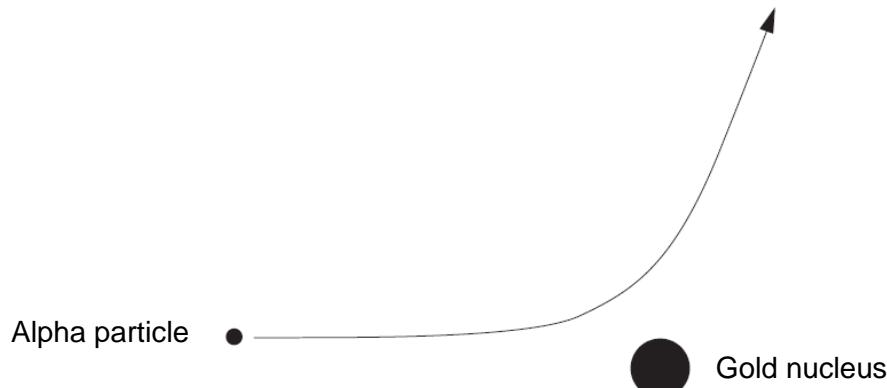


- 5 (a) Fig. 5.1 shows the path of an alpha particle as it scatters off a gold nucleus from a thin gold foil in the Rutherford's scattering experiment.

**Fig. 5.1**

- (i) Explain why the alpha particle follows the path as shown in Fig. 5.1.

[1]

- (ii) On Fig. 5.1, sketch the path of an alpha particle with the same initial path, but less kinetic energy and label it (ii).

[1]

- (iii) Explain why a thin gold foil is required for this experiment.

[1]

- (iv) On Fig 5.1, sketch the path of an alpha particle if the gold nucleus is now changed to an iron nucleus and label it (iv).

Atomic number of gold is 79 and atomic number of iron is 26.

[1]

- (b) In **Fig. 5.2**, an alpha particle on path Q has a head-on collision with a lithium nucleus  ${}^7_3\text{Li}$ .

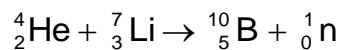
**Fig. 5.2**

The energy of alpha particle changes as it moves towards the centre of the nucleus. This alpha particle gets to within a distance of  $4.2 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$  from the centre of the nucleus.

- (i) Show that the *minimum* energy needed by the alpha particle to get to within  $4.2 \times 10^{-15}$  m from the centre of the nucleus is  $3.3 \times 10^{-13}$  J.

[2]

- (ii) When the alpha particle gets to within  $4.2 \times 10^{-15}$  m of the centre of the nucleus, the following nuclear reaction takes place.



The masses of the particles involved in the nuclear reaction are as follows:

Particle	mass / u
${}_{2}^{4}\text{He}$	4.0015
${}_{3}^{7}\text{Li}$	7.0144
${}_{5}^{10}\text{B}$	10.0011
${}_{0}^{1}\text{n}$	1.0087

Calculate the maximum possible energy of a neutron ejected from the target when the alpha particles in the beam have energy of  $3.3 \times 10^{-13}$  J.

maximum possible energy = .....J [3]

- (c) (i) Compare the properties of a photoelectron and a  $\beta$ -particle by making reference to their origin.

[2]

[2]

- (ii) Write down the equation which relates the rate of decay –  $dN/dt$  in a sample of  $N$  radioactive nuclei to their decay constant  $\lambda$ .

[1]

[1]

- (iii) State the units of  $\lambda$ .

[1]

[1]

- (iv) A certain medical treatment requires a radioactive source with an activity of  $2.8 \times 10^3$  Bq at the start of the treatment. The nuclide selected has a half-life of  $4.2 \times 10^4$  s and happens to be prepared 20 hours before the treatment commences. Determine the activity of the source at the time of preparation.

activity of the source = ..... Bq [2]

[Total: 15]

[Turn over