Re: LP9512

Evolution of excitons to an electron-hole plasma via biexcitons without level crossing between band-edge and excitons in a quantum wire
by Masahiro Yoshita et al.

Dr. Masahiro Yoshita
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Dear Dr. Yoshita,

I am writing in connection with your manuscript "Evolution of excitons..." LP9512, submitted to Physical Review Letters. As you may know, appeals beyond the level of the Divisional Associate Editor are handled by the Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Martin Blume. Dr. Blume evaluates the appeal solely on the basis of the correctness and fairness of the procedures used in reviewing the manuscript.

However, as a matter of practice, I review all such appeals in my capacity as Editor and Chairman of the Divisional Associate Editors. In this way, your letter to Dr. Hebboul of June 17, 2005 has come to my attention and I have studied the manuscript and the associated correspondence.

I have also studied the Physical Review Letter of Dr. Deveaud that you refer to. Although your work represents an advance in the subject and should be published, I have decided that it is not appropriate for Physical Review Letters. There are some significant differences between your manuscript and the letter of Deveaud. While the physics of the two are related, they deal with systems of different dimensionality and the role of excitons, biexcitons, and free carriers is not the same. Also the clarity of the exposition is better in the Deveaud paper.

On balance, it would be better for your paper to be published in a more specialized journal, probably with additional detail. I realize that this is a subjective decision that you may well disagree with (that the manuscript is not of the breadth and current interest appropriate for Physical Review Letters). Still in publishing a letters journal such as Physical Review Letters, such decisions are unavoidable.

It is true that Dr. Deveaud did contact you and express interest in your work and in the possibility of collaborating. While this is unusual, it is not an error in our process. It did not change my decision about the Physical Review Letters acceptance of your manuscript although it certainly emphasizes the importance of publishing your work in an appropriate journal. The Divisional Associate Editor, who was also sent the Deveaud correspondence, did not change his view either. Because your appeal did not involve a procedural aspect I am not forwarding it to Dr. Blume. You may, of course, appeal to Dr. Blume if you wish. However, in my opinion, such an appeal is not likely to be successful.

Yours sincerely,

Jack Sandweiss
Editor and Chairman of the
Divisional Associate Editors