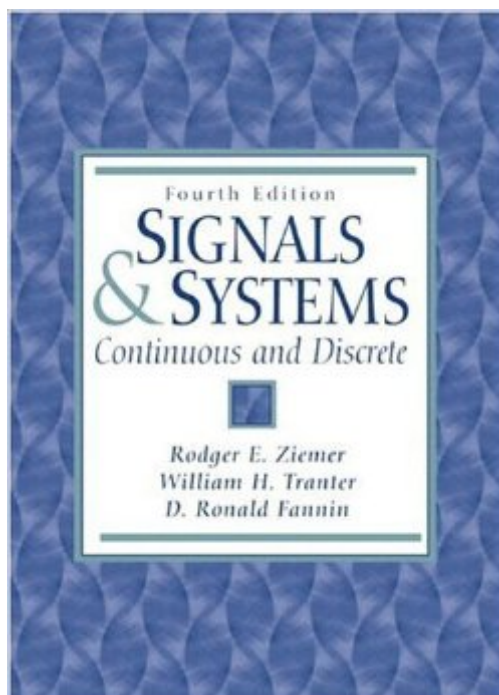


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# Signals And Systems: Continuous And Discrete (4th Edition)



## Synopsis

A market leader in previous editions, this book continues to offer a complete survey of continuous and discrete linear systems. It utilizes a systems approach to solving practical engineering problems, rather than using the framework of traditional circuit theory. Numerous examples from circuit theory appear throughout, however, to illustrate the various systems techniques introduced. The Fourth Edition has been thoroughly updated to effectively integrate the use of computers and to accurately reflect the latest theoretical advances.

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## Customer Reviews

This is one of those books that a lot of people hate. Most people that hate it, from what I've seen, also hated the course or the topic. If you really want to understand signals and systems, and by this I don't mean using cookie-cutter recipes, buy this book. This book skips nothing. Everything is proven using math. The proofs and tables are some of the few tidbits from my undergraduate career that I still find myself looking back on. This book never leaves my desk. This book doesn't contain flowery, colorful diagrams. There aren't any clip-art chapter title pages. There aren't TI-89 programs or java examples, and there isn't a CD included. (Mine is the 3rd edition, so maybe this has changed). So if you wanted a picturebook, look elsewhere. In my opinion, this is the best introductory text for a Signals and Systems course, and a very useful book for any engineer looking to learn DSP or digital communications. Even all-analog guys will get a lot of mileage out of the concepts. If you find this text frustrating, clear your mind, and get a pad of paper, a pencil, and this textbook, and just start

working the examples and proofs, beginning with where you feel lost. If you're willing to put in the time (it may be several hours), it'll be worth it in the end. This book imparts a lot of intuition about signals and is well worth the sweat.

I took two undergraduate courses based on the first edition of this book during my Junior year in the BSEE curriculum. It is without a doubt a mathematically oriented book as any signals & systems textbook should be. The tie into real world problems though present were in fact lacking in the first edition in my opinion and left to follow-on courses in communications or image processing. That said this book does what it is supposed to do: Introduce the student to the mathematical modeling and characterization of signals and systems. It's thorough treatment of the Fourier, LaPlace transformation, including the derivation of many transform pairs, forces the student to understand the mathematical basis of the unique time-frequency domain properties of numerous system input and response functions. The second semester continues that trend with the z-transform, discrete Fourier transform and the FFT. During graduate work several years later, I called upon the knowledge acquired during my undergraduate work, and specifically this book, to literally cruise ahead of my classmates on numerous tests and courses. On several occasions, I literally looked around the room during tests to witness fellow graduate classmates stumped. Ziemer, Tranter & Fannin, did a good job creating this book and with Bobby Betton's instruction (RIP), they helped many students understand and excel in mathematically challenging courses. 20+ years into my career, I find myself referring to this book again for its relevance to my work.

If I was a tree, I would be upset that some of my fellow trees made the ultimate sacrifice to become the paper that is used in this piece of trash someone pawned off as a textbook for a signals and systems course. I really expected a lot more from authors coming from the University of Colorado and VA Tech. This book completely tarnishes the names of those fine schools. The book is poorly organized, poorly written and the proofs for most of the equations are given as problems at the end of the chapter. Most of the examples that are given are special cases and can not be used for things that are more common in real life. Footnotes often take up more than half a page making the book extremely hard to read and comprehend. The vocabulary is such that the authors explain the words used in the text over and over. This book is one notch below useless. If I could I would rate it minus two stars. In an effort to save my grade for the course using this book I went ahead and purchased two other books in the hope to supplement this one. At the end of this semester I am burning this book to prevent it from spreading the pain and frustration it has caused me onto other people. If you

have a choice, I highly recommend that you do not buy this book.

Text is somewhat difficult to read compared to similar titles. Author frequently only solves problems with a "twist" then only offers a limited number of problems at the end of the chapter.

I was really surprised by some of the negative comments written on this book, and that is why I decided to write this comment. This book was the one assigned to the undergraduate course I took entitled Signals and Systems. In fact, this book made me like communications and signal processing, and I believe that it motivated me a lot (beside the other book by Ziemer & Tranter entitled Principles of Communication Systems: Modulation, Noise, Systems, 4th edition) to go for the graduate studies in communications and signal processing. What I liked about the two books was that they assume NO prior knowledge of the topics covered and they move on smoothly from one subject to another so that the student will have a better understanding of the "big picture" as he/she moves on. Well, I guess that the other "negative" comments about this book were written by students who expected to understand the topics covered in this book from one skim read. Let me say that that is NOT the case here. In order to understand the topics covered very well, you should read them more than once and try to solve as many problems as possible. But trust me on this: once you do so, you will grasp the material very well and will have a "feel" of what is going on.

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