



Fields of Computer Science Overview

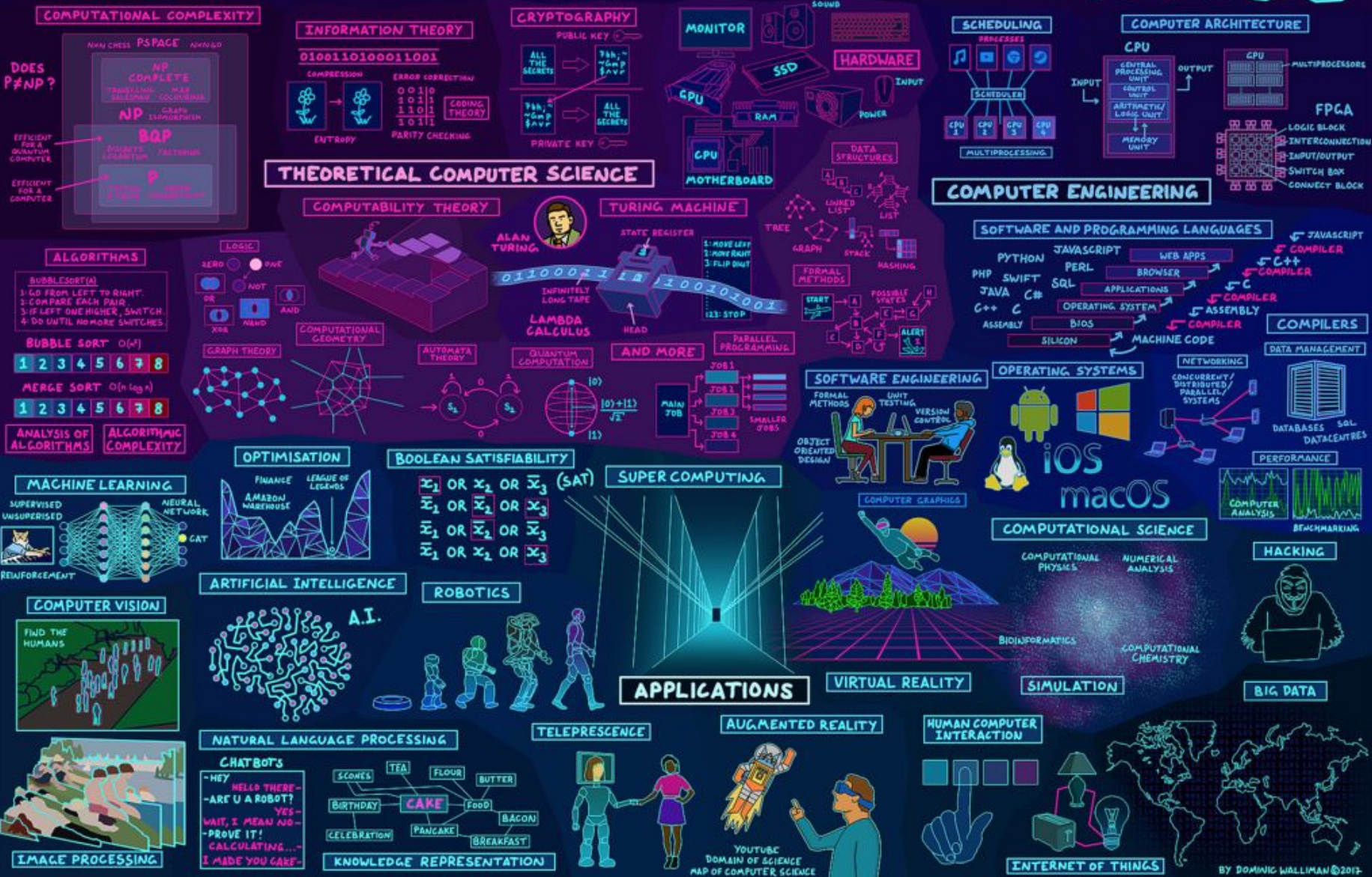
A decorative network diagram at the top of the slide, featuring a complex web of interconnected nodes and lines. A central node is highlighted with a dashed circle and a solid circle, containing the blue quotation mark symbol “.”

“

**“Computer Science is no more
about computers than astronomy
is about telescopes”**

— Edsger Wybe Dijkstra

MAP OF COMPUTER SCIENCE



Data Structures

Cryptography

Algorithms

**Complexity
Theory**

Theory

**Information
Theory**

**Quantum
Computing**

**Programming
Language Theory**

**Computational
Theory**

Computational Theory

- ◎ All about what can be computed with what amount of resources are required to perform these computations

Computability Theory

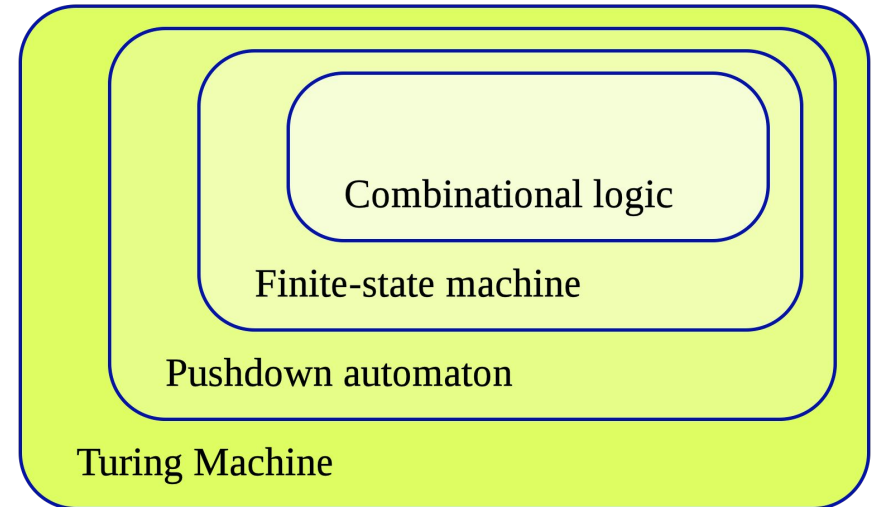
- ◎ Studies which computational problems are solvable on various models of computation (how a set of outputs are computed given a set of inputs)

Computational Complexity Theory

- ◎ Studies the time and space costs associated with different approaches to solving a multitude of computational problems

Automata Theory

- ◎ Studies abstract machines and self-acting machines (aka automaton) and uses them to solve computational problems
 - Closely related to formal language theory
 - Automaton is a finite representation of a formal language that may be an infinite set

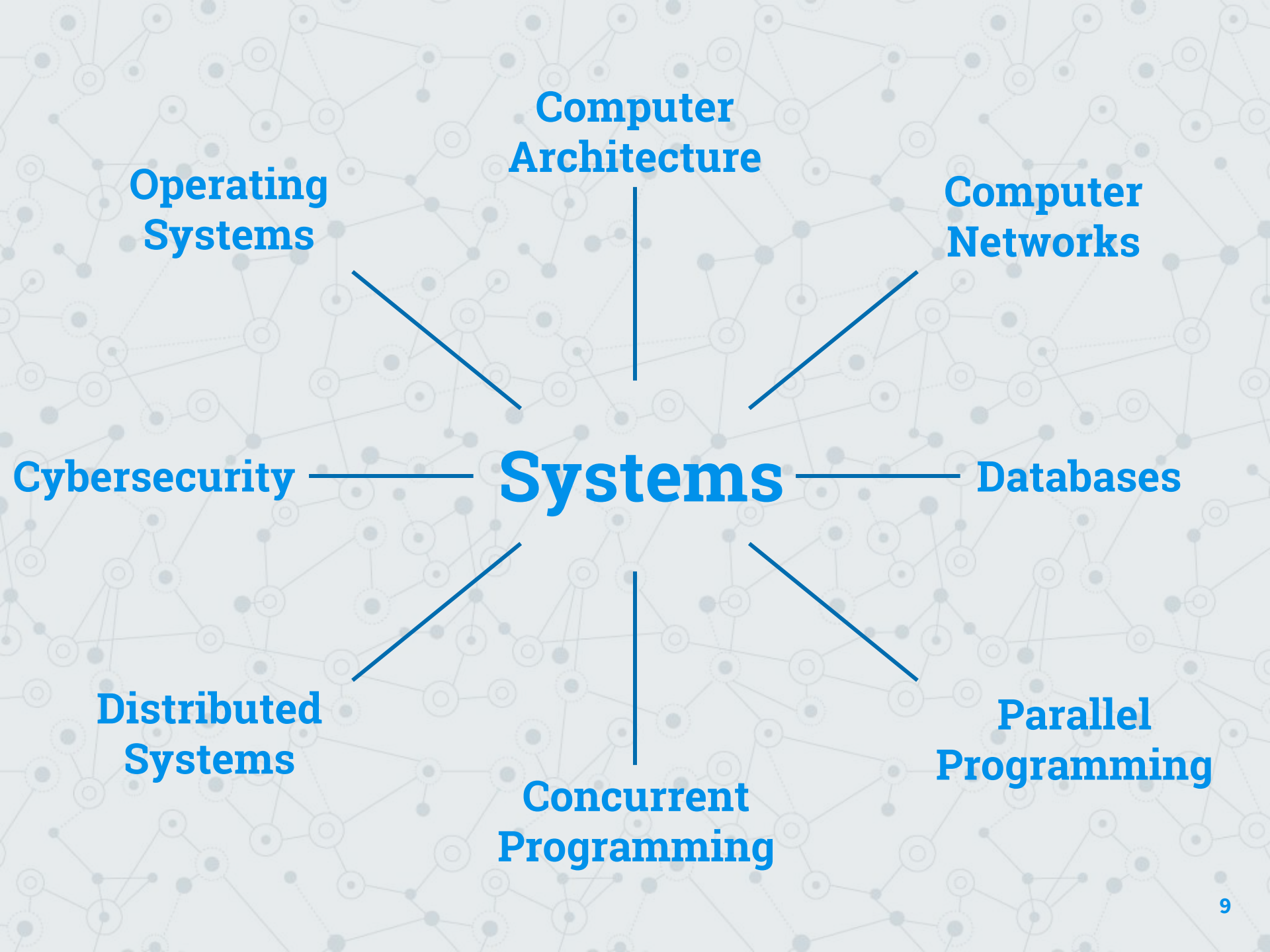


Programming Language Theory

- ⊙ Deals with design, implementation, analysis, characterization, and classification of programming languages
- ⊙ Combination of math, software engineering and linguistics
- ⊙ Programming languages is comprised from a set of instructions used to produce different kinds of input
 - Usually split into syntax (form) and semantics (meaning).
 - Type theory & type system
- ⊙ Languages have documentation and/or reference implementation
 - Basic language is defined by standards and extensions taken from dominant implementation practices

Cryptography

- ◎ Practice and study of secure communication in the presence of “adversaries”
- ◎ Constructing and analyzing protocols that prevent these “adversaries” and the public from reading private messages
- ◎ Goal of modern cryptography is to design cryptographic algorithms that, while theoretically possible to break, it is practically infeasible



**Computer
Architecture**

**Computer
Networks**

**Operating
Systems**

Databases

Systems

Cybersecurity

**Parallel
Programming**

**Concurrent
Programming**

**Distributed
Systems**

Cybersecurity

- ◎ Protection of computer systems from theft or damage to their hardware, software, and electronic data
 - Also includes disruption/misdirection of the services
- ◎ Considered one of the major challenges society is currently facing
 - Technology is advancing faster than laws and security measures can keep up with
 - Security breaches are invasive and potentially dangerous

Computer Architecture

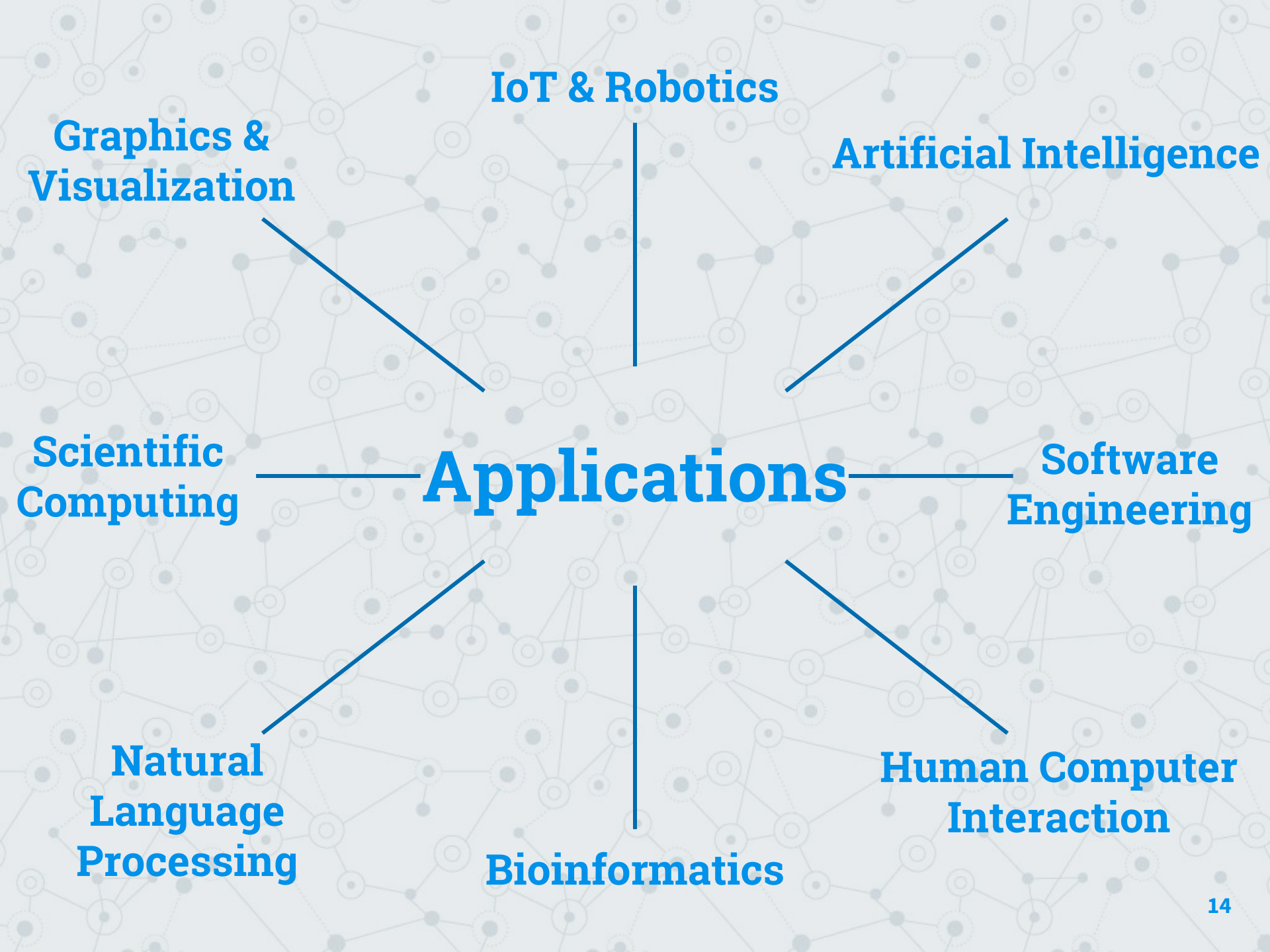
- ◎ Describe the functionality, organization, and implementation of computer systems
 - Describing the capabilities and programming model of a computer but not for a particular implementation
- ◎ Goal is to design a computer that maximizes performance while managing power consumption, cost, and market demand
- ◎ Brings together compilers, operating systems, logic design, and packaging

Concurrency: Parallel Programming

- ◎ Concurrency describes the ability of different parts of a program/algorithm to be executed out-of-order or in partial order while maintaining accuracy
 - Parallel execution of concurrent program components that are order-independent or partially-ordered
- ◎ Goal is to improve overall speed of execution in multi-processor and multi-core systems

Computer Networks & Distributed Systems

- ◎ Goal is to manage networks between computers worldwide
- ◎ Digital telecommunications network that allows systems located on different networked computers to exchange data with each other
- ◎ Main three characteristics of distributed systems:
 - Concurrency of components
 - Lack of a global clock
 - Independent failure of components



IoT & Robotics

Artificial Intelligence

**Graphics &
Visualization**

**Software
Engineering**

Applications

**Human Computer
Interaction**

Bioinformatics

**Natural
Language
Processing**

**Scientific
Computing**

Human Computer Interaction

- ◎ Develops principles, guidelines, and theories on user interface design, evaluation, and implementation
- ◎ HCI is the intersection of CS, design, media studies, and behavioral sciences
- ◎ Goal is to improve the quality of interaction between humans and computers

Artificial Intelligence

- ◎ An “intelligent agent” can perceive its environment and take actions to maximize chance of successfully achieving its goals
- ◎ Three main kinds of AI:
 - Analytical - cognitive intelligence
 - Human inspired - cognitive and emotional intelligence
 - Humanized - cognitive, emotional, and social intelligence
- ◎ Machine learning, a branch of AI, is a method of data analysis with the goal to make predictions or decisions without being explicitly programmed to perform the task

Natural Language Processing

- ◎ Subfield of AI with the goal to process and analyze large amounts of (human) natural language data
- ◎ Splits into recognizing, understanding, and generating natural language (written and spoken)
 - Syntax, semantics, speech, and discourse
- ◎ Rule Based NLP → Statistical NLP