Coherent X-ray Diffraction Imaging of Phase Defects in Magnetically and Electronically Ordered Materials



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X-ray Contrast mechanisms:

- Electron density (atomic density)
 - Elemental sensitivity (John Miao)
- Electron density variations
 - Charge ordering, Charge Density Waves (CDW)
 - Strain fields (Ian Robinson)
- Spin ordering (e.g. Antiferromagnets)
 - Resonant (need convenient adsorption edges)
 - Non-resonant (weak scattering)
- Orbital ordering

Stripes, checkerboards and zig-zags

High-Tc cuprates



E. Dagotto, T. M. Rice, *Science* **271**, 618 (1996). T. Hanaguri et al., *Nature* **430**, 1001 (2004).

AFM chromium

CMR manganites



S. Mori et al., *Nature* **392**, 473 (1998) M. Uehara et al., *Nature* **399**, 560 (1999)



P. G. Evans et al., Science (2002)



Spin Density Wave (SDW) in Chromium:

Commensurate Antiferromagnetic SDW (C-SDW) Wave follows periodicity of underlying atomic lattice



Incommensurate SDW (IC-SDW) Modulation period incommensurate with lattice periodicity



For chromium incommensurability parameter is δ =0.038 at room T (period is δ^{-1} ~26 times the lattice constant)

Scattering experiments typically measure Q=1- δ

SDW: nesting of Fermi Surface



E. Rottenberg et al., New Journal of Physics 7, 114 (2005)



Microscopic SDW/CDW Domains in Chromium:



Scanning X-ray Microscopy:

 bulk probe (micron-sized penetration depth)

 spin, charge, lattice and chemical sensitivity $[0, 0, 2-2\delta]$ Charge-density wave satellite



Domain Wall Fluctuations in Antiferromagnets



Magnetic domain wall fluctuations in real and reciprocal space:

Н



Real Space: elemental switching block, w/ volume $(\lambda/2)^3$, $\lambda=3-4$ nm

Momentum Space: transfer of intensity from satellites 1 to 2 due to switch



O. G. Shpyrko et al., Nature 447, 68 (2007)

Autocorrelation function g₂(t): Multiple relaxation timescales



Random Telegraph Noise measurements: Focus on the Domain Wall



Why is the CDW speckle so "speckly"?



Number of speckles ≈ Number of coherent volumes





Speckle with microfocused (0.5x2) μ m beam





cdw_55K_1_Batch_001_Frames_00001-01000 - collected Sun Jul 30 02:13:34 2006



Domain Wall Fluctuations in Antiferromagnets



Flip all spins by 180 deg

Domain Wall

Phase vs. Polarization domain walls:



Domain Wall

"Polarization" Domain Wall

Antiphase domains in binary alloys:



CU₃AU Sutton et al., Nature 1991, PRL 2005

Fe₃Al Brauer et al., PRL 1995 Mocuta et al., Science 2002

CoGa, AlLi, AlZn, AlAg Stadler et al. 2004-2007



P. Fenter et al., Nature Phys. 2, 700 (2006)

In-situ growth, surface defects, reactions at buried interfaces

Phase defects in nematic-like order parameter:



Phase defects of SDW/CDW





Nucleation and growth of edge dislocations:





dislocation climb

X-ray Speckle Imaging of dislocations in electronic (CDW) crystals





D. LeBolloc'h et al., PRL 95, 116401 (2005)

Interactions of SDW/CDW with defects



V - pinning potential, c - concentration of defects, K - phase elasticity of SDW/CDW



Strong Pinning

Metastability and glassiness of pinned SDW in Cr



PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

4 JANUARY 1982

P. B. Littlewood and T. M. Rice^(a) Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974 (Received 1 September 1981) Computer simulations for Chromium (weak pinning)

- Average phase gradient lags significantly behind wavevector change
- System "stuck" in metastable state relaxation of phase gradient happens through nucleation of solitons
- Hysteretic behavior and slow "glassy" relaxation towards equilibrium

P. Littlewood and T. M. Rice, Phys. Rev. Lett. 48, 44 (1982)

Q-value relaxation, measured by X-ray microdiffraction:



Avalanches in Q-relaxation





Correlation lengths (shear, compression-dilatation of Q) during pinning-depinning







mini-Summary:

Currently can measure change in correlation length of CDW order parameter (ensemble average over ~1 micron sized beam spot)

NEXT:

We want to "see" CDW defects, their (collective?) dynamics, relationship to crystalline defects

Resolution ~ 10 nm may be sufficient!

Equilibrium Q(T=4K) Value map: after 6 hr of "aging" at 4K



"Old" Q (T=150K) map at 4K isolated pinned domains – "memory" of 150K persists



Collective dynamics of elastic media in presence of quenched disorder:

Charge-, Spindensity waves (10⁻¹⁰-10⁻⁷ m)



1 nm

1 Å

Magnetic domains (10⁻⁸-10⁻⁴ m)

Sandpiles (10⁻³-10 m) tectonic plates (10²-10⁶ m)





Abrikosov vortex lattice (10⁻⁷ m) 12:22

Jamming, shear flow in granular materials, colloids (10⁻⁶–10⁻² m)

Liquid droplets pinned on rough substrates (10⁻⁴ - 10⁻² m)



What/where are the pinning centers? (CXD provides phase information!)

- Need to image defects in order parameter (charge, spin, orbital ordering)
- Classify domain walls/defects
 (polarization vs. phase defects: dislocations, shear, etc.)
- Is there correlation to atomic lattice defects (strain, lattice dislocations, etc.)
- Surface vs. Bulk pinning?
- Can we engineer pinning?

Surface vs. Bulk phase diagram for Cr



Hänke, T. et al., Phys. Rev. B 71, 184407 (2005)

Coherent X-ray Diffraction (Lens-less imaging):

Reciprocal (momentum) space 3D "speckle" Real space object (phases and densities):



M. A. Pfeifer et al., Nature 442, 63-66 (2006).

Lens-less imaging of defects





Scanning energy instead of rocking the sample theta



Ptychographical Iterative Engine (PIE) (talk by Oliver Bunk earlier in the workshop)



J. M. Rodenburg et al., PRL 98, 034801 (2007)

Ptychographical Iterative Engine

- Complications arising from Bragg Diffraction (high-angle) geometry
- Precision of scanning
- Wavefront characterization
- Curved beam (?)
- Scanning Diffraction X-ray Microscopy
 + PIE





Instead of $\pi/10^{-2}$ Å⁻¹ ~30 nm, resolution becomes ~6 nm

People

San Diego:



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Clarisse Kim 4th year Grad student Univ. of Chicago

Anti-phase architecture at UCSD



Mayer Hall (Physics Dept., UCSD)

