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Prof. John Neumann  
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Dear Sir:

Best thanks for your letter of December, 10, 1947, in prompt and most obliging reply to my previous one.

I am happy to be able to report that the Representatives in Spain of the Allied Control Council for Germany, by whom I had been told some months ago, when I first approached them, that they had no authority in matters of German copyrights, have quite recently been given such authority, and that I expect, therefore, to sign a contract with them within the next few days authorizing the publication of my translation of Mathematische Grundlagen der Quantenmechanik. The prologue to the Spanish version, which I believe had not been arranged for when I last wrote, is to be written by Prof. Esteban Terradas Illa, to whom Weyl dedicated his "Mathematische Analyse des Raumproblems". The book will appear as soon as possible after the contract is signed - as you know, I already have a publisher - and I shall of course take pleasure in sending you a copy as soon as it is off the press. Meanwhile, there remain two matters in which I should appreciate knowing your wishes before publication.

The first is the form you choose to have given to your Christian name in the Spanish addition. I take it the choice is between Johann, John and Juan, and that the only decisive consideration is your own personal preference.

The second is the matter of the misprints mentioned in my last letter. In response to the interest you express in them in your reply. I shall list them below, and then thank you very much if you will let me know as soon as is convenient whether you are agreeable to the modifications I propose in each case:

p. 13 (-1)

so folgt ans

$(q) = 0$  für  $q \in 0.$ <sup>31</sup> } ...  $h(q) = 0$  für  $q \in 0.$ <sup>31</sup>  
and on p. 240 (Anm.<sup>31</sup>)

$(q) = 0$  bis auf eine Menge ...

}  $h(q) = 0$  bis auf eine Menge...

./.

p. 19 (-3, -2), 20 (-14), 21 (7) }

p. 35 (-10)

It is clear that the relation does not hold in general, and I was not be able to establish that inequality. Therefore I modified slightly the demonstration in the following terms:

using theorem 2, II, 1,

and taking , it follows from here

p. 57 (5), 58 (-8, -1), 59 (3) }

p. 63 (10)

p. 63 (-9)

p. 66 (5)

Anzahl von

Anzahl von (oder: Anzahl von Summanden)

p. 81 (-9)

p. 89 (11) (12)

p. 91 (4)

p. 147 (15)

die Gesamtheit aller Indexsysteme

} Indexsysteme

die Gesamtheit aller

in denen mal die 0, mal die 1, ... vorkommt - es sind genau ! ! ... verschiedene.

I think that what is meant here is that we have to assign to the indices ,..., the numbers of a set of numbers in which the 0 appears times, the 1, times,... . But then, the number of distinct systemes ,..., under such a condition equals the number of permutations of elements among which there are equal to 0, equal to 1, ..., and this number is and not

! ! . Therefore we should change the subsequent text from p. 147 (19) to (-15) as follows:

"Since ... is sum of distinct terms, each of which appears repeated ! !... times, every pair being orthogonal and every term being of modulus 1, the square of the modulus of equals ( ! !...), that is to say,

&. Then the functions &."

The rest of the text remains unchanged.

p. 193 (12)

"Wir können also sagen: das ... - Gas hat die Temperatur T angenommen". Perhaps it would be better to speak of a ... -Gas, instead of ,..., for it is the boxes ,..., which act as gas molecules, not the systems . More-over, on p. 193 (-16) it is stated: "denn der Unterschied zwischen U-Gesamtheit und dem U-Gas von Temperatur 0 verschwindet, weil die ,..., desletzteren...", which, I think, supports the terminology ,..., -Gas.

p. 203 (11 and ff.)

From the beginning of this § the eigen-functions and eigen-values of U were called , and those of were called From here to the end, the notation is reversed.

In the same way, the matrix associated to an operator is defined first by = (e.g., on pages 50, 93, 100, 242 (N.60), 249 (N.13)), according to which

But on p. 167 and following the notation is adopted, and, therefore, . In my translation I have maintained the first agreement throughout the book.

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Prof. J. von Neumann, Princeton.- 1948.2.6.-

IV.

I shall be eager to know whether the above meets with your approval.

Happy, then, to have had this part in making your valuable work more widely available, and grateful for your repeated encouragement, I am

Yours sincerely,