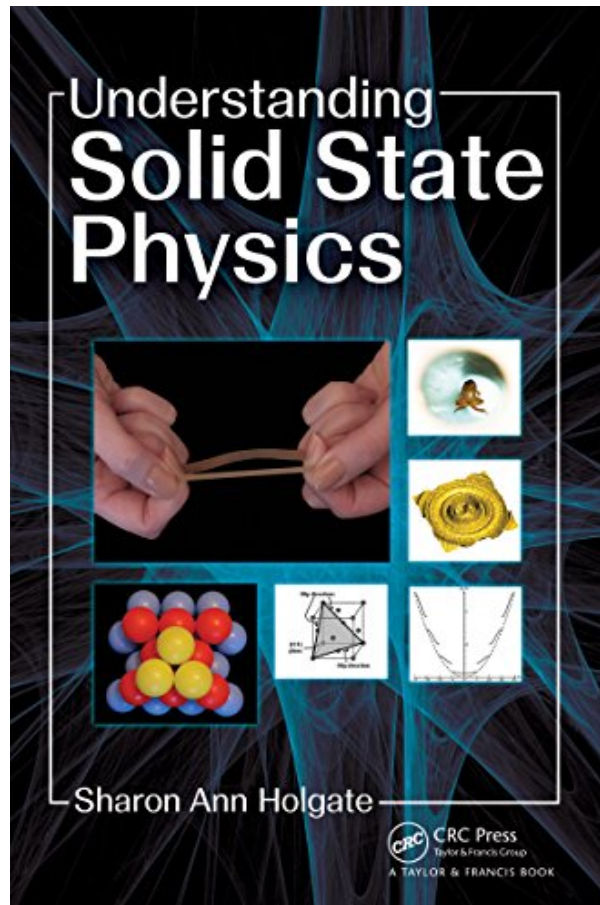


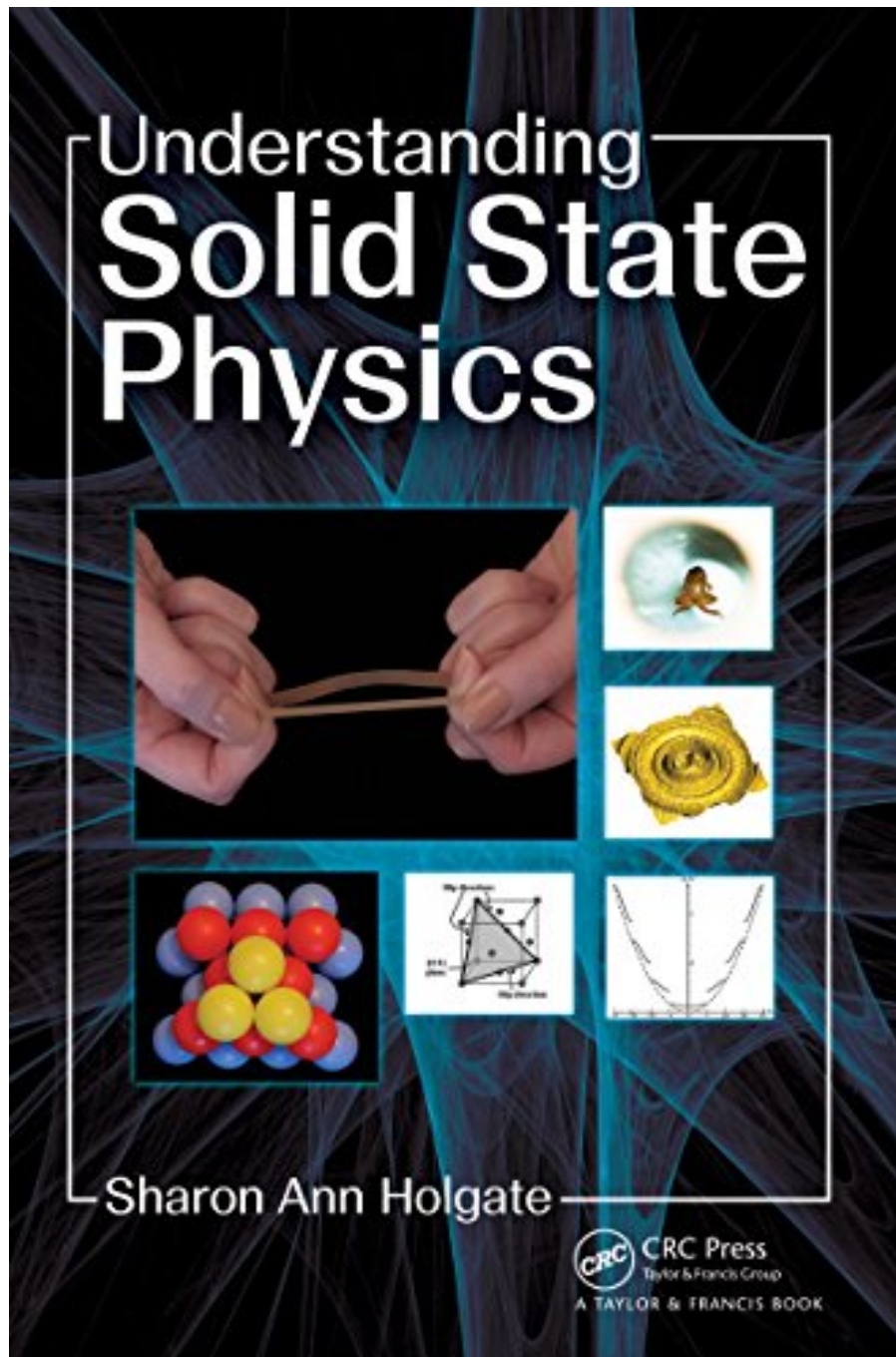
UNDERSTANDING SOLID STATE PHYSICS

BY SHARON ANN HOLGATE



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Review

Where Sharon Ann Holgate has succeeded in this book is in packing it with examples of the application of solid state physics to technology. ... All the basic elements of solid state physics are covered The range of materials is good, including as it does polymers and glasses as well as crystalline solids. In general, the style makes for easy reading. ... Overall this book succeeds in showing the relevance of solid state physics to the modern world

—Contemporary Physics, Vol. 52, No. 2, 2011

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I enjoyed reading the book and it is a refreshing approach — it is very up to date and pitched at a good level to engage undergraduates new to the subject. I am happy to recommend this book to my students.

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Enables students to easily grasp basic solid state physics principles

Keeping the mathematics to a minimum yet losing none of the required rigor, *Understanding Solid State Physics* clearly explains basic physics principles to provide a firm grounding in the subject. The author underscores the technological applications of the physics discussed and emphasizes the multidisciplinary nature of scientific research.

After introducing students to solid state physics, the text examines the various ways in which atoms bond together to form crystalline and amorphous solids. It also describes the measurement of mechanical properties and the means by which the mechanical properties of solids can be altered or supplemented for particular applications. The author discusses how electromagnetic radiation interacts with the periodic array of atoms that make up a crystal and how solids react to heat on both atomic and macroscopic scales. She then focuses on conductors, insulators, semiconductors, and superconductors, including some basic semiconductor devices. The final chapter addresses the magnetic properties of solids as well as applications of magnets and magnetism.

This accessible textbook provides a useful introduction to solid state physics for undergraduates who feel daunted by a highly mathematical approach. By relating the theories and concepts to practical applications, it shows how physics is used in the real world.

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By Talisker

This book has been underway for a while, in an earlier position I worked with the author developing her ideas about how to present the material in this book. I must quickly say I have no link with the publishers now and so have no reason to 'big' up the book. Sharon Ann has put much of the last 6 years of her time into

this excellent book and it really has been worth the wait. The language is clear and engaging and I think the book sets a new standard for texts in this area. If you are taking your first course in solid state physics you will not find a better book to help you.

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