

Reciprocal Lattice

Plane wave :

$$\psi_k(r) = \psi_0 e^{i \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}$$

Real space Bravais Lattice

[Direct Lattice]

$$\vec{R} = m \vec{a}_1 + n \vec{a}_2 + o \vec{a}_3$$

$m, n, o \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3$ are primitive vectors.

Reciprocal lattice : Set of wave vectors \vec{k} for which

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_k(\vec{r}) &= \psi_k(\vec{r} + \vec{R}) \\ \psi_0 \cdot e^{i \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} &= \psi_0 \cdot e^{i \vec{k} \cdot (\vec{r} + \vec{R})} \\ e^{i \vec{k} \cdot \vec{R}} &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{k} \cdot \vec{R} = 2\pi l, \quad l \in \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow (1)$$

Lattice vectors for Reciprocal Lattice :

$$\vec{k} = p \vec{b}_1 + q \vec{b}_2 + r \vec{b}_3, \quad p, q, r \text{ are coefficients.}$$

Eqn. (1) gives

$$(p \ q \ r) \begin{pmatrix} \vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{a}_1 & \vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{a}_2 & \vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{a}_3 \\ \vec{b}_2 \cdot \vec{a}_1 & \vec{b}_2 \cdot \vec{a}_2 & \vec{b}_2 \cdot \vec{a}_3 \\ \vec{b}_3 \cdot \vec{a}_1 & \vec{b}_3 \cdot \vec{a}_2 & \vec{b}_3 \cdot \vec{a}_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m \\ n \\ o \end{pmatrix} = 2\pi l \quad - (2)$$

Choose the simplest basis $\{\vec{b}_i\}$ for vectors \vec{k} ,

$$\vec{b}_i \cdot \vec{a}_j = 2\pi \delta_{ij} \quad - (3)$$

Combining (2) & (3), and dividing by 2π ,

$$pm + qn + ro = l$$

Since m, n, o are arbitrary integers and l is also an integer, p, q, r must also be integers.

$\therefore \vec{k} = p \vec{b}_1 + q \vec{b}_2 + r \vec{b}_3$ also forms a Bravais lattice.