

Contents

Introduction	ix
Chapter 1. Manifolds and Smooth Structures	1
A. Definitions and Examples	1
B. Tangent Bundle, Cotangent Bundles, and Riemannian Metrics	4
C. Some Historical Remarks	7
Chapter 2. The Euler Number	9
A. The Degree Theorem	9
B. Hopf Index Theorem for Vector Fields and the Euler Number	12
C. The Morse Formula for the Euler Number	15
D. The Gauss–Bonnet Theorem	17
Chapter 3. Foliations	22
A. Definition and Examples of Foliations	22
B. Sullivan’s Theorem	24
C. Novikov’s Theorem	26
D. Dissecting Foliated 3-Manifolds	27
Chapter 4. The Topological Classification of Simply-Connected 4-Manifolds	38
A. Intersection Pairing and the Statement of the Classification Theorem	38
B. A Review of Classical h -Cobordism Theory in Dimension ≥ 5	41
C. The Disk Theorems	46
Chapter 5. Donaldson’s Theory	57
A. Vector Bundles and Connections	58
B. The Self-Dual Equation, Topological Invariants, and Yang–Mills Theory over a Complex Line Bundle	62
C. A Glimpse of Donaldson’s Proof and Fintushel and Stern’s Work	66

Chapter 6. Fake \mathbf{R}^4 's	72
A. Kirby's Picture	72
B. Some other Fake \mathbf{R}^4 's.	74
C. Uncountably Many Exotic Smooth Structures on \mathbf{R}^4	74
References	77