

# Jean Yang

32 Vassar Street, 32-G714  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
✉ jeanyang [at] csail [dot] mit [dot] edu  
jeanyang.com

## Education

- 2010–present **Ph.D. computer science**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA, USA.  
Advised by Armando Solar-Lezama. Interested in programming languages and security. Thesis: “A Framework for Automatically Enforcing Information Flow Policies.”
- 2008–2010 **M.S. computer science**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA, USA.  
Advised by Armando Solar-Lezama. Thesis: “Specification-Enhanced Programming.”
- 2004–2008 **A.B. computer science**, *Harvard University*, Cambridge, MA, USA.  
Graduated *Magna Cum Laude*. Senior thesis: “Safe Dynamic Dispatch, or How to Pickle with Class.”
- 1997–2004 **Secondary school**, *The Ellis School*, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

## Publications

- Nikhil Swamy, Juan Chen, Cédric Fournet, Pierre-Yves Strub, Karthikeyan Bhargavan, and Jean Yang. **Secure distributed programming with value-dependent types**. *Journal of Functional Programming*, 2013.
- Thomas H. Austin, Jean Yang, Cormac Flanagan, and Armando Solar-Lezama. **Faceted Execution of Policy-Agnostic Programs**. *Programming Languages and Security* 2013.
- Jean Yang, Kuat Yessenov, and Armando Solar-Lezama. **A Language for Automatically Enforcing Privacy Policies**. *Principles of Programming Languages* 2012.
- Jean Yang and Chris Hawblitzel. **Safe to the Last Instruction: Automated Verification of a Type-Safe Operating System**. *Communications of the Association for Computing Machinery*, December 2011.
- Nikhil Swamy, Juan Chen, Cédric Fournet, Pierre-Yves Strub, Karthikeyan Bhargavan, and Jean Yang. **Secure Distributed Programming with Value-Dependent Types**. *International Conference on Functional Programming* 2011.
- Jean Yang and Chris Hawblitzel. **Safe to the Last Instruction: Automated Verification of a Type-Safe Operating System**. *Programming Languages Implementation and Design* 2010. **Best paper award**.

## Invited talks

- Jeeves: A Language for Enforcing Privacy**. Facebook - Menlo Park (March 2012); Google - Mountain View (April 2012); University of California, Berkeley (April 2012); Brown University (June 2012); Tufts University (Colloquium, Dec. 2012).
- A Language for Automatically Enforcing Privacy Policies**. New York University (April 2011); Google - New York (July 2011); Northeastern University (Dec. 2011); Harvard University (Dec. 2011).

## Academic honors

- **Levine Fellowship**, 2014-2015.
- **Facebook Fellowship**, 2012-2013.
- **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship**, 2008-2011.
- Member, **Phi Beta Kappa** honor society, inducted May 2008.

---

## Positions held

### Industry

- Summer 2012 **Software Engineering Intern**, *Facebook, Inc.*, Menlo Park, CA.  
Worked on experimental verification techniques for backend privacy.
- Summer 2008 **Software Engineering Intern**, *Peerium, Inc.*, Cambridge, MA.  
Worked at start-up creating a dependently typed functional language written in Haskell. Created parser for core language; wrote compiler optimizations; worked on GUI libraries.
- Summer 2007 **Software Engineering Intern**, *Google, Inc.*, Santa Monica, CA.  
Completed standalone project on video search team using C++. Received full-time offer.
- Summer 2005 **Software Development Intern**, *Mellon Financial*, Pittsburgh, PA.  
Worked on data mapping and management project using SQL and ColdFusion.

### Research

- Summer 2010 **Research Intern, Programming Languages and Analysis Group**, *Microsoft Research*, Redmond, WA.  
Worked on extending Fine, a security-typed language, to support secure marshalling and cryptographic proofs.
- Summer 2009 **Research Intern, Operating Systems Group**, *Microsoft Research*, Redmond, WA.  
Worked on building an operating system kernel verified for type-safety using Boogie and C#.
- Summer 2006 **Research Intern, Computational Biology Initiative**, *Harvard Medical School*, Boston, MA.  
Developed and implemented computational processes for tracing evolution and coevolution of presynaptic receptors.

---

## Teaching

- Fall 2012 **Recitation Instructor, Elements of Software Construction**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*.  
Designed and taught mini-curriculum for introducing Scala to undergraduate students in course teaching concepts using Java and Python.
- Fall 2010 **Teaching Assistant, Foundations of Program Analysis**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*.  
Designed and graded assignments and held recitations for graduate-level program analysis course.
- January 2010 **Instructor, C Memory Management and C++ Object-Oriented Programming**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*.  
Designed and co-taught a for-credit January-term course for over 100 undergraduates. Prepared lectures and assignments; managed multiple graders; published materials on MIT's Open Courseware.
- January 2010 **Instructor, So You've Always Wanted to Learn Haskell?**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*.  
Designed and co-taught an January-term course introducing the Haskell language and its applications.
- Spring 2008 **Teaching Fellow, Principles of Programming Languages**, *Harvard University*.  
Helped with new course introducing programming languages concepts using the Coq proof assistant. Effectiveness rating 4.6/5.0. Received Certificate of Distinction in Teaching.
- Spring 2007 **Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Computer Science II**, *Harvard University*.  
Responsible for problem sets, exams, section, and office hours for course using Scheme and C++. Effectiveness rating 4.6/5.0; nominated for Undergraduate Council's Levenson Teaching Prize.
- Fall 2006 **Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Formal Systems**, *Harvard University*.  
Responsible for problem sets, exams, section, and office hours for course on computational models and complexity. Effectiveness rating 4.2/5.0. Nominated for departmental teaching award.
- Fall 2005 **Course Assistant, Introduction to Calculus**, *Harvard University*.  
Graded problem sets and ran weekly problem session. Effectiveness rating 4.4/5.0.

---

## Service

**Conference Program Committees.** Principles of Programming Languages (POPL) 2015 Artifact Evaluation Committee; ML Workshop 2014.

**MIT Programming Languages Seminar.** Started a weekly forum for professors and students to present ideas related to programming languages. Ran seminar 2010-2011.

**MIT Programming Languages/Software Engineering Research Off-site.** Started annual day-long off-site retreat with six research groups. Served on planning committee 2010 and 2011, advised planning of subsequent retreats.

**Graduate Women at MIT.** Co-founded an institute-wide organization with 1500 members (as of spring 2012) and a budget of over \$20K. Collaborated on developing constitution and mission, raising initial funding, establishing campus collaborations, and recruiting members. Served as Executive Board member from 2009 to present and Planning Co-Chair for Spring Kick-off 2010 and Empowerment Conference 2011.

**Harvard Computer Science task force.** Served as invited alumnus on fall 2009 task force of professors and students to improve department life for graduate and undergraduate students.

---

## Languages

English **Fluent**

*Lived in United States since childhood*

Mandarin **Fluent**

*Native speaker*

French **Proficient**

*Studied 7 years in secondary school*

---

## Programming experience

Mainstream C, C++, Java, Python, Scala

Logic Prolog

Functional Haskell, OCaml/SML, Scheme

Assembly x86, MIPS

Verification BoogiePL

Hardware Verilog

---

## Other interests

Since fall 2013 I have been running **NeuWrite Boston**, a collaborative working group of scientists and writers. We meet regularly to workshop pieces and discuss how to improve the state of science communication.