

⁵¹K

Langevin et al. is credited with the discovery of ⁵¹K in “⁵³K, ⁵⁴K And ⁵³Ca: Three new neutron rich isotopes” (1983La23). Iridium was fragmented by 10 GeV protons from the CERN synchrotron to produce neutron rich potassium isotopes, which then decayed into calcium isotopes. Neutrons were measured in coincidence with β -rays after the potassium was mass separated. “This work gives evidence for three new K and Ca isotopes and provides further information on half-lives and P_n values.” A half-life of 365(5) ms for ⁵¹K was reported. The observation of ⁵¹K was not considered a discovery of new isotopes quoting “Huck et al., to be published”. However, this article was only published two years later (1985Hu03). The β -delayed neutron emission probability for ⁵¹K was reported a year earlier by Carraz et al. (1982Ca04).

Adapted from reference (2012Th10)

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1983La23 M. Langevin, C. Detraz, D. Guillemaud-Mueller, A. C. Mueller *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B **130**, 251 (1983).
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