

ISOTOPIC MASSES AND BINDING ENERGIES OF NUCLEI FOR MASSES BETWEEN 186 AND 196

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Values of the masses and binding energies are presented for the nuclei of isotopes of osmium, iridium, platinum, gold, and mercury. The masses were measured on a mass-spectrograph possessing a resolving power of 60,000 — 80,000. The isotope masses were derived from doublets by direct comparison with the masses of corresponding organic compounds. The masses of 18 stable isotopes were measured and the masses of 18 radioactive isotopes were computed. The data thus obtained were used to evaluate the binding energy of nuclei, the binding energy per nucleon (E/A), the binding energies of the last neutron and proton (B_n and B_p) and the pair energies of neutrons and protons (P_n and P_p). For $N = 116$, the binding energy of nuclei has been found to vary in a nonmonotonous manner for both odd and even values of Z .

INTRODUCTION

THE masses of isotopes and the coupling energies of nucleons in the nucleus have previously¹ been measured in the region of magic numbers up to 82 protons and 126 neutrons. In the present research, a second series of measurements has been carried out in the mass range $186 \leq M \leq 201$. Measurement of the masses of mercury, gold, platinum, iridium and osmium isotopes was carried out on a mass spectrograph described previously,² with a resolving power of 60,000 — 80,000. The measurements were made by means of doublets. A doublet pair was formed from a given isotope with a corresponding organic compound of type C_nH_m , $C_nH_mN_p$ or $C_nH_mO_k$. For high resolving power of the apparatus and dispersion calculations of high accuracy ($\sim 10^5$), this guaranteed a high accuracy of measurement.

Such a method of measurement makes it possible to determine the mass of the nucleus of a given isotope, avoiding intermediate measurements, making use only of the values of the masses of H^1 , C^{12} , N^{14} and O^{16} which have been measured with sufficient accuracy previously.² Determination of the masses of the isotopes Os^{186} , Os^{187} , Os^{188} , Os^{189} , Ir^{191} , Ir^{193} , Pt^{192} and Au^{197} by the mass-spectrograph method has not been carried out up to the present time. The single research of Johnson and Bhanot, applying to the given mass range,³ was carried out on a mass spectrometer with a low resolving power ($A_{max} \sim 14,000$). In this work mass differences per unit mass were measured for stable isotopes with even Z in the range $64 \leq Z \leq 82$. The value

of the isotopic masses was not given in reference 3. Other mass-spectrographic measurements^{4,5} were carried out for a small number of isotopes and have a very incomplete character. The values of masses computed in the work of Wapstra⁶ from the energy balance of nuclear reactions were obtained with significant error ($\sim 2 - 3$ mMu). In the calculation of the isotopic masses of heavy nuclei the error becomes so large that, as a supporting value, the mass of the isotope Pb^{208} was used in place of O^{16} .⁷ With such a large error of measurement, the calculated values of the binding energy of the last neutron or proton do not permit one to make an unambiguous estimate of the nuclear structure.

Ions of the elements thus measured were obtained by introducing vapors of the metal into the gas discharge region of a plasma ion source by means of an evaporator of special construction. The corresponding organic compounds were also introduced into the gas discharge region in the same manner.

As a check for the absence of errors of measurement,⁸ determination of the isotopic masses in most cases was carried out with a check for internal consistency, including such cases in which the molecular weight of the organic compound was equal to the weight of the isotope under investigation. In some cases, in addition to this, control of the resultant measurements was obtained by measurement of masses of isotopes of a given element, using as a doublet the lines of isotopes with mass difference of unity.

In each case, the results of measurement were

obtained after analysis of 12 – 15 mass spectra with 4 – 6 photo plates.

MEASUREMENT OF ISOTOPIC MASSES

1. Osmium isotopes Os¹⁸⁶, Os¹⁸⁷, Os¹⁸⁸, Os¹⁸⁹, Os¹⁹⁰ and Os¹⁹². For all the osmium isotopes, the measurements were carried out with a check on internal consistency, while different doublet combinations were formed by use of different organic compounds and compounds of osmium. The osmium ions were obtained by introduction into the gas discharge region of a plasma ion source of vapors of OsO₄. The organic compounds perylene (C₂₀H₁₂, M = 252) and terphenyl (C₁₈H₁₄, M = 230) were used both in molecular form and in the form of fragments of these compounds as the organic compounds for the formation of doublet pairs with ions Os, OsO, OsO₂, OsO₃ and OsO₄. Internal consistency for the masses of the isotopes Os¹⁸⁶, Os¹⁸⁷, Os¹⁸⁹ and Os¹⁹² were determined from three independent doublets for each isotope, Os¹⁸⁸ from four and Os¹⁹⁰ from five doublets. The value of the mass of each isotope was computed with account taken of the "weight" of the measurement. The values of the doublets and the masses of the isotopes are given in Table I.

2. Iridium isotopes Ir¹⁹¹ and Ir¹⁹³. Iridium ions were obtained by evaporation of metallic iridium. For the formation of a doublet pair with the isotope Ir¹⁹¹, the splinter (C₁₅H₁₁, M = 191) of benzalacetophenone (C₁₅H₁₂O, M = 208) was used and for the isotope Ir¹⁹³, the splinter (C₁₄H₉O, M = 193) of anthrone (C₁₄H₁₀O, M = 194). The values of the differences of masses of doublets

and the values of the isotopic masses computed from these data are given in Table II.

3. Platinum isotopes Pt¹⁹², Pt¹⁹⁴, Pt¹⁹⁵, Pt¹⁹⁶ and Pt¹⁹⁸. The platinum ions were obtained by evaporation of metallic platinum with successive ionizations of the vapor in the discharge. Testing of internal consistency in the measurements of the isotopic masses of platinum was carried out by utilization of two different organic compounds for the formation of doublet pairs. As organic compounds, benzalphenylhydrazone (C₁₃H₁₂N₂, M = 196) was used in one case and a fragment of benzoin (C₁₄H₁₂O₂, M = 212) in the other. The values of the mass differences of the doublet and the values of the isotopes are given in Table III. For comparison, data obtained from mass-spectrographic measurements of Hogg and Duckworth⁴ are also shown in the table.

4. Gold isotope Au¹⁹⁷. Measurement of the mass of the isotope Au¹⁹⁷ was carried out by comparison of the mass of the gold ion with the mass of benzanilide (C₁₃H₁₁ON, M = 197). The value of the doublet C₁₃H₁₁ON–Au¹⁹⁷ and of the mass of the gold isotope are given in Table II. Values of the masses of the isotope Au¹⁹⁷, computed in terms of Hg¹⁹⁸ and C₁₃H₁₀ON (mass differences ~ 1). The mean value for Au¹⁹⁷ was computed with account of the "weight" of the measurements.

5. Mercury isotopes Hg¹⁹⁶, Hg¹⁹⁹, Hg²⁰⁰ and Hg²⁰¹. In the present work, measurements of the mass of the isotope Hg¹⁹⁶ were carried out and a test for the internal consistency of the masses of the isotopes Hg¹⁹⁹, Hg²⁰⁰ and Hg²⁰¹ was carried out; the measurements in the latter case were made in a previous research.¹ Use was made of

TABLE I

Mass, A	Doublet	Volume of ΔM, mMu	Value of the mass of the isotope, Mu	Mean value of the mass, Mu
186	C ₁₂ H ₆ —Os ¹⁸⁶	92.157 ± 0.150	186.013635 ± 150	186.013246 ± 300
	Os ¹⁸⁷ —Os ¹⁸⁶	1002.797 ± 0.150	186.012624 ± 220	
	C ₂₀ H ₁₂ —Os ¹⁸⁶ O ₄	144.659 ± 0.141	186.013161 ± 140	
187	C ₁₂ H ₇ —Os ¹⁸⁷	98.892 ± 0.080	187.015402 ± 80	187.015370 ± 230
	Os ¹⁸⁸ —Os ¹⁸⁷	1000.253 ± 0.150	187.015858 ± 220	
	C ₁₈ C ¹³ H ₁₀ —Os ¹⁸⁷ O ₄	146.481 ± 0.170	187.015010 ± 170	
188	C ₁₂ H ₈ —Os ¹⁸⁸	106.549 ± 0.110	188.015887 ± 110	188.015759 ± 200
	Os ¹⁸⁹ —Os ¹⁸⁸	1002.420 ± 0.150	188.015973 ± 180	
	C ₁₈ H ₄ —Os ¹⁸⁸ O ₂	84.948 ± 0.320	188.016380 ± 330	
	C ₂₀ H ₁₂ —Os ¹⁸⁸ O ₄	158.472 ± 0.070	188.015632 ± 70	
189	C ₁₅ H ₆ —Os ¹⁸⁹	112.236 ± 0.110	189.018342 ± 110	189.018362 ± 80
	C ₁₈ H ₆ —Os ¹⁸⁹ O ₂	90.949 ± 0.150	189.018521 ± 150	
	C ₁₇ H ₉ —Os ¹⁸⁹ O ₃	127.541 ± 0.090	189.018317 ± 90	
190	C ₁₂ H ₁₁ —Os ¹⁹⁰	119.060 ± 0.090	190.019660 ± 90	190.019176 ± 150
	Os ¹⁹⁰ —Os ¹⁸⁹	1000.944 ± 0.150	190.019337 ± 160	
	C ₁₄ C ¹³ H ₆ —Os ¹⁹⁰	115.092 ± 0.080	190.019157 ± 80	
	C ₁₄ H ₆ —Os ¹⁹⁰ O ₂	98.638 ± 0.064	190.018974 ± 60	
192	C ₁₉ H ₁₁ —Os ¹⁹² O ₃	135.210 ± 0.240	190.018790 ± 240	192.022529 ± 120
	C ₁₃ N ₂ H ₇ —Os ¹⁹²	107.044 ± 0.110	192.022806 ± 110	
	C ₁₈ H ₆ —Os ¹⁹² O ₂	111.363 ± 0.040	192.022533 ± 50	
	C ₁₈ C ¹³ H ₁₁ —Os ¹⁹² O ₃	143.323 ± 0.030	192.022490 ± 40	
	C ₁₈ H ₆ —Os ¹⁹² O ₂	111.363 ± 0.040	192.022533 ± 50	

TABLE II

Mass, A	Doublet	Value of ΔM , mMu	Value of the mass of the isotope, Mu	Mean value of the mass, Mu
191	$C_{15}H_{11}-Ir^{191}$	125.037 ± 0.201	191.021825 ± 202	191.021825 ± 202
193	$C_{14}H_9O-Ir^{193}$	102.194 ± 0.100	193.024564 ± 104	193.024564 ± 104
197	$C_{13}H_{11}ON-Au^{197}$	117.572 ± 0.200	197.029177 ± 205	197.029181 ± 120
	$Hg^{198}-Au^{197}$	1000.709 ± 0.240	197.029004 ± 245	
	$Au^{197}-C_{13}H_{11}ON$	890.805 ± 0.278	197.029412 ± 280	

TABLE III

Mass, A	Doublet	Value of ΔM , mMu	Value of the mass, Mu	Value of the isotopic masses of platinum, Mu	
				According to data of the present research	According to mass-spectrographic measurements ⁴
192	$C_{13}H_9N_2-Pt^{192}$	107.289 ± 0.221	192.022561 ± 225	192.022561 ± 225	—
194	$C_{13}H_{10}N_2-Pt^{194}$	121.564 ± 0.087	194.024570 ± 90	194.024604 ± 96	194.024100 ± 600
	$C_{14}H_{10}O-Pt^{194}$	110.207 ± 0.234	194.024693 ± 236		
195	$C_{13}H_{11}N_2-Pt^{195}$	127.039 ± 0.100	195.027237 ± 102	195.027199 ± 95	195.026500 ± 600
	$C_{14}H_{11}O-Pt^{195}$	115.924 ± 0.210	195.027118 ± 215		
196	$C_{14}H_{12}N_2-Pt^{196}$	134.529 ± 0.111	196.027889 ± 115	196.027889 ± 115	196.026700 ± 600
198	$Pt^{198}(\text{no } Hg^{198})$	—	198.029880 ± 200	198.029880 ± 200	198.032700 ± 600

TABLE IV

Mass, A	Doublet	Value of ΔM , mMu	Value of the isotopic masses, Mu	Value of the isotopic masses of mercury, Mu	
				According to data of the present research	According to mass-spectrographic measurements ⁵ (1958)
196	$C_{14}H_{12}O-Hg^{196}$	122.638 ± 0.176	196.028546 ± 180	196.028362 ± 185	196.027260 ± 230
	$C_{13}H_{10}ON-Hg^{196}$	110.251 ± 0.020	196.028356 ± 32		
199	$C_{16}H_7-Hg^{199}$	85.994 ± 0.079	199.032120 ± 82	199.031684 ± 460	199.030960 ± 100
	$C_{13}H_{11}O_2-Hg^{199}$	107.674 ± 0.038	199.031548 ± 45		
200	$C_{16}H_9-Hg^{200}$	94.354 ± 0.043	200.031902 ± 47	200.031913 ± 68	200.031270 ± 80
	$C_{12}C^{13}H_{11}O_2-Hg^{200}$	110.913 ± 0.111	200.031980 ± 115		
201	$Hg^{201}-Hg^{200}$	1002.254 ± 0.021	201.034167 ± 71	201.034603 ± 220	201.033510 ± 120
	$Hg^{202}-Hg^{201}$	1000.398 ± 0.032	201.034564 ± 62		
	$C_{16}H_9-Hg^{201}$	99.128 ± 0.069	201.035270 ± 83		

a splinter ($C_{14}H_{12}O$, $M = 196$) of benzoin ($C_{14}H_{12}O_2$, $M = 212$) and a splinter ($C_{13}H_{10}ON$, $M = 196$) of benzanilide ($C_{13}H_{11}ON$, $M = 197$) for the formation of doublet pairs with the isotope Hg^{196} . For a test of the internal consistency for the isotope Hg^{199} , the doublet $C_{13}H_{11}O_2-Hg^{199}$ was measured in addition to the doublet $C_{16}H_7-Hg^{199}$.¹ Similarly, additional measurements were carried out of the doublet $C_{12}C^{13}H_{11}O_2-Hg^{200}$, $Hg^{201}-Hg^{200}$ and $Hg^{202}-Hg^{201}$ were also carried out for the isotopes Hg^{200} and Hg^{201} ; in this case the organic compound benzoin ($C_{14}H_{12}O_2$, $M = 212$) and the mercury spectrum were employed. Masses of the isotopes Hg^{196} , Hg^{199} , Hg^{200} and Hg^{201} were determined from these doublets with account of the "weight" of measurement. The value of the mass differences of the doublets and the values of the isotopic masses of mercury computed from these doublets are given in Table IV. For comparison, data are also

given in this table obtained from the mass-spectrographic measurements of Kerr and Duckworth.⁵

MEASUREMENT RESULTS

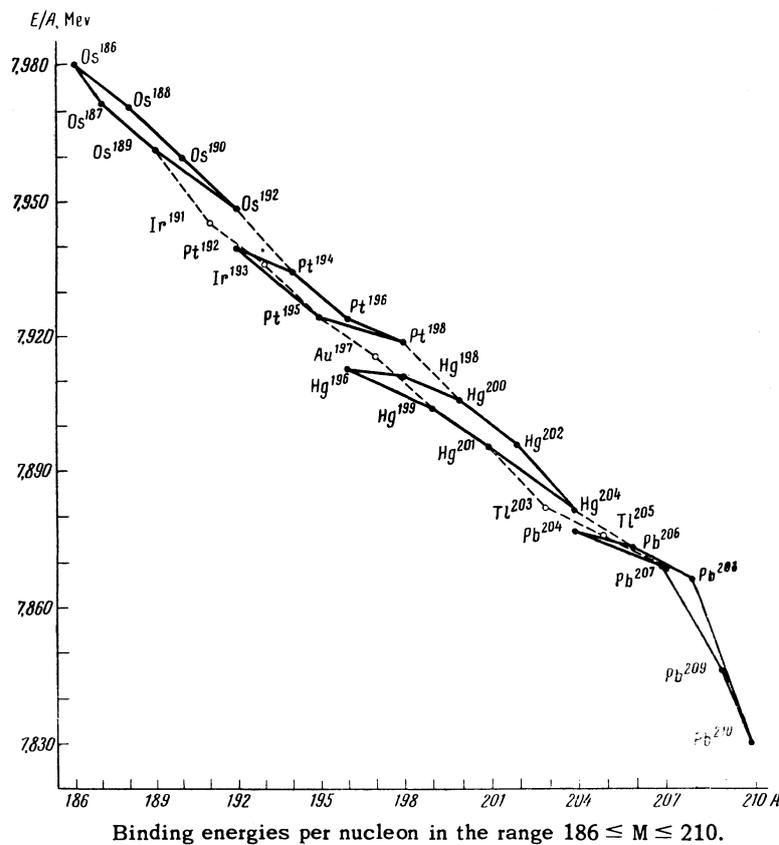
By comparing the values of the isotopic masses obtained in the present research with the corresponding data computed from nuclear reactions (see Table V), one can see that they are generally in agreement within the limits of error. However, this agreement is obtained at the cost of a very large error in the determination of the masses of the isotopes in terms of the values of Q obtained from nuclear reactions. In the final analysis, the mass of the isotope O^{16} was used as a supporting value for these isotopes, and consequently a large error of measurement is obtained as the result of the use of a large number of steps with corresponding values of Q . The most significant divergences in the

TABLE V

Isotope	Value of the isotopic mass M from the data of the present research, Mu	Values of the isotopic mass M' according to data from nuclear reactions, ⁶ Mu	$\Delta = M - M'$, mMu
Os ¹⁸⁶	186.013246 ± 200	186.009550 ± 2300	3.696
Os ¹⁸⁷	187.015370 ± 150	187.011045 ± 2200	4.325
Os ¹⁸⁸	188.016058 ± 140	188.014100 ± 2000	1.958
Os ¹⁸⁹	189.018362 ± 50	189.018120 ± 2000	0.242
Os ¹⁹⁰	190.019127 ± 110	190.017400 ± 2000	1.727
Os ¹⁹²	192.022470 ± 160	192.022500 ± 3000	-0.030
Ir ¹⁹¹	191.021825 ± 202	191.021240 ± 2100	0.585
Ir ¹⁹³	193.024564 ± 104	193.025200 ± 2000	-0.636
Pt ¹⁹²	192.022561 ± 225	192.023100 ± 2050	-0.539
Pt ¹⁹⁴	194.024604 ± 96	194.024000 ± 1500	0.604
Pt ¹⁹⁵	195.027199 ± 95	195.026400 ± 1500	0.799
Pt ¹⁹⁶	196.027889 ± 115	196.026880 ± 1500	1.009
Pt ¹⁹⁸	198.029880 ± 200	198.029000 ± 2000	0.880
Au ¹⁹⁷	197.029181 ± 120	197.028470 ± 3000	0.717
Hg ¹⁹⁶	196.028362 ± 185	196.027350 ± 3010	1.012
Hg ¹⁹⁹	199.031684 ± 460	199.030550 ± 3050	1.134
Hg ²⁰⁰	200.031913 ± 68	200.031910 ± 3010	0.003
Hg ²⁰¹	201.034603 ± 220	201.034000 ± 3000	0.603

values of the mass take place in the isotopes of osmium. For two of them (Os¹⁸⁶ and Os¹⁸⁷, see Table V), the difference in values exceeds twice the value of the very large error of nuclear measurements. According to existing evidence,⁹ the values of the masses of these isotopes (Os¹⁸⁶ and Os¹⁸⁷) given in the work of Wapstra,⁶ are unreliable. In addition to these isotopes, significant divergences also take place in the value of the masses of the isotopes Os¹⁸⁸, Os¹⁸⁹, Pt¹⁹² and Hg¹⁹⁹. The most accurate measurements in the region under con-

sideration were made in the work of Johnson and Bhanot.³ Unfortunately, the work did not cover differences of masses with odd Z , and for elements with even Z several isotopes were not measured (Os¹⁹², Pt¹⁹², Hg¹⁹⁸, etc.). However, comparison of the mass differences obtained in this work with similar data of the present research and nuclear data computed directly from nuclear reactions shows that all comparable values are in excellent agreement within the limits of the errors of measurement. Quite a different picture is obtained for



comparison of the same quantities computed from the values of the mass given by nuclear data.⁶ The divergences in a number of cases exceed 2 — 2.5 mMu. Analysis of the data of the present research and of reference 3 shows the error of measurements of the masses of the isotopes Os¹⁸⁶, Os¹⁸⁷, Os¹⁸⁸, Os¹⁸⁹, and Pt¹⁹² advanced in reference 6.

Additional measurements of the masses of the isotopes Hg¹⁹⁹, Hg²⁰⁰, and Hg²⁰¹ with "internal con-

sistency" for Hg²⁰⁰ made it possible to carry out a comparison of the values of Q obtained from nuclear reactions with the corresponding values computed according to the current measurements of isotopic masses. Thus, for example, the value for the mass of the isotope Hg²⁰⁰, according to the data of the present work is equal to $M(\text{Hg}^{200}) = 200.031913 \pm 68 \text{ Mu}$. This quantity is in excellent agreement with data obtained from nuclear reac-

TABLE VI

Isotope	Z	N	Binding energy of the nucleus, * Mev	Binding energies of the nucleon, E/A, Mev	B_n , Mev*	B_p , Mev*	P_n , Mev*	P_p , Mev*
Os ¹⁸⁶		110	1484.142	7.9792				
Os ¹⁸⁷		111	1490.530	7.9708	6.388			
Os ¹⁸⁸		112	1498.256	7.9694	7.726		1.338	
Os ¹⁸⁹		113	1504.477	7.9602	6.221			
Os ¹⁹⁰	76	114	1512.056	7.9582	7.579		1.358	
Os ¹⁹¹		115	1517.765	7.9464	5.709			
Os ¹⁹²		116	1525.751	7.9466	7.986		2.277	
Os ¹⁹³		117	1531.022	7.9328	5.271			
Ir ¹⁹⁰		113	1510.015	7.9474		5.538		
Ir ¹⁹¹		114	1517.200	7.9435	7.185	5.144		
Ir ¹⁹²		115	1523.438	7.9346	6.238	5.673		
Ir ¹⁹³	77	116	1531.382	7.9346	7.944	5.631	1.706	
Ir ¹⁹⁴		117	1537.521	7.9254	6.139	6.499		0.906
Ir ¹⁹⁵		118	1543.566	7.9157	6.045			
Pt ¹⁹²		114	1524.096	7.9380		6.896		1.752
Pt ¹⁹³		115	1530.549	7.9303	6.453	7.111		1.438
Pt ¹⁹⁴		116	1538.926	7.9326	8.377	7.544	1.924	1.913
Pt ¹⁹⁵		117	1544.876	7.9224	5.950	7.355		0.856
Pt ¹⁹⁶	78	118	1552.600	7.9214	7.724	9.034	1.774	
Pt ¹⁹⁷		119	1559.014	7.9138	6.414			
Pt ¹⁹⁸		120	1567.479	7.9166	8.465		2.051	
Pt ¹⁹⁹		121	1571.945	7.8992	4.466			
Au ¹⁹⁴		115	1535.590	7.9154		6.142		
Au ¹⁹⁵		116	1543.820	7.9170	8.230	4.894		
Au ¹⁹⁶		117	1550.902	7.9128	7.082	6.026		
Au ¹⁹⁷		118	1558.979	7.9136	8.077	6.379	0.995	
Au ¹⁹⁸	79	119	1565.357	7.9058	6.378	6.243		
Au ¹⁹⁹		120	1572.929	7.9042	7.572	5.450	1.194	
Au ²⁰⁰		121	1579.234	7.8962	6.305	7.289		
Au ²⁰¹		122	1585.896	7.8900	6.662		0.357	
Hg ¹⁹⁵		115	1541.861	7.9070		6.271		0.130
Hg ¹⁹⁶		116	1550.590	7.9112	8.729	6.770		1.876
Hg ¹⁹⁷		117	1558.000	7.9086	7.410	7.098		1.072
Hg ^{198**}		118	1566.100	7.9096	8.100	7.121	0.690	0.742
Hg ¹⁹⁹		119	1572.596	7.9025	6.496	7.239		0.896
Hg ²⁰⁰	80	120	1580.749	7.9037	8.153	7.820	1.657	2.370
Hg ²⁰¹		121	1586.610	7.8936	5.861	7.376		0.087
Hg ^{202**}		122	1594.685	7.8945	8.075	8.789	2.214	
Hg ^{203**}		123	1600.048	7.8820	5.363			
Hg ^{204**}		124	1607.614	7.8805	7.566		2.203	
Hg ^{205**}		125	1613.388	7.8702	5.774			

*Errors in the values of the binding energy do not exceed 0.2 Mev and correspondingly in B_n and B_p — 0.3 Mev and P_n and P_p — 0.4 Mev

**Data taken from reference 1.

tions according to which (see Table V) $M(\text{Hg}^{200}) = 200.031910 \pm 3010 \text{ Mu}$. Moreover, the mass difference $\text{Hg}^{202} - \text{Hg}^{200}$, obtained in the data of reference 1 and in the present work, is $\Delta M = 2.003039 \pm 180$, which is in good agreement with the corresponding value obtained from mass-spectrometric measurements by Johnson and Bhanot³ ($\Delta M = 2.002900 \pm 150$). Because of this we can consider that the value for the mass of Hg^{202} , obtained in reference 1, is sufficiently reliable. Moreover, there is good agreement between the values obtained from the cycle of mass-spectrographic measurements¹ and the data of nuclear reactions in the calculation of the mass of Tl^{203} by means of the reaction $\text{Hg}^{204} - \text{Tl}^{203}$. The agreement of the value for the mass of Tl^{203} obtained from the reaction $\text{Tl}^{203}(\gamma, n)\text{Tl}^{202}$ by means of the chain $\text{Hg}^{202} \rightarrow \text{Tl}^{202} \rightarrow \text{Tl}^{203}$ leads to a discrepancy for the mass of $\text{Tl}^{203} \sim 1.7 \text{ mMu}$. Thus, joint consideration of nuclear and mass-spectrographic measurements leads to the conclusion that in all probability the assumed value of the quantity Q for the reaction $\text{Tl}^{203}(\gamma, n)\text{Tl}^{202}$ ¹⁰ is in error and it would be desirable to repeat the measurement of this quantity Q .

BINDING ENERGY OF NUCLEONS IN THE NUCLEUS

The mass values of the isotopes of osmium, iridium, platinum, gold and mercury obtained in the present research make possible a more accurate determination of the binding energy of nucleons in the nucleus over the mass range $186 \leq M \leq 200$. In addition to the results of the present research, the masses of 18 radioactive isotopes were computed by means of the values of Q obtained from nuclear reactions and beta decay energies. In this case the values of the masses of stable isotopes obtained in the present research were used as standardizing values.

Evidence on the general characteristics of nucleon binding can be obtained from a study of the binding energy per nucleon. The binding energy per nucleon E/A is plotted in the drawing in Mev as a function of A . For completeness of the picture, the region of values of A is expanded over the range of values used in reference 1. In the drawing the solid lines connect the binding energies of stable (measured) isotopes with the same Z . The binding energies of nuclei with odd Z (Ir, Au, Tl) are denoted by circles and are connected with odd A of elements with even Z . As is seen

from the figure, a certain periodicity in the binding energy of stable nuclei in this mass region is indicated. The peculiarity noted in reference 1 of the isobaric pair of nuclei Hg^{204} and Pb^{204} is preserved and even expanded to the isobars $\text{Pt}^{198} - \text{Hg}^{198}$; $\text{Pt}^{196} - \text{Hg}^{196}$ and $\text{Os}^{192} - \text{Pt}^{192}$. In the isobaric pairs shown, the binding energies of the nucleus in which two protons are replaced by two neutrons is larger than in the opposite case. Values of the binding energy of nuclei, the binding energy of the last neutron B_n , of the last proton B_p , the pair energies of neutrons P_n and protons P_p are shown in Table VI. Analysis of the data of Table VI shows that nuclei having $N = 116$ for both even and odd Z possess an increased stability. This is evident from the values of B_n and P_n . In contrast to this, nuclei with $N = 115$ are distinguished by a lower value of coupling energy in comparison with other nuclei of odd N . For even-even nuclei, an increased value of the pair energies of protons P_p occurs for $N = 116$ ($^{116}_{78}\text{Pt}^{194}$ and $^{116}_{80}\text{Hg}^{196}$).

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