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INDIAN
INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY
BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY

Roads to Quantum Mechanics

“Celebrating 100 years of SCHRÖDINGER’S EQUATION”



About Speaker: Prof. Raychaudhuri is a theoretical physicist at BHU. He obtained his Ph.D. in High Energy Physics from the University of Calcutta in 1994. He held postdoctoral positions at TIFR and CERN, later joining IIT Kanpur in 1999 and TIFR in 2007, where he also served as Dean from 2019–2024. Since 2024, he has been at BHU and also serves as Director of the Bharat Kala Bhavan. He is actively involved in science popularization and is interested in the history of science in India.

Prof. Sreerup Raychaudhuri
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Abstract: Despite some ancient philosophical speculations to the contrary, at the start of the modern era, matter and energy were generally thought to be continuous. From the time of Newton and Dalton, however, the idea emerged that these might not be continuous after all, but granular. For matter, this led to atomic theory; for energy the quantum theory. Establishment of quantum theory had to overcome many tough questions, which were finally resolved - or sidestepped - in quantum mechanics. Quantum mechanics itself has had its own share of controversies, and it creates a bizarre world very different from that of our macroscopic perceptions. This talk will describe the progress of the idea of granularity in qualitative terms and then go on to describe how the principal ideas of quantum mechanics arose, with some focus on Schrodinger's own contributions. The story will be told with minimal mathematics and should be accessible to all undergraduates.

EVENT DETAILS

Date: 24th March, 2026

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: D & V Goswami Complex, Hall 1A

Organised by: Department of Physics, IIT (BHU), Varanasi