

2/1/21

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in strong support of the Osmocom project. For a bit of background, I am Dr. Adam Doupé, an Associate Professor in the School of Computing, Informatics, and Decision Systems Engineering (CIDSE) and Acting Director of the Center for Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics (CDF) at Arizona State University. I was awarded the 2017 CAREER award from the National Science Foundation (NSF), and as a founding member of the Order of the Overflow, I host the DEF CON CTF event since 2018. I have co-authored over 30 peer-reviewed scholarly publications and served on program committees of well-known international security conferences.

I co-direct a research group called the Laboratory of Security Engineering for Future Computing (SEFCOM: <http://sefcom.asu.edu>), and we research many aspects of computer security, network security, and telephony security.

In the course of our research on telephony security, specifically during the years of 2016–2017, we used the open source software provided by Osmocom to build a research prototype in telephony security. Our goal was to create geolocation anonymous calling, bringing some of the anonymity benefits of TOR to telephone systems. To create this system, we used the open source Osmocom software.

This research prototype resulted in a Master's Thesis by Gerard Pinto called "Shadow Phone and Ghost SIM: A Step Toward Geolocation Anonymous Calling." During the course of the project, we were impressed not only by the quality of the Osmocom software, but also by the generosity and congeniality of the Osmocom maintainers. For instance, Harald Welte politely and professionally answered many of our initial questions about Osmocom, and this accelerated our research progress. Fundamentally, this research project would not have been successful without Osmocom, as the research area of cellular communications is traditional proprietary and closed source.

I strongly recommend that Osmocom receives contributions of any kind, including financial support to extend the scope of the software functionality, improve automated testing, and enhance the usability of the system. I believe that strong and well-maintained open software such as Osmocom is invaluable to the larger research community

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dr. Adam Doupé
Associate Professor
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