

AL BAERNSTEIN II'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYMMETRIZATION, PART I

CARLO MORPURGO

University of Missouri, Columbia

This talk is about the method of polarization, or “two-point symmetrization”, as applied to integral inequalities of all sorts. This technique was most effectively developed by Baernstein and Taylor in 1976, and it was refined and extended by Al himself, his students and others over the years. We will review these developments, and we will show how the method has impacted, and continues to impact, the work of several mathematicians.