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Preface

P R E F A C E

These Proceedings contain the lectures presented at the Spring School

"Nonlinear Analysis, Function Spaces and Applications IV"

held in May 21 - 25, 1990, in Roudnice nad Labem near Prague and organized by the Mathematical Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

The School has continued the preceding three held under the same name in Horní Bradlo, 1978, in Písek, 1982, and in Litomyšl, 1986, the Proceedings of which were published by the TEUBNER Publishing House, Leipzig, in 1979, 1982, and 1986 as volumes 19, 49 and 93, respectively, of the series "Teubner-Texte zur Mathematik".

Analogously as in the foregoing Spring Schools, the organizers concentrated on survey lectures presented by a smaller number of speakers. Moreover, a highly attended poster session was organized and there was enough possibility for discussions and exchange of ideas.

The Spring School took place on the bank of the Elbe river in the pleasant setting of the old Czech town *Roudnice nad Labem*; excursions to local memorabilities (the monastery, the picture gallery, the legendary hill *Říp*) formed an integral part of the School.

A list of participants can be found at the end of the volume, the total number being 84 mathematicians and 3 accompanying persons from the following countries: Argentina (1), Australia (2), Belgium (1), Canada (3), Czechoslovakia (25), Federal Republic of Germany (2), Finland (4), German Democratic Republic (9), Hungary (3), Japan (1), Poland (5), Spain (7), Sweden (6), United Kingdom (1), USA (2), USSR (13), Vietnam (1) and Yugoslavia (1).

Two other mathematicians from Prague participated in organization of the Spring School and preparation of the Proceedings, namely, Dr. P. Gurka, and Dr. L. Pick. Also our thanks go to Mrs. R. Pachtová for excellent typewriting and to Mrs. H. Hřebcová for her help in Prague during the School. The editors wish to thank to Mrs. E. Roth from the Teubner Publishing House for her efficient collaboration leading to a prompt publication of these Proceedings.

Prague, June 1990   The Editors