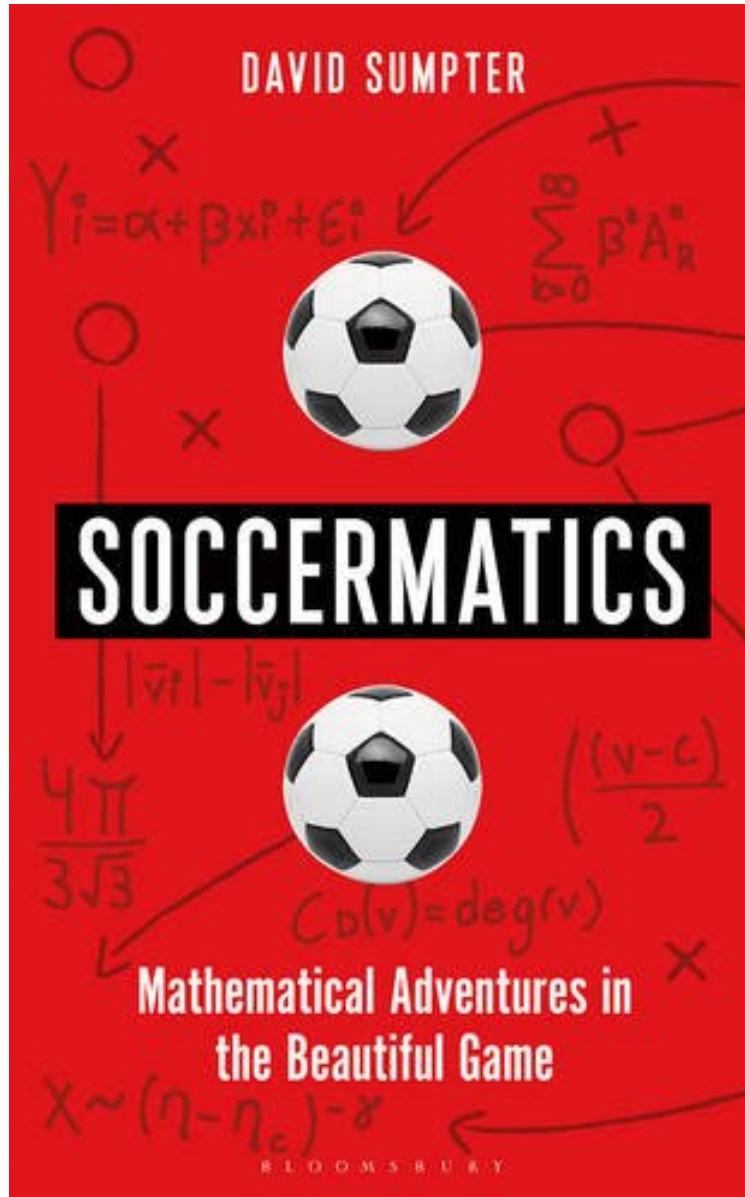


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## Soccermetics: Mathematical Adventures in the Beautiful Game

David Sumpter

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**David Sumpter : Soccermetics: Mathematical Adventures in the Beautiful Game** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Soccermetics: Mathematical Adventures in the Beautiful Game:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good to see it is not only the players having adventures in soccer!!By BrianVery enjoyable read with a range of good information on the game and mathematical approaches to

analysing parts of it. Of particular interest was the cross pollination of research into animals with football. The book was broken up into easily digestible chunks that held the interest from start to finish and were not overly academic in nature. The layers within each chunk were built up sequentially and left one thinking that one knew something of the process, the maths involved and the utility of the work at the end of the chunk. Interspersed with good elements of humility and humour I found it well written for the layman (me) and the depth there for budding mathematicians, football managers and researchers. Worth the cost of purchase for me. Looking forward to seeing more from this author.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good and entertaining soccer book  
By Stefan R. Compared to socceronomics this is the much better book. It doesn't quite reach the writing quality of moneyball but it is nevertheless entertaining and full of great insight and fun math applications.

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Science friendly  
By AE3A Great book! As someone who works on public health-epidemiology I'm used to statistical models, this book illustrates how soccer can be used as a means of explaining these models as well as how it can enrich research in all areas. Is good in math and soccer level, is great to give you insights, particularly if you do research in any area or if you like soccer and want to get into the somewhat cryptic math of its statistics in order to filter the BS from media experts. If you want what you are looking for is "magic bullet" book for gambling, this won't be the case.

Soccer is the most mathematical of sports--riddled with numbers, patterns, and shapes. How to make sense of them? The answer lies in mathematical modeling, a science with applications in a host of biological systems. Soccermatics brings the two together in a fascinating, mind-bending synthesis. What's the connection between an ant colony and Total Football, Dutch-style? How is the Barcelona midfield linked geometrically? And how can we relate the mechanics of a Mexican Wave to the singing of cicadas in an Australian valley? Welcome to the world of mathematical modeling, expressed brilliantly by David Sumpter through the prism of soccer. Soccer is indeed more than a game and this book is packed with game theory. After reading it, you will forever watch the game with new eyes.

"Drawing on stats, physics and natural phenomena, a math professor and amateur coach explains everything from the geometry of passing to managerial strategy to predicting performance. The book is full of game theory and diagrams of famous plays." - Steven Goff, The Washington Post roundup of soccer books

"Sumpter's deconstruction of formations proved why maths and football can't live without each other. It's every football nerd's dream." - FourFourTwo

"This is football looked at in a very different way. David Sumpter is mining a rich and deep seam here in Soccermatics, one that will become an increasingly important part of the game." - Pat Nevin, former Chelsea and Everton star and football media analyst

"Touted as a mathematical adventure through the beautiful game, this title certainly lives up to and exceeds expectations. The biggest positive for this book is that it is approachable, certainly much more than SOCCERNOMICS from Simon Kuper and Stefan Szymanski." - International Soccer Network

"Sumpter's love of the game is infectious--it's impossible not to be drawn in . . . SOCCERMATICS is a fascinating book, an intelligent work that strives to reflect the minute intricacies of the game by way of the numbers while never condescending to or overwhelming the reader. Soccer fans and math lovers will be thrilled, but in truth, a general understanding of both is really all you need to enjoy this one." - The Maine Edge

"A fascinating study of the structures and patterns that underpin football matches, with revealing and surprising conclusions." - Michael Cox, editor of Zonal Marking and Guardian Sports

"David Sumpter brings together his two passions, mathematics and football, in a highly original and entertaining way. The beautiful game illustrated through the beauty of mathematics." - Philip Maini FRS, Professor of Mathematical Biology, University of Oxford

"If you really love football and math, well I assume you've already rushed out to buy this." - BookFilter

About the Author David Sumpter is a professor of applied mathematics at Uppsala University in Sweden, where he runs the Collective Behavior Research Group. Originally from London, he earned his Ph.D. in mathematics at Manchester and held academic research positions at both Oxford and Cambridge. This is his first book. He lives with his wife and two children. In his spare time, he trains a successful soccer team of nine-year-old boys. He lives in Uppsala, Sweden.