

⁶⁶Zn

⁶⁶Zn was first observed by Dempster in 1922 at the University of Chicago and reported in “Positive-ray Analysis of Potassium, Calcium and Zinc” (1922De01). Zinc isotopes were identified with the positive-ray apparatus using a zinc anode. “It was at first assumed that the atomic weights of the components were 63, 65, 67 and 69, since, with the intensities first observed, a mean atomic weight was obtained which agreed with the chemical atomic weight. This reasoning was invalidated by the different intensity ratios obtained with the improved shielding, and a direct comparison with the calcium component at 40 showed the atomic weights to be near the integers 64, 66, 68, and 70.” The incorrect assignment had been published a year earlier (1921De01).

Adapted from reference (2012Gr02)

- 1921De01 A. J. Dempster, *Science* **54**, 516 (1921).
1922De01 A. J. Dempster, *Phys. Rev.* **20**, 631 (1922).
2012Gr02 J. L. Gross, J. Claes, J. Kathawa, and M. Thoennessen, *At. Data Nucl. Data Tables* **98**, 75 (2012).

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