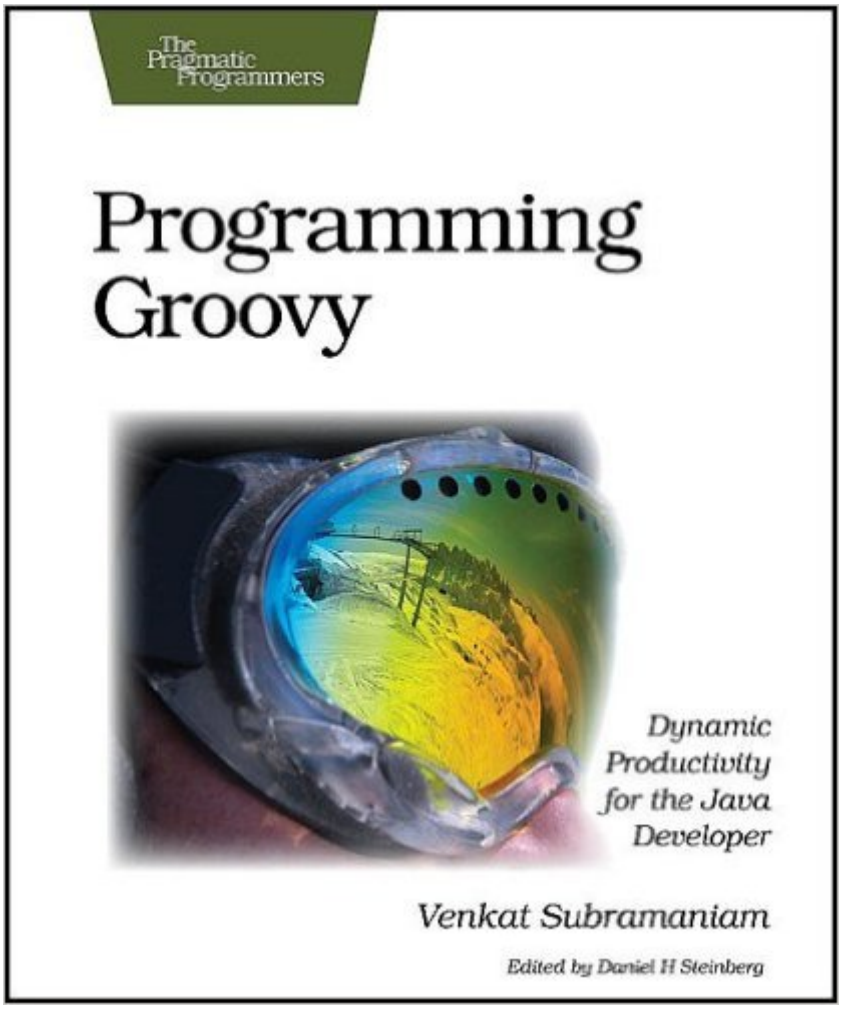
Programming Groovy: Dynamic Productivity For The Java Developer (Pragmatic Programmers)



Synopsis

The strength of Java is no longer in the language itself; it’s in the Java Platform (the JVM, JDK, and rich frameworks and libraries). But recently, the industry has turned to dynamic languages for increased productivity and speed to market.Groovy is one of a new breed of dynamic languages that run on the Java platform. You can use these new languages on the JVM and intermix them with your existing Java code. You can leverage your Java investments while benefiting from advanced features including true Closures, Meta Programming, the ability to create internal DSLs, and a higher level of abstraction.If you’re an experienced Java developer, Programming Groovy will help you learn the necessary fundamentals of programming in Groovy. You’ll see how to use Groovy to do advanced programming including using Meta Programming, Builders, Unit Testing with Mock objects, processing XML, working with Databases and creating your own Domain-Specific Languages (DSLs).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When a new language comes out, the first set of books focuses on either the shiny new, golly-gee-wow features of the language or on how to use it to get real work done. But eventually someone comes out with a book that no longer treats the new language like a shiny new thing, but as a serious contender in the language universe. And that’s Programming Groovy does (disclaimer: I know Venkat). It doesn’t treat Groovy like a novelty act. It also doesn’t provide recipes. Instead, it

treats Groovy as a real programming language. I'll have to admit, this is the Groovy book for which I've been waiting.Groovy is friendlier syntax for programming Java (I called it the real JDK in a recent blog posting). Books about the practical aspects of Groovy are very important because, as a language, it resides in a unique place: it's a low impedance way to program the Java platform, and it displaces Java for lots of common tasks. But it is also a powerful language in its own right. Programming Groovy has 4 chapters on meta-programming Groovy, and another long chapter on building domain specific languages. That's meaty stuff. It never condescends or makes excuses for Groovy but treats it like a real language. This book goes in depth into places in Groovy where it's hard to find information online, like how ExpandoMetaclass really works. This is both the most comprehensive and authoritative book on the Groovy language around. This is going to be a classic in the Groovy literature and an exemplar for describing new languages.

Are you interested in Groovy? You don't have time for reading bigbooks with many unnecessary topics?Do you need a book, that will give you a great introduction to Groovywithout spending many days on reading?If YES, then this book is definitely for you!"Programming Groovy" was my first book about Groovy, it gave me agreat introduction to Groovy language.I decided to read this book, because it has about 300 pages. So, forme (I'm a very busy person) it was the best optionto receive knowledge about Groovy.The book of Venkat Subramaniam is divided into 3 main parts:* Beginning Groovy* Using Groovy* MOPping GroovyIf you just want to have a fast overview on Groovy, then "BeginningGroovy" will definitely fit your needs, because itprovides general information on Groovy language including: dynamictyping, data types, closures and working with collections.There is also dedicated chapter called "Groovy for the Java Eyes" withsome Groovy-Java comparisons and descriptionof their cooperation."Using Groovy" is the part with the most useful topics you might need,it covers scripts and classes creation,working with XML, using databases and extended classes from GDK.In case you want to be a real Groovy hacker, you have to read "MOPpingGroovy", which will introduce you toadvanced Groovy topics like: Meta-Object Protocol, methods injection,Groovy builders, unit testing and even creatingyour own DSL in Groovy!I'm sure you will be very satisfied after reading "Programming Groovy".

Will this book help you learn Groovy? Absolutely. However, it's not in the same class as great programming books like Bloch's Effective Java or Goetz's Java Concurrency in Practice.I didn't appreciate the extra space taken up by the author's conversational style. I prefer a denser, more straight-to-the-point style.The content of the book wasn't very well organized. Language features

were used in examples before they were explained. Sometimes this is unavoidable, but Odersky's Scala book did a much better job on stepping you through the language in an incremental fashion.Some of the Java examples used to motivate Groovy language features were somewhat disingenuous. Badly written Java is not a valid reason to use another language.The book is also pretty short. That's not a bad thing necessarily, but I wasn't terribly impressed by the level of detail so it feels a little abbreviated.

This book contains all the major topics covered in other Groovy books, but examples and topic coverage are cursory. I also purchased Groovy in Action, and have found it to be a much more complete and in depth resource.

Groovy - it's not the philosophy of the 1960s, it's a programming language, and a good one too. "Programming Groovy: Dynamic Productivity for the Java Developer" is a thorough and educational guide to this programming language, which can bring developers many things they need and want to do in their programs. With tips on how to effectively mix both Java and Groovy, and with plenty of advanced programming techniques, "Programming Groovy: Dynamic Productivity for the Java Developer" is a top pick for community library computer collections and for any Java programmer.

Venkat does a fantastic job of explaining what Groovy is, how it evolved, why you would want to use it, and how to integrate it with your Java projects.He has a fantastic sense of humor, which really shows through in this book. If you ever get the opportunity to see him speak, take it. He's an incredibly intelligent, articulate programmer, and probably the most language-agnostic programmer I've ever met.One caveat: if you are a Java zealot, this book may send you into little fits. In the first section of the book, he converts standard Java code (groovyc can compile most Java code, so it's actually Groovy code that looks like Java) into Groovy. There are a lot of comments that may make Java zealots throw little fits.If you're stuck using Java, get this book.

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