



Maths for the Mystified

An exploration of the history of mathematics and its relationship to modern-day science and computing

Dr Michael J de Smith

Maths for the Mystified provides a new and highly approachable introduction to mathematics in the digital age. Numerous practical case studies are provided, with clear explanations and worked examples using widely available PC software, such as Excel, MATLAB and Maple.

The book offers a wide-ranging introduction to many areas of mathematics, physics and modern computing science, including algebra, number theory, finite and infinite series, trigonometry, calculus, statistics and computational mathematics.

It also provides an explanation of the origin of our system of numbers, as well as covering other interesting topics such as the structure of sound waves and gravity measurement, the use of a computer as a tool to investigate credit card and email security, digital photography and the modelling of population dynamics.

About the Author: Dr Michael J de Smith is an Honorary Senior Research Fellow and Teaching Fellow at University College London, where he undertakes research, writing and lecturing in the field of data analysis and spatial information systems. Before recently returning to the academic world, Dr de Smith ran a highly successful software engineering business for over 20 years. He studied at universities in the UK and Canada, where he gained BSc degrees in Mathematics and Geography, followed by an MA and PhD, both in spatial analysis. As well as publishing a number of papers on the subject, he is the lead author of the forthcoming *Handbook of Spatial Analysis* and acts as a reviewer for a range of academic journals.

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The author is available for interview. A review copy or competition copies of the book can be sent on request.

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