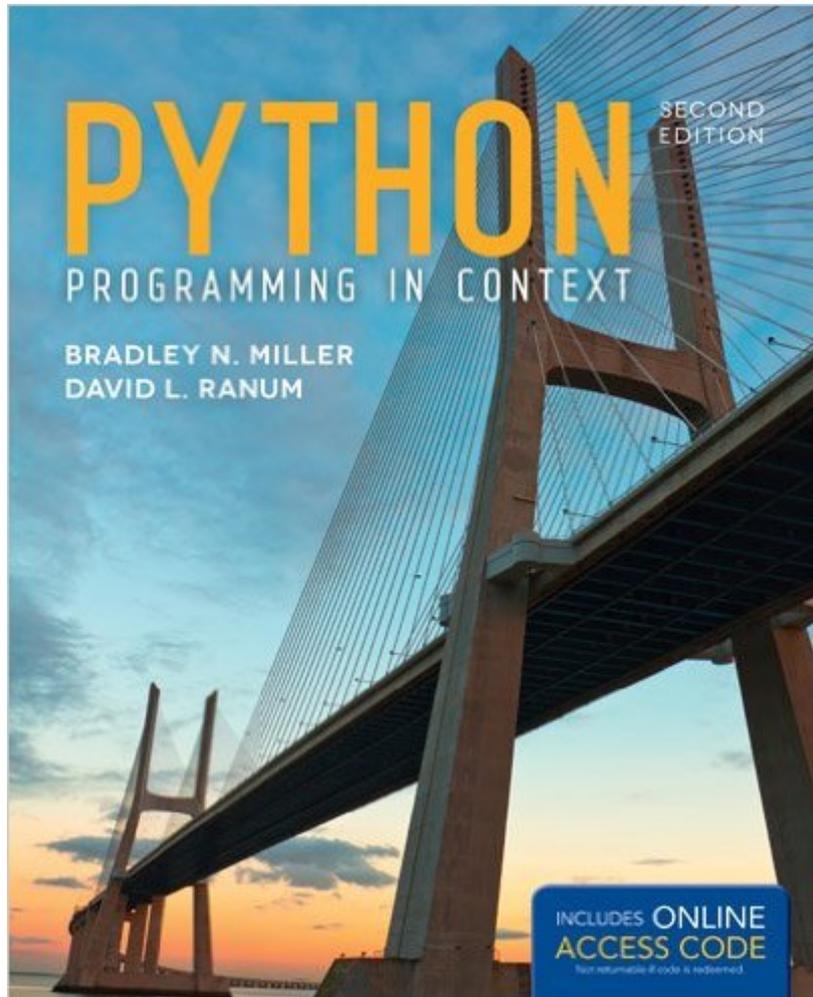# Python Programming In Context

Synopsis

The user-friendly, object-oriented programming language Python is quickly becoming the most popular introductory programming language for both students and instructors. This updated Second Edition of Python Programming in Context provides a comprehensive, accessible introduction to Python fundamentals. An ideal first language for learners entering the rapidly expanding field of computer science, Python gives students a solid platform of key problem-solving skills that translate easily across programming languages. Building on essential concepts of computer science, and offering a plenitude of real-world examples, Python Programming in Context, Second Edition offers a thorough overview of multiple applied areas, including image processing, cryptography, astronomy, the Internet, and bioinformatics. The textâ ™s emphasis on problem-solving, extrapolation, and development of independent exploration and solution-building provides students with a unique and innovative approach to learning programming. Python Programming in Context, Second Edition is the ideal introductory text for those delving into computer programming. Key Features - Utilizes Python 3 - Provides a clear, accessible, and skill-focused approach to programming with Python - Contains problem sets based on real-world examples and problem-solving rather than language features - Offers a variety of exercises that develop independent skill-building and exploration - Every new copy of the text is packaged with full student access to Turing's Craft Custom CodeLab. Customized to match the organization of the text, CodeLab offers students hands-on Python programming experience with immediate feedback. - Accompanied by a full suite of instructor support material, including solutions to the exercises in the text, downloadable source code, PowerPoint Lecture Outlines, and a complete Test Bank.

Book Information

Paperback: 498 pages

Publisher: Jones & Bartlett Learning; 2 edition (February 7, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1449699391

ISBN-13: 978-1449699390

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 7.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #106,831 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #123 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Programming > Languages & Tools > Python   #332 inÂ Books > Computers &

Customer Reviews

I like the writing in this book; it is easy to read and the author avoids complicated wording and doesn't use too much jargon at once.However, the lack of answers to the exercises in the book is a huge problem, as there are few examples per concept, and many times you're left hanging without a firm grasp of the section. This is a shame, as many of the exercises are unique and really encourage a full understanding of the material.

It starts off very inspiring with the Python turtles. Very rewarding for anyone who has taken a programming class and thought it was too non-practical. The turtles are really fun.Then the author loses his mind and starts talking about Archimedes math, PI, and Cryptology. He asks questions at the end of chapter he never covered in the readings, which is frustrating.IMO this book is terrible for a class book, but I am going through it on my own jumping over the weird stuff and picking out the standard programming information like loops etc...I think the Author seems like he would be a cool guy to get a beer with but needs to refocus this book to the beginner. Clean up the abstract stuff and stick to simple examples for this book. Then write a second book with the weird math references.

I found this to be, unfortunately, a really poor choice for learning Python, especially as a first language. Why? Because the authors seem more obsessed with the "science" of computer science and less with teaching a programming langugage. Most books on coding focus on introducing a series of new programming topics--loops and decision trees in one chapter, functions in another--and then use examples mainly to back up what has just been learned. This book takes an opposite approach.The chapters cover a numblingly wide variety of topics that force you to absorb what is often obscure material, while all too frequently leaving the language concepts in the background. Chapter 2, for example, discusses all sorts of ways to determine the value of pi (wouldn't one have been enough, especially for such an early chapter?) Chapter 3 talks about classical crytopgraphy (Vignere ciphers, anyone)? I've rarely seen an intro to programming book that deals with such mathematics as standard deviation and correlation coefficients. Other chapters revolve around data mining and image processing. Interesting stuff...for individual upper-level courses, maybe. Meanwhile, the actual job of learing Python remains almost an afterthought. Examples? Strings aren't discussed until p. 83. How to accept input from users has to wait until p.

99, and gets short shrift thereafter. Do we really need to tackle dozens of infobits (such as how the value of pi was arrived at 2,000 years ago), while sticking almost religiously to the command line, when instead we could be spending precious textbook time learning real-world stuff like how to use IDEs and do program debugging? If the authors want to teach by example--never a bad idea--why not focus on a single (preferably useful) topic, and then build on that topic with the programming knowledge gained in each chapter until, by the end of the book, the reader has at written, instead of dozens of short modules that are loosely-connected at best, one long-form program that covers truly useful things such as parsing user input for errors and exception handling? Sorry--in my opinion this distracting, digressive book makes learning Python significantly harder than it needs to be.

Although this book didn't correspond exactly to my programming class, we did refer back to it a lot. Now that I am currently working more on python code this summer, this really has been a necessity.

Helped my pass my scientific computing class. Examples are pretty thorough. Great for anyone trying to learn python on their own/

Book for college class. Exactly what he needed, but much less expensive than the college book store.

Horribly written. Use an online tool instead, this goes from 0-120 in less than 3 chapters.

Worst book ever, I learned more python on forums and youtube than this book. Please save your money and buy another book on python.

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