

The Seventh Symposium on Advances in Modeling and Analysis Using Python

The Seventh Symposium on Advances in Modeling and Analysis Using Python was held Monday-Tuesday January 23-24, 2017 at the AMS Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA. Johnny Lin chaired the program committee. Besides the chair, the program committee consisted of: Hannah Aizenman, David Brown, Aashish Chaudhary, Charles Doutriaux, Mary Haley, Jonathan Helmus, Ryan May, Sheri Mickelson, and Dean Williams.

Five oral sessions, one poster session, and one joint session with the 15th Conference on Artificial and Computational Intelligence and its Applications to the Environmental Sciences on data intensive computing and big data were held by the Symposium. At the end of the oral session immediately before the poster session, poster presenters were invited to give a 1 minute "lightning" talk summarizing their posters, which worked well to advertise some of the posters in the poster session. In addition, we used one session time block for a set of brief tutorials on using various Python tools such as pandas and xarray.

Peak attendance increased significantly over last year (which was 99 inside the room). We had around 138 attendees for the Core Science Keynote held on Monday (not including around 10 attendees outside the door). The median attendance over the course of the Symposium was around 57. The lowest attendance was around 30 for the last session on Tuesday. The brief tutorials session were well attended, with around 60-69 attendees during that session. With 99 actual seats in this year's room, I believe the Symposium could productively utilize a larger room in 2018.

Two related Short Courses were also held. The short course "A Beginner's Course to Using Python in Climate and Meteorology" was held on Saturday and Sunday. It was taught by Johnny Lin and had approximately 25 students. The short course "Interacting with Radar Data in The Cloud" was taught and led by Scott Collis and had approximately 15 students.