Basics of X-Ray Powder Diffraction

Training to Become an Independent User
of the X-Ray SEF
at the Center for Materials Science and Engineering at MIT

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http://prism.mit.edu/xray



Required Training to Become an Independent User in the X-Ray SEF



Required Safety Training

- All users must complete the EHS X-ray Safety training
- All users must complete the X-ray Lab Specific Safety Training
- All users must complete the MIT chemical hygiene training
- All users must be up to date on their MIT managing hazardous waste training
- All users must be registered in CMSE MUMMS
 - https://cmse-coral.mit.edu/mumms/home.html

Instrument Specific Training

- These courses cover how to safely operate instruments to collect data
- Powder Diffractometers:
 - PANalytical X'Pert Pro Multipurpose Powder Diffractometer
 - Rigaku High-Power Powder Diffractometer
 - Bruker D8 with GADDS 2-dimensional detector
- Other instruments
 - Bruker D8 HRXRD
 - XRF

Data Analysis Workshops

- Basic XRPD Data Analysis using HighScore Plus
 - Primary focus is on phase identification, with some discussion on advanced topics such as lattice parameter and crystallite size calculations
- Profile Fitting and Crystallite Size Determination
 - Profile fitting is the most precise way to determine diffraction peak position, intensity, and width for calculating lattice parameters and crystallite size
- Rietveld Refinement
 - The Rietveld method is used to refine the crystal structure model of a material. It can be used for quantitative phase ID, lattice parameter and crystallite size calculations, and determine atom positions and occupancies

High Resolution X-Ray Diffraction (HRXRD) Training

- HRXRD is used to analyze epitaxial thin films
 - Can determine composition, strain/relaxation, lattice parameters (inplane and out-of-plane), thickness, and defect concentration
- X-Ray Reflectivity (XRR) is used to analyze thin films, including amorphous and non-textured films
 - Can determine thickness, roughness, and density
- Introduction Lecture
- Instrument training on the Bruker HRXRD
- HRXRD Data Analysis Workshop

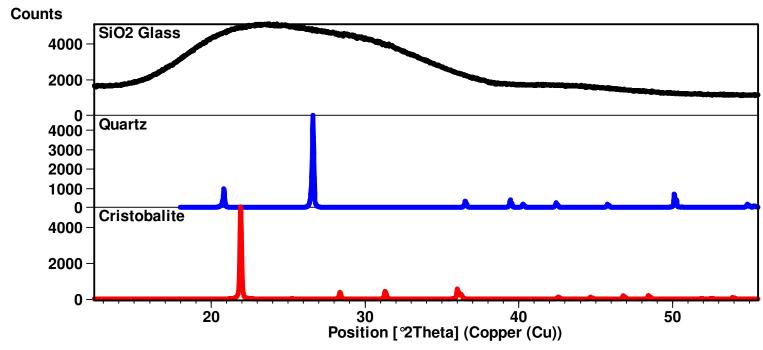
Introduction to Crystallography and X-Ray Diffraction Theory



Diffraction occurs when light is scattered by a periodic array with long-range order, producing constructive interference at specific angles.

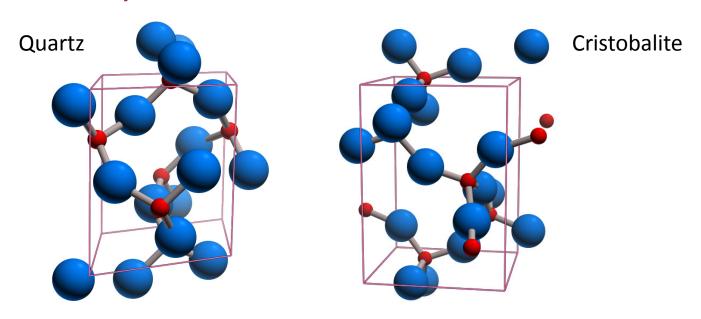
- The electrons in an atom coherently scatter light.
 - We can regard each atom as a coherent point scatterer
 - The strength with which an atom scatters light is proportional to the number of electrons around the atom.
- The atoms in a crystal are arranged in a periodic array and thus can diffract light.
- The wavelength of X rays are similar to the distance between atoms.
- The scattering of X-rays from atoms produces a diffraction pattern, which contains information about the atomic arrangement within the crystal
- Amorphous materials like glass do not have a periodic array with long-range order, so they do not produce a diffraction pattern

The figure below compares the X-ray diffraction patterns from 3 different forms of SiO₂



- These three phases of SiO₂ are chemically identical
- Quartz and cristobalite have two different crystal structures
 - The Si and O atoms are arranged differently, but both have structures with long-range atomic order
 - The difference in their crystal structure is reflected in their different diffraction patterns
- The amorphous glass does not have long-range atomic order and therefore produces only broad scattering peaks

The diffraction pattern is a product of the unique crystal structure of a material



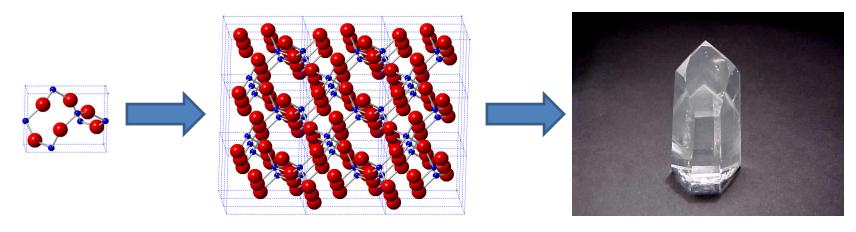
- The crystal structure describes the atomic arrangement of a material.
- When the atoms are arranged differently, a different diffraction pattern is produced (ie quartz vs cristobalite)

Crystalline materials are characterized by the longrange orderly periodic arrangements of atoms.

- The unit cell is the basic repeating unit that defines the crystal structure.
 - The unit cell contains the maximum symmetry that uniquely defines the crystal structure.
 - The unit cell might contain more than one molecule:
 - for example, the quartz unit cell contains 3 complete molecules of SiO₂.
- The crystal system describes the shape of the unit cell
- The lattice parameters describe the size of the unit cell

Crystal System: hexagonal Lattice Parameters: 4.9134 x 4.9134 x 5.4052 Å (90 x 90 x 120°)

 The unit cell repeats in all dimensions to fill space and produce the macroscopic grains or crystals of the material



Crystal structures focus on symmetry elements to define the atomic arrangement

- Symmetry in crystal structures is a product of energy minimization in the atomic arrangement
- Symmetry in the crystal structure often produces symmetry in material properties and behavior

Quartz

Crystal System: hexagonal

Bravais Lattice: primitive

Space Group: P3₂21

Lattice Parameters: 4.9134 x 4.9134 x 5.4052 Å

(90 x 90 x 120°)

Atom Positions:

x y z Si 0.47 0 0.667 O 0.414 0.268 0.786 **Primitive Bravais Lattice**

3₂ screw axis

2-fold rotational axis

Symmetry elements are used to define seven different crystal systems

Crystal System	Bravais Lattices	Symmetry	Axis System
Cubic	P, I, F	m3m	a=b=c, α = β = γ =90
Tetragonal	P, I	4/mmm	a=b≠c, α=β=γ=90
Hexagonal	P, R	6/mmm	a=b≠c, α=β=90 γ=120
Rhombohedral*	R	3m	a=b=c, α=β=γ≠90
Orthorhombic	P, C, I, F	mmm	a≠b≠c, α=β=γ=90
Monoclinic	P, C	2/m	a≠b≠c, α=γ=90 β≠90
Triclinic	Р	1	a≠b≠c, α≠β≠γ≠90

Quartz

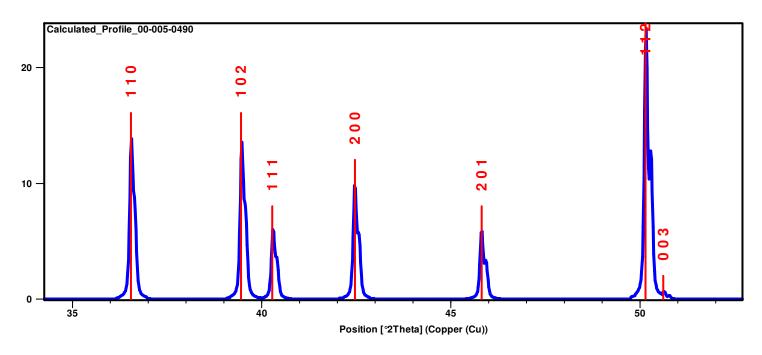
Crystal System: hexagonal Bravais Lattice: primitive

Space Group: P322₁

Lattice Parameters: 4.9134 x 4.9134 x 5.4052 Å

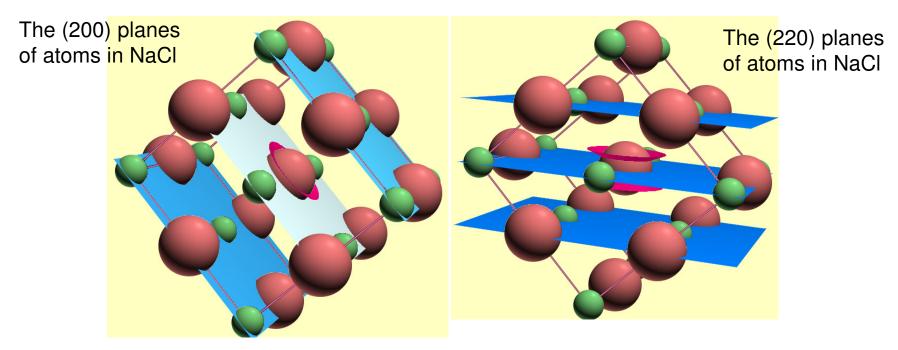
(90 x 90 x 120°)

Diffraction peaks are associated with planes of atoms



- Miller indices (hkl) are used to identify different planes of atoms
- Observed diffraction peaks can be related to planes of atoms to assist in analyzing the atomic structure and microstructure of a sample

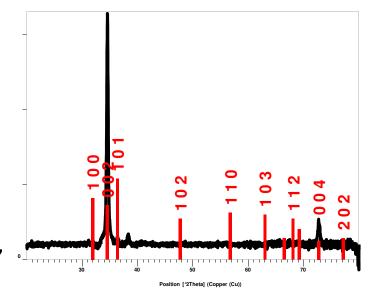
Parallel **planes of atoms** intersecting the unit cell define directions and distances in the crystal.



- The Miller indices (hkl) define the reciprocal of the axial intercepts
- The crystallographic direction, [hkl], is the vector normal to (hkl)
- d_{hkl} is the vector extending from the origin to the plane (hkl) and is normal to (hkl)
- The vector d_{hkl} is used in Bragg's law to determine where diffraction peaks will be observed

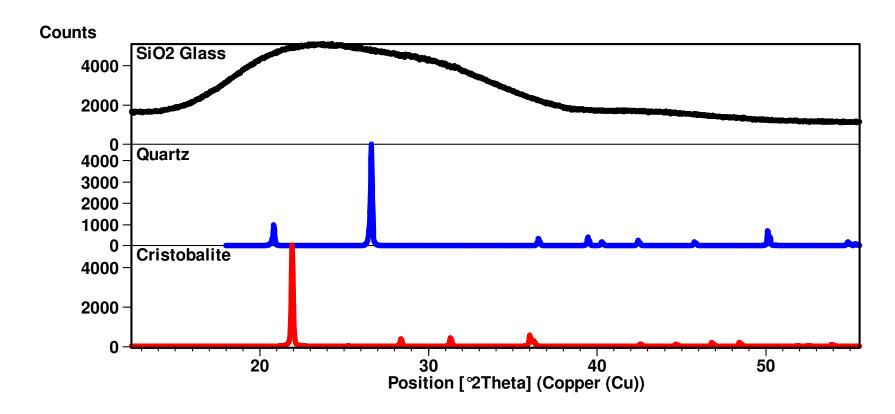
Useful things to remember about Miller indices

- (hkl) is parallel to (n*h n*k n*l)
 - For example, (110) // (220) // (330) // (440) ...
- Planes are orthogonal if (hkl) (h'k'l') = 0
- Some planes may be equivalent because of symmetry
 - In a cubic crystal, (100) (010) and (001) are equivalent
 - They are the family of planes {100}
- [h00] is parallel to the a-axis, [0k0] // b-axis,
 [00l] // c-axis
- When analyzing XRD data, we look for trends corresponding to directionality in the crystal structure by analyzing the Miller indices of diffraction peaks.



In this figure, the (002) and (004) peaks (which are parallel to each other) are much more intense than expected—this provides information about the microstructure of the sample

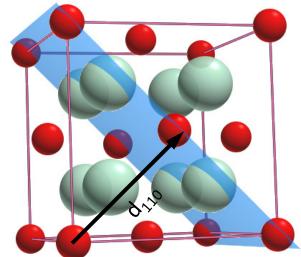
The position and intensity of peaks in a diffraction pattern are determined by the crystal structure



The diffraction peak position is recorded as the detector angle, 2θ .

The position of the diffraction peaks are determined by the distance between parallel planes of atoms.

Bragg's Law
$$\lambda = 2d_{hkl}\sin\theta$$



- Bragg's law calculates the angle where constructive interference from X-rays scattered by parallel planes of atoms will produce a diffraction peak.
 - In most diffractometers, the X-ray wavelength λ is fixed.
 - Consequently, a family of planes produces a diffraction peak only at a specific angle 2θ .
- **d**_{hkl} is the vector drawn from the origin of the unit cell to intersect the crystallographic plane (hkl) at a 90° angle.
 - d_{hkl} , the vector magnitude, is the distance between parallel planes of atoms in the family (hkl)
 - d_{hkl} is a geometric function of the size and shape of the unit cell

The intensity of the diffraction peaks are determined by the arrangement of atoms in the entire crystal

$$I_{hkl} \propto |F_{hkl}|^2$$

$$F_{hkl} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} N_j f_j \exp[2\pi i (hx_j + ky_j + lz_j)]$$

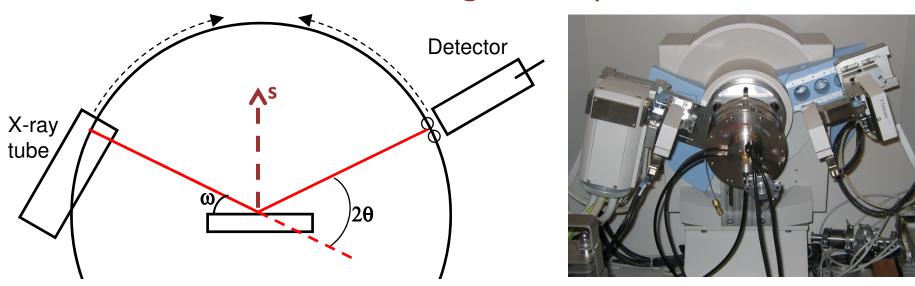
- The structure factor F_{hkl} sums the result of scattering from all of the atoms in the unit cell to form a diffraction peak from the (hkl) planes of atoms
- The amplitude of scattered light is determined by:
 - where the atoms are on the atomic planes
 - this is expressed by the fractional coordinates x_i y_i z_i
 - what atoms are on the atomic planes
 - the scattering factor f_j quantifies the efficiency of X-ray scattering at any angle by the group of electrons in each atom
 - The scattering factor is equal to the number of electrons around the atom at 0° θ , the drops off as θ increases
 - N_i is the fraction of every equivalent position that is occupied by atom j

Bragg's law provides a simplistic model to understand what conditions are required for diffraction.

$$\lambda = 2d_{hkl} \sin \theta$$

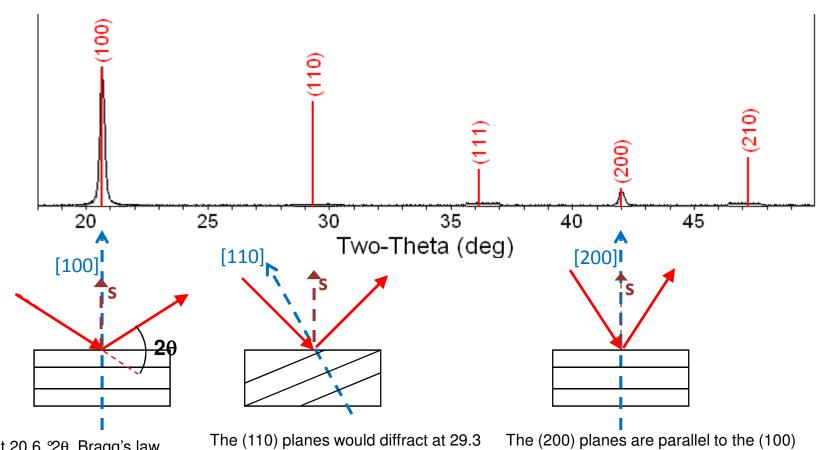
- For parallel planes of atoms, with a space d_{hkl} between the planes, constructive interference only occurs when Bragg's law is satisfied.
 - In our diffractometers, the X-ray wavelength λ is fixed.
 - Consequently, a family of planes produces a diffraction peak only at a specific angle 2θ .
- Additionally, the plane normal [hkl] must be parallel to the diffraction vector s
 - Plane normal [hkl]: the direction perpendicular to a plane of atoms
 - Diffraction vector s: the vector that bisects the angle between the incident and diffracted beam

Our powder diffractometers typically use the Bragg-Brentano geometry.



- The incident angle, ω , is defined between the X-ray source and the sample.
- The diffraction angle, 2θ , is defined between the incident beam and the detector.
- The incident angle ω is always ½ of the detector angle 2θ .
 - In a θ :2 θ instrument (e.g. Rigaku H3R), the tube is fixed, the sample rotates at θ °/min and the detector rotates at 2 θ °/min.
 - In a θ : θ instrument (e.g. PANalytical X'Pert Pro), the sample is fixed and the tube rotates at a rate - θ °/min and the detector rotates at a rate of θ °/min.
- In the Bragg-Brentano geometry, the diffraction vector (s) is always normal to the surface of the sample.
 - The diffraction vector is the vector that bisects the angle between the incident and scattered beam

A single crystal specimen in a Bragg-Brentano diffractometer would produce only one family of peaks in the diffraction pattern.

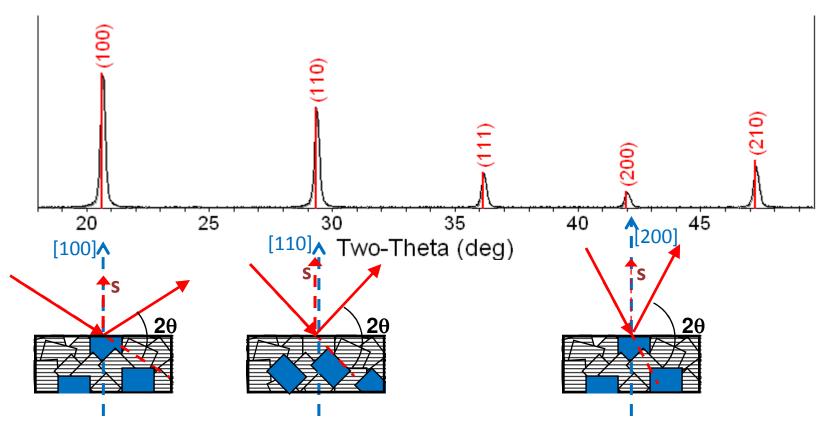


At 20.6 °2θ, Bragg's law fulfilled for the (100) planes, producing a diffraction peak.

Planes would diffract at 29.3 °2θ; however, they are not properly aligned to produce a diffraction peak (the perpendicular to those planes does not bisect the incident and diffracted beams). Only background is observed.

The (200) planes are parallel to the (100) planes. Therefore, they also diffract for this crystal. Since d_{200} is $\frac{1}{2} d_{100}$, they appear at 42 °20.

A polycrystalline sample should contain thousands of crystallites. Therefore, all possible diffraction peaks should be observed.



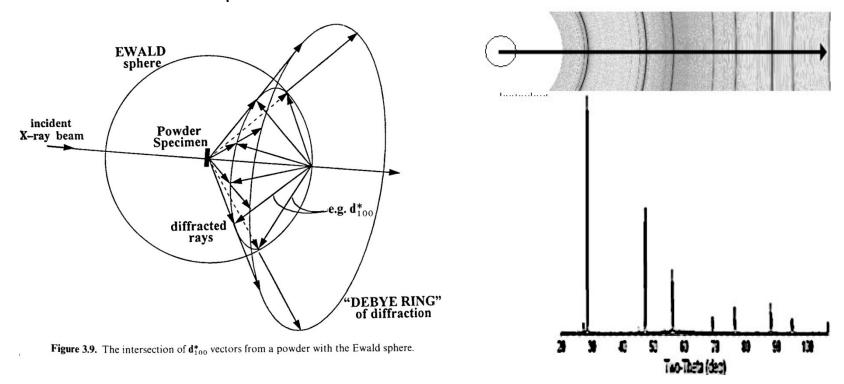
- For every set of planes, there will be a small percentage of crystallites that are properly oriented to diffract (the plane perpendicular bisects the incident and diffracted beams).
- Basic assumptions of powder diffraction are that for every set of planes there is an equal number of crystallites that will diffract and that there is a statistically relevant number of crystallites, not just one or two.

Powder diffraction is more aptly named polycrystalline diffraction

- Samples can be powder, sintered pellets, coatings on substrates, engine blocks...
- The ideal "powder" sample contains tens of thousands of randomly oriented crystallites
 - Every diffraction peak is the product of X-rays scattering from an equal number of crystallites
 - Only a small fraction of the crystallites in the specimen actually contribute to the measured diffraction pattern
 - XRPD is a somewhat inefficient measurement technique
- Irradiating a larger volume of material can help ensure that a statistically relevant number of grains contribute to the diffraction pattern
 - Small sample quantities pose a problem because the sample size limits the number of crystallites that can contribute to the measurement

X-rays are scattered in a sphere around the sample

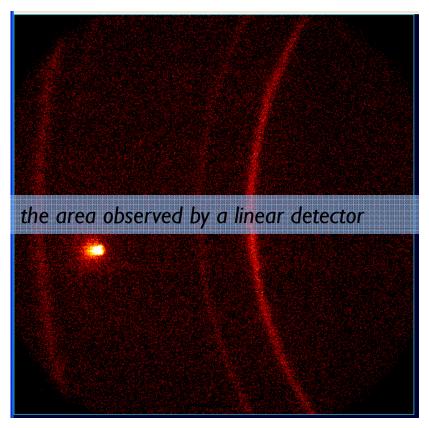
- A cone along the sphere corresponds to a single Bragg angle 2theta
 - The tens of thousands of randomly oriented crystallites in an ideal sample produce a Debye diffraction cone.
- The linear diffraction pattern is formed as the detector scans through an arc that intersects each Debye cone at a single point; thus giving the appearance of a discrete diffraction peak.



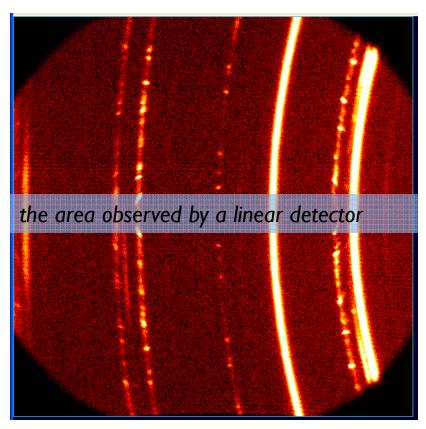
X-Ray Powder Diffraction (XRPD) is a somewhat inefficient measurement technique

- Only a small fraction of crystallites in the sample actually contribute to the observed diffraction pattern
 - Other crystallites are not oriented properly to produce diffraction from any planes of atoms
 - You can increase the number of crystallites that contribute to the measured pattern by spinning the sample
- Only a small fraction of the scattered X-rays are observed by the detector
 - A point detector scanning in an arc around the sample only observes one point on each Debye diffraction cone
 - You can increase the amount of scattered X-rays observed by using a large area (2D) detector

Area (2D) Diffraction allows us to image complete or incomplete (spotty) Debye diffraction rings



Polycrystalline thin film on a single crystal substrate

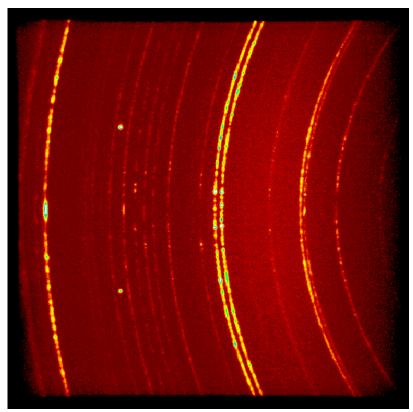


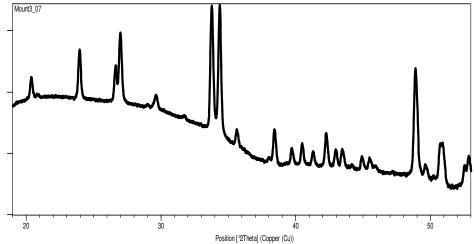
Mixture of fine and coarse grains in a metallic alloy

Conventional linear diffraction patterns would miss information about single crystal or coarse grained materials

Non-Ideal Samples: a "spotty" diffraction pattern

- The sample does not contain tens of thousands of grains
 - The Debye diffraction cone is incomplete because there are not a statistically relevant number of grains being irradiated

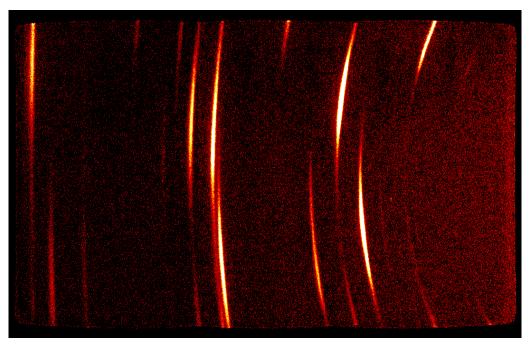


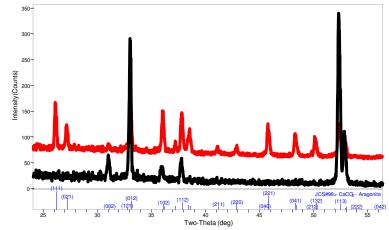


The poor particle statistics cause random error in the observed diffraction peak intensities.

Non-ideal samples: Texture (i.e. preferred crystallographic orientation)

- The samples consists of tens of thousands of grains, but the grains are not randomly oriented
 - Some phenomenon during crystallization and growth, processing, or sample preparation have caused the grains to have preferred crystallographic direction normal to the surface of the sample





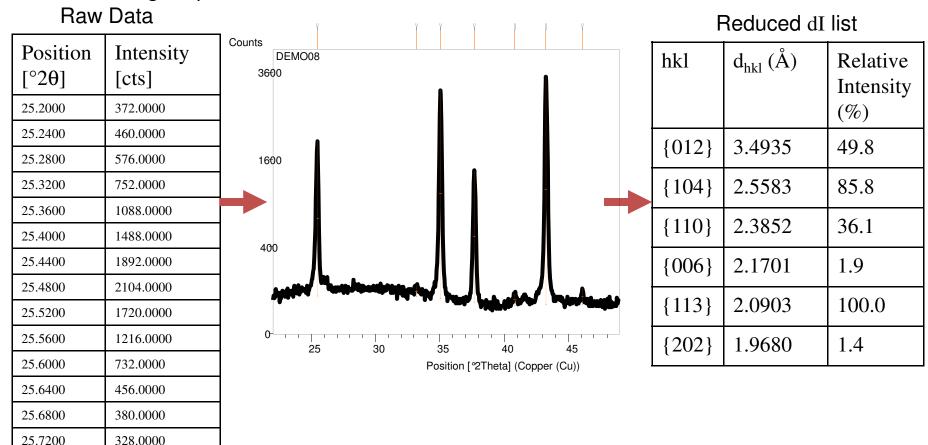
The preferred orientation creates a systematic error in the observed diffraction peak intensities.

Diffraction patterns are collected as 2θ vs absolute intensity, but are best reported as d_{hkl} vs relative intensity.

- The peak position as 2θ depends on instrumental characteristics such as wavelength.
 - The peak position as d_{hkl} is an intrinsic, instrument-independent, material property.
 - Bragg's Law is used to convert observed 2θ positions to d_{hkl}.
- The absolute intensity, i.e. the number of X rays observed in a given peak, can vary due to instrumental and experimental parameters.
 - The relative intensities of the diffraction peaks should be instrument independent.
 - To calculate relative intensity, divide the absolute intensity of every peak by the absolute intensity of the most intense peak, and then convert to a percentage. The most intense peak of a phase is therefore always called the "100% peak".
 - Peak areas are much more reliable than peak heights as a measure of intensity.

Powder diffraction data consists of a record of photon intensity versus detector angle 2θ .

- Diffraction data can be reduced to a list of peak positions and intensities
 - Each d_{hkl} corresponds to a family of atomic planes {hkl}
 - individual planes cannot be resolved this is a limitation of powder diffraction versus single crystal diffraction



Applications of XRPD

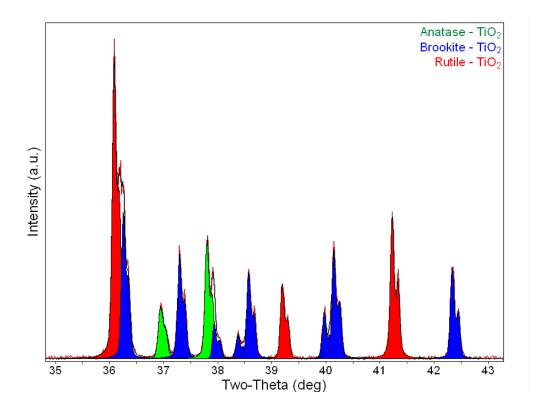


You can use XRD to determine

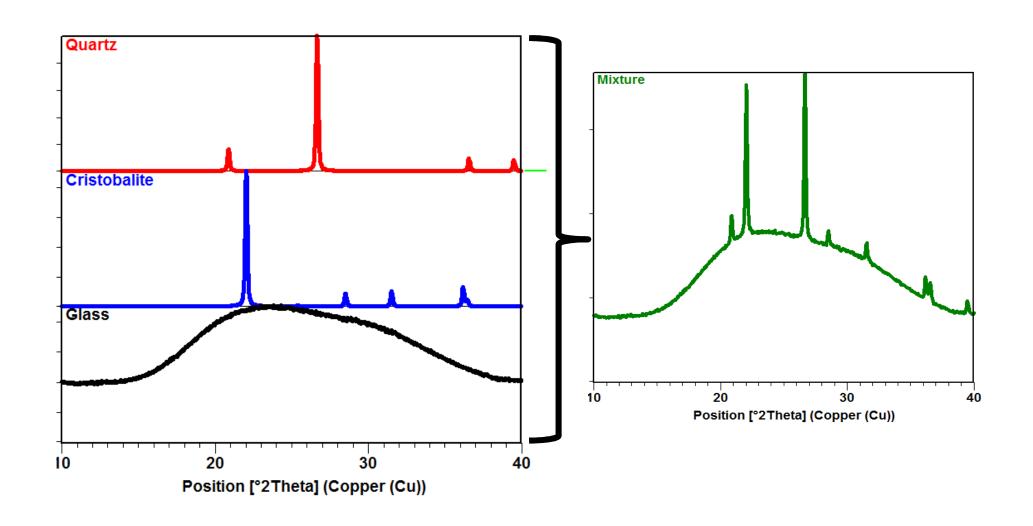
- Phase Composition of a Sample
 - Quantitative Phase Analysis: determine the relative amounts of phases in a mixture by referencing the relative peak intensities
- Unit cell lattice parameters and Bravais lattice symmetry
 - Index peak positions
 - Lattice parameters can vary as a function of, and therefore give you information about, alloying, doping, solid solutions, strains, etc.
- Residual Strain (macrostrain)
- Crystal Structure
 - By Rietveld refinement of the entire diffraction pattern
- Epitaxy/Texture/Orientation
- Crystallite Size and Microstrain
 - Indicated by peak broadening
 - Other defects (stacking faults, etc.) can be measured by analysis of peak shapes and peak width
- We have in-situ capabilities, too (evaluate all properties above as a function of time, temperature, and gas environment)

Phase Identification

- The diffraction pattern for every phase is as unique as your fingerprint
 - Phases with the same chemical composition can have drastically different diffraction patterns.
 - Use the position and relative intensity of a series of peaks to match experimental data to the reference patterns in the database

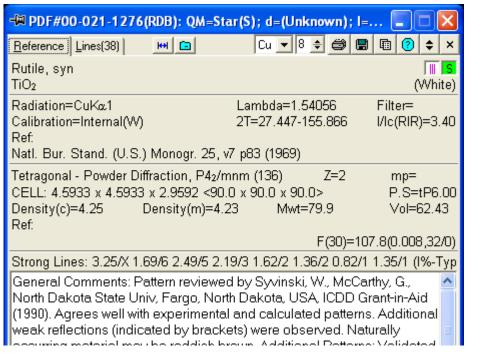


The diffraction pattern of a mixture is a simple sum of the scattering from each component phase



Databases such as the Powder Diffraction File (PDF) contain dI lists for thousands of crystalline phases.

- The PDF contains over 300,000 diffraction patterns.
- Modern computer programs can help you determine what phases are present in your sample by quickly comparing your diffraction data to all of the patterns in the database.
- The PDF card for an entry contains a lot of useful information, including literature references.



→ PDF#00-021-1276(RDB): QM=Star(S); d=(Unknown); I=										
<u>R</u> e	efe	rence <u>L</u> i	nes(38)	HH			Cu 🔻 8	+		
#		2-Theta	d(Å)	l(f)	(hkl)	Theta	1/(2d)	2pi/d n^2		
1	1	27.447	3.2470	100.0	(110)	13,723	0.1540	1.9351		
2	2	36.086	2.4870	50.0	(101)	18.043	0.2010	2.5264		
	3	39.187	2.2970	8.0	(200)	19.594	0.2177	2.7354		
	1	41.226	2.1880	25.0	(1111)	20.613	0.2285	2.8717		
	5	44.051	2.0540	10.0	(210)	22.026	0.2434	3.0590		
	6	54.323	1.6874	60.0	(211)	27.161	0.2963	3.7236		
	7	56.642	1.6237	20.0	(220)	28.321	0.3079	3.8697		
	3	62.742	1.4797	10.0	(002)	31.371	0.3379	4.2463		
	9	64.040	1.4528	10.0	(310)	32.020	0.3442	4.3249		
	0	65.479	1.4243	2.0	(221)	32.740	0.3510	4.4114		
1		69.010	1.3598	20.0	(301)	34.505	0.3677	4.6207		
	2	69.790	1.3465	12.0	(112)	34.895	0.3713	4.6663		
	3	72.409	1.3041	2.0	(311)	36.205	0.3834	4.8180		
	4	74.411	1.2739	1.0	(320)	37.205	0.3925	4.9322		
	5	76.509	1.2441	4.0	(202)	38.255	0.4019	5.0504		
	6	79.821	1.2006	2.0	(212)	39.911	0.4165	5.2334		
	7	82.334	1.1702	6.0	(321)	41.167	0.4273	5.3693		
	8	84.260	1.1483	4.0	(400)	42.130	0.4354	5.4717		
1	9	87.463	1.1143	2.0	(410)	43.732	0.4487	5.6387		

Quantitative Phase Analysis

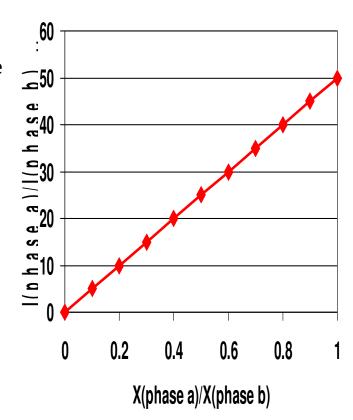
- With high quality data, you can determine how much of each phase is present
 - must meet the constant volume assumption (see later slides)
- The ratio of peak intensities varies linearly as a function of weight fractions for any two phases in a mixture

$$- \frac{I_{\alpha}}{I_{\beta}} = K * \frac{X_{0}}{X_{\beta}}$$

- need to know the constant of proportionality
- RIR method is fast and gives semi-quantitative results

$$- K = \frac{RIR_{\alpha}}{RIR_{\beta}}$$

 Whole pattern fitting/Rietveld refinement is a more accurate but more complicated analysis

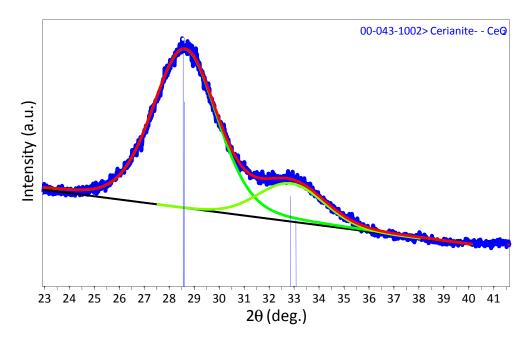


Unit Cell Lattice Parameter Refinement

- By accurately measuring peak positions over a long range of 2theta, you can determine the unit cell lattice parameters of the phases in your sample
 - alloying, substitutional doping, temperature and pressure, etc can
 create changes in lattice parameters that you may want to quantify
 - use many peaks over a long range of 2theta so that you can identify and correct for systematic errors such as specimen displacement and zero shift
 - measure peak positions with a peak search algorithm or profile fitting
 - profile fitting is more accurate but more time consuming
 - then numerically refine the lattice parameters

Crystallite Size and Microstrain

- Crystallites smaller than ~120nm create broadening of diffraction peaks
 - this peak broadening can be used to quantify the average crystallite size of nanoparticles using the Scherrer equation
 - must know the contribution of peak width from the instrument by using a calibration curve
- microstrain may also create peak broadening
 - analyzing the peak widths over a long range of 2theta using a Williamson-Hull plot can let you separate microstrain and crystallite size

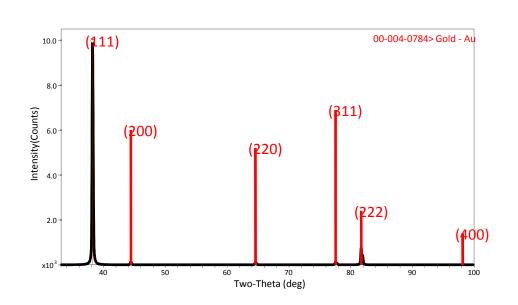


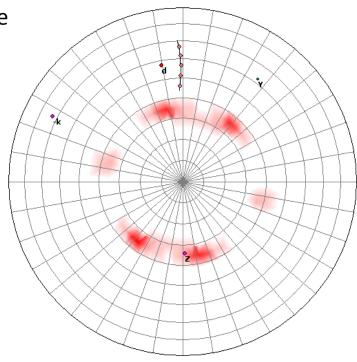
$$B(2\theta) = \frac{K\lambda}{L\cos\theta}$$

Preferred Orientation (texture)

- Preferred orientation of crystallites can create a systematic variation in diffraction peak intensities
 - can qualitatively analyze using a 1D diffraction pattern
 - a pole figure maps the intensity of a single peak as a function of tilt and rotation of the sample

this can be used to quantify the texture





Overview of the Diffractometer

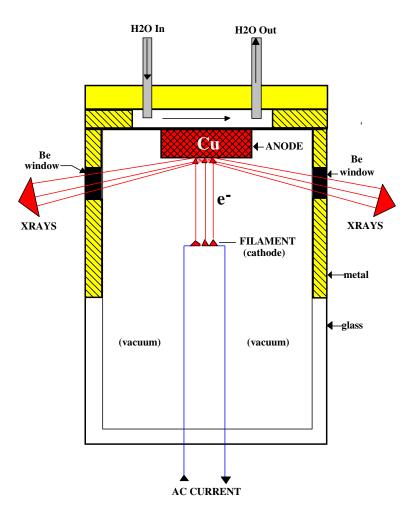


Essential Parts of the Diffractometer

- X-ray Tube: the source of X Rays
- Incident-beam optics: condition the X-ray beam before it hits the sample
- The goniometer: the platform that holds and moves the sample, optics, detector, and/or tube
- The sample & sample holder
- Receiving-side optics: condition the X-ray beam after it has encountered the sample
- Detector: count the number of X Rays scattered by the sample

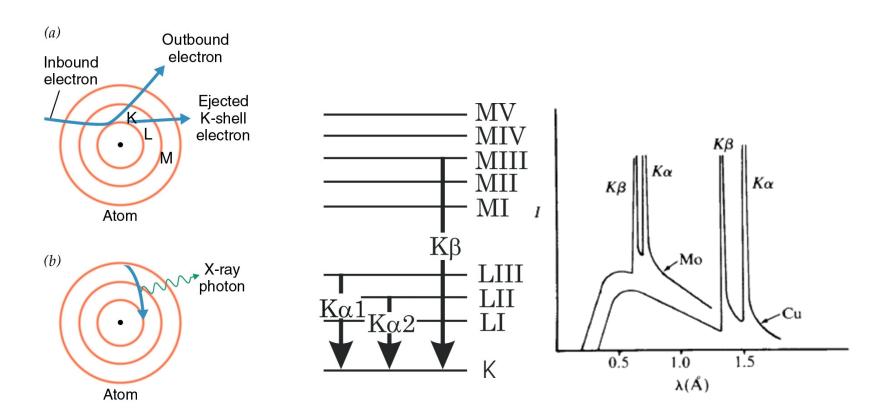
X-radiation for diffraction measurements is produced by a sealed tube or rotating anode.

- Sealed X-ray tubes tend to operate at 1.8 to 3 kW.
- Rotating anode X-ray tubes produce much more flux because they operate at 9 to 18 kW.
 - A rotating anode spins the anode at 6000 rpm, helping to distribute heat over a larger area and therefore allowing the tube to be run at higher power without melting the target.
- Both sources generate X rays by striking the anode target with an electron beam from a tungsten filament.
 - The target must be water cooled.
 - The target and filament must be contained in a vacuum.

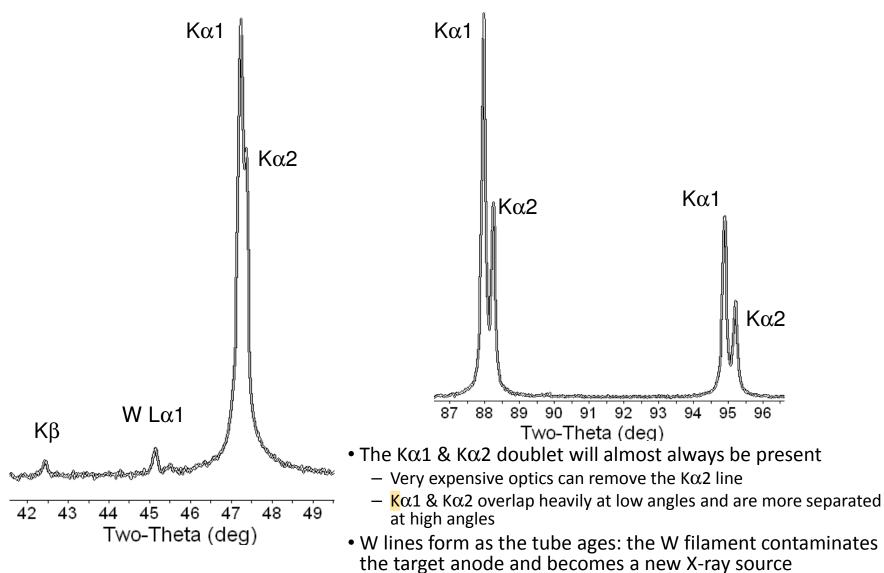


The wavelength of X rays is determined by the anode of the X-ray source.

- Electrons from the filament strike the target anode, producing characteristic radiation via the photoelectric effect.
- The anode material determines the wavelengths of characteristic radiation.
- While we would prefer a monochromatic source, the X-ray beam actually consists of several characteristic wavelengths of X rays.



Spectral Contamination in Diffraction Patterns



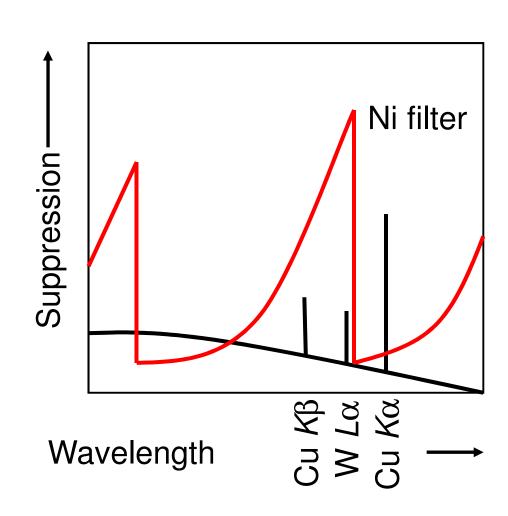
ullet W and Keta lines can be removed with optics

Monochromators remove unwanted wavelengths of radiation from the incident or diffracted X-ray beam.

- Diffraction from a crystal monochromator can be used to select one wavelength of radiation and provide energy discrimination.
- An incident-beam monochromator might be used to select only Ka1 radiation for the tube source.
- A diffracted-beam monochromator, such as on the Rigaku RU300, may be used to remove fluoresced photons, Kb, or Wcontimination photons from reaching the detector.
 - Without the RSM slit, the monochromator removes ~75% of unwanted wavelengths of radiation.
 - When the RSM slit is used, over 99% of the unwanted wavelengths of radiation can be removed from the beam.

Beta filters can also be used to reduce the intensity of K-beta and W wavelength radiation

- A material with an absorption edge between the K-alpha and K-beta wavelengths can be used as a beta filter
- This is often the element just below the target material on the periodic table
 - For example, when using Cu radiation
 - Cu K-alpha = 1.541 Å
 - Cu K-beta= 1.387 Å
 - The Ni absorption edge= 1.488 Å
 - —The Ni absorption of Cu raidation is:
 - 50% of Cu K-alpha
 - 99% of Cu K-beta

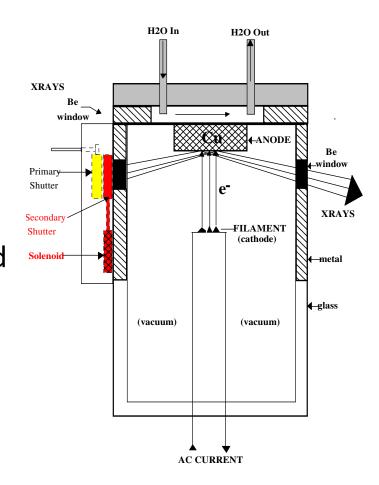


Н											Не						
Li	Ве	Fluorescence											С	N	0	F	Ne
Na	Mg												Si	Р	S	CI	Ar
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Со	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
Rb	Sr	Υ	Zr	Nb	Мо	Тс	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Те	1	Xe
Cs	Ва	L	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	lr	Pt	Au	Hg	TI	Pb	Bi	Ро	At	Rn
Fr	Ra	Α															

- Some atoms absorb incident X-rays and fluoresce them as X-rays of a different wavelength
 - The absorption of X-rays decreases the diffracted signal
 - The fluoresced X-rays increase the background noise
- The increased background noise from fluoresced X-rays can be removed by using:
 - a diffracted-beam monochromator
 - an energy sensitive detector
- The diffracted beam signal can only be increased by using a different wavelength of radiation
- The most problematic materials are those two and three below the target material:
 - For Cu, the elements that fluoresce the most are Fe and Co

The X-ray Shutter is the most important safety device on a diffractometer

- X-rays exit the tube through X-ray transparent Be windows.
- X-Ray safety shutters contain the beam so that you may work in the diffractometer without being exposed to the X-rays.
- Being aware of the status of the shutters is the most important factor in working safely with X rays.



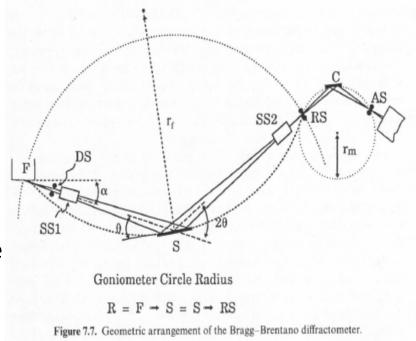
The X-ray beam produced by the X-ray tube is divergent. Incident-beam optics are used to limit this divergence

$$\lambda = 2d_{hkl} \sin \theta$$

- X Rays from an X-ray tube are:
 - divergent
 - contain multiple characteristic wavelengths as well as Bremmsstrahlung radiation
- neither of these conditions suit our ability to use X rays for analysis
 - the divergence means that instead of a single incident angle q, the sample is actually illuminated by photons with a range of incident angles.
 - the spectral contamination means that the smaple does not diffract a single wavelength of radiation, but rather several wavelengths of radiation.
 - Consequently, a single set of crystallographic planes will produce several diffraction peaks instead of one diffraction peak.
- Optics are used to:
 - limit divergence of the X-ray beam
 - refocus X rays into parallel paths
 - remove unwanted wavelengths

Most of our powder diffractometers use the Bragg-Brentano parafocusing geometry.

- A point detector and sample are moved so that the detector is always at 2θ and the sample surface is always at θ to the incident X-ray beam.
- In the parafocusing arrangement, the incident- and diffracted-beam slits move on a circle that is centered on the sample. Divergent X rays from the source hit the sample at different points on its surface. During the diffraction process the X rays are refocused at the detector slit.
- This arrangement provides the best combination of intensity, peak shape, and angular resolution for the widest number of samples.



F: the X-ray source

DS: the incident-beam divergence-limiting slit

SS: the Soller slit assembly

S: the sample

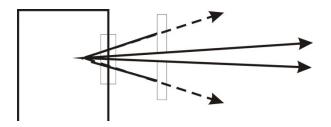
RS: the diffracted-beam receiving slit

C: the monochromator crystal

AS: the anti-scatter slit

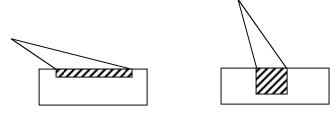
Divergence slits are used to limit the divergence of the incident X-ray beam.

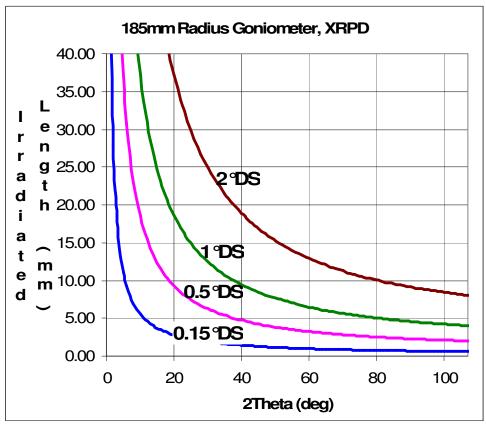
- The slits block X-rays that have too great a divergence.
- The size of the divergence slit influences peak intensity and peak shapes.
- Narrow divergence slits:
 - reduce the intensity of the X-ray beam
 - reduce the length of the X-ray beam hitting the sample
 - produce sharper peaks
 - the instrumental resolution is improved so that closely spaced peaks can be resolved.



One by-product of the beam divergence is that the length of the beam illuminating the sample becomes smaller as the incident angle becomes larger.

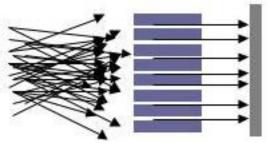
- The length of the incident beam is determined by the divergence slit, goniometer radius, and incident angle.
- This should be considered when choosing a divergence slits size:
 - if the divergence slit is too large, the beam may be significantly longer than your sample at low angles
 - if the slit is too small, you may not get enough intensity from your sample at higher angles
 - Appendix A in the SOP contains a guide to help you choose a slit size.
- The width of the beam is constant: 12mm for the Rigaku RU300.



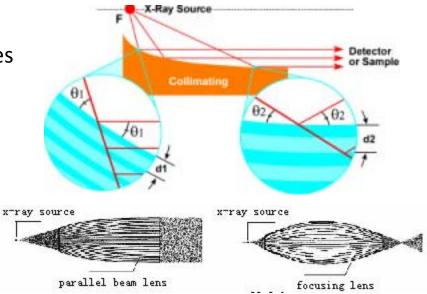


Other optics:

- limit divergence of the X-ray beam
 - Divergence limiting slits
 - Parallel plate collimators
 - Soller slits
- refocus X rays into parallel paths
 - "parallel-beam optics"
 - parabolic mirrors and capillary lenses
 - focusing mirrors and lenses
- remove unwanted wavelengths
 - monochromators
 - K β filters



Parallel Plate Collimator & Soller Slits block divergent X-rays, but do not restrict beam size like a divergent slit



Göbel Mirrors and capillary lenses collect a large portion of the divergent beam and refocus it into a nearly parallel beam

Detectors

- point detectors
 - observe one point of space at a time
 - slow, but compatible with most/all optics
 - scintillation and gas proportional detectors count all photons, within an energy window, that hit them
 - Si(Li) detectors can electronically analyze or filter wavelengths
- position sensitive detectors
 - linear PSDs observe all photons scattered along a line from 2 to 10° long
 - 2D area detectors observe all photons scattered along a conic section
 - gas proportional (gas on wire; microgap anodes)
 - limited resolution, issues with deadtime and saturation
 - CCD
 - limited in size, expensive
 - solid state real-time multiple semiconductor strips
 - high speed with high resolution, robust

Instruments in the X-Ray SEF at the Center for Material Science and Engineering at MIT



Rigaku Powder Diffractometers

- Fast, precision XRPD using theta/2theta motion
- High-power (18kW) rotating anode source supplies high X ray flux
- Diffracted-beam monochromators provide very good signal-to-noise ratio
- Two horizontal-circle powder diffractometers
 - The H3R generator provides Cu wavelength radiation and a 185mm radius
 - The RU300 generator provides Cr wavelength radiation and a 185mm radius
 - Horizontal circle facilitates precision movement of goniometer
 - Disadvantage: sample sits vertical, can easily fall out of sample holder
- Sample size is generally 20mm x 10mm x 0.3mm, though we have a variety of sample holders and mounting procedures to accommodate varied sample geometries.
- Special accessories include:
 - Inert atmosphere sample chamber for air/moisture sensitive samples
 - Zero background sample holders for high accuracy measurements from small quantities of powder
- Requires special considerations if your sample is a single crystal or a thin film on a single crystal substrate

Bruker D8 Diffractometer with GADDS

- Ideal for texture (pole figure) and stress measurements, as well as traditional XRPD and limited SCD and GIXD.
- Two-dimensional area detector (GADDS) permits simultaneous collection of diffraction data over a 2theta and chi (tilt) range as large as 30°
- Eularian cradle facilitates large range of tilts and rotations of the sample
- A selectable collimator, which conditions the X-ray beam to a spot 0.5mm to 0.05mm diameter, combined with a motorized xy stage stage, permits microdiffraction for multiple select areas of a sample or mapping across a sample's surface.
- Samples can include thin films on wafers or dense pieces up to 6" in diameter (maximum thickness of 3 mm), powders in top-loaded sample holders or in capillaries, dense pieces up to 60mm x 50mm x 15mm (and maybe even larger).
- Has an attachment for SAXS measurements.

PANalytical X'Pert Pro Multipurpose Diffractometer

- Prefix optics allow the configuration to be quickly changed to accommodate a wide variety of data collection strategies.
- This diffractometer can be used to collect XRPD, GIXD, XRR, residual stress, and texture data.
- A vertical-circle theta-theta goniometer is used so that the sample always lies flat and does not move.
 - Sample sizes may be as large as 60mm diameter by 3-12mm thick, though a more typical sample size is 10-20mm diameter.
- Data collection modes can be changed between:
 - high-speed high-resolution divergent beam diffraction
 - Programmable divergence slits can maintain a constant irradiated area on sample surface
 - parallel beam diffraction using incident Gobel mirror and receiving-side parallel plate collimator
 - eliminates errors due to irregular sample surfaces, sample displacement, and defocusing during glancing angle measurements
- A variety of sample stages include:
 - 15 specimen automatic sample changer
 - open Eulerian cradle with automated z-translation as well as phi and psi rotation for texture, reflectivity, and residual stress measurements
 - furnace for heating a sample to 1200°C in air, vacuum, or controlled atmosphere
 - a cryostat for cooling a sample to 11 K in vacuum

In-situ XRD can yield quantitative analysis to study reaction pathways, rate constants, activation energy, and phase equilibria

$$N_{Al} = N_{NaAlH_4}^{0} \left\{ \left(\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \frac{k_2}{k_2 - k_1} \right) \left(1 - e^{-k_1 t} \right) - \frac{1}{3} \frac{k_1}{k_2 - k_1} \left(1 - e^{-k_2 t} \right) \right\} + N_{Na_3AlH_6}^{0} \left(1 - e^{-k_2 t} \right) + N_{Al}^{0}$$

$$N_{Na_3AlH_6} = \frac{1}{3} N_{NaAlH_4}^{0} \frac{k_1}{k_2 - k_1} \left(e^{-k_1 t} - e^{-k_2 t} \right) + N_{Na_3AlH_6}^{0} e^{-k_2 t}$$

$$N_{NaAlH_4} = N_{NaAlH_4}^{0} e^{-k_1 t}$$

$$Na_3AlH_6 = N_{Na_3AlH_6}^{0} Al$$

$$NaCl$$

$$NaCl$$

$$NaCl$$

$$NaAlH_4 = N_{Na_3AlH_6}^{0} Al$$

$$NaCl$$

$$NaAlH_4 = N_{Na_3AlH_6}^{0} Al$$

$$NaCl$$

$$NaAlH_4 = N_{Na_3AlH_6}^{0} Al$$

$$NaAlH_4 = N_{Na_3AlH_6}^{0} Al$$

$$NaAlH_4 = N_{Na_3AlH_6}^{0} Al$$

Bruker D8 Triple Axis Diffractometer

- For GIXD and for analysis of rocking curves, lattice mismatch, and reciprocal space maps of thin films and semiconductors
 - This instrument is typically used to measure the perfection or imperfection of the crystal lattice in thin films (i.e. rocking curves), the misalignment between film and substrate in epitaxial films, and reciprocal space mapping.
- High precision Bruker D8 triple axis goniometer
- Beam-conditioning analyzer crystals remove $K\alpha 2$ radiation and provide extremely high resolution.
- Accessories include a furnace for heating a sample up to 900°C in air,
 vacuum, or inert gas (maximum sample size of 20mm x 20mm x 1mm)

Bruker Small Angle Diffractometer

- Used for SAXS
- high-power rotating anode X-ray source
- two-dimensional detector for real-time data collection
- A long X-ray beam path allows this instrument to measure X-rays that are only slightly scattered away from the incident beam. The two-dimensional detector allows entire Debye rings to be collected and observed in real time. The current beam path length of 60.4 cm allows the resolution of crystallographic and structural features on a length scale from 1.8nm to 40nm (1.8nm is near the maximum resolvable length scale for XRPD in our other systems).
- A heater is available to heat the sample up to 200°C.

Bruker Single Crystal Diffractometer

- Designed primarily to determine the crystal structure of single crystals
 - can also be used for determining crystal orientation
- This diffractometer uses a two-dimensional CCD detector for fast, high precision transmission diffraction through small single crystals.
- A variety of goniometer heads fit on the fix chi stage
- A cryostat is available to cool samples down to 100 K in air, which permits more precise determination of atom positions in large organic crystals.
- This system is currently located in Peter Müller's lab in the Dept. of Chemistry, Bldg 2-325

Back Reflection Laue Diffractometer

- The sample is irradiated with white radiation for Laue diffraction
- Use either Polaroid film or a two-dimensional multiwire detector to collect back-reflection Laue patterns
 - The 2D multiwire detector is not currently working
- Determine the orientation of large single crystals and thin film single crystal substrates

Sample Preparation



Important characteristics of samples for XRPD

- a flat plate sample for XRPD should have a smooth flat surface
 - if the surface is not smooth and flat, X-ray absorption may reduce the intensity of low angle peaks
 - parallel-beam optics can be used to analyze samples with odd shapes or rought surfaces
- Densely packed
- Randomly oriented grains/crystallites
- Grain size less than 10 microns
 - So that there are tens of thousands of grains irradiated by the X-ray beam
- 'Infinitely' thick
- homogeneous

Preparing a powder specimen

- An ideal powder sample should have many crystallites in random orientations
 - the distribution of orientations should be smooth and equally distributed amongst all orientations
- Large crystallite sizes and non-random crystallite orientations both lead to peak intensity variation
 - the measured diffraction pattern will not agree with that expected from an ideal powder
 - the measured diffraction pattern will not agree with reference patterns in the Powder Diffraction File (PDF) database
- If the crystallites in a sample are very large, there will not be a smooth distribution of crystal orientations. You will not get a powder average diffraction pattern.
 - crystallites should be <10μm in size to get good powder statistics

Preferred orientation

- If the crystallites in a powder sample have plate or needle like shapes it can be very difficult to get them to adopt random orientations
 - top-loading, where you press the powder into a holder, can cause problems with preferred orientation
- in samples such as metal sheets or wires there is almost always preferred orientation due to the manufacturing process
- for samples with systematic orientation, XRD can be used to quantify the texture in the specimen

Ways to prepare a powder sample

- Top-loading a bulk powder into a well
 - deposit powder in a shallow well of a sample holder. Use a slightly rough flat surface to press down on the powder, packing it into the well.
 - using a slightly rough surface to pack the powder can help minimize preferred orientation
 - mixing the sample with a filler such as flour or glass powder may also help minimize preferred orientation
 - powder may need to be mixed with a binder to prevent it from falling out of the sample holder
 - alternatively, the well of the sample holder can be coated with a thin layer of vaseline

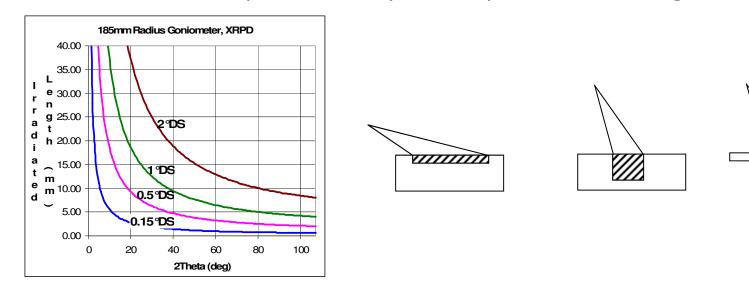
- Dispersing a thin powder layer on a smooth surface
 - a smooth surface such as a glass slide or a zero background holder (ZBH) may be used to hold a thin layer of powder
 - glass will contribute an amorphous hump to the diffraction pattern
 - the ZBH avoids this problem by using an off-axis cut single crystal
 - dispersing the powder with alcohol onto the sample holder and then allowing the alcohol to evaporate, often provides a nice, even coating of powder that will adhere to the sample holder
 - powder may be gently sprinkled onto a piece of double-sided tape or a thin layer of vaseline to adhere it to the sample holder
 - the double-sided tape will contribute to the diffraction pattern
 - these methods are necessary for mounting small amounts of powder
 - these methods help alleviate problems with preferred orientation
 - the constant volume assumption is not valid for this type of sample, and so quantitative and Rietveld analysis will require extra work and may not be possible

Experimental Considerations



Varying Irradiated area of the sample

- the area of your sample that is illuminated by the X-ray beam varies as a function of:
 - incident angle of X rays
 - divergence angle of the X rays
- at low angles, the beam might be wider than your sample
 - "beam spill-off"
- This will cause problems if you sample is not homogeneous



The constant volume assumption

- In a polycrystalline sample of 'infinite' thickness, the change in the irradiated area as the incident angle varies is compensated for by the change in the penetration depth
- These two factors result in a constant irradiated volume
 - (as area decreases, depth increases; and vice versa)
- This assumption is important for any XRPD analysis which relies on quantifying peak intensities:
 - Matching intensities to those in the PDF reference database
 - Crystal structure refinements

- Quantitative phase analysis
- This assumption is not necessarily valid for thin films or small quantities of sample on a zero background holder (ZBH)

There are ways to control the irradiated area of the sample to accommodate thin films and/or non-homogeneous samples

Fixed divergence slit

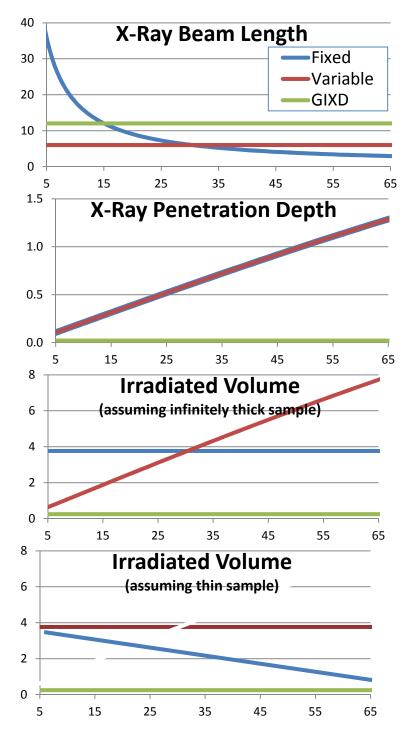
- The divergence aperture is fixed during the scan
- Beam length and penetration depth both change
- Provides a constant irradiated volume for infinitely thick, homogeneous samples

Variable divergence slit

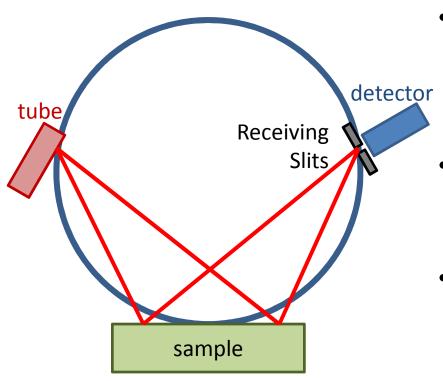
- The divergence aperture changes during the scan
 - This preserves a constant irradiated length
- Beam length is constant but the penetration depth changes
- The irradiated volume increases for thick specimens but is constant for thin specimens

Grazing incidence XRD (GIXD)

- The incident angle is fixed during the scan
 - Only the detector moves during the measurement
- Beam length and penetration depth are fixed
- Often the best option for inhomogeneous samples
- By fixing omega at a shallow angle, X-rays are focused in the surface of the sample
- Requires parallel beam optics

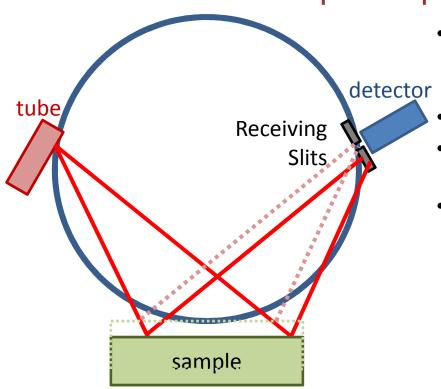


Many sources of error are associated with the focusing circle of the Bragg-Brentano parafocusing geometry



- The Bragg-Brentano parafocusing geometry is used so that the divergent X-ray beam reconverges at the focal point of the detector.
- This produces a sharp, welldefined diffraction peak in the data.
- If the source, detector, and sample are not all on the focusing circle, errors will appear in the data.
- The use of parallel-beam optics eliminates all sources of error associated with the focusing circle.

Sample Displacement Error



- When the sample is not on the focusing circle, the X-ray beam does not converge at the correct position for the detector.
- The observed peak position is incorrect.
- This is the greatest source of error in most data
- This is a systematic error:

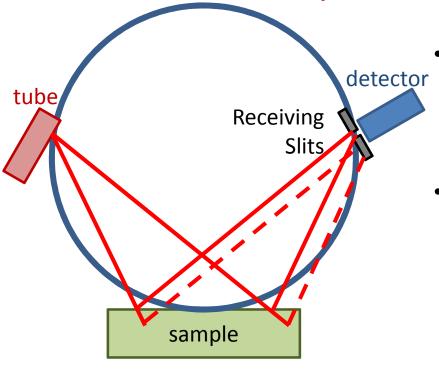
$$\Delta 2\theta = -\frac{2s\cos\theta}{R}(in \, radians)$$

- s is the amount of displacement, R is the goniometer radius.
- at 28.4° 2theta, s=0.006" will result in a peak shift of 0.08°

Ways to compensate for sample displacement:

- This is most commonly analyzed and compensated for using data analysis algorithms
- For sample ID, simply remember that your peak positions may be shifted a little bit
- Historically, the internal calibration standard was required for publication quality data
 - The computer algorithms for calculating the displacement error are now much better
- Can be minimized by using a zero background sample holder
- Can be eliminated by using parallel-beam optics

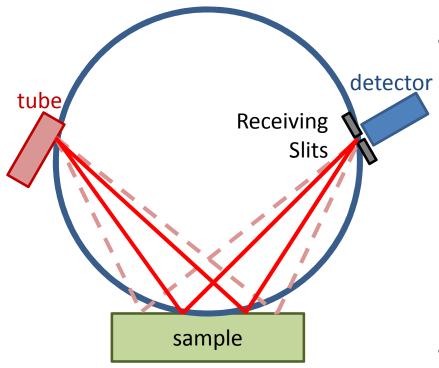
Sample Transparency Error





- depth of penetration depends on:
 - the mass absorption coefficient of your sample
 - the incident angle of the X-ray beam
- This produces errors because not all X rays are diffracting from the same location in your sample
 - Produces peak position errors and peak asymmetry
 - Greatest for organic and low absorbing (low atomic number) samples
- Can be eliminated by using parallelbeam optics
- Can be reduced by using a thin sample

Other sources of error



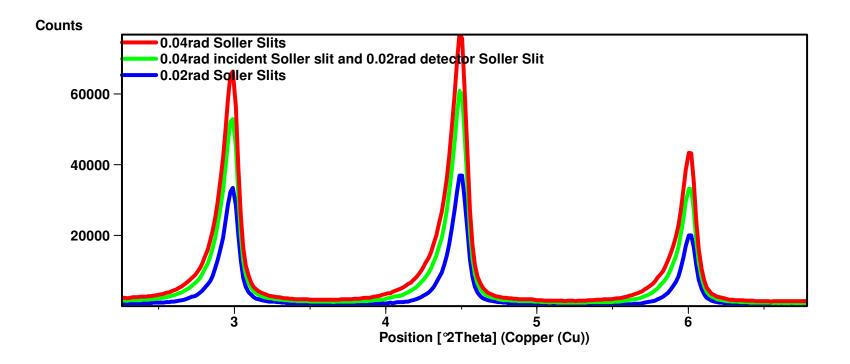
Flat specimen error

- The entire surface of a flat specimen cannot lie on the focusing circle
- Creates asymmetric broadening toward low 2theta angles
- Reduced by using small divergence slits, which produce a shorter beam
 - For this reason, if you need to increase intensity it is better to make the beam wider rather than longer.
- eliminated by parallel-beam optics
- Poor counting statistics
 - The sample is not made up of thousands of randomly oriented crystallites, as assumed by most analysis techniques
 - The sample might have large grain sizes
 - Produces 'random' peak intensities and/or spotty diffraction peaks

Axial divergence

Axial divergence

- Due to divergence of the X-ray beam in plane with the sample
- creates asymmetric broadening of the peak toward low 2theta angles
- Creates peak shift: negative below 90°2theta and positive above 90°
- Reduced by Soller slits and/or capillary lenses



End of presentation: other slides are old or extra



Techniques in the XRD SEF

- X-ray Powder Diffraction (XRPD)
- Single Crystal Diffraction (SCD)
- Back-reflection Laue Diffraction (no acronym)
- Grazing Incidence Angle Diffraction (GIXD)
- X-ray Reflectivity (XRR)
- Small Angle X-ray Scattering (SAXS)

X-Ray Powder Diffraction (XRPD)

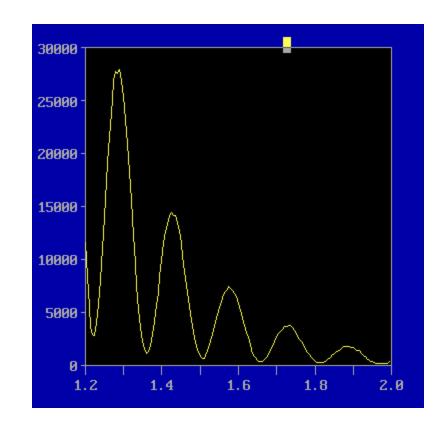
- More appropriately called polycrystalline X-ray diffraction, because it can also be used for sintered samples, metal foils, coatings and films, finished parts, etc.
- Used to determine:
 - phase composition (commonly called phase ID)- what phases are present?
 - quantitative phase analysis- how much of each phase is present?
 - unit cell lattice parameters
 - crystal structure
 - average crystallite size of nanocrystalline samples
 - crystallite microstrain
 - texture
 - residual stress (really residual strain)
 - in-situ diffraction (from 11 K to 1200C in air, vacuum, or inert gas)

Grazing Incident Angle Diffraction (GIXD)

- also called Glancing Angle X-Ray Diffaction
- The incident angle is fixed at a very small angle (<5°) so that X-rays are focused in only the top-most surface of the sample.
- GIXD can perform many of analyses possible with XRPD with the added ability to resolve information as a function of depth (depth-profiling) by collecting successive diffraction patterns with varying incident angles
 - orientation of thin film with respect to substrate
 - lattice mismatch between film and substrate
 - epitaxy/texture
 - macro- and microstrains
 - reciprocal space map

X-Ray Reflectivity (XRR)

- A glancing, but varying, incident angle, combined with a matching detector angle collects the X rays reflected from the samples surface
- Interference fringes in the reflected signal can be used to determine:
 - thickness of thin film layers
 - density and composition of thin film layers
 - roughness of films and interfaces



Back Reflection Laue

- Used to determine crystal orientation
- The beam is illuminated with 'white' radiation
 - Use filters to remove the characteristic radiation wavelengths from the X-ray source
 - The Bremmsstrahlung radiation is left
 - Weak radiation spread over a range of wavelengths
- The single crystal sample diffracts according to Bragg's Law
 - Instead of scanning the angle theta to make multiple crystallographic planes diffract, we are effectively 'scanning' the wavelength
 - Different planes diffract different wavelengths in the X-ray beam, producing a series of diffraction spots

Small Angle X-ray Scattering (SAXS)

- Highly collimated beam, combined with a long distance between the sample and the detector, allow sensitive measurements of the X-rays that are just barely scattered by the sample (scattering angle <6°)
- The length scale of d (Å) is inversely proportional to the scattering angle: therefore, small angles represented larger features in the samples
- Can resolve features of a size as large as 200 nm
 - Resolve microstructural features, as well as crystallographic
- Used to determine:
 - crystallinity of polymers, organic molecules (proteins, etc.) in solution,
 - structural information on the nanometer to submicrometer length scale
 - ordering on the meso- and nano- length scales of self-assembled molecules and/or pores
 - dispersion of crystallites in a matrix

Single Crystal Diffraction (SCD)

Used to determine:

- crystal structure
- orientation
- degree of crystalline perfection/imperfections (twinning, mosaicity, etc.)
- Sample is illuminated with monochromatic radiation
 - The sample axis, phi, and the goniometer axes omega and 2theta are rotated to capture diffraction spots from at least one hemisphere
 - Easier to index and solve the crystal structure because it diffraction peak is uniquely resolved

Instruments in the XRD SEF

- Rigaku RU300 Powder Diffractometers
- Bruker D8 with GADDS
- Bede D3
- PANalytical X'Pert Pro
- Back-reflection Laue (polaroid)
- SAXS
- Bruker Smart APEX*

Available Software

- PANalytical HighScore Plus
 - Phase identification
 - Profile fitting or whole pattern fitting for
 - unit cell refinement
 - nanocrystallite size and strain
 - quantitative phase analysis
 - indexing
 - Rietveld refinement of crystal structures
 - cluster analysis

Software

MDI Jade

- phase ID
- indexing and unit cell refinement
- RIR quantitative phase analysis
- residual stress
- nanocrystallite size and strain
- calculated diffraction patterns

Available Software

- PANalytical Stress- residual stress analysis
- PANalytical Texture- pole figure mapping of texture
- PANalytical Reflectivity- reflectivity from multilayer thin films
- Bruker Multex Area- pole figure mapping of texture
- Bruker Leptos for epitaxial thin film and XRR analysis.

Available Free Software

- GSAS- Rietveld refinement of crystal structures
- FullProf- Rietveld refinement of crystal structures
- Rietan- Rietveld refinement of crystal structures
- PowderCell- crystal visualization and simulated diffraction patterns
- JCryst- stereograms

Website

- http://prism.mit.edu/xray
 - reserving instrument time
 - instrument status
 - training schedules
 - links to resources
 - SOP's
 - tutorials

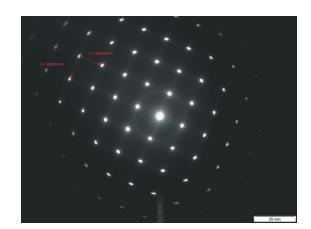
Single Crystal Diffractometers

- The design challenge for single crystal diffractometers: how to determine the position and intensity of these diffraction spots
 - Reflection vs transmission
 - Transmission: small samples & organic crystals
 - Reflection: large samples, epitaxial thin films
 - Laue vs. SCD
 - Laue: stationary sample bathed with white radiation (i.e. many wavelengths)
 - SCD: monochromatic radiation hits a sample as it is rotated and manipulated to bring different planes into diffracting condition

Diffraction from a Single Crystal

- X Rays striking a single crystal will produce diffraction spots in a sphere around the crystal.
 - Each diffraction spot corresponds to a single (hkl)
 - The distribution of diffraction spots is dependent on the crystal structure and the orientation of the crystal in the diffractometer

The diffracting condition is best illustrated with the Ewald sphere in reciprocal space



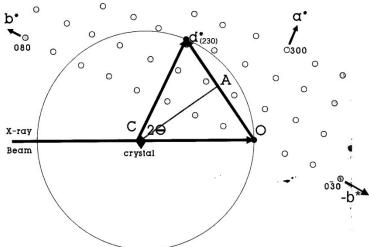
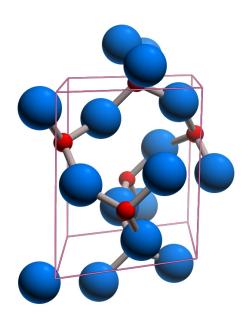


Figure 3.7. The Ewald sphere of reflection with the crystal rotated so that the (230) recipr lattice point touches it, permitting it to diffract.

*Diffraction spots are sometimes called reflections. Three cheers for sloppy terminology!

Equivalent positions are points in the unit cell that are identical to other points in the unit cell

- The symmetry elements in the unit cell produce equivalent positions
- Even though there are 3 Si atoms in the unit cell of quartz, we only have to define the position of one Si atom
 - The other Si atoms are on equivalent positions that are defined by the symmetry elements of the space group



Quartz

Crystal System: hexagonal Bravais Lattice: primitive

Space Group: P322₁

Atom Positions:

	X	У	Z
Si	0.47	0	0.667
0	0.414	0.268	0.786

Wavelengths for X-Radiation are Sometimes Updated

Copper	Bearden	Holzer et al.	Cobalt	Bearden	Holzer et al.
Anodes	(1967)	(1997)	Anodes	(1967)	(1997)
Cu Kα1	1.54056Å	1.540598 Å	Co Κα1	1.788965Å	1.789010 Å
Cu Kα2	1.54439Å	1.544426 Å	Co Kα2	1.792850Å	1.792900 Å
Cu Kβ	1.39220Å	1.392250 Å	Со Кβ	1.62079Å	1.620830 Å
Molybdenum			Chromium		
Anodes			Anodes		
Μο Κα1	0.709300Å	0.709319 Å	Cr Kα1	2.28970Å	2.289760 Å
Μο Κα2	0.713590Å	0.713609 Å	Cr Kα2	2.293606Å	2.293663 Å
Μο Κβ	0.632288Å	0.632305 Å	Cr Kβ	2.08487Å	2.084920 Å

- Often quoted values from Cullity (1956) and Bearden, Rev. Mod. Phys. 39 (1967) are incorrect.
 - Values from Bearden (1967) are reprinted in international Tables for X-Ray Crystallography and most XRD textbooks.
- Most recent values are from Hölzer et al. Phys. Rev. A 56 (1997)
- Has your XRD analysis software been updated?