

# CURRICULUM VITAE - WEI ZHANG

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## PERSONAL INFORMATION

### Wei Zhang

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🛂: New Zealand resident



I come from Beijing China and left my hometown in 2002. Since then I have been studying and working in New Zealand. My highest academic qualification is a Master's degree in finance from Victoria University of Wellington (VUW). I have work experience in various positions including a tutor for VUW, a research assistant at the New Zealand Treasury and most recent, a research analyst at Motu Economic and Public Policy Research. Over the past three years, I have gained extensive knowledge of New Zealand's agricultural and forestry sectors and furthered my statistical analysis skills especially in data processing and model building. I have a network of relationships with government organizations, research institutes and consulting groups. In my spare time, I enjoy swimming, diving around Wellington and working out.

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

**Dates:** May 2008 - present

**Organization:** [Motu Economic and Public Policy Research](#)

**Position:** Research analyst

### Responsibilities:

- Researched with senior economists on issues around potential impacts of the New Zealand Emission Trading Scheme (NZETS) on the domestic economy
- Developed and maintained a computer based partial equilibrium model (written in Matlab) – Land Use in Rural New Zealand model (LURNZ)
- Compiled economic and GIS data with detailed documentations
- Built an internal database and helped maintaining an online database
- Presented research in domestic and international economic conferences
- Organized and facilitated meetings for researchers and stakeholders
- Assisted senior fellows in recruiting new research analysts and interns

### Research projects:

- Recode and restructure the entire LURNZ model to improve code readability and enrich its simulation results
- Simulate different NZETS policy scenarios (different policy timing and carbon prices) and deliver results for external research projects
- Derive GIS layers (maps) for both internal and public users

### Networking activities:

- Report to senior fellows on the progress of long-term and short-term projects
- Meet with other research analysts regularly to discuss each other's work, exchange knowledge gained from different research areas and share newly available techniques to improve research efficiency

- Meet with researchers from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) to demonstrate LURNZ model and obtain feedbacks on their needs for new functionalities
- Collaborate with researchers from GNS Science, Scion Ltd and MAF to deliver reports on the environmental and economic impacts of NZETS on New Zealand
- Provide Motu-derived economic and land-use data to consulting groups

**Dates:** August 2006 - November 2007

**Organization:** [New Zealand Treasury](#)

**Position:** Research assistant

**Responsibilities:**

- Assisted senior economists researching the implications of housing for retirement saving, the contributions of foreign borrowing to New Zealand economy and the impacts of fiscal policies on domestic house and rental prices
- A key author of *Economic Development Indicator 2007*, a periodical publication delivered jointly by the Treasury, the Ministry of Economic Development and the Statistics New Zealand
- Assisted building up a database of large unlisted companies in New Zealand

**Dates:** February 2006 - June 2007

**Organization:** [Victoria University of Wellington](#)

**Position:** Tutor

**Responsibilities:**

- Tutored two classes in Statistics for Business (February to June 2006), five classes in Mathematics for Economics and Finance (July to November 2006) and two classes in Finance (February to June 2007)

## EDUCATION

Finishing a *Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics* from VUW (June 2008 - November 2008; February 2010 - ). I have been studying mathematics part-time. The courses that I have taken include linear algebra, differential equations and multivariable calculus.

*Master of Commerce and Administration* from VUW (March 2007 - April 2008). Supervisors: *Prof. Glenn Boyle* and *Prof. Graeme Guthrie*. Thesis title: *The Empirical CAPM: Estimation and Implications for the Regulatory Cost of Capital*.

*Bachelor of Commerce and Administration with first class honours* from VUW (February 2006 - December 2006), majoring in econometrics and finance.

*Bachelor of Commerce and Administration* from VUW (July 2003 - December 2005), majoring in economics, finance and econometrics.

Primary to tertiary education in Beijing and Tianjin China (September 1987 - October 2001). I attended the [Civil Aviation University of China](#) in Tianjin from July 1999 to October 2001.

## AWARDS AND FUNDING

School of Economic and Finance Master's Scholarship, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand (2007)

Funding from International Association of Agricultural Economists to attend the 27<sup>th</sup> Conference in August 2009 in Beijing, China (2009)

COMPUTER  
LITERACY

Advanced user and programmer of  $\text{\LaTeX}$

Advanced user and programmer of: Stata, Matlab, Maxima (free version of Maple) and *R* (in the process of becoming a package developer)

Advanced user of ArcGIS and proficient in scripting through *R* via *Python*

Proficient in SQL/MySQL

Advanced user of Mac OS, Linux (Ubuntu) and Windows operating systems

Some experience in SAS

Registered iPhone application developer

PUBLICATIONS  
WORKING PAPERS  
AND REPORTS

- [1] Troy Baisden, Levente Timar, William Power, ED Keller, Duncan Smeaton, Anthony Clark, David Austin, and Wei Zhang. New Zealand's Pasture Production in 2020 and 2050. *GNS Science Consultancy Report 2010/154*
- [2] Maribeth Todd, Wei Zhang, and Suzi Kerr. Competition for Land between Biofuels, Pastoral Agriculture and Scrub Lands. in *Bioenergy Options for New Zealand: Analysis of Large-scale Bioenergy from Forestry*, by Peter Hall and Michael Jack, Scion report., 2009
- [3] Anthony J. Makin, Wei Zhang, and Grant Scobie. The Contribution of Foreign Borrowing to the New Zealand Economy. *New Zealand Economic Papers*, 43(3):263–278, December 2009
- [4] Suzi Kerr and Wei Zhang. Allocation of New Zealand Units within Agriculture in the New Zealand Emission Trading System. *Motu Working Paper*, 09-16, 2009
- [5] Wei Zhang. The Empirical CAPM: Estimation and Implications for the Regulatory Cost of Capital. Master's thesis, Victoria University of Wellington, 2008
- [6] James D. Shepherd, Anne M. Sutherland, Ian Payton, Suzi Kerr, Wei Zhang, and William Power. Nature and Scale of Eligible Post-1989 Non-planted Forest. *Landcare Research Contract Report*, LC809/033, 2008
- [7] Anthony J. Makin, Wei Zhang, and Grant Scobie. The Contribution of Foreign Borrowing to the New Zealand Economy. *New Zealand Treasury Working Paper*, WP 08/03, 2008

SELECTED  
PRESENTATIONS

- [1] Wei Zhang. Forestry Modelling in LURNZ. *Presented at the New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Conference, September 2010, Nelson, New Zealand*
- [2] Wei Zhang. Scrub Reversion under the Emission Trading System in New Zealand. *Presented at the 27th Conference of International Association of Agricultural Economists, August 2009, Beijing, China*
- [3] Wei Zhang. The Contribution of Foreign Borrowing to the New Zealand Economy. *Presented at the 49th Annual Conference of the New Zealand Association of Economists, July 2008, Wellington, New Zealand*
- [4] Wei Zhang. The Land Use in Rural New Zealand Model: Current Status and New Developments. *Presented at the New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Conference, September 2008, Nelson, New Zealand*

REFEREES

Dr. Suzi Kerr  
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