

Computational Physics:

- A Model for Physics Education

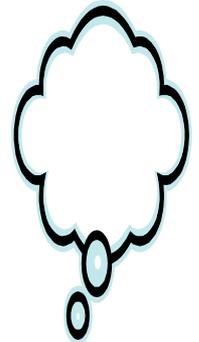
-A Model for Future eTextBook

Rubin Landau

Physics Professor Emeritus

Oregon State University

physics.oregonstate.edu/~rubin



1st = Computational subatomic few-body systems (1966-2003)

2nd = Research developments (1988-) → broaden, ed dream

Computational Physics for Undergraduates

Supported by NSF (CCLI, CI-Team/EPIC), OSU, MSR



Contributing Group

- Manuel J Paez, University of Medellin, Colombia, SA, CoAuthor
- Cristian Bordeianu, University of Bucharest, Romania, CoAuthor [deceased]
- Paul Fink, Robyn Wangberg, CoAuthors
- Justin Elser, Chris Sullivan (system support)
- Sally Haerer, Saturo S. Kano (consultants, producers)
- Melanie Johnson (Unix Tutorials)
- Hans Kowallik (Computational Physics text, sounds, codes, LAPACK, PVM)
- Matthew Ervin Des Voigne (tutorials)
- Bertrand Laubsch (Java sound, decay simulation)
- Jon J Maestri (vizualizations, animations, quantum packets) [deceased]
- Al Stetz, David McIntyre (First Course)
- Juan Vanegas (OpenDX)
- Connelly Barnes (OOP, PtPlot)
- Phil Carter, Donna Hertel (MPI)
- Zlatko Dimcovic (Wavelets, Java I/O)
- Joel Wetzel (figures)
- Pat Cannan, Don Corliss, Corvallis High School (N-D Newton Raphson)
- Brian Schlatter
- Daniel Moore, (REU, Summer 98; Whitman College, WA)
- Justin Murray, (REU, Summer 98; Weber State University, Ogden, Utah)
- Brandon Smith, (REU, Summer 97; Chico State/SDSC, CA)
- Paul D. Hillard, III (REU, Summer 96; Southern Univ, LA)
- Kevin Wolver, (REU, Summer 96; St Ambrose, IA)

And all the suffering students!



Preview (CP-2 Resource Letter, AJP)

D of
SC

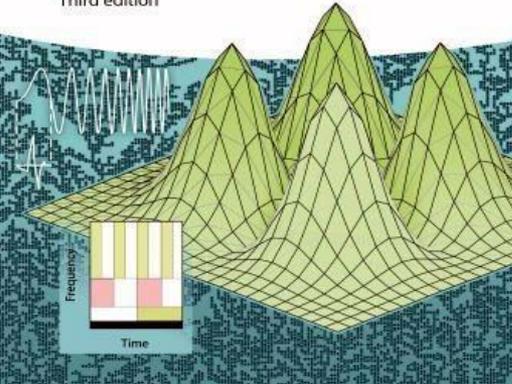
1. **Need Comp Science & Engr (data) ✓**
2. **Computational Courses ✓**
3. **Comp Physics Approach & Contents ✓**
4. **Journals**
5. **Conferences & Organizations**
 - a. SC Center & Grids
 - b. CSE Ed Focus Groups ✓
6. **Books ✓**
7. **Tools, Languages, Environments ✓**
8. **Parallel Computing**
9. **Digital Libraries, eTexts ✓**
 - a. Subroutine libes
 - b. General DLs

Rubin H. Landau, Manuel J. Páez
and Cristian C. Bordeianu

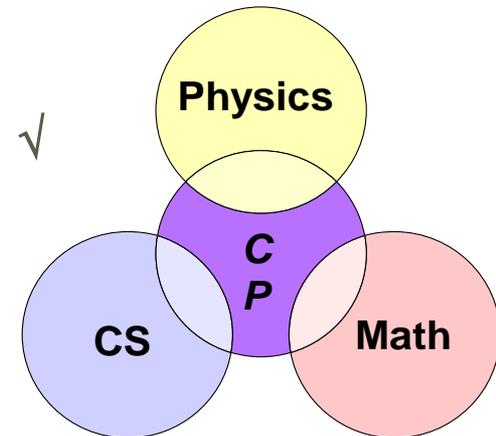
WILEY-VCH

Computational Physics

Problem Solving with Python
Third edition



*Python Version
Wiley 2015*



© Rubín Landau, OSU



Changing the Status Quo?



- If we
parac

- ... the
in thi
what
peop
thous

- You r
exist
a nev
obso



- does
all
f
but
e.
n

- g the
build
odel

Premise: Need Δ (Phys Ed)

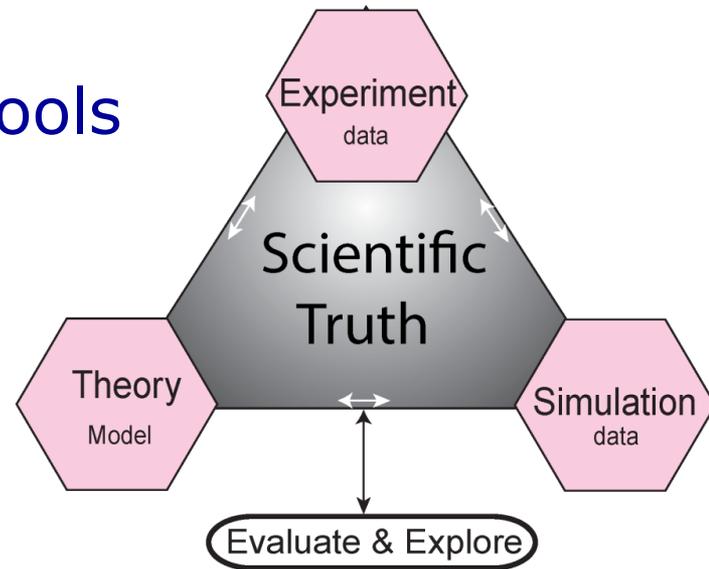
- Historical rapid Δ in how/what do science
 - \uparrow computer power & pervasiveness
- $\Rightarrow \Delta$ undergrad Ph Ed $>$ *delivery (C tool)*
 - Proper for P Ed Δ *content: more C, Understand C*
 - *CSE view; Toolset freedom, Compt Science Think*
- Physics Choice: like *Classic Greek*, or living?
 - “we are teaching the same things we taught 50 years ago”
(APS/AAPT Taskforce on Grad Ed., R Diehl)
- PH(t) narrows, CSE *do* Fluids, MD, NLinear, data mining
- Simulation: Solitons, QCD, Stars, Black holes, Particle-Astro

Premise (cont): Need Δ (Phys Ed)

- Physics = problem solving describing physical world
- From Basic principles + math tools
- Now + Computation = tool

■ National Labs Research \rightarrow CSE

■ CSE Educational view



■ \Leftrightarrow research (creative) = Hi Quality education

■ = Physics Education + Research Attitude

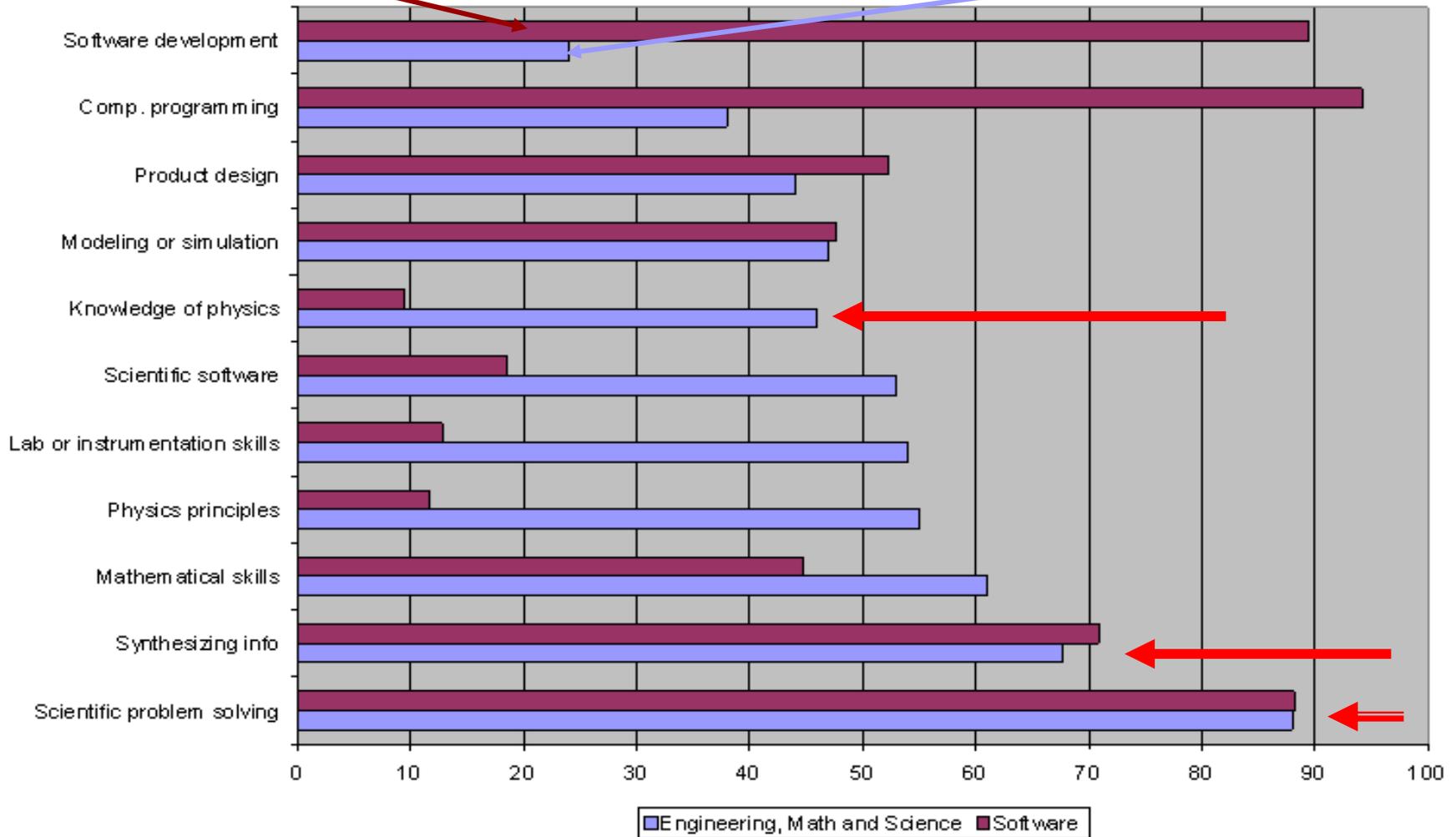
■ \neq Physics Education Research (inward)

Evidence for Δ (Physics Ed) 1

Software

What's Important in 5-7 Years? (AIP)

S, M, E

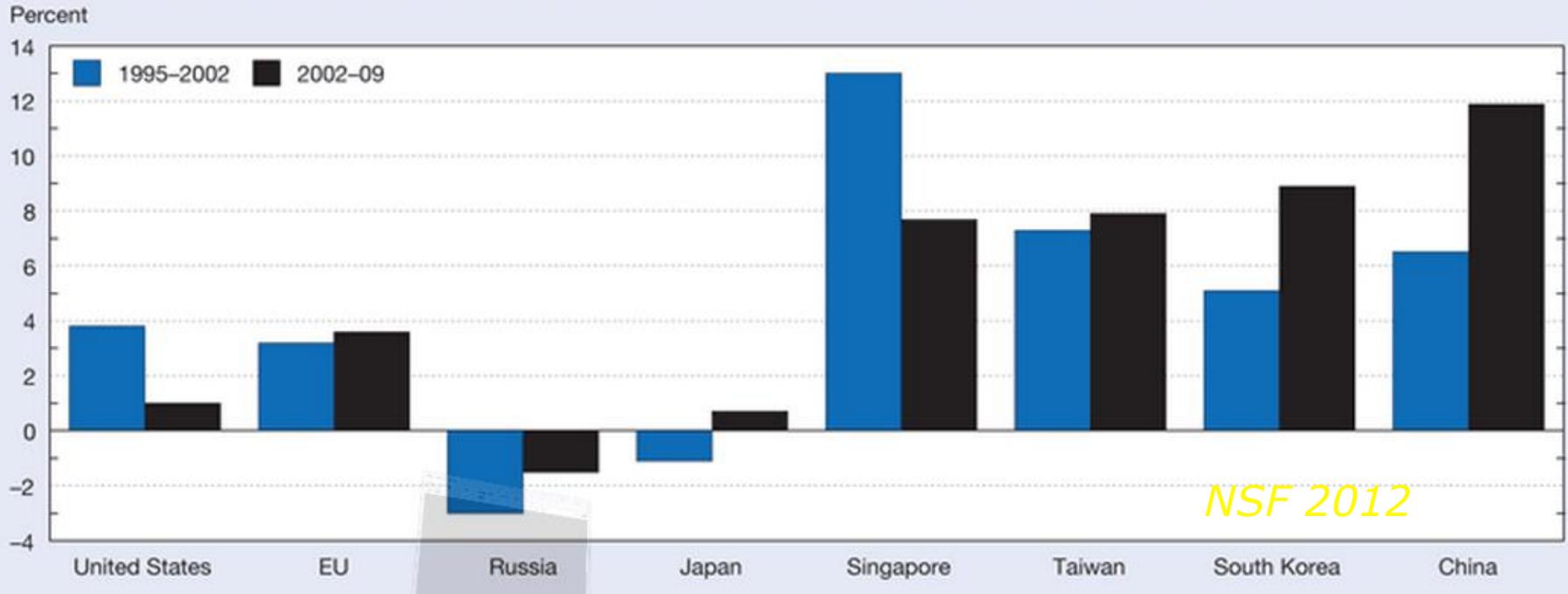


Evidence for Δ (Physics Ed) 2

- National Science Board: remain in field
 - 35% of CS, math BS (74% PhD)
 - 22% of physical, biological (52%)
 - *≠ bad thing!*
- ⇒ Undergrad Physics overemphasize Physics!
 - = weaker preparation for career
 - *"In the new economy, computer science isn't an optional skill"* B. Obama, 2016

Evidence for Δ (Physics Ed) 3

Average annual growth in number of researchers, by region/country/economy: 1995–2002 and 2002–09



- Number US STEM grads decreasing

- Yet Numb \neq issue!, $t_{HW} = 24\text{hr}$ (1961) \rightarrow 15 hr

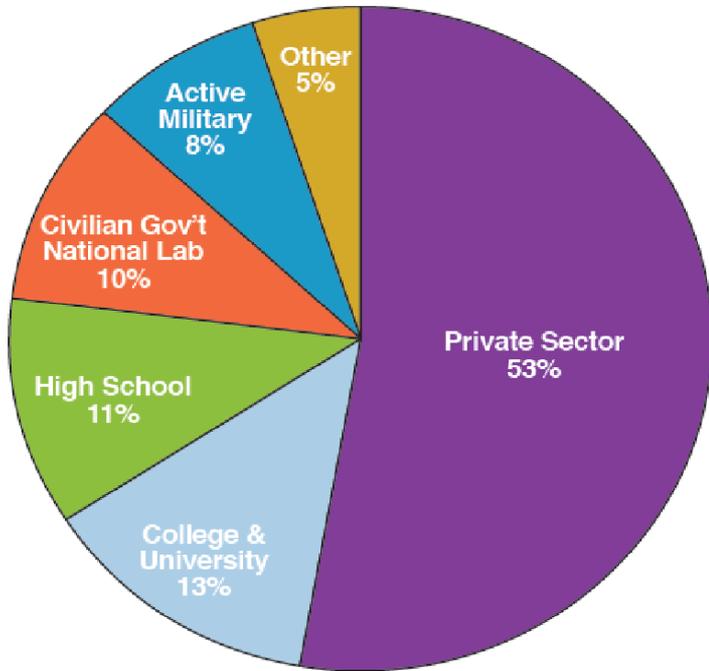
- Bristol Comp Ph Exam: 75% (1990) \rightarrow 50% (2000)



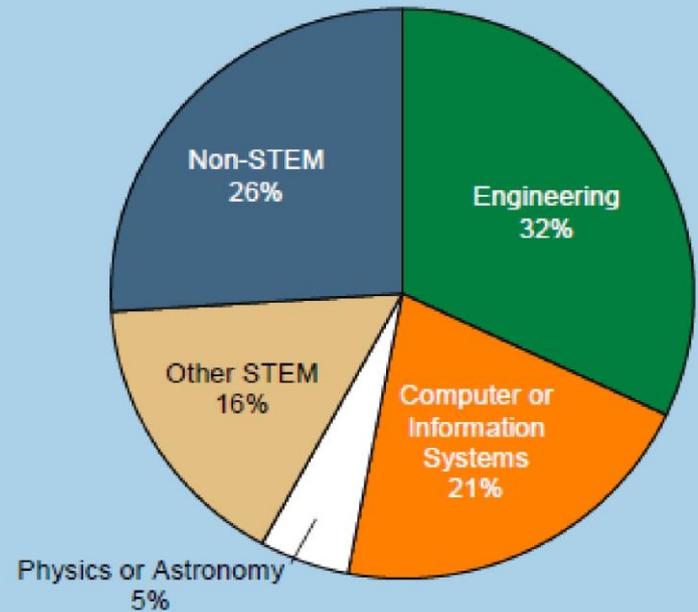
- Though entrance grades increased (B \rightarrow A)

Evidence for Δ (Physics Ed) 4

Initial Employment Sectors of Physics Bachelor's Classes of 2009 & 2010 Combined



Field of Employment for Physics Bachelor's in the Private Sector, Classes of 2009 & 2010 Combined



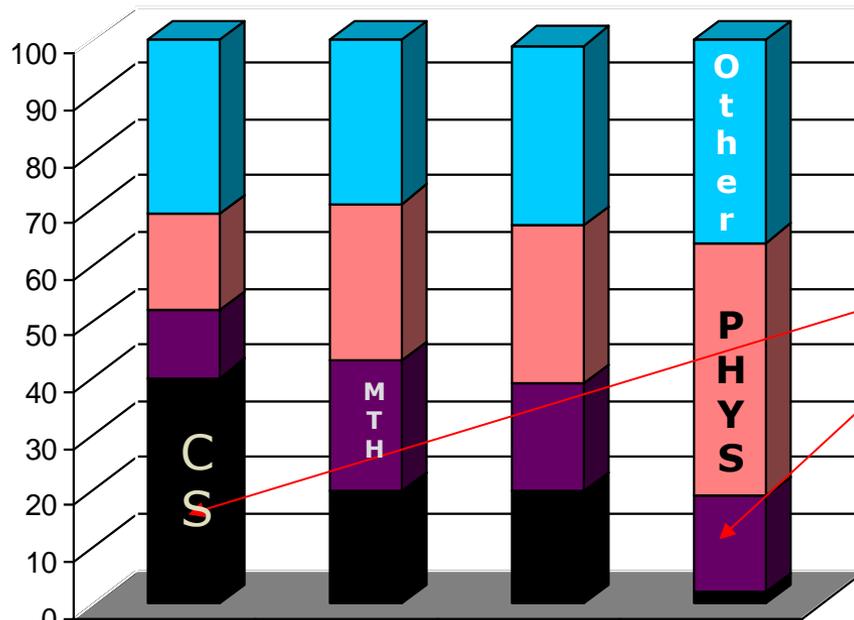
STEM refers to natural Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

<http://www.aip.org/statistics>

Where Do Physics BS's Go?

Evidence for Δ (Science Ed)

Subject Balance (% Courses)



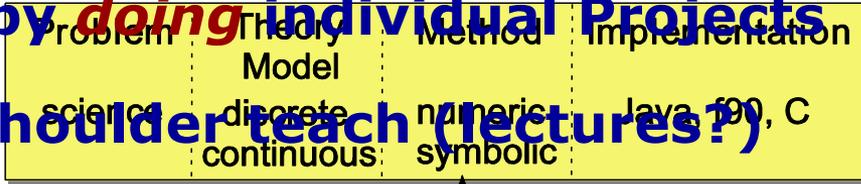
	CS	CSE	CP	PH
Other	31	29	32	36
Application	17	28	28	45
Math	12	23	19	17
Comp	40	20	20	2

- RHL Survey (Y&L)
- CSE, CP ~ balance
- Small sample
- Stereotypes
- PH Ed: imbalance?

What = CP, How CP

- Problem solving (why do P, what P do)

- Learn by *doing individual Projects*



- Over-shoulder teach (lectures?)

- Practical ≠ "Theory of CP" (grad, math); doer *Multi ≠ Inter*

- **CS + Math + physics in context**

- **More efficient, effective approach to science Ed**

- ok ↓ # "physics" time

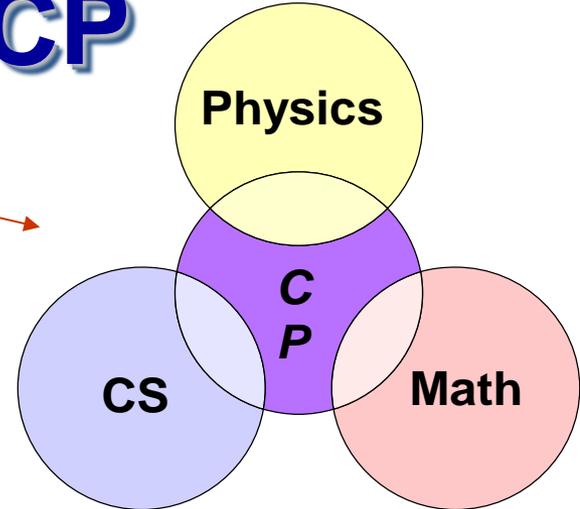
- Compiled language

- see algorithm (eqtns)

- bare bone codes given



"I am not a bigot!" (Python, packages)



O.Y.



Changing Physics Courses May help

***President's Info Tech Advisory Committee:
CS departments alone can't meet need, not diverse,
"computational science indispensable in every sector,... need
be recognized by governments & universities"***



United States ▾

[Wish List](#) [My Account](#) [Contact Us](#)

[SHOPPING CART](#)

[Home](#) [About Us](#) ▾ [Resources](#) ▾ [Textbooks](#) ▾ [CRCnetBASE](#) [Featured Authors](#)

Search or Browse by Subject



BOOK SERIES

Series in Computational Physics

About the Series

This textbook series is aimed at the modern physics curriculum, presenting teaching and learning resources at the advanced undergraduate and graduate levels. It covers all areas of physics in which computation is now an integral component as well as new, cross-disciplinary topics of modern computational sciences. The presentation is concise and practical, often including solved problems and examples. Among subject areas addressed are condensed matter physics, materials science, particle physics, mathematical methods of computational physics, quantum mechanics, plasma physics, fluid dynamics, statistical physics, optics, and biophysics. These books highlight the importance of numerical methods and computational tools, giving essential foundational materials for students and instructors in the physical sciences as well as academic and industry professionals in physics, engineering, computer science, applied math, and biology.

Series Editors

Steven A. Gottlieb

Rubin H. Landau

Want to Publish with Us?

If you are interested in proposing a book for the series, please contact one of the series editors or one of our acquisitions editors.

[Book Proposal Form](#)

BS in CP @ OSU

	Fall	Winter	Spring
Fresh (46)	Diff Calculus (Mth) Writing/fitness Gen Chem I Perspective CP Seminar	<u>Scientific Comptng I</u> <u>(PH/MTH/CS)</u> Intgl Calculus (MTH) Perspective - 2 Gen Chem II	Intro CS I (CS) Vector Calc (MTH) Gen Phys I Writing/fitness
Soph (45)	Intro CS II (CS) Vector Calc II (MTH) Gen Phys II Writing II	Discrete Math (MTH) Infinite Series (MTH) Gen Phys III Perspective	<u>Scientific Comptng II (PH)</u> App Diff Eqs (MTH) Intro Mod Phys Linear Algebra (MTH)
Jr (44)	<u>CP I (PH)</u> Symmetries (PH) Oscillations (PH) Vector Fields (PH) Writing III CP Seminar	<u>CP II (PH)</u> Data Structures (CS) 1D Waves (PH) Quantum Measures (PH) Central Forces (PH) Elective	Class Mech (PH) Quantm Mech (PH) Perspective Statistics (MTH) Biology
Sr (45)	E & M Math Methods Num Lin Alg (MTH) Electives - 2	<u>Adv CP Lab (PH)</u> Social-Ethical CS Elective - 2 Synthesis	<u>Adv CP Lab -Thesis</u> CP Seminar Elective -2 Multi Media, Web (CS)

*Real computation across the curriculum
Not 1 course, not just our view
Use Available & New Courses < 7 years*



Computational Degree Programs

Abbassi, Swanson, Epic, Mariasingam, L

≈ 5x(2001)

<u>Computational Physics</u>	<u>Computational Mathematics</u>
1. Houghton C	1. Arizona State
2. Illinois State	2. CUNY Brooklyn
3. Oregon State	3. Michigan State
4. SUNY Buffalo	4. Missouri So State
5. Chris Newport (BS/MS+CS)	5. Rice
<u>Computational Science</u>	6. Rochester Inst Tech
1. Stanford (+Math)	7. Seattle Pacific
2. SUNY Brockport	8. Saginaw Valley State
3. Stevens Inst Tech	9. San Jose State
4. UC Berkeley	10. U Chicago
<u>Computational Biology</u>	11. U Illinois Chicago
1. Carnegie Mellon	
2. U Pennsylvania	

<u>Foreign</u>	<u>Programs</u>
1. Australian National University	5. 6. U Calgary (CSE) , Waterloo
2. Kanazawawa U Japan (CSE)	7. U Erlangen-Nurnberg (CSE)
3. National U Singapore (CSE)	8. U Waterloo (CSE)
4. Trinity C, Dublin (CP)	9. Utrecht U (CSE)



Other UG Computational Programs

What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.

Minor, Concentration, Track, Emphasis, Option, Focus (23) (all politics are local)

<u>Computational Physics</u>	<u>Computational Science</u>
1. Carnegie-Mellon, 2. Abilene Christian	1. Capital
3. North Carolina State, Chapman	2. Clark
4. Penn State Erie	3. Old Dominion
5. U Arkansas	4. RPI
<u>Computational Mathematics</u>	5. Salve Regina
1. Princeton (App & CM)	6. Syracuse
2. San Diego State (App & CM)	7. U Wisconsin Eau Claire
3. U Central Florida	8. U Wisconsin LaCrosse
4. U Nebraska-Lincoln	9. U Wisconsin Madison
<u>Computational Biology</u>	10. Wittenberg
1. UC Merced	11. Wofford C
2. Center CB (Colo)	

It Takes a Village



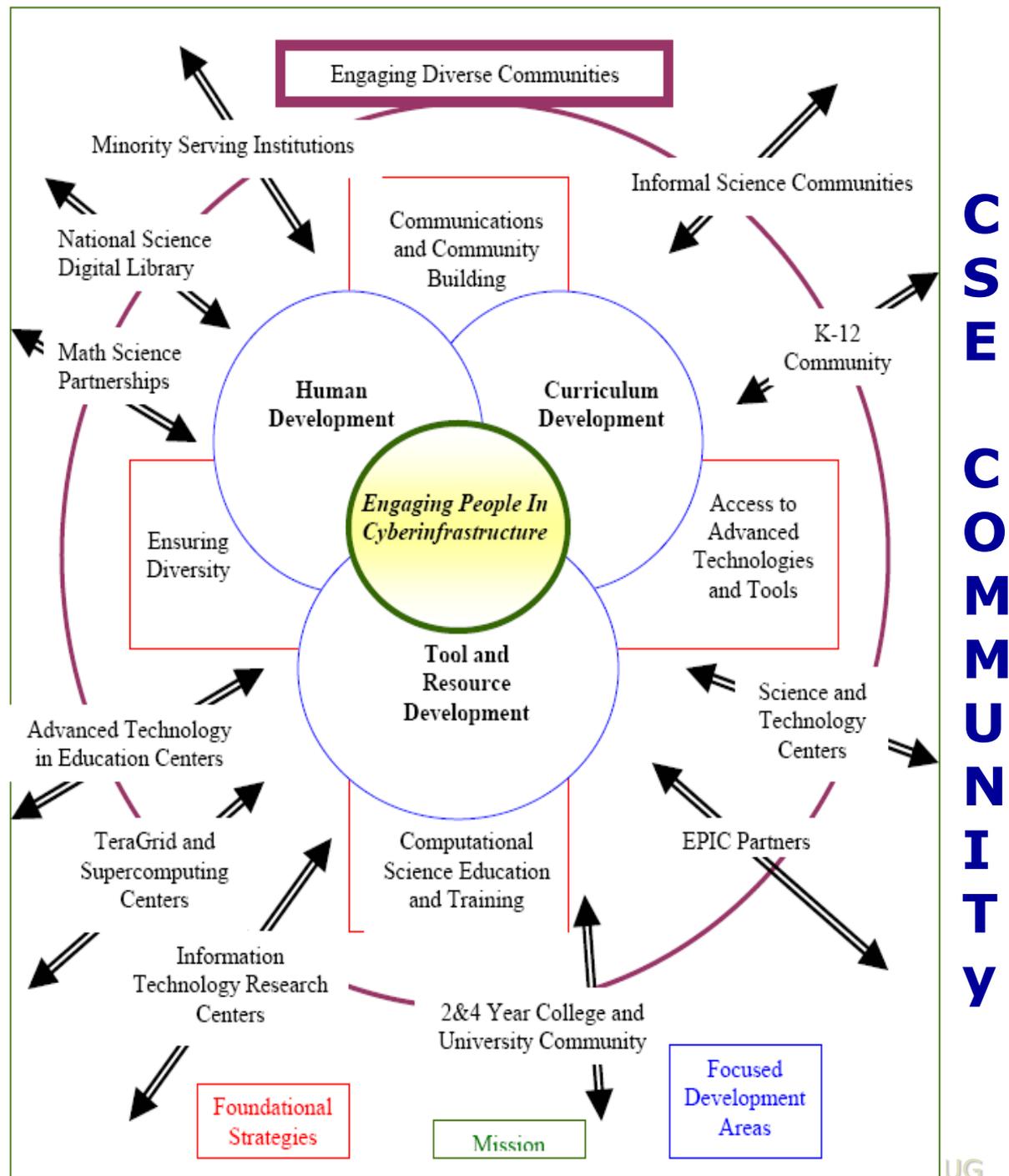
DOE Awards, Fellowship

XSEDE (NSF)

(Extreme Sci & Engr Discovery Environ)
= Σ SuperComputer Centers



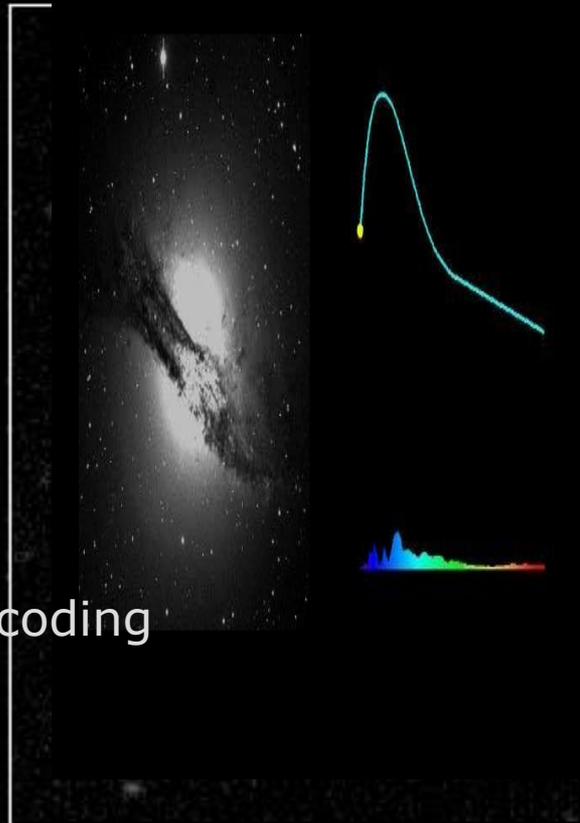
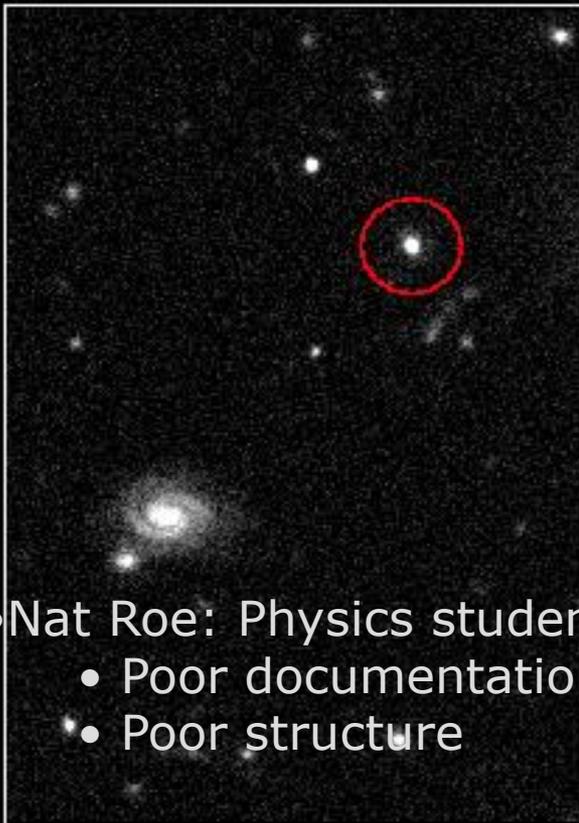
Education People



CP Research, eg 7 **Supernova on Demand**

- Particle physicists data-intensive computing meets astronomy *Movie* ↓
- Measure: expansion rate of universe via Type Ia supernovae
 - standard candle, 2-pt correlation function

Epoch 1



- Nat Roe: Physics student coding
 - Poor documentation
 - Poor structure

Intellectual Content Computational Physics Ed

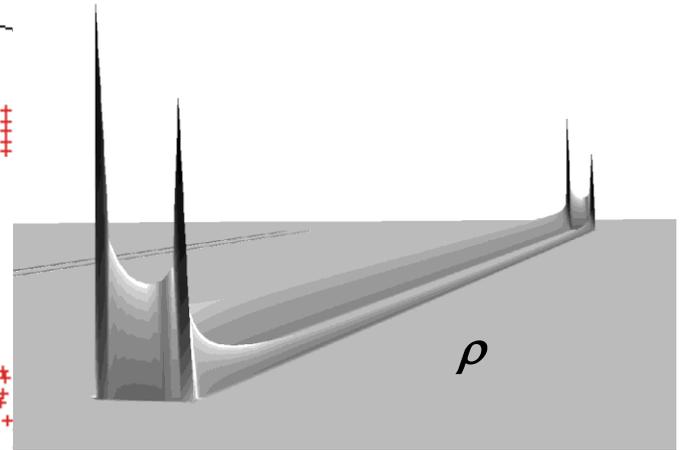
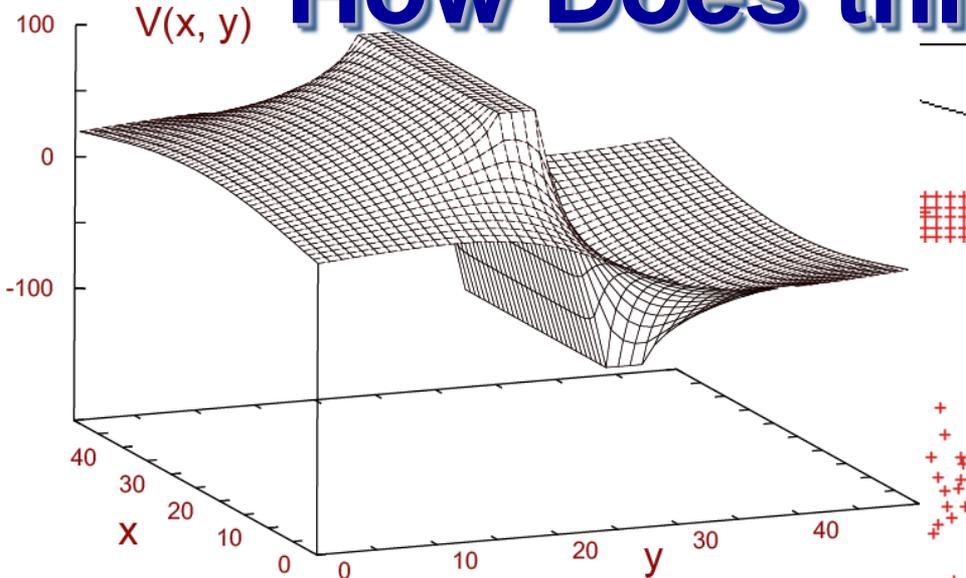
- *Elements of Computational Science & Engineering Ed, Yasar & L (SIAM)*
- Prerequisite establish Computational Physics course
- Include CP Examples in classes
- Easy (too) expect 1 course teach entire subject (programming?)
- Historically guided by research needs; grad study = easy
- *See Student Learning Outcomes (AIP) for specific subjects*

- \neq  , don't need CP BS, 7 years

Examples for Physics Courses

- **Spontaneous Decay Simulation**
- **Classical Chaotic Scattering**
- **Proper ODE Solution**
- **Double & Chaotic Pendula**
- **Nonlinear Dynamics, Bifurcation**
- **Fractals & Statistical Growth**
- **Laplace & Poisson Equations**
- **Realistic PDE Solutions**
- **Molecular Dynamics**
- **Quantum Wave Packets**
- **Realistic Waves**
- **Shock Waves**
- **Solitons**
- **Sonifications**
- **Fluid Dynamics**
- **DFT, Wavelet Analysis**
- **Feynman Path Integrals**
- **Wavelet Analysis**
- **Prin Component Analysis**
- **Data Intensive**

How Does this Work?



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.

"Now I know what

"Now Laplace's eq

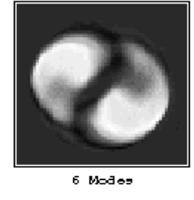
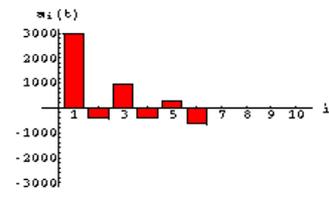
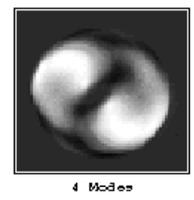
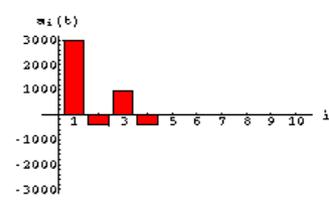
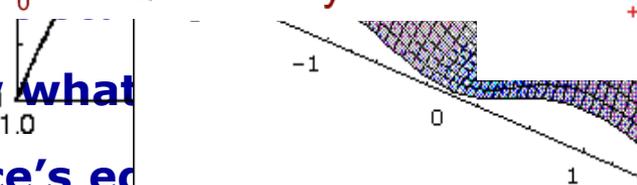
"I was up all night.

Chaotic scattering: several MS, 1 Ph D t

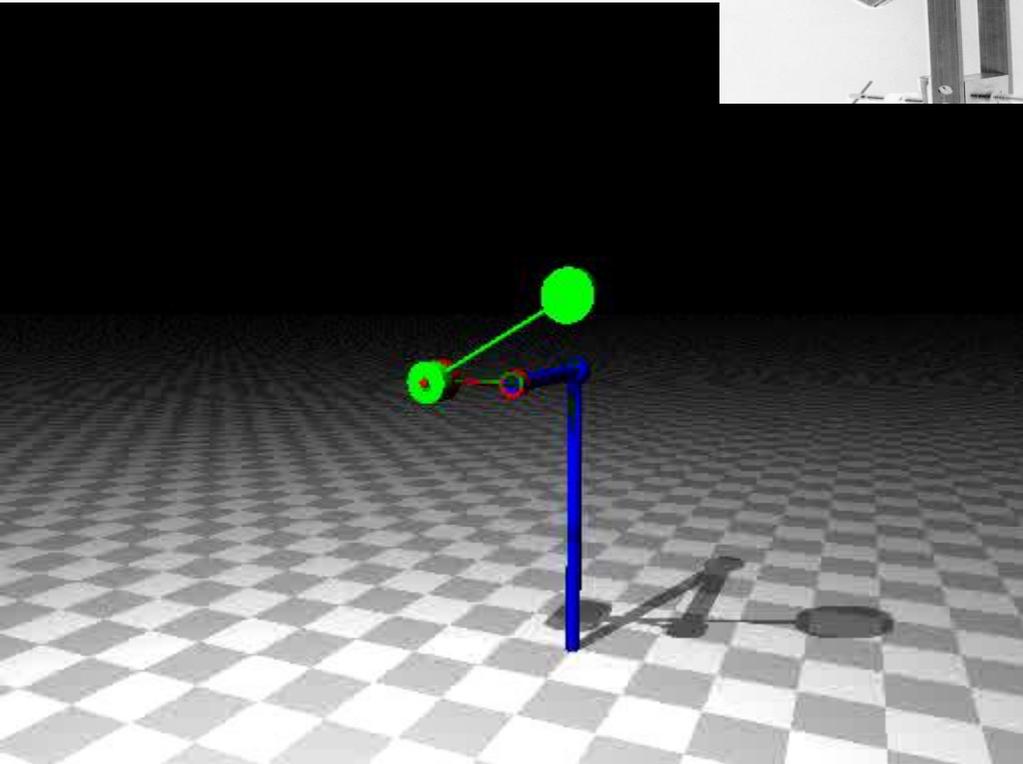
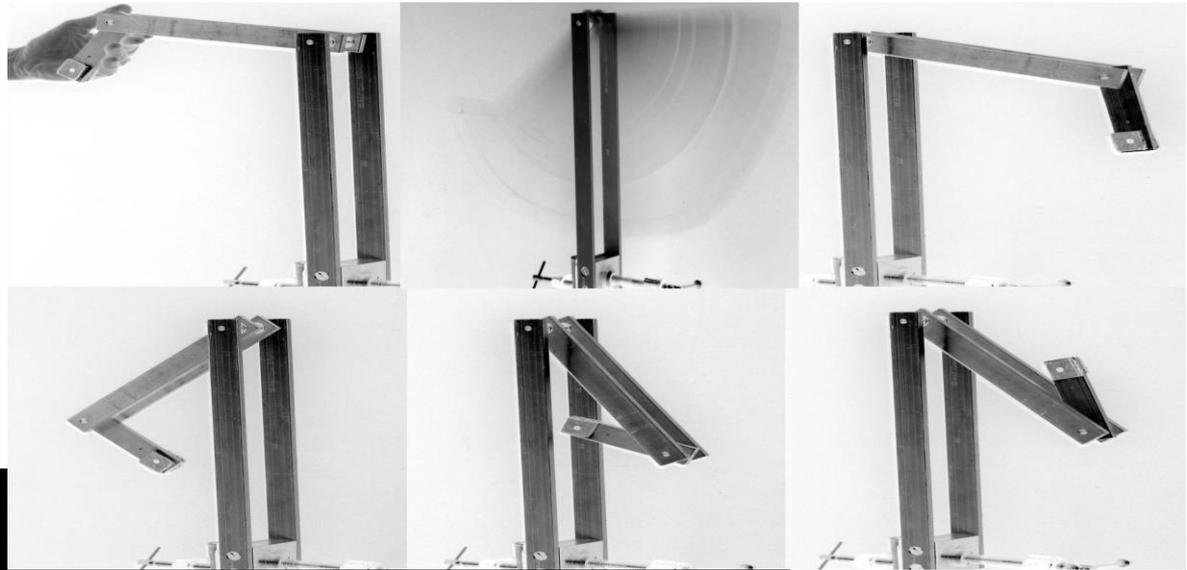
"MD: way I thought simulations should

Great prep physics, astroP, CS, ocean, bioP, brain

Women: didn't know liked C, problem solving



Double Pendulum



Online Courses

- Web N is here to stay & grow
- Challenge use it well for Education
- Not: general ed, weak discipline, motivation

Computational Physics II, 465/565

Oregon State University

© RH Landau, Oregon State University, 2012
with Support from the National Science Foundation,
CCLI-0836971

- N *Feynman Path Integrals I*

- G

Hamilton's Principle of Least Action (Classical)

Newton's Law $\equiv \delta S[\bar{x}(t)] = 0$

"The most general motion of a physical particle moving along the classical trajectory $\bar{x}(t)$ from time t_a to t_b is along a path such that the action $S[\bar{x}(t)]$ is an extremum."

Dynamic slide

$$\delta S = S[\bar{x}(t) + \delta x(t)] - S[\bar{x}(t)] = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{(Constraint)} \quad \delta(x_a) = \delta(x_b) = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$[x(t)] = \text{functional}$$

$$S[\bar{x}(t)] = \int_{t_a}^{t_b} dt L[x(t), \dot{x}(t)] \quad (3)$$

$$L = \text{Lagrangian} = T[x, \dot{x}] - V[x] \quad (4)$$

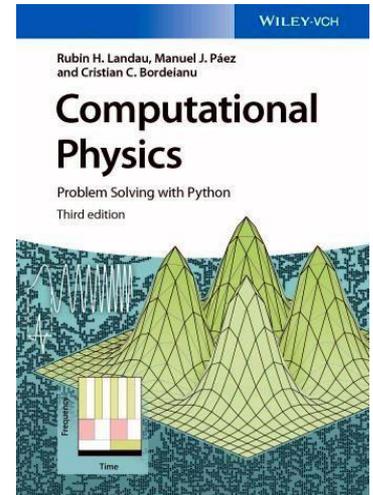
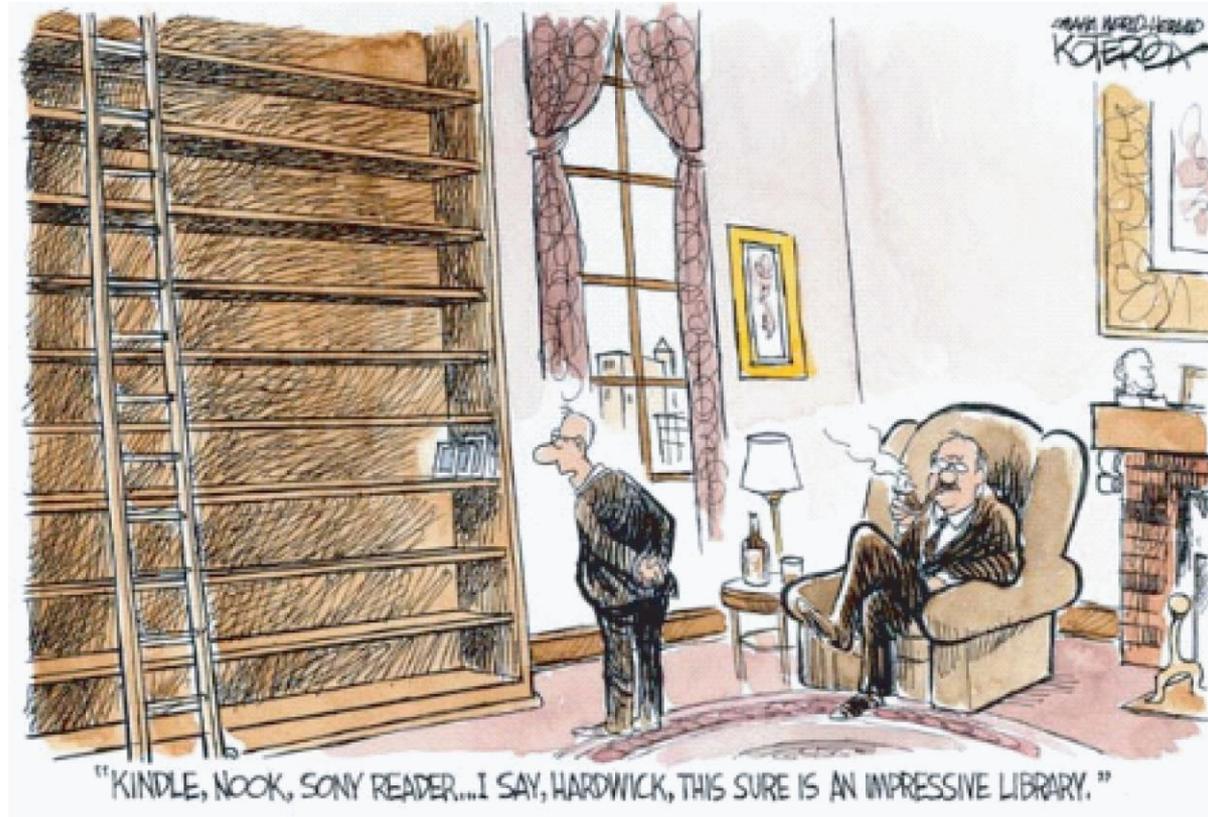
Dynamic TOC

Free Online
Lecture **and** Slides
(N-D Search)

RHL: Hybrid Course
Online Lectures
Lecture time \rightarrow Lab time

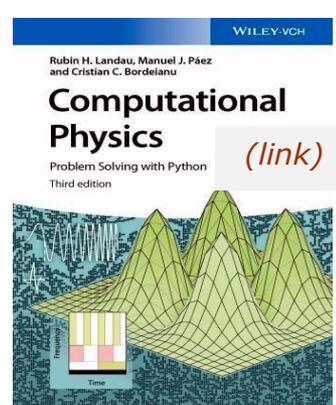


Digital Book



[Python \(link\)](#)

Digital Book



Technology Catching Up

- Exploring since 1996 WWW
- Multiple senses
- High accessibility potential
- Δ learning approaches
- Students: integrated package
- Vision: Interactive eqns, figs
- [Html1](#), [Java Applets](#), [XML](#), [ePub](#),

[Ibook](#), [Kindle](#), [Pdf-href](#), [Html5-wiley?](#)

- [Python notebook](#)  (TOC -8 euler, abm)

~rubin/Books/CPbook/eBook/Notebooks

Not There Yet

- Exec files, OS's incompatible
- Very large files (\rightarrow cloud)
- Validate data & codes?
- Security concerns
- No standard readers, writers
- \neq deep subject **mastery**
- Mastery \gg scanning
- No page numbers

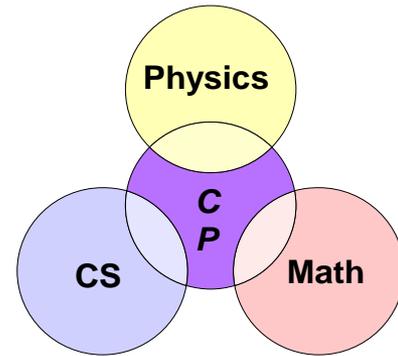


A good book has no ending. –R.D. Cumming

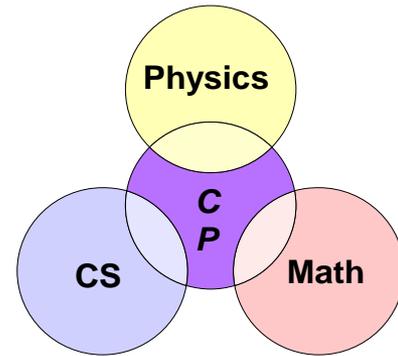
© Rubin Landau, CPUG

Take Home Lessons

- **Physics now done with computation**
- **Physics now done with other sciences**
- **Physics Ed now done with 50-100 year old stuff**
- **Students are people; more product than customer**
- **Agree: bad math means unreliable science?**
- **So bad computation means unreliable science**
- **Computation too important to leave to CS**
- **www.science.oregonstate.edu/~rubin**



Conclusions & Summary



- **Suggest: rejuvenate Phys Ed with modern Res (+CP)**
- **Need Δ curriculum: learn P + CS + math in context**
- **CP courses, materials: More efficient, effective *Model***
 - **learning within problem solving, emotional connect**
 - **learn all 3 better, frees t for C, M**
 - **Freedom: common toolset & mindset CSE**
 - **Thank you!**
 - **www.science.oregonstate.edu/~rubin**

Skills Expected of Physics Undergraduates (AAPT)

Plot functions and data

ODEs, PDEs

Visualization complex data

Matrix operations

Numerical integration, diff

Fourier transforms, FFT

Limits of algorithms

Statistics, data fitting

Programming*, compiled

Computational thinking

language

Symbolic programming

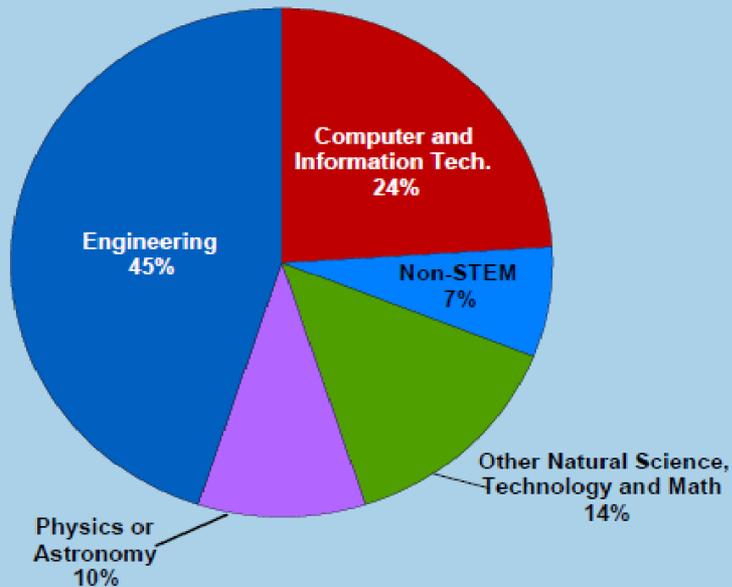
Several operating system

LATEX

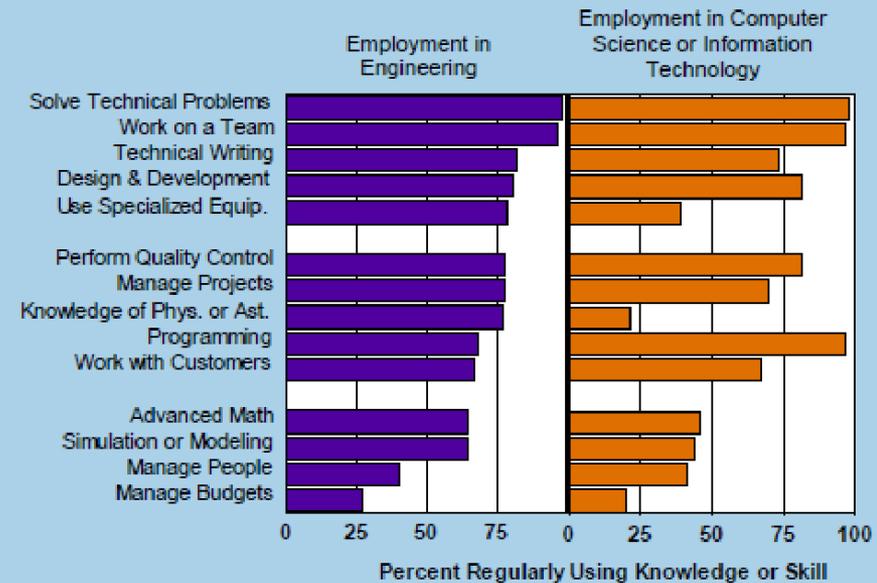


Evidence for Δ (Physics Ed) 5

Field of Employment of Exiting Physics Masters Working in the Private Sector One Year After Degree, Classes of 2012, 2013, & 2014 Combined.



Knowledge and Skills Regularly Used by Physics Bachelor's Employed in the Private Sector, Classes of 2011 & 2012 Combined.



Percentages represent the physics bachelor's who chose "daily," "weekly," or "monthly" on a four-point scale that also included "never or rarely."

<http://www.aip.org/statistics>

Two Lower-Division Courses

Physics/Math/CS 265, Scientific Computing I (*A First Course*, Princeton)

OS, Basic Maple, Number Types

Logical control, plotting

Maple Functions, Number types, Symbolics

Visualization, Loops, Integration

Calculus, Equation Solving

Objects, Complex Arithmetic

Introductory Java

Web Computing: Applets

Limits, Methods (functions)

Arrays, File I/O

Physics 464/564, Intro Computational Science (*Computational Physics*, Wiley)

Unix Editing and Running*

Monte Carlo Techniques

Floating Point Errors & Uncertainties

Random Walk, Decay Simulation*

Limits: precision, under/overflows

Interpolation, cubic spline

Matrix Computing with JAMA lib

Least-squares fit, Quadrature

Differentiation, ODEs, ODE Eigenvalues

Hardware: Memory, CPU, Tuning

Contents of Upper-Division Courses

Physics 465–6/565–6 Computational Physics (*Computational Physics*, Wiley)

Realistic, Double Pendula*

Fourier & Wavelet Analyses

Predators & Prey: Nonlinear Mappings*

Chaotic Pendulum/Scattering*

Fractals, Aggregation, Trees, Coastlines*

Bound States via Integral Eqtns

Quantum Scattering, Integral Equations

Thermodynamics: The Ising Model

Quantum Path Integration*

Fluid Dynamics

Electrostatic Potentials

Parallel Computing (MPI), Heat Flow

Waves on a String

Shock Waves & Solitons

Molecular Dynamics Simulations

Electronic Wave Packets

Physics 467/567 Advanced Computational Laboratory

Radar Maps of Archaeological Tells

Molecular Dynamics Simulations

Meson-Nuclei p-Space Scattering

Wavepacket-Wavepacket Interactions

Serious Scientific Visualization

Earthquake Analysis

Density Functional Theory

Gamow States of Exotic Atoms

Pion Form Factor Data Analysis

Particle Hydrodynamics

Brain Waves Principal Components

Quantum Chromodynamics