



Cambridge International AS & A Level

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COMPUTER SCIENCE

9618/32

Paper 3 Advanced Theory

October/November 2023

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the question paper.

No additional materials are needed.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes at the top of the page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Do **not** write on any bar codes.
- You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.
- Calculators must **not** be used in this paper.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 75.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- No marks will be awarded for using brand names of software packages or hardware.

This document has **16** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

1 (a) Real numbers are stored in a computer using floating point representation with:

- 10 bits for the mantissa
- 6 bits for the exponent
- two's complement form for both the mantissa and the exponent.

Write the normalised floating-point representation of -96.75 in this system.

Show your working.

Mantissa	Exponent

Working

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.....

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[3]

(b) Explain why a binary representation is sometimes only an approximation to the real number it represents.

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[3]

2 Describe what is meant by **composite** and **non-composite** data types.

Composite

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.....
.....

Non-composite

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.....

[4]

3 The location of a record in a random file is determined using a hashing algorithm.

A collision may occur during the process of adding a record.

(a) Outline what is meant by the term **collision** in this context.

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[2]

(b) Explain how a collision can be dealt with when writing records to a random file.

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[3]

4 Complete the following paragraph about a **protocol suite**, using words from the given list.

Some words are **not** used.

BitTorrent	circuit switching	layered	link	list
peer-to-peer	queue	stack	star	TCP/IP

The protocols in a determine the interconnectivity rules for a network model such as the model.

[3]

5 (a) Outline the reasons why an operating system may need to use virtual memory.

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[2]

(b) Explain the circumstances in which disk thrashing could occur.

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.....

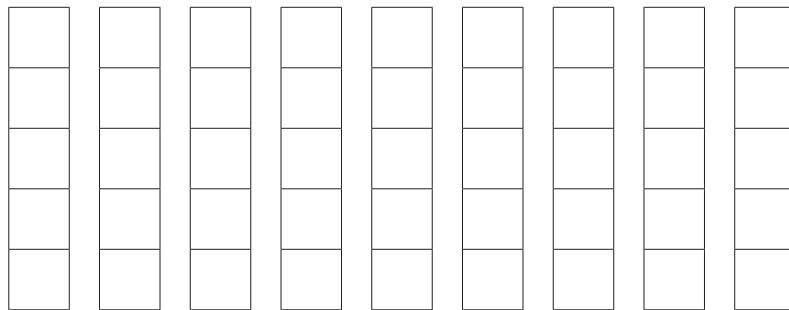
[3]

6 (a) The Reverse Polish Notation (RPN) expression:

a b * 2 / c d / *

is to be evaluated where a = 20, b = 3, c = 10 and d = 5.

Show the changing contents of the following stack as the RPN expression is evaluated.



[4]

(b) Explain how an expression stored in RPN can be evaluated.

.....

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.....

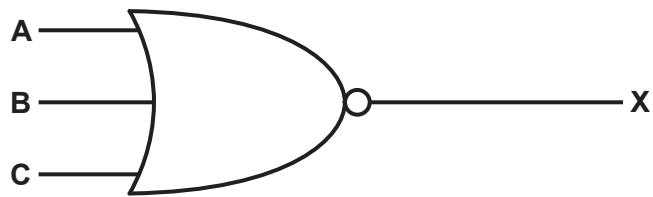
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[3]

7 (a) This logic circuit represents the Boolean expression: $X = \overline{A} + B + C$



Complete this truth table for the given logic circuit.

A	B	C	X
0	0	0	
0	0	1	
0	1	0	
0	1	1	
1	0	0	
1	0	1	
1	1	0	
1	1	1	

[1]

(b) Apply De Morgan's laws to the expression: $X = \overline{A} + B + C$

$X = \dots$ [1]

(c) Simplify the following expression using Boolean algebra.

Show all the stages in your simplification.

$$T = X \cdot Y \cdot Z + X \cdot \overline{Y} \cdot Z + \overline{X}$$

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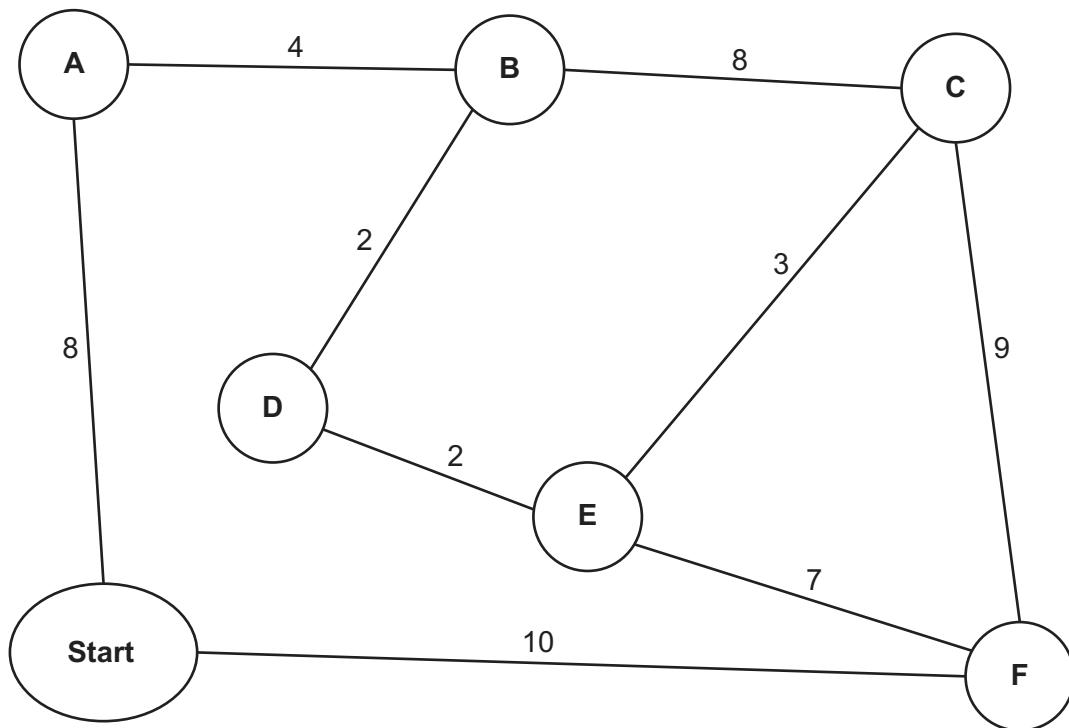
.....

.....

[3]

8 Calculate the shortest distance between the **Start** and each of the destinations in the diagram using Dijkstra's algorithm.

Show your working **and** write your answers in the table provided.



Working

.....

.....

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.....

Answers:

A	B	C	D	E	F

[5]

9 (a) A stack Abstract Data Type (ADT) is to be implemented using pseudocode, with procedures to initialise it and to push new items onto the stack.

A 1D array `Stack` stores the contents of the stack.

(i) Study the pseudocode in part (a)(ii) and complete the table of identifiers by writing the missing data types and descriptions.

Identifier	Data type	Description
BasePointer		
TopPointer		
Stack	REAL	

[2]

(ii) Complete the pseudocode.

```

CONSTANT MaxSize = 40
DECLARE BasePointer : INTEGER
DECLARE TopPointer : INTEGER
DECLARE Stack : ARRAY[1:40] OF REAL

// initialisation of stack
PROCEDURE Initialise()

..... ← 1

..... ← 0
ENDPROCEDURE

// push an item onto the stack
PROCEDURE Push(NewItem : REAL)

..... MaxSize THEN
.....  

.....  

.....  

Stack[TopPointer] ← .....
ENDIF
ENDPROCEDURE

```

[5]

(b) Justify the use of a linked list instead of an array to implement a stack.

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[2]

(c) Explain how a compiler makes use of a stack when translating recursive programming code.

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[4]

10 Describe the features of the SIMD and MISD computer architectures.

SIMD

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.....

MISD

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.....

[4]

11 A **declarative** programming language is used to represent some facts about people and their hobbies.

```

01 hobby(music) .
02 hobby(caving) .
03 hobby(climbing) .
04 hobby(camping) .
05 hobby(baking) .
06 hobby(travelling) .
07 person(toby) .
08 person(natasha) .
09 person(fatima) .
10 person(joseph) .
11 person(elijah) .
12 person(nina) .
13 enjoys(natasha, travelling) .
14 enjoys(toby, climbing) .
15 enjoys(nina, climbing) .
16 enjoys(elijah, camping) .
17 enjoys(fatima, baking) .
18 enjoys(joseph, camping) .
19 dislikes(toby, caving) .

```

These clauses have the meanings:

Clause	Meaning
01	Music is a hobby
07	Toby is a person
13	Natasha enjoys travelling
19	Toby dislikes caving

(a) Carlos is a person who enjoys the hobby of cycling but does not like music.

Write additional clauses to represent this information.

20

21

22

23

[4]

(b) Using the variable P , the goal:

`enjoys(P, camping)`

returns

`P = elijah, joseph`

Write the result returned by the goal:

`enjoys(P, climbing)`

`P = [1]`

(c) N is a person who might enjoy H if H is a hobby and N does not dislike H .

Write this as a rule.

`might_enjoy(N, H)`

IF
.....
.....
..... [4]

12 (a) Describe, with an example, what is meant by an **exception**.

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

(b) A pseudocode algorithm searches for a customer record in a random file AccountRecord.dat. A user inputs the name of the customer.

The records are stored using the user-defined data type TAccount.

```
TYPE TAccount
    DECLARE AccountNumber : INTEGER
    DECLARE Name : STRING
    DECLARE Address : STRING
    DECLARE Telephone : STRING
ENDTYPE
```

If the record is found, it is output, otherwise an error message is displayed.

Complete the file handling pseudocode.

```
DECLARE Customer : TAccount
DECLARE Location : INTEGER
DECLARE MaxSize : INTEGER
DECLARE FoundFlag : BOOLEAN
DECLARE SearchCustomer : STRING
MaxSize ← 1000

OPENFILE .....
Location ← 1

..... ← FALSE
OUTPUT "Enter the customer's name"

..... AND Location <= MaxSize

..... "AccountRecord.dat", .....
GETRECORD "AccountRecord.dat", Customer
IF SearchCustomer = Customer.Name THEN
    OUTPUT "Customer found: "
    OUTPUT Customer           // output customer record
    FoundFlag ← TRUE
ENDIF
Location ← Location + 1
ENDWHILE
IF NOT FoundFlag THEN

    OUTPUT "....."
ENDIF
```

[7]

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