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Introducing Fractal Geometry

INTRODUCING

Fractal Geometry

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John Gribbin

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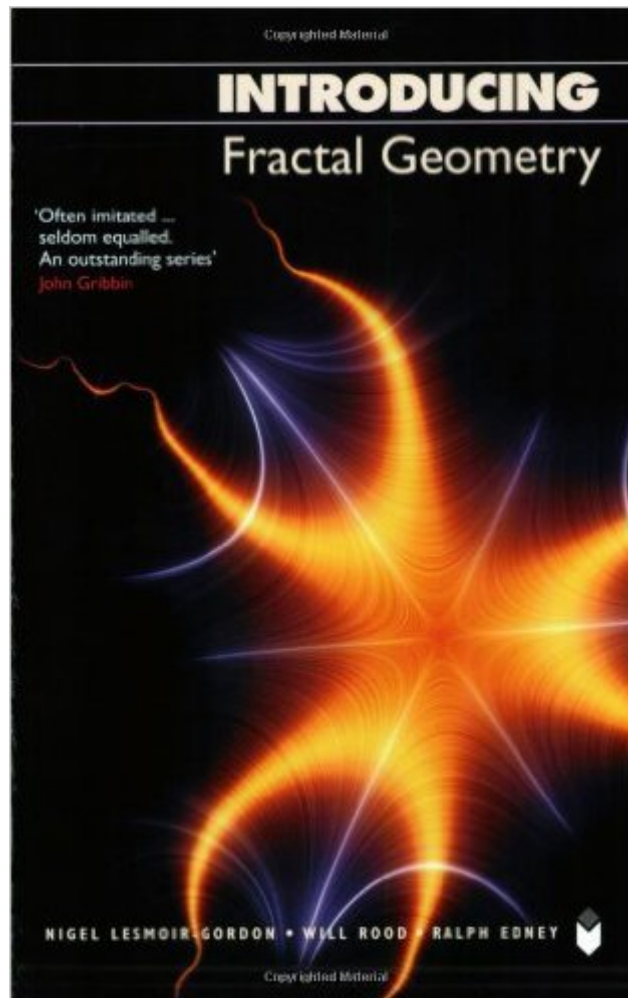
Synopsis

'Introducing Fractal Geometry' traces the historical development of this mathematical discipline, explores its descriptive powers in the natural world, and then looks at the applications and the implications of the discoveries it has made.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was very interesting. It takes a look at fractals and their basic geometric properties and gives a fairly extensive history from their discovery to their current use today. This book is not technical at all and could be read by almost anyone. The best part about this book is that it offers numerous reasons for why we should care about fractals in the first place. It offers an argument that nature is naturally based on fractals and that an understanding of fractals is essential to understanding nature. The book has a comic on just about every page making it an enjoyable and quick read.Some of the not-so-great aspects of the book are that it is almost too short, not quite technical enough, and has grammatical errors all over the place. I read this book in one sitting and it left me wanting to know more. It makes up for this, however, by listing several books about fractals and chaos theory for you to move on to after reading this book as well as telling you the level of expertise one would need to read these other books. The grammatical errors in the book are numerous. It makes me believe that no one proof read this book before it was published.Overall, this is a great book to start learning about fractals with. If you are a math whiz, then perhaps you

might want to look elsewhere for a more formal introduction to the mathematical properties of fractals, but for the layman, this book is great.

Was this a Power Point presentation... gone missing?First, it's important to realize that this book is part of a series of "Introducing..." books from a UK publisher. So good authors were probably forced to follow a bad format.That format apparently required glitzy graphics which overpowered the book. Each small page seemed to be on a separate topic... much like a Power Point slide presentation.There was disappointingly little coverage of the math side of the material. OK, there really was next to none. The saving grace was the coverage of where fractals were being used in practical applications.Let me tell you a little more on these graphics. They were (professionally done) hand drawn cartoons. Mostly of famous mathematicians having quirky things to say about the subject, on an 8th grade level.Overall, I think the authors did a fair job of trying to jamb an excellent subject into a stupid book format. The problem lies most likely at the feet of the publisher. This format makes sense for some of their other 8th grade books: "Introducing Feminism"... Freud... Jung... Marx... Einstein, etc. How they were able to pull off "Introducing Math" in one of these small books is probably a story in and of itself. They even have an "Introducing a Post-Feminism" book, if the first one was not enough.This book was not a complete zero for me, as I did learn many new things. It was a fast read, but I think I have yet to find the best introductory book on Fractals. If you buy this book, you'll never have to pick up a pencil and solve a problem, or even use a calculator. It's just all... a quick read.John Dunbar

Discovered this book serendipitously- It's easy to read, and the witty illustrations pull you right into it. It's a good book because, while it follows a logical sequence of explanation of fractals, it can also be opened almost anywhere and "read in". I will pass this book on, both to adults and young people I know, and they will get a great introduction to fractals!

I like the format of these books, but the problem for me is that this one does not fulfil its brief, which is presumably to be, as its title implies, an introduction to a difficult subject for those not well-versed in science.I am an interested member of the latter consituency, but I found this book presupposed far too much background knowledge - especially of terminology. Not enough is explained for those of us reformed Luddites who need to be hand-held in these matters. I shall try elsewhere. (Luckily, the field of `popular science` writing is a rich and fertile one these days.)

1.0 out of 5 stars mixed up, February 10, 2009By Andres Amador "pickletruck" (san francisco, ca) - See all my reviews(REAL NAME)i'm not new to fractals by any means but i picked up this book in a bookstore and appreciated the simple way the ideas were being conveyed and with lots of graphics. after getting into it though, i was dismayed by it combination of simplicity and then sometimes dense detail. I mean, sometimes he would bring up something tantalizing, something ripe for expansion and then let it drop. and then other times he would go into detail that had me wondering if even HE knew what he was saying.for a much better read with lots of great images, i highly recommend 'turbulent mirror' its a necessity for those curious is fractals and chaos.

Order In Chaos: How The Mandelbrot Set & Fractal Geometry Help Unlock the Secrets of The Entire Universe! (Mandelbrot Set, Fractal Geometry) Introducing Fractal Geometry Introducing Fractal Geometry New Edition by Lesmior-Gordon, Nigel published by Icon Books Ltd (2006) On Growth and Form: Fractal and Non-Fractal Patterns in Physics (Nato Science Series E:) Fractal Conjugate Space & Time: Cause of Negentropy, Gravity and Perception: Conjuring Life: "The Fractal Shape of TIME" Geometric Origins of Biologic Negentropy.. Introducing Literary Criticism: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...) Introducing Derrida: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...) Introducing Nietzsche: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...) Introducing Linguistics: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...) Introducing Hinduism: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...) Introducing Time: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...) Introducing Fractals: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...) Introducing Infinity: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...) The Fractal Geometry of Nature Some Novel Types of Fractal Geometry (Oxford Mathematical Monographs) Viewpoints: Mathematical Perspective and Fractal Geometry in Art Fractal Geometry: Mathematical Foundations and Applications Open Geometry: OpenGLÂ® + Advanced Geometry Geometry (Holt McDougal Larson Geometry) Glencoe Geometry, Student Edition (MERRILL GEOMETRY)