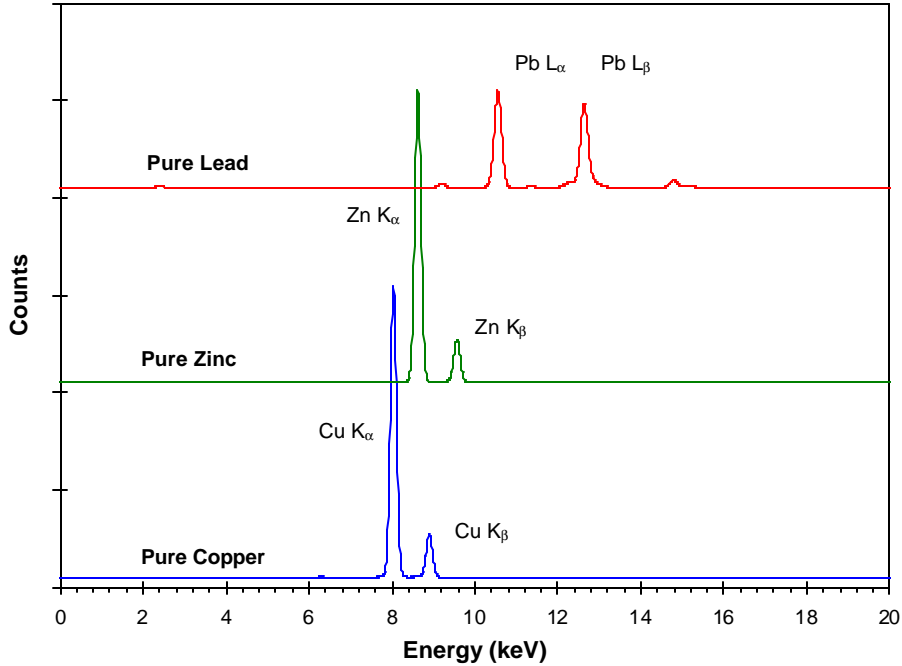
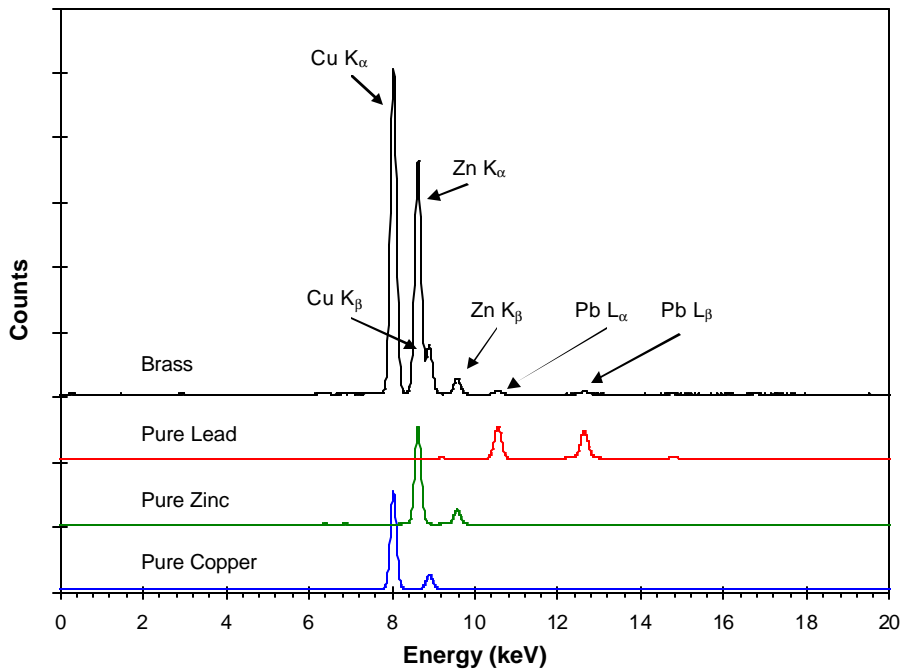


XRF Example: Brass

These plots show how the spectra measured from a sample are used to determine the elements which are present. The top plot shows three spectra. One was obtained from a pure Cu sample, one from pure Zn, and one from pure Pb. Each produces a simple spectrum. Both Cu and Zn show a dominant K_{α} peak and then a smaller K_{β} peak. The Pb spectrum is more complex, dominated by two L lines.



The plot below shows the three pure element spectra, and also a spectrum taken from a brass sample. Brass is a Cu-Zn alloy, often containing small quantities of Pb and other elements. The Cu and Zn lines are very clearly visible, with weak Pb lines. The presence of these lines indicates the presence of these elements. The size of each peak indicates the quantity of each element in the sample.



The plot below shows the same data, but the brass spectrum is shown on a logarithmic scale, which is commonly used. The linear plot above clearly shows the dominant elements. The logarithmic plot reveals small peaks and other spectra features not seen in the linear plot.

