
É. Cartan

Œuvres Complètes

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The Complete Works of Élie Cartan, originally published in 1952, were out of print for several years but have now been reissued as a 4-volume set.

Élie Cartan's work is, by virtue of its depth, its variety and its great originality, increasingly being recognised as a turning point in the evolutionary history of geometry, and its far-reaching consequences are not yet completely explored. Many contemporary geometers still draw their inspiration from reading Cartan's work.

Many of the concepts Élie Cartan introduced have spread their impact to other areas of mathematics. The geometry of bundles, for instance, has established itself as a classical topic, especially since the development of gauge theory in theoretical physics has made it the framework for the study of particle interactions. The role played by transformation groups in the understanding of geometric problems has been confirmed. Many aspects of Riemannian geometry have also penetrated areas such as topology and group theory. The current interest in non-linear pde's is drawing attention back to Cartan's development of the subject.

The three parts of the Complete Works correspond to three different subject areas: I. Lie groups, II. algebra, differential systems and the equivalence problem, III. geometry and other topics. They collect together all his research articles, but not monographs or correspondence. However they do also include a report on his work written by Élie Cartan himself in relation with his candidacy to the French Academy of Sciences. This new edition also features the Obituaries for Élie Cartan written by S. S. Chern and C. Chevalley for the American Mathematical Society, and by H. Whitehead for the Royal Society.



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