ited and that he inspired in those who worked with him. He will be missed.

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Stefan Schmitt-Rink

Stefan Schmitt-Rink, a professor of theoretical physics at Philipps University, in Marburg, Germany, died on 5 May 1992. He was 35 years old.

Stefan was born in Wiesbaden, Germany. He received his PhD from the University of Frankfurt in 1982 for a study of many-body effects in the optical spectra of direct-gap semiconductors. He continued to work with his thesis adviser, Hartmut Haug, and also worked with Phillipe Nozières at the Laue–Langevin Institute in Grenoble, France, in 1983, before joining the theoretical physics department of AT&T Bell Laboratories in October 1985.

Stefan had extraordinary technical skills, vast powers of concentration and uncompromising standards, which he applied to a wide range of problems in solid-state physics. At Bell Labs he made contributions to understanding transport properties of heavy-fermion solids, deciphering mechanisms of anisotropic superconductivity in heavy fermions and developing new approaches to strong electronic correlation in solids. He also made pivotal contributions to models of high-temperature superconductivity and the phenomenology of the normal state in high-T_c superconductors. In addition, he made significant advances in the theory of many-body effects in the optical properties of semiconductors and nanostructures.

Stefan was unusual among theorists in that he interacted strongly with experimenters, especially in the area of optical nonlinearities and electron–electron interaction in semiconductors. His contributions were instrumental in developing the current understanding of many novel phenomena, including the excitonic optical Stark effect, optical rectification, quantum beats, magnetoexcitons and Fermi-edge singularities.

Stefan left Bell Labs in the summer of 1991, eager to start a new theoretical physics group at Philipps. He will be remembered by his friends and numerous collaborators as an intense, generous, warmhearted individual.

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