1. **Title**
   Coronavirus Effects on the U.S. Unemployment: Evidence from Google Trends

2. **Authors and affiliations and contact emails**
   Hakan Yilmazkuday
   Department of Economics, Florida International University, Miami, FL 33199, USA
   E-mail: hyilmazk@fiu.edu

3. **Abstract**
   This paper investigates the relationship between Google search queries of "coronavirus" and "unemployment" using daily data from the United States. The investigation is achieved by employing a structural vector autoregression model, where queries of "interest rate" and "inflation" are also included. Historical decomposition analysis suggests that the spike in the search interest of "unemployment" is mostly explained by that of "coronavirus" in March 2020. The results also show that one unit of a positive shock in the search interest of "coronavirus" leads to 3 units of a significant cumulative increase in that of "unemployment" after one week which increases to 6 units after one month.

4. **Data description**
   Daily U.S. data on Google search queries.

5. **JEL codes for the project**
   J63, F66, I10

6. **Key-words**
   COVID-19; Coronavirus; Unemployment; Interest Rate; Inflation

   The paper is available at [https://ssrn.com/abstract=3559860](https://ssrn.com/abstract=3559860)