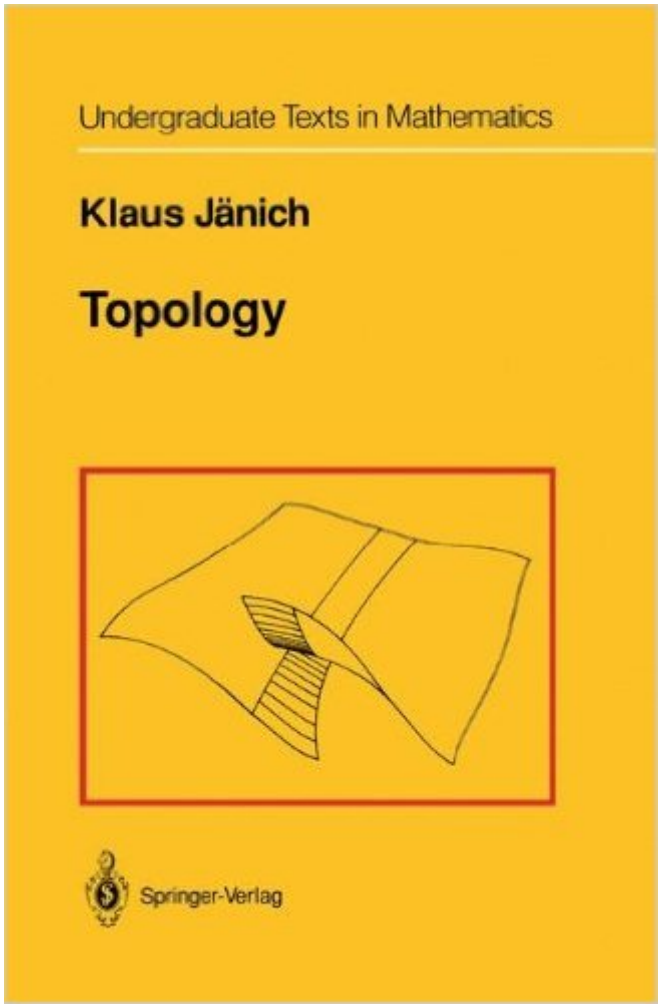
Topology (Undergraduate Texts In Mathematics)



Synopsis

Contents: Introduction. - Fundamental Concepts. - Topological Vector Spaces.- The Quotient Topology. - Completion of Metric Spaces. - Homotopy. - The Two Countability Axioms. - CW-Complexes. - Construction of Continuous Functions on Topological Spaces. - Covering Spaces. - The Theorem of Tychonoff. - Set Theory (by T. Br|cker). - References. - Table of Symbols. -Index.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

While I agree with the other reviewers here that Jaenich's "Topology" is very well written, goes to great lengths to explain the "hows and whys" of topology, and includes many, many figures (about 1 per page on average), it is probably more popular with people who already know topology than with beginning students, even though it is an introductory text intended for undergraduates. This is due to both a frequent lack of precision or formality in proofs and definitions coupled with a tendency to discuss much more advanced material with which a student at this level wouldn't be familiar. I believe that experienced mathematicians, who perhaps learned point-set topology from books such as those of Munkres, Kelley, or Bredon (or even an analysis book such as Royden), appreciate how this book focuses on motivating the concepts, explaining how the various objects are used elsewhere in mathematics - for that purpose this is one of the finest books I have seen. However, too much material is mentioned that is certainly over the heads of most students new to topology, such as the Pontrjagin-Thom construction, the spectrum of commutative Banach algebras, or Lie

groups, often in a very cursory manner that would serve only to confuse beginners. Concepts are often used before they are defined, or are not defined precisely, which is liable to frustrate these students as well. Many topics are given such short attention it makes you wonder why the author even bothered - such as a page devoted to Frechet spaces followed by a section consisting of a single paragraph on locally convex topological vector spaces. Much of the material is not covered very deeply - only a definition and maybe a theorem, which half the time isn't even proved but just cited.