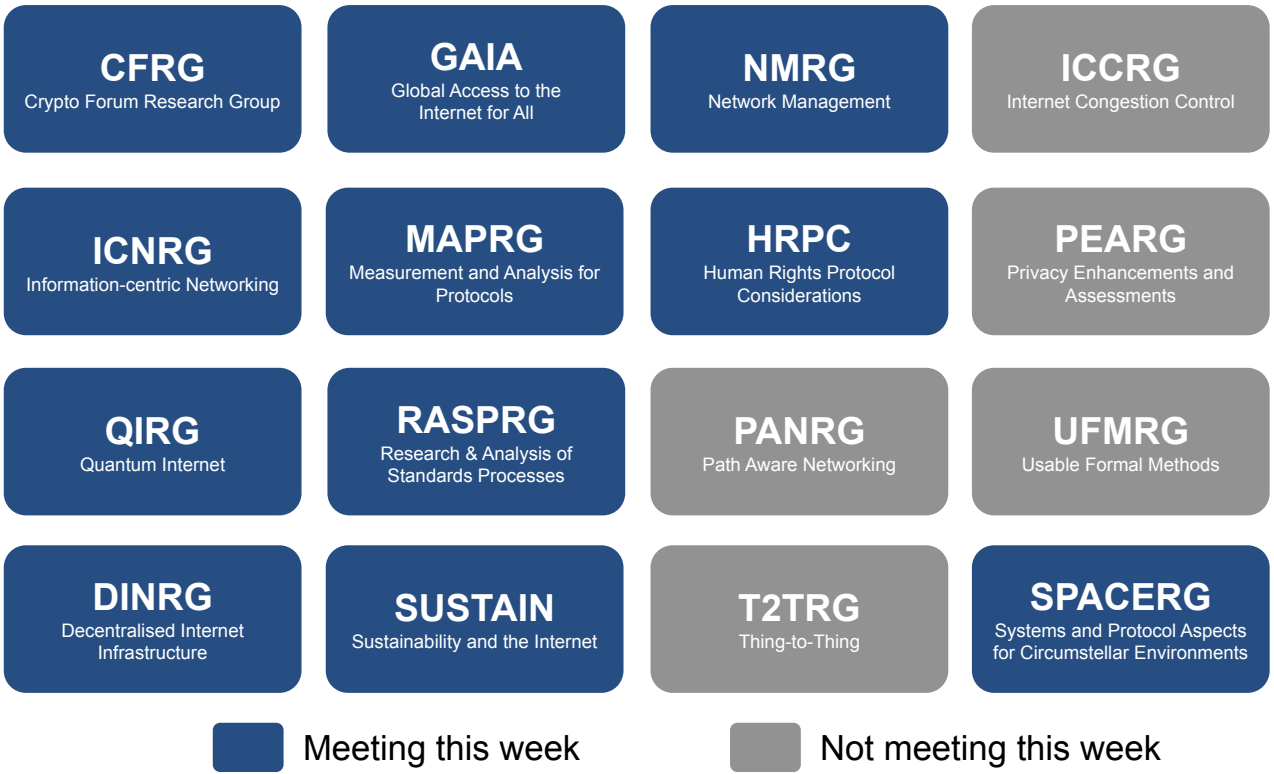
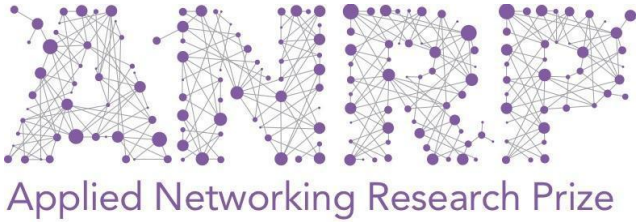
Internet Research Task Force

Dirk Kutscher

IRTF Research Groups





Raising profile of IRTF in the research community

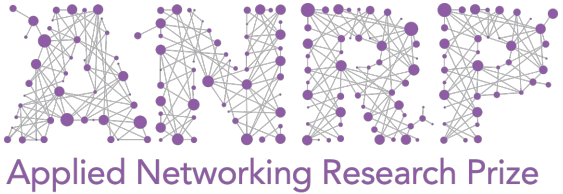
Supporting high quality research

Bringing the next generation of participants and ideas to the IETF

https://irtf.org/anrw/

At IETF-126 in Vienna
Paper submission deadline 17 April 2026

Workshop chairs: Thomas Schmidt & Suresh Krishnan



Internet Society

COMCAST

NBCUniversal

The **Applied Networking Research Prize** recognises:

- the best recent results in applied networking
- interesting new research ideas of potential relevance to the Internet standards community
- and upcoming people that are likely to have an impact on Internet standards and technologies

ANRP
Applied Networking Research Prize

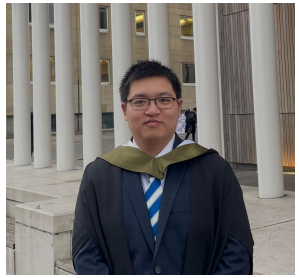
Internet Society

COMCAST

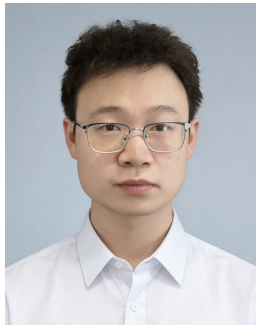
NBCUniversal

IRTF

Two ANRP award talks at IRTFOPEN on Wednesday



Tianyi GAO for his work on transport-level encryption for datacenter networks.



Xiangjie HUANG for his work on sending burstiness control for high-quality real-time communication.

Papers and slides at https://www.irtf.org/anrp/

IRTFOPEN on Tuesday: Internetworking Challenges for AI

What are meaningful research challenges for the IRTF at the intersection of AI systems and internetworking?

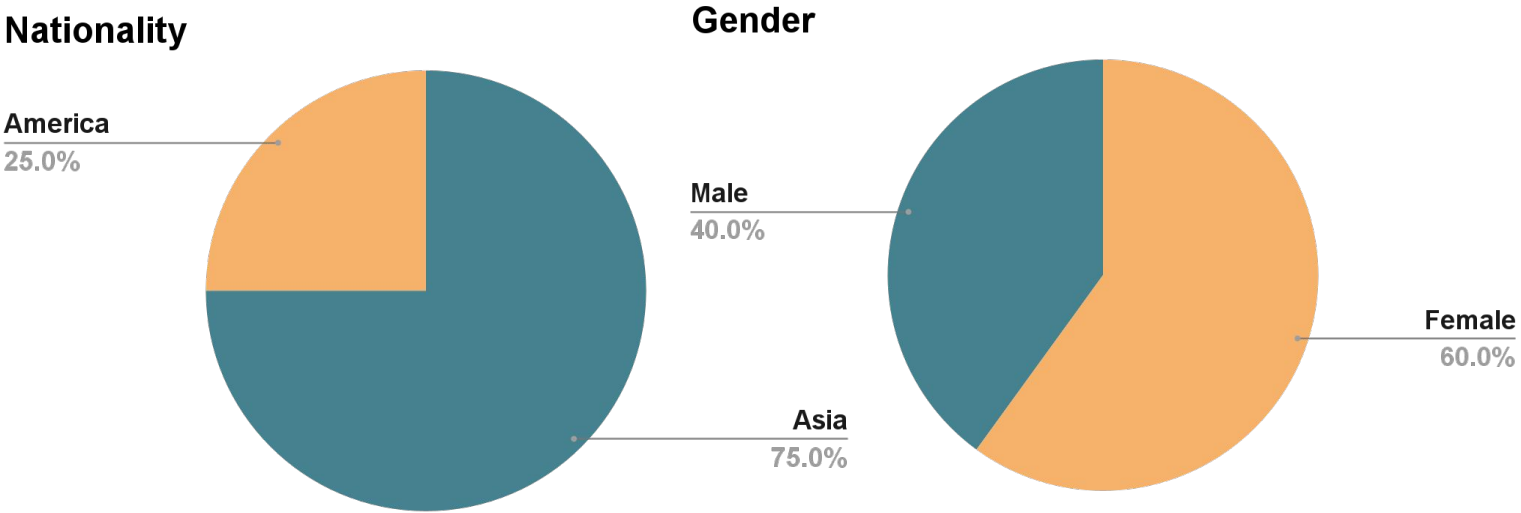
- Beyond data centers – good linkage with Internet technologies
- Connected to ongoing research in academia

Disaggregated Architectures for Large Model Inference	Mingxing Zhang, Tsinghua University
Reliability Engineering Challenges in Networking for AI	Hong Xu, CUHK
On AI Agent Networking	Lixia Zhang, UCLA

Identified topics:

- Testbeds and data sets for reproducible experiments
- System & protocol design for future distributed learning platform (KV-cache centric, unified abstractions)
- Principled agent communication (naming, identity, trust delegation, group communication)

The IRTF is pleased to offer travel grants to support early career academics and PhD students from under-represented groups to attend the IRTF meetings co-located with the IETF



Deadline for travel grants for IETF 126 Vienna: March 27, 2026

https://irtf.org/travelgrants