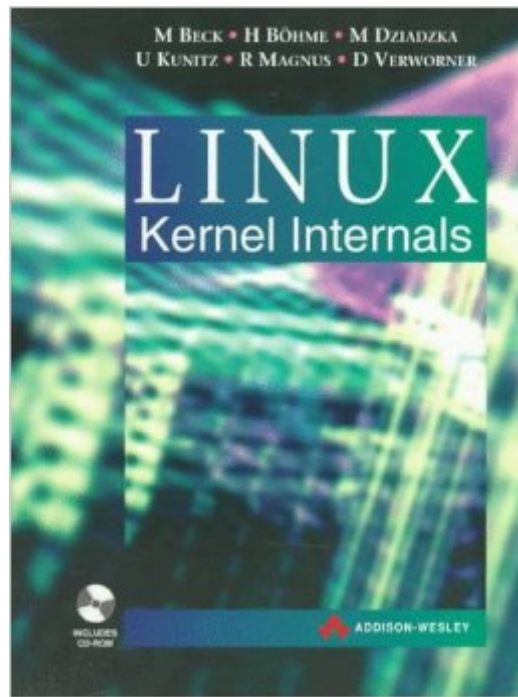


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LINUX Kernel Internals



Synopsis

This text is a practical overview and guide to LINUX kernel programming. It includes coverage of LINUX 1.2 and provides an introduction to kernel programming in C. The accompanying CD-ROM contains a complete version of LINUX OS for PCs, with development and Internet tools and program sources.

Book Information

Paperback: 438 pages

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Customer Reviews

This book was quite disappointing. I don't feel that I learned anything that I couldn't have learned in a similar amount of time spent by reading through source code. What's worse, the book wasn't any better at presenting that information. I give some credit for not resorting to simply printing the kernel sources in bound format as other books have done, but apart from that, there's not much good to say here. First off, the authors' command of the English language, as presented in final form by the book's editorial staff, leaves much to be desired. The prose is very conversational and awkward, and although generally understandable (words are strung together in grammatical correctness), the text doesn't clearly present ideas. Second, the book suffers from a lack of clear focus on a specific reader. At times, very detailed descriptions of things like slow/fast IRQ handling are discussed, but then at other times the authors spend a great deal of time talking about the specific quirks of the 8253 timer chip in the ISA PC architecture. I would have preferred if the majority of this book were discussing the ideas involved in the Linux kernel design, but it wanders in and out of describing things that most readers who would buy the book based on its title already know. Finally, in general

the book is vague just when you'd want it to be specific, in describing the way things really fit together in the Linux kernel. They've attempted to simplify the explanations of complicated, optimized subroutines, and that's great, but in dissecting everything into little pieces, I'm left with a very small picture of how the whole system actually fits together. As if all this weren't enough, the book is really only 300pp of useful information.

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