



Homework #1 (SU2)

(Being a computer scientist.)

1. **Introduction:**

We have just finished a brief lecture on the history of computer science. Although the mathematics and logic that make computers possible have been around for a long time, modern computers have only been around since the 1930s. This makes "computer science" when compared to other sciences (like chemistry and biology) a very young science indeed.

As a young science, new discoveries in computer science, new hardware and new software solutions to problems are being created and discovered almost every day.

2. **Questions:** Do you remember the names of any of the individuals that were mentioned in the "history of computer science" lecture? Do you remember what any of those individuals were famous for doing?
3. **Assignment:** You will write a one page paper on a modern computer scientist. Your paper should reference at least one book, magazine or journal (no Wikipedia).

Your paper should use the format listed below and should cover the following topics:

- 3.1. The name of your computer scientist.
 - 3.2. Where your computer scientist is conducting their research (Are they working at a school or university? Are they working for a company like IBM?)
 - 3.3. What your computer is researching (examples: robotics, artificial intelligence, cyber-warfare).
 - 3.4. How the research that the computer scientist is conducting might change the world (for good or bad).
4. **Format:**
 - 4.1. Your paper should be typed (no hand-written papers will be accepted).
 - 4.2. Your paper should have your name, this class and the date in the top left corner.
 - 4.3. Your paper should have a title (centered at the top, below the name date).
 - 4.4. Your paper should use a simple (Arial) 12pt font (no comics sans).
 - 4.5. Your paper should be single spaced.
 - 4.6. Your paper should not include any pictures.

5. **Finding articles:**

There are a number of "popular" online magazines that you can use to help you find a computer scientist to write about. Try going to these sites and seeing if you can find an article that you find interesting:

- Popular Science -> <http://www.popsci.com>
- Scientific American -> <http://www.scientificamerican.com/>
- Wired -> <http://www.wired.com/>
- Discover Magazine -> <http://discovermagazine.com/>