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## Theory of Brillouin Zones and Symmetry Properties of Wave Functions in Crystals

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It is well known that if the interaction between electrons in a metal is neglected, the energy spectrum has a zonal structure. The problem of these "Brillouin zones" is treated here from the point of view of group theory. In this theory, a representation of the symmetry group of the underlying problem is associated with every energy value. The symmetry, in the present case, is the space group, and the main difference as compared with ordinary problems is that while in the latter the representations form a discrete manifold and can be characterized by integers (as e.g., the azimuthal quantum number), the representations of a space group form a continuous manifold, and must be characterized by continuously varying

parameters. It can be shown that in the neighborhood of an energy value with a certain representation, there will be energy values with all the representations the parameters of which are close to the parameters of the original representation. This leads to the well-known result that the energy is a continuous function of the reduced wave vector (the components of which are parameters of the above-mentioned kind), but allows in addition to this a systematic treatment of the "sticking" together of Brillouin zones. The treatment is carried out for the simple cubic and the body-centered and face-centered cubic lattices, showing the different possible types of zones.

## I.

**I**NVESTIGATIONS of the electronic structure of crystal lattices in particular in metals, made on the basis of Bloch's theory, led to the conception of the so-called Brillouin zones.<sup>1</sup> In

spite of these investigations, which cover a large part of the field, it seems desirable to develop the theory from a unique point of view. It appears that taking into account special symmetry properties of different lattices brings out interesting features of the constitution of the B-Z which are not evident from the existing general theory. These features can be dealt with

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<sup>1</sup>The existence of these zones was first noticed by M. J. O. Strutt, *Ann. d. Physik* **85**, 129 (1928); **86**, 319 (1929); and then, independently, by F. Bloch, *Zeits. f. Physik* **52**, 555 (1928); cf. also P. M. Morse, *Phys. Rev.* **35**, 1310 (1930). From another point of view, they were discussed by R. Peierls, *Ann. d. Physik* **4**, 121 (1930). Their connection with x-ray reflection was first pointed out by L. Brillouin (cf. e.g., *Die Quantenstatistik* (Berlin, 1931)). Important physical applications were given by H. Jones, *Proc. Roy. Soc. A* **144**, 225 (1934); **147**, 396 (1934); H. Jones, N. F. Mott and H. W. B. Skinner, *Phys. Rev.* **45**, 379 (1934); J. C. Slater, *Phys. Rev.* **45**, 794 (1934); *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **6**, 209 (1934); F. Hund and B. Mrowka, *Ber. Sachs. Akad. D. Wiss.* **87**, 185, 325 (1935). Compare

also F. Hund, *Zeits. f. tech. Physik* **16**, 331, 494 (1935); *Zeits. f. Physik* **99**, 119 (1936). Hund's work deals with those properties of the Brillouin zones which are common to all zones of the same lattice (as matter of fact he does not discriminate between different types of zones at all). We consider here the different types of zone separately. The differences between the different types are of the same kind as e.g. the difference between even and odd terms in atomic spectra. It is surprising that there are at all common properties of all zones but Hund has shown that this is the case for the more complicated crystal structures.

uniformly by the methods of group theory,<sup>2</sup> and we propose to take up the subject here from this point of view. The first start in this direction has been made by F. Seitz,<sup>3</sup> and we shall use his results extensively, though a knowledge of his work should not be necessary for the understanding of this paper.

In the theory of Bloch, every electron has a separate wave function. This assumption is identical with the Hartree-Fock approximation method and amounts to neglecting the statistical correlations between electrons. If we neglect these correlations, every electron obeys a separate Schrödinger equation of the type

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}\right)\psi + V\psi = E\psi \quad (1)$$

in which  $V$  contains the ordinary and exchange potentials of the ions and electrons.<sup>4</sup> The potential  $V$  has the whole symmetry of the lattice, that is, the group of our Schrödinger equation (1) is the space group of the lattice.

It is clear from the ordinary group theory<sup>2</sup> that every characteristic value of (1) belongs to a certain representation of the space group and the dimension of the representation is equal to the number of characteristic functions belonging to this characteristic value.<sup>5</sup> Thus far the group theory of the B-Z is not different from the group theory of any other system. But while in atoms, molecules, etc., the characteristic values of (1) are well separated, the characteristic values of (1) for a crystal form a continuous manifold. There will be several characteristic values in the neighborhood of any one  $E$  and the representations of these characteristic values will be said to form the neighborhood of the representation of  $E$  for this B-Z. Thus a certain topology for the representations must exist and it will be shown that part of this topology is independent

of the special B-Z. Even if  $E, E', \dots$  be in different B-Z but have the same representation, there will be energy values neighboring  $E$  (with a few exceptions) with the same representations as those of energy values neighboring  $E'$ , etc. The investigation of the "topology" of representations will be essentially the subject of this paper, from the mathematical point of view.

## II.

We must review next, the theory of representations of space groups. F. Seitz<sup>3</sup> has shown that all space groups are soluble groups and their representations can be obtained according to the general theory for these.<sup>3, 6</sup> Seitz first considers the invariant subgroup formed by the translations. Since these commute, the corresponding matrices in the representation can be assumed to have the diagonal form. This means that we shall consider such linear combinations  $\psi_\mu$  ( $\mu=1, 2, \dots, n$ , where  $n$  is the dimension of the representation) of the wave functions, which are merely multiplied by constant factors ("multipliers")  $\omega_{\mu 1}, \omega_{\mu 2}, \omega_{\mu 3}$  if a displacement by the three elementary identity periods is made. In other words, the matrix corresponding to the displacement by the first elementary identity period is a diagonal matrix with the diagonal elements  $\omega_{11}, \omega_{21}, \dots, \omega_{n1}$ , with similar matrices for the representatives of the other displacements. Since all matrices must be unitary,  $|\omega_{\mu 1}| = |\omega_{\mu 2}| = |\omega_{\mu 3}| = 1$ ; and if one writes

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_{\mu 1} &= e^{i(k_x x_1 + k_y y_1 + k_z z_1)} \\ \omega_{\mu 2} &= e^{i(k_x x_2 + k_y y_2 + k_z z_2)} \\ \omega_{\mu 3} &= e^{i(k_x x_3 + k_y y_3 + k_z z_3)} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

with  $x_1, y_1, z_1, x_2, y_2, z_2, x_3, y_3, z_3$ , the  $x, y, z$  components of the first, second and third identity periods, the vector  $\mathbf{k}$  is called<sup>7</sup> "the reduced wave number vector." Of course,  $\mathbf{k}$  will be, in general, different for the different wave functions  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n$ . It must be remembered, how-

<sup>2</sup> Cf. e.g., E. Wigner, *Die Gruppentheorie und ihre Anwendungen* (Braunschweig, 1931). The first application of group theory to crystal lattices has been given by H. Bethe, *Ann. d. Physik* **3**, 133 (1929).

<sup>3</sup> F. Seitz, *Ann. of Math.* **37**, 17 (1936).

<sup>4</sup> L. Brillouin, *Actualités Scientifiques et Industrielles* (Paris, 1933).

<sup>5</sup> To the symmetry operations of the space group, the "reversal of time" (cf. E. Wigner, *Gott. Nachr.* 546 (1932)) should be added. It has been remarked by F. Hund (reference 1) that this will often be of great importance. It can be omitted, however, in the case of the cubic lattices investigated here.

<sup>6</sup> G. Frobenius, *Berl. Ber.* 337 (1893); I. Schur, *Berl. Ber.* 164 (1906).

<sup>7</sup> Cf. A. Sommerfeld and H. Bethe's article in *Handbuch der Physik*, Vol. 24 (Berlin, 1933), chapter 3. Also J. C. Slater, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **6**, 209 (1934). For a simple cubic lattice  $x_1 = y_2 = z_3 = d$ ;  $y_1 = z_1 = x_2 = z_2 = x_3 = y_3 = 0$ . For a face centered lattice  $y_1 = z_1 = x_2 = z_2 = x_3 = y_3 = d/2$ ;  $x_1 = y_2 = z_3 = 0$ , etc.

ever, that the reduced wave vector  $\mathbf{k}$  is defined by (2) only up to an integer multiple of a vector  $\mathbf{r}$  of the reciprocal lattice, i.e., a vector  $\mathbf{r}$ , for which

$$\begin{aligned} r_x x_1 + r_y y_1 + r_z z_1 &= 2\pi n_1 \\ r_x x_2 + r_y y_2 + r_z z_2 &= 2\pi n_2 \\ r_x x_3 + r_y y_3 + r_z z_3 &= 2\pi n_3 \end{aligned} \quad (2a)$$

always can be added to  $\mathbf{k}$ , without changing its meaning. The space of  $\mathbf{k}$  is periodic with all the periods  $\mathbf{r}$ , satisfying (2a); two reduced wave vectors differing by such an  $\mathbf{r}$  are considered identical. If there are no essential gliding planes and screw axes in the space group,<sup>8</sup> one needs to consider, in addition to the above translations, rotations and reflections only. If such a transformation is applied to  $\psi_\mu$ , it will be transformed into a wave function, say  $\psi_\lambda$ , the reduced wave vector of which arises from that of  $\psi_\mu$  by just the rotation or reflection considered. Thus the reduced wave vectors of the wave functions of one representation all arise from one another by the pure rotations and reflections of the group, i.e., the elements of the crystal class. If the reduced wave vector of one  $\psi_\mu$  is transformed by every element of the crystal class into a different vector, this will be true for all of them, and we shall have as many wave functions  $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n$  as the crystal class has elements. The matrices of the representation corresponding to rotations and reflections will merely interchange the different  $\psi_\mu$ . If there are symmetry elements which leave a wave vector invariant, they form a group which we shall call *the group of the wave vector*. So, for example, if the wave vector lies in the  $x$  direction, its group will contain all rotations around  $x$  and all reflections in planes through  $x$ .

A wave function  $\psi_\mu$  with a wave vector  $\mathbf{k}$  either is left invariant under the transformations of the group of  $\mathbf{k}$ , or else transformed into a new  $\psi_\lambda$  with the same wave vector,  $\mathbf{k}$ , however. In the first case there will be only one wave function with the wave vector  $\mathbf{k}$ . In the second case there will be several of them and they will transform

<sup>8</sup> We mean by this that all symmetry elements can be considered as products of two symmetry elements, the one of which is a pure translation, the other a pure rotation or reflection. This is the case in the most important space groups.

under the transformations of the group of  $\mathbf{k}$  by an irreducible representation of this group, which we shall call the *small representation*. These are the results of Seitz.

Hence the representations of the space group must be characterized by two symbols. The first gives the reduced wave vectors (or set of  $\omega$ ) which occur in the representation; the figure of all these wave vectors forms a "star" with all the rotational and reflection symmetries of the lattice. Three such stars are given in Fig. 1 for

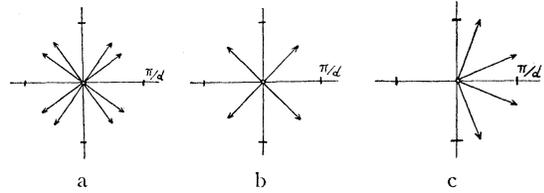


FIG. 1.

a two-dimensional quadratic lattice. The second symbol characterizes the small representation, which is an irreducible representation of the group of one wave vector (the groups of all wave vectors of a star are holomorphic). If the wave vectors lie in general positions (Fig. 1a) their group will contain the unit element only. In this case the second symbol may be omitted. It may be emphasized again that two wave vectors must be considered identical, if the corresponding set of  $\omega$ 's is the same. Thus for example, if the three  $k_x x_i + k_y y_i + k_z z_i$  are all integer multiples of  $\pi$  (not necessarily of  $2\pi$ ) the wave vector  $k_x, k_y, k_z$  is identical with the wave vector  $-k_x, -k_y, -k_z$  and the inversion ( $x \rightarrow -x, y \rightarrow -y, z \rightarrow -z$ ) always belongs to the group of the wave vector.<sup>9</sup>

### III.

We now consider an energy value  $E$  with a certain representation  $D$  and the wave functions  $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n$ . If we multiply one of these by  $e^{i(\kappa_x x + \kappa_y y + \kappa_z z)}$  where  $\kappa_x, \kappa_y, \kappa_z$ , are the components

<sup>9</sup> It is in this connection that the time reversal is important (cf. F. Hund, reference 1). If the crystal class does not contain the inversion,  $k_x, k_y, k_z$  will still be carried over into  $-k_x, -k_y, -k_z$  by the "time reversal." Since, as we shall see, the above consideration determines the surface of the  $B$ - $Z$ , this will be fundamentally affected by the operation of time reversal.

of a very small vector, it will have the wave vector  $\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa}$  and belong to a new representation  $D'$ . The set of new representations obtained in such a way will be called the neighborhood of  $D$ . It is clear that there will be near  $E$ , an  $E'$  with a representation  $D'$ . For if  $\psi_1$  satisfies (1),  $\psi_1 e^{i(\kappa_x x + \kappa_y y + \kappa_z z)} = \psi_1'$  satisfies

$$\left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\Delta + V \right) \psi_1' + \frac{\hbar^2 i}{m} \left( \kappa_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \kappa_y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \kappa_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \psi_1' = \left( E + \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} (\kappa_x^2 + \kappa_y^2 + \kappa_z^2) \right) \psi_1'. \quad (3)$$

In this equation the second term is small, and its negative value may be treated as a perturbation. Performing the perturbation calculation, we shall obtain a characteristic value  $E'$  of (1) which is near  $E$  and the wave function of which will have the same translational symmetry as  $\psi_1'$ , since both the original operator in (3), and the perturbation

$$-\frac{\hbar^2 i}{m} \left( \kappa_x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \kappa_y \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \kappa_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \quad (3a)$$

have the whole translational symmetry of the lattice.

This is all the general theory we need. If  $E$  had a star of the general type, the star of  $E'$  also will be of the general type and our result merely states the well-known fact, that the energy is a continuous (and even differentiable) function of the components of the wave vector. The set of all energies and wave functions which may be obtained from one single energy level continuously by this operation, never touching a point in which the star degenerates, is properly defined as one Brillouin zone. The restriction to such representations, the stars of which are of the general type, is necessary for the definition of a Brillouin zone, since, as we shall see, two or more Brillouin zones may stick together for degenerated stars (as those in Figs. 1b and 1c).

If we consider an energy value, the wave vectors of which are left invariant by some of the rotation or reflection operations, the situation still will be left essentially unchanged, if no two wave functions have the same reduced wave vector (the same multipliers). If, however, two or more (say  $s$ ) wave functions have the same

wave vector, and we choose  $\kappa_x, \kappa_y, \kappa_z$  in such a way that the new wave vector  $(\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa})$  has the general position, there will be  $s$  orthogonal wave functions, with the wave vector  $\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa}$  and with energies near  $E$ . Since for general wave vectors it never happens that two wave functions with the same wave vector belong to the same energy value, we must conclude that they all belong to different B-Z which are very close for small  $\boldsymbol{\kappa}$  and that for the original energy value  $E$  these  $s$  B-Z "stick together." The sticking together will, therefore, always occur for such wave vectors which are left invariant by some symmetry operations.<sup>10</sup>

We must investigate two more cases. First let  $\boldsymbol{\kappa}$  be such a vector that  $\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa}$  still has the group of  $\mathbf{k}$ . In this case, the small representation of  $E$  is equivalent to the small representation of  $E'$ . Otherwise the wave functions would have to change abruptly even for a small change of  $\mathbf{k}$ . The sticking together will be the same along symmetry elements.

In the second case, the group of  $\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa}$  is only a subgroup of  $\mathbf{k}$ , but still contains more than the identity. This case occurs, for instance, if we pass from a symmetry axis to a symmetry plane through this axis, or from the vector  $\mathbf{k}=0$  to a symmetry axis. The small representations of  $E'$  will be irreducible representations of the subgroup, and if the small representation of  $E$  is not irreducible as representation of the group of  $\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa}$ , the B-Z which stuck together for  $\mathbf{k}$  will be partly separated for  $\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa}$ . The small representations in these B-Z will be, for  $\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa}$ , the irreducible parts of the small representation of the group of  $\mathbf{k}$ .

The proposed characterization of a B-Z is given, hence, by the small representations of the groups of all wave vectors, which have a group greater than unity. For wave vectors lying in equivalent symmetry elements, the small representations are equivalent, and for a symmetry element which is a subgroup of another, the small representation must be contained in the small representation of the latter. Wherever the small representation is  $s$  dimensional, we have a sticking together of  $s$  B-Z, all of them having this same small representation for the

<sup>10</sup> Including the time reversal.

symmetry element under consideration. Again, it is important to remember that the group of the wave vector for which

$$k_x x_i + k_y y_i + k_z z_i = n_i \pi \quad (\text{for } i = i_1) \quad (4)$$

holds for one  $i$ , say  $i = i_1$ , contains all elements which transform  $\mathbf{k}$  in such a way, that  $(k_x x_i + k_y y_i + k_z z_i) / \pi$  remains an integer for  $i = i_1$  and is unchanged for the two other  $i$ , since the corresponding wave vectors are all the same.

The argument which shows that the small representation will be the same all along a symmetry element, breaks down for such points in which two B-Z touch each other, if no such touching is required by symmetry considerations. In the case that the energy for a certain value of  $\mathbf{k}$  is the same in two B-Z, without this being the result of the symmetry, we speak of an accidental degeneracy.<sup>10a</sup> In points of accidental degeneracy, the small representations of the two B-Z may be interchanged, but the case of such an accidental degeneracy is explicitly excluded from the following considerations. One can see that it does not occur for very large lattice constants, though it may occur for the actual ones.

In the following sections, these results will be applied to the three most important cubic lattices, the simple, the face-centered, and the body-centered cubic lattices. Since, for instance all small representations of wave vectors in the fourfold axes are the same, this small representation will be called "the representation along the fourfold axis" and a similar notation will be used for the other symmetry elements.

It has been pointed out by J. C. Slater<sup>1</sup> that the energy as function of  $\mathbf{k}$  should be considered as a periodic, multivalued function, the periods being the vectors of the reciprocal lattice. The "discontinuities" then arise from considering for some  $\mathbf{k}$  one, for other  $\mathbf{k}$  other branches of this multivalued function. In our way of talking, the periodicity is expressed by the fact that two wave vectors differing by a vector  $\mathbf{r}$  of the reciprocal lattice, are considered identical. It is convenient to single out from all sets of "identical" vectors one (generally the shortest), and not to consider the rest at all. The manifold

<sup>10a</sup> The case of an accidental degeneracy will be treated in a paper by C. Herring, to appear shortly. We wish to thank Mr. Herring for interesting discussions on this subject.

of these "reduced wave vectors" forms the inner of the B-Z, their boundary in the  $k_x k_y k_z$  space (where the discontinuities are assumed ordinarily) forms the surface of the B-Z.

The energy as function of  $\mathbf{k}$  has, furthermore, all the symmetry of the (reciprocal) lattice. This is clear, since wave functions with all the  $\mathbf{k}$  of a star belong to the same representation, and have the same energy, hence.

#### IV.

We want to consider the effect of the time reversal, first. This transforms  $\mathbf{k}$  into  $-\mathbf{k}$ . Thus  $-\mathbf{k}$  is always in the star of  $\mathbf{k}$ , even if there is no inversion center present: the energy as function of  $\mathbf{k}$  is always equal for  $\mathbf{k}$  and  $-\mathbf{k}$ . Just as for x-ray reflection, the inversion is always added to the symmetry of the problem.<sup>11</sup>

For a triclinic lattice, for instance, this means that the derivative of energy with respect to  $\mathbf{k}$  is zero in the middle of the faces, edges and at the corner points of the B-Z, i.e., for

$$k_x x_i + k_y y_i + k_z z_i = n_i \pi \quad (i = 1, 2, 3). \quad (5)$$

One can see directly also, that the group of these  $\mathbf{k}$  contains the time reversal and the wave functions are real, hence. Thus the average value of the perturbation operator (3a) vanishes for these wave functions and the energy change goes with  $\kappa^2$ .

This cannot be claimed, however, for all the surface of the B-Z, i.e., for points for which only one of Eq. (5) is satisfied. The derivative of energy with respect to  $\mathbf{k}$  will not vanish in these points and they will not really form the surface of the Brillouin zone.<sup>12</sup>

According to the program of section III, we shall determine now the small representations and their connections in the different types of B-Z for the simple cubic, body-centered, and face-centered cubic lattice. We shall begin with the simple cubic lattice, although no metal with this structure is known.

<sup>11</sup> Cf. G. Friedel, *Comptes rendus* **157**, 1533 (1913). For a more critical discussion of Friedel's rule, cf., however, e.g., P. P. Ewald's article in *Handbuch der Physik*, Vol. 23/2 (Berlin, 1933).

<sup>12</sup> It is not always true, thus, that the  $k$  for which  $\partial E / \partial k = 0$ , are those for which the Bragg conditions are satisfied.

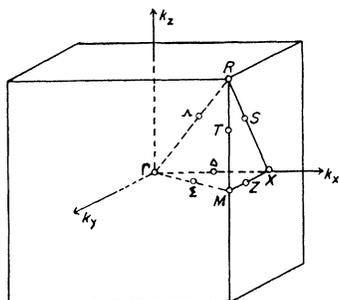


FIG. 2.

## V.

*Simple cubic lattice.* Here the surface of the B-Z is a cube as represented in Fig. 2, with the cube edge  $2\pi/d$ . The inner symmetry elements are: the center  $\Gamma$ , the threefold axis  $\Lambda$ , the fourfold axis  $\Delta$ , the twofold axis  $\Sigma$ , the symmetry planes  $\Delta\Sigma$ ,  $\Sigma\Lambda$  and  $\Lambda\Delta$ . The simplest way to obtain the group of a wave vector ending on the surface is to draw in all equally long wave vectors which are "identical" with it. The group of the figure constructed in this way is the group of the wave vector. For the arbitrary vector of the surface  $\pi/d$ ,  $k_y$ ,  $k_z$ , for instance, the figure contains the vector  $-\pi/d$ ,  $k_y$ ,  $k_z$ , and the group of the wave vector is, hence, the symmetry plane  $k_y k_z$ . Similarly, for the point  $T$ , there are four vectors  $\pm\pi/d$ ,  $\pm\pi/d$ ,  $k_z$ , and the group contains the fourfold axis  $k_z$  and all the symmetry planes through it. It is holomorphic with the group of the wave vector ending at  $\Delta$  which contains the fourfold axis  $k_x$  and the symmetry planes through this. The group of  $S$  is holomorphic with that of  $\Sigma$ ; that of  $Z$  contains the symmetry planes  $k_x k_y$  and  $k_y k_z$  and the rotation by  $\pi$  about  $k_y$ .  $R$  has the full cubic group like  $\Gamma$ ;  $M$  has the group of  $T$  and, in addition, the symmetry plane  $k_x k_y$ .  $X$  has the same symmetry.

The tables<sup>13</sup> give the characters of the irreducible representations for the groups of the wave vectors designated in the upper left corner. The corresponding representations will be the "small representations" characterizing the B-Z. The upper right corner contains the group elements.  $E$  is the identity, its character will be

<sup>13</sup> The representations of most crystallographic groups were given already by H. Bethe, loc. cit., reference 2. All of them are given in E. Wigner, Gött. Nachr. (1930), p. 133.

 TABLE I. Characters of small representations of  $\Gamma$ ,  $R$ ,  $H$ .

$\Gamma, R, H$	$E$	$3C_4^2$	$6C_4$	$6C_2$	$8C_3$	$J$	$3JC_4^2$	$6JC_4$	$6JC_2$	$8JC_3$
$\Gamma_1$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$\Gamma_2$	1	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	-1	-1	1
$\Gamma_{12}$	2	2	0	0	-1	2	2	0	0	-1
$\Gamma_{15}$	3	-1	1	-1	0	3	-1	1	-1	0
$\Gamma_{25}'$	3	-1	-1	1	0	3	-1	-1	1	0
$\Gamma_1'$	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
$\Gamma_2'$	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	1	1	-1
$\Gamma_{12}'$	2	2	0	0	-1	-2	-2	0	0	1
$\Gamma_{15}'$	3	-1	1	-1	0	-3	1	-1	1	0
$\Gamma_{25}$	3	-1	-1	1	0	-3	1	1	-1	0

 TABLE II. Characters for the small representations of  $\Delta$ ,  $T$ .

$\Delta, T$	$E$	$C_4^2$	$2C_4$	$2JC_4^2$	$2JC_2$
$\Delta_1$	1	1	1	1	1
$\Delta_2$	1	1	-1	1	-1
$\Delta_2'$	1	1	-1	-1	1
$\Delta_1'$	1	1	1	-1	-1
$\Delta_5$	2	-2	0	0	0

the dimension of the representation.  $C_3$  is the threefold axis;  $C_4$ , the rotation by  $\pm\pi/2$  about the fourfold axis;  $C_4^2$ , the rotation by  $\pi$  about the same axis; and  $C_2$  is the rotation about the twofold axis;  $J$  is the inversion.  $JC_4$  is the product of  $J$  and  $C_4$ , etc.  $JC_2$  and  $JC_4^2$  are the reflections in the symmetry planes perpendicular to the twofold and fourfold axes, respectively. The figures before the symbols of group elements denote how many group elements of that kind are present in the group. The lower left corner gives the notation to be used to designate the small representation in question; it is always given for one of the wave vectors only, as, for instance, for  $\Gamma$  in Table I. The small representation of the wave vector  $R$  which has the same character as  $\Gamma_{12}'$  will be designated by  $R_{12}'$ , etc. The lower right corner contains the character of the group element above it, for the representation to the left.

In order to save space we have included in the

 TABLE III. Characters for the small representations of  $\Lambda$ ,  $F$ .

$\Lambda, F$	$E$	$2C_3$	$3JC_2$
$\Lambda_1$	1	1	1
$\Lambda_2$	1	1	-1
$\Lambda_3$	2	-1	0

TABLE IV. Characters for the small representations of  $\Sigma$ ,  $S$ .

$\Sigma, S$	$E$	$C_2$	$JC_4^2$	$JC_2$
$\Sigma_1$	1	1	1	1
$\Sigma_2$	1	1	-1	-1
$\Sigma_3$	1	-1	-1	1
$\Sigma_4$	1	-1	1	-1

tables some wave vectors ( $H$  and  $F$ ) important for the body-centered lattice only.

For the points dealt with so far, it was sufficient to denote the group elements by the symbols  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ , etc., all the rotations about two-fold axes being in the same class and having the same character in all representations. But for the point  $M$ , the rotation by  $\pi$  about the fourfold axes  $k_x$ ,  $k_y$  is not equivalent to the rotation about the fourfold axis,  $k_z$ , which is perpendicular to the wave vector. The latter will be denoted by  $C_4^2\mathbf{L}$ . Although the groups of the wave vectors ending at  $M$  and at  $X$  are holomorphic, the element in the second group which corresponds to  $C_4^2\mathbf{L}$  of the first is the rotation by  $\pi$  about  $k_x$ , which is the axis parallel to the wave vector  $\Gamma X$ . It will be denoted by  $C_4^2\mathbf{H}$ .

TABLE V. Characters of small representations of  $M$ ,  $X$ .

$M$ $X$	$E$	$2C_4^2$	$C_4^2\mathbf{L}$	$2C_4\mathbf{L}$	$2C_2$	$J$	$2JC_4^2$	$JC_4^2\mathbf{L}$	$2JC_4\mathbf{L}$	$2JC_2$
$M_1$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$M_2$	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	-1	-1
$M_3$	1	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1	1	-1	1
$M_4$	1	-1	1	1	-1	1	-1	1	1	-1
$M_1'$	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
$M_2'$	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	1
$M_3'$	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1
$M_4'$	1	-1	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	1
$M_5$	2	0	-2	0	0	2	0	-2	0	0
$M_5'$	2	0	-2	0	0	-2	0	2	0	0

TABLE VI. Characters of small representations of  $Z$ ,  $G$ ,  $K$ ,  $U$ ,  $D$ .

$Z$ $G, K, U$ $D$	$E$	$C_4^2$	$JC_4^2$	$JC_4^2\mathbf{L}$
$Z_1$	1	1	1	1
$Z_2$	1	1	-1	-1
$Z_3$	1	-1	-1	1
$Z_4$	1	-1	1	-1

This finishes the investigation of the symmetry axes in Fig. 2, and there remain only the symmetry planes. A somewhat closer inspection will show, however, that the small representations

TABLE VII. Compatibility relations between  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Sigma$ .

$\Gamma_1$	$\Gamma_2$	$\Gamma_{12}$	$\Gamma_{1'}$	$\Gamma_{2'}$
$\Delta_1$	$\Delta_2$	$\Delta_1\Delta_2$	$\Delta_1'\Delta_2'$	$\Delta_2'\Delta_5$
$\Lambda_1$	$\Lambda_2$	$\Lambda_3$	$\Lambda_2\Lambda_3$	$\Lambda_1\Lambda_3$
$\Sigma_1$	$\Sigma_4$	$\Sigma_1\Sigma_4$	$\Sigma_2\Sigma_3\Sigma_4$	$\Sigma_1\Sigma_2\Sigma_3$
$\Gamma_1'$	$\Gamma_2'$	$\Gamma_{12}'$	$\Gamma_{15}$	$\Gamma_{25}$
$\Delta_1'$	$\Delta_2'$	$\Delta_1'\Delta_2'$	$\Delta_1\Delta_5$	$\Delta_2\Delta_5$
$\Lambda_2$	$\Lambda_1$	$\Lambda_3$	$\Lambda_1\Lambda_3$	$\Lambda_2\Lambda_3$
$\Sigma_2$	$\Sigma_3$	$\Sigma_2\Sigma_3$	$\Sigma_1\Sigma_3\Sigma_4$	$\Sigma_1\Sigma_2\Sigma_4$

TABLE VIII. Compatibility relations between  $M$  and  $\Sigma$ ,  $Z$ ,  $T$ .

$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_3$	$M_4$	$M_1'$	$M_2'$	$M_3'$	$M_4'$	$M_5$	$M_5'$
$\Sigma_1$	$\Sigma_4$	$\Sigma_1$	$\Sigma_4$	$\Sigma_2$	$\Sigma_3$	$\Sigma_2$	$\Sigma_3$	$\Sigma_2\Sigma_3$	$\Sigma_1\Sigma_4$
$Z_1$	$Z_3$	$Z_3$	$Z_4$	$Z_2$	$Z_2$	$Z_4$	$Z_4$	$Z_3Z_4$	$Z_1Z_3$
$T_1$	$T_2$	$T_2'$	$T_1'$	$T_1'$	$T_2'$	$T_2$	$T_1$	$T_5$	$T_5$

TABLE IX. Compatibility relations between  $X$  and  $\Delta$ ,  $Z$ ,  $S$ .

$X_1$	$X_2$	$X_3$	$X_4$	$X_1'$	$X_2'$	$X_3'$	$X_4'$	$X_5$	$X_5'$
$\Delta_1$	$\Delta_2$	$\Delta_2'$	$\Delta_1'$	$\Delta_1'$	$\Delta_2'$	$\Delta_2$	$\Delta_1$	$\Delta_5$	$\Delta_5$
$Z_1$	$Z_1$	$Z_4$	$Z_4$	$Z_2$	$Z_2$	$Z_3$	$Z_3$	$Z_3Z_2$	$Z_1Z_4$
$S_1$	$S_4$	$S_1$	$S_4$	$S_2$	$S_3$	$S_2$	$S_3$	$S_2S_3$	$S_1S_4$

prevailing on the symmetry axes already determine the representations for the symmetry planes, i.e., they determine whether the wave function will remain unchanged or assume the negative value, if reflected in one of the symmetry planes.

A B-Z must be characterized by one each of the following 10 symbols:  $\Gamma$ ,  $\Delta$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Sigma$ ,  $R$ ,  $T$ ,  $M$ ,  $S$ ,  $X$  and  $Z$ . If there is an accidental degeneracy, however, the representation may change on an axis, etc. Not all the combinations of symbols correspond to possible B-Z. The small representation  $\Delta$  on the fourfold axis must be contained in the representation  $\Gamma$  of the center, if this is considered as a representation of the group of  $\Delta$ , and similar conditions exist between all pairs of adjoining symmetry elements. Table VII shows with which  $\Delta$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Sigma$ , a certain  $\Gamma$  can be combined in the symbol of a possible B-Z. The compatibility relations between  $R$  and  $T$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $S$ , are the same as those between  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Sigma$ . (Table VII.) These compatibility relations reduce considerably the number of possible types of B-Z. In addition to these compatibility relations, there are others originating from the four sets of wave vectors characterized by  $k_x=0$ ;  $k_x=k_y$ ;  $k_y=k_x$ ;  $k_x=\pi/d$ . Every wave

vector satisfying one of these equations, has a group consisting of a symmetry plane, and the corresponding wave function will belong either to the symmetric, or to the antisymmetric representation of this group. This representation must be contained in the small representations of the axes lying in this plane. Table X gives, under +,

TABLE X. *Compatibility relations on symmetry planes.*

SYMMETRY PLANE	+	-
$k_z = 0$	$\Sigma_1 \Sigma_4$ $\Delta_1 \Delta_2 \Delta_5$ $Z_1 Z_3$	$\Sigma_2 \Sigma_3$ $\Delta_1' \Delta_2' \Delta_5$ $Z_2 Z_4$
$k_x = k_y > k_z$	$\Sigma_1 \Sigma_3$ $\Lambda_1 \Lambda_3$ $T_1 T_2' T_5$	$\Sigma_2 \Sigma_4$ $\Lambda_2 \Lambda_3$ $T_2 T_1' T_5$
$k_y = k_z < k_x$	$\Lambda_1 \Lambda_3$ $S_1 S_3$ $\Delta_1 \Delta_2' \Delta_5$	$\Lambda_2 \Lambda_3$ $S_2 S_4$ $\Delta_2 \Delta_1' \Delta_5$
$k_x = \pi/d$	$S_1 S_4$ $T_1 T_2 T_5$ $Z_1 Z_4$	$S_2 S_3$ $T_1' T_2' T_5$ $Z_2 Z_3$

those representations along the axes, which are compatible with the symmetric representation in the plane, and under - those which are compatible with the antisymmetric representation. It shows that, for instance,  $\Sigma_1$  is incompatible with  $\Delta_1'$ ,  $\Delta_2'$ ,  $Z_2$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $\Lambda_2$ ,  $T_2$ ,  $T_1'$ .

As an example, we may consider the three B-Z which stick together at  $k_x = k_y = k_z = 0$  having for this wave vector the representation  $\Gamma_{25}$ . These three B-Z will be separated along the twofold axis, having there the small representations  $\Sigma_1$ ,  $\Sigma_2$ ,  $\Sigma_4$ , respectively (Table VII). We may consider the one with  $\Sigma_2$ . This necessarily goes with  $\Delta_5$  along the fourfold axis (Tables VII and X), and sticks together with one of the other zones there. Along the threefold axis it may have one of the two representations  $\Lambda_2$  or  $\Lambda_3$ . We shall assume that it has  $\Lambda_2$ . For  $R$ , we still have the choice of  $R_2$ ,  $R_{15}'$ ,  $R_{11}'$  or  $R_{25}$ . We shall choose  $R_2$ . This requires, then,  $S_4$  and  $T_2$ , and hence  $Z_4$ . According to Table VIII, it will have  $M_3'$  and according to Table IX,  $X_5'$ . Its whole symbol will be  $\Gamma_{25} \Sigma_2 \Delta_5 \Lambda_2 R_{15} T_2 S_4 Z_4 M_3' X_5'$  and we see that most small representations were uniquely given by the compatibility tables and the previous choices.

We believe that the above description of B-Z for the simple cubic lattice is complete from the

point of view of symmetry. We are well aware, of course, that many of the types which are possible geometrically will not be important physically, since they have, for example, too high energies. It appeared to us, however, that for the sake of clarity a complete geometric discussion should be given once for a simple case.

The construction of the compatibility tables is very easy. If one is interested, e.g., in the compatibilities between  $\Sigma$  and  $M$ , one considers for  $M$  the characters corresponding to elements which are contained in  $\Sigma$ . These elements are  $E$ ,  $C_2$ ,  $JC_4^2 \mathbf{1}$ ,  $JC_2$  (one must take  $JC_4^2 \mathbf{1}$ , not  $JC_4^2$ , since the latter are the symmetry planes  $k_x k_z$ ,  $k_y k_z$  which do not occur in the group of  $\Sigma$ ). The corresponding characters in  $M_5$ , for instance, are 2, 0, -2, 0. One sees that this is the sum of the characters of  $\Sigma_2$  and  $\Sigma_3$  and these are, consequently, compatible with  $M_5$ . Thus it will not be necessary to give the compatibility relations for the other lattices explicitly.

## VI. BODY-CENTERED CUBIC LATTICE

The shape of the surface of the B-Z is self-evident in the simple cubic lattice but not in the body-centered lattice. The identity periods can be taken as three space diagonals, with coordinates  $1/2d$ ,  $\pm 1/2d$ ,  $\pm 1/2d$ . The shortest vectors of the reciprocal lattice are the face diagonals, with coordinates 0,  $\pm 2\pi/d$ ,  $\pm 2\pi/d$ ;  $\pm 2\pi/d$ , 0,  $\pm 2\pi/d$ ;  $\pm 2\pi/d$ ,  $\pm 2\pi/d$ , 0. Since the inner of the B-Z should contain only different vectors  $\mathbf{k}$ , the addition of a vector of the reciprocal lattice to a  $\mathbf{k}$  lying inside the B-Z must lead to a vector in the outside. This is most simply accomplished by choosing the rhombododecahedron of Fig. 3 as the surface, in which

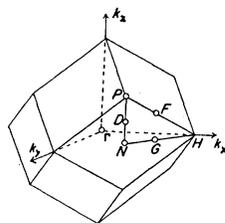


FIG. 3.

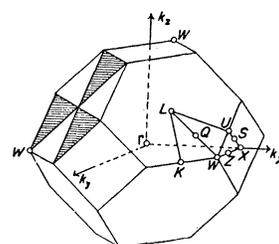


FIG. 4.

opposite faces just differ by a vector of the reciprocal lattice. The distance  $\Gamma H$  is  $2\pi/d$ .<sup>14</sup>

The symmetry elements in the inside of the B-Z are the same as in the simple cubic lattice,  $\Gamma$ ,  $\Delta$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Sigma$ , and the compatibility relations between these are also maintained. The point  $H$  has, however, the full cubic symmetry, since the vectors of the reciprocal lattice transfer it to all the end points of the coordinate axes. The point  $P$  is identical with three similar vertices, forming a tetrahedron.

TABLE XI. Characters for the small representations of  $P$ .

$P$	$E$	$3C_2$	$8C_3$	$6C_4$	$6C_2$
$P_1$	1	1	1	1	1
$P_2$	1	1	1	-1	-1
$P_3$	2	2	-1	0	0
$P_4$	3	-1	0	-1	1
$P_5$	3	-1	0	1	-1

TABLE XII. Characters for the small representations of  $N$ .

$N$	$E$	$C_4$	$C_2\parallel$	$C_2\perp$	$J$	$JC_2$	$JC_2\perp$	$JC_2\parallel$
$N_1$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$N_2$	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	-1	1
$N_3$	1	-1	-1	1	1	-1	1	-1
$N_4$	1	1	-1	-1	1	1	-1	-1
$N_1'$	1	-1	1	-1	-1	1	1	-1
$N_2'$	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1
$N_3'$	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	1
$N_4'$	1	-1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1

The small representations for the other points were already given in the previous tables. We shall not give the compatibility relations between axes and points, since they are easily obtained by the method outlined in the previous section. It may be mentioned that the group of the vectors ending in a general point of the surface is the symmetry plane  $JC_2$ . The following relations are analogous to those of Table X.

TABLE XIII. Compatibility relations for symmetry planes.

SYMMETRY PLANE	+	-
$k_x = 0$	$\Sigma_1\Sigma_4, \Delta_1\Delta_2\Delta_5, G_1G_4$	$\Sigma_1\Sigma_2, \Delta_1'\Delta_2'\Delta_5, G_2G_3$
$k_x = k_y > k_z$	$\Sigma_1\Sigma_3, \Lambda_1\Lambda_3, D_1D_3$	$\Sigma_2\Sigma_4, \Lambda_2\Lambda_3, D_2D_4$
$k_y = k_z < k_x$	$\Lambda_1\Lambda_3, \Delta_1\Delta_2'\Delta_5, F_1F_3$	$\Lambda_2\Lambda_3, \Delta_2\Delta_1'\Delta_5, F_2F_3$
$k_x + k_y = 2\pi$	$D_1D_4, F_1F_3, G_1G_3$	$D_2D_3, F_2F_3, G_2G_4$

<sup>14</sup> The vectors  $\mathbf{k}$  in the inside of the B-Z are transformed under this choice again into vectors in the inside by every symmetry element.

Since the surface of the B-Z is a symmetry plane, the derivative of the energy perpendicular to this plane is zero on the surface.

## VII. FACE-CENTERED CUBIC LATTICE

The B-Z of the face-centered cubic lattice have a rather complicated structure. The reciprocal lattice is the body-centered lattice, the shortest vectors of which are the space diagonals with components  $\pm 2\pi/d, \pm 2\pi/d, \pm 2\pi/d$ . If we assume the inner of the B-Z to be bounded by the octahedron with the 8 planes  $\pm x \pm y \pm z = 3\pi/d$ , then no wave vectors of the inside will differ by one such vector. Nevertheless, some of them will be equivalent, differing by the sum of two shortest vectors of the reciprocal lattice,  $\pm 4\pi/d, 0, 0; 0, \pm 4\pi/d, 0; 0, 0, \pm 4\pi/d$ . In order to exclude these, one must cut off the corners of the octahedron by planes parallel to the coordinate planes at the distance  $\pm 2\pi/d$  from these. The resulting figure is the well-known truncated octahedron of Fig. 4. With this choice of the surface of the B-Z, every wave vector of the inside will go over into a wave vector of the inside by all the symmetry operations. This requirement, however, which determines the whole shape of the surface for the simple cubic and body centered cases, fixes the surface here only at the truncating planes, but not at the octahedral planes. One could, for instance, bulge out in all octahedral planes the part which is shaded on one of the planes in Fig. 4 and bulge in by an equal amount the unshaded regions. The resulting surface would still satisfy all requirements. The truncating planes, on the other hand, cannot be deformed. If we pushed out a point on the  $k_x = 2\pi/d$  plane, we would have to push in the corresponding point on the  $k_x = -2\pi/d$  plane. After this, however, the reflection on the  $k_y k_z$  plane would carry over wave vectors of the inside to the outside of the surface of the B-Z.

The B-Z is always uniquely determined if there is a symmetry plane perpendicular to the vector  $\mathbf{r}$  of the reciprocal lattice,<sup>15</sup> which generates that part of the surface. In this case the surface lies at the distance  $r/2$  on both sides of the symmetry plane. This was true for the vectors parallel to the coordinate axes which generated the surface

<sup>15</sup> Cf. Eq. (2a).

for the simple cubic lattice, it was true for the vectors parallel to the face diagonals in the body-centered structure and it is true for the vectors generating the truncating planes in Fig. 4. The situation for the octahedral plane of Fig. 4, however, is similar to that for the triclinic lattice and will be shown to have similar consequences.

Although the surface of the B-Z is thus left undetermined by general requirements, it is certainly allowable to assume it to have the shape of Fig. 4.

In the inside of the B-Z we have again the same situation as for the simple cubic lattice with the same compatibility relations holding between the small representations of  $\Gamma$  and the two-, three- and fourfold axes. This also applies to the points  $X$ ,  $S$  and  $Z$  on the cubic plane. The point  $W$  is identical with three other points of the surface, two of which are shown on the figure, while one at the bottom is hidden. The small

 TABLE XIV. Characters of small representations of  $W$ .

$W$	$E$	$C_4^2$	$2C_2$	$2JC_4$	$2JC_4^2$
$W_1$	1	1	1	1	1
$W_1'$	1	1	1	-1	-1
$W_2$	1	1	-1	1	-1
$W_2'$	1	1	-1	-1	1
$W_3$	2	-2	0	0	0

 TABLE XV. Characters of small representations of  $L$ .

$L$	$E$	$2C_3$	$3C_2$	$J$	$2JC_3$	$3JC_2$
$L_1$	1	1	1	1	1	1
$L_2$	1	1	-1	1	1	-1
$L_3$	2	-1	0	2	-1	0
$L_1'$	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1
$L_2'$	1	1	-1	-1	-1	1
$L_3'$	2	-1	0	-2	1	0

representations for the points  $K$  and  $U$  were given in Table VI.  $L$  is identical with its antipode. The points  $Q$  on the line  $LW$  cannot be moved in or out. They belong to the surface, since they

are carried over into themselves (i.e., into the "identical" point on the opposite face) by the twofold axis bisecting the  $Z$  and  $-X$  axes. The wave function of the wave vector ending at  $Q$  will be either symmetric or antisymmetric with respect to this rotation. In the former case it is compatible with  $L_1, L_1', L_3, L_3'$  on one side and with  $W_1W_1'W_3$  on the other. If it is antisymmetric, it is compatible with  $L_2, L_2', L_3, L_3'$  and  $W_2, W_2'$  and  $W_3$ .

The group of the points on the lines  $LK, KW, LU, UW$  contains only the symmetry plane on which they lie, they have no additional symmetry owing to their position on the surface. This is natural, since the surface can be shifted away from them. The Compatibility Table X holds for  $k_x = k_y > k_z$  between  $\Sigma$  and  $\Lambda$ , but there is nothing to replace  $T$ , and  $T$  must be omitted also from the last section of ( $k_x = \pi/d$ ) of this table. The rest of the table remains valid, however, and should be supplemented by the compatibilities just given, owing to the symmetry of the point  $Q$ .

The surface of the B-Z at the octahedral planes cannot be chosen in such a way that the "identical" point  $k_x = 2\pi/d, k_y = 2\pi/d, k_z = 2\pi/d$  to every point of the surface could be reached by a symmetry operation also. This has the consequence that the derivative of the energy perpendicular to the somewhat arbitrarily chosen plane octahedral face will only vanish on the diagonals ( $LW$ ) corresponding to the separating lines between shaded and unshaded regions. On the other hand, it will have the consequence also that the energy for  $k_x = \pi/d + \mu, k_y = \pi/d - \mu - v, k_z = \pi/d + v$  will be equal to the energy for  $-\pi/d + \mu, -\pi/d - \mu - v, -\pi/d + v$  and, because of the twofold axis, also equal to the energy for  $\pi/d - v, \pi/d + \mu + v, \pi/d - \mu$ . The energy as function of  $\mathbf{k}$  will be symmetric with respect to the line  $LW$  on the surface and, hence, will have on the octahedral surface, a sixfold rotational symmetry.