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- Q 1. Two radioactive sources X and Y of half-lives 1h and 2h respectively initially contain the same number of radioactive atoms. At the end of 2h, their rates of disintegration are in the ratio of :
- (a) 4 : 3 (b) 3 : 4
(c) 1 : 1 (d) 2 : 1
- Q 2. The half-life period of radium is 1600 years. Its average life time will be nearly
- (a) 3200 years (b) 4800 years
(c) 2308 years (d) 4217 years
- Q 3. The decay constant of a radioactive sample is γ . Its half-life is $T_{1/2}$ and mean life is T.
- (a) $T_{1/2} = \frac{1}{\gamma}$, $T = \frac{\ln 2}{\gamma}$ (b) $T_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{\gamma}$, $T = \frac{1}{\gamma}$
(c) $T_{1/2} = \gamma \ln 2$, $T = \frac{1}{\gamma}$ (d) $T_{1/2} = \frac{\gamma}{\ln 2}$, $T = \frac{\ln 2}{\gamma}$
- Q 4. If the half - lives of a radioactive element for α - decay and β - decay are 4 year and 12 year respectively. What percent would its total activity be of its initial activity after 12 years?
- (a) 50 % (b) 25 %
(c) 12.25 % (d) 6.25 %
- Q 5. The fraction of the original number of a radioactive atom having a mean life of 10 days, that decays during the 5th day is:
[Given: $e^{-0.4} = 0.66$, $e^{-0.5} = 0.6$]
- (a) 0.15 (b) 0.30
(c) 0.015 (d) 0.06
- Q.6 A radioactive substance emits 100 beta particles in the first 2 seconds and 50 beta particles in the next 2 seconds. The mean life of the sample is.
- (a) 4 sec (b) 2 sec
(c) $\frac{2}{0.693}$ sec (d) 2×0.693 sec
- Q 7. Calculate the time required for 60% of a sample of radon to undergo decay. (Given $T_{1/2}$ of radon = 3.8 days, and $\ln(0.4) = -0.916$)
- (a) 4.5 days (b) 5.05 days
(c) 2.35 days (d) 7.16 days



- Q 8. 75 atoms of radio active species are decayed in 2 half lives ($t_{1/2} = 1$ hr) if 100 atoms are taken initially. Number of atoms remained in two hours, if 200 atoms are taken initially
- (a) 75 (b) 150
(c) 50 (d) 200
- Q 9. A radioactive material decays by simultaneous emission of two particles with half-lives 1620 year and 810 year respectively. The time in years after which one-fourth of material remains, is :
- (a) 1080 year (b) 2340 year
(c) 4860 year (d) 3240 year
- Q 10. The activity of a radioactive sample is measured as N_0 counts per minute at $t = 0$ and $\frac{N_0}{e}$ counts per minute at $t = 5$ min. The time, (in minute) at which the activity reduces to half its value, is :
- (a) $\ln \frac{2}{5}$ (b) $\frac{5}{\ln 2}$
(c) $5 \log_{10} 2$ (d) $5 \ln 2$
- Q 11. The half life of a radioactive material is 5 years. The probability of disintegration for a nucleus within 10 years is
- (a) 0.50 (b) 0.25
(c) 0.60 (d) 0.75
- Q 12. Samples of two radioactive nuclides, X and Y, each have equal activity A_0 at time $t = 0$. X has a half-life of 24 years and Y a half-life of 16 years. The samples are mixed together. What will be the total activity of the mixture at $t = 48$ years?
- (a) $\frac{A_0}{2}$ (b) $\frac{A_0}{4}$
(c) $\frac{3A_0}{16}$ (d) $\frac{3A_0}{8}$
- Q 13. The disintegration rate of a certain radioactive sample at any instant is 4750 dpm (disintegration per minute). Five minutes later, the rate becomes 2700 dpm. Calculate half-life of sample. [Given, $\ln(1.759) = 0.5647$]
- (a) 6.1 min (b) 3.6 min
(c) 9.3 min (d) 1.2 min

Answer Key

Q.1 c	Q.2 c	Q.3 b	Q.4 d	Q.5 d
Q.6 c	Q.7 b	Q.8 c	Q.9 a	Q.10 d
Q.11 d	Q.12 d	Q.13 a		


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Written Solution

DPP-3 Nuclear Physics: Radioactivity

By Physicsaholics Team

Solution: 1

$$\text{for } X; T_{1/2} = 1 \text{ hr} \Rightarrow d_x = \frac{\ln 2}{1}$$

$$\text{for } Y; T_{1/2} = 2 \text{ hr} \Rightarrow d_y = \frac{\ln 2}{2}$$

$$\frac{N_x}{N_y} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1$$

$$\frac{N_x}{N_y} = \frac{1}{2}$$

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

$$\text{or } N = N_0 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n; n = \frac{t}{T_{1/2}}$$

after; $t = 2 \text{ hr}$.

$$\text{for } X; n = \frac{2}{1} = 2 \quad \text{for } Y; n = \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

$$\frac{N_x}{N_0} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\frac{N_y}{N_0} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\left(\frac{dN}{dt}\right)_x = d_x N_x; \left(\frac{dN}{dt}\right)_y = d_y N_y$$

$$\frac{\left(\frac{dN}{dt}\right)_x}{\left(\frac{dN}{dt}\right)_y} = \frac{d_x N_x}{d_y N_y} = \frac{\left(\frac{\ln 2}{1}\right) \times \frac{1}{2}}{\left(\frac{\ln 2}{2}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{2}{1} \times \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= 1$$

$$\frac{A_x}{A_y} = \frac{1}{1}$$

Ans.

$$\frac{\text{(1)}}{\text{(2)}} \Rightarrow \frac{N_x/N_0}{N_y/N_0} = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1}$$

Ans. c

Solution: 2

$$T_{Y_2} = \frac{\ln 2}{d}$$

$$d = \frac{\ln 2}{T_{1/2}}$$

and avg life $T_{avg} = \frac{1}{d}$

$$\begin{aligned} T_{avg} &= \frac{T_{1/2}}{\ln 2} \\ &= \frac{1600}{0.693} \end{aligned}$$

$$T_{avg} = 2308 \text{ years}$$

$$\boxed{T_{avg} = 2308 \text{ years}} \text{ As}$$

Ans. c

Solution: 3

$$\text{Half life: } T_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{\lambda} = \frac{\ln 2}{\gamma},$$

$$\text{Mean life: } T = \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\gamma}$$

Ans. b

Solution: 4

$$d = d_1 + d_2$$

$$\frac{\ln 2}{T_{1/2}} = \frac{\ln 2}{(T_{1/2})_1} + \frac{\ln 2}{(T_{1/2})_2}$$

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = \frac{1}{(T_{1/2})_1} + \frac{1}{(T_{1/2})_2}$$

$$\frac{1}{T_{1/2}} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{12}$$

$$T_{1/2} = 3 \text{ years}$$

$$n = \frac{t}{T_{1/2}} = \frac{12}{3} = 4$$

$$\frac{R}{R_0} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

$$\frac{R}{R_0} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 = \frac{1}{16}$$

$$\frac{R}{R_0} = \frac{1}{16} \times 100\%$$

$$\frac{R}{R_0} \% = 6.25\%$$

Ans

Ans. d

Solution: 5

decay on
5th day N_5^{th} = Remaining after
4 days -

Remaining after
5 days.

$$\begin{aligned} N_5^{\text{th}} &= N_4 - N_5 \\ &= N_0 e^{-d(4)} - N_0 e^{-d(5)} \end{aligned}$$

$$N_5^{\text{th}} = N_0 [e^{-4d} - e^{-5d}]$$

$$\frac{N_5^{\text{th}}}{N_0} = [e^{-4d} - e^{-5d}]$$

$$d = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{10}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{N_5^{\text{th}}}{N_0} &= e^{-4 \cdot \frac{1}{10}} - e^{-5 \cdot \frac{1}{10}} \\ &= e^{-2/5} - e^{-1/2} \\ &= e^{-2/5} - e^{-1/2} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{e}\right)^{2/5} - \left(\frac{1}{e}\right)^{1/2} \\ &= 0.66 - 0.60 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{N_5^{\text{th}}}{N_0} \approx 0.06} \quad \text{Ans}$$

Ans. d

Solution: 6

so, $T_{1/2} = 2 \text{ sec.}$

but $T_{\text{avg}} = \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{\ln 2}{T_{1/2}}\right)}$

$$T_{\text{avg}} = \frac{T_{1/2}}{\ln 2}$$

$$T_{\text{avg}} = \frac{2 \text{ sec}}{0.693} \quad \text{Ans}$$

Ans. c

Solution: 7

to decay 60 %

$$N = N_0 (1 - e^{-\lambda t})$$

$N \rightarrow$ decayed amount.

$$\frac{60}{100} \times N_0 = N_0 (1 - e^{-\lambda t})$$

$$0.6 = 1 - e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$e^{-\lambda t} = 0.4$$

$$-\lambda t = \ln(0.4)$$

$$t = -\frac{\ln(0.4)}{\lambda} = -\frac{\ln(0.4)}{\ln 2} (T_{1/2})$$

$$t = -\left[\frac{-5.916}{0.693} \right] \times 3.8$$

$$t = 5.05 \text{ days} \quad \text{Ans}$$

Ans. b

Solution: 8

$$100 \xrightarrow{t_{1/2}} 50 \xrightarrow{t_{1/2}} 25$$

75 decayed & 25 remaining after two half lives.

for $t = 2 \text{ hr.}$

$$\therefore t_{1/2} = 1 \text{ hr}$$

mes $n = \frac{t}{T} = 2$ (2 half lives)

$$200 \xrightarrow{t_{1/2}} 100 \xrightarrow{t_{1/2}} 50$$

if 200 is taken initially then 50 atoms are remaining after 2 hrs.

Ans. c

Solution: 9

half life = T

$$T_1 = 1620 \text{ year}$$

$$T_2 = 810 \text{ year}$$

$$\therefore d = d_1 + d_2$$

$$\frac{\ln 2}{T} = \frac{\ln 2}{T_1} + \frac{\ln 2}{T_2}$$

$$\frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{1620} + \frac{1}{810}$$

$$T = \frac{1620}{3} \text{ year}$$

$$T = 540 \text{ year}$$

if material is $\frac{1}{4}$ th remaining

$$\text{then; } N = \frac{1}{4} N_0$$

$$N_0 \xrightarrow{t_{1/2}} \frac{N_0}{2} \xrightarrow{t_{1/2}} \frac{N_0}{4}$$

So; time = 2-half lives

$$t = 2 \times T$$

$$= 2 \times 540$$

$$t = 1080 \text{ years}$$

Ans. a

Solution: 10

Activity;

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

So, initially; $A_0 = N_0$

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

At $t = 5 \text{ min}$

$$\frac{N_0}{e} = N_0 e^{-\lambda(5)} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

So,

$$N = \frac{N_0}{2}$$

$$\frac{N_0}{2} = N_0 e^{-\lambda t} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

From eqⁿ - 1

$$\frac{N_0}{e} = N_0 e^{-\lambda(5)} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{e} = e^{-5\lambda}$$

$$\frac{1}{e} = \frac{1}{e^{5\lambda}} \Rightarrow 5\lambda = 1$$

$$\boxed{\lambda = \frac{1}{5}}$$

Now put λ in eqⁿ (2)

$$\frac{N_0}{2} = N_0 e^{-\left(\frac{1}{5}t\right)}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = e^{-t/5} \Rightarrow \ln \frac{1}{2} = \ln e^{-t/5}$$

$$+\ln 2 = -t/5$$

$$\boxed{t = 5 \ln 2 \text{ minutes}} \text{ Ans.}$$

Ans. d

Solution: 11

$$T_{1/2} = 5 \text{ year}$$

$$t = 10 \text{ years} = 2 \times T_{1/2}$$

$$\text{so; } N_0 \xrightarrow{T_{1/2}} \frac{N_0}{2} \xrightarrow{T_{1/2}} \frac{N_0}{4}$$

$$\text{remaining atoms after 10 years} = \frac{N_0}{4}$$

$$\text{decayed atoms in 10 years} = \frac{3N_0}{4}$$

$$\text{So; Probability to decay in 10 years} = \frac{3N_0/4}{N_0}$$

$$= \frac{3}{4}$$

$$= \underline{0.75} \text{ Ans.}$$

Ans. d

Solution: 12

for 'X';

initial activity = A_0

$T_{1/2} = 24$ years

$$n = \frac{48}{24} = 2$$

$$\text{Activity; } A_x = \frac{A_0}{2^n} = \frac{A_0}{2^2} \\ = \frac{A_0}{4}$$

so; Activity of mixture

$$A_{\text{mix}} = A_x + A_y = \frac{A_0}{4} + \frac{A_0}{8} = \frac{3A_0}{8}$$

for 'y';

initial activity = A_0

$T_{1/2} = 16$ years

$$n = \frac{48}{16} = 3$$

$$\text{Activity; } A_y = \frac{A_0}{2^n} = \frac{A_0}{2^3} \\ = \frac{A_0}{8}$$

$$\boxed{A_{\text{mix}} = \frac{3A_0}{8}} \quad \underline{\underline{Ans}}$$

Ans. d

Solution: 13

$$T_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{\lambda}$$

4 $\lambda = ?$
 $A = A_0 e^{-\lambda t}$

$$2700 = 4750 e^{-\lambda(5)}$$

$$\frac{2700}{4750} = e^{-5\lambda}$$

$$e^{5\lambda} = \frac{4750}{2700}$$

$$5\lambda = \ln\left(\frac{4750}{2700}\right)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{5} \ln(1.759)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{5} \times 0.5647$$

$$\boxed{\lambda = 0.113 \text{ min}^{-1}}$$

So; $T_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{\lambda}$

$$T_{1/2} = \frac{0.693}{0.113}$$

$$T_{1/2} = \frac{6.93}{1.13} \text{ min}$$

$$\boxed{T_{1/2} = 6.13 \text{ min}} \text{ As}$$

Ans. a

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