

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Ingold, Christopher Kelk

1893 - 1970

DEGREE: BSc

DATE: 1913

PLACE: Univ. London

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Thorpe, J. F.

invented the field of physical organic chemistry - the concepts, classifications, and terminology of theoretical organic chemistry which he introduced are now universally employed; with Thorpe, studied spiro compounds and other polycyclic structures in relation to their homocyclic unsaturated isomers; investigated the reversibility of the Michael reaction and its relationship to prototropy; studied the mutarotation of sugars, and the structure of benzene; with Hughes, studied electrophilic and nucleophilic addition reactions, elimination reactions, and mechanisms in prototropic and anionotropic systems; investigated free radicals, molecular rearrangements, and electrophilic aromatic substitution; carried out kinetically controlled studies of the mechanisms of eliminations (E_1 , E_2), and nucleophilic substitutions at a saturated carbon (S_N1 , S_N2 , S_Ni) and their stereochemical consequences; solved the mystery of the Walden inversion; established the rules of relative and absolute configuration; specified (with Cahn and Prelog) the Sequence Rule.

FOOTNOTE: Ingold worked with Thorpe from 1913-1918.

1. *Biog. Mem. Fell. Roy. Soc.* **1972**, 18, 349-411.
2. *Dictionary of National Biography*; Smith, Elder & Co.: 1908-1986; (1961-1970), p563-565.