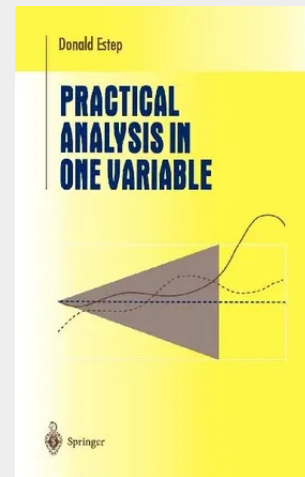


Practical Analysis in One Variable

Background I was an eighteen-year-old freshman when I began studying analysis. I had arrived at Columbia University ready to major in physics or perhaps engineering. But my seduction into mathematics began immediately with Lipman Bers' calculus course, which stood supreme in a year of exciting classes. Then after the course was over, Professor Bers called me into his office and handed me a small blue book called Principles of Mathematical Analysis by W. Rudin. He told me that if I could read this book over the summer, understand most of it, and prove it by doing most of the problems, then I might have a career as a mathematician. So began twenty years of struggle to master the ideas in "Little Rudin." I began because of a challenge to my ego but this shallow reason was quickly forgotten as I learned about the beauty and the power of analysis that summer. Anyone who recalls taking a "serious" mathematics course for the first time will empathize with my feelings about this new world into which I fell. In school, I restlessly wandered through complex analysis, analytic number theory, and partial differential equations, before eventually settling in numerical analysis. But underlying all of this indecision was an ever-present and ever-growing appreciation of analysis. An appreciation that still sustains my intellect even in the often cynical world of the modern academic professional. But developing this appreciation did not come easy to me, and the presentation in this book is motivated by my struggles to understand the basic concepts of analysis. To paraphrase J.

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