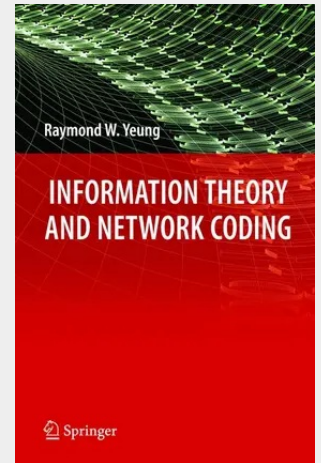


Information Theory and Network Coding

This book is an evolution from my book *A First Course in Information Theory* published in 2002 when network coding was still at its infancy. The last few years have witnessed the rapid development of network coding into a research field of its own in information science. With its root in information theory, network coding has not only brought about a paradigm shift in network communications at large, but also had significant influence on such specific research fields as coding theory, networking, switching, wireless communications, distributed data storage, cryptography, and optimization theory. While new applications of network coding keep emerging, the fundamental results that lay the foundation of the subject are more or less mature. One of the main goals of this book therefore is to present these results in a unifying and coherent manner. While the previous book focused only on information theory for discrete random variables, the current book contains two new chapters on information theory for continuous random variables, namely the chapter on differential entropy and the chapter on continuous-valued channels. With these topics included, the book becomes more comprehensive and is more suitable to be used as a textbook for a course in an electrical engineering department.

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