

Barkai

Unmatched

50 Years of Supercomputing

Unmatched: 50 Years of Supercomputing: A Personal Journey Accompanying the Evolution of a Powerful Tool The rapid and extraordinary progress of supercomputing over the past half-century is a powerful demonstration of our relentless drive to understand and shape the world around us. In this book, David Barkai offers a unique and compelling account of this remarkable technological journey, drawing from his own rich experiences working at the forefront of high-performance computing (HPC). This book is a journey delineated as five decade-long 'epochs' defined by the systems' architectural themes: vector processors, multi-processors, microprocessors, clusters, and accelerators and cloud computing. The final part examines key issues of HPC and discusses where it might be headed. A central goal of this book is to show how computing power has been applied, and, more importantly, how it has impacted and benefitted society. To this end, the use of HPC is illustrated in a range of industries and applications, from weather and climate modeling to engineering and life sciences. As such, this book appeals to both students and general readers with an interest in HPC, as well as industry professionals looking to revolutionize their practice. From the Foreword: "David Barkai's career has spanned five decades, during which he has had the rare opportunity to be part of some of the most significant developments in the field of supercomputing. His personal and professional insights, combined with his deep knowledge and passion for the subject matter, make this book an invaluable resource for anyone interested in the evolution of HPC and its impact on our lives." -Horst Simon, Director, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) Lab

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