

# Physical chemistry and radiochemistry

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Building: F, Staircase: I, 1st floor, Room 135

<http://oktatas.ch.bme.hu/oktatas/konyvek/fizkem/PHCR>

# Requirements

Weekly contact: 2+0+1

Evaluation is based on continuous performance

Lectures: Participation at 67 % (2/3) on the lectures is obligatory  
occasional short tests and 2 comprehensive tests

16 October  
4 December

Lab practice: All the measurements should be performed and the lab requirements fully completed (active and knowledgable participation + accepted report)

Comprehensive test on the lab practices will be held on 4 December

Make up tests: 11 December

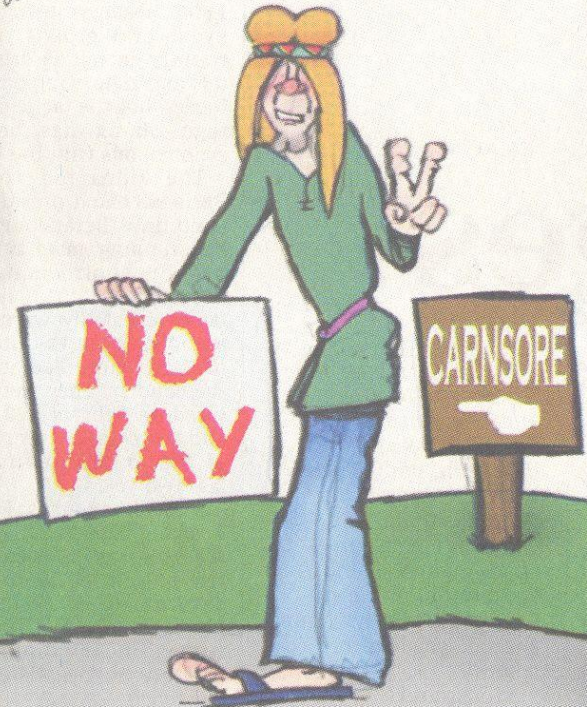
Final grade: 80 % lecture related performance (short + comprehensive)  
20 % lab practice

# RADIOCHEMISTRY

- ✓ to understand the nuclear forces acting in the nucleus of the atoms
- ✓ the kinds and source of nuclear radiations
- ✓ interactions of nuclear radiation with the matter
- ✓ applications

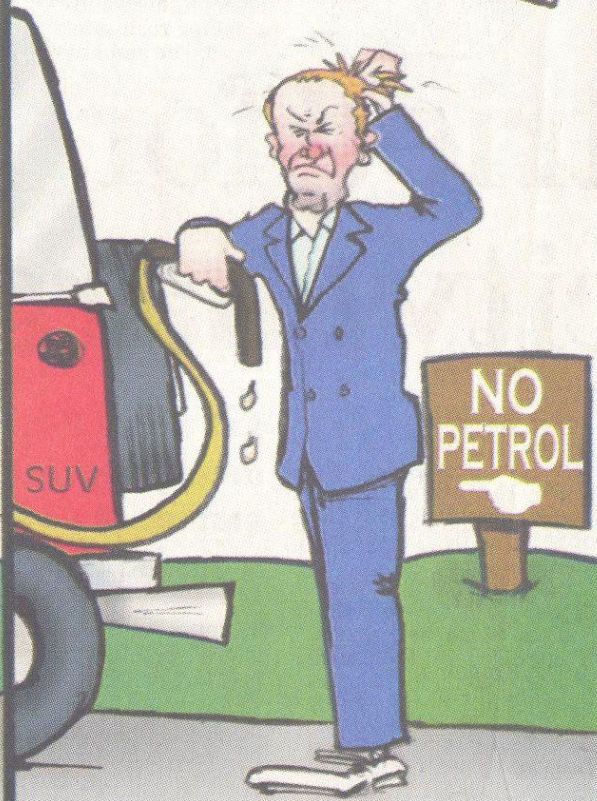
© Kufner 2006

1978



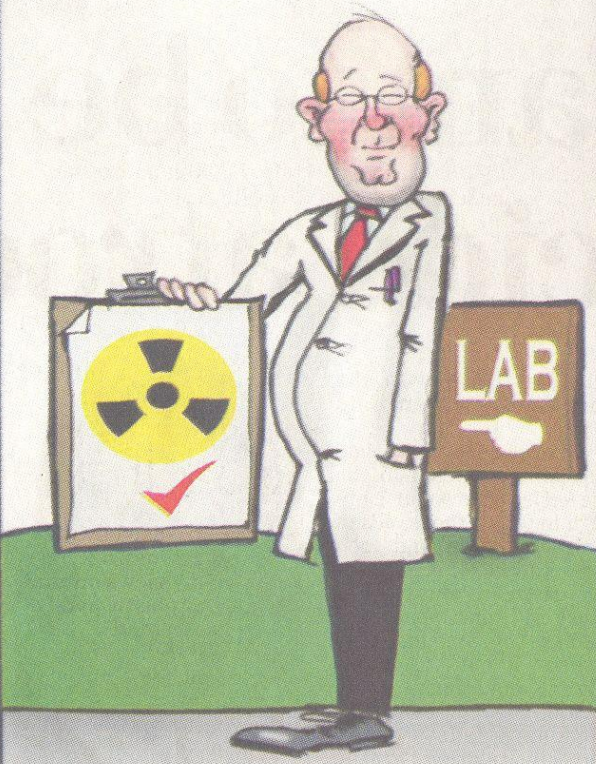
NUCLEAR NEVER

1999



NUCLEAR NO

2006



NUCLEAR NOW

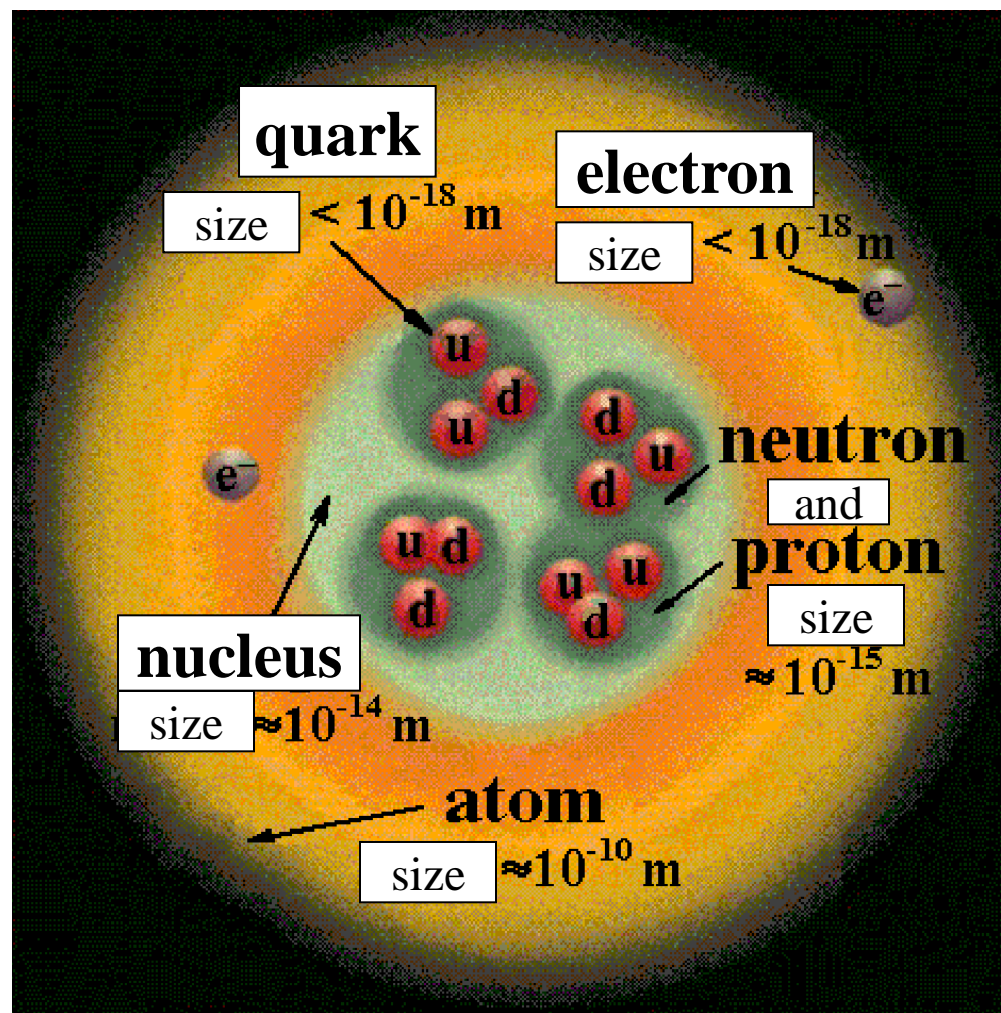


Antoine Henri *Becquerel*  
(1852 - 1908)



Maria *Skłodowska-Curie*  
(1867 – 1934)

# The nucleus



after <http://astronomyonline.org/Science/Images/Mathematics/AtomicStructureSmall.jpg>

$$\Delta E = mc^2$$

$$A = Z + N$$

A: mass number

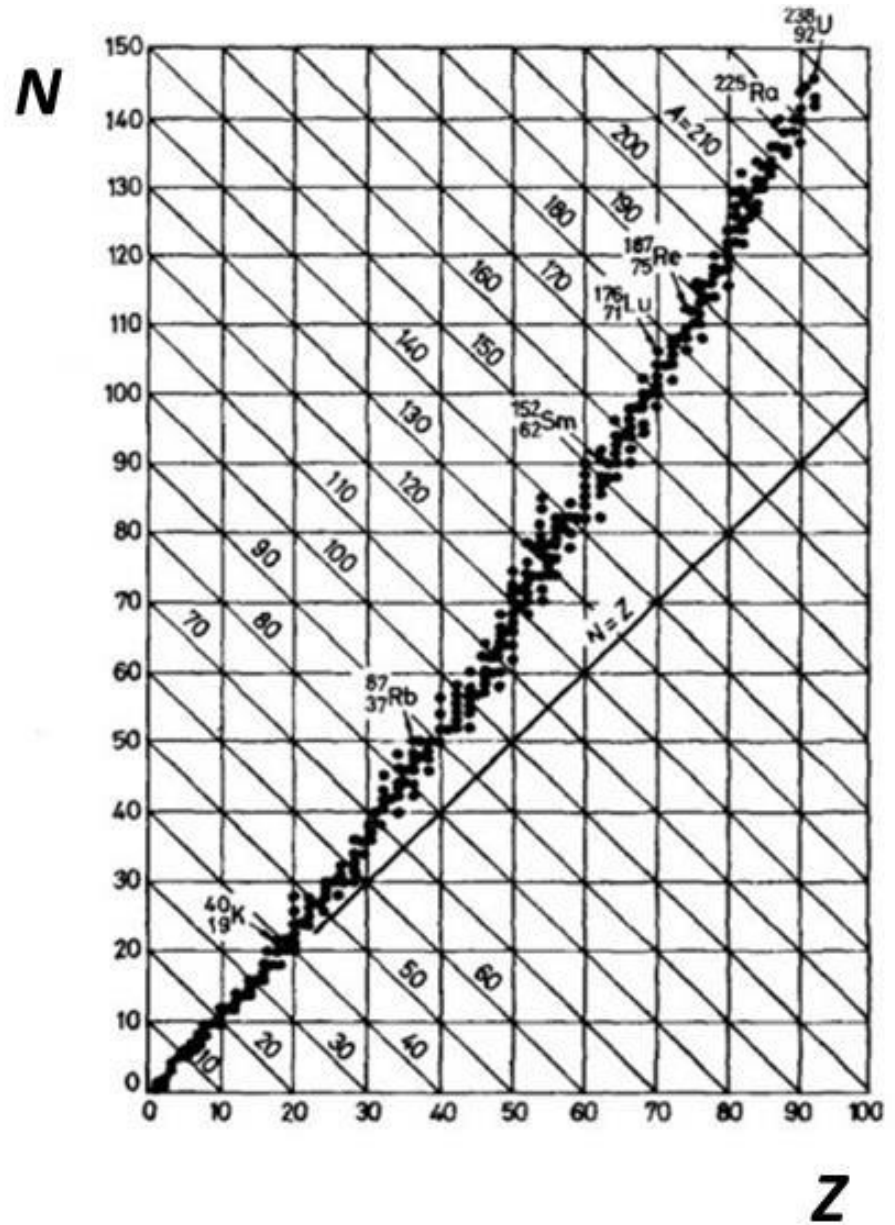
Z: atomic number

	m	E, MeV
p	$1.6726 \times 10^{-24} \text{ g}$	938.27
n	$1.6749 \times 10^{-24} \text{ g}$	939.55
$e^-$	$9.109 \times 10^{-28} \text{ g}$	0.51

# Stable nuclides



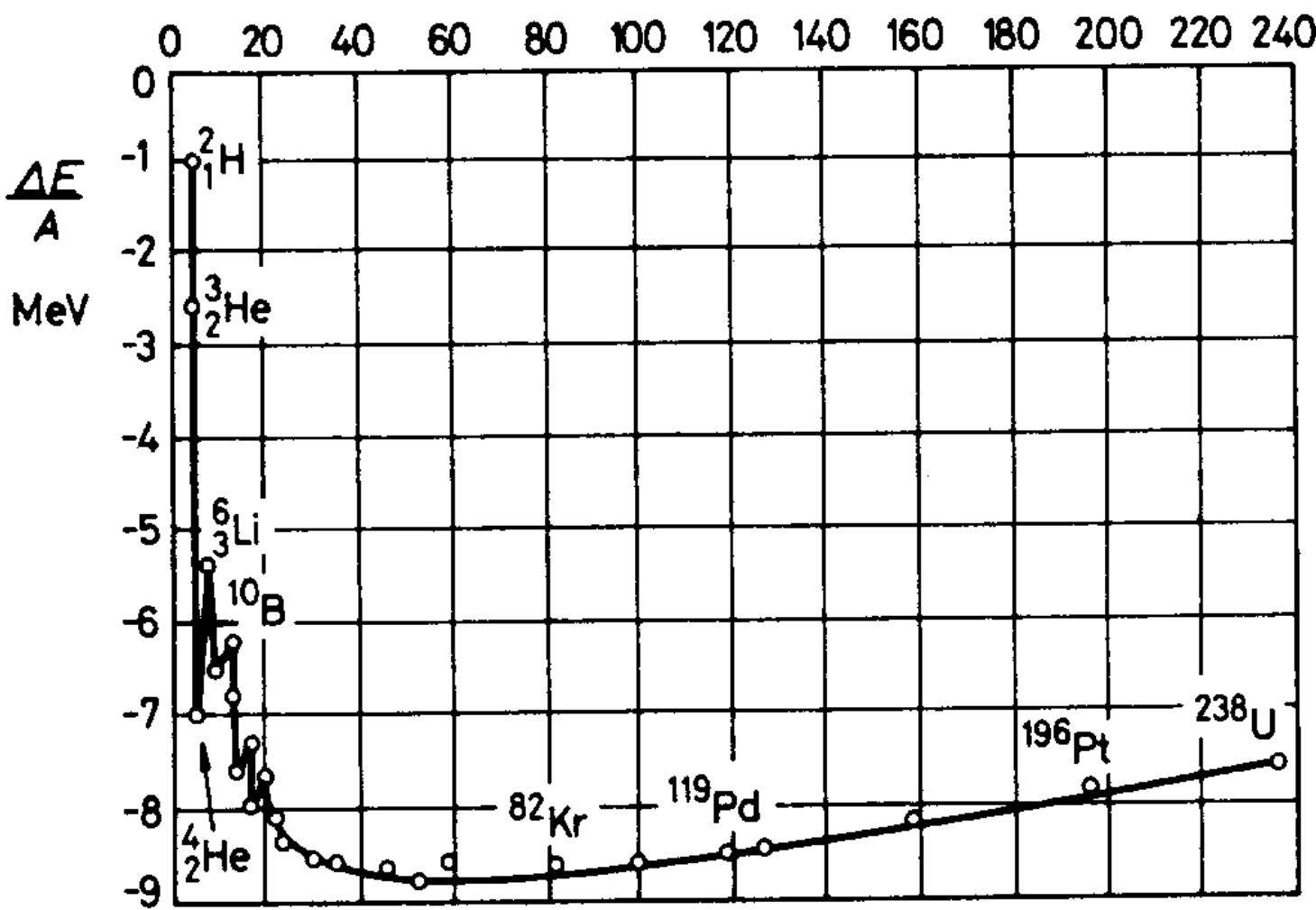
$$A = Z + N$$



# Binding energy of the nucleus

$$\Delta E = \Delta mc^2$$

$$M < Zm_p + Nm_n$$





# Classification of the nuclides

Isotope: identical  $Z$

Isobar: identical  $A$

Isotone: identical  $N$

Isotope effect

i Radioactive isotope !

applications

spectroscopies (resonance, MS)

solvent (NMR, neutron scattering)

enrichment of isotopes

CSIA: compound specific isotope analysis

Negligible?

labelling

unortodox organic synthesis routes

# Radioactivity

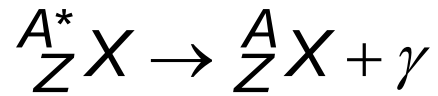
Spontaneous transformation of the unstable nucleus.

The properties of the nucleus change in time and energy is lost.

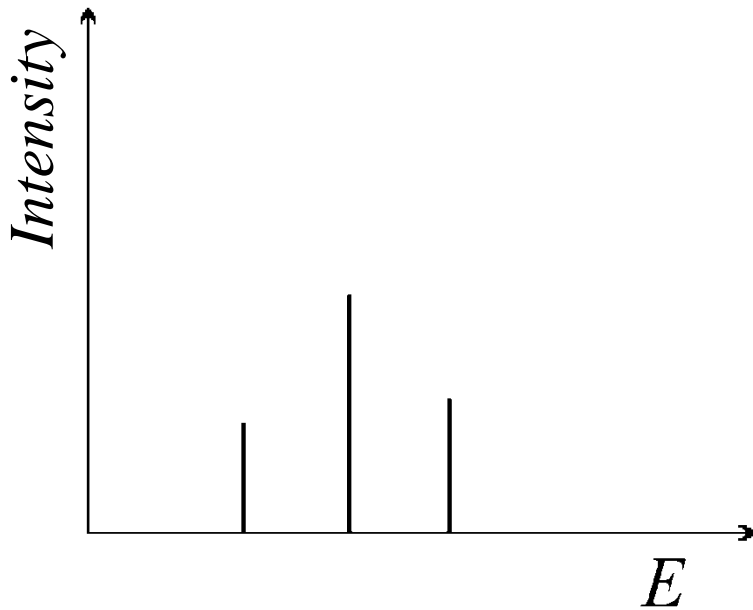
All the conservation laws are met.

# Types of radioactive decay

# Isomeric transition



$$\Delta E = h \cdot \nu$$



line spectrum

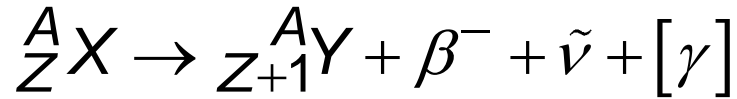
## Examples

nuclide	$T_{1/2}$	$E_{\gamma}$ , MeV
${}^{60m}\text{Co}$	10.5 min	0.059
${}^{99m}\text{Tc}$	6.0 h	0.143

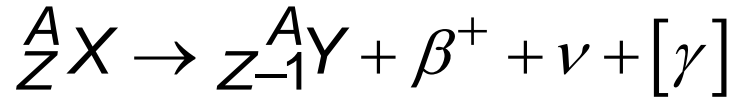
Z	Nuclide	$T_{1/2}$	Way of decay	Particle energy, MeV		Gamma energy, MeV		$\eta$	Production	$\sigma'$	Daughter
27						2,02	11 %				
						2,60	16 %				
						2,99	1 %				
						3,25	12 %				
						3,47	1 %				
	$^{57}\text{Co}$	270 d	<i>E.X.</i>		100 %	0,014	6 %	83 %	$^{56}\text{Fe}(d,n)$ $^{60}\text{Ni}(p,\alpha)$	0,9	
						0,122	88 %	1 %			
						0,136	10 %	1 %			
	$^{58}\text{Co}$	71,3 d	<i>E.X.</i> $\beta^+$	0,47	85 % 15 %	0,81	100 %		$^{58}\text{Ni}(n,p)$		
						1,62	0,5 %				
						0,51 ( $\beta^+$ )					
	$^{60m}\text{Co}$	10,5 min	<i>I</i>		100 %	0,059	0 %	$\approx 100\%$	$^{59}\text{Co}(n,\gamma)$	19	$^{60}\text{Co}$
	$^{60}\text{Co}$	5,27 a	$\beta^-$	0,31	$\approx 100\%$	1,17	100 %		$^{59}\text{Co}(n,\gamma)$	37	
				1,48	0,01 %	1,33	100 %				
28	$^{63}\text{Ni}$	92 a	$\beta^-$	0,067	100 %				$^{62}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$	0,77	
	$^{65}\text{Ni}$	2,521 h	$\beta^-$	0,60	$\approx 23\%$	0,37	5 %		$^{64}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)$	0,016	
				1,01	$\approx 8\%$	1,11	13 %				
				2,10	$\approx 69\%$	1,49	18 %				
29	$^{64}\text{Cu}$	12,9 h	$\beta^-$	0,57	38 %	0,51 ( $\beta^+$ )			$^{63}\text{Cu}(n,\gamma)$	3,0	
			$\beta^+$	0,66	19 %	1,34	0,6 %				
			<i>E.X.</i>		43 %						
	$^{66}\text{Cu}$	5,10 min	$\beta^-$	0,76	$< 0,2\%$	0,83	0,2 %		$^{65}\text{Cu}(n,\gamma)$	0,56	
				1,59	$\approx 9\%$	1,04	9 %				
				2,63	$\approx 91\%$						

# $\beta$ - decays

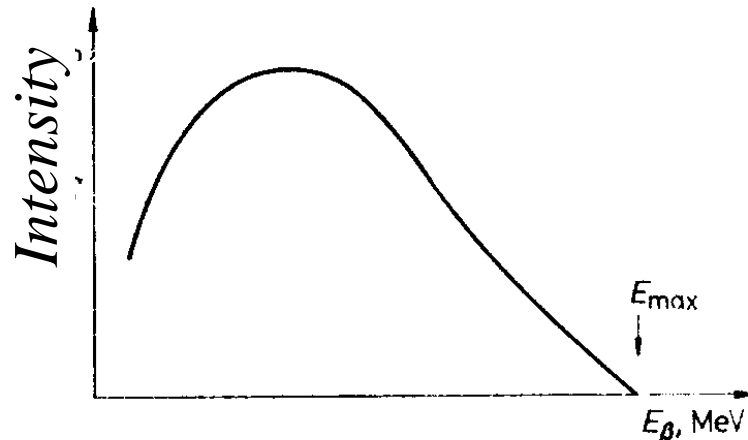
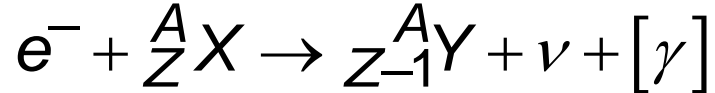
$\beta^-$ -decay



$\beta^+$ -decay



Electron capture



common:

$A = \text{constant}$

$\Delta Z = \pm 1$

$\nu$  or  $\tilde{\nu}$

## Examples: pure $\beta^-$ emitters

nuclide	Energia, MeV	$T_{1/2}$
$^3\text{H}$	0.018	12.26 y
$^{14}\text{C}$	0.159	5730 y
$^{32}\text{P}$	1.71	14.3 d
$^{35}\text{S}$	0.167	88 d
$^{90}\text{Sr}$	0.54	28.1 y
$^{90}\text{Y}$	2.25	64 h

## Examples: mixed ( $\beta+\gamma$ ) emitters

nuclide	$T_{1/2}$	$\beta$ -energy, MeV	$\gamma$ -energy, MeV
$^{60}\text{Co}$	5,27 a	0,31	1,17/1,33
$^{131}\text{I}$	8,07 d	0,61	0,36
$^{137}\text{Cs}$	30,23 a	0,51	0,662

## Examples: positron emitters

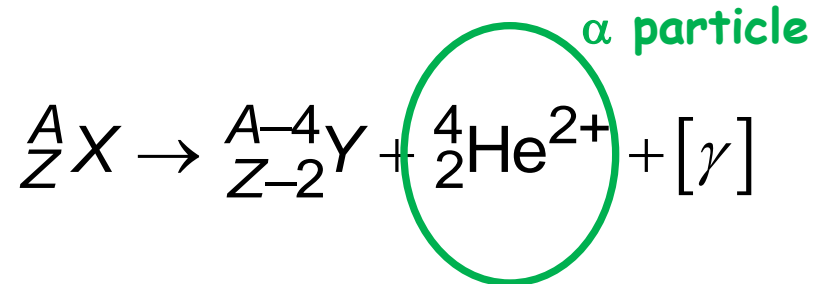
nuklid	$T_{1/2}$	$E_{\beta^+}$ MeV
$^{11}\text{C}$	20.3 min	0.97
$^{13}\text{N}$	9.97 min	1.2
$^{15}\text{O}$	124 s	1.7
$^{18}\text{F}$	109.7 min	0.064



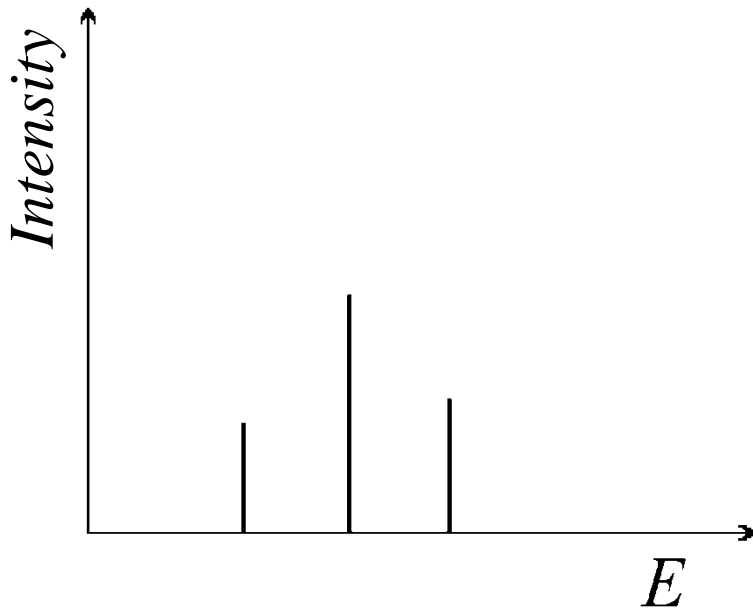
## Examples: EX (electron capture)

Nuclide	$T_{1/2}$	$E_{\gamma}$ MeV
$^{54}\text{Mn}$	303 d	0.84
$^{125}\text{I}$	60 d	0.035

# $\alpha$ -decay



4-9 MeV



line spectrum

Example: Alpha emitters

nuclide	$T_{1/2}$
$^{235}\text{U}$	7.1E8 a
$^{226}\text{Ra}$	1600 a
$^{222}\text{Rn}$	3.8 d

## Gamma ray/radiation

Electromagnetic radiation, emitted by the nucleus

Line spectrum

Isomeric transition ("escort" also)

## Beta-radiations

$e^-$  or  $e^+$  radiation coming from the nucleus

Continuous spectrum

May be exclusive (but  $\nu$ !)

May be escorted by gamma or characteristic X-rays

## Alpha-radiation

${}^4_2\text{He}^{2+}$  particles, emitted by the nucleus

Linear spectrum

May be escorted by gamma radiation

# Radioactivity

-Spontaneous decay

-Properties change in time  
chemical identity  
mass

-Energy is released

$h\nu$  from nucleus: gamma-ray  
 $e^-, e^+$  from nucleus: beta-particle  
 ${}^4_2\text{He}^{2+}$  from nucleus: alpha-particle

mass, MeV

typical energy, MeV

-

0.51

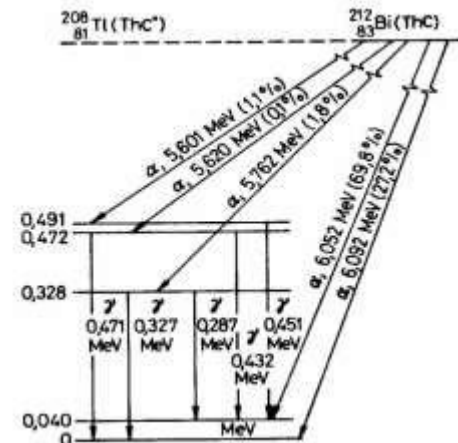
~3700

4-9 MeV

Charge!

spontaneous fission

**Occurs in nature!!!**



# Kinetics of the decay

## Simple decay

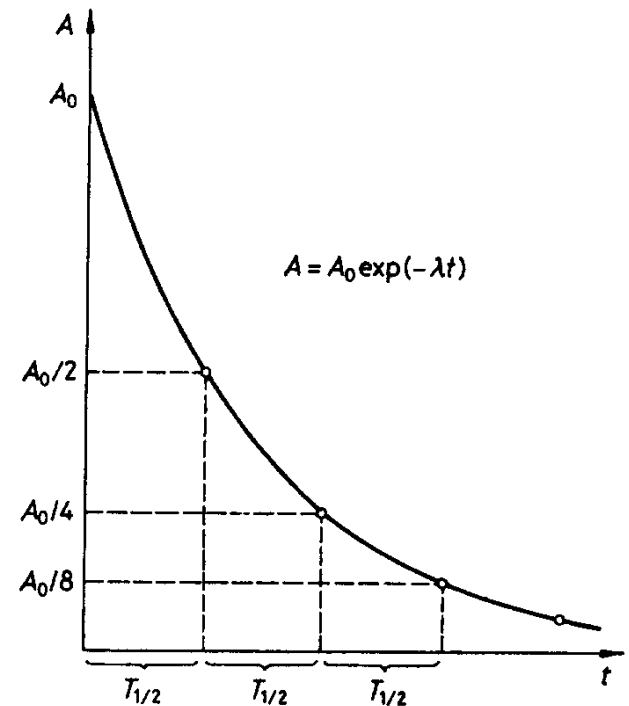
$$A \equiv -\frac{dN}{dt} = \lambda N$$

$$N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t} \quad A = A_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$T_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{\lambda} \quad [A] = \frac{1}{\text{time}}$$

$$\frac{1 \text{ decay}}{\text{second}} = 1 \text{ becquerel} = 1 \text{ Bq}$$

$$1 \text{ Ci} = 3.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ Bq}$$



$$I = k\eta A$$

## Radiocarbon dating (or simply carbon dating)

radiometric dating technique based on the decay of  $^{14}\text{C}$  to estimate the age of organic materials (wood, leather, etc.) up to 58,000 - 62,000 years.

Willard Libby, Nobel Prize in Chemistry (1949)

plant or animal alive : exchanging carbon with its surroundings → same proportion of  $^{14}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$  as the biosphere.

Once it dies  $^{14}\text{C}$  it contains decays,  $^{14}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$  gradually reduce.

A mammoth was found in the Siberian permafrost. The  $^{14}\text{C}$  content in the body was only 21 % of that found in living animals. Their  $^{14}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$  ratio is  $10^{-12}$ . How old is the mammoth ?  
The half-life of the radiocarbon is 5730 y.