



Theory of Maxima and Minima (Paperback)

By Harris Hancock

Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. THE theory of maxima and minima contains pitfalls into which have fallen such well-known mathematicians as Lagrange, Bertrand, Serret, and Todhunter. A peculiar interest, therefore, is attached to the subject, and the reader will find Prof. Hancock's book well worth his study. Except that there is no reference to calculus of variations, the author has succeeded in covering the ground fairly thoroughly, and that without allowing the argument to be anywhere tedious. He gives many references, and a few quite interesting examples. After a short investigation of maxima and minima of functions of a single variable, he gives in some detail the methods of Scheeffer and von Dantscher, which introduced rigour into the discussion of functions of two or three variables. The theory here is intimately connected with the theory of quadratic forms and singularities of higher plane curves. The author seems not to have read such books as Bromwich's Quadratic Forms, Hilton's Linear Substitutions, or Muth's Elementartheilar, which would have enabled him in places to simplify his treatment of quadratic forms. In tracing a plane curve near...



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