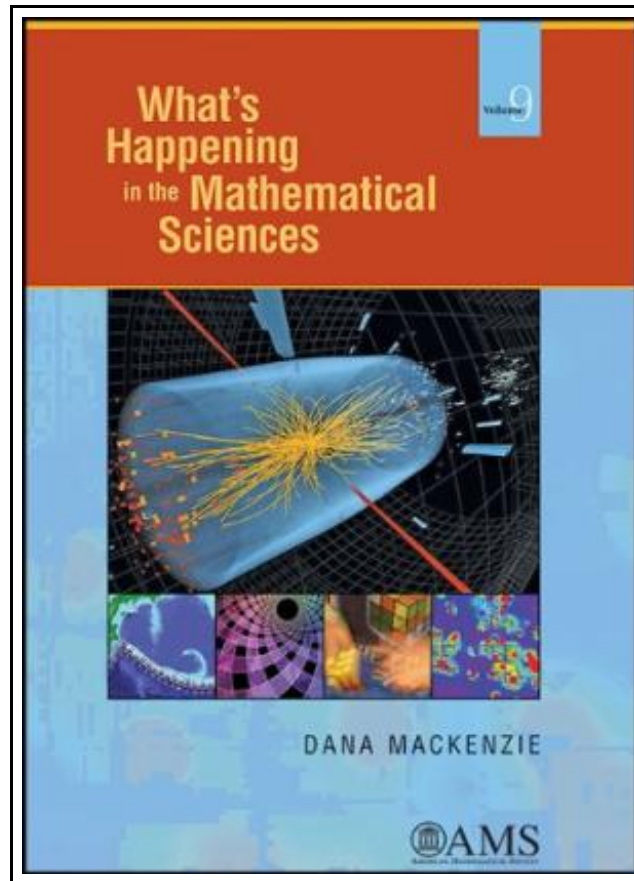


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American Mathematical Society. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, What's Happening in the Mathematical Sciences: Volume 9, Dana MacKenzie, What's Happening in the Mathematical Sciences looks at some highlights of the most recent developments in mathematics. These include the mathematics behind stories that made headlines, as well as fascinating mathematical stories that never made it into the newspapers. In 2009, a flu pandemic, the world's first in more than 40 years, tested a new generation of mathematical models that take some of the guesswork out of public health decisions. As health officials rushed to quell the outbreak of H1N1 flu, mathematicians were working just as hurriedly to answer questions like these: Was the epidemic serious enough to justify school closings or quarantines? Who should be vaccinated first, the elderly or the young? Their findings substantially affected the response of local governments, national governments, and the World Health Organization. Mathematics can also help society prepare for other kinds of natural and manmade disasters. A major tsunami in 2011 in Japan, like the one seven years earlier in the Indian Ocean, highlighted flaws in our understanding of these catastrophic events and inadequacies in our early warning systems. Geoscientists are working together with mathematicians to improve our short-term forecasting ability and quantify the long-term risks of tsunamis. Meanwhile, in California, another group of mathematicians succeeded in adapting earthquake prediction algorithms to forecast criminal activity. Their ""predictive policing"" software was tested in Los Angeles and is being adopted by other cities across the United States. Fortunately, not all mathematics has to do with emergencies. Pure mathematicians have been busy cleaning out their closets of long-standing open problems. In 2012, two conjectures about different kinds of minimising surfaces were solved: the Willmore Conjecture (minimising energy) and the Lawson Conjecture (minimising area). Also in 2012, following...

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