

MEAM/MSE 507

Fundamentals of Materials

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Week 4, Lecture 2: Bravais lattices
Asynchronous

2D symmetry operations

Symmetry operations involve transformation of coordinates:

1. Translation

$$(x, y) \xrightarrow{\vec{T}} (x + a, y + b) \xrightarrow{\vec{T}} (x + 2a, y + 2b)$$

2. Mirror / reflection

Need to define a “mirror axis” (in 2D) or “mirror plane” (in 3D)

E.g., for a mirror axis parallel with the y-axis in 2D:

$$(x, y) \xrightarrow{M} (-x, y) \xrightarrow{M} (x, y)$$

M changes the sense of one coordinate

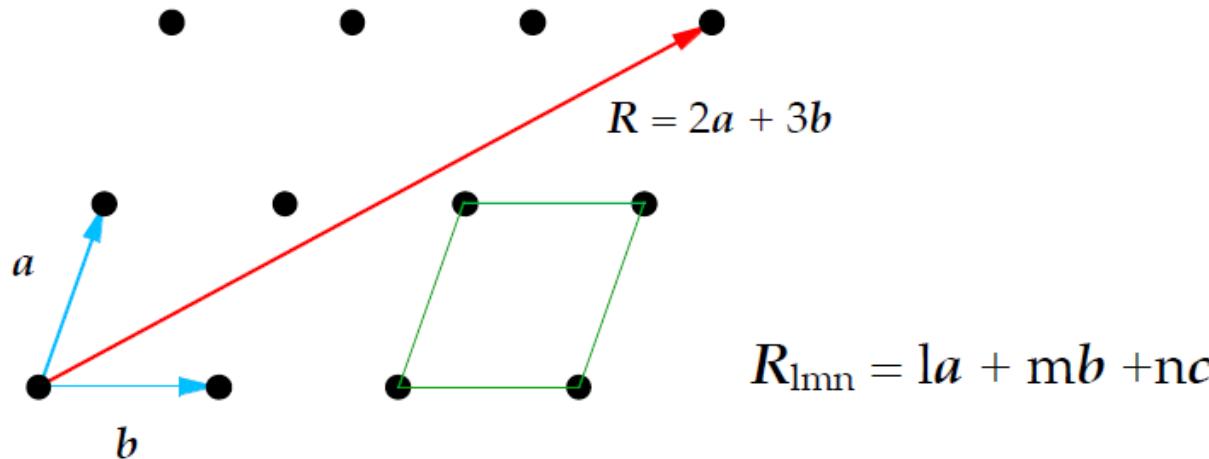
3. Rotation

Need to define a point (in 2D) or axis (in 3D) around which rotation occurs. E.g., A_π rotates everything by π radians around point A.

Rotation can change the sense of two coordinates

The space lattice

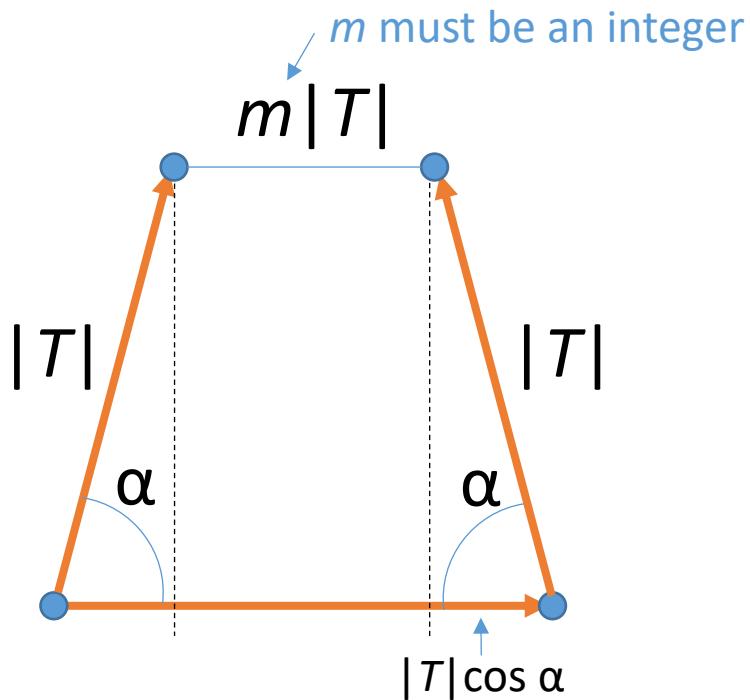
- Every point in the space lattice is identical
- The translation vector tells how to get from any point to any other equivalent point



- a, b, c are lattice vectors; l, m, n are integers
- A good set of lattice vectors allows the translation vector to span from any point in the lattice to any other
- Unit cell is parallelepiped whose edges are a, b, c

What types of lattices are possible given the known symmetry operations?

Rotational symmetry and space-filling lattices



$$\begin{aligned}|T| - 2|T| \cos \alpha &= m|T| \\ \Rightarrow 1 - 2 \cos \alpha &= m \\ \Rightarrow \cos \alpha &= \frac{1-m}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Rotational symmetry and space-filling lattices

m	$\frac{1-m}{2}$	α	n -fold axes
4	-3/2	Not possible	
3	-1	π (180°)	2-fold
2	-1/2	$2\pi/3$ (120°)	3-fold
1	0	$\pi/2$ (90°)	4-fold
0	1/2	$\pi/3$ (60°)	6-fold
-1	1	0	1-fold
-2	3/2	Not possible	

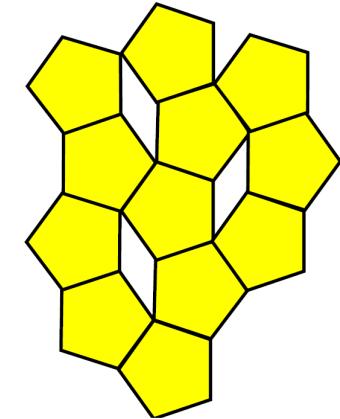
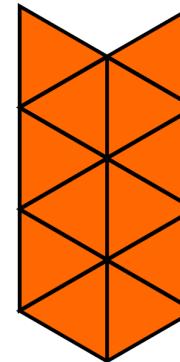
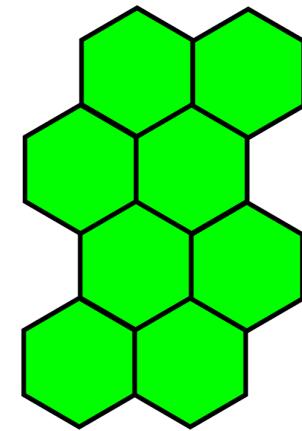
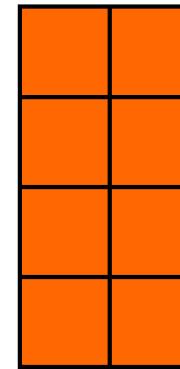
Any $m \leq -2$ does not have a valid value for α

Only these rotational symmetries are allowed in a space-filling lattice!

Symmetry operations in 2D

- Translation
- Reflection
- Rotation
 - n -fold rotation mean $2\pi/n$

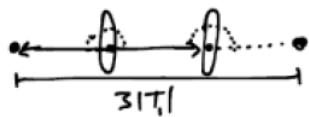
- 2-fold (180° rotation) 
- 3-fold (120° rotation) 
- 4-fold (90° rotation) 
- 6-fold (60° rotation) 



- n can also be 1 (trivial or identity)

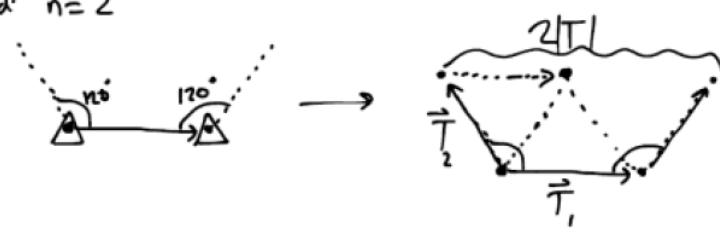
Building up a 2D lattice from translation and rotation

E.g., 2-fold: $n=3$



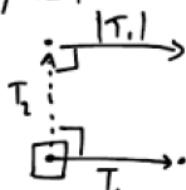
No effect on row above, so \vec{T}_2 can be very different

E.g., 3-fold: $n=2$



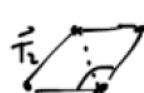
$$|\vec{T}_1| = |\vec{T}_2| \\ \text{angle between } \vec{T}_1, \vec{T}_2 = 120^\circ$$

E.g., 4-fold, $n=1$



Need $|\vec{T}_1| = |\vec{T}_2|$ and angle 90°

E.g., 6-fold, $n=0$



$|\vec{T}_1| = |\vec{T}_2|$
Can describe angle as 120°

} same as 3-fold

Convention: use $\alpha \geq 90^\circ$ rather than small angle option



Allowed 2D lattices (the 5 Bravais lattices)

kinds of 2D lattices:

Obligee / Parallelogram: $|\vec{T}_1| \neq |\vec{T}_2|$, angle any, can accommodate 1 or 0

hexagonal: $|\vec{T}_1| = |\vec{T}_2|$, angle 120° , can accommodate Δ or 

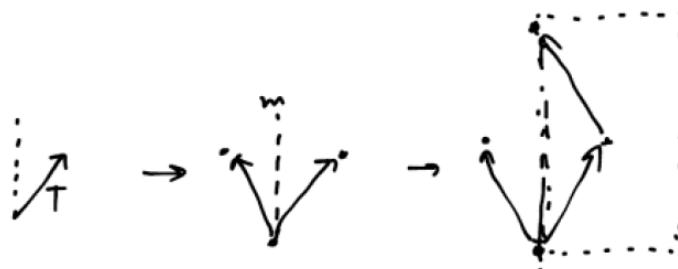
square: $|\vec{T}_1| = |\vec{T}_2|$, angle 90° , can accommodate \square

These come from
translation + rotation

Other lattices? Yes, if we add reflection:

centered rectangular / rhombohedral

$|\vec{T}_1| \neq |\vec{T}_2|$, but angle 90° , w/ 2 lattice points per cell



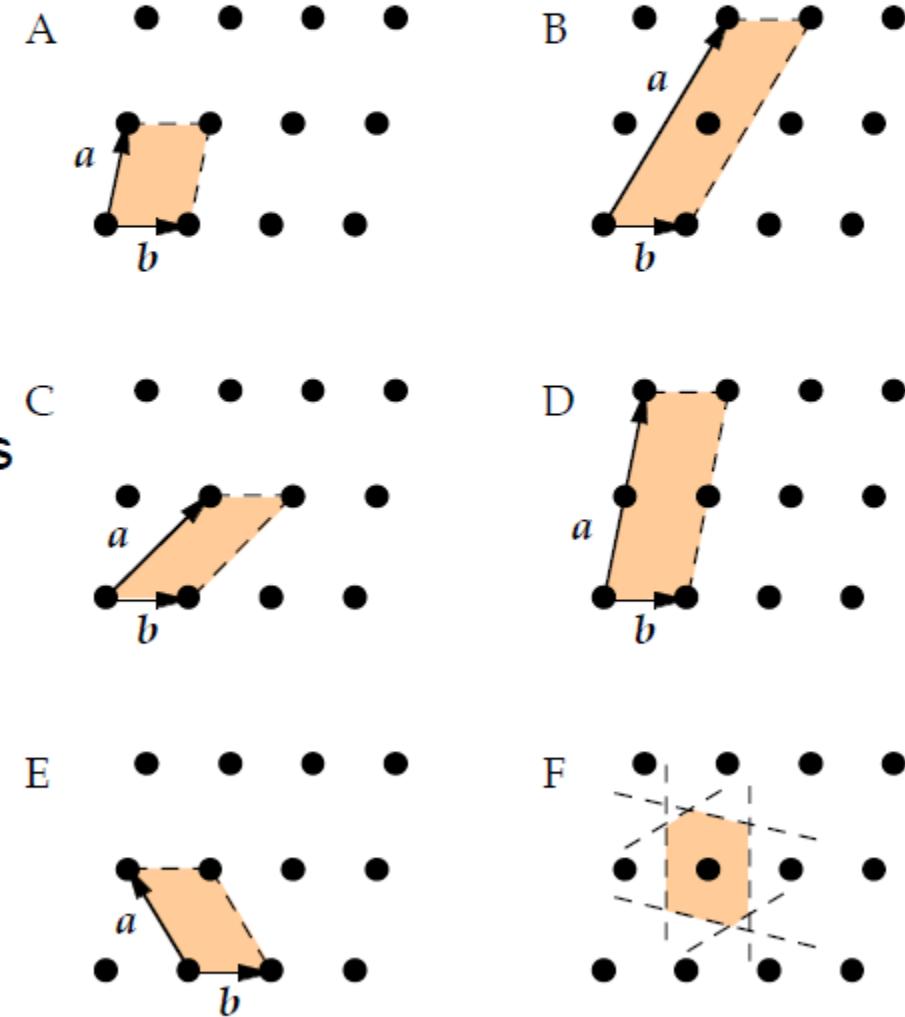
primitive rectangular

same as above but without the center point

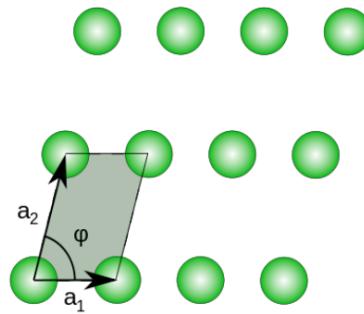
Unit cell

Primitive lattice vectors define a primitive unit cell

- That is, a cell that contains a single lattice point
- Which are primitive?
- Wigner-Seitz primitive cell puts the lattice point at the “center”

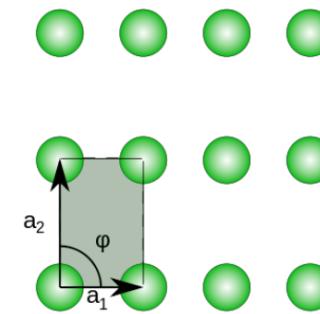


Bravais lattices in 2D



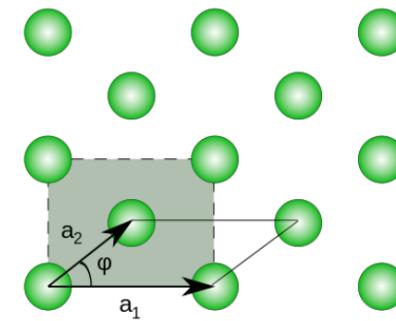
$$|a_1| \neq |a_2|, \varphi \neq 90^\circ$$

1 Oblique



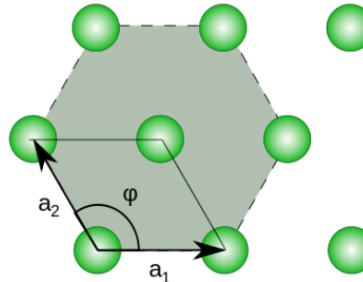
$$|a_1| \neq |a_2|, \varphi = 90^\circ$$

2 Rectangular



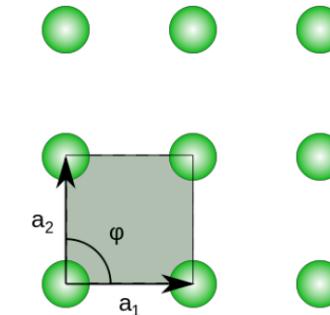
$$|a_1| \neq |a_2|, \varphi \neq 90^\circ$$

3 Centered Rectangular / Rhombic



$$|a_1| = |a_2|, \varphi = 120^\circ$$

4 Hexagonal



$$|a_1| = |a_2|, \varphi = 90^\circ$$

5 Square

Bravais lattices in 2D

- Bravais lattice is an infinite array of discrete points generated by

$$\mathbf{R}_{lmn} = l\mathbf{a} + m\mathbf{b} + n\mathbf{c}$$

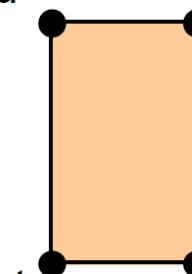
- Infinite number of space lattices can be formed by choosing \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{c} in 3d or \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} in 2d

- From any \mathbf{R}_{lmn} the lattice looks exactly the same

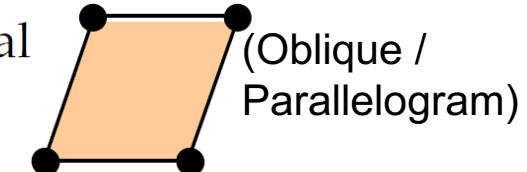
- Most lattices only have the symmetry $n=1$ or 2 , but we can choose \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{c} to get other symmetries

- These symmetries imply restriction on \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{c}

- Each set of restrictions → distinct lattice; a **Bravais lattice** is characterized by its symmetry operations

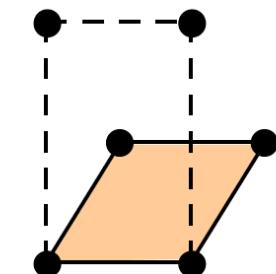


General

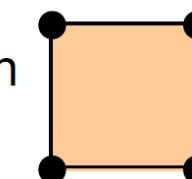


(Oblique /
Parallelogram)

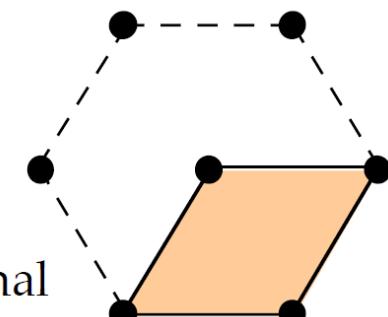
Rectangular



Centred
Rectangular



Square

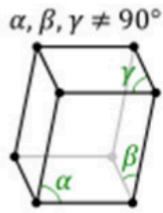


Hexagonal

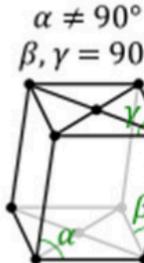
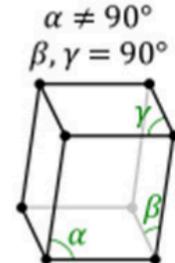
2d: 4 restrictions → 5 lattices

Bravais lattices in 3D

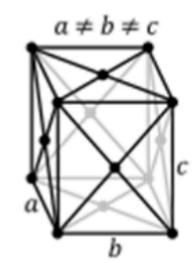
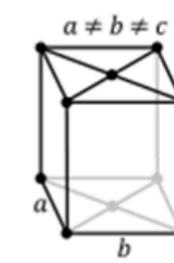
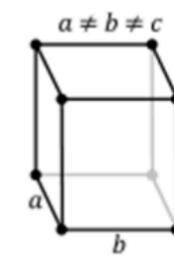
Triclinic



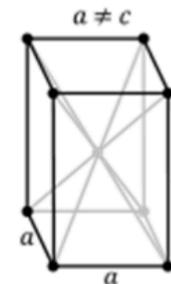
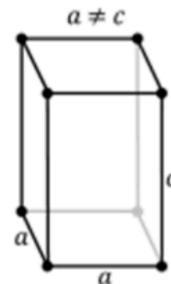
Monoclinic



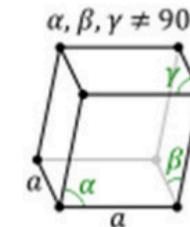
Orthorhombic



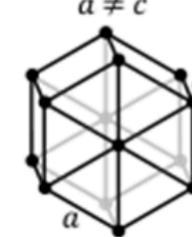
Tetragonal



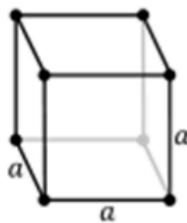
Trigonal/rhombohedral



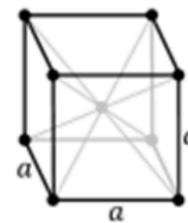
Hexagonal



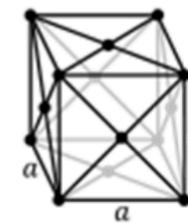
Cubic



Simple
Cubic



Body
Centered
Cubic



Face
Centered
Cubic

- **14 Bravais lattices in 3D**
- **7 crystal systems**