

paolo adajar

mit department of economics
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education

2021– Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, MIT
2017–2021 S.B. Mathematical Economics, MIT

research

areas Education Policy, Deveolpment, Market Design, Industrial Organization
advisors Parag Pathak, Esther Duflo

works in progress

- 1 On One Condition: Unraveling in the UK College Admissions System. With Nagisa Tadjfar, Kartik Vira.
- 2 Identifying and Nurturing Math Talent: An Experiment with Self-Paced Classes in Tamil Nadu. With Esther Duflo, Glenn Ellison, Sara Ellison, and Harini Kannan.
- 3 From Cubs to Bears: Differential High School Access in Chicago. With Parag Pathak.
- 4 Improving Finite-Sample Estimation of School Effects.
- 5 School-House Shocks: The Effect of Neighborhood-based School Assignment Policies on Intracity Migration

affiliations

2022– Blueprint Labs, Research Associate

research assistantships

2022 Parag Pathak, MIT
2018–2021 Ernst Berndt and Rena Conti, MIT
2020 Ben Olken and Gabriel Kreindler, MIT + Harvard

undergraduate work

2021 Evaluating Strategic Play: Manipulations with Symmetric Information in the Boston Mechanism. Thesis advised by Parag Pathak. [link](#)
2021 A Rising Tide for All or Wave for One?: The Effect of Charter School Competition on District Achievement. Selected for MIT Undergraduate Journal of Economics, Vol. XX. [link](#)
2019 The Surprising Hybrid Pedigree of Measures of Diversity and Economic Concentration. With Ernie Berndt and Rena Conti. NBER Working Paper #26512. Presented at Society for Economic Measurement Conference (Aug. 2019), NBER Productivity Lunch (Sep. 2019), EMG Workshop (Nov. 2020). [link](#)

teaching

2025 Kaufman Teaching Certificate, MIT
2023 14.19, Market Design (UG), TA for Parag Pathak, MIT (rating 6.6/7)
2021 14.02, Principles of Macroeconomics (UG), TA for Ricardo Caballero, MIT (rating 6.5/7)
2019 14.27, Economics and E-Commerce (UG), TA for Sara Ellison, MIT (rating 5.5/7)
2017–2021 Classes on economics, math, science, and other topics, MIT ESP programs (Splash, Spark, HSSP)

leadership + service

2022–	Graduate Resident Advisor in Burton-Conner, MIT
2023	Graduate Resident Advisor Training Committee, MIT
2021–2024	Educational Counselor, MIT
2020–2021	Committee on the Undergraduate Program at MIT, Undergraduate Representative
2020–	National Science Bowl, Alumni Volunteer
2019–2021	MIT Science Bowl, Regional and Invitational Coordinator
2017–2021	MIT ESP, Chair (2019), Summer HSSP Director (2018)

awards + fellowships

2025–2026	Hausman Fellowship, MIT Department of Economics
2025–2026	NBER Doctoral Disseration Fellowship, Global Math Talent
2021–2026	NSF Graduate Research Fellow
2021	Phi Beta Kappa
2020	Burchard Scholar

grants

2023–2025	George and Obie Shultz Fund (3×)
2024	Founders Pledge
2023, 2024	Agency Fund
2023	J-PAL Science for Progress Initiative

potpourri

music(als)	Michael in “tick, tick... BOOM!” (2024), Kevin in “Remembering Her” (2023), Centrifuges Music Director (2022), can hit an A4 on a good day
puzzlehunts	Strategy Captain on NES (4th place MIT Mystery Hunt 2025), puzzle writer for Cthulhu Luau (Green Door Labs)
crosswords	A far-too-long streak on the NYT crossword, perennial Boswords competitor
interests	DnD, jazz piano, baking, trivia, biking,