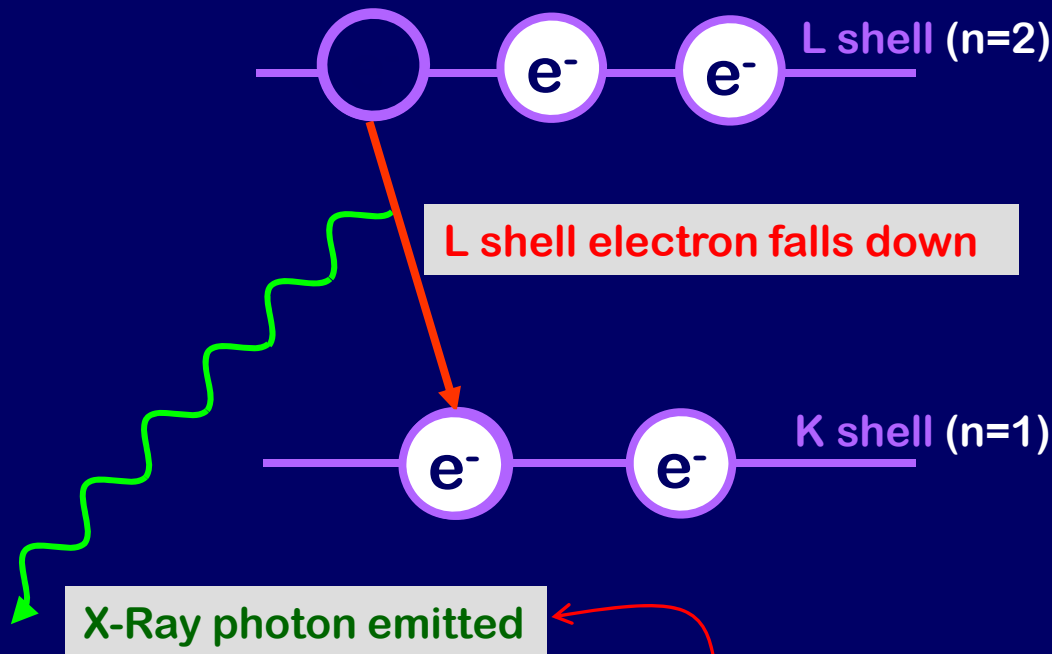


Characteristic X-Rays

Electron knocks one of the two K shell (ground state) electrons out of an atom.

L (n=2) or higher shell electron falls down to K shell (ground state) and x-ray photon is emitted



Characteristic x-ray nomenclature

n=1 "K shell"
n=2 "L shell"
n=3 "M shell"

"K_α X-ray" (n=2 → n=1 transition)