

- 7 (a) In the Rutherford  $\alpha$ -particle scattering experiment,  $\alpha$ -particles are emitted from a source and travel towards a thin foil.

- (i) An  $\alpha$ -particle is deflected through an angle of approximately  $45^\circ$  as it passes near a stationary gold nucleus. On Fig. 7.1, sketch the path of the  $\alpha$ -particle as it passes the gold nucleus.

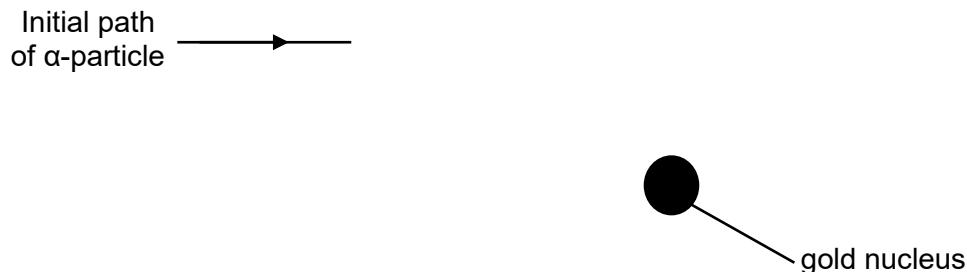


Fig. 7.1

[1]

- (ii) Only a small proportion of the  $\alpha$ -particles incident on the metal foil are deflected through large angle deflections greater than  $90^\circ$ . Explain the following phenomenon.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

[2]

- (ii) In the  $\alpha$ -particle scattering experiment, a large number of alpha particles are directed at the metal foil.

Explain why a large number of alpha particles is necessary.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

[2]

- (b) An  $\alpha$ -particle with kinetic energy  $7.7 \times 10^{-13}$  J is directed at a stationary gold nucleus ( $^{197}_{79}\text{Au}$ ). Determine the minimum separation possible between this  $\alpha$ -particle and the gold nucleus.

separation = ..... m [3]

- (c) The metal foil is changed from gold ( $^{197}_{79}\text{Au}$ ) to carbon ( $^{12}_{6}\text{C}$ ), while the  $\alpha$ -particle energy is kept the same.

State and explain how the number of large-angle deflections would change.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

[2]