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Foreword

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FOREWORD

The 21th Winter School ‘Geometry and Physics’ took place at the usual place, the village Srní in the Czech Republic, in the period January 13 – January 20, 2001. The Winter School was organized by the Union of Czech Mathematicians and Physicists, together with the Charles University and the Masaryk University, with financial support by the International Erwin Schrödinger Institute for Mathematical Physics.

During the School, 8 invited lecture series were presented: *Lie group valued maps* by **Anton Alekseev**, *Special Kaehler manifolds: A survey* by **Vicente Cortes**, *Geometric solutions of the string equation* and *Weak holonomy in dimension 16* by **Thomas Friedrich**, *Hilbert schemes of points and bosonic Fock spaces* by **Manfred Lehn**, *BiHamiltonian systems in the quantum-classical transition* by **Giuseppe Marmo**, *Critical point theory and dynamical elements around Hamiltonian symmetric equilibria* by **Juan–Pablo Ortega**, *Equivariant differential operators* by **Hans Martin Reimann**, *An introduction to Cartan geometries* by **Rick Sharpe**. In the rest of the program, many further lectures, communications, and posters were presented in two sections.

The Proceedings of this School, published traditionally in *Supplemento ai Rendiconti del Circolo Matematico di Palermo*, contain 18 contributions by the participants.

The list of all participants is included below.

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