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By James G. Oxley

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The study of matroids is a branch of discrete mathematics with basic links to graphs, lattices, codes, transversals, and projective geometries. Matroids are of fundamental importance in combinatorial optimization and their applications extend into electrical engineering and statics. This incisive survey of matroid theory falls into two parts: the first part provides a comprehensive introduction to the basics of matroid theory while the second treats more advanced topics. The book contains over five hundred exercises and includes, for the first time in one place, short proofs for most of the subjects' major theorems. The final chapter lists sixty unsolved problems and details progress towards their solutions.

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Review

‘Review from previous edition 'It includes more background, such as finite fields and finite projective and affine geometries, and the level of the exercises is well suited to graduate students. The book is well written and includes a couple of nice touches ... this is a very useful book. I recommend it highly both as an introduction to matroid theory and as a reference work for those already seriously interested in the subject, whether for its own sake or for its applications to other fields.' Neil L. White, University of Florida, AMS Bulletin, Vol. 30, No. 2, April '94

‘Whoever wants to know what is happening in one of the most exciting chapters of combinatorics has no choice but to buy and peruse Oxley's treatise' Gian-Carlo Rota, Massachusetts Institute Technology (The Bulletin of Mathematics)

‘This book is an excellent graduate textbook and reference book on matroid theory. The care that went into the writing of this book is evident by the quality of the exposition' Talmage J. Reid, University of Mississippi (Mathematical Reviews)

About the Author

James G. Oxley is at Louisiana State University.

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