

Contents

Preface

Introduction

General notations

Chapter I.1. Basic notations and theorems

	Page
I.1.1. The greatest integer function and two types of intervals, called here the associated intervals and the eigen-intervals	15
I.1.2. Diophantine identities, which contain the greatest integer function	16
I.1.3. Introduction to a theory of Diophantine equations, containing the greatest integer function	17
I.1.4. A class of Diophantine equations, which are nested of the first order in regard to the greatest integer function	20
I.1.5. The transformations $\mathcal{J}(x) = [k/x]$, $\mathcal{U}(x) = [k/(1+x)]$, $\mathcal{V}(x) = \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{J}(x))$ and $\mathcal{W}(x) = \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{U}(x))$	23

Chapter I.2. Improvement of the tools: Further investigation of the eigen-intervals. The characteristic spectrum of a natural number

I.2.1. A geometrical representation of the eigen-intervals	24
I.2.2. The basic Diophantine difference equation and the associated intervals	25
I.2.3. The basic Diophantine difference equation and the location of the eigen-intervals	26
I.2.4. Every natural number has a characteristic spectrum, viz. the spectrum of its eigen-intervals	26
I.2.5. Minimal eigen-intervals	28
I.2.6. Details concerning the bound of the proper continuous spectrum (I) and the bound of the proper discontinuous spectrum (L)	29
I.2.7. Expressions for the bounds I and L in the basic numbers $g = [\sqrt{k}]$ and $h = [\sqrt{k}/2]$, respectively	30
I.2.8. Prolongation of the proper continuous spectrum	33
I.2.9. Prolongation of the proper discontinuous spectrum	34
I.2.10. Cases, when neither of the proper spectra can be prolonged	35

Chapter I.3. Further improvements of the tools: Generalizations of the I_1 , I_2 -classification

I.3.1. A first mode of generalizing the I_1 , I_2 -classification	38
I.3.2. Another mode of generalizing the I_1 , I_2 -classification	39
I.3.2.1. The g -series (iterated $[\sqrt{\cdot}]$ -series) of an integer	39
I.3.2.2. A mode of representing the point-graph of the g -series (the gnomon diagram)	40

I.3.2.3.	A modification of the gnomon diagram (the level diagram). — The inverse of the $[]/]-operator$	42
I.3.2.4.	The second mode of generalizing the I_1, I_s -classification	43
Chapter I.4. Further improvements of the tools: The structure of the set $\mathcal{G}(k)$, i.e. the set of the unequal elements of the class $\{\{[k/n]: n \in N(1; k)\}\}$		
I.4.1.	The splitting up of the set $\mathcal{G}(k)$ into three subsets $\mathcal{G}_1(k), \mathcal{G}_2(k)$ and $\mathcal{G}_3(k)$	44
I.4.2.	Investigation of the buffer set for $k \in I_1$	45
I.4.3.	Investigation of the buffer set for $k \in I_2$	45
I.4.4.	Abstract of the investigation of the buffer set.	45
I.4.5.	The formula $v[k] = 2g + [k/g(g+1)] - 1$ for the number of elements of $\mathcal{G}(k)$. ($g = []/\sqrt{k}]$)	46
I.4.6.	On the possibility of extending the integral band $\mathcal{G}_1(k)$ into a larger band	46
Chapter I.5. Further improvements of the tools: The \mathcal{V}_s-numbers and their main properties. The \mathcal{W}_s-numbers		
I.5.1.	Introduction of the \mathcal{V}_s -numbers	47
I.5.2.	The simplest properties of the \mathcal{V}_s -numbers	47
I.5.3.	Further properties of the \mathcal{V}_s -numbers	48
I.5.4.	The point-graph of \mathcal{V}_s	49
I.5.5.	Introduction of the \mathcal{W}_s -numbers. The connection between the \mathcal{V}_s -numbers and the \mathcal{W}_s -numbers.	52
I.5.6.1.	Formulas, which are inverse to the recurrence formulas, which define \mathcal{V}_s and \mathcal{W}_s	52
I.5.6.2.	The \mathcal{W} -version of the basic inversion theorem. (THEOREM I.1.3 [4])	53
Chapter I.6. The basic Diophantine difference equations		
I.6.1.	The un-nested equation $\mathcal{J}(x) - \mathcal{U}(x) = s$	55
I.6.2.	The 1-nested equation $\mathcal{J}(\mathcal{U}(x)) - \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{J}(x)) = s$	57
I.6.3.	The frequency function $f\langle s \rangle$ of the eigen-values	59
I.6.4.	Basic Diophantine difference equations, which are nested of higher order	61
I.6.5.	Attack on the problem of the Diophantine equation $\mathcal{J}(x) - \mathcal{J}(x+1) = s$ from a new direction	63
I.6.5.1.	A lemma concerning the numbers $\sqrt{k}, K(k) = \sqrt{k + \frac{1}{4}} - \frac{1}{2}$ and $g = [\sqrt{k}]$	64
I.6.5.2.	Main properties of pronic numbers	64
I.6.5.3.	A classification of the natural numbers in regard to their property of being or not being pronic and quasipronic	65
I.6.5.4.	Barriers for the solutions of the Diophantine equation $\mathcal{J}(x) - \mathcal{J}(x+1) = s$	66
I.6.5.4.1.	Investigation of the case, when $K(k/s)$ denotes an integer	66
I.6.5.4.2.	A reciprocity between the associated interval $(k/(s+1); k/s]$ and the interval $(K(k/(s+1)); K(k/s)]$	67
I.6.5.4.3.	The main theorem, leading to the solution of the Diophantine equation $\mathcal{J}(x) - \mathcal{J}(x+1) = s$	68
I.6.5.4.4.	Use of the main theorem for $s > 2$	68
I.6.5.4.5.	Use of the main theorem for $s = 1$	69
I.6.5.4.6.	A sufficient condition for the event that there is at most one solution of the Diophantine equation $\mathcal{J}(x) - \mathcal{J}(x+1) = s$	70

	Page
I.6.5.4.7. A sufficient condition for the interval $(K(k/(s+1)); K(k/(s-1)))$, where s denotes an integer ≥ 2 , to contain at least one integer.	70
I.6.5.5. The necessary condition (cf. THEOREM I.6.1 [3]) for s to be an eigen-value of the Diophantine equation $\mathcal{J}(x) - \mathcal{J}(x+1) = s$, deduced from the investigation in subsection I.6.5.4	70
I.6.5.6. A necessary and sufficient condition for s to be an eigen-value of the Diophantine equation $\mathcal{J}(x) - \mathcal{J}(x+1) = s$, provided $s \geq 2$. (The case $s = 1$ is fully treated in I.6.5.4.5)	71
I.6.5.7. On the structure of the set $\mathfrak{X}(k)$ of numbers, each of which is simultaneously a \mathfrak{V} -number and a $\mathfrak{V}+1$ -number.	71
Chapter I.7. The Diophantine equation $x \cdot \mathcal{J}(x) = \varkappa$	
I.7.1. On the solutions of $x \cdot \mathcal{J}(x) = \varkappa$ for $x \in N(1; k)$	75
I.7.2. On the structure of the class $\{\{n \cdot \mathcal{J}(n) : n \in N(1; k)\}\}$	76
Chapter I.8. The Diophantine equation $\mathcal{J}(x) \cdot \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{J}(x)) = \varkappa$	
I.8.1. On the solutions of $\mathcal{J}(x) \cdot \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{J}(x)) = \varkappa$ for $x \in N(1; k)$	78
I.8.2. A first change of the expression for the solutions of $\mathcal{J}(x) \cdot \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{J}(x)) = \varkappa$	78
I.8.3. A second change of the expression for the solutions of $\mathcal{J}(x) \cdot \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{J}(x)) = \varkappa$	80
I.8.4. The number of solutions of the equation $\mathcal{J}(x) \cdot \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{J}(x)) = \varkappa$ for $x \in N(1; k)$	80
I.8.5. The eigen-values of the equation $\mathcal{J}(x) \cdot \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{J}(x)) = \varkappa$ for $x \in N(1; k)$	81
I.8.6. The $\mathcal{J}(x) \cdot \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{J}(x))$ -spectrum of a natural number	82
Chapter I.9. Diophantine systems of equations (or inequalities), of which one at least contains the greatest integer function. — Investigation of a class of such systems by a method, which depends on a theory of certain two-factor decompositions of integers	
I.9.1. Major and minor divisors of an integer \varkappa relative to another integer $k \geq \varkappa$	84
I.9.2. The greatest integer function and the major and minor divisors of an integer	87
I.9.3. The Diophantine systems $\mathcal{J}(x) = y$, $\mathcal{J}(y) = x$ and $\mathcal{J}(x) = y$, $xy = \varkappa$	88
I.9.4. The Diophantine systems $\mathcal{J}(x) > y$, $\mathcal{J}(y) > x$, $xy = \varkappa$ and $\mathcal{J}(x) = y$, $\mathcal{J}(y) > x$, $xy = \varkappa$	89
I.9.5. The Diophantine system (1) $\mathcal{J}(x) = y$, $\mathcal{J}(y) = x$, $xy = \varkappa$	90
Chapter I.10. The problem of the enclosed divisors. — J. P. Gram's formula	
I.10.1. Gram's function $D_n(m)$	92
I.10.2. Gram's function for two primes entering into the envisaged number. — The lattice point method	93
I.10.3. The "plane model" method	94
I.10.4. The plane model method, applied to the problem of the enclosed divisors	95
I.10.5. Comparison between the lattice point method and the plane model method	96
I.10.6. Comparison, in the two-dimensional case, between the lattice point method and the method using Gram's formula	98
I.10.7. A set-theoretical proof of Gram's formula.	101
I.10.7.1. J. J. Sylvester's principle.	101

I.10.7.2. Some notations, in particular the notation of “puzzlepiece” of a join-chain. — Main properties of the puzzlepieces	101
I.10.7.3. Proof of the set-theoretical equivalent to Sylvester’s principle (for a finite number of finite sets)	103
I.10.7.4. Proof of Gram’s formula	104
APPENDIX 1. Abstract of the formulas for \mathcal{V}_s and \mathcal{W}_s	106
APPENDIX 2. Scheme for the \mathcal{V} (or \mathcal{W})-numbers in the vicinity of the crucial number $K(k)$	107
APPENDIX 3. Table of the $\mathcal{V}_s^{(k)}$-numbers for $k = 10\,000$ and for $1 \leq s \leq 100$	108
APPENDIX 4. Table for the $\mathcal{T}(x) \cdot \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{T}(x))$-spectrum of $k = 10\,000$ (Cf. I.8.6)	109