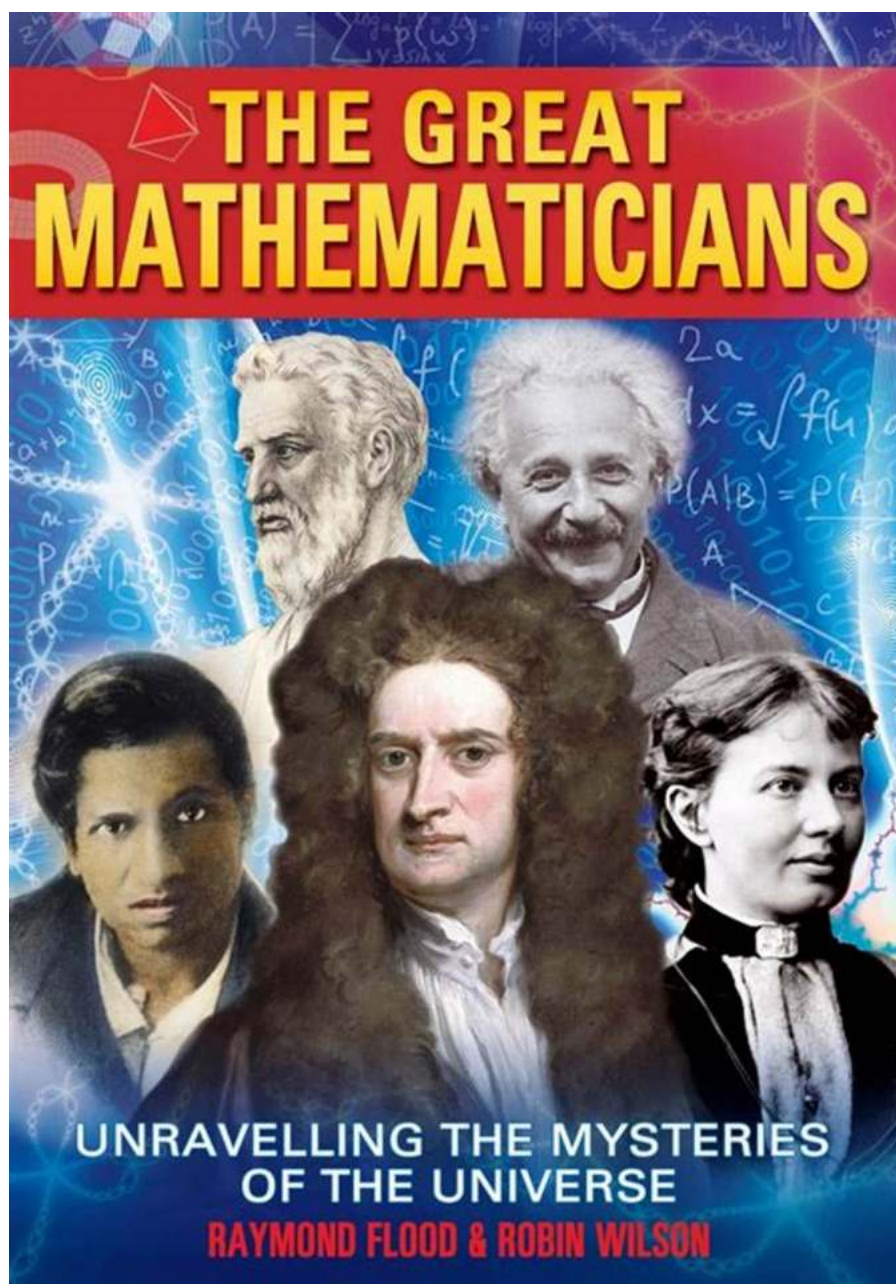


# The Lives Of The Great Mathematicians I Astonishing Stories Revealed!

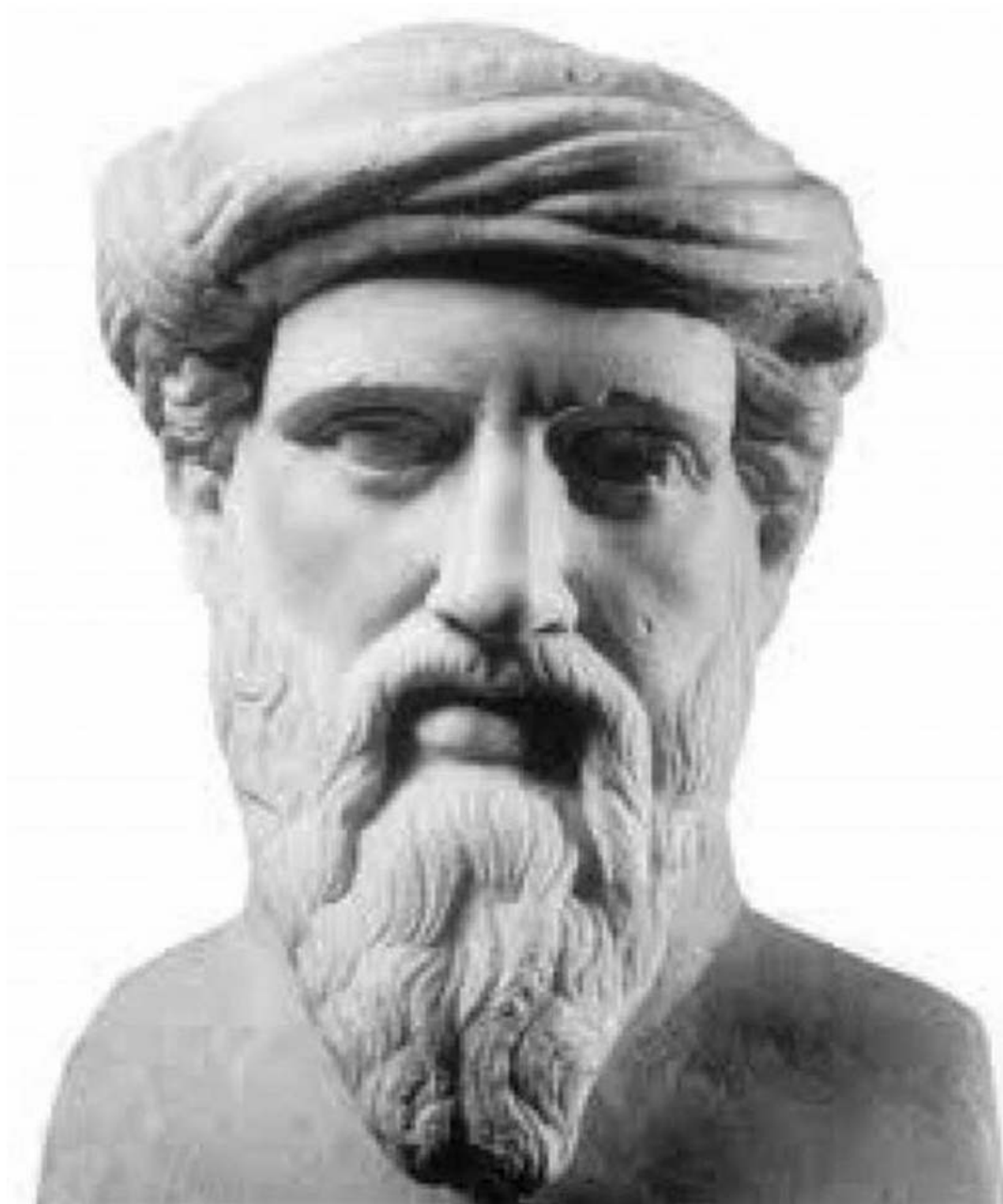
The Brilliance and Eccentricities of Renowned Mathematicians



Mathematics is often viewed as an abstract and complex discipline, but behind the equations and formulas, there are fascinating stories of the great

mathematicians who shaped this field. From their brilliant minds to their eccentric lifestyles, these individuals have left an indelible mark on the world of mathematics. In this article, we delve into the lives of some of the most influential mathematicians in history, uncovering the astonishing stories that defined their legacies.

## **1. Pythagoras: A Mystical Visionary**





## A Strange Wilderness: The Lives of the Great Mathematicians by Amir D. Aczel (Kindle Edition)

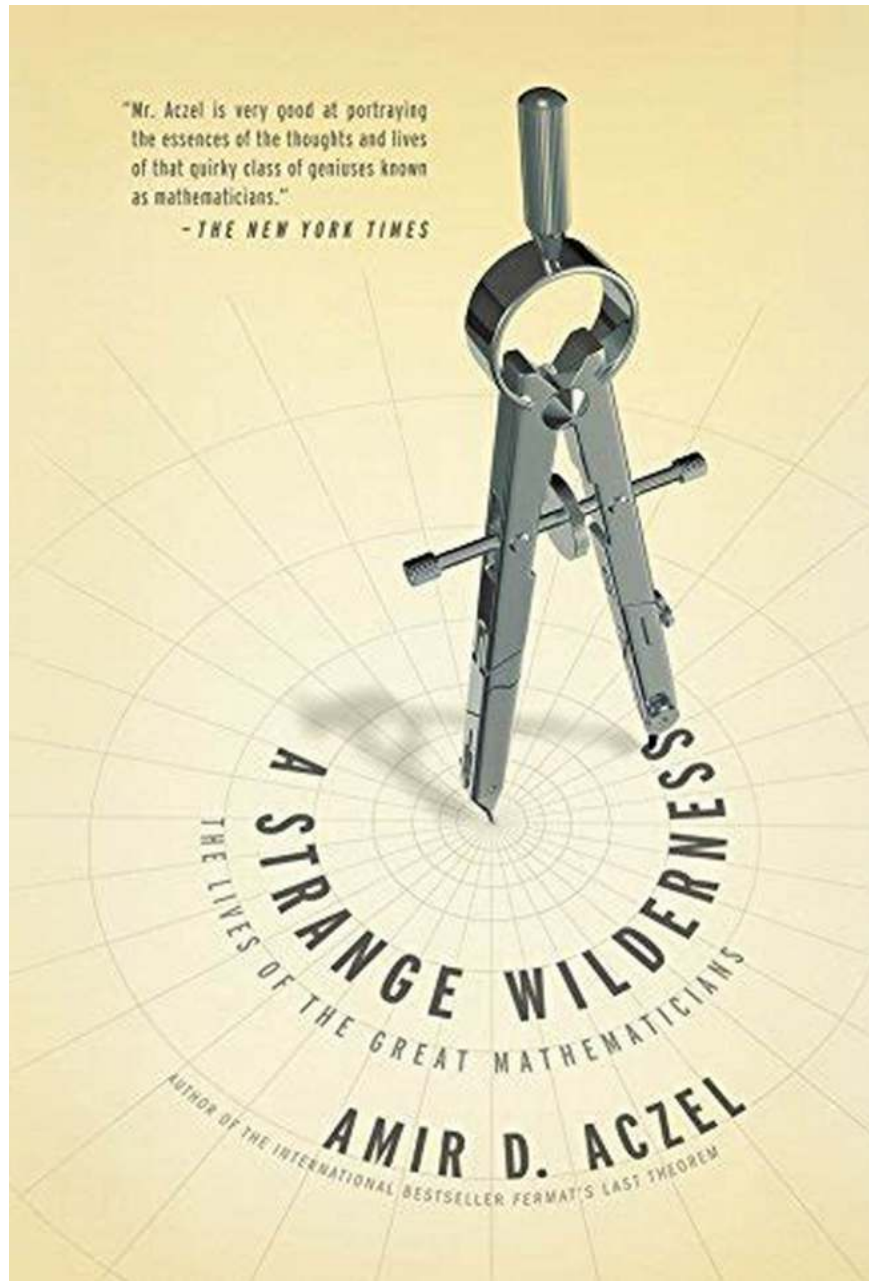
★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 10372 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 308 pages



Pythagoras, a Greek mathematician who lived around 570 BCE, is known for his famous Pythagorean theorem that relates to the sides of a right-angled triangle. However, Pythagoras was more than just a mathematician. He was a mystical visionary who believed in the harmony of numbers and their connection to the universe. Pythagoras formed a secret society, known as the Pythagoreans, and their teachings included mathematics, music, and philosophy. This integration of multiple fields showcased Pythagoras' belief in the interdependence of knowledge.

## 2. Isaac Newton: The Gravity Genius



Isaac Newton, a prominent figure in the scientific revolution of the 17th century, made groundbreaking contributions to mathematics and physics. His most famous work, "Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica," laid the foundation for classical mechanics and introduced the laws of motion and universal gravitation. Newton's life was marked by intense dedication to his work, often spending countless hours engrossed in mathematical calculations. His

achievements not only revolutionized mathematics but also propelled humanity's understanding of the fundamental forces governing the universe.

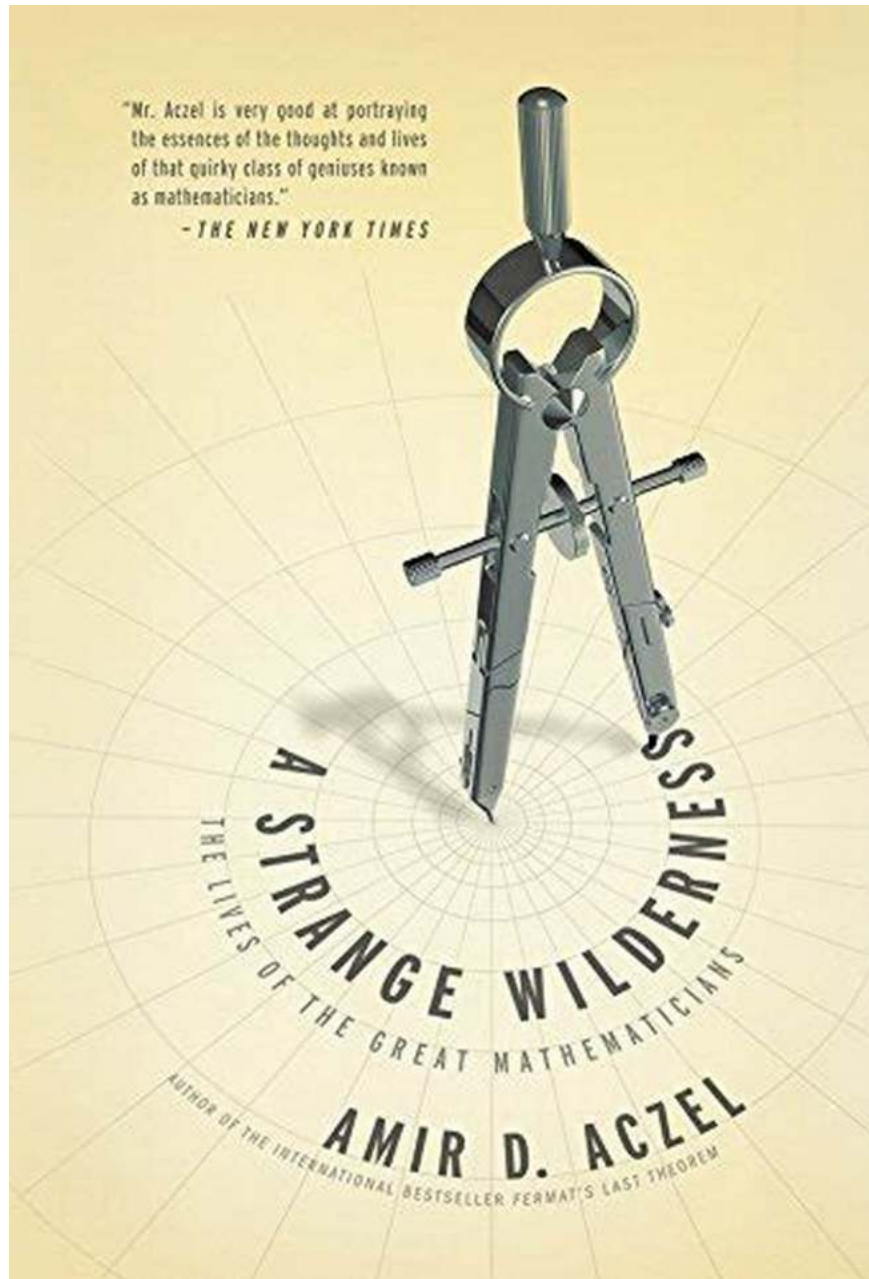
### **3. Ada Lovelace: The First Computer Programmer**



Ada Lovelace, born in 1815, was an English mathematician who is often hailed as the world's first computer programmer. Lovelace worked closely with Charles Babbage, an inventor, and mathematician, on his Analytical Engine. She wrote extensive notes on the machine, including an algorithm for calculating a sequence of Bernoulli numbers. These notes are considered the first program ever written, making Ada Lovelace a pioneer in the field of computer

programming. Her visionary ideas laid the groundwork for the modern-day computers we rely on today.

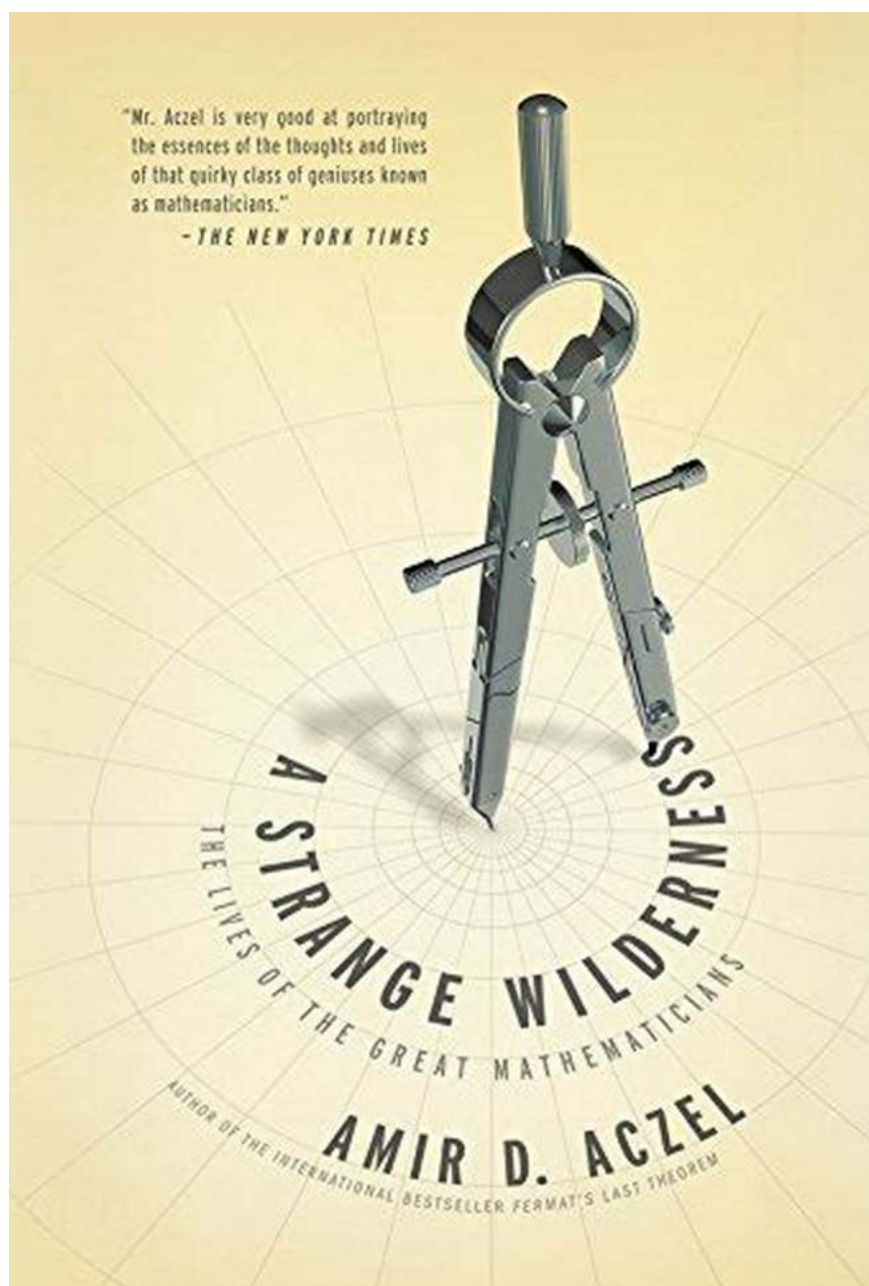
#### 4. Alan Turing: Enigma Codebreaker



Alan Turing, a British mathematician, cryptanalyst, and computer scientist, played a vital role in cracking the Enigma code during World War II. His work at Bletchley Park, a top-secret British codebreaking center, significantly contributed to the

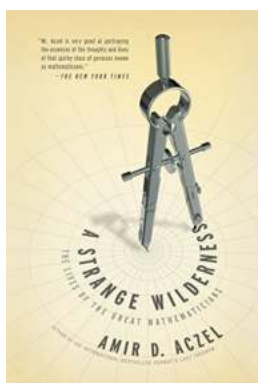
Allied victory. Turing's contributions extended beyond codebreaking; he was also involved in the development of the concept of a universal machine, known as the Turing machine, which laid the foundation for modern computer science. Tragically, Turing was persecuted by the British government due to his homosexuality and died at a young age. His genius and contributions to mathematics and computer science are celebrated today.

## 5. Katherine Johnson: The Hidden Figure Behind Space Exploration



Katherine Johnson, an American mathematician, played a pivotal role in the early years of NASA and the space race. Her calculations were critical for the success of the Mercury and Apollo missions, including the historic Apollo 11 moon landing. Despite facing discrimination as an African-American woman in a predominantly white and male field, Johnson's talent and perseverance earned her recognition and respect. Her contributions to mathematics and space exploration shattered racial and gender barriers, paving the way for future generations of mathematicians and scientists.

The lives of these great mathematicians are filled with extraordinary accomplishments, perseverance, and the pursuit of knowledge. Their intellectual brilliance, combined with their unique personalities and sometimes unconventional lifestyles, have solidified their place in history. From Pythagoras' mystical beliefs to Katherine Johnson's resilience in the face of adversity, each mathematician left an indelible mark on the world. Their contributions continue to shape our understanding of mathematics and its applications in various fields to this day.



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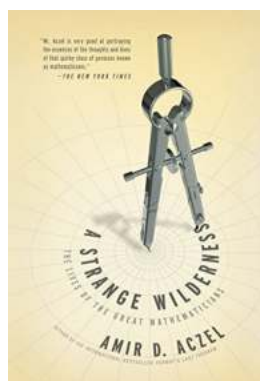




“Mathematics is not a careful march down a well-cleared highway, but a journey into a strange wilderness, where the explorers often get lost.”

-- Mathematics historian W. S. Anglin From the internationally bestselling author of Fermat's Last Theorem comes a landmark publication on the eccentric lives of the foremost mathematicians in history..From Archimedes' eureka moment to Alexander Grothendieck's seclusion in the Pyrenees, bestselling author Amir Aczel selects the most compelling stories in the history of mathematics, creating a colorful narrative that explores the quirky personalities behind some of the most groundbreaking, enduring theorems.

This is not your dry “college textbook” account of mathematical history; it bristles with tales of duels, battlefield heroism, flamboyant arrogance, pranks, secret societies, imprisonment, feuds, theft, and some very costly errors of judgment. (Clearly, genius doesn't guarantee street smarts.) Ultimately, readers will come away entertained, and with a newfound appreciation of the tenacity, complexity, eccentricity, and brilliance of the mathematical genius.



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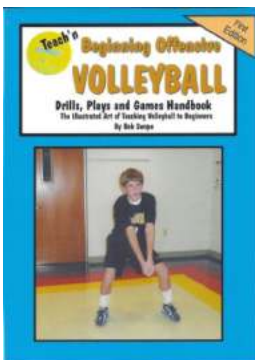
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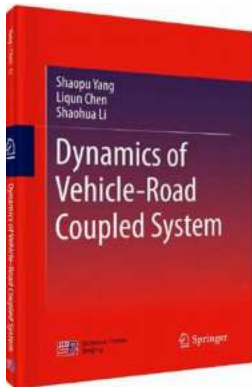
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