Mathematical Surveys and Monographs

Volume 9

## Linear Approximation

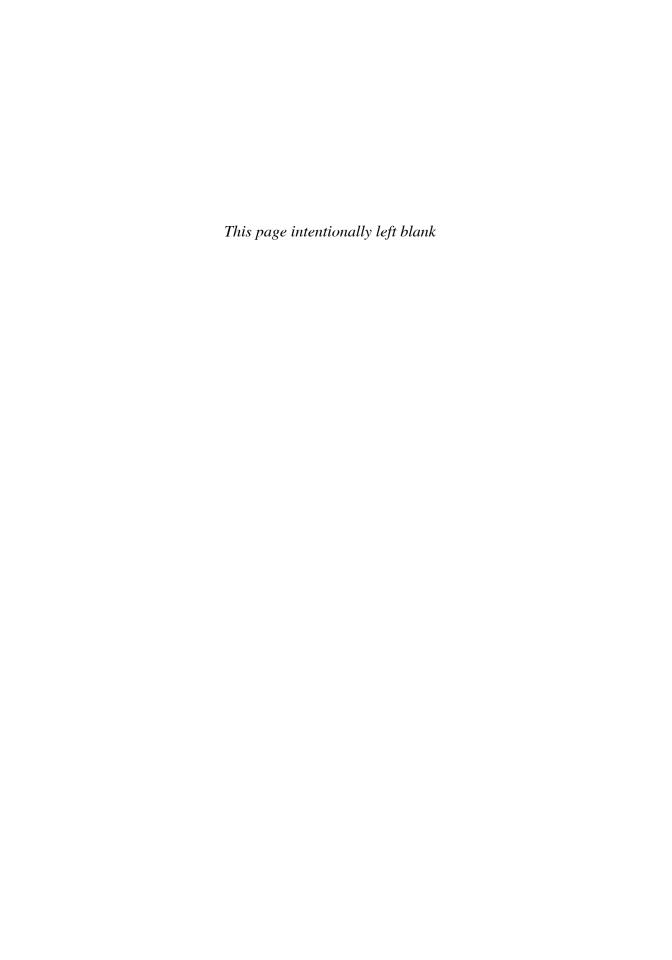
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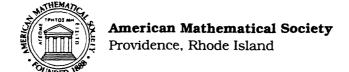


# MATHEMATICAL Surveys and Monographs

Volume 9

## Linear Approximation

**Arthur Sard** 



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### Preface

The form in which I have written "Linear approximation" seems to me to be suited to the subject, and to the use of mathematicians, scientists, and engineers.

Readers interested in the applications may wish to start with the illustrative examples and the statements of theorems. All readers are urged to skip boldly and to sample where they will.

I am grateful to my wife and to many men and women for help and teaching. In the words of David, Psalm 16, 6,

ילים נפלו לי בנעימים אף נחלת שפרה עליי

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.

ARTHUR SARD

July 21, 1962

QUEENS COLLEGE
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
FLUSHING, NEW YORK

### Second Preface

There has been much done since 1963. Rather than attempting a synopsis, I will list a number of my papers, in which detailed references are given to work of Atteia, Barnhill, DeBoor and Lynch, Delvos, M. Golomb and Weinberger, Holladay, Schempp, Schoenberg, Walsh, Ahlberg and Nilson, myself, and others.

The "special formulas" of Chapter 2 are now called "natural splines" or "minimizing splines". The open question discussed on page 107 has been resolved affirmatively: The natural splines are the best broad formulas. See references [3] and [9] of the Supplementary Bibliography. Furthermore, the best formulas of Parts 1, 3, and 4 of Chapter 2 are derivable from Part 2, since the best approximation of Gx is Gy, where y is the natural spline approximation of x and x and x are derivable operator. The direct calculation of x and x however, be easier than that of x.

Papers [1] and [7] refer to Chapter 6; paper [6] refers to Chapter 9. I wish to thank Valerie Meyer for her great help.

ARTHUR SARD

August 15, 1980

BINNINGEN SWITZERLAND

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