

A GPU-accelerated open-source python package for calculating powder diffraction, small-angle- and total scattering with the Debye scattering equation.

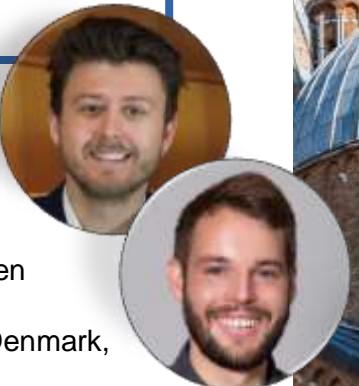
**Frederik Lizak Johansen<sup>1,2</sup>, Andy Sode Anker<sup>3,4</sup>,**  
**Ulrik Friis-Jensen<sup>1,2</sup>, Erik B. Dam<sup>2</sup>, Kirsten M.Ø. Jensen<sup>1</sup>**  
and Raghavendra Selvan<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Department of Energy Conversation and Storage, Technical University of Denmark,

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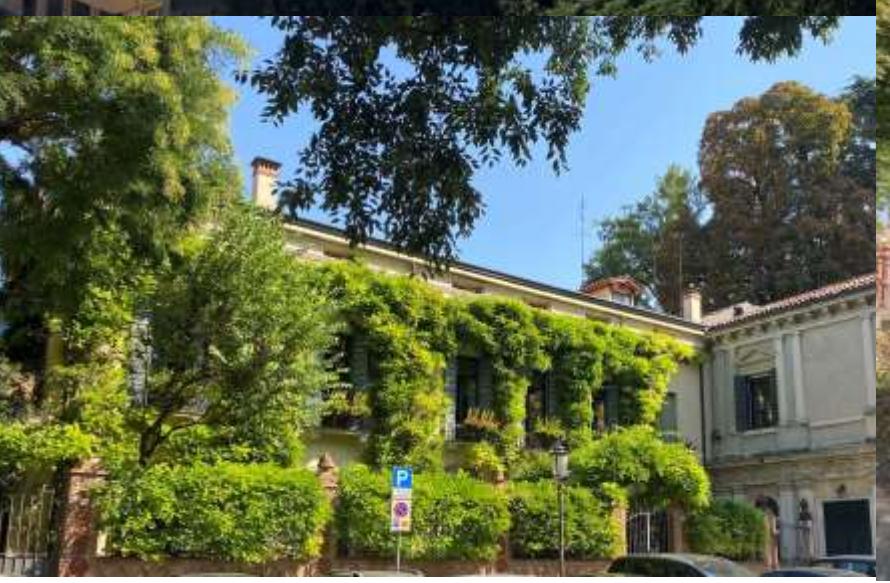
**Lachlan's  
Software  
Fayre**

@

 **epdic18**  
Padova, Italy  
30 August - 2 September 2024



The Basilica of St. Anthony, Padua, Italy



# Agenda for the talk

- 1) Brief reminder of what the Debye Scattering Equation is.
  - 2) The motivation behind developing ***DebyeCalculator*** and why we think it's a valuable tool.
  - 3) Explanation of what exactly "acceleration" means in this context.
  - 4) A look at the features and functionalities currently offered by ***DebyeCalculator***.
  - 5) Examples of how ***DebyeCalculator*** has been used in research settings.
  - 6) Is ***DebyeCalculator*** just a tool for analysis?
- 7) ***DebyeCalculator*** in Action -- Demo with Examples!

<15 min



# Brief overview of the Debye Scattering Equation

- **Context:** The equation is essential in fields where the precise understanding of atomic arrangements is crucial, particularly when traditional crystallography methods fall short due to lack of long-range order.
- **The equation** is used to calculate the intensity of scattered X-rays or neutrons from a material by taking into account the positions of all atoms in the material.

$$I_C(Q) = \sum_{\nu\mu} f_\nu(Q) f_\mu(Q) \frac{\sin(Qr_{\nu\mu})}{Qr_{\nu\mu}}$$

$$S(Q) = \frac{I_C(Q) - [\langle f(Q)^2 \rangle - \langle f(Q) \rangle^2]}{\langle f(Q) \rangle^2}.$$

$$F(Q) = Q(S(Q) - 1)$$

$$G(r) = \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right) \int_{Q_{\min}}^{Q_{\max}} F(Q) \sin(Qr) \, dQ$$

# Motivation behind *DebyeCalculator*

Thanks to Scardi and Wright for brilliantly motivating this in the opening of EPDIC18!



**Auto-differentiable**  
calculations

→ The use of the Debye  
Scattering Equation as  
"cost"-function in  
Machine Learning.

**In the end, our motivation became:** to democratize high-speed scattering calculations,  
enabling rapid, accessible, and scalable analysis of materials.

# What do we mean when we say “accelerated”?

→ We mean focusing the following key aspects:

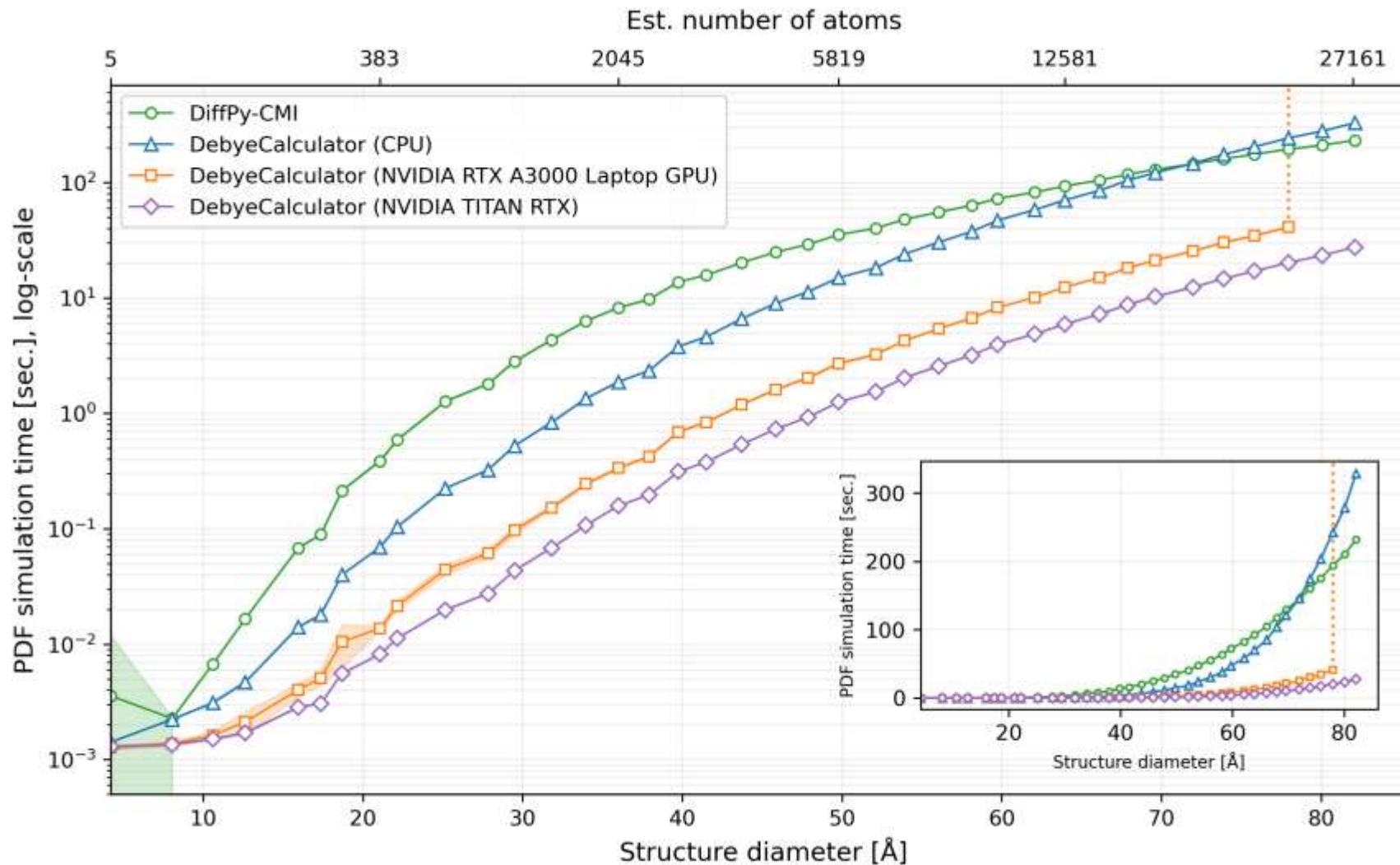
1. Pre-computations (FFP & TRI-U)
2. Vectorization of key operations (PyTorch)
3. Parallelism on GPU (CUDA)
4. Pseudo batching (Slicing and splitting)
5. Selective computation

$$I(Q) = \sum_i \sum_j \frac{f_i f_j \sin(Qr_{ij})}{Qr_{ij}}$$

```
dists = torch.norm(...)[*triu_indices].split(self.batch_size)
iq = torch.zeros(...).to(device=self.device)
sinc = torch.sinc(d[mask] * self.q / torch.pi)
```

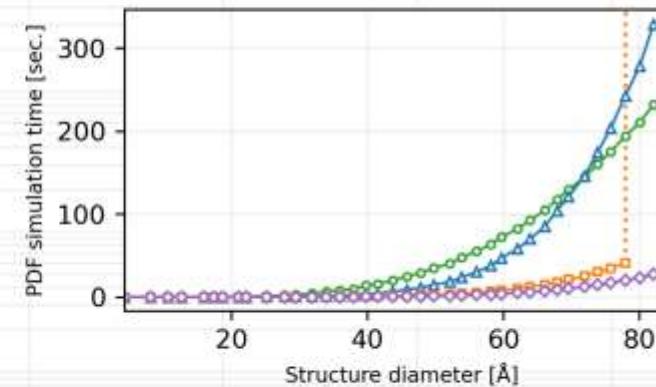
(FUTURE) Parallelism on cluster of nodes?

# What do we mean when we say “accelerated”?



- Pseudo batch size: 10,000
- 10 simulations per sample.

**NVIDIA RTX A3000 Laptop GPU, 6GB RAM:** ~5x speed-up compared to CPU.



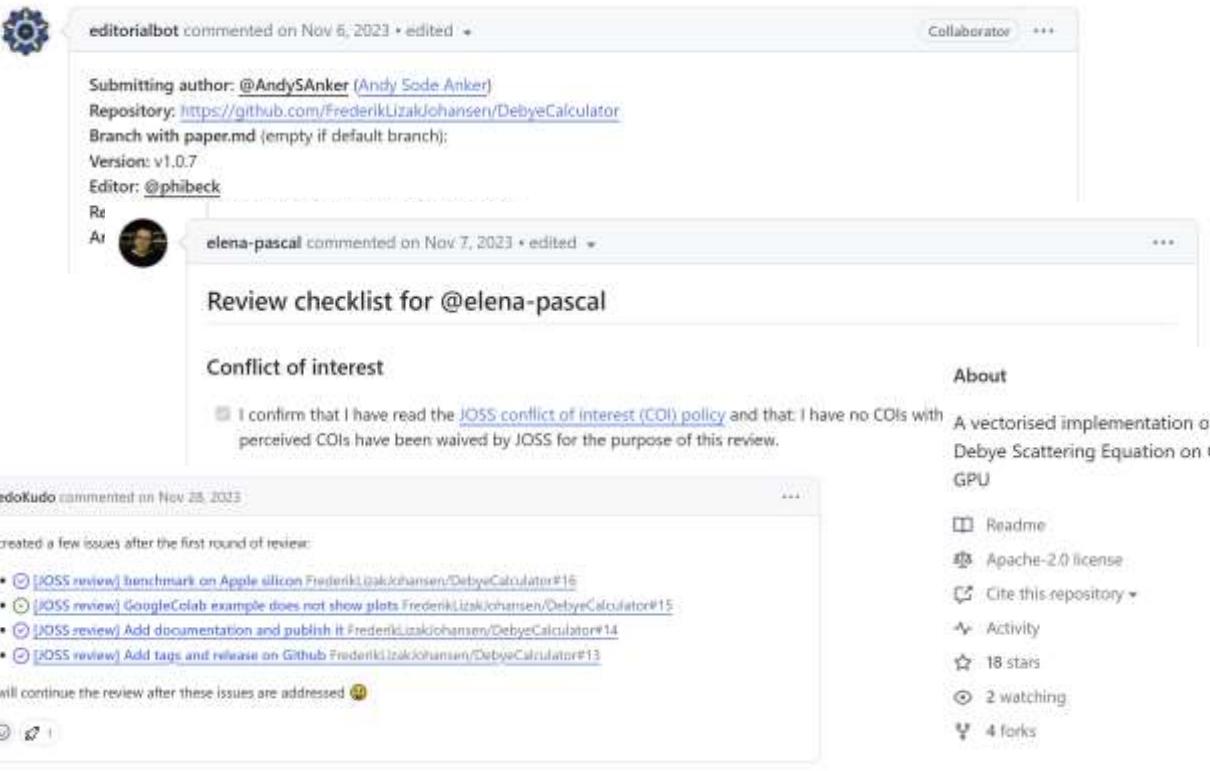
**NVIDIA TITAN RTX, 24GB RAM :** ~10x speed-up compared to CPU.

# Journal of Open Source Software

[REVIEW]: A GPU-Accelerated Open-Source Python Package for Calculating Powder Diffraction, Small-Angle-, and Total Scattering with the Debye Scattering Equation #6024

New Issue

 editorialbot opened this issue on Nov 6, 2023 · 74 comments



Submitting author: [@AndySAnker \(Andy Søde Anker\)](#)  
Repository: <https://github.com/FredrikLizakJohansen/DebyeCalculator>  
Branch with paper.md (empty if default branch):  
Version: v1.0.7  
Editor: [@phibeck](#)  
Re  
At  elena-pascal commented on Nov 7, 2023 · edited ·

Review checklist for @elena-pascal

Conflict of interest

I confirm that I have read the [JOSS conflict of interest \(COI\) policy](#) and that: I have no COIs with perceived COIs have been waived by JOSS for the purpose of this review.

KedoKudo commented on Nov 25, 2023

I created a few issues after the first round of review:

- [JOSS review] benchmark on Apple silicon [FredrikLizakJohansen/DebyeCalculator#16](#)
- [JOSS review] GoogleColab example does not show plots [FredrikLizakJohansen/DebyeCalculator#15](#)
- [JOSS review] Add documentation and publish it [FredrikLizakJohansen/DebyeCalculator#14](#)
- [JOSS review] Add tags and release on Github [FredrikLizakJohansen/DebyeCalculator#13](#)

I will continue the review after these issues are addressed [#44](#)

Collaborator 

DOI: [10.21105/joss.0803](https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.0803)

Software:

- Review ID
- Repository ID
- Archive ID

Editor: Sophie Beck  

Reviewers:

- @elena-pascal
- @phibeck
- @KedoKudo

Submitted: 08 October 2023  
Published: 20 February 2024

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About

A vectorised implementation of the Debye Scattering Equation on CPU and GPU

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 4 forks



The Journal of Open Source Software

A GPU-Accelerated Open-Source Python Package for Calculating Powder Diffraction, Small-Angle-, and Total Scattering with the Debye Scattering Equation

Fredrik L. Johansen , Andy S. Anker , Ulfrik Frits-Jensen , Erik B. Dam , Kirsten M. Ø. Jensen , and Raghavendra Selvan 

1 Department of Chemistry & Nano-Science Center, University of Copenhagen, Denmark 2 Department of Computer Science, University of Copenhagen, Denmark 3 Department of Energy Conversion and Storage, Technical University of Denmark, Denmark 4 Department of Chemistry, University of Oxford, United Kingdom \* Corresponding author \* These authors contributed equally

## Summary

The Debye scattering equation, derived in 1915 by Peter Debye, is used to calculate scattering intensities from atomic structures considering the position of each atom in the structure (Debye, 1915; Scott et al., 2014).

$$I(Q) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \sum_{\mu=1}^N b_\alpha b_\mu \frac{\sin(Qr_{\alpha\mu})}{Qr_{\alpha\mu}} \quad (1)$$

In this equation  $Q$  is the momentum transfer of the scattered radiation,  $N$  is the number of atoms in the structure, and  $r_{\alpha\mu}$  is the distance between atoms  $\alpha$  and  $\mu$ . For X-ray radiation, the atomic form factor,  $b$ , depends strongly on  $Q$  and is usually denoted as  $f(Q)$ , but for neutrons,  $b$  is independent of  $Q$  and referred to as the scattering length. The Debye scattering equation can be used to compute the scattering pattern of any atomic structure and is commonly used to study both crystalline and non-crystalline materials with a range of scattering techniques like powder diffraction (PD), total scattering (TS) with pair distribution function (PDF) analysis, and small-angle scattering (SAS) (Scott et al., 2014). Although the Debye scattering equation is extremely versatile, the computation of the double sum, which scales  $O(N^2)$ , has limited the practical use of the equation.

With the advancement in computer hardware (Schäfer, 1997), analysis of larger structures is now feasible using the Debye scattering equation. Modern central processing units (CPUs), ranging from tens to hundreds of cores offer an opportunity for parallel computations, significantly enhancing compute efficiency. The same goes for graphics processing units (GPUs), which are designed with multiple cores acting as individual accelerated processing units that can work on different tasks simultaneously. In contrast, CPUs usually have fewer cores optimised for more general-purpose computing. This means that a GPU can execute multiple single instructions in parallel, while a CPU might handle fewer parallel tasks (Garcia et al., 2020). Therefore, GPUs are better suited for calculations such as the Debye scattering equation, where many computations can be performed simultaneously. Taking advantage of such GPU acceleration could yield computational speeds that surpass those of even the most advanced multi-core CPUs, by orders of magnitude. We introduce a GPU-accelerated open-source Python package, named `DebyeCalculator`, for rapid calculation of the Debye scattering equation from chemical structures represented as .xyz or .cif files. The xyz format is commonly used in materials chemistry for the description of discrete particles and simply

Johansen et al. (2024). A GPU-Accelerated Open-Source Python Package for Calculating Powder Diffraction, Small-Angle-, and Total Scattering: 1 with the Debye Scattering Equation. *Journal of Open Source Software*, 9(94), 6024. <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.0803>

# Installation is easy

## Prerequisites

`DebyeCalculator` requires Python version  $\geq 3.7, < 3.12$ . If needed, create an environment with any of these Python versions:

```
conda create -n debyecalculator_env python=3.9
```



```
conda activate debyecalculator_env
```



Before installing the `DebyeCalculator` package, ensure that you have PyTorch installed. Follow the instructions on the official PyTorch website to install the appropriate version for your system: [PyTorch Installation Guide](#).

**NOTE:** Installing an [earlier version](#) of PyTorch ( $\leq 1.13.1$ ) will be necessary if you're running Python 3.7, since the latest PyTorch version requires Python 3.8 or higher.

# Installation is easy



PyTorch Build

Stable (2.4.0) Preview (Nightly)

Your OS

Linux Mac Windows

Package

Conda Pip LibTorch Source

Language

Python C++ / Java

Compute Platform

CUDA 11.8 CUDA 12.1 CUDA 12.4 ROCm 6.1 CPU

Run this Command:

```
pip3 install torch torchvision torchaudio --index-url https://download.pytorch.org/whl/cu124
```

# Installation is easy

## Install with pip

Run the following command to install the **DebyeCalculator** package. (Requires: Python >=3.7, <3.12)

```
pip install debyecalculator
```



## Install locally

Clone the repo

```
git clone https://github.com/FrederikLizakJohansen/DebyeCalculator.git
```

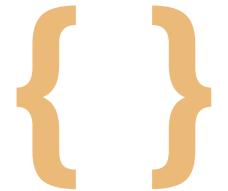


Run the following command to install the **DebyeCalculator** package. (Requires: Python >=3.7, <3.12)

```
python -m pip install .
```



# Features and functionalities



To start using *DebyeCalculator*, all it takes is a single **import statement**:

```
from debyecalculator import DebyeCalculator

# Create an instance 'calc' of DebyeCalculator
calc = DebyeCalculator(
    qmin=0.0,          # Minimum Q value (1/Å).
    qmax=30.0,         # Maximum Q value (1/Å).
    qstep=0.1,         # Step size for Q (1/Å), Nyquist-sampled by default.
    qdamp=0.0,         # Dampening factor.

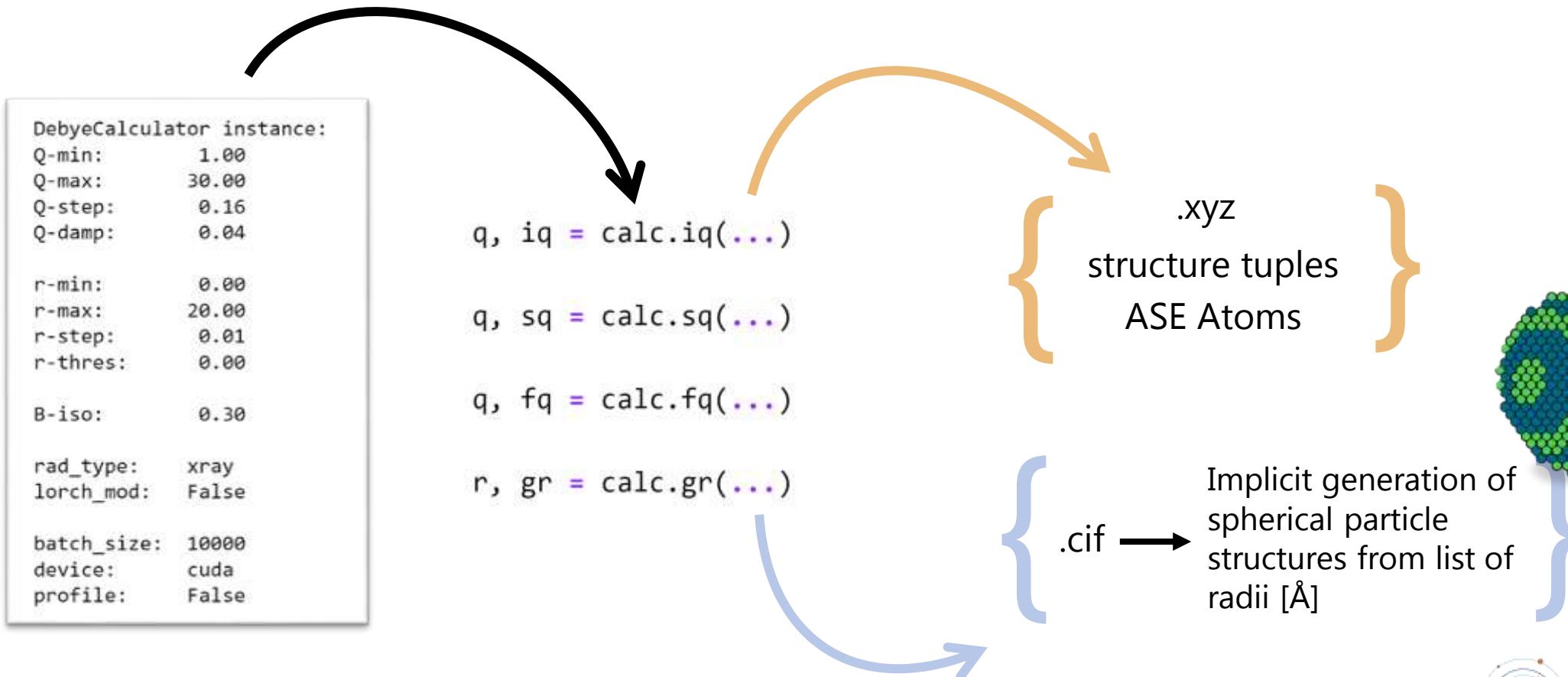
    rmin=0.0,          # Minimum R value (Å).
    rmax=20.0,         # Maximum R value (Å).
    rstep=0.01,        # Step size for R (Å).
    rthres=0.0,        # Lower threshold for radial distance (Å) in G(r) calculations.

    biso=0.0,          # Isotropic atomic displacement factor (Debye-Waller factor).
    device='cuda',     # Compute on 'cuda' for GPU or 'cpu' for CPU.
    batch_size=None,   # Batch size for pairwise distance calculations (auto-determined if not set).
    lorch_mod=False,   # Apply Lorch modification factor in G(r) calculations.
    rad_type='xray',   # Type of radiation for scattering: 'xray'/'x' or 'neutron'/'n'.
    profile=False,     # Enable profiling for performance analysis.
)
```

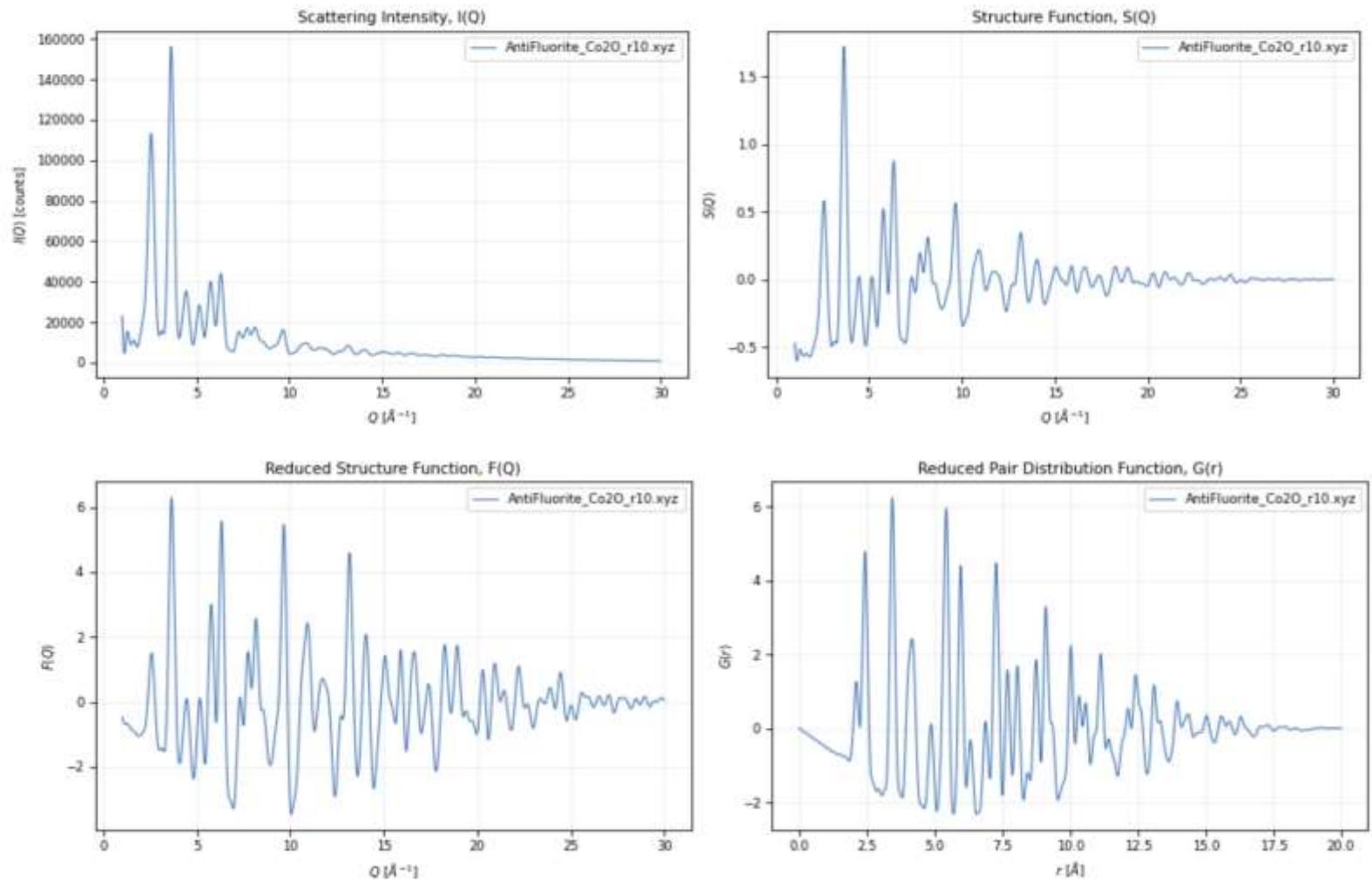
- Set class parameters based on given input or defaults
- Setup scattering parameters (e.g., Q-values, r-values) and hardware parameters
- Load atomic form factor coefficients
- Setup form factor calculation based on radiation type

# Features and functionalities: Basics

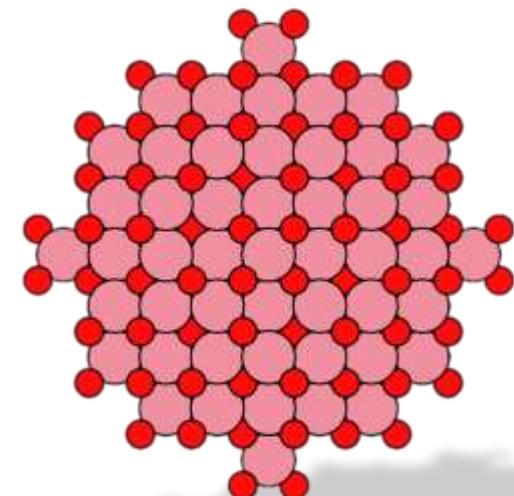
Sequential calculations of scattering for one or more structures at a time.



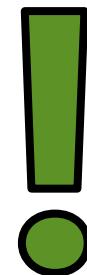
# Features and functionalities: Basics



AntiFluorite  $\text{Co}_2\text{O}$



# Features and functionalities: Partial Scattering

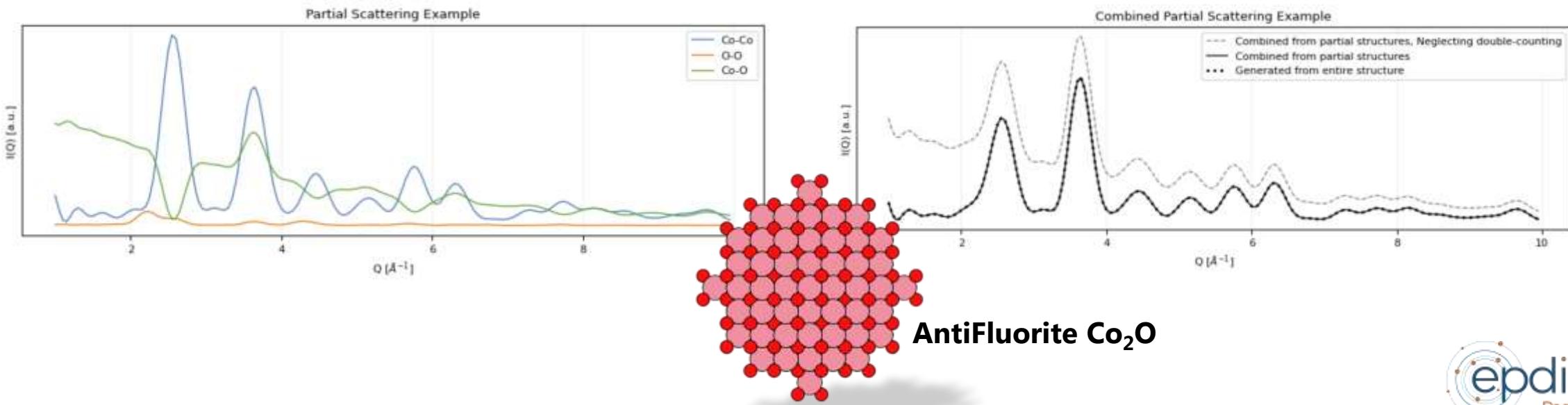


$$I(Q) = \sum_i \sum_j \frac{f_i f_j \sin(Qr_{ij})}{Qr_{ij}}$$

DebyeCalculator allows user to extract the partial scattering of specific pairs of atomic species within structures.

```
q, iq_XX = calc.iq("path/to/nanoparticle.xyz", partial = "X-X")
q, iq YY = calc.iq("path/to/nanoparticle.xyz", partial = "Y-Y")
q, iq XY = calc.iq("path/to/nanoparticle.xyz", partial = "X-Y", include_self_scattering = False)
```

(\*) Note! that to combine signals from partial scattering, you risk double-counting some of the interactions between atoms -- so be careful!



# Features and functionalities: Interact-Mode



The figure shows the Scattering Options interface with several sections:

- Radiation type:** Buttons for "x-ray" (selected) and "neutron".
- Scattering parameters:**
  - $Q_{\min} - Q_{\max} (\text{\AA}^{-1})$ : A slider from 1.00 to 30.00.
  - $\Delta Q = Q_{\max} - Q_{\min} (\text{\AA}^{-1})$ : A slider from 0.00 to 20.00.
  - $Q_{\text{step}} (\text{\AA}^{-1})$ : Input field 0.05.
  - $r_{\text{step}} (\text{\AA})$ : Input field 0.01.
  - $Q_{\text{cutoff}} (\text{\AA}^{-1})$ : Input field 0.04.
  - $r_{\text{cutoff}} (\text{\AA})$ : Input field 0.
  - $\text{global } B_{\text{inc}} (\text{\AA}^2)$ : Input field 0.3.
- Lorch modification (OFF):** A button.
- Scattering presets:**
  - Small Angle Scattering preset
  - Powder Diffraction preset
  - Total Scattering preset
  - Reset scattering options
- Plot buttons:**
  - Plot data
  - Download data
- File Selection, Plotting Options, Hardware Options tabs.**
- I(Q) y-axis scaling:** Buttons for "linear" (selected) and "equilibrium".
- Show/Hide plots:**
  - $I(Q)$
  - $S(Q)$
  - $F(Q)$
  - $G(r)$
- Max-normalize plots:**
  - $I(Q)$
  - $S(Q)$
  - $F(Q)$
  - $G(r)$
- Plot buttons:**
  - Plot data
  - Download data
- Choose hardware:** Buttons for "cpu" (selected) and "cuda".
- Distance-matrix batch-size:** Input field 10000.
- Plot buttons:**
  - Plot data
  - Download data

# Features and functionalities: Developer-tool(s)

*DebyeCalculator* comes shipped with a **local profiler class**, that can be activated (and changed in the code) to profile different parts of the code.



```
calc = DebyeCalculator(profile=True, device='cuda', batch_size=10_000)

for _ in range(1_000):
    output = calc.gr(structure_path, radii = 10.0)

print(calc.profiler.summary(prefix="Timing per PDF generation:\n"))
```

As simple as:

```
if self.profile:
    self.profiler.time('G(r)')
```

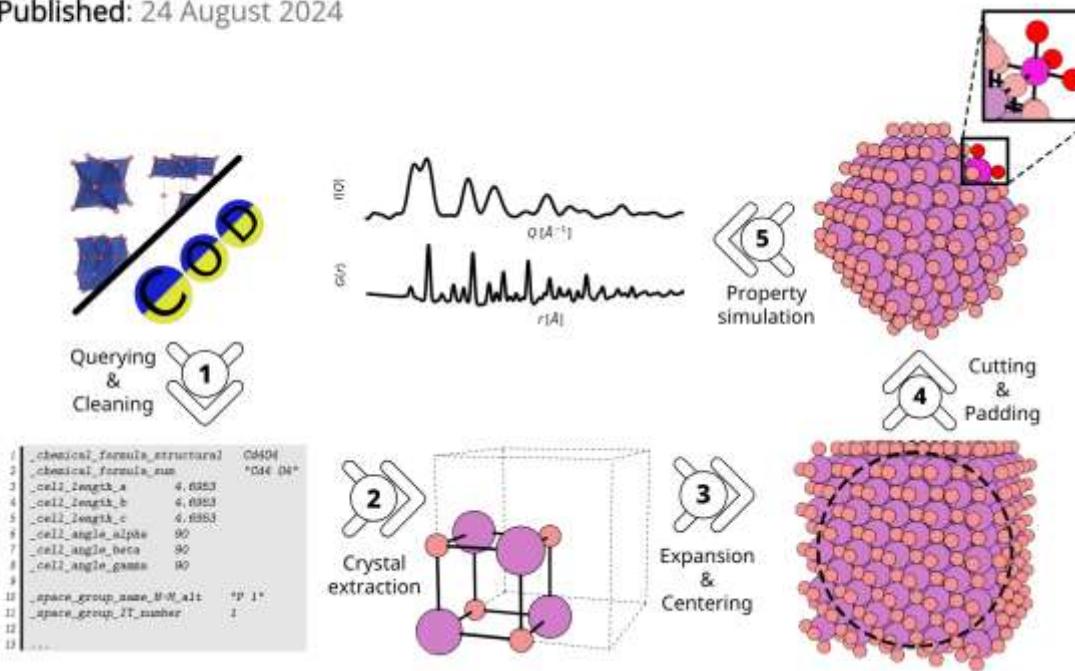
# DebyeCalculator in research:



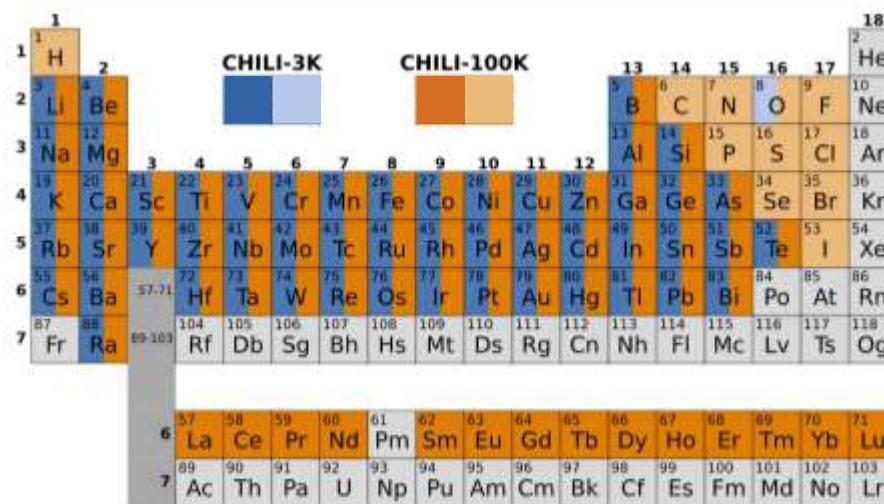
## CHILI: Chemically-Informed Large-scale Inorganic Nanomaterials Dataset for Advancing Graph Machine Learning

Authors: [Ulrik Friis-Jensen](#), [Frederik L. Johansen](#), [Andy S. Anker](#), [Erik B. Dam](#), [Kirsten M. Ø. Jensen](#), [Raghavendra Selvan](#)

Published: 24 August 2024



Dataset	# of graphs	# of nodes	# of edges	Generation time
CHILI-3K	3,180	6,959,085	49,624,440	02h51m29s
CHILI-100K	104,408	183,398,463	1,251,841,365	68h25m12s



<https://doi.org/10.1145/3637528.3671538>

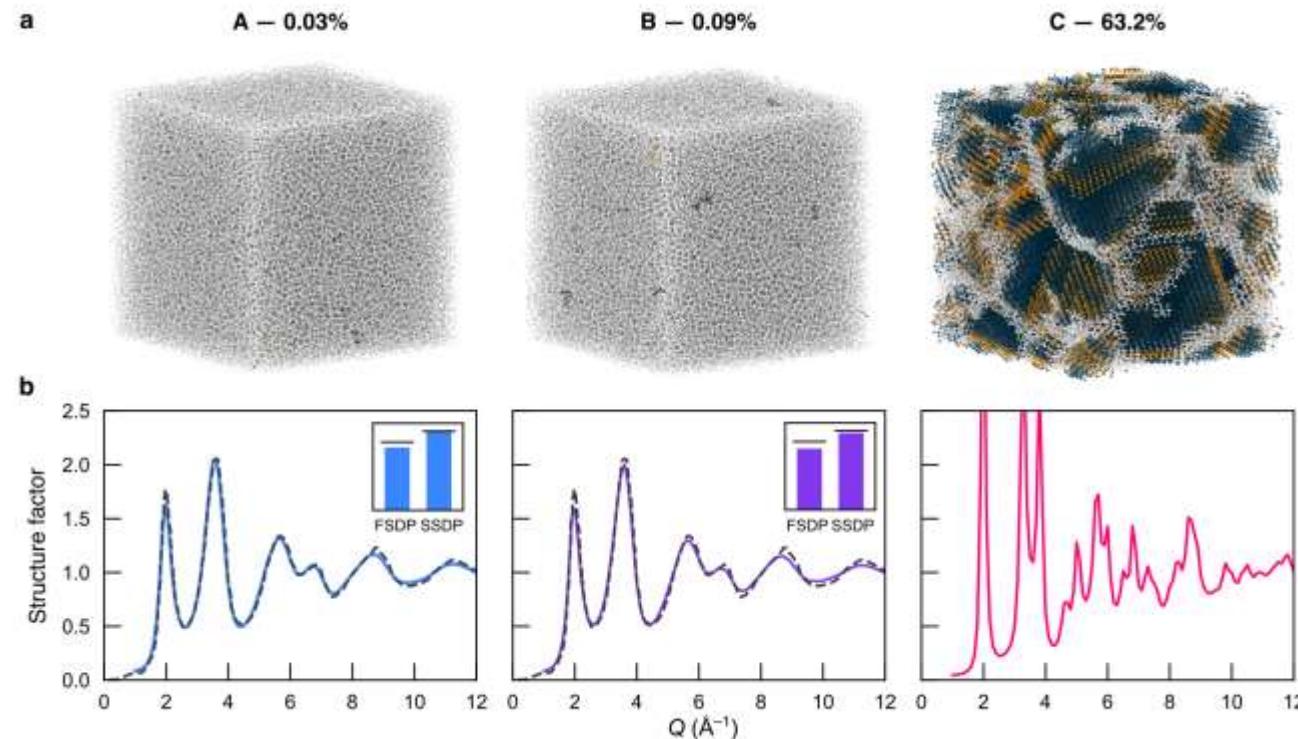


# DebyeCalculator in research:

[Submitted on 23 Jul 2024]

## Signatures of paracrystallinity in amorphous silicon

Louise A. M. Rosset, David A. Drabold, Volker L. Deringer



**Figure 4:** Three a-Si structural models of 100,000 atoms with increasing paracrystallinity. The first model, labeled **A**, is taken from Ref. 4, while the other two were generated as part of the present study by melt-quenching at  $10^{11}$  K/s (**B**) and  $10^{10}$  K/s (**C**), respectively. (a) Structure visualizations color-coded by PTM as in Fig. 1. (b) Computed structure factor for each structure, using the DEBYECALCULATOR package.<sup>44</sup> Black dashed lines indicate the experimental data from Ref. 36. Insets show the agreement of the predicted first and second sharp diffraction peaks (bars) with experimental data from Ref. 36 (black lines).

<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2407.16681>

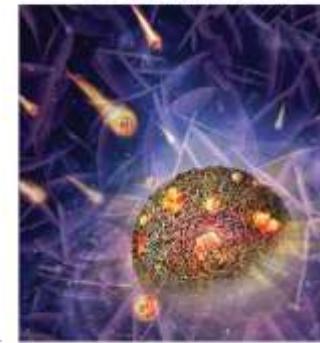
# DebyeCalculator in research:

ARTICLE | August 16, 2024

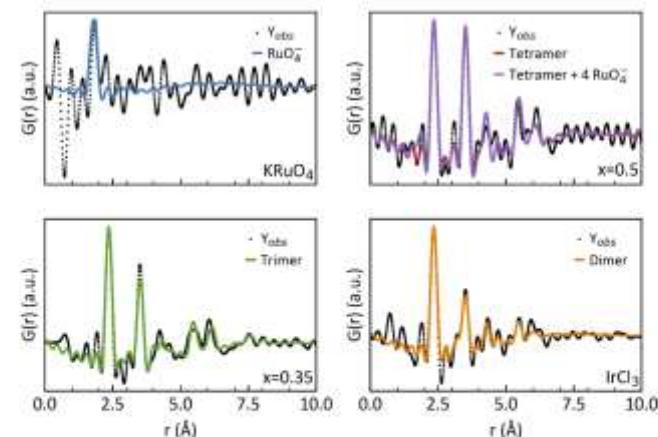
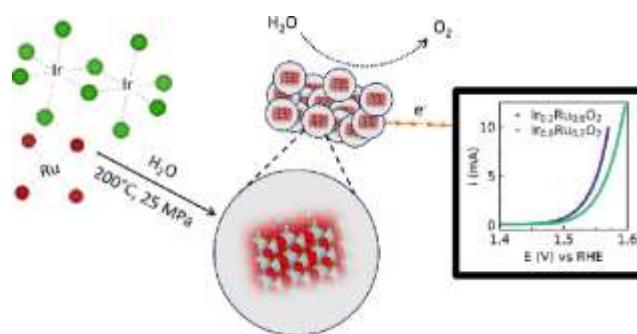
## Formation Mechanism and Hydrothermal Synthesis of Highly Active $\text{Ir}_{1-x}\text{Ru}_x\text{O}_2$ Nanoparticles for the Oxygen Evolution Reaction

Andreas Dueholm Bertelsen, Magnus Kløve, Nils Lau Nyborg Broge, Martin Bondesgaard, Rasmus Baden Stubkjær, Ann-Christin Dippel, Qinyu Li, Richard Tilley, Mads Ry Vogel Jørgensen, and Bo Brummerstedt Iversen\*

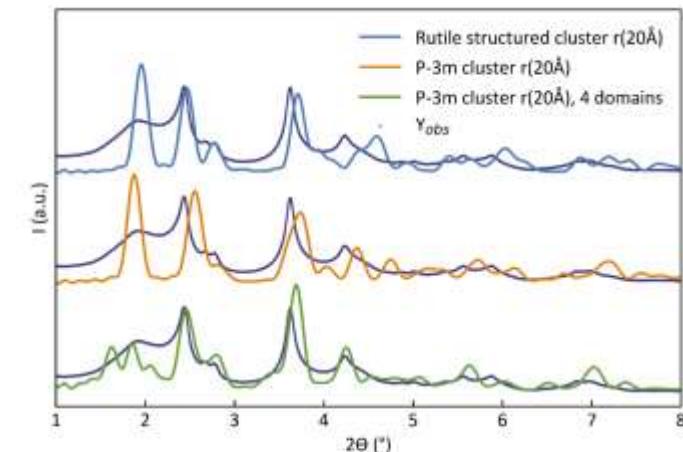
J A C S  
Journal of the American Chemical Society



ACS Publications



**Figure S18** Experimental PDFs at room temperature of four different compositions of KRuO<sub>4</sub> and IrCl<sub>3</sub>. Simulated PDFs constructed using the Debye Calculator python package<sup>4</sup> of structures hypothesized to be present are presented. Dimer, trimer and tetramer refers to the size of the IrCl<sub>3</sub> cluster modelled. Data on pure IrCl<sub>3</sub> and pure KRuO<sub>4</sub> are collected at P21.1 in September 2021. Data on  $x=0.5$  and  $x=0.35$  are collected at P21.1 in May 2022.



**Figure S26** a) Experimental diffraction pattern of  $x=0.8$  with simulated diffraction patterns of nanoparticle-sized cutouts of the rutile structure and the P3m structure. Scattering patterns are constructed using the Debye Calculator Python package.

<https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.4c04607>

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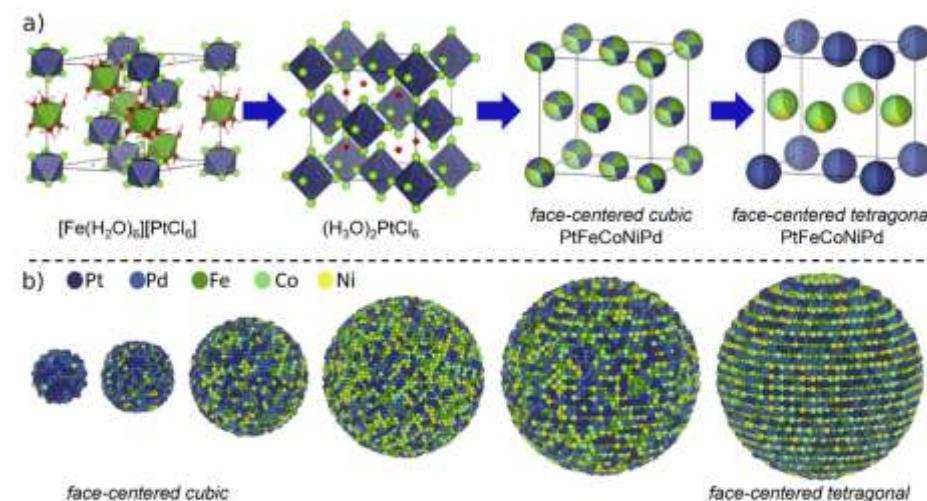
# DebyeCalculator in research:

ChemRxiv™

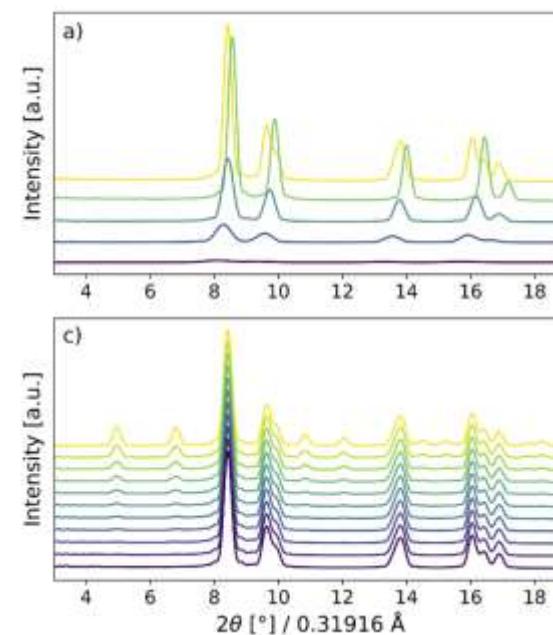
## Order in Disorder: Tracking the Formation of High Entropy Solid Solutions and High Entropy Intermetallics by *in situ* PXRD/XAS

23 August 2024, Version 1

Nicolas Schlegel , Stefanie Punke, Christian M. Clausen, Ulrik Friis-Jensen , Adam F. Sapnik, Dragos Stoian, Olivia Aalling-Frederiksen, Divyansh Gautam, Jan Rossmeisl, Rebecca K. Pittkowsky , Matthias Arenz, Kirsten M. Ø. Jensen



**Figure 10:** a) The transformation of the major unit cell of a PtFeCoNiPd sample during the synthesis from precursor salt to reduced intermetallic; b) Schematic illustration of particle growth and ordering throughout the synthesis of a PtFeCoNiPd sample.



**Figure S19:** Calculated diffraction patterns of the simulated nanoparticles: a) during growth; b) during ordering. In a), the purple to yellow patterns correspond to the particles in row a to e in **Table S6**. In b), the purple to yellow pattern corresponds to the particles in row f to o in **Table S6**.

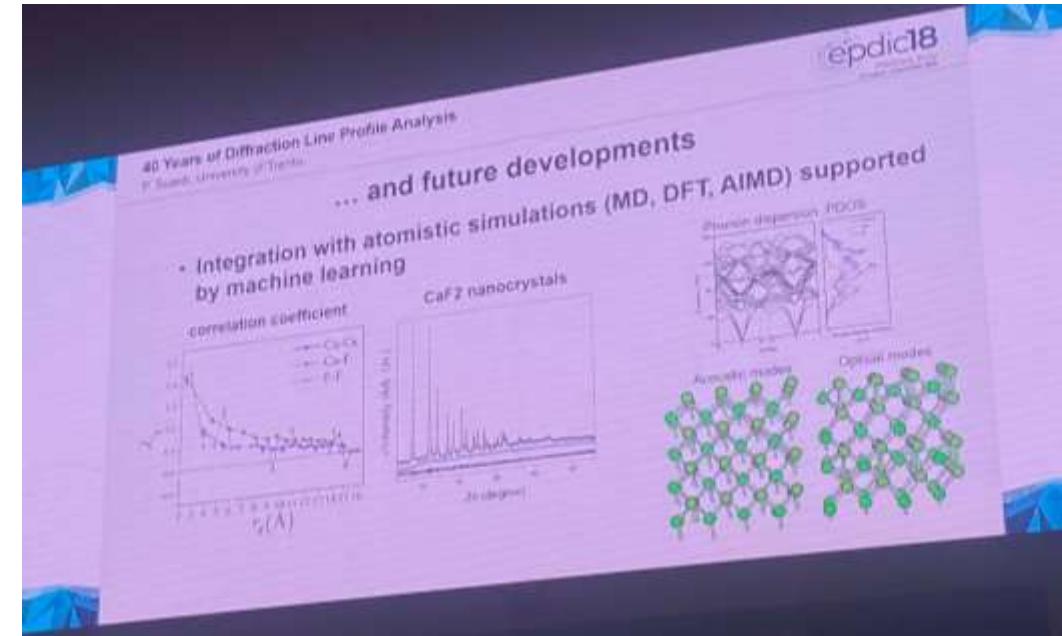
<https://doi.org/10.26434/chemrxiv-2024-k1v88>

From High-entropy Alloy to High-entropy Intermetallic: An *in situ* XRD/XAS Study of PtFeCoNiPd Nanoparticle Formation  
Nicolas Schlegel  
MS02 - *In situ* and *operando* studies  
01/09/2024  
GROUND FLOOR - 2



epdic18  
Padova, Italy  
30 August - 2 September 2024

# How can we inspire to innovate and explore new ideas?



# Time for the demo!

DebyeCalculator Demo!

Made for EPDIC18: Padua, Italy, 2024

Authors: Johansen & Anker et. al.

Questions: [jrio@di.ku.dk](mailto:jrio@di.ku.dk) and [andy@chem.ku.dk](mailto:andy@chem.ku.dk)

Date: August 2024

DebyeCalculator

KICS 10.31102/jma.30024

DebyeCalculator is a powerful tool for calculating the scattering intensity  $I(Q)$ , the Structure Function  $S(Q)$ , the Reduced Total Scattering Function  $F(Q)$ , and the Rg optimized to run on GPUs, making it well-suited for large-scale simulations and real tensor computations and takes advantage of CUDA acceleration for enhanced speed. In this notebook, we will demonstrate how to use the DebyeCalculator class to call some of its many capabilities.

Since you are running this on an online Google-Colab, you must first install DebyeCalculator by running the code below and waiting a bit.

```
[1] %%capture
!pip install debyecalculator
!pip install gdown

import gdown
gdown.download("https://sid.erda.dk/share_redirect/Et7mLBDFXn", "Antifer")
gdown.download("https://sid.erda.dk/share_redirect/FmQ3jKPs", "Antifl")
```

Just One Line to Get Started!

Before diving into the details of the DebyeCalculator class and its core functionality, to start using DebyeCalculator, all it takes is this single import:



[tinyurl.com/  
debyedemo](https://tinyurl.com/debyedemo)



Actually works on mobile if  
you are an Android user!

[github.com/  
FrederikLizakJohansen/  
DebyeCalculator](https://github.com/FrederikLizakJohansen/DebyeCalculator)

