^{156}Er

Ward et al. from the University of California at Berkeley published the identification of ^{156}Er in the 1967 paper "Gamma rays following ^{40}Ar-induced reactions" (1967Wa18). Isotopically enriched ^{120}Sn targets were bombarded with ^{40}Ar beams and ^{156}Er was populated in the fusion-evaporation reaction ^{120}Sn(^{40}Ar,4n). Gamma-ray spectra were studied using a lithium-drifted germanium counter. "Gamma-ray spectra from the reactions ^{124,122,120}Sn(^{40}Ar,4n)^{60,58,56}Er are shown in [the figure]." The first five transition of the rotational ground-state band were measured for ^{156}Er. Previously, only upper limits of 10−12 min (1965Zh02) and <4 min (1966La11) for the half-life of ^{156}Er were reported.

Adapted from reference (2013Fr10)

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