Prof. "Patrick" Yizhi Cai is the chair professor in Synthetic Genomics at the University of Manchester. He received a bachelor's degree in Computer Science in China, a master'sdegree in Bioinformatics from the University of Edinburgh in the UK and a PhD in Genetics, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology from Virginia Tech in the USA. Prof.Cai had his postdoctoral fellowship under Jef Boeke in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Prof. Cai serves as a senior scientific consultant to Beijing Genomics Institute, and is the first Autodesk Distinguished Scholar.

From 2013 to 2017, Prof. Cai had his own research group at the University of Edinburgh with a prestigious Chancellor's Fellowship, and his lab focuses on Computer Assisted Design for Synthetic Biology, NeoChromosome design and synthesis in yeast, and DNA assembly automation. Prof. Cai co-foundedthe Edinburgh Genome Foundry, the International Centre for Synthetic Genomics at BGI, and the GP-Write China Centre at the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

In the last 5 years, Prof. Cai's group published 40 papers, including 7 research articles in *Science*. His papers have been cited over 1,800 times and his *h*-index is 24.