



Sylvia Ratnasamy Wins ACM Grace Murray Hopper Award

April 21, 2015

Sylvia Ratnasamy Professor Sylvia Ratnasamy is the winner of the 2014 ACM Grace Murray Hopper Award, given each year to an outstanding young computer professional. Ratnasamy, a senior Networking and Security researcher as well as an assistant professor of computer science at UC Berkeley, is recognized for her contributions to the first efficient design for distributed hash tables, a critical element in large-scale distributed and peer-to-peer computing systems.

ACM cited Ratnasamy's 2001 paper, "A Scalable, Content-Addressable Network," which she co-wrote while a graduate student with fellow members of ACIRI, the precursor of ICSI's Networking and Security Group. The paper is the seventh most cited in the area of networks and communications, according to Microsoft Academic Search.

ICYMI:

Networking and Security researcher Mark Allman gave the keynote address at the Passive and Active Measurement Conference, held in New York, New York on March 19 and 20. His address was titled "Towards Better Internet Empiricism."

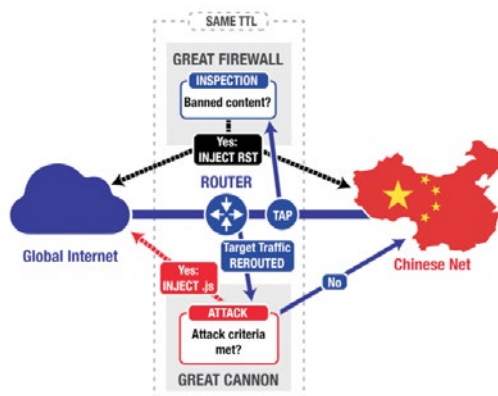
The Great Cannon - Another Tool in China's Censorship Box

The Chinese government appears to have used distributed denial-of-service attacks against a nonprofit organization, GreatFire.org, that helps Chinese users circumvent the administration's Internet censorship regime, according to a report by the Citizen Lab at the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs that ICSI researchers collaborated on. While the Chinese administration has long censored the Internet by using a tool known as the Great Firewall to block traffic to certain web sites, the new system works offensively by redirecting traffic to attack targets.

The researchers say that the tool, which they have named the Great Cannon, was responsible for a flood of Internet traffic on March 16 that nearly crashed servers rented from Amazon Web Services by GreatFire to provide mirror images of blocked sites. On March 26, a similar attack was directed at GitHub pages run by GreatFire.org. At its height, the attack was racking up \$30,000 a day in bandwidth fees from Amazon, according to GreatFire's blog. GitHub called the attack on its repositories the largest distributed denial of service attack in its history.

“This is very much an escalation

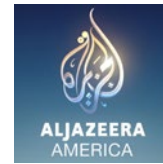
"China Deploys New Weapon for Online Censorship in Form of 'Great Cannon'"
April 10, 2015
Andrea Peterson, *The Washington Post*



Simplified logical topology of the Great Cannon and Great Firewall | reprinted courtesy of Citizen Lab at the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs

in the press

check us out in:



full press coverage available at icsi.berkeley.edu/icsi/press

Recent Seminars

DARPA Research and Program Priorities
William Regli
DARPA
Thursday, May 14, 2015
10:00 a.m., Conference Room 6A

Probabilistic Modeling of Speech and Language
Zhijian Ou
Tsinghua University, Beijing, China
Tuesday, May 12, 2015
12:30 p.m., Conference Room 5A

Inside the Cookie Jar: Measuring the Use of Cookies in the Wild
Roberto Gonzalez
NEC Labs Europe
Thursday, May 7, 2015
4:00 p.m., ICSI Lecture Hall

Natural Language Understanding for Application-Specific Domains
Sean Trott
ICSI
Tuesday, April 28, 2015
12:30 p.m., Conference Room 5A

Quantifying Similarity in Bird Calls
Naomi Harte
ICSI & Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
Tuesday, April 21, 2015
12:30 p.m., Conference Room 5A

Uncharted Lecture Series: Using Artificial Intelligence to Protect Privacy
Michael Tschantz
ICSI
Thursday, April 16, 2015
4:00 p.m., ICSI Lecture Hall

Who's Visiting

recent and upcoming arrivals

Martha Larson, Audio and Multimedia, Visiting Researcher, Delft University of Technology, Netherlands (03/26 - 9/15)

Manfred Eppe, Artificial Intelligence, DAAD Postdoc (4/13/2015 - 03/31/2016)

Marco Caselli, Networking and Security, Graduate Student at the University of Twente, Netherlands (04/20 - 7/25)

Fred Roosta, Research Initiatives, Postdoc (arrived 4/30)

Marian Harbach, Networking and Security, DAAD Postdoc (5/1/2015 - 10/31/2016)

Antonia Scatton, AI, Visiting Researcher, Reframe America (5/1 - 7/31)

Vadim Shapiro, Research Initiatives, Visiting Researcher, University of Wisconsin (5/1 - 7/31)

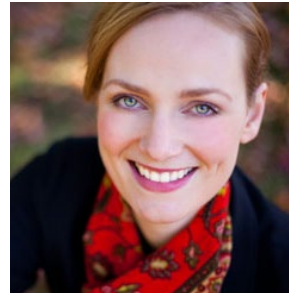
What's Next

upcoming events



UNDERSTANDING USERS' (IN)SECURE BEHAVIOUR

Sonia Chiasson
Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada
Wednesday, May 20, 2015
2:00 p.m., ICSI Lecture Hall



A NATION UNDER JOINT CUSTODY: HOW CONFLICTING FAMILY MODELS EXPLAIN CONSERVATISM AND LIBERALISM

Elisabeth Wehling
ICSI and UC Berkeley
Thursday, May 21, 2015
4:00 p.m., ICSI Lecture Hall

What We're Writing

recent and upcoming arrivals

K. Thomas, E. Bursztein, N. Jagpal, M. Abu Rajab, N. Provos, P. Pearce, G. Ho, D. McCoy, C. Grier, V. Paxson, A. Nappa, and A. Kapravelos. Ad Injection at Scale: Assessing Deceptive Advertisement Modifications. Proceedings of the 36th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy, San Jose, California, May 2015

N. Vallina-Rodriguez, S. Sundaresan, C. Kreibich, N. Weaver, and V. Paxson. Beyond the Radio: Illuminating the Higher Layers of Mobile Networks. Proceedings of the International Conference on Mobile Systems, Applications, and Services (MobiSys 2015), Florence, Italy. Also appeared as ICSI Technical Report TR-14-003, December 2014, May 2015

R. Rasti, M. Murthy, N. Weaver, and V. Paxson. Temporal Lensing and its Application in Pulsing Denial-of-Service Attacks. Proceedings of the 36th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy, San Jose, California, May 2015

D. G. Anderson, S. S. Du, M. W. Mahoney, C. Melgaard, K. Wu, and M. Gu. Spectral Gap Error Bounds for Improving CUR Matrix Decomposition and the Nystrom Method. Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AI & Statistics 2015), San Diego, California, May 2015

I. Castro, A. Panda, B. Raghavan, S. Shenker, and S. Gorinsky. Route Bazaar: Automatic Interdomain Contract Negotiation. Proceedings of the 15th Workshop on Hot Topics in Operating Systems (HotOS XV), Kartause Ittingen, Switzerland, May 2015



ARE LEARNED FEATURES ENOUGH FOR ROBUST DNNs? A QUESTION OF NATURE VS. NURTURE

Nelson Morgan
ICSI and UC Berkeley
Thursday, May 28, 2015
4:00 p.m., ICSI Lecture Hall

Check out our redesigned pages

We've redesigned the web page for our visiting program and added a page listing potential mentors of visiting scholars. Check them out at

<https://www.icsi.berkeley.edu/icsi/visitors>
<https://www.icsi.berkeley.edu/icsi/visitors/mentors>

