Complex analysis, by L. V. Ahlfors, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1953, 12 + 247 pp., $5.00

In American universities the course in complex analysis is often used to review advanced calculus with modern standards of rigor. This procedure, which clearly has certain disadvantages, is to some extent forced on our graduate schools, and it is for such a course that this text is written. In complex analysis the temptation to base proofs on intuitive arguments is especially strong. It is a challenge to make the proofs simple and intuitively clear, and at the same time such that the reader can easily fill in the steps of a formal argument. The author has met this challenge in a masterful way.

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... The book is an important contribution to mathematical literature. At every turn one sees the care and ingenuity which the author has used to make his proofs rigorous and readable. The book is intended for the conscientious student, and it will repay him well for the hours that he may spend with it.

A. C. SCHAEFFER

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