

**lifetime***of luminescence*

The time required for the luminescence intensity to decay from some initial value to  $\frac{1}{e}$  of that value ( $e = 2.718 \dots$ ). Lifetimes can be measured by phase fluorimetry (phosphorimetry) where the phase shift between the sinusoidally modulated exciting light and the emitted light is measured.

**Source:**

PAC, 1984, 56, 231 (*Nomenclature, symbols, units and their usage in spectrochemical analysis-Part VI: molecular luminescence spectroscopy*) on page 242