

**NUCLEAR AND PARTICLE PHYSICS****GATE-2010**

Q1. The basic process underlying the neutron  $\beta$ -decay is

- (a)  $d \rightarrow u + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$  (b)  $d \rightarrow u + e^-$   
 (c)  $s \rightarrow u + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$  (d)  $u \rightarrow d + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$

Ans: (a)

Q2. In the nuclear shell model the spin parity of  ${}^{15}_7N$  is given by

- (a)  $\frac{1^-}{2}$  (b)  $\frac{1^+}{2}$  (c)  $\frac{3^-}{2}$  (d)  $\frac{3^+}{2}$

Ans: (a)

Solution:  $Z = 7$ ;  $(s_{1/2})^2 (p_{3/2})^4 (p_{1/2})^1$  and  $N = 8$

$$l = 1, J = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \text{parity} = (-1)^l = -1, \quad \text{spin - parity} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^-$$

Q3. Match the reactions on the left with the associated interactions on the right.

- (1)  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$  (i) Strong  
 (2)  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$  (ii) Electromagnetic  
 (3)  $\pi^0 + n \rightarrow \pi^- + p$  (iii) Weak  
 (a) (1, iii), (2, ii), (3, i) (b) (1, i), (2, ii), (3, iii)  
 (c) (1, ii), (2, i), (3, iii) (d) (1, iii), (2, i), (3, ii)

Ans: (a)

Q4. The ground state wavefunction of deuteron is in a superposition of s and d states. Which of the following is NOT true as a consequence?

- (a) It has a non-zero quadrupole moment  
 (b) The neutron-proton potential is non-central  
 (c) The orbital wavefunction is not spherically symmetric  
 (d) The Hamiltonian does not conserve the total angular momentum

Ans: (d)

Q5. The first three energy levels of  $^{228}\text{Th}_{90}$  are shown below

$4^+$	_____	$187\text{keV}$
$2^+$	_____	$57.5\text{keV}$
$0^+$	_____	$0\text{keV}$

The expected spin-parity and energy of the next level are given by

- (a)  $(6^+; 400\text{keV})$       (b)  $(6^+; 300\text{keV})$       (c)  $(2^+; 400\text{keV})$       (d)  $(4^+; 300\text{keV})$

Ans: (a)

Solution:  $\frac{E_2}{E_1} = \frac{J_2(J_2+1)}{J_1(J_1+1)} \Rightarrow \frac{E_6}{E_4} = \frac{6(6+1)}{4(4+1)} \Rightarrow E_6 = 393\text{keV}$

### GATE-2011

Q6. The semi-empirical mass formula for the binding energy of nucleus contains a surface correction term. This term depends on the mass number  $A$  of the nucleus as

- (a)  $A^{-1/3}$       (b)  $A^{1/3}$       (c)  $A^{2/3}$       (d)  $A$

Ans: (c)

Q7. According to the single particles nuclear shell model, the spin-parity of the ground state of  $^{17}_8\text{O}$  is

- (a)  $\frac{1}{2}^-$       (b)  $\frac{3}{2}^-$       (c)  $\frac{3}{2}^+$       (d)  $\frac{5}{2}^+$

Ans: (d)

Solution:  $Z = 8$  and  $N = 9$ ;  $(s_{1/2})^2 (p_{3/2})^4 (p_{1/2})^2 (d_{5/2})^1$

$$l = 2, J = \frac{5}{2} \Rightarrow \text{parity} = (-1)^2 = +1, \text{ spin - parity} = \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^+$$

Q8. In the  $\beta$ -decay of neutron  $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$ , the anti-neutrino  $\bar{\nu}_e$ , escapes detection. Its existence is inferred from the measurement of

- (a) energy distribution of electrons      (b) angular distribution of electrons  
(c) helicity distribution of electrons      (d) forward-backward asymmetry of electrons

Ans: (a)

Q9. The isospin and the strangeness of  $\Omega^-$  baryon are

- (a) 1, -3      (b) 0, -3      (c) 1, 3      (d) 0, 3

Ans: (b)

GATE-2012

- Q10. Deuteron has only one bound state with spin parity  $1^+$ , isospin 0 and electric quadrupole moment  $0.286 \text{ efm}^2$ . These data suggest that the nuclear forces are having
- only spin and isospin dependence
  - no spin dependence and no tensor components
  - spin dependence but no tensor components
  - spin dependence along with tensor components

Ans: (d)

- Q11. The quark content of  $\Sigma^+$ ,  $K^-$ ,  $\pi^-$  and  $p$  is indicated:

$$|\Sigma^+\rangle = |uus\rangle; |K^-\rangle = |s\bar{u}\rangle; |\pi^-\rangle = |\bar{u}d\rangle; |p\rangle = |uud\rangle.$$

In the process,  $\pi^- + p \rightarrow K^- + \Sigma^+$ , considering strong interactions only, which of the following statements is true?

- The process, is allowed because  $\Delta S = 0$
- The process is allowed because  $\Delta I_3 = 0$
- The process is not allowed because  $\Delta S \neq 0$  and  $\Delta I_3 \neq 0$
- The process is not allowed because the baryon number is violated

Ans: (c)

Solution:  $\pi^- + p \rightarrow k^- + \Sigma^+$

$$S: \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad -1 \quad -1 \text{ (not conserved)}$$

$$I_3: \quad -1 \quad +\frac{1}{2} \quad -\frac{1}{2} \quad +1 \text{ (not conserved)}$$

For strong interaction  $S$  and  $I_3$  must conserve. Therefore this process is not allowed under strong interaction

- Q12. Which one of the following sets corresponds to fundamental particles?
- proton, electron and neutron
  - proton, electron and photon
  - electron, photon and neutrino
  - quark, electron and meson

Ans: (a)

Q13. In case of a Geiger-Muller (GM) counter, which one of the following statement is CORRECT?

- (a) Multiplication factor of the detector is of the order of  $10^{10}$
- (b) Type of the particles detected can be identified
- (c) Energy of the particles detected can be distinguished
- (d) Operating voltage of the detector is few tens of Volts

Ans: (c)

Q14. Choose the CORRECT statement from the following

- (a) Neutron interacts through electromagnetic interaction
- (b) Electron does not interact through weak interaction
- (c) Neutrino interacts through weak and electromagnetic interaction
- (d) Quark interacts through strong interaction but not through weak interaction

Ans: (d)

### GATE-2013

Q15. The decay process  $n \rightarrow p^+ + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$  violates

- (a) Baryon number
- (b) lepton number
- (c) isospin
- (d) strangeness

Ans: (c)

Q16. The isospin ( $I$ ) and baryon number ( $B$ ) of the up quark is

- (a)  $I = 1, B = 1$
- (b)  $I = 1, B = 1/3$
- (c)  $I = 1/2, B = 1$
- (d)  $I = 1/2, B = 1/3$

Ans: (d)

Q17. In the  $\beta$  decay process, the transition  $2^+ \rightarrow 3^+$ , is

- (a) allowed both by Fermi and Gamow-Teller selection rule
- (b) allowed by Fermi and but not by Gamow-Teller selection rule
- (c) not allowed by Fermi but allowed by Gamow-Teller selection rule
- (d) not allowed both by Fermi and Gamow-Teller selection rule

Ans: (c)

Solution: According to Fermi Selection Rule:

$$\Delta I = 0, \quad \text{Parity} = \text{No Change}$$

According to Gammow-Teller Selection Rule:

$$\Delta I = 0, \pm 1, \quad \text{Parity} = \text{No Change}$$

In the  $\beta$  decay process, the transition  $2^+ \rightarrow 3^+$ ,

$$\Delta I = \pm 1, \quad \text{Parity} = \text{No Change} .$$

## GATE-2014

Q18. Which one of the following is a fermions'?

- (a)  $\alpha$  -particle  
 (b)  ${}_4\text{Be}^7$  nucleus  
 (c) Hydrogen atom  
 (d) deuteron

Ans: (b)

Solution: If a nucleus contains odd number of nucleons, it is fermions. If a nucleus contains even number of nucleons, it is a boson.

Q19. Which one of the following three-quark states ( $qqq$ ) denoted by  $X$  CANNOT be a possible baryon? The corresponding electric charge is indicated in the superscript.

- (a)  $X^{++}$       (b)  $X^+$       (c)  $X^-$       (d)  $X^{--}$

Ans: (d)

Solution:  $X = qqq$

$$X^{++} (uuu) \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{6}{3} = 2 \text{ (two unit positive charge)}$$

$$X^+ (uud) \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3} = 1 \text{ (single unit positive charge)}$$

$$X^- (ddd) = -\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{3} = -1 \text{ (single unit negative charge)}$$

$X^{--}$  [Not possible with  $qqq$ ]. So the correct option is (d)

Q20. Consider the process  $\mu^+ + \mu \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^-$ . The minimum kinetic energy of the muons ( $\mu$ ) in the centre of mass frame required to produce the pion ( $\pi$ ) pairs at rest is \_\_\_\_\_ MeV .

Ans: 81.7

Solution: Use conservation of energy and momentum in relativistic form.

$$m_{\mu} = 105 \text{ MeV} / c^2 \quad \text{and} \quad m_{\pi} = 140 \text{ MeV} / c^2$$

$$E_{\mu} = \frac{(m_{\pi^+} + m_{\pi^-})^2 c^2 - (m_{\mu^+} + m_{\mu})^2 c^2}{2m_{\mu}} \Rightarrow E_{\mu} = \frac{(280)^2 \text{ MeV} - (210)^2 \text{ MeV}}{2 \times 105} = 163.3 \text{ MeV}$$

For pair it will be  $\frac{163.3}{2} \text{ MeV} = 81.7 \text{ MeV}$

Q21. A nucleus  $X$  undergoes a first forbidden  $\beta$ -decay to nucleus  $Y$ . If the angular momentum ( $I$ ) and parity ( $P$ ), denoted by  $I^P$  as  $\frac{7^-}{2}$  for  $X$ , which of the following is a possible  $I^P$  value for  $Y$ ?

- (a)  $\frac{1^+}{2}$                       (b)  $\frac{1^-}{2}$                       (c)  $\frac{3^+}{2}$                       (d)  $\frac{3^-}{2}$

Ans: (c)

Solution: For first forbidden  $\beta$ -decay;  $\Delta I = 0, 1$  or  $2$  and Parity does change.

### GATE-2015

Q22. The decay  $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \gamma$  is forbidden, because it violates

- (a) momentum and lepton number conservations  
 (b) baryon and lepton number conservations  
 (c) angular momentum conservation  
 (d) lepton number conservation

Ans.: (d)

Solution:  $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \gamma$ . In this decay lepton number is not conserved.

Q23. A beam of  $X$ -ray of intensity  $I_0$  is incident normally on a metal sheet of thickness  $2 \text{ mm}$ . The intensity of the transmitted beam is  $0.025 I_0$ . The linear absorption coefficient of the metal sheet (in  $m^{-1}$ ) is \_\_\_\_\_ (upto one decimal place)

Ans.: 1844.4

$$\text{Solution: } I = I_0 e^{-\mu x} \Rightarrow \mu = \frac{1}{x} \ln \left( \frac{I_0}{I} \right) = \frac{1}{2 \times 10^{-3}} \ln \left( \frac{I_0}{0.025 I_0} \right) = \frac{1}{2 \times 10^{-3}} \ln(40)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu = \frac{2.303}{2 \times 10^{-3}} [\log_{10} 40] = 1.151 \times 10^3 [2 \times 0.3010 + 1] = 1844.4 \text{ m}^{-1}$$

Q24. The mean kinetic energy of a nucleon in a nucleus of atomic weight  $A$  varies as  $A^n$ , where  $n$  is \_\_\_\_\_ (upto two decimal places)

Ans.: -0.67

$$\text{Solution: } \langle T \rangle = \frac{\int_0^R -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} \right) 4\pi r^2 dr}{\int_0^R 4\pi r^2 dr} = \frac{-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} 4\pi \int_0^R (2+2) dr}{\int_0^R 4\pi r^2 dr} = \frac{-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} 4\pi \times 4R}{4\pi R^3 / 3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle T \rangle \propto \frac{1}{R^2} = \frac{1}{\left( R_0 A^{1/3} \right)^2} = \frac{1}{A^{2/3}} = A^{-2/3} \Rightarrow n = -\frac{2}{3} = -0.667 = -0.67$$

Q25. The atomic masses of  ${}^{152}_{63}\text{Eu}$ ,  ${}^{152}_{62}\text{Sm}$ ,  ${}^1_1\text{H}$  and neutron are 151.921749, 151.919756, 1.007825 and 1.008665 in atomic mass units (amu), respectively. Using the above information, the  $Q$ -value of the reaction  ${}^{152}_{63}\text{Eu} + n \rightarrow {}^{152}_{62}\text{Sm} + p$  is \_\_\_\_\_  $\times 10^{-3}$  amu (upto three decimal places)

Ans.: 2.833

$$\text{Solution: } Q = 152.930414 - (152.927581) = 2.833 \times 10^{-3} \text{ a.m.u.}$$

Q26. In the nuclear shell model, the potential is modeled as  $V(r) = \frac{1}{2} m \omega^2 r^2 - \lambda \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S}$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ .

The correct spin-parity and isospin assignments for the ground state of  ${}^{13}_6\text{C}$  is

- (a)  $\frac{1^-}{2}; \frac{-1}{2}$       (b)  $\frac{1^+}{2}; \frac{-1}{2}$       (c)  $\frac{3^+}{2}; \frac{1}{2}$       (d)  $\frac{3^-}{2}; \frac{-1}{2}$

Ans.: (a)

$$\text{Solution: } {}^{13}\text{C}_6, \quad N = 7, Z = 6, \text{ for } N = 7; \quad \left( 1S_{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^2 \left( 1P_{\frac{3}{2}} \right)^4 \left( P_{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^1 \Rightarrow j = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } l = 1$$

Thus spin- parity is  $\left( \frac{1}{2} \right)^-$ .

## GATE-2016

Q27. In the  $SU(3)$  quark model, the triplet of mesons  $(\pi^+, \pi^0, \pi^-)$  has

- (a) Isospin = 0 , Strangeness = 0                      (b) Isospin = 1 , Strangeness = 0  
 (c) Isospin =  $\frac{1}{2}$ , Strangeness = +1                      (d) Isospin =  $\frac{1}{2}$ , Strangeness = -1

Ans.: (b)

Solution:  $\pi^+, \pi^0, \pi^-$  are not strange particle thus strangeness = 0

Since meson group contain 3 particles, thus  $I = 1$

Q28. Consider the reaction  ${}^{54}_{25}\text{Mn} + e^- \rightarrow {}^{54}_{24}\text{Cr} + X$ . The particle  $X$  is

- (a)  $\gamma$                       (b)  $\nu_e$                       (c)  $n$                       (d)  $\pi^0$

Ans.: (b)

Q29. Which of the following statements is NOT correct?

- (a) A deuteron can be disintegrated by irradiating it with gamma rays of energy 4 MeV .  
 (b) A deuteron has no excited states.  
 (c) A deuteron has no electric quadrupole moment.  
 (d) The  ${}^1S_0$  state of deuteron cannot be formed.

Ans.: (c)

Q30. According to the nuclear shell model, the respective ground state spin-parity values of  ${}^{15}_8\text{O}$  and  ${}^{17}_8\text{O}$  nuclei are

- (a)  $\frac{1^+}{2}, \frac{1^-}{2}$                       (b)  $\frac{1^-}{2}, \frac{5^+}{2}$                       (c)  $\frac{3^-}{2}, \frac{5^+}{2}$                       (d)  $\frac{3^-}{2}, \frac{1^-}{2}$

Ans.: (b)

Solution:  ${}^{15}_8\text{O}$ ;  $Z = 8$  and  $N = 7$ ;  $N = 7: (s_{1/2})^2 (p_{3/2})^4 (p_{1/2})^1$

$$\Rightarrow j = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } l = 1. \text{ Thus spin and parity} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^-$$

${}^{17}_8\text{O}$ ;  $Z = 8$  and  $N = 9$ ;  $N = 9: (s_{1/2})^2 (p_{3/2})^4 (p_{1/2})^2 (d_{5/2})^1$

$$\Rightarrow j = \frac{5}{2} \text{ and } l = 2. \text{ Thus spin and parity} = \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^+$$



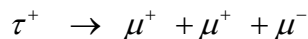
### GATE-2017

Q31. Which one of the following conservation laws is violated in the decay  $\tau^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$

- (a) Angular momentum
- (b) Total Lepton number
- (c) Electric charge
- (d) Tau number

Ans. : (d)

Solution:



$q = +1$	+	+	-	conserved
$L = +1$	+	+	-	conserved
$L_\tau = +1$	0	0	0	Not conserved
$\text{spin} = \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	conserved

Tau number is not conserved

Q32. Electromagnetic interactions are:

- (a) C conserving
- (b) C non-conserving but CP conserving
- (c) CP non-conserving but CPT conserving
- (d) CPT non-conserving

Ans. : (a)

Solution: In electromagnetic interaction C is conserved

CPT: Conserved in all interaction

CP: Conserved in EM and Strong interactions

$$E_n = \frac{-13.6}{n^2} (eV)$$

For  $n = 1$ ,  $E_1 = -13.6 eV$  Ground state

For  $n = \infty$ ,  $E_\infty = 0$  Highest state

Thus, correct option is (a)

Q33. In the nuclear reaction  $^{13}\text{C}_6 + \nu_e \rightarrow ^{13}\text{N}_7 + X$ , the particle X is

- (a) an electron
- (b) an anti-electron
- (c) a muon
- (d) a pion

Ans. : (a)

Solution:  ${}^{13}\text{C}_6 + \nu_e \rightarrow {}^{13}\text{N}_7 + X \Rightarrow {}^{13}\text{C}_6 \rightarrow {}^{13}\text{N}_7 + X + \bar{\nu}_e$

$$L_e = 0 \quad 0 \quad +1 \quad -1$$

To conserve the Lepton number  $L_e$ ,  $X$  should be  $e^-$

Q34.  $J^P$  for the ground state of the  ${}^{13}\text{C}_6$  nucleus is

- (a)  $1^+$                       (b)  $\frac{3^-}{2}$                       (c)  $\frac{3^+}{2}$                       (d)  $\frac{1^-}{2}$

Ans. : (d)

Solution:  ${}^{13}\text{C}_6$  :  $Z = 6$ ,  $N = 7$ ,  $N = 7$ :  $(s_{1/2})^2 (p_{3/2})^4 (p_{1/2})^1$

$$\Rightarrow j = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } l = 1. \text{ Thus spin and parity } = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^-$$

Q35. The  $\pi^+$  decays at rest to  $\mu^+$  and  $\nu_\mu$ . Assuming the neutrino to be massless, the momentum of the neutrino is.....  $\text{MeV}/c$ . (up to two decimal places)

$$(m_\pi = 139 \text{ MeV}/c^2, m_\mu = 105 \text{ MeV}/c^2)$$

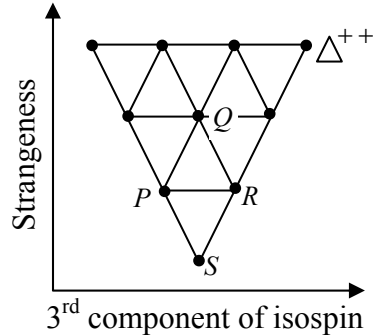
Ans. : 29.84

$$\text{Solution: } E_\nu = \frac{(m_\pi^2 - m_\mu^2)c^2}{2m_\pi} = p \times c$$

$$\text{So } p = \frac{(m_\pi^2 - m_\mu^2)c}{2m_\pi} = \frac{19321 - 11025}{2 \times 139c} = \frac{29.84}{c} (\text{MeV})$$

**GATE-2018**

Q36. The elementary particle  $\Xi^0$  is placed in the baryon decuplet, shown below, at



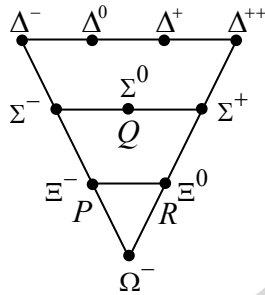
(a) P

(b) Q

(c) R

(d) S

Ans. : (c)



Q37. In the decay,  $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + X$ , what is X ?

(a)  $\gamma$

(b)  $\bar{\nu}_e$

(c)  $\nu_\mu$

(d)  $\bar{\nu}_\mu$

Ans. : (d)

Solution:-  $u^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_u$

$$L_u : -1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad -1$$

$$L_e : 0 \quad -1 \quad +1 \quad 0$$

Q38. For nucleus  $^{164}\text{Er}$ , a  $J^\pi = 2^+$  state is at  $90 \text{ keV}$ . Assuming  $^{164}\text{Er}$  to be a rigid rotor, the energy of its  $4^+$  state is \_\_\_\_\_  $\text{keV}$  (up to one decimal place)

Ans. : 300

Solution:  $E_J = hcBJ(J+1)$  \_\_\_\_\_  $4^+$

$$E_{2^+} = hc B 2(2+1) \text{ and } E_{4^+} = hc B 4(4+1) \text{ _____ } 2^+$$

$$\text{Then, } \frac{E_{4^+}}{E_{2^+}} = \frac{20}{6} \Rightarrow E_{4^+} = \frac{20}{6} \times 90 \text{ keV} = 300 \text{ keV}$$

Q39. Inside a large nucleus, a nucleon with mass  $939 \text{ MeV}c^{-2}$  has Fermi momentum  $1.40 \text{ fm}^{-1}$  at absolute zero temperature. Its velocity is  $Xc$ , where the value of  $X$  is \_\_\_\_\_ (up to two decimal places).

$$(\hbar c = 197 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm})$$

Ans. : 0.29

Solution: Here, fermi – momentum or fermi radius,  $k_F = 1.40 \text{ fm}^{-1}$  and  $\hbar c = 197 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}$

Now, Fermi velocity –

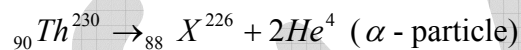
$$V_F = \frac{P}{m} = \frac{\hbar k_F}{m} = \frac{(\hbar c) k_F \cdot c}{m c^2} = \frac{(197) \times 1.40 \times c}{939} = \frac{275.8c}{939} = 0.29c$$

Q40. An  $\alpha$  particle is emitted by a  ${}_{90}^{230}\text{Th}$  nucleus. Assuming the potential to be purely Coulombic beyond the point of separation, the height of the Coulomb barrier is \_\_\_\_\_  $\text{MeV}$  (up to two decimal places).

$$\left( \frac{e^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0} = 1.44 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}, r_0 = 1.30 \text{ fm} \right)$$

Ans. : 25.995

Solution: The height of coulomb barrier for  $\alpha$  particle from



$$V_C = \frac{1}{4\pi \epsilon_0} \left( \frac{2ze^2}{R} \right)$$

$$\text{Here, } R_0 = 1.3 \text{ fm}, \frac{e^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0} = 1.44 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}$$

$$\text{And } R = R_0 A^{1/3}$$

Here, we consider pure Coulombic interection

$$A_{Th}^{1/3} = A_X^{1/3} + A_\alpha^{1/3} = (226)^{1/3} + (4)^{1/3} = (6.09 + 1.58) = 7.67$$

$$R = R_0 A_{Th}^{1/3} = 1.3(7.67)$$

$$\text{Hence, } V_C = \left( \frac{e^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0} \right) \frac{2 \times 90}{1.3(7.67)} = \frac{180 \times 1.44 \text{ MeV}}{1.3 \times 7.67 \text{ fm}}$$

$$V_C = 25.995 \text{ MeV}$$

**GATE-2019**

Q41. Considering baryon number and lepton number conservation laws, which of the following process is/are allowed?

(i)  $p \rightarrow \pi^0 + e^+ + \nu_e$

(ii)  $e^+ + \nu_e \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$

- (a) both (i) and (ii)      (b) only (i)      (c) only (ii)      (d) neither (i) nor (ii)

Ans. : (c)

Solution: (i)  $P \rightarrow \pi^0 + e^+ + \nu_e$

$B: +1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0$  : Not conserved

Therefore, this is not an allowed process

(ii)  $e^+ + \nu_e \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$

$q: +1 \quad 0 \quad +1 \quad 0$  : conserved

$spin: 1/2 \quad 1/2 \quad 1/2 \quad 1/2$  : conserved

$L_e: -1 \quad +1 \quad 0 \quad 0$  : conserved

$L_\mu: 0 \quad 0 \quad -1 \quad +1$  : conserved

Since neutrino is involve, therefore parity is violated. This is allowed through weak interaction

Q42. A massive particle  $X$  in free space decays spontaneously into two photons. Which of the following statements is true for  $X$  ?

- (a)  $X$  is charged  
 (b) Spin of  $X$  must be greater than or equal to 2  
 (c)  $X$  is a boson  
 (d)  $X$  must be a baryon

Ans. : (c)

Solution:  $X \rightarrow r + r$

$q: 0 \quad 0 \quad 0$

$spin: 0,1,2 \quad 1 \quad 1$

Thus spin of  $X$  can be either 0,1 or 2 . (integer)

Therefore, option (b) is wrong while option (c) is correct.

Q43. The nuclear spin and parity of  ${}^{40}_{20}\text{Ca}$  in its ground state is

- (a)  $0^+$                       (b)  $0^-$                       (c)  $1^+$                       (d)  $1^-$

Ans.: (a)

Solution:  ${}^{40}_{20}\text{Ca}$  is an even-even nuclei, therefore  $I = 0, P = +ve$

$\therefore$  Spin-parity =  $0^+$

Q44. Low energy collision ( $s$ -wave scattering) of pion ( $\pi^+$ ) with deuteron ( $d$ ) results in the production of two proton ( $\pi^+ + d \rightarrow p + p$ ). The relative orbital angular momentum (in units of  $\hbar$ ) of the resulting two-proton system for this reaction is

- (a) 0                      (b) 1                      (c) 2                      (d) 3

Ans.: (b)

Solution:  $\pi^+ + d \rightarrow p + p$

Parity:  $(-1) \times (+1) = (-1)^l \pi_p \pi_p$

$\therefore (-1)^l \pi_p \pi_p = -1$

Since  $\pi_p = +1$                        $\therefore (-1)^l = -1$

Thus,  $l = 1$ .

Q45. A radioactive element  $X$  has a half-life of 30 hours. It decays via alpha, beta and gamma emissions with the branching ratio for beta decay being 0.75. The partial half-life for beta decay in unit of hours is \_\_\_\_\_

Ans.: 40

Solution: Branching ratio is the fraction of particles (here  $\beta$ ) which decays by an individual decay mode with respect to the total number of particles which decays

$$BR = \frac{\left(\frac{dN}{dt}\right)_x}{\left(\frac{dN}{dt}\right)_\beta} = \frac{(T_{1/2})_x}{(T_{1/2})_\beta} \Rightarrow (T_{1/2})_\beta = \frac{(T_{1/2})_x}{BR} = \frac{30}{0.75} = 40 \text{ hours}$$