

## Laboratory 6: A Pile of Pieces

### ***Introduction***

In the final Laboratory of our course, you will gain experience dealing with the internal construction of a desktop computer. First you will check that the machine functions properly and then you will carefully disassemble it. The following session you will reassemble your PC and hopefully it will come back to life.



Succeeding in this process requires careful attention to detail. Take notes as you disassemble the machine. Be organized in how you store the parts so that nothing gets lost. Take care to avoid static discharge as a static surge can destroy sensitive electronics.

I have built several desktop machines from scratch over the years and some of them are still working reliably years later (Including the server that you use to access the course materials). This experience gives me the confidence to take apart systems as required when they have problems or need upgrades.

### ***Laboratory Report***

Your report should include:

1. A description of your planned part storage system and a discussion of how effective it was in organizing the parts for later use.
2. A commented copy of your disassembly notes with photos (use your cell phone camera).
3. Discussion of any difficulties you ran into during the disassembly.
4. Problems (and their solutions) that occurred during the assembly process.
5. Your overall thoughts on what you learned in the “Pile of Pieces” Lab.