PREFACE

This book has been prepared as a necessary companion to the second book by R. Pohorecki and S. Wroński, *Thermodynamics and Kinetics of Chemical Engineering Processes*, which is expected to be published in 1999. Both books have been conceived as a link among basic subjects (like mathematics, physics, physical chemistry, or fluid mechanics) and process calculations forming the final stage of chemical engineering education. We try to follow the ideas developed in the past by such classical books as O. A. Hougen, K. M. Watson, and R. A. Ragatz, *Chemical Process Principles*; P. Grassman, *Physikalische Grundlagen der Verfahrenstechnik*; V. G. Levich, *Physicochemical Hydrodynamics*; or R. B. Bird, W. Stewart, and E. N. Lightfoot, *Transport Phenomena*.

Since much user-friendly software is now easily available, we emphasise the understanding of the underlying principles and methods of solution rather than the purely computational skills. For this reason, no computer or calculator programs have been included.

We are pleased to address our thanks to the many colleagues and collaborators who helped in the preparation of this book. Special thanks are due to Dr. A. Biń, who translated the whole text and contributed significantly to its final form, supplying a number of new solutions, and to the Editor for his patience and help during the translation.

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