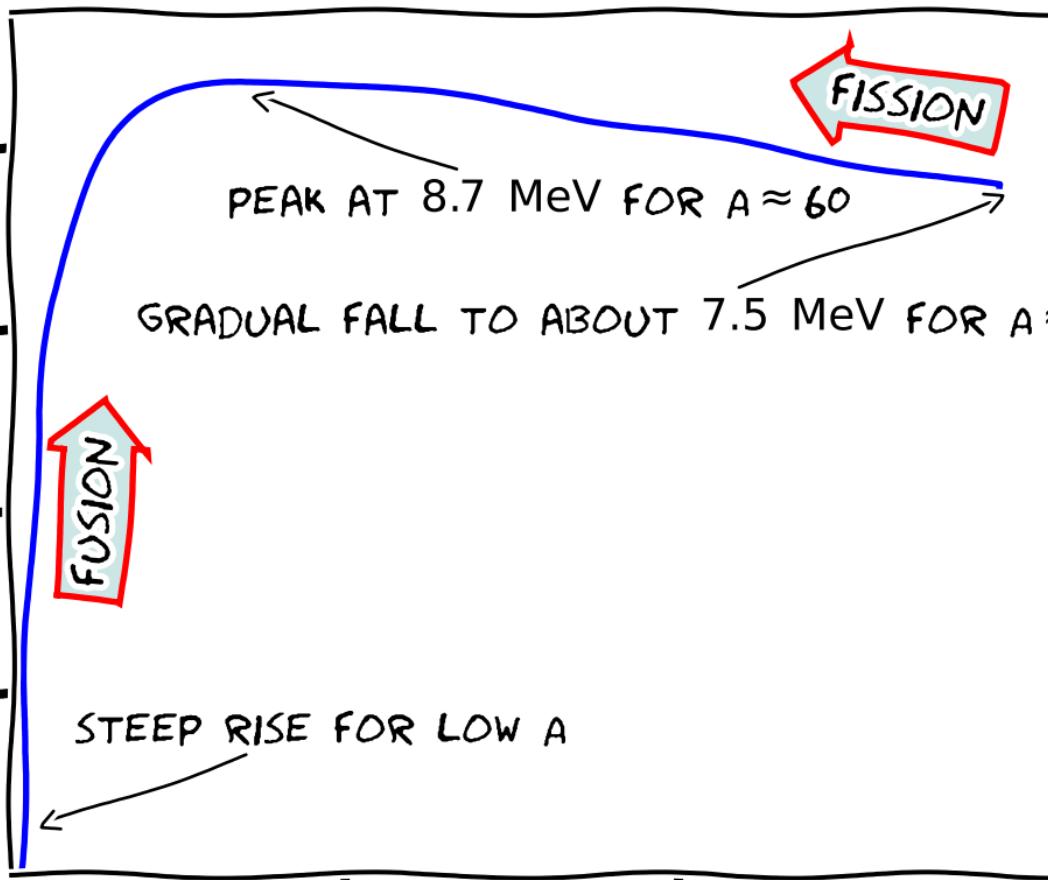


BINDING ENERGY / MeV PER NUCLEON

8  
6  
4  
2



PEAK AT 8.7 MeV FOR  $A \approx 60$

GRADUAL FALL TO ABOUT 7.5 MeV FOR  $A \approx 240$

FUSION

STEEP RISE FOR LOW  $A$

FISSION

NUCLEON NUMBER,  $A$