

Adam Maj introduction to the session devoted to Prof. Dudek

I am very honoured to chair this special session related to the great scientific contribution to nuclear physics provided by Prof. Jerzy Dudek. It is a pity, that Prof. Dudek could not come to Zakopane and give a lecture, but instead he provided a shortened version of his presentation (only 148 slides), which you could download from the conference *indico* webpage. He is also present remotely on zoom. Nevertheless, we have the great pleasure to have with us his two children: Ann Margareth and Paul Andrew.

I am very privileged to know Jerzy Dudek for more than 40 years – I met him for the first time in 1984 in Hahn-Meitner Institute in West Berlin, where I stayed from 1982 to 1984. It happened, that I just bought a car, and started learning how to drive, so I only used the easy roads from our flat in Wannsee to HMI and back. One day my supervisor, dr. Karl-Hugo Maier, told me, that we will have in HMI Jerzy Dudek coming for a seminar and discussion, and proposed me to pick him up from the Berlin-Tegel airport. I agreed, and despite the fact that I had to drive on a motorway for the first time in my life, I found Jerzy at the terminal and brought him safely to the institute.

This event, being the taxi-driver of Jerzy, finally ended up with our close collaboration (among others on interpretation of our experimental data on Jacobi shape transition with the model developed by Dudek and Pomorski, called LSD – Lublin-Strasbourg Drop), and later even a friendship.

Before this Zakopane conference we tried to find with my wife Maria some interesting gift for Jerzy. And two weeks ago, we spotted in a picturesque village Lanckorona near Krakow a galleria with an artist painting nice pictures on T-shirts. The lady at the gallery, who turned out to be an artist, asked us, if she could help. After explaining, that we would like to get a gift for our friend, Prof. Dudek, who originally comes from Krakow, but now he is famous Professor at the Strasbourg University, she asked, what is he famous for. I answered, that for so-called LSD model. She, after some thinking, said: “Dudek, Krakow, LSD,... – Well, I think I can paint something, give me your address”. And on Saturday before the conference, I received the parcel with this T-shirt: a bird “dudek” (eng. “hoo-poe”), with a Krakow feather and definitely seen by the artist through LSD model ;-)

Ladies and gentlemen, and now let me introduce Prof. Mark Riley from the Florida State University, who will try in ca. 40 mins present the main contributions of Prof. Jerzy Dudek to nuclear physics.

