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Foreword

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FOREWORD

The 17th Winter School 'Geometry and Physics' took place at the usual place, the village Srní in the Czech Republic, in the period January 11 – January 18, 1997. The Winter School was organized by the Union of Czech Mathematicians and Physicists, together with the Masaryk University and the Charles University, with financial support by the International Erwin Schrödinger Institute for Mathematical Physics.

During the school, 5 invited lecture series were presented: *Riemannian geometry of flag manifolds* by **Dmitry Alekseevsky**, *Quantum cohomology and Frobenius structures* by **Michele Audin**, *Isometric immersions and induced geometric structures* by **Giusi D'Ambra**, *Some aspects of Steenrod operations* by **Jean Lannes**, and *Global Fourier integral operators, semiclassical asymptotics and applications to the Schrödinger equations* by **Ari Laptev**. 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 twelve contributions by the participants. Two of the invited lecturers have intended to contribute but, unfortunately, the contribution by Giusi D'Ambra will be included in the Proceedings of the 18th Winter School 'Geometry and Physics' in 1998, for technical reasons.

The list of all participants is included below.

Editors: Jan Slovák
Martin Čadek