

Exam 2 (November 23, 2009)

Please read the problems carefully and answer them in the space provided. Write on the back of the page, if necessary.

Problem 1 (4 pts, no need to show work):

Higher energy photons have (relative to lower energy photons)

- a) longer wavelengths.
- b) greater speed.
- c) higher frequency.
- d) all of the above.
- e) none of the above.

4 - (c)

$$E = h\nu$$
$$c = \nu\lambda$$

Problem 2 (4 pts, no need to show work):

In the Standard Model of particle physics there are how many distinct types of quarks?

- a) 2
- b) 4
- c) 6
- d) Just over 100
- e) There are no quarks in the Standard Model.

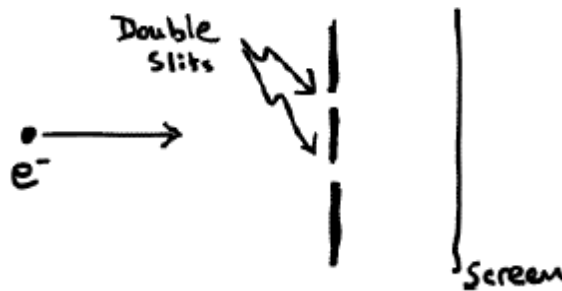
4 - (c)

Problem 3 (4 pts, no need to show work):

In a double-slit experiment with an electron beam, quantum mechanics enables scientists to predict

- f) which slit the electron will come through.
- g) the place at which each electron will hit on the screen.
- h) the precise position and velocity of each electron.
- i) the pattern that a single electron will produce when it hits the screen.
- j) the overall pattern made by a large number of electron impacts on the screen.

4 - (j)



Problem 4 (4 pts, no need to show work):

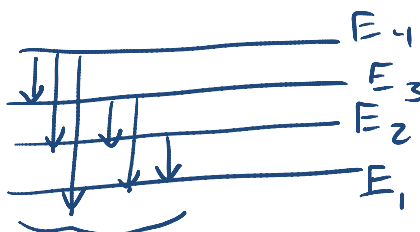
Roughly how many chemical compounds exist in nature?

- a) 6
b) 25
c) Just over 100
d) Just over 500
4 - **e) A very large number, much greater than 500**

Problem 5 (4 pts, no need to show work):

An atom has four distinct energy levels that can be occupied by an electron. The number of spectral lines produced by this atom is

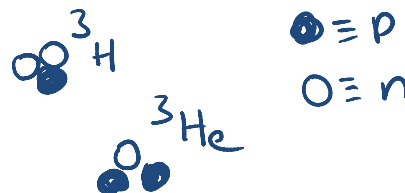
- a) 3
b) 4
4 - **c) 6**
d) 10
e) Many more than 10



Problem 6 (4 pts, no need to show work):

In what way or ways do ^3H and ^3He differ?

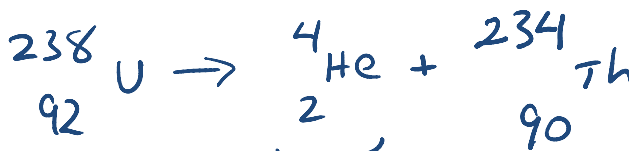
- 2 - a) They have different numbers of protons.
2 - b) They have different number so neutrons.
4 - **c) Both of the above.**
d) They have different atomic mass numbers.
e) The numbers of protons, neutrons and atomic mass all differ.



Problem 7 (4 pts, no need to show work):

$^{238}_{92}\text{U}$ alpha decays producing which daughter nucleus

- a) $^{234}_{92}\text{U}$
b) $^{238}_{93}\text{Np}$
c) $^{236}_{90}\text{Th}$
2 - d) $^{234}_{90}\text{U}$
4 - **e) $^{234}_{90}\text{Th}$**



This is an α

Know it is NOT $^{234}_{90}\text{U}$ because

protons changes or look at periodic chart

Scores	
1.	___/4
2.	___/4
3.	___/4
4.	___/4
5.	___/4
6.	___/4
7.	___/4
8.	___/4
9.	___/4
10.	___/4
11.	___/30
12.	___/10
13.	___/10
14.	___/10
Total ___/100	

Problem 8 (4 pts, no need to show work):

What is the source of the energy for the creation of the heavy elements (heavier than iron)?

- 1
4
4
- a) hydrogen fusion
 - b) fission
 - c) gravitational collapse
 - d) helium fusion
 - e) the shock of a supernova explosion

Problem 9 (4 pts, no need to show work):

To an astronomer, a white dwarf is

- 8
- a) The end stage in the life cycle of a star with a mass between 0.8 and 1.4 solar masses where fusion has largely ceased and the star is held up by bare nuclei and electrons.
 - b) A term for a 'star' with a mass less than 0.8 solar masses where fusion reactions never began in earnest.
 - c) The name of Snow White's love child.
 - d) The end stage in the life cycle of a star with a mass between 1.4 and 2.5 solar masses where fusion has largely ceased and the star is held up by a core of neutrons.
 - e) The end stage in the life cycle of a large star where fusion has largely ceased and the star collapses to such a degree that even light cannot escape.

Problem 10 (4 pts, no need to show work):

A physicist cannot predict the exact time that a single ^{14}C nucleus will decay because

- 10
- a) of the fact that we do not yet have powerful enough computers.
 - b) of fundamental uncertainties associated with quantum mechanics.
 - c) it is too difficult to determine the precise initial state of the protons and neutrons inside a nucleus.
 - d) it depends on the exact origin of the nucleus, which is generally unknown.
 - e) of the fact that the protons and neutrons exhibit quantum entanglement.

Problem 11 (30 pts, true or false, each part is worth 2 points):

- a) F Baryons are a bound state of three leptons.
- b) T The Higgs particle has yet to be discovered.
- c) F Quarks are the virtual particles that convey the strong force in quantum field theory.
- d) T The force of gravity is by far and away the weakest force yet observed in nature.
- e) F Due to their large electric charge, alpha particles are the most dangerous form of natural radiation from sources outside one's body.
- f) F The W and Z particles have zero mass.
- g) T A particle formed from a quark and an anti-quark is known as a meson.
- h) T Nuclear fusion is the power source for stars.
- i) F The process of small nuclei joining to form larger nuclei is known as fission.
- j) T In the Standard Model, photons are the virtual particles that hold electrons in atoms.
- k) T Neutrinos only interact with other particles via the weak nuclear force.
- l) F The heaviest element likely to be found at the center of a massive stars is nitrogen.
- m) F Clocks on the moon move at a slightly slower rate than clocks at the surface of the earth.
- n) T Benzene (C₆H₆) is a chemical compound consisting of 12 atoms.
- o) F ²³⁸Np is a nucleus that has 93 protons and 238 neutrons.

Problem 12 (10 pts):

Suppose that you measure the frequency of carbon-14 decays in an old scroll said to contain a description of a story similar to one in the Bible. You find that the frequency of decays are roughly 6% of that measured in a freshly cut piece of wood. Is this document likely to have come from biblical times? Why or why not? (Potentially useful information: the decay constant for carbon-14 is $1.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ year}^{-1}$ and the half-life of carbon-14 is 5730 years.)

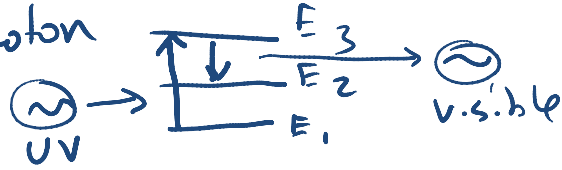
"Biblical" times refers to the period around 2000 years ago surrounding the time that Jesus purportedly lived. If student ASSUMES "Biblical Times" means "very old" We will accept Answer if consistent with that.

Living things ingest a (roughly) constant amount of naturally radioactive carbon-14 while they are alive. Upon death the Carbon-14 slowly decays away. The material used in the scroll is from an object that lived approximately $\left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 50\% & 25\% & 12\% \end{array} \right]$ 4 carbon-14 half-lives ago or (4) 5730 years ago - It is very unlikely $\approx 23,000$ that the artifact comes from biblical times.

Problem 13 (10 pts):

Phosphors (a type of chemical) on the inside of fluorescent lamps convert ultraviolet light to visible light. Briefly explain how this might work and why are there no substances that convert visible light to ultraviolet light. (Take the average wavelength of visible light to be 10^{-7} meters and that for ultraviolet light to be 10^{-8} meters.)

(UV) Ultraviolet photons are more energetic than visible light photons. An atom (or chemical) can absorb a UV photon and then emit a visible photon



absorbs a visible light photon, it still does not have enough energy to emit a UV photon

Problem 10 (10 pts):

What is meant by the 'enrichment' of uranium and why is this technical process important to society?

Naturally occurring uranium is a mix of two isotopes, ^{235}U and ^{238}U , with the vast majority of the atoms being ^{238}U . This is important because, of the two isotopes, only ^{235}U can sustain a chain reaction — which is required for it to be useful as a fuel for a nuclear reactor or a nuclear bomb. "Enrichment" refers to any process that enriches the fraction of ^{235}U relative to ^{238}U in a sample of uranium. It is a difficult thing to do since ^{235}U and ^{238}U are chemically identical. It takes a certain degree of enrichment to make a sample of uranium useful as a fuel for a nuclear reactor and a greater amount of enrichment to be used in a nuclear bomb. The chain reaction is made possible because ^{235}U emits two neutrons when it fissions and each of these neutrons can cause a ^{235}U atom to fission.

hydrogen 1 H 1.0079	beryllium 4 Be 9.0122	helium 2 He 4.0026	lithium 3 Li 6.941	boron 5 B 10.811	carbon 6 C 12.011	nitrogen 7 N 14.007	oxygen 8 O 15.999	fluorine 9 F 18.998	neon 10 Ne 20.180
sodium 11 Na 22.990	magnesium 12 Mg 24.305	argon 18 Ar 39.948	potassium 19 K 39.098	aluminum 13 Al 26.982	silicon 14 Si 28.086	phosphorus 15 P 30.974	sulfur 16 S 32.065	chlorine 17 Cl 35.453	krpton 36 Kr 83.80
calcium 20 Ca 40.078	scandium 21 Sc 44.956	zinc 30 Zn 65.39	strontium 38 Sr 87.62	gallium 31 Ga 69.723	germanium 32 Ge 72.61	arsenic 33 As 74.922	seleonium 34 Se 78.96	bromine 35 Br 79.904	xenon 54 Xe 131.29
barium 56 Ba 137.33	yttrium 39 Y 88.906	copper 29 Cu 63.546	radium 88 Ra [226]	nickel 28 Ni 58.693	tin 50 Sn 118.71	antimony 51 Sb 121.76	tellurium 52 Te 127.60	iodine 53 I 126.90	radon 86 Rn [222]
cesium 55 Cs 132.91	zirconium 40 Zr 91.224	silver 47 Ag 107.87	actinide series	cadmium 48 Cd 112.41	lead 82 Pb 207.2	bismuth 83 Bi 208.98	polonium 84 Po [209]	astatine 85 At [210]	
francium 87 Fr [223]	niobium 41 Nb 92.906	gold 79 Au 196.97		mercury 80 Hg 200.59	ununquadium 114 Uuq [289]				
	hafnium 72 Hf 178.49	platinum 78 Pt 195.08		unnilium 110 Uun [271]					
	tantalum 73 Ta 180.95	iridium 77 Ir 192.22		unnilium 111 Uun [272]					
	seaborgium 106 Sg [266]	rhodium 45 Rh 101.07		unnilium 112 Uun [277]					
	dubnium 105 Db [262]	osmium 76 Os 190.23							
	bohrium 107 Bh [264]	plutonium 94 Pu [244]							
	meitnerium 109 Mt [268]	americium 95 Am [243]							
	hassium 108 Hs [265]	europium 63 Eu 151.96							
	tennessium 110 Ts [269]	gadolinium 64 Gd 157.25							
	oganesson 116 Og [288]	terbium 65 Tb 158.93							
		erbium 68 Er 167.26							
		holmium 67 Ho 164.93							
		dysprosium 66 Dy 162.50							
		ytterbium 70 Yb 173.04							
		lutetium 71 Lu 174.967							
		praseodymium 59 Pr 140.91							
		neodymium 60 Nd 144.24							
		promethium 61 Pm [145]							
		europium 63 Eu 151.96							
		gadolinium 64 Gd 157.25							
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		holmium 67 Ho 164.93							
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		lutetium 71 Lu 174.967							
		actinium 89 Ac [227]							
		thorium 90 Th 232.04							
		protactinium 91 Pa 231.04							
		uranium 92 U 238.03							
		neptunium 93 Np [237]							
		plutonium 94 Pu [244]							
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Some potentially useful formulas

$$F = \frac{G m_1 m_2}{r^2} \left[\begin{array}{l} m_1 \text{ and } m_2 \text{ in kg} \\ r \text{ in meters} \\ F \text{ in Newtons} \end{array} \right] \rightarrow G = 6.7 \times 10^{-11}$$

$$F = \frac{k q_1 q_2}{r^2} \left[\begin{array}{l} q_1, q_2 \text{ in Coulombs} \\ r \text{ in meters} \\ F \text{ in Newtons} \end{array} \right] \rightarrow k = 9 \times 10^9$$

$$F = ma$$

$$(\text{distance}) = (\text{Speed})(\text{time})$$

$$v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t}$$

$$a = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t}$$

$$\text{Work} = \text{force} \times \text{distance}$$

$$\text{Momentum} = p = mv$$

$$\Delta x' = \gamma \Delta x, \Delta x \text{ longest in proper frame}$$

$$\Delta t' = \gamma \Delta t, \Delta t \text{ shortest in proper frame}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}}$$

$$1 \text{ Joule} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ eV}$$

$$\text{speed of Sound} = 330 \text{ m/s}$$

$$c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

$$h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$$

$$\text{or } 4.5 \times 10^{-15} \text{ eV}\cdot\text{s}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{mv}$$

$$v = \lambda \nu$$

$$\nu = \frac{1}{T} \quad (T = \text{period})$$

$$E = h\nu$$

$$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2\pi} \quad \Delta E \Delta t \geq \frac{h}{2\pi}$$

$$\frac{\Delta N}{\Delta t} = \lambda N \quad t_{1/2} = 0.693/\lambda$$