

L A L A M A

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Economics
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Department of Economics, Duke University, 2014
B.A. and M.A., Economics, Tufts University, 2007
B.A. in Mathematics, Tufts University, 2007

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

University of Kentucky

Carl F. Pollard Professor of Health Economics, 2023 –
Associate Professor, Department of Economics, 2022 –
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, 2014 – 2022

University Fellow, Resources for the Future, Washington, D.C., 2023 –

Member, Economics Advisory Council, Environmental Defense Fund, 2023 –

Member, Economic Analysis Committee, Science Advisory Board (SAB), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 2021 –

Faculty Fellow, U.S. EPA & Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, 2019 – 2020

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Editorial Council, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 2021 –

Editorial Council, *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, 2024 –

Guest Editor, Special Issue on Climate Change & Housing, *Journal of Housing Economics*, 2023 – 2024

RESEARCH FIELDS

Non-Market Valuation, Environmental Economics

PUBLICATIONS[†]

*Lin, R., Ma, L., & Phan, T. (2024). Race and Concern for the Environment. Forthcoming at *Land Economics*.
<https://doi.org/10.3368/le.100.4.112723-0125R>.

Bakkensen, L., Ma, L., Muehlenbachs, L., & *Benitez, L. (2024). Cumulative Impacts in Environmental Justice: Insights from Economics and Policy. *Regional Science and Urban Economics*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.regsciurbeco.2024.103993>. (Special issue: *Urban Economics and the Environment*, Eds. Freeman, Li, and Kahn)

[†]Unless noted otherwise, authors are listed alphabetically in co-authored publications, where contributions are equal.

[‡]Denotes first author.

*Denotes graduate/undergraduate student.

- Ma, L., Walls, M., Wibbenmeyer, M., & Lennon, C. (2024). Risk Disclosure and Home Prices: Evidence from California Wildfire Hazard Zones. *Land Economics*, 100(1): 6-21. <https://doi.org/10.3368/le.100.1.102122-0087R>. (Special issue: *Property Value Analysis Using ZTRAX*, Eds. Phaneuf, Zabel, and Krause)
- Jowers, K., Ma, L., & Timmins, C. (2023). Racial Gaps in Federal Flood Buyout Compensations. *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 113: 451-455. <https://doi.org/10.1257/pandp.20231131>.
- Harding, M., *Kettler, M., Lamarche, C. & Ma, L. (2022). The (Alleged) Environmental and Social Benefits of Dynamic Pricing. *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 205: 574-593. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2022.11.010>.
- Hill, E. & Ma, L. (2022). Drinking Water, Fracking, and Infant Health. *Journal of Health Economics*, 82, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2022.102595>.
- Hill, E. & Ma, L. (2021). The Fracking Concern with Water Quality. *Science*, 373(6557): 853-854, <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abk3433>.
- Black, K., Boslett, A., Hill, E., Ma, L., & McCoy, S. (2021). Economic, Environmental, and Health Impacts of the Fracking Boom. *Annual Review of Resource Economics*, 13:311-334, <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-resource-110320-092648>.
- Boslett, A., Hill, E., Ma, L., & Zhang, L. (2021). Rural Light Pollution from Shale Gas Development and Associated Sleep and Subjective Well-Being. *Resource and Energy Economics*, 64, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.reseneeco.2021.101220>.
- Ma, L. (2020). Mapping the Clean Air Haves and Have-nots. *Science*, 369(6503): 503-504, <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abb0943>.
- Bakkensen, L. A., & Ma, L. (2020). Sorting Over Flood Risks and Implications for Flood Insurance Reform. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 104, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeem.2020.102362>.
- Awarded the JEEM best paper prize for 2020.
- Banzhaf, H. S., Ma, L., & Timmins, C. (2019). Environmental Justice: Establishing Causal Relationships. *Annual Review of Resource Economics*, 11: 377-398, <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-resource-100518-094131>.
- Ma, L. (2019). Learning in a Hedonic Framework: Valuing Brownfield Remediation. *International Economic Review*, 60(3): 1355-1387, <https://doi.org/10.1111/iere.12389>.
- ‡Kusunose, Y., Ma, L., & Van Sanford, D. (2019). User Responses to Imperfect Forecasts: Findings from an Experiment with Kentucky Wheat Farmers. *Weather, Climate and Society*, 11(4): 791-808, <https://doi.org/10.1175/WCAS-D-18-0135.1>.
- Banzhaf, S., Ma, L., & Timmins, C. (2019). Environmental Justice: The Economics of Race, Place, and Pollution. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 33(1), 185-208, <https://doi.org/10.1257/jep.33.1.185>.
- Bakkensen, L. A., *Ding, X., & Ma, L. (2019). Flood Risk and Salience: New Evidence from the Sunshine State. *Southern Economic Journal*, 85(4), 1132-1158, <https://doi.org/10.1002/soej.12327>.
- Ma, L. (2018). Use of Property Values and Location Decisions for Environmental Valuation. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Environmental Science*, <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199389414.013.449>.
- Hill, E., & Ma, L. (2017). Shale Gas Development and Drinking Water Quality. *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 107(5), 522-25, <https://doi.org/10.1257/aer.p20171133>.
- Haninger, K., Ma, L., & Timmins, C. (2017). The Value of Brownfield Remediation. *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, 4(1), 197-241, <https://doi.org/10.1086/689743>.

WORKING PAPERS

- “Who Benefits from Hazardous Waste Cleanups? Evidence from the Housing Market” with Alecia Cassidy and Elaine Hill. (2022). NBER Working Paper #30661. *Revision requested at JPE: Microeconomics*.
- “Sorting over Wildfire Risks” with Margaret Walls, Matthew Wibbenmeyer, Connor Lennon, Emily Joiner. (2023).
- “Racial Dynamics of Federal Property Buyouts in Flood-Prone Areas” with Kay Jowers and Christopher Timmins. (2022).
- “Policy-induced Environmental Inequality: Firm Behaviors and Consequent Health and Labor Outcomes” with *Zhonghui Luo, Ran Song, and Rui Xie. (2022).
- “The Health Impacts of Hazardous Waste Cleanups” with Alecia Cassidy and Elaine Hill. (2021).
- “A Dynamic Approach to Explain Flood Risk Exposure and Household Location Choice” with Laura Bakkensen and Lucija Muehlenbachs. (2021).

AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023-2024 “Secondary pollution in energy production: The case of ozone and the NOx Budget Program.” UK Energy Research Priority Area Seed Grant, University of Kentucky, \$26,275.
- 2021-2023 “Wildfire Risks in Rural Communities: Measuring Impacts, Modeling Choices, Evaluating Policies.” Matthew Wibbenmeyer (Project Director/PI), Margaret Walls (PI), Lala Ma (site-PI), USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), \$425,015 (Ma subaward: \$60,000).
- 2021 Junior Faculty Research Productivity Award, Gatton College of Business & Economics, University of Kentucky
- 2019 Research Excellence Summer Support Award, Gatton College of Business & Economics, University of Kentucky (\$5,000)
- 2018 Faculty Teaching Award, Department of Economics, University of Kentucky
- 2016-2021 “The Health Consequences of Shale Gas Development.” Elaine Hill (Project Director/PI), National Institutes of Health (1 DP5 OD021338-01; PI: Hill), (Ma subaward: \$58,467)
- 2015-2016 University of Rochester Medical School EHSC IHSFC Grant with Elaine Hill (co-PI, \$8,000)
- 2013-2014 Joseph L. Fisher Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Resources for the Future (\$18,000)
- 2012, 2013 Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship, Duke University (\$5,000)
- 2007 Marion Ricker Houston Prize Scholarship in Economics, Tufts University

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS (INCLUDING SCHEDULED)

- 2025 Indiana U., Arizona State U., Virginia Tech
- 2024 FRB San Francisco, UC Berkeley/Sloan Graduate Summer School
- 2023 ASSA Annual Meetings, Conference on Economics of Inequity in Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Systems (*Panelist*), FRB NY (*Climate seminar*), U. of Louisville
- 2022 ASSA Annual Meetings (*Discussant*), SBICA Annual Conference, Yale U. (*YSE*), U. of Washington, NBER Summer Institute (EEE), UC Santa Barbara (*EJ Workshop*), SUNY Binghamton, UC Berkeley/Sloan Graduate Summer School, Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (*Rising Star keynote*)

- 2021 ASSA Annual Meetings, Indiana U. (*Health Policy*), Middlebury College, Harvard U. (*HKS*), Yale U. (*YSE BIOMES*), US EPA (*NCEE*), RFF and Urban Institute Webinar on Environmental Justice (*Panelist*)
- 2020 ASSA Annual Meetings (*Discussant*), NBER Spring Meetings (*EEE, Discussant*), Columbia U. (*SIPA*), Duke in DC
- 2019 ASSA Annual Meetings, NBER Summer Institute (*Research Sketch, Presented by coauthor*), Kentucky Geological Survey, SEA Annual Conference
- 2018 ASSA Annual Meetings, Iowa State U., Ohio U., SEA Annual Conference
- 2017 ASSA Annual Meetings, University of Kentucky, Pennsylvania State (Ag. Econ), Northern Illinois U., NBER Summer Institute (*Presented by coauthor*), AERE Summer Conference, VEAM Fest (Vanderbilt), MEA Annual Conference, Georgia State, Cleveland Federal Reserve Bank – UK Joint Conference
- 2016 ASSA Annual Meetings (*Discussant*), SEA Annual Conference, Environmental Justice Workshop (Duke U.), U. of Kentucky
- 2015 AERE Summer Conference, U. of Kentucky, Society of Benefit-Cost Analysis, SEA Annual Conference
- 2014 US EPA (*NCEE*), U. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, U. of Kentucky
- 2013 Heartland Workshop (U. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, *short sketch*), CU Environmental and Resources Economics Workshop, EconCon (Columbia University), Camp Resources XX, NBER Summer Institute (*Research Sketch*)
- 2011 Camp Resources XVIII (*Research Sketch*)

TEACHING & ADVISING

Courses Taught

- ECO 410, 381 Environmental Economics (Undergraduate), University of Kentucky
- ECO 491 Applied Econometrics (Undergraduate), University of Kentucky
- ECO 499 Seminar in Environmental Justice (Undergraduate), University of Kentucky
- ECO 724 Environmental Economics (Ph.D.), University of Kentucky
- HMN 301 Gaines Seminar in the Humanities - Environmental Justice (Undergraduate), University of Kentucky

PhD Advising (*UK Economics unless noted otherwise; * indicates committee (co-)chair*)

Current: Isaiah Bryant*, Justice Enyetornye

Former (year/program of degree and initial placement):

- Elise Yeh* (PhD 2024) → Dickenson College, Visiting Assistant Professor
- Samuel Owens (PhD 2024 Public Policy)
- Timothy Hyde (PhD 2022 Carnegie Mellon U.) → U. of Pennsylvania, Post-Doc
- Anh Le (PhD 2021) → US Food and Drug Administration, Staff Fellow
- Sookti Chaudhary (PhD 2020) → Hamilton College, Visiting Assistant Professor
- Zheng Yang (PhD 2019) → Liaoning U. (China), Assistant Professor
- Ben Wallace (PhD 2019) → Federal Trade Commission, Economist
- Whitney Davis (PhD 2019 Public Policy)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee Service

American Economic Review, Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review: Insights, Journal of Political Economy: Microeconomics, International Economic Review, Journal of European Economic Association, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Journal of Urban Economics, Land Economics, Nature Communications, Science, Science Advances, The Lancet – Planetary Health

Reviewer for Granting Agencies

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
National Science Foundation
Russel Sage Foundation
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Department, College, and University Service

Internal Advisory Board, United in True Racial Equity (UNITE) Research Priority Area (2022-)
College Faculty Advisory Committee on Promotion and Tenure (2023-2024)
College Research Excellence Committee (2022-2023)
Graduate Studies Committee (2020-)
College Diversity Committee (2017-2018)
Department Seminar Committee (Member: 2016-2021; Chair: 2022-)
Department Recruiting Committee (2017-2018, 2020-2021, 2024-2025)

PERSONAL

Languages: English (*native*), Mandarin Chinese (*fluent*)
Software: Stata, Matlab, ArcGIS, C++