

Mikael Mäkimattila

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Microeconomic theory (mechanism design, market design, information design), with applications to IO and public economics

EDUCATION

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2021–2026 | Aalto University
PhD in Economics (expected 2026), advisors: Juuso Välimäki, Matti Liski, and Pauli Murto |
| 2023–2024 | Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Visiting PhD Candidate (Economics) |
| 2019–2021 | Aalto University
MSc (Economics), with distinction |
| 2015–2019 | Aalto University
BSc (Economics and Business Administration), with distinction |

JOB MARKET PAPER

Inequality-Aware Regulation

I study optimal monopoly regulation when inequality is a concern and both buyers and the firm hold private information. Correlation between buyers' privately known valuations for quality and their welfare weights justifies *inequality-aware pricing*: the regulator mandates that the firm offer an inexpensive basic option with downward-distorted quality while granting the firm full flexibility in pricing premium qualities. However, the firm's private information about its demand creates a tension between redistribution among buyers and redistribution across the two sides of the market. The optimal regulatory mechanism combines inequality-aware pricing with *cost-plus pricing*, where the firm is required to offer each type of the good at cost plus a fixed fee. I also analyze buyer-side subsidies as an alternative to firm-side regulation.

OTHER WORKING PAPERS

- The Design and Price of Certification** (with Yucheng Shang and Ryo Shirakawa). [Link](#).
- Pigouvian Income Taxation** (with Lassi Ahlvik and Matti Liski). [Link](#).
- Pig in a Poke** (with Jana Gieselmann and Teemu Pekkarinen). [Link](#).
- Fake It Till You Exit** (with Eero Mäenpää). [Link](#).

TEACHING ASSISTANCE

- 2024 **Advanced Microeconomics I (PhD Decision Theory)** with Juuso Välimäki
Mean TA evaluation: 4.3/5.0
- 2021, '22, '24 **Advanced Microeconomics II (PhD Social Choice)** with Juuso Välimäki
Mean TA evaluation: 4.4/5.0
- 2024 **Math Camp (PhD)** with Daniel Hauser
Evaluations not collected
- 2021, '23 **Advanced Microeconomics III (PhD Game Theory)**
with Daniel Hauser (2021) and Pauli Murto (2023); evaluations not collected

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 Inequality-aware Market Design Days (Warsaw); 1st Berlin Micro Theory & Behavioral Economics PhD Conference; Nordic Economic Theory Meeting (Copenhagen); Toulouse Theory Breakfast; Finnish Economic Association Annual Meeting (Tallinn)
- 2024 MIT Public Finance Lunch; Nordic Economic Theory Meeting (Helsinki); Yale Theory Breakfast

EMPLOYMENT

- 2020–2021 **Aalto University, Department of Economics** — Research Assistant to Matti Liski
- 2018–2020 **Aalto University, Department of Finance** — Research and Course Assistant
- Summer 2019 **Prime Minister's Office (Finland)** — Internship
- Summer 2017 **Statistics Finland** — Internship

AWARDS & GRANTS

- 2025 KAUTE Foundation (working grant); OP Research Foundation (working grant)
- 2023 Fulbright–KAUTE Foundation Award; OP Research Foundation; Emil Aaltonen Foundation; HSE Support Foundation
- 2021 Best Master's Thesis in Energy Economics (Finnish Association of Energy Economists)
- 2019 Best Bachelor's Thesis in Finance (Aalto University)
- 2018 Ilkka Kontula Foundation Award (Aalto University; top undergraduates)

SERVICE

Referee: *Journal of Economic Theory*
Organizer, Helsinki GSE Microeconomics Reading Group (2022–2023)
Board Member, Helsinki GSE PhD Students' Association (2024–2025)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship: Finland

Born: June 6, 1996

Languages: Finnish (native); English (fluent); Swedish and German (intermediate)

REFERENCES

Prof. Juuso Välimäki (Aalto University) — juuso.valimaki@aalto.fi

Prof. Matti Liski (Aalto University) — matti.liski@aalto.fi

Prof. Pauli Murto (Aalto University) — pauli.murto@aalto.fi