

ERRATA (Communicated by the author)

Should read

- p. 32 line 3 \mathbf{R} -rank G
- p. 49 line 4 \cong
- p. 69 line 3 $\Gamma \setminus X$
- p. 134 line 10 $Sp(1, n)/Sp(1) \times Sp(n)$
- p. 136 line -7 projective space P_K^n as cyclic K -subspaces of K^{n+1} , represent them as hermitian projections onto cyclic K -subspaces of K^{n+1} with respect to
- p. 142 line 2 H_K^n
- p. 187 line 5 $\cdots \theta$ extends to a unique analytic isomorphism \cdots
- p. 187 line 6 \cdots from Theorem 18.1, Corollary 23.6, and Lemma 8.6.

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Complete normed algebras, by F. F. Bonsall and J. Duncan, *Ergebnisse der Mathematik und ihrer Grenzgebiete, Band 80*, Springer-Verlag, New York, Heidelberg, Berlin 1973, x+301 pp. \$26.20

It was in 1939 that I. M. Gelfand [10] announced the results of his pioneering investigations of Normed Rings, thereby launching a new field of mathematical research which continues 35 years later in a state of vigorous development. For Gelfand, a normed ring was in fact a complete normed algebra; i.e., an algebra for which the underlying vector space is a (usually complex) Banach space and multiplication is continuous with respect to the given Banach space norm. Continuity of multiplication is usually provided by imposing the multiplicative inequality, $\|xy\| \leq \|x\| \|y\|$, on the norm. For obvious reasons, these algebras have come to be known as "Banach algebras", a term which is now rather firmly established in the literature.¹ Such algebras were in fact studied earlier by M. Nagumo [18] and K. Yosida [26] who called them "metric rings". Also, as might be expected, some of the concepts arising in the earlier study of operators on a Banach space, as well as the study of certain

¹ The authors remark (p. 4) that they would have preferred the term "Gelfand algebra" for a complete normed algebra. Although the reviewer had much to do with establishing the term "Banach algebra" and has a strong preference for terminology that suggests the nature of the indicated object, he agrees that "Gelfand algebra" would have been a most appropriate choice. Since this book will no doubt be widely accepted, the authors, given the courage of their convictions, probably could have effected the change.