



中国科学技术大学

University of Science and Technology of China

To Whom It May Concern,

I am glad to recommend Zhiwen Zhong as a promising candidate for your PhD program. As his supervisor, I have known him since 2017. Thus, I have had the opportunity to make an objective assessment.

Zhiwen is an insightful, sharp, and quick individual with a high aptitude for biology science. One of his studies was especially fascinating, an investigation yeast two-hybrid technique for binding protein TRIM46, an idea that he said was sparked by his desire to express high purity, good protein truncation to grow crystals. From my perspective, this research was novel yet had significant challenges. However, Zhiwen was not intimidated by challenges. Instead, he consulted extensive relevant literature and academic journals himself to prepare strains and vectors and to develop experimental protocols better. What impressed me most was that he was the first researcher to identify the interaction between the TRIM46 protein and the HCFC2 protein using the yeast two-hybrid technique. Besides, he also utilised immunofluorescence co-localisation to verify his experimental results. Based on his exceptional performance, he successfully obtained partial structural information about the HCFC2 protein. I was genuinely amazed by Zhiwen's research capability.

As I know, Zhiwen never stops improving himself by obtaining advanced knowledge and exploring the unknown. Besides his study and research at school, he also followed and completed some online courses on Python and deep learning with Coursera. I believe such a theoretical foundation will contribute to his proposed research, which is highly related to deep learning and requires advanced computer skills. I was glad when Zhiwen shared with me his academic passion for the combination of biology and computer techniques, and I am optimistic about the prospects of his studies in this area in the coming decades.

Zhiwen's personalities are as impressive as his intellectual accomplishments. Not only is he the perfect person to get a group project rolling, but he also knows how to sit back and let others take the lead. His cheerful nature and openness to feedback mean he's always learning and growing as a learner, an impressive strength that will continue to serve him well in college and beyond.

I am sincerely proud of Zhiwen as my student and I am in great support of his determination to further studies. He would be your ideal candidate and deserve my highest recommendation. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about his performance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Wang'.

Professor Chao Wang

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