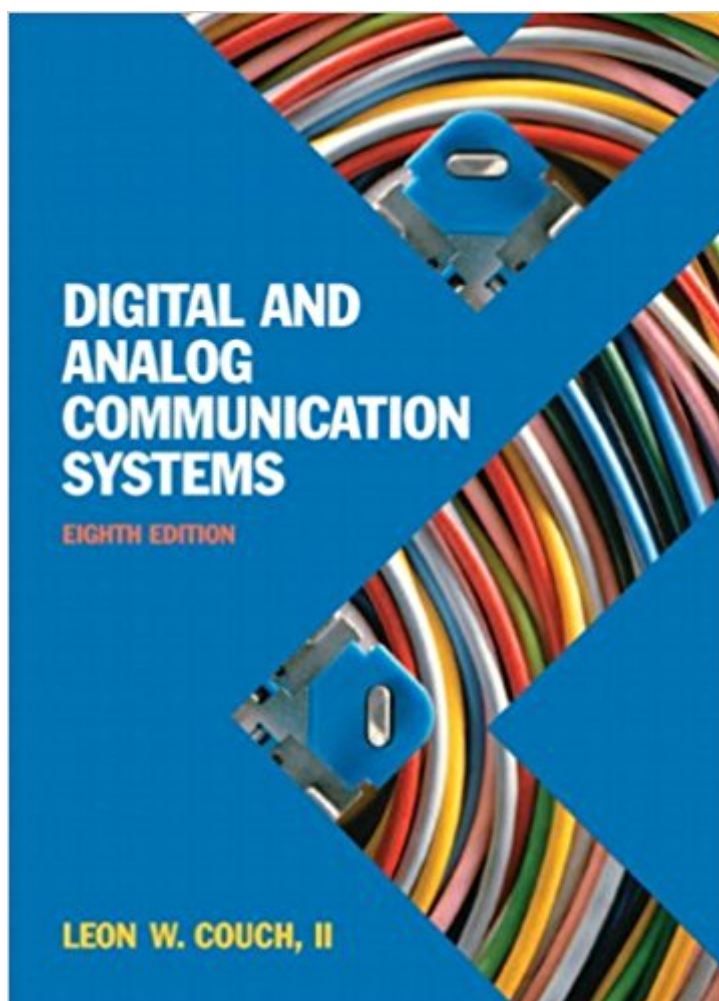


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Digital & Analog Communication Systems (8th Edition)



Synopsis

For junior- to senior-level introductory communication systems courses for undergraduates, or an introductory graduate course. A useful resource for electrical engineers. This revision of Couch's authoritative text provides the latest treatment of digital communication systems. The author balances coverage of both digital and analog communication systems, with an emphasis on design. Readers will gain a working knowledge of both classical mathematical and personal computer methods to analyze, design, and simulate modern communication systems. MATLAB is integrated throughout.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Leon W. Couch graduated from Duke University in 1963 with a BSEE degree. He earned his masters and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Florida in 1964 and 1967, respectively. He spent his 36 year career in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department of the University of Florida (Gainesville, FL). In 1968 he was appointed Assistant Professor and he rose through the ranks to become Professor in 1984. From 1990 to 2004 he was the Associate Chair of the ECE Department at UF. Since 2004 he has been retired as Professor Emeritus. His field of interest is in communications systems, with expertise in modulation theory and applications to wireless communication systems. At one time or another, he taught each of the different undergraduate and graduate communication courses in the UF ECE Department.

This book is a graduate-level introduction to the subject, meaning it makes some assumptions about the reader. For example, it assumes you will not cringe when you see mathematical symbols. That you have been through an undergraduate treatment to signals and systems, Fourier analysis, and an introduction to random processes. While a lot of this is covered as a refresher in Chapter 2 and Chapter 6, it is meant more as a reminder than a primer. It assumes that as you make your way through the book, you won't understand everything at the first attempt but certain sections and/or chapters will require multiple readings. For instance, a section in Chapter 3 may not become clear until you reach the end of Chapter 4. It assumes you will be fine with this, given that this is a complex, dense subject, and that the insights contained here have been developed and perfected by experts in the area for several decades. The rest of the book does a great job of balancing the analog and digital communication worlds and really explains how they work together. There are other books that cover analog communication theory more deeply - in particular the circuits used in analog comm systems and the issues of nonlinearities in the analog world. There are other books that cover digital communication theory more deeply - in particular, coding techniques and channel equalization. However, you will be hard-pressed to find a book that can do justice to both worlds, and their non-obvious intersection. It is ambitious in its scope and wonderful in its execution. The writing is first-rate. The author makes sure to repeat aspects of the theory deemed important, often times at the end of a section but also at other times in the text. As a reader, I am thankful for that. The math is rigorous, but the text emphasizes intuition. It is as if one is having a conversation with the author. This is a rare balance in technical books. There are also a large number of exercises, with plenty of MATLAB experiments thrown in. There are solutions to selected exercises at the back. The references (all listed at the back) are also wonderful, and it makes you want to explore the content in more detail. A note about the price: The book is prohibitively expensive. I was tempted to take off a star for this, but I didn't want the price to reflect badly on the author, since it is really a problem with the modern publishing industry. Regardless, get this book, take your time to diligently work through the material, and watch your understanding grow.

Bought in 2009. I needed the book for an electrical engineering class so nothing personal to review.

I was hoping to find it sort of "full of well explained examples" resource, yet at this stage almost one year after passing the subject I believe this purchase was "unnecessary". For some reasons, the author keeps trying to "complexify" the topics which essentially are complex enough by themselves!

while looking up if you're lucky you will see a short example of the topic that you're looking for and this happens like every 10 pages. Failure in digging into the topics and failure in explaining the issues with a simple language are the most significant problems that we experienced during the semester when using this book. I believe this subject needs a book with lots of examples and short but effective and right to the point explanations which sadly this book did not have.

This book is pretty well written and really help you understand the materials better. This book is pretty well organized and very easy to follow. This is a good introductory book

Great book. Even though it was used, the description fit the actual state of the book: As new. The only thing is that the last set of pages were detached from the rest of the book, but still beats the expensive prices of buying it completely new without sacrificing much quality. Thank you!

very good!

Good

I had to use this book for one of my undergrad classes. It was not at all helpful. The material is presented in a very boring fashion with not enough explanation to do any hw problems on the material. The least it could do is do some examples that actually show you how they got the solution. The instructor did not help much either which made me hate communications.

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