

Chapter 11. Nuclear Chemistry

Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry

Instructor Dr. Upali Siriwardane (Ph.D. Ohio State)

E-mail: upali@latech.edu

Office: 311 Carson Taylor Hall ; Phone: 318-257-4941;

Office Hours: MWF 8:00-9:00 and 11:00-12:00;

TR 10:00-12:00

Contact me through phone or e-mail if you have questions

Online Tests on Following days

March 24, 2017: Test 1 (Chapters 1-3)

April 10, 2017: Test 2 (Chapters 4-5)

April 28, 2017: Test 3 (Chapters 6,7 &8)

May 12, 2017: Test 4 (Chapters 9, 10 &11)

May 15, 2017: Make Up Exam: Chapters 1-11)

Chapter 11

Table of Contents

- [11.1 Stable and Unstable Nuclides](#)
- [11.2 The Nature of Radioactive Emissions](#)
- [11.3 Equations for Radioactive Decay](#)
- [11.4 Rate of Radioactive Decay](#)
- [11.5 Transmutation and Bombardment Reactions](#)
- [11.6 Radioactive Decay Series](#)
- [11.7 Detection of Radiation](#)
- [11.8 Chemical Effects of Radiation](#)
- [11.9 Biochemical Effects of Radiation](#)
- [11.10 Sources of Radiation Exposure](#)
- [11.11 Nuclear Medicine](#)
- [11.12 Nuclear Fission and Nuclear Fusion](#)
- [11.13 Nuclear and Chemical Reactions Compared](#)

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

2

Section 11.1

Stable and Unstable Nuclides

Nuclear Reaction

- A reaction in which changes occur in the nucleus of an atom (not ordinary chemical reactions).
- Nuclide – an atom with a specific atomic number and a specific mass number.
- Atomic Number (Z) – number of protons
- Mass Number (A) – sum of protons and neutrons



Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

3

Section 11.1

Stable and Unstable Nuclides

- Stable nuclide – nuclide with a stable nucleus; does not readily undergo change.
- Unstable nuclide – nuclide with an unstable nucleus; spontaneously undergoes change.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

4

Section 11.1

Stable and Unstable Nuclides

Radioactivity

- Radiation spontaneously emitted from an unstable nucleus.
- Radioactive nuclide (radionuclide) – a nuclide with an unstable nucleus from which radiation is spontaneously emitted.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

5

Section 11.1

Stable and Unstable Nuclides

Radioactive Stability

- There is a correlation between nuclear stability and the total # of nucleons found in a nucleus.
- Nuclides with 84 or more protons are unstable.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

6

Section 11.1

Stable and Unstable Nuclides

Radioactive Stability

- There is a correlation between nuclear stability and neutron-to-proton ratio in a nucleus.
- Light nuclides are stable when Z equals $A - Z$ (neutron/proton ratio is 1).
- For heavier elements the neutron/proton ratio required for stability is greater than 1 and increases with Z .

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

7

Section 11.2

The Nature of Radioactive Emissions

Understanding Radioactivity

1. Certain nuclides possess unstable nuclei.
2. Nuclides with unstable nuclei spontaneously emit energy (radiation).

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

8

Section 11.2

The Nature of Radioactive Emissions

Alpha Particle

- A particle in which two protons and two neutrons are present that is emitted by certain radioactive nuclei.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

9

Section 11.2

The Nature of Radioactive Emissions

Beta Particle

- Particle whose charge and mass are identical to those of an electron that is emitted by certain radioactive nuclei.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

10

Section 11.2

The Nature of Radioactive Emissions

Gamma Ray

- Form of high-energy radiation without mass or charge that is emitted by certain radioactive nuclei.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

11

Section 11.3

Equations for Radioactive Decay

Radioactive Decay

- Process by whereby a radionuclide is transformed into a nuclide of another element as a result of the emission of radiation from its nucleus.
- Parent nuclide – nuclide that undergoes decay
- Daughter nuclide – nuclide that is produced

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

12

Section 11.3

Equations for Radioactive Decay

How Nuclear Equations Differ From Chemical Equations

1. The symbols in nuclear equations stand for nuclei rather than atoms.
2. Mass numbers and atomic numbers (nuclear charge) are always specifically included in nuclear equations.
3. The elemental symbols on both sides of the equation frequently are not the same in nuclear equations.

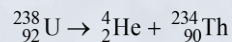
Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

13

Section 11.3

Equations for Radioactive Decay

- Alpha Particle Decay (α):



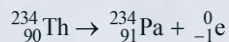
Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

14

Section 11.3

Equations for Radioactive Decay

- Beta Particle Decay (β):



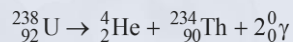
Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

15

Section 11.3

Equations for Radioactive Decay

- Gamma Ray Emission (γ):



Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

16

Section 11.3

Equations for Radioactive Decay



Concept Check

Which of the following produces a β particle?

- ${}_{31}^{68}\text{Ga} + {}_{-1}^0\text{e} \rightarrow {}_{30}^{68}\text{Zn}$
- ${}_{29}^{62}\text{Cu} \rightarrow {}_{+1}^0\text{e} + {}_{28}^{62}\text{Ni}$
- ${}_{87}^{212}\text{Fr} \rightarrow {}_2^4\text{He} + {}_{85}^{208}\text{At}$
- ${}_{51}^{129}\text{Sb} \rightarrow {}_{-1}^0\text{e} + {}_{52}^{129}\text{Te}$

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

17

Section 11.3

Equations for Radioactive Decay



Concept Check

Which of the following produces a β particle?

- ${}_{31}^{68}\text{Ga} + {}_{-1}^0\text{e} \rightarrow {}_{30}^{68}\text{Zn}$
- ${}_{29}^{62}\text{Cu} \rightarrow {}_{+1}^0\text{e} + {}_{28}^{62}\text{Ni}$
- ${}_{87}^{212}\text{Fr} \rightarrow {}_2^4\text{He} + {}_{85}^{208}\text{At}$
- ${}_{51}^{129}\text{Sb} \rightarrow {}_{-1}^0\text{e} + {}_{52}^{129}\text{Te}$

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

18

Section 11.4

Rate of Radioactive Decay

Half-Life

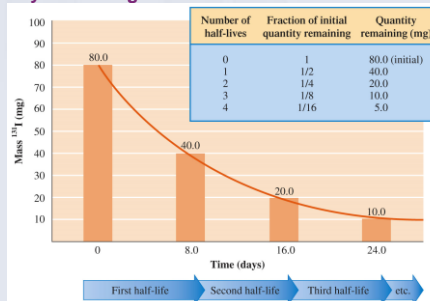
- Time required for one-half of a given quantity of a radioactive substance to undergo decay.
- The greater the decay rate for a radionuclide, the shorter its half-life.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

19

Section 11.4

Rate of Radioactive Decay

Decay of 80.0 mg of ^{131}I 

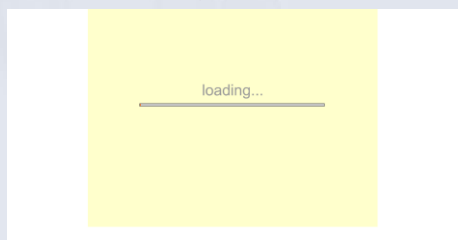
Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

20

Section 11.4

Rate of Radioactive Decay

Half-Life of Nuclear Decay



To play movie you must be in Slide Show Mode
PC Users: Please wait for content to load, then click to play
Mac Users: [CLICK HERE](#)

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

21

Section 11.4

Rate of Radioactive Decay

Half-Life (n)

$$\left(\text{Amount of radionuclide undecayed after } n \text{ half-life} \right) = \left(\text{original amount of radionuclide} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^n$$

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

22

Section 11.4

Rate of Radioactive Decay



Exercise

The half-life of technetium-99 is 5.98 hours. How much, in grams, of a 0.75-g sample of technetium-99 will remain undecayed after a period of 16 hours?

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

23

Section 11.4

Rate of Radioactive Decay



Exercise

The half-life of technetium-99 is 5.98 hours. How much, in grams, of a 0.75-g sample of technetium-99 will remain undecayed after a period of 16 hours?

0.12 g

$$(16 \text{ hours}) \left(\frac{1 \text{ half-life}}{5.98 \text{ hours}} \right) = 2.68 \text{ half-lives}$$

$$(0.75 \text{ g}) \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{2.68} = 0.12 \text{ g}$$

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

24

28

26

27

28

29

30

Section 11.7

Chemical Effects of Radiation

Film Badges Are Used to Determine a Person's Exposure to Radiation



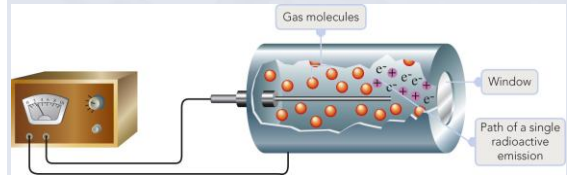
Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

31

Section 11.7

Chemical Effects of Radiation

Geiger Counter



Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

32

Section 11.8

Biochemical Effects of Radiation

Two Things Can Happen to an Electron Subjected to Radiation

- Excitation – occurs when radiation, through energy release, excites an electron from an occupied orbital into an empty, higher-energy orbital.
- Ionization – occurs when the radiation carries enough energy to remove an electron from an atom or molecule.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

33

Section 11.8

Biochemical Effects of Radiation

Nonionizing Radiation vs. Ionizing Radiation

- Nonionizing radiation – radiation with insufficient energy to remove an electron from an atom or molecule.
 - Examples: radiowaves, microwaves, infrared light, and visible light
- Ionizing radiation – radiation with sufficient energy to remove an electron from an atom or molecule.
 - Examples: cosmic rays, X rays, and UV light

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

34

Section 11.8

Biochemical Effects of Radiation

Ion Pair Formation

- Incoming radiation transfers sufficient energy into a molecule to knock an electron out of it, converting the molecule into a positive ion.
 - H_2O^+ , e^-

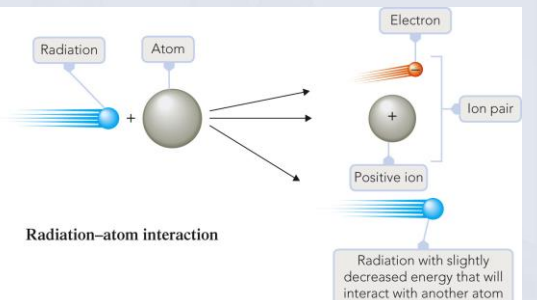
Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

35

Section 11.8

Biochemical Effects of Radiation

Ion Pair Formation



Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

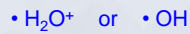
36

Section 11.8

Biochemical Effects of Radiation

Free Radical Formation

- Usually accompanies ion pair formation.
- Free radical – an atom, molecule, or ion that contains an unpaired electron; usually a very reactive species.



Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

37

Section 11.9

Detection of Radiation

Alpha Particle Effects

- Have low penetrating power and cannot penetrate the body's outer layers of skin.
- Major damage occurs when alpha-emitting radionuclides are ingested (contaminated food).

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

38

Section 11.9

Detection of Radiation

Beta Particle Effects

- Can penetrate much deeper than alpha particles and can cause severe skin burns if their source remains in contact with the skin for an appreciable amount of time.
- Internal exposure to beta radiation is as serious as internal alpha exposure.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

39

Section 11.9

Detection of Radiation

Gamma Radiation Effects

- Readily penetrate deeply into organs, bone, and tissue.

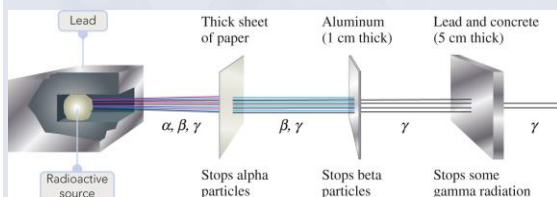
Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

40

Section 11.9

Detection of Radiation

Alpha, Beta, and Gamma Radiation Differ in Penetrating Ability



Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

41

Section 11.10

Sources of Radiation Exposure

Background Radiation

- Radiation that comes from natural sources to which living organisms are exposed on a continuing basis.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

42

Section 11.10

Sources of Radiation Exposure

Sources of Background Radiation

- Cosmic radiation
- Rocks and minerals
- Food and drink
- Radon seepage in buildings

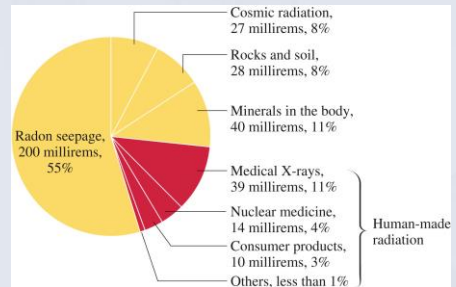
Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

43

Section 11.10

Sources of Radiation Exposure

Components of the Estimated Annual Radiation Exposure



Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

44

Section 11.11

Nuclear Medicine

- A field of medicine in which radionuclides are used for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

45

Section 11.11

Nuclear Medicine

Criteria Used in Selecting Radionuclides

- At low concentrations, the radionuclide must be detectable by instrumentation placed outside the body.
- Radionuclide must have a short half-life.
- Radionuclide must have a known mechanism for elimination from the body.
- The chemical properties of the radionuclide must be such that it is compatible with normal body chemistry.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

46

Section 11.11

Nuclear Medicine

Diverse Uses of Radionuclides in the Human Body

- Determination of blood volume.
- Location of sites of infection.
- Diagnosis of impaired heart muscle.
- Location of impaired circulation.
- Assessment of thyroid activity.
- Determination of tumor size and shape.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

47

Section 11.11

Nuclear Medicine

Therapeutic Uses for Radionuclides

- Selectively destroy abnormal (usually cancerous) cells.
- The radionuclide is often, but not always, placed within the body.

Copyright © Cengage Learning. All rights reserved.

48

