Repetitive and disappointing - Failed to deliver,

"Practical Algorithms for Programmers" fails to deliver what is mentioned by authors as "The purpose of this book is providing a practical compendium of algorithms for use in applications" and "Most algorithm books today are either academic text books or rehash of the same tired set of algorithms". This book goes over that tired set of algorithms over again (B-Trees, bubble sort, shell sort etc) and is filled with long code listings with little comments and faux paus code practices (if column > 61).

Almost all of the algorithms discussed in the book have already been very well described in various books of the same genre, notably "Introduction to Algorithms, Second Edition by Thomas H. Cormen, Charles E. Leiserson, Ronald L. Rivest, Clifford Stein" which has better explanation and examples. I see that "Practical Algorithms for Programmers" has good description of algorithmic efficiency, B-trees, AVL trees, phonetic comparisons, soundEx and metaphone along with excercises, but as an overall study for a CS grad and/or skilled developer, it's repetitive and meaningless. If authors' idea was to provide a cookbook for algorithm implementation, due to lack of component oriented thinking, this book lack this prospect as well. As mentioned, it's not a text book and therefore I don't see a reason of having about hundred pages of printed source code in the book? If the intended audience are software developers, why not highlight the important code segments and let the rest available via CD/FTP and use remaining pages for practical industry implementation discussions like the title suggests.

For book reviews, please feel free to contact Adnan Masood at adnan@nova.edu
As mentioned by other reviewers, this book might be a short & quick review or refresher course but I believe that it doesn't add any valuable reference to existing set of books available in this niche. Especially in the current development era when underlying software architectures and programming languages provides the built-in complex datatypes and memory management, algorithm world now belongs to exploration of binomial option pricing, naïve Bayes filtering and normal distribution approximation style studies.
About the Reviewer

Adnan Masood works as a web architect and technical lead for Green Dot Corporation where he develops SOA based middle-tier architectures, distributed systems, and web-applications using Microsoft technologies. He is a Microsoft Certified Trainer holding several technical certifications, including MCPD (Enterprise Developer), MCSD .NET, and SCJP-II. Adnan is attributed and published in print media and on the Web; he is technical editor for "Microsoft Windows Server AppFabric Cookbook" and also taught Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) courses at the University of California at San Diego.

Adnan regularly presents at local code camps and user groups. He is actively involved in the .NET community as cofounder and president of the of San Gabriel Valley .NET Developers group. Adnan holds a Master’s degree in Computer Science; he is currently a doctoral student working towards PhD in Machine Learning; specifically interestingness measures in outliers using Bayesian Belief Networks. He also holds systems architecture certification from MIT and SOA Smarts certification from Carnegie Mellon University.