
Preface to the Second Edition

This is a completely revised edition, with more than fifty pages of new material scattered throughout. In keeping with the conventional meaning of chapters and sections, I have reorganized the book into twenty-nine sections in seven chapters. The main additions are Section 20 on the Lie derivative and interior multiplication, two intrinsic operations on a manifold too important to leave out, new criteria in Section 21 for the boundary orientation, and a new appendix on quaternions and the symplectic group.

Apart from correcting errors and misprints, I have thought through every proof again, clarified many passages, and added new examples, exercises, hints, and solutions. In the process, every section has been rewritten, sometimes quite drastically. The revisions are so extensive that it is not possible to enumerate them all here. Each chapter now comes with an introductory essay giving an overview of what is to come. To provide a timeline for the development of ideas, I have indicated whenever possible the historical origin of the concepts, and have augmented the bibliography with historical references.

Every author needs an audience. In preparing the second edition, I was particularly fortunate to have a loyal and devoted audience of two, George F. Leger and Jeffrey D. Carlson, who accompanied me every step of the way. Section by section, they combed through the revision and gave me detailed comments, corrections, and suggestions. In fact, the two hundred pages of feedback that Jeff wrote was in itself a masterpiece of criticism. Whatever clarity this book finally achieves results in a large measure from their effort. To both George and Jeff, I extend my sincere gratitude. I have also benefited from the comments and feedback of many other readers, including those of the copyeditor, David Kramer. Finally, it is a pleasure to thank Philippe Courrège, Mauricio Gutierrez, and Pierre Vogel for helpful discussions, and the Institut de Mathématiques de Jussieu and the Université Paris Diderot for hosting me during the revision. As always, I welcome readers' feedback.



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