

AIC Commission on Crystallographic Teaching

AIC International Crystallography School 2019

**C**RYSTALLOGRAPHIC

**I**NFORMATION

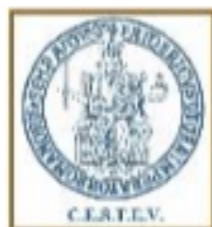
**F**IESTA



30 August  
3 September  
2019

Naples, Italy

[www.cristallografia.org/aicschool2019](http://www.cristallografia.org/aicschool2019)

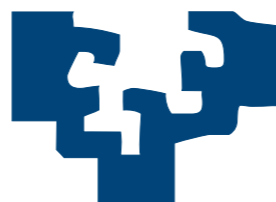


# SPACE-GROUP SYMMETRY

## International Tables for Crystallography, Volume A

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eman ta zabal zazu



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del País Vasco

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Unibertsitatea

# Crystal Symmetry

## Real crystal

Real crystals are finite objects in physical space which due to static (impurities and structural imperfections like disorder, dislocations, etc) or dynamic (phonons) defects are not perfectly symmetric.



## Ideal crystal (ideal crystal structures)

Infinite periodic spatial arrangement of the atoms (ions, molecules) with no static or dynamic defects



## Crystal pattern:

A model of the ideal crystal (crystal structure) in point space consisting of a strictly 3-dimensional periodic set of points

An abstraction of the atomic nature of the ideal structure, perfectly periodic

# SPACE GROUPS

**Space group  $G$ :**

The set of all symmetry operations (isometries) of a crystal pattern

**Translation subgroup  $T$ :**  
 $T \triangleleft G$

The infinite set of all translations that are symmetry operations of the crystal pattern

**Point group of the space groups  $P_G$ :**

The factor group of the space group  $G$  with respect to the translation subgroup  $T$ :  $P_G \cong G/H$

$$(W, w) \longrightarrow W \quad P_G = \{W \mid (W, w) \in G\}$$

# INTERNATIONAL TABLES FOR CRYSTALLOGRAPHY VOLUME A: SPACE-GROUP SYMMETRY

Extensive tabulations and illustrations  
of the 17 plane groups and  
of the 230 space groups

- headline with the relevant group symbols;
- diagrams of the symmetry elements and of the general position;
- specification of the origin and the asymmetric unit;
- list of symmetry operations;
- generators;
- general and special positions with multiplicities, site symmetries, coordinates and reflection conditions;
- symmetries of special projections;

Volume  
**A**  
Space-group symmetry  
Edited by Moïse I. Aroyo  
Sixth edition

# GENERAL LAYOUT: LEFT-HAND PAGE

①  $Cmm2$

$C_{2v}^{11}$

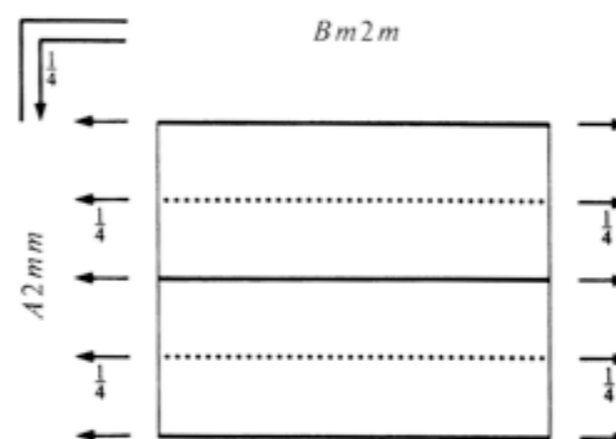
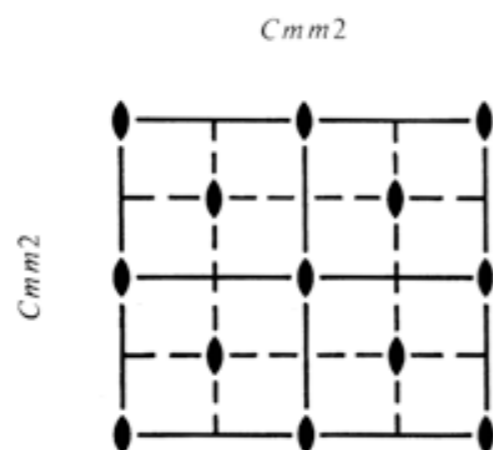
$mm2$

Orthorhombic

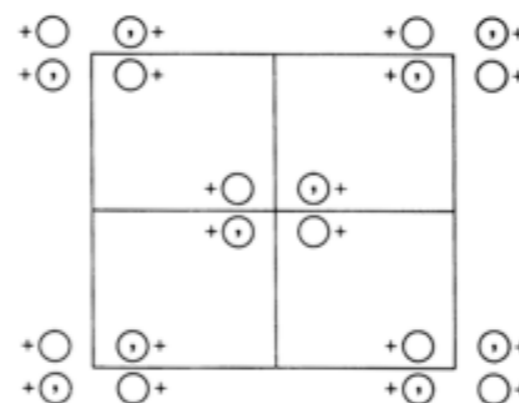
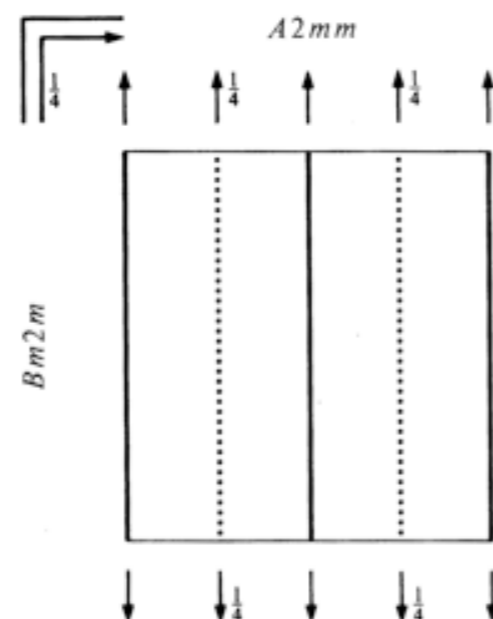
② No. 35

$Cmm2$

Patterson symmetry  $Cmmm$



③



④ **Origin** on  $mm2$

⑤ **Asymmetric unit**  $0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}; 0 \leq y \leq \frac{1}{2}; 0 \leq z \leq 1$

⑥ **Symmetry operations**

For  $(0,0,0)+$  set

(1) 1

(2) 2  $0,0,z$

(3)  $m$   $x,0,z$

(4)  $m$   $0,y,z$

# General Layout: Right-hand page

① CONTINUED

No. 35

*Cmm2*

② Generators selected (1);  $t(1,0,0)$ ;  $t(0,1,0)$ ;  $t(0,0,1)$ ;  $t(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},0)$ ; (2); (3)

③ Positions

Multiplicity, Wyckoff letter, Site symmetry		Coordinates				Reflection conditions
		$(0,0,0)+$	$(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},0)+$			General:
8	<i>f</i> 1	(1) $x,y,z$	(2) $\bar{x},\bar{y},z$	(3) $x,\bar{y},z$	(4) $\bar{x},y,z$	$hkl: h+k=2n$ $0kl: k=2n$ $h0l: h=2n$ $hk0: h+k=2n$ $h00: h=2n$ $0k0: k=2n$
4	<i>e</i> <i>m</i> . .	$0,y,z$	$0,\bar{y},z$			Special: as above, plus no extra conditions
4	<i>d</i> . <i>m</i> .	$x,0,z$	$\bar{x},0,z$			no extra conditions
4	<i>c</i> . . 2	$\frac{1}{4},\frac{1}{4},z$	$\frac{1}{4},\frac{3}{4},z$			$hkl: h=2n$
2	<i>b</i> <i>m m</i> 2	$0,\frac{1}{2},z$				no extra conditions
2	<i>a</i> <i>m m</i> 2	$0,0,z$				no extra conditions

④ Symmetry of special projections

Along [001] *c2mm*  
 $\mathbf{a}' = \mathbf{a}$      $\mathbf{b}' = \mathbf{b}$   
 Origin at  $0,0,z$

Along [100] *p1m1*  
 $\mathbf{a}' = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{b}$      $\mathbf{b}' = \mathbf{c}$   
 Origin at  $x,0,0$

Along [010] *p11m*  
 $\mathbf{a}' = \mathbf{c}$      $\mathbf{b}' = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}$   
 Origin at  $0,y,0$

**HEADLINE BLOCK**



Short Hermann-Mauguin symbol

Schoenflies symbol

Crystal class (point group)

Crystal system

①

*Cmm2*

$C_{2v}^{11}$

*mm2*

Orthorhombic

②

No. 35

*Cmm2*

Patterson symmetry *Cmmm*

Number of space group

Full Hermann-Mauguin symbol

Patterson symmetry

**HERMANN-MAUGUIN  
SYMBOLISM FOR SPACE  
GROUPS**

# Hermann-Mauguin symbols for space groups

The Hermann–Mauguin symbol for a space group consists of a sequence of letters and numbers, here called the constituents of the HM symbol.

(i) The first constituent is always a symbol for the conventional cell of the translation lattice of the space group

(ii) The second part of the full HM symbol of a space group consists of one position for each of up to three representative symmetry directions. To each position belong the generating symmetry operations of their representative symmetry direction. The position is thus occupied either by a rotation, screw rotation or rotoinversion and/or by a reflection or glide reflection.

(iii) Simplest-operation rule:


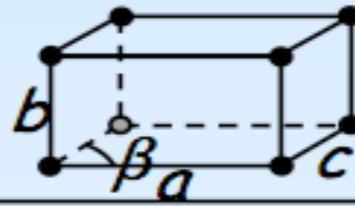


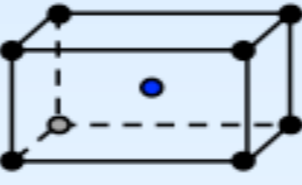
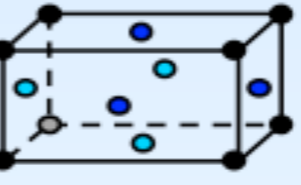
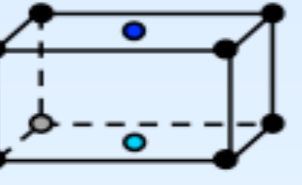
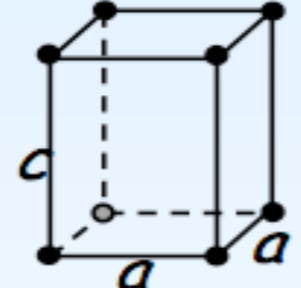
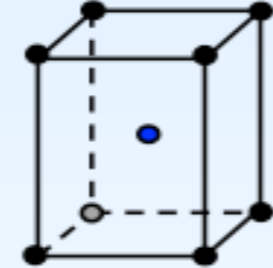
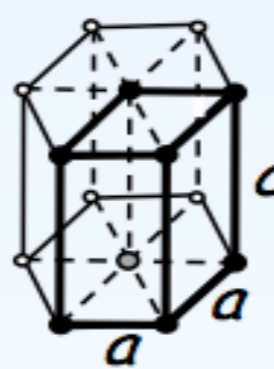
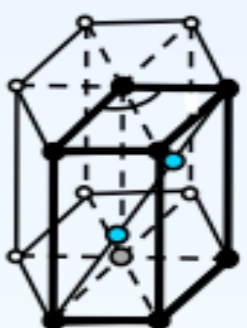
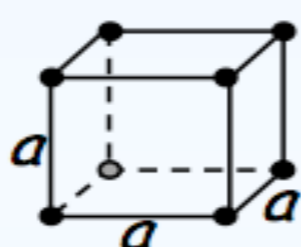
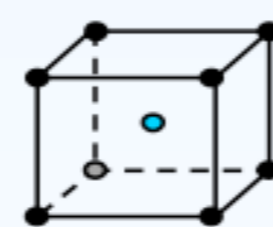
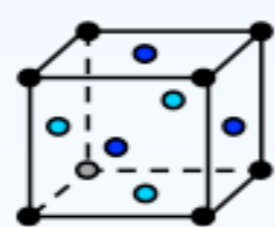
pure rotations  $>$  screw rotations;

pure rotations  $>$  rotoinversions

reflection  $m > a; b; c > n$

' $>$ ' means  
'has priority'

# 14 Bravais Lattices

crystal family	Lattice types				
	<i>P</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>R</i>
triclinic					
monoclinic					
orthorhombic					
tetragonal					
hexagonal					
cubic					

## Symmetry directions

A direction is called a ***symmetry direction*** of a crystal structure if it is parallel to an axis of rotation, screw rotation or rotoinversion or if it is parallel to the normal of a reflection or glide-reflection plane. A symmetry direction is thus the direction of the geometric element of a symmetry operation, when the normal of a symmetry plane is used for the description of its orientation.

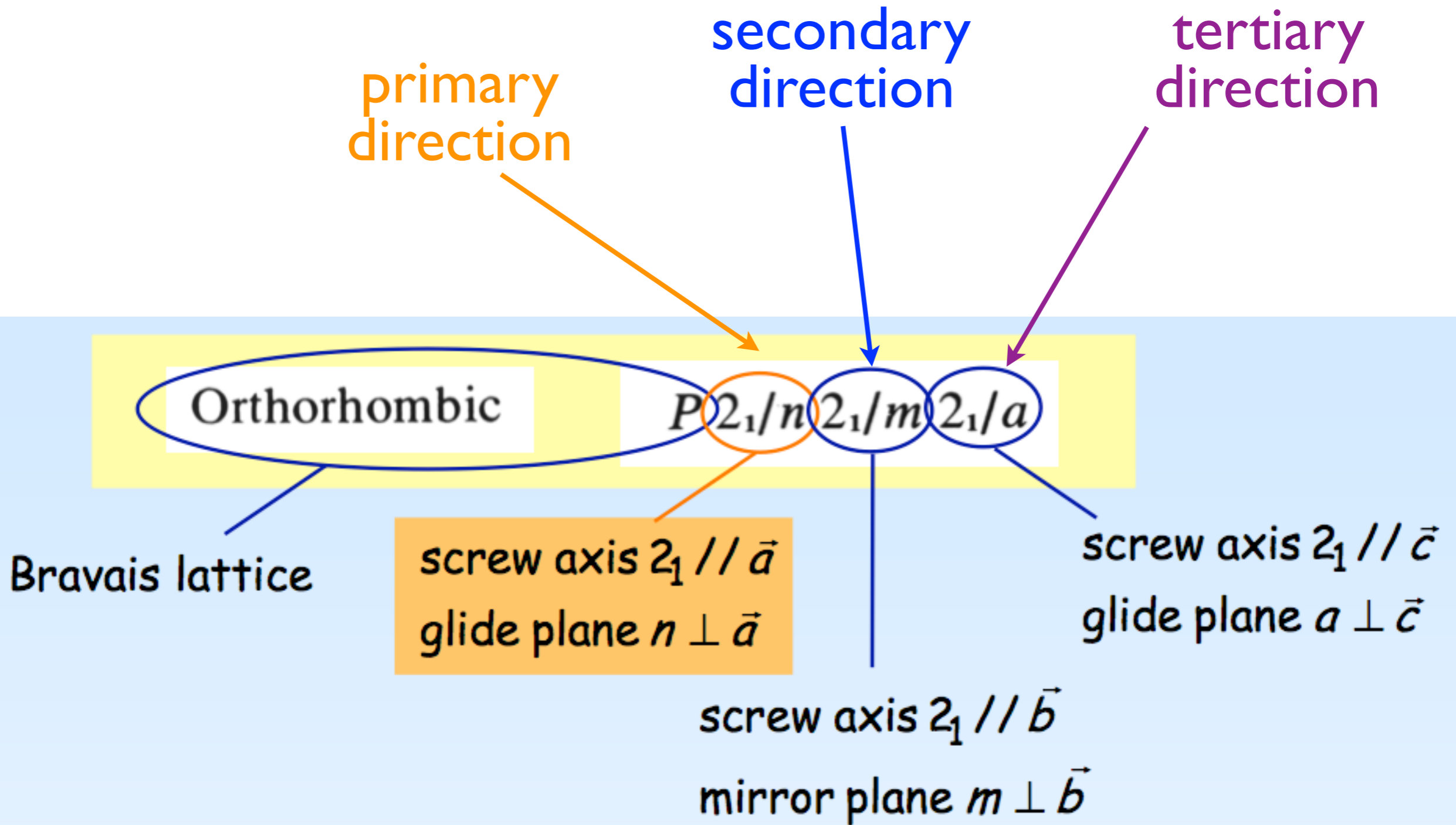
# Hermann-Mauguin symbols for space groups

Directions that belong to the same set of equivalent symmetry directions are collected between braces. The first entry in each set is taken as the representative of that set.

Lattice	Symmetry direction (position in Hermann–Mauguin symbol)		
	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary
Triclinic	None		
Monoclinic*	$[010]$ ('unique axis $b$ ') $[001]$ ('unique axis $c$ ')		
Orthorhombic	$[100]$	$[010]$	$[001]$
Tetragonal	$[001]$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [100] \\ [010] \end{array} \right\}$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [1\bar{1}0] \\ [110] \end{array} \right\}$
Hexagonal	$[001]$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [100] \\ [010] \\ [\bar{1}\bar{1}0] \end{array} \right\}$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [1\bar{1}0] \\ [120] \\ [2\bar{1}0] \end{array} \right\}$
Rhombohedral (hexagonal axes)	$[001]$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [100] \\ [010] \\ [\bar{1}\bar{1}0] \end{array} \right\}$	
Rhombohedral (rhombohedral axes)	$[111]$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [1\bar{1}0] \\ [01\bar{1}] \\ [\bar{1}01] \end{array} \right\}$	
Cubic	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [100] \\ [010] \\ [001] \end{array} \right\}$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [111] \\ [1\bar{1}\bar{1}] \\ [\bar{1}1\bar{1}] \\ [\bar{1}\bar{1}1] \end{array} \right\}$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} [1\bar{1}0] & [110] \\ [01\bar{1}] & [011] \\ [\bar{1}01] & [101] \end{array} \right\}$

Example:

# Hermann-Mauguin symbols for space groups



PRESENTATION OF  
SPACE-GROUP SYMMETRY  
OPERATIONS

IN  
INTERNATIONAL TABLES  
FOR CRYSTALLOGRAPHY,  
VOL.A



# Symmetry Operations

KIND of the symmetry operation

TYPE of the symmetry operation

SCREW/GLIDE component

ORIENTATION of the geometric element

LOCATION of the geometric element

# Kinds of Symmetry Operations

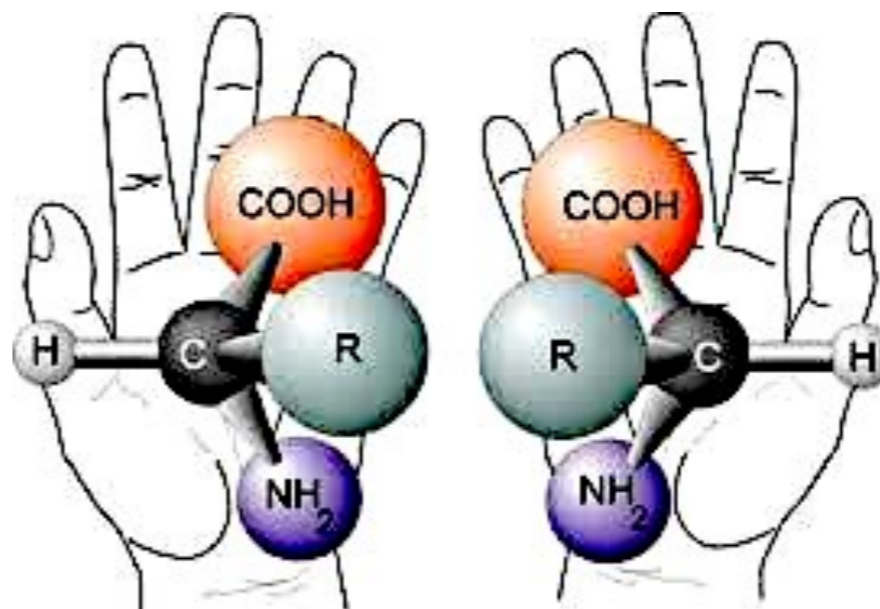
## Symmetry operations of 1st kind (proper):

chirality (handedness)  
preserving



## Symmetry operations of 2nd kind (improper):

chirality (handedness)  
non-preserving



**Chirality** is the geometric property of a rigid object of being non-superposable on its mirror image. An object displaying chirality is called **chiral**; the opposite term is **achiral**.

# Crystallographic symmetry operations

Crystallographic restriction theorem

The rotational symmetries of a crystal pattern are limited to 2-fold, 3-fold, 4-fold, and 6-fold.

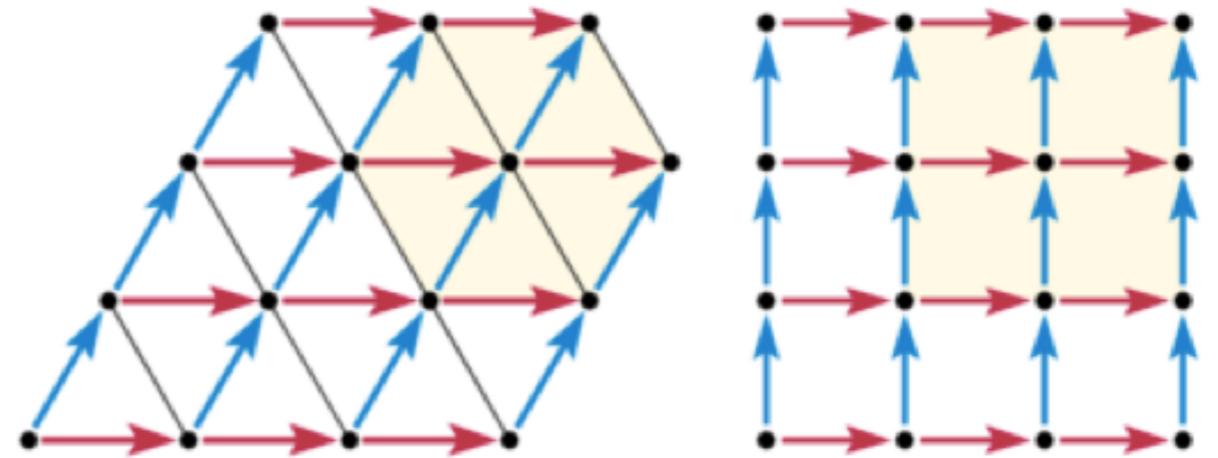
Matrix proof:

Rotation with respect to orthonormal basis

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Rotation with respect to lattice basis

$R$ : integer matrix



In a lattice basis, because the rotation must map lattice points to lattice points, each matrix entry — and hence the trace — must be an integer.

$$\text{Tr } R = 2\cos\theta = \text{integer}$$

$m$	$m/2 = \cos\theta$	$\theta$ ( $^\circ$ )	$n = 360^\circ/\theta$
0	0	90	Fourfold
1	1/2	60	Sixfold
2	1	0 = 360	Identity (onefold)
-1	-1/2	120	Threefold
-2	-1	180	Twofold

# Crystallographic symmetry operations

characteristics:

fixed points of isometries  $(W, w)X_f = X_f$   
geometric elements

Types of isometries preserve handedness

identity:

the whole space fixed

translation  $t$ :

no fixed point

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{t}$$

rotation:

one line fixed  
rotation axis

$$\phi = k \times 360^\circ / N$$

screw rotation:

no fixed point  
screw axis

screw vector

## Types of isometries

do not  
preserve handedness

roto-inversion:

centre of roto-inversion fixed  
roto-inversion axis

inversion:

centre of inversion fixed

reflection:

plane fixed  
reflection/mirror plane

glide reflection:

no fixed point  
glide plane

glide vector

# QUIZ

Referred to an 'orthorhombic' coordinated system ( $a \neq b \neq c$ ;  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90$ ) two symmetry operations are represented by the following matrix-column pairs:

$$(W_1, w_1) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & & & 0 \\ & 1 & & 0 \\ & & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$(W_2, w_2) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & & & 1/2 \\ & 1 & & 0 \\ & & -1 & 1/2 \end{array} \right)$$

Determine the images  $X_i$  of a point  $X$  under the symmetry operations  $(W_i, w_i)$  where

$$X = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 0,70 \\ \hline 0,31 \\ \hline 0,95 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Can you guess what is the geometric 'nature' of  $(W_1, w_1)$ ?  
And of  $(W_2, w_2)$ ?

*Hint:*

A drawing could be rather helpful

# HINTS

# QUIZ

Characterization of the symmetry operations:

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} -1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & -1 \end{pmatrix} = ?$$

$$\text{tr} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & -1 \end{pmatrix} = ?$$

What are the fixed points of  $(W_1, w_1)$  and  $(W_2, w_2)$  ?

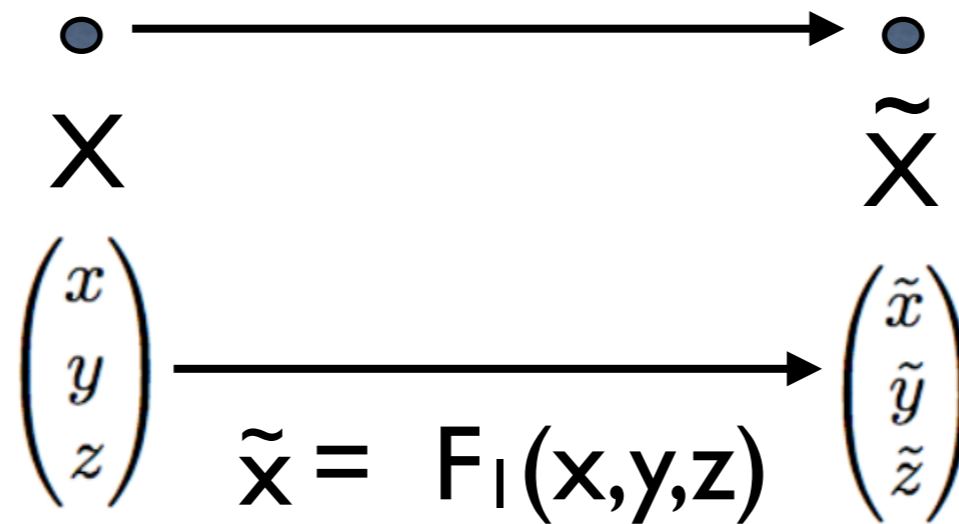
$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & & & 1/2 \\ & 1 & & 0 \\ & & -1 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_f \\ y_f \\ z_f \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_f \\ y_f \\ z_f \end{pmatrix}$$

# Description of isometries: 3D

coordinate system:

$\{O, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}\}$

isometry:


$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bullet & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\ X & & \tilde{X} \\ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = F_1(x, y, z)} & \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{x} \\ \tilde{y} \\ \tilde{z} \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{x} & = & W_{11} x + W_{12} y + W_{13} z + w_1 \\ \tilde{y} & = & W_{21} x + W_{22} y + W_{23} z + w_2 \\ \tilde{z} & = & W_{31} x + W_{32} y + W_{33} z + w_3 \end{cases}$$



# Matrix formalism

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{x} \\ \tilde{y} \\ \tilde{z} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} & W_{13} \\ W_{21} & W_{22} & W_{23} \\ W_{31} & W_{32} & W_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

linear/matrix part                      translation column part

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = (\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{w}) \mathbf{x} \quad \text{or} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \{ \mathbf{W} \mid \mathbf{w} \} \mathbf{x}$$

matrix-column  
pair

Seitz symbol

# Short-hand notation for the description of isometries

isometry:

$$X \bullet \xrightarrow{(W,w)} \bullet \tilde{X}$$

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{x} = W_{11}x + W_{12}y + W_{13}z + w_1 \\ \tilde{y} = W_{21}x + W_{22}y + W_{23}z + w_2 \\ \tilde{z} = W_{31}x + W_{32}y + W_{33}z + w_3 \end{cases}$$

notation rules:

- left-hand side: omitted
- coefficients 0, +1, -1
- different rows in one line

examples:

-1			1/2
	1		0
		-1	1/2

 $\longrightarrow$ 
 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -x+1/2, y, -z+1/2 \\ \bar{x}+1/2, y, \bar{z}+1/2 \end{array} \right.$

## QUICK QUIZ

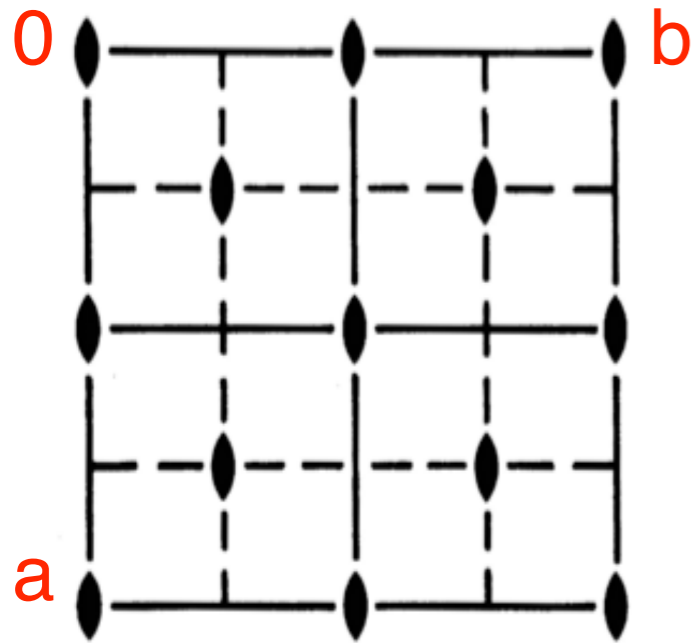
Construct the matrix-column pair  $(W,w)$  of the following coordinate triplets:

- (1)  $x,y,z$                       (2)  $-x,y+1/2,-z+1/2$   
(3)  $-x,-y,-z$                     (4)  $x,-y+1/2,z+1/2$

# Space group $Cmm2$ (No. 35)

## How are the symmetry operations represented in ITA ?

Diagram of symmetry elements



### Symmetry operations

For  $(0,0,0)+$  set

(1) 1

(2) 2  $0,0,z$

(3)  $m$   $x,0,z$

(4)  $m$   $0,y,z$

For  $(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},0)+$  set

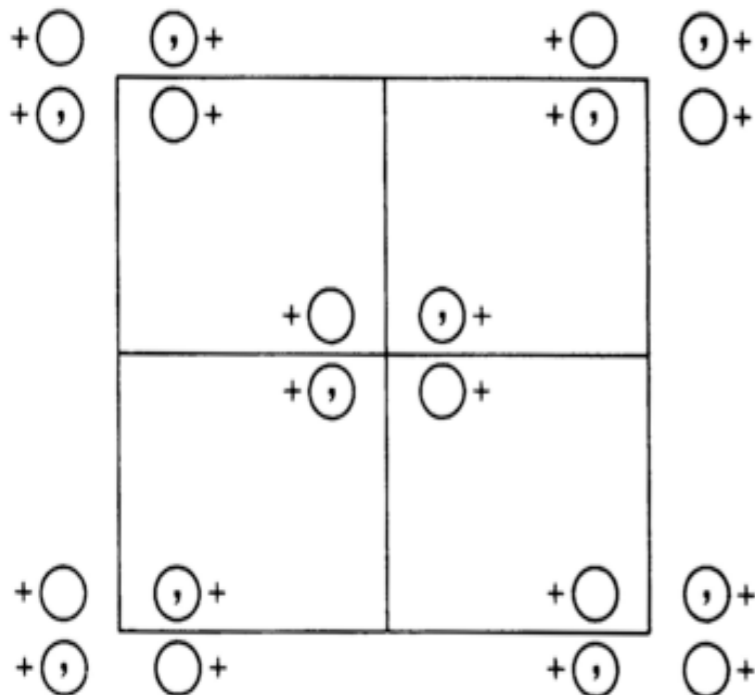
(1)  $t(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},0)$

(2) 2  $\frac{1}{4},\frac{1}{4},z$

(3)  $a$   $x,\frac{1}{4},z$

(4)  $b$   $\frac{1}{4},y,z$

Diagram of general position points



### General Position

Coordinates

$(0,0,0)+$   $(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},0)+$

8  $f$  1

(1)  $x,y,z$

(2)  $\bar{x},\bar{y},z$

(3)  $x,\bar{y},z$

(4)  $\bar{x},y,z$

# General position

- (i) coordinate triplets of an image point  $\tilde{X}$  of the original point  $X = \begin{matrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{matrix}$  under  $(W, w)$  of  $G$
- presentation of infinite image points  $\tilde{X}$  under the action of  $(W, w)$  of  $G$

- (ii) short-hand notation of the matrix-column pairs  $(W, w)$  of the symmetry operations of  $G$
- presentation of infinite symmetry operations of  $G$
- $$(W, w) = (I, t_n)(W, w_0), 0 \leq w_{i0} < l$$

# Space Groups: infinite order

## Coset decomposition $G:T_G$

General position



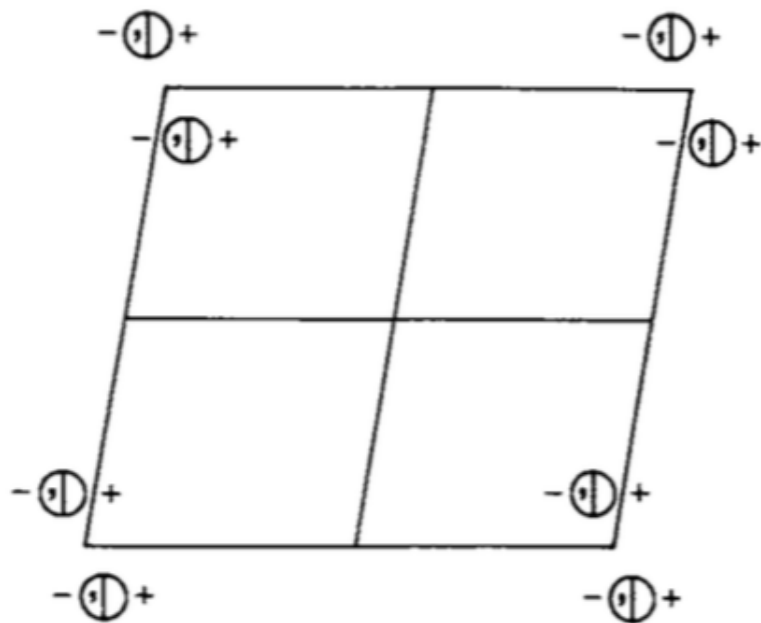
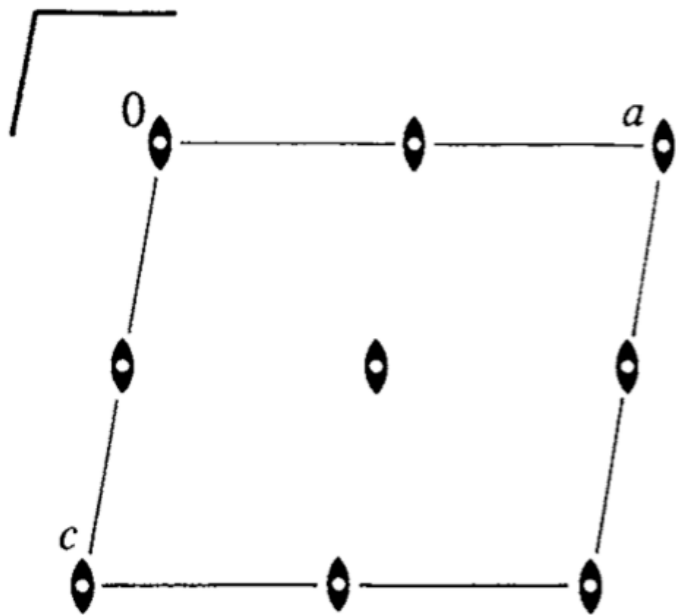
$(I,0)$	$(W_2,w_2)$	...	$(W_m,w_m)$	...	$(W_i,w_i)$
$(I,t_1)$	$(W_2,w_2+t_1)$	...	$(W_m,w_m+t_1)$	...	$(W_i,w_i+t_1)$
$(I,t_2)$	$(W_2,w_2+t_2)$	...	$(W_m,w_m+t_2)$	...	$(W_i,w_i+t_2)$
...	...	...	...	...	...
$(I,t_j)$	$(W_2,w_2+t_j)$	...	$(W_m,w_m+t_j)$	...	$(W_i,w_i+t_j)$
...	...	...	...	...	...

## Factor group $G/T_G$

isomorphic to the point group  $P_G$  of  $G$

$$\text{Point group } P_G = \{I, W_2, W_3, \dots, W_i\}$$

# Example: P12/m1



inversion centres  $(\bar{1}, t)$ :

## Coset decomposition $G:T_G$

Point group  $P_G = \{1, 2, \bar{1}, m\}$

General position

$T_G$	$T_G 2$	$T_G \bar{1}$	$T_G m$
$(1, 0)$	$(2, 0)$	$(\bar{1}, 0)$	$(m, 0)$
$(1, t_1)$	$(2, t_1)$	$(\bar{1}, t_1)$	$(m, t_1)$
$(1, t_2)$	$(2, t_2)$	$(\bar{1}, t_2)$	$(m, t_2)$
...	...	...	...
$(1, t_j)$	$(2, t_j)$	$(\bar{1}, t_j)$	$(m, t_j)$

...	...	...	...
$-1$			$n_1$
	$-1$		$n_2$
		$-1$	$n_3$

$\xrightarrow{\bar{1} \text{ at}}$

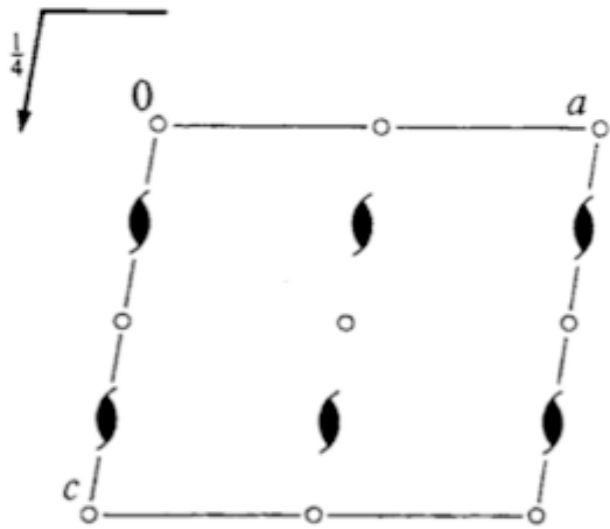
$n_1/2$
$n_2/2$
$n_3/2$

# EXAMPLE

# Coset decomposition $P12_1/c1:T$

## Point group ?

General position



(1)  $x, y, z$

(2)  $\bar{x}, y + \frac{1}{2}, \bar{z} + \frac{1}{2}$

(3)  $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$

(4)  $x, \bar{y} + \frac{1}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$

$(l, 0)$

$(2, 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2})$

$(\bar{1}, 0)$

$(m, 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2})$

$(l, t_1)$

$(2, 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} + t_1)$

$(\bar{1}, t_1)$

$(m, 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} + t_1)$

$(l, t_2)$

$(2, 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} + t_2)$

$(\bar{1}, t_2)$

$(m, 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} + t_2)$

...

...

...

...

...

...

$(l, t_j)$

$(2, 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} + t_j)$

$(\bar{1}, t_j)$

$(m, 0 \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} + t_j)$

...

...

...

...

...

...

inversion centers

$(\bar{1}, pqr): \bar{1}$  at  $p/2, q/2, r/2$

$2_1$  screw axes

$(2, u \frac{1}{2} + v \frac{1}{2} + w)$

$(2, 0 \frac{1}{2} + v \frac{1}{2})$

$(2, u \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} + w)$



# **Symmetry Operations Block**

**GEOMETRIC INTERPRETATION OF THE MATRIX-COLUMN PRESENTATION OF THE SYMMETRY OPERATIONS**

**TYPE of the symmetry operation**

**SCREW/GLIDE component**

**ORIENTATION of the geometric element**

**LOCATION of the geometric element**

Space group  $P2_1/c$  (No. 14)

$P2_1/c$

$C_{2h}^5$

$2/m$

1

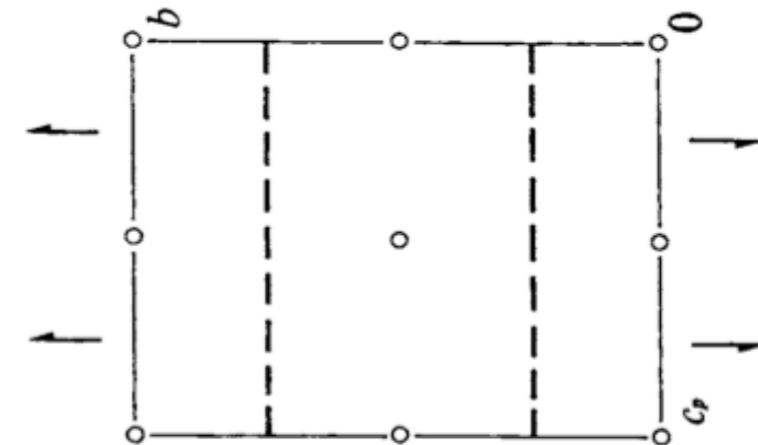
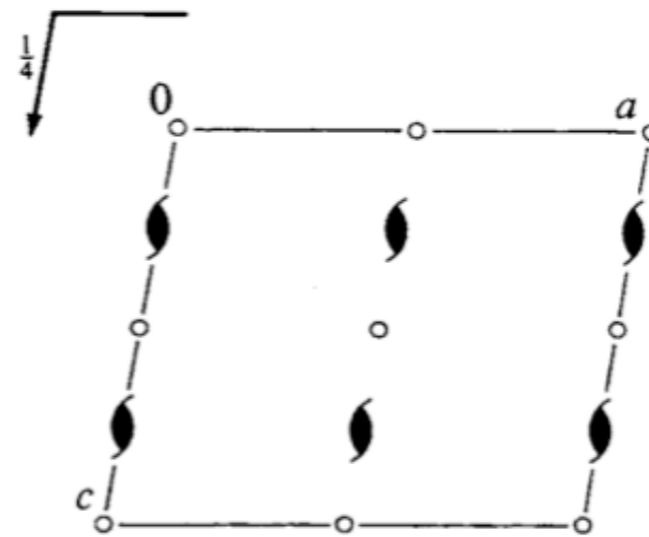
No. 14

$P12_1/c1$

Patterson sy.

UNIQUE AXIS  $b$ , CELL CHOICE 1

EXAMPLE



**Generators selected** (1);  $t(1,0,0)$ ;  $t(0,1,0)$ ;  $t(0,0,1)$ ; (2); (3)

**Positions**

Multiplicity,  
Wyckoff letter,  
Site symmetry

Coordinates

4	$e$	1	(1) $x, y, z$	(2) $\bar{x}, y + \frac{1}{2}, \bar{z} + \frac{1}{2}$	(3) $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$	(4) $x, \bar{y} + \frac{1}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$
---	-----	---	---------------	---	---------------------------------	---

**Symmetry operations**

(1)	1	(2)	$2(0, \frac{1}{2}, 0)$	$0, y, \frac{1}{4}$	(3)	$\bar{1}$	$0, 0, 0$	(4)	$c$	$x, \frac{1}{4}, z$
-----	---	-----	------------------------	---------------------	-----	-----------	-----------	-----	-----	---------------------

Matrix-column presentation

Geometric interpretation

# Example: Space group $P2_1/c$ (14)

# BCS: GENPOS

## Space-group symmetry operations

### short-hand notation

matrix-column presentation  $\begin{pmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} & W_{13} \\ W_{21} & W_{22} & W_{23} \\ W_{31} & W_{32} & W_{33} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{pmatrix}$

### Geometric interpretation

### Seitz symbols

## General Positions of the Group 14 ( $P2_1/c$ ) [unique axis b]

[Click here to get the general positions in text format](#)

No.	(x,y,z) form	Matrix form	Symmetry operation	
			ITA	Seitz
1	x,y,z	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	1	{1 0}
2	-x,y+1/2,-z+1/2	$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$	2 (0,1/2,0) 0,y,1/4	{2 <sub>010</sub>   0 1/2 1/2}
3	-x,-y,-z	$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	-1 0,0,0	{-1 0}
4	x,-y+1/2,z+1/2	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$	c x,1/4,z	{m <sub>010</sub>   0 1/2 1/2}

### General positions

4 e 1 (1) x,y,z (2)  $\bar{x}, y + \frac{1}{2}, \bar{z} + \frac{1}{2}$  (3)  $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$  (4)  $x, \bar{y} + \frac{1}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$

### Symmetry operations

(1) 1 (2) 2(0,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 0) 0,y,  $\frac{1}{4}$  (3)  $\bar{1}$  0,0,0 (4) c x,  $\frac{1}{4}$ , z

ITA data

# SEITZ SYMBOLS FOR SYMMETRY OPERATIONS

Seitz symbols  $\{ R | \tau \}$

short-hand description of the matrix-column presentations of the symmetry operations of the space groups

rotation (or linear)  
part  $R$

- specify the type and the order of the symmetry operation;
- orientation of the symmetry element by the direction of the axis for rotations and rotoinversions, or the direction of the normal to reflection planes.

1 and $\bar{1}$	identity and inversion
$m$	reflections
2, 3, 4 and 6	rotations
$\bar{3}$ , $\bar{4}$ and $\bar{6}$	rotoinversions

translation part  $\tau$

translation parts of the coordinate triplets of the *General position* blocks

# EXAMPLE

# Seitz symbols for symmetry operations of hexagonal and trigonal crystal systems

ITA description				Seitz symbol
No.	coord. triplet	type	orientation	
1)	$x, y, z$	1		1
2)	$\bar{y}, x - y, z$	$3^+$	$0, 0, z$	$3_{001}^+$
3)	$\bar{x} + y, \bar{x}, z$	$3^-$	$0, 0, z$	$3_{001}^-$
4)	$\bar{x}, \bar{y}, z$	2	$0, 0, z$	$2_{001}$
5)	$y, \bar{x} + y, z$	$6^-$	$0, 0, z$	$6_{001}^-$
6)	$x - y, x, z$	$6^+$	$0, 0, z$	$6_{001}^+$
7)	$y, x, \bar{z}$	2	$x, x, 0$	$2_{110}$
8)	$x - y, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$	2	$x, 0, 0$	$2_{100}$
9)	$\bar{x}, \bar{x} + y, \bar{z}$	2	$0, y, 0$	$2_{010}$
10)	$\bar{y}, \bar{x}, \bar{z}$	2	$x, \bar{x}, 0$	$2_{1\bar{1}0}$
11)	$\bar{x} + y, y, \bar{z}$	2	$x, 2x, 0$	$2_{120}$
12)	$x, x - y, \bar{z}$	2	$2x, x, 0$	$2_{210}$

ITA description				Seitz symbol
No.	coord. triplet	type	orientation	
13)	$\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$	$\bar{1}$		$\bar{1}$
14)	$y, \bar{x} + y, \bar{z}$	$\bar{3}^+$	$0, 0, z$	$\bar{3}_{001}^+$
15)	$x - y, x, \bar{z}$	$\bar{3}^-$	$0, 0, z$	$\bar{3}_{001}^-$
16)	$x, y, \bar{z}$	$m$	$x, y, 0$	$m_{001}$
17)	$\bar{y}, x - y, \bar{z}$	$\bar{6}^-$	$0, 0, z$	$\bar{6}_{001}^-$
18)	$\bar{x} + y, \bar{x}, \bar{z}$	$\bar{6}^+$	$0, 0, z$	$\bar{6}_{001}^+$
19)	$\bar{y}, \bar{x}, z$	$m$	$x, \bar{x}, z$	$m_{110}$
20)	$\bar{x} + y, y, z$	$m$	$x, 2x, z$	$m_{100}$
21)	$x, x - y, z$	$m$	$2x, x, z$	$m_{010}$
22)	$y, x, z$	$m$	$x, x, z$	$m_{1\bar{1}0}$
23)	$x - y, \bar{y}, z$	$m$	$x, 0, z$	$m_{120}$
24)	$\bar{x}, \bar{x} + y, z$	$m$	$0, y, z$	$m_{210}$

# EXAMPLE

$P2_1/c$

$C_{2h}^5$

$2/m$

1

No. 14

$P12_1/c1$

Patterson sy.

UNIQUE AXIS  $b$ , CELL CHOICE 1

**Generators selected** (1);  $t(1,0,0)$ ;  $t(0,1,0)$ ;  $t(0,0,1)$ ; (2); (3)

**Positions**

Multiplicity,  
Wyckoff letter,  
Site symmetry

Coordinates

4	$e$	1	(1) $x,y,z$	(2) $\bar{x},y+\frac{1}{2},\bar{z}+\frac{1}{2}$	(3) $\bar{x},\bar{y},\bar{z}$	(4) $x,\bar{y}+\frac{1}{2},z+\frac{1}{2}$
---	-----	---	-------------	---	-------------------------------	---

**Symmetry operations**

(1)	1	(2)	$2(0,\frac{1}{2},0)$	$0,y,\frac{1}{4}$	(3)	$\bar{1}$	$0,0,0$	(4)	$c$	$x,\frac{1}{4},z$
-----	---	-----	----------------------	-------------------	-----	-----------	---------	-----	-----	-------------------

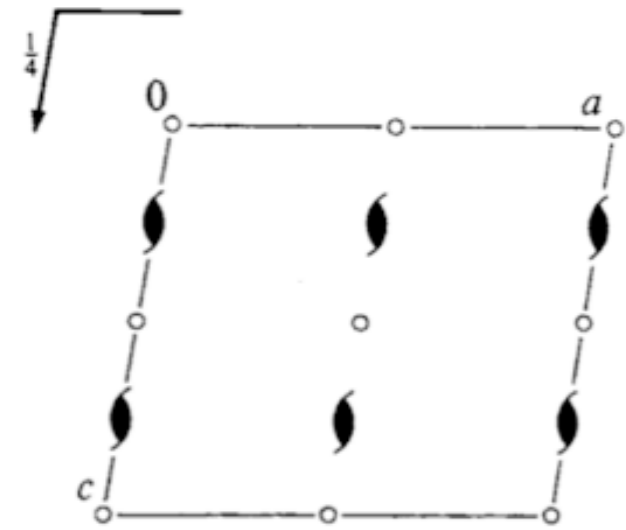
(1)	$\{110\}$	(2)	$\{2_{010} 01/21/2\}$	(3)	$\{\bar{1}10\}$	(4)	$\{m_{010} 01/21/2\}$
-----	-----------	-----	-----------------------	-----	-----------------	-----	-----------------------

NOT in ITA

Matrix-column presentation

Geometric interpretation

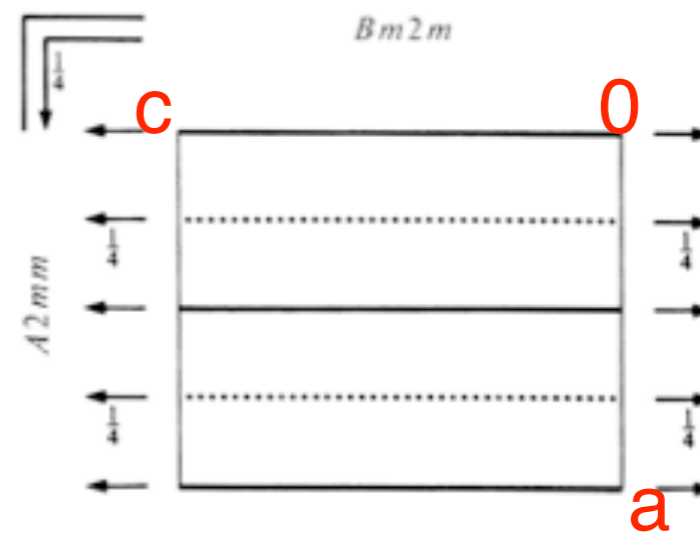
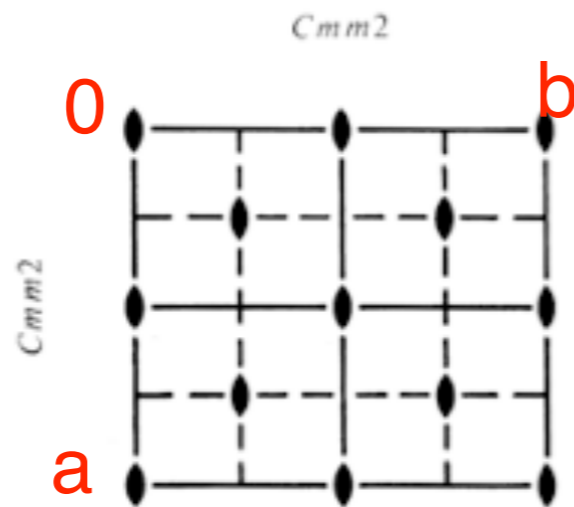
Seitz symbols



# SPACE-GROUPS DIAGRAMS

# Diagrams of symmetry elements

three different settings



permutations of  $a, b, c$

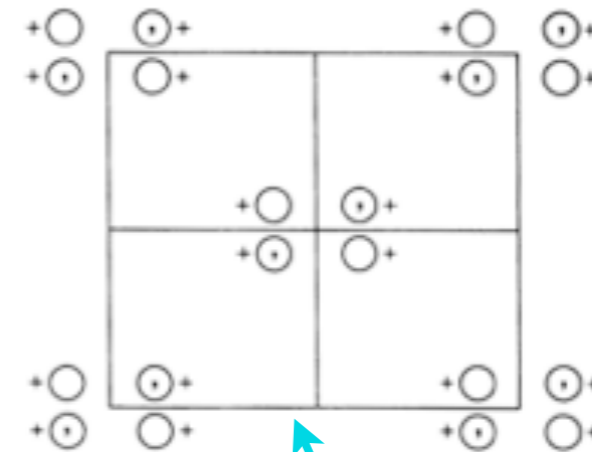
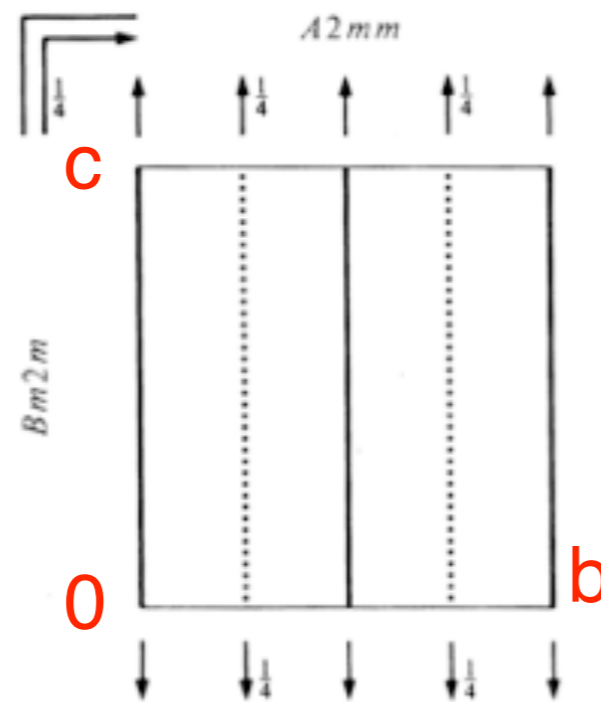





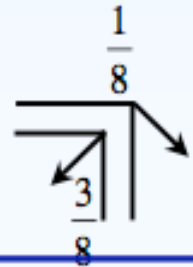
Diagram of general position points



## The various rotation and screw axes and their symbol

printed symbol	symmetry axis	graphic symbol	nature of the screw translation	printed symbol	symmetry axis	graphic symbol	nature of the screw translation
1	Identity	none	none	4	Rotation tetrad		none
$\bar{1}$	Inversion	○	none	$4_1$	Screw tetrads		$c/4$
2	Rotation diad or twofold rotation axis	 (⊥ paper) → (// paper)	none	$4_2$			$2c/4$
$2_1$	Screw diad or twofold screw axis	 (⊥ paper) → (// paper)	$c/2$ $a/2$ or $b/2$	$4_3$			$3c/4$
3	Rotation triad	⊥ paper 	none	$\bar{4}$	Inverse tetrad		none
$3_1$	Screw triad		$c/3$	6	Rotation hexad		none
$3_2$			$2c/3$	$6_1$	Screw hexads		$c/6$
$\bar{3}$		Inverse triad		none		$6_2$	
				$6_3$			$3c/6$
				$6_4$			$4c/6$
				$6_5$			$5c/6$
				$\bar{6}$	Inverse hexad		none

## The various symmetry planes and their symbol

printed symbol	symmetry plane	graphical symbol		nature of glide translation
		normal to plane of projection	parallel to plane of projection	
$m$	reflection plane (mirror)	—————		none
$a, b$	axial glide plane	- - - - -		$a/2$ or $b/2$
$c$		.....	none	$c/2$
$n$	diagonal glide plane ( <i>net</i> )	- . - . - .		$(a+b)/2, (b+c)/2$ or $(c+a)/2$ ; OR $(a+b+c)/2$ for $t$ and $c$ systems
$d$	"diamond" glide plane	- ← - - - - - - - - → - -		$(a±b)/4, (b±c)/4$ or $(c±a)/4$ ; OR $(a±b±c)/4$ for $t$ and $c$ systems

# EXAMPLE

# Space group $Cmm2$ (No. 35)

Geometric interpretation

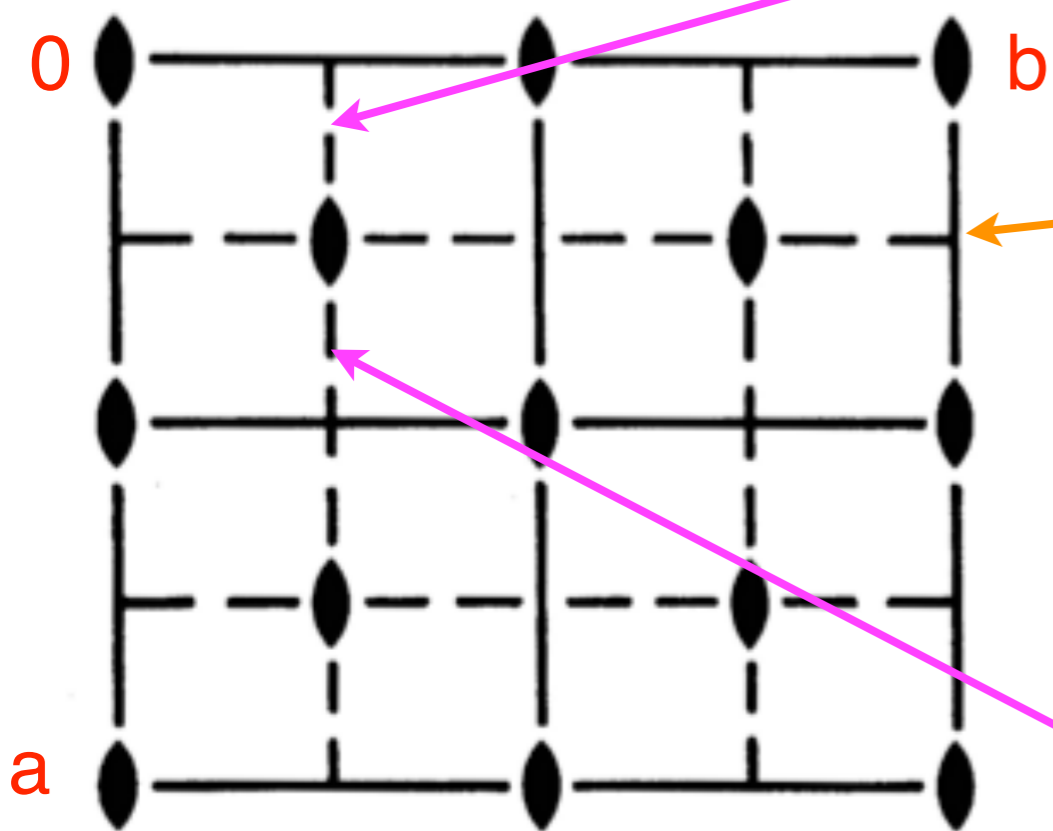
## ⑥ Symmetry operations

For  $(0,0,0)+$  set

- (1) 1
- (2) 2  $0,0,z$
- (3)  $m$   $x,0,z$
- (4)  $m$   $0,y,z$

For  $(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},0)+$  set

- (1)  $t(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},0)$
- (2) 2  $\frac{1}{4},\frac{1}{4},z$
- (3)  $a$   $x,\frac{1}{4},z$
- (4)  $b$   $\frac{1}{4},y,z$



glide plane,  $\mathbf{t}=\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}$   
at  $y=\frac{1}{4}, \perp \mathbf{b}$

glide plane,  $\mathbf{t}=\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{b}$   
at  $x=\frac{1}{4}, \perp \mathbf{a}$

## General Position

Coordinates

$(0,0,0)+$   $(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},0)+$

Matrix-column presentation of symmetry operations

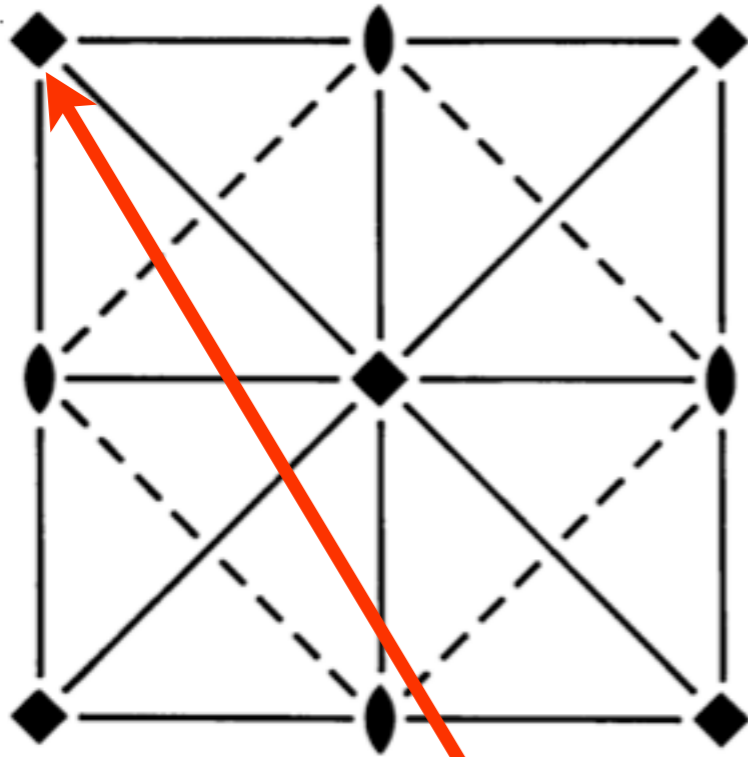
- 8  $f$  1
- (1)  $x,y,z$
- (2)  $\bar{x},\bar{y},z$
- (3)  $x,\bar{y},z$
- (4)  $\bar{x},y,z$

$x+\frac{1}{2},-y+\frac{1}{2},z$

$-x+\frac{1}{2},y+\frac{1}{2},z$

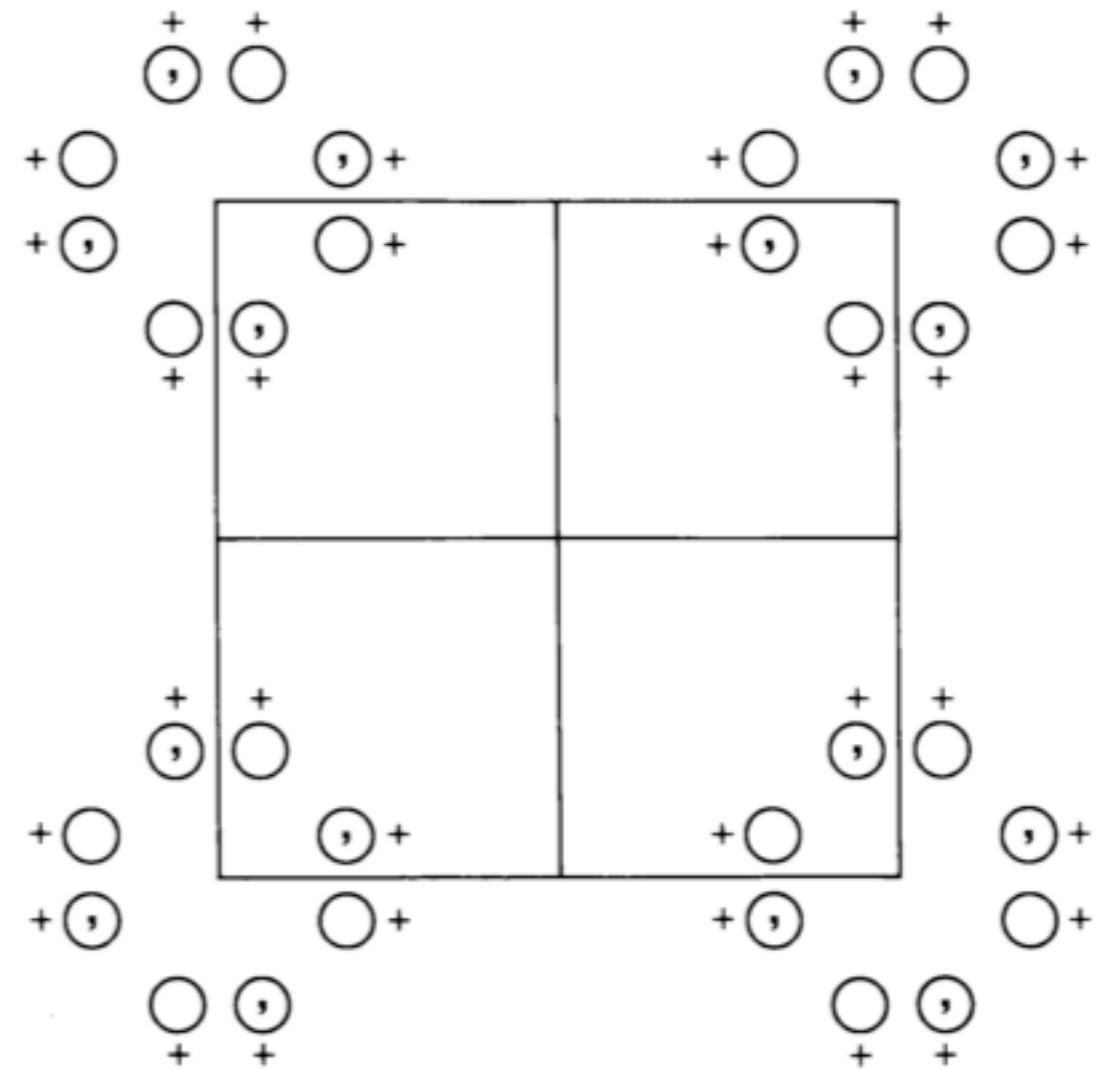
# Example: P4mm

## Diagram of symmetry elements



- (1) 1
- (2)  $2\ 0,0,z$
- (3)  $4^+ 0,0,z$
- (4)  $4^- 0,0,z$
- (5)  $m\ x,0,z$
- (6)  $m\ 0,y,z$
- (7)  $m\ x,\bar{x},z$
- (8)  $m\ x,x,z$

## Diagram of general position points



- (1)  $x,y,z$
- (2)  $\bar{x},\bar{y},z$
- (3)  $\bar{y},x,z$
- (4)  $y,\bar{x},z$
- (5)  $x,\bar{y},z$
- (6)  $\bar{x},y,z$
- (7)  $\bar{y},\bar{x},z$
- (8)  $y,x,z$

# Symmetry elements

Symmetry elements

Geometric element  
+  
Element set

Fixed points

Symmetry operations that share the same geometric element

## Examples

Rotation axis

line  
 $1^{\text{st}}, \dots, (n-1)^{\text{th}}$  powers +  
all coaxial equivalents

All rotations and screw rotations with the same axis, the same angle and sense of rotation and the same screw vector (zero for rotation) up to a lattice translation vector.

Glide plane

plane  
defining operation +  
all coplanar equivalents

All glide reflections with the same reflection plane, with glide of d.o. (taken to be zero for reflections) by a lattice translation vector.

# Symmetry operations and symmetry elements

## Geometric elements and Element sets

Name of symmetry element	Geometric element	Defining operation (d.o)	Operations in element set
Mirror plane	Plane $A$	Reflection in $A$	D.o. and its coplanar equivalents*
Glide plane	Plane $A$	Glide reflection in $A$ ; $2\nu$ (not $\nu$ ) a lattice translation	D.o. and its coplanar equivalents*
Rotation axis	Line $b$	Rotation around $b$ , angle $2\pi/n$ $n = 2, 3, 4$ or $6$	1st, ..., $(n - 1)$ th powers of d.o. and their coaxial equivalents <sup>†</sup>
Screw axis	Line $b$	Screw rotation around $b$ , angle $2\pi/n$ , $u = j/n$ times shortest lattice translation along $b$ , right-hand screw, $n = 2, 3, 4$ or $6$ , $j = 1, \dots, (n - 1)$	1st, ..., $(n - 1)$ th powers of d.o. and their coaxial equivalents <sup>†</sup>
Rotoinversion axis	Line $b$ and point $P$ on $b$	Rotoinversion: rotation around $b$ , angle $2\pi/n$ , and inversion through $P$ , $n = 3, 4$ or $6$	D.o. and its inverse
Center	Point $P$	Inversion through $P$	D.o. only

# Example: P4mm

## Diagram of symmetry elements

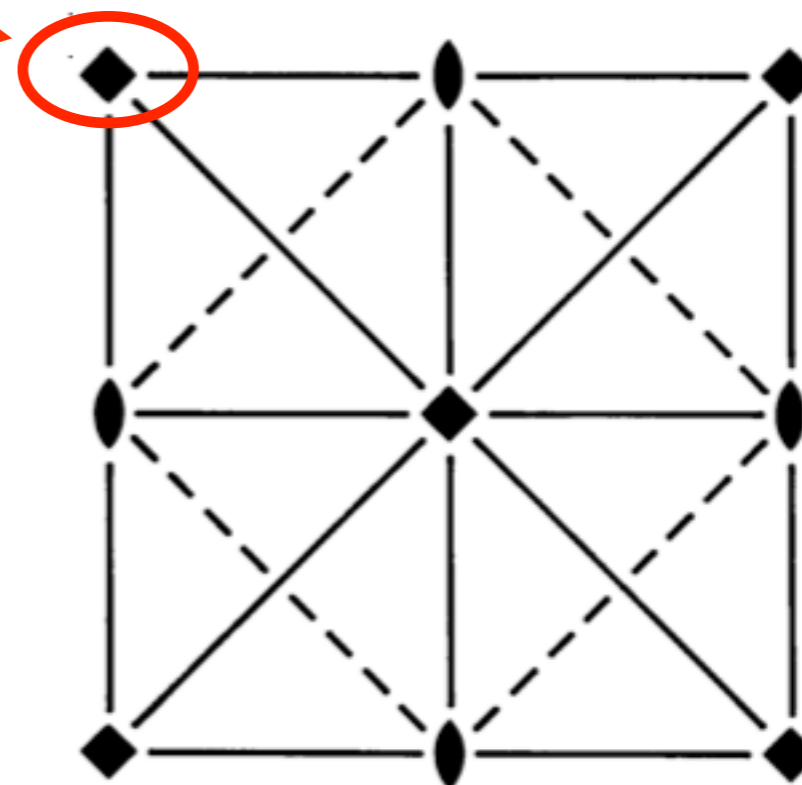
### Element set of (00z) line

Symmetry operations that share (0,0,z) as geometric element } 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> powers + all coaxial equivalents

All rotations and screw rotations with the same axis, the same angle and sense of rotation and the same screw vector (zero for rotation) up to a lattice translation vector.

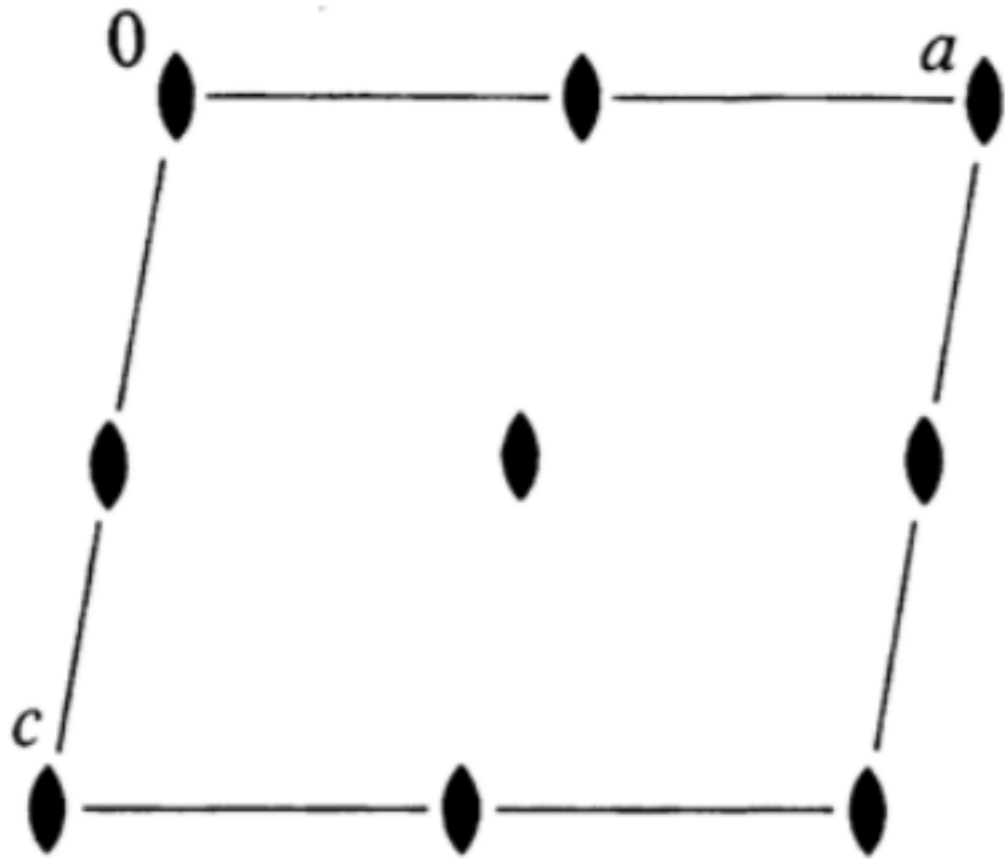
### Element set of (0,0,z) line

<b>2</b>	<b>-x,-y,z</b>
<b>4+</b>	<b>-y,x,z</b>
<b>4-</b>	<b>y,-x,z</b>
<b>2(0,0,l)</b>	<b>-x,-y,z+l</b>
...	...

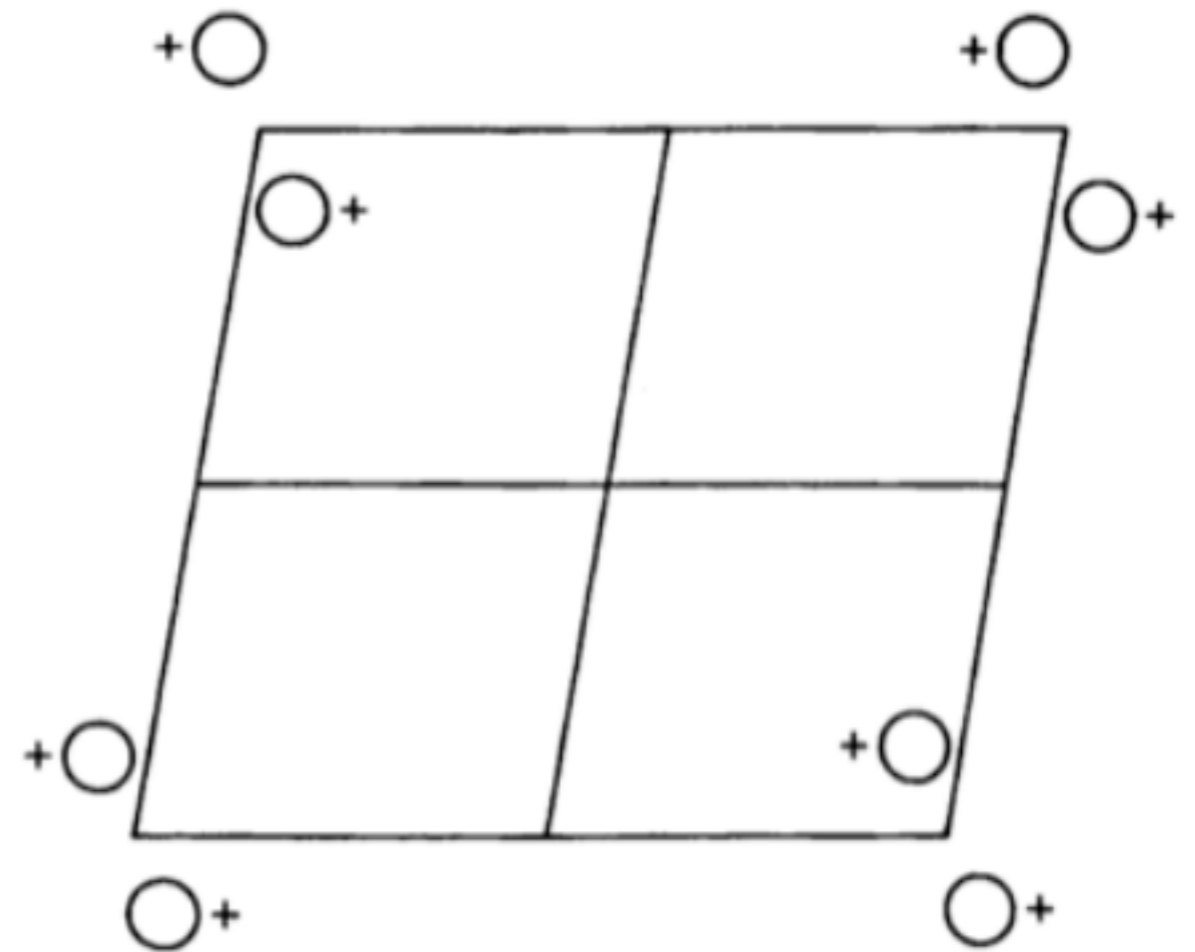


## Example: P2

### Diagram of symmetry elements



### Diagram of general position points

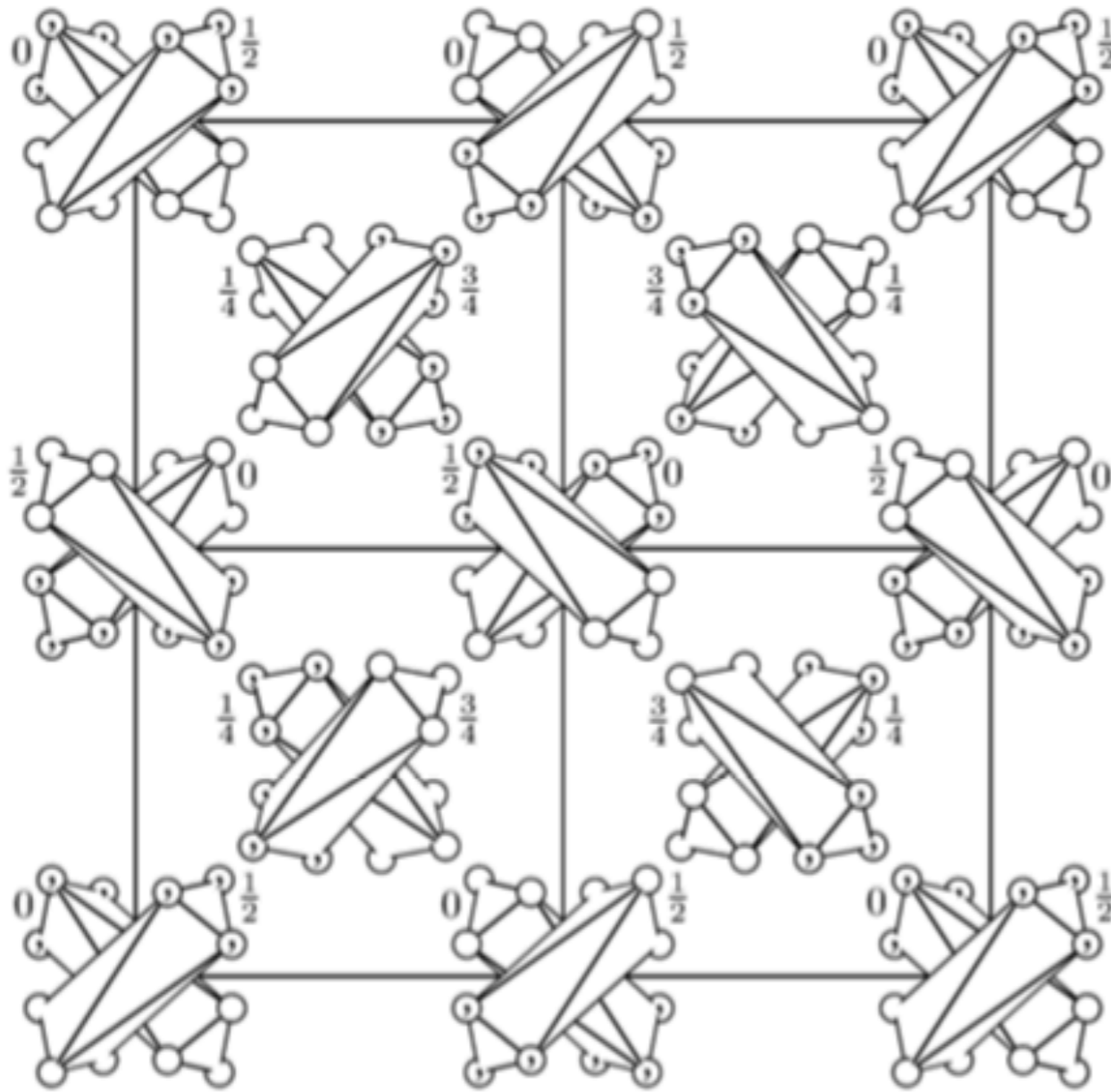


*Symmetry element* diagram (left) and *General position* diagram (right) of the space group P2, No. 3 (unique axis  $b$ , cell choice 1).

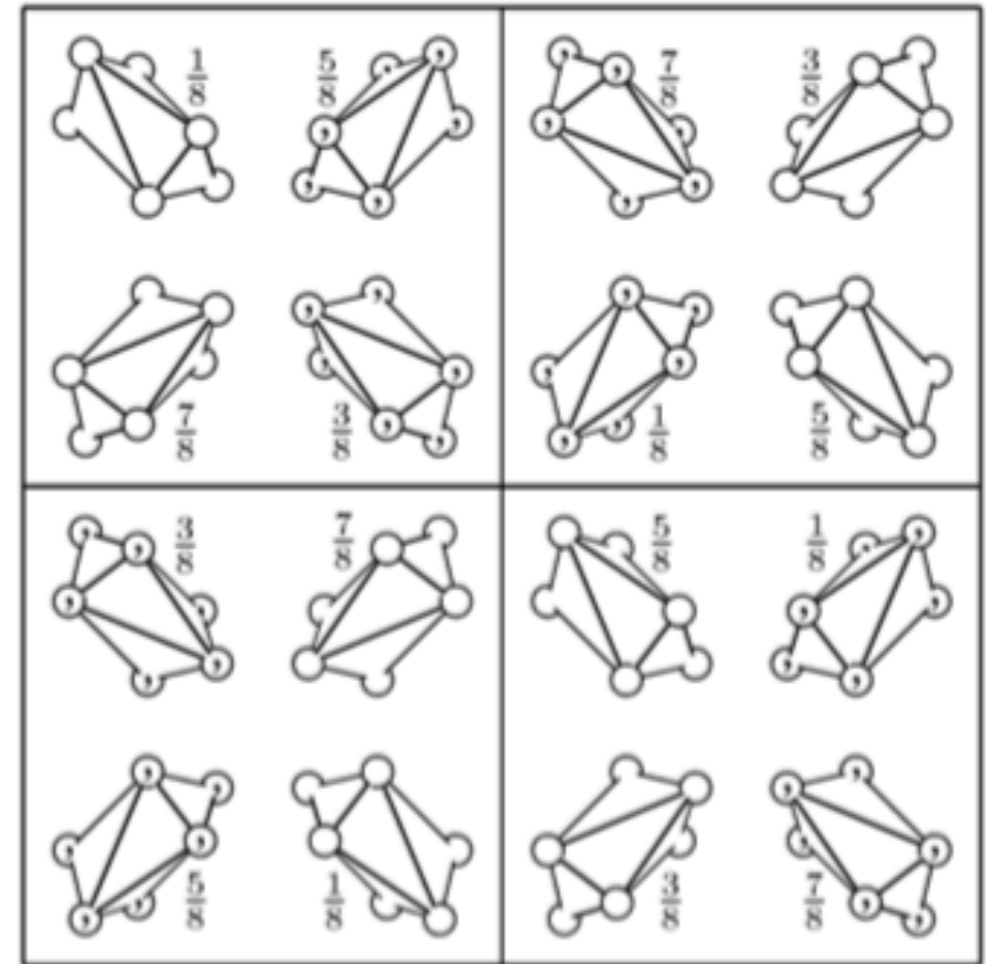


# Example: $Ia\bar{3}d$ (No. 230)

## Diagrams of general position points



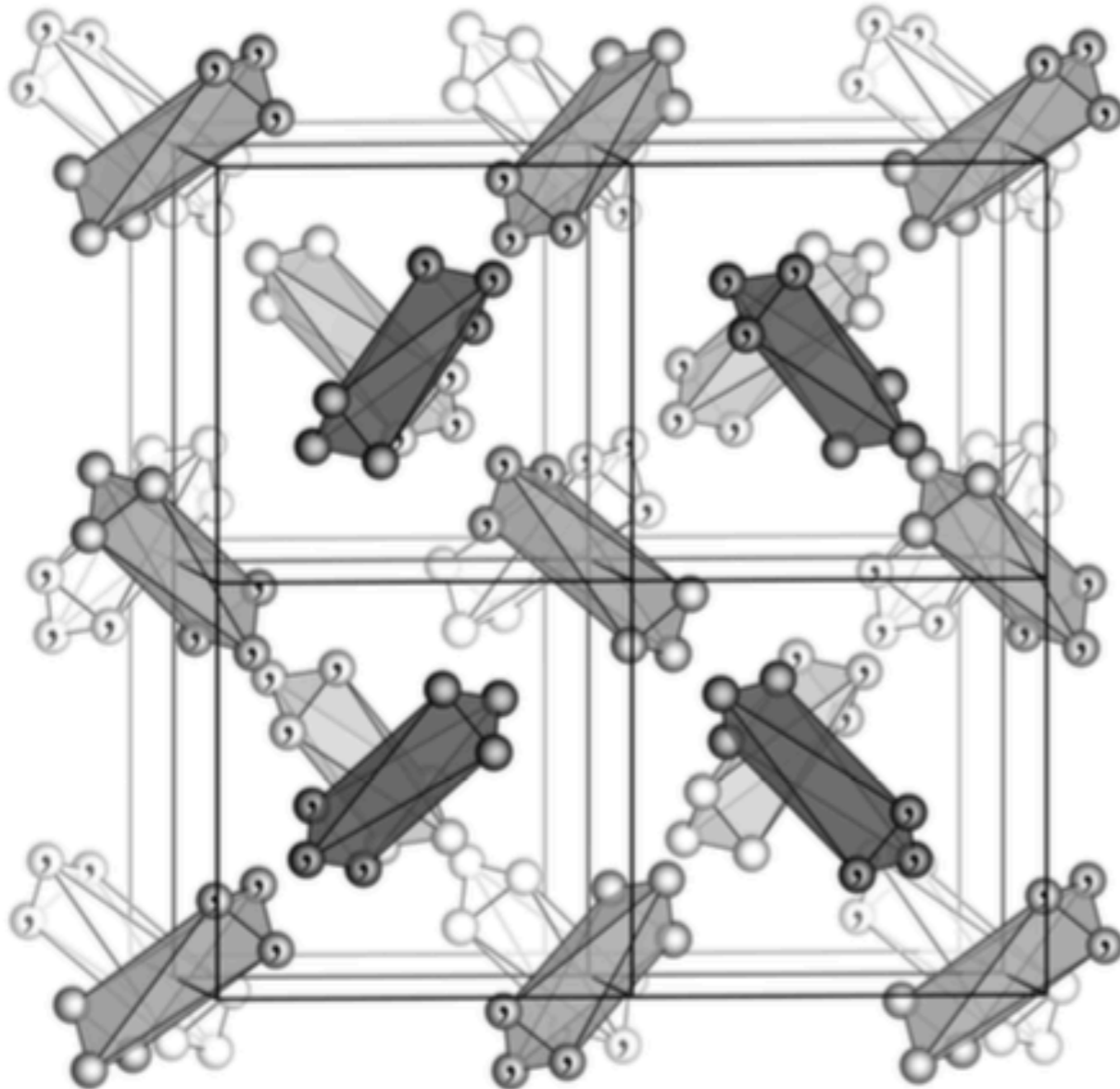
Polyhedron centre at  $0, 0, 0$



Polyhedron centre at  $\frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{8}$

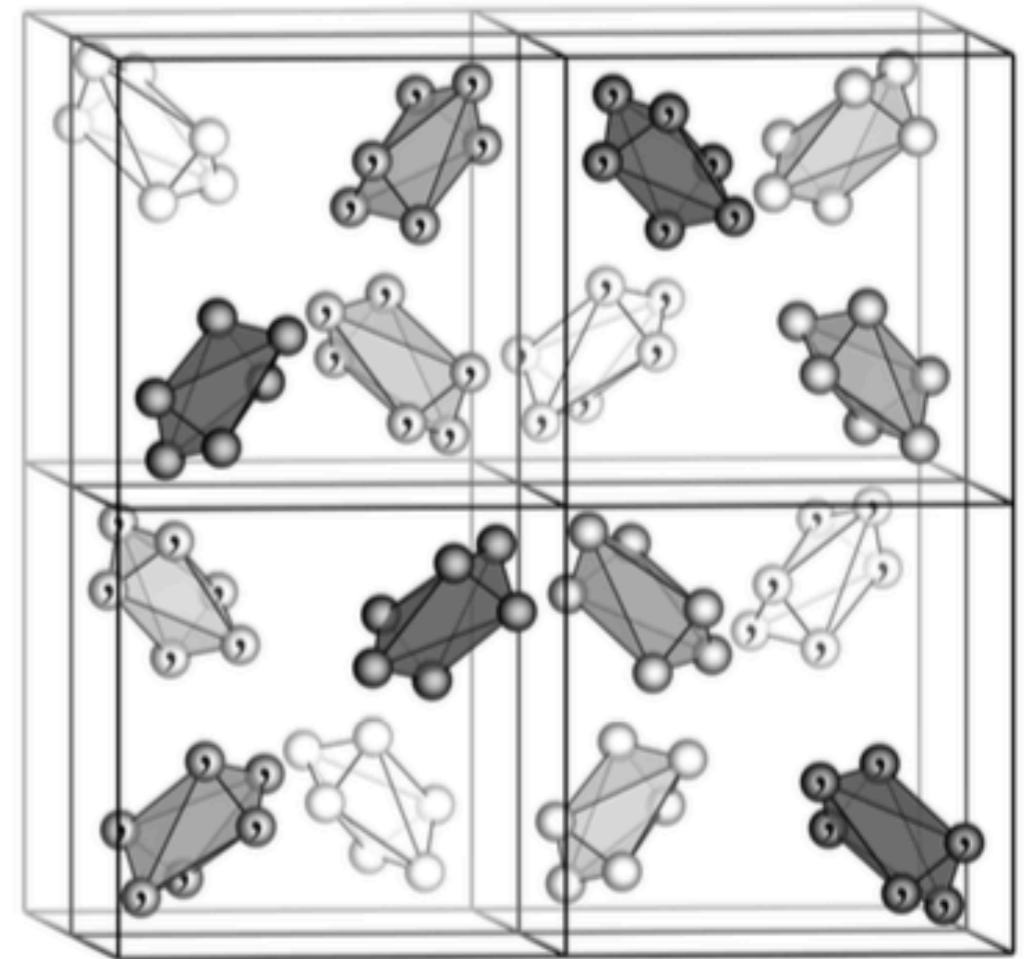
# Example: $Ia\bar{3}d$ (No. 230)

# General-position diagrams in perspective projection



Polyhedron centre at  $0, 0, 0$

polyhedra (twisted trigonal antiprism) centres at  $(0,0,0)$  and its equivalent points, site symmetry  $\bar{3}$ .



Polyhedron centre at  $\frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{8}$

polyhedra (twisted trigonal antiprism) centres at  $(\frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{8})$  and its equivalent points, site symmetry  $\bar{3}2$ .

**ORIGINS  
AND  
ASYMMETRIC UNITS**

# Space group $Cmm2$ (No. 35): left-hand page ITA

$Cmm2$

No. 35

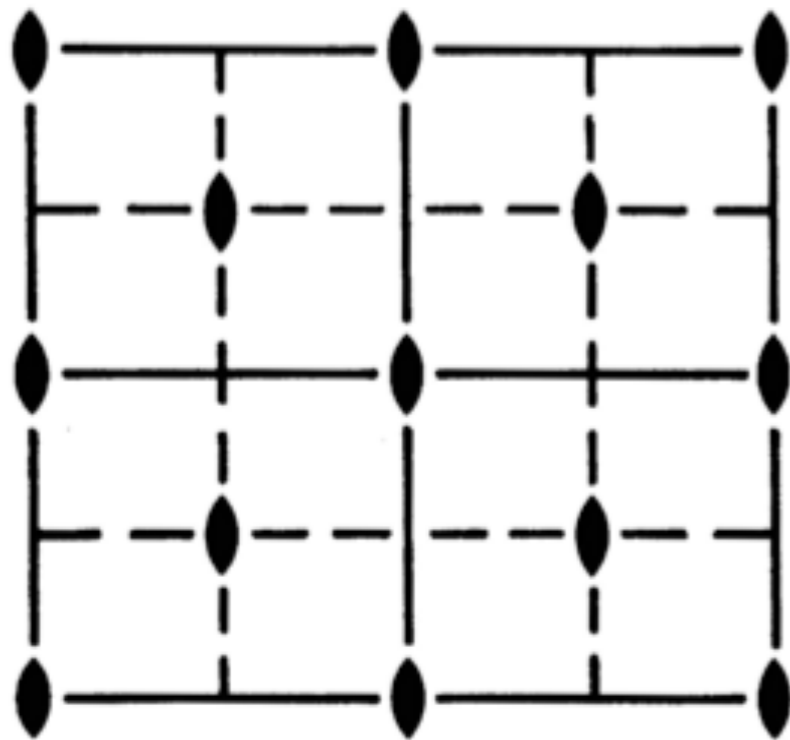
$C_{2v}^{11}$

$Cmm2$

$mm2$

Orthorhombic

Patterson symmetry  $Cmmm$



Origin on  $mm2$

## Origin statement

The site symmetry of the origin is stated, if different from the identity.

A further symbol indicates all symmetry elements (including glide planes and screw axes) that pass through the origin, if any.

## Space groups with two origins

For each of the two origins the location relative to the other origin is also given.

# Example: Different origins for $Pn\bar{3}n$

$Pn\bar{3}n$

$D_{2h}^2$

$m\bar{3}m$

Orthorhombic

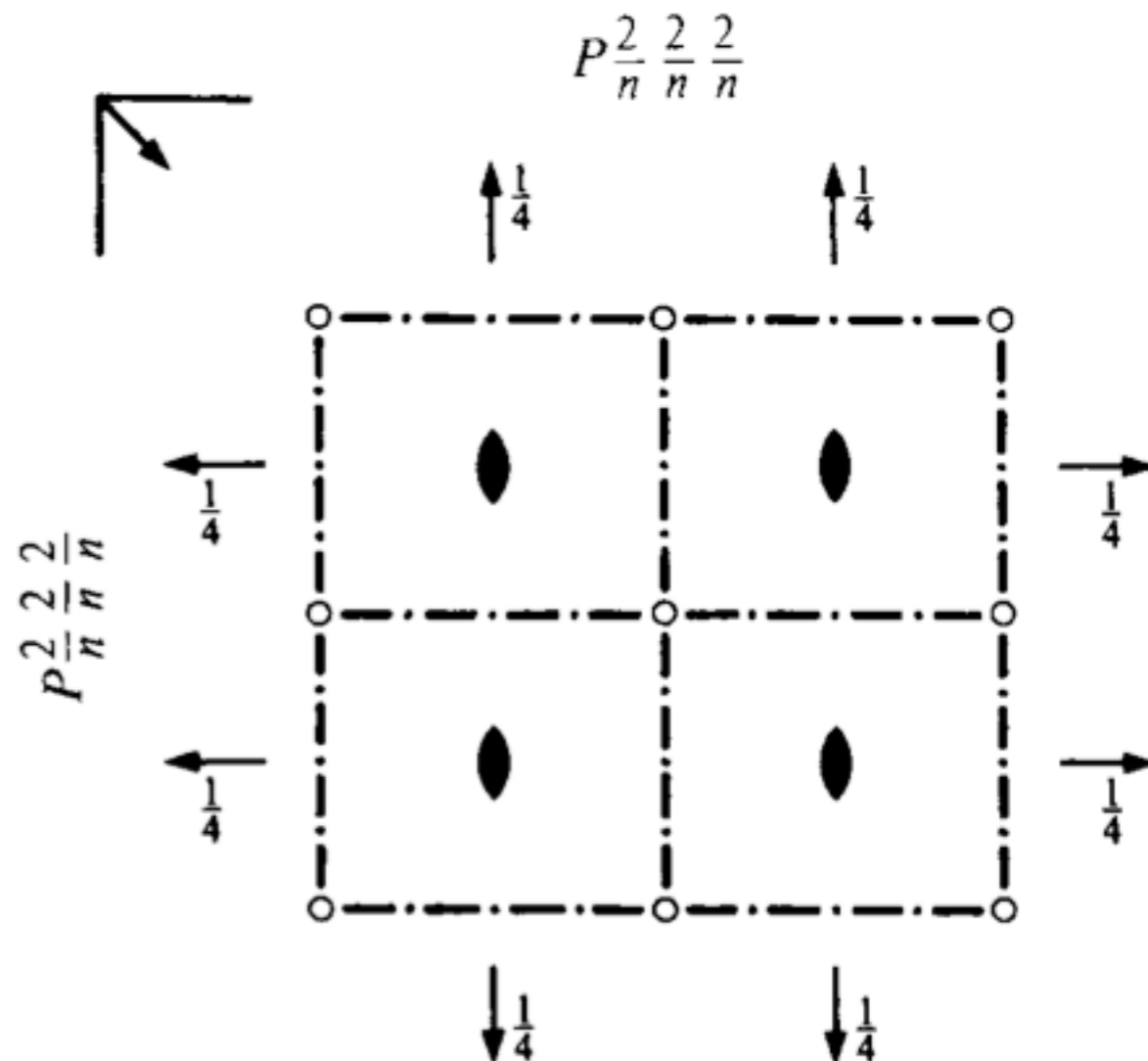
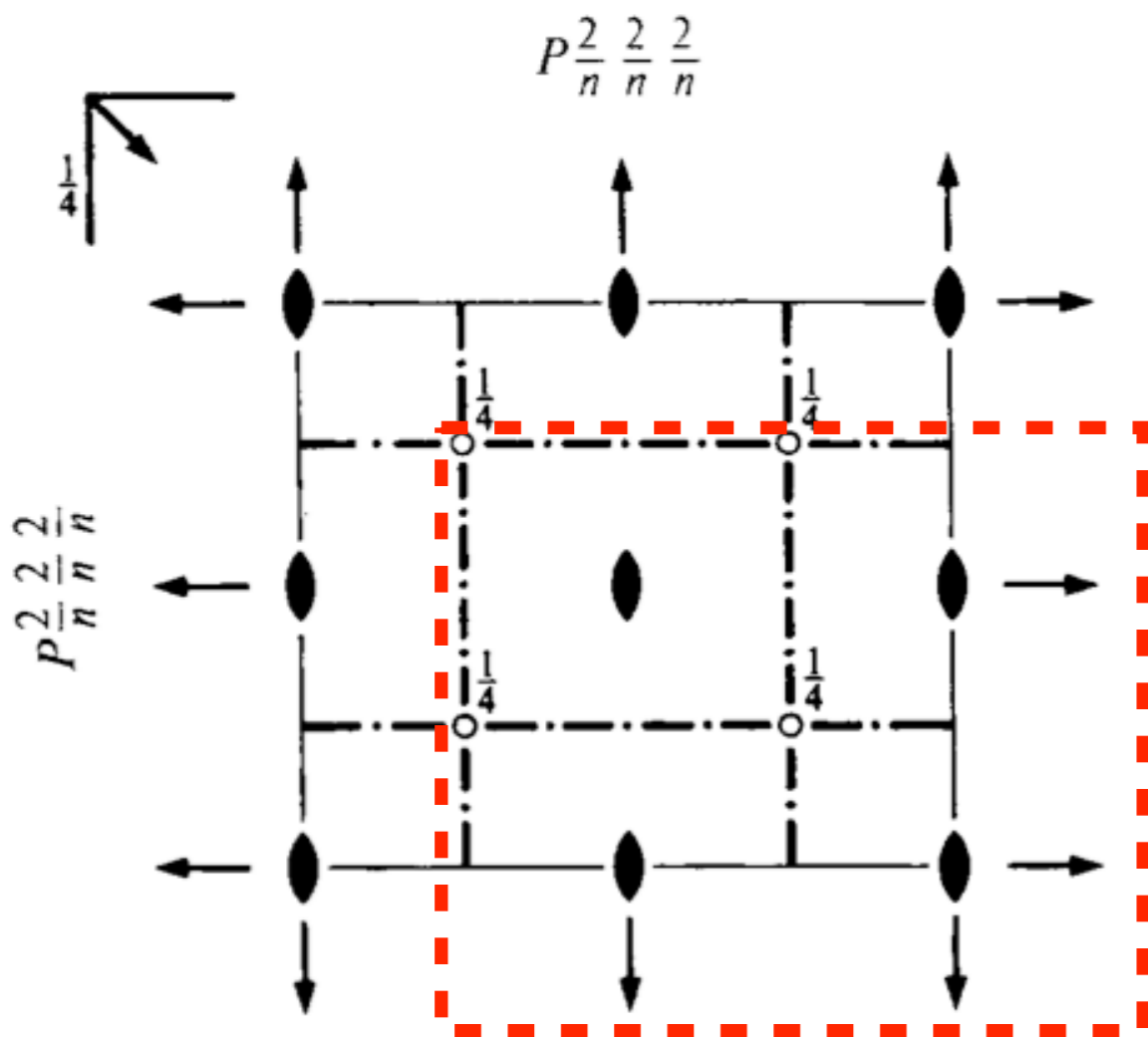
No. 48

$P 2/n 2/n 2/n$

Patterson symmetry  $Pm\bar{3}m$

ORIGIN CHOICE 1

ORIGIN CHOICE 2



**Origin** at  $222$ , at  $\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}$  from  $\bar{1}$

**Origin** at  $\bar{1}$  at  $nnn$ , at  $-\frac{1}{4}, -\frac{1}{4}, -\frac{1}{4}$  from  $222$

# Example: Asymmetric unit $Cmm2$ (No. 35)

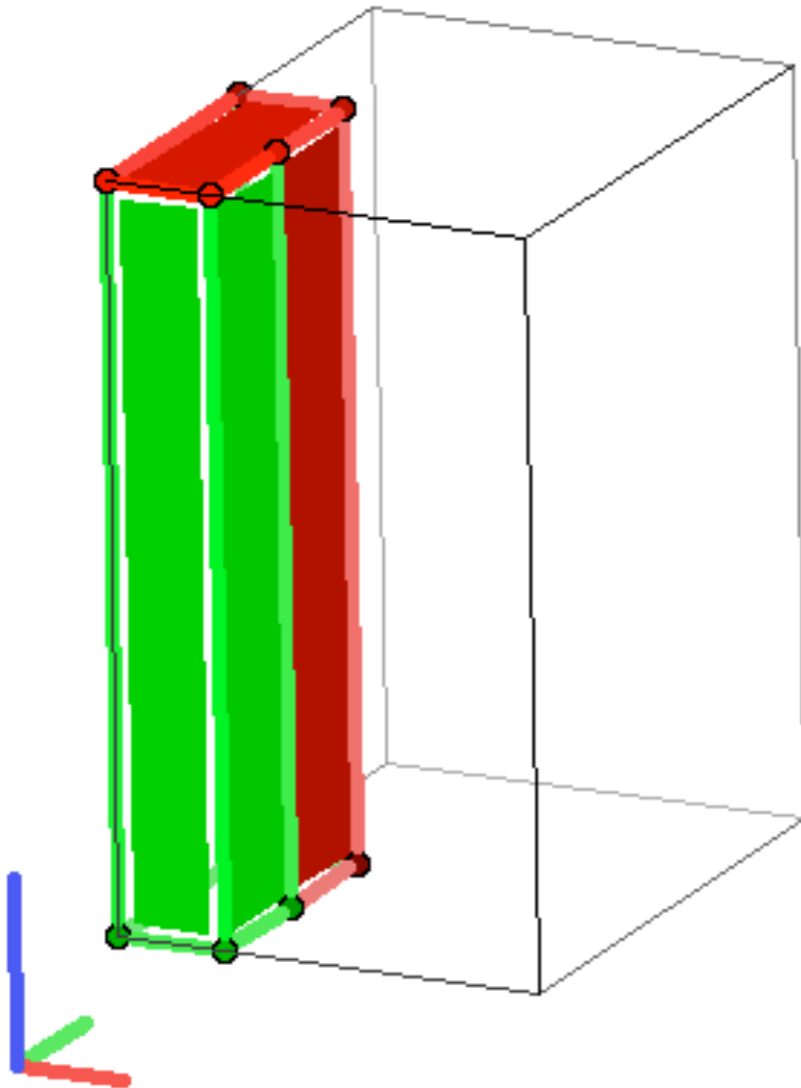
ITA:

**Asymmetric unit**

$$0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{4}; \quad 0 \leq y \leq \frac{1}{2}; \quad 0 \leq z \leq 1$$

Surface area: green = inside the asymmetric unit, red = outside

Basis vectors: a = red, b = green, c = blue



Number of vertices: 8

0, 1/2, 0  
0, 1/2, 1  
1/4, 1/2, 1  
1/4, 0, 1  
0, 0, 0  
1/4, 1/2, 0  
0, 0, 1  
1/4, 0, 0

Number of facets: 6

$x \geq 0$   
 $x \leq 1/4$  [ $y \leq 1/4$ ]  
 $y \geq 0$   
 $y \leq 1/2$   
 $z \geq 0$   
 $z < 1$

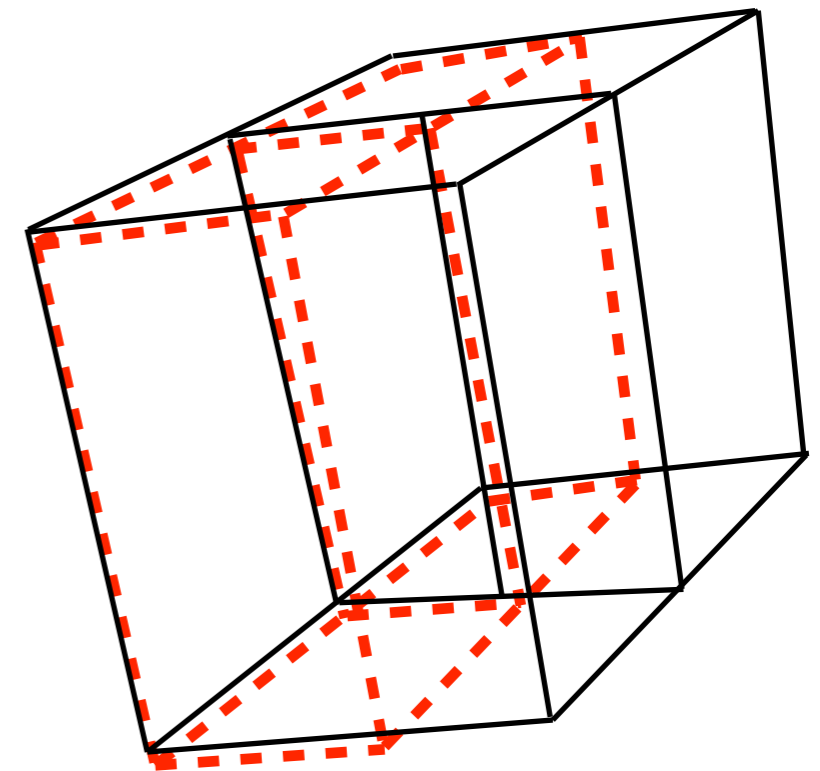
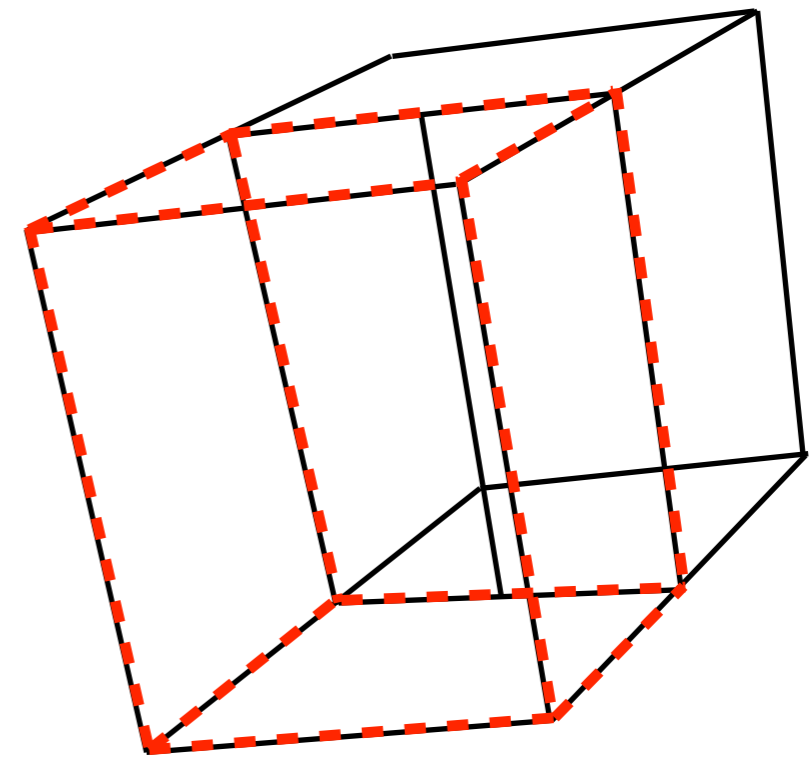
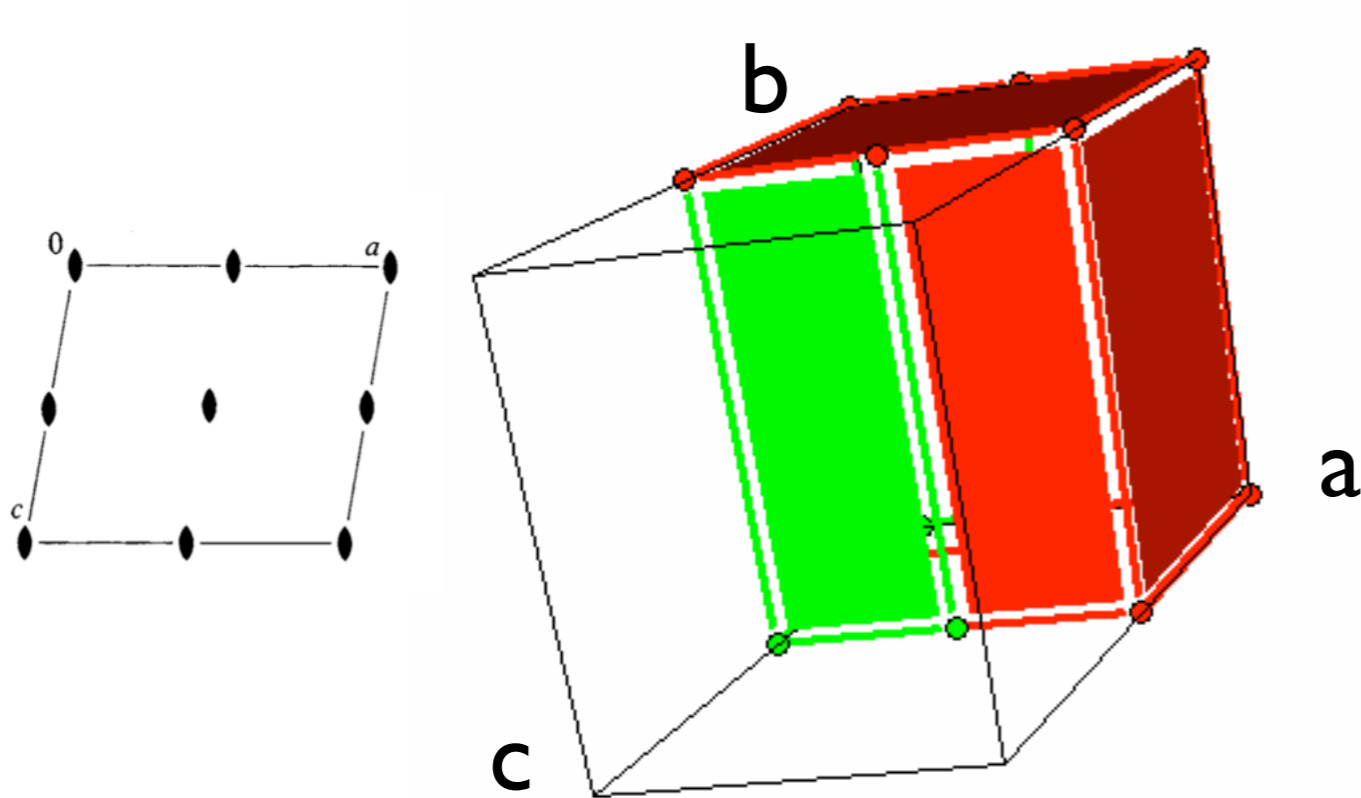
[\[Guide to notation\]](#)

(output cctbx: Ralf Grosse-Kustelove)

ITA:

An asymmetric unit of a space group is a (simply connected) smallest closed part of space from which, by application of all symmetry operations of the space group, the whole of space is filled.

# Example: Asymmetric units for the space group P121



Number of vertices: 8

0, 1, 1/2  
 1, 1, 0  
 1, 0, 0  
 0, 0, 1/2  
 1, 0, 1/2  
 0, 0, 0  
 0, 1, 0  
 1, 1, 1/2

Number of facets: 6

$x \geq 0$   
 $x < 1$   
 $y \geq 0$   
 $y < 1$   
 $z \geq 0$  [ $x \leq 1/2$ ]  
 $z \leq 1/2$  [ $x \leq 1/2$ ]

[\[Guide to notation\]](#)

(output cctbx: Ralf Grosse-Kustelwe)

GENERAL  
AND  
SPECIAL WYCKOFF  
POSITIONS  
SITE-SYMMETRY



# Group Actions

## Group Actions

A *group action* of a group  $\mathcal{G}$  on a set  $\Omega = \{\omega \mid \omega \in \Omega\}$  assigns to each pair  $(g, \omega)$  an object  $\omega' = g(\omega)$  of  $\Omega$  such that the following hold:

- (i) applying two group elements  $g$  and  $g'$  consecutively has the same effect as applying the product  $g'g$ , i.e.  $g'(g(\omega)) = (g'g)(\omega)$
- (ii) applying the identity element  $e$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  has no effect on  $\omega$ , i.e.  $e(\omega) = \omega$  for all  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$ .

## Orbit and Stabilizer

The set  $\omega^{\mathcal{G}} := \{g(\omega) \mid g \in \mathcal{G}\}$  of all objects in the orbit of  $\omega$  is called the *orbit of  $\omega$  under  $\mathcal{G}$* .

The set  $S_{\mathcal{G}}(\omega) := \{g \in \mathcal{G} \mid g(\omega) = \omega\}$  of group elements that do not move the object  $\omega$  is a subgroup of  $\mathcal{G}$  called the *stabilizer of  $\omega$  in  $\mathcal{G}$* .

## Equivalence classes

Via this equivalence relation, the action of  $\mathcal{G}$  partitions the objects in  $\Omega$  into *equivalence classes*.

# General and special Wyckoff positions

Orbit of a point  $X_0$  under  $G$ :  $G(X_0) = \{(W, w)X_0, (W, w) \in G\}$   
 Multiplicity

Site-symmetry group  $S_0 = \{(W, w)\}$  of a point  $X_0$

$$(W, w)X_0 = X_0$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} a & b & c & w \\ d & e & f & w \\ g & h & i & w \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{c} x_0 \\ y_0 \\ z_0 \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} x_0 \\ y_0 \\ z_0 \end{array}$$

Multiplicity:  $|P|/|S_0|$

General position  $X_0$

$$S = \{(I, \bullet)\} \approx 1$$

Multiplicity:  $|P|$

Special position  $X_0$

$$S > 1 = \{(I, \bullet), \dots, \}$$

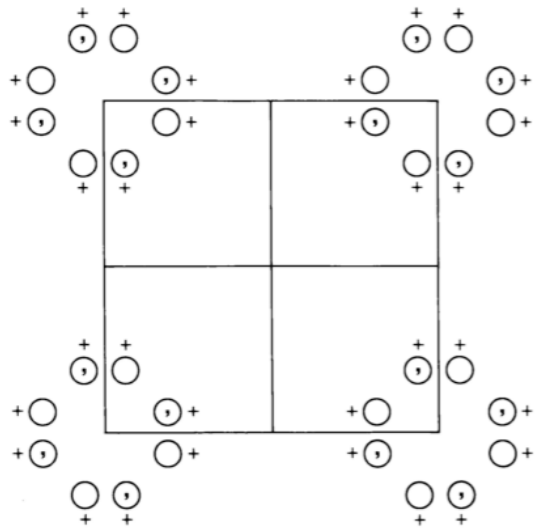
Multiplicity:  $|P|/|S_0|$

Site-symmetry groups: oriented symbols

## General position

- (i) coordinate triplets of an image point  $\tilde{X}$  of the original point  $X = \begin{matrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{matrix}$  under  $(W, w)$  of  $G$
- presentation of infinite image points  $\tilde{X}$  under the action of  $(W, w)$  of  $G: 0 \leq x_i < 1$
- (ii) short-hand notation of the matrix-column pairs  $(W, w)$  of the symmetry operations of  $G$
- presentation of infinite symmetry operations of  $G$   
 $(W, w) = (I, t_n)(W, w_0), 0 \leq w_{i0} < 1$

# General Position of Space groups



As coordinate triplets of an image point  $\tilde{X}$  of the original point  $X = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$  under  $(W, w)$  of  $G$

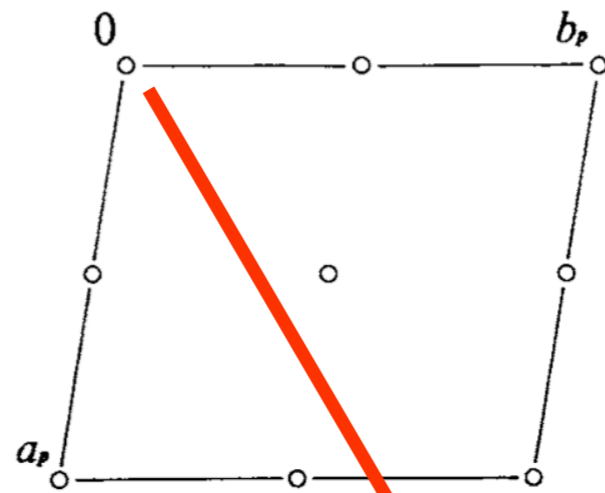
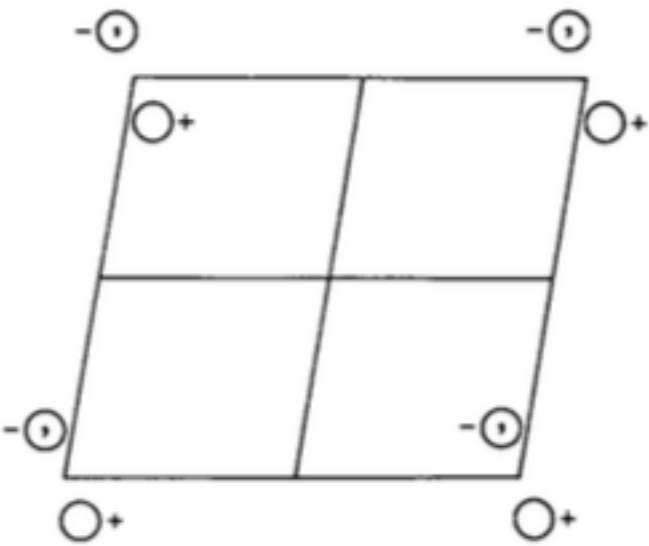
General position

$(1,0)X$	$(W_2, w_2)X$	...	$(W_m, w_m)X$	...	$(W_i, w_i)X$
$(1, t_1)X$	$(W_2, w_2 + t_1)X$	...	$(W_m, w_m + t_1)X$	...	$(W_i, w_i + t_1)X$
$(1, t_2)X$	$(W_2, w_2 + t_2)X$	...	$(W_m, w_m + t_2)X$	...	$(W_i, w_i + t_2)X$
...	...	...	...	...	...
$(1, t_j)X$	$(W_2, w_2 + t_j)X$	...	$(W_m, w_m + t_j)X$	...	$(W_i, w_i + t_j)X$
...	...	...	...	...	...

-presentation of infinite image points  $\tilde{X}$  of  $X$  under the action of  $(W, w)$  of  $G$ :  $0 \leq x_i < 1$

# Example: Calculation of the Site-symmetry groups

## Group P-1



$$S = \{(W, w), (W, w)X_o = X_o\}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & & & 0 \\ & -1 & & 0 \\ & & -1 & 0 \\ & & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S_f = \{(1, 0), (-1, 000)X_f = X_f\}$$

$$S_f \cong \{1, -1\} \quad \text{isomorphic}$$

### Positions

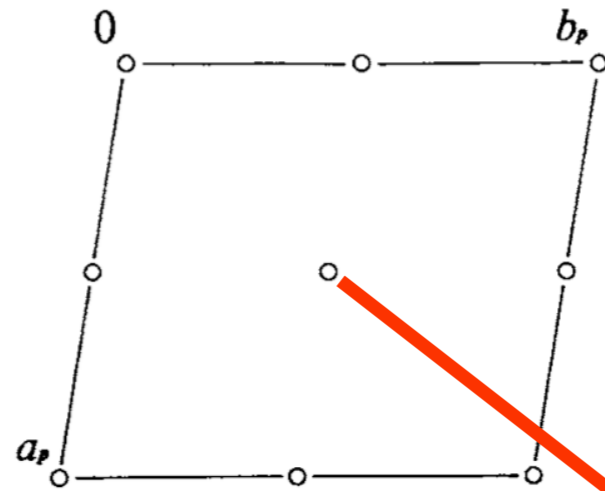
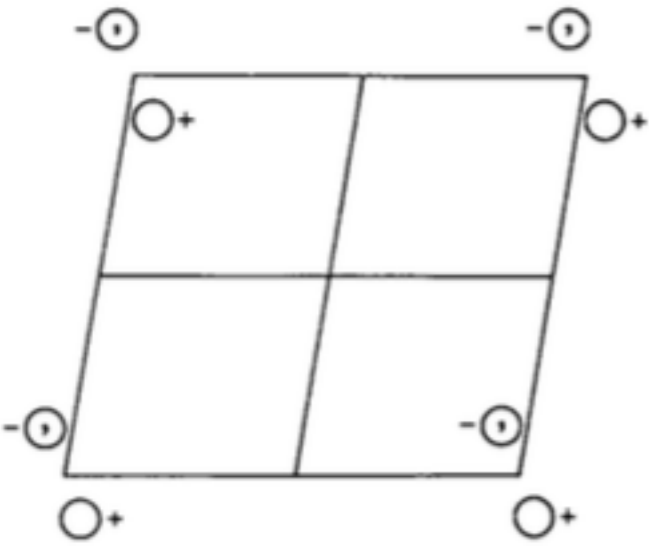
Multiplicity,  
Wyckoff letter,  
Site symmetry

Coordinate

2	<i>i</i>	1	(1) $x, y, z$	(2) $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$
1	<i>h</i>	$\bar{1}$	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$	
1	<i>g</i>	$\bar{1}$	$0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$	
1	<i>f</i>	$\bar{1}$	$\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2}$	
1	<i>e</i>	$\bar{1}$	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0$	
1	<i>d</i>	$\bar{1}$	$\frac{1}{2}, 0, 0$	
1	<i>c</i>	$\bar{1}$	$0, \frac{1}{2}, 0$	
1	<i>b</i>	$\bar{1}$	$0, 0, \frac{1}{2}$	
1	<i>a</i>	$\bar{1}$	$0, 0, 0$	

# QUIZ: Calculation of the Site-symmetry groups

## Group P-1



### Positions

Multiplicity,  
Wyckoff letter,  
Site symmetry

Coordinate

Multiplicity	Wyckoff letter	Site symmetry	(1) $x, y, z$	(2) $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$
2	<i>i</i>	1	$x, y, z$	$\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$
1	<i>h</i>	$\bar{1}$	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$	
1	<i>g</i>	$\bar{1}$	$0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$	
1	<i>f</i>	$\bar{1}$	$\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2}$	
1	<i>e</i>	$\bar{1}$	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0$	
1	<i>d</i>	$\bar{1}$	$\frac{1}{2}, 0, 0$	
1	<i>c</i>	$\bar{1}$	$0, \frac{1}{2}, 0$	
1	<i>b</i>	$\bar{1}$	$0, 0, \frac{1}{2}$	
1	<i>a</i>	$\bar{1}$	$0, 0, 0$	

Determine the  
site symmetry group  
of the point

$$X_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 0 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$S = \{(W, w), (W, w)X_0 = X_0\}$$

# QUICK QUIZ

# Space group P4mm

## Site symmetry groups of special Wyckoff positions

	8	<i>g</i>	1	(1) $x, y, z$ (5) $x, \bar{y}, z$	(2) $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, z$ (6) $\bar{x}, y, z$	(3) $\bar{y}, x, z$ (7) $\bar{y}, \bar{x}, z$	(4) $y, \bar{x}, z$ (8) $y, x, z$		
			4	<i>f</i>	$. m .$	$x, \frac{1}{2}, z$	$\bar{x}, \frac{1}{2}, z$	$\frac{1}{2}, x, z$	$\frac{1}{2}, \bar{x}, z$
			4	<i>e</i>	$. m .$	$x, 0, z$	$\bar{x}, 0, z$	$0, x, z$	$0, \bar{x}, z$
			4	<i>d</i>	$. . m$	$x, x, z$	$\bar{x}, \bar{x}, z$	$\bar{x}, x, z$	$x, \bar{x}, z$
			2	<i>c</i>	$2 m m .$	$\frac{1}{2}, 0, z$	$0, \frac{1}{2}, z$		
			1	<i>b</i>	$4 m m$	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, z$			
			1	<i>a</i>	$4 m m$	$0, 0, z$			

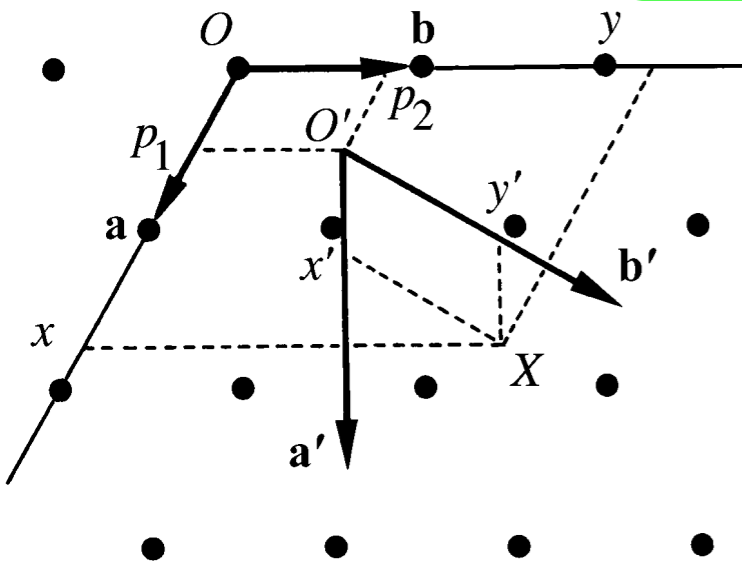
### Symmetry operations

- |                        |                        |                              |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| (1) 1                  | (2) 2 $0, 0, z$        | (3) $4^+$ $0, 0, z$          | (4) $4^-$ $0, 0, z$    |
| (5) <i>m</i> $x, 0, z$ | (6) <i>m</i> $0, y, z$ | (7) <i>m</i> $x, \bar{x}, z$ | (8) <i>m</i> $x, x, z$ |

CO-ORDINATE  
TRANSFORMATIONS  
IN  
CRYSTALLOGRAPHY



# Co-ordinate transformation



## 3-dimensional space

$(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})$ , origin  $O$ : point  $X(x, y, z)$

$(P, \mathbf{p})$  ↓

$(\mathbf{a}', \mathbf{b}', \mathbf{c}')$ , origin  $O'$ : point  $X(x', y', z')$

## Transformation matrix-column pair $(P, \mathbf{p})$

(i) linear part: change of orientation or length:

$$(\mathbf{a}', \mathbf{b}', \mathbf{c}') = (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})P$$

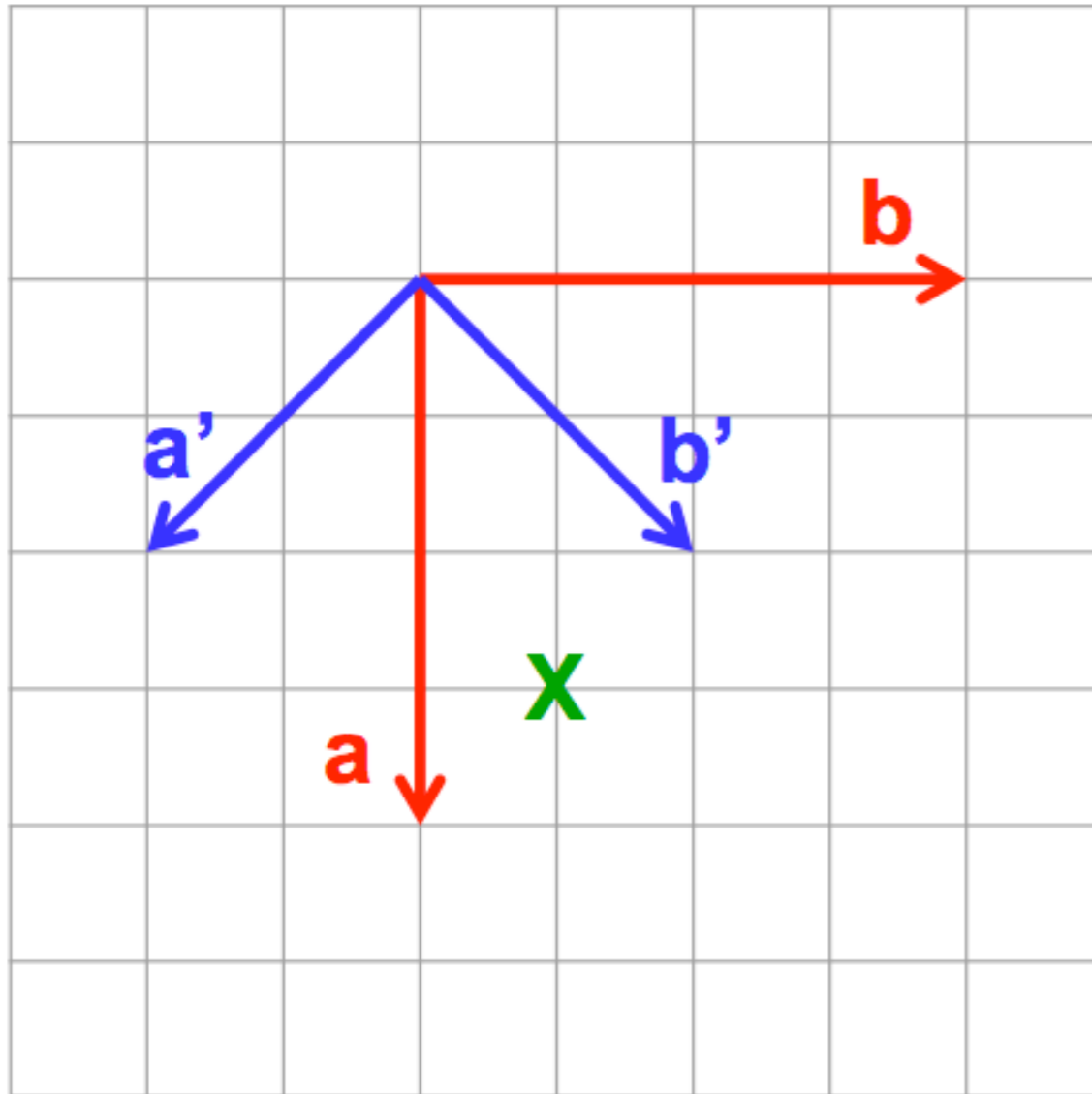
$$= (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}) \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & P_{13} \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & P_{23} \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & P_{33} \end{pmatrix} = (P_{11}\mathbf{a} + P_{21}\mathbf{b} + P_{31}\mathbf{c}, \\ P_{12}\mathbf{a} + P_{22}\mathbf{b} + P_{32}\mathbf{c}, \\ P_{13}\mathbf{a} + P_{23}\mathbf{b} + P_{33}\mathbf{c}).$$

(ii) origin shift by a shift vector  $\mathbf{p}(p_1, p_2, p_3)$ :

$$\mathbf{O}' = \mathbf{O} + \mathbf{p}$$

the origin  $\mathbf{O}'$  has coordinates  $(p_1, p_2, p_3)$  in the old coordinate system

# QUICK QUIZ



$$(a', b', c') = (a, b, c) \begin{pmatrix} \text{?} \\ \text{?} \\ \text{?} \end{pmatrix}$$

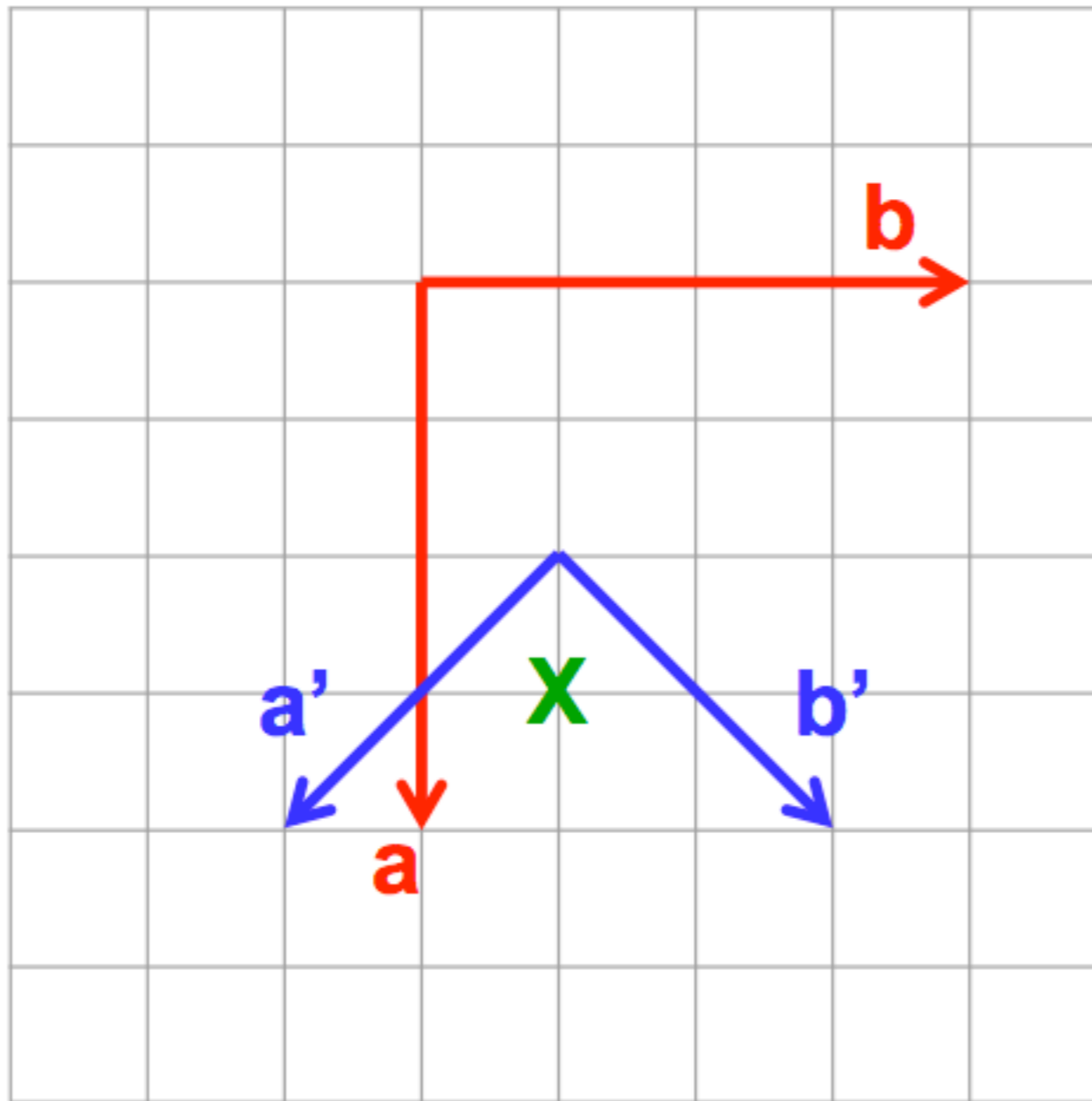
$$(a, b, c) = (a', b', c') \begin{pmatrix} \text{?} \\ \text{?} \\ \text{?} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = (3/4, 1/4, 0)$$

$$X' = (\text{?})$$

Write “new in terms of old” as column vectors.

# QUICK QUIZ



$$p = \begin{pmatrix} \text{?} \\ \text{?} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} \text{?} \\ \text{?} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = (3/4, 1/4, 0)$$

$$X' = (\text{?}, \text{?})$$

Linear parts as before.

# Transformation matrix-column pair $(P,p)$

$$(P,p) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ -1/2 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

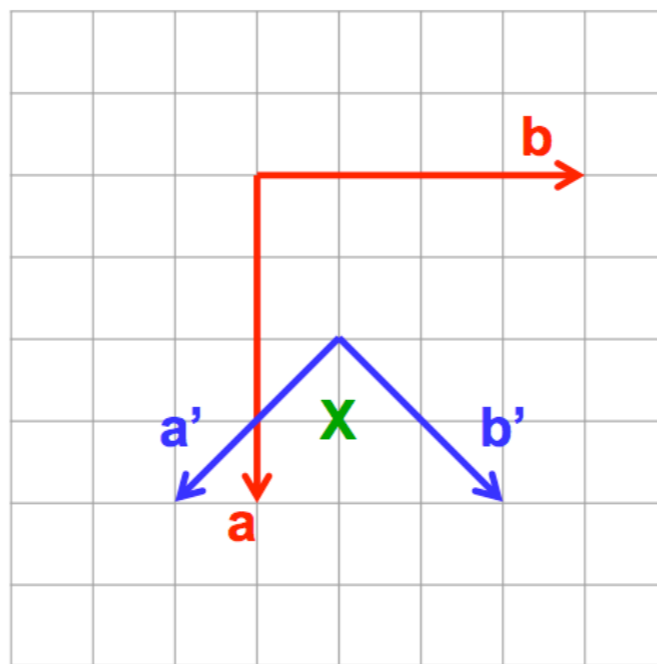
$$(P,p)^{-1} = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 0 & -1/4 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & -3/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{a}' = 1/2\mathbf{a} - 1/2\mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{b}' = 1/2\mathbf{a} + 1/2\mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{c}' = \mathbf{c}$$

$$\mathbf{O}' = \mathbf{O} + \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1/2 \\ \hline 1/4 \\ \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



$$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a}' + \mathbf{b}'$$

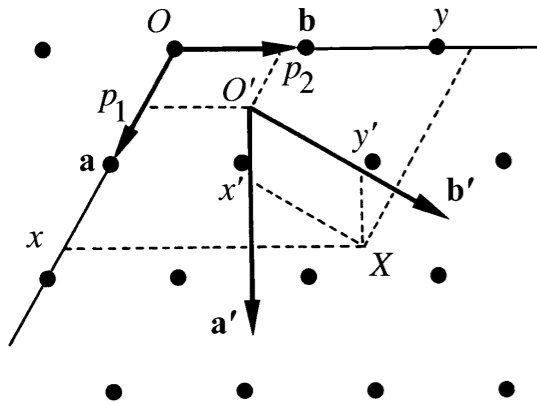
$$\mathbf{b} = -\mathbf{a}' + \mathbf{b}'$$

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{c}'$$

$$\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{O}' + \begin{array}{|c|} \hline -1/4 \\ \hline -3/4 \\ \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

# Short-hand notation for the description of transformation matrices

## Transformation matrix:



$(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})$ , origin  $O$

$$(P, p) = \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & P_{13} & p_1 \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & P_{23} & p_2 \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & P_{33} & p_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$(\mathbf{a}', \mathbf{b}', \mathbf{c}')$ , origin  $O'$

## notation rules:

- written by **columns**
- coefficients 0, +1, -1
- different **columns** in one line
- origin shift

## example:

1	-1		-1/4
1	1		-3/4
		1	0

$$\longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a+b, -a+b, c; \\ -1/4, -3/4, 0 \end{array} \right.$$

# Transformation of the coordinates of a point $X(x,y,z)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 (X') &= (P,p)^{-1}(X) \\
 &= (P^{-1}, -P^{-1}p)(X)
 \end{aligned}
 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline x' \\ \hline y' \\ \hline z' \\ \hline \end{array}
 = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} P_{11} & P_{12} & P_{13} & p_1 \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & P_{23} & p_2 \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & P_{33} & p_3 \end{array} \right)^{-1}
 \begin{array}{|c|} \hline x \\ \hline y \\ \hline z \\ \hline \end{array}$$

## special cases

-origin shift ( $P=I$ ):

$$x' = x - p$$

-change of basis ( $p=0$ ):

$$x' = P^{-1}x$$

## EXAMPLE

$$X' = (P,p)^{-1}X = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 0 & -1/4 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & -3/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 3/4 \\ \hline 1/4 \\ \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline 1/4 \\ \hline 1/4 \\ \hline 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

## QUICK QUIZ

Determine the coordinates  $X'$  of a point  $X =$

with respect to the new basis  $(\mathbf{a}', \mathbf{b}', \mathbf{c}') = (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})\mathbf{P}$ , with  $\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{bmatrix}$ .

0,70
0,31
0,95

*Hint*

$$(X') = (P, p)^{-1}(X)$$

# Covariant and contravariant crystallographic quantities

direct or crystal basis

$$(\mathbf{a}', \mathbf{b}', \mathbf{c}') = (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})P = (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}) \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & P_{13} \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & P_{23} \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & P_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

reciprocal or dual basis

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}^{*'} \\ \mathbf{b}^{*'} \\ \mathbf{c}^{*'} \end{pmatrix} = P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}^* \\ \mathbf{b}^* \\ \mathbf{c}^* \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & P_{13} \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & P_{23} \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & P_{33} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}^* \\ \mathbf{b}^* \\ \mathbf{c}^* \end{pmatrix}$$

covariant to crystal basis: Miller indices

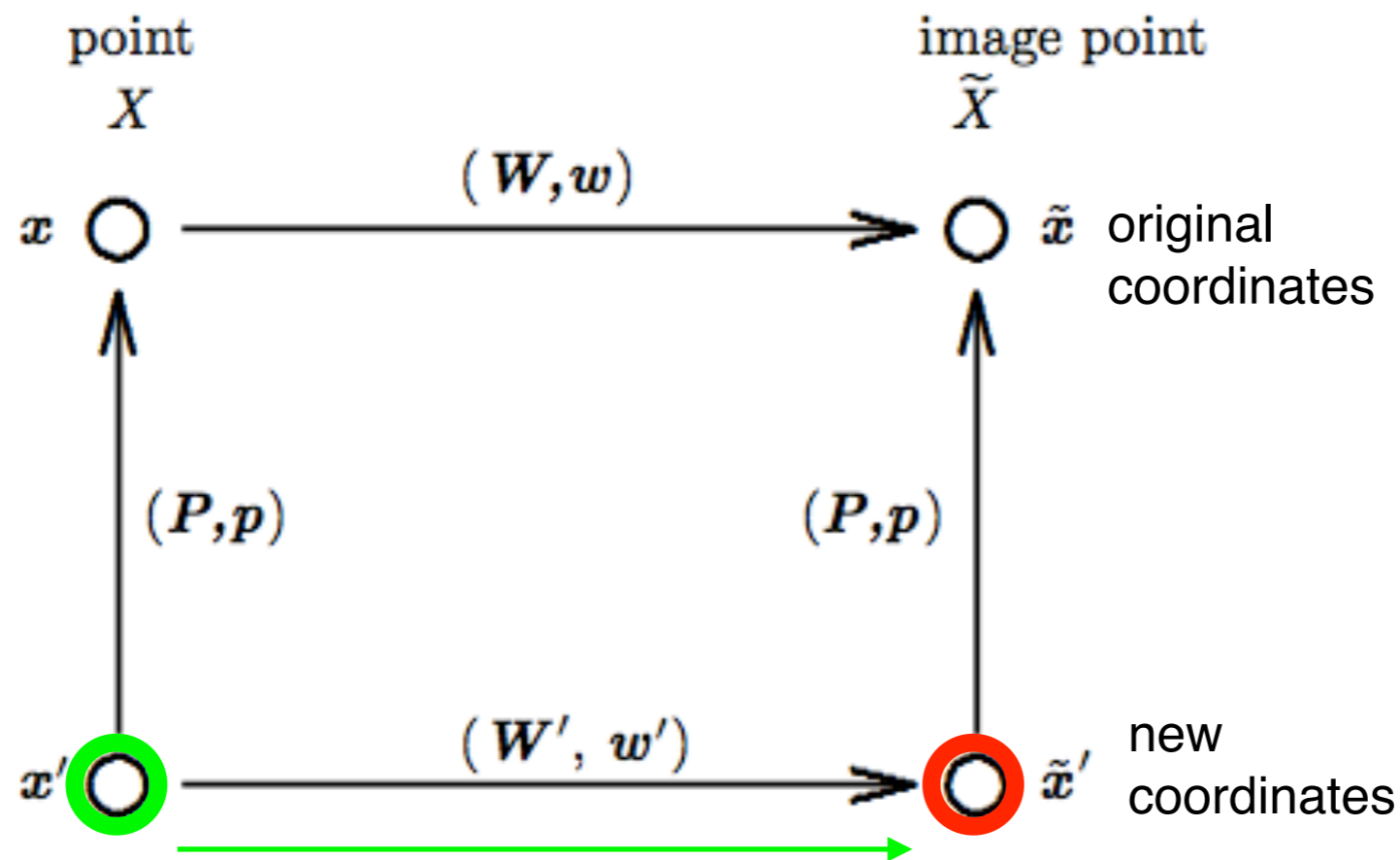
$$(h', k', l') = (h, k, l)P$$

contravariant to crystal basis: indices of a direction [u]

$$\begin{pmatrix} u' \\ v' \\ w' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & P_{13} \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & P_{23} \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & P_{33} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix}$$



# Transformation of symmetry operations $(W, w)$



i.  $\tilde{x}' = (W', w')x'$ ,

ii.  $\tilde{x}' = (P, p)^{-1}\tilde{x} = (P, p)^{-1}(W, w)x = (P, p)^{-1}(W, w)(P, p)x'$ .

$$(W', w') = (P, p)^{-1}(W, w)(P, p)$$

## QUIZ

The following matrix-column pairs  $(W, w)$  are referred with respect to a basis  $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})$ :

(1)  $x, y, z$                       (2)  $-x, y + 1/2, -z + 1/2$

(3)  $-x, -y, -z$                     (4)  $x, -y + 1/2, z + 1/2$

Determine the corresponding matrix-column pairs  $(W', w')$  with respect to the basis  $(\mathbf{a}', \mathbf{b}', \mathbf{c}') = (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})\mathbf{P}$ , with  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}$ .

*Hint*

$$(W', w') = (P, p)^{-1} (W, w) (P, p)$$

**Problem: SYMMETRY DATA  
ITA SETTINGS**

**530 ITA settings of orthorhombic  
and monoclinic groups**

**Monoclinic descriptions**

	Transf.	abc	cba	abc	ba $\bar{c}$	abc	$\bar{a}cb$	Monoclinic axis <i>b</i> Monoclinic axis <i>c</i> Monoclinic axis <i>a</i>
HM	<i>C2/c</i>	<i>C12/c1</i>	<i>A12/a1</i>	<i>A112/a</i>	<i>B112/b</i>	<i>B2/b11</i>	<i>C2/c11</i>	Cell type 1
		<i>A12/n1</i>	<i>C12/n1</i>	<i>B112/n</i>	<i>A112/n</i>	<i>C2/n11</i>	<i>B2/n11</i>	Cell type 2
		<i>I12/a1</i>	<i>I12/c1</i>	<i>I112/b</i>	<i>I112/a</i>	<i>I2/c11</i>	<i>I2/b11</i>	Cell type 3

**Orthorhombic descriptions**

No.	HM	abc	ba $\bar{c}$	cab	$\bar{c}ba$	bca	a $\bar{c}b$
33	<i>Pna2<sub>1</sub></i>	<i>Pna2<sub>1</sub></i>	<i>Pbn2<sub>1</sub></i>	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>nb</i>	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>cn</i>	<i>Pc2<sub>1</sub>n</i>	<i>Pn2<sub>1</sub>a</i>

METRIC TENSOR

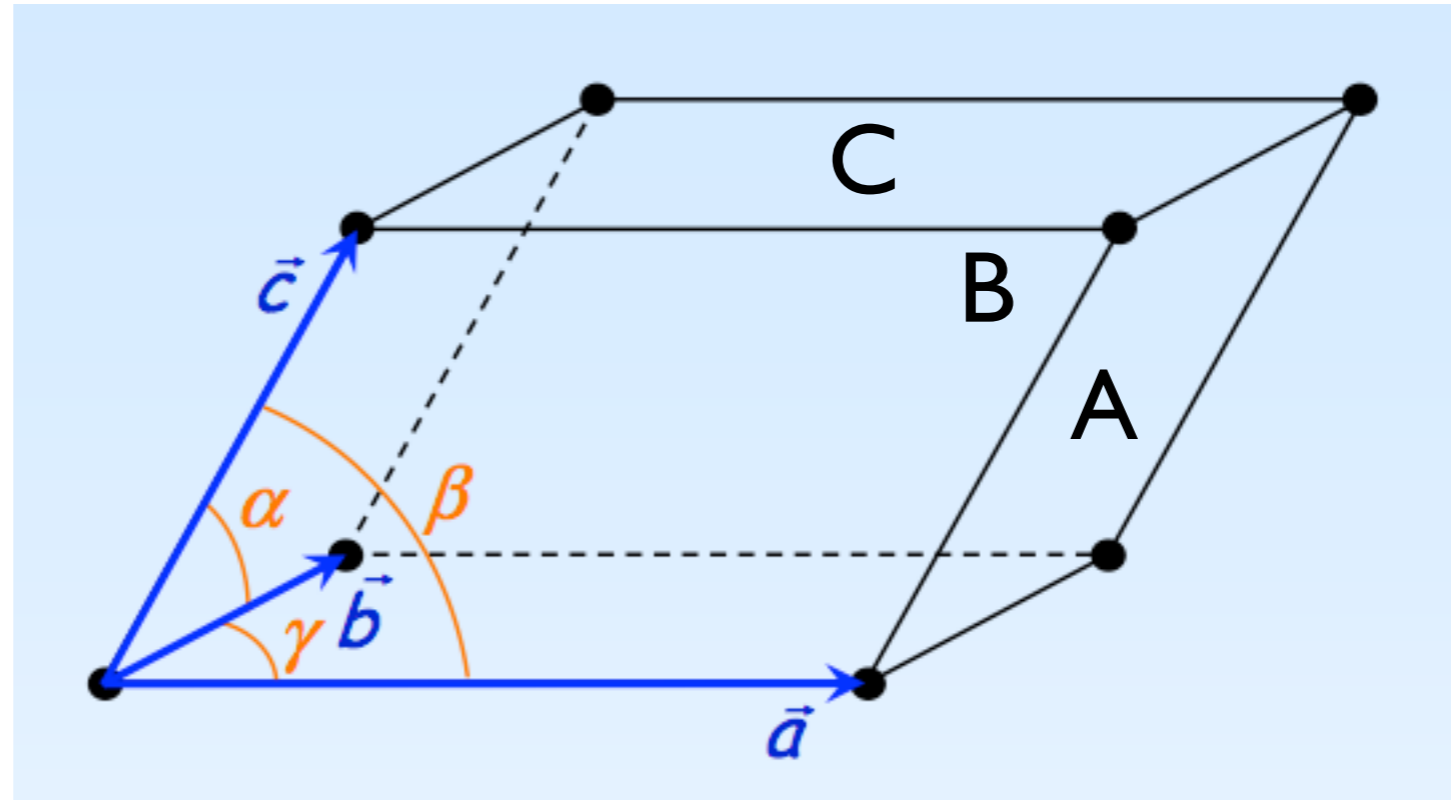
# 3D-unit cell and lattice parameters

lattice basis:  
 $\{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}\}$

*unit cell:*  
the parallelepiped  
defined by the  
basis vectors

primitive P and  
centred unit cells:  
A, B, C, F, I, R

number of  
lattice points  
per unit cell



## Lattice parameters

lengths of the  
unit translations:

$a$

$b$

$c$

angles between them:

$$\alpha = \widehat{(\vec{b}, \vec{c})}$$

$$\beta = \widehat{(\vec{c}, \vec{a})}$$

$$\gamma = \widehat{(\vec{a}, \vec{b})}$$

# Lattice parameters (3D)

An alternative way to define the metric properties of a lattice  $\mathbf{L}$

Given a lattice  $\mathbf{L}$  of  $\mathbf{V}^3$  with a lattice basis:  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3\}$

**Definition (D 1.5.3)** The quantities

$$a_1 = |\mathbf{a}_1| = +\sqrt{(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_1)}, \quad a_2 = |\mathbf{a}_2| = +\sqrt{(\mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_2)},$$

$$a_3 = |\mathbf{a}_3| = +\sqrt{(\mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_3)},$$

$$\alpha_1 = \arccos(|\mathbf{a}_2|^{-1}|\mathbf{a}_3|^{-1}(\mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3)), \quad \alpha_2 = \arccos(|\mathbf{a}_3|^{-1}|\mathbf{a}_1|^{-1}(\mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_1)),$$

$$\text{and } \alpha_3 = \arccos(|\mathbf{a}_1|^{-1}|\mathbf{a}_2|^{-1}(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2))$$

are called the *lattice parameters* of the lattice.

Remark: **the lengths** of basis vectors are measured in

$$nm \ (1nm=10^{-9} \text{ m}) \quad \text{\AA} \ (1\text{\AA}=10^{-10} \text{ m}) \quad \mu m \ (1\mu m=10^{-12} \text{ m})$$

## Metric tensor $\mathbf{G}$ in terms of lattice parameters

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{c} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} a^2 & ab \cos \gamma & ac \cos \beta \\ ab \cos \gamma & b^2 & bc \cos \alpha \\ ac \cos \beta & bc \cos \alpha & c^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Crystal families, crystal systems, lattice systems and Bravais lattices in 3D

Crystal family	Symbol*	Crystal system	Crystallographic point groups†	No. of space groups	Conventional coordinate system		Bravais lattices*
					Restrictions on cell parameters	Parameters to be determined	
Triclinic (anorthic)	<i>a</i>	Triclinic	1, $\bar{1}$	2	None	<i>a, b, c,</i> <i>α, β, γ</i>	<i>aP</i>
Monoclinic	<i>m</i>	Monoclinic	2, <i>m</i> , $2/m$	13	<i>b</i> -unique setting <i>α</i> = <i>γ</i> = 90°	<i>a, b, c</i> <i>β</i> ‡	<i>mP</i> <i>mS (mC, mA, mI)</i>
					<i>c</i> -unique setting <i>α</i> = <i>β</i> = 90°	<i>a, b, c,</i> <i>γ</i> ‡	<i>mP</i> <i>mS (mA, mB, mI)</i>
Orthorhombic	<i>o</i>	Orthorhombic	222, <i>mm</i> 2, $mmm$	59	<i>α</i> = <i>β</i> = <i>γ</i> = 90°	<i>a, b, c</i>	<i>oP</i> <i>oS (oC, oA, oB)</i> <i>oI</i> <i>oF</i>
Tetragonal	<i>t</i>	Tetragonal	4, $\bar{4}$ , $4/m$ 422, $4mm$ , $4_2m$ , $4/mmm$	68	<i>a</i> = <i>b</i> <i>α</i> = <i>β</i> = <i>γ</i> = 90°	<i>a, c</i>	<i>tP</i> <i>tI</i>
Hexagonal	<i>h</i>	Trigonal	3, $\bar{3}$ 32, <i>3m</i> , $\bar{3}m$	18	<i>a</i> = <i>b</i> <i>α</i> = <i>β</i> = 90°, <i>γ</i> = 120°	<i>a, c</i>	<i>hP</i>
				7	<i>a</i> = <i>b</i> = <i>c</i> <i>α</i> = <i>β</i> = <i>γ</i> (rhombohedral axes, primitive cell)	<i>a, α</i>	<i>hR</i>
		Hexagonal	6, $\bar{6}$ , $6/m$ 622, $6mm$ , $6_2m$ , $6/mmm$	27	<i>a</i> = <i>b</i> <i>α</i> = <i>β</i> = 90°, <i>γ</i> = 120°	<i>a, c</i>	<i>hP</i>
Cubic	<i>c</i>	Cubic	23, $m\bar{3}$ 432, $4_3m$ , $m\bar{3}m$	36	<i>a</i> = <i>b</i> = <i>c</i> <i>α</i> = <i>β</i> = <i>γ</i> = 90°	<i>a</i>	<i>cP</i> <i>cI</i> <i>cF</i>

# Crystallographic calculations: Volume of the unit cell

## Volume of the unit cell:

The volume  $V$  of the unit cell of a crystal structure, *i. e.* the body containing all points with coordinates  $0 \leq x_1, x_2, x_3 < 1$ , can be calculated by the formula

$$\det(\mathbf{G}) = V^2.$$

## Scalar product of arbitrary vectors:

$$(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{t}) = \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{t}$$

## Transformation properties of $\mathbf{G}$ under basis transformation

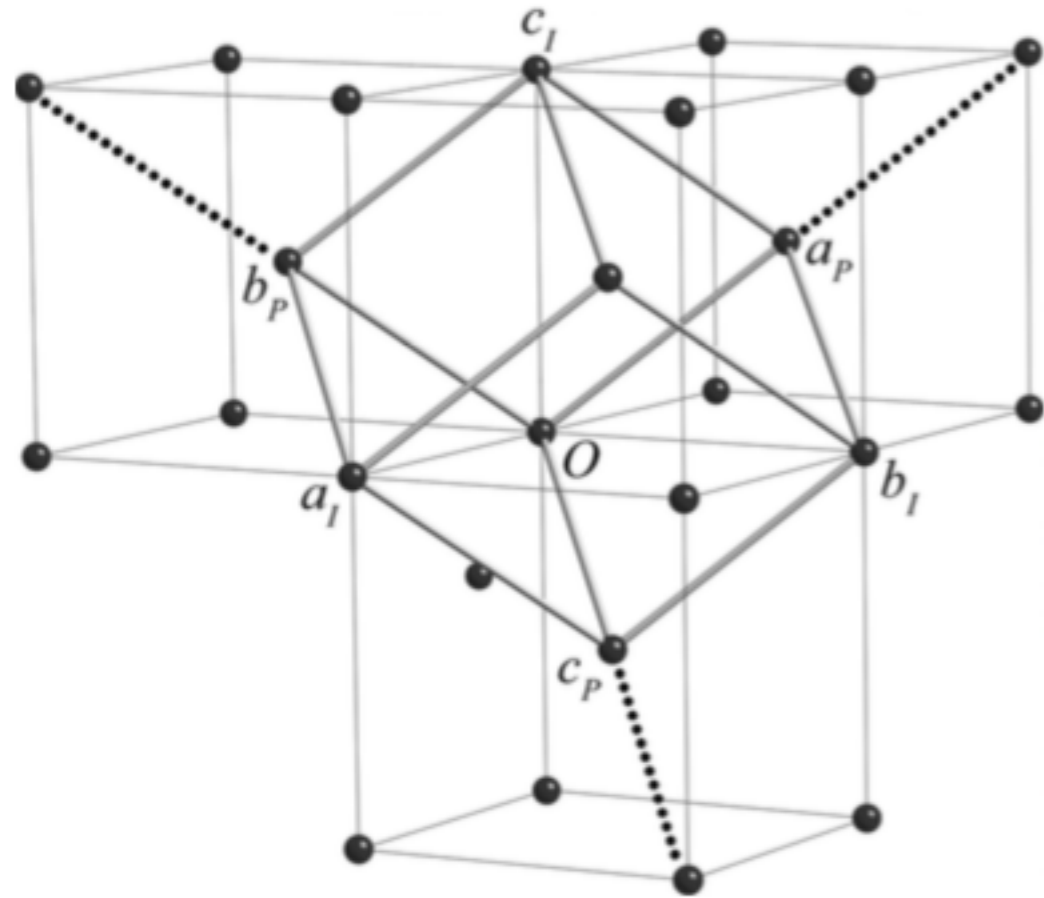
$$\{\mathbf{a}'_1, \mathbf{a}'_2, \mathbf{a}'_3\} = \{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3\} \mathbf{P}$$

$$\mathbf{G}' = \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{P}$$



# QUIZ

# Body-centred cubic cell



A body-centred cubic lattice ( $cc$ ) has as its conventional basis the conventional basis ( $\mathbf{a}_P, \mathbf{b}_P, \mathbf{c}_P$ ) of a primitive cubic lattice, but the lattice also contains the centring vector  $1/2\mathbf{a}_P + 1/2\mathbf{b}_P + 1/2\mathbf{c}_P$  which points to the centre of the conventional cell.

Calculate the coefficients of the metric tensor for the body-centred cubic lattice: (i) for the conventional basis ( $\mathbf{a}_P, \mathbf{b}_P, \mathbf{c}_P$ );

(ii) for the primitive basis:

$$\mathbf{a}_I = 1/2(-\mathbf{a}_P + \mathbf{b}_P + \mathbf{c}_P), \mathbf{b}_I = 1/2(\mathbf{a}_P - \mathbf{b}_P + \mathbf{c}_P), \mathbf{c}_I = 1/2(\mathbf{a}_P + \mathbf{b}_P - \mathbf{c}_P)$$

(iii) determine the lattice parameters of the primitive cell if  $a_P = 4 \text{ \AA}$

*Hint*

metric tensor transformation

$$\mathbf{G}' = \mathbf{P}^t \mathbf{G} \mathbf{P}$$