

- 9 (a) State what is meant by the mass defect of a nucleus.
-
-
- [2]
- (b) The nuclear fusion reaction for the formation of helium-4 from deuterium is represented by

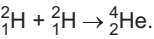


Table 9.1 shows the masses of the nuclides involved in this reaction.

Table 9.1

nuclide	nuclide mass/u
${}^2_1\text{H}$	2.013 553
${}^4_2\text{He}$	4.001 505

Calculate the energy released in the formation of 1.00 mol of helium-4.

energy = J [4]

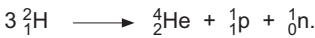
- (c) The star Sirius has a radius of $1.19 \times 10^9\text{ m}$ and loses mass due to nuclear fusion at a rate of $1.09 \times 10^{11}\text{ kg s}^{-1}$. Assume that the power of the radiation emitted by the star is equal to the power released by this process.
- (i) Determine a value for the luminosity of Sirius. Give a unit with your answer.
- luminosity = unit [2]
- (ii) Use your answer in (c)(i) to determine the surface temperature of Sirius.

surface temperature = K [2]

- (d) Explain how cosmologists use standard candles to estimate the distance of a galaxy from the Earth.
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-
-
- [3]

[Total: 13]

11 The deuterium nucleus (^2_1H) has a mass defect of 0.002388 u. The helium-4 nucleus (^4_2He) has a mass defect of 0.030377 u. Helium-4 is formed from deuterium in a nuclear reaction that can be represented by the equation



- (a) (i) State the name of this type of nuclear reaction.
- [1]
- (ii) Show that the energy released when one nucleus of helium-4 is formed from deuterium is $3.47 \times 10^{-12}\text{ J}$.

- (b) A star has a radius of $6.96 \times 10^8\text{ m}$. Helium-4 is produced in this star, from deuterium, at a mass rate of $7.34 \times 10^{11}\text{ kg s}^{-1}$. All the energy released from this process is radiated away from the star. All the energy that is radiated from the star is released by this process.
- (i) Calculate the luminosity of the star.

luminosity = W [3]

- (ii) Use your answer in (b)(i) to determine the surface temperature of the star.

temperature = K [2]

3

9 Polonium-193 ($^{193}_{84}\text{Po}$) is an unstable nuclide. A nucleus of polonium-193 decays to a nucleus of lead-189 ($^{189}_{82}\text{Pb}$) by emitting an alpha-particle.

- (a) Radioactive decay is both random and spontaneous.

State what is meant by:

- (i) random
- [1]
- (ii) spontaneous.
- [1]

- (b) Define half-life.
- [1]

- (c) Data for the binding energy per nucleon of the particles involved in the decay of a nucleus of polonium-193 are given in Table 9.1.

Table 9.1

particle	binding energy per nucleon / eV
$^{193}_{84}\text{Po}$	7.774
$^{189}_{82}\text{Pb}$	7.826
$^4_2\alpha$	7.074

Determine the energy, in eV, released when a nucleus of polonium-193 decays into a nucleus of lead-189.

energy = eV [2]

- (d) A pure sample of polonium-193 contains N_0 nuclei. After a time t the sample contains N nuclei of polonium-193. The variation of $\ln(N/N_0)$ with t is shown in Fig. 9.1.

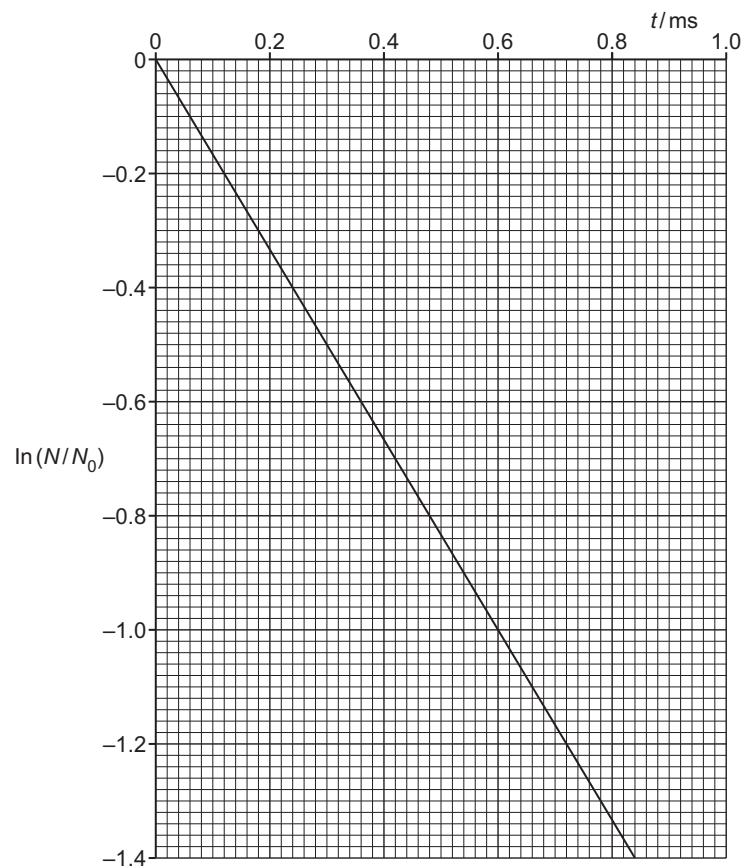


Fig. 9.1

- (i) State the name of the quantity that is represented by the magnitude of the gradient of the line in Fig. 9.1.
- [1]
- (ii) Use Fig. 9.1 to determine the half-life, in ms, of polonium-193.

Half-life = ms [2]

- (e) Positron emission tomography (PET scanning) uses a radioactive tracer.

- (i) State what happens to the positrons emitted by the tracer.

..... [1]

- (ii) Explain why a tracer with a half-life of approximately 2 hours is a suitable tracer to use.

..... [1]

[Total: 10]