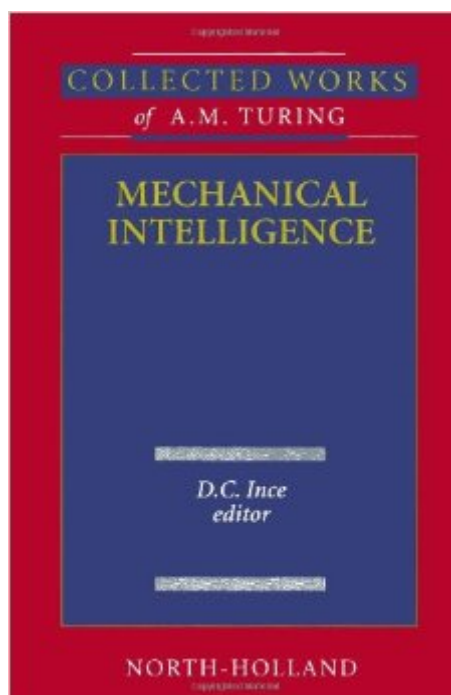


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Mechanical Intelligence, Volume 1 (Collected Works Of A.M. Turing)



Synopsis

The collected works of Turing, including a substantial amount of unpublished material, will comprise four volumes: Mechanical Intelligence, Pure Mathematics, Morphogenesis and Mathematical Logic. Alan Mathison Turing (1912-1954) was a brilliant man who made major contributions in several areas of science. Today his name is mentioned frequently in philosophical discussions about the nature of Artificial Intelligence. Actually, he was a pioneer researcher in computer architecture and software engineering; his work in pure mathematics and mathematical logic extended considerably further and his last work, on morphogenesis in plants, is also acknowledged as being of the greatest originality and of permanent importance. He was one of the leading figures in Twentieth-century science, a fact which would have been known to the general public sooner but for the British Official Secrets Act, which prevented discussion of his wartime work. What is maybe surprising about these papers is that although they were written decades ago, they address major issues which concern researchers today.

Book Information

Series: Collected Works of A.M. Turing (Book 1)

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Customer Reviews

Turing was lucid and generous and naturally had to be ostracized and killed by those he saved. It reads without effort and is completely up to date and understandable unlike most current day equipment instructions. Plus it was theory back then.

This is a very interesting book allowing one to look at the future (from the 1940s) from Alan Turing's frame of mind. There is a lot of unintended humor here. Computers are people who do calculations. Computer programs are "instruction tables". The imminent demise of the mathematicians who write the instruction tables (because the machine can eventually write its own) leads to the creation of gibberish (computerese). If Turing could only imagine his brainchild would end up as an internet appliance... or a game platform. I think he would be amazed and pleased.

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