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Maxime Bôcher

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AN INTRODUCTION TO THE
STUDY OF INTEGRAL EQUATIONS

BY

MAXIME BÔCHER, B.A., P.H.D.

Professor of Mathematics
in Harvard University

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PREFACE

IN this tract I have tried to present the main portions of the theory of integral equations in a readable and, at the same time, accurate form, following roughly the lines of historical development. I hope that it will be found to furnish the careful student with a firm foundation which will serve adequately as a point of departure for further work in this subject and its applications. At the same time it is believed that the legitimate demands of the more superficial reader, who seeks results rather than proofs, will be satisfied by the precise statement of these results as italicised, and therefore easily recognized, theorems. The index has been added to facilitate the use of the booklet as a work of reference.

In these days of rapidly multiplying voluminous treatises, I hope that the brevity of this treatment may prove attractive in spite of the lack of exhaustiveness which such brevity necessarily entails if the treatment, so far as it goes, is to be adequate.

I wish to thank Professor Max Mason of the University of Wisconsin who has helped me with some valuable criticisms; and I shall be grateful to any readers who may point out to me such errors as still remain.

MAXIME BÔCHER.

*Harvard University,
Cambridge, Mass.
November, 1908.*

This second edition is a reprint of the first, in which, however, such errors as have come to my notice have been corrected. Of these the most serious (on pages 17 and 62-64) were called to my attention by Professor D. R. Curtiss and Dr W. A. Hurwitz respectively.

M. B.

December, 1913.

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CONTENTS

<i>Introduction</i>	page 1
1. Some Preliminary Propositions and Definitions	2
2. Abel's Mechanical Problem	6
3. Solution of Abel's Equation	8
4. Liouville's Introduction of Integral Equations of the Second Kind	11
5. The Method of Successive Substitutions	14
6. Volterra's Treatment of Equations of the Second Kind. Iterated and Reciprocal Functions	19
7. Linear Algebraic Equations with an Infinite Number of Variables	24
8. Fredholm's Solution	28
9. The Integral Equation with a Parameter	37
10. The Fundamental Theorem concerning Homogeneous Integral Equations, with some Applications	42
11. Symmetric Kernels	45
12. Orthogonal Functions	51
13. The Integral Equation of the First Kind whose Kernel is finite	59
14. Equations of the First Kind whose Kernel or whose Interval is not Finite	64
<i>Index</i>	71