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Inner functions and operator theory

Inner functions arose originally in an operator-theoretic context, via
Beurling's characterization of the invariant subspaces of the
unilateral shift. Since then, they have played important roles in a
number of operatorial contexts, which we shall survey. This includes
the theory of composition operators on Hardy spaces, the theory of
model spaces and restricted shifts, and certain interesting questions
about interpolation by analytic functions.