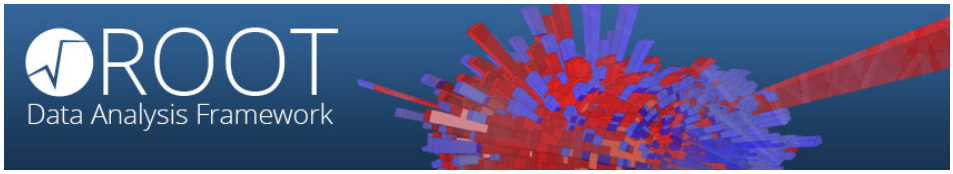

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Julia: a fast dynamical language for technical computing and data analysis

Friday 18 September 2015 12:00 (20 minutes)

Technical computing has mostly been dominated by statically-compiled high-level languages such as Fortran, C or C++. These general purpose languages have been time tested and perform well in expert hands. Dynamic languages such as Python interfaced with specialized external C/Fortran libraries are now becoming popular in the scientific community, making it easier to get started with computing even for non-experts. However, in the latter approach, significant effort has to go into developing the “glue”, restricting the speed of C and the usefulness of Python. What if there was a language that was fast, powerful and simple? Recently, the Julia language has gained enormous popularity with the promise of allowing for high-level, simple and fast technical computing. I will discuss what makes Julia useful, what Julia can offer to the scientific community and demonstrate how it can be used in data analysis and high-energy physics together with ROOT.

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