

### A VERY ABBREVIATED INTRODUCTION TO POWDER DIFFRACTION



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### OUTLINE

- Diffraction properties of atoms with x-rays and neutrons
- Diffraction from single-crystals vs. powders
- Why do we use powder diffraction?
- Materials effects in powder diffraction
- Instruments for powder diffraction collection
- Crystallographic analysis of powder diffraction data
- Appendices:
  - More on peak shapes
  - More on crystallography
  - Where to go for more information



# WHY DID CRYSTALLOGRAPHY REVOLUTIONIZE SCIENCE?

- 1. Crystallography was the first scientific technique that provided <u>direct</u> information about molecular structure
  - Early work was intuitive: structures assigned based on patterns and symmetry (some results predate X-rays!)
- 2. X-ray and neutron diffraction observations can be modeled very accurately directly when the molecular structure is known
- 3. Diffraction can provide a very large number of independent observations
  - probability of finding an incorrect structure model that is both plausible and is in good agreement with the diffraction observations is very small (but not zero!)
- 4. Computer-assisted least-squares optimization allows structural models to be improved, limited only by the quality of the data
- 5. Statistical and brute-force techniques overcomes the incomplete nature of diffraction observations (direct methods vs. "the phase problem").

#### 100+ years later, no other technique offers as much power for learning about molecular structure!















# Resonant scattering: scattering at a resonance edge causes atoms to "light up"

Experiments are sometimes performed at wavelengths close to absorption edges to enhance the scattering from particular elements

#### X-rays

The x-ray form factor has in fact three components:

- f(Q) + f'(λ) + i f"(λ)
  - f is determined by Q and the number of electrons in an atom and is independent of wavelength
  - f' and f" are small except at wavelengths very close to an atom's absorption edge

At wavelengths close to an edge absorption becomes high; fluorescence occurs above the edge.

#### Neutrons

Scattering lengths for most atoms are wavelength-independent.

A similar "resonant scattering" type experiment can sometimes be performed comparing samples containing different isotopes (\$\$ to \$\$\$\$\$)

A few isotopes (mostly lanthanides and actinides) have adsorption edges at accessible wavelengths.

 This is usually a curse rather than a blessing: it makes TOF neutron scattering had to analyze

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### Diffraction from random polycrystalline material In a sufficiently large, randomly Diffracted oriented polycrystalline sample Beam (e.g. a powder) contains a very large number of crystallites. A beam impinging on the sample will find a representative number of Incident crystallites in the right orientation Beam for diffraction Diffraction occurs only at specific angles, those where Bragg's Law is satisfied.

















# UNDERSTANDING SAMPLE EFFECTS (I): CRYSTALLITE (SIZE) BROADENING The Fourier transform (FT) from an *infinite* array of regularly spaced objects is an array of delta functions. The FT from a *finite* length array is broadened; all maxima are broadened equally in Q (or d).



### UNDERSTANDING SAMPLE EFFECTS (II): MICROSTRAIN (RESIDUAL STRESS) BROADENING

Strain & stress changes the lattice constants of a material

- In a material with residual stress
  - some crystallites are under tension,
  - others are compressed

Shift of peak  $\approx$  Q, broadening increases linearly with Q ( $\Delta$ Q/Q or  $\Delta$ d/d constant)





#### ANISOTROPIC BROADENING: BROADENING CAN BE DIRECTION-DEPENDENT

**Crystallite broadening** will vary with *hkl* when crystallites have smaller average dimensions in certain crystallographic directions, broadening reflections by class

**Microstrain broadening** will vary with *hkl* if a material is more stiff (harder) in some crystallographic directions than others, again broadening reflections by class



$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{2}(\boldsymbol{M}_{hkl}) = \sum_{HKL} S_{HKL} h^{H} k^{K} l^{L} , H + K + L = 4$$

Cubic – m3m – 2 terms

 $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{2}(M_{hkl}) = S_{400}(h^{4} + k^{4} + l^{4}) + \Im S_{220}(h^{2}k^{2} + h^{2}l^{2} + k^{2}l^{2})$ 

#### General expression – triclinic – 15 terms

$$\begin{split} \sigma^2(M_{hkl}) &= S_{400}h^4 + S_{040}k^4 + S_{004}l^4 + 3\bigl(S_{220}h^2k^2 + S_{202}h^2l^2 + S_{022}k^2l^2\bigr) + \\ & 2\bigl(S_{310}h^3k + S_{103}hl^3 + S_{031}k^3l + S_{130}hk^3 + S_{301}h^3l + S_{013}kl^3\bigr) + \\ & 4\bigl(S_{21},h^2kl + S_{127}hk^2l + S_{112}hkl^2\bigr) \end{split}$$



### **Area Detection**

- With an area detector, a complete powder diffraction pattern can be collected in a fraction of a second.
  - Fast
  - Medium resolution
  - High background





## Highest resolution requires high collimation. Optimal is a crystal analyzer between the sample and detector: 11-BM Diffractometer















# Neutron Powder Diffraction with Spallation Source

- Spallation source provides a broad band of wavelengths in sharp pulses
  - TOF detection allows measurement of intensity versus wavelength
  - Each detector provides a full diffraction pattern
  - Data collection times:
    - Seconds to hours







# Fitting crystallographic data from powder diffraction -- what is it all about?

- We perform an experiment:
  - Get lots of intensity and position measurements in a diffraction measurement: what do they tell us?
- Obtain an unit cell that fits the diffraction positions (indexing)
- "Solve the structure": determine an approximate model to match the intensities
- Add/modify the structure for completeness & chemical sense
- Optimize the structure (model) to obtain the best fit to the observed data
  - This is usually done with Gauss-Newton least-squares fitting
  - Parameters to be fit are structural and may account for other experimental effects
- Least Squares gives us a Hessian matrix; inverse is variance-covariance matrix which gives uncertainties in the parameters

# Crystallography from powder diffraction: before Rietveld

How did crystallographers use powder diffraction data?

- Avoided powder diffraction
- Manually integrate intensities
  - discard peaks with overlapped reflections

Or

- rewrote single-crystal software to refine using sums of overlapped reflections

Simulation of powder diffraction data was commonly done

- Qualitative reasoning: similarities in patterns implied similar structures
- Visual comparison between computed and observed structure verifies approximate model
- Fits, where accurate (& precise) models were rarely obtained

Error propagation was difficult to do correctly (but not impossible)



# Calculation of Powder Diffraction: Graphical Example

hkl	mult	D-space	F <sub>hkl</sub>	phase		-1-						054	ž			050			
6,5,1	48	1.548	0.29	0	651 732	800	741	820	653	660 822	831 743	651 732	Sec.	741	820	653	660 822	831 743	
7,3,2	48	1.548	1.709	180									XXX	×					
B, <b>0</b> ,0	6	1.5236	29.45	0								×	11						
7,4,1	48	1.5004	2.327	0	1							××	* 1	×××					
8,2,0	24	1.4781	3.703	0								¥¥	Ŋ Ŋ	XX	×*××			~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	
6,5,3	48	1.4569	1.27	0								<u>∫</u> ~≯	1× *	¥ .}	XA.	X	×	Ŷ	
6,6,0	12	1.4365	0.242	180								X.	× ′	x x	%×^^	X	××××	×××	
8,2,2	24	1.4365	2.086	0								× `	ž		×× , ,	×××	XX	**	
8,3,1	48	1.417	0.22	180								*				×	× ×		
7,4,3	48	1.417	1.827	180															
<ol> <li>Generate reflection list</li> <li>Compute F<sub>hkl</sub> from</li> </ol>						<b>3) Peak heights are generated from </b>  F <sub><i>hkl</i></sub>						4) Convolute peaks & add background							
model						<sup>2</sup> *multiplicity							5) Optimize model, peak widths, etc. to improve fit						



Single crystal fitting	Powder data fitting
Minimize equation $\Sigma w_i[y_i - Y(x_i, p)]$	] <sup>2</sup> where
<b>Data:</b> y <sub>i</sub> = F <sub>hkl (obs)</sub>	y <sub>i</sub> = observed powder diffraction intensities
<b>Model:</b> $Y(x_i, \mathbf{p}) = F_{hkl (calc)}$	$Y(x_i, p)$ = computed diffraction intensities from (F <sub>hkl (calc)</sub> , background model, profile convolution, preferred orientation correction
<b>Parameters</b> $(p_1, p_2, p_3p_m)$ : atomic coordinates, displacement (T) factors	<ul> <li>+ lattice parameters</li> <li>+ "experimental" parameters for peak shapes, background…</li> </ul>

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### **Rietveld Applications**

- Crystallographic structure determination
- Quantify amounts of crystalline phases
  - (Amorphous content possible indirectly)
- Engineering properties
  - Residual stress/Crystallite sizes
  - Preferred orientation
- Lattice constant determination



#### Disadvantage of Rietveld: Many non-structural parameters need to be fit

- Background
  - fixed
  - functions
- Peak shape
  - "fundamental parameters"
  - functions
- Lattice constants
  - zero correction
  - flat plate terms

- Scaling
  - Phase fractions
- Structural parameters
  - atom positions
  - occupancies
  - displacement parameters
- Preferential Orientation
- Absorption

Powder diffraction offers fewer observations and worse peak-to-background than single crystal diffraction



### SURVEY OF RIETVELD SOFTWARE

## (There are a huge number of historical codes). These are the ones that are actively developed with wide use:

- FullProf: widely used, excellent support for magnetic scattering
- TOPAS: commercial; fundamental parameter peak shapes; very fast. Machine algebra allows arbitrary models
- MAUD: primarily for microscopic characterization (texture,...)
- JANA: primary focus modulated structures, excellent charge-flipping structure solution
- EXPO: primary focus direct-methods structure solution
- RIETAN: somewhat dated, widely used in Japan
- GSAS/EXPGUI: first comprehensive code; no longer supported (replaced by GSAS-II); limited magnetic scattering support
- GSAS-II: only code started in current decade; supports start-to-finish analysis process; sequential refinement mode for fitting large numbers of related patterns, still being completed

### WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH GSAS-II?

## GSAS-II does everything in GSAS/EXPGUI, and has extensive capabilities available only in very specialized programs

- Data reduction/initial processing
  - Image calibration
  - Image integration
  - Peak fitting/position determination
  - PDF computation (neutrons eventually)
  - TOF calibration
- Structure solution
  - Pattern
  - Charge flipping
  - Rigid body simulated annealing
- Crystallographic analysis
  - Powder diffraction
  - Single-crystal diffraction
  - Neutron and x-ray diffraction
  - Fitting of any of the above, combined

- Magnetic scattering (incommensurate, coming soon)
- Fitting of modulated (3+1) structural models
  - Neutron or x-ray
- Fitting of twinned single-crystal datasets
- Parametric structural analysis
   Parametric equation fitting
- 2D dataset fitting:
  - Strain fitting
  - Texture fitting
- Stacking fault modeling (DIFFaX)
- Small-angle scattering analysis
- Reflectometry (CW)

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# Lorentz (Cauchy) and Gaussian Broadening Functions

Most instrument & sample broadening contributions are Lorentzian or Gaussian

Normalized Gaussian  

$$G(\Delta T, \Gamma_G) = \sqrt{\frac{4\ln 2}{\pi \Gamma_G^2}} \exp\left[\frac{-4\ln 2(\Delta T)^2}{\Gamma_G^2}\right]$$
Normalized Lorentzian  

$$L(\Delta T, \gamma_L) = \frac{2}{\pi \gamma_L} \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{2\Delta T}{\gamma_L}\right)^2}$$

Note that peak widths vary so  $\Gamma_G$  and  $\gamma_L$  are both functions of Q



Gaussian & Lorentzian functions compared. Both curves have same FWHM & area, but note the much longer tails for the Lorentzian.











#### When Strain Differs by Reflection Class: "Anisotropic peak broadening"

Strain may be anisotropic

- think of a layered material where the layers can be pulled apart without much effort, but the layers themselves are quite "hard" (resistant to applied forces).
- Such a material will be "squishy" in the layer direction and rigid in the other two (more broadening in the squishy direction.)

Canonical anisotropic strain model: P. W. Stephens, *Journal of Applied Crystallography* **32**, 281 (1999).

 Restricts strain components in terms of 1st & 2nd-order terms allowed by lattice symmetry

#### Anisotropic strain broadening terms

#### **Broadening – as variance**

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{2}(\boldsymbol{M}_{hkl}) = \sum_{HKL} S_{HKL} h^{H} k^{K} l^{L} , H + K + L = 4$$

General expression – triclinic – 15 terms

$$\sigma^{2}(M_{hkl}) = S_{400}h^{4} + S_{040}k^{4} + S_{004}l^{4} + 3(S_{220}h^{2}k^{2} + S_{202}h^{2}l^{2} + S_{022}k^{2}l^{2}) + 2(S_{310}h^{3}k + S_{103}hl^{3} + S_{031}k^{3}l + S_{130}hk^{3} + S_{301}h^{3}l + S_{013}kl^{3}) + 4(S_{211}h^{2}kl + S_{121}hk^{2}l + S_{112}hkl^{2})$$

#### Symmetry effects – monoclinic (b unique) – 9 terms

$$\sigma^{2}(M_{hkl}) = S_{400}h^{4} + S_{040}k^{4} + S_{004}l^{4} + 3S_{202}h^{2}l^{2} + 3(S_{220}h^{2}k^{2} + S_{022}k^{2}l^{2}) + 2(S_{301}h^{3}l + S_{103}hk^{3}) + 4S_{121}hk^{2}l$$

#### Anisotropic strain broadening terms

Symmetry effects – orthorhombic - mmm – 6 terms  $\sigma^{2}(M_{hkl}) = S_{400}h^{4} + S_{040}k^{4} + S_{004}l^{4} + 3(S_{220}h^{2}k^{2} + S_{202}h^{2}l^{2} + S_{022}k^{2}l^{2})$ 

Tetragonal – 4/mmm – 4 terms

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{2}(M_{hkl}) = S_{400}(h^{4} + k^{4}) + S_{004}l^{4} + 3S_{220}h^{2}k^{2} + 3S_{202}(h^{2}l^{2} + k^{2}l^{2})$$

#### Cubic - m3m - 2 terms

 $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{2}(M_{hkl}) = S_{400}(h^{4} + k^{4} + l^{4}) + 3S_{220}(h^{2}k^{2} + h^{2}l^{2} + k^{2}l^{2})$ 

Trigonal, Rhombohedral & Hexagonal – it depends – 3 or 4 terms



#### **The Lattice**

- Crystals are constructed from repeated arrangements of atoms.
- Crystalline structure can be described as set of "identical boxes" stacked in 3D; the contents of each box is identical (exception: quasicrystals)
  - <u>A lattice</u> is a mathematical concept where each lattice point describes an identical environment; lattice points are the corners of the "identical boxes."

Commonly used phrases such as "lattice compound" or "interstitials in the lattice" misuse the concept of a lattice.



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#### **Space Groups**

- Not all combinations of symmetry and lattice types are compatible
  - Example: mirror plane perpendicular to a non-orthogonal pair of axes is not possible



- $\Delta$  There are only 230 unique ways to combine symmetry elements for a 3D lattice: <u>230 space groups</u>
- ∆ Space groups are tabulated in <u>The International Tables</u> <u>of Crystallography, Volume A</u>
- $\Delta \ \ \text{I recommend } \underbrace{\text{Space Groups for Solid State Scientists}}_{\text{by G. Burns and A. M. Glazer as a good place to learn}_{\text{about space groups and their properties}}$









#### Where to go for more...

There are many texts available. My favorites:



#### **Fundamentals of Crystallography** (2nd Ed.), Carmelo Giacovazzo, et al. (Oxford, 2002, ~\$90) [Modern & very comprehensive, quite reasonable price considering quality, size & scope.]

#### X-Ray Structure Determination: A Practical Guide (2nd Ed.), G. H. Stout, & L. H. Jensen (Wiley, 1989, ~\$150) [Focused on small-molecule single crystal techniques, dated, but very easy to read; very good explanations of fundamentals. 1<sup>st</sup> book for many in field.]



#### APS Web lectures on powder diffraction crystallography:

www.aps.anl.gov: look for Education/Schools/Powder Diffraction Crystallography (http://www.aps.anl.gov/Xray\_Science\_Division/Powder\_Diffraction\_Crystallography) Intended to introduce Rietveld refinement techniques with GSAS & EXPGUI