

⁶⁸As

⁶⁸As was first observed by T. Paradellis et al. in 1971 as reported in “The Decay of ⁶⁸As” (1971Pa32). A 92% enriched ⁷⁰GeO₂ target was bombarded with 40 MeV protons accelerated by the McGill Synchrocyclotron. Characteristic γ -rays were detected following the reaction ⁷⁰Ge(p,3n)⁶⁸As. “The weighted average of several measurements of the half-life of the 1016.5 keV γ -ray was found to be 159±4 sec.” The authors do not claim the discovery of ⁶⁸As, instead referring to the 1955 paper by Butement and Prout (1955Bu15). However, the cautious statement “Between 40 and 60 MeV the initial half-life was ~10 minutes, suggesting the formation of a mixture of ⁶⁹As with a shorter lived activity, of half-life ~7 minutes, possibly ⁶⁸As produced by a (p,3n) reaction on ⁷⁰Ge,” in combination with a significantly deviating half-life value does not warrant credit for the discovery of ⁶⁸As by Butement and Prout.

Adapted from reference (2010Sh34)

- 1955Bu15 F. D. S. Butement and E. G. Prout, *Phil. Mag.* **46**, 357 (1955).
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