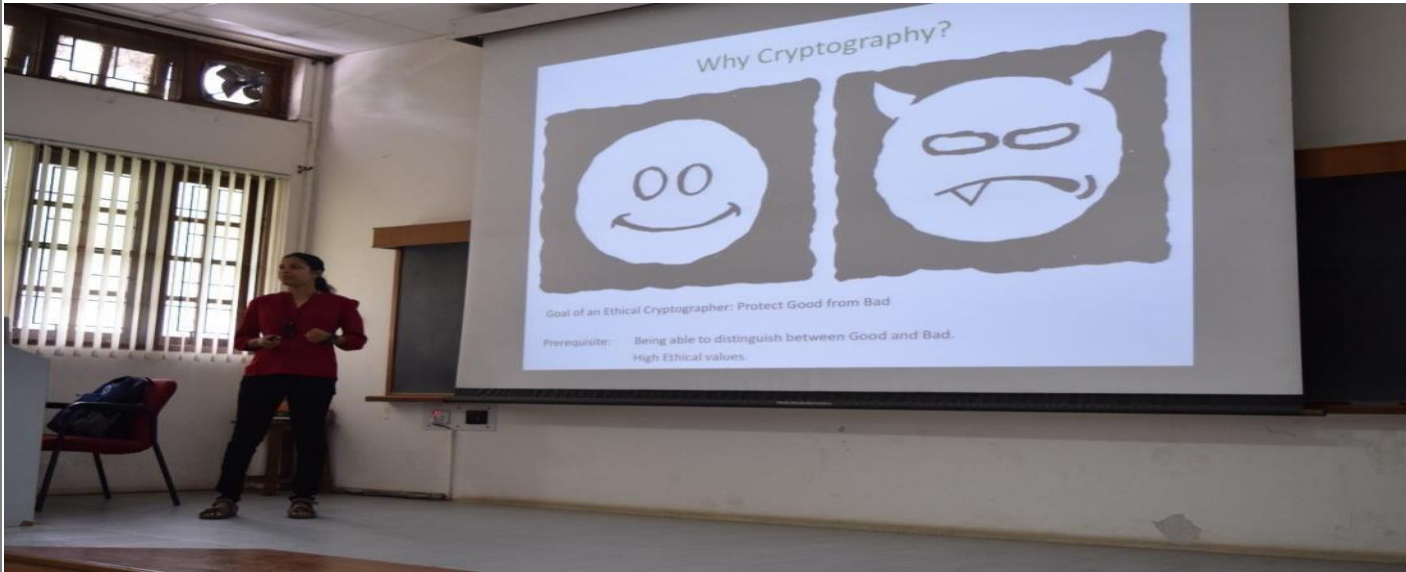**SONATA**
SONATA SOFTWARE

Summer School Program for Undergraduates @ IISc

Partner: **CSA, IISc (Indian Institute of Science)**

Since its founding in 1909, the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (IISc) has emerged as India's premier destination for higher education and advanced research in all science and engineering disciplines.

IISC's Computer Science & Automation (CSA) Department was set up in 1969 with a mission to "advance the frontiers of research in computer science and automation and offer world-class pedagogical and research experience to its students". CSA is considered a Centre of Excellence by both the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST). It has been ranked #71in the Times Higher Education (THE) 2016 rankings of the 'Top 100 CS Departments Worldwide'.

About the Program:

CSA, IISc organized a Summer School program for research aspirants from July 3rd to 8th 2017, funded by Sonata Software as a part of its ongoing CSR programmes at IISc. The primary objective of the program was to introduce undergraduate students to cutting-edge research in Computer Science. 77 candidates from across India were selected to attend the program out of an applicant pool of 500 candidates.

The program was steered by two PhD students, Indu John and Ullas Aparanji. Multiple sessions were conducted over five and a half days covering both the theoretical and applied aspects of Computer Science. Participants attended talks, demos and interactive sessions by the department faculty as well as research scholars and industry experts

Impact:

The impact of the Summer School program is evident in the testimonials of some of the participants.
"This program is a stepping stone to direct me onto a path in research which will allow me to work in the field of my choice. The research-oriented thought process lets one approach a problem with divergent solutions, helping one to analyze and pick the better option to solve it", *Aashish Jayasimha – 2nd year ISE student, RVCE Bangalore*

"Summer School is a very new concept in India and getting an opportunity with IISc is incredible, giving me a great insight into Computer Science or Machine Learning. Also, companies such as Sonata Software's principle, of giving back to the community is truly appreciable because when a company backs such programs, it gives us the surety that pursuing careers in research would be something that can be both doable and sustainable in the outside world", *Radhika Rao – 3rd year CSE student, VJIT Hyderabad*

"Before I came here, my purpose was to scrutinize my personal interest in research and am now very clear about what I want to do. This program has allowed me to get to know what research is all about, how to swim and explore the waters and finally make the fish leap from the well into the ocean", *Samarth. D – 3rd year CSE student, SJCE Mysore*

We conducted a range of outreach programs in the summer of 2017. These programs were all supported by the Sonata CSR initiative at IISc, and proved to be extremely popular with the student community at large. The students found the above programs to be highly stimulating and completely altering their perception of higher studies and research programs", *Prof. Jayant Haritsa, Chair of the Dept, CSA at IISc*