

¹²¹Te

¹²¹Te was observed by Seaborg et al. from the University of California at Berkeley as reported in “Radioactive tellurium: Further production and separation of isomers” in 1939 ([1939Se05](#)). Antimony was bombarded with 8 MeV deuterons and 4 MeV protons. Electrons were measured following chemical separation. “The activation of antimony with eight-Mev deuterons or with four-Mev protons gives in both cases a new chemically identified tellurium with the half-life about 120 days. The only reasonable reactions which would lead to unstable tellurium isotopes are $\text{Sb}^{121}(\text{d},2\text{n})\text{Te}^{121}$ and $\text{Sb}^{121}(\text{p},\text{n})\text{Te}^{121}$.” The observed half-life corresponds to an isomeric state and no internal transitions were measured. The ground state was first identified seven years later by Edwards and Pool ([1946Ed03](#)) with a half-life of 17(1) d. 31-d half-life reported in a conference abstract ([1938Ta01](#)) was incorrect.

Adapted from reference ([2013Ka01](#))

- [1938Ta01](#) G. F. Tape and J. M. Cork, Phys. Rev. **53**, 676 (1938).
[1939Se05](#) G. T. Seaborg, J. J. Livingood, and J. W. Kennedy, Phys. Rev. **55**, 794 (1939).
[1946Ed03](#) J. E. Edwards and M. L. Pool, Phys. Rev. **69**, 140 (1946).
[2013Ka01](#) J. Kathawa, C. Fry, and M. Thoennessen, At. Data Nucl. Data Tables **99**, 22 (2013).

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