

ALBERTO ABADIE

Office Address

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department of Economics
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Academic Positions

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	Cambridge, MA
Professor of Economics, 2016-present	
IDSS Associate Director, 2016-2024	

HARVARD UNIVERSITY	Cambridge, MA
Professor of Public Policy, 2005-2016	
Visiting Professor of Economics, 2013-2014	
Associate Professor of Public Policy, 2004-2005	
Assistant Professor of Public Policy, 1999-2004	

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO	Chicago, IL
Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, 2002-2003	

NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH (NBER)	Cambridge, MA
Research Associate (Labor Studies), 2009-present	
Faculty Research Fellow (Labor Studies), 2002-2009	

Non-Academic Positions

AMAZON.COM, INC.	Seattle, WA
Academic Research Consultant, 2020-present	

Education	MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	Cambridge, MA
	Ph.D. in Economics, 1995-1999	
	Thesis title: “Semiparametric Instrumental Variable Methods for Causal Response Models.”	

CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS MONETARIOS Y FINANCIEROS (CEMFI)	Madrid, Spain
M.A. in Economics, 1993-1995	
Masters Thesis title: “Changes in Spanish Labor Income Structure during the 1980’s: A Quantile Regression Approach.”	

UNIVERSIDAD DEL PAÍS VASCO

Bilbao, Spain

B.A. in Economics, 1987-1992

Specialization Areas: Mathematical Economics and Econometrics.

Honors, Awards, and Research Funding

Elected Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 2022.

Elected Fellow of the Econometric Society, 2016.

ONR grant N00014-24-1-2687, MURI: Evaluating, Predicting, Optimizing, and Monitoring Interventions in Large Networked Systems, 2024-2027.

NSF grant SES-1756692, “A General Synthetic Control Framework of Estimation and Inference,” 2018-2024.

NSF grant SES-0961707, “A General Theory of Matching Estimation,” with G. Imbens, 2010-2012.

NSF grant SES-0617810, “The Economic Impact of Terrorism: Lessons from the Real Estate Office Markets of New York and Chicago,” with S. Dermisi, 2006-2008.

NSF grant SES-0350645, “Econometric Methods to Study the Effects of Public Interventions and Terrorism,” 2004-2006.

Amazon.com research gift, 2022.

Gosnell Prize for the best work in methods presented at any political science conference during the preceding year, 2007.

Zellner Thesis Award in Business and Economic Statistics. Honorable Mention, 2000.

Robert M. Solow Endowment Prize for excellence in teaching and research, 1999.

Bank of Spain Graduate Studies Fellowship, 1995-1999.

Centro de Estudios Monetarios y Financieros Fellowship, 1993-1995.

Keynote and Invited Lectures

Invited Speaker at the 3rd NABE Tech Economics Meetup Europe, National Association for Business Economics, 2026 (Amsterdam, The Netherlands).

Tinbergen Institute Econometrics Lectures, 2026 (Rotterdam, The Netherlands).

Keynote Speaker at the Research Workshop on Causal Inference and Policy Evaluation, Erasmus University Rotterdam, 2026.

Keynote Speaker at the 2026 Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates).

Invited Speaker at the 9th Annual NABE Tech Economics Conference, National Association for Business Economics, 2025 (Seattle, USA).

Keynote Speaker at the 13th Annual Conference of the International Association for Applied Econometrics, 2025 (Turin, Italy).

Keynote Speaker at the Workshop “Forging a Path: Causal Inference and Data Science for Improved Policy,” Data Sciences Institute, University of Toronto, 2023.

Instructor, Mixtape Sessions Workshop “Synthetic Control and Clustering,” 2023 (online).

Tutorial on Synthetic Control Methods, Princeton DataX Workshop on Synthetic Control Methods, 2022 (Princeton, USA).

Keynote Speaker at Lacea/Lames Conference, 2021 (Bogotá, Colombia).

NBER Summer Institute Methods Lecture, “Synthetic Controls: Methods and Practice,” 2021.

Keynote Speaker at COMPIE 2021, Counterfactual Methods for Policy Impact Evaluation, European Commission Joint Research Centre, 2021.

Semi-Plenary Lecture at the Econometric Society World Congress, 2020.

AEA Continuing Education Program, “Mastering Mostly Harmless Econometrics,” with J. Angrist and C. Walters, 2020 (San Diego, USA).

NeurIPS 2019 Tutorial “Synthetic Control,” with D. Shah and V. Misra, 2019 (Vancouver, Canada).

AEA Continuing Education Program, “Cross-Section Econometrics,” with J. Angrist and C. Walters, 2017 (Chicago, USA).

AEA Continuing Education Program, “Cross-Section Econometrics,” with J. Angrist, 2014 (Philadelphia, USA).

Keynote Speaker at 2010 Hong Kong Economic Association Conference (Tianjin, China).

Keynote Speaker at Fifth IZA Conference on Labor Market Policy Evaluation, 2009 (Georgetown, USA).

Books

Metrics Remastered: An Empiricist’s Almanac, with J. Angrist, B. Frandsen, and J.S. Pischke. Princeton University Press, under contract.

Journal Articles

“Synthetic Controls for Experimental Design,” with J. Zhao. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, forthcoming (published online July 2026, doi:10.1162/rest.a.1837).

- “Synthetic Controls in Action,” with J. Vives-i-Bastida. In: Chernozhukov V., Hörner J., La Ferrara E., Werning I., eds. *Advances in Economics and Econometrics: Twelfth World Congress, Volume 2. Econometric Society Monographs*. Cambridge University Press; 195-224, 2026.
- “Efficiently Learning Synthetic Control Models for High-dimensional Disaggregated Data,” with Y. Shen and R. Song. In: Ma S., Laber E., eds. *Empirical Processes and Statistical Reinforcement Learning: A Festschrift in Honor of Michael R. Kosorok*. Chapman & Hall/CRC, forthcoming.
- “Instrumental Variable Estimation with First Stage Heterogeneity,” with J. Gu and S. Shen. *Journal of Econometrics*, 240(2), 105425, 2024.
- “When Should You Adjust Standard Errors for Clustering?” with S. Athey, G. Imbens, and J.M. Wooldridge. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 138(1), 1-35, 2023. (Lead article.)
- “Robust Post-Matching Inference,” with J. Spiess. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 117(538), 983-995, 2022.
- “A Penalized Synthetic Control Estimator for Disaggregated Data,” with J. L’Hour. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 116(536), 1817-1834, 2021.
- “Using Synthetic Controls: Feasibility, Data Requirements, and Methodological Aspects,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 59(2), 391-425, 2021.
- “Sampling-based vs. Design-based Uncertainty in Regression Analysis,” with S. Athey, G. Imbens, and J.M. Wooldridge. *Econometrica*, 88(1), 265-296, 2020.
- “Statistical Non-Significance in Empirical Economics,” *American Economic Review: Insights*, 2(2): 193-208, 2020.
- “Choosing among Regularized Estimators in Empirical Economics: The Risk of Machine Learning,” with M. Kasy. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 101(5), 743-762, 2019.
- “Endogenous Stratification in Randomized Experiments,” with M. Chingos and M. West. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 100(4), 567-580, 2018.
- “Econometric Methods for Program Evaluation,” with M. Cattaneo. *Annual Review of Economics*, 10(1), 465-503, 2018.
- “Matching on the Estimated Propensity Score,” with G. Imbens. *Econometrica*, 84(2), 781-807, 2016.
- “Comparative Politics and the Synthetic Control Method,” with A. Diamond and J. Hainmueller. *American Journal of Political Science*, 59(2), 495-510, 2015.

- “Inference for Misspecified Models with Fixed Regressors,” with G. Imbens and F. Zheng. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 109(508), 1602-1614, 2014.
- “A Martingale Representation for Matching Estimators,” with G. Imbens. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 107(498), 833-843, 2012.
- “Bias Corrected Matching Estimators for Average Treatment Effects,” with G. Imbens. *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, 29(1), 1-11, 2011. (Lead Article.)
- “Synthetic Control Methods for Comparative Case Studies: Estimating the Effect of California’s Tobacco Control Program,” with A. Diamond and J. Hainmueller. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 105, 493-505, 2010. Awarded the 2007 Gosnell Prize for the best work in methods presented at any political science conference during the preceding year.
- “Estimation of the Conditional Variance in Paired Experiments,” with G. Imbens. *Annales d’Économie et de Statistique*, 91 (special issue on “Econometric Evaluation of Public Policies: Methods and Applications”), 175-187, 2010.
- “On the Failure of the Bootstrap for Matching Estimators,” with G. Imbens. *Econometrica*, 76(6), 1537-1557, 2008.
- “Is Terrorism Eroding Agglomeration Economies in Central Business Districts? Lessons from the Office Real Estate Market in Downtown Chicago,” with S. Dermisi. *Journal of Urban Economics*, 64, 451-463, 2008.
- “Terrorism and the World Economy,” with J. Gardeazabal. *European Economic Review*, 52, 1-27, 2008. (Lead Article.)
- “The Impact of Presumed Consent Legislation on Cadaveric Organ Donation: A Cross-Country Study,” with S. Gay. *Journal of Health Economics*, 25, 599-620, 2006. (Lead Article.)
- “Poverty, Political Freedom, and the Roots of Terrorism.” *American Economic Review* (Papers and Proceedings), 96(2), 50-56, 2006.
- “Large Sample Properties of Matching Estimators for Average Treatment Effects,” with G. Imbens. *Econometrica*, 74(1), 235-267, 2006.
- “Semiparametric Difference-in-Differences Estimators,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 72(1), 1-19, 2005.
- “Causal Inference,” 2005. In the *Encyclopedia of Social Measurement*. Elsevier Academic Press, New York.
- “The Economic Costs of Conflict: A Case Study of the Basque Country,” with J. Gardeazabal. *American Economic Review*, 93(1), 113-132, 2003.

- “Semiparametric Instrumental Variable Estimation of Treatment Response Models,” *Journal of Econometrics*, 113(2), 231-263, 2003.
- “Instrumental Variables Estimates of the Effect of Subsidized Training on the Quantiles of Trainee Earnings,” with J. Angrist and G. Imbens. *Econometrica*, 70(1), 91-117, 2002.
- “Bootstrap Tests for Distributional Treatment Effects in Instrumental Variable Models,” *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 97, 284-292, 2002.
- “Changes in Spanish Labor Income Structure during the 1980’s: A Quantile Regression Approach,” *Investigaciones Económicas*, 21(2), 253-272, 1997.

Other Publications

- “Time-Aware Synthetic Control,” with S. Rho, C. Illick, S. Narasipura, D. Hsu, and V. Misra. *Proceedings of the 29th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*, Proceedings of Machine Learning Research, 2026.
- “Response to Francis (2025),” with A. Diamond and J. Hainmueller. I4R Discussion Paper No. 272, Institute for Replication, 2025.
- “Whitney Newey’s Contributions to Econometrics,” with J. Angrist and G. Imbens. *Journal of Econometrics*, 240(2), 105688, 2024.
- “Introduction to the Special Section on Synthetic Control Methods,” with M. Cattaneo. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 116(536), 1713-1715, 2021.
- “Synth: An R Package for Synthetic Control Methods in Comparative Case Studies,” with A. Diamond and J. Hainmueller. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 42(13), 2011.
- “Difference-in-Differences Estimators.” In *The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics*. Palgrave Macmillan; 2nd edition, 2008.
- “Implementing Matching Estimators for Average Treatment Effects in Stata,” with D. Drukker, J. Herr, and G. Imbens. *The Stata Journal*, 4(3), 290-311, 2004.
- Review of “Nonlinear Statistical Modeling. Proceedings of the Thirteen International Symposium in Economic Theory and Econometrics: Essays in Honor of Takeshi Amemiya. Edited by C. Hsiao, K. Morimune, and J.L. Powell,” *Journal of Economic Literature* (Book Reviews), XL(1), 165-166, 2002.
- “Breeding Terror,” Op-ed, *New York Post*, December 22, 2004.

Active Working Papers

- “Stopping Rules for Long-Run Treatment Effects,” with S. van Meer, September 2026.

“Synthetic Control: A Geometric Formulation,” with Y. Shang, July 2026.

“Estimating the Value of Evidence-Based Decision Making,” with A. Agarwal, G. Imbens, S. Jia, J. McQueen, S. Stepaniants, and S. Torres, February 2026. Revise and resubmit, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*.

“Doubly Robust Inference in Causal Latent Factor Models,” with A. Agarwal, R. Dwivedi, and A. Shah, January 2026.

“Harvesting Differences-in-Differences and Event-Study Evidence,” with J. Angrist, B. Frandsen, and J.S. Pischke, December 2025.

“Unbiased Regression-Adjusted Estimation of Average Treatment Effects in Randomized Controlled Trials,” with M. Ghadiri, A. Jadbabaie, and M. JafariNodeh, May 2026.

“A Causal Inference Framework for Data-Rich Environments,” with A. Agarwal and D. Shah, February 2023.

Other Professional Activities

Associate Editor of *Journal of Causal Inference*.

Co-editor of the *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2007-2011.

Former Associate Editor of *Econometrica*, *American Economic Review: Insights, Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, *Investigaciones Económicas*, *Moneda y Crédito*, and *Spanish Economic Review*.

Guest editor of the *Journal of Econometrics* issue in honor of Whitney Newey, 2024.

Guest editor of *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 2021.

Member of the *Review of Economics and Statistics* Advisory Board.

Member of the Selection Committee for the 2026 Haavelmo Prize of the Econometric Society.

Member of the Program Committee for the 9th World Congress of the Econometric Society (London, 2005).

Member of the Program Committee for the 10th World Congress of the Econometric Society (Shanghai, 2010).

Member of the Program Committee for the 2012 North American Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society (Chicago, 2012).

Member of the Program Committee for the 2015 North American Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society (Boston, 2015).

Member of the Program Committee for the 2019 Meeting of the American Economic Association (Atlanta, 2019).

Co-organizer of the Conference in Honor of Guido Imbens (Stanford, November 2026).

Co-organizer of the Conference in Honor of Joshua Angrist (MIT, 2026).

Co-organizer of 2022 Synthetic Controls Conference (Princeton, 2022).

Organizer of 2019 Synthetic Controls Conference (Cambridge, 2019).

Co-organizer of the 7th IZA Conference on Labor Market Policy Evaluation (Cambridge, 2011).

Organizer of Madrid Policy Evaluation Conference. 2002.

Consultant to the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank. Member of the Steering Committee for the evaluation of “Red de Apoyo Social – Colombia” social programs. Consultant to the Independent Evaluation Group.

Consultant to the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC).

Co-organizer (with M. Arellano) of the Madrid Conference on Evaluation of Social Policies, 2002.

Faculty Associate and Member of the Steering Committee of the Institute for Quantitative Social Sciences (IQSS) at Harvard University.