

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to confirm my support of the team lead by Kayvan Lavassani for the project “Multi-Tier and Multi-Layer Analysis of Global Supply Chain Network: Mapping, Risk Identification, and Scenario Planning for Security & Rupture.” Kayvan and I have already worked together on the preliminary results presented in the grant proposal, and I have contributed a number of core ideas for how to understand the supply chain vulnerability in concrete, relevant ways. My intent is to work with him on all aspects of the projects, providing support in terms of network modeling, tracking supply chain dynamics, and connecting the results to existing ideas about how networks operate. I understand that the period of this award is for up to one year and plan to assign an appropriate amount of time to this collaboration to ensure that we accomplish the goals of the project. I will participate as a co-author on the core publications and promote the research through speaking engagements.

This project goes well with my overall research interests and program, which lies at the intersection of applied network modeling and theoretical data science. My recent work with multi-layer networks with DARPA’s threat detection programs have prepared me to contribute by leveraging the multiple types of relationships in the global supply chain. I will also provide general multilayer network science expertise. I have cultivated relationships where I add value to projects in a variety of fields, ranging from neuroscience to explosives design to genealogy. These collaborations indirectly strengthen my theoretical work and allow me to approach particular applications (such as the current supply chain work) in creative ways that might not occur to domain specialists such as Kayvan. I look forward to working with him on this project.

Best regards,

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