Database Processing: Fundamentals, Design, And Implementation, Ninth Edition
Synopsis

Database Processing, 9/E provides a solid, modern foundation in the fundamentals of database processing. This new edition proves to be the most comprehensive revision of the book yet, with expanded and updated treatment of cutting-edge technologies like XML and ADO.NET. ADO.NET, SQL, SQL Server, XML, Oracle, the entity-relationship model, database management, database redesign. For database administrators, database designers, application programmers, or other professionals in the field who want a complete, up-to-date, easy-to-use database book.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This textbook is, without question, one of the WORST I've ever come across - and I've read many. Not only have I had a significant amount of education (I'm currently working on a second master's degree) but have also spent many years teaching others (including graduate level courses). Considering that this is the ninth edition, it's hard to understand why anyone would continue to use it as an "introductory" text. Even the headings found on reviews from the last edition clearly highlight just some of the numerous problems that remain in this obscenely overpriced book; these include statements such as: * Miserable Book* Avoid - do NOT use book as reference do NOT use in a class! * Not for the faint of heart* Author knows, the rest of us guess* NOT a good book for beginnersThere have been so many complaints in my own introductory database class, that our instructor is now actively seeking another text to use instead of this one. So, what exactly is wrong
with this book? Plenty! Examples:

1. Verbose to an extreme - rambling discussions regarding topics that are only remotely related to the topic being covered.
2. Examples are filled with mistakes or are just plain wrong. My copy is now filled with corrections and comments from my instructor to NOT use the examples provided.
3. Chapter "summaries" are, more often than not, two or more full pages of solid text - and these are just the "summaries." Neither the author nor the editors of this book seem cognizant of just what a summary is - ever heard of bullet points, guys?
4. One of the most basic, primary, characteristics of quality teaching is the ability to "teach a little and then apply it.

I use this book to teach database course as part of information systems management program. The update to the 9th edition is a big relief to me since it makes considerable improvement from the 8th edition, though I still feel disappointed time by time during my preparation and teaching. The 9th edition perhaps is a quick fix to the 8th edition and a lot remain to be corrected or improved.

First, let me discuss some of the strengths of this book as textbook. This book covers not only relational database itself, but also the database applications, which is essential to build an in-depth understanding of database technology. It covers managing Oracle and SQL Server in two separate chapters, which makes it easier for instructors to tailor the book. It has extensive coverage of database access technologies that enhance the understanding of database processing if the presentation of such material is improved.

This book does contain quite a few vague and confusing discussions on some important issues and concepts, even to subjects as basic as entity, entity class and entity instance. This makes the book sometimes difficult for beginners and students and irritating for experienced practitioners.

In my opinion, the author sometimes deliver material without enough consideration of the course flow or the style of the book. For instance, the discussion of the synthesis of relations is in a very different tone from the rest of the book. There are many occasions like this one that cause this book unnecessary difficult to read. Though the book has devoted entire two chapters to Oracle and SQL Server, it fails to provide an adequate coverage of database industry, vendors and products. It does not provide good overview for the architectures Oracle and SQL Server, either.

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