



My encounters with Stavros

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Prelude

- I have met Stavros in 1982.
- As a second year undergraduate at the university of Athens, I went to the director of his lab, Prof. Resvanis to ask him if I can do my undergraduate thesis there.
- He channeled me to Stavros, who had freshly arrived from a few years pilgrimage at the Fermilab Monastery (E-537 experiment).
- He knew theory better than most experimentalists I later met in my life.
- And he saw the opportunity of using the emerging theory of perturbative QCD to compare it with his experimental results.
- I started reading the literature on perturbative QCD and we saw that there were major gaps in comparing it to experimental data.

- I tried also to numerically evaluate some cross sections at the PDP of the University of Athens and the one at the Polytechnic School without much luck.
- He was appointed at that time as a CERN fellow and worked on Delphi, the AFSC experiment in ISR and the PS180 neutrino oscillation experiment at BEBC.
- He managed to find some small amount of funds for me to visit CERN and run the programs there.
- This was an amazing change and chance for a starving student that has spent most of his life in rural areas in Greece.
- He even hosted me in his apartment, rue des Asters, in Servette for some period.
- The calculations were done by the end of the summer 1984. The paper appeared however 4 years later as the collaboration dragged its steps to produce the final plots and analyses.

High-mass dimuon production in $\bar{p}N$ and π^-N interactions at 125 GeV/c

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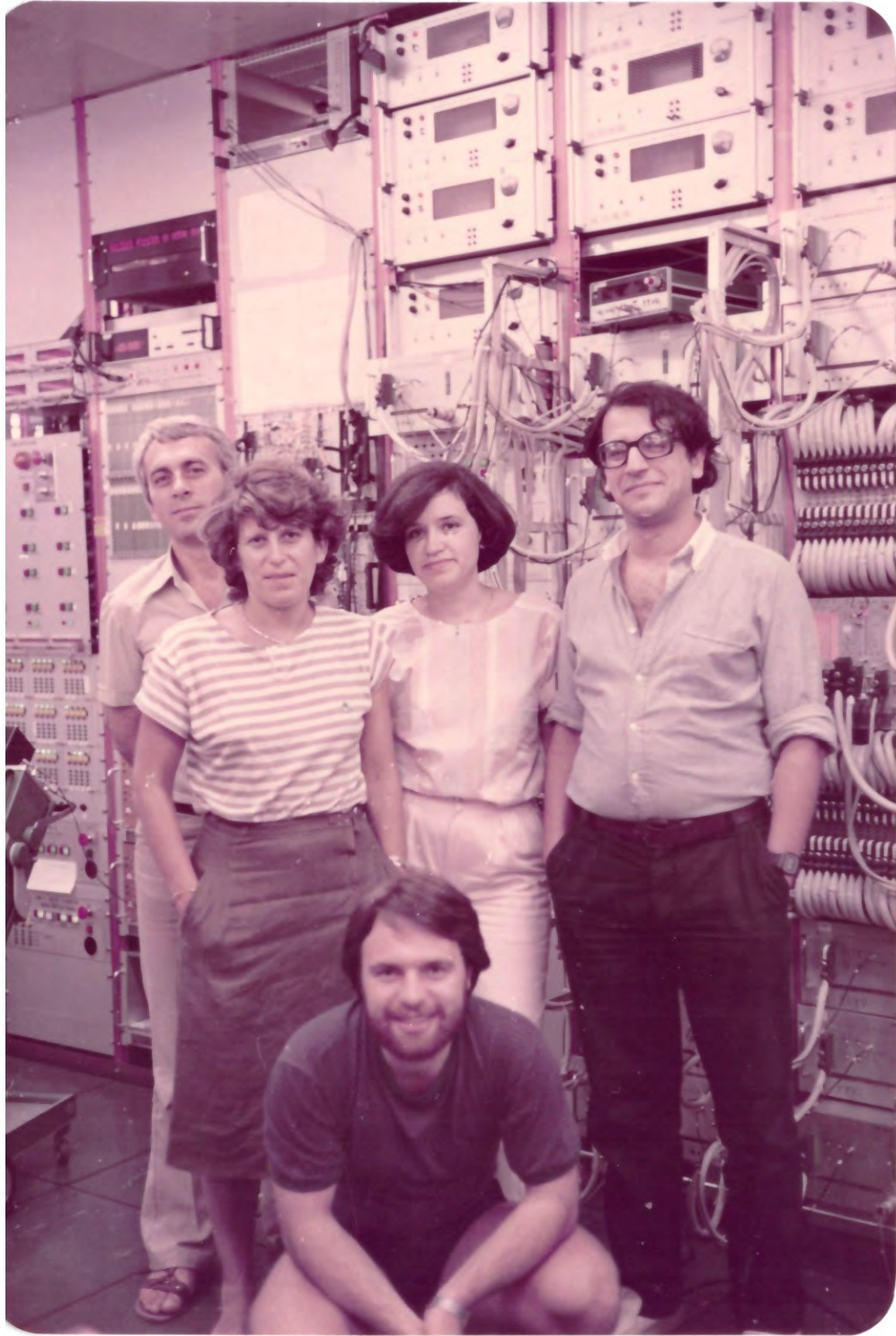
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- I did not learn only physics from Stavros: he was a remarkable source of knowledge on philosophy, art, history, jazz music, classical music and jokes.
- Especially at my age and experience, all of this has had a profound impact.



Later...

- Stavros was instrumental in myself coming to APC from Ecole Polytechnique.
- We often discussed physics from mundane questions on how to do a calculation to deeper issues that were intriguing him.
- He had always his ear open on theory and he always challenged his theorist friends.
- IS THE DESCRIPTION OF SPACE-TIME AND GRAVITY UNIQUE?
HOW IS THIS ENTANGLED WITH PERCEPTION?

was the last big question we debated before he left us.

- Surprisingly, we know a lot about this question.

Epilogue

- Stavros was a **universal scientist** and a **visionary**.



- His legacy will outlive all of us !

