

Ratib M. Ali Economist

PhD Economics Boston College

MA Economics Boston College

BSS Economics BRAC University

Ratib Ali specializes in the advanced empirical analysis of antitrust and competition disputes, with experience in intellectual property. Dr. Ali was the economic analyst for the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, Antitrust Division, before moving to the private sector. Dr. Ali's expert support work spans various industries, including aviation, financial instruments, healthcare, technology conglomerates, medical devices, and fine arts.

In an *antitrust dispute* concerning patented technology, a medical device platform-and-consumable manufacturer (with a "razor and blades" model) was accused of tying, foreclosure, and attempted monopolization by third-party consumables manufacturer. Supporting the defendant's expert, Dr. Ali relied on academic literature to provide economic justification for patent protection. Dr. Ali used data and deposition testimonies to define the market and show that the third-party product was inferior. Using econometric analyses, Dr. Ali showed that the alleged tying did not foreclose any rivals, and that the defendant does not exercise monopoly power.

In an issue before the US International Trade Commission, in addition to helping establish *domestic industry*, Dr. Ali employed regression analysis to establish *commercial success* of certain PAX Labs products.

In a *contract dispute*, beneficiaries of a trust alleged that the trust failed to sufficiently grow the value of the artworks it held. Dr. Ali provided expert support to the defendants; he used data and academic literature to establish that the trust adequately commercialized the intellectual property, and reasonably invested all proceeds from the sale of artworks.



In *United States et. al. v. American Airlines & JetBlue Airways*, Dr. Ali provided expert support for plaintiffs in the investigation phase. Dr. Ali defined the market using data, computed measures of market concentration, and used econometric analyses to predict the upward pricing pressure and consumer harm due to the defendants' conduct. Dr. Ali presented his findings to the Executive Team at Massachusetts Attorney General's Office and other states' attorneys general offices before the plaintiffs filed the lawsuit, and acted as a conduit between the external experts and states' attorneys general offices.

In Colorado et. al. v. Google, Dr. Ali supported plaintiffs' experts by assisting in developing theories of harm consistent with both the economic literature and the many similar investigations against technology conglomerates. Dr. Ali helped draft the complaint and civil investigative demands for data, in addition to developing economic analyses to establish market definition. Dr. Ali summarized opposing expert reports and assisted plaintiffs prepare for deposition.

In an *antitrust dispute*, a nascent competitor in the municipal bonds market alleged that the incumbent engaged in horizontal restraint of trade by orchestrating a group boycott by their common suppliers. Dr. Ali used regression analyses to establish market definition, that the incumbent had monopoly power, that the nascent competitor's innovative product posed a competitive threat to the incumbent, and that the plaintiff's volume of sale declined after the alleged conduct.

In a *criminal price-fixing allegation* against generic drugs manufacturers, Dr. Ali computed the alleged overcharge and harms to consumers, apportioned by state at the NDC level. Dr. Ali helped establish overarching conspiracy by analyzing price data and cellphone records using regression analyses. He also assisted the plaintiffs in drafting proffer agreements.

Dr. Ali has extensive experience teaching microeconomics for over eight years. Dr. Ali currently serves as a Lecturer at Tufts University, teaching intermediate microeconomic theory. In the past, he taught the first- and second-year undergraduate microeconomics sequence at Boston College and Emerson College, as well as an elective titled Cultural Economics, focusing on the economic theories of patents and copyrights. Dr. Ali won the Donald J. White Teaching Excellence Award while at Boston College.

Dr. Ali completed his PhD in economics with a focus on industrial organization at Boston College. His research revolves around how government regulation informs and impacts firm incentives. Dr. Ali's dissertation studied how buyers and sellers of air travel respond to changes in market structure (affected by mergers or government policy reforms). The dissertation was supported by a doctoral grant from the Washington Center for Equitable Growth.



Project experience (client)

Case	Туре	Market	Venue	Docket
<u>United States et. al.</u> v. American Airlines & JetBlue Airways§	Antitrust	Airline	D. Massachusetts	1:21-cv-11558
<u>Colorado et. al.</u> v. Google [§]	Antitrust	Technology conglomerate	D. DC	1:20-cv-03715
Certain Oil Vaporizing Devices (PAX Labs)*	Domestic industry / commercial success	Vaping pens and cartridges	US I. T. C.	337-TA-1392
Plaintiff v. Defendant*	Antitrust	Financial instrument	S.D. New York	
Plaintiff v. Defendant*	Antitrust	Heavy equipment	D. Colorado	
Plaintiff v. <u>Defendant</u> *	Antitrust	Medical device	N.D. California	
<u>Plaintiff</u> v. Defendant [§]	Antitrust	Airline	D. Massachusetts	
Plaintiff v. <u>Defendant</u> *	Contract dispute	Fine arts	16 th Judicial Ct Missouri	
Plaintiff v. Defendant§	Antitrust	Technology conglomerate	N.D. California	
Plaintiff v. Defendant*	Antitrust	Technology conglomerate	UK Competition Appeal Tribunal	
Plaintiff v. Defendant*	Class action	Transportation	Supreme Ct Victoria, Trial Division	
Plaintiff v. Defendant§	Antitrust	Pharmaceuticals	D. Connecticut	

[§]Consulted on economic models

^{*}Managed expert report, consulted on economic models



Publications

Articles

"Hear from the Experts: How Patent Litigation Funding is Used to Hedge Risk" (with P. Gencer and B. Close), *IPWatchdog*, December 2024.

"Marching In On Orange Book Drugs May Have Limited Effect" (with C. Lu), *Law360*, November 2024.

"A Look At The Economic Impact Of Drug Patent Differentiation" (with J. Putnam and N. Ngo), Law360, September 2024.

"Exploring Professional Development for New Investigators Underrepresented in the Federally Funded Biomedical Research Workforce" (with J. Hemming, K. Eide, E. Harwood, Z. Zhu, J. Cutler, and NRMNCGD), *Ethnicity & Disease* (29), February 2019.

Working papers

"Effect of Airport Slots in Competition and Antitrust Policy: Evidence from a Recent Merger," 2023.

"'Use It or Lose It' or 'Cheat and Keep'? Empirical Investigation of Compliance with Airport Slot Control," (with V. Sharunova) 2022.

"Effectiveness of Measures of Upward Pricing Pressure in Predicting Price Changes," 2022.

Selected presentations

"Patent Policy's Future Under the New Administration", IAM Connect Patent Policy and Litigation (Moderator), December 2024

"The Drug Pricing Conundrum: Are Patents to Blame for High Drug Prices", IPWatchdog Life Sciences Masters (Panelist), October 2024

"Hedging IP Risk: The Role of Patent Litigation Funding", IPWatchdog LIVE (Panelist), October 2024

"Takeaways From the Trenches: The JetBlue/Spirit Merger Trial", American Bar Association Webinar (Panelist), May 2024

"Effectiveness of Measures of Upward Pricing Pressure in Predicting Price Changes," Equitable Growth Grantee Conference, September 2022 (discussant: Ying Fan).

"Effect of Airport Slots in Competition and Antitrust Policy: Evidence from a Recent Merger," Equitable Growth Grantee Conference, December 2020 (discussant: Nathan Miller).

"Competitive Effects of Mergers with Regulatory Divestiture of Assets: Evidence from the Airline Industry," University of Rhode Island, Graduate Student Conference, April 2017.



Selected media mentions

- A. Morris, "What is Kathi Vidal's legacy as USPTO director?", IAM News, December 2024
- E. McDermott, "Life Sciences Masters Panelists Say USPTO's Controversial Anti-Pharma Rules are Unlikely to Progress", *IPWatchdog*, October 2024
- J. Fennimore, "AG Healey Sues to Block Anticompetitive Alliance Between American Airlines and JetBlue", *Mass.gov*, September 2021
- J. Fennimore, "AG Healey Files Lawsuit Seeking to End Google's Illegal Search Engine Monopoly", *Mass.gov*, December 2020

Grants, honors, and awards

Doctoral Grant Recipient, Washington Center for Equitable Growth, 2019 Donald J. White Teaching Excellence Award, Boston College, 2018

Past positions

Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts. 2023 – present *Lecturer.* Intermediate Microeconomic Theory

The Brattle Group, Boston, Massachusetts. 2022 – 2023

Associate. Antitrust & Competition

Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, Boston, Massachusetts. 2020 – 2022 Economic Analyst. Antitrust Division

Emerson College, Boston, Massachusetts. 2019 – 2020
Affiliated Faculty. Principles of Economics, Cultural Economics

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. 2016 – 2020
Research Assistant. 2018 – 2020. Research Services
Lecturer. 2016 – 2019. Microeconomic Theory, Micro Principles, Macro Principles

Other professional activities

Member, Pharmaceutical & Biotechnology Issues Cmte, Intellectual Property Owners Association *Referee*, Journal of Economics & Management Strategy

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