<<热核与狄拉克算子>>

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前言

This book, which began as a seminar in 1985 at MIT, contains complete proofs of the local index theorem for Dirac operators using the heat kernel approach, together withits generalizations to equivariant Dirac operators and families of Dirac operators, aswell as background material on superconnections and equivariant differential forms. Since the publication of the first edition, the subjects treated here have contin-ued to find new applications. Equivariant cohomology plays an important role in the study of symplectic reduction, and Bismut superconnections and the local index the-orem for families have had many applications, through the construction of higheranalytic torsion forms and currents. (For a survey of some of these developments, we recommend reading Bismut's talk at the Berlin International Congress of Mathe-maticians, reference Although this book lacks some of the usual attributes of a textbook (such asexercises), it has been widely used in advanced courses in differential geometry; for many of the topics discussed here, there are no other treatments available inmonograph form. Because of the continuing demand from students for the book, we were very pleased when our editor Catriona Byrne at Springer Verlag proposedreissuing it in the series "Grundlehren Text Editions." The proofs in this book remainamong the simplest available, and we have decided to retain them without any changein the new edition. We have not attempted to give a definitive bibliography of this very large subject, but have only tried to draw attention to the articles that have influenced us. We would like to take the opportunity to thank the other participants in the MITseminar, especially Martin Andler and Varghese Mathai, for their spirited participation. Discussions with many other people have been important to us, among whomwe would like to single out Jean-Michel Bismut, Dan Freed and Dan Quillen. Finally, we are pleased to be able to thank all of those people who read all or part of the bookas it developed and who made many comments which were crucial in improving thebook, both mathematically and stylistically, especially Jean-Franqois Burnol, Michel Duflo, Sylvie Paycha, Christophe Soule, and Shlomo Sternberg. We also thank thereferee for suggestions which have improved the exposition.

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内容概要

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