4. ATOMIC STRUCTURE

CH30S UNIT 1 – ELEMENTS & COMPOUNDS







WHAT MAKES UP AN ATOM?

Most people already know that the atom is made up of three main parts, the protons and neutrons in the **nucleus** and the electrons somewhere outside of the **nucleus**.

	PROTONS	NEUTRONS	ELECTRONS	
Symbol				
CHARGE				
LOCATION				





ATOMIC NUMBER (Z)

The proton is the particle that determines the identity of the element.

The atomic number of an element is the number of protons found in the nucleus of the atom.

ATOMIC NUMBER (Z)	NUMBER OF PROTONS	IDENTITY OF ELEMENT
23		
92		
		Chlorine
		Magnesium

ATOMIC NUMBER (Z)

Atoms (as opposed to ions) are electrically neutral, meaning they have one electron for every proton.

ELEMENT	NUMBER OF PROTONS	NUMBER OF ELECTRONS
sodium		
potassium		
sulphur		
bromine		



EXAMPLE #1

Determine the number of protons, electrons, and neutrons in:

a) ²¹⁰ Pb
b) ³⁴ S

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IONS

Chemical changes involve the gaining or losing of electrons only.

lons are atoms (or groups of atoms) that have gained or lost electrons during a reaction to become electrically charged.











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COMMON MEDICAL ISOTOPES

Radioactive Isotope	Applications in Medicine
Cobalt-60	Radiation therapy to prevent cancer
Iodine-131	Locate brain tumors, monitor cardiac, liver and thyroid activity
Carbon-14	Study metabolism changes for patients with diabetes, gout and anemia
Carbon-11	Tagged onto glucose to monitor organs during a PET scan
Sodium-24	Study blood circulation
Thallium-201	Determine damage in heart tissue, detection of tumors



AVERAGE ATOMIC MASS • The average mass of all the naturally occurring isotopes of that element. • This explains why atomic masses on your periodic table are decimals and not whole numbers, as you might expect. Isotope Symbol **Composition of** % in nature the nucleus 12**C** 98.89% Carbon-6 protons 12 6 neutrons 13**C** Carbon-1.11% 6 protons 13 7 neutrons 14**C** Carbon-6 protons <0.01% 14 8 neutrons

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EXAMPLE # 3

Use the mass spectrometry data below to calculate the average atomic mass of iron.

Table 2. Stable Isotopes of Iron

Isotope	Mass (amu)	% Abundance
⁵⁴ Fe	53.94	5.845
⁵⁶ Fe	55.93	91.75
⁵⁷ Fe	56.94	2.119

YOUR TURN

Use the mass spectrometry data below to calculate the average atomic mass of neon.

Strontium			
Isotope	Mass (amu)	Abundance	
Sr-84	83.913428	0.56%	
Sr-86	85.909273	9.86%	
Sr-87	86.908902	7.00%	
Sr-88	87.905625	82.58%	