

**Universidad de Puerto Rico
Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez
Departamento de Física
Asignación 2**

Instrucciones: Para entregar en o antes del martes, 9 de febrero de 2021 a las 11:59 PM (20 puntos = 100%).

1.

Exercise 2.10: The semi-empirical mass formula

In nuclear physics, the semi-empirical mass formula is a formula for calculating the approximate nuclear binding energy B of an atomic nucleus with atomic number Z and mass number A :

$$B = a_1 A - a_2 A^{2/3} - a_3 \frac{Z^2}{A^{1/3}} - a_4 \frac{(A - 2Z)^2}{A} + \frac{a_5}{A^{1/2}},$$

where, in units of millions of electron volts, the constants are $a_1 = 15.8$, $a_2 = 18.3$, $a_3 = 0.714$, $a_4 = 23.2$, and

$$a_5 = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } A \text{ is odd,} \\ 12.0 & \text{if } A \text{ and } Z \text{ are both even,} \\ -12.0 & \text{if } A \text{ is even and } Z \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

- a) Write a program that takes as its input the values of A and Z , and prints out the binding energy for the corresponding atom. Use your program to find the binding energy of an atom with $A = 58$ and $Z = 28$. (Hint: The correct answer is around 490 MeV.)
- b) Modify your program to print out not the total binding energy B , but the binding energy per nucleon, which is B/A .
- c) Now modify your program so that it takes as input just a single value of the atomic number Z and then goes through all values of A from $A = Z$ to $A = 3Z$, to find the one that has the largest binding energy per nucleon. This is the most stable nucleus with the given atomic number. Have your program print out the value of A for this most stable nucleus and the value of the binding energy per nucleon.
- d) Modify your program again so that, instead of taking Z as input, it runs through all values of Z from 1 to 100 and prints out the most stable value of A for each one. At what value of Z does the maximum binding energy per nucleon occur? (The true answer, in real life, is $Z = 28$, which is nickel. You should find that the semi-empirical mass formula gets the answer roughly right, but not exactly.)

2.

Exercise 2.6: Planetary orbits

The orbit in space of one body around another, such as a planet around the Sun, need not be circular. In general it takes the form of an ellipse, with the body sometimes closer in and sometimes further out. If you are given the distance ℓ_1 of closest approach that a planet makes to the Sun, also called its *perihelion*, and its linear velocity v_1 at perihelion, then any other property of the orbit can be calculated from these two as follows.

- a) Kepler's second law tells us that the distance ℓ_2 and velocity v_2 of the planet at its most distant point, or *aphelion*, satisfy $\ell_2 v_2 = \ell_1 v_1$. At the same time the total energy, kinetic plus gravitational, of a planet with velocity v and distance r from the Sun is given by

$$E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 - G\frac{mM}{r},$$

where m is the planet's mass, $M = 1.9891 \times 10^{30}$ kg is the mass of the Sun, and $G = 6.6738 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$ is Newton's gravitational constant. Given that energy must be conserved, show that v_2 is the smaller root of the quadratic equation

$$v_2^2 - \frac{2GM}{v_1 \ell_1} v_2 - \left[v_1^2 - \frac{2GM}{\ell_1} \right] = 0.$$

Once we have v_2 we can calculate ℓ_2 using the relation $\ell_2 = \ell_1 v_1 / v_2$.

- b) Given the values of v_1 , ℓ_1 , and ℓ_2 , other parameters of the orbit are given by simple formulas that can be derived from Kepler's laws and the fact that the orbit is an ellipse:

$$\text{Semi-major axis: } a = \frac{1}{2}(\ell_1 + \ell_2),$$

$$\text{Semi-minor axis: } b = \sqrt{\ell_1 \ell_2},$$

$$\text{Orbital period: } T = \frac{2\pi ab}{\ell_1 v_1},$$

$$\text{Orbital eccentricity: } e = \frac{\ell_2 - \ell_1}{\ell_2 + \ell_1}.$$

Write a program that asks the user to enter the distance to the Sun and velocity at perihelion, then calculates and prints the quantities ℓ_2 , v_2 , T , and e .

- c) Test your program by having it calculate the properties of the orbits of the Earth (for which $\ell_1 = 1.4710 \times 10^{11}$ m and $v_1 = 3.0287 \times 10^4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) and Halley's comet ($\ell_1 = 8.7830 \times 10^{10}$ m and $v_1 = 5.4529 \times 10^4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$). Among other things, you should find that the orbital period of the Earth is one year and that of Halley's comet is about 76 years.

Instrucciones para Entregar sus Laboratorios

- 1) Prepare un archivo en pdf con la información que pide el ejercicio. Por ejemplo, si el ejercicio pide que escriba un programa, deberá mostrar su programa. Si el ejercicio pide output para un input dado, deberá mostrar el input y el output. Este archivo lo subirá a la plataforma Moodle del curso.
- 2) Suba también en archivos separados los programas usados para la hacer la asignación a la plataforma Moodle.