

Nuclear Physics

Nuclear Physics is a field of physics that studies the building blocks and interaction of Atomic nuclei.

What is Nucleon?

The proton and the neutron are considered to be two differential charge states of the same particle which is called a nucleon.

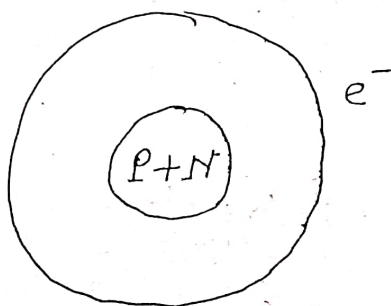


Fig: Nucleon.

Nuclide:

A species of nucleus, known as nuclide, is represented by schematically ${}_Z X^A$

Where, Z = atomic nub. indicates no. of proton
 A = mass no. indicates total mass no.
 X = chemical symbol of species.

$N = \text{Number neutrons} = (A - Z)$

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$p \rightarrow$ Proton - (+ve)

$$1.007274 \text{ amu} \\ = 1.6724 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$$

$n \rightarrow$ Neutron - Neutral charge.

$$1.008665 \text{ amu} \\ = 1.6747 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$$

Nomenclature:

Plural form of nucleon \rightarrow Nuclide

Singular " " \rightarrow Nuclei.

Classification of Nuclei:

1. **Isotopes**: Nuclei with the same atomic number but different mass number A are called isotopes.

Examples: ${}_{28}^{58}\text{Ni}$, ${}_{28}^{60}\text{Ni}$ are isotopes of nickel.

2. **Isobars**: Nuclei having same mass number A but different atomic number Z are called isobars.

Examples: ${}_{22}^{50}\text{Ti}$ and ${}_{20}^{50}\text{Cr}$ are isobars.

3. Isotone

3. **Isotone**: Nuclei having/with the same neutrons number N are called isotones. Examples: ${}_{6}^{14}\text{C}$, ${}_{7}^{15}\text{N}$, ${}_{8}^{16}\text{O}$ are isotones since no. of neutrons 8.

4. **Isomers**: There are atoms, which have the same atomic number Z and same mass number A but differ from one another in their nuclear energy states and exhibit differences in their internal structure.

5. **Mirror nuclei**: Nuclei having the same mass number A , but with the proton and neutron num. interchanged (that is the num. of protons are equal to the num. of neutrons in the other) are called mirror nuclei. Ex: ${}_{4}^{7}\text{Be}$ ($Z=4, N=3$), and ${}_{3}^{7}\text{Li}$ ($Z=3, N=4$)

Nuclear Charge:

The charge of nucleus is due to the protons contained in it. Each proton has $1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{C}$ and is the same of charge of electron. Therefore, the nuclear charge is Ze , where Z is the atomic num. of nucleus and determined from X-ray scattering experiment.

Define mass defect and binding energy
Establish the relationship between them.

Relation

Mass defect:

The mass defect of an atom defines as the difference between of its atomic mass and its mass number.

or, Mass defect defines as the difference between the mass of an isotope and its mass number.

$$\text{Mass defect: } \boxed{\Delta M = M - A}$$

Binding energy:

Nuclear binding energy is the energy required to separate an atomic nucleus completely into its constituent protons and neutrons. It is denoted by B.E.

$$\boxed{\text{B.E.} = A m c^2}$$

Mass defect Rule:

The actual mass of a nucleus, containing Z protons and N neutrons, is less than $Z m_p + N m_n$.

Relation between them:-

The mass of nucleus containing Z protons = Zm_p
" " " " N neutrons = Nm_n

Actual mass of nucleus = M

∴ The difference in masses,

$$\Delta m = Zm_p + Nm_n - M$$

$$\therefore \text{Mass defect } \Delta m = Zm_p + Nm_n - M$$

We know,

$$E = mc^2$$

$$\therefore \text{Binding energy } B.E = \Delta m c^2$$

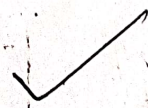
$$\Rightarrow B.E = [(Zm_p + Nm_n) - M] c^2$$

∴ Binding energy

$$B.E = [(Zm_p + Nm_n) - M] c^2$$

∴ It is the relation between mass defect and binding energy.

$$\therefore \text{Average Binding energy} = \frac{B.E}{A} \quad [A = \text{mass no.}]$$



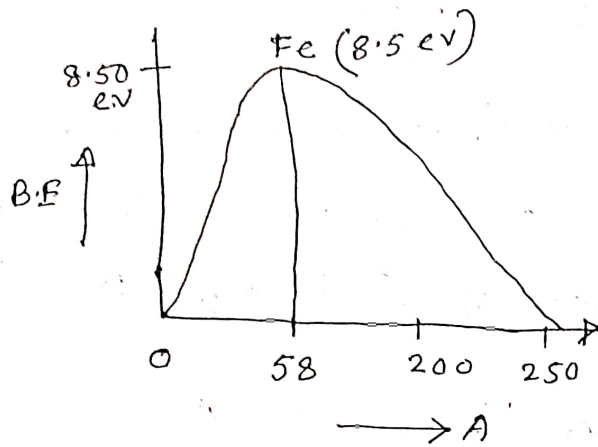


Fig: Binding energy of Fe.

Nuclear Reaction:

The reaction in which it is possible to bring about a change in the identity or characteristics of an atomic nucleus that results when it is bombarded with an energetic particle, as in fission, fusion or radioactive decay.

First particle = Light particle = ($\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \text{neutron}$ etc)

Nuclear Reaction can be described as,

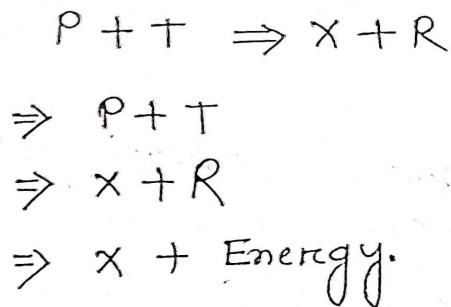
Projectile P + target T \rightarrow emitted particle x + residual nucleus R.

Shortly, $T(P, x)R$.

Now, here we can describe it,

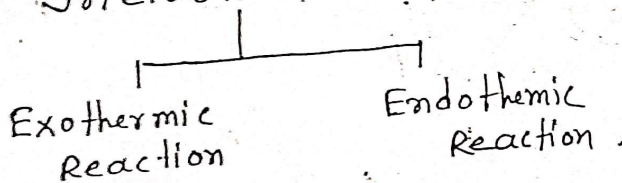
Projectile a + target $X \rightarrow$ emitted particle b
+ residual nucleus Y .

Now,



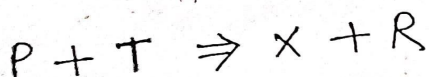
* Reaction are two kinds:

1. Elastic Reaction
2. Inelastic "



Q value:- In nuclear physics, the Q value for a reaction is the amount of energy released by that reaction.

Now,



Q value of Nuclear Reaction:

$$(E_p + M_p c^2) + (0 + M_T c^2) = (E_R + M_R c^2) + (E_X + M_X c^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow E_p + M_p c^2 + M_T c^2 = E_R + M_R c^2 + E_X + M_X c^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (E_R + E_X) - E_p = [(M_p + M_T) - (M_X + M_R)] c^2$$

$$Q = \Delta M c^2$$

Significance of Q value:

1. $Q > 0$ [+ve \rightarrow Exothermic]
2. $Q < 0$ [-ve \rightarrow Endothermic]
3. $Q = 0$ [\rightarrow Elastic]

☐ Q-value (using mass conservative):

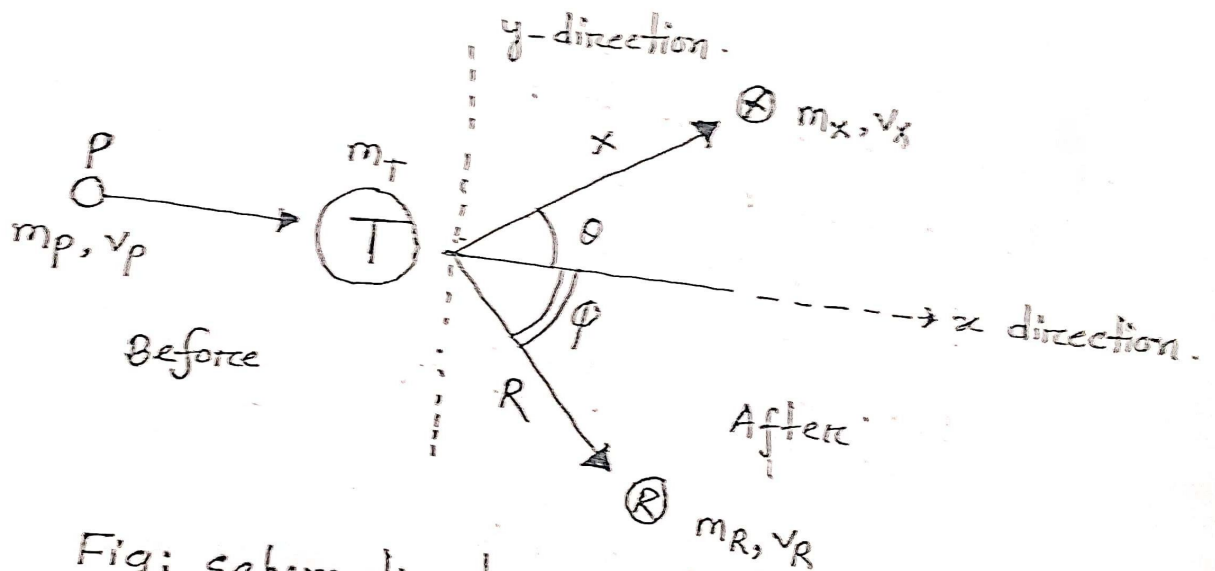


Fig: schematic diagram of a nuclear Reaction.

x-direction:

$$m_p v_p = m_x v_x \cos \theta + m_r v_r \cos \phi$$

$$\Rightarrow m_x v_x \cos \theta = m_p v_p - m_r v_r \cos \phi \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

y-direction:

$$0 = m_x v_x \sin \theta - m_r v_r \sin \phi \quad \text{---}$$



$$\Rightarrow m_x v_x \sin \theta = m_R v_R \sin \phi \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

Squaring (i) + (ii),

$$m_x v_x (\sin \theta + \cos \theta) = (m_p v_p - m_R v_R \cos \phi)^2 + (m_R v_R \sin \phi)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow m_x v_x^2 = m_p v_p^2 - 2 m_p v_p m_R v_R \cos \phi + m_R v_R^2 \cos^2 \phi + m_R v_R^2 \sin^2 \phi$$

$$\Rightarrow m_x v_x^2 = m_p v_p^2 - 2 m_p v_p m_R v_R \cos \phi + m_R v_R^2 \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

We know,

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

$$\therefore E_p = \frac{1}{2} m_p v_p^2$$

$$\Rightarrow v_p^2 = \frac{2 E_p}{m_p}$$

$$E_p = \frac{1}{2} m_p v_p^2$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{2 E_p}{m_p}}$$

Similarly, $v_x^2 = \frac{2 E_x}{m_x}$, $v_R^2 = \frac{2 E_R}{m_R}$

Putting value in (ii),

$$m_x \frac{2 E_x}{m_x} = m_p \cdot \frac{2 E_p}{m_p} - 2 m_p \cdot m_R \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2 E_p}{m_p}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2 E_R}{m_R}} \cos \phi + m_R \cdot \frac{2 E_R}{m_R}$$

$$m_x E_x = m_p E_p + m_R E_R - 2 (m_p m_R \cdot E_p E_R) \cos \phi$$

$$\Rightarrow m_x E_x = m_p E_p + m_R E_R - 0$$

$$\Rightarrow m_x E_x = m_p E_p + m_R E_R$$

$$\Rightarrow E_x = \frac{m_p}{m_x} \cdot E_p + \frac{m_R}{m_x} \cdot E_R$$

Now,

$$Q = E_x + E_R - E_p$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \frac{m_p}{m_x} \cdot E_p + \frac{m_R}{m_x} \cdot E_R + E_R - E_p$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \frac{m_p}{m_x} E_p - E_p + \frac{m_R}{m_x} \cdot E_R + E_R$$

$$\therefore Q = E_R \left(1 + \frac{m_R}{m_x} \right) - E_p \left(1 - \frac{m_p}{m_x} \right)$$

\therefore This is the equation of Q value mass conservative

④ Threshold Energy :-

$$a + \frac{x}{c} = \frac{y+b}{c}$$

Let,

$$M_e = M_a + M_x$$

we know,

$$P + T = X + R$$

$$X = P + T - R$$

$$Y + b = c$$

then

$$M_a v_a = M_e v_e$$

$$v_e = \frac{M_a v_a}{M_e} = \frac{M_a v_a}{(M_a + M_x)}$$

$$\Rightarrow v_e = \left(\frac{M_a}{M_a + M_x} \right) \cdot v_a$$

we know

$$Q = E_y + E_b - E_a$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = E_c - E_a$$

$$\Rightarrow -Q = E_a - E_c$$

$$\Rightarrow -Q = \frac{1}{2} M_a v_a^2 - \frac{1}{2} M_e v_e^2$$

$$\Rightarrow -Q = \frac{1}{2} M_a v_a^2 - \frac{1}{2} (M_a + M_x) \left(\frac{M_a}{M_a + M_x} \right)^2 v_a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow -Q = \frac{1}{2} M_a v_a^2 - \frac{1}{2} M_a v_a^2 \cdot \frac{1}{M_a + M_x}$$

$$\Rightarrow -Q = \frac{1}{2} M_a v_a^2 - \frac{1}{2} M_a v_a^2 \left(\frac{M_a}{M_a + M_x} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow -Q = \frac{1}{2} M_a v_a^2 \left(1 - \frac{M_a}{M_a + M_x} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow -Q = \frac{1}{2} M_a v_a^2 \left(\frac{M_a + M_x - M_a}{M_a + M_x} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow -Q = E_{th} \left(\frac{M_x}{M_a + M_x} \right)$$

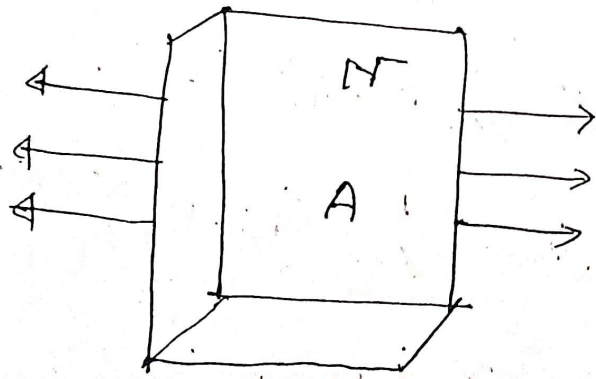
Threshold Energy -
In nuclear physics,
the threshold energy
is the minimum kinetic
energy a pair of
travelling particles must
have when they collide

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \therefore \text{we know,} \\ P + T = X + R \\ \hookrightarrow a + x = y + b \\ Q = E_x + E_R - E_P \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow E_{th} = -Q \left(\frac{Ma + Mx}{Mx} \right)$$

$$\therefore E_{th} = -Q \left(1 + \frac{Ma}{Mx} \right)$$

□ Cross-Sectional Area of Nuclear Reaction



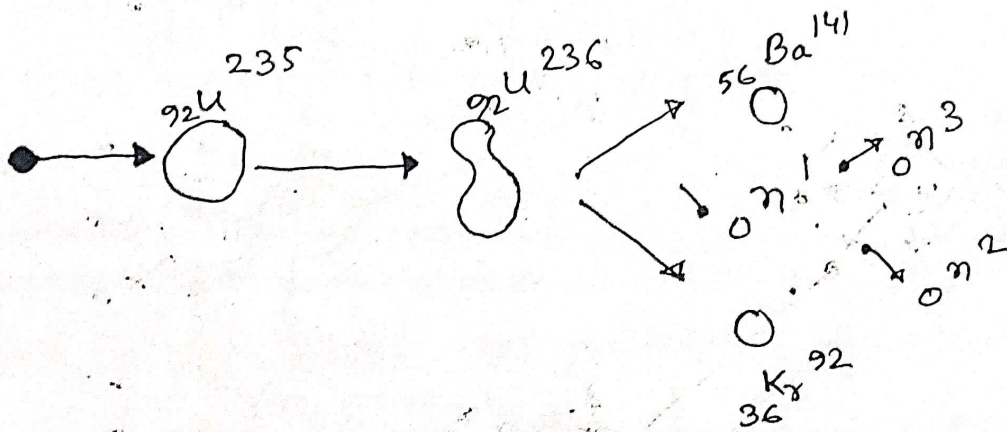
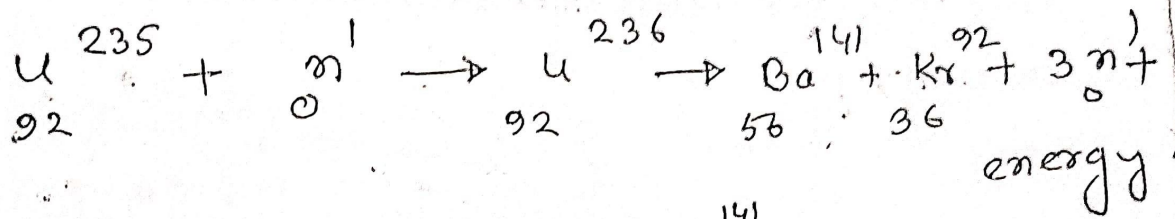
$$\frac{n_r}{n_i} = \frac{\alpha N A t}{A}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n_r}{n_i} = \frac{\alpha N t}{1}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{N t} \cdot \frac{n_r}{n_i}$$

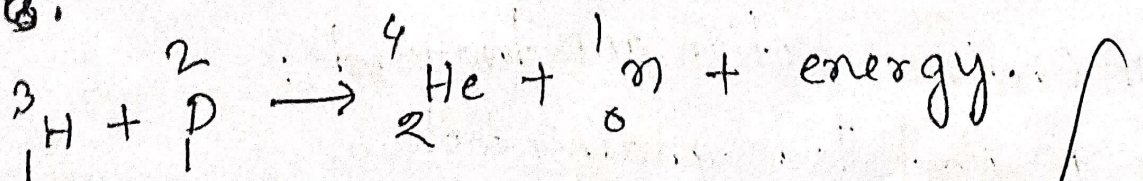
⊕ Nuclear fission:

The process of breaking up of the nucleus of a heavy atom into two, more or less equal nuclei with the release of an enormous amount of energy is known as nuclear fission.



⊕ Nuclear fusion:

Nuclear fusion defined as a nuclear reaction in which atomic nuclei of low atomic number fuse to form a heavier nucleus with the release of energy.



Chain Reaction :-

A chain reaction refers to a process in which neutrons released in fission produce an additional fission at least one further nucleus.

or, \checkmark A chain reaction refers to a process which can be once started that cannot ^{be} continue to need additional energy.

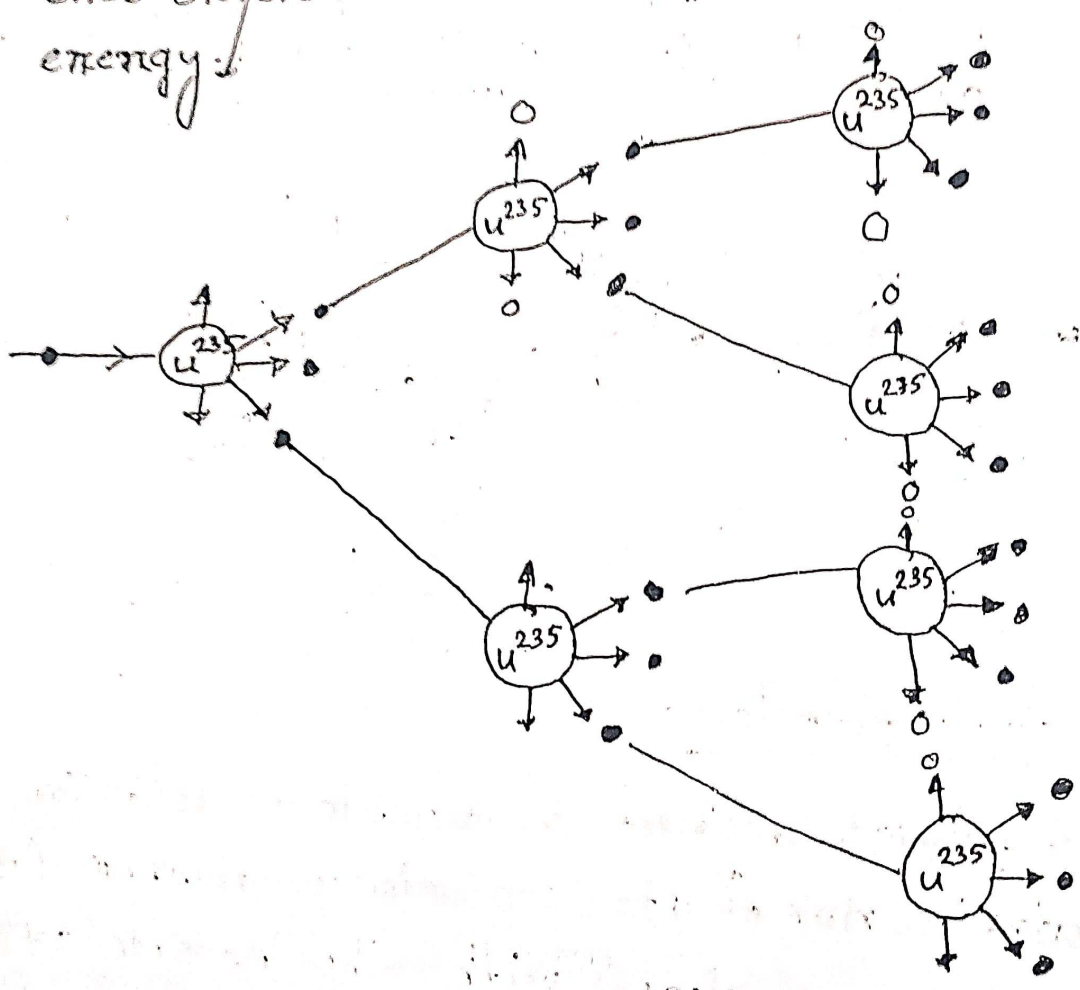


Fig: Chain Reaction.

- # Chain reaction are two kinds:
1. Controlled chain reaction.
 2. Uncontrolled " "

h neutrons
on at least

☒ Nuclear Reactor:

A nuclear reactor is a device in which a chain reaction involving nuclear fission can be initiated and controlled.

The essential elements of nuclear reactor are:

1. The fissionable material called fuel.
2. Moderator.
3. Neutron reflector.
4. Cooling system and
5. The safety and controlled system.

☒ Liquid Drop Model:

Liquid drop model was proposed by Neils Bohr, who observed that there are certain marked similarities between an atom nucleus and a liquid drop. These similarities are:

1. Shape: In a stable state, a nucleus is supposed to be spherical in shape, just as a liquid drop is spherical due to symmetrical surface tension forces.
2. Surface tension: Just as the force of surface tension acts on the surface of the liquid drop.

there is a potential barrier at the surface of the nucleus.

3. Density: The density of a liquid drop is independent of its volume similarly the density of nucleus is independent of its volume.

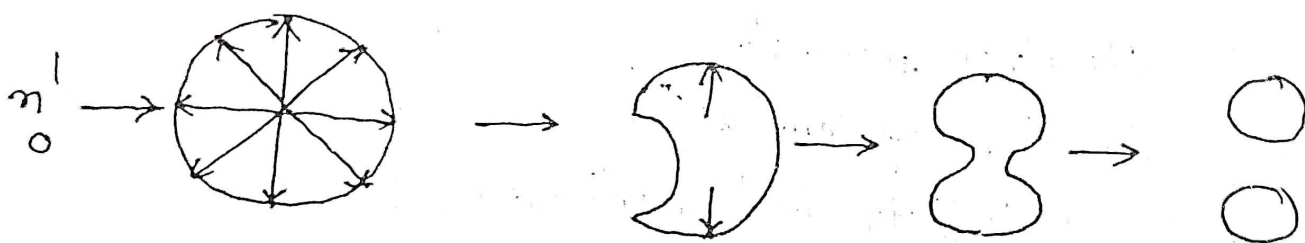


Fig: Liquid Drop model.

Show that Nuclear density cannot depend on mass number.

$$\text{Nuclear density, } \rho = \frac{\text{N. mass}}{\text{N. volume}} = \frac{Am}{\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3}$$

we know,

$$\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \propto A$$

$$\Rightarrow r \propto A^{1/3}$$

Now,

$$\therefore r = r_0 A^{1/3}$$

where r_0 is constant = 1.3×10^{-15} m

$$\rho = \frac{Am}{\frac{4}{3}\pi r_0^3 A} = \frac{m}{\frac{4}{3}\pi r_0^3}$$

\therefore density cannot depend on mass number.

