



Editor's Preface

I felt close to Ilya Lifshitz even though I never met him. I admired so much his scientific work and heard so much about his personal qualities that I thought of him as a friend whose acquaintance I must make at the earliest possible moment—a moment which, unfortunately, never came before his untimely death. This issue of the *Journal of Statistical Physics* honors not only a great scientist who made fundamental contributions to our subject, but also a great man. May it contribute to the advancement of science and humanity—two objects close to Ilya's heart.

Joel L. Lebowitz
Editor