

# Talha Samil Cakir

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## Education

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<b>PhD</b>	<b>Purdue University</b> Economics	<b>2021-Present</b>
<b>M.A.</b>	<b>Koc University – Istanbul</b> Economics	<b>2018-2020</b>
<b>B.A.</b>	<b>Sabanci University – Istanbul</b> Economics Mathematics (Minor)	<b>2014-2018</b>

## Research Interests

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Macroeconomics, Macro-finance, Computational Economics  
*Specific interest on monetary economics and digital currencies.*

## Working Papers

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### Privacy Concerns in Digital Currency Adoption

The digital transformation of money has introduced new dynamics in how currencies are adopted and used, especially concerning privacy. This research investigates the interplay between privacy concerns, transaction histories, and price discrimination in the adoption of new digital currencies. The framework is based on a multiple currency monetary search model where agents' decisions determine the acceptance and the value of the currencies. Buyers are heterogeneous in their valuations over the goods and sellers have the ability to engage in price discrimination based on transaction histories. Theoretical findings indicate that higher privacy preferences can increase cash usage, however buyers may strategically switch payment methods to avoid future price discrimination by concealing their types. The theory is coupled with laboratory experiments which vary factors such as the value of privacy, the magnitude of the valuation shocks and transaction costs.

## Work in Progress

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### Liquidity, Networks, and Financial Stability: A Model of Monetary Policy and CBDC Flows

**On Cross-Border Payments and the Industrial Organization of Correspondent Banking**  
*with Garth Baughman, Cathy Zhang, Ashley Zhao*

**An Extension with Idiosyncratic Shocks on Optimal Macroeconomic Policies in a Heterogenous World** *with James Bullard*

## Teaching Experiences

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<b>Purdue University</b> / Instructor Macroeconomics	<b>2024 - 2025</b>
<b>Purdue University</b> / Teaching Assistant Macroeconomics II (PhD) Search Theory and Applications (PhD) Computational Economics (PhD) Intermediate Macroeconomics Managerial Economics Money and Banking Game Theory Behavioral Economics	<b>2021-Present</b>
<b>Koç University</b> / Teaching Assistant Introduction to Economics Money and Banking Introduction to Microeconomics	<b>2018-20</b>
<b>Sabancı University</b> / Teaching Assistant Statistics Introduction to Probability	<b>2015-18</b>

## Job Experiences

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<b>Ace Trading Academy</b> Trader	<b>2020-21</b>
<b>Yıldız Holding</b> Finance Department / Intern	<b>2017-Summer</b>

## Research Experiences

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<b>Purdue University</b> Research Assistant to Yaroslav Rosokha and Cathy Zhang	<b>2023- Present</b>
<b>BETAM</b> Research Assistant “Shattered Effect of COVID-19 Pandemic on Household Incomes” <a href="https://covid19haneanketi.com/en/">https://covid19haneanketi.com/en/</a>	<b>2020-Summer</b>

## Conferences & Workshops & Trainings

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Theory and Experiments in Monetary Economics Conference (2024), Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting (2024), North American Meeting of the Economic Science Association (2024), Midwest Experimental Economics Meeting (2024), Midwest Macroeconomics Meetings (2024), Summer Workshop on Money, Banking, Payments, and Finance (The Board of Governors, 2024), Midwest Experimental Economics Meeting (2023), Purdue University KDSA Symposium (2021, 2023, 2024), UNCTAD Summer School 2020 on Globalization and Development Strategies, XIII. Winter Workshop in Economics (2019-Koç University), XII. Winter Workshop in Economics (2018-Koç University), KOLT (Koc University Office of Learning and Teaching) Graduate Teaching Training (2018-2019).

**Referee Service:** Economic Inquiry

## Awards & Scholarships

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Purdue Doctoral Research Fund (2024-2025)  
KDSA Research Symposium Awardee (2022)  
Purdue University Scholarship  
Istanbul Sehir University (Tuition Waiver) Scholarship  
Koc University (Tuition Waiver) Scholarship  
Sabanci University: Dean's High Honor Award 2017-18 Spring, 2017-18 Fall, 2016-17 Fall, 2015-16 Spring, 2015-16 Fall, 2014-15 Spring, 2014-15 Fall.  
Sabanci University (Tuition Waiver) Scholarship  
USA President's Academic Excellence Award (2007)  
Virginia- State Violin Competition /1<sup>st</sup> (2006)

## Skills & Interests

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**Computational Skills:** Python, STATA, MATLAB, R, KNIME, LaTeX.

*Technical:* Causal Inference, Structural Modeling, Machine Learning (with emphasis on LLMs), Data Analysis

**Other Computer Skills:** Lightspeed Trader, Photoshop, Aftereffects, Indesign.

**Language:** Turkish (Native), English (Advanced; IELTS:8.5/9), Spanish (Beginner).

**Interests:** LLMs, Startups, Violin, Graphic Design, Podcasting, Photography.

## Extracurricular Activities

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**NGO:** I have worked in a youth organization; **BIGENC** (Idealist and Conscious Youth) in Turkey, where I was chairman for four years and conducted more than 100 projects-events expanded over to 5000 young participants. Moreover, I am among the founders of an international youth organization; **youngact**, which has operations in Turkey, Korea and Pakistan as of today. Currently, due to the intensiveness of my academic studies I am an advisor to these organizations rather than an active participant.

**Meseleler Podcast:** Ever since I can remember, I have loved to share my thoughts, feelings, and problems with people around me. With three of my friends from high school, as a *quartet*, we recorded thirteen episodes on youth issues such as unemployment, university education, reading, networking, social media, psychological resilience, brain drain, effective communication and consumerism.

## References

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**Cathy Zhang (Chair)**

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**Yaroslav Rosokha**

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**James Bullard**

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