

Q- An electron in Chromium ($Z=24$) moves from the $n=2$ to the $n=1$ state without emitting a photon. Instead, the excess energy is transmitted to an outer electron ($n=4$ state), which is emitted. This is called an Auger Electron. Using ionization considerations, calculate the kinetic energy of the Auger electron.

The energy of an electron for a hydrogen like atom is given by Bohr's theory as

$$E_n = -\frac{m_e e^4 Z^2}{8 \epsilon_0^2 h^2} \frac{1}{n}$$

Here n the quantum number corresponding to the state of the electron.

The release of energy by the electron from $n = 2$ to $n = 1$ state is given by the improvised Mosley law for chromium ($Z = 24$) as

$$\Delta E = \frac{m_e e^4}{8 \epsilon_0^2 h^2} \left(\frac{1}{1^2} - \frac{1}{2^2} \right) (Z-1)^2 = 13.6 * 0.75 * 23^2 = 5395.8 \text{ eV}$$

Energy of the electron in $n = 4$ state is given by

$$E_4 = -\frac{m_e e^4}{8 \epsilon_0^2 h^2} (Z-1)^2 = -\frac{13.6}{16} * 23^2 = -449.65 \text{ eV}$$

Hence the energy remain with the Auger electron as kinetic energy will be

$$5395.8 - 449.65 = 4946.15 \text{ eV} = 7.924 * 10^{-16} \text{ J}$$

(the energies are in good agreement with the actual energies as in the table <http://www4.nau.edu/microanalysis/Microprobe/Xray-MoseleysLaw.html>)