

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777468703321
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Titolo	Statistical physics of crystals and liquids [[electronic resource]] : a guide to highly accurate equations of state / / Duane C. Wallace
Pubbl/distr/stampa	River Edge, NJ, : World Scientific, c2002
ISBN	1-281-87184-2 9786611871840 981-238-882-6
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (329 p.)
Disciplina	530.4
Soggetti	Equations of state Crystals - Statistical methods Liquids - Statistical methods Statistical physics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 297-302) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preface; Contents; Chapter 1 Condensed Matter Hamiltonian; 1 NATURE OF CONDENSED MATTER; 2 DENSITY FUNCTIONAL THEORY; 3 ELECTRONIC EXCITED STATES IN METALS; 4 TOTAL HAMILTONIAN; 5 NEARLY-FREE-ELECTRON METALS; Chapter 2 Statistical Mechanics; 6 AVERAGING TECHNIQUES; 7 QUANTUM STATISTICAL MECHANICS; 8 THERMOELASTICITY; 9 CLASSICAL STATISTICS: DERIVATION; 10 CLASSICAL STATISTICS: APPLICATIONS; 11 INTERPRETATION OF STATISTICAL MECHANICS; Chapter 3 Lattice Dynamics; 12 LATTICE STATICS; 13 QUASIHARMONIC PHONONS; 14 THEORY AND EXPERIMENT; 15 EXPERIMENTAL PHONON DATA Chapter 4 Statistical Mechanics of Crystals16 QUANTUM NUCLEAR MOTION; 17 CLASSICAL NUCLEAR MOTION; 18 ELECTRONIC EXCITATIONS; 19 LEARNING FROM THERMODYNAMIC DATA; 20 CRYSTAL EQUATION OF STATE; Chapter 5 Liquid Dynamics and Statistical Mechanics; 21 CONFIGURATIONAL CORRELATIONS IN A MONATOMIC LIQUID; 22 MELTING OF ELEMENTS; 23 LIQUID DYNAMICS THEORY; 24 VERIFICATION FROM COMPUTER SIMULATIONS; 25 LIQUID EQUATION OF STATE; Chapter 6 Phase Transitions and Nonequilibrium

Sommario/riassunto

This important book presents a unified formulation from first principles of the Hamiltonian and statistical mechanics of metallic and insulating crystals, amorphous solids, and liquids. Extensive comparison of theory and experiment provides an accurate understanding of the statistical properties of phonons, electrons, and phonon - phonon and electron - phonon interactions in elemental crystals and liquids. Questions are posed along the following lines: What is the "best" theory for a given property? How accurate is a good theory? What information is gained by a comparison of theory and experiment? How accurate is a good experiment?
