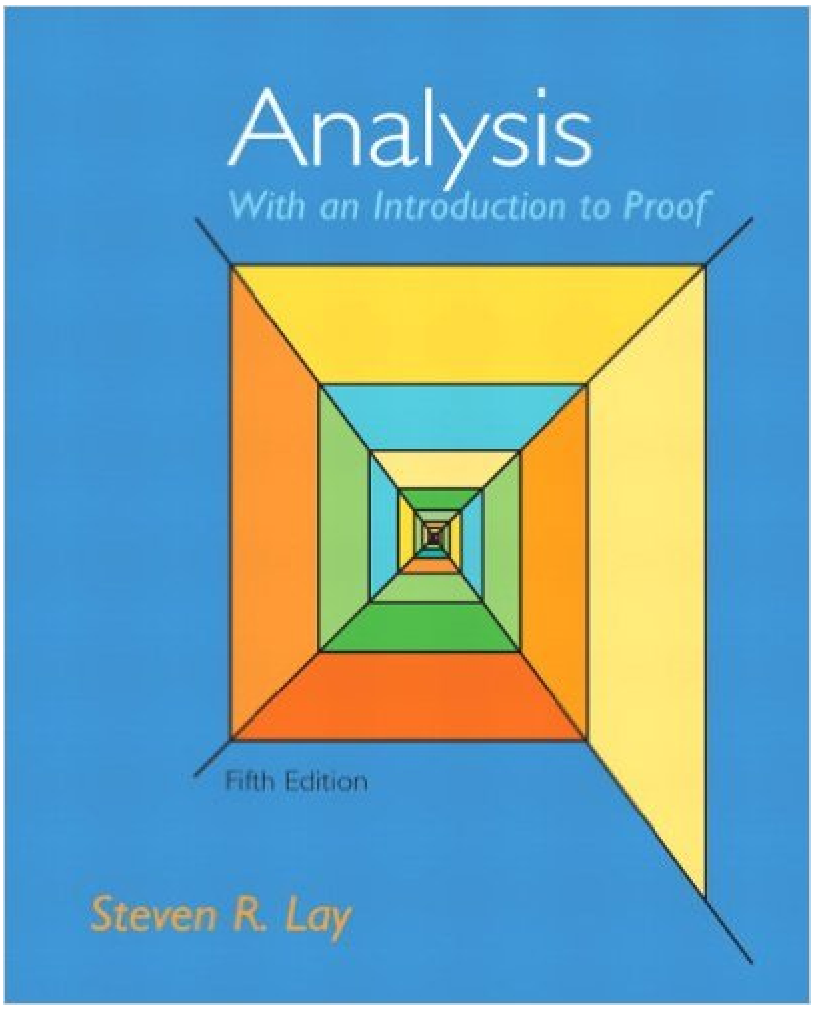
Analysis With An Introduction To Proof, 5th Edition



Synopsis

For courses in undergraduate Analysis and Transition to Advanced Mathematics.   Â   Analysis with an Introduction to Proof, Fifth Edition helps fill in the groundwork students need to succeed in real analysisâ ”often considered the most difficult course in the undergraduate curriculum. By introducing logic and emphasizing the structure and nature of the arguments used, this text helps students move carefully from computationally oriented courses to abstract mathematics with its emphasis on proofs. Clear expositions and examples, helpful practice problems, numerous drawings, and selected hints/answers make this text readable, student-oriented, and teacher- friendly. Â

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I didn't think this book was going to be very good, but the author has "proved" me wrong ;-) This book starts out so basic that in my class (which was the first analysis course in our math department) we actually skipped the first 1/3 or so of the book. The first 9 or 10 sections consist of stuff like basic set theory, logic, definition of a function, etc. I would think that even the most elementary Analysis books would completely leave this out and expect that the reader is already familiar with this. So if you need it, this book will be a good resource for you.Then the book goes into a very nice introduction to topology. Basic concepts like open/closed sets, accumulation points, compact sets, etc. Topology can be a little intimidating simply because it's _so_ abstract, but this book makes the basic concepts very easy to understand, and prepares one for a more advanced course in topology. Alot of (good) Elementary Analysis books leave topology out, but I'm glad this book contained it. It is a very interesting subject.All the material in the book is explained probably about as easily as the concepts CAN be explained. If you still have trouble with it, you might consider a different major. Not to say that this book transforms a very difficult subject into a pathetically easy piece of cake because that's impossible, but the material is presented probably as easily as it can be in order to maintain precision and detail (which is the whole point of Analysis).The book is definitely not running short in the examples or end-of-section problems department, so that is another plus. The problems at the end of each section range in difficulty from problems that almost exactly match an example worked in detail in the section, to fairly challenging problems.

This is fairly basic introduction to Principles of Analysis, on intermediate undergrad level, strictly in R^1. The only other similar book I'm familiar is Kirkwood. The books of Rudin, Apostol, etc present the subject on much higher level.My original intention was to take a course with Rudin, but after I've realized I had a hard time digesting his style, I've decided to take more elementary course. I knew the course would be using Lay, so I got this textbook and tried to learn it on my own, but wasn't sure how I was doing and ended up taking the course (still with Lay) anyway. So I'm quite familiar with this textbook. The only topics we didn't cover is "series" and "sequences and series of functions".Now overall I would say it's a mixed bag. First, the good things. The first few introductory sections on sets and proof techniques are excellent, highly recommended, that's how I learned how to prove. I found exercises very useful.Now things I don't like. First, lots of typos. I think I had 4th edition, and still I've managed to find over 20 misprints, incorrect references, etc, etc, all were reported directly to author. Second, and that's probably more important, in several instances the proofs are too convoluted and not self-motivating. To be more specific, the proof of Heine-Borell theorem is less than adequate. It is correct, but that's the kind of proof you read and then entirely forget how it went. I remember on the first reading I didn't feel comfortable with this proof at all. When I discussed this book with professor I was going to take that course with, he (surprisingle) agreed with me and told me he would present a different proof (and he did, much better one). Another example: proof that the modified Dirichlet function is Riemann-integrable.

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