
Preface to the fourth edition

The fourth edition is augmented by more than 70 new formulas. In particular, we have included some key concepts and results from trade theory, games of incomplete information and combinatorics. In addition there are scattered additions of new formulas in many chapters.

Again we are indebted to a number of people who has suggested corrections, improvements and new formulas. In particular, we would like to thank Jens-Henrik Madsen, Larry Karp, Harald Goldstein, and Geir Asheim.

In a reference book, errors are particularly destructive. We hope that readers who find our remaining errors will call them to our attention so that we may purge them from future editions.

Oslo and Berkeley, May 2005

Knut Sydsæter, Arne Strøm, Peter Berck

From the preface to the third edition

The practice of economics requires a wide-ranging knowledge of formulas from mathematics, statistics, and mathematical economics. With this volume we hope to present a formulary tailored to the needs of students and working professionals in economics. In addition to a selection of mathematical and statistical formulas often used by economists, this volume contains many purely economic results and theorems. It contains just the formulas and the minimum commentary needed to relearn the mathematics involved. We have endeavored to state theorems at the level of generality economists might find useful. In contrast to the economic maxim, “everything is twice more continuously differentiable than it needs to be”, we have usually listed the regularity conditions for theorems to be true. We hope that we have achieved a level of explication that is accurate and useful without being pedantic.

During the work with this book we have had help from a large group of people. It grew out of a collection of mathematical formulas for economists originally compiled by Professor B. Thalberg and used for many years by Scandinavian students and economists. The subsequent editions were much improved by the suggestions and corrections of: G. Asheim, T. Akram, E. Biørn, T. Ellingsen, P. Frenger, I. Frihagen, H. Goldstein, F. Greulich, P. Hammond, U. Hassler, J. Hødel, Aa. Hylland, G. Judge, D. Lund, M. Machina, H. Mehlum, K. Moene, G. Nordén, A. Rødseth, T. Schweder, A. Seierstad, L. Simon, and B. Øksendal.

As for the present third edition, we want to thank in particular, Olav Bjerkholt, Jens-Henrik Madsen, and the translator to Japanese, Tan-no Tadanobu, for very useful suggestions.

Oslo and Berkeley, November 1998

Knut Sydsæter, Arne Strøm, Peter Berck

Economists' Mathematical Manual
Sydsaeter, K.; Strøm, A.; Berck, P.
2005, XII, 225 p. 66 illus., Hardcover
ISBN: 978-3-540-26088-2