

²⁰F

Crane et al. discovered ²⁰F at the Kellogg Radiation Laboratory of the California Institute of Technology in 1935 as reported in the paper “The Emission of Negative Electrons from Lithium and Fluorine Bombarded with Deuterons” ([1935Cr01](#)). Deuterons of 0.8 MeV bombarded a fluorine target inside a cloud chamber and ²⁰F was probably formed in the reaction ¹⁹F(d,p). Photographs of the electron tracks were taken and the energy distribution extracted. “The electrons probably arise from the reaction $F^{19} + H^2 \rightarrow F^{20} + H^1 \rightarrow Ne^{20} + e^- + H^1$. We have measured the half-life of the radio-fluorine by means of an ionization chamber and found it to be 12 ± 2 seconds.”

Adapted from reference ([2012Th01](#))

[1935Cr01](#) H. R. Crane, L. A. Delsasso, W. A. Fowler, and C. C. Lauritsen, Phys. Rev. **47**, 971 (1935).

[2012Th01](#) M. Thoennessen, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables **98**, 43 (2012).

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