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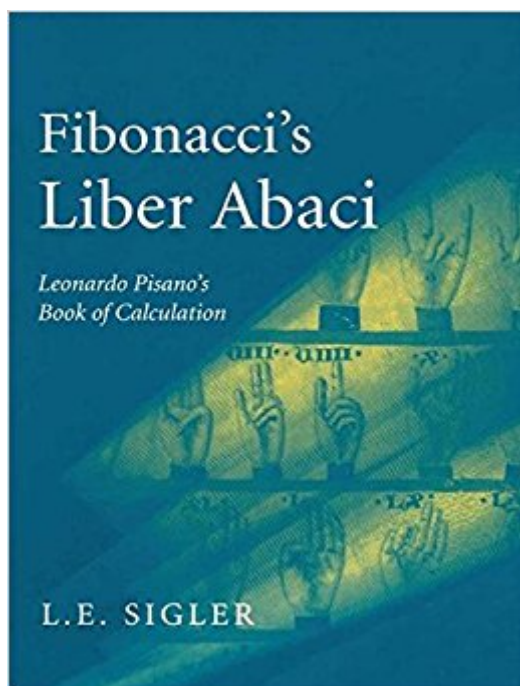
FibonacciÃ¢â¬â„¢s Liber Abaci: A Translation Into Modern English Of Leonardo PisanoÃ¢â¬â„¢s Book Of Calculation (Sources And Studies In The History Of Mathematics And Physical Sciences)

Synopsis

First published in 1202, Fibonacci¢â ¬â„¢s Liber Abaci was one of the most important books on mathematics in the Middle Ages, introducing Arabic numerals and methods throughout Europe. This is the first translation into a modern European language, of interest not only to historians of science but also to all mathematicians and mathematics teachers interested in the origins of their methods.

Book Information

Series: Sources and Studies in the History of Mathematics and Physical Sciences

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars   4 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

From the reviews: "Leonardo of Pisa's Liber Abaci (Book of Calculation) is one of the most important books in the history of European mathematics. Leonardo learned his mathematics from the Islamic mathematical tradition (some have even argued that he should be considered part of that tradition), but he wrote his books in Latin. As a result, he became one of the most important mediators of that tradition to European readers. The Liber Abaci focused on "calculation." From our point of view, most of the contents are either arithmetic or algebra. It starts off with an extensive and detailed discussion of the use of "the nine Indian figures" to represent numbers and to perform arithmetical operations with them. The "nine figures" are, of course, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, with 0 being treated as a separate sign. The book then goes on to deal with a large number of problems that we would describe as algebraic. Most of these reduce to linear equations (this includes systems of linear equations and also linear diophantine equations). The final chapter discusses quadratic equations. All of this is done, of course, without any sort of algebraic symbolism. As Heinz Lueneberg has pointed out in a recent issue of FOCUS, this is an amazing book, and it is somewhat

frustrating that we had to wait for the 800th anniversary of its original publication to see an English translation. But here it is at last, the Liber Abaci in English. It is now possible for mathematicians who are interested in history to read it, and for students to read portions of it in their history courses. One final comment: attentive readers will note that the name "Fibonacci" does not occur in this brief review. That is because Leonardo never used that name: it is a nickname given to him by a 19th century historian of mathematics. I'm enough of a purist to want to refer to Leonardo as he referred to himself: Leonardo of Pisa, of the Bonacci family. He was a great mathematician, and here is an accessible and readable edition of his most famous book. Don't miss the opportunity to get a copy." MAA Online, March 2003 "The Liber abaci of Leonardo Pisano (today commonly called Fibonacci) is one of the fundamental works of European mathematics. No other book did more to establish the basic framework of arithmetic and algebra as they developed in the Western world. Ã¢â ¬Â¦its position as the only modern text of this fundamental work will make this translation an essential part of any collection in the history of mathematics." MathSciNet " . . . Even the Latin original has been hard to find outside the rare book room . . . But now this cornerstone of mathematical culture has finally become widely available with the appearance of FibonacciÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Ã¢â ¬ËœLiber AbaciÃ¢â ¬â„¢: A Translation into Modern English of Leonardo PisanoÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Book of Calculation." AMERICAN SCIENTIST "This book is the translation of Baldassarre BoncompagniÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Latin edition published in Rome in 1857. This is the first and so far the only translation to a modern language of an important rarity. Ã¢â ¬Â¦ The titles of the chapters describe the topics quite well. Ã¢â ¬Â¦ this important book should be on the shelves of anyone interested in history, culture, mathematics and the interaction of these basic human values." (Peter Hajnal, Acta Scientiarum Mathematicarum, Vol. 70, 2004)

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Latin --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Relive the birth or mathematics as we now know it in Europe.

Wonderful!Amazing text on Mathematics from the XIII century.Great presentation.I didn't expect such a vast body of wisdom.

I was completely underwhelmed when this book arrived -- it's entirely too small and the cover text is laid out very poorly, where the oversized title font looks cramped on the cover. It looks like someone

took what is probably a well-balanced layout on the hardcover dust jacket and just printed it the exact same size onto a smaller-dimensioned paperback version. As a result, it just looks of low regard, and over $70 for this paperback is a lot of money to pay for something whose aesthetic layout seems to have been about as much of a total afterthought as a Chinese restaurant bathroom.

A great read on the 13th century mathematical concepts and methods used. As this book was instrumental to the introduction of the modern number system the explanations of the base10 number system are excellent.I know a fair bit about maths but found some gems of information and more importantly this book gave context to some other concepts.A must read in my opinion to anyone who cares about maths.

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