

Contents

Preface	vii
1. Introduction	1
2. Group Theory and Symmetry	6
2.1 The Concept of Groups	6
2.2 Symmetry Groups	9
2.3 Regular Polyhedra	13
2.4 Permutation Groups	19
2.5 Polyhedral Polynomials	26
2.6 Transvectants of Polyhedral Polynomials	30
3. The Symmetry of Equations: Galois Theory and Tschirnhausen Transformations	34
3.1 Rings, Fields, and Polynomials	34
3.2 Galois Theory: Solubility of Algebraic Equations by Radicals ..	45
3.3 Tschirnhausen Transformations	51
4. Elliptic Functions	56
4.1 Elliptic Functions by the Generalization of Radicals	56
4.2 Elliptic Functions as Doubly Periodic Functions	62
4.3 Theta Functions	72
4.4 Higher Order Theta Functions	79
5. Algebraic Equations Soluble by Radicals	82
5.1 The Quadratic and Cubic Equations	82
5.2 The Quartic Equation	87
5.3 Special Quintic Equations Solvable by Radicals	89
6. The Kiepert Algorithm for Roots of the General Quintic Equation ..	95
6.1 Introduction	95
6.2 The Tschirnhausen Transformation of the General Quintic to the Principal Quintic	99
6.3 The Tschirnhausen Transformation of the Principal Quintic to the Brioschi Quintic	103
6.4 Transformation of the Brioschi Quintic to the Jacobi Sextic ..	108
6.5 Solution of the Jacobi Sextic with Weierstrass Elliptic Functions	113
6.6 Evaluation of the Weierstrass Elliptic Functions Using Genus 1 Theta Functions	118
6.7 Evaluation of the Periods of the Elliptic Functions Corresponding to the Jacobi Sextic	123

6.8 Undoing the Tschirnhausen Transformations	126
7. The Methods of Hermite and Gordan for Solving the General Quintic Equation	128
7.1 Hermite's Early Work on the Quintic Equation	128
7.2 Gordan's Work on the Quintic Equation	132
8. Beyond the Quintic Equation	139
8.1 The Sextic Equation	139
8.2 The Septic Equation	143
8.3 The General Algebraic Equation of any Degree	147