Grazing Incidence X-Ray Diffraction A short introduction



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Grazing Incidence : why ??



Grazing incidence condition

Maximize the contribution from the (near-)surface



Grazing Incidence : why ??

GIXRD, GIXS, Surface scattering, etc... use **grazing incidences** to illuminate the surface region specifically (total reflection)

Several geometries can be used depending on what is searched for:

- GIXS: in-plane or out-of plane

 \rightarrow (atomic) structure of thin films

- GISAXS: small angles
 - \rightarrow large objects morphology







Outline

- I. Fundamentals: Interaction light/matter, Scattering and Refractive index
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Light – matter interactions

- Atomic structure of materials
- Refractive index





Wave at an interface





Incident radiation = plane wave (linearly polarized // u_z):

$$E_{i} = E_{0}e^{i(\omega t - kr)}\mathbf{u}_{z}$$

$$E = E_{0}e^{i\omega t}\mathbf{u}_{z}$$

$$E = E_{0}e^{i\omega t}\mathbf{u}_{z}$$

$$(e^{-} \text{ at } \mathbf{r} = 0)$$

$$E = E_{0}e^{i\omega t}\mathbf{u}_{z}$$

Electron = (damped) harmonic oscillator Newton's second law of motion: $m\ddot{z} = -\gamma \dot{z} - \omega_0^2 z + q E$ $\uparrow \qquad \uparrow \qquad \uparrow$ mass acceleration





Incident radiation = plane wave (linearly polarized // u_z):

$$E_{i} = E_{0}e^{i(\omega t - kr)}\mathbf{u}_{z}$$

$$(e^{-} \text{ at } \mathbf{r} = 0)$$

Electron = (damped) harmonic oscillator Newton's second law of motion:

$$m(\ddot{z} + \gamma \dot{z} + \omega_0^2 z) = q \mathbf{E}$$

Solutions :

$$z = z_0 e^{i\omega t}$$

$$z = \frac{qE_0}{m(-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2 + i\gamma\omega)}e^{i\omega t}$$



Field radiated by the oscillating charge: Induced dipole: $\mathbf{p} = q\mathbf{r}$

$$\mathbf{r} = z\mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{z}} = \frac{q\mathbf{E}_{0}}{m(-\omega^{2} + \omega_{0}^{2} + i\gamma\omega)}e^{i\omega t}\mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$\mathbf{p} = \frac{q^{2} \mathbf{E}_{0}}{m(-\omega^{2} + \omega_{0}^{2} + i\gamma\omega)} e^{i\omega t} \mathbf{u}_{z}$$

$$\mathbf{p} = \frac{q^{2}}{m(-\omega^{2} + \omega_{0}^{2} + i\gamma\omega)} \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{p} = \alpha(\omega)\varepsilon_{0}\mathbf{E}$$
/ Atomic polarisability
$$\alpha(\omega) = \frac{q^{2}/m\varepsilon_{0}}{-\omega^{2} + \omega_{0}^{2} + i\gamma\omega}$$



In fact, there are multiple modes (electrons) per atom

$$\alpha(\omega) = \frac{q^2}{m\varepsilon_0} \sum_{k} \frac{f_k}{-\omega^2 + \omega_{0,k}^2 + i\gamma_k \omega}$$

Total polarization : N = total number of atoms $\mathbf{P} = N\mathbf{p} = N\alpha(\omega)\varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$

... but what is the radiated field ??



Solving Maxwell's equations

(a)
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{-\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}}{\varepsilon_0} = \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0}$$
 (b) $c^2 \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\mathbf{P}}{\varepsilon_0} + \mathbf{E} \right) = \frac{\mathbf{j}}{\varepsilon_0} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$
(c) $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$ (d) $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$
With
With

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\omega t - kx)} \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{z}} \mathbf{u}_{\mathbf{z}}$$

$$Maxwell's$$

$$Equations$$

$$\nabla \cdot B = 0 \quad \nabla \cdot D = \rho$$

$$\nabla \times E = - \frac{\partial B}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times J (t = - \frac{\partial D}{\partial t} + J)$$

Yields

$$-k^{2} \mathbf{E}_{z} + \frac{\omega^{2}}{c^{2}} \mathbf{E}_{z} = -\frac{\omega^{2}}{\varepsilon_{0}c^{2}} \mathbf{P}_{z} = -\frac{\omega^{2}}{\varepsilon_{0}c^{2}} \varepsilon_{0} N \alpha \mathbf{E}_{z}$$



$$-k^{2}E_{z} + \frac{\omega^{2}}{c^{2}}E_{z} = -\frac{\omega^{2}}{\varepsilon_{0}c^{2}}\varepsilon_{0}N\alpha E_{z}$$

Hence

$$k^2 = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} (1 + N\alpha)$$
 recall that $n = \frac{kc}{\omega}$

 $n^2 = (1 + N\alpha)$

$$n^{2} = 1 + N\alpha(\omega) = 1 + N\frac{q^{2}}{m\varepsilon_{0}}\sum_{k}\frac{f_{k}}{-\omega_{k}^{2} + \omega_{0,k}^{2} + i\gamma_{k}\omega}$$



This is quite complex, so for ω far from any $\omega_{0,k}$ *i.e.* far from resonances :

$$n = 1 - \delta - i\beta$$
$$n = 1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2\pi} r_e \rho_e - i \frac{\lambda}{4\pi} \mu$$
$$n^2 = \varepsilon_r$$

Classical radius of the electron

$$r_e = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 mc^2} \approx 2.818 \times 10^{-15} m$$



For bound electrons

$$n = 1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2\pi} r_e \rho_a \left(f^0 + f'(\omega) + i f''(\omega) \right)$$



f' and f'' vary rapidly around absorption edges, it can be used to enhance the contrast (*anomalous* effects)



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Reflection and transmission coefficients

Fresnel coefficients

$$r = \frac{E_r}{E_i} = \frac{\sin(\alpha_i - \alpha_t)}{\sin(\alpha_i + \alpha_t)} \approx \frac{\alpha_i - \alpha_t}{\alpha_i + \alpha_t}$$
$$t = \frac{E_t}{E_i} = \frac{2\sin(\alpha_i)\cos(\alpha_t)}{\sin(\alpha_i + \alpha_t)} \approx \frac{2\alpha_i}{\alpha_i + \alpha_t}$$

$$n_1 \cos(\alpha_i) = n_2 \cos(\alpha_t)$$

$$n_1 \approx 1$$

$$n_2 \approx 1 - \delta$$

$$1 - \frac{\alpha_i^2}{2} = (1 - \delta) \left(1 - \frac{\alpha_t^2}{2}\right)$$

$$\alpha_t^2 = \alpha_i^2 - 2\delta$$



Reflection and transmission coefficients



Reflection and transmission coefficients



Total external reflection

For an interface air(vacuum)/material $\Delta n < 0$:

 $n_{1} \cos \theta_{i} = n_{2} \cos \theta_{t}$ $\cos \theta_{t} = n_{1}/n_{2} \cos \theta_{i}$ $\cos \theta_{t} = \cos \theta_{i}/(1-\delta)$

NB: or $\theta_i < \theta_c$ (such that **cos** $\theta_c = 1-\delta$), θ_t is not defined !

$$\cos \theta_c = 1 - \theta_c^2 / 2 = 1 - \delta$$
$$\theta_c = \sqrt{2\delta}$$



Boundary conditions

<u>At the interface</u>: Conservation of the tangential component of E

 $E_i \exp(i\mathbf{k_ir}) + E_r \exp(i\mathbf{k_rr}) = E_t \exp(i\mathbf{k_tr})$



In each medium (Helmholtz equation):

 $\frac{\partial^2 E_x}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 E_x}{\partial z^2} + k_0^2 E_x = 0 \quad \text{medium}(1) \quad k_{t_z} = i \, k_0 \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta - \cos^2 \theta_c}$ $\frac{\partial^2 E_x}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 E_x}{\partial z^2} + n^2 k_0^2 E_x = 0 \quad \text{medium}(2)$



Penetration depth

$$I = I_0 \exp(-2\dot{k_z}z) \Longrightarrow \Lambda = \frac{1}{2\dot{k_z}} = \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\sqrt{\theta_c^2 - \theta^2}}$$





In total reflection conditions:

-The "refracted" X-ray wave travels **parallel to the surface**

- It is **damped exponentially** with the distance to the surface (extinction length).

-> it can be used to probe specifically **the structure of the surface layer**



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Born Approximation



The **scattered amplitude** in a given direction is obtained through **sum** of individual scattered amplitudes a_i with **phase** coefficients depending on position of scatterer *i*

 $a = a_1 \exp(i j(r_1)) + a_2 \exp(i j(r_2)) + a_3 \exp(i j(r_3)) + a_4 \exp(i j(r_4)) + ...$



Kinematical/Born approximation

 $a = a_1 \exp(i j(r_1)) + a_2 \exp(i j(r_2)) + a_3 \exp(i j(r_3)) + a_4 \exp(i j(r_4)) + ...$

When in far field, the phases read:

$$\varphi(r) = \boldsymbol{q}.\boldsymbol{r} \qquad \boldsymbol{q} = \boldsymbol{k}_f - \boldsymbol{k}_i$$

so that scattered amplitude reads

$$a(q) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (a_i \exp i \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_i) =$$
 Fourier series



Kinematical vs Dynamical scattering

- Kinematical theory (Born Approximation):
 - Assume all parts of the sample "see" the same incident wave
 - They scatter the beam depending only on their position(phase) and scattering cross section (\rightarrow Fourier Transform)
 - Multiple scattering is neglected
- Dynamical theory
 - Take into account the "screening" effect of the different parts of the sample



Grazing incidence conditions favor **dynamical** effects

- Total external reflection /refraction are in essence dynamical effects
 - The top layers prevent the bottom layers to see the incident beam
 - Strong variations of beam electric field with depth



How to handle that?

- <u>Do a full calculation</u>: only possible in simple cases, for example multilayers: r is a function only r(z), *e.g.* the Fresnel matrix "optical" formalism for calculating reflectivity (see previous courses)
- <u>Use perturbation theory</u>, starting from approximate exact solutions: DWBA= Distorted Wave Born Approximation





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Back to the Born Approximation: the reciprocal space etc...

In the kinematic approximation, the scattered amplitude is the Fourier transform of the electron density distribution r(r):

$$I(\mathbf{q}) = \left| F\{\rho(\mathbf{r})\} \right|^2 = \left| \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}} d^3\mathbf{r} \right|^2$$

The angular distribution of scattered intensity has maxima for certain orientations of the scattering vector (certain "locations" in the reciprocal space)



Diffraction by a crystal

The phase difference of the scattered amplitude between 2 scatterers is:

$$\Delta \varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (O'B - OA) = \mathbf{k}_f \cdot \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}$$



Consider a simple unit cell, the amplitude of the wave scattered is

$$F(\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_{atoms \ i} f_i(\theta, \lambda) e^{i2\pi \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_i}$$
Phase difference
Scattering "effectiveness"






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For example in Ge (8 atoms/unit cell):

 $\left\{(0,0,0); (0,\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2}); (\frac{1}{2},0,\frac{1}{2}); (\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},0); (\frac{3}{4},\frac{1}{4},\frac{3}{4}); (\frac{3}{4},\frac{3}{4},\frac{1}{4}); (\frac{1}{4},\frac{1}{4},\frac{1}{4}); (\frac{1}{4},\frac{3}{4},\frac{3}{4})\right\} \times a$

 $F(\mathbf{Q}) = f_{Ge}(\theta, \lambda) (1 + e^{i\pi(k+l)} + e^{i\pi(h+l)} + e^{i\pi(h+k)} + e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}(3h+k+3l)} + e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}(3h+3k+l)} + e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}(h+k+l)} + e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}(h+3k+3l)})$

With **Q** projected in the convenient reciprocal basis:

$$\mathbf{Q} = h\mathbf{a}^* + k\mathbf{b}^* + l\mathbf{c}^*$$
$$\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{a} = h$$
$$\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{b} = k$$
$$\mathbf{O} \cdot \mathbf{c} = l$$

 $\mathbf{a}^* = \frac{\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}}{V}$ $\mathbf{b}^* = \frac{\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}}{V}$ $\mathbf{c}^* = \frac{\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}}{V}$ $V = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}$





Extend to a full crystal: many, many cells

$$\begin{split} A(\mathbf{Q}) &= \sum_{cell \ j \ atoms \ i} f_i(\theta, \lambda) e^{i2\pi \mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_i + \mathbf{R}_j)} \\ &= \left(\sum_{cell \ j} e^{i2\pi \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_j}\right) \left(\sum_{atoms \ i} f_i(\theta, \lambda) e^{i2\pi \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_i}\right) \\ &= D(\mathbf{Q}) F(\mathbf{Q}) \end{split}$$

Form factor (encodes the shape of the crystal)
$$\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_j = n_x h + n_y k + n_y l \qquad \qquad D(\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_{-N_x/2}^{N_x/2} e^{i2\pi n_x h} \sum_{-N_y/2}^{N_y/2} e^{i2\pi n_y k} \sum_{-N_z/2}^{N_z/2} e^{i2\pi n_z l} \end{split}$$

 (N_x, Ny, Nz) : total number of cells



Q.

Extend to a full crystal: many, many cells

$$D(\mathbf{Q}) = \sum_{-N_x/2}^{N_x/2} e^{i2\pi n_x h} \sum_{-N_y/2}^{N_y/2} e^{i2\pi n_y k} \sum_{-N_z/2}^{N_z/2} e^{i2\pi n_z l}$$

$$D(\boldsymbol{Q}) = \frac{\sin \pi N_x h}{\sin \pi h} \frac{\sin \pi N_y k}{\sin \pi k} \frac{\sin \pi N_z l}{\sin \pi l}$$

If infinite: $D(\mathbf{Q})$ is 3D Dirac comb with nodes at integer values of h, k, l





The scattered intensity is also distributed along a 3D periodic structure $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{G} = h\mathbf{a}^* + k\mathbf{b}^* + k\mathbf{c}^*$ with **G** normal to net planes = "reciprocal space"

Reciprocal space is the analog of "dual" space in tensor mathematics or k-space in quantum mechanics.



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Grazing-incidence diffraction geometries



Get information from the surface only, Useful if disordered (powder-like) surface Get information from the surface only about the in-plane organization (texture, etc..)

- Crystallinity of the deposited layer
- Mosaicity : distribution in-plane or out-of-plane
- Depth profiling of a given layer

Slides adapted from D. Djurado



Finite crystal $D(\mathbf{Q}) = \frac{\sin \pi N_x h}{\sin \pi h} \frac{\sin \pi N_y k}{\sin \pi k} \frac{\sin \pi N_z l}{\sin \pi l}$

 N_z



Slides adapted from T. Trainor



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Semi-infinite crystal: the Crystal Truncation Rods (CTRs)





Semi-infinite crystal: the Crystal Truncation Rods (CTRs)



Finite size means intensity **between** the Bragg peaks along *l*

Reciprocal space is not 3D Dirac anymore but includes 1D truncation rods



Semi-infinite crystal: the Crystal Truncation Rods (CTRs)



sensitive to the last unit cell in between Bragg peaks!

Slides adapted from T. Trainor



The structure of a crystal may be different close to the surface than in the bulk: relaxation, reconstruction





Surface relaxations through CTR analysis



Slides adapted from T. Trainor



Surface reconstruction

Ex: 2x1 of silicon 001



New peaks appears along 110



Example: Hematite/Water a-Fe₂O₃ (0001) Models



Trainor et al ., Surface Science, 573, 204 (2004)

Experimental observation is consistent with hydroxylated surfaces Association with DFT to use the most stable configurations



Example: Goethite (a-FeOOH) (1 0 0) // water interface





Structure



Two ordered layers of water Two layers of hydroxyl groups

 $((H_2O)-(H_2O)-OH_2-OH-Fe-O-O-Fe-R)$

The two types of hydroxyls may explain interface reactivity

Association with DFT calculations to predict pKa



An example from nuclear science

• Interaction of Pu³⁺ solution / Mica surface:





CTR analysis



- M. Schmidt, S. Lee, R.E. Wilson, K.E. Knope, F. Bellucci, P.J. Eng, J.E. Stubbs, L. Soderholm, P. Fenter, "Surface-Mediated Formation of Pu(IV) Nanoparticles at the Muscovite-Electrolyte Interface", ES&T 47(24) 14178-14184 (2013)
- *M. Schmidt, R.E. Wilson,S.Lee, L. Soderholm, and P. Fenter, « Adsorption of Plutonium Oxide Nanoparticles », Langmuir* **28** 2620–2627 (2012).





Formation of Pu(IV)O nanoparticles



- Surface catalyzed formation of Pu NP
- Agreement with anomalous reflectivity at the Pu L_{III} edge and AFM measurements
- Surface concentration of NP is in agreement with charge compensation



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GISAXS

- SAXS
 - Usually transmission geometry



- GISAXS
 - Reflection geometry \rightarrow take into account refraction







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GISAXS: Form factor (F(q)) & Structure factor (S(q))



Nanostructure morphology

- Form factor F, P. size, shape, facets etc.
- Structure factor S: inter-particle correlations, distances



Isolated object

 $I(q_y,q_z) \propto \left| F(q_y,q_z) \right|^2$

Form factor = FT(shape)

ex.: 5 nm sphere



Slides adapted from D. Babonneau



Size effect





Shape effect

5 nm Sphere

5 nm, H/D 2 Ellipsoid



5 nm x 5 nm Cylinder



5 nm, H/D 0.5 Ellipsoid



Slides adapted from D. Babonneau



Refraction effect



$$n = 1 - \delta - i\beta$$

Scattering vector *seen* by the sample

$$q_{z} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \left(\sin \alpha_{f} + \sin \alpha_{i} \right)$$
$$q_{z}^{\min} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \left(\sin \alpha_{i} \right)$$



$$\cos \alpha_{i} = n \cdot \cos \alpha_{i}$$
$$\cos \alpha_{f} = n \cdot \cos \alpha_{f}$$

Scattering vector seen by the detector

$$q_{z}' = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \left(\sin \alpha_{f}' + \sin \alpha_{i}' \right)$$
$$q_{z}^{\min}' = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \left(\sin \alpha_{c} + \sin \alpha_{i}' \right)$$



Slides adapted from D. Babonneau

Transmission effect



$$I_{d\acute{e}tecteur} = \left| T(\alpha_i') \right|^2 \left| T(\alpha_f') \right|^2 \times I_{\acute{e}chantillon}$$









Slides adapted from D. Babonneau

DWBA



$$F(q_y, k_z^i, k_z^f) = F(q_y, k_z^f - k_z^i)$$

$$+ R(\alpha_i)F(q_y, k_z^f + k_z^i)$$

$$+ R(\alpha_f)F(q_y, -k_z^f - k_z^i)$$

$$+ R(\alpha_i)R(\alpha_f)F(q_y, -k_z^f + k_z^i)$$

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Example = Ge islands on a Si (111) substrate



Pyramids are oriented: scattering depend on orientation see Metzger, *Thin solid films (1998)*



Combining Diffraction and GISAXS (*Bragg-GISAXS*)

in (Ge,Mn) nanocolumns





Combining Diffraction and GISAXS (Bragg-GISAXS)



R: Surface roughness correlations at distance ~40 nm
D: Inter-nanocolumns correlations at distances ~10 nm
T: Layer thickness ~60 nm

S. Tardif et al., PRB 82, 104101 (2010)



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Instruments: 4-circle diffractometers

@ ESRF: French Collaborative Research Groups (CRGs)

- BM32/IF : INS2
- BM32/IF: GMT
- BM2/D2AM
- @ Soleil
- SIXS

@ other synchrotron (APS, Hamburg)



D2AM goniometer (BM2 beamline @ESRF)



Kappa geometry


Surface diffractometer for UHV in-situ surface studies



INS2 – IF beamline (BM32 @ ESRF)



Surface diffractometer/reflectometer



GMT – IF beamline (BM32 @ ESRF)



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LECTURE NOTES IN PHYSICS 770 X-ray and Neutron Reflectivity

Jean Daillan Alain Gibau

Principles and Applications

🖉 Springer



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GISAXS

Supported nano-objects

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Depth-dependence structures in films

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Some GISAXS analysis softwares

IsGISAXS, FitGISAXS, BornAgain, HipGISAXS

