

Svetlana Abramova, PhD

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About: postdoctoral fellow experienced in multi-method interdisciplinary research in the areas of digital money, crypto-economics, information security, and privacy. I collaborated with research partners and contributed to a number of high-impact national and international research projects with law enforcement, regulatory authorities, and policy makers.

Research interests: digital money, user security and protection behavior, privacy, UX, blockchain forensics.

Research methods: user studies, survey and interview design, game theory, economic modeling, data analysis.

Work Experience

- Feb 2019 – present **Postdoc researcher, Security & Privacy Lab** University of Innsbruck, Austria
- Design of an online survey for crypto-asset users on general motivations, risk perceptions, security practices and protection measures; data collection, cleaning, and analysis (in collaboration with the University of British Columbia);
 - Consulting the Austrian Central Bank in designing a survey of Austrian citizens on general attitudes, application scenarios, and behavioural patterns in the use of online payment services and crypto-assets;
 - Review and application of social sciences theories and methods (e.g., theory of planned behaviour, protection motivation theory, expectation confirmation theory) in user research;
 - Member of the University's working group for equal opportunities (October 2020 – May 2021); assistance with the Department's hiring processes;
 - Writing research proposals; project management tasks and work package lead;
 - Supervision of Master and Bachelor students.
- Feb 2017 – Jan 2019 **Research assistant, Security & Privacy Lab** University of Innsbruck, Austria
- Lead of a work package of a EU Horizon 2020 project on integrating blockchain and darknet forensics tools and services;
 - Study of cyber risk avoidance and security protection behavior of users of online payment systems (resulted in publications at top-tier A* and B peer-reviewed academic conferences);
 - Formal modeling of the effects of intertemporal choices of crypto-asset users on privacy;
 - Quantitative data analysis in R (e.g., structural equation modeling, time series analysis etc.).
- Mar 2015 – Jan 2017 **Research assistant, Information Security Lab** University of Münster, Germany
(seconded to the University of Innsbruck, Austria)
- Survey of Bitcoin users on general attitudes, use cases, risk perceptions, and intentions;
 - Quantitative data analysis in R (e.g., PLS path modeling, PCA, multivariate regressions);
 - Research in digital image forensics and evaluation of text image analysis techniques.
- Apr 2012 – Feb 2015 **Senior IT Consultant, Regulatory Management** zeb consulting, Germany
- Implementation of Basel II credit risk requirements in a large German bank and delivery of regulatory reports to financial supervisory authorities;
 - Harmonization of standard and advanced IRBA credit-risk rating models and calculation of the bank's minimal capital requirements;
 - Optimization of ETL processes and SQL queries, execution of functional and operational readiness software tests, deployment and monitoring of go-live activities.

Education

- 2015 – 2019 **Ph.D. in Computer Science** University of Innsbruck (Austria)
Dissertation "Security and Privacy of Online Payment Systems: Empirical and Theoretical Perspectives", recognized by the Dissertation Award 2020 from the Hypo Tirol Bank
- 2010 – 2012 **M.Sc. in Information Systems** University of Münster (Germany)
- 2006 – 2010 **B.Sc. in Business Informatics** Higher School of Economics (Russia)

Scientific Publications

Abramova, S. and R. Böhme (2021). Out Of The Dark: The Effect of Law Enforcement Actions on Cryptocurrency Market Prices. In *APWG eCrime Researchers Summit (ECRIME)*, online virtual conference.

Abramova, S., Voskobochnikov, A., Beznosov, K. and R. Böhme (2021). Bits Under the Mattress: Understanding Different Risk Perceptions and Security Behaviors of Crypto-Asset Users. In *Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (ACM CHI'21)*, online virtual conference.

Voskobochnikov, A., **Abramova, S.**, Beznosov, K. and R. Böhme (2021). Non-Adoption of Crypto-Assets: Exploring the Role of Trust, Self-Efficacy, and Risk. In *European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS)*, online virtual conference.

Abramova, S. and R. Böhme (2020). Your Money or Your Privacy: A Systematic Approach to Coin Selection in Cryptocurrencies. *Cryptoeconomic Systems Conference (CES'20)*, MIT, Cambridge.

Riek, M., **Abramova, S.** and R. Böhme (2017). Analyzing Persistent Impact of Cybercrime on the Societal Level: Evidence for Individual Security Behavior. In *Proceedings of the Thirty Eights International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS)*, Seoul, Korea.

Abramova, S., P. Schöttle, and R. Böhme (2017). Mixing Coins of Different Quality: A Game-Theoretic Approach. In M. Brenner, K. Rohloff, J. Bonneau, A. Miller, P. Y. Ryan, V. Teague, A. Bracciali, M. Sala, F. Pintore, and M. Jakobsson (Eds.), *Financial Cryptography and Data Security*, pp. 280–297. Cham: Springer International.

Abramova, S. and R. Böhme (2016). Perceived Benefit and Risk as Multidimensional Determinants of Bitcoin Use: A Quantitative Exploratory Study. In *Proceedings of the Thirty Seventh International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS)*, Dublin, Ireland.

Abramova, S. and R. Böhme (2016). Detecting Copy–Move Forgeries in Scanned Text Documents. In *Proceedings of IS&T Electronic Imaging: Media Watermarking, Security, and Forensics 2016*, San Francisco, CA.