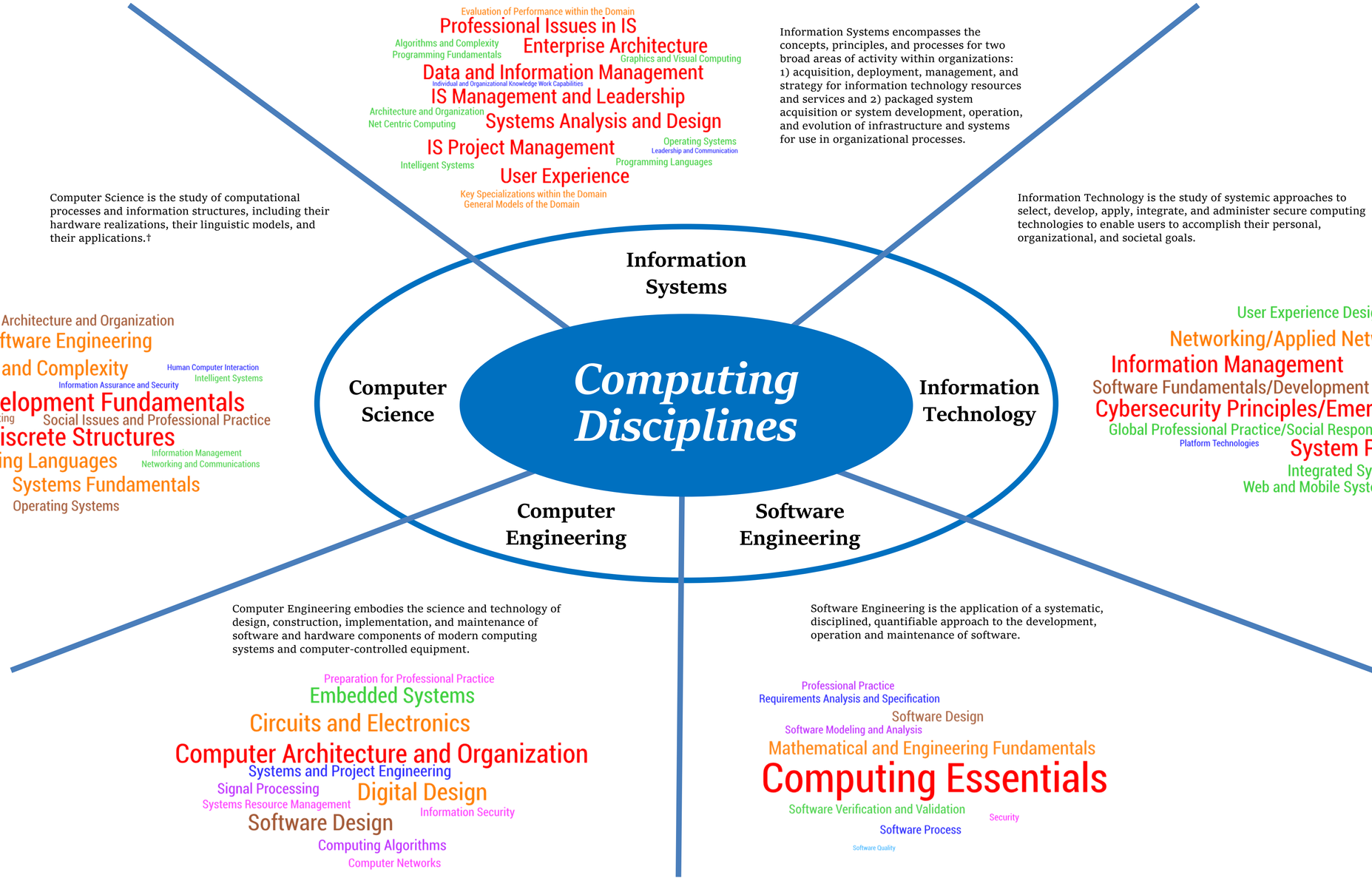
The Diversity of Computing

Computing can be described as a goal-oriented activity that requires, benefits from, or creates computers. Considering the ubiquity and impact of computers in contemporary society, Computing is nowadays a very attractive field of study for students entering higher education. However, Computing is not just a single discipline, but a family of disciplines that, while sharing some common ground, have distinct and distinctive identities. The diversity of disciplines reflect the existence of different objects of interest and a variety of knowledge, skills and dispositions necessary to deal with those objects. Prospective students should be aware of this diversity in order to choose a route that best suits their interests and characteristics.

Based on the curriculum guidelines sponsored by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), the Association for Information Systems (AIS) and the Computer Society of the Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE-CS), this poster provides a view of the major five Computing disciplines. It briefly defines each discipline and displays their core knowledge areas in the form of phrase clouds (the size of words conveys the relative weight of the knowledge areas in the discipline's body of knowledge). The content refers to undergraduate degree programs.



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University of Minho
School of Engineering

CENTROALGORITMI

Produced by

Filipe de Sá-Soares, PhD – fss@dsi.uminho.pt
University of Minho
Guimarães, Portugal

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