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# Constructible Sets in Real Geometry



Springer

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# Preface

The plan to write this book was laid out in April 1987 at Oberwolfach, during the Conference “Reelle Algebraische Geometrie”. Afterwards we met at various conferences and seminars in Luminy, Madrid, Münster, Oberwolfach, Segovia, Soesterberg, Trento and La Turballe. We would like to thank the organizers and the institutions which supported these meetings. With pleasure we remember the special year on Real Algebraic Geometry and Quadratic Forms (Ragsquad) in Berkeley 1990/91 where an essential part of this book was written. Thanks to T.Y. Lam and R. Robson.

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It is not possible to mention here all colleagues and friends who showed permanent interest in the project. They encouraged us to continue and complete this work. In particular, we are obliged to Jacek Bochnak, Mike Buchner, Michel Coste and Claus Scheiderer for proofreading and helpful suggestions. While the work was still in progress, Manfred Knebusch used parts of our manuscript for a course on Real Algebraic Geometry. His experience convinced us that it was worth pursuing a fully abstract approach. We were also in permanent contact with Murray Marshall, and the reader will recognize the mutual influence of ideas.

We are also indebted to Professor Reinhold Remmert and to the Springer-Verlag for publishing the book in this series.

Finally, we thank Erika Becker for her care in converting many pages of handwritten mathematics into beautiful  $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ .

Madrid, Münster, Majadahonda  
March 1996

*C. Andradas, L. Bröcker, J. M. Ruiz*

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