

# DEBYE - SHERRER'S FORMULA OR SHERRER'S EQUATION

## ❖ Introduction:

- ❖ The Debye–Scherrer formula is used in XRD to estimate the crystallite size of nanocrystalline materials.
- ❖ It relates the average crystallite size (D) of a material to the broadening of diffraction peaks in the XRD pattern.

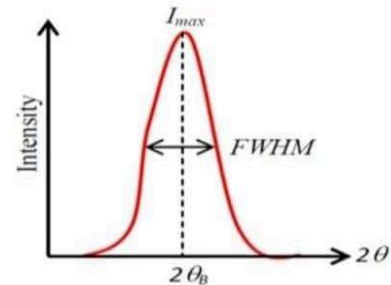
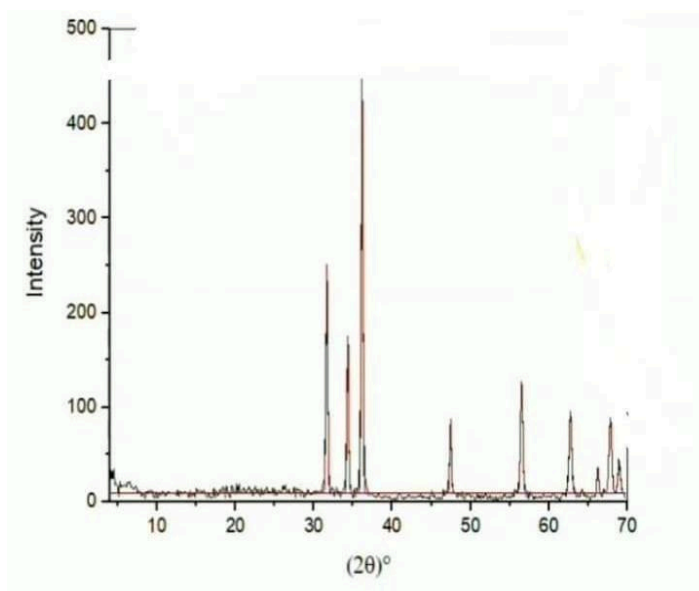
- ❖ Principle: When X-rays strikes very small crystallites (nanometer scale), the diffraction peaks broaden.

## ❖ Formula:

$$D = K\lambda / \beta \cos \theta$$

- ❖ **Where:** K = Scherrer's constant shape factor & commonly taken as 0.9  
 $\lambda$  = Wavelength of incident X-ray  
 $\beta$  = FWHM (full width at half maximum) of the diffraction peak  
 $\theta$  = Bragg's diffraction angle (equal to half of  $2\theta$  from the XRD pattern)

## ❖ Calculator of crystallite size fro XRD using sherrer's formula:



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

## ❖ Applications:

- ❖ Measuring nanoparticle crystallite size.
- ❖ Determining degree of crystallinity.
- ❖ Distinguishing between amorphous and crystalline phases.