



Semirings and their Applications

By Jonathan S. Golan



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This book is an extensively-revised and expanded version of "The Theory of Semirings, with Applications in Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science" [Golan, 1992], first published by Longman. When that book went out of print, it became clear - in light of the significant advances in semiring theory over the past years and its new important applications in such areas as idempotent analysis and the theory of discrete-event dynamical systems - that a second edition incorporating minor changes would not be sufficient and that a major revision of the book was in order. Therefore, though the structure of the first «dition was preserved, the text was extensively rewritten and substantially expanded. In particular, references to many interesting and applications of semiring theory, developed in the past few years, had to be added. Unfortunately, I find that it is best not to go into these applications in detail, for that would entail long digressions into various domains of pure and applied mathematics which would only detract from the unity of the volume and increase its length considerably. However, I have tried to provide an extensive collection of examples to arouse the reader's interest in applications, as well as sufficient citations to allow the interested reader to locate them. For the reader's convenience, an index to these citations is given at the end of the book .

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Semirings and their Applications By Jonathan S. Golan Bibliography

- Rank: #6482573 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Springer
- Published on: 1999-07-31
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.21" h x .94" w x 6.14" l, 1.62 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 382 pages

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