Zone-center phonons in polar crystals

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1 Experiments & Lyddane-Sachs-Teller

2 Huang's phenomenological theory

3 Born effective charge, polarization, current



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Two regimes:

Re $\varepsilon(\omega) \longrightarrow \varepsilon_0$: static

Re $\varepsilon(\omega) \longrightarrow \varepsilon_{\infty}$: "static high frequency"

a.k.a. clamped ion, a.k.a. electronic

In a nonpolar crystal $\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon_\infty$, no pole: why?



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Polar vs. nonpolar: Si & GaAs





Polar crystal (cubic binary)



- \bullet $\omega_{\rm LO} > \omega_{\rm TO}$
- Zone-center mode infrared active

Nonpolar crystal (cubic binary, e.g. diamond)

$$\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon_\infty$$

$$\omega_{\rm LO} = \omega_{\rm TO}$$

Zone-center mode infrared inactive

Lyddane-Sachs-Teller (1941)

$$\frac{\omega_{\rm LO}^2}{\omega_{\rm TO}^2} = \frac{\varepsilon_0}{\varepsilon_\infty}$$

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Beautifully simple and general

Independent of microscopics such as

masses

- interatomic force constants
- ionic charges
- cell volume.....



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Free energy **per cell** $\mathcal{F} = V_c \mathscr{F}$ Cubic binary crystal: **independent variables:** *E*, *u* expanded to second order

$$\mathcal{F}(\boldsymbol{E},\boldsymbol{u}) = \mathcal{F}_0 + \frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{M}\omega_{\mathrm{TO}}^2 \,\boldsymbol{u}^2 - \frac{V_{\mathrm{c}}}{8\pi}\varepsilon_{\infty}\boldsymbol{E}^2 - \boldsymbol{Z}^*\boldsymbol{u}\boldsymbol{E}$$

Equations of motion (*M* reduced mass):

$$f = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial u} = -M\omega_{\rm TO}^2 u + Z^* E$$
$$D = -\frac{4\pi}{V_{\rm c}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial E} = \varepsilon_{\infty} E + \frac{4\pi}{V_{\rm c}} Z^* u$$

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Static response: ε_0

$$f = -M\omega_{\rm TO}^2 u + Z^* E$$
$$D = \varepsilon_{\infty} E + \frac{4\pi}{V_{\rm c}} Z^* u$$

at equilibrium:

$$f = 0 \longrightarrow u = \frac{Z^*}{M\omega_{\rm TO}^2}E$$

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forced oscillations at frequency ω :

$$-M\omega^2 u = -M\omega_{\rm TO}^2 u + Z^* E$$

$$u = \frac{Z^*}{M(\omega_{\rm TO}^2 - \omega^2)} E$$
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E and D fields

In presence of a long wavelength phonon of wave vector q:

- Solid macroscopically homogeneous normal to **q**
- Macroscopic properties modulated in the of q direction

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Ergo:
E normal to q vanish
D parallel to q vanish
TO phonon: E = 0, D ≠ 0

LO phonon: $\mathbf{D} = 0, \mathbf{E} \neq 0$

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In a transverse mode E = 0:

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In a longitudinal mode $D = \varepsilon E = 0 \Rightarrow \varepsilon = 0$:

$$0 = \varepsilon(\omega_{\rm LO}) = \varepsilon_{\infty} + \frac{4\pi (Z^*)^2}{V_{\rm c} M(\omega_{\rm TO}^2 - \omega_{\rm LO}^2)}$$

 $\omega_{\rm LO}^2 = \omega_{\rm TO}^2 + \frac{4\pi (Z^*)^2}{\varepsilon_{\infty} V_{\rm c} M} = \omega_{\rm TO}^2 + 4\pi \frac{(\text{charge density})^2}{\text{mass density}}$

reduced mass density $= \frac{M}{V_c}$

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charge density)² = $\frac{(Z^*)^2}{\varepsilon_{\infty} V_c^2}$ reduced mass density = $\frac{\Lambda}{V}$

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(charge density)² = $\frac{(Z^{*})^{2}}{\varepsilon_{\infty}V_{c}^{2}}$ reduced mass density = $\frac{\hbar}{V}$

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- All microscopic parameters disappear (Z^*, M, V_c)
- LST is exact (within the harmonic approx.)
- Both members of LST measure the field-lattice coupling
- Can be generalized to more complex crystals, and beyond (anharmonic solids, amorphous materials....)

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Born effective charge (cubic binary crystal)

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Dual interpretation of
$$Z^* = \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{F}}{\partial u \partial E}$$

■ Force exerted on the clamped nuclei by E: ∂t/∂E
 ■ Polarization due to the ionic displacement at E = 0: 1/V_c ∂P/∂u

Born effective charge (generic crystal)

■ Generalization to a low-symmetry lattice with *ℓ* = 1, 2....*n* sublattices:

Effective mass tensor:

$$Z_{\ell,\alpha\beta}^* = \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{F}}{\partial u_{\ell,\alpha} \partial E_{\beta}}$$

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Sum rule:
$$\sum_{\ell} Z^*_{\ell,\alpha\beta} = 0$$

- In general, not a symmetric tensor
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Macroscopic current

In a cubic binary crystal:

$$P=rac{1}{V_{
m c}}Z^{*}u, \qquad E=0$$

Harmonic: The sublattices oscillate at frequency ω_{TO} :

$$P(t) = \frac{1}{V_c} Z^* u(t)$$

$$j(t) = \frac{d}{dt} P(t) = \frac{1}{V_c} Z^* \frac{d}{dt} u(t) = \frac{1}{V_c} Z^* v(t)$$

Total current (a.k.a. charge flux): electronic and nuclear

Generic, anharmonic system (e.g. liquid):

$$j_{\alpha}(t) = \frac{e}{V} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N} Z_{\ell,\alpha\beta}^{*}(t) v_{\ell,\beta}(t)$$

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 $\mathbf{E}^{(\text{micro})}(\mathbf{r})$ is the "real" electric field inside the material:

 $\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f}_{\ell} &= Z_{\ell} \, \mathbf{E}^{(\text{micro})}(\mathbf{r}_{\ell}) & Z_{\ell} \text{ bare nuclear charge} \\ \mathbf{f}_{\ell,\alpha} &= Z_{\ell,\alpha\beta}^* \, E_{\beta} & \text{force induced by macroscopic E field} \end{aligned}$

$$egin{aligned} Z_{\ell,lphaeta}^* &= rac{E_lpha^{(ext{micro})}(\mathbf{r}_\ell)}{E_eta}\,Z_\ell \ Z_{ ext{cation}}^* &> 0 \qquad \qquad Z_{ ext{anion}}^* < 0 \end{aligned}$$

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Z^* tensors in molten KCI

$$j_{lpha}(t) = rac{oldsymbol{e}}{V} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N} Z^*_{\ell,lphaeta}(t) \, v_{\ell,eta}(t)$$



Instantaneous $\stackrel{\leftrightarrow}{Z_{\ell}^{*}}(t)$ (after Grasselli & Baroni, Nature Phys. 2019) Scalar in average, $\langle \stackrel{\leftrightarrow}{Z_{K}^{*}} \rangle = 1.1, \langle \stackrel{\leftrightarrow}{Z_{Cl}^{*}} \rangle = -1.1$

Z^* tensors in partially dissociated water

54 O atoms and 108 H atoms in a PBCs simulation cell of volume *V*: **anharmonic** thermal motion in zero **E** field

$$j_{\alpha}(t) = rac{oldsymbol{ heta}}{V} \sum_{\ell=1}^{N} Z^*_{\ell,lphaeta}(t) \, v_{\ell,eta}(t)$$

Distribution of the Z_{ℓ}^* tensors: diagonal (solid) & off-diagonal (dashed)



French, Hamel, & Redmer, Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 185901 (2011)

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Ionic conductivity

Fluctuation-dissipation theorem (Green-Kubo) for ionic conductivity:

$$\sigma = \frac{V\beta}{3} \int_0^\infty dt \, \langle \mathbf{j}(t) \cdot \mathbf{j}(0) \rangle$$

