

## Contents

Preface .....	v
§1. Smooth Manifolds .....	3
§2. Vector Bundles .....	13
§3. Constructing New Vector Bundles Out of Old .....	25
§4. Stiefel-Whitney Classes .....	37
§5. Grassmann Manifolds and Universal Bundles .....	55
§6. A Cell Structure for Grassmann Manifolds .....	73
§7. The Cohomology Ring $H^*(G_n; \mathbb{Z}/2)$ .....	83
§8. Existence of Stiefel-Whitney Classes .....	89
§9. Oriented Bundles and the Euler Class .....	95
§10. The Thom Isomorphism Theorem .....	105
§11. Computations in a Smooth Manifold .....	115
§12. Obstructions .....	139
§13. Complex Vector Bundles and Complex Manifolds .....	149
§14. Chern Classes .....	155
§15. Pontrjagin Classes .....	173
§16. Chern Numbers and Pontrjagin Numbers .....	183
§17. The Oriented Cobordism Ring $\Omega_*$ .....	199
§18. Thom Spaces and Transversality .....	205
§19. Multiplicative Sequences and the Signature Theorem .....	219
§20. Combinatorial Pontrjagin Classes .....	231
Epilogue .....	249
Appendix A: Singular Homology and Cohomology .....	257
Appendix B: Bernoulli Numbers .....	281
Appendix C: Connections, Curvature, and Characteristic Classes .....	289
Bibliography .....	315
Index .....	325