

An Imaginary Tale: The Story of â -1 (Paperback)

Filesize: 6.06 MB

Reviews

Great eBook and useful one. it was actually writtern really completely and useful. You are going to like the way the article writer publish this publication.

(Prof. Ernestine Emard)

AN IMAGINARY TALE: THE STORY OF Â -1 (PAPERBACK)



Princeton University Press, United States, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Revised edition. Language: English. Brand New Book. Today complex numbers have such widespread practical use--from electrical engineering to aeronautics--that few people would expect the story behind their derivation to be filled with adventure and enigma. In An Imaginary Tale, Paul Nahin tells the 2000-year-old history of one of mathematics most elusive numbers, the square root of minus one, also known as i. He recreates the baffling mathematical problems that conjured it up, and the colorful characters who tried to solve them. In 1878, when two brothers stole a mathematical papyrus from the ancient Egyptian burial site in the Valley of Kings, they led scholars to the earliest known occurrence of the square root of a negative number. The papyrus offered a specific numerical example of how to calculate the volume of a truncated square pyramid, which implied the need for i. In the first century, the mathematician-engineer Heron of Alexandria encountered I in a separate project, but fudged the arithmetic; medieval mathematicians stumbled upon the concept while grappling with the meaning of negative numbers, but dismissed their square roots as nonsense. By the time of Descartes, a theoretical use for these elusive square roots--now called imaginary numbers --was suspected, but efforts to solve them led to intense, bitter debates. The notorious i finally won acceptance and was put to use in complex analysis and theoretical physics in Napoleonic times. Addressing readers with both a general and scholarly interest in mathematics, Nahin weaves into this narrative entertaining historical facts and mathematical discussions, including the application of complex numbers and functions to important problems, such as Kepler's laws of planetary motion and ac electrical circuits. This book can be read as an engaging history, almost a biography, of one of the...



Read An Imaginary Tale: The Story of â -1 (Paperback) Online Download PDF An Imaginary Tale: The Story of â -1 (Paperback)

See Also



Short Stories 3 Year Old and His Cat and Christmas Holiday Short Story Dec 2015: Short Stories

2016. PAP. Book Condition: New. New Book. Delivered from our US warehouse in 10 to 14 business days. THIS BOOK IS PRINTED ON DEMAND. Established seller since 2000.

Save ePub »



The Case for the Resurrection: A First-Century Investigative Reporter Probes History s Pivotal Event

ZONDERVAN, United States, 2010. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 180 x 127 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The Case for the Resurrection, a ninety-six-page booklet from bestselling author Lee Strobel, provides new evidence that...

Save ePub »



My Windows 8.1 Computer for Seniors (2nd Revised edition)

Pearson Education (US). Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, My Windows 8.1 Computer for Seniors (2nd Revised edition), Michael Miller, Easy, clear, readable, and focused on what you want to do Step-by-step instructions for the...

Save ePub »



Questioning the Author Comprehension Guide, Grade 4, Story Town

 $HARCOURT\ SCHOOL\ PUBLISHERS.\ PAPERBACK.\ Book\ Condition: New.\ 0153592419\ Brand\ new\ soft\ cover\ books\ may\ show\ light\ shelf\ wear.\ Item\ ships\ within\ 24\ hours\ with\ Free\ Tracking.$

Save ePub »



Fun to Learn Bible Lessons Preschool 20 Easy to Use Programs Vol 1 by Nancy Paulson 1993 Paperback Book Condition: Brand New. Book Condition: Brand New.

Save ePub »