



**SLICING PIZZAS, RACING TURTLES,
AND FURTHER ADVENTURES IN
APPLIED MATHEMATICS**

ROBERT B. BANKS

**PARADOXES, PERPLEXITIES,
AND MATHEMATICAL CONUNDRUMS FOR THE SERIOUS HEAD SCRATCHER**

PRINCETON



PUZZLERS

Slicing Pizzas Racing Turtles And Further Adventures In Applied Mathematics

R Sandford



Slicing Pizzas Racing Turtles And Further Adventures In Applied Mathematics:

Slicing Pizzas, Racing Turtles, and Further Adventures in Applied Mathematics Robert Banks, 2012-07-22 Paperback reissue 2012 original copyright 1999 *Slicing Pizzas, Racing Turtles, and Further Adventures in Applied Mathematics* Robert B. Banks, 2012-05-02 Banks turns trivial questions into mind expanding demonstrations of the magical powers of mathematics generously garnished with his unpredictable wit Booklist Have you ever daydreamed about digging a hole to the other side of the world Robert Banks not only entertains such ideas but supplies the mathematical know how to turn fantasies into problem solving adventures Now the author of Towing Icebergs Falling Dominoes and Further Adventures in Applied Mathematics presents another collection of puzzles to sharpen your thinking and mathematical skills The problems range from the wondrous to the eminently practical What s the total number of people who ve lived on Earth How do you get the most pizza slices with the least number of cuts To go from point A to point B in a downpour should you walk slowly jog moderately or run as fast as possible to get least wet What is the length of the seam on a baseball If all the ice in the world melted what would happen to Florida the Mississippi River and Niagara Falls Why do snowflakes have six sides Covering a broad range of fields from geography and environmental studies to map and flag making Banks uses mostly basic algebra and geometry to solve problems And if famous scientists have also pondered these questions he shares the historical details with the reader Banks displays a playful imagination and love of the fantastic that one would not ordinarily associate with a mathematical engineer entertaining The Christian Science Monitor **Towing Icebergs, Falling Dominoes, and Other Adventures in Applied Mathematics** Robert B. Banks, 2013-04-08 An engineering professor reveals how math and reasoning apply in the real world with a fascinating collection of problems and puzzles Library Journal A Choice Outstanding Academic Title of the Year Although we seldom think of it our lives are played out in a world of numbers Such common activities as throwing baseballs skipping rope growing flowers playing football measuring savings accounts and many others are inherently mathematical So are more speculative problems that are simply fun to ponder in themselves such as the best way to score Olympic events Here Robert Banks presents a wide range of musings both practical and entertaining that have intrigued him and others How tall can one grow Why do we get stuck in traffic Which football player would have a better chance of breaking away a small speedy wide receiver or a huge slow linebacker Can California water shortages be alleviated by towing icebergs from Antarctica What is the fastest the 100 meter dash will ever be run The book s twenty four concise chapters each centered on a real world phenomenon show how math and simple reasoning together may produce elegant models that explain everything from the federal debt to the proper technique for ski jumping Engaging New Scientist Infused with infectious enthusiasm Publishers Weekly Note Some images inside the book are unavailable due to digital copyright restrictions **Applications of Differential Equations in Engineering and Mechanics** Kam Tim Chau, 2019-01-08 This second of two comprehensive reference texts on differential equations continues coverage of the essential material students

they are likely to encounter in solving engineering and mechanics problems across the field alongside a preliminary volume on theory This book covers a very broad range of problems including beams and columns plates shells structural dynamics catenary and cable suspension bridge nonlinear buckling transports and waves in fluids geophysical fluid flows nonlinear waves and solitons Maxwell equations Schrodinger equations celestial mechanics and fracture mechanics and dynamics The focus is on the mathematical technique for solving the differential equations involved All readers who are concerned with and interested in engineering mechanics problems climate change and nanotechnology will find topics covered in this book providing valuable information and mathematics background for their multi disciplinary research and education **MATH**

BRIDGES TO A BETTER FUTURE: James Elander,2023-09-05 There s no available information at this time Author will provide once information is available

Alcuin's Recreational Mathematics Marcel Danesi,2024-11-01 Propositiones ad acuendos juvenes Problems to Sharpen the Young is a ninth century book written by medieval teacher and scholar Alcuin of York Today it has become one of the foundational texts in what is commonly called recreational mathematics The book has been translated in many languages and analysed from various mathematical angles and perspectives from contemporary arithmetic and geometry to the nature of sequences It is not only a collection of ingenious and challenging puzzles but the core ideas collected in this book have become major themes and branches of mathematics Here Marcel Danesi revisits all fifty three problems in Alcuin s original text providing detailed solutions and analyses Alcuin s Recreational Mathematics examines the problems in the Propositiones in easy to follow language extracting from them the notions and techniques that today constitute basic mathematics Each chapter discusses Alcuin s problems more broadly and ends with ten exploratory puzzles based on Alcuin s original problems and related themes Answers and detailed solutions are included at the back Alcuin s Recreational Mathematics demonstrates how Alcuin s Propositiones puts basic mathematical thinking on display via ingenious problems that often require outside of the box thinking constituting an original and imaginative investigation of mathematics in its essence

Mathematics in Nature John Adam,2011-10-02 From rainbows river meanders and shadows to spider webs honeycombs and the markings on animal coats the visible world is full of patterns that can be described mathematically Examining such readily observable phenomena this book introduces readers to the beauty of nature as revealed by mathematics and the beauty of mathematics as revealed in nature Generously illustrated written in an informal style and replete with examples from everyday life Mathematics in Nature is an excellent and undaunting introduction to the ideas and methods of mathematical modeling It illustrates how mathematics can be used to formulate and solve puzzles observed in nature and to interpret the solutions In the process it teaches such topics as the art of estimation and the effects of scale particularly what happens as things get bigger Readers will develop an understanding of the symbiosis that exists between basic scientific principles and their mathematical expressions as well as a deeper appreciation for such natural phenomena as cloud formations halos and glories tree heights and leaf patterns butterfly and moth wings and even puddles

and mud cracks Developed out of a university course this book makes an ideal supplemental text for courses in applied mathematics and mathematical modeling It will also appeal to mathematics educators and enthusiasts at all levels and is designed so that it can be dipped into at leisure

From ER to E.T. Rajeev Bansal, 2017-01-04 This book covers the study of electromagnetic wave theory and describes how electromagnetic technologies affect our daily lives From ER to ET How Electromagnetic Technologies Are Changing Our Lives explores electromagnetic wave theory including its founders scientific underpinnings ethical issues and applications through history Utilizing a format of short essays this book explains in a balanced and direct style how electromagnetic technologies are changing the world we live in and the future they may create for us Quizzes at the end of each chapter provide the reader with a deeper understanding of the material This book is a valuable resource for microwave engineers of varying levels of experience and for instructors to motivate their students and add depth to their assignments In addition this book Presents topics that investigate all aspects of electromagnetic technology throughout history Explores societal and global issues that relate to the field of electrical engineering emphasized in current ABET accreditation criteria Includes quizzes relevant to every essay and answers which explain technical perspectives Rajeev Bansal PhD is a professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Connecticut He is a member of IEEE and the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering He is a Fellow of the Electromagnetics Academy His editing credits include Fundamentals of Engineering Electromagnetics and Engineering Electromagnetics Applications Dr Bansal contributes regular columns to IEEE Antennas and Propagation Magazine and IEEE Microwave Magazine

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

Digital Dice Paul J. Nahin, 2013-03-24 Some probability problems are so difficult that they stump the smartest mathematicians But even the hardest of these problems can often be solved with

a computer and a Monte Carlo simulation in which a random number generator simulates a physical process such as a million rolls of a pair of dice This is what Digital Dice is all about how to get numerical answers to difficult probability problems without having to solve complicated mathematical equations Popular math writer Paul Nahin challenges readers to solve twenty one difficult but fun problems from determining the odds of coin flipping games to figuring out the behavior of elevators Problems build from relatively easy deciding whether a dishwasher who breaks most of the dishes at a restaurant during a given week is clumsy or just the victim of randomness to the very difficult tackling branching processes of the kind that had to be solved by Manhattan Project mathematician Stanislaw Ulam In his characteristic style Nahin brings the problems to life with interesting and odd historical anecdotes Readers learn for example not just how to determine the optimal stopping point in any selection process but that astronomer Johannes Kepler selected his second wife by interviewing eleven women The book shows readers how to write elementary computer codes using any common programming language and provides solutions and line by line walk throughs of a MATLAB code for each problem Digital Dice will appeal to anyone who enjoys popular math or computer science In a new preface Nahin wittily addresses some of the responses he received to the first edition

50 Visions of Mathematics Sam Parc, 2014-05 To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications IMA this book is designed to showcase the beauty of mathematics including images inspired by mathematical problems together with its unreasonable effectiveness and applicability without frying your brain Provided by publisher

Pythagoras' Legacy Marcel Danesi, 2020-02-03 As the famous Pythagorean statement reads Number rules the universe and its veracity is proven in the many mathematical discoveries that have accelerated the development of science engineering and even philosophy A so called art of the mind mathematics has guided and stimulated many aspects of human innovation down through the centuries In this book Marcel Danesi presents a historical overview of the ten greatest achievements in mathematics and dynamically explores their importance and effects on our daily lives Considered as a chain of events rather than isolated incidents Danesi takes us from the beginnings of modern day mathematics with Pythagoras through the concept of zero right the way up to modern computational algorithms Loaded with thought provoking practical exercises and puzzles Pythagoras Legacy allows the reader to apply their knowledge and discover the significance of mathematics in their everyday lives

Pi (π) in Nature, Art, and Culture Marcel Danesi, 2020-12-07 In *Pi in Nature Art and Culture* Marcel Danesi revisits the importance of π as a pattern in the structure of reality fitting in with the Pythagorean view of Order π has cropped up in formulas that describe natural and physical structures which on the surface seem to have nothing to do with a circle but might harbor the archetype of circularity as a principle Through this book thus revisits the implicit ancient Greek view that geometry was a hermeneutic science a discipline aiming to investigate the connectivity among numbers shapes and natural phenomena It also examines its manifestations in aesthetic symbolic and cultural structures which point to an abiding fascination with the circle as an

unconscious archetype Hermeneutic geometry is ultimately about the exploration of the meanings of geometric mathematical notions to science and human life

Ahmes' Legacy Marcel Danesi, 2018-08-11 This book looks at classic puzzles from the perspective of their structures and what they tell us about the brain It uses the work on the neuroscience of mathematics from Dehaene Butterworth Lakoff Nezh and many others as a lens to understand the ways in which puzzles reflect imaginative processes blended with rational ones The book is not about recreational or puzzle based mathematics in and of itself but rather about what the classic puzzles tell us about the mathematical imagination and its impact on the discipline It delves into the history of classic math puzzles deconstructing their rationale and describing their psychological features so that their nature can be fleshed out in order to help understand the mathematical mind This volume is the first monographic treatment of the psychological nature of puzzles in mathematics With its user friendly technical level of discussion it is of interest to both general readers and those who engage in the disciplines of mathematics psychology neuroscience and or anthropology It is also ideal as a textbook source for courses in recreational mathematics or as reference material in introductory college math courses

Solving Puzzles with Neural Creativity Marcel Danesi, 2025-06-13 This book takes an in depth look at the tradition of solving puzzles and considers the psychological cause and effect of the Aha moment that familiar flash of sudden insight Everyone loves a good puzzle but why is this so Is it because puzzles provide a form of escapism from the routines of daily life Or do they reveal something fundamental or perhaps even primal about human cognition and consciousness In this book Marcel Danesi considers the importance of puzzles to the study of mind and culture and explores how they stimulate creative regions of the brain Danesi explores the history of classic puzzles across time and cultural spaces and examines the psychological link between puzzle solving mental imagery and visualization He takes an in depth look at the difference between puzzles and games based on systematic reasoning as well as the role of language meaning and structure in the solving of riddles Overall the book puts forward the idea that puzzles provide cognitive data on how the brain might function when processing information via the neurocircuitry that supports creativity Examining all kinds of puzzles including verbal nonverbal and mathematical Solving Puzzles with Neural Creativity will be of great interest to students and scholars of psychology cognitive science neuroscience and anthropology

In Praise of Simple Physics Paul Nahin, 2017-09-19 Fun puzzles that use physics to explore the wonders of everyday life Physics can explain many of the things that we commonly encounter It can tell us why the night is dark what causes the tides and even how best to catch a baseball With In Praise of Simple Physics popular math and science writer Paul Nahin presents a plethora of situations that explore the science and math behind the wonders of everyday life Roaming through a diverse range of puzzles he illustrates how physics shows us ways to wring more energy from renewable sources to measure the gravity in our car garages to figure out which of three light switches in the basement controls the light bulb in the attic and much much more How fast can you travel from London to Paris How do scientists calculate the energy of an atomic bomb explosion How do you kick a football so

it stays in the air and goes a long way downfield Nahin begins with simpler problems and progresses to more challenging questions and his entertaining accessible and scientifically and mathematically informed explanations are all punctuated by his trademark humor Readers are presumed to have some background in beginning differential and integral calculus Whether you simply have a personal interest in physics influence in the world or you re an engineering and science student who wants to gain more physics know how this book has an intriguing scenario for you In Praise of Simple Physics proves that if we look carefully at the world around us physics has answers for the most astonishing day to day occurrences

Hesiod's Anvil Andrew J. Simoson,2007-05-01 This book is about models of motion as enunciated by poets philosophers storytellers and early scientists By using popular literature and philosophy to bring the mechanics of motion alive blending with equal voice both romantic whimsy and derived equations Math Horizons ,1993 *Chases and Escapes* Paul Nahin,2012-07-22 Ideal both for self study and as supplemental readings by students and or professors in any of the mathematical and physical sciences this text presents the historical development of the differential equations of pursuit theory **Duelling Idiots and Other Probability Puzzlers** Paul Nahin,2012-07-22 What are your chances of dying on your next flight being called for jury duty or winning the lottery We all encounter probability problems in our everyday lives In this collection of twenty one puzzles Paul Nahin challenges us to think creatively about the laws of probability as they apply in playful sometimes deceptive ways to a fascinating array of speculative situations Games of Russian roulette problems involving the accumulation of insects on flypaper and strategies for determining the odds of the underdog winning the World Series all reveal intriguing dimensions to the workings of probability Over the years Nahin a veteran writer and teacher of the subject has collected these and other favorite puzzles designed to instruct and entertain math enthusiasts of all backgrounds If idiots A and B alternately take aim at each other with a six shot revolver containing one bullet what is the probability idiot A will win What are the chances it will snow on your birthday in any given year How can researchers use coin flipping and the laws of probability to obtain honest answers to embarrassing survey questions The solutions are presented here in detail and many contain a profound element of surprise And some puzzles are beautiful illustrations of basic mathematical concepts The Blind Spider and the Fly for example is a clever variation of a random walk problem and Duelling Idiots and The Underdog and the World Series are straightforward introductions to binomial distributions Written in an informal way and containing a plethora of interesting historical material Duelling Idiots is ideal for those who are fascinated by mathematics and the role it plays in everyday life and in our imaginations

The Enigmatic Realm of **Slicing Pizzas Racing Turtles And Further Adventures In Applied Mathematics**: Unleashing the Language is Inner Magic

In a fast-paced digital era where connections and knowledge intertwine, the enigmatic realm of language reveals its inherent magic. Its capacity to stir emotions, ignite contemplation, and catalyze profound transformations is nothing short of extraordinary. Within the captivating pages of **Slicing Pizzas Racing Turtles And Further Adventures In Applied Mathematics** a literary masterpiece penned with a renowned author, readers embark on a transformative journey, unlocking the secrets and untapped potential embedded within each word. In this evaluation, we shall explore the book's core themes, assess its distinct writing style, and delve into its lasting effect on the hearts and minds of those who partake in its reading experience.

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