

Photoelectron Spectroscopy

Photoelectron spectroscopy utilizes photo-ionization and analysis of the kinetic energy distribution of the emitted photoelectrons to study the composition and electronic state of the surface region of a sample.

Traditionally, when the technique has been used for surface studies it has been subdivided according to the source of exciting radiation into :

X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS) - using soft x-rays (with a photon energy of 200-2000 eV) to examine core-levels.

Ultraviolet Photoelectron Spectroscopy (UPS) - using vacuum UV radiation (with a photon energy of 10-45 eV) to examine valence levels.

The development of synchrotron radiation sources has enabled high resolution studies to be carried out with radiation spanning a much wider and more complete energy range (5 - 5000+ eV) but such work remains a small minority of all photoelectron studies due to the expense, complexity and limited availability of such sources.

Physical Principles

Photoelectron spectroscopy is based upon a single photon in/electron out process and from many viewpoints this underlying process is a much simpler phenomenon than the Auger process.

The energy of a photon of all types of electromagnetic radiation is given by the Einstein relation :

$$E = h \nu$$

where h - Planck constant (6.62×10^{-34} J s)

ν - frequency (Hz) of the radiation

Photoelectron spectroscopy uses monochromatic sources of radiation (i.e. photons of fixed energy).

Q. Write differences between AES and PES ?

Auger Electron Spectroscopy	Photoelectron Spectroscopy
<p>Auger Spectroscopy is a method used to determine the composition of the surface layers of a sample. There are three steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) atom is ionized by removing a core electron from k-Shell, 2) upper level electron falls to lower level, 3) third electron (Auger electron) is excited by the energy given off in step 2 and detected. <p>The atom is left with two vacancies</p>	<p>Photoelectron spectroscopy involves photo-ionization and analysis of the kinetic energy of the emitted photoelectrons. It is used to study the composition and electronic state of the surface region of a sample. In this process the valence shell e^- is ejected by a photon.</p>
<p>2. A beam of high energy electron of energy 3-20keV are incident upon a sample.</p>	<p>Photoelectron spectroscopy uses monochromatic sources of radiation which is either soft x-rays (with a photon energy of 200-2000 eV) Or UV radiation (with a photon energy of 10-45 eV)</p>
<p>3. Doubly ionised species is formed.</p>	<p>Singly ionised species is formed.</p>
<p>4. As overall two e^- are ejected so two holes are created in the sample.</p>	<p>As overall one e^- is ejected so one hole is created in the sample.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>1) Ionization of core electron</p> <p>2) Upper level electron falls to a lower level releasing a quantum of energy</p> <p>3) The energy released from the second electron excites the Auger electron which leaves the atom</p> </div> <div style="width: 60%;"> <p style="text-align: right;">Auger electron detector</p> </div> </div>	

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