

- 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.

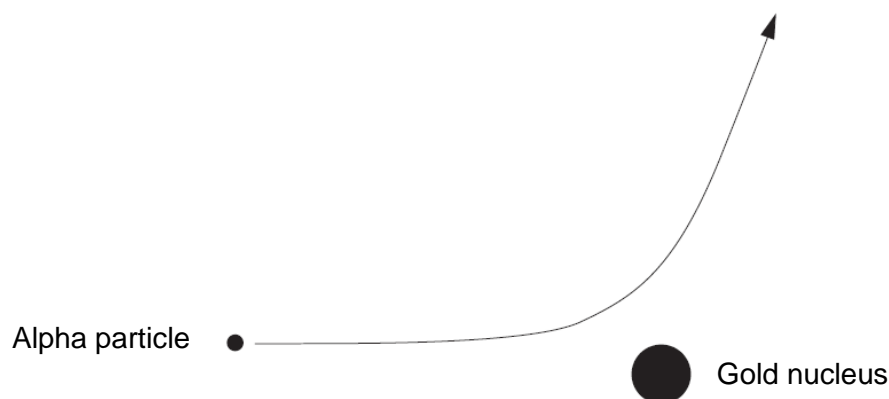


Fig. 5.1

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

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..... [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.

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..... [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). [1]  
Atomic number of gold is 79 and atomic number of iron is 26.

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

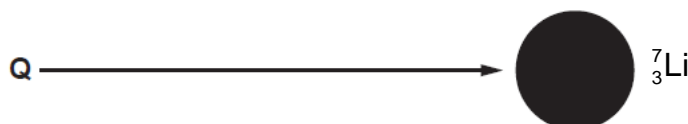


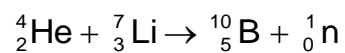
Fig. 5.2

The energy of alpha particle changes as it moves towards the centre of the nucleus. This alpha particle gets to within a distance of  $4.2 \times 10^{-15}$  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
${}^4_2\text{He}$	4.0015
${}^7_3\text{Li}$	7.0144
${}^{10}_5\text{B}$	10.0011
${}^1_0\text{n}$	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.

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..... [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]

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

..... [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]