

⁴¹K

The discovery of stable ⁴¹K was reported by Aston in his 1921 paper “The constitution of the alkali metals” ([1921As03](#)). The positive anode ray method was used to identify ⁴¹K with the Cavendish mass spectrograph. “Potassium (atomic weight 39.10) gives a strong line at 39 and a very weak companion at 41. These are integers within about a quarter of a unit compared with sodium 23. The relative intensities of the lines are not inconsistent with the accepted atomic weight. Potassium therefore probably consists of two isotopes 39 and 41.”

Adapted from reference ([2012Th10](#))

[1921As03](#) F. W. Aston, *Nature* **107**, 72 (1921).

[2012Th10](#) M. Thoennessen, *At. Data Nucl. Data Tables* **98**, 933 (2012).

Please cite this abstract as: “FRIB Nuclear Data Group, *Discovery of Nuclides Project*, Isotope Database, doi:[10.11578/frib/2279152](https://doi.org/10.11578/frib/2279152)”