

Dardo Oscar Guaraglia, Jorge Lorenzo Pousa

Introduction to Modern Instrumentation for Hydraulics and Environmental Sciences

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Managing Editor: Alessandro Pezzoli

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Published by De Gruyter Open Ltd, Warsaw/Berlin
Part of Walter de Gruyter GmbH, Berlin/Munich/Boston



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ISBN: 978-3-11-040171-4

e-ISBN: 978-3-11-040172-1

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at <http://dnb.dnb.de>.

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www.degruyteropen.com

Cover illustration: © Sergio Schmidt and Horacio Ezcurra from Ezcurra & Schmidt Engineering Firm

To my wife, daughters and son

To my parents

(Dardo Oscar Guaraglia)

To my mother María, in memoriam

To Nelly, in memoriam

(Jorge Lorenzo Pousa)

I often say that when you can measure what you are speaking about, and express it in numbers, you know something about it; but when you cannot express it in numbers, your knowledge is of a meagre and unsatisfactory kind; it may be the beginning of knowledge, but you have scarcely, in your thoughts, advanced to the stage of science, whatever the matter may be.

William Thomson, 1st Baron Kelvin (1824 - 1907) (Lord Kelvin)

Although this may seem a paradox, all exact science is dominated by the idea of approximation. When a man tells you that he knows the exact truth about anything, you are safe in inferring that he is an inexact man. Every careful measurement in science is always given with the probable error ... every observer admits that he is likely wrong, and knows about how much wrong he is likely to be.

Bertrand Russell (1872-1970,) in The Scientific Outlook (1931, 2009), 42.