



Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου
University of Cyprus

**Department of Physics
Special Scientist for Research Position Announcement**

Position Title : Special Scientist
No. of vacancies : One (1)
Category : Contract for 2 years
Place of vacancy : University of Cyprus, Nicosia

The University of Cyprus (UCY) experimental particle physics group has one available position for a Special Scientist to work on the CMS experiment at the CERN LHC.

The UCY, founded in 1989, is in the top 100 Young Universities of the Times Higher Education ranking. The Department of Physics, based in Nicosia, consists of academics working on various research areas including both experimental and theoretical particle physics. The UCY CMS group consists of two faculty members, two postdoctoral researchers/special scientists, and six graduate students, with major involvements in physics as well as hadron calorimeter and trigger software operations, and upgrades. The group is currently leading multiple analyses for BSM physics in a variety of leptonic and hadronic final states and event topologies.

The advertised position will be funded by The Research and Innovation Foundation [1] Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation "Restart 2016 – 2020" in Cyprus, under the «Excellence Hubs» program proposal number Excellence/0524/0469.

Applicants need not be citizens of the Republic of Cyprus. Applicants should however ensure, before applying, that in case they are selected they will be residing in Cyprus on a full-time basis during the employment period; submission of application implies acceptance of this condition.

REQUIREMENTS

The successful candidate will be expected to play a leading role in group's activities in the analysis of LHC Run-2 and Run-3 datasets.

In particular, the candidate is expected to work on final states characterized by leptonic decays of massive gauge bosons or top quarks accompanied by additional jets or tau leptons. These signatures often evade direct search efforts due to discrepancies in modeling of jet multiplicities among state-of-the-art Monte Carlo simulations and complex interplay of various rare top sector processes.

QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates must hold a **Ph.D. in experimental high-energy physics or a related field** by appointment start date and possess strong data analysis and software development skills. Experience with student mentoring and MC simulation tools will be considered an asset.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The appointment is full-time (140 hours/month), and for a 2-year period in the first instance. The tentative start date is April 2, 2025, or as soon as possible thereafter, subject to availability of funds. The employer cost may come up to €2900-3000 per month depending on experience and qualifications. From this amount, employee contributions to the Cyprus government funds will be deducted.

RIGHTS/OBLIGATIONS

The successful candidate is expected to be primarily based in Cyprus with frequent visits to CERN, although there is also flexibility for longer term stays at CERN, subject to specific arrangements.

SUBMISSION OF NECESSARY DOCUMENTS

Interested candidates should submit the following documents as a single PDF file via email to saka.halil@ucy.ac.cy by the application closing date of **February 10, 2025**:

- (1) A complete CV.
- (2) A brief statement of research interests (maximum 2 pages).
- (3) A list of publications (indicating personal contributions).

Additionally, candidates must arrange for **three letters of recommendation** to be sent directly to the same email address by the application closing date.

Please note that applications will only be considered complete once the recommendation letters have been received. Applications will be reviewed as soon as they are completed. The top three successful applicants satisfying the required qualification criteria will be invited for an online interview by a 3-member committee. Candidates shall be informed of the result of their application by the relevant entity.

For all enquiries about the position, please contact **Prof. Halil Saka** (saka.halil@ucy.ac.cy).

The University of Cyprus shall collect and process your personal data according to the provisions of the General Regulation on Personal Data 2016/679 (EU).

The University of Cyprus (UCY) is committed to promoting inclusivity, diversity, and equality, as well as the elimination of all forms of discrimination in order to provide a fair, safe, and pleasant environment for the entire university community, where students and staff members will feel supported both in their professional and personal development, within and beyond their multiple identities. To this end, UCY seeks to create the necessary conditions that will encourage and respect diversity and ensure dignity both in the workplace and society at large. Moreover, UCY has adopted specific policies to promote equal opportunities, as well as respect and understanding of diversity, while it is committed to promoting and maintaining a working, teaching, and learning environment, free from any form of discrimination, whether direct or indirect.

[1] <https://www.research.org.cy/en/rif/the-foundation/>