

¹⁸Mg

The discovery of ¹⁸Mg was reported by Jin et al. in the 2021 paper “First Observation of the Four-Proton Unbound Nucleus ¹⁸Mg” ([2021Ji15](#)). A secondary 103 MeV/nucleon ²⁰Mg beam was produced from a primary 170 MeV/nucleon ²⁴Mg beam at the Coupled Cyclotron Facility of the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at Michigan State University. After separation with the A1900 fragment separator the ²⁰Mg impinged on a 1-mm thick ⁹Be target and produced ¹⁸Mg in two-neutron knockout reactions which then decayed into ¹⁴O and four protons. The ¹⁴O was detected around zero degrees in an orthogonal array of scintillating fiber ribbons. Protons were recorded in an annular double-sided silicon-strip detector backed by an annular array of CsI(Tl) crystals. “We have observed, for the first time, ¹⁸Mg via its decay into 4p + ¹⁴O. The ground-state decay energy was found to be $E_T = 4.865(34)$ MeV.”

Adapted from reference ([2023Th03](#))

[2021Ji15](#) Y. Jin, C. Y. Niu, K. W. Brown, Z. H. Li *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **127**, 262502 (2021).

[2023Th03](#) M. Thoennessen, Int. J. Mod. Phys. E **32**, 2330001 (2023).

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