



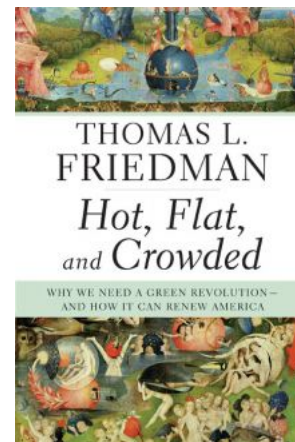
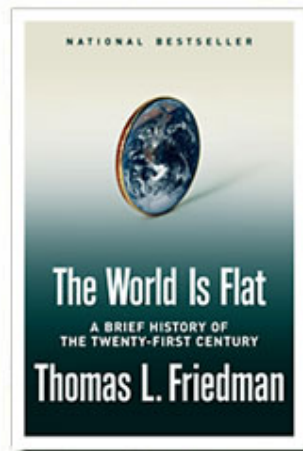
Computer Science @ Virginia Tech



Cal Ribbens (ribbens@vt.edu)

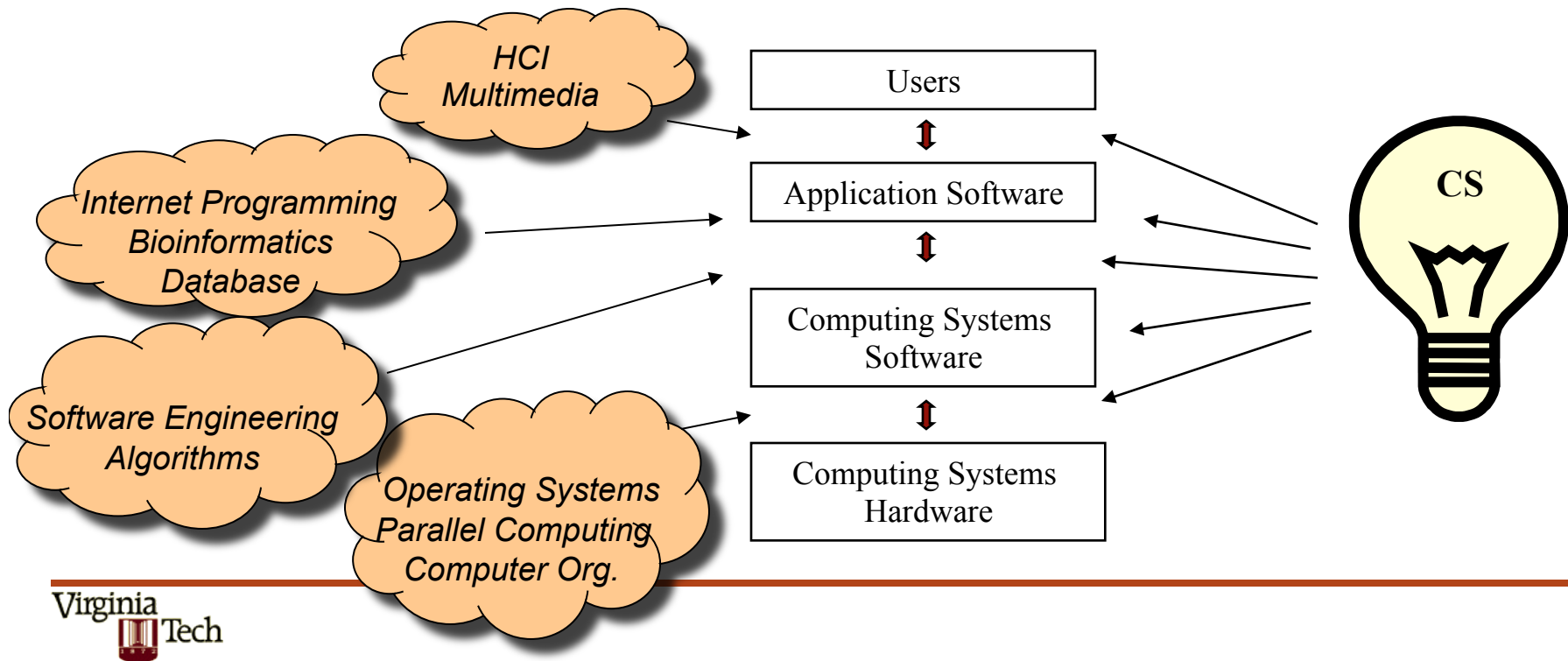
Things you already know...

- Computing is a big deal.
- The world is flat.



What Is Computer Science?

Study and Design Computing Systems to
Solve Problems Build Communities
Enrich Lives Create Worlds
Manage Information Invent the Future





About the Department

- A 43 year old department
- ~36 full-time faculty in Blacksburg
- ~615 undergraduate majors
- ~225 graduate students
- Accredited by ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology)

Where is the CS Department?



McBryde Hall

- Undergraduate Learning Center
- Advising Center
- Labs to support upper level courses in
 - Systems
 - Software Engineering
 - Multimedia and Cyberarts
 - Gaming



Where is the CS Department?



Torgersen Hall

- Digital Libraries
- Scientific Computing
- Computational Biology & Bioinformatics
- Software Engineering
- Data Analytics
- VT CAVE & Visionarium



Where is the CS Department?



Knowledgeworks II (CRC)

- 20+ faculty
- 100+ graduate students
- Two centers and associated laboratories:
 - Center for Human-Computer Interaction (CHCI)
 - Center for High-End Computing Systems (CHECS)
- Main office, technical support, ...
- BT every 15 minutes (CRC Shuttle)



CS Compared ...

(Completely unofficial and subjective)

- Less hours to graduate
- No ESM classes
- More abstract, less physical
- More design *and* implementation experiences
- More immediate feedback
- More user-centric
- Combines better with other majors



CS Compared ...

**MORE JOBS
WITH A GREATER VARIETY
OF COMPANIES**

Who hires VT CS grads?



Plus 65 more companies: <https://csrc.cs.vt.edu/companies>

87 Companies at Fall 2014 CS Career Fair



CS Compared ...

- More programming
- More misunderstood?
- More frustrating?
- Less clearly in engineering?
- Less cool?



CS Compared ...

- More entrepreneurial
- More dynamic
- More ubiquitous
- More creative
- More powerful



Next steps?

- These slides: people.cs.vt.edu/ribbens
- CS @ VT home page: www.cs.vt.edu
- CS Academic Advisors (114 McBryde):
 - Terry Arthur (arthurt@vt.edu)
 - Libby Bradford (bradfolg@vt.edu)
 - Greg Farris (gpfarris@vt.edu)
- Sign up today for CS listserv
- Take CS 1114