- •7 At what rate must 235 U nuclei undergo fission by neutron bombardment to generate energy at the rate of 1.0 W? Assume that Q = 200 MeV.
- ••16 In an atomic bomb, energy release is due to the uncontrolled fission of plutonium ²³⁹Pu (or ²³⁵U). The bomb's rating is the magnitude of the released energy, specified in terms of the mass of TNT required to produce the same energy release. One megaton of TNT releases 2.6 × 10²⁸ MeV of energy. (a) Calculate the rating, in tons of TNT, of an atomic bomb containing 100.0 kg of ²³⁹Pu, of which 2.5 kg actually undergoes fission. (See Problem 4.) (b) Why is the other 92.5 kg of ²³⁹Pu needed if it does not fission?
- ••19 The neutron generation time t_{gen} in a reactor is the average time needed for a fast neutron emitted in one fission event to be slowed to thermal energies by the moderator and then initiate another fission event. Suppose the power output of a reactor at time t = 0 is P_0 . Show that the power output a time t later is P(t), where $P(t) = P_0 k^{t/t}$ gen and t is the multiplication factor. For constant power output, t = 1.
- •26 How long ago was the ratio ²³⁵U/²³⁸U in natural uranium deposits equal to 0.12?
- ••33 Calculate the Coulomb barrier height for two 7 Li nuclei that are fired at each other with the same initial kinetic energy K. (Hint: Use Eq. 42-3 to calculate the radii of the nuclei.)
- •37 The Sun has mass 2.0×10^{30} kg and radiates energy at the rate 3.9×10^{26} W. (a) At what rate is its mass changing? (b) What fraction of its original mass has it lost in this way since it began to burn hydrogen, about 4.5×10^9 y ago?
- ••40 Calculate and compare the energy released by (a) the fusion of 1.0 kg of hydrogen deep within the Sun and (b) the fission of 1.0 kg of ²³⁵U in a fission reactor.