

8 The isotope thallium-208 ($^{208}_{81}\text{Tl}$) is radioactive. It decays by β -decay.

(a) Thallium-208 decays to an isotope of lead (Pb).

(i) Complete the equation for this decay.



[3]

(ii) The β -emission of thallium-208 is accompanied by γ -emission from the nucleus.

Explain why this γ -emission does **not** affect the numbers in the equation in (a)(i).

.....
..... [1]

(iii) Suggest **one** reason why a nucleus of thallium-208 is unstable.

.....
..... [1]

(b) A sample of thallium-208 is placed in a thick lead container. Fig. 8.1 shows a narrow beam of β -particles and γ -radiation emerging from a small hole in one side of the container.

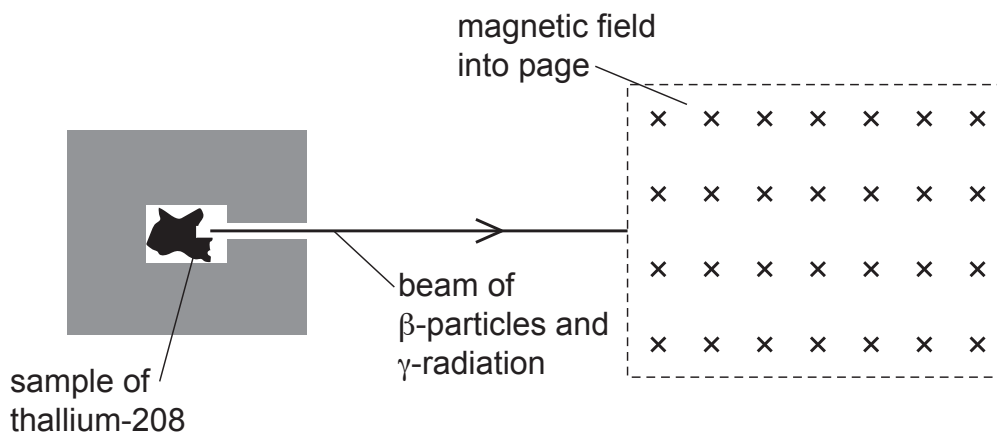


Fig. 8.1

The narrow beam enters a region where there is a magnetic field that is directed into the page.

On Fig. 8.1:

- draw a line **labelled** β to indicate the path of the β -particles in the magnetic field
- draw a line **labelled** γ to indicate the path of the γ -radiation in the magnetic field.

[3]

[Total: 8]