

⁸He

The first observation of ⁸He was described by Poskanzer et al. in the 1965 paper “Decay of He⁸” ([1965Po06](#)). Plastic foils or absorbent cotton fibers were irradiated by 2.2 GeV protons from the Brookhaven Cosmotron. The produced ⁸He was transported by a helium carrier gas into a counting chamber where the β -ray activity was measured with a plastic scintillator. “A short-lived component was found which decayed to a long-lived tail equal to only one percent of the initial activity. From least-squares fits to all of the decay curves, our best value of the half-life of the short-lived component is 122 ± 2 msec.” A previously reported half-life of 30(20) ms ([1963Ne07](#)) could not be confirmed.

Adapted from reference ([2012Th01](#))

- [1963Ne07](#) B. M. K. Nefkens, Phys. Rev. Lett. **10**, 243 (1963).
[1965Po06](#) A. M. Poskanzer, R. A. Esterlund, and R. McPherson, Phys. Rev. Lett. **15**, 1030 (1965).
[2012Th01](#) M. Thoennessen, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables **98**, 43 (2012).

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