



## High Level Problems (HLP)

### SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS

1. A radioactive material decays by  $\beta$ -particle emission. During the first 2 seconds of a measurement,  $n$   $\beta$ -particles are emitted and the next 2 seconds  $0.75 n$   $\beta$ -particles are emitted. Calculate the mean-life of this material in seconds to the nearest whole number. ( $\ln 3 = 1.0986$  and  $\ln 2 = 0.6931$ ). [JEE 2003 Main] 2/60
2. What kinetic energy must an  $\alpha$ -particle possess to split a deuteron  $H^2$  whose binding energy is  $E_b = 2.2$  MeV ?
3. A nucleus at rest undergoes  $\alpha$ -decay according to the equation,  ${}_{92}^{225}X \longrightarrow Y + \alpha$ . At time  $t = 0$ , the emitted  $\alpha$ -particle enters in a region of space where a uniform magnetic field  $\vec{B} = B_0 \hat{i}$  and electric field  $\vec{E} = E_0 \hat{i}$  exist. The  $\alpha$ -particle enters in the region with velocity  $\vec{V} = v_0 \hat{j}$  from origin. At time  $t = \sqrt{3} \times 10^7 \frac{m_\alpha}{q_\alpha E_0}$  sec., where  $m_\alpha$  is the mass and  $q_\alpha$  is the charge of  $\alpha$ -particle. The particle was observed to have speed twice the initial speed  $v_0$ . Then find :
  - (a) the initial speed  $v_0$  of the  $\alpha$ -particle
  - (b) the velocity of  $\alpha$ -particle at time  $t$
  - (c) the binding energy per nucleon of  $X$ .

**Given that :**  $m(Y) = 221.03$  u,  $m(He) = 4.003$  u,  $m(n) = 1.009$  u,  
 $m(p) = 1.0084$  u and  $1 \text{ u} = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg} = 931 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
4. A neutron collides elastically with an initially stationary deuteron. Find the fraction of the kinetic energy lost by the neutron (a) in a head-on collision; (b) in scattering at right angles.
5. Find the binding energy of a nucleus consisting of equal numbers of protons and neutrons and having the radius one and a half time smaller than that of  $Al^{27}$  nucleus. [Atomic mass of  ${}^8_4Be = 8.0053$  u,  ${}^1_1H = 1.007826$ u,  ${}^1_0n = 1.008665$  u]
6. A radio nuclide with half life  $T = 69.31$  second emits  $\beta$ -particles of average kinetic energy  $E = 11.25$  eV. At an instant concentration of  $\beta$ -particles at distance,  $r = 2$  m from nuclide is  $n = 3 \times 10^{13}$  per  $m^3$ .
  - (i) Calculate number of nuclei in the nuclide at that instant.
  - (ii) If a small circular plate is placed at distance  $r$  from nuclide such that  $\beta$ -particles strike the plate normally and come to rest, calculate pressure experienced by the plate due to collision of  $\beta$ -particle. (Mass of  $\beta$ -particle =  $9 \times 10^{-31}$  kg) ( $\log_e 2 = 0.693$ )
7.
  - (a) Find the energy needed to remove a neutron from the nucleus of the calcium isotope  ${}^{42}_{20}Ca$
  - (b) Find the energy needed to remove a proton from this nucleus
  - (c) Why are these energies different ?

Atomic masses of  ${}^{41}_{20}Ca$  and  ${}^{42}_{20}Ca$  are  $40.962278$  u and  $41.958622$  u respectively.  
 Atomic mass of  ${}^{41}_{19}K$  is  $40.961825$  u, Mass of Proton is  $1.007826$  u
8. A nucleus  $X$ , initially at rest, undergoes alpha-decay according to the equation. [JEE 1991; 2+4+2M]
 
$${}^A_{92}X \rightarrow {}^Z_ZY + \alpha$$
  - (a) Find the values of  $A$  and  $Z$  in the above process.
  - (b) The alpha particle produced in the above process is found to move in a circular track of radius  $0.11$  m in a uniform magnetic field of  $3$  tesla. Find the energy (in MeV) released during the process and the binding energy of the parent nucleus  $X$ .  
 Given that  $m(Y) = 228.03$  u;  $m({}^1_0n) = 1.009$  u.  
 $m({}^4_2He) = 4.003$  u ;  $m({}^1_1H) = 1.008$  u.





9. 100 millicuries of radon which emits 5.5 MeV  $\alpha$  - particles are contained in a glass capillary tube 5 cm long with internal and external diameters 2 and 6mm respectively Neglecting end effects and assuming that the inside of the tube is uniformly irradiated by the particles which are stopped at the surface calculate the temperature difference between the walls of a tube when steady thermal conditions have been reached.  
Thermal conductivity of glass =  $0.025 \text{ Cal cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$   
Curie =  $3.7 \times 10^{10}$  disintegration per second  
 $J = 4.18 \text{ joule Cal}^{-1}$
10. Radium being a member of the uranium series occurs in uranium ores. If the half lives of uranium and radium are respectively  $4.5 \times 10^9$  and 1620 years calculate the  $\frac{N_{\text{radium}}}{N_{\text{uranium}}}$  in Uranium ore at equilibrium.
11.  $^{90}\text{Sr}$  decays to  $^{90}\text{Y}$  by  $\beta$  decay with a half-life of 28 years.  $^{90}\text{Y}$  decays by  $\beta$  decay to  $^{90}\text{Zr}$  with a half-life of 64h. A pure sample of  $^{90}\text{Sr}$  is allowed to decay. What is the value of  $\frac{N_{\text{Sr}}}{N_{\text{y}}}$  after (a) 1h (b) 10 years?
12. The element Curium  $^{248}_{96}\text{Cm}$  has a mean life of  $10^{13}$  seconds. Its primary decay modes are spontaneous fission and  $\alpha$ -decay, the former with a probability of 8% and the latter with a probability of 92%. Each fission releases 200 MeV of energy. The masses involved in  $\alpha$ -decay are as follows : atomic masses of atoms are  $^{248}_{96}\text{Cm} = 248.072220 \text{ u}$ ,  $\text{He}^4 = 4.002603 \text{ u}$  &  $\text{Pu}^{244} = 244.064100 \text{ u}$ . ( $1 \text{ u} = 931 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ ). Calculate the power output from a sample of  $10^{20}$  Cm atoms. [IIT - 1997]
13. Nucleus  ${}^7_3\text{A}$  has binding energy per nucleon of 10 MeV. It absorbs a proton and its mass increases by  $\frac{99}{100}$  times the mass of proton. Find the new binding energy of the nucleus so formed. [Take energy equivalent of proton = 930 MeV]
14. The nucleus of  $^{230}_{90}\text{Th}$  is unstable against  $\alpha$ -decay with a half-life of  $7.6 \times 10^3$  years. Write down the equation of the decay and estimate the kinetic energy of the emitted  $\alpha$ -particle from the following data :  $m(^{230}_{90}\text{Th}) = 230.0381 \text{ amu}$ ,  $m(^{226}_{88}\text{Ra}) = 226.0254 \text{ amu}$  and  $m(^4_2\text{He}) = 4.0026 \text{ amu}$ .
15. When  $^{30}\text{Si}$  is bombarded with a deuteron.  $^{31}\text{Si}$  is formed in its ground state with the emission of a proton. The energy released in this reaction from the following information is E then find [E]:  
 $^{31}\text{Si} \rightarrow ^{31}\text{P} + \beta^- + 1.51 \text{ MeV}$   
 $^{30}\text{Si} + d \rightarrow ^{31}\text{P} + n + 5.10 \text{ MeV}$   
 $n \rightarrow p + \beta^- + \bar{\nu} + 0.78 \text{ MeV}$

## HLP Answers

1. 6.954 sec      2. 6.6 MeV
3. (a)  $v_0 = 10^7 \text{ m/s}$  Ans.      (b)  $\vec{V}(t) = \frac{qE_0}{m} t \hat{i} + 10^7 \cos \omega t \hat{j} - 10^7 \sin \omega t \hat{k}$  where  $\omega = qB/m$   
(c) 8.11 MeV/nucleon
4. (a)  $\eta = 4mM/(m+M)^2 = 0.89$ ; (b)  $\eta = 2m/(m+M) = 2/3$ . Here m and M are the masses of a neutron and deuteron.
5.  $\text{Be}^8$ ,  $E_b = 56.5 \text{ MeV}$ .      6. (i)  $9.6 \pi \times 10^{22}$ ,      (ii)  $1.08 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Nm}^{-2}$
7. (a) 11.48 MeV (b) 10.27 MeV      (c) The neutron was acted upon only by attractive nuclear forces whereas the proton was also acted upon by repulsive electric forces that decrease its binding energy.
8. (a) 232, 90 (b) 5.3 MeV, 1823.2 MeV      9.  $(T_1 - T_2) = 1.09 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
10.  $1/2.78 \times 10^6$
11. (a) For  $t = 1 \text{ h}$  and using the values for the decay constants  $N_{\text{Sr}}/N_{\text{y}} = 3.56 \times 10^5$   
(b) For  $t = 10 \text{ years}$ ,  $N_{\text{Sr}}/N_{\text{y}} = 3823$
12.  $3.32 \times 10^{-5} \text{ Js}^{-1}$       13. 79.3 MeV      14.  $^{230}_{90}\text{Th} \rightarrow ^{226}_{88}\text{Ra} + ^4_2\text{He} + Q$ ; 9.25 MeV.
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