Introduction to Diffraction analysis

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Outline: basic concepts

- The Bragg law
- The intensity of the diffraction
- Powder diffraction and instrumentation
 - Bragg-Brentano
 - Texture goniometers
 - Residual stress measurements
- Diffraction analyses











Diffraction intensities

• The intensity in a powder diffractometer

$$I_{i}^{calc} = S_{F} \sum_{j=1}^{Nphases} \frac{f_{j}}{V_{j}^{2}} \sum_{k=1}^{Npeaks} L_{k} |F_{k,j}|^{2} S_{j} (2\theta_{i} - 2\theta_{k,j}) P_{k,j} A_{j} + bkg_{i}$$

• The structure factor:

$$\left|F_{k,j}\right|^{2} = m_{k} \left|\sum_{n=1}^{N} f_{n} e^{-B_{n} \frac{\sin^{2} \theta}{\lambda^{2}}} \left(e^{2\pi i (hx_{n} + ky_{n} + lz_{n})}\right)\right|^{2}$$



Atomic scattering factor and Debye-Waller

• The atomic scattering factor for X-ray decreases with the diffraction angle and is proportional to the number of electrons. For neutron is not correlated to the atomic number.



Neutron scattering factors

- For light atoms neutron scattering has some advantages
- For atoms very close in the periodic table, neutron scattering may help distinguish them.





X-ray and neutron diffraction



Thermal or Debye-Waller factor

e-2M

- It causes a decrease of the intensities at high angle
- It is proportional to the thermal vibrations
- Intensities decrease increasing the temperature
- From the Debye-Waller it is possible to estimate the Debye temperature











Parafocusing circle (Bragg-Brentano)













Residual stress measurement





Residual stress analysis

campione M04/045/2 zona A-1 residual stress -1082 MPa +/-60 MPa



When either or both $\operatorname{orf}_{3} \varepsilon_{23}$ are non-zero, d measured at positive an negative Psi will be different due to the argument Psiin associated with these terms causing split in the d (2-theta)s. sin Psi data. This effect is termed Psi-splitting.



Diffraction analyses

- Phase identifications (crystalline and amorphous)
- Crystal structure determination
- Crystal structure refinements (cell parameters and atomic positions)
- Quantitative phase analysis (and crystallinity determination)
- Microstructural analyses (crystallite sizes microstrain distributions etc.)
- Texture analysis
- Residual stress analysis
- Order-disorder transitions and compositional analyses
- Thin films



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