

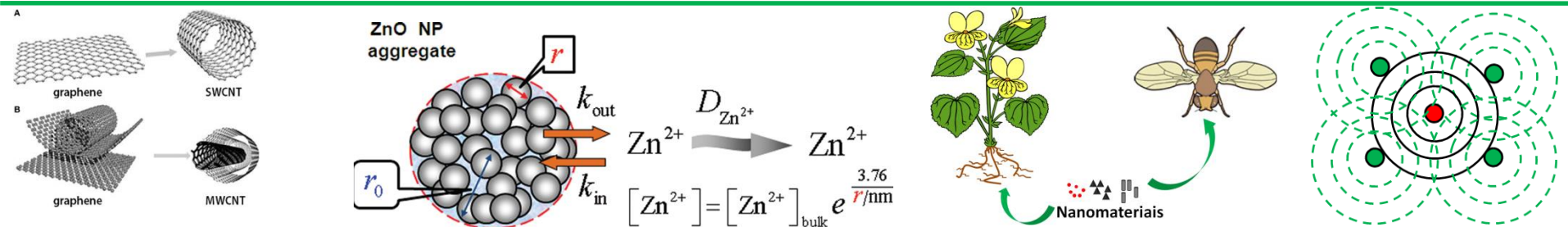


Introduction to XAFS

Prof. Hudson W.P. Carvalho

Grupo de Espectroscopia Aplicada ao Estudo de Nanomateriais na Agricultura e no Ambiente

Laboratório de Instrumentação Nuclear



Basics of XAFS

Revista Brasileira de Ensino de Física, vol. 22, no. 3, Setembro, 2000

Aplicação de Técnicas de Absorção de Raios X no Estudo de Materiais Magnéticos

(Study of magnetic materials by means of x-ray absorption techniques)

J.C. Cezar^{1,2}, F.C. Vicentin¹, H.C.N. Tolentino¹

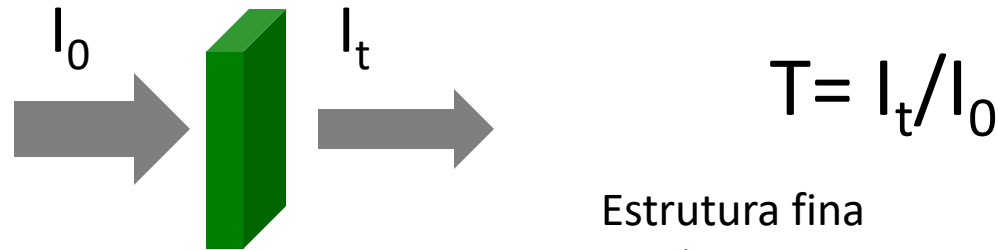
1 - Laboratório Nacional de Luz Síncrotron

CP. 6192 - Campinas - SP - 13083-970

2 - IFGW - UNICAMP

Principles of XAS - absorption edges

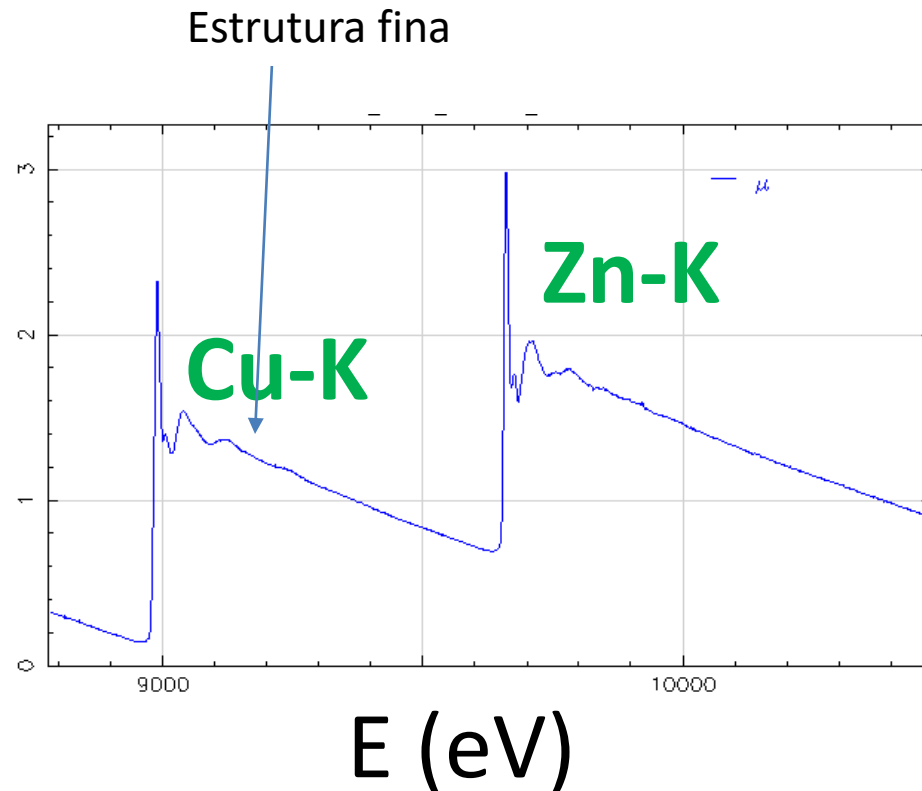
- The absorption edges and fine structure
- The measurement is pretty simple



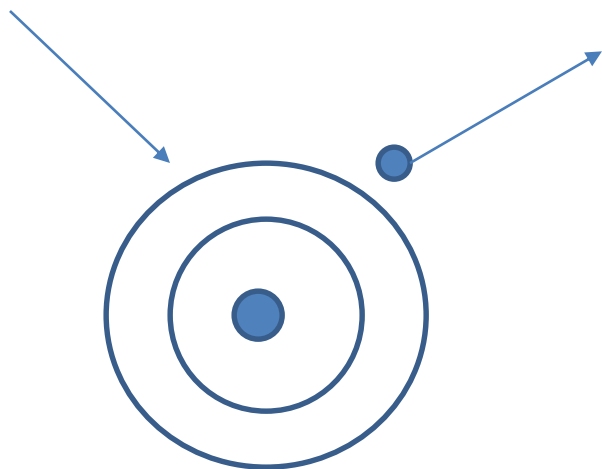
$$I_t = I_0 e^{-\mu x}$$

$$A = \ln(I_0 / I_t) = \mu x$$

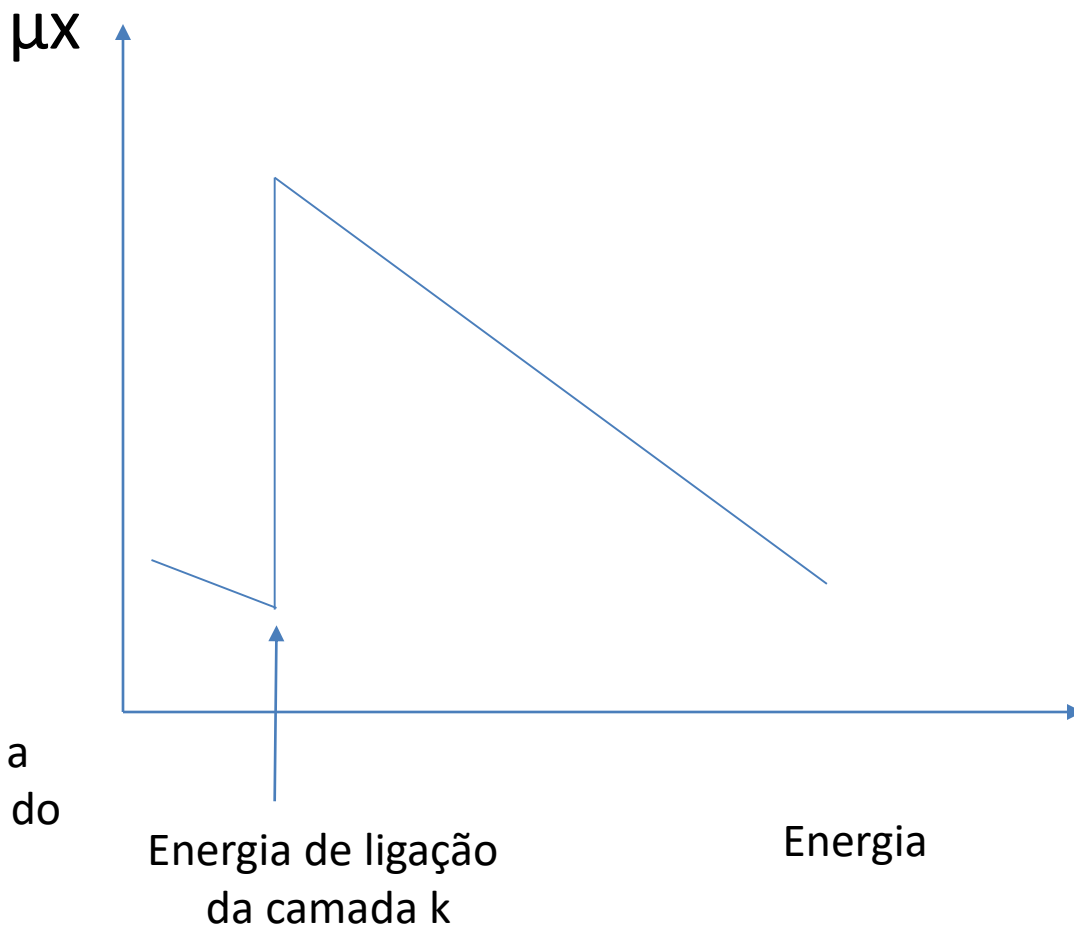
$\mu x (E)$

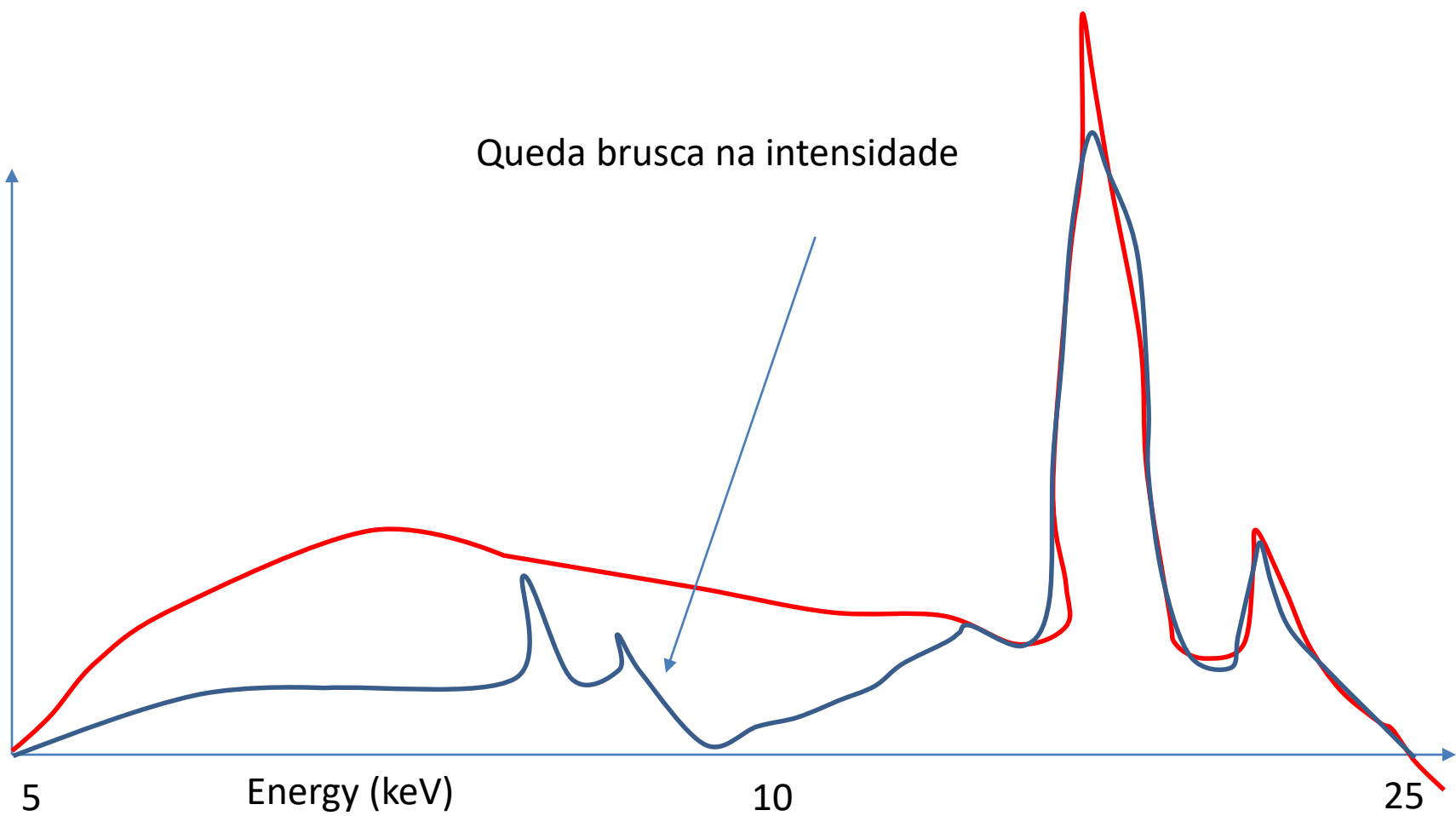
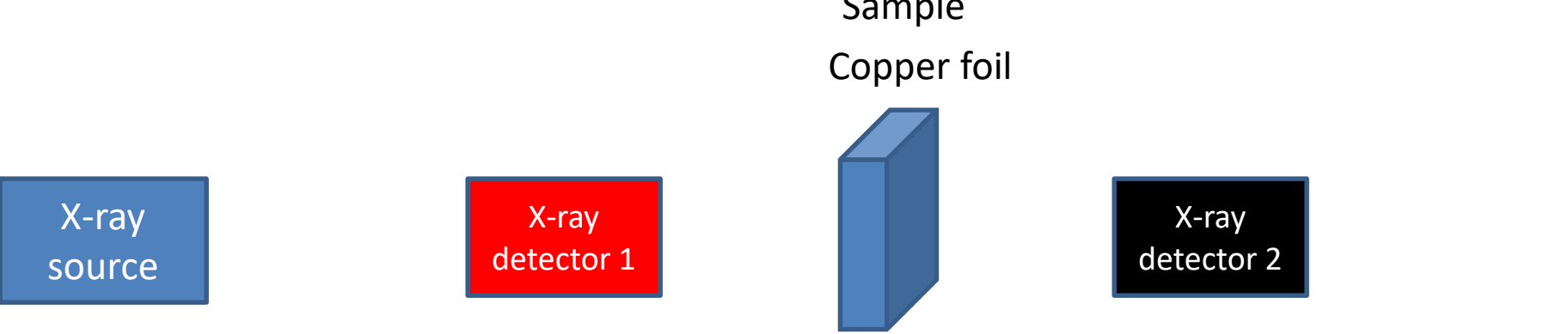


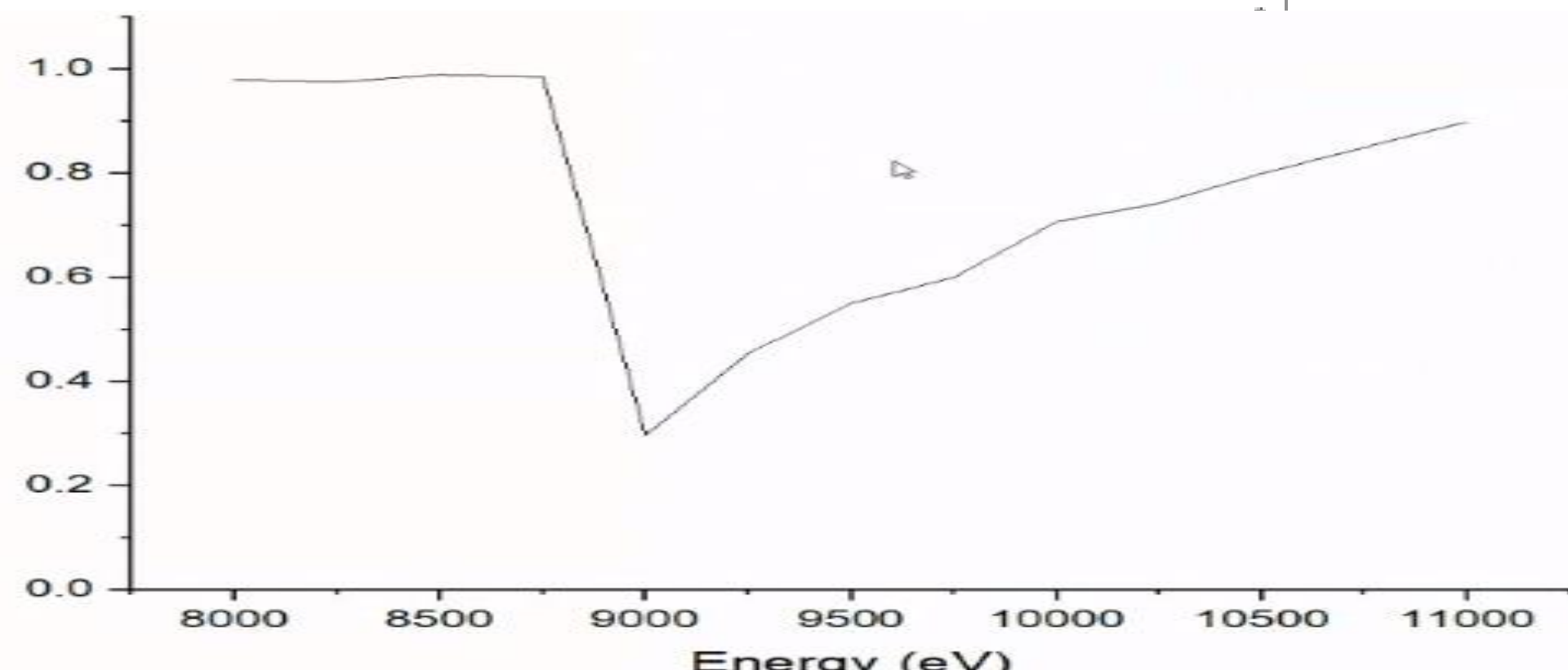
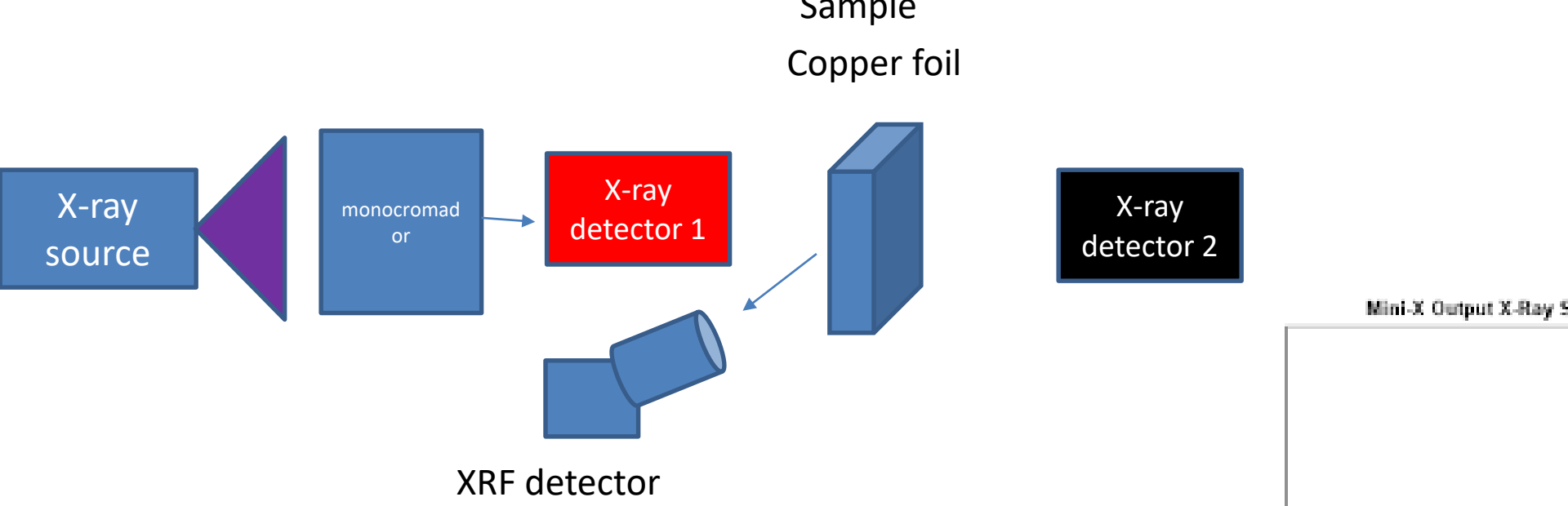
- What are these edges?



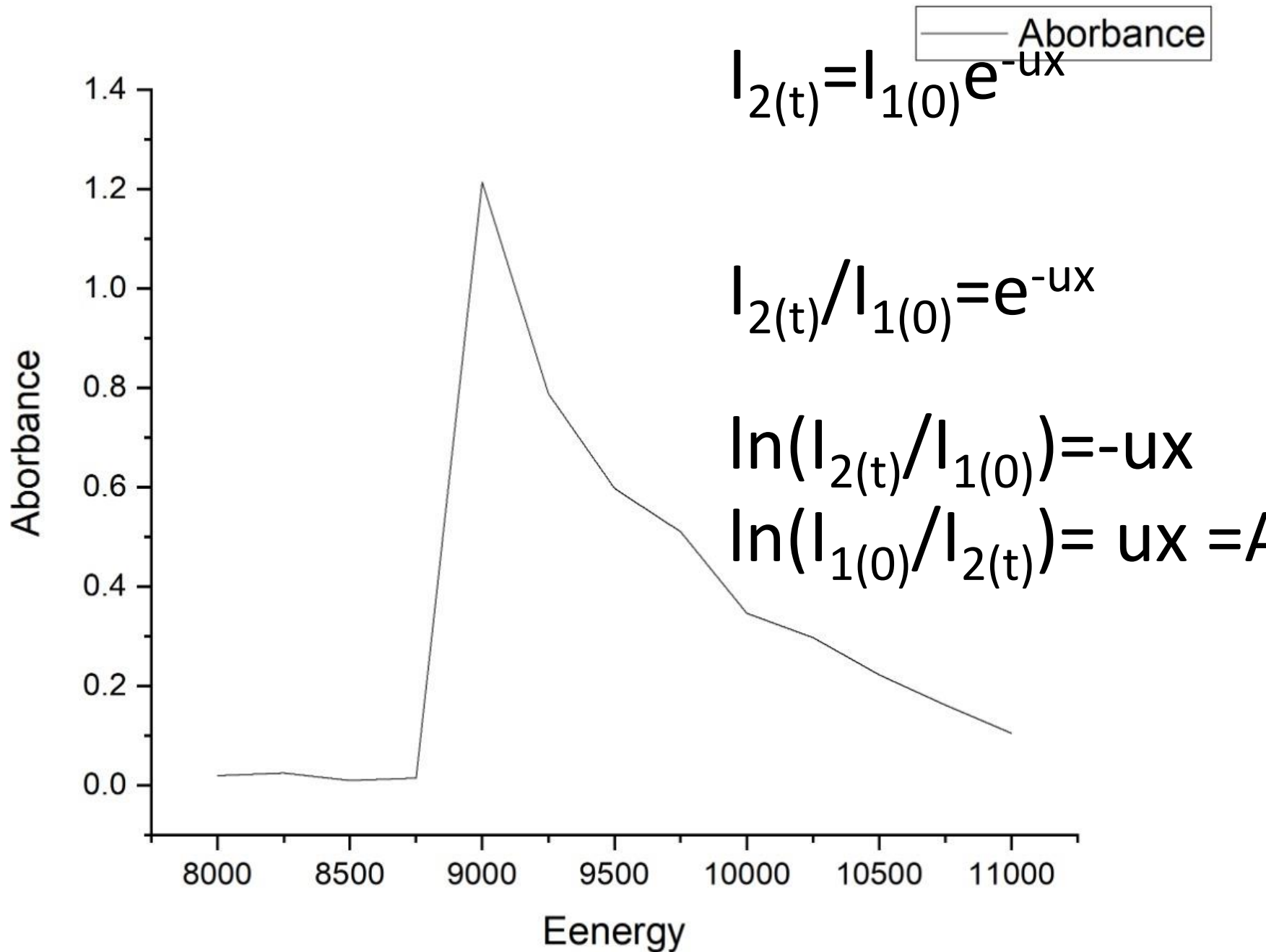
Um elétron é removido após a absorção do fóton. A energia do fóton > do que a energia de ligação do elétron

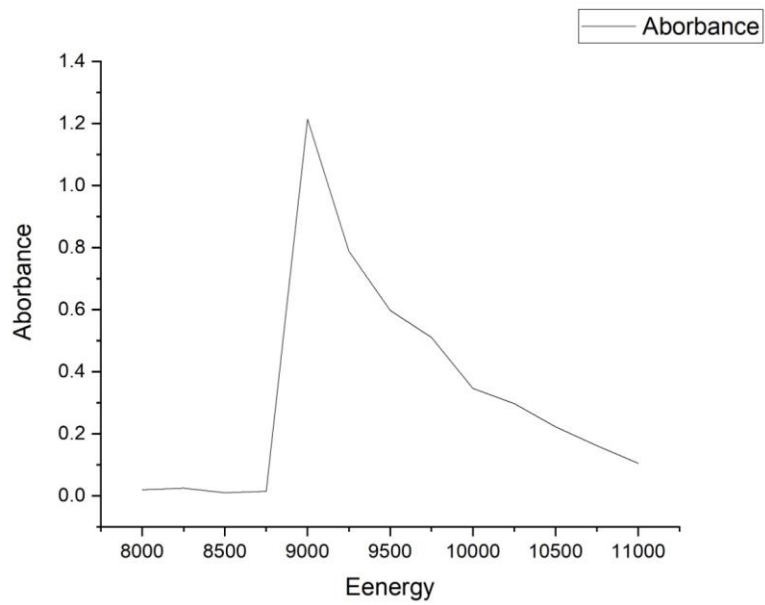
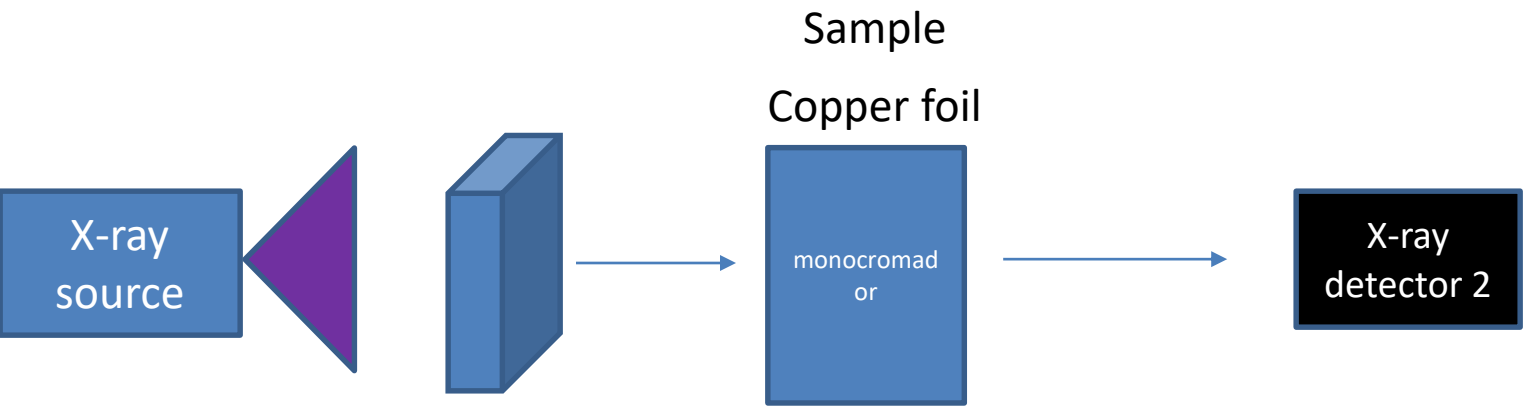




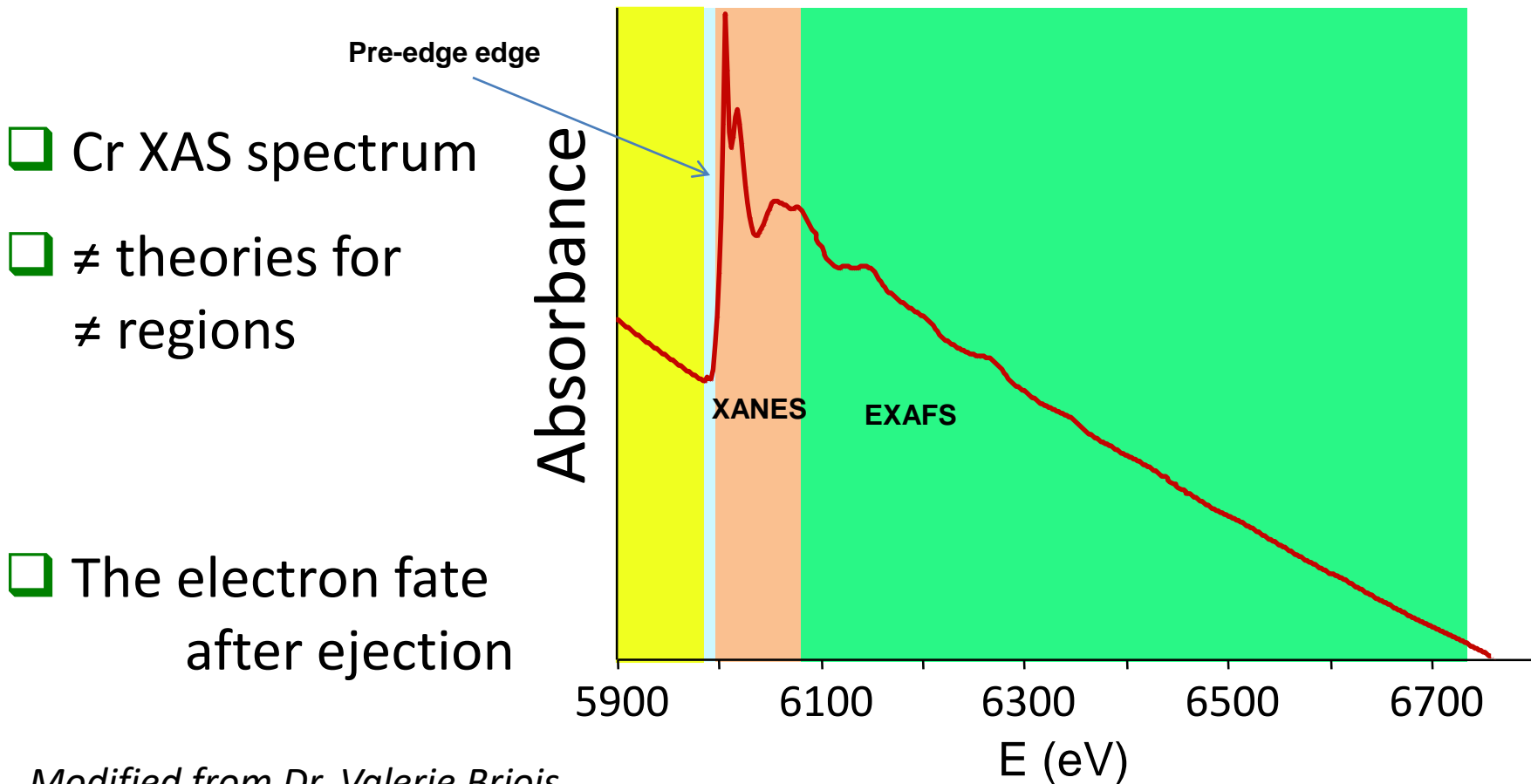
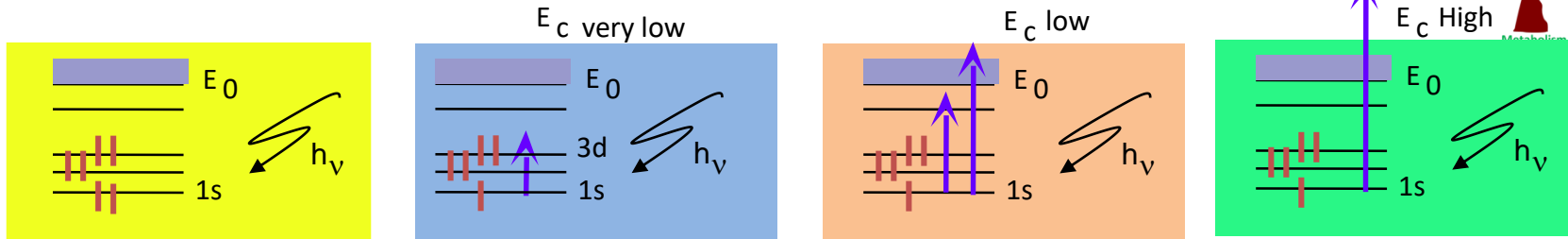
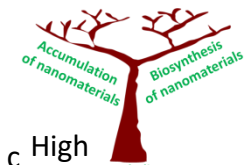


energia	Detector 1	Detector 2
8000	1000	980
8250	1010	985
8500	990	980
8750	1000	985
9000	1010	300
9250	990	450
9500	1000	550
9750	1000	600
10000	9090	700
10250	1010	750
10500	1000	800
10750	1000	850
11000	1000	900





Principles of XAS- spectral regions

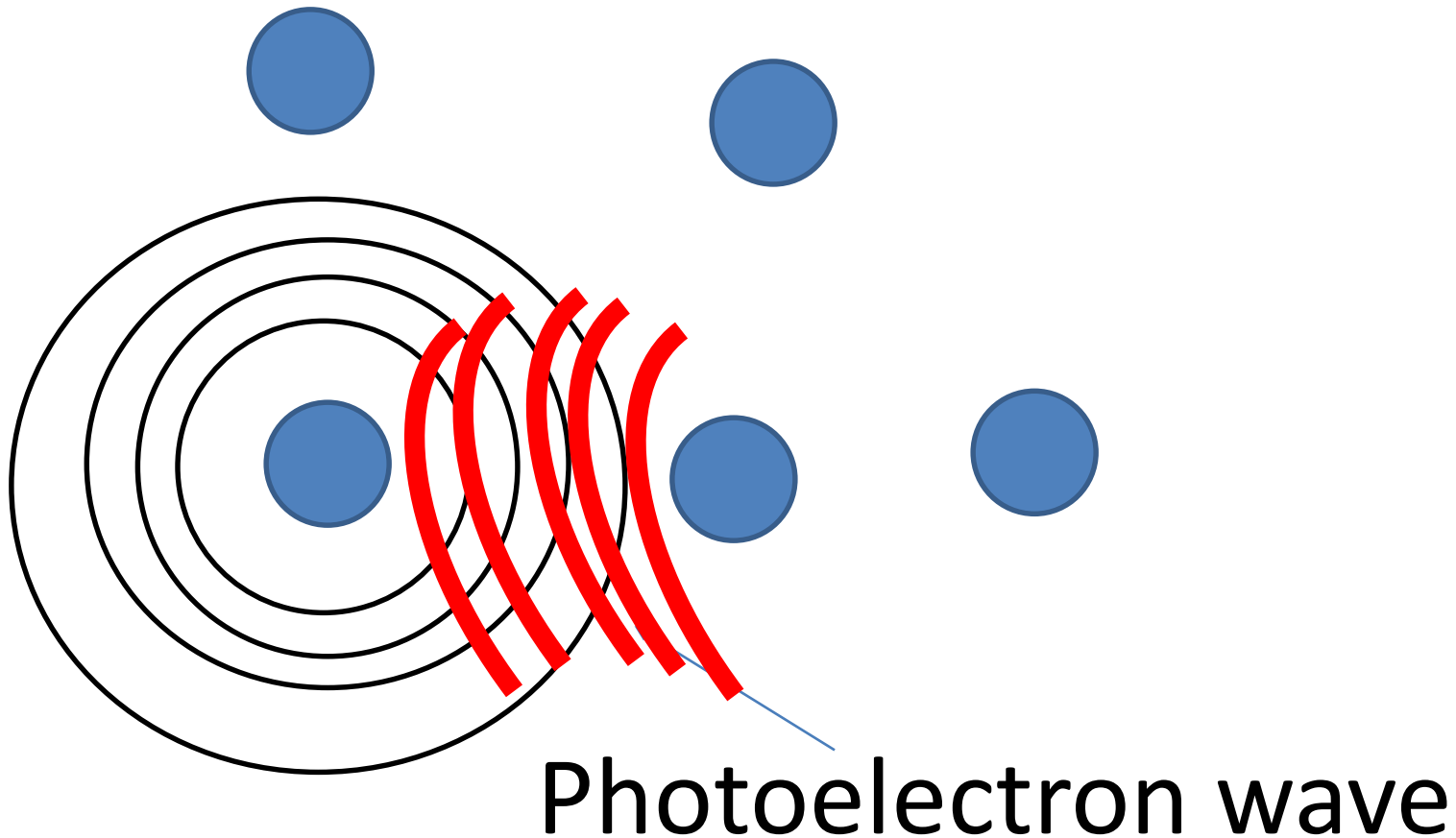


- Cr XAS spectrum
- ≠ theories for ≠ regions
- The electron fate after ejection

Modified from Dr. Valerie Briois

$E_c =$ photoelectron's kinetic energy

$$E_c = h\nu \text{ (photon energy)} - E_{\text{binding}} - \text{work function (very small)}$$



$$\lambda(\text{wavelength}) = h (\text{Plank constant})/p (\text{momentum})$$

$$p = mv$$

$$E_c = 1/2mv^2$$

De Broglie relationship



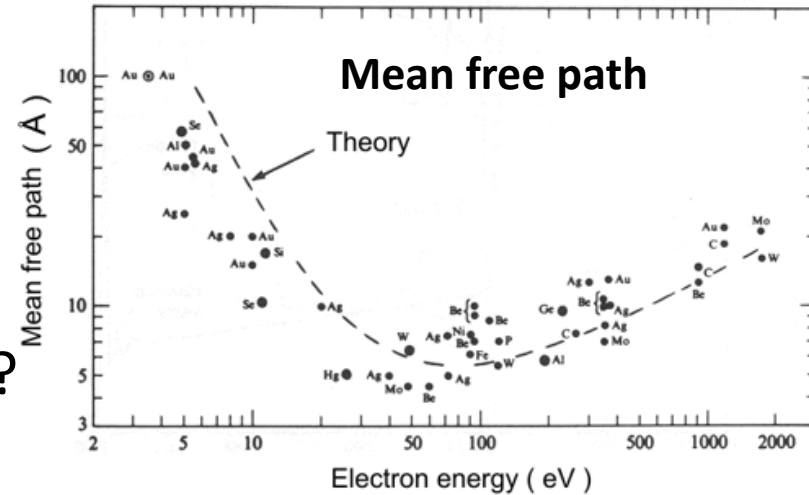
<https://br.pinterest.com/pin/658792251723477724/>

Principles of XAS- XANES *versus* EXAFS

❑ Multiple scattering approach

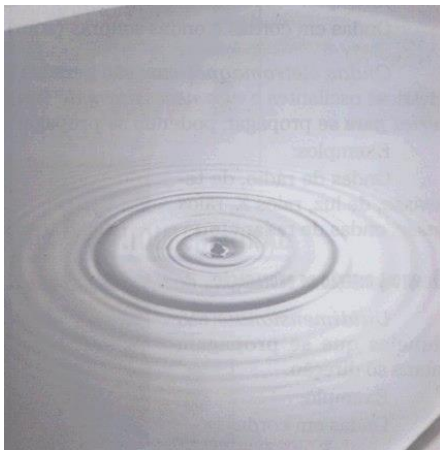
❑ The photoelectron is regarded as a wave

❑ May the wave find any obstacles?



http://users.uj.edu.pl/~ufpostaw/2_Pracownia/D1/images/jak_ba1_eng.png

One wave



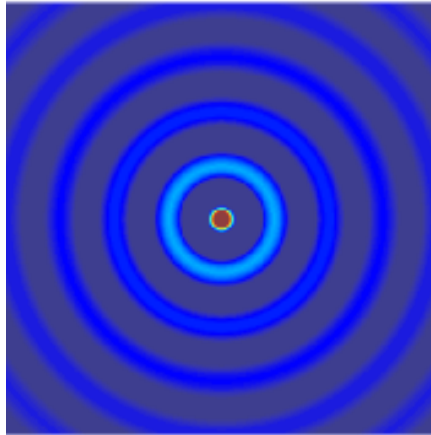
Two interfering waves



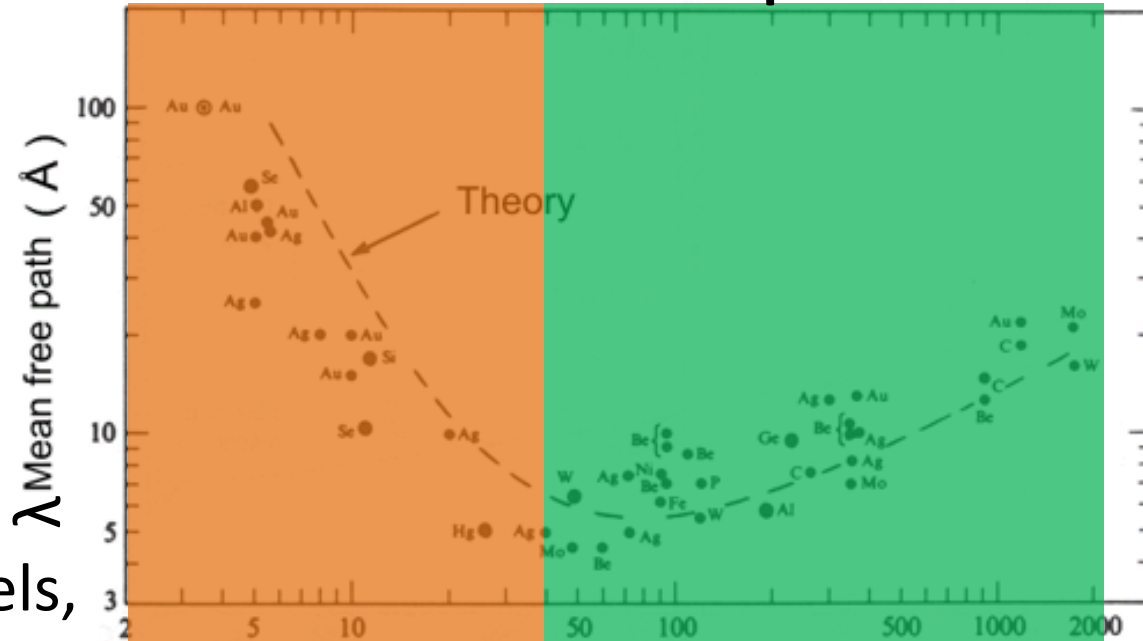
Principles of XAS- XANES *versus* EXAFS

- Multiple scattering approach

outgoing wave



Electron mean free path λ

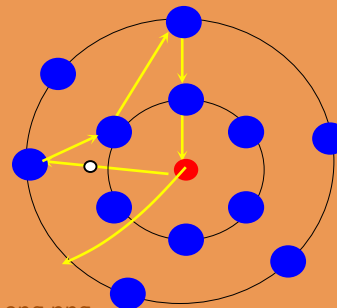


- The electron travels, and brings info back!

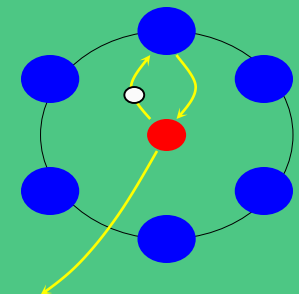
- Low E_c = long λ

- High E_c = short λ

XANES



EXAFS



http://users.uj.edu.pl/~ufpostaw/2_Pracownia/D1/images/jak_ba1_eng.png

The Paper by H. Fricke

Any questions?

Applications and Theory of XANES

- The information that one gets:
 - Oxidation state
 - Semi quantitative speciation
 - Symmetry, *e.g.* Td ou Oh
 - Nature and distance of ligands

Finger print

XANES Data analysis

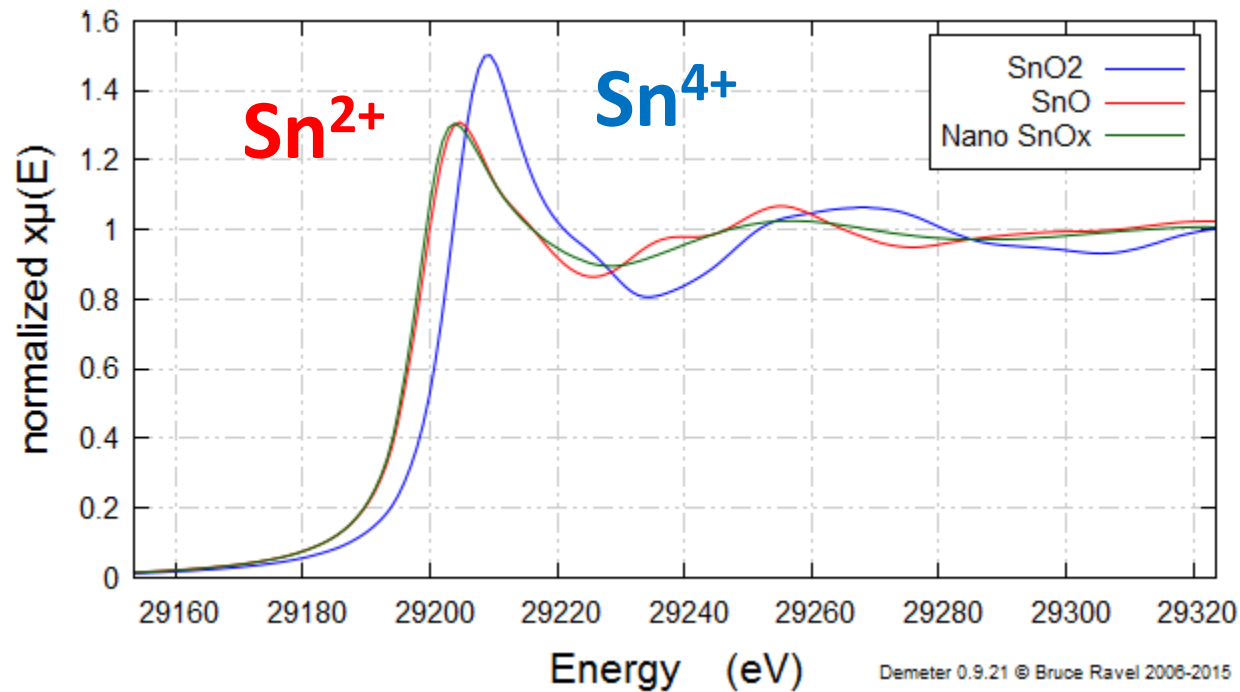
XANES

Finger print

Semi quantitative analysis

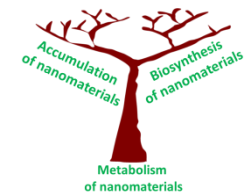
Finding out the oxidation state of Sn based semi conductor

Oxidation plays on the edge intensity and position



Data recorded at DORIS X1 (Germany)

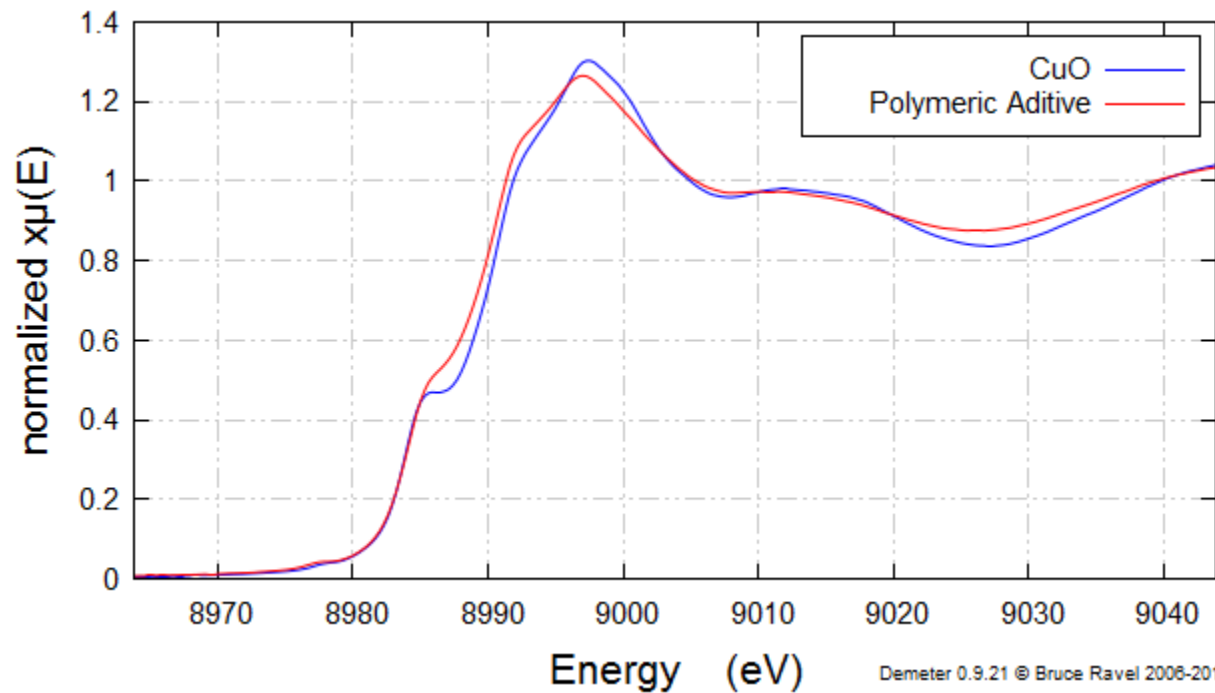
XANES Data analysis



XANES

Finger print

Cu based polymeric additive state after burning



Data recorded at SOLEIL SAMBA (France)

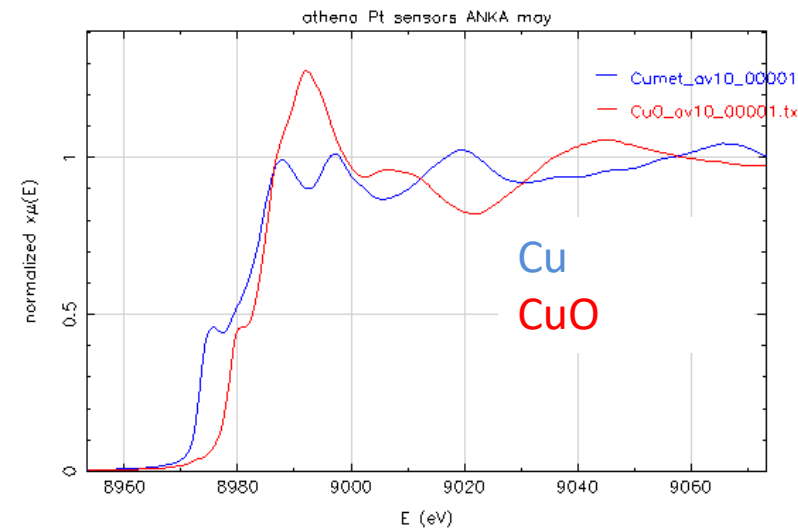
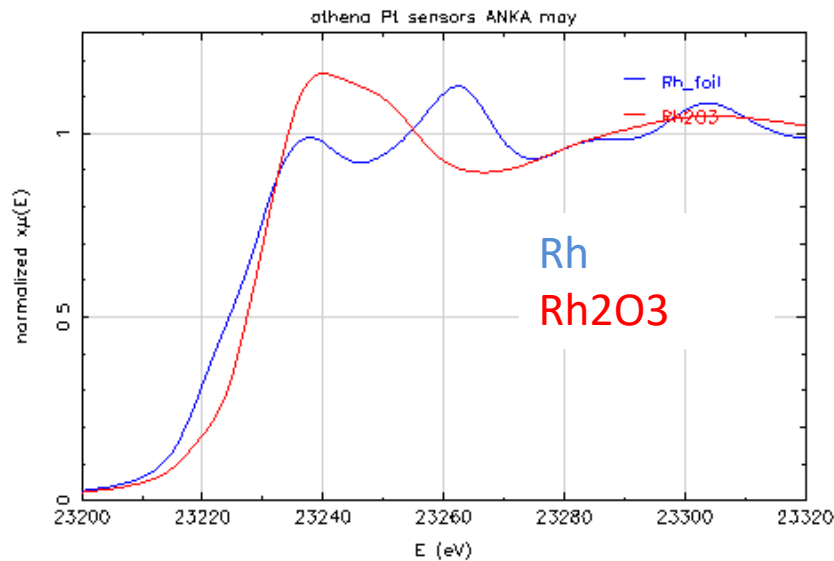
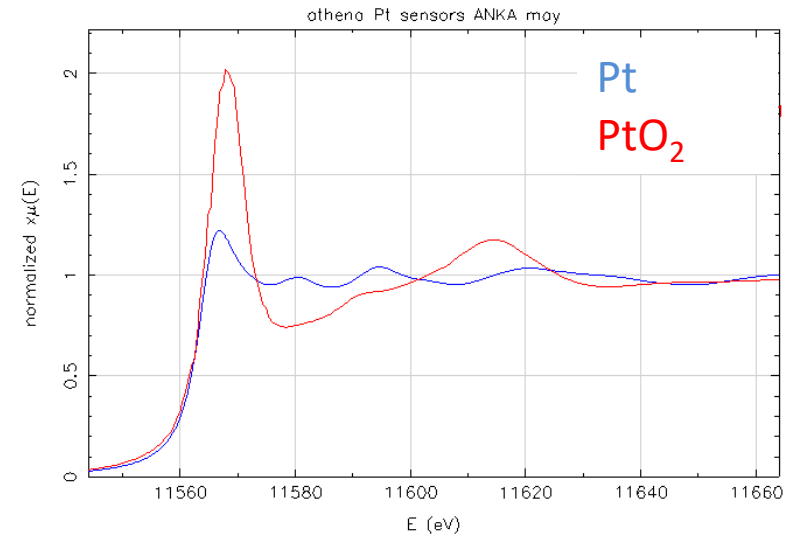
Demeter 0.9.21 © Bruce Ravel 2006-2015

XANES Data analysis

XANES

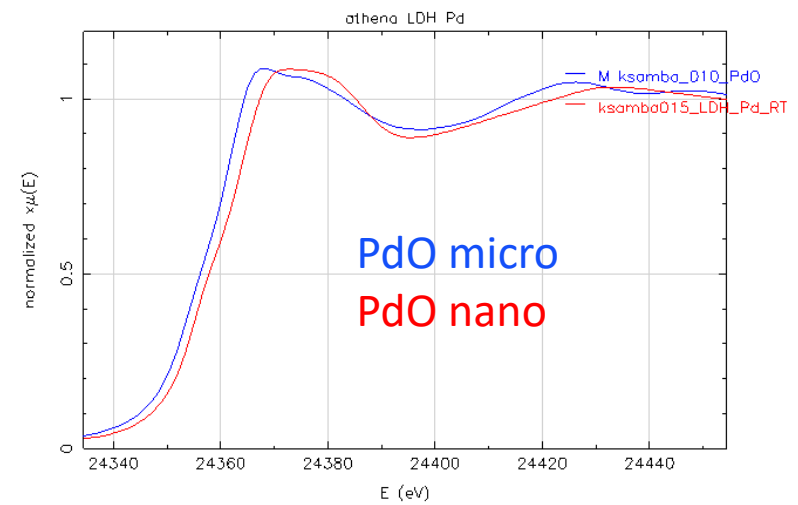
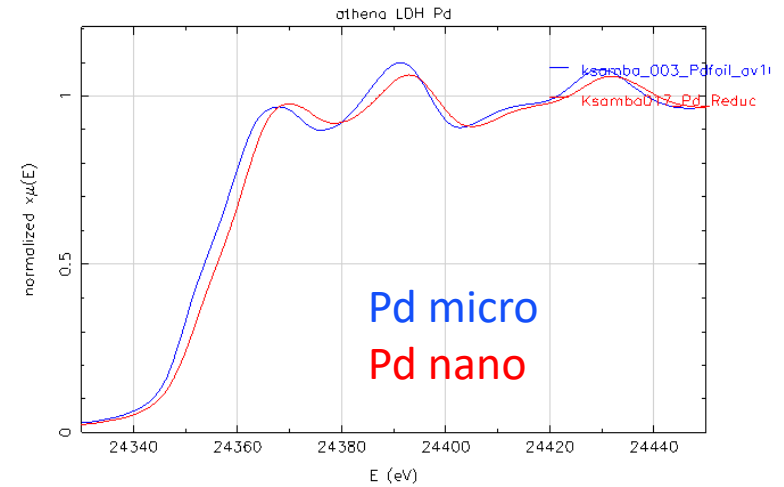
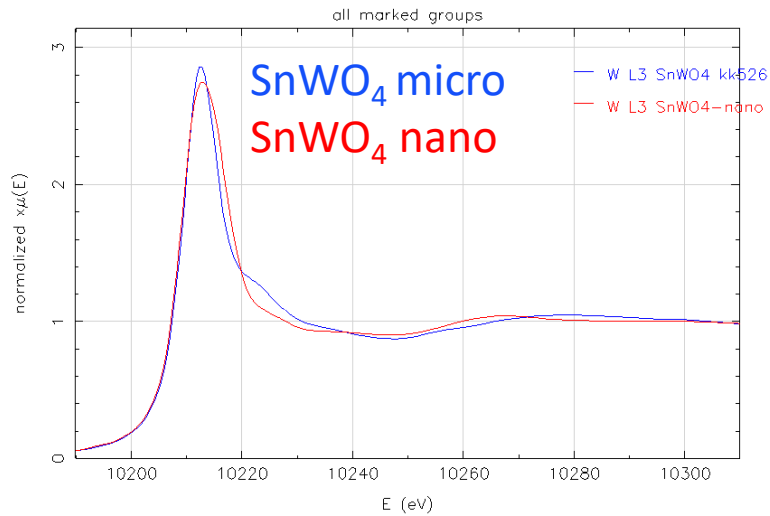
Finger print

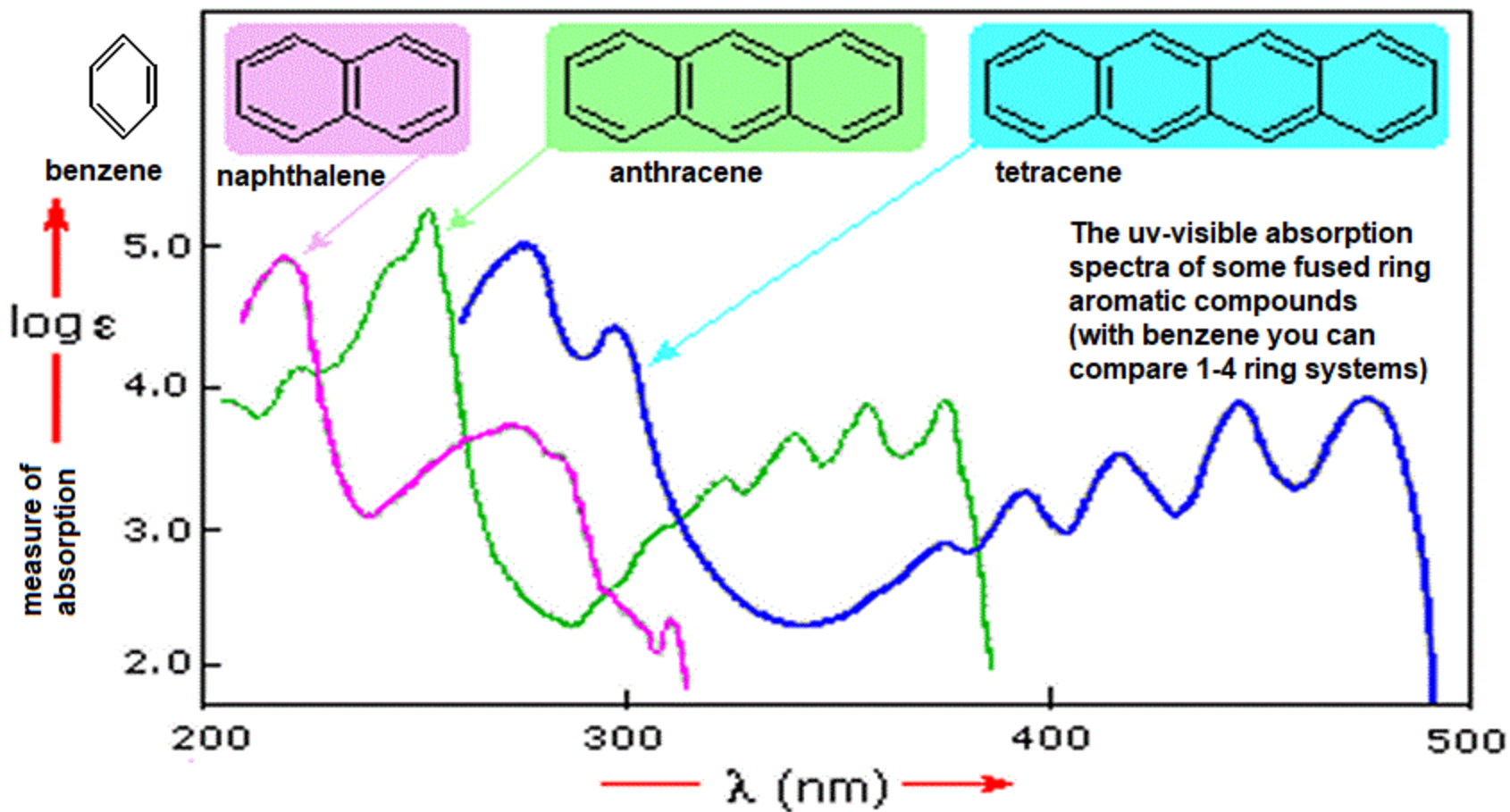
Oxidation state



XANES

Input on Disorder





<https://docbrown.info/page06/spectra/0uv-visible-spectra-07aroms.htm>

$$E = \frac{n^2 h^2}{8mL^2}$$

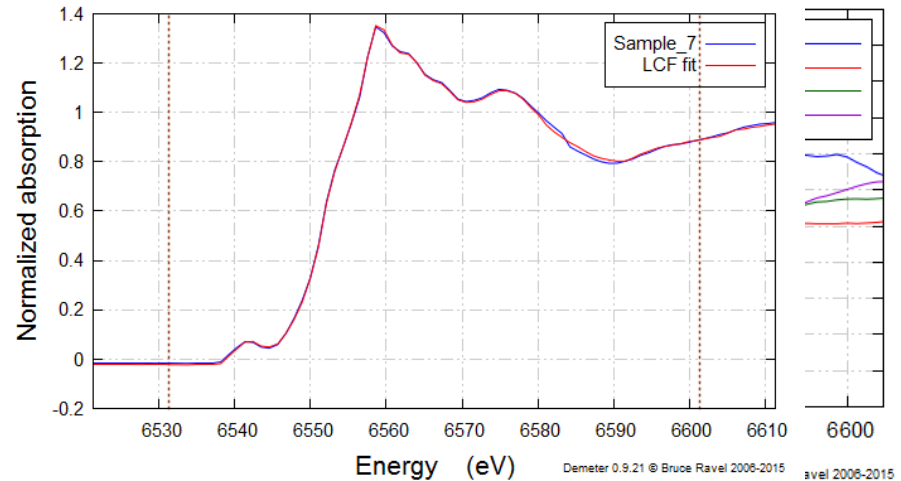
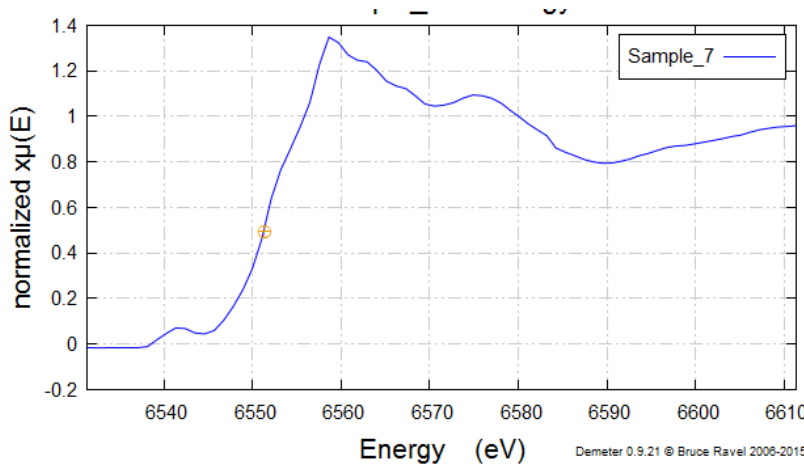
Linear combination

XANES

Finger print

Semi quantitative analysis

Mn in LaMnSrOx based electrodes



$$R = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (data_i - fit_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^N (data_i)^2}$$

R-factor = 0.0005594 X100 = 0.05594%

- . MnO2 0.588 (0.010)
- . Mn3O4 0.107 (0.015)
- . Mn2O3 0.304 (0.023)

Data recorded at ESRF ID26 (France)

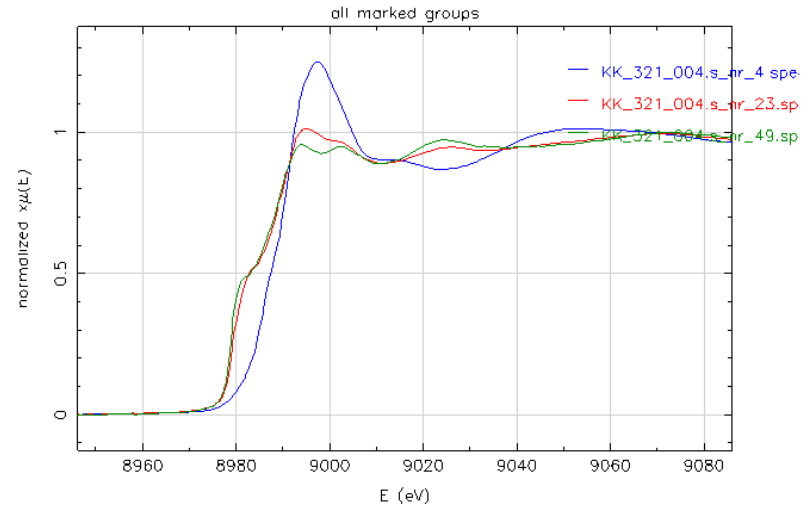
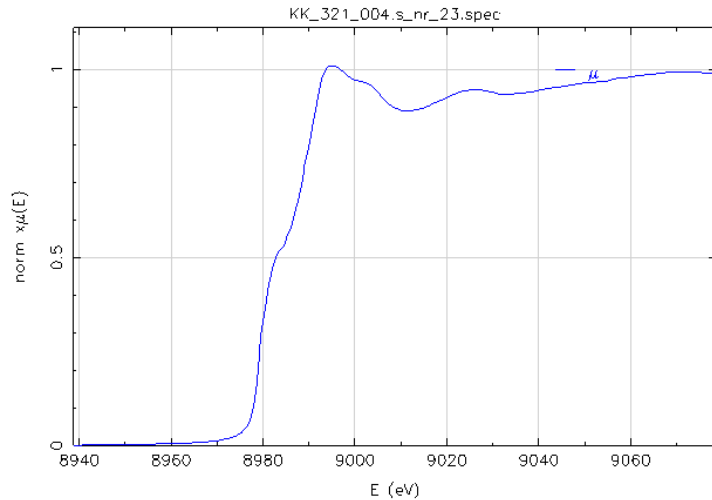
Overall uncertainty ≈ 10%

XANES

□ Finger print

□ Semi quantitative analysis

□ Mn in LaMnSrOx based electrodes



$$R = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{IN} (data_i - fit_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^N (data_i)^2}$$

R-factor = 0.000471

X100 = 0.0471%

. CuO

0.17 (0.010)

. Cu

0.83 (0.010)

□ Overall uncertainty ≈ 10%

Data recorded at ANKA XAS
(Germany)

XANES

Semi quantitative analysis

Ni based catalyst for hydrogenation of CO₂

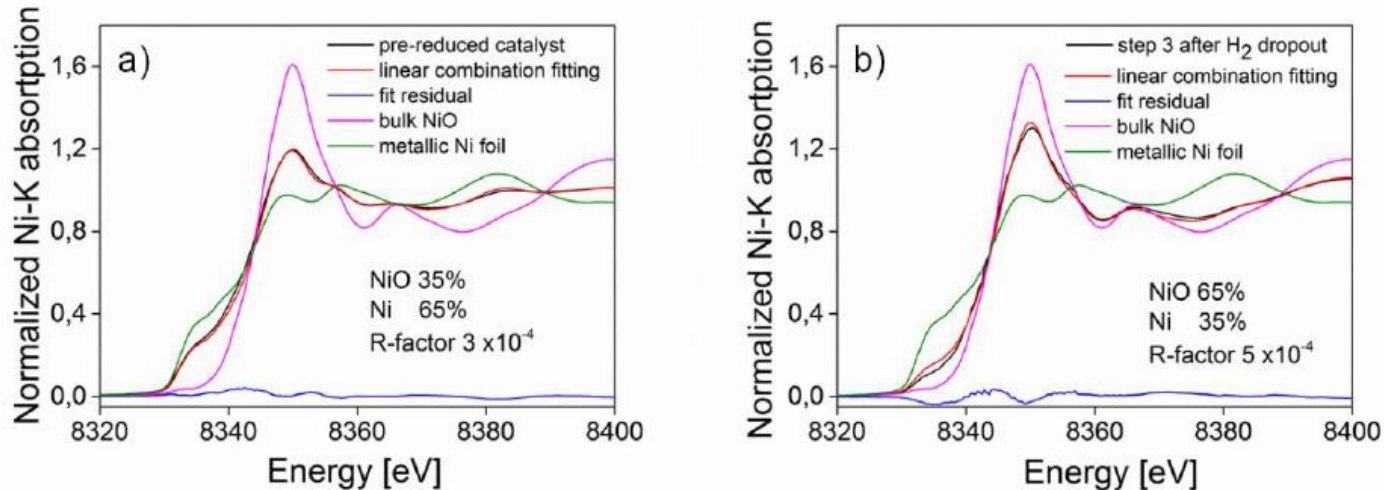


Figure S4: XANES spectra of the pre-reduced catalyst (a) and the catalyst under less reducing atmosphere (b) (measured *in situ* according to Figure 4, step 3) each in black, metallic Ni (green) and NiO (purple) references. Additionally, the result of the linear combination fitting (red) and the fit residual (blue) is shown. The linear combination of the pre-reduced catalyst revealed 35 % of an oxidic Ni phase, the catalyst after H₂ dropout revealed 65 % NiO.

Journal of Catalysis 327 (2015) 48–53



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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jcat



Data recorded at ANKA XAS
(Germany)

Methanation of CO₂: Structural response of a Ni-based catalyst under fluctuating reaction conditions unraveled by *operando* spectroscopy



Benjamin Mutz^{a,b}, Hudson W.P. Carvalho^a, Stefan Mangold^c, Wolfgang Kleist^{a,b}, Jan-Dierk Grunwaldt^{a,b,*}

^a Institute for Chemical Technology and Polymer Chemistry (ICP), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), D-76131 Karlsruhe, Germany

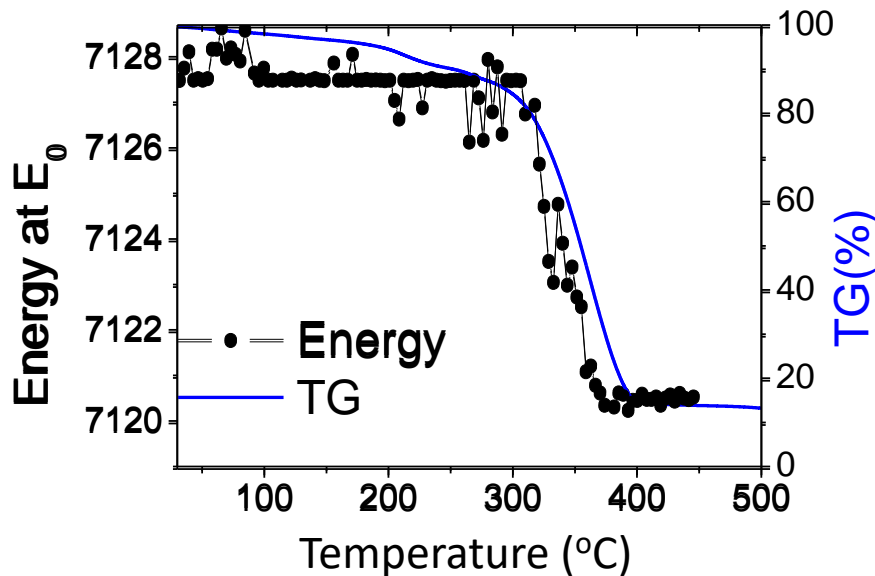
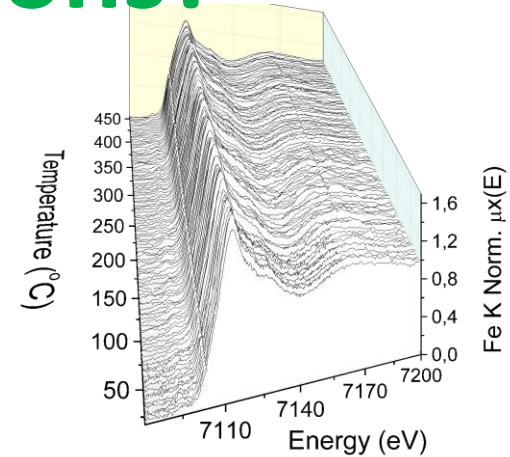
^b Institute of Catalysis Research and Technology (IKFT), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), D-76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany

^c Synchrotron Radiation Facility ANKA, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), D-76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany

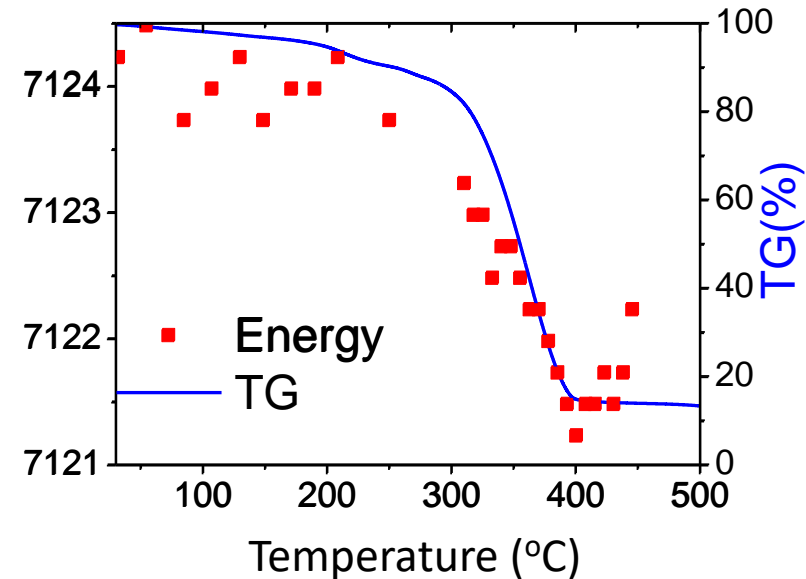
Following kinetics

What happens around Fe ions?

- ❑ The edge shifts
- ❑ This shift follows the TG curve
- ❑ It might mean:
 - ❑ Fe^{3+} is receiving electron density
 - ❑ Fe^{3+} electron acceptance may stop the radicals

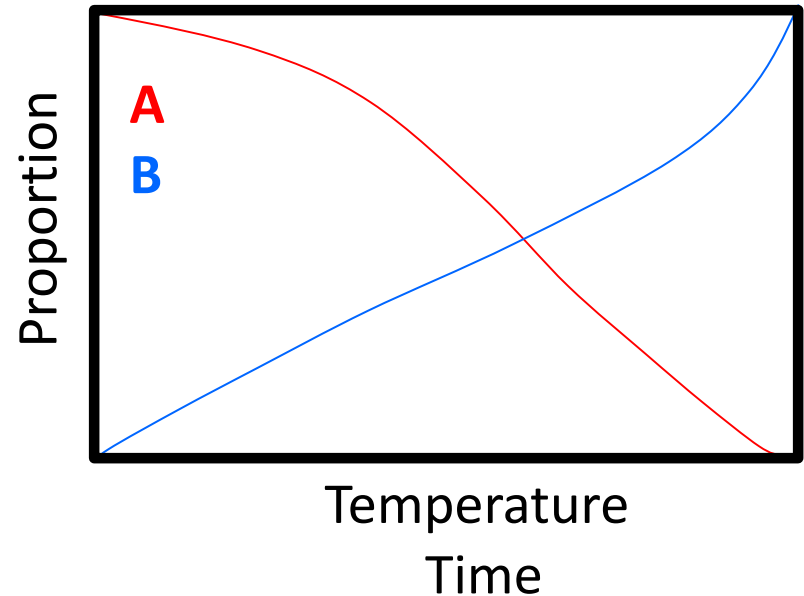
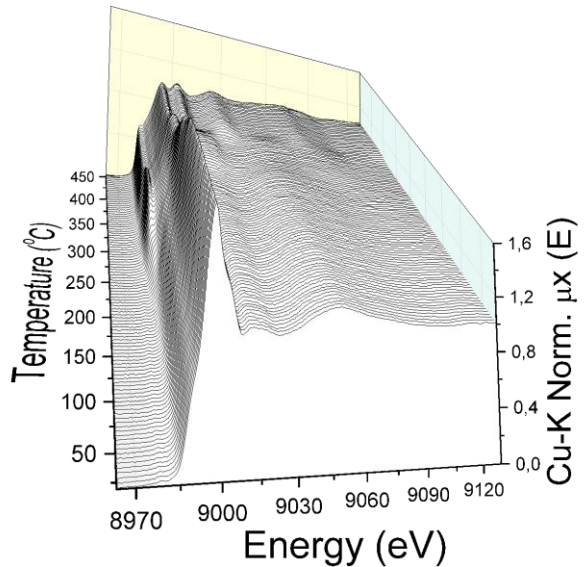


Energy at Norm $\mu(E)=0.5$



What happens around Cu ions?

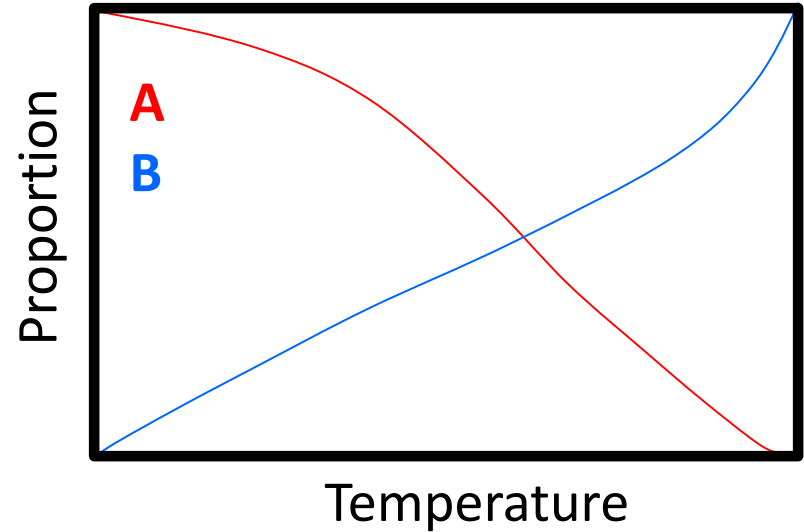
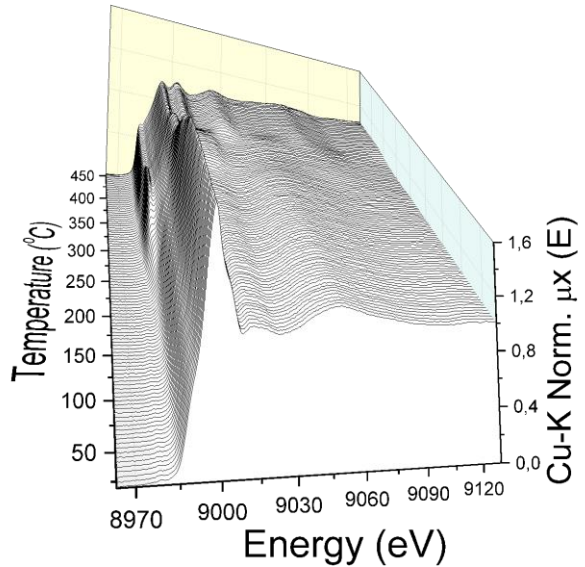
- ❑ Cu looks more complex
- ❑ How to find the components?
- ❑ How to find the components' proportions?



- ❑ A clever strategy:
 - ❑ PCA to uncover the “*number*” of phases
 - ❑ **TT to find candidates to be references**
 - ❑ Linear combination analysis

What happens around Cu ions?

- ❑ Cu looks more complex
- ❑ How to find the components?
- ❑ How to find the components' proportions?



❑ Another strategy:

❑ Chemometrics MCR-ALS



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



Chemometrics and Intelligent Laboratory Systems 76 (2005) 101–110

Chemometrics and intelligent laboratory systems

www.elsevier.com/locate/chemolab

Software description

A graphical user-friendly interface for MCR-ALS: a new tool for multivariate curve resolution in MATLAB

Joaquim Jaumot^a, Raimundo Gargallo^a, Anna de Juan^a, Romà Tauler^{b,*}

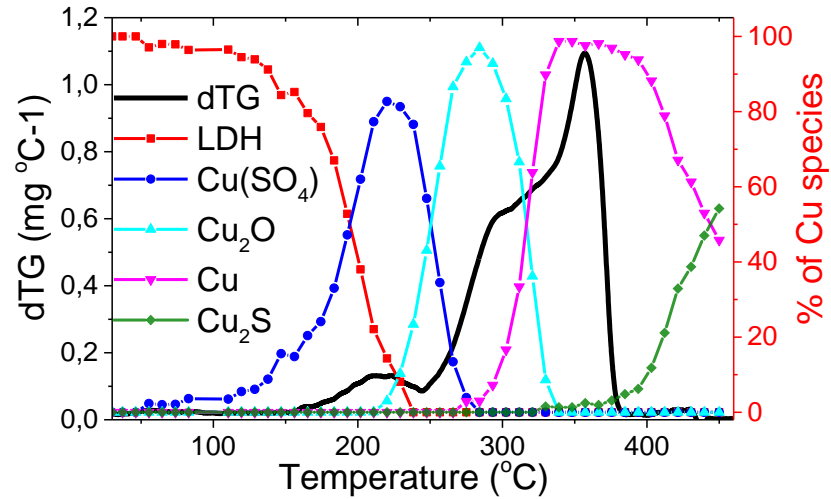
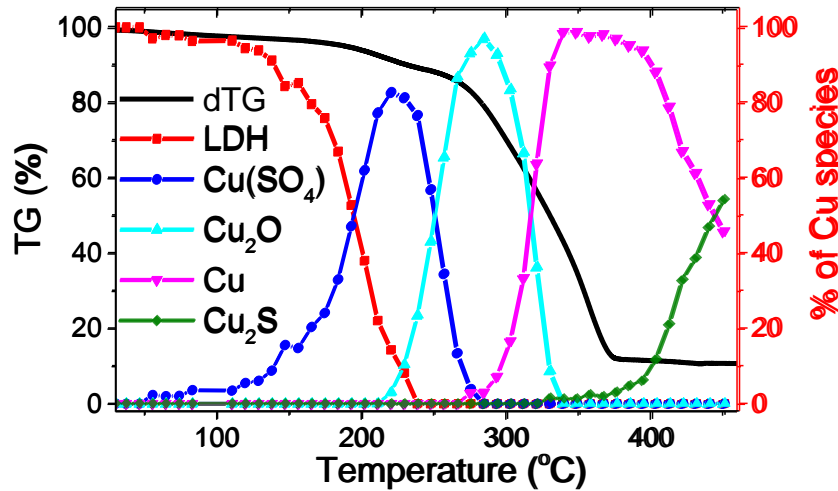
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Received 22 October 2004; received in revised form 17 December 2004; accepted 21 December 2004

What happens around Cu ions?

Speciation results:

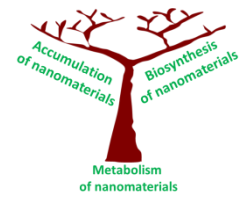


Remarks:

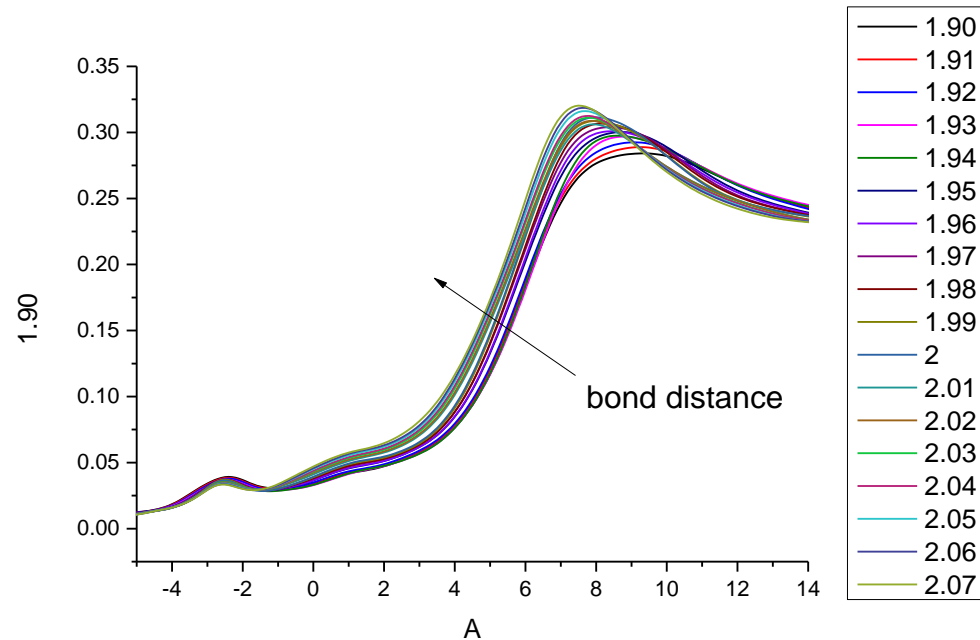
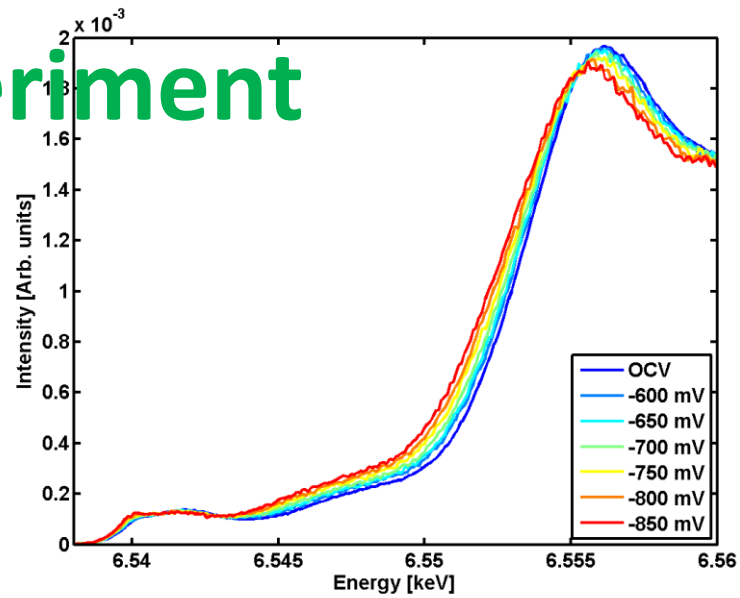
- Cu²⁺ reduction starts before the radical unzipping
- Looks like it triggers the PMMA decomposition
- Cu¹⁺ accepts electrons and it slows down the weight loss
- Once Cu¹⁺ is completely consumed the slope increases

Theory vs experiment

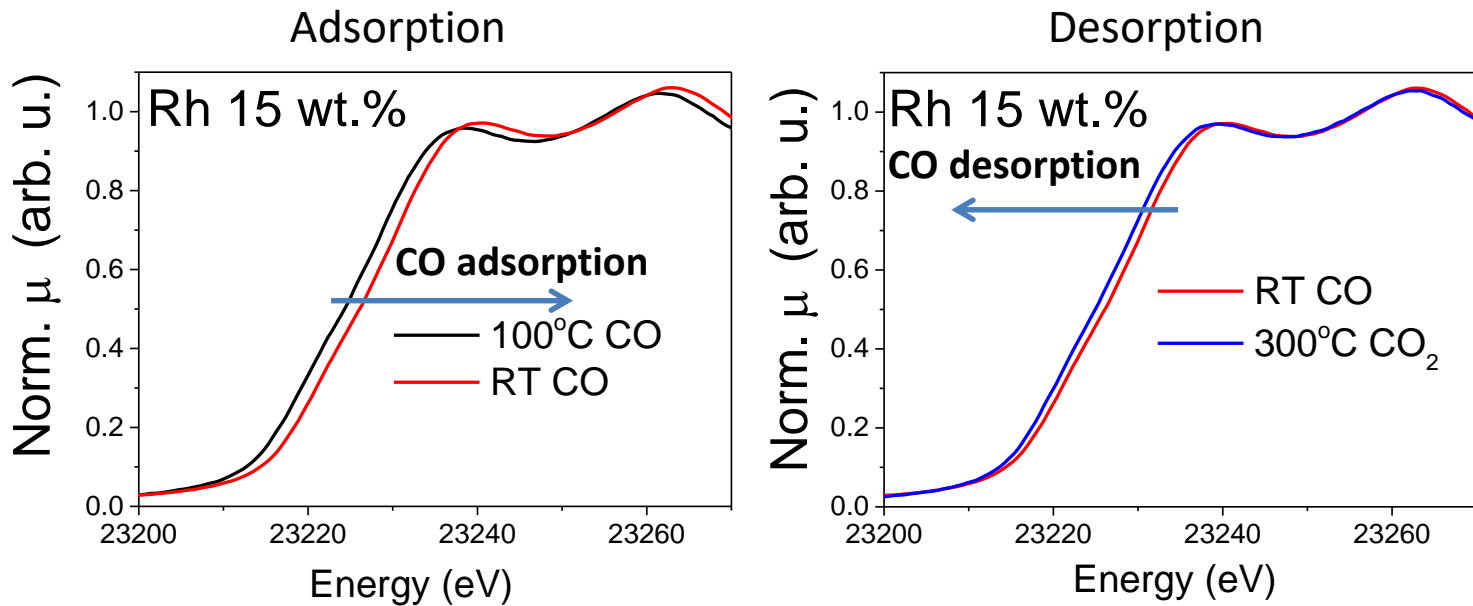
Theory vs experiment



Cell parameter a, b and c	Mn-O	Mn-La
5.28	1.90056	3.24
5.32	1.9100	
5.37	1.92188	
5.41	1.93140	
5.45,	1.94095	
5.5032, 5.5032 and 13.3675	1.95367	3.36
5.531, 5.531 and 13.3675	1.9603	
5.573, 5.573 and 13.3675	1.9704	
5.615, 5.615 and 13.3675	1.98054	
5.655, 6.655 and 13.3675	1.99020	
5.699, 5.699 and 13.3675	2.0008	
5.740, 5.740 and 13.3675	2.01079	
5.78, 5.78 and 13.3675	2.02051	
5.82, 5.82 and 13.3675	2.03026	
5.86	2.04002	
5.905	2.05103	
5.948	2.06157	
5.99	2.07189	3.63



Testing the CO adsorption on 15 wt.% Rh/CeO₂

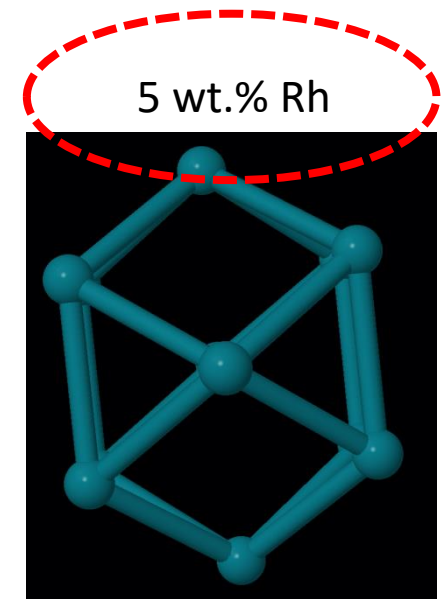


■ CO adsorption shifted the spectrum towards higher energies

Building a model: inputs from EXAFS

Sample	Coordination number
15 wt.% Rh/CeO ₂	7.0 ± 0.6
5 wt.% Rh/CeO ₂	5.0 ± 0.5

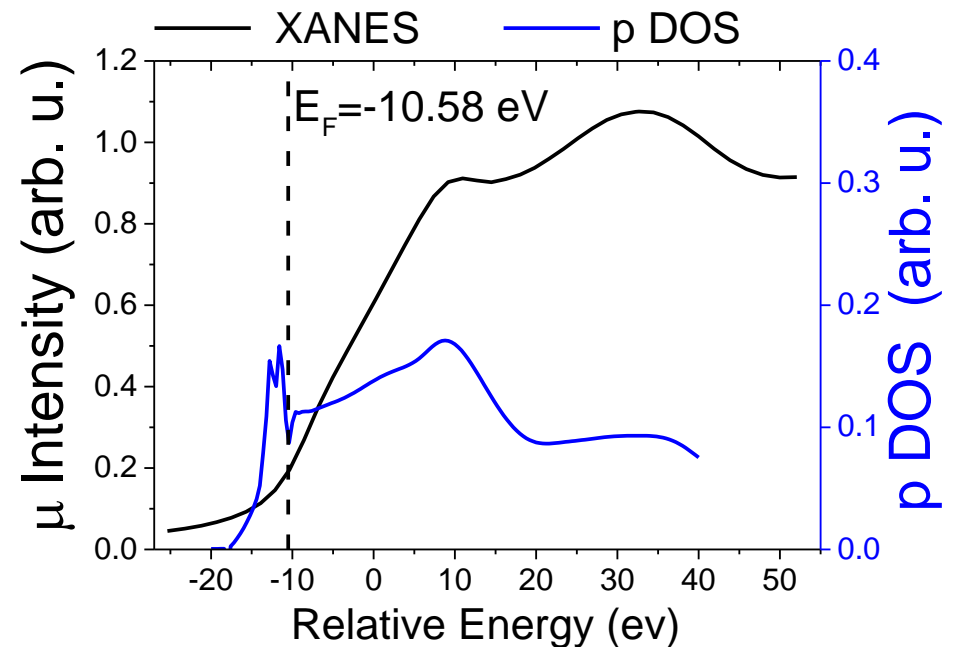
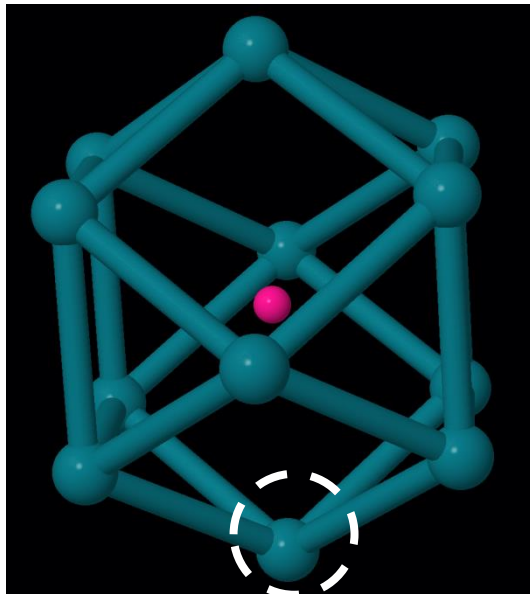
□ Coordination numbers depends on particle size



Smaller than 1.0 nm

The spectrum of a Rh cluster

- Simulated spectrum and p orbital density of states
13 atoms cluster



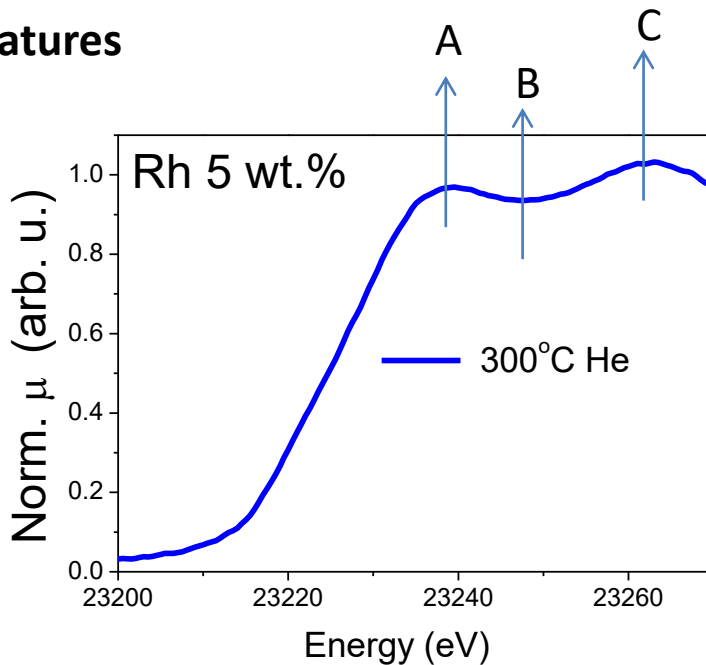
■ 1s to 5p transition

How good is our theory?

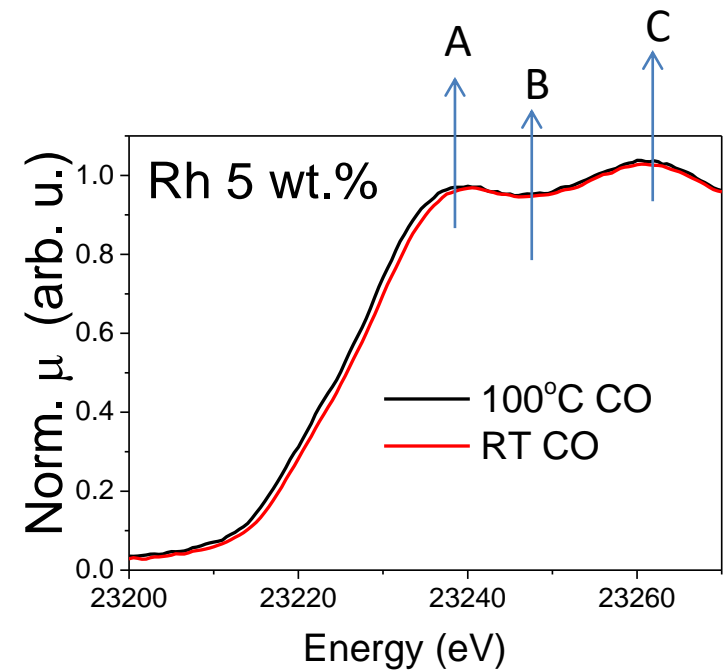
□ We can reproduce the experimental spectrum

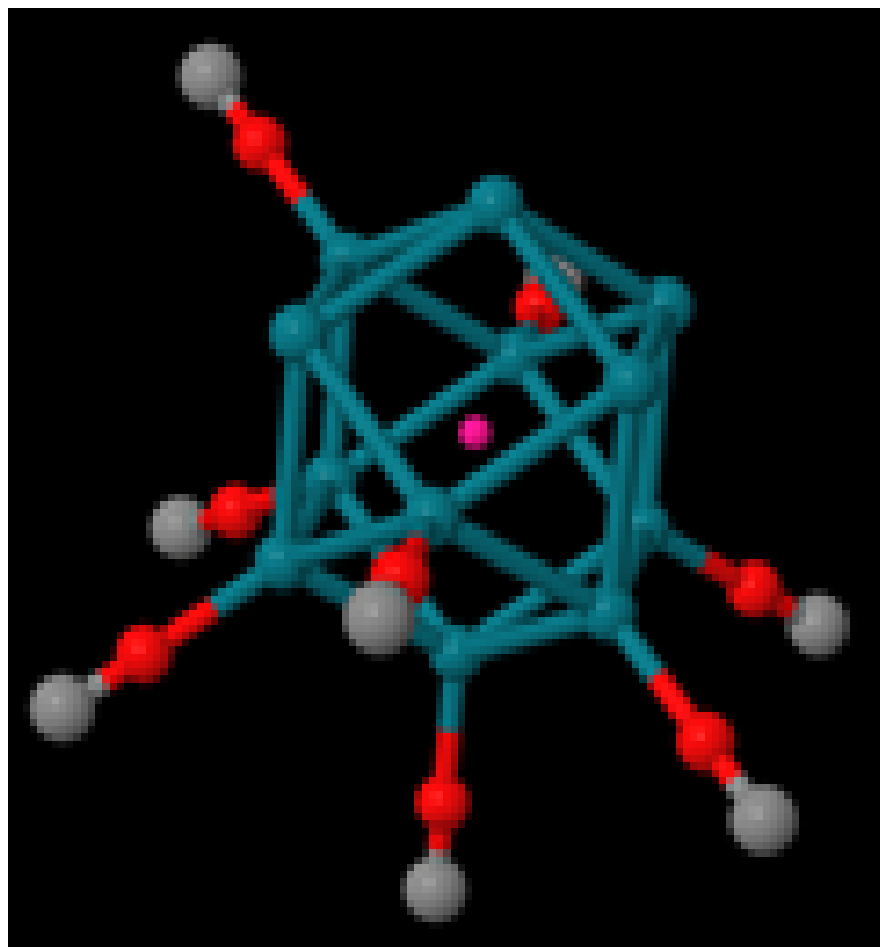
Theory

Features



Experiment



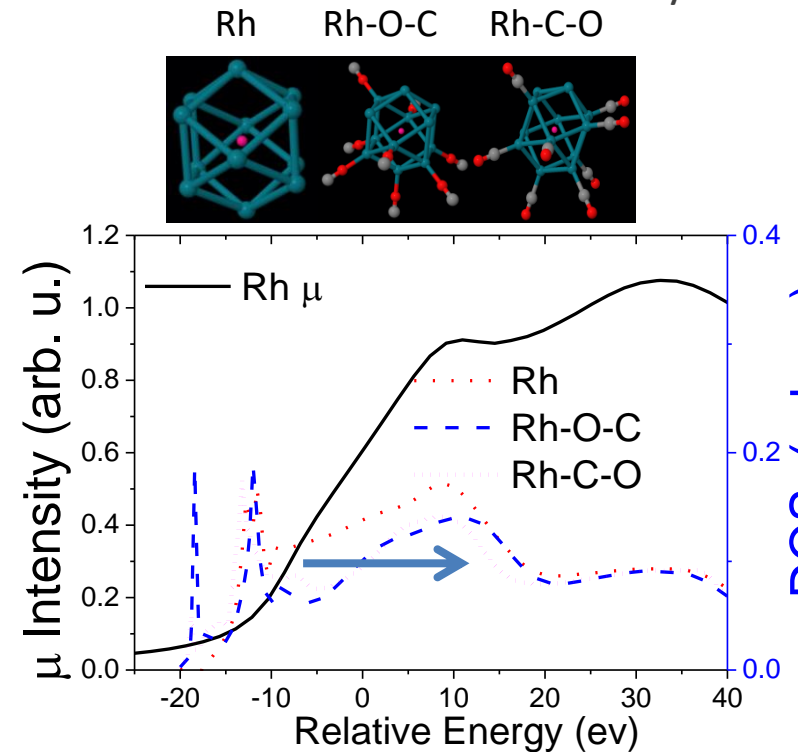
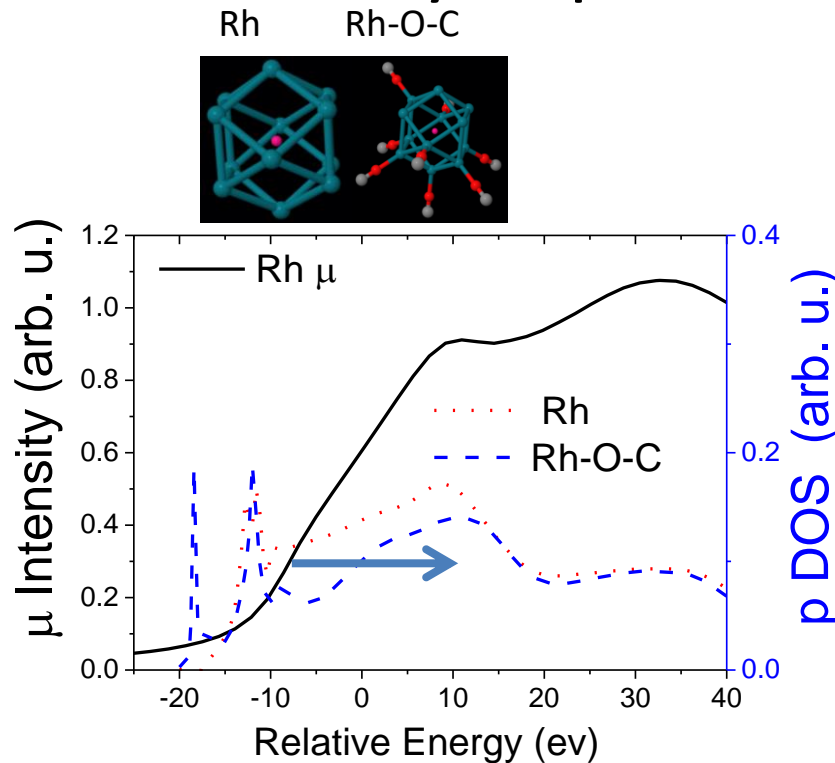


Why does the shift occur?

- Rh density of p unoccupied states

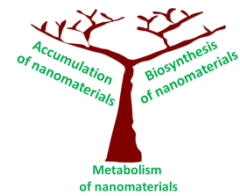
Red: oxygen

Grey: carbon



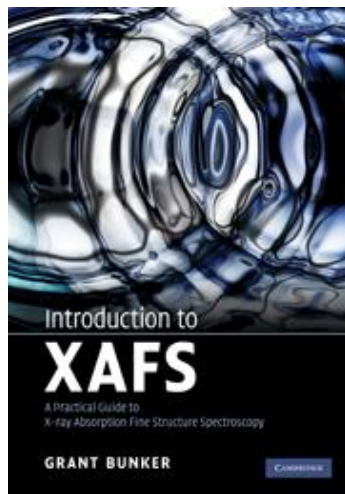
- The presence of C or O shifts **the Rh p orbitals** to higher energies!

XANES data analysis



- Finger print: simple comparison
- Linear combination: semi quantitative
- Following kinetics: semi quantitative
- Ab initio*: comparing experiment with theory

XANES Theory



Pg 106-125

Pg 134-146

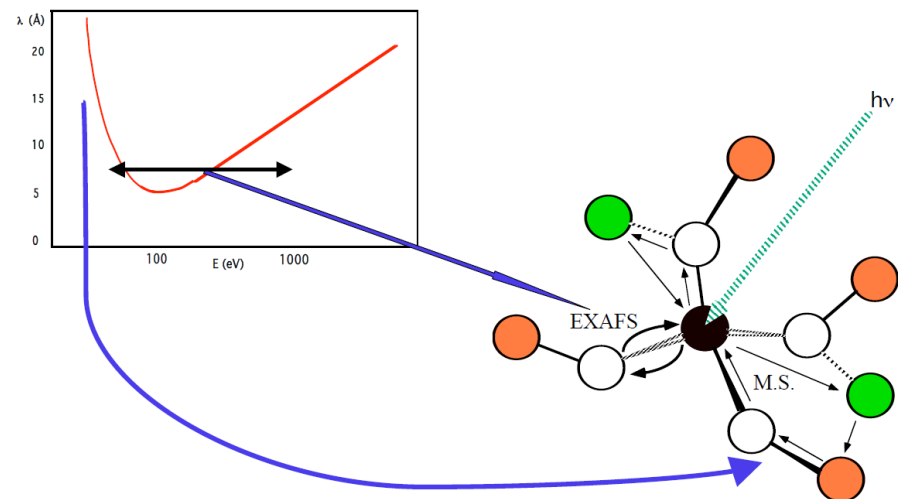
XANES spectroscopy
By Andrej Mihelic in 2002

<http://www.ung.si/~arcon/xas/xanes/xanes-theory.pdf>

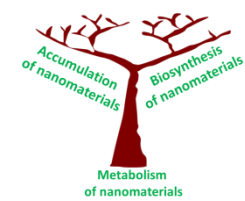
Multiple scattering vs single scattering

- ❑ In XANES the photon electron travels more than in EXAFS
- ❑ Let's see what kind of paths are possible:

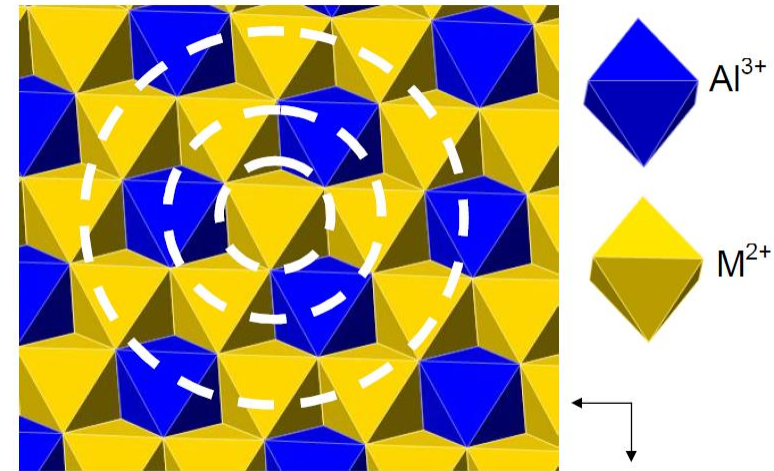
MULTIPLE SCATTERING



What kind of information XANES can supply?



- Symmetry
- Charge
- Nature of ligands
- Bond lengths

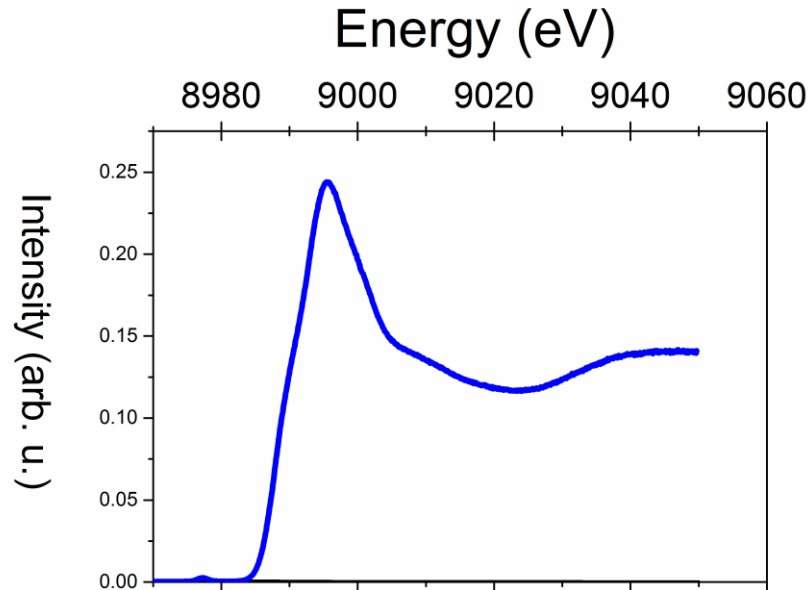


Layered double hydroxide top view

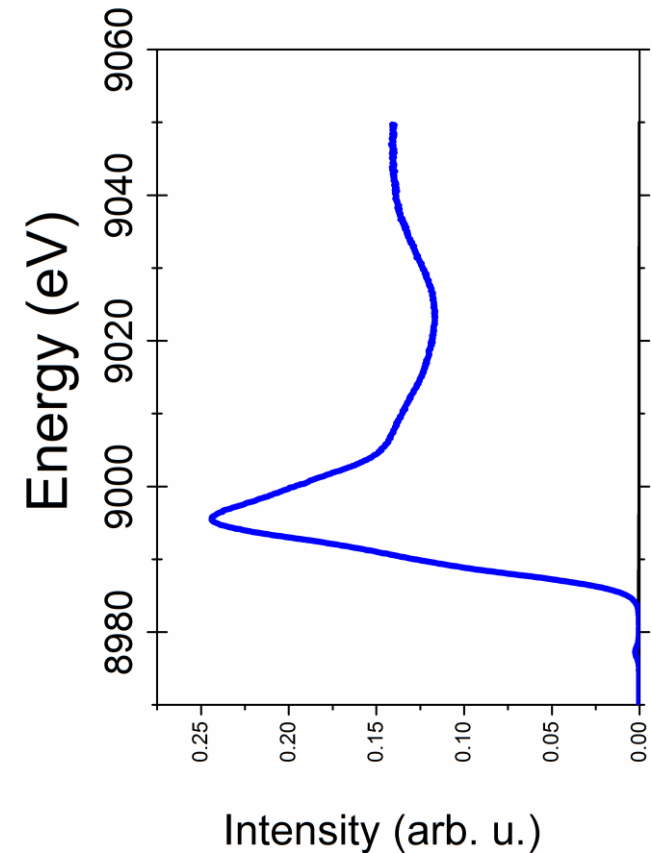
■ Advantages over EXFAS:

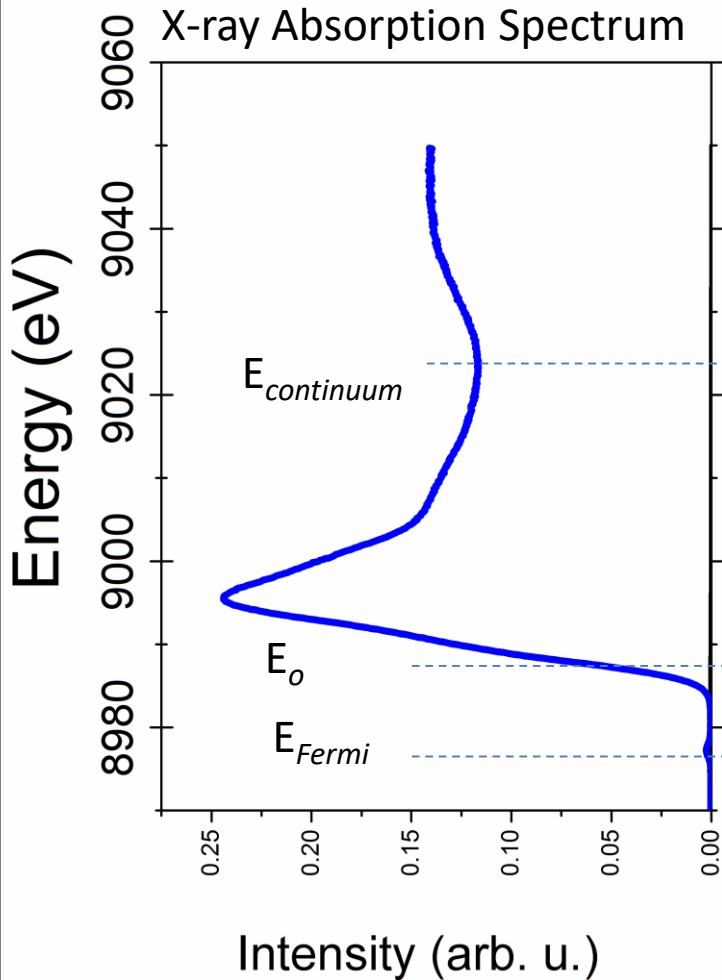
- Faster to record
- Lower influence of temperature
- Easier to extract qualitative information

- We are used to see the X-ray absorption spectrum like that:



■ Let's rotate it





- The config. of the **empty states** depends on:
- Nature of ligands
- Geometry
- Bond length
- Oxidation state of absorber

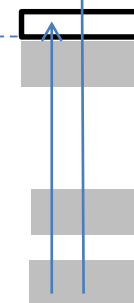
EXAFS

XANES

Pre-edge



Empty p mixed states
and empty **ligand states**

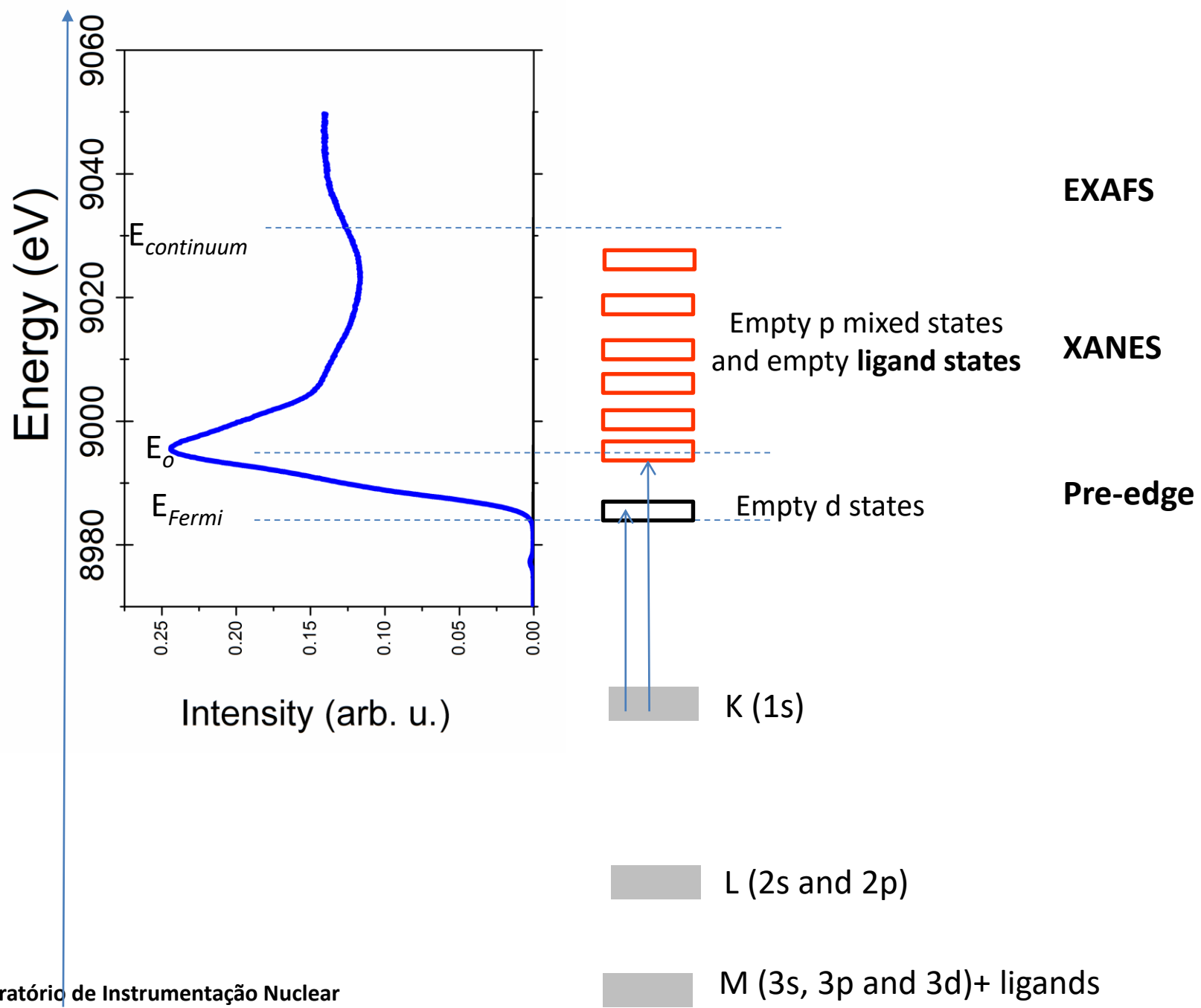


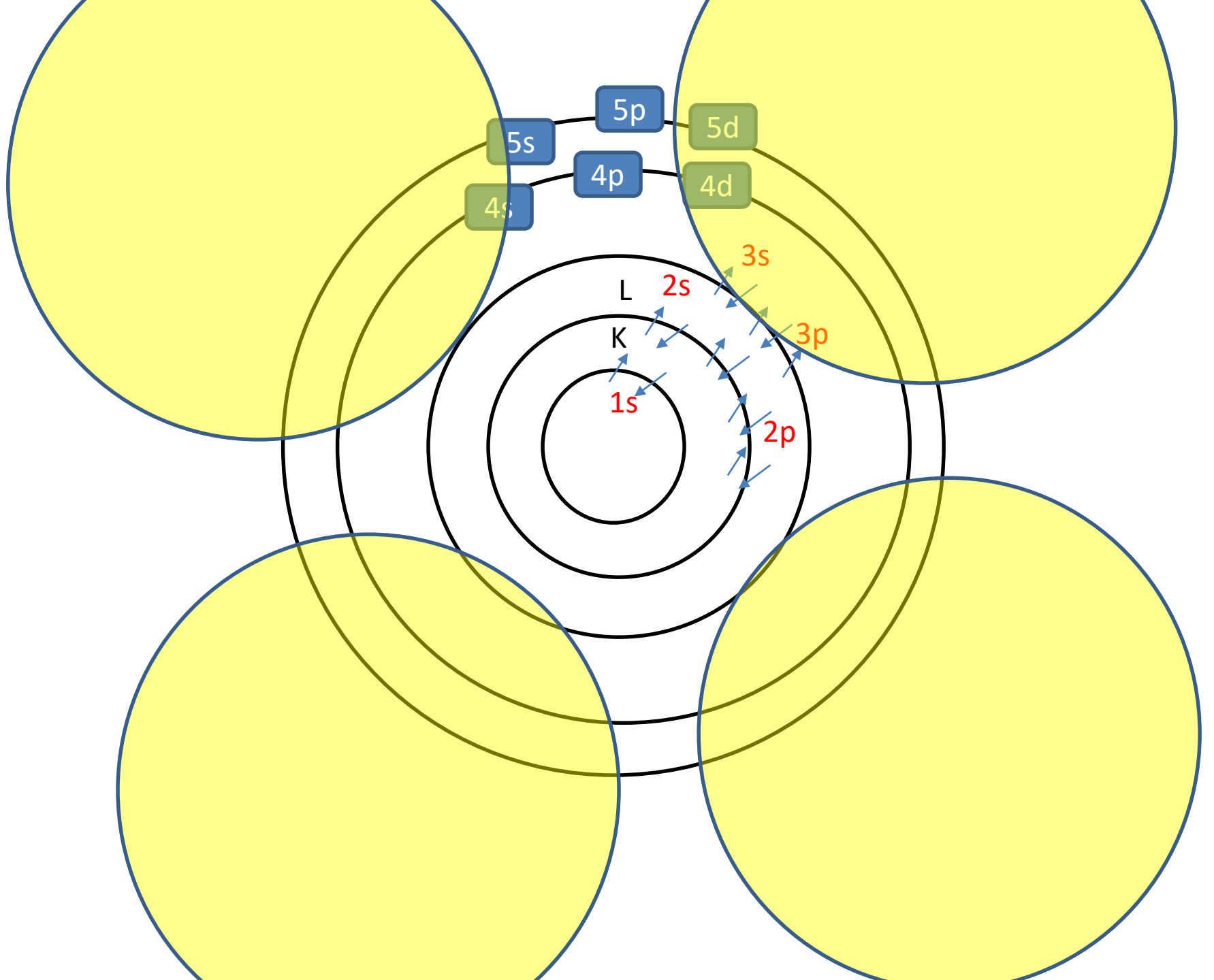
Empty d states
M (3s, 3p and 3d)+ ligands

L (2s and 2p)

K (1s)

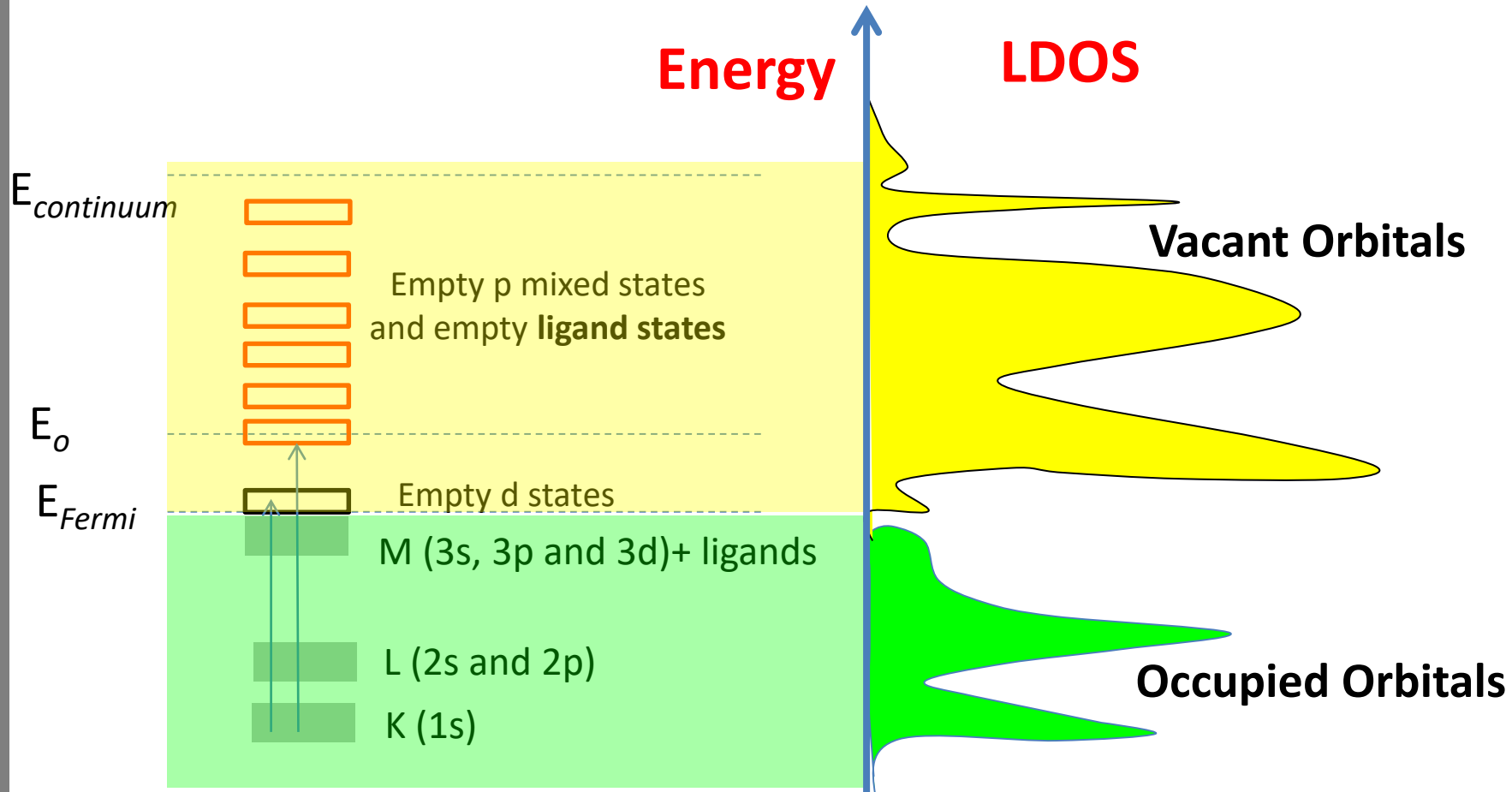
X-ray Absorption Spectrum





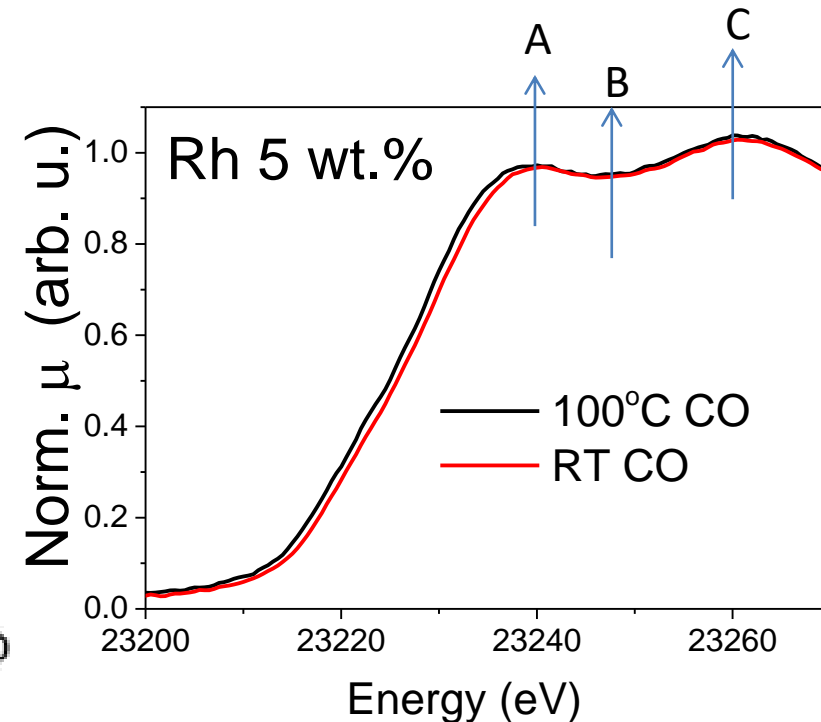
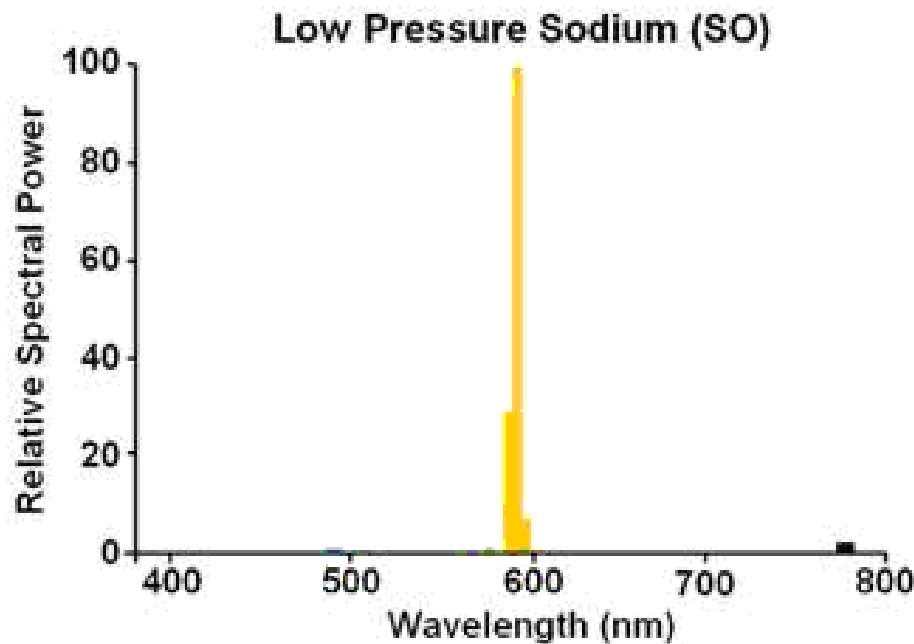
The spectrum is a projection of the electronic levels

- The chemical environment defines the electronic structure



The million-dollar question:

Why some lines are brighter than others?



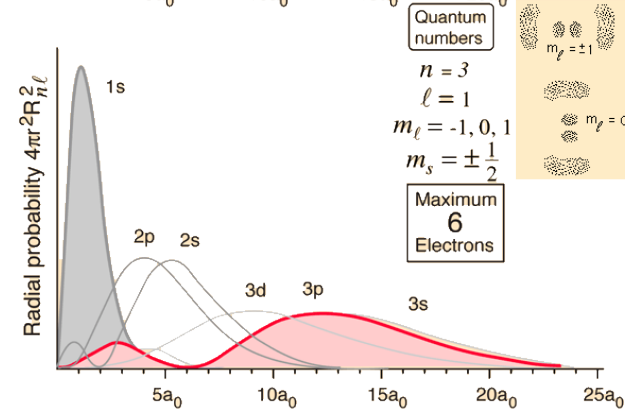
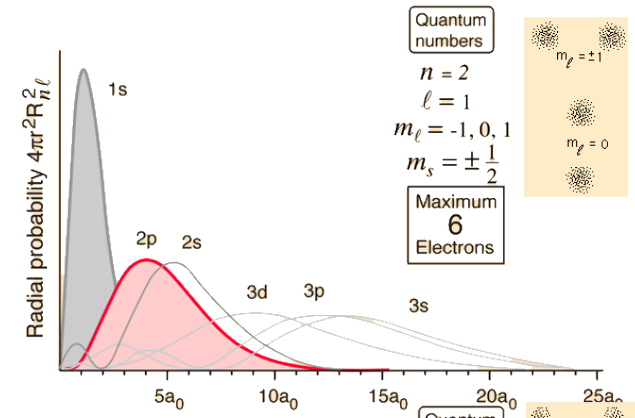
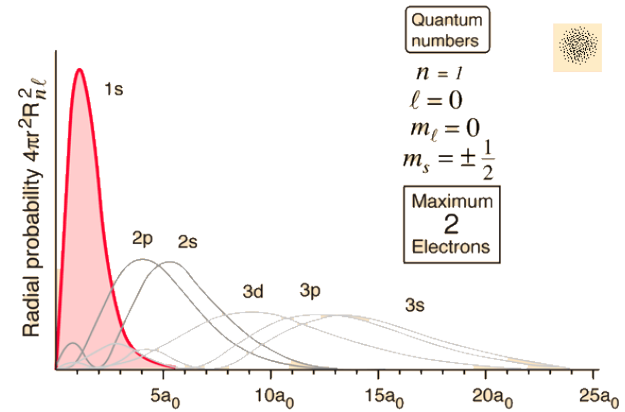
How does it work?

Why this Equation can foresee the spectrum?

$$\mu \propto \left\langle \psi_f \left| \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} \right| \psi_i \right\rangle$$

□ Let's invest some time here

Orbital overlapping



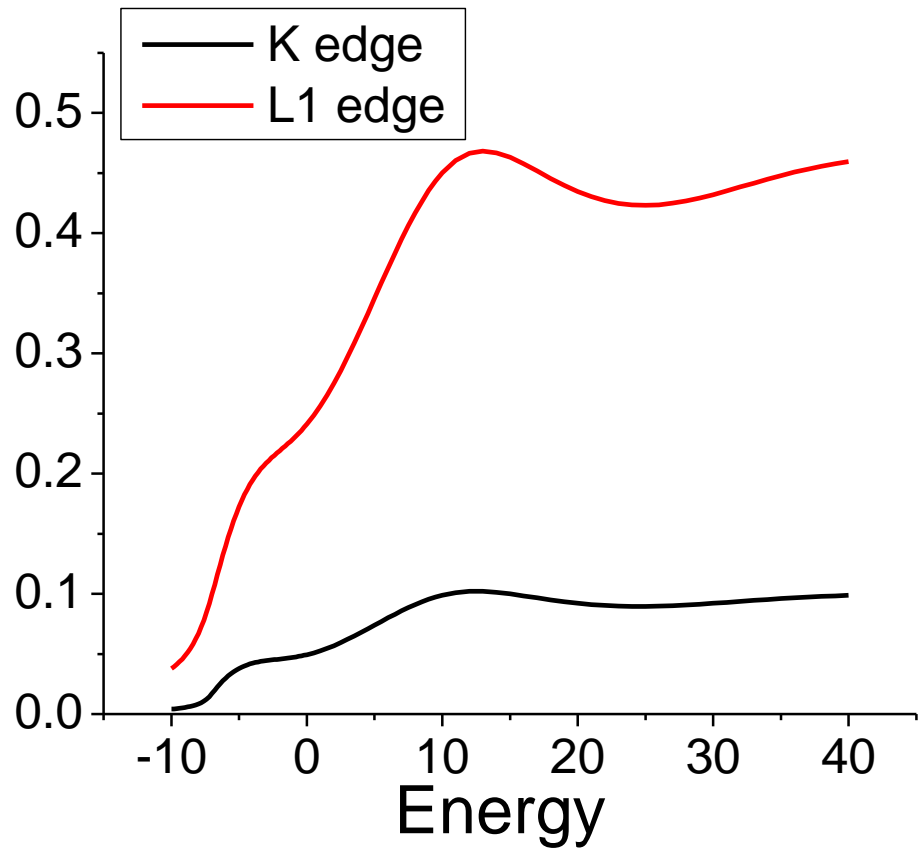
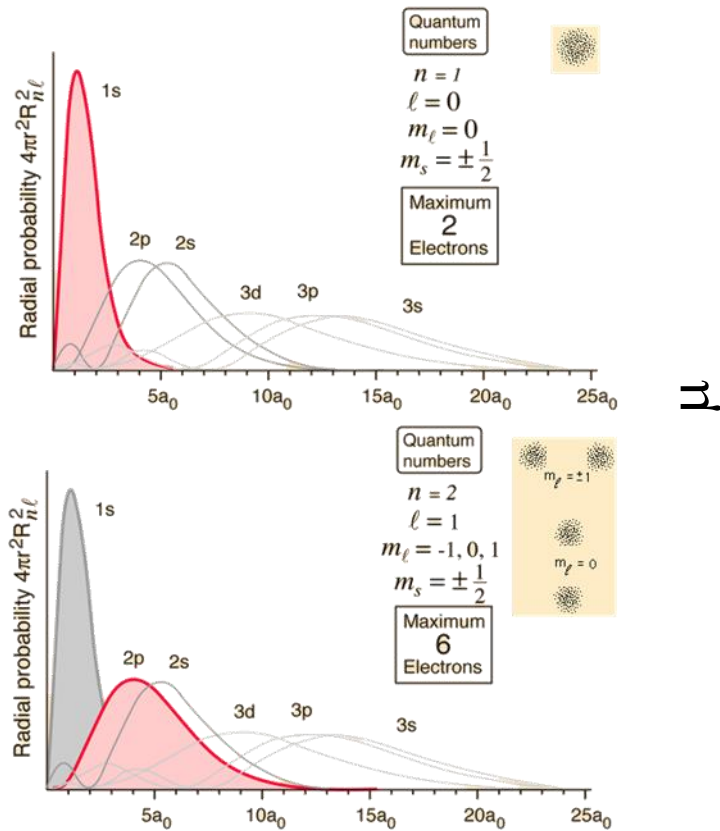
$$\mu \propto \left\langle \psi_f \left| \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} \right| \psi_i \right\rangle$$

How is it applied to spectroscopy?

Cu K edge vs L1 edge

Which one is more probable?

Why?



Why dependent on the neighboring atoms?

Fermi's Golden Rule: dependent on the **initial and** the **final** state

$$\mu \propto \langle \psi_f | \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} | \psi_i \rangle$$

Ψ_i : initial state wave function of the bound electron

Ψ_f : final state wave function of the ejected photoelectron

ε : electric field vector

R : position vector of scatterer

NOTE: valid for all electronic transitions, see books for physical chemistry (perturbation theory in quantum mechanics)

$$\mu \propto \langle \psi_f | \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} | \psi_i \rangle$$

□ **The initial state:**

ψ_i : bound electron

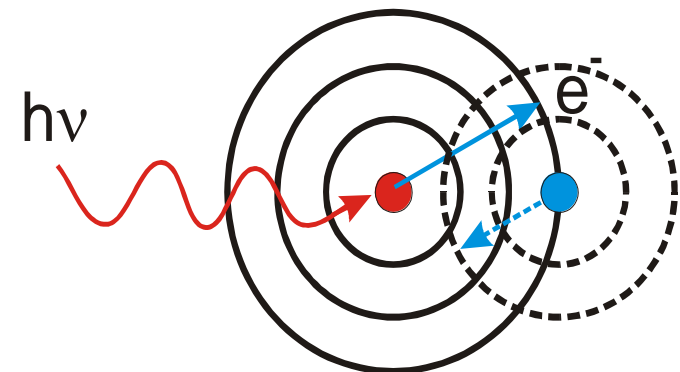
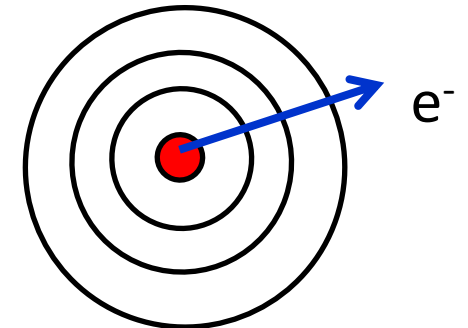
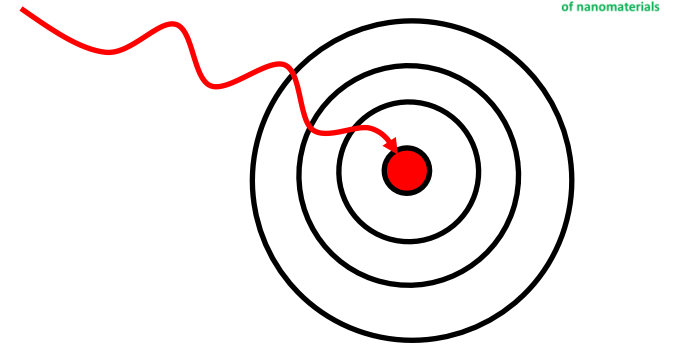
□ **The final state:**

For an isolated atom:

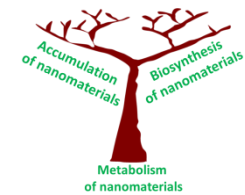
ψ_f : $\psi_{\text{outgoing wave}}$

For a surrounded atom:

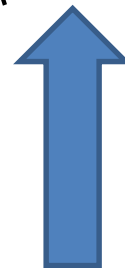
ψ_f : $\psi_{\text{outgoing wave}} + \psi_{\text{backscattered wave}}$



The initial state



$$\mu \propto \langle \psi_f | \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} | \psi_i \rangle$$



The final state



The initial state

The initial state

□ $\Psi_i =$ absorption

n	l	m	ψ_{nlm}	Orbital Name	Edge
1	0	0	$\psi_{100} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_o}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-\sigma}$	ψ_{1s} 1s	K
2	0	0	$\psi_{200} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{32\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_o}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} (2 - \sigma)e^{-\frac{\sigma}{2}}$	ψ_{2s} 2s	L ₂ and L ₃
	1	0	$\psi_{210} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{32\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_o}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \sigma e^{-\frac{\sigma}{2}} \cos\theta$	ψ_{2p_z}	
	1	± 1	$\psi_{21\pm 1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{64\pi}} \left(\frac{Z}{a_o}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \sigma e^{-\frac{\sigma}{2}} \sin\theta e^{\pm i\phi}$	$2p_x$	

■ Ψ_i is the orbital which the electron is leaving

<http://www.udel.edu/pchem/C444/spLectures/04152008.pdf>

The initial state

□ Ψ_i or the absorption edge has a strong influence on the spectral features = absorption

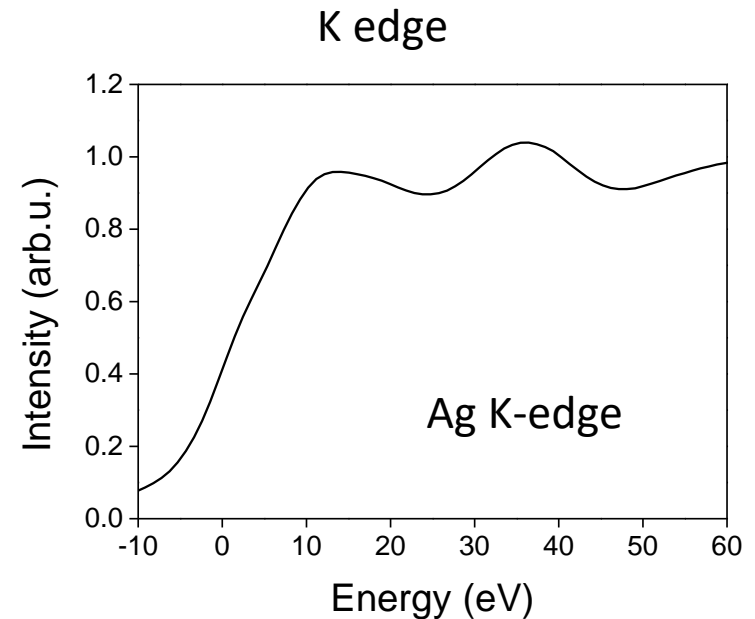
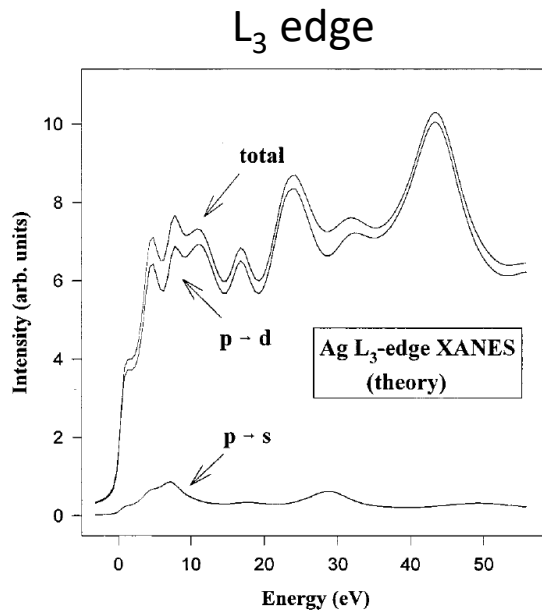


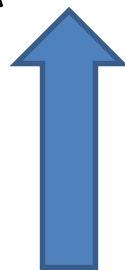
FIG. 2. Ag L_3 -edge XANES for fcc Ag metal obtained with the multiple scattering calculation. The $p \rightarrow d$ and $p \rightarrow s$ channels are also shown separately.

■ This effect is mainly due to the core hole life time and the selection rules

PHYSICAL REVIEW B VOLUME 58, NUMBER 11 15 SEPTEMBER 1998-I
 Sublifetime-resolution Ag L_3 -edge XANES studies of Ag-Au alloys
 W. Drube and R. Treusch*
 Hamburger Synchrotronstrahlungslabor HASYLAB am Deutschen Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY,
 Notkestrasse 85, D-22603 Hamburg, Germany

The final state

$$\mu \propto \langle \psi_f | \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} | \psi_i \rangle$$



The final state

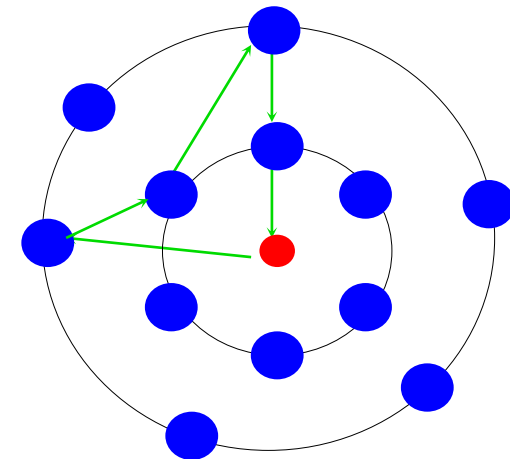
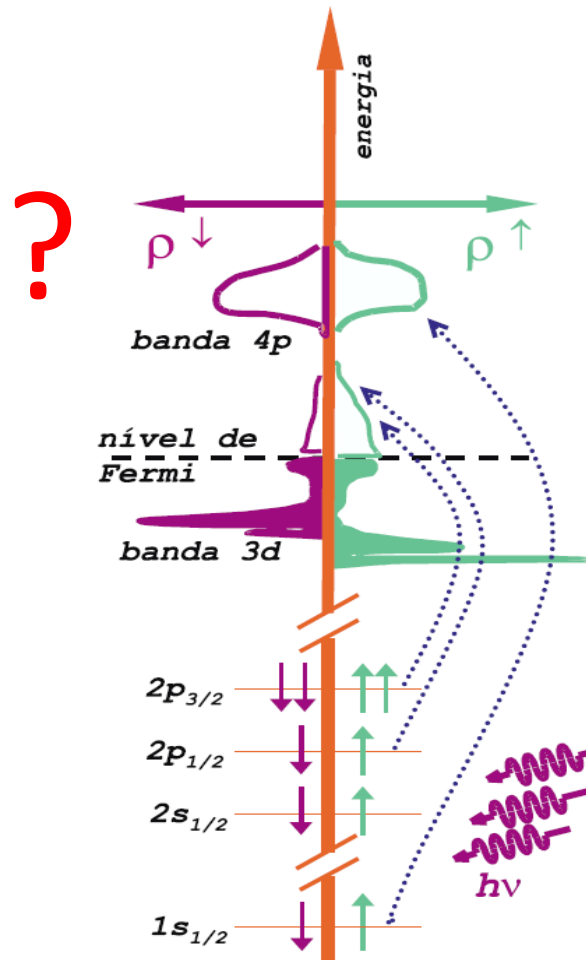


The initial state

The final state

□ To simulate the XANES we have to find out all possible final states

Ψ_f = Final state



The most important difference between:

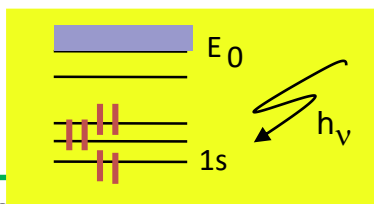
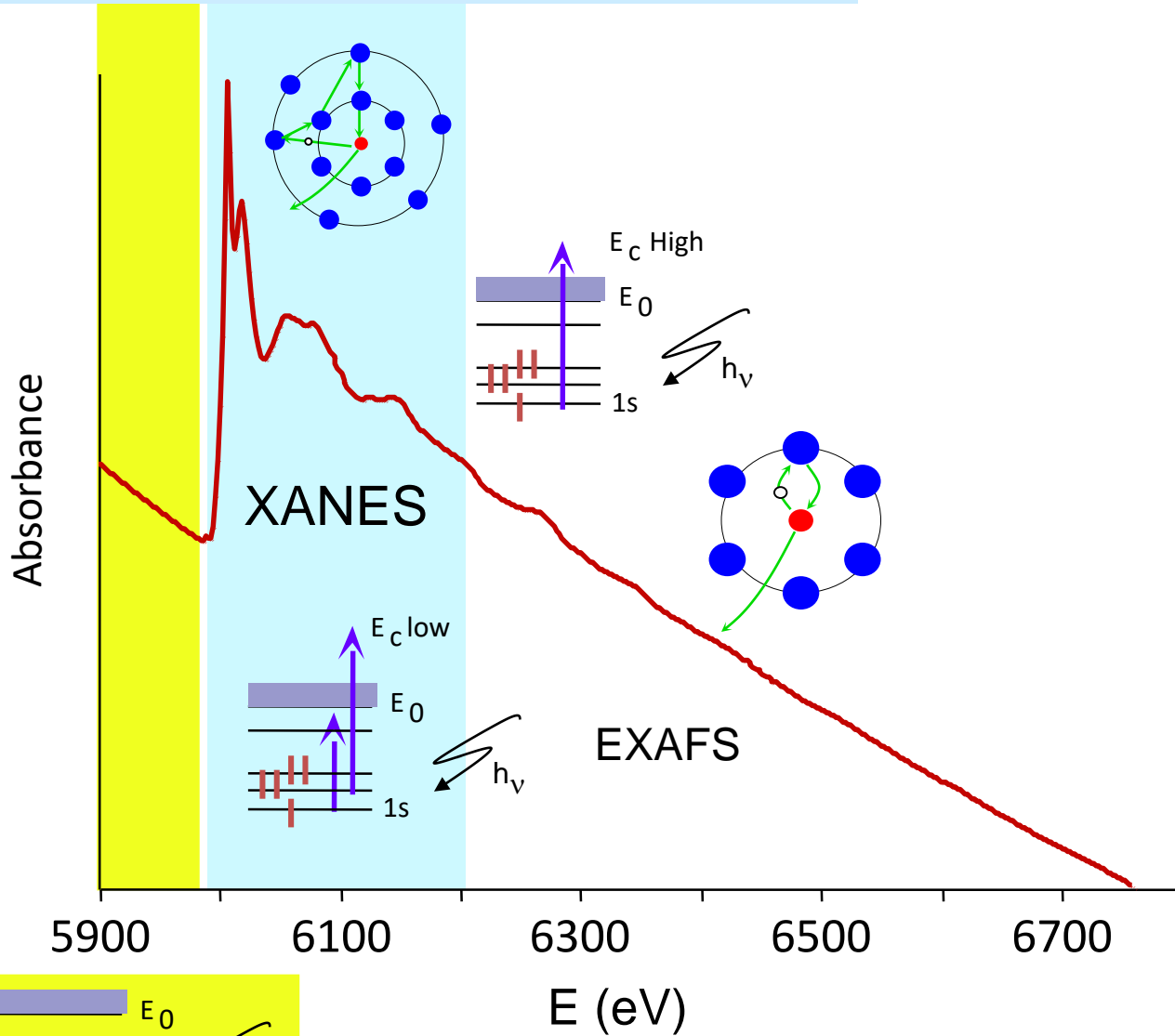
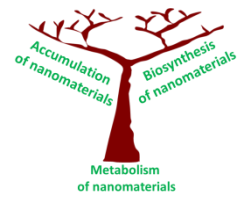
XANES, EXAFS and optical transitions:

The nature of the final states

The EXAFS phenomenon: a closer look

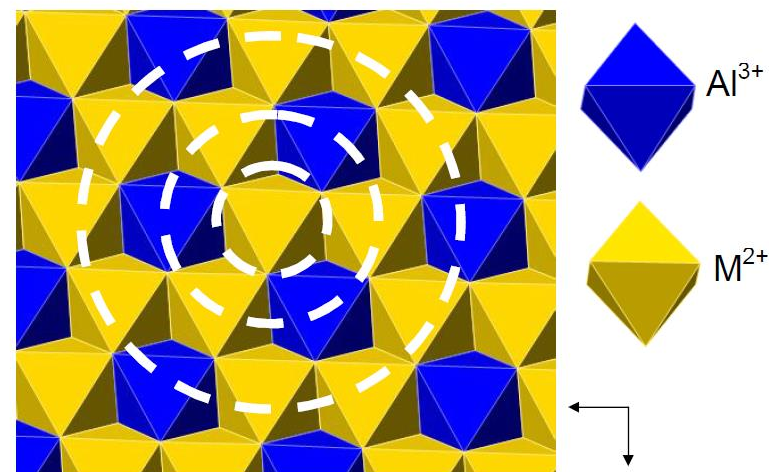
X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy

The EXAFS phenomenon:
a closer look



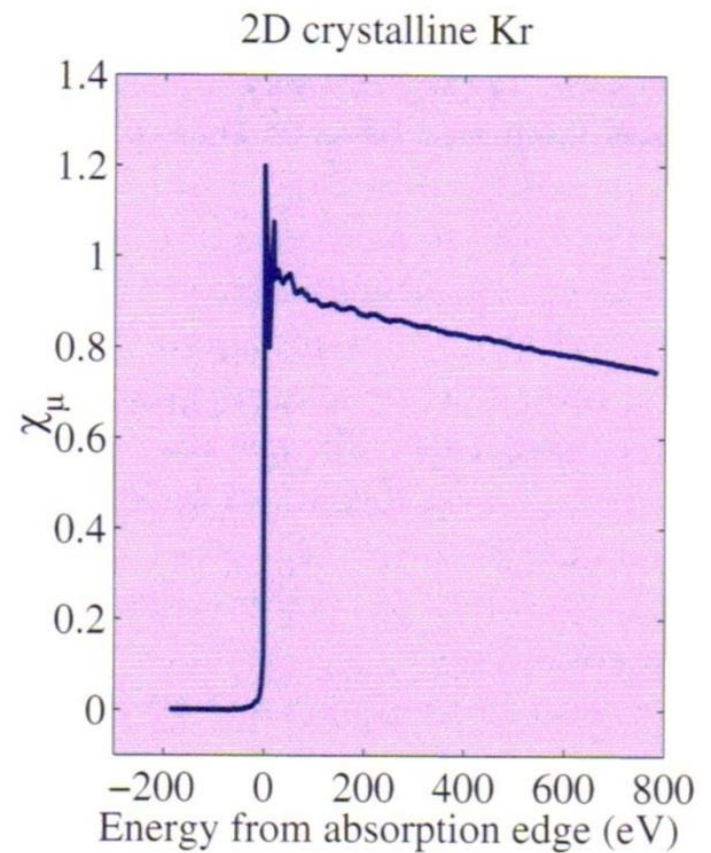
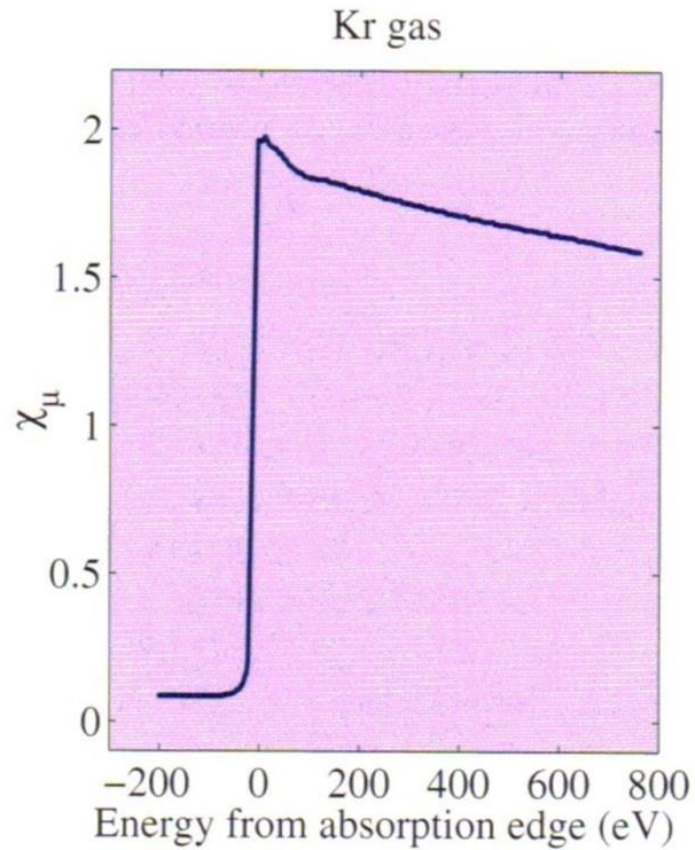
- What kind of information EXAFS can supply?

- Identify an absorbing atom
- Identify which atoms surround the absorber atom.
- Determine how many surrounding atoms and their distances.
- An idea about how ordered those surrounding atoms are.



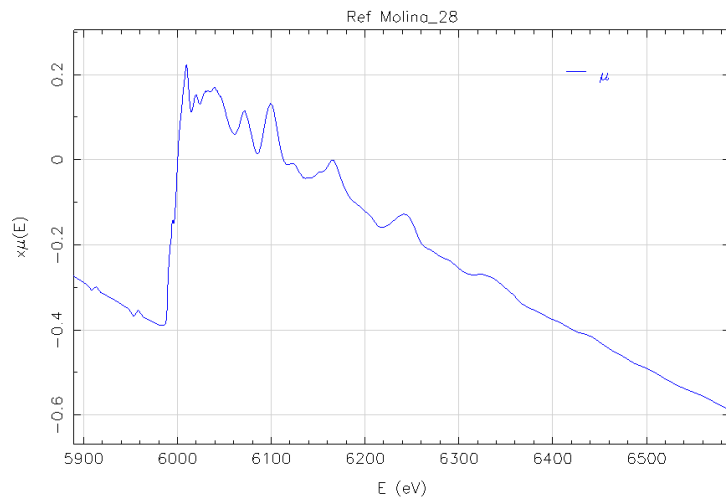
Layered double hydroxide top view

Hudson Wallace Pereira de Carvalho
ROLE DE L'ARGILE DANS LA STABILISATION THERMIQUE DE
NANOCOMPOSITES : ETUDE DE L'ORDRE LOCAL ET DE L'ORDRE A
MOYENNE DISTANCE

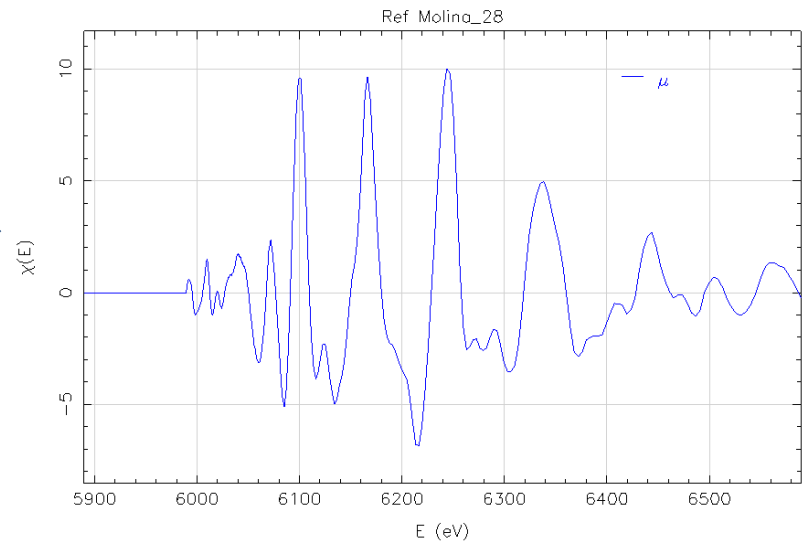


- To get information one must isolate the oscillations.

Raw spectrum



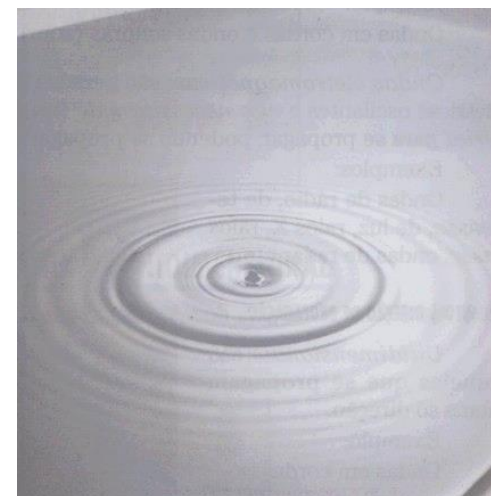
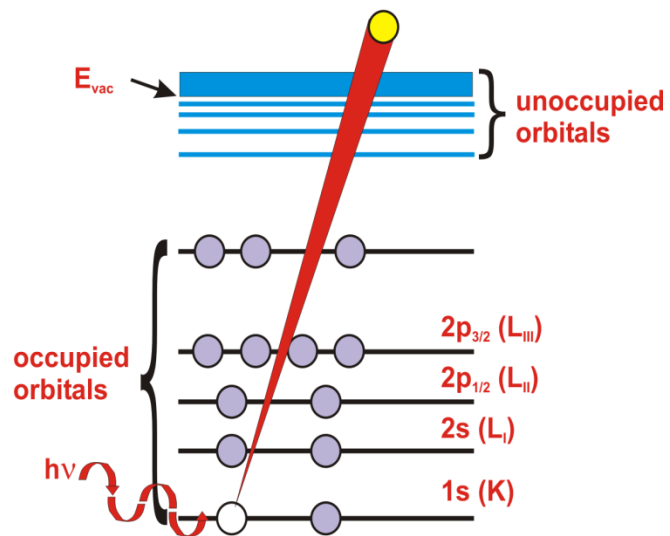
Isolated oscillations



- How to do it?

- The photon is absorbed, and its energy is transferred to the electron

Wave-particle duality



Remember that the electron can be regarded either as a particle or as a wave

■ Let's follow a short reasoning:

■ We can calculate the electron's wavelength

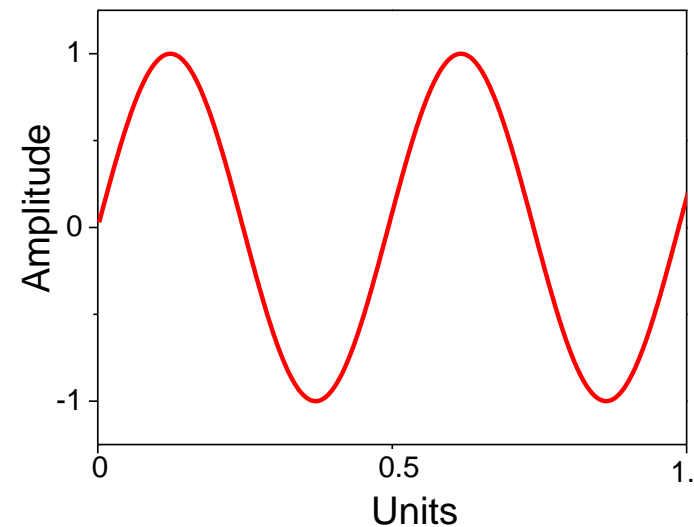
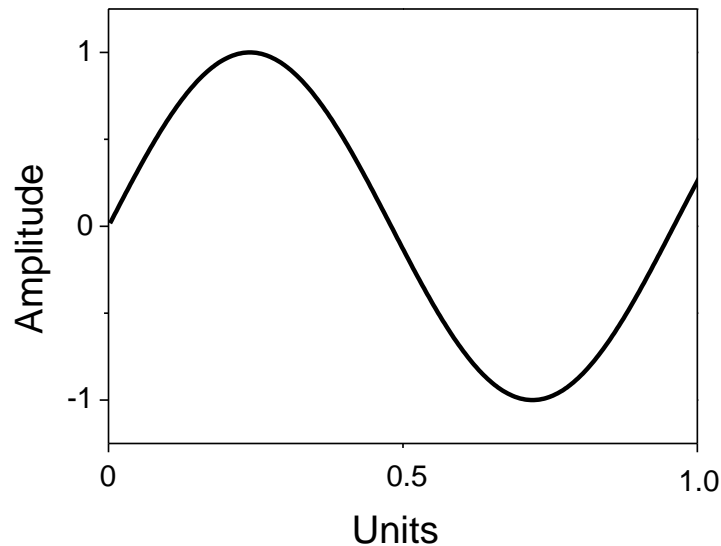
$$E = h\nu \longrightarrow \lambda = \frac{h}{p} \quad \text{(de Broglie)}$$

■ We can also determine the electron's wavenumber

Number of oscillations per unit e.g.

$$\nu = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$



■ Let's follow a short reasoning (perhaps not too short):

■ Photoelectron's energy balance:

$$E_{\text{kin}} = E_{\text{x-ray}} - E_{\text{binding } E} \quad \text{or} \quad E_{\text{kin}} = E - E_0$$

$$E_{\text{kin}} = \frac{1}{2} mv^2 = p^2/2m = E - E_0$$

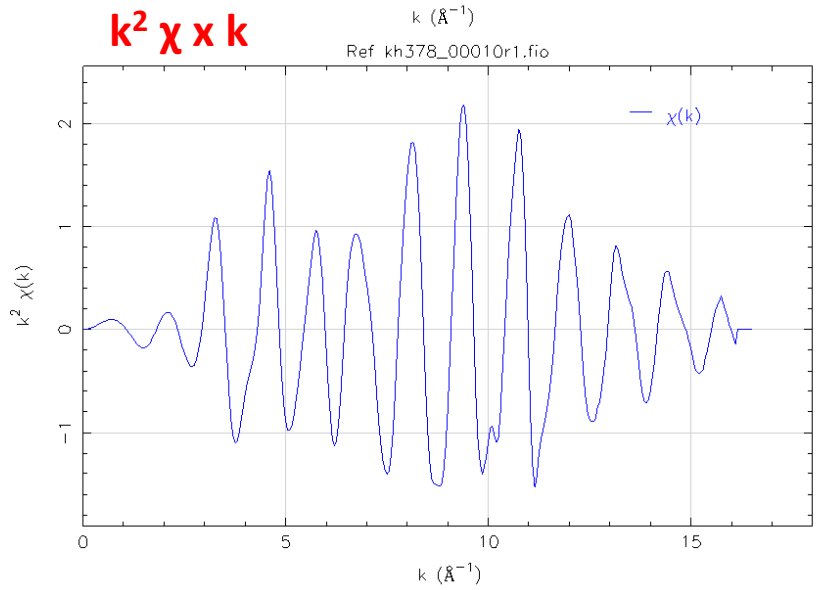
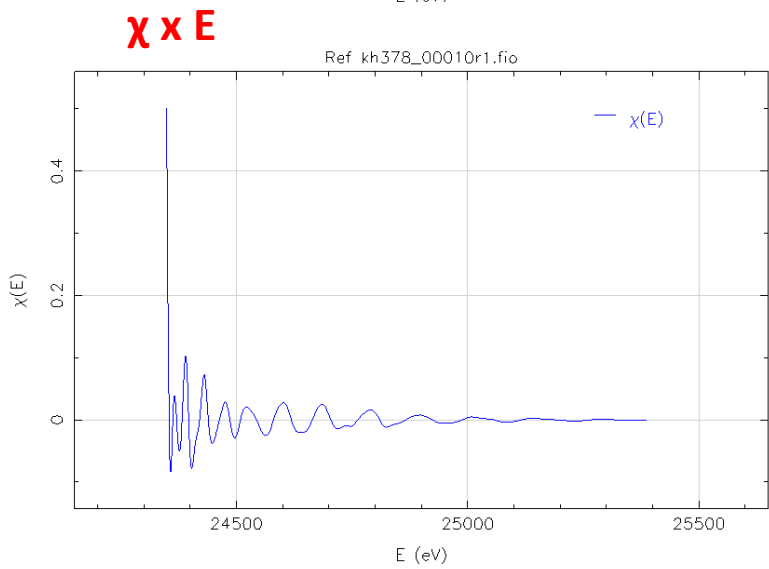
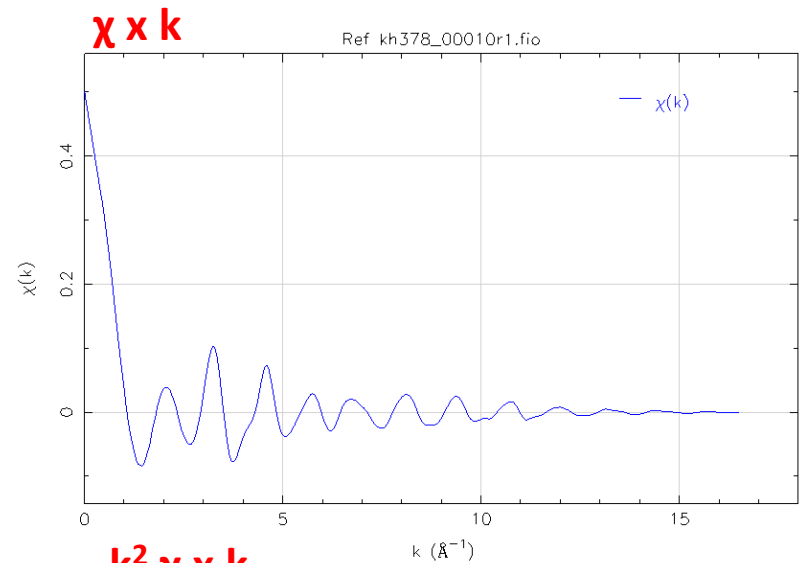
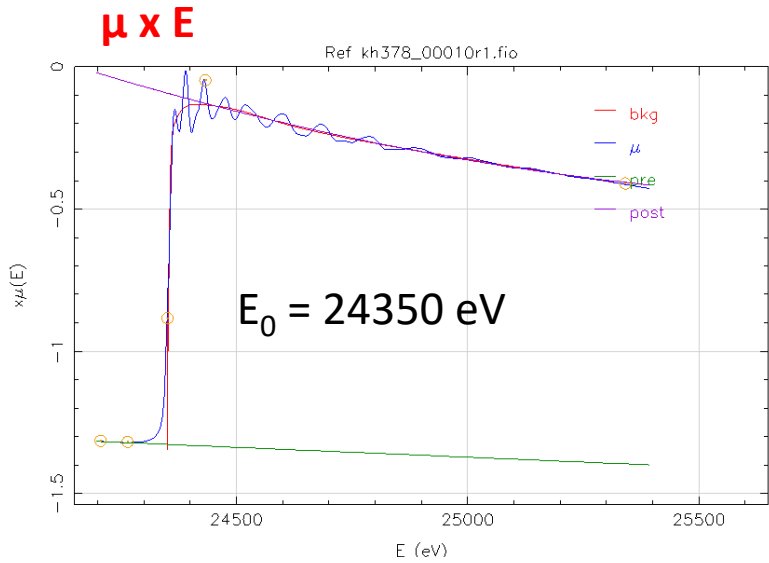
$$p = (2m(E - E_0))^{0.5}$$

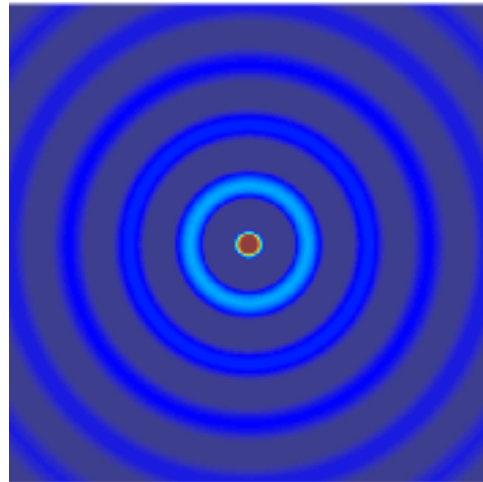
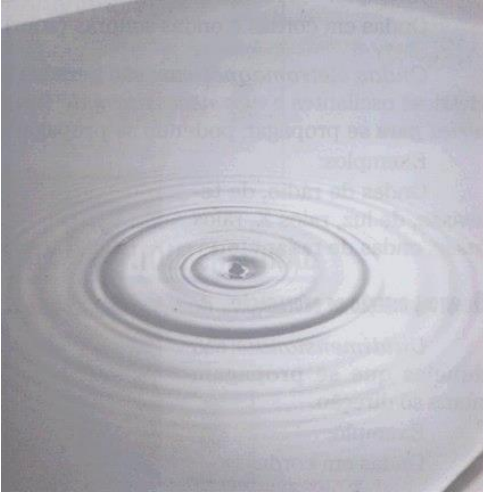
$$k = 2\pi/\lambda = 2\pi p/h$$

Photoelectron wave number:

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{h} \cdot \sqrt{2m_e E_{\text{kin}}} = \frac{2\pi}{h} \cdot \sqrt{2m_e (E - E_0)}$$

When are we going to use k?





Photoelectron wave number:

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{h} \cdot \sqrt{2m_e E_{kin}} = \frac{2\pi}{h} \cdot \sqrt{2m_e (E - E_0)}$$

Solution of the wave equation:

$$u = A \sin (\vec{k} \vec{r} - w t)$$

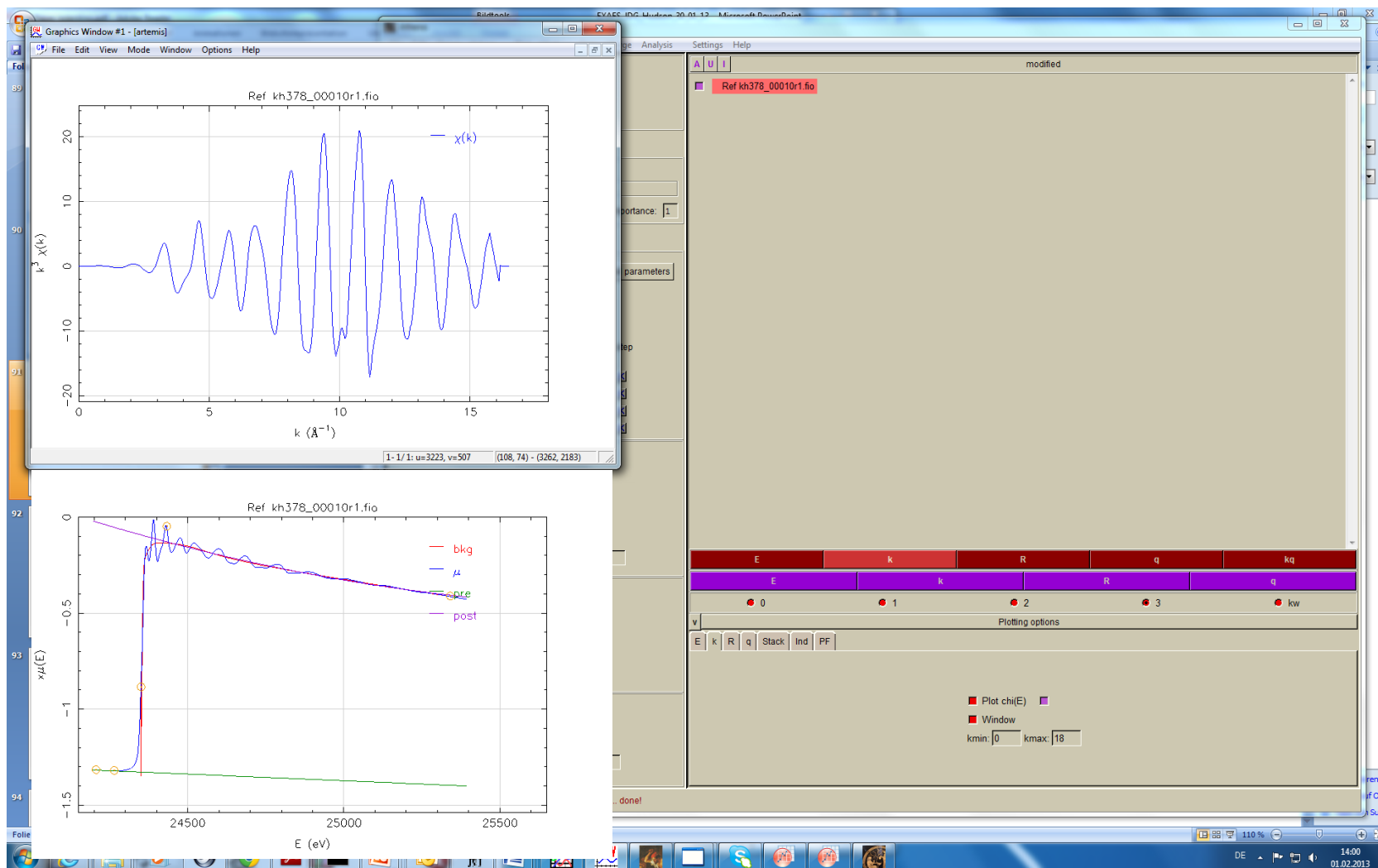
A = amplitude

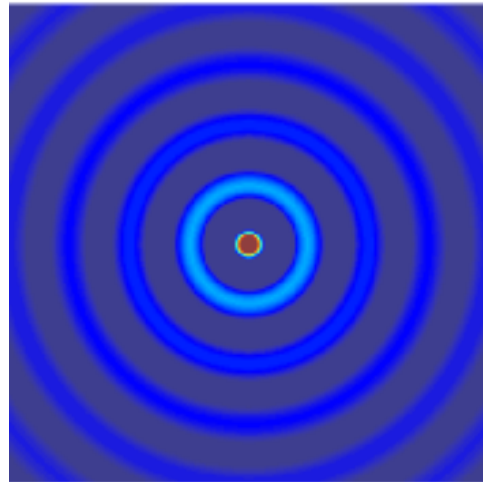
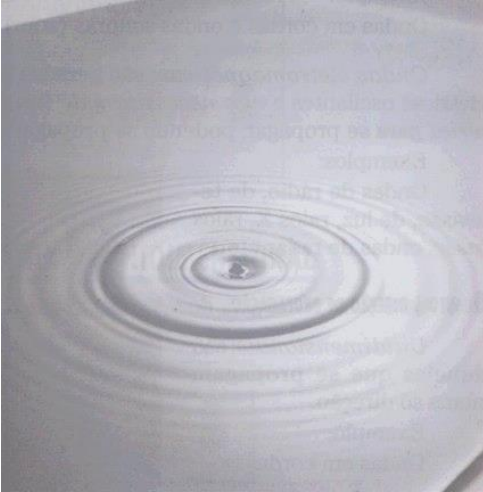
k= wave vector

r= position

w= $2\pi f$ = angular frequency

t= time





Photoelectron wave number:

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{h} \cdot \sqrt{2m_e E_{kin}} = \frac{2\pi}{h} \cdot \sqrt{2m_e (E - E_0)}$$

Solution of the wave equation:

$$u = A \sin (\vec{k} \vec{r} - \omega t)$$

A = amplitude

k= wave vector

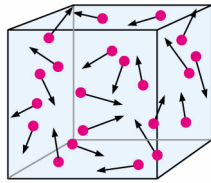
r= position

$\omega = 2\pi f$ = angular frequency

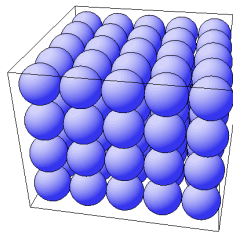
t= time

- Remembering: Where does the fine structure come from?

- What is a gas?

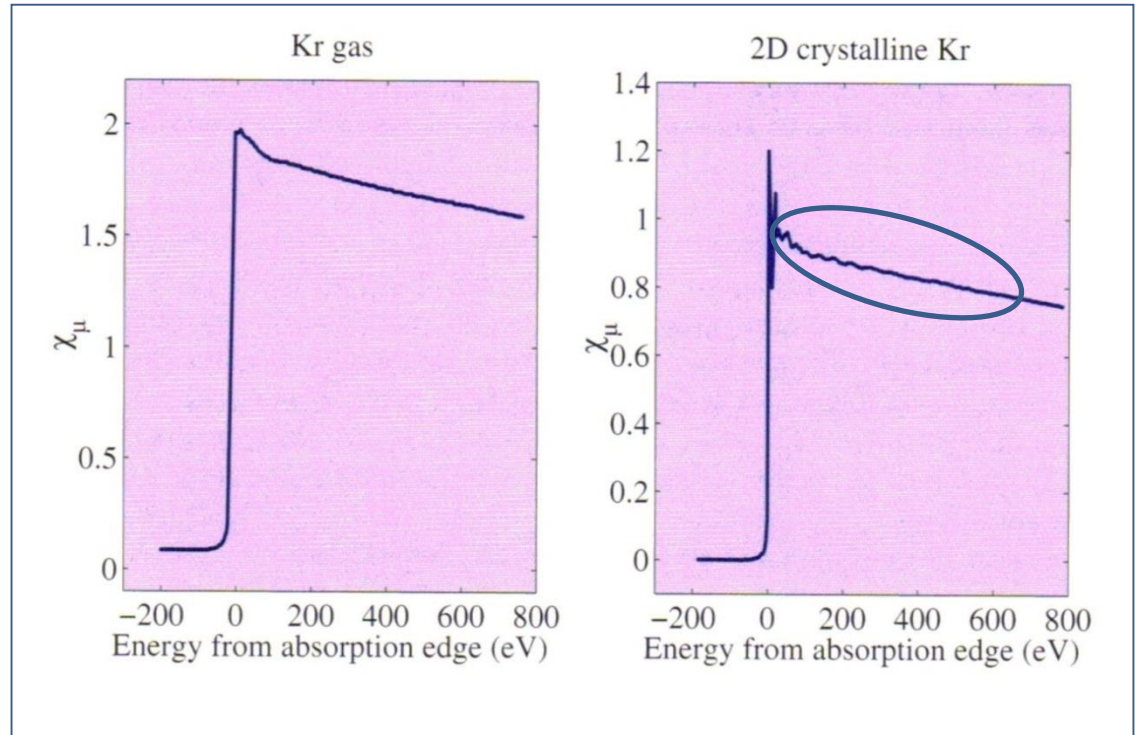


- What is solid?



(001) Simple cubic (sc)

DAISIC/PH



with courtesy of Dr. H. Lichtenberg

- What happens if the outgoing electron wave finds a hindrance?

Software:

There is an backscattered wave!

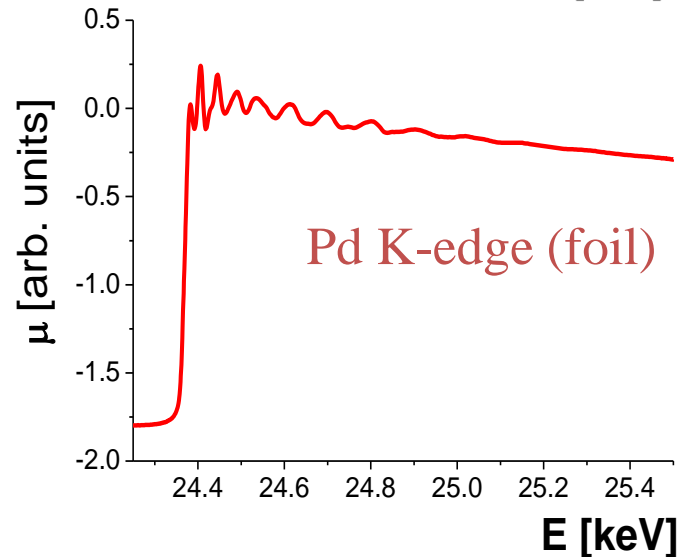
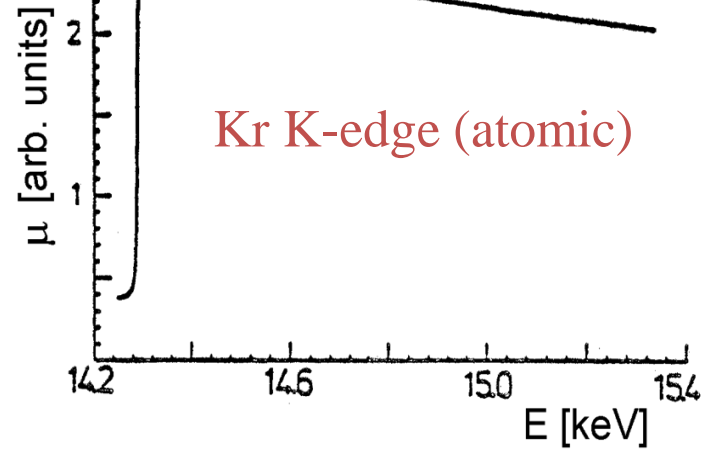
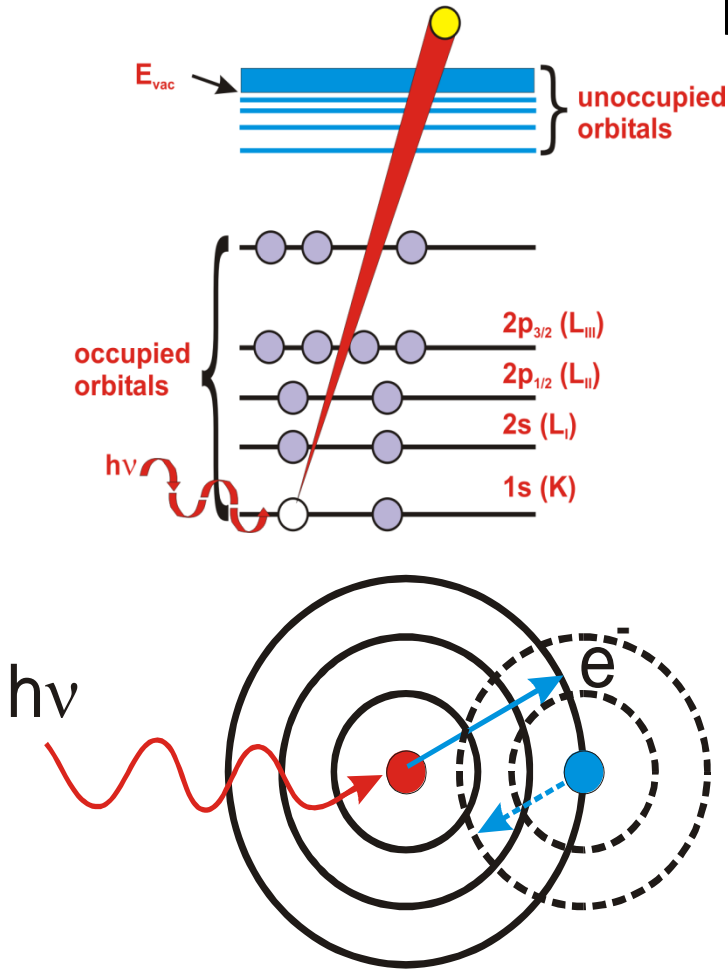
Which does not exist in the monoatomic gas!

This is a more complicate scenario



X-ray absorption spectrum of Kr gas

and Pd foil



Why dependent on the neighbouring atoms?

Fermi's Golden Rule: dependent on the **initial** and the **final** state

$$\mu \propto \langle \psi_f | \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} | \psi_i \rangle$$

Ψ_i : initial state wave function of the bound electron

Ψ_f : final state wave function of the ejected photoelectron

ε : electric field vector

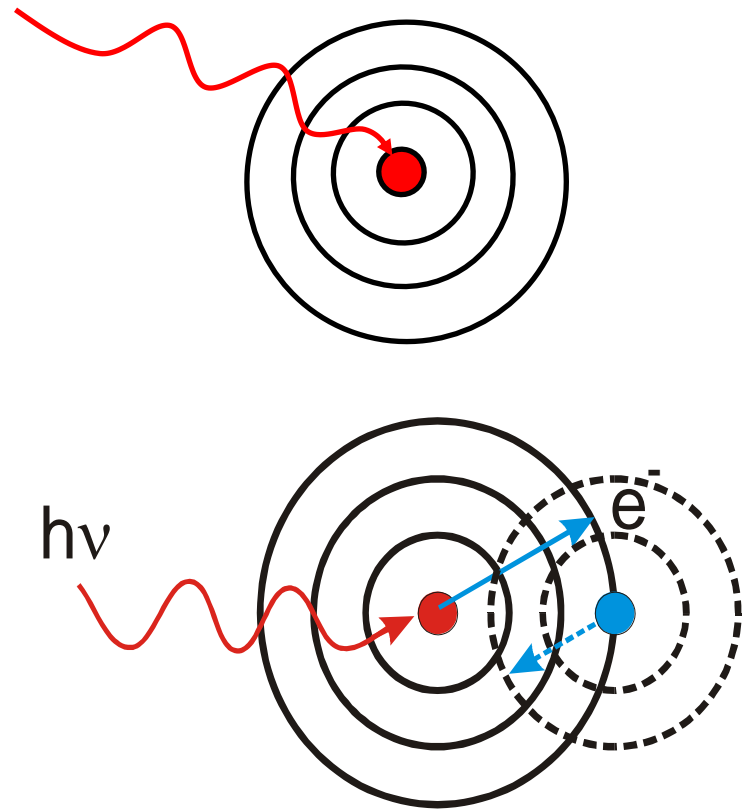
R : position vector of scatterer

NOTE: valid for all electronic transitions, see books for physical chemistry (perturbation theory in quantum mechanics)

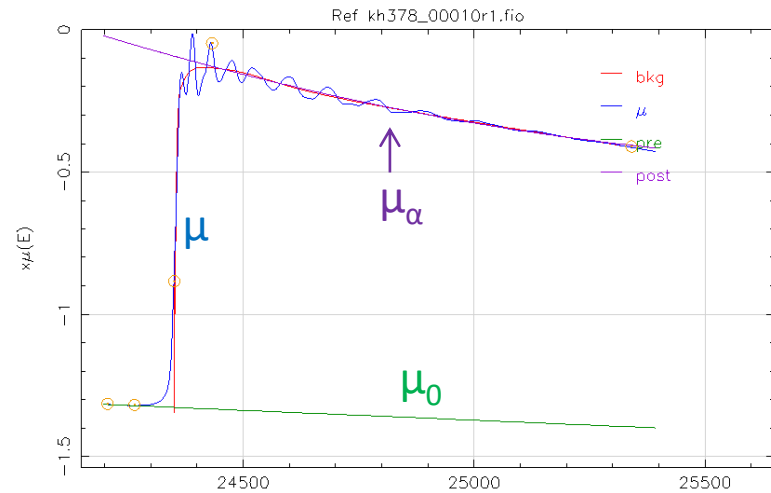
$$\mu \propto \langle \psi_f | \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} | \psi_i \rangle$$

Ψ_f : $\Psi_{\text{outgoing wave}}$

Ψ_f : $\Psi_{\text{outgoing wave}} + \Psi_{\text{backscattered wave}}$



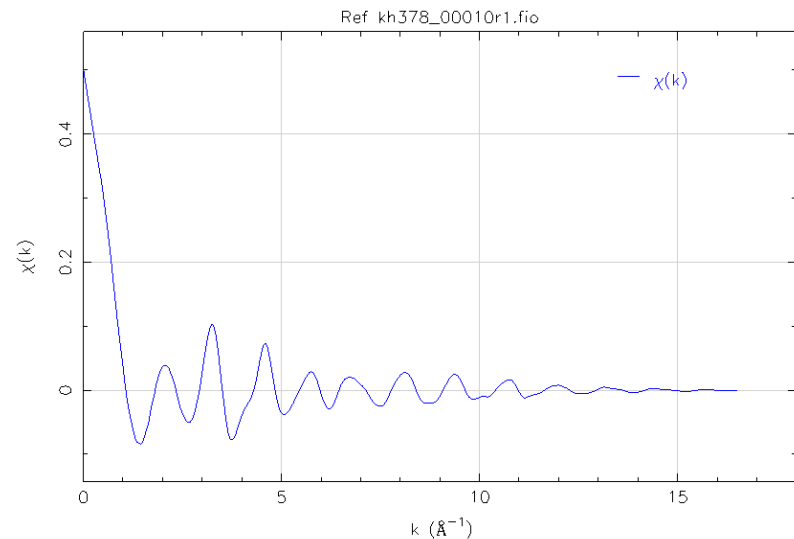
$$\mu \propto \langle \psi_f | \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} | \psi_i \rangle$$



$$\chi(k) = \frac{\mu - \mu_a}{\mu_a - \mu_0} = \frac{\mu - \mu_{backg}}{\Delta\mu_{edge\ step}}$$



**Fine structure
or EXAFS!**



Modern EXAFS Equation

- Modern EXAFS theory 1971: Lytle, Sayers and Stern

$$\chi(k) = \sum_j A_j(k) \sin(\Phi_j(k))$$

EXAFS

↑ ↑

amplitude Interference pattern

Regular wave eq. solution

$$u = A \sin(k \vec{r} - \omega t)$$

A = amplitude

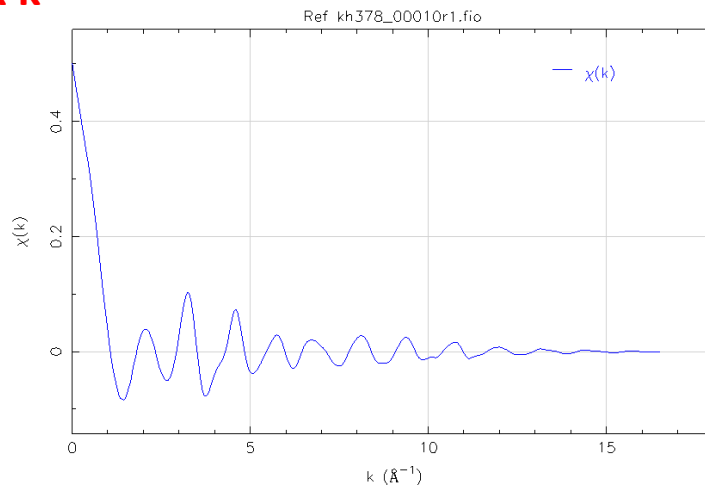
k = wave vector

r = position

$\omega = 2\pi f$ = angular freq

t = time

$\chi \times k$



Other way to present it

EXAFS

$$\chi_i(k) = \left(\frac{(N_i - N_0) F_i(k)}{k R_i^2} \sin(2kR_i + \varphi_i(k)) \exp(-2\sigma_i^2 k^2) \exp(-2R_i/\lambda(k)) \right)$$
$$R_i = R_0 + \Delta R$$
$$k^2 = 2 m_e (E - E_0) / \hbar$$

Or

EXAFS

$$\chi(k) = \sum_j A_j(k) \sin(\Phi_j(k))$$

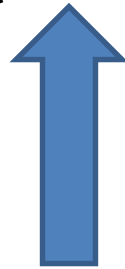
↑
amplitude

↑
Interference pattern

X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy

XANES phenomenon in two steps: the initial and final states

$$\mu \propto \langle \psi_f | \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \vec{R} | \psi_i \rangle$$



The final state



The initial state

- The selection rules

- They depend on both initial and final states

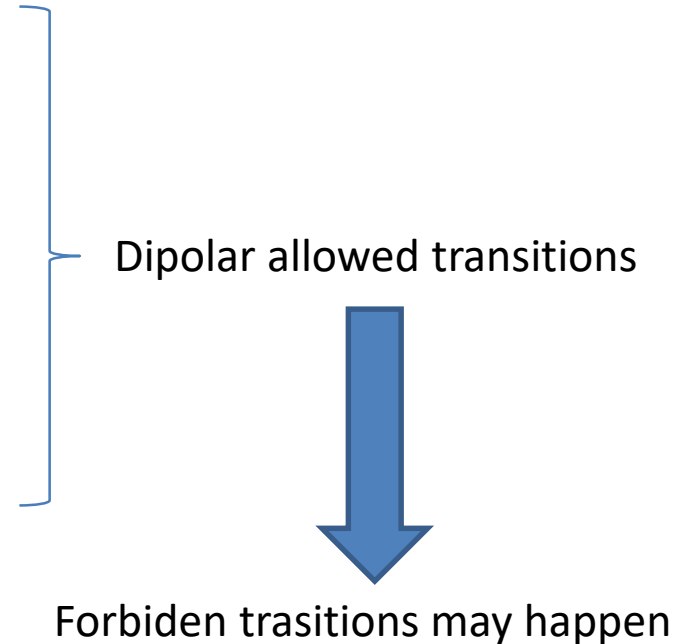
- ΔS (spin) = 0

- ΔL (orbital momentum) = ± 1

- ΔJ (total momentum L+S) = 0, ± 1

- Therefore it arises a double advantage:

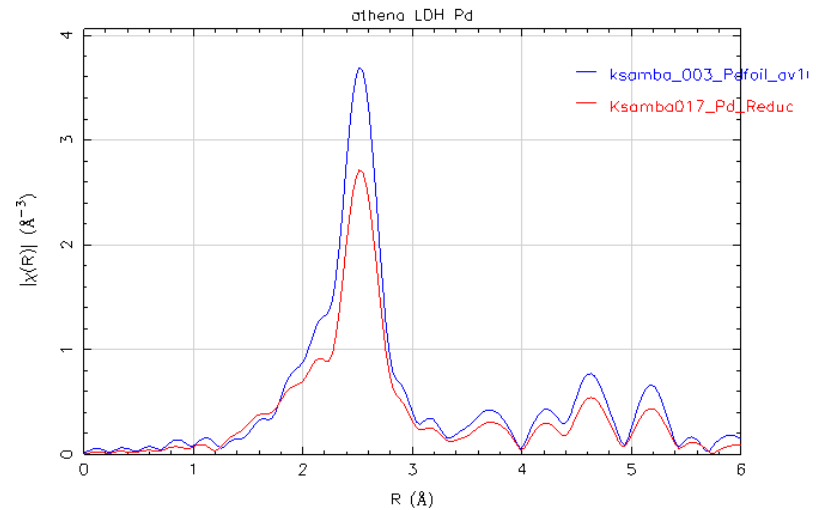
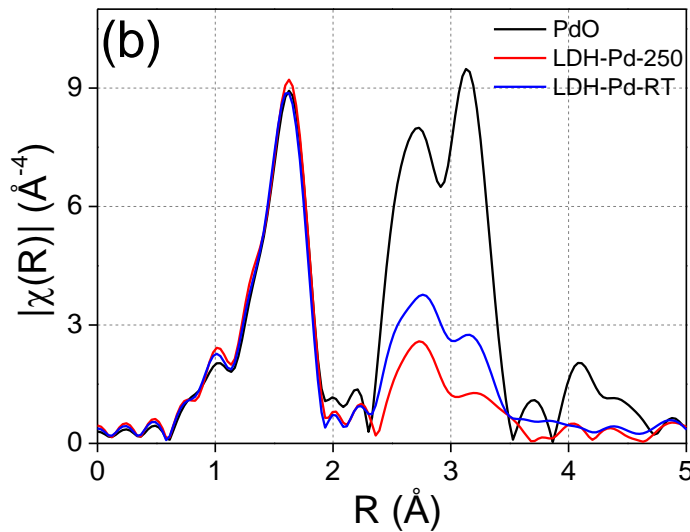
- one probes just one element per turn
 - one probes the orbitals selectively



What do with the spectrum?

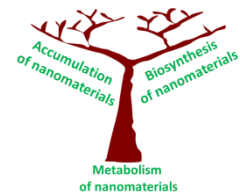
EXAFS

The effect of particle size



The effect of particle size

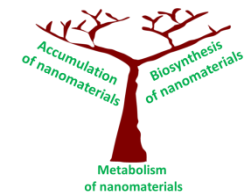
What do with the spectrum?



EXAFS

- The effect of particle size

What do with the spectrum?



EXAFS

- The effect of particle size

The thickness problem

A quick mind refresh from your XAS course

- i) In the beamline we measure I_0 and I_t
- ii) Using Origin, Athena or other program we perform the $\ln(I_0/I_t)$ operation
- iii) Thus: _____
- iv) Then we plot our data as: _____
- v) Have you ever paid attention to this x here?
We did not plot the absorption coefficient.
We do plot the absorption length.

$$\mu x(E)$$

vi) What is the optimal μx ?

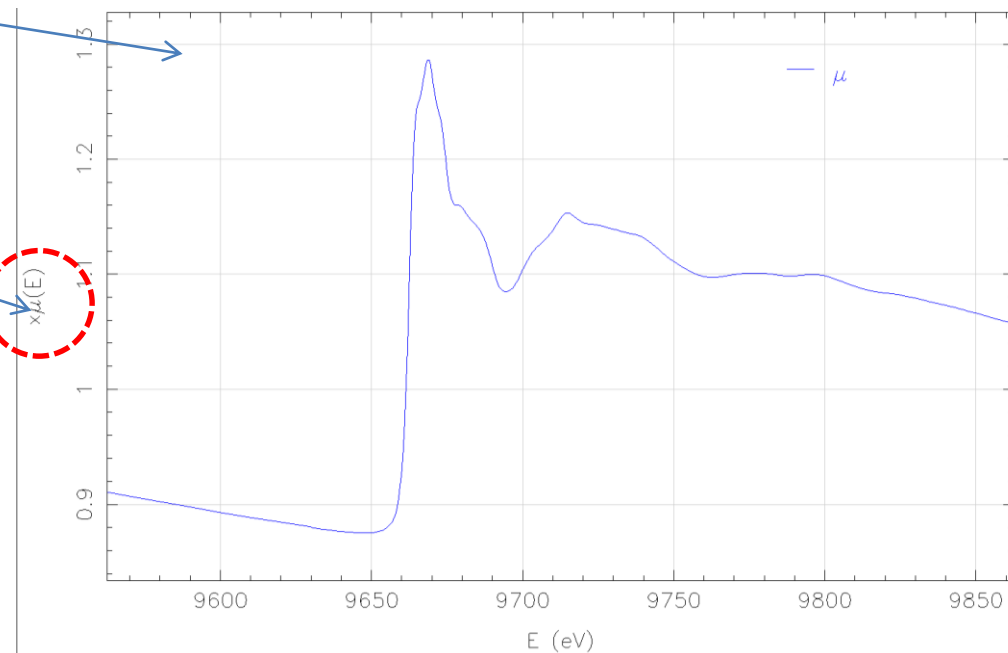
$\mu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ = absorption coefficient [$\mu_m(\text{cm}^2 \cdot \text{g}^{-1}) \cdot \rho(\text{g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3})$]
 $x(\text{cm})$ = thickness of the absorbing sample

Beer-Lambert-Bouguer's Law

$$I_t = I_0 e^{-\mu x}$$

I_t = number of transmitted photons
 I_0 = number of incident photons

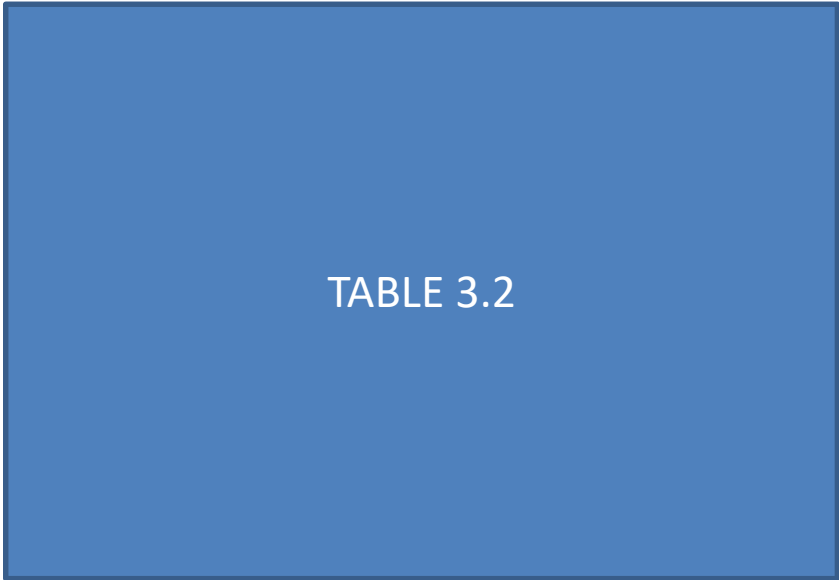
$$\ln(I_0/I_t) = \mu x$$



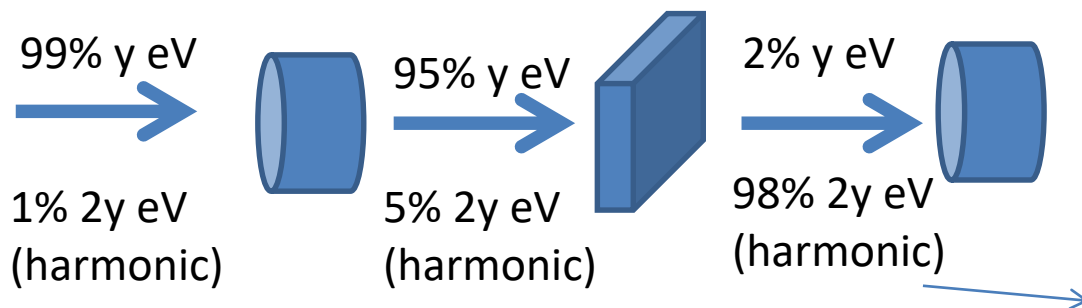
The thickness problem

The optimum thickness for transmission

- i) If the sample is too thin, e.g. $\mu x = 0.01$
Only 1% of the photons are absorbed. The signal to noise ratio becomes too low.
- ii) In the microreactor case, the challenge was to avoid too much absorption. Remember the several foils: Ni, Pd and the catalyst powder!
- iii) What's wrong with too high absorption?



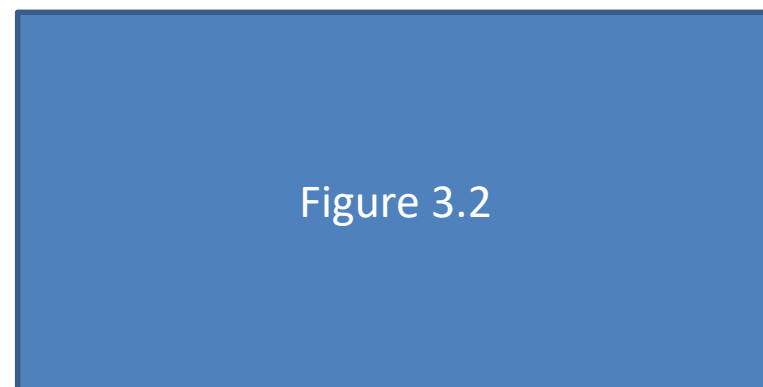
- a) the noise of I_t becomes too high, since few photons are passing through the sample
- b) **The ratio of harmonics in the transmitted beam will become important.**



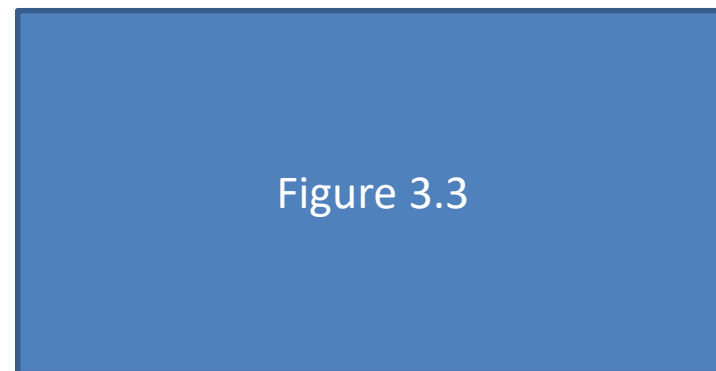
The high ratio of harmonics suppresses the amplitude of XAS. This important contribution continues to send signal to I_t , like whether 'no absorption happened'. They are not affected by the fine structure.

The thickness problem

The optimum tickness for transmission



The witheline means that absorption is happening. If your detection system continues to count, looks like no absorption happened!



- i) How does it fool you?
 - a) wrong speciation in XANES
 - b) wrong coordinatination numbers and disorder factor