

## $^{211}\text{Pa}$

In the 2020 paper “Exploring the boundaries of the nuclear landscape:  $\alpha$ -decay properties of  $^{211}\text{Pa}$ ” Auranen et al. reported the discovery of  $^{211}\text{Pa}$  (2020Au04). The University of Jyväskylä K-130 cyclotron accelerated an  $^{36}\text{Ar}$  beam to 178–214 MeV and irradiated 1000 and 450  $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$  thick tantalum targets. Reaction products were separated with the recoil ion transport unit (RITU) gas-filled separator and stopped in the implantation detector of the GREAT spectrometer which also recorded subsequent  $\alpha$  decays. “Using a fusion-evaporation reaction and a gas-filled recoil separator we have produced and, for the first time, identified rigorously the new isotope  $^{211}\text{Pa}$ . It was found to  $\alpha$  decay with a half-life and  $\alpha$ -particle energy of  $3.8_{-1.4}^{+4.6}$  ms and 8320(40) keV, respectively, suggesting a favored  $\alpha$  decay.”

In 2006, Kurcewicz et al. were only able to establish an upper limit for the production cross section of  $^{211}\text{Pa}$  (2006Ku07).

Adapted from reference (2023Th03)

- 2006Ku07 J. Kurcewicz, Z. Liu, M. Pfutzner, P. J. Woods *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A **767**, 1 (2006).  
2020Au04 K. Auranen, J. Uusitalo, H. Badran, T. Grahn *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **102**, 034305 (2020).  
2023Th03 M. Thoennessen, Int. J. Mod. Phys. E **32**, 2330001 (2023).

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