

Vavilov approximation to Landau

April 12, 2024

```
[2]: import numpy as np # NumPy
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt # Matplotlib plots
```

1 Calculating the factor that determines if the Vavilov distribution can be approximated by a Landau

Bethe-Bloch mean energy loss:

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle \frac{1}{\rho} = K z^2 \frac{1}{\beta^2} \frac{Z}{AM_u} \cdot \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 W_{max}}{I^2 \cdot (1 - \beta^2)} \right) - \beta^2 \right]$$

$$K = 4\pi N_A r_e^2 m_e c^2 / M_u = 0.307075 \text{ MeV g}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2$$

$$r_e = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e c^2}$$

$$M_u = 1 \frac{g}{mol}$$

from <https://nap.nationalacademies.org/read/20066/chapter/10#188>

The parameter k of the Vavilov distribution determines if it becomes close to a Landau ($k \rightarrow 0$) or a Gaussian ($k \gg 1$).

To calculate k ($W_{max} \equiv \epsilon_{max}$):

$$k = 0.30058 \frac{m_e c^2}{\beta^2} \frac{Z}{A} \frac{s}{\epsilon_{max}}$$

where $s = \Delta x \cdot \rho$ and

$$\epsilon_{max} = \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2}{1 - \beta^2} \left[1 + \frac{2m}{M} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}} + \left(\frac{m}{M} \right)^2 \right]^{-1}$$

But when $\beta \rightarrow 1$ then also the maximum energy:

$$\epsilon_{max} \rightarrow \frac{Mc^2 \beta^2}{1 - \beta^2}$$

1.0.1 Calculating β for a proton of energy E

$$E^2 = (pc)^2 + (m_0c^2)^2 = m_0^2\gamma^2c^2 + m_0^2c^4$$

$$\frac{E^2}{m_0^2c^4} = \frac{\beta^2}{1 - \beta^2} + 1$$

$$\beta^2 = 1 - \left(\frac{m_0c^2}{E} \right)^2$$

for a proton of energy $E = 120\text{GeV}$, ($m_0 = 938.272\text{MeV}/c^2$) $\beta^2 = 0.99993886$

1.0.2 Applying this to a thin silicon layer

```
[25]: # E = 120 GeV = 120e3 MeV
Energy = 120e3 # MeV
m_proton = 938.272088 # MeV/c^2
m_electron = 0.51099895 # MeV/c^2
# 50 um = 5e-3 cm
delta_x = 5e-3 # cm
### silicon
Z = 14 # atomic number
A = 28.085 # atomic weight
density = 2.329085 # g/cm^3

beta_2 = 1 - (m_proton/(Energy))**2

epsilon_max = (m_proton * beta_2) / (1 - beta_2) # MeV

s = delta_x * density

k = 0.30058 * m_electron / beta_2 * Z / A * s / epsilon_max # g/cm^2

[26]: print("k=",k)
```

k= 5.8104323137633683e-11