



Agreement for Double Doctoral Degree Program

between

University of Pisa, Lungarno Pacinotti 43, 56126 Pisa, Italy

and

Beihang University, 37 Xueyuan Road, Haidian District, Beijing, 100191, P.R. China

Beihang University the People's Republic of China (PRC), hereafter referred to as Beihang and University of Pisa, hereafter referred to as UniPi, hereby agree to the following regulation concerning the award of a Double Doctoral Degrees for the University of Pisa and Double Doctoral Degrees for Beihang University.

1. Aim of Agreement

The aim of the procedure for double doctoral degree programme is to promote and develop scientific cooperation and the mobility of PhD students between Beihang and UniPi. Both Institutions are authorized by the governments of the PRC and Italy, respectively, to grant Doctoral (PhD) Degrees. The prospective PhD students will be initially selected from the PhD programs of both Institutions, in accordance with their own rules.

2. Clauses of Agreement

- a) The signatory universities agree that they shall assume the responsibility for the supervision of a particular PhD candidate's doctoral thesis, the organization of the thesis defence and the award of a double doctoral degree. A Complementary agreement is made for each student, as provided in Annex 1), where additional terms not mentioned in this agreement will be set. The Complementary agreement will be signed by the directors of the PhD program and the supervisors from both signatory universities and the student. Any inconsistencies between this agreement and Annex 1 shall be governed by Annex 1.
- b) All personal data shall be processed in accordance with national laws and regulations. Beihang and UniPi are also bound by EU General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR). When Beihang and UniPi transfer personal data to third countries, the recipient in such a country shall handle that data according to the same level as required by GDPR. By signing this agreement, the Doctoral Student gives consent to transfer their personal data between Beihang and UniPi when executing this agreement. The consent covers name, contact details, study credit information and information on the execution of the studies.
- c) The PhD students will be enrolled at both Beihang and UniPi and will nominate one as "Home Institution" and the other as "Partner Institution". Admission is done in each Institution under



its own rules. When the enrolling is complete for the second Institution, the study plan, including time sharing, should be drafted and shared by both institutions.

- d) The time to be spent at the Partner Institution shall be no less than 12 months.
- e) The doctoral candidate must complete the administrative procedures for enrolment for each year of the doctorate course in both institutions.
- f) The candidate must fluently speak English.
- g) The PhD students covered by the double degree procedure shall work under the direction and responsibility of Thesis advisors from Beihang and UniPi.
- h) The plan for the PhD student's studies and research may be regularly revised by the PhD student and the Thesis advisors reflecting the progress of the PhD student and according to the requirements and practices of both Institutions.
- i) Both the research work and the writing of the dissertation must be done alternately in both universities according to a timetable and for periods of stay in relation to the state of progress of the research work. Calendars and periods of stay will be defined by common agreement among the PhD student, the supervisor of the University of Pisa and the supervisor of Beihang University.
- j) The doctoral degree learning courses requirements for Beihang and UniPi must be fulfilled. Courses completed by the PhD student at one Institution will be accredited at the other Institution towards their respective requirements, as far as the courses can be considered part of the formal degree requirements.
- k) The PhD student will be registered at both Universities and recognized as a PhD candidate by both Institutions. PhD candidates taking part in this program will obtain a tuition fee waiver at Host Universities. A scholarship can be obtained by either UniPi or Beihang according to the regulation of each University.
- l) The PhD student will have access to equipment, consumables and premises required for research activities when present at each Institution.
- m) Each Part shall promptly notify the other of the achievement of results susceptible to be the subject of industrial and intellectual property rights, within 30 days of their achievement. Furthermore, the University of Pisa and Beihang University shall cooperate in the assessment of the existence of the requirements necessary for the patenting or registration of the results.
- n) The industrial property rights to the results, as well as the intellectual property rights relating to the programmes developed by the PhD student as part of their doctoral activity, shall be jointly due to the Parties taking into account the contributions of each of the Parties to the inventive activity. However, this does not preclude the possibility of agreeing in writing during the course of the activity to change the co-ownership shares. This is without prejudice to the recognition of the inventor's moral rights under applicable law.
- o) Should either Parties not be interested in filing the application, it shall notify the other one in writing within 60 days of the communication of the results, as per paragraph 1. In this case, the other Part shall have the right to proceed with the filing of the application for the results



at its own expense, subject to written notice to the waiving Part. The Parties acknowledge that, in the event that the University of Pisa waives the filing of the application, Article 65, paragraph 3, last clause of the Industrial Property Code shall apply.

- p) The Parties hereby agree that all costs relating to any assignment, including transcription, shall be shared between them unless otherwise written agreement.
- q) In all the aforementioned cases, the author's/inventor's right to be cited in all acts concerning filing, registration, patenting and any other form of protection of industrial property rights is guaranteed.
- r) However, all envisaged procedures must guarantee the PhD student the publication of their work and the discussion of their doctoral thesis.
- s) The final thesis title will be agreed upon and confirmed by both organizations separately. The PhD students are required to submit a final thesis to both institutions respectively, the content and format of which must comply with the respective regulations of each institution.
- t) The Doctoral studies will terminate with final examination procedure outlined in the art. 3 below. The doctoral studies will terminate with final examination procedure, which will be recognized for issuing double doctoral degrees at both Beihang and UniPi.

3. Submission and examination of Thesis

The subject of the thesis and the results of joint research carried out by both partner universities must be published, used and protected in compliance with the specific procedures applicable in each country involved in the joint supervision of the doctorate.

The Institutions agree that:

- a) The doctoral dissertation shall be carried out under the joint direction of the supervisors of the dissertation from both institutions.
- b) There shall be final examination process and final public defence of the Thesis performed at Home University. Doctoral degree applicants may apply for a re-defence in accordance with the respective regulations on Degree Application Procedures of each institute. The examining board for the awarding of the PhD title will be appointed by the University where the final exam will be held and will be approved by both universities in accordance with their respective regulations. Both universities agree to bear travel and accommodation and subsistence costs of their own members attending the thesis defence procedure.
- c) The examination's procedure will follow both Beihang and UniPi rules, regulations and practices. The validity of the examination will be recognized by both Institutions. The language used in the oral examination shall be English.
- d) Prior to final defence, the Thesis shall be examined by a required number of qualified experts in accordance with respective regulations on Degree Application Procedures of each institute, independent and internationally recognized examiners, agreeable to both Institutions;



- e) The student will provide the Partner Institution with an agreed number of copies of the final Thesis in the format required by that university (e.g. bound or digital).
- f) Each party agrees not to publish or disclose in any way the scientific or technical information belonging to the counterpart of which it may become aware at the time of drafting this agreement, and that such information will not be revealed in public. This commitment remains in effect for 10 years starting from the date of signing of this contract, despite the termination or expiry of the latter.
- g) All publications or informational communications regarding the Thesis must receive, during the duration of the thesis and for the 6 months following the expiry of the thesis, the written agreement of the other party (through the student Supervisor) who will communicate his decision within a maximum of 2 months from the request. At the end of the indicated time, and in case of no reply, the agreement will be assumed. Consequently, all proposed publication or dissemination projects will be submitted to the opinion of the other party (through the student Supervisor) who will be able to remove or modify some details where the disclosure of those could affect industrial and commercial use, in good condition, results of the thesis. Such deletions or modifications must not, however, prejudice the scientific value of the publication. Furthermore, the other party (through the student Supervisor) can delay the publication or communication for a maximum period of 18 months from the application if the information contained in the publication or communication must be protected under the terms of industrial and intellectual property. However, the provisions of this article shall not hinder the final discussion of the Thesis. In order to guarantee the confidentiality of some results, the final discussion can be organized if necessary, in compliance with the university regulations in force.

4. Conferral of Award

The Institutions agree that:

Each institution will award a doctorate degree separately, subject to its own requirements, and governed by the aforesaid individual agreement.

5. Withdrawal from Candidature

The Institutions agree that:

- a) A PhD Student may withdraw from the Program at any time prior to Thesis submission.
- b) A PhD Student may, subject to the agreement of both Institutions, retain candidature at his/her Home Institution and relinquish candidature at the other Institution.



6. Fees

Enrolment fees will be paid at the PhD home institution. Each student will be required to pay the Regional Tax Fee for the Right to University Study in the time spent at the university of Pisa.

At Beihang University, each student will be subject to applicable institutional fees and charges in accordance with the University's policies and regulations.

7. Insurance coverage

The PhD student's insurance coverage is guaranteed:

- at the University of Pisa, by the insurance coverage provided by the University for those who works institutionally within its facilities, even for a specified period of time;
- at Beihang University, insurance coverage is provided in accordance with the University's relevant policies and requirements.

It will be the PhD student's onus to provide health coverage in accordance with the regulations in force in the countries of the Universities contracting the herewith agreement.

8. Term and Termination of Double PhD Program Agreement

The present agreement may be modified or terminated by a common agreement signed by the signatories of the present agreement. Besides that, both Beihang and UniPi have the right to replace their own supervisor (Thesis advisor) and to appoint a new supervisor (Thesis advisor) according to their own procedures. The replacement must be communicated to the other parties' supervisor and to the administrative contact person(s) without any delay.

Neither Party shall be in breach of this agreement if it is prevented from fulfilling its obligations under this agreement by *force majeure*. Each party will notify the other party of any *force majeure* without undue delay.

Moreover, the Institutions agree that:

- a) This agreement will take effect upon signature by the parties and lasts for five (5) years. It may be extended for a maximum of five (5) additional years by mutual written consent of the Parties and if the signing Universities do not declare their intention to withdraw.
- b) This Agreement may be terminated by either Institution by providing at least 90 days' notice in writing to the other Institution. The Responsible Officers will be responsible for the termination of this Agreement.



- c) This Agreement may be terminated immediately by either Institution whether the other party is in breach of the Agreement and has not remedied that breach within 14 days of receiving notice from the non-breaching party.
- d) Upon termination of this Agreement, PhD student who is currently enrolled in the program will be able to complete the award or an equivalent award with minimal disruption. PhD Students will be able to complete the requirements of the program within the prescribed program duration subject to maintaining satisfactory academic progress.
- e) At the achievement of an inventive result, the parties must negotiate in good faith to reach agreement on the use of any jointly owned intellectual property developed during the term of the Joint Candidature.

9. Language of agreement and administration

The language of this agreement and its modifications is English. The parties shall use English in administrative matters based on this agreement.

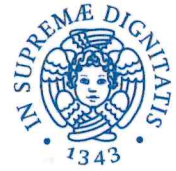
10. Liability

This Agreement does not create an obligation for either party to provide other resources than those specified in this Agreement. No supplementary funding commitments are created for either party by this Agreement.

Neither Party shall be responsible to the other Party for neither direct nor indirect or consequential loss or similar damage such as, but not limited to, loss of profit, loss of revenue or loss of contracts, provided such damage was not caused by a willful act or by gross negligence. Each party shall be solely liable for any loss, damage or injury to third parties resulting from the performance of the said party's obligations by it or on its behalf under this agreement or from its use of data or intellectual property rights.

11. Applicable law and settlement of disputes

Should any doubt or dispute arise from the interpretation or implementation of the present agreement, the Parties will strive to achieve a solution by mutual consent. Should this solution not be possible, the Parties will choose a third party to act as a mediator or judge.



Signatures

The Agreement is signed in duplicate in English, one for each signatory Party.

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF PISA

Prof. Riccardo Zucchi
Rector



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

Date: 12/01/2026

FOR BEIHANG UNIVERSITY

Prof. WANG YunPeng
President

Date:

Annex 1)

COMPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT to the Agreement for a Double Doctoral Degree Program

Between

the University of Pisa, situated in Lungarno Pacinotti, 43, 56126 Pisa, Italy, represented by the Rector Prof. Riccardo Zucchi

and

the University of Beihang University situated in 37 Xueyuan Road, Haidian District, Beijing, 100191, P.R. China represented by the President Prof. WANG Yunpeng

The candidate's personal details:

- name, surname
- date of birth
- nationality
- official address
- e-mail address

The candidate holding a *Master's Degree* in _____ from the _____ University has been authorised:

- on _____ to enrol in the _____ to prepare the thesis under the supervision of:
- _____ (University of Pisa)
- _____ (Beihang University)

The thesis has a (working) title of: " _____ "

The thesis shall be defended in English.

The provisional time of the co-supervision of doctoral studies shall start from the entry into force of this Complementary Agreement.

For the University of Pisa, the PhD program lasts for three years, but if the Doctoral Program of the partner university lasts longer than three years, the period exceeding the duration of the Doctoral Program at the University of Pisa will be considered as the period dedicated to the thesis work.

The thesis shall be prepared under the control and responsibility of the PhD supervisors who commit themselves to exercising their supervisory role for the candidate mutually:

- _____, *for the University of Pisa.*
- _____, *for the Beihang University.*

The defence procedure will be held at Home University.

Both universities agree to bear travel and accommodation and subsistence costs of their own members attending the thesis defence procedure.

Agreed mobility period at _____ University from _____ till _____ or a period of a minimum _____ month.

Signed by:

Prof. _____
Director of the PhD programme
on _____
University of Pisa
Date:

Prof. _____
Director of the PhD programme
on _____
Beihang University
Date:

Signed by:

Prof. _____

Supervisor of the University of Pisa
Date:

Prof. _____

Supervisor of Beihang University
Date:

Signed by:

The candidate

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Date: