

# E(KL<sub>3</sub>M<sub>4,5</sub>) and E(L<sub>3</sub>M<sub>x</sub>M<sub>4,5</sub>) Auger Electron Kinetic Energies for $21 \leq Z \leq 30$

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## Abstract

This paper describes the work on the calculation of the KL<sub>3</sub>M<sub>4,5</sub> and L<sub>3</sub>M<sub>x</sub>M<sub>4,5</sub> Auger electron kinetic energies for the atomic numbers  $Z=21$  to 30. These energy values are calculated using the method of screening and are presented here for the first time.

**Keywords:** Auger electron, transitions, doubly ionized atoms, vacancies, level binding energy.

## I. INTRODUCTION

when highly energetic electrons strike with the target of an x-ray tube, x-rays are produced due to the impact of the electron. Now if these x-rays are absorbed by material itself, further vacancies are created in the atom. When a K-electron is ejected from the atom, a vacancy is created in the K-shell and if, consequently it is filled by the L-shell electron and after the transition from L-shell to the K-shell, the energy emitted in the form of electromagnetic radiation is absorbed by the emitting atom itself, another electron is ejected and the atom finally becomes doubly ionized.

This process is known as Auger process (1923, 1925)<sup>[1-2]</sup> and the ejected electron is known as Auger electron. In this process no electromagnetic radiation is emitted from the atom, so it is an internal conversion process and is also known as a radiationless process.

The low atomic number elements show better Auger effect than the high atomic number elements. If one of these double vacancies are filled by an electron from higher energy shell, x-ray satellites are produced.

The study of these Auger electrons is broadly covered in the field of "Auger Electron Spectroscopy"<sup>[3]</sup> which plays a very important role in investigations carried out by Scientists and Engineers alike. Scientists utilize these studies for exploring atomic structure, elemental analysis and chemical problems etc. whereas the studies on surfaces of materials play a vital role in the era of Engineering and Technology. It is very well established that the use of Auger electron kinetic energies is the backbone of all these studies.

Larkins (1977)<sup>[4]</sup> using the relativistic Hartree-Fock-Slater formalism has calculated all possible Auger transitions and their energies for the elements  $10 \leq Z \leq 100$ . This table is the only available comprehensive source for the Auger

electron kinetic energies. A scrutiny of these tables reveals that these Auger electron kinetic energies for the  $KL_3M_{4,5}$  and  $L_3M_XM_{4,5}$  transitions are known only for the atomic number 30 in the atomic number range  $Z= 21 - 30$  (Larkins 1977<sup>[4]</sup>). Neither such values for  $Z= 21$  to 29 are reported by Larkins (1977)<sup>[4]</sup> in his compilation nor any such experimental results are reported elsewhere and hence their calculation using even simplest method becomes of critical significance. Our future interest involves systematization and exploring the origin of the  $L\alpha$  x-ray satellites for the atomic number range  $z= 21- 30$  which also requires  $KL_3M_{4,5}$  and  $L_3M_XM_{4,5}$  Auger electron kinetic energies.

In this paper we are interested in the calculation of these Auger electron kinetic energies for the transitions  $KL_3M_{4,5}$  and  $L_3M_XM_{4,5}$  where  $X = 1$  to 5 for the atomic number range  $Z=21$  to 30.

## II. METHOD OF CALCULATION

The desired Auger electron kinetic energy values  $E(KL_3M_{4,5})$  and  $E(L_3M_XM_{4,5})$  can be calculated using the following well known equations:

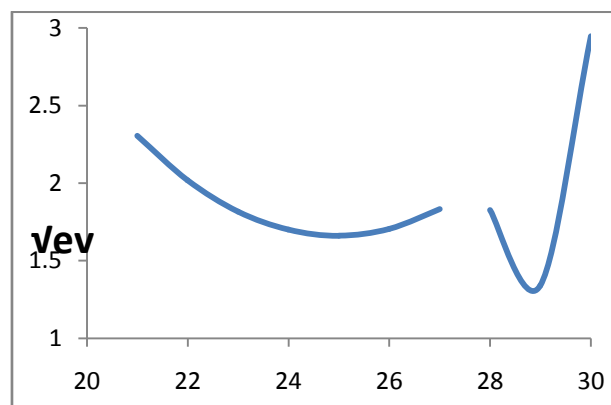
$$E(KL_3M_{4,5}) = E(K)_Z - E(L_3)_Z - E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z} \quad (1)$$

$$E(L_3M_XM_{4,5}) = E(L_3)_Z - E(M_X)_Z - E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z'} \quad (2)$$

Where the symbols have their usual meaning and  $\Delta Z$ ,  $\Delta Z'$  signifies the increased nuclear pull (Burhop and Assad 1972<sup>[5]</sup>) on the level  $M_{4,5}$  due to the additional vacancy in the  $L_3$  and  $M_X$  shells respectively.

The  $L_3$  and  $K$  level binding energy values used in these calculations are taken from Bearden and Burr compilation (1967)<sup>[6]</sup>,  $E(M_X)_Z$ , where  $x=1$  to 3 is taken from Bearden and Burr table<sup>[6]</sup> and the  $M_4$  and  $M_5$  level binding energies from the resolved energy values of Misra et al. (1992)<sup>[7]</sup>. The energy values  $E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z}$  and  $E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z'}$  are calculated using the procedure given below.

The precise resolved energy values for  $M_4$  and  $M_5$  levels, taken from Misra et al. (1992)<sup>[7]</sup>, are used to plot the Mosley diagram. This graph does not emerge to be a straight line as expected but shows discontinuous parabolic behaviour between  $Z= 27$  and  $Z = 28$  figure(1).



Figure(1) Mosley plot for the resolved energy values  $E(M_4)$  for  $Z=21-30$

Therefore separate plots are drawn for  $Z=21$  to 27 and for  $Z= 28$  to 30.

The shapes of both of these graphs are parabolic and i.e. for  $Z=21$  to 27 as well as for  $Z= 28$  to 30 and a second order Polynomial is fitted to the curves so obtained. The equation of the curve for the level  $M_4$  in the atomic number range  $Z= 28 - 30$  becomes:

$$\sqrt{ev} = 1.0455Z^2 - 60.079Z + 864.38 \quad (3)$$

where  $\sqrt{ev}$  is the square root of the  $M_4$  level energy and  $Z$  is the atomic number.

The Auger electron kinetic energy values for various  $KL_3M_{4,5}$  and  $L_3M_XM_{4,5}$  transitions for  $Z=30$  are known from Larkins (1977) wherefrom energies  $E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z}$  and  $E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z'}$  for various  $2s+1L_j$  levels can be obtained using the equations 1 and 2. After putting the square root of the so obtained energy value for  $Z=30$  for the  $E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z}$  and  $E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z'}$  in the above quadratic equation and solving it for  $Z$  using formula

$$Z = \frac{-B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - 4AC}}{2A}$$

which is solution for the equation  $AZ^2 + bZ + C = 0$

We get two values for  $Z$  and the positive value is considered by which the corresponding incremented new atomic number ( $Z+\Delta Z$ ) and ( $Z+\Delta Z'$ ) satisfying the equation is obtained for  $Z= 30$ . This makes it possible to calculate  $\Delta Z$  and  $\Delta Z'$  for  $Z= 30$  for any configuration  $2s+1L_j$  in presence of an additional vacancy in the  $L_3$  and  $M_X$  level.

Similarly to get the  $\Delta Z$ ,  $\Delta Z'$  and finally the energy values for the atomic number range  $Z= 21$  to  $27$  for the  $M_4$  level, the Mosley plot equation is found to satisfy the equation:

$$\sqrt{ev} = 0.0411Z^2 - 2.0521Z + 27.265 \quad (4)$$

For the  $M_5$  level in the atomic number range  $Z= 28$  to  $30$ , the equation for the Mosley plot is:

$$\sqrt{ev} = 1.045Z^2 - 60.048Z + 863.85 \quad (5)$$

To obtain the  $\Delta Z$ ,  $\Delta Z'$  and finally the energy values for atomic number range  $21$  to  $27$  for  $M_5$  level, the equation for the Mosley plot becomes:

$$\sqrt{ev} = 0.041Z^2 - 2.0495Z + 27.218 \quad (6)$$

It is very well explained by many authors (Sommerfeld 1934<sup>[8]</sup>, Burns 1964<sup>[9]</sup>, Slater 1960<sup>[10]</sup>) that the behavior of the Moseley plot for level energy  $E(M_x)_{Z+\Delta Z}$  will be same as for  $E(M_x)_Z$ . Further the increment ( $\Delta Z$ ) and ( $\Delta Z'$ ) for a level  $2s+1L_j$  will be uniform and the same for the entire series i.e. for  $Z= 21$  to  $30$ . Now putting the value  $Z+\Delta Z$  and  $Z+\Delta Z'$ , so obtained from the data for  $Z=30$ , in the above equations, one can obtain the corresponding energy values for  $Z= 21 - 30$  for the various  $E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z}$  and  $E(M_{4,5})_{Z+\Delta Z'}^{2s+1}L_j$  levels.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The table 1 shows all the allowed Auger electron kinetic energy values so calculated for  $E(KL_3M_{4,5})$  for the atomic number range  $Z= 21$  to  $30$  whereas table 2 contains all such calculated energy values for  $E(L_3M_xM_{4,5})$ . It must be pointed out that all these energy values are calculated for the first time.

Although numerous final configurations emerge after coupling of levels  $L_3M_{4,5}$  and  $M_xM_{4,5}$  but the ones permitted by well known Pauli exclusion principle (Condon and Shortley 1935<sup>[12]</sup>, White 1934<sup>[13]</sup>) and adopted by Larkins<sup>[4]</sup> for his work, are only taken into consideration for such calculations.

These calculations consider existence of electrons in both the  $M_4$  and  $M_5$  levels in the atomic number range  $21-30$ , where presence of electrons in both the  $3d_{3/2}d_{5/2}$  levels is doubtful especially for low  $Z$  values in this range. But the existence of

experimental data on the  $L\alpha_{1,2}$  x-ray diagram line i.e.  $L_3-M_4$  and  $L_3-M_5$  transitions (Cauchois and Senemaud 1978<sup>[14]</sup>), fully rules out any such doubt and allows us to proceed further for such calculations. These Auger electron kinetic energy values are calculated using very approximate and simple method of screening (Compton and Allison 1935<sup>[11]</sup>, Burhop and Assad 1972<sup>[5]</sup>, Sommerfeld 1934<sup>[8]</sup>), therefore one should not expect very high accuracy in these results. But we know that non-availability of such data lead nowhere and the atomic processes involving these values can not be understood properly. This definitely makes our results very fruitful for further investigations.

### V. CONCLUSION

A very simple method based on screening was successfully developed to obtain the Auger electron kinetic energies which might not have succeeded in achieving very accurate results. Therefore very accurate quantum mechanical calculations and precise experimental measurements of these kinetic energies are an absolute demand of the hour and this will certainly lead to precise understanding of various atomic processes in this low atomic number region.

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Table 1

At.No.	Auger Electron Kinetic Energy (eV)						
	E(KL <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>3</sup> P <sub>0</sub> )	E(KL <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>1</sup> P <sub>1</sub> )	E(KL <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>3</sup> D <sub>2</sub> )	E(KL <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>1</sup> F <sub>3</sub> )	E(KL <sub>3</sub> M <sub>5</sub> , <sup>3</sup> P <sub>1</sub> )	E(KL <sub>3</sub> M <sub>5</sub> , <sup>3</sup> D <sub>3</sub> )	E(KL <sub>3</sub> M <sub>5</sub> , <sup>3</sup> F <sub>4</sub> )
21	4085.98	4086.04	4085.96	4086.02	4086.15	4086.10	4086.08
22	4507.28	4507.32	4507.26	4507.30	4507.43	4507.40	4507.38
23	4949.17	4949.19	4949.16	4949.18	4949.31	4949.30	4949.29
24	5411.95	5411.95	5411.94	5411.95	5412.09	5412.08	5412.08
25	5895.94	5895.93	5895.94	5895.94	5896.09	5896.09	5896.10
26	6400.86	6400.84	6400.86	6400.84	6401.02	6401.04	6401.04
27	6926.65	6926.61	6926.66	6926.63	6926.84	6926.86	6926.88
28	7476.29	7476.35	7476.26	7476.33	7476.44	7476.38	7476.35
29	8044.32	8044.02	8044.44	8044.14	8044.45	8044.68	8044.78
30	8618.60	8617.20	8619.30	8617.70	8618.90	8620.10	8620.80

Table 2

At.No.	Auger Electron Kinetic Energy (eV)										
	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>3</sup> D <sub>3</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>3</sup> F <sub>2</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>3</sup> P <sub>2</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>3</sup> D <sub>1</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> M <sub>5</sub> , <sup>3</sup> P <sub>1</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>1</sub> M <sub>5</sub> , <sup>3</sup> D <sub>3</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>5</sub> M <sub>5</sub> , <sup>3</sup> P <sub>0</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>5</sub> M <sub>5</sub> , <sup>3</sup> F <sub>4</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>1</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>3</sup> D <sub>1</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>5</sub> M <sub>5</sub> , <sup>3</sup> F <sub>2</sub> )	E(L <sub>3</sub> M <sub>4</sub> M <sub>4</sub> , <sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub> )
21	365.7	365.45	392.13	365.7	392.3	343.85	392.45	392.45	343.67	392.32	392.36
22	417.16	417	447.71	417.16	447.86	391.67	447.98	447.98	391.5	447.9	447.85
23	471.7	471.61	506.52	471.7	506.67	443.48	506.77	506.77	443.33	506.73	506.60
24	529.44	529.41	568.84	529.44	568.98	497.78	569.09	569.09	497.63	569.07	568.86
25	590.35	590.37	634.8	590.35	634.94	553.8	635.05	635.05	553.65	635.06	634.77

5											
2	652.15	652.23	702.19	652.15	702.35	612.35	702.46	702.46	612.19	702.5	702.11
6											
2	715.38	715.52	771.68	715.38	771.86	674.49	771.98	771.98	674.32	772.05	771.54
7											
2	786.61	786.21	849.35	786.61	849.52	741.12	849.69	849.69	740.93	849.46	849.63
8											
2	854.69	855.57	926.39	854.69	926.52	808.38	926.57	926.57	808.3	926.98	925.39
9											
3	913.91	919.3	994.2	913.91	994.2	866.4	994.2	994.2	866.4	996.9	988.40
0											

Table 2(CONTINUED)

At.No.	Auger Electron Kinetic Energy (eV)									
	$E(L_3M_4M_5, ^1G_4)$	$E(L_3M_1M_5, ^3D_2)$	$E(L_3M_2M_4, ^3D_2)$	$E(L_3M_3M_5, ^3P_1)$	$E(L_3M_4M_5, ^3F_3)$	$E(L_3M_4M_5, ^1D_2)$	$E(L_3M_2M_5, ^3P_2)$	$E(L_3M_3M_5, ^1D_2)$	$E(L_3M_3M_5, ^3F_4)$	$E(L_3M_3M_4, ^3P_0)$
21	392.34	343.84	365.17	365.85	392.17	392.29	365.3	365.58	365.58	365.66
22	447.89	391.66	416.53	417.3	447.78	447.86	416.66	417.12	417.12	417.13
23	506.68	443.48	470.94	471.83	506.62	506.66	471.07	471.73	471.73	471.68
24	568.99	497.77	528.52	529.58	568.96	568.98	528.65	529.55	529.55	529.44
25	634.94	553.8	589.22	590.5	634.95	634.94	589.37	590.52	590.52	590.36
26	702.34	612.36	650.75	652.32	702.39	702.36	650.93	652.4	652.4	652.16
27	771.83	674.5	713.69	715.58	771.93	771.86	713.9	715.73	715.73	715.4
28	849.58	741.1	784.3	786.74	849.28	849.5	784.4	786.28	786.28	786.56
29	926.38	808.42	852.76	854.93	926.92	926.56	853.01	855.83	855.83	854.86
30	993.62	866.4	913.9	914.7	996.9	994.7	914.7	920.2	920.2	914.7