



# **ASE Manual**

## ***Amsterdam Modeling Suite 2025.1***

**[www.scm.com](http://www.scm.com)**

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## GENERAL, QUICKSTART, USAGE

The **ASE engine** (this manual) is the interface between any ASE calculator and the AMS Driver (see [Quickstart guide](#) (page 2) or [Examples](#) (page 9)).

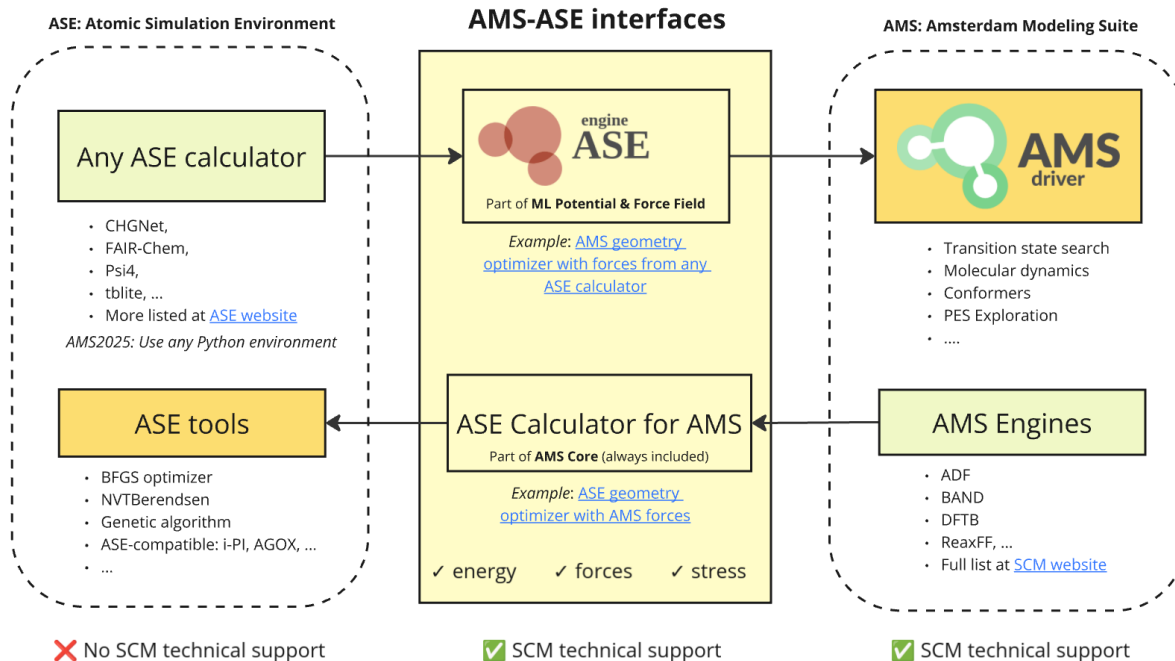
The ASE calculator may come from

- the [ASE package](https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/ase/calculators/calculators.html#supported-calculators) (https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/ase/calculators/calculators.html#supported-calculators) (included with AMS),
- other external sources (see [Examples](#) (page 9)), or
- you may implement your own.

*New in AMS2025:* The ASE calculator can be installed into any [Python environment](#) (page 33) on the system.

The [ASE Calculator for AMS \(AMSCalculator\)](#) is described in a different manual.

More information about ASE can be found in ref.<sup>1</sup> or on the [ASE website](https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/) (https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/).



<sup>1</sup> A. H. Larsen, J. J. Mortensen, J. Blomqvist, I. E. Castelli, R. Christensen, M. Dulak, J. Friis, M. N. Groves, B. Hammer, C. Hargus, E. D. Hermes, P. C. Jennings, P. B. Jensen, J. Kermode, J. R. Kitchin, E. L. Kolsbjerg, J. Kubal, K. Kaasbjerg, S. Lysgaard, J. Bergmann Maronsson, T. Maxson, T. Olsen, L. Pastewka, A. Peterson, C. Rostgaard, J. Schiøtz, O. Schütt, M. Strange, K. S. Thygesen, T. Vegge, L. Vilhelmsen, M. Walter, Z. Zeng, K. W. Jacobsen. J. Phys.: Condens. Matter Vol. 29 (2007) 273002 <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1361-648X/aa680e>

## 1.1 Quickstart guide

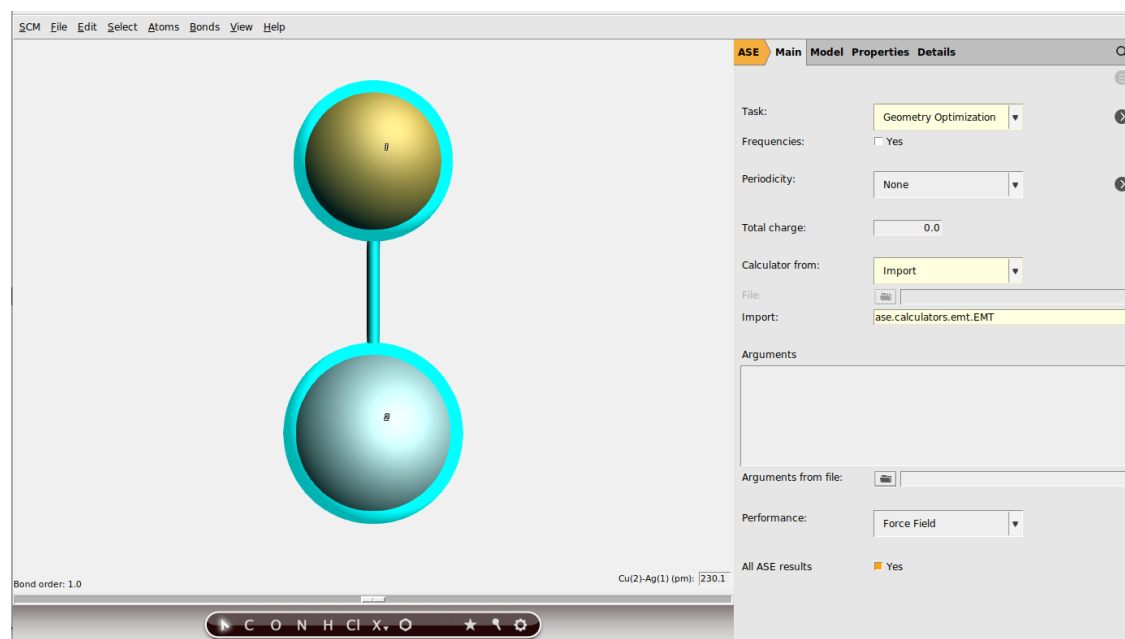
See the below quickstart guide, or have a look at the [example calculators](#) (page 9).

### 1.1.1 Quickstart with GUI

- Start AMSinput and switch to the ASE engine in the yellow dropdown.
- In the Calculator from drop-down, select Import
- In the Import field, type `ase.calculators.emt.EMT` (more information: [ASE implementation of EMT](https://databases.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/ase/calculators/emt.html) (<https://databases.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/ase/calculators/emt.html>))
- Copy and paste the following atom coordinates into AMSinput

```
Ag 0. 0. 0.  
Cu 0. 0. 2.0
```

- Run the calculation
- Open the trajectory in AMSmovie, or update the geometry in AMSinput



### 1.1.2 Quickstart with Python

See the PLAMS example: [Engine ASE: AMS geometry optimizer with forces from any ASE Calculator](#)

### 1.1.3 Quickstart with command-line

Run the below example:

```
$AMSBIN/ams <<eor
Task SinglePoint
Properties
  Gradients Yes
End

System
  Atoms
    Ag 0. 0. 0.
    Cu 0. 0. 2.0
  End
End

Engine ASE
  Type Import
  Import ase.calculators.emt.EMT
EndEngine
eor
```

## 1.2 Engine input

### 1.2.1 Calculator from Import

#### Example without arguments

```
Engine ASE
  Type Import
  Import ase.calculators.emt.EMT
EndEngine
```

#### Example with arguments

```
Engine ASE
  Type Import
  Import ase.calculators.harmonic.SpringCalculator
  Arguments
    ideal_positions=[[0.2,0.0,0.0],[0.8,0.0,0.0]]
    k=2.0
  End
EndEngine
```

## 1.2.2 Calculator from Python file

A Calculator is selected by providing a Python file through `File` and should contain a function or class named `get_calculator` which returns an initialized ASE Calculator.

### Example without arguments

The AMS input file contains:

```
Engine ASE
  Type File
  File /path/to/pythonfile.py
EndEngine
```

With `pythonfile.py` containing e.g.

```
from ase.calculators.harmonic import SpringCalculator
def get_calculator():
    return SpringCalculator(ideal_positions=[[0.2,0.0,0.0],[0.8,0.0,0.0]], k=2.0)
```

See also the [Examples](#) (page 9).

### Example with arguments

```
Engine ASE
  Type File
  File /path/to/pythonfile.py
  Arguments
    ideal_positions=[[0.2,0.0,0.0],[0.8,0.0,0.0]]
    k=2.0
  End
EndEngine
```

With `pythonfile.py` containing e.g.

```
from ase.calculators.harmonic import SpringCalculator
def get_calculator(ideal_positions, k):
    return SpringCalculator(ideal_positions=ideal_positions, k=k)
```

See also the [Examples](#) (page 9).

## 1.2.3 Specifying arguments for the Calculator

Arguments can be specified either with the `Arguments` argument as above, or with `ArgumentsFromFile`.

`ArgumentsFromFile` is either a yaml file with the `.yaml` extension or a python file with the `.py` extension.



## 1.2.4 Obtaining results from the Calculator

When available, the *energy*, *forces* and *stress* are always obtained and are fully integrated in AMS. If a Calculator holds any additional results in its results dictionary, then by default they are stored in the *Other* section of ase.rkf, but without any unit conversions. If additional results are undesired, they can be turned off through `AllASEResults` and specific results can be requested by setting `Results`.

**Example.** The AMS input file contains:

```
Engine ASE
  Type File
  File custom/calculator.py
  AllASEResults no
  Results specific_result1
  Results specific_result2
EndEngine
```

**See also:**

Tutorial: 10 Ways to Get the Energy and Other Properties

## 1.3 Specifying the capabilities of a Calculator

The AMS driver can make several decisions based on what an engine is able to do. Use the `scm.amspipe.AMSExternalCapabilities` class:

```
from scm.amspipe import AMSExternalCapabilities
from ase.calculators.calculator import Calculator

class MyDipoleCalculator(Calculator):
    implemented_properties = ['energy', 'forces', 'dipole']
    ...

def get_calculator():
    calc = MyDipoleCalculator()
    capabilities = AMSExternalCapabilities(charges=True) #indicate the calculator can
    ↪calculate atomic charges.
    capabilities.apply_implemented_properties(calc.implemented_properties) #will find
    ↪that 'dipole' is supported so AMS will e.g. automatically compute intensities when
    ↪doing a normal mode calculation
    calc.ams_capabilities = capabilities
    return calc
```

## 1.4 Troubleshooting

- If the required Calculator needs advanced setup or input arguments, it is usually more convenient to use the python input style and handle such details in there.
- The *Arguments* block is stripped of any indentation and comments (“!”, “#” and “:.”). If this is not desirable, use *ArgumentsFromFile* or python input style instead.
- If the Calculator accepts any arguments related to files, make sure to provide **absolute paths** and not relative paths. The Calculator does not run in the same directory as AMS to avoid conflicts.

- If an AMS calculation fails to run with the ASE calculator, make sure you have specified correctly what capabilities the Calculator has.
- If you get an error like `ERROR: Worker failed to start`, you can usually find more information about the error in the **standard output file** if you scroll up a bit. For example, if you use an [external Python environment](#) (page 33) and get an error like `ModuleNotFoundError: No module named 'scm'`, then make sure to install `scm.amspipe` and `scm.external_engines` into the other Python environment.

## 1.5 Parametrization with ParAMS

You can use [ParAMS](#) to fit the parameters of your ASE calculator.

See the [ASE calculator parametrization example](#).

## 1.6 Support

SCM does not provide support for any ASE calculators.

## 1.7 Licensing

In AMS2023, the ASE engine is part of the product “ML Potentials & Classical Force Fields”.

## 1.8 Changelog

### 1.8.1 AMS2025.1

- ASE calculators no longer need to be installed into `amspython` environment, but can be used from any [Python environment](#) (page 33).
- The default `Performance` setting changed from `ForceField` to `DFTB`.
- The `AMSinput` GUI module can now pick up docstrings, arguments, and default values from `calculator.py` files.

### 1.8.2 AMS2024.1

- It is now possible to indicate to AMS *what properties the Calculator can compute and what kind of system is supported* (page 5) (e.g. if the Calculator can support periodic systems and if it can, whether those systems can additionally be charged.).

### 1.8.3 AMS2023.1

- The ASE engine is new in AMS2023.

## 1.9 References



## EXAMPLES

See the [Quickstart guide](#) (page 2) for a fast example with the ASE EMT Calculator.

Please note the following important points:

1. **External Software:** The external programs and packages referenced in this documentation are not developed, maintained, or endorsed by SCM.
2. **Installation and Use:** Users are responsible for the installation, configuration, and management of external software and tools. By following these instructions, you will be installing third-party software on your system. SCM has no control over the content, functionality, or updates of such software. Before installation, read and agree to the external software's license terms.
3. **Liability:** SCM is not responsible for any issues arising from the installation, configuration, or use of external software, including but not limited to system instability, data loss, or security vulnerabilities. See also the SCM license terms.
4. **Support:** For questions or issues related to the external software, users should contact the respective developers or refer to their official documentation. See also [Troubleshooting](#) (page 5).

This page contains tips on how to couple some ASE calculators to AMS. It is provided for information purposes only. **The information may become outdated** and is not guaranteed to work for you on your system.

**Warning:** When you manually install packages into the [AMS Python environment](#), you may break the SCM-supported ML Potential packages, for example by installing incompatible versions of dependencies. If this happens, it is easiest to remove the AMS Python [virtual environment](#) completely and reinstall the ML Potential packages from the [package manager](#).

**We recommend that you install packages into a separate [Conda environment](#) (page 33).**

## 2.1 Overview of external methods/programs

| Method/program                           | AMS Engine       | Type             | Website  |
|--|------------------|------------------|--|
| <i>AIMNet2</i> (page 11)                 | ML Potential     | ML Potential     | <a href="https://github.com/isayevlab/AIMNet2">Github</a> (https://github.com/isayevlab/AIMNet2)                                     |
| <i>ALIGNN-FF</i> (page 11)               | ASE              | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/usnistgov/alignn">Github</a> (https://github.com/usnistgov/alignn)                                       |
| <i>ANI</i> ( <i>TorchANI</i> ) (page 12) | ML potential     | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/aiqm/torchani">Github</a> (https://github.com/aiqm/torchani)   |
| <i>CHGNet</i> (page 12)                  | ASE              | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/CederGroupHub/chgnet">Github</a> (https://github.com/CederGroupHub/chgnet)                               |
| <i>CP2K</i> (page 13)                    | ASE              | DFT              | <a href="https://www.cp2k.org/">cp2k.org</a> (https://www.cp2k.org/)   |
| <i>Custom</i> (page 14)                  | ASE              | Custom           |  |
| <i>DeePMD-kit</i> (page 15)              | ASE              | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/deepmodeling/deepmd-kit/tree/master">Github</a> (https://github.com/deepmodeling/deepmd-kit/tree/master) |
| <i>DFTpy</i> (page 16)                   | ASE              | orbital-free DFT | <a href="https://gitlab.com/pavanello-research-group/dftpy">Gitlab</a> (https://gitlab.com/pavanello-research-group/dftpy)           |
| <i>EMT</i> (page 18)                     | ASE              | Force field      |  |
| <i>FAIR-Chem</i> (page 18)               | ASE              | ML Potential     | <a href="https://github.com/FAIR-Chem/fairchem">Github</a> (https://github.com/FAIR-Chem/fairchem)                                   |
| <i>GPaw</i> (page 20)                    | ASE              | DFT              | <a href="https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/">website</a> (https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/)  |
| <i>MACE</i> (page 22)                    | ASE              | ML Potential     | <a href="https://github.com/ACEsuit/mace">Github</a> (https://github.com/ACEsuit/mace)   |
| <i>MatGL</i> ( <i>M3GNet</i> ) (page 23) | ASE              | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/materialsvirtuallab/matgl">Github</a> (https://github.com/materialsvirtuallab/matgl)                     |
| <i>MatterSim</i> (page 24)               | ASE              | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/microsoft/mattersim/tree/main">Github</a> (https://github.com/microsoft/mattersim/tree/main)             |
| <i>M3GNet</i> (page 22)                  | ML potential     | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/materialsvirtuallab/m3gnet">Github</a> (https://github.com/materialsvirtuallab/m3gnet)                   |
| <i>NequIP</i> (page 25)                  | ML potential     | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/mir-group/nequip">Github</a> (https://github.com/mir-group/nequip)                                       |
| <i>Open Catalyst Project</i> (page 29)   | ASE              | ML potential     | <a href="https://opencatalystproject.org/">opencatalystproject.org</a> (https://opencatalystproject.org/)                            |
| <i>ORB</i> (page 26)                     | ASE              | ML Potential     | <a href="https://github.com/orbital-materials/orb-models">Github</a> (https://github.com/orbital-materials/orb-models)               |
| <i>psi4</i> (page 27)                    | ASE              | DFT/ab initio    | <a href="https://psicode.org">Website</a> (https://psicode.org)  |
| <i>PySCF</i> (page 28)                   | ASE              | DFT/ab initio    | <a href="https://pyscf.org">Website</a> (https://pyscf.org)  |
| <i>Quantum ESPRESSO</i> (page 29)        | Quantum ESPRESSO | DFT              | <a href="https://www.quantum-espresso.org">quantum-espresso.org</a> (https://www.quantum-espresso.org/)                              |
| <i>sGDML</i> (page 29)                   | ML potential     | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/stefanch/sGDML">Github</a> (https://github.com/stefanch/sGDML)   |
| <i>SO3LR</i> (page 29)                   | ASE              | ML potential     | <a href="https://github.com/general-molecular-simulations/so3lr">Github</a> (https://github.com/general-molecular-simulations/so3lr) |
| <i>tblite</i> (page 30)                  | ASE              | semi-empirical   | <a href="https://github.com/tblite/tblite">Github</a> (https://github.com/tblite/tblite)   |
| <i>VASP</i> (page 31)                    | External         | DFT              | <a href="https://www.vasp.at">vasp.at</a> (https://www.vasp.at)  |
| <i>xTB</i> ( <i>GFN2-xTB</i> ) (page 31) | ASE              | semi-empirical   | <a href="https://github.com/grimme-lab/xtb">Github</a> (https://github.com/grimme-lab/xtb)   |

## 2.2 AIMNet2

See the [ML Potential](#) documentation.

## 2.3 ALIGNN-FF

*Tested with:* AMS2025.101, Ubuntu Linux 24.04, Jan 13 2024

**Install alignn** in a *conda environment* (page 33).

```
conda create -n alignn-env
conda install -c conda-forge -n alignn-env \
    dgl=2.1.0 pytorch torchvision torchaudio pytorch-cuda -c pytorch -c nvidia
conda run -n alignn-env \
    python -m pip install \
    "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of Si bulk, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```
conda run -n alignn-env \
    python $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_alignn/calculator.py
```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```
rm -rf alignn_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=alignn_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    Si -0.67875 -0.67875 -0.67875
    Si 0.77875 0.67875 0.67875
  End
  Lattice
    0.0 2.715 2.715
    2.715 0.0 2.715
    2.715 2.715 0.0
  End
End

Engine ASE
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_alignn/calculator.py
  Arguments
    path = None
  End
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda alignn-env    # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor
```

## 2.4 ANI (TorchANI)

See the [ML Potential](#) documentation.

## 2.5 CHGNet

*Tested with:* AMS2025.101, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, Nov 11 2024

**Install CHGNet** into a separate *conda environment* (page 33):

```
conda create -n chgnet-env
conda install -c conda-forge -n chgnet-env "python<3.13" ase
conda run -n chgnet-env \
  python -m pip install \
  chgnet "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of a water molecule, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```
conda run -n chgnet-env \
  python $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_chgnet/calculator.py
```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```
rm -rf chgnet_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=chgnet_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O 1.5 0. 0.
    C 0.0 0. 0.
    O -1.5 0. 0.
  End
End

Engine ASE
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_chgnet/calculator.py
  Arguments
    use_device = "cpu"
  End
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda chgnet-env    # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor
```

If you have a CUDA-enabled GPU, you can set `use_device = "cuda"` to run on the GPU instead. Or remove the option completely to use the default device.

See the CHGNet documentation and code for details.



## 2.6 CP2K

**Tested with:** AMS2023.101, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, July 5 2023

The below works for **single-node** calculation but fails for multinode (MPI parallelization).

- Install CP2K. In a terminal: `sudo apt install cp2k`
- Run AMS with the CP2K ASE calculator `cp2k_ams.run`:

Listing 2.1: `cp2k_ams.run`

```
#!/bin/sh

export SCM_DISABLE_MPI=1

# set OMP_NUM_THREADS to the appropriate number below

$AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor

Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O      2.8115000409      2.5498605363      2.0000000000
    H      2.0000000000      2.0000000000      2.0000000000
    H      3.6254485609      2.0005857872      2.0000000000
  End
  Lattice
    5.6254485609      0.0000000000      0.0000000000
    0.0000000000      4.5498605363      0.0000000000
    0.0000000000      0.0000000000      4.0000000000
  End
End

Engine ASE
  Type Import
  Import ase.calculators.cp2k.CP2K
  # see the ASE CP2K documentation for details about the arguments
  Arguments
    command = "OMP_NUM_THREADS=2 cp2k_shell"      # set OMP_NUM_THREADS here
    cutoff = 4000 # eV
    stress_tensor = False      # set stress_tensor here (defaults to True)
    xc = "PBE"
    inp = ""
    &FORCE_EVAL
      &DFT
        &KPOINTS
          SCHEME GAMMA
        &END KPOINTS
        &SCF
          ADDED_MOS 10
          &SMEAR
            METHOD FERMI_DIRAC
            ELECTRONIC_TEMPERATURE [K] 500.0
          &END SMEAR
        &END SCF
      &END DFT
```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```

        &END FORCE_EVAL
    """
End
EndEngine

eor

```

## 2.7 Custom

Tested with: AMS2025.101, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, Feb 4 2025

This example shows how to set up a custom simple ASE calculator. It always returns zero forces.

Listing 2.2: calculator.py

```

#!/usr/bin/env amspython

from ase.calculators.calculator import Calculator, all_changes
import numpy as np

class ZeroCalculator(Calculator):
    implemented_properties = ["energy", "forces"]

    def calculate(self, atoms=None, properties=["energy"], system_changes=all_
→changes):
        super().calculate(atoms, properties, system_changes)
        self.results = dict()
        if atoms is not None:
            energy_per_atom = self.parameters.get("energy_per_atom", 0.0)
            self.results = {
                "energy": energy_per_atom * len(atoms),
                "forces": np.zeros((len(atoms), 3)),
            }

def get_calculator(energy_per_atom: float = 0.0):
    """energy_per_atom: float (eV). Always returns zero forces."""
    return ZeroCalculator(energy_per_atom=energy_per_atom)

def example():
    """Simple example for a water molecule.

    Note: this is just an example of the ASE calculator. This section
    has no effect when running through AMS.
    """
    from ase.build import molecule

    atoms = molecule("H2O")
    atoms.calc = get_calculator(energy_per_atom=1.0)

    energy = atoms.get_potential_energy()
    forces = atoms.get_forces()

```

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```

print(f"Energy of water molecule: {energy:.3f} eV")
print(f"Forces (eV/ang): {forces}")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    example()

```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```

rm -rf zero_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=zero_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O 1.5 0. 0.
    C 0.0 0. 0.
    O -1.5 0. 0.
  End
End

Engine ASE
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_zero/calculator.py
  Arguments
    energy_per_atom = 1.0
  End
  Python
    Type amspython
  End
EndEngine
eor

```

## 2.8 DeePMD-kit

**Tested with:** AMS2023.104, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, 14 Nov 2023

- Install deepmd-kit into the AMS python environment. This will place the db binary in a location like /home/user/.scm/python/AMS2023.1.venv/bin
- Either train your own model or download one from the [AIS Square](https://www.aissquare.com/) (<https://www.aissquare.com/>)
- If you download a model you may need to convert it using `db convert-from`, see the [DeepMD-kit documentation](https://docs.deepmodeling.com/projects/deepmd/en/master/troubleshooting/model-compatibility.html) (<https://docs.deepmodeling.com/projects/deepmd/en/master/troubleshooting/model-compatibility.html>)

Then specify Type Import and specify the path to the model (.pb) file in the Arguments:

Listing 2.3: deepmd-kit\_ams.run

```

#!/bin/sh
NSCM=1 $AMSBIN/ams <<EOF
system
  Atoms

```

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```

      O      -0.0008161597      0.3663784285      -0.0000000000
      H      -0.8123162006      -0.1834821079      -0.0000000000
      H       0.8131323603      -0.1828963206       0.0000000000
End
End

Task GeometryOptimization

Engine ASE
Arguments

    model = '/absolute/path/to/graph.pb'

End
Import deepmd.calculator.DP
Type Import
EndEngine
EOF

```

## 2.9 DFTpy

**Tested with:** AMS2023.101, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, August 3 2023

```

$AMSBIN/amspython -m pip install dftpy
$AMSBIN/amspython -m pip install pylibxc2
git clone https://gitlab.com/pavanello-research-group/local-pseudopotentials

```

Set the environment variable to the path to the pseudopotentials, for example

```
export DFTPY_DATA_PATH=`readlink -f local-pseudopotentials/BLPS/LDA/reci`
```

An ASE Calculator with some settings for AI is defined in `dftpy_calculator.py`:

```

#!/usr/bin/env amspython
import os
from dftpy.config import DefaultOption, OptionFormat
from dftpy.api.api4ase import DFTpyCalculator
from ase.calculators.calculator import Calculator

class MyCalculator(Calculator):
    implemented_properties = ["energy", "forces", "stress"]

    def __init__(self, config, **kwargs):
        Calculator.__init__(self, **kwargs)
        self.dftpy_calculator = DFTpyCalculator(config=config)

    def calculate(self, atoms, properties=None, system_changes=None):
        super().calculate(atoms, properties, system_changes)
        self.results = dict()
        self.results["energy"] = self.dftpy_calculator.get_potential_energy(atoms)
        self.results["forces"] = self.dftpy_calculator.get_forces(atoms)
        self.results["stress"] = self.dftpy_calculator.get_stress(atoms)

```

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```
def get_calculator():
    config = DefaultOption()
    config["PATH"]["pppath"] = os.environ.get(
        "DFTPY_DATA_PATH",
        "/home/hellstrom/software/local-pseudopotentials/BLPS/LDA/reci",
    )
    config["PP"]["Al"] = "al.lda.recpot"
    config["OPT"]["method"] = "TN"
    config["KEDF"]["kedf"] = "WT"
    config["JOB"]["calctype"] = "Energy Force"
    config = OptionFormat(config)
    calc = MyCalculator(config=config)

    return calc
```

This file is referenced inside the Engine ASE block in the input to AMS:

```
#!/bin/sh
export SCM_DISABLE_MPI=1

$AMSBIN/ams <<EOF
Engine ASE
  File /home/hellstrom/dftpy_calculator.py # change this!
  Type File
EndEngine

MolecularDynamics
  InitialVelocities
    Temperature 1000
    Type Random
  End
  NSteps 20
  Thermostat
    Tau 100.0
    Temperature 1000
    Type NHC
  End
  Barostat
    Type MTK
    Pressure 1.0
    Tau 10000
  End
  TimeStep 1.0
  Trajectory
    SamplingFreq 1
  End
End

Task MolecularDynamics

system
  Atoms
    Al      0.0000000000    0.0000000000    0.0000000000
    Al      0.0000000000    2.1200000000    2.1200000000
    Al      2.1200000000    0.0000000000    2.1200000000
    Al      2.1200000000    2.1200000000    0.0000000000
```

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```

Al      0.0000000000    0.0000000000    4.2400000000
Al      0.0000000000    2.1200000000    6.3600000000
Al      2.1200000000    0.0000000000    6.3600000000
Al      2.1200000000    2.1200000000    4.2400000000
Al      0.0000000000    4.2400000000    0.0000000000
Al      0.0000000000    6.3600000000    2.1200000000
Al      2.1200000000    4.2400000000    2.1200000000
Al      2.1200000000    6.3600000000    0.0000000000
Al      0.0000000000    4.2400000000    4.2400000000
Al      0.0000000000    6.3600000000    6.3600000000
Al      2.1200000000    4.2400000000    6.3600000000
Al      2.1200000000    6.3600000000    4.2400000000
Al      4.2400000000    0.0000000000    0.0000000000
Al      4.2400000000    2.1200000000    2.1200000000
Al      6.3600000000    0.0000000000    2.1200000000
Al      6.3600000000    2.1200000000    0.0000000000
Al      4.2400000000    0.0000000000    4.2400000000
Al      4.2400000000    2.1200000000    6.3600000000
Al      6.3600000000    0.0000000000    6.3600000000
Al      6.3600000000    2.1200000000    4.2400000000
Al      4.2400000000    4.2400000000    0.0000000000
Al      4.2400000000    6.3600000000    2.1200000000
Al      6.3600000000    4.2400000000    2.1200000000
Al      6.3600000000    6.3600000000    0.0000000000
Al      4.2400000000    4.2400000000    4.2400000000
Al      4.2400000000    6.3600000000    6.3600000000
Al      6.3600000000    4.2400000000    6.3600000000
Al      6.3600000000    6.3600000000    4.2400000000

End
Lattice
      8.4800000000    0.0000000000    0.0000000000
      0.0000000000    8.4800000000    0.0000000000
      0.0000000000    0.0000000000    8.4800000000

End
End
EOF

```

## 2.10 EMT

See the *Quickstart guide* (page 2).

## 2.11 FAIR-Chem

Tested with: AMS2025.101, Linux Mint 22, Nov 12 2024

- FAIR-Chem [Github](https://github.com/FAIR-Chem/fairchem/tree/main) (https://github.com/FAIR-Chem/fairchem/tree/main)
- FAIR-Chem [Installation instructions](https://fair-chem.github.io/core/install.html) (https://fair-chem.github.io/core/install.html)
- FAIR-Chem [Using pretrained models with ASE](https://fair-chem.github.io/core/quickstart.html) (https://fair-chem.github.io/core/quickstart.html)

Install FAIR-Chem in a *conda environment* (page 33).

```
# see https://fair-chem.github.io/core/install.html#conda
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/FAIR-Chem/fairchem/main/packages/env.gpu.yml
conda env create -f env.gpu.yml

conda run -n fair-chem \
  python -m pip install \
    fairchem-core "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
```

**Test your installation.** This will download a model file into \$HOME/fairchem\_pretrained\_models. If the below prints an energy at the end, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```
conda run -n fair-chem \
  python $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_fairchem/calculator.py
```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```
rm -rf fairchem_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=fairchem_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    Cu      1.27632774      1.27632774      9.80500000
    Cu      3.82898322      1.27632774      9.80500000
    Cu      6.38163870      1.27632774      9.80500000
    Cu      1.27632774      3.82898322      9.80500000
    Cu      3.82898322      3.82898322      9.80500000
    Cu      6.38163870      3.82898322      9.80500000
    Cu      1.27632774      6.38163870      9.80500000
    Cu      3.82898322      6.38163870      9.80500000
    Cu      6.38163870      6.38163870      9.80500000
    Cu      0.00000000      0.00000000     11.61000000
    Cu      2.55265548      0.00000000     11.61000000
    Cu      5.10531096      0.00000000     11.61000000
    Cu      0.00000000      2.55265548     11.61000000
    Cu      2.55265548      2.55265548     11.61000000
    Cu      5.10531096      2.55265548     11.61000000
    Cu      0.00000000      5.10531096     11.61000000
    Cu      2.55265548      5.10531096     11.61000000
    Cu      5.10531096      5.10531096     11.61000000
    O       1.27632774      0.00000000     14.61000000
    C       1.27632774      0.00000000     13.45966000
  End
  Lattice
    7.66 0.0 0.0
    0.0 7.66 0.0
    0.0 0.0 20.0
  End
End

Engine ASE
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_fairchem/calculator.py
  Arguments
    model_name = "EquiformerV2-31M-S2EF-OC20-All+MD"
    # checkpoint_path = "/path/to/eqV2_31M_omat_mp_salex.pt" # for checkpoint_
```

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```

↪paths
    cpu = True
    End
    Performance DFTB
    Python
        Type Conda
        Conda fair-chem # this environment must have been set up correctly
    End
EndEngine
eor

```

See the fairchem documentation and code for details.

## 2.12 GPAW

Tested with: AMS2023.102, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, August 1 2023

GPAW (<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/>) is a planewave density functional theory code.

- Install GPAW (<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/install.html>) into the AMS python environment from PyPI after installing all the requirements (<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/install.html#requirements>):

```

export C_INCLUDE_PATH=$AMSBIN/python3.8/include/python3.8/
amspython -m pip install gpaw

```

- Download and install the PAW datasets (<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/install.html#install-paw-datasets>):

```

# VENV_BIN is something like /home/user/.scm/python/AMS2023.1.venv/bin
VENV_BIN=$(dirname $(amspython -c "import sys; print(sys.executable)"))
# set TARGET_DIR appropriately
TARGET_DIR=/home/user/gpaw
# Download and install the PAW dataset
amspython $VENV_BIN/gpaw install-data $TARGET_DIR

```

Follow the instructions from the install-data command.

- Download GPAW\_calculator.py and place it in an easily accessible place, for example /home/user/GPAW\_calculator.py.

Listing 2.4: GPAW\_calculator.py

```

import numpy
import ase
import gpaw

class ASEGPawCalculator(ase.calculators.calculator.Calculator):
    def __init__(
        self,
        pbc=[True, True, True],
        cancel_total_force=False,
        charge=0,
        name="atoms",
        **gpaw_kwargs,
    ):

```

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```

self.name = name
self.counter = 1
self.pbc = pbc
self.cancel = cancel_total_force
self._kwargs = gpaw_kwargs
ase.calculators.calculator.Calculator.__init__(self)
self._setup_gpaw(charge)

def calculate(self, atoms=None, properties=None, system_changes=None):
    atoms.center()
    atoms.set_pbc(self.pbc)
    super().calculate(atoms, properties, system_changes)

    self.gpaw.calculate(atoms, properties, system_changes)
    self.results = self.gpaw.results
    # remove total force on the molecule
    if self.cancel:
        molecule_force = self.results["forces"].sum(axis=0)
        per_atom_force = molecule_force / self.results["forces"].shape[0]
        self.results["forces"] -= per_atom_force

def _setup_gpaw(self, charge):
    self.charge = charge
    txt = self.name
    if self.counter > 1:
        txt = txt + f"_{self.counter}"
    txt = txt + ".txt"
    self.gpaw = gpaw.GPAW(txt=txt, **self._kwargs)
    self.counter += 1

@property
def implemented_properties(self):
    return self.gpaw.implemented_properties

# AMS looks for "get_calculator"
get_calculator = ASEGPawCalculator

```

- Run AMS with the ASE engine and specify File /path/to/GPAW\_calculator.py (the path must be absolute, not relative):

Listing 2.5: GPAW\_ams.run

```

AMS_JOBNAME=gpaw $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<EOF
properties
  gradients yes
End

system
  Atoms
    H      4.630000    5.000000    5.000000
    H      5.370000    5.000000    5.000000
  End
  Lattice
    10.0 0.0 0.0
    0.0 10.0 0.0
    0.0 0.0 10.0

```

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```

    End
End

task GeometryOptimization

GeometryOptimization
  Method Quasi-Newton
  Convergence
    Gradients 0.00019446905
  End
End

Engine ASE
  File /path/to/GPAW_calculator.py
EndEngine

EOF

```

GPAW always requires a lattice defined in the AMS system since they are part of the basis set definition for planewaves. For non-periodic systems you can turn off periodic boundary conditions in GPAW by specifying the following block in the ASE Engine:

```

Arguments
  pbc = [False, False, False]
End

```

## 2.13 M3GNet

See the [ML Potential](#) documentation. This uses the Tensorflow-based implementation of M3GNet.

## 2.14 MACE

*Tested with:* AMS2025.101, Linux Mint 22, Nov 12 2024

**Install mace** in a *conda environment* (page 33).

```

conda create -n mace-env
conda install -c conda-forge -n mace-env "python<3.13" ase
conda run -n mace-env \
  python -m pip install \
  mace-torch "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl

```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of a water molecule, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```

conda run -n mace-env \
  python "$AMSHOME"/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_mace/calculator.py

```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```

rm -rf mace_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=mace_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O 1.5 0. 0.
    C 0.0 0. 0.
    O -1.5 0. 0.
  End
End

Engine ASE
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_mace/calculator.py
  Arguments
    model_paths = None
    device = "cpu"
  End
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda mace-env # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor

```

If you have a CUDA-enabled GPU, you can set `device = "cuda"` to run on the GPU instead. Or remove the option completely to use the default device.

See the mace documentation and code for details.

If you have a CUDA-enabled GPU, you can set `device = "cuda"` to run on the GPU instead. Or remove the option completely to use the default device.

**CuEquivariance with MACE is also supported.** Simply install [CuEquivariance](https://mace-docs.readthedocs.io/en/latest/guide/cuda_acceleration.html) ([https://mace-docs.readthedocs.io/en/latest/guide/cuda\\_acceleration.html](https://mace-docs.readthedocs.io/en/latest/guide/cuda_acceleration.html)) in the conda environment:

```

conda run -n mace-env \
  python -m pip install \
  cuequivariance-torch cuequivariance-ops-torch-cu12

```

Or use `cuequivariance-ops-torch-cu11` for CUDA 11. Next add `enable_cueq = True` to the Arguments block. We observed a speedup of 10-20% and a reduction in memory usage of 50% for a 25x25x25 angstrom water box.

See the mace documentation and code for details.

## 2.15 MatGL

---

**Note:** To use the AMS-bundled version of M3GNet, see [M3GNet](#) (page 22).

---

MatGL reimplements M3GNet in PyTorch. To use this implementation (and separate parametrization), you need to run at least Python 3.9.

This can be done by using a *separate Python environment for the ASE calculator* (page 33).

*Tested with:* AMS2025.101, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, November 14 2024

```
conda create -n matgl-env
conda install -c conda-forge -n matgl-env "python<3.13" ase matgl
conda run -n matgl-env \
  python -m pip install \
    "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of a water molecule, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```
conda run -n matgl-env \
  python "$AMSHOME"/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_matgl/calculator.py
```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```
rm -rf matgl_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=matgl_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O 1.5 0. 0.
    C 0.0 0. 0.
    O -1.5 0. 0.
  End
End

Engine ASE
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_matgl/calculator.py
  Arguments
    model = "M3GNet-MP-2021.2.8-PES"
  End
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda matgl-env # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor
```

See the matgl documentation and code for details.

## 2.16 MatterSim

*Tested with:* AMS2025.101, Ubuntu Linux 24.04, Dec 4 2024 and Apple M2, Jan 29 2025

**Install mattersim** in a *conda environment* (page 33).

```
conda create -n mattersim-env python=3.9
conda run -n mattersim-env \
  python -m pip install \
    mattersim "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of Si bulk, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```
conda run -n mattersim-env \
python $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_mattersim/calculator.py
```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```
rm -rf mattersim_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=mattersim_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    Si -0.67875 -0.67875 -0.67875
    Si 0.77875 0.67875 0.67875
  End
  Lattice
    0.0 2.715 2.715
    2.715 0.0 2.715
    2.715 2.715 0.0
  End
End

Engine ASE
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_mattersim/calculator.py
  Arguments
    device = "cpu"
    load_path = "MatterSim-v1.0.0-5M.pth"
  End
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda mattersim-env # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor
```

If you have a CUDA-enabled GPU, you can set `device = "cuda"` to run on the GPU instead. Or remove the option completely to use the default device.

See the Mattersim documentation and code for details.

## 2.17 NequIP

See the [ML Potential](#) documentation.

## 2.18 ORB

A universal potential for materials.

**Tested with:** AMS2024.104, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, Jan 7 2025 and Apple M2, Jan 29 2025

**Install orb-models** into a separate *conda environment* (page 33):

```
conda create -n orb-env
conda install -c conda-forge -n orb-env "python<3.13" ase
conda run -n orb-env \
  python -m pip install \
    orb-models "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
conda run -n orb-env \
  python -m pip install "pynanoflann@git+https://github.com/dwastberg/pynanoflann
  ↪#egg=af434039ae14bedcbb838a7808924d6689274168"
```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of a water molecule, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```
conda run -n orb-env \
  python $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_orb/calculator.py
```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```
rm -rf orb_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=orb_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O 1.5 0. 0.
    C 0.0 0. 0.
    O -1.5 0. 0.
  End
End

Engine ASE
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_orb/calculator.py
  Arguments
    device = "cpu"
  End
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda orb-env # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor
```

If you have a CUDA-enabled GPU, you can set `device = "cuda"` to run on the GPU instead. Or remove the option completely to use the default device.

See the orb documentation and code for details.

## 2.19 psi4

Tested with AMS2025.101, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, September 25 2024

Install **psi4** into a separate *conda environment* (page 33):

```
conda create -n psi4-env
conda install -c conda-forge -n psi4-env "python<3.13" ase psi4 simple-dftd3 dftd3-
python dftd4 dftd4-python gcp-correction
conda run -n psi4-env \
  python -m pip install \
    "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of a water molecule, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```
conda run -n psi4-env \
  python $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_psi4/calculator.py
```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```
rm -rf psi4_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=psi4_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O 1.5 0. 0.
    C 0.0 0. 0.
    O -1.5 0. 0.
  End
End

Engine ASE
  Type File
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_psi4/calculator.py
  Arguments
    method = 'b3lyp'
    basis = '6-31G*'
    num_threads = 'max' # or set to a number
  End
  Performance DFT
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda psi4-env # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor
```

See the psi4 documentation and code for details.

## 2.20 PySCF

Tested with: AMS2025.101, Ubuntu Linux 22.04, November 14 2024

Install PySCF into a separate *conda environment* (page 33):

```
conda create -n pyscf-env
conda install -c conda-forge -n pyscf-env "python<3.13"
conda run -n pyscf-env \
  python -m pip install --prefer-binary \
  pyscf ase "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of a water molecule, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```
conda run -n pyscf-env \
  python $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_pyscf/calculator.py
```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```
rm -rf pyscf_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=pyscf_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O 1.5 0. 0.
    C 0.0 0. 0.
    O -1.5 0. 0.
  End
End

Engine ASE
  Type File
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_pyscf/calculator.py
  Arguments
    xc = 'pbe'
    basis = '631g*'
  End
  Performance DFT
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda pyscf-env    # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor
```

See the pyscf documentation and code for details.



## 2.21 Open Catalyst Project

See *FAIR-Chem* (page 18).

## 2.22 Quantum ESPRESSO

See the [Quantum ESPRESSO](#) documentation.

## 2.23 sGDML

See the [ML Potential](#) documentation.

## 2.24 SO3LR

*Tested with:* AMS2025.101, Ubuntu Linux 24.04, Dec 4 2024

**Install so3lr** in a [conda environment](#) (page 33).

```
conda create -n so3lr-env
conda install -c conda-forge -n so3lr-env "python<3.13" ase
conda run -n so3lr-env \
  python -m pip install \
    git+https://github.com/general-molecular-simulations/so3lr \
    "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of a water molecule, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```
conda run -n so3lr-env \
  python $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_so3lr/calculator.py
```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```
rm -rf so3lr_test.results

AMS_JOBNAME=so3lr_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O 1.5 0. 0.
    C 0.0 0. 0.
    O -1.5 0. 0.
  End
  Lattice
    25.0 0.0 0.0
    0.0 25.0 0.0
    0.0 0.0 25.0
  End
```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```

End

Engine ASE
  File $AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_so3lr/calculator.py
  Arguments
    calculate_stress = False
    lr_cutoff = 12.0
  End
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda so3lr-env # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor

```

If you have a CUDA-enabled GPU, you can set `device = "cuda"` to run on the GPU instead. Or remove the option completely to use the default device.

See the so3lr documentation and code for details.

## 2.25 tblite

*Tested with:* AMS2025.101, Linux Mint 22, Nov 12 2024

**Install tblite** in a *conda environment* (page 33).

```

conda create -n tblite-env
conda install -c conda-forge -n tblite-env "python<3.13" ase tblite tblite-python_
↳ dftd4
conda run -n tblite-env \
  python -m pip install \
    "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl

```

**Test your installation.** If the below prints the energy of a water molecule, then your conda environment has been set up correctly:

```

conda run -n tblite-env \
  python "$AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends/_tblite/calculator.py"

```

**Run AMS with the ASE engine.** Feel free to copy the calculator.py file and modify it to your needs (note: Task and System are provided in the AMS input below).

```

rm -rf tblite_test.results

# tip: copy-paste this input into AMSinput to use the GUI
AMS_JOBNAME=tblite_test $AMSBIN/ams -n 1 <<eor
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    O 1.5 0. 0.
    C 0.0 0. 0.
    O -1.5 0. 0.
  End
End

```

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```
Engine ASE
  Type Import
  Import tblite.ase.TBLite
  Arguments
    method = "GFN2-xTB"
  End
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda tblite-env    # this environment must have been set up correctly
  End
EndEngine
eor
```

See the [tblite](#) documentation and code for details.

## 2.26 VASP

See the [VASP via AMS](#) documentation.

## 2.27 xTB (GFN2-xTB)

See [tblite](#) (page 30)



## PYTHON ENVS.: AMSPYTHON, CONDA, ...

*New in AMS2025:* Use ASE calculators from any Python environment.

Set the input Python Type input option to:

- `amspython`: Use the [Python](#) and ASE package included with AMS. This is the default. See the [quickstart guide](#) (page 2).
- [Conda](#) (page 33): If you want to use an ASE calculator that is **not** included in the core ASE package, we recommend that you install it into a separate Python environment using, for example, `conda` or `mamba`. See [Get started with conda or mamba](#) (page 33).
- [Current](#) (page 36): If you do not have `conda` or `mamba`, you can also set the [Python Type to Current](#) (page 36). This also lets you use either the system Python or any Python virtual environment, by activating it before running AMS.

This means that you can use modern Python tools and packages, without relying on `amspython`.

*Expert option:* You can also specify the Python environment with the [SCM\\_ASE\\_PYTHON\\_TYPE](#) environment variable (page 36).

### 3.1 Set up a conda environment for use with AMS

#### 3.1.1 Get started with conda or mamba

If you already have `conda` working and installed on your system, you can skip to the next step.

[Miniforge](https://github.com/conda-forge/miniforge) (<https://github.com/conda-forge/miniforge>) holds minimal installers for `conda` and `mamba`, and is configured for the community-driven [conda-forge](https://conda-forge.org/) (<https://conda-forge.org/>) channel. Several academic projects that may be interesting to couple to AMS are published on `conda-forge`.

`conda` and `mamba` are two almost equivalent programs. Typically, `mamba` is a bit faster for installing packages.

**Warning:** SCM is not affiliated with `miniforge` or `conda-forge`. SCM has no control over what packages are installed when you follow these instructions.

Before following these instructions, ensure that your organization allows you to install packages from the internet.

**See also:**

Blog post: [Is conda free?](https://www.anaconda.com/blog/is-conda-free) (<https://www.anaconda.com/blog/is-conda-free>)

Note: All ASE conda [examples](#) (page 9) use packages from the community-driven `conda-forge` channel.

- Follow the [download and installation instructions for Miniforge](https://conda-forge.org/download/) (<https://conda-forge.org/download/>).

- Make sure that `conda` is accessible from a directory in your `PATH` environment variable. The Miniforge installer may automatically add it to your `PATH`.
- Once it has been installed, verify that you can open a terminal and successfully run

```
conda --version  # must work to be able to couple to AMS
mamba --version  # optional
```

If **conda** is not found, you need to add the correct directory to your `PATH` environment variable (**do not** set `PATH` from inside the SCM preferences, instead set it through your operating system or shell settings):

- Mac/Linux: Add the correct `/path/to/miniforge3/condabin` directory to your `PATH` (the `condabin` directory should contain the `conda` script)
- Windows: Add the correct `C:\path\to\miniforge3\Scripts` directory to your `PATH` (the `Scripts` directory should contain the `conda.exe` executable).

### More information about conda on Windows

On Windows, the Miniforge3 installer recommends to not add `conda` to `PATH`. However, to use it with AMS:

- `conda` must exist on `PATH`, and
- you must be able to run `conda` in a normal command prompt (*outside* the Miniforge3 prompt)

## 3.1.2 Create a new conda environment

For creating an environment and installing packages, we will use `conda`, but you can also use `mamba`.

**Create a new environment** called `my_first_env` containing Python and ASE:

```
conda create -n my_first_env
conda install -n my_first_env "python<3.13" ase  # add more packages as needed

# or use mamba
# mamba create -n my_first_env
# mamba install -n my_first_env "python<3.13" ase  # add more packages as needed
```

**Check the installed environments:**

```
conda env list
```

**Test your ASE and Python installation**

```
conda run -n my_first_env python --version
conda run -n my_first_env python -c "import sys; print(sys.executable)"
conda run -n my_first_env python -c "import ase; print(ase.__version__)"
```

### 3.1.3 Install scm.amspipe and scm.external\_engines into the conda environment

**Tip:** Before installing the SCM packages with `pip`, make sure that you have installed all the conda packages you need using `conda install`.

To couple AMS to your conda environment, you need to install the two packages `scm.amspipe` and `scm.external_engines`. These packages are not available as conda packages but can be installed using `pip`:

```
conda run -n my_first_env python -m pip install "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl
```

Check your installation:

```
conda run -n my_first_env python -c "import scm.amspipe; import scm.external_engines"
```

If no errors are reported, the SCM packages have been installed correctly.

### 3.1.4 Use the ASE calculator from the conda environment in AMS

```
"$AMSBIN/ams" -n 1 <<EOF
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    Ag 0. 0. 0.
    Cu 0. 0. 2.0
  End
End

Engine ASE
  Type Import
  Import ase.calculators.emt.EMT
  Python
    Type Conda
    Conda my_first_env
  End
EndEngine
EOF
```

**Tip:** You can also copy-paste the above input into AMSinput.

For more realistic examples, see *Examples* (page 9)

**Tip:** The value of the `Conda` input option can also be the absolute path to the conda environment.

## 3.2 Use the current Python interpreter

If you want to use a custom Python environment but do not have access to conda or mamba (for example, you might use system Python or the Python builtin `venv` for virtual environments), you can set the Python Type to `Current`:

```
Engine ASE
  Python
    Type Current
  End
EndEngine
```

The above means that the python interpreter that is shown by the command `which python` (or `python.exe` on Windows) will be used. If you want this to be different from your system Python, you need to manually activate the corresponding virtual environment.

You need to install `ase`, `scm.amspipe`, and `scm.external_engines` into this Python environment.

For example, before running AMS, you may

```
source /path/to/my/venv/bin/activate
# install packages if not already installed
# python -m pip install ase "$AMSHOME"/scripting/wheels/*.whl

$AMSBIN/ams <<eor
Task SinglePoint

System
  Atoms
    Ag 0. 0. 0.
    Cu 0. 0. 2.0
  End
End

Engine ASE
  Type Import
  Import ase.calculators.emt.EMT
  Python
    Type Current
  End
EndEngine
eor
```

## 3.3 Specify Python environment with an environment variable

It can sometimes be convenient to set the Conda environment or Python interpreter in an environment variable instead of modifying the input file.

For example, you may want to generate the input file in a script and at that point you may not know what the name or path of the conda environment is.

The below table lists examples of valid engine input and the equivalent value for the `SCM_ASE_PYTHON_TYPE` environment variable.



| Environment variable  | Engine input   |
|---|--|
| <code>export SCM_ASE_PYTHON_TYPE=amspython</code>           | <pre> Engine ASE   Python     Type amspython   End End </pre>                              |
| <code>export SCM_ASE_PYTHON_TYPE=conda:my_↵first_env</code> | <pre> Engine ASE   Python     Type Conda       Conda my_first_env     End   End End </pre> |
| <code>export SCM_ASE_PYTHON_TYPE=current</code>             | <pre> Engine ASE   Python     Type Current   End End </pre>                                |

**Example:** You can set `SCM_ASE_PYTHON_TYPE=conda:my_first_env` as follows:

```

export SCM_ASE_PYTHON_TYPE=conda:my_first_env

"$AMSBIN/ams" -n 1 <<EOF
Task GeometryOptimization

System
  Atoms
    Ag 0. 0. 0.
    Cu 0. 0. 2.0
  End
End

Engine ASE
  Type Import
  Import ase.calculators.emt.EMT
EndEngine
EOF

```

Note that this environment variable will **override** the `Python%Type` set in the input.



## AMS DRIVER'S TASKS AND PROPERTIES

The ASE engine is an [engine](#) used by the AMS driver. While the specific options for the ASE engine are described in this manual, the definition of the system, the selection of the task and certain (potential-energy-surface-related) properties are documented in the AMS driver's manual.

In this page you will find useful links to the relevant sections of the [AMS driver's Manual](#).

### 4.1 Geometry, System definition

The definition of the system, i.e. the atom types and atomic coordinates (and optionally, the lattice vectors and atomic masses for isotopes) are part of the AMS driver input. See the [System definition section of the AMS manual](#).

### 4.2 Tasks: exploring the PES

The job of the AMS driver is to handle all changes in the simulated system's geometry, e.g. during a geometry optimization or molecular dynamics calculation, using energy and forces calculated by the engine.

These are the tasks available in the AMS driver:

- [GCMC \(Grand Canonical Monte Carlo\)](#)
- [Geometry Optimization](#)
- [IRC \(Intrinsic Reaction Coordinate\)](#)
- [Molecular Dynamics](#)
- [NEB \(Nudged Elastic Band\)](#)
- [PESScan \(Potential Energy Surface Scan, including linear transit\)](#)
- [Single Point](#)
- [Transition State Search](#)
- [Vibrational Analysis](#)

## 4.3 Properties in the AMS driver

The following properties can be requested to the ASE engine in the AMS driver's input:

- Elastic tensor
- Hessian
- Nuclear gradients (forces)
- Normal modes
- PES point character
- Phonons
- Stress tensor
- Thermodynamic properties

## ASE INPUT OPTIONS

### 5.1 Engine ASE

#### AllASEResults

**Type**

Bool

**Default value**

Yes

**Recurring**

False

**GUI name**

All ASE results

**Description**

Return all ASE results that are not also part of AMSResults. These values can be found in ase.rkf without any unit conversions.

#### Arguments

**Type**

Non-standard block

**Description**

Arguments to the function or constructor initializing the Calculator. Give each argument on a separate line. This is case sensitive.

Note: Do not perform any Python imports here. Only use Python builtin types. Arguments containing paths must be absolute.

Example:

```
cutoff = 3.14
```

```
title = 'my_string'
```

```
my_list_arg = [1, 4, 5]
```

```
options_dictionary = {'key1': 11, 'key2': 22}
```

```
my_boolean_flag = True
```

```
my_path = '/this/must/be/an/absolute/path'
```

#### ArgumentsFromFile

**Type**

String

**Default value****Description**

Specify the path to a yaml or python file defining the arguments to the function or class defined in *Calculator* or *Callable*.

**File****Type**

String

**Default value****Description**

Specify the path to a Python file. This file should contain a callable (e.g. function or class) named *get\_calculator* that returns an ASE Calculator and uses the arguments defined in *Arguments* or *ArgumentsFromFile*.

You can find examples of suitable calculator.py files (possibly requiring additional installations of packages) in `$AMSHOME/scripting/scm/external_engines/backends`.

**Import****Type**

String

**Default value****Description**

Specify the module and name of a Calculator installed in the used Python stack. This is case sensitive.

Builtin ASE examples:

`ase.calculators.emt.EMT`

Other examples requiring special installations:

`scm.external_engines.backends._psi4.calculator.get_calculator`

`scm.external_engines.backends._tblite.calculator.get_calculator`

`scm.external_engines.backends._mace.calculator.get_calculator`

**Performance****Type**

Multiple Choice

**Default value**

DFTB

**Options**

[Fast, ForceField, DFTB, DFT, Slow]

**Description**

Choose which option most accurately corresponds to how long a calculation with the calculator takes.

**Python****Type**

Block

**Description**

Specify which Python to run.

**Conda****Type**

String

**Default value****Description**

Name of conda environment. Only used when `Python%Type = Conda`. You may also define the conda environment setting the environment variable `SCM_ASE_PYTHON_TYPE=conda:name-of-environment`.

If the value is an absolute path it will be executed with `conda run -p`, otherwise it is assumed to be a name of a conda environment that can be executed with `conda run -n`.

The conda executable shell script must exist on your `$PATH`. To see available environments, run `conda env list`.

**Type****Type**

Multiple Choice

**Default value**

amspython

**Options**

[amspython, Conda, Current]

**GUI name**

Python environment

**Description**

Type of Python environment. If Conda, set the name or path of the environment under `Python%Conda`. If Current, the default python (or `python.exe` on Windows) command will be used.

**Results****Type**

String

**Recurring**

True

**Description**

The data of this key in the results dictionary of the Calculator is stored in the engine rkf. Multiple results keys can be specified. This is case sensitive.

**Type****Type**

Multiple Choice

**Default value**

File

**Options**

[File, Import]

**GUI name**

Calculator from

**Description**

Select how to specify which calculator to use.



## KF OUTPUT FILES

### 6.1 Accessing KF files

KF files are Direct Access binary files. KF stands for Keyed File: KF files are keyword oriented, which makes them easy to process by simple procedures. Internally all the data on KF files is organized into sections containing variables, so each datum on the file can be identified by the combination of section and variable.

All KF files can be opened using the [KFbrowser](#) GUI program:

```
$AMSBIN/kfbrowser path/to/ams.rkf
```

By default KFbrowser shows a just a curated summary of the results on the file, but you can make it show the raw section and variable structure by switching it to expert mode. To do this, click on **File → Expert Mode** or press **ctrl/cmd + e**.

KF files can be opened and read with [Command line tools](#).

For working with the data from KF files, it is often useful to be able to read them from Python. Using the [AMS Python Stack](#), this can easily be done with the [AKFReader](#) class:

```
>>> from scm.akfreader import AKFReader
>>> kf = AKFReader("path/to/ams.rkf")
>>> "Molecule%Coords" in kf
True
>>> kf.description("Molecule%Coords")
{
  '_type': 'float_array',
  '_shape': [3, 'nAtoms'],
  '_comment': 'Coordinates of the nuclei (x,y,z)',
  '_unit': 'Bohr'
}
>>> kf.read("Molecule%Coords")
array([[ -11.7770694 ,  -4.19739597,   0.04934546],
       [  -9.37471321,  -2.63234227,  -0.13448698],
       ...,
       [  10.09508738,  -1.06191208,   1.45286913],
       [  10.11689333,  -1.5080196 ,  -1.87916127]])
```

---

**Tip:** For a full overview of the available methods in AKFReader, see the [AKFReader API](#) documentation.

---

## 6.2 Sections and variables on ase.rkf

### AMSResults

**Section content:** Generic results of the ASE Engine evaluation.

#### **AMSResults%Bonds**

**Type**

subsection

**Description**

Bond info

#### **AMSResults%Bonds%Atoms**

**Type**

archived\_int\_array

**Description**

?

#### **AMSResults%Bonds%CellShifts**

**Type**

archived\_int\_array

**Description**

?

#### **AMSResults%Bonds%description**

**Type**

string

**Description**

A string containing a description of how the bond orders were calculated / where they come from

#### **AMSResults%Bonds%hasCellShifts**

**Type**

bool

**Description**

Whether there are cell shifts (relevant only in case of periodic boundary conditions)

#### **AMSResults%Bonds%Index**

**Type**

archived\_int\_array

**Description**

index(i) points to the first element of Atoms, Orders, and CellShifts belonging to bonds from atom 'i'. Index(1) is always 1, Index(nAtoms+1) is always nBonds + 1

#### **AMSResults%Bonds%Orders**

**Type**

archived\_float\_array

**Description**

The bond orders.

#### **AMSResults%BulkModulus**

**Type**

float

**Description**The Bulk modulus (conversion factor from hartree/bohr<sup>3</sup> to GPa: 29421.026)**Unit**hartree/bohr<sup>3</sup>**AMSRResults%Charges****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Net atomic charges as computed by the engine (for example, the Charges for a water molecule might be [-0.6, 0.3, 0.3]). The method used to compute these atomic charges depends on the engine.

**Unit**

e

**Shape**

[Molecule%nAtoms]

**AMSRResults%DipoleGradients****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Derivative of the dipole moment with respect to nuclear displacements.

**Shape**

[3, 3, Molecule%nAtoms]

**AMSRResults%DipoleMoment****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Dipole moment vector (x,y,z)

**Unit**

e\*bohr

**Shape**

[3]

**AMSRResults%ElasticTensor****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The elastic tensor in Voigt notation (6x6 matrix for 3D periodic systems, 3x3 matrix for 2D periodic systems, 1x1 matrix for 1D periodic systems).

**Unit**hartree/bohr<sup>n</sup>LatticeVectors**Shape**

[:, :]

**AMSRResults%Energy****Type**

float

**Description**

The energy computed by the engine.

**Unit**

hartree

**AMSRResults%Gradients****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The nuclear gradients.

**Unit**

hartree/bohr

**Shape**

[3, Molecule%nAtoms]

**AMSRResults%Hessian****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The Hessian matrix

**Unit**

hartree/bohr^2

**Shape**

[3\*Molecule%nAtoms, 3\*Molecule%nAtoms]

**AMSRResults%Molecules****Type**

subsection

**Description**

Molecules

**AMSRResults%Molecules%AtCount****Type**

archived\_int\_array

**Description**

shape=(nMolType), Summary: number of atoms per formula.

**AMSRResults%Molecules%Atoms****Type**

archived\_int\_array

**Description**

shape=(nAtoms), atoms(index(i):index(i+1)-1) = atom indices of molecule i

**AMSRResults%Molecules%Count**

**Type**

archived\_int\_array

**Description**

Mol count per formula.

**AMSRResults%Molecules%Formulas****Type**

string

**Description**

Summary: unique molecule formulas

**AMSRResults%Molecules%Index****Type**

archived\_int\_array

**Description**

shape=(nMol+1), index(i) = index of the first atom of molecule i in array atoms(:)

**AMSRResults%Molecules%Type****Type**

archived\_int\_array

**Description**

shape=(nMol), type of the molecule, reference to the summary arrays below

**AMSRResults%PESPointCharacter****Type**

string

**Description**

The character of a PES point.

**Possible values**

['local minimum', 'transition state', 'stationary point with &gt;1 negative frequencies', 'non-stationary point']

**AMSRResults%PoissonRatio****Type**

float

**Description**

The Poisson ratio

**AMSRResults%ShearModulus****Type**

float

**Description**The Shear modulus (conversion factor from hartree/bohr<sup>3</sup> to GPa: 29421.026)**Unit**hartree/bohr<sup>3</sup>**AMSRResults%StressTensor****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The clamped-ion stress tensor in Cartesian notation.

**Unit**

hartree/bohr<sup>n</sup>LatticeVectors

**Shape**

[, :]

**AMSRResults%UncertaintyScore****Type**

float

**Description**

?

**AMSRResults%YoungModulus****Type**

float

**Description**

The Young modulus (conversion factor from hartree/bohr<sup>3</sup> to GPa: 29421.026)

**Unit**

hartree/bohr<sup>3</sup>

**BZcell(primitive cell)**

**Section content:** The Brillouin zone of the primitive cell.

**BZcell(primitive cell)%boundaries****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Normal vectors for the boundaries.

**Shape**

[ndim, nboundaries]

**BZcell(primitive cell)%distances****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Distance to the boundaries.

**Shape**

[nboundaries]

**BZcell(primitive cell)%idVerticesPerBound****Type**

int\_array

**Description**

The indices of the vertices per bound.

**Shape**

[nvertices, nboundaries]

**BZcell(primitive cell)%latticeVectors**

**Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The lattice vectors.

**Shape**

[3, :]

**BZcell(primitive cell)%nboundaries****Type**

int

**Description**

The nr. of boundaries for the cell.

**BZcell(primitive cell)%ndim****Type**

int

**Description**

The nr. of lattice vectors spanning the Wigner-Seitz cell.

**BZcell(primitive cell)%numVerticesPerBound****Type**

int\_array

**Description**

The nr. of vertices per bound.

**Shape**

[nboundaries]

**BZcell(primitive cell)%nvertices****Type**

int

**Description**

The nr. of vertices of the cell.

**BZcell(primitive cell)%vertices****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The vertices of the bounds.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[ndim, nvertices]

**DOS\_Phonons****Section content:** Phonon Density of States**DOS\_Phonons%DeltaE****Type**

float

**Description**

The energy difference between sampled DOS energies. When there is no DOS at all a certain energy range can be skipped.

**Unit**

hartree

**DOS\_Phonons%Energies****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The energies at which the DOS is sampled.

**Unit**

hartree

**Shape**

[nEnergies]

**DOS\_Phonons%Fermi Energy****Type**

float

**Description**

The fermi energy.

**Unit**

hartree

**DOS\_Phonons%IntegrateDeltaE****Type**

bool

**Description**

If enabled it means that the DOS is integrated over intervals of DeltaE. Sharp delta function like peaks cannot be missed this way.

**DOS\_Phonons%nEnergies****Type**

int

**Description**

The nr. of energies to use to sample the DOS.

**DOS\_Phonons%nSpin****Type**

int

**Description**

The number of spin components for the DOS.

**Possible values**

[1, 2]

**DOS\_Phonons%Total DOS****Type**

float\_array



**Description**

The total DOS.

**Shape**

[nEnergies, nSpin]

**General**

**Section content:** General information about the ASE calculation.

**General%account****Type**

string

**Description**

Name of the account from the license

**General%engine input****Type**

string

**Description**

The text input of the engine.

**General%engine messages****Type**

string

**Description**

Message from the engine. In case the engine fails to solves, this may contains extra information on why.

**General%file-ident****Type**

string

**Description**

The file type identifier, e.g. RKF, RUNKF, TAPE21...

**General%jobid****Type**

int

**Description**

Unique identifier for the job.

**General%program****Type**

string

**Description**

The name of the program/engine that generated this kf file.

**General%release****Type**

string

**Description**

The version of the program that generated this kf file (including svn revision number and date).

**General%termination status****Type**

string

**Description**

The termination status. Possible values: 'NORMAL TERMINATION', 'NORMAL TERMINATION with warnings', 'NORMAL TERMINATION with errors', 'ERROR', 'IN PROGRESS'.

**General%title****Type**

string

**Description**

Title of the calculation.

**General%uid****Type**

string

**Description**

SCM User ID

**General%version****Type**

int

**Description**

Version number?

**KFDefinitions**

**Section content:** The definitions of the data on this file

**KFDefinitions%json****Type**

string

**Description**

The definitions of the data on this file in json.

**kspace(primitive cell)**

**Section content:** should not be here!!!

**kspace(primitive cell)%avec****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The lattice stored as a 3xnLatticeVectors matrix. Only the ndimk,ndimk part has meaning.

**Unit**

bohr

**Shape**

[3, :]

**kspace(primitive cell)%bvec**

**Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The inverse lattice stored as a 3x3 matrix. Only the ndimk,ndimk part has meaning.

**Unit**

1/bohr

**Shape**

[ndim, ndim]

**kspace(primitive cell)%kt****Type**

int

**Description**

The total number of k-points used by the k-space to sample the unique wedge of the Brillouin zone.

**kspace(primitive cell)%kunique****Type**

int

**Description**

The number of symmetry unique k-points where an explicit diagonalization is needed. Smaller or equal to kt.

**kspace(primitive cell)%ndim****Type**

int

**Description**

The nr. of lattice vectors.

**kspace(primitive cell)%ndimk****Type**

int

**Description**

The nr. of dimensions used in the k-space integration.

**kspace(primitive cell)%xyzpt****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The coordinates of the k-points.

**Unit**

1/bohr

**Shape**

[ndimk, kt]

**Low Frequency Correction****Section content:** Configuration for the Head-Gordon Dampener-powered Free Rotor Interpolation.**Low Frequency Correction%Alpha**

**Type**

float

**Description**

Exponent term for the Head-Gordon dampener.

**Low Frequency Correction%Frequency****Type**

float

**Description**

Frequency around which interpolation happens, in 1/cm.

**Low Frequency Correction%Moment of Inertia****Type**

float

**Description**Used to make sure frequencies of less than ca. 1 1/cm don't overestimate entropy, in kg m<sup>2</sup>.**Mobile Block Hessian****Section content:** Mobile Block Hessian.**Mobile Block Hessian%Coordinates Internal****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

?

**Mobile Block Hessian%Free Atom Indexes Input****Type**

int\_array

**Description**

?

**Mobile Block Hessian%Frequencies in atomic units****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

?

**Mobile Block Hessian%Frequencies in wavenumbers****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

?

**Mobile Block Hessian%Input Cartesian Normal Modes****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

?

**Mobile Block Hessian%Input Indexes of Block #**

**Type**  
int\_array

**Description**  
?

**Mobile Block Hessian%Intensities in km/mol**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
?

**Mobile Block Hessian%MBH Curvatures**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
?

**Mobile Block Hessian%Number of Blocks**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
Number of blocks.

**Mobile Block Hessian%Sizes of Blocks**

**Type**  
int\_array

**Description**  
Sizes of the blocks.

**Shape**  
[Number of Blocks]

## Molecule

**Section content:** The input molecule of the calculation.

**Molecule%AtomicNumbers**

**Type**  
int\_array

**Description**  
Atomic number 'Z' of the atoms in the system

**Shape**  
[nAtoms]

**Molecule%AtomMasses**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
Masses of the atoms

**Unit**  
a.u.

**Values range**

[0, 'infinity']

**Shape**

[nAtoms]

**Molecule%AtomSymbols****Type**

string

**Description**

The atom's symbols (e.g. 'C' for carbon)

**Shape**

[nAtoms]

**Molecule%bondOrders****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The bond orders for the bonds in the system. The indices of the two atoms participating in the bond are defined in the arrays 'fromAtoms' and 'toAtoms'. e.g. bondOrders[1]=2, fromAtoms[1]=4 and toAtoms[1]=7 means that there is a double bond between atom number 4 and atom number 7

**Molecule%Charge****Type**

float

**Description**

Net charge of the system

**Unit**

e

**Molecule%Coords****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Coordinates of the nuclei (x,y,z)

**Unit**

bohr

**Shape**

[3, nAtoms]

**Molecule%eeAttachTo****Type**

int\_array

**Description**

A multipole may be attached to an atom. This influences the energy gradient.

**Molecule%eeChargeWidth****Type**

float

**Description**

If charge broadening was used for external charges, this represents the width of the charge distribution.

**Molecule%eeEField****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The external homogeneous electric field.

**Unit**

hartree/(e\*bohr)

**Shape**

[3]

**Molecule%eeLatticeVectors****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The lattice vectors used for the external point- or multipole- charges.

**Unit**

bohr

**Shape**

[3, eeNLatticeVectors]

**Molecule%eeMulti****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The values of the external point- or multipole- charges.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[eeNZlm, eeNMulti]

**Molecule%eeNLatticeVectors****Type**

int

**Description**

The number of lattice vectors for the external point- or multipole- charges.

**Molecule%eeNMulti****Type**

int

**Description**

The number of external point- or multipole- charges.

**Molecule%eeNZlm**

**Type**

int

**Description**

When external point- or multipole- charges are used, this represents the number of spherical harmonic components. E.g. if only point charges were used, eeNZlm=1 (s-component only). If point charges and dipole moments were used, eeNZlm=4 (s, px, py and pz).

**Molecule%eeUseChargeBroadening****Type**

bool

**Description**

Whether or not the external charges are point-like or broadened.

**Molecule%eeXYZ****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The position of the external point- or multipole- charges.

**Unit**

bohr

**Shape**

[3, eeNMulti]

**Molecule%EngineAtomicInfo****Type**

string\_fixed\_length

**Description**

Atom-wise info possibly used by the engine.

**Molecule%fromAtoms****Type**

int\_array

**Description**

Index of the first atom in a bond. See the bondOrders array

**Molecule%latticeDisplacements****Type**

int\_array

**Description**

The integer lattice translations for the bonds defined in the variables bondOrders, fromAtoms and toAtoms.

**Molecule%LatticeVectors****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Lattice vectors

**Unit**

bohr



**Shape**  
[3, nLatticeVectors]

#### **Molecule%nAtoms**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
The number of atoms in the system

#### **Molecule%nAtomsTypes**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
The number different of atoms types

#### **Molecule%nLatticeVectors**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
Number of lattice vectors (i.e. number of periodic boundary conditions)

**Possible values**  
[0, 1, 2, 3]

#### **Molecule%toAtoms**

**Type**  
int\_array

**Description**  
Index of the second atom in a bond. See the bondOrders array

### **MoleculeSuperCell**

**Section content:** The system used for the numerical phonon super cell calculation.

#### **MoleculeSuperCell%AtomicNumbers**

**Type**  
int\_array

**Description**  
Atomic number 'Z' of the atoms in the system

**Shape**  
[nAtoms]

#### **MoleculeSuperCell%AtomMasses**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
Masses of the atoms

**Unit**  
a.u.

**Values range**  
[0, 'infinity']

**Shape**

[nAtoms]

**MoleculeSuperCell%AtomSymbols****Type**

string

**Description**

The atom's symbols (e.g. 'C' for carbon)

**Shape**

[nAtoms]

**MoleculeSuperCell%bondOrders****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The bond orders for the bonds in the system. The indices of the two atoms participating in the bond are defined in the arrays 'fromAtoms' and 'toAtoms'. e.g. bondOrders[1]=2, fromAtoms[1]=4 and toAtoms[1]=7 means that there is a double bond between atom number 4 and atom number 7

**MoleculeSuperCell%Charge****Type**

float

**Description**

Net charge of the system

**Unit**

e

**MoleculeSuperCell%Coords****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Coordinates of the nuclei (x,y,z)

**Unit**

bohr

**Shape**

[3, nAtoms]

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeAttachTo****Type**

int\_array

**Description**

A multipole may be attached to an atom. This influences the energy gradient.

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeChargeWidth****Type**

float

**Description**

If charge broadening was used for external charges, this represents the width of the charge distribution.

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeEField****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The external homogeneous electric field.

**Unit**

hartree/(e\*bohr)

**Shape**

[3]

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeLatticeVectors****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The lattice vectors used for the external point- or multipole- charges.

**Unit**

bohr

**Shape**

[3, eeNLatticeVectors]

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeMulti****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The values of the external point- or multipole- charges.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[eeNZlm, eeNMulti]

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeNLatticeVectors****Type**

int

**Description**

The number of lattice vectors for the external point- or multipole- charges.

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeNMulti****Type**

int

**Description**

The number of external point- or multipole- charges.

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeNZlm**

**Type**  
int

**Description**

When external point- or multipole- charges are used, this represents the number of spherical harmonic components. E.g. if only point charges were used, eeNZlm=1 (s-component only). If point charges and dipole moments were used, eeNZlm=4 (s, px, py and pz).

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeUseChargeBroadening**

**Type**  
bool

**Description**

Whether or not the external charges are point-like or broadened.

**MoleculeSuperCell%eeXYZ**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**

The position of the external point- or multipole- charges.

**Unit**  
bohr

**Shape**  
[3, eeNMulti]

**MoleculeSuperCell%EngineAtomicInfo**

**Type**  
string\_fixed\_length

**Description**

Atom-wise info possibly used by the engine.

**MoleculeSuperCell%fromAtoms**

**Type**  
int\_array

**Description**

Index of the first atom in a bond. See the bondOrders array

**MoleculeSuperCell%latticeDisplacements**

**Type**  
int\_array

**Description**

The integer lattice translations for the bonds defined in the variables bondOrders, fromAtoms and toAtoms.

**MoleculeSuperCell%LatticeVectors**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**

Lattice vectors

**Unit**  
bohr

**Shape**

[3, nLatticeVectors]

**MoleculeSuperCell%nAtoms****Type**

int

**Description**

The number of atoms in the system

**MoleculeSuperCell%nAtomsTypes****Type**

int

**Description**

The number different of atoms types

**MoleculeSuperCell%nLatticeVectors****Type**

int

**Description**

Number of lattice vectors (i.e. number of periodic boundary conditions)

**Possible values**

[0, 1, 2, 3]

**MoleculeSuperCell%toAtoms****Type**

int\_array

**Description**

Index of the second atom in a bond. See the bondOrders array

**Other**

**Section content:** Contains any information send over by ASE/python which AMS does not know how to handle. This is stored but not documented.

**phonon\_curves**

**Section content:** Phonon dispersion curves.

**phonon\_curves%brav\_type****Type**

string

**Description**

Type of the lattice.

**phonon\_curves%Edge\_#\_bands****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The band energies

**Shape**

[nBands, nSpin, :]

**phonon\_curves%Edge\_#\_direction**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
Direction vector.

**Shape**  
[nDimK]

**phonon\_curves%Edge\_#\_kPoints**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
Coordinates for points along the edge.

**Shape**  
[nDimK, :]

**phonon\_curves%Edge\_#\_labels**

**Type**  
lchar\_string\_array

**Description**  
Labels for begin and end point of the edge.

**Shape**  
[2]

**phonon\_curves%Edge\_#\_lGamma**

**Type**  
bool

**Description**  
Is gamma point?

**phonon\_curves%Edge\_#\_nKPoints**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
The nr. of k points along the edge.

**phonon\_curves%Edge\_#\_vertices**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
Begin and end point of the edge.

**Shape**  
[nDimK, 2]

**phonon\_curves%Edge\_#\_xFor1DPlotting**

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
x Coordinate for points along the edge.

**Shape**  
[:]

**phonon\_curves%indexLowestBand**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
?

**phonon\_curves%nBands**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
Number of bands.

**phonon\_curves%nBas**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
Number of basis functions.

**phonon\_curves%nDimK**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
Dimension of the reciprocal space.

**phonon\_curves%nEdges**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
The number of edges. An edge is a line-segment through k-space. It has a begin and end point and possibly points in between.

**phonon\_curves%nEdgesInPath**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
A path is built up from a number of edges.

**phonon\_curves%nSpin**

**Type**  
int

**Description**  
Number of spin components.

**Possible values**  
[1, 2]

**phonon\_curves%path**

**Type**

int\_array

**Description**

If the (edge) index is negative it means that the vertices of the edge `abs(index)` are swapped e.g. `path = (1,2,3,0,-3,-2,-1)` goes through edges 1,2,3, then there's a jump, and then it goes back.

**Shape**`[nEdgesInPath]`**phonon\_curves%path\_source****Type**

string

**Description**

Source or program used to generate the path.

**Possible values**`['input', 'kpath', 'seekpath']`**phonon\_curves%path\_type****Type**

string

**Description**

?

**Phonons**

**Section content:** Information on the numerical phonons (super cell) setup. NB: the reciprocal cell of the super cell is smaller than the reciprocal primitive cell.

**Phonons%Modes****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The normal modes with the translational symmetry of the super cell.

**Shape**`[3, nAtoms, 3, NumAtomsPrim, nK]`**Phonons%nAtoms****Type**

int

**Description**

Number of atoms in the super cell.

**Phonons%nK****Type**

int

**Description**

Number of gamma-points (of the super cell) that fit into the primitive reciprocal cell.

**Phonons%NumAtomsPrim****Type**

int



**Description**

Number of atoms in the primitive cell.

**Phonons%xyzKSuper****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The coordinates of the gamma points that fit into the primitive reciprocal cell.

**Shape**

[3, nK]

**Thermodynamics**

**Section content:** Thermodynamic properties computed from normal modes.

**Thermodynamics%Enthalpy****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Enthalpy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Entropy rotational****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Rotational contribution to the entropy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Entropy total****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Total entropy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Entropy translational****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Translational contribution to the entropy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Entropy vibrational****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Vibrational contribution to the entropy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Gibbs free Energy****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Gibbs free energy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Heat Capacity rotational****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Rotational contribution to the heat capacity.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Heat Capacity total****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Total heat capacity.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Heat Capacity translational****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Translational contribution to the heat capacity.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Heat Capacity vibrational****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Vibrational contribution to the heat capacity.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Inertia direction vectors****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Inertia direction vectors.

**Shape**

[3, 3]

**Thermodynamics%Internal Energy rotational****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Rotational contribution to the internal energy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Internal Energy total****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Total internal energy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Thermodynamics%Internal Energy translational**

**Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Translational contribution to the internal energy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Internal Energy vibrational****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Vibrational contribution to the internal energy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%lowFreqEntropy****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Entropy contributions from low frequencies (see 'lowFrequencies').

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nLowFrequencies]

**Thermodynamics%lowFreqHeatCapacity****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Heat capacity contributions from low frequencies (see 'lowFrequencies').

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nLowFrequencies]

**Thermodynamics%lowFreqInternalEnergy****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Internal energy contributions from low frequencies (see 'lowFrequencies').

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nLowFrequencies]

**Thermodynamics%lowFrequencies****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Frequencies below 20 cm<sup>-1</sup> (contributions from frequencies below 20 cm<sup>-1</sup> are not included in vibrational sums, and are saved separately to 'lowFreqEntropy', 'lowFreqInternalEnergy' and 'lowFreqInternalEnergy'). Note: this does not apply to RRHO-corrected quantities.

**Unit**cm<sup>-1</sup>**Shape**

[nLowFrequencies]

**Thermodynamics%Moments of inertia****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Moments of inertia.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[3]

**Thermodynamics%nLowFrequencies****Type**

int

**Description**

Number of elements in the array lowFrequencies.

**Thermodynamics%nTemperatures****Type**

int

**Description**

Number of temperatures.

**Thermodynamics%Pressure****Type**

float

**Description**

Pressure used.

**Unit**

atm

**Thermodynamics%RRHOCorrectedHeatCapacity****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Heat capacity  $T \cdot S$  corrected using the 'low vibrational frequency free rotor interpolation corrections'.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%RRHOCorrectedInternalEnergy****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Internal energy  $T \cdot S$  corrected using the 'low vibrational frequency free rotor interpolation corrections'.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%RRHOCorrectedTS****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

$T \cdot S$  corrected using the 'low vibrational frequency free rotor interpolation corrections'.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%Temperature****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

List of temperatures at which properties are calculated.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**

[nTemperatures]

**Thermodynamics%TS****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

$T \cdot S$ , i.e. temperature times entropy.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Shape**  
[nTemperatures]

## Vibrations

**Section content:** Information related to molecular vibrations.

### Vibrations%ExcitedStateLifetime

**Type**  
float

**Description**  
Raman excited state lifetime.

**Unit**  
hartree

### Vibrations%ForceConstants

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
The force constants of the vibrations.

**Unit**  
hartree/bohr<sup>2</sup>

**Shape**  
[nNormalModes]

### Vibrations%Frequencies [cm<sup>-1</sup>]

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
The vibrational frequencies of the normal modes.

**Unit**  
cm<sup>-1</sup>

**Shape**  
[nNormalModes]

### Vibrations%Intensities [km/mol]

**Type**  
float\_array

**Description**  
The intensity of the normal modes.

**Unit**  
km/mol

**Shape**  
[nNormalModes]

### Vibrations%IrReps

**Type**  
lchar\_string\_array

**Description**

Symmetry symbol of the normal mode.

**Shape**

[nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%ModesNorm2****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Norms of the rigid motions.

**Shape**

[nNormalModes+nRigidModes]

**Vibrations%ModesNorm2\*****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Norms of the rigid motions (for a given irrep...?).

**Shape**

[nNormalModes+nRigidModes]

**Vibrations%nNormalModes****Type**

int

**Description**

Number of normal modes.

**Vibrations%NoWeightNormalMode (#)****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

?

**Shape**

[3, Molecule%nAtoms]

**Vibrations%NoWeightRigidMode (#)****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

?

**Shape**

[3, Molecule%nAtoms]

**Vibrations%nRigidModes****Type**

int

**Description**

Number of rigid modes.



**Vibrations%nSemiRigidModes****Type**

int

**Description**

Number of semi-rigid modes.

**Vibrations%PVDOS****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Partial vibrational density of states.

**Values range**

[0.0, 1.0]

**Shape**

[nNormalModes, Molecule%nAtoms]

**Vibrations%RamanDepolRatioLin****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Raman depol ratio (lin).

**Shape**

[nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%RamanDepolRatioNat****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Raman depol ratio (nat).

**Shape**

[nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%RamanIncidentFreq****Type**

float

**Description**

Raman incident light frequency.

**Unit**

hartree

**Vibrations%RamanIntens [A<sup>4</sup>/amu]****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

Raman intensities

**Unit**A<sup>4</sup>/amu

**Shape**

[nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%ReducedMasses****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The reduced masses of the normal modes.

**Unit**

a.u.

**Values range**

[0, 'infinity']

**Shape**

[nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%RotationalStrength****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

The rotational strength of the normal modes.

**Shape**

[nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%TransformationMatrix****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

?

**Shape**

[3, Molecule%nAtoms, nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%VROACIDBackward****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

VROA Circular Intensity Differential: Backward scattering.

**Unit** $10^{-3}$ **Shape**

[nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%VROACIDDePolarized****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

VROA Circular Intensity Differential: Depolarized scattering.

**Unit** $10^{-3}$ **Shape** $[n\text{NormalModes}]$ **Vibrations%VROACIDForward****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

VROA Circular Intensity Differential: Forward scattering.

**Unit** $10^{-3}$ **Shape** $[n\text{NormalModes}]$ **Vibrations%VROACIDPolarized****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

VROA Circular Intensity Differential: Polarized scattering.

**Unit** $10^{-3}$ **Shape** $[n\text{NormalModes}]$ **Vibrations%VROADeltaBackward****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

VROA Intensity: Backward scattering.

**Unit** $10^{-3} \text{ A}^4/\text{amu}$ **Shape** $[n\text{NormalModes}]$ **Vibrations%VROADeltaDePolarized****Type**

float\_array

**Description**

VROA Intensity: Depolarized scattering.

**Unit** $10^{-3} \text{ A}^4/\text{amu}$ **Shape** $[n\text{NormalModes}]$ **Vibrations%VROADeltaForward**

**Type**

float\_array

**Description**

VROA Intensity: Forward scattering.

**Unit**

$10^{-3} \text{ A}^4/\text{amu}$

**Shape**

[nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%VROADeltaPolarized**

**Type**

float\_array

**Description**

VROA Intensity: Polarized scattering.

**Unit**

$10^{-3} \text{ A}^4/\text{amu}$

**Shape**

[nNormalModes]

**Vibrations%ZeroPointEnergy**

**Type**

float

**Description**

Vibrational zero-point energy.

**Unit**

hartree

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