

# Fei He

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Missouri-Columbia** Columbia, MO  
Ph.D. candidate in Engineering January 2023 – present (expected May 2026)  
Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, College of Engineering Advisor: [Dong Xu](#)  
Emphasis: Artificial Intelligence

**Jilin University** Changchun, Jilin, China  
Ph.D. in Engineering September 2010 – June 2015  
Department of Bioinformatics, College of Computer Science and Technology Advisor: Yuanning Liu  
Emphasis: Biometrics

**Jilin University** Changchun, Jilin, China  
Master of Engineering September 2007 – June 2010  
Department of Bioinformatics, College of Computer Science and Technology Advisor: Yuanning Liu  
Emphasis: Biometrics

**Jilin University** Changchun, Jilin, China  
Bachelor of Engineering September 2003 – June 2007  
College of Computer Science and Technology

## SPECIALIZED TRAINING

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**University of California, Los Angeles** Los Angeles, CA  
Computational Genomics Summer Institute July 2023 – August 2023

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**University of Missouri-Columbia** Columbia, MO  
Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, College of Engineering  
Graduate Research January 2023 – present

**Stowers Institute** Kansas City, MO  
Laboratory Assistant Intern June 2025 – July 2025  
Goal: Survey recent advancements in single cell Large Language Models Supervisor: [Hua Li](#)

**Northeast Normal University** Changchun, Jilin, China  
Department of Computer Science, School of Information Science and Technology  
Associate Professor July 2022 – December 2022

**Northeast Normal University** Changchun, Jilin, China  
Department of Computer Science, School of Information Science and Technology  
Lecturer August 2015 – June 2022

**University of Missouri-Columbia** Columbia, MO  
Bond Life Science Center  
Visiting Scholar October 2018 – January 2021

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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**QZY Tech Ltd.**

General Manager

A startup company developed a Product Data Management system for local [auto parts supplier enterprises](#)

Changchun, Jilin, China

March 2013 – May 2015

## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

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- Published over 50 peer-reviewed papers in reputed journals and conferences in venues such as *Nature Machine Intelligence*, *Nucleic Acids Research*, *IEEE Journal of Biomedical and Health Informatics*, *International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine*, etc. (h-index:18, i10-index: 29, citation > 1240 according to Google Scholar)
- Secured ¥545,000 in sponsored research funding as Principal Investigator across 5 projects, supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China, Jilin Provincial Natural Science Foundation, and others.
- Developed or co-developed 7 tools/web-services/databases serving single cell, protein, and plant research communities with a total of more than 5k users.
- Presented research through talks and posters at over 10 worldwide Bioinformatics and Biomedicine conferences such as *ISMB*, *AMIA*, *BIBM*, etc.
- Taught over 6 undergraduate and graduate courses, including bilingual instruction for medium-to-large class sizes (~20-50 students), with highly positive feedback (average teaching evaluation score: 90.6/100)
- Mentored or co-mentored 2 PhD students and 16 master's Graduate Students.
- Served as a reviewer for over 10 major journals/conferences such as *Nature Communications*, *Pattern Recognition*, *Briefings in Bioinformatics*, *Neurocomputing*, etc, spanning the fields of Bioinformatics, Biomedicine, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, and Computer Vision.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Large Language Model (LLM) and Deep Learning (DL) have been making waves in diverse science and Large Language Models (LLMs) and Deep Learning (DL) are transforming diverse fields across science and technology. My recent research focuses on developing and adapting LLMs and DL models for a wide range of biological and biomedical applications, with the goals of uncovering underlying molecular programs from single-cell data, elucidating functional mechanisms in protein analysis, and facilitating knowledge curation in biomedical research.
- We are actively developing computational tools and databases to characterize the composition, interactions, and functions of single-cell and protein data, and to investigate their connections with human diseases, drug target discovery, and plant biology. Our efforts integrate data mining, computational analysis, and network-based methods. Additionally, we are also exploring strategies to enhance data privacy and security in the development and deployment of these computational resources.

## RECENT RESEARCH

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### Large Language Models for Single-Cell Analysis

- Developed *scPEFT* to efficiently adapt multiple single-cell Large Language Models (e.g., *scGPT*, *Geneformer*, and *scBERT*) for out-of-distribution application scenarios (e.g., disease-specific datasets, cross-species comparisons, and under-characterized cell groups)
- Reduced parameter tuning by at least 96% and lowered GPU memory costs by more than 50%
- Key developer in NIH-R35 Grant *Multi-view Self-Supervised Deep Learning for Biological Sequences and Beyond* (PI: Dong Xu, 2024-2028)

- Led collaborative research with Prof. [Qin Ma lab](#) from Ohio State University, resulting in a 1st author submission under review at *Nature Machine Intelligence*.

### **Nature Language Processing for Health Informatics**

- Developed multi-modal text-image understanding tool pathCLIP to extract gene interactions from literature pathway figures
- Designed prompt engineering strategies to mine biological events from biomedical publications with large language models
- Key developer in NIH-R01 Grant *Image-guided Bio-curation of Disease Pathways from Scientific Literature* (PI: Mihail Popescu, 2020-2023)
- Led collaborative research with Prof. [Mihail Popescu](#) lab from MU School of Medicine, resulting in 10+ publications in *IEEE Journal of Biomedical and Health Informatics*, *IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine*, etc.

### **Domain Specific Algorithm Development for Diverse Computational Biology Applications**

- Leveraged protein language models and deep learning models for protein sequence applications such as protein modification, interaction, and binding site predictions
- Introduced point cloud and graph neural networks for protein structure analyses, such as protein docking and functional predictions
- Constructed expression spectrum visualizations and image segmentation models for discovering tissue architecture and functional regions with spatial transcriptomic data
- Led (co-led) in 10+ publications in *Nucleic Acids Research*, *Computational and structural biotechnology journal*, *BMC Bioinformatics*, *BMC Genomics*, etc.

## **GRANTS**

<b>Jilin Provincial Natural Science Foundation, China</b>	<b>PI, ¥ 100,000</b>
<i>General fund</i>	<i>2021-2024</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title: Protein Docking Conformation Ranking Based on Capsule Networks</li> </ul>	
<b>National Natural Science Foundation of China</b>	<b>PI, ¥ 260,000</b>
<i>Young Scientists Fund</i>	<i>2019-2021</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title: Target Protein–Ligand Complex Activity Prediction Integrating Multi-view 3D Depth Descriptors</li> </ul>	
<b>Jilin Provincial Department of Education, China</b>	<b>PI, ¥ 25,000</b>
<i>Scientific Research Project</i>	<i>2019-2020</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title: Hybrid Deep Learning Model for Dynamic Protein Interaction Networks</li> </ul>	
<b>Jilin Provincial Natural Science Foundation, China</b>	<b>PI, ¥ 80,000</b>
<i>Outstanding Youth Fund</i>	<i>2017-2018</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title: Deep Learning Network with Adaptive and Self-Learning Characteristics for Texture Analysis</li> </ul>	
<b>Scientific Research Funding for Central Universities, China</b>	<b>PI, ¥ 80,000</b>
<i>Youth Exploration and Development Fund</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title: Construction of a Deep Gabor Convolutional Neural Network for Large-Scale Texture Classification</li> </ul>	

## PUBLICATIONS

As of July 20, 2025, h-index:18, i10-index: 29, citation: 1258 according to [Google Scholar](#)

### Journal Articles (\*co-first author, †co-corresponding author)

1. Essien, C.<sup>\*</sup>, Wang, N.<sup>\*</sup>, Yu, Y., Alqarghuli, S., Qin, Y., Manshour, N., **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, & Xu, D.<sup>†</sup>. (2025). Predicting the location of coordinated metal ion-ligand binding sites using geometry-aware graph neural networks. *Computational and Structural Biotechnology Journal*, 27, 137-148.
2. Xu, C., Shaw, T., Choppararu, S. A., Lu, Y., Farooq, S. N., Qin, Y., Hudson, M., Weekley, B., Fisher, M., **He, F.**, Da Silva Nascimento, J. R., Wergeles, N., Joshi, T., Bates, P. D., Koo, A. J., Allen, D. K., Cahoon, E. B., Thelen, J. J., & Xu, D. (2024). FatPlants: a comprehensive information system for lipid-related genes and metabolic pathways in plants. *Database*, 2024, baac074.
3. He, Y., Huang, R., Zhang, R., **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, Han, L.<sup>†</sup>, & Han, W.<sup>†</sup>. (2024). PredCoffee: A binary classification approach specifically for coffee odor. *Isience*, 27(6).
4. Song, R., Liu, K., He, Q., **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, & Han, W.<sup>†</sup>. (2024). Exploring bitter and sweet: the application of large language models in molecular taste prediction. *Journal of Chemical Information and Modeling*, 64(10), 4102-4111.
5. Lin, Y., Liang, Y., Wang, D., Chang, Y., Ma, Q., Wang, Y.<sup>†</sup>, **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, & Xu, D.<sup>†</sup>. (2024). A contrastive learning approach to integrate spatial transcriptomics and histological images. *Computational and Structural Biotechnology Journal*, 23, 1786-1795.
6. **He, F.**, Liu, K., Yang, Z., Chen, Y., Hammer, R. D., Xu, D., & Popescu, M. (2024). pathclip: Detection of genes and gene relations from biological pathway figures through image-text contrastive learning. *IEEE Journal of Biomedical and Health Informatics*, 28(8), 5007-5019.
7. **He, F.**, Liu, K., Yang, Z., Hannink, M., Hammer, R. D., Popescu, M., & Xu, D. (2023). Applications of cutting-edge artificial intelligence technologies in biomedical literature and document mining. *Medical Review*, 3(3), 200-204.
8. Wang, D., **He, F.**, Yu, Y., & Xu, D. (2023). Meta-learning for T cell receptor binding specificity and beyond. *Nature machine intelligence*, 5(4), 337-339.
9. Han, Y., Zhang, S., & **He, F.** (2023). A Point Cloud-Based Deep Learning Model for Protein Docking Decoys Evaluation. *Mathematics*, 11(8), 1817.
10. Azam, M., Arowolo, M. O., **He, F.**, Popescu, M., & Xu, D. (2023). Recognition of Gene Names from Gene Pathway Figures Using Siamese Network. *International Journal of Bioengineering and Life Sciences*, 23-30.
11. Gong, J., Zhao, Y., Heng, X., Chen, Y., Sun, P.<sup>†</sup>, **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, Ma, Z.<sup>†</sup>, & Ren, Z.<sup>†</sup> (2023). Deciphering and identifying pan-cancer RAS pathway activation based on graph autoencoder and Classifier Chain. *Electronic Research Archive*, 31(8), 4951-4967.
12. Chen, Y., Qin, W., Liu, T., Li, R., **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, Han, Y.<sup>†</sup>, Ma, Z.<sup>†</sup>, & Ren, Z.<sup>†</sup> (2023). MTNA: A deep learning-based predictor for identifying multiple types of N-terminal protein acetylated sites. *Electronic Research Archive*, 31(9), 5442-5456.
13. Lin, Y., Wang, Y.<sup>†</sup>, Liang, Y., Yu, Y., Li, J., Ma, Q., **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, & Xu, D.<sup>†</sup> (2022). Sampling and ranking spatial transcriptomics data embeddings to identify tissue architecture. *Frontiers in Genetics*, 2007.
14. Chang, Y.<sup>\*</sup>, **He, F.**<sup>\*</sup>, Wang, J.<sup>\*</sup>, Chen, S., Li, J., Liu, J., Yu, Y., Su, L., Ma, A., Allen, C., Lin, Y., Sun, S., Liu, B., Otero J., Chung D., Fu, H., Li, Z.<sup>†</sup>, Xu, D.<sup>†</sup>, Ma, Q.<sup>†</sup>. (2022). Define and visualize pathological architectures of human tissues from spatially resolved transcriptomics using deep learning. *Computational and structural biotechnology journal*, 20, 4600-4617.
15. Tang, B., He, F., Liu, D., **He, F.**, Wu, T., Fang, M., Niu, Z., Wu, Z., & Xu, D. (2022). AI-aided design of novel targeted covalent inhibitors against SARS-CoV-2. *Biomolecules*, 12(6), 746.
16. Han, Y., Chen, Y., **He, F.**, Qin, W., Yu, H.<sup>†</sup>, & Xu, D.<sup>†</sup> (2021). Quality Assessment of Protein Docking Models Based on Graph Neural Network. *Frontiers in Bioinformatics*, 1, 693211.
17. Ji, J., Li, R., Pang, W.<sup>†</sup>, **He, F.**, Feng, G., & Zhao, X.<sup>†</sup> (2021). A multi-view clustering algorithm for mixed numeric and categorical data. *IEEE Access*, 9, 24913-24924.

18. **He, F.**, Li, J., Wang, R., Zhao, X., & Han, Y. (2021). an ensemble deep learning-based predictor for simultaneously identifying protein ubiquitylation and SUMOylation sites. *BMC bioinformatics*, 22, 15-Jan.
19. Li, Y., Pu, F., Wang, J., Zhou, Z., Zhang, C., **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, Ma, Z.<sup>†</sup>, & Zhang, J.<sup>†</sup> (2021). Machine Learning Methods in Prediction of Protein Palmitoylation Sites: A Brief Review. *Current Pharmaceutical Design*, 2021(27), 2189-2198.
20. Khan, S. M., **He, F.**, Wang, D., Chen, Y., & Xu, D. (2020). MU-PseUDeep: a deep learning method for prediction of pseudouridine sites. *Computational and Structural Biotechnology Journal*, 18, 1877-1883.
21. Wang, D., Liu, D., Yuchi, J., **He, F.**, Jiang, Y., Cai, S., Li, J., & Xu, D. (2020). MusiteDeep: a deep-learning based webserver for protein post-translational modification site prediction and visualization. *Nucleic Acids Research*, 48(W1), W140-W146.
22. Ji, J., Pang, W.<sup>†</sup>, Li, Z., **He, F.**, Feng, G., & Zhao, X.<sup>†</sup> (2020). Clustering mixed numeric and categorical data with cuckoo search. *IEEE Access*, 8, 30988-31003.
23. Sun, P. P., Chen, Y. B., Liu, B., Gao, Y. X., Han, Y., **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, & Ji, J. C.<sup>†</sup> (2019). DeepMRMP: A new predictor for multiple types of RNA modification sites using deep learning. *Math. Biosci. Eng.*, 16(6), 6231-6241.
24. Gong, J., Chen, Y., Pu, F., Sun, P., **He, F.**, Zhang, L., Li, Y.<sup>†</sup>, Ma, Z.<sup>†</sup>, & Wang, H.<sup>†</sup> (2019). Understanding membrane protein drug targets in computational perspective. *Current Drug Targets*, 20(5), 551-564.
25. Ji, J., Chen, Y., Feng, G., Zhao, X.<sup>†</sup>, & **He, F.**<sup>†</sup> (2019). Clustering mixed numeric and categorical data with artificial bee colony strategy. *Journal of Intelligent & Fuzzy Systems*, 36(2), 1521-1530.
26. Lu, C., Liu, Z., Zhang, E., **He, F.**<sup>†</sup>, Ma, Z.<sup>†</sup>, & Wang, H.<sup>†</sup> (2019). MPLs-Pred: predicting membrane protein-ligand binding sites using hybrid sequence-based features and ligand-specific models. *International journal of molecular sciences*, 20(13), 3120.
27. Liu, Y., Wang, D., **He, F.**, Wang, J., Joshi, T., & Xu, D. (2019). Phenotype prediction and genome-wide association study using deep convolutional neural network of soybean. *Frontiers in genetics*, 10, 1091.
28. Han, Y., **He, F.**, Chen, Y., Liu, Y., & Yu, H. (2018). SiRNA silencing efficacy prediction based on a deep architecture. *BMC genomics*, 19, 59-65.
29. Zhao, X., Li, J., Wang, R., **He, F.**, Yue, L., & Yin, M. (2018). General and species-specific lysine acetylation site prediction using a bi-modal deep architecture. *IEEE Access*, 6, 63560-63569.
30. **He, F.**, Wang, R., Li, J., Bao, L., Xu, D., & Zhao, X. (2018). Large-scale prediction of protein ubiquitination sites using a multimodal deep architecture. *BMC systems biology*, 12, 81-90.
31. **He, F.**, Han, Y., Gong, J., Song, J., Wang, H., & Li, Y. (2017). Predicting siRNA efficacy based on multiple selective siRNA representations and their combination at score level. *Scientific Reports*, 7(1), 44836.
32. Han, Y., Liu, Y., Zhang, H., **He, F.**, Shu, C., & Dong, L. (2017). Utilizing Selected Di-and Trinucleotides of siRNA to Predict RNAi Activity. *Computational and Mathematical Methods in Medicine*, 2017(1), 5043984.
33. **He, F.**, Han, Y., Wang, H., Ji, J., Liu, Y., & Ma, Z. (2017). Deep learning architecture for iris recognition based on optimal Gabor filters and deep belief network. *Journal of Electronic Imaging*, 26(2), 023005-023005.
34. Liu, Y., **He, F.**, Zhu, X., Liu, Z., Chen, Y., Han, Y., & Yu, L. (2015). The improved characteristics of bionic Gabor representations by combining with SIFT key-points for iris recognition. *Journal of Bionic Engineering*, 12(3), 504-517.
35. Huo, G., Liu, Y., Zhu, X., Dong, H., & **He, F.** (2015). Face-iris multimodal biometric scheme based on feature level fusion. *Journal of Electronic Imaging*, 24(6), 063020-063020.

36. Chen, Y., Liu, Y., Zhu, X., Chen, H., **He, F.**, & Pang, Y. (2014). Novel approaches to improve iris recognition system performance based on local quality evaluation and feature fusion. *The Scientific World Journal*, 2014(1), 670934.
37. **He, F.**, Liu, Y., Zhu, X., Huang, C., Han, Y., & Chen, Y. (2014). Score level fusion scheme based on adaptive local Gabor features for face-iris-fingerprint multimodal biometric. *Journal of Electronic Imaging*, 23(3), 033019-033019.
38. Chen, Y., Liu, Y., Zhu, X., **He, F.**, Wang, H., & Deng, N. (2014). Efficient iris recognition based on optimal subfeature selection and weighted subregion fusion. *The Scientific World Journal*, 2014(1), 157173.
39. Liu, Y., **He, F.**, Zhu, X., Chen, Y., Han, Y., & Fu, Y. (2014). Video sequence-based iris recognition inspired by human cognition manner. *Journal of Bionic Engineering*, 11(3), 481-489.
40. **He, F.**, Liu, Y., Zhu, X., Huang, C., Han, Y., & Dong, H. (2014). Multiple local feature representations and their fusion based on an SVR model for iris recognition using optimized Gabor filters. *EURASIP Journal on Advances in Signal Processing*, 2014, 17-Jan.

### Conference Papers

1. Azam, M., **He, F.**, Santosh, K., Xu, D., & Popescu, M. (2024). Evaluation and Integration of Advanced AI Chatbots for Biological Pathway Curation. *2024 IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine (BIBM)*, 6342-6348.
2. Arowolo, M. O., Azam, M., **He, F.**, Popescu, M., & Xu, D. (2024). Gene Name Recognition in Gene Pathway Figures Using Siamese Networks. *2024 IEEE International Conference on Medical Artificial Intelligence (MedAI)*, 218-230.
3. **He, F.**, Yang, Z., Gao, M., Poudel, B., Dhas, N. S. E. S., Gyawali, R., Dhakal, A., Cheng, J., & Xu, D. (2024). Adapting segment anything model (SAM) through prompt-based learning for enhanced protein identification in cryo-EM micrographs. *2024 IEEE International Conference on Medical Artificial Intelligence (MedAI)*, 20-Sep.
4. Bao, Y., Wang, W., Dong, M., **He, F.**, & Wang, H. (2021). Discover the Binding Domain of Transmembrane Proteins Based on Structural Universality. *2021 IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine (BIBM)*, 11-May.
5. **He, F.**, Thompson, J., Mao, Z., Ren, Y., Nussbaum, Y., Kholod, O., Shin, D., Hannink, M., Popescu, M., & Xu, D. (2021). Identifying genes and their interactions from pathway figures and text in biomedical articles. *2021 IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine (BIBM)*, 398-405.
6. Thompson, J., Dong, H., Liu, K., **He, F.**, Popescu, M., & Xu, D. (2021). A rule-based approach for generating synthetic biological pathways. *International Meeting on Computational Intelligence Methods for Bioinformatics and Biostatistics*, 105-116.
7. Ren, Y., **He, F.**, Qu, J., Li, Y., Thompson, J., Hannink, M., Popescu, M., & Xu, D. (2021). Text Mining Enhancements for Image Recognition of Gene Names and Gene Relations. *International Meeting on Computational Intelligence Methods for Bioinformatics and Biostatistics*, 132-142.
8. **He, F.**, Wang, D., Innokenteva, Y., Kholod, O., Shin, D., & Xu, D. (2019). Extracting molecular entities and their interactions from pathway figures based on deep learning. *Proceedings of the 10th ACM International Conference on Bioinformatics, Computational Biology and Health Informatics*, 397-404.
9. **He, F.**, Wang, R., Gao, Y., Wang, D., Yu, Y., Xu, D., & Zhao, X. (2019). Protein ubiquitylation and sumoylation site prediction based on ensemble and transfer learning. *2019 IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine (BIBM)*, 117-123.
10. Han, Y., **He, F.**, Tan, X., & Yu, H. (2017). Effective small interfering RNA design based on convolutional neural network. *2017 IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine (BIBM)*, 16-21.
11. **He, F.**, Bao, L., Wang, R., Li, J., Xu, D., & Zhao, X. (2017). A multimodal deep architecture for large-scale protein ubiquitylation site prediction. *2017 IEEE international conference on bioinformatics and biomedicine (BIBM)*, 108-113.



12. Huo, G., Liu, Y., Zhu, X., Huang, C., **He, F.**, Gao, S., Dong, H., Yu, L., & Yang, X. (2015). An iris recognition method based on annule-energy feature. *Biometric Recognition: 10th Chinese Conference, CCBR 2015, Tianjin, China, November 13-15, 2015, Proceedings 10*, 341-348.
13. Huo, G., Liu, Y., Zhu, X., Wang, H., Yu, L., **He, F.**, Gao, S., & Dong, H. (2014). An effective iris recognition method based on scale invariant feature transformation. *Biometric Recognition: 9th Chinese Conference, CCBR 2014, Shenyang, China, November 7-9, 2014. Proceedings 9*, 301-310.
14. **He, F.**, Liu, Y., Zhu, X., Deng, W., Zhang, X., & Huo, G. (2013). The affection of Gabor parameters to iris recognition and their optimization. *Biometric Recognition: 8th Chinese Conference, CCBR 2013, Jinan, China, November 16-17, 2013. Proceedings*, 330-337.

## Posters

1. **He, F.**, Fei, R., Krull, J., Zhang, X., Chang, Y., Gao, M., Su, L., Chen, Y., Yu, Y., Ma, Q., & Xu, D. (2024). Harnessing the power of single cell large language models with parameter efficient fine-tuning. *2024 International Conference on Intelligent Biology and Medicine, ICIBM 2024, Houston TX*.
2. **He, F.**, Chen, Y., Petruc, M., Xu, D., & Popescu, M. (2023). Ten-year pathway figure mining and analysis for non-small cell lung cancer. *American Medical Informatics Association 2023 Annual Symposium, New Orleans, LA*.
3. **He, F.**, Chen, Y., Petruc, M., Xu, D., & Popescu, M. (2023). Ten-year pathway figure mining and analysis for non-small cell lung cancer. *The 8th Workshop on Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Atlanta, GA*.

## Preprints/Manuscripts Under Review and In Preparation

1. **He, F.**, Fei, R., Krull, J. E., Zhang, X., Gao, M., Su, L., Chen, Y., Yu, Y., Li, J., Jin, B., Chang, Y., Ma, A., Ma, Q., & Xu, D. (2025). Harnessing the power of single-cell large language models with parameter-efficient fine-tuning using scPEFT. *bioRxiv*. Under revision at *Nature Machine Intelligence*.
2. **He, F.**, Wang, X., & Xu, D. (2025). Reusability Report: Pan-Peptide Meta Learning for T-cell receptor-antigen binding recognition. Invited article. To be submitted at *Nature Machine Intelligence*.
3. **He, F.**, Fei, R., Gao, M., Su, L., Zhang, X., & Xu, D. (2024). Parameter-Efficient Fine-Tuning Enhances Adaptation of Single Cell Large Language Model for Cell Type Identification. *bioRxiv*.
4. Manshour, N., **He, F.**, Wang, D., & Xu, D. (2024). Integrating protein structure prediction and Bayesian optimization for peptide design. *Research Square*, 3, 4045284.

## DEVELOPED TOOLS, WEB SERVICES, AND DATABASES

**scPEFT**: a single-cell parameter-efficient fine-tuning framework that integrates learnable, low-dimensional adapters into scLLMs for out-of-context applications, such as disease-conditional cell type identification, conditioned bio-marker discovery, cross-species adaptation, and uncharacterized cell population detection.

- <https://github.com/coffee19850519/scPEFT>

**pathCLIP**: An image-text contrastive learning framework that coordinates embeddings of image snippets and text descriptions for genes and gene relation curation across diverse literature sources

- <https://github.com/yangyang-69/pathCLIP>

**Prompt-SAM-cryoPPP**: A protein identification framework for cryo-electron microscopy (cryo-EM) utilizing prompt-based learning strategies with Segment Anything Model (SAM), to enhance performance and reduce computational requirements in 3D protein structure construction.

- [https://github.com/yangyang-69/Prompt\\_sam\\_cryoPPP](https://github.com/yangyang-69/Prompt_sam_cryoPPP)

**fatPlants**: A comprehensive website platform for plant fat-related genes, proteins and metabolic pathways, currently providing all fatty acid related proteins and genes retrieve search for these 3 species, and most fatty acid chemical properties. Co-developed with Chunhui Xu.

- <https://www.fatplants.net>

**MuSite:** A web-based tool that predicts and visualizes post-translational modification (PTM) and ion-binding sites on proteins using deep neural networks. In addition, the server maintains a local database providing pre-processed PTM annotations from Uniport/Swiss-Prot. Co-developed with Dr. Duolin Wang.

- <https://www.musite.net>

**RESEPT:** A deep-learning framework for characterizing and visualizing tissue architecture from spatially resolved transcriptomics by learning a three-dimensional embedding mapped into an RGB image for leveraging image segmentation. Co-developed with Yuzhou Chang.

- <https://github.com/OSU-BMBL/RESEPT>

**PPDocking:** A graph neural network framework for scoring protein-protein docking conformations, for improving structural bioinformatics predictions. Co-developed with Dr. Ye Han.

- <https://github.com/coffee19850519/PPDocking>

## INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

**Shanghai Institute for Mathematics and Interdisciplinary Sciences** Online  
*Summer Seminar Series in Shanghai* 2025

- Invited by Prof. [Zhigang Yao](#)
- Title: Deep Learning Methods for Single-Cell Data Analyses

**The International Conference on Intelligent Biology and Medicine (ICIBM)** Houston, TX  
*AI Methods for Single Cell Data Analysis* 2024

- Title: Enhancing adaptation of single cell large language models in single cell analyses through parameter efficient fine-tuning

**IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine (BIBM)** Online  
*Data Mining, Machine Learning, and Artificial Intelligence for Biomedicine* 2021

- Title: Identifying Genes and Their Interactions from Pathway Figures and Text in Biomedical Articles

**IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine (BIBM)** Online  
*Molecular Structure, Function and Evolution* 2021

- Title: Discover the Binding Domain of Transmembrane Proteins Based on Structural Universality

**28<sup>th</sup> Conference on Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB)** Online  
*3DSIG: Structural Bioinformatics and Computational Biophysics* 2020

- Title: Quality Assessment of Protein Docking Models Based on Graph Neural Network

**IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine (BIBM)** San Diego, CA  
*Molecular Structure, Function and Evolution* 2019

- Title: Protein ubiquitylation and sumoylation site prediction based on ensemble and transfer learning

**10<sup>th</sup> ACM International Conference on Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, and Health Informatics (ACM-BCB)** Buffalo, NY  
*Deep learning III* 2019

- Title: Extracting molecular entities and their interactions from pathway figures based on deep learning



- Title: A multimodal deep architecture for large-scale protein ubiquitylation site prediction

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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### Journal Reviewer

Nature Communications, Pattern Recognition, Briefings in Bioinformatics, Neurocomputing, International Journal of Biological Macromolecules, Life Sciences, Computers in Biology and Medicine, BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making, Scientific Reports, Journal of Imaging Informatics in Medicine, Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence, Digital Chinese Medicine, etc.

### Conference Reviewer

IEEE International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedicine (2019, 2023-2024, co-reviewed with Prof. Trupti Joshi).

### Grant Reviewer

National Natural Science Foundation of China (2024-2025).

### Thesis Reviewer

School of Information Science and Technology at Northeast Normal University, Northeast Electric Power University, Chinese Ministry of Education Degree Center's Quality Monitoring Service Platform for Doctoral and Master's Theses

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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<b>Outstanding Ph.D. Student</b>	EECS MU 2025
<b>Student and Trainee Travel Award</b>	ICIBM 2024
<b>Travel Fellowship Award</b>	EECS MU 2024
<b>Travel Award</b>	LSC Postdoc, Graduate, and Undergraduate Association MU 2023
<b>Travel Award</b>	Interdisciplinary Plant Group MU 2023
<b>Student and Trainee Travel Award</b>	BIBM 2017
<b>Outstanding Graduate Student</b>	Jilin University 2014
<b>First-class Undergraduate Scholarship</b>	Jilin University 2007
<b>Second-class Undergraduate Scholarship (3 times)</b>	Jilin University 2004-2006

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Advanced Methods in Deep Learning**, University of Missouri Fall 2023, Fall 2024

- New graduate course, Assistant in Instruction for Prof. Dong Xu, ~30 students

**Principles and Applications of Database**, [www.icourse163.org](http://www.icourse163.org)

Online MOOC

- Undergraduate public MOOC, Co-Instruction with Prof. Yanling Li

**Machine Learning and Deep Learning**, Northeast Normal University

Fall 2021

- Developed graduate-level elective course, Instructor, ~30 students

**Operating Systems**, Northeast Normal University

Spring 2021, Spring 2022

- Undergraduate compulsory course, Instructor, ~50 students
- **Bilingual education** serving the Northeast Normal University–Kennesaw State University Global Education - Degree Program

**Python Programming**, Northeast Normal University

Fall 2017, Fall 2018

- Undergraduate-level core course, Instructor, ~50 students

**Bioinformatics**, Northeast Normal University

Spring 2017, Spring 2018

- Developed graduate-level elective course, Instructor, ~20 students

**C#.NET Programming**, Northeast Normal University

Spring 2017, Spring 2018

- Undergraduate-level core course, Instructor, ~30 students

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**MENTORING EXPERIENCE**

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**Ph.D. Students**

Yongbing Chen (co-advised with Prof. Zhiguo Fu)

Northeast Normal University, 2020 - 2015

Jianting Gong (co-advised with Prof. Zhiqiang Ma)

Northeast Normal University, 2018 - 2022

**M.S. Students**

Xinyu Zhang, Xianyu Wang

Northeast Normal University, 2023 - present

Zhiyuan Yang, Ruixin Fei, Mingyue Gao, Ning Wang, Jialiang Zhang Northeast Normal University, 2022 - 2025

Kai Liu, Qiuyu Lyu, Yan Zhang, Lili Jiang, Chaoyang Ni

Northeast Normal University, 2021 - 2024

Wenyuan Qin

Northeast Normal University, 2020 - 2023

Jingyi Li, Yang Yu (co-advised with Dr. Pingping Sun)

Northeast Normal University, 2019 - 2022

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**SKILLS**

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**Programming**

Python, R, C#/C++/C

**Data Analysis**

NumPy, Pandas, SciPy, scikit-learn, Matplotlib, Scanpy, Seurat, BioPython, rdkit, AlphaFold, LIME, SHAP

**Model Construction**

PyTorch, HuggingFace Transformer, FlashAttention, TensorFlow, Keras

**Languages**

English (fluent), Mandarin (native), Cantonese (native)

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**REFERENCES**

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**Prof. Dong Xu**

Curators' Distinguished Professor, Paul K. and Dianne Shumaker Professor

Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, College of Engineering

University of Missouri

Email: xudong@missouri.edu

**Prof. Qin Ma**

Professor and Division Chief of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics

Department of Biomedical Informatics, College of Medicine

The Ohio State University

Email: Qin.Ma@osumc.edu

**Prof. Mihail Popescu**

Professor

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