

FOREWORD

Joseph Leo Doob, a pioneer in the study of the mathematical foundations of probability theory and its remarkable interplay with other areas of mathematics, died June 7, 2004, in Urbana, Illinois, where he had lived most of his life, arriving in 1935 as a new faculty member of the University of Illinois. He was mentally, physically, and socially active until two weeks before his sudden death when he was diagnosed with the liver cancer that caused it. He was 94.

Doob was one of the founding editors of the Illinois Journal of Mathematics, which began publication in 1957. All the papers in the 50th volume are dedicated to the memory of Doob, each author doing so in their own way. All the papers are research papers except for the survey paper of Jang-Mei Wu on Doob's work in complex function theory. There are more than 1000 pages in the volume.

Many people have contributed to this project. A.J. Hildebrand, Managing Editor of the Illinois Journal of Mathematics, and Debbie Broadrick, Editorial Assistant, have been especially helpful. Important help has also come from my colleagues Frank Knight, Peter Loeb, Robert Kaufman, Walter Philipp, Jang-Mei Wu, Bruce Hajek, Richard Sowers, Renming Song, Robert Bauer, and others. Without a doubt, the most appreciation must go to the authors and referees of the papers in this collection.

Donald Burkholder
Urbana, Illinois
August, 2006