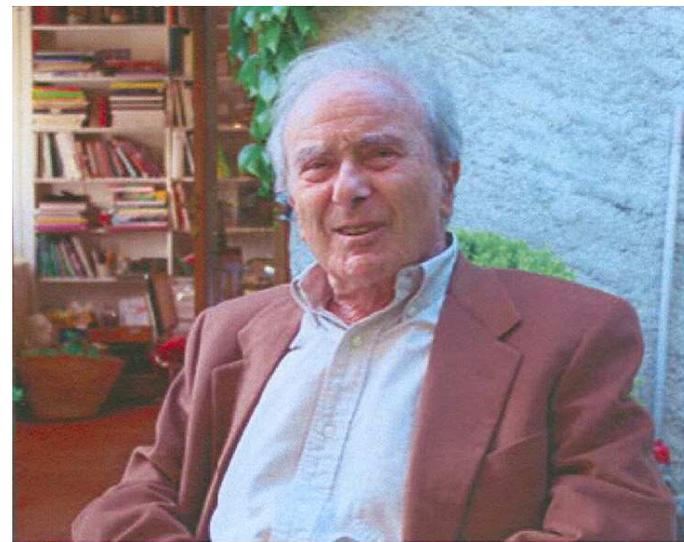


# Experiencing Space Groups

1. Material research at Battelle, Geneve
2. Algebraic crystallography
3. Geometric crystallography
4. Arithmetic crystallography
5. Metric and dimensions
6. Molecular crystallography
7. The great family  
Higher-dimensional space groups
8. Documents and recollections



Edgar Ascher

80 years

XXI IUCr, Osaka, 30.08.08,

In honour of Edgar Ascher

A. Janner

# Battelle Memorial Institute, Geneva (Columbus, Ohio)

**Aim :** Research laboratory for industry (Non for profit)  
Gordon Battelle, 1929

**Groups :** (1957)

■ Physics : Philip Choquard

■ Mathematics : Beno Eckmann, ETH

**Projects :** (1960)

Why Cobalt for magnetic materials Edgar Ascher

.....

# The Beginning

## "Cobalt ions in non-metallic structures"

1962-1963, E. Ascher & A. J., Battelle Report

### Close-packed structures :

1611 J. Kepler, [Seu de Nive Sexangula](#)

.....

1958 A.F. Wells, [Crystal structures](#)  
Solid State Physics, vol.7, 425-503

### Structurebericht types, Structure types :

1931 P. Ewald & C. Hermann, [Strukturbericht](#),  
Akademie Verlag, Leipzig

.....

2007 P. Allmann & R. Hinex, [The introduction of structure types into the Inorganic Crystal Structure Database ICSD](#), Acta Cryst, A63, 411



# Space Group $G$

**Abstract**  $G$  :

$$\Lambda \subset G$$

$$\Lambda$$

{

free abelian  
maximal abelian  
normal subgroup

$$G/\Lambda \simeq K \text{ finite}$$

**Euclidean**  $G$  :

$$G \subset E^n$$

$$\Lambda = G \cap T^n$$

$E^n$  Euclidean group of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$T^n \subset E^n$  group of translations

$\Lambda$  group of lattice translations  
which generates  $V(n, \mathbb{R})$

$$G/\Lambda \simeq K \subset O(n, \mathbb{R})$$

$K$  point group of  $G$

$O(n, \mathbb{R})$  Orthogonal group

# Group Extension

**Short exact sequence :**

$$0 \longrightarrow \Lambda \xrightarrow{\kappa} G \xrightarrow{\sigma} K \longrightarrow 1 \quad \text{Exact : } \text{Im}(\kappa) = \text{Ker}(\sigma)$$

**Factor set**  $m : K \times K \longrightarrow \Lambda$

$$(a, \alpha)(b, \beta) = (a + \varphi(\alpha)b + m(\alpha, \beta), \alpha\beta)$$

$\varphi : K \longrightarrow \text{Aut}(\Lambda)$  **monomorphism**

$$(a, \alpha), (b, \beta) \in G \quad a, b \in \Lambda, \quad \alpha, \beta \in K$$

**Equivalent factor set :**  $(a, \alpha) \rightarrow (a + c(\alpha), \alpha)$

$$m'(\alpha, \beta) = c(\alpha) + \varphi(\alpha)c(\beta) + c(\alpha\beta) + m(\alpha, \beta)$$

**Extension group**  $\text{Ext}(\Lambda, K, \varphi) :$

**Equivalence classes of extensions**  $G$  of abelian  $\Lambda$  by finite  $K$  and  $\varphi(K) \subset \text{Aut}(\Lambda)$

# Cohomology

**Cochains** :  $f^n \in C_\varphi^n(B, A)$

$$f^n : B \times B \times \dots \times B \rightarrow A \quad \varphi(B) \subset \text{Aut}(A)$$

**Coboundary operators** :  $\delta_n$

$$A \xrightarrow{\delta_0} C_\varphi^1(B, A) \xrightarrow{\delta_1} C_\varphi^2(B, A) \xrightarrow{\delta_2} \dots, \quad \delta_n \delta_{n-1} = 0$$

**Coboundaries** :  $\text{Im } \delta_{n-1} = B_\varphi^n(B, A)$

**Cocycles** :  $\text{Ker } \delta_n = Z_\varphi^n(B, A)$

**Cohomology groups** :  $H_\varphi^n(A, B) = Z_\varphi^n(B, A) / B_\varphi^n(B, A)$

**Factor set** :  $m$ : 2-cocycle     $m' - m$ : 2-coboundary

$$H_\varphi^2(K, \Lambda) \simeq \text{Ext}(\Lambda, K, \varphi)$$

# Non-Primitive Translations

**Commutative diagram :**

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \rightarrow & \Lambda & \rightarrow & G & \rightarrow & K \rightarrow 1 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \rightarrow & T^n & \rightarrow & E^n & \rightarrow & O^n \rightarrow 1
 \end{array}$$

**Euclidean motion :**  $(a, \alpha) = \{\alpha | u(\alpha)\} \in G$  **Seitz notation**  
 $\{\alpha | u(\alpha)\} x = \varphi(\alpha)x + u(\alpha), \quad x \in V^n$

**Change of coset representative :**  $u'(\alpha) = a + u(\alpha), \quad a \in \Lambda$

**Non-primitive translation :**  $u(\alpha)$   
 $u(\alpha\beta) = \varphi(\alpha) u(\beta) + u(\alpha) \quad u \in Z_\varphi^1(K, T^n / \Lambda)$  **1-cocycle**

**Change of origin :**  $u'(\alpha) = u(\alpha) + f - \varphi(\alpha)f = u(\alpha) + \delta f$   
 $\delta f \in B_\varphi^1(K, T^n / \Lambda)$  **1-coboundary**

$$[u] \in H_\varphi^1(K, T^n / \Lambda) \quad [u] \text{ vector set}$$

# Space Group Cohomology

**Exact sequences :**

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 H_{\varphi}^1(K, T^n) & \rightarrow & H_{\varphi}^1(K, T^n/\Lambda) & \rightarrow & H_{\varphi}^2(K, \Lambda) & \rightarrow & H_{\varphi}^2(K, T^n) \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \parallel \\
 0 & \rightarrow & H_{\varphi}^1(K, T^n/\Lambda) & \rightarrow & H_{\varphi}^2(K, \Lambda) & \rightarrow & 0
 \end{array}$$

$$H_{\varphi}^1(K, T^n/\Lambda) \simeq H_{\varphi}^2(K, \Lambda)$$

Non-primitive translations

vector set  $u$

Group extension

factor set  $m$

# Reals, (Rationals), Integers

**Choice of a basis** :  $b = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ , basis of the lattice  $\Lambda$

$$t = \sum_i^n r_i b_i = [r_1, \dots, r_n] \in V(n, \mathbb{R}), \quad r_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$a = \sum_i^n z_i b_i = [z_1, \dots, z_n] \in \Lambda, \quad z_i \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$T^n \simeq \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \Lambda \simeq \mathbb{Z}^n, \quad T^n / \Lambda \simeq \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n$$

$$O^n \simeq O(n, \mathbb{R}), \quad K \simeq \varphi(K) \subset O(n, \mathbb{R})$$

**Arithmetic** :  $Gl(n, \mathbb{Z})$  arithmetic group

$$Aut(\Lambda) \simeq Gl(n, \mathbb{Z}), \quad \varphi(K) \subset Gl(n, \mathbb{Z})$$

$$\varphi(\alpha) = A(b), \quad \alpha \in K \quad A(b) \text{ integral invertible matrix}$$

**Metric** :  $g_{ik}(b) = b_i \cdot b_k$  Gram matrix (metric tensor)

$$A(b)g(b)\tilde{A}(b) = g(b) \quad A(b) \in \varphi(K) \subset O(n, \mathbb{R})$$

# Metric - Arithmetic Interplay

**Crystal Class** :  $K \overset{geom}{\sim} K'$  geometric equivalent point group

$$K \overset{geom}{\sim} K' \iff K' = RKR^{-1}, \quad R \in O^n$$

**Arithmetic Class** :  $K \overset{arith}{\sim} K'$  arithmetic equivalent point group

$$\varphi(K) \overset{arith}{\sim} \varphi'(K') \iff \varphi'(K') = B\varphi(K)B^{-1}. \quad B \in Gl(n, \mathbb{Z})$$

**Lattice Holohedry** :  $H(\Lambda)$  point group symmetry of  $\Lambda$

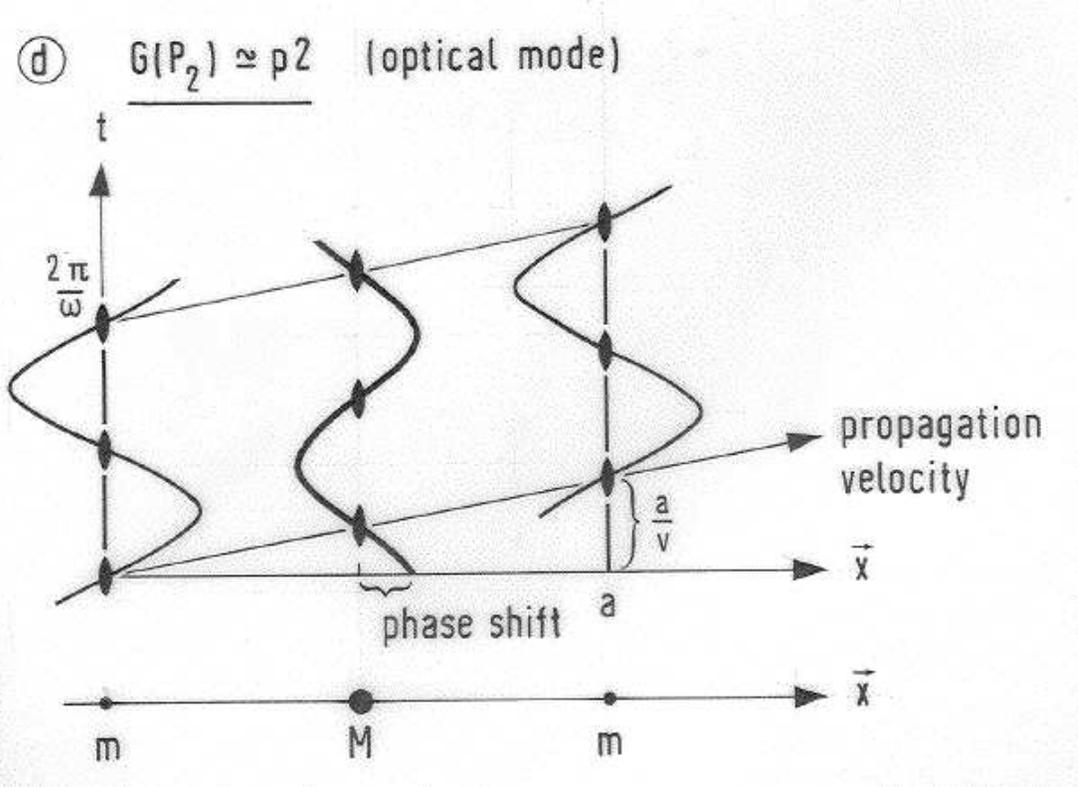
$$H(\Lambda) = \{R\Lambda = \Lambda \mid \forall R \in O^n\}$$

**Bravais class** :  $\Lambda' \overset{Bravais}{\sim} \Lambda$

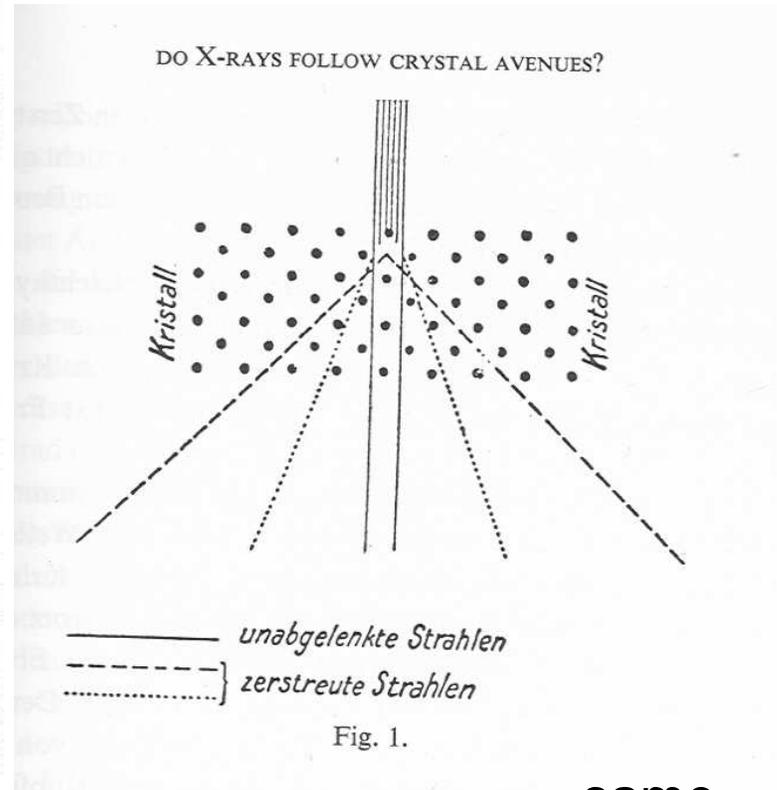
$$H'(\Lambda') \overset{arith}{\sim} H(\Lambda) \iff \Lambda' \overset{Bravais}{\sim} \Lambda$$

# Space-Time Symmetry

## Crystal Vibrational Mode



## Laue diffraction



Incident ray + crystal  
 Diffracted rays + crystal

} same  
 space-time  
 symmetry

# Rank and Dimension

**Z-module basis**  $b$  : rank  $n$ , dimension  $d$

$$a = z_1 b_1 + \dots + z_n b_n, \quad b \text{ linear independent on } \mathbb{Z}$$

$$t = r_1 b_1 + \dots + r_n b_n, \quad b \text{ generates } V^d \text{ on } \mathbb{R}$$

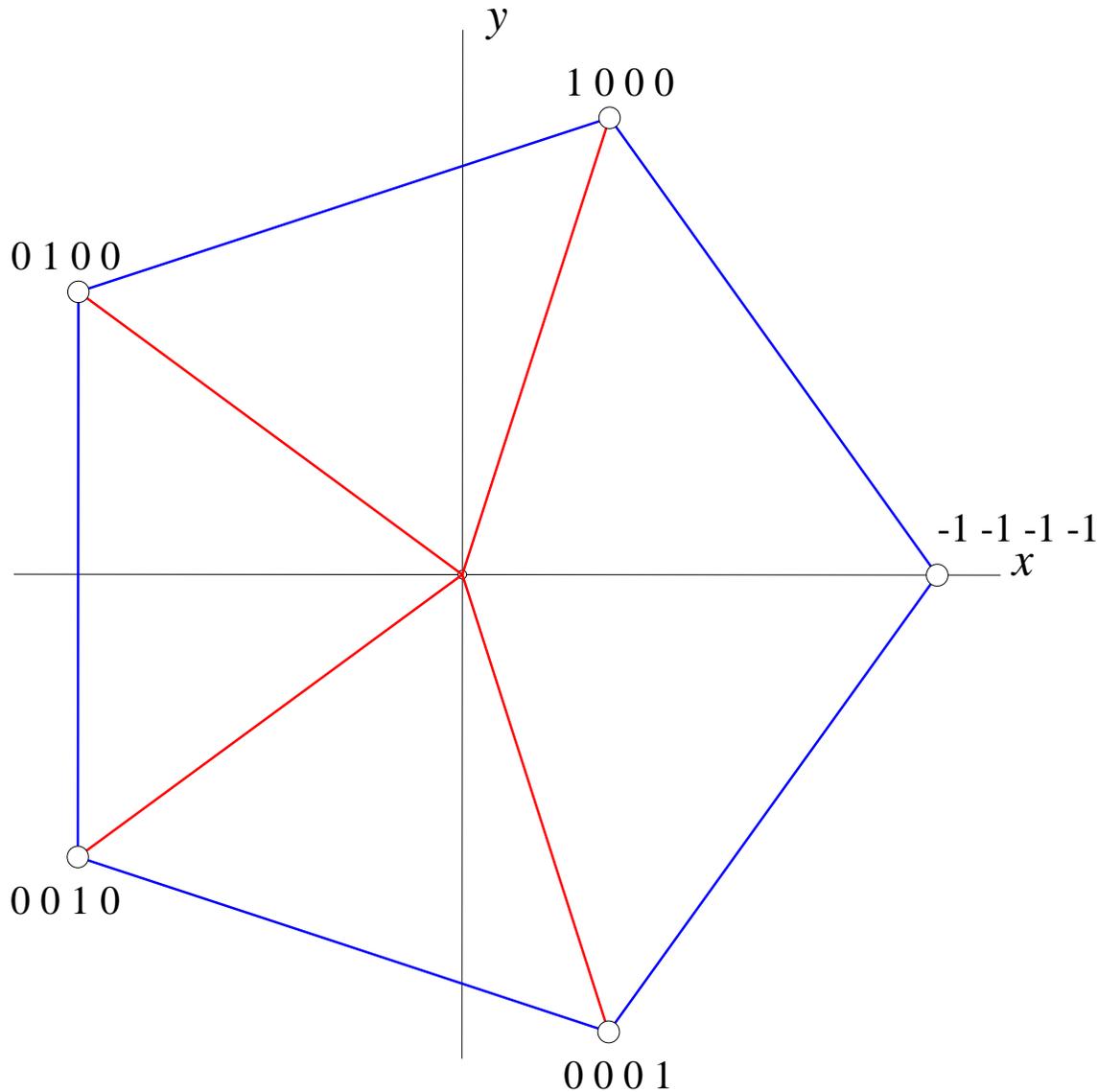
**Z-module**  $M$  : rank  $n$ , dimension  $d$ ,

$$M = \{a = z_1 b_1 + \dots + z_n b_n \mid \forall z_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

Space group : rank = dimension, lattice  $M = \Lambda$

Superspace group : rank > dimension, Z-module  $M$

# Pentagonal Symmetry



# Pentagonal $\mathbb{Z}$ -module

**Basis vectors:**

$$b_k = a(\cos k\phi, \sin k\phi)$$

$$\phi = \frac{2\pi}{5}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, 4$$

**Euler  $\varphi$ -function:**  $\varphi(5) = 4$

**Rank 4, Dimension 2**

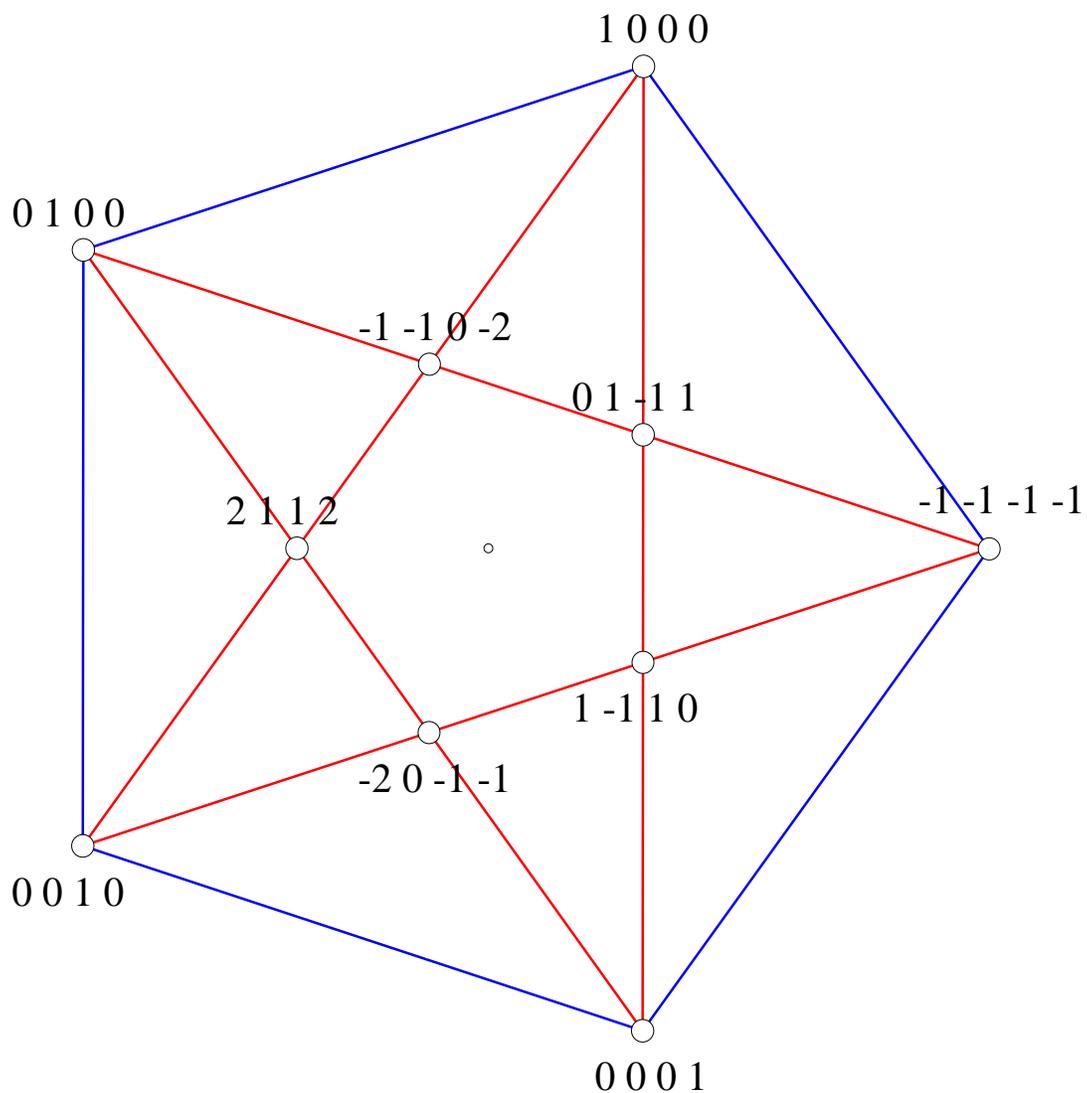
**Positions:**

$$P = (n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^4 n_i b_i$$

**Indices:**  $n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4$   
(integers)

# Indexed Pentagram



# Pentagrammal Scaling

**Star Pentagon:**

Schäfli Symbol  $\{5/2\}$

**Scaling matrix:** (planar scaling)

$$\begin{pmatrix} \bar{2} & 1 & 0 & \bar{1} \\ 0 & \bar{1} & 1 & \bar{1} \\ \bar{1} & 1 & \bar{1} & 0 \\ \bar{1} & 0 & 1 & \bar{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

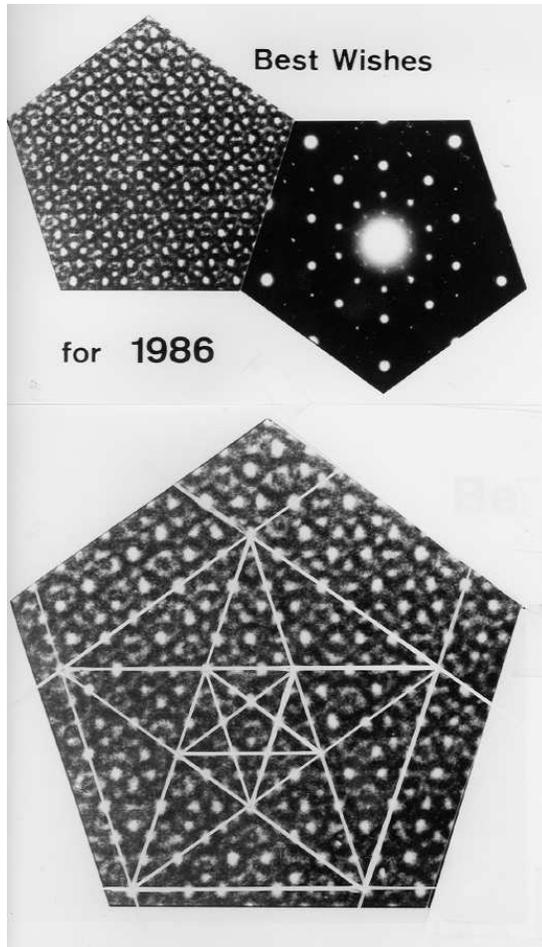
**Scaling factor:**

$$-1/\tau^2 = -0.3820\dots$$

$$(\tau = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} = 1.618\dots)$$

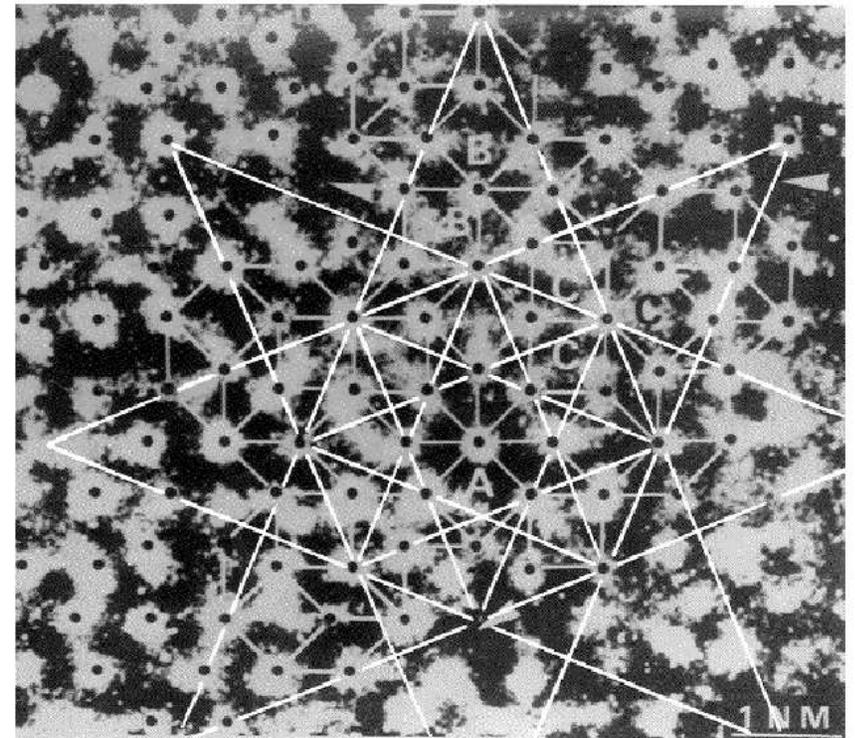
# Pentagrammal Scaling Symmetry

## Icosahedral Quasicrystal



## First Decagonal Phase

(Kuo, XIV IUCr Conf., Perth, 1987)

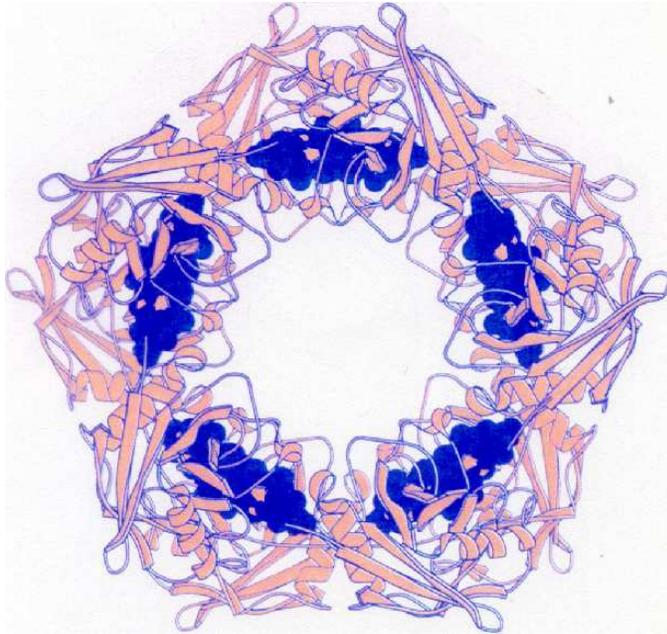


Superspace groups with infinite Point group ?

Classification ?

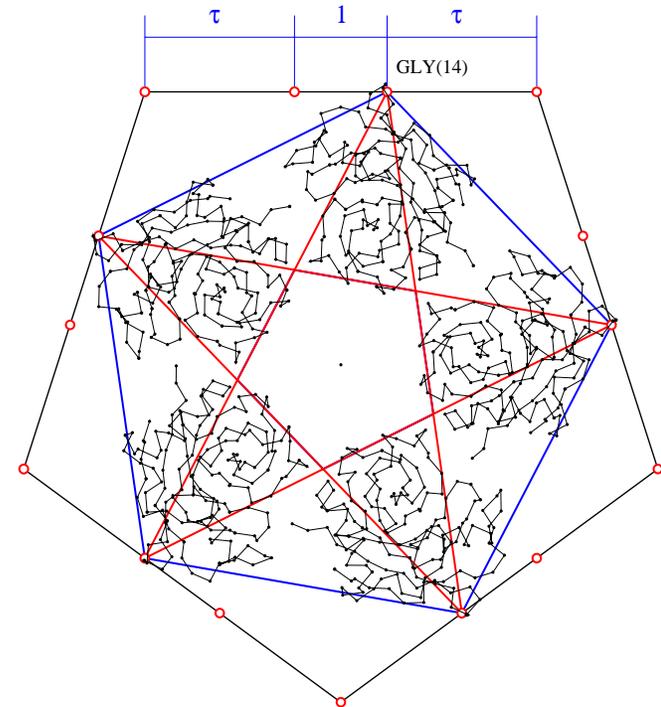
# Pentagrammal Structural Relation

## Cyclophilin - Cyclosporin Decamer



Ke et al., Curr. Biology Struct., 2 (1994) 33

## Cyclophilin Pentamer

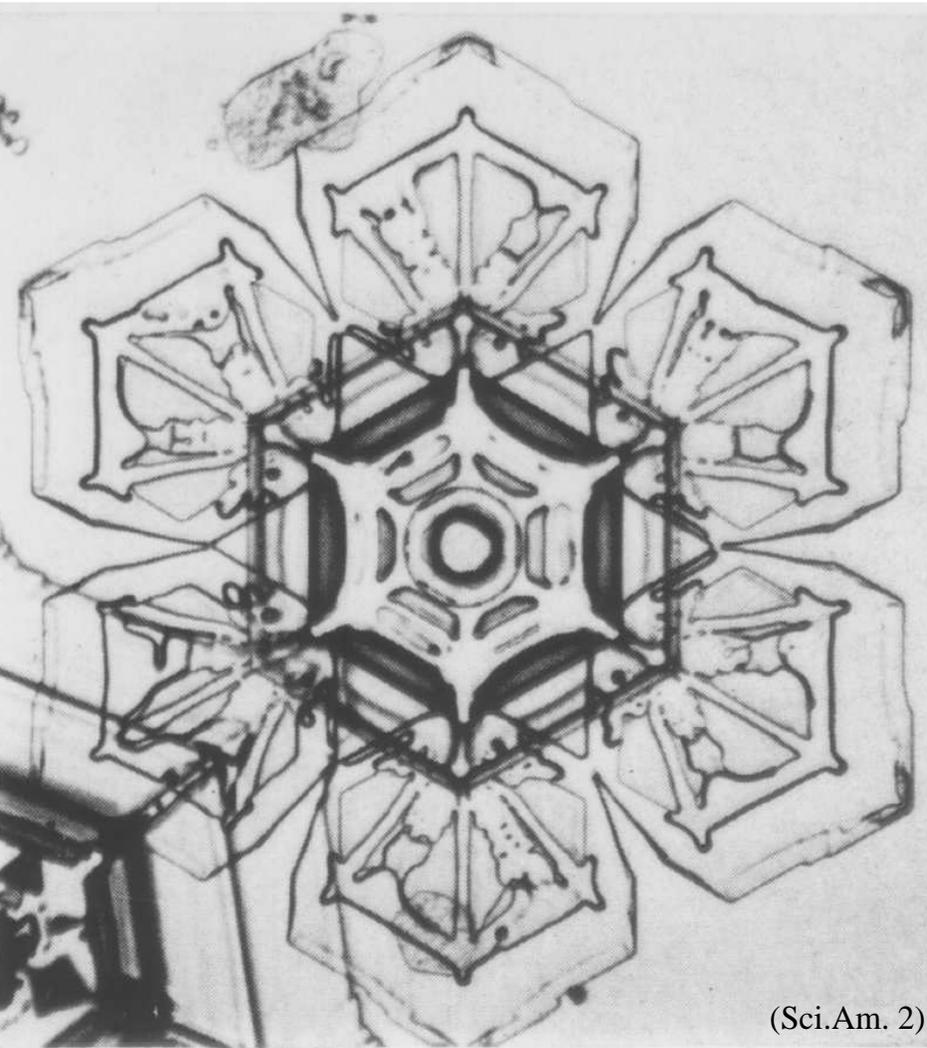


Ke and Mayrose (PDB 2rma)

Scaling **cannot be** a molecular symmetry !

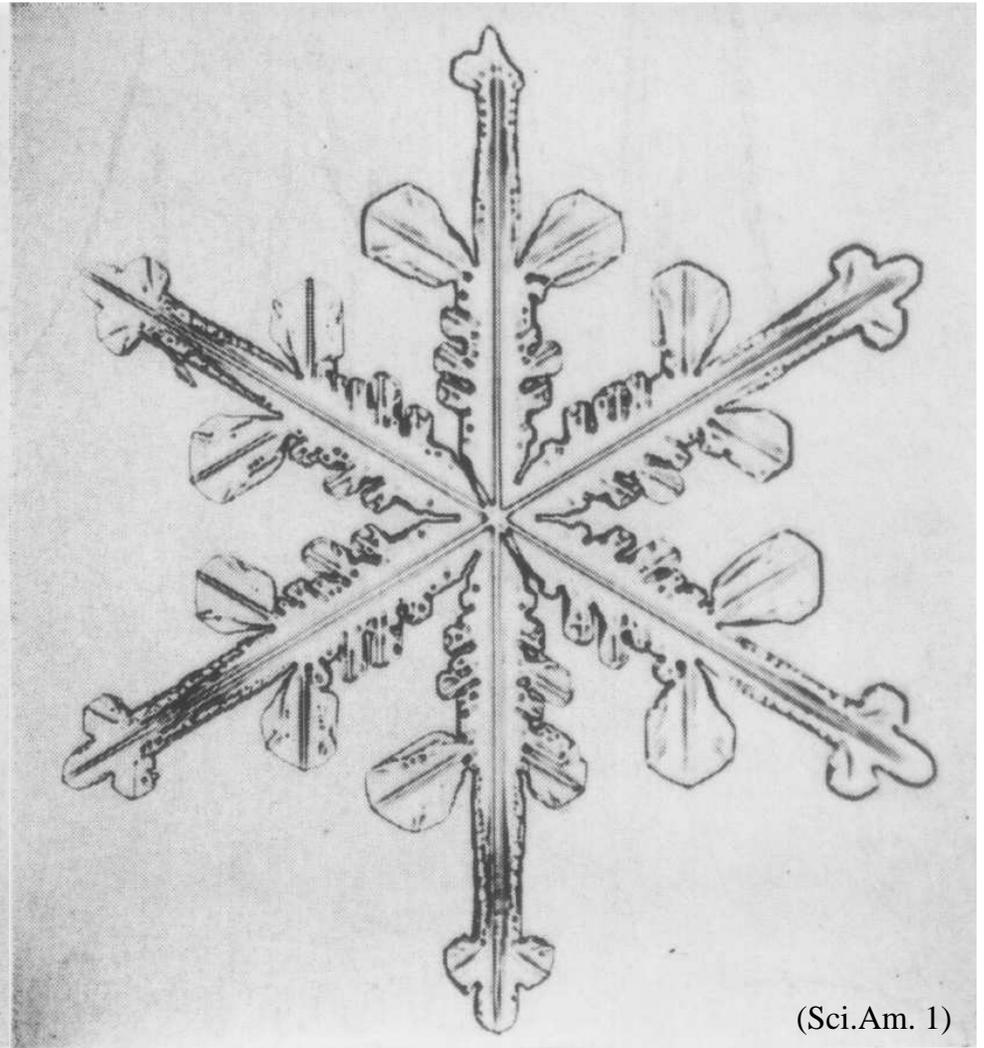
# Hexagrammal Scaling in Snow Crystals

Facet-like snow flake



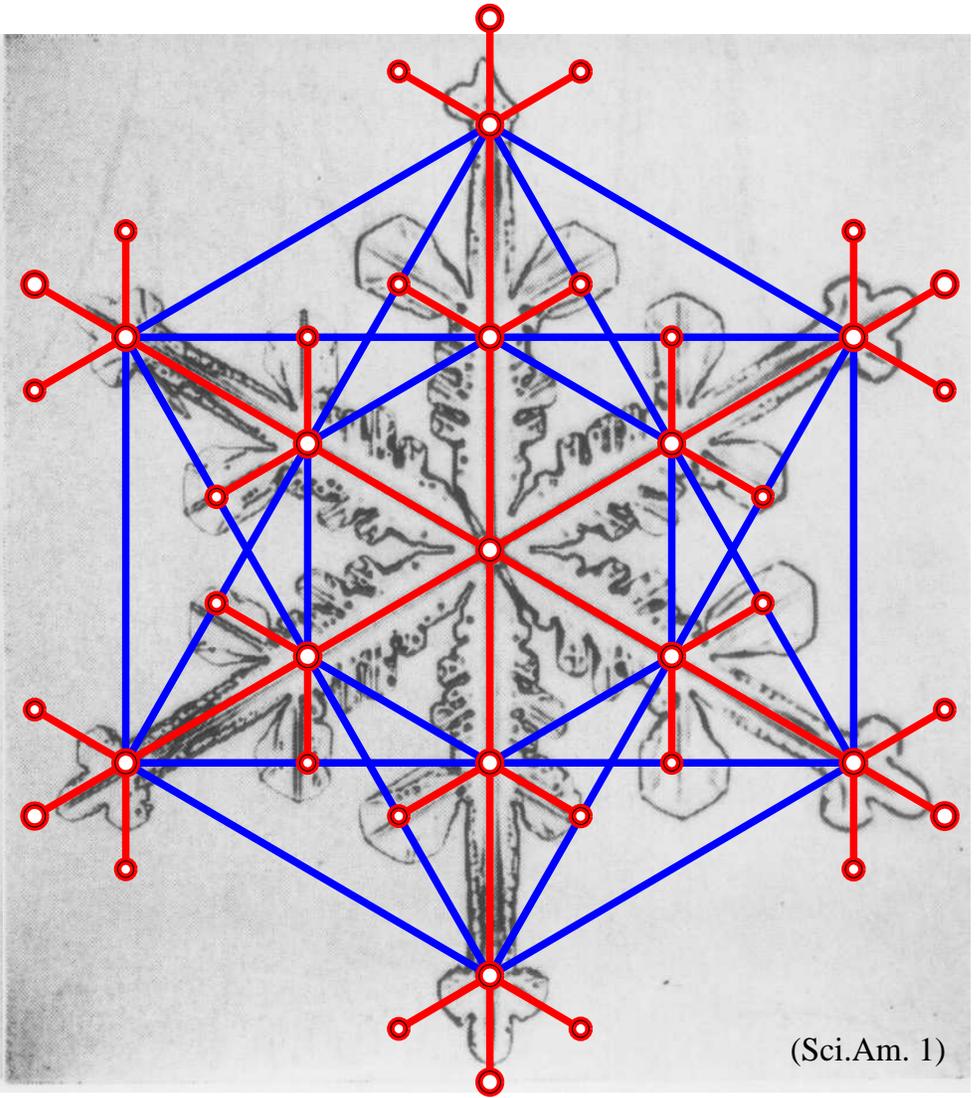
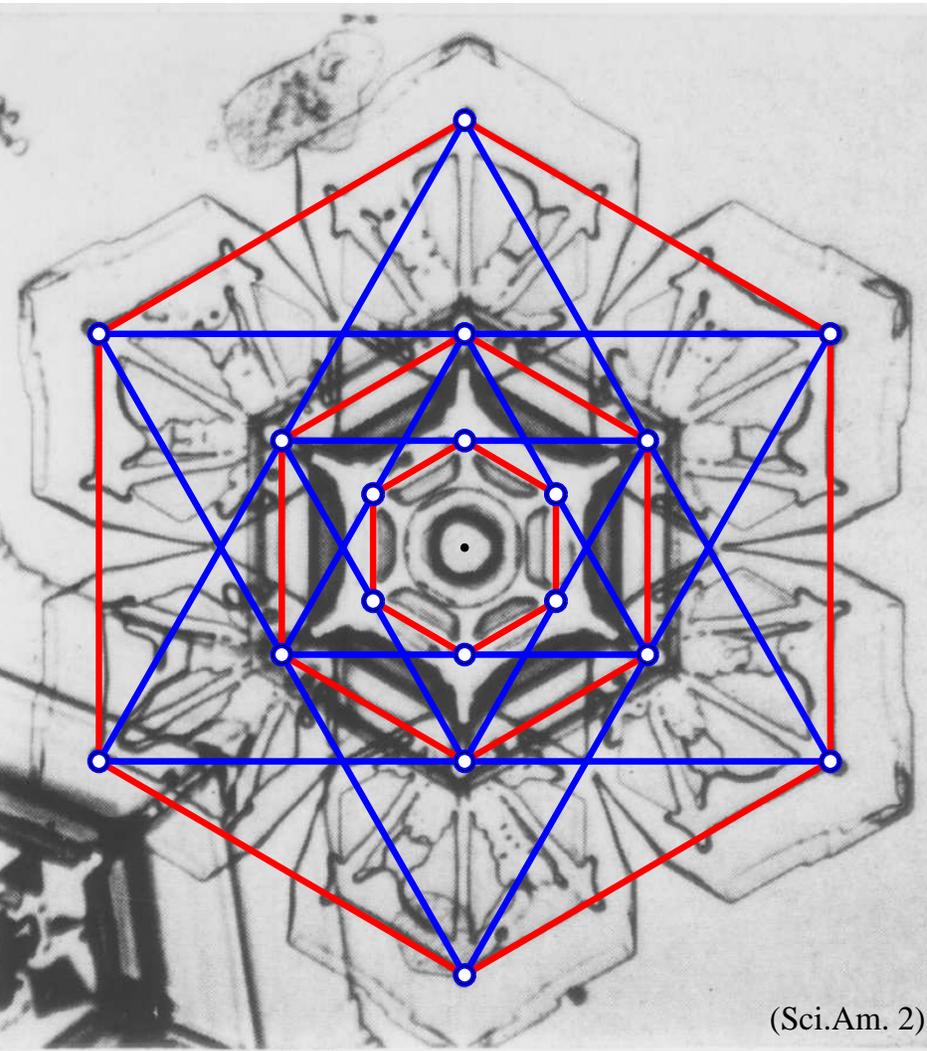
(Sci.Am. 2)

Dendritic-like snow flake

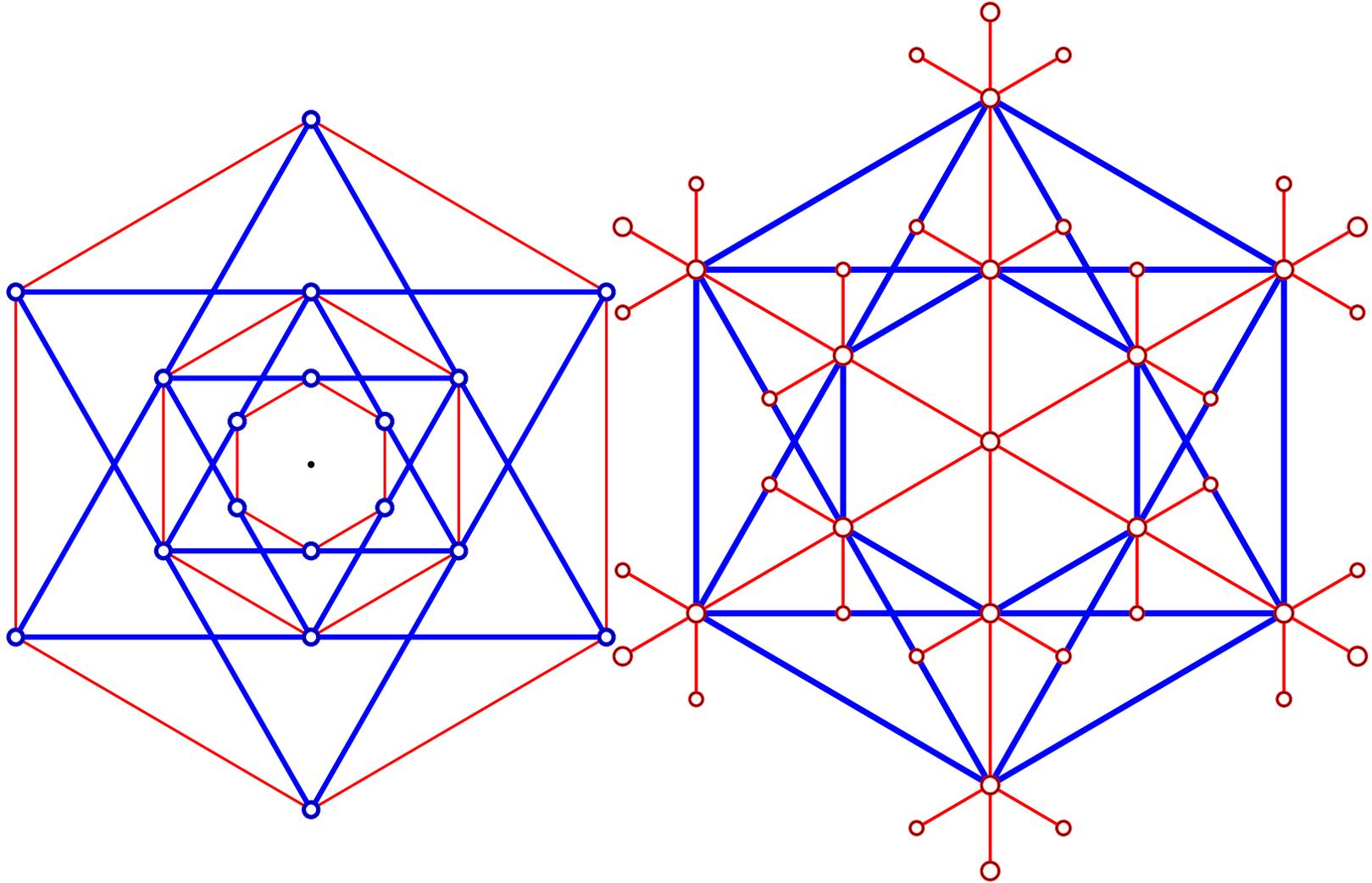


(Sci.Am. 1)

# Hexagrammal Scaling in Snow Crystals

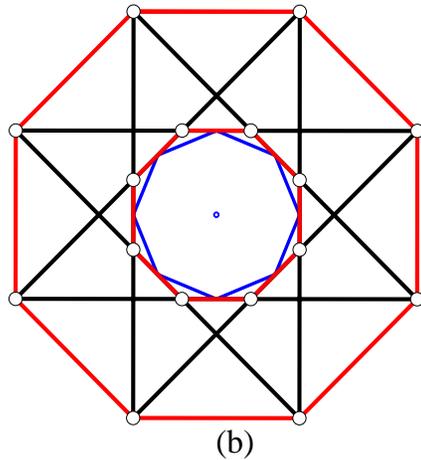
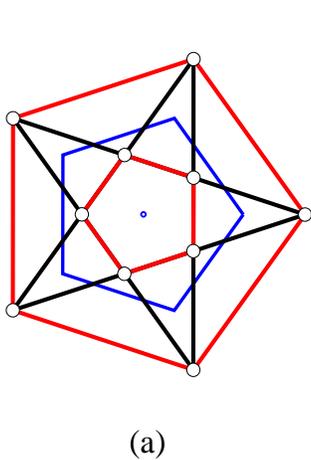


# Hexagrammal Scaling in Snow Crystals



# Polygrammal Symmetry from Higher-Dimensional Point Groups

Dimension  $n$ , Point group  $K$ , Order  $|K|$ , Generating point  $P$

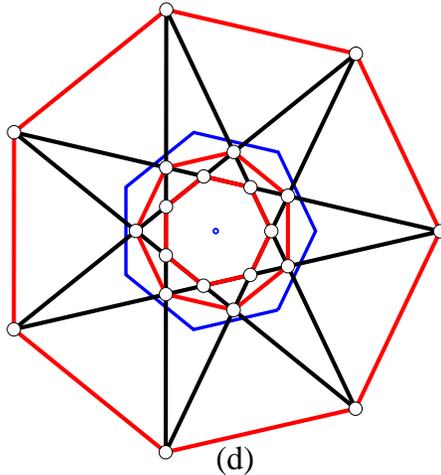
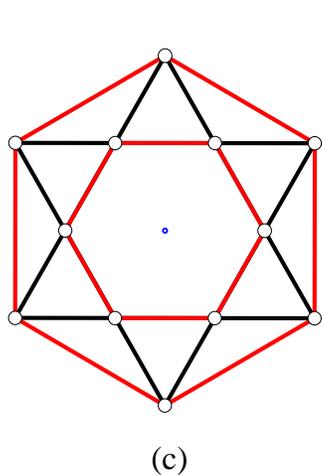


(a) **Pentagram**  $\{5/2\}$

$n = 4$ ,  $K \simeq 20.5$ ,  $|K| = 20$ ,  $P = [1100]$

(b) **Octagram**  $\{8/3\}$

$n = 4$ ,  $K \simeq 16.13$ ,  $|K| = 16$ ,  $P = [1100]$



(c) **Hexagram**  $\{6/3\}$

$n = 3$ ,  $K \simeq m\bar{3}m$ ,  $|K| = 48$ ,  $P = [1\bar{1}0]$

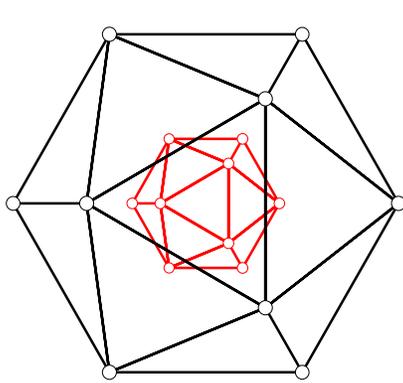
(d) **Heptagrams**  $\{7/2\}$ ,  $\{7/3\}$

$n = 6$ ,  $K \simeq \dots$ ,  $|K| = 21$ ,  $P = [111000]$

(20.5 and 16.13: BBNWZ, Crystallographic groups  
in four-dimensional space)

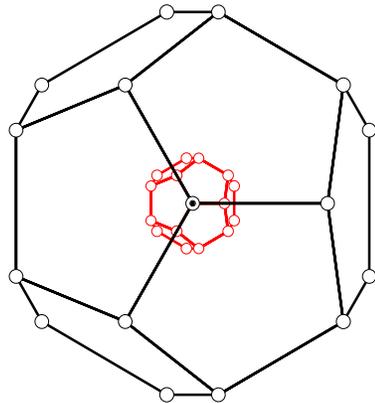
# Polyhedral Cluster Symmetry

6 Dim. Point group  $K = P2354$ , Order  $|K| = 240$ ,  $C_4$  extension of 235



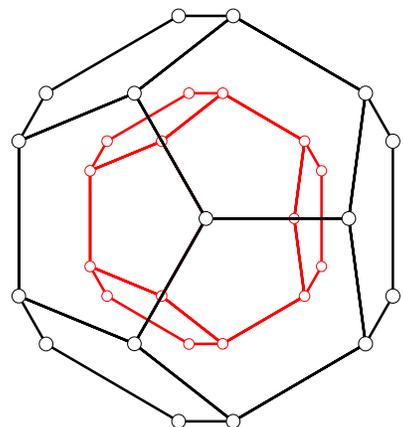
[1 1 1 1 1 1]

(a)



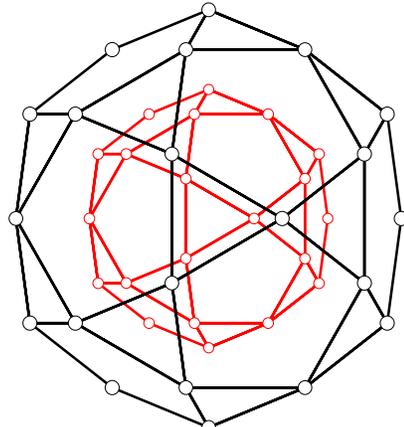
[1 1 1 0 0 0]

(b)



[1 1 1 1 1 -1]

(c)



[1 1 1 0 0 0]

(d)

235 Icosahedral group

(a)  $\tau^2$ -scaled Icosahedra

(b)  $\tau^3$ -scaled Dodecahedra

(c)  $\tau$ -scaled Dodecahedra

(d)  $\tau$ -scaled Icosidodecahedra

# Higher-Dimensional Crystallography

## Four-dimensional Point and Space groups

- Brown, Bülow, Neubüser, Wondratschek and Zassenhaus  
[Crystallographic groups in four-dimensional space](#)  
1978, Wiley, New York

## Computer Algebra Programs

### **GAP**

Groups, Algorithms and Programming

### **MAGMA**

W. Bosma and J. Cannon, Sidney

### **CARAT**

J. Opgenorth, W. Plesken and T. Schulz, Achen



1961 Battelle Memorial Institute Geneva, Carouge

Un système de translations non primitives pour une extension

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow G \rightarrow K \rightarrow 1$$

et un système de  $K$  à  $\mathbb{Z}^n$

$$(\varphi, m)$$

est un élément de

$$H_{\varphi}^1(K, \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n),$$

Pour  $\mathbb{Z}^n, K$  et  $\varphi$  données l'ensemble des extensions non-équivalentes constitue

$$H_{\varphi}^2(K, \mathbb{Z}^n),$$

l'ensemble des systèmes de translations non primitives forme ~~est~~

$$H_{\varphi}^1(K, \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n),$$

et ses deux groupes sont isomorphes. Par cet isomorphisme une extension avec

$$\forall \alpha, \beta \in K \quad m(\alpha, \beta) = 0$$

correspond un système de translations non-primitives de la forme

$$\alpha(x) = \alpha \circ x - x \quad \text{ou } x \in \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n,$$

Salutations amicales de

Edgar

## Cristallographie abélienne.

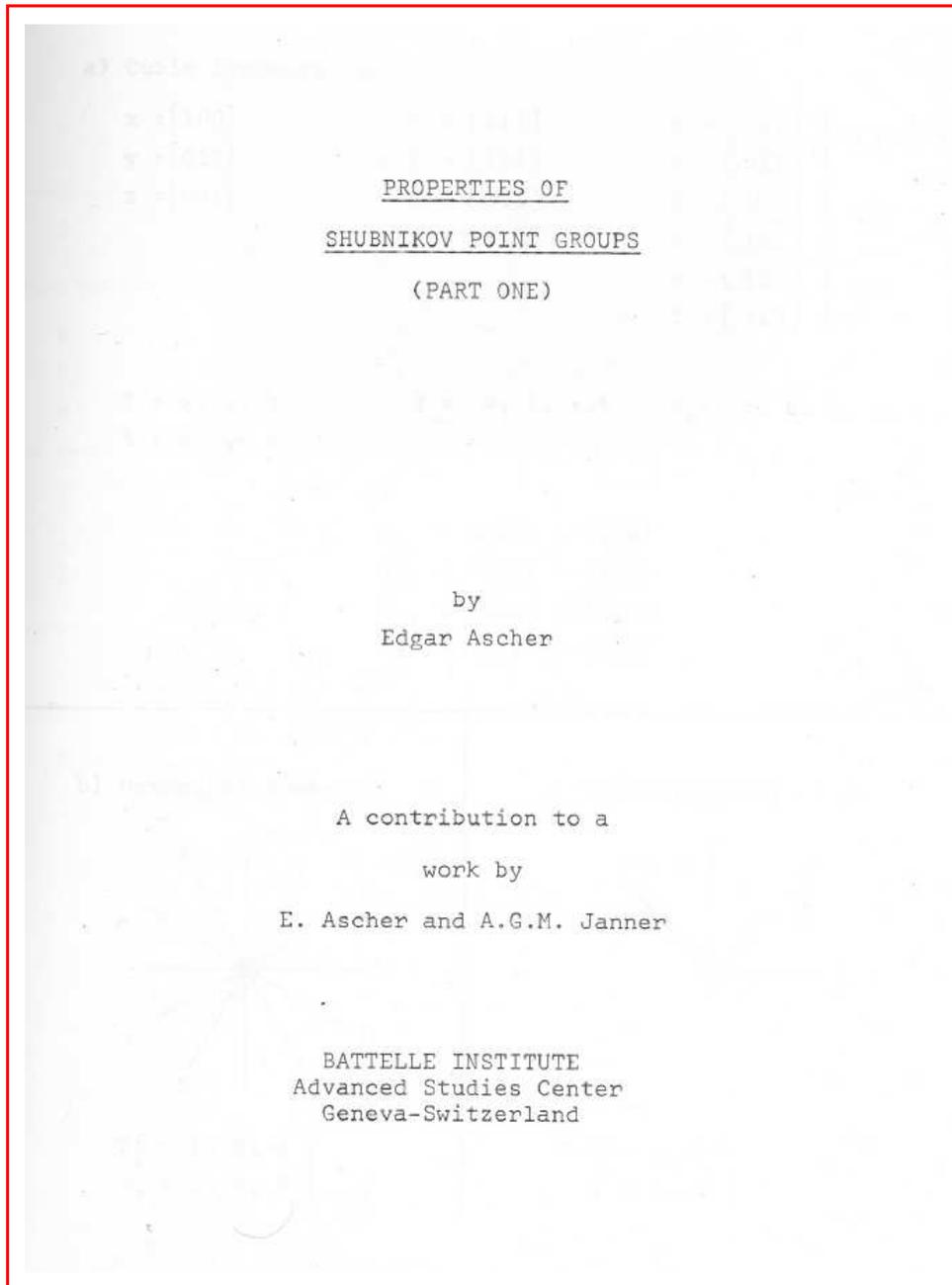
Je commence par la théorie non orientée. Un groupe d'espace (non orienté) est un groupe  $G$  qui possède au moins un sous-groupe  $U$  jouissant des propriétés suivantes:

- 1)  $U$  est abélien libre (de dimension  $n < \infty$ ).
- 2)  $U$  est abélien maximal.
- 3)  $U$  est normal dans  $G$ .
- 4)  $G/U$  est fini.

Théorème 1 Le sous-groupe  $U$  est normal abélien libre maximal, c'est-à-dire contient tout sous-groupe normal abélien libre de  $G$ .

Démonstration. Soit  $V$  un sous-groupe normal abélien libre de  $G$  et soit  $v$  un élément de  $V$ . Il faut démontrer que  $v$  est un élément de  $U$  ou encore puisque  $U$  est abélien maximal dans  $G$  que pour tout élément  $u$  de  $VU$ ,  $uv = vu$ . Soient donc  $u \in U$  et  $v \in V$  et appelons  $v^{-1}u^{-1}vu$   $w$ . Puisque  $G/U$  est fini, il existe un nombre  $k$  non nul dans  $U$ . On a  $u^{-1}vu = vw$ , donc  $(u^{-1}vu)^k = (vw)^k$ . Mais  $(u^{-1}vu)^k = u^{-1}v^k u = v^k$  puisque  $U$  est abélien. Finalement  $v^k = (vw)^k$ , mais  $v$  et  $vw = u^{-1}vu$  sont dans  $V$  (puisque  $V$  est normal) et  $V$  est abélien libre, donc  $v = vw$  et  $w = e$ ; donc  $v^{-1}u^{-1}vu = e$  ou  $vu = uv$ .

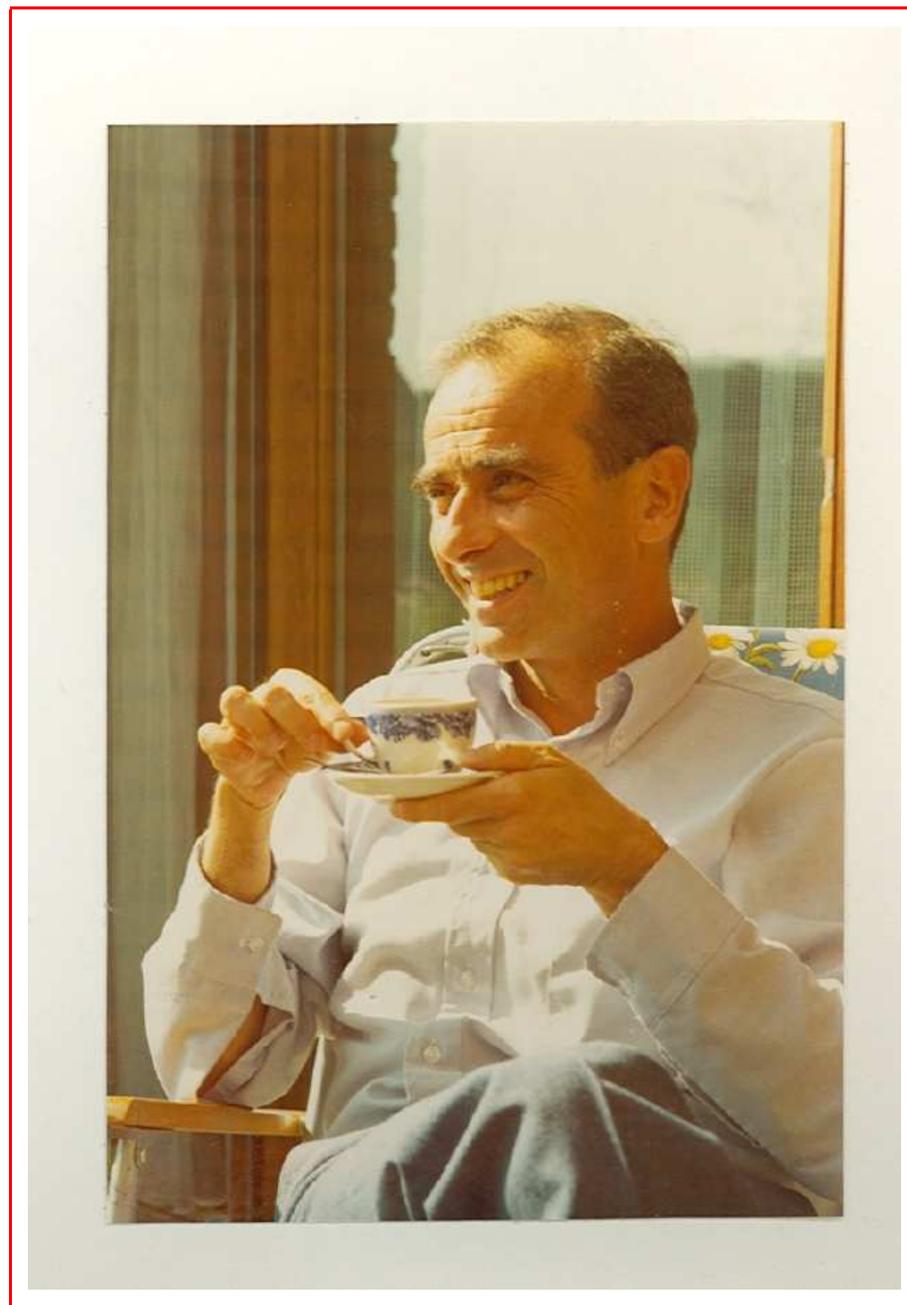
Corollaire 2 Le sous-groupe  $U$  est unique.



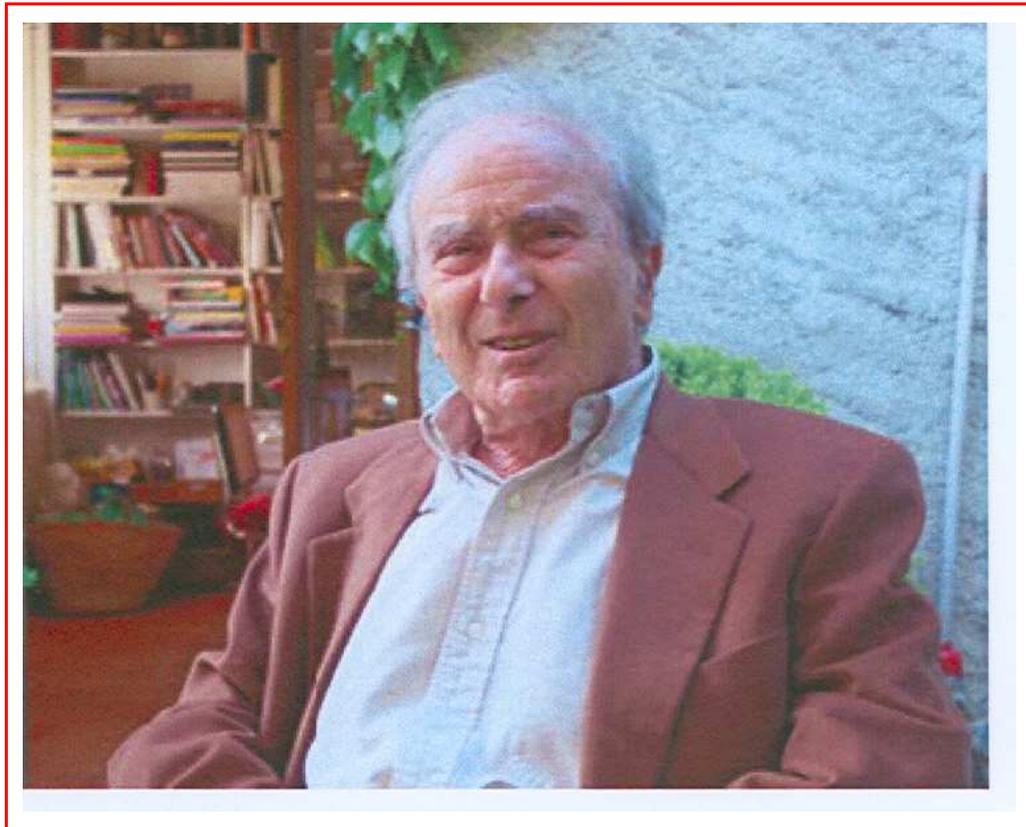
1965 Front page of a typical Battelle report



1971 Edgar and Corinna Ascher Nijmegen

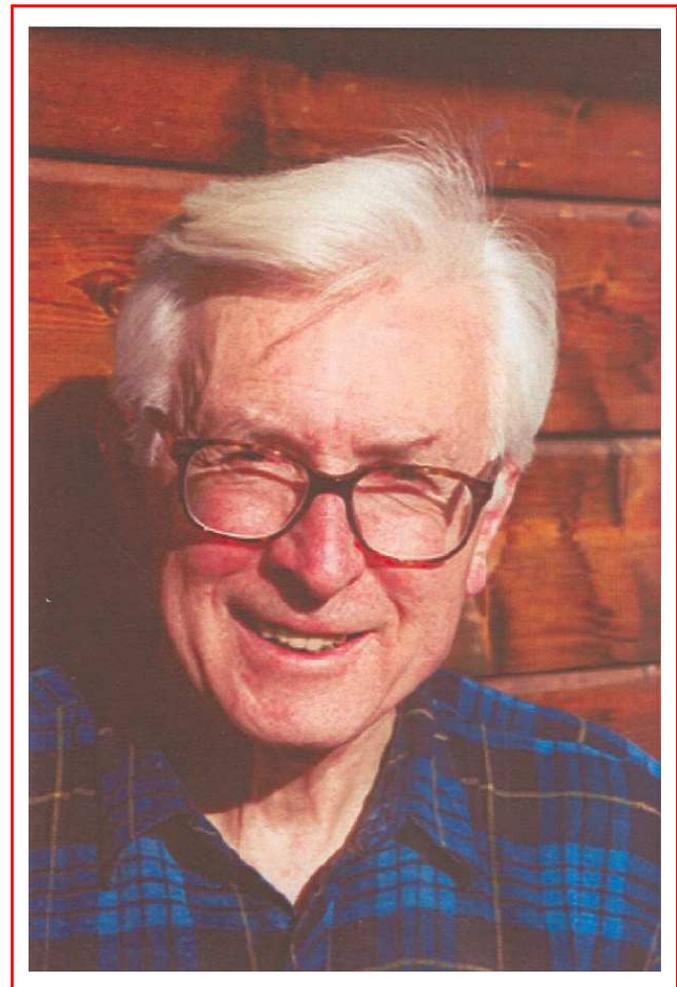


1973 Edgar Ascher



Edgar Ascher

2000



Hans Schmid