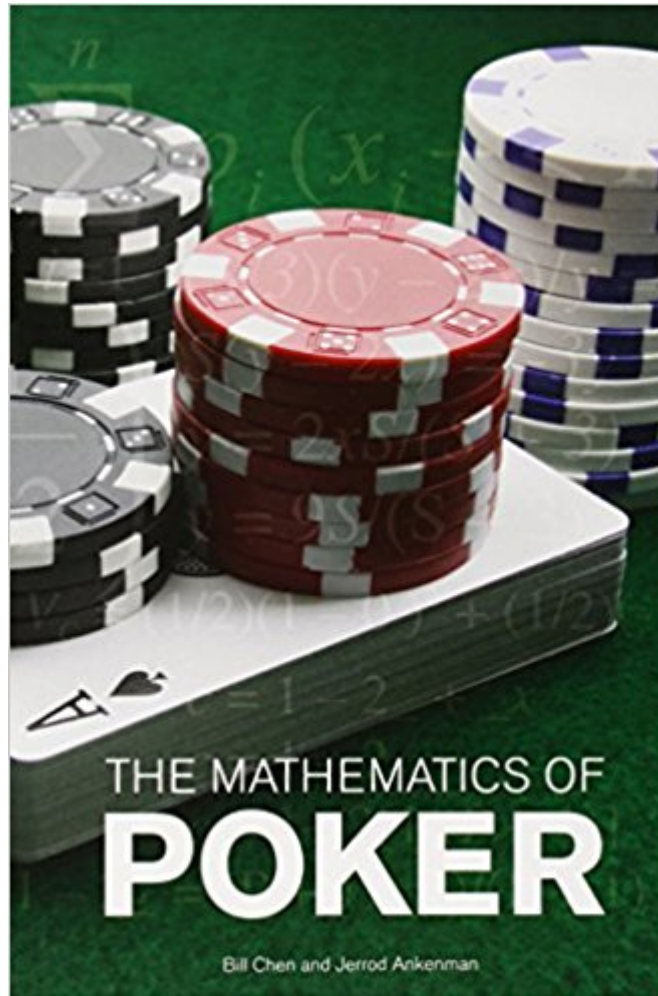




The book was found

# The Mathematics Of Poker



## Synopsis

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the bond and option markets were dominated by traders who had learned their craft by experience. They believed that their experience and intuition for trading were a renewable edge; this is, that they could make money just as they always had by continuing to trade as they always had. By the mid-1990s, a revolution in trading had occurred; the old school grizzled traders had been replaced by a new breed of quantitative analysts, applying mathematics to the "art" of trading and making of it a science. Similarly in poker, for decades, the highest level of poker has been dominated by players who have learned the game by playing it, "road gamblers" who have cultivated intuition for the game and are adept at reading other players' hands from betting patterns and physical tells. Over the last five to ten years, a whole new breed has risen to prominence within the poker community. Applying the tools of computer science and mathematics to poker and sharing the information across the Internet, these players have challenged many of the assumptions that underlie traditional approaches to the game. One of the most important features of this new approach is a reliance on quantitative analysis and the application of mathematics to the game. The intent of this book is to provide an introduction to quantitative techniques as applied to poker and to a branch of mathematics that is particularly applicable to poker, game theory. There are mathematical techniques that can be applied for poker that are difficult and complex. But most of the mathematics of poker is really not terribly difficult, and the authors have sought to make seemingly difficult topics accessible to players without a very strong mathematical background.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"For those who think poker math is only about probability, pot odds, and straightforward, rote play, think again. Chen and Ankenman do a terrific job explaining how math can, among other things, show you exactly how to mix up your play in such a way that even champion players cannot get the best of you. Especially those who don't read this book." -- David Sklansky "Rear Cover"

I really didn't expect to like this book. Honestly, the only reason I bought it was because I like to read everything that my opponents possibly have read. I don't want them to have an edge simply because I slept on something. So I thought: "Fine, I'll read this book. But I'm not going to like it." Boy, was I wrong. This might be the most thoughtful and intelligent poker book that I have ever read. I learned poker by using my instincts, not math. So I expected to disagree with a lot of what this book would present. On the contrary, the opposite took place. Not only was I agreeing with the authors, it also reinforced what I had figured out intuitively on my own. Instead of contradicting my play, it reinforced that what I was doing was usually correct. I haven't taken a math class since high school pre-calc in 1998, and I did alright. I didn't understand ALL the math in these pages, but one doesn't need to. As long as you get the gist of what they're saying and can apply it to poker, which an intelligent person should be able to do, you'll be fine. If you find yourself lost without a map (which you probably will at some point in the book), take a break and come back to it. Flipping through this at your local book store, you might be intimidated by all the charts, graphs and equations. Don't be. Just buy it, read it with an open mind, and watch your poker game soar.

Great and analytic book, but you better be ready to be in the math zone when you read this! For me a casual player that isn't particularly math inclined, I had to read and absorb, then read more then absorb, etc. Overall, I would recommend this book to help you develop the math side of your game and take yourself to the next level....especially if you're an online player where math is more important since that's the primary way you gain your edge.

Good research book.

Although this book was first published in 2006, all of it's content is still applicable today in 2013, which is when I first decided to read it. All of the math content in this book is a must-know if you want to crush poker. I have read over 20 poker books and watched over 100 poker training videos. I have a degree in Computer Engineering and math is my strong point - THIS WAS A TOUGH BOOK TO READ! The reason it was tough was because of all the math proofs. If you've ever taken a

college calculus course, usually your professor will go over the proofs in class, step-by-step, and you can follow along and ask questions and the final result makes sense. Reading this book is like picking up a calculus book and trying to learn it on your own. If you are like me and have trouble following along with the proofs, then you may just want to skip to the results in some of the chapters. The results are golden, even if you just have to take on blind faith that the authors proofs are indeed accurate, which I believe they are. Chapters 10 through 21 are the meat of this book, and the basis for Game Theory in Poker, which is the #1 reason I bought this book. 5 Stars for Content, 3 Stars for readability.

Excellent book on the mathematics of poker. This book requires a fair level of mathematical sophistication to get all of the nuances but it is worth the read.

Sophisticated treatment of poker math. Includes the standard exploitive math (outs, pot odds, etc.) and also covers game theory.

A bit advanced but very interesting and will add to your game immensely. He does try to keep it simple and does a good job.

Great book

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