Dear Organizing Committee,

My name is Alican Yıldırım, and I am currently a second-year PhD student in Economics at Iowa State University. I hold a BA from Izmir University of Economics (Turkey) and an MA from Yıldız Technical University (Turkey), both in Economics. I am currently enrolled in labor economics, industrial organization, and mechanism design courses after having successfully completed the core theory courses of the first year of the PhD program at Iowa State University, which involved microeconomic, macroeconomic, and econometric theory.

Prior to joining Iowa State, I completed the entire economics PhD-level coursework at Yıldız Technical University and have been exposed to general equilibrium theory, growth models, mathematical statistics, time series econometrics, and microeconometric methods.

My research interests lie at the intersection of labor economics and macroeconomics, with a particular focus on the labor market implications of technological change and the broader economic transformation driven by AI. My interest was sparked during my graduate studies at Yıldız Technical University, where I was first introduced to Acemoğlu & Restrepo's canonical task-based model, and my auditing of the undergraduate course Economics and Technology. My emerging research agenda aims to integrate the task-based framework with a DMP-like job search model, where the bargaining power of unskilled workers is endogenously determined through the emergence of new tasks, i.e., automation. I further aim to investigate potential ways of measuring such emergence, thereby making an empirical contribution to the literature.

As I am in the early stages of my graduate education at Iowa State, participating in this tutorial would be especially beneficial for me as it would allow me to learn from and engage with leading experts in the field of digital economics. I find this event particularly important to build a strong foundation for my research agenda at the early stages of my career, and to develop connections for potential future collaborations.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Alican YILDIRIM
Address: 518 Farm House Lane, 83 Heady Hall
50011 Ames, IA
e-mail: alicany@iastate.edu