Georg Wittig was a German organic chemist who discovered, in 1953, how a family of organic compounds, which are called ylides, could form the basis of the Wittig reaction, which easily causes two carbon atoms from different molecules to form a double bond. The Wittig reaction is a chemical reaction between an aldehyde or a ketone with a triphenylphosphonium ylide, referred to as the “Wittig reagent”, which produces an alkene and triphenylphosphine oxide side product. The key step of the mechanism of the ylide reaction is the nucleophilic addition of the ylide to the electrophilic carbonyl group, which forms a 4-membered ring that dissociates into the product molecules. The Wittig reaction is one of the most common techniques to prepare stereoselectively alkenes. The process has been used to synthesize important classes of substances such as biological pesticides, vitamin A, and related compounds for many foods and animal feeds, vitamin D derivatives, and steroids. Because of the Wittig reaction, such compounds can easily be synthesized on an industrial scale (BASF). Wittig is a primary contributor to the progress of organic syntheses in the 20th century because of the use of derivatives of nearly all elements in the periodic table, such as reactions with triphenylborane, phenyllithium, and triphenylphosphine. He also discovered the directed aldol condensation.

Wittig was a member of the French Academy of Sciences. On the occasion of the 350th anniversary of this institution, which has recorded many great achievements in the field of science, particularly chemistry, Wittig was honored. The scientific work of Wittig is nearly overwhelming. He was a universal scientist who had looked into the future of chemistry with the belief that new frontiers would introduce new opportunities for chemistry in science and industry.

1. Spectacular breakthrough and career

Wittig was born on 16 June 1897 in Berlin to an artistic family; his mother was a musician, and his father was a painter. He was born in the same year as the physicist Cockcroft (who received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1951) and in the very year Thomson discovered the electron and its properties. Because his father worked in Kassel as a professor of applied arts at the high school, the entire family moved to this city. He attended high school (Wilhelmsgymnasium) in Kassel. Although it was a highly artistic and cultural atmosphere and his mother encouraged Wittig to play the piano, he decided to study chemistry. In 1916, he was enrolled to such studies at the University of Tübingen. His career was interrupted by World War I. Between 1916 and 1919, he was drafted and became a lieutenant in the cavalry of Hesse-Kassel and was subsequently made a prisoner of war by the British (1918–1919). One problem followed another, because after the war and his return to Germany in 1919, Wittig found admission by a German university difficult. Following several rejections, he finally was accepted by Karl von Auwers, a professor of organic chemistry who, at the time, was the director of the Chemical Institute in Marburg. Ecce homo! Ecce homo Karl von Auwers! Wittig continued his studies in chemistry at the University of Marburg between 1919 and 1923 with him and was awarded a Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 1923. Encouraged by Auwers, he decided to continue an academic career. He became an assistant professor (Privatdozent) in 1923 at the University of Marburg. Between 1923 and 1926, he worked for his Habilitation at the University of Marburg. Between 1923 and 1926, he worked for his Habilitation at the University of Marburg. He remained an assistant professor there until 1932. There, he and Karl Ziegler (a 1963 Nobel laureate in chemistry) became lifelong friends. Both were rock climbers in the Alps. He was also a friend of Walter Hückel, a professor of chemistry in Breslau and later Tübingen. In Marburg, Wittig married Waltraud Ernst, who also worked in von Auwers’ group. They had three daughters. Waltraud Wittig, who also had a doctoral degree, took great interest in the scientific work of her husband, Georg Wittig. Wittig received his first permanent position as “Außerplanmäßiger Professor” in 1932 at the Technische Hochschule in Braunschweig. However, this period of time there proved to be a difficult period in
Wittig's academic career. In Braunschweig, there was a strong Nazi presence among the professors at that time. Karl Fries, who was well known for the discovery of Fries rearrangement and the director of the institute, opposed the Nazi regime and was forced to retire. Wittig supported Fries and feared that he would also lose his academic position, but he remained in Braunschweig until 1937. In 1937, he followed the invitation of Hermann Staudinger (who received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1953), who was the director of the Chemical Institute at the University of Freiburg im Breisgau, to become an associate professor. Staudinger also refused the Nazi regime and had to suffer under political pressure, but he could hold his position in this difficult period because of his high scientific reputation. Notably, Wittig supported Staudinger's concept of high polymers in his *Stereochemie*. Wittig remained as an associate professor in Freiburg between 1937 and 1944. In 1943, Wilhelm Schlenk died, and the faculty of the University of Tübingen nominated Wittig as his successor there. He was appointed a full professor and director of the university's Chemical Institute. Finally, at the age of forty-seven, in 1944, he moved to the University of Tübingen as a professor and remained there until 1956. In 1956, Wittig moved once more to become a professor and the successor of Karl Freudenberg at the University of Heidelberg and the director of the Institute of Organic Chemistry at this university. Herein, he established a group with more than forty members and remained there until his formal retirement in 1967.

2. *Cogito ergo sum*

The most important discoveries of Wittig occurred between 1937 and 1956. Wittig is well known in the history of science for the Wittig reaction and the Wittig rearrangement. The mechanism of the Wittig reaction has long been a contentious issue in organic chemistry. The scientific research of Wittig was marked by the chemistry of his academic teacher, von Auwers. Wittig aimed to enter new fields in chemistry, and his objective was to find highly strained three- and four-membered ring systems with a tendency to form diradicals. At that time, the available physicochemical methods did not help to detect radicals, and this subject of research was notably difficult. Notably, Wittig's interest in radicals significantly affected his further scientific work because it led him to organometallic chemistry. In chemical synthesis, as starting materials, he used sterically hindered compounds with phenyl groups, which were synthesized by the classical reaction of Grignard compounds to ketones. The wise Wittig decided to use phenyllithium, which was proven to be superior to phenylmagnesium bromide. This decision was life changing! In this way, Wittig created a new field of "carbanion chemistry", which was later named "organometallic chemistry" or "carbanionoid chemistry". He observed the exchange of hydrogen for lithium and the exchange of bromine against lithium; the metalation and halogen—metal exchange reactions were published in 1942. He remarked that the treatment of fluorobenzene with phenyllithium gave interesting products, which led Wittig to propose dehydrobenzene $C_6H_4$ as a reactive intermediate in 1942. The Wittig rearrangement has an interesting mechanism and a broad scope of application, which is discussed in modern textbooks of organic chemistry. The success with phenyllithium led Wittig to start another research project in Freiburg. He sought to overthrow the octet rule for nitrogen compounds, and he attempted to prepare the pentacovalent compounds, tetrakisphenylphosphine, and pentamethyl nitrogen. As a result of his efforts, he discovered a new class of ammonium ylides, and other researcher showed that the derivatives containing a lithium salt should be considered lithiated ammonium salts instead of ylides. Ammonium ylides undergo various rearrangements and elimination reactions. In the course of this work, Wittig always used benzophenone to determine the position of lithiumation. This principle of obtaining crystalline derivatives to characterize sounds trivial, but this procedure using benzophenone led him to the discovery of the Wittig reaction in 1953. Wittig continued the work on hypervalent compounds of the elements in the 5—7 groups of the periodic table and synthesized pentaphenylphosphine and higher homologues tetraphenyltellurium and triphenyliodine. Triphenylphosphine oxide and 1,1-diphenylethylene were formed in high yield via the intermediate. A pioneering paper of Wittig with Schöllkopf was published, called "Über Triphenyl-phosphinmethylene als olefinbildende Reagenzien (I. Mitteil)" (1954; Triphenyl- phosphine methylene derivatives as reagents for the formation of olefins) in *Chemische Berichte*. Wittig's work was guided by the general idea of establishing the field of carbanion chemistry as equal in importance to the fields of free radical and carbonium ion chemistry. His studies led him to various new structures. Best known is his work on phosphorus ylides, which condense with carbonyl compounds to form alkenes.

After his formal retirement, Wittig worked on aromatic compounds and diradicals, in which he had been interested more than fifty years earlier as a young lecturer. These late studies of Wittig as a professor emeritus opened an elegant path for other authors, after his death, to dendrimers. A dendrimer is a member of a modern class of macrocycles.

During his long career, Wittig also had great success as a mentor, and he encouraged many young scientists to start an academic career. More than three hundred graduate students and postdoctoral colleagues were associated with work with Wittig. He recognized a universal scientific demand for a renewed alliance between science and students/colleges and the sharing and transfer of its knowledge to colleagues.

Between 1953 and 1979, Wittig received many awards, honorary doctorates, and other forms of recognition. The Adolf von Baeyer Memorial Medal was awarded to him by the German Chemical Society in 1953. He was the first German after World War II to receive an honorary doctorate from the Sorbonne, in Paris, in 1957. He received Honorary Doctorates from the Universities of Tübingen and Hamburg in 1962, the Silver Medal from the University of Helsinki in 1957, the Dannie Heinemann Award from the Göttingen Academy of Sciences in 1965, the Otto Hahn Award for Chemistry and Physics in 1967, the Silver Medal from the City of Paris in 1969, the Paul Karrer Medal from the University of Zurich in 1972, the "Médaille de la chaire
between 1924 and 1980, which demonstrate the fruitful-

3. **Scripta manent**

Over three hundred scientific papers were published between 1924 and 1980, which demonstrate the fruitfulness of his career. His scientific work was stressed in his article for the Nobel Lecture, dated 8 December 1979.

4. **Fugit irreparabile tempus... and means the good stories have an ending**

Time flies inexorably, and Georg Wittig died on 26 August 1987, at the age of 90. He is remembered herein for his pioneering organic chemistry work and numerous honors over his decade-long research career. His success shows the indivisible relationship between chemistry and life.

**References**


Ioana Fechete
Institut de chimie et procédés pour l’énergie, l’environnement et la santé (ICPEES), UMR 7515 CNRS, Université de Strasbourg, 25, rue Becquerel, 67087 Strasbourg cedex 2, France
E-mail addresses: ifechete@unistra.fr, i_fechete@yahoo.com
(I. Fechete)

Available online 28 April 2016

**June**
5
Tournefort, Joseph Pitton de (5 June 1656–28 December 1708), French botanist.
Razoux, Jean (5 June 1723–29 November 1798), French medical doctor.
Palassou, Pierre Bernard (5 June 1745–9 April 1830), French naturalist.
Bohnenberger, Johann Gottlieb Friedrich von (5 June 1765–19 April 1813), German physicist.
Adams, John Couch (5 June 1819–1 January 1892), British mathematician.
Pelseneer, Paul (26 June 1863–5 May 1945), Belgian zoologist.
Peierls, Rudolph Ernst (5 June 1907–19 September 1995), German physicist.

6
Marchini, Giulio Vincenzo di Fabio (6 June 1666 – 7 1751), Italian intellectual.
Molard, Claude Pierre (6 June 1759 – 13 February 1837), French engineer.
Yung, Emile Jean Jacques (6 June 1854 – 2 February 1918), Swiss zoologist.
Willems, Rene Alexandre Jean Hubert Gerard (6 June 1896 – 19 September 1967), Belgian intellectual.
Bleaney, Brebis (6 June 1915 – 4 November 2006), British physicist.

7
Rouille, Antoine-Louis de Jouy de (7 June 1689 – 20 September 1761), French statesman.
Jacquier, P. Francois de Paule (7 June 1711 – 3 July 1788), French intellectual.
Conybeare, William Daniel (7 June 1787 – 12 August 1857), English geologist.
Bang, Bernhard Laurits Frederik (7 June 1848 – 22 June 1932), Danish veterinarian.
Townsend, John Sealy (7 June 1868 – 16 February 1957), Irish mathematical physicist.
Wang, Yu (7 June 1910 – 6 May 1997), Chinese chemist.
Vincent, Jean-Didier (7 June 1935), French neurobiologist.

8
Cassini, Jean Dominique, Cassini 1er (8 June 1625 – 14 September 1712), French engineer and astronomer.
Magnol, Pierre (8 June 1638 – 21 May 1715), French botanist.
Van Swinden, Jan Hendrik (8 June 1746 – 9 March 1823), Dutch physicist and mathematician.
Fliche, Henri Marie Therese Andre (8 June 1836 – 29 November 1908), French botanist.
Considere, Armand Gabriel (8 June 1841 – 3 August 1914), French engineer.
Arsenal, Jacques Arsene d’ (8 June 1851 – 31 December 1940), French medical doctor and physicist.
Mollard, Marin (8 June 1866 – 24 July 1944), French botanist.
Crick, Francis (8 June 1916 – 28 July 2004), British molecular biologist and Nobel Prize laureate (1962).
Marchoux, Gouy Ivanovitch (8 June 1925 – 24 March 2013), Russian mathematician.

9
Jurain, Henry Francois (9 June 1709–25 March 1773), French intellectual.
Brodie, Benjamin Collins (9 June 1783–21 October 1862), British surgeon.
Blume, Carl Ludwig (9 June 1796–3 February 1892), German-Dutch botanist.
Lebert, Hermann (9 June 1813–1 August 1878), German naturalist.
Littlewood, John Edensor (9 June 1885–6 September 1977), British mathematician.
Collignon, Maurice Jules Marie (9 June 1893–21 October 1978), French medical doctor.

10
May, Jean-Christophe (10 June 1701–16 April 1736), French intellectual.
Saucerotte, Nicolas (10 June 1741–15 January 1814), French medical doctor.
Duhem, Pierre Maurice Marie (10 June 1861–14 September 1916), French physicist.
Casteras, Marcel Paul Aimé (10 June 1904–18 November 1976), French intellectual.

11
Du Hamel, Jean-Baptiste (11 June 1623–6 August 1706), French scientist.
Reynau, Charles-Rene (11 June 1656–24 February 1728), French mathematician.
Schwerz, Johann Nepomuk von (11 June 1759–11 February 1844), German agronomist.
Lindena, Bernhard August von (11 June 1780–21 May 1854), German astronomer.
Laurent, Henri Desire (11 June 1862–21 January 1942), French chemist and agronomist.
Mesnager, Augustin Charles Marie (11 June 1862–6 February 1933), French physicist.
Fabry, Marie Paul Auguste Charles (11 June 1867–11 December 1945), French physicist.
Bouin, Andre Pol (11 June 1870–5 February 1962), French medical doctor.
Marguet, Frederic Philippe (11 June 1874–2 June 1951), French naval officer.
Horeau, Alain (11 June 1909–14 February 1992), French chemist.

12
Hebert, Edmond (12 June 1812–4 April 1890), French geologist.
Gill, David (12 June 1843–24 January 1914), Scottish astronomer.
Guye, Philippe Auguste (12 June 1862–15 July 1942 (1922?)), Swiss chemist.
Lameere, Auguste Alfred Lucien Gaston (12 June 1864–6 May 1942), Belgian zoologist.
Arnot, Vladimir Igorevich (12 June 1937–3 June 2010), Soviet et Russian mathematician.
Brechignac, Catherine (12 June 1946), French physicist.

13
Le Sage, Georges Louis (13 June 1724–9 November 1803), Genevan scientist.
Young, Thomas (13 June 1773–10 May 1829), English physicist.
Palasciano, Ferdinando Antonio Leopoldo (13 June 1815–28 November 1891), Italian medical doctor.
Bordet, Jules Jean Baptiste Vincent (13 June 1870–6 April 1961), Belgian immunologist and microbiologist.
Fluckiger, Gottlieb (13 June 1892–23 September 1987), Swiss veterinarian.

14
Galloys, Jean (14 June 1632–19 April 1707), French intellectual.
Coulomb, Charles-Augustin (14 June 1736–23 August 1806), French physicist.
Rudolphi, Carl Asmund (14 June (July?) 1771–29 November 1832), Swedish naturalist.
Boisson, Etienne Frédéric (14 June 1813–26 May 1884), French surgeon.

15 Blondel, Nicolas François (15 (10) June 1618–21 January 1686), French engineer and architect.
Gordon, Andrew George (15 June 1712–22 August 1751), British physicist.
Nicolas-Christiern de Thy (15 June 1728–19 September 1784), French nobleman.
L’Heritier de Brulelle, Charles-Louis (15 June 1746–16 August 1800), French magistrate and botanist.
Fourcroy, Antoine-François de (15 June 1755–16 December 1809), French chemist.
Kilian, Wilfrid (15 June 1862–30 September 1925), French geologist.
Aspect, Alain (15 June 1947), French physicist.

16 Ozanam, Jacques (16 June 1640–3 April 1718), French mathematician.
Turgot, Étienne-François Sousmont de (16 June 1721–26 December 1788), Master of the merchants of Paris.
Gosselin, Athanase Léon (16 June (January?) 1815–30 April 1887), French surgeon.
Hartmann, Henri Albert Charles Antoine (16 June 1860–1 January 1952), French surgeon.

17 Cassini de Thury, Cesar François, Cassini III (17 June 1714–4 September 1784), French astronomer.
Baron, Hyacinthe – Theodore (17 June 1715–10 March 1768), French chemist and medical doctor.
Nelaton, Auguste (17 June 1807–21 September 1873), French medical doctor and surgeon.
Crookes, William (17 June 1832–4 April 1919), English chemist and physicist.
Baugl, Henri (17 June 1877–8 April 1962), French geographer.
Jacob, François (17 June 1920–20 April 1933), French biologist and Nobel Prize (1965).
Cercignani, Carlo (17 June 1939–7 January 2010), Italian mathematician.

18 Hotton, Petrus (18 June 1648–10 January 1709), Dutch botanist.
Kunth, Karl Sigismund (18 June 1788–22 March 1850), German botanist.
Secchi, Angelo (18 (29?) June 1818–26 February 1878), Italian astronomer.
Laveran, Charles Louis Alphonse (18 June 1845–18 May 1922), Italian medical doctor and Nobel Prize (1907).
Le Pichon, Xavier (18 June 1937), French geophysicist.
Rossier, Jean Pierre (18 June 1944), Belgian biologist.
Le Tread, Herve (18 June 1956), French climatologist.

19 Peyssonel, Jean-Andre (19 June 1694–23 December 1759), French medical doctor and naturalist.
Meusnier de La Place, Jean-Baptiste-Marie-Charles (19 June 1754–13 June 1793), French engineer.
Gerorgone, Joseph-Diez (19 June 1771–4 April 1859), French mathematician.
Chain, Ernst Boris (19 June 1906–12 August 1979), German-British biochemist and Nobel Prize (1945).

20 Bourdelin, Claude II (20 June 1667–20 April 1711), French medical doctor.
Gardeil, Jean-Baptiste (20 June 1726–19 April 1808), French medical doctor.
Matteucci, Carlo (20 June 1811–25 June 1868), Italian physicist.

21 Lieutaud, Joseph (21 June 1703–6 December 1780), French medical doctor.
Heron de Villefosse, Antoine Marie (21 June 1774–6 June 1852), French geographer.
Poissen, Simeon Denis (21 June 1781–25 April 1840), French physicist and mathematician.
Fouque, Ferdinand Andre (21 June 1828–7 March 1904), French geologist.
Bourquelot, Elie Émile (21 June 1851–26 January 1921), French chemist.
Guinier, Marie Joseph Jean-Baptiste Philibert (21 June 1876–3 April 1962), French botanist.

22 Fleury André-Hercule de (22 June 1653–29 January 1743), French intellectual.
Valliere, Joseph-Florent de (22 June 1717–10 January 1776), French intellectual.
Cuvier, Georges Frédéric (22 June 1773–24 July 1838), French zoologist and paleontologist.
Prunelle, Clément Victor François Gabriel (22 June 1777–20 August 1853), French medical doctor.
Weddell, Hugh d’Algermon (22 June 1819–22 July 1870), English botanist.
Huxley, Julian Sorell (22 June 1887–14 February 1975), British biologist.

23 Dolomieu, Diederonde Sylvain Guy Tancrede (23 June 1750–28 November 1801), French geologist.
Chevalier, Auguste Jean-Baptiste (23 June 1873–4 June 1956), French botanist.
Heckman, Jean Marie (23 June 1901–13 May 1983), German astronomer.
Couteaux, René (23 June 1909–12 December 1999), French neurobiologist.

24 Ressons, Jean-Baptiste Deschiens de (24 June 1660–31 January 1735), French chemist and biologist.
Petit, François (24 June 1664–18 June 1741), French medical doctor.
Saint-Leu (??) (24 June 1668 – 7 January 1700), French intellectual.
Dalrymple, Alexander (24 June 1737–19 June 1808), Scottish geographer.
Dolomieu, Diederonde Sylvain Guy Tancrede de (24 June 1750–28 November 1801), French geologist.
Rosenbusch, Karl Harry Ferdinand Heinrich (24 June 1836–20 January 1914), German petrographer.
Sarraz, Jacques Rose Ferdinand Émile (24 June 1837–10 May 1904), French engineer.
Dugas, Gionatha (24 June 1840–3 May 1904), French chemist and biologist.
Havelock, Thomas Henry (24 June 1877–1 August 1968), British mathematician.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Field</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>Daubree, Gabriel Auguste</td>
<td>French botanist</td>
<td>French geologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>Kelvin, William Thompson</td>
<td>Irish physicist and engineer.</td>
<td>Irish physicist and engineer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>Fallot, Paul</td>
<td>French geologist</td>
<td>French geologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>Normant, Henri Marie</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Messier, Charles Joseph</td>
<td>French astronomer</td>
<td>French astronomer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Lemoine, Clément Georges</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Pelseneer, Paul</td>
<td>Belgian ethologist and malacologist</td>
<td>Belgian ethologist and malacologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Thiry, René-Paul-Eugène</td>
<td>French engineer</td>
<td>French engineer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Niggli, Paul</td>
<td>Swiss crystallographer.</td>
<td>Swiss crystallographer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June</td>
<td>Levallois, Jean-Jacques Adrien Leonide</td>
<td>French geographer</td>
<td>French geographer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 June</td>
<td>Le Monnier, Louis-Guillaume</td>
<td>French botanist</td>
<td>French botanist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 June</td>
<td>Bouvard, Alexis</td>
<td>French astronomer</td>
<td>French astronomer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 June</td>
<td>Blow, David</td>
<td>British biophysicist.</td>
<td>British biophysicist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 June</td>
<td>Le Monnier, Pierre</td>
<td>French mathematician.</td>
<td>French mathematician.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 June</td>
<td>Lelièvre, Claude-Hugues</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 June</td>
<td>Beauchamp, Pierre-Joseph de</td>
<td>French astronomer</td>
<td>French astronomer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 June</td>
<td>Cuvier, Georges Frédéric</td>
<td>French zoologist</td>
<td>French zoologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 June</td>
<td>Bremer, Frédéric Gaston Nicolas</td>
<td>Belgian physiologist.</td>
<td>Belgian physiologist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 June</td>
<td>Malouin, Paul-Jacques</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 June</td>
<td>Gasparin, Adrien Étienne Pierre de</td>
<td>French agronomist</td>
<td>French agronomist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 June</td>
<td>Breauté, Éléonore Suzanne Nell</td>
<td>French physicist</td>
<td>French physicist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 June</td>
<td>Hale, George Ellery</td>
<td>American astronomer</td>
<td>American astronomer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 June</td>
<td>Fabre, René Jean-Marie</td>
<td>French pharmacist and medical doctor.</td>
<td>French pharmacist and medical doctor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 June</td>
<td>Behr, Jean-Paul</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
<td>French chemist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>Cassini, Jean Dominique de</td>
<td>French astronomer</td>
<td>French astronomer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>Savart, Felix</td>
<td>French physicist and medical doctor.</td>
<td>French physicist and medical doctor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>Hooker, Joseph Dalton</td>
<td>British botanist</td>
<td>British botanist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>Mueller, Ferdinand von</td>
<td>German botanist</td>
<td>German botanist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>Soret, Jacques Louis</td>
<td>Swiss chemist</td>
<td>Swiss chemist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>Godlewski, Émile</td>
<td>Polish chemist</td>
<td>Polish chemist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>Dejeardin, Georges Louis Charles Léon</td>
<td>French physicist</td>
<td>French physicist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June</td>
<td>Ozenda, Paul</td>
<td>French botanist</td>
<td>French botanist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>