

²⁴⁶Cf

²⁴⁶Cf was discovered by Ghiorso et al. as described in the 1951 article “Californium isotopes from bombardment of uranium with carbon ions” ([1951Gh23](#)). Uranium metal targets were bombarded with a 120 MeV ¹²C beam from the Berkeley 60-inch cyclotron. Alpha-particle spectra were measured with an ionization chamber following chemical separation. “A consideration of the systematics of alpha-radioactivity leads us to the view that this 35-hour period is due to the new isotope Cf²⁴⁶ formed by the reaction U²³⁸(C¹²,4n).”

Adapted from reference ([2013Fr02](#))

[1951Gh23](#) A. Ghiorso, S. G. Thompson, K. Street Jr., and G. T. Seaborg, Phys. Rev. **81**, 154 (1951).

[2013Fr02](#) C. Fry and M. Thoennessen, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables **99**, 96 (2013).

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