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J. S. Chen is the William Prager Chair Professor and Distinguished Professor of Structural Engineering Department, Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering Department, and the Founding Director of Center for Extreme Events Research at University of California San Diego (UCSD). He is also the Yushan Fellow and Visiting Chair Professor of National Cheng-Kung University in Taiwan. Before joining UCSD in 2013, he was the Chancellor's Professor of UCLA Civil & Environmental Engineering Department, Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering Department, and Mathematics Department, where he served as the Department Chair of Civil & Environmental Engineering during 2007-2012.

J. S. Chen's research is in computational mechanics, meshfree methods, multiscale materials modeling, machine-learning-enhanced computational mechanics, and physics-informed data-driven computing. He is the Past President of US Association for Computational Mechanics (USACM) and the Past President of ASCE Engineering Mechanics Institute (EMI). He has received numerous awards, including the John von Neumann Medal from the US Association for Computational Mechanics (USACM), the Belytschko Medal from USACM, the Raymond D. Mindlin Medal from ASCE Engineering Mechanics Institute (EMI), the Computational Mechanics Award from the International Association for Computational Mechanics (IACM), the Grand Prize from Japan Society for Computational Engineering and Science (JSCEs), the Ted Belytschko Applied Mechanics Award from ASME Applied Mechanics Division, the Computational Mechanics Award from Japan Association for Computational Mechanics (JACM), the ICACM Award from International Chinese Association for Computational Mechanics (ICACM), among others.

He is the Fellow of USACM, IACM, ASME, EMI, SES, ICACM, and ICCEES.

He received BS in Civil Engineering from National Central University, Taiwan, and MS and PhD in Theoretical & Applied Mechanics from Northwestern University.