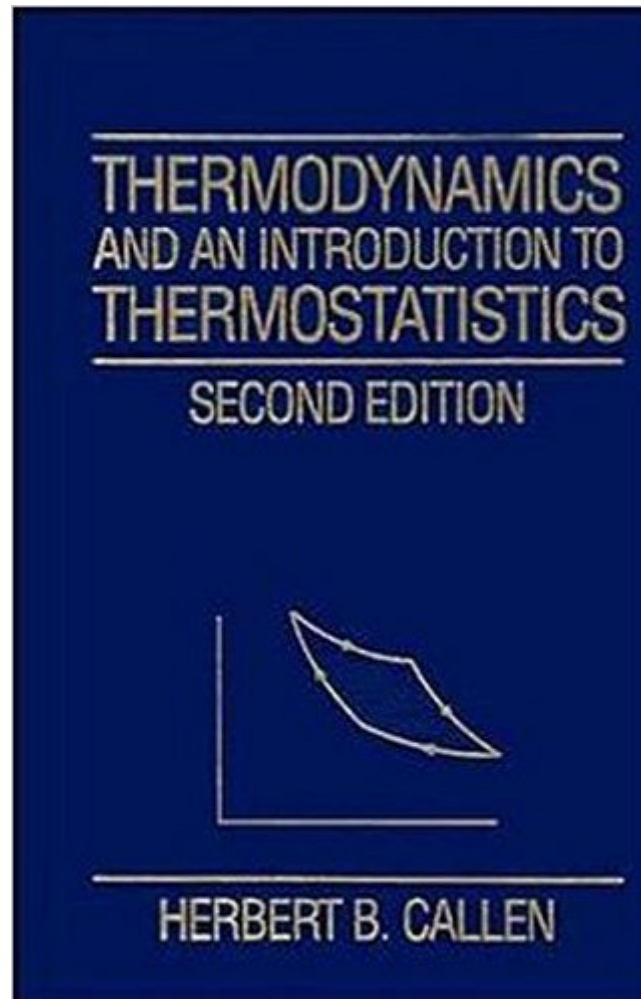


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Thermodynamics And An Introduction To Thermostatistics



Synopsis

The only text to cover both thermodynamic and statistical mechanics--allowing students to fully master thermodynamics at the macroscopic level. Presents essential ideas on critical phenomena developed over the last decade in simple, qualitative terms. This new edition maintains the simple structure of the first and puts new emphasis on pedagogical considerations. Thermostatistics is incorporated into the text without eclipsing macroscopic thermodynamics, and is integrated into the conceptual framework of physical theory.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Why did I buy an older thermodynamics text, one first published in 1960? I trusted the advice of earlier reviewers. They say: 1) The best treatment of classical thermodynamics that I have seen. The chapters on phase transitions are excellent and the mechanical model used to illustrate critical phenomena is brilliant. 2) It is far better than most books on the subject. 3) I think this book has no competition as a text in thermodynamics. It is the ideal preparation for a book like Landau's Statistical Physics. 4) The overview of the fundamentals of thermodynamics is without rival. 5) I think this book is a great option if you feel disappointed with the standard treatment of thermodynamics. A few reviewers argued that Callen's text was less suitable for engineering students (too few heat-mechanical energy conversion problems) and chemical engineers (too few chemical mixture problems). My trust was not misplaced. Thermodynamics, an Introduction to the Physical Theories of Equilibrium Thermostatistics and Irreversible Thermodynamics, is an exceptional text. I give it five stars. H. B. Callen offers a fascinating and insightful postulational approach to

thermodynamics rather than the conventional inductive approach. He targets first year graduate students and advanced undergraduates. Based on my experience any reader reasonably proficient with thermodynamics should find Callen's approach quite stimulating. The text has three primary sections: General Principles of Classical Thermodynamics (200 pages), Representative Applications (65 pages), and Fluctuations and Irreversible Thermodynamics (50 pages). A 50-page appendix offers a useful review of pertinent mathematics and other relevant topics. Answers are not provided to the chapter problems.

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