

Scholars who pursue several subjects in their research investigations, as a rule only rarely attain preeminent results in more than one area. For example, in the related duo of mathematical physics: physicists who establish fundamental natural phenomena hardly ever discover results significant to mathematics, and vice versa, front line mathematicians are not known for the successes of their physical ideas. Of course every rule has its exceptions—indeed a very small cohort of doubly preeminent mathematical physicists can be readily identified. Ludwig Faddeev belongs to this select company. He moved physics forward when he extended quantization procedures to functional integration (just when Feynman abandoned this approach). Additionally with his students, Faddeev constructed the quantum inverse scattering method, which led to the emergence of a new field in mathematics (viz. Drinfeld's quantum groups). Faddeev's selected papers give ample evidence of his contributions at the forefront of physics and mathematics. The breadth, vigor and beauty of Ludwig's permanent accomplishments fully justifies calling him the "Beethoven of mathematical physics."