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## Preface to the Second Edition

This is a revised, corrected, enlarged, updated, and thoroughly rewritten version for a second edition of *Elements of Operator Theory* (Birkhäuser, Boston, 2001). Although a considerable amount of new material has been added to this new edition, it was not altered in a significant way: the original focus and organization were preserved. In particular, the numbering system of the former edition (concerning chapters, sections, definitions, propositions, lemmas, theorems, corollaries, examples, and problems) has been kept. New material was either embedded in the text without changing those numbers (to catch up with the previous edition for reference purposes so that citations made to the previous edition still hold for the new edition) or included at the end of each chapter with a subsequent numbering. All problems and references of the first edition have also been kept, and 33 new problems and 24 new references (22 books and 2 papers) were added to the present edition.

The logical dependence of the various sections (and chapters) is roughly linear and reflects approximately the minimum amount of material needed to proceed further. A few parts might be compressed or even skipped in a first reading. Chapter 1 may be taken for self-study (and an important one at that), and a formal course of lectures might begin with Chapter 2. Sections 3.8, 3.9, and 4.7 may be postponed to a second reading, as well as Section 6.8 if the readers are still to acquire their first contact with measure theory.

The first edition was written about ten years ago. During this period an extensive Errata was posted on the Web. All corrections listed in it were, of course, also incorporated in the present edition. I thank Torrey Adams, Patricia T. Bandeira, Renato A. A. da Costa, Moacyr V. Dutra, Jorge S. Garcia, Jessica Q. Kubrusly, Nhan Levan, José Luis C. Lyra Jr, Adrian H. Pizzinga, Regina Posternak, André L. Pulcherio, James M. Snyder, Guilherme P. Temporão, Fernando Torres-Torija, Augusto C. Gadelha Vieira, and João Zanni, who helped in compiling that Errata.



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Kubrusly, C.

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