

**COOPERATION AGREEMENT CONCERNING A DOUBLE DEGREE in the subject area of Mathematics
BETWEEN the UNIVERSITY OF PISA and the GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY**

Introduction

The signatory Institutions,

The University of Pisa (hereinafter denoted by UniPi), with headquarters in Pisa, Italy, Lungarno Pacinotti 43, represented by the Rector Prof. Paolo Maria Mancarella,

And

the Graduate School of Science, Hokkaido University (hereinafter denoted by GSS) with headquarters in Japan located in Sapporo with address Kita-10, Nishi-8, Kita- Ku 060-0810 represented by the Dean Prof. Hiroshi Amitsuka,

Considering:

– That according to the Italian Ministerial Decree 270/04, art. 3, and on the basis of specific agreements, Italian Universities can issue a Degree in conjunction with other Italian or foreign Universities; – That art. 3 of the Academic Regulations of UniPi provides the possibility of issuing a Degree in collaboration with other Universities, including foreign ones;

agree on a student exchange programme for attainment of a double degree (hereinafter denoted by DD) of GSS and UniPi in the subject area of Mathematics.

The parties hereby agree as follows:

Article 1 – Objectives

The Department of Mathematics at UniPi and GSS offer their students the opportunity to join a Double Degree Programme in the MSc course.

This programme enables students from GSS, enrolled in the MSc programme and those from UniPi, enrolled in the course of Laurea Magistrale in Matematica to graduate from both Institutions after having successfully completed their studies within this exchange programme.

Article 2 – Scope of the Agreement

The Agreement concerns Master students from GSS and Master students from UniPi. After successful participation in the double degree programme, the GSS students will in addition be awarded the “Laurea Magistrale in Matematica (UniPi)” Degree, whereas the UniPi students will in addition be awarded the degree of Master in the field of Mathematics (GSS).

Article 3 – Selection and Admission of Students

Students who will participate in the DD programme will be selected initially by the home Institution. The Institution hosting such students shall screen the selected students and make final admission decisions in each case. In principle, an application for the DD programme shall be made by the deadline set by each Institution.

Article 4 – Number of Students

In each academic year, each Institution may send up to 5 students under this agreement. More students can be accepted on a case-to-case basis. The number of students to be admitted for the coming academic year under this agreement may at any time be negotiated by the responsible authorities at both

Institutions prior to the deadline for submitting student applications for the coming academic year to the host Institution.

Article 5 – Students from GSS

Admission of GSS students will be decided by UniPi on the basis of the applicants' record of studies. If admitted to the UniPi Laurea Magistrale in Matematica, each GSS student will attend its courses and take its exams, according to the Learning Agreement mentioned below, for two semesters (21 CFU) and will complete his/her Master thesis working partly at UniPi and partly at GSS (see below for details). The period of study at UniPi shall be within one year. Upon defence and approval of this thesis the student will be awarded both the titles of "Laurea Magistrale in Matematica" from UniPi and of degree of Master in the field of Mathematics from GSS.

Both signatory Institutions must approve a study programme (Learning Agreement), to be attended by each exchange student, and the student himself must sign it in order to certify his acceptance of it.

The visiting GSS students will have the same rights and responsibilities as their colleagues of UniPi, and they will follow the norms and regulations of it. UniPi will assist the visiting GSS students and offer personal and academic support prior to and during the mobility period.

Article 6 – Students from UniPi

Admission of UniPi students will be decided by GSS on the basis of the applicants' record of studies. If admitted to the GSS MSc programme, each UniPi student will attend its courses and take its exams as a regular student, according to the Learning Agreement mentioned below, for one semester (10 credits) and will complete his/her Master thesis working partly at GSS and partly at UniPi (see below for details). Upon defence and approval of this thesis the student will be awarded both the titles of "Laurea Magistrale in Matematica" from UniPi and of degree of Master in the field of Mathematics from GSS.

Both signatory Institutions must approve a study programme (Learning Agreement), to be attended by each exchange student, and the student himself must sign it in order to certify his acceptance of it.

The visiting UniPi students will have the same rights and responsibilities as their colleagues of GSS, and they will follow the norms and regulations of it. GSS will assist the visiting UniPi students and offer personal and academic support prior to and during the mobility period.

Article 7 – Master Thesis

The subject of the Master thesis must always receive advance approval in writing from a Faculty member of the home as well as of the host Institution. Special care shall be taken to ensure that the topic of the Master thesis is challenging and that it requires an exceptional effort by the student, since only one Master thesis will be required and will, upon successful completion, be granted credit from both Institutions.

The Master thesis must be carried out under the supervision of a Faculty member of the Institution responsible for the arrangements of the topic and subject area of the thesis. In addition, a Faculty member of the partner Institution must be nominated as contact person for the Master's thesis. Each institution shall select a chief supervisor and sub-supervisor(s) for a participating student.

The Master thesis results in a report, which is written in English. The work will be scrutinized and graded according to the customs and rules of UniPi and GSS. The Master thesis work will typically take place during the final semester. Upon successful completion of the Master thesis the student will be granted the equivalence of 30 CFU from UniPi and 10 credits from GSS.

Article 8 – Master Thesis defense

The defense of the Master Thesis can be made either separately in both Institutions (see 8.1) or in the sending Institution as a joint defense (see 8.2).

Article 8.1– Cases in which thesis defenses are separately made

The thesis defense is made in both Institutions. Each Institution actively encourage acceptance of faculty member(s) from the other Institution as committee member(s) when defending the thesis. In principle, examiners' travel and other expenses will be met by the students' home Institution. A TV conference system and other similar systems may be used in the thesis defense when needed.

Article 8.2– Cases in which a joint defense is made

Both Institutions will conduct a joint thesis defense with the attendance of at least two examiners from each Institution. In principle, examiners' travel and other expenses will be met by the students' home Institution. In a joint defence the chief examiner must be a faculty member of the home Institution of the DD students. A TV conference system and other similar systems may be used in the thesis defense when needed.

In both cases the expenses for Italian students are due to the Department of Mathematics of UniPi and the expenses for Japanese students are due to the GSS.

Article 9 – Academic grade and credit approval

Each Institution agrees to provide to the other documentation of course work completed by the students and appropriate academic information on their performance. The credits earned at each Institution can be mutually counted within the credits required for completion of the study course at each Institution. The number of credits to be transferred from UniPi to GSS shall be within 10.

Article 10 – Tuition Fees and Costs

The host Institution undertakes to facilitate the arrival of the students and to put at their disposal all services and study grants that may exist. All costs of travel and accommodation will be met by the students. Before the students departure, they must guarantee that they possess all insurances required. The host Institution will waive fees for entrance examinations, admission, and tuition for the students from the other Institution, provided these fees have been duly paid by the students to their home Institution.

Article 11 – Terms for the Students

Article 11.1 – Conditions During Study Period

Students participating under this agreement shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the host Institution. They will also have the rights and privileges enjoyed by other students enrolled at the host Institution.

Article 11.2 – Delivery of the Academic Degrees

Each Institution decides, according to its own criteria, if the student is entitled to receive a degree after taking study courses and fulfilling the requirements for completion at each Institution. Each Institution grants the student credit transfer from the other Institution according to the applicable rules, laws and regulations of that Institution.

Article 11.3 – Health insurance and Housing

DD students shall purchase the health insurance required by the host Institution. The costs of any health insurance required, as well as any medical expenses not covered by such insurance, will be the personal responsibility of the DD students.

The host institution will assist the students in finding adequate housing on or near the campus.

Article 11.4–Safety management

During the period of student's stay at the host institution, both institutions will work cooperatively to ensure the safety of the student.

Article 12 - Academic Representatives

Each Institution will nominate its own academic representative, and this representative will be responsible that measures are taken in accordance with this Agreement. The representatives will organize advisory and other academic services to students participating under this Agreement.

The persons responsible in each of the Institutions signing and involved in the programme will communicate on a regular basis in order to:

- Verify the efficiency of the teaching programs in both Institutions. - Report on the cooperation and the academic results of the students.
- Propose new initiatives.

Article 13 - Amendments or Changes

Amendments or changes to this Agreement shall be made in writing and signed by the duly authorised representatives of the Institutions.

Article 14 – Handling of Disagreements

The two parties agree to find an amicable solution to any disagreement which may arise from interpreting the present agreement. In the case where no agreement can be found, an arbitral commission, composed of one member chosen by each of the parties and of one member chosen by mutual agreement, will be set up.

Article 15 – Financial Commitment

The signing of this agreement does not imply any financial commitment for the Institutions.

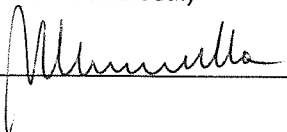
Article 16 - Terms of the Agreement

This Agreement shall come into effect on the day of signature by both Institutions and is valid for five years. Renewal for further periods of five years is possible if agreed upon by both Institutions. Each Institution may terminate this Agreement provided that written notice of the intent is given at least six months prior to termination. Commitments already in progress shall be fulfilled.

The present agreement shall be prepared in two copies. Both of them shall have equal validity.

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF PISA

Prof. Paolo Maria Mancarella
(signature and seal)

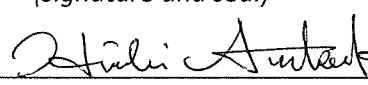


Rector

Date: 05/12/2018

FOR THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SCIENC
HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY

Prof. Hiroshi Amitsuka
(signature and seal)



Dean

Date: Sept. 25, 201



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA