

First step

Xiaojie Zhu

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1 Event

With the support from Coins, i was lucky to attend the Cybersecurity and Privacy (CySeP) Summer School in Stockholm, Sweden. It lasts for four days from 19 to 22. The speakers come from different institutions. Some of them are from universities and some of them from government or industry. In one sentence, it gives me an opportunity to interact with the world that is outside of my previous world.

2 Lessons from senior researchers

2.1 New name does not mean new technology

The name of bitcoin and blockchain is well known nowadays and it is widely applied in many areas, especially e-currency. In fact, the technology is not new, consisting of digital signature, hash function and merkle tree. However, the name of bitcoin and blockchain are new name which are not in the history book.

2.2 Innovation includes new application

Before to be a phd, i always think innovation is foundation innovation instead of application. However, the history tells me it is not right. The Bitcoin is a good example. Although It is a new application of existing technology, it drives the evolution of the bank.

2.3 Methodology is abstract but useful

For many researchers, it is much easy to propose a new concept or apply the existng technology to new applications. They tend to ignore the importance of methodology. Fortunately, there are still some researchers who pays more attention on methodology which drives the development of cryptographic areas.

2.4 Rejection is the start of the acceptance

Even though researchers are famous, they still experience paper rejection frequently. However, from the conference, transaction or journal, we can find they have more publications. Without their own words, i will not know how frequently they are rejected. However, they never give up. They continue to do research and get more exiting results.

2.5 Presentation is a way to understand your own work

I always think my own is useless or not important enough. It is always hard to persuade myself to give a presentation. With the encouragement from my supervisor and Coins support, i did my first presentation in PHD seminar and it opens my mind to do presentation. This is my second time to do the presentation. This time is much better that my first time and many famous researchers, eg., Wenke Lee and Steve Bellovin, begin to ask me to introduce my work in more details. Although Steve Bellovin gave the comment that it is not the most important think for a country, he still think it is interesting. I understand it is kind of encouragement but it is my second time to introduce my work to other researchers and get good feedback. It gives me a belief that i am doing something worthy.

2.6 Cyberwar is not a war

Many researchers worry about the future of the internet. Especially, they worry about the cyberwar between nations which may result in nuclear war. However, many professors explained that the cyber war does not match the requirements of nuclear war and there is not necessary to connect two different kind of wars. However, the future is still not peaceful in the internet. More and more attacks will happen between different nations or organisations. The goal of different attacks will be various and the form of attacks are unpredictable. As a researcher, to protect the internet security is our responsibility instead of making money.

2.7 One takes the behavior of one's company

There is an interesting sentence that when you touch black, you become black, when you touch red, you become red. It tells us how important it is to make good friends. Fortunately, i made some good friends in this event and previous Coins' event. In fact, sometimes when i consider whether i will attend the event, i may consider more about who will be there. I really appreciate the event held by Coins that gives me an opportunity to make good friends in a country thousands away from my home.

2.8 Time flies

In this summer school, most speakers are older than 45 and some of them are close to 80. The last suggestion from their experience is to value the time. Finally, i would like to share

a sentence: *Lost wealth may be replaced by industry, lost knowledge by study, lost health by temperance of medicine, but lost time is gone for ever.*