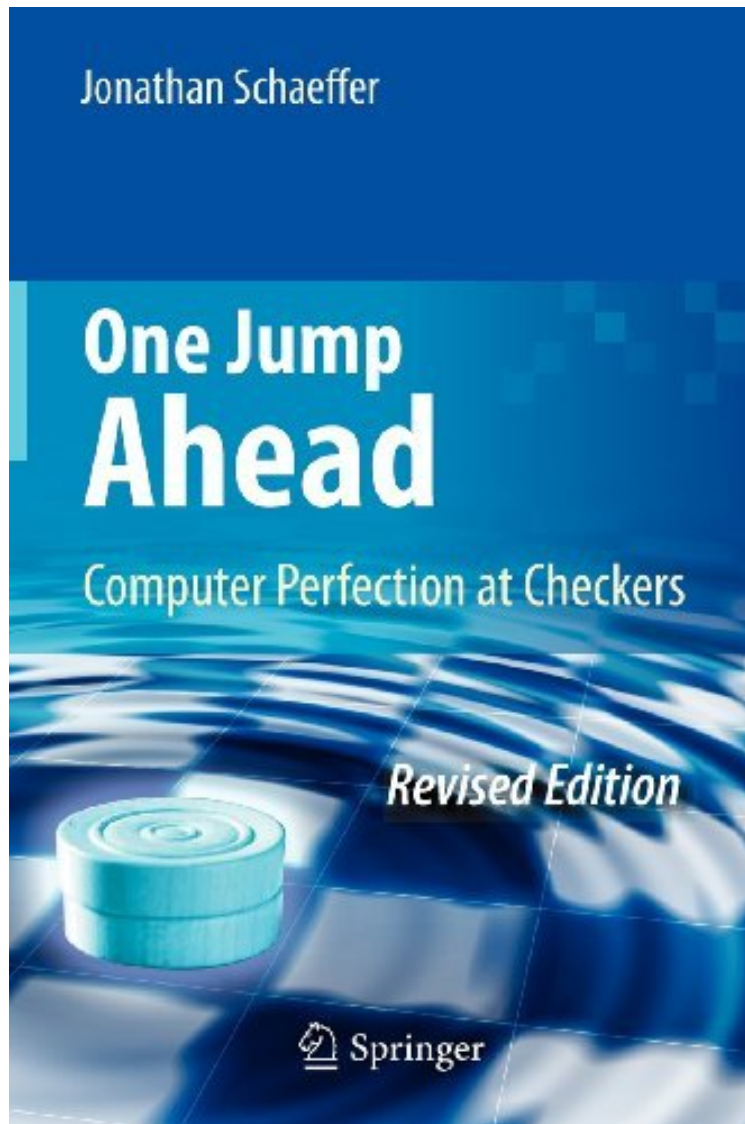


[Ebook pdf] One Jump Ahead: Computer Perfection at Checkers

One Jump Ahead: Computer Perfection at Checkers

Von Jonathan Schaeffer

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Von Jonathan Schaeffer : One Jump Ahead: Computer Perfection at Checkers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised One Jump Ahead: Computer Perfection at Checkers:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Interesting subject, checkers and computingVon Ein KundeThis book is about one man's obsession to develop a computer checkers program to beat a World Champion. The world champion in checkers is not just another world champion but a man widely accepted as the greatest checker player of all time - Terrible Tinsley. The book documents how the author developed and nurtured a weak checker program to become a world class program. Ultimately he fails

but unfortunately doesn't admit this and has excuses and accusations on most of the latter pages. The author is perhaps a little immature and certainly self-centred and I await a revised edition where the author has the benefit of hindsight to recognise the failings in himself as an individual, and the bad feeling he has probably left in a game playing community which went out of their way to help him achieve his aim. A psychologist would find this book interesting - a study of a man who is afraid to lose, afraid to admit defeat and thinks he was the star of the show. There are only two stars in this book; Terrible Tinsley and a man named Lafferty. The author bad-mouths everyone in this book from Tony Buzan, a mind-mapping expert, Tinsley, Lafferty, a christian named Walker, his team, in fact everyone. Overall, though, a good book to pick up from if you accept that the author is far from perfect as an individual. I von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Exciting and balanced portrait of flawed people and machines Von Paul LI'm a biased reviewer since I was involved in the Chinook project and I'm mentioned a number of times in the book. Others have already pointed out how this book reads like a thriller. I agree completely. Each time that I re-read this book (which is almost like a yearbook for me), I get a rush out of how effectively Jonathan takes the reader into his own mind, the (computer) mind of Chinook, and the minds of Chinook's opponents (often through their own comments and game annotations). I squirm at the retelling of how Chinook lost the first two matches in Hot Springs (1992) where I sat Poker-faced as I operated the computer. Another strength of this book is how Jonathan fearlessly pulls no punches in presenting balanced portraits of the many people involved in the Chinook story. Don't expect a forgettable puff piece. Scientists and champions are not immune from human foibles. In dispelling that illusion, Jonathan tells a honest and valuable story. Nobody escapes Jonathan's (sometimes) sharp criticism: not myself (deserved), not some of the luminaries of checkers (accurate, in my opinion), and especially not Jonathan himself. But Jonathan balances this with genuine praise, affection, and respect in almost every case. Consequently, the book contains many insights on human nature, the nature of AI, and what happens when they cross paths. I von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Very readable account of a major AI project Von benedikt@ucla.edu It is rare for programmers and computer scientists to be good writers, and even rarer for them to write their own popular accounts of a major research project. Schaeffer has succeeded in doing that and his book both entertains and enlightens even those who have a casual interest in Artificial Intelligence. In some cases the book reads like a thriller, as the reader gets caught up in Schaeffer's quest to beat the world's reigning checkers champion. I particularly enjoyed his explanations of some of the more technical parts of the project, debugging software, problems with parallel computing etc. All of this is written at a very accessible level.

Kurzbeschreibung Its hard to believe that its been over a decade since One Jump Ahead: Challenging Human Supremacy at Checkers was published. Im delighted to have the opportunity to update and expand the book. The first edition ended on a sad note and that was reflected in the writing. It is now eleven years later and the project has come to a satisfying conclusion. Since its inception, the checkers project has consumed eighteen years of my life twenty if you count the pre-CHINOOK and post-solving work. Its hard for me to believe that I actually stuck with it for that long. My wife, Steph, would probably have something witty to say about my obsessive behavior. Rereading the book after a decade was difficult for me. When I originally wrote One Jump Ahead, I vowed to be candid in my telling of the story. That meant being honest about what went right and what went wrong. I have been criticized for being hard on some of the characters. That may be so, but I hope everyone will agree that the person receiving the most criticism was, justifiably, me. I tried to be balanced in the storytelling, reflecting things as they really happened and not as some sanitized everyone-lived-happily-ever-after tale. Pressestimmen "... We get a close look into the embarrassingly low-rent, codger-populated world of championship checkers... and a few painless lessons in the game itself... But the most memorable passages deal with Schaeffer's own bittersweet reactions. His brainchild does so well that he can see, all too clearly, its almost tragic effect on the cloistered society of checkers - and on his fellow human beings." Newsweek " Schaeffer's personal involvement in the Chinook project, along with his engaging and open story-telling makes the book surprisingly gripping." A.K. Dewdney Kurzbeschreibung Its hard to believe that its been over a decade since One Jump Ahead: Challenging Human Supremacy at Checkers was published. Im delighted to have the opportunity to update and expand the book. The first edition ended on a sad note and that was reflected in the writing. It is now eleven years later and the project has come to a satisfying conclusion. Since its inception, the checkers project has consumed eighteen years of my life twenty if you count the pre-CHINOOK and post-solving work. Its hard for me to believe that I actually stuck with it for that long. My wife, Steph, would probably have something witty to say about my obsessive behavior. Rereading the book after a decade was difficult for me. When I originally wrote One Jump Ahead, I vowed to be candid in my telling of the story. That meant being honest about what went right and what went wrong. I have been criticized for being hard on some of the characters. That may be so, but I hope everyone will agree that the person receiving the most criticism was, justifiably, me. I tried to be balanced in the storytelling, reflecting things as they really happened and not as some sanitized everyone-lived-happily-ever-after tale.