

VIKRAM MAHESHRI
vmaheshri@uh.edu
<https://vmaheshri.github.io>
University of Houston
202C Teaching Unit 2
Houston, TX 77204-5019

Education

- 2010 University of California, Berkeley
 Ph.D., Economics
- 2003 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 S.B., Mathematics, Economics

Academic Positions

- 2025– Professor, Dept. of Economics, University of Houston
- 2018–25 Associate Professor, Dept. of Economics, University of Houston
- 2024 Visiting Scholar, Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Rice University
- 2018 Visiting Fellow, Collegio Carlo Alberto
- 2011–18 Assistant Professor, Dept. of Economics, University of Houston
- 2010–11 Visiting Assistant Professor, W. Allen Wallis Institute of Political Economy, University of Rochester
- 2003–05 Research Assistant, The Brookings Institution

Papers

1. “AI at the Wheel: The Effectiveness of Advanced Driver Assistance Systems,” with Clifford Winston and Yidi Wu, forthcoming, *Journal of Law and Economics*.
2. “A Unified Empirical Framework to Study Neighborhood Segregation,” with Gregorio Caetano, *Quantitative Economics*, 2025, vol. 16 (3), pp. 1023-1057.
3. “Migrants at Sea: Unintended Consequences of Search and Rescue Operations,” with Claudio Deiana and Giovanni Mastrobuoni, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 2024, vol. 16 (2), pp. 335-365.
4. “Explaining Recent Trends in US School Segregation,” with Gregorio Caetano, *Journal of Labor Economics*, 2023, vol. 41, pp. 175-203.
5. “The Race Between Deterrence and Displacement: Theory and Evidence from Bank Robberies,” with Giovanni Mastrobuoni, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2021, vol. 103 (3), pp. 547-562.

6. "Gender Segregation Within Neighborhoods," with Gregorio Caetano, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 2019, vol. 17, pp. 253-263.
7. "Identifying Dynamic Spillovers in Criminal Behavior with a Causal Approach to Model Selection," with Gregorio Caetano, *Quantitative Economics*, 2018, vol. 9, pp. 343-394.
8. "From Gallons to Miles: A Short Run Disaggregate Analysis of Automobile Travel and Externality Taxes," with Ashley Langer and Clifford Winston, *Journal of Public Economics*, 2017, vol. 152, pp. 34-46.
9. "School Segregation and the Identification of Tipping Behavior," with Gregorio Caetano, *Journal of Public Economics*, 2017, vol. 148, pp. 115-135.
10. "Did the Great Recession Keep Bad Drivers Off the Road?," with Clifford Winston, *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*, 2016, vol. 52, pp. 1-26.
11. "A dynamic Duverger's law," with Jean Guillaume Forand, *Public Choice*, 2015, vol. 165 (3), pp. 285-306
12. "An Exploratory Study of the Pricing of Legal Services," with Clifford Winston, *International Review of Law and Economics*, 2014, vol. 38, pp. 169-173.
13. "Long Run Effects of Mergers: The Case of US Western Railroads," with Clifford Winston and Scott M. Dennis, *Journal of Law and Economics*, 2011, vol. 54, pp. 275-303.
14. "On the Social Desirability of Urban Rail Transit Systems," with Clifford Winston, *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2007, vol 62 (3), pp. 362-382.
15. "An Exploration of the Offset Hypothesis Using Disaggregate Data: The Case of Airbags and Antilock Brakes," with Clifford Winston and Fred Mannering, *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*, 2006, vol. 32 (2), pp. 83-99.

Books and Book Chapters

1. *First Thing We Do, Let's Deregulate all the Lawyers*, with Clifford Winston and Robert Crandall, 2011, Brookings Institution Press.
2. "The Effect of Reductions in Vehicle Miles Traveled on Highway Fatalities and Congestion with Heterogeneous Motorists", with Clifford Winston, *Revitalizing a Nation: Competition and Innovation in the US Transportation System*, 2023, Brookings Institution Press.
3. "Railroad Competition and Innovation", with Clifford Winston, Jia Yan and Scott Dennis, *Revitalizing a Nation: Competition and Innovation in the US Transportation System*, 2023, Brookings Institution Press.

Working Papers

1. "The Ubiquity of Tiebout Sorting Across Neighborhood Boundaries," with Kenneth Whaley.
2. "A Critique of Automobile Safety Research Methodologies: Implications for Policymakers as we Enter the Autonomous Era," with Clifford Winston.

3. “Cultural Remittances and Diasporas”
4. “Towards Linking High-frequency Bias in CNN with Model Fairness,” with Hao Liang, Josue Caro, Ankit Patel and Guha Balakrishnan.
5. “Estimating Causal Effects of Semantic Image Distortions on Deep Feature Distances,” with Krishna Kabra, Kangqi Ni and Guha Balakrishnan.

Works in Progress

1. “Regulating Algorithmic Collusion,” with Ankit Patel and Ryan Pyle.
2. “Algorithmic Policing in the Shadow of Deterrence: Theory and Evidence,” with Giovanni Mastrobuoni.
3. “Schelling Meets Hotelling: Segregation Dynamics and Policies,” with Gregorio Caetano.
4. “The Incidence of Enforcement and Climate Shocks on Migrants and *Coyotes* along the US-Mexico Border,” with Jose Bucheli, Claudio Deiana and Giovanni Mastrobuoni.
5. “The Timing Inference Problem,” with Carolina Caetano and Gregorio Caetano.
6. “The Limits of Learning from Recommendation Algorithms”
7. “Short- and Long-Run Impacts of Vietnam War Conscription on Rural America,” with Carl Sanders.

Resting Papers

“(De)Regulation and Market Thickness,” with Jean Guillaume Forand.

Grants, Fellowships and Awards

2024	Arnold Ventures Grant, “The Limits of Algorithmic Policing in the Shadow of Deterrence: Theory and Evidence” (\$69,999)
2024	Visiting Fellowship, Collegio Carlo Alberto
2021	NSF Grant #2126633 SCC-PG Pilot for Equitable Electric Mobility (\$149,999)
2020	Visiting Fellowship, Collegio Carlo Alberto
2018	Visiting Fellowship, Collegio Carlo Alberto
2014	American Automobile Association Research Grant (\$15,000)
2012	UH New Faculty Research Grant
2010	Postdoctoral Fellowship, W. Allen Wallis Institute of Political Economy
2010	Tobin Project Research Fellowship, Democracy and Markets
2009	Mike Synar Graduate Research Fellowship, UC Berkeley Institute of Government Studies

2009	Dissertation Research Award, UC Berkeley Institute of Business and Economic Research
2009	Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley
2008	Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, UC Berkeley
2007	Grace Katagiri Prize for best empirical paper by a graduate student, UC Berkeley Dept. of Economics
2003	Outstanding Teaching Assistant, MIT Dept. of Economics

Teaching and Advising

Instructor *Department of Economics, University of Houston*
Microeconomics II (PhD), 2023-2024
Social Economics (PhD), 2015-2016, 2018, 2020, 2023
Social Economics (UG), 2018, 2021, 2023
Probability and Statistics (PhD), 2011-2022
Graduate Research Seminar (PhD), 2019-2023

Department of Economics, University of Rochester
Political Economy I (PhD), 2010

PhD Students

Current	Ezechias Djima, Chien-Yu Chen*, Victor David Bernal*, Henam Singla*
2023	Hussain Hadah* (PostDoc, Tulane University), Weonhyeok Chung (Korean Institute for International Economic Policy)
2022	Yeabin Moon (Lecturer, Brandeis International Business School)
2021	William Labadie* (Visiting Assistant Professor, Earlham College)
2020	Elizabeth Luh* (PostDoc, U Michigan CJARS)
2019	Saumya Rana* (Welch Consulting), Dimithu Ratnadiwakara (Assistant Professor, LSU Finance)
2017	Yilin Dong (Assistant Professor, Southwestern University of Economics and Finance)
2014	Bin Gao (Assistant Professor, Sichuan University), Senay Topal

* Primary Adviser

Activities

Presentations

2025	Workshop on Risky Behaviors, ENS Lyon, University of Cagliari
2024	American Economics Association Meetings, University of Houston (Math), NBER Transportation in the 21st Century Conference, Collegio Carlo Alberto

2023	American Economics Association Meetings, Texas Econometrics Camp, Purdue, George Washington University, University of S. Florida, Sam Houston State University, Brookings Institution, Southern Economics Association Meetings
2022	American Economics Associate Meetings, Southern Economics Association Meetings
2021	Southern Economics Association Meetings, Urban Economics Association Meetings
2020	UN Research Conference on Forced Displacement, Urban Economics Association Meetings, EBRD/Kings College Conference on Migration, Southern Economics Association Meetings
2019	Workshop on Risky Behaviors, CReAM/RWI Migration Workshop, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Stata Texas Empirical Micro Conference, Southern Economics Association Meetings
2018	Rice, Delaware, U Penn, SOLE Annual Meetings, Collegio Carlo Alberto
2017	American Law and Economics Association Meetings, NBER Summer Institute (Urban Economics), Transatlantic Conference on Crime
2016	University of S. Florida, UC Riverside, Claremont Graduate University
2015	Texas Econometrics Camp, NBER Summer Institute (Urban Economics)
2014	University of Essex, North American Regional Science Association/Urban Economics Association Meetings
2013	Santa Clara University, Clemson, AEI, Simon Fraser, American Law and Economics Association Meetings, Stata Texas Empirical Micro Conference, Transatlantic Conference on Crime, Association for Public Policy and Management Annual Meetings
2012	Texas Econometrics Camp, Public Choice Society World Congress, UC Berkeley, Baylor
2011	Stata Texas Empirical Micro Conference, American Political Science Association Meetings, Rice, University of Waterloo
2010	University of Rochester, University of Houston, University of Miami, Department of Justice, UC Berkeley
2009	UC Berkeley
2008	NBER Graduate Political Economy Conference, Conference on the Study of Democracy

Referee for *AEJ: Applied Economics*; *AEJ: Economic Policy*; *International Economic Review*; *American Economic Review*; *American Law and Economic Review*; *Atlantic Economic Review*; *Economic Inquiry*; *Economics of Education Review*; *Empirical Economics*; *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*; *Journal of Conflict Resolution*; *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*; *Journal of the European Economic Association*; *Journal of Housing Economics*; *Journal of Human Resources*; *Journal of Industry, Competition and Trade*; *Journal of Law and Economics*; *Journal of Legal Studies*; *Journal of Political Economy*; *Journal of Public Economics*; *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*; *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*; *Public Choice*; *Quantitative Economics*; *Scottish Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Urban Economics*; *Regional Science and Urban Economics*; *Review of Economics and Statistics*; *Review of Economic Studies*; *Review of Industrial Organization*; *Social Choice and Welfare*; *Sociological Research and Methods*; *Transportation Research: Part B*

Service

2023- UH Faculty Senate

2021-2025 UH Economics Department PhD Admissions Committee

2019-2022 UH Economics Department Executive Committee

Other Information

Citizenship: US

US Census Bureau Special Sworn Status