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Preface

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Publisher Summary

This book is intended to be both a thorough introduction to contemporary research in elasticity, and a working textbook at the graduate level for courses in pure or applied mathematics or in continuum mechanics. During the past decades, elasticity has become the object of a considerable renewed interest, both in its physical foundations and in its mathematical theory. One reason behind this recent attention is that it has been increasingly acknowledged that the classical linear models of elasticity, whose mathematical theory is now firmly established, have a limited range of applicability, outside of which they should be replaced by the genuine nonlinear models that they in effect approximate. A fascinating aspect of elasticity is that, in the course of its study, one naturally feels the need for studying basic mathematical techniques of analysis and functional analysis.

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