

Nuclear Physics MS

M1. (a) repulsive then attractive (1)

short range (if distance quoted must be of order fm) (1)

correct distance for cross over (accept range 0.1 – 1.0 fm) (1)

3

(b) (i) a helium nucleus (accept 2p and 2n) (1)

1

(ii) $(\downarrow 92\uparrow 238) U \rightarrow (\downarrow 90\uparrow 234) Th (+\downarrow 2\uparrow 4)\alpha$ (1)

2

(c) (i) same atomic number/proton number (1)

2

(ii) evidence of subtraction of mass number or atomic number (1)

(thus atomic number decreases to) 76 (1)

(atomic number of lead is 82 therefore) 6 (82 – 76) beta decays (1)

3

[11]

M2. (a) (i) nucleon number is the number of protons and neutrons OR mass number
proton number is the number of protons OR atomic number ✓

1

(ii) $14 - 6 = 8$ ✓

1

(iii) specific charge = $6 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$ ✓ / $(14 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27}$ ✓)

specific charge = 4.1×10^7 (C kg⁻¹) ✓

3

(b) (i) isotopes are variations of an element that have same
proton/atomic number ✓

but different nucleon number OR different number of neutrons ✓

2

(ii) $4.8 \times 10^7 = 6 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \checkmark / (A \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27})$

$$A = 6 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} / (4.8 \times 10^7 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27})$$

$$A = 12 \checkmark$$

Number of neutrons = 12-6 \checkmark

3

[10]

- M3.** (a) (atoms with) same number of protons/same atomic number (1)
different number of neutrons/mass number/ nucleons (1)

2

- (b) (i) 7 protons (1)
8 neutrons (1)

(ii)
$$\left(\frac{\text{charge}}{\text{mass}} \right) = \frac{7 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}{15 \times 1.67 \times 10^{-27}} \quad (1)$$

 $= 4.5 \times 10^7 \text{ (C kg}^{-1}\text{)} \quad (1) \quad (4.47 \times 10^7 \text{ (C kg}^{-1}\text{)})$
(allow C.E. for incorrect values in (b) (i))

4

- (c) (i) (+) 1.6×10^{-19} (C) (1)
(ii) positive ion (1)

2

[8]

- M4.** (a) the ratio of charge to mass of nucleus \checkmark

$$\text{C kg}^{-1} \checkmark$$

2

- (b) (i) number of protons and neutrons the same or number of neutrons less or
mass the same \checkmark
but more protons therefore greater charge \checkmark

2

- (ii) answers add up to 10 ✓
 number of protons = 4 ✓
 number of neutrons = 10 – 4 = 6 ✓
 evidence of correct calculation ✓
 eg $5q = 1.25 \times ?q$

$$? = 4$$

4

[8]

- M5.** (a) number of protons = number of electrons (e.g.14) (1)

$$\text{number of protons} + \text{number of neutrons} = 28 \quad (1)$$

2

- (b) (i) nuclei with the same number of protons (1)
 but different number of neutrons/nucleons (1)
 (ii) $(137 - 55) = 82 \quad (1)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iii)} \quad \frac{Q}{m} &= \frac{92 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19}}{236 \times 1.67 \times 10^{-27}} \quad (1) \\ &= 3.73 \times 10^7 \text{ (C kg}^{-1}\text{)} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{(iv)} \quad X (= 236 - 137 - 4) = 95 \quad (1)$$

6

[8]

- M6.** (a) (i) 94 (protons) (1)
 (ii) 145 (neutrons) (1)
 (iii) 93 (electrons) (1)

3

- (b) same number of protons
 [or same atomic number] (1)
 different number of neutrons/nucleons
 [or different mass number] (1)

2

[5]

- M7.** (i) same atomic number/number of protons ✓
 different mass/nucleon number/different number of neutrons ✓

2



2

(iii) $\frac{q}{m} = \frac{2 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}{4 \times 1.67 \times 10^{-27}}$ ✓✓

$\frac{q}{m} = 4.8 \times 10^7 \text{ Ckg}^{-1}$ ✓✓

4

- (iv) strong nuclear force is short range ✓

no effect at distances larger 3 fm
 (except any distance less than 10 fm) ✓

2

[10]

M8. (a) (i) (charge) = $92 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19}$
 $= 1.47 \times 10^{-17} \text{ (C)}$ (1)

(ii) (magnitude of ion charge) = 3(e) (1)
 number of electrons (= 92 - 3) = 89 (1)

4

- (b) X: number of nucleons [or number of neutrons plus protons or mass number] (1)
 239 (1)
 Y: number of protons [or atomic number] (1)
 94 (1)

4

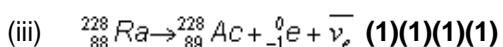
[8]

- M9.** (a) (i) 88 protons (1)
 140 neutrons (1)
 88 electrons (1)

3

(ii) electron (1)

1



4

(b) 228 ± 10 (1)

88 (1)

2

[10]

M10. (a) pair production (1)

1

(b) (i) the γ ray must provide enough energy to provide for the (rest) mass (1)
any extra energy will provide the particle(s) with **kinetic** energy (1)

(ii) $(0.511 + 0.511) = 1.022$ (MeV) (1)

3

(c) any pairing of a particle with its corresponding antiparticle (e.g. p + \bar{p}) (1)

1

[5]

M11. (a) (i) 9.11×10^{-31} (kg) (1)

(ii) (use of $E = hf$ and $c = f\lambda$ gives) $f = \frac{3.00 \times 10^8}{8.30 \times 10^{-13}} (= 3.61 \times 10^{20})$ (1)

$E = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times 3.61 \times 10^{20}$ (1)

$= 2.4 \times 10^{-13}$ J (1) (2.39 $\times 10^{-13}$ J)

(iii) $E = \frac{2.39 \times 10^{-13}}{1.60 \times 10^{-13}}$ (1)
 $= 1.5$ (MeV) (1)

(allow C.E. for value of E from (ii))

6

(b) weak interaction/force **(1)**

1

(c) (i) A: neutron or n **(1)**

B: W^+ **(1)**

C: (electron) neutrino or $\nu_{(e)}$ **(1)**

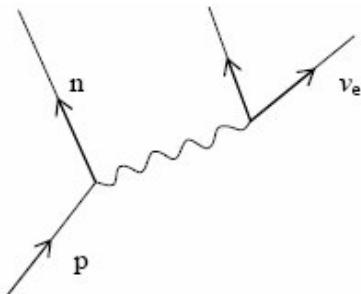
3

[10]

M12. (a) n **(1)**

p **(1)**

ν_e **(1)**



3

(b) (i) γ photon **(1)**

(ii) γ is massless

γ has infinite range

γ does not carry charge

(1)(1) any two

3

(c) (i) all properties/quantum numbers (e.g. charge, strangeness)
are opposite **(1)**

but the masses are the same **(1)**

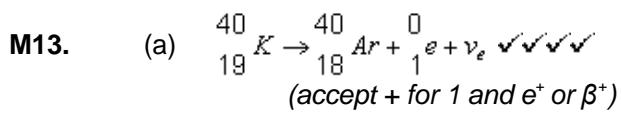
(ii) π° **(1)**

\bar{K}° **(1)**

γ **(1)**

5

[11]



4

(b) (i) electron/K capture ✓

1

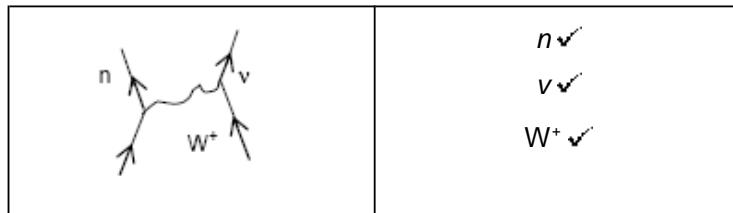
(ii) (inner) shell (of atom) ✓

1

(iii) conservation of **lepton number** ✓

1

(iv)



3

[10]