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Dezső Horváth received his MSc in Physics at the Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest in 1970. He started his studies in experimental particle physics at the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (Dubna, Russia) and later worked at particle accelerators of the Leningrad Institute of Nuclear Research, of TRIUMF (Vancouver, Canada), of Brookhaven National Laboratory (USA), of the Paul Scherrer Institute (Switzerland) and at various facilities of CERN. He organized common Budapest-Debrecen research teams for CERN experiments: to study the matter-antimatter symmetry with low-energy antiprotons, and search for new phenomena, Higgs-bosons and supersymmetric particles at the Large Electron-Positron (LEP) collider and at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). He has more than 1000 publications registered in the InSpire data base of particle physics with above 110000 citations; his Hirsch index is 158. He was until 2012 the head of the High Energy Physics Department of the Wigner Research Centre for Physics and also scientific adviser at the Institute of Nuclear Research in Debrecen, at present he is a Professor Emeritus. He participates in the work of the Hungarian CMS group at LHC and teaches particle physics at the University of Debrecen. He gives invited plenary talks at international conferences and also popular educational lectures for general audiences. For his scientific accomplishments he received in 2012 the Széchenyi Prize of Hungary. He is a member of the Hungarian CERN Committee and also of the Particle Physics Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, until 2018 he was the chairperson of the latter one. He served also as a chairperson of the Hungarian Dubna Committee, for the coordination of the Hungarian scientific cooperation with the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research.

