

Radioactivity - ②

question

Sort Q4 !!

$$A = 25 \text{ /min}$$

A Physics

Avogadro's number

$$N_A = 6 \times 10^{23}$$

1. A small volume of solution containing radioactive Na-24 with an activity of 12×10^3 counts/min, and half life of 15 hours is injected into a patient's blood stream.

After 30 hours 1.0 cm^3 of blood is removed, and has an activity of 0.5 counts per minute.

- (a) What is initial activity of Na-24 in Bq? (1)
 (b) What is the sample's activity after 30 hours? - ^{total} sample (2)
 (c) What is the volume of blood in the patient's body? (2)
 (d) Why wait 30 hours? (2)

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2. A small volume of a solution containing Na-24 with activity of 1.6×10^4 Bq, half life 15 hours, is mixed with the water in a house central heating system.

After 15 hours, ~~the~~ 100 cm^3 sample of the water has an activity of 4 Bq.

- (a) How much water is in the central heating system? (3)
 (b) What is the decay constant of Na-24? (2)
 (c) What would be the activity of ^{all} the Na-24 (initially 1.6×10^4 Bq) after 7.5 hours? (3)

(0.4 mg)

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3. A sample of U-235 has a count rate of 35 Bq.

The background count rate is 1.7 Bq.

- Calculate... (a) the number of nuclei of U-235 (2)
 (b) the number of U-235 atoms in the sample (2)
 (c) the activity of U-235 (1)
 (d) the decay constant of U-235 (2)
 (e) the half life of U-235, in (i) seconds (ii) years (3)

in sec⁻¹
and years⁻¹

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4. In a piece of living wood, $1 \times 10^{-10} \%$ of the total mass is C-14 (half life 5700 years); most of the carbon is (of course) C-12.

- a) Calculate the half life in sec, and decay constant (in sec⁻¹). (3)
 b) Calculate the no. of C-14 atoms in 2g of living wood (2)
 c) Calculate the count you would expect in 1 minute if the background count was 10 per minute. (3)

total

25 !!

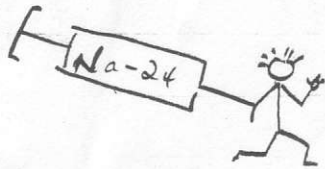
- d) The count rate from 2g of ancient wood is 30 per minute

Calculate the age of the ancient wood in years. (3)

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Radiactivity ② answers

A Physics



a) $12 \times 10^3 \text{ min}^{-1} = \underline{200 \text{ Bq.}}$ (1)

b) $30 \text{ h} = 2 \times t_{1/2}$ ①

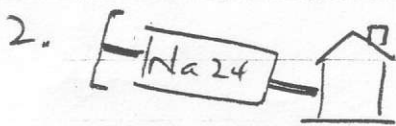
So $A = 200 \div 2 \div 2 = \underline{50 \text{ Bq.}}$ ①

c) work in min or sec ...

Activity of 1 cm^3 blood = $\frac{0.5}{60} = 0.0083 \text{ Bq}$ (or $\frac{3000}{0.5} = 6000$ in min.)

So Blood volume = $50 / 0.0083 = \underline{6000 \text{ cm}^3}$ ①

a) $30 \text{ h} = \text{Time for all blood to mix}$
 $= 2 \text{ half lives (convenient)}$ (7)



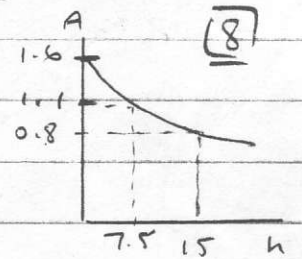
a) activity of Na-24 after $15 \text{ h} = 0.8 \times 10^4 \text{ Bq}$

So volume of water = $\frac{0.8 \times 10^4}{4} = 2000 \times 100 \text{ cm}^3$
 $= 200 \text{ litres}$ ①
 $= 2 \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^3$ (8)

b) $\ln 2 = \lambda t_{1/2} \rightarrow \lambda = \ln 2 / t_{1/2} = 0.046 \text{ h}^{-1} = 12.8 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ①

c) use $A_t = A_0 e^{-\lambda t}$ ① = $1.6 \times 10^4 \times e^{-0.046 \times 7.5}$
 $= 1.1 \times 10^4 \text{ Bq.}$ (bottom in hours!) (8)

(sketch A/t curve + check answer is sensible $\rightarrow$)



3. a) moles = $0.4 \times 10^3 \text{ (g)} / 235 = 1.7 \times 10^{-6} \text{ moles}$ ①

b) No. atoms = $1.7 \times 10^{-6} \times 6 \times 10^{23} = 1.02 \times 10^{18} \text{ atoms}$

c) Activity = $A_u - A_{\text{Background}} = 35 - 1.7 = 33.3 \text{ Bq}$ ①

d) use $A = -\lambda N$ ① $\rightarrow \lambda = A/N = 33.3 / 1.02 \times 10^{18} = 3.26 \times 10^{-17} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ①

e) $t_{1/2}$ i.e. use $\ln 2 = \lambda t_{1/2} \rightarrow t_{1/2} = \ln 2 / \lambda = 2.12 \times 10^{16} \text{ sec}$ ①
 $= 6.7 \times 10^8 \text{ years}$ (10)

4. a) $t_{1/2} = 5700 \times 365 \times 24 \times 60 \times 60 = 1.798 \times 10^4 \text{ s.}$

So, since $\ln 2 = \lambda t_{1/2} \rightarrow \lambda = \ln 2 / t_{1/2} = 3.86 \times 10^{-12} \text{ s}^{-1} = 1.22 \times 10^{-4} \text{ y}^{-1}$

b) $2 \text{ g living wood } 1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ g of } ^{14}\text{C} = 2 \times 1 \times 10^{-12} \text{ g} = 2 \times 10^{-12} \text{ g of } ^{14}\text{C}$

this is $2 \times 10^{-12} / 14 = 1.43 \times 10^{-13} \text{ moles}$

$= 1.43 \times 10^{-13} \times 6 \times 10^{23} = 8.57 \times 10^{10} \text{ } ^{14}\text{C atoms}$ ①

c) $A = -\lambda N$ ① $= 3.86 \times 10^{-12} \times 8.57 \times 10^{10} = 0.331 \text{ counts/sec}$ (5-1)

So in 1 minute Total count = $A_{^{14}\text{C}} + A_{\text{background}} = 19.9 + 10 = 29.9 \text{ min}^{-1}$ ①

IN d) Ancient wood: count rate = $25/\text{min} - 10 \text{ Background} = 15/\text{min}$ from ^{14}C

4.99. use $\ln \left(\frac{A_0}{A_t} \right) = \lambda t = \ln \left(\frac{29.9}{15} \right) = 0.283 = \lambda t \rightarrow t = 7.3 \times 10^{10} \text{ s}$
 $= 2320 \text{ years}$