

PhD position on advanced machine vision and AI for
postharvest automation
Michigan State University

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Posted Sep. 4, 2025, set to expire Jan. 4, 2026

Job Title	PhD position on advanced machine vision and AI for postharvest automation
Department	Department of Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering https://www.canr.msu.edu/bae/
Institution	Michigan State University East Lansing, Michigan
Date Posted	Sep. 4, 2025
Application Deadline	Open until filled
Position Start Date	Available immediately
Job Categories	Graduate Student
Academic Field(s)	Robotics Optics & Optical Engineering Mechanical Engineering Computer Science Agricultural
Apply Online Here	https://grad.msu.edu/apply
Apply By Email	
Job Description	

A PhD/MS position is immediately available in [Dr. Yuzhen Lu](#)'s group (**AgFood Sensing & Intelligence**) in the Department of Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering at Michigan State University ([Top 100 Globally](#), [Public Ivy](#), the first Land-Grant University and [AAU](#) member in the U.S., Top 15 in Agriculture & Forestry globally). The selected candidate will work primarily on **postharvest automation for specialty crops**, generating real-world impacts. Successful candidate need to be **creative, self-motivated, adaptive, resilient, and focused while being able to collaborate in multidisciplinary environments**

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. The student will be expected to communicate research outcomes actively and in time through high-quality, peer-reviewed publications and deliver presentations at conferences (e.g., two national/international conferences per year).

The selected candidate is expected to assist with leading efforts in integrating **advanced machine/mechanical/computer vision, and artificial intelligence (AI), and automation technologies to develop automation systems for postharvest handling of specialty crops**. He or she will meet regularly with Dr. Lu to discuss best practices in **design, experiments, prototyping, algorithm development and testing, manuscript preparation, and mentoring**. If interested, the selected candidate may engage in activities such as grant proposal development and class teaching assistance for their professional development.

Minimum Requirements

- The successful candidate must have a MS/BS degree in Biosystems/Agricultural Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, or closely related fields.
- Successful candidates are expected to have demonstrated experience evidenced in strong or relevant publication records in machine/computer vision, mechatronics, and or AI/robotics.
- Strong computer programming skills are necessary in C++, Python, and or Matlab.
- The candidate is expected to have excellent scientific writing and communication skills.

Desired Qualifications

- Skills in **machine vision, hardware prototyping, and system integration** are desirable.
- Experience in *developing a machine vision-based automation system for vegetable produce* is an advantage.

APPLICATION

If interested in this position, please contact [Dr. Yuzhen Lu \[luyuzhen@msu.edu\]](mailto:luyuzhen@msu.edu) (**unserious emails without clearly addressing qualifications will not get replies**) with a description of how you fit strongly. A full application for an official offer to be made should include a cover letter describing the applicant's research interest, a CV, transcripts, test score(s), journal publications, and a list of three references including names, email, address, and telephone number. Review will begin immediately and continue until positions are filled. Video interviews will be requested for potential candidates. Successful applicants will need to apply to the MSU Graduate School. Please visit <https://grad.msu.edu/apply> and <https://www.egr.msu.edu/bae/graduate/application-instructions>

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for details.

Contact Information

Please reference Academickeys in your cover letter when
applying for or inquiring about this job announcement.

Contact Yuzhen Lu
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Contact E-mail luyuzhen@msu.edu