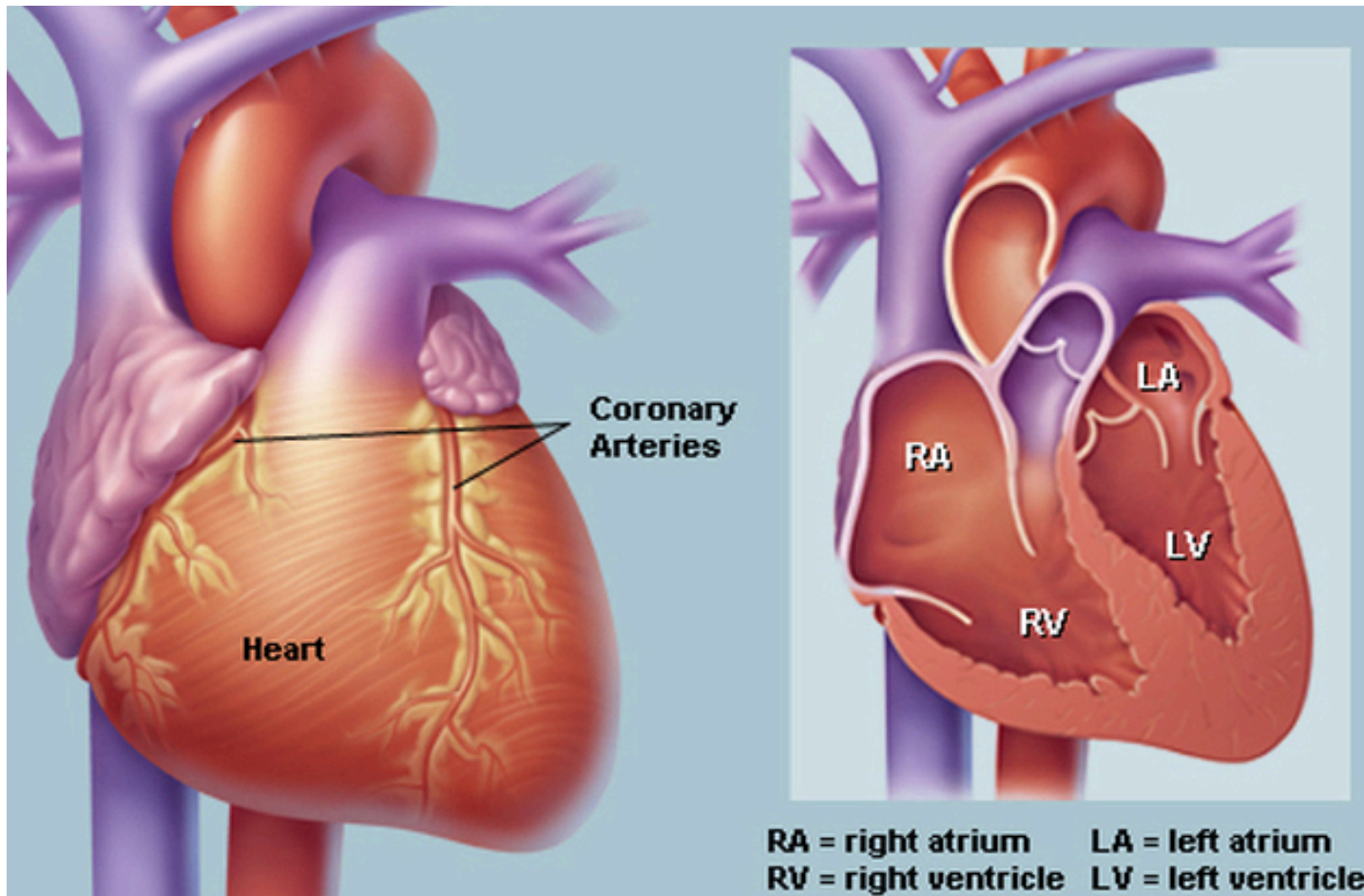


DTL Award Grants'16

Bala, AT&T / Nikos, Telefonica

People & Software: the heart of DTL



Timeline

- Green light: March 1
 - Bala joins
 - Set up the selection committee
 - CFP, submission handbook
 - Submission site, announce
- Submission period: March 14 -- April 30
- Reviewing period: May 1 -- May 22
- Online discussion: May 23 -- May 27
- Phone PC meeting: May 30

Research Committee Chairs

Balachander Krishnamurthy, AT&T
Nikolaos Laoutaris, Telefonica

CS (measurements, privacy, AI)
+
AdTech, DPAs, Journalism

Committee Members

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Ernst Biersack, | Eurecom |
| Jeff Brueggeman, | AT&T |
| John W. Byers, | Boston University |
| Claude Castelluccia, | INRIA |
| Augustin Chaintreau, | Columbia University |
| David Choffnes, | Northeastern University |
| Daniel Coloma, | Telefónica |
| Emiliano de Cristofaro, | UCL |
| Josep Domingo-Ferrer, | Universitat Rovira i Virgili |
| Krishna Gummadi, | Max-Planck Institute for Software Systems |
| Tristan Henderson, | University St. Andrews |
| Marco Melia, | Politecnico di Torino |
| Ionel Naftanalia, | IAB Europe |
| Nick Nikiforakis, | Stony Brook University |
| Chris Payne, | World Federation of Advertisers |
| Chris Riley, | Mozilla |
| Vincent Toubiana | CNIL - Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés |
| Sara Watson | Tow Center and Berkman Center |

Call for Proposals 2016 (Now Closed)

The call for proposals ended on Apr 30th, 2016.

Grant awardees will be announced early June 2016.

This year, DTL will award 6-8 research grants to academic institutions worldwide. The grants come in the form of a sum of up to 50K Euro that will be awarded to successful applicants for pursuing research that will lead to the development of software tools for the following topics:

Research Areas

Tools, Platforms for:

Privacy - related topics

- Detection with quantification and attribution of tracking, including advanced finger - printing methods ;

Privacy-Transparency-Discrimination. Actual CFP [here](#)

54 proposals

- Submissions show a broad representation across countries/ continents, research groups etc. - a truly diverse set of participants:
 - US 19
 - EU 23
 - Joint EU/US 9
 - Asia+NA/oceania 3
 - 8 submissions from PC members

THE REVIEW PROCESS

Write Review

OFFLINE REVIEWING

Upload form:

Choose File

No file chosen

Go

[Download form](#)

| Tip: Use [Search](#) or [Offline reviewing](#) to download or upload many forms at once.

Submit review

Save as draft

OVERALL MERIT

(Your choice here)



RELEVANCE TO DTL's CFP

How well is the proposal aligned with the DTL topics for this year and the directions described in the CFP?

(Your choice here)



POTENTIAL FOR IMPACT

(hidden from authors)

Who cares about this? If it is well executed, do you see the proposed software getting end-users beyond the research community? Would the industry, policy makers, or (at least) the press care?

(Your choice here)



QUALITY OF THE APPLICANT

(hidden from authors)

Do you trust that the applicant will deliver what is being promised? Have they worked in the field before? Even if they have not worked in the field, how would you rank them based on other past work?

(Your choice here)



TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

(hidden from authors)

Rate the technical novelty in the proposal.

(Your choice here)



COMMENTS FOR PC

(hidden from authors)

Please justify your numerical scores.

Review instructions for PC members

1. The order of fields on the review form reflects our priorities in ranking the proposals.

Beyond 'Overall Merit', "Relevance to DTL's CFP" is the first thing to consider. A proposal that does not clearly describe some software among the topics listed in the call for papers, WILL NOT be funded. We seek to fund only usable software prototypes in these areas.

Re "Potential for Impact": Although submissions may include cool ideas about software, if the intended use is primarily to share them with other researchers, it is not of interest to DTL. Ideally, we are looking for software that can attract real end users; if not millions, at least a few thousands should be realistic.

The next filter is "Quality of the applicant". To what extent do we believe that the applicant will actually deliver the promised proposal? Completion of similar projects in the past or having high domain expertise is definitely valuable but we do want to encourage new entrants in the area who have shown promise in some field.

It is not an accident that "Technical excellence" is last: this is our way of reminding you that this is NOT a conference paper selection committee. However, technical excellence does matter! Lack of technical excellence is indeed a reason for rejection.

ise to win your support

what can be done. If a proposal
n, then flag it.

mpleted.

an existing paper already
ware implementation we would
ly. Likewise, if the applicant
o an already existing/funded
tial that you check
the funding of ongoing work.

dy has written a paper or some code in the

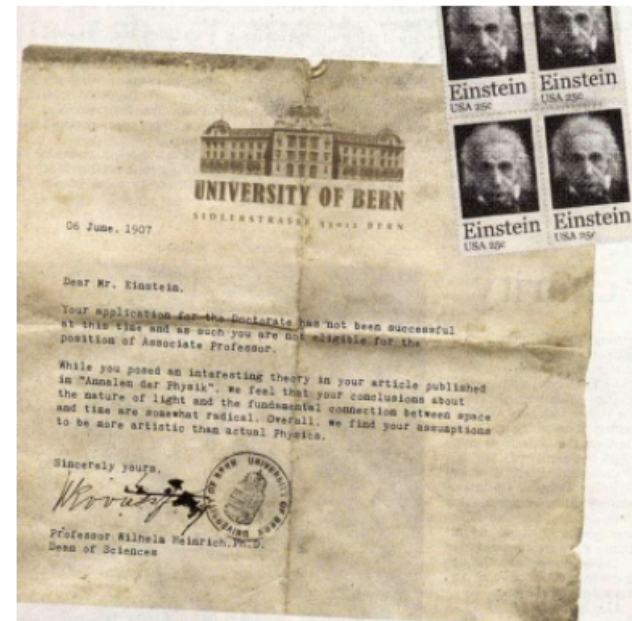
Having a paper already may reduce the novelty of the proposal but having some research code in the area is not detrimental if the original software has not had users, impact, etc so far. If somebody describes AdBlock Plus that has million users then we will not fund. But if someone proposes something that is similar to a paper and a tool with 20 student beta testers, we should give it a chance *if* the other quality metrics are high.

Category: Computer Science

Thoughts on reviewing and selection committees

1. Lean
2. Why and What vs. How
3. Good enough vs. perfect rank

June 11, 2016
Computer Science
[Leave a comment](#)
[Edit](#)



At last, after a very intense month of running [DTL Award Grants'16](#) I can sit back on the balcony, have a coffee, and relax without getting Comment Notifications from [HotCRP](#), or urgent emails every 2 mins from my super-

The selection (elimination) process

- 54 submissions
- 24 to the online discussion phase
- 13 to TPC meeting
- 8 to board meeting in London



| Working end-user software | Collection platform (crawler/ crowdsourced) | Transparency | Privacy protection | New area for DTL | Main concern |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|--------------------|------------------|---|
| X | | | X | X | None |
| X | | | X | | None |
| X | | X | | X | Doubts on impact. One off educational software |
| X | X | X | | | None |
| | X | X | X | | None |
| X | X | X | X | | Bit controversial. Can it be considered blocking? |
| X | X | X | X | | Can it be annoying? |
| | X | X | X | | Not clear what software will be delivered. |

2016 Grantees

FINDING WALDO IN A
HAYSTACK OF INFORMAL
WRITING STYLES



CHARACTERIZING INDIRECT
PRIVACY LEAKS IN MOBILE APPS



PRIVACYMETER: REAL-TIME
PRIVACY QUANTIFICATION
FOR THE WEB



DETECTION AND
CIRCUMVENTION OF AD-BLOCK
DETECTORS



ANTMONITOR: ON DEVICE
NETWORK MONITORING



TRANSPAD: BRING
TRANSPARENCY TO
TARGETED ADVERTISEMENT



Time for the winners to speak

