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Advances in Cryptology – CRYPTO 2018

38th Annual International Cryptology Conference
Santa Barbara, CA, USA, August 19–23, 2018
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Preface

The 38th International Cryptology Conference (Crypto 2018) was held at the University of California, Santa Barbara, California, USA, during August 19–23, 2018. It was sponsored by the International Association for Cryptologic Research (IACR). For 2018, the conference was preceded by three days of workshops on various topics. And, of course, there was the awesome Beach BBQ at Goleta Beach.

Crypto continues to grow, year after year, and Crypto 2018 was no exception. The conference set new records for both submissions and publications, with a whopping 351 papers submitted for consideration. It took a Program Committee of 46 cryptography experts working with 272 external reviewers almost 2.5 months to select the 79 papers which were accepted for the conference. It also took one program chair about 30 minutes to dig up all those stats.

In order to minimize intentional and/or subconscious bias, papers were reviewed in the usual double-blind fashion. Program Committee members were limited to two submissions, and their submissions were scrutinized more closely and held to higher standards. The two program chairs were not allowed to submit papers. Of course, they were fine with that restriction since they were way too busy to actually write any papers.

The Program Committee recognized two papers and their authors for standing out among the rest. “Yes, There Is an Oblivious RAM Lower Bound!”, by Kasper Green Larsen and Jesper Buus Nielsen, was voted best paper of the conference. Additionally, “Multi-Theorem Preprocessing NIZKs from Lattices,” by Sam Kim and David J. Wu, was voted Best Paper Authored Exclusively By Young Researchers. There was no award for Best Paper Authored Exclusively by Old Researchers.

Crypto 2018 played host for the IACR Distinguished Lecture, delivered by Shafi Goldwasser. Crypto also welcomed Lea Kissner as an invited speaker from Google.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the reviewers for volunteering their time and knowledge in order to select a great program for 2018. Additionally, we are very appreciative of the following individuals and organizations for helping make Crypto 2018 a success:

Tal Rabin - Crypto 2018 General Chair and Workshops Organizer
Elette Boyle - Workshops Chair
Fabrice Benhamouda - Workshops Organizer
Shafi Goldwasser - IACR Distinguished Lecturer
Lea Kissner - Invited Speaker from Google
Shai Halevi - Author of the IACR Web Submission and Review System
Anna Kramer and her colleagues at Springer
Sally Vito and UCSB Conference Services

We would also like to say thank you to our numerous sponsors, everyone who submitted papers, the session chairs, the rump session chair, and the presenters.

Lastly, a big thanks to everyone who attended the conference at UCSB. Without you, we would have had a lot of leftover potato salad at the Beach BBQ.

August 2018

Alexandra Boldyreva
Hovav Shacham

Crypto 2018

The 38th IACR International Cryptology Conference

University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA
August 19–23, 2018

Sponsored by the *International Association for Cryptologic Research*

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Zero Knowledge

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