Edited by Rolf Schäfer, Peter C. Schmidt

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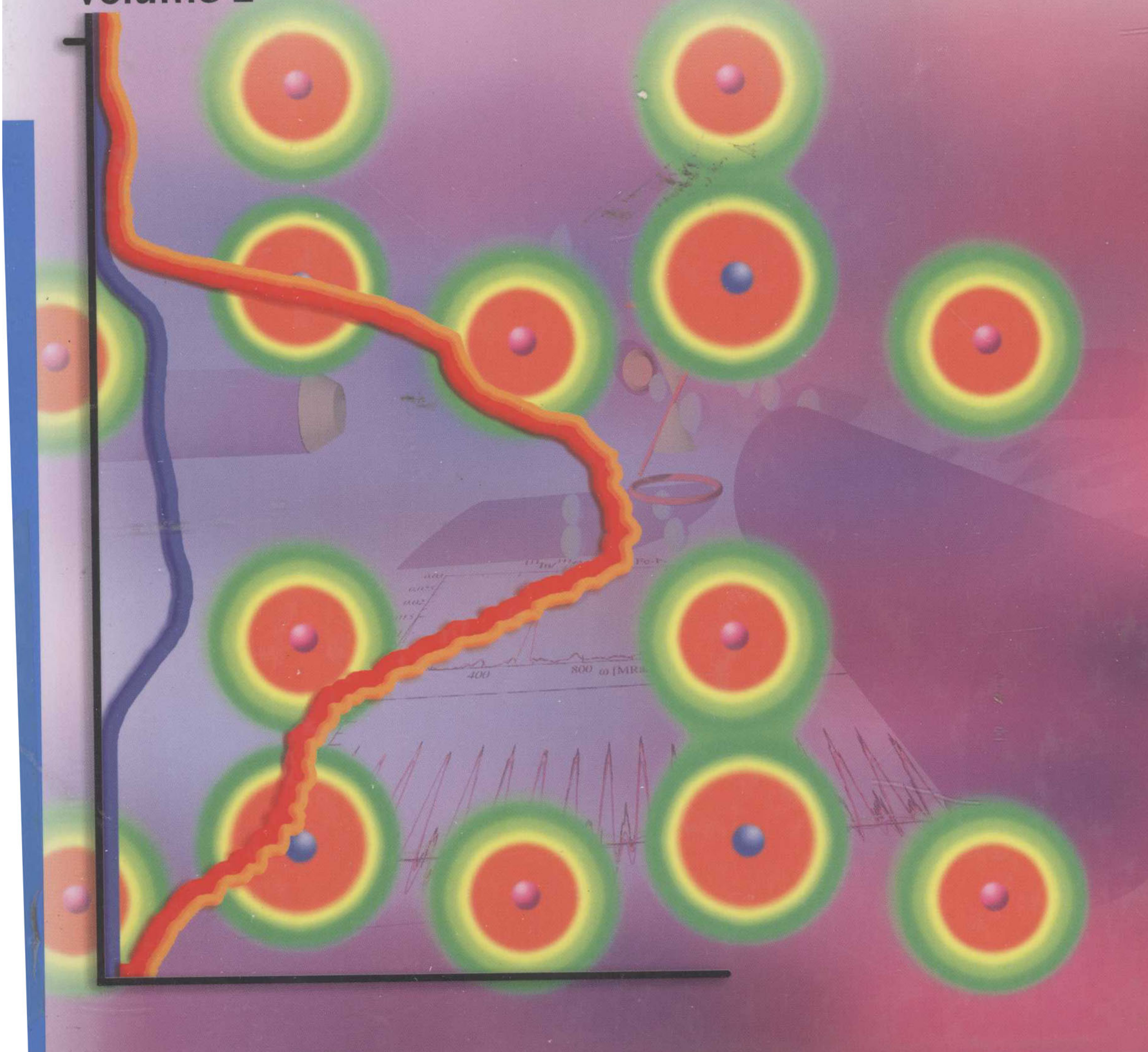
Methods in Physical Chemistry

With a Foreword by Gerhard Ertl

Volume 2



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Methods in Physical Chemistry

Volume 2

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Methods in Physical Chemistry

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Foreword

"Real progress requires either a new idea or a new method." These were the words of my mentor Heinz Gerischer while I was a graduate student, and they characterize the enormous development of physical chemistry since its founding more than a hundred years ago. While at first mainly offering a bridge between physics and chemistry, this discipline has evolved into a cornerstone of all natural sciences, chiefly through the advent of novel methods. Several years ago, the Bunsen-Gesellschaft für Physikalische Chemie recognized that there was a need among graduate students and younger researchers (and others) for a bridge between traditional textbooks and review articles and, therefore, initiated a series of articles on modern methods of physical chemistry in its journal Bunsen-Magazin. This series was started by Peter C. Schmidt, then editor of the Bunsen-Magazin, and continued by his successor Rolf Schäfer. These contributions sometimes even became part of advanced lecture courses and hence the idea to publish the whole collection emerged. For this purpose the individual contributions were shaped into a uniform structure, leading to the present handbook. It is hoped that it will find widespread interest as a valuable guide to the methods of physical chemistry.

Gerhard Ertl

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