

## <sup>226</sup>Ac

In the 1950 article “Extension of alpha- and beta-decay systematics of protactinium isotopes,” Meinke and Seaborg reported the discovery of <sup>226</sup>Ac ([1950Me08](#)). A thick thorium target was bombarded with 60 MeV deuterons from the Berkeley 184-in. cyclotron. <sup>226</sup>Ac was identified by measuring  $\alpha$  particles from the <sup>226</sup>Th daughter following chemical separation. “The actinium fraction from the protactinium containing  $1.3 \times 10^6$  beta-disintegrations/min. of Pa<sup>230</sup> contained 300 alpha-disintegrations/min. of Th<sup>226</sup> which decayed with the 29-hr. half-life of its beta-emitting Ac<sup>226</sup> parent.” Meinke and Seaborg did not consider their measurement a discovery referring to a private communication with K. Street, Jr. and unpublished data as referenced in the 1948 Table of Isotopes ([1948Se40](#)).

Adapted from reference ([2013Fr03](#))

- [1948Se40](#) G. T. Seaborg and I. Perlman, Rev. Mod. Phys. **20**, 585 (1948).  
[1950Me08](#) W. W. Meinke and G. T. Seaborg, Phys. Rev. **78**, 475 (1950).  
[2013Fr03](#) C. Fry and M. Thoennessen, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables **99**, 345 (2013).

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