

To : Organizing committee of the TIPP 2014 conference

Subject : Recommendation for Yang Zhou

Strasbourg, March 25, 2014

Dear colleagues,

I wish to explain the reasons why Yang Zhou, a PhD student I am supervising at the University of Strasbourg, is applying for a financial support in order to participate to the TIPP'14 conference. His abstract "COMETH: a CMOS pixel sensor for a highly miniaturized high-flux radiation monitor" was accepted for an oral presentation in the session Sensors 1b Semiconductor detectors .

Indeed, Y.Zhou's thesis topic concerns radiation monitoring in space using CMOS pixel sensors. Those types of sensor are actively developed in our group in Strasbourg but for applications directly related to high energy particle physics, which provide the vast majority of our financial support. Of course, our home institutions in France enjoin us to initiate or participate in spin-off, based on our expertise, however with very limited support. As an illustration, Y.Zhou's thesis grant was obtained from an agreement with China and not France.

The research work of Yang Zhou is going extremely well. Especially in view of his activity being aside from the main development stream of our group, he does not benefit from a large technical support. He is an autonomous, innovative and tenacious student, who I rank among the 5 top percent. He managed to bring his project to a level of completion I was only half-expecting, with an operational prototype validating the new concepts explored. In my view, his results are worth the communication to our community and I was extremely pleased to learn his abstract was accepted for an oral presentation.

To conclude, I wish to add that Yang Zhou will defend his PhD thesis in September this year. The TIPP conference is one occasion for him to reach an expert audience, something helpful for his promising career. I am confident that getting a financial support to facilitate his participation will make him praise our scientific community.

Best regards,

Jérôme Baudot



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