

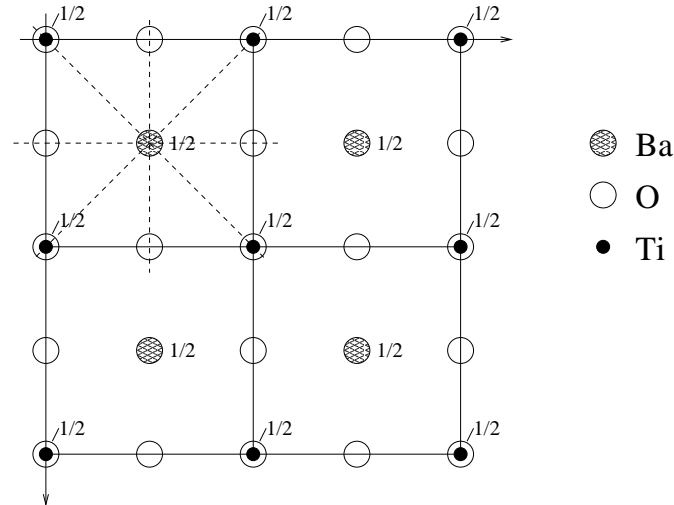
Question A2, 1998:

**rotation axis:** The axis, of order  $n$ , about which rotation by a given fraction  $1/n$  of a complete rotation brings an object back into coincidence with itself.

**mirror plane:** A plane through which reflection of an object brings it back into coincidence with itself.

**centre of symmetry:** A point through which an object can be inverted (*ie* all points  $x, y, z$  are transformed into  $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$ ) to bring the object into coincidence with itself.

**BaTiO<sub>3</sub>:**



Rotation axis through  $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}0$  is  $n = 4$ , rotation axis through  $\frac{1}{2}00$  is  $n = 2$ . One centre of symmetry is  $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}$ .

**Pyroelectricity** property whereby a change in temperature produces a change in the dielectric polarisation of a material.

**Piezoelectricity** property whereby the application of a stress produces a change in the dielectric polarisation of a material, or conversely when application of an electric field produces a first-order strain of the crystal.

**Ferroelectricity** the generation of a reversible dielectric polarisation of a crystal on cooling below a specific temperature. A ferroelectric phase transition is an example of displacive phase transition.

A structure with a centre of symmetry cannot have a permanent electric dipole moment. However, the lack of centre of symmetry is not the only requirement to have a dipole moment, a *principal axis* not perpendicular to a mirror plane or to a rotation axis is also needed.

Below 120°C, BaTiO<sub>3</sub> is tetragonal. Therefore displacement of Ti must keep  $n = 4$  axis, displacement is along [001]. There are no centre of symmetry and the mirrors which are not parallel to [001] are no longer.

The polarisation per unit volume for the tetragonal phase is:

$$\frac{1}{V_{\text{unit cell}}} (4e \times \delta z_{Ti} + 2e \times \delta z_{Ba} + 3 \times 2(-e)\delta z_O)$$

giving 0.18 C.m<sup>-2</sup>.