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                     the Literature -- B.1 Texts -- B.2 Software -- B.3 Other books.

   Sommario/riassunto p-adic numbers are of great theoretical importance in number theory,
                     since they allow the use of the language of analysis to study problems
                     relating toprime numbers and diophantine equations. Further, they
                     offer a realm where one can do things that are very similar to classical
                     analysis, but with results that are quite unusual. The book should be of
                     use to students interested in number theory, but at the same time
                     offers an interesting example of the many connections between
                     different parts of mathematics. The book strives to be understandable
                     to an undergraduate audience. Very little background has been
                     assumed, and the presentation is leisurely. There are many problems,
                     which should help readers who are working on their own (a large
                     appendix with hints on the problem is included). Most of all, the book
                     should offer undergraduates exposure to some interesting
                     mathematics which is off the beaten track. Those who will later
                     specialize in number theory, algebraic geometry, and related subjects
                     will benefit more directly, but all mathematics students can enjoy the
                     book.