### [3.1] History of the Atomic Model



# Early Greek Theories



#### Aristotle (350 B.C.)

• 4 Elements

#### **Democritus (400 B.C)**

Vater

• Atoms are void (empty space) and indivisible



### Dalton's Billiard Ball Model (1805)



- All matter is made of **atoms**.
- Atoms of an element are identical.
- Each element has different atoms.
- Atoms of different elements combine in constant ratios to form **compounds**.
- Atoms are rearranged in reactions, but are **not created nor destroyed**.

Matter is composed of **indestructible**, **indivisible** atoms



## Thomson's Raisin Pudding Model (1897)

- Materials, when rubbed, can develop a charge difference (+ and --).
- This electricity was called "cathode rays"
- These rays have a small mass and are negatively charged.
- These negative charge particles would later be known as **electrons**.
- Because lone atoms are neutral, Thomson also realized that atoms must also have a **positive charge**

Electron

Sphere of p**d**sitive charge



### **Rutherford's Nuclear Model**

• Rutherford shot **positive alpha** ( $\alpha$ ) particles at **gold foil**.



- Most particles passed through.
   Meaning atoms are mostly empty space.
- Some positive α-particles deflected or bounced back!
- A "nucleus" is positive (protons)
  & holds most of an atom's mass.



### **Exercise Questions**

- 1. Why do you think only some of the positively charged alpha particles got deflected from the gold foil and bounced off?
- 2. What does this tell you about the atom?

#### Limitations to Rutherford's Model

- **Classical Theory**: orbiting electrons should emit light, losing energy in the process
- This energy loss should cause the electrons to collapse into the nucleus
- But, **matter is very stable**, this does not happen



### **Bohr's Planetary Model**

- Electrons orbit the nucleus in energy "shells"
- An electron can travel within an energy level without losing energy
- The bigger the distance between the nucleus and the energy level, the bigger the energy level



## **Bohr's Planetary Model**

- An atom becomes excited when one of its electrons absorb energy in the form of **photons**
- If enough energy is absorbed then the electron can jump to the next energy level, if there is room.



### Origins of the Modern Quantum Theory

- **Quantum**: a small discrete, indivisible quantity
- <u>**Photon**</u>: a quantum of light



### Origins of the Modern Quantum Theory

• Max Planck (1858-1947) hypothesized that energy is not continuous but rather multiples of a small quantity of energy

• Electrons occupy spaces called **orbitals** depending on their energy levels.



### Summary of Atomic Models

1) Dalton's "Billiard ball" model (1800-1900) Atoms are solid and indivisible.



2) Thomson's "Raisin bun" model (1900) Negative electrons in a <u>positive</u> framework.



**3) Rutherford's "Nuclear" model (~1910)** Atoms are mostly empty space.
 Negative electrons orbit a positive nucleus.



4) Bohr's "Planetary" model (~1920)
 Negative electrons orbit a positive nucleus.
 Quantized energy shells



5) Quantum Mechanical model (~1930) Electron probabilities (orbitals)

#### **Atomic Model Activity**

Write the kind of model that is represented by each picture below it





