Strange Curves Counting Rabbits And Other Mathematical Explorations

Alfred S. Posamentier,Ingmar Lehmann

Strange Curves Counting Rabbits And Other Mathematical Explorations:

Strange Curves, Counting Rabbits, and Other Mathematical Explorations Keith M. Ball,2003 How does mathematics enable us to send pictures from space back to Earth Where does the bell shaped curve come from Why do you need only 23 people in a room for a 50 50 chance of two of them sharing the same birthday In Strange Curves Counting Rabbits and Other Mathematical Explorations Keith Ball highlights how ideas mostly from pure math can answer these questions and many more Drawing on areas of mathematics from probability theory number theory and geometry he explores a wide range of concepts some more light hearted others central to the development of the field and used daily by mathematicians physicists and engineers Each of the book s ten chapters begins by outlining key concepts and goes on to discuss with the minimum of technical detail the principles that underlie them Each includes puzzles and problems of varying difficulty While the chapters are self contained they also reveal the links between seemingly unrelated topics For example the problem of how to design codes for satellite communication gives rise to the same idea of uncertainty as the problem of screening blood samples for disease Accessible to anyone familiar with basic calculus this book is a treasure trove of ideas that will entertain amuse and bemuse students teachers and math lovers of all ages **Strange Curves, Counting Rabbits, And Other Mathematical Explorations** Keith Ball,2006-01-01 Strange Curves, Counting Rabbits, & Other Mathematical Explorations Keith Ball,2011-10-16 How does mathematics enable us to send pictures from space back to Earth Where does the bell shaped curve come from Why do you need only 23 people in a room for a 50 50 chance of two of them sharing the same birthday In Strange Curves Counting Rabbits and Other Mathematical Explorations Keith Ball highlights how ideas mostly from pure math can answer these questions and many more Drawing on areas of mathematics from probability theory number theory and geometry he explores a wide range of concepts some more light hearted others central to the development of the field and used daily by mathematicians physicists and engineers Each of the book s ten chapters begins by outlining key concepts and goes on to discuss with the minimum of technical detail the principles that underlie them Each includes puzzles and problems of varying difficulty While the chapters are self contained they also reveal the links between seemingly unrelated topics For example the problem of how to design codes for satellite communication gives rise to the same idea of uncertainty as the problem of screening blood samples for disease Accessible to anyone familiar with basic calculus this book is a treasure trove of ideas that will entertain amuse and bemuse students teachers and math lovers of all ages **How to Guard an Art Gallery** T.S. Michael,2009-09-01 An accessible and engaging tool for understanding the branch of mathematics that is so crucial to modern computer science using real life problems Mathematical Reviews What is the maximum number of pizza slices one can get by making four straight cuts through a circular pizza How does a computer determine the best set of pixels to represent a straight line on a computer screen How many people at a minimum does it take to guard an art gallery Discrete mathematics has the answer to these and many other questions of picking choosing and

shuffling T S Michael s gem of a book brings this vital but tough to teach subject to life using examples from the real world and popular culture Each chapter uses one problem such as slicing a pizza to detail key concepts about counting numbers and arranging finite sets Michael takes a different perspective in tackling each of eight problems and explains them in differing degrees of generality showing in the process how the same mathematical concepts appear in varied guises and contexts In doing so he imparts a broader understanding of the ideas underlying discrete mathematics and helps readers appreciate and understand mathematical thinking and discovery This book explains the basic concepts of discrete mathematics and demonstrates how to apply them in largely nontechnical language The explanations and formulas can be grasped with a basic understanding of linear equations *The Glorious Golden Ratio* Alfred S. Posamentier,Ingmar Lehmann,2011-12-20 What exactly is the Golden Ratio How was it discovered Where is it found These questions and more are thoroughly explained in this engaging tour of one of mathematics most interesting phenomena The authors trace the appearance of the Golden Ratio throughout history demonstrate a variety of ingenious techniques used to construct it and illustrate the many surprising geometric figures in which the Golden Ratio is embedded Requiring no more than an elementary knowledge of geometry and algebra the authors give readers a new appreciation of the indispensable qualities and inherent beauty of mathematics **Language and Mathematics** Marcel Danesi,2016-06-06 This book explores the many disciplinary and theoretical links between language linguistics and mathematics It examines trends in linguistics such as structuralism conceptual metaphor theory and other relevant theories to show that language and mathematics have a similar structure but differential functions even though one without the other would not exist **Teaching Mathematics Using Interactive Mapping** Sandra L. Arlinghaus,Joseph J. Kerski,William C. Arlinghaus,2023-12-11 Teaching Mathematics Using Interactive Mapping offers novel ways to learn basic math topics such as simple relational measures or measuring hierarchies through customized interactive mapping activities These activities focus on interactive web based Geographic Information System GIS and are relevant to today s problems and challenges Written in a guided hands on understandable manner all activities are designed to build practical and problem solving skills that rest on mathematical principles and move students from thinking about maps as references that focus solely on where is something to analytical tools focusing primarily on the whys of where Success with this transition through interaction permits most readers to master mathematical concepts and GIS tools FEATURES Offers custom designed geographical activities to fit with specific mathematical topics Helps students become comfortable using mathematics in a variety of professions Provides an innovative engaging and practical set of activities to ease readers through typically difficult often elementary mathematical topics fractions the distributive law and much more Uses web based GIS maps apps and other tools and data that can be accessed on any device anywhere at any time requiring no prior GIS background Written by experienced teachers and researchers with lifelong experience in teaching mathematics geography and spatial analysis Features an accompanying Solution Guide available on

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Games, Gambling, and Probability David G. Taylor,2021-06-22 Many experiments have shown the human brain generally has very serious problems dealing with probability and chance A greater understanding of probability can help develop the intuition necessary to approach risk with the ability to make more informed and better decisions The first four chapters offer the standard content for an introductory probability course albeit presented in a much different way and order The chapters

afterward include some discussion of different games different ideas that relate to the law of large numbers and many more mathematical topics not typically seen in such a book The use of games is meant to make the book and course feel like fun Since many of the early games discussed are casino games the study of those games along with an understanding of the material in later chapters should remind you that gambling is a bad idea you should think of placing bets in a casino as paying for entertainment Winning can obviously be a fun reward but should not ever be expected Changes for the Second Edition New chapter on Game Theory New chapter on Sports Mathematics The chapter on Blackjack which was Chapter 4 in the first edition appears later in the book Reorganization has been done to improve the flow of topics and learning New sections on Arkham Horror Uno and Scrabble have been added Even more exercises were added The goal for this textbook is to complement the inquiry based learning movement In my mind concepts and ideas will stick with the reader more when they are motivated in an interesting way Here we use questions about various games not just casino games to motivate the mathematics and I would say that the writing emphasizes a just in time mathematics approach Topics are presented mathematically as questions about the games themselves are posed Table of Contents Preface 1 Mathematics and Probability 2 Roulette and Craps Expected Value 3 Counting Poker Hands 4 More Dice Counting and Combinations and Statistics 5 Game Theory Poker Bluffing and Other Games 6 Probability Stochastic Matrices Board Game Movement 7 Sports Mathematics Probability Meets Athletics 8 Blackjack Previous Methods Revisited 9 A Mix of Other Games 10 Betting Systems Can You Beat the System 11 Potpourri Assorted Adventures in Probability Appendices Tables Answers and Selected Solutions Bibliography Biography Dr David G Taylor is a professor of mathematics and an associate dean for academic affairs at Roanoke College in southwest Virginia He attended Lebanon Valley College for his B S in computer science and mathematics and went to the University of Virginia for his Ph D While his graduate school focus was on studying infinite dimensional Lie algebras he started studying the mathematics of various games in order to have a more undergraduate friendly research agenda Work done with two Roanoke College students Heather Cook and Jonathan Marino appears in this book Currently he owns over 100 different board games and enjoys using probability in his decision making while playing most of those games In his spare time he enjoys reading cooking coding playing his board games and spending time with his six year old dog Lilly

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