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# **supercell\_core Documentation**

***Release 0.0.2***

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## SUPERCELL\_CORE

## 1.1 supercell\_core package

## 1.1.1 Submodules

## 1.1.2 supercell\_core.atom module

```
class Atom(element: str, pos: Sequence[Union[int, float]], pos_unit: supercell_core.physics.Unit =
    <Unit.Angstrom: 1>, velocity: Optional[Sequence[Union[int, float]]] = None, spin: Sequence[Union[int, float]] = (0, 0, 0), selective_dynamics=(True, True, True))
```

Bases: `object`

Class representing an atom in a crystal lattice. This is a container class, and doesn't implement any methods except for basis change. Access its properties directly.

**element** [string] Symbol of the chemical element

**pos** [(float, float, float)] Position in a cell

**pos\_unit** [Unit] Unit of *pos* vector (Crystal or Angstrom)

**velocity** [(float, float, float), optional] Velocity in angstrom/fs. When read from / written to VASP POSCAR file this is the atoms' initial velocity

**spin**: (int, int, int) Magnetic moment of the atom. Usually you are interested in the z-component, i.e. spins are of the form (0, 0, int). Default: (0, 0, 0)

**selective\_dynamics**: (bool, bool, bool) Specifies whether the respective coordinates of the atom were / will be allowed to change during the ionic relaxation in VASP calculations

**basis\_change** (*M*: `numpy.ndarray`, *new\_unit*: `supercell_core.physics.Unit`) → `supercell_core.atom.Atom`

Creates new atom with values in different basis. Note: currently, this has no effect on the value of *spin* parameter!

#### Parameters

- **M** (`Matrix2x2`) – basis change matrix
- **new\_unit** (`Unit`) – unit of *pos* of the new atom

#### Returns

Return type `Atom`

**element**: `str`

**pos**: `Sequence[Union[int, float]]`

```
pos_unit: supercell_core.physics.Unit
selective_dynamics: Tuple[bool, bool, bool]
spin: Sequence[Union[int, float]]
velocity: Optional[Sequence[Union[int, float]]]
```

### 1.1.3 supercell\_core.calc module

Small utilities to help with various numeric calculations, especially with operations on arrays of matrices

**inv** (*m*: *numpy.ndarray*) → *numpy.ndarray*

Inverts 2x2 matrices. Why not use `np.linalg.inv`? To avoid `LinAlgError` when just one of the matrices is singular, and fill it with nans instead These are all 2x2 matrices so no harm in inverting them

**Parameters** *m* (*np.ndarray*, *shape* (... , 2, 2)) – Array of matrices

**Returns**

**Return type** *np.ndarray*

**matmul** (*m1*: *numpy.ndarray*, *m2*: *numpy.ndarray*) → *numpy.ndarray*

Calculates matrix multiplication of 2D matrices stored in arrays *m1* and *m2*

**Parameters**

- *m1* (*np.ndarray*, *shape* (... , 2, 2)) –
- *m2* (*np.ndarray*, *shape* (... , 2, 2)) –

**Returns**

**Return type** *np.ndarray*, *shape*(..., 2, 2)

**matnorm** (*m*: *numpy.ndarray*, *p*: *float*, *q*: *float*) → *numpy.ndarray*

Calculates  $L_{\{p, q\}}$  matrix norm for every 2D matrix in array *m*. This norm is defined as  $(\sum_j (\sum_i |m_{ij}|^p)^{q/p})^{1/q}$  [1]

**Parameters**

- *m* (*np.ndarray*, *shape* (... , 2, 2)) –
- *p* (*float* >= 1) –
- *q* (*float* >= 1) –

**Returns**

**Return type** *np.ndarray*

#### Notes

Useful norms for strain calculations: Frobenius norm: `ord_p = ord_q = 2` Absolute sum of elements: `ord_p = ord_q = 1`

## References

[1] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matrix\\_norm#L2,1\\_and\\_Lp,q\\_norms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matrix_norm#L2,1_and_Lp,q_norms)

**matvecmul** (*m*: *numpy.ndarray*, *v*: *numpy.ndarray*) → *numpy.ndarray*

Acts with 2D matrix *m* on 2D vectors stored in array *v*

### Parameters

- **m** (*np.ndarray*, *shape* (... , 2, 2)) –
- **v** (*np.ndarray*, *shape* (... , 2)) –

### Returns

**Return type** *np.ndarray*, *shape* = *v.shape*

**rotate** (*a*: *numpy.ndarray*, *theta*: *float*) → *numpy.ndarray*

Rotates vectors stored in 2D matrices columns in array *a* by angle *theta* counterclockwise

### Parameters

- **a** (*np.ndarray*) –
- **theta** (*float*) –

### Returns

**Return type** *np.ndarray*

**vecnorm** (*v*: *numpy.ndarray*, *q*: *float*) → *numpy.ndarray*

Calculates norm of every 2D vector in *v*

### Parameters

- **m** (*np.ndarray*, *shape* (... , 2)) –
- **q** (*float* >= 1) –

### Returns

**Return type** *np.ndarray*

## 1.1.4 supercell\_core.errors module

Contains custom Exceptions, Warnings, and their descriptions

**exception BadUnitError**

Bases: *Exception*

An exception thrown when specified unit can not be used in a given context

**exception LinearDependenceError**

Bases: *Exception*

An exception thrown when a set of linearly independent vectors is expected, but supplied values have a pair of linearly dependent vectors in them.

**exception ParseError**

Bases: *Exception*

An exception thrown when incorrect data are passed to parsing or reading functions

**exception UndefinedBehaviourError**Bases: `Exception`

An exception thrown when it's not clear what the user's intention was

**class WarningText (value)**Bases: `enum.Enum`

Enumeration that contains warning messages text

Warnings are logged when some function in the package was used in a way that suggests something is incorrect, but it's not clear, and calculation can be done anyway

**AtomOutsideElementaryCell** = 'Atom position specified outside the elementary cell'**ReassigningPartOfVector** = 'You reassign only a part of a vector, other elements of whi**UnknownChemicalElement** = 'Chemical element symbol not found in the periodic table'**ZComponentWhenNoZVector** = 'A z-component of a vector was specified, but only 2 vectors

### 1.1.5 supercell\_core.heterostructure module

**class Heterostructure**Bases: `object`

Class describing a system of a number of 2D crystals deposited on a substrate.

Elementary cell vectors of the substrate are hereafter described as `a_1` through `a_3`, of the 2D layers above as `b_i_1` through `b_i_3` (where `i` is layer number, counting from the substrate up, starting at 1), elementary cell of the whole system (where 2D layers have been changed due to strain) is called `heterostructure _supercell_` and its vectors are referred to as `c_1`, `c_2`, and `c_3`.

Do not confuse *Heterostructure* with a class representing heterostructure lattice. *Heterostructure* describes a collection of crystals that build up the structure; to obtain the crystal lattice resulting from joining these crystals you must first define a way in which these crystals come together (angles, etc. – use *opt* or *calc* methods to do this), and the resulting lattice will be available as *supercell* attribute of the *Result* class (see documentation of the relevant methods)

**add\_layer** (*layer*: `supercell_core.lattice.Lattice`, *pos*: `Optional[int] = None`, *theta*: `Union[int, float, Tuple[Union[int, float], Union[int, float], Union[int, float]]] = (0, 3.141592653589793, 0.0017453292519943296)`) → `supercell_core.heterostructure.Heterostructure`

Adds a 2D crystal to the system

**Parameters**

- **layer** (`Lattice`) – Lattice object describing elementary cell of the crystal to add to the system
- **pos** (`int`, *optional*) – Position of the layer in the stack, counting from the substrate up (first position is 0). If not specified, layer will be added at the top of the stack
- **theta** (*Angle or AngleRange, optional*) – If specified, supplied value of *theta* will be used in place of the default values in calculations such as *opt*. If a single angle is passed then the *theta* angle of that layer is fixed to that value. If an `AngleRange` (three floats) is passed then it is treated as a range of possible values for the *theta* value (start, stop, step). Unit: radians Default: (0, pi, 0.1 \* DEGREE)

**Returns** for chaining**Return type** `Heterostructure`



**add\_layers** (*layers*: *List[Union[supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice, Tuple[supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice, Union[int, float, Tuple[Union[int, float], Union[int, float], Union[int, float]]]]]]*) → *supercell\_core.heterostructure.Heterostructure*

Adds a lot of layers to the heterostructure at once

**Parameters** **layers** (*List[ Lattice, res.set\_vectors() or (Lattice, float), or (Lattice, (float, float, float)) ]*) – List of layers to add to the structure. If list element is a tuple, the second element serves the same way as *theta* parameter in *add\_layer*

**Returns** for chaining

**Return type** *Heterostructure*

**calc** (*M=((1, 0), (0, 1)), thetas=None, calc\_atoms=True*) → *supercell\_core.result.Result*

Calculates strain tensor and other properties of the system in given circumstances

!! See Notes for the definition of strain tensor used here.

**Parameters**

- **M** (*2x2 matrix*) – Base change matrix from the base of the supercell lattice elementary cell vectors to the base of the substrate elementary cell vectors (<c\_1, c\_2> -> <a\_1, a\_2>), or, in other words, c\_1 = M\_11 \* a\_1 + M\_21 \* a\_2, and c\_2 = M\_12 \* a\_1 + M\_22 \* a\_2.
- **thetas** (*List[Angle|None], optional*) – Required if *theta* parameter is not fixed for all the layers in the system. If specified, it will be zipped with the layers list (starting from the layer closest to the substrate), and then, if the value corresponding to a layer is not None then that layer's *theta* angle will be set to that value. Example:

```
>>> from supercell_core import *
>>> h = heterostructure()
>>> h.set_substrate(lattice())
>>> lay1, lay2, lay3 = lattice(), lattice(), lattice()
>>> h.add_layers([(lay1, 180 * DEGREE), lay2, lay3])
>>> h.calc(M=((1, 2), (3, 4)), thetas = [None,
→ 45 * DEGREE, 90 * DEGREE) # will be set to
→ (180, 45, 90) degrees for layers # (lay1,
→ lay2, lay3) repsectively
```

**Returns** Result object containing the results of the calculation. For more information see documentation of *Result*

**Return type** *Result*

## Notes

Let  $e_i$  be strain tensor of layer  $i$ . Let  $a_{i\_1}$  and  $a_{i\_2}$  be lattice vectors of layer  $i$  when not under strain. Then:  $\sum_{k=1}^2 (e_i + I)_j^k a_{i\_k} = a'_j$ , where  $a'_j$  is  $j$ -th lattice vector of  $a$  when embedded in the heterostructure.

This definition is different than the one given in [1]. To calculate strain tensor as defined in [1], use *wiki\_definition=True* in relevant *Result* methods.

## References

[1] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infinitesimal\\_strain\\_theory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infinitesimal_strain_theory)

**get\_layer** (*pos*: *int*) → Tuple[*supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice*, Tuple[Union[*int*, *float*], Union[*int*, *float*], Union[*int*, *float*]]]

Get Lattice object describing layer at position *pos* and information on preferred theta angles for that layer

**Parameters** *pos* (*int*) – Position of the layer in the stack, counting from the substrate up (first position is 0).

### Returns

- *Lattice* – Lattice object describing the layer
- (*float*, *float*, *float*) – (start, stop, step) (radians) – angles used in *calc* and *opt* If a specific angle is set, returned tuple is (angle, angle, 1.0)

**Raises** *IndexError* – If there’s less layers in the stack than *pos*

**layers** () → List[*supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice*]

Returns layers in the heterostructure

**Returns** List of layers on the substrate as Lattice objects

**Return type** List[*Lattice*]

**opt** (*max\_el*: *int* = 6, *thetas*: Optional[List[Optional[List[*float*]]]] = None, *algorithm*: *str* = 'fast', *log*: *bool* = False) → *supercell\_core.result.Result*

Minimises strain, and calculates its value. Note: definition of strain tensor used here is the same as in documentation of *Heterostructure.calc*

### Parameters

- **max\_el** (*int*, *optional*) – Defines maximum absolute value of the strain tensor element The opt calculation is  $O(\text{max\_el}^2)$ . Default: 6
- **thetas** (List[List[*float*] | None] | List[*float*], *optional*) – Allows to override thetas specified for the layers. If specified, it must be equal in length to the number of layers. For a given layer, the list represents values of theta to check. If None is passed instead of one of the inner lists, then default is not overridden. If there are only two layers, the argument can be passed just as a list of floats, without the need for nesting. All angles are in radians.
- **algorithm** (*str*, *optional*) – Default: “fast” Accepted values: “fast”, “direct”
- **log** (*bool*, *optional*) – Default: False If True, the Result will contain pandas.DataFrame in *log* attribute The resulting DataFrame will contain information on supercell for every combination of interlayer angles considered. Requires *pandas* extra dependency

**Returns** Result object containing the results of the optimisation. For more information see documentation of *Result*

**Return type** *Result*

**remove\_layer** (*pos*: *int*) → *supercell\_core.heterostructure.Heterostructure*

Removes layer in position *pos*

**Parameters** *pos* (*int*) – Position of the layer in the stack, counting from the substrate up (first position is 0).

### Returns

**Return type** *Heterostructure*

Raises **IndexError** – If there's less layers in the stack than *pos*

**set\_substrate** (*substrate*: `supercell_core.lattice.Lattice`) → `supercell_core.heterostructure.Heterostructure`  
 Defines substrate layer of the heterostructure

**Parameters** **substrate** (`Lattice`) – Lattice object describing elementary cell of the substrate on which 2D crystals will be laid down

**Returns** for chaining

**Return type** `Heterostructure`

**substrate** () → `supercell_core.lattice.Lattice`  
 Getter for the substrate of the heterostructure

**Returns**

**Return type** `Lattice`

Raises **AttributeError** – if substrate wasn't set yet

**heterostructure** () → `supercell_core.heterostructure.Heterostructure`  
 Creates a Heterostructure object

**Returns** a new Heterostructure object

**Return type** `Heterostructure`

### 1.1.6 supercell\_core.input\_parsers module

**eat\_line** (*s*: `List[str]`) → `List[str]`

**get\_line** (*s*: `List[str]`) → `str`

**iter\_magmom** (*magmom*: `str`)

**parse\_POSCAR** (*poscar*: `str`, *atomic\_species*: `Optional[List[str]] = None`, *magmom*: `Optional[str] = None`, *normalise\_positions*: `Optional[bool] = False`) → `supercell_core.lattice.Lattice`  
 Reads lattice data from a string, treating it as VASP POSCAR file Format documentation: <https://cms.mpi.univie.ac.at/wiki/index.php/POSCAR>

**Parameters**

- **poscar** (`str`) – Contents of the POSCAR file
- **atomic\_species** (`List[str]`) – Contains symbols of chemical elements in the same order as in POTCAR One symbol per atomic species Required if the POSCAR file does not specify the atomic species
- **magmom** (`str`, `optional`) – Contents of the MAGMOM line from INCAR file. Default: all spins set to zero
- **normalise\_positions** (`bool`, `optional`) – If True, atomic positions are moved to be within the elementary cell (preserving location of atoms in the whole crystal) Default: False

**Returns** object representing the same lattice as the VASP would-be input

**Return type** `Lattice`

**Raises**

- **IOError** – If something is wrong with I/O on the file

- **ParseError** – If supplied file is not a valid POSCAR, or if the arguments supplied cannot be reasonably paired with the input file in a way that makes a proper Lattice

**read\_POSCAR** (*filename: str, \*\*kwargs*) → *supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice*

Reads VASP input file “POSCAR”

**Parameters**

- **filename** (*str*) –
- **kwargs** – Passed on to *parse\_POSCAR*

**Returns** object representing the same lattice as the VASP input files

**Return type** *Lattice*

**Raises**

- **IOError** – If something is wrong with I/O on the file
- **ParseError** – If supplied file is not a valid POSCAR, or if the arguments supplied cannot be reasonably paired with the input file in a way that makes a proper Lattice

**read\_supercell\_in** (*filename: str*) → *supercell\_core.heterostructure.Heterostructure*

## 1.1.7 supercell\_core.lattice module

**class Lattice**

Bases: *object*

Object representing a 2D crystal lattice (or rather its unit cell)

Initially set with default values: no atoms, unit cell vectors equal to unit vectors (of length 1 angstrom each) along x, y, z axes.

Elementary cell vectors are here and elsewhere referred to as *b\_1*, *b\_2*, *b\_3*.

**add\_atom** (*element: str, pos: Sequence[Union[int, float]], spin: Sequence[Union[int, float]] = (0, 0, 0), unit: supercell\_core.physics.Unit = <Unit.Angstrom: 1>, normalise\_positions: bool = False*) → *supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice*

Adds a single atom to the unit cell of the lattice

**Parameters**

- **element** (*str*) – Symbol of the chemical element (does NOT accept full names) If unknown symbol is passed, warns the user and defaults to hydrogen
- **pos** (*2D or 3D vector*) – Position of the atom in the unit cell. If atomic position is not within the parallelepiped described by unit cell vectors, position is accepted but a warning is issued.
- **spin** (*3D vector, optional*) – Describes spin of the atom (*s\_x*, *s\_y*, *s\_z*), default: (0, 0, 0)
- **unit** (*Unit*) – Gives unit in which *pos* was given (must be either *Unit.Angstrom* or *Unit.Crystal*)
- **normalise\_positions** (*bool*) – If True, atomic positions are moved to be within the elementary cell (preserving location of atoms in the whole crystal) Default: False

**Returns** for chaining

**Return type** *Lattice*

**Warns `UserWarning`** – If an unknown chemical element symbol is passed as *element* If the atomic position is outside the elementary cell defined by lattice vectors, and *normalise\_positions* is `False`

**Raises `TypeError`** – If supplied arguments are of incorrect type

**`add_atoms`** (*atoms*: `List[supercell\_core.atom.Atom]`) → `supercell_core.lattice.Lattice`

Adds atoms listed in *atoms* to the unit cell

**Parameters** *atoms* (`List[Atom]`) – List of atoms to add to the lattice unit cell

**Returns** for chaining

**Return type** `Lattice`

**`atoms`** (*unit*: `supercell_core.physics.Unit = <Unit.Angstrom: 1>`) → `List[supercell\_core.atom.Atom]`

Lists atoms in the unit cell

**Parameters** *unit* (`Unit`) – Unit in which to return atomic positions

**Returns** List of atoms in an unit cell of the lattice

**Return type** `List[Atom]`

**`basis_change_matrix`** () → `numpy.ndarray`

Returns basis change matrix from basis of lattice vectors (Direct) to Cartesian basis.

**Returns**

**Return type** `np.ndarray`, shape (3,3)

**`draw`** (*ax*=`None`, *cell\_coords*=`None`, *scatter\_kwargs*=`None`, *border\_kwargs*=`None`)

Requires matplotlib. Creates an image of the lattice elementary cell as a matplotlib plot.

**Parameters**

- **`cell_coords`** (`List[Vector2D]`, *optional*) – Each point in *cell\_coords* is an offset in Lattice vector basis. For each of those offsets, all atoms in the cell will be drawn with their positions moved by this offset. Use integer values to get consistent drawings. Note: You can use things like `[(-0.5, -0.5),`

`(-0.5, 0.5), (0.5, -0.5), (0.5, 0.5)]` to get a picture of a translated elementary cell.

Default: `[(0, 0)]` (draws just one elementary cell)

- **`ax`** (`matplotlib axes.Axes object`, *optional*) – If given, will draw the elementary cell to *ax*

**Returns**

**Return type** `Figure`, `Axes`

## Notes

Resulting axes has points labeled; use `ax.legend(loc='best')` to turn on the legend.

**`rotate`** (*theta*: `float`)

Rotates the lattice around the origin.

**Parameters** *theta* (`float`) – Angle in radians

**Returns** for chaining

**Return type** `Lattice`

**save\_POSCAR** (*filename: Optional[str] = None, silent: bool = False*) → *supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice*

Saves lattice structure in VASP POSCAR file. Order of the atomic species is the same as order of their first occurrence in the list generated by *atoms* method of this object. This order is printed to stdout. If atoms have non-zero z-spins, the MAGMOM flag is also printed to stdout.

#### Parameters

- **filename** (*str, optional*) – if not provided, writes to stdout
- **silent** (*bool, default: False*) – if True, the atomic order and MAGMOM flag are not printed to stdout

**Returns** for chaining

**Return type** *Lattice*

**save\_xsf** (*filename: Optional[str] = None*) → *supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice*

Saves lattice structure in XCrysDen XSF file

**Parameters** **filename** (*str, optional*) – if not provided, writes to stdout

**Returns** for chaining

**Return type** *Lattice*

**set\_vectors** (*\*args: Sequence[Union[int, float]], atoms\_behaviour: Optional[supercell\_core.physics.Unit] = None*) → *supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice*

Sets (or changes) lattice vectors to given values

#### Parameters

- **args** (*2 2D vectors, or 3 3D vectors*) – Two or three vectors describing unit cell. Since this program is used to calculate values regarding 2D lattices, it is not necessary to specify z-component of the vectors. In that case, the z-component defaults to 0 for the first two vectors (unless it was set by previous invocation of *set\_vectors*; this issues a warning but works). All vectors must be the same length. Unit : angstrom (1e-10 m)
- **atoms\_behaviour** (*Unit, optional*) – Described how atomic positions of the atoms already added to the lattice should behave. They are treated as if they were specified with the unit *atomic\_behaviour*. This argument is optional if the lattice does not contain any atoms, otherwise necessary.

**Returns** for chaining

**Return type** *Lattice*

#### Raises

- **TypeError** – If supplied values don't match expected types
- **LinearDependenceError** – If supplied vectors are not linearly independent
- **UndefinedBehaviourError** – If trying to change unit cell vectors of a lattice that contains atoms, without specifying what to do with the atomic positions in the unit cell

**Warns** **UserWarning** – When unit cell vectors are reset in a way that disregards previous change of the values of z-component or the third vector (suggesting that user might not be aware that their values are not default)

**translate\_atoms** (*vec: Sequence[Union[int, float]], unit: supercell\_core.physics.Unit = <Unit.Angstrom: 1>*)

Moves all atoms in the unit cell by some vector *vec*

#### Parameters

- **vec** (*VectorLike*) – Translation vector. If len(vec) == 2, third argument is set to zero.

- **unit** (*Unit*, *optional*) – Unit of *vec*, by default: angstroms

**Returns**

**Return type** *None*

**vectors** () → List[numpy.ndarray]

Lists lattice vectors

**Returns** List of unit cell vectors (in angstrom)

**Return type** List[Vec3D]

**lattice** ()

Creates a Lattice object

**Returns** a new Lattice object

**Return type** *Lattice*

### 1.1.8 supercell\_core.physics module

This file contains names of various physical qties, objects, units etc. and their mapping to values used in the calculations

**class** *Unit* (*value*)

Bases: *enum.Enum*

Enumeration representing different ways in which lattice vectors and atomic positions can be specified

**Angstrom**

angstrom (1e-10 m)

**Crystal**

representation of vector in the base of elementary cell vectors of a given lattice

**Angstrom = 1**

**Crystal = 2**

**atomic\_number** (*element\_symbol: str*) → *int*

Inverse function of *element\_symbol* :param *element\_symbol*: must be a valid symbol of chemical element, can not be its full name :type *element\_symbol*: str

**Returns** atomic number of the element

**Return type** *int*

**Raises** *ValueError* or *TypeError* – If there is no chemical element with such symbol

**element\_symbol** (*atomic\_no: int*) → *str*

Returns symbol of a chemical element given its atomic number

**Parameters** *atomic\_no* (*int*) – atomic number of an element

**Returns** symbol of that element

**Return type** *str*

**Raises** *IndexError* or *TypeError* – If there is no chemical element with such atomic number

### 1.1.9 supercell\_core.result module

```
class Result (heterostructure: Heterostructure, superlattice: supercell_core.lattice.Lattice, thetas:
                List[Union[int, float]], strain_tensors: List[numpy.ndarray], strain_tensors_wiki:
                List[numpy.ndarray], ADt: numpy.ndarray, ABtrs: List[numpy.ndarray],
                atom_count=None)
Bases: object
```

A class containing results of supercell calculations.

#### Notes

Terminology:

**MN – basis change matrix from N to M**

(the order of the letters makes it easy to combine these:  $MM' @ M'N == MN$ )

$v_M$  – vector  $v$  (unit vector of basis  $V$ ) in basis  $M$   $v_Ms$  – an array of vectors  $v$  in basis  $M$   $stg\_lay$  – list of “stg” for each of the layers

$(len(stg\_lay) == len(self.layers()))$

$A$ ,  $a$  – basis of lattice vectors of the substrate  $B$ ,  $b$  – basis of lattice vectors of a given layer  $Br$ ,  $br$  – basis  $B$  rotated by  $\theta$  angle  $Btr$ ,  $btr$  – basis of lattice vectors of a given layer when embedded

in the heterostructure (rotated –  $r$ , and stretched due to strain –  $t$ )

**D, d – basis of vectors composed of integer linear combinations of** the  $B$  basis vectors

**Dt, dt – basis of vectors composed of the integer linear combinations** of the  $A$  basis vectors, represents possible supercell lattice vectors

**X, x – cartesian basis (unit vectors: (1 angstrom, 0), (0, 1 angstrom))**

Note that the vector space of all the mentioned objects is  $R^2$

**M()** → numpy.ndarray

Returns 2D matrix  $M$ :  $M @ (v \text{ in supercell basis}) = (v \text{ in substrate lattice basis})$ . In other words, matrix composed of superlattice vectors in substrate lattice basis. All matrix components are integers.

**Returns**

**Return type** Matrix2x2

**atom\_count()** → int

Returns number of atoms in the superlattice elementary cell

**Returns**

**Return type** int

**layer\_Ms()** → List[numpy.ndarray]

Returns list of matrices  $M_i$ :  $M_i @ (v \text{ in supercell basis}) = (v \text{ in basis of heterostructure layer no. } i \text{ when it is stretched due to strain})$ . In other words, list of matrices composed of superlattice vectors in stretched layers' lattice basis. All matrix components are integers.

**Returns**

**Return type** Matrix2x2

**max\_strain()**

Returns absolute maximum value of sum of strains on all layers.



**Returns****Return type** float**Notes**

The returned value is minimised in *Heterostructure.opt* calculations.

**strain\_tensors** (*wiki\_definition=False*) → List[numpy.ndarray]

Returns list of strain tensors for each of the heterostructure's layers.

**Parameters** **wiki\_definition** (*optional, bool*) – Default: False. If True, definition from [1] will be used instead of the default (see docs of *Heterostructure.calc* for details)

**Returns****Return type** List[Matrix2x2]**References**

[1] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infinitesimal\\_strain\\_theory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infinitesimal_strain_theory)

**superlattice** () → *supercell\_core.lattice.Lattice*

Returns a Lattice object representing supercell (elementary cell of the heterostructure)

**Returns****Return type** *Lattice*

**thetas** () → List[Union[int, float]]

Returns list of theta values corresponding to the layers in the heterostructure. (in radians)

**Returns****Return type** List[float]

## 1.1.10 Module contents

Top-level exported functions and classes:

```
>>> from .input_parsers import read_POSCAR, parse_POSCAR
>>> from .lattice import Atom, lattice, Lattice
>>> from .heterostructure import heterostructure, Heterostructure
>>> from .physics import VectorNumpy, VectorLike, Unit, DEGREE, PERIODIC_TABLE, \
>>>     element_symbol, Z_SPIN_DOWN, Z_SPIN_UP
```







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