Norrish, Ronald George Wreford 1897 - 1978

DEGREE: PhD \hspace{2cm} DATE: 1924 \hspace{2cm} PLACE: Cambridge
TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Rideal

Nobel Prize in 1967 (with Porter) for the development of the flash photolysis method for studying the optical spectra of unstable, short-lived, intermediate species generated upon absorption of light; one of the founders of modern photochemistry; investigated chain reactions, esp. combustion and addition polymerization processes; demonstrated that the decomposition of nitrogen dioxide did not begin until the wavelength of the incident light reached a value at which fluorescence ceased, which was also the point at which the absorption spectrum ceased to show fine structure; studied the photodecomposition of compounds containing the carbonyl group and the photocombination of hydrogen with chlorine; investigated detonation waves in gaseous mixtures.