

Once upon a time...



Fairy tales...

... and successful individual grant proposals



Jan van Gemert

YOU MEET A SEASONED TRAVELER..

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN AN OLD UNIVERSITY CAFETERIA, AROUND THE COFFEE MACHINE, YOU MEET A SEASONED EXPLORER, SCARRED AND GRAY, BUT A TWINKLE IN HIS EYE...

YOU MEET A SEASONED TRAVELER..

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN AN OLD UNIVERSITY CAFETERIA, AROUND THE COFFEE MACHINE, YOU MEET A SEASONED EXPLORER, SCARRED AND GRAY, BUT A TWINKLE IN HIS EYE...



Assoc. prof; Head Computer Vision lab @ PRB

Two main research themes:

- ① Fundamental, empirical, understanding-based deep learning research (to)
- ② Find & evaluate powerful yet flexible physical priors in visual recognition AI.

YOU MEET A SEASONED TRAVELER..

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN AN OLD UNIVERSITY CAFETERIA, AROUND THE COFFEE MACHINE, YOU MEET A SEASONED EXPLORER, SCARRED AND GRAY, BUT A TWINKLE IN HIS EYE...



Assoc. prof; Head Computer Vision lab @ PRB
Two main research themes:

- ① Fundamental, empirical, understanding-based deep learning research (to)
- ② Find & evaluate powerful yet flexible physical priors in visual recognition AI.

Accepted grants: Top, Vidi, Vici.

Rejected grants: Top, Veni, Vidi, Vici, Nwo-M, ERC start, ERC cons, etc...

Mine is not “The Way”; it’s “A Way”.

OTHERS JOIN THE CONVERSATION...

YOUR CONVERSATION DRAWS SOME ATTENTION; OTHER ADVENTURERS JOIN THE CONVERSATION:

OTHERS JOIN THE CONVERSATION...

YOUR CONVERSATION DRAWS SOME ATTENTION; OTHER ADVENTURERS JOIN THE CONVERSATION:



- “It’s a lottery”
- “Random chance”
- “It’s luck”
- “It’s only for the already successful”

OTHERS JOIN THE CONVERSATION...

YOUR CONVERSATION DRAWS SOME ATTENTION; OTHER ADVENTURERS JOIN THE CONVERSATION:



- “It’s a lottery”
- “Random chance”
- “It’s luck”
- “It’s only for the already successful”

The path is perilous, hidden dangers, unpredictable, stochastic, and risky.

OTHERS JOIN THE CONVERSATION...

YOUR CONVERSATION DRAWS SOME ATTENTION; OTHER ADVENTURERS JOIN THE CONVERSATION:



- “It’s a lottery”
- “Random chance”
- “It’s luck”
- “It’s only for the already successful”

The path is perilous, hidden dangers, unpredictable, stochastic, and risky.



Chance favors the prepared mind (Louis Pasteur)

EVERYONE LOVES A GOOD STORY...

THE ATTENTION TURNS TO YOU;
THEY ASK YOU: “WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?”

EVERYONE LOVES A GOOD STORY...

THE ATTENTION TURNS TO YOU;
THEY ASK YOU: “WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?”

2 Evidence Based Curriculum Vitæ

2.1 Academic profile

Section 2a1 - General Academic Profile

Fit to the target group I always dreamed to be a professor: thinking. Too much dreaming landed me in the MAVO, a low level at Fontys, and a MSc in AI and a PhD in Computer Vision at the beaten path, resilient, and committed. Currently I am an associate professor in Computer Vision lab at TU Delft. My lab has 3 assistant professors, and 10 PhD students and more than 100 MSc students.

EVERYONE LOVES A GOOD STORY...

THE ATTENTION TURNS TO YOU;
THEY ASK YOU: “WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?”

2 Evidence Based Curriculum Vitæ

2.1 Academic profile

Section 2a1 - General Academic Profile

Fit to the target group I always dreamed to be a professor: thinking. Too much dreaming landed me in the MAVO, a low level at Fontys, and a MSc in AI and a PhD in Computer Vision at the beaten path, resilient, and committed. Currently I am an associate professor in the Computer Vision lab at TU Delft. My lab has 3 assistant professors, and 10 PhD students and more than 100 MSc students.

It's your story.

Less about quantity (h-index, nr pub., venues, grants);
Focus on quality: your narrative of importance, and why.

OPINIONS RISE...

THEY FREELY SPEAK THEIR MIND.. ALL TELL YOU WHAT THEY THINK.
SOME SAY TAKE ROUTE A; OTHERS SAY DON'T TAKE ROUTE A...

OPINIONS RISE...

THEY FREELY SPEAK THEIR MIND.. ALL TELL YOU WHAT THEY THINK.
SOME SAY TAKE ROUTE A; OTHERS SAY DON'T TAKE ROUTE A...

Killing Your



Darlings

Get feedback often, and early: don't write: pitch! Before the idea is "finalized".

Don't blindly follow; think about the question behind the question: not only *what* they say, but *why* they say.

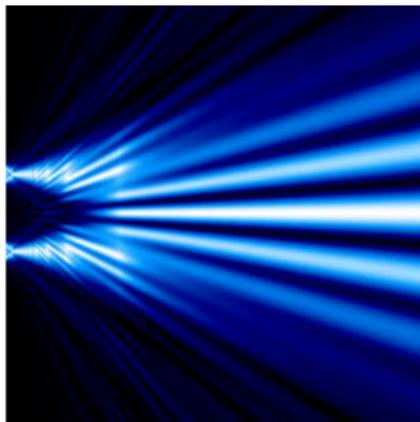
Kill your darlings; and take full responsibility for your choices.

THE DOUBLE SLIT...

BUT.. HOW WILL YOU DEAL WITH THE WOLVES?
AND.. WHAT ABOUT THE TROLLS?

THE DOUBLE SLIT...

BUT.. HOW WILL YOU DEAL WITH THE WOLVES?
AND.. WHAT ABOUT THE TROLLS?



Institute of Physics

Do both. Write for 2 audiences simultaneously:

- Committee (why should society care?);
- Experts (novelty, soundness, current literature).

SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO TROLLS

THESE TROLLS ARE NASTY; WILL YOU KILL ALL OF THE TROLLS?

SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO TROLLS

THESE TROLLS ARE NASTY; WILL YOU KILL ALL OF THE TROLLS?



SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO TROLLS

THESE TROLLS ARE NASTY; WILL YOU KILL ALL OF THE TROLLS?

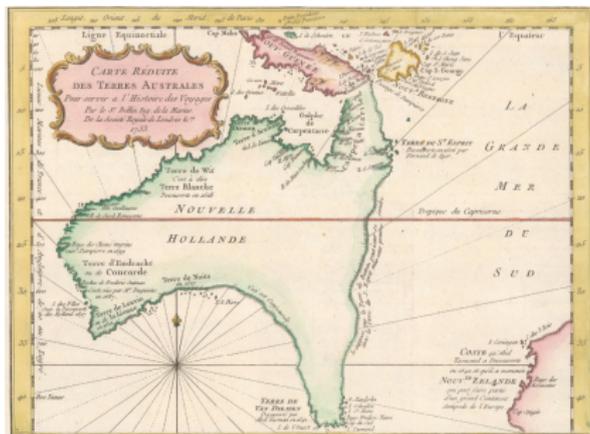


Reviewers are people! Their mood matters.

Quality of writing: avoid that they have to do work/inference.
An image says more than 1,000 gold pieces (also in the narrative CV).

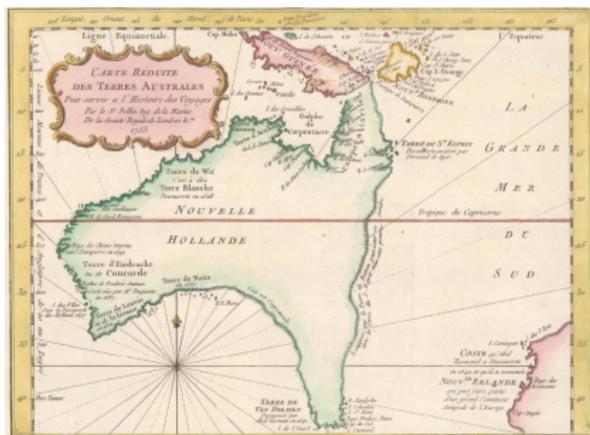
UNCHARTED TERRITORY...

DO YOU KNOW THE WAY? IS THERE A MAP? CAN YOU TRUST THE MAP?



UNCHARTED TERRITORY...

DO YOU KNOW THE WAY? IS THERE A MAP? CAN YOU TRUST THE MAP?



Planning: It's research; by definition we don't know what we are doing.
The real route will be different.

UNCHARTED TERRITORY...

DO YOU KNOW THE WAY? IS THERE A MAP? CAN YOU TRUST THE MAP?



Planning: It's research; by definition we don't know what we are doing.
The real route will be different.

Goal: $\exists!$. Show that it is possible.
Show that there is a convincing (detailed), realistic, plan.

I SHOT THE SHERIFF..

OUT OF THE SHADOWS, YOU HEAR A CRACKED VOICE, DARK AND BITTER:
“WHY BOTHER?! IT WILL NEVER WORK”...

I SHOT THE SHERIFF..

OUT OF THE SHADOWS, YOU HEAR A CRACKED VOICE, DARK AND BITTER:
“WHY BOTHER?! IT WILL NEVER WORK” ...



Dream high: You can make that big step! Yes, you!

Don't dispose the deputy; topple the tyrant!

AND... LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER!

It's the journey not the destination.



Even if unsuccessful, aligning helps prioritize: what to do; and when to say No.

Online guidelines

Tips for Writing Personal Grants Proposals in ICT

Version 2.0, January 2018

Authors: Marieke Huisman & Inald Lagendijk

With awesome input from Sebastian Altmeyer, Tim Beerslag, Jasmin Blanchette, Marleen de Bruijne, Sander Bolke, Ronald Cramer, Elmar Eisenmann, Bram van Ginneken, Cristiano Cluffrida, Peter Grunwald, Tom Heskens, Richard Heusdens, Bart Jansen, Stefan Klein, Alfons Laarman, Thomas Morsink, Przemyslaw Pawelczak, Jeroen de Ridder, Maarten de Rijke, Arnold Smeubbers, Marc Stevens, Jacopo Urbani, Renske Verbruggen, Mathijs de Weerd, Stephanie Wehner.

For further suggestions and corrections send an e-mail to the authors!

<https://homepage.tudelft.nl/c7c8y/Downloads/TipsforWritingPersonalGrantProposalsinICT.pdf>



The Professor Is In

Guidance for all things PhD:
Grad school, job market, careers in the academy & out

HOME ACADEMIC JOB HELP INSTITUTIONS CAREER COACHING PRODUCTIVITY PROFESSOR IS OUT WEBINARS BLOG MERCH

Dr. Karen's Foolproof Grant Template

<https://theprofessorisin.com/2011/07/05/dr-karens-foolproof-grant-template/>