

## EGR226 – HW1

1. On a Windows computer, get the Computer's properties. On Windows 7, you can do this by opening Windows Explorer and going to the Desktop so that you can see your Computer as an icon. Right-click on the icon and select Properties. Answer the following questions:
  - What operating system are you running (be specific, what version, what service packs, how many bits)?
  - What CPU chip does your computer use?
  - How many cores does this chip have? What levels of cache does it have and how much of each? (You will need to Google for these answers).
  - How much physical memory?
2. What do you, as a user, perceive as "quality" of an operating system – what makes one good or bad? Describe a time that you had an impression of the quality of the OS that you were using – either good or bad – and why? Is there any way to measure the effect that you were observing?
3. Consider the memory hierarchy shown in lecture 1 and discussed in class. Build a table showing, for each level of the five levels of the hierarchy, the following characteristics:
  - a couple of specific examples (so, for the lowest level of off-line storage, one example is "the cloud");
  - the typical amount available in a modern personal computer;
  - the typical cost per byte;
  - the typical speed (the amount of time required to read a value and, if different, to write a value).