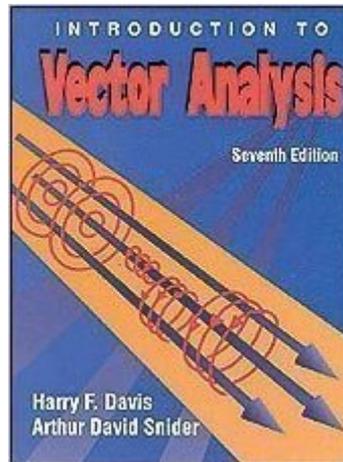


The book was found

Introduction To Vector Analysis



Synopsis

Focusing on vector analysis, this book aims to meet the professional needs of the engineer or scientist, and to give the mathematician an understanding of the three-dimensional versions of the theorems of higher geometry. Concepts are described geometrically and then examined analytically, allowing the reader to visualize a concept before it is formally defined.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have the third edition and the latest edition of this book. In my opinion, the later editions have been dumbed down considerably. In addition to developing the basics of vector analysis, the older editions included splendid discussions of curvilinear coordinates, tensor analysis and touched on differential forms (the wedge product being introduced). While the latest edition features appendices covering specific applications such as Maxwells and Navier-Stokes equations, the explanations are far too brief to be of much use. I suggest that interested parties attempt to get used older editions whose content were presumably under the control of Davis (not Snider) being much better written and probably less expensive. The older edition had few typos with very useful and entertaining problem sets. A better alternative book might be "Vectors and Tensors in Engineering and Physics" by Donald A. Danielson in paperback.

I just finished a class on Vector Analysis that used this book. This book is good for those who are interested in vectors. The authors start off with the basics and then move quickly to the more difficult lessons. Basically this text treats the material the same as a calculus text does with a couple of

exceptions. First, the book moves more quickly than a calculus text, so if you are shaky on the first part I would advise having a calculus book there with you. Second, this book shows the proofs in a more precise manner than the calculus text that I used (Stewart). You study the same equations and theories, but now you have harder exercises to do at the end of the chapter (with most of the answers in the back of the book). So I would recommend this book to those interested in vectors who are familiar with them. Otherwise you may want to look at a calculus book to get up to speed first.

Although not written in a classic "Definition - Theorem - Lemma" style, the author presents the ideas of vector analysis in an easy presentation. He does skip lots of calculation, that he is assuming you either do or can "see" what is being done. Beyond that, he adds additional readings and topics to each chapter. Great book.

This is a fantastic book that intuitively teaches the workings of vector calculus. Instead of doing tedious calculations, like most calculus books, this book makes it easier to calculate if you get the concepts and apply an algebraic or geometric approach instead of the full calculus approach. This book still covers the calculus approach, but you will be able to see when to use it instead of more conceptual approaches once you finish the book.

This text presents each subject in a very clear manner. Every subject is developed in concise proofs that are easy to remember and satisfying to those who require mathematical proofs to understand the derivation of the subjects but are not interested in long-winded theory. After each section's quick and dirty derivation, the authors provide a small yet effective selection of challenging questions to be able to gain confidence in the subject. The style of the book is also refreshing in this age of heavy books with flashy photos and wasted space. This book includes 408 pages full of useful mathematics and vector diagrams but nothing else; the book is very light and small. This is a classic.

I agree with the previous reviewer that this book is for engineers. After several years of finishing engineering, I am still using this book as a reference. It has given me a deeper understanding of vectors so that I could actually use it anywhere a vector quantity is encountered. Dev

This book was used in my vector calculus class at UCSD. I think if I was in one of my upper division

engineering classes it would be great to use as a reference to help me figure out problems. However, as a math book alone, this was not too helpful. Many of the explanations lack clarity and are from a mathematician's point of view (in other words, very difficult for lower division students who are not math majors to understand). Also, a lot of the problems are practically impossible. The only reason I did alright in this class was because I had a great teacher. I would recommend this book for people who are in science or engineering classes and need a superficial introduction to vector calculus, but NOT for math classes that go into deep analysis of vectors.

Excellent text, great as a standalone course in vector calculus (vectors in R^3) with focus on Cartesian, Polar, and Spherical systems. Final chapters are on Line and Surface integrals.

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