

*Vladimir Naumovich Gribov (1930-97)*

*The eminent Russian theorist Vladimir Naumovich Gribov died in Budapest on August 13 following a stroke during a lecture tour in Spain.*

*Born in Leningrad, he graduated from Leningrad State University in 1952 and joined the Leningrad Physical Institute. He became famous for his pioneer work on the theory of complex angular momenta and the theorem on the shrinking of the diffraction cone in high energy elastic scattering. During his first visit to the West, at the 1962 conference at CERN, he made a strong impression. Later, first with I. Pomeranchuk and later with other co-workers, Gribov made landmark contributions to 'reggeization' in quantum field theory and multiple scattering. The asymptotic behaviour of high energy processes continued to be a major theme. At the beginning of the 1970s, Gribov and Lipatov set up their famous scattering evolution equations. He also made important contributions to non-abelian gauge theories (the Gribov 'horizon'). Latterly he turned to quantum chromodynamics.*

*Gribov led the Leningrad (Gatchina) school of theoretical physics for 25 years, and his pupils went on to become renowned in Russia, in Europe and in the US. His published lectures on Regge theory and quantum electrodynamics were basic texts for generations of Soviet theoretical physicists. From 1980 he worked in Moscow's Landau Institute. In 1991 he joined the Research Institute for Particle and Nuclear Physics in Budapest.*

*He was a member of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union (later Russia), honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Among his awards were the Landau prize of the USSR Academy of Sciences (the first recipient), the Sakurai prize of the American Physical Society and the Alexander von Humboldt prize. During the cold war, his frequent absence from Western meetings testified to an independent spirit. An exceptionally warm and cheerful personality, Vladimir Gribov generously shared his ideas and erudition with his students and colleagues, and was universally revered as an indefatigable discussion leader. He is widely missed.*



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