



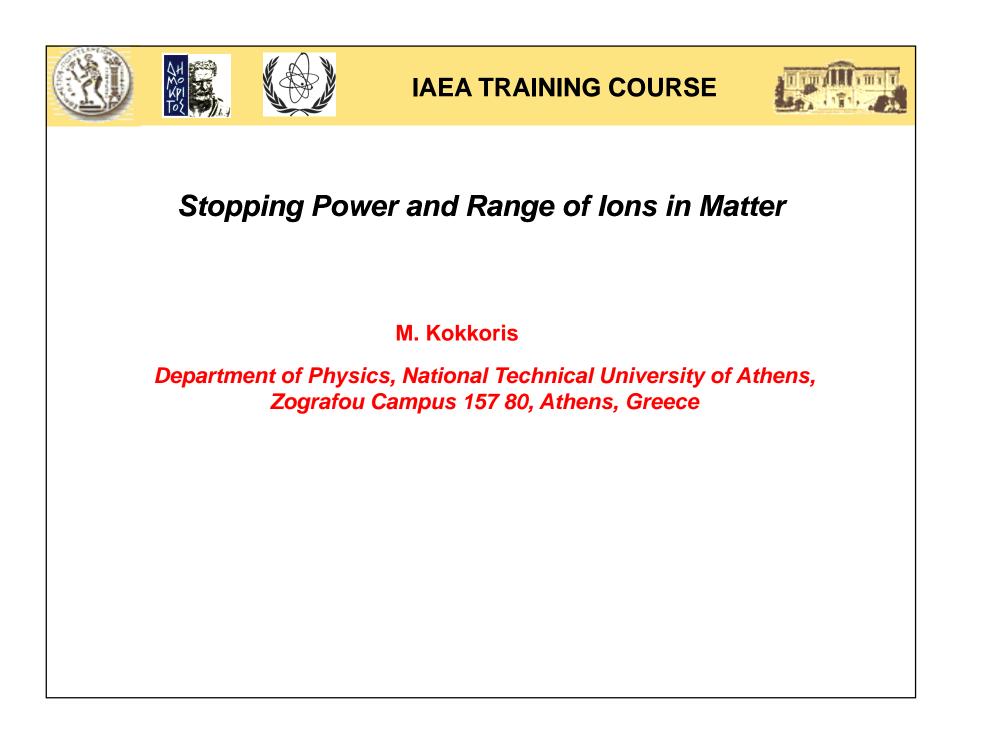
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Stopping Power and Range of Ions in Matter

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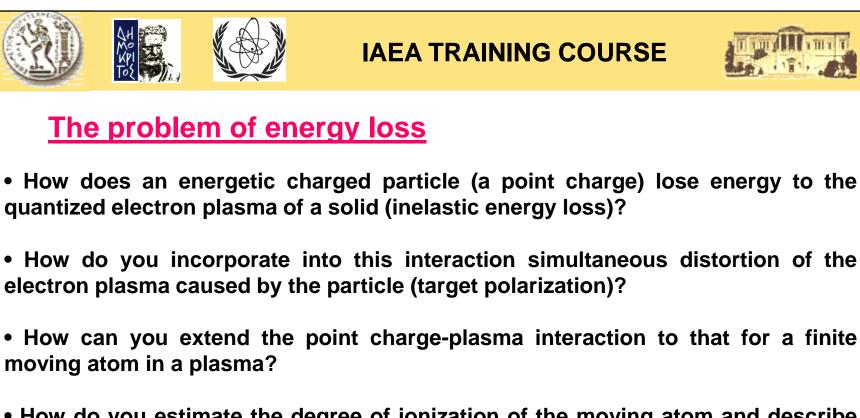




Basic physics concepts include:

Energy loss of charged particles in matter

>Interaction of charged particles with target nuclei

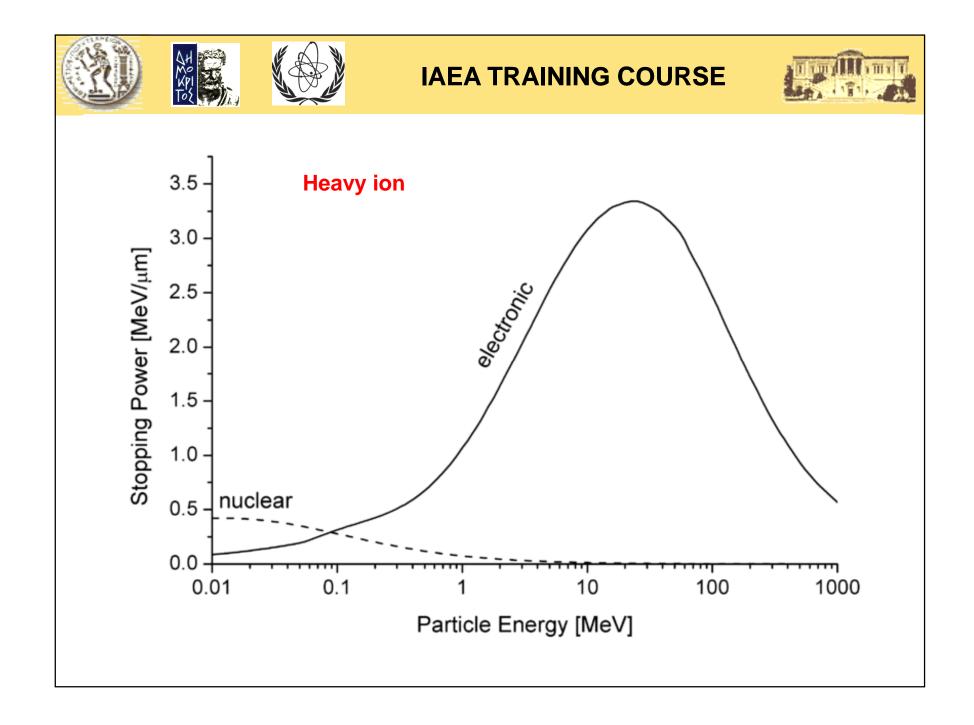


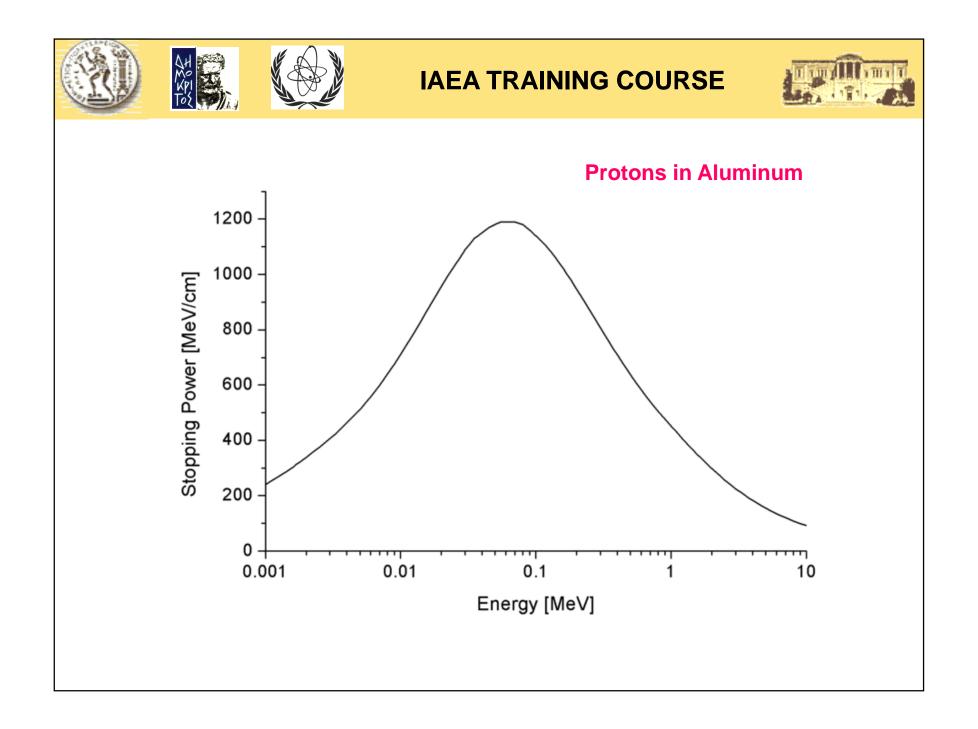
• How do you estimate the degree of ionization of the moving atom and describe its electrons when it is both ionized and within an electron plasma?

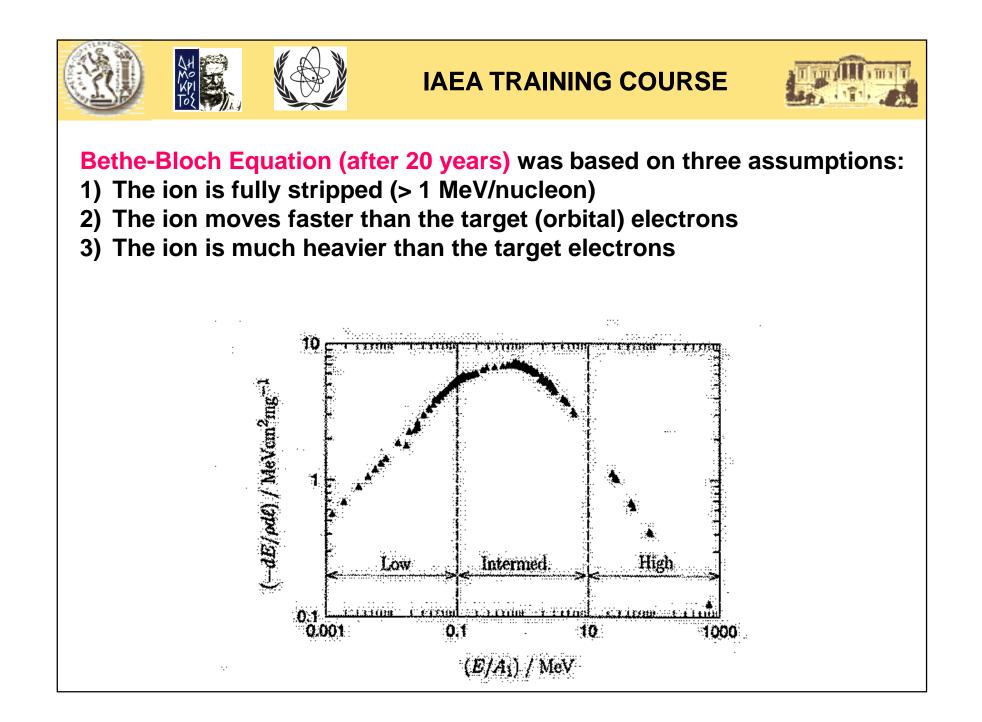
• How do you calculate the screened Coulomb scattering of the moving atom with each heavy target nucleus it passes?

• How do you include relativistic corrections to all of the above?

<u>Bohr (1915)</u>! \rightarrow (binary collisions and energy transfer to harmonic oscillators)









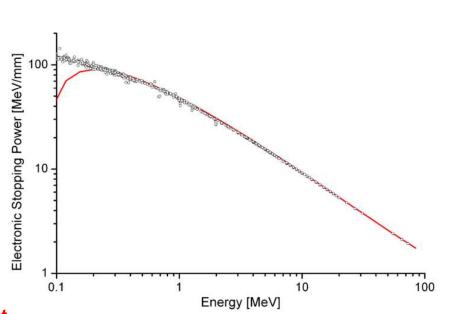




The relativistic version of the Bethe-Block formula (1932):

$$-\frac{dE}{dx} = \frac{4\pi}{m_e c^2} \cdot \frac{nz^2}{\beta^2} \cdot \left(\frac{e^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0}\right)^2 \cdot \left[\ln\left(\frac{2m_e c^2\beta^2}{I\cdot(1-\beta^2)}\right) - \beta^2\right]$$

- $\beta = v/c$
- **v** velocity of the particle
- *E* energy of the particle
- **x** distance travelled by the particle
- c speed of light
- ze particle charge
- e charge of the electron
- *m*_e rest mass of the electron
- *n* electron density of the target
- *I* mean excitation potential of the target







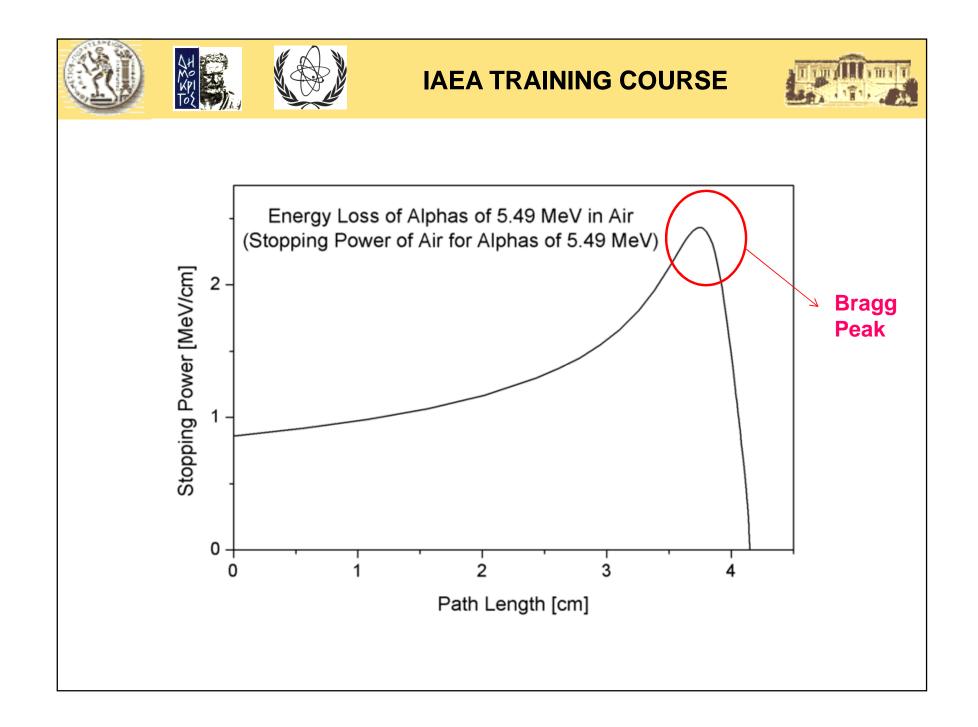


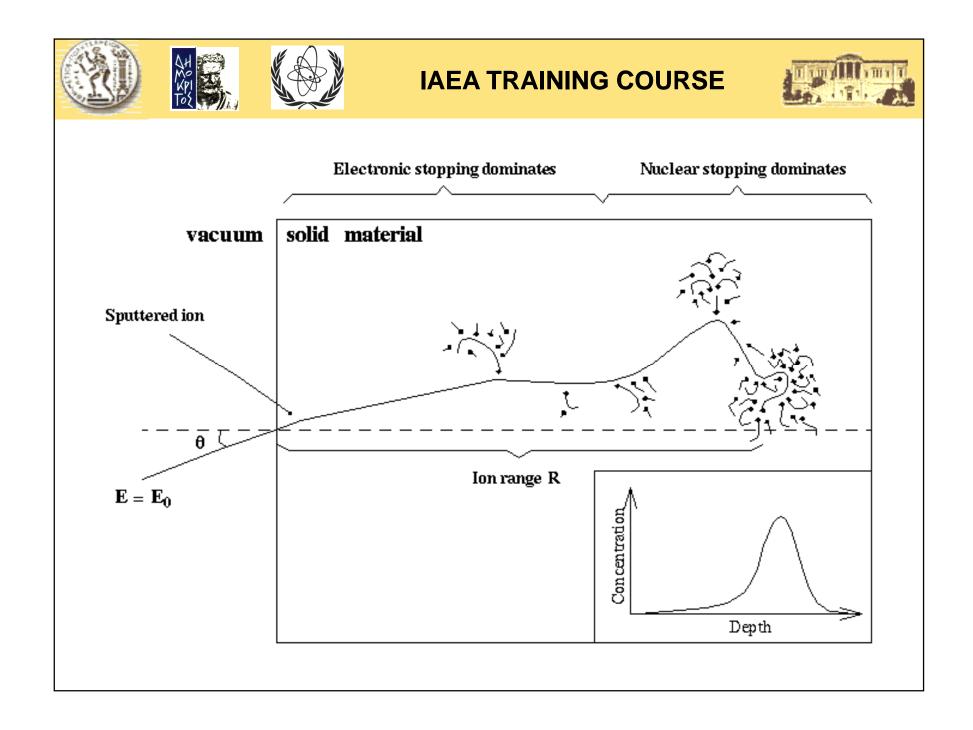
Corrections to the Bethe-Bloch formula:

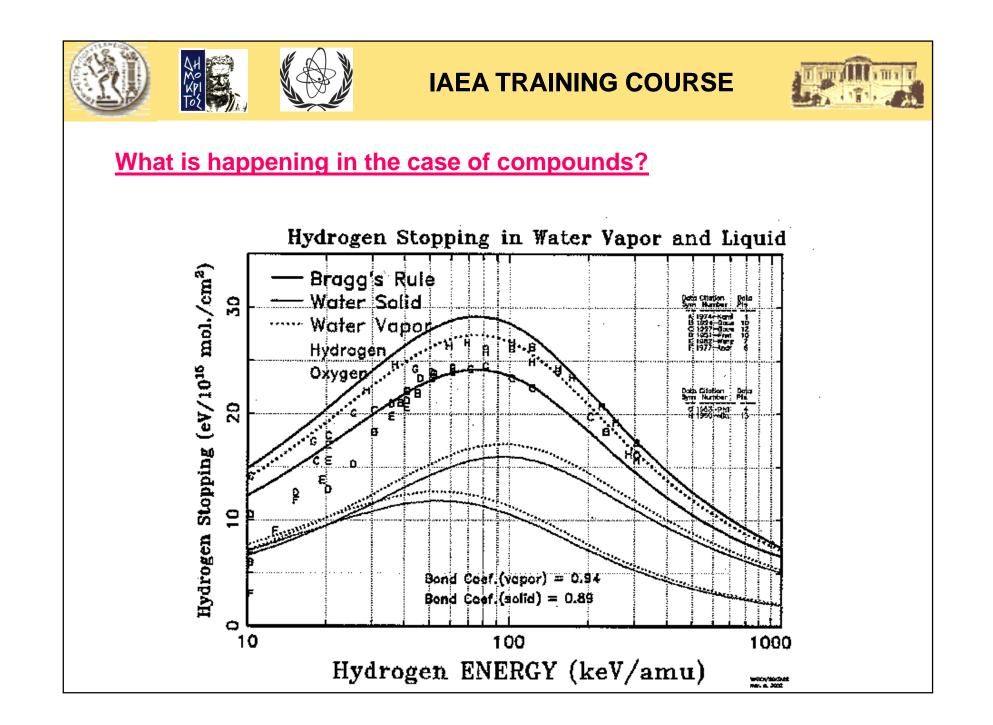
Difference between positive and negative ions, equally charged, with the same energy and velocity, in the same medium (Barkas effect)

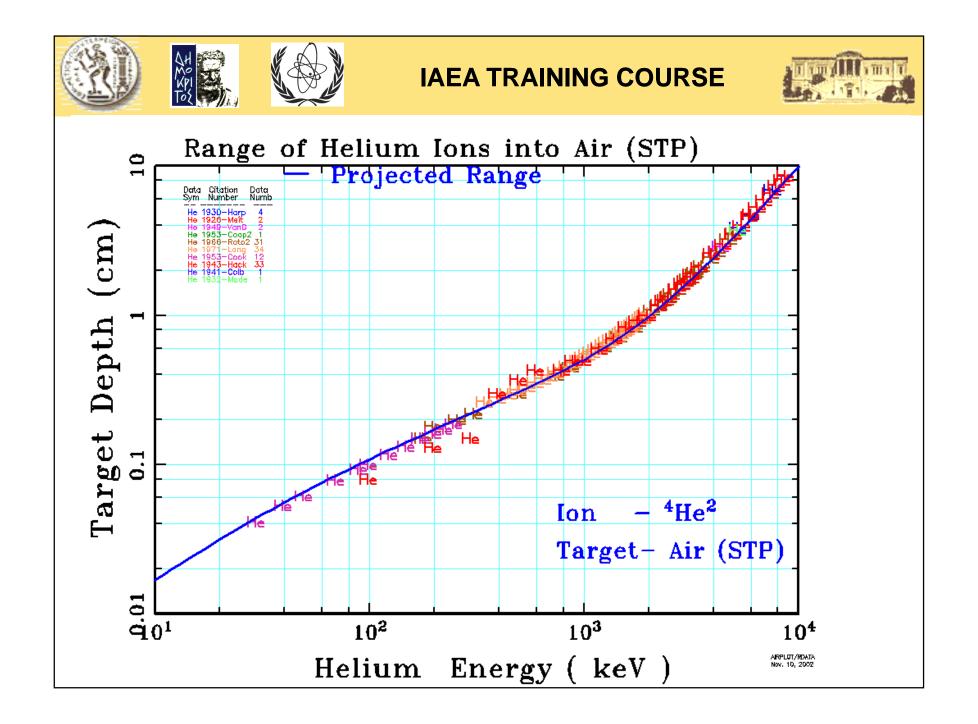
> Difference in the Z2 dependence of the stopping power (e.g. 1 MeV protons vs. 4 MeV α =particles

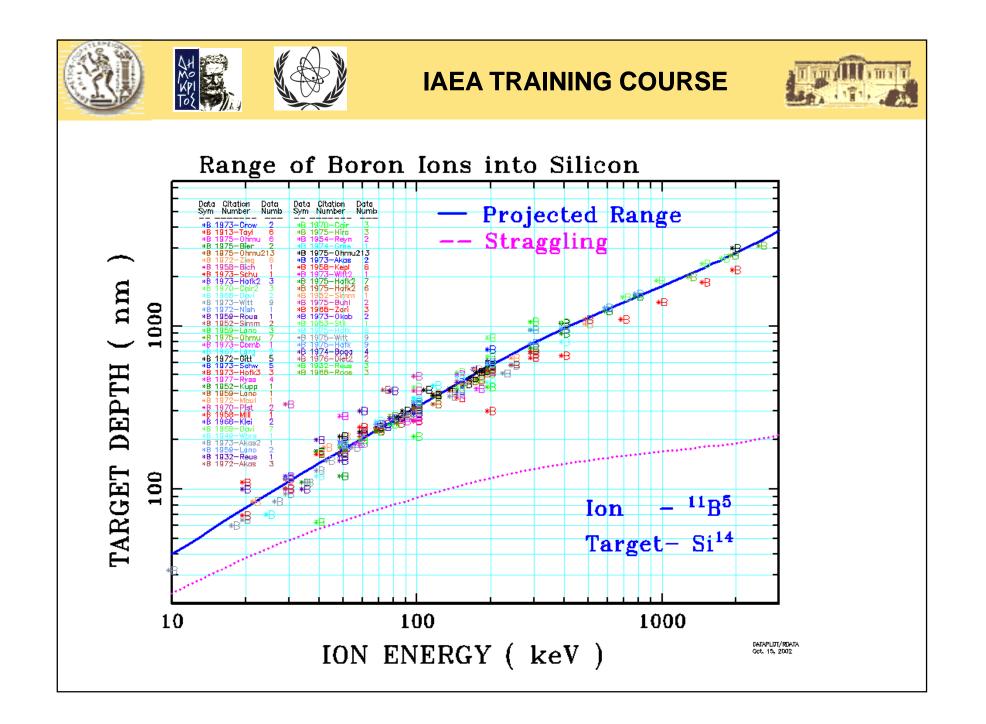
- The density effect (3-7% at high energies)
- Gas vs. solid targets: Channeling perturbations
- ➤ Shell corrections (6%)

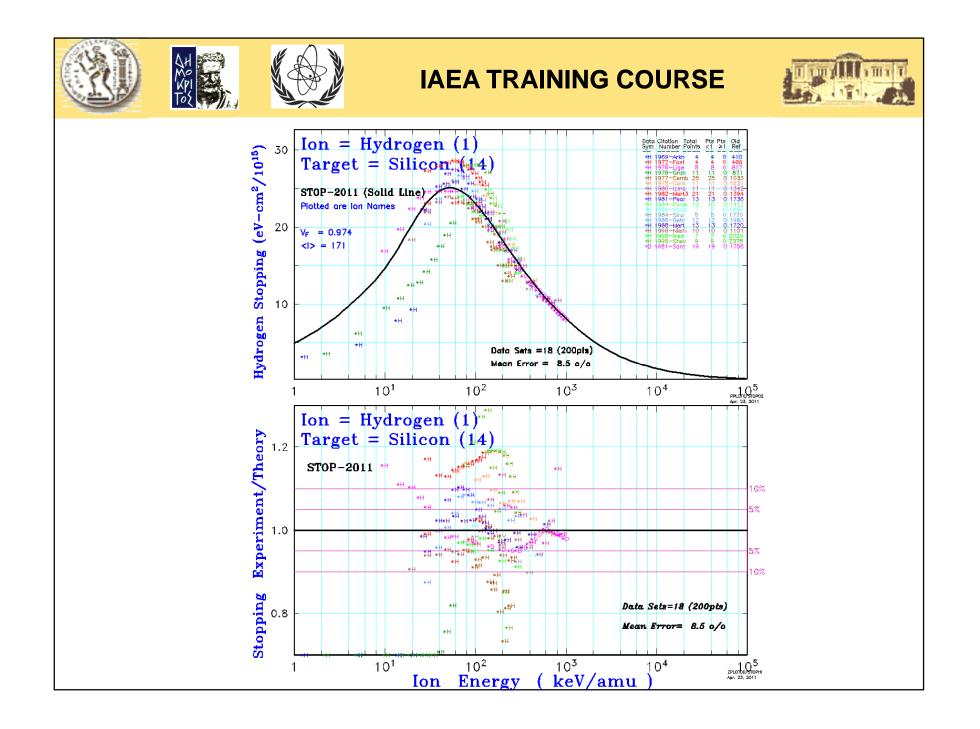


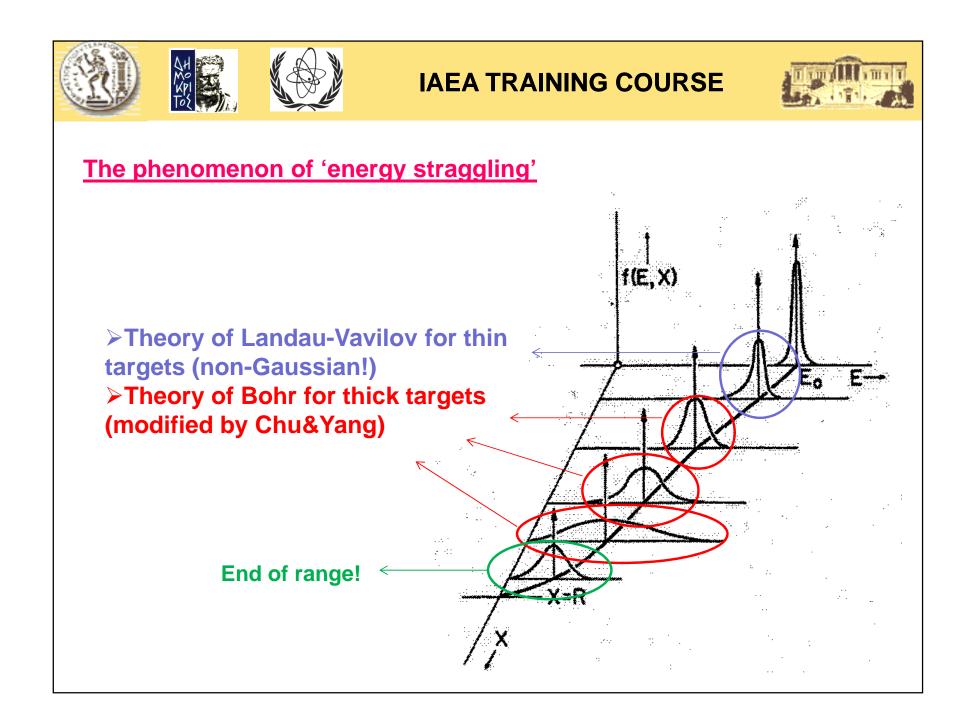


















A short introduction on the underlying physics:

1. What happens when a MeV-ion interacts with matter?

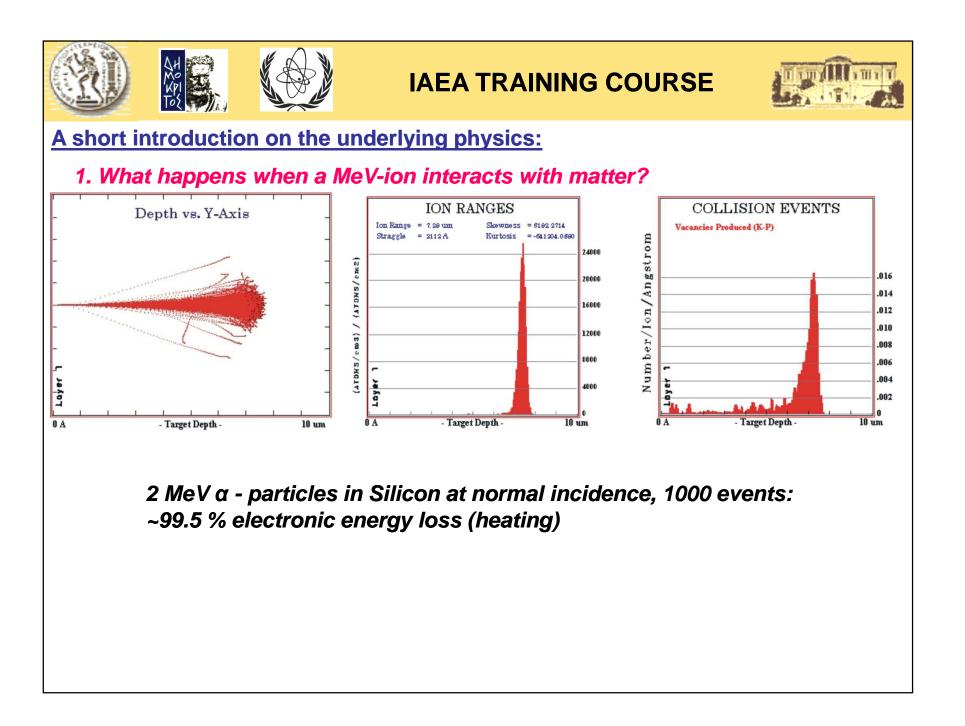
Conservation of energy and momentum in a head-on elastic collision between a heavy particle of mass M and an electron of mass m yields:

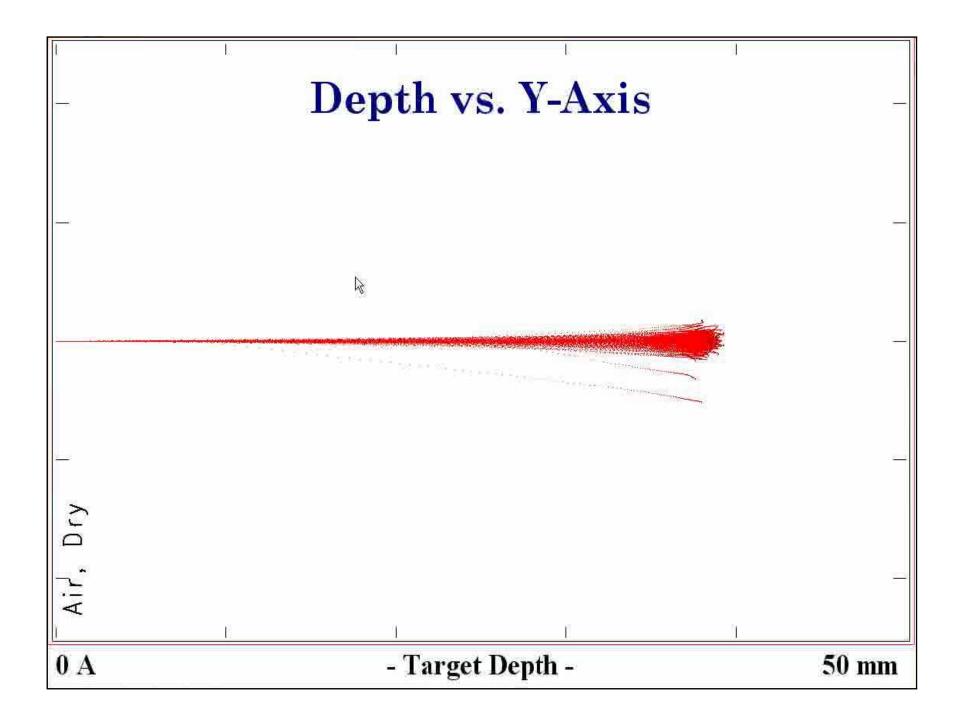
 $\Delta T = T (4m/M)$

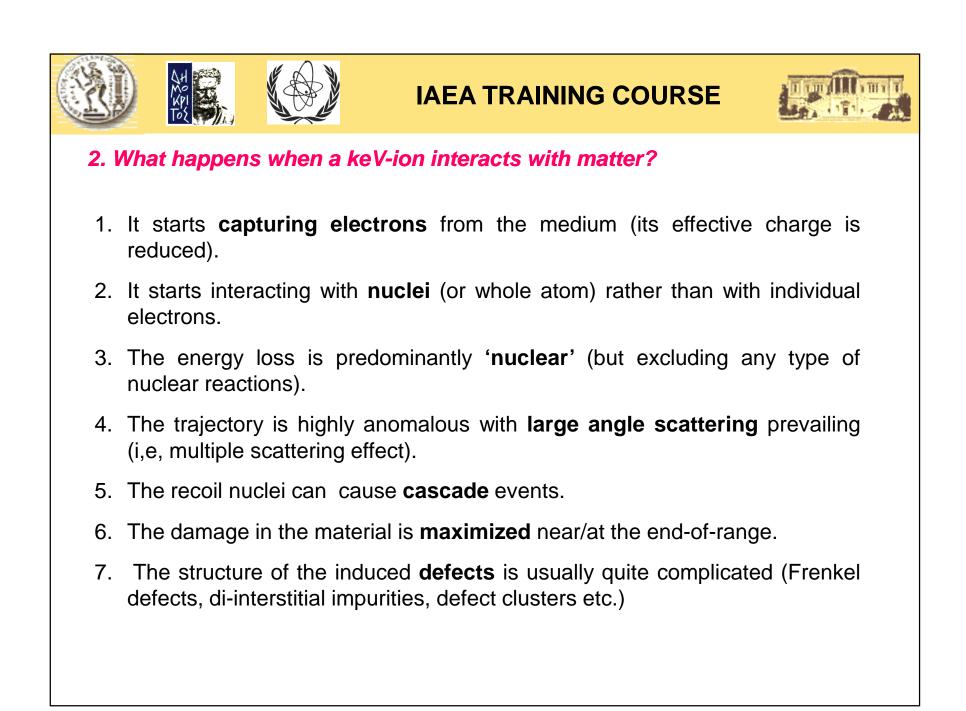
For a 5 MeV α -particle \rightarrow 2.7 keV energy transfer to an electron leading to four conclusions:

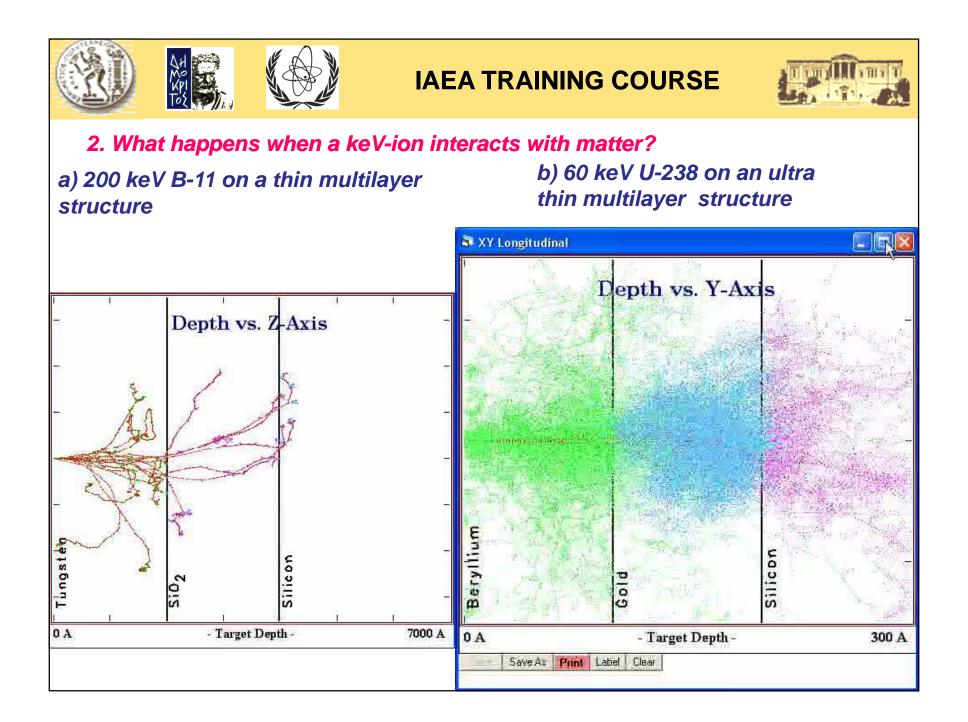
- 1. It takes many **thousands** of such events before the particle loses all its energy.
- 2. In a glancing collision the heavy particle is deflected by a **negligible angle**.
- 3. Since the Coulomb force has infinite range, the particle interacts simultaneously with many electrons and thus **loses energy gradually but continuously along its path**.
- 4. The energy needed to ionize an atom is ~10 eV. Thus, in the keV range **secondary electrons** are produced.

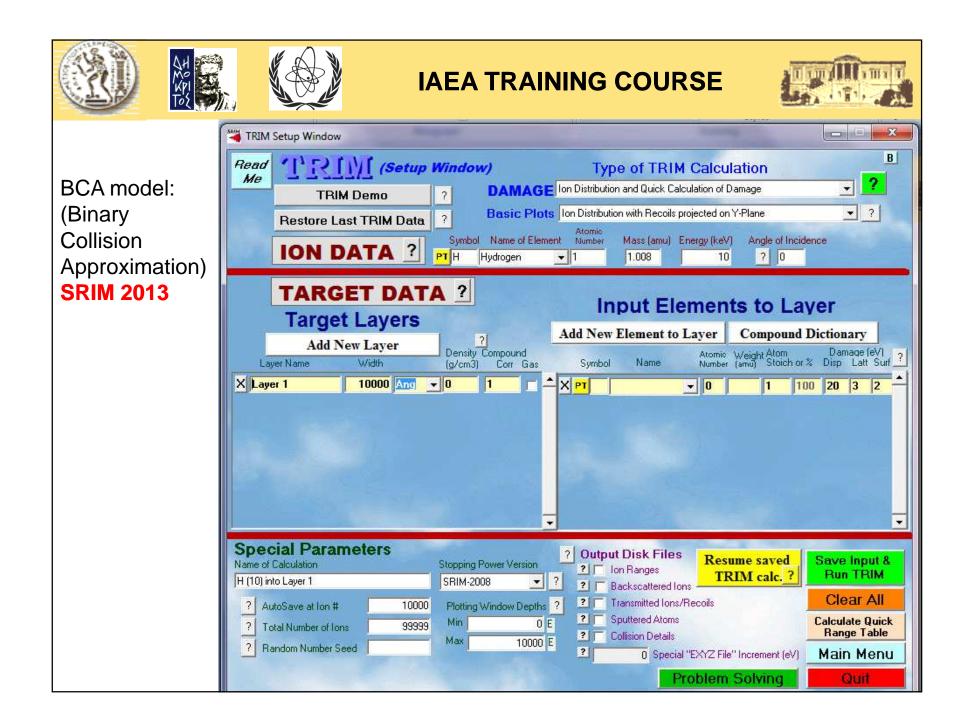
What is happening when the energy falls below the ionization limit???











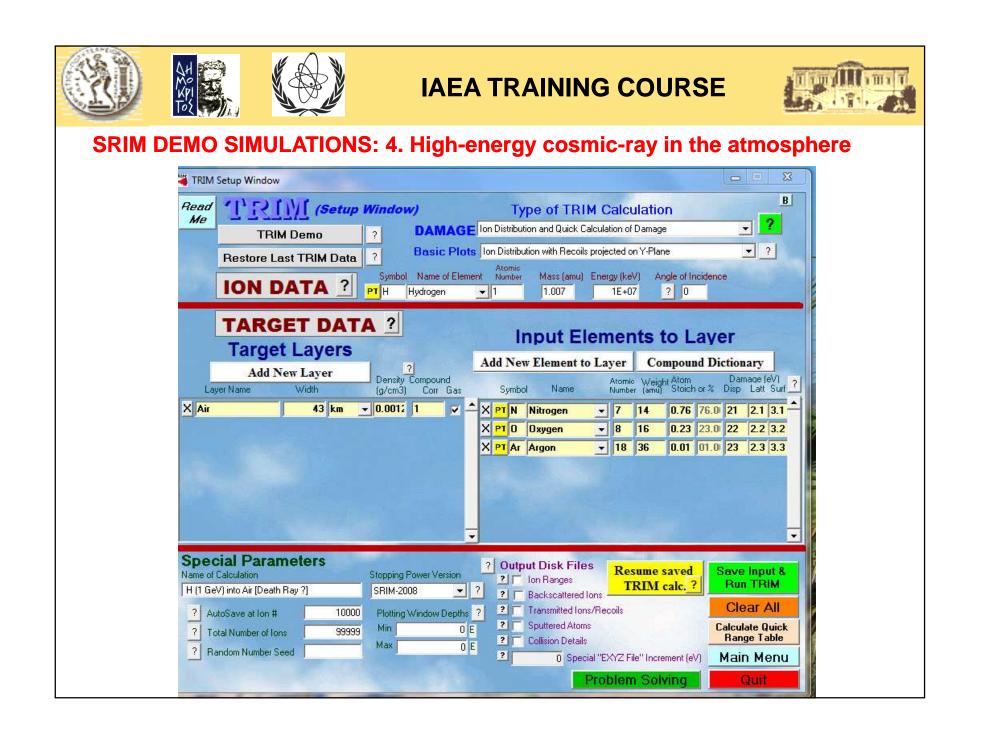




















PRACTICAL EXERCISES USING SRIM:

- 1. How thick should a Si SSB detector be (at least), in order to stop and record the full energy of 10 MeV protons?
- 2. What is the range of α -particles emitted from Po-210 (E=5306 keV) in dry air?
- 3. A student puts a source of α -particles, typically Po-210 (E=5306 keV) in front of a G-M detector, whose window is made of mica (KAI₃Si₃O₁₂H₂, ρ =2.82 gr/cm³). The student discovers that only when the source-detector distance (with dry air in between) is 1.7 cm or less, the detector starts counting. What is the thickness of the thin mica window?