^{211}Po

In 1913, Marsden and Wilson from the University of Manchester discovered a new activity (^{211}Po) from actinium C (^{211}Bi, originally named actinium B) as described in "Branch product in actinium C" (1913Ma01). An active source of actinium was covered with a sheet of mica and placed in a chamber. The number of scintillations on a zinc sulphite screen as a function of pressure in the chamber were counted. "The results showed that in addition to the α particles of actinium C with a range of 5.4 cm., a small number, about 1 in 600, can penetrate as far as about 6.45 cm. Special experiments showed that the long-range α particles could not be due to radium or thorium impurity, and they must therefore be attributed to the expected new branch product." This activity later renamed actinium C' corresponds to ^{211}Po.

Adapted from reference (2013Fr04)

1913Ma01 E. Marsden and R. H. Wilson, Nature **92**, 29 (1913).
2013Fr04 C. Fry and M. Thoennessen, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables **99**, 365 (2013).

Please cite this abstract as: "FRIB Nuclear Data Group, *Discovery of Nuclides Project*, Isotope Database, doi:10.11578/frib/2279152"