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0521359430 - Transmission Electron Microscopy of Minerals and Rocks

Alex C. McLaren

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TRANSMISSION ELECTRON MICROSCOPY OF MINERALS AND ROCKS

CAMBRIDGE TOPICS IN MINERAL PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY

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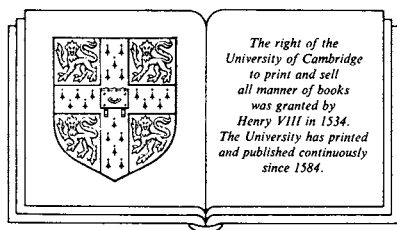
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Transmission electron microscopy of minerals and rocks

ALEX C. McLAREN
Australian National University



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Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page xi</i>
<i>Introduction</i>	1
1 Principles of image formation by a lens	7
1.1 Introduction	7
1.2 Elementary concepts of image formation by a thin lens	7
1.3 Image formation by a thin lens in terms of Fourier optics	13
1.4 The Porter experiments	22
1.5 Imaging a defect in a periodic structure	31
1.6 Coherence	33
2 The transmission electron microscope	37
2.1 Introduction	37
2.2 The optical microscope	37
2.3 General description of the transmission electron microscope	39
2.4 The electron wavelength	41
2.5 Lens aberrations and the practical limit of resolution	42
2.6 Defect of focus	44
2.7 Specimens and specimen preparation	49
2.8 Modes of operation	50
3 Kinematical theory of electron diffraction	52
3.1 Introduction	52
3.2 Derivation of the Laue equations	52
3.3 Reciprocal lattice	57
3.4 Ewald sphere construction in reciprocal space	58
3.5 The relative intensities of the waves diffracted by a unit cell: the structure factor $F(hkl)$	60

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
3.6	The atomic scattering factor	63
3.7	Intensity of the wave diffracted from a perfect crystal	69
3.8	The electron diffraction camera	74
3.9	Kikuchi lines and bands	75
3.10	Convergent beam electron diffraction (CBED)	82
3.11	Image contrast in terms of the kinematical theory of diffraction	84
3.12	Reexamination of the foundations of the kinematical theory	87
4	Dynamical theory of electron diffraction	90
4.1	Introduction	90
4.2	Solution of the Schrödinger equation	92
4.3	The dispersion surface	95
4.4	Selection of active tie points: boundary conditions at entrance face of the crystal	99
4.5	The exit waves	101
4.6	Calculation of the intensities of the transmitted and diffracted waves without absorption	102
4.7	Discussion of I_0 and I_g for no absorption	108
4.8	Absorption	112
4.9	Discussion of $I_0(a)$ and $I_g(a)$	119
4.10	The Darwin–Howie–Whelan equations	122
5	The observation of crystal defects	127
5.1	General ideas	127
5.2	Mathematical formulation of the contrast from a crystal defect	134
5.3	Planar defects	136
5.4	Dislocations	147
5.5	Kinematical and weak beam dark field (WBDF) images of dislocations	154
5.6	Determination of Burgers vectors	161
5.7	Small inclusions and precipitates	163
5.8	Density of dislocations and other defects	170
6	High-resolution transmission electron microscopy	172
6.1	Introduction	172
6.2	Experimental variables	172
6.3	Experimental techniques	177
6.4	Interpretation of HRTEM images	179

Cambridge University Press

0521359430 - Transmission Electron Microscopy of Minerals and Rocks

Alex C. McLaren

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

<i>Contents</i>		vii
6.5	Discussion of HRTEM images	180
6.6	Moiré patterns	181
7	Chemical analysis in the transmission electron microscope	185
7.1	Introduction	185
7.2	Inelastically scattered electrons: mechanisms of energy loss	188
7.3	X-ray microanalysis with EDX spectrometers	189
7.4	ALCHEMI	193
8	Mineralogical applications of TEM – I. Defects and microstructures in undeformed specimens	197
8.1	Introduction	197
8.2	Brazil twin boundaries in quartz	197
8.3	Stacking faults, twinning, and polytypism in wollastonite	204
8.4	Albite-law microtwins in plagioclase feldspars	212
8.5	Twins and twin boundaries	219
8.6	Dauphiné twin boundaries in quartz	221
8.7	Transformation-induced twinning and modulated structures	226
8.8	Antiphase domain boundaries	234
8.9	Grain boundaries in mineral systems	238
8.10	Exsolution microstructures	248
8.11	Chemically distinct intergrowths observed by HRTEM	262
8.12	Determination of site-occupancies in silicates using ALCHEMI	267
8.13	Radiation-induced defects	268
9	Mineralogical applications of TEM – II. Dislocations and microstructures associated with deformation	284
9.1	Slip and the need for dislocations	285
9.2	Experimental deformation techniques	288
9.3	Dislocation processes involved in deformation	291
9.4	Deformation of “wet” synthetic quartz	296
9.5	Experimental deformation of single crystals of natural quartz	312
9.6	Deformation of feldspars	324
9.7	Deformation of carbonates	328
9.8	Deformation of olivine	334

9.9	Deformation of pyroxenes	341
9.10	Dislocations in experimentally deformed perovskites	349
9.11	Deformation microstructures in naturally deformed rocks and their use in estimating the mechanisms, history, and conditions of deformation	352
	<i>References</i>	365
	<i>Index</i>	383

Preface

Of the many techniques that have been applied to the study of crystal defects, probably no single technique has contributed more to our understanding of their nature, properties, and influence on the physical and chemical properties of crystalline materials than transmission electron microscopy (TEM). Although the importance of crystal defects and the use of TEM for their direct observation were recognized by physical metallurgists in the early 1950s, it was at least a decade later that earth scientists responded to many of the new ideas of the defect solid state and to the power of TEM. However, TEM is now used extensively for the direct observation of defect microstructures in minerals and rocks, and there appears to be an increasing number of earth scientists who want to use the technique or to become more familiar with the interpretation of TEM observations. This book is written for such people. However, it makes no attempt to be a practical manual of TEM or a definitive text, but rather an *introduction to the basic principles* of the technique and of the interpretation of electron micrographs and electron diffraction patterns. As such, I hope the book will also be useful to students of materials science.

The place of TEM in modern geological studies is considered in more detail in the Introduction, where I have expanded the description of the book's intent and content (usually to be found in the preface) to include a discussion of the history and role of TEM in mineralogical studies and the importance of mineralogy as one of the fundamental earth sciences.

It was Jim Boland who suggested I should write this book but, as the writing has kept me away from practical microscopy for so much of the past two years, I will not thank Jim for his suggestion – only for his contributions to our joint research and for his friendship. Other research students and colleagues with whom it has been a great pleasure to work and who have made substantial contributions to the book are too numerous to thank individually here. However, I should particularly like to name John Fitz Gerald, to whom I introduced TEM but who now teaches me;

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

Preface

Bruce Hobbs, John Christie, and the late Dave Griggs, who were so enthusiastic and supportive of our early TEM investigations of deformed minerals; John Hutchison for giving me my first direct experience of lattice resolution imaging; Robin Turner, who taught me most of the optics I know – his initial response to most of my questions was usually “But that is obvious to the meanest intelligence”; Dick Yund for exposing me to the complexities of exsolution in the feldspars; and Mervyn Paterson and Bruce Hyde, who made it possible to me to come to ANU. I also thank the following people whose outstanding TEM investigations of minerals I have particularly drawn on for the applications chapters: Dave Barber, Pam Champness, Jean Claude Doukhan, Martyn Drury, Brian Evans, Madeleine Gandais, Dave Kohlstedt, Gordon Lorimer, Wolfgang Müller, Dave Veblen, Rudi Wenk, and Christian Willaime.

I must admit that the examples I have chosen to illustrate the application of TEM to mineralogy and geology reflect my own particular interests and that many other excellent examples have not even been mentioned. I apologize to those scientists whose work I have apparently ignored but, at the same time, emphasize that the examples chosen cover most of the types of crystal defect to be found in a wide range of rock-forming minerals. Furthermore, I believe that the examples that are given more than adequately fulfill the very important purpose of reinforcing the basic message of the earlier chapters that the *images* formed in the transmission electron microscope must be correctly interpreted in terms of an appropriate theory of electron diffraction before they can provide any useful information about the nature of the *object*.

It is with great pleasure that I thank Clementine Kraysheck and Paul Brugman for their skills in preparing the line diagrams and photographs, and Denise Devir who, with some help from Maria Davern, typed the text with phenomenal accuracy, corrected my spelling, added missing words, and never complained about my frequent changes of mind. My wife Netta deserves thanks for help with proofreading and especially for putting up with months of persistent complaints about how all this writing was keeping me away from real work.

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Canberra

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