Trigonometric Delights

Trigonometry has always been the black sheep of mathematics. Too advanced to be part of "elementary math," yet too elementary for the higher branches of the profession, it has been

tary math," yet too elementary for the higher branches of the profession, it has been looked upon as a glorified form of geometry, complicated by tedious computation. Noth-

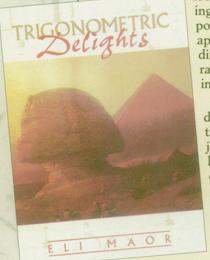
ing could be further from the truth. Uniquely positioned as a meeting point between pure and applied mathematics, its rich history shows how different branches of science—among them geography, astronomy, physics, and even music—have influenced one another.

In this book, Eli Maor rejects the usual, arid descriptions of the sine and cosine functions and their trigonometric relatives. He brings the subject to life in a compelling blend of mathematics, history, and biography. From the "proto-trigonometry" of the Egyptian pyramid builders to Renaissance Europe's quest for more accurate artillery; from the earliest known trigonometric table,

carved on a clay tablet by an unknown Babylonian scholar, to Fourier's famous theorem, which finally explained the source of musical harmony, here is a rich tapestry of almost four thousand years of trigonometric history.

The first part of the book assumes only high school algebra and trigonometry; the second part uses some elementary calculus. *Trigonometric Delights* will change forever our view of a once-dreaded subject.

—from Princeton University Press



Princeton University Press, 1998, 236 pages 6¼" x 9½", hardcover, \$24.95

"This is a gently paced, elegantly composed book, and it will bring its readers much pleasure... Maor has written an excellent book that should be in every public and school library."

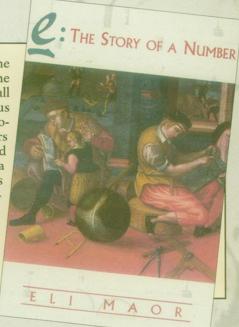
The interest earner arrangement of seed shape of the Gatewa intimately connect number e. In this introduced representation of the elegant mathematical modest background biography of e bring tral importance in nates a golden era in nates a golden era in the number. Design modest background biography of e bring tral importance in nates a golden era in nates a golden era in the number. Design modest background biography of e bring tral importance in nates a golden era in the number.

—Ian Stewart, New Scientist

The interest earned on a bank account, the arrangement of seeds in a sunflower, and the shape of the Gateway Arch in St. Louis are all intimately connected with the mysterious number e. In this informal and engaging history, Eli Maor portrays the curious characters and the elegant mathematics that lie behind the number. Designed for a reader with only a modest background in mathematics, this biography of e brings out that number's central importance in mathematics and illuminates a golden era in the age of science.

—Princeton University Press

Princeton University Press, 1994, 227 pages 6%"x9%", paperback, \$14.95



"Here is trigonometry viewed

through the lens of history—

a rich, intriguing book that

will leave readers shouting

—William Dunham, Muhlenberg College, author of the Mathematical Universe

for Maor."

Books Now The Virtual Bookstore

348 East 6400 South, Suite 220, Salt Lake City Utah 84107

Please send me the book(s) marked below. I include a check payable to Books Now for the price of the book(s) plus \$4.95 postage and handling for the first book, and \$2.50 for postage and handling for each additional book.

	Delights \$24.95 f a Number \$14.95	
Name		
Address		
City		
State	Zip	
D .: N		

(used only for problems with order)

Order by phone for faster service! 1-800-266-5766 ext. 1494

Visa, MasterCard, or American Express

See our web site at

www.sciencenewsbooks.org

A service of Science News Books