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Differential Geometry Of Curves And Surfaces



Synopsis

This volume covers local as well as global differential geometry of curves and surfaces.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An earlier review said this book has few errors, and even then only typographical ones. Are we talking about the same book? The text is pockmarked - nay, cratered - with scads of dire gaffes. The skeptical empiricist should go to Google and enter these keywords: bjorn carmo errata. The first hit will be a link to a 7-page pdf file a U.C. Berkeley professor and his students created a few years ago which compiles errata they turned up. Seven full pages, and they only covered a third of the text! A sample item in the list: "p. 97, definition of domain: It is not clear whether the boundary is the boundary as a subset of \mathbb{R}^3 or the boundary as a subset of S . Either way, we run into trouble..." The Heine-Borel theorem on page 124 is so botched up it's beyond repair, and even the basic definition of what it means for a function to be continuous on a set is faulty (p. 123). The author claims a student should be able to hack the material with "only the most basic concepts" from linear algebra and multivariable calculus. Largely but not entirely true. For example, you better be up to speed on linear mappings defined by NON-square matrices - something no undergraduate-level linear algebra book in my library discusses (though I only possess a handful). Many of those tidy little results for linear operators from \mathbb{R}^n into \mathbb{R}^n you might know from Linear Algebra 301 become worthless when one of those n 's becomes an m . I don't really fault the author for this, but anyone thinking about acquiring this text should know it is not by any stretch "self-contained" as one previous reviewer stated. The biggest irritant with this text is the constant abuse of notation.

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