

Average Atomic Mass

Atomic Mass: The mass of a single isotope (form) of an atom based on the number of protons (p^+) and neutrons (n^0) [Mass Number]

Percent Abundance: The ratio of one isotope (based on count) to all isotopes of an element.

$$\frac{\text{Isotope Ratio}}{\text{Ratio}}: {}^{12}_6\text{C}, \frac{989 \text{ atoms}}{1000 \text{ atoms}} = 0.989$$

Average Atomic Mass

The mass of an element (all isotopes together) based on the percent abundance of the isotopes of the element

Isotope Ratio: Comparison of a single isotope to all isotopes

$$\frac{\text{Percent Abundance}}{\text{Abundance}}: 0.989 \cdot 100\% = 98.9\%$$

Calculating Average Atomic Mass

Fractional Abundance: Ratio of the mass of each isotope in the avg. atomic mass of element.

$$\text{Frac. Abund.} = \text{Atomic Mass} \cdot \text{Isotope Ratio}$$

$$\frac{\text{Isotope}}{\text{Isotope}}: {}^{12}_6\text{C} (12 \text{amu})$$

$$\frac{\text{Isotope}}{\text{Ratio}}: 0.989$$

$$\frac{\text{Frac.}}{\text{Abund}}: 12 \text{amu} \cdot 0.989 = \underline{11.87}$$

Average Atomic Mass: Sum of the fractional abundances of all isotopes of an atom.

$$\text{Avg. Atomic} = \sum (\text{Fractional Abundance})$$

Isotope	Isotope Ratio	Mass
${}^{12}_6\text{C}$	0.989	12amu
${}^{13}_6\text{C}$	0.010	13amu
${}^{14}_6\text{C}$	0.001	14amu

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Avg. Atomic} &= (0.989 \times 12 \text{amu}) + (0.010 \times 13 \text{amu}) + (0.001 \times 14 \text{amu}) \\ &= \underline{12.012 \text{amu}} \quad (12.01 \text{amu rounded}) \end{aligned}$$