

¹³¹I

In 1939, Seaborg et al. from the University of California at Berkeley identified ¹³¹I in “Radioactive tellurium: further production and separation of isomers” (1939Se05). Tellurium was bombarded with 8 MeV deuterons and an 8-day iodine activity was measured following chemical separation as reported in an earlier paper (1938Li11). However, it was not possible to decide if the activity was due to ¹²⁹I or ¹³¹I. This question was resolved with the assignment of the parent activities to ¹³¹Te: “The 1.2-day and 25-minute activities, which are both directly produced by deuteron bombardment of tellurium, are isomeric and isomer separation experiments show that the 25-minute period grows from the 1.2-day activity; it is in fact possible to observe, by successive extractions of iodine, the growth of the eight-day iodine from the 25-minute tellurium activity obtained by extraction from its parent isomer.” The 8-day half-life had been reported earlier without a mass assignment (1939Ab05).

Adapted from reference (2013Ka01)

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