

Preface

The purpose of this book is twofold. On the one hand, I wanted to write a book which is a *concise introduction* to the beautiful topic of *Schramm–Loewner evolution* for anybody, having some mathematical background, interested in it. On the other hand, I wanted to organize some material for a self-contained *textbook for a semester long course* in advanced mathematics.

The history of this book goes back to Fall 2011, when I lectured a course at University of Helsinki on the subject. The lecture notes of that course formed the seed of this book project. Later, I gave a similar set of lectures during Spring 2016 based on the draft of this book. I added to the book, compared to those lectures, more on regularity and convergence of random curves, a topic presented in Chap. 6. I kept the key parts of the original material including the background in stochastic analysis and complex analysis.

The text intends to be fairly rigorous, but skipping some details; we focus on the core ideas. I have prepared appendices to this text which I have posted on the Web page

<http://www.helsinki.fi/sle-book>.

I want to thank the people I discussed on the material while writing the lecture notes for the courses, most importantly, my colleagues Kalle Kytölä, Miika Nikula, and Petri Tuisku. The two last were the teaching assistants of those courses. I also thank the audience of those courses as well as my long-time mentors Antti Kupiainen and Stanislav Smirnov.

Helsinki, Finland

Antti Kemppainen

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Kempainen, A.

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