EMBO WORKSHOP

Computational models of life: From molecular biology to digital twins

Interview with the PerMedCoE grant recipient Yingjia Chen

Yingjia Chen is a doctoral student at the Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland (FIMM), University of Helsinki, interested in predicting synergistic drug combinations for acute myeloid leukemia (AML) using machine learning methods and single-cell RNA sequencing.

What is your main professional interest?

I intend to develop accurate and explainable computational methods for identifying promising regimens tailored to individual patients. My goal is to enhance the acceptance of data science-based solutions in both preclinical validation and clinical practice. As part of this, I will continue my training of a doctoral student, aiming to further develop my professionalism as a biomedical researcher. I aspire to acquire comprehensive knowledge and practical skills, enabling effective communication and collaboration with diverse professionals, including data scientists, wet-lab scientists, pharmacological researchers, and physicians.

What were your expectations from the EMBO Workshop "Computational models of life: From molecular biology to digital twins"?

I expected to share the progress of my ongoing work and receiving feedback in the workshop. It is also extremely appealing to learn the essential skills and insights in the mentoring sessions related to omics data and digital twins. I am grateful to the grant from the PerMedCoE project, which support my participation in this invaluable opportunity for learning, networking, and professional development

Have these expectations been met?

Yes, the workshop has been beyond my expectations. It provided a platform for in-depth presentations by esteemed researchers and insightful flash talks by peers. The various sessions delved into the forefront of omics data and personalised therapies, and insights into digital twin methodologies. The exposure to cutting-edge advancements and the opportunity to interact with professionals across various backgrounds have significantly enriched my understanding and will undoubtedly influence my ongoing work positively. It was also memorable and rewarding to attend the workshop in such a beautiful seaside resort with the beautiful setting and atmosphere.

What is your feedback regarding gender balance and equality in this workshop?

The workshop demonstrated commendable efforts in achieving gender balance, evident in the diverse representation of speakers and inclusive interactions. This fostered a safe and collaborative environment, enhancing the overall quality and depth of discussions on various topics.