# A Reflection Report for Attendance at 2nd IEEE European Symposium on Security and Privacy (EuroS&P), Workshops and Affiliated Events - Paris, France

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25th April - 30th April 2017

## 2nd IEEE European Symposium on Security and Privacy (EuroS&P)

The IEEE European Symposium on Security and Privacy (EuroS&P) is the European sister conference of the established IEEE S&P symposium. It is a premier forum for computer security research, presenting the latest developments and bringing together researchers and practitioners which is organized every year in a European city.

I was nominated as one of the recipients of the EuroS&P Student Volunteer Grants from EuroS&P conference. So, as per the announcement by COINS Research School, they supported my travel expenses to/from Paris. I feel so fortunate to attend EuroS&P conference and affiliated workshops as i got the opportunity to meet and interact with outstanding security researchers from Stanford University, University of Oxford, University of Cambridge, ETH Zurich and so on.

I boarded the Norwegian Air flight from Oslo to Paris on 25th April, 2017. I landed on Paris Orly Airport on the same day and went directly to my hotel-Hotel College Du Franc which was already booked for me by EuroS&P Conference. In the hotel, i met Nicholas Moore who is a DPhil researcher in Cyber Security at University of Oxford, UK. We had a long and intense discussion on our PhD research topics and different aspect of lives in Norway and UK. The next morning i.e., on 26th April, I and Nicholas had our morning breakfast at hotel and we proceed ahead directly to the UPMC campus at Jussieu which was just 10 minutes walking distance from our hotel to attend EuroS&P Conference. It was my first time in Paris. So, everything was just perfect and so appealing to me. I fell in love with the Paris instantly. We reached the UPMC campus and found the registration desk to register our name for the conference. We met Mr. Marco who was a organizing committee member and a security researcher at INRIA France. Marco assigned me some task to be at registration desk and

register the name of the participants attending the conference. At the registration desk, i also met other talented student volunteers from Germany, USA, Sweden, Singapore, France Universities. I also met Romina Muka and Chris Carr from NTNU, Norway who is also a member of COINS Research School like me. Then, i along with Romina Muka and Emelie Widegren who is a Master student at Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden went to attend the conference opening ceremony. It was really good to see all the brightest minds who are researching on security and privacy issues under the same roof at the same time.

After the opening remark, the first presenter Timothy Trippel from the University of Michigan presented their interesting work titled WALNUT: Waging Doubt on the Integrity of MEMS Accelerometers with Acoustic Injection Attacks. The presentations were distributed into four sessions namely Side Channels, Protocol Security, Applied Cryptography and Malware- separated with coffee breaks and snacks. There were several goodies from Google for the students and researchers. The day ended with best paper award ceremony and reception and poster session at 21:00.

The following day started with a special keynote titled Applied crypto: the good, the bad, and the future by Dan Boneh from Stanford University. The presentations were distributed into three sessions namely Systematization, Privacy-preserving Systems, Web Security and Privacy and short talks and business meeting and it ended with a banquet which was held at Les Salons Hoche, a very fancy restaurant located in Champs Elysees. Here is a picture from the banquet.

On the last day of the EuroS&P Conference i.e., 28th April 2017, there was a concluding remarks followed by the sessions Human Aspects of Security and Privacy, Secure Messaging and Mobile Security, System Security and Network Security. I also asked the participants to visit my university (UiO) and COINS Research School in Norway to do some collaborative research on security and privacy topics.

# EuroS&P Affiliated & Workshop Events- 29 to $30^{th}$ April 2017

The affiliated EuroS&P Affiliated & Workshop Events was organized jointly with EUROCRYPT on April 29-30, 2017, also at UPMC Campus Jussieu. Since, i was selected as a student volunteer, i had an opportunity to attend this event as well. There were several workshops. I had some registration duties and organizing the workshop events. Out of these workshops, i was particularly interested and attend the workshop on:

- **S&B – Security on Blockchains** on $29^{th}$ April 2017
  The security and privacy properties of blockchain technologies are still an emerging field that is need of further research. The Bitcoin electronic cash system introduced the new field of blockchain technology as a prac-

Figure 1: Me(Ashish), Along with Romina, Emelie, Prof. Ganesh (University of Waterloo, Canada) and other Researchers at the Banquet Les Salons Hoche

tical mechanism for a permissionless and censorship-resistant e-cash over the Internet. Generalizations of Bitcoin's underlying blockchain technology as a platform for smart contracts by Ethereum are still immature. For example, security issues in the underlying programming language for smart contracts in Ethereum led to the massive DAO hack. More than ever, proper security and privacy properties need to be designed into the underlying framework for blockchain technologies.

- **Security for Embedded and Mobile Systems (SEMS)** on $30^{th}$ April 2017
  Embedded and mobile devices that provide security and crypto functionalities and manage private and confidential data are omnipresent in our daily lives. Examples of such devices range from smart cards and RFID tags, to mobile phones, tablets, and IoT devices. Ensuring the security and privacy of these devices is a challenging problem, as witnessed by recent breaking of crypto and security systems used in mobile phones, car keys, and RFID-enabled cards. Typical threats to extract the keys include side-channel and fault analysis.

For detailed information about the affiliated workshops and events, please visit this link:

*https* : *//www.ieee − security.org/TC/EuroSP*2017*/events.php*

I travelled back to Oslo from Paris on 30th April 2017 through Norwegian Air.

## Concluding Remarks

Dynamism, empiricism and out-of-box thinking defines the ethos of EuroS&P Conference. EuroS&P Conference push further the boundaries of security and privacy research and innovation by obscuring the stereotypical dimensions of access and approach to engineering research. It feels like no stone is left unturned in the quest for achieving the metaphorical pinnacle of technological wonder. Minds armed with expedition of right research and spirits seeped in the ages-long passion for excellence are at disposal at EuroS&P Conference to chatter the un-chattered territories of security and privacy challenges. Attending EuroS&P Conference will definitely offer you a strong cognitive about security and privacy research and lot of fun having new friends and great researchers at the same time. So, I give my strongest recommendation to attend this conference.

Here is a pic of me (Ashish), Romina and Chris from COINS Research School.



Figure 2: Me(Ashish (UiO)), along with Romina (NTNU), and Crhis (NTNU) from COINS Research School at EuroS&P Conference, Paris, France