

## Preface to the First Edition

The past ten years or so have seen a remarkable growth in our understanding of the statistical mechanics of simple liquids. Many of these advances have not yet been treated fully in any book and the present work is aimed at filling this gap at a level similar to that of Egelstaff's "The Liquid State", though with a greater emphasis on theoretical developments. We discuss both static and dynamic properties, but no attempt is made at completeness and the choice of topics naturally reflects our own interests. The emphasis throughout is placed on theories which have been brought to a stage at which numerical comparison with experiment can be made. We have attempted to make the book as self-contained as possible, assuming only a knowledge of statistical mechanics at a final-year undergraduate level. We have also included a large number of references to work which lack of space has prevented us from discussing in detail. Our hope is that the book will prove useful to all those interested in the physics and chemistry of liquids.

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A number of figures and tables have been reproduced, with permission, from The Physical Review, Journal of Chemical Physics, Molecular Physics and Physica; detailed acknowledgements are made at appropriate points in the text.

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J.P. HANSEN  
I.R. McDONALD