## 8.1. BASIC CONCEPTS

the above-mentioned point space but also to introduce simultaneously a *vector space* which is closely connected with the point space. Crystallographers are used to working in both spaces: crystal structures are described in point space, whereas face normals, translation vectors, Patterson vectors and reciprocal-lattice vectors are elements of vector spaces.

In order to carry out crystallographic calculations it is necessary to have a *metrics* in point space. Metrical relations, however, are most easily introduced in vector space by defining scalar products between vectors from which the length of a vector and the angle between two vectors are derived. The connection between the vector space  $\mathbf{V}^n$  and the point space  $E^n$  transfers both the metrics and the dimension of  $\mathbf{V}^n$  onto the point space  $E^n$  in such a way that distances and angles in point space may be calculated.

The connection between the two spaces is achieved in the following way:

(i) To any two points P and Q of the point space  $E^n$  a vector  $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \mathbf{r}$  of the vector space  $\mathbf{V}^n$  is attached.

(ii) For each point *P* of  $E^n$  and each vector **r** of **V**<sup>*n*</sup> there is exactly one point *Q* of  $E^n$  for which  $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \mathbf{r}$  holds.

(iii)  $\overrightarrow{PQ} + \overrightarrow{QR} = \overrightarrow{PR}$ .

The distance between two points P and Q in point space is given by the length  $|\overrightarrow{PQ}| = (\overrightarrow{PQ}, \overrightarrow{PQ})^{1/2}$  of the attached vector  $\overrightarrow{PQ}$  in vector space. In this expression,  $(\overrightarrow{PQ}, \overrightarrow{PQ})$  is the scalar product of  $\overrightarrow{PQ}$  with itself.

The angle determined by P, Q and R with vertex Q is obtained from

$$\cos(P,Q,R) = \cos(\overrightarrow{QP},\overrightarrow{QR}) = \frac{(\overrightarrow{QP},\overrightarrow{QR})}{|\overrightarrow{QP}| \cdot |\overrightarrow{QR}|}.$$

Here,  $(\overrightarrow{QP}, \overrightarrow{QR})$  is the scalar product between  $\overrightarrow{QP}$  and  $\overrightarrow{QR}$ . Such a point space is called an *n*-dimensional *Euclidean space*.

If we select in the point space  $E^n$  an arbitrary point O as the *origin*, then to each point X of  $E^n$  a unique vector  $\overrightarrow{OX}$  of  $\mathbf{V}^n$  is assigned, and there is a one-to-one correspondence between the points X of  $E^n$  and the vectors  $\overrightarrow{OX}$  of  $\mathbf{V}^n : X \leftrightarrow \overrightarrow{OX} = \mathbf{x}$ .

Referred to a vector basis  $\mathbf{a}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{a}_n$  of  $\mathbf{V}^n$ , each vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is uniquely expressed as  $\mathbf{x} = x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + \ldots + x_n \mathbf{a}_n$  or, using matrix

multiplication,\*  $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n) \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$ 

Referred to the coordinate system  $(O, \mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n)$  of  $E^n$ , Fig. 8.1.2.1, each point X is uniquely described by the column of coordinates

$$\boldsymbol{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, the real numbers  $x_i$  are either the *coefficients of the vector*  $\mathbf{x}$  of  $\mathbf{V}^n$  or the *coordinates of the point* X of  $E^n$ .



 $\mathbf{x} = x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{a}_2$ 

Fig. 8.1.2.1. Representation of the point X with respect to origin O by the vector  $\overrightarrow{OX} = \mathbf{x}$ . The vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is described with respect to the vector basis  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2\}$  of  $\mathbf{V}^2$  by the coefficients  $x_1, x_2$ . The coordinate system  $(O, \mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2)$  of the point space  $E^2$  consists of the point O of  $E^2$  and the vector basis  $\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2\}$  of  $\mathbf{V}^2$ .

An instruction assigning uniquely to each point X of the point space  $E^n$  an 'image' point  $\tilde{X}$ , whereby all distances are left invariant, is called an *isometry*, an *isometric mapping* or a *motion* M of  $E^n$ . Motions are invertible, *i.e.*, for a given motion  $M : X \to \tilde{X}$ , the inverse motion  $M^{-1} : \tilde{X} \to X$  exists and is unique.

Referred to a coordinate system  $(O, \mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n)$ , any motion  $X \to \tilde{X}$  may be described in the form

$$\begin{split} \tilde{x}_1 &= W_{11}x_1 + \ldots + W_{1n}x_n + w_1 \\ \vdots &= \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \tilde{x}_n &= W_{n1}x_1 + \ldots + W_{nn}x_n + w_n. \end{split}$$

In matrix formulation, this is expressed as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{x}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{x}_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} W_{11} & \dots & W_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ W_{n1} & \dots & W_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_n \end{pmatrix}$$

or, in abbreviated form, as  $\tilde{x} = Wx + w$ , where  $\tilde{x}, x$  and w are all  $(n \times 1)$  columns and W is an  $(n \times n)$  square matrix. One often writes this in even more condensed form as  $\tilde{x} = (W, w)x$ , or  $\tilde{x} = (W|w)x$ ; here, (W|w) is called the *Seitz symbol*.

A motion consists of a *rotation part* or *linear part* and a *translation part*. If the motion is represented by (W, w), the matrix W describes the rotation part of the motion and is called the *matrix part* of (W, w). The column w describes the translation part of the motion and is called the *vector part* or *column part* of (W, w). For a given motion, the matrix W depends only on the choice of the basis vectors, whereas the column w in general depends on the choice of the basis vectors *and* of the origin O; *cf.* Section 8.3.1.

It is possible to combine the  $(n \times 1)$  column and the  $(n \times n)$  matrix representing a motion into an  $(n+1) \times (n+1)$  square matrix which is called the *augmented matrix*. The system of equations  $\tilde{x} = Wx + w$  may then be expressed in the following form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{x}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{x}_n \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \cdots \\ 0 \\ \cdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

or, in abbreviated form, by  $\tilde{x} = Wx$ . The augmentation is done in two steps. First, the  $(n \times 1)$  column *w* is attached to the  $(n \times n)$  matrix and then the matrix is made square by attaching the  $[1 \times (n+1)]$  row  $(0 \dots 0 1)$ . Similarly, the  $(n \times 1)$  columns *x* and  $\tilde{x}$ 

<sup>\*</sup> For this volume, the following conventions for the writing of vectors and matrices have been adopted:

<sup>(</sup>i) point coordinates and vector coefficients are written as  $(n \times 1)$  column matrices;

<sup>(</sup>ii) the vectors of the vector basis are written as a  $(1 \times n)$  row matrix;

<sup>(</sup>iii) all running indices are written as subscripts.

It should be mentioned that other conventions are also found in the literature, *e.g.* interchange of row and column matrices and simultaneous use of subscripts and superscripts for running indices.