

Tobies, Renate

Felix Klein. Visions for mathematics, applications, and education. Translated from the German by Valentine A. Pakis. Revised edition. (English) [Zbl 1480.01002](#)

Vita Mathematica 20. Cham: Birkhäuser (ISBN 978-3-030-75784-7/hbk; 978-3-030-75787-8/pbk; 978-3-030-75785-4/ebook). xx, 677 p. (2021).

The justifiably praised German biography of Felix Klein by the author [[Zbl 1412.01004](#)] has finally been published in English, but the present book is not only a one-to-one translation but a slightly enlarged and extended version. The author is without doubt the leading expert on Felix Klein and has produced a monumental work on all aspects of the life and works of this brilliant mathematician, organiser of science in Prussia, forward-looking benefactor of applied mathematics, organiser and driving force of German high school education, and towering figure of the famous mathematical school in Göttingen.

The book follows Klein's life in nearly every detail and does not shy away from describing his many mathematical achievements. Pursuing Klein's life takes the reader on a journey through the history of the important German mathematical community in the 19th century and their connections to foreign mathematicians.

All what has been said about the German edition [loc. cit.] applies without constraints to this English edition which, counting 677 pages, is even more voluminous than the book in German. The book is very readable and leaves nothing to be desired. It will certainly become the standard reference on Klein.

Reviewer: [Thomas Sonar \(Braunschweig\)](#)

MSC:

- [01-02](#) Research exposition (monographs, survey articles) pertaining to history and biography Cited in 1 Document
- [01A55](#) History of mathematics in the 19th century
- [01A60](#) History of mathematics in the 20th century
- [01A70](#) Biographies, obituaries, personalia, bibliographies

Biographic references:

[Klein, Felix](#)

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