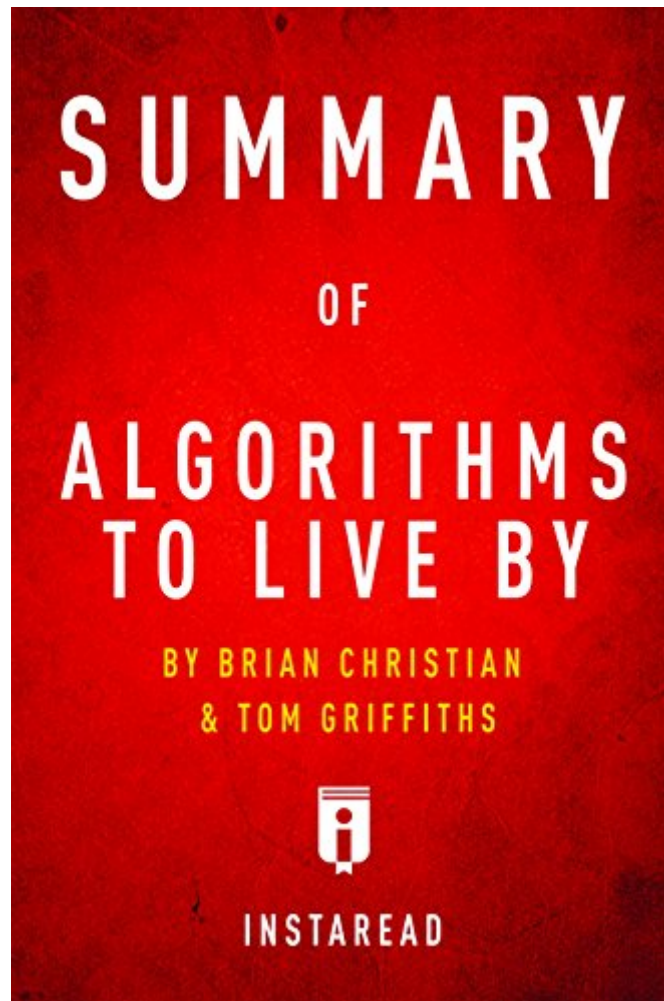


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Summary Of Algorithms To Live By: By Brian Christian And Tom Griffiths | Includes Analysis



Synopsis

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AnalysisÂ Preview:Â Algorithms to Live By by Brian Christian and Tom Griffiths is an immersive look at the history and development of several algorithms used to solve computer science problems. It also considers potential applications of algorithms in human life including memory storage and network communication. One such computer science problem is the optimal stopping problem, the mathematical puzzle for determining how long to review options and gather data before settling on the best choice available. The algorithm, based on statistical analysis, shows that there is an optimal place or time to stop researching options or solutions to a problem and instead commit to the next option thatâ™s just as good as those already considered. Similarly, the mathematical way to decide whether to try something new or stick with the familiar choice is expressed by the Gittins Index score of any given alternative. It values a complete unknown more highly than a

NOTE: This isÂ key takeaways and analysisÂ of the book and NOT the original book.Â Inside this

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1- Algorithms break down, step by step, how a problem is to be solved. While this term is commonly applied to computers, this guide considers a variety of well-established algorithms as they might apply to human decision-making. 2- When searching for the best option from a set, the optimal place to stop research is about 37% of the way through the set. It varies (lower if the cost to search is high and higher if the cost to making a bad decision is high). 3- Unfamiliar choices are typically better than those that have proven themselves disappointing. It covers the Gittins Index fairly well. 4- The fastest sort is the merge or bucket sort, coming in at $O(N \log N)$. The specifics are discussed in this guide. 5- Memory storage has various levels of caches to store more recently accessed data in faster memory than less recently accessed data. 6- For scheduling tasks, rank = priority / time required, with higher rank tasks going first. Subtasks and dependencies inherit the main task's rank. 7- Bayesian inference means we can make more predictions about future observations if we have more information about past observations, but that prior knowledge must be protected from bias, and there are occasional outliers. 8- A model fit too precisely can fail to provide accurate or useful information. 9- Some problems must be simplified to be modelled properly. 10- Randomness can be used to test theories for probable results, trading certainty for efficiency. 11- Internet protocols use human communication skills, such as acknowledgement and refused communication if the system is overloaded. 12- For games, style of play (cooperative or competitive for example) can be altered by changing the information available or initial set-up.

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