CLTC
Center for Long-Term Cybersecurity
UC Berkeley

Daylight Security Research Lab

Illuminating the cultural dimensions of cybersecurity

DAYLIGHT SECURITY

Cybersecurity is challenging in part because it is difficult to understand. Stereotypical images like the "hacker in a hoodie" do not capture the full scope of bad actors and potential harms from cyber attacks, making it more difficult to prescribe actions that will protect us.

The Daylight Security Research Lab is transforming how people understand and identify the risks of digital technology by shifting the culture and dialogue around cybersecurity. We generate new tools, practices, and representations to make the term "security" more specific and actionable for those who need it.

"We are trying to make cybersecurity easier to understand. We share our insights in novel ways that capture attention and inspire action in business, advocacy, government, and society at large."

– Nick Merrill, Ph.D.
CLTC Daylight Research Lead &
Post-Doc Fellow, CLTC Daylight Lab

WHO WE ARE

Housed in UC Berkeley's Center for Long-Term Cybersecurity (CLTC), the Daylight Security Research Lab (DSRL) is led by prominent researchers in the fields of human-computer interaction and information science. Our team includes talented graduate and undergraduate students from multiple disciplines. We also collaborate with UC Berkeley's Data Discoveries program, engaging undergraduates to apply cutting-edge data science tools to cybersecurity research problems.

WHAT WE DO

The Daylight Security Research Lab's work is focused on three main initiatives:

Changing how security is represented
We work to understand and shift security's representations visually, linguistically, and through narrative. Using machine learning and computer vision, we're analyzing a large body of images related to cybersecurity, with a goal of refreshing and extending these representations. We work to illuminate the true impacts of cyber crime by reorienting the media's use of the term "hacker." And we've launched a first-of-its-kind contest to fund the work of artists who expand the boundaries of how cybersecurity is understood.

Security in design and development
Designers are well-positioned to identify security issues because they speculate about technologies before they're built. We're developing role-playing games that integrate cybersecurity early in the process of product design, and helping teams from Silicon Valley to Wall Street better understand the potential threats they face.

Internet Interoperability Index
Governments, firms, and citizens are once again debating to what extent the Internet is, or should be, a global infrastructure for communication and commerce. The answer to this question will have profound consequences for the future of digital security. We're developing an index to measure how and how quickly the interoperability of the internet is changing over time.

QUICK FACTS

6
undergraduate and graduate students across six academic disciplines engaged in the Lab's research

6
artists funded through our inaugural Cybersecurity Arts Contest

16
organizations have used our game, *Adversary Personas*

3.6B
users measured in our Internet Interoperability Index

WHY WE NEED YOU

The Daylight Security Research Lab is conducting novel research and influencing how cybersecurity is understood, but our work has just begun. Private philanthropy will enable us to push boundaries through groundbreaking research, train a growing number of future information security professionals in human-centered security, and expand our outreach to empower larger and more diverse populations. We invite you to join our efforts to inform and shape a healthier digital future for all.

$5,000+ funds an undergraduate student for one summer to experiment with novel security practices and work on understanding security's language, rhetoric, and representations.

$10,000+ sponsors a six-month residency for an artist to develop works that help translate cybersecurity's impacts.

$50,000+ funds a research fellowship that will support the work of a graduate student for one academic year.

$250,000+ supports a naming opportunity associated with new tools or practices, student or faculty support, fellowships, programs, or physical spaces.

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