

## APES ~ ATOM REVIEW NOTES

### I. Subatomic particles

- A. *electron* ( $e^-$ ) negatively charged subatomic particles
- fixed charge of -1
  - very light mass ( $9.11 \times 10^{-28}$  g)
  - orbit the center
- B. *proton* ( $p^+$ ) positively charged subatomic particle  
(a hydrogen atom stripped of its electron is a “raw proton”)
- fixed charge of +1
  - same mass as a neutron ( $1.67 \times 10^{-24}$  g)
  - located in the center of an atom
- C. *neutron* ( $n^0$ ) neutral subatomic particle
- fixed charge of 0
  - same mass as a proton ( $1.67 \times 10^{-24}$  g)
  - located in the nucleus
- D. there are hundreds of subatomic particles, but these are the important ones to us

### II. *Atomic number*—number of protons in the nucleus of an atom

- A. characteristics
- 1) the atomic number is the unique I.D. number of an element
  - 2) each element only has one atomic number
- B. examples
- What is the atomic number of the following elements?
- O (8)            I (53)            Cl (17)            Au (79)

#### C. *atomic neutrality*:

- 1) atoms are electrically neutral

number of protons = number of electrons in an atom

- 2) examples

How many electrons does Cu have? (29)

How many electrons does Rn have? (86)

### III. *Mass number*

**MASS NUMBER = PROTONS + NEUTRONS**

**# OF NEUTRONS = MASS NUMBER - ATOMIC NUMBER**

- A. symbols can be written two ways:

mass number	12
SYMBOL	C
atomic number	6

SYMBOL—atomic number

C-12

- B. mass number is the total mass of the nucleus
- C. mass number is *not* the decimal number on the periodic table! (that’s atomic mass)
- D. example

How many  $p^+$ ,  $n^0$  and  $e^-$  are in an atom of S-34?

S = sulfur, which is #16. S has 16  $p^+$  and because #  $p^+$  = #  $e^-$ , S has 16  $e^-$ .

Mass number = 34. #  $n^0$  = mass # - atomic # =  $34 - 16 =$  18  $n^0$ .

IV. *Isotopes*

- A. atoms of the same element that contain different numbers of neutrons
- 1) same number of p<sup>+</sup>
  - 2) different mass numbers
  - 3) different atomic masses
  - 4) in nature, most elements occur as a mix of two or more isotopes

B. examples:

<u>ISOTOPE</u>	<u>MASS #</u>	<u>ATOMIC #</u>	<u>p<sup>+</sup></u>	<u>n<sup>0</sup></u>	<u>e<sup>-</sup></u>
O-16	16	8	8	8	8
O-17	17	8	8	9	8
O-18	18	8	8	10	8

Remember, # n<sup>0</sup> = mass number - atomic number.

V. *Atomic mass*

- A. a weighted average based on mass and relative abundance of all naturally occurring isotopes of an element

ATOMIC MASS =  
 (MASS x RELATIVE ABUNDANCE) of natural isotope #1 +  
 (MASS x RELATIVE ABUNDANCE) of natural isotope #2 +  
 (MASS x RELATIVE ABUNDANCE) of natural isotope #3 ... etc.

- B. unit is amu = atomic mass unit  
 C. synthetic isotopes (made in lab, not found in nature) are not considered  
 D. example

Magnesium has three isotopes: Mg-24, Mg-25, and Mg-26:

<u>ISOTOPE</u>	<u>ABUNDANCE</u>	<u>ATOMIC MASS</u>
Mg-24	78.70%	23.985
Mg-25	10.13%	24.986
Mg-26	11.17%	25.983

Using the data, calculate the atomic mass of Mg.

$$\text{ATOMIC MASS} = (\text{MASS} \times \text{RELATIVE ABUNDANCE}) \\
 (23.985)(0.7870) + (24.986)(0.1013) + (25.983)(0.1117) = \boxed{24.31 \text{ amu}}$$