

Contents

Why Equations? / viii

- 1 The squaw on the hippopotamus / 1**
Pythagoras's Theorem
- 2 Shortening the proceedings / 21**
Logarithms
- 3 Ghosts of departed quantities / 35**
Calculus
- 4 The system of the world / 53**
Newton's Law of Gravity
- 5 Portent of the ideal world / 73**
The Square Root of Minus One
- 6 Much ado about knotting / 89**
Euler's Formula for Polyhedra
- 7 Patterns of chance / 107**
Normal Distribution
- 8 Good vibrations / 131**
Wave Equation
- 9 Ripples and blips / 149**
Fourier Transform
- 10 The ascent of humanity / 165**
Navier–Stokes Equation
- 11 Waves in the ether / 179**
Maxwell's Equations
- 12 Law and disorder / 195**
Second Law of Thermodynamics

- 13 One thing is absolute / 217**
Relativity
- 14 Quantum weirdness / 245**
Schrödinger's Equation
- 15 Codes, communications, and computers / 265**
Information Theory
- 16 The imbalance of nature / 283**
Chaos Theory
- 17 The Midas formula / 295**
Black-Scholes Equation
- Where Next? / 317
Notes / 321
Illustration Credits / 330
Index / 331