

## Heisenberg's Uncertainty principle, Illustration - Gamma ray microscope

### QA:

1. Heisenberg's principle for energy-time:

$$\Delta E \Delta t \geq \hbar/2$$

Where:  $\Delta E$  is the uncertainty in energy,

$\Delta t$  is the lifetime of the excited state

$\hbar = h/2\pi$  is the reduced Planck's constant

Energy of a photon is given by:  $E = hc/\lambda$ ,

Differentiating both sides:  $\Delta E = |dE/d\lambda| = \frac{hc\Delta\lambda}{\lambda^2}$

Therefore,  $\Delta\lambda = \frac{\lambda^2 \Delta E}{hc}$ , also  $\Delta E \geq \frac{\hbar}{2\Delta t}$  combining both,

$$\Delta\lambda \geq \frac{\lambda^2}{hc} \frac{\hbar}{2\Delta t}$$

Given:  $\Delta t = 10\text{ns}$ ,  $\lambda = 500\text{ nm} = 500 \times 10^{-9}\text{ m}$

Hence,  $\Delta\lambda = 6.63\text{ fm}$