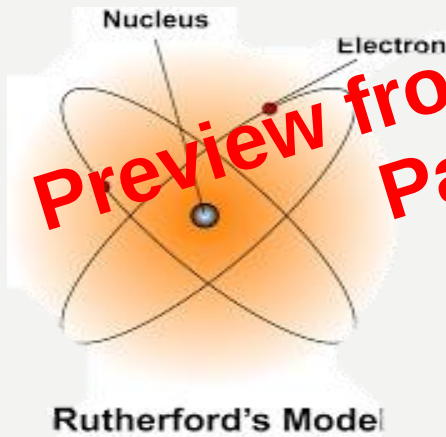


ERNEST RUTHERFORD



- the atom is mostly empty space,
- most of the atom's mass concentrated in a tiny center, the nucleus and electrons being held in orbit around it by electrostatic attraction.
- The nucleus was around 10-15 meters in diameter, in the centre of a 10-10 metre diameter atom.
- Those alpha particles that had come into close proximity with the nucleus had been strongly deflected whereas the majority had passed at a relatively great distance to it