

Plenary Lecture

Dr. Romit Maulik

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Breaking boundaries: Why interdisciplinary research is key for tackling grand challenges

Student Union Ballroom, 8 AM – 8:45 AM

Abstract: In today's hyper-connected research landscape, a regular exchange of technical expertise across domains is crucial for rapid development of solutions to grand challenges. This talk will expand on this philosophy by recapping the speaker's journey as an apprentice through different departments (Aerospace Engineering, Leadership Computing, Mathematics and Computer Science), ultimately culminating in how this approach was instrumental in constructing an independent research program. We will also discuss the importance of "grand challenge" questions as compasses to direct the long-term efforts of a research program and how asking the right question is frequently the most difficult, and valuable part, of a new project.



Biography: Dr. Romit Maulik is an incoming Assistant Professor in the Department of Information Science and Technology at Pennsylvania State University. In addition, he is, and will continue to remain, a Staff Scientist at Argonne National Laboratory in the Mathematics and Computer Science Division. He was previously the Margaret Butler Postdoctoral Fellow at Argonne, after obtaining a PhD in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Oklahoma State University with Dr. Omer San. His research interests lie at the intersection of data science, applied mathematics, and high-performance computing. Learn more at: <https://romit-maulik.github.io/>.