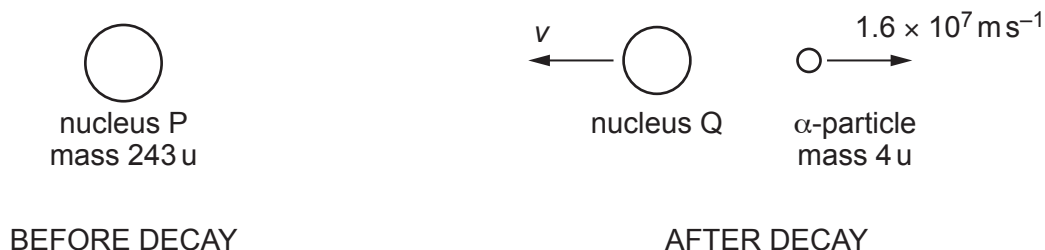


- 7 A stationary nucleus P of mass 243u decays by emitting an  $\alpha$ -particle of mass 4u to form a different nucleus Q, as illustrated in Fig. 7.1.



**Fig. 7.1**

The initial speed of the  $\alpha$ -particle is  $1.6 \times 10^7 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ .

- (a) Use the principle of conservation of momentum to explain why the initial velocities of nucleus Q and the  $\alpha$ -particle must be in opposite directions.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

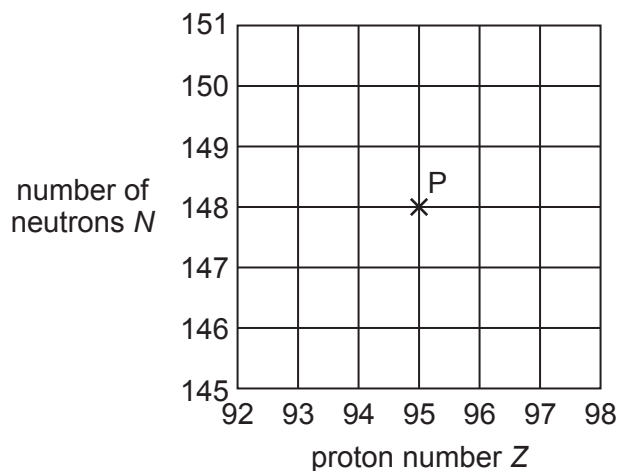
- (b) Determine the initial speed  $v$  of nucleus Q.

$$v = \dots\dots\dots \text{ ms}^{-1} \quad [2]$$

- (c) Calculate the initial kinetic energy, in MeV, of the  $\alpha$ -particle.

$$\text{kinetic energy} = \dots\dots\dots \text{ MeV} \quad [3]$$

(d) A graph of number of neutrons  $N$  against proton number  $Z$  is shown in Fig. 7.2.



**Fig. 7.2**

The graph shows a cross that represents nucleus P.

A nucleus R has a nucleon number of 242 and is an isotope of nucleus P.

Nucleus R decays by emitting a  $\beta^-$  particle to form a different nucleus S.

(i) On Fig. 7.2, draw a cross to represent:

1. nucleus R (label this cross R)
2. nucleus S (label this cross S).

[2]

(ii) State the name of the other lepton, in addition to the  $\beta^-$  particle, that is emitted during the decay of nucleus R.

..... [1]