Additionally, these figures are extremely small in terms of publishing. The production costs are not the only ones that count. In fact, they have rather been decreasing in the last few years, due to delocalization of typography and typesetting towards countries where these activities are less expensive, and so on. When dealing with international diffusion, other factors come into play that could help explain the high subscription prices.

However, is it really necessary that publishing houses send so many representatives to visit mathematicians in their universities, only to obtain the vague promise that if they fancy writing a book, they will publish it here rather than there? All this contributes to the final price.

Low-cost production?

Cheap new editions exist in certain countries such as India. Would it be possible to let other countries such as Eastern European countries benefit from them?

A necessary condition for cheap new editions is that it be preceded by a full-price edition. Some buyers must have paid the full price.

Do mathematical publications have to be very sophisticated and thus cost so much?

Conclusion

Scientific publishing is a kind of publishing that is not always easy, but is certainly profitable given the prices and the number of new journals that are issued. On the other hand, mathematics certainly is not a “popular” subject which explains its low circulation.

NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND COMPUTERIZATION

Computerization of Spanish Libraries

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The computerization of Spanish libraries is proceeding in a rather disorganized fashion with a lack of instruction made worse by the situation of the National Library. Public libraries are slowly getting computerized and the changes in choice of software bode ill for future problems. The situation is better in universities and in the CSIC (Superior Council for Scientific Research). Existing networks are the following:

1. **DOBIS-LIBIS network.** This includes the universities of the Basque Country, Grenada, Navarre, Oviedo, Salamanca, Seville and the UNED (National Uni-