

# Periodic table of the elements

1 IUPAC names 18

**Since 2016**

1 H											13 B	14 C	15 N	16 O	17 F	2 He	
3 Li	4 Be											5 Al	6 Si	7 P	8 S	9 Cl	10 Ne
11 Na	12 Mg	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe
55 Cs	56 Ba	57-71 La	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn
87 Fr	88 Ra	89-103 Ac	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Nh	114 Fl	115 Mc	116 Lv	117 Ts	118 Og

Lanthanides

57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
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Actinides

89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr
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# Heavy elements - Np synthesis

- Neptunium was the first synthetic transuranium element of the actinide series discovered
  - isotope  $^{239}\text{Np}$  was produced by McMillan and Abelson in 1940 at Berkeley, California
  - bombarding uranium with cyclotron-produced neutrons
    - $^{238}\text{U}(n,\gamma)^{239}\text{U}$ , beta decay of  $^{239}\text{U}$  to  $^{239}\text{Np}$  ( $t_{1/2}=2.36$  days)
  - Chemical properties unclear at time of discovery
    - Actinide elements not in current location
    - In group with W
- Chemical studies showed similar properties to U
- First evidence of 5f shell
- Macroscopic amounts
  - $^{237}\text{Np}$ 
    - $^{238}\text{U}(n,2n)^{237}\text{U}$ 
      - \* Beta decay of  $^{237}\text{U}$
    - 10 microgram



# Heavy elements - Pu synthesis

- **Plutonium was the second transuranium element of the actinide series to be discovered**
  - **The isotope  $^{238}\text{Pu}$  was produced in 1940 by Seaborg, McMillan, Kennedy, and Wahl**
  - **deuteron bombardment of U in the 60-inch cyclotron at Berkeley, California**
    - $^{238}\text{U}(^2\text{H}, 2\text{n})^{238}\text{Np}$ 
      - \* **Beta decay of  $^{238}\text{Np}$  to  $^{238}\text{Pu}$**
  - **Oxidation of produced Pu showed chemically different**
- **$^{239}\text{Pu}$  produced in 1941**
  - **Uranyl nitrate in paraffin block behind Be target bombarded with deuterium**
  - **Separation with fluorides and extraction with diethylether**
  - **Eventually showed isotope undergoes slow neutron fission**



# Heavy elements - Am and Cm discovery

- Problems with identification due to chemical differences with lower actinides
  - Trivalent oxidation state
- $^{239}\text{Pu}(^4\text{He},n)^{242}\text{Cm}$ 
  - Chemical separation from Pu
  - Identification of  $^{238}\text{Pu}$  daughter from alpha decay
- Am from  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  in reactor
  - Also formed  $^{242}\text{Cm}$
- Difficulties in separating Am from Cm and from lanthanide fission products



# Heavy elements - Bk and Cf discovery

- Required Am and Cm as targets
  - Needed to produce these isotopes in sufficient quantities
    - Milligrams
  - Am from neutron reaction with Pu
  - Cm from neutron reaction with Am
- $^{241}\text{Am}(^4\text{He},2\text{n})^{243}\text{Bk}$ 
  - Cation exchange separation
- $^{242}\text{Cm}(^4\text{He},\text{n})^{245}\text{Cf}$ 
  - Anion exchange

# Heavy elements - Einsteinium and Fermium

- Debris from Mike test
  - **1<sup>st</sup> thermonuclear test**
- New isotopes of Pu
  - **244 and 246**
    - Successive neutron capture of  $^{238}\text{U}$
  - **Correlation of log yield versus atomic mass**
- Evidence for production of transcalifornium isotopes
  - **Heavy U isotopes followed by beta decay**
- Ion exchange used to demonstrate new isotopes

# Heavy elements - Md and No discovery

- **1<sup>st</sup> atom-at-a-time chemistry**
  - **$^{253}\text{Es}(^4\text{H},\text{n})^{256}\text{Md}$**
- **Required high degree of chemical separation**
- **Use catcher foil**
  - **Recoil of product onto foil**
  - **Dissolved Au foil, then ion exchange**
- **No controversy**
  - **Expected to have trivalent chemistry**
  - **1<sup>st</sup> attempt could not be reproduced**
    - **Showed divalent oxidation state**
  - **$^{246}\text{Cm}(^{12}\text{C},4\text{n})^{254}\text{No}$** 
    - **Alpha decay from  $^{254}\text{No}$**
    - **Identification of  $^{250}\text{Fm}$  daughter using ion exchange**

# Heavy elements - Lr discovery

- $^{249}, ^{250}, ^{251}\text{Cf}$  bombarded with  $^{10,11}\text{B}$
- New isotope with 8.6 MeV, 6 second half life
  - Identified at  $^{258}\text{Lr}$



# Superheavy Elements - Why Study?

- **Test validity of the Extrapolations of the Periodic Table**
- **Determine the Influence of Relativistic Effects on Chemical Properties**
- **Help to Predict the Chemical Properties of the Heavier Elements**
- **Determine Nuclear Properties of the Heaviest Elements**

# Superheavy Elements - Stability?

