Canad. Math. Bull. Vol. **16** (4), 1973

CORRECTION

Analytic evaluation of certain characteristic classes, by Clark D. Jeffries. Canad. Math. Bull. (2) 16 (1973)

In §2, the k^{th} Pontrayagin class should be

$$P_k = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{2k}2k} \operatorname{tr} \Omega^{2k}$$

In §4, instances of $1/(2k)!$ in the expansion of $\int_M P_k$ should be replaced by $1/2k$ In the expansion of ω^{4k-2}, $a_{1i_2}\wedge a_{i_3i_4}\wedge\cdots$ should be replaced by $a_{i_2i_2}\wedge\cdots\wedge a_{1ij}\wedge\cdots$. The evaluation of $\int_{S^{4k-1}} \Delta_{4k-1}$ should be $2\cdot\pi^{2k}/(2k-1)!$. In the numerator of the first expression of the final equation in §4, $(2k-1)!$ should be replaced by $[(2k-1)!]^2$.

In §5, each occurrence of K should be replaced by k.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PRIORITY

The extension of Strum's separation theorem contained in Theorem 1 of my paper, *On Strum's Separation Theorem*, this BULLETIN, **15** (1972) 481–487, is included in Theorem 1 of a paper by Lee Lorch and D. J. Newman, *A Supplement to the Sturm Separation Theorem, with Applications*, Amer. Math. Monthly **72** (1965) 359–366. To see this for part (d) of my Theorem 1, note that if $y_2(x)\neq 0$ for $x_1<x<b$ then by the theorem of Lorch and Newman, it follows that the Wronskian $W(y_1, y_2; x)=y_2^2(x)\dfrac{d}{dx}(y_1(x)/y_2(x))$ must be positive on (x_1, b), from which the conclusion $y_2(x)=0[y_1(x)]$ as $x\to a+$ follows. In point of fact, as Professor Lorch noted in an earlier Acknowledgment of Priority published in the Amer. Math. Monthly **72** (1965), p. 980, this result is also included in work of Marston Morse and Walter Leighton, *Singular Quadratic Functionals*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., **40** (1936), 252–286. Finally, I want to thank Professor Lorch for also pointing out that he has traced the work back to M. Bôcher, *On Certain Methods of Sturn and their Application to the Roots of Bessel Functions*, Bull. Amer. Math. Soc., **3** (1897) 205–213.

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