

Ferroelectric Space Groups

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(Received 18 March 1985; accepted 29 July 1985)

Abstract

The 440 ferroelectric space groups, *viz* the Heesch-Shubnikov (magnetic) space groups, which are symmetry groups of ferroelectric electric-dipole arrangements in crystals, are derived and tabulated. By considering automorphisms induced by the automorphisms of the discrete space-time group, we show that although ferroelectric, ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent point groups all number 31, the number of ferroelectric space groups differs from 275, which is that of both ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent space groups.

I. Introduction

Which of the 1651 Heesch-Shubnikov (magnetic) space groups are ferroelectric space groups, that is, symmetry groups of ferroelectric electric-dipole arrangements in crystals? Neronova & Belov (1960) have tabulated a list of 275 Heesch-Shubnikov space groups, which they call ferroelectric space groups. These authors, however, do not take into account the fact that the action of elements of Heesch-Shubnikov groups on a polarization P cannot be arbitrarily defined within the usual electromagnetic theory based on Maxwell's equations. Their choice of action is incompatible with that theory and consequently their list of 275 Heesch-Shubnikov space groups is not that of the ferroelectric space groups. With a choice of action that is compatible with that theory, Cracknell (1975) has stated that the number of ferroelectric space groups is 275, Schwarzenberger (1984) gives it as 265. No tabulation is given by either of these authors.

In § II we shall review the action of the discrete space-time group on electromagnetic quantities. We then derive and tabulate the 440 ferroelectric space groups—the Heesch-Shubnikov space groups that are symmetry groups of ferroelectric electric-dipole arrangements in crystals. In § III we discuss why, although the same number, 31, is the number of ferroelectric, ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent point groups, the number of ferroelectric space groups is different from the number, 275, of both ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent space groups.

II. Ferroelectric space groups

Let $\mathcal{U} = 1, \bar{1}, 1', \bar{1}'$ denote the discrete space-time group consisting of the identity 1, space inversion $\bar{1}$,

Table 1. Character table of the discrete space-time group \mathcal{U}

Basis functions of the irreducible representations, on the right, are given in terms of the charge density ρ and the components of polarization P , magnetization M and current density J .

| 1 | $\bar{1}$ | $1'$ | $\bar{1}'$ | |
|---|-----------|------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ρ |
| 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | P_x, P_y, P_z |
| 1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | M_x, M_y, M_z |
| 1 | -1 | -1 | 1 | J_x, J_y, J_z |

Table 2. The thirty-one ferroelectric point groups

| | | | |
|-------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1 | $1'$ | | |
| 2 | $21'$ | $2'$ | |
| m | $m1'$ | m' | |
| $mm2$ | $mm21'$ | $m'm'2$ | $m'm'2'$ |
| 3 | $31'$ | | |
| $3m$ | $3m1'$ | $3m'$ | |
| 4 | $41'$ | $4'$ | |
| $4mm$ | $4mm1'$ | $4m'm'$ | $4'm'm'$ |
| 6 | $61'$ | $6'$ | |
| $6mm$ | $6mm1'$ | $6m'm'$ | $6'm'm'$ |

time inversion $1'$, and $\bar{1}'$, the product of space inversion and time inversion. Further, let P, M, J and ρ denote the four quantities polarization, magnetization, current density and charge density, respectively, that appear in Maxwell's equations. These quantities can be classified according to the symmetry operations that are the elements of \mathcal{U} (Ascher, 1966). In Table 1 we give the character table of \mathcal{U} and classify the four quantities that appear in Maxwell's equations according to irreducible representations of the group \mathcal{U} . This classification and the symmetry operations of \mathcal{U} on these quantities follows from the assumption that the charge density is invariant under \mathcal{U} and the covariance of Maxwell's equations under \mathcal{U} (Opechowski, 1985).

It follows from Table 1 and the vector properties of P, M and J that the maximal symmetry group of a polarization vector P is $\infty m1'$, of a magnetization vector M , $\infty/m m'$, and of a current density vector J , $\infty/m' m$. To determine which Heesch-Shubnikov groups are ferroelectric space groups, one determines which Heesch-Shubnikov groups have a point group that is a subgroup of $\infty m1'$. (In a similar manner one finds all ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent space groups by determining which Heesch-Shubnikov groups have a point group that is a subgroup of $\infty/m m'$ or

Table 4. Automorphisms of the discrete space-time group \mathcal{U}

An element in the i th row of the left-hand column is mapped under the automorphism A_j in the j th column of the top row into the element of \mathcal{U} at the intersection of the i th row and j th column.

| | A_0 | A_1 | A_2 | A_3 | A_4 | A_5 |
|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| $\bar{1}$ | $\bar{1}$ | $\bar{1}$ | $\bar{1}$ | $\bar{1}$ | $\bar{1}$ | $\bar{1}$ |
| $1'$ | $1'$ | $\bar{1}'$ | $1'$ | $\bar{1}$ | $\bar{1}$ | $\bar{1}'$ |
| $\bar{1}'$ | $\bar{1}'$ | $1'$ | $\bar{1}$ | $\bar{1}'$ | $1'$ | $\bar{1}$ |

$\infty/m'm$.) The point groups of Heesch-Shubnikov groups that are subgroups of $\infty m1'$ —the ferroelectric point groups—are listed in Table 2.

In Table 3 we list the 440 ferroelectric space groups. These are all the Heesch-Shubnikov groups whose point group is one of the ferroelectric groups (listed in Table 2). Table 3 has been subdivided into subtables, all ferroelectric groups with the same ferroelectric point group appearing in one subtable.

There are 275 ferromagnetic space groups (Neronova Belov, 1960; Opechowski & Guccione, 1965) and 275 ferrocurrent space groups. The latter have been listed by Neronova & Belov (1960) but are called by them ferroelectric space groups. This nomenclature is incompatible with the usual electromagnetic theory based on Maxwell's equations, and is misleading as it does not give the correct number of ferroelectric space groups. Of the 440 ferroelectric space groups listed in Table 3, 68 are non-magnetic space groups F , 68 are of the form $F1'$ and, using the notation of Opechowski & Guccione (1965), 129 are magnetic groups M_T and 175 are magnetic groups M_R . We note that the sum of the first three types is 265, the number of ferroelectric space groups given by Schwarzenberger (1984).

III. Numerology

There are 31 ferroelectric point groups, 31 ferromagnetic point groups and 31 ferrocurrent point groups (Ascher, 1966; Cracknell, 1972; Kopsky, 1976; Ascher & Janner, undated). There are 275 ferromagnetic space groups, 275 ferrocurrent space groups and 440 ferroelectric space groups. To understand why the number of ferroelectric, ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent point groups is the same, and why the number of ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent space groups is the same, though different from that of ferroelectric space groups, requires considering the automorphisms of the discrete space-time group \mathcal{U} .

The six automorphisms A_i , $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$, of the discrete space-time group \mathcal{U} are listed in Table 4 (Kopsky, 1976). These automorphisms of \mathcal{U} induce automorphisms of the group $R_+(3) \times \mathcal{U}$, where $R_+(3)$ is the group of all proper three-dimensional rotations: Let $A_i[u]$ denote the element of \mathcal{U} into which the

Table 5. The set of all ferroelectric (FE), ferromagnetic (FM) or ferrocurrent (FC) point groups given in the i th row of the left-hand column is mapped under the automorphism A_j in the j th column of the top row into a set of FE, FM or FC point groups according to the entry at the intersection of the i th row and j th column

| | A_0 | A_1 | A_2 | A_3 | A_4 | A_5 |
|----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| FE | FE | FC | FE | FM | FM | FC |
| FM | FM | FM | FC | FE | FC | FE |
| FC | FC | FE | FM | FC | FE | FM |

element u of \mathcal{U} is mapped under the automorphism A_i . The mapping $A_i[R_+u] = R_+A_i[u]$ then defines an automorphism of $R_+(3) \times \mathcal{U}$. Under these automorphisms of $R_+(3) \times \mathcal{U}$, the set of all ferroelectric point groups is mapped into sets of point groups, which, depending on the automorphism A_i , are sets of distinct ferroelectric, ferromagnetic or ferrocurrent point groups. The same is true for the set of all ferromagnetic point groups and the set of all ferrocurrent point groups. In Table 5 we show how each set of all ferroelectric, ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent point groups is mapped under each of the automorphisms of $R_+(3) \times \mathcal{U}$ induced by the automorphisms A_i of \mathcal{U} . It follows that the number of ferroelectric, ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent point groups is the same. For example, the automorphism A_2 maps the set of all ferromagnetic point groups into a set of distinct ferrocurrent point groups and simultaneously the set of all ferrocurrent point groups into a set of distinct ferromagnetic point groups. Consequently, the number of ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent point groups is the same.

However, only the identity automorphism A_0 and the automorphism A_2 of \mathcal{U} induce automorphisms of the group $\mathcal{E}_+(3) \times \mathcal{U}$, where $\mathcal{E}_+(3)$ is the proper three-dimensional Euclidian group. From the automorphism induced by the automorphism A_2 of \mathcal{U} , it follows that the number of ferromagnetic and ferrocurrent space groups is the same. As there are no other such induced automorphisms, we conclude that the number of ferroelectric space groups may be (and, as we have shown, is) different.

I thank Professor W. Opechowski for suggesting this problem. I am also grateful for the hospitality he extended to me while I was visiting the University of British Columbia. The financial aid of the Faculty Scholarship Support Fund of The Pennsylvania State University is gratefully acknowledged.

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Acta Cryst. (1986). **A42**, 47-55

Neutron Diffraction Investigation of the Nuclear and Magnetic Extinction in MnP

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(Received 8 May 1985; accepted 22 August 1985)

Abstract

The absolute values of the reflecting powers ρ are measured for the 200 and $2 \pm \tau, 0, 0$ set of magnetic and nuclear reflections in the helimagnetic phase of a good-quality crystal of MnP as a function of its thickness. Severe and very different extinction effects are observed for the magnetic and nuclear reflections ($y_{\text{magnetic}} \sim 0.4$, $y_{\text{nuclear}} \sim 0.02$ for the largest thickness). This corresponds to the spectacular result that the magnetic reflecting powers ρ_{\pm} are twice as big as the nuclear one ρ_N , in spite of the fact that the scattering cross sections $|F_{\pm}|^2$ are about ten times smaller than the nuclear $|F_N|^2$. The nuclear results appear consistent with dynamical theory while the magnetic ones are not. They can be explained by Zachariasen's type II secondary extinction model based on the chirality domain pattern. The same measurements were performed in the ferromagnetic phase, yielding $y_{\text{ferro}} \approx 0.03$. A model using the relative sizes of the ferromagnetic and chirality domains is presented.

I. Introduction

The basic publication on extinction for the neutron case, within the framework of the mosaic model, is now nearly forty years old (Bacon & Lowde, 1948). Since then most of the improvements introduced to correct the extinction of the intensities diffracted by a single-crystal sample originate from the theory based on the Darwin energy transfer equations

worked out by Zachariasen (1967). This theory was modified to take into account the anisotropy of the extinction by Coppens & Hamilton (1970) and Thornley & Nemes (1974). The formalism was reconsidered and improved by Cooper & Rouse (1970) and Becker & Coppens (1974*a, b*) in order to apply it to spherical or ellipsoidal crystals, the theory being extended to non-spherical crystals with anisotropic extinction by Becker & Coppens (1975).

The main limitation of Zachariasen's theory is in its kinematical approach to the scattering, as pointed out by Werner (1969, 1974): the coherence of the transmitted and diffracted beams is not taken into account, and so this method does not appear to be suitable for correction for severe primary extinction. Another approach, starting from the dynamical theory of diffraction, was worked out for distorted crystals by several authors (Klar & Rustichelli, 1973; Gronkowski & Malgrange, 1984; Kulda, 1984), but mainly by Kato (1976), who has partially reconciled the two approaches. He shows that for optical coherence lengths smaller than the extinction distance Λ the new treatment leads to the usual coupling equations. Kato (1980) has also developed a consistent statistical theory of extinction covering the whole range of crystal quality from perfect (dynamical theory) to ideally imperfect (kinematical approximation). The results of this last theory have recently been compared to those of previous ones (Becker & Dunstetter, 1984) and experimentally tested using polarized neutrons (Guigay, Schlenker, Baruchel & Schweizer, unpublished).