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Methods of Thermodynamics

By Howard Reiss

Dover Publications. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 256 pages. Dimensions: 8.4in. x 5.3in. x 0.6in. Since there is no shortage of excellent general books on elementary thermodynamics, this book takes a different approach, focusing attention on the problem areas of understanding of concept and especially on the overwhelming but usually hidden role of constraints in thermodynamics, as well as on the lucid exposition of the significance, construction, and use (in the case of arbitrary systems) of the thermodynamic potential. It will be especially useful as an auxiliary text to be used along with any standard treatment. Unlike some texts, Methods of Thermodynamics does not use statistical mechanics as a crutch to explain the subject. In the authors view, the student should learn to use the method of thermodynamics in all its power, applying it to any problem it may help solve. As the author states: In view of the high level of confidence which we place in thermodynamics, what is known thermodynamically is often considered to be known once and for all by restricting oneself initially to purely thermodynamic arguments, one can know what he does know before entering domains where conclusions are less certain. Major chapter headings in this volume include:...



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Reviews

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