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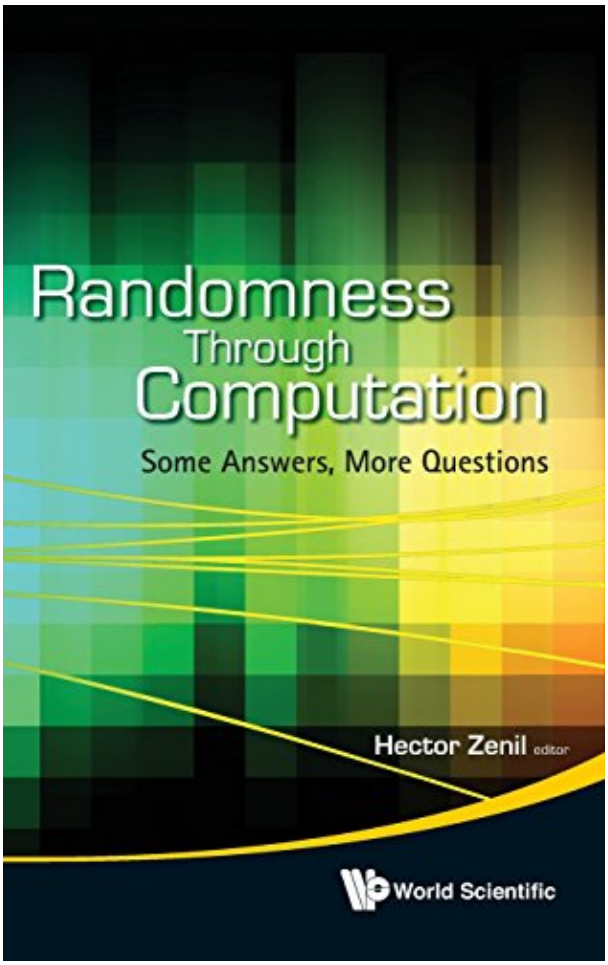

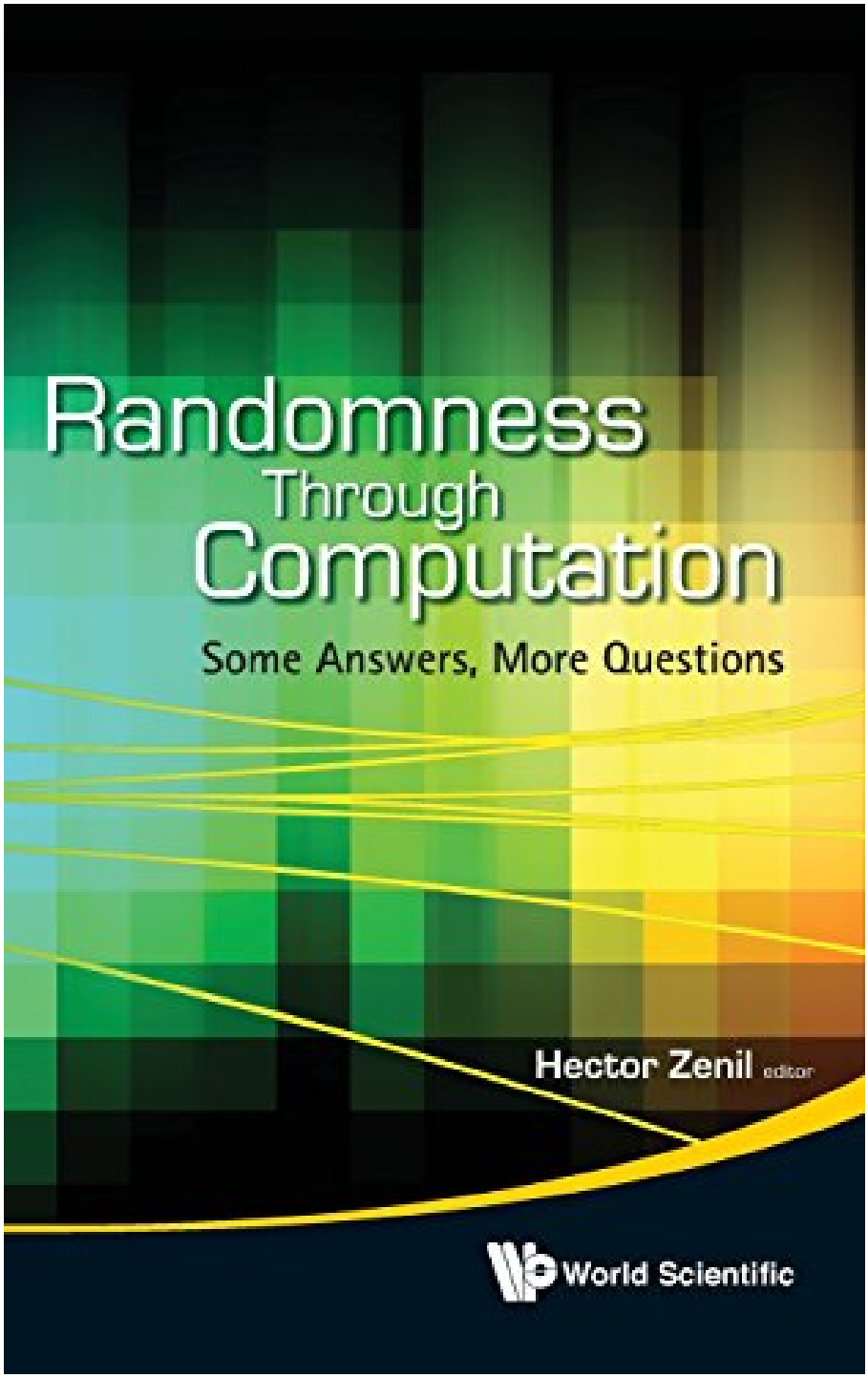

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Review

"I couldn't put this book down. Its presentation of a computational approach to randomness, with its strong focus on applications, is the best I have read. It is carefully edited and comprises several chapters most of them are by leading experts, and some are even the founders of their respective fields ... I thoroughly enjoyed reading this gem of a book. Its target audience includes post-graduates and researchers in CS, statistics, applied mathematics, and related disciplines. It is surely a must-have book for any scientific library. Apart from research, the book also serves pedagogical and philosophical interests."-- ACM Computing Reviews

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The following are the sections in which the contributions have been grouped: Stochastic Randomness and Probabilistic Deliberations | Randomness and Computation in Connection to the Physical World | Algorithmic Inference and Artificial Intelligence | Computational Complexity, Randomized Algorithms and Applications.
Excerpt from ACM Computing Reviews. Date Reviewed: 22 Feb, 2012:
I couldn't put this book down. Its presentation of a computational approach to randomness, with its strong focus on applications, is the best I have read. It is carefully edited and comprises several chapters--most of them are by leading experts, and some are even the founders of their respective fields....I thoroughly enjoyed reading this gem of a book. Its target audience includes post-graduates and researchers in CS, statistics, applied mathematics, and related disciplines. It is surely a must-have book for any scientific library. Apart from research, the book also serves pedagogical and philosophical interests.Reviewer: Soubhik ChakrabortyACM Review #: CR139897
Full review online at the ACM Computing Reviews website.

- Sales Rank: #3979694 in Books
- Published on: 2011-02-11
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.10" h x 1.10" w x 6.10" l, 1.65 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 440 pages

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Remarkable in its breadth
By Rod Downey

There is a current fascination with randomness and techniques using randomness to understand nature, biology, physics, mathematics, etc. This book is a collection of essays of varying length about randomness together with two long panel discussions at the end about whether the universe is computable and the nature of randomness. At this point I must give a disclaimer, in that I am the author of one of the articles; however, I will write this review based on the articles that are not mine! The articles are by many of the leading lights in a remarkable diverse collections of areas related to this topic. There are experts here in physics talking about things like quantum mechanics, and the Copenhagen interpretation and the nature of space time. There are experts in the area of algorithmic randomness where we try to give meaning to the notion that an individual sequence is random.

There are leading computer scientists who discuss relationships of randomness to algorithms and the relationship to things like computational complexity (meaning the intrinsic difficulty of computational processes when resources are used). There are articles by philosophers, and articles by people using probabilistic techniques in number theory. There is a lot more. The book grew from an earlier one planned by Zenil called ``Randomness: 5 questions", which asked authors how they got into mathematics/computer

science/biology/physics etc, what are the big questions etc. This format gives the reader some idea as to the topics discussed in the book, though authors have not stuck to that format. It is a book aimed at the general scientist/philosopher/mathematically literate
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