Big Data and Data Science: Some Hype but Real Opportunities

VSoE Informatics & IMSC Seminar – Host: Cyrus Shahabi

April 2 - 5:00-6:00pm

SAL-101

Speaker: Michael Franklin, UC Berkeley Computer Science

Abstract

Data is all the rage across industry and across campuses. While it may be temping to dismiss the buzz as just another spin of the hype cycle, there are substantial shifts and realignments underway that are fundamentally changing how Computer Science, Statistics and virtually all subject areas will be taught, researched, and perceived as disciplines. In this talk I will give my personal perspectives on this new landscape based on experiences organizing a large, industry-engaged academic Computer Science research project (the AMPLab), in helping to establish a campus-wide Data Science research initiative (the Berkeley Institute for Data Science), and my participation on a campus task force charged with mapping out Data Science Education for all undergraduates at Berkeley. I will make the case that there are real opportunities across campus in both education and research, and that Data Science should be viewed as an emerging discipline in its own right.

Bio

Michael Franklin is the Thomas M. Siebel Professor of Computer Science and Chair of the Computer Science Division at the University of California, Berkeley. Prof. Franklin is also the Director of the Algorithms, Machines, and People Laboratory (AMPLab) at UC Berkeley. The AMPLab currently works with 27 industrial sponsors including founding sponsors Amazon Web Services, Google, and SAP. AMPLab is well-known for creating a number of popular systems in the Open Source Big Data ecosystem including Spark, Mesos, GraphX and MLlib, all parts of the Berkeley Data Analytics Stack (BDAS). Prof. Franklin is a co-PI and Executive Committee member for the Berkeley Institute for Data Science, part of a multi-campus initiative to advance Data Science Environments. He is an ACM Fellow, a two-time winner of the ACM SIGMOD "Test of Time" award, has several "Best Paper" awards and two CACM Research Highlights selections, and is recipient of the outstanding Advisor Award from the Computer Science Graduate Student Association at Berkeley.