

1. Record Nr.	UNICAMPANIASUN0053896
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Titolo	The Stefan problem / by Anvarbek M. Meirmanov ; translated from the Russian by Marek Niezgodka and Anna Crowley
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin, : de Gruyter, 1992
ISBN	978-31-10-11479-9 31-10-11479-8
Descrizione fisica	IX, 244 p. : ill. ; 25 cm.
Soggetti	35-XX - Partial differential equations [MSC 2020] 35R35 - Free boundary problems for PDEs [MSC 2020] 35K05 - Heat equation [MSC 2020] 80A22 - Stefan problems, phase changes, etc. [MSC 2020] 35Dxx - Generalized solutions to partial differential equations [MSC 2020] 80A19 - Diffusive and convective heat and mass transfer, heat flow [MSC 2020] 80A21 - Radiative heat transfer [MSC 2020]
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia

2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910784704403321
Titolo	Fiscal federalism : quantitative studies // editor, Harvey S. Rosen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago : , : University of Chicago Press, , 1988
ISBN	1-281-43107-9 9786611431075 0-226-72623-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (276 pages)
Collana	National Bureau of Economic Research project report
Altri autori (Persone)	RosenHarvey S
Disciplina	336.1/85
Soggetti	Intergovernmental fiscal relations - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"Papers presented at a conference held at Halloran House in New York City, 10-11 April 1987"--P.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographies and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- National Bureau of Economic Research -- Relation of the Directors to the Work and Publications of the National Bureau of Economic Research -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Decentralization in the Public Sector: An Empirical Study of State and Local Government -- 2. Federal Assistance and Local Services in the United States: The Evolution of a New Federalist Fiscal Order -- 3. The Effects of Jurisdiction Types and Numbers on Local Public Finance -- 4. Tax Deductibility and Municipal Budget Structure -- 5. Federal Deductibility of State and Local Taxes: A Test of Public Choice by Representative Government -- 6. Eliminating State and Local Tax Deductibility: A General Equilibrium Model of Revenue Effects -- 7. Income Originating in the State and Local Sector -- Contributors -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	We often think of fiscal decisions as being made by a single government, but in the United States the reality is that an astounding number of entities have the power to tax and spend. State, local, and federal governments all play crucial roles in the U.S. fiscal system, and the interrelation has been the source of continuing controversy. This fact is the focus of the seven papers and commentaries presented in this volume, the result of a conference sponsored by the NBER. The contributors use various quantitative tools to study policy issues,

obtaining results that will interest policymakers and researchers working in the areas of taxation and public finance. The first three papers study the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. John Joseph Wallis and Wallace E. Oates look at the extent and evolution of decentralization in the state and local sector; Robert P. Inman examines the growth of federal grants and the structure of congressional decision making; and Jeffrey S. Zax investigates the effects of the number of government jurisdictions on aggregate local public debt and expenditures. The next three papers look at the deductibility of state and local taxes on federal tax returns. Using an econometric analysis, Douglas Holtz-Eakin and Harvey S. Rosen examine the effects of deductibility on revenue sources and level of expenditures. Lawrence B. Lindsey looks at how deductibility affects the level and type of taxation. George R. Zodrow uses a two-sector general equilibrium model to investigate revenue effects of deductibility. Finally, Charles R. Hulten and Robert M. Schwab analyze the problem of developing an accurate estimate of income for the state and local sector, finding that conventional accounting procedures have underestimated the income generated by a startling
