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When there is only one decay channel the lifetime is inversely proportional to the spontaneous decay rate A :

$$\tau = 1/A$$

The spontaneous decay rate due to the electric dipole interaction is given by

$$A = \frac{\omega_0^3 (|\mathcal{P}_x|^2 + |\mathcal{P}_y|^2 + |\mathcal{P}_z|^2)}{3\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c^3},$$

where the electric dipole matrix elements are

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_x &= (-e)\langle\psi_a|x|\psi_b\rangle \\ \mathcal{P}_y &= (-e)\langle\psi_a|y|\psi_b\rangle \\ \mathcal{P}_z &= (-e)\langle\psi_a|z|\psi_b\rangle\end{aligned}$$

where $|\psi_b\rangle$ describes the initial state and $|\psi_a\rangle$ is the final state. $\hbar\omega_0$ is the (positive) energy difference between the initial and the final state. In the case considered here $|\psi_b\rangle = |210\rangle$, and the final state $|\psi_a\rangle = |100\rangle$ which follows from the fact that it is the only state with lower energy. Expressing the coordinates as $x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi, y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi, z = r \cos \theta$ we can calculate the matrix elements. These calculations involve an integral over r, θ and ϕ . Being $m = 0$ the states have no ϕ -dependence. Therefore the matrix elements $\mathcal{P}_x, \mathcal{P}_y$ involve an integration over $\cos \phi, \sin \phi$ which is zero. Thus only \mathcal{P}_z is non-zero Using

$$\begin{aligned}\langle r, \theta, \phi | 100 \rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi a_0^3}} e^{-r/a_0} \\ \langle r, \theta, \phi | 210 \rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{32\pi a_0^3}} \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/2a_0} \cos \theta\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}_z &= (-e)\langle 100 | r \cos \theta | 210 \rangle \\ &= (-e) \int_0^\infty dr r^2 \int_0^\pi d\theta \sin \theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi a_0^3}} e^{-r/a_0} r \cos \theta \frac{1}{\sqrt{32\pi a_0^3}} \frac{r}{a_0} e^{-r/2a_0} \cos \theta \\ &= (-e) \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{32\pi}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi}} \int_0^\infty dr \left(\frac{r}{a_0}\right)^4 e^{-3r/2a_0} \int_{-1}^1 d(\cos \theta) \cos^2 \theta \\ &= (-e) \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \frac{a_0 2^5}{3^5} \frac{2}{3} \int_0^\infty dx x^4 e^{-x} \\ &= (-e) \frac{2^5}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{a_0}{3^6} 4! \\ &= (-e a_0) \frac{2^7 \sqrt{2}}{3^5}\end{aligned}$$

Inserting into the expression for A we get

$$A = \frac{\omega_0^3}{3\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c^3} e^2 a_0^2 \frac{2^{15}}{3^{10}} = \frac{(\hbar\omega_0)^3}{\hbar^3} \left(\frac{a_0}{c}\right)^2 \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c} \frac{4}{3} \frac{2^{15}}{3^{10}}$$

Now the energy difference $\hbar\omega_0$ between the $n = 2$ and the $n = 1$ levels is $\hbar\omega_0 = 13.6eV (1 - 1/4) = (3/4) \cdot 13.6eV$. Using $\hbar = 6.582 \cdot 10^{-16}eVs$, $c = 3 \cdot 10^8 m/s$ and $a_0 = 0.5 \cdot 10^{-10}m$, $\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c} \approx 1/137$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \left(\frac{(3/4) \cdot 13.6eV}{6.582 \cdot 10^{-16}eVs} \right)^3 \left(\frac{0.529 \cdot 10^{-10}m}{3 \cdot 10^8 m/s} \right)^2 \frac{1}{137} \frac{4}{3} \frac{2^{15}}{3^{10}} \\ &= \left(\frac{13.6eV}{6.582 \cdot 10^{-16}eVs} \right)^3 \left(\frac{0.529 \cdot 10^{-10}m}{3 \cdot 10^8 m/s} \right)^2 \frac{1}{137} \frac{2^{11}}{3^8} = 6.3 \cdot 10^8 s^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

which gives a lifetime of

$$\tau = 1/A = 1.6 \cdot 10^{-9} s.$$