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## Foreword

In: Jarolím Bureš and Vladimír Souček (eds.): Proceedings of the Winter School "Geometry and Physics". Circolo Matematico di Palermo, Palermo, 1994. Rendiconti del Circolo Matematico di Palermo, Serie II, Supplemento No. 37. pp. [7].

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/701538>

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## FOREWORD

The Proceedings contain written versions of lectures presented at the Winter School "Geometry and physics" held in Zdík (South Bohemia) in January 1993. Plenary lectures at the School were given by P. Cartier (knot invariants), E. Corrigan (Toda field theory), J. Lukierski (q-Poincaré algebra), S. Majid (quantum and braided groups), S. Salamon (Dirac operator in Riemannian geometry) and D. Schüth (isospectral, non-isometric Riemannian manifolds). The Proceedings contain the written version of plenary lectures given by D. Schüth and 18 papers based on lectures given in sections.

In 1993 we celebrated the 100th anniversary of birthday of a well known Czech mathematician Eduard Čech. A plenary lecture describing his life and mathematical interests was given by I. Kolář, its written version can be found below.

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