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Nota di contenuto	- 1. A Summary of Markov Chains -- 2. Phase-Type Distributions -- 3. Synchronizing Automata -- 4. Random Walks and Recurrence -- 5. Cookie-Excited Random Walks -- 6. Convergence to Equilibrium -- 7. The Ising Model -- 8. Search Engines -- 9. Hidden Markov Model -- 10. Markov Decision Processes.
Sommario/riassunto	This text presents selected applications of discrete-time stochastic processes that involve random interactions and algorithms, and revolve around the Markov property. It covers recurrence properties of (excited) random walks, convergence and mixing of Markov chains, distribution modeling using phase-type distributions, applications to search engines and probabilistic automata, and an introduction to the Ising model used in statistical physics. Applications to data science are also considered via hidden Markov models and Markov decision processes. A total of 32 exercises and 17 longer problems are provided with detailed solutions and cover various topics of interest, including statistical learning.