

⁸⁹Kr

Hahn and Strassmann reported the first identification of ⁸⁹Kr in Berlin in the 1943 paper “Über die bei der Uranspaltung auftretenden aktiven Strontium- und Yttrium-Isotope” (1943Ha10). The isotope was observed following neutron irradiation of uranium and a half-life of 2.5 m was measured. “Sicher ist nur, daß das 2.5-Minuten-Krypton über ein 15.4-Minuten-Rubidium in das 55-Tage-Strontium übergeht.” [The only certain assignment is the decay of the 2.5 m krypton, via the 15.4 m rubidium to the 55 d strontium.] Further details were discussed in a subsequent publication (1943Ha09). A krypton activity of 2.5–3 m had already been observed in 1940 by Seelman-Eggebert (1940Se05); however, it could only be linked to a 15.5 m rubidium activity which had been reported by Glasoe and Steigman who at that time had not assigned a mass to the activity (1940GI06). Only a few weeks later Glasoe and Steigman (1940GI05) assigned the decay to ⁸⁹Rb and indirectly implied the existence of ⁸⁹Kr unaware of the Seelman-Eggebert result.

Adapted from reference (2010He02)

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Please cite this abstract as: “FRIB Nuclear Data Group, *Discovery of Nuclides Project*, Isotope Database, doi:10.11578/frib/2279152”