Richard Faltings

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin   Austin, TX
PhD, Economics. GPA: 3.98, GRE: 340/340   Aug. 2018 – May 2023 (Expected)
Distinctions: UT Austin Graduate Continuing Fellowship,
Twitch Research Fellowship, Outstanding Second-Year Paper

University of St. Gallen   St. Gallen, Switzerland
M.A., Quantitative Economics and Finance. GPA: 3.64   Sep. 2016 – May 2018

University of St. Gallen   St. Gallen, Switzerland
B.A., Economics. GPA: 3.56   Sep. 2012 – May 2016

CURRENT RESEARCH

Transportation Pricing
- Estimated the continuation value of dockless vehicles in Washington, D.C. using real-time data from public APIs
- Developed a socially optimal dynamic transportation pricing algorithm, extending static matching algorithms. Using reinforcement learning to improve algorithm scaling.

Incentive alignment in two-sided platforms
- Building a content demand model to design incentives for coordinated content scheduling on the Twitch streaming platform.

EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Austin   Austin, TX
Economics department, Research Assistant for Jorge Balat   2021
- Coding a simulation of procurement auction equilibria in the presence of subcontractors.

Economics department, Research Assistant for Vasiliki Skreta   Jan 2021 – Aug. 2021
- Solved for optimal mechanisms by computation.
- Prepared technical explanations of economic literature and policy on the Texas electricity market.

Economics department, Teaching Assistant   Sep. 2018 – Dec. 2020
- Mentored undergraduate classes of 30 to 60 students in topics of Econometrics, Behavioral Economics, and Game Theory.

DG Competition, European Commission   Brussels, Belgium
Trainee   May 2018 – July 2018
- Simulated a proposed merger in the telecommunications industry using data from firm accounts, customer switching requests, and a survey.
- Critically assessed the economic research presented by the merging parties and debriefed the case managers.
- Prepared a literature review for the Chief Economist on the subject of rising markups.

University of St. Gallen   St. Gallen, Switzerland
Institute of Economics, Research and Teaching Assistant for Stefan Bühler   Apr. 2017 – Jan. 2018
- Prepared an in-class interactive game theory experiment, allowing over 250 participants to play in pairs.
- Performed data cleaning, visualization, and preliminary analysis for research on Time Exchange Platforms and Dark Net markets.

Swiss Institute for Empirical Economic Research, Research Assistant for Michael Lechner   Mar. 2017 – May 2017
- Scraped Swiss soccer data from multiple sources, leading to M.A. thesis on language-based discrimination in soccer using a random forest based causal effect estimator. Paper is now being revised for publication.

Rocket Internet GmbH   Berlin, Germany
Intern   Aug. 2013 – Oct. 2014
- Managed the legal department's database of IP assets and key employment contracts for ventures across the world. Automated creation of monthly reports of financial performance.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Co-organizer, UT Austin Economics student seminar. Austin, TX.   Sep. 2020 – Present
Global finalist, L'Oréal Brandstorm. Paris, France.   Jun. 2017
Runner-up, Swarovski challenge, St. Gallen Business Game. St. Gallen, Switzerland.   Apr. 2017
Head organizer, Model WTO student conference. St. Gallen, Switzerland.   Jul. 2014 – Jun. 2015
Board member Debating club of the University of St. Gallen   Jul. 2014 – Jun. 2015

ADDITIONAL

Code languages: Julia, Python, Matlab, R, Stata, Gauss
Hobbies: Cycling, bouldering, photography, record-collecting, travel.