

I'm very pleased to write some words about Ivan Frolov. For almost two years he has been taking a course of intensive study at the Institute of Solid State Physics, Chernogolovka. Under guidance of me and my colleagues Ivan attended lectures on fundamentals of solid state physics, performed laboratory practice on x-ray analysis and high-pressure physics, participated in colloquium on experimental physics, where he has made several reports on low-temperature techniques.

I have early noticed Ivan's great interest in superconductors. During the observational lecture on this topic he asked many questions and expressed his wish to become more familiar with theory of superconductivity. I gave him advanced literature, including Schmidt's 'Superconductivity' textbook, edited by our laboratory. In our conversation he showed excellent knowledge of Josephson junctions and vortex lattices. So I can affirm his high-level skills in the subject.

I must also mention Ivan's experience in computer science. Here is the example. It was necessary for us to obtain Fourier of SEM pictures. Ivan easily solved this problem of data processing, including Fast Fourier Transformation of an image, low-pass filtering etc. The program written by Ivan has friendly interface and is very suitable for us.

At the moment Ivan is busy with the project of STM construction at XX laboratory. I believe this task will be very useful for Ivan. It will allow him to 'look inside' real laboratory devices, to sense the newest scientific technology by his own hands.

In the nearest future we are planning to use new microscope for more efficient imaging of vortex lattices in superconductors. Thus, Ivan's interest for superconductivity as a 'pure science' and his technical experience will be unified. No doubt, being able to manage with such a complex and embracing project is Ivan's important benefit.

That's why I strongly recommend him for graduate study at your University.

Sincerely Yours,

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