

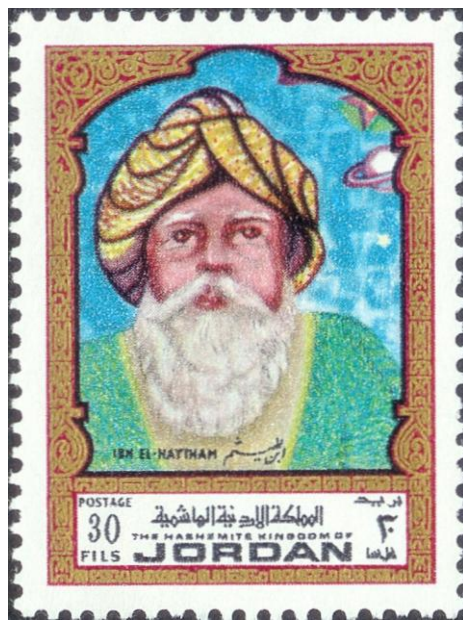
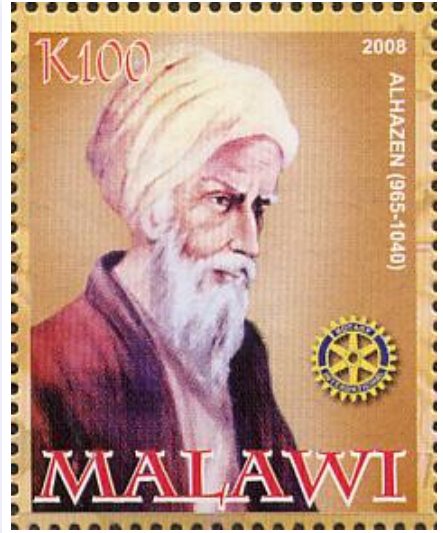
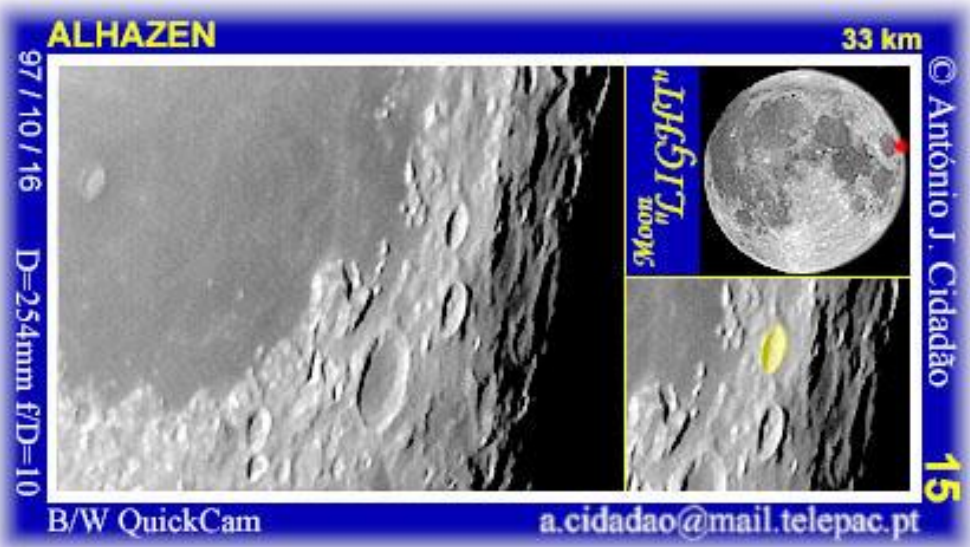
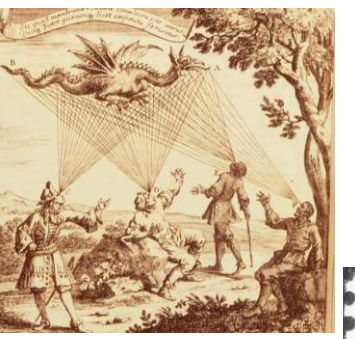
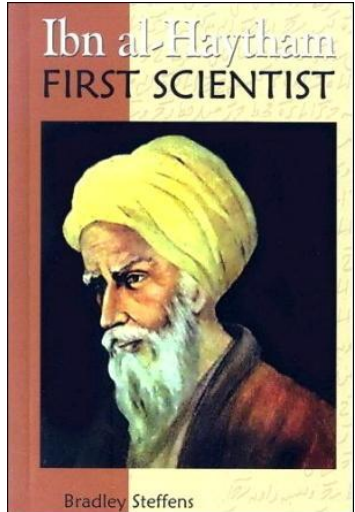
# Historical Perspectives

Abu Ali al-Hasan ibn al-Haytham (965-1039)

- AKA **Alhazen** or “The Physicist”
- **Greatest scientist of the middle ages**
- Contributed to mathematics, physics, optics, astronomy, anatomy, medicine, engineering, philosophy, psychology
- Pioneered the **scientific method**, modern **optics** and **experimental physics**
- Polymath: authored over 200 treatises, including influential “**Book of Optics**”
- Influenced Leonardo da Vinci, Bacon, Descartes, Kepler, Galileo and Newton









## THE OLD SCIENTIFIC METHOD

Formulate a hypothesis.  
Accumulate data.  
Do extensive  
experimentation.



## THE NEW SCIENTIFIC METHOD

Formulate a hypothesis.  
Patent it.  
Raise \$17 million.



J. HARRIS

# Historical Perspectives

## Leonardo of Pisa (1170–1250)

- Better known as “**Fibonacci**”
- Considered the most talented mathematician of the middle ages
- Published (1202) “**Liber Abaci**” – “The Book of Calculation”
- Introduced Hindu-Arabic **positional number system** in Europe
- Popularized **Fibonacci sequence**



**1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55 89**



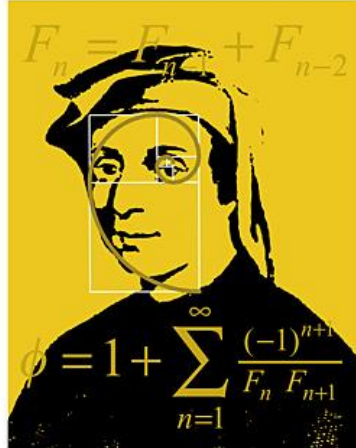
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Eastern Arabic-Indic (Persian and Urdu)	.	١	٢	٣	٤	٥	٦	٧	٨	٩
Devanagari (Hindi)	०	१	२	३	४	५	६	७	८	९
Tamil	௦	௧	௨	௩	௪	௫	௬	௭	௮	௯

V̄MDCLXVI = 6666



**Fibonacci**  
Un ponte sul Mediterraneo  
Die arabische Wissenschaft  
und die Wiedergeburt der  
Mathematik im Abendland

AUSSTELLUNGEN HAUPTHALLE ETH ZENTRUM  
27. OKTOBER 2003 BIS 14. NOVEMBER 2003  
AUSSTELLUNGSBOYER DER ETH-BIBLIOTHEK  
27. OKTOBER 2003 BIS 7. FEBRUAR 2004  
MO BIS FR 8:30H BIS 21H/SA 9H BIS 16:45H

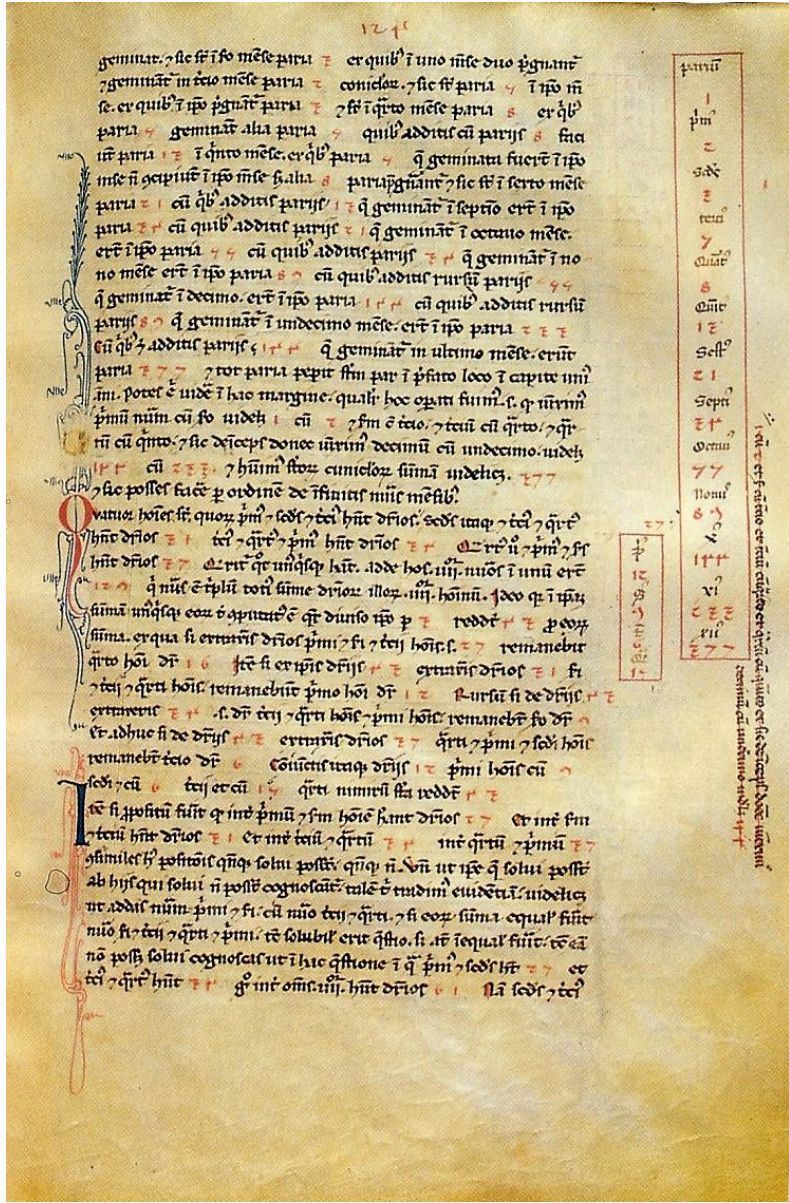


Leonardo Pisano Fibonacci  
1170 - 1250

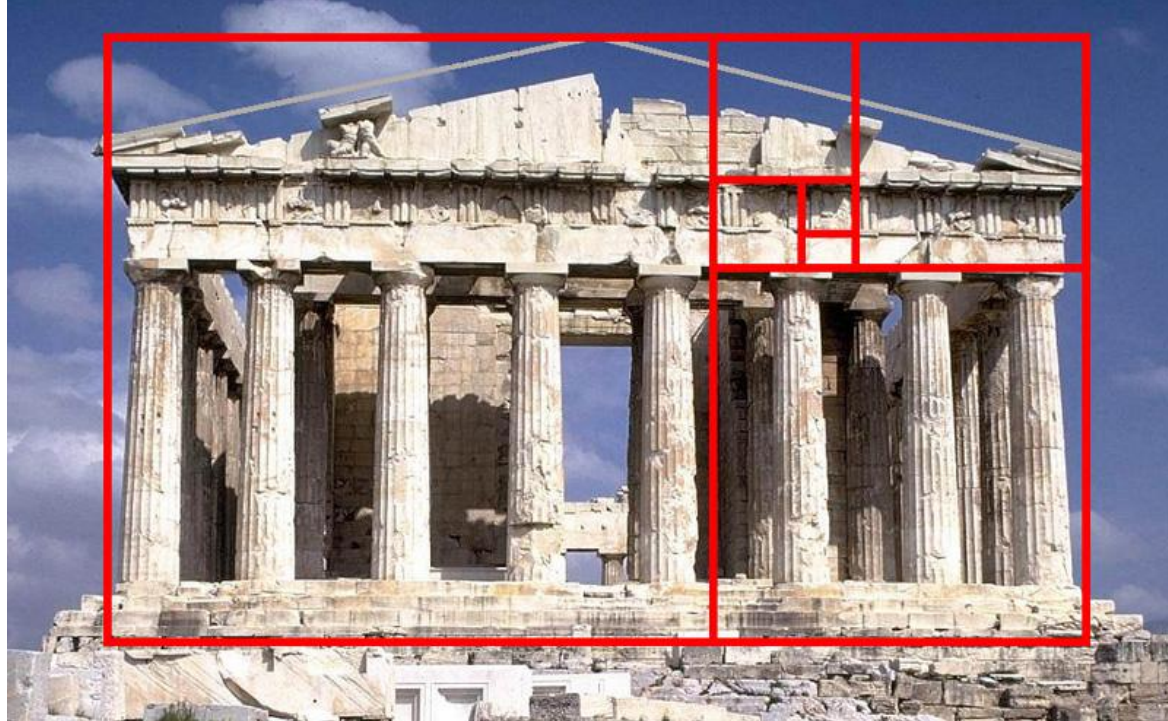
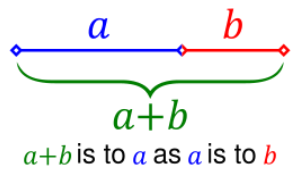
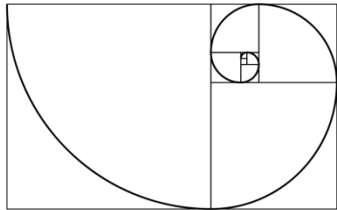
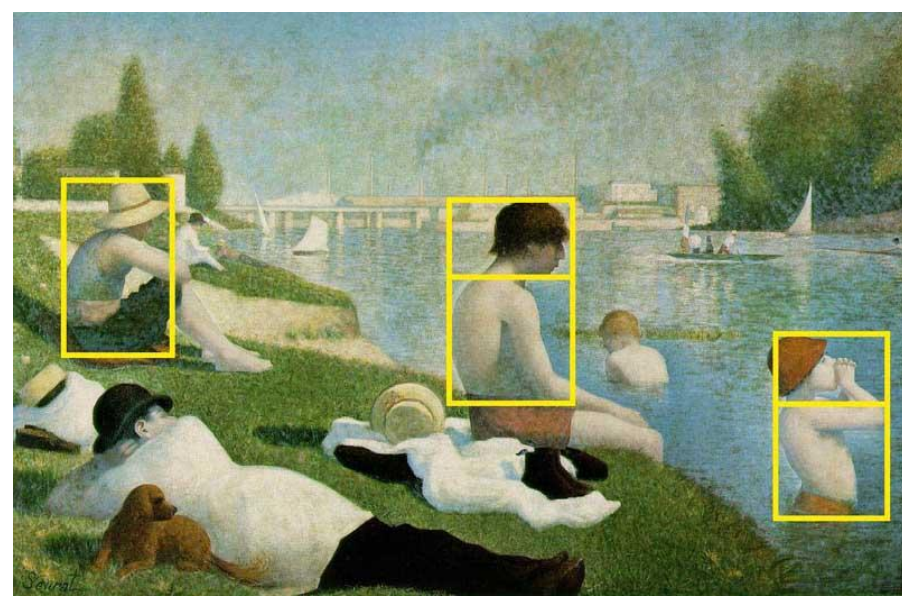


The Fibonacci Quarterly

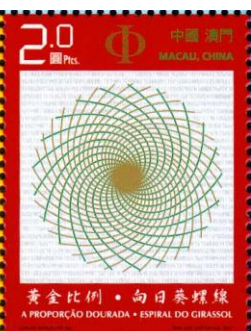
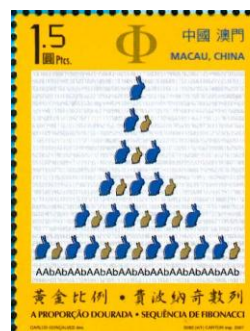
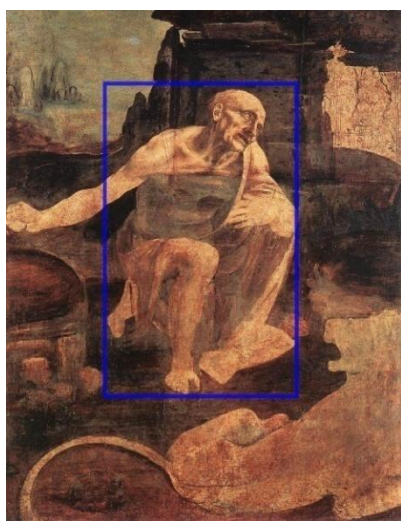
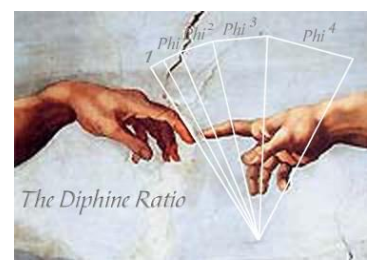
Official Publication of The Fibonacci Association











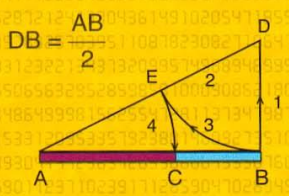
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# 科學與科技 - 黃金比例

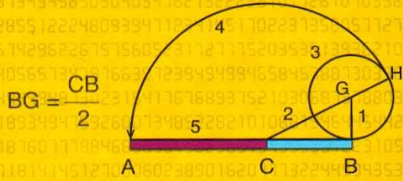
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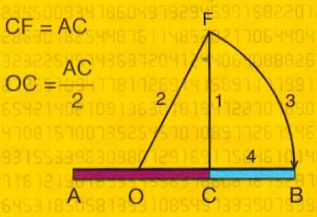
定義  
Definição



整段AB的分割  
Divisão do "todo" AB



較長線段AC的作法  
Traçado da "maior" AC



較短線段CB的作法  
Traçado da "menor" CB

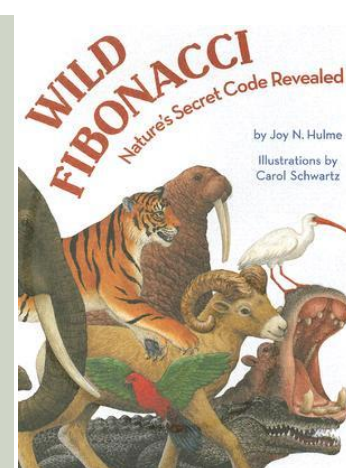
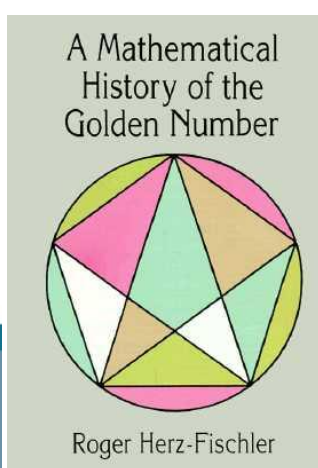
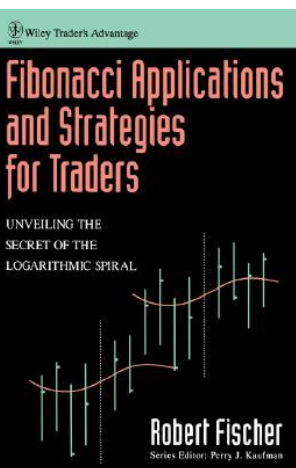
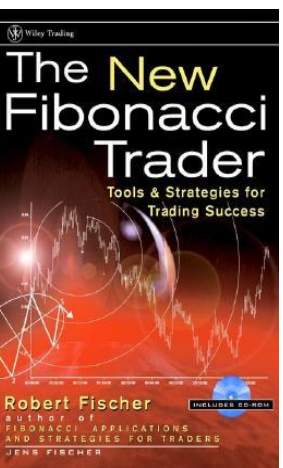
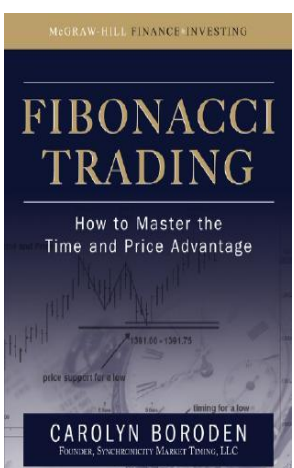
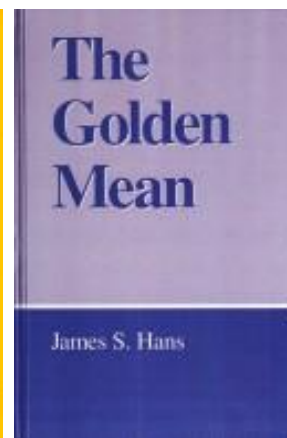
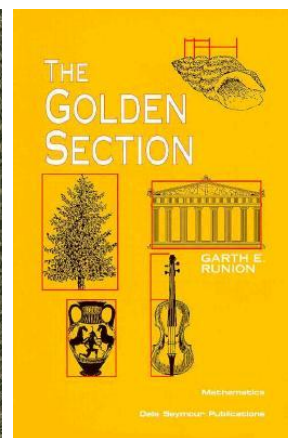
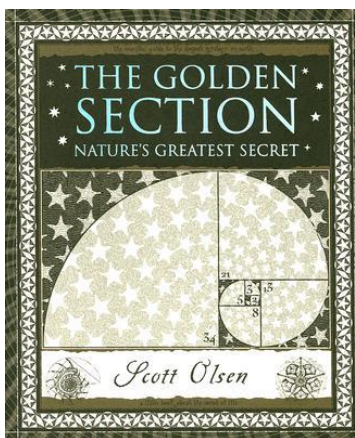
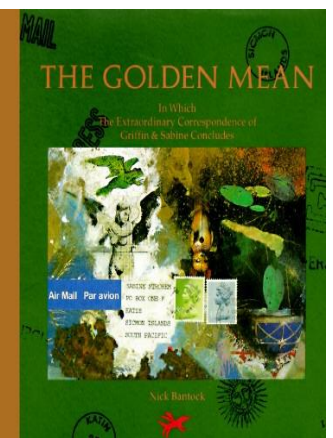
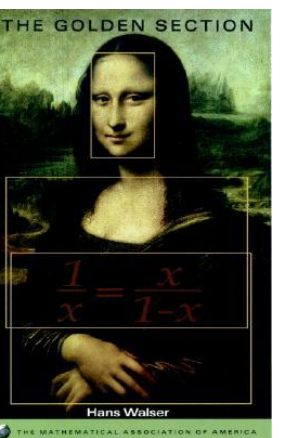
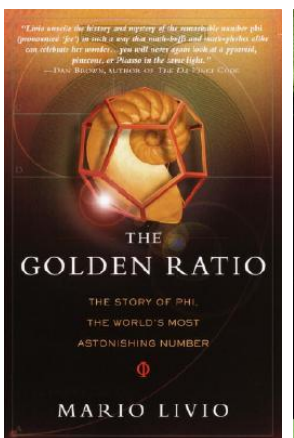
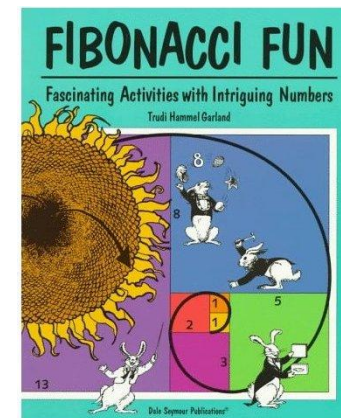
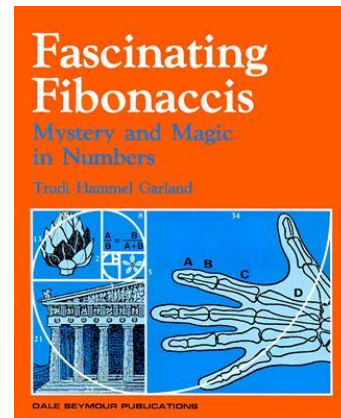
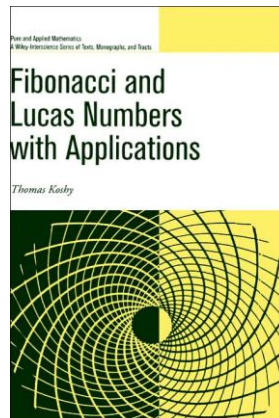
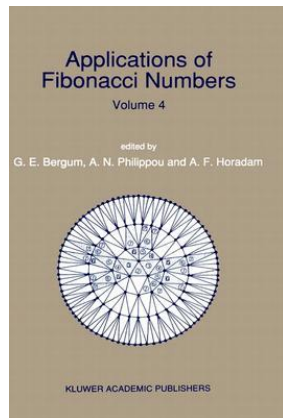
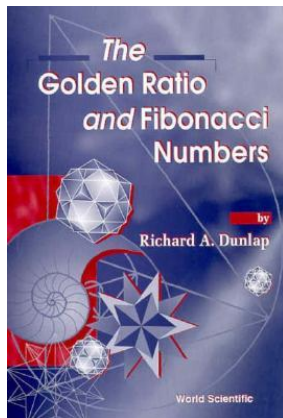
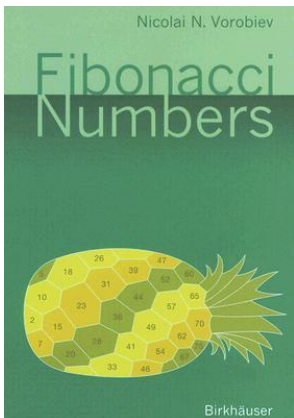


## Ciência e Tecnologia - A PROPORÇÃO DOURADA



159599

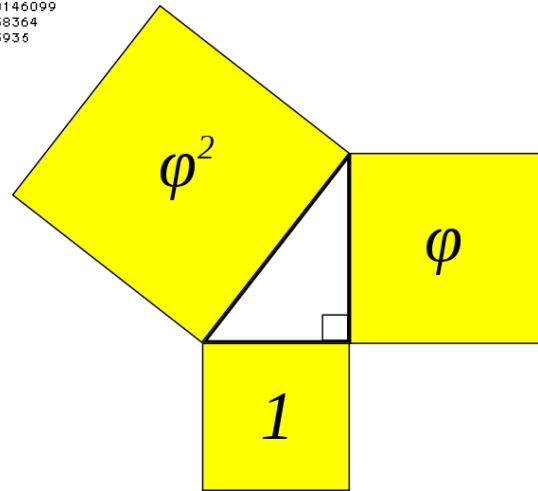
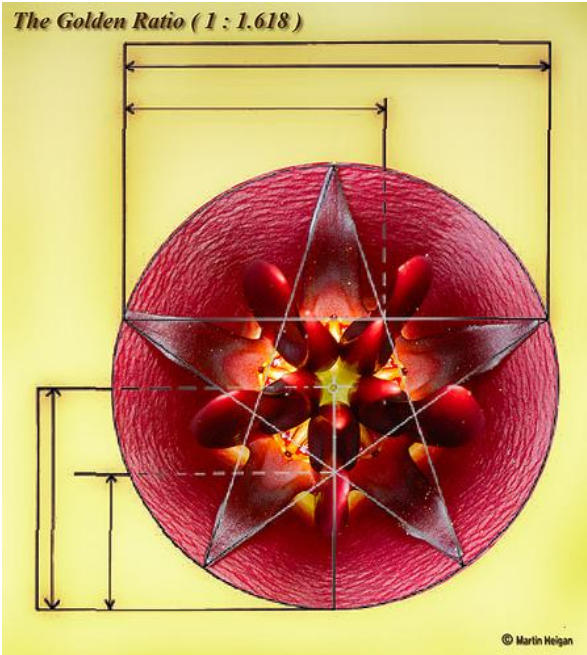
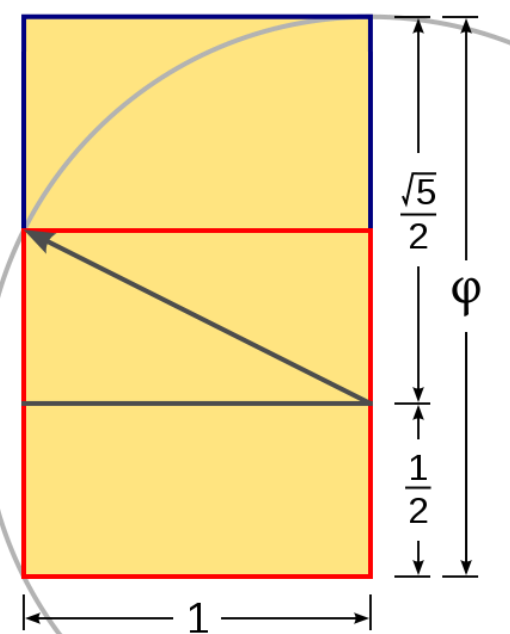
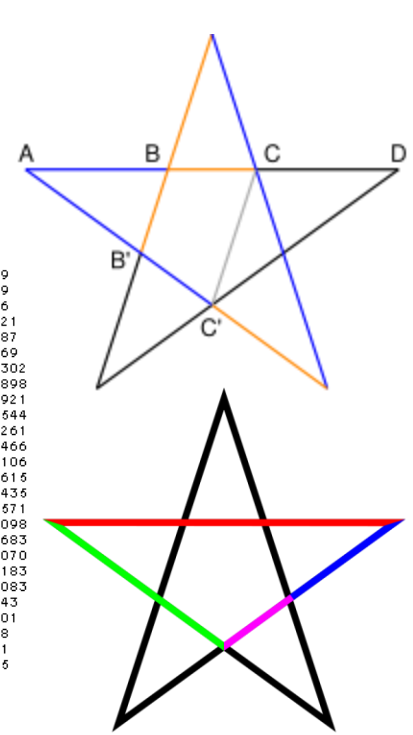






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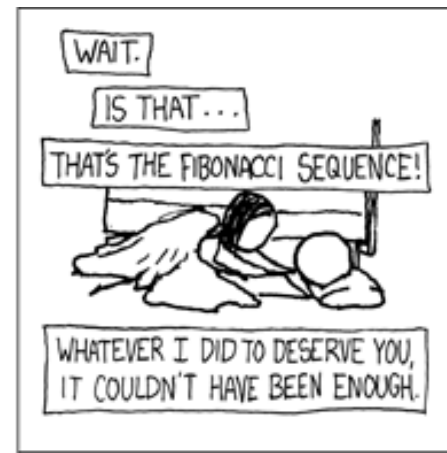
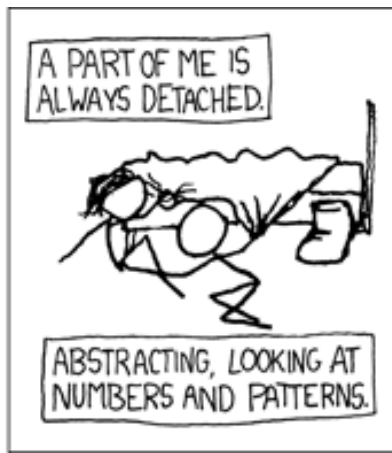








"This must be Fibonacci's."

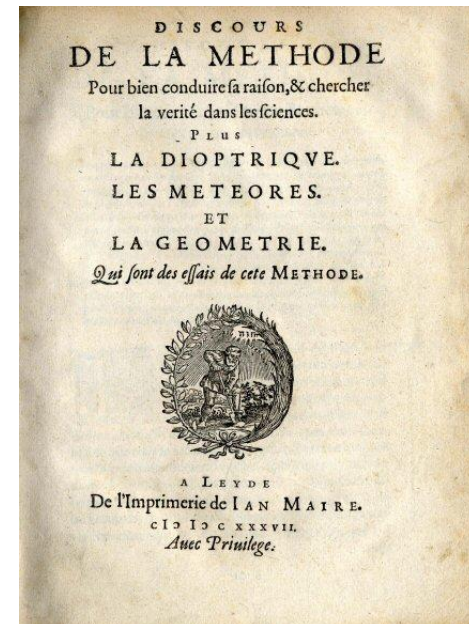
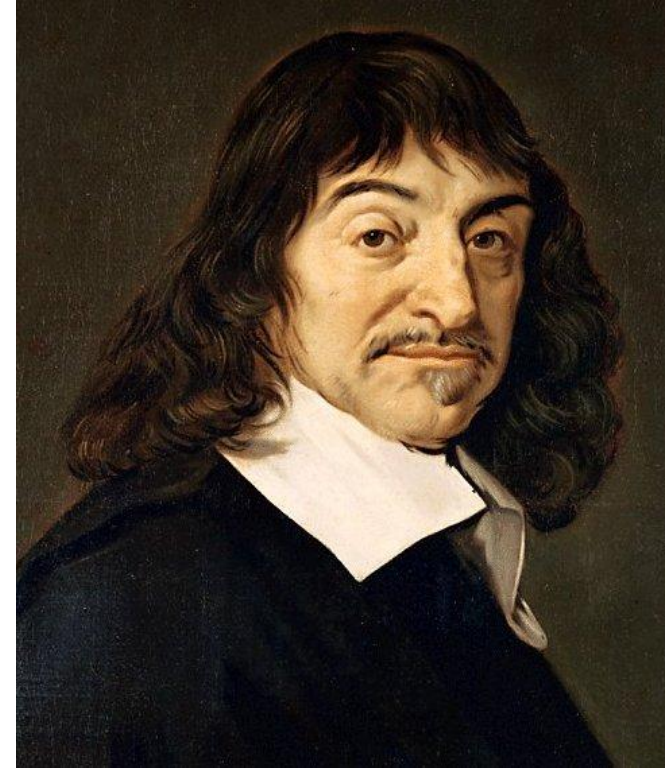


# Historical Perspectives

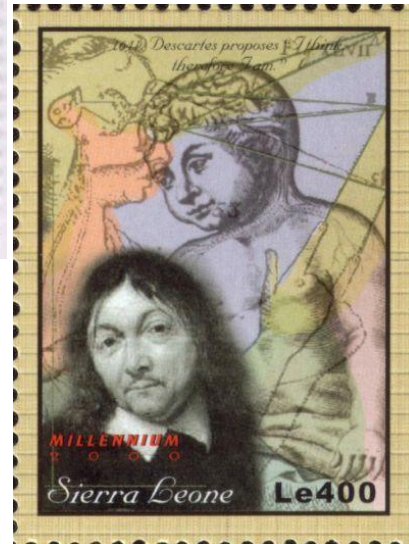
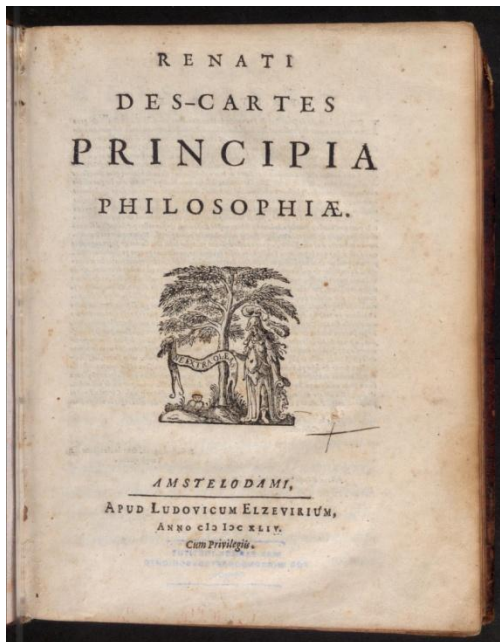
## René Descartes (1596-1650)

- Father of **modern philosophy**
- Invented **Cartesian coordinates**, **analytic geometry**, heuristics
- Characterized paradoxes & fallacies
- Discovered **momentum conservation**
- Authored “Principia philosophiae”
- Pioneered methodological skepticism
- “**Cogito ergo sum**” - “Je pense, donc je suis ”
- “**Discours de la méthode**” (1637) - one of the most influential works in modern science
- Pioneered the **scientific method** & revolution

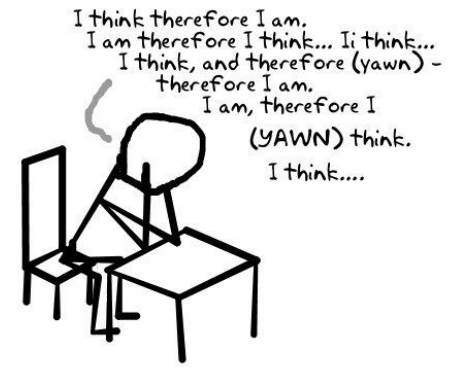
“For it is not enough to have a good mind:  
one must use it well.” - Descartes



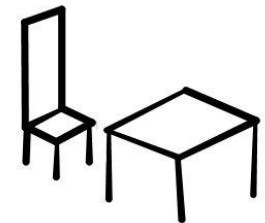
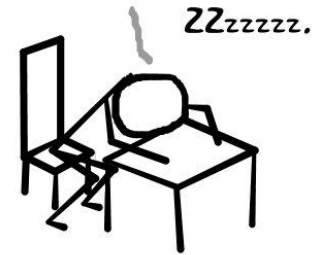




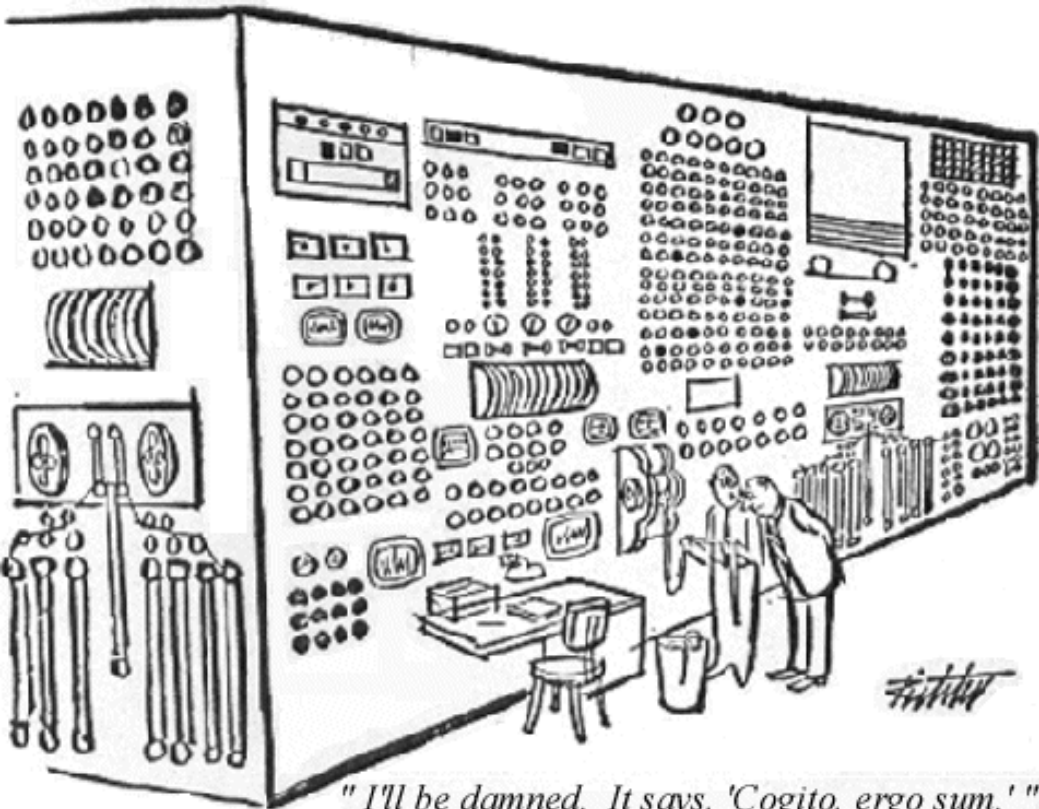




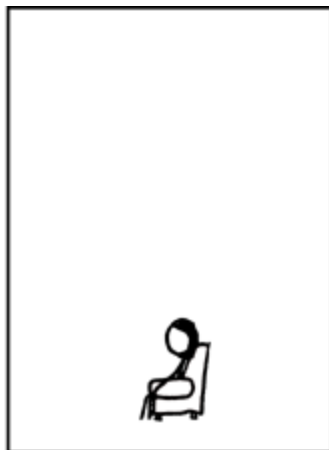
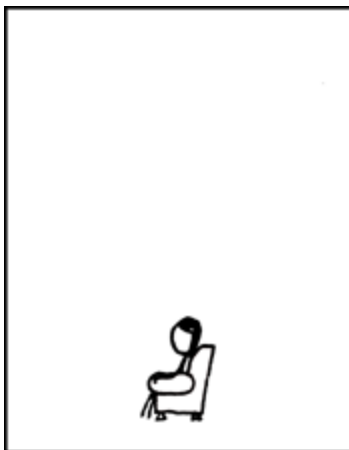
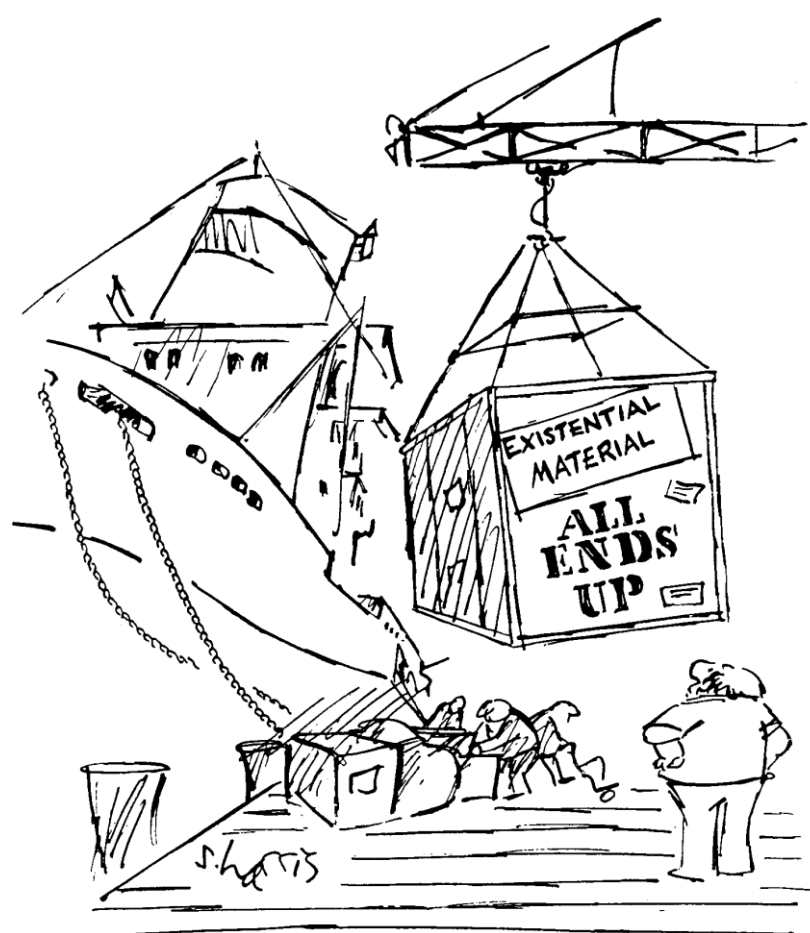
ZZZZzzzzz







"I'll be damned. It says, 'Cogito, ergo sum.'"



IF THE QUESTION OF WHAT  
IT ALL MEANS DOESN'T MEAN  
ANYTHING, WHY DO I KEEP  
COMING BACK TO IT?

|

SHE'S GETTING  
EXISTENTIAL AGAIN.

|

IT'S OKAY,  
I HAVE A  
SUPER SOAKER.

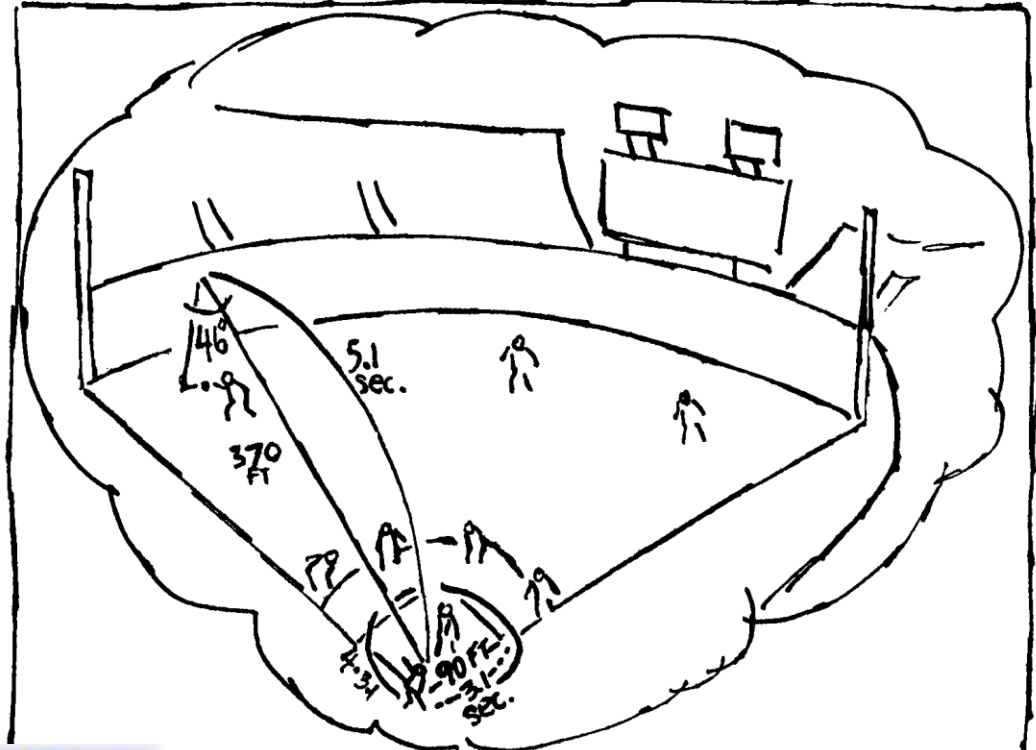




René Descartes 1596 - 1650



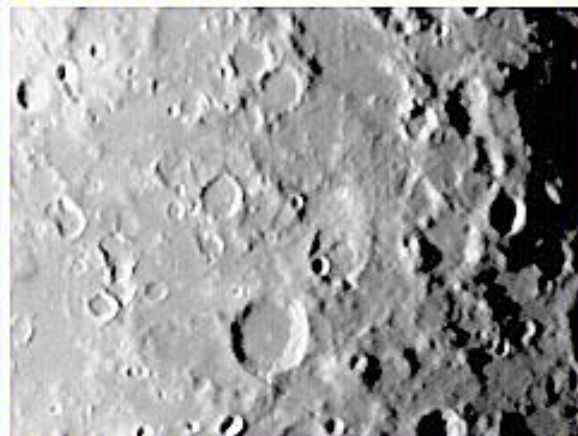
# RENÉ DESCARTES EXPLAINS THE COORDINATE SYSTEM WHICH TIES TOGETHER ALGEBRA AND GEOMETRY



## DESCARTES

48 km

98 / 04 / 16 D=254mm FD=10



© António J. Cidadão 20

B/W QuickCam

a.cidadao@mail.telepac.pt





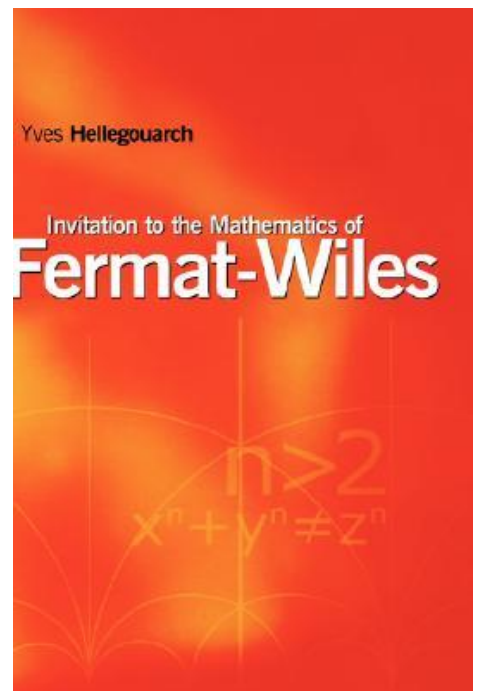
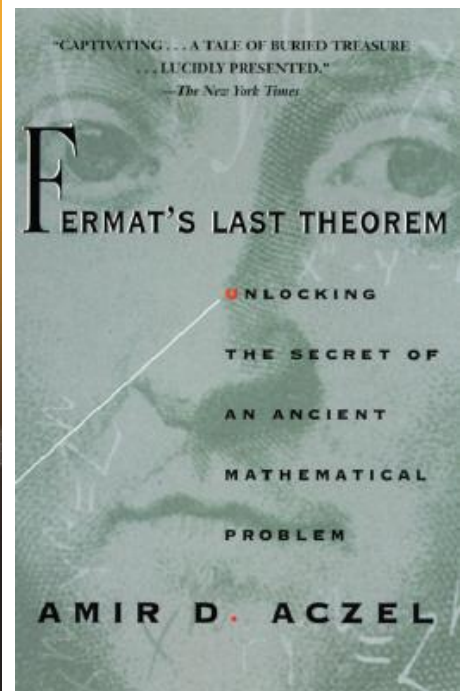
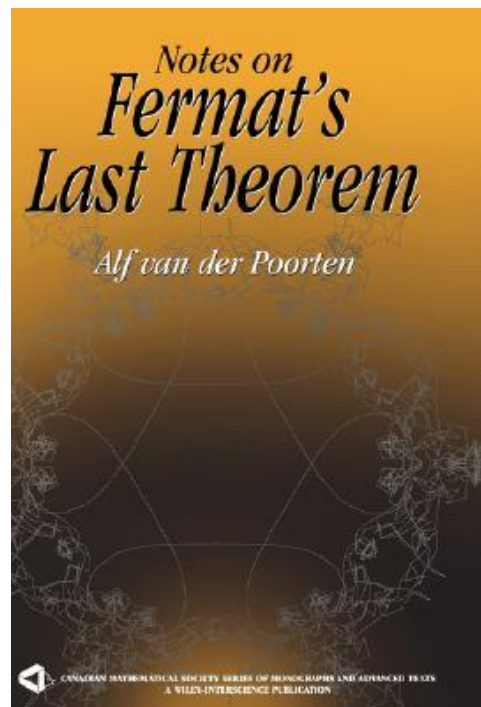
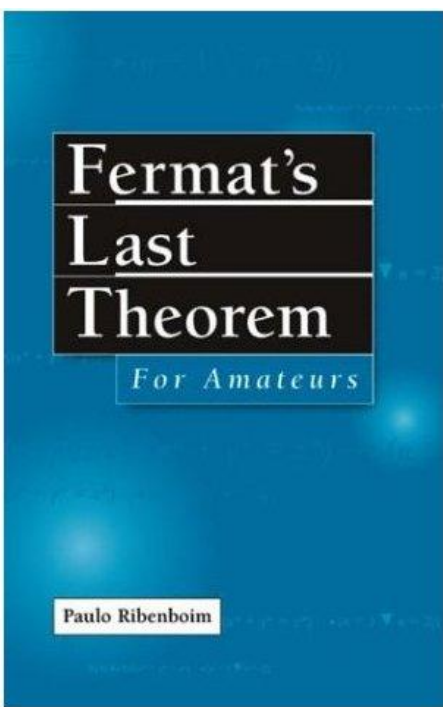
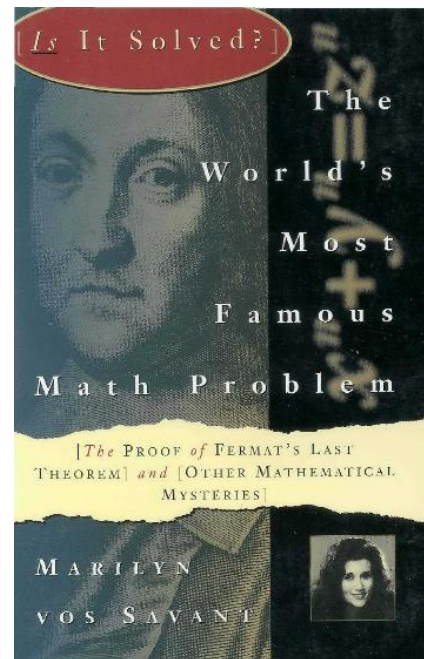
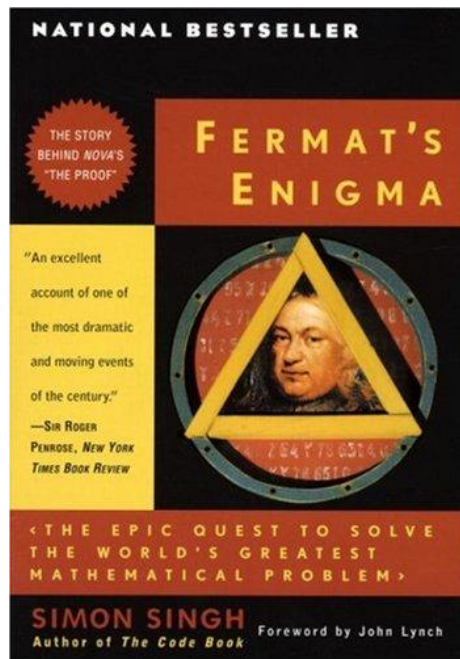
# Historical Perspectives

## Pierre de Fermat (1601-1665)

- Father of modern **number theory**
- Lawyer, Parlement of Toulouse
- Laid groundwork for calculus
- Contributions to optics, probability, and **analytic geometry**
- Fermat numbers, primes, perfect #'s
- Descartes' **Law of refraction**
- Reponsible for many open problems
- “**Fermat's Last Theorem**” (1637-1995)
- Recognized “principle of least action” and “principle of least time” in physics
- Influenced Newton and Leibniz



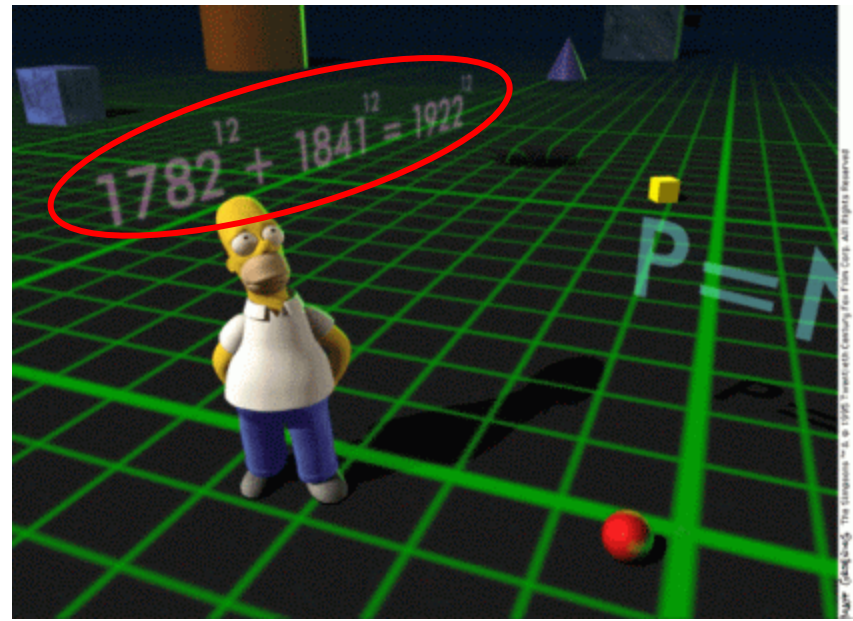
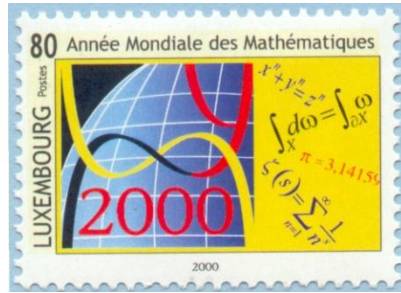
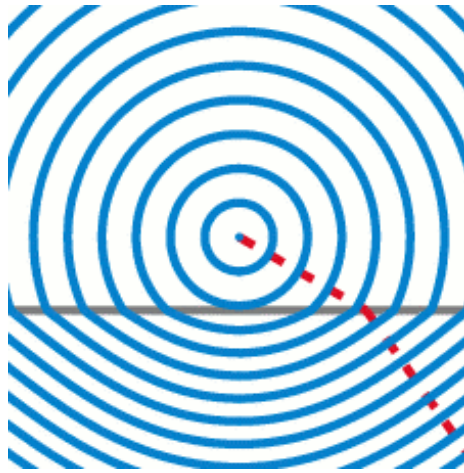




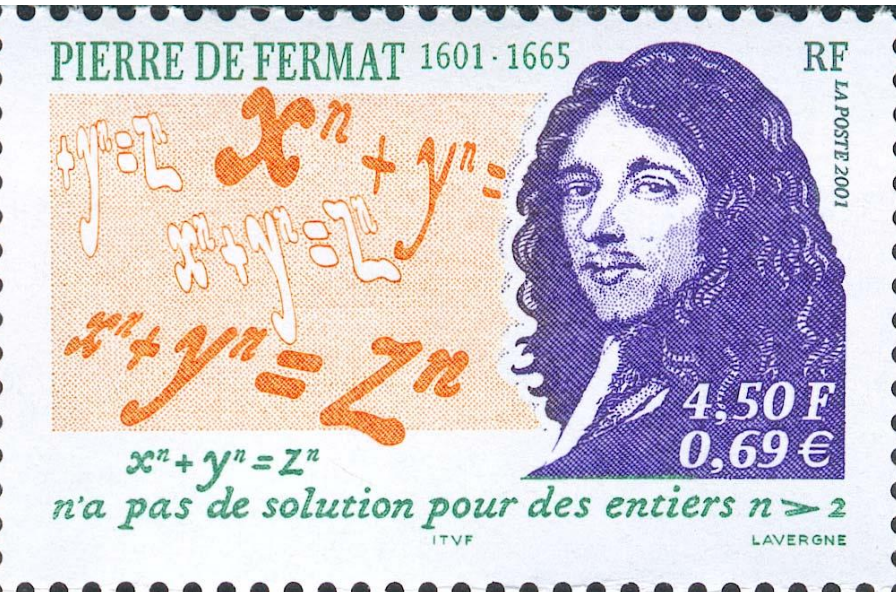




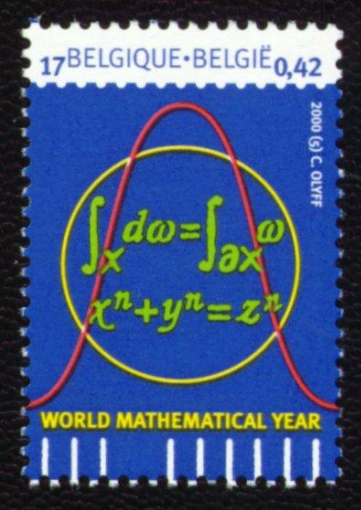
Pierre de Fermat  
1601 - 1665



# Fermat Prize for Mathematics Research







SOMETIMES, LIFE IS JUST ONE GREAT NUMBER AFTER ANOTHER.



# FERMAT'S *Last* TANGO

A NEW MUSICAL

**THE YORK THEATRE COMPANY**

JAMES MORGAN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR CLAYTON PHILLIPS, MANAGING DIRECTOR PRESENTS FERMAT'S LAST TANGO A NEW MUSICAL  
MUSIC BY JOSHUA ROSENBLUM BOOK BY JOANNE SYDNEY LESSNER LYRICS BY LESSNER & ROSENBLUM  
WITH GILLES CHIASSON • EDWARDYNE COWAN • MITCHELL KANTOR • JONATHAN RABB  
CHRIS THOMPSON • CHRISTIANNE TISDALE • CARRIE WILSHUSEN

SCENIC DESIGN JAMES MORGAN COSTUME DESIGN LYNN BOWLING LIGHTING DESIGN JOHN MICHAEL DEEGAN ORCHESTRATIONS JOSHUA ROSENBLUM CASTING NORMAN MERANUS  
PRESS REPRESENTATIVE KEITH SHERMAN & ASSOCIATES GRAPHICS JAMES MORGAN & MICHAEL HOLMES PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER PEGGY R. SAMUELS  
MUSIC DIRECTOR MILTON GRANGER CHOREOGRAPHY JANET WATSON DIRECTED BY MEL MARVIN

BEGINS NOVEMBER 21, 2000 • TUES-SAT AT 8 • MATINEES: WED, SAT & SUN AT 2:30  
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ONE OF A KIND FOR OVER 30 YEARS

**FERMAT** 39 km

97/10/08 D=254mm f/D=10

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B/W QuickCam

a.cidadao@mail.telepac.pt



Music by Joshua Rosenblum  
Book by Joanne Sydney Lessner  
Lyrics by Lessner and Rosenblum



# FERMAT'S *Last* TANGO

A NEW MUSICAL

THE YORK THEATRE COMPANY

*A Musical Fantasy inspired by Andrew Wiles  
and his encounters with Fermat's Last Theorem*

"Rolling! Whimsical! Catchy & Clever!" - The New York Times

Followed by an Interview with Andrew Wiles

## FERMAT'S LAST TANGO



A CMI production



In 1993 Andrew Wiles stunned the world when he announced a solution to "Fermat's Last Theorem," the famous unsolved mathematics problem set forth by Pierre de Fermat in 1637. In the musical *Fermat's Last Tango*, the fictional character Daniel Keane earns overnight acclaim when he presents his findings. However, fanfare soon gives way to doubt when the reincarnated Fermat discovers a hole in Keane's proof. The singular pursuit by Keane to correct this flaw results in a love triangle involving himself, his wife, and mathematics—the story of which is brought to life by Fermat and his immortal friends from the "AfterMath," namely: Pythagoras, Euclid, Newton, and Gauss. The musical is both a cheerful romp through history and a personal confrontation with destiny. It provides a testament to the extraordinary excitement of mathematics and its unparalleled beauty.

The Composer Joshua Rosenblum enjoyed mathematics while studying music at Yale along with the author, his wife Joanne Sydney Lessner. They both take an active role in the New York music community. This recording was captured by David Stern and his Emmy Award-winning crew during a performance at the York Theatre Company in New York City.



### STARRING

Carl Friedrich Gauss / Reporter  
Anna Keane  
Pythagoras / Reporter  
Pierre de Fermat  
Daniel Keane  
Euclid / Reporter  
Sir Isaac Newton / Reporter

GILLES CHIASSON  
EDWARDYNE COWAN  
MITCHELL KANTOR  
JONATHAN RABB  
CHRIS THOMPSON  
CHRISTIANNE TISDALE  
CARRIE WILSHUSEN



Approximate Running Time:  
100 minutes  
Color/Not Rated/VHS/NTSC  
Produced by The Clay Mathematics  
Institute, Cambridge, MA  
Arthur Jaffe, *Producer*  
David Stern, *Director*  
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All Rights Reserved.

### Illustrated Guide Enclosed

**The Clay Mathematics Institute**  
1770 Massachusetts Avenue #331  
Cambridge, MA 02140  
Email: [fermat@claymath.org](mailto:fermat@claymath.org)  
Website: [www.claymath.org](http://www.claymath.org)



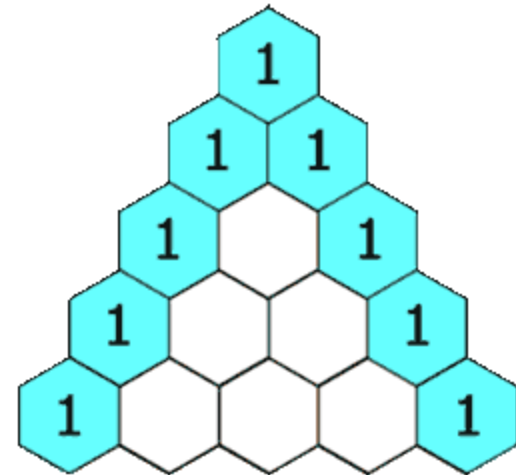
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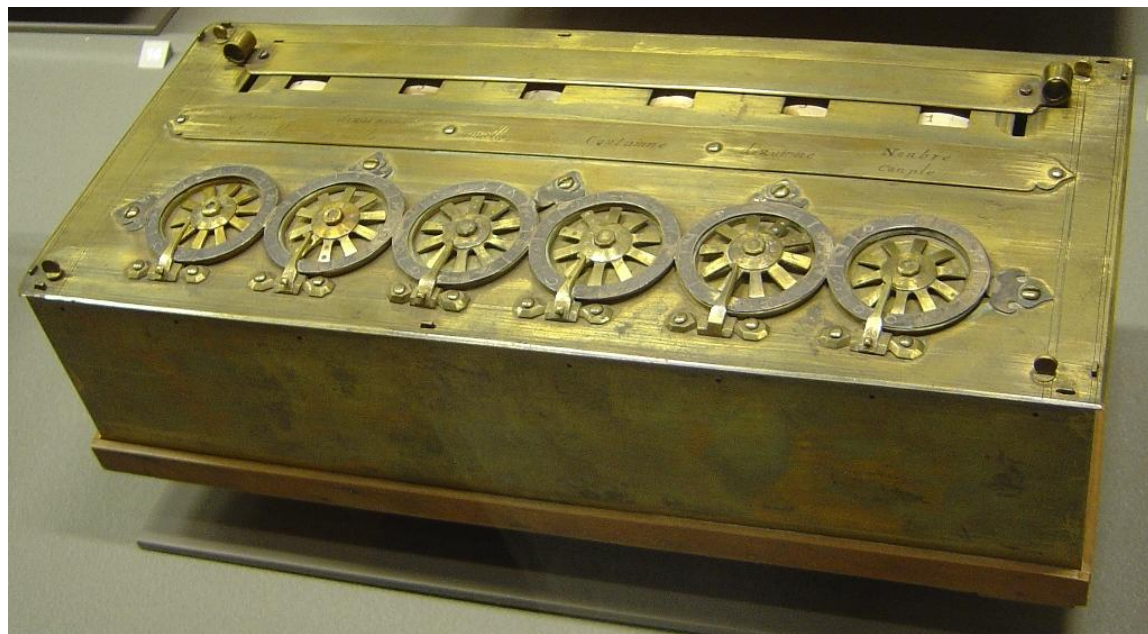
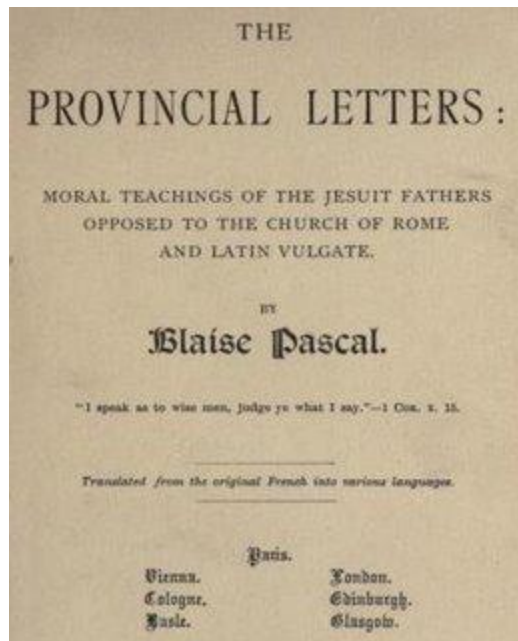
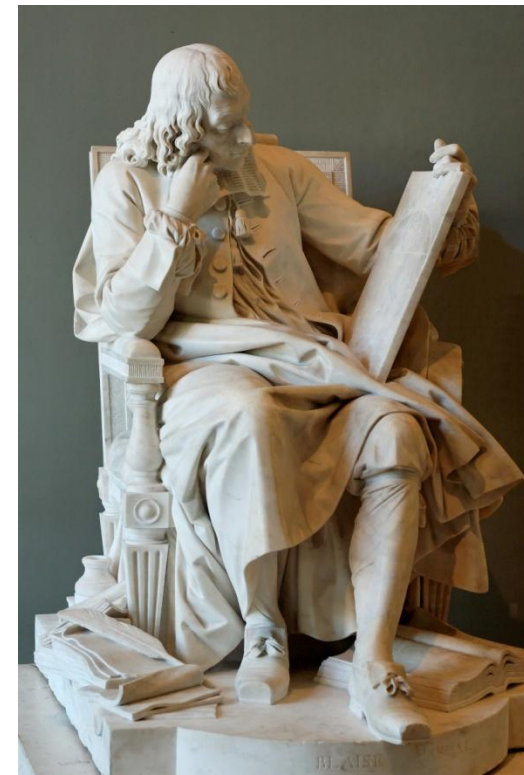
# Historical Perspectives

## Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)

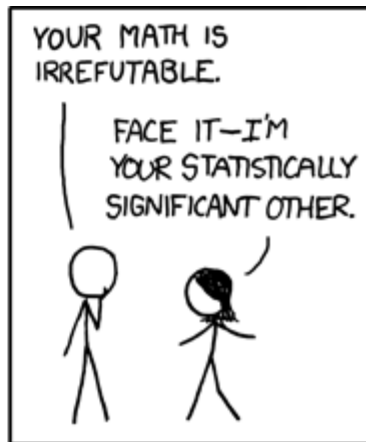
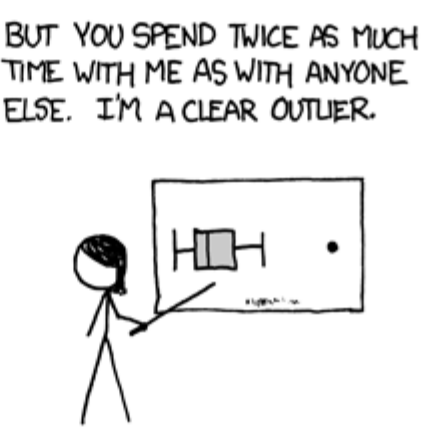
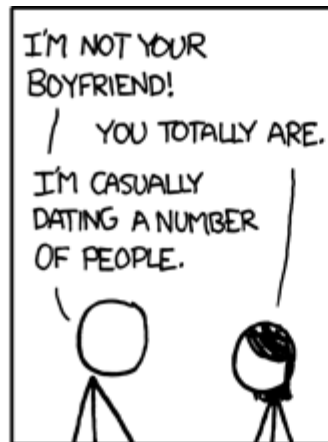
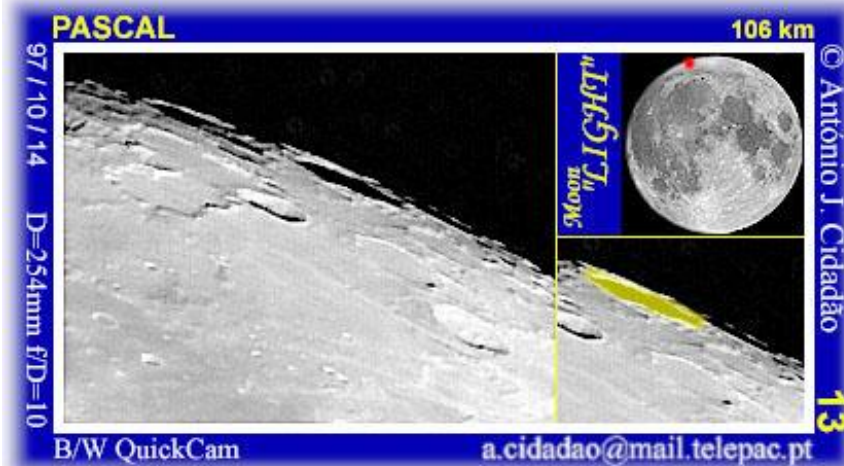
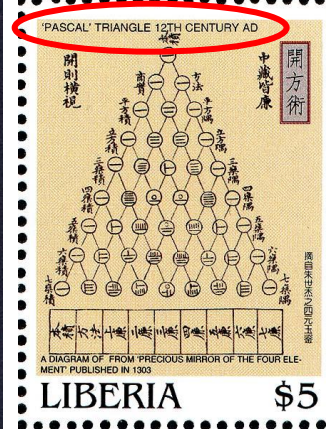
- Mathematician, physicist, philosopher
- Studied fluids, pressure, vacuum
- Helped pioneer projective geometry, **probability**, and the scientific method
- Influenced modern economics
- “**Pascal’s triangle**”, “**Pascal’s law**”
- Invented hydraulic press and syringe
- Constructed a **mechanical calculator**
- Used humor, wit, and satire in writings
- Influenced Voltaire and Rousseau
- Inaugurated the world’s first bus line
- SI unit of pressure - “**pascal**”









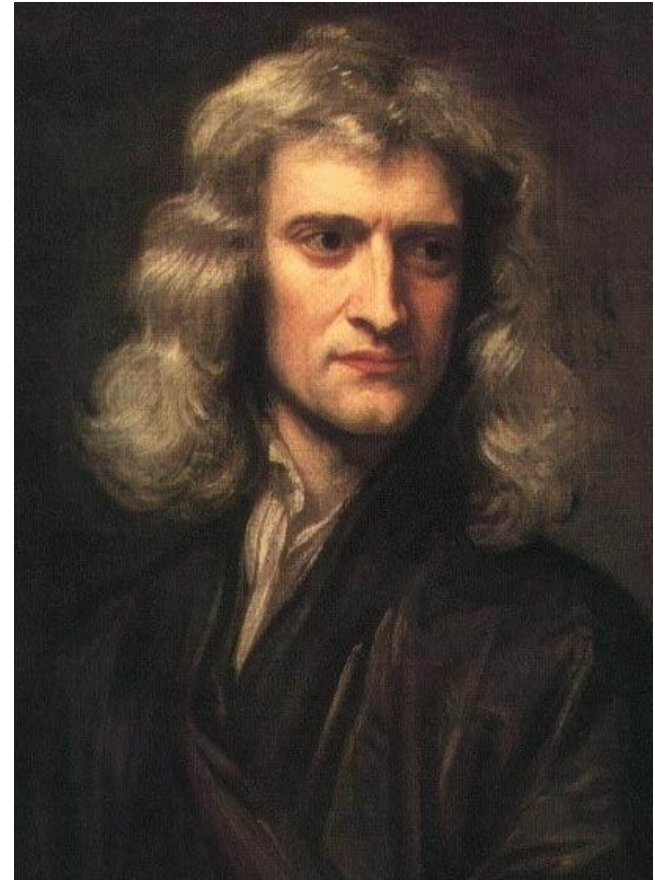




# Historical Perspectives

## Sir Isaac Newton (1643-1727)

- Mathematician, physicist, astronomer, philosopher, alchemist, theologian
- One of history's most influential people
- “**Principia Mathematica**” (1687)
- Invented **calculus**, theory of **gravitation**
- Founded “**Newtonian mechanics**”
- Discovered **laws of motion**, **inertia**
- “**Newtonian fluid**”, “**Newtonian Universe**”
- Advanced the Scientific Revolution
- Developed practical **reflecting telescope**, **theory of color**, “**Newton's method**”
- SI unit of force: **newton**





NO 16-566

PHILOSOPHIÆ  
NATURALIS  
PRINCIPIA  
MATHEMATICA.

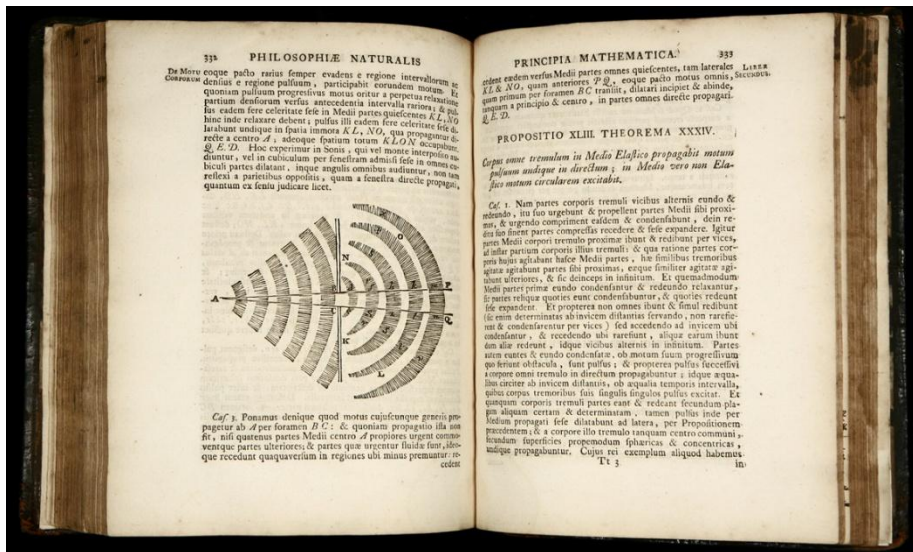
Autore <sup>Autore</sup> J. S. NEWTON <sup>Equite literato,</sup> Trin. Coll. Cantab. Soc. Matheseos  
<sup>Professore</sup> <sup>Lucasiano,</sup> & Societatis Regiæ Sodali.  
<sup>et Societatis Regiæ Societatis præsido.</sup>

IMPRIMATUR.  
S. PEPYS, Reg. Soc. PRÆSES.  
Julii 5. 1686.

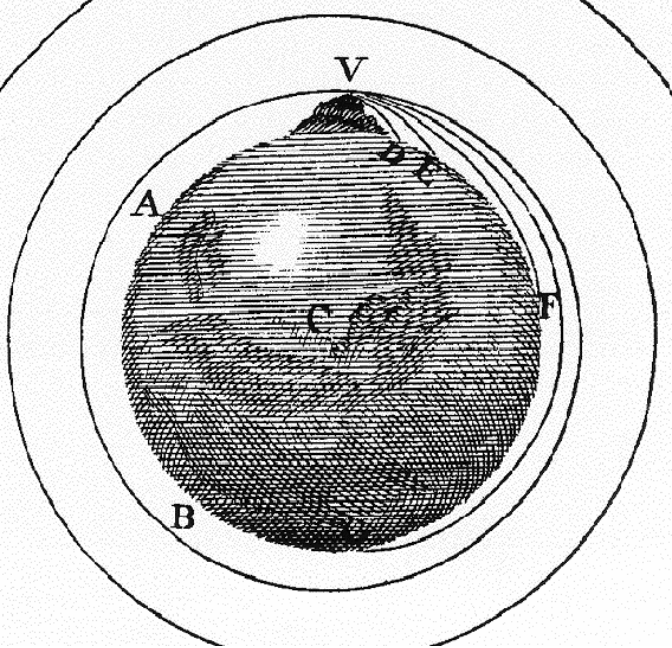
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Jussu Societatis Regiæ ac Typis Josephi Streater. Prostat apud  
plures Bibliopolas. Anno MDCLXXXVII.









*Arithmetica Universalis;*  
 SIVE  
 DE COMPOSITIONE  
 ET  
 RESOLUTIONE  
 ARITHMETICA  
 LIBER.

Cui accessit  
 HALLEIANA  
*Aequationum Radices Arithmetice  
 inveniendi methodus.*

*In Usum Juventutis Academicæ.*

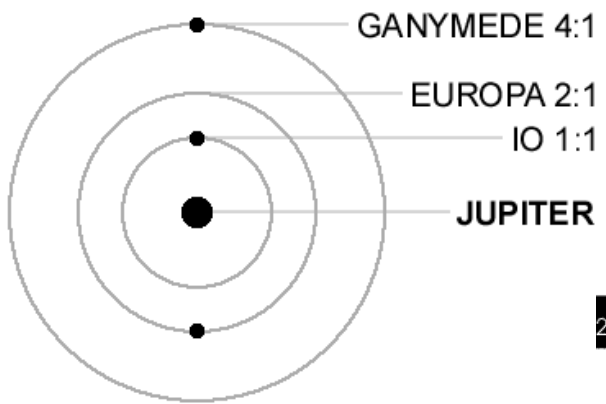
CANTABRIGIÆ  
 TYPIS ACADEMICIS.

LONDINI, Impensis Benj. Tooke Bibliopole juxta Medii Templi Portam in vico vulgo vocato Fleetstreet. A.D. MDCCVII.

**OPTICKS:**  
 OR, A  
 TREATISE  
 OF THE  
 REFLEXIONS, REFRACTIONS,  
 INFLEXIONS and COLOURS  
 OF  
**L I G H T.**

ALSO  
 Two TREATISES  
 OF THE  
 SPECIES and MAGNITUDE  
 OF  
**Curvilinear Figures.**

LONDON,  
 Printed for SAM. SMITH, and BENJ. WALFORD,  
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 St. Paul's Church-yard. MDCCIV.



2m

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**NEWTON** 79 km

97/10/13 D=254mm f/D=10

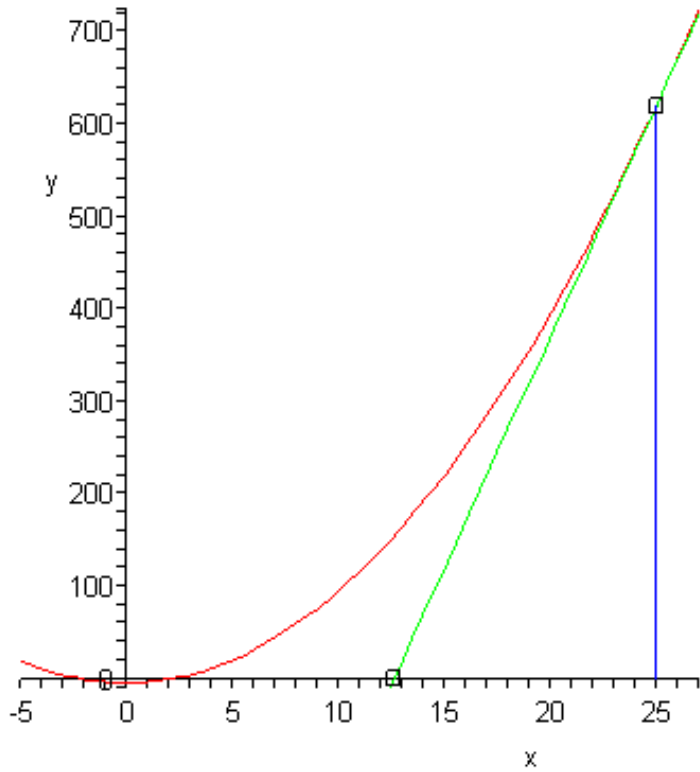
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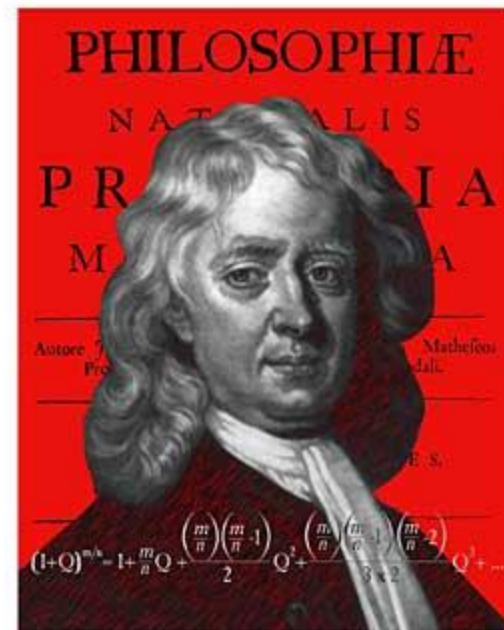
*Moon LIGHT*



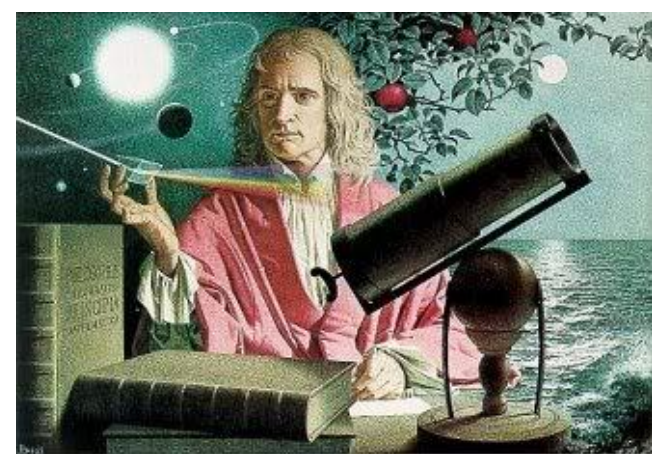




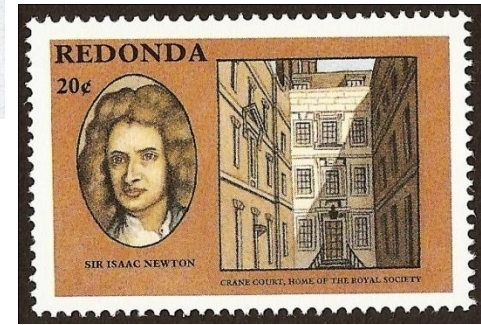
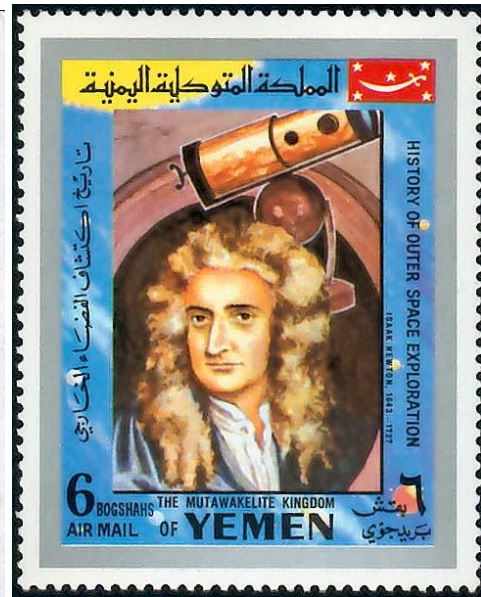
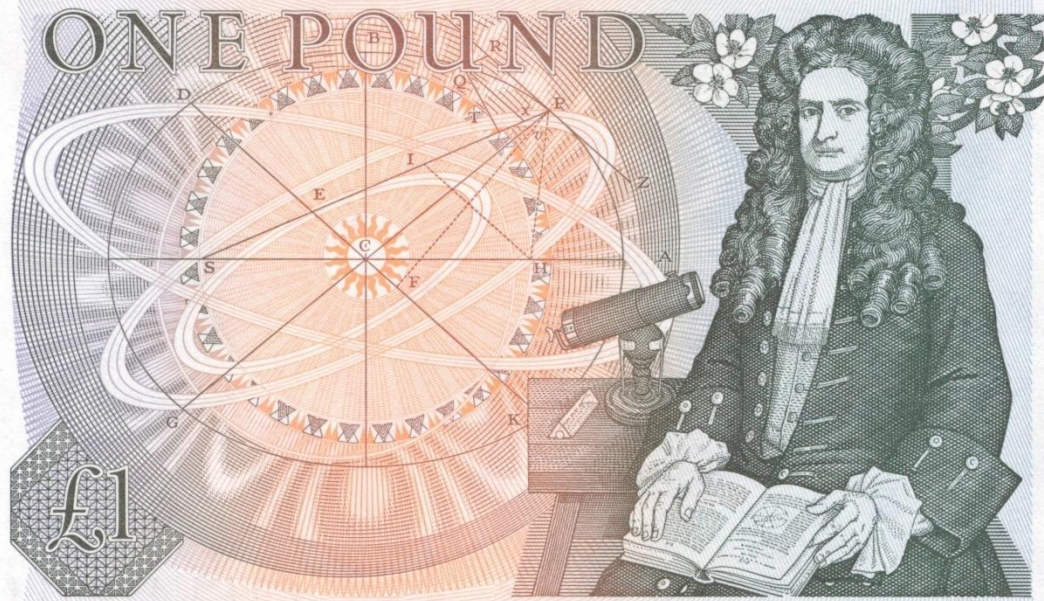




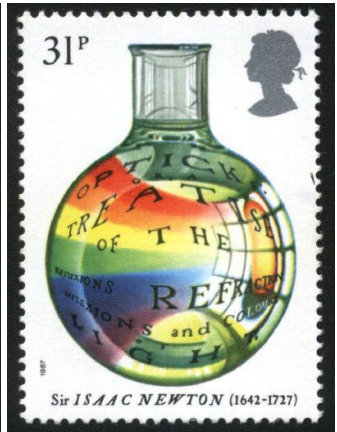
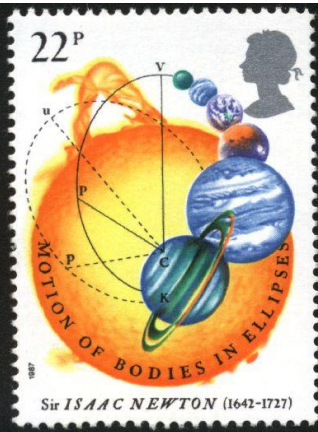
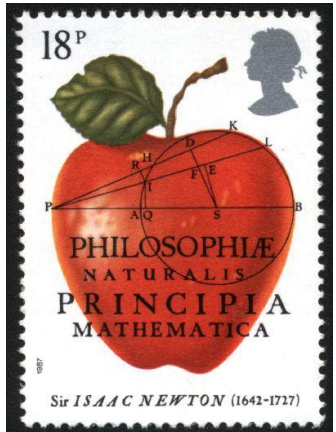
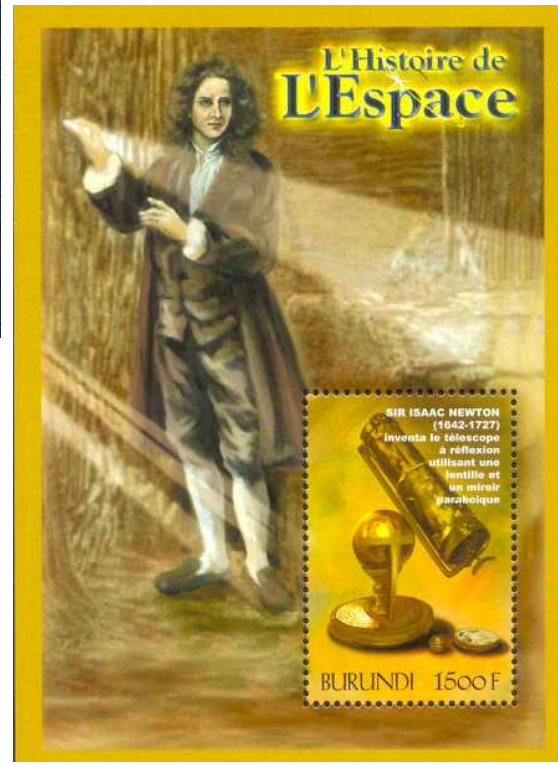
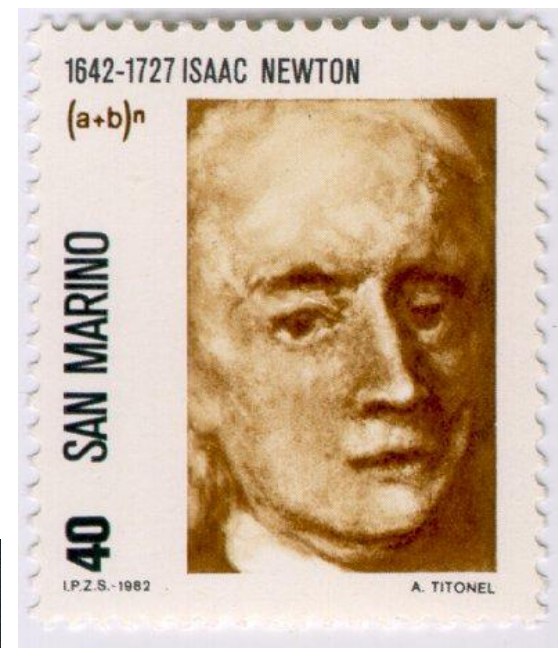
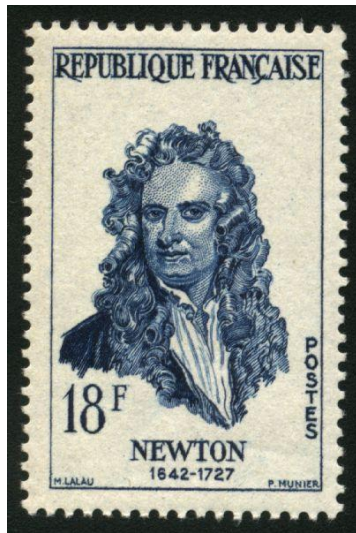
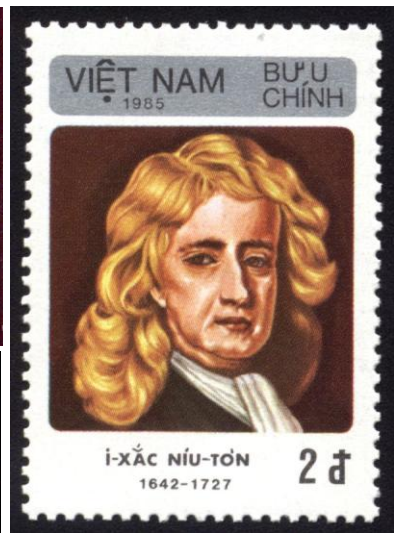
[Sir Isaac Newton 1642 (1643 New Style Calendar) - 1727]



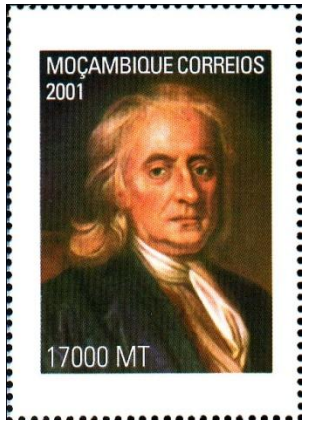
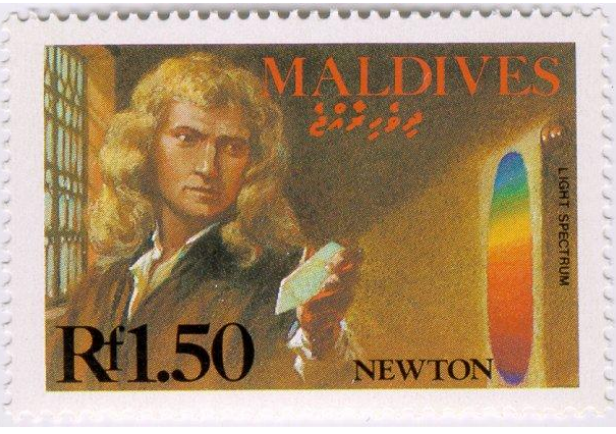
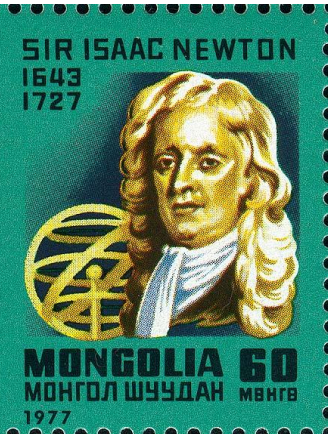
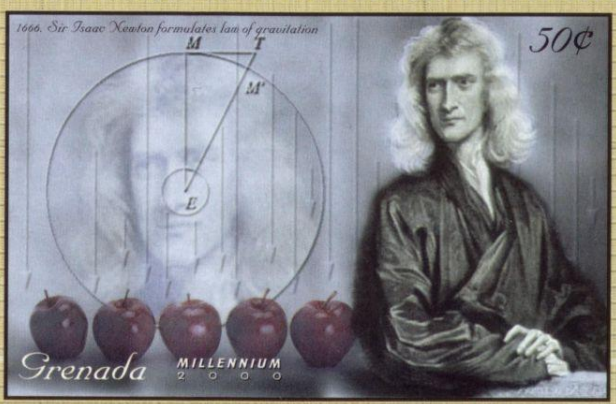




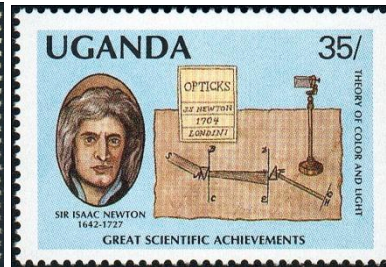
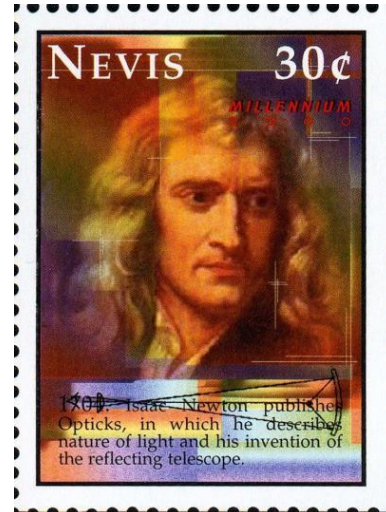
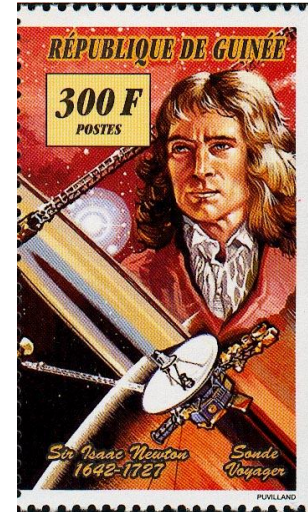






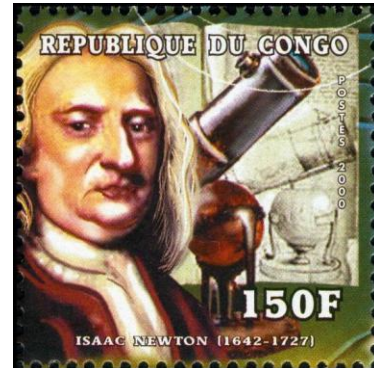
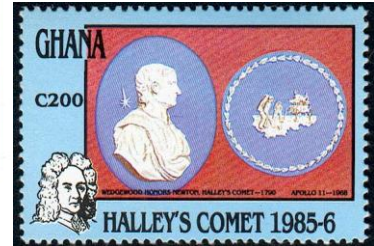
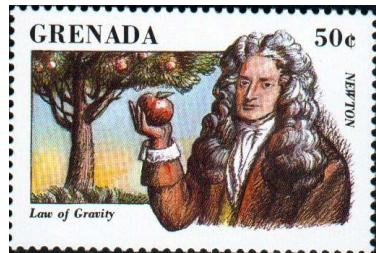
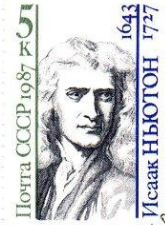




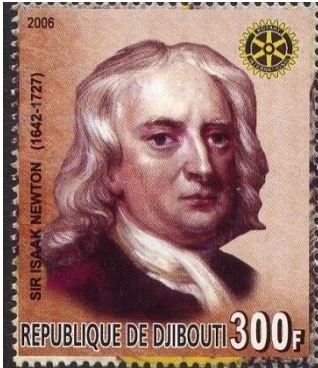
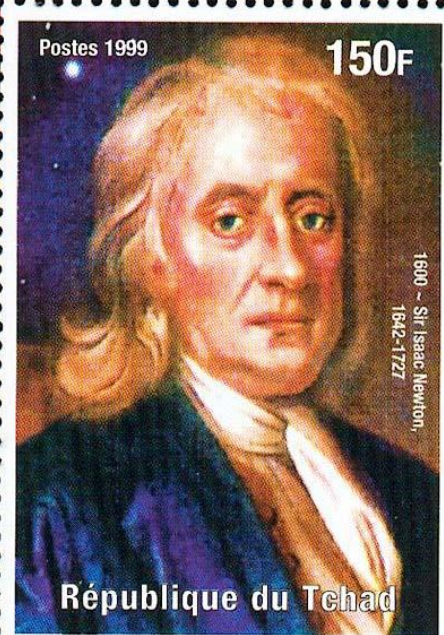
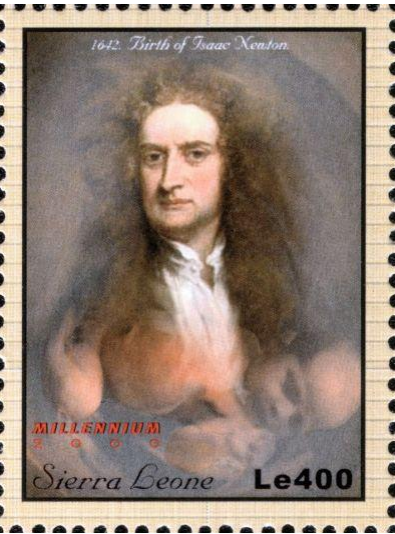
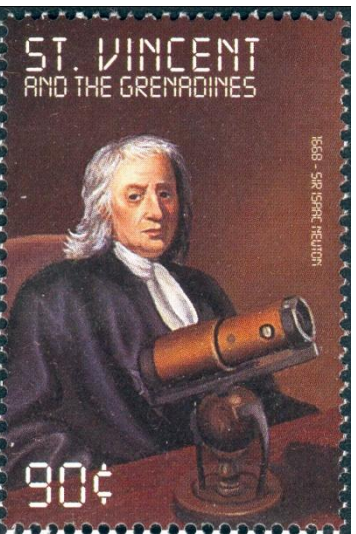
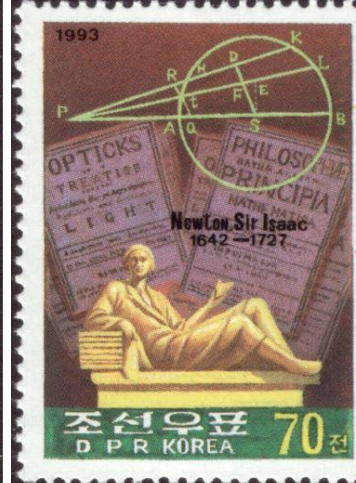
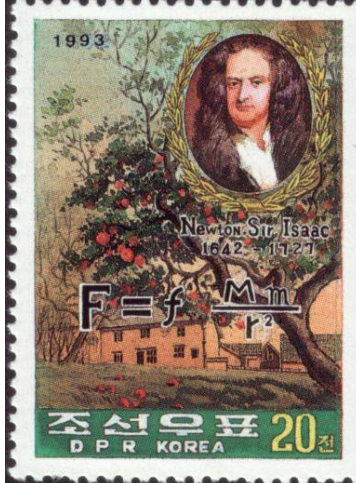
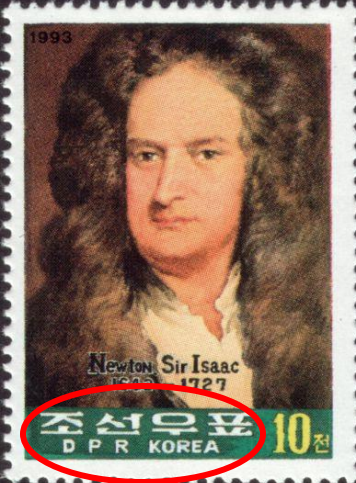


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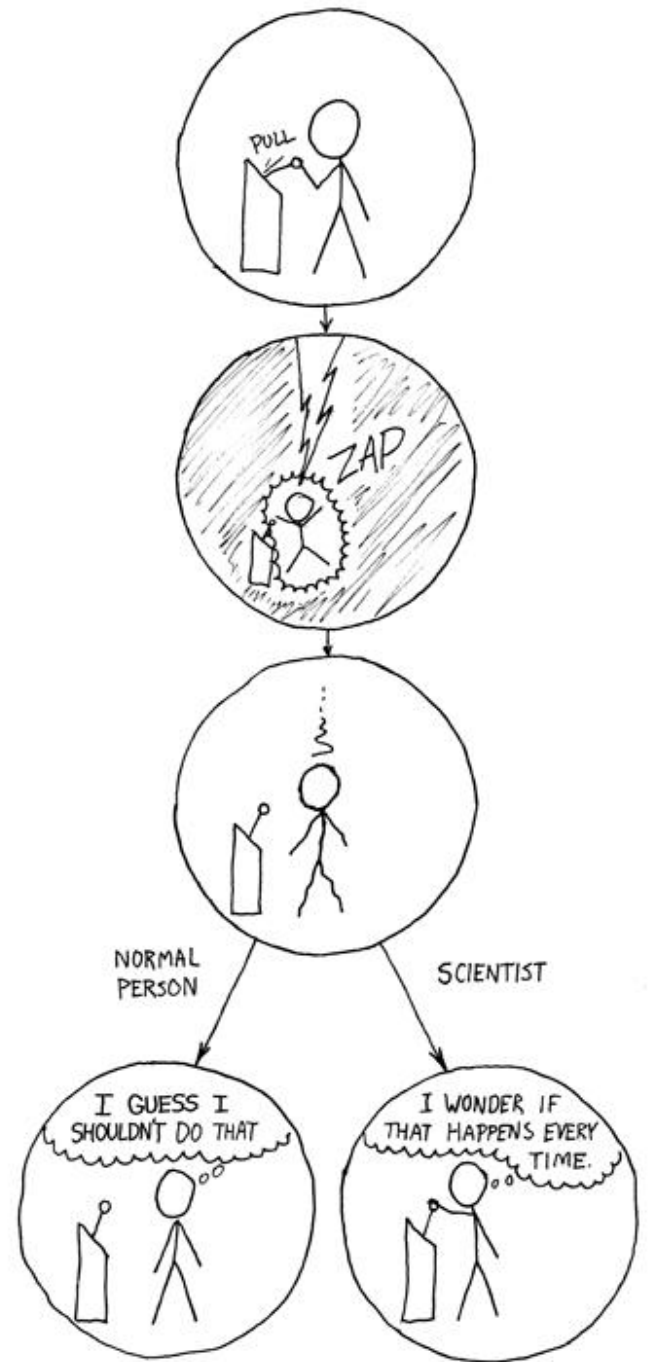
Isaac Newton







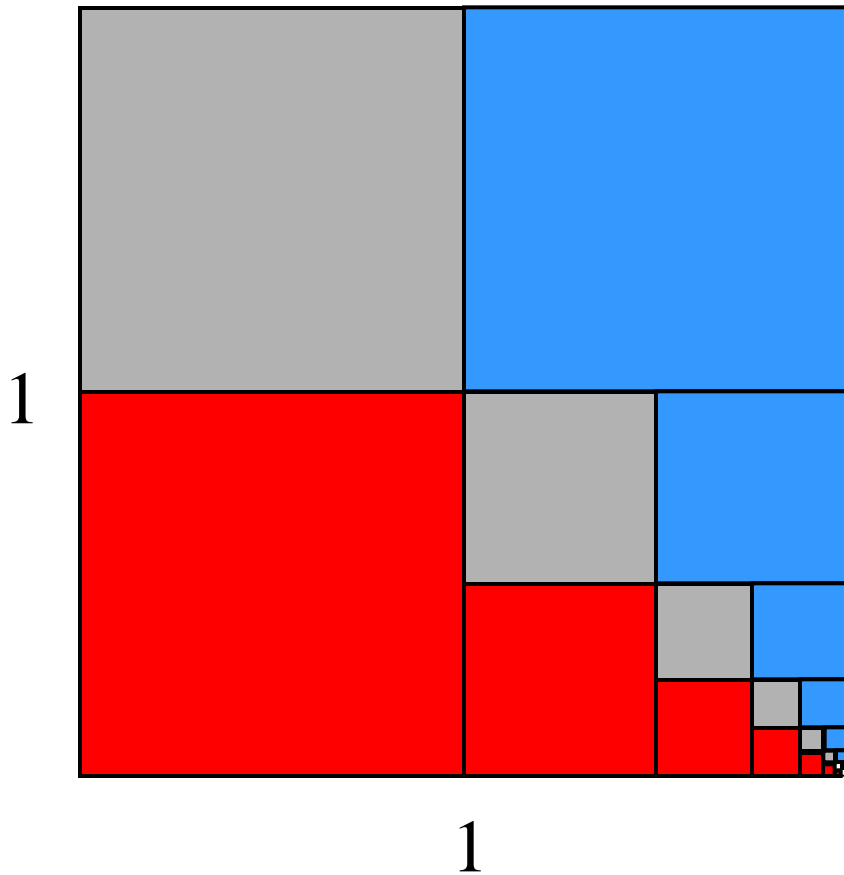






**Problem:**  $(1/4) + (1/4)^2 + (1/4)^3 + (1/4)^4 + \dots = ?$

Find a short, **geometric**, induction-free proof.



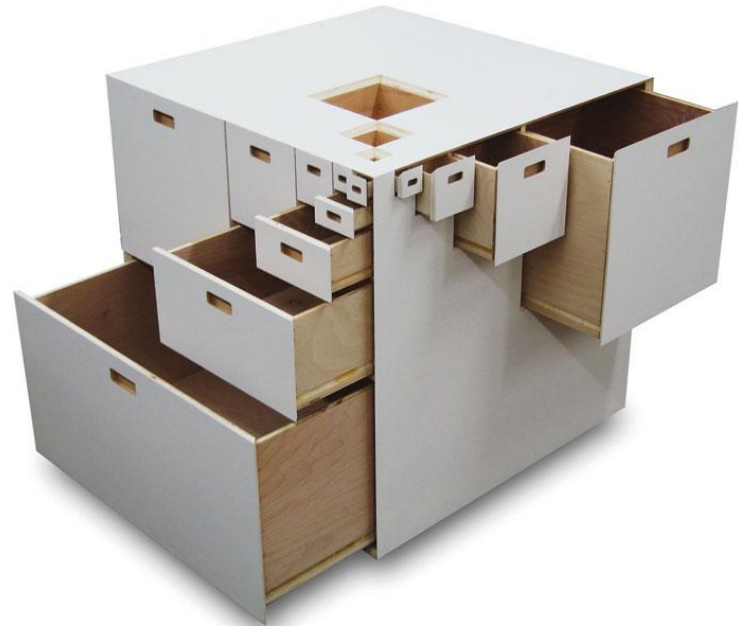
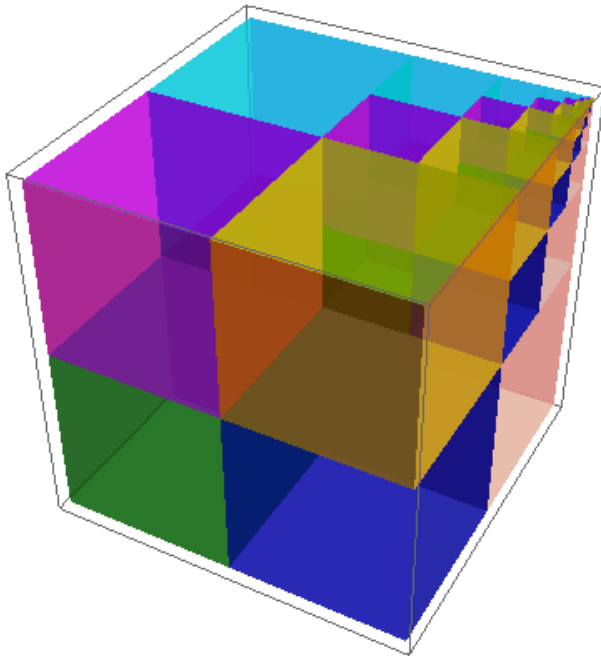
$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4^i} = \frac{1}{3}$$



**Problem:**  $(1/8) + (1/8)^2 + (1/8)^3 + (1/8)^4 + \dots = ?$

Find a short, **geometric**, induction-free proof.

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{8^i} = \frac{1}{7}$$





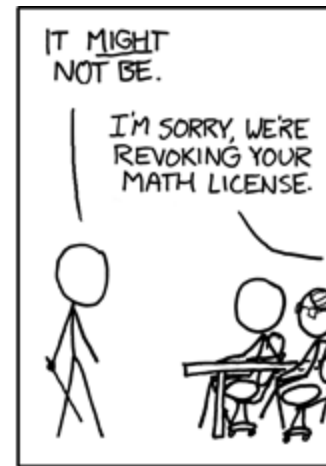
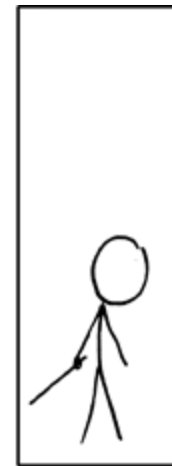
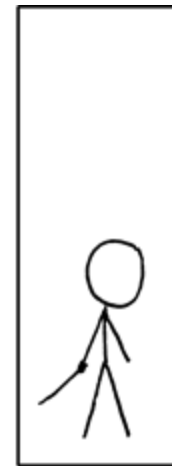
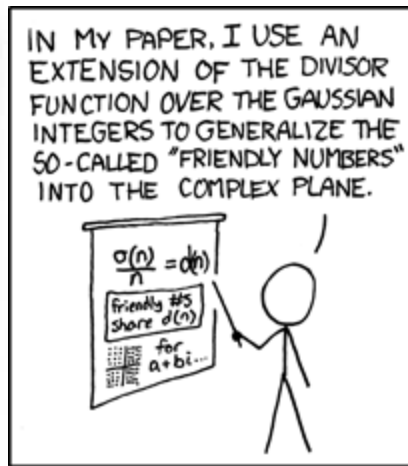
**Problem:** Are the complex numbers closed under exponentiation ? E.g., what is the value of  $i^i$ ?

$$i^i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{e^\pi}} = 0.207879\dots$$

$$e^{ix} = \cos(x) + i \sin(x)$$

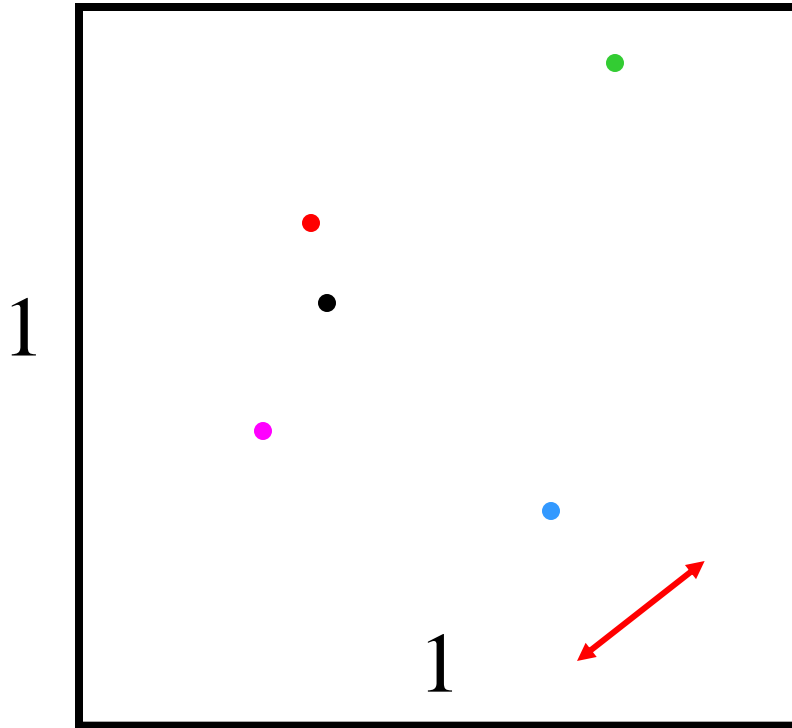
$$i^i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{e^{\pi+2k\pi}}}$$

$i^i$  is multi-valued!

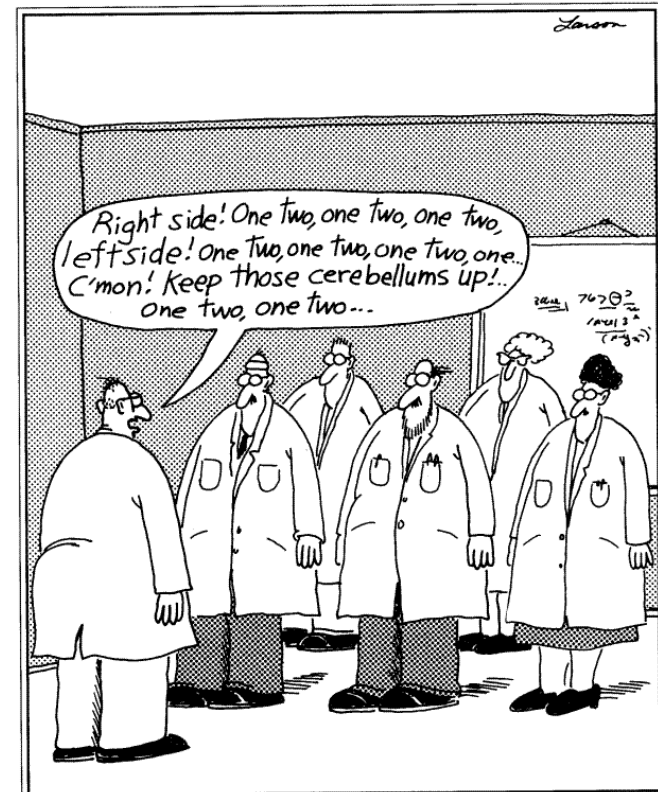




**Problem:** Given any five points in/on the unit square, is there always a pair with distance  $\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  ?



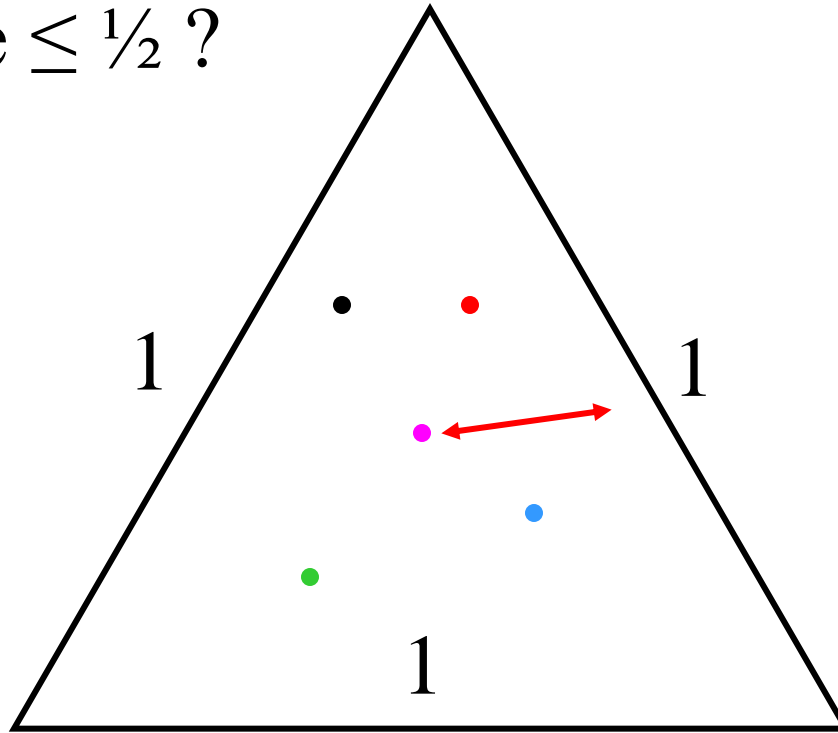
- What approaches fail?
- What techniques work and why?
- Lessons and generalizations



Brain aerobics



**Problem:** Given any five points in/on the unit equilateral triangle, is there always a pair with distance  $\leq \frac{1}{2}$  ?



- What approaches fail?
- What techniques work and why?
- Lessons and generalizations



Math phobic's nightmare



**Problem:** Solve the following equation for X:

$$X^{X^{X^{X^{\dots}}}} = 2$$

where the stack of exponentiated x's extends forever.

- What approaches fail?
- What techniques work and why?
- Lessons and generalizations



"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused? My brain is full."

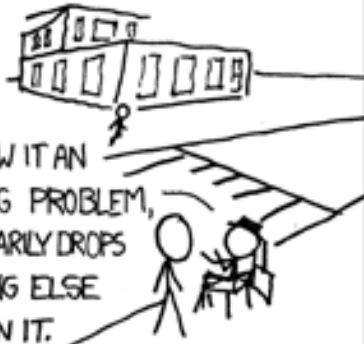






THERE'S A CERTAIN TYPE OF BRAIN THAT'S EASILY DISABLED.

IF YOU SHOW IT AN INTERESTING PROBLEM, IT INVOLUNTARILY DROPS EVERYTHING ELSE TO WORK ON IT.



THIS HAS LED ME TO INVENT A NEW SPORT: NERD SNIPING.

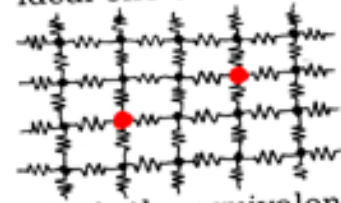
SEE THAT PHYSICIST CROSSING THE ROAD?



HEY!



On this infinite grid of ideal one-ohm resistors,



what's the equivalent resistance between the two marked nodes?

IT'S... HMM. INTERESTING. MAYBE IF YOU START WITH ... NO, WAIT. HMM... YOU COULD—



I WILL HAVE NO PART IN THIS.

C'MON, MAKE A SIGN. IT'S FUN! PHYSICISTS ARE TWO POINTS, MATHEMATICIANS THREE.

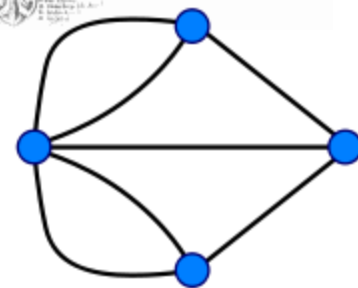
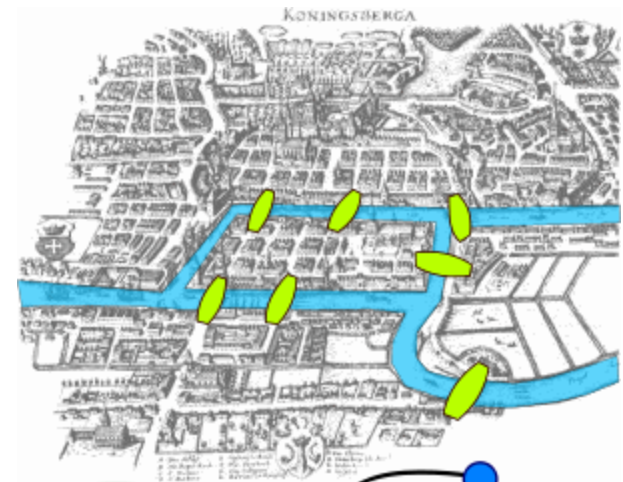




# Historical Perspectives

## Leonhard Euler (1707–1783)

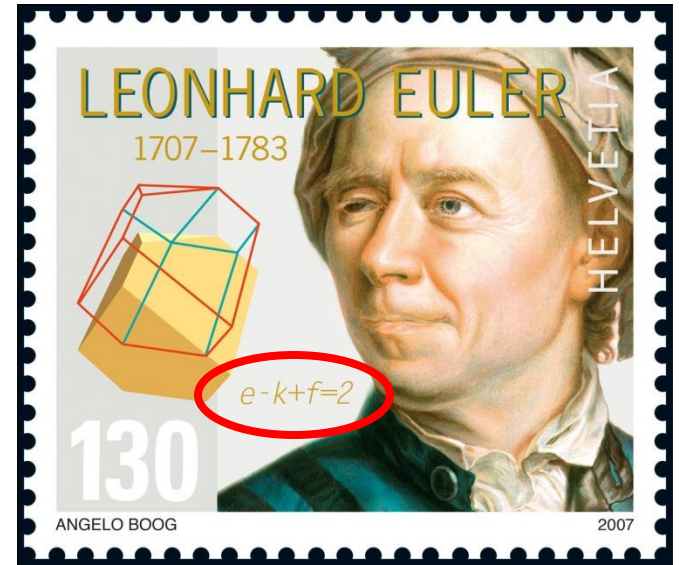
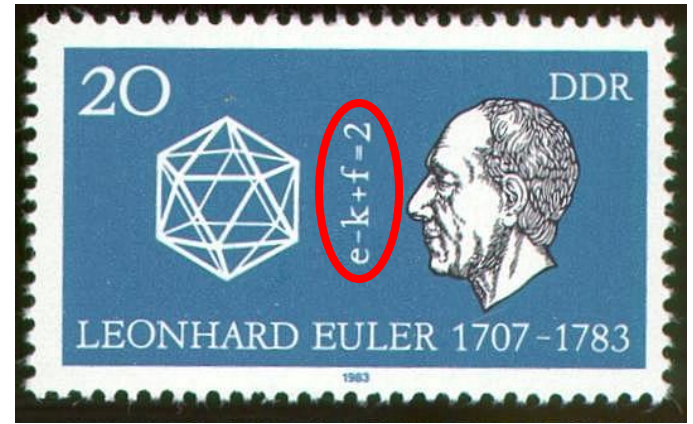
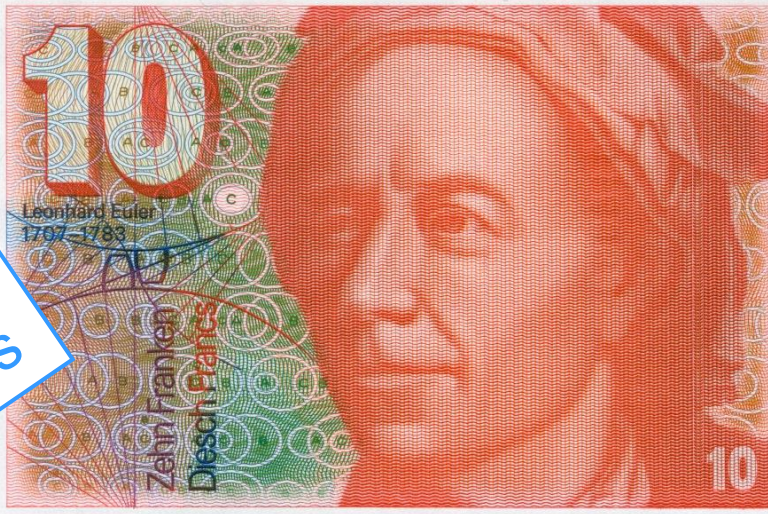
- Invented graph theory
- “**Bridges of Königsberg**”, Prussia
- Eulerian tour
- Euler’s formula:  $V + F = E + 2$
- Euler’s number:  $e$
- Euler’s identity:  $e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$
- Major contributions to analysis, algebra, calculus, number theory, topology, optics, fluid dynamics, mechanics, astronomy, education





SCHWEIZERISCHE NATIONALBANK  
BANCA NAZIUNALA SVIZRA

Swiss  
Francs



METHODUS  
INVENIENDI  
LINEAS CURVAS

Maximi Minime proprietate gaudentes,  
SIVE

SOLUTIO

PROBLEMATIS ISOPERIMETRICI  
LATISSIMO SENSU ACCEPTI

AUCTORE

LEONHARDO EULERO,

Professore Regio, & Academiae Imperialis Scientiarum  
PETROPOLITANAE Socio.



LAUSANNAE & GENEVAE,

Apud MARCUM-MICHAELEM BOUSQUET & Socios.

MDCCLXIV.

LETTERS  
OF  
EULER

ON DIFFERENT SUBJECTS  
IN  
PHYSICS AND PHILOSOPHY.

ADDRESSED TO  
A GERMAN PRINCESS.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY  
HENRY HUNTER, D.D.

ORIGINAL NOTES,  
And a Glossary of Foreign and Scientific Terms.

Second Edition.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

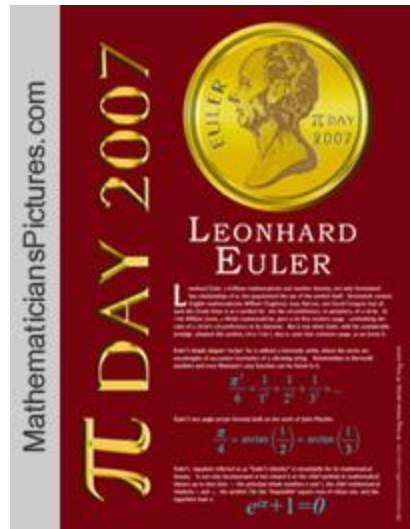
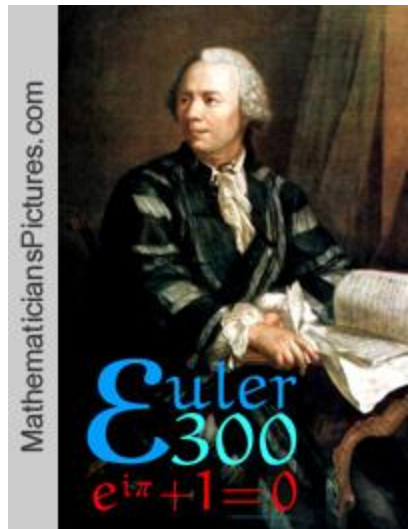
VOL. I.

London:

PRINTED FOR MURRAY AND HIGHLEY; J. CUTHELL; VERNOR  
AND HOOD; LONGMAN AND REES; WYNN AND SCHOLEY;









$$e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$$

$$e^{iu} = \cos(u) + i \sin(u)$$

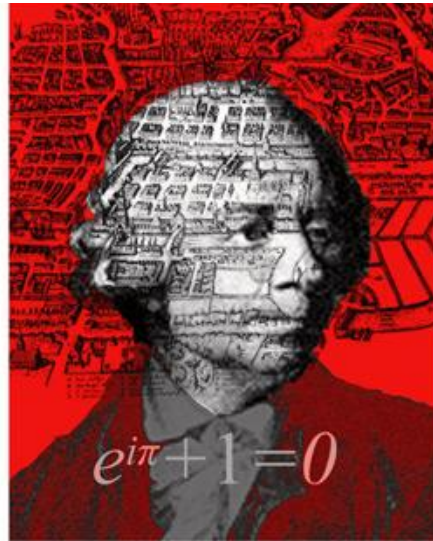
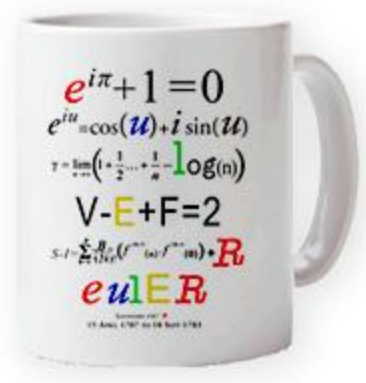
$$\gamma = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \dots + \frac{1}{n} - \log(n) \right)$$

$$V - E + F = 2$$

$$S - I = \sum_{k=1}^p \gamma \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)!} (f^{(2k-1)}(n) - f^{(2k-1)}(0)) + R$$

**euler**  
 LEONHARD eulER  
 15 APRIL 1707 TO 18 SEPT 1783

MEMBER OF THE EULER SOCIETY



Leonhard Euler  
1707 - 1783

**EULER** 28 km / 2240 m

97 / 10 / 12 D=254mm f/D=10

Moon LIGHT  
 © Antonio J. Cidadão

B/W QuickCam a.cidadao@mail.telepac.pt

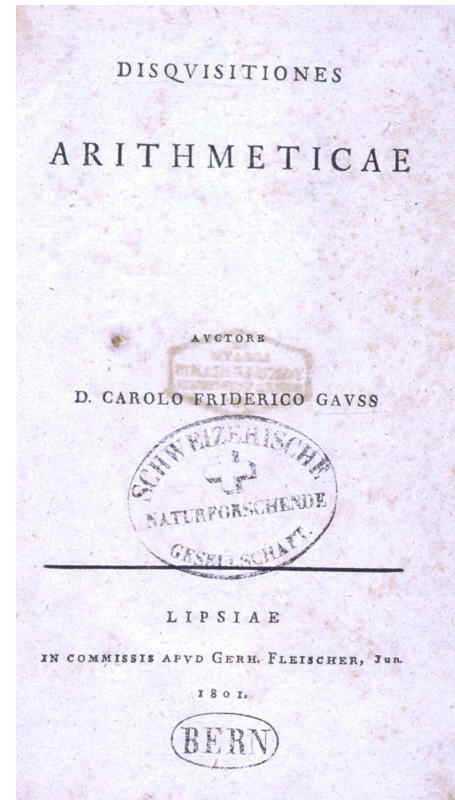




# Historical Perspectives

## Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777–1855)

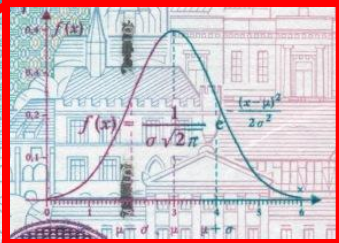
- “Prince of Mathematics”
- Founded modern number theory
- Authored “**Disquisitiones Arithmeticae**”
- Fundamental Theorem of Algebra
- Major contributions to astronomy, optics, electromagnetism, statistics, geometry
- **Gaussian distribution, Gaussian elimination, Gaussian noise, Gaussian integers & primes, Gauss’ Law, Gauss’ constant, “degaussing”**
- SI unit of magnetic field strength: **gauss**
- Students: Dedekind, Riemann, Bessel



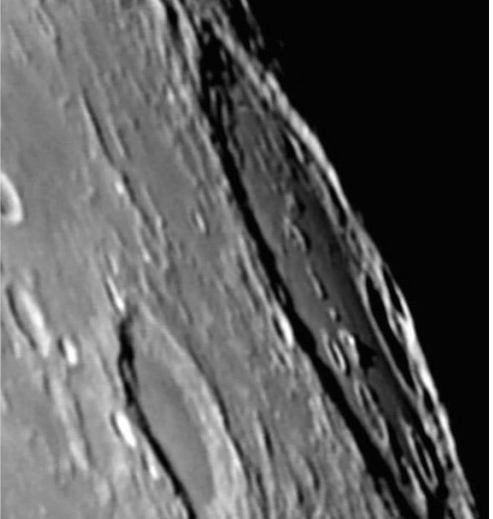
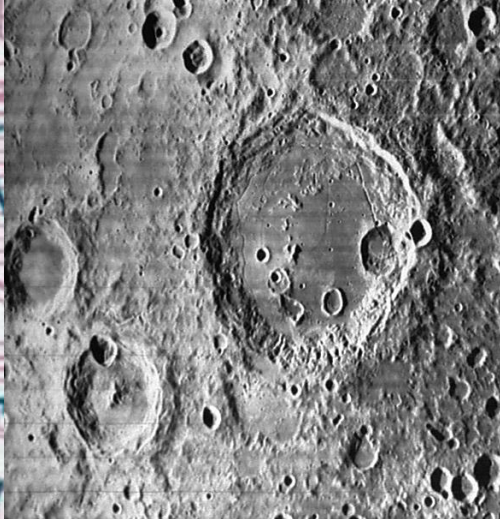


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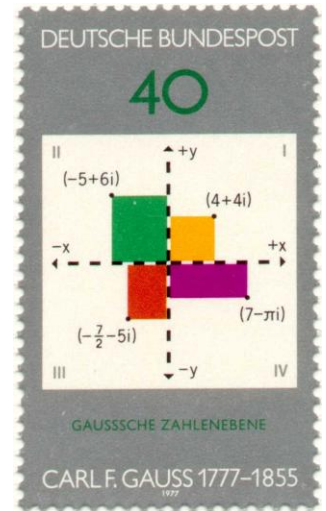
German  
Marks



GU5672972S2







**GAUSS** 177 km

97/10/16 D=254mm f/D=10

**15**

B/W QuickCam

a.cidadao@mail.telepac.pt

© António J. Cidadão

Moon LIGHT





# Historical Perspectives

## William R. Hamilton (1805-1865)

- Mathematician, physicist, and astronomer
- Contributed to algebra, mechanics, optics
- Formulated **Hamiltonian mechanics**
- Discovered **quaternions**, conical refraction, Hamilton function, Hamilton principle, Hamiltonian group
- Invented “**Icosian Calculus**”, dot & cross products, **Hamiltonian paths**
- Influenced **computer graphics**, mechanics, electromagnetism, relativity, quantum theory, vector algebra



Here as he walked by  
on the 16th of October 1843  
Sir William Rowan Hamilton  
in a flash of genius discovered  
the fundamental formula for  
quaternion multiplication  
 $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1$   
& cut it on a stone of this bridge



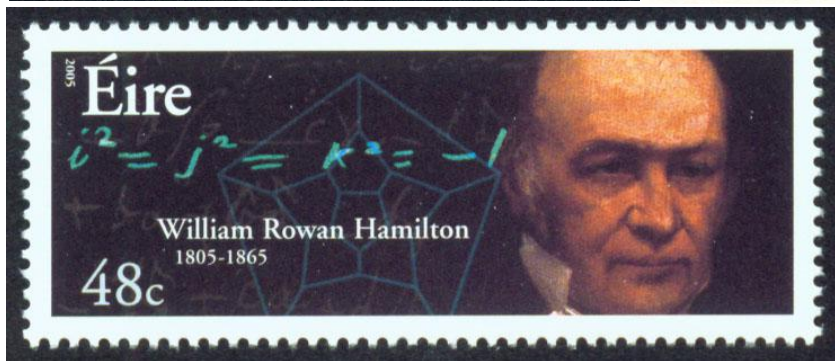


Here as he walked by  
 on the 16th of October 1843  
 William Rowan Hamilton  
 in a flash of genius discovered  
 the fundamental formula for  
 quaternions multiplication  
 $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1$   
 $ij = k, ji = -k$   
 $jk = i, kj = -i$   
 $ki = j, ik = -j$   
 on a stone called the bridge  
 stone

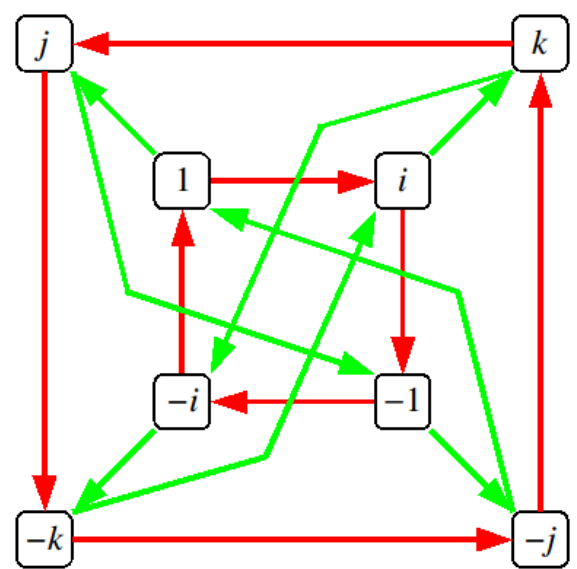
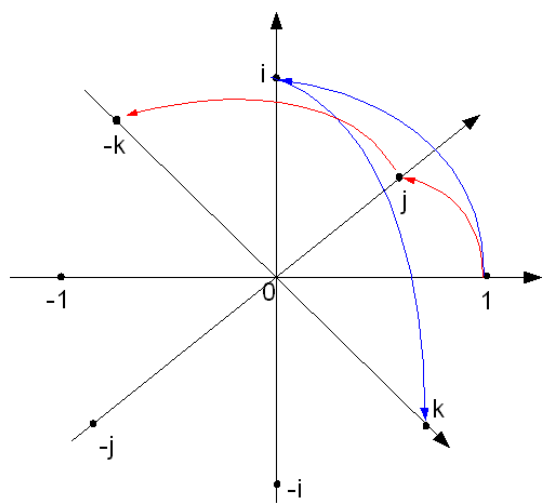
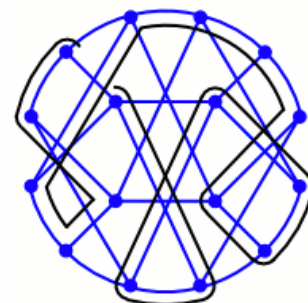
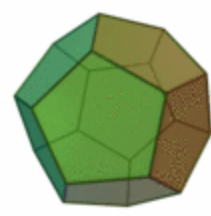
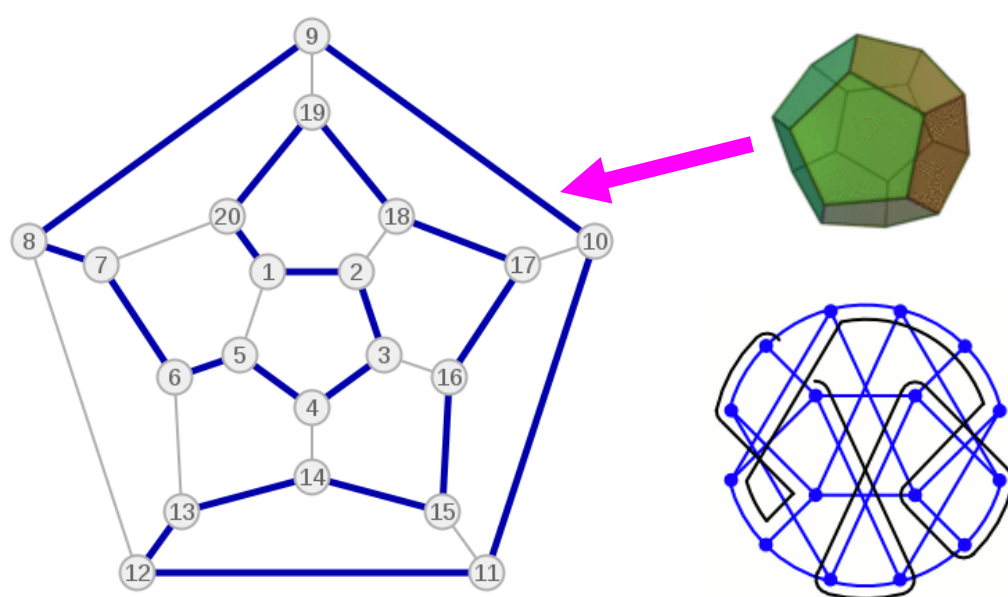


xx important  
 $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = -1$   
 $ij = k, ji = -k$   
 $jk = i, kj = -i$   
 $ki = j, ik = -j$   
 $a\alpha - b\beta - c\gamma - d\delta$   
 $d\beta + ba + c\delta - a\gamma$   
 $a\gamma - b\delta + ca + d\beta$   
 $a\delta + b\gamma - c\beta + d\alpha$   
 $a\alpha d\delta + b\beta c\gamma + c\gamma a\alpha + d\delta b\beta$   
 $- + - +$   
 I showed them info, & gave an account  
 of the meaning to J. Hamilton & the  
 others. They were all very interested.

	1	-1	i	-i	j	-j	k	-k
1	1	-1	i	-i	j	-j	k	-k
-1	-1	1	-i	i	-j	j	-k	k
i	i	-i	-1	1	k	-k	-j	j
-i	-i	i	1	-1	-k	k	j	-j
j	j	-j	-k	k	-1	1	i	-i
-j	-j	j	k	-k	1	-1	-i	i
k	k	-k	j	-j	-i	i	-1	1
-k	-k	k	-j	j	i	-i	1	-1







Graphical representation of quaternion units product as 90°-rotation in 4D-space

**Non-commutative:**  $ij=k$   $ji=-k$

- $ij = k$
- $ji = -k$
- $ij = -ji$

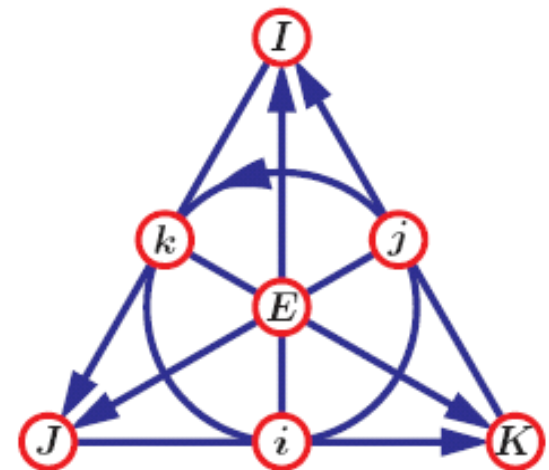




# Octonions: Generalization of Quaternions

- **Non-associative!** (e.g.,  $(ij)K = -E \neq E = i(jK)$ )
- Discovered by John Graves (1843), friend of **Hamilton**
- Useful in general relativity, quantum logic, string theory

$\times$	$i$	$j$	$k$	$E$	$I$	$J$	$K$
$i$	-1	$k$	$-j$	$I$	$-E$	$-K$	$J$
$j$	$-k$	-1	$i$	$J$	$K$	$-E$	$-I$
$k$	$j$	$-i$	-1	$K$	$-J$	$I$	$-E$
$E$	$-I$	$-J$	$-K$	-1	$i$	$j$	$k$
$I$	$E$	$-K$	$J$	$-i$	-1	$-k$	$j$
$J$	$K$	$E$	$-I$	$-j$	$k$	-1	$-i$
$K$	$-J$	$I$	$E$	$-k$	$-j$	$i$	-1



Mnemonic diagram for unit octonions products



“The **real numbers** are the dependable breadwinner of the family, the complete ordered field we all rely on. The **complex numbers** are a slightly flashier but still respectable younger brother: not ordered, but algebraically complete. The **quaternions**, being noncommutative, are the eccentric cousin who is shunned at important family gatherings. But the **octonions** are the crazy old uncle nobody lets out of the attic: they are *nonassociative*.”

— John Baez (1961-), physicist  
works on spin foams  
and loop quantum gravity



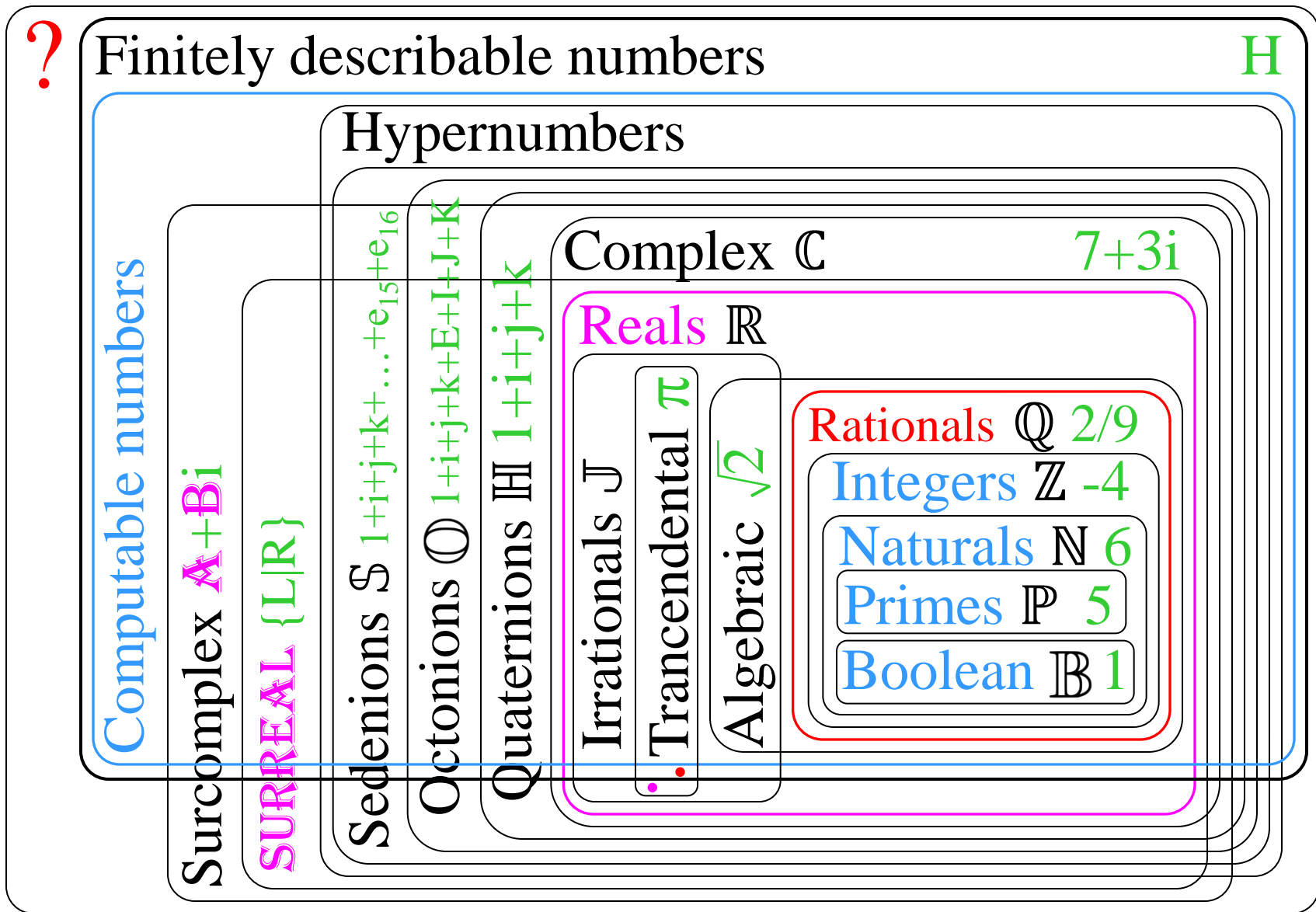
# Sedenions: Generalization of Octonions

- **Non-alternative!** (i.e.,  $x(xy)=(xx)y$  doesn't hold)

x	1	e <sub>1</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>3</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>7</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	e <sub>15</sub>
1	1	e <sub>1</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>3</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>7</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	e <sub>15</sub>
e <sub>1</sub>	e <sub>1</sub>	-1	e <sub>3</sub>	-e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>	-e <sub>4</sub>	-e <sub>7</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>11</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>15</sub>	-e <sub>14</sub>
e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	-e <sub>3</sub>	-1	e <sub>1</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>7</sub>	-e <sub>4</sub>	-e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	-e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>15</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>
e <sub>3</sub>	e <sub>3</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	-e <sub>1</sub>	-1	e <sub>7</sub>	-e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>	-e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	-e <sub>10</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>15</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>
e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>	-e <sub>5</sub>	-e <sub>6</sub>	-e <sub>7</sub>	-1	e <sub>1</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>3</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	e <sub>15</sub>	-e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>11</sub>
e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>	-e <sub>7</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	-e <sub>1</sub>	-1	-e <sub>3</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>	-e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>15</sub>	-e <sub>14</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>8</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	-e <sub>10</sub>
e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>7</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>	-e <sub>5</sub>	-e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>3</sub>	-1	-e <sub>1</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>15</sub>	-e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>11</sub>	-e <sub>8</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>
e <sub>7</sub>	e <sub>7</sub>	-e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>	-e <sub>3</sub>	-e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>1</sub>	-1	e <sub>15</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>13</sub>	-e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>8</sub>
e <sub>8</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>11</sub>	-e <sub>12</sub>	-e <sub>13</sub>	-e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>15</sub>	-1	e <sub>1</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>3</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>7</sub>
e <sub>9</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>11</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>15</sub>	-e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>1</sub>	-1	-e <sub>3</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	-e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>7</sub>	-e <sub>6</sub>
e <sub>10</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>15</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>	-e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>3</sub>	-1	-e <sub>1</sub>	-e <sub>6</sub>	-e <sub>7</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>
e <sub>11</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	-e <sub>10</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>15</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>	-e <sub>3</sub>	-e <sub>2</sub>	e <sub>1</sub>	-1	-e <sub>7</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	-e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>4</sub>
e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	e <sub>15</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>11</sub>	-e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>7</sub>	-1	-e <sub>1</sub>	-e <sub>2</sub>	-e <sub>3</sub>
e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>	-e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>15</sub>	-e <sub>14</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	-e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>5</sub>	-e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>7</sub>	-e <sub>6</sub>	e <sub>1</sub>	-1	e <sub>3</sub>	-e <sub>2</sub>
e <sub>14</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>15</sub>	-e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>13</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>11</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	e <sub>9</sub>	-e <sub>6</sub>	-e <sub>7</sub>	-e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>5</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	-e <sub>3</sub>	-1	e <sub>1</sub>
e <sub>15</sub>	e <sub>15</sub>	e <sub>14</sub>	-e <sub>13</sub>	-e <sub>12</sub>	e <sub>11</sub>	e <sub>10</sub>	-e <sub>9</sub>	e <sub>8</sub>	-e <sub>7</sub>	e <sub>6</sub>	-e <sub>5</sub>	-e <sub>4</sub>	e <sub>3</sub>	e <sub>2</sub>	-e <sub>1</sub>	-1



# Generalized Numbers



Theorem: some real numbers are not finitely describable!

Theorem: some finitely describable real numbers are not computable!