

²⁴⁴Bk

The identification of ²⁴⁴Bk by Wolf and Unik was reported in the 1972 paper “Fissioning isomers of americium, curium and berkelium isotopes” (1972Wo07). ²⁴³Am was bombarded with α particles from the Argonne 152 cm cyclotron forming ²⁴⁴Bk in the (α ,3n) reaction. ²⁴⁴Bk was identified from excitation functions of the delayed fission activity. “A fissioning isomer with an 820 ns half-life has been assigned to ²⁴⁴Bk on the basis of the measured characteristic (α ,3n) excitation function shown in [the figure].” The ground state half-life (5.02(3) h) was measured only 42 years later by Sodaye et al. (2014So17). It had previously been reported in two unpublished theses (1956Ch77, 1966Ah02).

Adapted from reference (2013Fr02)

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