

# ZEYUAN CHEN

✉ zeyuan.chen.1371@student.uu.se · ☎ (+46) 7-645-683-68 · 🌐 [My Website](#)

## 🎓 EDUCATION

**Uppsala University**, Uppsala, Sweden

Sep. 2024 - Jun. 2026 (expected)

*Master of Science* in **Social Science**, Department of Informatics and Media

- **Grade:** Majority of courses completed with Pass with Distinction (VG).
- **Courses:** Introduction to Machine Learning, Forecasting Methods and Causal Inference for the Social Sciences, Quantitative Methods, Qualitative Methods, Data Structure and Algorithms, etc.

**Beijing Normal University (BNU)**, Beijing, China

Sept. 2020 - Jun. 2024

*Bachelor* in **Philosophy** (Liyun Honour Class), with a minor in **Sociology**

- **Grade:** Major GPA: **3.81/4.0** Overall GPA: 3.67/4.0 **3rd** in my class (awarded postgraduate recommendation)
- **Courses:** Advanced Algebra, Social Statistics, Interactive Python Programming, Statistical Software for Social Sciences, Political Sociology, Social Stratification and Social Mobility, Social Policy, etc.

**Radboud University**, Nijmegen, Netherlands

Jan. 2023 - May. 2023

*Exchange Programme* Introduction to Gender Theory, History of Modern Philosophy

## 🔬 RESEARCH & PUBLICATION

**Master Thesis at Uppsala University**

Sep. 2025 - Ongoing

*Individual Research* co-supervised by Jacob Habinek and Johan Lindell

**Working Title:** The Politics of Philosophy: A Computational Study of French Philosophers (1950–1990)

- Developed a data pipeline to build a comprehensive dataset of French philosophers by combining automated web scraping with manual data collection and annotation, and compiled a corpus of scholarly writings from 1960 to 1989.
- Conducted geometric data analysis to link scholars' social positions to their intellectual stance (FastText + K-Means), institutionalized practices, and academic networks; this module has developed into a standalone side project. [\[link\]](#)
- Thesis main work (ongoing) focuses on developing NLP methods (specific to philosophical text) to examine how scholars from different social and educational backgrounds (especially post-war cohort) strategically compete for symbolic and social capital, providing a mechanism-based explanation for the evolution of "French Theory".

**Side Project at University of Toronto**

Nov. 2025 – Ongoing

*Co-Researcher* Supervised by Ethan Fosse and Nicholas Spence

**Focus:** Cultural Ratcheting and Transmission Fidelity in Academic Lineages

- Investigated the ratcheting effect in scientific evolution by analyzing publication-level embeddings (Specter) across disciplines, identifying distinct patterns of temporal drift in CS versus thematic stasis in Sociology.
- Operationalized transmission fidelity through Directional Persistence within academic lineage triples, quantifying the extent to which scholarly "phenotypic traits" are preserved across generations in different disciplines.
- Validated macro-evolutionary hypotheses by regressing research similarity on genealogical distance, finding that inheritance fidelity significantly predicts the directional accumulation of knowledge in high-consensus fields.

**Research Internship at Aalto University**

Apr. 2025 - Aug. 2025

*Research Assistant* supervised by Barbara Esther Keller

**Title:** Race to the Big Lab: Gender Disparities in Large Team Collaboration and Its Impact on Early Academic Careers

- Full paper accepted by **CHI 2026**. [\[link\]](#)
- Built collaboration networks from the SciSciNet dataset, operationalized the accumulation of capital and the career development of scholars using a modified version of neighborhood centrality.
- Identified the causal effect of large-team collaboration on early-career academic development using Synthetic DID, and explored whether and how such mechanism reproduces gender inequality in the academia.
- We are now developing an ongoing project that examines how unequal access to large teams emerges from global network properties and edge formation mechanisms, using team-level dynamic network simulations.

## Self-Motivated Research Projects

Always Ongoing

### Project 1: The Invisible in Philosophy: Mapping the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy Entries Network

- Extended abstract accepted by **IC2S2** (parallel session) and **ICSSI** (poster). [\[link\]](#)
- Scraped all entries from the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy using Python's Selenium, and modeled it as a networked system of collective knowledge production and evaluation.
- Analyzed how structural positions translate into differential visibility outcomes across groups (machine-learning-based classifiers), and how and editorial linking practices induce implicit ranking and aggregation mechanisms, thus reproducing inequalities of representation within the hyperlink structure.

### Project 2: Science and Technology in Science Fiction: A Pre- and Post-WWII Comparison through Word Embedding and Mixed-Method Topic Modeling

- Extended abstract accepted by **IC2S2** (poster). [\[link\]](#)
- Scraped book metadata and auto-generated summaries, and constructed a corpus of 19-20th century science fiction novels from the Gutenberg database using Python.
- Applied mixed-method topic modeling (CorEx) and word embeddings (word2vec) to trace shifts in cultural representation of science and technology; Quantified semantic change before and after WWII to investigate how large-scale social-political shocks reshape collective cultural production.

## Research Internship at Renmin University of China

Dec. 2023 - Present

*Research Assistant* supervised by Ye Zhang

**Focus:** Health Inequality and Social Determinants

- Developed mapping algorithms from disease-specific instruments onto generic-based Quality of Life instruments, employing k-fold cross validation and bootstrapping estimation. (accepted by *Value in Health*) [\[link\]](#)
- Used quantile regression based on data from a national survey to identify socio-demographic factors affecting elderly patients with nephropathy in different health states. (accepted by *Health and Quality of Life Outcomes*) [\[link\]](#)

## Beijing Undergraduate Research Training Program

Jun. 2021 - May. 2022

*Team Research* Leader

**Title:** Internet Public Opinion Incidents on Gender Issues and their Social Impact.

- Received municipal-level research grant.
- Collected and analyzed online public opinion data on gender issues (trending topics on Weibo) using Python, employing web scraping, descriptive statistics, and correlational analysis.
- Conducted critical discourse analysis and case studies to examine how different discursive practices on social media construct and reinforce gender ideologies and gender identities.

## </> CODING & SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

### Python Package for Synthetic DID [\[link\]](#)

Ongoing (under active development)

- Developed an OOP-based Python library for Synthetic Difference-in-Differences, enhancing estimation robustness by fixing existing implementation bugs and introducing new features like time-varying covariates and event studies.

### Web Scraping Application [\[link\]](#)

Mar. 2024 - Jun. 2024

- Built an end-to-end data pipeline for keyword-based metadata extraction from mainstream media websites in China, using Selenium and Tkinter (building GUI).

## WORKING EXPERIENCE

### Intern DiDi Global - Map Product Manager

Aug. 2023 - Oct. 2023

*Python, SQL, Excel*

- Worked closely with the data engineering team and the operation department to design and implement data tracking points, optimizing data collection for location-based services.
- Analyzed driving behavior data from the Google Maps API and user feedback, identifying patterns to enhance routing algorithms and user experience.

- Conducted data-driven analysis on user engagement and service efficiency, leveraging SQL and Excel to extract actionable insights for UX improvements.
- Designed and facilitated user interviews to gather qualitative feedback, informing product optimization strategies based on customer needs and pain points.

⚙️ SKILLS

- **Research:** NLP; Machine learning; Network/Graph analysis; Agent-based Model; Quant/Qual methods.
- **Coding:** Python, R, Ruby, NetLogo, HTML/JavaScript, Git, SQL,  $\LaTeX$
- **Language:** Chinese, English (*IELTS* - 7.5), French (*Reading Proficiency*), German (*Coursework Completed*)

♥️ HONORS AND AWARDS

<i>Full Scholarship</i> , Uppsala University	2024-2026
<i>Outstanding Camper</i> , Philosophy Summer Camp of East China Normal University	2023
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</i> , Academic Essay Competition at BNU	2023
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</i> , Scholarship of Beijing Normal University	2022
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</i> , Scholarship of Beijing Normal University	2021
<i>Honourable Mention</i> , Interdisciplinary Contest In Modeling	2021