Contents

Chapter 1. An Introduction to Electron Energy-Loss Spectroscopy 1

1.1. Interaction of Fast Electrons with a Solid 2
1.2. The Electron Energy-Loss Spectrum 6
1.3. The Development of Experimental Techniques 9
1.3.1. Energy-Selecting (Energy-Filtering) Electron Microscopes 13
1.3.2. Spectrometers as Attachments to Electron Microscopes 14
1.4. Alternative Analytical Methods 16
1.4.1. Ion-Beam Methods 17
1.4.2. Incident Photons 18
1.4.3. Electron-Beam Techniques 19
1.5. Comparisons of EELS and EDX Spectroscopy 23
1.5.1. Detection Limits and Spatial Resolution 24
1.5.2. Specimen Requirements 26
1.5.3. Accuracy of Quantification 26
1.5.4. Ease of Use and Information Content 27
1.6. Further Reading 28

Chapter 2. Instrumentation for Energy-Loss Spectroscopy 31

2.1. Energy-Analyzing and Energy-Selecting Systems 31
2.1.1. The Magnetic-Prism Spectrometer 33
2.1.2. Energy-Selecting Magnetic-Prism Devices 35
2.1.3. The Wien Filter 40
2.1.4. Electron Monochromators 43
2.2. Optics of the Magnetic-Prism Spectrometer 48
2.2.1. First-Order Properties 49
2.2.2. Higher-Order Focusing 56
2.2.3. Design of an Aberration-Corrected Spectrometer 58
2.2.4. Practical Considerations 61
2.2.5. Spectrometer Alignment 63

2.3. The Use of Prespectrometer Lenses . . . 69
2.3.1. Deployment of CTEM Lenses . . . 70
2.3.2. Effect of Lens Aberrations on Spatial Resolution . . . 71
2.3.3. Effect of Lens Aberrations on Collection Efficiency . . . 74
2.3.4. Effect of Lenses on Energy Resolution . . . 76
2.3.5. STEM Optics . . . 78
2.4. Serial Detection of the Energy-Loss Spectrum . . . 80
2.4.1. Design of the Detection Slit . . . 81
2.4.2. Electron Detectors for Serial Recording . . . 84
2.4.3. Noise Performance of a Serial Detector . . . 88
2.4.4. Signal Processing and Storage . . . 90
2.4.5. Scanning the Energy-Loss Spectrum . . . 92
2.4.6. Coincidence Counting . . . 94
2.5. Parallel Recording of the Energy-Loss Spectrum . . . 96
2.5.1. Operation of Self-Scanning Diode Arrays . . . 96
2.5.2. Indirect Exposure Systems . . . 98
2.5.3. Direct Exposure Systems . . . 104
2.5.4. Noise Performance of a Parallel-Detection System . . . 105
2.5.5. Dealing with Diode Array Artifacts . . . 108
2.6. Energy-Selected Imaging (ESI) . . . 113
2.6.1. Postcolumn Energy Filter . . . 113
2.6.2. Prism-Mirror and Omega Filters . . . 116
2.6.3. Energy Filtering in STEM Mode . . . 116
2.6.4. Spectrum-Imaging . . . 119
2.6.5. Elemental Mapping . . . 120
2.6.6. Comparison of Energy-Filtered TEM and STEM . . . 123
2.6.7. *Z*-Ratio Imaging . . . 126

Chapter 3. Electron Scattering Theory . . . 131

3.1. Elastic Scattering . . . 131
3.1.1. General Formulas . . . 132
3.1.2. Atomic Models . . . 132
3.1.3. Diffraction Effects . . . 137
3.1.4. Electron Channeling . . . 138
3.1.5. Phonon Scattering . . . 141
3.2. Inelastic Scattering . . . 142
3.2.1. Atomic Models . . . 143
3.2.2. Bethe Theory . . . 147
3.2.3. Dielectric Formulation . . . 149
3.2.4. Solid-State Effects . . . 151
3.3. Excitation of Outer-Shell Electrons . . . 154
3.3.1. Volume Plasmons . . . 154
3.3.2. Single-Electron Excitation . . . 165
3.3.3. Excitons . . . 171
3.3.4. Radiation Losses . . . 172

3.3.5. Surface Plasmons 174
3.3.6. Surface-Reflection Spectra 180
3.3.7. Surface Modes in Small Particles 184
3.4. Single, Plural, and Multiple Scattering 185
3.4.1. Poisson's Law 186
3.4.2. Angular Distribution of Plural Inelastic Scattering 188
3.4.3. Influence of Elastic Scattering 190
3.4.4. Multiple Scattering 192
3.4.5. Coherent Double-Plasmon Excitation 193
3.5. The Spectral Background to Inner-Shell Edges 194
3.5.1. Valence-Electron Scattering 194
3.5.2. Tails of Core-Loss Edges 196
3.5.3. Bremsstrahlung Energy Losses 196
3.5.4. Plural Scattering 197
3.6. Atomic Theory of Inner-Shell Excitation 200
3.6.1. Generalized Oscillator Strength 201
3.6.2. Kinematics of Scattering 207
3.6.3. Ionization Cross Sections 210
3.7. Appearance of Inner-Shell Edges 215
3.7.1. Basic Edge Shapes 215
3.7.2. Dipole Selection Rule 221
3.7.3. Effect of Plural Scattering 224
3.7.4. Chemical Shifts in Threshold Energy 225
3.8. Near-Edge Fine Structure (ELNES) 227
3.8.1. Densities of States Interpretation 227
3.8.2. Validity of the Dipole Approximation 230
3.8.3. Molecular Orbital Theory 233
3.8.4. Multiple-Scattering (XANES) Theory 233
3.8.5. Core Excitons 236
3.8.6. Multiplet and Crystal-Field Splitting 237
3.9. Extended Energy-Loss Fine Structure (EXELFS) 238

Chapter 4. Quantitative Analysis of the Energy-Loss Spectrum 245

4.1. Removal of Plural Scattering from the Low-Loss Region 245
4.1.1. Fourier-Log Deconvolution 246
4.1.2. Misell–Jones and Matrix Methods 254
4.1.3. Deconvolution of Angle-Limited Spectra 255
4.2. Kramers–Kronig Analysis 256
4.2.1. Angular Corrections 257
4.2.2. Extrapolation and Normalization 258
4.2.3. Derivation of the Dielectric Function 259
4.2.4. Correction for Surface Losses 261
4.2.5. Checks on the Data 261

4.3. Removal of Plural Scattering from Inner-Shell Edges 262
4.3.1. Fourier-Log Deconvolution 262
4.3.2. Fourier-Ratio Deconvolution 264
4.3.3. Effect of a Collection Aperture 268
4.4. Background Fitting to Ionization Edges 269
4.4.1. Least-Squares Fitting 271
4.4.2. Two-Area Method 272
4.4.3. More Sophisticated Methods 274
4.4.4. Background-Subtraction Errors 274
4.5. Elemental Analysis Using Inner-Shell Edges 277
4.5.1. Integration Method 279
4.5.2. Calculation of Partial Cross Sections 283
4.5.3. Correction for Incident-Beam Convergence 284
4.5.4. MLS Fitting to Reference Spectra 286
4.5.5. Spatial- and Energy-Difference Techniques 287
4.6. Analysis of Extended Energy-Loss Fine Structure 288
4.6.1. Fourier-Transform Method of Data Analysis 288
4.6.2. Curve-Fitting Procedure 297

Chapter 5. Applications of Energy-Loss Spectroscopy 301

5.1. Measurement of Specimen Thickness 301
5.1.1. Log-Ratio Method 302
5.1.2. Absolute Thickness from the K–K Sum Rule 307
5.1.3. Mass-Thickness from the Bethe Sum Rule 310
5.2. Low-Loss Spectroscopy 312
5.2.1. Phase Identification from Low-Loss Fine Structure 312
5.2.2. Measurement of Alloy Composition from Plasmon Energy 316
5.2.3. Characterization of Surfaces, Interfaces, and Small Particles 320
5.3. Energy-Filtered Images and Diffraction Patterns 322
5.3.1. Zero-Loss Images 323
5.3.2. Zero-Loss Diffraction Patterns 326
5.3.3. Low-Loss Images 327
5.3.4. *Z*-Ratio Images 328
5.3.5. Contrast Tuning and MPL Imaging 329
5.3.6. Core-Loss Images and Elemental Mapping 330
5.4. Elemental Analysis by Core-Loss Spectroscopy 334
5.4.1. Measurement of Hydrogen and Helium 337
5.4.2. Measurement of Lithium, Beryllium, and Boron 339
5.4.3. Measurement of Carbon, Nitrogen, and Oxygen 341
5.4.4. Measurement of Fluorine and Heavier Elements 344
5.5. Spatial Resolution and Detection Limits 345
5.5.1. Electron-Optical Considerations 345
5.5.2. Loss of Resolution due to Elastic Scattering 346
5.5.3. Delocalization of Inelastic Scattering 347
5.5.4. Statistical Limitations 352

5.6. Structural Information from EELS 357
5.6.1. Orientation Dependence of Ionization Edges 357
5.6.2. Core-Loss Diffraction Patterns 361
5.6.3. Coordination from ELNES Fingerprinting 363
5.6.4. Determination of Valency from White-Line Ratios 370
5.6.5. Use of Chemical Shifts 373
5.6.6. Use of Extended Fine Structure 374
5.6.7. Electron-Compton (ECOSS) Measurements 378
5.7. Application to Specific Systems 380
5.7.1. Carbon-Based Materials 381
5.7.2. Polymers and Biological Specimens 388
5.7.3. Radiation Damage and Hole Drilling 391
5.7.4. High-Temperature Superconductors 398

Appendix A. Relativistic Bethe Theory 403

Appendix B. Computer Programs 407

B.1. Matrix Deconvolution 407
B.2. Fourier-Log Deconvolution 410
B.3. Kramers–Kronig Analysis and Thickness Determination 414
B.4. Fourier-Ratio Deconvolution 417
B.5. Incident-Convergence Correction 419
B.6. Hydrogenic *K*-Shell Cross Sections 420
B.7. Modified-Hydrogenic *L*-Shell Cross Sections 423
B.8. Parameterized *K*-, *L*-, *M*-, *N*-, and *O*-Shell Cross Sections 425
B.9. Lenz Elastic and Inelastic Cross Sections 428
B.10. Conversion between Oscillator Strength and Cross Section 429
B.11. Conversion between Mean Energy and Inelastic Mean Free Path 430

Appendix C. Plasmon Energies of Some Elements and Compounds 431

Appendix D. Inner-Shell Energies and Edge Shapes 433

Appendix E. Electron Wavelengths and Relativistic Factors; Fundamental Constants 437

References 439

Index 481