

# Zhiwu Wei

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2024 – Present

### **Current Positions - University of Cambridge**

Leverhulme Trust & Isaac Newton Trust Early Career Fellow, Department of Land Economy  
Governing Body Fellow, Hughes Hall  
Research Fellow, Lab of Interdisciplinary Spatial Analysis (LISA)

### **Visiting Position**

2025 – Present

Visiting Fellow, Department of Social Policy and Intervention, University of Oxford

### **Policy Consultancies**

2024 – 2025

Policy Consultant, Macroeconomics Research Division, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

2021

External Consultant, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD

### **Previous Appointments**

2024

Occasional Research Officer, Department of Geography and Environment, LSE  
Occasional Research Officer, International Inequalities Institute, LSE

2022 – 2023

Research Assistant, Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge

2022

Research Assistant, Judge Business School, University of Cambridge

2021

Economics Admissions Assessment Specialist, Department of Economics, University of Cambridge  
Research Assistant, Institute for China Sustainable Urbanization, Tsinghua University

2020

Research Specialist, Institute of New Structural Economics, Peking University

## EDUCATION

2021 – 2024

### **University of Cambridge**

PhD in Land Economy (Awarded without Correction)

Thesis Title: “Empirical Essays on Spatial Inequality”

*Winner of 2025 Regional Science Association International (RSAI) Best Dissertation Award*

Examiners: Prof. Philip McCann (External) & Prof. Maria Abreu (Internal)

Fields: Economic Geography, Regional Economics, Political Economy

Supervisor: Dr. Davide Luca

College Membership: Queens’ College

2018 – 2019	<b>University of Birmingham</b> MSc in Development Economics (with Distinction)
2014 – 2018	<b>Renmin University of China</b> BA in Information Management and Information Systems

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles (Peer-reviewed)

- 2024 “Success in Tandem? The Impact of the Introduction of E-Bike Sharing on Bike Sharing Usage” (2024) (joint with Qiumeng Li, HKUST, Davide Luca, Cambridge, and Franz Fuerst, Cambridge), *Research in Transportation Economics*, 107, 101476. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.retrec.2024.101476>
- “The New Geography of Remote Jobs in Europe” (2024) (joint with Davide Luca, Cambridge and Cem Özgüzel, OECD), *Regional Studies*, 59(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2024.2352526>

### Policy Reports (Peer-reviewed)

- 2025 “Mobile Internet Connectivity and Household Wealth in the Philippines (Policy Report)” (2025) (joint with Neil Lee, LSE and Yohan Iddawela, ADB), *Asian Development Policy Report 2025 Background Paper*, Manila: Asian Development Bank.
- 2023 “The New Geography of Remote Jobs? Evidence from Europe” (2023) (joint with Cem Özgüzel, OECD and Davide Luca, Cambridge), *OECD Regional Development Papers* No. 57, Paris: OECD. <https://doi.org/10.1787/29f94cdo-en>

### Blog Pieces

- 2025 “Mobile Internet Access is Exacerbating Household Wealth Inequality in the Philippines” (2025) (joint with Neil Lee, LSE and Yohan Iddawela, ADB), *LSE International Inequalities Institute* (23rd September).
- “Hybrid Remote Work Dominates in European Cities” (2025) (joint with Davide Luca, Cambridge and Cem Özgüzel, OECD), *LSE European Politics and Policy* (18th August).
- 2024 “Working from Home Favouring Successful Core European Urban Areas, Not Towns or the Countryside” (2024) (joint with Davide Luca, Cambridge and Cem Özgüzel, OECD), *LSE International Inequalities Institute* (14th May).

### Selected Work in Progress

- [1] “Mobile Internet Connectivity and Household Wealth in the Philippines” (joint with Neil Lee, LSE and Yohan Iddawela, ADB), *LSE Geography and Environment Discussion Paper Series* No. 51, LSE CEP Discussion Paper, *LSE International Inequalities Institute Working Paper* No.153, *ADB Economics Working Paper No. 818*, *Journal of Development Economics* (Revise and Resubmit).
- [2] “Ballots, Budgets and Bricks: Brexit and the Polarisation of Individual Economic Behaviours” (joint with Pei Kuang, Macau and Davide Luca, Cambridge), *LSE International Inequalities Institute Working Paper No. 89*, *Journal of Public Economics* (Revise and Resubmit).
- [3] “Progressive Nurture: Growing Up in Large Cities and the Urban-rural Polarization of Individual Values” (joint with Davide Luca, Cambridge, Andrew McNeil, UCL, and Neil Lee, LSE)
- [4] “Local Wealth Inequality Fuels Political Protests: New Big-data Evidence from the Global South” (joint with Davide Luca, Cambridge, Neil Lee, LSE, and Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, LSE)

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2025 Regional Science Association International (RSAI) Best Dissertation Award
- 2024 Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship & Isaac Newton Trust Early Career Fellowship, PI
- 2023 Chinese Contemporary Social Governance Research Grant, Co-PI with Qianyu Zhao  
International Journal of Urban and Regional Research (IJURR) Foundation Studentship  
Queens' College Graduate Student Travel Grant, University of Cambridge  
Queens' College Alan and Christina Macdonald Travel Grant, University of Cambridge
- 2022 Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Overseas Ph.D. Students  
Department of Land Economy Ph.D. Travel Grants (Twice), University of Cambridge  
Queens' College Perry Travel Grant, University of Cambridge
- 2021 Cambridge Political Economy Society Ph.D. Supplementary Scholarship  
The Henry Lester Trust Scholarship  
China's Positive and Kind-hearted Youth Honour
- 2018 Self-strong Star of Chinese College Students  
Beijing Distinguished Student Leader Honour  
Best Undergraduate Thesis Award, Renmin University of China  
Distinguished Graduate Award, Renmin University of China
- 2016 First Prize at 18th Innovation Cup Scientific Research Competition, Renmin University of China

## PRESENTATIONS

### Keynotes, Invited Talks, and Guest Lectures

- 2025 Department of International Development, University of Oxford (Seminar)  
Human Development Reports Office, United Nations Development Programme (Seminar)  
National Academy of Development and Strategy, Renmin University of China (Keynote)  
College of Economic and Social Development, Nankai University (Seminar)  
School of Economics, Zhejiang University (Seminar)  
School of Public Administration, Sichuan University (Guest Lecture)  
Regional Studies Association Annual Conference, Porto (Keynote, **Early Career Plenary Speaker**)  
School of Public Administration and Policy, Renmin University of China (Guest Lecture)  
School of Economics, Jilin University (Seminar)  
School of Architecture, Southeast University (Invited Talk)
- 2024 School of Information Resource Management, Renmin University of China (Invited Talk)  
Cambridge Chinese Students & Scholars Association (Invited Talk)
- 2022 Department of Economics, University of Birmingham (Seminar)  
Department of Economic Geography, University of Groningen (Seminar)
- 2021 Department of Economics, Shandong University (Seminar)

### Media

- 2025 Rural Revitalization Workstations of Tsinghua University, Beijing BRTV (Invited Expert)

### Other Conferences and Workshops

- 2025 University of Reading Workshop in Urban Economics and Economic Geography (Reading, UK)  
Cambridge Hughes Hall Senior Members' Symposium (Cambridge, UK)
- 2024 Regional Studies Association Winter Conference 2024 (London, UK)  
University of Reading Workshop in Urban Economics and Economic Geography (Reading, UK)  
European Regional Science Association, 63rd Annual Congress (Terceira Island, Azores, Portugal)
- 2023 European Regional Science Association, 62nd Annual Congress (Alicante, Spain)
- 2022 Regional Science Association International - British and Irish Section, Early Career Colloquium (Online)  
IAB/ZEW Spatial Dimensions of the Labour Market, 5th Workshop (Nuremberg, Germany)  
European Regional Science Association, 61st Annual Congress (Pécs, Hungary)  
Regional Science Association International - British and Irish Section, Annual Conference (Stirling, UK)  
Cambridge Department of Land Economy, Early Career Researchers' Conference (Cambridge, UK)  
Cambridge ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership for Social Sciences, Annual Conference (Online)
- 2021 Regional Science Association International - British and Irish Section, Early Career Colloquium (Online)
- 2019 Camphor Economist Circle, 5th English Workshop (Wenzhou, China)

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Teaching

- 2025 Spatial Inequality and Place-Based Policy, School of Public Administration, Hunan University (External)
- 2022 – Present Paper 7 - Regional Economics and Policy, Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge

### Referee

*Regional Studies* • *Journal of Regional Science*

### Leadership

- 2017 Chinese Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products (Intern)
- 2015 – 2018 “Siyuan” Program at Renmin University of China (Sponsor: Professional & Educational Services Ltd)
- 2014 – 2018 Youth RUC Newspaper Office at Renmin University of China (Position: President)

### Academic Societies

- 2024 – Present Member, Regional Studies Association (RSA)
- 2022 – Present Member, European Regional Science Association (ERSA)
- 2022 – Present Member, Regional Science Association International (RSAI)
- 2021 – Present Member, Cambridge University Land Society (CULS)

### Selected Academic Training Programmes

- 2023 ADR UK and Faculty of Education at University of Cambridge  
*Administrative Data for Policy Research: A Workshop and Training Event*  
Laboratory of Computational Social Science and State Governance at Tsinghua University  
*Big Data and Causal Inference Workshops*
- 2022 Scottish Centre for Administrative Data Research (SCADR)  
*Safe Researcher Training*
- 2021 School of International Relations and Public Affairs at Fudan University  
*Academic Training Program on China's Institutional System*

Camphor Economist Circle (CEC)  
*Early Career Researcher Training Program (“Qingmiao Jihua”)*  
2019 Institute of New Structural Economics at Peking University  
*Summer School on New Structural Economics*

## SKILLS

**Accredited Researcher**, Office for National Statistics (ONS) UK

**Statistical Software:** Stata (Proficient), ArcGIS Pro (Proficient), QGIS (Advanced)

**Programming/Markup Languages:** R (Proficient), Python (Proficient),  $\LaTeX$ (Proficient)

**Languages:** English (Fluent), Chinese Mandarin (Native), Hokkien (Native)