

# Jason Zesheng Chen, PhD

Website: jasonzeshengchen.github.io  
Email: zeshengc@uci.edu

## EDUCATION

### University of California, Irvine

Ph.D. in Philosophy, Emphasis in Mathematics  
Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science  
Dissertation: *Confluence and Classification: Towards a Philosophy of Descriptive-Set-Theoretic Practice*  
Committee: Toby Meadows (Chair), Jeremy Heis, Martin Zeman

Irvine, CA, USA

2018–2024

### University of California, Irvine

M.A. in Mathematical Behavioral Science  
School of Social Sciences

Irvine, CA, USA

2018–2022

### University of Southern California

B.A. in Linguistics/Philosophy  
Minor in Middle East Studies (Arabic, Farsi, Hebrew)

Los Angeles, CA, USA

2014–2018

## RESEARCH AREA

### Areas of Specialization

Mathematical Practice and Methodology  
Philosophy of Set Theory  
Church-Turing Thesis  
Foundations of Mathematics  
History of Descriptive Set Theory

### Areas of Competence

History of Soviet Mathematics, Recursion Theory, Foundations of Linguistics, Formal Semantics

## PUBLICATIONS

- [1] Jason Zesheng Chen. “Varieties of Confluence Arguments, Part 1: Practical Applications”. In: *Synthese* (*forthcoming*) (2026).
- [2] Jason Chen and Toby Meadows. *Teasing Apart Definitional Equivalence*.  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2508.03956>. 2025. ArXiv Preprint, under review at *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*.
- [3] Jason Zesheng Chen. “Confluence and Classification: Towards a Philosophy of Descriptive-Set-Theoretic Practice”. PhD thesis. University of California, Irvine, 2024.

## INVITED TALKS

*The Emergence of a Foundational Role*  
ASL Plenary Lecture, APA Central 2026

Chicago, IL, USA  
February 2026

*Justification by Confluence*  
2024 Fudan Conference on Logic and Metaphysics

Shanghai, China  
April 2024

*Metamathematical Methods in Descriptive Set Theory*  
Fudan Logic Seminar

Shanghai, China  
April 2024

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|--|---------------------|
| <i>Pre-history of Invariant Descriptive Set Theory</i>                     | Shanghai, China     |
| Fudan Logic Seminar  | April 2024          |
| <br>   |                     |
| <i>Confluence Phenomena in Mathematics</i>                                 | South Bend, IN, USA |
| Notre Dame Logic Reading Group   | May 2023            |
| <br>   |                     |
| <i>Classification Turn of Descriptive Set Theory</i>                       | Irvine, CA, USA     |
| Nancy-Irvine Workshop on Formalization in Logic, Language, and Mathematics | April 2023          |
| <br>   |                     |
| <i>Is Gödel's constructible universe formalism-free?</i>                   | Beijing, China      |
| Peking University Center for Logic, Language, and Cognition Seminar        | December 2021       |

## CONTRIBUTED TALKS

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|---|-----------------------|
| <i>A Belated Foundational Role of Set Theory</i>                                    | Online/Lanzhou, China |
| 2025 Annual Conference of Philosophy of Mathematics in China                        | July 2025             |
| <i>Practical uses of the Church-Turing Thesis, revisited</i>                        | Online                |
| ASL Contributed Paper Session at the 2025 APA Central Division Meeting              | March 2025            |
| <i>Justification by Confluence</i>  | Beijing, China        |
| The sixth Young Scholars in Science and Philosophy workshop                         | April 2024            |
| Chinese Academy of Sciences Institute of Philosophy                                 |                       |
| <i>Is Gödel's constructible universe formalism-free?</i>                            | Online                |
| SOPHiA: 11th Salzburg Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy                      | September 2021        |
| <i>Generalized Constructible Universe and Church-Turing Thesis for Definability</i> | Online/Wuhan China    |
| Δ₁₄ Logic Workshop on Mathematics, Philosophy, and Computer Science                 | April 2021            |
| Wuhan University  |                       |

## COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

- Commentator to Frederik Anderson's "Countering Justification Holism in the Epistemology of Logic" Online  
2021 APA Pacific Division Meeting March 2021
  - External Reviewer China  
National Conference on Modern Logic '25 September 2025

## EDITORIAL AND TRANSLATION EXPERIENCES

- Translator 2024-Present  
*(Under Contract)* Translated Volume of Hugh Woodin's Collected Works
  - Proofreader March-July 2025  
Chinese translation of *Lectures on the Philosophy of Mathematics* by Joel David Hamkins

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- Committee Member USA  
Committee on Non-academic Career, American Philosophical Association 2025-2027
  - Invited Panel Speaker Irvine, CA, USA

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| Career Day Employment Panel, Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science, UC Irvine | June 2024  |
| • Co-organizer  | Online     |
| Δ <sub>17</sub> Workshop on Logic   | April 2022 |

## OUTREACH AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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|---|-----------------|
| Public Writer   | 2016-Present    |
| Zhihu.com, Medium.com, Misc.  |                 |
| – Recognized as a member of the inaugural class of Social Sciences Communication Fellows at the School of Social Sciences, UC Irvine  |                 |
| – Contributing as staff writer on Cantor's Paradise, the top math publication on Medium.com (@jasonzeshengchen); contributed the very first article of the Breaking News category       |                 |
| – Grew and actively maintaining a presence on the largest Chinese online Q&A forum, Zhihu, with over 26,000 subscribers for educational content on philosophy, mathematics, and history |                 |
| – Contributed set theory articles to Fudan Logic WeChat Public Account  |                 |
| Invited Guest Lecturer  | Beijing, China  |
| Department of Sinology and Chinese Studies, Beijing Language and Culture University   | April 2024      |
| – Delivered a general-audience lecture on Infinity and Paradox to 100 Chinese-or-Foreign Language major students  |                 |
| Invited Guest Lecturer  | Shenzhen, China |
| Department of Sinology and Chinese Studies, Beijing Language and Culture University   | April 2024      |
| – Delivered a general-audience lecture on Infinity and Paradox to high school students  |                 |

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

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|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| • Science Communication Fellowship, UC Irvine School of Social Sciences (\$7,000 USD) | Fall 2021 |
| • UC Irvine Social Science Merit Fellowship (\$23,000 USD/Year)                       | 2018–2024 |
| • USC Trustee Scholarship (\$47,500 USD/Year)   | 2014–2018 |

## TEACHING

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|  |             |
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| • Graduate Teaching Assistant at Fudan University  | Summer 2022 |
| Fudan Logic Summer School: Large Cardinals Beyond Choice. (Instructor: Gabriel Goldberg) |             |
| • Prerequisite Session Tutor at Fudan University   | Summer 2020 |
| Fudan Logic Summer School: Forcing and Large Cardinals. (Instructor: Ralf Schindler)     |             |
| • Teaching Assistant at UC Irvine  | 2019-2024   |
| Introduction to Symbolic Logic (LPS 30, Philos 30, Linguis 43)                           |             |
| Introduction to Linguistics (LSCI 3)   |             |
| Discover Language (LSCI 2)   |             |
| Psychology Fundamentals (PSCI 11B, PSYCH 9B)   |             |
| Introduction to Law (PolSci 71A)   |             |
| Basic Economics II (Econ 20B)  |             |
| Sociology Major's Seminar (Sociol AW180)   |             |

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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Product Marketing Manager  
Developer Relations, Intuit Inc

Mountain View, CA, USA  
2024-Present

- Managing end-to-end internal go-to-market programs for developer-focused tooling at Intuit, delivering data-driven campaigns, enablement resources, and communications that accelerated adoption and engagement among thousands of internal users
- Developing and executing on external campaigns to highlight benefits and use cases of Intuit's developer platform and open-source technology to elevate awareness of Intuit's tech brand

Technical Writer Intern  
Developer Relations, Intuit Inc

Mountain View, CA, USA  
June-September 2023

- Edited and expanded existing Numaflow (open-source Kubernetes stream-processing platform) documentation as the sole technical writer, ensuring correctness, completeness, and ease of use, in preparation for major v1.0 release.
- Worked as editor for the Numaproj blog. Assisted in writing and extensively edited 5 technical articles on DevOps, AIOps, and stream processing. Interviewed subject matter experts for content accuracy. Aligned with product managers and developer advocates for publication timeline and promotion strategies based on blog analytics
- Managed and produced content and graphic for Intuit Open Source on LinkedIn. Tracked key performance metrics and identified SEO strategy. Increased follower count by >25%

## LANGUAGES

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- **Mandarin:** Native
- **English:** Native-like
- **Cantonese:** Native
- **Spanish:** Fluent
- **German:** Fluent
- **French:** Reading Proficiency
- **Russian:** Reading Proficiency
- **Arabic (Modern Standard):** Intermediate
- **Farsi:** Intermediate
- **Hebrew:** Intermediate
- **Latin, Ancient Greek:** Assisted reading with dictionary

## SKILLS

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- **Programming:** L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Markdown, HTML, CSS, Python, JavaScript
- **Web Development:** React.js, Next.js, Tailwind CSS
- **Educational Content Design and Production:** DaVinci Resolve, Canva, Motion Graphics Design, Explainer Video Production, Curriculum Design
- **Community Engagement:** Special Interest Group Organization and Management, Technical Subject Matter Expert Relations Management, Event Organization (Conferences, Seminars, Workshops)
- **Publishing:** Typesetting, Editorial Pipeline and Calendar Management (print and social media), SEO Optimization