

Calculators may be used in this examination
provided they are not capable of being used
to store alphabetical information other than
hexadecimal numbers

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

School of Computer Science

LC Data Structures and Algorithms

Mock Exam

Time allowed: 2 hours

[Answer all questions]

Note

Answer ALL questions. Each question will be marked out of 20. The paper will be marked out of 60, which will be rescaled to a mark out of 100.

Question 1

Stacks are often used to implement “undo” operations in applications like text editors or Web browsers such that making a change in the text or clicking on a link in the browser pushes a record of that operation on to the stack, while invoking undo pops the record off the stack and executes the actions necessary to undo the operation.

In theory, an unbounded stack can provide unlimited undo operations, but, to save memory, many applications support only limited undo history. Thus invoking “push”, when the stack is already at full capacity, accepts the pushed elements at the top of the stack and *leaks* the oldest element from the bottom of the stack rather than throwing an exception, while invoking pop when the stack is empty still throws a `StackEmptyException`.

- (a) Describe, as clearly and simply as possible, your proposed strategy to implement such a stack using a fixed-capacity array, so that each update operation runs in $O(1)$ time. **[6 marks]**
- (b) Write the pseudocode for the push operation of such a stack. **[7 marks]**
- (c) Write the pseudocode for the pop operation of such a stack **[7 marks]**

Question 2

An inefficient recursive function `isbst` was presented in the module.

Write an efficient, recursive `isbst` function in pseudocode to check that a binary tree is a valid Binary Search Tree based on checking that subtrees are within closed intervals starting with `[MIN_INT, MAX_INT]` and calculate the complexity, in terms of $O(g(n))$, with respect to the size of the tree. Justify your calculation of the complexity with a short explanation. **[20 marks]**

Question 3

Construct an AVL tree of positive integers and of height 3 such that insertion of the value 7 will trigger a double rotation (i.e. a right rotation followed by a left rotation or a left rotation followed by a right rotation) and, following the insertion of 7, an insertion of the value 8 will also trigger a double rotation.

- (a) Draw the valid AVL tree before the specified insertions. **[6 marks]**
- (b) Draw the valid AVL tree after insertion of 7 but before insertion of 8. **[7 marks]**
- (c) Draw the valid AVL tree after insertion of 7 and of 8 in that order **[7 marks]**

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Do not complete the attendance slip, fill in the front of the answer book or turn over the question paper until you are told to do so

Important Reminders

- Coats/outwear should be placed in the designated area.
- Unauthorised materials (e.g. notes or Tippex) must be placed in the designated area.
- Check that you do not have any unauthorised materials with you (e.g. in your pockets, pencil case).
- Mobile phones and smart watches must be switched off and placed in the designated area or under your desk. They must not be left on your person or in your pockets.
- You are not permitted to use a mobile phone as a clock. If you have difficulty seeing a clock, please alert an Invigilator.
- You are not permitted to have writing on your hand, arm or other body part.
- Check that you do not have writing on your hand, arm or other body part – if you do, you must inform an Invigilator immediately
- Alert an Invigilator immediately if you find any unauthorised item upon you during the examination.

Any students found with non-permitted items upon their person during the examination, or who fail to comply with Examination rules may be subject to Student Conduct procedures.