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# Correctly weighted tetrahedron method for $\boldsymbol{k}$-space integration 

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#### Abstract

The analytical integration of a linearly interpolated function commonly used in the tetrahedron integration (TI) method is not correct and the calculated quantities do not satisfy crystal symmetry. We propose an improved method wherein the integration is restricted to a minimal volume which covers the irreducible part of the Brillouin zone with microcubes in contrast to those by Kleinman and Hanke and co-workers. We also extend this to a hexagonal crystal. The $k$-points in the correctly weighted Tl method are shown to have the characteristics of special points and give accurate values for an insulator. The efficiency of the present method is discussed in comparison with the conventional ti method.


## 1. Introduction

The tetrahedron integration (TI) method introduced by Lehmann and Taut [1] and Jepson and Anderson [2] has been used extensively for the $k$-space integration of a function $f(k)$ in many theoretical studies of solid state physics. The integral over the irreducible part of the Brillouin zone (IBZ) is replaced by the sum of integrals over nonoverlapping (micro)tetrahedra filling the IBZ [3] where the four vertices of a tetrahedron are on the mesh points setting appropriately in the BZ for which the values of $f(\boldsymbol{k})$ are given through some involved calculations, and inside the tetrahedron the integration is carried out analytically by using linear interpolation. Despite its efficiency, the TI method needs a relatively large number of $k$-points to attain a desired accuracy. However, the number of $k$-points is limited because the $k$-space integration is a part of other large numerical calculations such as total energy or self-consistent bandstructure calculations. Recently, Kleinman [4] pointed out that the misweighting of the $k$-points in the TI method produces an unexpectedly large error for the number of $k$-points usually used in realistic calculations [5]. Furthermore, calculated quantities do not satisfy the crystal symmetry. To remedy this deficiency, Kleinman proposed that for cubic crystals the integration should be taken over the whole BZ of a cubic superlattice which contains one, two and four BZS of SC, FCC and BCC, respectively. This super BZ is divided into (micro)cubes by using a cubic mesh. Each of the cubes is further subdivided into six equal-volume tetrahedra to which the TI method is to be applied. However, since the volumes of integration are 48, 96 and 192 times larger than those of the TI method currently used [6-9] for SC, FCC and BCC, respectively, Kleinman's method is rather time consuming.

For the FCC crystal, Hanke et al [10] give an improvement by using $\frac{1}{8}$ of the cubic super BZ where a cube is divided into non-equal-volume tetrahedra.

The misweighting problem results from the fact that the $k$-points on or near the surfaces and corners of the IBZ are not treated correctly due to the use of linear interpolation. In this paper we will show that this problem can be avoided within the framework of linear interpolation by using the cubes which cover completely the IBZ and the superposition of twelve tetrahedra derived by two different schemes of division of a cube as will be shown in section 3: Kleinman substantially uses 48 tetrahedra for a cube derived by eight different schemes of division to attain the correct weighting for the $k$ points in the sC IBZ. The present method also satisfies crystal symmetry. Numerical comparisons of the present method with the conventional TI method by Skriver [9] will be given in section 4 . The application to non-cubic crystals will be discussed in the appendix.

## 2. Tetrahedron integration

We will now consider the calculation of the following integral over the bz with the volume $\Omega$ by the TI method as

$$
\begin{equation*}
I=\frac{1}{\Omega} \int_{\mathrm{BZ}} f(k) \theta\left(\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}-\varepsilon(k)\right) \mathrm{d} k \simeq \frac{1}{4 \Omega} \sum_{i} w_{i} v_{i} \sum_{j=1}^{4} c_{i j}\left(\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}\right) f\left(\boldsymbol{k}_{i j}\right) \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}$ and $\varepsilon(k)$ denote, respectively, the Fermi energy and the band energy of a wave vector $\boldsymbol{k}, \theta$ denotes the unit step function and the suffix $i$ runs over non-equivalent tetrahedra in the BZ. In (2.1) $v_{i}$ and $w_{i}$ are the volume and multiplicity of the $i$ th tetrahedron with the wave vectors at its vertices given by ( $\boldsymbol{k}_{i 1}, \boldsymbol{k}_{i 2}, \boldsymbol{k}_{i 3}, \boldsymbol{k}_{i 4}$ ). Hereafter we assume that all tetrahedra have the same volume $v_{\mathrm{t}}$ and that the vertices are rearranged in the order of $\varepsilon_{1} \leqslant \varepsilon_{2} \leqslant \varepsilon_{3} \leqslant \varepsilon_{4}$ with $\varepsilon_{j}=\varepsilon\left(k_{i j}\right)$ and the coefficients $c_{i j}\left(\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}\right)$ become 0 for $\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}<\varepsilon_{1}$ and 1 for $\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}} \geqslant \varepsilon_{4}$, respectively. When the Fermi surface is present inside the $i$ th tetrahedron, $c_{i j}$ can be calculated by using the linear interpolations $\varepsilon(k)=\varepsilon_{j}+a \cdot\left(k-k_{j}\right)$ and $f(\boldsymbol{k})=f_{j}+\boldsymbol{b} \cdot\left(\boldsymbol{k}-\boldsymbol{k}_{j}\right)$ where $\boldsymbol{a}$ and $\boldsymbol{b}$ are determined by the values $\varepsilon_{j}$ and $f_{j}$ at the four vertices of the tetrahedron. Here we suppressed the suffix $i$ for simplicity. The results are given as follows
(i) for $\varepsilon_{1} \leqslant \varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}<\varepsilon_{2}$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
c_{j}=\left[4 \delta_{j 1}+\sum_{m=1}^{4}\left(\delta_{m j}-\delta_{j 1}\right) \Delta_{m 1}\right] \Delta_{21} \Delta_{31} \Delta_{41} \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

(ii) for $\varepsilon_{2} \leqslant \varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}<\varepsilon_{3}$ :

$$
\begin{gather*}
c_{j}=\left[1+\left(\delta_{j 1}-\delta_{j 4}\right) \Delta_{14}\right] \Delta_{41}-\left[\delta_{j 3}+\Delta_{j, 5-j}+\left(\delta_{j 1}+\delta_{j 3}\right) \Delta_{j, 4-j}\right] \Delta_{13} \Delta_{23} \Delta_{41} \\
+\left[\delta_{j 2}+\Delta_{j, 5-j}+\left(\delta_{j 2}+\delta_{j 4}\right) \Delta_{j, 6-j}\right] \Delta_{14} \Delta_{32} \Delta_{42} \tag{2.3}
\end{gather*}
$$

(iii) for $\varepsilon_{3} \leqslant \varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}<\varepsilon_{4}$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
c_{j}=1-\left[4 \delta_{j 4}+\sum_{m=1}^{4}\left(\delta_{m j}-\delta_{j 4}\right) \Delta_{m 4}\right] \Delta_{14} \Delta_{24} \Delta_{34} \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\Delta_{i j^{\prime}}=\left(\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}-\varepsilon_{j}\right) /\left(\varepsilon_{j}-\varepsilon_{j^{\prime}}\right)$ and $\delta_{i j}$ denotes the Chronecker delta. Equations (2.2)-


Figure 1. Numbering scheme for the eight vertices of a cube and a prism.

Table 1. Schemes of division of a cube and a prism into six equal-volume tetrahedra. A set of four integers represents a tetrahedron in the cube or the prism whose vertices are numbered according to figure 1.

| $\boldsymbol{S}_{1}$ | 1247 | 2346 | 2368 | 2467 | 2678 | 3568 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\boldsymbol{S}_{2}$ | 1238 | 1345 | 1358 | 1457 | 1578 | 4567 |
| $\boldsymbol{S}_{3}$ | 1237 | 1345 | 1456 | 1567 | 2378 | 3578 |
| $\boldsymbol{S}_{4}$ | 1246 | 1267 | 2348 | 2678 | 3458 | 4568 |
| $\boldsymbol{S}_{5}$ | 1246 | 1267 | 2346 | 2356 | 2568 | 2678 |
| $\boldsymbol{S}_{6}$ | 1248 | 1478 | 2348 | 3458 | 4568 | 4678 |

(2.4) create no calculational problem even if some of the values of $\varepsilon_{j}$ have the same values in the respective cases. For the integration on the Fermi surface the coefficients of $f\left(k_{i j}\right)$ are given by $\partial c_{i j} / \partial \varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}$.

## 3. Application to cubic crystals

For an insulator, $f\left(\boldsymbol{k}_{i j}\right)$ at the four vertices of a tetrahedron have the same weights (volume elements reduced by $\Omega$ ) due to the use of the linear interpolation. Thus the results obtained depend upon the way in which the IBZ is divided into tetrahedra, since every vertex of a cube does not have the same weight when equation (2.1) is applied to six equal-volume tetrahedra in a cube in contrast to the three-dimensional trapezoidal rule which is a correct linear approximation: in the conventional TI [9] and Kleinman's methods the weights associated with $f\left(k_{i j}\right)$ for the eight vertices of a cube become 6,2 , $2,2,6,2,2,2$ and $1,5,3,3,1,5,3,3$, respectively, all in units of $v_{\mathrm{t}} / 4 \Omega$ (see figure 1 ). Therefore, we must pay particular attention to the $k$-points on or near the surfaces of the IBZ when we apply (2.1) to the integration over the IBZ. The situation is unchanged when the Fermi surface is present.

Following Kleinman, we take a cubic super BZ with the edge length of $4 \pi / \lambda a$ where $\lambda$ is taken to be equal to 2 for SC and 1 for FCC and BCC, respectively, and $a$ is the lattice constant of the respective crystals. We divide it into $(2 N)^{3}$ cubes with edge length of $2 \pi / \lambda N a$ and number the vertices of each cube as shown in figure 1 . If we subdivide each cube with the volume $v_{\mathrm{c}}=\Omega /(2 N)^{3}$ into six equal-volume tetrahedra according to the two schemes $S_{1}$ and $S_{2}$ shown in table 1 and superpose these with a weighting factor $\frac{1}{2}$,
then we have the same weights $p_{i j}=v_{\mathrm{c}} / 8 \Omega$ for each vertex of the $i$ th cube in accordance with the three-dimensional trapezoidal rule. This allows us to reduce the domain of the integration to $\frac{1}{8}$ of the cubic super BZ . The wavevector of the vertex 1 of the $i$ th cube is written in the Cartesian coordinates as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{k}_{i 1}=(2 \pi / \lambda N a)\left(n_{i 1}, n_{i 2}, n_{i 3}\right) \tag{3.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $0 \leqslant n_{i j}<N$. We represent the $i$ th cube by the triplet $\left(n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right)$ where the suffix $i$ is suppressed. Since the cubes having the triplets obtained by permutations of ( $n_{1}, n_{2}$, $n_{3}$ ) give the equivalent contributions to the integral, we can restrict the integer $n_{j}$ further to $N>n_{1} \geqslant n_{2} \geqslant n_{3} \geqslant 0$. The multiplicity $w_{s}\left(n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right)$ of a non-equivalent cube becomes $8,24,24$ and 48 , respectively, for $n_{1}=n_{2}=n_{3}, n_{1}=n_{2} \neq n_{3}, n_{1} \neq n_{2}=n_{3}$ and otherwise. The number of non-equivalent $k$-points, $N_{k}$, is given by $(N+1)(N+2)(N+3) / 6$. For a cube for which more than two of the $n_{j}$ are equal, some vertices are outside the IBZ. In this case we rearrange ( $n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}$ ) of these vertices to ( $n_{1}^{\prime}, n_{2}^{\prime}, n_{3}^{\prime}$ ) with $n_{1}^{\prime} \geqslant n_{2}^{\prime} \geqslant n_{3}^{\prime}$ by a permutation using the cubic symmetry.

For the FCC and BCC crystals we can reduce the number of non-equivalent cubes further than in the SC crystal. In the case of FCC cubes ( $n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}$ ) and ( $N-n_{3}-1$, $N-n_{2}-1, N-n_{1}-1$ ) give equivalent contributions to the integral, so we can restrict $n_{j}$ further to $n_{1}+n_{2}+n_{3}<\frac{3}{2} N$. Since the cubes with $n_{1}+n_{2}+n_{3} \leqslant \frac{3}{2} N-3$ and those with $\frac{3}{2} N-3<n_{1}+n_{2}+n_{3}<\frac{3}{2} N$ have one and no equivalent cube, the multiplicities $w\left(n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right)$ of these cubes are given by $2 w_{\mathrm{s}}$ and $w_{\mathrm{s}}$ with $w_{\mathrm{s}}$ as the quantity defined in the sc case. $N_{k}$ is given by $(N+2)\left(N^{2}+N+6[N / 2]+6\right) / 12$ with [x] as the Gauss symbol. For BCC, a cube ( $n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}$ ) has three equivalent cubes given by $\left\{n_{1}, N-n_{2}-1, N-n_{3}-1\right\},\left\{N-n_{1}-1, n_{2}, N-n_{3}-1\right\}$ and $\left\{N-n_{1}-1, N-n_{2}-\right.$ $\left.1, n_{3}\right\}$ where $\left\{n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right\}$ means that the components are taken to be in descending order. Thus we can restrict $n_{j}$ further to $n_{1}+n_{2}<N$ and $w\left(n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right)=4 w_{\mathrm{s}}$ for $n_{1}+n_{2} \leqslant N-2$. For a cube $\left(n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right)$ with $n_{1}+n_{2}=N-1, w$ is given by $w_{\mathrm{s}}, \frac{4}{3} w_{\mathrm{s}}$ and $2 w_{\mathrm{s}}$ for $n_{1}=n_{2}=n_{3}, \quad n_{1} \neq n_{2}=n_{3}$ and otherwise, respectively, and $N_{k}=$ $(N+3)\left(N^{2}+3 N+6[N / 2]+8\right) / 24$. Though for both cases there appear to be instances where some vertices of a cube are outside the IBZ, the values of $\varepsilon_{j}$ and $f_{j}$ for these vertices can be expressed by those inside the IBZ by using the cubic symmetry.

As can be seen from the above discussions, for FCC and BCC the $k$-points are not necessarily on the surfaces or corners of the respective IBZ, i.e. we can choose $N$ to be an arbitrary integer in contrast to the TI method currently used [6-9]. Though there are, of course, other possibilities to attain the correct weighting by using, for example, the two schemes $S_{3}$ and $S_{4}$ shown in table 1, these give substantially the same results: there are small differences in determination of the Fermi surface inside each cube.

## 4. Discussion

For interesting cases in the application of $\boldsymbol{k}$-space integration, $f(\boldsymbol{k})$ is a totally symmetric function of the system considered and has the translational symmetry in the reciprocal lattice. In this case $f(\boldsymbol{k})$ can be written in terms of the Fourier series of the direct lattice as

$$
\begin{align*}
& f(\boldsymbol{k})=\sum_{l} F\left(\boldsymbol{R}_{l}\right) g_{l}(\boldsymbol{k})  \tag{4.1}\\
& g_{l}(\boldsymbol{k})=\sum_{S}^{\prime} \exp \left(\mathrm{i} \boldsymbol{k} \cdot \boldsymbol{S \boldsymbol { R } _ { l }}\right) \tag{4.2}
\end{align*}
$$

Table 2. Comparison of $\left\langle g_{l}(k)\right\rangle_{\varepsilon}$ calculated by the present method with those of Skriver's by the single tight-band models with $\varepsilon=\varepsilon_{\mathrm{b}}+0.7 \mathrm{~W}$. The symbol S denotes the values by Skriver's method and the correct values are calculated by using more than $10^{4}$ points in the respective crystals. The averaged absolute errors (in units of $10^{-2}$ ) of the density of state $\langle | \Delta D(\varepsilon)\rangle$ are obtained from 200 energy points.

| $N_{k}$ | $R_{l}\left[l_{1}, l_{2}, l_{3}\right]$ |  |  |  |  | $\langle \| \Delta D(\varepsilon)\rangle$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FCC | 000 | 110 | 200 | 211 | 220 |  |
| 44 | 0.62 | 2.55 | 0.08 | -0.72 | -0.41 | 1.5 |
| 85 | 0.62 | 2.62 | 0.07 | -0.77 | -0.43 | 1.0 |
| 85 S | 0.61 | 2.53 | -0.02 | -0.58 | -0.20 | 1.2 |
| Correct | 0.62 | 2.67 | 0.08 | -0.85 | -0.48 |  |
| BCC | 000 | 111 | 200 | 220 | 311 |  |
| 55 | 1.76 | 1.15 | -0.71 | -0.60 | 0.40 | 0.6 |
| 55 S | 1.77 | 1.16 | -1.04 | 0.14 | 0.71 | 1.1 |
| Correct | 1.75 | 1.24 | -0.76 | -0.64 | 0.39 |  |
| HCP | 000 | 100 | 001 | 210 | 101 |  |
| 64 | 0.41 | 5.18 | -0.02 | -0.75 | -4.39 | 1.6 |
| 64 S | 0.42 | 5.16 | -0.07 | -0.40 | -0.36 | 1.9 |
| Correct | 0.41 | 5.34 | -0.02 | -0.89 | -4.99 |  |
| DIA | 000 | 110 | 200 | 211 | 220 |  |
| 44 | 2.87 | -2.31 | 0.86 | 1.30 | -0.06 | 2.5 |
| 85 | 2.86 | -2.40 | 0.92 | 1.47 | -0.11 | 1.6 |
| 85 S | 2.87 | -1.70 | 0.86 | 2.65 | 0.83 | 2.0 |
| Correct | 2.86 | -2.45 | 0.97 | 1.60 | -0.12 |  |

where $F\left(\boldsymbol{R}_{l}\right)$ is the Fourier coefficient and $\boldsymbol{R}_{l}$ denotes the representative or star of the translation vectors connected mutually through $\boldsymbol{R}_{l^{\prime}}=S \boldsymbol{R}_{l}$ where $S$ acts as the point group parts of the symmetry operations and the prime on the summation means that the operations $\boldsymbol{R}_{l}=S \boldsymbol{R}_{l}$ are excluded except for the identity. The $\boldsymbol{k}$-space integration of (4.1) is written as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\langle f(k)\rangle_{\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}}=F(\mathbf{0})+\sum_{l=1}^{\infty} F\left(\boldsymbol{R}_{l}\right)\left\langle g_{l}(k)\right\rangle_{\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}} \tag{4.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where we take $l$ as $0<\left|\boldsymbol{R}_{1}\right| \leqslant\left|\boldsymbol{R}_{2}\right| \leqslant \ldots$ and $g_{0}(\boldsymbol{k})=1$. In cubic crystals we write $\boldsymbol{R}_{l}$ in the Cartesian coordinates as $(\lambda / 2)\left(l_{1}, l_{2}, l_{3}\right) a$ with $\lambda$ defined in section 3 and in a hexagonal crystal we write it as $l_{1} t_{1}+l_{2} t_{2}+l_{3} t_{3}$ with $t_{1}, t_{2}$ and $t_{3}$ as the basis vectors of the direct lattice defined, respectively, by $(\sqrt{3} / 2,-1 / 2,0) a,(0,1,0) a$ and $(0,0,1) c$ with $a$ and $c$ as the lattice constants where $l_{j}$ is an integer for all cases. Hereafter we express $\boldsymbol{R}_{l}$ by $\left[l_{1}, l_{2}, l_{3}\right]$. From equations (3.1), (4.2) and (A.1) we can see that for an insulator $\left\langle g_{l}(k)\right\rangle_{\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}}$ vanishes except for [ $2 N l_{1}, 2 N l_{2}, 2 N l_{3}$ ] and $\left[N_{1}\left(l_{1}+l_{2}\right), N_{1}\left(2 l_{1}-l_{2}\right), 2 N_{3} l_{3}\right.$ ] in cubic and hexagonal crystals, respectively. Therefore the integral (4.3) is represented accurately by $F(0)$ when $N_{k}$ becomes large: the $k$-points in the present method have the characteristics of the special points [11, 12]. In Skriver's method [9] the non-vanishing terms in the summation of (4.3) start from [1, 1, 0$],[1,1,0],[1,1,1]$ and $[1,0,0]$ for SC,

Table 3. Some of the interpolated values $\varepsilon^{\prime}(k)$ (in Ryd) of $55 k$-points for the first conduction band of BCC iron and of $85 k$-points for the second one of FCC copper obtained by using the values of 14 and $19 k$-points as the input data for the respective crystals. The original data $\varepsilon(k)$ are taken from [13] and [14], respectively and $\boldsymbol{k}=\left(\boldsymbol{k}_{x}, \boldsymbol{k}_{y}, \boldsymbol{k}_{z}\right)$ is given in units of $\pi / 4 a$.

| BCC iron |  |  |  | FCC Copper |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\boldsymbol{k}$ | $\varepsilon^{\prime}(\boldsymbol{k})$ | $\varepsilon(\boldsymbol{k})$ |  | $\boldsymbol{k}$ | $\varepsilon^{\prime}(\boldsymbol{k})$ | $\varepsilon(\boldsymbol{k})$ |
| 110 | 0.155 | 0.154 |  | 110 | 0.292 | 0.291 |
| 221 | 0.297 | 0.286 |  | 300 | 0.263 | 0.265 |
| 300 | 0.300 | 0.297 |  | 432 | 0.284 | 0.291 |
| 421 | 0.430 | 0.426 |  | 520 | 0.235 | 0.236 |
| 441 | 0.418 | 0.418 |  | 543 | 0.284 | 0.284 |
| 521 | 0.479 | 0.467 |  | 632 | 0.252 | 0.253 |
| 610 | 0.459 | 0.455 |  | 730 | 0.245 | 0.237 |
| 700 | 0.425 | 0.424 | 821 | 0.220 | 0.218 |  |

FCC, BCC and hexagonal crystals, respectively. Thus the quantities calculated by the conventional TI method do not satisfy crystal symmetry.

In order to look into the effect of the Fermi or constant-energy surface on the TI, we have calculated $\left\langle g_{l}(k)\right\rangle_{\varepsilon}$ on the single tight-band models. The band energies of a wavevector $k=\left(k_{x}, k_{y}, k_{z}\right)$ for $\mathrm{FCC}, \mathrm{BCC}, \mathrm{HCP}$ and diamond crystals are written, respectively, as

$$
\begin{align*}
& \varepsilon_{\mathrm{FCC}}(\boldsymbol{k})=-4\left(\cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{x} a\right) \cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{y} a\right)+\cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{y} a\right) \cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{z} a\right)\right. \\
&\left.\quad+\cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{z} a\right) \cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{x} a\right)\right)  \tag{4.4}\\
& \varepsilon_{\mathrm{BCC}}(k)=-8 \cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{x} a\right) \cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{y} a\right) \cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{z} a\right)  \tag{4.5}\\
& \varepsilon_{\mathrm{HCP}}(\boldsymbol{k})=2[ \left.\varepsilon_{0}(\boldsymbol{k}) \pm\left(\frac{3}{2}+\varepsilon_{0}(\boldsymbol{k})\right)^{1 / 2}\right] \cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{z} c\right) \\
& \quad \times \varepsilon_{0}(\boldsymbol{k})=2 \cos \left[(\sqrt{3} / 2) k_{x} a\right] \cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{y} a\right)+\cos \left(\frac{1}{2} k_{y} a\right)  \tag{4.6}\\
& \varepsilon_{\mathrm{DIA}}(\boldsymbol{k})= \pm 2\left(1-\frac{1}{4} \varepsilon_{\mathrm{FCC}}(\boldsymbol{k})\right)^{1 / 2} . \tag{4.7}
\end{align*}
$$

In calculating $\left\langle g_{l}(\boldsymbol{k})\right\rangle_{\varepsilon}$ we take the energy as $\varepsilon=\varepsilon_{\mathrm{b}}+0.7 W$ with $\varepsilon_{\mathrm{b}}$ and $W$ as the bottom energies and widths of the respective bands and we include a spin factor of 2 . In table 2 we compare the values calculated by the present method with those by Skriver's where the correct values are obtained by using more than $10^{4}$ points for the respective crystals and for HCP we take $N_{3}$ in (A.1) to be $N_{1} / 2$. The density of state $D(\varepsilon)$ can be obtained by (2.1) by replacing $c_{i j}\left(\varepsilon_{\mathrm{F}}\right)$ and $f_{i j}$ by $\partial c_{i j}(\varepsilon) / \partial \varepsilon$ and 1 , respectively. In table 2 we also show the averaged absolute errors of $D(\varepsilon)$ estimated from 200 energy points. The results show that the present method gives more satisfactory values than Skriver's for all crystals considered.

For the integration of $f(\boldsymbol{k})$ over the BZ the present method gives accurate values even if $N_{k}$ is small. However, when the Fermi surface is present we need a relatively large $N_{k}$ so as to obtain correct values. For a case where only small numbers of calculated $\varepsilon(k)$ and $f(k)$ are available due to the involved calculations needed, (4.1) gives a simple and accurate interpolation formula which satisfies crystal symmetry: the Fourier series are
truncated in finite terms so as to determine $F\left(\boldsymbol{R}_{l}\right)$ from the available data by using a leastsquares fitting method. Table 3 shows the interpolated values of $\varepsilon(\boldsymbol{k})$ for the first conduction band of BCC iron [13] with $N_{k}=55$ and the second one of FCC copper [14] with $N_{k}=85$ calculated by the augmented-plane-wave method. For the input data we use the values of 14 and $19 k$-points for BCC iron and FCC copper, respectively. The interpolation is satisfactory for both cases. Since for a small value of $N_{k}$ the errors in the $k$-space integration result from poor estimations of the constant-energy or Fermi surface, we can obtain more correct values if we calculate the integration for a larger $N_{k}$ by using the interpolated values of $\varepsilon(k)$ and $f(k)$.

## Appendix

An extension of the present method to tetragonal and orthorhombic crystals can be accomplished by replacing the cube by a rectangular prism. Some modifications, however, are necessary for a hexagonal crystal. We consider the TI over the parallelepiped constructed by the three vectors $\boldsymbol{u}_{1}=\left(b_{1}+b_{2}\right) / 3, u_{2}=\left(2 b_{1}-b_{2}\right) / 3$ and $u_{3}=\frac{1}{2} b_{3}$ with $b_{i}$ as the basis vectors of the reciprocal lattice orthogonal to $t_{i}$ as defined in section 4. This domain is four-times larger than the IBZ. We divide it into $N_{1}^{2} N_{3}$ (micro)prisms using the mesh given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\boldsymbol{k}=\left(n_{1} / N_{1}\right) \boldsymbol{u}_{1}+\left(n_{2} / N_{1}\right) \boldsymbol{u}_{2}+\left(n_{3} / N_{3}\right) \boldsymbol{u}_{3} \tag{A.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

with the integers taken to be $0 \leqslant n_{1}, n_{2}<N_{1}$ and $0 \leqslant n_{3}<N_{3}$. The volume of a prism is given by $v_{\mathrm{p}}=\Omega /\left(6 N_{1}^{2} N_{3}\right)$ with $\Omega=16 \pi^{3} /\left(\sqrt{3} a^{2} c\right)$. For non-cubic crystals we define $p_{i j}$ to be $\left(v_{\mathrm{p}} / 4 \Omega\right) E\left(\hat{\boldsymbol{q}}_{1}, \hat{\boldsymbol{q}}_{2}, \hat{\boldsymbol{q}}_{3}\right)$ where $E$ denotes the spherical excess in spherical trigonometry with $\hat{q}_{j}$ as the unit vectors along the three edges associated to a vertex. The definition is in accordance with the weights given by the three-dimensional trapezoidal rule in the oblique coordinates. For the hexagonal crystal $p_{i j}$ becomes $\frac{1}{12}$ and $\frac{1}{6}$ in units of $v_{\mathrm{p}} / \Omega$, respectively, for $j=1,3,5,7$ and $2,4,6,8$ (see figure 1 ). If we subdivide each prism into six equal-volume tetrahedra according to the two schemes $S_{5}$ and $S_{6}$ given in table 1 and superpose these with the weighting factor $\frac{1}{2}$, then we have the correct weighting when we apply the TI to these tetrahedra. Considering that prisms $\left(n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right)\left(n_{2}, n_{1}, n_{3}\right),\left(N_{1}-n_{1}-1, N_{1}-n_{2}-1, n_{3}\right)$ and $\left(N_{1}-n_{2}-1\right.$, $N_{1}-n_{1}-1, n_{3}$ ) are equivalent, we can restrict $n_{j}$ to the IBZ defined by $0 \leqslant n_{2} \leqslant n_{1}<N_{1}$, $n_{1}+n_{2}<N_{1}$ and $0 \leqslant n_{3}<N_{3}$. For this case we have $w\left(n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right)$ given by 6 for $n_{1}=$ $n_{2}$ and $2 n_{1}+1=N_{1}, 12$ for $n_{1}=n_{2}$ and $2 n_{1}+1 \neq N_{1}, 12$ for $n_{1}+n_{2}=N_{1}-1$ and $2 n_{1}+1 \neq N_{1}$, and 24 for otherwise, respectively, and $N_{k}=\left(\left[N_{1} / 2\right]+1\right)$ $\left(\left[N_{1} / 2\right]-1\right)\left(N_{3}+1\right)$. Since some vertices of the prisms with $n_{1}=n_{2}$ and/or $n_{1}+n_{2}=$ $N_{1}-1$ are outside the IBZ, we rearrange ( $n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}$ ) of these vertices to ( $n_{1}^{\prime}, n_{2}^{\prime}, n_{3}^{\prime}$ ) for $n_{1}+n_{2}<N_{1}$ and ( $N_{1}-n_{2}^{\prime}, N_{1}-n_{1}^{\prime}, n_{3}$ ) for $n_{1}+n_{2} \geqslant N_{1}$ where $n_{1}^{\prime}$ and $n_{2}^{\prime}$ denote, respectively, the larger and smaller ones of $n_{1}$ and $n_{2}$ in order to express $\varepsilon\left(\boldsymbol{k}_{j}\right)$ and $f\left(\boldsymbol{k}_{j}\right)$ by those of the $k$-points inside the IBZ.

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