

# Proof-Based Math Readings

## Session: Optimization\*

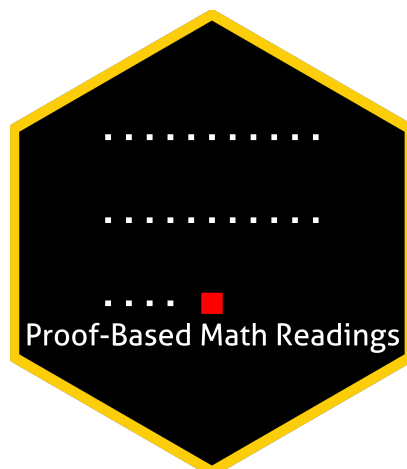
**Zeki Akyol**

Department of Economics  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
[Click here for the most recent version](#)

Version: 01 February 2026, 08:20 PM

### Table of contents

<b>0</b>	<b>Motivation</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Prerequisites and Format</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1	Main Book and Main Book's Playlist . . . . .	2
2.2	Supplementary . . . . .	2
2.2.1	Optimization . . . . .	2
2.2.2	Proof Techniques . . . . .	2
2.2.3	Real Analysis . . . . .	2
<b>3</b>	<b>Reading Schedule</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Further Readings (Optional)</b>	<b>3</b>





---

\*[zekiakyol.com](http://zekiakyol.com)

## 0 Motivation

- *Proof-Based Math Readings* is a free, independent online reading group where we study the mathematics required for economics master's and PhD programs through an intuitive approach. Active since May 2023.
- This session of the reading group is on *Optimization*.




## 1 Prerequisites and Format

- Proof Techniques resources below.
- Please use the  **Application Form** to join our reading group; you will receive a response within a week.
- This session takes 12 weeks. We do not have face-to-face/online meetings due to the size of the group.
- Members read the main book and discuss the topics/exercises in the Proof-Based Math Readings Discord .

## 2 Resources

### 2.1 Main Book and Main Book's Playlist

**A First Course in Optimization Theory - Rangarajan K. Sundaram (1996)** is our main book because it is well-written and well-structured.



-  A First Course in Optimization Theory - Rangarajan K. Sundaram (1996)
-  **A First Course in Optimization Theory - Rangarajan K. Sundaram (1996, Solutions by Frederick Robinson)**
-  A First Course in Optimization Theory - Rangarajan K. Sundaram (1996, Solutions by Paolo Pin)

### 2.2 Supplementary

#### 2.2.1 Optimization

-  Foundations for Optimization - Mark Walker (2020)
-  Optimization - Mark Walker (2020)

#### 2.2.2 Proof Techniques











-  Book of Proof - Richard Hammack (3.4 Edition, 2025)
-  Book of Proof - Richard Hammack (3.4 Edition, 2025, Playlist by Jeremy Teitelbaum)
-  Book of Proof - Richard Hammack (3.4 Edition, 2025, Playlist by Michael Penn)

#### 2.2.3 Real Analysis



-  Basic Analysis I: Introduction to Real Analysis - Jiri Lebl (Version 6.2, 2025)
-  Basic Analysis I: Introduction to Real Analysis - Jiri Lebl (Version 6.2, 2025, Playlist by Casey Rodriguez)
-  Introduction To Metric Spaces - Paige Bright (2023)

### 3 Reading Schedule

AFCOT is the abbreviation of **A First Course in Optimization Theory** - Rangarajan K. Sundaram (1996).

 <b>AFCOT</b>	<b>Week 01-02</b> 
Appendix A: Set Theory and Logic: An Introduction Appendix B: The Real Line Appendix C: Structures on Vector Spaces Chapter 1: Mathematical Preliminaries	
 <b>AFCOT</b>	<b>Week 03-04</b> 
Chapter 2: Optimization in $\mathbb{R}^n$	
 <b>AFCOT</b>	<b>Week 05-06</b> 
Chapter 3: Existence of Solutions: The Weierstrass Theorem Chapter 4: Unconstrained Optima	
 <b>AFCOT</b>	<b>Week 07-08-09</b> 
Chapter 5: Equality Constraints and the Theorem of Lagrange Chapter 6: Inequality Constraints and the Theorem of Kuhn and Tucker	
 <b>AFCOT</b>	<b>Week 10-11-12</b> 
Chapter 7: Convex Structures in Optimization Theory Chapter 8: Quasi-Convexity and Optimization	

### 4 Further Readings (Optional)

 Optimization by Vector Space Methods - David G. Luenberger (1997)
 <a href="#">Optimization by Vector Space Methods - David G. Luenberger (1997, Playlist by Peter Galbacs)</a>