

# MATHEMATICS WITH ONLY RODS

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ABSTRACT. We discuss in this expository paper the rod system used in ancient China based on the mathematical classic work of Sun Zi, with a focus on application to solving systems of linear equations. The mathematics involved is authentic and beautiful, and we believe it is also of interest from historical, cultural, and pedagogical perspectives.

KEYWORDS: *Book of Sun Zi, base ten notation, systems of linear equations*

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