

Preface

The idea of this little book was born many years ago when, just graduated, Leonardo Chiatti and I frequented Giuseppe Arcidiacono.

Furthermore, Leonardo lives and works in Viterbo, Fantappiè birthplace. I remember our long bus tour through Rome while talking about Einstein and de Sitter. The first time I met Arcidiacono is set in my memory indelibly. I was doing military service in L'Aquila, and after a long exchange of mails I made an appointment with the Professor at his home in Rome. As soon as he opened the door—avoiding any formality!—asked me what I thought about Lorentz Symmetry! And we went on in this way for about 4 hrs, then he opened the old box of Sicilian pastries where he usually put the mails by Freeman Dyson, Jean Marc Levy Leblond, Feza Gursey, Erasmo Recami and some other names the reader will meet in the pages of this book. The Euclidean line of attack to Quantum Cosmology by Hartle and Hawking stimulated Leonardo and me to recover the Group Approach. We realized that a long work of revision had to be done before the “quantum jump” ahead. In fact, most of the papers were in Italian and followed a classical approach. We, finally, completed this work in 2009, too late to be seen by Arcidiacono.

Later, a young and brilliant mathematician, Elmo Benedetto, joined us. We all decided to give the reader an agile and unitary vision of de Sitter projective approach, an extremely fecund one in particle physics and cosmology.

This is a little book, but with big debts: first of all to two great masters: G. Arcidiacono and L. Fantappiè. And then to a formidable group of colleagues and friends: Eliano Pessa, Erasmo Recami, Giuseppe Vitiello, Jean Marc Levy Leblond, Basil Hiley, Jose Geraldo Pereira, Reuben Aldrovandi, Ugo Moschella and PCW Davies.

The book is dedicated to the masters, but more to new generations of physicists and mathematicians.

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