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J4 Energy in Nuclear Reactions

Mass defects, binding energies or energy yields in nuclear reactions require high precision data as calculations involve subtracting two very similar numbers. Use only data here (& on page iv), to **all** significant figures given: **take $c = 2.998 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$, and the electronic charge as $1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$.**

- J4.1 Calculate the mass defect of $^{56}_{26}\text{Fe}$ in kilograms. The ^{56}Fe **nucleus** has a mass of 55.92068 u.
- J4.2 Calculate the mass defect of $^{12}_6\text{C}$ in kilograms. The ^{12}C **atom** has a mass of 12.00000 u.
- J4.3 Calculate the binding energy of ^{56}Fe in MeV.
- J4.4 Calculate the binding energy per nucleon of ^{12}C in MeV.
- J4.5 One nuclear fusion reaction is $^2_1\text{H} + ^3_1\text{H} \rightarrow ^4_2\text{He} + ^1_0\text{n}$. The masses of the **nuclei** are given below:

Deuterium (^2H) mass	2.013 55 u
Tritium (^3H) mass	3.015 50 u
Helium (^4He) mass	4.001 51 u

Calculate the energy released by this reaction in MeV (it appears as the kinetic energy of the reaction products).

- J4.6 One nuclear fission reaction is $^{235}_{92}\text{U} + ^1_0\text{n} \rightarrow ^{147}_{57}\text{La} + ^{87}_{35}\text{Br} + 2^1_0\text{n}$. The masses of the **atoms** are given in the table below. Calculate the energy released by this reaction in MeV.

^{235}U	$3.903\,00 \times 10^{-25} \text{ kg}$
^{147}La	$2.439\,81 \times 10^{-25} \text{ kg}$
^{87}Br	$1.443\,35 \times 10^{-25} \text{ kg}$

- J4.7
- Using the J4.5 data of nuclear masses, calculate the binding energy per nucleon in deuterium.
 - Calculate the energy released in the fusion reaction of J4.5, using the result in (a) and: Binding energy per nucleon of tritium is 2.8273 MeV, and of helium-4 is 7.0739 MeV.
- J4.8
- Using the J4.6 data table of atomic masses, calculate the binding energy per nucleon in ^{235}U in MeV.
 - Calculate the energy released in the fission reaction of J4.6, now using the result in (a) and the following data: The binding energy per nucleon for ^{147}La is 8.2227 MeV, and for ^{87}Br is 8.6055 MeV.