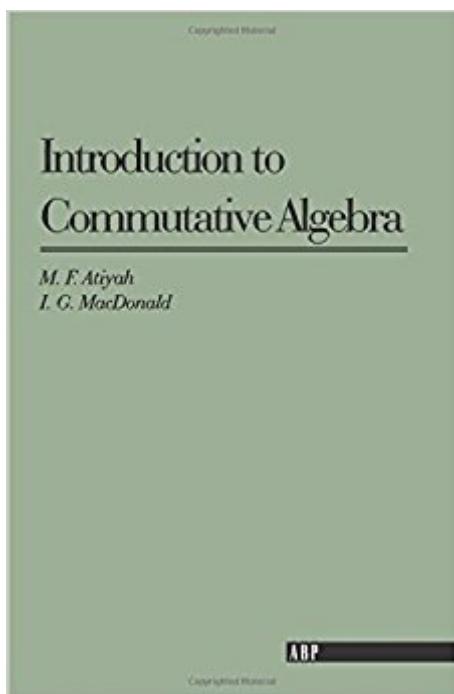


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Introduction To Commutative Algebra (Addison-Wesley Series In Mathematics)



Synopsis

This book grew out of a course of lectures given to third year undergraduates at Oxford University and it has the modest aim of producing a rapid introduction to the subject. It is designed to be read by students who have had a first elementary course in general algebra. On the other hand, it is not intended as a substitute for the more voluminous tracts such as Zariski-Samuel or Bourbaki. We have concentrated on certain central topics, and large areas, such as field theory, are not touched. In content we cover rather more ground than Northcott and our treatment is substantially different in that, following the modern trend, we put more emphasis on modules and localization.

Book Information

Series: Addison-Wesley Series in Mathematics

Paperback: 138 pages

Publisher: Westview Press (February 21, 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0201407515

ISBN-13: 978-0201407518

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.3 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #237,046 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 in Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Reference #897 in Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Mathematics > Algebra & Trigonometry #1062 in Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Pure Mathematics > Algebra

Customer Reviews

Now this is clearly *the* best mathematics text I've come upon. It was the syllabus in my first course in commutative algebra. Taking the course and reading the book was a real pain, but I've never learned so much from so few pages. In addition to introducing "all" necessary subjects in commutative algebra, the book is stuffed with really good exercises. I always come back to this book - looking up terms and definitions and proofs. And of course, taking it with me on holidays so I can work on the exercises :).

Wonderful books. But sadly, the Kindle Edition is full of mistakes and typos such as missing a '.

Love the exercises. They supplement the exposition so well that together they produce magic.

I was foolish enough to buy the book used (given other reviews on how bad the printing is) thinking I might get an older edition but no. Printing looks like a cheap copy and at times not even readable. Do not buy!

Prompt shipping. Product as described

good

This book is a classic of outstanding clarity and there is nothing that needs to be said about the content of this book that has not already been said elsewhere. I am reviewing this book because of the printing quality of this edition. I am outraged. The cost of the printing is clearly below 2 pounds and the book is barely readable. Yet it is being sold for 40 pounds. This is an insult to both the reader and the authors. What annoys me most is that I realised too late that I could return it even though it arrived undamaged. I want my money back. This is a disgrace.

This is a very good, short and useful account of basic commutative algebra, by two famous algebraic geometers (one a Fields medalist) that has long been recommended as unusually accessible to students. Unfortunately such books have been shamelessly inflated in price in recent years, and I for one agree that this book's price has now exceeded its value. It is after all, an outline of material explained in more detail elsewhere, and it would be an unusually well off student who can be recommended to choose this book at this price. For about the same money one can buy both of Miles Reid's books, *Undergraduate commutative algebra*, and *Undergraduate algebraic geometry*, and probably be better off, or the very well regarded second attempt at explaining the topic by Matsumura, *Commutative ring theory*. Eisenbud's massive tome at over 5 times the length is now about half as expensive, at around \$35. Even Hartshorne's standard algebraic geometry book, which at least states all the commutative algebra results needed, is cheaper. I regret to say this since the book really is a good one, but the authors are being embarrassed and their students are being exploited here by this pricing policy. One should not encourage this kind of blackmail by publishers. In fact I just noticed the classic work by Zariski and Samuel is available used for \$50 or less for both volumes! Last time I taught the course I found myself preferring that fuller version to the one under review. I suggest going there instead.

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