# Michael Faraday

# Outline

- →Introduction
- →Early life
- →Research work
- →Later years
- →Influence
- →Conclusion

#### Introduction

- → One of the most marvelous scientists in the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- → Rose from obscure origin
- → Diligent and intelligent
- → Became not only a great chemist, but also a renowned physicist
- → Most influential breakthroughs were in electromagnetism

#### Early Life

- → Born in Newington, England in 1791
- → One of the four children in a working class family
- → Only some basic education from a church school
- → Had been apprenticed to a London bookbinder since 14
- → Took the opportunity to read some of the books

# Early Life (continued)

- → Developed an interest in science
- → Saved money to buy some apparatus for his first experiment
- $\rightarrow$  Began to attend some lectures on science
- → Decided to quit trade and pursue science at the end of his apprenticeship

#### **Big Change**

→ Wrote to Sir Humphry Davy →Chemist at the Royal Institution



- → Begged for a job and sent along with a bound volume of notes, which he had taken at Davy's lectures
- → Impressed by the boy's zeal, Davy made Faraday his laboratory assistant in 1813

### Big change (continued)

- → Since then (21 year-old), drank in knowledge from Davy
- → Finished his second apprenticeship in 1820
- → Great accomplishment for a man who was almost completely self-educated originally

#### **Early Research**

- →Mainly with chemical problems
- →In 1820, produced  $C_2Cl_4$  and  $C_2Cl_6$
- →In 1823, discovered a method of liquefying chlorine and other gases
- →In 1825, successfully isolated a new compound, benzene



→Knowledge of electricity before Faraday

- → Static electricity (1600)
- → Leyden Jar (1746)
- → Voltaic Pile DC (1800)
- → Early research on electrolysis (1806)
- → Nobody knew the incredible power that electricity could provide

#### Significant Breakthroughs in Electricity and Magnetics

- → Three important inventions
  →Motor (1821)
  - →Transformer (1831)
  - →Generator (1831)
- → How could he make it?
   →Books, Lectures & Experiments
   →Inspiration + Originality

# Invention of Motor

- → Oerstead discovered the deflection of a magnet upon an electric current flowed (1820)
- → Inspired by Wollaston's idea of producing a reciprocal effect
- → Successfully constructed a model in which a wire would rotate around a magnet (1821)



#### **Other Contributions**

- → Stated law of electrolysis, linked chemistry and electricity (1833)
- → Explained phenomenon of capacitance (1835)
- → Discovered the Magnetization of light (1845)
   →Believed that magnetism and light are two forms of electromagnetic radiation
  - →Was supported by Maxwell ten years later
  - →Indirect result: the invention of radio

#### Later life

- → Was given many honors, including:
  - →An offer to become the president of the British Royal Society
  - →An award of knighthood
  - →However, a humble scientist as he was, he turned down those offers
- → The declining mental powers in 1855
  - →Ceased researching
- →Continued as a lecturer for another six years
- → Died on August 26, 1867

# Faraday's breakthroughs propelled our society to a new level of knowledge

- → We use motor in thousands of applications: disk drive, video machine, fan, pump, washing machine, refrigerator, air conditioner...
- → We need generator to produce electricity
- → We need transformer for long-range electricity delivery and in some devices
- → Those inventions compose the frame of our electric world

# What if a Worldwide Blackout?

Passeagers. apald. be. trapped. in. the. subary. and. elevator Doctors. apald. have. trapped. in. the. surgeries Airports. apald. have. trapples. to. operate. surgeries Our. cities. a pald. fall. into. dortaess. at. night All the. communications. a pald. be. interrupted. no radio, no TV, no telephone, and no Internet Unanfactories. apald. have. to. stop. production Vodera. forms. have. to. regress. to. the. state. of. using. pbo

#### Conclusions

- →A world without electricity is almost inconceivable to the modern mind
- →The use of electricity completely permeates the modern world
- → It is largely due to Faraday's ingenious creations

# Michael Faraday Was

- → A pioneering scientist and magnificent thinker When his work led him to a field that he did not know much about, or even nobody knew much about, he made it his business to learn
- → A man of character and integrity He did not like to vaunt his fruitful breakthroughs, which greatly change our world
- $\rightarrow$  Worth to be imitated by our students