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| 1. Record Nr. | UNINA9910389260703321 |
| Titolo | Ciência & Saúde Coletiva |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | Associação Brasileira de Pós-Graduação em Saúde Coletiva - ABRASCO
South America, South America/Brazil |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Periodico |
| 2. Record Nr. | UNINA9910962009803321 |
| Autore | Ebbinghaus Heinz-Dieter <1939-> |
| Titolo | Numbers // by Heinz-Dieter Ebbinghaus, Hans Hermes, Friedrich Hirzebruch, Max Koecher, Klaus Mainzer, Jürgen Neukirch, Alexander Prestel, Reinhold Remmert ; edited by John H. Ewing |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | New York, NY : , : Springer New York : , : Imprint : Springer, , 1991 |
| ISBN | 1-4612-1005-4 |
| Edizione | [1st ed. 1991.] |
| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource (XVIII, 398 p.) |
| Collana | Readings in Mathematics ; ; 123 |
| Disciplina | 512/.7 |
| Soggetti | Number theory
Number Theory |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Monografia |
| Note generali | Translation of: Zahlen.
"With 24 illustrations." |
| Nota di bibliografia | Includes bibliographical references. |
| Nota di contenuto | A. From the Natural Numbers, to the Complex Numbers, to the p-adics -- 1. Natural Numbers, Integers, and Rational Numbers -- 2. Real Numbers -- 3. Complex Numbers -- 4. The Fundamental Theorem of Algebra -- 5. What is ?? -- 6. The p-Adic Numbers -- B. Real Division Algebras -- Repertory. Basic Concepts from the Theory of Algebras -- 7. Hamilton's Quaternions -- 8. The Isomorphism Theorems of FROBENIUS, HOPF and GELFAND-MAZUR -- 9. CAYLEY Numbers or Alternative Division Algebras -- 10. Composition Algebras. HURWITZ's Theorem-Vector-Product Algebras -- 11. Division Algebras and |

Topology -- C. Infinitesimals, Games, and Sets -- 12. Nonstandard Analysis -- 13. Numbers and Games -- 14. Set Theory and Mathematics -- Name Index -- Portraits of Famous Mathematicians.

Sommario/riassunto

A book about numbers sounds rather dull. This one is not. Instead it is a lively story about one thread of mathematics—the concept of "number" — told by eight authors and organized into a historical narrative that leads the reader from ancient Egypt to the late twentieth century. It is a story that begins with some of the simplest ideas of mathematics and ends with some of the most complex. It is a story that mathematicians, both amateur and professional, ought to know. Why write about numbers? Mathematicians have always found it difficult to develop broad perspective about their subject. While we each view our specialty as having roots in the past, and sometimes having connections to other specialties in the present, we seldom see the panorama of mathematical development over thousands of years. Numbers attempts to give that broad perspective, from hieroglyphs to K-theory, from Dedekind cuts to nonstandard analysis.
