

Chapter 34 Problem 64 †

Given

$$\lambda = 25 \text{ nm} = 2.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}$$

$$E_1 = 40 \text{ keV} = 4.0 \times 10^4 \text{ eV}$$

$$E_2 = 100 \text{ keV} = 1.0 \times 10^5 \text{ eV}$$

$$m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$

$$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s}$$

Solution

Is the less expensive electron microscope able to resolve the microtubules.

The energy of the less expensive electron microscope is

$$E_1 = (4.0 \times 10^4 \text{ eV}) \left(\frac{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}}{1.0 \text{ eV}} \right) = 6.4 \times 10^{-15} \text{ J}$$

Converting this energy into a wavelength of the photons with this energy gives

$$E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{hc}{E} = \frac{(6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s})(3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s})}{6.4 \times 10^{-15} \text{ J}} = 3.1 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}$$

This corresponds to 0.031 nm and is, therefore, able to resolve the microtubes.

†Problem from Essential University Physics, Wolfson