150 years of the periodic table from a nuclear physics perspective

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150 years of the Periodic Table





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100 years ago...

" The scattering of α and β particles by matter and the structure of the atom"

Philosophical Magazine Series 6, vol. 21 May 1911, p. 669-688





The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1911 was awarded to Marie Curie *"in recognition of her*

services to the advancement of chemistry by the discovery of the elements radium and polonium, by the isolation of radium and the study of the nature and compounds of this remarkable element".





At the dawn of the 20th century



"There is nothing new to be discovered in physics now. All that remains is more and more precise measurement."

attributed to William Thomson (Lord Kelvin), 1900 British Association for the advancement of Science

Constituents of matter



1803 : -matter is made of **atoms**

-atoms of the same element are identical



John Dalton

-atoms of an element can combine with those of other elements to form compounds

-atoms of different elements have different masses

Classification of elements



Dmitri Ivanovich Mendeleev

Regularities in the chemical properties of the elements опытъ системы элементовъ.

основанной на ихъ атомномъ въсъ и химическомъ сходствъ.

Ti = 50 Zr = 90 ? = 180. V = 51 Nb = 94 Ta = 182. Cr = 52 Mo = 96 W = 186. Mn=55 Rh=104,4 Pt=197,1. Fe=56 Rn=104.1 Ir=198. NI=Co=59 PI=106.8 0-=199. H = 1 Cu=63,4 Ag=108 Hg=200. $Be = 9_A Mg = 24 Zn = 65.2 Cd = 112$ B=11 A1=27 a?=68 Ur=116 An=197? C = 12 Si = 28Ge? = 70 Sn = 118 N=14 P-31 As=75 Sb=122 B1=210? 0=16 S=32 Se=79,1 Te=128? F=19 Cl=35,6Br=80 1-127 Li = 7 Na = 23 K = 39 Rb = 85.4 Cs = 133 Tl = 204.Ca=40 Sr=87. Ba=137 Pb=207. Sc?=45 Ce=92 ?Er=56 La=94 ?Y1=60 Di=95 ?In-75,6 Th = 118?

The place of an element in the table is given by the number **Z** (=atomic number, from Atom**Z**ahl)

Д. Мекдальнаь (1869)

A few clouds in the sky.....

ultraviolet catastrophe: spectral distribution of thermal radiation from matter





Max Planck

Matter can only absorb or emit radiation energy in discrete packets proportional to the frequency of the radiation: energy quanta



According to A. Einstein, Planck's quantization arises from the granular nature of light: light is made up of photons

Albert Eisntein



Aether

Light must travel in a medium: aether The speed of light in Maxwell's equations is obtained with respect to the aether

⇒ any object moving in the aether should measure a different speed of light



1887: failure of the Michelson-Morley interferometry experiment

A. Einstein reconciles Newton's mechanics and Maxwell's electromagnetism with the theory of special relativity: "<u>On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies</u>"

$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{m}\mathbf{c}^2$

The cathode tube leads the revolution





1895: Jean Perrin demonstrates that cathode rays are negatively charged particles

Atoms are no longer indivisible !





John Joseph Thomson

J.J. Thomson measures the charge/mass ratio of the charged particles

1898: J.J. Thomson concludes that what he calls 'corpuscules' (= electrons) are the constituents of atoms

'plum pudding' model



From cathode rays to X rays

1895 W. Röntgen

discovery of X rays



Wilhelm Röntgen

W. Röntgen receives the 1st Nobel Prize in Physics in 1901

From X rays to Uranium rays

1896 H. Becquerel

discovery of a new kind of radiation emitted by Uranium

Henri Becquerel

From Uranium rays to radioactivity

1898 Marie & Pierre Curie

Marie Curie

Pierre Curie

Laboratory at the Ecole de Physique et Chimie industrielle de Paris

extraction of polonium (Bi fraction) and radium (Ba fraction)

M. Curie calls the radiation: **'radioactivity'**

Radioactivity is manifold

1898 E. Rutherfod1900 P. Villard

alpha, beta radiation gamma radiation

- α = hélium ion He²⁺
- β = high energy e⁻
- γ= photons like X rays

Ernest Rutherford

Paul Villard

Atoms transform !

1902 E. Rutherford & F. Soddy

transmutation of atoms

Scattering of alpha particles

@1999 Science Joy Wagon

"It was almost as incredible as if you fired a 15-inch shell at a piece of tissue paper and it came back and hit you!"

The nucleus is born !

Consequences of Rutherford's model

10⁻¹⁴ m

10⁻¹⁰ m

Matter is empty !

The atom is unstable !

Bohr solves the problem with Planck's quanta

- angular momentum is quantized of energy E_n (n=1,2,3,...) are allowed
- n is the principal quantum number
- electronic jumps from one orbit to another are accompanied by the emission (or absorption) of a photon of given wavelength

Niels Bohr

Dalton's atom undermined

'The Chemistry of Radio-Elements', F. Soddy (1911)

More than 40 radio-elements discovered in 15 years

Problem: There are only 7 empty spaces in the periodic table between Bi and U!

Inseparability of certain radio-elements

1913 Frederick Soddy

Concept of **isotope**: radioactive elements with different masses but with the same chemical properties

The periodic table finds its thread

1914 Henry Moseley

Measurement of the high frequency spectra of many elements

 \Rightarrow atomic number Z = charge of the nucleus

⇒ regularities of the periodic table explained in terms of filling of electronic shells

Adapted from Moseley's original data (H. G. J. Moseley, Philos. Mag. (6) 27:703, 1914)

The alchemist's dream come true

1919 E. Rutherford

1st man-made transmutation

a + Nitrogen \rightarrow Hydrogen

Rutherford calls H⁺ proton

1924 P. Blackett visualizes the transmutation $\alpha + {}^{14}N \rightarrow {}^{17}F^* \rightarrow {}^{17}O + p$

Cloud chamber (C.T.R. Wilson, 1912)

Structure of the nucleus

The nucleus is thought to be composed of A protons and (A-Z) electrons

E. Rutherford suggests the existence of an e⁻-p pair, which would have all the characteristics of a neutral particle

Bakerian Lecture, Proc. Roy. Soc. A, 97, 374 (1920)

This information goes unnoticed around the world, except at the Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge, where Rutherford is appointed director...

The beginnings of mass spectrometry

1919: F. Aston provides the experimental proof of the existence of isotopesand measures isotopic abundancesF.W. Aston, Nature 105 (1920) 617

Francis Aston

He establishes that all masses ($M(^{16}O)=16$) are whole numbers, with the exception of Hydrogen (1.008)

Mass excess

F. Aston proposes that mass is lost to form nuclei

A. Eddington suggests that the transformation of H into He is the source of the sun's energy

1927: With an improved spectrometer, Aston shows that masses are not quite whole numbers

'packing fraction'= 10 000 (M - A)/A

Development of Quantum Mechanics

1924

1924-1925

M. Born

1926

W. Heisenberg

E. Schrödinger

W. Pauli

The theory of α decay

Antimatter

1930: P. Dirac invents the anti-electron

1932 : C. Anderson discovers the antielectron and calls it positron

β decay and the neutrino hypothesis

1914 J. Chadwick measures a continuous β -decay spectrum

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Is the law of conservation of energy violated ?

Chadwick to Rutherford: 'I can't find the ghost of a line. There must be a silly mistake somewhere...!'

1927: Calorimetric experiment performed by C.D. Ellis and W.A. Wooster: average e^{-} energy < endpoint of β spectrum

1930: W. Pauli suggests the existence of a new neutral, ~massless particle, which he calls 'neutronen' and which would share the β -decay energy with the e⁻

Discovery of the neutron

1930-32

W. Bothe & H. Becker discover a strange reaction

James Chadwick J. Chadwick shows that the mysterious radiation corresponds to a particle of mass ~1: the **neutron**

The nucleus is complete !

1932: D. Ivanenko, W. Heisenberg and E. Majorana propose models of the nucleus composed of Z protons and N neutrons. Heisenberg introduces isospin

The presence of neutrons in the nucleus explains the phenomenon of isotopy and resolves some nuclear spin problems and the issue of e⁻ confinement

Origin of the β -decay electrons ?

1934: E. Fermi suggests the existence of a new force, the weak force, and derives a theory for β decay

Enrico Fermi

 $n \rightarrow p + e^- + v_{\rho}$

A neutron changes into a proton at the same time as an electron and Pauli's neutral particle ('neutrino'), are emitted

He submits his theory to Nature - but the paper is rejected because "it contained speculations which were too remote from reality".

Accelerators to probe the nucleus

Ernest Walton, Ernest Rutherforf, John Cockroft

J. Cockroft and E. Walton build a machine capable of producing an accelerating voltage of 800 kV *Nature 129, February 1932, 242*

1932: Cockroft and Walton "split the atom" Nature 129, April 1932, 649

First experimental confirmation of $E = mc^2$

Cockroft-Walton voltage multiplier

The invention of the cyclotron

1931: E. Lawrence avoids using high voltages by using many times a moderate electric field to accelerate charges to a high energy (original idea by R. Wideroe, 1928)

1st cyclotron in 1931, V=1.8KV , Ø~12 cm acceleration of protons up to 80 keV

2nd cyclotron in 1932, V=1.8KV, Ø~27 cm acceleration of protons up to 1 MeV

1936: Ø~93 cm, acceleration of deuterons (8 MeV) and alpha particles (16 MeV)

The nuclear interaction

Strong attractive interaction (> electrostatic repulsion between protons) short range, repulsive at short distances and charge independent

Identical nuclear particles, drawn together by mutual interaction and surface tension - similar to the force, which binds water molecules within a liquid drop *W. Heisenberg, Congrès de Solvay 1933, from an original idea of G. Gamow (Proc. Roy. Soc. 126 (1930) 637*)

Artificial radioactivity

1934 I. Curie and F. Joliot

$$^{27}_{13}Al + ^{4}_{2}He \rightarrow ^{30}_{15}P + n$$

$$^{30}_{15}P \rightarrow e^+ + ^{30}_{14}Si + v$$

radio-phosphorus !

discovery of artificial radioactivity

Irène Curie et Frédéric Joliot

1936: John H. Lawrence is the first to use an artificial radio-element for therapeutic purposes: ³²P to treat leukaemia

Artificial elements

1937: E. Segrè and C. Perrier discover element Z=43, they call it technicium

1 H		Periodic table (1939)															2 He
3 Li	4 Be						5 B	6 C	7 N	8 0	9 F	10 Ne					
11 Na	12 Mg						13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar					
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	Тс	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 	54 Xe
55 Cs	56 Ba	57-71 La- Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 1r	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	At	86 Rn
(87)	88 Ra	89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	(93)	(94)	(95)	(96)	(97)	(98)	(99)	(100)			1940	
		1945															
		57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu	

The era of the neutron

E. Fermi proposes to bombard materials with neutrons
 He demonstrates that nuclear transmutation occurs more readily with slow neutrons

His group identifies 40 new radio-isotopes in 3 years

He proposes to irradiate heavy nuclei to synthesize transuranic elements and claims to have produced the elements Z=93 et 94 (Ausonium et Hesperium)

The quest for transuranic elements...

1935-1938: Otto Hahn, Lise Meitner and Fritz Strassmann discover a great number of new transuranium radio-isotopes (up to Z=96)

Irène Curie end Pavel Savitch claim to have produced a substance similar to Lanthanum (Actinium ?)

S-ELE Is' H	is ² He	NS																_
2s' Li	2s² Be			F		DDIC STAT	E EL		2p' B	2p² C	2p ³ N	2p4 O	s 2p⁵ F	2p ⁶ Ne	t a			
3s' Na	3s² Mg	-	d-electrons											3p ³ P	3p4 5	3p ^s Cl	3p6 A	חכ
4s' K	452 Ca	4523d Sc	14st3dt Tl	4823d	4s3ds Cr	4s²3d⁵ Mn	4s²3d° Fe	4s ¹ 3d ⁷ Co	4s²3dª Ni	4s3d* Cu	45²3d® Zn	4p ^s Ga	4p² 6¢	4p ³ As	4p4 Se	4ps Br	4p ⁶ Kr	
5s' Rb	5s ² Sr	5s²4d Y	'5s'4d Zr	²5s 4đ Cb	5s4d ⁵ Mo	55 ² 4d ⁵ Ma	5s4d' Ru	5s4d* Rh	4d!" Pol	5s4d* Ag	Cd	5pi In	5p² Sn	5p ³ . Sb	5p⁴ Te	5p ^s I	5p ⁶ Xe	m
6s' Cs	6s² Ba	6s² 5d	6s²5d	Та	65²5d W	fos ¹ 5d ⁵ Re	05	5d' Ir	5d* Pt	6s5d" Au	6s²5d" Hg	6p' Tl	6p ² Pb	6p ³ Bi	6p* Po	6p ^s	6p ⁶ Rn	ho
75'	782 Ra	Ac	Th	Pa	υ	-		f-els	EÇTRON	5								ar
		5d4f Ce	5d4f ² Pr	5d 4f Nd	³ 5d4f Il	* 5d 4f Sm	5d4f Eu	• 5d 4f Gd	'5d4f' Tb	' 5d4f' Dy	5d4f" Ho	5d4f' Er	'5d4f' Tm	*5d4f Yb	*5d4f* Lu			nd F

Lise Meitner and Otto Hahn (1918)

m and Cerium, what we called horium. This is a difficult decision, ar physics experiments."

nd F. Strassmann, Naturwiss 27 (1939) 11

1939:, Together with her nephew Otto Frisch, L. Meitner gives an explanation for the observed phenomena: **fission** of uranium

This hypothesis is immediately confirmed by O. Frisch and by others (F. Joliot)

O. Frisch, Nature 143 (1939) 276

N. Bohr et J.A. Wheeler develop a theory of fission based on the liquid drop

N. Bohr et A. Wheeler, Phys. Rev. 56 (1939) 426

L. Meitner and O. Frisch, Nautre 143 (1939) 239

The actinide concept to go further

G.T. Seaborg

Discovery of Es (Z=99) & Fm (Z=100)

Ivy Mike, 1/11/1952

Discovery of Md (Z=101)

Last element to be identified by chemical separation

 $^{253}\text{Es}(\alpha,n)^{256}\text{Md}$

target : ~ 10^9 atoms produced in 1 year of irradiation beam intensity : ~ 10^{14} p/s

New recoil technique

In the middle of the cold war, Ghiorso proposes the name of Mendelevium in honour of the Russian chemist

Magic numbers

M. Goeppert Mayer notices that nuclei with a number of neutrons and/or protons equal to 20, 28, 50, 82, 126 are relatively more abundant than their neighbours

The nuclei associated with magic numbers are also exceptionally bound and give rise to discontinuities with respect to the liquid drop energy

'On closed shells in nuclei', MG. Mayer Phys. Rev. 74 (1948) 235

Maria G. Mayer

Quantum mechanics doesn't give the correct answer ...

Total number of neutrons (or protons), which can be accommodated in each shell:

2, 8, 20, 40, 58, 92, 138

The question which solves the problem

Thanks are due to Enrico Fermi for the remark, "Is there any indication of spin-orbit coupling?" which was the origin of this paper.

> 'On closed shells in nuclei. II', M. G. Mayer Phys. Rev. 75 (1949) 1969

Hans Jensen

M.G. Mayer et H.D. Jensen 'Elementary Theory of Nuclear Shell Structure', 1955

Next magic numbers (Island of stability): Z=114, N=184

A. Sobiczewski, F.A. Gareev, B.N. Kalinkin Physics Letters 22 (1966) 500 1966: V.M. Strutinsky; "Shell-correction" method

Z=102-106: Synthesis by hot fusion reactions and genetic correlations

²⁴⁹Cf(¹⁸O, 4n)²⁶³106 [∞]→²⁵⁹Rf [∞]→²⁵⁵No

A. Ghiorso et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 33 (1974) 1490

G.T. Seaborg (1994)

Cold fusion and new techniques to go further: Z=107 to 112 in GSI and finally 113 in Riken

K. Morita

Projectiles

Target wheel

G. Munzenberg, P. Armbruster , S. Hofmann

Synthesis of the heaviest elements in Dubna

Intriguing properties

Uniform gas-like outer electronic structure

Hollow proton distribution 1.0 ²⁹⁴Og ²⁹⁴Og ho_p ρ_n 5 0 -5^{-1} -0.5³²⁶Og 326Og ho_n ρ_p 50 -5^{-1} -0.0-5 0-55 $\mathbf{5}$ 0

 $z \ ({
m fm})$

 $x~({
m fm})$ B. Schuetrumpf et al., Phys. Rev. C 96 (2017) 024306

What next?

Currently in **RIKEN**:

 ${}^{51}V+{}^{248}Cm \rightarrow {}^{299}119$

New synthesis experiments will will soon start at **the Super Heavy Factory** in Dubna

Is there an end?

V. Zagrebaev et al., Acta Phys. Pol. B 45 (2014) 291

Decreasing lifetimes as Z increases

How to get more neutron rich?

Multinucleon transfer

V.I. Zagrebaev, A.V Karpov and W. Greiner, EPJ Web of Conferences 86, 00066 (2015)

Are superheavy elements made in space?

Sequence of neutron captures and β-decays

S. Goriely et al., Astrophysical Journal 738 (2011) L32

Time[s] = 0.04

- Fission of superheavy nuclei dictates the distribution of elemental abundances
- Some superheavy nuclei may have long enough lifetimes to be observed today

We have entered into a new period, chemically and technologically: the future will no doubt be full of surprises