

Title: Website for raising awareness of tracking the users on the Web

Topic:

On the Web, companies continuously compete in tracking Web users, building their profiles and monetising the profiles they build [1]. There are many difficulties in establishing socio-technical protections for Web users. However, a first step consists in the identification and awareness of the many ways Web tracking can be done.

This internship aims at providing a Web application, where each user can perform a series of tests in order to determine: (1) all information that can be collected and used to identify and characterise the user (OS, language, fonts , IP, installed extensions, etc.) (2) all explicitly accessible mechanisms to track the user (cookies, TSD, http headers, storage, etc.) or potentially derivable.

The site will have two goals: (1) provide an analysis tool, awareness and educational (2) collect data and maintain anonymous statistics about user configurations in nature. The site will be hosted, secured and maintained on a dedicated virtual machine INRIA. It must be internationalised (French, English, Spanish, etc.) by cooperating with bilingual colleagues of INRIA to allow wide dissemination.

The work program will be:

- (1) establishing a state of the art about the means of identification, re-identification and tracking users on the Web
- (2) design of algorithms that are able to detect these techniques for a user given a site he is connecting to
- (3) generating a self-contained report that can be used as a teaching material of all means of identification and re-identification and tracking
- (4) creation of an anonymous statistical database on all means of identification, re-identification and tracking that was observed via site's users

Inviting team: WIMMICS in cooperation with DIANA et INDES teams (INRIA Sophia Antipolis)

Supervisors: Fabien Gandon, Nataliia Bielova Arnaud Legout.

Salary: regulatory gratification

[1] <http://www-sop.inria.fr/members/Nataliia.Bielova/slides/2016-02-11-WIMMICS.pdf>