# MANUEL FELIPE ROJAS ECHEVERRI

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The Pennsylvania State University  $\diamond$  Department of Economics, PA 16802

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### **EDUCATION**

The Pennsylvania State University

2018 - expected May 2024

Ph.D. in Economics

Universidad del Rosario

2014-2017

M.A. in Economics

Universidad Nacional de Colombia

2009-2014

B.A. in Economics

### FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Industrial Organization, Public Economics **Primary:** 

Secondary: Applied Microeconomics, Regulation Economics, Econometrics

## JOB MARKET PAPER

#### Distributional Effects of a Nonlinear Price Scheme in Public Utilities Job Market Paper

Nonlinear pricing schemes are the primary instruments that policymakers use to ensure access to public utilities for low-income households while penalizing high-income households for overconsumption. In this paper, I evaluate the effectiveness of these pricing schemes and introduce a novel methodology to analyze their impact on the distribution of consumption and welfare in public utilities, with a specific focus on the case of water utilities in Bogotá, Colombia. To achieve this, I employ a combination of reduced-form and structural model techniques, leveraging Bogotá's unique context, where households have historically encountered diverse pricing schemes, including the introduction of additional nonlinear elements in the pricing scheme through a 2012 policy change. Notably, the results reveal that the nonlinear pricing scheme exhibits regressive characteristics, benefiting wealthier households with higher consumption levels and more significant welfare gains. Furthermore, the evidence suggests that income effects, driven by changes in the virtual incomes of households, are the primary driving force behind these outcomes. These findings underscore the necessity for an alternative approach to achieving more significant equity in the distribution of benefits within public utilities.

### OTHER PAPERS

### Competitive Bundling and Switching Cost

Work in Progress

The Water Vital Minimum: Analyzing the Bogotá Free Water Policy Replication Paper With Juan Miguel Gallego, Juan Daniel Oviedo, and Carlos Sepulveda.

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

# The Pennsylvania State University

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Economic Mergers (Undergraduate) 2023 Graduate Teaching Assistant: Sports Economics (Undergraduate) 2022 Graduate Teaching Assistant: Environmental Economics (Undergraduate) 2020-2022 Graduate Teaching Assistant: Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate) 2020

# Universidad del Rosario

Teaching Assistant: Theory of Regulation and Informality (Undergraduate)

2017
Teaching Assistant: Mathematical Economics (Graduate)

2016

# RESEARCH AND RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

# The Pennsylvania State University

Research Assistant: Prof. Karl Schurter Summer 2021, Summer 2022, Summer 2023

Leico Consultores

Economic Analyst 2017-2018

Universidad del Rosario

Research Assistant: Prof. Juan Daniel Oviedo 2014-2017

# GRANTS AND AWARDS

Science Ministry of Colombia Scholarship	2020-2022
Banco de la República de Colombia Scholarship	2018-2022
COLFUTURO Scholarship	2018-2020

# CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

IAES 96th Conference (Philadelphia, PA)

2023

#### LANGUAGES

Spanish (Native), English (Fluent).

# COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

IATEX, Julia, Matlab, Stata, R

### REFERENCES

Joris Pinkse	Karl Schurter	Michael Gechter
Professor in Economics	Assistant Professor of Economics	Assistant Professor of Economics
Department of Economics	Department of Economics	Department of Economics
Pennsylvania State University	Pennsylvania State University	Pennsylvania State University.
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