

6 (a) Radioactive decay is both random and spontaneous.

State what is meant by

(i) random.

.....
..... [1]

(ii) spontaneous.

.....
..... [1]

(b) State one piece of evidence for the random nature of decay.

.....
..... [1]

(c) Define half-life of a radioactive isotope.

.....
..... [1]

(d) Radioactive isotope X decays to isotope Y. A sample contains only nuclei of X at time $t = 0$. Fig. 6.1 shows the variation with t of the numbers of nuclei of X and of Y as the sample decays.

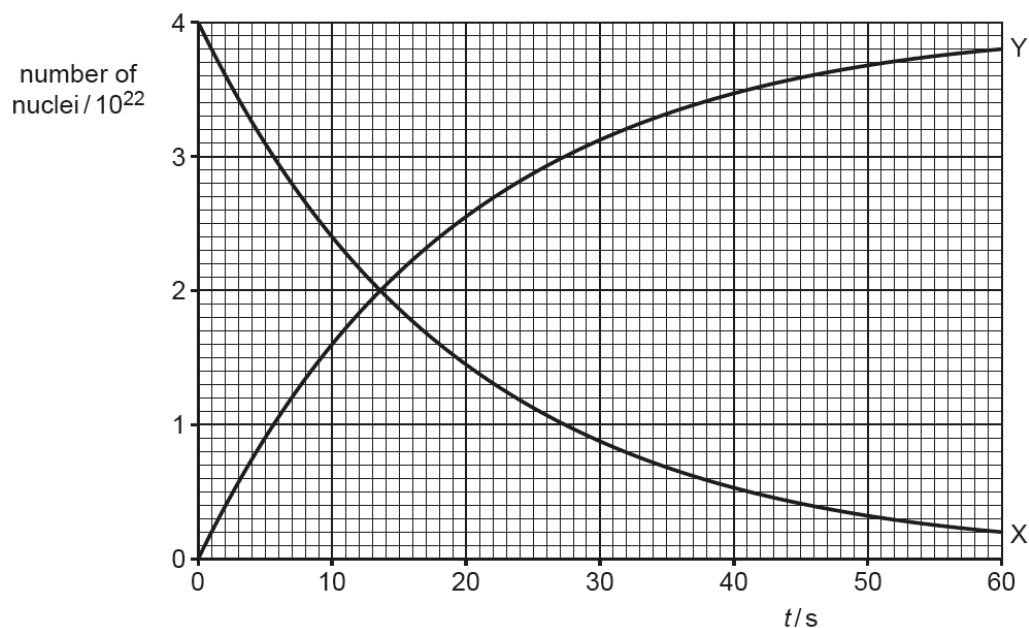


Fig. 6.1

- (i) State the name of the quantity represented by the magnitude of the gradient of line X in Fig. 6.1.

..... [1]

- (ii) State three conclusions about X or Y that may be drawn from Fig. 6.1. The conclusions may be qualitative or quantitative. Use the space below for any working that you need.

1.

.....

2.

.....

3.

.....

[3]

- (e) The mass of radioactive isotope X in the sample in (d) is 7.3×10^{-4} kg at time $t = 0$.

Determine the nucleon number of isotope X.

nucleon number = [3]