The Weizmann Institute of Science
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

Foundations of Computer Science Seminar

Room 155, Ziskind Building
on Monday, Feb 23, 2026
at 11:15

Aviv Yaish
Yale University

will speak on

Deconstructing and Rebuilding Trust in Decentralized Economies

Abstract:
Financial systems are becoming increasingly digital and decentralized, demanding a practical fusion of distributed systems security and economic theory. A key enabler of this change, blockchain technology, promises more private and egalitarian economic mechanisms, built by facilitating consensus between pseudonymous actors. However, the theoretical security of these systems may mask significant real-world risks. In this talk, I will present recent advances in bridging this gap between theory and practice. First, I will discuss the resolution of a decade-old puzzle: the lack of observed attacks on major consensus mechanisms. I will then distill the lessons learnt into a holistic approach to designing robust mechanisms for distributed pseudonymous systems and demonstrate its adoption in practice using several lines of work.

Email: karina.avadia@weizmann.ac.il * Phone: (08)9343349 * Fax: (08)9344308