

review, not do they have quite as far-ranging reports on the literature. The authors claim that they are not specialists in the specific topic of this book—indeed, that it was their “hobby”. Instead of disputing this claim, let us wish there were more such “dilettanti”.

The style of the book, is readable, with some arid stretches. Very careful attention must be paid by the reader to terminology; the index is very helpful. It would be pleasant to report an absence of detected errors and misprints; unfortunately the book is riddled with them. A cursory reading of several sections detected about one per page. Most are trivial (wrong signs, 0 for  $\infty$ , misplaced exponents, etc.), quite a few are more serious (e.g., on p. 114, line 5, replace “the spectrum  $\sigma(A)$  lies on the imaginary axis” by “the equation is bistable”<sup>1</sup>); none of those detected is crippling, but their accumulation is most annoying. More to the point, such carelessness in small things makes one wonder about the great ones that one would gladly trust.

Recommendation: a must for the specialist in stability theory (who does not need this review); an important reference book; a source—with very judicious selection—for an inspiring seminar or even a graduate course for enthusiasts.

#### REFERENCES

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*Indefinite inner product spaces*, by János Bognár, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1974, 223 pp., \$19.70.

This is the first book on infinite-dimensional vector spaces with a signed inner product, a subject which frequently goes under the title ‘spaces with an

<sup>1</sup>. This is a translator's error.