

TEM —
the Transmission Electron Microscopy,
a Powerful Tool for Imaging, Diffraction and Spectroscopy in Materials Science

Lecture -- II

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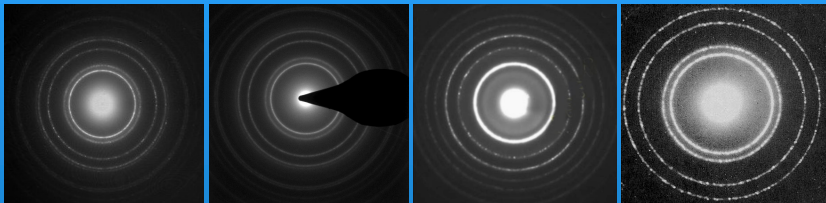
(continued – Part 2)

1

A? **Learn to be an expert to recognize things!**

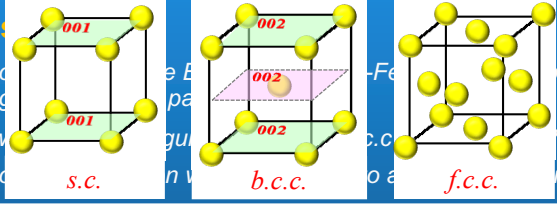
The following four EDPs are taken from **Au, Cu, Al** and **α -Fe** polycrystalline respectively. **Au, Cu, Al** has f.c.c structure. **α -Fe** has b.c.c structure. Their lattice constants are given: $a(\text{Au})=0.408\text{nm}$, $a(\text{Cu})=0.361\text{nm}$, $a(\text{Al})=0.405\text{nm}$, $a(\alpha\text{-Fe})=0.286\text{nm}$.

Questions: Why?



Questions:

1. Can you quickly recognize the structure of the metal by a quick glance at the EDP?
2. How would you distinguish between f.c.c and b.c.c structures in a given EDP?
3. What do you know about the structure of the metal in which the first order reflection is missing?



s.c. **b.c.c.** **f.c.c.**

2

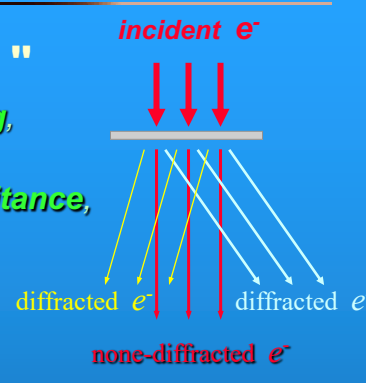
A? Basic laws for electron diffraction

☞ What is "**diffraction**" “衍射”

*Diffraction is, firstly, a **scattering**, which follows certain **rules**, and features a basic nature of **inheritance**, namely, the **genetics** !*

- In what *directions* would electron be diffracted? -- Geometry analysis
- How *strong* are the diffracted electron beam along certain directions ? --- Intensity analysis

How the direction and the intensity of a diffraction beam inherit the structure information of your specimen ??




The diagram shows a horizontal line representing a specimen surface. Three red arrows labeled 'incident e⁻' point downwards towards the surface. From the surface, several rays emerge: one red arrow pointing straight down labeled 'none-diffracted e⁻', and two yellow arrows pointing upwards and outwards labeled 'diffracted e⁻'. The diffracted beams are shown at different angles relative to the surface normal.

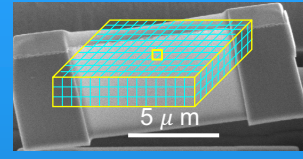
3

A? Diffraction intensity


an atom

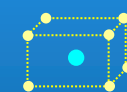


a FIB-TEM sample



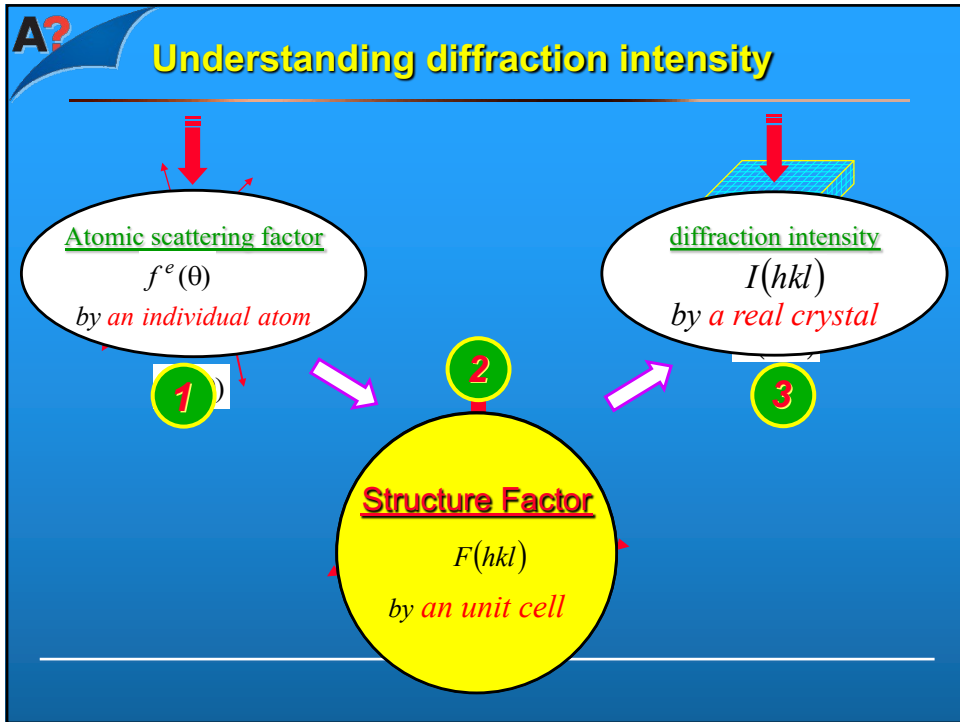
5 μm



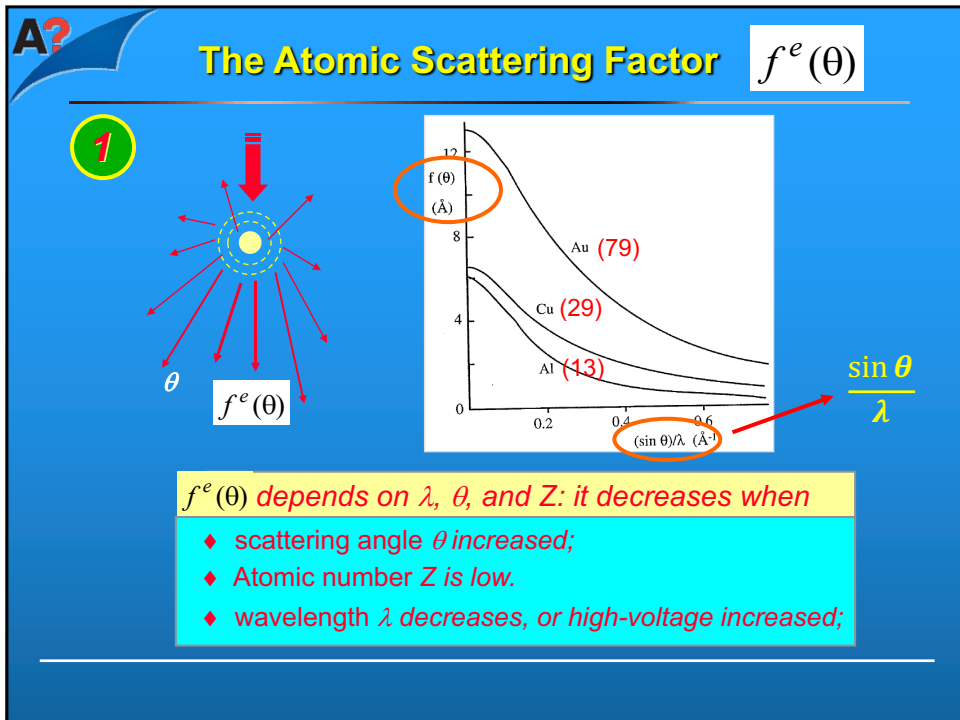


a unit cell

4



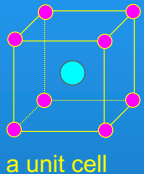
5



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A? **The Structure Factor: $F(hkl)$**

2

$$F(hkl) = \sum_{j=1}^N f_j^e \exp[2\pi i(hx_j + ky_j + lz_j)]$$


a unit cell

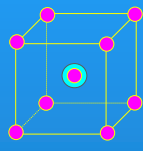
- atom A: f_A^e $(x_1, y_1, z_1) = (0, 0, 0)$
- atom B: f_B^e $(x_2, y_2, z_2) = (1/2, 1/2, 1/2)$

$F(hkl)$ describes contributions from: **atom types, numbers, position.**

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A? **Zero Structure Factor -- Forbidden diffraction**

Give an example: For iron (Fe), a typical **b.c.c.** structure



b.c.c Fe

- Fe
- C

b.c.c --> s.c.

$$F(hkl) = \sum_{j=1}^2 f_{Fe}^e \exp[2\pi i(hx_j + ky_j + lz_j)]$$

$$= f_{Fe}^e \exp[2\pi i(0+0+0)] + f_{Fe}^e \exp\left[2\pi i\left(\frac{h}{2} + \frac{k}{2} + \frac{l}{2}\right)\right]$$

$$= f_{Fe}^e + f_{Fe}^e \exp[\pi i(h+k+l)] \sim (-1)^{h+k+l}$$

$$h+k+l = \begin{cases} 2n, & F(hkl) = 2f^e \\ 2n+1, & F(hkl) = 0 \text{ Zero structure factors} \end{cases}$$

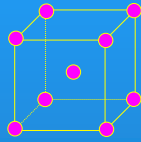
$F(100) \neq 0$	$F(111) \neq 0$	$F(113) \neq 0$
$F(110) = 2f_{Fe}^e$	$F(200) = 2f_{Fe}^e$	$F(112) = 2f_{Fe}^e$

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A?

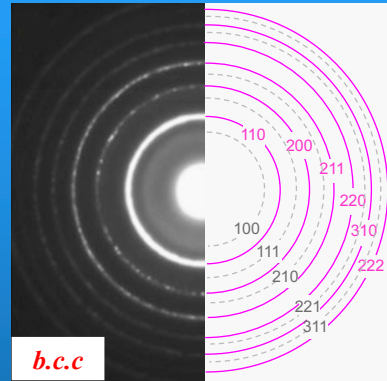
Missing rings in Polycrystalline diffraction

Zero structure factors results in missing rings in Polycrysta...



b.c.c Fe

● Fe



b.c.c

$$F(100) = 0$$

$$F(111) = 0$$

$$F(113) = 0$$

$$F(110) = 2f_{\text{Fe}}^e$$

$$F(200) = 2f_{\text{Fe}}^e$$

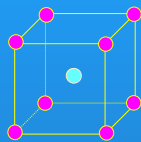
$$F(112) = 2f_{\text{Fe}}^e$$

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A?

Missing rings in Polycrystalline diffraction

What if the centered Fe is substituted by a different atom?
or, the centered atoms are just missing?

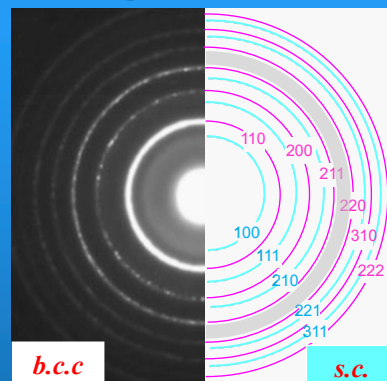


b.c.c. Fe

● Fe

s.c. Fe-C

● C



b.c.c

s.c.

$$F(100) \neq 0$$

$$F(111) \neq 0$$

$$F(113) \neq 0$$

$$F(110) = 2f_{\text{Fe}}^e$$

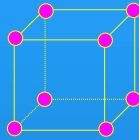
$$F(200) = 2f_{\text{Fe}}^e$$

$$F(112) = 2f_{\text{Fe}}^e$$

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A? Ring patterns of a Simple Cubic (s.c.) structure

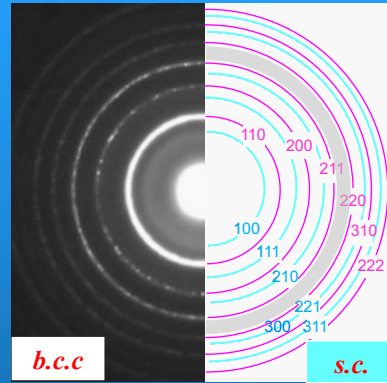
How to recognize a S.C. structure from ring patterns?



For a S.C. structure, all possible (h,k,l) must be counted:

$$h^2 + k^2 + l^2 = ?$$

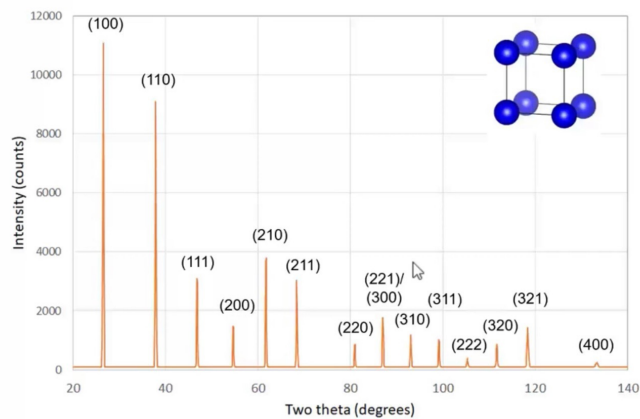
(hkl)	$h^2+k^2+l^2$
(100)	1
(110)	2
(111)	3
(200)	4
(210)	5
(211)	6
(220)	8
(221)/(300)	9
(310)	10
(311)	11
(222)	12
(320)	13
(321)	14
(400)	16



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A? Similar rules applied in X-ray diffraction

X-ray Powder Pattern (s.c.)

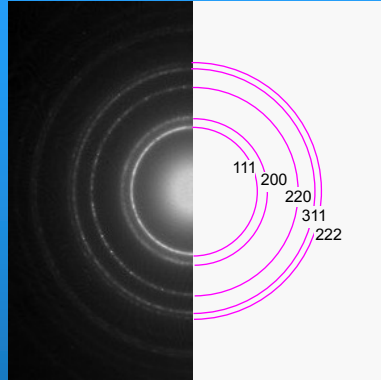


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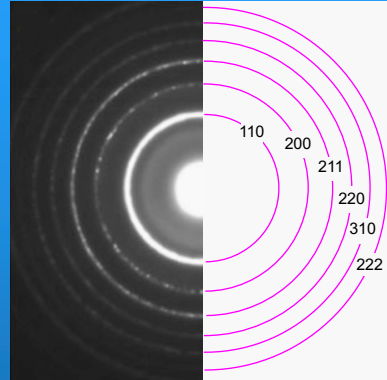
A?

Recognize EDPs from b.c.c or from f.c.c ?

f.c.c. structure



b.c.c. structure



$$h^2 + k^2 + l^2 = ?$$

f.c.c.: 3, 4, 8, 11, 12 ...

b.c.c.: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 ...

A?

Summary:

(h, k, l) rules for important structures

Simple cubic (s.c.): all h, k, l allowed

Body-centered (b.c.c.): $h + k + l = 2n$

face-centered (f.c.c.): h, k, l all odd, or all even

Hexagonal close-packed (h.c.p.):

$$h + 2k \neq 3n \text{ (n is an integer)}$$

or $h + 2k = 3n$ and l is even;

Note: All possible (h, k, l) combinations:

(1,0,0), (1,1,0), (1,1,1), (2,0,0), (2,1,0), (2,1,1),
(2,2,0), (2,2,1), (2,2,2), (3,0,0), (3,1,0), (3,1,1), ...

A? **A "real" thin TEM specimen**

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The total amplitude of the diffracted beam takes the sum of contributions from all the individual unit cells in the sample.

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A? **The Crystal Shape Factor** $|G(s_1, s_2, s_3)|^2$

- Kinematic diffraction intensities from actual crystal:

The total scattering amplitude from an actual crystal is the sum of amplitudes from all the unit cells in the specimen :

$$A(hkl) = F(hkl) \sum_{u=0}^{M_1-1} \sum_{v=0}^{M_2-1} \sum_{w=0}^{M_3-1} \exp[2\pi i(\mathbf{g}_{hkl} + \mathbf{s}) \cdot (u\mathbf{a} + v\mathbf{b} + w\mathbf{c})]$$

$$= F(hkl) \sum_{u=0}^{M_1-1} \sum_{v=0}^{M_2-1} \sum_{w=0}^{M_3-1} \exp[2\pi i(\mathbf{s}_1 u + \mathbf{s}_2 v + \mathbf{s}_3 w)]$$

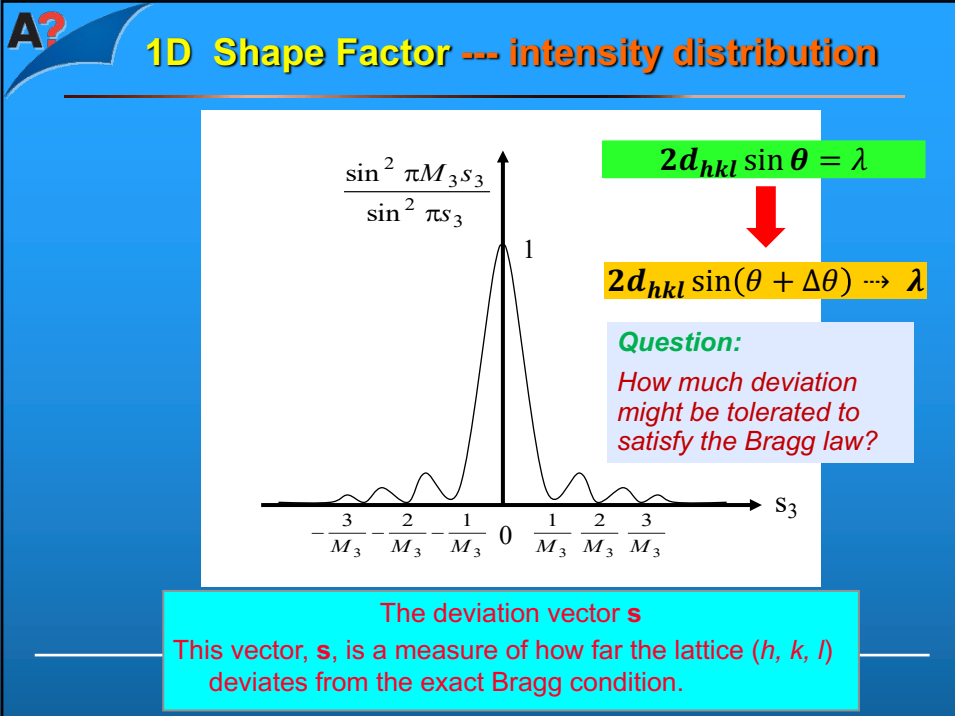
---- hence the diffraction intensity for (hkl):

$$I(hkl) = A(hkl) \cdot A^*(hkl) = |A(hkl)|^2$$

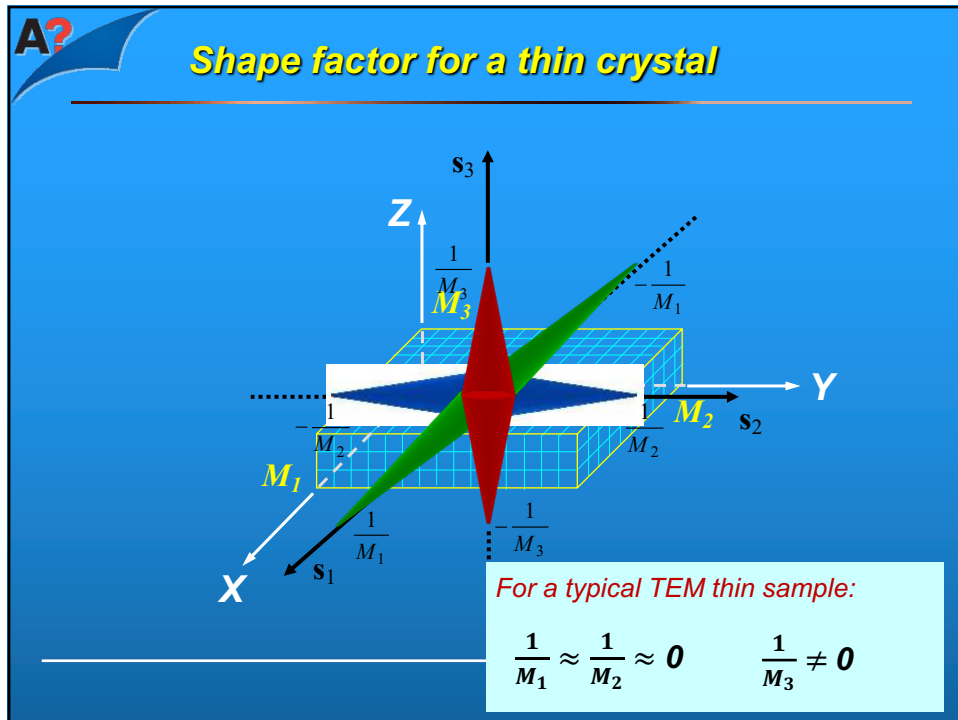
$$= |F(hkl)|^2 \times \frac{\sin^2 \pi M_1 s_1}{\sin^2 \pi s_1} \times \frac{\sin^2 \pi M_2 s_2}{\sin^2 \pi s_2} \times \frac{\sin^2 \pi M_3 s_3}{\sin^2 \pi s_3}$$

Structure factor $|F(hkl)|^2$ **Shape factor for a crystal** $|G(s_1, s_2, s_3)|^2$

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A? **Shape factor for a thin crystal**

TEM sample for diffraction:
The thinner, the better!

For a typical TEM thin sample:

$$\frac{1}{M_1} \approx \frac{1}{M_2} \approx 0 \quad \frac{1}{M_3} \neq 0$$

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A? **Shapes: Reciprocal Space vs Real Space**

A Particle shape: Cube; Reciprocal shape: Rods

B Particle shape: Sphere; Reciprocal shape: Shells

C Particle shape: Disc; Reciprocal shape: Rod

D Particle shape: Rod; Reciprocal shape: Disk and rings

General rules

"small becomes large"

and

"large becomes small"

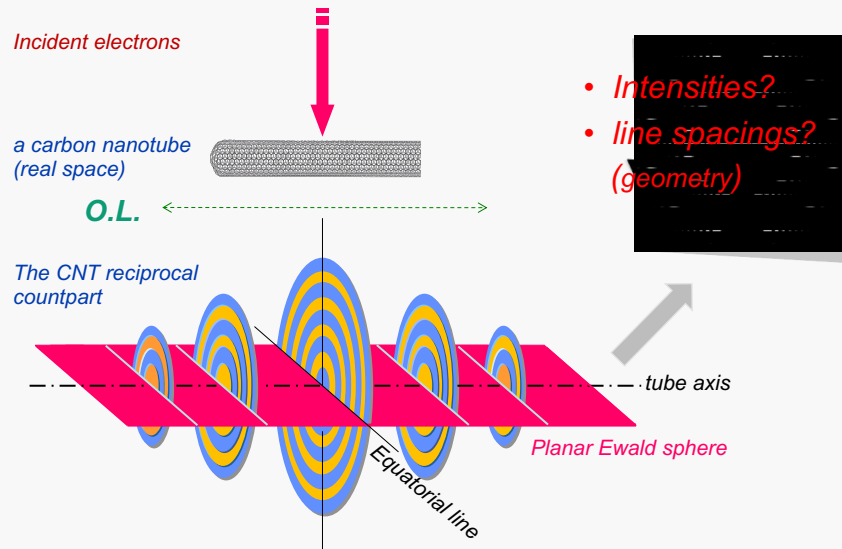
Reciprocal principle

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Forming an EDP of a SWCNT in TEM

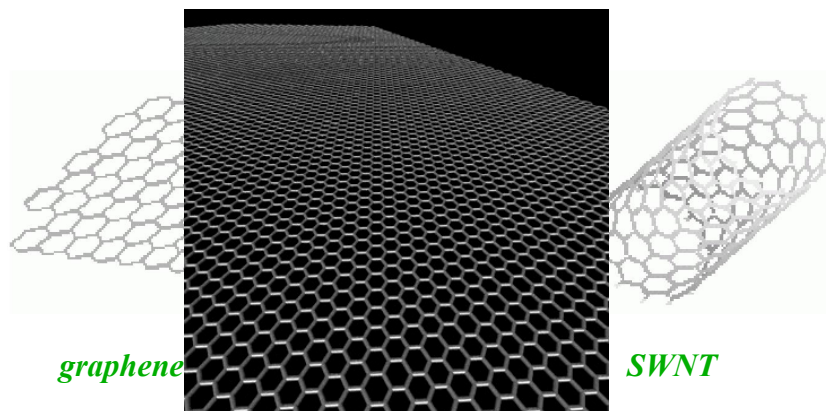
Normal incidence

--- H Jiang et al, PRB 74 (2006), 035427



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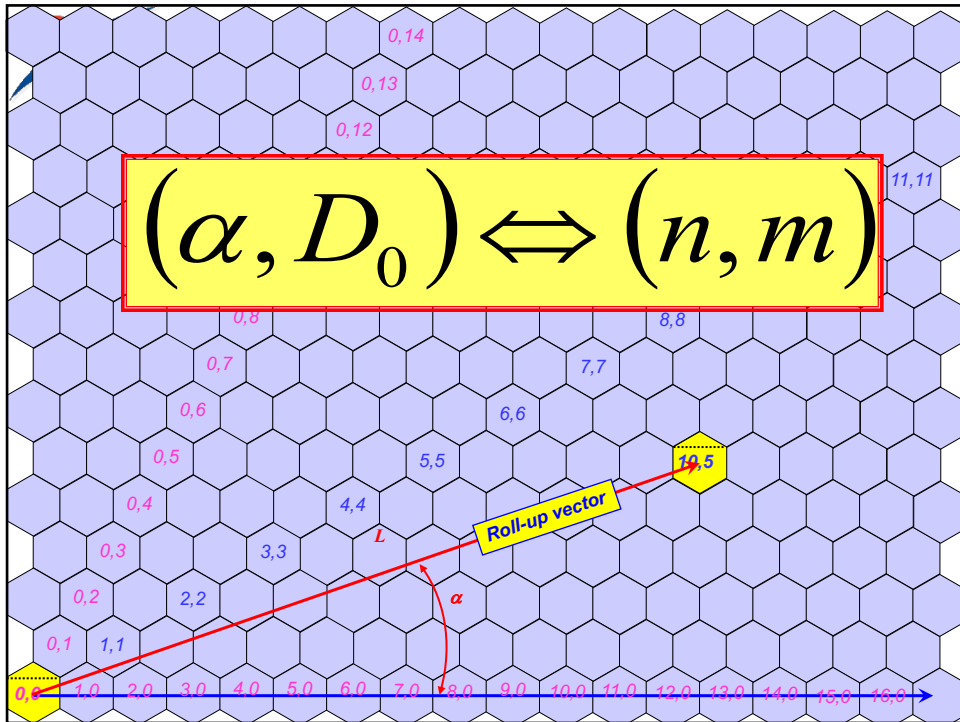
A? Chirality: Description of CNT structure



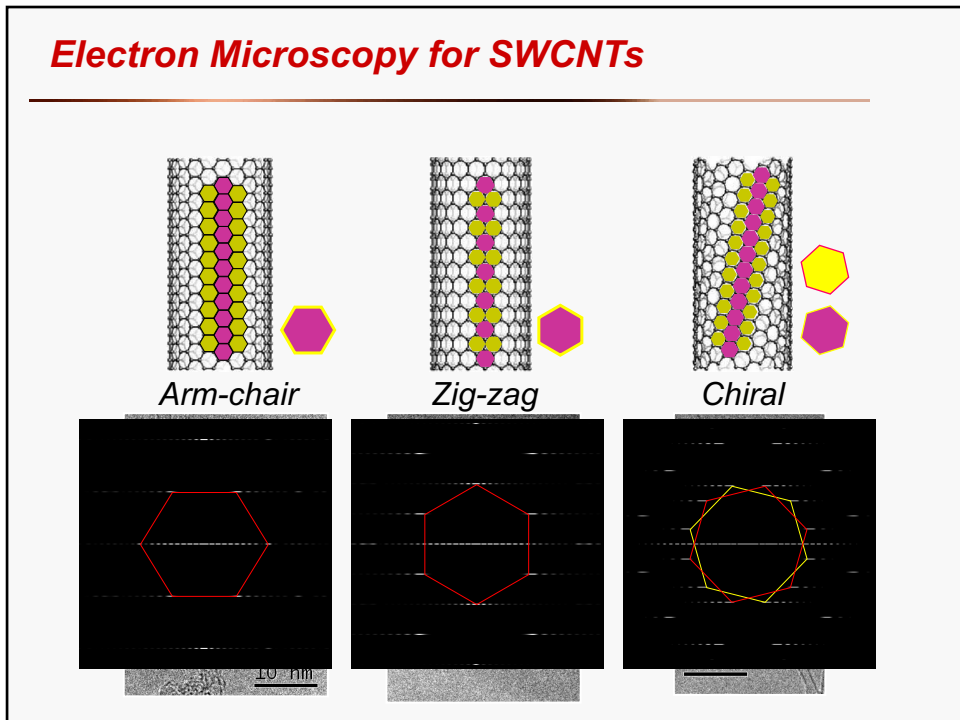
The best way to visualize the property of helicity is to imagine rolling up a piece of graphene sheet into a tube.

(Source: Wikipedia)

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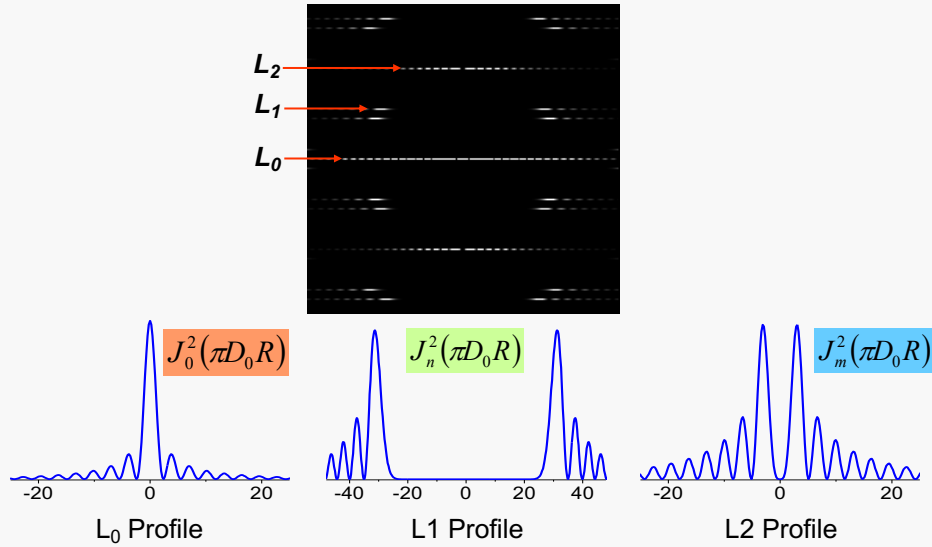
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Layer-lines: by intensity analysis

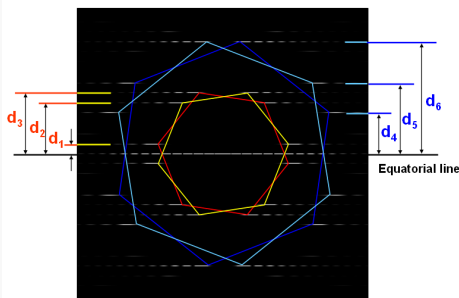
--- H Jiang et al, PRB 74 (2006), 035427



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Layer-lines: by geometry analysis

--- H Jiang et al, Carbon 45 (2007), 662



$$\xi_i = \frac{d_i}{\delta}$$

Layer-line number i	φ_i^0
1	$\varphi_1^0 = \frac{0-m}{\sqrt{3}\pi}$
2	$\varphi_2^0 = \frac{0+2m}{\sqrt{3}\pi}$
3	$\varphi_3^0 = \frac{2m+m}{\sqrt{3}\pi}$
4	$\varphi_4^0 = \frac{\sqrt{3}m}{\pi}$
5	$\varphi_5^0 = \frac{\sqrt{3}m}{\pi}$
6	$\varphi_6^0 = \frac{3(0+m)}{\pi}$

$$(\xi_2, \xi_3): \quad n = \frac{\sqrt{3}\pi}{6} \cdot (2\xi_3 - \xi_2) \quad m = \frac{\sqrt{3}\pi}{6} \cdot (2\xi_2 - \xi_3)$$

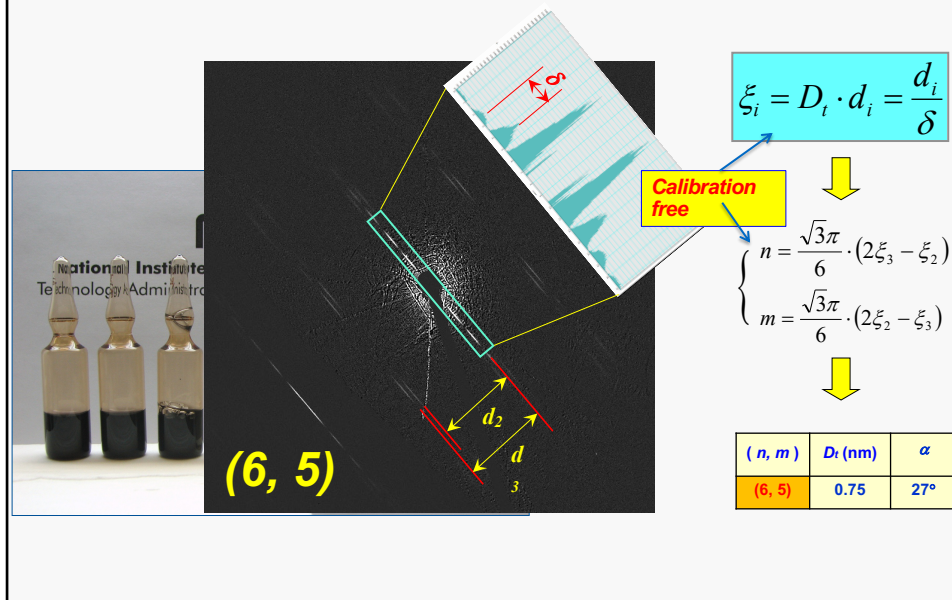
or

$$(\xi_3, \xi_6): \quad n = \frac{(3\xi_3 - \xi_6)}{2\sqrt{3}} \pi \quad m = \frac{(2\xi_6 - 3\xi_3)}{2\sqrt{3}} \pi$$

Totally calibration-free

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Example: a NIST RM-8281 reference SWCNTs



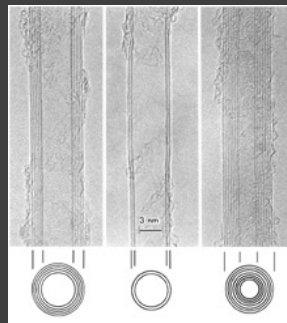
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History: The discovery of CARBON Nanotubes

Sumio Iijima's web --Nanotubulites--

<http://nanocarb.meijo-u.ac.jp/jst/ijijima.html>

■ THE DISCOVERY of CARBON NANOTUBES



in NEC Co. * Sumio Iijima, Nature, 354, 56 (1991).

Aalto University Honorary Doctorate, Oct. 10, 2014

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A?

Electron diffraction: *things to remember*

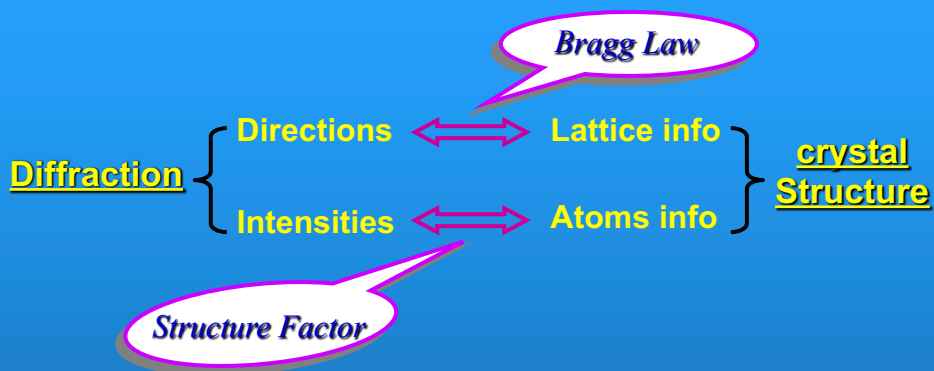
1. Electron diffraction takes place in TEM on the focal plane of its objective lens.
2. Diffraction is a reproduction of the sample structure in **reciprocal space**. Each diffraction spot corresponds to a set of lattice planes (h,k,l) in the crystal.
3. Both the direction and intensity of the diffraction inherit the structure information of your specimen !!

HOW?

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A?

Electron diffraction: *things to remember*



Purpose of diffraction analysis:

- From the diffraction direction we get the lattice type information of the structure
- By the intensity analysis, we know the atom types, numbers and positions.

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A?

Further thinking about electron diffraction

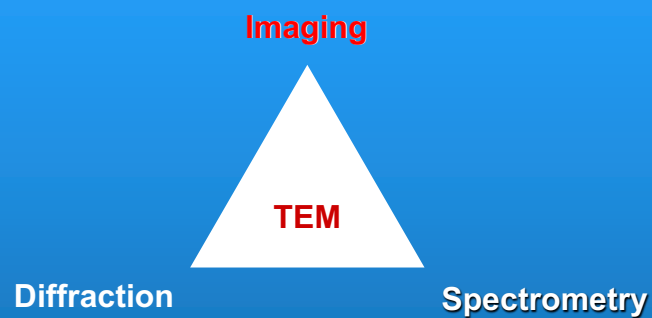
- ☞ Deep learning of Bragg's law for electron diffraction
 - *Can diffraction always be observed if Bragg's law is satisfied ?*
 - *If Bragg's law is not (fully) satisfied, can we still observe diffraction ?*

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A?

Three angles

around Electron Microscopy



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A? **Overview: Where are we now?**

1st FT: From an object to form a diffraction pattern

2nd FT: From the diffraction pattern to form an image

The diagram illustrates the two Fourier Transform steps in TEM. It shows an object plane, an objective lens, and an image plane. Parallel rays from the object pass through the lens and are focused to form a diffraction pattern (1st FT). These rays then pass through a second lens and are focused to form an image (2nd FT). A red question mark is placed next to the 'Imaging (2nd FT)' label.

Questions:

1. What to see from a TEM image?
2. Can we always trust what we see?

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A? **“Imaging” in TEM**

- various imaging modes in TEM
- “contrast”
- “resolution”
- high-resolution TEM imaging

principle, interpretation, applications

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A? **How images form in TEM ?**

Two important concepts:
Contrast and Resolution

The diagram illustrates the formation of a High Resolution Electron Micrograph (HREM). It shows three parallel electron beams (represented by red arrows) entering from the top. These beams pass through a yellow elliptical lens. Below the lens is a horizontal line labeled 'Aperture' with three small orange dots representing the aperture's edges. The beams then converge and pass through a second lens system, eventually forming an 'HREM image' at the bottom, which is depicted as a series of colored bars (yellow, red, green) with arrows pointing towards the left.

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A? **Contrast**

What is contrast ?

"Contrast" is the appearance of **any difference** in your image.

A B

What does the difference in the image tell about your sample ?

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A? Contrast

I_0

A B

Obj. Lens

Aperture

I_B I_A

DF image

$$C = \frac{(I_B - I_A)}{I_B} = \frac{\Delta I}{I_B} > 5 - 10\%$$

BF mode:

$I_A = I_0 - I_{scattered}, I_B \approx I_0$

$C = \frac{I_{scattered}}{I_0}$

DF mode:

$I_A = I_{scattered}, I_B \approx 0$

$C = \frac{I_{scattered}}{I_B} \rightarrow \infty$

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A? Contrast

I_0

A B

Obj. Lens

Aperture

I_B I_A

DF image

An Example

Feature A: Fe particle

Feature B: SiO₂ coating

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A? **Contrast**

The diagram illustrates the contrast mechanism in HRTEM. Incident electrons (I_0) pass through an object (labeled A and B) and are focused by an objective lens (Obj. Lens) through an aperture. The resulting image intensity (I_A) is shown as a series of interference fringes. An inset shows a real HRTEM image of a Au nanoparticle, which is a circular lattice of atoms with a 2 nm scale bar. A red arrow points from the inset to the label 'HRTEM image'.

Object
Obj. Lens
Aperture
 I_A
HRTEM image

HRTEM image of a Au nanoparticle
2 nm

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A? **Some examples of HRTEM images**

Do we see Si atoms in these HRTEM images?

The figure shows three HRTEM images of Silicon (Si) in different crystallographic orientations. Each image includes a selected area electron diffraction (SAED) pattern above it. The [100] image shows lattice spacings of 1.92 Å and 1.36 Å. The [110] image shows lattice spacings of 1.36 Å and 1.92 Å. The [111] image shows a lattice spacing of 1.92 Å. The SAED patterns are labeled with Miller indices: [001], [010], [110] for [100]; [001], [110] for [110]; and [111] for [111].

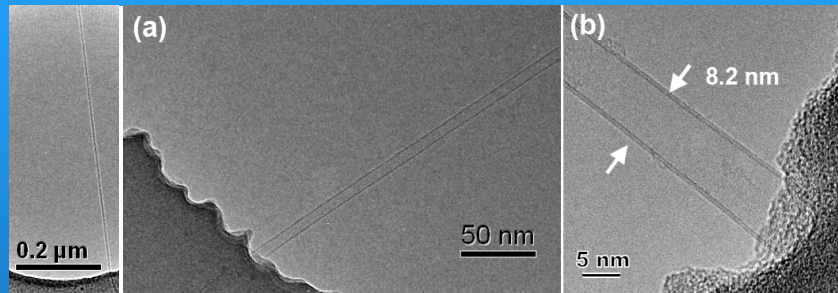
Si [100]
Si [110]
Si [111]

<http://xes.tagen.tohoku.ac.jp/~terauchi/mt-hrem.html>

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A?

An image may mislead us...



We need sufficient **resolution** to tell us the truth !!!

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A?

Resolution

"Resolution" is the smallest feature (distance) in the object that is resolved in your image.

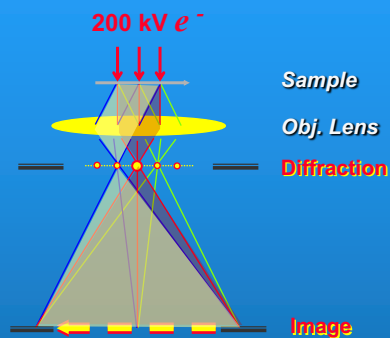
$$2d \sin \theta = n\lambda$$



$$\theta \uparrow \Rightarrow d \downarrow$$



$$\text{resolution} \uparrow$$



The resolution of an image depends on how many and what diffraction spots have been allowed for making the image.

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A?

Resolutions of typical imaging tools

- Resolution of human eyes: $\sim 0.1 \text{ mm}$
- Optical microscope: 200 nm
- SEM resolution: $\sim 1 \text{ nm}$ (optimized)
- TEM resolution: $\sim 2 \text{ \AA}$ (conventional TEM, 200kV)
- HV-TEM: $\sim 1 \text{ \AA}$ (JEOL 1250 kV, Stuttgart 1996)
- Cs-corrected TEM: $\sim 1 \text{ \AA}$ (Philip 200kV, Julich 1997)

$$1 \text{ nm} = 10 \text{ \AA}$$

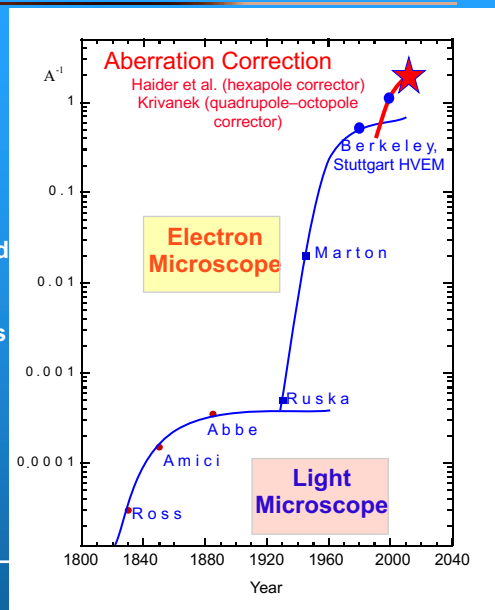
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A?

Where are we NOW?

- Aberration correction removes the barrier that has limited the performance of the electron microscope.
- Successful realization due to advances in computer alignment and electronics.
- Nanoscience and technology needs atomic-level characterization.

Why are we still here?



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A? What limits TEM resolution?

☞ Limitations of an **light microscope** ☹

$$d = \frac{0.61\lambda}{n \sin \alpha} \cong \frac{1}{2} \lambda$$

d --- resolution; λ --- light wavelength

Questions:
What limits TEM resolution?

☞ Electron wave is featured by its short electron wavelength ☺

$$\lambda = \frac{12.25}{\sqrt{U(1 + 0.9788 \times 10^{-6} U)}} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{U}}$$

100 kV: 0.0375 Å
200 kV: 0.0251 Å
300 kV: 0.0197 Å

U --- accelerating voltage

A? Image formation in TEM (in real space)

Perfect Lens
(accurate transfer)

Real Lens
(spherical aberration, etc)

$f(x,y)$	specimen function
\otimes	
$h(x,y)$	PSF
$g(x,y)$	image function

A? **Image formation in TEM**
 (from ~~real~~ *in real space* ~~real space~~ *al space*)

1 e^- electrons

2 diffraction: the greater spacing the higher angle

multiplied in

3 Lens point spread-function

Perfect Lens (accurate transfer)

Real Lens (spherical aberration, etc)

blurred pattern image

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A? **1** **Electrons: the messenger**

Accelerated electrons in vacuum

wavelength: $\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2meU}}$ U : accelerating voltage (200 kV)

Note: 1. non-relativity for simplicity
 2. the higher electron energy, the shorter electron wavelength

Electrons going through specimen

$\lambda' = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2me(U+V(x,y,z))}}$ $V(x,y,z)$: specimen inner potential

Phase shift of electrons carries structural info of the specimen

$d\phi \approx \sigma \int V(x,y,z) dz = \sigma V_i(x,y)$ $V_i(x,y)$: integrated potential in the z-direction

Note: the phase shift depends ONLY on 2D projection of the object structure;
 The electrons carry the structure info after passing the specimen

Note: $\sigma = \pi/\lambda E$ is a small interaction constant.

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A? 2

Object: the specimen function

- The specimen function is given by

$$f(x, y) = \exp(-id\phi) = \exp[-i\sigma V_t(x, y)]$$

Note: no absorption is considered here for simplicity

Phase-object approximation: a specimen is represented as a phase object

- Weak-phase-object approximation (WPOA) :

$$f(x, y) = 1 - i\sigma V_t(x, y)$$

if $V_t(x, y) \ll 1$

Thin sample!!!
Specimen potential is WEAK!!

In general, the WPOA only holds for **VERY** thin specimens.

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A? 3

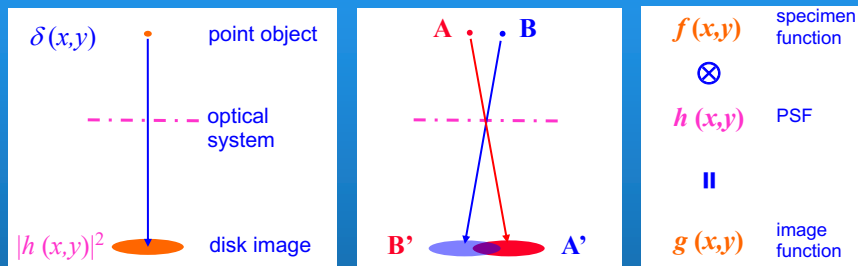
Lenses: the point-spread-function (PSF)

- Mathematical description of HREM image formation:

in real space:

$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) \otimes h(x, y)$$

REMEMBER: an image is not just the structure of your sample but...



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A? 3

Lenses: contrast-transfer-function (CTF)

☞ Mathematical description of HREM image formation:

in reciprocal space: $G(u, v) = F(u, v) \cdot H(u, v)$

After Fourier transform (\mathcal{F}) of the previous equation, a convolution in real space gives multiplication in reciprocal space.

$G(u, v)$ gives the Fourier components of an HREM image

$F(u, v)$ is the structure factor of the specimen, seen as diffraction

$H(u, v)$ is the Fourier transform of PSF, describing how information (contrast) in reciprocal space is transferred into the image.

$H(u, v)$ is the Contrast Transfer Function (CTF).

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A? 3

The objective lens (III) the factors contributing to CTF

☞ CTF is determined by:

$$H(\mathbf{u}) = A(\mathbf{u})E(\mathbf{u})B(\mathbf{u})$$

$A(\mathbf{u})$: the aperture cut-off function, governed by the radius of the aperture

$E(\mathbf{u})$: the envelope function, describing the attenuation of the wave

$B(\mathbf{u})$: the aberration function, coming from the aberration of the lens

$B(\mathbf{u})$ is the only term we are interested in for this moment!!

$$B(\mathbf{u}) = \sin \chi(\mathbf{u})$$

$$\chi(\mathbf{u}) = \pi \Delta f \lambda u^2 + \frac{1}{2} \pi C_s \lambda^3 u^4$$

Δf : the focusing condition;

C_s : the spherical aberration coefficient; a constant for a particular lens.

Δf is the key parameters to TUNE image contrast.

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A?

An animation show of CTF

