

## PREFACE

The booklet is intended to provide practical help for authors of mathematical papers. It is written mainly for non-English speaking writers but should prove useful even to native speakers of English who are beginning their mathematical writing and may not yet have developed a command of the structure of mathematical discourse.

The booklet is oriented mainly to research mathematics but applies to almost all mathematics writing, except more elementary texts where good teaching praxis typically favours substantial repetition and redundancy.

There is no intention whatsoever to impose any uniformity of mathematical style. Quite the contrary, the aim is to encourage prospective authors to write structurally correct manuscripts as expressively and flexibly as possible, but without compromising certain basic and universal rules.

The first part provides a collection of ready-made sentences and expressions that most commonly occur in mathematical papers. The examples are divided into sections according to their use (in introductions, definitions, theorems, proofs, comments, references to the literature, acknowledgements, editorial correspondence and referees' reports). Typical errors are also pointed out.

The second part concerns selected problems of English grammar and usage, most often encountered by mathematical writers. Just as in the first part, an abundance of examples are presented, all of them taken from actual mathematical texts.

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