Lavanya Ramakrishnan leads the Usable Software Systems Group, in the Data Science and Technology department at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (LBL). Her research interests are in usable software tools for computational and data-intensive science. After finishing her undergraduate degree in computer engineering from India in 2000, she headed to the United States for graduate school. She got her MS in Computer Science from Indiana University in 2002. She worked as a research programmer at MCNC and the Renaissance Computing Institute in North Carolina. She joined LBL as an Alvarez Postdoctoral Fellow in 2009 after finishing her PhD.