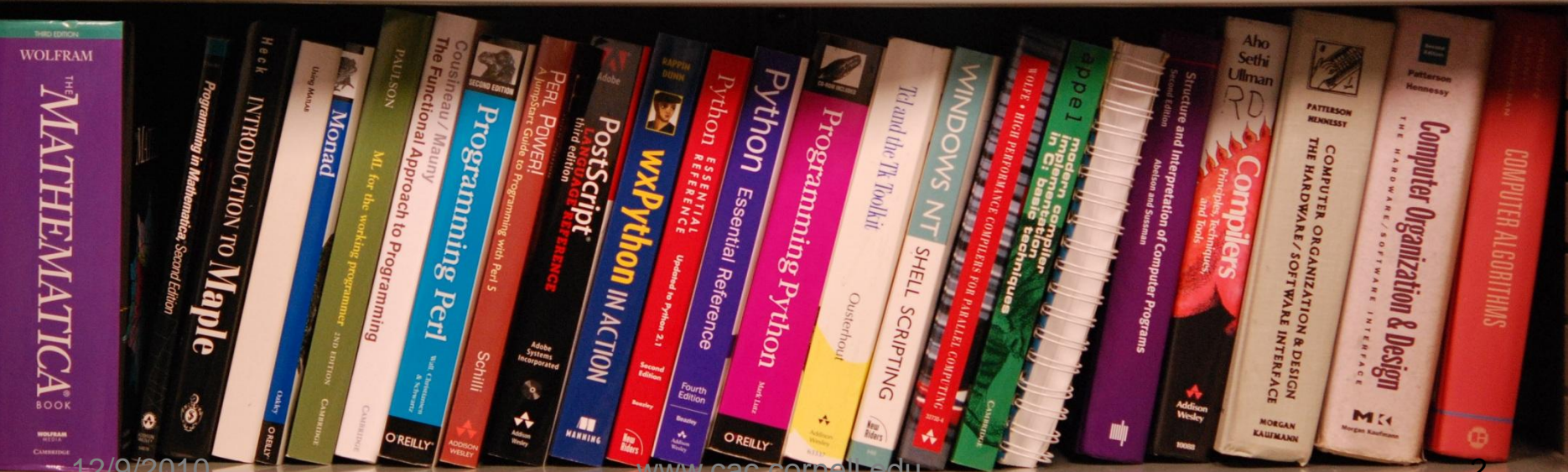




# Scripting for HPC

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December 8, 2010



12/9/2010

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## What's a scripting language?

- Python
- Perl
- R
- Lua
- Tcl
- Ruby
- Bash, Csh

What scripting language is  
more popular than all of these?



## What's It Look Like?

- Go to `~/labs/python`
- Look at `simple.py`.
- Run it with  
`python simple.py 100`

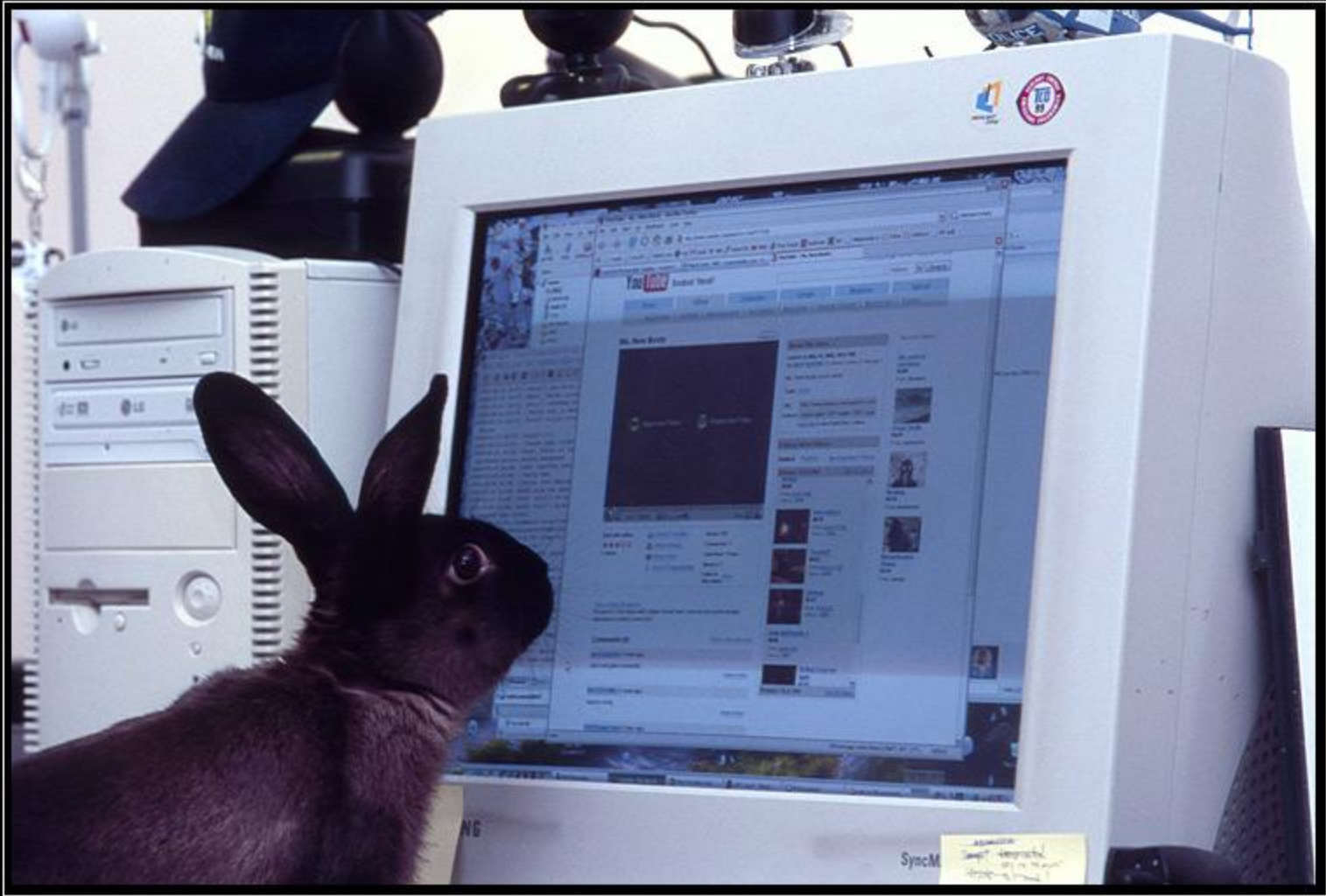
What do you notice about how it differs from C, Fortran?



## Dynamic = Built to Play

- Graphics – Matplotlib, VTK, gnuplot
- Numerics – Numpy, Scipy
- Data Transformation – XML, binary, HDF
- Networking – MPI, TCP/IP, web services

Can't Fortran do these things?



Luna the rabbit says RELAX.



## Exercise: Pure Math Speed

- `$ cd python`
- Add python and numpy modules.
- `$ time python pure_invert.py 100`
- `$ time python numpy_invert.py 100`
- Is the code reasonable?

YOU  
ARE  
BEAUTIFUL







# Top Level Logic

Integration, Larger loops,  
Middle Stuff

Innermost Subroutines



## Replacing Top Level

Initialize()

Decide what you store.

Loop until done:

    Integrate()

Write final results()

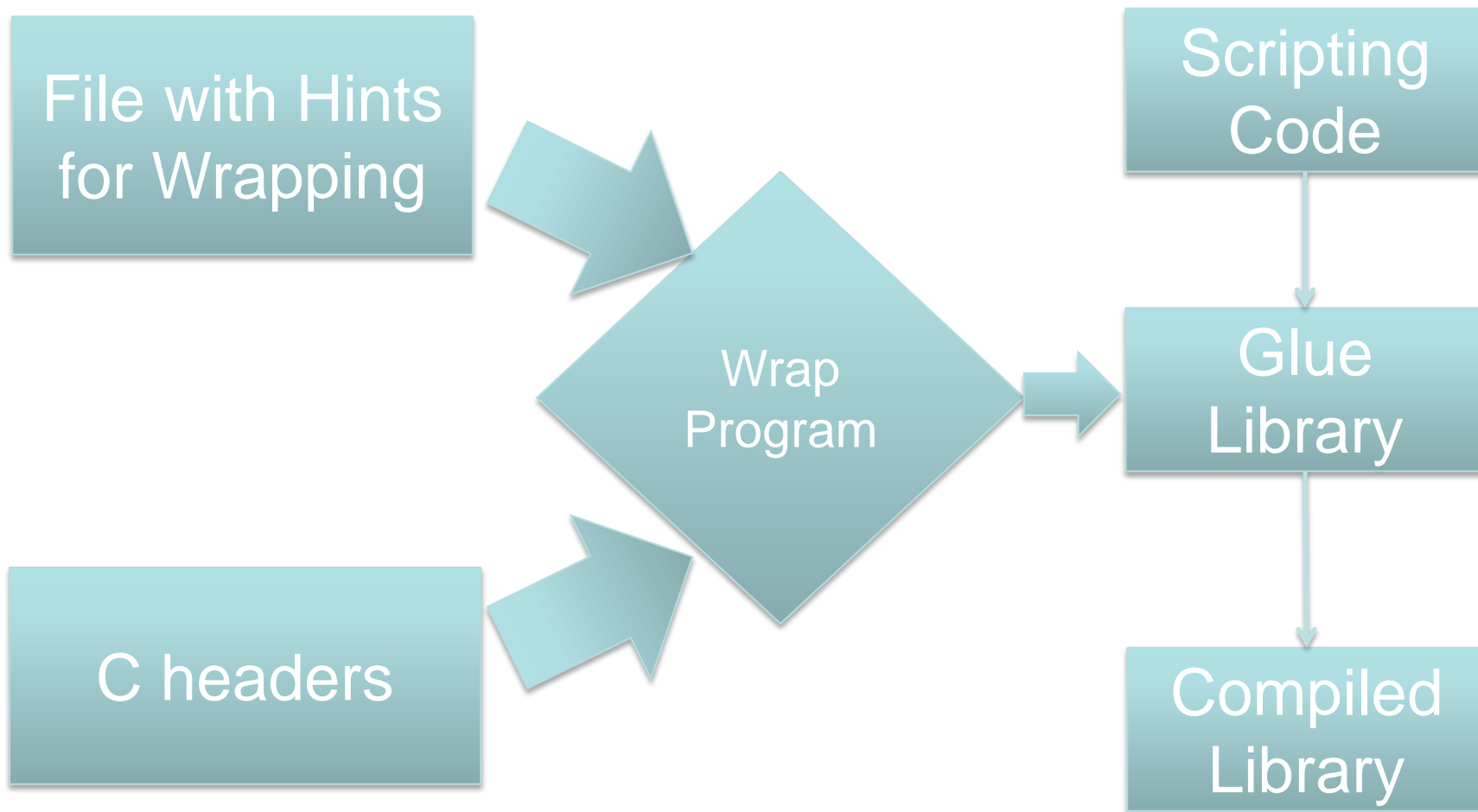
Write summary results()



Top Level

*Glue*

C or Fortran





## Python Glue - Pyrex

```
from mpi4py.mpi_c cimport MPI_Comm, MPI_COMM_WORLD,  
MPI_Comm_split, MPI_Comm_rank
```

```
cdef extern from "library.h":
```

```
    void lammps_open(int argc, char** argv,  
                    MPI_Comm comm, void** lammps_ptr)  
    void lammps_close(void* lammps_ptr)  
    void lammps_file(void* lammps_ptr, char* file)  
    char* lammps_command(void* lammps_ptr,  
                        char* command)
```



# Almost All Fortran

Parameter  
File

Initialization  
Subroutine

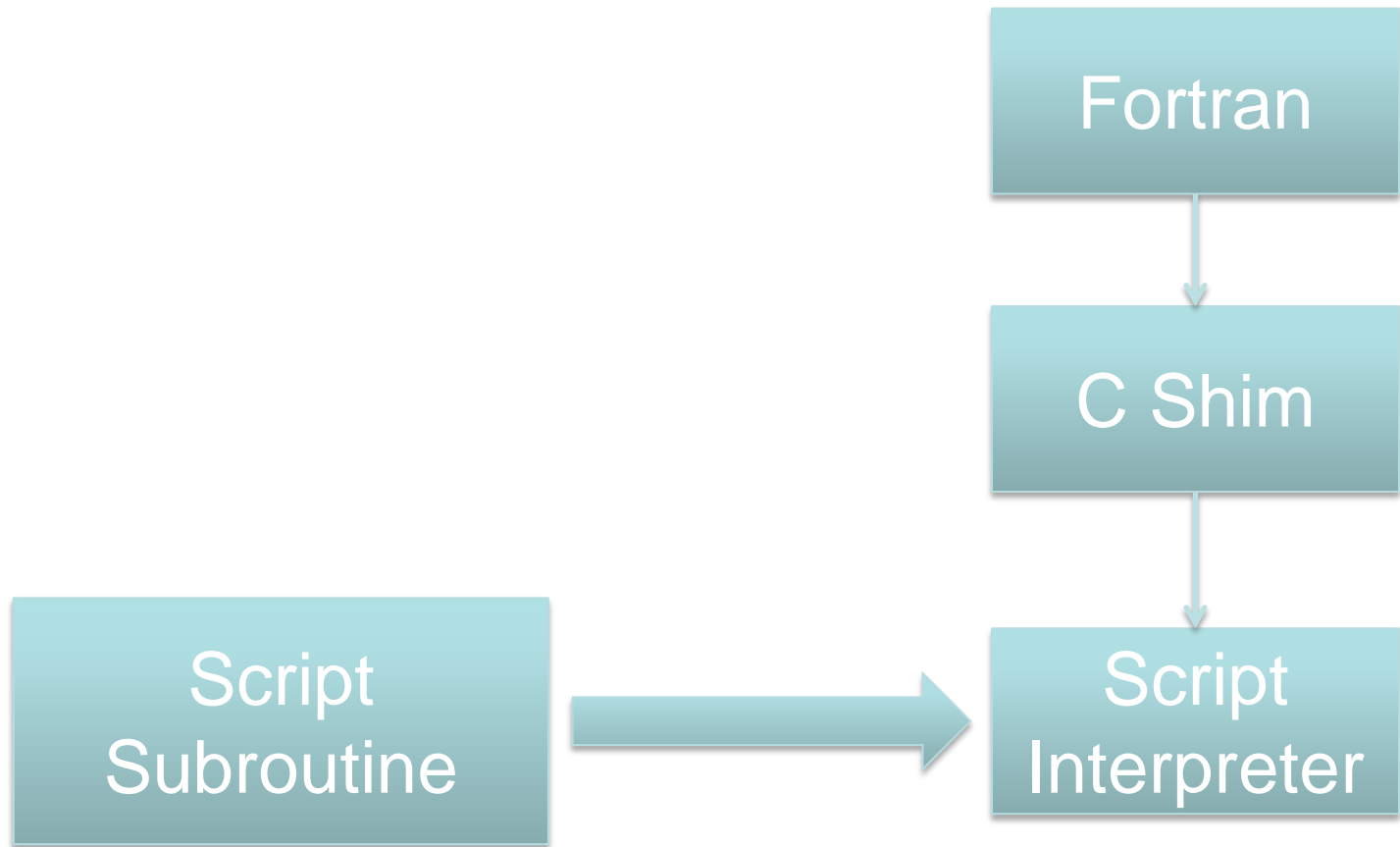
Occasional  
Visualization



C or Fortran

*Glue*

R, Python, Lua



Compiled keeps track of state of interpreter.





# Try Exercise with Lua



## Heresies

Let's do the whole thing in R, in parallel, on Ranger.

Write almost all of it, even integration, in Python.



## Beazley, 1997

- <http://www.python.org/workshops/1997-10/proceedings/beazley.html>
- You can write inner loops in Python if you...

Always manipulate sets of  
atoms.



```
# A function written in Python
from SPaSM import *
def run(nsteps, Dt, freq):
    for i in xrange(0, nsteps):
        integrate_adv_coord(Dt)
        boundary_periodic()
        redistribute()
        force_eam()
        integrate_adv_velocity(Dt)
        if (i % freq) == 0 :

output_particles('Dat'+str(i))
```



## Two Ways for Pure R

- Leave R untouched, but run it thousands of times.
- Use Rmpi library to make parallel R.

Not fast, but scalable, malleable.



## R Labs

- Run Serial R Many Times
- Run an R MPI job

Both easier as a group.



## Gratefully Borrowed



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/jvuokko/374781736/>



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