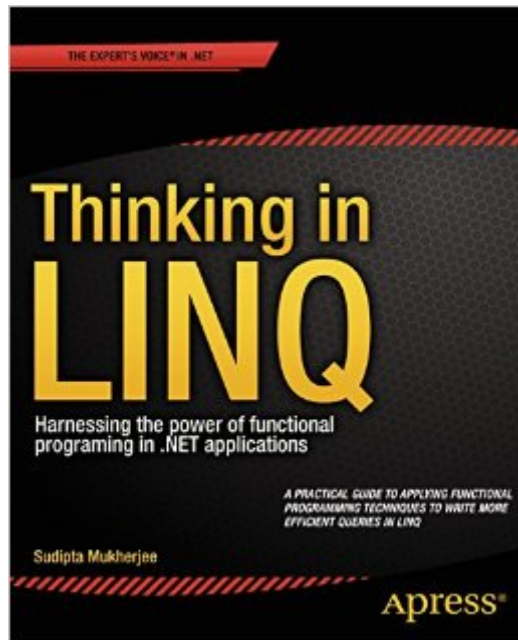# Thinking In LINQ: Harnessing The Power Of Functional Programming In .NET Applications

Synopsis

LINQ represents a paradigm shift for developers used to an imperative/object oriented programming style, because LINQ draws on functional programming principles. Thinking in LINQ addresses the differences between these two by providing a set of succinct recipes arranged in several groups, including: Basic and extended LINQ operatorsText processing Loop refactoring Monitoring code health Reactive Extensions (Rx.NET)Building domain-specific languagesUsing the familiar "recipes" approach, Thinking in LINQ shows you how to approach building LINQ-based solutions, how such solutions are different from what you already know, and why theyâ ™re better. The recipes cover a wide range of real-world problems, from using LINQ to replace existing loops, to writing your own Swype-like keyboard entry routines, to finding duplicate files on your hard drive. The goal of these recipes is to get you "thinking in LINQ," so you can use the techniques in your own code to write more efficient and concise data-intensive applications.What you’ll learnBasic and extended LINQ operatorsText processing Loop refactoring Monitoring code health Reactive Extensions (Rx.NET)Building domain-specific languagesWho this book is for.NET programmers who are comfortable with some high level programming language like C++/C#. Prior knowledge of LINQ is helpful but not required.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I truly enjoyed this book! If you're an intermediate to advanced C# developer, you'll get over 100 small interesting examples on using LINQ's fluent notation in a functional programming style.That's not a book for beginners, for those totally new in LINQ, C# or even functional programming. That's also not a book on LINQ to SQL or Entity Framework queries (I think LINQ's query notation has not been considered functional programming and was out of the scope of this book, which is right).What impressed me most is most samples go well beyond LINQ and its possible functional programming style. You'll find out about some stunning data services and resources available on the net, exploratory data analysis and some machine learning algorithms. You'll see some useful examples on easily transforming your System.Reflection and System.IO collections, in just a few lines of code. You learn how to extend LINQ, with modules like MoreLINQ or your own DSL.Beyond all, I think this book is mostly about the power of C# as a programming language today. LINQ has been an amazing addition to .NET for many years, and C# in particular became a very powerful language. Using LINQ's fluent notation with lambda expressions leads to just a few lines of codes with great clarity and results. And "Thinking in LINQ" shows you how to do it, no matter what your domain model is.

I wish I had this book years ago. This will get you over the hump on LINQ concepts. I originally thought LINQ was just some cute language constructs for accessing databases. It's so much more than that and this book will get you to see that. Highly recommended from a guy that has been cutting code for 40+ years.

The author tackles a collection of popular programming puzzles and attempts to rewrite them using a functional LINQ syntax. I think his programming style was influenced by using LINQPad rather than Visual Studio for code snippets, but he tends to use ToList() far more frequently than necessary, and the structure of his solutions is ad-hoc at best. The cookbook recipes solved range from banal (Recursive Series and Patterns Step-by-Step Growth of Algae) to more interesting problems (Cloning Peter Norvig's Spelling Correction Algorithm). You most decidedly will *not* be thinking in LINQ after reading this book, but I do recommend it as a starting point for planning your next technical interview loop. [Table of Contents and source code download is available from

Apress.com.]

Nothing I couldn't have found online. Still it's nice to work through examples.

It can be a good start to broaden your idea with LINQ. More examples needed though.

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