

Hard spheres: fcc is slightly stabilized by entropy over hcp, by 0.005 R for all temperatures up to the melting point.

L. V. Woodcock, *Nature* **385** (1997) 141.

The hcp-fcc dilemma: Why is fcc more frequent than hcp ? [25% of elements are fcc and 20% are hcp.



N. V. Krainyukova, The "crystal structure problem" in noble gas nanoclusters, Thin Solid Films, **515** (2006) 1658–1663.

Calculations of the energetics of multiply twinned particles (MTPs) such as icosahedra and decahedra with fivefold symmetry as well as facecentered cubic (fcc) and hexagonal close-packed (hcp) particles in the size interval from 13 up to ~45,000 atoms were made applying Lennard-Jones potentials.

For the cluster size N from minimal up to N~2000 atoms the binding energy is highest for icosahedra, in the size interval from 2000 up to ~11,500 atoms decahedra prevail, above N~11,500 atoms decahedra and optimized fcc clusters were found to alternate. The hcp structure was revealed to become favorable above N~34,000 atoms. Thus, hcp clusters can attain their preference with respect to MTPs (comprising fcc fragments) and optimized fcc clusters only for very large sizes







Diamond

Wurtzite and zinc blende

P63mc and R3m/F-43m 2H and 3R



Diamond

Lonsdaleite





$$P_{s} = \frac{\mu_{sum}}{\text{unit volume}} = \frac{-2 \times \left(u - \frac{3}{8}\right) \times c}{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} a^{2} c} = \frac{-2 \times \left(u - \frac{3}{8}\right)}{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} a^{2}} \left(\frac{e}{\text{\AA}^{2}}\right) \times \left(1.60 \times 10^{3} \frac{\mu \text{C}}{\text{cm}^{2}} \cdot \frac{\text{\AA}^{2}}{e}\right)$$

 $(u - \frac{3}{8}) \cdot c$ can be obtained also from the separation between centers of (–) and (+) charges.

[Dr. Young-Il Kim]

Polytypism in SiC

Professor Marek Skowronski http://neon.mems.cmu.edu/skowronski/



3C

4H

3H

2H

Specifying the total number of layers in the hexagonal unit cell followed by the letter *H*, *R* or *C* to indicate the lattice type. Thus a symbol *nH* represents a structure with *n* layers in the primitive hexagonal unit cell while *m*R denotes a structure whose primitive lattice is rhombohedral and contains *m* layers in its hexagonal unit cell.

Ramsdell notation.

Stacking notation

Ramsdell notation	ABC sequence	Zhdanov number	h-c notation
2H	АВ	(11)	h
3C	ABC		с
4H	АВСВ	(22)	hc
6H ₁	АВСАСВ	(33)	hcc
6H ₂	ABCBAB	(2211)	hchchh
9R	ABACACBCB	(12)	hhc

http://www.iucr.org/iucr-top/comm/cteach/pamphlets/5/node0.html



DIFFaX: Diffraction from faulted structures:

Structure sorting: The major ternary structuraal families, Muller and Roy.



Semiconductors: Structure sorting (Phillips-van Vechten)



Chalcopyrite: CuFeS₂ and Kesterite, Cu₂ZnSnS₄





Semiconductors: Structure sorting (Phillips-van Vechten)





The Heusler crystal structure: XY₂Z F. Heusler (1903) 4 interpenetrating fcc lattices.



The half-Heusler crystal structure: XYZ. 3 interpenetrating fcc lattices.

AXZ rock-salt with Y in one of the tetrahedral voids.

YZ zinc-blende with X in an octahedral void.



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New Class of Materials: Half-Metallic Ferromagnets

R. A. de Groot and F. M. Mueller

Research Institute for Materials, Faculty of Science, Toernooiveld, 6525 ED Nijmegen, The Netherlands

and

P. G. van Engen and K. H. J. Buschow Philips Research Laboratories, 5600 JA Eindhoven, The Netherlands (Received 21 March 1983)

band structure of Mn-based Heusler alloys of the C1, crystal structure (MgAgAs



ed with the augmented-spherical-wave method. Some of these now unusual electronic properties. The majority-spin electrons the minority-spin electrons are semiconducting.

+x, 71.25.Pi, 75.20.En

Half Heusler MnNiSb

Magnetoresistive angle sensor: resistance angle free magnetic layer nonmagnetic layer magnetic layer spacer magnetic layer antiferromagnet

Modified from Grünberg, Phys. Today 54 (2001) 34



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Molecular-beam epitaxy of the half-Heusler alloy NiMnSb on (In,Ga)As/InP (001)

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We report the growth of the half-Heusler alloy NiMnSb on InP (001) by molecular-beam epitaxy using a lattice-matched (In,Ga)As buffer. High-resolution x-ray diffraction confirms a high crystalline quality. Spot-profile analysis low-energy electron diffraction measurements show well-defined surface reconstructions. The samples show the expected high Curie temperature and an uniaxial anisotropy. © 2003 American Institute of Physics. [DOI: 10.1063/1.1594286]

Half-Heuslers are nearly epitaxial with GaAs: The possibility of spin injection into semiconductors. This is important for any spin-based electronics.



The Zintl-Klemm concept and valence compounds: The example of LiAl (Li⁺Al⁻). Al⁻ is isoelectronic with C and forms a diamond lattice. The Li⁺ ions stuff the Al⁻ lattice. Note the 8 electron rule operates.

The contribution of Whangbo *et al.* (2000), also Öğüt and Rabe (1995), Galanakis *et al.* (2002):

Instead of 8 electrons, 18 valence electrons suggests a gap. For example, TiNiSn and TiCoSb are 18 electron semiconductors.

 $TiCoSb = Ti^{4+} + (CoSb)^{4-}$; $(CoSb)^{4-} = GaSb$ forming a zinc-blende lattice. Ti is in the octahedral hole.

 $18e^{-} = d^{0} + d^{10} + s^{2}p^{6}$

Magnetic compounds (Whangbo): If the number of electrons is 17 or 19, a paramagnet or a Stoner ferromagnet results depending on the DOS at the Fermi energy. If it is 22 (MnNiSb), a local-moment ferromagnet is formed.

What are the precise nature of the gaps ? How do different constituent elements affect the gaps ? How good is the covalent description of the zinc-blende lattice ?

Gaps in semiconductors as well as in the half-metals.



LMTO DOS of 8e half-Heulsers indicates a strong dependence of the band gap on composition of the zinc-blende lattice.



Electron localization functions of the 8e compounds show strongly localized bonding.



LMTO DOS of 18e half-Heuslers also show rather simple trends in their band gaps.



The band gaps of some 8e and 18e half-Heuslers depend on the electronegativity of the ions in the zinc-blende framework.



Magnetic half-Heulser compounds can also be thought of as stuffed zinc-blendes. The band/halfmetallic gaps are a little more complex.

Can one equivalently look for stuffed wurtzites: *hexagonal* semiconducting and half-metallic analogues of the half-Heuslers ? The structure type is known: LiGaGe (SG. $P6_3mc$). Many possibly incorrect determinations in Caln₂ structure.

The structure shown here is CePdSb. Best described as Ce³⁺ stuffing a (PdSb)³⁻ wurtzite lattice, although the (PdSb)³⁻ network is nearly flat/graphitic.



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two-dimensional systems correspond to tori etc.







Landau levels of electrons in 2D orbiting an external magnetic field become highly degenerate at high fields. For sufficiently strong *B*-fields, each Landau level may have so many states that all of the free electrons in the system sit in only a few Landau levels and the quantum Hall effect is observed:

$$\sigma = \nu \frac{e^2}{h}$$



Instead of being driven by such an external magnetic field, electrons could, in principle, form a quantum Hall state driven by forces that result from spin–orbit coupling, a relativistic effect in which the spin and orbital angular momentum degrees of freedom of electrons are coupled; this coupling causes electrons that are moving through a crystal to feel a *spin-dependent* force, even in non-magnetic materials.



The birth of topological insulators [Moore, Nature 464 (2010) 194-197]



(a) An illustration of topological change and the resultant surface state. The trefoil knot (left) and the simple loop (right) represent different insulating materials: the knot is a topological insulator, and the loop is an ordinary insulator. Because there is no continuous deformation by which one can be converted into the other, there must be a surface where the string is cut, shown as a string with open ends (centre), to pass between the two knots; more formally, the topological invariants cannot remain defined. If the topological invariants are always defined for an insulator, then the surface must be metallic.

(b) The knotting in real topological insulators is more complex as these require a minimum of four electronic bands, but the surface structure that appears is relatively simple



The birth of topological insulators [Moore, Nature 464 (2010) 194-197]



(a) Edge of an integer quantum Hall state. The electrons (e^-) are confined to a 2D insulating droplet with a metallic edge. Along the edge, electrons propagate only in one direction, which is determined by the sign of the applied magnetic field perpendicular to the droplet.

(b) Edge of an idealized quantum spin Hall state (that is, a 2D topological insulator). Along the edge, spin-up electrons move clockwise, whereas spin-down electrons move anticlockwise. Spin-up and spin-down electrons are independent and are in oppositely directed quantum Hall states.



The birth of topological insulators [Moore, Nature 464 (2010) 194-197]



(a) The electronic structure of Bi_2Se_3 , as measured by ARPES. Measured energy electron energy, E_B , is plotted against electron momentum, k_y . High intensity (red and yellow areas) indicates a non-zero electronic density of states. The surface bands crossing the bulk bandgap enclose a single Dirac point at the Brillouin-zone centre (Γ), which is the signature that this material is a topological insulator. indicates the centre of an edge of the Brillouin zone, and the path in the Brillouin zone is indicated by white arrows. The direction of electron spin is indicated by blue arrows.

(b) Theoretical idealization of the electronic structure of Bi_2Se_3 , showing the rotation of the spin degree of freedom (red arrows) as an electron (with energy *E*) moves around the Fermi surface (with Fermi energy E_F).



Topological insulators, A romance with many dimensions [Manoharan, Nature Nanotechnol. 5 (2010) 477-479]



(a) The conduction and valence bands of a typical 3D solid (middle section). The shaded regions are the bands in the bulk of the solid, and the thick black lines are the bands at the surface. In general, the conduction band is symmetric (red), the valence band is antisymmetric (blue), and spin-up and spin-down electrons (black arrows) have the same energy. (b) Spin–orbit coupling lifts the degeneracy of the electron spins and leads to other changes: in the bulk, for example, the conduction band becomes antisymmetric (–) and the valence band becomes symmetric (+). At the boundary the bands (the red and blue lines) actually cross over each other, and the Fermi energy is forced to intersect both bands, which results in the conduction of electric charge along the boundary.



Tunable multifunctional topological insulators in ternary Heusler compounds Chadov et al. Nature Mater. **9** (2010) 541-545



The zinc-blende (XY) structure is shown on the left, and the C1b (XYZ) on the right. Yellow and blue spheres correspond to the main-group (Z) and transition (Y) elements, respectively. The orange spheres in C1b stand for the additional stuffing (X) element.



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Red colour marks the bands with F8 symmetry, blue with F6. Comparison reveals obvious similarity between binary systems and their ternary equivalents: both CdTe and ScPtSb are trivial semiconductors with F6 situated above F8, which sits at the Fermi energy (set to zero). Both HgTe and ScPtBi are topological with inverted band order; the band with F6 symmetry is situated below F8.



Tunable multifunctional topological insulators in ternary Heusler compounds Chadov et al. Nature Mater. **9** (2010) 541-545



HgTe and CdTe binaries are shown for comparison. Open squares mark the systems not reported in the literature. (a) $E_{\Gamma6}-E_{\Gamma8}$ difference as a function of the lattice constant. The borderline compounds (between trivial and topological) insulators (YPtSb, YPdBi, ScAuPb) are situated closer to the zero horizontal line. (b) $E_{\Gamma6}-E_{\Gamma8}$ difference as a function of the average spin–orbit coupling strength represented by the average nuclear charge per formula.

