

Random

- repeat readings
- longer L / more λ , then divide value by set amount
- adjust 1st
- apparatus precision

Systematic

- differs from true value by set amount (y-intercept)

Uncertainty

- + or - : add absolute uncertainties
- \times or \div : add % uncertainties
- $\times n$: multiply % uncertainty n times

VAPR

SI Units

- kg \rightarrow N ($\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$) \rightarrow J ($\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$)
- m \rightarrow v ($\text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$), a ($\text{m} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$) \rightarrow Pa ($\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$)
- s \rightarrow Hz (s^{-1}) \rightarrow T ($\text{A}^{-1} \cdot \text{kg} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$)
- A \rightarrow C (As) \rightarrow V ($\text{A}^{-1} \cdot \text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-3}$)
- K ad mol

Nuclide Notation

$$A \begin{cases} X \\ Z \end{cases}$$

- # of protons
- # of neutrons

(use % of ^{14}C for C-dating)

Isotopes: atoms w/ different mass number but same atomic number

Specific Charge: $= \frac{\text{charge}/Q}{\text{mass}/m}$ in $\text{C} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1}$

Δ + tre or -ve symbol \rightarrow nucleus, ion or atom??

QUARKS

$u = +\frac{2}{3}$	str. B#	$d = -\frac{1}{3}$	str. B#
0	1	$\bar{u} = -\frac{2}{3}$	0
-1/3	0	$\bar{d} = -\frac{1}{3}$	0
-1/3	3	0	-3
$\bar{u} = +\frac{1}{3}$	0	$\bar{d} = +\frac{1}{3}$	0

Stable baryon decays

Hadrons: particles w/ quarks experience strong force

Mesons are a quark-antiquark pair.

FUNDAMENTAL FORCES

	strong	weak	EM	gravity
exchange particle	tions, gluons	W^+ / W^-	virtual photon(s)	graviton
leptons	e μ τ	strange particles	Z^0 bosons decay (by γ, b, ℓ^\pm)	
Hadrons	mesons	x	x	
	baryons	✓	✓ charged	✓
	baryons	✓	✓ charged	✓

VALIDATE UNCONFIRMED

- hypothesis tested by experiment
- experiment needs to be repeatable
- validated by peer review; theory makes prediction (testable, repeatable), scientific community

TEST THEORY'S PREDICTION

- reliable experiment doesn't support hypothesis
- hypothesis must be changed

Strong Nuclear Force

absolute zero: -273.1°C

CONVERSIONS

- $1 \text{ m}^3 = 1000 \text{ L} \Rightarrow 1 \text{ cm}^3 = 1 \text{ mL}$
- $1 \text{ L}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 1 \text{ kg}$

Elastic & Inelastic Collisions

- \rightarrow conservation of momentum
- \rightarrow KE only conserved in elastic collisions

Nuclear Decay

- $\alpha: {}_z^A X \rightarrow {}_{z-2}^{A-4} Y + {}_2^4 \alpha$
- $\beta: {}_z^A X \rightarrow {}_{z+1}^{A-1} Y + {}_{-1}^0 \beta^- + {}_{-1}^0 \bar{\nu}_e$
- conserves E and p in β^- decay

in v. big atoms

moderate range (\sim few ms in air); tin foil

LEPTONS - collection of fundamental particles, all affected by weak force/gravitational force

- e^- electron e^+ positron
- μ^- muon μ^+ antimuon
- τ^- tau τ^+ antitau
- ν_e electron neutrino $\bar{\nu}_e$ electron antineutrino
- ν_μ muon neutrino $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ muon antineutrino
- ν_τ tau neutrino $\bar{\nu}_\tau$ tau antineutrino

Conserved: (LBSEMF)

- \rightarrow energy, momentum, force \rightarrow charge
- \rightarrow baryon # \rightarrow lepton # (separately)
- \rightarrow strangeness - only strong (\therefore produced in pairs)

Separate Lepton Numbers ($l_\mu / l_e / l_\tau$) must be conserved.

- \rightarrow EM waves release E in discrete packets of quanta (or photons).
- \rightarrow Every particles corresponding anti-particle has:
- \rightarrow same mass/rest mass E \rightarrow opposite charge

$E_{\text{min}} = 2E_0$ \rightarrow if photons of sufficient E interact w/ nucleus

Pair Production: \rightarrow converts to particle-antiparticle pair

$\gamma \rightarrow e^- + e^+$ \rightarrow excess E converted to KE of particles

Anihilation: \rightarrow particle meets corresponding anti-particle

\rightarrow mass converted back to E

$E_{\text{min}} = E_0$ \rightarrow two photons in opposite directions of same E conserve p

FEYNMAN DIAGRAMS

Electromagnetic Repulsion

Beta-Minus Decay (p^-)

Weak quarks: odd \rightarrow odd

WEAK quarks: odd \rightarrow odd

WEAK quarks: odd \rightarrow odd

WEAK proton-rich nuclei capture-

WEAK high speed e-collision/proton

PHOTOELECTRIC EFFECT

Work function (ϕ) - minimum E required to eject a photoelectron from the metal surface

Photoelectric Effect \rightarrow no photo e- emitted below threshold freq. (f_0) or ϕ

i. can't be wave, otherwise would take longer for γ to gain suff. E

intensity \propto photo e- emitted per second

$hf = \phi + E_{\text{kin}}$

$hf = E_1 - E_2$

$E_{\text{kin}} = eV_s$

$E = hf$

$E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$

Excitation - e^- moves up from one E level to another

Ionisation - e^- is removed from atom

EMission Spectra \rightarrow using diffraction prism

Absorption Spectra \rightarrow atoms only emit photons of $(n = 1)$

$E = \Delta E_1 - \Delta E_2$

E DIFFRACTION PATTERN concentric circles becoming more spread out

- 1 particles w/ 1 mass (e.g. n) travel at same KE as e^- (i.e. v)
- 2 have greater momentum \therefore shorter λ
- 3 more tightly packed diffraction pattern than e^-

LIGHT-BULBS/FLOUROSCENT TUBES

- 1 Mercury vapor emits UV radiation
- 2 Phosphorous coating absorbs γ from Hg so e^- gain enough E
- 3 Re-emits lower in visible light region

WAVE-PARTICLE DUALITY: Light is wave - e^- diffraction/superposition particle - photoelectric effect

$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$

WAVES

Transverse - E propagation \perp dir (displacement of particles)

e.g. S-waves, E.M.waves, water surface waves, waves in string

Progressive Wave - carries E from 1 place to another w/o transferring material

Superposition - vector sum of individual displacements

$c = f\lambda$

\rightarrow constructive (in phase $\lambda = 0^\circ, 360^\circ, 2\pi$) \rightarrow $ds/dt \uparrow$

\rightarrow destructive (antiphase $\lambda/2 = 180^\circ, \pi$) \rightarrow $ds/dt \downarrow$

\rightarrow out of phase = combination of both

Reflection - wave bounces back when hits boundary

Refraction - wave changes speed/direction entering different medium

Diffraction - wave spreads out passing through gap/round object

a rarer \rightarrow denser $v \uparrow \lambda \uparrow f =$ bends towards normal

a dense \rightarrow rarer $v \uparrow \lambda \uparrow f =$ bends away from normal

Longer λ refracts less \therefore violet (shorter λ) refracts more than red.

Longitudinal - E propagation // dir (displacement of particles)

e.g. P-waves, sound waves, ultrasound, infrasound

Stationary Wave: \rightarrow superposition of 2 progressive waves

(like standing wave)

Coherent Sources: Same λ or f in a constant phase relationship

STATIONARY MICROWAVES

uses: microwave transmitter/probe + metal plate

more probe finding areas of none/max signal

STATIONARY SOUND WAVES

- 1 powder in tube of air, loudspeaker produces stationary waves in tube
- 2 powder shaken along bottom away from anti-nodes to nodes
- 3 distance between powder patches = $\lambda/2$

$\therefore c = f \times 2d = 2df$

Resonant frequency - f where standing wave is formed

- First Harmonic fundamental: $\lambda = 2L \Rightarrow f_1 = \frac{v}{2L}$ and $f = \frac{1}{2L} \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$ tension T/N
- Second Harmonic first overtone: $\lambda = L \Rightarrow f_2 = \frac{v}{L} = 2f_1$ Pipe Open End must have 1 A.N.
- Third Harmonic second overtone: $\lambda = \frac{2}{3}L \Rightarrow f_3 = \frac{3v}{2L} = 3f_1$ Pipe Open Both Ends must have 2 A.N.

Polarised Wave - only oscillates 1 direction (plane/axis).
Only light w/ oscillations \parallel to polariser's transmission axis passes through.

Uses of Polarisation → glare reduction, removes partially-polarised reflected light (e.g. sunglasses, Polaroid photos)

- cameras/LCD displays: v. low power usage ones
- aerial alignment: TV signals polarised by orientation on transmitting aerial; to receive strongest signal, aerials must be aligned

Total Internal Refraction (TIR): angle of incidence > critical angle; from denser → rarer media

$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$

Optical (step-index) fibres: v. thin flexible tube of plastic glass carrying visible light → optically-dense core higher refractive index → less optically dense cladding surrounded by... → lower refractive index for T.I.R.

Cladding prevents: scratches of core, adds tensile strength, prevents crossover of information w/ neighbouring cores, maintains quality

→ narrower cable: better quality signal, less refraction, more T.I.R. → better data transfer

→ better than Cu: no heat lost, no electrical interference, cheaper

FORCES: scale - only magnitude vector - magnitude w/ associated directions, speed, dist, t, F, \vec{F} , $\vec{F}_x, \vec{F}_y, \vec{F}_z$

Forces on obj form a closed loop (equilibrium) \Rightarrow vector triangle

Equilibrium - no resultant force, \sum turning moments = 0

$v = u + at$ $s = \frac{1}{2}(u+v)t$ $s = u^2 + \frac{1}{2}a^2t^2 = \frac{u^2}{2} + \frac{1}{2}at^2$ $v^2 = u^2 + 2as$

Power: rate of work done = rate of E transfer $P = \frac{dW}{dt} = \frac{Fs}{t} = Fv (w/t)$

Moments: $M = \text{Force} \times \text{perpendicular distance to line of action}$

Freefall: when only gravity acts on object (i.e. only weight)

Friction: force that opposes motion, → Contact: between solid surfaces → Heat

Momentum: $p = mv$

Impulse: (N.s) change in momentum, area under F-t graph $J = m(v-u) = F\Delta t$

MATERIALS

Density (ρ) = mass/volume

Hooke's Law: $F = k\Delta L$ Young's Modulus = $\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon} = \frac{FL}{\Delta L}$

Tensile Stress (σ) if applied \perp to cross-sectional area $\sigma = F/A$ (Pa)

Tensile Strain (ϵ) changing in length due to applied stress $\epsilon = \frac{\Delta L}{L}$

→ Brittle: obeys Hooke's Law until fracture point (B), doesn't deform plastically

→ Ductile: deforms plastically → Brittle Fracture: rigid structure cracks grow

→ Strength: dears w/ more or until B as atoms unable to move

Force-Extension Graph: complete zones: work done to deform wire, due to separation, ΔE plastic stretches

Stress-Strain Graphs: Yield Point, Ultimate Tensile Stress, max material withstands extra load, breaking point, material fractures, unloading

Energy Stored = $\frac{1}{2}F\Delta L = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$

Path Difference - path travelled by 1 wave longer than another (2 coherent sources)

Diffraction in Gaps: diffraction = gap $\gg \lambda$ → $\frac{\max}{\text{diffraction}} = \text{gap} \approx 2$ most reflection = gap $\ll \lambda$

Around an object, 'diffraction shadows' may occur.

Two-Source Interference → use coherent, monochromatic light

- Constructive: path $\Delta = n\lambda$
- Destructive: path $\Delta = (n+\frac{1}{2})\lambda$

Young's Double Slit DERIVATION: $W = \frac{1D}{s}$ fringe spacing, slit separation

Diffraction Grating: grating spacing $d \sin \theta = n\lambda$ produces very sharp pattern $\propto \frac{1}{s}$ for $n=1$, $d \sin \theta \ll \lambda$

(Single) Monochromatic Light Diffraction Filter: slit/aperture, central max. $2x$ wide as fringes

(Single) White Light Diffraction: blue INNER red OUTER

SIGNAL DEGRADATION: absorption by fibre material → reduced amplitude, dispersion causes pulse broadening → info loss

NEWTON'S LAWS: 1 velocity of object doesn't change unless resultant force acts upon it $\Rightarrow F = ma$

3 1 object exerts a force on another, other object exerts equal/opposite force on former

TERMINAL VELOCITY: $v_t = \sqrt{\frac{2mg}{\rho C_d A}}$

Work Done - area under force-displacement graph $W = Fs(\cos \theta)$

Principle of Moments - for a body in equilibrium, $\sum c.w = \sum o.c.w.$

Couple: pair of opposite, equal, co-planar forces

Moment of Couple = force \times \perp dist. between lines of forces

Lift: upwards force on object through fluid, \perp to fluid flow. Caused by equal & opposite force on wing. Occurs when shape of an object causes fluid flowing over to change direction.

Collisions: elastic - conserves p/E, no E dissipated

+ inelastic - only conserves p, some KE \rightarrow heat, sound

+ perfectly inelastic - conserves p, no KE (parts stick together)

ELECTRICITY: variable resistor, fuse (NTC) thermistor, diode, LED, LDR

DIODE I-V CHARACTERISTICS: $I = \frac{V}{R}$ $V = \frac{W}{Q} = IR$

Electrical Current (I) - rate of flowed charge $I = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t}$

Potential Difference (V) - work done per unit charge $V = \frac{W}{Q} = IR$

Superconductors: material w/ 0 resistance below critical temp (T_c); dependent on material

Power Cables: transmit electricity w/o power loss V . Strong Electromagnets: used in Maglevs, medicine, less heat/E dissipated

Resistivity $\rho = \frac{RA}{l}$ $\Omega \cdot m$

Power (P) - rate of energy transfer $P = \frac{W}{t} = VI = I^2R = \frac{V^2}{R}$

Electromotive Force (e.m.f) - electrical E to each C of charge $E = V/t$

Potential Divider - used to supply constant/variable P.D from e.g. LDR, thermometer, \vec{F}

Kirchhoff's Laws:

- total current entering junction = total current leaving junction
- total e.m.f in any closed loop = total p.d. in any closed loop

$V_{out} = V_{in} \times \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2}$

$\sum_{n=1}^t R_n = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + \dots + R_t$

$\frac{1}{R_{eq}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{R_t}$

$6V = 3I_1 + 2I_2 \Rightarrow I_1 = \frac{10}{3}A$

$4V = 2I_2 \Rightarrow I_2 = -2A$

$I_3 = I_1 - I_2 = \frac{10}{3} + 2 = \frac{16}{3}A$

FIELDS & THEIR CONSEQUENCES) Force field - region in which a body experiences a non-contact force. Arises from interaction of mass / static or moving charges.

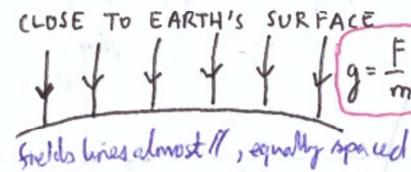
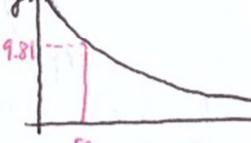
GRAVITATIONAL FIELDS

Gravity - universally attractive force acting between all matter
universal gravitational constant: $F = \frac{GMm}{r^2}$ distance between two masses/m

Newton's Law of Gravity: $F = \frac{GMm}{r^2}$ for 'point masses'

Radial Fields: they are vector fields

$$g = \frac{F}{m} = \frac{GMm}{mr^2} = \frac{GM}{r^2}$$



Fields lines almost //, equally spaced

Gravitational Potential (V): GPE a unit mass at a point would have. It is always -ve; at ∞ distance; $V = 0$. $V = \frac{Ep}{m} = \frac{-GMm}{r}$

The gradient of the graph at any point = $-g$.

$$g = -\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta r}$$

G.P.E (E_p): $E_p = mgh = -m \times \frac{GM}{r^2} \times r$; $E_p = \frac{-GMm}{r}$

Gravitational Potential Difference: energy needed to move a unit mass. Work is done against gravity moving an object from 1 gravitational potential.

$$\Delta W = m \Delta V \quad \text{Also, } W = F \cdot r \Rightarrow \Delta W = \int_F dr = \int \frac{GMm}{r^2} dr = -\frac{GMm}{r} = E_p$$

: the greater the radius of a satellite's orbit, the longer it takes to complete 1 orbit, and slower it will travel.

In any orbiting satellite, $KE + PE = \text{constant}$

Escape Velocity - minimum speed an unpowered object needs in order to leave the gravitational field of a planet) and not fall back due to gravitational attraction

$$\text{K.E lost} = \text{G.P.E gained} \quad \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{GMm}{r} \quad \therefore v = \sqrt{\frac{2GM}{r}}$$

Synchronous Orbit - orbiting object has an orbital period equal to the rotational period of object it orbits

GEOSTATIONARY SATELLITES always above same point on Earth

(~ 36000 km above Earth's surface)

→ useful for phone/TV signals: don't have to alter receiver angle

Fields { Gravitational: always attractive (-) both follow inverse-square laws, field lines // equipotentials
Electrical: charges attract/repel (+)}

ELECTRIC FIELDS

Coulomb's Law: $F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \times \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{r^2}$

Electric Field Strength: force applied per unit test charge

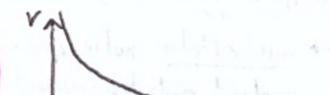
$$E = \frac{F}{Q} \quad \text{vector in direction a +ve charge would move.}$$

Radial Fields:

$$E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \times \frac{Q}{r^2}$$

Uniform Fields:

$$E = \frac{V}{d} \quad \text{plate separation/m}$$



Electric Potential (V): EPE that a unit +ve charge (+1C) would have at that point. The sign of V depends on Q's charge.

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \times \frac{Q}{r}$$

$$The gradient at any point = E. \quad E = \frac{\Delta V}{\Delta r}$$

$$E.P.E (U_E): \quad U_E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \times \frac{Qq}{r}$$

$$E.P.E (U_E): \quad U_E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \times \frac{Qq}{r}$$

Electric Potential Difference: energy needed to move a unit charge between 2 points in a field. Work Done \propto size of charge moved \propto size of potential diff. moved across.

$$\Delta W = Q \Delta V \quad \text{considering 2 plates, w/p.d. } d \quad \text{then } E = \frac{\Delta V}{d} = \frac{F}{Q} \Rightarrow Q \Delta V = Fd$$

EQUIPOTENTIALS [line in 2D / surfaces in 3D] that join together all of the points with the same gravitational potential (V). Field lines always \perp to equipotential.

Moving along an equipotential, no work is done as $\Delta V = 0$.

Force at Subatomic Levels - distances between particles tiny, so expect gravitational/ E.S. forces to be massive.

BUT: → gravity is negligible: particles have minuscule masses, much smaller than E.S.

→ nucleus not destroyed by e.s. repulsion: strong force holds together

ELECTROMAGNETISM

NUCLEAR PHYSICS

Structure of an Atom

- 5th century BC - Democritus: matter made of identical, divisible 'atoms'
- 1804 - John Dalton: different 'Dalton spheres' for different elements
- 1897 - J.J. Thompson - e removable from atoms, so "plum pudding model"
- Rutherford (Geiger/Marsden: 1909) - α particle scattering through thin gold foil, flashing on circular fluorescent screen
- 1913 - Rutherford proposes nuclear model
- Rutherford/Kaye (1919) - p discovered, firing high E particles at gases

Estimating Nuclear Radius

Using Coulomb's Law or particle bounces back: $KE_{\alpha} = \frac{Q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$ when $KE_{\text{initial}} = EPE$

Using Electron Diffraction leptons don't interact w/ strong nuclear force, so e diff. gives accurate estimation

First minimum appears where:

$$\sin \theta \approx \frac{1.222}{2R} \quad \text{radius of nucleus}$$

$$R \approx \frac{0.612}{\sin \theta_{\text{min}}} \quad \text{e-scattered by}$$

$$R = R_0 \times A^{\frac{1}{3}} \quad \text{nuclear radius}$$

$$\rho = \frac{A \times m_{\text{nucleon}}}{\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3} = \frac{A \times m_{\text{nucleon}}}{\frac{4}{3}\pi (R_0 A^{\frac{1}{3}})^3} = \frac{3 \times m_{\text{nucleon}}}{4\pi R_0^3}$$

Nuclear Density

radioactive decay - emission is both random and spontaneous. A large activity/ decay constant population of nuclei show overall trend, but can't predict an individual nucleus' decay.

$$A = \frac{dN}{dt} = \frac{dN/N}{dt} \quad \text{# of unstable nuclei}$$

$$W = A \times E \quad \text{power of source}$$

$$W = \text{activity} / \tau$$

Decay Constant (λ) - probability of an individual nucleus decaying in 1 second

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -\lambda N \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{dN/N}{t} \Rightarrow \int_{N_0}^N \frac{dN}{N} = -\int_0^t \lambda dt$$

ratio changes on half-life: uses e

$$\Rightarrow [\ln N]_N^N = -\lambda t \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{N}{N_0} \right) = -\lambda t \therefore N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

As $A \propto N$, also: $A = 2N = 2N_0 e^{-\lambda t} \Rightarrow A = A_0 e^{-\lambda t}$

Half Life ($T_{1/2}$) - average time taken for number of unstable nuclei to halve.

$$\text{When } t = T_{1/2}, \text{ then } N = \frac{1}{2} N_0 \therefore \frac{1}{2} = e^{-\lambda T_{1/2}} \Rightarrow -\ln 2 = -\lambda T_{1/2} \therefore T_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{\lambda}$$

Nuclear Fission & Fusion

Nuclear Fission - splitting of a large, unstable nucleus, either spontaneous or induced. E released as new smaller nuclei have much higher BE/nucleon.

Nuclear Fusion - combining 2 lighter nuclei to create a larger nucleus.

Much E released as heavier nuclei have much higher BE/nucleon. All nuclei +vely charged, so overcomes E.S. attraction before strong force acts.

Nuclear Fission Reactors

Fission is induced by thermal neutrons.

CHAIN REACTIONS - fission reactions produce more neutrons which induce more fission. The neutrons must be slowed down to be captured by nuclei.

MODERATORS - fuel rods placed in water to slow down/absorb neutrons through elastic collisions by conservation of p. Want $m_{\text{moderator}} \approx m_{\text{neutron}}$.

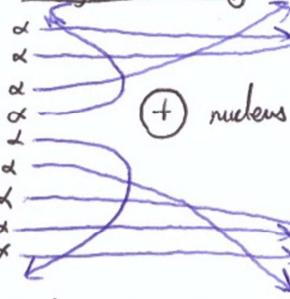
CONTROL ROADS - allows chain reaction to be sustained at a steady rate by limiting # of neutrons in reactor, absorbing surplus neutrons.

Critical Mass: amount of fuel so 1 fission follows another.

Lowered/lifted accordingly to prevent meltdown.

COOLANT - removes heat produced by fission to make steam which turns turbine; cool water supplied

Rutherford Scattering



Nuclear Radiation

→ Alpha (α) nature: ${}^4\text{He}$ nucleus charge (Q): +2 mass (m): $\sim 4m_e$

→ Beta (β) nature: e^- (or e^+ for β^+) charge (Q): -1 (or +1) mass (m): ~ 0

→ Gamma (γ) nature: E.M. radiation charge (Q): 0 mass (m): 0

APPLICATIONS

→ smoke detectors: allows current to flow, but when smoke is present, α particles can't reach detector. Alarm!

→ thickness monitoring: creating sheets - material passes through adjustable rollers. Too thick = radiation absorbed, i.e. rollers move closer. Too thin = β^- detector detects too much ∵ rollers more apart.

→ radioactive tracers: diagnose patients non-invasively. Source w/ short $T_{1/2}$ to prevent prolonged exposure. PET scanner then used to detect rays emitted.

→ cancer treatment: fixed in all directions w/ tumour at centre. Lessens damage to surrounding tissue. Side effects: tiredness, soreness to the skin. Medical staff leave room.

IDENTIFICATION

Background Radiation: reading of count rate from radiation present in the environment

Sources: → the air: radioactive Rd gas released from rocks (α -emitter). Largest contributor

→ the ground/buildings: nearly all rocks contain radioactive materials

→ cosmic rays: most high E particles from space, collide w/ upper atmosphere particles to produce radiation

→ living things: during photosynthesis, plants absorb some atmospheric ^{14}C from cosmic rays

→ manmade sources: medical, industrial, nuclear power, weapons testing

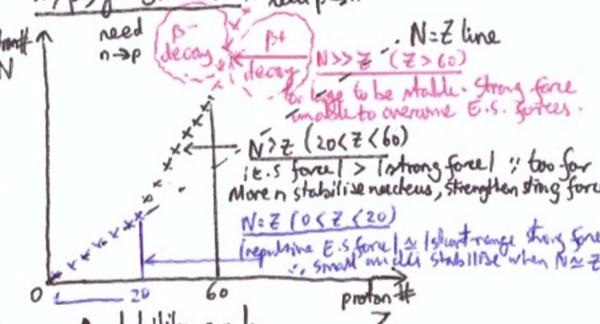
1 record background count rate (w/o source)

2 place unknown source near Geiger-Muller tube, record (corrected) count rate

3 place sheets of paper/aluminium and record count rates; subtract by background radiation

① Sole Handline: hold source w/ toras ($I = \frac{I_0}{x^2}$), if not working directly, stay far away! Store γ in Pb box, out of beam little

α, β, γ Emission



Applications of Radioactive Isotopes

→ Radioactive Dating: ${}^{14}\text{C}$ taken in during photosynthesis. $T_{1/2} \approx 6000$ years. Test amount of ${}^{14}\text{C}$ remaining.

but: → in manmade objects: can only find age of material used, not object itself

→ contamination from other sources/high background count overpowering object

→ uncertainty in ${}^{14}\text{C}$ thousands of years ago; small count rates are unreliable

→ Medical Diagnosis: Tc-99m used as medical tracer to show tissue/organ function.

Tracer injected/swallowed, then emitted radiation recorded; image produced.

→ emits γ with $T_{1/2} = 6$ hrs (long enough for data recording, but short enough to limit exposure)

→ decays to much stabler isotope

Mass Defect & Binding Energy

When 2 atoms come together to form a stable molecule {E released making a nucleus exothermic} {E required to separate a nucleus endothermic}

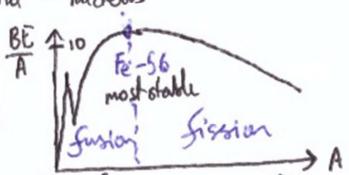
Binding Energy of Nucleus: work done to separate a nucleus into its constituent nucleons

Mass Defect (Δm): the difference between mass of separated nucleons and m_{nucleus}

$$\Delta m = Z m_p + (A-Z) m_n - m_{\text{nucleus}}$$

$$1u \approx 931.5 \text{ MeV}$$

Average B.E. per nucleon is a measure of how stable a nucleus is.



Safety Aspects

→ Reactor Shielding - thick concrete case to contain everything

→ Emergency Shutdown - fully lowers control rods

→ Handling Storage - unused only emit α . Spent rods has neutron-rich products which β and γ . Products cooled until safe activity levels - use tracers.