Computer Vision Center
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To Whom It May Concern:

I am submitting this letter on behalf of Yaxing Wang, a postdoc in my group, the Learning and Machine Perception (LAMP) group, at the Computer Vision Center at the Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona, Spain. I know Yaxing Wang since 2015 when he entered the LAMP group as a PhD student sponsored by a Chinese Student Council scholarship.

My name is Joost van de Weijer and I am the leader of the Learning and Machine Perception Team (LAMP) and a senior researcher at the Computer Vision Center at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. My main research interest is in applying machine learning theory to the field of computer vision: active learning, lifelong learning, continual learning, unsupervised learning, and applications such as color constancy, color naming, object recognition, visual tracking, and crowd counting.

Yaxing Wang finished his PhD in February 2020. His thesis is titled 'Transferring and Learning Representations for Image Generation and Translation'. I consider the thesis among the best 15% in the group. The thesis is on the topic of transfer learning for generative models, and on several improvements to image-two-image translation. Yaxing performed research on multi-way image-to-image translation which resulted in publications in CVPR2018 and IJCV (impact factor 6.0). He also participated as a team member in the multi-modal translation challenge, which the team won. He further investigated diversity and scalability in image-to-image methods, which was published in ACM MM 2019. The other part of his thesis focused on transfer learning for generative models. This research resulted in publications in ECCV 2018 and CVPR 2020. In addition, Yaxing Wang performed a research visit to IIAI (Abu Dhabi) which resulted in another CVPR 2020 paper.

Yaxing Wang was a very driven PhD student. He is very motivated and has a great focus. He has a very good knowledge of state-of-the-art, constantly reading new papers, also outside the imidiate scope of his research. In addition, he is a good team player, and has therefore co-authored several papers, including a NeurIPS 2018 and a ECCV 2020. He is a good programmer and is surprisingly fast in testing new ideas (that often involve complex architectural changes); where many PhD students get caught in long debugging sessions, Yaxing is extremely fast in getting things to work. He solves hurdles encountered along the way with perseverance and focus. Yaxing has excellent scientific ideas, which have led to top publications, and I am sure he will have many more in the future.

As a postdoc, Yaxing Wang has worked on domain adaptation and continued his research on image-to-image translation resulting in a NeurIPS 2020. As a postdoc, he is also taking more responsibilities, and he is also co-supervising two PhD students. His writing skills have improved greatly in the last year. Finally, on a personal note, he is a very nice person to work with. Therefore, I would recommend him strongly for a faculty position.

Sincerely,

Joost van de Weijer

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Group Leader of the Learning and Machine Perception team
http://www.cvc.uab.es/LAMP/joost/