

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910787652803321
Titolo	Writing science : medical and mathematical authorship in ancient Greece // edited by Markus Asper in collaboration with Anna-Maria Kanthak
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin : , : De Gruyter, , 2013 ©2013
ISBN	3-11-029512-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (512 p.)
Collana	Science, Technology, and Medicine in Ancient Cultures ; ; 1
Classificazione	FB 4121
Altri autori (Persone)	AsperMarkus
Disciplina	808.06 808.06650938
Soggetti	Mathematics, Greek Medicine, Greek and Roman Science - Greece - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Preface -- Contents -- Introduction -- The Name and Nature of Science: Authorship in Social and Evolutionary Context -- Ancient Writings, Modern Conceptions of Authorship. Reflections on Some Historical Processes That Shaped the Oldest Extant Mathematical Sources from Ancient China -- Scholarship and Competitiveness: Pliny the Elder's Attitude towards His Predecessors in the Naturalis Historia -- Writing the Animal: Aristotle, Pliny the Elder, Galen -- Galen and the Scientific Treatise: a Case Study of Mixtures -- Galen on Poetic Testimony -- The Violent Scholiast: Power Issues in Ancient Commentaries -- Authorial Presence in the Ancient Exact Sciences -- Accounts, Numeracy and Democracy in Classical Athens -- Diagrammatic Reasoning: the Foundations of Mechanics -- Three Introductions to Celestial Science in the First Century BC -- On the Variety of 'Genres' of Greek Mathematical Writing: Thinking about Mathematical Texts and Modes of Mathematical Discourse -- Sing, Muse, of the Hypotenuse: Influences of Poetry and Rhetoric on the Formation of Greek Mathematics -- Making up Progress – in Ancient Greek Science Writing -- In Strange Lands: Disembodied Authority and

Sommario/riassunto

Scientific and technological texts have not played a significant role in modern literary criticism. This applies to Classics, too, despite the fact that a large part of the field's extant texts deal with questions of medicine, mathematics, and natural philosophy. Focusing mostly on medical and mathematical texts, this collection aims at approaching ancient Greek science and its texts from the cross-disciplinary perspective of authorship. Among the questions addressed are: What is a scientific author? In what respect does scientific writing differ from 'literary' writing? How does the author present himself as an authoritative figure through his text? What strategies of trust do these authors employ? These and related questions cannot be discussed within the typical boundaries of modern academic disciplines, thus most of the sixteen authors, many of them leading experts in the fields of ancient science, bring a comparative perspective to their subjects. As a result, the collection not only offers a new approach to this vast area of ancient literature, thus effectively discovering new possibilities for literary criticism, it also reflects on our current forms of scientific and scholarly written communication.
