

New Developments in Approximation Theory, M. W. Müller, M. D. Buhmann, D. H. Mache, and M. Felten, Eds., International Series of Numerical Mathematics **132**, Birkhäuser, Basel, 1999, 344 pp.

This book contains the refereed papers which were presented at the second *International Dortmund Meeting on Approximation Theory* (IDoMAT '98), which was held during the week of February 23–27, 1998, at the conference center of Dortmund University in Germany. The papers cover topics such as radial basis functions, spline interpolation, inequalities for polynomials, Padé approximation, co-monotone polynomial approximation, weighted and unweighted polynomial approximation, adaptive approximation, approximation operators of binomial and of gamma type, quasi interpolants, and orthogonal polynomials.

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Collected Works

Joseph L. Walsh: Selected Papers, T. J. Rivlin and E. B. Saff, Eds., Springer-Verlag, New York, 2000, xlv + 682 pp.

Joseph Leonard Walsh (1895–1973) published 281 papers and 7 books with many important ideas in approximation theory. This volume contains a selection of his papers, divided into seven sections. Section 1 deals with *Zeros and Critical Points of Polynomials and Rational Functions* with 9 papers and commentary by Q. I. Rahman. Section 2 is about *Walsh Functions*; it contains the remarkable paper *A Closed Set of Normal Orthogonal Functions* from 1923. There is a long commentary by F. Shipp and a shorter one by T. J. Rivlin. Section 3 contains 5 papers on *Qualitative Approximation*, with a commentary by P. M. Gauthier. Section 4 on *Conformal Mapping* has 8 papers and a commentary by D. Gaier. Section 5 is about *Polynomial Approximation* with 10 papers and commentary by T. J. Rivlin. Next is Section 6 about *Rational Approximation* with 9 papers and a lengthy commentary by E. B. Saff. Finally, Section 7 on *Spline Functions* contains 3 papers with a commentary by W. Schempp. The volume also contains two pictures of J. L. Walsh, a complete bibliography of his papers and his books, a list of his Ph.D. students, a summary of his work (by W. E. Sewell), and additional background material by D. V. Wideer and M. Marden. This volume should belong to the private library of every professional approximator: one can study relevant papers of one of the great approximators of the 20th century and learn from the valuable comments which are given in each section.

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