

OUR ACTIVITIES IN 2024 were incredibly diverse, ranging from teaching a 2-week course in Ghana to launching a startup employing 7 people already! In the midst of it all, we still found time to start exploring new areas, such as machine learning and router architecture, and gained momentum in the field of network sustainability.

As planned, we could focus more on research and published 7 papers including at NSDI (2), HOTNETS, CCR, and IEEE S&P. We also won multiple awards including the best paper award at HOTCARBON and the CYD outstanding publication award. Group-wise, 2024 was particularly “bursty”: we graduated 3 PhD students (Edgar, Albert, and Alexander)—in the span of 3 months only—and welcomed a record of 6 new members (Jean, Lukas, Pietro, Valerio, Sushovan, and Weiran). *Phew!* I am also happy to report that Albert won the ETH medal for outstanding PhD thesis. Teaching-wise, 2024 was awfully similar to 2023, with us spending a lot of time improving our master lecture. Thankfully, I feel we are (finally?) converging.

2025 will be a special year for our group as it will mark our 10-year anniversary—time sure flies! 10 ought to be 2025’s lucky number as we will also graduate our 10th PhD student. With a mix of joy and sadness, we will also bid farewell to Muoi who will start as an Assistant Professor at Chalmers. As usual, we look forward to welcoming new PhD students and post-docs. And no doubt the startup and teaching will keep us busy ... and entertained. Cheers to an exciting year!

Prof. Laurent VANBEVER

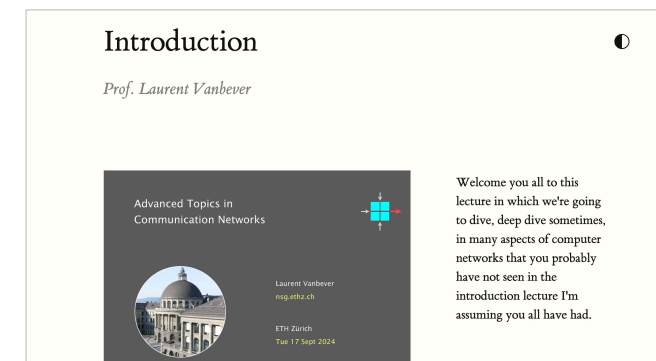
NetFabric—our very first startup

We started NetFabric in June after securing 2M CHF in funding. Our team includes Tobias Bühler (from NSG) and Benjamin Bichsel (from Martin Vechev’s group). Our goal is to accelerate network data analysis to make operators more efficient in understanding what is going on in their network, why, as well as how to respond. We are busy building a prototype and plan to release a demo by the spring. So expect more soon!

Transcribing our lectures online

This fall semester we embarked on a quest to release an online-based transcript of our lectures—a common student request. Doing so was an opportunity to start exploring how AI-powered tools can improve our teaching. Overall, I am quite happy with the outcome: **check it out online!**

Our A-team posing (and freezing) next to NetFabric offices in downtown Zürich



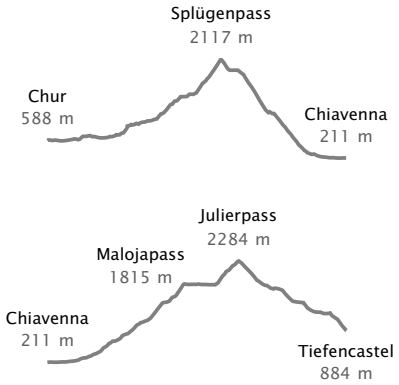
A screenshot of the online-based transcript we built for our master-level lecture



Enjoying the Italian Alps—Part 2

Our yearly retreat brought us once more to the Italian Alps, this time in the beautiful region of Lago di Como. As usual, we use the time to brainstorm on research ideas—some of which are bearing fruit already—and reflect on our current directions. No hike this time but a crash course in windsurfing: nothing like wipeouts to clear the minds.

A small subset of us (Jean, Laurin, and yours truly) chose to bike to the retreat and back, climbing several Swiss passes on the way. *Mens sana in corpore sano.*



The route profiles to/from Chiavenna