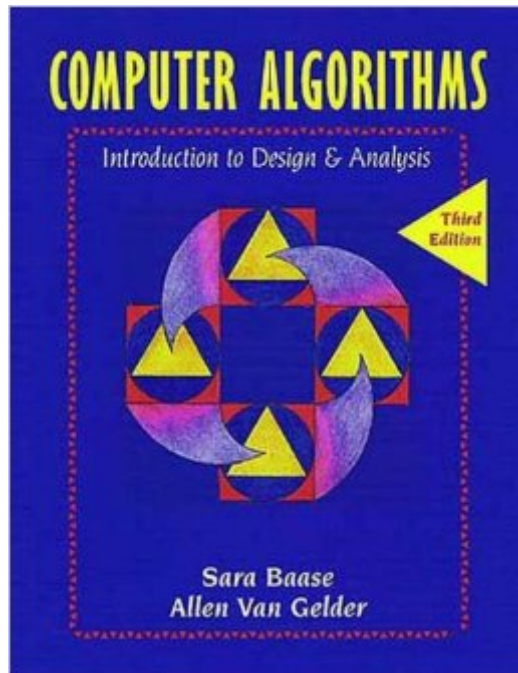


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Computer Algorithms: Introduction To Design And Analysis (3rd Edition)



Synopsis

have extensively revised this best seller on algorithm design and analysis to make it the most current and accessible book available. This edition features an increased emphasis on algorithm design techniques such as divide-and-conquer and greedy algorithms, along with the addition of new topics and exercises. It continues the tradition of solid mathematical analysis and clear writing style that made it so popular in previous editions. Highlights

- *Emphasizes the development of algorithms through a step-by-step process rather than merely presenting the end result
- * Stresses the importance of the algorithm analysis process-continuously re-evaluating, modifying, and perhaps rejecting algorithms until a satisfactory solution is attained
- * Provides extensive treatment of recursion with a clear, student-friendly review of how it works and why it is a valuable programming technique
- * Uses a Java-like pseudocode; includes an appendix with Java examples

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Customer Reviews

I have encountered far worst textbooks than this one. However, it is true that this text can be hard to follow at times. That's not because the subject matter is hard, but because the explanations are not the best. Sometimes, it seemed that the authors had confused themselves or were determined to explain the most convoluted possible approach to a problem. A word of wisdom to people making hiring decisions for computer science professorships: Mathematicians and programmers are NOT synonymous. So, some of the explanations are a bit serpentine, but where this book really shines in

the lameness category is its attempt at Java coding. In the style typical of academics, the Java is written as if it were C. (Like the guy in the Dos Equis commercials, who can speak "French, in Russian," the authors are determined to write C, in Java.) No attention whatsoever is paid to Java coding conventions. Perhaps that is because of the age of the book - in 2000, Java wasn't entirely new, but it was new-ish, and C was far better established. I found variable and method names to be very cryptic at times. Also, their approach to programming is extremely verbose. Their coding style, combined with their penchant for eclectic solutions, produces lessons that seem like a road trip by unicycle from Seattle to Vancouver, by way of Miami Beach. All in all, this book is NOT the unmitigated disaster some have painted it as. The authors seem to have gone out of their way to make the book approachable. But their way of thinking about some topics is not likely to bear much resemblance to the way I think most people work things out.

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