Message from the OpML '19 Program Co-Chairs

Welcome to OpML 2019!

We are very excited to launch the inaugural USENIX Conference on Operational Machine Learning (OpML). As Machine Learning (and its variants Deep Learning, Reinforcement Learning, etc.) make ever more inroads into every industry, new challenges have emerged regarding how to deploy, manage, and optimize these systems in production. We started OpML to provide a forum where practitioners, researchers, industry, and academia can gather to present, evaluate, and debate the problems, best practices, and latest cutting-edge technologies in this critical emerging field. Managing the ML production lifecycle is a necessity for wide-scale adoption and deployment of machine learning and deep learning across industries and for businesses to benefit from the core ML algorithms and research advances.

The conference has received strong interest, with 61 submissions spanning both academia and industry. Thanks to the hard work of our Program Committee, we have created an exciting program with thirty technical presentations, two keynotes, two panel discussions, and six tutorials. Each presentation and paper submission was evaluated by 3–5 PC members, with the final decisions made during a half-day online PC meeting.

We would like to thank the many people whose hard work made this conference possible. First and foremost, we would like to thank the authors for their incredible work and the submissions to OpML '19. Thanks to the Program Committee for their hard work in reviews and spirited discussion (Jeremy Barnes, Fei Chen, Mike Del Balso, Sindhu Ghanta, Sean Grullon, Neoklis Polyzotis, Jennifer Prendki, Suresh Raman, Marius Seritan, Sarah Sirajuddin, Eno Thereska, Boris Tvaroska, and Todd Underwood). Many thanks to Sindhu Ghanta for serving as tutorials chair and Swami Sundararaman for his many contributions during the early days of the conference. Thank you to Joel Young and Sandeep Uttamchandani for organizing the two panels. We would also like to thank the members of the steering committee for their guidance throughout the process (Nitin Agrawal, Eli Collins, Casey Henderson, Robert Ober, Jairam Ranganathan, D. Sculley, Tal Shaked, Swaminathan Sundararaman, Sandeep Uttamchandani, and Joel Young). Finally, we would like to thank Casey Henderson and Kurt Andersen of USENIX for their tremendous help and insight as we worked on this new conference, and all of the USENIX staff for their extraordinary level of support throughout the process.

We hope you enjoy the conference and proceedings!

Best Regards,
Bharath Ramsundar, *Computable*
Nisha Talagala, *Pyxeda AI*