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Solving the Christoffel equation: Phase and group velocities

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# Solving the Christoffel equation: phase and group velocities

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#### Abstract

We provide christoffel, a Python tool for calculating direction-dependent phase velocities, polarization vectors, group velocities, power flow angles and enhancement factors based on the stiffness tensor of a solid. It is built in a modular way to allow for efficient and flexible calculations, and the freedom to select and combine results as desired. All derivatives are calculated analytically, which circumvents possible numerical sampling problems. GNUPlot scripts are provided for convenient visualization.

*Keywords:* Christoffel equation; Acoustic waves; Sound velocity; Phase velocity; Group velocity; Enhancement factor

#### PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Title: Christoffel
Journal Reference:
Catalogue identifier:
Licensing provisions: GNU General Public Licence, version 3
Programming language: Python
Computer: Workstations
Operating system: Linux/UNIX/Windows/MacOS
Keywords: Christoffel equation, Stiffness tensor, Acoustic waves, Sound velocity,
Phase velocity, Group velocity, Enhancement factor
Classification: 7.8

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