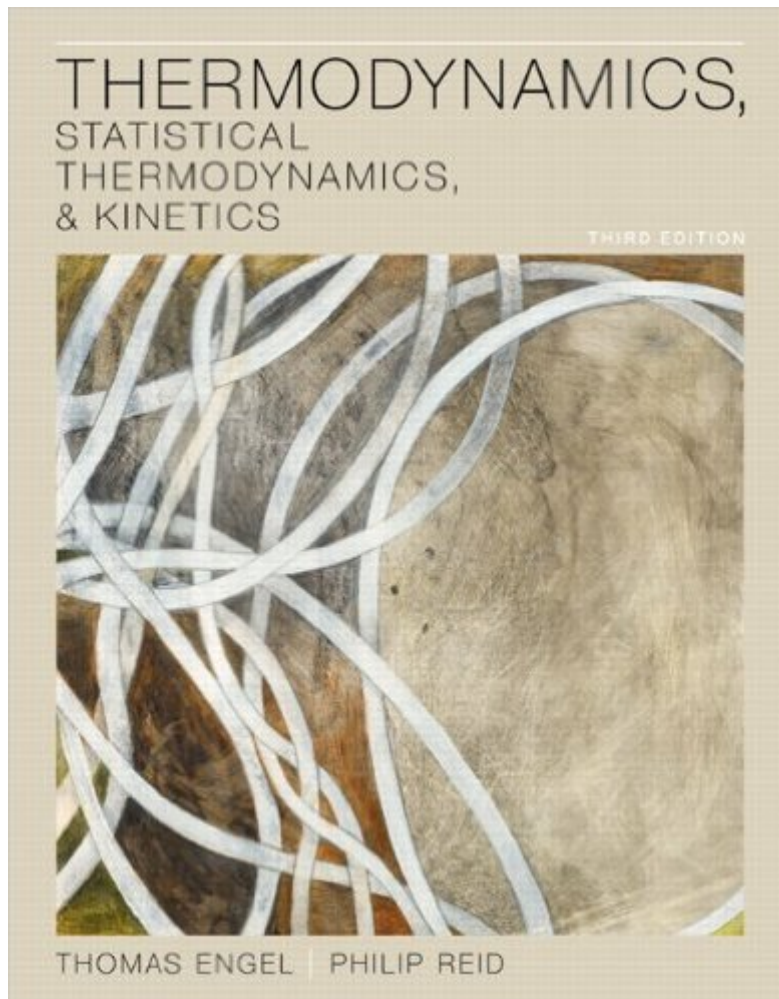


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Thermodynamics, Statistical Thermodynamics, & Kinetics (3rd Edition)



Synopsis

Engel and Reid's Thermodynamics, Statistical Thermodynamics, and Kinetics gives students a contemporary and accurate overview of physical chemistry while focusing on basic principles that unite the sub-disciplines of the field. The Third Edition continues to emphasize fundamental concepts and presents cutting-edge research developments that demonstrate the vibrancy of physical chemistry today.

Book Information

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The book explains concepts in very obtuse ways. I had to rely on other sources to understand most material in the later chapters. On the other hand, it is very annoying that some key concepts are explained solely within the contexts of overly-simplified example problems. For those with strong calculus backgrounds, the logic of this book shouldn't be too difficult to follow. For others, not so much.

This textbook is hard to follow and does not provide you with enough information to complete all of the problems they give you. Some of the answers to the problems in the back of the book also contain errors, which is extremely annoying. Honestly, no one in my physical chemistry class uses it; we just study our class notes, and our professor does a wonderful job at clearly and thoroughly explaining all of the concepts. If you are a student, please do not waste your money on this "textbook." If you really, really need it for a class, then, I would recommend getting a way cheaper version of it.

Personally I hate this book. The material is generally decent, and the examples are generally helpful. It has a tendency to be a little unclear in derivations. The real reason I can't stand this book, is there seems to be no logic in the way it is organized. When studying a single topic, I find myself flipping a couple hundred pages just to study a major topics that are discussed in a piecemeal fashion throughout the book. Do yourself a favor, if you have the misfortune of being assigned this book for class, by the McQuarrie/Simon text. It explains things much more clearly, and is organized in a very logical fashion.

This book is terrible. The amount of logical leaps it makes is down right grotesque, this book, and its companion, make a complex but manageable topic into an impenetrable mess. Avoid at all cost, if it required for a course buy another book as well. You won't get anything meaningful out of this poor attempt at a textbook.

This book explains the concepts well and provides background for all equations listed. I have been out of school for six years and this book has helped me reintroduce myself to chemistry and physics.

I got this book because it was required for my physical chemistry class. If you're someone who ever considers not buying the book I definitely would buy this one. The examples are really good and for those of you who like physical chemistry the book contains a lot of supplementary derivations and equations.

My professor says this is one of the easier to understand text books.. but I find it difficult to study from. There isn't any place where there is just formulas for a particular chapter that is boxed or anything else that would make it easy to identify when you're flipping through the book in search of a particular formula. The book explains ideas well and shows derivations well but skimps on the "equation boxes" that would be very helpful when you are attempting to piece together what is going on in a specific system. For example, it would be very helpful for the adiabatic, isothermal, isobaric processes to have them in a chart showing exactly what it means mathematically when they are held constant. All in all the text book does help clarify points that wasn't understood during lecture but the book itself could be a better learning tool if it was a bit more easier to access formulas/derivations easier without re-reading a large portion of the chapter to find it again.

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