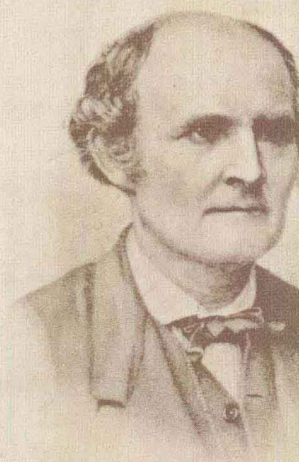
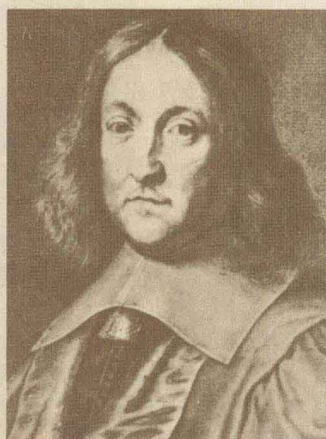


MATHEMATICS

The Alphabet of Science

Willerding & Hayward



SECOND EDITION

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The Alphabet of Science

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MATHEMATICS
The Alphabet
of Science

To our loyal friends

Gai

Suzie

Meg

Maggie

PREFACE

This revision of *Mathematics: The Alphabet of Science* is based on many letters, comments, reviews, and evaluations received by the authors, and upon the classroom experiences of many instructors and students since the first edition in 1967. The original text has been rewritten and supplemented with these comments, criticisms, and suggestions as a guide.

The book is intended for liberal arts students and other students who wish to know what mathematics is about, but who have no desire to be mathematicians. The presentation is designed so that even persons who have little or no high school mathematics, or those whose mathematics study is so far in the past that it is completely forgotten, will have no trouble following the explanations.

The topics selected for discussion are simple yet profound. Many have applications in fields other than mathematics. Explanations have been made as detailed as is reasonably possible. The manner in which the subjects are treated will cause no problems even to the most mathematically unsophisticated student. For a complete understanding of the topics presented, the reader should verify the calculations and ponder the arguments as he encounters them. But even if the reader reads this book as he reads a novel, he will find enough to acquaint him with some exciting topics of mathematics both ancient and modern.

Numerous illustrative examples are presented throughout the book to clarify the use of mathematical ideas. The number of exercises in all chapters has been substantially increased and the answers to all odd-numbered problems are included in the text.

Chapter 1 presents the basic notions of mathematical logic and gives the reader a respect for correct reasoning and a clear understanding of the type of deductive reasoning used in mathematics. In this edition a

PREFACE

new section on negation of compound statements has been added and deMorgan's Laws are presented.

Chapters 2, 3, and 4 present topics from Number Theory. To justify the inclusion of these chapters, if such a justification is necessary, we quote an address of G. H. Hardy given before the American Mathematical Society.

The elementary theory of numbers should be one of the very best subjects for early mathematical instruction. It demands very little previous knowledge; its subject matter is tangible and familiar; the processes of reasoning which it employs are simple, general and few; and it is unique among the mathematical sciences in its appeal to natural, human curiosity. A month's intelligent instruction in the Theory of Numbers ought to be twice as useful and at least ten times more entertaining than the same amount of calculus for engineers.

Chapter 5, Sets, Relations, and Functions, is completely new in this edition. Here we review sets, set operations, Cartesian products, and the Cartesian plane. Relations and functions are defined; function notation is presented; and linear and quadratic functions are discussed in detail and graphed.

Chapters 6 and 10 study abstract mathematical systems and stress the postulational method. Chapter 6, Groups and Fields, has been completely rewritten and supplemented. The modulo-seven system discussed in Chapter 6 is presented here as an example of a finite field (the F_7 field). Solution sets of linear equations over F_7 are found and graphed. Polynomials over F_7 are also discussed and graphed.

Chapter 10, Finite Geometry, gives the reader an opportunity to study a geometry with only a finite number of points as contrasted with the infinite geometry studied in high school. The numerous letters received by the authors praising this chapter have resulted in the presentation being virtually unchanged from the first edition.

Chapter 7, The Pythagorean Theorem, is substantially the same. The only change being the addition of a section on the distance formula from analytic geometry. This chapter, like Chapter 10, seems to have many fans among the users of the first edition.

Chapter 8 has, to a large extent, been rewritten. The fundamental counting principle and a discussion of permutations and combinations have been added. The discussion of these topics facilitates a deeper

understanding of the probability theory presented and makes possible a slightly more sophisticated presentation of probability measure.

Chapter 9, Matrices, has been lengthened to include the solution of matrix equations, solutions of systems of linear equations using matrices, and determinants of square matrices.

Chapter 11, Analytic Geometry: The Straight Line and the Circle, is entirely new. This chapter includes the midpoint formula, the analytic geometry of the line and the circle, and analytic proofs of theorems from elementary geometry.

Chapters 12, 13, and 14, present some of the fundamental principles and the mathematical concepts related to the digital computer. The materials presented are those basics necessary in the effective use of a computer. These so-called "thinking" machines have become an integral part of life in this scientific age, and the authors feel that every educated person should understand their workings. The old adage "first things first" was primary in the selection of the materials included in these chapters.

One of the first prerequisites of a working knowledge of the sewing machine is how to thread it; similarly, to understand the workings of a computer one must have some idea of how the machines themselves operate and how they are programmed to solve problems. Many of the students using this text will someday have positions in which such knowledge will be invaluable as well as necessary. With these objectives in mind Chapters 12, 13, and 14 were written.

Chapter 12 covers systems of numeration used by computers and persons working with computers. All present-day, large-scale digital computers use the binary system of numeration to represent data. The binary system and other related systems (those based on powers of two) used in the computer field are covered. The decimal system is presented before the other positional numeration systems as an aid in the understanding of numeration systems with bases other than ten.

Chapter 13 attempts to explain some of the basics of the digital computer without becoming technical. Some topics covered are basic machine language (bit patterns) related to assembly language, complement arithmetic, and representation of real numbers versus integers. These topics show the need for studying the systems of numeration presented in Chapter 12.

Chapter 14 is a brief treatment of a higher level compiler language, FORTRAN. Compiler languages are used in most programs written today

PREFACE

for computers. They provide a relevant set of mnemonics to simulate the problem to be solved. Although these symbols must be translated into machine language by the compiling program, the user need not know details about either of these. FORTRAN was chosen to represent the world of compiler languages since its structure is very much like the structure of mathematical equations.

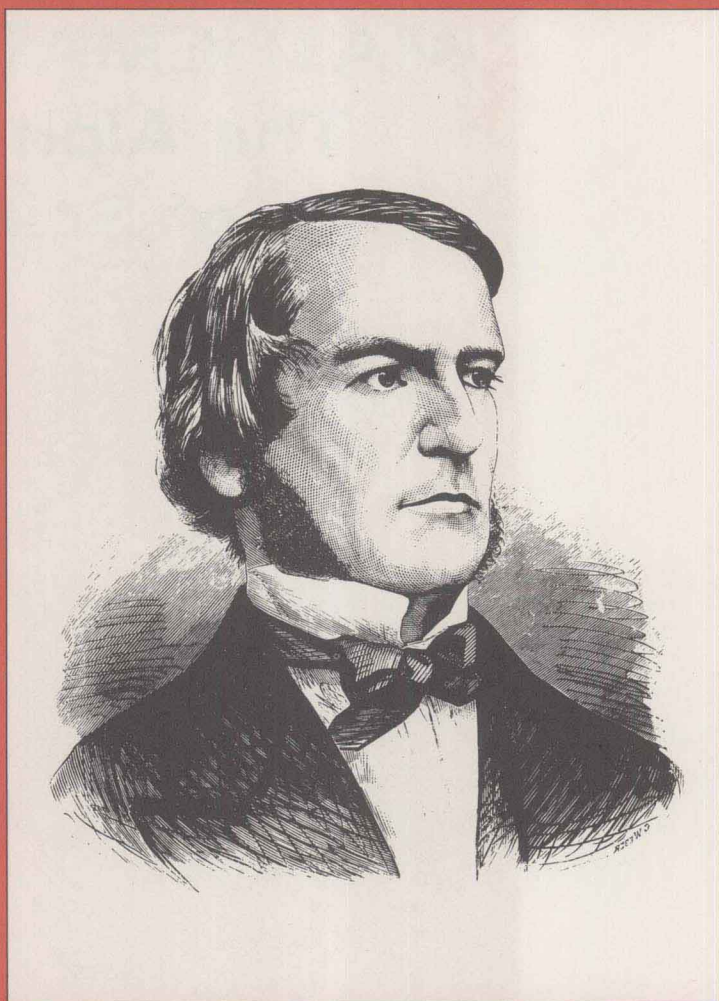
The authors would like to thank all those students and instructors who used the first edition of *Mathematics: The Alphabet of Science* and particularly those who wrote and made suggestions as to its improvement. We would like to thank Professor Walter J. Gleason, Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, Massachusetts; Dr. Kelvin Casebeer, Southwestern State College, Weatherford, Oklahoma; Professor C. Ralph Verno, West Chester State College, West Chester, Pennsylvania; and Professor Henry Harmeling, Jr., North Shore Community College, Beverly, Massachusetts for their critical reviews of the manuscript and for their helpful suggestions for improving the book.

San Diego, California
February 1972

MARGARET F. WILLERDING
RUTH A. HAYWARD

MATHEMATICS

The Alphabet of Science



George Boole (1815–1864) discovered that the symbolism of algebra can be used not only for making statements about numbers, but also about mathematical logic. In his book called *The Mathematical Analysis of Logic*, Boole developed the idea of formal logic and introduced an algebra into the field of logic. Today, Boolean algebra is important not only in the field of logic, but also in the geometry of sets, the theory of probability, and other fields of mathematics.

CONTENTS

1	LOGIC	1
1.	History	2
2.	Diagrams in Deductive Reasoning	2
3.	Undefined Terms	6
4.	Statements	7
5.	Compound Statements	10
6.	Negation	12
7.	Implication	13
8.	Equivalence	16
9.	Tautology	19
10.	Derived Implications	21
11.	Negations of Compound Statements	24
12.	Laws of Substitution and Detachment	28
13.	Valid Arguments	28
14.	Direct Proof	34
15.	Indirect Proof	37
2	DIVISIBILITY	43
1.	The Integers	44
2.	Multiples and Divisors	46
3.	Division and Remainders	53
4.	More Theorems on Divisibility	58
5.	Rules of Divisibility	60

CONTENTS

3	PRIME NUMBERS	71
	1. Prime and Composite Numbers	72
	2. The Sieve of Eratosthenes	73
	3. Infinitude of Primes	75
	4. Greatest Common Divisor	77
	5. Euclid's Algorithm	77
	6. The Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic	83
	7. Some Unsolved Problems about Prime Numbers	87
4	CONGRUENCES	91
	1. Finite Number Systems	92
	2. Classification of the Integers	97
	3. Definition of Congruence	100
	4. Properties of Congruences	103
	5. Residue Classes	107
	6. Solution of Congruences	111
	7. Solution of Linear Congruences	115
	8. Divisibility and Congruences	120
5	SETS, RELATIONS AND FUNCTIONS	125
	1. Sets and Set Language	126
	2. Sets of Numbers	129
	3. Cartesian Products	133
	4. Graphing Cartesian Products	135
	5. Relations	141
	6. Functions	144
	7. Function Notation	146
	8. Graphs of Functions	151
	9. Linear Functions	154
	10. The Quadratic Function	158

6	GROUPS AND FIELDS	165
1.	Abstract Mathematical Systems	166
2.	Mathematical Fields	170
3.	Field Theorems	174
4.	A Finite Field	178
5.	Finding Solution Sets of Linear Equations over F_7	183
6.	Polynomials over the Field F_7	187
7.	Graphs of Polynomial Functions over F_7	190
8.	Groups	192
9.	The Groups of Symmetries of a Square	195
10.	Some Theorems about Groups	201
11.	Permutation Groups	203
7	THE PYTHAGOREAN THEOREM	211
1.	A Brief History	212
2.	Proof of the Pythagorean Theorem	213
3.	Pythagorean Triples	224
4.	Primitive Pythagorean Triangles	229
5.	Finding Sides of Pythagorean Triangles Given the Length of One Side	232
6.	Square Roots from Pythagorean Triangles	234
7.	The Pythagorean Theorem and the Distance between Two Points	237
8	PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS	243
1.	The Fundamental Counting Principle	244

CONTENTS

2. Permutations	247
3. Combinations	250
4. Sample Spaces and Events	254
5. Probability of an Event	256
6. Mutually Exclusive Events	261
7. Conditional Probability	265
8. Measures of Central Tendency	271
9. The Arithmetic Mean	272
10. The Median	275
11. The Mode	275
12. Comparing the Three Averages	276
13. Measures of Variability	279

9 MATRICES 287

1. History	288
2. The Form of a Matrix	288
3. Addition of Matrices	293
4. Matrix Multiplication	300
5. More about Matrix Multiplication	304
6. Multiplicative Inverses of 2×2 Matrices	310
7. Matrices and Systems of Equations	315
8. Determinants of Square Matrices	317

10 FINITE GEOMETRY 325

1. Physical Geometry versus Abstract Geometry	326
2. A Finite Geometry	327
3. Theorems for the Finite Geometry	331
4. Independence of Postulates	333
5. Another Finite Geometry	335

11	ANALYTIC GEOMETRY: THE STRAIGHT LINE AND THE CIRCLE	343
	1. Introduction	344
	2. Midpoint of a Line Segment	344
	3. The Equation of a Line	347
	4. Parallel and Perpendicular Lines	351
	5. Proving Geometric Theorems Analytically	356
	6. The Circle	361
12	COMPUTERS AND NUMERATION SYSTEMS	367
	1. The Basic Principles of a Computer	368
	2. The Decimal System of Numeration	369
	3. The Binary Numeration System	373
	4. The Octal Numeration System	383
	5. Binary Octal Relation	390
	6. The Hexadecimal System of Numeration	393
13	COMPUTER HISTORY AND OPERATIONS	399
	1. A Brief History of the Digital Computer	400
	2. Computer Components	401
	3. How Fast Are Computers?	403
	4. Magnetic Core Memory	404
	5. Complement Arithmetic	406
	6. Assembly Language	413
	7. Nonintegral Numbers	420

CONTENTS

14	A COMPUTER LANGUAGE	429
1.	Introduction	430
2.	The FORTRAN Statement	431
3.	Constants, Variables, and Names	433
4.	Arithmetic Operations	436
5.	Integer Arithmetic	442
6.	Transfer Statements	443
7.	Writing Programs	448
8.	Dimension Statements and Subscripts	455
9.	The DO Statement	457
	ANSWERS TO ODD-NUMBERED PROBLEMS	A.1
	INDEX	I.1