C. R. Chimie 18 (2015) 469–473

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Block calendar

May

MAY	SCIENTIST
1	**Williamson, Alexander William** (1 May 1824–6 May 1904), British scientist. He was the first to clearly demonstrate that catalytic action is achieved by the formation of an intermediate compound. He was also the first to produce ether, where the oxygen atom is attached to two hydrocarbon groups. **Balmer, Johann Jakob** (1 May 1825–12 March 1898), Swiss scientist. He empirically discovered the four wavelengths observed in the visible spectrum of hydrogen, the Balmer series, which can be expressed by the Balmer formula.
2	**Gorie, Dominic Lee Pudwill** (2 May 1957), American astronaut. He made several flights of scientific interest between 1998 and 2008.
3	**Hackspill, Louis** (3 May 1880–8 October 1963), French scientist. He had an indispensable involvement in the research into alkali and alkaline-earth metals. **Volmer, Max** (3 May 1885–3 June 1965), German scientist. He developed the Stern–Volmer equation for the intensity of fluorescent light, which governs the kinetics of a photochemical intermolecular deactivation mechanism. He developed the mercury vapor jet pump. **Thomson, George Paget** (3 May 1892–10 September 1975), British scientist. He discovered electron diffraction by crystals. For this discovery, he and C. Joseph received the Nobel Prize in physics in 1937. **Mark, Herman Francis** (3 May 1895–6 April 1992), American-Austrian scientist. He determined the structures of cellulose, silk and rubber. In collaboration with other researchers, he developed micellar theory. **Kastler, Alfred** (3 May 1902–7 January 1984), French scientist. The invention of the technique of optical pumping opened the door to the creation of gas and solid-state lasers, which are essential in today's world in areas ranging from microsurgery to telecommunications. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics in 1966. **Nicolescu, Ioan V.** (3 May 1911), Romanian scientist. He is known for his outstanding research activities in the field of hydrocarbons and heterogeneous catalysis. He developed an original method for the synthesis of aromatic hydrocarbons. **Weinberg, Steven** (3 May 1933), American scientist. He, A. Salam and S. Glashow are co-winners of the 1979 Nobel Prize in physics for the theory of the weak and electromagnetic interaction between elementary particles.
4	**Thénard, Louis Jacques** (4 May 1777–21 June 1857), French scientist. He was responsible for the discovery of cobalt blue, which is used to color porcelain. He also discovered boron, hydrogen peroxide, and silicon insulation. He developed a classification for metals. **Somorjai, Gabor A.** (4 May 1935), American scientist of Hungarian origin. He studied elementary reaction steps, adsorption, surface diffusion, desorption, the electrical properties of surfaces, the uniqueness of the chemical bonds to surfaces, and the mechanical properties of the surfaces.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.crci.2015.01.008
1631-0748/

5 **Draper, John William** (5 May 1811–4 January 1882), Anglo-American scientist. He recognized that light caused chemical reactions via the absorption of light energy by molecules, beginning photochemistry. He took the first full-detail picture of the moon in 1840, which is the oldest existing photograph today.

Schawlow,**Arthur Leonard** (5 May 1921–28 April 1999), American scientist. He and N. Bloembergen are co-winners of the 1981 Nobel Prize in physics for their important contribution to the development of laser spectroscopy.

6 **Grignard, François Auguste Victor** (6 May 1871–13 December 1935), French scientist. He is credited for his contribution of organomagnesium compounds in organic synthesis. He received the 1912 Nobel Prize in chemistry for his discovery of the Grignard reagent, which resulted in significant progress in the field of organic chemistry.

Lauterbur, Paul Christian (6 May 1929–27 March 2007), American scientist. He is known for the idea of creating gradients in magnetic fields to help determine the origin of the radio waves emitted by the nuclei molecules. This spatial information is used to construct two-dimensional images. He received the 2003 Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine with P. Mansfield for the development of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

6 May 1889 – The Eiffel Tower was inaugurated. It is a stunning monument and the most admired part of the Universal Exhibition in Paris.

7 **Altman, Sidney** (7 May 1939), American scientist of Canadian origin. For the discovery of the catalytic properties of RNA, he received the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1989 with T.R. Cech.

8 **Brauner, Bohuslav (**8 May 1855–15 February 1935), Czech scientist. He is known for his research in the field of the chemistry of lanthanides.

9 **Eigen, Manfred** (9 May 1927), German scientist. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics in 1967 with RGW Norrish and G. Porter for their studies of extremely fast chemical reactions.

Haiduc, Ionel (9 May 1937), Romanian Scientist. He is known for his research in coordination chemistry, the organometallic field of supramolecular chemistry, inorganic chemistry cycles, and the biological activity of metal compounds. He is noted for his pioneering studies in the field of organometallic chemistry.

Levitt, Michael (9 May 1947), American-Israeli-British scientist. He is a co-recipient of the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 2013 with Arieh Warshel Martin Karplus for the development of multiscale models for complex chemical systems. He was one of the first researchers to develop molecular dynamics simulations of DNA and proteins and developed the first software for this purpose.

10 **Fresnel, Augustin Jean** (10 May 1788–14 July 1827), French scientist. He is known as the discoverer of modern optics and for introducing the wave theory of light. He invented the lens and was the first to obtain circularly polarized light.

Schoenheimer, Rudolph (10 May 1898–11 September 1941), American-German scientist. He developed the biomolecule labeling isotope technique for the study of metabolism.

Smith, George Elwood (10 May 1930), American scientist. He is co-inventor of the semiconductor circuit imaging CCD, Charge-Coupled Device or CCD device. With W. Boyle, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics in 2009 for this invention.

11 **Sylvius, Franciscus** (11 May 1614–19 November 1672), Dutch scientist. He is considered a pioneer of modern clinical chemistry. Sylvius was the first to establish a direct link between lung nodules in TB and the disease. He discovered the tube between the third and fourth lobe of the brain, which is called the "aquaduct van Sylvius" in his honor.

von Karman, Theodore (11 May 1881–6 May 1963), American-Hungarian scientist. He analyzed the motion and turbulence of fluids and established the Aeronautics theory. He laid the foundation for the designs that led to supersonic flight.

Feynman, Richard Phillips (11 May 1918–15 February 1988), the American scientist to whom we owe the revision of quantum mechanics. For his work in relativistic quantum electrodynamics, quarks and superfluid helium, as well as his discoveries in particle physics, he is a co-winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1965 with S.-I. Tomonaga and J. Schwinger. He was also interested in the popularization of science, the translation of Maya "hieroglyphs" and was an outstanding musician.

Hewish, Antony (11 May 1924), British astronomer. He is co-winner with Mr. Ryle of the 1974 Nobel Prize in physics for research into astrophysics radio pulsars (aperture synthesis in the case of Mr. Ryle).