TechConf 2024 - AI & Machine Learning Summit

EVENT OVERVIEW

Welcome to TechConf 2024, the premier AI & Machine Learning Summit bringing together industry leaders, researchers, and innovators from around the globe. This two-day conference will feature cutting-edge presentations, hands-on workshops, and networking opportunities.

Date: June 15-16, 2024
Venue: San Francisco Convention Center
Expected Attendees: 2,500+ professionals
Registration Fee: $299 (Early Bird), $399 (Regular)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Dr. Sarah Chen
AI Research Director, Google DeepMind
Dr. Chen leads Google's advanced AI research initiatives with over 15 years of experience in machine learning and neural networks. She holds a PhD from MIT and has published over 100 papers in top-tier conferences. Her recent work focuses on large language models and their applications in healthcare.

Prof. Michael Rodriguez
Professor of Computer Science, Stanford University
Professor Rodriguez is a renowned expert in computer vision and robotics. He directs the Stanford AI Lab and has been instrumental in developing breakthrough algorithms for autonomous vehicles. His research has been cited over 25,000 times and he holds 30+ patents.

Lisa Wang
Chief Technology Officer, OpenAI
Lisa Wang oversees OpenAI's technical strategy and product development. She previously led engineering teams at Tesla and SpaceX, bringing extensive experience in scaling AI systems. She's a strong advocate for responsible AI development and deployment.

DETAILED AGENDA

Day 1 - June 15, 2024

- **8:00 AM - 9:00 AM:** Registration & Welcome Coffee
  Location: Main Lobby

- **9:00 AM - 9:15 AM:** Opening Remarks
  Speaker: Conference Chair Dr. James Wilson
  Location: Main Auditorium

- **9:15 AM - 10:15 AM:** Keynote - "The Future of AI: Opportunities and Challenges"
  Speaker: Dr. Sarah Chen (Google DeepMind)
  Location: Main Auditorium
  Description: Explore the latest developments in AI research and their potential impact on society, business, and technology.

- **10:15 AM - 10:45 AM:** Coffee Break & Networking
  Location: Exhibition Hall

- **10:45 AM - 12:00 PM:** Workshop - "Building Production-Ready RAG Applications"
  Instructor: Dr. Alex Kumar (Microsoft Research)
  Location: Workshop Room A
  Prerequisites: Basic Python knowledge
  Description: Hands-on workshop covering retrieval-augmented generation systems, vector databases, and deployment strategies.

- **12:00 PM - 1:30 PM:** Lunch & Sponsor Presentations
  Location: Main Hall

- **1:30 PM - 2:30 PM:** Panel Discussion - "Ethics in AI Development"
  Moderator: Prof. Maria Santos (Berkeley)
  Panelists: Dr. Sarah Chen, Lisa Wang, Dr. Robert Kim (IBM)
  Location: Main Auditorium

- **2:30 PM - 3:30 PM:** Technical Session - "Advances in Natural Language Processing"
  Speakers: Multiple researchers presenting 15-minute talks
  Location: Conference Room B

- **3:30 PM - 4:00 PM:** Afternoon Break
  Location: Exhibition Hall

- **4:00 PM - 5:00 PM:** Industry Showcase - "AI in Healthcare"
  Speakers: Representatives from leading healthcare AI companies
  Location: Main Auditorium

- **5:00 PM - 7:00 PM:** Welcome Reception & Networking
  Location: Rooftop Terrace

Day 2 - June 16, 2024

- **9:00 AM - 10:00 AM:** Keynote - "Computer Vision: From Research to Real-World Applications"
  Speaker: Prof. Michael Rodriguez (Stanford University)
  Location: Main Auditorium

- **10:00 AM - 10:30 AM:** Coffee Break
  Location: Exhibition Hall

- **10:30 AM - 12:00 PM:** Workshop - "LLM Fine-tuning and Optimization"
  Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Lee (Hugging Face)
  Location: Workshop Room A

Prerequisites: Experience with transformers and PyTorch
Description: Learn advanced techniques for fine-tuning large language models for specific tasks and domains.

- **12:00 PM - 1:30 PM:** Lunch & Poster Session
  Location: Main Hall

- **1:30 PM - 2:30 PM:** Fireside Chat - "The Business of AI"
  Speakers: Lisa Wang (OpenAI) & Mark Thompson (Andreessen Horowitz)
  Location: Main Auditorium

- **2:30 PM - 3:30 PM:** Technical Session - "MLOps and AI Infrastructure"
  Location: Conference Room B

- **3:30 PM - 4:00 PM:** Final Coffee Break
  Location: Exhibition Hall

- **4:00 PM - 5:00 PM:** Closing Keynote - "AI's Role in Solving Global Challenges"
  Speaker: Dr. Priya Patel (UN AI Advisory Board)
  Location: Main Auditorium

- **5:00 PM - 5:30 PM:** Closing Remarks & Awards Ceremony
  Location: Main Auditorium

WORKSHOP DETAILS

Workshop 1: Building Production-Ready RAG Applications

Instructor: Dr. Alex Kumar, Senior Research Scientist at Microsoft Research
Duration: 75 minutes
Capacity: 50 participants
Requirements: Laptop with Python 3.8+, basic ML knowledge
   What you'll learn:

- Understanding RAG architecture and components

- Implementing vector databases for document retrieval

- Integrating large language models for response generation

- Best practices for production deployment

- Handling edge cases and error scenarios

   Materials provided:

- Complete code repository

- Sample datasets

- Deployment templates

- Reference documentation

Workshop 2: LLM Fine-tuning and Optimization

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Lee, ML Engineer at Hugging Face
Duration: 90 minutes
Capacity: 40 participants
Requirements: GPU-enabled laptop or cloud credits provided
What you'll learn:

- Parameter-efficient fine-tuning techniques (LoRA, AdaLoRA)

- Dataset preparation and preprocessing

- Training monitoring and evaluation

- Model compression and quantization

- Deployment optimization strategies

Hands-on exercises:

- Fine-tune a model for sentiment analysis

- Implement custom training loops

- Compare different optimization techniques

- Deploy optimized models

VENUE INFORMATION

San Francisco Convention Center
747 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
The San Francisco Convention Center is a state-of-the-art facility located in the heart of SOMA district. The venue features:

- High-speed WiFi throughout the facility

- Multiple presentation rooms with AV equipment

- Accessible facilities and accommodations

- On-site catering and coffee stations

- Parking garage with 1,500+ spaces

Transportation:

- BART: Montgomery Street Station (0.5 miles)

- Muni: Multiple bus lines serve the area

- Ride-sharing pickup/drop-off zones available

- Bike parking facilities on-site

ACCOMMODATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Partner Hotels (Special Conference Rates):
Marriott Marquis San Francisco
Distance: 0.2 miles walking
Rate: $189/night (mention TechConf 2024)
Amenities: Pool, fitness center, multiple restaurants
Hotel Zephyr San Francisco
Distance: 1.5 miles
Rate: $159/night
Amenities: Unique nautical theme, waterfront location
The Westin San Francisco Market Street
Distance: 0.8 miles
Rate: $199/night
Amenities: Luxury amenities, spa services
Budget Options:

- HI San Francisco Downtown Hostel ($45/night)

- Beck's Motor Lodge ($89/night)

- Various Airbnb options in the area

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Platinum Sponsors:
- Google Cloud - Providing cloud credits for workshop participants

- Microsoft Azure - Supporting the AI infrastructure track

- NVIDIA - Powering our GPU-intensive workshops
Gold Sponsors:
- Hugging Face - Open source AI platform

- Weights & Biases - ML experiment tracking

- Pinecone - Vector database solutions
Silver Sponsors:
- Cohere - Language AI platform

- Anthropic - AI safety research

- Scale AI - Data platform for AI
Community Partners:
- AI/ML San Francisco Meetup

- Women in AI

- Stanford AI Lab

- UC Berkeley AI Research