

# MANUEL FELIPE ROJAS ECHEVERRI

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## EDUCATION

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**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

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**Primary:** Industrial Organization, Public Economics

**Secondary:** Applied Microeconomics, Regulation Economics

## RESEARCH PAPERS

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**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

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**Competitive Bundling and Switching Cost in Telecommunications Markets**

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

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**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

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### **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

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Science Ministry of Colombia Scholarship

*2020-2022*

Banco de la República de Colombia Scholarship

*2018-2022*

COLFUTURO Scholarship

*2018-2020*

## CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

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IAES 96th Conference (Philadelphia, PA)

*2023*

## LANGUAGES

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Spanish (Native), English (Fluent).

## COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

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L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Julia, Matlab, Stata, R

## REFERENCES

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Michael Gechter

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