^{239}Np

In 1940, McMillan and Abelson discovered ^{239}Np as reported in the paper "Radioactive element 93" (1940Mc02). Uranium samples were activated with neutrons produced by the Berkeley cyclotron. Beta-decay curves were measured following chemical separation. "This fact, together with the apparent similarity to uranium suggests that there may be a second 'rare earth' group of similar elements starting with uranium. The final proof that the 2.3-day substance is the daughter of the 23-minute uranium is the demonstration of its growth from the latter..." The figure caption of the decay curve states: "Growth of 2.3-day 93^{239} from 23-minute U^{239}."

Adapted from reference (2013Fr02)

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