
Seminar

The Landau Lifshitz volumes

Rajaram Nityananda

NCRA, Pune

Most theoretical physicists, and many physicists, have encountered the ten volume Course of Theoretical physics built up from 1937 to 1962 by the Russian physicist Lev Landau and his lifetime collaborator, Evgeny Lifshitz. Dipping into all, and drowning in some, gives me an opportunity to convey, a birds eye view of the series. The choice of material, sequence, and presentation are worth looking at, reflecting the thinking of the school, dominated by Landau of course. Many legends which have grown around these, and not all stand up to scrutiny. More broadly, one can see the impact of the authors own research, and speculate on their tastes and personalities and the influence of the explosive growth of physics while these were being written. This talk in the spirit of introducing to twenty first century students to, one of the monuments built up during the first half of the twentieth century.

Tuesday, Oct 7th 2014

3:30 PM (Tea/Coffee at 3:15 PM)

Seminar Hall, TCIS