Die Grundlehren der mathematischen Wissenschaften

in Einzeldarstellungen mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Anwendungsgebiete

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Anatole Beck

Continuous Flows in the Plane

With the Assistance of Jonathan and Mirit Lewin



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Dedicated to the memory of my mother

MINNIE BECK BORNSTEIN

March 4 1904

January 20 1967

She made of her life a gift to those she loved. Without her many sacrifices, this book might never have been written

אשת חיל מי ימצא ורחק מפנינים מכרה. * *
תנו לה מפרי ידיה ויהללוה בשערים מעשיה.

PROLOGUE

Der junge Alexander eroberte Indien

Er allein?

The time of publishing a book is a time to remember and to give thanks. A time to remember all those who by their help have made the book possible and to give thanks for that help. In this case, where the book represents sixteen years of research built on an education of twenty years, the list of those who by their efforts and kindnesses have fostered the education, the research, and the writing of the book runs to many hundreds. Of these, a few dozen have contributed so much that I could not allow the book to go to press without explicit acknowledgement of their assistance.

I begin with my mother, whose contribution over the years was the greatest, and to whose memory this book is dedicated. Widowed at an early age with two young sons, she labored long hours at difficult and unrewarding work to make our educations possible. The price of those educations, to which she contributed unstintingly from her meager earnings, was high, for the accumulated damage to her health led her to an untimely death. Without her support, both financial and psychological, it is questionable whether I would have completed that education, without which this book would have been impossible.

I am deeply conscious of my debt to my teachers, both in school and in the various universities I have attended. Of these, I note especially Walter Prenowitz and Samuel Borofsky of Brooklyn College and Henry Helson, Nelson Dunford, Jacob Schwartz, and Shizuo Kakutani at Yale University. Professor Kakutani, who was my doctoral advisor, never stinted of his time and effort; his kind assistance and demanding discipline initiated me into the mathematical profession.

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My grateful thanks go to my wife, Evelyn, and to my children, Nina and Micah, who gamely endured at second hand many of the frustrations and difficulties of writing this book. Their contribution cannot be overstated.

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Finally, I wish to give my genuine thanks to the many sources from which I have received financial assistance in my education and my research career: the City and State of New York, Yale University, the National Science Foundation, the Office of Naval Research, Doctor Harry Bakwin, the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, the U.S. Army Mathematics Research Center, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and the National Research Council.

I do not mean to compare this book to the conquest of India, but it does share this one aspect, that in each case, it is the product of many, many people's work. Although the protocols of the academy will call it my book, I wish here to note and to thank the many, many people who have helped to create it.

ANATOLE BECK

Madison, Wisconsin 9 February 1973

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х

INDEX OF SYMBOLS

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