

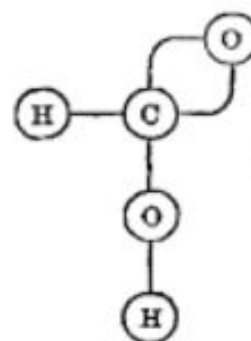
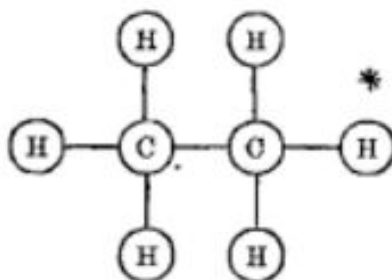
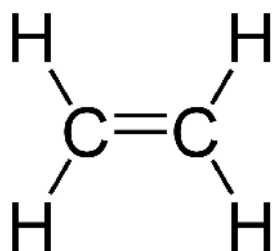
## Alexander Crum Brown

Alexander Crum Brown was born in Edinburgh on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 1838 and also died in Edinburgh on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1922.

He was a Scottish organic chemist and the single son of a church minister, Dr John Brown, and his wife Margaret nee Crum.

Alexander Crum Brown went to Royal High School in Edinburgh. After which he entered the University of Edinburgh in Arts in 1854 but then switched to Chemistry in which he became Class Medallist. He graduated with a M.A. in 1858. He then went on to do a M.D. of medicine in 1861 at the same time he also did a science degree at the University of London and was the university's first Doctorate of Science in 1862. Finally Alexander Crum Brown studied Chemistry in Germany, at Heidelberg under Bunsen at first followed by at Marburg under Kolbe.

He was most famous in the world of chemistry for his development of a means of drawing diagrams of molecules. This consisted of the atomic symbol enclosed in circles connected by lines that fulfilled the atom's valence. This is still the way, today, that we represent the way molecules are shaped. Alexander Crum Brown also discovered the carbon to carbon double bond of ethylene which had vital repercussions for the modern plastic industries.



Written by Anna Hill, S5 Dunblane High School, 31/3/12