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Jacob Gorm Hansen awarded Roger Needham Prize



[Dr. Jacob Gorm Hansen](#) was awarded the 2009 Roger Needham award for his doctoral thesis “[Virtual Machine Mobility with Self-Migration](#)” at a ceremony in Nuremberg, Germany, on April 2nd, 2009. The prize sum is 2,000 EUR, donated by Microsoft Research. The [EuroSys Roger Needham award](#) is given annually to a European doctoral thesis that is “regarded to be an exceptional, innovative contribution to knowledge in the systems area”. The prize is named after the British computer scientist Roger Needham, who made fundamental contributions to computer security.

Dr. Jacob Gorm Hansen is well known in the systems community for his work on Virtual Machine Migration. He defended his thesis at DIKU, Dept. of Computer Science, University of Copenhagen under the supervision of Professor Eric Jul. The award jury specifically appreciated that “*the thesis represents real systems work. The results are interesting, quantified, and show that the idea is good compared to existing approaches. Furthermore, the student made also quite a few other contributions, making his thesis rich in ideas. It presents a novel mechanism for migrating operating systems running in virtual machines: self-migration. Self-migration allows an OS to migrate without any support from the underlying VM. The idea is implemented in a real system (Linux 2.4 and 2.6, and with the Xen VM) and the system is evaluated on real hardware and in a real IP network.*”

"The 2009 Roger Needham award not only recognizes Jacob Gorm Hansen's impressive research results, but also highlights the importance of virtualization as a research area," says Professor Eric Jul.

Dr. Jacob Gorm Hansen is 34 years old. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark in 2008, and has also spent a number of years in industry, among other things as a developer on the successful “Hitman” computer game series. After finishing his dissertation, he joined VMware's R&D office in Aarhus, Denmark, where he works on advanced research and development projects. Dr. Hansen lives with his wife, who is a physician, the country side near Aarhus.

[DIKU](#) is the Department of Computer Science at the University of Copenhagen. DIKU was established in 1970 and has since established itself as one of the leading Computer Science Departments in Europe. A total of about 70 Ph.D. and M.S. students in Computer Science graduate per year.

[EuroSys](#) is the professional society for Computer Systems in Europe, was established to promote excellence in Computer Systems education, research and industry in Europe. It was formed to federate European researchers in the area to improve their impact and to provide the European perspective within the international Systems community. EuroSys is approved as the European chapter of [ACM SIGOPS](#).

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