



KAPITAŁ LUDZKI
NARODOWA STRATEGIA SPÓJNOŚCI

UNIA EUROPEJSKA
EUROPEJSKI
FUNDUSZ SPOŁECZNY



„Medical Imaging”

**Prezentacja multimedialna współfinansowana przez
Unię Europejską w ramach
Europejskiego Funduszu Społecznego w projekcie pt.
„Innowacyjna dydaktyka bez ograniczeń - zintegrowany
rozwój Politechniki Łódzkiej - zarządzanie Uczelnią,
nowoczesna oferta edukacyjna i wzmacniania zdolności
do zatrudniania osób niepełnosprawnych”**



Politechnika Łódzka

Politechnika Łódzka, ul. Żeromskiego 116, 90-924 Łódź, tel. (042) 631 28 83
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Atomic Physics

Lecture overview:

Structure of the atom

Description of electrons (quantum-mechanical approach)

Types of radiation

Interactions of photons with atom

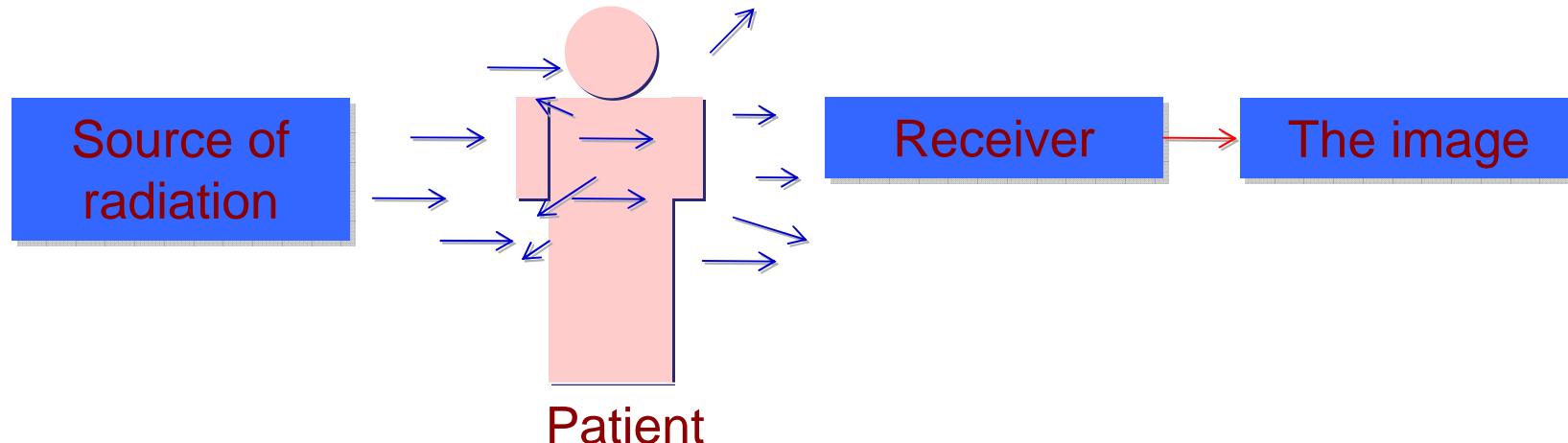
- scattering
- absorption

Attenuation of radiation





Medical Imaging – basic questions



How to choose waves with sufficient energy to transverse the body and provide efficient receiver signal?

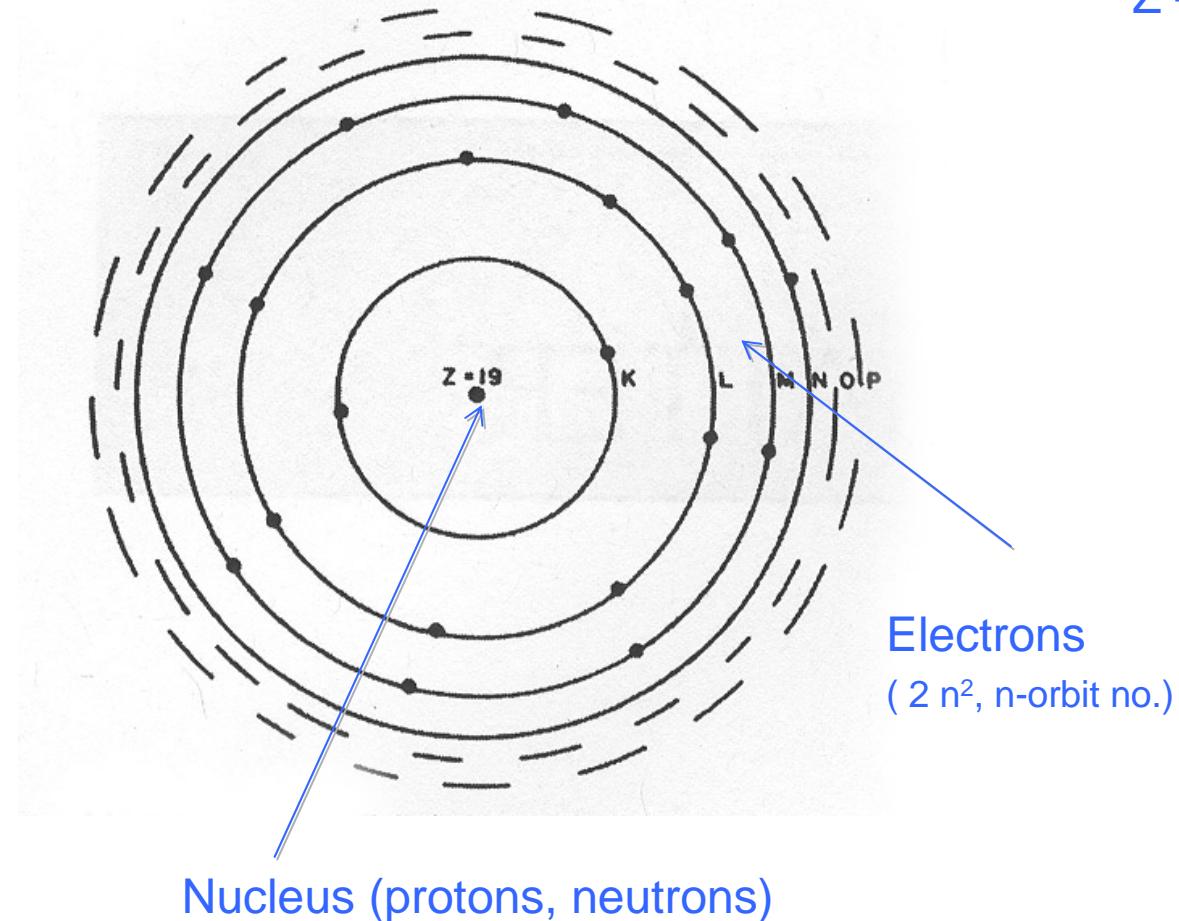
How to arrange tissue/wave interaction?

Why do we need many imaging modalities?

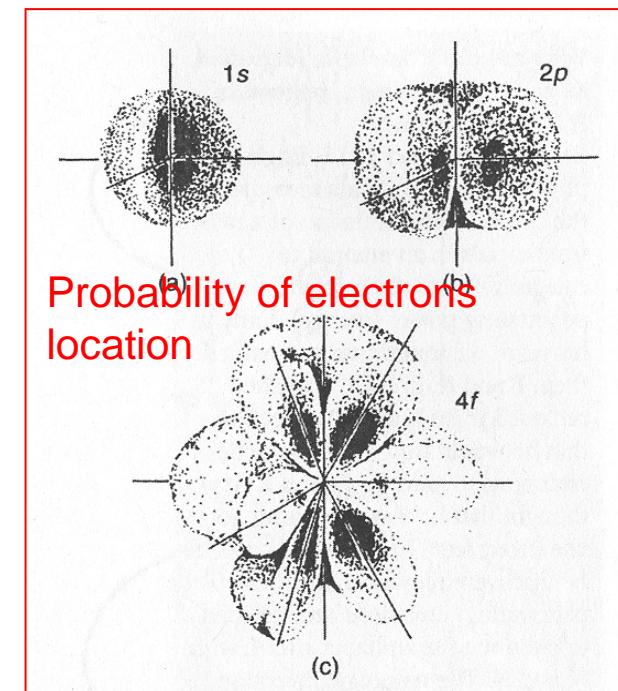


Structure of the atom

Bohr model



$$Z - \# \text{ protons} = \# \text{ electrons}$$



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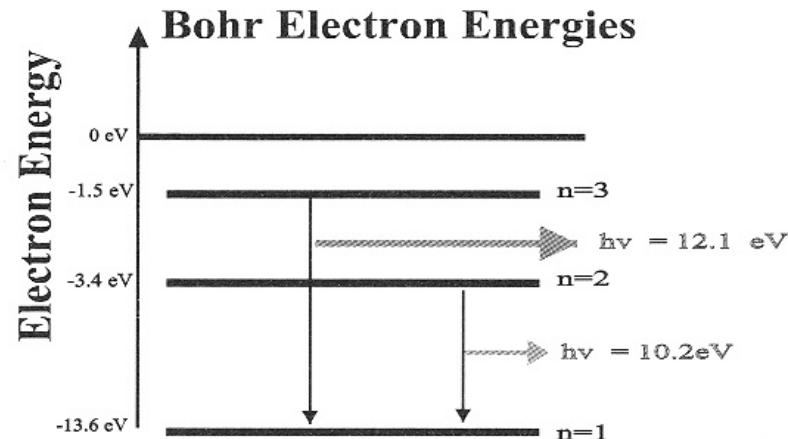
Projekt współfinansowany przez Unię Europejską
w ramach Europejskiego Funduszu Społecznego

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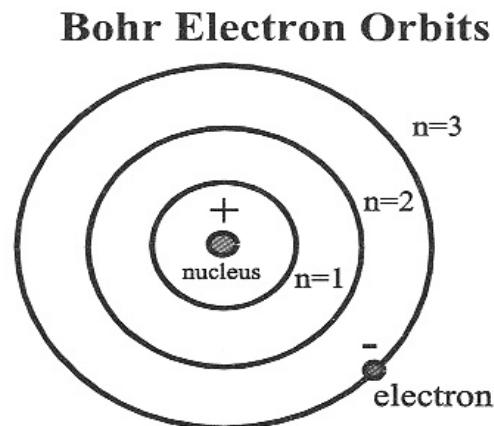


Electron energy



$$r = \frac{n^2 h^2}{Zme}$$
$$E = \frac{-mZ^2 e^4}{2n^2 h^2} = -\frac{13.6 Z^2}{n^2} \text{ [eV]}$$

h - Planck's constant (divided by 2π)



$$1 \text{ eV} = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Joules}$$

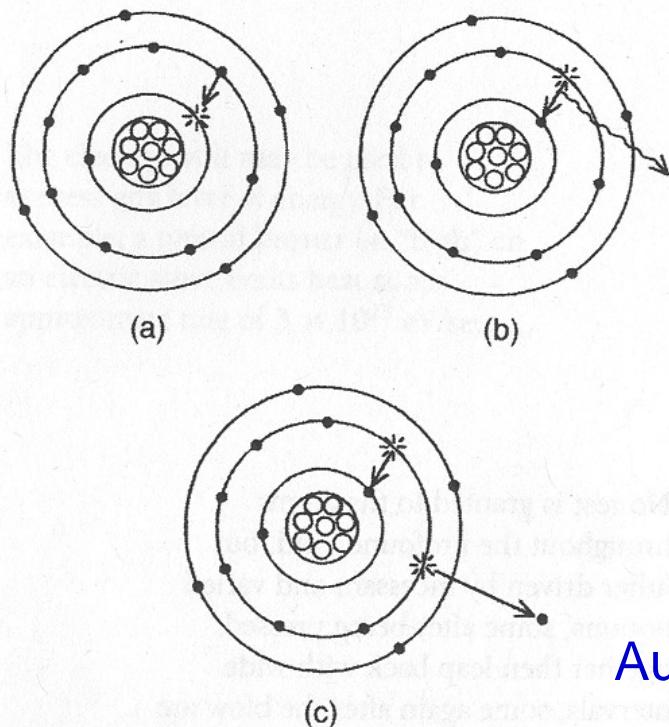
Electric force = Centripetal force

$$\frac{Z e^2}{r^2} = \frac{mV^2}{r}$$





Electron transitions



Electron transition from outer to inner shell (a), electron transition accompanied by the release of a characteristic photon (b), electron transition accompanied by the release of an Auger electron (c)

$$\text{Auger electron, } E_A = E_{bi} - E_{bo}$$





Atom forces

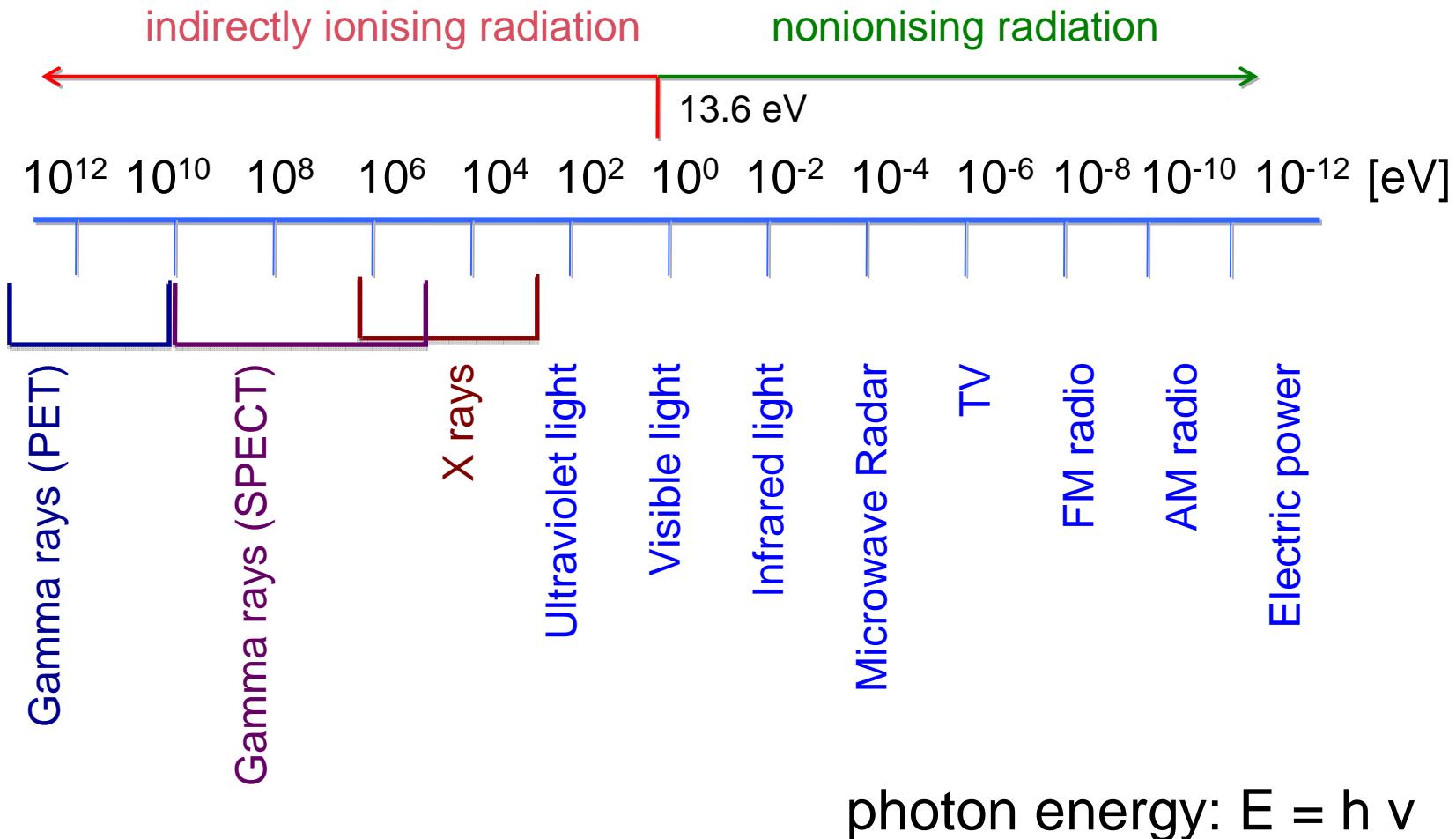
Type of force	Relative strength	“Messenger”
Strong nuclear	1	Gluon
Electromagnetic	10^{-2}	Photon
Weak nuclear	10^{-13}	W or Z
Gravitational	10^{-39}	Graviton

A force can be considered as the exchange of “messenger particles”. These particles pass (are emitted and then absorbed) the particles that are affected by the force





Types of radiation





Interaction of photons with atoms

All types of interactions are governed by quantum mechanics rules.

There are two basic types of interactions:

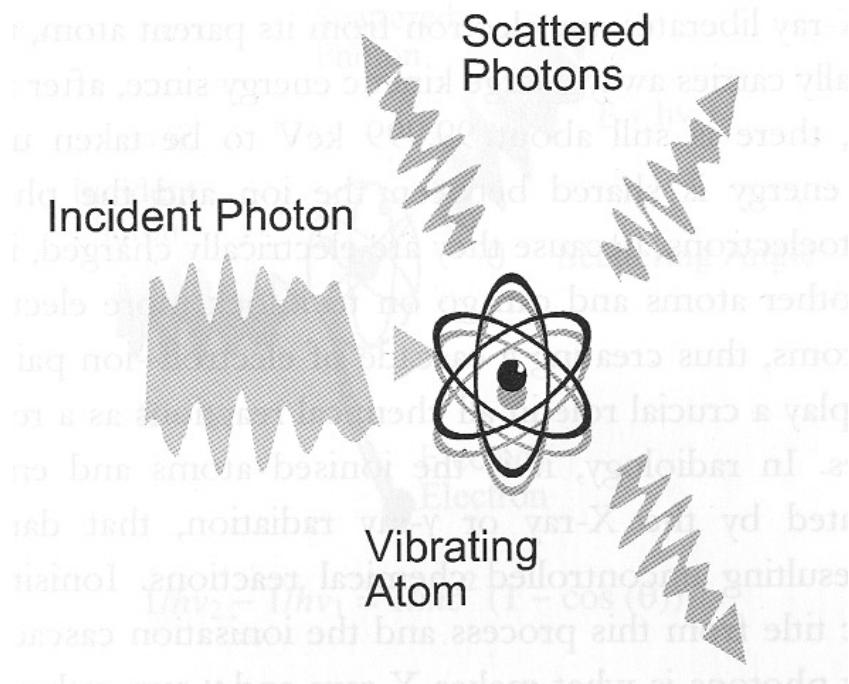
- scattering
- absorption

All these interactions are crucial for both X-ray and gamma-ray imaging.





Elastic scattering



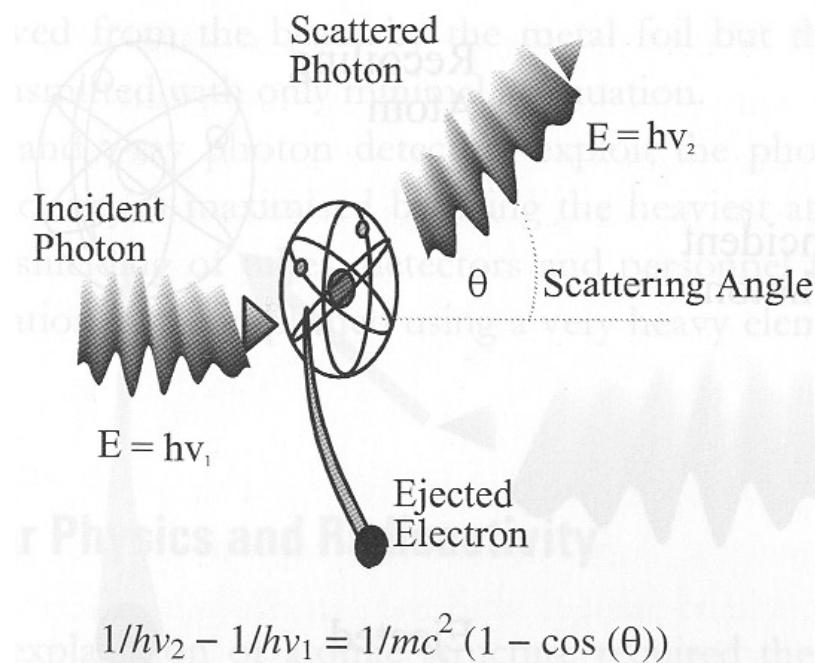
The photon encounters the atom -> atom electrons are accelerated -> electromagnetic waves propagate in all directions (in the form of scattered photons)

The frequency and the energy of scattered wave are preserved.
Also, the electron energies in the atom are not altered.





Inelastic scattering – Compton scattering



The photon encounters the atom -> one (or more) atom electrons acquire sufficient energy to escape -> scattered photon suffers change of direction and reduction of its energy

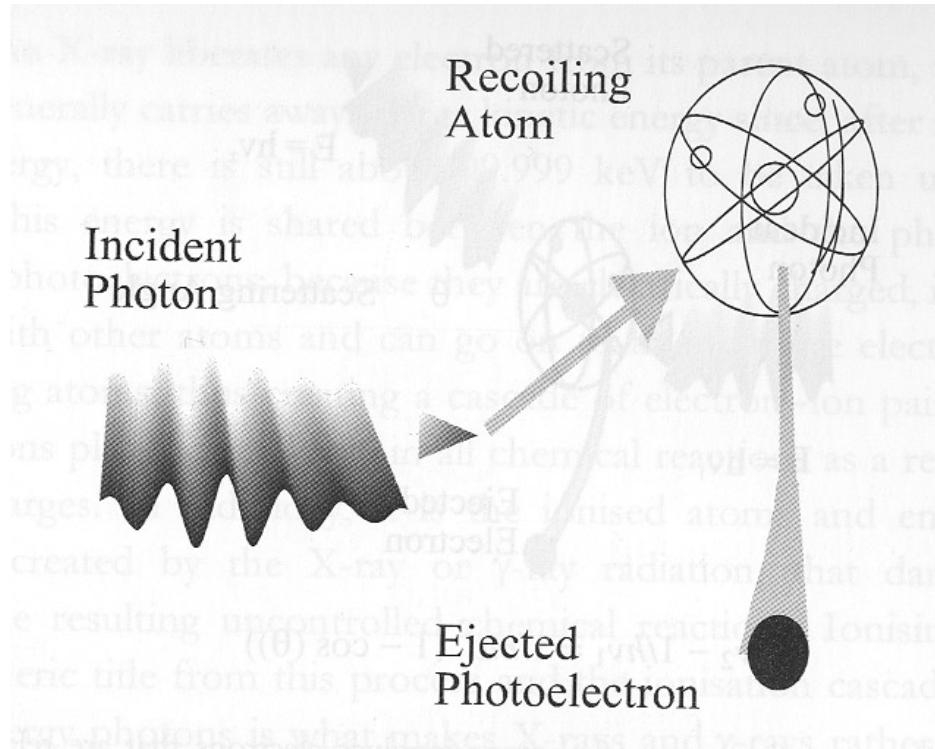
Such ejected electron (highly energetic) hits other atoms causing cascade of electron-ion (positively charged atom) pairs.

In radiology, the ionised atoms and energetic free electrons damage tissue through the resulting uncontrolled chemical reactions!





Absorption – the photoelectric effect



The photon is entirely absorbed by the atom -> one atom electron gains energy to be ejected

$$\text{absorption efficiency } \sigma = \frac{Z^5}{E^2}$$

Z – number of atom electrons,
E – energy of the incident photons

In radiology, the absorption influences the patient radiation dose (both in imaging and therapy).

It also influences the contrast enhancement of soft tissue/blood vessels.





Attenuation of X-ray radiation

Three possible scenarios for X-rays passing the material:

- absorption
 - scattering
 - traversing without interaction
-]} attenuation
]} image contrast contribution

If all the photons posses the same energy, the beam is narrow and it contains no scattered photons, then the number I of photons penetrating the thin slab of the matter is

$$I = I_0 e^{-\mu x}$$

I_0 – number of photons in the beam before the slab (primary photons)

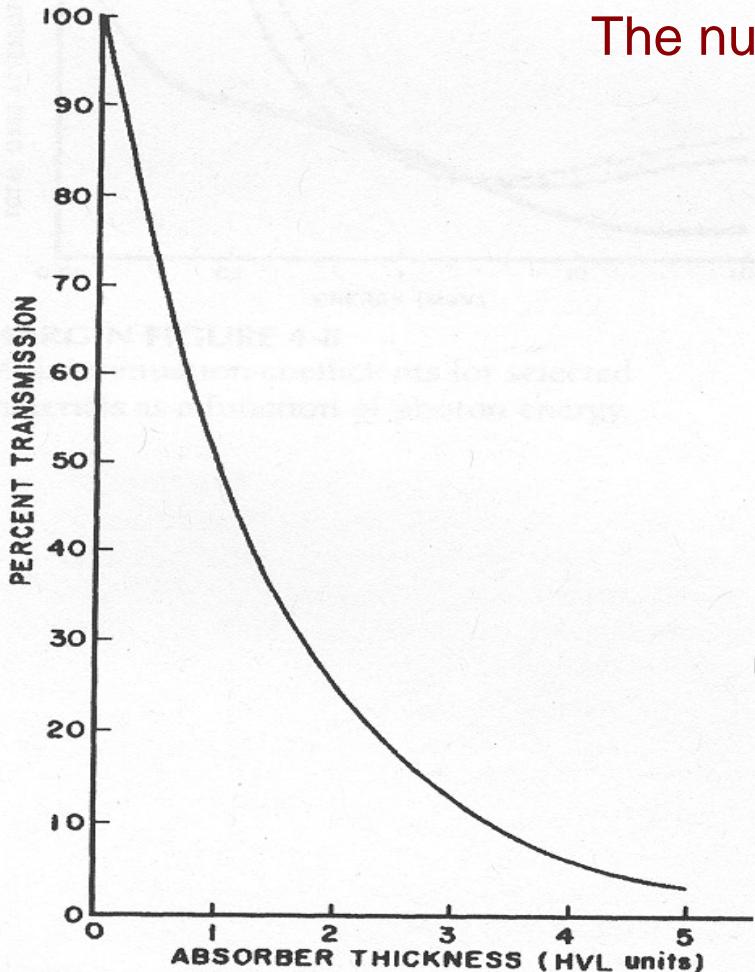
x – slab thickness

μ – linear attenuation coefficient (the slab is uniform)



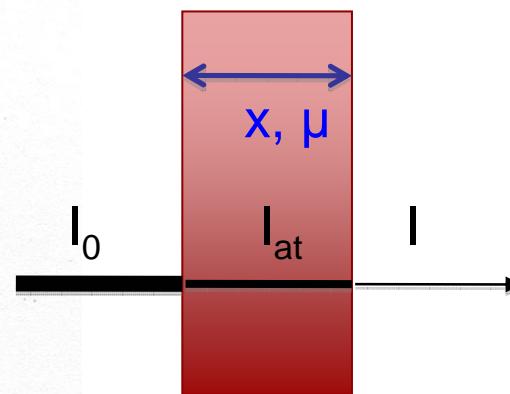


Attenuation of X-ray radiation



The number of attenuated photons

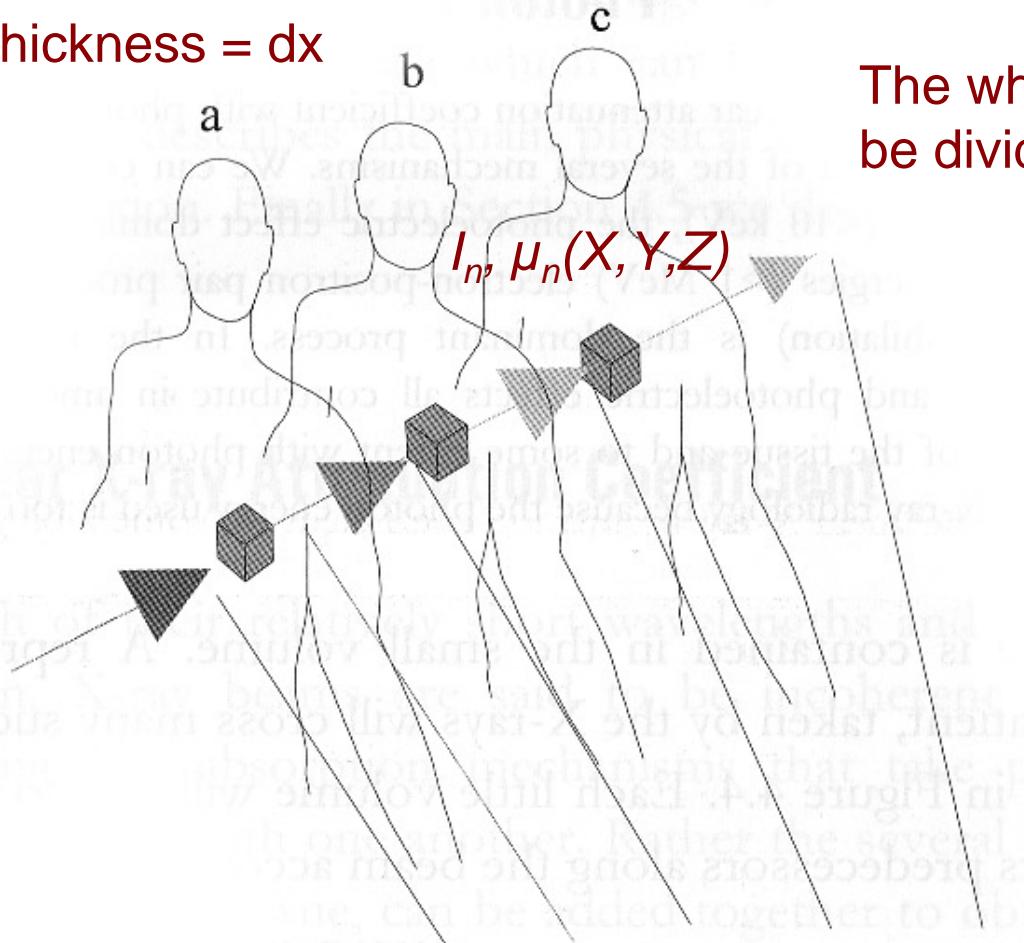
$$I_{at} = I_0 (1 - e^{-\mu x})$$





Attenuation of X-ray radiation

slice thickness = dx



The whole radiated volume can be divided into thin slices



Attenuation of X-ray radiation

In fact, X-rays pass through many small volumes, which may contain bone, tissue, muscle, etc.

$$I_n = I_{n-1} e^{-\mu_n(X,Y,Z)dx}$$

considering the above, # of photons reaching the film is

$$I_{image} = I_0 \prod_{i=1} e^{-\mu_i(X,Y,Z)dx} = I_0 e^{-\sum_{i=1} \mu_i(X,Y,Z)dx} \xrightarrow[dx \rightarrow 0]{-\int \mu(X,Y,Z)dx} I_0 e^{-\int path \mu(X,Y,Z)dx}$$





Attenuation of X-ray radiation

The overall attenuation is contributed by several interaction processes:

- photoelectric absorption
- Compton scattering
- ~~elastic scattering~~
- pair production
- ~~photodesintegration~~

in diagnostic radiography,
these processes can be
neglected

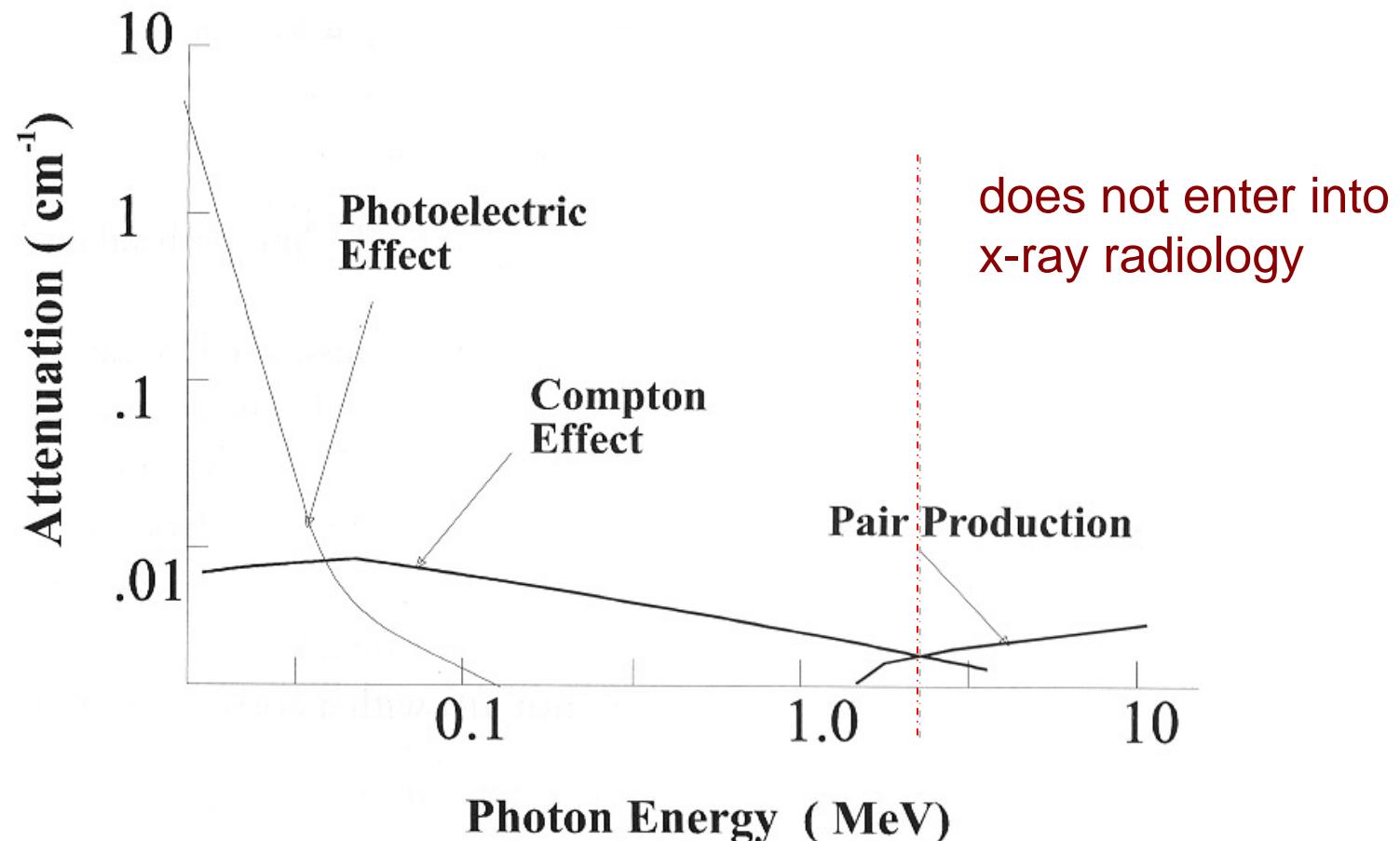
$$\mu = \mu_{PA} + \mu_{CS}$$

attenuation coefficients depend on the X-ray beam energy, atomic number of the absorber and its density



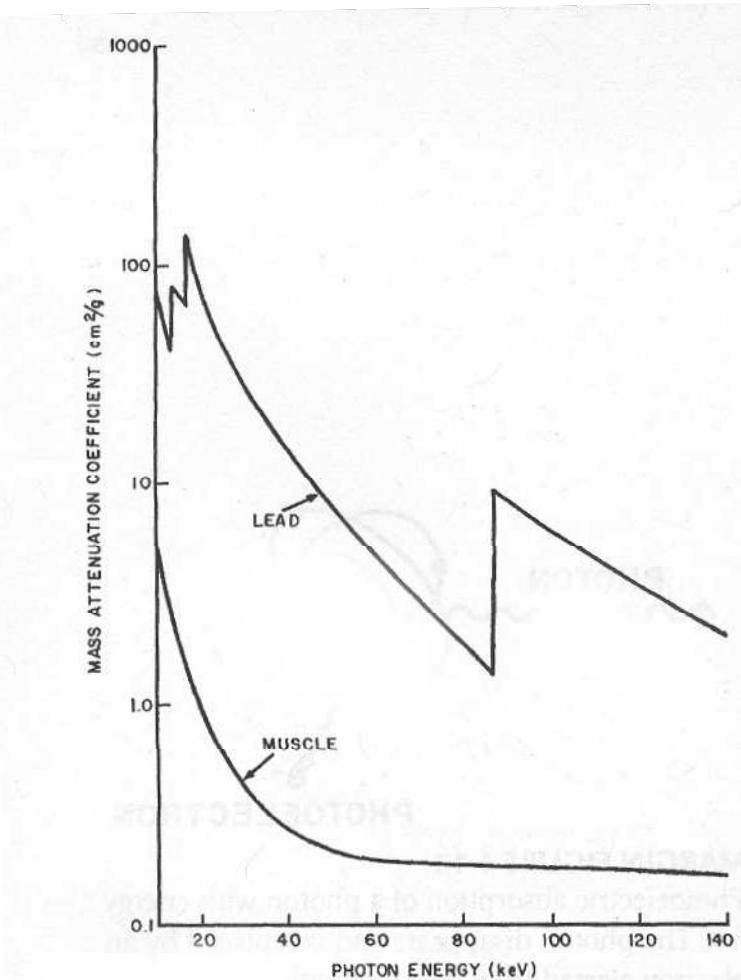


Attenuation of X-ray radiation





Attenuation of X-ray radiation





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