

Estimation of minimum energy of a confined particle,
using uncertainty principle $\Rightarrow$

uncertainty principle

$$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2}$$

$$\Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2\Delta x}$$

$$\Delta p = p_{\min} \Rightarrow p_{\min} = \frac{h}{2l} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

and $\Delta x = l$ (size of the atom or nucleus)

$$\text{Kinetic energy} = \frac{p^2}{2m}$$

where, m is the mass of the particle

$$K.E = \frac{p_{\min}^2}{2m}$$

Now from equation (1)

$$K.E = \frac{\left(\frac{h}{2l}\right)^2}{2m}$$

$$K.E = \frac{h^2}{4l^2 \times 2m}$$

$$K.E = \frac{h^2}{8ml^2}$$

If particle confined in an atom

assume atomic size $l = 0.4 \text{ nm}$

$$l = 0.4 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$K.E = \frac{h^2}{8m l^2} \quad h = \frac{h}{2\pi} = \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34}}{2\pi}$$

For electron $m = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$.

$$K.E = \frac{h^2}{8m l^2}$$

$$K.E = \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times 6.63 \times 10^{-34}}{2 \times 3.14 \times 8 \times 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \times (0.4 \times 10^{-9})^2}$$

$$K.E = 0.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$K.E = \frac{0.6 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} \text{ eV}$$

$$K.E = 0.375 \text{ eV}$$