### CH18

I. Atomic symbols:  $\stackrel{A}{Z}X$ 

- a. X: letter symbol (use z to search X on the periodic table)
  Z: atomic # = # of proton
  A: mass # = # of proton + # of neutron = # of nucleon
  - atomic symbol for proton  $({}^1_1p)$ , neutron $({}^1_0n)$ , and electron  $({}^0_1e)$
- b. Isotope: atoms with the same # of p (same z) but different # of neutron atomic weight = weighted average of atomic mass

# II. Radioactive decay: ${}^{A}_{Z}X = {}^{B}_{U}S + {}^{C}_{V}T$ , A=B+C, Z=U+V

a. Type of particles: Alpha ( $\alpha$ ) =  ${}^{4}_{2}$ He Beta ( $\beta$ ) =  ${}^{0}_{-1}e$  Gamma ( $\gamma$ ) =  ${}^{0}_{0}r$  positron =  ${}^{0}_{+1}e$ 

b. atoms with even # of proton and neutron are more stable

magic # of p: 2, 8, 28, 82, 20, 50,126  $\rightarrow$  super stable

c. atom is not stable if the difference of mass # and atomic mass is >2

if the z > 83

d. type of decay will be determined by the N/Z ratio

Z	Threshold	> threshold, $\beta \operatorname{decay} \rightarrow {}_{-1}^{0} e$ at the product side
1:20	1	< threshold,
20:40	1.25	positron emission $\rightarrow {}^{0}_{1}e$ at the product side
40:83	1.5	electron capture $\rightarrow -{}^{0}_{1}e$ at the reactant side
>83	1.6	< threshold, $\alpha \operatorname{decay} \rightarrow {}_{2}^{4}\operatorname{He}$ at the product side

e. Decay kinetics:  $\ln(\frac{A_{t}}{A_{0}}) = -kt$   $k^{*}t_{1/2} = 0.693$ 

the rock contains A and B, B is the decay product of A,  $\frac{A_t}{A_0} = \frac{A}{A+B}$ 

(note A is # of atoms, NOT the mass of atoms)

## III. Thermodynamic stability

a. mass defect: difference in mass between actual and hypothetical formation of a nucleus

b. binding energy:  $\Delta E = \Delta mc^2$ 

- IV. Particle accelerator : uses an electric field to accelerate charged particle (typically  ${}_{2}^{4}$ He ) to bombard the atom. The notation  ${}_{Z}^{A}X({}_{2}^{4}$ He,  ${}_{0}^{1}n)$  means X +  ${}_{2}^{4}$ He  $\rightarrow$  Y +  ${}_{0}^{1}n)$ Nuclear power station:
  - a. fission: splits a larger atom into smaller ones (most electric power is generated using fission) fusion: joins 2 or more lighter atoms into a larger one
  - b. Breeder reactors convert the non-fissionable nuclide, 238U to a fissionable product.
  - c. The control rods in the nuclear fission reactors are composed of a substance that absorbs neutrons.

## CH18

18.I-II

<sup>17</sup>N is expected to be stable.[F]
 <sup>74</sup>As is expected to be stable[T]
 <sup>24</sup>Al is expected to be stable[F]
 <sup>209</sup>Bi is expected to be stable[T]

 Y-95 is radioactive. Which mode of decay would be expected for this nucleus? [Beta decay] How would <sup>141</sup>Eu be expected to decay? [positron or electron capture] Which mode of decay would be expected for a nucleus of At-212 [Alpha decay] V-47 can undergo electron capture. What is the product nucleus? Enter your answer using the same format, i.e, symbolmass number [Ti-47]

3. <sup>244</sup>Cf is produced (as well as 2 neutrons) when a nucleus reacts with an alpha particle. What is the reactant nucleus? (<sup>242</sup>Cm)

4. Cesium-137 undergoes beta decay and has a half-life of 30 years. How many beta particles are emitted by a 14.0g sample of Cesium-137 in three minutes? (8.1e15)

5. A rock contains 0.275 mg of lead-206 for each milligram of uranium-238. The half-life for the decay of uranium-238 to lead-206 is 4.5 x 10<sup>9</sup> yr. The rock was formed \_\_\_\_\_\_ yr ago. (**1.79 x 10**<sup>9</sup>)

#### 18.III

6. An atom of <sup>122</sup>In has a mass of 121.910280 amu. Calculate the binding energy in MeV per atom, MeV per nucleon, MeV per mole, kJ per atom, kJ per nucleon, kJ per mole. Use the masses: mass of <sup>1</sup>H atom = 1.007825 amu; mass of a neutron = 1.008665 amu; c = 2.99792 x 10<sup>8</sup> m/s; c = 2.99792 x 10<sup>8</sup> m/s; 1 amu = 1.66\*10<sup>-27</sup> Kg = 931.5 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>. Give your answer to 4 significant figures and DO NOT use E notation. [1029.9 MeV/atom]

- 7. Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?
  - i) Breeder reactors convert the non-fissionable nuclide, 238U to a fissionable product.
  - ii) The control rods in nuclear fission reactors are composed of a substance that emits neutrons.
  - iii) Electric power is widely generated using nuclear fusion reactors.

8. Which one of the following requires a particle accelerator to occur

none of these