<<数学指南>>

图书基本信息

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作者: Timothy Gowers,June Barrow-Green,Imre Leader

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内容概要

《数学指南》编著者Timothy Gowers、June Barrow-Green、Imre Leader。

本书是一部所有对数学感兴趣的人员的参考书籍。

书中包括了由世界著名数学家专门为本书编写近200多词条,这些词条介绍了基本的数学工具和词汇,追溯现代数学起源,解释了关键性术语和概念,重申了数学重要领域的核心思想,描述了著名数学家的贡献和成就,深层次挖掘了数学在生物、金融和音乐等领域的重要影响。

本书以如此广的覆盖面具有无与伦比的深度,包括了纯数学领域最活跃和最令人兴奋的分支,提供了这个领域最关键的专业化知识背景和广阔前景,用易于接受和理解的方式承载了大量的信息,这些对于数学专业的本科生、研究生、科研人员和学者了解专业之外的知识是必不可少的。

目次:导引;现代数学起源;数学概念;数学分支;定理和问题;数学家;数学的影响;最后展望。

读者对象:所有对数学感兴趣的学生和科研人员。

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作者简介

作者: (美国)格沃斯(Cowers T.)

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章节摘录

插图: 1 Introduction It is a remarkable phenomenon that children can learn to speak without ever being consciously aware of the sophisticated grammar they are using. Indeed, adults too can live a perfectly satisfactory life without ever thinking about ideas such as parts of speech, subjects, predicates, or subordinate clauses. Both children and adults can easily recognize ungrammatical sentences, at least if the mistake is not too subtle, and to do this it is not necessary to be able to explain the rules that have been violated. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that one's understanding of language is hugely enhanced by a knowledge of basic grammar, and this understanding is essential for anybody who wants to do more with language than use it unreflectingly as a means to a nonlinguistic end. The same is true of mathematical language. Up to a point, one can do and speak mathematics without knowing how to classify the different sorts of words one is using, but many of the sentences of advanced mathematics have a complicated structure that is much easier to understand if one knows a few basic terms of mathematical grammar. The object of this section is to explain the most important mathematical "parts of speech," some of which are similar to those of natural languages and others quite different. These are normally taught right at the beginning of a university course in mathematics. Much of The Companion can be understood without a precise knowledge of mathematical grammar, but a careful reading of this article will help the reader who wishes to follow some of the later, more advanced parts of the book. The main reason for using mathematical grammar is that the statements of mathematics are supposed to be completely precise, and it is not possible to achieve complete precision unless the language one uses is free of many of the vaguenesses and ambiguities of ordinary speech. Mathemalcal sentences can also be highly cornpie.x: if the parts that made them up were not clear and simple, then the unclarities would rapidly accumulate and render the sentences unintelligible.

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