Luise Eisfeld

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EDUCATION

Toulouse School of Economics, France *08/2017 - present*
Ph.D. in Economics

· Primary field: Empirical Industrial Organization

· Secondary fields: Economics of Digitization, Applied Microeconomics

Advisors: Professors Bruno Jullien, Daniel Ershov, and Alexandre de Cornière.

Selected coursework: Theoretical IO (I & II), Empirical IO (I & II), Game Theory, Nonparametric Analysis, Econometrics of Games, Econometrics of Matching, Program Evaluation.

Toulouse School of Economics, France *08/2015 - 06/2017*
M.Sc. Economic Theory and Econometrics

University of Mannheim, Germany *09/2012 - 06/2015*
B.Sc. Economics

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong *09/2014 - 12/2014*
Visiting Student

ACADEMIC WORK IN PROGRESS

How do Online Product Rankings Influence Sellers' Pricing Behavior?

Presented at Applied Micro and IO Student Workshops (TSE, 2018), Competition and Innovation Summer School (Montenegro, 2019), EARIE (scheduled, 2019).

RESEARCH AND TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Applied Econometrics (Graduate) *01/2019 - 05/2019*
Teaching Assistant, Toulouse School of Economics

Collaborative Research Center "Political Economy of Reforms" *10/2012 - 09/2013*
Research Assistant, University of Mannhiem

INTERNSHIPS

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) *04/2016 - 08/2016*

Landesbank Hessen-Thüringen, Financial Department *01/2014 - 02/2014*

MISCELLANEOUS

PROMOS Scholarship *08/2014 - 12/2014*

Technical skills: R, LaTeX, Python, Matlab, Stata, Git.

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Mandarin (basic).

Luise Eisfeld 31/05/2019

Summary of Interest in AI

Being an Economist trained in Empirical Industrial Organization, I am particularly interested in the Economics of digital markets. My first research paper investigates the effect of e-commerce websites' algorithmic product rankings on seller competition. Machine learning tools are increasingly being used for such online rankings, as platforms attempt to personalize search results or even prices.

However, I expect that AI will have the strongest economic impact in other ways. In particular, a crucial question that arises is: How will the adoption of new AI tools shape an industry's market structure?

AI requires large amounts of data, hardware, software, and expertise. Firms adopting AI may either buy necessary services and infrastructure from external providers, or develop them in-house. A key factor impacting the market structure is therefore whether AI diffusion occurs within, or across corporate boundaries. Firms that are vertically related may moreover find it profitable to merge or to install vertical restraints. This gives rise to important economic questions, as certain players may occupy bottleneck positions and acquire market power.

Relatedly, very little is known about whether early adopters of AI may have a first-mover advantage, or to what extent incumbents that currently lag AI capabilities can be challenged by new entrants. Another interesting question is whether the returns to scale of data are increasing or decreasing, and to what extent the control of data translates into market power.

At the Toulouse School of Economics, I have been confronted with cutting-edge theoretical research on these topics. My goal for the next years is, however, to tackle these questions empirically, using structural models to identify the effects of learning as AI is adopted over time, and to back out the associated costs. Research on these questions will not only yield important economic insights, but also provide guidance to policy makers.

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