^{218}Pa

"Alpha decay properties of new protactinium isotopes" announced the 1979 discovery of ^{218}Pa by Schmidt et al. (1979Sc09). A tantalum target was irradiated with an argon beam with energy varied between 165 and 202 MeV at GSI, Darmstadt. Residues were separated by velocity and were registered with a counter telescope consisting of a transmission secondary electron detector and a silicon surface barrier detector. "The assignment of the α-lines to the different Pa isotopes is based on the correlation analysis and on the excitation functions. All nuclei except ^{222}Pa were observed in the reaction ^{40}Ar+^{181}Ta$\rightarrow^{221-x}$Pa+xn." The given half-life was 0.12^{+4}_{-2} ms for ^{218}Pa.

Adapted from reference (2013Fr03)

1979Sc09 K. H. Schmidt, W. Faust, G. Munzenberg, H. G. Clerc *et al.*, Nucl. Phys. A **318**, 253 (1979).

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

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