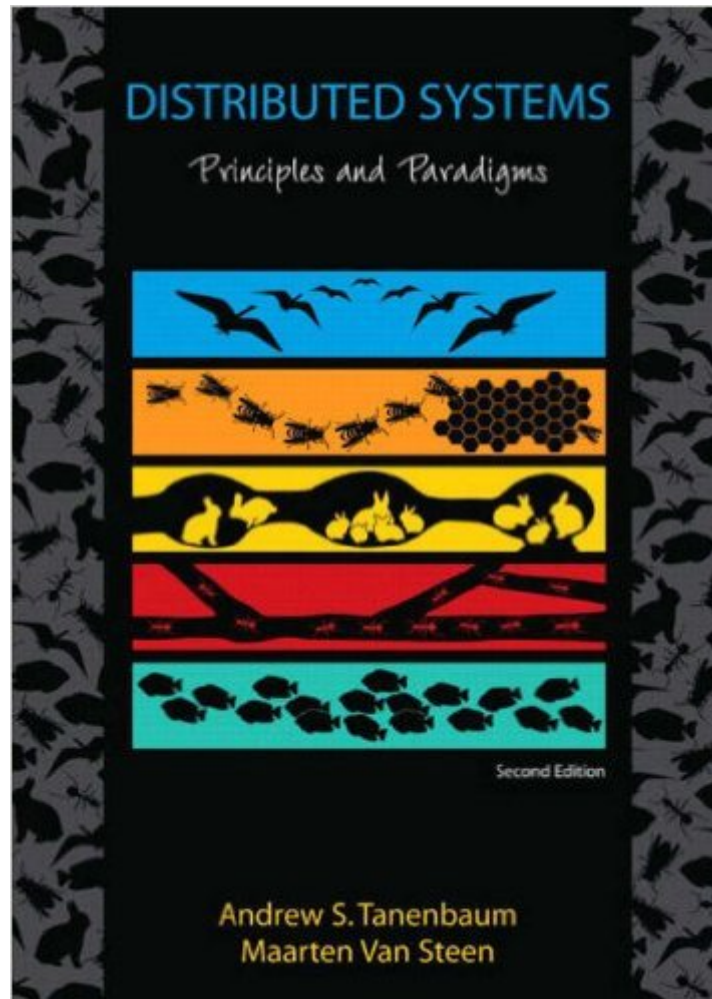


The book was found

Distributed Systems: Principles And Paradigms (2nd Edition)



Synopsis

Virtually every computing system today is part of a distributed system. Programmers, developers, and engineers need to understand the underlying principles and paradigms as well as the real-world application of those principles. Now, internationally renowned expert Andrew S. Tanenbaum with colleague Martin van Steen presents a complete introduction that identifies the seven key principles of distributed systems, with extensive examples of each. Adds a completely new chapter on architecture to address the principle of organizing distributed systems. Provides extensive new material on peer-to-peer systems, grid computing and Web services, virtualization, and application-level multicasting. Updates material on clock synchronization, data-centric consistency, object-based distributed systems, and file systems and Web systems coordination. For all developers, software engineers, and architects who need an in-depth understanding of distributed systems.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I used this book for an online graduate class in which the instructor deferred all teaching, exercises, exams, and grading to the textbook. This is bad enough, but add to it that this textbook is a terrible read and a royal pain in the rear to reference and it's a miracle that I managed to eek out an A. I say miracle, but I really mean countless hours of research, sweat, and tears. First, the reading is terribly wordy yet still amazingly vague. I read pages and pages of text which revealed precious little usable information. Then I'd read a barrage of facts condensed into a few heavy, indecipherable sentences

that don't paint any sort of clear picture. There are a few attempts at humor sprinkled in which result in a head slap and a strong desire to throw the book directly into the garbage. Second, the book is terribly organized. I'll give the authors the benefit of the doubt that organizing this book must be hard because every aspect depends on something else. The chapter layout (in a table of contents sense) is actually appropriate. However, the organization of information in each chapter is worse than terrible. There's a brief intro, but not really a overview of what they are going to discuss. It will then jump from point to point and back again and then to an unrelated point and then to a tangent and then back to the original point. Once you realize you've totally lost the thread they begin a new topic or a loosely-related case study. Trying to find any specific information (like, say, for an exercise question) is a lesson in futility. You never know where a speck of needed information will turn up, if at all. Third, the exercises are ridiculous. They are poorly-worded, vague, and subjective.

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