

**ARIK LEVINSON**

Economics Department  
Georgetown University  
Washington, DC 20057-1036

[arik.levinson@georgetown.edu](mailto:arik.levinson@georgetown.edu)  
[www.ariklevinson.com](http://www.ariklevinson.com)  
[@ArikLevinson](#)

**Academic employment**

Georgetown University Department of Economics, Washington, DC. Professor, 2009–present; Associate Professor, 2000–09.

University of Wisconsin Department of Economics, Madison, WI. Assistant Professor, 1993–99.

**Professional appointments and service**

U.S. Department of the Treasury, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Climate and Energy Economics, 2022–24.

Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, AERE Scholars Program Mentor, 2021.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Science Advisory Board, Economic Guidelines Review Panel Member, 2020.

Empirical Methods in Energy Economics 2020, Scientific Committee Member.

Legatum Institute, Advisory Group Member for the 2019 Prosperity Index.

*Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (JAERE)*. Co-Editor, 2013–2021.

*Berkeley Electronic Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy*. Co-Editor, 2011–12.

White House Council of Economic Advisers. Senior Economist, 2010–11.

*Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*. Co-Editor, 2006–10. Editorial Council, 1998–2005.

National Science Foundation Economics Advisory Panel. 2008, 2010, 2011.

National Bureau of Economic Research. Faculty Research Fellow. 1997–2008. Research Associate, 2008–.

Scientific Advisory Committee, German Institute for Economic Research (DIW). 2007–10.

Resources for the Future, Washington DC. Gilbert White Fellow, 2006–07.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Science Advisory Board, Environmental Economics Advisory Committee. 2002–06.

**Education**

Ph.D. Columbia University Department of Economics. 1993.

A.B. Harvard University. 1986.

## Grants and awards

- U.S. Department of the Treasury Distinguished Service Award, 2024.
- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. “Distributional Consequences of New Energy Technologies and Policies” (with Catherine Hausman and the NBER) 2021-2023.
- Georgetown Department of Economics Excellence in Teaching Award, 2022.
- Georgetown Massive Data Institute–Environmental Initiative Research Pilot Grant. “Environmental Benefits of Energy Efficient Appliances” 2018–2019.
- Georgetown Environmental Initiative Impact Program. “Case Studies in Environmental Policy” 2016.
- National Science Foundation Research Grant. “Environmental Engel Curves” 2012–14.
- Georgetown Initiative on Technology-Enhanced Learning. “Use of Tablet Computer in a Large Lecture Class” 2013. “Screencasts Answering Common Questions” 2014.
- National Science Foundation Research Grant. “Valuing Air Quality Using Happiness Data” 2006–09.
- American Economic Review* Excellence in Refereeing Award. 2009.
- Association for Public Policy and Management. National Survey of America’s Families Small Research Grant, “Labor Supply and Participation Effects of the Earned Income Tax Credit” with co-PI Maria Cancian, 2001–02.
- National Science Foundation Research Grant. “Deconstructing the Environmental Kuznets Curve” with co-PI Scott Taylor, 1999–2002.
- National Science Foundation Research Grant. “The Economics of Interjurisdictional Hazardous Waste Transport” 1996–99.
- University of Wisconsin Christensen Award for Empirical Economics (with Brian Knight), 1998–99.
- University of Wisconsin “WebWorks” grant to develop web-based classroom tools, 1999.
- University of Wisconsin “InTime” teaching development grant for the use of multimedia technology in the classroom, Fall 1998.
- Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation. Summer research support 1999. “Do Environmental Regulations Deter Foreign Direct Investment?”
- Alfred P. Sloan Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship. “Studies in the Economics of Local Environmental Regulation.” 1992–93.

## Peer reviewed articles

- “Are Developing Countries Outsourcing Pollution?” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 37(3), 2023.
- “Who Values Future Energy Savings? Evidence from American Drivers” (with Lutz Sager) *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, 10(3) May 2023.
- “Renewable Portfolio Standards” (with Rachel Feldman) *Energy Journal*, volume 44, 2023.
- “When Can Benefit-Cost Analyses Ignore Secondary Markets?” (with Matthew Kotchen) *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis* 14(1), 2023.
- “How Trade Policy Can Support the Climate Agenda” (with 32 authors involved in the Edward Elgar Handbook) *Science*, June 23, 2022.

- "The Electric Gini: Income Redistribution through Energy Prices" *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* (with Emilson Silva), May 2022.
- "Energy Intensity: Deindustrialization, Composition, Prices, and Policies in U.S. States" *Resource and Energy Economics*, volume 65, August 2021.
- "The Role of Retrospective Analysis in an Era of Deregulation: Lessons from the US Mercury and Air Toxics Standards" (with Mary Evans, Karen Palmer, Joseph Aldy, Meredith Fowlie, Matthew Kotchen) *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy* 15(1), winter 2021.
- "America's Regressive Wealth Tax: State and Local Property Taxes" *Applied Economics Letters*, 2020, 1-5.
- "Co-Benefits and Regulatory Impact Analysis: Theory and Evidence from Federal Air Quality Regulations" (with Joseph Aldy, Matthew Kotchen, Mary Evans, Meredith Fowlie, and Karen Palmer) *Environmental and Energy Policy and the Economy*, volume 2, 2020.
- "Deep Flaws in a Mercury Regulatory Analysis" (with Joseph Aldy, Matthew Kotchen, Mary Evans, Meredith Fowlie, and Karen Palmer) *Science* April 10, 2020.
- "Energy Efficiency Standards Are More Regressive Than Energy Taxes: Theory and Evidence" *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, 6(1) March 2019.
- "Environmental Engel Curves: Indirect Emissions of Common Air Pollutants" (with James O'Brien) *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 101(1) March 2019.
- "Misreporting Trade: Tariff Evasion, Corruption, and Auditing Standards" (with Derek Kellenberg) *Review of International Economics*, 27(1) September 2018.
- "Mercury and Air Toxics Standards: Co-Benefits and the Courts in U.S. Cost-Benefit Analysis" *Case Studies in the Environment*, University of California Press, 2(1) December 2018.
- "Environmental Protectionism: The Case of CAFE" *Economics Letters*, 160(1) November 2017.
- "Automobile Fuel Economy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards" (with Grady Killeen), *Case Studies in the Environment*, University of California Press, October 2017.
- "How Much Energy Do Building Energy Codes Save? Evidence from California Houses" *American Economic Review*, 106(10) October 2016.
- "Measuring Environmental Regulatory Stringency" (with Claire Brunel), *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy*, 10(1) January 2016.
- "A Direct Estimate of the Technique Effect: Changes in the Pollution Intensity of US Manufacturing 1990–2008" *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists* 2(1) March 2015.
- "California Energy Efficiency: Lessons for the Rest of the World, or Not?" *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 107 November 2014.
- "Waste of Effort? International Environmental Agreements" (with Derek Kellenberg), *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists* 1(1) Spring/Summer 2014.
- "Valuing Public Goods Using Happiness Data: The Case of Air Quality" *Journal of Public Economics* 96(9–10) October, 2012.

“Pollution and International Trade in Services” *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics*, 10(2) June 2010.

“Offshoring pollution: Is the U.S. increasingly importing polluting goods?” *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy* 4(1) Winter 2010.

“Technology, International Trade, and Pollution from U.S. Manufacturing: *American Economic Review* 99(5) December 2009.

- Reprinted in *Recent Papers on Trade and the Environment*, Brian R. Copeland, ed. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.

“Unmasking the Pollution Haven Effect” (with Scott Taylor), *International Economic Review* 49(1) February 2008.

- Reprinted in *Recent Papers on International Trade*, Brian R. Copeland, ed. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.

“Budget Rules and State Business Cycles: A Comment” *Public Finance Review* 35(7) July 2007.

“Employee Cost-sharing and the Welfare Effects of Flexible Spending Accounts” (with William Jack and Sjamsu Rahardja), *Journal of Public Economics* 90(12) December 2006.

“Labor Supply Effects of the Earned Income Tax Credit: Evidence from Wisconsin’s Supplemental Benefit for Families with Three Children” (with Maria Cancian), *National Tax Journal* 59(4) December 2006.

“Trade Liberalization and Pollution Havens” (with Josh Ederington and Jenny Minier), *Advances in Economic Analysis and Policy* 4(2) 2004.

- Reprinted in *The Economics of Pollution Havens*, Don Fullerton ed. Edward Elgar Press 2006.

“Footloose and Pollution-Free” (with Josh Ederington and Jenny Minier), *Review of Economics and Statistics* 87(1) February 2005.

- Reprinted in *Recent Papers on Trade and the Environment*, Brian R. Copeland, ed. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.

“Willingness to Pay for the Environment: Testable Empirical Implications of the Growth and Environment Literature” (with Debra Israel), *Contributions to Economic Analysis and Policy* 3(1) 2004.

- Reprinted in *Is the Environment a Luxury?* Silvia Tiezzi and Chiara Martini, eds., Routledge 2014.

“Energy Use by Apartment Tenants When Landlords Pay for Utilities” (with Scott Niemann), *Resource and Energy Economics* 26(1) March 2004.

“Examining the Evidence on Environmental Regulations and Industry Location” (with Smita Brunnermeier), *Journal of the Environment and Development* 13(1) March 2004.

- Reprinted in *Environmental Planning*, Jeroen C.J.M. van den Bergh, ed., Edward Elgar 2007.

“Environmental Regulatory Competition: A Status Report and Some New Evidence” *National Tax Journal* 56(1) March 2002.

“Pollution Abatement Costs and FDI Inflows to U.S. States” (with Wolfgang Keller), *Review of Economics and Statistics* 84(4) November 2002.

- Reprinted in *Recent Papers on Trade and the Environment*, Brian R. Copeland, ed. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.
- “Reexamining the Empirical Evidence for an Environmental Kuznets Curve” (with Bill Harbaugh and David Wilson), *Review of Economics and Statistics* 84(3) August 2002.
- Reprinted in *Environmental Economics: Critical Concepts in the Environment*, Chuck Mason and Erwin Bulte, eds., Routledge 2007.
- “The Simple Analytics of the Environmental Kuznets Curve” (with James Andreoni), *Journal of Public Economics* 80(2) May 2001.
- “The Missing Pollution Haven Effect: Examining Some Common Explanations” *Environmental and Resource Economics* 15(4) April 2000.
- “NIMBY Taxes Matter: The Case of State Hazardous Waste Disposal Taxes” *Journal of Public Economics* 74(1) October 1999.
- Reprinted in *The Economics of Hazardous Waste and Contaminated Land*, Hilary Sigman, ed., Edward Elgar, 2007.
- “State Taxes and Interstate Hazardous Waste Shipments” *American Economic Review* 89(3) June 1999.
- Reprinted in *Environmental Taxation in Practice*, Thomas Sterner and Adrian Muller, eds., Ashgate Press, 2006.
- “Grandfather Regulations, New Source Bias, and State Air Toxics Regulations” *Ecological Economics* 28(2) February 1999.
- “Rainy Day Funds and State Government Savings” (with Brian Knight), *National Tax Journal*, 52(3) September 1999.
- “Balanced Budgets and Business Cycles: Evidence from the States” *National Tax Journal* 51(4) December 1998.
- “Factoring the Environmental Kuznets Curve: Evidence from Automotive Lead Emissions” (with F.G. Hank Hilton), *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 35(2) 1998.
- Reprinted in *Controlling Automobile Air Pollution*, McConnell and Harrington, eds. Ashgate Publishing, May 2007.
- “Medicaid Managed Care and Infant Health” (with Frank Ullman), *Journal of Health Economics* 17(3) 1998.
- “Why Oppose TDRs?: Transferable Development Rights Can Increase Overall Development” *Regional Science and Urban Economics* 27(3) 1997.
- “A Note on Environmental Federalism: Interpreting Some Contradictory Results” *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 33(3) 1997.
- “Environmental Regulations and Manufacturers’ Location Choices: Evidence from the Census of Manufactures” *Journal of Public Economics* 61(1) 1996.
- “Reexamining Teacher Preferences and Compensating Wages” *Economics of Education Review* 7(3) 1988.

### **Book chapters, book reviews, comments, and other publications**

"Pollution Intensity" in Dictionary of Ecological Economics. Edward Elgar, 2023.

- "Globalization and Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Evidence from the United States" (with Claire Brunel) in *Handbook on Trade Policy and Climate Change*, Michael Jakob, ed., Edward Elgar, 2022.
- "Linking climate and social justice makes both harder" (with Don Fullerton) *VoxEU.org*, February 2022.
- "Op-ed: Gov. J.B. Pritzker is right; States can build back cleaner and better" (with Don Fullerton). *Chicago Tribune*, November 15, 2021.
- "Drivers who spend too much on fuel efficiency" (with Lutz Sager) *VoxEU.org*, January 2021.
- "Happiness and Air Pollution" in *Handbook on Well-being, Happiness, and the Environment*, David Maddison, Katrin Rehdanz, and Heinz Welsch, eds., Edward Elgar, 2019.
- "America's regressive middle-class wealth tax" *The Hill Opinion*, November 11, 2019.
- "A carbon tax would be less regressive than energy efficiency standards" *VoxEU.org*, July 2018.
- "The hidden American tax on imported cars: Fuel economy standards instead of tariffs" in *Economics and Policy in the Age of Trump*, Chad Bown ed. *Voxeu.org*, June 5, 2017.
- "Help the environment – Buy a gas guzzler" *Fox News Opinion* March 7, 2017.
- "Believe it! Pollution taxes would help the poor and our environment more than the current system" *Fox News Opinion* January 4, 2017.
- "The trade data gap: Mistakes and malfeasance" (with Derek Kellenberg) *VoxEU.org*, October 2016.
- "Environmental Engel Curves" (with James O'Brien) *VoxEU.org*, March 2014.
- "More evidence for technology's role in the clean-up of manufacturing" *VoxEU.org*, September 2014.
- "Why Environmentalists Should Worry About The EPA's New Clean Power Plan" *Forbes Capital Flows blog*. August 11, 2014.
- "Waste of effort? International environmental agreements" *VoxEU.org*, March 2014.
- "Economic consequences of carbon abatement: Some lessons from the past" *Quarterly newsletter of the Enel Foundation*. February 2014.
- "California energy efficiency: Lessons for the rest of the world, or not?" *VoxEU.org*, August 2013.
- "Belts and Suspenders: Interactions among Climate Policy Regulations" in *The Design and Implementation of U.S. Climate Policy*, Don Fullerton and Catherine Wolfram eds. University of Chicago Press, 2012.
- "Comment on 'Interactions between State and Federal Climate Change Policies'" by Lawrence H. Goulder and Robert N. Stavins in *The Design and Implementation of U.S. Climate Policy*, Don Fullerton and Catherine Wolfram eds. University of Chicago Press, 2012.
- "Comments on Alm and Banzhaf 'Designing Economic Instruments for the Environment in a Decentralized System'" *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 2010.
- "Comment on 'Climate Policy's Uncertain Outcomes for Households: The Role of Complex Allocation Schemes in Cap-and-Trade'" *The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy* 10(2), November 2010.
- Reprinted in *Distribution Aspects of Energy and Climate Policy*, Mark Cohen, Don Fullerton, and Robert Topel, eds. Edward Elgar.

- “Comment on ‘Trade Growth, Production Fragmentation, and China’s Environment’” by J. Dean and M. Lovely in *China’s Growing Role in World Trade*. R. Feenstra and S. Wei, Editors, U. of Chicago Press, 2010.
- “Review of *Happiness: A Revolution in Economics*.” Bruno S. Frey. 2008. *Journal of Regional Science* 50(5) 2010.
- “Happiness as a tool for valuing public goods” *VoxEU.org*, September 2009.
- “How Significant is the Pollution Content of Trade?” comments prepared for *Climate Change, Trade and Competitiveness* The Brookings Institution, 2009.
- “Comment on ‘The Economic and Environmental Effects of Border Tax Adjustments for Climate Policy’” Warwick McKibbin and Peter Wilcoxin. *Brookings Trade Forum, Climate Change, Trade, and Competitiveness: Is a Collision Inevitable?* 2008/9.
- “Tax Subsidies for Out-of-Pocket Healthcare Costs” in *Using Taxes to Reform Health Insurance*, Henry Aaron and Leonard Burman, eds. Brookings Institution, 2008 (with Jessica Vistnes and Billy Jack).
- “Taxes and the Environment” in *The Tax Policy Briefing Book*, Urban Institute and Brookings Institution Tax Policy Center, 2008.
- “What Accounts for the Clean-up of US Manufacturing: Technology or International Trade?” *VoxEU.org*, January 2008.
- “Pollution Haven Hypothesis” entry in *New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics* 2nd edition, 2008.
- “Environmental Kuznets Curve” entry in *New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics* 2nd edition, 2008.
- “What are the linkages between environmental policies, economic growth and employment?”, in Saxe, Henrik and Clemen Rasmussen, eds. *Green Roads to Growth*. Copenhagen: Environmental Assessment Institute, pp. 28–88 (with Clemen Rasmussen, Karsten Stæhr, and Kasper Wrang).
- “Review of *New Tools for Environmental Protection: Education, Information, and Voluntary Measures*” Dietz and Stern, eds. *Journal of Economic Literature*, March 2004.
- “State Rainy Day Funds and the State Budget Crisis of 2002–?” (with Christian Gonzalez), *State Tax Notes* 29(6) August 11, 2003.
- “The Ups and Downs of the Environmental Kuznets Curve” in John List and Aart de Zeeuw, eds., *Recent Advances in Environmental Economics*. Edward Elgar Publishing, 2002.
- “Measuring Environmental Compliance Costs and Economic Consequences: A Perspective from the U.S.” (with Hank Hilton), in Maskus, Keith E. and John S. Wilson, eds, *Quantifying the Impact of Technical Barriers to Trade: Can It Be Done?* University of Michigan Press, 2001.
- “An Industry-Adjusted Index of State Environmental Compliance Costs” in Metcalf, G. and Carrero, C., eds., *Behavioral and Distributional Effects of Environmental Policy*. U. of Chicago Press, 2001.
- “Fiscal Institutions in U.S. States” (with Brian Knight), in Rolf Strauch and Jurgen Von Hagen, eds., *Institutions, Politics and Fiscal Policy*. Kluwer Academic Press, 1999.
- “Environmental Tax Competition: The Race to the Top in State Hazardous Waste Disposal Taxes” in *Proceedings of the 89th Annual Conference on Taxation*, National Tax Association, 1997.

“Environmental Regulations and Industry Location: International and Domestic Evidence” in Jagdish Bhagwati and Robert Hudec, eds., *Fair Trade and Harmonization: Prerequisite for Free Trade?* MIT Press, 1996.

“Efficient Environmental Regulation: Case Studies of Urban Air Pollution in Los Angeles, Mexico City, Cubatao, and Ankara” (with Sudhir Shetty), *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper Series #WPS942*, August 1992.

### Working papers

“Happiness, Behavioral Economics, and Public Policy.” NBER wp19329.

“Medicaid Stigma” (with Sjamsu Rahardja).

“Efficient Environmental Regulation: Case Studies of Urban Air Pollution in Los Angeles, Mexico City, Cubatao, and Ankara” with Sudhir Shetty, *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper Series #WPS942*, August 1992.

### Selected recent invited talks and conference presentations

**2022** U. of Kentucky **2021** Vanderbilt U. **2020** Centro de Investigación Económica ITAM; Jinan University **2019** London School of Economics Workshop in Environmental Economics (keynote); UC Berkeley POWER Conference; Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; Polytechnic U., Hong Kong; City U., Hong Kong; Tufts; Harvard Kennedy School **2018** University of Maryland conference “Environmental Taxes v. Other Approaches”; Resources for the Future; U. of Miami; Rutgers; Vrije University Amsterdam; London School of Economics; U. of Birmingham; Northeastern Universities Annual Conference on Environmental and Energy Economics **2017** Michigan State; U. of Arizona; UC Berkeley; AERE Summer Conference, Pittsburgh; Cornerstone Research **2016** NBER Spring Meetings ; U. of Wisconsin-Madison; U. of Calgary; U. of Alberta; Durham NC; US Environmental Protection Agency **2015** U. of Illinois (Heartland Conference Keynote Speaker) ; NBER Summer Institute; Princeton; U. of Milan; UC Berkeley; Columbia; Harvard Kennedy School; Cheung Kong GSP Beijing; National University Singapore; U. of Melbourne; Australia National U.; U. of Sydney; Wellington NZ **2014** UC Santa Barbara; U. of Arizona; Duke; Virginia Commonwealth U.; Environmental Defense Fund; Brown; Yale **2013** Resources for the Future; Harvard Kennedy School; U. of Tennessee; World Bank; U. of Oregon; US Dept. of the Treasury.

### Teaching

Ph.D. Public Finance, University of Wisconsin and Georgetown University.

Ph.D. Environmental Economics, University of Wisconsin.

Masters-level Environmental Policy Analysis, University of Wisconsin.

Undergraduate Principles of Microeconomics, University of Wisconsin and Georgetown University.

Undergraduate Intermediate Microeconomics, Georgetown University.

Undergraduate Public Finance, University of Wisconsin.



Undergraduate Senior Thesis Seminars, Georgetown University.

Undergraduate Environmental Economics, Columbia University and Georgetown University.

**Selected University and Departmental Service**

Chair, Economics Department Executive Committee, 2021–22.

Georgetown University Rank and Tenure Committee, 2016–2019.

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Georgetown Economics Department, 2002–10.