

²⁰⁶Fr

In 1964, Griffioen and MacFarlane reported the identification of ²⁰⁶Fr in the paper “Alpha-decay properties of some francium isotopes near the 126-neutron closed shell” (1964Gr04). ¹⁹⁷Au, ^{203,205}Tl, and ²⁰⁸Pb targets were bombarded with ¹⁶O, ¹²C, and ¹¹B beams with energies up to 10.38 MeV/amu from the Berkeley HILAC. Recoil products were collected on a catcher foil which was positioned in front of gold surface-barrier detector which measured subsequent α decay. “Fr²⁰⁷ and Fr²⁰⁶: ... Since, as has been mentioned before and will be discussed later, the cross section for the Au¹⁹⁷(O¹⁶,7n)Fr²⁰⁶ reaction is probably about one fourth the value of the Au¹⁹⁷(O¹⁶,6n)Fr²⁰⁷ reaction cross section, we cannot see any great effect on the excitation function for this group. Several things have led us to the conclusion that this is both Fr²⁰⁷ and Fr²⁰⁶...” The measured half-life was 15.8(4) s and corresponds to the decay of the ground state and an isomeric state (1992Hu04).

Adapted from reference (2013Fr09)

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