameter (λ) and we "win" 2 with free choice of $\overrightarrow{k_0}$, -> the "solution" is no longuer a "point" but becomes a (ring shaped) line

How would a mono-crystal behave in a monochromatic beam ?

Tobias Schulli AIBN Lecture Series

In this notation $\overrightarrow{k_f}$ and $\overrightarrow{k_0}$ are vectors of length $2\pi/\lambda$

Bragg description of diffraction

Laue: diffraction is 3D interference from point lattice William (Laurence+Henry) Bragg: diffraction is interfering reflection from net planes of the Crystal (1913). Their approach focused on monochromatic "characteristic" x-rays







Definition of the net planes (Miller, 1801–1880)

(hkl) netplane is defined as the plane that intersects the real space unit cell axis in the points



Scattering of x-rays by electrons

Why electrons (and not protons, or other nuclei)?

Larmors formula for the power irradiated by an accelerated charge: $P = \frac{2}{2} \frac{e^2}{c^3} \left| \dot{\vec{v}} \right|^2$

 $|\vec{v}| = \frac{F}{m}$, with $F \sim e$ (elementary charge)

For a hydrogen atoms:

Light as an electromagnetic field accelerates e- and p+ with the same force (as equal elementary charges), however the higher mass of protons leads to 1836 times weaker acceleration $|\vec{v}|$, and thus $1836^2=3.4*10^6$ times weaker irradiated power: $P_{Proton} = 2.97*10^{-7}P_{electron}$

It is thus the electrons in a material that are essentially responsible for the scattering of X-rays as electromagnetic waves

Propagating plane wave





Oscillating field at a fix point x: $A_x(t) = A_0 \cos(2\pi f t)$ = $A_0 \cos(\omega t)$, with $\omega = 2\pi f$

Same wave frozen in time: $A_t(x) = A_0 \cos(\frac{2\pi x}{\lambda})$ $k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$ Oscillation in space and time: $A(x, t) = A_0 \cos(\omega t + kx)$

Oscillation in space and time:
$$A(x, y, t) = A_0 \cos\left(\omega t + {\binom{k_x}{k_y}}{\binom{x}{y}}\right) = A_0 \cos\left(\omega t + \vec{k}\vec{r}\right)$$

Propagating plane wave





Oscillation in space and time: $A(\vec{r}, t) = A_0 \cos(\omega t + \vec{k}\vec{r})$

"Equivalent description": $A(\vec{r}, t) = A_0 e^{i(\omega t + \vec{k}\vec{r})} = A_0(\cos(\omega t + \vec{k}\vec{r}) + i * \sin(\omega t + \vec{k}\vec{r}))$

Essentially carries advantages for the analytical treatment of wave propagation