Saleh Zakerinia

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Education

Ph.D. candidate in Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, 2018-present
Advisors: Prof. Nathan Yang, Prof. Jura Liaukonyte, Prof. Chris Forman

M.Sc. in Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California at Davis, 2018

B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering, Control engineering, University of Tehran, 2009
University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Research Interests

Dynamic Structural Econometric Modeling, Empirical IO, Marketing, Strategy, Economics of AI

Working Papers

Zakerinia, Saleh (2021). "The Role of Learning-by-doing in AI Innovations." Working paper, Cornell University.

Zakerinia, Saleh, and Jura Liaukonyte (2021). "Elasticity of online shopping with respect to delivery speed." Working paper, Cornell University.

Zakerinia, Saleh, and C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell. (2020). "Climate Change Policy: Dynamics, Strategy, and the Kyoto Protocol." Working paper, Cornell University.

Zakerinia, Saleh, and C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell. (2020). "Climate Change Policy and International Environmental Agreements: A Review of Models of Cooperative and Non-Cooperative Behavior." Working paper, Cornell University.

Selected Graduate Courses

Applied Microeconomics, Applied Econometrics, Structural Econometrics, Game Theory, Statistical Machine Learning, Dynamic Programming and Multistage Decision Processes, Dynamic Optimization Techniques with Economic Applications, Applied Macroeconomics

Statement of Research Interest in Economics of Artificial Intelligence

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My primary research interests lie in empirical IO and structural modeling. Particularly, I am very interested in the impact of AI on growth and productivity. I'm engaged in a project that studies how recent developments in AI lead to an increase in concentration and productivity growth.

Technological change and significant growth in IT are the major drivers of economic growth in the last few decades. AI technologies are known to have a significant share of IT developments in the last decade. These technologies have been around since the 80s but they were not mostly practical outside of academia due to the limited data availability and computing power. The exponential growth of data generation and GPU revolution untapped great potential of AI technologies and accelerated AI adoption as well as AI innovations. This revolution enabled commercial applications of AI technologies across different firms and industries in the last decade. The advances in AI technologies coincide with the productivity growth and increase in concentration in different industries which have important implications. The previous studies show AI can generate growth through product innovations (demand side) and

increased productivity (cost side). Yet, it remains an open question how exactly different firms develop AI inventions and how these inventions interact with each other which is the main purpose of the research project that I'm undertaking.

By participating in this workshop, I would be able to learn more about the economics of artificial intelligence from the top-notch researchers in the field including Prof. Ajay Agrawal and Prof. Avi Goldfarb. I would also be able to learn about different aspects of economics of AI and how AI impacts different parts of the economy and industries which would be super beneficial for my research projects. I am very hopeful that I will be accepted for participating in this unique workshop, and I am looking forward to learning a lot from the world-class professors.