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from the lectures presented during the conference. The first paper gives an account of the life of Alexits and his work in function theory (by F. Móricz and K. Tandori). It is followed by three invited papers (by Bl. Sendov, H. Triebel, S. Yano). These as well as the subsequent contributed papers were thoroughly refereed according to the strict standards of international periodicals. All contributed papers are original works not published elsewhere.

Vern PAULSEN. — **Completely bounded maps and operator algebras.** — Cambridge studies in advanced mathematics, vol. 78. — Un vol. relié, 16×24, de XII, 300 p. — ISBN 0-521-81669-6. — Prix : £ 47.50. — Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2003.

In this book the reader is provided with a tour of the principal results and ideas in the theories of completely positive maps, completely bounded maps, dilation theory, operator spaces, and operator algebras, together with some of their main applications. The author assumes only that the reader has a basic background in functional analysis and  $C^*$ -algebras, and the presentation is self-contained and paced appropriately for graduate students new to the subject. The book could be used as a text for a course or for independent reading; with this in mind, many exercises are included. Experts will also want this book for their library, since the author presents new and simpler proofs of some of the major results in the area, and many applications are also included.

## *Théorie des opérateurs*

Sergio ALBEVERIO, Michael DEMUTH, Elmar SCHROHE, Bert-Wolfgang SCHULZE, (Editors). — **Parabolicity, Volterra calculus, and conical singularities.** — A volume of *Advances in partial differential equations*. — Operator theory: advances and applications, vol. 138. — Un vol. relié, 17×24, de IX, 358 p. — ISBN 3-7643-6906-X. — Prix : SFr. 160.00. — Birkhäuser, Basel, 2003.

This volume highlights the analysis on noncompact and singular manifolds within the framework of the cone calculus with asymptotics. — *Contents* : Thomas Krainer: Volterra families of pseudodifferential operators. — Thomas Krainer: The calculus of Volterra Mellin pseudodifferential operators with operator-valued symbols. — Thomas Krainer and Bert-Wolfgang Schulze: On the inverse of parabolic systems of partial differential equations of general form in an infinite space-time cylinder. — Ingo Witt: On the factorization of meromorphic Mellin symbols. — David Kapanadze, Bert-Wolfgang Schulze, and Ingo Witt: Coordinate invariance of the cone algebra with asymptotics.

## *Calcul des variations*

Gianni DAL MASO, Franco TOMARELLI, (Editors). — **Variational methods for discontinuous structures.** — International Workshop at Villa Erba (Cernobio), Italy, July 2001. — Progress in nonlinear differential equations and their applications, vol. 51. — Un vol. relié, 16×24, de X, 185 p. — ISBN 3-7643-6913-2. — Birkhäuser, Basel, 2002.

This volume contains the proceedings of the International Workshop on Variational Methods for Discontinuous Structures, held at Villa Erba Antica (Cernobio), on the Lago di Como, July 4-6, 2001. Some of the talks were devoted to differential or variational modelling of image segmentation, occlusion and textures synthesizing in image analysis, variational description of micro-magnetic materials, dimension reduction and structured deformations in elasticity and plasticity, phase transitions, irrigation and drainage, evolution of crystalline shapes. In most cases theoretical and numerical analysis of these models were provided. Other talks were dedicated to specific problems of the calculus of variations: variational theory of weak or