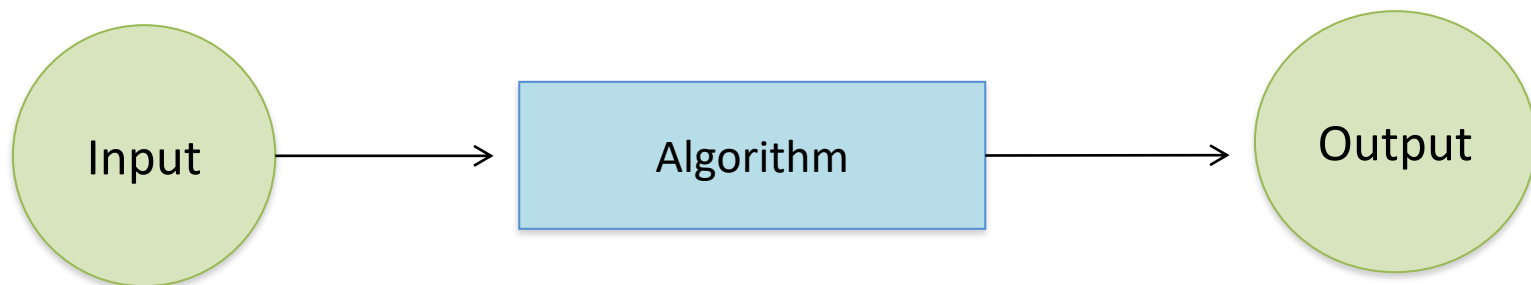# CS 100
Scientific Computing

Dr. Heather M. Guarnera

What is computer science (CS)?

E. Dijkstra: "The term *computer science* is like referring to surgery as *knife science*."

- Computer science is the study of algorithms and how to solve problems.

- An algorithm is a step by step procedure for performing some task (example: sorting a set of integers) in a finite amount of time

Input → Algorithm → Output

Where is computer science? Everywhere!

- Information sharing: google, word processors, presentations, image editing

- Social media

- Video games

- Mobile applications (GPS, calls, texting, pictures, etc.)

- Car

- Household appliances (fridge, washer/dryer, TV, home assistant)

- Wrist watch / smart watch

- Traffic light control

- Databases
  - Banking
  - Academic
  - Employment

- Health & Medical devices
  - Pacemakers
  - MRI machines
  - CAT scans
  - Glucose monitoring

How we'll study computer science

- **Write many small to medium sized programs**
- Programs solve a variety of (mainly scientific) problems
  - Plotting functions and data
  - Approximating Pi
  - Encryption
  - Statistics
  - Create simulations to model complex behavior
  - Image manipulation
  - Game development
  - And many others!
- Tools
  - **Language**: Python
  - **IDE** (Integrated Development Environment): Thonny

Administrative info

- Teams
- Course Website & Moodle
- Syllabus
- Thonny