

## AQA A-level Computer Science Paper 2 Unofficial Mark Scheme 18th June 2024

**Unofficial Mark Schemes** 

STEM 2024 A-Level discord: https://discord.gg/CEWK33JUth

## Marks add up to 100

Num	Question	Answer	Discussion	Mark
1	Topic: Anti-virus			Total: 4
1.1	4 things to protect against viruses other than educating workers and an antivirus	Firewall: Control network traffic Packet filtering: Manage access based on IP and port Stateful inspection: Monitor connections, block suspicious activity Proxy server: Filter traffic, block malicious sites Secure coding/ better quality: Minimise vulnerabilities Regular updates: Patch software regularly Encryption: Protect data from unauthorised access and spyware Backups: Counter ransomware effects Access levels: Limit user permissions Disable unnecessary I/O devices: Prevent virus introduction Virtual machines: Test files in isolation Heuristic malware detection: Analyse files, detect obfuscation and encryption Physical security: Lock computers, restrict access Limit RAM access: Prevent malicious activities Executable control: Prevent launching from unknown sources Open-source software: More developers to spot and fix vulnerabilities Penetration testing and ethical hacking: Identify system vulnerabilities Logging: Keep records to investigate incidents and be better prepared in the future		4
2	Topic: Photograph			Total: 8
2.1	File size of photograph in MB 3000x4000 pixels	(3000x4000) x log2(16777216) / 8*10^6 = 36MB	2^24	3

2.2	How many pictures	7111	7111.111111 (Round to down to int)	1
2.3	Size before and after RLE in memory	memory  20 before and 26 after  How do you work this out? I got the sar value before and after It was 13x2 bc there were 13 blocks of runs of pixels U guys calculated this? I Literally wrote out the rest of the RLE for that line and counted every byte XD Oh I see thanks, Im dumb No idea on this one myself isn't it 2.5 and 3.2? the question asked it in bytes not bits. Isn't the exact wording asking about the memory used? The values would be the same as the RLE expands to the origin size in memory.		1
2.4	Comment on the effectiveness of RLE in this case?	lot effective as not many consecutive runs of pixels.  It uses a whole byte to store the length of a run. 255 runs isn't plausible (i think)  Will there be ECF?		1
2.5	What makes voltage analogue and why is pixel data digital?	Voltage can vary continuously over a range of values, representing an infinite number of possible levels. Pixel data represents image information using discrete values.	I said that there infinite numbers of measurements u can take of light i and that pixel data samples it and can only take certain values depending on the camera something like that I put voltage is not in binary but can be converted to binary.	2
3	Topic: Floating point			Total: 10
3.1	-Processors can most times work faster on fixed bit numbers -Floating point can be greater range for same no of bits -Fixed point can sometimes be more precise  same no of bits Fixed point can sometimes be more precise?  Processors can work faster on fixed bit numbers? Yes it was this one There was a 3rd one too idk what it was Answer is first one, second last and las one.		Fixed point can sometimes be more precise? Processors can work faster on fixed bit numbers? Yes it was this one There was a 3rd one too idk what it was Answer is first one, second last and last one. Omg it was two marks so i only did two	2
3.2	Convert floating point to decimal	-9/512	I swr it wasnt twos complement 2944. Pretty certain it was two's compliment. I'm pretty certain it wasn't after the first q then at the top of the page it said now the questions will be in twos complement and it said two questions	2
3.3	Closest representation of 12 49/64 in Floating point	0.1100110 0100 12.75 as decimal	Is it not two's complement for this Q? -yes you needed to shift the location of point on mantissa i think	3

3.4	How many extra bits minimum must be added to mantissa to be accurate?	3	(basically how to form 12 with least bits there was 4 but one already there so 3)	1
3.5	Most negative number in 10 mantissa 6 exponent	-2^31 or -2147483648 note: question asked to put it in I think "decimal" refers to the number base only		2
4	Topic: Buses			Total: 9
4.1	What is x?	Address bus  CPU Memory Input and Unique Address bus It is the only one directional bus  Address bus It is the only one directional bus  Data bus		1
1.2	How many gibibytes of memory for 36 bit address bus, 16 bits per memory location	2^36*(16/8)/1024^3 = 128 gibibytes (2^36*16)/(8*1024^3)	Oh yeah, wait did it ask for gibi? You will have done 1000^3 for giga not gibi. Wrong ans - 137 Cheeky question, asking for gibi not giga :p	2
1.3	Explain why USBs use serial and why the components inside a computer uses parallel was it not peripherals?	USBs use serial: -Cheaper -Doesn't suffer from skew or crosstalk -The extra speed isn't required  Components use parallel: -Enables faster data transfer -It is over short distances so effects of skew and crosstalk are minimised		2
1.4	Purpose of I/O controller	Manage communication between the CPU and peripheral devices. Handles data transfer, interprets commands from the CPU. Offloads the CPU from direct involvement in peripheral management, improving overall system performance.  Did anybody else mention the role of drivers allowing an application to inter with an IO device via the manager so speak? I said i/o controller uses device drivers translate signals from and to devices they operate as intended. Same and I also talked about how different platforms use different languages of translator (io Controller) is needed.		2
1.5	State an example of using the control bus when storing into main memory	The CPU sends a "write" signal to the memory controller.  Bus grant signal nterrupts?  Clock for synchronisation?  To check if the data bus is free? Use as clock for sync data transm. Receive a status signal to know that been stored?		1

4.6	Define synchronous transmission	Data is sent in a continuous stream, synchronised by a clock signal shared between the sender and receiver. There is no need for start or stop bits		1
5	Topic: TCP/IP and Magnetic Hard Disk			Total: 14
5.1	Explain how magnetic hard disks store data, how data is read from a magnetic hdd and how the layers of tcp-ip stack are used in transmitting this data onto the network.  'No need to explain how it is transmitted across the network or how TCP/IP stack reversed at receiving end.'			12
5.2	Advantages and disadvantages of using SSDs over HDDs in storage. Assuming they have the same amount of storage	Advantages: -SSDs have lower latency -Faster read/write speeds -Less likely to break as no moving parts  Disadvantages: -Greater cost ^ Disputed whether or not it has to be per GB (we know the GB amount so you don't have to put it?)	Could you also put that over time SSDs will have sections that no longer work? I said that writing data requires you to clear an entire page? Can't you say that SSD has a limited number of read-write cycles? Cannot store data anymore after some time because oxide layer get shirt and run out eventually?	2
6	Topic: Boolean algebra			Total: 9
6.1	Draw the diagram for the boolean expression do not simplify !(!A.B+B+!(C.D))	A Q	Could you use a NOR gate if you draw it correctly? Definitely. Didn't they say not to simplify it	4
6.2	What happens to Q at each clock signal	Output becomes D when the clock pulse changes.		1
6.3	Simplify the boolean expression:	!A.(B.C.!D+B.C.D+B)+!(!A+B)		4

	$\overline{A}(BC\overline{D}+BCD+B)+\overline{(\overline{A}+B)}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{IA.(B.C+B)+A.!B} \\ \text{(IA.B)+(A.!B)} \\ \text{A XOR B} \\ \text{or} \\ \overline{A}B + A\overline{B} \end{array}$		
7	Topic: Protocols			Total: 15
7.1	http://www.loveapug.org.uk/_/pugs.html What's the domain and protocol?	Protocol: http Domain: loveapug.org.uk		1
7.2	How are domains organised?	Domains are organised hierarchically:  • Top-Level Domain (TLD): .uk  • Country Code TLD (ccTLD): .org.uk  • Second-Level Domain (SLD): loveapug  • Subdomain: www. (points to the web server)  • Domain: loveapug.org.uk (website name)  • Directory: /  • File: /pugs  The DNS translates domain names into IP addresses. Domains are registered through registrars and managed for settings like nameservers and DNS records.		2
7.2	What service do internet registries provide?	P Address Allocation: Distribute blocks of IP addresses o Internet Service Providers and organisations.  Protect the world's depleting pool of unallocated IP addresses. Looks for a previously allocated IP address hat has become unused rather than allocate a new IP address.		2
7.3	How can a device outside of the LAN access one of the web servers? (port forwarding)	The client sends packets to the public IP address of the router belonging to the server's private network.  The packets sent by the client contain the port number of the application running on the server that the client wishes to access. In this case port 80 for the web server.  Did you guys include subnet masking in the port forwarding question to check if they are under same subnet oof i didn't the question said they aren't in the sam network though  Me neither I said subnets for dhcp not for port forwarding		3
7.4	Why not use DHCP server to manage a web server?  What is a disadvantage of using DHCP to manage a web server?	DHCP servers assign IP addresses dynamically to devices on a network.  This means the IP address assigned to the web server could change, making it difficult for clients to reliably access the web server.	DHCP dynamically assigns ip so ip of web server keeps changing? Means that attempting to access webserver wont work bc ip different. Facts Also hella inconvenient if you have to keep updating the damn port forwarding rule; experienced this myself. DHCP lease ends	1
7.5	Explain how NAT is used when sending and receiving data from a non routable	When a device on a private network needs to communicate with a web server on the Internet, it sends	I put routing table	4

	ip address to file server on the internet	packets through the router, which makes a record of the packet before replacing the private IP address with its own.  When a response is received, it is sent to the router's public IP address, which then forwards the response to the correct private IP address by using the record it made		
		when sending the packet.		
7.6	Why would NAT not be needed if ipv6 replaces ipv4?	Because there would be enough IP addresses available so each device can have a unique routable IP address.	When is ipv6 gonna happen everywhere irl? 6th june 2035	1
7.8	For websocket protocol shade which lozenge is true	Full duplex		
8	Topic: Database			Total: 11
8.1	Which is true?	One supplier per product (B)		1
8.2	Insert Sale 4072 into the Sale table	NSERT INTO Sale ( <fields> optional)  WALUES (4072,1,"29/09/2024")  "" were optional for the date?</fields>		2
8.3	Update product id 1 to decrease QuantityInStock by 3	UPDATE Product SET QuantityInStock = QuantityInStock - 3 WHERE ProductID =1		3
8.4	2 issues that could arise in a non-normalised database?	Data Redundancy: Repeated data across multiple tables increases storage requirements.  Update Anomalies: Changes in one part of the database may require multiple updates, leading to possible errors if not all occurrences are updated.  Insert Anomalies: Adding new data can be problematic if certain required fields are missing due to the database structure.  Data Inconsistency: Redundant data can lead to discrepancies if not consistently updated.  Complex Queries: Retrieving information can become more complex and less efficient.		2
8.5	Explain how timestamp ordering helps with concurrent access			3
9	Topic: Al in hospital moral/ethical			Total: 6
9.1	What are the moral legal and ethical concerns of using Al and algorithms in hospitals	egal and ethical Legal: FOR A.I to work, i believe you need to		

	Diagnose patients from X Rays	-Are they following the Data Protection Act?  Ethical: -Taking jobs of healthcare professionals -Any bias in the training of the Al  Moral: -Do people consent to the use of Al and algorithms? Some people might not trust them.	intelligence? How effective is it!	
		-In this case should a human be required to carry it out, and should they have to wait longer? -The data would have to be stored on the hospital network is this stored securely?		
10	Topic: Assembly			Total: 11
10.1	Finish the trace table for the assembly language program given.  The input value is 83 in mem address 130	inguage program given.  counts the number of 1s in the binary as each time it is shifted once to the right.  There is 4 1s which is even (4 AND 1 = 0		6
10.2	What is the purpose of this?	Add odd parity bit in the left most column.	The output is the ASCII code with the parity bit in	2
10.3	2 advantages of assembly over high level code	Direct memory access and control, suitable for embedded systems and chips without an OS.  Efficient machine code output, resulting in faster execution due to a 1:1 relationship with machine code.  Reduced memory usage compared to high-level languages.  Faster translation and greater control over the program.  Direct processor instruction manipulation, providing flexibility and power.		2
10.4	Some high level languages are imperative, what does that mean in this context?	Imperative high-level languages are formed from instructions that specify how the computer should complete a task.	I said executes line by line I said write instructions	1
11	Topic: Functional programming			Total: 3
11.1	Describe the co domain N to R	The codomain is the set of real numbers		1
11.2	Why is functional programming good for multiple servers			2
		,	ļ	

give the same output

Supporting multiple CPU architectures, i.e x64 ARM

Higher order functions simplifies parallelization of workloads across multiple servers.

Date	Grade Boundaries						
Date	A*	Α	В	С	D	E	F
2023	296	237	191	146	101	56	0
2023	78.9%	63.2%	50.9%	38.9%	26.9%	14.9%	0.0%
2022	278	223	179	136	93	50	0
2022	74.1%	59.5%	47.7%	36.3%	24.8%	13.3%	0.0%
2021	220	177	144	112	80	48	0
2021	73.3%	59.0%	48.0%	37.3%	26.7%	16.0%	0.0%
2020	224	183	149	115	81	47	0
2020	74.7%	61.0%	49.7%	38.3%	27.0%	15.7%	0.0%
2019	309	261	214	167	120	74	0
2019	82.4%	69.6%	57.1%	44.5%	32.0%	19.7%	0.0%
2018	314	260	215	170	125	80	0
2010	83.7%	69.3%	57.3%	45.3%	33.3%	21.3%	0.0%
2017	316	264	219	174	129	84	0
2017	84.3%	70.4%	58.4%	46.4%	34.4%	22.4%	0.0%
Average	295	242	198	154	110	66	0
Average	78.8%	64.6%	52.7%	41.0%	29.3%	17.6%	0.0%

NOTE: 2021 and 2020 don't include coursework so out of 300

Explanation: It is out of 375, paper 1 and paper 2 are out of 100 marks weighted 1.5x and coursework is 75 marks.

100\*1.5+100\*1.5+75=375

If you want to know percentages without coursework do:

({grade boundary} - {coursework mark}) / 300

For Example (296-71)/300=75%

How did we find this paper? Use capital i's not   or I		
Excellent	III	
Good		
Okay		

Meh	111111111111
Bad	
See you guys in clearing (DAMN)	IIIII

## Computer Science Teachers Hall Of Fame:

Craig and Dave for binging the night before the exam - NAH THE MORNING BEFORE THE EXAM (I second this CRAIG N DAVE THE GOAT HELL YEAH)

Mr Abdullahi for leaving half way through the fucking year

Me for teaching myself

Big up craig n dave.

Hasan Ali of TSR for those skeleton sessions.

Me for making my own Anki set on the entire course. <- real <- hey me too i used <

^-frrrrr, didnt know there were this many anki lovers

ChatGPT to make some (from pmt notes) and wrote some myself

Fuck my CS teachers they taught me nothing. <- REALLL fuck mrs lawrence and mrs cox BIG UP ZIGZAG SKELETON CODE BAAASSSED HOLY

^ ZIG ZAG CARRIED

Daddy statham oiled up biting the curb in 4k < Green wing reference?

PHYSICS AND MATHS TUTOR (whoever wrote the notes over there)

^ pmt saved my life, truly carried me through maths and comp sci

^Praise the PMT gods carried all my subjects

^ I name my firstborn kid PMT in honor of them saving my ass for this

Hall of SHIT: the fat textbook

Suhail for making us watch him sleep for 6 hours a week for 2 years

The one guy in the year above / few years above us that made a whole bunch of flashcards Dr Tim Lord - if you know you know

Mr Smith and Clarkson (Actually were good teachers :D (he literally wrote the textbook we all used))

Literally taught myself the whole course on PMT my teachers were so useless

## Discussion:

What score do u guys think u got?

Estimated 52% overall, am i cooked, Need a B. Am I Cooked?

ANYONE THINK THAT GRADE BOUNDARIES ARE GONNA BE 2019 LEVE AT 70% SINCE THE SKELETON CODE WAS ACTUALY VERY SIMPLE COMPARED TO ALL YEARS?

How are people comparing the skeleton code from previous years considering that most ppl wouldn't have gone through them to somewhat accurately assess the difficulty?]

<sup>^</sup> wrote revision cards from their concise notes

^Just a calculated guess imo, the number of lines were much more, the gamee itself was basically chess, there were like 4+ classes/objects, feel like ours was much more nice Erm what the sgma no it was harder for most people so it should be around 2023 levels ^Hopefully but last year was an actuall chess game

Yeah but lowkey like you never know plus the coding tasks were a lil harder imo for most people <3

^FAIR ^ i hope lol i need that A lol same a\* would be nice but oh well yep

^ icl i gave up on an A\* when i realised only like 3% of people get it WTF 3% YH damn... https://filestore.aga.org.uk/over/stat\_pdf/AQA-A-LEVEL-STATS-JUN-2023.PDF

^ ITS 5% BUT STIL VERY LOW from 2017 to 2019 only about 3.7% get an A\* thought the programming questions were pretty average compared to past paper questions ^they were nothing crazy imo but just a bit tedious, plus the amount of computers that died during that paper for people was insane

^ do you remember what the perfect bouncy number is? Does it have to have the same increase and same decrease?

^icl i dont remember

Oh ok ty anyway <3 <3

BLOBFISH?? WOULD BE FUNNY IF UR HERE AGAIN

How skibidi how to howwwwwwww

Bruh why does nobody give an ASS about paper 2 chz

Bye im not going to uni bruh I need A\*AAA and I'm cooked in physics and CS (CS just burnout lol)

Anonymous Wombat I'm cooked bruh how did you do, you know who you are, from Anonymous Axolotl

At this point im not even getting into my insurance

Where rle question

Did u guys find this harder compared to previous papers? I haven't gone through any of them so i cant tell

^ this was the worst one out of all of them imo

^ fr

Honestly thank god people werre too confident about p1 i need the grade boundaries lowered

fuck



I hate myself
Clearing 2024 whos joining me?? Only you ME OMG
NO GIRL I DONT THINK YOU UNDERSTAND HOW FUCKED I AM
I think im getting a D 
Clearing it is...

This paper was so much yap esp that 12marker •• •• •• ••

Where the D type flip flop Q

THE PAPER HAD NO LONG ASS FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE QUESTION YIPEEEEE HORAAAYY

^ bro i wish it did

thoughts on grade boundaries?

Higher than 2023 but not by much. Imma be real. Apparently last years paper 1 was a lot harder than our years so i believe higher grade boundaries unfortunately. But in regards to this paper specifically, i believe it would be the same if not SLIGHTLY lower. Take my words with a pinch of salt as with everything on TSR

I disagree imo, i think they wouldn't go up but jsut stay the same if anything Between 310 and 315 for an A\*?????

Seifphjwe4oi9[rtgjh3290-wtguj09w34hjg90w4jfg904wejwefg90j 90sskibidi im fucking reateded hahadeuiohwaiodfhawiodhio

Im cooked probs like 40 on this paper and like 40 on the last paper. I need a B though :( somehow got 0 for the tracing table it is so over for me.... Nah if u got 0 u were close, dont lose hope i think u just went for the wrong condition in the IF ELSE condition

I got a negative number bro ••

I GOT 0 IN THE TRACE TABLE AS WELL

I got B for the boolean algebra and output = input for the assembly am i cooked its joever

I got A in the boolean algebra skull skull

I somehow "simplified" the right answer to b ;/

It was A XOR B right?

Anyone off to nottingham trent??

Yall ily all

Thanks hamster

<3 <333333

where yall applying to? mcdonalds

sheffield, you? I applied sheffield asw

Yeah bro big up sheffield

ah thats good, im applying london unis but i neeed 3 A's

oh damn i could not cope if that were me, good luck

thanks man, gl to u 2

shi bro its crazy how fast the exams went, like thats it, we are 18 now abt to be full on adults and all, with our own lives and shi

thanks A, yeah i know suddenly almost a month of stress has completely blown over adulthood isnt fun to think about i'm gonna play minecraft in summer mums bro

Imao same here bro, gonna hop on mc,csgo, fifa, the whole lot

that sounds like a fun mix, maybe some csgo for me too but im more into val oh am i blobfish?

ah shi fs just lmk when ur online blobfish lmao

but yeah man gl to u with whatever u finna do in ur life, probably will never see u again but gl man

yeah bro ur blobfish

oh man thanks i didnt know, proud to be a blobfish. i think we'll lose contact after this ngl so i'm not sure i can ever tell you when i'm online. Im praying for aces for you though, i believe. good luck to you too, i hope london unis go well if u manage to get in which im sure u will lmao bro hope u can pull off a global elite masterclass thanks man.

im sure u will achieve all your lifegoals too man.

crazy how much we are glazing each other rn. need to calm th down xD

LMAO yeah oops its fine though

im just so gassed after this test that im feeling it today, like shi that was a good test yk i'm half asleep rather than gassed, pmt carried me until 2am last night

pmt carried so hard, also the aga textbook went crazy. i memorised the thing inside out fr.

Its time to learn chinese bro because you are all going to china

we r gettign deported into china

My fault bro

My nigerian brother

Whats good

nm much bro jus tired ash after that cs exam, shi i got mech and stats tommorow but thats all for another

day

I still got p3 of maths left before chem, better not fumble either

. My firm is AA for both but i need an A star on both to be satisfied same here, my firm is AAA for loughborough and then AAB for surrey but imma change to exeter i think cuz it got industrial experience.

Exeter dont really have a big black community i heard, thats why i rejected their offer. Chose birmingham instead

Damn i firmed Bath but there aren't many black ppl so idk how it'll be like

shi bro out here rejecting russel group unis, bro is jus that guy

I meant i picked other unis so automatically rejected them lol, i wanted to go lougsbrough but i didnt take physics

birmingham is good too.

i took history, maths and comp sci along with epq but thats for a cs course in loughborough and they said it was calm.

They gave me a very high entry boundary which is a pisstake but i think i can get in.

hope so anyway, if i fumble its gonna be long days in surrey

If i fumble birmingham then im going to china

shi bro china

fr?

why china

nah bruh i aint never heard that meme, my fyp is just brainrot -

You ever heard the meme "its time to learn chinese buddy" for sports twitter?

Brainrot edits kinda peak ngl

mums bro, but icl my attention span really got to me during revision, mf i would spend hours scrolling through tiktok instead of revising, so i had to delete all socials for exam period.

Yh phone has been a big distractor tbf, i could have probably went cambridge if not for it fr fr Fuck bald ass crofty brev

mums bro. Year 12 too, like i was out there not doing shi during my free periods. I was jus living the sixth form experience.

I always think about the fact i might get better grades than people going cambridge this year and i could have went if i just locked in sooner

well as oogway says, the past is forgotten, the future is uncertain, and the present is now, which is why its the present

shi bro cs got me talking kung fu panda quotes,

It be like that sometimes man, after i fumbled maths paper 2 i was depressed for the whole day Imao

no way u also fumbled maths paper 2 Imaoooo

i fumbled that shi too

long ass paper

I hate whites

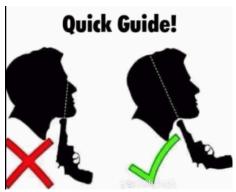
You do aga? I fumbleddd harddddddddddddddddddd

nah i do edexcel. thats the thing, most ppl in my school found it easy, they were walking out saying "yeah i deffo got %100. like bruh who tf is u lying to, tf it wasnt easy

Ive learned that different people have different definitions to something being easy or hard, when i say something is good i mean like A\* good, but someone might mean a B good or C good

I just realised im still the aga chem markscheme Imao wtf





^^DFKM

Can't wait to start my bricklaying apprenticeship this September!! <3
Cant wait to work in Roblox IKEA dream job
RIP DRAKE