## Some inelastic scattering processes

- 1) Collective Excitations
  - a) Plasmons: Electric-Field Oscillations
  - b) Phonons: Lattice Vibrations
- 2) X-Ray Emission
  - a) Characteristic X-Rays (Ionization of Atoms)
  - b) Bremsstrahlung (Braking Radiation)
- 3) Secondary Electron Generation

a) Slow (<50 eV)/Fast

b) Auger Electron Emission (By Ionization)

- 4) Electron-Hole Pair Generation→Cathodoluminescence
- 5) Beam Damage
  - a) Radiolysis: Bond Breaking/Alteration
  - b) Knock-On Damage: Displacement of Atoms

## Head-on inelastic collision in 1-D



#### forward scatterng



$$E_f = \left(\frac{m}{m+M}\right) \cdot E$$
 //inelastic

center-of-mass motion:

$$v_f = v_{COM} = \left(\frac{m}{m+M}\right) \cdot v$$
 //forward

# Inelastic scattering in 2-D



-Change (usually reduction) in total kinetic energy
-Some energy transferred to excitation of atom
-Electron loses energy ⇒ incoherent
-Usually results in forward scattered electrons

#### X-Ray generation by ionization



- •Core electron ejected (ionization)
- •Hole filled by outer shell electron
- •X-ray emission
- •Possible Auger process

### Characteristic X-rays: Moseley's Law



electron energies:

 $hf \approx \left(Z - Z_{enc}\right)^2 \cdot E_R \cdot \left(\frac{1}{n_i^2} - \frac{1}{n_i^2}\right)$ 

Change to X-ray wavelength:



 $E_{R} = 13.6 \text{ eV}$ 

# Characteristic X-ray: notation



• • •

#### Moseley's Law



Energies of characteristic X-ray lines depend on atomic number.

 $Z \propto \sqrt{f} + C$ 

H. G. J. Moseley, Phil. Mag. (1913), p. 1024

#### Bremstrahlung spectra single event: single event Kramers cross-section Kramers cross-section w/corrections $E \leq E_0$ constant, $\frac{dN}{dE}$ $E_0 < E$ Intensity (A.U.) 0. Kramers, multiple events: $I(E) \propto Z \cdot \left(\frac{E_0}{E} - 1\right)$ 0 $E_0$ Energy

initial electron energy

## Bremsstrahlung X Rays: Direction of emission

Plume of X-rays emitted by accelerating electric chargeContinuous spectrum



# Bremsstrahlung: Angular distribution



1.0

## Auger Spectra



# EDX Spectra



E (KeV)

## Minimizing Beam Damage

Steps to Minimize Damage:

- 1) Minimize beam dose
  - a) Divert beam from region of interest, when possibleb) Use STEM (only imaged region is irradiated)
- 2) Operate at higher KV: reduces specimen heating
- 3) Operate at lower KV: reduces local damage
- 4) Cool the specimen
- 5) Coat the specimen with a conducting film

[dose]: 
$$\frac{C}{m^2}$$
 or  $\frac{\text{electrons}}{nm^2}$