## **Atomic Structure Summary**

- <u>All atoms</u> have:
  - > a positively charged nucleus
  - and negatively charged electrons moving around within atomic orbitals
- Atomic nucleus consists of:
  - positively charged protons
  - and neutrons that have no electric charge
- Atoms are <u>neutral</u>: # of protons = # of electrons



## **Understanding Elements**

# The <u>number of protons and neutrons</u> in the nucleus give the atoms their <u>specific characteristics</u>.

- All atoms of the same chemical element contain the same number of protons, defined by a unique atomic number of that element.
- For example, all <u>helium</u> atoms, and only helium atoms, contain two protons and have an <u>atomic number of 2</u>.



- Atoms are also characterized by:
  - atomic mass, "relative isotopic mass" in unified atomic mass units, which is roughly (within 1%) equal to the whole mass number (since the mass of a proton and the mass of a neutron are almost the same and the mass of the atom's electrons is negligibly small)
  - mass number, which is a sum of the number of protons and the number of neutrons in the nucleus (number of nucleons)

#### **Periodic Table of Elements** is arranged in order of increasing atomic number

1	(chown color coded according													2			
н	(Shown color-coueu according														He		
3	4	to discovery timeline from										5	6	7	8	9	10
Li	Be												C	N	0	F	Ne
11	12	antiquity to 2012)										13	14	15	16	17	18
Na	Mg											AI	Si	Р	S	CL	Ar
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	- 1	Xe
55	56	57	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86
Cs	Ba	-71	Hf	Та	W	Re	Ōs	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	TI	Pb	Bi	Ро	At	Rn
87	88	89	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118
Fr	Ra	-103	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Uut	FI	Uup	Lv	Uus	Uuo

57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71
La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Но	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr

Known in antiquity

also known when (akw) Levoisier published his list of elements (1789)

akw Mendeleev published his periodic table (1869)

akw Deming published his periodic table (1923)

akw Seaborg published his periodic table (1945)

also known (ak) up to 2000

ak to 2012

#### **Sotopes** are different <u>forms of a given element</u> that have the <u>same number of protons</u> in each atom but <u>differ in number of neutrons</u>.



Most elements have more than one isotope.





There are 20 Plutonium isotopes, all of them *unstable*!

 $Pu^{228} \longrightarrow Pu^{247}$ 

## What Holds an Atom Together?



- The <u>electrons</u> are kept in orbit around the nucleus due to an <u>electromagnetic field</u> of attraction between the positive (+) charge of the protons and the negative (-) charge of the electrons.
- The <u>nucleus of protons</u> <u>and neutrons</u> is kept together by the <u>nuclear</u> (strong) force, which opposes and overcomes the electromagnetic repulsion when particles are very close to each other (~1 fm!).

### **Binding Energy and Atom Stability**

Nuclear (binding) energy is the energy associated with the nuclear force.



 A <u>stable atom</u> is an atom that has <u>enough binding energy</u> to hold the nucleus together permanently.  An <u>unstable atom</u> does not have enough binding energy to hold the nucleus together permanently and <u>will lose neutrons</u> as it attempts to become stable...

...radioactivity!



- The nucleus of an iron isotope with mass number 56 is more stable than any other element's nucleus (the farther from 56 an element's mass number is, the more unstable that element's nucleus tends to be).
- The <u>heaviest element</u> that still has stable isotopes is Lead.