

**A Network Analysis of Thai Economic Structure Through Input-Output Model
and Its Link to Macroeconomic Fluctuation**

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There were major two incidences that changed my life: studying at Thammasat University and participation in Bank of Thailand Policy Competition. With its founding ideology of nourishing equality and freedom through knowledge and education, Thammasat University has infused me with a sense of the value of democracy and the need to act in the benefit of society, reminding me to always put society first. On the other hand, participation in Bank of Thailand Policy Competition when I was a fourth-year student introduced me to the world of policy design, during this time I realized my dream and passion of making society a better place through the means of policy.

An opportunity to come to Kyoto University as exchanged students was granted me, providing a ticket to explore the boundary outside of my own research. As a graduate student in economics, I have been trained in quantitative methods. This training made me believe that it is possible to quantify the world and that data can be used to solve real world phenomena. Two classes at Kyoto University have changed my mind in this respect: Qualitative Research Method and Comparative Development Studies. Both classes infused me with the idea that qualitative research and quantitative research can be employed together to improve research. One of the most influential examples of what I have learned is the idea of the “Wicked Problem”. I learned that it is impossible for us to solve issues by a single discipline. Multi-disciplinary approaches must be taken to fully tackle all dimensions to the problem. Wicked problem is one of the key concepts that most economists have tended to neglect. One of my motivation from this is to incorporate this idea into training a new generation of economists with the hope that in the future they will be able to help alleviate the situation that is currently occurring.

Situated at the centre of Kyoto city, my life over the past two months has been full of joy and excitement. As I visited here several times before coming as an exchange student, I have fallen in love with Kyoto even more, but this time my experience is a more distinguished one from the rest as I came here to study. Although this is not my first experience studying abroad, I still learned much from it. I had to adapt to the new life style, meeting new people, etc. But one of the most wonderful experiences from Kyoto University is studying with harmony in nature. As I have been living in urban area for the whole time of my life, studying at Kyoto University made me feel refreshed and kept me motivated with the gift of fresh nature.

Originally, my career plan was to pursue higher education (PhD study) and going back to Thammasat University to become a full-time professor. This is my ultimate goal and keeps me to following my passions and dreams. The two-month experience has influenced me to consider taking up an opportunity to come and work here in Japan after I complete my PhD study.