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Concerned with materials science and condensed matter physics. Reports experimental and theoretical studies of the structural, thermal, mechanical, electrical, magnetic, optical and surface properties of condensed matter. Has separate Surface and Interface Science and Liquids sections. A comprehensive and unified introduction to the science of energy sources, uses, and systems for students, scientists, engineers, and professionals. A man and his equation: the anxiety-plagued nineteenth-century physicist who contributed significantly to our understanding of the second law of thermodynamics. Ludwig Boltzmann's grave in Vienna's Central Cemetery bears a cryptic epitaph: $S = k \log W$. This equation was Boltzmann's great discovery, and it contributed significantly to our understanding of the second law of thermodynamics. In *Anxiety and the Equation*, Eric Johnson tells the story of a man and his equation: the anxiety-plagued nineteenth-century physicist who did his most important work as he struggled with mental illness. Johnson explains that "S" in Boltzmann's equation refers to entropy, and that entropy is the central quantity in the second law of thermodynamics. The second law is always on, running in the background of our lives, providing a way to differentiate between past and future. We know that the future will be a state of higher entropy than the past, and we have Boltzmann to thank for discovering the equation that underlies that fundamental trend. Johnson, accessibly and engagingly, reassembles Boltzmann's equation from its various components and presents episodes from Boltzmann's life—beginning at the end, with "Boltzmann Kills Himself" and "Boltzmann Is Buried (Not Once, But Twice)." Johnson explains the second law in simple terms, introduces key concepts through thought experiments, and explores Boltzmann's work. He argues that Boltzmann, diagnosed by his contemporaries as neurasthenic, suffered from an anxiety disorder. He was, says Johnson, a man of reason who suffered from irrational concerns about his work, worrying especially about opposition from the scientific establishment of the day. Johnson's clear and concise explanations will acquaint the nonspecialist reader with such seemingly esoteric concepts as microstates, macrostates, fluctuations, the distribution of energy, log functions, and equilibrium. He describes Boltzmann's relationships with other scientists, including Max Planck and Henri Poincaré, and, finally, imagines "an alternative ending," in which Boltzmann lived on and died of natural causes. Singularities are pervasive throughout nature and this book is one of the first to combine all aspects of singular optics and to give a detailed view of the subject. *Singularities in Optical Physics and Engineering* give a thorough introduction to singularities and their development and goes on to explain in detail important topics such as the types of singularities, their properties, detection and application and the emerging research trends that are still developing. The book concentrates mostly on phase

singularities in a comprehensive development to allow a greater understanding of singularities throughout the chapters. It also discusses polarization singularities in its final chapter giving an in-depth description of this subject. With new advances being generated continuously, this book will cover a vibrant field of optics and will give an essential foundation to any students and researchers interested in singular optics. Part of IOP Series in Advances in Optics, Photonics and Optoelectronics This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. To ensure a quality reading experience, this work has been proofread and republished using a format that seamlessly blends the original graphical elements with text in an easy-to-read typeface. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

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