



# Interaction Between Ionizing Radiation And Matter, Problems Photons

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## Problem 7.1

- Is the mass Compton attenuation/energy transfer coefficient larger in carbon or lead?

Solution:  $\sigma_e \propto Z^0$  (cm<sup>2</sup>/electron) ← Independent of Z

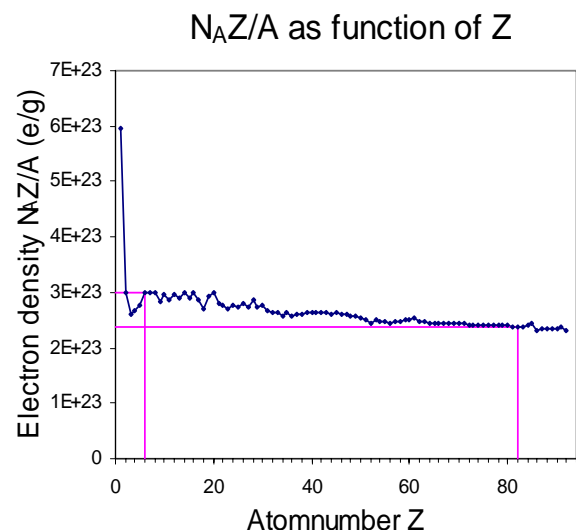
$$\frac{a\sigma}{\rho} = \frac{N_A Z}{A} \cdot \sigma_e \quad (\text{cm}^2/\text{g})$$

$$\frac{a\sigma_w}{\rho} = \frac{a\sigma}{\rho} \frac{\bar{T}}{h\nu} \quad (\text{cm}^2/\text{g})$$

Carbon:  $N_A Z/A = 0.49954 N_A$

Lead:  $N_A Z/A = 0.39575 N_A$

$N_A = 6.0022 \cdot 10^{23}$



## Problem 7.2

- Why is Rayleigh scattering not plotted in Fig. 7.16a,b, although quite significant in Fig. 7.13a,b?

Solution:  $\frac{{}_a\sigma_R}{\rho} \tilde{\propto} \frac{Z}{(h\nu)^2} \left( \text{cm}^2/\text{g} \right)$

$$\frac{{}_a\sigma_{Rtr}}{\rho} = 0 \left( \text{cm}^2/\text{g} \right)$$

## Problem 7.3

- On the basis of the K-N theory, what is the ratio of the Compton interaction cross section per atom for lead and carbon?

Solution:  ${}_e\sigma \tilde{\propto} Z^0 \left( \text{cm}^2/\text{electron} \right)$

$${}_a\sigma = Z \cdot {}_e\sigma \left( \text{cm}^2/\text{atom} \right)$$

↓

$$\frac{{}_{Pb}\sigma}{{}_C\sigma} = \frac{Z_{Pb} \cdot {}_e\sigma}{Z_C \cdot {}_e\sigma} = \frac{82}{6}$$

## Problem 7.4

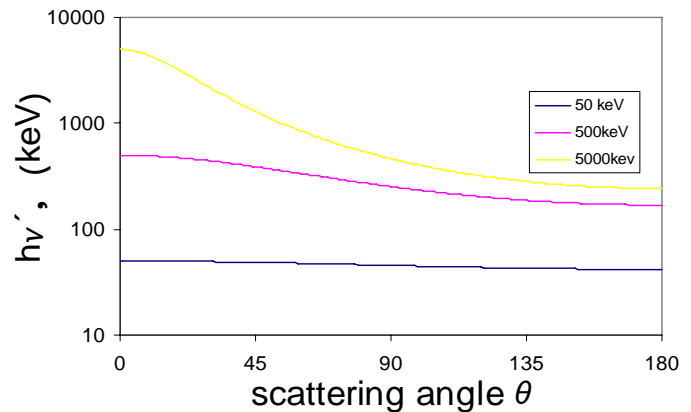
- Calculate the energy of the Compton-scattered photon at  $\theta = 0^\circ, 45^\circ, 90^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$  for  $h\nu = 50 \text{ keV}, 500 \text{ keV}$  and  $5 \text{ MeV}$ .

Solution:

$$h\nu' = \frac{h\nu}{1 + \left(\frac{h\nu}{m_e c^2}\right)(1 - \cos\theta)}$$

$h\nu'$ :

$h\nu/\theta$	$0^\circ$	$45^\circ$	$90^\circ$	$180^\circ$
50	50	48.60	45.54	41.82 keV
500	500	388.6	252.7	169.1 keV
5000	5000	1293	463.6	243.1 keV



## Problem 7.5

- What are the corresponding energies and angles of the recoiling electrons for the cases in problem 4?

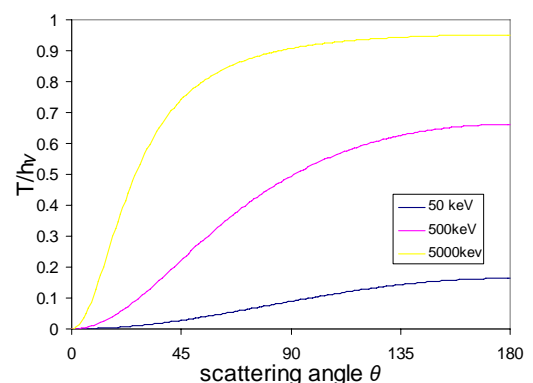
Solution:  $T = h\nu - h\nu', \quad \cot\varphi = \left(1 + \frac{h\nu}{m_e c^2}\right) \tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)$

T:

$h\nu/\theta$	$0^\circ$	$45^\circ$	$90^\circ$	$180^\circ$
50	0	1.393	4.456	8.183 keV
500	0	111.4	247.3	330.9 keV
5000	0	3707	4536	4757 keV

$\varphi$ :

$h\nu/\theta$	$0^\circ$	$45^\circ$	$90^\circ$	$180^\circ$
50	90	65.55	42.33	0 keV
500	90	50.67	26.81	0 keV
5000	90	12.62	5.298	0 keV



## Problem 7.6

- Calculate for 1-MeV photons the total K-N cross section from Eq.(7.15), and derive the Compton mass attenuation coefficient for copper in  $\text{cm}^2/\text{g}$  and  $\text{m}^2/\text{kg}$ .

Solution: 
$${}_e\sigma = 2\pi r_0^2 \left\{ \frac{1+\alpha}{\alpha^2} \left[ \frac{2(1+\alpha)}{1+2\alpha} - \frac{\ln(1+2\alpha)}{\alpha} \right] + \frac{\ln(1+2\alpha)}{2\alpha} - \frac{1+3\alpha}{(1+2\alpha)^2} \right\}$$

$$\alpha = h\nu / m_e c^2 = 1.96, r_0 = 2.818 \cdot 10^{-13} \text{ cm}, {}_e\sigma = \underline{\underline{2.112 \cdot 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^2 / \text{electron}}}$$

$$\frac{{}_a\sigma}{\rho} = \frac{N_A Z}{A} \cdot {}_e\sigma, \frac{N_A Z_{\text{Cu}}}{A_{\text{Cu}}} = \frac{6.0022 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ amu} / \text{g} \cdot 29 \text{ electron}}{63.55 \text{ amu}} = 2.748 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ electron} / \text{g}$$

$$\left( \frac{{}_a\sigma}{\rho} \right) = 2.748 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ electron} / \text{g} \cdot 2.112 \cdot 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^2 / \text{electron}$$

$$= \underline{\underline{0.05804 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{g}}} = 0.05804 \cdot (10^{-2} \text{ m})^2 / 10^{-3} \text{ kg} = \underline{\underline{0.005804 \text{ m}^2 / \text{kg}}}$$

## Problem 7.7

- What is the maximum energy, what is the average energy, of the Compton recoil electrons generated by 20-keV and 20-MeV  $\gamma$ -rays?

Solution: 
$$T_{\text{max}} = h\nu - h\nu'_{\text{min}} = h\nu - \frac{h\nu}{1 + \left( \frac{h\nu}{m_e c^2} \right) (1 - \cos(180))} = \frac{h\nu}{\frac{m_e c^2}{2h\nu} + 1}$$

$$T_{\text{max},20\text{keV}} = \underline{\underline{1.452 \text{ keV}}}$$

$$T_{\text{max},20\text{MeV}} = \underline{\underline{19.75 \text{ MeV}}}$$

Based on Eq.(7.20) page 134

$$\bar{T}_{20\text{keV}} = \underline{\underline{0.7210 \text{ keV}}}$$

$$\bar{T}_{20\text{MeV}} = \underline{\underline{14.53 \text{ MeV}}}$$

## Problem 7.8

- Calculate the energy of a photoelectron ejected from the K-shell in tin by a 40-keV photon. Calculate  $\tau_{tr}/\rho$ ; you may estimate from fig. 7.15.

Solution: Tin: K-edge 29.20keV

$$T = h\nu - T_b = (40 - 29.20)\text{keV} = 10.80\text{keV}$$

$$\frac{a\tau_{tr}}{\rho} = \frac{a\tau}{\rho} \left( \frac{h\nu - P_K Y_K h\bar{\nu}_K - (1 - P_K) P_L Y_L h\bar{\nu}_L}{h\nu} \right) \quad \left( \text{cm}^2/\text{g} \right)$$

Tin  $Z = 50$  and from Fig 7.15:  $P_L Y_L h\bar{\nu}_L \approx P_L Y_L (E_b)_{L1} \approx 0$ ,  $P_K Y_K h\bar{\nu}_K = 19\text{keV}$

$$\left( \frac{a\tau}{\rho} \right)_{\text{Sn},40\text{keV}} = 18.9\text{cm}^2/\text{g} \Rightarrow \left( \frac{a\tau_{tr}}{\rho} \right)_{\text{Sn},40\text{keV}} = 18.9\text{cm}^2/\text{g} \left( \frac{40 - 19 - 0}{40} \right) = \underline{\underline{9.92\text{cm}^2/\text{g}}}$$

## Problem 7.9

- What is the average energy of the charged particles resulting from pair production in (a) the nuclear field (b) the electron field, for photons of  $h\nu = 2$  and 20 MeV?

Solution: a)  $pair: h\nu_{\min} = 2m_e c^2 \quad \bar{T} = \frac{h\nu - 2m_e c^2}{2}$

b)  $trip: h\nu_{\min} = 4m_e c^2 \quad \bar{T} = \frac{h\nu - 2m_e c^2}{3}$

$$h\nu = 2\text{MeV}: \quad \bar{T}_{\text{pair}} = 0.489\text{ MeV}, \quad \bar{T}_{\text{trip}} = 0$$

$$h\nu = 20\text{MeV}: \quad \bar{T}_{\text{pair}} = 9.49\text{ MeV}, \quad \bar{T}_{\text{trip}} = 6.33\text{ MeV}$$

## Problem 7.10

- A narrow beam containing  $10^{20}$  photons at 6 MeV impinges perpendicularly on a layer of lead 12 mm thick, having a density 11.3 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. How many interactions of each type (photoelectric, Compton, pair, Rayleigh) occur in the lead?

Solution:

Number of interactions

$$\Delta N_{\text{tot}} = N_0(1 - e^{-\Delta x \mu})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta N'_{\text{tot}} &= N_0 \Delta x \mu = N_0 \Delta x (\tau_{\text{p.el}} + \sigma_{\text{C}} + \kappa_{\text{pair}} + \sigma_{\text{R}}) \\ &= \Delta N'_{\text{p.el}} + \Delta N'_{\text{C}} + \Delta N'_{\text{pair}} + \Delta N'_{\text{R}} > \Delta N_{\text{tot}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta N_{\text{p.el}} = \Delta N'_{\text{p.el}} \cdot \Delta N_{\text{tot}} / \Delta N'_{\text{tot}}$$

Photoelectric	Compton	Pair	Rayleigh
9.999E+17	1.792E+19	2.541E+19	5.375E+16