

\*1 In 1961 Murray Gell-Mann predicted the existence of a new particle called an omega ( $\Omega$ ) minus. It was subsequently discovered in 1964.

At this time the quark model consisted of three particles, the properties of which are given in the table.

Quark	Charge	Predicted mass in $\text{MeV}/c^2$
Up (u)	$+\frac{2}{3}$	4
Down (d)	$-\frac{1}{3}$	4
Strange (s)	$-\frac{1}{3}$	80

(a) Explain what a charge of  $+\frac{2}{3}$  means.

(1)

(b) State the predicted mass of, and the charge on a  $\bar{s}$ .

(2)

(c) Convert  $4 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  to kg.

(3)

Mass =

kg

(d) The event which led to the discovery of the omega minus particle can be summarised as follows. A negative kaon collided with a stationary proton and produced a positive kaon, a neutral kaon and the omega minus.

(i) Kaons K consist of combinations of either an up or down quark plus a strange quark. The omega minus consists of three strange quarks.

Complete the following table by ticking the appropriate boxes.

(2)

	Meson	Baryon	Nucleon	Lepton
Negative kaon				
Omega minus				

(ii) Write an equation using standard particle symbols to summarise this event.

(2)

(iii) The negative kaon consists of  $\bar{u} s$ . Deduce the quark structure of the other two kaons involved in this event.

(2)

- (iv) The total mass of the three particles created after this event is larger than the total mass of the two particles before. Discuss the quantities that must be conserved in interactions between particles and use an appropriate conservation law to explain this increase in mass.

(5)

**(Total for Question = 17 marks)**

2 In 2011 physicists at the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) announced the creation of nuclei of anti-helium-4 which consists of anti-protons and anti-neutrons instead of protons and neutrons.

(a) 'Ordinary' helium-4 is written as  ${}^4_2\text{He}$ .

What do the numbers 4 and 2 represent?

(2)

.....

.....

.....

(b) In the RHIC experiment, nuclei of gold  ${}^{197}_{79}\text{Au}$  travelling at speeds greater than  $2.99 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , in opposite directions, collided, releasing energies of up to 200 GeV. After billions of collisions, 18 anti-helium nuclei had been detected.

(i) What is meant by 'relativistic' in the collider's name?

(1)

.....

.....

(ii) State why it is necessary to use very high energies in experiments such as these.

(1)

.....

.....

(iii) Show that the mass of a stationary anti-helium nucleus is about  $4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ .

(4)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

(iv) State why the small number of anti-helium nuclei produced only survive for a fraction of a second.

(1)

.....

.....

(v) A slow moving anti-helium nucleus meets a slow moving helium nucleus. If they were to combine to produce 2 high energy gamma rays, calculate the frequency of each gamma ray.

(2)

.....

.....

.....

.....

Frequency .....

(c) There are two families of hadrons, called baryons and mesons. Baryons such as protons are made of three quarks.

(i) Describe the structure of a meson.

(1)

.....

.....

.....

(ii) Up quarks have a charge of  $+2/3e$  and down quarks a charge of  $-1/3e$ .  
Describe the quark composition of anti-protons and anti-neutrons and use this to deduce the charge on each of these particles.

(4)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

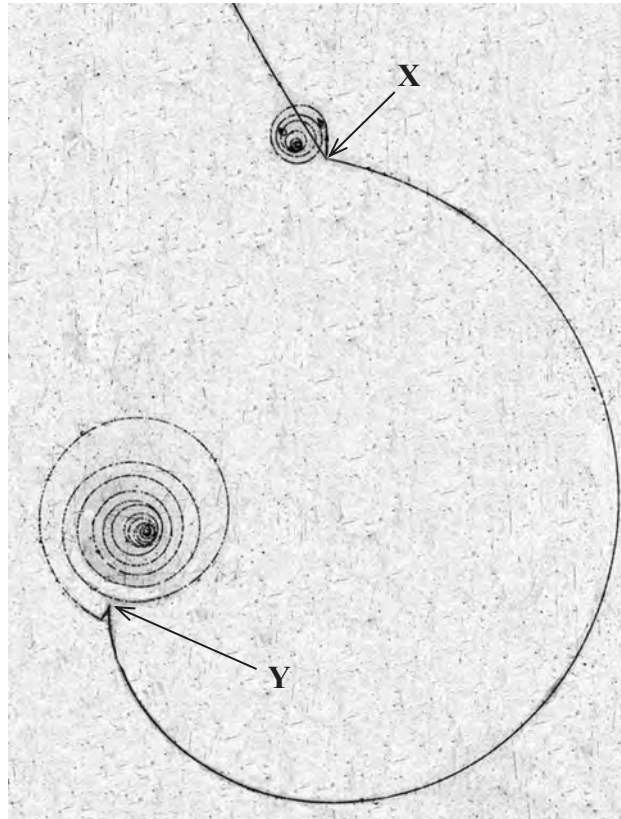
.....

.....

.....

**(Total for Question 16 marks)**

3 The photograph shows tracks in a particle detector.



(a) Explain the role of a magnetic field in a particle detector.

(2)

.....

.....

.....

.....

(b) Explain how you can tell that track XY was produced by a particle moving from X to Y rather than from Y to X.

(2)

.....

.....

.....

(c) The particle that produced track XY was a  $\pi^+$ . Deduce the direction of the magnetic field in the photograph.

(1)

.....

.....

(d) At Y, the  $\pi^+$  decayed into a positively charged muon ( $\mu^+$ ) and a muon neutrino. The  $\mu^+$  has a very short range before decaying into various particles, including a positron which produced the final spiral.

(i) Give **two** reasons why you can deduce that the muon neutrino is neutral.

(2)

1.....

.....

.....

2.....

.....

.....

(ii) Explain the evidence from the photograph for the production of the muon neutrino at Y.

(3)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

**(Total for Question 10 marks)**



4 Anti-hydrogen atoms have been created at CERN. An anti-hydrogen atom consists of an anti-proton and a positron.

(a) Compare the properties of an anti-hydrogen atom with a hydrogen atom.

(2)

.....

.....

.....

.....

(b) Calculate the electrostatic force of attraction between the positron and the anti-proton.

Assume that the radius of the anti-hydrogen atom is  $5.3 \times 10^{-11}$  m.

(3)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Force .....

- (c) Scientists want to find out if anti-hydrogen atoms emit the same spectra as hydrogen atoms. Anti-protons are relatively easy to contain, however, it is very difficult to contain anti-hydrogen atoms for any period of time.

Explain why it is difficult to contain anti-hydrogen atoms compared with anti-protons.

(2)

.....

.....

.....

.....

- (d) The technology suggested in the science fiction series, Star Trek, for powering the Starship Enterprise relied on antimatter. When an anti-hydrogen atom meets a hydrogen atom, they annihilate and produce energy.

- (i) How much energy, in joules, would be produced by the annihilation of just 1 milligram of anti-hydrogen atoms?

(3)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Energy .....J

- (ii) Anti-protons are required to produce anti-hydrogen atoms. The total production of anti-protons on Earth over the past 25 years adds up to only a few nanograms.

Suggest why so little anti-matter has been created.

(1)

.....

.....

**(Total for Question 11 marks)**