

^{234}Th

In London, Crookes reported the discovery of a radioactive substance later identified as ^{234}Th in the 1900 paper “Radio-activity of uranium” (1900Cr01). Activities of uranium nitrate were detected following chemical separation. “Having thus definitely proved that the supposed radio-activity of uranium and its salts is not an inherent property of the element, but is due to the presence of a foreign body, it is necessary patiently to determine the nature of the foreign body [For the sake of lucidity the new body must have a name. Until it is more tractable I will call it provisionally UrX—the unknown substance of uranium]. Several radio-active bodies claimed to be new have already been extracted from pitchblende, and experiments have been instituted to see if the newly found body UrX had similar chemical properties to those of older substances.”

Adapted from reference (2013Fr03)

1900Cr01 W. Crookes, Proc. Roy. Soc. (London) **66**, 409 (1900).

2013Fr03 C. Fry and M. Thoennessen, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables **99**, 345 (2013).

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