

¹⁶¹Er

¹⁶¹Er was discovered in 1954 by Handley and Olson in the paper “New radioactive nuclides of the rare earths” ([1954Ha01](#)). Erbium oxide was bombarded with 24-MeV protons from the Oak Ridge 86-in. cyclotron. Decay curves and γ -ray spectra were measured following chemical separation. “Therefore, the 3.6-hour species is produced chiefly by (p,2n) with Tm¹⁶¹ species being short-lived and decaying immediately to Er¹⁶¹.” Less than four months later, Michel and Templeton independently reported a half-life of 3.5 h ([1954Mi16](#)).

Adapted from reference ([2013Fr10](#))

- [1954Ha01](#) T. H. Handley and E. L. Olson, Phys. Rev. **93**, 524 (1954).
[1954Mi16](#) M. C. Michel and D. H. Templeton, Phys. Rev. **93**, 1422 (1954).
[2013Fr10](#) C. Fry and M. Thoennessen, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables **99**, 520 (2013).

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