^{242}Cm

In 1949, Seaborg et al. reported the discovery of ^{242}Cm in the paper "The new element curium (atomic number 96)" (1949Se01). ^{242}Cm was produced by bombarding plutonium targets with 32 MeV α particles from the Berkeley 60 in. cyclotron forming ^{242}Cm in the reaction^{239}Pu(α,n). Following chemical separation, α particles were measured in a parallel-plate ionization chamber. "These isotopes are: (1) 96^{242}, which emits α particles with a range 4.75±0.1 cm in air and decays with a half life of 5.0±0.1 months; and (2) 96^{240}, which emits α particles with a range of 4.95±0.1 cm in air and decays with a half life of 26.8±0.3 days."

Adapted from reference (2013Fr02)

1949Se01 G. T. Seaborg, R. A. James, and A. Ghiorso, The Transuranium Elements: Research Papers, Book 2, Vol. 14B, paper 22. 2, G. T. Seaborg ed. , p. 1554 (1949).

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