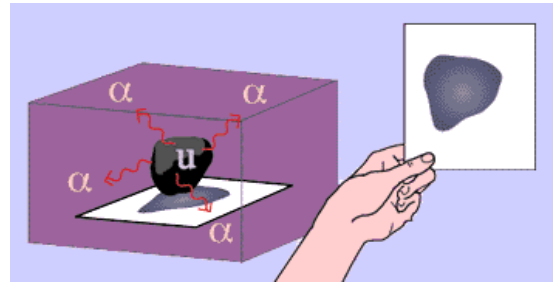


Henri Becquerel born in 1852 was born into a family of scientists. This French physicist discovered radioactivity, which he won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903.

Becquerel had long been interested in the phosphorescence, the emission of light of one color following a body's exposure to light of another color. In early 1896, in the wave of excitement following Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen's discovery of X-rays the previous fall, Becquerel thought that phosphorescent materials, such as some uranium salts, might emit penetrating X-ray-like radiation when illuminated by bright sunlight. His first experiments appeared to show this.

Becquerel decided to investigate whether there was any connection between X-rays and naturally occurring phosphorescence. He had inherited from his father a supply of uranium salts, which he exposed to sunlight and placed on photographic plates wrapped in black paper. When developed, the plates revealed an image of the uranium crystals and the plate was discovered to be fogged.



Video: http://youtu.be/mWFP6TWk_Q8

Antoine Henri Becquerel died at Le Croisic on August 25, 1908.

There is a crater called Becquerel on the Moon and also a crater called Becquerel on Mars. The SI unit for radioactivity, the becquerel (Bq), is named after him

http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/physics/laureates/1903/becquerel-bio.html

<http://www.physics.isu.edu/radinf/cuire.htm>

<http://www.biography.com/people/henri-becquerel-40055>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henri_Becquerel