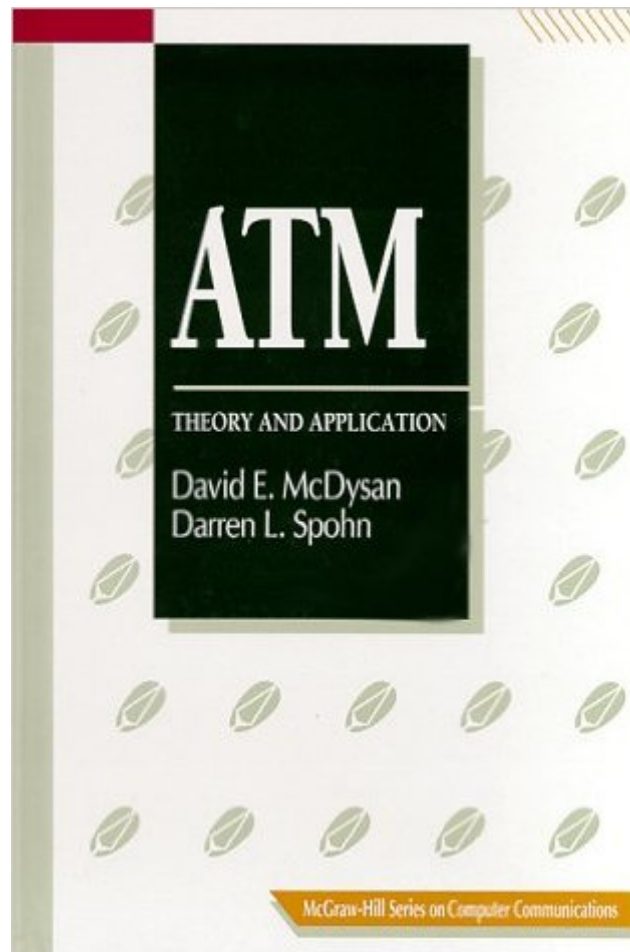


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ATM: Theory And Application (Mcgraw-Hill Series On Computer Communications)



Synopsis

This is a working manual of the theory and practical use of asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) technology and ATM-based services. Providing a real-life approach to the technology, this guide offers a high-level summary of all ATM protocols and services. It explains why ATM will provide standard protocol for voice, video and data integration in the 21st century. Also covered are the nuts-and-bolts of ATM network planning, congestion control and traffic engineering, as well as the source of each standard, and information on where to find additional details within the standards.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I turned to this book to understand how the various ATM functions work. I had quite a bit of both practical and conceptual networking background prior to opening this book. As such, I've read quite a number of good and bad technical books on various networking topics. If you'd rather not read the rest of this review here's the gist. Don't buy this book. Instead, buy Oliver C. Ibe's 'Essentials of ATM Networks and Services'. After you've mastered that, use Mark Miller's 'Analyzing Broadband Networks' to see how ATM Layer PDUs are put together and exchanged in various situations like call setup/teardown etc. Here's the rest of the review. Within minutes of reading, I got that old My-Head-Is-Swimming feeling. Not because I couldn't understand what the authors were saying, but more so because I couldn't figure out why on earth I was reading stuff that was irrelevant. Here are a few cases in point: Every ATM book I've thumbed through religiously talks about the B-ISDN

model. And when it starts explaining how something in ATM actually works (say SSCOP), there is no reference to any of the terms that were introduced and defined in talking about the B-ISDN model. Why talk about the model at all then? This book is no exception. The vast number of initial pages (285 in fact!) dedicated to talking about things like X.25, FR, multiplexing schemes etc. are useless. If you don't know this stuff, you have no business reading a book dedicated to ATM. And if you're just learning this stuff, there's no way you're going to really understand ATM. And of course, these authors couldn't resist the whole 'business drivers for ATM' nonsense. The only redeeming part about the book was Chapter 25 on Traffic Engineering.

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