Cover Letter

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National Bureau of Economic Research
1050 Massachusetts Ave
Cambridge, MA

Dear Selection Committee,

I wish to apply to participate in the NBER Digitization Tutorial. I am a 5th year PhD student at Toulouse School of Economics. I have a strong background in Industrial Organization with special interests in Digital Economics and Competition Policy.

I am a member of the IO group at Toulouse School of Economics, where I attended all relevant courses in theoretical and empirical IO. For the last 4 years I co-organize a workshop on competition policy.

I mostly work in the empirical IO. My main project, “The impact of online reputation on ethnic discrimination”, explores the role of online reputation in mitigating ethnic discrimination. We develop a model of career concerns of discriminated drivers on a ridesharing platform. Estimation of the model shows that minority drivers face overly pessimistic beliefs about the quality of their service. To alter these beliefs, they exert high effort and offer low introductory prices, swiftly boosting their reputation. Counterfactual simulations reveal the high cost of incorrect prior beliefs and that the reputation system strictly benefits minority drivers.

In other ongoing projects focused on digital markets, I study the dynamics of the populations of drivers on carpooling platform, and horizontal sorting and its consequences.

My committee members are profs. Patrick Rey, Marc Ivaldi, and Jacques Cremer.

I can be reached via email at emil.palikot@gmail.com, or by telephone at (+33) 613-10-37-78.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Emil Palikot