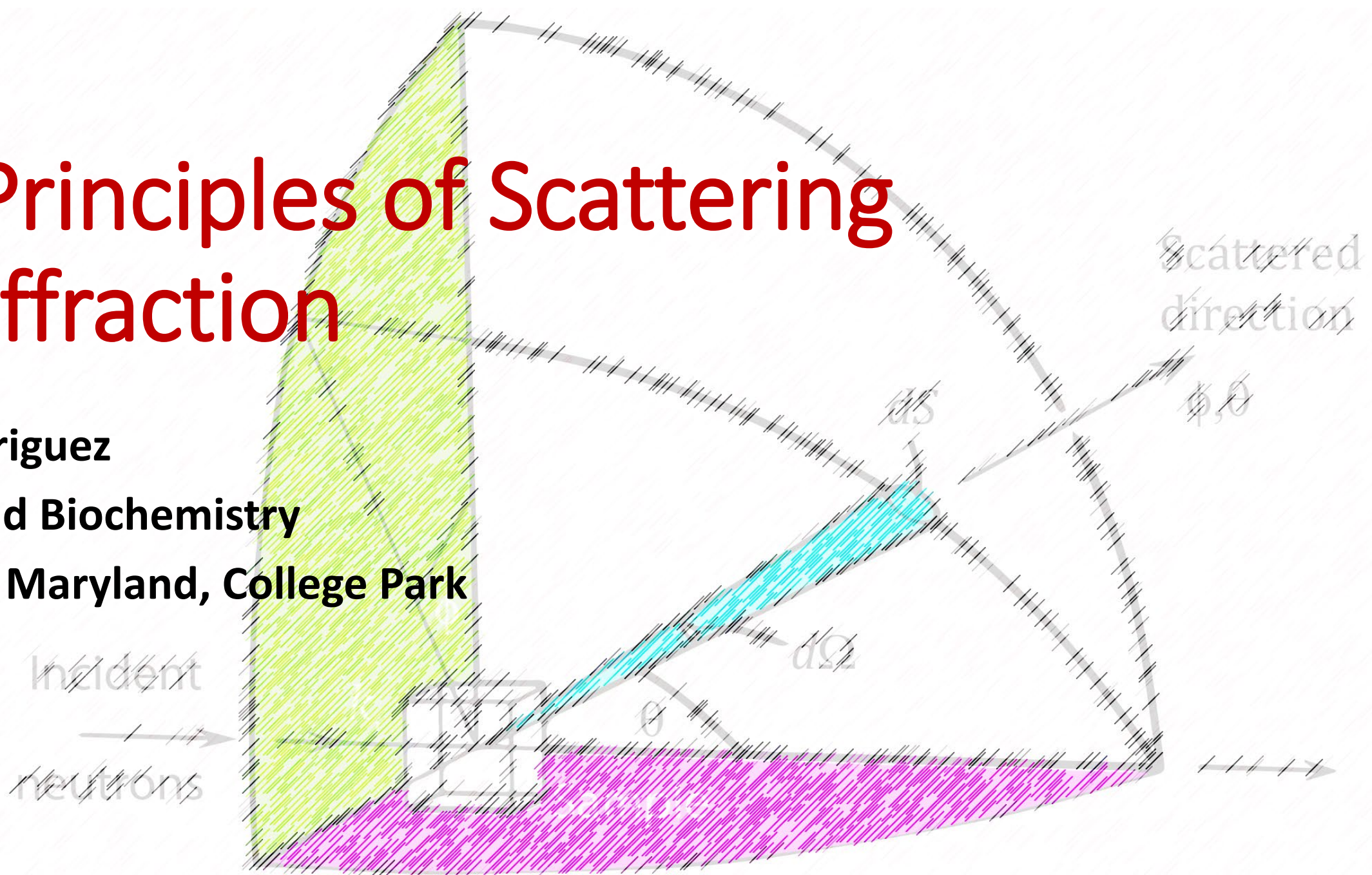


# Basic Principles of Scattering and Diffraction

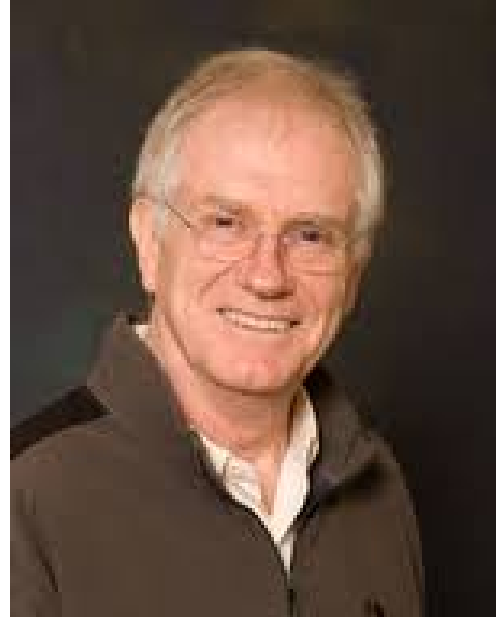
Efrain E. Rodriguez  
Chemistry and Biochemistry  
University of Maryland, College Park



# Acknowledgements



Sunil Sinha  
UC San Diego

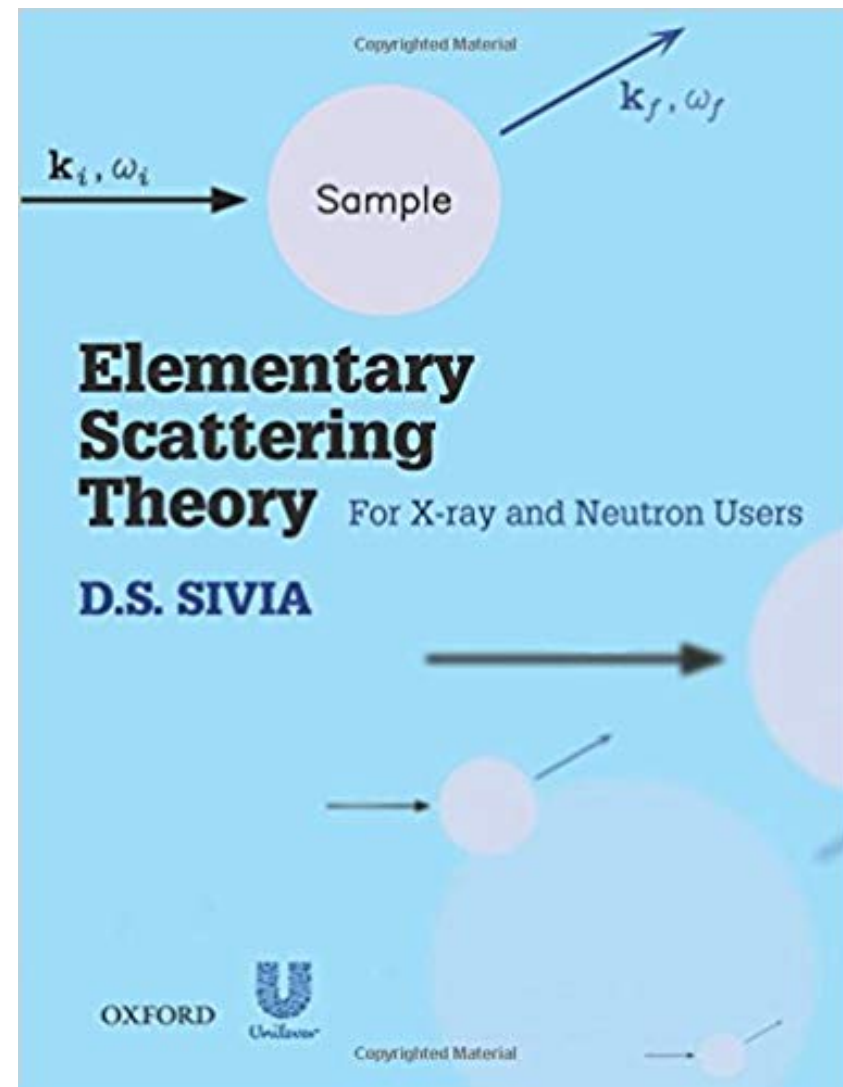


Roger Pynn  
U. Indiana



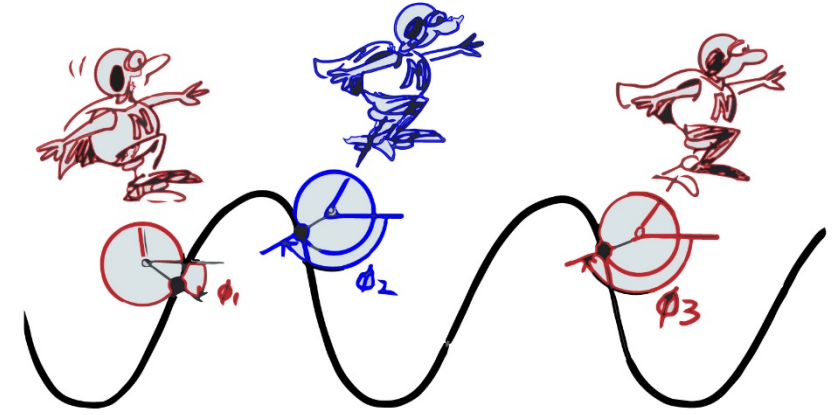
Jacob Tosado  
U. Maryland

# Acknowledgements



# Outline

1. Scattering geometry basics: Plane waves and Fourier transforms

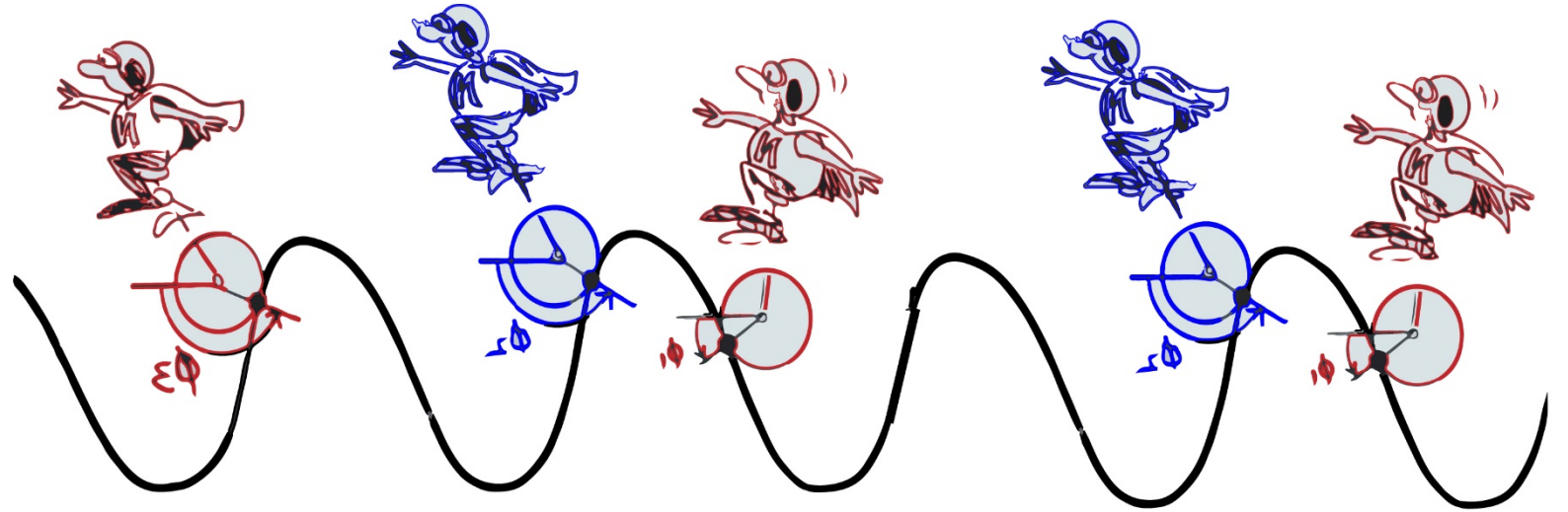
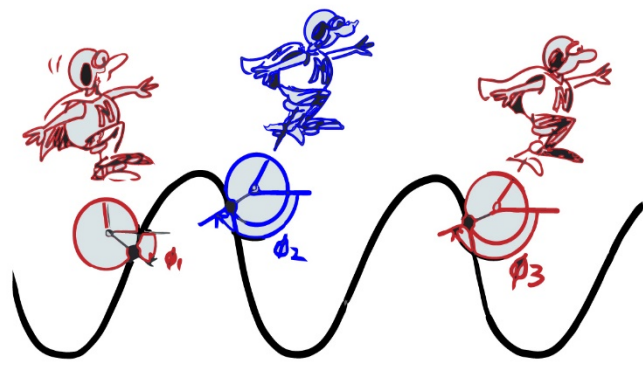


2. Scattering cross sections for neutrons and x-rays



3. Scattering from ensemble of atoms and diffraction



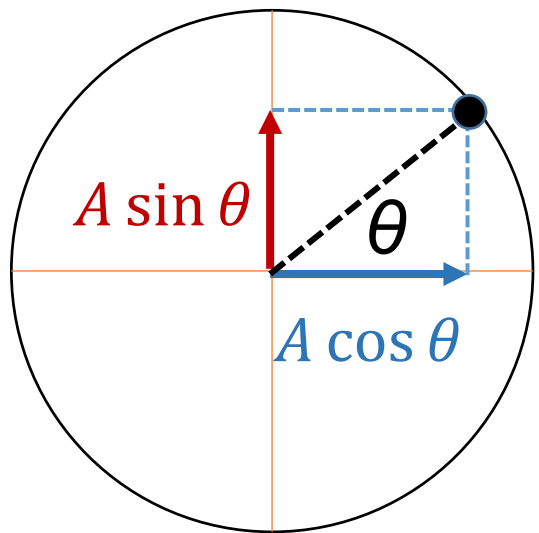


# Scattering geometry basics

Plane waves and  
Fourier transforms



# Scattering geometry basics: The sinusoidal wave



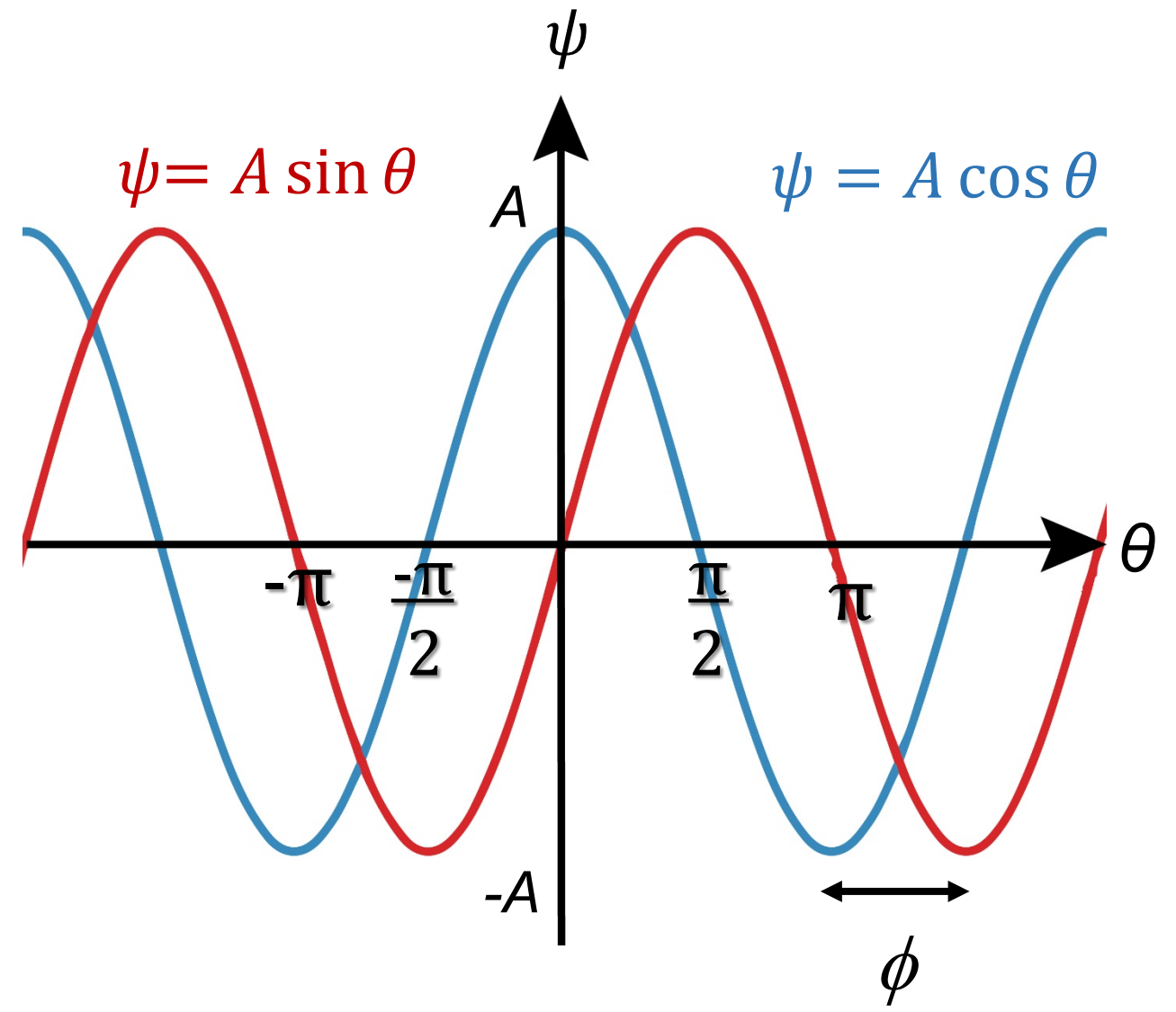
$A$  = amplitude

$\theta$  = angle

$\phi$  = phase difference

$$\cos \theta = \sin(\theta + \pi/2)$$

$$\psi = A \sin(\theta + \phi)$$



# Scattering geometry basics: The wavenumber $k$

$$\psi = A \sin(\theta + \phi)$$

$k$  = wavenumber

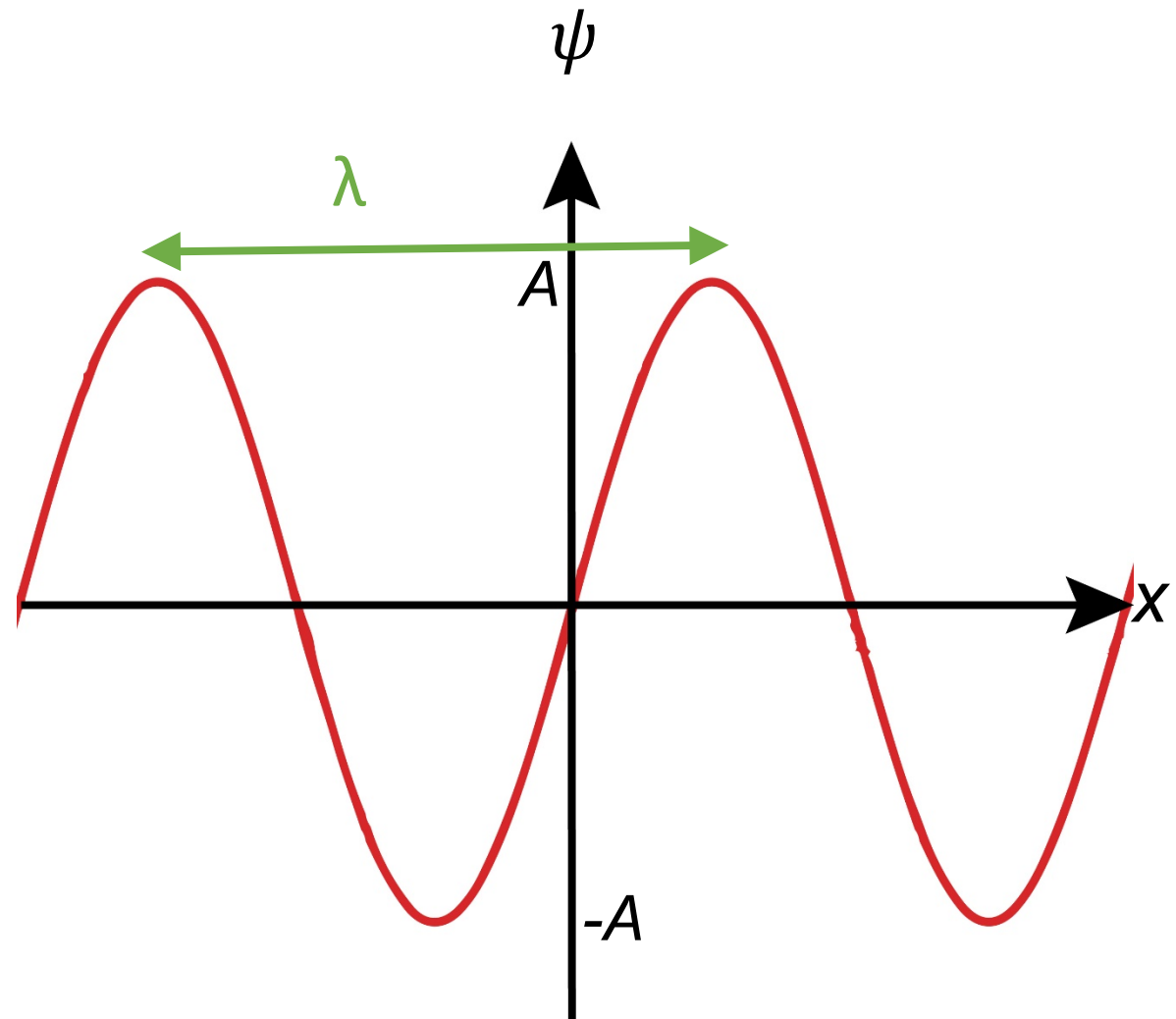
$x$  = position

$\lambda$  = wavelength

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$k$  has SI units of  $\text{rad m}^{-1}$

$$\psi = A \sin(kx + \phi)$$



# Scattering geometry basics: The travelling wave

Wave moves in  $x$ -direction with time,  $t$

$$\psi = A \sin(kx + \phi)$$

$\phi_0$  = initial phase angle

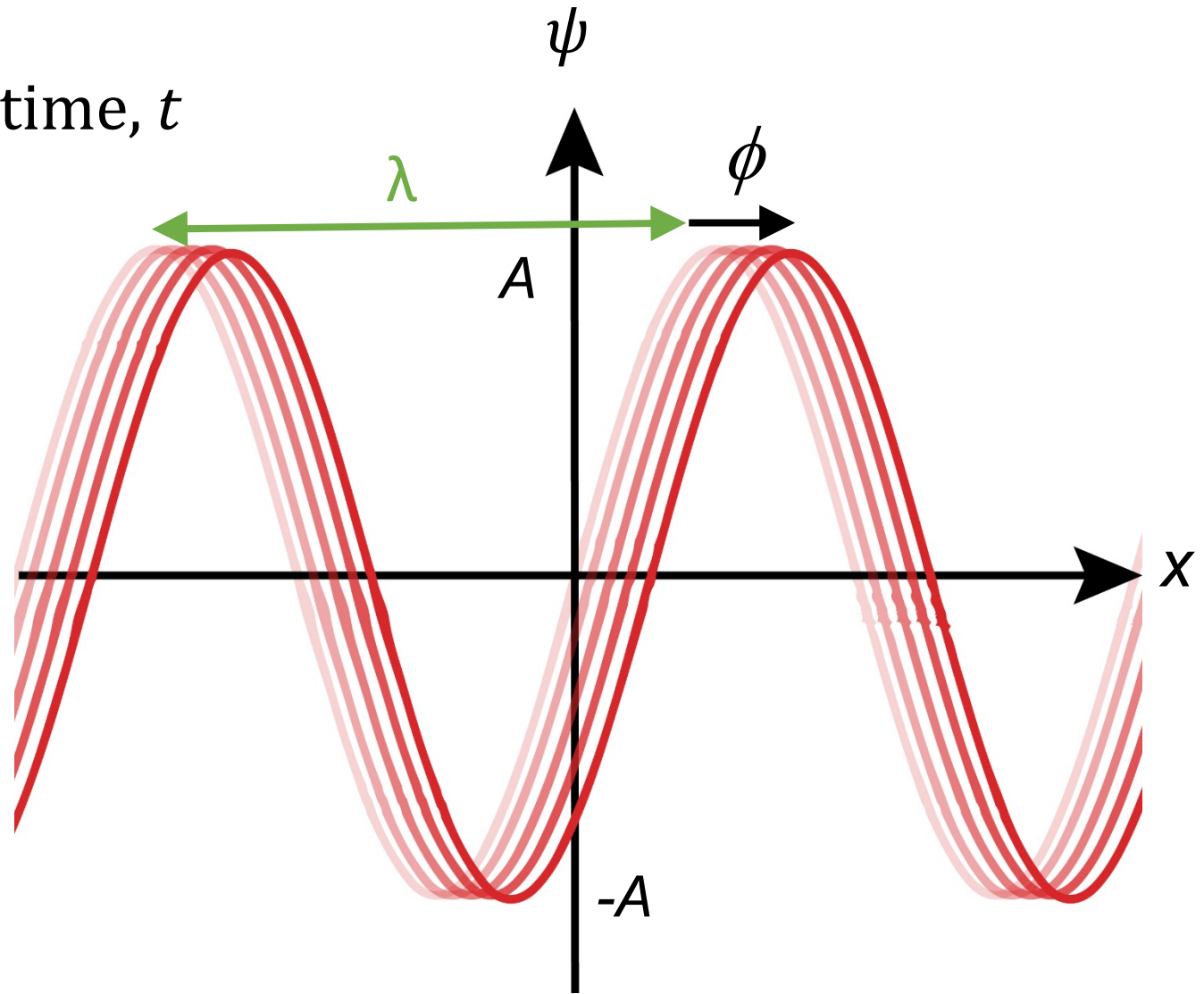
$\phi$  = phase after time  $t$

$\omega$  = angular frequency

$$\omega = 2\pi\nu$$

$$\phi = \phi_0 - \omega t$$

$$\psi = A \sin(kx - \omega t + \phi_0)$$





# Scattering geometry basics: The plane wave

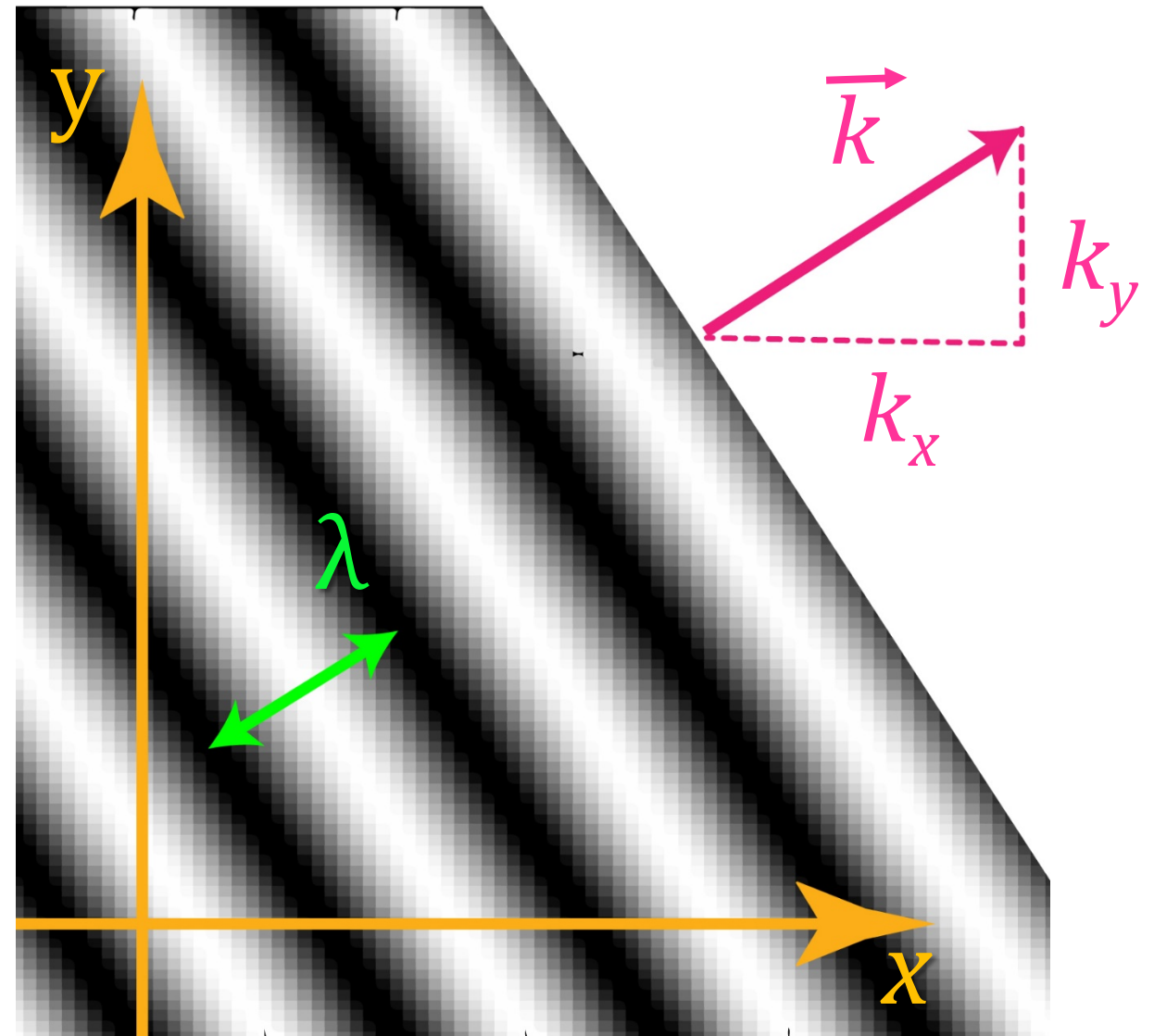
We define a plane wave:  
Amplitude in the z-direction,  
Propagates in y- and x-directions.

$\vec{r}$  = direction of propagation

$\vec{k}$  = wavevector

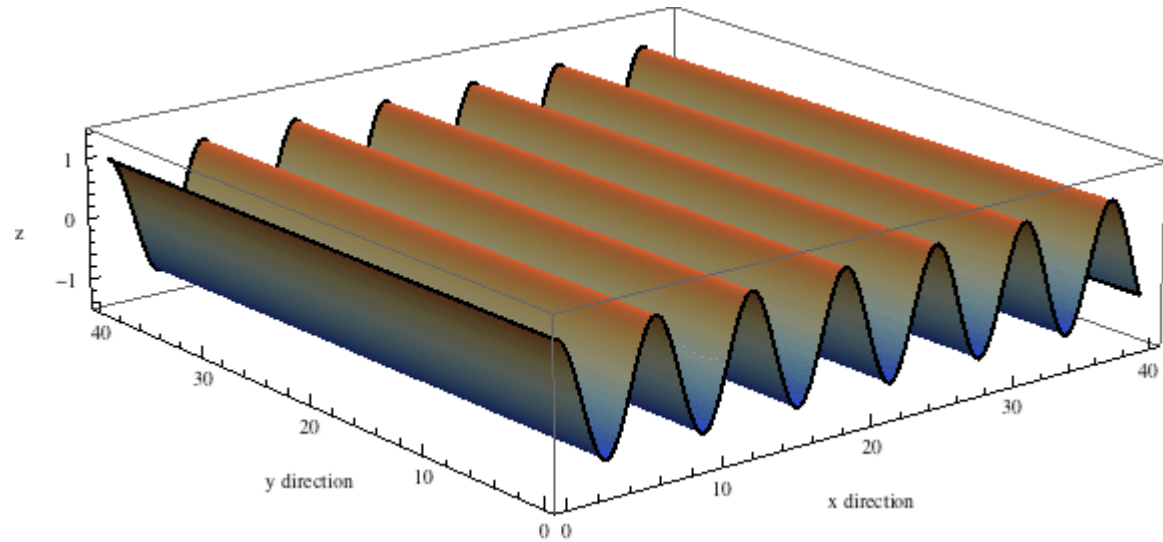
$$|\vec{k}| = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$\psi = A \sin(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t + \phi_0)$$

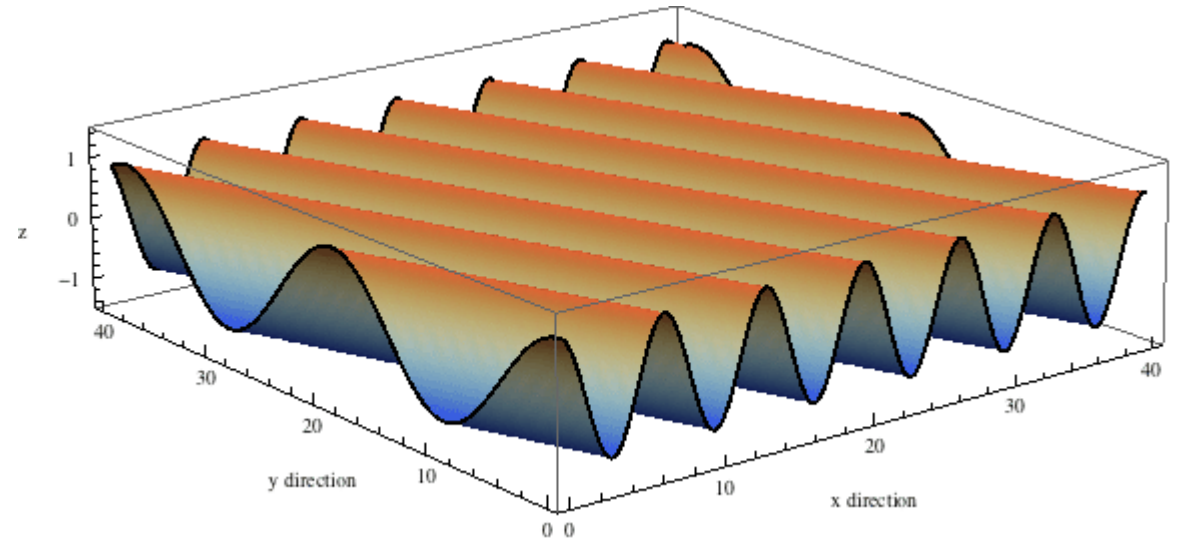


# Scattering geometry basics: The traveling plane wave

Plane wave in x-direction only



Plane wave in xy-direction



# Scattering geometry basics: Complex numbers

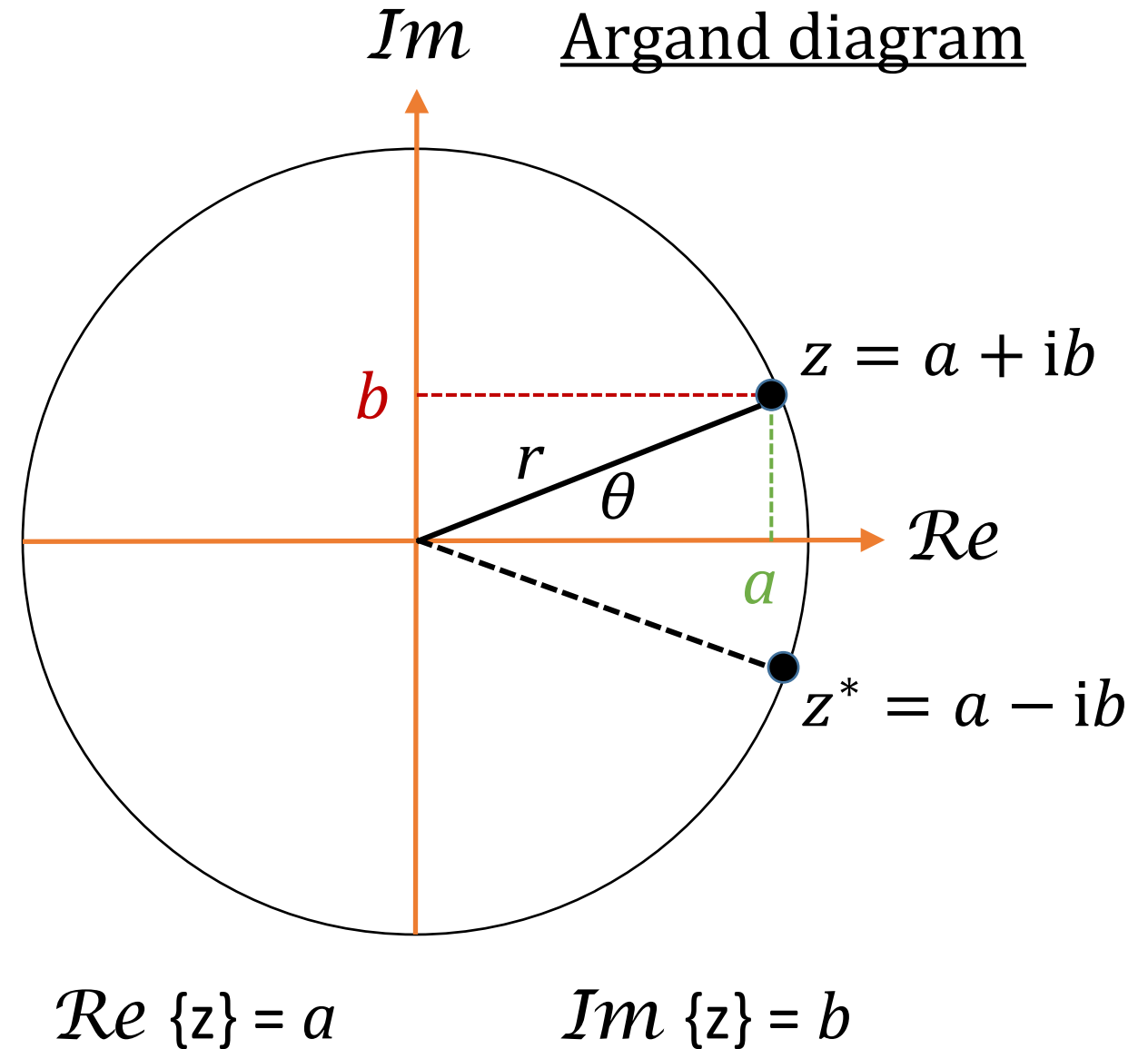
- Useful to work with exponential over sinusoidal waves
- Complex numbers allow us to simplify wavefunction equations

$i$  = imaginary number

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$$

$$\psi = A \sin(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t + \phi_0)$$

$$\psi = A e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$



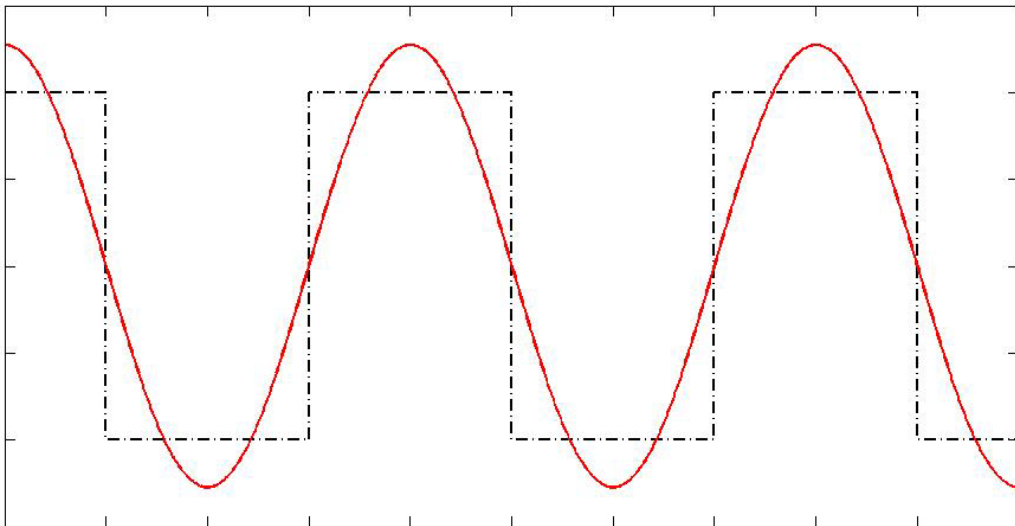
# Scattering geometry basics: The Fourier series

- We approximate a periodic structure through a sum of cosines and sines.
- Let  $f(x)$  be a function expanded by a Fourier series

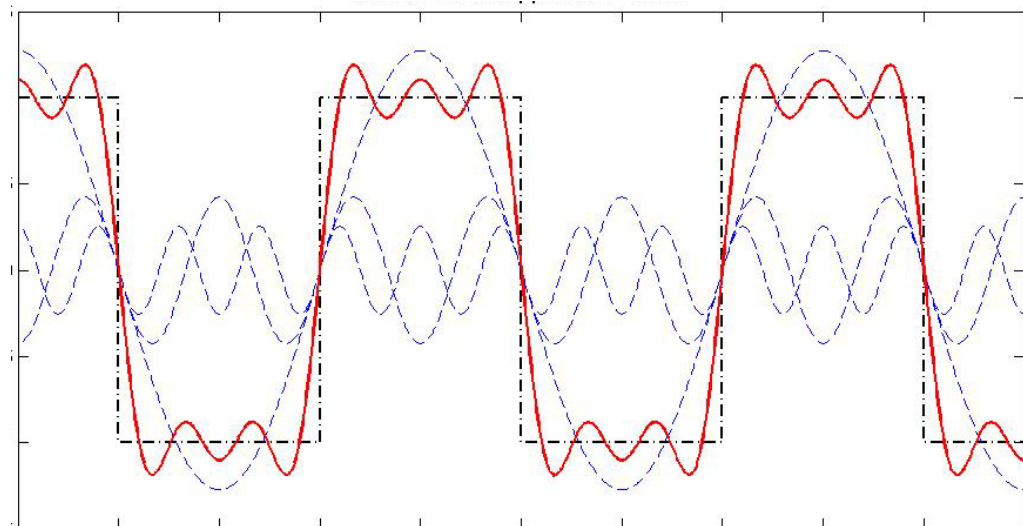
$$f(x) \approx a_0 + a_1 \cos(kx) + a_2 \cos(2kx) + a_3 \cos(3kx) + \dots \\ + b_1 \sin(kx) + b_2 \sin(2kx) + b_3 \sin(3kx) + \dots$$

Goes to  
zero if  
 $f(x) = f(-x)$

$n = 1$ , fundamental harmonic



$n = 3$ , higher harmonics included



# The Fourier coefficients

- We write sum more efficiently if we pick the coefficients correctly.
- Now a definition and not approximation.

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{inkx}$$

where  $c_{-n} = c_n^*$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^{\lambda} f(x) e^{-inkx} dx$$

- We extend the analysis to a non-periodic function
- The Fourier coefficients become continuous functions we call  $F(k)$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} F(k) \Delta k$$

# The Fourier transform

The limiting case is  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\Delta k \rightarrow 0$

- We call  $F(k)$  the Fourier transform of  $f(x)$ , and vice versa
- We can toggle between real space ( $x$ ) and reciprocal space ( $k$ )

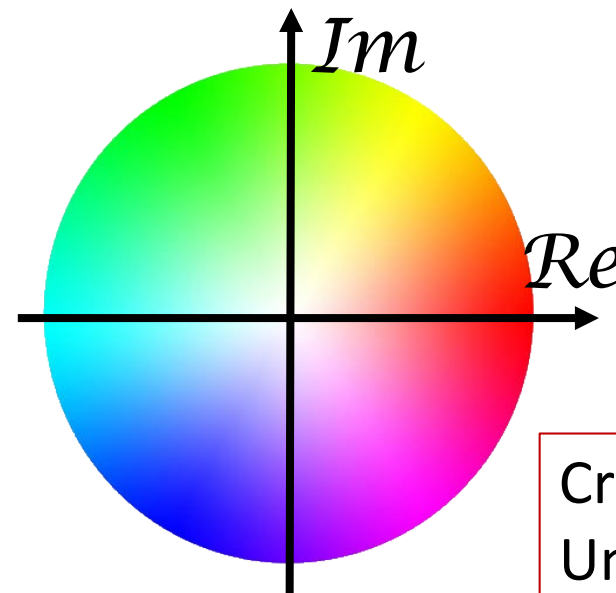
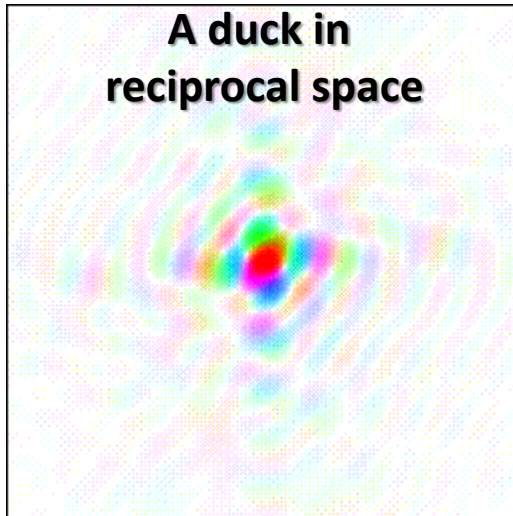
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(k) e^{ikx} dk$$

$$F(k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

A duck in real space



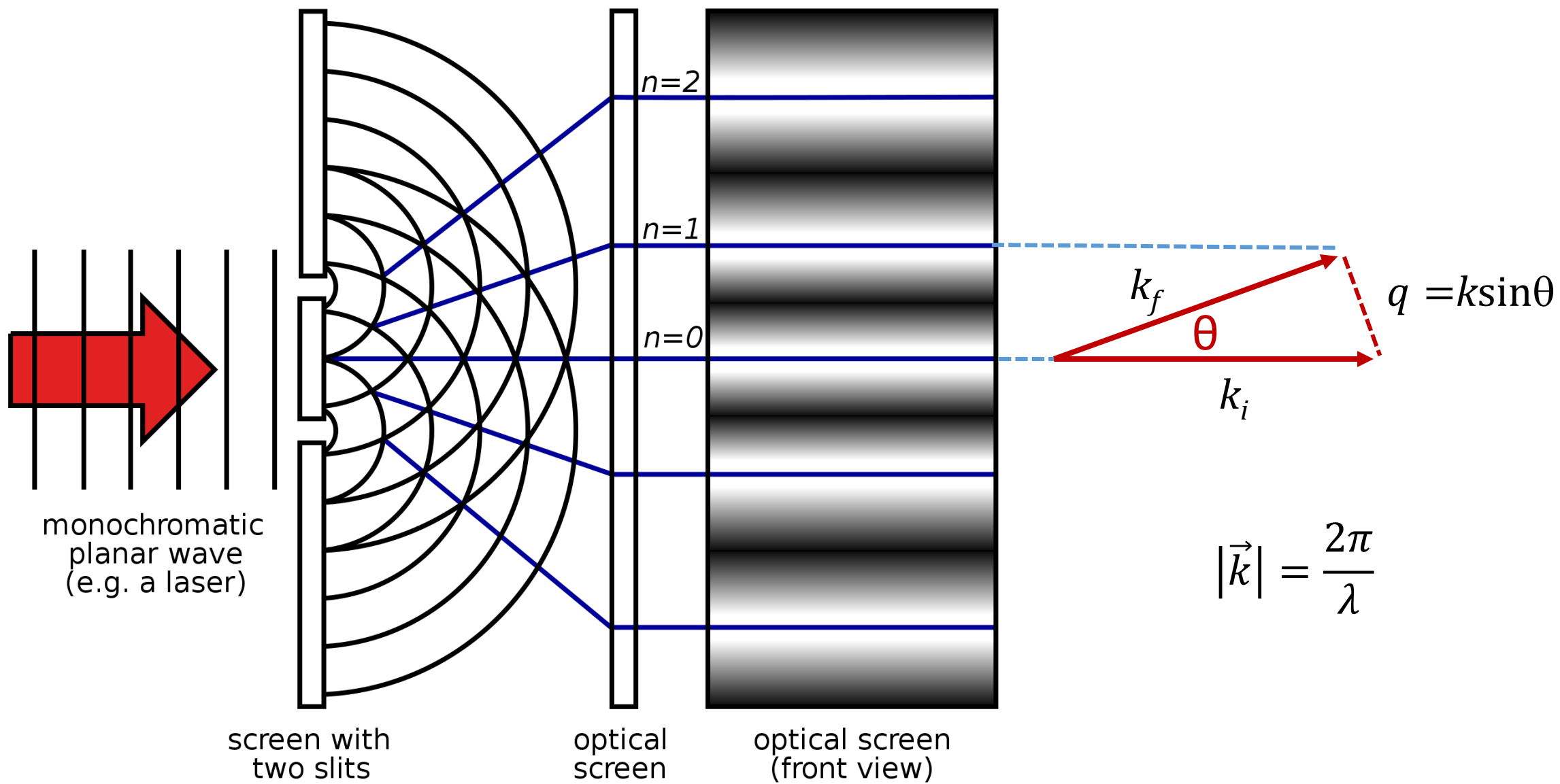
A duck in reciprocal space



Argand diagram for real and imaginary components

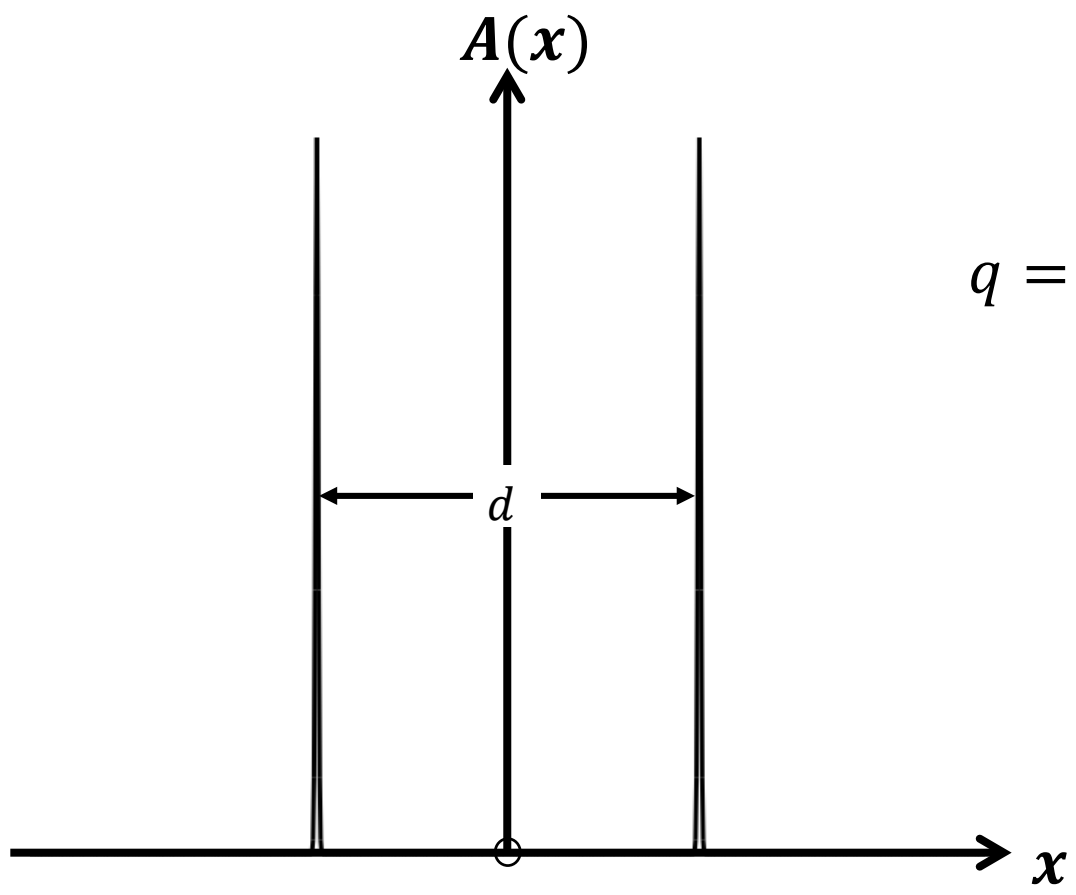
Credit: Dr. David Cowtan,  
University of York

# Fourier optics: Young's double slit experiment



# An important Fourier transform: Young's double slit

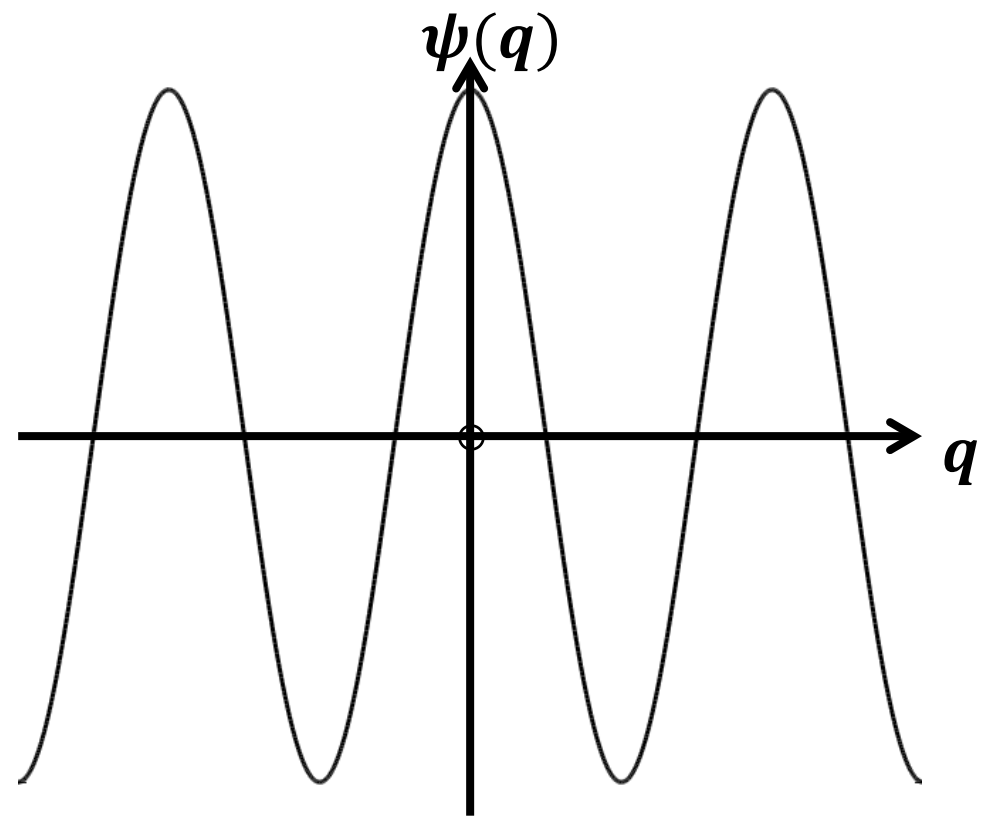
$$A(x) = \delta\left(x - \frac{d}{2}\right) + \delta\left(x + \frac{d}{2}\right)$$



$$q = \frac{2\pi \sin \theta}{\lambda}$$

$$\psi(q) = \psi_0(e^{iqd/2} + e^{-iqd/2})$$

$$\psi(q) = \psi_0 2 \cos\left(\frac{qd}{2}\right)$$



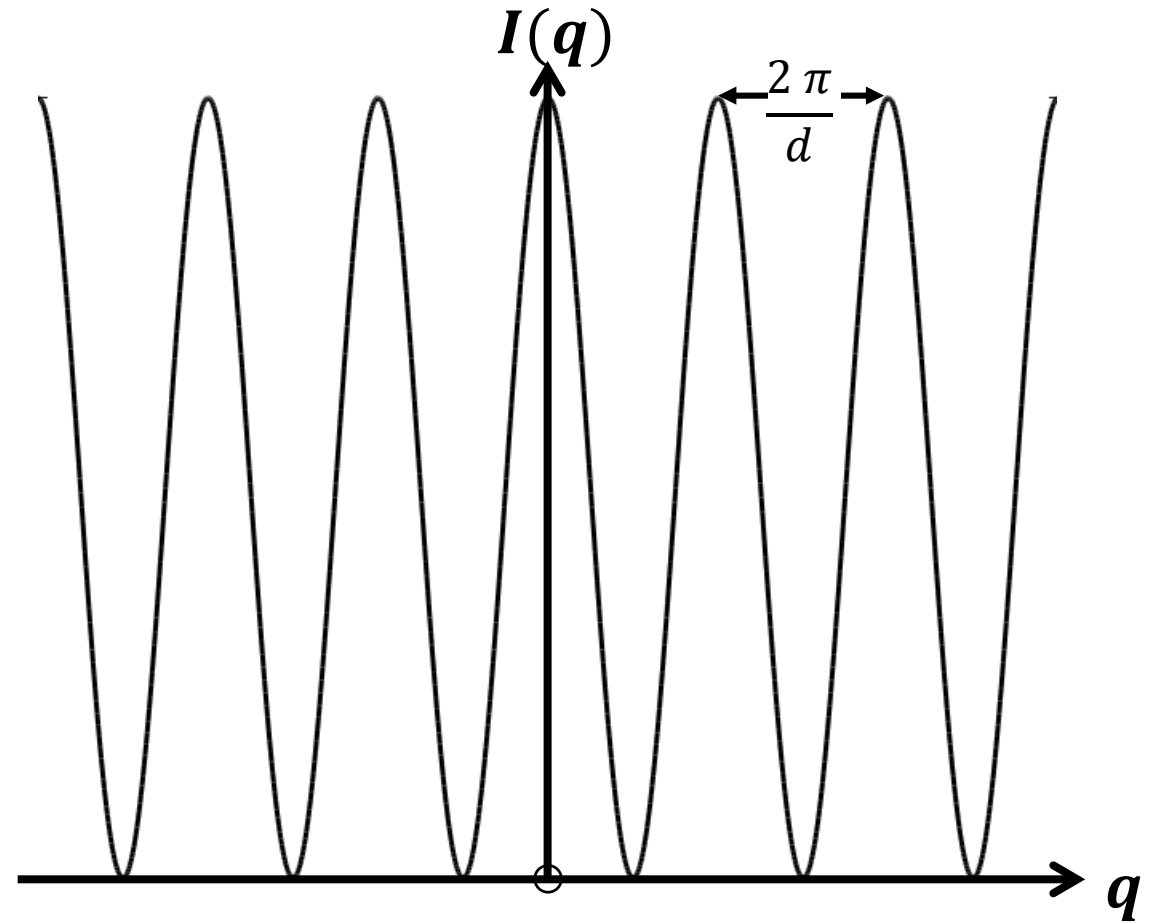
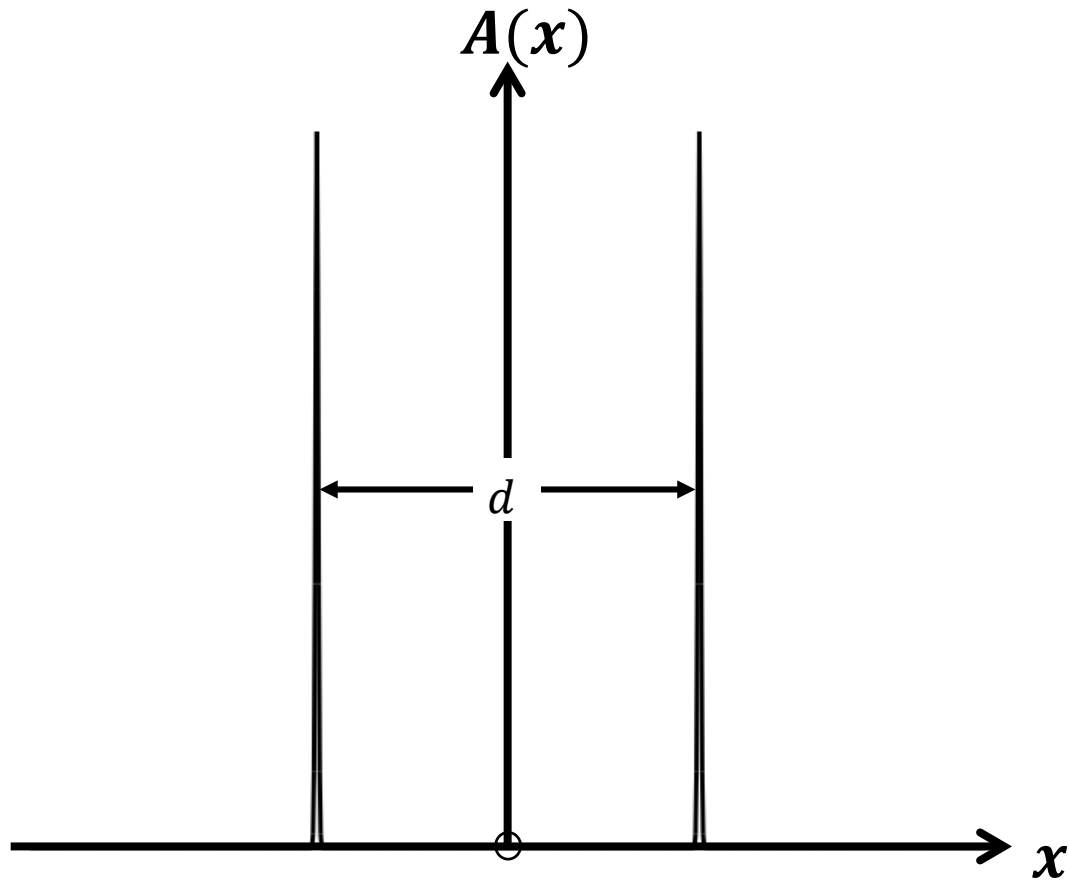


# We don't see the transform, but its amplitude squared

$I(q)$  is our intensity or diffraction function

$$I(q) \propto \left[ \cos\left(\frac{qd}{2}\right) \right]^2$$

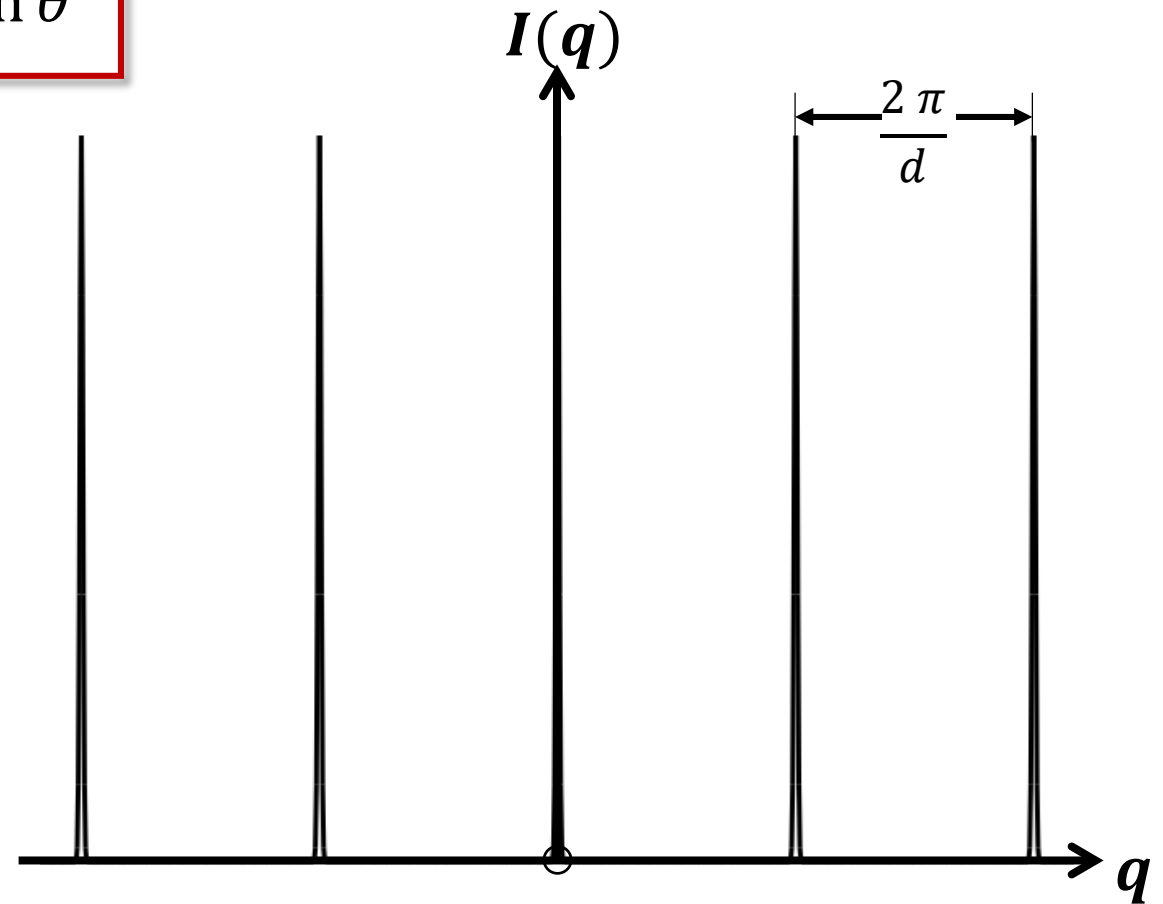
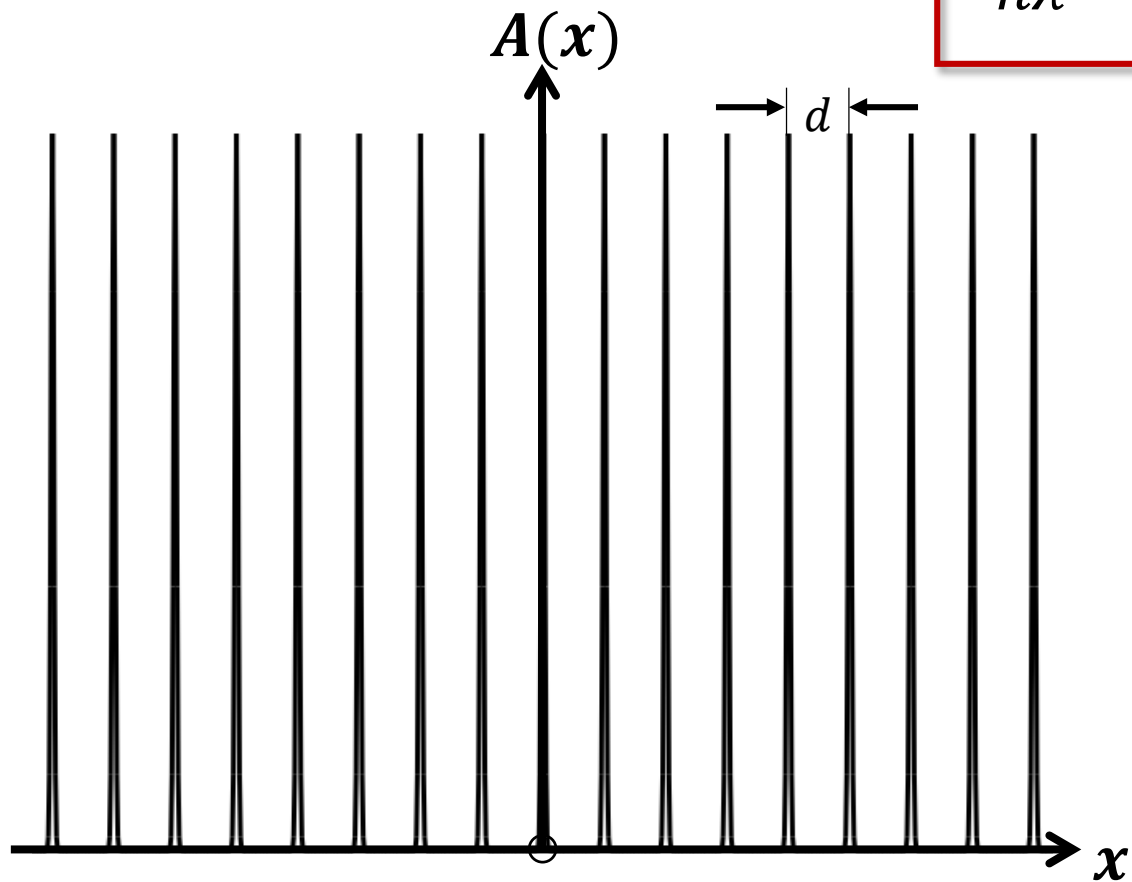
$$I(q) \propto 1 + \cos(qd)$$



# Bragg's law from Fourier transform of a diffraction grating

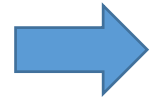
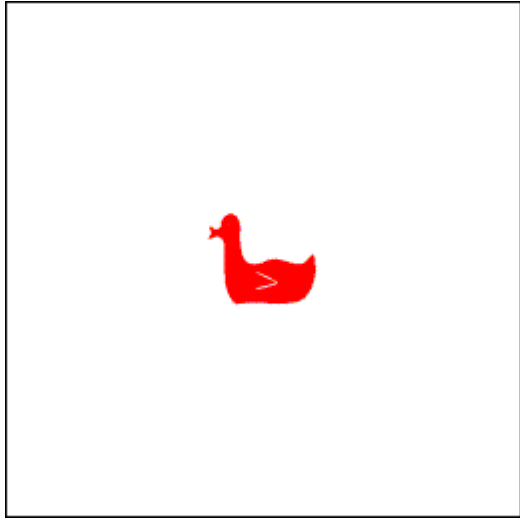
$$A(x) = \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x - md) \quad \frac{2\pi n}{d} = \frac{2\pi \sin \theta}{\lambda} \quad I(q) \propto \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(q - nq_0)$$

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

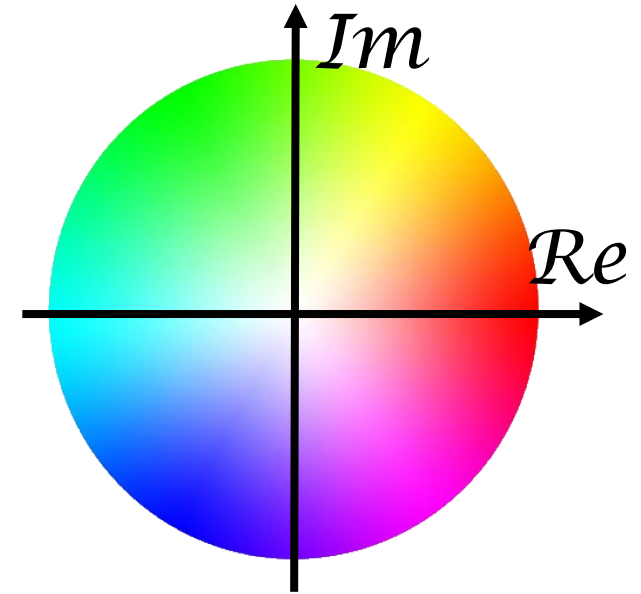
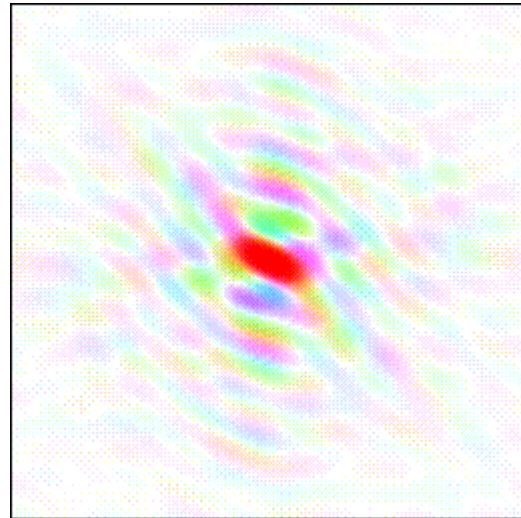
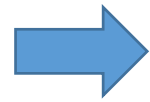
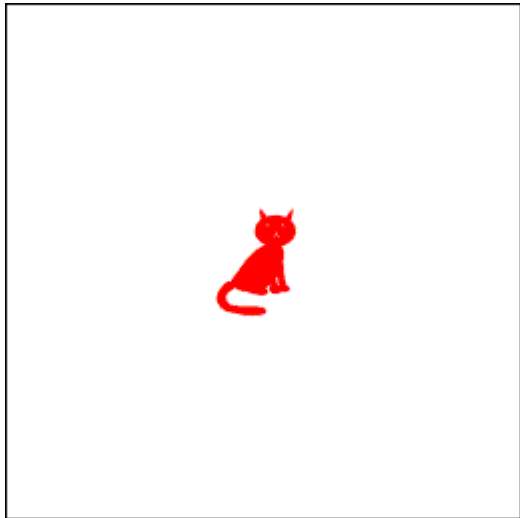
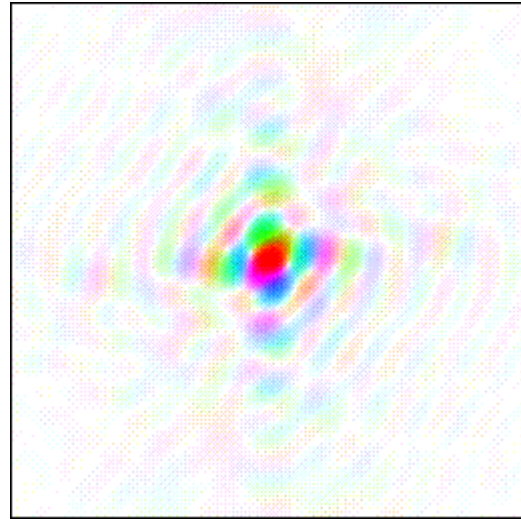


# The phase problem with cats and ducks

animals in real space



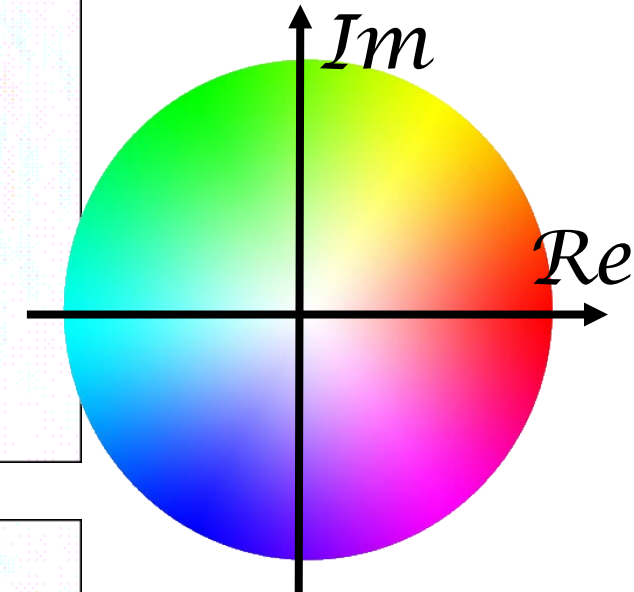
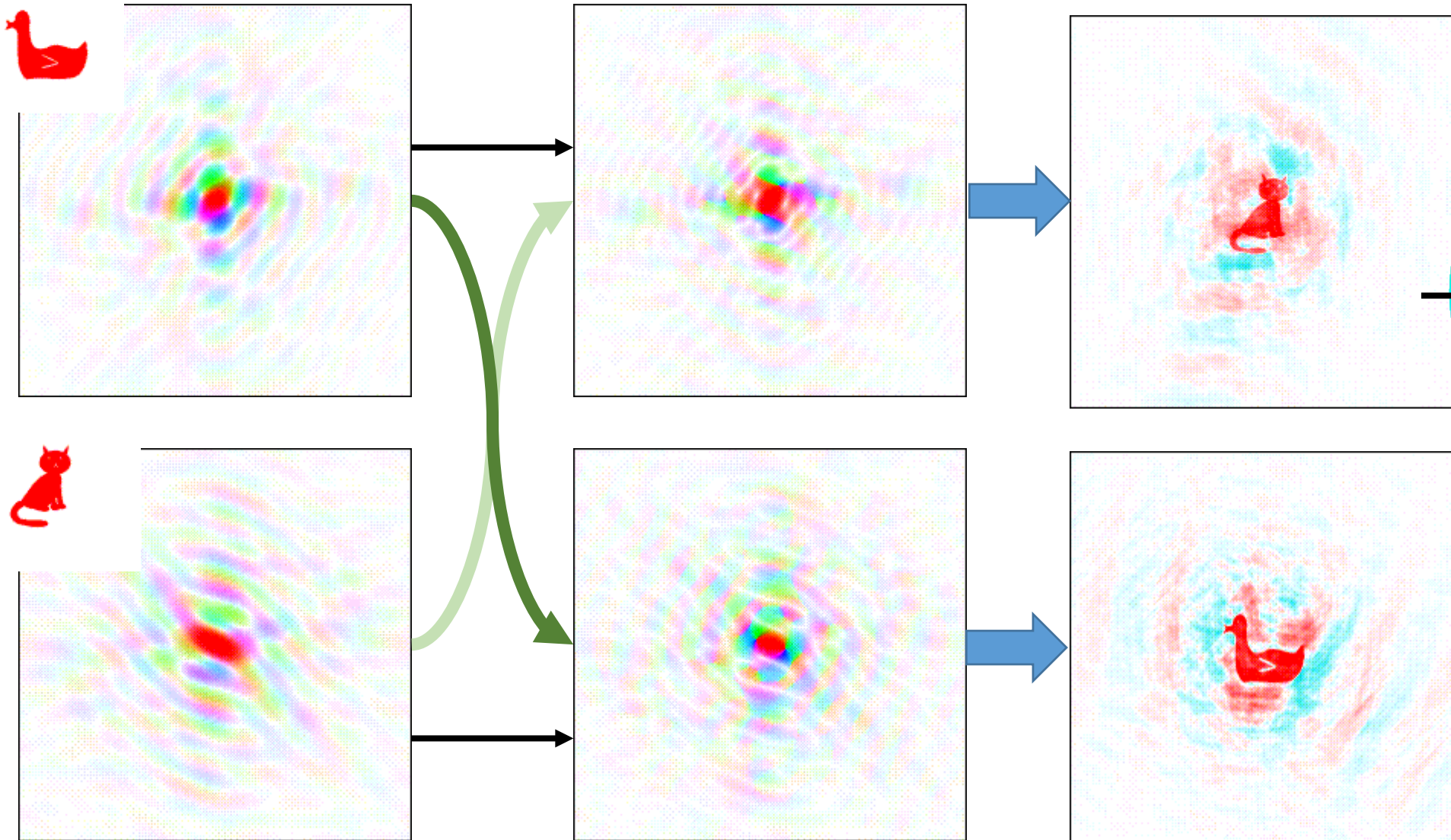
animals in reciprocal space



Credit: Dr. David Cowtan, University of York

# The phase problem, mixing phases and amplitudes

amplitudes from original animal, but  
phases from opposite animal



Credit: Dr. David  
Cowtan,  
University of York

# Scattering cross sections

neutrons and x-rays



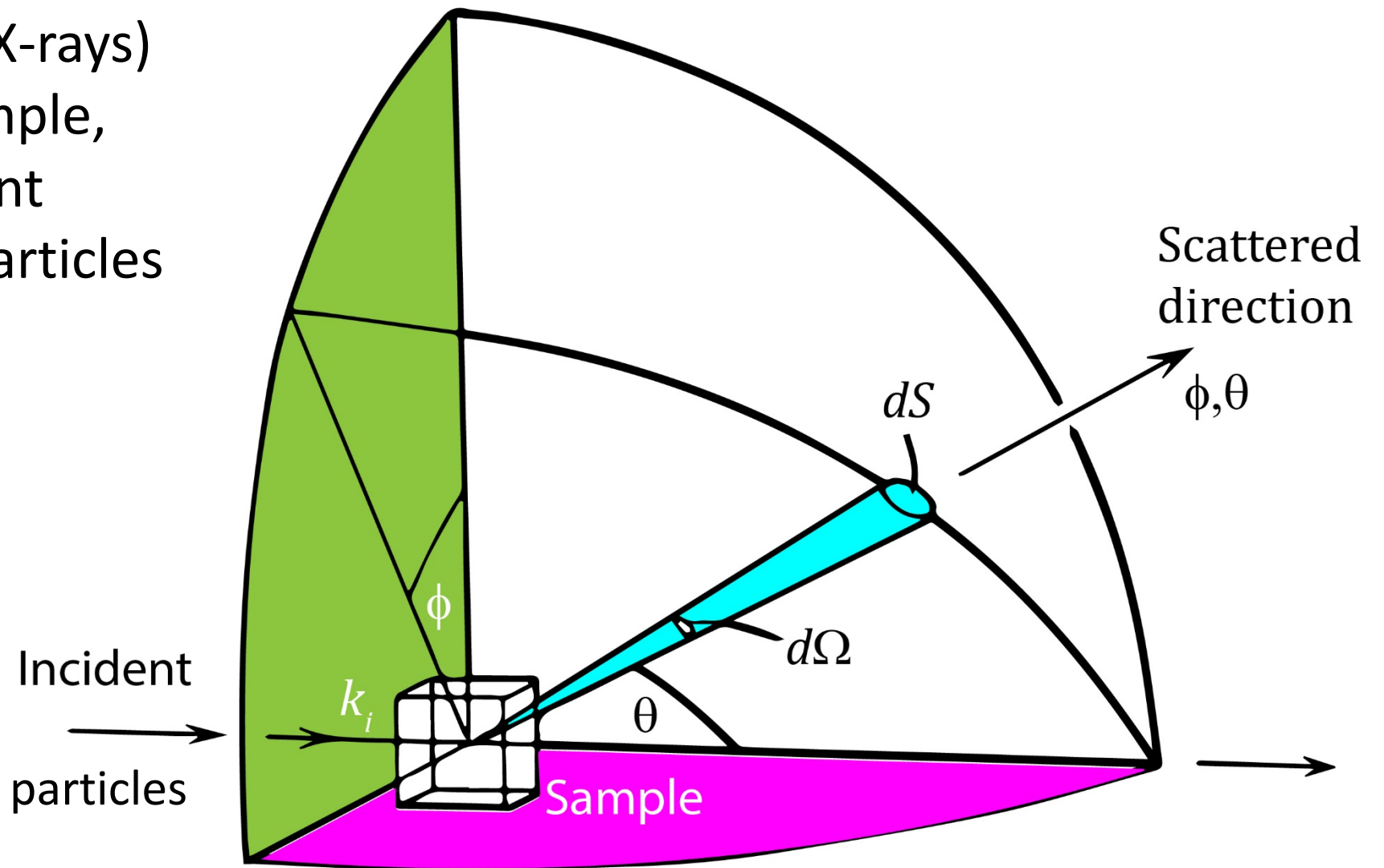
# The differential cross-section

When neutrons (or X-rays) scattered by the sample, we use  $\sigma$  to represent number scattered particles

$$d\Omega = \frac{dS}{r^2}$$

We are after the **differential cross-section**

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}$$



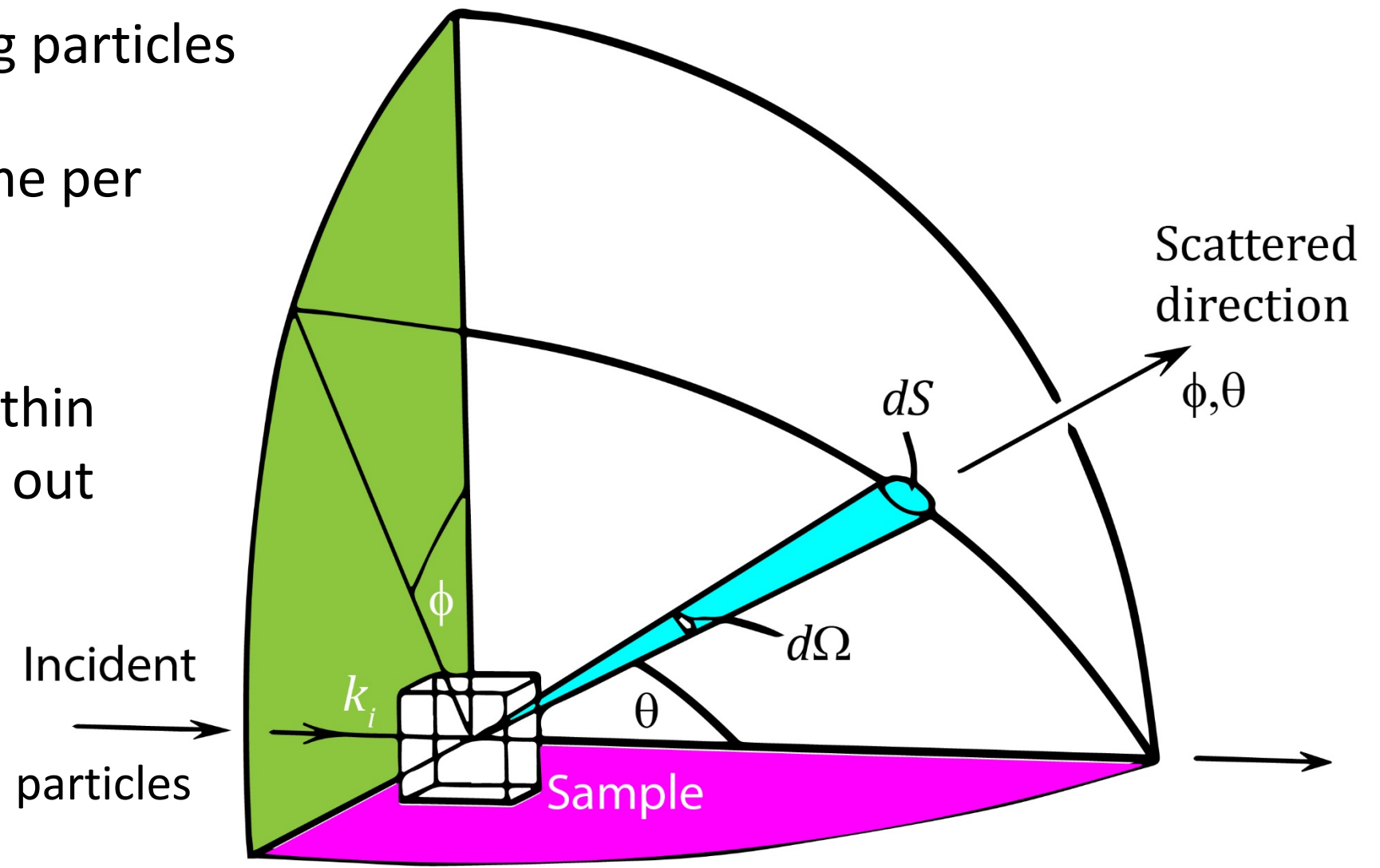
# Flux of particles from beam and scattering at a solid angle

$\Phi$  = Flux of incoming particles

Number per unit time per unit area ( $s^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )

Scattering occurs within the plane by  $2\theta$  and out by angle  $\phi$

We can define the solid angle as  $\Delta\Omega$



# The differential and double differential cross section

$\Phi$  = number of incident neutrons per  $\text{cm}^2$  per second

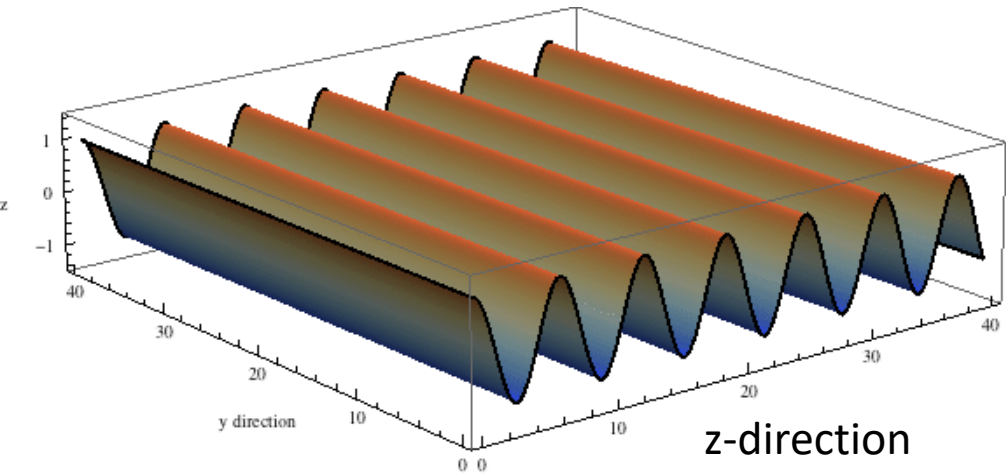
$\sigma$  = total number of neutrons scattered per second /  $\Phi$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{number of neutrons scattered per second into } d\Omega}{\Phi d\Omega}$$

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE} = \frac{\text{number of neutrons scattered per second into } d\Omega \text{ \& } dE}{\Phi d\Omega dE}$$

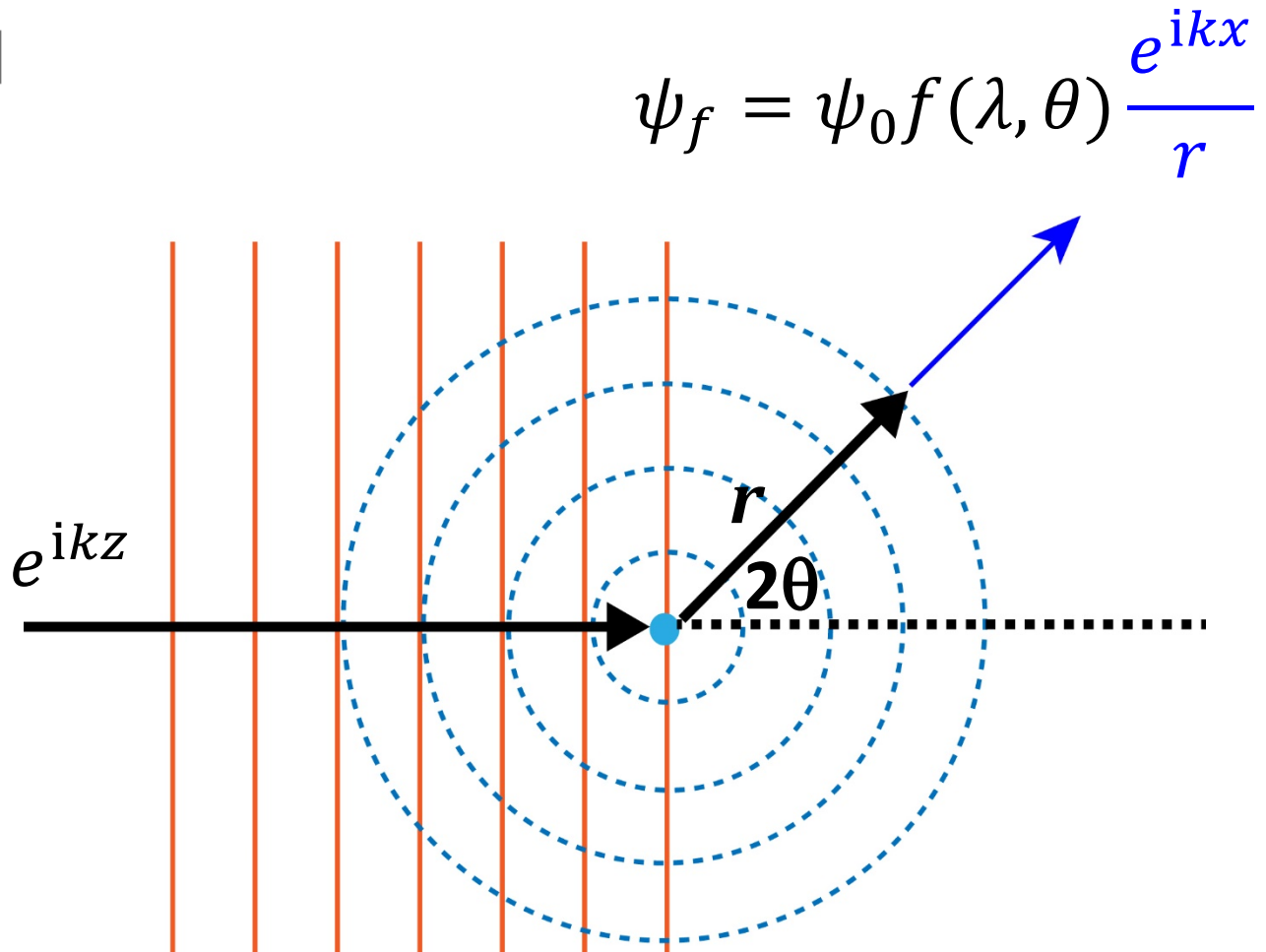


# Plane waves impinge on a single atom



Top-down view of incident plane wave arriving at atomic center.

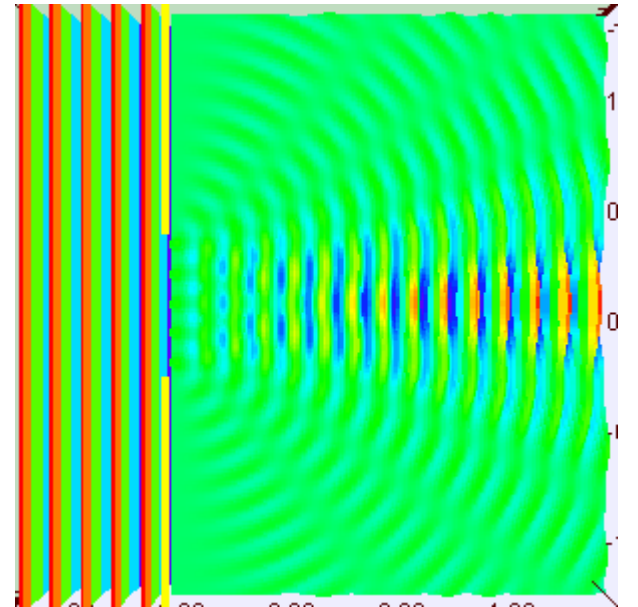
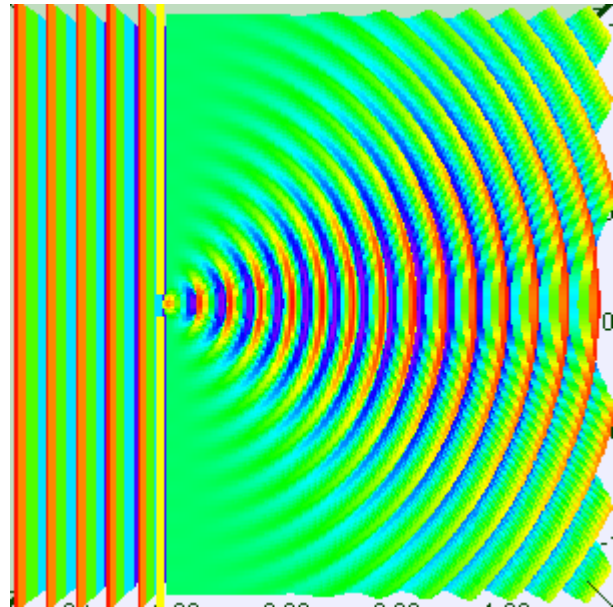
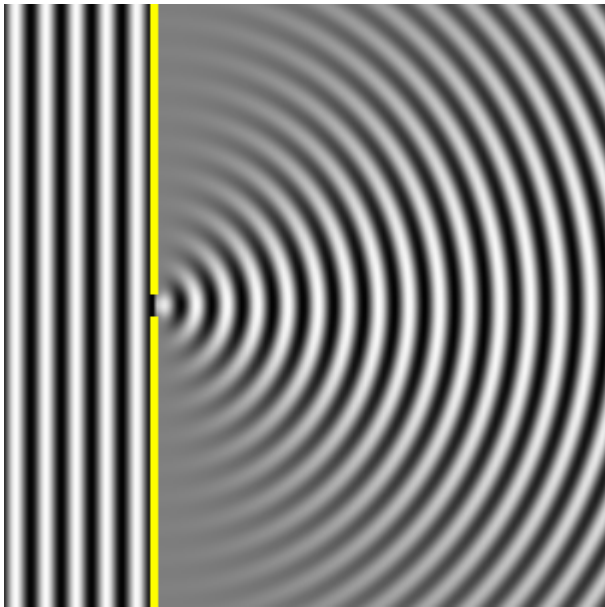
$$\psi_i = \psi_0 e^{ikz}$$



# The 'aperture' function $f(\lambda, \theta)$ for scattering a plane wave

- We approximate  $f(\lambda, \theta)$  as a constant for neutron scattering as a fixed point.
- For x-rays, we cannot make this approximation which affects  $f(\lambda, \theta)$

Increasing slit-size means that the scattered wave has more  $2\theta$ -dependence  
Intensity drops off at higher scattering angles



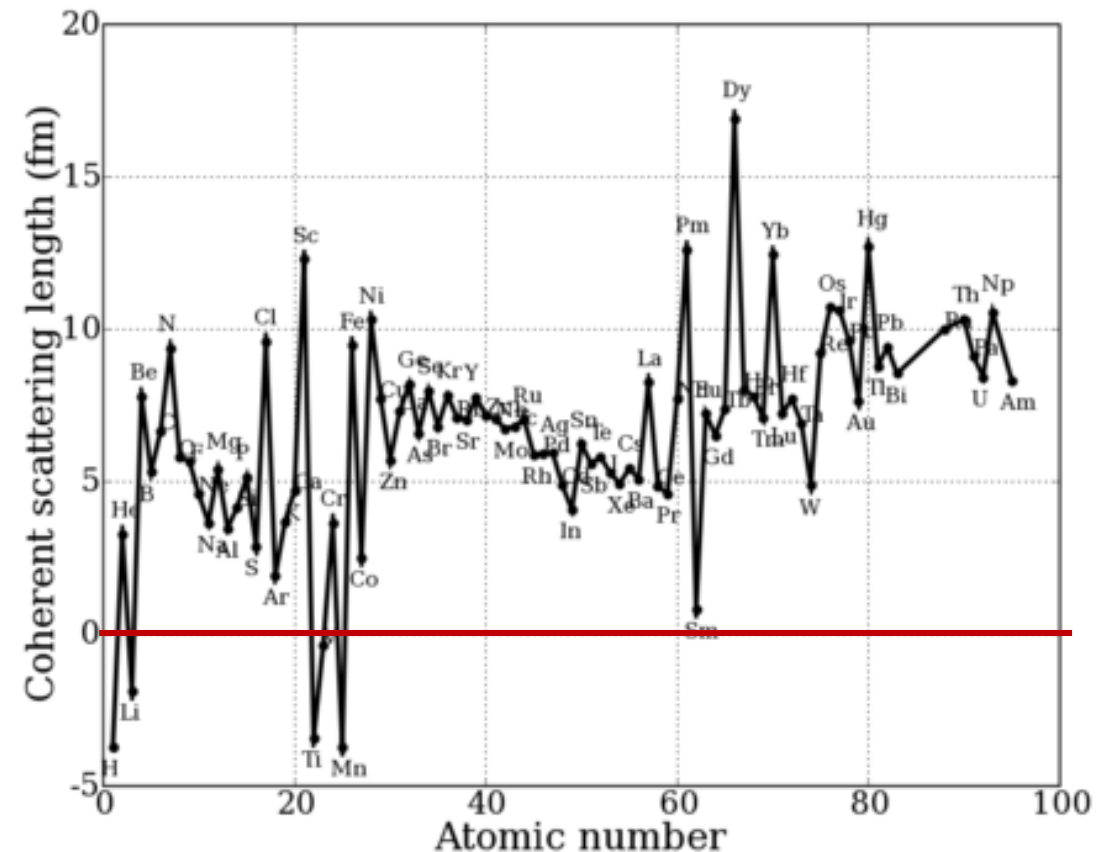
GIFs of plane wave arriving at a slit

# The neutron scattering length

- In neutron scattering, the nucleus is a point source.
- $f(\lambda, \theta)$  is therefore a constant
- $f(\lambda, \theta) = b$  where  $b$  is known as **the scattering length**

$$\psi_f = \psi_0 f(\lambda, \theta) \frac{e^{ikx}}{r}$$

- Note that  $f(\lambda, \theta)$  and  $b$  must have units of length since it is divided by  $r$
- Typical  $b$  are in fm or  $10^{-15}$  m
- Can be positive or negative!



# The neutron scattering cross section

$$\underline{R} = \underline{\Phi} \times \underline{dS}$$

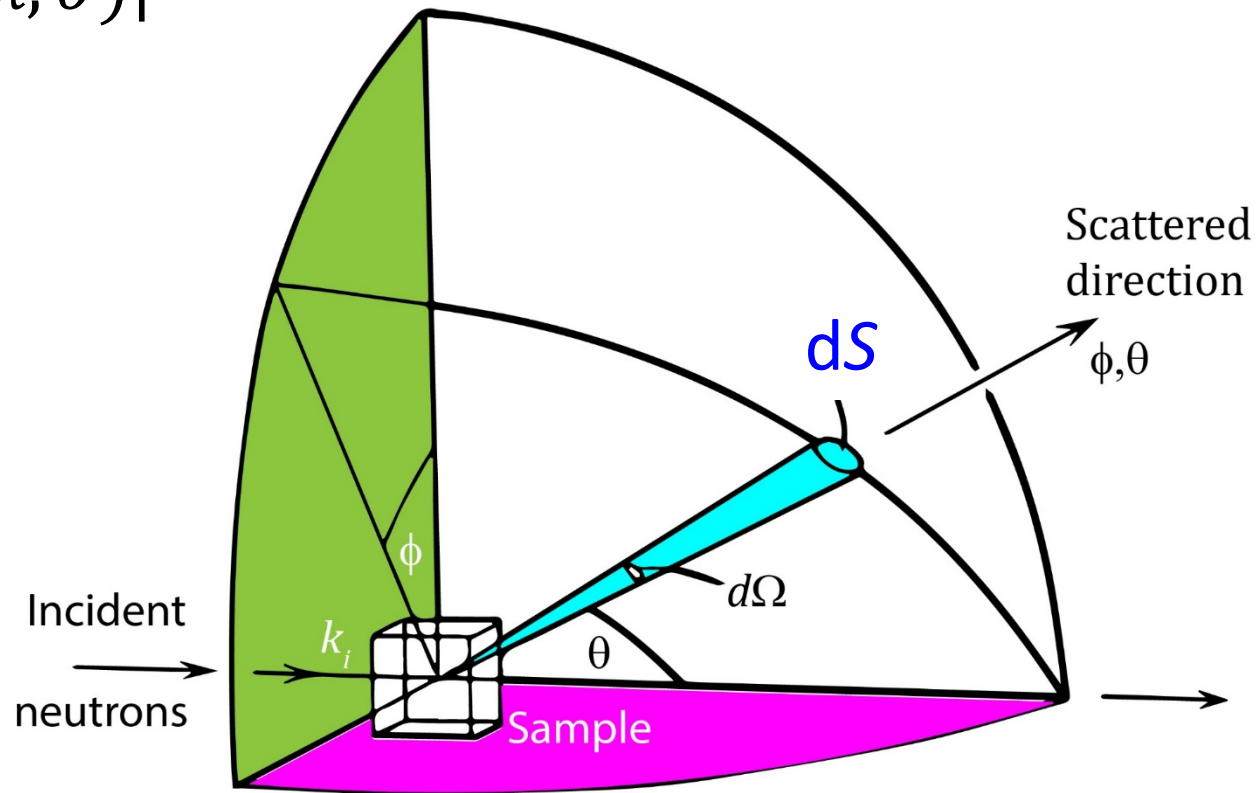
Rate = incident flux × cross-sectional area

$$\sigma = 4\pi |b|^2$$

$$|\psi_0|^2 = \Phi \quad |\psi_f|^2 = \frac{\Phi}{r^2} |f(\lambda, \theta)|^2$$

$$R = \int_{2\theta=0}^{\pi} \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} |\psi_f|^2 dS$$

$$\sigma = 2\pi \int_{2\theta=0}^{\pi} |f(\lambda, \theta)|^2 \sin 2\theta d2\theta$$



# Neutron scattering length for hydrogen

- Units given in barns, where 1 barn =  $10^{-28}$  m<sup>2</sup>
- These are isotope specific and will depend on the orientation of nuclear spin with respect to the neutron
- Example hydrogen vs. deuterium
- H has triplet and singlet from proton

$$b^+ = 1.085 \times 10^{-14} m$$

$$b^- = -4.750 \times 10^{-14} m$$

$$\langle b \rangle = \frac{3}{4} b^+ + \frac{1}{4} b^-$$

$$\Delta b = \sqrt{\langle b^2 \rangle - \langle b \rangle^2}$$

$$\langle b \rangle = -0.374 \times 10^{-14} m$$

$$\Delta b = 2.527 \times 10^{-14} m$$

$$b = \langle b \rangle \pm \Delta b$$

# Neutron scattering length for deuterium

- Deuterium has a quartet and doublet from proton and neutron in its nucleus
- 2/3 of states are quartet, 1/3 are doublet

$$\langle b \rangle = \frac{2}{3}b^+ + \frac{1}{3}b^-$$

$$\langle b \rangle = 0.668 \times 10^{-14}m$$

$$\Delta b = 0.403 \times 10^{-14}m^2$$

$$\sigma = 4\pi|b|^2$$

$$\langle b^2 \rangle = \langle b \rangle^2 + (\Delta b)^2$$

$$\langle \sigma \rangle = \sigma_{coh} + \sigma_{inc}$$

(barns)	$\sigma_{coh} = 4\pi\langle b \rangle^2$	$\sigma_{incoh} = 4\pi(\Delta b)^2$
Hydrogen	1.76	80.27
Deuterium	5.59	2.05

# The intrinsic cross section for x-rays

- The x-ray is an electromagnetic radiation with the electric field  $E_{in}$  oscillating normal to the wave's propagation.
- The electrons in the atomic center will oscillate with the x-ray and re-emit the x-ray with the oscillating field  $E_{rad}$

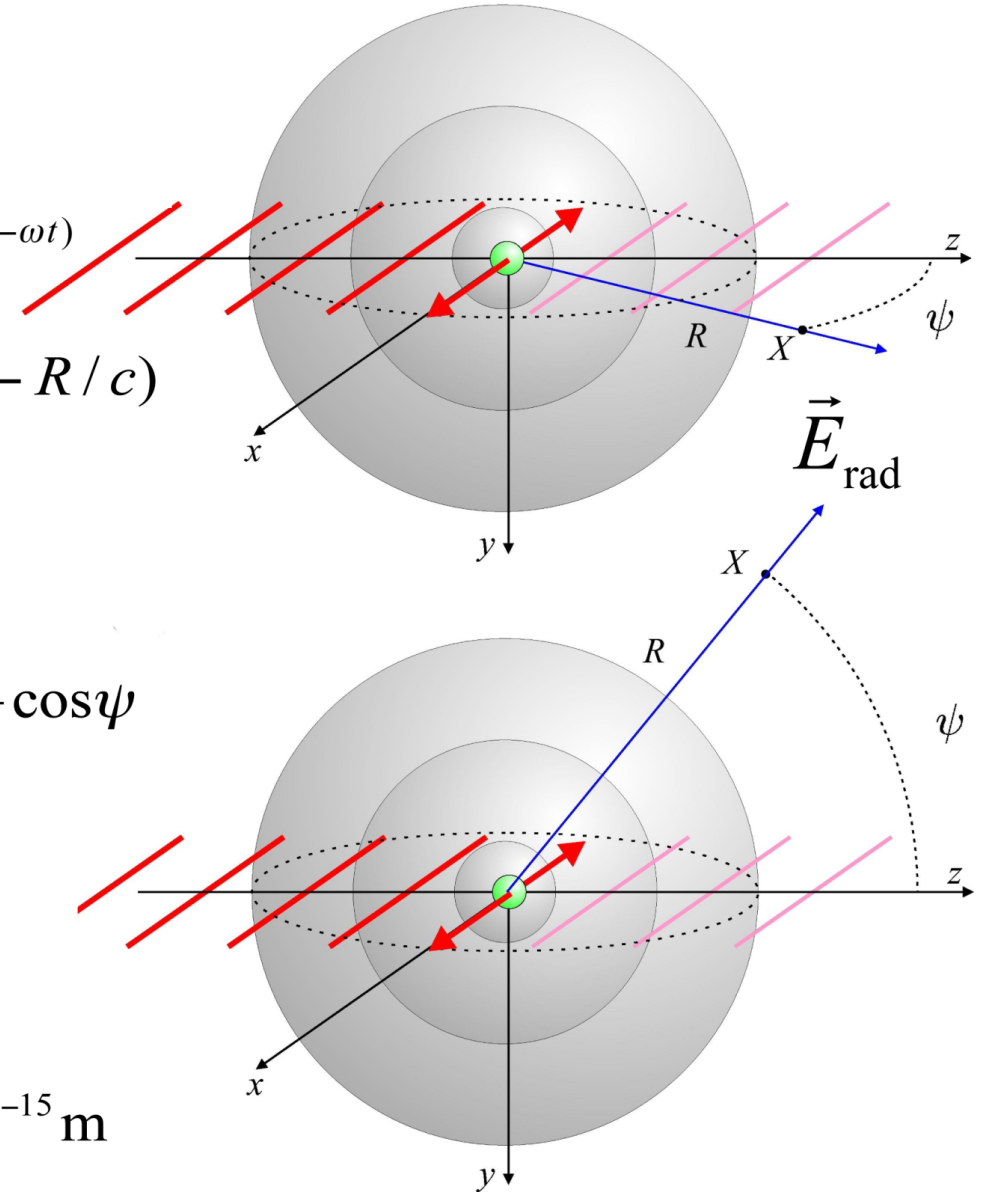
$$\vec{E}_{in} = \vec{E}_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$E_{rad}(R, t) = \frac{e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^2 R} \ddot{x}(t - R/c)$$

$$\frac{E_{rad}(R, t)}{E_{in}} = -r_0 \alpha(\omega) \frac{e^{ikR}}{R} \cos\psi$$

$$r_0 = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 mc^2} = 2.82 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$$

Thompson scattering length of the electron



# The cross section for x-rays

Measured intensity (i.e. number of x - ray photons)  $\propto$  energy/sec

Energy per unit area of beam  $\propto E^2$  ;

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\text{intensity measured in detector}}{\text{incident intensity}} = \frac{I_{sc}}{I_0} = \frac{|E_{rad}|^2 R^2 \Delta\Omega}{|E_{in}|^2 A}$$

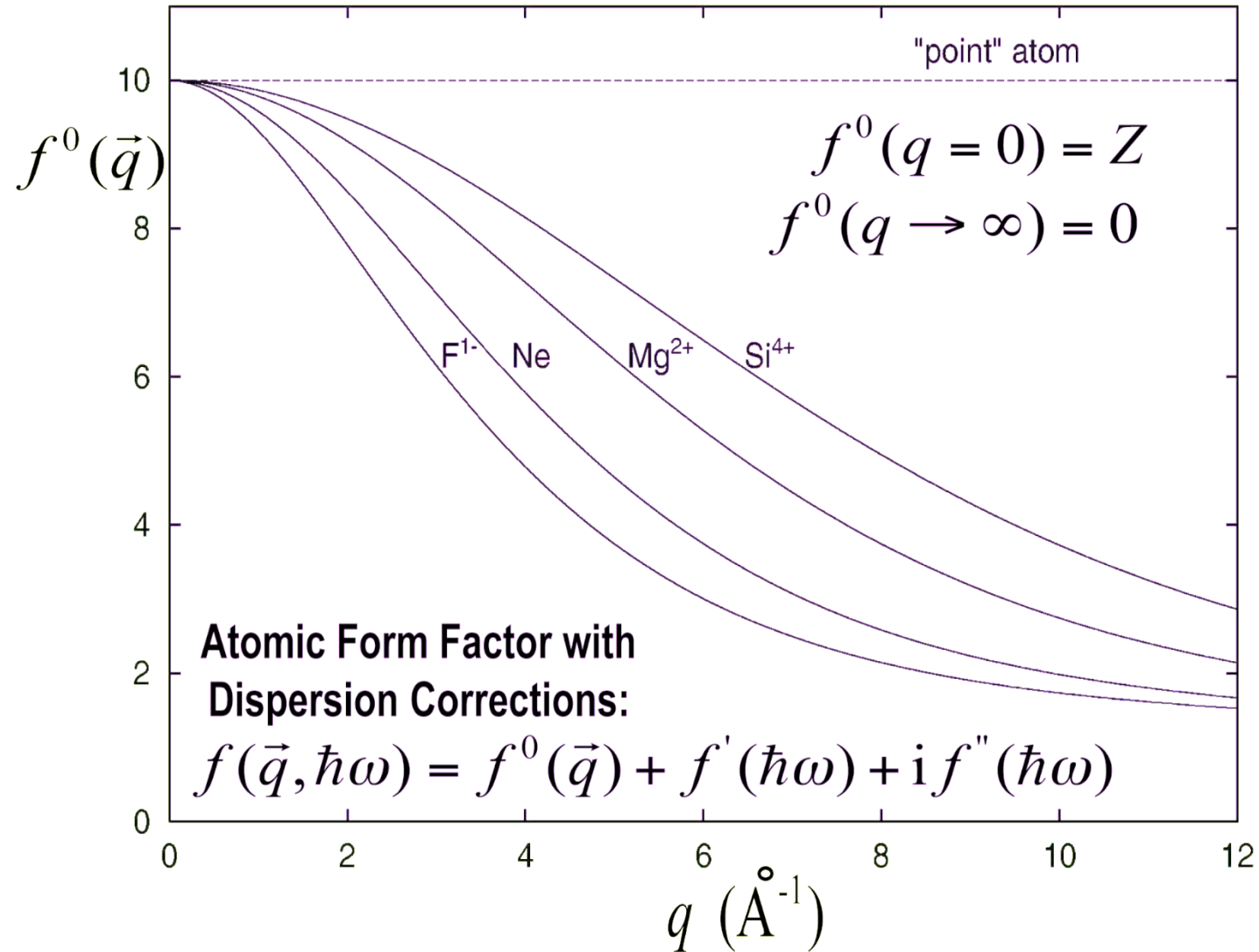
$$\text{differential cross section} = \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{number of xrays scattered per sec in } \Delta\Omega}{(\text{number of incident xrays per area}) * \Delta\Omega}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{I_{sc}}{(I_0 / A)\Delta\Omega} = \frac{|E_{rad}|^2 R^2}{|E_{in}|^2} = r_0^2 \cos^2 \psi$$



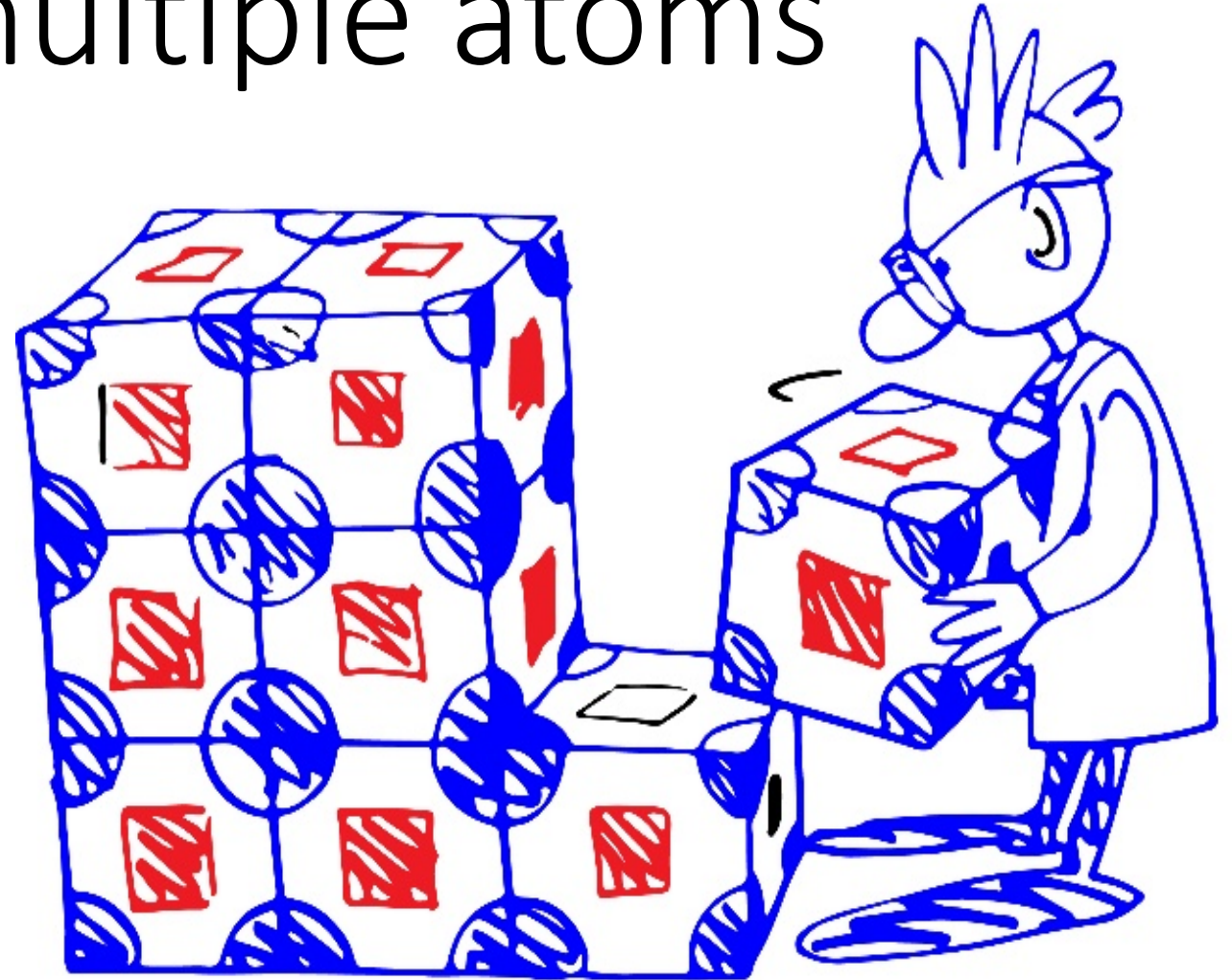
# The atomic form factor for x-rays

$$\text{Atomic Form Factor: } f^0(\vec{q}) = \int \rho(\vec{r}) e^{i\vec{q}\cdot\vec{r}} dV$$



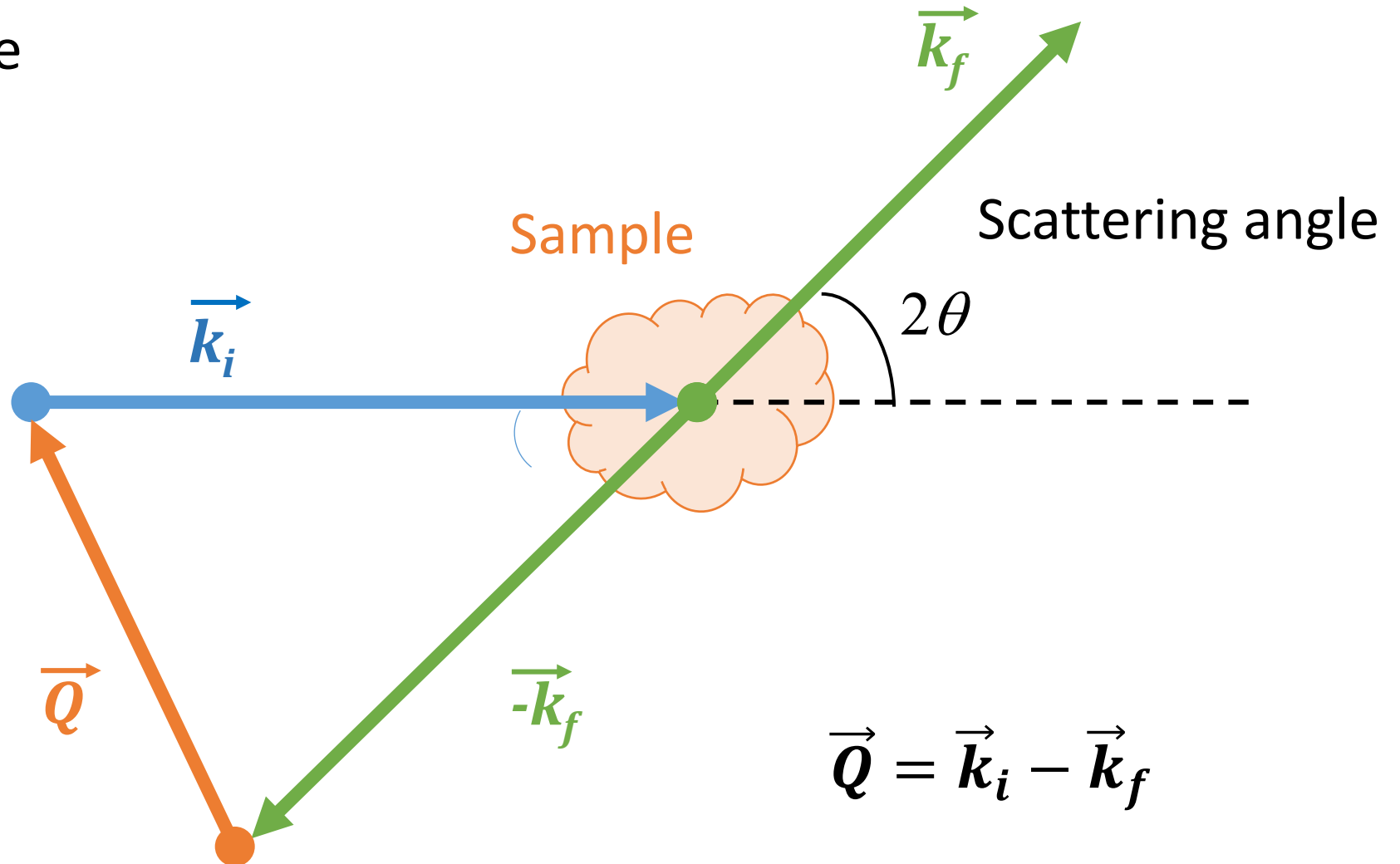
# Scattering from multiple atoms

Diffraction from a crystal



# The scattering triangle

- $k_i$  is the incident wavevector and  $k_f$  is the scattered wavevector
- Useful to work with another vector besides  $k_i$  or  $k_f$
- We define  $Q$ , as our **momentum transfer**



# Momentum transfer, or Q-space

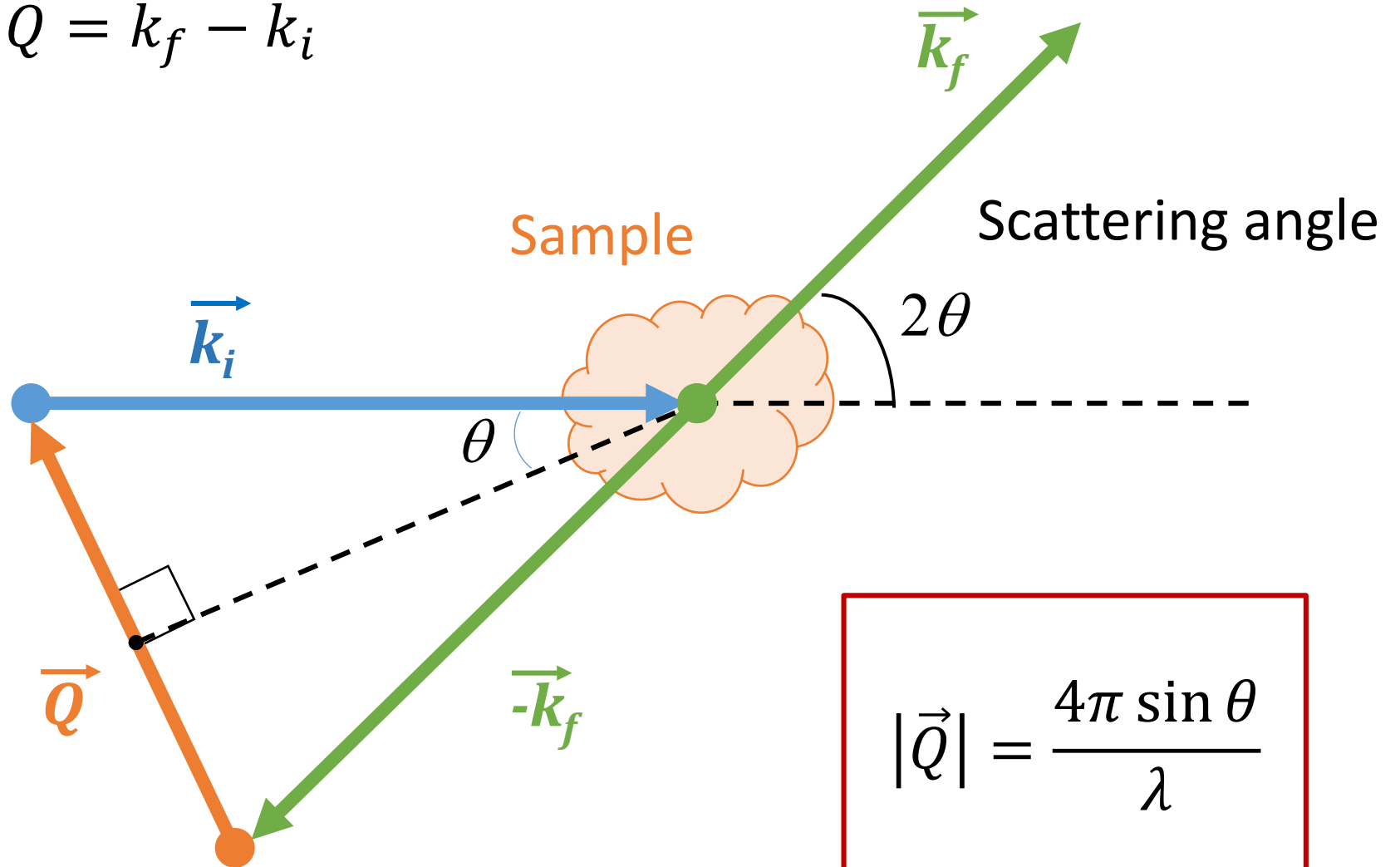
$$\vec{Q} = \vec{k}_i - \vec{k}_f \quad \underline{\text{or}} \quad \vec{Q} = \vec{k}_f - \vec{k}_i$$

$$|\vec{k}| = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

For elastic scattering,  
no energy transfer

$$|\vec{k}_i| = |\vec{k}_f|$$

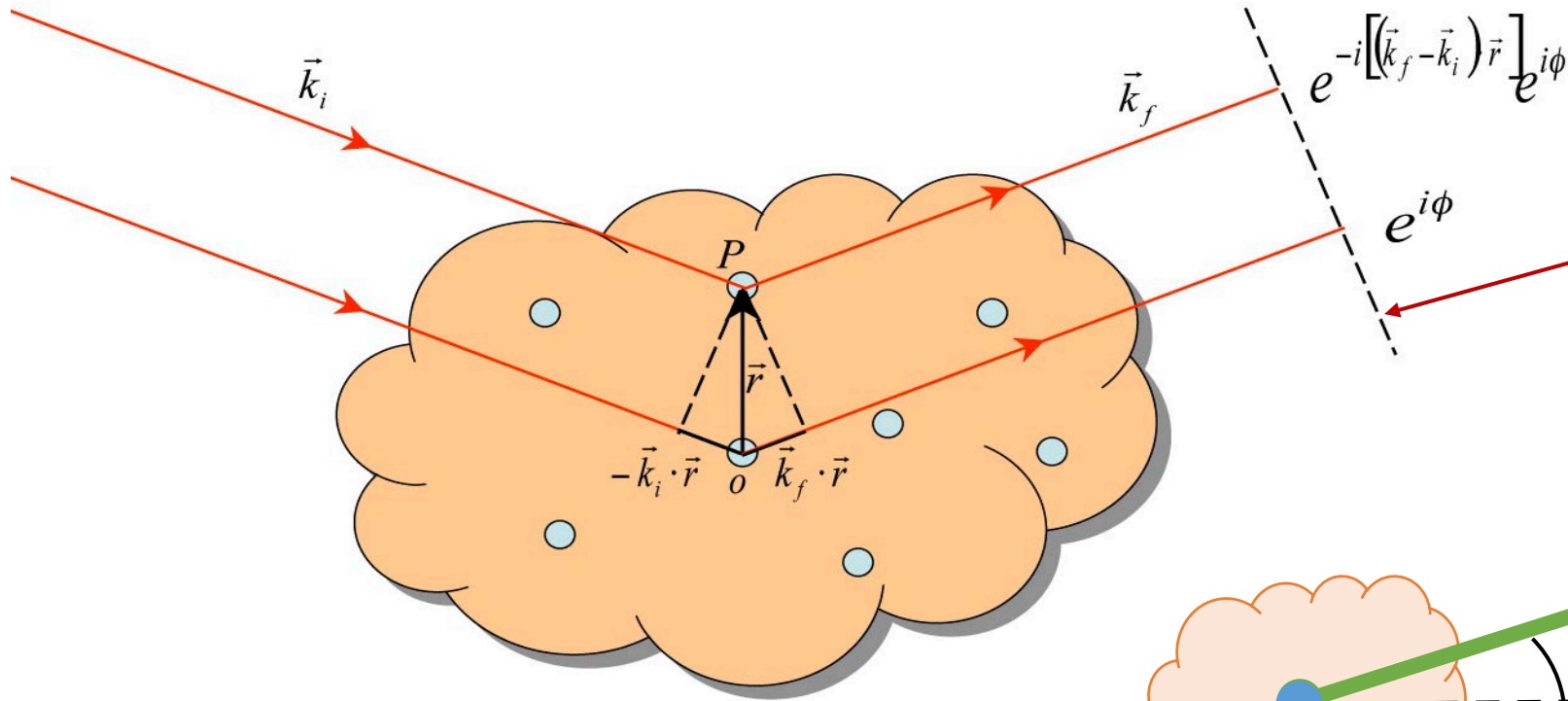
$$\frac{|\vec{Q}|}{2} = |\vec{k}| \sin \theta$$



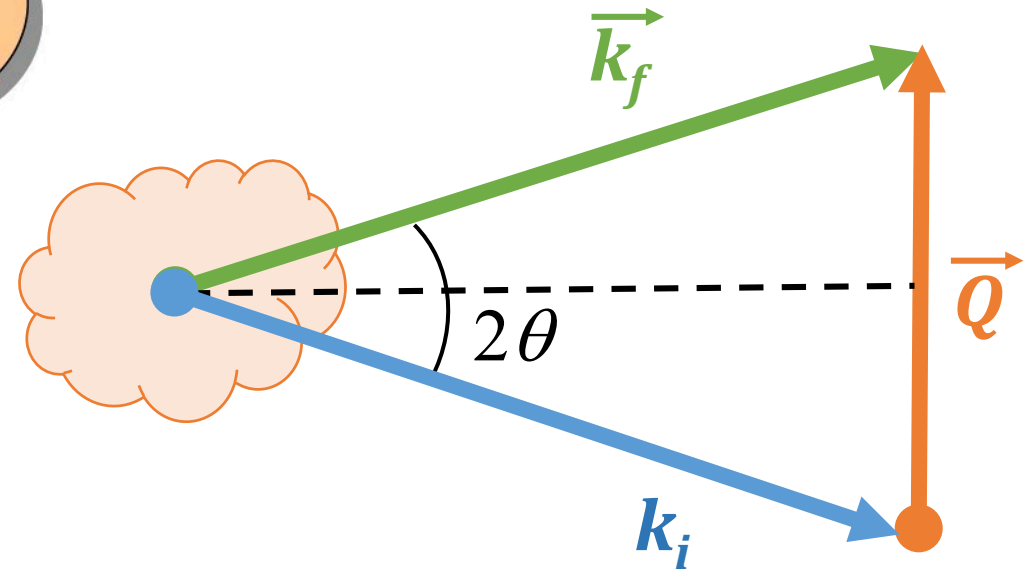
$$|\vec{Q}| = \frac{4\pi \sin \theta}{\lambda}$$

# Scattering from an ensemble of atoms

$$\vec{Q} = \vec{k}_f - \vec{k}_i$$



Waves scattered can add up in phase



$$|\vec{Q}| = \frac{4\pi \sin \theta}{\lambda}$$

# Adding up the waves scattered from different centers

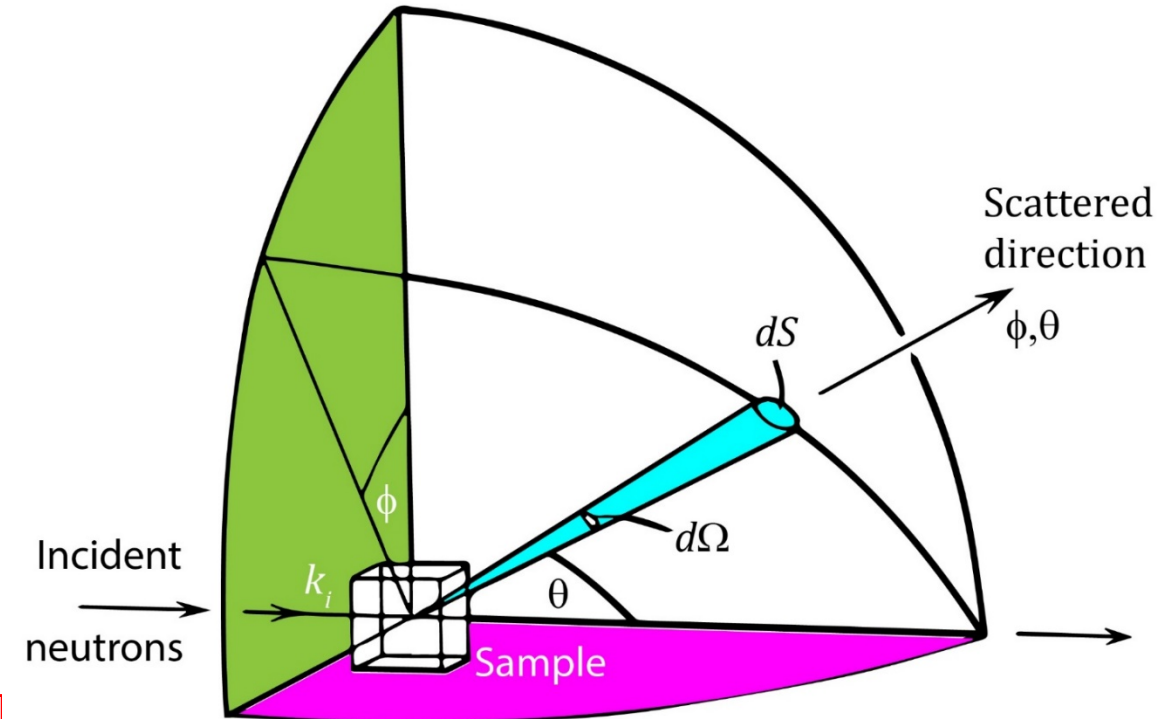
At a scattering center located at  $\vec{R}_i$  the incident wave is  $e^{i\vec{k}_0 \cdot \vec{R}_i}$

so the scattered wave at  $\vec{r}$  is  $\psi_{\text{scat}} = \sum e^{i\vec{k}_0 \cdot \vec{R}_i} \left[ \frac{-b_i}{|\vec{r} - \vec{R}_i|} e^{i\vec{k}' \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{R}_i)} \right]$

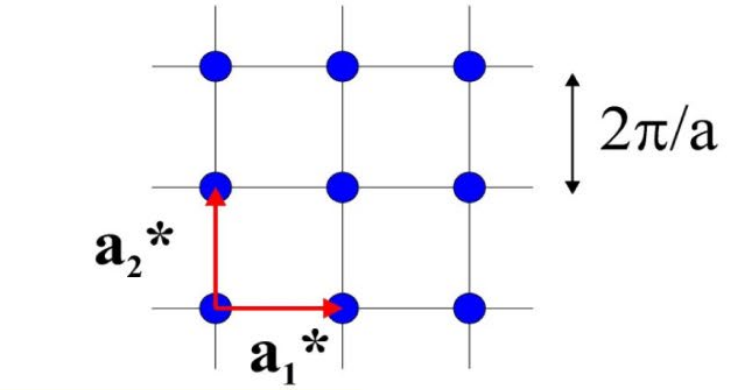
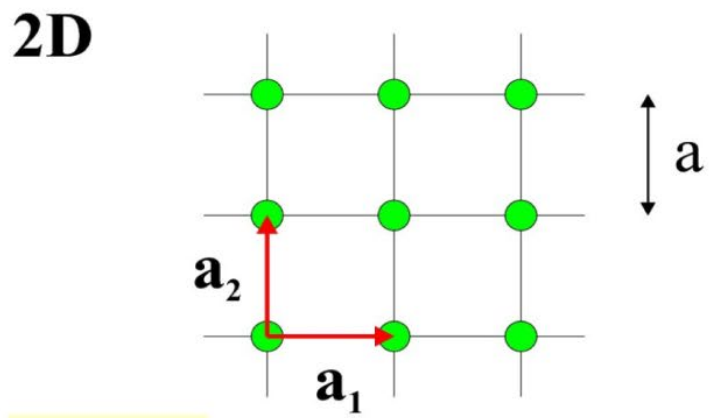
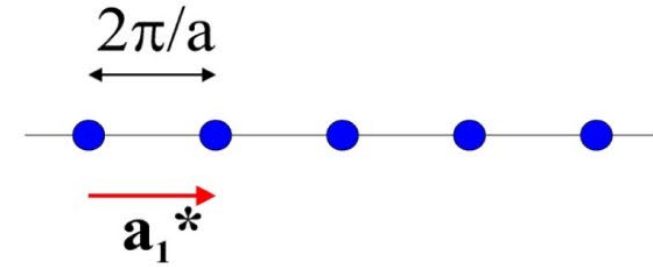
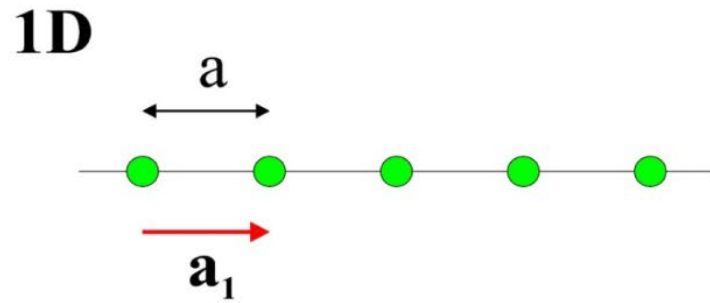
$$\therefore \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{vdS |\psi_{\text{scat}}|^2}{vd\Omega} = \frac{dS}{d\Omega} \left| b_i e^{i\vec{k}' \cdot \vec{r}} \sum \frac{1}{|\vec{r} - \vec{R}_i|} e^{i(\vec{k}_0 - \vec{k}') \cdot \vec{R}_i} \right|^2$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \sum_{i,j} b_i b_j e^{i(\vec{k}_0 - \vec{k}') \cdot (\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j)} = \sum_{i,j} b_i b_j e^{-i\vec{Q} \cdot (\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j)}$$

$$\text{For x-rays: } \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = r_0^2 \sum_{i,j} e^{i(\vec{k}_0 - \vec{k}') \cdot (\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j)} \left\{ \frac{1 - \cos^2 2\theta}{2} \right\}$$

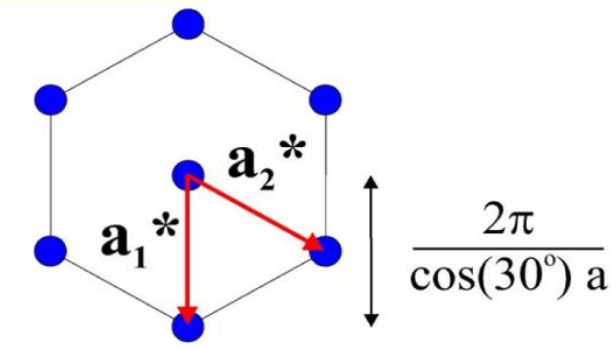
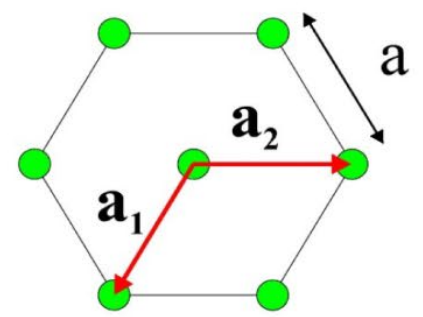


# A crystal has translational symmetry

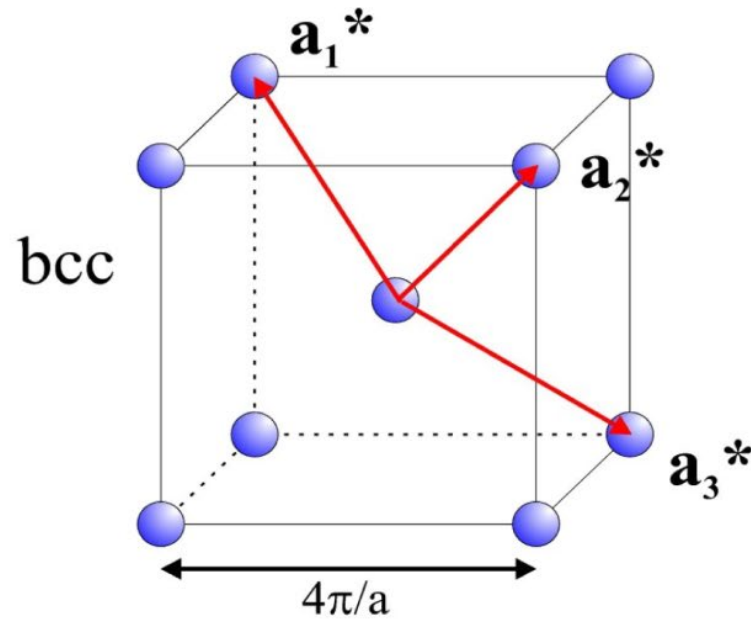
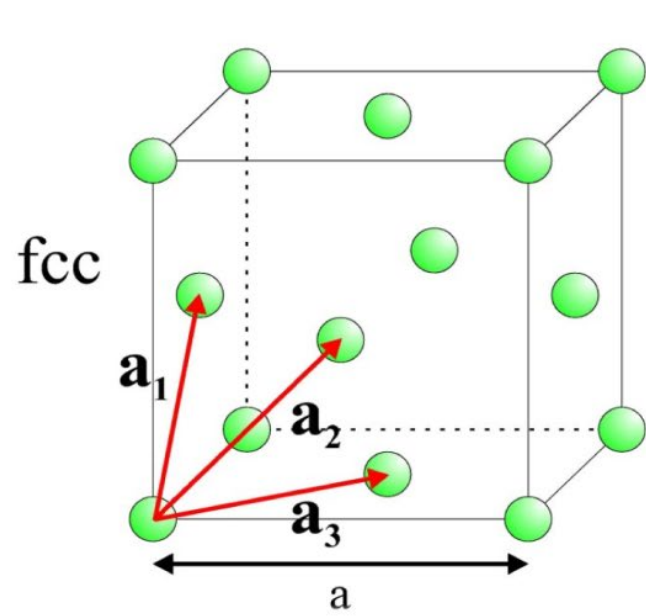


Real

Reciprocal



# Relationship between real and reciprocal space in crystals



## Reciprocal Lattice:

$$V_c = \vec{a}_1 \cdot (\vec{a}_2 \times \vec{a}_3)$$

$$\vec{a}_1^* = \frac{2\pi}{V_c} \vec{a}_2 \times \vec{a}_3$$

$$\vec{a}_2^* = \frac{2\pi}{V_c} \vec{a}_3 \times \vec{a}_1$$

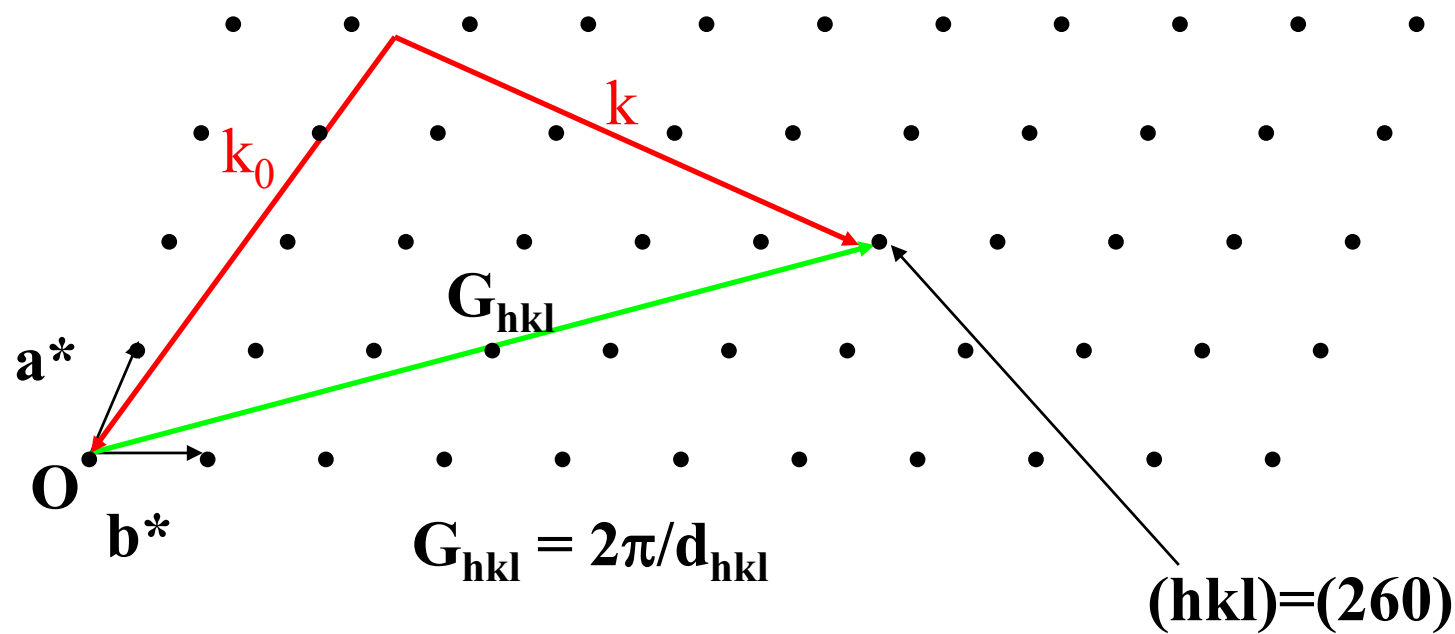
$$\vec{a}_3^* = \frac{2\pi}{V_c} \vec{a}_1 \times \vec{a}_2$$



# Diffraction and Bragg's law

$G_{hkl}$  is called a reciprocal lattice vector (node denoted hkl)

h, k and l are called Miller indices



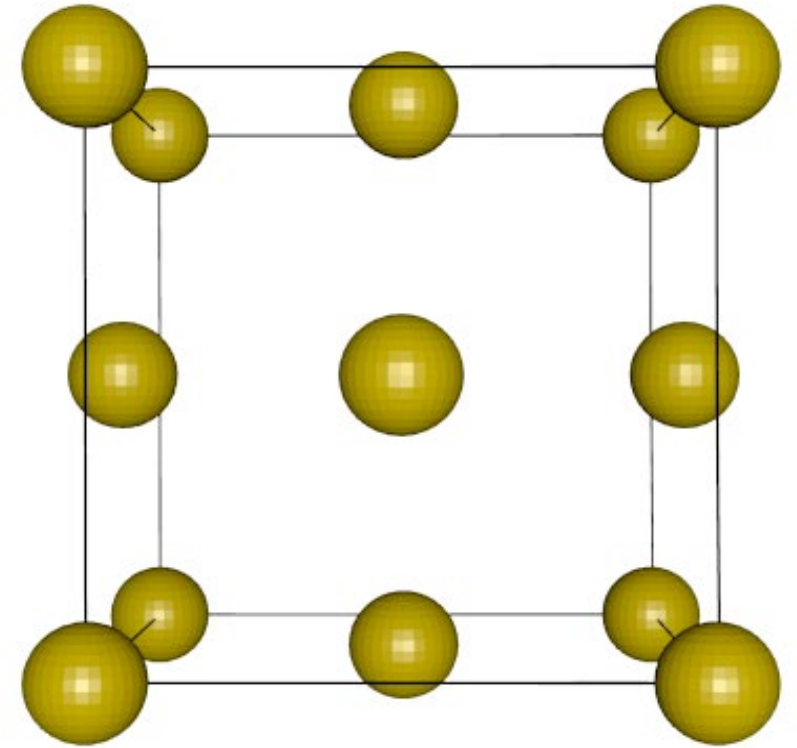
- (hkl) describes a set of planes perpendicular to  $G_{hkl}$ , separated by  $d_{hkl}$   
 $G_{hkl} = Q$
- {hkl} represents a set of symmetry-related lattice planes  

$$d_{hkl} = \frac{2\pi n}{4\pi \sin \theta} = \frac{n}{2 \sin \theta}$$
- [hkl] describes a crystallographic direction  

$$n\lambda = 2d_{hkl} \sin \theta$$
- <hkl> describes a set of symmetry equivalent crystallographic directions

# Example: diffraction from a crystal – the fcc lattice

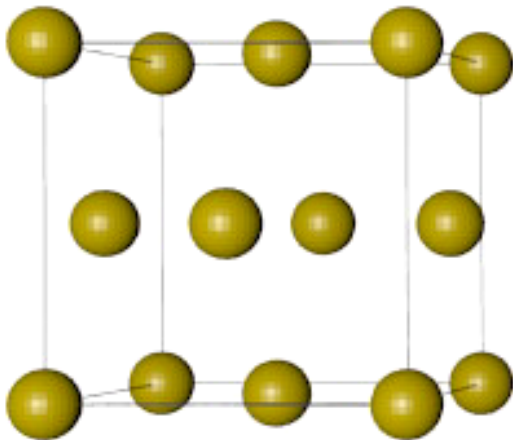
- A monochromatic (single  $\lambda$ ) neutron beam is diffracted by a single crystal only if specific geometrical conditions are fulfilled
- Useful  $\lambda$  are typically between 0.4 Å and 2.5 Å.
- These conditions can be expressed in several ways:
  - Laue's conditions: with  $h$ ,  $k$ , and  $l$  as integers
  - Bragg's Law:
  - Ewald's construction
- Diffraction tells us about:
  - The dimensions of the unit cell
  - The symmetry of the crystal
  - The positions of atoms within the unit cell
  - The extent of thermal vibrations of atoms in various directions



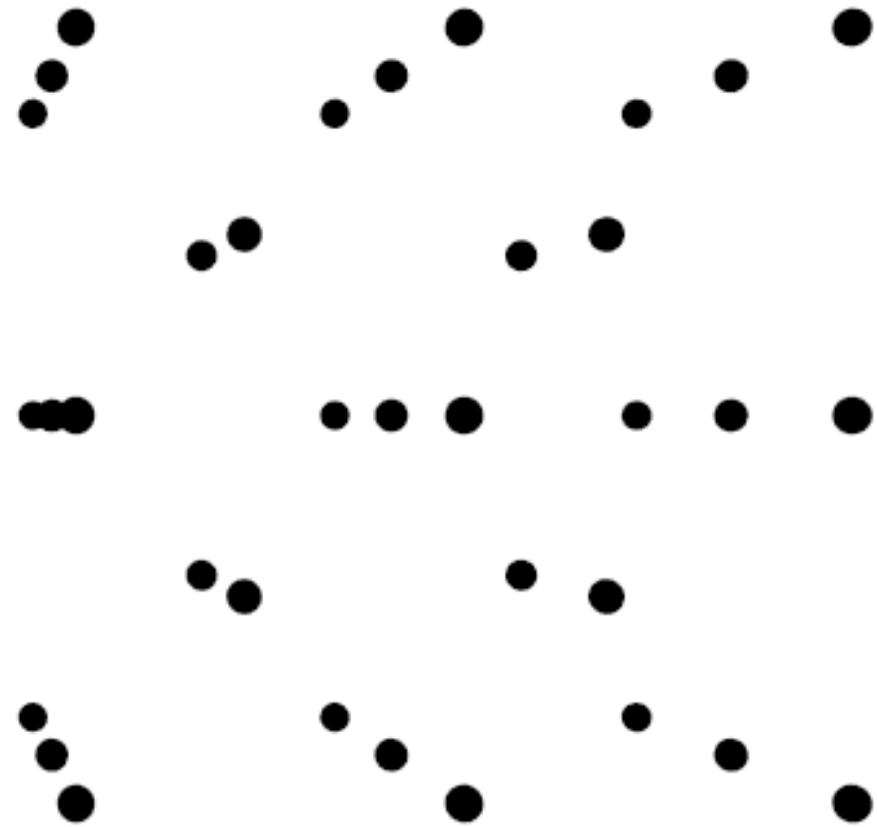
Lattice in real space

# Relationship between real and reciprocal space

Real Space

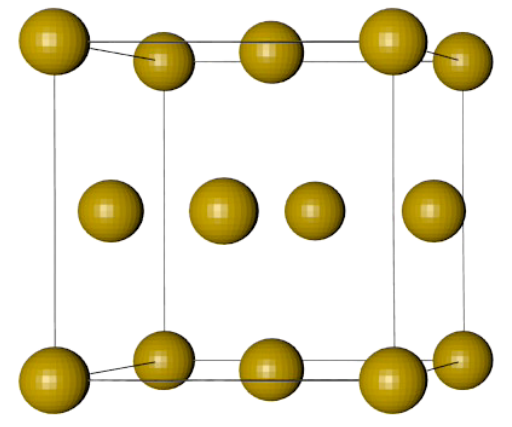


Reciprocal Space

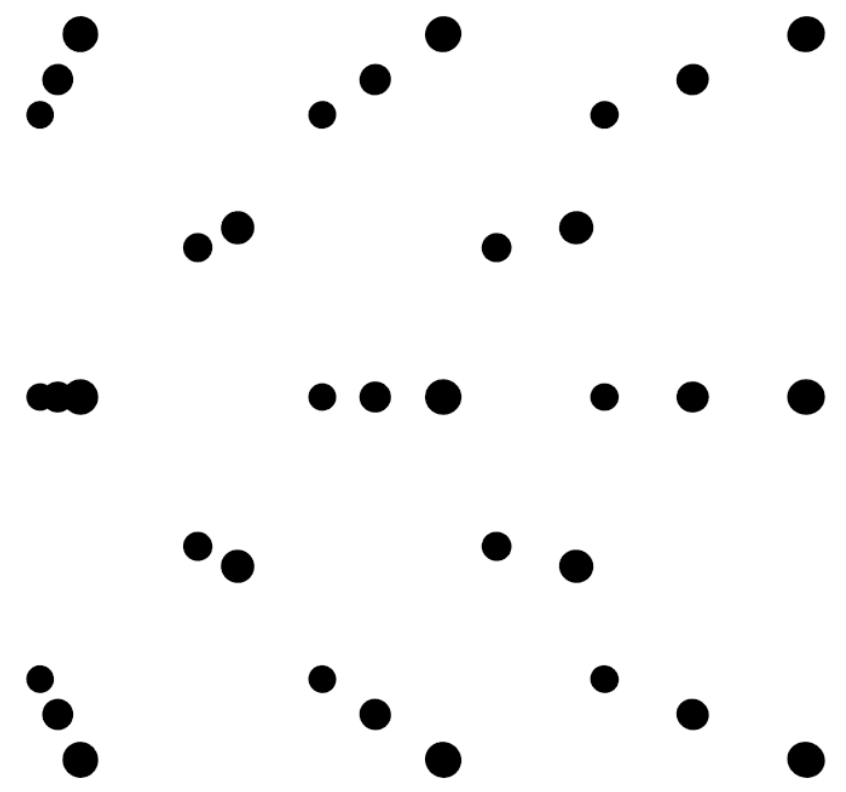


# Beam of neutrons or x-rays scattered from planes

Real Space

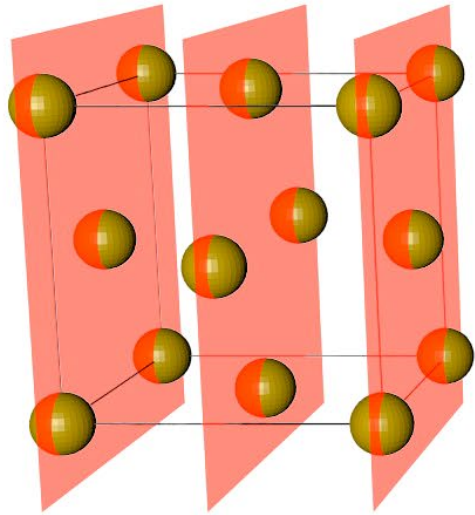


Reciprocal Space

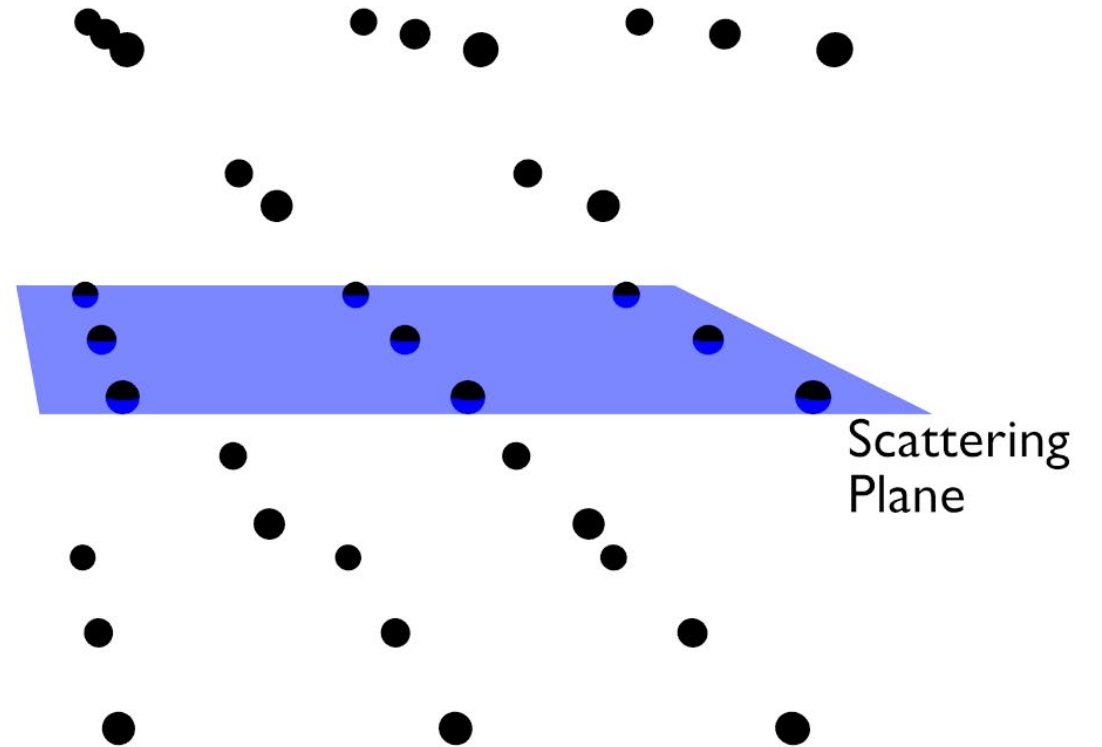


# Bragg reflections from crystallographic planes

Real Space

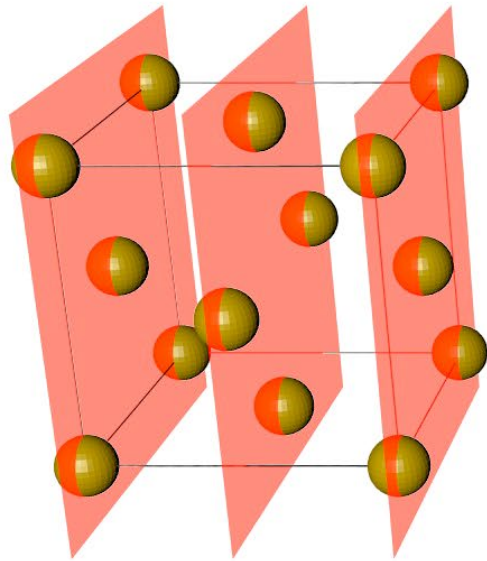


Reciprocal Space

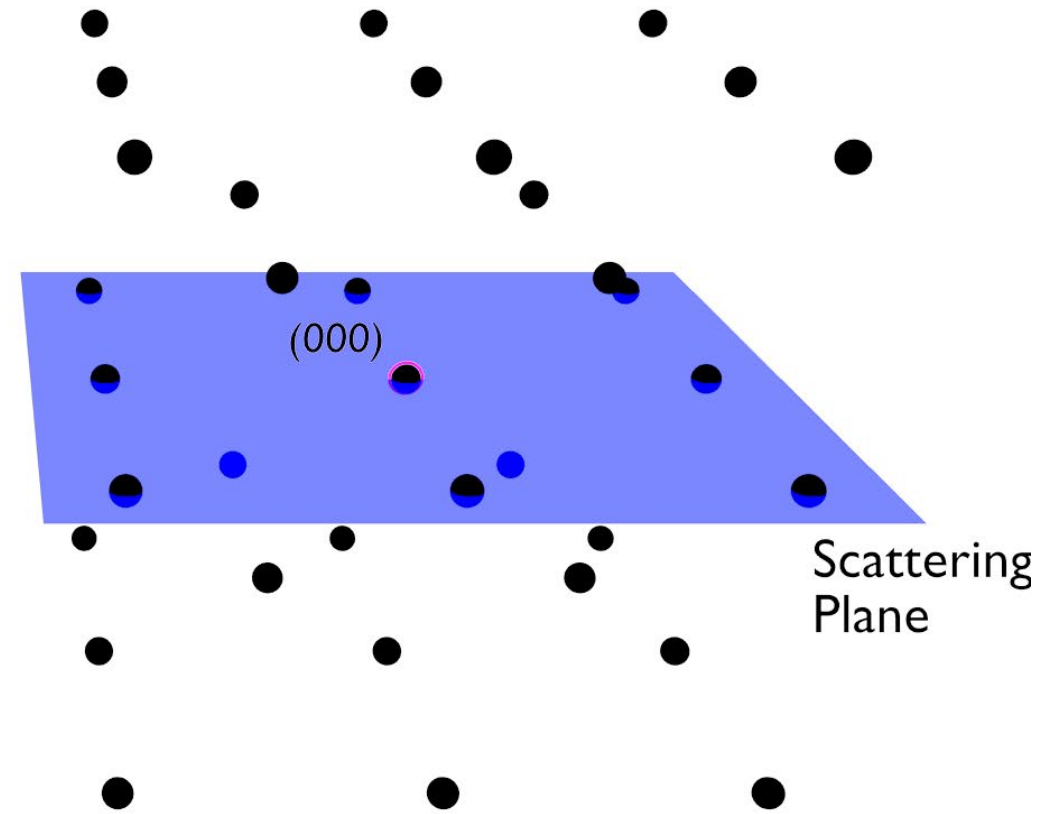


# Centering operations lead to systematic absences

Real Space



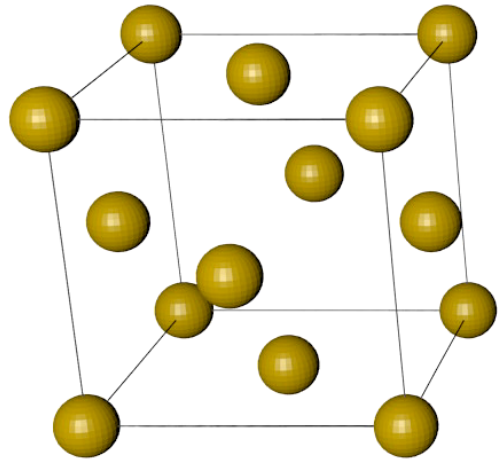
Reciprocal Space



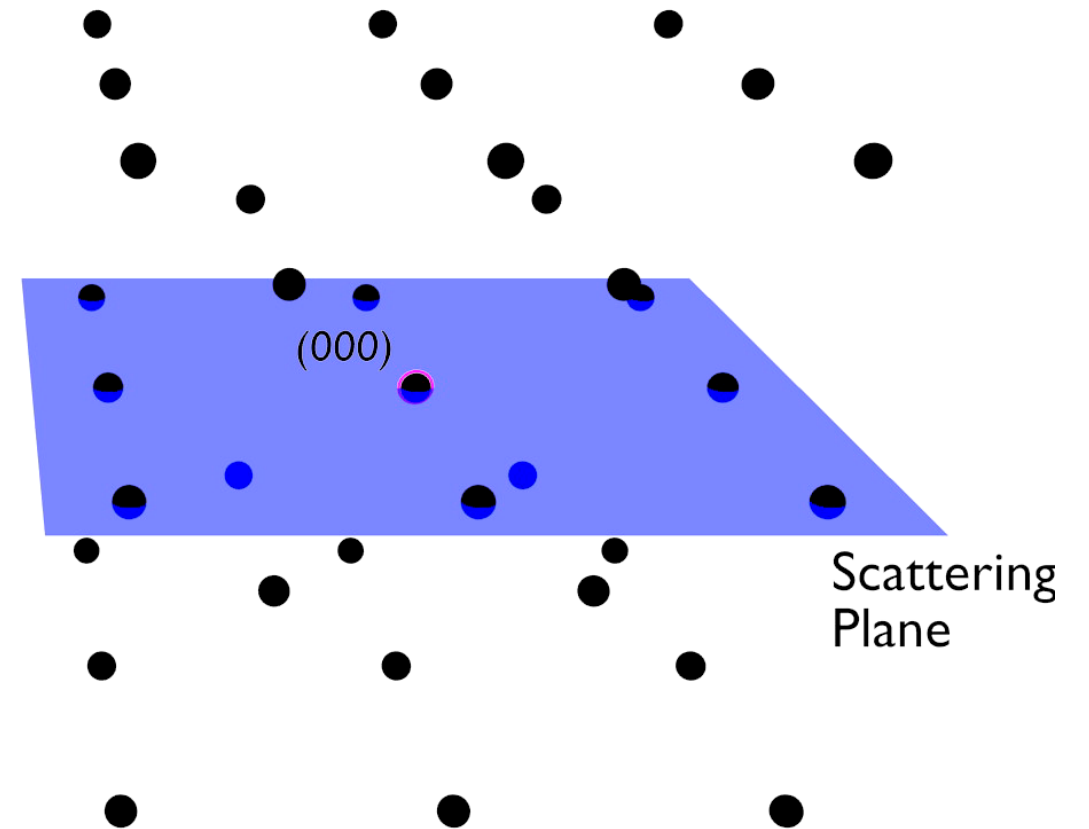
$\{001\}$  family of planes are systematically absent

# Other allowed reflections in fcc lattice

Real Space

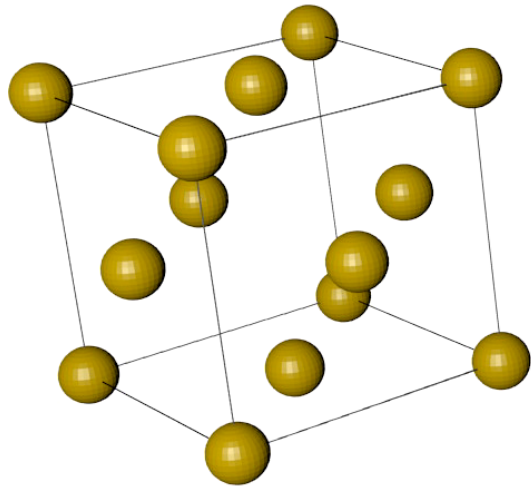


Reciprocal Space

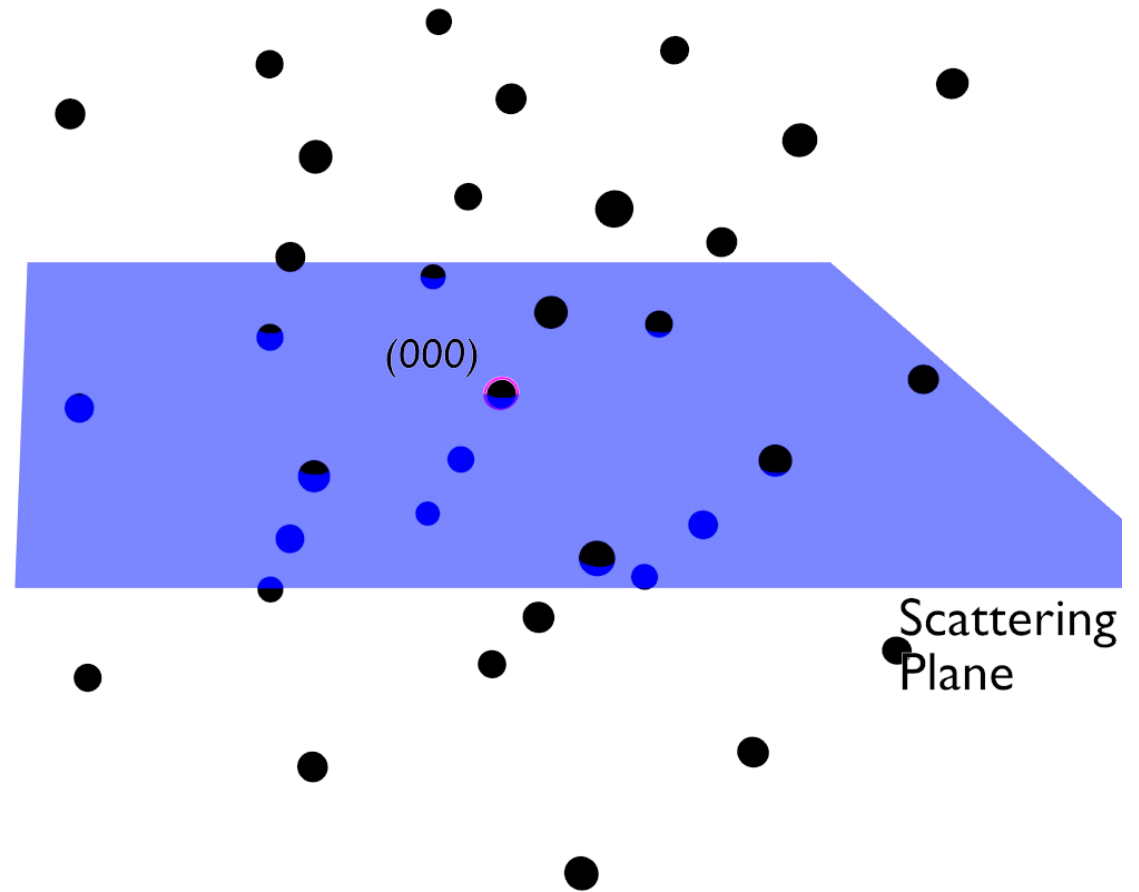


# [111] view of the (220) reflection

Real Space

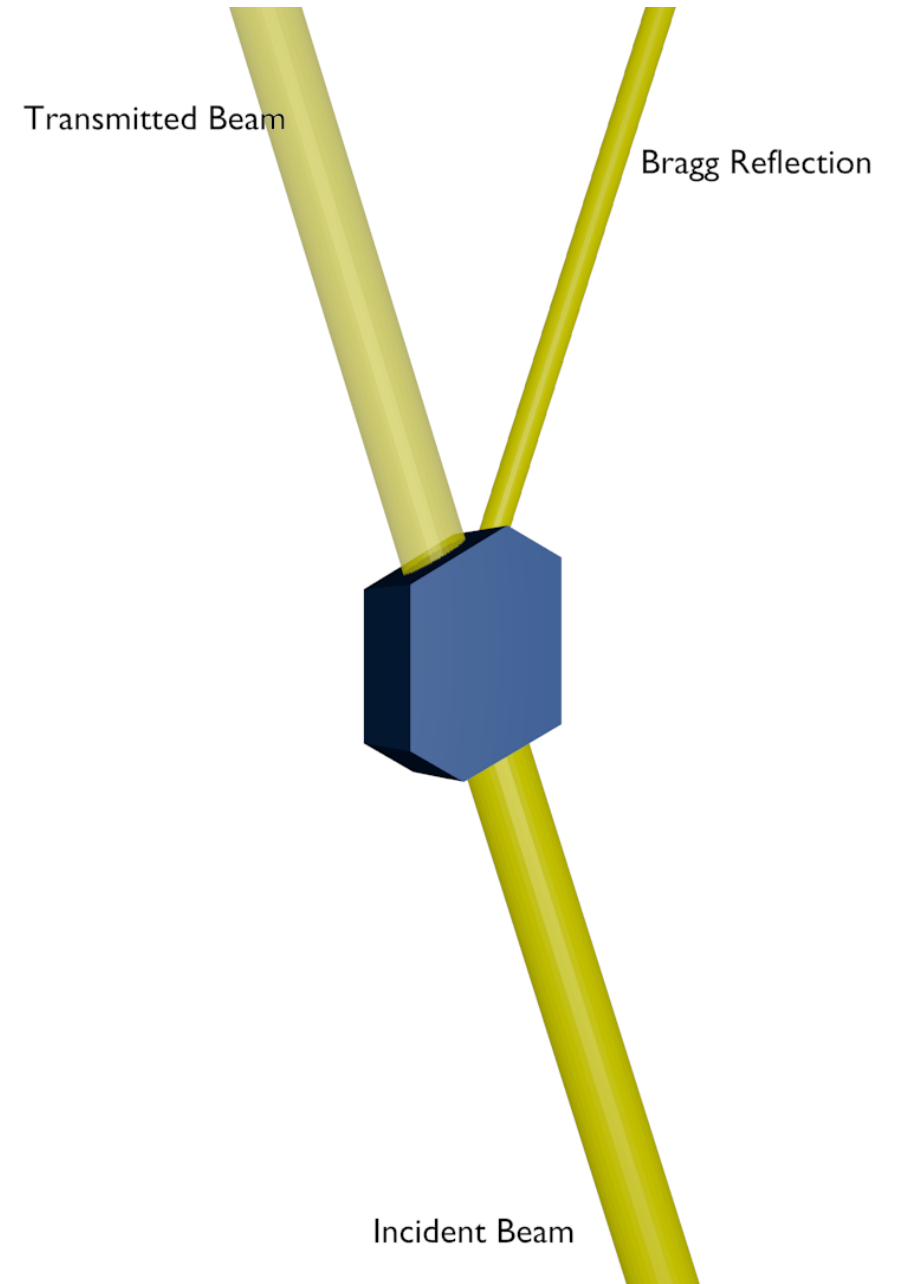
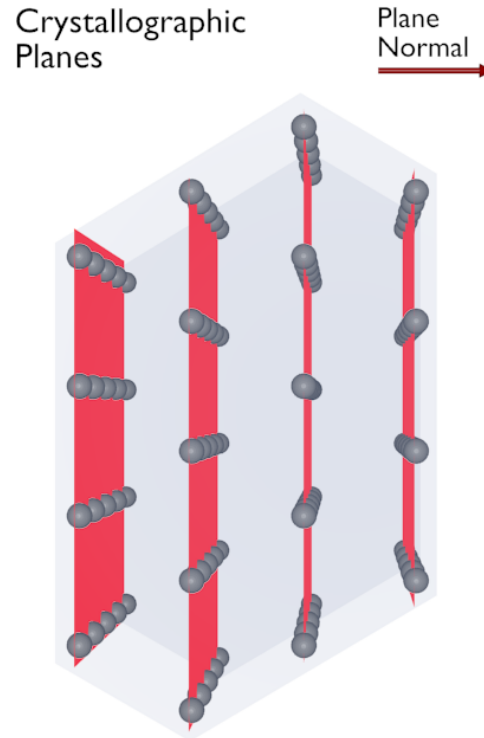
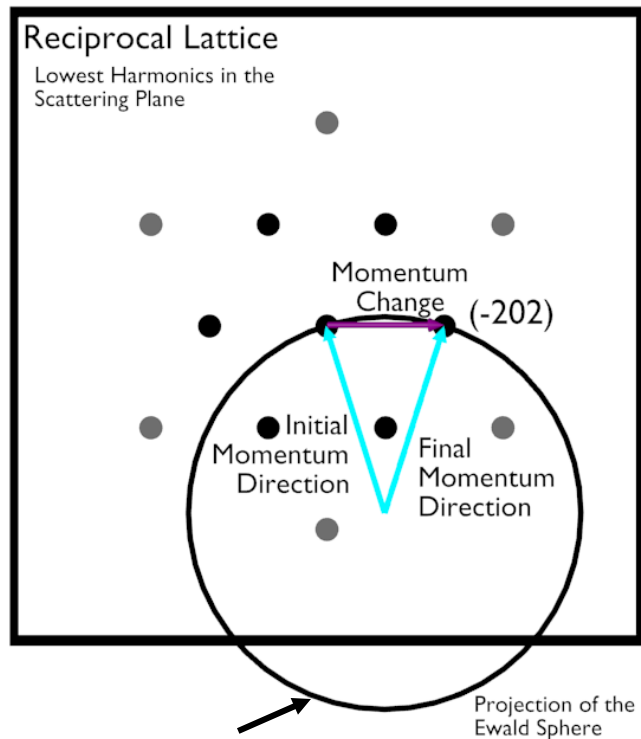


Reciprocal Space



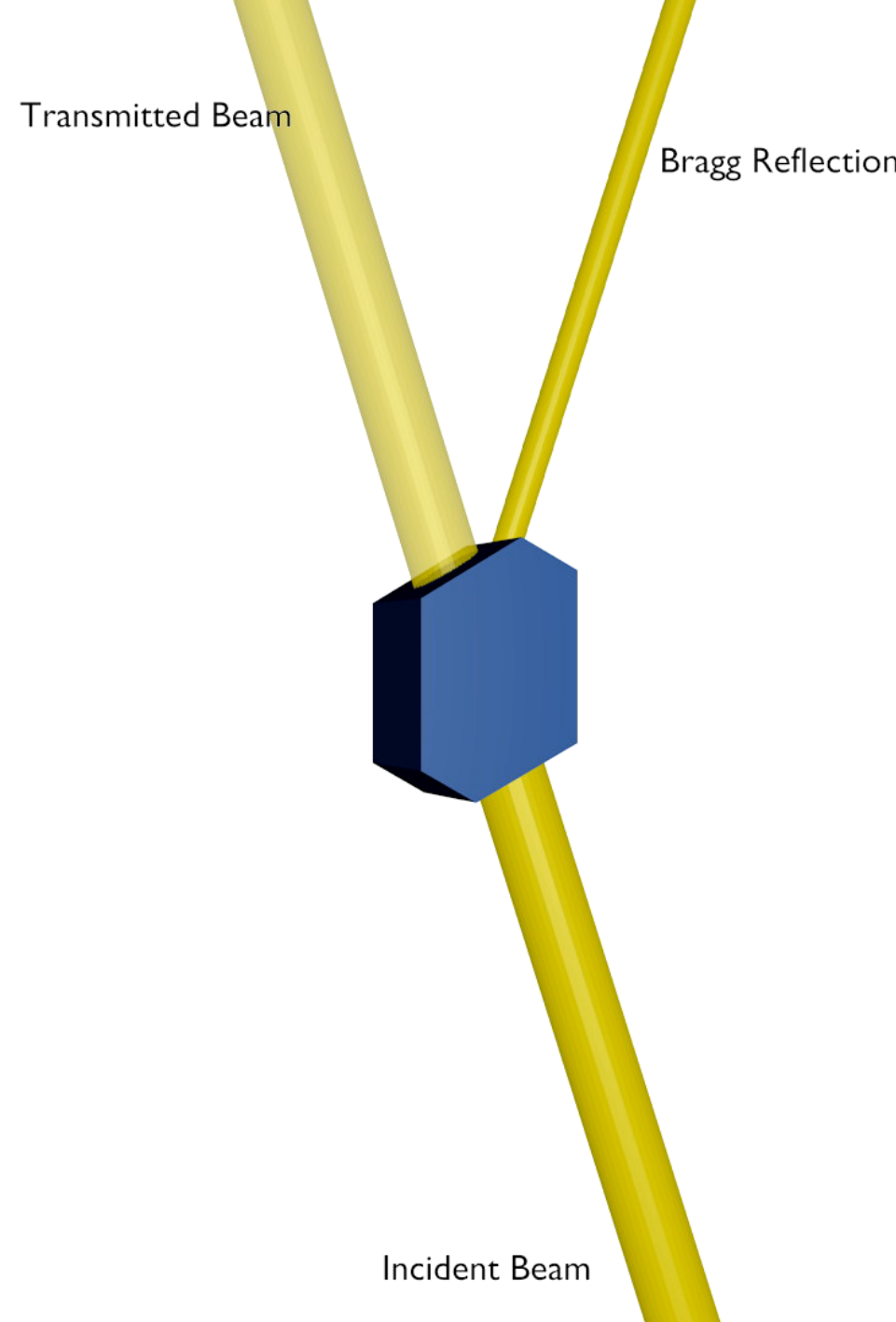
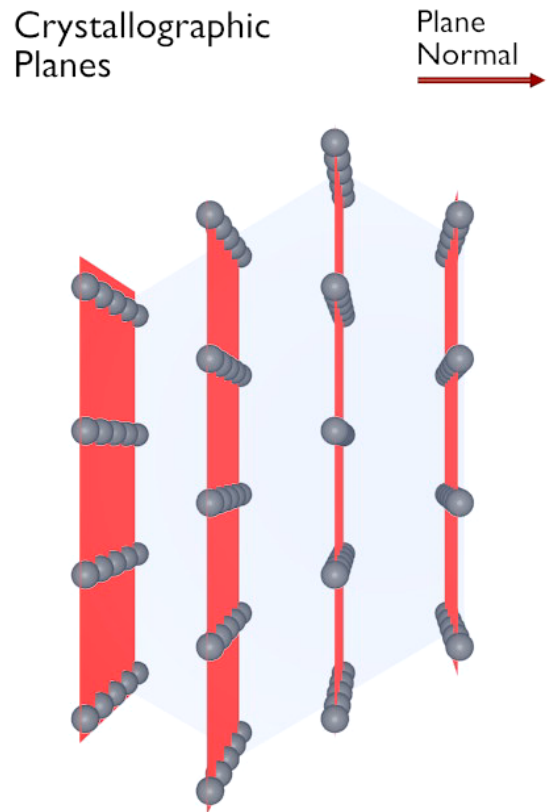
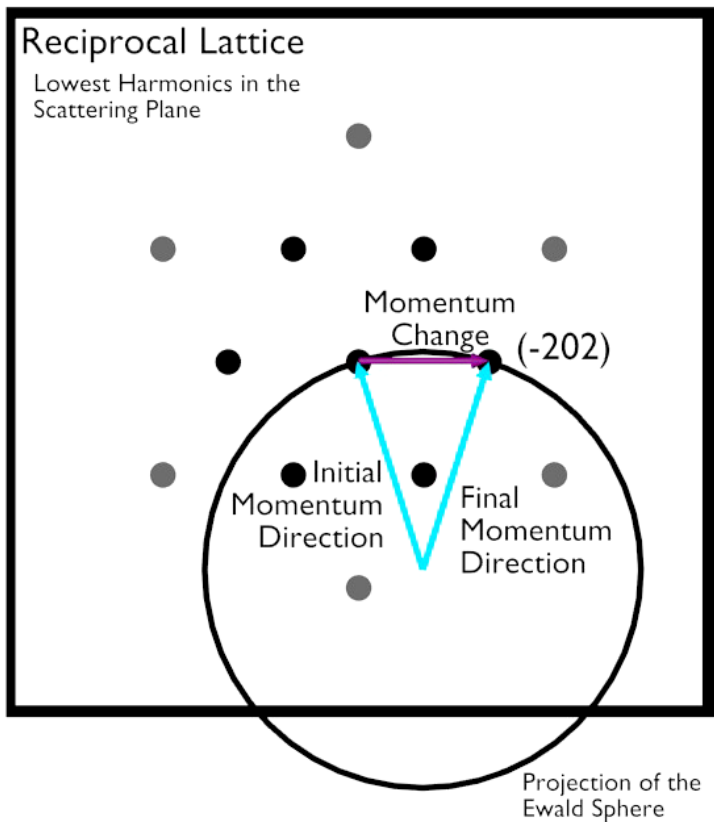


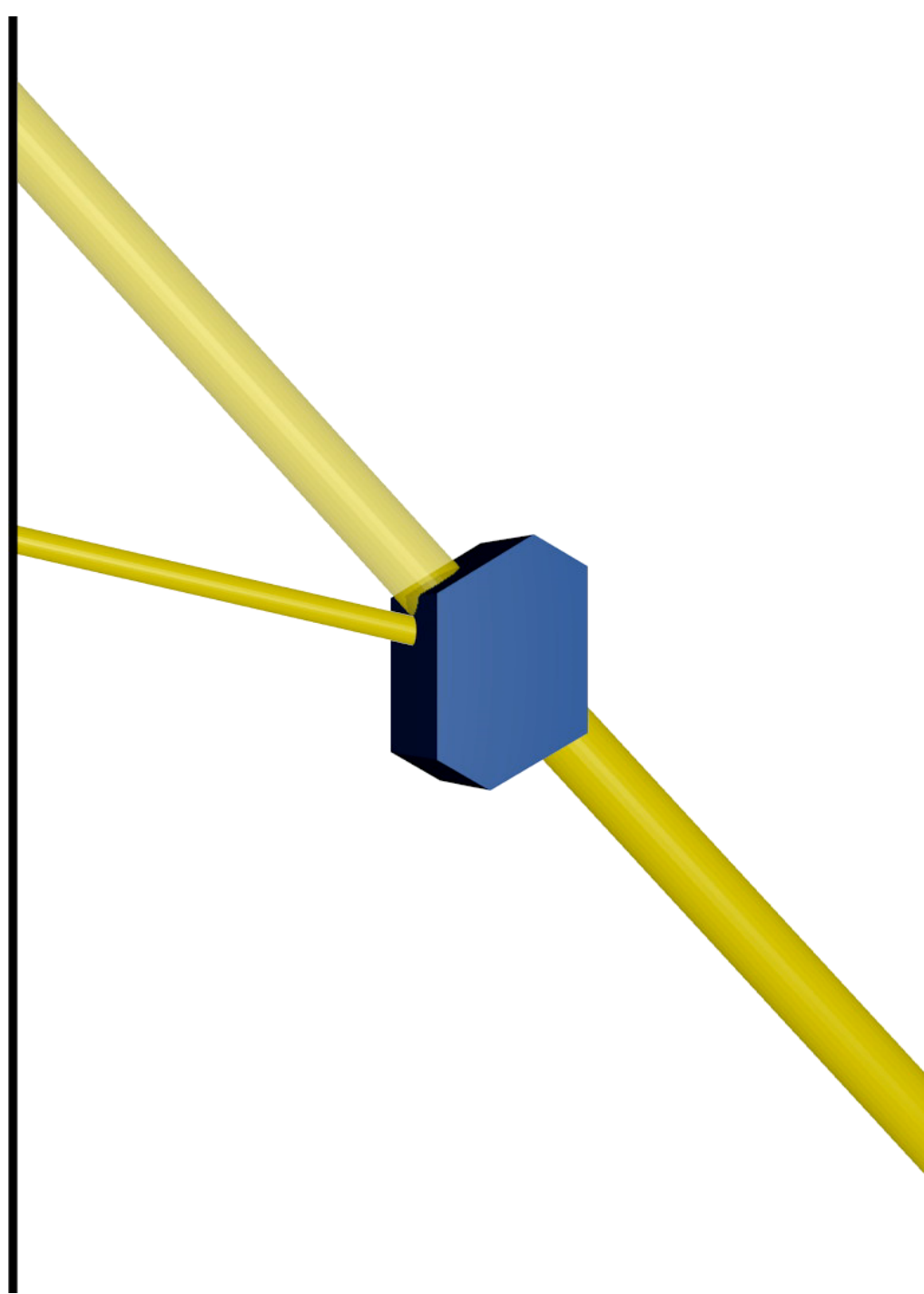
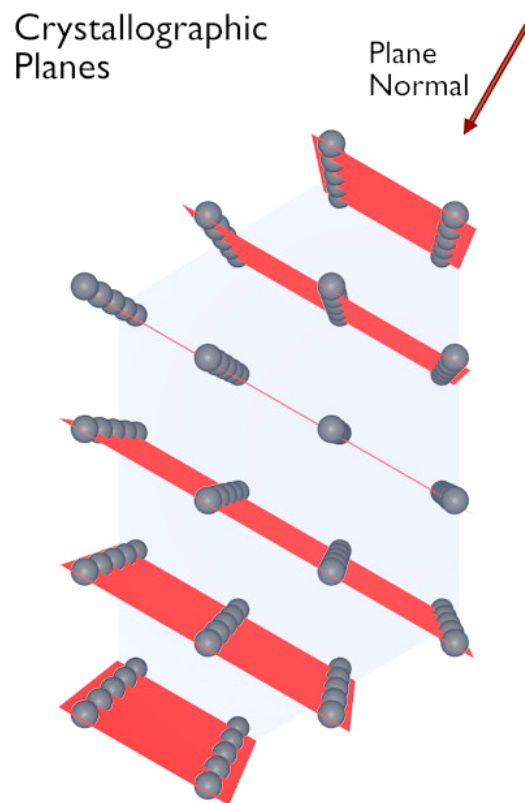
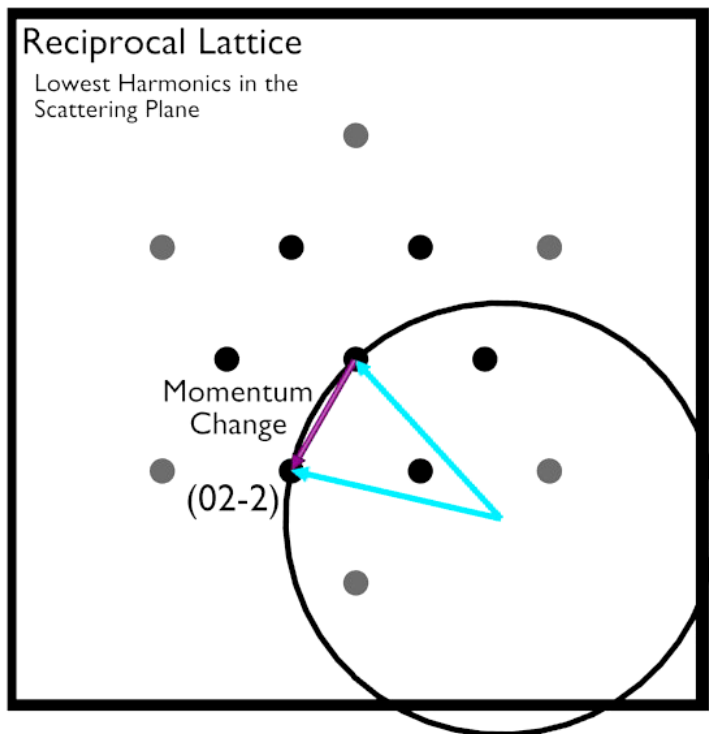
# The Ewald sphere and scattering triangle

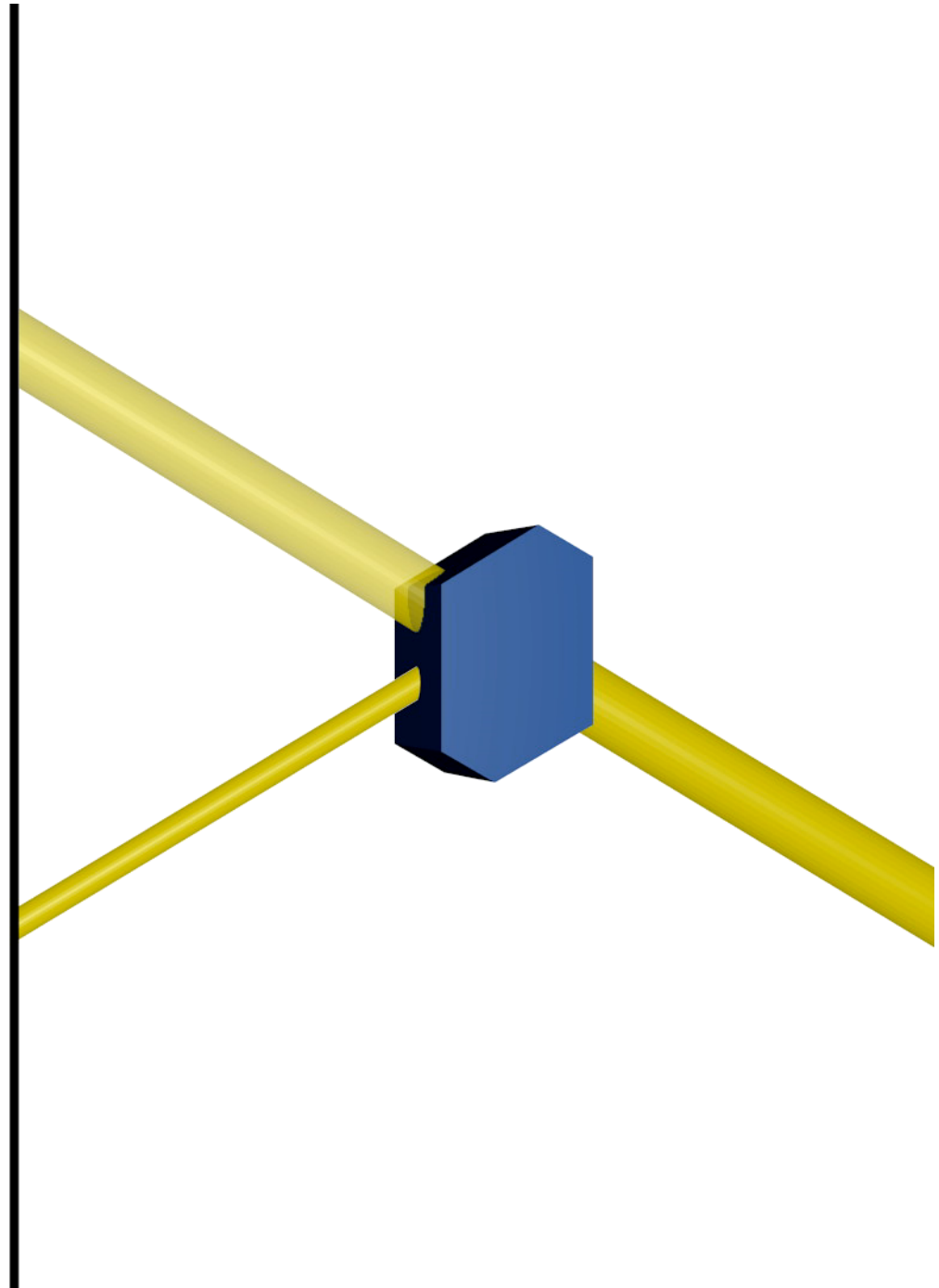
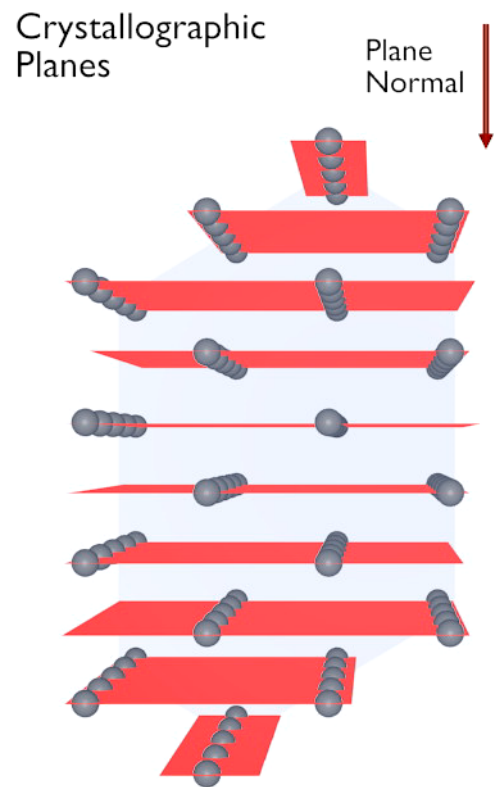
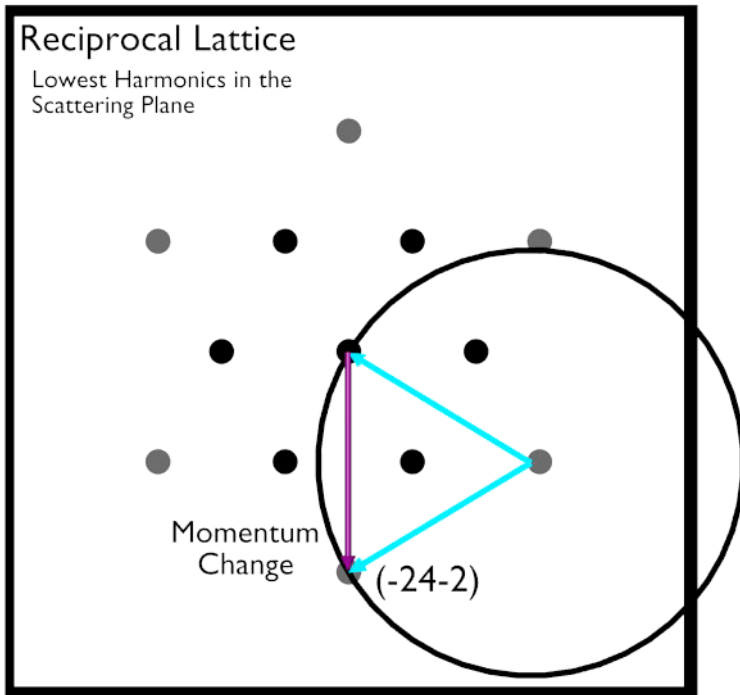


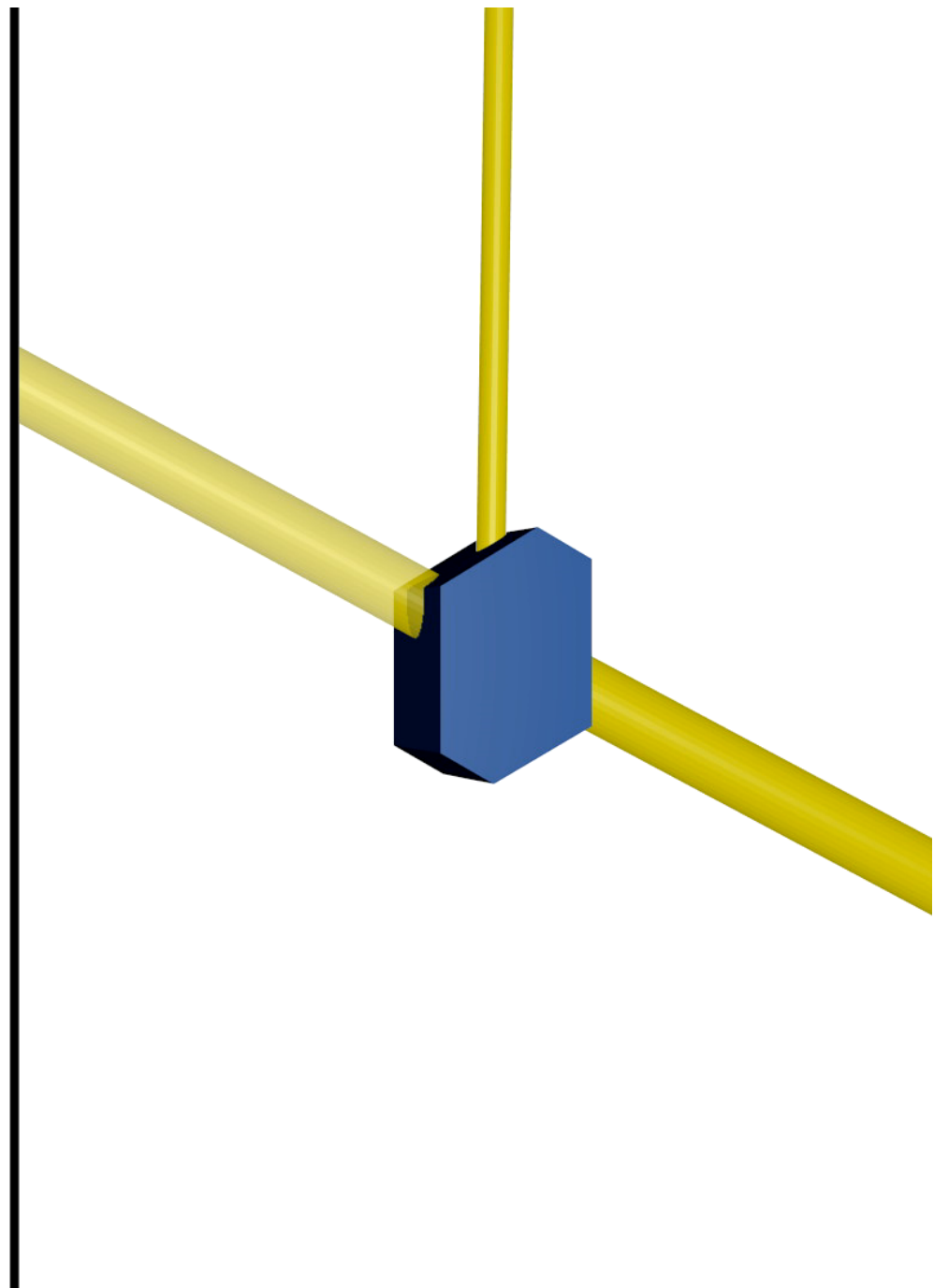
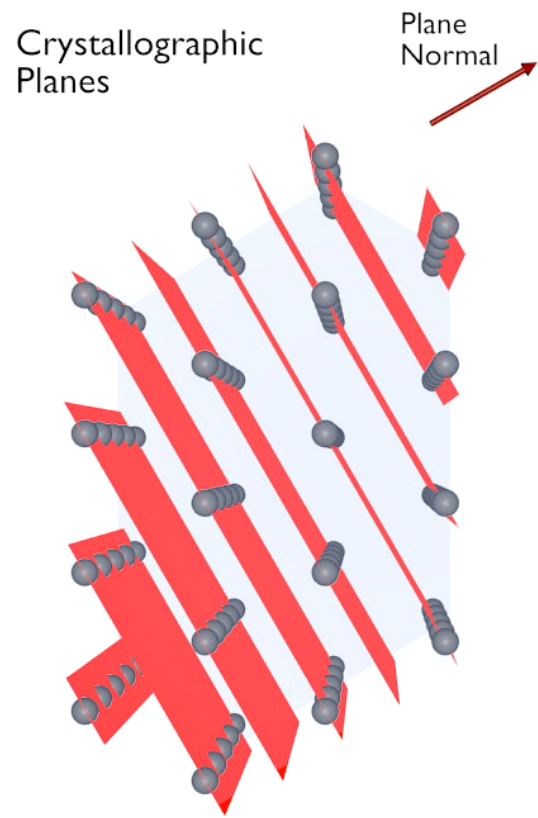
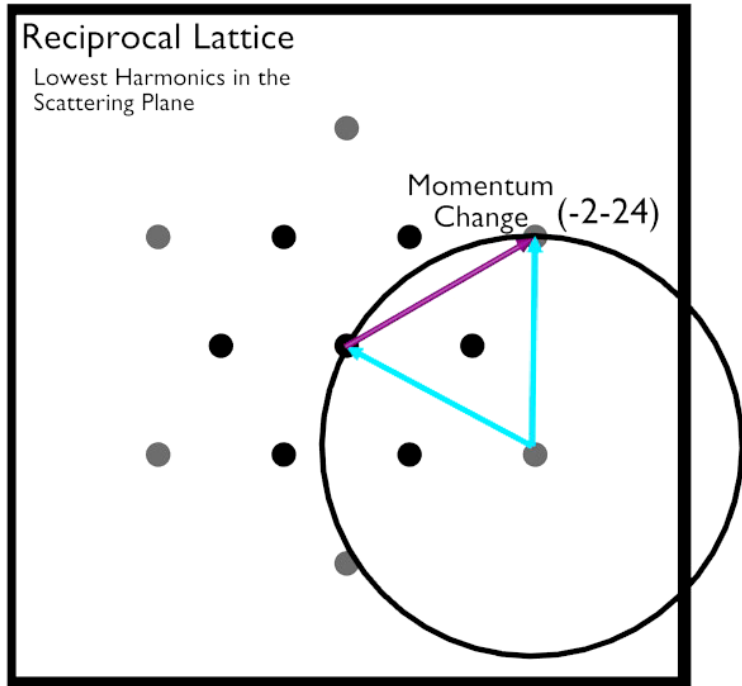
The Ewald Sphere

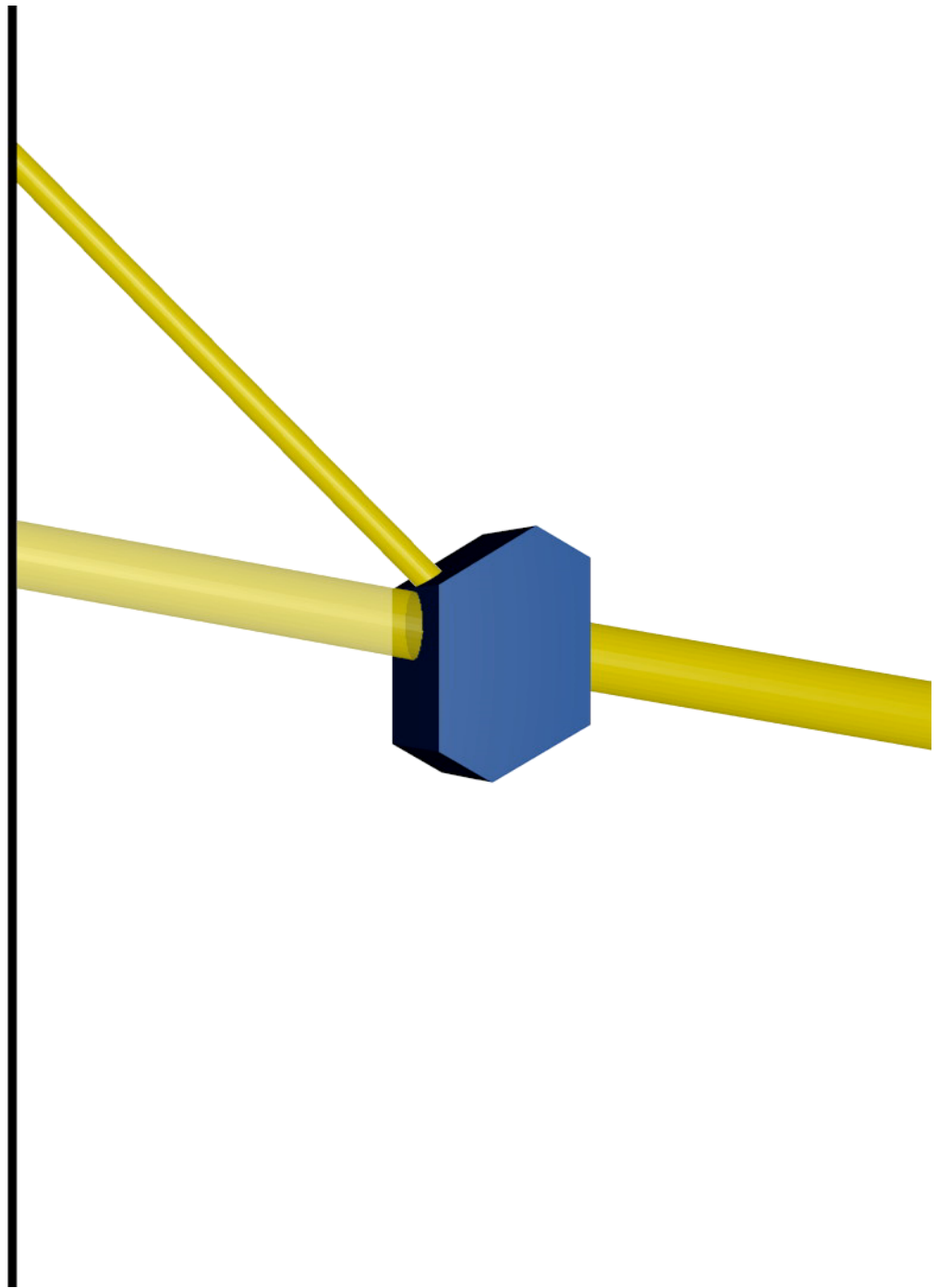
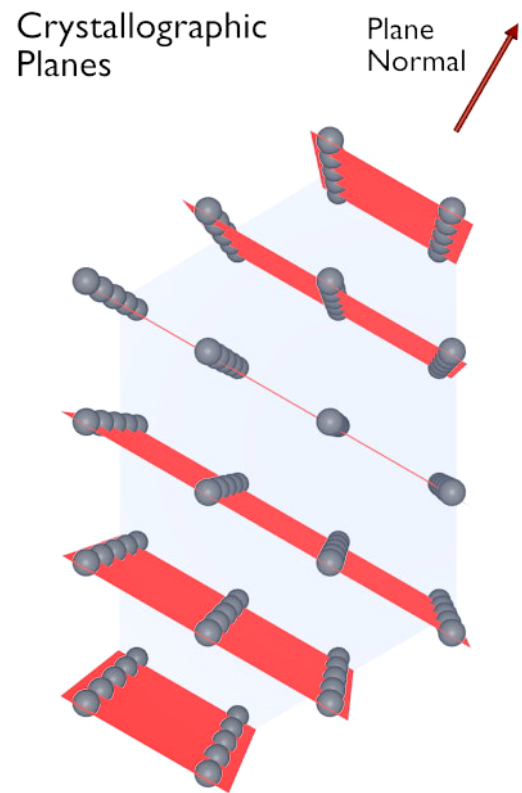
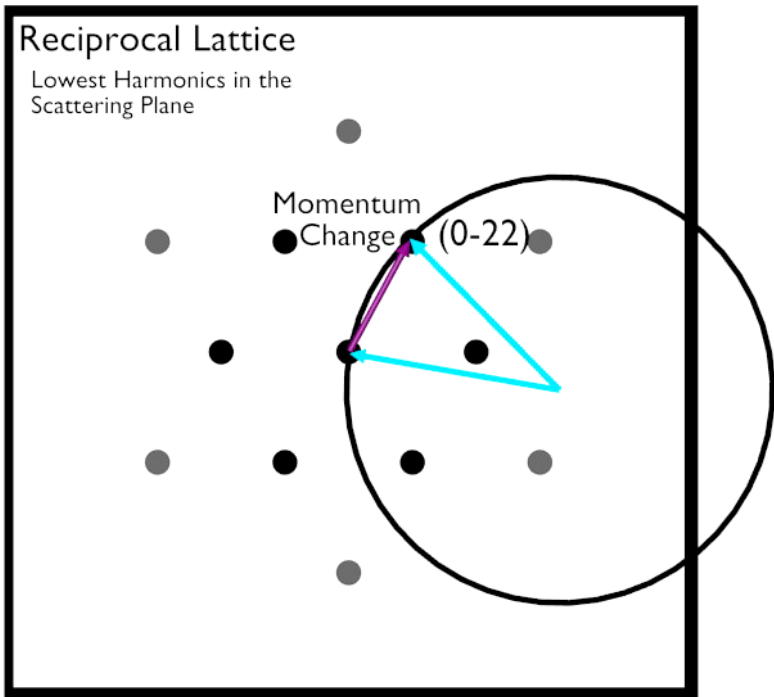
Radius is  $2\pi/\lambda$











# Summary

For x-ray and neutron scattering, we are dealing with the scattering of plane waves by atoms and nuclei.

$$F(k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

neutrons

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \sum_{i,j} b_i b_j e^{-\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j)}$$

x-rays

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = r_0^2 \sum_{i,j} |f(Q)|^2 e^{-\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j)} P(2\theta)$$

$$|\vec{Q}| = \frac{4\pi \sin \theta}{\lambda}$$

When  $\mathbf{G}_{hkl} = \mathbf{Q}$ , Bragg's Law

$$n\lambda = 2d_{hkl} \sin \theta$$

Questions?



neutron scattering