

The systems are used in the notation of Molecular point group (i.e. Schoenflies Symbols) and notation of Point groups for Crystal (i.e. Hermann - Mauguin Symbol).

(1) Schoenflies Notations:-

It involves Molecular point groups

i.e. C_{nv} , C_{nh} , D_{nh} , T_d and O_h

where n is the maximum number of rotation axes.

V is the vertical mirror plane, it is stated only in the absence of horizontal mirror planes.

h is the horizontal mirror plane

T is the tetrahedral point group

O is the Octahedral Point group

Examples:-

(i) C_n denotes the presence of n -fold rotation axis in molecular point group

(ii) S_{2n} denotes the presence of only a $2n$ -fold rotation-reflection axis in point group.

(iii) C_{nh} denotes that both the C_n and mirror plane (or reflection plane) are perpendicular to the axis of rotation.

(iv) On the contrary C_{nv} indicates both the C_n and mirror plane are parallel to the axis of rotation.

(2) Hermann - Mauguin Notation:-

It is used for space groups as well as Crystallographic Point groups. It provides the maximum axis of rotation.

For example, In this notation the Number '2' is used to designate a single 2-fold rotation axis in a point group

Note:- For example if Schoenflies notation depicted as C_{2h} for a point group then it is represented in Hermann - Mauguin system as $2/m$ and it is read as two slash m or $2/m$

where m denotes the mirror plane and the slash (|) denotes that the mirror plane is perpendicular to the two-fold axis.

Lattice System	—	Point groups	—	—	—	—
Triclinic	1	-1				
Monoclinic	2	m	$2/m$			
Tetragonal	$+4$	-4	$4/m$	422	$4mm$	$-42m$ $4/mmm$
Hexagonal	6	-6	$6/m$	622	$6mm$	$-62mm$ $6/mmm$

In a crystal about 230 space groups are present in 3D
these space groups are combination of 14 Bravais lattices
and 32 crystallographic point groups.



GROUP Postulates: -

The Complete set of operations forms a mathematical group.

In order that the symmetry elements A, B, C, \dots forms a mathematical group 'G', the following conditions must be satisfied.

1. Two elements A and B of a group combine to give a third element C, which is also an element of the group.

$$AB = C$$

It means that the application of B followed by A is equivalent to the application of C.

If $AB = BA$, the elements A and B are said to commute.

2. An element combines with itself to form another element of the group.

3. The group must contain the identity element E which commutes with all the elements and leaves them unchanged.

$$EA = AE = A$$

$$EB = BE = B \quad \text{etc.}$$

4. Every element of the group obeys the associative law -
of combination

$$A(BC) = (AB)C$$

5. Every element A of a group has an inverse A^{-1} which is also an element of the group

$$AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = E$$