



Universiteit  
Leiden

The Netherlands

**The role of efficient causation in Aristotle's philosophy:  
ensuring the continuity and coherence of the cosmos within a  
teleological framework**

Que, Y.

**Citation**

Que, Y. (2025, December 16). *The role of efficient causation in Aristotle's philosophy: ensuring the continuity and coherence of the cosmos within a teleological framework*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/4285433>

Version: Publisher's Version

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/4285433>

**Note:** To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

# Acknowledgments

I owe my deepest gratitude to my supervisor, Prof. dr. D. L. Berger, whose steadfast support and encouragement have been vital to my completion of the doctoral degree. His readiness to assist me in moments of difficulty, his practical guidance when I faced obstacles, and his unwavering belief in my ability to see this project through have been decisive in bringing it to fruition.

To my co-supervisor, Dr. C. Robbiano, I am sincerely grateful for her thoughtful guidance, steady encouragement, and readiness to engage deeply with my ideas. Her consistent support and constructive advice have strengthened both my research and my confidence as a scholar.

I am equally grateful to my co-supervisor, Prof. dr. M. van Raalte, whose attentive guidance, insightful feedback, and generous encouragement have accompanied me throughout the course of my doctoral studies. Her steady support and readiness to help at every stage have contributed greatly to the development of this work.

I am also grateful to the members of my Doctorate Committee for engaging with my work and offering constructive feedback that has contributed to its refinement.

This doctoral research was made possible through the generous financial support of The China Scholarship Council, which enabled me to pursue my studies at Leiden University and devote myself fully to the research and writing of this dissertation.

My deepest thanks belong to my parents, whose love, patience, and belief in me have been the foundation of all my academic endeavors. I am especially indebted to my mother, whose dedication, selflessness, and quiet strength have sustained me through the most challenging moments. Her faith in my potential, often unspoken yet always present, has been a constant source of courage and perseverance. My father's steady encouragement and support have also given me confidence and stability, for which I am deeply grateful.

In acknowledging all those who have contributed to this work—through guidance, generosity, or companionship—I am reminded that the completion of a dissertation is never a solitary achievement. I am thankful to my friends for their

unfailing encouragement and understanding, which have brought balance and light to these years of research. I would also like to express my warm thanks to the technician whose assistance in the preparation stage of my dissertation was of great help.

## Curriculum Vitae

QUE Yuye was born in 1992 in Xinyang, China. From 2009 to 2013, she studied at the Institute of Philosophy, Nankai University, obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from the Institute of Philosophy and a Bachelor's degree in History from the Institute of History. During her undergraduate studies, she focused on Sartre's existential philosophy and Hegel's philosophy. From 2013 to 2016, she pursued her Master's degree in Philosophy at the Institute of Philosophy, Beijing Normal University, with a research focus on Aristotle's natural philosophy. Since 2017, she has been a doctoral candidate at Leiden University, under the supervision of Prof. dr. D. L. Berger, Prof. dr. M. van Raalte, and Dr. C. Robbiano. Her doctoral research, supported by a scholarship from the China Scholarship Council, examines the relationship between final and efficient causation in Aristotle's philosophy, with particular attention to their role in sustaining the unity and continuity of the cosmos.