

**Physics 489 S 04 Lecture 9**  
**Lattice Vibrations II (Ashcroft and Mermin chapter 21, 22)**

1. Generalization to  $D = 2$  and  $3$  dimensions.  
 Normal modes described by wavevector  $\mathbf{k}$  in one primitive cell of reciprocal lattice  
 Convenient choice: Brillouin Zone
2. Counting of modes  
 Number of allowed  $\mathbf{k}$  values = number of unit cells in crystal  
 Density of allowed values of  $\mathbf{k}$  is  $(L/2\pi)^D$   
 Thus  $(1/V) \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \rightarrow (1/2\pi)^D \int_{BZ} d^D k$ , exactly the same as for electrons described in Lecture 2
3. Types of motion  
 Motions in  $D = 2$  or  $3$  directions: Longitudinal, transverse motions  
 For  $S$  atoms per cell:  $D \times S$  dispersion curves;  $D$  acoustic;  $D(S-1)$  optic
4.  $D = 1, 2$ , or  $3$  dimensions - one atom per cell  
 Define displacements  $u_\mu(\mathbf{R}_i^0)$ , where  $\mathbf{R}_i^0$  is the position of the atom in cell  $i$  and  $\mu =$  vector direction ( $\mu = 1, 2, 3$  if  $D=3$ )  
 $E_{tot} = E_0 + 1/2 \sum u_\mu(\mathbf{R}_i^0) D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{R}_i^0 - \mathbf{R}_j^0) u_\nu(\mathbf{R}_j^0)$ , where  $D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{R}_i^0 - \mathbf{R}_j^0) = d^2 E_{tot} / du_\mu(\mathbf{R}_i^0) du_\nu(\mathbf{R}_j^0)$   
 Note:  $D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{R}_i^0 - \mathbf{R}_j^0) = D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{R}_j^0 - \mathbf{R}_i^0)$   
 and  $\sum_i D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{R}_i^0) = 0$  ("translation invariance")
5. Equation of motion for 1 atom per cell in 3 dimensions.  
 $u_\mu(\mathbf{R}_i^0) = e_\mu \exp(i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{R}_i^0 - i\omega t)$ , general form of solution.  
 $M\omega^2 e_\mu = D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{k}) e_\nu$  is the eigenvalue equation.  
 $D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{k}) = \sum_i D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{R}_i^0) \exp(i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{R}_i^0)$  is Fourier transform.  
 Using symmetry and  $\sum_i D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{R}_i^0) = 0$ , it follows that  
 $D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{k}) = -2 \sum_i D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{R}_i^0) \sin^2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{R}_i^0 / 2)$   
 Real symmetric matrix has 3 real eigenvalues,  $\lambda_s(\mathbf{k})$ , and eigenvectors,  $e_s(\mathbf{k})$ .  
 Eigenvalues give dispersion relation:  $\omega_s = (\lambda_s(\mathbf{k}) / M)^{1/2}$   
 Eigenvectors give polarization of mode, longitudinal or transverse.
6. Example: Dispersion curves for Pb. See A&M page 441.  
 Modes of a 2D triangular lattice.
7. Speed of sound derived from matrix of force constants.  
 When  $k \ll \pi/a$  can approximate  $\sin(kR/2) \rightarrow kR/2$   
 Leads to  $\omega = v_{sound} k$  for one longitudinal and  $D-1$  transverse sound waves.
8. Relation to elasticity theory  
 $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{R}_j) = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{R}_i) + (\mathbf{R}_j - \mathbf{R}_i) \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{R}}$ , where  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{R}}$  is the strain tensor  
 $E_{\sigma\mu\tau\nu} = -1/2 \sum_{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{R}_\sigma D_{\mu,\nu}(\mathbf{R}) \mathbf{R}_\tau$ , 4th rank elasticity tensor.  
 Rewrite as  $C_{\sigma\mu\tau\nu}$  for conventional elasticity tensor.  
 $\{\sigma\mu\} = \{xx, yy, zz, xy, yz, zx\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$   
 General crystal has 21 independent elements of tensor  
 Cubic crystal has 3 independent elements:  $C_{11}, C_{12}, C_{44}$