

Taking Thermodynamics Too Seriously

Callender, Craig (2001) Taking Thermodynamics Too Seriously.

Full text available as:

[Microsoft Word](#) - Requires a viewer, such as [Microsoft Word Viewer](#)

Abstract

This paper discusses the mistake of understanding the laws and concepts of thermodynamics too literally in the foundations of statistical mechanics. Arguing that this error is still pervasive (though slightly more subtle than before), we explore its consequences in three cases: explaining the Second Law, understanding equilibrium and defining phase transitions.

Keywords: thermodynamics; entropy; equilibrium; phase transitions; reduction

Subjects: [General Issues: Reductionism/Holism](#)
[Specific Sciences: Physics: Statistical Mechanics/Thermodynamics](#)

ID Code: 289

Deposited By: [Callender, Craig](#)

Deposited On: 22 June 2001