



L'Uni3 all' ICTP

Martedì 4 aprile 2023

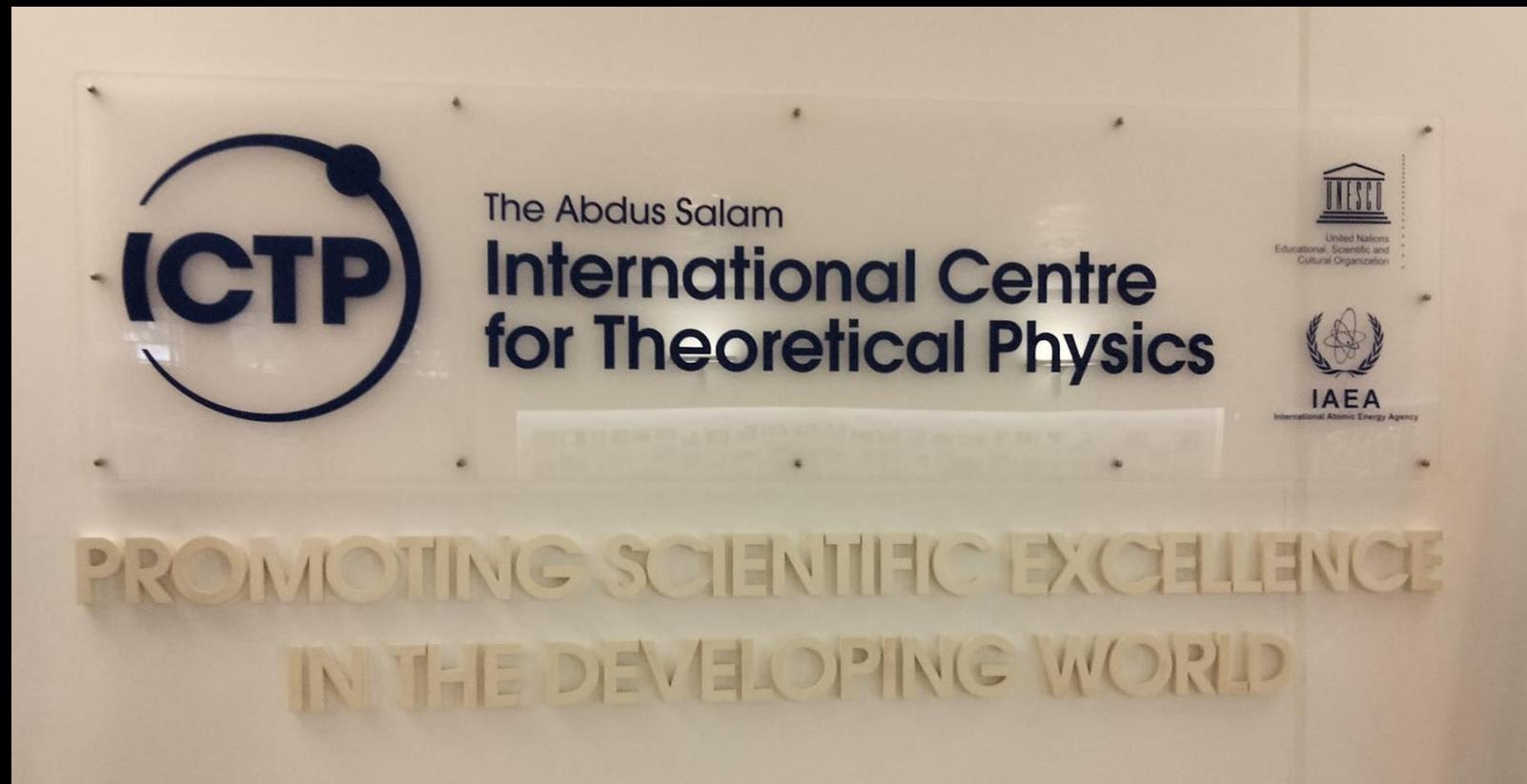


Foto di Ariella Zanevra e Sergio Mahne

Elaborazione multimediale di Bruno Pizzamei



Women of Science

MARGARET MEAD
ANTHROPOLOGIST

When Margaret Mead first arrived in New Guinea in 1925, she was 23 years old. She had no money, no experience, and no academic training. But she had a desire to learn about other cultures. She studied at the University of Chicago, then traveled to New Guinea to work with the Melanesian people. Her work there helped to change the way we think about culture. She also wrote many books, including "Coming of Age in Samoa," which became a best-seller.

KATHARINE MCPARTLAND
ASTRONOMER

Katharine McPartland was a woman who loved the stars. She studied at the University of Michigan and then worked at the Harvard Observatory. She was one of the first women to work as an astronomer. She also wrote several books, including "The Stars Are Out Tonight."

BARBARA MCCLINTOCK
GENETICIST

Barbara McClintock was a woman who loved plants. She studied at Cornell University and then worked at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. She was one of the first women to work as a geneticist. She also won a Nobel Prize for her work on the genetic code.

RODALYN JANET FRANKLIN
CHEMIST

Rosalind Franklin was a woman who loved chemistry. She studied at Cambridge University and then worked at the Cavendish Laboratory. She was one of the first women to work as a chemist. She also won a Nobel Prize for her work on the structure of DNA.

ELLEN GOODMAN
JOURNALIST

Ellen Goodman was a woman who loved writing. She studied at the University of Michigan and then worked as a reporter for the Boston Herald. She was one of the first women to work as a journalist. She also won a Pulitzer Prize for her work on the environment.

ANNIE LAMPSON CANNON
BIOLOGIST

Annie Lampson Cannon was a woman who loved biology. She studied at the University of Michigan and then worked as a researcher at the National Institutes of Health. She was one of the first women to work as a biologist. She also won a Nobel Prize for her work on the structure of DNA.

MARY LOUISE GORE
PHYSICIST

Mary Louise Gore was a woman who loved physics. She studied at the University of Michigan and then worked as a researcher at the National Institutes of Health. She was one of the first women to work as a physicist. She also won a Nobel Prize for her work on the structure of DNA.

CHRISTINE LUDWIG KORNBLUTH
BIOLOGIST

Christine Ludwig Kornbluth was a woman who loved biology. She studied at the University of Michigan and then worked as a researcher at the National Institutes of Health. She was one of the first women to work as a biologist. She also won a Nobel Prize for her work on the structure of DNA.

ROSEMARY SCHAFFER
BIOLOGIST

Rosemary Schaffer was a woman who loved biology. She studied at the University of Michigan and then worked as a researcher at the National Institutes of Health. She was one of the first women to work as a biologist. She also won a Nobel Prize for her work on the structure of DNA.

ROSE MARIE WOOD
BIOLOGIST

Rose Marie Wood was a woman who loved biology. She studied at the University of Michigan and then worked as a researcher at the National Institutes of Health. She was one of the first women to work as a biologist. She also won a Nobel Prize for her work on the structure of DNA.

KATHARINE OF ALEXANDRIA
MATHEMATICIAN

Katharine of Alexandria was a woman who loved mathematics. She studied at the University of Michigan and then worked as a researcher at the National Institutes of Health. She was one of the first women to work as a mathematician. She also won a Nobel Prize for her work on the structure of DNA.

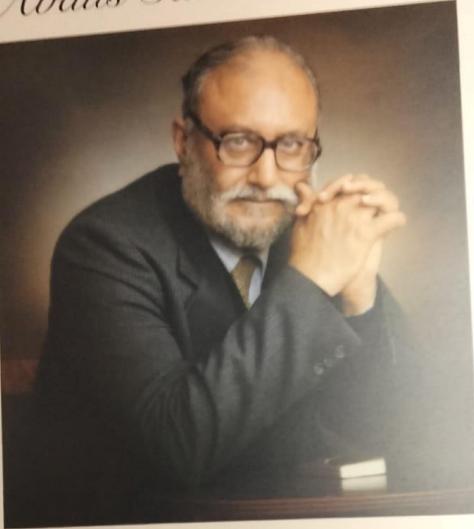
GRACE MURRAY HOPPER
MATHEMATICIAN

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The Spirit of Abdus Salam Award



The Spirit of Abdus Salam Award is awarded by the Salam family to recognise and honour those who have worked tirelessly to further Abdus Salam's passion to serve humanity in whatever capacity. This zeal ultimately led to the creation of the ICTP, and with it allowed him to fulfill his vision for the cooperation, promotion and development of science and technology in the developing world.

2014

Pierre Gagnepain
Anne Gatti
André-Marc Hamonie

2015

Luciano Bertorotti
Giuseppe Fortini
Ye Ge
Chao-Zeng Jin

2016

Fazlur Khan
Seghalib Ramgopal Desai
Saddique Vaidi

2017

Bernard Lefebvre
Giancarlo Goria
Bimal Ghosh
Muhammad Syed

2018

Víctor Estorné
Santiago, Uberto Nagyodige, Sridi

2019

Mario Care, Alvarez
Jacob Pala
Fernando Quereda
Sandro Radicella

2020

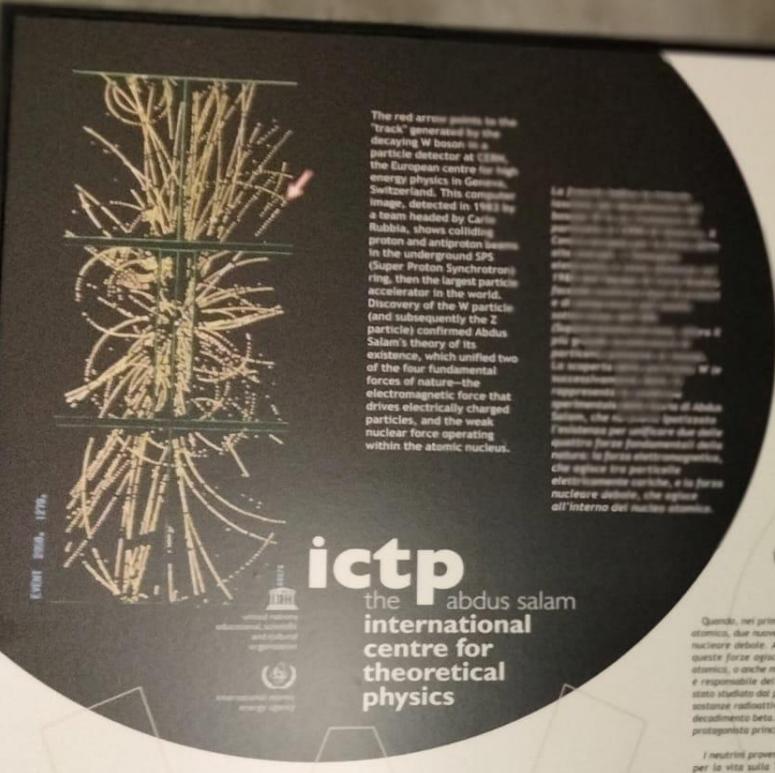
Madanlal Schachindra Narasimhan
Eduardo Tassiti

2021

Mohamed Hassan
Gregorio Madrazo, Asuncion
Khalid Gordis

2022

Malik Muneer
Concetta Muneer
Edwan Sulakshana Eddie



The red arrow points to the "track" generated by the decaying W boson in a particle detector at CERN, the European centre for high energy physics in Geneva, Switzerland. This computer image, detected in 1983 by a team headed by Carlo Rubbia, shows colliding proton and antiproton beams in the underground SPS (Super Proton Synchrotron) ring, then the largest particle accelerator in the world. Discovery of the W particle (and subsequently the Z particle) confirmed Abdus Salam's theory of its existence, which unified two of the four fundamental forces of nature—the electromagnetic force that drives electrically charged particles, and the weak nuclear force operating within the atomic nucleus.

ictp
the abdus salam
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physics

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science agency

When scientists began to study the atomic nucleus in the first decades of last century, two new forces were discovered: the strong and the weak nuclear forces. Unlike gravitation and electromagnetism these forces act only over distances of the order of nuclear diameters or less. The strong force keeps the nucleus together and the weak force is responsible for the so called beta decays that had been studied by the Italian Nobel Laureate Enrico Fermi in the 1930s. Most radioactive substances used in medicine and technology are beta radioactive. The electron also participates in the weak interaction, but the principal part is played by the neutrino.

Neutrinos come to us from the centre of the Sun. Solar energy, necessary for life on Earth, is created when hydrogen is burnt to helium in the interior of the Sun in a chain of nuclear reactions. The first igniting and moderating link in this chain, burning hydrogen to deuterium, is based on the weak force.

The electro-weak theory, which was developed in separate works by Sheldon Glashow, Abdus Salam and Steven Weinberg in the 1960s, has extended and deepened our understanding of the weak force by displaying a close relationship to the electromagnetic force: these two forces emerge as different aspects of a unified electroweak interaction. This means that the electron and the neutrino belong to the same family of particles, the neutrino, in a sense, is the electron's little brother.

An old dream was fulfilled when the discoveries of the W and Z were made by Carlo Rubbia at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Geneva, Switzerland—the dream of better understanding the weak interaction and a confirmation of Glashow's, Salam's and Weinberg's work. The weak interaction is unique in that it can change the nature of a particle, for example transforming a neutron into a proton or vice versa. Such transformations are crucial for the Sun and it is the weakness of the interaction that leads to the very slow burning of the nuclear fuel of the Sun and thus creates the conditions on Earth which can support life.

Two conditions had to be fulfilled to produce the W and Z in particle collisions: the first is that the particles must collide at sufficiently high energy so that the conversion of energy into mass could create the heavy W and Z particles. The second is that the number of collisions must be large enough to give a chance of seeing the rare creation process taking place. Rubbia used the largest accelerator at CERN, the Super Proton Synchrotron (SPS), as a storage ring for circulating antiprotons as well as for protons, circulating in the opposite direction. The particles in the two beams crossed the French-Swiss border about 100,000 times every second for every day. Antiprotons are not found in nature, at least not on Earth. But they were created at CERN. The antiprotons accumulated in a special storage ring straddled by CERN, built by a team led by Simon van der Meer, who shared the Nobel Prize with Rubbia.

from da Salam

Quando, nei primi decenni del secolo scorso, si cominciò a studiare il nucleo atomico, due nuove forze vennero scoperte: la forza forte e la forza debola. La forza nucleare forte è responsabile della permanenza del nucleo, o anche meglio, della permanenza dell'atomo. La forza nucleare debola è responsabile del cosiddetto decadimento beta. Il decadimento beta è stato studiato dal premio Nobel italiano Enrico Fermi, che utilizzò le particelle elementari, le neutrini, per analizzare due delle interazioni fondamentali, che spiegano le forze: l'elettronegatività, la forza nucleare forte, che agisce all'interno del nucleo atomico,

I neutrini provengono dal centro del Sole. L'energia solare, indispensabile per la vita sulla Terra, si genera quando l'idrogeno si trasforma in elio all'interno del Sole attraverso una catena di reazioni nucleari. Il primo stadio di questa catena, la trasformazione di idrogeno in elio, si basa proprio sulla forza debola.

La teoria cosiddetta elettrodibolica è stata sviluppata separatamente da Sheldon Glashow, Abdus Salam e Steven Weinberg negli anni Sessanta. Una teoria che ha esteso e approfondito la comprensione delle forze deboli, mostrando come queste siano analoghe con la forza elettromagnetica: le due forze si presentano quindi come due differenti versioni della forza elettrodibolica unitaria. Questo vuol dire che l'elettrone e il neutrino appartengono alla stessa famiglia di particelle; il neutrino è insomma il "fratello minore" dell'elettrone.

Quando Carlo Rubbia scoprì al CERN (il Laboratorio europeo per la ricerca nucleare, che ha sede a Ginevra) le particelle W e Z previste dal modello di Glashow, Salam e Weinberg, esse apparvero la realizzazione d'un antico sogno: il sogno di una migliore comprensione delle interazioni deboli.

L'interazione debola può cambiare la natura di uno particella, ad esempio trasformando un neutrone in protone e viceversa. Tali trasformazioni sono cruciali per il Sole, ed è questa interazione che provoca il lento consumo del combustibile nucleare della nostra stella, creando il presupposto per la vita sulla Terra.

Due condizioni vanno soddisfatte per procurare W e Z nella collisione di altre particelle. La prima è che queste particelle devono scontrarsi a energia sufficientemente elevata in modo che la trasformazione di energia in massa possa creare particelle pesanti come W e Z. La seconda è che il numero di collisioni sia sufficientemente grande, tale da consentire di osservare un evento estremamente raro. Rubbia riuscì a impiegare il più grande acceleratore del CERN (il superprotosincrotron SPS) come anello di accumulazione in cui far circolare antiprotoni e protoni in direzioni opposte. I fasci dei due fasci sono in grado di attraversare il confine tra Francia e Svizzera all'incirca 100 mila volte al secondo. Gli antiprotoni non si trovano in natura, almeno sul nostro pianeta. Ma possono essere creati negli acceleratori del CERN. Gli antiprotoni vengono prodotti in uno speciale anello di accumulazione, costruito da un equipaggio guidato da Simon van der Meer, che ha vinto il Nobel assieme a Rubbia.

to a Rubbia



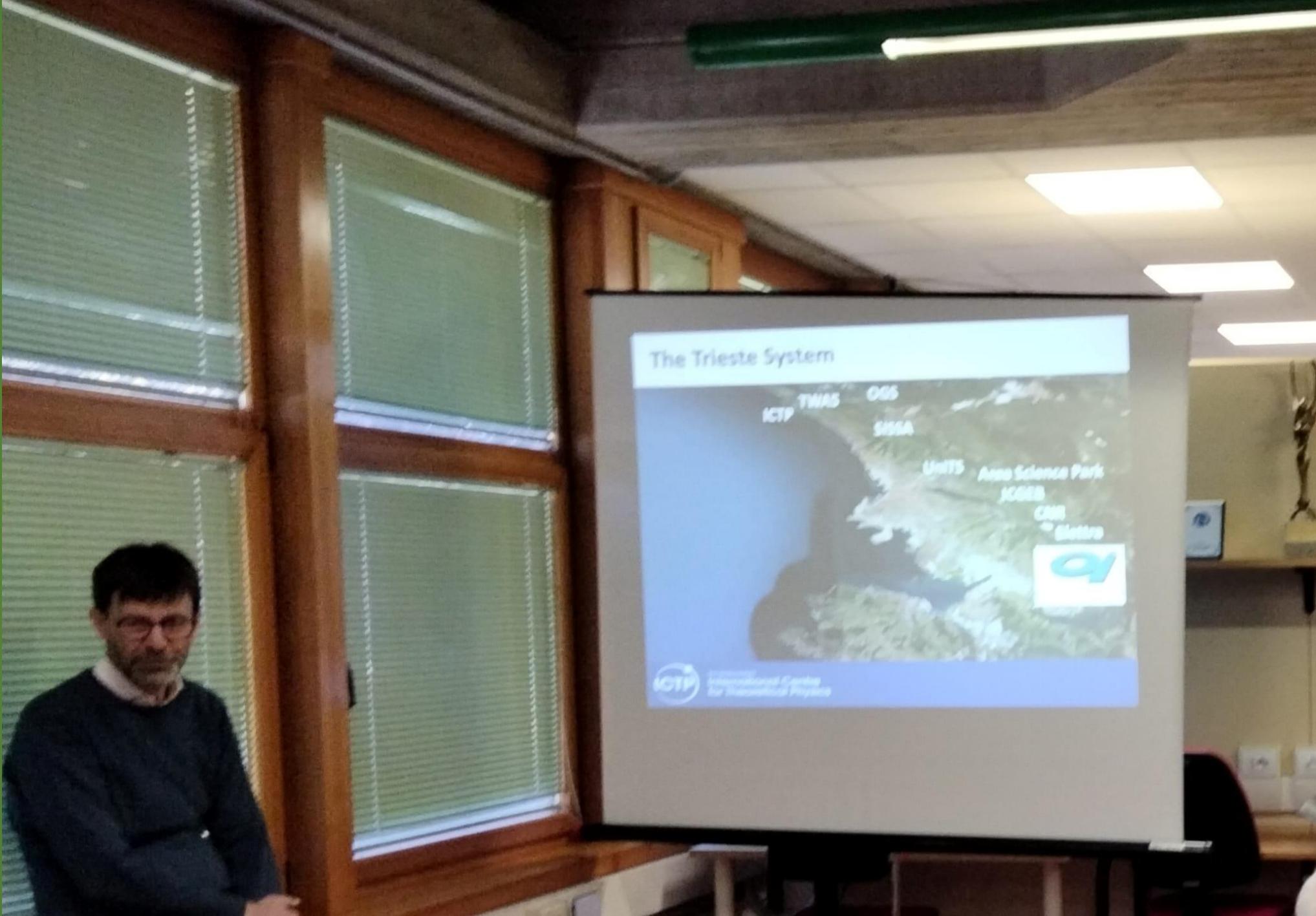
Carlo Rubbia (left)

he has won the

Nobel Prize at ICTP

Carlo Rubbia apprezzò di aver vinto il Premio Nobel per la fisica in Stoccolma ICTP













Abdus Salam

1906 - 1996

*"Scientific thought and its creation are the common
and shared heritage of mankind"*

Nobel Lecture, 8 December, 1979



International Institute for Historical Physics
To those from the

understanding countries the Institute wishes to express their thanks
for having given space to receive their lecture
with the long subject to have for two hours
it will need to be making for long periods necessary for
such a change — rather than the usual intervals
was provided at International Conference.

Abdus Salam























