is the common bias against acknowledging the contribution of women scientists in research, whose work is often attributed to their male colleagues.
Esther Lederberg
Jocelyn Bell Burnell
Chien-Shuing Wu
Emmy Noether
Lise Meiter
Annie Jump Cannon
Nettie Stevens
Rosalind Franklin

is dead.
Female Lederberg, his wife. Esther Lederberg.
There was also a female Lederberg! as was his wife, Esther.

Esther Lederberg discovered a virus that infects bacteria

Initial experiments involved Esther’s powder puff from her compact to pick up the bacteria, personally selected by Esther to improve the moving of colonies.

Esther had no mention,
Joshua Lederberg was a phenomenal scientist, although they worked side by side, all successful joint work was attributed to Joshua. Esther Lederberg, and with her husband, developed a way to transfer bacteria between petri dishes. And later, the couple used pieces of certain velvet. Joshua and two other men were awarded the Nobel Prize in 1958. In its presentation speech, the Nobel committee said “bacterial genetics has been developed, primarily through the efforts of [Joshua] Lederberg and his co-workers. Let alone a prize. The Lederberg’s divorced in 1966.
Burnell discovered the first radio pulsars in 1967. She detected a bit of “scruff” on her chart recorder papers that tracked across the sky and stars. Jocelyn Bell Burnell’s discovery that the signal was pulsing, and at a rapid rate.

Jocelyn Burnell received no recognition despite being the first to observe and closely analyze the pulsars. Burnell persisted in reporting the anomaly in order to eventually prove him wrong. Her work was clearly outstanding, yet no recognition was given to her.
Burnell discovered the first radio pulsars in 1967. This was the moment that led to her thesis supervisor Antony Hewish, and Martin Ryle, won the Nobel Prize in 1974 while which, ironically, Hewish was initially showing skepticism towards.

by the Nobel committee.
“the solution to the number one riddle of atomic and nuclear physics” - AAUW 1959
Tsung Dao Lee and Chen Ning came up with the Parity law. This theory suggested that objects that are mirror images of each other would act in the exact same way. Chien Shing Wu, who was their colleague, demonstrated that the law did not hold. In Wu’s experiment, she spun radioactive cobalt-60 nuclei at low temperatures. If the law held, the electrons would shoot off in paired directions. They did not.

“the solution to the number one riddle of atomic and nuclear physics”,

but Wu was completely overlooked.
Tsung Dao Lee and Chen Ning came up with the Parity law. This theory suggested that objects that are mirror images of each other would act in the exact same way. Although a 1959 AAUW press release called her experiment her male co-workers Lee and Yang received the Nobel Prize for disproving the Parity Law. Not only was the prize given to men who did not make the discovery,
Noether

known as the “creative mathematics genius.”
the most important woman in the history of mathematics.

“Noether’s theorem”, named after Emmy,

Noether changed the way we do mathematics, and yes, we can blame her for the “New Math” approach.

exceptional work, Noether worked almost her entire life without pay because she was a woman.
Known as the most important woman in the history of mathematics, Emmy Noether never lived to see the full impact of her groundbreaking work. "Noether’s theorem," named after Emmy, is foundational to quantum physics proving that the laws of physics are independent of time and space. This helped physicists understand conservation of energy and is also used as a tool to test theoretical models of physics systems today, but unfortunately none of the above attracted a Nobel Prize.

Einstein wrote to David Hilbert and said, “Noether is continually advising me in my projects and it is really through her that I have become competent in the subject.” In spite of all of this

It is no shock then that a Nobel Prize did not make its way into her hands.
Meitnerium

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Meitnerium

[268]
Meitner urged Hahn and Strassman to perform tests on neutrons - bombarded uranium.

Meitner to figure out an explanation. She did just that. She recognized that it could be worked out mathematically and with her nephew, they wrote down some formulas.

Meitner was the first to realize this. She explained that a uranium atom could split into two "smaller drops" when bombarded with neutrons and in Hahn's experiment she noticed it had split to form much lighter atoms barium and krypton, while ejecting neutrons and a large amount of energy.

without listing Meitner as an obvious co-author,
At a secret meeting in 1938,

The two finally determined that the end result included the much lighter element, barium, and not the expected heavier element, radium. They were confused as to how this was the result. They asked using Bohr’s atomic nucleus model,

Einstein’s famous equation was at play here, that converted mass into energy, and

Hahn published his chemical evidence for fission and he went on to receive the Nobel Prize in 1944 alone.
Oh Be A Fine Girl, Kiss Me.

Annie Jump Cannon
Not only is she responsible for the classification of thousands of stars (350,000+), but also she remembered every single one off the top of her head. By her teens, Annie Cannon had memorized a working map of the night sky. She became a Harvard Computer at age 33. The Harvard Computers was a female team of astronomy analysts

women are far better at detailed work.

realized the classification system they were using was inadequate and thus, she made her own.

she came up with the classification O, B, A, F, G, K, M,

As her career grew, she got involved in the women’s sufferage movement, and became an ambassador for professional women everywhere. She fought tooth and nail against the preconception of female astronomers as astrologers and horoscope readers.
Annie Cannon, who worked for Edward Pickering in the early 1900’s. Surprised that the team was only women? Pickering got so fed up with his male grad student’s incompetence; he hired his maid to prove that even she could do a better job – only to find out she was in fact a genius, and Pickering never hired another male again, admitting that Annie, Tasked with classifying stars based on a huge catalog of astronomic spectography,

Previously all stars were lumped into categories of A, B and C, – remembered with the mnemonic of “Oh, Be A Fine Girl, Kiss Me.” Her system became facto standard and remains so to this day.

Instead of being honored with a Nobel, her work is encapsulated in the mnemonic to remember the star classification letters: “Oh, be a fine girl, kiss me!” And she has a crater in the moon named after her. At least Pickering believed women were able to produce exquisite work.
Nettie Stevens proved for the first time that the male in fact determines sex. Stevens, while working on mealworms, deduced that the males produced sperm with X and Y chromosomes – the sex chromosomes.

Nettie’s work was included in the textbook, which she was not recognized for. Many say she made the biggest discovery in genetics.
It was said that the mother and/or the environment determine an organism's sex. At the age of 39, Nettie Stevens proved for the first time that the male in fact determines sex. While working on mealworms, she deduced that the males produced sperm with X and Y chromosomes – the sex chromosomes – and that females produced reproductive cells with only X chromosomes. This supported the theory that sex is determined by genetics. Thomas Hunt Morgan, also a geneticist, wrote the first textbook on genetics, he wanted to magnify his contributions. He is the one that is often credited for discovering the genetic basis for sex determination. Much of Nettie's work was included in the textbook, which she was not recognized for. Many say she made the biggest discovery in genetics and should have won the Nobel Prize for her work.
Rosalind Franklin finding the double helix of DNA
Francis Crick and James Watson developed their double helix model of DNA, for which they were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1962. These two males were able to develop the model due to Rosalind Franklin’s x-ray crystallography images of DNA. Maurice Wilkins, who worked in the same laboratory as Franklin, showed Crick and Watson “Photo 51”–unknown to Franklin, which was her image of DNA. Photo 51 enabled the men to deduce the correct structure for DNA, which they published in a series of articles in 1953. Of course, Rosalind Franklin was not mentioned, credited nor referenced for any of her work, although she died before the Nobel Prize was awarded in 1962, there is no doubt that she would not have won a share of it.

Rosalind Franklin’s x-ray crystallography images of DNA.

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