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Avinatan is a Talpiot Alumni (Rector's prize), and did his masters (Rector's prize), and PhD in the Hebrew University. After serving in the army, he did a postdoc in MIT and joined Google in 2010. He is a professor of computer science in Bar Ilan University, with over a hundred publications. His group takes pride in implementing their research results in Israel, and have built Israel's Medical Internship Lottery, Israel's Psychology Admission System and Israel's Law Residency Match. Avinatan won numerous awards including the IDF Chief of Staff Excellent Officer award for 2006, Editor's choice in Physical Review Letters 2011, Best Paper Award SIGMETRICS 2011, Runner Up for Best Paper Award in INFOCOM 2012 and in INFOCOM 2013 and DeMarker's 40 under 40 list.