

- 4 (a) State and explain the results of the α -particle scattering experiment that suggest the small size of the nucleus compared to that of an atom.

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2.

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[2]

- (b) An α -particle travels, in a vacuum, directly towards a stationary gold nucleus G ($^{197}_{79}\text{Au}$), as illustrated in Fig. 4.1.

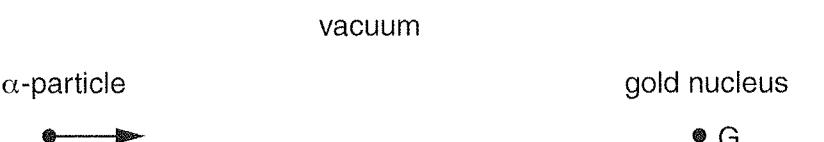


Fig. 4.1

The α -particle has an initial kinetic energy of 4.8 MeV when it is a very long distance from the gold nucleus. The α -particle comes to rest at distance d from G.

- (i) Show that the initial speed of the α -particle is $1.5 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$.

[2]



(ii) Define *potential* at a point in an electric field.

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[1]

(iii) Calculate the distance d .

$d = \dots$ m [3]

