

## NOTES: Finding weights of the elements

### 1. Finding formulas

Dalton and others – experimented to find amount of elements in compounds

Law of conservation of mass: matter can neither be created nor destroyed.

- Analyzed copper carbonate and got
  - 1 atom of Copper,
  - 1 atom of Carbon and
  - 3 atoms of Oxygen
- Formula:  $\text{CuCO}_3$ .
- The same result every time no matter where  $\text{CuCO}_3$  came from!
- Conclusion: Law of definite proportions
  - *A compound contains the same elements in exactly the same proportions by mass regardless of the size of the sample or source of the compound.*

### 2. Finding weights of atoms

Vocabulary: Atomic Mass = Atomic Mass = Mass Number

Units: g/mol or **amu** (atomic mass unit)

- Atoms too small to weigh on scale
- Another method: Compare weights
  - Set mass of Hydrogen (H) = **1 atomic mass unit (amu)**.
  - (b/c H is smallest atom)
  - Compare everything else to H.
    - Example: O weighs 16 times more than H
    - ∴ O's mass is 16 amu
  - For many years, H used for comparison
  - 1800's O used for comparison b/c it combined with more elements
  - Isotopes confused things

- 1961 chemists and physicists agreed to use Carbon-12
- Now an **amu** = 1/12 of the weight of one Carbon-12 atom.
- One **amu** is less than one-billionth of a gram.

➤ **amu**  $\approx$  mass of proton  $\approx$  mass of neutron

Particle	Symbol	Relative electric charge	Mass number	Relative Mass (amu)	Actual mass (Kg)
Electron	e <sup>-</sup>	-1	0	0.0005486	9.109*10 <sup>-31</sup>
Proton	p <sup>+</sup>	+1	1	1.007276	1.673*10 <sup>-27</sup>
Neutron	n <sup>0</sup>	0	1	1.008665	1.675*10 <sup>-27</sup>

➤ e<sup>-</sup> too small to count in mass of atom

*This is why we use mass number to figure out number of protons and neutrons!*

### 3. Isotopes

*Remember from last time:*

- Before neutrons were discovered there were unsolved problems
  1. Radioactivity: where is all that energy coming from?
  2. Mass of atom: why doesn't the mass of electrons + protons = mass of atom?
  3. Elements found with the same properties but different masses...how could that be?
    - a. Soddy named these "isotopes," Greek for "same place" b/c they belonged in same spot on P.T. (periodic table)
- 1932 James Chadwick used radiation to eject a particle that had zero charge!
  - He'd detected the neutron!
- Heisenberg said: nucleus = protons + neutrons

Example:

Carbon

- Z = 6
- A = 12

∴

- N has 6p<sup>+</sup>, 6e<sup>-</sup>, 6n<sup>0</sup>

- We call this C-12 or Carbon-12
- Sometimes
  - C has 6p<sup>+</sup>, 6e<sup>-</sup>, 8n<sup>0</sup>
  - Z = 8
  - A = 14
  - We call this C-14 or Carbon-14

*When we write the number after the element name we are specifying an isotope.*

Definition of Isotope:

1. atoms of the same element that have different masses
2. one of two or more atoms having the same number of protons but different numbers of neutrons

➤ Mass number = number of p<sup>+</sup> and n<sup>0</sup>.

Example:

- Mass number of C-12
  - 6p<sup>+</sup> + 6n<sup>0</sup> = 12 amu
- Mass number of C-13
  - 6p<sup>+</sup> + 7n<sup>0</sup> = 13 amu
- Mass number of C-14
  - 6p<sup>+</sup> + 8n<sup>0</sup> = 14 amu
- How many neutrons does O-16 have?
  - How about:
    - O-17?
    - O-15?
  - How about:
    - U-235?
    - U-238?

#### 4. Relative/Average Atomic Mass Number

- On P.T. (periodic table) mass number is decimal
- It is the **average** mass of an atom
- It is a **weighted average** b/c there is more of one isotope than another on earth

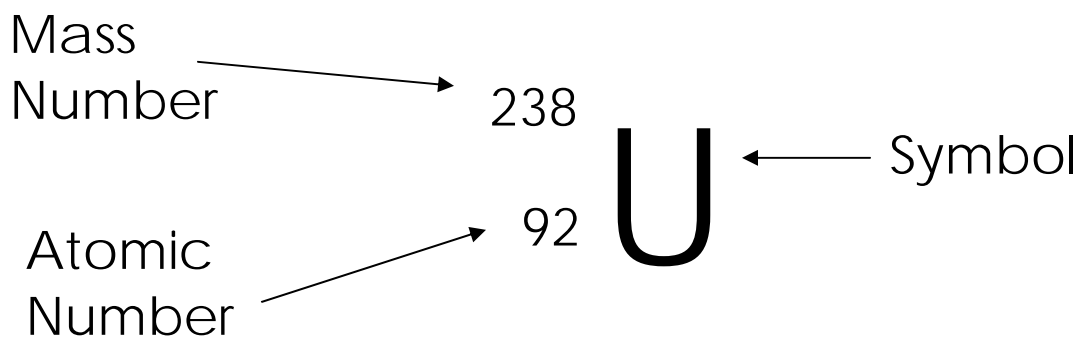
Analogy:

- Grades have three components
  - homework, 10%

- labs, 30%
- Tests, 60%
- Oxygen has 3 isotopes
  - O-16, *Abundance* 99.76%,
  - O-17, *Abundance* 0.038%
  - O-18, *Abundance* 0.2%
- The effect of homework on your grade is less than the effect of tests on your grade because of the weighting

The effect of the mass of O-16 on the average mass of an oxygen atom is more than the effect of O-18 because there is more O-16 on earth.

**Isotope Notation:**



Try writing

- U-235,
- O-15,
- H,
- Deuterium (H w/ 1 n<sup>0</sup>),
- Tritium (H w/ 2 n<sup>0</sup>)