Rubidium as THE Radioactive Minimal Standard

sgm, 2018/AUG/14

with Monitor 4 Geiger counter, 92/82=1.1219512195 CMP
just measured now 2018/AUG/0.33

A few days ago, God inspired this brief article, but she wants me to take credit because of her core attribute, humility. I had two genuine candidates on my somewhat lengthy list: $^{87}$Rb and $^{115}$In. The latter is 96% unstable with half-life approximately $10^{14}$. I purchased some, very inexpensive, and attempted to accurately measure its activity. “Impossible.” The reason is the fact its activity level is below that of cosmic rays, 82 CPM. You’d have to be in a lead-walled room with walls several meters thick of lead – to minimize cosmic rays – to the point they’d become negligible. I should have said several hundred meters thick. 0.0 Which is why I used the word “impossible” above.

Now, $^{87}$Rb is down to 28% unstable BUT half-life is ONLY $10^{10}$. 0.0 which means it’s actually measurable! The activity level is 92 CPM stated at the beginning of the article; the title is longer in characters than lines-of-text within. Now I know FOR SURE she doesn’t waste ANYthing.

“one two, tickle my shoe..
three four, close the door..
what are we waiting for?!”