**Analysis of Bitcoin Network Structure and Anonymity Characteristics**

**September 27th, 2016, 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm, 70-2500**

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**Abstract**

In 2008 a paper published under the name Satoshi Nakamoto describes a system for anonymous and decentralized electronic cash called Bitcoin. The Bitcoin network uses a proof-of-work scheme to verify transactions, which are then saved in a permanent ledger called the blockchain. This decentralized system is said to provide anonymity. In this talk, we will discuss the overall structure of the Bitcoin network and what privacy and anonymity implications lie within.

**Short Bio**

Liam Morris is a Site Reliability Engineer at Google and an alum of the RIT Computer Science department. His academic interests focus primarily on cryptography, especially with homomorphic cryptosystems, privacy, and anonymity. In 2015 he completed his BS and MS in Computer Science with his thesis, “Anonymity Analysis of Cryptocurrencies.” Liam is currently a visiting faculty member in the Hampton University Computer Science department.