

## <sup>222</sup>Th

In 1970, Torgerson and Macfarlane reported the first observation of <sup>222</sup>Th in “Alpha decay of the <sup>221</sup>Th and <sup>222</sup>Th decay chains” (1970To07). A 10.6 MeV/nucleon <sup>16</sup>O beam from the Yale heavy ion accelerator was used to bombard <sup>208</sup>Pb target forming <sup>222</sup>Th in (2n) fusion-evaporation reactions. Recoil products were transported to a stainless steel surface with a helium jet and  $\alpha$  spectra were measured with a Si(Au) surface barrier detector. “A weak 7.984 MeV  $\alpha$ -particle transition having a half-life of  $4\pm 1$  msec has been assigned to <sup>222</sup>Th.” Three days later Valli et al. reported a half-life of 2.8(3) ms for <sup>222</sup>Th (1970Va13).

Adapted from reference (2013Fr03)

- 1970To07 D. F. Torgerson and R. D. Macfarlane, Nucl. Phys. A **149**, 641 (1970).  
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