

¹⁰²Ag

In their 1960 paper “Spins and Decay Modes of Certain Neutron-Deficient Silver Isotopes”, Ames et al. identify ¹⁰²Ag correctly for the first time (1960Am02). ¹⁰²Ag was produced by bombarding a ¹⁰²Pd target with 18-MeV protons from the Princeton University cyclotron. The activities were measured with a NaI crystal x-ray counter. “The present work appears to provide the first direct evidence for the existence of a 15-min activity in Ag¹⁰².” The observation of ¹⁰²Ag had actually been reported more than 21 years earlier. Although the abstract of the paper by Enns indicates a correct half-life measurement “...and three new periods of 16.3 min (+), 73 min. (+) and 45 days (K capture). The latter are assigned tentatively to Ag¹⁰², Ag¹⁰⁴, and Ag¹⁰⁵, respectively,” the paper itself clearly assigns the 73 min half-life incorrectly to ¹⁰²Ag (1939En02). It is interesting to note that this assignment was reversed in the 1958 Table of Isotopes (1958St50).

Adapted from reference (2010Sc10)

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