



Solvay Colloquium

“THE ORIGIN OF MASS AND THE FEEBLENESS OF GRAVITY”

Professor Frank Wilczek

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Abstract

"Einstein's famous equation $E=mc^2$ asserts that energy and mass are different aspects of the same reality. In the mind of the general public, it is usually associated with the idea that small amounts of mass can be converted into large amounts of energy, as in nuclear reactors and bombs. For fundamental physics, however, the more important idea is just the opposite. We want to explain how mass itself arises, by explaining it in terms of more basic concepts. An important part of my work has been to show that this goal can, to a remarkable extent, be achieved. I'll discuss how – it's quite beautiful! I'll also discuss some of the consequences – suggestions for new physical phenomena, and an explanation of why gravity is so feeble."

Tuesday 12 February 2008 at 16h00

COFFEE AND TEA WILL BE SERVED AT 15H45 IN FRONT OF THE SOLVAY ROOM

« SALLE SOLVAY » - SOLVAY ROOM

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