Table of Contents

Editorial Introduction viii

D.Z. Arov, Yu.P. Ginzburg, S.M. Pozin, L.A. Sakhnovich
Vladimir Petrovich Potapov xi

Curriculum Vitae of V.P. Potapov xix

List of Publications of V.P. Potapov xx

I. Gohberg
Odessa reminiscences xxiii

L.B. Golinskii
The last days of Vladimir Petrovich Potapov xxvi

D.Z. Arov
The influence of V.P. Potapov and M.G. Krein on my scientific work . . . 1
1. My first dissertation 1
2. A tilt toward operator theory 4
3. The results of Potapov's group in network theory 5
4. Darlington method in the general theory of passive systems 7
5. Regular j-inner matrix functions and related generalized bitangential problems 11
References 13

T.Ja. Azizov, E.I. Iohvidov
The development of some of V.P. Potapov's ideas. The geometric theory of operators in spaces with indefinite metric 17
References 25

Yu.P. Ginzburg, L.V. Shevchuk
On the Potapov theory of multiplicative representations 28
References 44

T.S. Ivanchenko, L.A. Sakhnovich
An operator approach to the Potapov scheme for the solution of interpolation problems 48
Chapter I. Potapov's method of solution of interpolation problems 48
1. Some information from j-algebra 48
2. Nevanlinna-Pick problem 53
3. The Schur problem 58
Chapter II. Operator identities and interpolation problems 61
Introduction 61
1. Formulation of the problem 61
2. The fundamental matrix inequality 63
3. The transformed inequality 67
4. The solution of nondegenerate interpolation problems 69
5. Weyl discs 72
6. Degenerate interpolation problems and the method of regularization 76
7. Applications of the general theory 78
References 84

V.E. Katsnelson
Description of a class of functions which admit an approximation by rational functions with preassigned poles I 87
Introduction 88
2. The class $PCNM$ of pseudocontinuable functions 94
3. The Smirnov class N_* 97
4. The weighted space $PCH^p_w(I^+, I^-)$ of pseudocontinuable meromorphic functions with prescribed denominators 101
5. G. Ts. Tumarkin's theorem on functions which admit weighted approximation by a sequence of rational functions with preassigned poles . 107
6. Formulation of the main approximation theorem 113
7. A fundamental approximation Lemma 114
References 128

A.Ya. Kheifits, P.M. Yuditskii
An analysis and extension of V.P. Potapov's approach to problems with applications to the generalized bi-tangential Schur-Nevanlinna-Pick problem and J-inner-outer factorization 133
1. Potapov's approach to the Nevanlinna-Pick problem 134
2. An analysis of Potapov's approach and the AIP 137
3. The abstract interpolation problem 142
4. The AIP and unitary extensions of an isometry 144
5. The generalized bi-tangential Schur-Nevanlinna-Pick (SNP) problem . . . 147
6. Inner-outer factorization of J-contractive matrix-functions 154
References 158

M.G. Krein, I.E. Ovcharenko
On the theory of inverse problems for the canonical differential equation 162
References 168
Addendum 169

A.A. Nudel'man
Some properties of linear-fractional transformations and the harmonic mean of matrix functions 171
References 183

A.L. Sakhnovich
Modification of V.P. Potapov's scheme in the indefinite case 185
0. Introduction 185
1. Preliminaries 186
2. Basic propositions 189
3. Extensions of the operator S 195
4. Examples
References 200

L.A. Sakhnovich
Inverse problems for equations systems 202
1. Introduction 202
2. Existence theorems 203
3. Classical examples 204
4. Uniqueness theorems 207
References 210