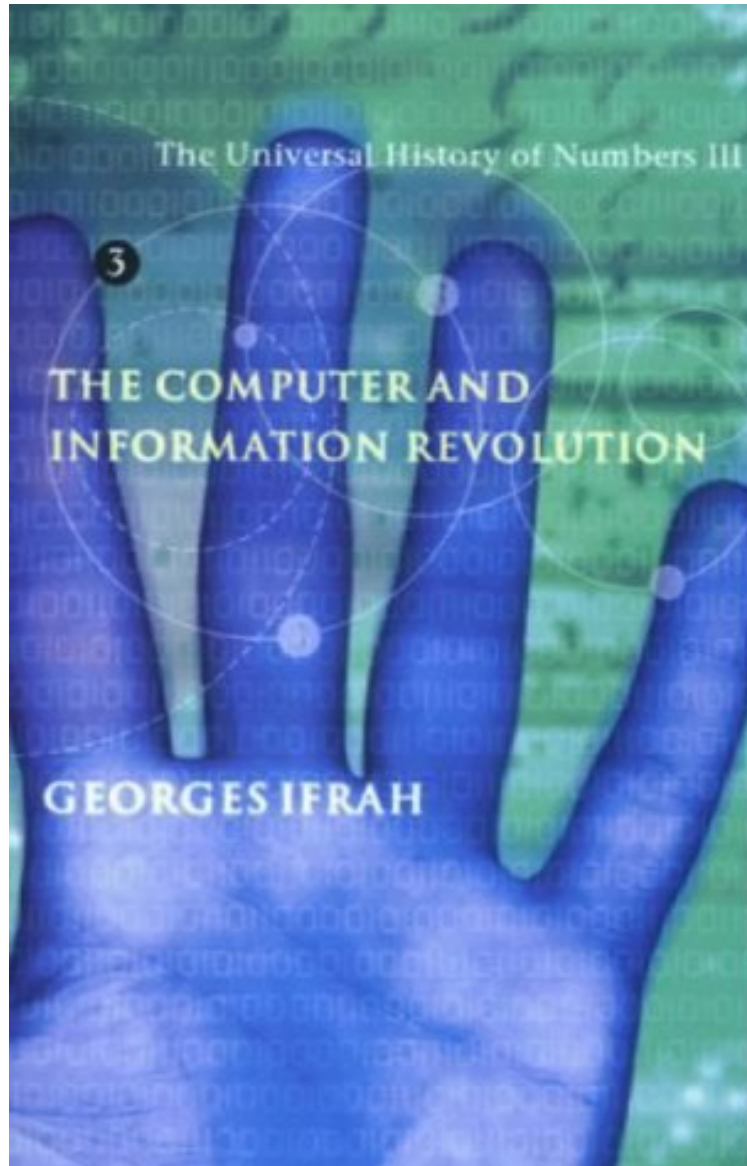


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Universal History of Numbers, Part 3 (Pt.1)

Georges Ifrah

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Georges Ifrah : Universal History of Numbers, Part 3 (Pt.1) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Universal History of Numbers, Part 3 (Pt.1):

12 of 14 people found the following review helpful. 5000 years in the fascinating story of numbers By Burak Eldem One day, the young "devils" in a high school's mathematics class in France, asked some "plain" questions to their teacher: "When the numbers were invented?", "What is the history of the number Zero?", "How the ancients

began writing down symbols for the numbers?" and so on... And these questions, changed the life of Georges Ifrah, the mathematics teacher in our story. He began his long voyage in the history of numbers and mathematics, through all mysterious ancient civilizations. "Universal History of Numbers" is a huge, marvellous, fascinating story which deals with the birth of essential concepts in numbering systems in our distant past. Ifrah chases the clues in ancient Sumerians hexagesimal system; the magical hieroglyphs of ancient Egyptians; the mysterious Maya and their counting system; Hebrew, Greek and Roman numbers with the mystics of "gematria"; sacred numerical signs of ancient Indus civilization and China, and much much more. This is not just a "history of numbers"; Ifrah's work is a brilliant study on the roots of our civilization. While dealing with the numbers, he also presents us a perfect panorama of ancient cultures, such as the Maya calendar, the Vedic philosophy, Ancient Sumerian myths or the stories of Egyptian gods, in a very entertaining style. If you are interested with the roots of civilization and "ancient wisdom", you must read this excellent book - you'll never regret.

In this volume, which completes his history of numbers, Georges Ifrah first of all recapitulates for the reader the steps in mathematical notation which he has made familiar. He considers algebra and its relationship with reason; how it has opened the way to new advances in computation. He introduces the reader to the departure made from the decimal Base 10 to the spread of the binary Base 2, the foundation for computing. He then takes us through the origins and progress of the computer revolution, going back to calculating machines invented more than 100 years ago. He finishes with a synthesis of the development of numbers technology as a function of logic, and concludes with a view to our future with technology.