

# Atomic X-Ray Spectroscopy

## Chapter 12

X-ray range  $\rightarrow 10^{-5}\text{\AA}$  to  $100\text{\AA}$   
Used  $\rightarrow 0.1\text{\AA}$  to  $25\text{\AA}$

# Formation of X-Rays (emission)

- Produced by the deceleration of high-energy electrons.
- Electronic transition of electrons in the inner orbitals of atoms.

# Formation of X-Rays (fluorescence)

- Exposure of a substance to x-ray radiation  
→ absorption and then → fluorescence
- Inner orbital electrons in K or L shells of metal atoms are knocked out! (big or small?)
- Outer shell electrons undergo transitions to the lower shells and give off high energy X-Rays

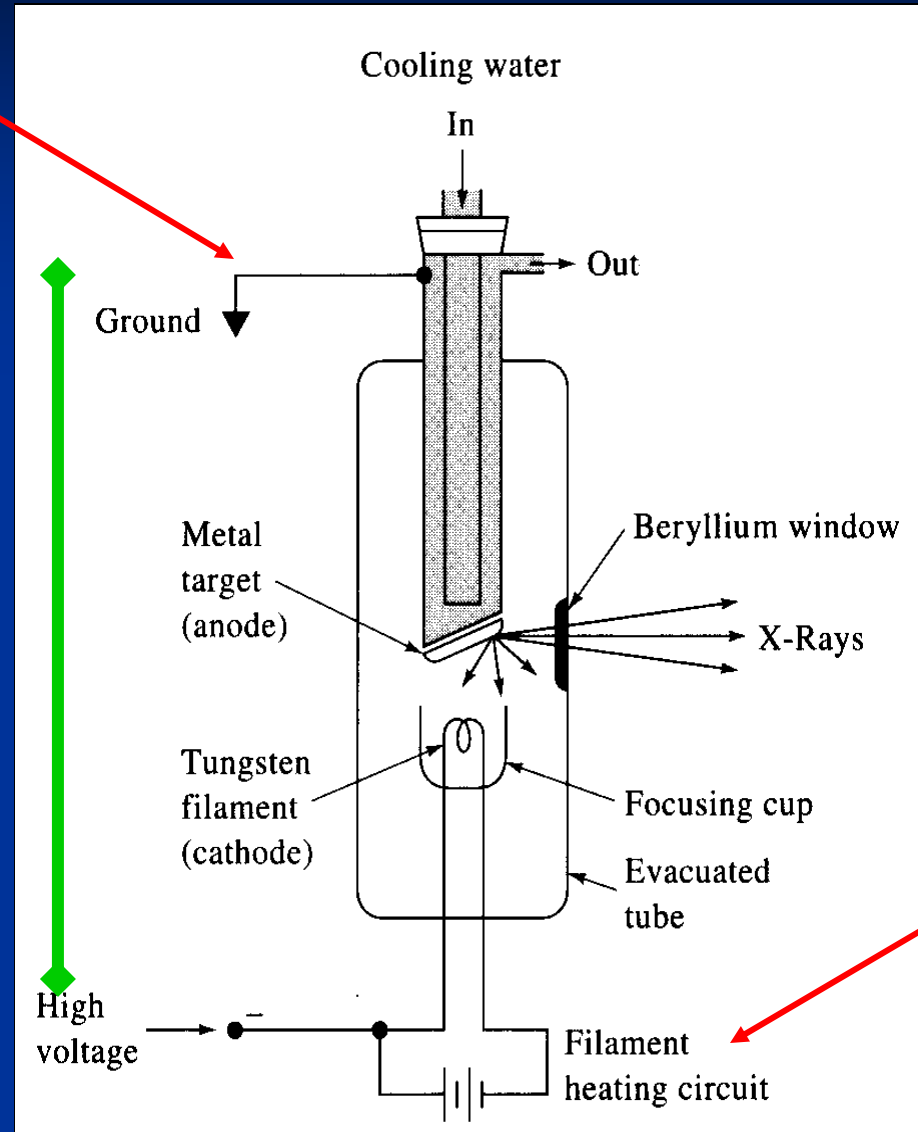
# Formation of X-Rays (decay, synchrotron)

- Radioactive decay  $\rightarrow$  X-ray emission (common in medicine)
- Synchrotron source radiation (accelerated particles) very few of these available!

# X-Ray Tube (electron beam sources)

Determining the energy of the X-Ray

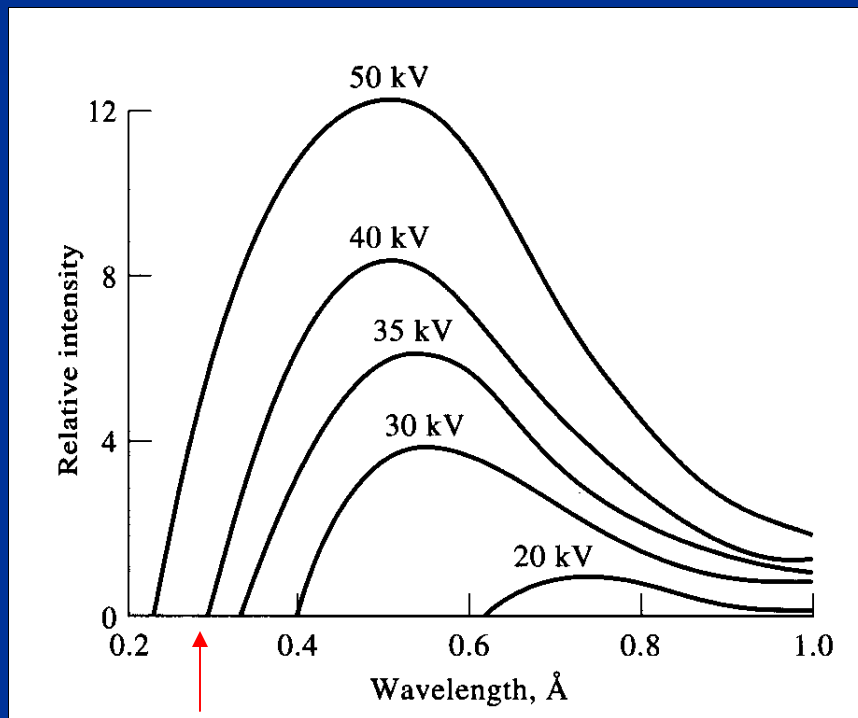
100KV!



Controlling the intensity of X-Ray

# X-ray tube emission

Continuum Spectra: *Results from Collisions between the electrons and the atoms of target materials*



$\lambda_0$

$$E_e = E'_e + h\nu$$
$$\text{At } \lambda_0, E'_e = 0$$

$$h\nu_0 = hc/\lambda_0 = Ve$$

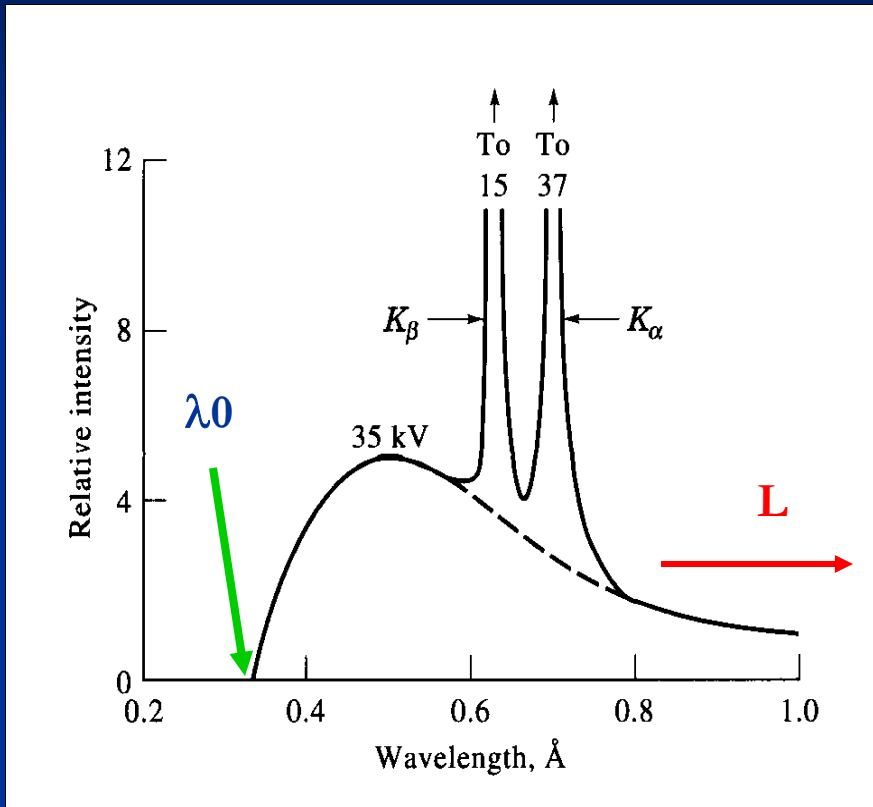
**V:** accelerating voltage  
**e:** charge on  $e^-$

$$\lambda_0 = 12,398/V$$

**Duane-Hunt Law**

- Independent of material
- Related to acceleration voltage  $\rightarrow E$

# Line spectra is possible!



Line Spectrum of a Molybdenum target

From electron transitions involving inner shells

- Atomic number  $> 23$
- 2 line series K and L
- $E_K > E_L$

- Atomic number  $< 23$
- K only

A minimum acceleration voltage is required for

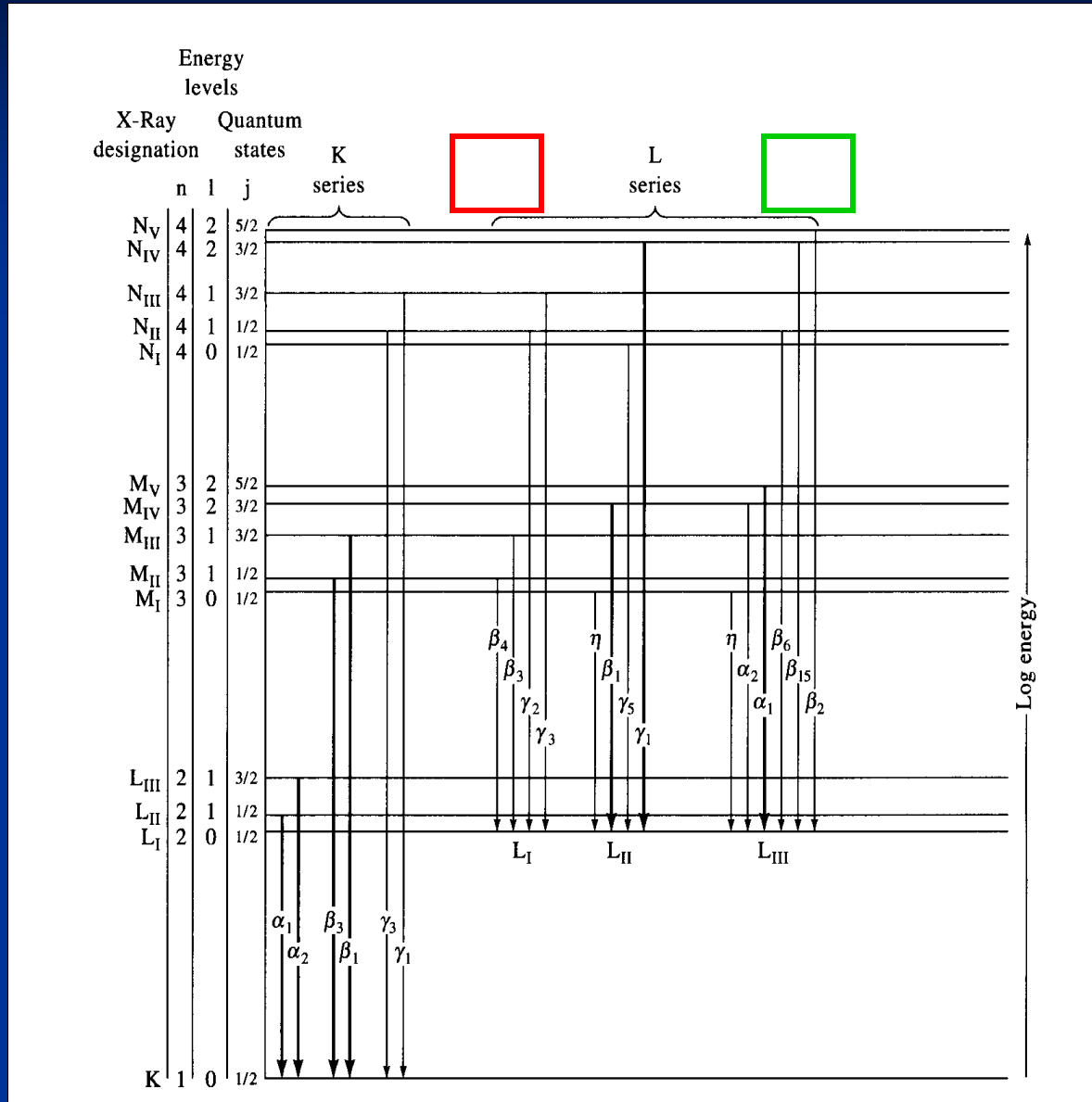
A minimum acceleration voltage required for each element increases with atomic number

# Line spectra

**TABLE 12-1** Wavelengths in Angstrom Units of the More Intense Emission Lines for Some Typical Elements

Element	Atomic Number	K Series		L Series	
		$\alpha_1$	$\beta_1$	$\alpha_1$	$\beta_1$
Na	11	11.909	11.617	—	—
K	19	3.742	3.454	—	—
Cr	24	2.290	2.085	21.714	21.323
Rb	37	0.926	0.829	7.318	7.075
Cs	55	0.401	0.355	2.892	2.683
W	74	0.209	0.184	1.476	1.282
U	92	0.126	0.111	0.911	0.720

# Electron Transitions → X-Rays



Question: which K series appear at short wavelength between W and Cr?

- Which K series appear at short wavelength between W and Cr?
- Which K series appear at short wavelength between metal W and W oxide (W is a heavy element)?

# Radioactive sources are more common

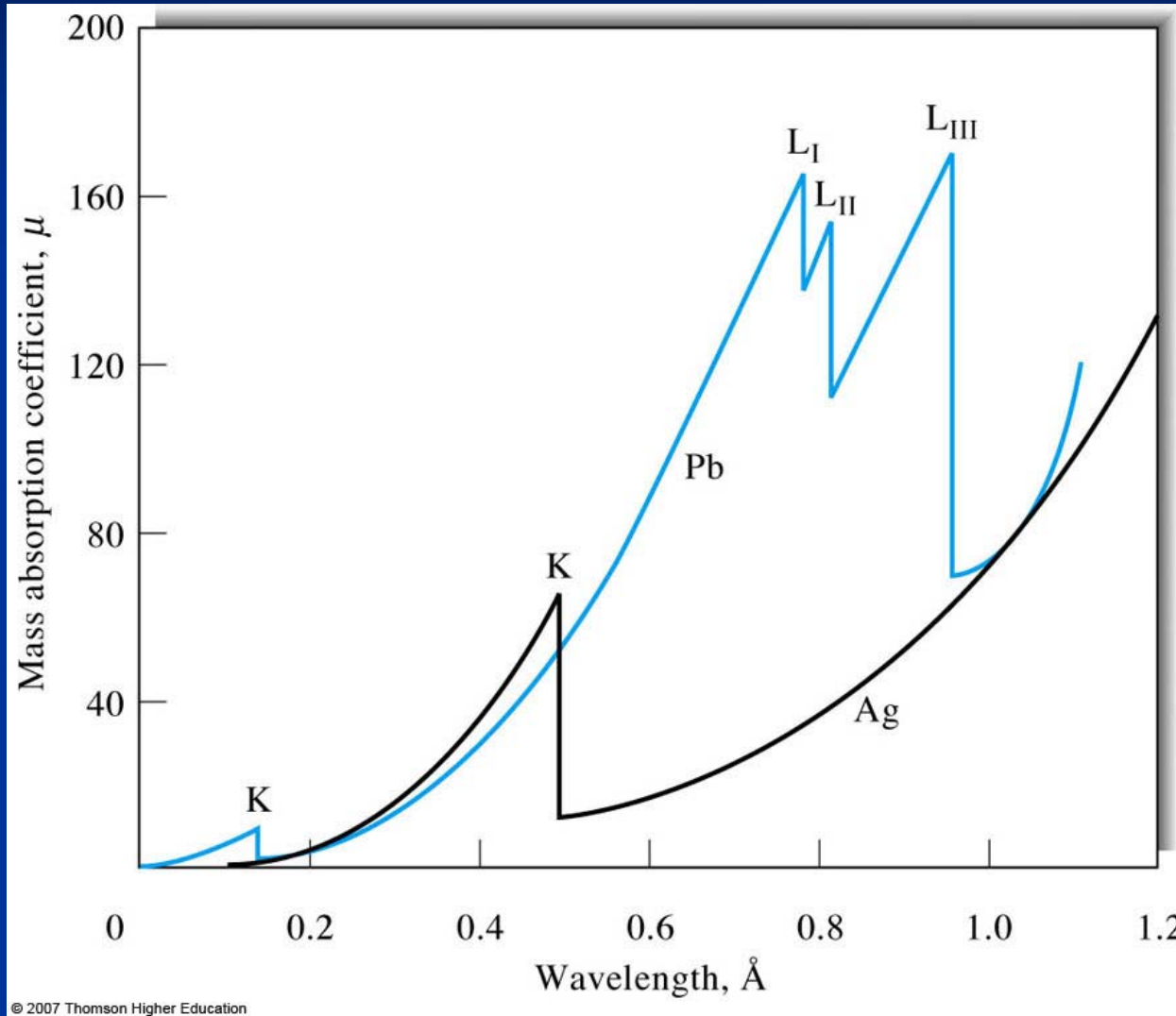
**TABLE 12-2** Common Radioisotopic Sources for X-Ray Spectroscopy

Source	Decay Process	Half-Life	Type of Radiation	Energy, keV
${}^3_1\text{H-Ti}^a$	$\beta^-$	12.3 years	Continuum Ti-K X-rays	3–10 4–5
${}^{55}_{26}\text{Fe}$	EC <sup>b</sup>	2.7 years	Mn-K X-rays	5.9
${}^{57}_{27}\text{Co}$	EC	270 days	Fe-K X-rays $\gamma$ rays	6.4 14, 122, 136
${}^{109}_{48}\text{Cd}$	EC	1.3 years	Ag-K X-rays $\gamma$ rays	22 88
${}^{125}_{53}\text{I}$	EC	60 days	Te-K X-rays $\gamma$ rays	27 35
${}^{147}_{61}\text{Pm-Al}$	$\beta^-$	2.6 years	Continuum	12–45
${}^{210}_{82}\text{Pb}$	$\beta^-$	22 years	Bi-L X-rays $\gamma$ rays	11 47

<sup>a</sup>Tritium adsorbed on nonradioactive titanium metal.

<sup>b</sup>Electron capture.

# X-ray absorption



© 2007 Thomson Higher Education

$$\ln P_0/P = \mu X$$

$\mu$  is the linear absorption coefficient  
is characteristic of the Element and # of atoms in the path of the beam.

$X$  is sample thickness

$$\ln P_0/P = \mu_M \eta X$$

$\eta$  is density of the sample

$\mu_M$  is mass absorption coefficient

# Bragg's Law of Diffraction

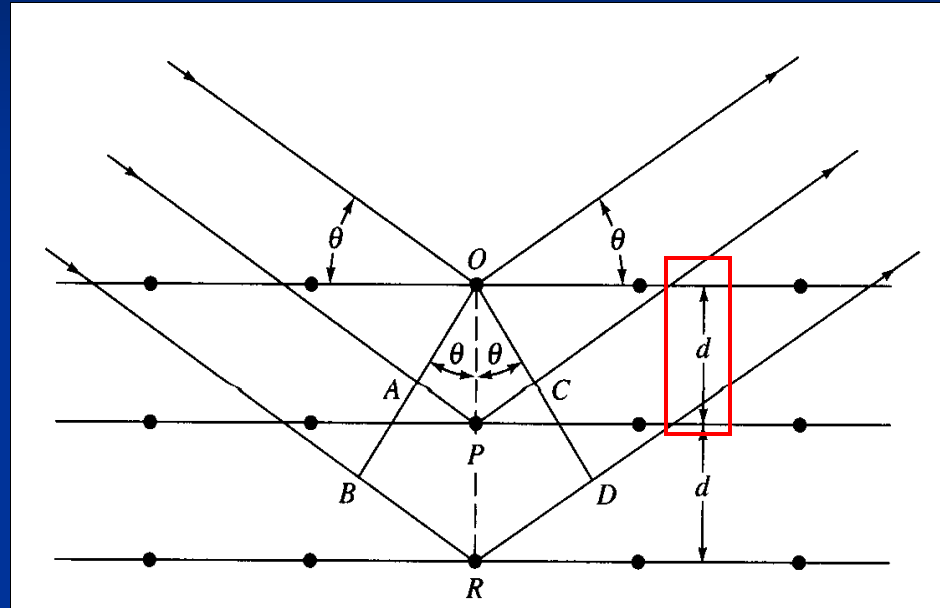
light scattering by lattice of atoms!

$$AP + PC = n\lambda$$

$$AP = PC = d \sin\theta$$

$$n\lambda = 2d \sin\theta$$

$$\sin\theta = \frac{n\lambda}{2d}$$

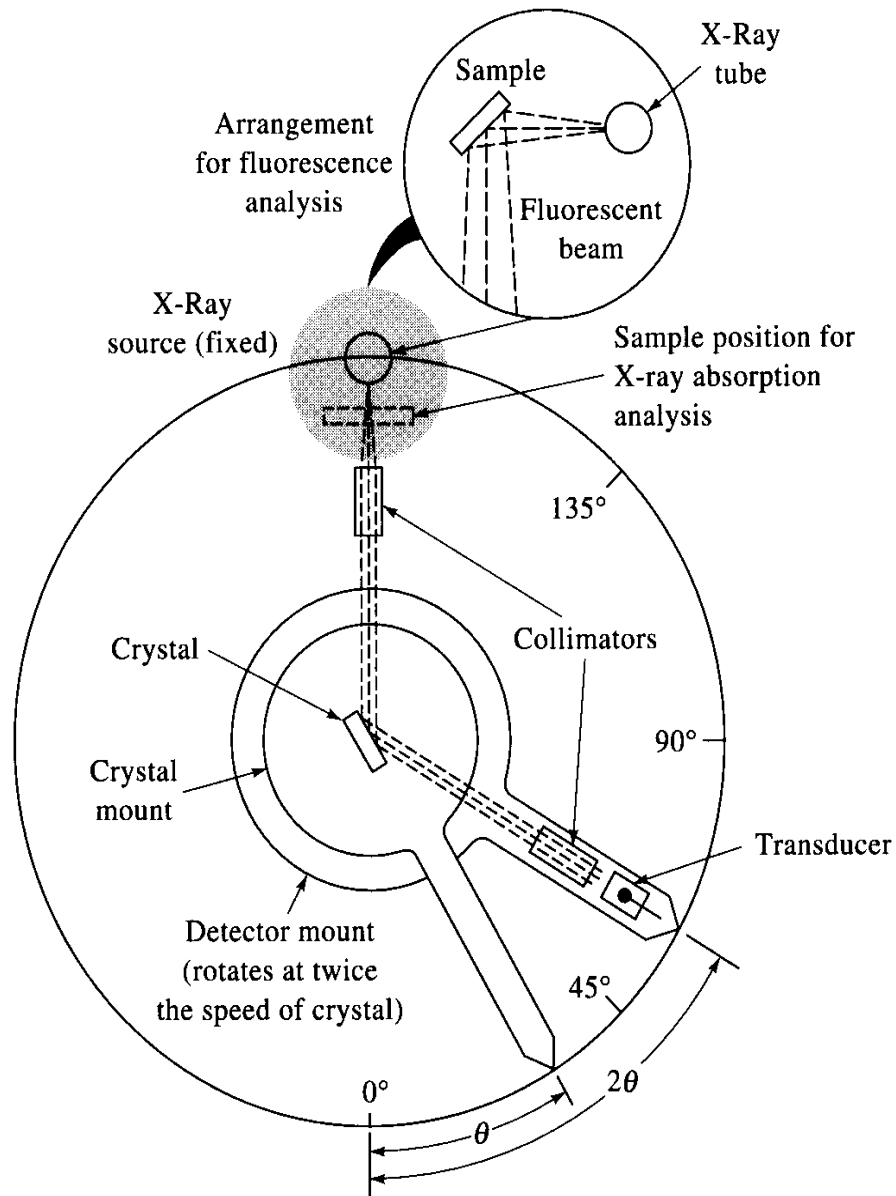


Constructive interference only at angles proportional to  $\lambda$  and  $d$ !

If  $\lambda$  is known and  $\theta$  can be measured then you can calculate  $d$ !

If  $d$  is known and  $\theta$  can be measured then you can calculate  $\lambda$ !

# X-Ray Monochromator (diffractometer?)



$$\sin \theta = \frac{n\lambda}{2d}$$

TABLE 12-3 Properties of Typical Diffracting Crystals

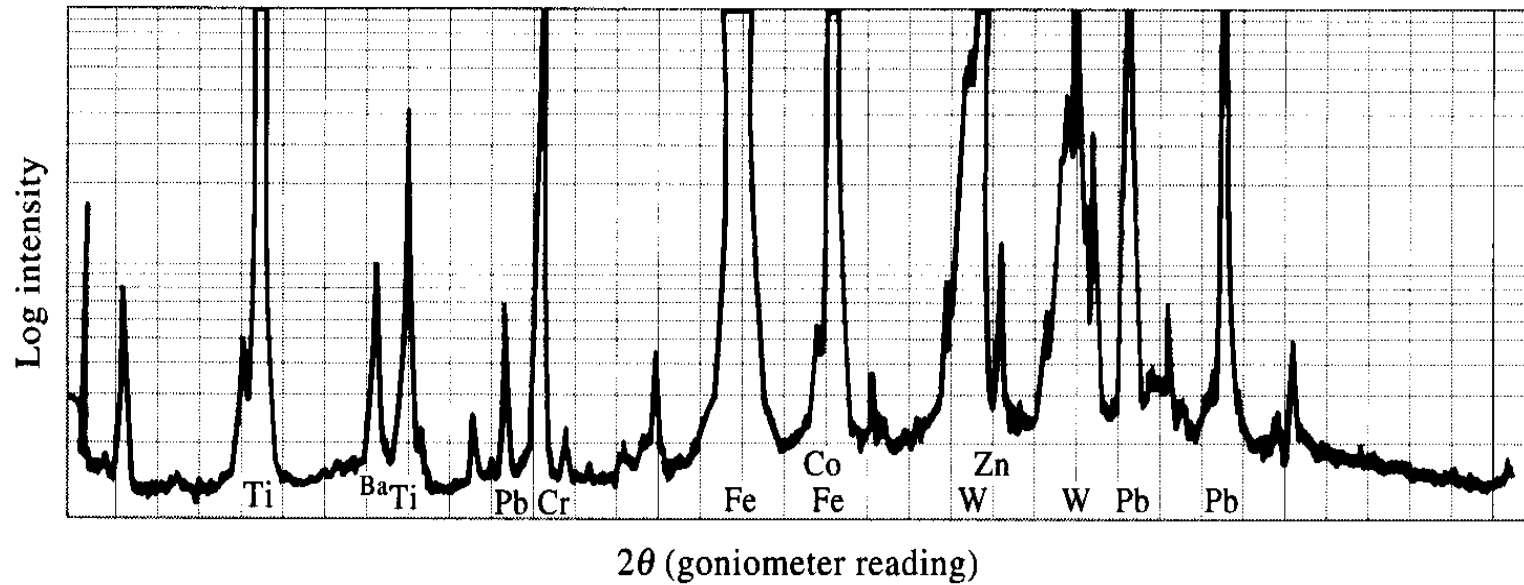
Crystal	Lattice Spacing $d$ , Å	Wavelength Range <sup>a</sup> , Å		Dispersion $d\theta/d\lambda$ , deg/Å	
		$\lambda_{\max}$	$\lambda_{\min}$	at $\lambda_{\max}$	at $\lambda_{\min}$
Topaz	1.356	2.67	0.24	2.12	0.37
LiF	2.014	3.97	0.35	1.43	0.25
NaCl	2.820	5.55	0.49	1.02	0.18
EDDT <sup>b</sup>	4.404	8.67	0.77	0.65	0.11
ADP <sup>c</sup>	5.325	10.50	0.93	0.54	0.09

<sup>a</sup>Based on assumption that the measurable range of  $2\theta$  is from 160 deg for  $\lambda_{\max}$  to 10 deg for  $\lambda_{\min}$ .

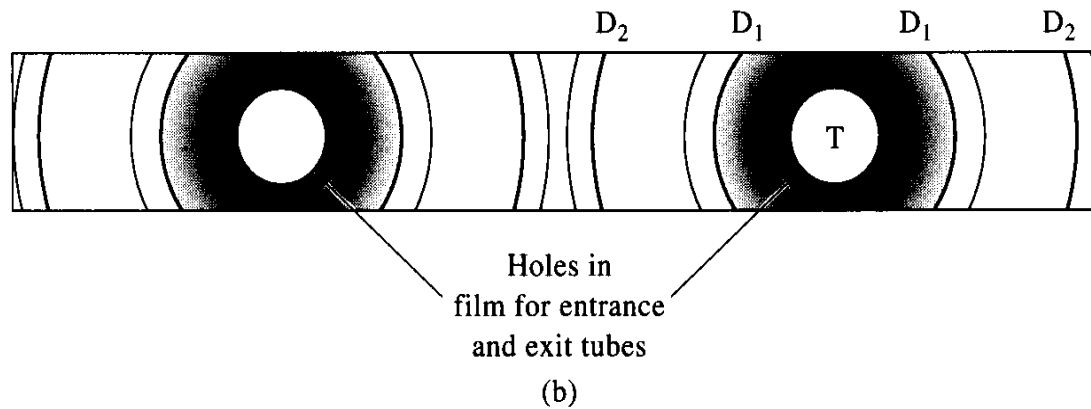
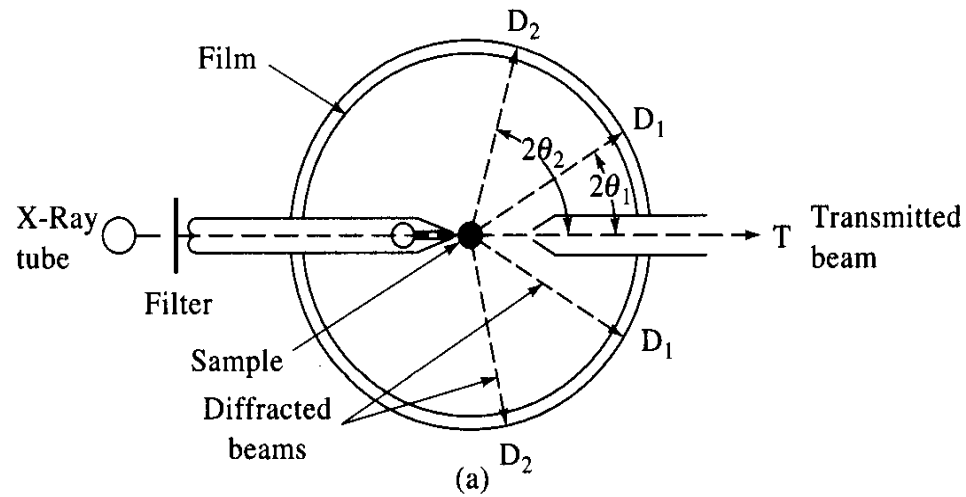
<sup>b</sup>Ethylenediamine *d*-tartrate.

<sup>c</sup>Ammonium dihydrogen phosphate.

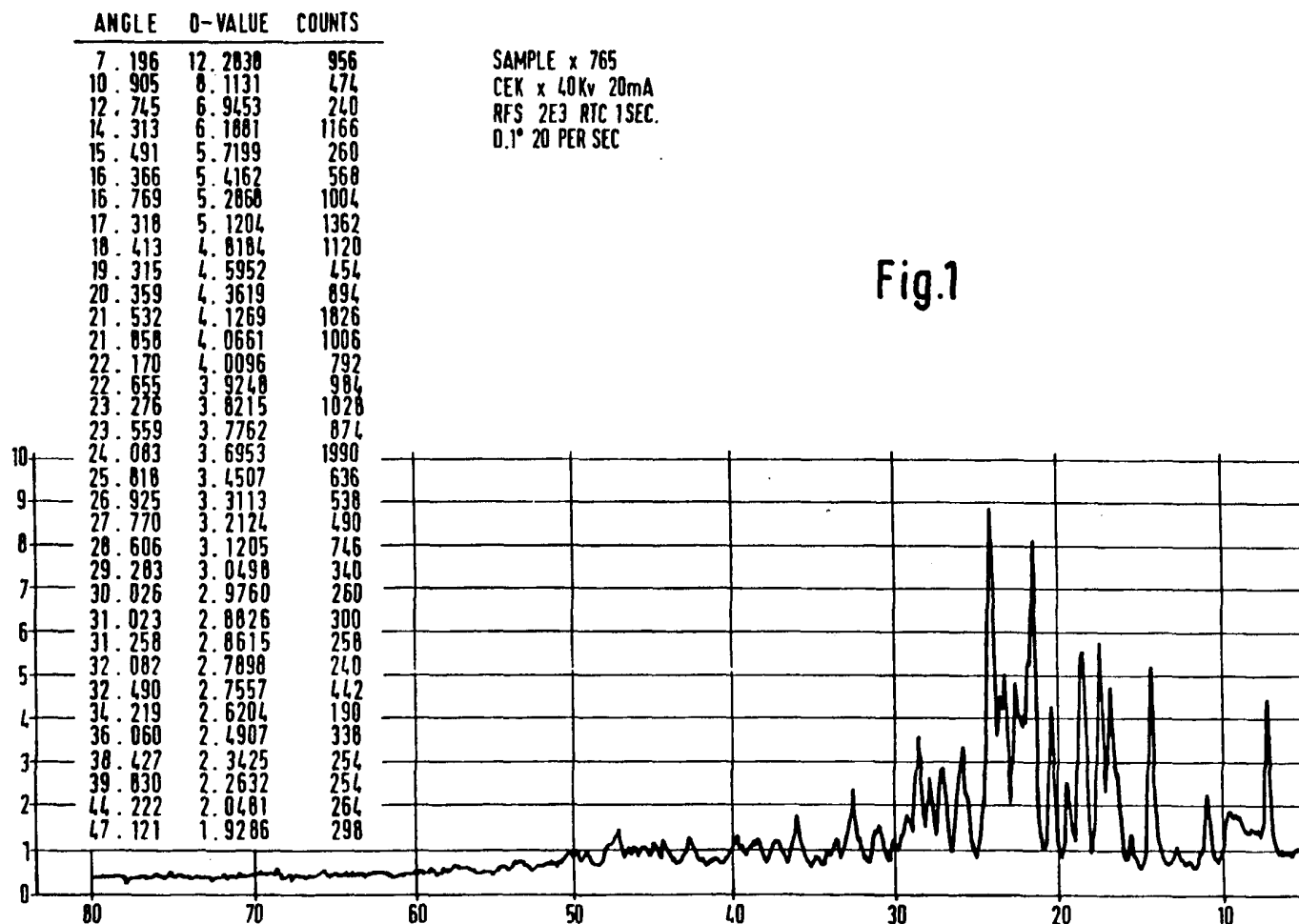
# X-Ray Diffraction Spectrum



# Debye-Scherrer Powder Diffractometer (Camera)

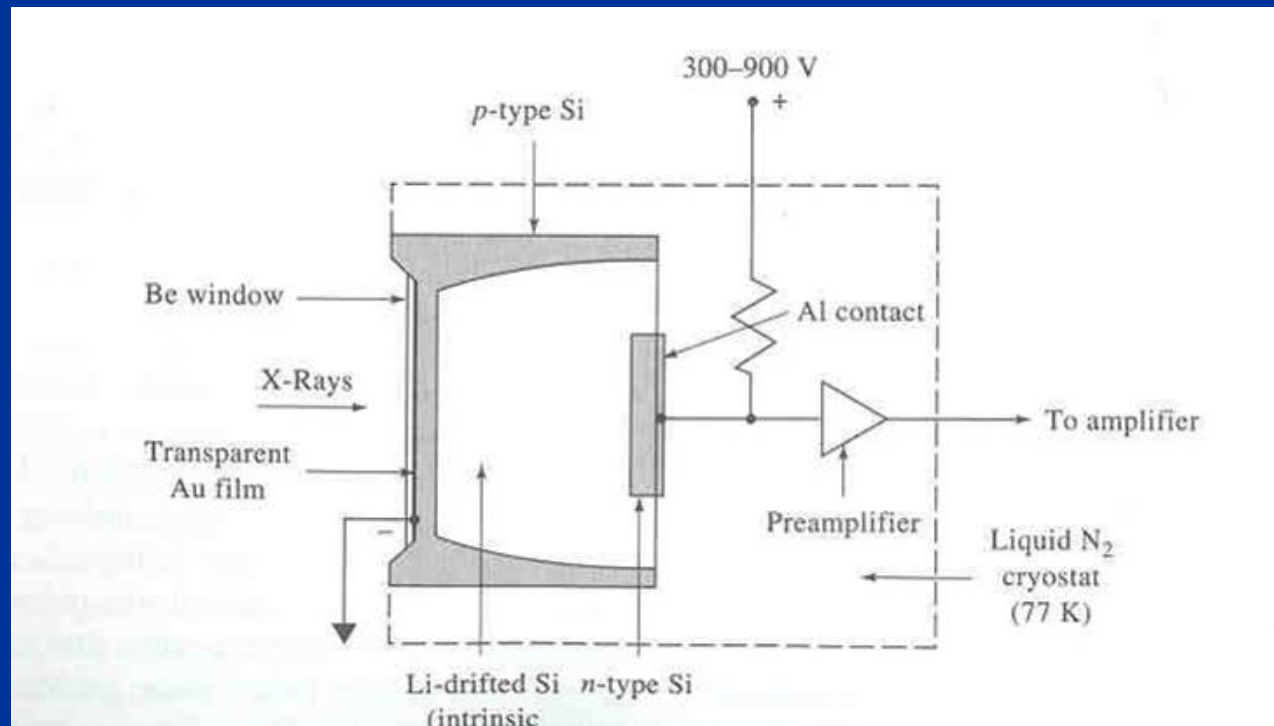


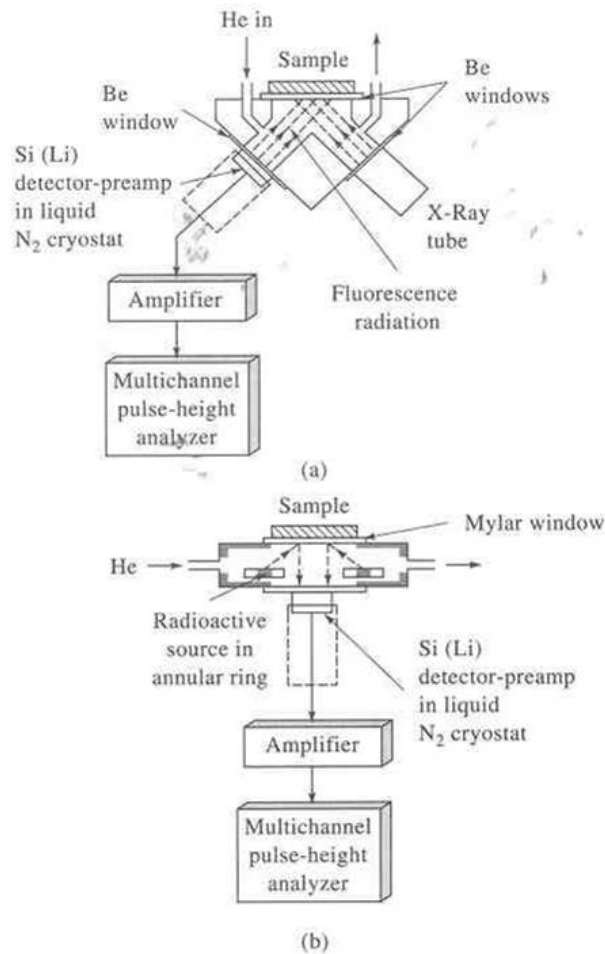
# X-Ray Spectra of Polymorph 1



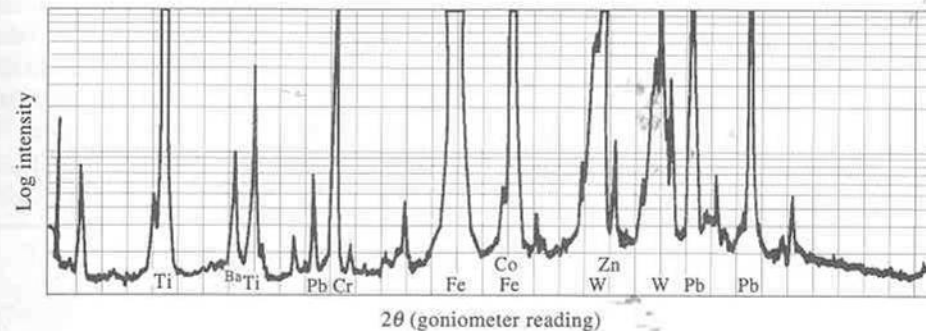
# X-Ray detectors

- Geiger tube: formation of ions and electrons from an inert gas kept at 1200-1600V
- Phosphors (Scintillation counters): fluorescence of ZnS when hit by a particle
- Semiconductor detectors based on a modified diode

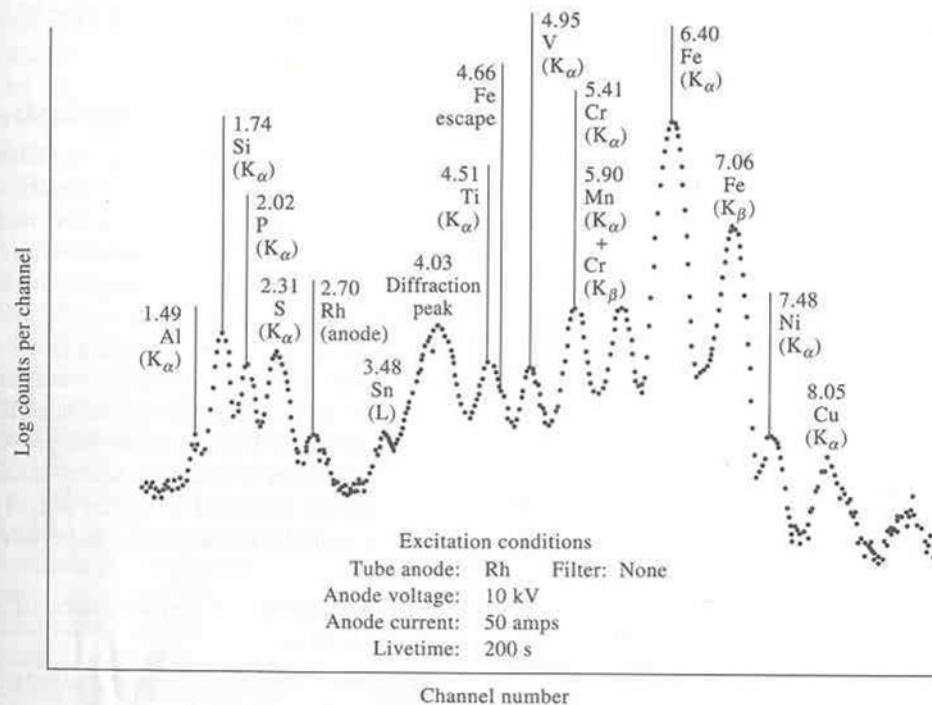




**Figure 12-14** Energy dispersive X-ray fluorescence spectrometer. Excitation by X-rays from (a) an X-ray tube and (b) a radioactive substance.



**Figure 12-16** X-Ray fluorescence spectrum for a genuine bank note recorded with a wavelength dispersive spectrometer. (Taken from H. A. Liebhafsky, H. G. Pfeiffer, E. H. Winslow, and P. D. Zeman, *X-Ray Absorption and Emission in Analytical Chemistry*, p. 163. New York: Wiley, 1960. Reprinted by permission of John Wiley & Sons, Inc.)



**Figure 12-17** Spectrum of an iron sample obtained with an energy dispersive instrument with an Rh anode X-ray tube source. The numbers above the peaks are energies in keV. (Reprinted with permission from J. A. Cooper, *Amer. Lab.*, 1976, 8(11), 44. Copyright 1976 by International Scientific Communications, Inc.)