Atomic-level characterization of materials with core- and valence-level photoemission: basic phenomena and future directions

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In this overview, the basic concepts of core and valence photoelectron spectroscopy (photoemission), photoelectron diffraction, and photoelectron holography are introduced. Then some current developments in these techniques that should enhance their utility for atomic-level characterization of new materials and surface chemical processes are discussed, including measurements with hard X-ray excitation, standing-wave excitation, and ambient pressures in the multi-torr regime. Copyright © 2008 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

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**Basic Phenomena and Experiments**

Photoelectron spectroscopy, often referred to simply as photoemission, has its fundamental origin in the photoelectric effect, which was first explained by Einstein in 1905\textsuperscript{[1]} led to a Nobel Prize for him in 1921, and was key to the later development of the concept of the photon as the quantum of electromagnetic energy. In the period since the late 1950s, the photoelectric effect has been developed into one of the most powerful tools for studying the composition and electronic structure of matter. Siegbahn received the Nobel Prize for the further development of several aspects of photoelectron spectroscopy in 1981\textsuperscript{[2,3]}

As currently used, the fundamental energy conservation equation is the following:\textsuperscript{[4,5]}

\[ h\nu = E_{\text{binding}}^{\text{vacuum}} + E_{\text{kinetic}}' = E_{\text{binding}}^{\text{Fermi}} + E_{\text{spectrometer}} + E_{\text{kinetic}} \]  

in which \( h \) is Planck’s constant; \( \nu \) is the photon frequency; \( E_{\text{binding}}^{\text{vacuum}} \) is the binding energy of a given electron relative to the vacuum level of the sample; \( E_{\text{kinetic}}' \) is the kinetic energy of the emitted electron just as it leaves the sample; \( E_{\text{binding}}^{\text{Fermi}} \) is the kinetic energy as measured finally in the spectrometer, and may be different from \( E_{\text{kinetic}}' \) by a small contact potential difference if the sample is a solid; \( E_{\text{binding}}^{\text{Fermi}} \) is the binding energy relative to the Fermi level or electron chemical potential; and \( E_{\text{spectrometer}} \) is the work function of the spectrometer used to measure kinetic energy. In very precise measurements, and/or as the excitation energy is increased into the multi-keV regime, both kinetic energies may be reduced by a recoil energy \( E_{\text{recoil}} \) given to the sample due to momentum conservation; this we discuss below in connection with hard X-ray photoemission. If one measures the electron kinetic energy, and perhaps also knows the spectrometer work function, it is thus possible to measure the binding energies of various inner (or core) electrons, as well as those of the outer (or valence) electrons that are involved in chemical bonding. Such measurements reveal a broad array of phenomena that can be used to characterize a given material, in particular the near-surface regions of solids from which most photoelectrons are emitted. Photoemission is also very fruitfully applied to gas-phase atoms, molecules, and clusters, but we will here focus on work on solid samples.

It is also useful to specify the binding energy more precisely from the point of view of theoretical calculations, and we can write this as:

\[ E_{\text{binding}}^{\text{vacuum}}(Qn\ell j, K) = E_{\text{final}}(N - 1, Qn\ell j \text{ hole}, K) - E_{\text{initial}}(N) \]  

where we for simplicity consider a binding energy for the \( n\ell j \) core level from atom \( Q \), with \( n \) the principal quantum no., \( \ell \) the orbital angular momentum quantum no., and \( j = \ell \pm 1 \) the additional quantum no. if spin–orbit splitting is present, \( E_{\text{initial}}(N) \) is the total initial state energy for the assumed \( N \)-electron system, and \( E_{\text{final}}(N - 1, Qn\ell j \text{ hole}, K) \) is the \( K \)th final-state energy for the \((N - 1)\)-electron system with a hole in the \( Qn\ell j \) orbital. As an example, the six electrons in the Mn 2p subshell are split into Mn 2p\textsubscript{1/2} (two electrons with \( m_j = -1/2, +1/2 \)) and Mn 2p\textsubscript{3/2} (four electrons with \( m_j = -3/2, -1/2, +1/2, +3/2 \)). In general, there may be more than one final state associated with a given \( Qn\ell j \) hole, with labels \( K = 1, 2, \ldots \), as we discuss further below, e.g. in connection with multiplet splitting. Note also that, in the final state with the hole, all of the remaining electrons may relax slightly so as to try to screen the hole, thus lowering the total final energy by some amount that is often called the relaxation energy.\textsuperscript{[4,5]} This relaxation/screening phenomenon has many consequences for the detailed interpretation of spectra. In many-electron theory, these effects are included in what is termed the ‘self-energy’ correction.

As a final important quantity, we can write the intensity for excitation from a given core level to the \( K \)th final hole-state

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associated with this level \( K \) in the low-energy dipole limit as:

\[
I(K) \propto \left| \mathbf{F} \cdot \left( \psi_{\text{final}}(N - 1, Qn \ell \text{ hole}, K + \text{photoelectron}) \right) \right|^2 \\
\times \left| \sum_{i=1}^{N} \psi_{\text{initial}}(N) \right|^2 \\
\times \left| \left( N - 1, Qn j \text{ hole} \right) \right|^2 \\
\times \mathbf{F} \cdot \left( \psi_{\text{photo}}(\mathbf{r} | \psi_{\text{Qn}}) \right)^2
\]

(3)

in which \( \mathbf{F} \) is the polarization of the radiation, the notation for the initial and final state wave functions is obvious, \( \mathbf{F} \) is one of three forms of the dipole operator that can be used interchangeably\,[4] the first line is an \( N \)-electron matrix element which emphasizes the inherent many-electron character of photoemission, and the second line involves a common simplifying step via the Sudden Approximation\,[4,5]. In this Approximation, the intensity is thus a product of the square of a one-electron matrix element which takes an electron from \( \psi_{\text{Qn}\ell j} \) to the photoelectron final state \( \psi_{\text{photo}} \) and the square of a simple \((N - 1)\)-electron overlap term with no operator between the initial state wave function with a hole in the \( Qn\ell j \) subshell but no relaxation/screening and one of the actual final ionic states \( K \) which includes such relaxation/screening. The approximation is often made of considering only the last one-electron factor in Eqn (3), but it should be kept in mind that many-electron effects, or vibrational/phonon effects, or even rotational effects in molecules, can distribute intensity over several states \( K \) that go beyond the one-electron picture, as we discuss below.

Having thus considered a formal description of photoemission, we now illustrate in Fig. 1 the various types of experiment possible. A photon of a given polarization, which may be linear, circular, elliptical or unpolarized in character, is incident on the sample surface at some angle \( \theta_{\text{inc}} \). Photons may be created from either laboratory sources (lasers, UV lamps, X-ray tubes), or synchrotron radiation. The photon is absorbed, exciting a photoelectron into the vacuum with some momentum \( \mathbf{p} = \hbar \mathbf{K} \), where \( \hbar = h/2\pi \), \( \mathbf{K} \) is the electron wave vector, and \( \mathbf{F} \) is the electron spin, and finally into some kind of spectrometer for measuring kinetic energy. We here show the most commonly used spectrometer configuration, which consists of a set of concentric hemispherical deflection electrodes, although several other geometries are possible, including time-of-flight measurements if the exciting source is pulsed. In this hemispherical geometry, electrons of a given energy are focussed to a given radius (i.e. along a given \( y \) coordinate in the detection plane of Fig. 1), such that integrating intensity over a given radius yields the first type of measurement: a photoelectron spectrum of number of electrons versus kinetic energy or energy distribution curve (EDC), as shown schematically in Fig. 1(a). An actual broad-scan or survey spectrum from a complex oxide sample of \( \text{La}_0.6\text{Sr}_{0.4}\text{MnO}_3 \) is shown in Fig. 2, with various peaks labeled. Note here the presence also of Auger electron spectra, which are the result of non-radiative core-hole decay, and whose energies are somewhat more complicated to estimate, but in general involve three binding energies as follows:

\[
E_{\text{Auger}}(Z, 1, 2, 3) \approx E_{\text{binding}, Z, 1} - \left[ E_{\text{binding}, Z, 2} + E_{\text{binding}, Z, 1, 2} \right]/2 \\
- \left[ E_{\text{binding}, Z, 3} + E_{\text{binding}, Z, 1, 3} \right]/2
\]

(4)

where the Auger kinetic energy results from an initial core hole in atomic level 1 of an atom with atomic number \( Z \), which is filled by an electron from level 2 dropping into level 1, thus exciting an electron from level 3, or by an electron from level 3 dropping into level 1, thus exciting an electron from level 2, with these two processes being indistinguishable. Note that the most accurate prediction of these energies involves binding energies for both atom \( Z \) and the next higher in atomic number at \( Z + 1 \), via what is often called the Equivalent Core Approximation\,[4,5].

If the photoelectron emission direction is varied relative to the crystal axes of a single-crystal sample, by scanning the angles \( \theta \) and \( \phi \) in Fig. 1, additional effects are seen, due to the scattering

Figure 1. Illustration of a typical experimental configuration for photoemission experiments, together with the various types of measurements possible, including (a) simple spectra or energy-distribution curves, (b) core-level photoelectron diffraction, (c) valence-band mapping or energy versus \( \mathbf{k} \) plots, (d) spin-resolved spectra, (e) measurements with much higher or much lower photon energies than have been typical in the past, (f) measurements with space and time resolution, and (g) measurements at high ambient sample pressures of several torr. (With acknowledgement to Y. Takata for part of this figure.)
of the outgoing electron wave from various atoms in the sample. If the emission is from a core level that is necessarily highly localized on one atomic site, a photoelectron diffraction (PD) pattern is observed. An example of this for O 1s emission from NiO(001) is shown in Fig. 1(b). Such patterns can be used to determine near-surface atomic structures. If the emission is from a valence level that is delocalized over many sites due to chemical bonding and electronic band formation, additional anisotropy in emission is found, and this can be measured, for example, by taking advantage of another property of the hemispherical electrostatic analyzer with a two-dimensional (2D) imaging detector. In this case, a 2D image can be directly related to the binding energy versus electron momentum or electron wave vector inside the crystal k, which is then in many cases directly relatable to the band structure, or more precisely the quasi-particle excitation spectrum of the material. An example of this for emission from W(110) is shown in Fig. 1(c).

Some other aspects of the measurement possibilities that exist are also shown in Fig. 1. If an additional sensitivity to electron spin is somehow built into the detector (e.g. by taking advantage of spin–orbit scattering of high-energy electrons from a heavy-atom target in Mott scattering), it is possible to measure also the electron spin distribution, providing additional information of particular relevance to magnetic materials. Another inset in Fig. 1(d) shows such a pattern is observed. An example of this for O 1s emission from W(110) is shown in Fig. 1(c).

Beyond this, as indicated in Fig. 1(e), one can vary the photon energy, by going significantly above and significantly below the Peierls energy regime from ~20 to 1500 eV that has been used in most prior photoemission measurements. Also, Fig. 1(f) indicates that we can expand upon the spectrometer in order to turn it into a microscope, thus yielding spectral images as a function of lateral position on the sample: the x and y coordinates in Fig. 1. This type of measurement is reviewed in detail elsewhere, so we will not consider it beyond one later example here. There are also newer types of measurements involving time resolution (again Fig. 1(f)), in which some perturbation of the sample is made, e.g. by gas reaction with a surface or by short-pulse light excitation, and the spectra are measured as a function of time. Depending on the particular process involved, these measurements can be fruitfully carried out on timescales varying from minutes (for chemical reactions) to seconds to femtoseconds (for laser pump-and-probe experiments). Finally, Fig. 1(g) indicates that it is possible with special differential pumping outside the sample region to carry out photoemission studies at up to several torr of pressure.

Of key importance in any such photoemission experiment, however, is the depth of sensitivity in a solid sample, which is controlled primarily by the inelastic mean free path $\Lambda_e$ for the photoelectrons, perhaps as modified by elastic electron scattering to yield an effective attenuation length. If inelastic scattering is assumed to be isotropic in the material, the intensity from a certain emission depth z will decay as $I_z = I_0 \exp[-z/\Lambda_e \sin \theta]$, and the mean escape depth below a surface will be given simply by $\Lambda_{e} \sin \theta$, as shown in Fig. 3(a).

Typical curves of $\Lambda_e$ versus electron kinetic energy are shown for graphite and germanium in Fig. 3(b) and (c), with calculations being made via the much-used and reasonably accurate TPP-2M formula due to Tanuma, Powell, and Penn. One expects for any material a minimum of $\Lambda_e$ for energies in the range of 20–50 eV that is only about 5 – 10 Å in magnitude, and a generally increasing trend away from this, in particular going approximately as $\propto E^{7/2}$ as energy goes into the multi-keV range. The general shape of this curve is thus in a sense ‘universal’, applying at least qualitatively to all elements and compounds, but in reality it is ‘non-universal’ in that the actual values can be quite different from one substance to another, as is clear from Fig. 3(b) and (c). The detailed behavior at very low energies is also expected to

![Figure 2](image-url)
Electron inelastic mean free paths in solids—the “non-universal curve”

(a) \[ I(z) = I_0 e^{-\frac{z}{\Lambda_e \sin \theta}} \]

(b) Graphite

(c) Germanium

Figure 3. (a) A schematic diagram indicating the mean depth of photoelectron escape if elastic scattering and inner potential effects are neglected, together with electron inelastic attenuation lengths for two representative elemental solids, (b) graphite and (c) germanium. (b) and (c) from S. Tanuma et al., Surf. Interface Anal. 2005, 37, 1. Reprinted with permission.

be different for different materials, a topic of current discussion in connection with photoemission experiments with excitation energies of only 5–10 eV that are aimed at being more bulk sensitive. Historically, photon sources were first divided into two regimes, UV lamps in the ca 20–40 eV range, leading to the term ultraviolet photoelectron spectroscopy (UPS), and X-ray tubes in the ca 1–2 keV range, leading to the term X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS). Figure 3 thus makes it clear that one expects very different degrees of surface sensitivity in these two regimes, with typical \( \Lambda_e \) values of \( \sim 5 - 10 \) Å for UPS and \( \sim 20 - 30 \) Å for XPS. Synchrotron radiation now permits spanning this full range continuously, and in the last few years, has also permitted using photon energies up to \( 10 - 15 \) keV, which yield via the extrapolation above to \( \Lambda_e \) values of \( 50 - 200 \) Å; such measurements are thus appealing for the future as being more bulk sensitive, and represent another emerging area in photoemission to which we are thus appealing for the future as being more bulk sensitive, and

Core-Level Photoemission

Intensities and the Three-Step Model

Because core levels are highly localized on a given atom, they provide various element-specific types of information concerning each atomic species present in a sample. We consider first the intensities of a given photoelectron peak, which will be proportional to the number of atoms of a given type, as weighted by their excitation probabilities. Figure 2 makes it clear that each atom may have several core-level signatures of its presence, including both photoelectron and Auger peaks.

A much-used approach for calculating and using photoelectron intensities from both core and valence levels is the so-called three-step model\([4,5]\) which divides the process into three steps of: (1) penetration of the exciting photon beam into the surface, with some resulting intensity profile \( I_n(x, y, z) \) and the coordinates defined in Fig. 1, and excitation of photoelectrons from each atom in the sample that are located at various depths \( z \) which will be proportional to the differential photoelectric cross section of the particular level \( nij \) of atom \( Q \) involved (e.g. Mn 2p\(_{1/2}\) and Mn 2p\(_{3/2}\) in Fig. 2), written as \( d\sigma_{Qnlj}(hv)/d\Omega \) and dependent on photon energy and the experimental geometry; (2) transport of the photoelectron from depth \( z \) to the surface, which involves inelastic attenuation via \( \Lambda_e \), as well as elastic scattering and diffraction and (3) escape from the surface, which involves refraction and reflection at the surface barrier, with the latter controlled by the surface inner potential \( V_0 \) having typical values of 5–15 eV, and possible inelastic scattering, as well as elastic scattering and diffraction (surface umklapp processes). The differential subshell cross section can most simply be calculated by using only the last one-electron factor in Eqn (3), averaging over the possible final states reached from each \( Qnlj \) and summing over the \( Qnlj \) initial states (e.g. two for Mn 2p\(_{1/2}\) and four for Mn 2p\(_{3/2}\)). In general, \( d\sigma_{Qnlj}(hv)/d\Omega \) is a maximum near threshold, when the photon energy is equal to \( E^{\text{binding}}(Qnlj) \) and steadily decreases as the energy increases, although it may not reach a maximum until some distance above threshold, and it may also exhibit local minima called Cooper minima for energies not too far above threshold\([4,18]\). Neglecting elastic scattering and surface refraction for simplicity, one can finally calculate a core-level intensity from:

\[
I(Qnlj) = C \int \int \int I_n(x,y,z) \rho_{Qnlj}(x,y,z) d\sigma_{Qnlj}(hv) d\Omega \\
\times \exp \left[ -\frac{z}{\Lambda_e \sin \theta} \right] \Omega(x,y) dxdydz
\]

(5)
where \( C \) is a constant characteristic of the experimental geometry, \( \rho_Q(x, y, z) \) is the density of atomic type \( Q \) at position \( x, y, z \), and \( \Omega(h\nu, x, y) \) is the solid angle of acceptance of the spectrometer for a given photon energy (or equivalently electron kinetic energy) and position on the sample surface. In principle, \( I_{\nu}(x, y, z) \) can be calculated from a knowledge of the source beam spot profile, the incidence angle, and the X-ray indices of refraction of the substances in the sample;\[^{19}\] \( \sigma_{Qnlj}(h\nu)/\Omega_{1} \) is known from atomic theory, and its evaluation requires knowing the polarization of the exciting radiation (cf Eqn (3));\[^{18,20–22}\] \( \Lambda_{\nu} \) can either be taken from experimental data\[^{23}\] or estimated from semi-empirical formulas, as e.g. the much-used TPP-2M formula;\[^{15}\] and \( \Omega(h\nu, x, y) \), which is equivalent once integrated over \( x \) and \( y \) to the spectrometer intensity response function, can be determined from reference-sample calibration measurements.\[^{24}\] Thus, it is in principle possible to measure \( I_{\nu} \) and determine the only remaining unknown \( \rho_Q(z) \), which amounts to a quantitative chemical analysis of the sample. More detailed discussions of cross-sections and their angular dependence, as well as integrations of Eqn (5) to yield closed-form formulas for various sample configurations (homogeneous semi-infinite sample, single overlayer on a semi-infinite sample, thin overlayer on a semi-infinite sample) are given elsewhere.\[^{4}\] These form the basic core of quantitative surface analysis by XPS, but with recent reviews pointing out additional considerations in achieving the most accurate results, as e.g. elastic scattering and electron refraction in crossing the inner potential surface barrier \( V_0 \).\[^{16,14,15,25–27}\] User-friendly computer programs in fact exist that include some of these complicating factors, and permit predicting spectra with reasonable accuracy.\[^{28}\]

A final important effect related to photoelectron intensities is resonant photoemission (RPE), in which the photon energy is tuned so as to lie on a strong core-level absorption resonance (e.g. \( \text{Mn} \ 2p_{3/2} \) or \( L_2 \)), with this providing a second interfering channel for photoelectron excitation in another level in the same atom (e.g. \( \text{Mn} \ 3d \)).\[^{29}\] The intensity of the second level can thus be dramatically increased or decreased, depending on the relative amplitudes and phases of the interfering channels. This effect can be very useful in enhancing the contributions of a given type of valence character to bonding (e.g. by enhancing the \( \text{Mn} \ 3d \) contributions to the valence spectra of a compound such as that shown in Fig. 2(29)). It has also been pointed out that RPE can occur between levels on different atoms, as e.g. between \( \text{O} \ 1s \) and \( \text{Mn} \ 3d \) in the compound \( \text{MnO} \);\[^{30}\] with this type of multi-atom resonant photoemission (MARPE) effect providing the potential of uniquely identifying near-neighbors to a given atomic species.

Figure 4. (a)–(e) High-resolution \( W \ 4f_{7/2} \) spectra excited with 100 eV radiation from a \( W(110) \) surface that was initially atomically clean but was exposed over a period of time to oxygen gas at a pressure of \( 3 \times 10^{-9} \) torr. Six distinct chemical or structural states of \( W \) can be identified by the observed binding energy shifts: clean-surface \( W \) atoms, two types of \( W \) bonded to one oxygen atom, one type of \( W \) bonded to two oxygen atoms, one type of \( W \) bonded to three \( \text{O} \) atoms, and ‘bulk’ \( W \) atoms located inward from the surface layer. (f) Geometric identification of the different atomic sites involved. The red figure is the unit cell of an ordered \((2 \times 2) \) oxygen structure. (g) Time dependence of the intensities of the resolvable features in a set of these spectra. From R. X. Ynzunza et al., Surf. Sci. 2000, 459, 69. Reprinted with permission.
Varying Surface and Bulk Sensitivity

From Fig. 3, it is clear that the degree of surface sensitivity can be enhanced/deenhanced systematically in two ways: by going to more grazing/more nearly normal emission angles $\theta$, respectively, often referred to as angle-resolved XPS (ARXPS); or by altering photon energies so as to scan the photoelectron kinetic energy relative to the minimum in $\Delta_\varepsilon$. Both of these methods are being used successfully to deconvolute the surface and bulk contributions that will always be present in photoemission spectra. We will also later consider a third method, which makes use of X-ray standing waves to selectively probe at specific depths below a surface.

Chemical Shifts

Although core levels are still often thought of as not being affected at all by chemical bonding, and in fact, their orbitals do not mix in a quantum-mechanical sense into the valence bands or molecular orbitals responsible for bonding, core-level binding energies are extremely sensitive to the changes in valence-level charge distributions that take place as bonds form, as first pointed out by Siegbahn et al. Roughly speaking, if an atom is placed in an environment in which it effectively loses charge to more electronegative neighbors, its core electrons will experience an increase in the net coulombic attraction (which is always due to the sum of nuclear attraction and other-electron repulsion), and their binding energies will go up. Conversely, if an atom becomes more negatively charged in forming bonds to its neighbors, its core electrons will have lower binding energies. For an isolated atom and considering a core level that spatially overlaps very little with the valence level involved (that is, of different principal quantum no. $n$), the removal/addition of a valence electron will to first approximation result in a binding energy shift given by the following Coulomb integral:

$$ \Delta E_{\text{Binding}} \approx \pm K_{\text{Core,Val}} = \pm \int \frac{\psi_{\text{Core}}(\vec{r}_1)\psi_{\text{Val}}(\vec{r}_2)}{\varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2} dV_1 dV_2 $$

However, this is an overestimate in any real situation, as the bonding charge is not removed or added from infinity, but simply relocated to/from near-neighbor atoms. Final-state effects in which the other electrons relax around a given core hole to screen it can complicate this picture, and the most accurate way to determine core binding energies in different environments and to analyze such ‘chemical shift’ data is to calculate total all-electron energies with and without a given core hole present, as shown in Eqn (2). But whatever the method of interpretation, the use of core-electron chemical shifts represents a very powerful way of detecting different chemical species in a complex system, with many examples of this in the literature, and several detailed tabulations of chemical shifts for many elements.

As an illustrative example of chemical shifts, we show in Fig. 4(a)–(e) spectra from the very narrow W 4f/2 level of a W(110) surface that is initially very clean but has been exposed to molecular oxygen at $3 \times 10^{-9}$ torr over a sequence of time-resolved measurements. The high resolution of this low-energy synchrotron radiation experiment, combined with careful peak fitting of many spectra through the time sequence, permits resolving six different chemical/structural states of W: those at the clean surface, those in the ‘bulk’ = layers below the surface, those in the second layer (i.e., the ‘second layer’ = layers 1 and 2 below the surface), and so on.
two structurally inequivalent types bonded to one adsorbed
oxygen atom (O1a and O1b), and those bonded to two or three
oxygen atoms (O2 or O3, respectively), with the different atomic
geometries for five of these shown in Fig. 4(f). These data thus
illustrate the high sensitivity of core levels to chemical state and
bonding position relative to the surface. We discuss the time
dependence in these spectra in the last section of this paper.

As a second example of the use of such chemical shifts,
in Fig. 5(b), we show the temperature dependence of O 1s
spectra from a complex metal oxide with formula La0.7Sr0.3MnO3
which exhibits an effect called colossal magnetoresistance.[34] The
oxide surface was here prepared by cleaving, or more precisely,
fracturing, a single crystal in UHV, in order to avoid surface
contamination. Firstly, these O1s spectra exhibit a main peak
and a weaker peak at about 1.5 eV higher binding energy. From
various measurements, including varying the electron takeoff
angle to change the degree of surface sensitivity (cf Fig. 3(a)), it
is concluded that the peak at higher binding energy is due to
O atoms near/at the surface, with the other peak representing O
atoms deeper within the material and denoted ‘Bulk’ in the figure.
Now considering the changes in these spectra as temperature is
varied from well below to well above the temperature at which
long-range magnetic order disappears (the Curie temperature, TC)
and then cooled to near the starting temperature again, we see
a distinct shift in the bulk O 1s peak as T goes above TC, and a
concomitant shift, broadening and loss of intensity in the O 1s
surface peak. Upon cooling again to below TC, both features return
to their previous states. The bulk peak shift has been interpreted
as a transfer of electron charge to Mn from the six octahedral O
atoms surrounding each Mn atom.[34] We return to discuss the left
panel (a) of this figure involving Mn 3s emission in the next section.

**Multiplet Splittings**

Another very useful aspect of core photoelectron spectra arises if a
given atom exists in a situation in which the valence levels are only
partially occupied. In such a case, and with neglect of relativistic
effects for simplicity of discussion here, the valence electrons can
couple with one another such that there is a net spin S and a
net orbital angular momentum L on a given site. In the simplest
Russell–Saunders or L–S coupling picture, this yields a state before
the core electron is emitted of the form that can be described e.g. for
the ground state of a 3d⁵ configuration with S = 5/2 and L = 0
as a ⁵S state, where the superscript is the spin multiplicity 2S + 1
and the main symbol denotes the net orbital angular momentum
as S, P, D, for L = 0, 1, 2, etc. However, when an electron is emitted
from a core level with a given one-electron spin s, corresponding
spin projections m_s = −1/2 or +1/2, and a given one-electron
orbital angular momentum ℓ, the new (N − 1)-electron system of
core subshell-with-hole plus partially-filled valence electrons can
couple to various final states S_f and L_f of different energies, thus
yielding more than one binding energy for emission from a single
nℓ core level. This is termed a ‘multiplet splitting’ of core-level bind-
ing energies,[4,35] and it can be generalized to include spin–orbit
splitting and to apply to partially filled s, p, d, and/or f subshells.

In Fig. 6(a), we illustrate the origin of a simple type of multiplet
splitting, for emission from a 3s subshell of an Mn transition metal
atom. In this case, there is no orbital angular momentum in the
core electron left behind, so we only need consider the coupling of
the net spin on the Mn atom before 3s emission, S_{Mn}, which can be
assumed to be carried by its valence 3d electrons, with the spin of
the 3s electron left behind. The two final state energies then corre-
spond to total spin quantum nos. of S_f = S_{Mn} + 1/2 and S_{Mn} − 1/2,
and these can be considered to arise primarily from a coupling of

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**Figure 6.** Qualitative explanation of the multiplet splittings seen in 3s emission from some transition metal compounds, here illustrated for an
Mn-containing substance. The inset at lower right shows a spectrum from the highly ionic compound MnF₂, excited by 1486.7 eV radiation.
the remaining Mn 3s spin parallel to, or anti-parallel to, the net 3d spin \( S_{\text{Mn}} \), respectively. Because the energy-lowering exchange interaction only acts between electrons of parallel spin, and also requires non-zero overlap to be significant, the higher-spin state energy will be lowered through the following effective exchange integral between a 3s orbital \( \varphi_{3s} \), and a valence-band (VB) 3d orbital \( \varphi_{3d} \):

\[
E_{\text{eff}}^{3s,\text{VB}[3d]} \approx \int \varphi_{3s}^*(\vec{r}_1) \varphi_{3d}^*(\vec{r}_2) \frac{e^2}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|} \varphi_{3s}(\vec{r}_1) \varphi_{3d}(\vec{r}_2) d\vec{r}_1 d\vec{r}_2
\]

where \( e \) is the electron charge, and the energy splitting between the two states \( \Delta E_{3s} \), can finally be estimated from the Van Vleck Theorem of atomic physics as:

\[
\Delta E_{3s} \approx (2S_{\text{Mn}} + 1)E_{\text{eff}}^{3s,\text{VB}[3d]}
\]

Thus, we see that such splittings can be used to directly derive information on the spin of a magnetic atom, with other details also derivable from more complex multiplets involving \( \ell > 0 \) and spin–orbit coupling.[38] Fig. 6(b) also shows an experimental spectrum from the compound MnF\(_2\), which is highly ionic and involves an initial state of Mn ... 3s\(^2\) ... 3d\(^{10}\)S, and final states of ... 3s\(^1\)↑ ... 3d\(^5\)S and ... 3s\(^1\)↓ ... 3d\(^5\)S, with a large and easily measurable splitting of \( \Delta E_{3s} \approx 5.8 \text{ eV} \).[35,37]

As a specific example of the use of such multiplets, Fig. 5(a) shows the temperature dependence of the Mn 3s splitting in the colossal magnetoresistive oxide La\(_2\)Sr\(_3\)MnO\(_6\), and it exhibits a distinct increase of about 1 eV or 20% over the same temperature range as the O 1s chemical shifts discussed previously. This increase has been interpreted as being caused by an increase in \( S_{\text{Mn}} \), that is equivalent to a net transfer of one electronic charge from the O atoms to Mn, an effect not observed previously.[34]

**Electron Relaxation, Screening, and Satellite Structures**

We have noted before that the presence of a core-electron hole, or indeed any electron hole, induces other-electron relaxation, screening or polarization around it. These effects are best described in a full many-electron theory, and they can lead in some cases to additional strong satellite features in spectra which again can provide information on the nature of the valence electronic structure.

One particularly dramatic example of this occurs in the 2p spectra of certain 3d transition metals and their compounds. As an example, we show in Fig. 7 the spin–orbit split Cu 2p\(_{1/2}\) and 2p\(_{3/2}\) doublet spectral region for CuCl\(_2\).[36] In the simplest ionic picture, one would expect only two peaks here, but there are four, with each member of the doublet showing a very strong satellite at lower kinetic energy or higher binding energy. (Note the reversed energy scale from earlier spectra presented.) The explanation of these satellites lies in the fact that we can consider Cu in this compound to exist as Cu\(^{2+}\)3d\(^9\), with just one hole in the 3d subshell. In the final state with a 2p hole and no screening, we can have Cu\(^{3+}\)2p\(_{1/2}\)2p\(_{3/2}\)3d\(^9\) or Cu\(^{3+}\)2p\(_{1/2}\)2p\(_{3/2}\)3d\(^9\), where we have italicized the subshell with a hole. Multiplet splitting can occur in these states, as indicated by the vertical bars from a theoretical calculation in the figure. However, screening can also occur in the final state via charge transfer from Cl to Cu, so as to form the closed shell Cu\(^{2+}\)2p\(_{1/2}\)2p\(_{3/2}\)3d\(^{10}\) or Cu\(^{3+}\)2p\(_{1/2}\)2p\(_{3/2}\)3d\(^{10}\) and, since such transfer costs relatively little energy, such screening will lower the binding energy. In this closed-shell system, there is no multiplet splitting and the peaks are narrower. A key point here is that both final states (screened and unscreened) can be reached in photoemission, with their strengths depending upon how they are mixed in a final-state wave function that is in general a configuration–interaction mixture of both. That is, both types of final states are for the specific case of 2p\(_{3/2}\) emission to a first approximation a mixture of the form:

\[
\Psi_{\text{final,}K}(N - 1) = C_{1,K} \Phi_1(2p_{1/2}^2 2p_{3/2}^3 3d^{10}) + C_{2,K} \Phi_2 \times (2p_{1/2}^2 2p_{3/2}^1 3d^{10} + \text{Cl hole})
\]

**Figure 7.** A Cu 2p photoelectron spectrum from CuCl\(_2\), excited with 1486.7 eV radiation and with the dominant electron configurations of the ‘screened’ 3d\(^{10}\) and the ‘unscreened’ 3d\(^9\) satellite peaks indicated. From G. Van der Laan et al., Phys. Rev. B 1981, 23, 4369. Reprinted with permission.
Atomic-level characterization of materials with photoemission

with $K = 1,2$. This implies, via the Sudden Approximation form of Eqn (3), that, if the initial state is assumed to be pure $3d^9$, the intensity of the two mixed final states will be proportional to $|C_{1,K}|^2$, as the other overlap term will vanish due to the different symmetries of the functions involved. Although the actual wave functions can contain many more terms in principle than we show here, this type of analysis in terms of final-state mixing coefficients is common in both multiplet and satellite theory, and is discussed in more detail elsewhere.\[^{[4,36]}\]

More examples of such combinations of satellite structures and multiplet splittings for other compounds and in connection with emission from other core levels, together with theoretical calculations, are shown elsewhere.\[^{[35 – 39]}\]

As another more complex example involving a metallic system, we show the 2p spectral region of ferromagnetic Ni in Fig. 8(a), excited at 1100 eV photon energy and averaged over two different polarizations of the radiation (right circular = RCP and left circular = LCP).\[^{[40]}\] Since Ni, like Cu\[^1\,\,2\], has roughly a configuration of $3d^9$ in its ground state, one sees for both polarizations a screened predominantly $3d^{10}$ peak and a predominantly $3d^9$ unscreened satellite in connection with each member of the doublet.\[^{[40,41]}\] The more complex nature of the electronic structure of Ni even leads to some mixing of $3d^8$ into the higher binding energy regions of each member, as discussed elsewhere.\[^{[41]}\] Experiment is compared in this figure with (b) one-electron theory\[^{[40]}\] and (c) a more accurate many-electron theory,\[^{[41]}\] and it is obvious that the many-electron approach much better predicts the satellite structure.

**Magnetic Circular Dichroism**

In magnetic circular dichroism (MCD), the intensity of a photoelectron peak is somehow found to change when the polarization of the incoming radiation is changed from right circular (RCP) to left circular (LCP). MCD is thus defined as the difference of two intensities or $I(\text{RCP}) - I(\text{LCP})$, usually divided by the sum or the average of these two intensities to yield a fractional number. These effects were first observed and qualitatively interpreted in core-level photoemission from Fe,\[^{[42]}\] and these first experimental results are shown in Fig. 9(a) and (b). A simple one-electron explanation of these results is illustrated in Fig. 9(c).\[^{[42,43]}\] The spin–orbit interaction, represented here by a parameter $\lambda$, splits the six 2p states into two $2p_{1/2}$ and four $2p_{3/2}$ states. Beyond this, one assumes a Zeeman-like splitting of the sublevels within each spin–orbit peak induced by an effective internal magnetic field of the ferromagnet and resulting from the exchange interaction; this is associated with a parameter $\xi$. These interaction parameters can be used in a one-electron Hamiltonian, whose diagonalization yields the result that, in the main $2p_{3/2}$ peak, the sublevels $m_1 = -3/2, -1/2, +1/2,$ and $+3/2$ are no longer degenerate, as shown in the figure. The same is true of the two $2p_{1/2}$ sublevels. These energy splittings are then combined with the different intensities expected for these levels through the appropriate atomic transition probabilities, which scale as a third parameter $\Delta$, and are represented by the heights of the vertical bars in the figure. The interchange of these intensities when the polarization is switched from RCP to LCP (or equivalently, the magnetization $\vec{M}$ is switched in direction as shown in the figure), then yields the expectation of an up-down character for the MCD.

Figure 8. (a) Experimental intensity and magnetic circular dichroism (MCD) results for Ni 2p emission from an epitaxial Ni overlayer with photons of 1100 eV energy, are compared to the results of (b) one-electron theory based on a spin-polarized relativistic KKR method. From G. Van der Laan et al., J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 2000, 12, L275. Reprinted with permission. (c) Intensity and MCD results from a many-electron theory. From J. Menchero, Phys. Rev. Lett. 1996, 76, 3208. Reprinted with permission.
Figure 9. (a) The first magnetic circular dichroism data in core-level photoemission, for Fe 2p emission excited at 800 eV from Fe(110). The total intensity summed over RCP and LCP polarization is shown at the top, above the individual RCP and LCP spectra. (b) The resultant MCD spectrum, here obtained as \([|I_{\text{RCP}}| - |I_{\text{LCP}}|]/|I_{\text{RCP}}| + |I_{\text{LCP}}|\). (c) An explanation of the MCD in terms of one-electron theory. Here, the parameter \(\lambda\) represents the spin–orbit interaction, the parameter \(\xi\) a Zeeman-like exchange splitting of the different \(m_j\) sublevels, and the parameter \(\Delta\) intensity. (a) and (b) from L. Baumgarten et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 1990, 65, 492; (c) from J. G. Menchero, Phys. Rev. B 1998, 57, 993. Reprinted with permission.

Figure 10. Illustration of various aspects of photoelectron diffraction. (a) Simple diffraction features expected in emission from one atom in a diatomic system. (b) An accurately calculated diffraction pattern for C 1s emission from an isolated CO molecule at a kinetic energy of 500 eV. Note the strong forward scattering peak, and other interference peaks or fringes extending from near the forward scattering direction to the backward scattering direction. (c) The basic theoretical ingredients required to describe photoelectron diffraction. The calculations in (b) were performed using the EDAC program of Ref. [45].

As a more recent example, we show in Fig. 8 experimental MCD data for 2p emission from Ni[40] again together with one-electron[40] and many-electron[41] theoretical calculations. Although the MCD curves here are complex, they can be

profile across a given peak, as well as an opposite sign of the MCD for the 2p_{3/2} and 2p_{1/2} peaks. This general form of MCD spectra has by now been observed in many 3d transition metal systems.
qualitatively understood in terms of the same model. However, the situation in Ni is more complex due to the presence of the screening satellites discussed previously and the intermixing of various configurations in both the initial and final states. This complexity leads to additional structure in the MCD curves, which is not present in the one-electron theory, but is very well described by many-electron theory.

Because ferromagnetic order is necessary for MCD to be observed, measurements of this provide an element-specific measurement of magnetic order, and this technique has been used to study a variety of magnetic systems, including also rare earths.

**Photoelectron Diffraction and Holography**

In PD, sometimes referred to as X-ray photoelectron diffraction (XPD) due to the higher excitation energies that are often used, a core-level photoelectron scatters from the atoms neighboring the emission site, so as to produce angular anisotropy in the outgoing intensity. Fig. 10(a) shows the qualitative effects expected for the simple case of emission from the bottom red atom and elastic scattering from the top blue atom in a diatomic molecule, and Fig. 10(b) shows a quantitative calculation for emission from the C 1s subshell in an isolated CO molecule at 500 eV kinetic energy. Electron-atom elastic scattering is typically peaked in the forward direction, with this effect becoming stronger (that is, having a stronger and narrower forward peak) as energy increases. For the CO case in Fig. 10(b), the intensity in the forward direction is in fact enhanced relative to that expected without scattering (I₀ in the figure) by about three times. Thus, one expects in XPD curves both a forward scattering peak (sometimes referred to as forward focussing) along near-neighbor interatomic directions, as well as higher-order diffraction interference effects that one can also consider to be holographic fringes. Back scattering is weaker as energy increases, but Fig. 10(b) shows that, even at 500 eV, there are still interference fringes in the backward direction, and such backscattering effects have in fact been used for adsorbate structure determination.

Such XPD effects can be modeled using the ingredients shown in Fig. 10(c). The polarization $\hat{e}$ of the light influences the directionality of the initial photoelectron wave (cf Eqn (3)), and, for emission from an $s$-subshell, the outgoing unscattered wave $\phi_0$ has an amplitude proportional to $\hat{e} \cdot \hat{k}$, where $\hat{k}$ is a unit vector in the direction of the photoelectron wave vector, and the photoelectron deBroglie wavelength will be given by $\lambda_e = h/|\hat{p}| = 2\pi/|\hat{k}|$. In convenient units, $\lambda_e (in$ Angstroms $) = \sqrt{150.5/\text{Ekin}(in$ eV). Thus, a 150 eV electron has a wavelength of about 1 Å, and a 1500 eV electron of about 0.3 Å, and these numbers are comparable to atomic dimensions. The outgoing photoelectron will elastically scatter from neighboring atoms $j$ to produce scattered-wave components $\phi_j$. This process is describable in first approximation by plane-wave scattering, or more accurately by spherical-wave scattering. This scattering can be incorporated into a scattering factor $f_j$, which is furthermore found to be strongly peaked in the forward direction for energies above about 500 eV, as noted previously. The photoelectron wave components will also be inelastically attenuated as they traverse some total pathlength $L$ in getting to the surface, with their amplitudes decaying as $\exp(-L/2\Lambda_e)$. Finally, they will be refracted at the inner potential barrier $V_0$. Summing up all wave components (unscattered and scattered) and squaring then yields the diffraction pattern. Due to the combined effects of the $1/r$ decrease in amplitude of $\phi_0$ in moving away from the emitter and the inelastic scattering of all components, only atoms within some cluster surrounding the emitter (the dashed envelope) need to be considered in this sum, with the number of scatterers required varying from 5 or so to a few hundred, depending on the emitter position in the cluster and the photoelectron energy. Electrons can also be multiply scattered from several atoms in sequence, and accurate calculations of the resulting PD patterns require including this for...
many cases, especially if scatterers are somehow lined up between the emitter and the detection direction, as is the case along low-index directions in multilayer emission from a single crystal. Various programs are now available for calculating XPD patterns, with one web-based version being particularly accessible\(^{45}\) and other programs also available.\(^{56}\)

As one example of a PD pattern, we show in Fig. 11(a) the full-hemisphere intensity distribution for Fe 2p emission at 778 eV (\(\lambda_e = 0.44\) Å) from a monolayer of FeO grown on a Pt(111) surface.\(^{47}\) At this energy, the forward-peaked nature of \(f_0\) is observed to create strong peaks in intensity along the Fe–O bond directions. The angle of these peaks can furthermore be used to estimate the distance between the Fe and O atoms in the overlayer, and it is found to be only about half that for similar bilayer planes in bulk FeO, as illustrated in the bottom of Fig. 11(a). Figure 11(b) also illustrates the element-specific structural information available from XPD. The Pt 4f XPD pattern from the same sample is rich in diffraction features along low-index directions. The Fe 2p pattern is here just a projection onto 2D of the 3D image in Fig. 11(a). The O 1s pattern shows only very weak structure, as the O atoms are on the top of the overlayer, with no forward scatterers above them, and only weaker back scattering contributing to the diffraction pattern. Comparing the Fe and O patterns thus immediately permits concluding that Fe is below O in the overlayer, rather than vice versa.

Other examples of PD in the study of clean surfaces, adsorbates, and nanostructure growth appear elsewhere,\(^{6,44,48}\) including a discussion of an alternative method of PD measurement in which the geometry is held fixed and the photon energy is scanned.\(^{6,49}\)

Finally, we note that a PD pattern can to a first approximation be considered a hologram,\(^{50}\) as suggested by the notation of the reference wave and object wave in Fig. 10(a).

This has led to a number of studies in which diffraction patterns at various angles and/or various energies have been mathematically transformed so as to directly yield atomic positions in space.\(^{51}\) More precisely, if the PD intensities \(I(\mathbf{k})\) are measured over several angles and/or energies, equivalent to some volume in \(\mathbf{k}\)-space, and then normalized by subtracting out the smoother unscattered intensity profile \(I_0\) corresponding to the reference wave \((c.f.\ Fig.\ 10(b))\) to yield a function \(\chi(\mathbf{k}) = [I(\mathbf{k}) - I_0(\mathbf{k})]/I_0(\mathbf{k})\), then the holographic image of the atoms neighboring the emitter \(U(\mathbf{r})\) can be obtained from

\[
U(\mathbf{r}) = \left| \iiint \chi(\mathbf{k}) \exp(i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - ik) d^3k \right| \tag{10}
\]

where the exponential phase factor is that appropriate to the phase difference between the reference wave and an object wave scattered from point \(\mathbf{r}\), and the integral is over the volume in \(\mathbf{k}\)-space covered by the data points.

In Fig. 12, we show a holographic image obtained using Cu 3p photoelectron intensities above a Cu(001) surface, with the emitter (e) as the central reference point.\(^{52}\) These images were actually obtained using a differential approach in which two holograms at slightly different energies are subtracted from one another so as to suppress forward scattering effects, which are deleterious as far as holography is concerned. Using this approach, it is clear that one can image about 15 near-neighbor atoms below and to the sides of the emitter. Other future possibilities with photoelectron holography are discussed elsewhere.\(^{51}\)

**Valence-Level Photoemission**

**Band-Mapping in the Ultraviolet Photoemission Limit**

At lower energies of excitation, especially below roughly 100 eV, photoemission spectra are routinely used to map the band structure of solids and surfaces, and this is one of the most powerful applications of photoelectron spectroscopy. This ability is due to
the fact that the excitation can be considered to be dominated by so-called ‘direct transitions’ (DTs) in which an occupied initial one-electron Bloch-wave state \( \psi(E_i, \vec{k}_i) \) at energy \( E_i \), and wave vector \( \vec{k}_i \), can in the dipole limit only make a transition to a final state with wave vector \( \vec{k}_f = \vec{k}_i + \vec{g} \), where \( \vec{g} \) is some reciprocal lattice vector associated with the crystal structure under investigation. The relevant vector quantities and conservation equations are illustrated in Fig. 13. Determining \( \vec{k}_f \) inside the surface from a measurement of \( \vec{k}_f \) outside the surface and then the set of \( \vec{g} \) vectors which project it back into the reduced Brillouin zone (BZ) in which the band structure is usually described thus permits directly measuring \( E_{\text{binding}}(\vec{k}_f) = E_i(\vec{k}_i) \), the band structure, or if final-state screening and many-electron excitations are taken into account, more properly the spectral function as calculated from some sort of many-electron theory.\(^{[5]}\)

The need to accurately define the direction of \( \vec{k}_f \), and thus also \( \vec{k}_i \) inside the surface, leads to such measurements often being termed angle-resolved photoemission or ARPES. If the final photoelectron state is high enough in energy, it can be approximated as a free-electron, with \( E_f(\vec{k}_f) \approx p_f^2/2m_e = h^2 k_f^2/2m_e \), where \( m_e \) is the electron mass. This is just the non-relativistic kinetic energy inside the surface, which is higher by \( V_0 \) than the kinetic energy outside of the surface (cf Figs 10 and 13). In convenient units, \( k_f(\text{Å}^{-1}) = 0.512 E_f(\text{eV})^{1/2} \).

To link the direct-transition picture to fundamental matrix elements via Eqn (3), we can simply convert

\[
I(E_f, \vec{k}_f) \propto |\delta \cdot (\psi_{\text{photo}}(E_f = h\nu + E_i, \vec{k}_f = \vec{k}_i + \vec{g} | \psi(E_i, \vec{k}))|^2 \tag{11}
\]

with obvious notation and an explicit inclusion of energy and wave-vector conservation in the final state. Figure 13 also illustrates that, in traveling from the interior of a solid to the surface, inelastic attenuation can occur (just as in the three-step model of core emission). Two additional things occur in crossing the surface: the electron wave can be scattered from a surface reciprocal lattice vector \( \vec{g}_{\text{surf}} \) that may be different from the bulk \( \vec{g} \) vectors, and finally, in traversing the surface potential barrier \( V_0 \), the electron is decelerated and refracted from direction \( \vec{k}_f \) into a new direction \( \vec{K}_f \), which is actually what is measured. Momentum conservation in this last step assures that the component of \( \vec{k} \) parallel to the surface is conserved, and this is very useful in studying systems whose electronic structure can be considered to be approximately two-dimensional and in the surface plane (as for example, surface electronic states and the high-temperature superconductors).

Having thus introduced the basic physics of ARPES, we now consider a couple of illustrative examples, including looking ahead to what happens as the photon energy is gradually increased into the keV or even multi-keV regime. In Fig. 14, we show some recent ARPES results obtained for W(110) with an excitation energy of 270 eV and a display-type detection system such as that shown in Fig. 1(c).\(^{[53]}\)

In Fig. 14(a), we show the one-electron energy bands for W, plotted along the \( \Gamma \)-to-\( N \) direction in the reduced BZ, whose high-symmetry points are shown in Fig. 14(b). In Fig. 14(c), we show as a color contour plot experimental data obtained over an emission angle range that corresponds closely to scanning the emission point roughly along \( \Gamma \)-to-\( N \) in the BZ, or more precisely along the violet curves shown in Fig. 14(b). Also overlaid in Fig. 14(c) are the allowed DTs expected using a simple free-electron model for the final state; the agreement as to the positions and profiles of most of the experimental features, and the close correspondence to Fig. 14(a) confirms for this case the usage of ARPES for mapping band structure. But the simple model does not attempt to calculate the actual matrix element in Eqn (11), so there is no information in it concerning intensities. To address this, we show as a color contour plot in Fig. 14(d) the results of a much more sophisticated theoretical calculation which treats the emission process in one-step, explicitly calculating matrix elements within a layer Korringa–Kohn–Rostoker (KKR) formalism.\(^{[53]}\)

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**Figure 13.** Illustration of the basic processes and conservation laws in angle-resolved photoemission from valence levels.
Figure 14. Angle-resolved photoemission from W(110) with a photon energy of 260 eV. (a) The theoretical energy bands of W, plotted along the Γ-to-N direction that is very close to that sampled in the experiment. (b) The Brillouin zone of W, with the violet curve indicating the points sampled by direct transitions for the particular experimental geometry and angle scan involved. (c) An energy-versus-angle plot, or equivalently energy-versus-\vec{k} plot, with brighter contours representing higher intensity. Also shown are the positions allowed via direct-transition wave-vector conservation and assumed free-electron final states. (d) Analogous color plot of more accurate one-step model calculations of this data. L. Plucinski, J. Minar and C. S. Fadley, unpublished data.

calculations in Fig. 14(d) agree well with the experimental results in Fig. 14(c) as to which features should be most intense, indicating the importance of matrix element effects in interpreting ARPES data in the future.

As a final example of ARPES, we consider its application to ferromagnetic Ni. The experimental results in Fig. 15(a), (c), (d) and (e) were obtained in a similar scan of the polar angle above an Ni(111) surface, but with a much lower excitation energy of 21.21 eV that is in fact more typical of many ARPES measurements, and a focus on a smaller range of energies close to the Fermi level. In the room temperature data of Fig. 15(a), which correspond to \( T/T_C = 0.80 \), one clearly sees two split bands going up to the Fermi level, with intensity in fact visible above that level due to thermal excitation of electrons, and division of the data by the Fermi function from statistical physics. This splitting corresponds to a direct measurement of the expected exchange splitting of spin-up and spin-down bands in nickel, and is in good agreement with the results of theoretical calculations shown in Fig. 15(b), although theory predicts a splitting about 30% too large, probably due to a lack of adequately treating
many-electron effects in the photoemission process. In panels (c)–(e) of Fig. 15 are shown measurements for the same polar scan, but at three temperatures spanning from well below to significantly above $T_C$. Here one sees what is probably the closing of the exchange splitting as temperature increases to the point where long-range ferromagnetic order is lost, again a most fundamental observation in the electronic structure of a ferromagnet.

There are many other examples of ARPES being used to study the fundamental properties of electronic structure, including strongly correlated materials such as high $T_C$, colossal magnetoresistive oxides, and quantum well states in nanoscale layers. A powerful aspect of many of these studies that we have not focussed on here is looking only at the electrons near the Fermi level, with these being key to transport in some of the cited examples. Such Fermi surface mapping is thus another significant aspect of current ARPES studies.

**Densities of States in the X-Ray Photoemission Limit**

As energy is increased in valence-level photoemission, several factors act to smear out the region in $k$-space that is sampled, finally leading to a measurement that in first approximation measures the total density of electronic states at a given binding energy, as summed over all $k$ values and modulated by appropriate matrix elements:

- As the magnitude of $k_F$ increases, the finite angular resolution of the electron spectrometer implies that the definition of points in the BZ is smeared out, as illustrated in Fig. 16(a) for photoelectron excitation from W along the [010] direction with a typical XPS energy of 1254 eV, and in Fig. 16(b) for excitation at 10 000 eV. With the moderately high angular resolution of ±1.5° shown in (a), it is clear via the shaded disk that the set of $k_i$ values involved is significantly broadened with respect to the size of the BZ. However, by now, 2D imaging spectrometers such as that shown in Fig. 1(c) have increased the resolution to ~0.1°, so this may not be the most serious factor, at least

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**Figure 15.** Angle-resolved photoemission from ferromagnetic Ni(111) with a photon energy of 21.2 eV. (a) Experimental data at room temperature and thus below the Curie temperature: the splitting of the bands due to the exchange interaction is seen. (b) Theoretical layer-KKR calculation of the bands involved in (a). (c) The temperature dependence of the spin–split bands, in going from below to above the Curie temperature. From Kreutz et al., Reprinted with permission.
Figure 16. Illustration of \( \vec{k} \) conservation in valence photoemission from W at two different photon energies: (a) 1253.6 eV, a typical soft X-ray energy also available with laboratory sources, and (b) 10,000 eV, a hard X-ray energy that is of interest for the future.

(a) Gold Valence Spectrum--XPS

(b) Gold Valence Spectrum--HXPS

(c) Silver Valence Spectrum--XPS

Figure 17. Valence photoelectron spectra from the noble metals Ag and Au in the XPS or density of states limit. In (a) and (b), Au spectra with 1.5 and 4.5 keV excitation are shown. In both cases, the experimental results are compared with theoretical densities of states based on local-density theory. In (c), the same comparison is made for 1.5 keV excitation of Ag. Experimental data in (a) and (b) from K. Siegbahn and Y. Takata, theory in (b) from Z. Yin and W. E. Pickett. (c) is reprinted from A. Barrie and N. E. Christensen, Phys. Rev. B 1976, 14, 244, with permission.
Atomic-level characterization of materials with photoemission for energies up to 1 keV or so. Nonetheless, Fig. 16(b) makes it clear that angular resolution must be increased significantly if the excitation energy goes up into the 10-keV regime, for which an angular resolution of 0.5° yields about the same fractional broadening in the BZ as 1.5° does for 1.2 keV excitation.

- Also as the magnitude of $\vec{k}_f$ increases, the effects of phonon creation and annihilation in the photoemission process must be considered. As an alternate view of this, the DTs in photoemission can be considered heuristically as a type of Bragg reflection, with $\vec{g} = \vec{k}_f - \vec{k}_i$ providing the additional momentum to the photoelectron. Thus, by analogy with normal diffraction in crystals, one might expect to suppress the intensity in the DT features due to atomic vibrations that reduce the degree of translation symmetry of the crystal according to a Debye-Waller factor, which can be written as:

$$W(T) \approx \exp\left[-g^2 \left\langle u^2(T) \right\rangle\right],$$

where $\left\langle u^2(T) \right\rangle$ is the mean-squared vibrational displacement at temperature $T$. This factor effectively allows for the transfer of momentum to phonons, further smearing the specification of $\vec{k}_i$ in the BZ (cf. Fig. 13). Qualitatively, one expects the Debye-Waller factor to represent the fraction of intensity in DT features that is not influenced by phonons. Calculations of this for various elements indicate that such effects often will give rise to essentially full BZ averaging at excitation energies in the 1–2 keV regime that are typical of classical XPS measurements.

A final effect at higher excitation energies has to do not with smearing of the $\vec{k}_i$ definition in the BZ, but with a shift of position due to the photon momentum or wave vector, as given by $k_{\text{ph}} = \frac{2\pi \nu}{c}$. In convenient units, this is $k_{\text{ph}} (\text{in Angstroms}^{-1}) = 0.000507(\text{Photon energy in eV})$. The need to consider this in fact involves a breakdown of the dipole approximation for the interaction of the radiation with the system. Thus, the overall wave-vector conservation equation is as given in Fig. 13 or 16(a), with the magnitude of $k_{\text{ph}}$ being explicitly shown for excitation at both 1254 and 10 000 eV. It is clear that such effects need to be allowed for at such high excitation energies, as first pointed out some time ago.\cite{59} However, they are usually neglected at energies less than about 100 eV, for which $k_{\text{ph}} < 0.05 \text{ Å}^{-1}$.

Taking the first two of these effects into account, one expects higher-energy valence spectra to reflect the total density of states (DOSs) of the material, modulated by whatever matrix elements are appropriate to the different types of states involved, as e.g. $nd$ versus $(n + 1)s$ and $(n + 1)p$ states in transition metals, with $n = 3, 4, 5$. This is often termed the ‘XPS limit’.

To illustrate this XPS limit, we show in Fig. 17(a) and (c) the valence spectra for Au\cite{60} and Ag\cite{61} excited by 1.5 keV photons, as compared with broadened theoretical densities of states. For these metals at room temperature, the Debye-Waller factors with

![Figure 18](image_url)

**Figure 18.** Temperature-dependent angle-resolved photoemission data from W(110) at an excitation energy of 860 eV. (a)–(d) Energy-versus-angle (energy-versus-$\vec{k}$) plots at four temperatures, with phonon-induced smearing of features evident as $T$ is raised. From left to right in each, the N to $\Gamma$ line in the Brillouin zone is approximately sampled. (e) Energy distribution curves (EDCs) integrated over a narrow angle (or $\vec{k}$) range for all four temperatures, with the curve at highest temperature also compared to a suitably broadened W density of states. (f) Momentum distribution curves (MDCs) integrated over a narrow binding energy range near 2 eV for all four temperatures. (g) The approximate region in $\vec{k}$ sampled by this data. From L. Plucinski et al., Phys. Rev. B 2008, 78, 035108. Reprinted with permission.
this excitation energy are very small, at about 0.04, so one expects rather full BZ averaging, especially in view of the rather large angular acceptances of the spectrometers involved. That this is indeed the case is evident from the very good agreement between the spectra and the broadened densities of states. Figure 17(b) further shows what occurs when the photon energy is increased to 5.5 keV, for which the energy resolution is in fact better than for the 1.5 keV data, at about 80 meV; the Debye-Waller factor is only about $6 \times 10^{-6}$; and the fine structure is again found to agree rather well with a suitably broadened DOSs from theory based on the local-density approximation (LDA). Note, however, that it is necessary to shift the theoretical DOSs by about 0.6 eV to higher binding energy to best match the position of the dominant 5d-band DOSs features. This kind of discrepancy is well known in such comparisons of experiment with LDA theory, and is due to the fact that the different states in Au (more localized Au 5d versus more delocalized and free-electron-like Au 6s,6p) exhibit different screening/self-energy corrections due to many-electron interactions. Also, comparing Fig. 17(a) and (b), we note the same sorts of minor discrepancies between theory and experiment in the dominant Au 5d region, which may have to do with matrix-element effects that are not included when simply comparing experiment to the DOSs.

Thus, even though there is inherently more information content in an ARPES spectrum for which BZ selectivity is involved, spectra in the XPS limit still provide important clues as to the electronic structure of any material, and if they are measured at higher excitation energies, they also more closely express bulk, rather than surface, electronic properties.

As a last topic in this section, we consider an intermediate case for which both BZ selectivity and phonon smearing are involved. We show in Fig. 18(a)–(d) a set of angle-resolved data from W(110) obtained with an intermediate energy of 870 eV, and at four different temperatures, which permits assessing the influence of phonons in a more quantitative way. The four experimental panels clearly show band-mapping features, and in fact are also running in the opposite direction. Note the similar positions and shapes of features between the two figures. However, it is also clear that raising the temperature stepwise from 300 to 780 K, or from 0.75 times the Debye temperature that is characteristic of the W phonon spectrum to 1.95 times that temperature involves a smearing of those features and a significant gain of intensity in other parts of the angle-resolved data. In Fig. 18(e) we show EDCs at different temperatures as derived by integrating intensity over a small band in $k_f^*$ for emission from near a high-symmetry point in the BZ, and in Fig. 18(f) momentum distribution curves (MDCs) derived by integrating over a small band in energy at about 2 eV binding energy. A broadened DOS is also shown in Fig. 18(e) for comparison. Not surprisingly both EDCs and MDCs show a loss of fine structure as temperature is raised, with the highest temperature data beginning to converge to the W DOS, but clearly not reaching it, especially for the MDCs, which would be flat lines in this limit. Thus, the DOS limit is not quite reached by 780 K for this case, consistent at least qualitatively with the Debye-Waller factor of 0.41; that is, roughly 40% of the intensity is still estimated to be via DTs. Not shown here are the results of one-step KKR calculations for comparison to this data, which agree very well with the positions and intensities of all features seen in experiment, but do not at their present level of describing phonon effects correctly predict the smearing of features at higher temperatures.

Looking ahead, we note that the results of Fig. 18 suggest it should be possible to carry out more bulk-sensitive electronic structure studies at higher photon energies than have been typically employed in the past. However, a note of caution is in order, as W is one of the most cooperative materials in this respect, and it will in general require some combination of high angular resolution, not-too-high photon energy, and cryogenic cooling to achieve this for other materials, as discussed recently.
Some New Directions

Photoemission with Hard X-Rays

Within the last few years, interest has arisen in carrying out core and valence photoemission with excitation energies significantly above those of up to about 2 keV used to date. Such measurements have been carried out in the 3–15 keV regime, and a small number of groups in Europe and Japan have succeeded in designing beamline-end station combinations that permit carrying out such experiments with acceptable intensity/resolution combinations.[16,17]

The principal reason for this emerging interest lies in the extrapolation of curves such as those in Fig. 3 to higher energies, which we have noted involves inelastic $\lambda_e$ values of 50–200 Å. Thus, photoemission becomes a much more bulklike probe, and one that can look more deeply into multilayer or complex nanostructures. Two international workshops have so far explored this topic and its future.[16,17]

As one example of what has been termed hard XPS (HAXPES or HXPS), we show in Fig. 19 some Si 1s spectra excited from a multilayer structure of 120 Å of NiGe on top of 120 Å of SiO$_2$ on top of a deep Si substrate by 7.9 keV photons.[64] The resulting kinetic energies of about 6.1 keV permit seeing both types of Si atoms, with the 1s spectra showing a chemical shift associated with elemental Si in the substrate and oxidized Si in the overlayer. Furthermore, varying the takeoff angle from near normal to more grazing so as to enhance surface sensitivity is found to dramatically change the intensity ratio of element to oxide. These data thus illustrate the power of HXPS, or more particularly angle-resolved HXPS (ARHXPS), to look into multilayer device structures or other structures of relevance to technology or environmental science.

Beyond being able to probe more deeply below the surface, ARHXPS has additional advantages as compared to standard ARXPS; in analyzing data, it is possible to much more nearly neglect effects due to elastic scattering (which is much more forward peaked), refraction due to the inner potential (which becomes much smaller compared to the electron kinetic energy), and surface inelastic scattering (which becomes negligibly small).[65,66]

As another example of what has been seen in HXPS, we show in Fig. 20 temperature-dependent Mn 2p spectra from the same type of colossal magnetoresistive oxide sample involved in Fig. 5. Here, data in Fig. 20(a) with an excitation energy of 1090 eV, corresponding to kinetic energies of $\sim$450 eV, and an inelastic attenuation length of $\sim$10 Å,[15,67,68] are compared with data in Fig. 20(b) obtained at 7700 eV, corresponding to kinetic energies of $\sim$7050 eV, and an inelastic attenuation length of $\sim$85 Å.[15,69] Thus, the latter is a much truer sampling of bulk properties. Although the general shape of the doublet is the same at the two energies, there are two significant differences. First and most obvious in the hard X-ray spectrum is a small, but very sharp, satellite that appears below $T_C$ (which is 370 K for this material) on the low binding energy side of the 2p$_{3/2}$ peak, but which is absent in the lower-energy more-surface-sensitive spectrum. There is also an indication of the same satellite, although less well resolved, on the 2p$_{1/2}$ peak, as indicated by the arrow. This type of satellite has been observed in HXPS from other manganite samples, and it has been interpreted as a screening satellite associated with highly delocalized electrons.[70–72] with the implication that it requires the extended volume of a more bulk-sensitive measurement to see it. This satellite is also observed to slowly disappear as temperature is raised, which implies a connection with either magnetic order or a lattice that is free of the kind of Jahn-Teller distortion above $T_C$ that is thought to produce the effects seen in Fig. 5.[34] A second difference between the hard X-ray and soft X-ray spectra is that a chemical shift with soft X-ray excitation of both Mn 2p components to higher binding energy by about 0.7 eV on lowering the temperature to about 150 K that has been linked to the O-to-Mn charge transfer[67,68] discussed in connection with Fig. 5 is difficult to discern with hard X-ray excitation. This suggests that the effects seen in Fig. 5 are more localized near the surface.

One factor that will however limit the energy resolution achievable with HXPS, particularly for lighter atoms and/or solids with lower Debye temperatures, is the recoil energy involved in...
A number of other papers on HXPS have by now appeared, and are presented in overview elsewhere, but even at this early stage, it seems clear that such experiments have the potential to answer some key questions concerning the structure and composition of multilayer nanostructures, as well as the true bulk electronic structure of complex materials. As applied to valence spectra, it is likely that most HXPS spectra at moderate or higher temperatures will reflect the DOSs in the XPS limit, but with a spectrometer of high angular resolution (e.g. well below 0.1°), at lower excitation energies in the few-keV range and/or with cryogenic cooling, as well as with adequate correction...
for photon momentum, it should be possible to do more bulk-sensitive band mapping for some materials, even if not at the ultrahigh energy and angular resolutions available with much lower photon energies.

Photoemission with Standing-Wave Excitation

We have noted previously two ways to vary the surface sensitivity in photoemission: changing the photon energy so as to move along curves of the type in Fig. 3 and varying the takeoff angle, as indicated e.g. in Fig. 19. Both of these involve electron escape processes, so one can also ask if it is not possible to somehow tailor the photon wave field so as to provide a complementary avenue for varying surface sensitivity. Creating an X-ray standing wave is one method for doing this, and it has been found possible via this approach to selectively look at buried layers and interfaces as well as element-resolved densities of states in this way.

In Fig. 21, we illustrate one approach for using soft X-ray (or in the future also hard X-ray) standing waves to carry out more precise depth-resolved photoemission from multilayer nanostructures. This approach combines a standing wave created by first-order Bragg reflection from a multilayer mirror of period $d_{ML}$ with a sample that is grown on top of the multilayer, including a base layer of wedge profile. It is a simple matter to show that the profile of the first-order standing wave-modulated intensity, as given by $I_{h}\nu(x, y, z) \propto |\vec{E}(x, y, z)|^2$, where $\vec{E}$ is the electric field vector, will have a sinusoidal form with a period equal to the repeat distance of the diffracting planes or $d_{ML}$. If the standing wave is created by a typically well-focused synchrotron radiation beam, then its dimensions will be much smaller than a typical sample, as indicated in the figure. Since the standing wave only exists in the region where the beam hits the sample surface, and its phase is locked tightly to the multilayer mirror, scanning the sample in the photon beam along the $x$ direction in Fig. 21 effectively translates the standing wave along the vertical $z$ direction through the sample. In the example shown, the standing wave would in particular scan through the Fe/Cr interface of interest, at some $x$ positions being more sensitive to the Fe side and at some other positions being more sensitive to the Cr side. This standing wave/wedge approach has been termed the 'swedge' method.

Some results obtained with this method for the Fe/Cr interface are summarized in Figs 22–24. In Fig. 22(a), the two basic types of measurement possible are indicated: (i) a scan of sample position along $x$ with the incidence angle fixed at or near the Bragg angle, as discussed previously; and (ii) a scan of incidence angle through the Bragg angle at fixed $x$, or equivalently fixed Cr thickness, which can be referred to by the usual term 'rocking curve'. The results of both types of scans on the Cr3p/Fe3p ratio are presented in Fig. 22(b) and (c). The roughly sinusoidal oscillations in this ratio in Fig. 22(b) clearly reflect the passage of the standing wave through the interface. Figure 22(c) shows the more complex forms that are characteristic of rocking curves, with dramatic changes in the

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**Figure 23.** Experimental MCD data for Fe 2p and Cr 2p emission from the sample of Fig. 21, at two positions of the standing wave: emphasizing the interface (position B) and de-emphasizing the interface (position C). From S.-H. Yang et al., *J. Phys.: Condens. Matter* **2002**, 14, L406. Reprinted with permission.
ratio in this data also. Self-consistently analyzing these data with X-ray optical calculations of standing-wave photoemission\cite{79} and only two variable parameters (the depth of onset of the change in the Fe composition and the width of a linear gradient as the interface changes from pure Fe to pure Cr) yields the excellent fits shown to both types of data, and the parameters given at the left of Fig. 24(a). In Fig. 23 are shown MCD data for both Fe 2p and Cr 2p emission, which have also been measured as the sample is scanned in the beam, with the variation as $x$ or Cr thickness is varied being represented by the curves in Fig. 24(b). The relative signs of the MCD in Fig. 23 can be directly compared to those in Fig. 9(b), and also immediately imply that a small amount of Cr is oppositely magnetized compared to Fe, and that this must be induced by the ferromagnetic Fe layer, since Cr is normally antiferromagnetic. Further analyzing this data via X-ray optical calculations with only two parameters for Fe 2p and 3p MCD and two parameters for Cr 2p and 3p MCD yields the atom-specific magnetization profiles shown at right in Fig. 24(a). Thus, in this first published example, the swedge method permitted non-destructively determining the concentration profile through an interface, as well as the atom-specific magnetization contributions through it.

In more recent work, the swedge approach has also been used successfully to determine layer-specific densities of states that can be linked to changes in magnetoresistance as a function of nanolayer thicknesses.\cite{75} Several other possible applications of it have also been suggested,\cite{19,31,77,78} including going to harder X-ray excitation, for which reflectivities and thus standing wave strengths can be much higher.

**Photoemission with Space and Time Resolution and at Higher Pressures**

As Fig. 1(f) indicates, other dimensions of photoemission involve adding spatial resolution in the lateral dimensions $x$ and $y$, with one method for achieving additional resolution in the vertical $z$ dimension already being discussed in the last section. In other papers in the ALC07 Conference, e.g. by Bauer, Koshikawa, Pavlovskia, Quitmann and Schneider, the use of various techniques to add such lateral dimensions has been discussed in detail, and various aspects of such ‘spectromicroscopy’ methods are reviewed in detail elsewhere.\cite{18,69} Thus, we will here only specifically consider one future direction involving focussing the radiation to a small spot so as to do what has been termed ‘nano-ARPES’.\cite{80}

In Fig. 25(a), the basic idea of the experiment is presented.\cite{80} A zone-plate lens is used to focus a soft X-ray synchrotron radiation beam down to a spot of the order of 100 nm. A spectrometer like that shown in Fig. 1 is then used to measure spectra from various regions of the sample by raster-scanning the sample in front of the beam in $x$ and $y$. Both core and valence level spectra can be

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**Figure 24.** (a) The concentration and atom-specific magnetization profiles through the Fe/Cr interface, as derived by fitting X-ray optical calculations of photoemission\cite{79} to the data of Figs 22 and 23. (b) The variation of Fe 2p and 3p MCD, and Cr 2p and 3p MCD, as about two cycles of the standing wave are scanned through the interface. From S.-H. Yang et al., J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 2002, 14, L406. Reprinted with permission.
accumulated in this way. Figure 25(b) shows a micrograph from a cleaved sample of highly-oriented pyrolytic graphite (HOPG) in which the intensity in VB spectra has been used as a contrast mechanism. Looking in more detail at the ARPES spectrum from a specific 300 nm region reveals the band structure of the HOPG in that region. It is furthermore observed that the contrast comes about due to a slight tilting of different polycrystalline domains, with the brighter (yellow) regions corresponding to the so-called π-band of graphite being oriented toward the detector. Thus, one can look forward to taking advantage of much of what was discussed above with lateral spatial resolutions that should eventually reach 20 nm or better. In addition, spectromicroscopes making use of sophisticated electron optical elements promise to permit photoemission measurements below 10 nm, and perhaps at a few nm,[81,82] although probably not with the energy and angular resolution of the scheme in Fig. 25.

Time resolution in photoemission, e.g., in pump-probe experiments, that is by now down into the sub-nanosecond regime, and promises to go down into the femtosecond regime, is also considered in other presentations at the ALC07 Symposium and elsewhere.[9,11,83] In some cases, these measurements have even combined lateral resolution with time and spin resolution,[83] thus adding another key dimension for magnetic studies. Carrying out such spectromicroscopy measurements with standing-wave excitation, as demonstrated for the first time in a couple of first experiments[84,85] would add the final z dimension, thus permitting what might be considered a 'complete' photoemission experiment in the sense of all of the variables indicated in Fig. 1. These are clearly most promising areas for future development.

As another aspect of time-resolved photoemission, but one that often involves much longer timescales, we consider the monitoring of surface chemical reactions in realtime. As an early example of this type of measurement, Fig. 4(g) shows the time evolution of the different types of W atoms on a W(110) surface that has been exposed to an oxygen pressure of $3.0 \times 10^{-9}$ torr at room temperature, with the spectra in Fig. 4(a)–(e) being snapshots along the way.[10] As noted earlier, the inherent narrowness of the W 4f levels, combined with high experimental resolution, permits resolving in these spectra six distinct types of W atoms: those at the clean surface, those in the 'bulk' = layers below the surface, two structurally inequivalent types bonded to one adsorbed oxygen atom, and those bonded to two or three oxygen atoms, with the different atomic geometries shown in Fig. 4(f). Being able to measure the time evolution of each of these features as shown in Fig. 4(g) has permitted analyzing the chemical kinetics of the process, which here takes place on the scale of minutes.[10]

Work in other laboratories has extended this type of reaction kinetics study to faster timescales and more complex chemical reactions,[86,87] as well as to higher effective ambient pressures,[11,86] thus permitting studies of such systems as aqueous solutions[88] and catalytic reactions[89] and representing yet another exciting area for future studies with photoemission.

As one technologically relevant example of these types of time-resolved reaction studies, Fig. 26(a) shows a high-resolution spectrum of an oxidized Si(001) surface, with clear resolution of at least five distinct chemical states from the element to that of SiO2. Such spectra have been used in the same way as those in Fig. 4 to study the kinetics of oxidation of Si at pressures of about $10^{-6}$ torr, with resolution in time of all of the oxidation states.[90,91] As a more recent development, Fig. 26(b) shows a high-pressure XPS system in which the sample is separated from the exciting synchrotron radiation beam by a thin Al (or SiN) window and from the analysis section of the electron spectrometer by an electron lens with two stages of differential pumping.[13]
This configuration permits having the sample region at up to 5–10 torr in pressure during measurements. In this way, surface reactions can be studied at pressures that in some cases are much closer to the actual conditions of industrial processes or systems of relevance to environmental science, thus bridging what has been called the ‘pressure gap’ between ultrahigh vacuum surface science research and real-world reaction conditions, and leading to the term ‘ambient pressure XPS (APXPS).’ As an example of the use of such a system, Fig. 26(c) shows several spectra from a very recent Si oxidation study at 450°C and 1 torr which is of direct relevance to the processing conditions used in the semiconductor industry. Spectra here were recorded every 8 s, compared to every 15 s in Fig. 4, but they are shown here only about every minute. The SiO₂ thickness range covered is 0–25 Å. More detailed analysis of this data as shown in Fig. 27 indicates a clear division of the reaction rates into an initial rapid regime and a much slower quasi-saturated regime, with a break point between them that occurs when the SiO₂ is about 5–15 Å thick. Current models for the reaction kinetics of this process do not describe this regime of thicknesses that is now crucially important in devices.

Looking ahead concerning ambient pressure XPS, we expect that much shorter timescales in the millisecond range and significantly better energy resolutions than those in Fig. 26(c) should be possible with brighter radiation sources, higher throughput spectrometers, and more efficient multichannel detectors that are under development.

Concluding Remarks

The photoelectric effect has indeed come a long way since Einstein, and in its present form, photoelectron spectroscopy/photoemission represents an incredibly diverse range of measurements that can tell us which atoms are present and in what numbers, in what chemical and magnetic states the atoms exist, how the atoms are arranged in space with respect to one another, the detailed picture of how these atoms are bound to one another, and finally how all this varies in space and time, and with ambient gas pressure. It is also clear that present instrumentation developments, for example, of new spectrometers and detectors, as well as brighter photon sources providing also better time resolution, will lead to other exciting new directions and capabilities that even Einstein might not have dreamed of. Finally, but importantly, advances in many-electron theory that we have not discussed in detail here should allow us to interpret these multidimensional data sets in a much more quantitative way.

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Figure 27. The time-dependent growth of the SiO2 layer on Si(001) at 450 °C and various pressures, as derived from the relative intensities of the Si2p and S2p peaks in spectra such as those in Fig. 26(c). From Y. Enta et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 2008, 92, 012110. Reprinted with permission.


