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Exercises for Computational Methods in Solid State Theory
SS 2012

Exercise Set 1
(Due date: Monday, April 23, 2012)

Exercise 1 (Tight binding and tetrahedron method) (10 points)

Consider a lattice with lattice constants

$$a = 8.5381\text{Å}, \qquad b = 13.273\text{Å}, \qquad c = 15.912\text{Å}, \qquad \alpha = 113.917°\,.$$

There are two lattice sites in the positions

$$\vec{s}_1 = (0, {}^1\!/_4, 0), \qquad \vec{s}_2 = ({}^1\!/_2, {}^3\!/_4, 0)\,.$$

This is an anisotropic triangular lattice with the tight binding Hamiltonian

$$(1) \qquad H = \sum_{<ij>} t\big(c_i^\dagger c_j + \text{H.c.}\big) + \sum_{[ij]} t'\big(c_i^\dagger c_j + \text{H.c.}\big)$$

where $<ij>$ and $[ij]$ indicate summations over nearest and next-nearest neighbors, respectively. The nearest neighbour hopping is $t = 0.0493999$ eV (associated to the distance $d = 7.891$ Å) and the next nearest neighbour hopping is $t' = 0.0424834$ eV (associated to the distance $d = 8.5381$ Å).

a) Write a program that calculates the bandstructure along the path

$$M - X - \Gamma - Y - M - \Gamma$$

   in the Brillouin zone where $\Gamma = (0, 0, 0)$, $X = (\pi, 0, 0)$, $Y = (0, \pi, 0)$, and $M = (\pi, \pi, 0)$. Plot the bandstructure.

b) Use the tetrahedron method to calculate the density of states (DOS) for the same tight binding Hamiltonian. Make sure that the DOS is properly normalized. Compare to the result of a brute force calculation of the DOS.

Remark: Please use the LAPACK routine `zheev` for diagonalizing the Hamiltonian. The tight binding program is intended for reuse; it would be good not to specialize it too much to the present exercise.