Leonardo Castillejo, who died suddenly in May, was a theoretical physicist whose influence far outweighed his publications. After not(!) getting his PhD at University College, London, he spent time at Birmingham and Oxford before returning as professor to UCL. He collaborated with Richard Dalitz and Freeman Dyson on the famous CDD ambiguity which had a major impact on the application of analyticity in particle physics in the 60s, with Mike Seaton on exchange effects in atomic scattering, and Gerry Brown on the electric dipole state in nuclei.

More recently, with Andy Jackson, he initiated studies of the nucleon-nucleon interaction in the Skyrme models and played an important role in establishing its connection to more familiar meson-exchange interactions. Possible relationships of Skyrmions with high-temperature superconductivity also fascinated him.

For most of us, finishing a problem presents an opportunity to publish. For Leonardo, the pride lay in posing a good question and in understanding the answer. It was difficult, sometimes impossible, to convince him to share his insights with a wider audience. He wrote infrequently but with enormous care and clarity. Leonardo always showed great charm and a complete lack of arrogance and it was a privilege to have known and worked with him.

Colin Wilkin

(Leonardo Castillejo was external examiner for many UK PhDs in theoretical physics. In 1967 his commissions included future CERN Director General Chris Llewellyn Smith and an embryonic CERN Courier Editor - Ed.)