



Explorations in Computing: An Introduction to Computer Science and Python Programming (Chapman & Hall/CRC Textbooks in Computing)

By John S. Conery

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An Active Learning Approach to Teaching the Main Ideas in Computing

Explorations in Computing: An Introduction to Computer Science and

Python Programming teaches computer science students how to use programming skills to explore fundamental concepts and computational approaches to solving problems. The book gives beginning students an introduction to computer science concepts and computer programming. Designed for CS0 and CS1 courses, it is very well suited for alternative lecture styles, including flipped classrooms.

Prepares Students for Advanced Work in Computer Science

A revised and updated version of the author's *Explorations in Computing: An Introduction to Computer Science*, this text incorporates two major differences. It now uses Python, instead of Ruby, as the lab software so that students can seamlessly transition from introductory projects to more advanced studies in later courses. The book also introduces Python programming, providing students with sufficient programming skills so they can implement their own programs.

Practical, Step-by-Step Projects

The interactive lab projects in each chapter allow students to examine important ideas in computer science, particularly how algorithms offer computational solutions to problems. Students can type expressions, view results, and run experiments that help them understand the concepts in a hands-on way.

Web Resources

The Python software modules for each lab project are available on the author's website. The modules include data files and sample Python code that students can copy and modify. In addition, the site provides a lab manual of installation instructions and tips for editing programs and running commands in a terminal emulator.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

John S. Conery is a professor in the Department of Biology and the Institute of Ecology and Evolution at the University of Oregon, where he teaches computer science courses and is developing introductory programming courses for biology majors. As a professor of computer and information science, he taught introductory computer science courses as well as courses on high performance computing and computational science. His research in bioinformatics and computational biology spans a number of areas related to gene and genome duplication, artificial neural networks, population modeling, and systems biology. He received a Ph.D. in computer science.

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