

- 6 (a) Define the *decay constant* of a radioactive isotope.

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- (b) Strontium-90 is a radioactive isotope having a half-life of 28.0 years. Strontium-90 has a density of  $2.54 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ .

A sample of Strontium-90 has an activity of  $6.4 \times 10^9 \text{ Bq}$ . Calculate

- (i) the decay constant  $\lambda$ , in  $\text{s}^{-1}$ , of Strontium-90,

$$\lambda = \dots \text{ s}^{-1} [2]$$

- (ii) the mass of Strontium-90 in the sample,

$$\text{mass} = \dots \text{ g} [4]$$

- (iii) the volume of the sample.

volume = ..... cm<sup>3</sup> [1]

- (c) By reference to your answer in (b)(iii), suggest why dust that has been contaminated with Strontium-90 presents a serious health hazard.

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