

Homage to Harald Fritzschi

Johann Rafelski

Department of Physics, The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, USA

keywords: Harald Fritzschi

Harald Fritzschi enjoyed the American Southwest. On the way between Caltech and the Santa Fe Institute, he sometimes made a stop at the half-way point: Tucson. On one such occasion he explored Arizona's mountains and deserts. Figure 1.1 shows our outing the morning after he gave a physics colloquium at the University of Arizona on March 23rd, 2007. Harald was an avid observer and photographer of the desert fauna and flora.



Fig. 1.1. Harald Fritzschi visiting Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Spring 2007. Pictures and picture assembly by Johann Rafelski

These meetings offered an opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss frontier topics in different areas of physics. Strong interactions, the origin of neutrino mass and the understanding of the parameters of the standard model were close to Harald's heart. Were these parameters really natural constants on cosmological timescales?

In Figure 1.2 we see Harald's first transparency on "Time Dependence of QCD and Experimental Tests" which he presented at the 9th Hadron Physics and 7th Relativistic Aspects of Nuclear Physics (HADRON-RANP 2004) meeting. This meeting, which we both attended, was a joint event on QCD and Quark-Gluon Plasma in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on March 28th - April 3rd, 2004 (1). Harald used a typed prepared lecture which arose from Ref. (2). However, his actual talk included transparencies that were annotated with handwritten notes of his latest thoughts and insights.



Fig. 1.2. Harald begins his presentation in Rio de Janeiro 2004 about time dependence of QCD, see text for details. Picture by Johann Rafelski

With Harald's passing I lost a friend of more than 40 years and, equally importantly, a colleague whose fast mind, willingness to listen, and clarity of thought, helped in some of my own challenges. Today I miss Harald's support and insight very much.

References

- (1) H. Fritzsch, *AIP Conf. Proc.* **739**, 273 (2004), <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.1843601>.
- (2) X. Calmet and H. Fritzsch, *Eur. Phys. J. C* **24**, 639 (2002), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10052-002-0976-0>.