



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA  
PLOT 91, CADASTRAL ZONE, NNAMDI AZIKIWE EXPRESSWAY, JABI - ABUJA  
FACULTY OF SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE

2021\_2 EXAMINATIONS.

COURSE CODE: PHY 402  
COURSE TITLE: NUCLEAR PHYSICS  
CREDIT UNIT: 3  
TIME ALLOWED: (2½ HRS)

INSTRUCTION: *Answer question 1 and any other four questions*

**CONSTANTS:** Avogadro's number =  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$  atoms/g-mole;  $c=3 \times 10^8$  m/s;  $m_e=9.109 \times 10^{-31}$  kg (0.00054858u);  $m_p=1.673 \times 10^{-27}$  kg (1.007825u);  $m_n=1.675 \times 10^{-27}$  kg (1.008665u);  $1\text{\AA}=10^{-10}$  m;  $1\text{fm}=10^{-15}$  m;  $1\text{eV}=1.602 \times 10^{-19}$  J;  $1\text{u}=1.661 \times 10^{-27}$  kg;  $R_0=1.3 \times 10^{-15}$  m (1.3fm)

**QUESTION ONE**

- A. Briefly discuss the term "Heavy Charged Particle Interaction" (4 marks)
- B. Mention any four types of charged particles interaction. (4 marks)
- C. List any three uses of the following gamma ray emitters
- |                      |           |                    |           |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| (i) Cobalt 60        | (3 marks) | (ii) Caesium 137   | (3 marks) |
| (iii) Technetium 99m | (3 marks) | (iv) americium 241 | (3 marks) |
- D. What are the physical qualities that are conserved in any nuclear reaction (2 marks)

**QUESTION TWO**

- A. Explain the terms: (i) isotopes (ii) Nuclear binding energy (iii) isotones (iv)isobars (8 marks)
- B. List any four properties of  $\alpha$  – particles (4 marks)

**QUESTION THREE**

- A. State the relationship between the radius of nucleus (r) and the number of particle (A)

- B. Differentiate between excess mass and packing fraction (3 marks)  
C. Write the conditions necessary for nuclear reaction to take place (3 marks)  
D. Give the reasons for using radioactivity to determine the age of matter (3 marks)

#### QUESTION FOUR

- A Briefly discuss human and medical application of radioactivity (8 marks)  
B. It is estimated that the Chernobyl disaster released 6.0 MCi of  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  into the environment. Calculate the mass of  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  released. (4 marks)

#### QUESTION FIVE

- A Mention two types of Nuclear reaction (4 marks)  
B Why is matter not conserve in public conserved (4 marks)  
C What is meant by Q-value energy? (4 marks)

#### QUESTON SIX

- A. Briefly define the term “mass defect of an atom” (4 marks)  
B. Calculate the energy generated in *kWh*, when 100 gm of  ${}^7_3\text{Li}$  are converted into  ${}^4_2\text{He}$  by proton bombardment, given,  
Mass of  ${}^7_3\text{Li} = 7.0183 \text{ amu}$   
Mass of  ${}^4_2\text{He} = 4.0040 \text{ amu}$   
Mass of  ${}^1_3\text{Li} = 1.0081 \text{ amu}$  (8 marks)