

Institute of Mathematical Research Department of Mathematics

## **GEOMETRY SEMINAR**

## **Geometry and Physics: Cross-Fertilization and Missed Opportunities**

## **Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon** CNRS-Institut des Hautes Études Scientifiques

## Abstract

Geometry and Physics have a very long history of positive interaction. The purpose of this lecture is to discuss a sample of such instances, some of the « missed opportunities » type, some truly influential.

Following a more or less historical mode, and my own background and interest in Riemannian Geometry, I would like to discuss the early development of the discipline, how General Relativity played a fundamental role in triggering further interest and work in the area, the recurrent appearance of Gauge Theories as an exemplary model as bridge between the two domains as well as the special role played by spinor fields in this interaction.

Date: March 27, 2017 (Monday)

Time: 5:15 – 6:15pm

Venue: Room 210, Run Run Shaw Bldg., HKU

All are welcome