

^{224}Ra

In 1902, Rutherford and Soddy from McGill University announced the discovery of ThX (^{224}Ra) in the paper “The cause and nature of radioactivity - part I” (1902Ru02). A sample of thorium was given time to decay and radium was chemically separated. Activities were placed near a photographic plate and also measured with an electrometer. “If for present purposes the initial periods of the curves are disregarded and the later portions only considered, it will be seen at once that the time taken for the hydroxide to recover one half of its lost activity is about equal to the time taken by the ThX to lose half its activity, viz., in each case about 4 days, and speaking generally the percentage proportion of the lost activity regained by the hydroxide over any given interval is approximately equal to the percentage proportion of the activity lost by the ThX during the same interval.”

Adapted from reference (2013Fr09)

1902Ru02 E. Rutherford and F. Soddy, *Phil. Mag.* **4**, 370 (1902).

2013Fr09 C. Fry and M. Thoennessen, *At. Data Nucl. Data Tables* **99**, 497 (2013).

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