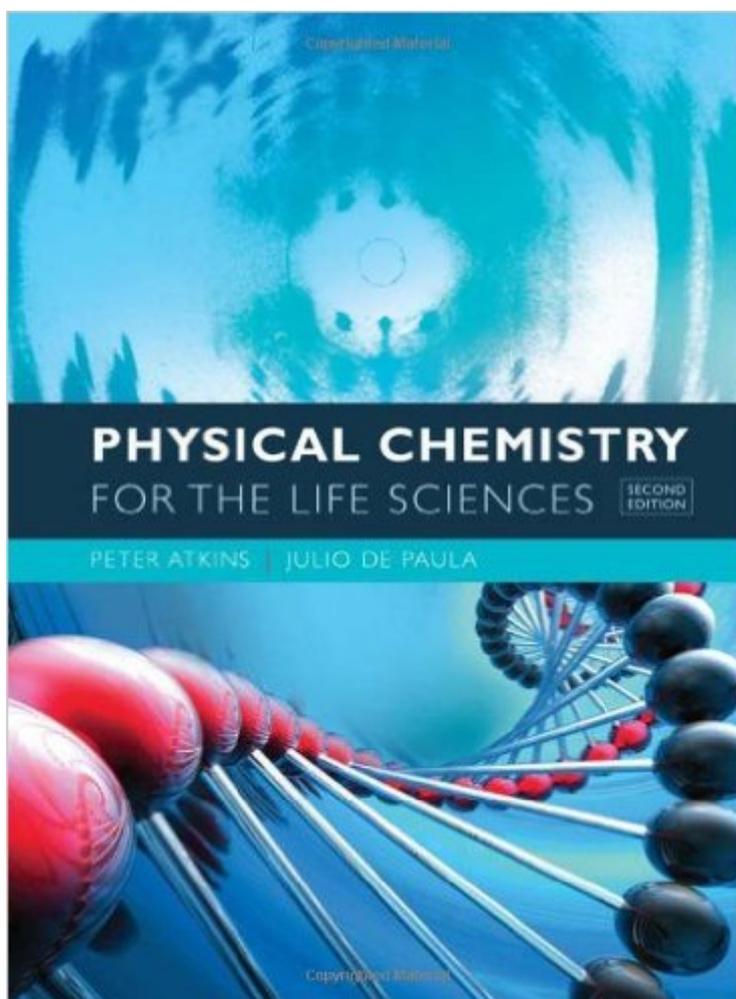


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Physical Chemistry For The Life Sciences, 2nd Edition



Synopsis

With the first edition of Physical Chemistry for the Life Sciences, life science students at last had a text that explored biochemical phenomena from their perspective – an expertly crafted resource specifically designed to help biology majors master the physical chemistry they needed to know. Now Peter Atkins and Julio de Paula's acclaimed text returns, bringing the worlds of physical chemistry and biology more effectively than ever.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars – See all reviews (11 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

pros: It has very relevant biological examples and applications. cons: The explanations of concepts are a bit confusing. Many of the derivations and examples skip steps and offer no clear definition of important variables used in the equations. The problem sets are confusing as well and expect students to assume that numbers in the tables throughout the chapter and the back of the book are given values even though those tables frequently contain the answers already in them. I frequently ran into dead ends on problems when the book assumed I knew the density or heat capacity of some substance when it was a little side note in an example I worked in the chapter and not in any table or appendix. I thought the material included was good and relevant, but I had a very hard time following the authors points and logic. I wouldn't suggest using this book unless an instructor is around to help clarify the confusion and mistakes this book frequently contains.

The solution manual actually taught more on how to do the problems than the actual book did.

However, the book did do a nice job for those questions that you may have, but do not necessarily need for an exam. Conceptually, it's all there. Example problems were lacking and few in each chapter, but with the solutions manual, each problem does a good job of explaining major concepts and minor points.

Decent book. Has a few typos in it, more than are usually in a textbook actually, but for the most part it does a decent job of explaining things. Unfortunately the end-of-chapter questions sometimes are on topics that are not covered in the book, and you would have no way of answering them without the solutions manual (or a strong background in physical chemistry). The book can do a better job of explaining certain topics that are more important to understand, but it's not bad.

Without question this is the worst textbook I have ever read. The author complicates simple topics. The author presents new equations and expects the reader to immediately understand from where they derive. The author makes huge leaps in subject matter without making connections for the reader. The author most frequently uses the phrase "It follows that...", which is ironic because typically the reader doesn't follow.

I rented this textbook, but some of the pages are stuck together and it is really dirty. It has what looks like food spilt on it and I've found other peoples hair in it. I would have returned it but I need it every day for my class.

This is a great book to learn from, either on your own (as I did), or as a text book for a class.

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