PART I

General Nuclear Concepts

Outline

I. Definitions of Some Basic Nuclear Terms

II. Nuclear Mass-Energy Relationships
   A. Balancing Nuclear Reactions
   B. Energy Conversion Factors
   C. Comparison of Energy in Chemical and Nuclear Reactions
   D. Calculation of Energy in Nuclear Reactions
   E. Nuclear Binding Energy
      1. Binding Energy of Last Nucleon
      2. Binding Energy of a Deuteron
      3. Binding Energy per Nucleon

III. Nuclear Radius

IV. Nuclear Coulomb Barrier.

V. Nuclear Models
   A. The Shell Model
   B. Liquid Drop Model
   C. Unified Model

VI. Problems
SECTION I

Some Basic Nuclear Terms

1. **Nuclide**: any nuclear species of a given number of protons and neutrons.

   **Nucleon**: either neutron or proton.

   **Mass Number** = $A \equiv$ number of nucleons = $N + Z$

   $\rightarrow 57$

   Co

   $\rightarrow 27$

   **Atomic Number** = $Z \equiv$ number of protons

2. **Isotopes**: same $Z$; different $A$

   $^{12}\text{C} \quad ^{13}\text{C} \quad ^{14}\text{C}$

3. **Isobars**: same $A$; different $Z$

   $^{140}\text{Cs} \quad ^{140}\text{Ba} \quad ^{140}\text{La} \quad ^{140}\text{Ce}$

4. **Isotones**: different $A$; same $N$

   $^{14}\text{C} \quad ^{15}\text{N} \quad ^{16}\text{O}$

5. **Atomic Mass Unit** (amu): 1 amu is $1/12$ the mass of $^{12}\text{C}$. 
6. **Masses of atomic particles**

\[ M_p = 1.00783 \text{ amu} = \text{mass of the proton} \]

\[ M_n = 1.00867 \text{ amu} = \text{mass of the neutron} \]

\[ M_e = 0.00054860 \text{ amu} = \text{mass of the electron} \]

\[ M_H = 1.00783 \text{ amu} = \text{mass of the hydrogen atom} \]

7. **Units of radioactivity**

\[ \text{curie (ci)} = 2.22 \times 10^{12} \text{ dpm (disintegrations/min)} \]  

(Defined: 3.7E10 d/s)

\[ \text{millicurie (mci)} = 10^{-3} \text{ ci} \]

\[ \text{microcurie (\mu ci)} = 10^{-6} \text{ ci} \]
SECTION II

Nuclear Mass-Energy Relationships

A. Balancing Nuclear Equations

\[ ^{139}_{57}\text{La} + ^{1}_{1}\text{H} + ^{138}_{58}\text{Ce} + 2^1_{0}\text{n} \]  \hspace{1cm} (1)

\[ ^{252}_{98}\text{Cf} \rightarrow ^{248}_{96}\text{Cm} + ^{4}_{2}\text{He} \] \hspace{1cm} (2)

\[ ^{14}_{6}\text{C} + ^{14}_{7}\text{N} \rightarrow ^{0}_{1}\text{He} \] \hspace{1cm} (3)

B. Conversion Factors

TABLE 1. Commonly used metric units: Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Quantity</th>
<th>mKs</th>
<th>cgs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Force (F)</td>
<td>newton (nt)</td>
<td>dyne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass (m)</td>
<td>kilogram (Kg)</td>
<td>gram (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length (d)</td>
<td>meter (m)</td>
<td>centimeter (cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time (t)</td>
<td>seconds (sec)</td>
<td>seconds (sec)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceleration (a)</td>
<td>meters/sec^2</td>
<td>centimeters/sec^2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work (W)</td>
<td>joule (J)</td>
<td>erg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From \[ F = m \times a \]

\[ n t = \frac{Kg \cdot m}{sec^2} \quad \text{dyne} = \frac{g \cdot cm}{sec^2} \]

\[ n t' = 10^5 \text{ dynes} \]

From \[ W = F \times d \]

\[ J = n t' \cdot m = \frac{Kgm^2}{sec^2} \quad \text{erg} = \text{dyne} \cdot \text{cm} = \frac{g \cdot cm^2}{sec^2} \]

\[ J = 10^7 \text{ ergs} \]

1. Important energy conversion factors and definitions

NOTE: Energy and work are interchangeable

Electron Volt (eV): the energy acquired when an electron is accelerated through a potential difference of 1 volt.

Calorie (cal): the quantity of heat which must be added to 1 gram of water (1 atmosphere pressure) to change its temperature from 14.5 to 15.5°C.
1 eV = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J} \\
= 1.602 \times 10^{-12} \text{ ergs} \\
= 3.829 \times 10^{-26} \text{ cal} \\
= 1.074 \times 10^{-9} \text{ amu}

10^9 \text{ eV} = \text{ GeV} \\
10^6 \text{ eV} = \text{ MeV}

a. An important energy conversion factor is

\[
\frac{1 \text{ eV}}{\text{molecule}} = 23.06 \frac{\text{Kcal}}{\text{mole}} \tag{4}
\]

This is obtained by

\[
\frac{1 \text{ eV}}{\text{molecule}} = \frac{3.829 \times 10^{-20} \text{cal}}{\text{molecule}} \times \frac{\text{Kcal}}{10^3 \text{cal}} \\
\times \frac{6.023 \times 10^{23} \text{molecules}}{\text{mole}}
\]

where \(6.023 \times 10^{23} \frac{\text{molecules}}{\text{mole}}\) is Avogadro's number

b. Another frequently used conversion factor is

\[
1 \text{ amu} = 931 \text{ MeV} \tag{5}
\]

This is obtained by

\[
1 \text{ amu} = \frac{1 \text{ eV}}{1.074 \times 10^{-5} \times \frac{\text{MeV}}{10^6 \text{ eV}}} \\
= 931 \text{ MeV}
\]
C. Comparison of Energy in Chemical and Nuclear Reactions

1. \[ C(s) + O_2(g) \rightarrow CO_2(g) + 94.03 \text{ Kcal/mole} \]  

Using \( E = \Delta M \cdot c^2 \) and solving for the mass

\[
\Delta M = \frac{E}{c^2} = \frac{94.30 \text{ Kcal/mole}}{(3.0 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm/sec})^2} \quad \text{where} \quad c = 3.0 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm/sec}
\]

\[
= 94.03 \text{ Kcal/mole} \times \frac{\text{lev/molecule}}{23.06 \text{ Kcal/mole}} \times 1.602 \times 10^{-12} \text{ erg/ev}
\]

\[
x 6.023 \times 10^{23} \frac{\text{molecules}}{\text{mole}} \times 9.0 \times 10^{20} \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{sec}^2}
\]

Since \( \text{erg} = g \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{sec}^2} \)

\[
= 4.37 \times 10^{-9} \left[ \frac{\text{g} \cdot \text{cm}^2/\text{sec}^2}{\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}^2} \right]/\text{mole}
\]

\[
= 4.37 \times 10^{-9} \text{g} \quad (10^{-3} \% \text{ per mole of reactant mass}) \quad (7)
\]

2. \[ ^3\text{He} + ^1\text{n} \rightarrow ^4\text{He} + 4.7 \times 10^8 \text{ Kcal/mole} \]  

\[
\Delta M = \frac{E}{c^2} = \frac{4.7 \times 10^8 \text{ Kcal}}{(c^2) \text{ mole}} = 2.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{g} \quad (\% \text{ of reactants mass}) \quad (9)
\]
D. Calculation of Energy (Q) in Nuclear Reactions

\[ Q = -\Delta E \]

Convention used:

\[ \Delta M = [\text{Sum of atomic masses of reactants}] - [\text{Sum of atomic masses of products}] \] (10)

Note: Atomic masses (amu) = mass of nucleus + electrons

\[ Q = \Delta M (\text{amu}) \times 931 \text{ (MeV/amu)} = \text{MeV} \] (11)

Positive \( Q \) \equiv exoergic (occurs spontaneously)

Negative \( Q \) \equiv endoergic (requires energy to occur)

Ex. \[ ^{3}_{2}\text{He} + ^{1}_{0}\text{n} \rightarrow ^{4}_{2}\text{He} + Q \] (12)

\[ ^{3}_{2}\text{He} = 3.0160 \text{ amu} \]

\[ ^{1}_{0}\text{n} = 1.0087 \text{ amu} \]

\[ ^{4}_{2}\text{He} = 4.0026 \text{ amu} \]

\[ \Delta M = [3.0160 \text{ amu} + 1.0087 \text{ amu}] - [4.0026 \text{ amu}] \]

\[ = 0.221 \text{ amu} \]
\[ Q = 0.0221 \text{ amu} \times 931 \text{ MeV/amu} \]
\[ = 20.58 \text{ MeV} \]

**E. Nuclear Binding Energy**

*Binding Energy (BE):* The energy released in the formation of a nucleus from the appropriate numbers of neutrons and hydrogen atoms

*Ex:* Calculate the BE of \(^4\text{He}\)

\[ 2\ _1^1\text{H} + 2\ _0^1\text{n} \rightarrow ^4\text{He} \quad (13) \]

\[ ^1\text{H} = 1.0078 \text{ amu} \]

\[ \Delta M = 2[1.0078 + 1.0087] - 4.0026 \]
\[ = 0.03040 \text{ amu} \]

\[ \text{BE} = 931 \text{ MeV/amu} \times 0.0304 \text{ amu} \]
\[ = 28.30 \text{ MeV} \quad (14) \]

*Binding energy per nucleon = BE/A*

\[ \frac{\text{BE}}{A} = \frac{25.30}{4} = 7.08 \text{ MeV/nucleon} \quad (15) \]
1. Binding energy of last nucleon.

Ex. Calculate BE of last neutron and of last proton in $^{235\text{U}}$.

Last neutron:

\[
\frac{234\text{U}}{92} + \frac{1\text{n}}{0} = \frac{235\text{U}}{92} + Q
\]  

\[Q = M_{234\text{U}} + M_n - M_{235\text{U}} \times 931 \text{ MeV/amu}\]

\[= \left[234.04090 + 1.00867 - 235.04392\right] \text{amu} \times 931 \text{ MeV/amu}\]

BE last neutron = 5.26 MeV

Last proton:

\[
\frac{234\text{Pa}}{91} + \frac{1\text{H}}{1} = \frac{235\text{U}}{92} + Q
\]  

\[Q = [M_{234\text{Pa}} + M_{\text{H}} - M_{235\text{U}}] \times 931 \text{ MeV/amu}\]

\[= \left[234.04330 + 1.00783 - 235.04392\right] \text{amu} \times 93 \text{ MeV/amu}\]

B.E. last proton = 6.71 MeV.
2. BE of a deuteron

\[ \frac{1}{1^1H} + \frac{1}{0^1n} + \frac{2}{1^2H} \]  

\[ \text{BE} = 2.2 \text{ MeV} \]
\[ \text{BE/nucleon} = 1.1 \text{ MeV} \]

3. Binding energy per nucleon, \( \text{BE/A} \)

![Graph showing binding energy per nucleon (MeV/nucleon) as a function of mass number.

Fig. 1 Plot of the binding energy per nucleon (MeV/nucleon) as a function of the mass number.

Note: \( \text{BE/A} \approx 7-9 \text{ MeV} \)

Magic Numbers - 2, 8, 20, 28, 50, 82, and 126.
Exoergic reactions:

a) fusion of light elements ($A<40$)

b) fission of heavy elements ($A>100$).

Discussion of magic numbers on the tape is confusing, since it does not distinguish clearly between proton number, neutron number, and mass number. The magic numbers refer to either proton number or neutron number, whereas Fig 1 is plotted as a function of mass number. Thus the peak of $A=4$ corresponds to the doubly magic nuclides with $Z=N=2$. 
SECTION III

Nuclear Radius

For a sphere of incompressible particles

\[ V \propto A \]

For a sphere, \( V \propto R^3 \)

\[ R \propto A^{1/3} \]

\[ R = R_0 A^{1/3}; \quad R_0 = 1.4 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm.} \]

Defining \( 10^{-13} \) cm as one femtometer (fm),

\[ R = 1.4 A^{1/3} \text{ fm} \] (19)

Examples: 1. For \(^{238}\text{U}\) \( R = 1.4 (238)^{1/3} \text{ fm} = 8.7 \text{ fm} \)

2. For \(^{80}\text{Br}\) \( R = 1.4 (80)^{1/3} \text{ fm} = 6.0 \text{ fm} \)
SECTION IV

Nuclear Coulomb Barrier

\[ V_c(\text{ergs}) = \frac{(Ze)_1(Ze)_2}{D(\text{cm})} \]

\[ D = R_0 \times 10^{-13}(A_1^{1/3} + A_2^{1/3}) \text{ (cm)} \] (20)

\[ \therefore V_c(\text{ergs}) = \frac{Z_1Z_2e^2}{R_0 \times 10^{-13}(A_1^{1/3} + A_2^{1/3})} \]

\[ V_c(\text{MeV}) = V_c(\text{ergs}) \times 6.24 \times 10^5 \text{ MeV/ergs} \]

or

\[ V_c(\text{MeV}) = \frac{1.439 Z_1Z_2}{R_0(A_1^{1/3} + A_2^{1/3})} \quad \text{when } R_0 \text{ is given in fm} \] (21)

Example: Calculate the coulomb barrier in MeV for the reaction of \( ^{238}_92\text{U} + ^4_2\text{He} \) \( R_0=1.5 \text{ fm} \)

\[ (R_0=1.4 \text{ fm}) \]

\[ V_c(\text{MeV}) = \frac{1.439 \times 92 \times 2}{1.4(238^{1/3} + 4^{1/3})} = 24.2 \text{ MeV} \] (22)

Note: No coulomb barrier for a neutron.
Fig. 2 Nuclear coulomb barrier and potential well for $^{238}_{92}\text{U}$ and $^4_2\text{He}$.

$$V_b = -\frac{Z_T Z_a}{15 \times 10^{-10} (A_T^{1/3} + A_a^{1/3})}$$

Fig. 3. The Coulomb barrier height as a function of $Z_T$, the atomic number of the target.
SECTION V

Nuclear Models

A. The Shell Model

Neutron Levels  Proton Levels  

Excited nucleus in which a neutron is in a higher level

Fig. 4. Process of nuclear excitation by promotion of a neutron in the shell model. The nucleus returns to the ground state by emission of one or more gamma rays.
B. The Liquid-Drop Model

FIG. 5 Excitation of the nucleus into different vibrational (2 and 3) and rotational (A and B) states according to the liquid drop model.

C. The Unified Model

1. Combination of shell and liquid drop models.

2. As Z or N values approach "magic numbers", the nuclear liquid droplet becomes more spherical and "stiffer" (requires more energy to deform).

3. For "stiff" nuclei, individual nucleon excitations require less energy than the rotational and vibrational excitations.
SECTION VI

Problems

1. When the copper-63 nuclide is bombarded with deuterons, six different transmutations may occur. Complete the equations for these:

a. \[ _{29}^{63}Cu + \ _{1}^{2}H \longrightarrow \_ + \ _{0}^{1}n \]

b. \[ _{29}^{63}Cu + \ _{1}^{2}H \longrightarrow _{29}^{64}Cu + \_ \]

c. \[ _{29}^{63}Cu + \ _{1}^{2}H \longrightarrow _{30}^{63}Zn + \_ \]

d. \[ _{29}^{63}Cu + \ _{1}^{2}H \longrightarrow \_ + \ _{2}^{4}He \]

e. \[ _{29}^{63}Cu + \ _{1}^{2}H \longrightarrow _{29}^{62}Cu + \_ \]

f. \[ _{29}^{63}Cu + \ _{1}^{2}H \longrightarrow _{30}^{65}Zn + \_ \]

2. Calculate Q for the following reactions.

a. \[ _{82}^{208}Pb + \ _{1}^{1}H \longrightarrow _{83}^{207}Bi + \ _{0}^{1}n + Q \]

b. \[ _{45}^{102}Rh + \ _{2}^{4}He \longrightarrow _{47}^{103}Ag + \ _{0}^{3}n + Q \]
c. $^{27}_{13}\text{Al}} + ^{1}_{0}\text{n} \rightarrow ^{28}_{13}\text{Al} + Q$

d. $^{79}_{35}\text{Br} + ^{1}_{0}\text{n} \rightarrow ^{76}_{33}\text{As} + ^{4}_{2}\text{He} + Q$

Atomic Masses (amu)

$^1_1\text{H} = 1.0078$  
$^{207}_{83}\text{Bi} = 206.9784$  
$^{79}_{35}\text{Br} = 78.9183$

$^4_2\text{He} = 4.0026$  
$^{102}_{47}\text{Rh} = 101.9068$  
$^{76}_{33}\text{As} = 75.9242$

$^1_0\text{n} = 1.0087$  
$^{103}_{47}\text{Ag} = 102.9083$

$\gamma$ ray = no rest mass  
$^{27}_{13}\text{Al} = 26.9815$

$^{208}_{82}\text{Pb} = 207.9766$  
$^{27}_{13}\text{Al} = 27.9819$

3. Calculate the total binding energy and the binding energy per nucleon for:

Masses (amu)

a. $^{24}_{12}\text{Mg}$  
$^{24}_{12}\text{Mg} = 23.9850$

b. $^{60}_{27}\text{Co}$  
$^{60}_{27}\text{Co} = 59.9338$

c. $^{197}_{79}\text{Au}$  
$^{197}_{79}\text{Au} = 196.9665$
4. Calculate the radii of the following nuclei using $R_0 = 1.4 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm.}$

$^4\text{He}, ^{16}\text{O}, ^{56}\text{Fe}, ^{75}\text{As}, ^{112}\text{Cd}, ^{165}\text{Ho}, ^{206}\text{Pb}, ^{238}\text{U}, \text{ and } ^{256}\text{Fm}.$

5. Plot the radius values calculated in the preceding problem as a function of mass number and discuss the resulting curve.

6. Calculate the coulomb barrier of a) $^{238}\text{U}$, and, b) $^{56}\text{Fe}$ nucleus to a proton when they are just in contact.

7. The density of metallic aluminum is $2.7 \text{ g/cm}^3$. Calculate the density of the $^{27}\text{Al}$ nucleus, using $R_0 = 1.4 \text{ fm}$ and $M_{^{27}\text{Al}} = 27.0 \text{ amu}$, and compare the result with the $2.7 \text{ g/cm}^3$ for the atom in the metallic lattice.