

VIKRAM MAHESHRI  
vmaheshri@uh.edu  
<https://vmaheshri.github.io>  
204 McElhinney Hall  
Houston, TX 77204-5019

## Education

---

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

## Academic Positions

---

- 2018–      Associate Professor, Dept. of Economics, University of Houston
- 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. “Migrants at Sea: Unintended Consequences of Search and Rescue Operations,” with Claudio Deiana and Giovanni Mastrobuoni, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, forthcoming.
2. “Explaining Recent Trends in US School Segregation,” with Gregorio Caetano, *Journal of Labor Economics*, forthcoming.
3. “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.
4. “Gender Segregation Within Neighborhoods,” with Gregorio Caetano, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, 2019, vol. 17, pp. 253-263.
5. “Identifying Dynamic Spillovers in Criminal Behavior with a Causal Approach to Model Selection,” with Gregorio Caetano, *Quantitative Economics*, 2018, vol. 9, pp. 343-394.
6. “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.
7. “School Segregation and the Identification of Tipping Behavior,” with Gregorio Caetano, *Journal of Public Economics*, 2017, vol. 148, pp. 115-135.

8. “Did the Great Recession Keep Bad Drivers Off the Road?,” with Clifford Winston, *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*, 2016, vol. 52, pp. 1-26.
9. “A dynamic Duverger’s law,” with Jean Guillaume Forand, *Public Choice*, 2015, vol. 165 (3), pp. 285-306
10. “An Exploratory Study of the Pricing of Legal Services,” with Clifford Winston, *International Review of Law and Economics*, 2014, vol. 38, pp. 169-173.
11. “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.
12. “On the Social Desirability of Urban Rail Transit Systems,” with Clifford Winston, *Journal of Urban Economics*, 2007, vol 62 (3), pp. 362-382.
13. “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

---

1. *First Thing We Do, Let’s Deregulate all the Lawyers*, with Clifford Winston and Robert Crandall, 2011, Brookings Institution Press.

## Working Papers

---

1. “A Unified Empirical Framework to Study Segregation,” with Gregorio Caetano, revise and resubmit, *Econometrica*.
2. “Cultural Remittances and Diasporas”
3. “The Effect of Reductions in Vehicle Miles Traveled on Highway Fatalities and Congestion with Heterogeneous Motorists”, with Clifford Winston, under review for *Revitalizing a Nation: Competition and Innovation in the US Transportation System*, 2022, Brookings Institution Press.
4. “Railroad Competition and Innovation”, with Clifford Winston, Jia Yan and Scott Dennis, under review for *Revitalizing a Nation: Competition and Innovation in the US Transportation System*, 2022, Brookings Institution Press.

## Works in Progress

---

1. “Schelling Meets Hotelling: A Unified Model of Segregation Dynamics,” with Gregorio Caetano.
2. “Overtime (Ab)Use in the Public Sector: Theory and Evidence from New York City, with Giovanni Mastrobuoni.
3. “The Dynamics of Gender Segregation in Occupations”, with Gregorio Caetano and Sebastian Puerta.
4. “Impacts of the Vietnam War Draft on Rural America,” with Will Labadie and Kenneth Whaley.

## Resting Papers

---

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

## Grants, Fellowships and Awards

---

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*  
Probability and Statistics (PhD), 2011-2021  
Graduate Research Seminar (PhD), 2019-2022  
Social Economics (PhD), 2015-2016, 2018, 2020  
Social Economics (Undergraduate), 2018, 2021

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

### PhD Students

2023	Hussain Hadah*, Weonhyeok Chung*
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

## Service

---

2019-2022 UH Economics Department Executive Committee

2021 UH Economics Department PhD Admissions Committee

## Activities

---

### Presentations

2023 American Economics Association Meetings, Purdue, George Washington University,

2022 American Economics Associate Meetings (x2), Southern Economics Association Meetings

2021 Southern Economics Association Meetings, Urban Economics Association Meetings

2020 Research Conference on Forced Displacement, Urban Economics Association Meetings, EBRD/Kings College Conference on Migration, Southern Economics Association Meetings

2019 Conference 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, Transatlantic Conference on Crime

2016 University of S. Florida, UC Riverside, Claremont Graduate University

2015 Texas Econometrics Camp, NBER Summer Institute

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: Economic Policy; International Economic Review; American Economic Review; American Law and Economic Review; Atlantic Economic Review; Economic Inquiry; Economics of Education Review; Journal of the European Economic Association; Journal of Human Resources; Journal of Industry, Competition and Trade; Journal of Legal Studies; Journal of Public Economics; Journal of Risk and Uncertainty; Public Choice; Scottish Journal of Political Economy, Journal of 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*

## Other Information

---

Citizenship: US