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Vladimir Drinfel'd

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Vladimir Gershonovich Drinfel'd (born 1954) Ukrainian mathematician and mathematical physicist. Proposing the term <http://planetmath.org/QuantumGroups> “quantum group” Drinfel'd indicated the connection between quasi-triangular Hopf algebras and solutions of the quantum Yang-Baxter equations involving the R-matrix. Subsequently, quantum groups have become a field of thorough mathematical investigation and the construction of finite quantum groups from Hopf algebras or, more recently, from Hopf C*-algebras has been carried out in detail *via* Fourier transformation as such finite groups are dual to certain <http://planetmath.org/QuantumGroupsHopf> C*-algebras. he also introduced the construction of the quantum double leading later to quantum supergroups and quantized enveloping superalgebras. <http://planetmath.org/QuantumDoubleDrinf> modules and Drinfel'd twists are named after him. He was awarded and accepted the Fields medal in 1990.