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Feldy - RR, 102,568 (1956)
Pine & Lohm.

New Haven, October 30, 1972

Dear Feza and Suha:

I must apologize for not writing earlier but since Tanya's arrival, we have not had much time to do anything. Although she is quite cute (and to prove it I am enclosing a picture), her demands are to be met without delay, which is very tiring. Anyway, we are waiting eagerly for her to become responsive to us [from a linear to a non-linear system]. Life in New Haven is not the same without you. I saw Yusuf a few days ago. He is in good spirits and swears he has written you a long letter. The poor man is getting harassed. Whoever he meets asks him to write to you and then proceed to introduce himself! Lillian is even more tired than I am since she has to breast-feed. I feel bad since there is nothing I can do to alleviate the situation. My graduate course is going quite well; in it are two students from the History of Science Department, which enables me to learn of the history of the subject. M. Klei comes in every Wednesday, but I have not talked to him. Teaching is very nice, but between Tanya and students, I have not had any time to do anything. The big thing is now the string formalism of Fried and L.N. Chang. It has enabled people at CERN to prove that the dual model is not invariant ~~unless~~ you under the Lorentz group unless you have 26 dimensions for the old model [10 for the Neveu-Schwartz model: this can be obtained from considering 11 anticommuting matrices: if you want to keep them 4×4 , you have to introduce octonions γ_7 and $e_7 \gamma_8$, leading to another generalization of Dirac's equation: $[\gamma \cdot p - e_7 \gamma_8 \pi_7 - m] \psi = 0$. I do not know how to interpret the π_7 's, but for 10 dimension I do not need e_7 . Hence it seems to be a natural way to introduce $SU(3)$ - (?) Please your comments. By the way Naamba is very much interested in octonions!

Last week there was the Eastern Theoretical Physics Conference at Storrs which I attended. Fubini was there and he offered me a job at CERN with him for a year, without even my asking him! I pointed out to him my preference for staying here and he said it did not make any difference: anyhow - I am flattered, needless to say, but still I'd rather stay here if I can. A depressing note: Fubini spoke of the string but did not mention Fred or anybody else for that matter except himself and his collaborators! Fred was junior and I don't blame him. Murat is doing quite well and is finally learning some physics: gauge theories - all for the better. I was told this Turkish fellow's wife went to the hospital with labor pains two days ago - I assume they now have a baby. In conclusion, there is really nothing new in Physics (as you might expect) - What about Ankara? Please let us know how you are doing. We were told Feza's stomach was not quite happy about the Cafeteria - Give us details.

With our best regards, your friends,

Pieri
 Illiani
 Taryn

P.S. our regards to the Swanks.



PHYSICS DEPARTMENT
217 Prospect Street

New Haven, November 7, 1972.

Dear Feza:

Just this quick Physics note. Once you said that the metric for the interior Schwarzschild solution was conformally invariant. Could you tell me in what way? The reason for my interest is as follows: Press (Caltech) gave a talk two weeks ago on black holes and it occurred to me that since radiation cannot leave a black hole, there may be a connection with some group property shared by metrics describing black holes. This belief was strengthened by finding out that equations separate out nicely (see Teukolski, P.R.L. June 72 I think) as if by "magic". This sort of magic smells like group theory and I tend to think there might be ways of classifying black hole metrics in terms of groups - and maybe find new metrics beyond Schwarzschild and Kerr.... Grandiose thoughts spurred by your remark! Please enlighten me on this invariance for it is not at all obvious. What do you think of this crazy talk?

More news: 1) Tanya is beginning to smile!!! (no. 1 news)
2) Coleman gave a beautiful talk (here) on radiation conversions as possible sources of spontaneous breakdown.

One question: when will you write your Poincaré group + octonions paper - the world awaits with impatience.

Lastly, my regards to you and Suha.

Peeri.

Peeri

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Kişisel Arşivlerle İstanbul'da Bilim, Kültür ve Eğitim Tarihi

Feza Gürsey Arşivi



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