James W. Cronin Encyclopedia Article

James W. Cronin

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James W. Cronin

1931-

American physicist who showed through his research with kaons that the CP (charge and parity) symmetry law was sometimes violated. This important discovery upset one of the principal tenets of physics and led to other significant discoveries in particle physics. Cronin has been honored by several scientific organizations and shared the 1980 Nobel Prize for Physics with Val Fitch.