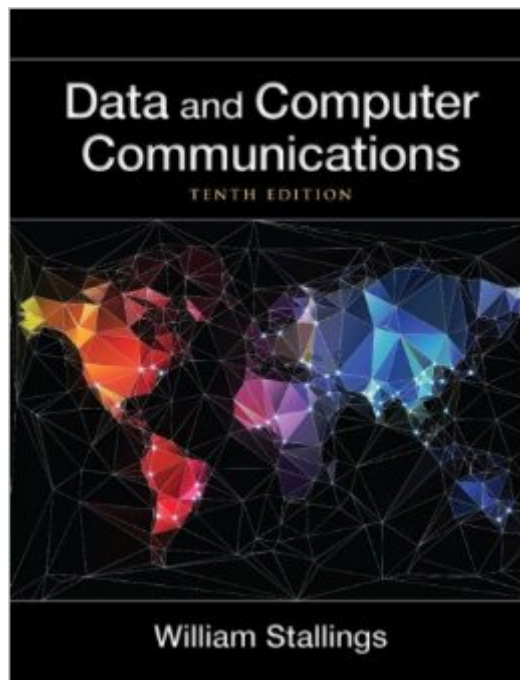


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Data And Computer Communications (10th Edition) (William Stallings Books On Computer And Data Communications)



Synopsis

Data and Computer Communications, 10e, is a two-time winner of the best Computer Science and Engineering textbook of the year award from the Textbook and Academic Authors Association. It is ideal for one/two-semester courses in Computer Networks, Data Communications, and Communications Networks in CS, CIS, and Electrical Engineering departments. This book is also suitable for Product Development personnel, Programmers, Systems Engineers, Network Designers and others involved in the design of data communications and networking products. With a focus on the most current technology and a convenient modular format, this best-selling text offers a clear and comprehensive survey of the entire data and computer communications field. Emphasizing both the fundamental principles as well as the critical role of performance in driving protocol and network design, it explores in detail all the critical technical areas in data communications, wide-area networking, local area networking, and protocol design.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book has been heaven sent for me, mainly because of my background. I have a EE background and I have been always wanting to know about the data networks. The first and the second parts of the book deals with the signalling and transmission media and also the basics of the data networks like data link control. I found these sections (mainly signalling) very weak and sub

standard, but most of the CS students in the class were scratching their heads complaining that it was too complicated. The best thing in these sections is the data link control (just spectacular). The remaining parts of the books have covered data networks. Now some seasoned networking person would find these parts very abstract and not enough depth in it, but a novice that I was in data networks, I loved it. The three sections are: WAN, LAN, Security and Internet and protocols. The discussion on WAN/ATM is boring. The best part of the book is in fact the LAN section. Internet protocols are also well defined. Other strengths of the book:

1. A very smooth and progressive transition from the switched network discussion to the data networks discussion.
2. Some of the problems are pretty challenging and make you think beyond what you read in the book, some of the analytical problems are great.
3. Very analytical.

Weaknesses:

1. Typical Stallings book, covers too much without going in the depth in any single topic.
2. The book spends almost equal time on all the technologies, some of the hot topics need to be discussed more and the obsolete topics are not supposed to be discussed that much (typical Stallings) an example is token ring and ethernet have an equal amount of discussion, even though token ring is out.
- 3.

This is a good classic work in the field. My father has been a microwave communications technician for decades, and he praised his copy of a much earlier edition of this book. I am a mathematician picking up some computer science coursework, and have noticed a few errors in the book and accompanying solutions manual, and it surprises me that these would go unnoticed so long as to survive into the ninth edition. The last two sentences at the bottom of page 109 contradict one another. I discussed Problem 15.4 on page 475 with my instructor, who shared with me the approach followed in the solutions manual. In the manual, it is assumed that the average distance between stations is .375 km. The reasoning used to support this, which sounds very convincing, is in fact wrong, as average distance to a receiving station does NOT decrease LINEARLY as the transmitting station moves away from the endpoints of the bus. It actually decreases in a parabolic fashion. You can use a little calculus to show that the average distance between stations approaches $\frac{1}{3}$ km as the number of stations increases. That's an error in estimation of 12.5%. While it makes only an insignificant difference in the context of the given problem (induces an error of less than 1% in the final solution), that error would be appreciable were the transmission speed higher or the bus longer. The author's presentation of probability concepts in Chapter 24 leaves a lot to be desired. Figure 24.6 on page 780 is misleading. The "overlap region" should be depicted as a region on the axis, not as an overlapping of areas under probability density function graphs. My instructor shared the solutions manual answers to problem 24.

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