Examining Productivity and Competition in a Large Online Community for Data Science

Friday, September 29 at noon to 1 pm ET

In recent years, competition has served as a core interaction in many online communities. People now typically earn rewards for producing content and engaging with others online. The data science platform, Kaggle, contains a rich online community where people participate in data science challenges and share computational notebooks. This talk describes a series of studies that demonstrate how incentive systems, collaboration, and status relate to competition and productivity in a large online community. Methodologically, the studies employ multiple statistical techniques, including social network analysis, to generate new insights explaining participation in modern online communities. The research helps illustrate the value of strategic social interactions within digital platforms designed around user-generated content production and consumption.

SC&I Room: Room 323

Zoom Registration and Link: https://tinyurl.com/netsci-ley



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Dr. Marlon Twyman is Assistant Professor of Communication at the Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism. He is a quantitative social scientist specializing in advanced computational and statistical methods, with a particular focus on social network analysis. He holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University (Evanston, IL) in Technology and Social Behavior (Communication Studies and Computer Science), and a B.S. and M.S. in Biomedical Engineering from Wright State University (Dayton, OH). His research interests focus on issues related to digital collaboration, online communities, social networks, and team assembly.



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