

Preliminary calculations have been carried out on the basis of Eq. (6) for emulsions. For Ag and Br one should expect to have an intermediate case between I and II, but nearer to II than to I. A more precise definition is difficult since the photoelectric cross sections of Ag and Br as functions of the energy of the incident photon are not very well known. We have carried out calculations in both limiting cases I and II. The results are reported in Fig. 1 together with the experimental data of Morrish⁵ and Daniel *et al.*,⁶ both experimental and theoretical curves being normalized to 1 for $E \rightarrow \infty$.

According to this theory, as the kinetic energy of the ionizing particle becomes larger than its rest energy, a relativistic increase of both the specific ionization and the emitted Čerenkov radiation should be expected in dense media. In gases, there should be an increase of specific ionization and of excitation. In this case the emission of Čerenkov radiation of moderate intensity should become appreciable only at larger energy.

A detailed account of this work will be published in *Il nuovo cimento*.

¹ The absorbed Čerenkov radiation in a grain of emulsion is less than 1/50 of the emitted one, given by Eq. (3): P. Janssens and M. Huybrechts, *Bull. Centre Physique Nucleaire l'Université Libre, Bruxelles* 29 (1951).

Čerenkov

² E. Fermi, *Phys. Rev.* 57, 485 (1940).

³ M. Schönberg, *Nuovo cimento* 8, 159 (1951).

⁴ O. Halpern and H. Hall, *Phys. Rev.* 73, 477 (1948).

⁵ H. A. Morrish, *Phil. Mag.* 43, 533 (1952).

⁶ Daniel, Davies, Malvey, and Perkins, *Phil. Mag.* 43, 753 (1952).

The Energy Loss of a Fast Charged Particle by Čerenkov Radiation*

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IT has been shown¹ that for a medium with no absorption and described by a single type of dispersion oscillator, the relativistic rise of the ionization loss should escape as Čerenkov radiation. This result is in disagreement with the observed rise of the ionization pulse of μ mesons in crystals² and with the relativistic rise of the grain count in emulsion.³ In actual cases, the index of refraction n has contributions from the various absorption limits. Moreover, most of the Čerenkov radiation should occur near the line frequencies where the absorption coefficient is large. It will be shown that when these effects are included the resulting energy escape is small (<0.01 Mev/g cm^{-2}) both for macroscopic crystals and for emulsion.

According to Fermi's theory,⁴ the energy escaping to a distance larger than b from the particle is⁵

$$W_b = \frac{2e^2 b}{\pi v^2} \text{Rl} \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{1}{1+\alpha} - \beta^2 \right) i\omega k^* K_1(k^*b) K_0(kb) d\omega, \quad (1)$$

where α is 4π times the polarizability and k is the square root with real part ≥ 0 of

$$k^2 = (\omega^2/v^2)(1-\beta^2) - (\omega^2\alpha/c^2). \quad (2)$$

In order to treat the case of emulsion, we take $b=0.13\mu$ (\sim grain radius). Since $|k|b$ is generally >1 , we may use⁶

$$K_0(kb) \cong (\pi/2kb)^{1/2} \exp(-kb), \quad (3)$$

$$K_1(k^*b) \cong (\pi/2k^*b)^{1/2} \exp(-k^*b). \quad (4)$$

Equation (1) becomes

$$W_b = \frac{e^2}{v^2} \text{Rl} \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{1}{1+\alpha} - \beta^2 \right) i\omega \left(\frac{k^*}{k} \right)^{1/2} \exp[-(k+k^*)b] d\omega. \quad (5)$$

α is given by⁷

$$\alpha = -\frac{4\pi ne^2}{m} \sum_i (f_i/\omega_i^2) \times \frac{\ln[(\omega_i^2 - \omega^2 - 2i\eta_i\omega)/\omega_i^2] + [(\omega^2 + 2i\eta_i\omega)/\omega_i^2]}{[(\omega^2 + 2i\eta_i\omega)/\omega_i^2]^2}, \quad (6)$$

where f_i , ω_i , $2\eta_i$ are the oscillator strength, frequency, and damping constant of the i th absorption limit. Equation (6) is obtained from the Kramers-Kallmann-Mark theory of dispersion and gives good agreement with measurements of n in the x-ray region.⁷ Fourteen terms in Eq. (6) were considered corresponding to the K , L , M_I , M_{II-III} ... limits of Ag and Br. The ω_i were obtained from the table of Sommerfeld;⁸ the widths $2\eta_i$ were taken as⁷ 11.2 ev for the K limit of Ag, 4.7 ev for K of Br, 3.2 ev for the L and M limits, and 1 ev for the N limits of both elements. Equation (5) was integrated numerically for $\beta=1$, giving 2.2×10^{-3} Mev/g cm^{-2} . This value is considerably smaller than the rise of the ionization loss (0.12 Mev/g cm^{-2}) for two reasons: (1) Because of the absorption bands on the high frequency side of each absorption limit, the index of refraction does not attain as large values as would be predicted for a single narrow line. In fact, n does not rise much above 1, except for $h\omega < 0.47$ ry below the ultraviolet absorption band. Since the condition for Čerenkov radiation is essentially $n > 1$, this leads to a sharp reduction of the Čerenkov loss. (2) The effect of absorption is pronounced because the radiation is emitted in the forward direction so that it travels a distance $> b$ before leaving the grains traversed by the particle.

In the visible region, where the absorption is negligible ($\alpha = \text{real}$), Eq. (5) reduces to the Frank and Tamm expression, in agreement with the result of Fermi⁴ for a single dispersion oscillator.

In view of the result for emulsion, the Čerenkov loss for a macroscopic crystal is negligible compared to the ionization pulse, since the factor $\exp[-(k+k^*)b]$ decreases rapidly as b is increased. A more detailed account will be published soon.

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⁵ Unless otherwise indicated, the notation is the same as in R. Sternheimer, *Phys. Rev.* 88, 851 (1952).

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⁷ A. H. Compton and S. K. Allison, *X-Rays in Theory and Experiment* (D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., New York, 1935), second edition, pp. 293, 746.

⁸ A. Sommerfeld, *Atomic Structure and Spectral Lines* (Methuen and Company, Ltd., London, 1934), third edition, p. 237.

The Fermi Term in $\beta-\nu$ Correlation*

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A SURVEY is made to find the β -transitions most suitable for a $\beta-\nu$ (recoil) correlation experiment to determine the Fermi part of the β -decay interaction. The most favorable parent isotope appears to be A^{85} .

The linear combination in β -decay appears¹ to be half Fermi (F) and half Gamow-Teller (G). Absence of $1/W$ terms in allowed spectra² shows that F must be pure S or pure V , and G must be pure T or pure A . Measurements³ of $\beta-\nu$ correlation on He^6 show that $G=T$. One now seeks a suitable case for determining the F component by $\beta-\nu$ correlation.

The G component is excluded only in a $0 \rightarrow 0$ transition; and the only known examples (C^{10} and O^{14}) have energetic gammas following the β -decay, which disturb the recoil and make the experiment almost prohibitively difficult. In allowed transitions where $\Delta I=0$ but $I_i=I_f \neq 0$, both F and G components will be present. For mirror image transitions the matrix element of F is unity and of G is σ^2 . The $\beta-\nu$ correlation function for this case