

Lecture Notes in Logic

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J. R. Shoenfield

Recursion Theory



Springer-Verlag

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- a table of contents;
- an informative introduction, perhaps with some historical remarks: it should be accessible to a reader not particularly familiar with the topic treated;
- a subject index: as a rule this is genuinely helpful for the reader.

Further remarks and relevant addresses at the back of this book.

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Introduction

These notes originated in a one semester course given several times at Duke University. Students were generally graduate students in mathematics or computer science. They were expected to have a considerable degree of mathematical maturity. While there were no specific prerequisites, it was desirable that the student has some knowledge of elementary logic and computer programming. To appreciate some of the applications, it was desirable to have at least a slight acquaintance with some other mathematical topics, such as group theory and Borel sets.

My main object was to prepare the student for studying advanced books and journal articles in recursion theory. I therefore attempted to introduce as many as possible of the topics which are of interest in contemporary research without going deeply into any of them. One topic usually treated in the course which did not make its way into these notes is complexity theory; I hope that someone more competent than I will write an introduction to this topic suitable for serious mathematicians.

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