

Engineering Application of Nanomaterials

* Tools Required

- i) XRD pattern
- ii) Peak fitting program (Open source / free software like 'Jityk', 'gnuplot', 'qtiplot')

* SLO

To determine the average crystallite size from given X-ray diffraction (XRD) pattern of polycrystalline material.

Formula to Use:

The Scherrer equation is used to calculate the crystallite size. This method gives qualitative result.

The Scherrer's equation is:

$$D = \frac{K \lambda}{\beta \sin \theta}$$

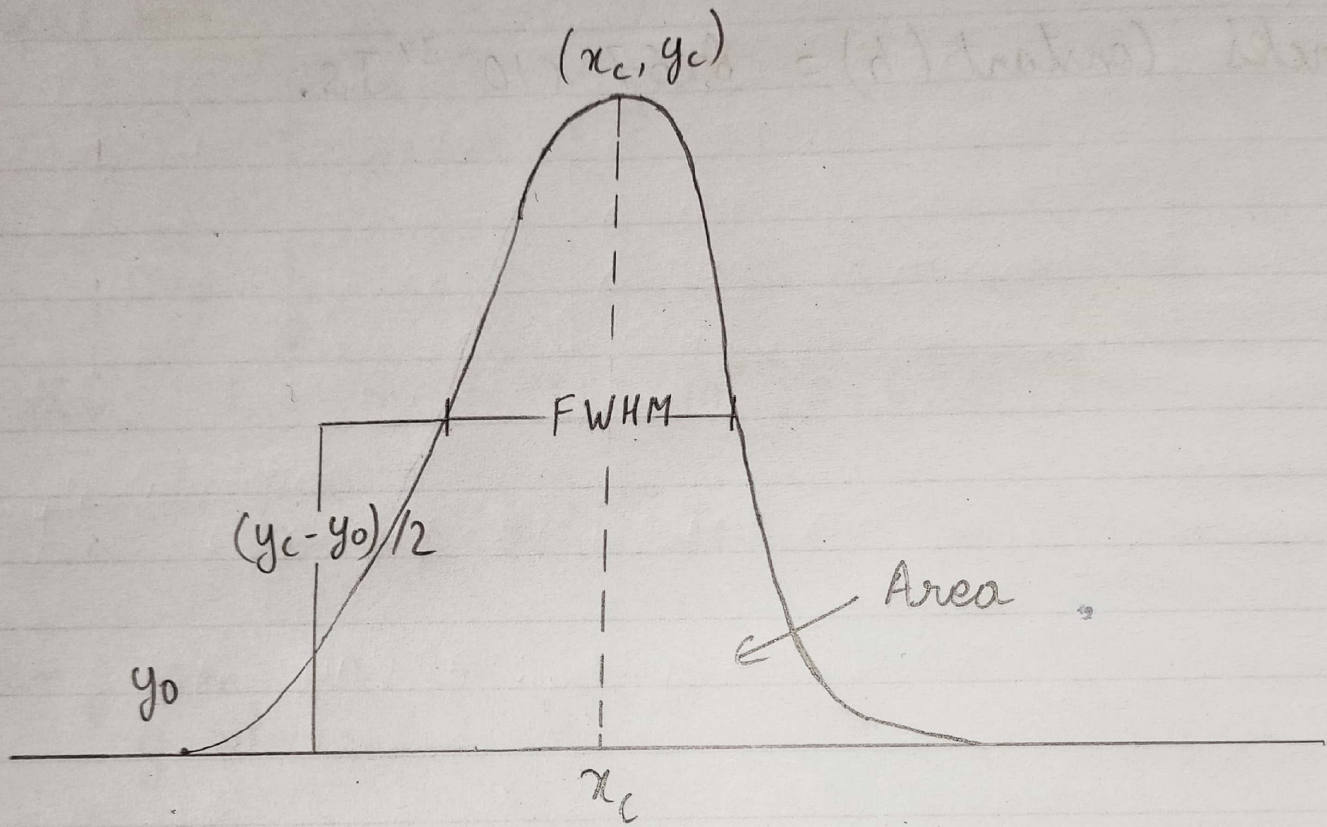


Fig 1. Peak fitting using Gaussian/PseudoVoigt Function

Here, •) Peak Width (β in radians)
•) Crystallite size (D)
•) Scherrer's constant (K)
•) X-Ray Wavelength (λ)
•) Peak position (θ)

Data Given

- i) Instrumental broadening : 0.01°
- ii) Wavelength (λ) of X-Ray used : 1.5406 \AA
- iii) Scherrer's constant (K) = 0.94
(assuming crystallite are spherical in shape)

Inference

The average crystallite size is 23.74 nm .

Tabulation

| Peak Centre (2θ)(deg) | θ (deg) | FWHM(β) (deg) | FWHM(β) (rad) | Average Crystallite Size (nm) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 28.57 | 14.285 | 0.33 | 5.76×10^{-3} | 25.94 |
| 47.54 | 23.77 | 0.389 | 6.79×10^{-3} | 23.3 |
| 56.37 | 28.185 | 0.419 | 7.31×10^{-3} | 22.48 |
| 33.13 | 16.565 | 0.349 | 6.09×10^{-3} | 24.81 |
| 59.13 | 29.565 | 0.43 | 7.5×10^{-3} | 22.19 |

Sample Calculation

here $K = 0.94$, $\lambda = 1.5406 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$.

$$\theta = 14.285 \text{ and } \beta = 5.76 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\text{So, } D_1 = \frac{K \lambda}{\beta \cos \theta} = \frac{0.94 \times 1.5406 \times 10^{-10}}{5.76 \times 10^{-3} \times \cos(14.285)}$$

$$\therefore D_1 = 25.94 \text{ nm}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } D_2 = 23.3 \text{ nm, } D_3 = 22.48 \text{ nm; } D_4 = 24.81 \text{ nm} \\ D_5 = 22.19 \text{ nm}$$

$$\text{Then, } D_{\text{avg}} = (D_1 + D_2 + D_3 + D_4 + D_5) / 5 \\ = \frac{25.94 + 23.3 + 22.48 + 24.81 + 22.19}{5}$$

$$\therefore D_{\text{avg}} = 23.74 \text{ nm}$$