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The history of science is, to a considerable degree, the history of invention. Modern science began with the invention and application of optical telescopes by Galileo (1564-1642), Anthony Lavey (1613-1733) and Robert Hook (1635-1702). The 19th century was a period of great scientific discovery. The Nobel Prize Laureate, 1903) at the end of 19th century. These discoveries, in their turn, almost immediately gave birth to new imaging techniques: to X-ray imaging and radiography.

X-rays were discovered by W.C. Roentgen in experiments with cathode rays. Cathode rays were discovered by Julius Plücker (1801-1868) in 1859 who used vacuum tubes invented in 1855 by German inventor Heinrich Geissler (1815-1879). These tubes, as modified by Sir William Crookes (1832-1919) led eventually to the discovery of the electron and finally brought about the development of electronic television and electron microscopy in 30-th - 40-th of 20-th century. Designer of the first electron microscope E. Ruska (1906-1988) was awarded The Nobel Prize in Physics for 1986. This award was shared with G. Binnig and H. Rohrer, who were awarded for their design of the scanning tunneling microscope.