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This volume contains historical background and discussion of results for each chapter, References, and an Index.

Reviews

From a review of the original edition ...

"In this book, which is intended to be an introduction to the subject, the author steers a middle course between the various viewpoints. On the one hand, he presents his material within the framework of (elementary) functional analysis ... and on the other hand he treats various algorithms which prepare the way for the numerical solution of various types of approximation problems. One of the highlights of the book is Chapter V on rational approximation which is an important case of non-linear approximation ... The book concludes with a detailed and interesting section on historical notes and a lengthy bibliography. There are approximately 430 good exercises. The author has provided a usable and very versatile text which is certainly to be recommended."

-- Mathematical Reviews

"E. W. Cheney's highly respected and well-known book ... covers an enormous amount of material ... [It] is written with a clarity and precision which those who are familiar with the author's many papers have come to expect ... There is an appendix which supplements each chapter with copious notes and serves to place the particular topic in historical perspective ... [T]he notes are invaluable; their effect is to make a small book almost encyclopedic in character. ... In the quality of its exposition and the skill and craft manifest in its organization, the book is a classic with few competitors. Anyone involved with computer mathematics will want it nearby."

-- Computing Reviews

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