Dear members of the Admissions Committee,

For the last year I was fortunate enough to get acquainted with Skoltech, and in this respect I have an interest in the work and education in your university. I read on your website the information about the PhD Program in physics with great interest. In this motivational letter I would like to nominate my candidacy for the PhD Program in physics.

I completed of master's degree in Physics (Moscow State University), where the curriculum devoted to the intensive study of both theoretical and experimental disciplines. I believe that this specialty, which ensures the application of theoretical and experimental approaches to research of a higher level, is a great continuation for my training. The received educational training is a good basis for the PhD program. My master's degree includes courses of general and theoretical level in the areas of Quantum Mechanics, Optics, Thermodynamics, Statistical Physics, Solid-State Physics. From other hand, my education background includes Applied physics, the basics of Engineering Physics, and Experimental Methods of Physical Research.

Two research directions I am especially interested in are (1) application of numerical and computer algebra methods to problems in condensed matter physics and (2) quantum information theory.

I started working under the guidance of Oleg Lychkovskiy who is Senior Research Scientist from Center in Photonics and Quantum Materials of Skolkovo Institute for Science and Technology. I analyzed the geometry of the spaces of symmetric states of a number of few-spin systems and calculated ground state energies of spin lattices. As a result of the work done by our group, we wrote article "N. Il'in, E. Shpagina, F. Uskov, O. Lychkovskiy, A parameterization of constrained and unconstrained sets of quantum states, J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. 51, 085301 (2018)".

Under the guidance of Oleg Lychkovskiy I wrote my graduate work "Spin systems ½ with isotropic Heisenberg interaction: density matrix parameterization, variational principle, exact diagonalization.". In connection with this work I wrote computer library for working with scalar and mixed products of Pauly matrices, and share it on github. My work took one of the 3<sup>rd</sup> places in competition of theses on faculty of physics of MSU.

In addition, I got the experience of participation in conferences. The conclusions of the article were presented by me on ICQOQ'2017 and 60th all-Russian scientific conference of MIPT as poster presentations. Thanks to the trust of Oleg Lychkovskiy I participate in his project "Quantum adiabaticity in many-body systems". And also I was accepted to Skoltech in the position of research intern, which contributed to my educational background through a variety of public lectures and seminars held in Skoltech.

In believe that I fulfill the criteria for your program and I will be glad to take part in this and I hope I will join your academy in this session to achieve my educational and future career goals. Sincerely thank you for consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Filipp Uskov.