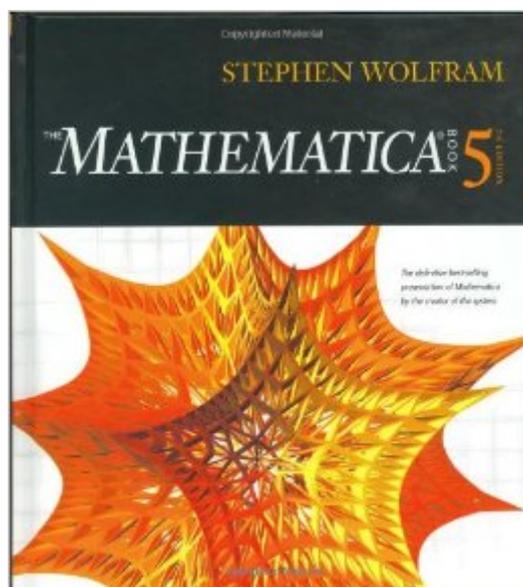# The Mathematica Book, Fifth Edition

Synopsis

As both a highly readable tutorial and a definitive reference for over a million Mathematica users worldwide, this book covers every aspect of Mathematica. It is an essential resource for all users of Mathematica from beginners to experts. This expanded fifth edition presents Mathematica Version 5 for the first time and is important for anyone interested in the progress of advanced computing. Included in this new edition are the following: - Visual tour of key features - Practical tutorial introduction - Full descriptions of 1,200+ built-in functions - Thousands of illustrative examples - Easy-to-follow descriptive tables - Essays highlighting key concepts - Mathematica language tutorial - Guide to symbolic programming - Introduction to document-centered interfaces - Guide to the MathLink API - Notes on internal implementation - Index with 10,000+ entries

Book Information

Hardcover: 1488 pages

Publisher: Wolfram Media; 5th edition (August 22, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1579550223

ISBN-13: 978-1579550226

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 8.4 x 2.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.3 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 ststarsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #272,143 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #95 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Pure Mathematics > Discrete Mathematics   #196 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Software > Mathematical & Statistical   #451 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Programming > Graphics & Multimedia

Customer Reviews

It's a shame that the spotlight review for this book is a tirade by a frustrated student who envies Stephen Wolfram's ability to make money. So much for 's ability to separate the wheat from the chaff!Here's my opinion: I've been a Mathematica user since 1989 and have found the various versions of the book to be essential references. Mathematica has become an indispensable tool in my work as a teacher, researcher, and consultant, and I've even written a book about Mathematica applications in my field. If I were limited to only one piece of software, this would be it (ok, an operating system would be good, too). Maybe it's because I learned to progam by writing mainframe FORTRAN programs on keypunch cards but, whatever the reason, I disagree with just about all of

the comments in the negative review. I am continually amazed at the things I can do using Mathematica and, in general, how quickly and easily I can do them.Sure, a person needs some mathematical saavy to get the most out of Mathematica. Maybe that was the negative reviewer's problem. The reason that the particular inequality of interest to him or her isn't specifically addressed may be that almost anyone with rudimentary knowledge of Mathematica, some insight into problem solving, and a curious spirit can easily think of at least three or four ways to accomplish the task at hand. I looked at his or her inequality, thought about it for a minute or two while I had a sip of coffee, and then made a contour plot in a few seconds. No need at all for Calculus Whiz, although people just learning calculus may indeed find it helpful.It is, though, important to distinguish between the quality of the book and the need to buy a copy.

As other reviewers have mentioned, the most important thing to know about this book is that it is included in electronic form with Mathematica. Some people think that's a bad thing, and if you do, too, then this book certianly isn't for you.If you're like me, you sometimes prefer to have a printed copy of documentation at your disposal. The index is useful, and the book is beautifully bound and typeset. If you like hardcopy references, you won't be disappointed in this title.The book starts out as a tutorial; it's possible to use the first 100 or so pages as an end-to-end introduction to most of Mathematica's features. The tutorial is easy to follow, though some of the steps might not be completely clear or as detailed as they should be. For example, some formula entry features aren't described until after they're used for the first time. Some functions are invoked before their description is shown, too.Perhaps worst of all, some features of the product are left unexplored while other features (which seem quite orthogonal to the discussion at hand) are mentioned more than in passing.A great example of the scope and flow problems is at the start of the chapter about Mathematica on different computers. I'd expect this section t odiscuss the difference beteen the Kernel text interface and the noteboook interface, but it doesn't; it sticks to the notebook interface, and doesn't explain how I might use the kernel interface directly. It mentions the Mathematica programming API, and even includes a code fragment demonstrating it -- but then offers no other description of the API. The text doesn't even mention where I can go to read more details, if I'm interested, later on!As a reference, the book is very useful.

The Mathematica Book, Fifth Edition Mastering Mathematica, Second Edition: Programming Methods and Applications Raspberry Pi 3: Get Started With Raspberry Pi 3 - A Simple Guide To Understanding And Programming Raspberry Pi 3 (Raspberry Pi 3 User Guide, Python

Programming, Mathematica Programming) Getting Started with Wolfram Language and Mathematica for Raspberry Pi Hands-On Start to Wolfram Mathematica Hands-On Start to Wolfram Mathematica: and Programming with the Wolfram Language Grassmann Algebra Volume 1: Foundations: Exploring extended vector algebra with Mathematica Multivariable Calculus and Mathematica: With Applications to Geometry and Physics Schaum's Outline of Mathematica, 2ed (Schaum's Outlines) The 36-Hour Day, fifth edition: The 36-Hour Day: A Family Guide to Caring for People Who Have Alzheimer Disease, Related Dementias, and Memory Loss (A Johns Hopkins Press Health Book) 5th (fifth) edition The Fifth Knight (The Fifth Knight Series Book 1) The Blood of the Fifth Knight (The Fifth Knight Series Book 2) GIS Tutorial for Health, fifth edition: Fifth Edition Theory and Practice of Group Psychotherapy, Fifth Edition 5th (fifth) edition (authors) Yalom, Irvin D., Leszcz, Molyn (2005) published by Basic Books [Hardcover] What Your Fifth Grader Needs to Know: Fundamentals of a Good Fifth-Grade Education (Core Knowledge Series) The Chrome Book (Fifth Edition): The Essential Guide to Cloud Computing with Google Chrome and the Chromebook Exercises and Projects for The Little SAS Book, Fifth Edition The 36-Hour Day, fifth edition: The 36-Hour Day: A Family Guide to Caring for People Who Have Alzheimer Disease, Related Dementias, and Memory Loss (A Johns Hopkins Press Health Book) The 36-Hour Day, fifth edition, large print: The 36-Hour Day: A Family Guide to Caring for People Who Have Alzheimer Disease, Related Dementias, and Memory Loss (A Johns Hopkins Press Health Book) The Lord of Ireland (The Fifth Knight Series Book 3)