

# Preface

This is the third and final volume of my treatise on “Pseudo-differential operators and Markov processes”. It was written in the years 2002–2004 and finished with about a year of delay. This delay was essentially caused by the fact that I had to become Acting Head of Department for half a year and during this time I was involved in 5 audits and reviews. (Maybe only academics in the U.K. can imagine how destructive these bureaucratic excercises are for research. In the end no academic, student or institution will benefit from an audit, they are invented by bureaucrats to feed more bureaucrats.) I am grateful to my publisher that he accepted this delay and gives me all the time needed to finish the work.

Parts of this volume are quite close to the state of the art of our knowledge. This implies that we can not claim to have written the final account of the topic. In fact in the last few years many new exciting results have been proved and completely new areas of investigations have been opened. Thus we hope that this volume will serve all those working in this field and pushing our knowledge forward.

Once again this volume owes much to my (former) students and research assistants: W. Hoh, R. Schilling, A. Krägeloh, V. Knopova, B. Böttcher, A. Potrykus as well as W. Farkas and A. Tokarev. They allowed me to make free use of their work, partly not yet published, and they have been much supportive whenever approached.

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