

Derivation of the equation of motion for a 3d harmonic crystal

We want to show that a 3d harmonic crystal obeys the following equation of motion:

$$M \ddot{\vec{u}}(\vec{R}) = - \sum_{\vec{R}'} D(\vec{R} - \vec{R}') \vec{u}(\vec{R}')$$

Or equivalently

$$M \ddot{u}_\alpha(\vec{R}) = - \sum_{\vec{R}'} \sum_{\beta} D_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R} - \vec{R}') u_\beta(\vec{R}')$$

We proceed by using the nuclear motion in the Born-Oppenheimer framework:

$$M \ddot{u}_\gamma(\vec{R}'') = - \frac{\partial V}{\partial u_\gamma(\vec{R}'')}$$

Where

$$V = V_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{R}, \vec{R}'} \sum_{\alpha, \beta} u_\alpha D_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R} - \vec{R}') u'_\beta$$

So we obtain

$$M \ddot{u}_\gamma(\vec{R}'') = - \frac{\partial}{\partial u_\gamma(\vec{R}'')} \left[V_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{R}, \vec{R}'} \sum_{\alpha, \beta} u_\alpha D_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R} - \vec{R}') u'_\beta \right] \quad \left| \quad \frac{\partial u_\alpha(\vec{R})}{\partial u_\beta(\vec{R}')} = \delta_{\alpha\beta} \delta_{\vec{R}, \vec{R}'} \right.$$

$$M \ddot{u}_\gamma(\vec{R}'') = - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{R}, \vec{R}'} \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \left[\delta_{\alpha\gamma} \delta_{\vec{R}, \vec{R}''} D_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R} - \vec{R}') u'_\beta + u_\alpha D_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R} - \vec{R}') \delta_{\beta\gamma} \delta_{\vec{R}', \vec{R}''} \right]$$

$$M \ddot{u}_\gamma(\vec{R}'') = - \frac{1}{2} \left[\sum_{\vec{R}'} \sum_{\beta} D_{\gamma\beta}(\vec{R}'' - \vec{R}') u'_\beta + \sum_{\vec{R}} \sum_{\alpha} u_\alpha D_{\alpha\gamma}(\vec{R} - \vec{R}'') \right] \quad \text{Relabeling } \vec{R}' \rightarrow \vec{R}$$

$$M \ddot{u}_\gamma(\vec{R}'') = - \frac{1}{2} \left[\sum_{\vec{R}} \sum_{\beta} D_{\gamma\beta}(\vec{R}'' - \vec{R}) u_\beta + \sum_{\vec{R}} \sum_{\alpha} u_\alpha D_{\alpha\gamma}(\vec{R} - \vec{R}'') \right]$$

$$M \ddot{u}_\gamma(\vec{R}'') = - \frac{1}{2} \left[\sum_{\vec{R}} \sum_{\beta} D_{\gamma\beta}(\vec{R}'' - \vec{R}) u_\beta + \sum_{\vec{R}} \sum_{\alpha} D_{\alpha\gamma}(\vec{R} - \vec{R}'') u_\alpha \right]$$

Now we use the the simmetry property of the D matrix

$$D_{\alpha\gamma}(\vec{R} - \vec{R}'') = D_{\gamma\alpha}(\vec{R}'' - \vec{R})$$

To obtain

$$M \ddot{u}_\gamma(\vec{R}'') = - \frac{1}{2} \left[\sum_{\vec{R}} \sum_{\beta} D_{\gamma\beta}(\vec{R}'' - \vec{R}) u_\beta + \sum_{\vec{R}} \sum_{\alpha} D_{\gamma\alpha}(\vec{R}'' - \vec{R}) u_\alpha \right]$$

Now we can interchange the index without problems

$$M \ddot{u}_\gamma(\bar{R}'') = - \sum_{\bar{R}} \sum_{\beta} D_{\gamma\beta}(\bar{R}'' - \bar{R}) u_\beta$$