

^{219}Rn

In the 1903 article “Sur la radio-activité induite provoquée par les sels d’actinium” Debierne from the University of Paris reported the observation of an activity later assigned to ^{219}Rn (1903De01). Debierne placed actinium salt in an enclosed environment and studied the produced activity: “Mais, pour l’activation qui se produit dans le voisinage de la source, la constante de temps est très différente et l’intensité d’activation diminue de la moitié de sa valeur en quelques secondes.” [But for the activation which occurs in the vicinity of the source, the time constant is very different and the intensity of the activation decreases by half its value in a few seconds.] The actinium emanation was essentially simultaneously observed by Giesel (1902Gi01, 1903Gi01), however, Giesel did not measure the half-life of the activity.

The assignment was changed (2016Th03) from the original compilation (2013Fr09) which credited the 1903 paper by Giesel (1903Gi01) with the discovery of ^{219}Rn .

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