

Dear Reader,

This Newsletter is intended for all SPS members, researchers, industries, students, interested specialists and physics friends. Feel free to share this Newsletter within your community, and follow this [link](#) if you want to add a person to our mailing list.

If you wish to give your contribution with news or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me at: margherita.boselli@cern.ch

Kind regards,

Margherita Boselli

WHAT'S NEW IN SWITZERLAND

2025 Joint SPS and ÖPG Annual Meeting

The 2025 Annual Meeting of the Swiss Physical Society will be organized jointly with the **Austrian Physical Society (ÖPG)**. It will be held at the **University of Vienna from August 18 to 22, 2025**.

Every two years our two societies organize their annual meeting together to bring together leading experts from all physics disciplines, young scientists and students from Austria and Switzerland.

Abstract Submission and Registration

The abstract submission is open now, with a deadline of May 1, 2025.

Registration will also open in a few days, with a deadline of July 1, 2025.

We encourage you to submit your abstract soon. Your contribution will ensure an interesting and successful conference!

Further information is available on the [SPS website](#) or the [conference website](#).



Farewell to Maurizio Falanga

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Falanga (1969-2025) suddenly **passed away** at his home in Münchenwiler on March 6, 2025.

Maurizio Falanga was a world-renowned astrophysicist, Professor at the University of Berne and Director at the International Space Science Institute (ISSI) since 2021, after 12 years as ISSI Science Program Manager.



Maurizio Falanga grew up in Basel and graduated in physics from the University of Basel.

He then obtained his PhD in theoretical astrophysics at the University of La Sapienza in Rome, focusing on black holes and specializing in X-ray astronomy.

The Swiss Physical Society mourns the loss of this esteemed colleague and friend and extends its condolences to his family.

Image: portrait of Maurizio Falanga, from SCNAT.

IQY 2025 coming events

The calendar of events to celebrate the International Year of the Quantum is full of interesting opportunities to learn more about quantum mechanics.



On April 9, 2025, at 20h00, **Super Quantum!** will take place at CERN. Super Quantum! will present quantum physics in a fun and accessible way, drawing on its representation in pop culture such as superheroes and comic books to engage audiences of all ages. During the event, scientists and authors will alternate on stage to take the audience on a fascinating journey. The event will be held in French, more information can be found [here](#).

In the framework of Super Quantum!, on the afternoon of April 9, 2025, comic illustrator Laurent Schafer, author of science comics such as Quantix, Infinix and Cosmix, will organize a workshop for children aged 10-14. All the information is available [here](#).

The Lei'LAB projet

[Lei'LAB is a project](#) that aims to produce a series of short educational videos that combine adventure, nature and science.



The goal of Lei'LAB is to ignite the scientific curiosity of pre-teens (8-13 years) and empower every future young adult - regardless of gender or background - to see themselves as explorers or scientists - eager to understand the world and become agents of change in harmony with nature.

A crowdfunding campaign is currently underway to fund the project.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE WORLD

Events registration for the 2025 International Day of Light

16 May is the **International Day of Light (IDL)**, an annual initiative to highlight the role of light in many different fields, from science and culture to education, medicine and sustainable development. 2025 marks the 10th anniversary of international activities on light and the theme of this year's IDL is: "Light, Innovation, Society".



[The call for events](#) for the International Day of Light 2025 is now open. Events can now be registered on the [official website](#).

The Dark Energy Survey – new study reveals inconsistencies in the current standard model of cosmology

Decades of cosmological research, culminating in the discovery of the acceleration of the expansion of the Universe in 1998, have led to the development of a standard cosmological model known as Λ CDM. According to this model, about 95% of the content of the Universe is made up of exotic materials that have never been produced in a laboratory and whose physical nature is still unknown. These are dark matter, which accounts for 25% of the cosmos' content and corresponds to the CDM (for Cold Dark Matter) of the theory's name, and dark energy, which accounts for almost 70% and corresponds to the Λ of the theory's name.



In this standard model of cosmology, dark energy is the cosmological constant, which can be interpreted as describing the energy of empty space, and whose effective energy density remains constant along the time evolution of the universe.

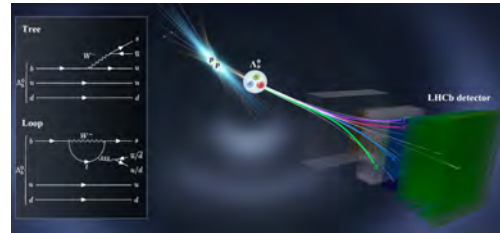
However, **a new result may provide additional evidence for a time-varying dark energy**. These new observations come from the **Dark Energy Survey (DES)**, a large international project to study dark energy.

Read the DES press release [here](#) and the scientific paper [here](#).

CERN LHCb experiment reports first observation of CP violation in baryon decay

On March 24, 2025, at the [Rencontres de Moriond conference](#), the [LHCb collaboration](#) **announced the first observation of CP violation in baryon decays**. In the past,

differences in the properties of matter and antimatter due to CP violation have been observed in the decays of mesons, particles composed of quark-antiquark pairs, but never in baryons, particles composed of three quarks. The result of the LHCb collaboration is the first observation of CP violation in this particle family.



Details of this announcement can be found [here](#). The paper submitted to Nature is available [here](#).

Image from the LHCb outreach group.

The Swiss Physical Society (SPS) unites persons interested in physics from university, schools, research, development and industry. The SPS promotes the scientific exchange of ideas in Switzerland and with its international environment.

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