

Chulalongkorn University

Chula Digital Collections

Chulalongkorn University Theses and Dissertations (Chula ETD)

2022

The motivation of Chinese retirees moving to Thailand

Li Jiaqi

Faculty of Arts

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digital.car.chula.ac.th/chulaetd>

Recommended Citation

Jiaqi, Li, "The motivation of Chinese retirees moving to Thailand" (2022). *Chulalongkorn University Theses and Dissertations (Chula ETD)*. 8149.

<https://digital.car.chula.ac.th/chulaetd/8149>

This Independent Study is brought to you for free and open access by Chula Digital Collections. It has been accepted for inclusion in Chulalongkorn University Theses and Dissertations (Chula ETD) by an authorized administrator of Chula Digital Collections. For more information, please contact ChulaDC@car.chula.ac.th.

The Motivation of Chinese Retirees Moving to Thailand



Miss Li Jiaqi

จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

An Independent Study Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements

for the Degree of Master of Arts in Thai Studies

FACULTY OF ARTS

Chulalongkorn University

Academic Year 2022

Copyright of Chulalongkorn University

แรงจูงใจของผู้เกษียณอายุชาวจีนที่เข้ามาอยู่เมืองไทย



สารนิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาอักษรศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต

สาขาวิชาไทยศึกษา ไม่สังกัดภาควิชา/เทียบเท่า

คณะอักษรศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

ปีการศึกษา 2565

ลิขสิทธิ์ของจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

Independent Study Title	The Motivation of Chinese Retirees Moving to Thailand
By	Miss Li Jiaqi
Field of Study	Thai Studies
Thesis Advisor	Assistant Professor THITIRAT PANBAMRUNGKIJ, Ph.D.

Accepted by the FACULTY OF ARTS, Chulalongkorn University in Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Master of Arts

INDEPENDENT STUDY COMMITTEE

Chairman

.....
(Assistant Professor KANYA WATTANAGUN, Ph.D.)

Advisor

.....
(Assistant Professor THITIRAT PANBAMRUNGKIJ,
Ph.D.)

Examiner

.....
(Assistant Professor NAMPHUENG
PADAMALANGULA, Ph.D.)

จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

หลัง เจียตี้ : แรงจูงใจของผู้เกษียณอายุชาวจีนที่เข้ามาอยู่เมืองไทย. (The Motivation of Chinese

Retirees Moving to Thailand) อ.ที่ปรึกษาหลัก : ศศ. ดร.จิตติรัตน์ ปิ่นบำรุงกิจ

การศึกษานี้ มีวัตถุประสงค์เพื่อศึกษาแรงจูงใจของผู้เกษียณอายุชาวจีนที่เข้ามาพำนักในประเทศไทย และศึกษารูปแบบการพักอาศัยของชาวจีนกลุ่มนี้ การศึกษานี้ใช้วิธีการทบทวนเชิงบูรณาการในการรวบรวมข้อมูลจากงานวิจัยที่เกี่ยวข้องกับการย้ายถิ่นฐานของชาวจีนที่เข้ามาในเมืองไทย ข้อมูลจากสื่อสังคมออนไลน์ของจีน และการสัมภาษณ์แบบกึ่งโครงสร้าง โดยมีกลุ่มตัวอย่างที่ได้จากสื่อสังคมออนไลน์ของจีน จำนวน 10 คน และกลุ่มตัวอย่างที่ได้จากการสัมภาษณ์แบบเจาะจงในกลุ่มผู้เกษียณอายุชาวจีน จำนวน 4 คน กระบวนการวิเคราะห์ใช้เทคนิคการวิเคราะห์เชิงเนื้อหา (content analysis) การศึกษานี้พบว่าแรงจูงใจของคนวัยเกษียณชาวจีนมาสอดคล้องกับทฤษฎีลำดับขั้นความต้องการของมาสโลว์ (Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory) โดยเฉพาะการตอบสนองความต้องการขั้นพื้นฐาน อาทิ ปัจจัยด้านภูมิอากาศที่ดี ความต้องการบริการทางการแพทย์ ราคาค่าครองชีพและระยะทางที่ไม่ไกลจากภูมิลำเนาเดิม นอกจากนี้ลักษณะของการพักอาศัยจะแบ่งเป็น 3 ประเภทหลัก ได้แก่ การพักอาศัยแบบคนเดียว การพักอาศัยกับเพื่อน และการพักอาศัยกับลูก อีกทั้ง การศึกษาครั้งนี้ยังพบว่า กลุ่มคนจีนเหล่านี้มักจะเลือกอาศัยอยู่ประเภท อพาร์ทเมนต์และวิลล่า

จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

สาขาวิชา ไทยศึกษา

ลายมือชื่อนิสิต

ปีการศึกษา 2565

ลายมือชื่อ อ.ที่ปรึกษาหลัก

6488063022 : MAJOR THAI STUDIES

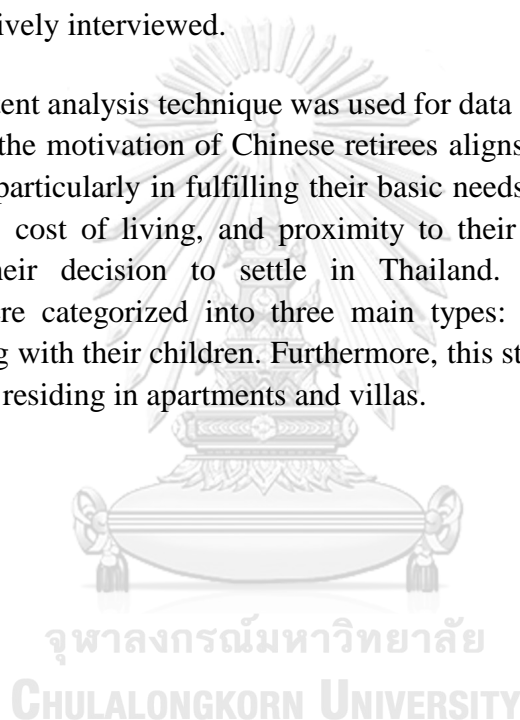
KEYWORD Motivation, Chinese retirees, retirement migration, Thailand

D:

Li Jiaqi : The Motivation of Chinese Retirees Moving to Thailand. Advisor:
Asst. Prof. THITIRAT PANBAMRUNGKIJ, Ph.D.

This study aims to investigate the motivation of Chinese retirees who choose to reside in Thailand and to explore the living arrangements of this group. The study employed an integrative review to collect data from relevant research related to Chinese retirees abroad, Chinese online social media, and semi-structured interviews. The respondents included 10 individuals from Chinese social media and 4 retirees who were purposively interviewed.

The content analysis technique was used for data analysis. The result of this study found that the motivation of Chinese retirees aligns with Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory, particularly in fulfilling their basic needs. Factors such as climate, medical services, cost of living, and proximity to their original hometown were influential in their decision to settle in Thailand. Additionally, the living arrangements were categorized into three main types: living alone, living with friends, and living with their children. Furthermore, this study revealed that Chinese retirees preferred residing in apartments and villas.



Field of Study: Thai Studies

Student's

Signature

Academic 2022

Advisor's

Year:

Signature

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am so lucky to have my advisor, Ajarn Thitirat, who is full of kindness and patience. She gave me many constructive suggestions for every part of my special research, which let me could organize the parts of this special research more properly. She will explain step by step when I don't know how to write logically and show me some examples. In addition, she let me know writing a paper in the area we are interested in will help us have a better understanding of people and society. Sometimes we could find out what people need and the things they are concerned about in a particular context.

I also appreciate my co-advisor, Ajarn Ice, who gave me suggestions on the parts of methodology and analysis methods. The suggestions given by Ajarn Ice also let me have a more clear direction on my research and conducted the research smoothly.

Ajarn Kanya is also an important person teach me many pieces of knowledge, I am also very grateful. She teaches me in many courses, covering many fields in academics. The field that impressed me is Thai folklore, which also has the expertise of Ajarn kanya. I think it's interesting to know about the Thai worldview and how Thai people think. And another thing I learn from the lecture from Ajarn Kanya is “ we should clear out the context when we are talking about something”.

I would like to express my appreciation to Khun Terk, who also offer some help in my study and life. When I have some registration problem, he always explains it patiently and on time. In addition, he will help me and tell me about the visa issue when I am not familiar with it.

Finally, I would like to express my deep gratitude to everyone who has given me support in my study and life.

จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

Li Jiaqi

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT (THAI).....	iii
ABSTRACT (ENGLISH).....	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF TABLES.....	vii
LIST OF FIGURES.....	viii
REFERENCES	56
VITA	64

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 1 Overview of integrative review	36
Table 2 The Characteristics of 10 Chinese Retirees	42
Table 3 The application name of the online social media or website and the links	42



LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 1 Maslow's hierarchy of needs	13
Figure 2 Consumer decision-making process	13
Figure 3 The framework of integrative review	23
Figure 4 Conceptual framework	23



1. Introduction

According to the 2022 annual global retirement index, Thailand is the best Asian country for international retirees and ranked 11th among countries worldwide for foreigners to retire (TAT NEWS, 2022). The number of international retirees in Thailand is increasing rapidly, as the following data shows. People using long-term visas in Thailand reached 68,300 in 2016, and the amount of wealthy retiree applicants increased by over 30% from 2016 to 2019 (Bangkok Post, 2021). In addition, Thailand issued about 80,000 retirement visas in 2018, increasing 30% in 2014 (Nikkei Asia, 2020). Remarkably, the long-term resident visa started to apply on 1 September 2022, which allows foreigners to stay in Thailand for 10 years, work in Thailand, and provide multiple benefits for them. It aimed to attract "high potential" foreigners to live in Thailand (TAT NEWS, 2022). There are four categories of people that the long-term resident program target, which are investors, retirees, remote workers, talents, and experts in key industries (Bangkok Post, 2022). Traisuree Taisaranakul, who is the deputy government spokeswoman claimed that the number of foreign applicants for the long-term resident visa has reached 2920 from 1 November 2022 to 28 February 2023, which included 1011 wealthy retirees. The biggest group of visa applicants is European people, up to 940, and the following group of people is Americans and Chinese, 517 and 325 respectively (Bangkok Post, 2023). In addition, the government spokesman Anucha Burapachaisri suggested that the Thai government make a plan to allow

foreigners who are eligible to own land in Bangkok and Pattaya, which also includes retirees (Bangkok Post, 2022). In recent years, the retirement industry in Thailand also occupies some proportion of the Thai industry and contributes to the Thai economy. Therefore, if Thailand focuses on the development of the retirement industry, it would be a considerable revenue.

The migrants from China moving to Thailand could date back to the Ayutthaya period. At that time, war, famine, and economic pressure are the main reasons for Chinese people emigrating to Thailand during that period (Jiang, 1966). It is different from the current situation. Nowadays, the reasons of Chinese non-immigrants come to Thailand could be classified into four reasons: business and economic activity purpose, educational purposes, leisure and lifestyle purpose, and the combination of lifestyle and business purposes. At present, the number of Chinese retirees who choose Thailand as their retirement destination has increased. In Chiang Mai, the number of Chinese retirees increased from 117 in 2016 to 563 in 2019 (Siriphon and Banu, 2021).

The intention that driving Chinese retirees to Thailand may relate to the similarity of culture, healthcare, support policy, technology, weather, and safety. Cultural similarities are a very important factor to analyze immigrant issues (Belot and Hatton, 2012). Half of the participants suggested that Thai medical technology or the quality of service was high compared with Western countries according to a survey of Japanese elders staying in Chiang Mai province (Fukahori et al., 2011). Policy recommendation could be taken into account. The tendency of the rural area to become a potential holiday location and

retirement location is a complementariness of two other Chinese key policies, which are the tourism policy and senior care policy, in research to conduct Chinese seniors in Beijing (Pan, Wang, and Ryan, 2021). Nowadays, technology also plays an important role. A research study on the preference of the Malaysian elderly about the type of smart home technology and find that 83% elderly choose the smart emergency contact system as a very important technology for a smart home (Tan et al., 2021). Weather and safety are important reasons for international retirees to move to Thailand (Husa et al., 2014). Previous studies mentioned the factors that would affect retirees' decision to choose a retirement destination or choosing one particular aspect to analyze retirees' needs, such as the leisure aspect, health care aspect, and the situation of the retirement industry. On the other hand, the challenges that affected retirees' decision to stay in Thailand were financial insecurity, health inequality, and discordant status. In addition, there are a large number of studies exploring the intention of retirees to Thailand, these studies mainly focus on Japanese or people from Western countries. Fewer studies, however, have focused on Chinese retirees. Therefore, this study would like to target Chinese retirees in Thailand and make some comparisons with retirees from other countries.

There are two objectives in this study. Firstly, to explore what factors Chinese retirees would take into account when they consider moving to Thailand. Secondly, to study their preference for living arrangements in Thailand. The living arrangements among older people could be divided into the following specification: living alone, living with a partner, living with offspring, and living with others (Tomassini et al., 2004).

This study will be useful for Chinese retirees who are planning to move to Thailand, at the same time, it could also provide some useful information to stakeholders serving for foreign retirees in Thailand. In addition, it could fill in the blanks and enrich the literature to support policy makers in the origin country and destination.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

Maslow (1943) classified physiological needs as the basic need (water, food, sleep, sex et al.), the first stages of hierarchical need, if the basic need couldn't be satisfied, other needs may not exist. If the basic needs are satisfied, a higher need emerges, which is the safety need. Then, the higher needs will follow, which are social needs, esteem needs, and the need for self-actualization. A study conducted on the tourist motivation for visiting Savannakhet found that the motivation order as follows, similar culture, relaxation, location as a gateway, friendly and safe society (Panbamrungkij and Swangchan-Uthai, 2021). In regard of Chinese social media and integrative review, the behavior of Chinese retirees moving to Thailand refers to all stages of Maslow.

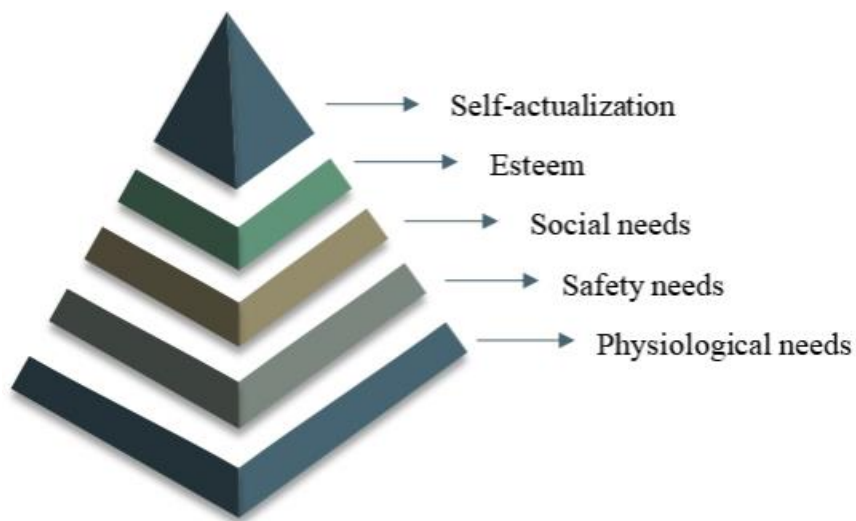


Figure 1 Maslow's hierarchy of needs

Source: Maslow, 1943

2.2 Decision-making theory

The consumer decision-making process could divide into five steps, which are need recognition, information search, evaluation of alternatives, purchase decision, and postpurchase behavior (Kotler and Keller, 2012).

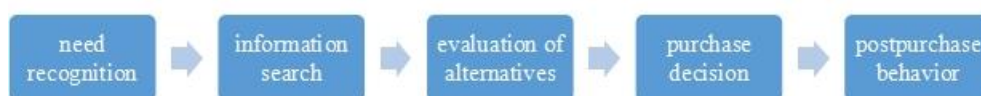


Figure 2 Consumer decision-making process

Source: Kotler and Keller, 2012

Gajjar (2013) stated that the factors that affect consumer behavior could mainly be

classified into four factors, which are cultural factors, social factors, personal factors, psychological factors. Cultural factors include culture, subculture, and social class. Social factors involve reference groups, family, roles, and status. Personal factors mainly consist of age, occupation, economic situation, lifestyle, and personality. Psychological factors are comprised of motivation, perception, beliefs, and attitudes. In addition, many previous studies explored retirees' needs (Kummaraka and Jutaporn, 2011; Treeyawuthiwat and Panichpathom, 2016; Ali, 2013; Husa et al., 2014). Kummaraka and Jutaporn (2011) explore the main factors that would affect the decision of Swedish retirees to choose a retirement destination, the article uses a consumer decision-making framework to analyze the motivation of Swedish retirees in Thailand and classified it by eight factors, which are socio-economic influences, cultural influences, reference group influence, family influence, motivation or energizers, perception, personality or attitude, and learning. According to their study — socioeconomic factors, motivation, and energizers predominantly influenced towards Swedish retirees to migrate to Thailand. Besides, learning, attitude, perception, and family factors also affected their decision to stay in Thailand. Treeyawuthiwat and Panichpathom (2016) focus on the factors that influence Singaporean elders to move to Thai retirement homes and claim that there are five factors will influence the decision of Singaporean elders, which are financial concern, personal concern, facilities, provision of public services, and location. In addition, the researchers also propose suggestions to Thailand policymakers, Thailand property developers, and the Thai

government to take measures to attract Singaporean elders. It is noteworthy that Singaporean elder hopes the retirement home would be close to the international airport and shopping center, it also gives the real estate developer a piece of useful information to develop Singaporean clients. Ali (2013) select Hua Hin as a spot to investigate the drivers of long-stay retirees in Thailand and give some recommendations based on the research results. This research indicates that long-stay retirees live in Hua Hin in pursuit of personal interest, not for making money. Specifically, they admire peace and cleanliness. and easy-going lifestyle. In addition, they decide on a destination according to location, the cost of living, and medical backup. And combining these factors to give recommendations to the tourism authority of Thailand and the local government, real estate developers, and local authority. Husa et al. (2014) choose Hua Hin and Cha-am as study areas to search for the reason why international retirement immigrant choose their destination and found that the majority of international retirees tend to move alone or with their Thai partner. In terms of motivation, retirement is the main reason for the majority of international retirees to migrate. Meanwhile, the warm climate, the high quality of life, low cost of living are taken into account for them to select the destination. A new Thai partner also plays a vitally important role to make international retirees except "Western couples" relocate. In addition, international retirement immigration has become an important economic factor for the region.

Marohabutr (2022) focused a certain factor, leisure activity to find the preference of Japanese retirees, and give some reference to relative stakeholder, by exploring the local

policies and promotional measures about spa and traditional Thai massage of Chiang Mai local authority to Japanese retirees, and found that "3Gs coaching", which are "Good Image Practice", "Good Massage Practice", and "Good Service Practice" attract more and more Japanese retirees migrate to Thailand, especially, the 5s practice (tidiness, orderliness, cleanliness, standardization, discipline), which originates from Japan, and satisfy Japanese retirees. In addition, spa and traditional Thai massage adopt Lanna's wisdom, the five senses, sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch, also attract more Japanese retirees to enjoy and generate revenue. Lastly, the study noticed that the number of long-stay Japanese retirees reduce, due to no separate task to target this group of Japanese retirees.

Toyota and Xiang (2012) applied a broad perspective to study the situation of the "transnational retirement industry" in Southeast Asia, and more focus on elderly care and suggest that the phenomenon of the transnational movement is created by the national situation, which could be classified into three points. First, the retirement industry in Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines, target countries will have a well-developed pension. Second, the development of transnational retirement plays a vitally important role in Southeast Asia countries. Third, this retirement industry is rooted deeply in these Southeast Asia countries. However, the contingent nature of transnational relations affects the "retirement industry". Meanwhile, the transnational movement of retirees undermines the transnational retirement industry.

Yoda et al. (2021) targeted Japanese elders and studied their quality of life and mental

health status after moving to Chiang Mai. The author made the presumption based on the study result. First, the Japanese elder who lives in Chiang Mai feel more comfortable than those in Japan, and leisure activities could be considered as a factor to affect their decision to stay in Thailand. Second, the majority of Japanese elders in Chiang Mai couldn't read and write Thai, which may make them difficult to seek medical healthcare in Thai clinics and cause them anxiety. What's worse, long-stay retirees would have numerous challenges when they get a chronic disease.

Botterill (2011) focuses on the negative factors that affect British retirees in Thailand, the group of British retirees who are looking for a better lifestyle mainly have three disadvantages; financial insecurity, health inequality, and discordant status. In terms of financial insecurity, which reflect in the frozen pension and the depreciation of the British pound against the Thai Baht. In terms of health inequality, which mainly present in healthcare costs, because Thailand does not have mainstream medical services and the internalization of services and staff in a private hospital, leading to the high cost of healthcare. In terms of discordant status, which manifest that the retirees lost their former status in society, economy, and politics.

Nursing home

Atthawuttikul and Sahachaisaeree (2016) found that the nursing home could make the elderly just like in their home by giving them the right to decorate their room and have personal private space. Liu, Shi, and Pan (2022) explored the intention of the elderly to reside in a nursing home in Zhejiang province and found that the non-disabled elderly

was the main financial source of long-term care. However, the elderly in rural areas were unlikely to reside in a nursing home. The behavior of the elderly who chooses to live in a nursing home is mainly affected by sociodemographic factors. Song et al (2020) surveyed nursing homes in Shanghai province to study the preference of the elderly and found seven characteristics of the nursing home had a positive effect on the elderly, which are location, distance to home, air quality, distance to comprehensive hospital, transportation, care service, and monthly fee. Yonghencharoen and Pongpattrachai (2021) research the decision of the elderly, aging in place, and aging relocation to explore their behavior, and found the key factors to affect their decision are based on their living custom and attitude. In addition, physical needs, psychological needs, and social needs are the factors to affect their decision-making. It was noteworthy that the elderly who choose to relocate mostly have no child, and the elderly who choose to age in place were mostly attached to their children.

2.3 Push-pull theory

Ravenstein (1885) who first studied migration entitled "the laws of Migration", mentioned many migrations take place in a short-distance shift form, and the direction of migration is focused on large commercial and industrial centers. Migrants would move around the town first and move to the town until they are attracted by the town gradually. In addition, the dispersion process and absorption process show similar characteristics.

Bogue (1977) stated that it would be more productive to view the decision of migration

or not migration as a rational process. The movement of migration may be highly practical and favorable. People who retire may want to move to another location because of the weather, to live closer to friends or near home, or something like that. From the perspective of migrants, the migration decision seems to be a kind of self-improvement or a mobility opportunity in an upward direction. Some aspects of migration as follows are related to the particular mixture of push-pull factors. Firstly, the amount of money resource migrants has when they arrive has a significant correlation with the mixture of push-pull factors. Secondly, the amount of help migrants gets also relates to the mixture of push-pull factors. Thirdly, the people who feel lonely and homesick to move are mainly because of the pull factors. Fourthly, it is the same for the people who are affected to push factors and those who are affected to pull factors to find a job in an average length of time. Finally, migrants who move more than once are affected by push factors would tend to move again because of push factors.

Lee (1966) claimed that there are mainly four factors as follows that affect the decision of migrants, factors relating to the place of origin, factors relating to the destination area, obstacle factors between origin and destination area, and personal factors.

Bekhet, Zauszniewski, and Nakhla (2009) analyzed the reason why the elderly move to retirement communities and generalize into three factors. First is the pull factors, which include location, familiarity degree to facility, reputation, safety, and joining friends. Second is the push factors, which are manifest in their poor health status, getting rid of responsibilities, and feeling lonely. It is not a voluntary factor, in this case, they could

be changed into voluntary if they perceive the high-value care. Third is the , overlapping factors, the coexistence of pull and push factors. Julaihi et al. (2022) explored the potential of Malaysia retirement villages and identified the 8 potential pushing factors for the elderly to move to a retirement home. These are the need for medical care, the need for safety, community spirit and enjoying community facilities, finance, reducing home maintenance, leisure activities, living independently.

Giblera, Moschis, and Lee (1998) researched the preference of the American elderly to move to a retirement home and get some findings as follows. First, the female elderly have more tendency to move to a retirement home, which is related to the possibility of them becoming widows. When considering the particular retirement home, medical service, public traffic, and shopping could be taken into account. In addition, they would like to have more social contacts and activities, reduce housework, and provide personal care.

3. Research Question

What makes Thailand popular with Chinese retirees and choose it as a retirement destination?

What are the characteristics of living arrangements for Chinese retirees in Thailand?

4. Methodology

Regarding Chinese statutory retirement age, men are over 60 years old, and women are over 55 years old, therefore the age of the studies group will be within this range.

Integrative review, Chinese social media, and semi-structured interviews will be

applied in this study. The integrative review method is a methodology that provides a synthesis of knowledge and the applicability of important research findings. The integrative review includes five phases: defining the question, searching the databases, evaluating data, analyzing the studies, and presenting an integrative review (Whittemore and Knafl, 2005; Souza, Silva, and Carvalho, 2010).

In the first phase, the defined question was stated in the introduction. Fewer studies are exploring the motivation of Chinese retirees moving to Thailand, therefore this study will use Maslow's Hierarchy of needs, push-pull factors, and consumer decision-making process to summarize the factors that affect Chinese retirees moving to Thailand by reviewing Chinese retirees or elderly moving to other countries and some Chinese retirees shared their experience in Thailand in social media platform.

In the second phase, the search was scoped between January 2013 to April 2023. Bollean operators "AND" and "OR" were adopted as search strategies. The two databases, Scopus and ScienceDirect with the following term: "Chinese" AND "elderly" or "retiree" or "retired" or "seniors" AND "migration" or "immigration" or "migrant" or "immigrant", 469 articles are matched with these terms. The study's inclusion criteria were research articles published in journals in English about Chinese elderly moving to foreign countries and their living arrangement. In addition, the internal migration of the Chinese elderly, and the mental and psychological health of the elderly were excluded.

In the third phase, eight articles were selected for an integrative review after the

following steps. Firstly, 76 articles were duplicated with other sources, remaining 393 articles. Secondly, the number of articles was reduced to 372 from 393 after selecting the journal articles only. Thirdly, 330 articles did not meet the criteria of inclusion after reviewing the title and abstract, resulting in 42 articles. Lastly, 34 articles were excluded after reviewing the full text. The evaluation process were shown below.

In the fourth phase, data from all eight studies would be shown in a chart, which will include author, year, country, method, participants, and main finding. In addition, the content analysis would be adopted in the data analysis part. Content analysis is a research technique to make valid inferences according to data from context (Krippendorff, 1989).

In the fifth phase, the factors that influence Chinese retirees to move to Thailand and their living arrangements would be discussed by exerting Maslow's hierarchy of needs, push-pull factors, and decision-making process, and make the conclusion to present an integrative review.

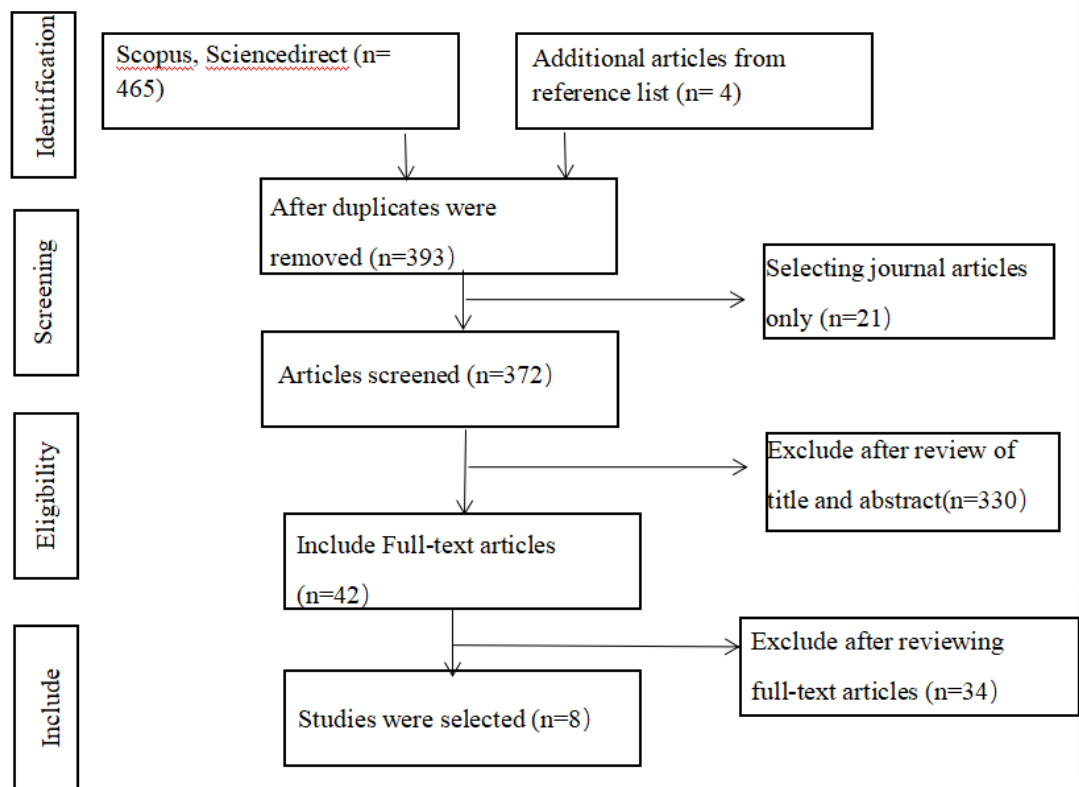


Figure 3 The framework of integrative review

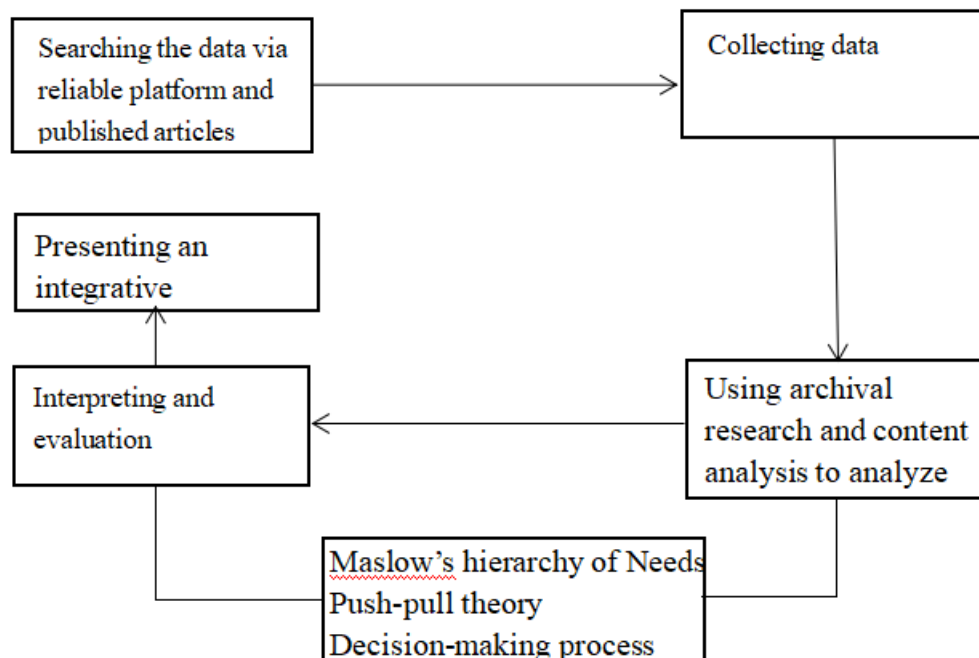


Figure 4 Conceptual framework

5. Result

5.1 Result from the integrative review

The review comes to eight articles. Six of these articles applied a qualitative approach (Wang and Zhan, 2021; Gao, Dupre, and Bosman, 2022; Zhao et al., 2022; Li, Hodgetts, and Sonn, 2014; Caidi et al., 2022; Li, Xu, and Chi, 2018), while two articles were analyzed by quantitative approach (Da and Garcia, 2015; Xiong and Han, 2020). The studies were conducted in the following countries: America, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand, two in America, two in Australia, one in Canada, two in New Zealand, and one in both Australia and Canada. All the participants in the studies are Chinese elderly. The data analysis combines the two following themes: the factors that affect Chinese retirees moving to foreign countries, and Chinese retirees' living arrangements after moving.

Author & year	Aim	Method & sample	Findings	Theme
Wang and Zhan (2021)	To understand older Chinese immigrants' settlement experience in the U. S,	In-depth qualitative interview with 21 older Chinese living in Atlanta, Georgia between 59-90yrs	Older participants' responses suggest a cultural shift after migration, which is from traditional inter-generational interdependence to the American value of dependence; Home is a process of making, older participants live and age well by cultivating new	(a) The factors that affect Chinese retiree's move to foreign countries (Pull factors: family reunion, higher education, better life opportunities; Push factors: structural constraints, limited social network, language barrier.) (b) Chinese retirees'

<hr/>			
	interests and participating	living arrangements after	
	in meaningful social	moving (lived alone or	
	activities; Aging-friendly	with a spouse in public	
	environment and	housing)	
	favorable social policy		
	are crucial for older		
	Chinese recreate a home.		
	Some participants		
	suggested they were		
	grateful for welfare		
Gao, Dupre, and Bosman (2022)	To understand older		
	Chinese immigrants'		
<hr/>			
	In-depth qualitative	The coexistence of	(a) The factors affect
	interview with 30 older	intimate conflicts	Chinese retirees move to
<hr/>			

processes of creating a	Chinese living in Gold	between older Chinese	foreign countries (Pull
sense of home in Australia	Coast between 61-83 yrs	immigrants and their	factors: Taking care of
		adult children. A	adult children' s
		majority of participants	family, receiving
		lived with their adult	support from adult
		children because of the	children, enjoying life,
		traditional view even	health insurance, public
		though they don't have a	transportation, pension;
		harmonious relationship.	Push factors: Financial
			problem, language
			barrier, transportation
			dependence.)
			(b) Chinese retirees'

living arrangements after moving (lived with spouse or adult children or both of them)			
Da and Garcia (2015)	To explore and gain insights into the settlement experience of recent older Mandarin-speaking Chinese in Canada	A mix of a semi-quantitative and qualitative method with 31 older Chinese immigrants between 55-75 yrs	The primary role of older immigrants as caregivers in the family after immigration. Participants had to provide childcare assistance to their grandchildren and do housework for their children after
(a) The factors affect Chinese retirees move to foreign countries (Pull factors: family reunification; Push factors: loss of social network and socialization, public transportation,			

immigration; Economic	socioeconomic
dependency is the biggest	dependency.) (b) Chinese
challenge for older	retirees' living
immigrants in their	arrangements after
settlement. Most of the	moving (desire to live
participants were highly	independently)
educated and relatively	
affluent, they left their	
economic resources when	
their children need them;	
Health plays an	
important role for older	
immigrants to adjust to a	

new environment. Some participants reported that they socialized with other older immigrants through some exercise.

Zhao et al. (2022)	To explore Chinese late-life immigrants' perceptions of loneliness and social isolation.	A qualitative descriptive method with 23 Chinese late-life immigrants between 65-80 yrs	Chinese late-life immigrants placed a high value on family obligations. Participants felt obliged to do the housework and take care of grandchildren; Chinese late-life	(a) The factors affect Chinese retirees move to foreign countries (Pull factors: family reunification; Push factors: Language barrier.) (b) Chinese retirees' living
--------------------	--	---	---	--

immigrants have an	arrangements after
unbalanced sense of	moving (living with the
inter-generational	spouse or adult children)
reciprocity. Some	
participants felt the	
young generation	
excluded them from	
family activities; Chinese	
late-life immigrants were	
moving away from filial	
expectations. Some	
participants were actively	
planning ways to stop	

relying on their adult children.				
Li, Hodgetts, and Sonn (2014)	To understand the issue of successful aging in place and multiple senses of community among older Chinese immigrants	Semi-structured interviews with 32 older Chinese migrants aged range from 62 to 77 yrs	Older Chinese migrants strive to develop community relations. Many participants established good relationships and emotional bonds with their neighbors through some help practices; The connection with the motherland plays a	(a) The factors affect Chinese retirees move to foreign countries (Pull factors: family reunion; Push factors: The language barrier.) (b) Chinese retirees' living arrangements after moving (living with adult children)

				crucial role in their sense of community.
				Participants contact their relatives and friends through transnational telecommunications.
Xiong and Han (2020)	To examine late-life transnational migration intention of elderly Chinese parents	A mixed method of online survey and a semi-structured interview with 10 adult children, their parents' age range from 56-75 yrs	Older parents with more optimistic, outgoing personalities are more likely to move to Australia than those more conservative; Differences in lifestyles between the	(a) The factors affect Chinese retirees' move to foreign countries (Pull factors: personal preference, personality, lifestyle choice; Push factors: the language

	two generations reduce the possibility of older parents moving to Australia.	barrier, transportation dependence in Australia, existing social ties.) (b) Chinese retirees' living arrangements after moving
Caidi et al. (2022)	To explore older Chinese migrants' meaning-making process.	(a) The factors affect Chinese retirees move to foreign countries (Pull factors: Family reunification; Push factors: The language barrier, local rules,
	Semi-structured interviews with 8 older Chinese migrants in Adelaide, an average of 67.1 yrs, and with another 8 older Chinese migrants in Toronto, an	Most of the social imagination of older Chinese migrants to the destination country is constructed through the perspective of family reunion. The reality of

	average of 64.6 yrs	life in new countries was different from the participants' expectations; the Social support system plays a significant role after migration. Participants met new friends, and gain more potential information from their extended social network.	medical service, public transportation, pension policy.)(b) Chinese retirees' living arrangements after moving
Li, Xu, and Chi (2018)	To identify challenges and protective factors for	In-depth interview with 24 older Chinese	(a) The factors affect Chinese retirees move to

resilience related to the	immigrants aged range	and insufficient use of social	foreign countries (Pull
process of aging among	from 65-92 yrs live in	service are the three major	factors: Reuniting with
older Chinese immigrants in	Los Angeles	challenges for older Chinese	their family; Push factors:
the United States.		immigrants in the United	Language barrier.) (b)
		States; Acceptance and	Chinese retirees' living
		optimism, independence and	arrangements after moving
		autonomy, informal social	(living alone, with the
		support, and use of the formal	spouse, or with children, or
		social welfare system are the	with spouse and children,
		four themes of resilience	or with friends)
		protective factors.	

Table 1 Overview of integrative review

5.1.1 The factors that affect Chinese retirees motivation to move to foreign countries

Family reunification was identified as the main reason for Chinese elders' migration in seven studies (Wang and Zhan, 2021; Da and Garcia, 2015; Zhao et al., 2022; Li, Hodgetts, and Sonn, 2014; Caidi et al., 2022; Li, Xu, and Chi, 2018; Gao, Dupre, and Bosman, 2022). Their decision-making was mainly affected by their family. This situation often happens when their adult children live in foreign countries, in this manner, two-way demands have emerged. Their children need them to assist their family, in terms of child care and housework issues, which were shown in three studies (Zhao et al., 2022; Da and Garcia, 2015; Gao, Dupre, and Bosman, 2022). In one study, the pursuit better life and seeking higher education is also the reasons for a small group of Chinese retiree to migrate to foreign countries (Wang and Zhan, 2021). Besides, personal preference, personality, and lifestyle choices are also taken into account when the Chinese elderly decide to migrate or not (Xiong and Han, 2020). In the terms of personal preference, is also related to some external factors, the number of adult children is the crucial factor to affect their migration decision. Some Chinese elderly have relatives and other children in China, so they will tend to stay in China instead of migrating. On the contrary, Chinese retirees will decide to migrate when they have an only child in a foreign country. In terms of personality, participants who are eager to learn new things are more tend to migrate. However, different lifestyle choice is the main reason for them to decide not to move. Chinese retirees also face many challenges

when they move to another country. The language barrier is a common problem for the Chinese elderly who already move or plan to move. A study shows that the language barrier will cause inconvenience in Chinese elders' daily life, and sometimes will lower their esteem to some certain degree (Li, Xu, and Chi, 2018). Three studies also pointed out that some Chinese retirees had socioeconomic problems when they move to a foreign country, when they are in this situation, they need support from their adult children (Wang and Zhan, 2021; Gao, Dupre, and Bosman, 2022; Da and Garcia, 2015). Transportation is also an important issue for old Chinese people in a foreign country, which mainly manifest in transportation dependency (Gao, Dupre, and Bosman, 2022; Da and Garcia, 2015; Zhao et al., 2022; Caidi et al., 2022). Furthermore, some older Chinese people lose their social network after moving. Sometimes, they couldn't get used to local rules, and were discontented with the local medical service and pension policy (Caidi et al., 2022).

5.1.2 Chinese retirees' living arrangements in Thailand

The family reunion is also a significant reason for them to live with children, therefore, a majority of participants in selected studies lived with their children at first. However, four studies show that the Chinese elderly tend to desire to live independently after living with their adult children for a passage of time (Wang and Zhan, 2021; Da and Garcia, 2015; Zhao et al., 2022; Li, Hodgetts, and Sonn, 2014). The transformation of value was identified as a key factor for elders who tend to live independently, which manifests in moving out of children's place, maintaining or developing personal hobbies,

and learning English (Wang and Zhan, 2021). In addition, dependency on social and economic aspects also affects the power relations of older Chinese people, therefore, the weak power relations drive the elder's intention to change their living arrangements, which manifests in home ownership issues, the changing of home ownership cause older Chinese people couldn't make the decision independently (Da and Garcia, 2015). Besides, imbalance generational reciprocity makes participants feel lonely, older Chinese perceived what they give to their children is not consistent with what they get from children and they feel a deep sense of lonely even though they live with their children, therefore, they tend to move away from traditional filial expectation to live alone (Zhao et al., 2022). However, two studies showed that participants tended to live with their adult children because of the traditional inter-generational view. Even though older Chinese people are discontent with their current life with children, and living alone is a better way to avoid conflict with children, they still follow the traditional value to live with their adult children (Gao, Dupre, and Bosman, 2022; Li, Xu, and Chi, 2018).

The review provides a better understanding of Chinese older people's behavior of migration, which manifests in their moving motivation and living arrangement choice. With the regard to moving intention, we could see social factors are the predominant reason to drive their attention, which is family reunification. Helping children with childcare, filial expectations, being supported by the family, looking for social opportunities, and gaining access to aging welfare services are the main reasons older

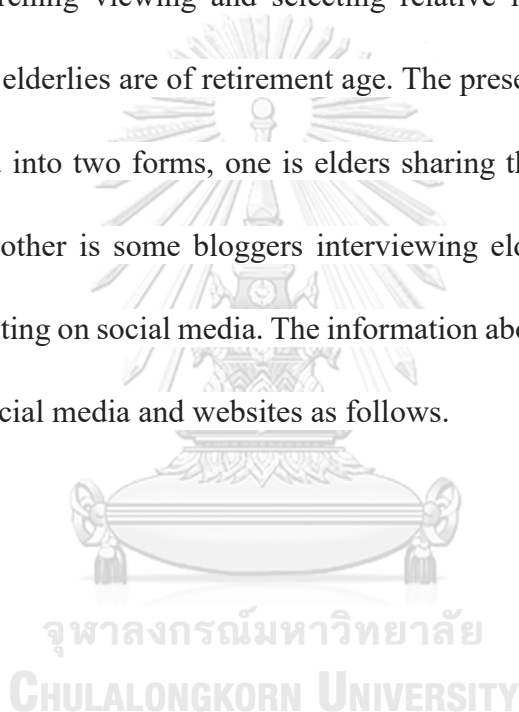
Chinese people decide to migrate to the U.S. (Wang and Zhan, 2021). In terms of filial expectation, we could find that older Chinese people have the tendency to modify their filial expectations especially when they touched the Western value, and tend to be more independent. One study about recreating a sense of home in Australia showed that childcare, domestic activities, understanding of families, interaction with family members, being supported by friends and institutions and aging benefits are the main reason that affects Chinese retirees' decision-making about migration (Gao, Dupre, and Bosman, 2022). We could see childcare is the main reason for the migration of older Chinese people. In general, the main reason to drive their moving intention is family influence, therefore, to some certain degree, the needs of Chinese retirees could be classified into the needs of physiological. Besides, personal factors also play an important role affect Chinese older people's decision-making. In addition, seeking a higher education, and better life opportunities are the pull factors to drive older Chinese people's migration. To some certain degree, seeking a higher education also could be contributed to the need for self-actualization. Regarding living arrangements, it performed a transformation in older Chinese people's traditional values from the preference to live with children to living independently.

The review suggests that lacking of studies about older Chinese migrating to foreign countries, family reunification is the main reason for older Chinese migrating to foreign countries, partly because of higher education, and seeking a better opportunity. Exploring the intention of older Chinese migrants could reference other Chinese people

who would like to move to foreign countries or are planning to move elsewhere. In addition, it also provides useful information to some stakeholders in host countries.

5.2 Result from social media

This study also finds information on Chinese retirees in Thailand from online social media, which are xiaohongshu, bilibili, douyin. Ten Chinese elderly' information was gathered after searching viewing and selecting relative information through social media, all of these elderlies are of retirement age. The presentation of this information could be classified into two forms, one is elders sharing their retirement life in their accounts, and the other is some bloggers interviewing elders about their retirement experience and posting on social media. The information about ten Chinese retirees and the link to these social media and websites as follows.



Pseudonym	Age	Gender	Hometown	Current residence	Living
-----------	-----	--------	----------	-------------------	--------

			(China)	(Thailand)	arrangement
Wang	55	Female	Shaanxi	Phuket	Alone
Jiang	73	Female	Harbin	Chiang Mai	Children
Long	71	Male	Harbin	Chiang Mai	Children
Liu	73	Male	Beijing	Chiang Mai	Alone
Deng	60	Male	Shanghai	Chiang Mai	Alone
Shi	68	Female	Harbin	Pattaya	Friends
Ye	60	Female	Chengdu	Phuket	Alone
Ming	60	Female	Neimenggu	Chiang Mai	Friends
Chen	67	Female	Harbin	Chiang Mai	Children
Zheng	70	Male	Beijing	Pattaya	Children

Table 2 The Characteristics of 10 Chinese Retirees

Applications	Links
xiaohongshu	https://www.xiaohongshu.com/explore
bilibili	https://www.bilibili.com/
douyin	https://www.douyin.com/

Table 3 The application name of the online social media or website and the links

5.3 Result from online semi-structured interview

Four Chinese retirees were interviewed in this study, who come from Shanghai,

Heilongjiang, Fujian, and Liaoning respectively. All of them are Mandarin-speaking, including three males and one female, their ages range from 60 to 68 years old. The semi-structured interview was guided by research questions and conducted in June 2023. The current residences of interviewees are Bangkok, Chiang Mai, and Pattaya relatively. There are two kinds of living arrangements among them, living alone and living with a spouse.

5.4 Key factors affected Chinese retirees to stay in Thailand

Climate factor- physiological needs

Climate factor is the most important reason for migration and the warm climate tend to alleviate health problem (Husa et al., 2014). Climate factors also play a predominant role to drive Chinese retirees to move to Thailand. When we use push-push factors to look at this manner, the climate condition in China could be seen as a push factor to drive elders to move, on the contrary, it is a pull factor in Thailand to attract retirees. From the information collected in online social media, we could find the majority of Chinese retirees come from the north of China. The existing study shows that extremely cold temperatures will drive older people's intention to migrate (Wang et al., 2022). When winter is coming, they will feel uncomfortable. Some retirees have hypertension and rheumatism, these diseases torture them all the time when they are in China, especially in winter, they feel very pain. They feel comfortable when they are in Thailand. Some of them suggested that their symptoms are relieved when they are in Thailand, they don't feel pain anymore.

"It's summer all the year round in Thailand. It's especially suitable for people like me who feel uncomfortable when it's cold" (Wang [Pseudonym], 2022).

"I think the climate here is especially suitable for those of us who apply for retirement visas to live" (Jiang [Pseudonym], 2020).

"My wife was out of condition, before 2017, we were in Canada, ready to settle down, but she was not used to it, plus the long journey, she still likes hot places, so we decided to come here" (Liu [Pseudonym], 2022).

"In November 2018, I traveled to Thailand, I found that I prefer the climate here" (Deng [Pseudonym], 2021).

"I had been traveling here and stayed in the rented apartment for more than a month. I have rheumatism, when I came here, there is nothing wrong with my body, I felt that I was in good health" (Shi [Pseudonym], 2021).

"My hometown is Chengdu. It's always wet. I've been suffering from arthritis and rheumatism for many years. Especially in winter, so I have been looking for a warm place to retire. There is no winter in Thailand, which suits me well as a rheumatologist." (Ye [Pseudonym], 2022).

"I have been here for five years, it makes people feel very comfortable, good environment, good climate, good life" (Zheng [Pseudonym], 2020).

Similarly, two interviewees are also attracted by the climate in Thailand and choose to retire in Thailand.

"Fresh air, good climate, although a little hot, but still acceptable" (Xiao [Pseudonym],

2023).

“The climate in Thailand is pleasant” (Zhong [Pseudonym], 2023).

Medical service- physiological needs

Previous studies showed that medical service affected to Chinese retirees' decision-making and drive older people's intention to live in Thailand (Fukahori et al., 2011; Ali, 2013)-. However, medical services presented different levels in a clinic and international hospitals in Thailand. Older Japanese people felt difficulty when they were seeking for medical services in a clinic or somewhere without an international-standard hospital (Yoda et al., 2021). In this regard, Chinese retirees in this study suggested the medical service at an international hospital in Thailand satisfied them even though they could not read and write Thai. Wang [Pseudonym] shared her experience of seeing a doctor:

“I went to Bangkok hospital to see a doctor, and I brought my passport to the front desk when I arrived, and they pointed a translator to me, who accompanied me whole the time, including explaining to the doctor, payment. I was sent to the exit until the bill was paid” (Wang [Pseudonym], 2021).

However, some Chinese retirees suggested that they couldn't benefit the healthy insurance in China after moving to Thailand, and had to expense an amount of money in it, which is similar with the situation of German-speaking people in Thailand (Bender, Hollstein, and Schweppe, 2020).

“Private Hospitals in Thailand are ridiculously expensive if you are seriously ill and

need to be hospitalized. Therefore, people in Thailand need to buy a commercial health insurance, and the older they are, the more coverage they have, the more expensive it will be. For a 60-year-old like me, it may cost 50,000 baht a year to keep out-patient care, so medical care is a big problem for us. Thais can enjoy free medical care in public hospitals, but foreigners in Thailand do not have this benefit, and our domestic insurance can not be reimbursed, if it is just a minor illness that is no problem” (Ye [Pseudonym], 2023).

Different from the opinions above, One of my interviewees suggested that the medical services in Thailand were reasonable price with its good quality and services. In addition, regarding people who complained they couldn't benefit from health insurance, he suggested different countries have different rules and regulations:

“I think the cost is not high. The medical services in Thailand are better than China, which mainly manifests in medical level, reception environment, and drug quality. And there's no need to compare health insurance in China, it's two countries” (Zhong [Pseudonym], 2023).

Environment factor, distance factor, and living-cost factor-Aesthetic needs and safety needs

Beautiful scenery, the distance to their hometown, and the living cost also drive Chinese retirees' intention to move to Thailand. The desire for beautiful scenery could be classified into aesthetic needs, and the cheap living cost could be viewed as a safety need (Kummaraka and Jutaporn, 2011). In addition, the distance to the hometown also

could be seen as a kind of safety need. Regarding aesthetic needs, we could take Wang as an example the first choice of Ye was not Thailand but Malta, also a place with a warm climate. However, comparing Thailand and Malta, there are many beautiful beaches and vegetation in Thailand while but not in Malta. Similarly, Wang suggested that the natural environment is a priority to choose a living location for her, she prefers to live in a place with forests and seas. Safety needs mainly include economic safety, psychological safety, and physical safety in this study. In terms of psychological safety, it could also show from the example of Ye, Thailand is closer to her hometown than Malta, so she choose Thailand as a retirement destination. As Ye described, her foot swelled like a big steamed bun after a long journey in the airplane. Similar to Ye, Liu also sees this factor affect his decision to move to Thailand. In terms of economic safety, Wang explained that she can enjoy high-quality life in Thailand for the same amount of money compared with China, which is consistent with the farang in Hua Hin, they migrate to Thailand could live a lifestyle that will never be affordable at home (Husa et al., 2014).

“Living at home, in addition to accommodation does not cost, life also has an additional expenditure, living in Thailand, I can use 5000 Baht to rent a one-bedroom apartment with a swimming pool, a gym, or a garden shed...Spending the same amount of money to live in Thailand will improve a lot, so I travel here for two months and decided to stay” (Wang [Pseudonym], 2022).

“Thailand is a good place for the elderly, where the weather is good, low consumption,

can afford to live in villas, please afford a nanny. The people here are friendly, safe, and full of green vegetables and fruits” (Chen [Pseudonym], 2021).

Except low-living costs in Thailand attract interviewees to move to Thailand. Physical safety is also the key factor they are concerned about, which mainly includes personal safety and food safety.

“ Cheap price and good public security” (Yu [Pseudonym], 2023).

“ Food safety, low consumption, well-ordered society, and everyone lives and works in peace”(Zhong [Pseudonym], 2023).

“The living cost in Thailand is cheap, we rent an apartment in Pattaya, which only cost about 7000 Baht per month. And Thai food is safer. I've been here for almost two months and have never had a stomach ache. At home, a stomach ache when eating outside” (Xiao [Pseudonym], 2023).

Social needs

The social needs of Chinese retirees mainly manifest in making friends and seeking a helpmate, especially reflect in older people who live alone. They desire to be taken care of, which is consistent with the older Chinese people in Western countries (Wang and Zhan, 2021; Gao, Dupre, and Bosman, 2022; Da and Garcia, 2015; Zhao et al., 2022; Li, Hodgetts, and Sonn, 2014; Caidi et al., 2022; Li, Xu, and Chi, 2018; Xiong and Han, 2020). Concerning making friends, Ye suggested that making friends is one of the reasons driving her to choose Phuket as a living location. Similar to Ye, Wang

explained she can make friends from all over the world, therefore, she doesn't feel lonely. Regarding seeking the helpmate, Liu [Pseudonym] is a good example:

“ My wife has been dead for three years, I feel very lonely, therefore, I want to find a helpmate to accompany me” (Liu [Pseudonym], 2022).

Esteem needs

Independent is one of the manifestations of esteem needs (Kummaraka and Jutaporn, 2011). Older people have more power to make decisions when they are independent in society and the economy, by contrast, they will be in weak power relations when they should rely on their children (Da and Garcia, 2015). Some older Chinese people have a language barrier when they live in Western countries, they have to ask for assistance from their children, which also lowers their esteem (Li, Xu, and Chi, 2018). It is similar to the situation of low-income Japanese retirees in Thailand (Toyota, 2022).

Lifestyle factor

Lifestyle also plays a crucial role in Chinese retirees' migration decisions. It is consistent with the study about long-stay retirement in Hua Hin (Ali, 2013). In addition, lifestyle is described as a personal factor in consumer decision behavior.

“I have strived for the first half of my life and now have a good living condition. Therefore, I choose to see the world when I am fully capable of going abroad and living a wonderful life in my old age” (Chen [Pseudonym], 2021).

“I spent the first half of my life studying, working, and having a family, and now I want to live for myself. Besides, Phuket is also a very international place, people from all over the world collide here to create different cultural sparks, I hope to give myself an extra window to find a new possibility” (Ye [Pseudonym], 2023).

“I want to change my lifestyle. Chiang Mai is relatively quiet, with good air and vegetation. I think this is the place for us to take care of our elderly” (Ming [Pseudonym], 2021)

Transportation

Different from the transportation dependency in Western countries, the challenges Chinese retirees have mainly classified into two respect, which are undeveloped public transportation and traffic safety.

“Apart from Bangkok, public transport in Thailand is very underdeveloped. Taking Phuket as an example, there is little public transport and it would be a big problem to go out because it's hard to get a taxi and it's expensive. In addition, Thais drive fast, the road and a lot of motorcycles” (Ye [Pseudonym], 2023).

“Once my friend and I drove to travel, because my driving skills are not very good, mainly my friends in the drive. There was an incident on the road, and I dare not drive at the thought of it now. The Thais were driving so fast that when we tried to change lanes, they cut in right next to us and scared me”(Deng [Pseudonym], 2022).

“I walk very carefully every day. There are no sidewalks in some places, the motorcycle swished so fast that I was afraid to go out. I almost got hit by a motorcycle a few times, it was too dangerous. Taxis are rarely seen in Pattaya. Taxis are very few, to wait for a taxi is very difficult, and generally do not meter, the price is very high. My biggest expense is transportation, which is more expensive than eating” (Xiao [Pseudonym], 2023).

“I think the public transport in Bangkok is not developed. Some buses are too old, some are good, such as the bus with air condition, but the price is a little expensive” (Li [Pseudonym], 2023).

“ The traffic conditions in Bangkok are not good, but I think other places are not bad” (Zhong [Pseudonym], 2023).

Visa policy

The visa problem that Chinese retirees have mainly manifests in 90 days reports and re-entry permit issues. In addition, for some Western retirees in Thailand, suggested that some visa problems are the push factors to drive them to come back to their motherland (Howard, 2008).

“Thailand is a non-immigrant country, therefore no matter what visa you hold will require a certain cost, which adds to the cost of a stay. And all visas require 90 days to report that you are still living in Thailand. If you forget, you will be fined. In addition,

if you leave Thailand to travel to other countries or return to China, you need to go to the Immigration Bureau to apply for a re-entry visa. Otherwise, when you return to Thailand, your long-term visa will be invalidated and you need to apply for a new visa, It's a hassle" (Ye [Pseudonym], 2023).

"90 days of report and re-entry visa are relatively troublesome, but there is no good way. Thailand should use technology to solve these problems. There is no need for on-site work" (Zhong [Pseudonym], 2023).

Differently, one of my interviewees suggested we should obey the local rules and regulations when we are in a foreign country.

5.4 Chinese retirees' living arrangement

There are three categories of living arrangements for Chinese retirees in Thailand, which are living alone, living with adult children, and living with friends, and they prefer to live in apartments and villas. In addition, regarding their living residence, it could be classified into two ways, which are buying land or renting a house. We could use the decision-making process to analyze their choice of buying land or renting a house, the decision-making of Chinese retirees' purchase mainly combined four stages. Firstly, need recognition. Living belongs to the physiological needs of people according to Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Regarding location, a study about factors associated with tourism growth and traveler's motivation also find out location as a gateway is consistent with the basic needs of traveling destination (Panbamrungkij and

Swangchan-Uthai, 2021). The shelter is indispensable for Chinese retirees after moving to Thailand as well. Secondly, information search. Consumer search for information mainly through personal sources, commercial sources, public sources, and experimental sources (Kotler, et al., 2017). In this case, personal sources, commercial sources, and public sources are the main way for Chinese retirees to collect land-buying or renting information. Liu and Deng suggested that they know about the land information in Thailand mainly through their friends and agents. Wang accessed the land renting information mainly via social media, agents, and advertisements. Thirdly, evaluation of alternatives. This stage is significant relative to the consumer's needs (Kotler et al., 2016). Cultural factors, social factors, personal factors, psychological factors, and social factors are the main factors to affect consumer decision-making (Gajjar, 2013). These factors also affect older people's decisions regarding aging issues (Yonghencharoen and Pongpatrachai, 2021). Chinese retirees here mainly affected by personal factors, Taking Liu [Pseudonym] and Wang [Pseudonym] as examples:

“The apartment is quiet and suitable for recuperation, and I also buy another apartment in Maya, because it's close to the hospital and mall, it's very convenient for me” (Liu [Pseudonym], 2022).

“ I prefer to rent a house because it's cheap to buy a house here and it's not expensive to rent, so I think it's a good deal. In addition, I prefer to live in different houses”(Wang [Pseudonym], 2021).

Fourthly, the purchase decision. After evaluating and comparing, the purchase decisions

were made.

The choice of location

From the information about Chinese retirees in this study, we could find that Chinese retirees live in Chiang Mai, Phuket, and Pattaya. It is noteworthy that Chiang Mai is the most popular place compared with Phuket and Pattaya. From the information on Chinese retirees, as follows, we could find that the distance to shopping malls and the international hospital is their main concern when selecting a living location, which is consistent with the study of Singaporean older people's concerns (Treeyawuthiwat and Panichpathom, 2016).

"In addition to access to nature in Phuket, I can go to a very busy shopping mall, a high-level medical hospital, and there are more than 40 Michelin restaurants on the island, can Taste the world's food, make friends from all over the world" (Ye [Pseudonym], 2022).

"Small cities that can't even be found in a convenience store are not good places to live, even though they are surrounded by pristine forests" (Wang [Pseudonym], 2021).

Besides, the choice of living location for Chinese retirees also relates to personal preference, transportation, and environment. We could see the example of Wang [Pseudonym]:

"I don't like Bangkok, the tall buildings there make me feel depressed. Bangkok has too many viaducts and traffic is heavy, and no sea or forest" (Wang [Pseudonym], 2020).

6. Conclusion

According to this study result, we could find that the climate factor, medical service, environment factor, distance factor, and low living cost make Thailand popular with Chinese retirees. In addition, Chinese retirees mainly perform in every aspect of Maslow's Hierarchy of needs. It is noteworthy that the climate factor is the most important factor for Chinese retirees to choose Thailand as a retirement destination. In addition, the living cost also plays an important role to drive Chinese retirees' intentions. The living cost in Thailand is cheaper than it is in China, therefore, Chinese retirees could spend more high-quality life in Thailand. Besides, medical services also play a vitally important role to drive Chinese retirees' intentions. In this manner, international hospital serves as an important role, and Chinese retirees also could enjoy a high level of medical service even though they can't read and write Thai.

In addition, the living arrangements of Chinese people in Thailand could be classified into three categories, living alone, living with adult children, and living with friends. Living alone and living with adult children are the most preferred for Chinese retirees. In terms of the types of house, they are more prefer to live in an apartment or villa. Living location is also important for Chinese retirees, their choice of living location depends on their personal preference, transportation, environment, and the distance between the hospital and the shopping mall.

REFERENCES

"Foreign Expats' Lot a Mixed Bag." *Bangkok Post*, 2021.

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/opinion/opinion/2184123/foreign-expats-lot-a-mixed-bag>.

"Global Survey Positions Thailand as No. 1 Asian Destination for Retirees." *TAT NEWS*, 2022.

<https://www.tatnews.org/2022/01/global-survey-positions-thailand-as-no-1-asian-destination-for-retirees/>.

"Govt Crows as Foreign Cash Roll In." *Bangkok Post*, 2023.

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2525321/govt-crows-as-foreign-cash-rolls-in>.

"Thailand's Boi Launches New 10-Year Ltr Visa for Investors." *Bangkok Post*, 2022.

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2384545/thailands-boi-launches-new-10-year-ltr-visa-for-investors>.

"Thailand's Foreign Retirees See Their Good Life Slip Away." *NIKKEI Asia*, 2022.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Economy/Thailand-s-foreign-retirees-see-their-good-life-slip-away>.

"Thailand Introduces New 10-Year Long-Term Resident Visa for Foreigners." *TAT NEWS*, 2022.

<https://www.tatnews.org/2022/09/thailand-introduces-new-10-year-long-term-resident-visa-for-foreigners/>.

"Wealthy Foreigners Given New Pathway to Buy Land in Bangkok, Pattaya." *Bangkok Post*, 2022.

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2422311/wealthy-foreigners-given-new-pathway-to-buy-land-in-bangkok-pattaya>.

- Ali, Ayan Ismail. "Understanding the Drivers of Long Stay Retirement in Hua Hin." *AU-GSB e-JOURNAL*, vol. 6, no. 2, 2013.
- Atthawuttikul, Ariya, and Nopadon Sahachaisaeree. "Comparison of Elderly People's Perception of Homely Feeling Towards Room Environment in Their Own Home and in Two Nursing Homes in Thailand." *International Journal of Social Science and Humanity*, vol. 6, no. 11, 2016.
- Bekhet, Abir K., Jaclene A. Zauszniewski, and Wagdy E. Nakhla. "Reasons for Relocation to Retirement Communities: A Qualitative Study." *Western journal of nursing research* vol. 31, no. 4, 2009, p. 18.
- Belot, Michèle VK, and Timothy J. Hatton. "Immigrant Selection in the Oecd." *The Scandinavian Journal of Economics* vol. 114, no. 4, 2012, p. 24.
- Bender, Désirée, Tina Hollstein, and Cornelia Scheppe. "Old Age Facilities for German-Speaking People in Thailand—a New Facet of International Migration in Old Age." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, vol. 46, no. 7, 2020, p. 16.
- Bogue, Donald J. "A Migrant's-Eye View of the Costs and Benefits of Migration to a Metropolis." *Internal Migration*, 1977, p. 16.
- Botterill, Kate. "Discordant Lifestyle Mobilities in East Asia: Privilege and Precarity of British Retirement in Thailand." *Population, Space and Place*, vol. 23, no. 5, 2017, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1002/psp.2011>.
- Caidi, Nadia, et al. "Immigrating after 60: Information Experiences of Older Chinese Migrants to

- Australia and Canada." *Information Processing & Management* vol. 57, no. 3, 2020.
- Da, Wei-Wei, and Alicia Garcia. "Later Life Migration: Sociocultural Adaptation and Changes in Quality of Life at Settlement among Recent Older Chinese Immigrants in Canada." *Activities, Adaptation & Aging* vol. 39, no. 3, 2015, p. 29.
- Fukahori, Hiroki, et al. "Healthcare Services for Japanese Elderly Long-Staying in Thailand from the Perspective of the Patient and Healthcare Providers: A Survey Study." *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, vol. 53, no. 2, 2011, p. 6.
- Gajjar, Nilesh B. "Factors Affecting Consumer Behavior." *International Journal of Research in Humanities and Social Sciences*, vol. 1, no. 2, 2013, p. 6.
- Gao, Siyao, Karine Dupre, and Caryl Bosman. "Recreating a Sense of Home in a Foreign Land among Older Chinese Immigrants in Australia." *Population, Space and Place* vol. 28, no. 3, 2022.
- Gibler, Karen M., George P. Moschis, and Euehun Lee. "Planning to Move to Retirement Housing." *Financial Services Review*, vol. 7, no. 4, 1998, p. 10.
- Howard, Robert W. "Western Retirees in Thailand: Motives, Experiences, Wellbeing, Assimilation and Future Needs." *Ageing & Society* vol. 28, no. 2, 2008, p. 19.
- Husa, Karl, et al. "Searching for Paradise? International Retirement Migration to Thailand—a Case Study of Hua Hin and Cha-Am." *Southeast Asian mobility transitions: issues and trends in migration and tourism*, 2014, p. 31.
- Jiang, Joseph P. L. "The Chinese in Thailand: Past and Present." *Journal of Southeast Asian History*,

vol. 7, no. 1, 1966, p. 27, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20172833>.

Julaihi, Farah Ajlaa, et al. "The Preliminary Results on the Push Factors for the Elderly to Move to Retirement Villages in Malaysia." *Pertanika Journal of Social Sciences & Humanities*, vol. 30, no. 2, 2022.

Kotler, P. Armstrong, and G. Harris. *Principles of Marketing: Seventh European Edition*. Pearson, 2017.

Kotler, Philip, and Kevin Lane Keller. *Marketing Management: Philip Kotler, Kevin Lane Keller*. Pearson, 2012.

Krippendorff, Klaus. "Content Analysis." 1989.

Kummaraka, Krit, and Rapee Jutaporn. "The Motivation of Long-Stay Tourism and International Retirement Migration: Swedish Retirees in Thailand." 2011.

Lee, Everett S. "A Theory of Migration." *Demography*, vol. 3, no. 1, 1966, p. 11.

Li, Jia, Ling Xu, and Iris Chi. "Challenges and Resilience Related to Aging in the United States among Older Chinese Immigrants." *Aging & mental health*, vol. 22, no. 12, 2018, p. 8.

Li, Wendy Wen, Darrin Hodgetts, and Christopher Sonn. "Multiple Senses of Community among Older Chinese Migrants to New Zealand." *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology* vol. 24, no. 1, 2014, p. 11.

Liu, Liyun, Lizheng Shi, and Jiadong Pan. "Nursing Homes' Social Responsibility and Competitive Edge: A Cross – Sectional Study on Elderly Choices About Care Service and Price Levels in Zhejiang Province, China." *Global Health Journal* vol. 6, no. 1, 2022, p. 8.

Marohabutr, Thammarat. "Spa and Traditional Thai Massage: Local Policies and Promotional

Measures for Long-Stay Japanese Retirees in Chiang Mai, Thailand." *Asia Social Issues*,
vol. 15, no. 4, 2022.

Maslow, Abraham Harold. "A Theory of Human Motivation." *Psychological review* 1943, p. 27.

Pan, Yu, Xiaoyu Wang, and Chris Ryan. "Chinese Seniors Holidaying, Elderly Care, Rural Tourism
and Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes." *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism
Management* vol. 46, 2021, p. 10.

Panbamrungskij, Thitirat, and Theerawat Swangchan-Uthai. "Factors Associated with Tourism
Growth and Travelers' Motivations: The Case of Savannakhet Province, Lao Pdr." *Journal
of Mekong Societies* vol. 17, no. 3, 2021, p. 32.

Ravenstein, Ernst Georg. "The Laws of Migration." *Journal of the Statistical Society of London*,
vol. 48, no. 2, 1885.

Siriphon, Aranya, and Fanzura Banu. "The Nature of Recent Chinese Migration to Thailand." 2021.

Song, Shan, et al. "Study on the Spatial Configuration of Nursing Homes for the Elderly People in
Shanghai: Based on Their Choice Preference." *Technological Forecasting and Social
Change* vol. 152, 2020.

Souza, Marcela Tavares de, Michelly Dias da Silva, and Rachel de Carvalho. "Integrative Review:
What Is It? How to Do It?" *Einstein (São Paulo)* vol. 8, no. 1, 2010, p. 5.

Tan, Booi Chen, et al. "Elderly Customers' Open Innovation on Smart Retirement Village: What
They Want and What Drive Their Intention to Relocate?" *Journal of Open Innovation:*

Technology, Market, and Complexity vol. 7, no. 4, 2021.

Tomassini, Cecilia, et al. "Living Arrangements among Older People: An Overview of Trends in Europe and the USA." 2004, p. 9.

Toyota, Mika. "Shut-in Abroad: Social Incapacitation among Low-Income Male Japanese Retirees in Thailand." *American Behavioral Scientist* vol. 66, no. 14, 2022, p. 16.

Toyota, Mika, and Biao Xiang. "The Emerging Transnational "Retirement Industry" in Southeast Asia." *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy* 2012.

Treeyawuthiwat, Woraphot, and Supeechea Panichpathom. "Factors Influencing Singaporean Elders to Move to Thai Retirement Home." *International Journal Of Business Management & Economic Research* vol. 7, no. 2, 2016, p. 8.

Wang, Hongjie, et al. "Exploring the Climate Temperature Effects on Settlement Intentions of Older Migrants: Evidence from China." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* vol. 19, no. 8, 2022.

Wang, Qi, and Heying Jenny Zhan. "The Making of a Home in a Foreign Land: Understanding the Process of Home-Making among Immigrant Chinese Elders in the Us." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, vol. 47, no. 7, 2021, p. 19.

Whittemore, Robin, and Kathleen Knafl. "The Integrative Review: Updated Methodology." *Journal of advanced nursing*, vol. 52, no. 5, 2005, p. 8.

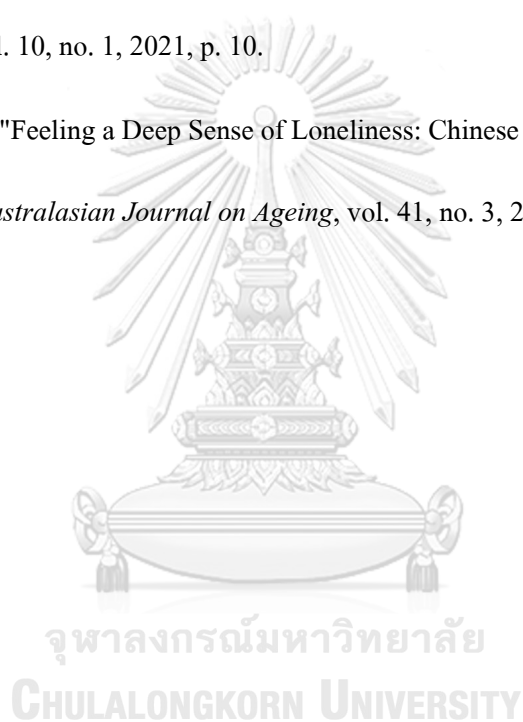
Xiong, Xueying, and Hoon Han. "Will My Parents Come to Australia When Retired? Later-Life Transnational Migration Intentions of Chinese Parents." *Australian Population Studies* vol.

4, no. 2, 2020, p. 13.

Yoda, Takeshi, et al. "Quality of Life and Mental Health Status of Japanese Older People Living in Chiang Mai, Thailand." *Geriatrics*, vol. 6, no. 2, 2021.

Yonghencharoen, Chawit, and Dichapong Pongpattrachai. "Ageing in Place Vs. Ageing Relocation and the Elderly's Behaviours." *MFU Connexion: Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, vol. 10, no. 1, 2021, p. 10.

Zhao, Ivy Yan, et al. "Feeling a Deep Sense of Loneliness: Chinese Late-Life Immigrants in New Zealand." *Australasian Journal on Ageing*, vol. 41, no. 3, 2022, p. 9.





จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

VITA

NAME	Li Jiaqi
DATE OF BIRTH	03 Jan 1999
PLACE OF BIRTH	Fujian
INSTITUTIONS ATTENDED	Bachelor of Management from Putian University
HOME ADDRESS	Yunxiao Country, Zhangzhou City, Fujian Province

