



**Physics Department**

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Dear Dean Kim,

I am writing to request an exemption from the requirement set by the Graduate Division that permission letters from co-authors be obtained when incorporating published material in doctoral theses. My field of experimental particle physics relies on large collaborations and it is common practice to use published material from the collaboration in individual theses.

As a graduate student in the field of experimental particle physics, I am also a member of the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) Collaboration. The CMS Collaboration is one of the largest international scientific collaborations in history, involving about 5500 particle physicists, engineers, technicians, students and support staff from 241 institutes in 54 countries. Since the physics results published in each paper relies on the technical, scientific and instrumentation work done by thousands of people over the years, it is common practice to accord every current member the status of a co-author on all papers. Hence, getting the consent of all the co-authors in the papers is an infeasible proposition in this scenario.

In addition, the use of published material in doctoral dissertations is common in this field. Since each paper “speaks with the voice” of the entire collaboration, it undergoes extensive internal reviews, culminating in a Collaboration Wide Review where any member of the collaboration can provide comments and suggestions about the contents of a paper draft. This extensive internal review process also implies a consent to the distribution of any public facing material.

Additionally, one of my co-authors, Zhaoyu Zhang, on one of the papers I incorporate in the thesis is unfortunately unresponsive. I have attempted contact via e-mail, our research group’s Slack workspace, and LinkedIn. They made no direct contribution to the paper; they were part of a larger working group in the same area and it is our group’s convention to include all students in such a group as co-authors on all its papers. I Hence, would like to request an exemption from submitting permission letters from Zhaoyu and the CMS Collaboration.

Sincerely,

Raghav Kansal

Javier Duarte, Assistant Professor UC San Diego  
Dissertation Advisor

Approved August 27, 2024