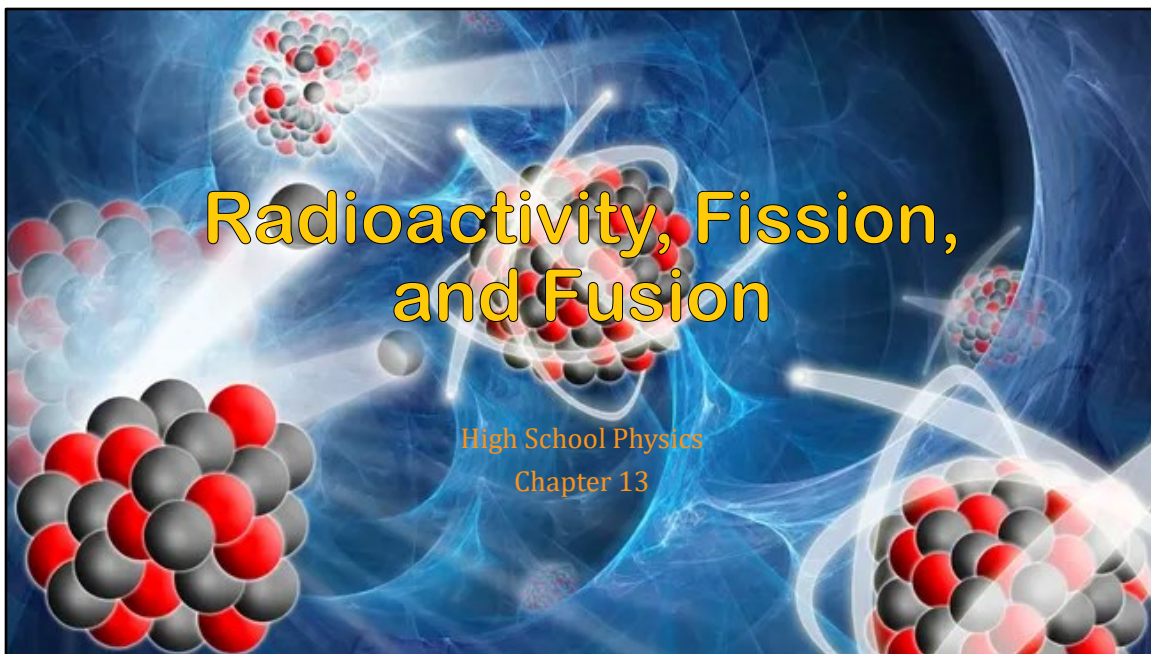




NAD 2023 Standard FFRD1 (Radioactive Decay)

NAD 2023 Standard FFRD2 (Nuclear Fission)

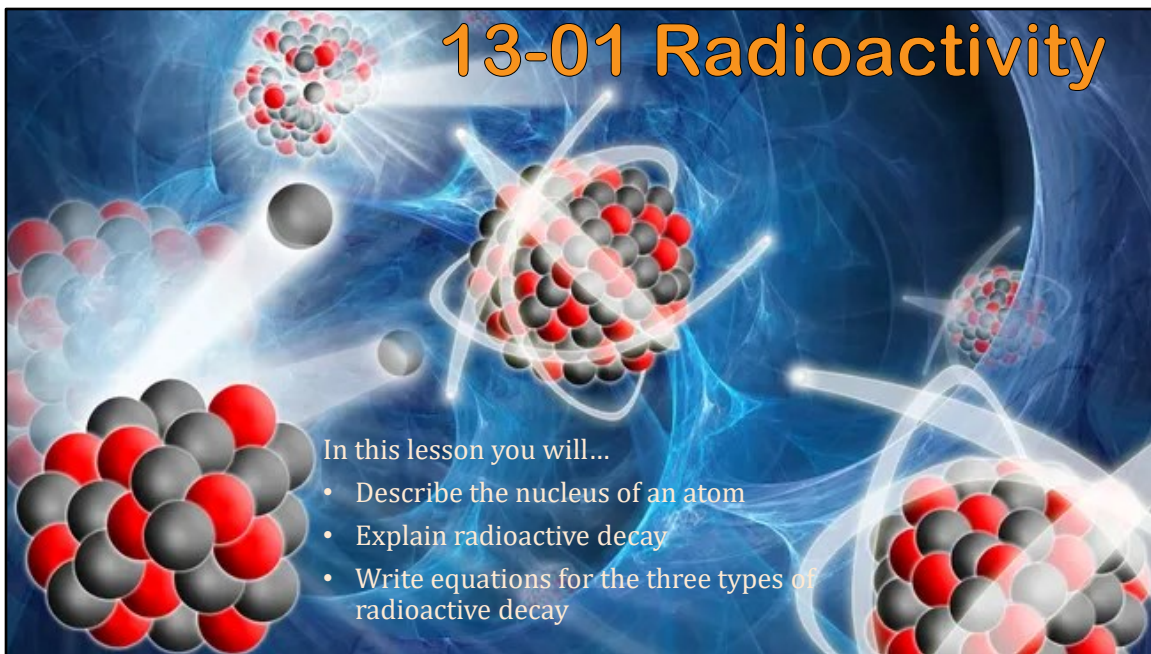
NAD 2023 Standard FFRD3 (Nuclear Fusion)

Credits



- This Slideshow was developed to accompany the textbook
 - *OpenStax High School Physics*
 - Available for free at <https://openstax.org/details/books/physics>
 - By Paul Peter Urone and Roger Hinrichs
 - 2020 edition
- Some examples and diagrams are taken from the *OpenStax College Physics*, *Physics*, and *Cutnell & Johnson Physics* 6th ed.

Slides created by
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OpenStax High School Physics 22.1-2

OpenStax College Physics 2e 30.1-30.2, 31.1-31.4

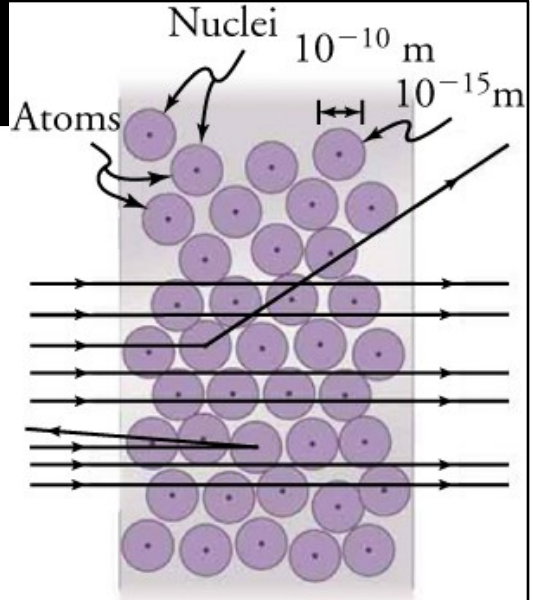
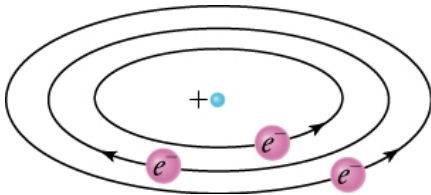
13-01 Radioactivity



- Structure of the atom
 - Early 1900's atom model was "plum pudding"
 - Everything spread evenly throughout
- Rutherford's Experiment
 - Shot α -particles (2 protons, 2 neutrons) at thin gold foil
 - Expected to pass mostly straight through with little scattering
 - The α -particle has lots of energy and would blow through the "pudding"
 - Actually, most passed straight through without scattering
 - Some scattered a lot – even straight back

13-01 Radioactivity

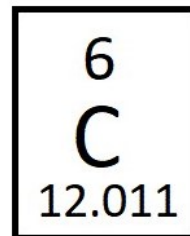
- Showed the nucleus was very small and much open space around it
- Rutherford proposed planetary model of the atom
 - Nucleus like sun
 - Electrons like planets
 - Electrical force like gravity



13-01 Radioactivity



- Nucleus
 - Contains protons and neutrons
 - Approximately equal mass
- Atomic mass unit (u)
 - Neutral carbon-12 = 12 u
 - About 1000 times more mass in nucleus than in electrons
 - C-12 has 6 protons, 6 neutrons
 - Proton and neutrons = 1 u
 - 1 u = 931.5 MeV/c²
- Atomic Number (Z)
 - Number of protons in nucleus
 - Determines the element
- Mass Number (A)
 - Number of protons and neutrons



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13-01 Radioactivity



- Isotopes
 - Same element can have different number of neutrons
- Carbon
 - Carbon-12
 - $^{12}_6\text{C}$ or ^{12}C
 - Subtract A and Z to get number of neutrons
 - $12 - 6 = 6$ neutrons
 - Carbon-13
 - Carbon-14
- ^A_ZX
 - A = mass number (u)
 - Z = atomic number
- ^AX
- Carbon-14
 - $^{14}_6\text{C}$ or ^{14}C
 - Subtract A and Z to get number of neutrons
 - $14 - 6 = 8$ neutrons
- Then number of neutrons changes behavior of nucleus

13-01 Radioactivity



- Large force required to break apart nucleus (it wants to stick together)
- Resist putting pushed close to each other
- Strong nuclear force
 - Holds nucleus together
 - Very strong
 - Acts at distance less than 10^{-15} m
- Electric forces try to break nucleus apart
- When electric forces are more than strong nuclear force, nuclear particles are ejected from nucleus
 - Radioactivity
- Nucleus wants
 - About same number of protons and neutrons
 - Smaller radius than strong nuclear force

13-01 Radioactivity

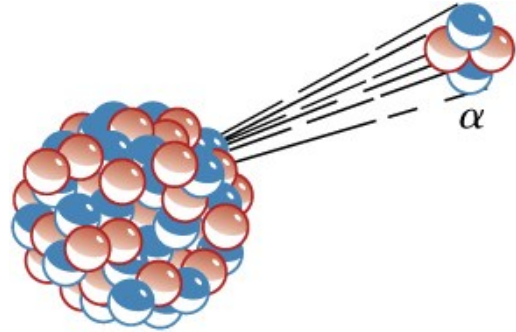


- Types of radioactivity

- Alpha Decay (α)

- Most common decay type
 - Happens when too many protons in nucleus
 - Nucleus ejects 2 protons and 2 neutrons (Helium nucleus)
 - ${}^A_ZX \rightarrow {}^{A-4}_{Z-2}Y + {}^4_2\text{He}$

- ${}^{238}_{92}\text{U} \rightarrow {}^{234}_{90}\text{Th} + {}^4_2\text{He}$



13-01 Radioactivity

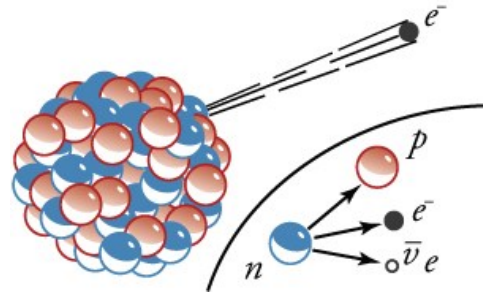


- Notes about α -decay
 - During α -decay, the atomic number changes and one element changes into another
 - The α -particle quickly gains two electrons and becomes a stable helium atom
 - source of all helium on earth
 - The total number of particles stays the same
 - Law of Conservation of Mass and Energy
 - Any change in mass is converted to energy by $E = mc^2$
 - Law of Conservation of Charge

13-01 Radioactivity



- Beta decay (β)
 - Imbalance of protons and neutrons
 - A neutron changes into a proton and electron or vice versa
 - ${}_Z^AX \rightarrow {}_{Z+1}^AY + e + \nu$
 - e is electron
 - ν is neutrino
 - ${}^{14}_6\text{C} \rightarrow {}^{14}_7\text{N} + \nu + e^-$



β^- decay a neutron turns into proton and electron and antineutrino

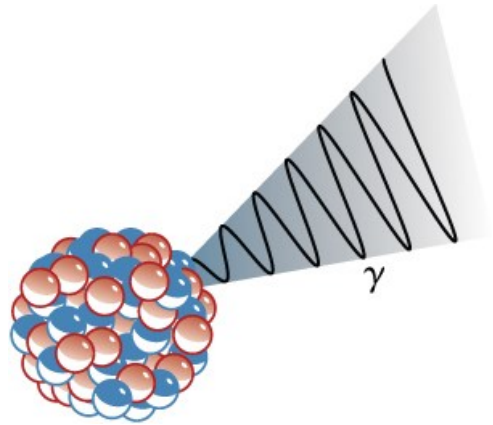
β^+ decay a proton turns into a neutron and positron and neutrino

Neutrino is tiny neutral particle

13-01 Radioactivity



- Gamma decay (γ)
 - Occurs when nucleus drops from excited state to ground state releasing energy as a photon
 - ${}^A_ZX \rightarrow {}^A_ZX + \gamma$
 - ${}^{137}_{56}\text{Ba} \rightarrow {}^{137}_{56}\text{Ba} + \gamma$



13-01 Radioactivity



- α -particles are massive (4 u) and have +2 charge, so they quickly interact with matter and can be stopped quickly
 - Sheet of paper,
 - few cm of air,
 - fraction of mm of tissue
- β -particles are smaller (mass of e) and -1 charge, so they penetrate farther
 - Thin aluminum plate,
 - tens of cm of tissue
- γ -particles have no mass or charge and barely interact with matter, so they penetrate very far
 - Several cm of lead,
 - meters of concrete

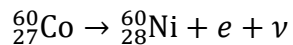
13-01 Radioactivity



- Write the complete decay equation in A_ZX notation for beta decay producing ${}^{60}_{28}\text{Ni}$. Refer to the periodic table for values of Z .

$${}^A_ZX \rightarrow {}^A_{Z+1}Y + e + \nu$$

Since the atomic number increases by 1, the parent element is one less than Ni which is Co

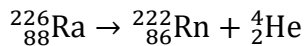


13-01 Radioactivity



- Find the energy emitted in the α decay of ^{226}Ra .

Start by writing chemical equation



Now find the change in mass (look the masses up online)

$$^{226}\text{Ra} = 226.025402 \text{ u}$$

$$^{222}\text{Rn} = 222.0175763 \text{ u}$$

$$^4\text{He} = 4.002602 \text{ u}$$

$$\Delta m = m(\text{Ra}) - (m(\text{Rn}) + m(\text{He}))$$

$$\Delta m = 226.025402 \text{ u} - (222.0175763 \text{ u} + 4.002602 \text{ u}) = 0.0052237 \text{ u}$$

Convert to energy

$$0.0052237 \text{ u} \left(\frac{931.5 \frac{\text{MeV}}{c^2}}{1 \text{ u}} \right) = 4.86587655 \frac{\text{MeV}}{c^2}$$
$$E = mc^2$$

$$E = \left(4.86587655 \frac{\text{MeV}}{c^2} \right) c^2 = 4.87 \text{ MeV}$$

13-01 Practice Work



- Radioactivity can be harmful to your health, but solving problem is beneficial.
- Read
 - OpenStax College Physics 2e 31.5
 - OR
 - OpenStax High School Physics 22.3



OpenStax High School Physics 22.3
OpenStax College Physics 2e 31.5

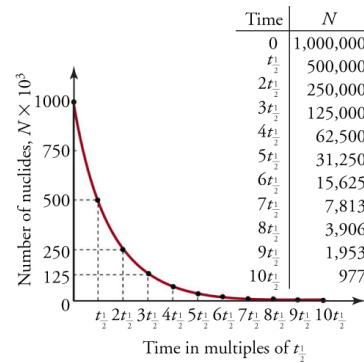
13-02 Radiometric Dating



- Half-Life

- Measures rate of radioactive decay
- One half-life is time it takes for $\frac{1}{2}$ of the nuclei to decay
- Assumed to be constant for each isotope
- $N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}$
- Where N is number of nuclei at time t , N_0 is # of nuclei at time 0, λ is the decay constant

- $\lambda = \frac{\ln(2)}{t_{1/2}}$



13-02 Radiometric Dating



- Radioactive Dating
 - Method used to date minerals
 - Assumptions
 - Amount of starting material known
 - No radioactive material enters or leaves the mineral
 - No new radioactive material created by other sources such as cosmic rays or other radioactive reactions
 - Decay rate is constant

13-02 Radiometric Dating



- Carbon-14 has a half-life of 5730 years. If there was originally 20 grams, but only 15 grams remains. How much time elapsed?

$$\lambda = \frac{\ln(2)}{t_{1/2}}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\ln(2)}{5730} = 1.21 \times 10^{-4} \text{ /yr}$$

$$N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$15 \text{ g} = (20 \text{ g}) e^{-\left(1.21 \times 10^{-4} \frac{\text{yr}}{\text{yr}}\right)t}$$

$$0.75 = e^{-(1.21 \times 10^{-4} \text{ yr})t}$$

$$\ln(0.75) = -\left(1.21 \times 10^{-4} \frac{\text{yr}}{\text{yr}}\right)t$$

$$t = 2378 \text{ yrs}$$

13-02 Radiometric Dating



- What is the half-life of technetium-99 if 20% decays in about 488000 years?

Amount remaining = $100\% - 20\% = 80\%$

$$N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$\frac{N}{N_0} = e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$0.80 = e^{-\lambda(488000 \text{ yr})}$$

$$\ln(0.80) = -\lambda(488000 \text{ yr})$$

$$\lambda = 4.57 \times 10^{-7} \frac{1}{\text{yr}}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\ln(2)}{t_{1/2}}$$

$$4.57 \times 10^{-7} \frac{1}{\text{yr}} = \frac{\ln(2)}{t_{1/2}}$$

$$t_{1/2} = \frac{\ln(2)}{4.57 \times 10^{-7} \frac{1}{\text{yr}}} = 1.52 \times 10^6 \text{ yr}$$

13-02 Practice Work



- Talking about radioactivity is a sure way to get a date.
- Read
 - OpenStax College Physics 2e 32.6
 - OR
 - OpenStax High School Physics 22.4



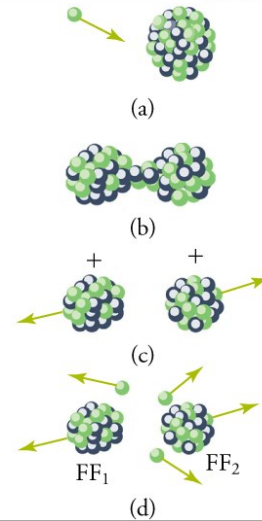
OpenStax High School Physics 22.4
OpenStax College Physics 2e 32.6

13-03 Nuclear Fission



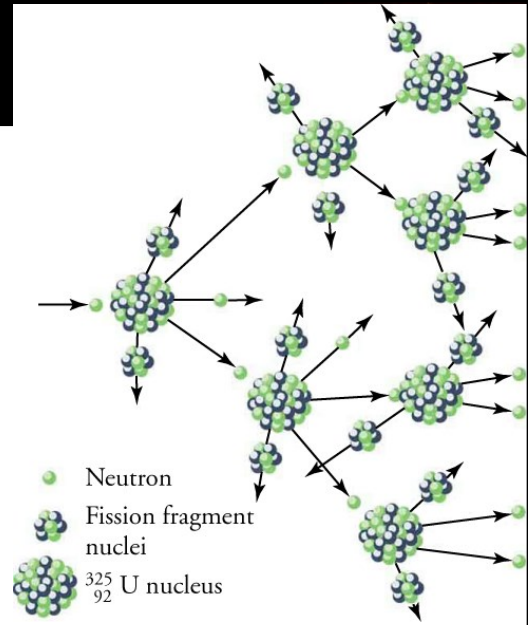
- Fission

- Splitting of a nucleus
- Releases a lot of energy
- An unstable nucleus can naturally decay with α or β radiation, but can take a long time
- Purposely done by hitting a large nucleus with a neutron



13-03 Nuclear Fission

- Chain reaction
 - When the nucleus splits it releases free neutrons
 - Those can hit other nuclei and split them
 - Critical mass – Minimum amount of fissionable material necessary to sustain fission chain reaction
 - Number of fission reactions increases exponentially
 - bomb

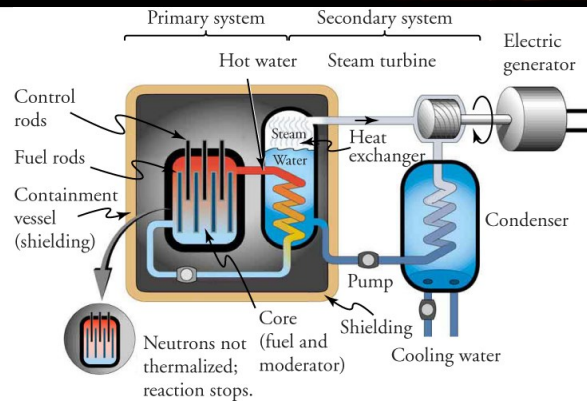


13-03 Nuclear Fission



- **Nuclear Reactor**

- To keep a nuclear fission reaction from becoming a bomb, slow down the neutrons with water
- Fuel rods contain Uranium
- Control rods absorb neutrons
 - Insert control rods to slow reaction
- Fission reaction heats water
- Steam turns turbines to make electricity
- Cool water goes back to be heated



13-03 Nuclear Fission

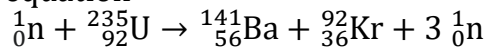


- Energy from Fission
 - The mass of the products of fission is less than parent nucleus
 - That mass is converted to energy by $E = mc^2$
 - Average fission reaction produces about 200 MeV of energy

13-03 Nuclear Fission



- Find the energy released in the fission of uranium-235 given in the equation



- Masses

- Neutron: 1.008665 u
- ${}^{235}\text{U}$: 235.0439299 u
- ${}^{141}\text{Ba}$: 140.9144035 u
- ${}^{92}\text{Kr}$: 91.926173094 u

Find change in mass:

Δm

$$= (1.008665 \text{ u} + 235.0439299 \text{ u})$$

$$- (140.9144035 \text{ u} + 91.926173094 \text{ u} + 3(1.008665 \text{ u})) = 0.186023306 \text{ u}$$

Covert the mass into energy

$$0.186023306 \text{ u} \left(\frac{931.5 \frac{\text{MeV}}{c^2}}{1 \text{ u}} \right) = 173.28 \frac{\text{MeV}}{c^2}$$

$$E = mc^2$$

$$E = \left(173.2807095 \frac{\text{MeV}}{c^2} \right) c^2 = 173.2807095 \text{ MeV}$$

The actual measurements give 202.5 MeV due to gamma radiation and decay of the neutrons

13-03 Nuclear Fission



- Calculate the amount of energy produced by the fission of 1.00 kg of ^{239}Pu , given the average fission reaction of ^{239}Pu produces 211.5 MeV. The atomic mass of ^{239}Pu is 239.05 u.

- This is a lot of energy. Over 650,000 gallons of gasoline or enough to run an average US home for 2255 years

Start by finding the number of atoms of ^{239}Pu in 1.00 kg.

$$\left(\frac{1000 \text{ g}}{239.05 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{mol}}}\right) \left(\frac{6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ atoms}}{1 \text{ mol}}\right) = 2.519 \times 10^{24} \text{ atoms of } ^{239}\text{Pu}$$

Find the energy

$$\begin{aligned} & (2.519 \times 10^{24} \text{ atoms}) \left(211.5 \frac{\text{MeV}}{\text{atom}}\right) \left(\frac{1 \times 10^6 \text{ eV}}{1 \text{ MeV}}\right) \left(\frac{1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}}{1 \text{ eV}}\right) \\ & = 8.525 \times 10^{13} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

This is a lot of energy. Over 650,000 gallons of gasoline or enough to run an average US home for 2255 years

13-03 Practice Work



- How many practice work assignments could be written with the energy of 1 gram of fusible material?
- Read
 - OpenStax College Physics 2e 32.5
 - OR
 - OpenStax High School Physics 22.4



OpenStax High School Physics 22.4
OpenStax College Physics 2e 32.5

13-04 Nuclear Fusion

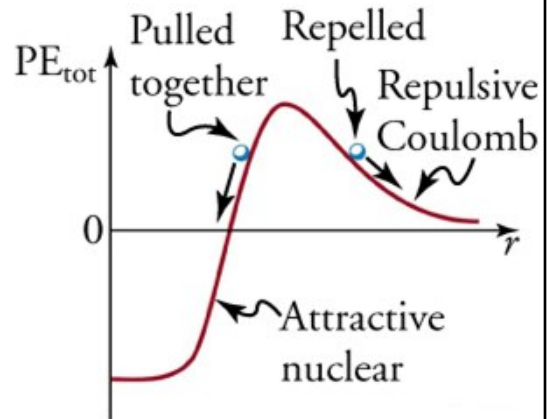


- Nuclear Fusion
 - Combining two nuclei into one
 - Releases a lot of energy
 - Fission breaks apart large nucleus
 - Fusion combines small nuclei
- For nuclei less than iron,
 - Nuclear forces holding the nucleus together are stronger than the electrical force pushing it apart
 - Strong nuclear force does work when adding more nucleons to small nuclei releasing energy
 - For elements higher than iron, energy must be added for fusion
 - Stars can only create elements up to iron
 - There is debate amongst atheists about where heavier elements come from

13-04 Nuclear Fusion



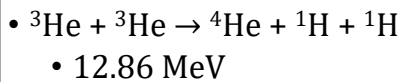
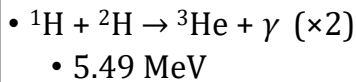
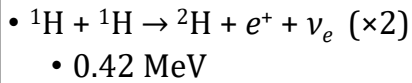
- Why fusion is difficult
 - The parent products must have enough kinetic energy to overcome the electrical force forcing the positive protons apart
 - Use high temp to make the KE
 - Once the parent elements are close enough the strong nuclear force does work pulling the pieces together into one nucleus releasing energy



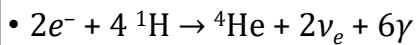
13-04 Nuclear Fusion



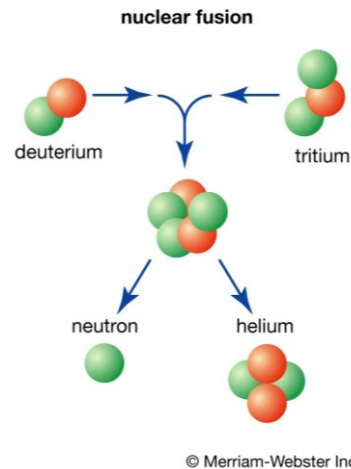
- Process to combine H to make He



- Overall cycle



- Releasing 26.7 MeV



e^+ is positron

ν_e is a electron neutrino

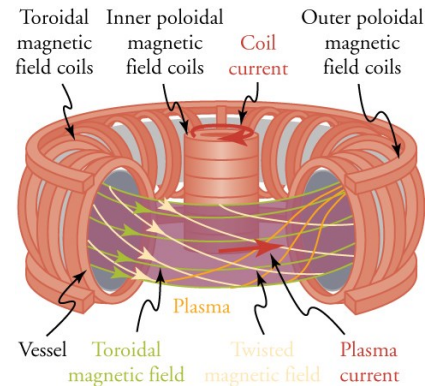
The two electrons combine with two positrons to annihilate and produce 6 gamma rays

13-04 Nuclear Fusion



- Fusion Reactor

- Better than fission
 - Plentiful fuel
 - Products are safe
 - More energy released
- Deuterium and tritium injected into vessel with high temp and pressure
- EM field turn the hydrogen into plasma
- H fuses into He
- High-velocity neutrons released are unaffected by EM field
- Neutrons strike sides of vessel creating heat, makes steam, turns turbine



13-04 Nuclear Fusion



- How much energy is released from the fusion of 1.00 kg of hydrogen?
- This is enough energy to run an US home for 16,900 years

4 hydrogen produce 26.7 MeV

$$\frac{26.7 \text{ MeV}}{4} = 6.675 \frac{\text{MeV}}{\text{atom}}$$

Find number of H atoms in 1.00 kg

$$\left(\frac{1000 \text{ g}}{1.008 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{mol}}} \right) \left(\frac{6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ atoms}}{1 \text{ mol}} \right) = 5.97 \times 10^{26} \text{ atoms}$$

Multiply to get total energy

$$\begin{aligned} & (5.97 \times 10^{26} \text{ atoms}) \left(\frac{6.675 \text{ MeV}}{1 \text{ atom}} \right) \left(\frac{1 \times 10^6 \text{ eV}}{1 \text{ MeV}} \right) \left(\frac{1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}}{1 \text{ eV}} \right) \\ & = 6.38 \times 10^{14} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

13-04 Practice Work



- Fuse graphite with paper to write the results of this practice work.