The power of prediction

Moritz Hardt

(Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems)

27.11.2023, 16.00 (c.t.)

Department of Statistics, Ludwigstr. 33, Room 144
and online via Zoom (Link)
(Meeting-ID: 913-2473-4411; Password: StatsCol22)

Moritz Hardt will talk about the calculus of performative prediction and its use in reasoning about the effects of algorithmic predictions on human populations. Performative prediction reveals a distinction between two mechanisms fundamental to prediction. One is to discover patterns in a population. The other, less recognized, is to steer the population through predictions. Building on performative prediction, he will motivate a notion of power tailored to digital platforms operating predictive systems, allowing us to examine the power of platforms in digital markets through theory, observational causal inference, and randomized experiments. He will end on a discussion of collective algorithmic strategies to effectively resist the power of platforms.

Biography:
Moritz Hardt is a director at the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems. Prior to joining the institute, he was Associate Professor for Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley. His research contributes to the scientific foundations of machine learning and algorithmic decision making with a focus on social questions. Hardt is a co-author of the textbooks Fairness and Machine Learning: Limitations and Opportunities (MIT Press) and Patterns, Predictions, and Actions: Foundations of Machine Learning (Princeton University Press).