

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| PREFACE   | vii |
| CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION. FOUNDATIONS OF MATHEMATICS                     |     |
| 1. Introduction   | 1   |
| 2. Philosophy of mathematics and foundational research                  | 3   |
| 3. Mother-theories  | 4   |
| 4. Mathematical logic   | 10  |
| 5. The theory of mathematical practice                                  | 14  |
| 6. Indefinite and indeterminate as foundational concepts                | 15  |
| 7. Conclusion. The internal logic of polynomial arithmetic              | 20  |
| CHAPTER 2. FROM HILBERT TO KRONECKER                                    |     |
| 1. Introduction. Metamathematics  | 22  |
| 2. Arithmetic   | 24  |
| 3. Algebra  | 26  |
| 4. Logic  | 30  |
| 5. Elliptic functions   | 33  |
| 6. Kronecker's programme  | 38  |
| 7. Conclusion. The arithmetization programme                            | 48  |
| CHAPTER 3. THE CONSISTENCY OF ARITHMETIC REVISITED                      |     |
| 1. Introduction   | 50  |
| 2. Finitism   | 52  |
| 3. Fermat's descent   | 54  |
| 4. Logic  | 58  |
| 5. The polynomial setting   | 60  |
| 6. Internal and external consistency of arithmetic                      | 65  |
| 7. Conclusion   | 76  |
| CHAPTER 4. THE INTERNAL CONSISTENCY OF ARITHMETIC WITH INFINITE DESCENT |     |
| 1. Introduction   | 81  |
| 2. Logic  | 84  |
| 3. Semantics  | 87  |
| 4. Arithmetic   | 90  |
| 5. The polynomial translation   | 96  |
| 6. The consistency proof  | 101 |
| 7. Concluding remarks   | 114 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>CHAPTER 5. FROM KRONECKER TO BROUWER</b>   |     |
| 1. Introduction. Cantor   | 118 |
| 2. Frege's foundations of arithmetic  | 124 |
| 3. Husserl's theory of multiplicities   | 128 |
| 4. Weyl's constructivism  | 132 |
| 5. Brouwer's intuitionism and local negation  | 135 |
| 6. Negation by default  | 144 |
| 7. Conclusion   | 147 |
| <b>CHAPTER 6. HILBERT AND THE FOUNDATIONS OF PHYSICS</b>                            |     |
| 1. Introduction. The consistency of physical theories                               | 148 |
| 2. Quantum Mechanics and the local observer   | 149 |
| 3. Locality and complementation in Quantum Mechanics                                | 159 |
| 4. Renormalization procedures in quantum field theories                             | 173 |
| 5. The construction and the dynamical structure of physical theories                | 181 |
| 6. The notion of physical theory  | 183 |
| 7. Conclusion   | 185 |
| <b>CHAPTER 7. CONCLUSION. INTERNAL LOGIC : FROM KRONECKER TO HILBERT AND BEYOND</b> |     |
| 1. Introduction. Constructivism   | 186 |
| 2. Logic  | 187 |
| 3. Finitism   | 191 |
| 4. Modular logic  | 193 |
| 5. Arithmetic   | 201 |
| 6. Complexity   | 208 |
| 7. Conclusion   | 212 |
| <b>REFERENCES</b>   | 215 |
| <b>SUBJECT INDEX</b>  | 231 |
| <b>NAME INDEX</b>   | 235 |