

PERIODIC TABLE

Atomic Properties of the Elements

NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

Physical Measurement Laboratory www.nist.gov/pml
Standard Reference Data www.nist.gov/srd

FREQUENTLY USED FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICAL CONSTANTS[§]

1 second = 9 192 631 770 periods of radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of ¹³³Cs

speed of light in vacuum	<i>c</i>	299 792 458	m s ⁻¹	(exact)
Planck constant	<i>h</i>	6.626 070 × 10 ⁻³⁴	J s	(<i>h</i> = <i>h</i> /2π)
elementary charge	<i>e</i>	1.602 177 × 10 ⁻¹⁹	C	
electron mass	<i>m_e</i>	9.109 384 × 10 ⁻³¹	kg	
	<i>m_ec²</i>	0.510 999	MeV	
proton mass	<i>m_p</i>	1.672 622 × 10 ⁻²⁷	kg	
fine-structure constant	<i>α</i>	1/137.035 999		
Rydberg constant	<i>R_∞</i>	10 973 731.569	m ⁻¹	
	<i>R_∞c</i>	3.289 841 960 × 10 ¹⁵	Hz	
	<i>R_∞hc</i>	13.605 693	eV	
electron volt	eV	1.602 176 6 × 10 ⁻¹⁹	J	
Boltzmann constant	<i>k</i>	1.380 65 × 10 ⁻²³	J K ⁻¹	
molar gas constant	<i>R</i>	8.314 5	J mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹	

[§] For the most accurate values of these and other constants, visit pml.nist.gov/constants

■ Solids
■ Liquids
■ Gases
■ Artificially Prepared

Period	1	1A	2	IIA	3	IIIB	4	IVB	5	VB	6	VIB	7	VIIB	8	VIII	9	10	11	IB	12	IIB	13	IIIA	14	IVA	15	VA	16	VIA	17	VIIA	18	IIIA						
	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36			
	3	11	12	19	20	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86
	4	3	4	19	20	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86
	5	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88		
	6	55	56	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118					
	7	87	88	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118																						

Lanthanides	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71
	La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
Actinides	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
	Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr

Atomic Number: 58
Ground-state Level: 1G₄
Symbol: Ce
Name: Cerium
Standard Atomic Weight^(Da): 140.116
Ground-state Configuration: [Xe]4f5d6s²
Ionization Energy (eV): 5.5386

[†]Based upon ¹²C. () indicates the mass number of the longest-lived isotope.

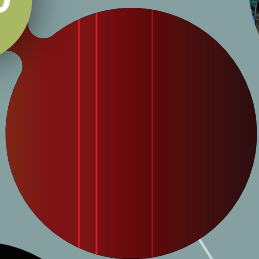
[§]For the most accurate value, visit ciaaw.org.

NISTory of the Periodic Table

Krypton:

Wavelengths of light from this atom, measured by NIST researchers, defined the official meter until 1983.

Image Credit: Neil Tucker/Wikimedia

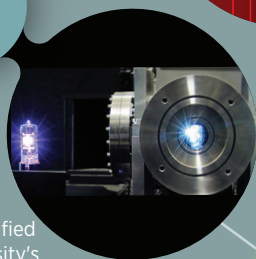


1960

Deuterium:

This rare heavy isotope of hydrogen was concentrated at NIST and then identified by Columbia University's Harold Urey (Nobel Prize 1934). On the left is a deuterium lamp; the light on the right comes from the NIST SURF III Synchrotron Ultraviolet Radiation Facility.

Image Credit: Uwe Arp/NIST



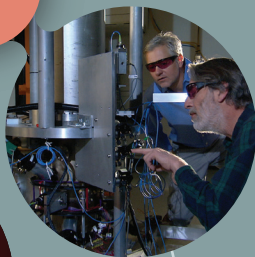
1931

Cesium:

The frequency of microwave radiation from this atom is used to define the second, measured in atomic clocks such as the NIST-F2 (2014).

Image Credit: NIST

1967



Sodium:

NIST scientists used lasers to cool a gas of these atoms to lower-than-predicted temperatures near absolute zero. (Nobel Prize 1997)

Image Credit: H.Mark Helfer/NIST

1988

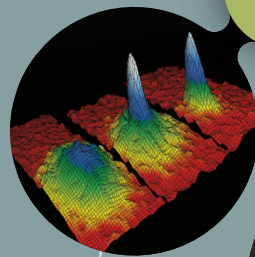


Rubidium:

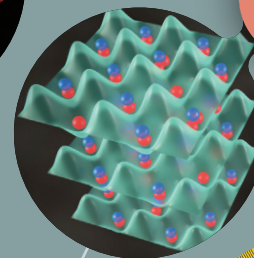
The atoms that created the first Bose-Einstein condensate, made by researchers at JILA (NIST-University of Colorado). (Nobel Prize 2001)

Image Credit: NIST/JILA/CU-Boulder

1995



2008

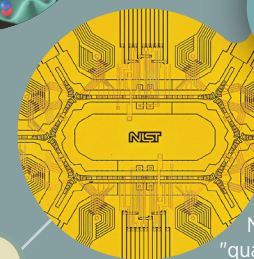


Potassium and Rubidium:

JILA researchers married these elements into an ultracold gas of molecules and demonstrated striking predictions of quantum physics by hitting the atoms with "rulers of light" known as frequency combs (Nobel Prize 2005) and trapping them in webs of light known as optical lattices.

Image Credit: Steven Burrows and Ye/Jin groups/JILA

2010 /2011



Beryllium and Aluminum:

Individual ions of these atoms were probed in a NIST trap to create "quantum logic" clocks that measured the second more precisely than before and tested Einstein's general theory of relativity. Such quantum manipulations were recognized in the 2012 Nobel Prize.

Image Credit: J. Amini/NIST