

James Clerk Maxwell
AD 1831 – AD 1879



Scottish theoretical physicist who simplified the rules of electrical and magnetic phenomena into four simple laws, then identified electromagnetic waves as light.

Edward Morley
AD 1838 – AD 1923



Assisted Michelson in the Michelson-Morely experiment.

William Roentgen
AD 1845 – AD 1923

Discovered x-rays

Albert Abraham Michelson
AD 1852 – AD 1931



American physicist who performed the most famous “failed” experiment of all time: an attempt to use interferometry to show the change of the speed of light in the aether. He merely succeeded in showing the ether did not exist, and that the speed of light was constant regardless of the relative speed of th...

Joseph John Thomson
AD 1856 – AD 1940



British physicist who identified the electron and using his mass spectrometer, established the existence of isotopes.

Max Planck
AD 1858 – AD 1947



German physicist who founded quantum mechanics by realizing that blackbody radiation could be explained if energy was absorbed in discrete rather than continuous units.

Pierre Curie
AD 1859 – AD 1906

French scientist who perfect torsion balance for measuring magnetic effects; established the relationship between temperature and piezoelectricity. With wife Marie, discovered radioactivity.

Marie Curie
AD 1867 – AD 1934



Polish phycisist who discovered radioactivity; first woman professor at the University of Paris.