

HW #5: Reciprocal Lattice

1. – *The most important meal of the day: “Special K”*

For a two-dimensional Bravais lattice of the sort introduced in Hofmann Chapter 1, the position of any element in the lattice can be described using a linear combination of two basis vectors:

$$\mathbf{R} = m\mathbf{a}_1 + n\mathbf{a}_2$$

That allows us to describe a crystal lattice in “position space,” but your reading (and our class on Wednesday) also suggest we consider a “reciprocal lattice,” which for a two-dimensional Bravais lattice will also be two-dimensional:

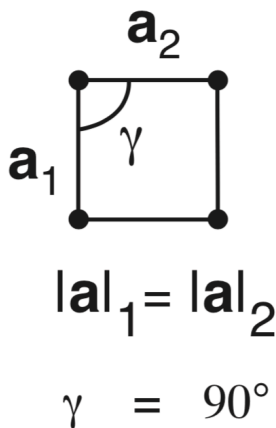
$$\mathbf{G} = m'\mathbf{b}_1 + n'\mathbf{b}_2$$

Often, the most practical way to construct the reciprocal lattice is to use the relation:

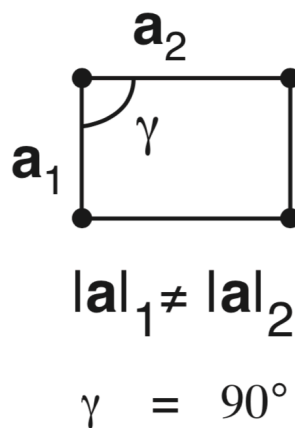
$$\mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{b}_j = 2\pi\delta_{ij}$$

Now, here’s your problem: find the reciprocal lattice for the three cases given below:

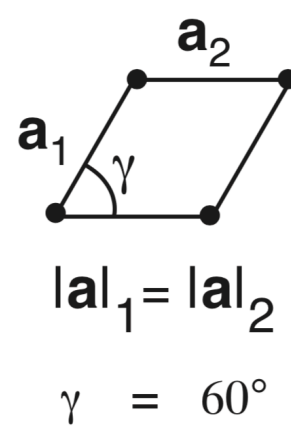
Square



Rectangular



Hexagonal



2. – *Miller Indices:*

Hofmann Chapter 1 states that the reciprocal lattice vector $m\mathbf{b}_1 + n\mathbf{b}_2 + o\mathbf{b}_3$ is *perpendicular* to the lattice plane given by the Miller indices (m, n, o) .

Verify that this is correct for the lattice planes drawn below:

