## **Astronomy 45**

## Introduction to Astrophysics

## Problem Set 7 - Due April 14

- 1. What is the relationship between the mean kinetic energy and the mean potential energy for a central potential varying as the n<sup>th</sup> power of the distance:  $V(r) = -kr^n$ ?
- 2. Assume that the solar luminosity is produced by the conversion of hydrogen to helium. The solar luminosity is  $3.8 \times 10^{33}$  ergs s<sup>-1</sup>. What mass of hydrogen is converted to helium in each second?
- 3. Calculate the energy released or absorbed measured in MeV in the reactions

a) 
$$^{12}C + ^{12}C \rightarrow ^{24}Mg + \gamma$$

b) 
$${}^{12}C + {}^{12}C \rightarrow {}^{16}O + {}^{4}He + {}^{4}He$$

c) 
$${}^{19}F + {}^{1}H \rightarrow {}^{16}O + {}^{4}He$$

The masses of <sup>12</sup>C, <sup>16</sup>O, <sup>19</sup>F and <sup>24</sup>Mg are 12.00, 15.99491, 18.99840 and 23.98504 AMU respectively. Are the reactions exothermic or endothermic?

4. Complete the following reaction sequences:

a) 
$$^{27}\text{Si} \rightarrow \text{Al} + e^+ +$$

b) 
$$Al + {}^{1}H \rightarrow {}^{24}Mg + {}^{4}$$

c) 
$$^{35}Cl + ^{1}H \rightarrow ^{36}Ar + ^{4}$$

The nuclear charges Z of Si, Al, Mg, Cl and Ar are respectively: 14, 13, 12, 17 and 18.