WENMEI TU

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PLACEMENT DIRECTORS

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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Economics, McGill University, expected May 2025
M.A.	Economics, Xiamen University, China, 2018
B.A.	Chemistry(Major) and Economics(Minor), Xiamen University, China, 2015

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: Health Economics
Secondary: Energy Economics

DISSERTATION

Three Essays on Health and Energy Economics
Committee: Prof. Erin Strumpf, Prof. Franque Grimard, Prof. Jill Baumgartner

JOB MARKET PAPER

"Household Heating Fuel Choice and Behaviours: Evidence from Rural China"

The Clean Heating Policy, aimed at encouraging households in Northern China to transition from coal to electricity or gas, marks a pivotal effort in combating air pollution. However, the effectiveness of household fuel substitution policies in fuel choices and heating behaviors has seldom been thoroughly assessed. This paper utilizes data from three rounds of a detailed panel dataset collected during the Coal to Electricity program in Beijing to explore the dynamics of heating fuel choice and behavior among rural households. By using a difference-in-differences (DID) approach, our analysis reveals a significant yet partial transition from coal to electricity among affected households and a spontaneous transition in areas not directly targeted by the policy. This observation prompts a deeper exploration into the determinants influencing households' fuel choices and behaviors in the absence of coal ban policy. Employing the correlated random effects generalized ordered probit model to account for unobserved individual heterogeneity, we identify key variables such as fuel prices, household income, education, marital status, and house area that markedly influence these choices. Notable differences are observed in the determinants affecting fuel choices and usage patterns, particularly in the roles of coal prices and income. These findings indicate that choosing fuel types and determining usage levels might be governed by separate household decision-making processes. The study highlights the necessity to integrate both the energy ladder and fuel stacking theories into the models of household fuel consumption to effectively capture the nuanced dynamics of energy transition in rural China.

OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

"How do early-life shocks interact with subsequent human capital investment? Evidence from Indonesia," work in progress

"The Impact of Clean Heating Policy on Sleep Patterns in Rural China," work in progress

TEACHING EXPERIENCE
Teaching Assistant, Mathematics for Economists, McGill University, Summer 2022 and Summer 2023
Teaching Assistant, Political Economy of Trade Policy, McGill University, Fall 2024
Teaching Assistant, Microeconomic Analysis and Application, McGill University, Winter 2024
Teaching Assistant, Labour Markets and Wages, McGill University, Fall 2023
Teaching Assistant, Macroeconomic Policy, McGill University, Winter 2023
Teaching Assistant, Macroeconomic Analysis and Application, McGill University, Winter 2021, Winter 2022, Fall 2023
Teaching Assistant, Microeconomic Theory, McGill University, Fall 2018 to Fall 2021, Fall 2022

GRANTS AND AWARDS
McCall MacBain Fellowship, McGill University, 2018-2019
Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University, 2019-2021
MITACS Training Awards, McGill University, 2020-2021
Kyoichi Kageyama Award, McGill University, 2020-2021
Strumpf Graduate Award, McGill University, 2022-2024

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS
BHET Research Group Meeting, McGill University, July 2024
CIREQ Lunch Seminar, McGill University, March 2024
BHET Research Group Meeting, McGill University, Feb 2024
CIREQ Lunch Seminar, McGill University, June 2022

LANGUAGES
Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent)

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS
Matlab, Stata, Python, LaTex

REFERENCES

Prof. Erin Strumpf	McGill University	erin.strumpf@mcgill.ca	514-398-2880
Prof. Franque Grimard	McGill University	franque.grimard@mcgill.ca	514-398-4717