^{186}Ta

"Radioactive ^{186}Tantalum" was published by Poë in 1955, describing the first observation of ^{186}Ta (1955Po43). Tungstic acid targets were irradiated with fast neutrons produced by bombarding beryllium with protons from the Harwell cyclotron. Decay curves and β- and γ-ray spectra were measured following chemical separation. "The new radioactive isotope ^{186}Ta has been prepared and its decay characteristics determined as follows: Half-life: 10.5±0.5 min, Maximum β-energy: 2.2_2 MeV, Conversion-electron energies: ≤0.15 MeV, γ-ray energies: 125, 200, 300, 410, 510, 610, 730, 940 and possibly ∼1150 keV. The mass assignment suggested by its production by (n,p), but not by (γ,p), reactions on tungsten was confirmed by experiments using tungstic acid enriched in ^{186}W."

Adapted from reference (2012Ro36)

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