



## Tem-perature dependence in Bragg edge neutron transmission measurements

**Al-Falahat, Ala'a M.; Kardjilov, Nikolay; Woracek, Robin; Boin, Mirko; Markötter, Henning; Kuhn, Luise Theil; Makowska, Malgorzata; Strobl, Markus; Pfretzschner, Beate; Banhart, John**

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**Temperature dependence in Bragg edge neutron transmission measurements**

**Ala'a M. Al-Falahat, Nikolay Kardjilov, Robin Woracek, Mirko Boin, Henning Marktter, Luise Theil Kuhn, Malgorzata Makowska, Markus Strobl, Beate Pfrezschner, John Banhart and Ingo Manke**

## 1. Theory

### 1.1. Debye-Waller factor

The Debye temperature relates to the binding force between atoms and can be utilized to signify the properties of many materials, which include thermal vibrations of atoms or phase transitions (Yang *et al.*, 2006). It reflects the crystal's highest vibration mode and is given by  $\theta_D = hv_D/k_B$ , where  $v_D$  is the characteristic Debye frequency,  $k_B$  Boltzmann's and  $h$  Planck's constant, respectively (Balaguru & Jeyaprakash, 2015).

The Debye-Waller factor (here applied by an isotropic displacement factor  $B_{\text{iso}}$ ) is connected to the Debye temperature through the following equation (Sirdeshmukh *et al.*, 2006):

$$B_{\text{iso}} = \frac{3h^2 \varphi_1(x)}{M k_B \theta_D}, \quad (1)$$

where  $M$  is the mass of the scattering nucleus,  $\varphi_1(x)$  is the Debye integral function with its argument  $x = T/\theta_D$  and  $T$  the sample temperature:

$$\varphi_1(x) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\varepsilon d\varepsilon}{e^{(\varepsilon/x)} - 1}.$$

The value of the Debye temperature  $\theta_D$  can be determined by various experimental methods such as specific heat, elastic constant and diffraction measurements (Alers, 1965; Herbstein, 1961). For this study, the elastic constant method is used to calculate the Debye temperature  $\theta_D$  at which nearly all modes of vibrations in a solid are excited. It is given e.g. by Alers (1965):

$$\theta_D = \frac{h}{k_B} \left(\frac{4\pi}{9}\right)^{-1/3} \rho^{1/3} \left(\frac{1}{v_l^3} + \frac{2}{v_t^3}\right)^{-1/3}, \quad (3)$$

where  $\rho$  is the density of the solid and  $v_l$  and  $v_s$  the longitudinal and transverse velocities of sound waves, respectively. These velocities are given by the following relations (Ghosh & Olson, 2002; Terasaki & Yamagishi, 2011):

$$v_l = \left(B + \frac{4}{3} \mu\right)^{1/2} \rho^{-1/2}, \quad \text{and} \quad (4)$$

$$v_t = \mu^{1/2} \rho^{-1/2}, \quad (5)$$

where  $B$  is the bulk and  $\mu$  the shear modulus. Eqs. (4) and (5) show the longitudinal and transverse velocities of sound waves, which are a function of the elastic properties as well as density.

For the comparisons and results presented herein, the relations of Ghosh & Olson (2002) are implemented to calculate the values of elastic properties at several temperatures. The density of the used steel at different temperatures can be calculated from the analysis given in Miettinen & Louhenkilpi (1994).

## 1.2. Scattering cross sections

The total microscopic neutron cross section  $\sigma_{\text{tot}}$  of an isotope is given by its incoherent and coherent scattering,  $\sigma_{\text{coh}}$ ,  $\sigma_{\text{incoh}}$ , as well as its absorption,  $\sigma_{\text{abs}}$ , contributions (Vogel, 2000; Granada, 1984):

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}(\lambda) = \sigma_{\text{coh}}(\lambda) + \sigma_{\text{incoh}}(\lambda) + \sigma_{\text{abs}}(\lambda). \quad (6)$$

The probability for a neutron to be scattered is determined by the sum of the first two cross sections. In particular, coherent (ordered) scattering appears if a regular spacing of atoms causes many scattered waves to interfere constructively. Incoherent scattering occurs due to the randomness (disorder) of the phases of the scattered waves. One distinguishes between elastic and inelastic scattering, where the latter process describes the probability for neutron interaction with the sample's crystal lattice involving the creation or destruction of phonons through loss or gain of energy by the neutron, while for elastic scattering the energy of the neutron remains constant. The total neutron attenuation coefficient considering the structure of the material can hence be written as: (Granada, 1984; Schopper *et al.*, 2000)

$$\mu_{\text{tot}}(\lambda) = [\bar{\sigma}_{\text{coh}} S_{\text{coh}}^{\text{el}}(\lambda) + \bar{\sigma}_{\text{incoh}} S_{\text{incoh}}^{\text{el}}(\lambda) + \sigma_{\text{total}}^{\text{inel}}(\lambda) + \sigma_{\text{abs}}(\lambda)] \rho_A, \quad (7)$$

where  $\rho_A$  is the atomic density and  $\bar{\sigma}_{\text{coh}}$  and  $\bar{\sigma}_{\text{incoh}}$  are the average cross sections calculated from the scattering length  $b$  of the nucleus: (Willis & Carlile, 2017; Dinnebier *et al.*, 2008)

$$\bar{\sigma}_{\text{coh}} = 4\pi \langle b \rangle^2, \quad (8)$$

$$\bar{\sigma}_{\text{incoh}} = 4\pi (\langle b^2 \rangle - \langle b \rangle^2). \quad (9)$$

The scattering functions  $S$  describe the influence of the spatial arrangement of nuclei and their corresponding dependence on the neutron wavelength and  $\sigma_{\text{total}}^{\text{inel}}(\lambda)$  the total inelastic scattering cross section:

$$\sigma_{\text{total}}^{\text{inel}}(\lambda) = \sigma_{\text{coh}}^{\text{inel}}(\lambda) + \sigma_{\text{incoh}}^{\text{inel}}(\lambda) = (\bar{\sigma}_{\text{coh}} + \bar{\sigma}_{\text{incoh}}) S_{\text{incoh}}^{\text{inel}}(\lambda). \quad (10)$$

The first component of Eq. (7) accounts for the coherent elastic component of the scattering cross section and is calculated by means of the structure factor  $F_{hkl}$  and the interplanar distance  $d_{hkl}$  for every set of  $hkl$  lattice planes in the crystal with  $2d_{hkl} \leq \lambda$  (Granada, 1984; Binder, 1970):

$$\bar{\sigma}_{\text{coh}} S_{\text{coh}}^{\text{el}}(\lambda) = \frac{\lambda^2}{2V_0} \sum_{d_{hkl}}^{2d_{hkl}=\lambda} |F_{hkl}|^2 d_{hkl}, \quad (11)$$

where  $V_0$  is the unit-cell volume and  $F_{hkl}$  is the structure factor described as:

$$F_{hkl} = w_{hkl} \sum_n o_n b_n \exp(2\pi i (hx_n + ky_n + lz_n)) \exp\left(\frac{-B_{\text{iso},n}}{4d_{hkl}^2}\right), \quad (12)$$

where  $w_{hkl}$  is the multiplicity of a lattice plane and  $o_n$  is the site occupation factor, which relates to the atom concentration. Furthermore, the placement  $(x, y, z)$  of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  atom is used to calculate the structure

factor with respect to a selected  $hkl$  lattice plane. In addition, the absorption cross section for cold and thermal neutrons is determined as (Windsor, 1981):

$$\sigma_{\text{abs}}(\lambda) = \frac{\sigma_{\text{abs}}^{2200}}{1.798 \text{ \AA}} \lambda, \quad (13)$$

where  $\lambda$  is the neutron wavelength,  $\sigma_{\text{abs}}^{2200}$  the absorption cross section for thermal neutrons at a wavelength of  $\lambda_0 = 1.798 \text{ \AA}$  (equivalent to a neutron standard velocity  $v_0 = 2200 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ).