



Biomedical Informatics Grand Rounds



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Reproducible, Transparent and Secure Collaborative Big Data Analytics

Wednesday, Sept 2, 2020 3 pm - 4 pm

Abstract:

Data science today is done in a mostly ad hoc way. This includes scientific research, where a typical conclusion might be arrived at using a patchwork of tools: SQL scripts uploaded to Github with zero context or documentation, Excel sheets with sensitive data sent around in email attachments, or heatmaps produced using R code forever lost on a former grad student's personal laptop. Validating peer-reviewed results can be a daunting endeavor, even if the results are your own.

Thankfully, the scientific community has begun appreciating the importance of producing reproducible analyses, possibly spurred by embarrassing journal retractions and scandals a la Surgisphere. Palantir Technologies' Foundry platform is used by government, commercial and research organizations across the world, and has data provenance, versioning, scalability, security, reproducibility, and collaboration at its core. I will demo live examples of end-to-end analyses of Electronic Health Records of COVID-19 patients from sites across the USA, built in Foundry as part of the National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C). Depending on audience interest and time, we will end with a brief collaborative hacking session with public data.

Bio:

Harish Ramadas has been a Data Scientist at Palantir Technologies since August 2017. Before joining Palantir, he got his PhD in mathematics from the University of Washington in Seattle, where he specialized in discrete optimization and probability. Most recently, he has been involved with the US government's COVID-19 response, and with the National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C).

Remote Access

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Questions? Please call the Biomedical Informatics Department at 631-638-2590.