

4.3. SYMBOLS FOR SPACE GROUPS

4.3.3.2.2. Maximal t subgroups of type **I**

(i) Orthorhombic subgroups

The standard full symbol of a P group of class mmm indicates all the symmetry elements, so that maximal t subgroups can be read at once.

Example

$P2_1/m2/m2/a$ (51) has the following four t subgroups: $P2_122$ ($P222_1$); $Pmm2$; $P2_1ma$ ($Pmc2_1$); $Pm2a$ ($Pma2$).

From the standard full symbol of an I group of class mmm , the t subgroup of class 222 is read directly. It is either $I222$ [for $Immm$ (71) and $Ibam$ (72)] or $I2_12_12_1$ [for $Ibca$ (73) and $Imma$ (74)]. Use of the two-line symbols results in three maximal t subgroups of class $mm2$.

Example

$Ibam$ (72) has the following three maximal t subgroups of class $mm2$: $Iba2$; $Ib2_1m$ ($Ima2$); $I2_1am$ ($Ima2$).

From the standard full symbol of a C group of class mmm , one immediately reads the maximal t subgroup of class 222, which is either $C222_1$ [for $Cmcm$ (63) and $Cmce$ (64)] or $C222$ (for all other cases). For the three maximal t subgroups of class $mm2$, the two-line symbols are used.

Example

$Cmce$ (64) has the following three maximal t subgroups of class $mm2$: $Cmc2_1$; $Cm2e$ ($Aem2$); $C2ce$ ($Aea2$).

Finally, $Fmmm$ (69) has maximal t subgroups $F222$ and $Fmm2$ (plus permutations), whereas $Fddd$ (70) has $F222$ and $Fdd2$ (plus permutations).

(ii) Monoclinic subgroups

These subgroups are obtained by substituting the symbol '1' in two of the three positions. Non-standard centred cells are reduced to primitive cells.

Examples

- (1) $C222_1$ (20) has the maximal t subgroups $C211$ ($C2$), $C121$ ($C2$) and $C112_1$. The last one reduces to $P112_1$ ($P2_1$).
- (2) $Ama2$ (40) has the maximal t subgroups $Am11$, reducible to Pm , $A1a1$ (Cc) and $A112$ ($C2$).
- (3) $Pnma$ (62) has the standard full symbol $P2_1/n2_1/m2_1/a$, from which the maximal t subgroups $P2_1/n11$ ($P2_1/c$), $P12_1/m1$ ($P2_1/m$) and $P112_1/a$ ($P2_1/c$) are obtained.
- (4) $Fddd$ (70) has the maximal t subgroups $F2/d11$, $F12/d1$ and $F112/d$, each one reducible to $C2/c$.

4.3.4. Tetragonal system

4.3.4.1. Historical note and arrangement of the tables

In the 1935 edition of *International Tables*, for each tetragonal P and I space group an additional C -cell and F -cell description was given. In the corresponding space-group symbols, secondary and tertiary symmetry elements were simply interchanged. Coordinate triplets for these larger cells were not printed, except for the space groups of class $\bar{4}m2$. In *IT* (1952), the C and F cells were dropped from the space-group tables but kept in the comparative tables.

In the present edition, the C and F cells reappear in the sub- and supergroup tabulations of Part 7, as well as in the synoptic Table 4.3.2.1, where short and extended (two-line) symbols are given for P and C cells, as well as for I and F cells.

4.3.4.2. Relations between symmetry elements

In the crystal classes $42(2)$, $4m(m)$, $\bar{4}2(m)$ or $\bar{4}m(2)$, $4/m2/m(2/m)$, where the tertiary symmetry elements are between parentheses, one finds

$$4 \times m = (m) = \bar{4} \times 2; 4 \times 2 = (2) = \bar{4} \times m.$$

Analogous relations hold for the space groups. In order to have the symmetry direction of the tertiary symmetry elements along $[1\bar{1}0]$ (cf. Table 2.2.4.1), one has to choose the primary and secondary symmetry elements in the product rule along $[001]$ and $[010]$.

Example

In $P4_12(2)$ (91), one has $4_1 \times 2 = (2)$ so that $P4_12$ would be the short symbol. In fact, in *IT* (1935), the tertiary symmetry element was suppressed for all groups of class 422, but re-established in *IT* (1952), the main reason being the generation of the fourfold rotation as the product of the secondary and tertiary symmetry operations: $4 = (m) \times m$ etc.

4.3.4.3. Additional symmetry elements

As a result of periodicity, in all space groups of classes 422, $\bar{4}m2$ and $4/m2/m2/m$, the two tertiary diagonal axes 2, along $[1\bar{1}0]$ and $[110]$, alternate with axes 2_1 , the screw component being $\frac{1}{2}, \mp \frac{1}{2}, 0$ (cf. Table 4.1.2.2).

Likewise, tertiary diagonal mirrors m in x, x, z and x, \bar{x}, z in space groups of classes $4mm$, $42m$ and $4/m2/m2/m$ alternate with glide planes called g^* , the glide components being $\frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{2}, 0$. The same glide components produce also an alternation of diagonal glide planes c and n (cf. Table 4.1.2.2).

4.3.4.4. Multiple cells

The transformations from the P to the two C cells, or from the I to the two F cells, are

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 \text{ or } F_1: & \text{ (i) } \mathbf{a}' = \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{b}' = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{c}' = \mathbf{c} \\ C_2 \text{ or } F_2: & \text{ (ii) } \mathbf{a}' = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{b}' = -\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{c}' = \mathbf{c} \end{aligned}$$

(cf. Fig. 5.1.3.5). The secondary and tertiary symmetry directions are interchanged in the double cells. It is important to know how primary, secondary and tertiary symmetry elements change in the new cells $\mathbf{a}', \mathbf{b}', \mathbf{c}'$.

(i) Primary symmetry elements

In P groups, only two kinds of planes, m and n , occur perpendicular to the fourfold axis: a and b planes are forbidden. A plane m in the P cell corresponds to a plane in the C cell which has the character of both a mirror plane m and a glide plane n . This is due to the centring translation $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0$ (cf. Chapter 4.1). Thus, the C -cell description shows† that $P4/m..$ (cell $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$) has two maximal k subgroups of index [2], $P4/n..$ and $P4/m..$ (cells $\mathbf{a}', \mathbf{b}', \mathbf{c}'$), originating from the decentring of the C cell. The same reasoning is valid for $P4_2/m..$

A glide plane n in the P cell is associated with glide planes a and b in the C cell. Since such planes do not exist in tetragonal P groups, the C cell cannot be decentred, i.e. $P4/n..$ and $P4_2/n..$ have no k subgroups of index [2] and cells $\mathbf{a}', \mathbf{b}', \mathbf{c}'$.

Glide planes a perpendicular to \mathbf{c} only occur in $I4_1/a$ (88) and groups containing $I4_1/a$ [$I4_1/amd$ (141) and $I4_1/acd$ (142)]; they are associated with d planes in the F cell. These groups cannot be decentred, i.e. they have no P subgroups at all.

* For other g planes see (ii), *Secondary symmetry elements*.

† In this section, a dot stands for a symmetry element to be inserted in the corresponding position of the space-group symbol.