

Marks
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- Moseley discovered experimentally in 1913 that the atomic number, Z , of an element is inversely proportional to the square root of the wavelength, λ , of fluorescent X-rays emitted when an electron drops from the $n = 2$ to the $n = 1$ shell.

$$i.e. \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} = kZ$$

What element would emit such X-rays with a wavelength one-quarter that of zirconium?

From Moseley's equation, the atomic number is inversely proportional to the square root of the atomic number. The ratio of the wavelengths emitted by two elements is therefore:

$$\frac{Z_1}{Z_2} = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1}}$$

As zirconium has $Z_1 = 40$ and $\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} = \frac{1}{4}$, the element has $Z = 80$. This corresponds to mercury.

Answer: **mercury**

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- Many plants are green due to their high chlorophyll content. Draw on the diagram below the absorption spectrum of a green pigment such as chlorophyll.

