

Alexandru Proca

Alexandru Proca	
Born	October 16, 1897 Bucharest, Romania
Died	December 13, 1955 (aged 58) Paris, France
Citizenship	France
Nationality	Romania
Fields	Physicist (theoretical)
Alma mater	Paris-Sorbonne University in France
Doctoral advisor	Louis de Broglie
Known for	Proca's equations
Notable awards	Honorary Member of the Romanian Academy of Arts and Sciences, elected post mortem in 1990.

Alexandru Proca (October 16, 1897, Bucharest – December 13, 1955, Paris) was a Romanian physicist. He developed the meson theory of nuclear forces and the mathematical physics equations that bear his name (Proca's equations). He became a French citizen in 1931.

Education

High-school and college

In Romania, he was one of the eminent students of the school "Gheorghe Lazar" and the Polytechnic School in Bucharest. With a very strong interest in theoretical physics, he went to Paris where he graduated in Science from the Paris-Sorbonne University, receiving from the hand of Marie Curie his diploma of the Bachelor of Science degree. Then, he was employed as a researcher/physicist at the Radium Institute in Paris in 1925.

Ph.D. studies

He carried out Ph.D. studies in theoretical physics under the supervision of Nobel laureate Louis de Broglie. He defended successfully his Ph.D. thesis entitled "*On the relativistic theory of Dirac's electron*" in front of an examination committee chaired by the Nobel laureate Jean Perrin.

Scientific achievements

He also studied and worked with Nobel laureates Niels Bohr and Marie Curie,^[1]. Alexandru Proca became to be known as one of the most influential Romanian theoretical physicists of the last century.^[2] having developed the meson theory of nuclear forces ahead of the first reports of Nobel laureate Hideki Yukawa. Proca's equations for the vectorial mesonic field were employed by Yukawa who subsequently received the Nobel Prize for an explanation of the nuclear forces by using this field.

References

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- Brief History of IFIN-HH: PRECURSORS Hon. Acad. Alexandru Proca (1897 - 1955) ^[6] and Acad. Prof. Dr. Horia Hulubei (1896-1972).

References

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