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## Aspects of the analysis of cell imagery: from shape to understanding

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# Curriculum Vitae

Chen Li was born in Shandong, China, in 1992. In 2011, she began her bachelor's studies in Information Engineering at Ludong University, located near the east coast of Shandong province, China. In 2015, Chen pursued a master's degree in computer science at China Agricultural University in Beijing, China. During her three-year master's program, she focused on data prediction models and developed an interest in computer vision and image processing. She earned her master's degree in 2018. Aligned with her research interests in computer vision, Chen joined the Computational Bio-imaging group at Leiden University, supervised by Prof. Dr. Ir. Fons J. Verbeek. Her four-year study, supported by the Chinese Scholarship Council (CSC), involved cell image analysis in both 2D and 3D domains, as well as time-lapse data analysis. She completed projects in collaboration with Naturalis and the Institute of Biology (IBL) of Leiden University.



# Acknowledgements

On 3rd September 2018, my flight arrived at Schipol Airport, in the Netherlands. The journey of my Ph.D. study at Leiden University started. Time flies. Five and a half years have passed since I was here. During this period, I experienced challenges with aspects of language, culture, research, etc. It was sometimes frustrating, however, it was full of excitement and joy in most cases. For me, conquering difficulties, or sharing my achievements, would not have been possible without the support and guidance from my supervisors, friends, colleagues, and family members. Thus, I would like to express my appreciation to them.

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to my supervisor, Prof. Fons J. Verbeek, who gave me the opportunity to be part of the Bio-imaging group for my research. It is my great honor to work with you throughout my doctoral studies. What I have learned is not only the specialized knowledge in the aspects of bioimaging techniques, microscopy techniques, cells, and computational methods but also the spirit of being an independent academic researcher. Thank you for your supervision and insightful suggestions during my doctoral studies. It will benefit me in my next career and life.

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Dr. Erwin van Soest, who holds a doctoral degree in computer science and two master's degrees in computer science and astronomy, has been the smartest and nicest roommate I could wish for. From him, I have learned many aspects of physics, astronomy, history, and more. He made me realize that there are people in this world with vast amounts of knowledge. Moreover, as a Dutch native, he has greatly assisted me in living in the Netherlands. I cannot count how many Dutch letters he helped me read, how many times he accompanied me to hospitals, repair shops, and other places, and how often he helped communicate with people from city hall, the GP, NS company, and others via phone calls. Thanks to his warm help, my

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I would also like to thank Marloes van der Nat for her help with my studies at Leiden University. She has helped me solve many problems regarding courses, residence permits, graduation logistics, and more. Additionally, many thanks to my other colleagues in the Bio-imaging group: Katy Wolstencroft, Shima Javanmardi, Erick Paulus, Solomiia Kurchaba, Ana Arcos, Mariam Basajja, Irene Martorelli, and Sacha Goultiaev, for being there for me.

The great gratitude goes to my parents for their financial support, encouragement, and unconditional love. Last but not least, I would like to show my appreciation to my boyfriend Dr. Bing Wang. The time for us being together was short, however, we are still much closer by sharing our daily life even academic life. We help each other stay strong. Thanks for your love, company, encouragement, and support during these years. We were far apart, but we persevered. The best is yet to come.

Chen Li

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