

Interactions of charged particles w/ Matter

⇒ ionization (lower energies)

Show dE/dx curve

more of
higher
Mass!

⇒ Radiation - Bremsstrahlung

$$\left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_{\text{rad}} \propto E$$

whereas

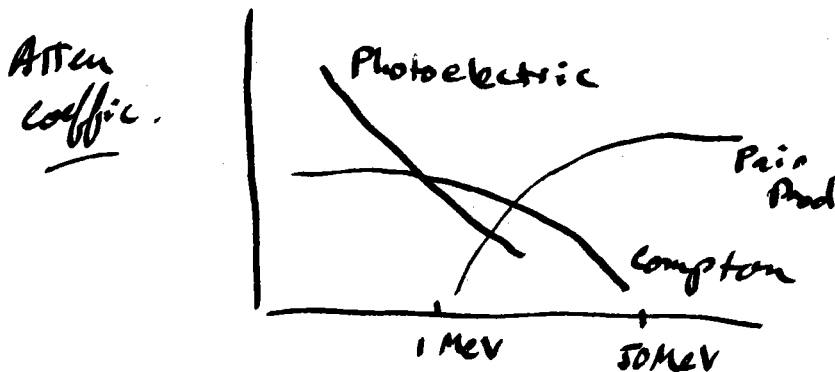
$$\left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_{\text{ion}} \sim \text{constant}$$

Bio damage from ionization

& worse than β (outside body)

Also penetrates less far

Interactions of γ w/ matter

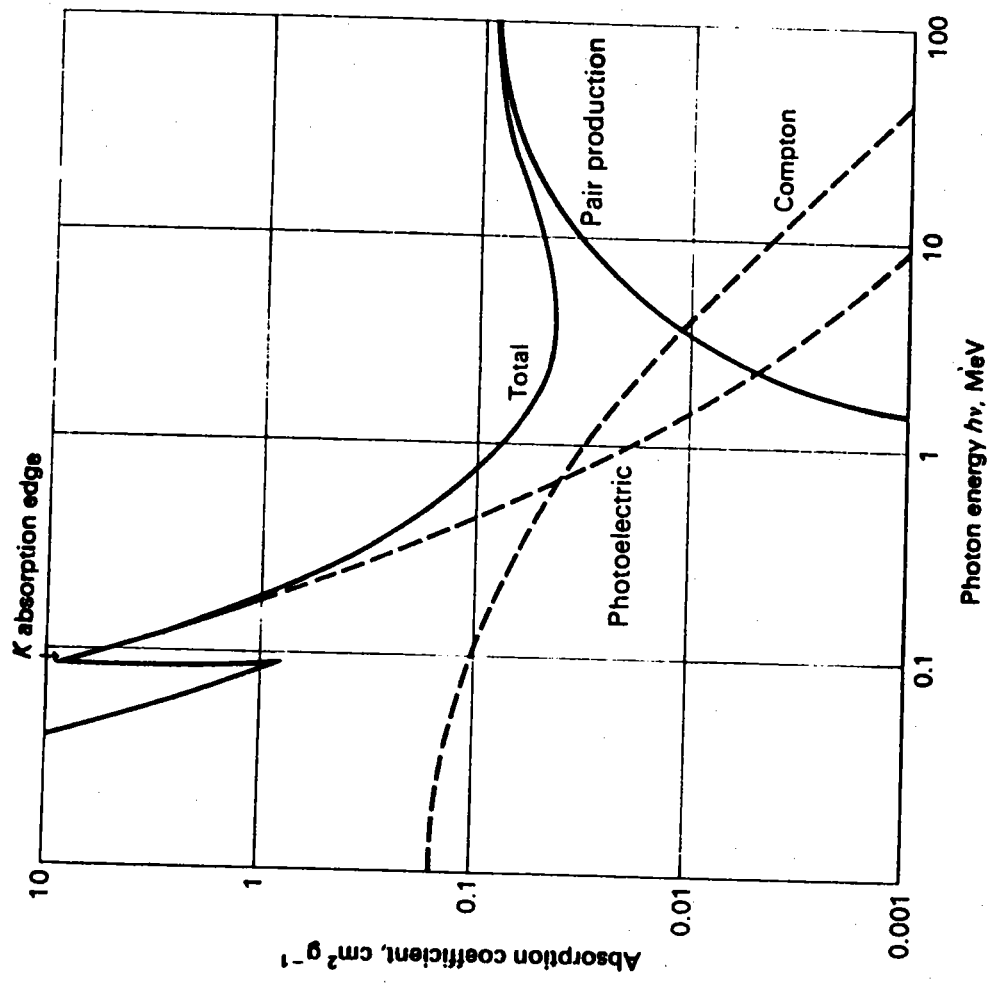


$$I = I_0 e^{-\mu x}$$

$\frac{I}{I_0} = \text{Conversion length}$

$$I = I_0 e^{-\mu x}$$

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the thickness of absorber because of the energy loss

According to Eq. 2.12, the range is given

$$\frac{dE}{M} \frac{dE}{M} \quad (2.13)$$

of E/M . To illustrate the usefulness of Eq. 2.13, consider some particle, a proton, for example, has a range R of E/M . Then the range of another particle, for example, with energy E_a can be related to

$$\left(\frac{E_a}{M_a} \right) R = \left(\frac{E}{M} \right) R \quad (2.14)$$

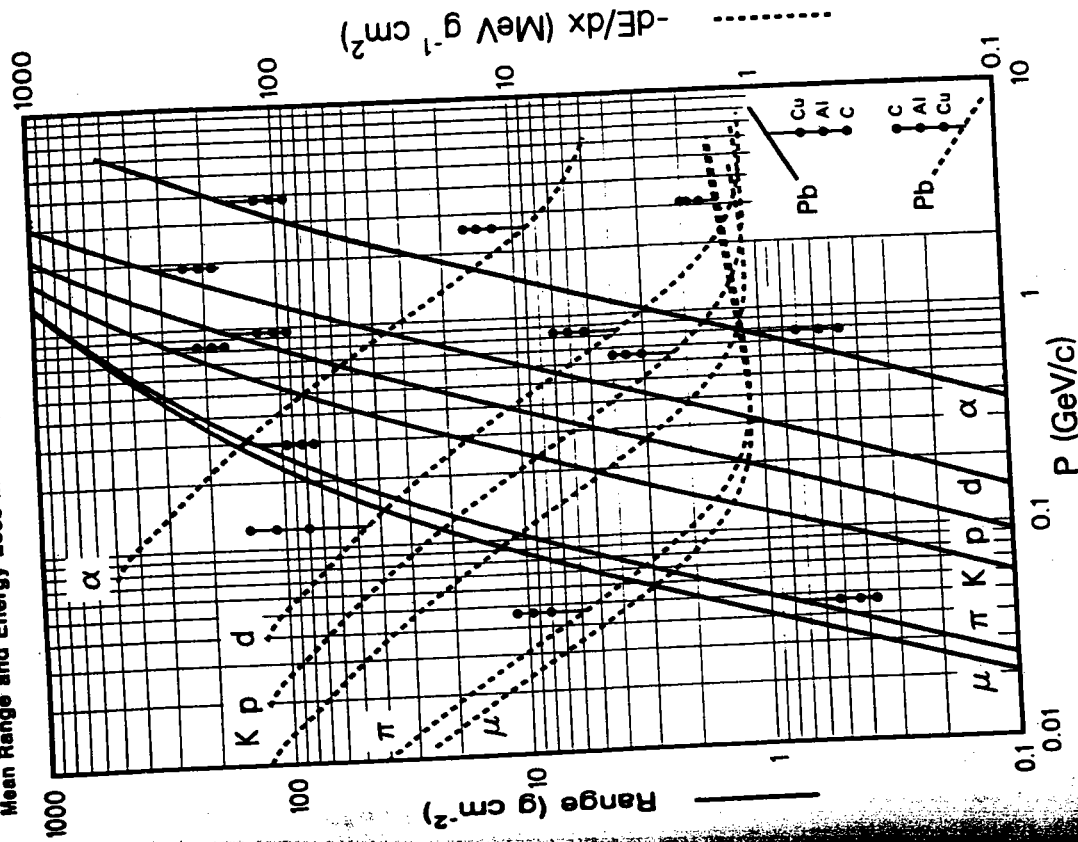
For low energy protons in air can be taken as $E_0 = 9.3 \text{ MeV}$ [3]. The range of a number of incident particles in a material is shown in Fig. 2.3. The range and dE/dx curves show the $1/v^2$ drop for small momentum ionization for higher momentum particles in liquid hydrogen in Fig. 2.4.

The energy loss of the energy loss given in the present nature of the particles in an ad hoc must take into account (1) the fact that

Figure 2.3 Mean range and energy loss of charged particles in solids. Calculations use the Bethe-Bloch equation with density effect corrections. Refer to the cited reference for a discussion of assumptions and qualifications. (Particle Data Group, Rev. Mod. Phys. 56: S1, 1984.)

PARTICLE DETECTORS, ABSORBERS, AND RANGES

Mean Range and Energy Loss in Lead, Copper, Aluminum, and Carbon



So one can have Nuclear Spectroscopy

i.e., Transitions of nucleons between allowed energy states within nuclei

- EM radiation emitted/Absorbed \Rightarrow γ rays
- Energies between states much larger than for atoms

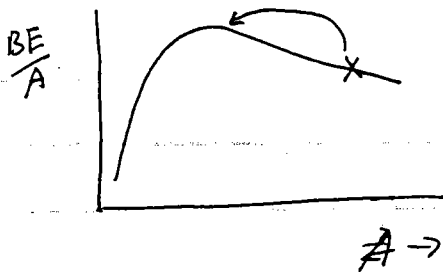
Emitted EM Radiation γ rays ... Very high energy EM rad.

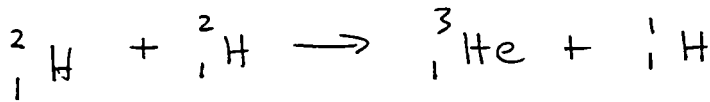
$\alpha < \beta < \gamma$ Bio damage outside body

$\alpha > \beta > \gamma$ Bio damage if substance incorporated in body
 (This is a fn of where/if substance is concentrated in some organ also)
 (also a fn of substance activity)

Nuclear Fission

useful for winning wars & heating tea





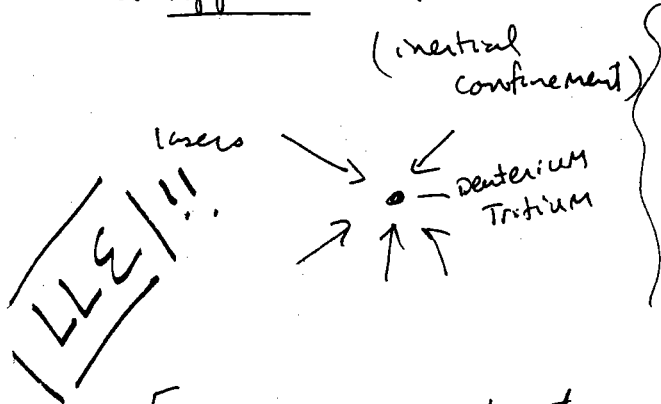
liberates $\sim 1 \text{ MeV/nucleon}$ in energy

- get H from water \Rightarrow ∞ supply
- byproducts are "clean"

problem: Must overcome Coulomb repulsion

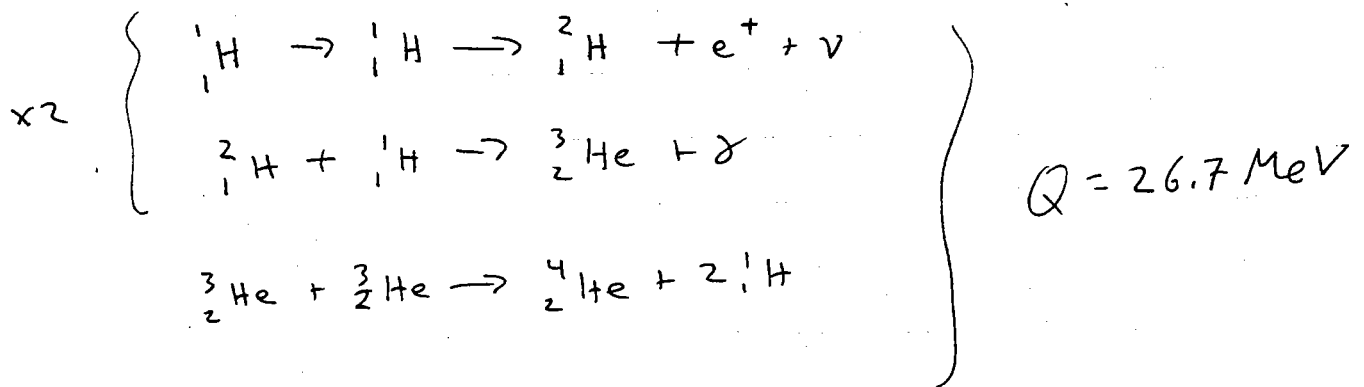
Hard to do on large scale in a controlled self sustaining manner

2 Approaches:

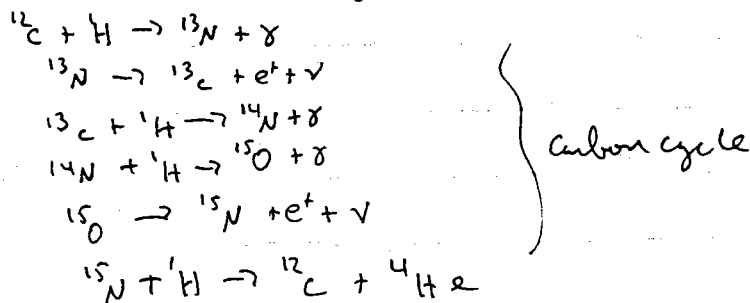


Tokamak (Magnetic confinement)
Heat
Plasma
until thermal energy sufficient to repite fuel.

Fusion is important ... Stars work by Nuclear fusion i.e. our sun



Stellar life cycle if Time Allows





radioactive

Sample of N_1 nuclei of certain type x

$$\frac{dN}{dt} \propto N$$

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

↑ decay constant (units $\frac{1}{s}$)

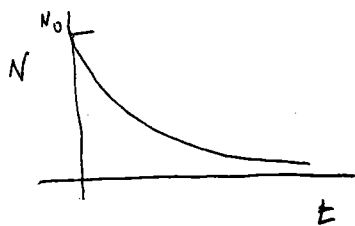
Activity

 \equiv change in # radioactive nuclei/s

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

$$\ln N = -\lambda t + c$$

$$\boxed{N = N_0 e^{-\lambda t}}$$

Exponential law of
radioactive decaycannot easily measure N so

$$\boxed{A = A_0 e^{-\lambda t}}$$

Activity measured in curies

$$1 \text{ Curie (Ci)} = 3.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ decays/s}$$

usually work in mCi + μ Ci

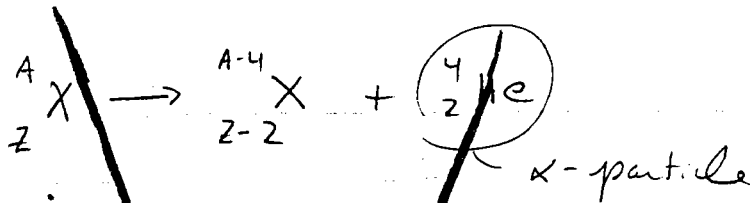
Half life \equiv time for A for a sample to be reduced by
a factor of two

$$a = a_0 e^{-\lambda t}$$

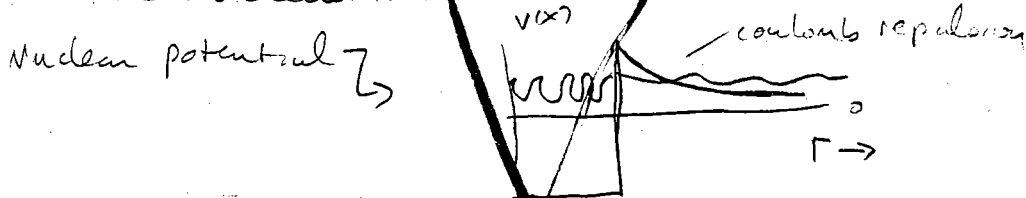
$$\frac{1}{2} a_0 = a_0 e^{-\lambda t_{1/2}}$$

$$t_{1/2} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln 2 = \frac{0.693}{\lambda}$$

α -decay



p's & n's
Nucleons exist bouncing around inside the "bag" of the nucleus



Quantum Tunneling occurs ... α particle escapes from nucleus

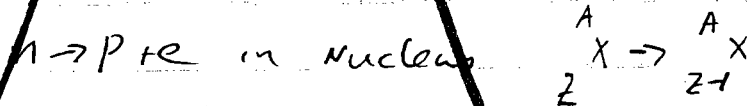
α -particle Heavy ... charge of +2

Heavily ionizing
Easily stopped

do in several
pages

~~Least harmful radiation if outside body!~~
~~Most harmful radiation if ingested!~~
(given a certain activity & position in body)

β -decay



"Q-value" = KE given to products = $(m_n - m_p - m_e) c^2$

Assume no/little nuclear recoil
expect a spike in β decay spectrum