

Letters to the Editors

Crystallographic Data for the Hexagonal Crystal System

Investigators in the areas of mechanical metallurgy, crystal growth, and stress analysis have a need for crystallographic data such as the angles between planes. These data are utilized in a standard stereographic projection from which the orientation of a crystal can be determined. Calculations of mechanical properties such as the critical resolved shear stress require values for the angles between planes as well as the angles between directions.

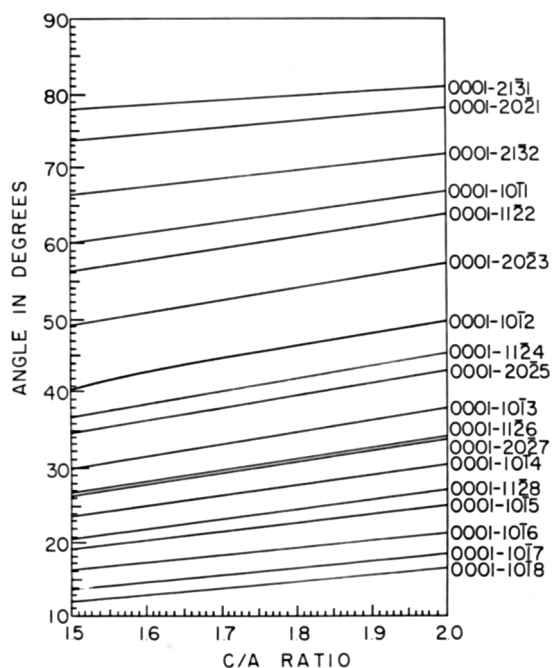


FIG. 1. A nomogram to determine the angles between crystallographic planes for the hexagonal system.

The interplanar angles necessary to construct a (0001) standard projection for magnesium, zinc, and cadmium have been compiled along with a pole figure for zinc (1). A similar table for titanium and zirconium together with a projection for titanium have been reported (2), and a projection containing only a limited number of poles has been presented for magnesium (3). Taylor and Leber (4) calculated the angles between planes for the hexagonal system for axial ratios ranging from 1.500 to 2.000 at c/a intervals of 0.050. The angles were computed by means of Peters' tables to 0.001 deg and rounded off to the second decimal

place. In addition they presented interplanar angles for beryllium, titanium, zirconium, magnesium, zinc, and cadmium, as well as a new (0001) projection for magnesium.

Since many of the hexagonal elements for which this data is not available are of interest in nuclear engineering applications, it was decided to program these calculations on a high speed digital computer. The angle, θ , between two crystal planes ($HKiL$) and ($hki l$) was programmed for the hexagonal system (5). The program was designed in a manner similar to that for the tetragonal system which has been previously reported (6). The angles were computed for axial ratios from 1.500 to 2.000 at c/a intervals of 0.010 to six decimal places and rounded off to the third decimal place. The computations are presented in Fig. 1 in the form of a nomogram which can be used to determine the angles with an accuracy of the order of one-half of one degree and in Table I for applications where greater accuracy is required. A vertical line is constructed on the nomogram at the specific c/a ratio determined from the lattice parameters of the material. The intersections of this vertical line with each of the curves are projected to the ordinate axis. The readings obtained are the angles between planes identified by the Miller-Bravais indices assigned to each curve.

Table II gives the interplanar angles for hexagonal elements of interest in nuclear engineering using the most recent values of lattice parameters for dysprosium, hafnium, gadolinium, and yttrium (7-10). The c/a values used for beryllium and zirconium are the same as those of Taylor and Leber and this allows a direct comparison of the calculated values. Except for the small difference in the second decimal place, the agreement is complete.

The use of a computer can speed the acquisition of crystallographic data necessary to plot pole figures for orientation and plasticity studies. The nomogram is valuable for research involving pure elements as well as alloys for which the variation in c/a ratio can be estimated.

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TABLE II
 ANGLES BETWEEN CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC PLANES FOR HEXAGONAL ELEMENTS

<i>HKiL</i>	<i>hkil</i>	Dy	Hf	Be	Gd	Y	Zr	
		<i>c/a</i>						
		1.5790	1.5822	1.5847	1.5870	1.5880	1.5893	
0001	10 $\bar{1}$ 8	12.839	12.864	12.884	12.902	12.910	12.920	
	10 $\bar{1}$ 7	14.599	14.628	14.650	14.670	14.679	14.690	
	10 $\bar{1}$ 6	16.903	16.935	16.960	16.984	16.994	17.007	
	10 $\bar{1}$ 5	20.035	20.072	20.101	20.128	20.140	20.155	
	10 $\bar{1}$ 4	24.504	24.548	24.582	24.614	24.627	24.645	
	20 $\bar{2}$ 7	27.517	27.564	27.601	27.635	27.650	27.670	
	10 $\bar{1}$ 3	31.289	31.341	31.381	31.418	31.434	31.455	
	20 $\bar{2}$ 5	36.104	36.159	36.202	36.242	36.259	36.281	
	10 $\bar{1}$ 2	42.353	42.411	42.456	42.498	42.516	42.539	
	20 $\bar{2}$ 3	50.556	50.613	50.657	50.698	50.716	50.739	
	10 $\bar{1}$ 1	61.257	61.306	61.344	61.379	61.394	61.414	
	20 $\bar{2}$ 1	74.665	74.694	74.717	74.738	74.748	74.759	
	10 $\bar{1}$ 0	90.000	90.000	90.000	90.000	90.000	90.000	
	21 $\bar{3}$ 2	21 $\bar{3}$ 2	67.481	67.522	67.554	67.583	67.596	67.613
		21 $\bar{3}$ 1	78.288	78.311	78.329	78.346	78.353	78.362
21 $\bar{3}$ 0		90.000	90.000	90.000	90.000	90.000	90.000	
11 $\bar{2}$ 8	11 $\bar{2}$ 8	21.542	21.581	21.612	21.641	21.653	21.669	
	11 $\bar{2}$ 6	27.759	27.807	27.845	27.879	27.894	27.913	
	11 $\bar{2}$ 4	38.291	38.348	38.392	38.432	38.450	38.472	
	11 $\bar{2}$ 2	57.653	57.706	57.747	57.784	57.800	57.822	
	11 $\bar{2}$ 0	90.000	90.000	90.000	90.000	90.000	90.000	
10 $\bar{1}$ 0	21 $\bar{3}$ 0	19.107	19.107	19.107	19.107	19.107	19.107	
	11 $\bar{2}$ 0	30.000	30.000	30.000	30.000	30.000	30.000	
	01 $\bar{1}$ 0	60.000	60.000	60.000	60.000	60.000	60.000	

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R. E. FROUNFELKER
 M. A. SEITZ
 W. M. HIRTHE

Department of Mechanical Engineering
 Marquette University
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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On the Possibility of Using Model Experiments to Study Shielding Problems

The Method

It is a well-known fact that it is possible to study the penetration of gamma radiation theoretically only in the simplest cases. For more complicated configurations it is necessary to make full scale experiments which are both expensive and time consuming. One hitherto untried possi-

bility for simplifying the problem is to perform some kind of model experiment. The purpose of this paper is to discuss this method.

In the following we will deal with concrete shields. This is the case which has the greatest practical importance. In concrete the gamma radiation is attenuated almost entirely by Compton absorption, at least for those energies which are of interest in connection with shielding problems. An obvious way to decrease the dimensions of a shield is to increase the cross section of the Compton absorption by making the shield of some heavier element, for example, iron. Such an iron shield will constitute a good model of the concrete shield. It is evident, however, that a model experiment of this type gives no real gain. An iron shield having the same attenuation as a concrete shield is thinner but has the same weight and is more expensive.

The only possibility to decrease the size of the model further is to decrease the energy of the radiation source. In many practical shielding problems the gamma radiation of 6-8 Mev energy has maximum penetrability and hence it determines the dimensions of the shield. If it is possible to make a model experiment using a radiation source emitting 2-3 Mev gamma radiation, it would be of great importance. An iron model of a thick concrete shield would then be of a reasonable size. Furthermore, there is the great advantage that one is not limited to work with a reactor or an accel-