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Autore	Schildt, Herbert <1951- >
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Nota di contenuto	front cover; copyright; Table of Contents; body; 0 Introduction; Waves in the sea; Organisation of the articles; Some principal limitations; Acknowledgements; Bibliography 0; 1. Rene Descartes, GEOMETRIE, Latin edition (1649), French edition (1637); Youth, from La Fleche to the REGULAE; Descartes in Holland and Stockholm; The GEOMETRIE; The `construction' of the expressions; Compasses, ruler-and-slide, criterion for `continuous motions'; The problem of Pappus and an algebraic criterion; Tangents; Ovals; Algebraic equations; The `construction' of equations; From the GEOMETRIE to the ENUMERATIO `PROLES SINE MATRE CREATA'Bibliography; 2. John Wallis, Arithmetica infinitorum (1656); Background to the ARITHMETICA INFINITORUM; Methods and results in the ARITHMETICA INFINITORUM; The motivation to `Wallis's product'; Reactions to the ARITHMETICA INFINITORUM; Bibliography 2; 3. Christiaan Huygens, book on the pendulum clock (1673); The three strands of Huygens's research; Pendulum clocks; The five parts of HOROLOGIUM OSCILLATORIUM; On Huygens's mathematical style; Unfocused reception; Bibliography 3; 4. Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, first three papers on the calculus (1684, 1686, 1693)

Leibniz's research on the infinitesimal mathematicsThe enigmatic first publication; The early reception of the differential calculus; The first papers on integral calculus; The spread of the Leibnizian calculus; Bibliography 4; 5. Isaac Newton, philosophiae naturalis principia mathematica, first edition (1687); Newton's mathematical methods; Early studies on the motion of bodies and on planetary motion; The PRINCIPIA (1687): definitions and laws; The PRINCIPIA (1687): limits; The PRINCIPIA (1687): the area law; The PRINCIPIA (1687): central forces; The PRINCIPIA (1687): Pappus's problem
The PRINCIPIA (1687): algebraic non-integrability of ovalsThe PRINCIPIA (1687): the general inverse problem of central forces; The PRINCIPIA (1687): universal gravitation; Revisions (1690s), second (1713) and third (1726) editions; The impact of the PRINCIPIA; Bibliography 5; 6. Jakob Bernoulli, Ars conjectandi (1713); Background and story of publication; Content and structure of the AC; Huygens's De rationciniis in ludo aleae with Bernoulli's annotations; Combinatorics as the main tool of the art of conjecturing; New problems and exercises in the third Part
The transition to a calculus of probabilities in the fourth PartThe impact of the Ars conjectandi; Bibliography 6; 7. Abraham de Moivre, The doctrine of chances (1718, 1738, 1756); Background and story of the publication; The introduction of the Doctrine of chances, and the mathematical requirements for the reader as announced in the preface; Generating functions; A `new sort of algebra' in the Doctrine of chances; The duration of play; The approximation of the binomial by the normal distribution; Annuities on lives; Impact of the DoC; Bibliography 7; 8. George Berkeley, The analyst (1734)
Berkeley's life and works

Sommario/riassunto

This book contains around 80 articles on major writings in mathematics published between 1640 and 1940. All aspects of mathematics are covered: pure and applied, probability and statistics, foundations and philosophy. Sometimes two writings from the same period and the same subject are taken together. The biography of the author(s) is recorded, and the circumstances of the preparation of the writing are given. When the writing is of some lengths an analytical table of its contents is supplied. The contents of the writing is reviewed, and its impact described, at least for the immediate decades