

Appendix E (Optional)

Monatomic Crystals in 3D: General Formalism

1 atom/basis (To illustrate the formalism)

Direct lattice: $\{ \vec{R}_i \}$

Each atom belongs to a primitive cell labeled by a lattice vector \vec{R}_i .

$\vec{u}(\vec{R}) = (u_x(\vec{R}), u_y(\vec{R}), u_z(\vec{R}))$ = displacement of atom where equilibrium position is at \vec{R}

Generally speaking, the potential energy V of the system is

$$V = V(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_N)$$

function of positions of all N atoms

$$\equiv V(\{ \vec{r}_i \})$$

$$\equiv V(\{ \vec{R}_i + \vec{u}(\vec{R}_i) \})$$

$$= V(\{ \vec{R}_i \}) + \text{first order} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial u_\alpha(\vec{R}_i) \partial u_\beta(\vec{R}_j)} u_\alpha(\vec{R}_i) u_\beta(\vec{R}_j) + \text{higher order terms}$$

minimum of V (a number) \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow spring constants \rightarrow harmonic terms (neglected)

$$\approx V(\{ \vec{R}_i \}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \sum_{\vec{R}_i, \vec{R}_j} \Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R}_i | \vec{R}_j) u_\alpha(\vec{R}_i) u_\beta(\vec{R}_j)$$

Thus, not restricting to nearest neighboring interaction only, the α -th component of the force on atoms at \vec{R}' due to the displacement $\vec{u}(\vec{R})$ of the atom at \vec{R} is:

$$-\sum_{\beta=x,y,z} \Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R}' | \vec{R}) u_\beta(\vec{R})$$

\vec{R}, \vec{R}' need not be neighboring lattice pts.

Equation of motion:

$$m \frac{d^2 u_\alpha(\vec{R}')}{dt^2} = - \sum_{\beta=x,y,z} \sum_{\vec{R}} \Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R}' | \vec{R}) u_\beta(\vec{R})$$

$\alpha=x,y,z$

Normal mode solution: $\vec{u}(\vec{R}') = \vec{A} e^{i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{R}'} e^{-i\omega t}$

$$-m\omega^2 A_\alpha e^{i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{R}'} = - \sum_{\vec{R}} \sum_{\beta} \Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R}' | \vec{R}) A_\beta e^{i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{R}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\beta} \left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_{\vec{R}} \Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R}' | \vec{R}) e^{-i\vec{q} \cdot (\vec{R}' - \vec{R})} \right) A_\beta = \omega^2 A_\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\beta} D_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{q}) = \omega^2 A_\alpha \quad (A_\alpha = \omega^2 A_\alpha)$$

reduced to many 3x3 matrix problems

Thus,

$$\begin{pmatrix} D_{xx}(\vec{q}) & D_{xy}(\vec{q}) & D_{xz}(\vec{q}) \\ D_{yx}(\vec{q}) & D_{yy}(\vec{q}) & D_{yz}(\vec{q}) \\ D_{zx}(\vec{q}) & D_{yz}(\vec{q}) & D_{zz}(\vec{q}) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{pmatrix} = \omega^2 \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \\ A_z \end{pmatrix}$$

$\{ \vec{q} \in 1^{st} \text{ BZ} \Rightarrow N \text{ values of } \vec{q}'s$

Each \vec{q} , a 3×3 eigenvalue problem $\Rightarrow 3$ eigenfrequencies
 3 branches and a total of $3N$ normal modes (as expected)

- Original problem (not involving periodicity): $3N \times 3N$ problems
- Involving periodicity: $\{ N (3 \times 3) \text{-problems} \}$ one for each \vec{q}

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{q}) &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\vec{R}} \Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R}''|\vec{R}) e^{i\vec{q} \cdot (\vec{R}' - \vec{R}'')} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\vec{R}} \Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{R}''|\vec{R} + \vec{R}) e^{i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{R}} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\vec{R}} \Phi_{\alpha\beta}(\vec{r}|\vec{R}) e^{i\vec{q} \cdot \vec{R}} \end{aligned}$$

interaction should depend only on separation between atoms (due to periodicity)

$\vec{D} = \text{Dynamical matrix}$

- Fitting experimental data with calculations (which require Φ and thus V) is a way to extract information about $V(\vec{r}; \vec{r}')$ and thus interaction forces.