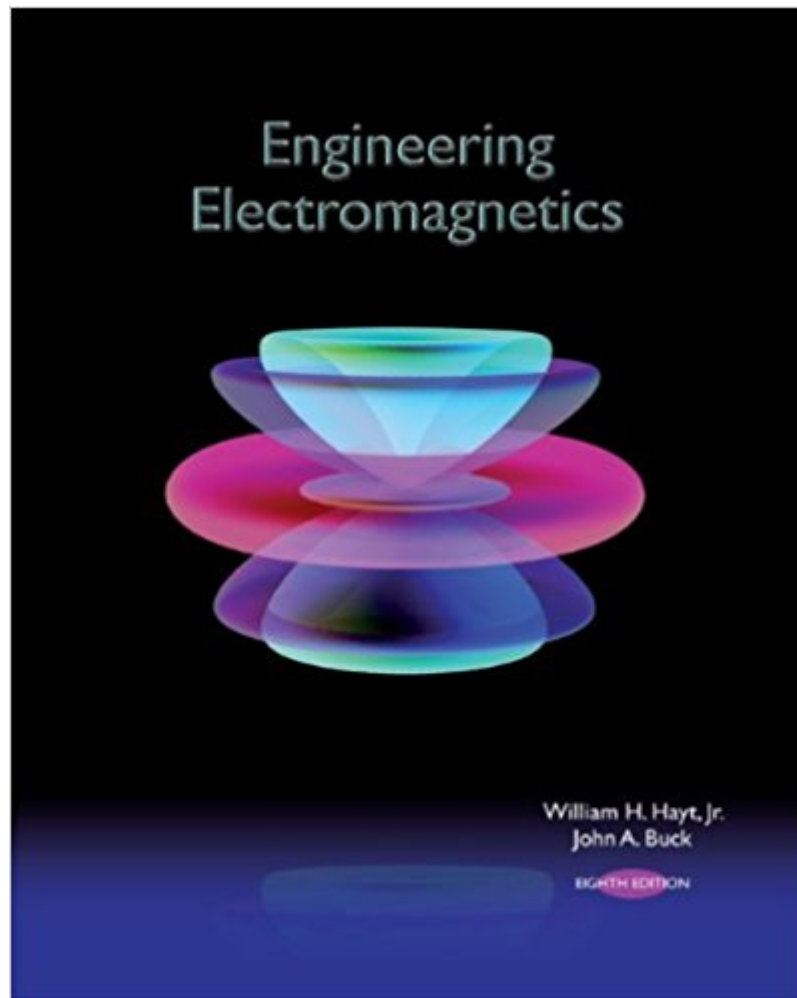




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Engineering Electromagnetics (Irwin Electronics & Computer Engineering)



Synopsis

First published just over 50 years ago and now in its Eighth Edition, Bill Hayt and John Buck's Engineering Electromagnetics is a classic text that has been updated for electromagnetics education today. This widely-respected book stresses fundamental concepts and problem solving, and discusses the material in an understandable and readable way. Numerous illustrations and analogies are provided to aid the reader in grasping the difficult concepts. In addition, independent learning is facilitated by the presence of many examples and problems. Important updates and revisions have been included in this edition. One of the most significant is a new chapter on electromagnetic radiation and antennas. This chapter covers the basic principles of radiation, wire antennas, simple arrays, and transmit-receive systems.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you have any choice in the matter find a different E&M book. Most of the reviews here are spot on. I get that E&M is hard and you would have to search long and hard to find a well reviewed E&M book, but that doesn't excuse this book's failings. To start with this book is poorly written in many respects. Explanations are often quite hand-wavy and the examples often do not go into enough depth to be followed. Physical descriptions are butchered numerous times throughout the text, and analogies that should make things easier to understand often only add to the overall confusion. This is not coming from someone who was ill prepared for this course. I had a solid math background including vector calculus, and I had taken a previous physics course in E&M. In general I found

myself reading this book, getting frustrated and confused, and then realizing I already had learned how to do this before and looking up the topic online. I accept being confused about new things, but a book should not confuse me on a topic I already know. This problem sets in this book hardly deserve a single star. The problems deviate a bit further from what was presented in the text than I would think proper. This makes an external resource necessary to solve many problems. Many questions are so poorly worded that the problem can be interpreted in multiple ways each with a unique solution, and the student is left to guess how they should interpret the problem. Even if you do guess the right interpretation you will often find you have been marked wrong by the grader because either the instructor solution manual was wrong, or the problem in the book was wrong. Many of the solutions in the grading book have corrected problem text that changes the answer and it expects you to solve the corrected problem instead of the one in the book. Some of these are listed in the substantial list of errata available online, but others are not. This can be infuriating if the professor is not aware that the students have no way of seeing the corrected problem statement without the answers.

Between the teacher and this book absolutely nothing was learned. The book does not do a good job of explaining anything, granted it is easy to read. The end of the Chapter problems are so difficult compared to what they are trying to teach in the chapter that it leaves you frustrated. The example problems are so jumbled together that you have no idea what answer goes with what problem or how they solved it at all. The example problems also almost have no relevance to the end of the chapter problems. I say if you have to use this book you are better off finding yourself a good physics book and learning electromagnetism from that.

Horribly written book, with no answers in the back of the book to check if you are working problems correctly. Assumes you know how to work problems, even though you are reading the book to learn those concepts. Not enough explanation on key concepts, and does not really define any key terms.

This text is, in a word, bad. Admittedly, electromagnetism is a tough subject, but that's all the more reason to have a clear, comprehensive textbook for it. That isn't this book. The authors seem to go to great effort to be cute and clever, for instance repeatedly addressing the reader directly, or using odd examples to try to explain concepts. I usually find this to be a bad sign in regard to books (or instructors, for that matter), because they seem more intent on entertaining students than on actually explaining things so students learn them. The authors offer little in the way of explaining

concepts. They will present long derivations of equations without first describing what they are deriving or why. Illustrations are almost non-existent, and worked-out example problems are incredibly sparse. This is perhaps the biggest shortcoming of the book, since actual solved problems are invaluable in helping students understand material. I had to buy this book for a graduate course in emag; if I needed it just for a reference, I would find another book. For the cost, it's an appallingly bad value. Unfortunately, many will be in the same boat as me, and will be forced to buy it for a class. Professors who may be reading this - please think of your students and do not use this for your classes. Then again, when I was searching for this book, I checked several local university book stores - none of them carried it, indicating it is not used for any classes at those schools. Many professors have probably already realized there are much better electromagnetism texts out there.

This textbook provided very little assistance in my electrical engineering class. You have to memorize a lot of information but there is little background on where the numbers came from or concrete real-world situations where they apply. There could have been less focus on cover art and more focus on thoroughly developing the material.

Its a good book. Not an easy subject, but the first half is good at explaining basic concepts in a way that doesn't overcomplicate them. The math is the tough part.

This book takes too much for granted, and has far too many errors. It is the required text for Circuits I, and II at my college. We are only on chapter 5, and half of the class has dropped due to frustration. In chapter two (Ch.1 for practical purposes,) we were so lost that we got the help of a physics grad student I know. Without the solutions, he was lost on several of the problems. We did eventually get through them, but this gives you an idea of what I mean. The book skips many steps in its examples, leaving the student lost and annoyed. They seem to assume that we already know these techniques fluently. We have found so many errors in the homework that I cannot begin to count them all. This is especially true of the solutions manual. If you must use this book, pray that you have an excellent instructor who can (and will) fill in the blanks left by the authors and get the solutions any way you can. I could go on...

Did not come with original binding nor did it contain some appendix pages that I needed but other than that, it was a bargain for the price!

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