Figure 4.1: Curve of nuclear binding energy. Binding energy per nucleon as a function of atomic mass. Isotopes above mass 61 will have a positive $Q$ value (are exothermic) if they fission. Elements below this yield a positive $Q$ for fusion. Plotted is the single most tightly bound isotope of each element as found in [Audi & Wapstra 1995]. Note this selection is slightly different from some other plots.