

Nicola Cabibbo

Bio

(Rome, 1935) Cabibbo is an Italian physicist best known for introducing the particles of the Cabibbo angle into the realm of Physics. His studies on weak nuclear interaction, stemming from the need to explain the behaviour of strange particles, thanks to the development of the original idea proposed by him in 1963, have permitted the formulation of the hypothesis of the existence of at least three generations of quarks. This hypothesis was used to explain, thanks to the introduction of the CKM Matrix, CP symmetry violation.

At present, he is Professor of the Physics of elementary particles at the La Sapienza University in Rome, the city where he lives and conducts his research dedicated to the study of lattice QCD and, within the sphere of the APEnext project, to the planning of computer arrays able to carry out the calculations required by the theory. On a number of occasions, as President of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, the institution responsible for advising the Catholic Pope on all scientific matters, he has participated in ethical debates as well as in those regarding the relationship between faith and science.