One-page summary

- **Full name:** Mohamed Labadi
- **Email:** mohamed.labadi2@gmail.com
- **Phone:** +213 6 55 12 26 83
- **Institution / Department:** PhD candidate, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, University of Chlef

- **Prior training:** Dipl.-Ing., Multidisciplinary Engineering (University of Blida); M.Sc. Nanotechnology & Bio-Photonics for Biotechnologies (ENS Paris Saclay and Complutense University of Madrid); M.Sc. Entrepreneurship in Digital Health (Medical University of Graz)
- **Area of interest:** Entrepreneurship & innovation in deep-tech; science entrepreneurship, platform intermediation; commercialization of biomedical discoveries; entrepreneurial finance.
- **Year of entry into PhD program:** 2024
- **Expected year of completion:** 2028
- **Faculty recommender:** Prof. Samir Abdelmalek, Department of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Chlef.

Current projects :

- PhD Subject: AI-Enabled Platforms for Biomedical Commercialization: Studying how algorithmic intermediation by digital platforms affects opportunity evaluation, resource access (funding, partners, clinical validation), and commercialization outcomes for biomedical discoveries.

- Prototype matching module (MVP): Designing a scoring/matching algorithm for TTO–investor introductions; will be piloted with partner incubators.

- Policy brief (planned): Design patterns & governance recommendations for TTOs and platform architects to accelerate commercialization.

How ERBC will help:

Attend to sharpen empirical strategies linking early evaluation signals to commercialization outcomes, get feedback on identification and pilot design, and connect with potential collaborators.

Mohamed LABADI
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Education

- University of Chlef, Chlef-Algeria 2024 – 2028

PhD candidate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

- **Thesis Title** (Working): "AI-Enabled Platforms as Intermediaries in Biomedical Commercialization".
- Advisor: Prof. Samir Abdelmalek (University of Chlef, Algeria). Co-advisor: Prof. Laurent Bonnasse-Gahot (Centre d'analyse et de mathématique sociales, EHESS, France).

- Medical University Graz (Austria), University of Naples Federico II (Italy), Medical University of Lodz (Poland), Danube University Krems (Austria), Institut Mines-Telecom Business School (France) 2022 – 2024

Joint Master of Science in Entrepreneurship in Digital Health [EDITH] (online program) (GPA: 1/5, excellence). Courses taught by 5 European universities (EIT Health labeled program).

- École Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay (France), Complutense University of Madrid (Spain), University of Wroclaw, Wroclaw University of Science and Technology (Poland) 2016 – 2018

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's degree in Nanotechnology and Bio-Photonics for Biotechnologies. Graduated with distinction (GPA: 16. 12/20 - ranked 3rd of the class, 3/30). Four semesters at four different European universities.

- University Saad Dahlab of Blida, Blida-Algeria 2010 – 2016

State Engineer's degree (Dipl.-Ing.) in Multidisciplinary Engineering (major: Biomedical Engineering, minor: computational science and engineering). Graduated with honors (GPA: 15.76, ranked 1st of the class, 1/71). Entered after passing the national competitive exam for engineering schools.

Teaching Experience

- 2026: Teaching Assistant for "**Digital Economy Analytics**" (3rd semester), Master Course, "MScBA Business Analytics & Management", University of Chlef (34 hours per semester).
- 2025: Teaching Assistant for "**Advanced Statistics and Programming**" (2nd semester), Master Course, "MScBA Business Analytics & Management", University of Chlef (30 hours per semester).

Professional Experience

R&D Engineer/Manager, Center for Development of Advanced Technologies (CDTA), Algiers-Algeria Jan.. 2017 – Nov. 2024

- Conducted several research projects related to microfluidics/lab-on-a-chip, nano-biosensors, MedTech, and digital health (development of microfluidic devices for rapid diagnosis and analytical/bio-analytical applications, development of an AI-enhanced clinical analytics platform for clinical trials, development of digital health software platforms, etc)
- Developed a technology, innovation, and research commercialization roadmap for healthcare and biomedical innovation with partnership with different government agencies and universities.

Visiting Research Fellow, MESA+ Institute NanoLab, University of Twente, Enschede-Netherlands, Jan. – Dec. 2020

- Worked on the development of rapid, point-of-care diagnostic tests and microdevices.
- Developed a tumour-on-a-chip model to examine T cell/tumour interactions.
- Developed a self-regulated microfluidic cell culture system that controls the growth parameters by machine learning in real-time based on image

Social Impact Experience

Founding Member, Algerian Foundation for Science & Technology (AFST), Blida-Algeria Sept. 2025 – Present

- Co-founded the AFST with the vision of advancing science and technology to accelerate socio-economic development in the country and create a national culture of science, technology, inventions, and innovations. The AFST has 12 chapters at 12 universities in the country.
- Organized short training courses and workshops for more than 50 Algerian researchers and PhD students related to: scientific writing and publishing, careers in industry and academia for PhD graduates, job searching for Postdocs and Scientists, applying for research funding, etc.
- Helped four research groups in their applications for national and international research funding (Government funding, Franco-Algerian research collaboration funding, German-Algerian Energy Partnership, and EU Horizon Europe programs).

Computer Skills and Languages

Computer Skills

- Programming: FORTRAN, MATLAB, C++, Maple, Java EE, Python, R, JavaScript (React JS framework), HTML5, CSS.
- Frameworks and Database: Hadoop, Spark, MySQL.
- MS Office/Office 360, Open Office, Latex, Windows (10, 11), Linux (Ubuntu).

Languages

- Arabic & Amazigh: Native - mother tongue.
- English: Fluent.
- French: Fluent.
- Spanish: Intermediate level (B1).
- Maltese: Intermediate level (B1).
- Polish: Basic.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

- Ready to Commercialize Award, Department of Energy's National Cleantech Startup Competition (FLOW), California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California-USA (April 2018).
- Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree Scholarship (2016-2018), European Commission.
- Excellence Scholarship to study abroad (2016-2017) awarded by the Algerian Government.
- All Bar None scholarship scheme, One Young World Summit 2014, 15-19 October 2014, Dublin-Ireland.
- Research Fellowship (Visiting Fellowships in Canadian Government Laboratories Program), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the General Directorate for Scientific Research and Technological Development, Algeria (2016).
- Desert Energy Best Paper Award, Dii's 2nd Desert Energy Conference (Desertec Industrial Initiative and DESERTEC Foundation), 2-3 November 2011, Cairo-Egypt.
- Government Merit Scholarship (2010-2016), Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Algeria.

Essay

Research statement: AI-Enabled Platforms as Intermediaries in Biomedical Commercialization

I am a PhD candidate in Innovation & Entrepreneurship at the University of Chlef in Algeria, with prior training in engineering, nanotechnology, and Entrepreneurship. My dissertation examines how AI-driven digital platforms act as intermediaries in entrepreneurial ecosystems and alter the pathways by which biomedical discoveries move from labs to markets.

Current innovation ecosystems rely on informal signals and dense local networks; yet the scale and complexity of biomedical knowledge mean many high-potential opportunities remain unseen or poorly evaluated. My central hypothesis is that algorithmic intermediation; algorithmic scores, match recommendations, and platform governance; systematically reshapes uncertainty, signaling, and selection in ways that can improve (or, if poorly designed, hinder) commercialization outcomes.

Key research questions:

1. How does AI-enabled intermediation change the evaluation heuristics used by investors, TTOs, and entrepreneurs when deciding which projects to back?
2. To what extent do platform-generated matches and predictive scores forecast or causally affect downstream outcomes (licensing, spinouts, funding trajectories)?
3. Which governance, trust, and institutional arrangements (e.g., transparency, auditability, incentives) are necessary to ensure platforms produce socially desirable commercialization effects?

Methodology:

I adopt a mixed-methods approach. First, I am constructing a longitudinal dataset linking academic outputs (publications, patents) with commercialization indicators (licenses, spinouts, funding), and combine these with platform interaction logs where partners allow access. I will use supervised ML and interpretability tools to identify predictive features and produce an evaluation protocol. Second, I am conducting semi-structured interviews and process tracing with TTO managers, entrepreneurs, investors, and platform providers to surface mechanisms related to trust, governance, and adoption. Third, I will implement prototype matching/scoring modules and run controlled pilots (A/B tests or matched comparisons) with partner TTOs or incubators to measure effects on engagement metrics (meetings, NDAs) and early outcomes (pilot agreements, licensing terms). Throughout, I will run fairness and sensitivity analyses and follow strict human-subjects and data-privacy protocols.

Expected contributions:

Theoretically, I aim to develop a mid-range theory describing how algorithmic intermediation modifies entrepreneurial evaluation and resource mobilization in deep-tech ecosystems. Methodologically, I will produce an open, validated predictive framework and an evaluation protocol for commercialization potential. Practically, the project will deliver tested design patterns and governance recommendations for platform designers, TTOs, and policymakers to reduce the "valley of death" and accelerate evidence-based commercialization.

Why NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp:

ERBC's concentrated format; lectures on frontier empirical methods and entrepreneurial finance and interactions with leading scholars; is precisely what I need at this stage. I seek targeted feedback on (i) identification strategies that isolate the causal effects of platform signals, (ii) robustness checks for ML-based prediction in low-signal biomedical domains, and (iii) experimental designs for valid pilot testing with TTO partners. Discussions with faculty and peers will help me refine paper plans aimed at research policy / management and entrepreneurship journals and accelerate my transition from archival analysis to field pilots.

University of Hassiba Benbouali - Chlef
Faculty of Business and Economics
Chair of Science Entrepreneurship and Technology Commercialization

Chlef, Algeria, February 20, 2026

To: Selection Committee, Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp 2026
National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)
Email: maranjian@nber.org

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

I am pleased to write in strong support of the application of Mohamed Labadi for admission to the NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp at the NBER. I have served as Mohamed's main advisor at the Faculty of Business and Economics at University of Chlef since November 2024 and have worked closely with him on his doctoral research and related activities. Based on my experience supervising Mohamed, I am confident he will both benefit from and contribute meaningfully to the Boot Camp.

Mohamed brings a rare combination of rigorous technical training and applied, innovation and commercialization-minded experience. Prior to his doctoral studies he worked as an R&D engineer, where he gained hands-on experience with technology development and the practical challenges of translating lab work into products. He holds an Engineer's degree in General Engineering, an M.Sc. in Nanotechnology and Bio-Photonics, and he completed an M.Sc. in Entrepreneurship. This background gives him both the domain literacy and practical perspective that are essential for high-quality research on science entrepreneurship and technology/innovation commercialization.

Mohamed's dissertation, *AI-Enabled Platforms as Intermediaries in Entrepreneurial Ecosystems*, is an ambitious, well-scoped project that addresses a timely and important question at the intersection of entrepreneurship, innovation policy, and platform economics. He has already demonstrated strong methodological competence: he is fluent with causal inference approaches (difference-in-differences, IV strategies, event studies), comfortable with machine-learning tools for prediction and interpretability, and experienced in the design of field experiments and pilot evaluations. Equally important, he understands the institutional realities of technology transfer offices and the governance questions that determine whether platforms will be adopted and produce socially desirable outcomes.

During his work with me, Mohamed has shown careful attention to research design, strong data management skills, and an ability to communicate complex ideas clearly to both technical and practitioner audiences. He is proactive in seeking feedback, open to critical discussion, and effective at turning conceptual critique into concrete improvements in his empirical strategies. I therefore expect his participation in ERBC to substantially accelerate his progress on identification strategies, robustness checks for ML-based prediction in low-signal environments, and the design of credible pilot experiments with partner TTOs.

For these reasons, I strongly recommend Mohamed Labadi for the NBER's Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp. He is an excellent candidate who will both absorb the advanced methods taught at ERBC and contribute valuable insights from his cross-disciplinary experience in deep-tech and digital health commercialization. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like further information.

Sincerely,

Samir Abdelmalek, PhD, HDR
Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management, University of Hassiba Benbouali, Chlef, Algeria
Principal Investigator and Director, Chair of Science Entrepreneurship and Technology Commercialization
Director of Innovation, R&D, and Technology Transfer
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