



Diversity & Inclusion Moment

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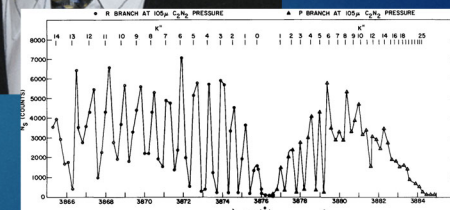
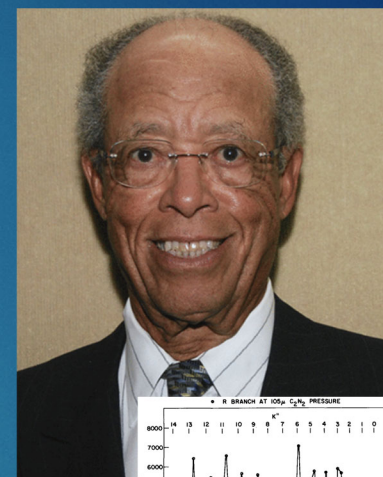




William M. Jackson, Jr.

Laser chemistry, laser photochemistry, & cometary astrochemistry

- Jackson earned his Ph.D. from the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) and was recruited to NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.
- His calculations and vacuum ultraviolet photolysis research concluded that the production mechanism for free radicals (e.g., OH, CO, NH) was solar photochemistry.
- Later, he used ground-based and satellite telescopes to directly study radicals. An asteroid was even named after him! → Billjackson = 1081 EE37
- He was the first person to demonstrate laser-induced fluorescence could be used to study molecular photodissociation.
- His group amassed an impressive array of research equipment, including some of the first excimer lasers, nitrogen-pumped dye lasers, and an Alexandrite laser.
- He was the co-founder of the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCChE).
- He's currently a Distinguished Research Emeritus Professor and at the University of California, Davis and is still very active in photochemistry research and helping underrepresented people to grow and succeed in science.



Sources: Wikipedia, J. Phys. Chem. A 2019, 123, 1905–1907