

CS 178H: Turing Thesis Talk

Rohan Ramchand (rsr898)

May 5, 2014

I chose to attend Josh Berlin's talk on secure IO for applications. The thrust of his research was developing a method by which trusted applications could be run on an untrusted operating system. The basis of his approach was the "hypervisor", a layer under the operating system that could check the intent of the OS during every interaction between the OS and an application. He presented an improvement on SSH that would theoretically decrease the time it would take for a system to connect to an untrusted operating system while maintaining the security of the system. Compared to the faculty candidate talks, his presentation was much less involved. His approach was much shallower than what would be considered acceptable at a normal faculty candidate talk, but he managed to explain his point clearly and accurately. He handled the limited number of questions well, except for when the graduate students with whom he was working and the professors in the room began to argue a point. Overall, the presentation was to the point and interesting.