

Preface

The present book consists of a collection of papers dedicated to Vladimir Turaev, who is a major actor in the remarkable development that took place over the last four and a half decades in low-dimensional topology. Using fundamental techniques that are rooted in classical topology, Turaev introduced new ideas and tools that had a considerable impact on the theories of knots and links and invariants of 3-manifolds, with connections with mathematical physics. He is one of the main founders of the new topic called quantum topology.

The book is a collective effort of 39 colleagues and friends. I would like to thank them all here for this fruitful cooperation and for having accepted without reluctance the (sometimes heavy) editorial changes I asked for.

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Athanase Papadopoulos
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