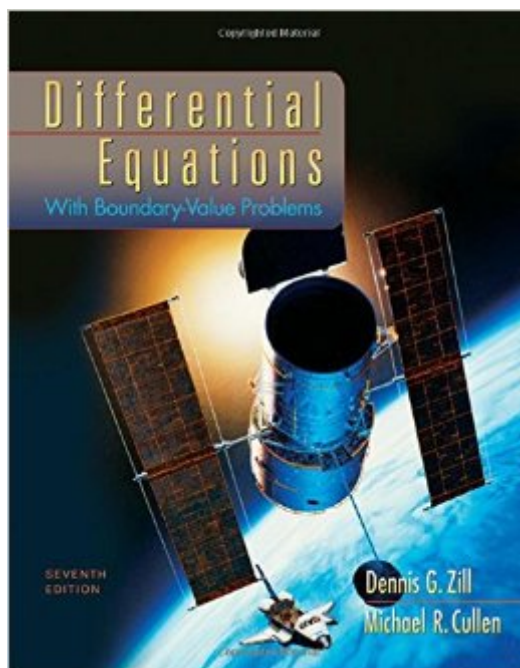


The book was found

Differential Equations With Boundary-Value Problems



Synopsis

DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS WITH BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS, 7th Edition strikes a balance between the analytical, qualitative, and quantitative approaches to the study of differential equations. This proven and accessible text speaks to beginning engineering and math students through a wealth of pedagogical aids, including an abundance of examples, explanations, "Remarks" boxes, definitions, and group projects. Using a straightforward, readable, and helpful style, this book provides a thorough treatment of boundary-value problems and partial differential equations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Zill and Cullen's book is disappointing for quite a few reasons: First, the book is written in such a way as to include too little details on a large number of topics. The book contains 15 chapters. The last 5 deal with partial differential equations, and are more than likely not covered in most classes in which this book is intended to be used for. These chapters aren't even covered in elite ODE classes (such as the one offered at MIT). However, these 5 chapters do not contain enough information on partial differential equations that this book can be used for a separate class on PDEs. Therefore, the last 5 chapters just add to the cost of an already expensive book... (Its retail price is 11 times the retail price of Dover's classic ODE book!) The aspect of this book which angers me the most is as follows: the "proofs" are, for the most part, plug-and-chug! The authors sometimes assume that a complicated formula for solving differential equations works, and then "prove" it by plugging it into

the differential equation. Although this is a legitimate way to prove a formula, there are two things wrong with it: First, there are more intelligible ways to prove a certain formula than to calculate third derivatives, collect terms, use trigonometric identities, and show that the resulting equation is an identity. Second, the reader has NO idea where the formula came from! All the reader is left with is the knowledge that the formula works. However, without the knowledge of a formula's origin, it is very easily forgettable! A classic example of this is in chapter 5.1, where the authors claim that the equation: $y = A\cos(wt) + B\sin(wt)$ can be written as $C\cos(wt + D)$.

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