Basic Mathematics Serge Lang

Basic Mathematics Serge Lang basic mathematics serge lang is a foundational textbook that has served as an essential resource for students and educators seeking a clear, comprehensive introduction to fundamental mathematical concepts. Authored by Serge Lang, a renowned mathematician and educator, this book emphasizes logical reasoning, rigorous proofs, and a systematic approach to understanding mathematics. Whether you're beginning your journey into mathematics or seeking to strengthen your foundational knowledge, "Basic Mathematics" by Serge Lang provides a thorough and accessible pathway to mastering essential topics. --- Overview of Basic Mathematics by Serge Lang "Basic Mathematics" is designed to bridge the gap between high school mathematics and more advanced university-level studies. The book covers a broad range of topics, laying down the groundwork necessary for further exploration in pure and applied mathematics. Key features of Serge Lang's "Basic Mathematics" include: - Clear explanations of fundamental concepts - Emphasis on logical reasoning and proofs - Well-structured chapters that build on each other - A variety of exercises to reinforce learning - Inclusion of historical context and applications This combination makes the book not just a textbook but also a comprehensive learning tool suitable for self-study or classroom use. --- Core Topics Covered in Basic Mathematics Serge Lang The book systematically introduces core mathematical areas, ensuring that learners develop a solid understanding of each before progressing. Number Systems and Arithmetic Understanding different number systems forms the backbone of mathematics. Lang's book covers: - Natural numbers, integers, rational numbers, irrational numbers, and real numbers - Properties of these number systems - Basic operations and their properties - Methods of approximation and decimal representations Algebraic Structures and Elementary Algebra The foundation of algebra is crucial for higher mathematical reasoning. Topics include: - Variables and algebraic expressions - Equations and inequalities - Polynomial functions - Factoring techniques - Rational expressions 2 Functions and Graphs Functions are central to understanding relationships between quantities. Coverage includes: - Definitions and properties of functions - Domain and range - Types of functions (linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential) - Graphical representations - Transformations and inverse functions Geometry and Trigonometry While "Basic Mathematics" focuses on foundational concepts, it also introduces elements of geometry and trigonometry: - Basic geometric figures and properties - Congruence and similarity - Perimeter, area, and volume - Basic trigonometric ratios and identities Introduction to Probability and Statistics Understanding data and chance is increasingly important. Topics include: - Basic probability principles - Combinatorics - Descriptive statistics - Simple probability models Mathematical Logic and Set Theory Logical reasoning is emphasized throughout. Concepts include: - Propositional logic - Logical connectives - Set operations - Venn diagrams --- Why Choose Serge Lang's Basic Mathematics? Choosing the right mathematics textbook can significantly influence the learning experience. Serge Lang's "Basic Mathematics" offers several advantages: 1. Clarity and Rigor Lang's explanations are precise and thorough, making complex ideas accessible without sacrificing mathematical rigor. This

balance helps learners develop critical thinking skills alongside procedural knowledge. 2. Logical Structure The book is organized in a way that each chapter builds upon previous material, promoting a cumulative understanding. This structure is ideal for self-paced learning or structured classroom curricula. 3. Focus on Proofs and Reasoning Unlike many introductory texts that focus solely on calculation, Lang emphasizes the importance of proofs and logical reasoning, laying a strong foundation for advanced 3 mathematics. 4. Extensive Exercises and Examples The inclusion of numerous exercises, from straightforward problems to more challenging proofs, allows learners to test and deepen their understanding. 5. Suitable for Self-Study and Classroom Use The comprehensive nature of the book makes it flexible for different learning environments, whether for independent study or guided instruction. --- Using Basic Mathematics Serge Lang for Self-Study For students and self-learners, the book offers a wealth of resources to develop mathematical skills independently: - Step-by-step explanations for complex topics - Progressive exercises that challenge and reinforce understanding - Hints and solutions provided for many problems - A logical progression that gradually introduces more difficult concepts To maximize learning, learners should: - Read each chapter thoroughly before attempting exercises - Work through problems systematically - Review solutions and revisit challenging topics - Supplement with additional resources if needed --- Serge Lang's Approach to Teaching Mathematics Serge Lang's pedagogical philosophy centers around clarity, precision, and logical development of ideas. His approach involves: - Starting with concrete examples before moving to abstract concepts - Demonstrating the importance of proofs in establishing mathematical truths - Encouraging curiosity and critical thinking - Connecting mathematical ideas to real-world applications where relevant This approach helps students develop not just computational skills but also a deep conceptual understanding that is vital for advanced study. --- Additional Resources and Supplements While "Basic Mathematics" by Serge Lang is comprehensive, learners can enhance their understanding with supplementary materials: - Online problem sets and quizzes - Video lectures on key topics - Mathematical software tools like Wolfram Alpha, GeoGebra - Study groups or tutoring sessions Incorporating these resources can provide varied perspectives and reinforce learning. --- Conclusion: Mastering the Foundations with Serge Lang "Basic Mathematics" by Serge Lang remains a cornerstone resource for anyone seeking a solid foundation in mathematics. Its emphasis on logical reasoning, clear explanations, 4 and systematic progression makes it an invaluable tool for students, educators, and self-learners alike. By engaging deeply with the topics covered in this book, learners can build the confidence and skills necessary to tackle more advanced mathematical concepts and applications. Whether you are preparing for college-level mathematics, interested in pure mathematical theory, or simply aiming to strengthen your problem-solving skills, Serge Lang's "Basic Mathematics" provides the guidance and rigor needed to succeed. Embracing this comprehensive resource will set a strong foundation for your mathematical journey. --- Keywords for SEO Optimization: Basic Mathematics Serge Lang, Serge Lang, foundational mathematics, introductory math textbook, elementary mathematics, algebra, geometry, functions, proofs, set theory, probability, self-study math, mathematical reasoning, learning mathematics, math exercises, educational resources QuestionAnswer What are the fundamental topics covered in Serge Lang's 'Basic Mathematics'? Serge Lang's 'Basic Mathematics' covers fundamental topics such as set theory, logic, number systems, algebra, functions, and introductory calculus, providing a solid foundation for undergraduate mathematics. Is 'Basic Mathematics' by Serge Lang suitable for beginners? Yes, 'Basic Mathematics' is designed to introduce beginners to core mathematical concepts with clear explanations and a gradual progression, making it suitable for those new to higher mathematics. What prior knowledge is recommended before studying Serge Lang's 'Basic Mathematics'? A basic understanding of high school algebra and geometry is recommended before

starting 'Basic Mathematics,' although the book also reviews essential concepts to help learners get started. How does Serge Lang's 'Basic Mathematics' differ from other introductory math books? Lang's book emphasizes rigor and logical clarity, integrating proofs and formal reasoning early on, which distinguishes it from more computational or application-focused introductory texts. Are there exercises in 'Basic Mathematics' to practice the concepts learned? Yes, the book includes numerous exercises and problems designed to reinforce understanding and develop problem-solving skills throughout the chapters. Can 'Basic Mathematics' help in preparing for advanced mathematics courses? Absolutely, it builds a strong foundation in essential mathematical principles that are crucial for success in more advanced courses like analysis, algebra, and topology. Is Serge Lang's 'Basic Mathematics' suitable for self- study? Yes, the book is well-suited for self-study due to its clear explanations, structured progression, and comprehensive exercises. 5 What is the approach used in Serge Lang's 'Basic Mathematics' to teach mathematical concepts? Lang employs a rigorous approach with formal definitions, proofs, and logical reasoning, encouraging a deep understanding of fundamental concepts rather than rote memorization. Are solutions or hints provided for the exercises in 'Basic Mathematics'? The original editions typically include solutions or hints for selected exercises to aid self-assessment and understanding. How relevant is Serge Lang's 'Basic Mathematics' in today's mathematical education? Despite being published decades ago, the foundational concepts and rigorous approach of 'Basic Mathematics' remain highly relevant and valuable for foundational learning in mathematics. Basic Mathematics Serge Lang: A Comprehensive Guide for Learners and Enthusiasts Mathematics serves as the foundation for countless disciplines, from science and engineering to economics and computer science. Among the many texts that have shaped mathematical understanding, Basic Mathematics Serge Lang stands out as a pivotal resource. Renowned mathematician Serge Lang's approach to foundational mathematics offers clarity, rigor, and accessibility, making it an ideal starting point for students, educators, and self-learners alike. In this guide, we delve into the core concepts covered in Lang's work, explore its pedagogical strengths, and provide a structured pathway for mastering basic mathematics through his lens. --- Understanding the Significance of Basic Mathematics in Education Before diving into the specifics of Serge Lang's treatment, it's essential to recognize why a strong grasp of basic mathematics is crucial. - Foundation for Advanced Topics: Concepts like algebra, number theory, and logic build upon foundational principles. - Critical Thinking Development: Mathematical reasoning enhances problem- solving skills and logical analysis. - Practical Application: Mathematics is integral to everyday activities, financial literacy, and technological literacy. - Academic Success: Mastery of basic concepts is often a prerequisite for higher education courses. --- Serge Lang's Approach to Basic Mathematics Serge Lang's Basic Mathematics emphasizes clarity, logical progression, and a rigorous approach that balances theory with application. His style is characterized by: - Precise Definitions: Ensuring that foundational terms are well-understood. - Logical Structure: Building concepts step-by-step for cumulative understanding. - Historical Context: Providing background to appreciate the development of mathematical ideas. - Problem-Solving Focus: Encouraging active engagement through exercises and examples. This approach makes complex ideas accessible without sacrificing depth, fostering both understanding and curiosity. --- Core Topics Covered in Serge Lang's Basic Mathematics 1. Numbers and Numeration Systems Understanding the concept of numbers is fundamental. Lang covers: - Natural Numbers: Counting and ordering. - Whole Numbers: Extending natural numbers to include zero. - Integers: Including negatives. - Rational Numbers: Fractions and ratios. - Irrational Numbers: Numbers that cannot be expressed as fractions, such as $\sqrt{2}$ or π. - Real Numbers: The Basic Mathematics Serge Lang 6 complete set of rational and irrational numbers. - Complex Numbers: Extending the real number system to include imaginary units. Key concepts include: - Number

lines and their significance. - Representation of numbers in different bases (binary, decimal, etc.). - Properties of numbers: commutativity, associativity, distributivity. 2. Arithmetic and Algebra Lang emphasizes understanding operations and their properties, including: - Basic operations: Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division. - Order of operations: PEMDAS/BODMAS rules. - Algebraic expressions: Simplification, evaluation, and manipulation. - Equations and inequalities: Solving linear and quadratic equations. - Factoring techniques: Prime factorization, difference of squares, quadratic factoring. Practical skills emphasized: - Solving for unknowns. - Understanding functions and their graphs. - Working with algebraic identities. 3. Number Theory Number theory explores properties of integers, including: - Divisibility and factors. - Prime numbers: Distribution, testing, and importance. - Greatest common divisor (GCD) and least common multiple (LCM). - Modular arithmetic: Congruences and applications. - Fundamental theorem of arithmetic: Unique prime factorization. Applications include: - Cryptography. - Error- detecting codes. - Mathematical proofs. 4. Geometry and Measurement Although more spatial, geometry is a core part of basic mathematics: - Basic geometric figures: Points, lines, angles, polygons, circles. - Properties of shapes: Congruence, similarity. - Perimeter, area, and volume calculations. - Coordinate geometry: Graphing points, lines, and curves. - The Pythagorean theorem. 5. Logic and Set Theory Understanding the logical framework underpinning mathematics: - Propositions and truth values. - Logical connectives: AND, OR, NOT, implication. - Quantifiers: For all, there exists. - Sets and set operations: Union, intersection, difference, subsets. - Venn diagrams for visualization. 6. Introduction to Functions and Graphs Functions form the backbone of many mathematical concepts: - Definition and notation. - Types: Linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential. - Graphical interpretation. - Domain and range. - Inverse functions. --- Pedagogical Strengths of Serge Lang's Basic Mathematics Lang's methodical presentation offers several educational advantages: - Clarity and Rigor: Definitions are precise, reducing ambiguity. - Historical Insights: Contextualizing concepts helps in understanding their development. - Gradual Complexity: Starting from simple ideas and building upward. - Problem Sets: Exercises designed to reinforce learning and develop problem-solving skills. - Bridging Theory and Practice: Connecting mathematical concepts to real-world applications. --- How to Approach Learning Mathematics Using Serge Lang's Framework Step 1: Build a Strong Foundation Begin with understanding numbers and basic operations, ensuring fluency in arithmetic. Use Lang's explanations to clarify any misconceptions. Step 2: Progress to Algebra and Logical Reasoning Master algebraic manipulations, solving equations, and understanding logical structures. Practice problems from Lang's exercises to solidify these skills. Step 3: Explore Number Theory and Geometry Delve into properties of integers, primes, and geometric figures, connecting Basic Mathematics Serge Lang 7 theoretical knowledge with visual and practical understanding. Step 4: Integrate Set Theory and Functions Develop an understanding of how different mathematical objects relate through functions and set operations. Use diagrams and real-world examples to internalize these concepts. Step 5: Engage with Problem-Solving and Critical Thinking Consistently challenge yourself with exercises that require applying multiple concepts. Lang's problems are designed to develop analytical skills. --- Tips for Effective Learning with Serge Lang's Basic Mathematics - Read Actively: Don't passively skim; work through definitions and proofs. - Practice Regularly: Reinforce concepts with exercises. - Seek Clarification: Use supplementary resources if a concept isn't clear. - Relate to Real-World Situations: Find practical examples that illustrate theoretical ideas. - Collaborate and Discuss: Engage with peers or online forums for diverse perspectives. --- Final Thoughts Serge Lang's Basic Mathematics remains a timeless resource that balances rigor with accessibility. Its systematic approach ensures that learners not only memorize procedures but also grasp the underlying principles that make mathematics a logical and beautiful discipline. Whether you are beginning your mathematical journey or looking to reinforce foundational

knowledge, Lang's work provides an invaluable guide. By thoroughly engaging with the topics and methods outlined in this guide, you can develop a solid mathematical mindset that will serve you well in advanced studies and everyday problem- solving. --- Additional Resources - Supplementary textbooks: For deeper dives into specific topics like calculus or abstract algebra. - Online courses: Platforms offering guided lessons aligned with Lang's approach. - Mathematical software: Tools like GeoGebra or WolframAlpha for visualization and computation. - Mathematics communities: Forums such as Stack Exchange or Reddit's r/math for discussion and help. Embark on your mathematical exploration with confidence, knowing that a structured and thoughtful approach, inspired by Serge Lang's principles, can unlock a lifelong appreciation and mastery of mathematics. basic mathematics, Serge Lang, mathematics textbooks, algebra, calculus, number theory, mathematical analysis, learning mathematics, foundational math, Serge Lang books

Basic MathematicsAlgebraIntroduction to Algebraic GeometryNumber Theory, Analysis and GeometryIntroduction to Linear AlgebraUndergraduate AnalysisMathematical Methods 4 Electrotechnic FreaksMath Talks for UndergraduatesNumber Theory, Analysis and GeometryRational Points on VarietiesGalois Groups and Fundamental GroupsAbelian VarietiesArithmetic Geometry of Logarithmic Pairs and Hyperbolicity of Moduli SpacesThe Beauty of Doing MathematicsCollected Papers IMathematics of the USSR.Mathematics of the USSR: IzvestijaThe Mordell ConjectureThe FileCollected Papers II Serge Lang Serge Lang Serge Lang Dorian Goldfeld Serge Lang Serge Lang Jürgen Ulm Serge Lang Dorian Goldfeld Bjorn Poonen Tamás Szamuely Serge Lang Marc-Hubert Nicole Serge Lang Serge Lang Hideaki Ikoma Serge Lang Serge Lang
Basic Mathematics Algebra Introduction to Algebraic Geometry Number Theory, Analysis and Geometry Introduction to Linear Algebra Undergraduate Analysis Mathematical Methods 4 Electrotechnic Freaks Math Talks for Undergraduates Number Theory, Analysis and Geometry Rational Points on Varieties Galois Groups and Fundamental Groups Abelian Varieties Arithmetic Geometry of Logarithmic Pairs and Hyperbolicity of Moduli Spaces The Beauty of Doing Mathematics Collected Papers I Mathematics of the USSR. Mathematics of the USSR: Izvestija The Mordell Conjecture The File Collected Papers II *Serge Lang Serge Lang Serge Lang Dorian Goldfeld Serge Lang Serge Lang Jürgen Ulm Serge Lang Dorian Goldfeld Bjorn Poonen Tamás Szamuely Serge Lang Marc-Hubert Nicole Serge Lang Serge Lang Hideaki Ikoma Serge Lang Serge Lang*

this text in basic mathematics is ideal for high school or college students it provides a firm foundation in basic principles of mathematics and thereby acts as a springboard into calculus linear algebra and other more advanced topics the information is clearly presented and the author develops concepts in such a manner to show how one subject matter can relate and evolve into another

this book is intended as a basic text for a one year course in algebra at the graduate level or as a useful reference for mathematicians and professionals who use higher level algebra this book successfully addresses all of the basic concepts of algebra for the new edition the author has added exercises and made numerous corrections to the text from mathscinet s review of the first edition the author has an impressive knack for presenting the important and interesting ideas of algebra

in just the right way and he never gets bogged down in the dry formalism which pervades some parts of algebra

author serge lang defines algebraic geometry as the study of systems of algebraic equations in several variables and of the structure that one can give to the solutions of such equations the study can be carried out in four ways analytical topological algebraico geometric and arithmetic this volume offers a rapid concise and self contained introductory approach to the algebraic aspects of the third method the algebraico geometric the treatment assumes only familiarity with elementary algebra up to the level of galois theory starting with an opening chapter on the general theory of places the author advances to examinations of algebraic varieties the absolute theory of varieties and products projections and correspondences subsequent chapters explore normal varieties divisors and linear systems differential forms the theory of simple points and algebraic groups concluding with a focus on the riemann roch theorem all the theorems of a general nature related to the foundations of the theory of algebraic groups are featured

in honor of serge lang s vast contribution to mathematics this memorial volume presents articles by prominent mathematicians reflecting the breadth of lang s own interests and accomplishments these essays span the field of number theory analysis and geometry

this is a short text in linear algebra intended for a one term course in the first chapter lang discusses the relation between the geometry and the algebra underlying the subject and gives concrete examples of the notions which appear later in the book he then starts with a discussion of linear equations matrices and gaussian elimination and proceeds to discuss vector spaces linear maps scalar products determinants and eigenvalues the book contains a large number of exercises some of the routine computational type while others are conceptual

this is a logically self contained introduction to analysis suitable for students who have had two years of calculus the book centers around those properties that have to do with uniform convergence and uniform limits in the context of differentiation and integration topics discussed include the classical test for convergence of series fourier series polynomial approximation the poisson kernel the construction of harmonic functions on the disc ordinary differential equation curve integrals derivatives in vector spaces multiple integrals and others in this second edition the author has added a new chapter on locally integrable vector fields has rewritten many sections and expanded others there are new sections on heat kernels in the context of dirac families and on the completion of normed vector spaces a proof of the fundamental lemma of lebesgue integration is included in addition to many interesting exercises

the book offers a practice oriented introduction to the mathematical methods of electrical engineering the focus is on the solution of ordinary and partial differential equations using analytical and numerical methods the analytical methods are opposed to the numerical methods the differential equations were chosen with a view to the problems of electrical engineering it is shown how they can also be transferred to mechanics or thermodynamics numerous examples and exercises with

elaborated solutions facilitate the transfer of knowledge to applications

for many years serge lang has given talks to undergraduates on selected items in mathematics which could be extracted at a level understandable by students who have had calculus written in a conversational tone lang now presents a collection of those talks as a book the talks could be given by faculty but even better they may be given by students in seminars run by the students themselves undergraduates and even some high school students will enjoy the talks which cover prime numbers the abc conjecture approximation theorems of analysis bruhat tits spaces harmonic and symmetric polynomials and more in a lively and informal style

serge lang was an iconic figure in mathematics both for his own important work and for the indelible impact he left on the field of mathematics on his students and on his colleagues over the course of his career lang traversed a tremendous amount of mathematical ground as he moved from subject to subject he found analogies that led to important questions in such areas as number theory arithmetic geometry and the theory of negatively curved spaces lang s conjectures will keep many mathematicians occupied far into the future in the spirit of lang s vast contribution to mathematics this memorial volume contains articles by prominent mathematicians in a variety of areas of the field namely number theory analysis and geometry representing lang s own breadth of interest and impact a special introduction by john tate includes a brief and fascinating account of the serge lang s life this volume s group of 6 editors are also highly prominent mathematicians and were close to serge lang both academically and personally the volume is suitable to research mathematicians in the areas of number theory analysis and geometry

this book is motivated by the problem of determining the set of rational points on a variety but its true goal is to equip readers with a broad range of tools essential for current research in algebraic geometry and number theory the book is unconventional in that it provides concise accounts of many topics instead of a comprehensive account of just one this is intentionally designed to bring readers up to speed rapidly among the topics included are brauer groups faithfully flat descent algebraic groups torsors étale and fppf cohomology the weil conjectures and the brauer manin and descent obstructions a final chapter applies all these to study the arithmetic of surfaces the down to earth explanations and the over 100 exercises make the book suitable for use as a graduate level textbook but even experts will appreciate having a single source covering many aspects of geometry over an unrestricted ground field and containing some material that cannot be found elsewhere the origins of arithmetic or diophantine geometry can be traced back to antiquity and it remains a lively and wide research domain up to our days the book by bjorn poonen a leading expert in the field opens doors to this vast field for many readers with different experiences and backgrounds it leads through various algebraic geometric constructions towards its central subject obstructions to existence of rational points yuri manin max planck institute bonn it is clear that my mathematical life would have been very different if a book like this had been around at the time i was a student hendrik lenstra university leiden understanding rational points on arbitrary algebraic varieties is the ultimate challenge we have conjectures but few results poonen s book with its mixture of basic constructions and openings into current research will attract new generations to the queen of mathematics jean louis colliot thélène université paris sud a beautiful subject handled by

a master joseph silverman brown university

ever since the concepts of galois groups in algebra and fundamental groups in topology emerged during the nineteenth century mathematicians have known of the strong analogies between the two concepts this book presents the connection starting at an elementary level showing how the judicious use of algebraic geometry gives access to the powerful interplay between algebra and topology that underpins much modern research in geometry and number theory assuming as little technical background as possible the book starts with basic algebraic and topological concepts but already presented from the modern viewpoint advocated by grothendieck this enables a systematic yet accessible development of the theories of fundamental groups of algebraic curves fundamental groups of schemes and tannakian fundamental groups the connection between fundamental groups and linear differential equations is also developed at increasing levels of generality key applications and recent results for example on the inverse galois problem are given throughout

based on the work in algebraic geometry by norwegian mathematician niels henrik abel 1802 29 this monograph was originally published in 1959 and reprinted later in author serge lang s career without revision the treatment remains a basic advanced text in its field suitable for advanced undergraduates and graduate students in mathematics prerequisites include some background in elementary qualitative algebraic geometry and the elementary theory of algebraic groups the book focuses exclusively on abelian varieties rather than the broader field of algebraic groups therefore the first chapter presents all the general results on algebraic groups relevant to this treatment each chapter begins with a brief introduction and concludes with a historical and bibliographical note topics include general theorems on abelian varieties the theorem of the square divisor classes on an abelian variety functorial formulas the picard variety of an arbitrary variety the i adic representations and algebraic systems of abelian varieties the text concludes with a helpful appendix covering the composition of correspondences

this textbook introduces exciting new developments and cutting edge results on the theme of hyperbolicity written by leading experts in their respective fields the chapters stem from mini courses given alongside three workshops that took place in montréal between 2018 and 2019 each chapter is self contained including an overview of preliminaries for each respective topic this approach captures the spirit of the original lectures which prepared graduate students and those new to the field for the technical talks in the program the four chapters turn the spotlight on the following pivotal themes the basic notions of o minimal geometry which build to the proof of the ax schanuel conjecture for variations of hodge structures a broad introduction to the theory of orbifold pairs and campana s conjectures with a special emphasis on the arithmetic perspective a systematic presentation and comparison between different notions of hyperbolicity as an introduction to the lang vojta conjectures in the projective case an exploration of hyperbolicity and the lang vojta conjectures in the general case of quasi projective varieties arithmetic geometry of logarithmic pairs and hyperbolicity of moduli spaces is an ideal resource for graduate students and researchers in number theory complex algebraic geometry and arithmetic geometry a basic course in algebraic geometry is assumed along with some familiarity with the vocabulary of algebraic number theory

if someone told you that mathematics is quite beautiful you might be surprised but you should know that some people do mathematics all their lives and create mathematics just as a composer creates music usually every time a mathematician solves a problem this gives rise to many oth ers new and just as beautiful as the one which was solved of course often these problems are quite difficult and as in other disciplines can be understood only by those who have studied the subject with some depth and know the subject well in 1981 jean brette who is responsible for the mathematics section of the palais de la decouverte science museum in paris invited me to give a conference at the palais i had never given such a conference before to a non mathematical public here was a challenge could i communicate to such a saturday afternoon audience what it means to do mathematics and why one does mathematics by mathematics i mean pure mathematics this doesn t mean that pure math is better than other types of math but i and a number of others do pure mathematics and it s about them that i am now concerned math has a bad reputation stemming from the most elementary levels the word is in fact used in many different contexts first i had to explain briefly these possible contexts and the one with which i wanted to deal

serge lang is not only one of the top mathematicians of our time but also an excellent writer he has made innumerable and invaluable contributions in diverse fields of mathematics and was honoured with the cole prize by the american mathematical society as well as with the prix carriere by the french academy of sciences here 83 of his research papers are collected in four volumes ranging over a variety of topics of interest to many readers

the mordell conjecture faltings s theorem is one of the most important achievements in diophantine geometry stating that an algebraic curve of genus at least two has only finitely many rational points this book provides a self contained and detailed proof of the mordell conjecture following the papers of bombieri and vojta also acting as a concise introduction to diophantine geometry the text starts from basics of algebraic number theory touches on several important theorems and techniques including the theory of heights the mordell weil theorem siegel s lemma and roth s lemma from diophantine geometry and culminates in the proof of the mordell conjecture based on the authors own teaching experience it will be of great value to advanced undergraduate and graduate students in algebraic geometry and number theory as well as researchers interested in diophantine geometry as a whole

the file is a collection of documents from a major dispute involving a number of american college professors mainly mathematicians statisticians and sociologists the controversy was ignited by the mathematician serge lang s reaction to a questionnaire the 1977 survey of the american professoriate distributed by e c ladd of the university of connecticut and s m lipset of stanford the ensuing discussion in part acrimonious and personal soon involved a large group of active and passive participants and included issues such as survey techniques evaluation of academic work public and political honesty and mccarthyism at harvard

serge lang is not only one of the top mathematicians of our time but also an excellent writer he has made innumerable and invaluable contributions in diverse fields of mathematics and was honoured with the cole prize by the american mathematical society as well as with the prix carriere by the french academy of sciences here 83

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