



**General Certificate of Education (A-level)
June 2012**

Electronics

ELEC4

(Specification 2430)

Unit 4: Programmable Control Systems

Final

Mark Scheme

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation events which all examiners participate in and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation process ensures that the mark scheme covers the students' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for standardisation each examiner analyses a number of students' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed and legislated for. If, after the standardisation process, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been raised they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of students' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

Further copies of this Mark Scheme are available from: aqa.org.uk

Copyright © 2012 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

Copyright

AQA retains the copyright on all its publications. However, registered schools/colleges for AQA are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use, with the following important exception: AQA cannot give permission to schools/colleges to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within the centre.

Set and published by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance.

Question	Part	Subpart	Marking guidance	Mark
1	(a)		Period of rotation 8.3ms ✓, sensible ecf..... =>7200rpm ✓	2
1	(b)		Noisy signal ✓, not at appropriate logic levels OR analogue signal OR it needs to be digital signal ✓	2
1	(c)	(i)	Rs in parallel 6.7kΩ ✓, voltage divider ✓, 3V ✓	3
1	(c)	(ii)	ecf for common error calculation ✓, 2V ✓	2
1	(d)		Output between 0 and 5V (allow 5.3V) (allow up to 1 and down to 4V)✓, Inverted ✓, All vertical sides at appropriate levels (ecf from (c) above) ✓	3
2	(a)		Label a virtual earth point with the letter X	1
2	(b)		In total darkness $I_d = 0$ ✓, (so no current passes through the feedback resistor ✓) $V_{out} = I_d \times 10^6 = 0$ ✓	2
2	(c)		I_d = current through 1M resistor ✓, $V_{out} = I_d \cdot 1M$ ✓, $V_{out} = 0.1L$ ✓	3
2	(d)		Correct symbols ✓, read in values of the two diodes ✓, compare the two values ✓, adjust the position of the focussing motor ✓, read in values and compare difference with previous value ✓, adjust to maximum difference ✓, etc	5 Max

3	(a)		Just 'Battery' = 0 1 appropriate source (Pb acid, Li, NiMh, large capacitor) ✓, relevant advantage ✓ a second appropriate source, ✓ different relevant advantage ✓		4
3	(b)	(i)	many simple processors ✓		1
3	(b)	(ii)	memory distributed between the synapses (nodes) ✓		1
3	(b)	(iii)	neural networks trained not programmed ✓		1
3	(b)	(iv)	sensible advantage, i.e. it can learn about its environment and adjust what it does ✓		1
3	(c)		4 MOSFETs, recognisable symbols ✓, p&n MOSFETs correct in one arm ✓, correct in two arms ✓, motor between the two arms ✓		4
4	(a)		calculation ✓, sensible ecf..... 65536 ✓		2
4	(b)		MOVW 0x00 ✓, MOVWR TRISA ✓, MOVWR TRISB ✓, MOVW 0xFF ✓, MOVWR TRISC ✓		5
4	(c)	(i)	Labels & Connections Data into Ds ✓, outputs from Qs ✓, clocks connected to form latch select ✓		3
4	(c)	(ii)	Data set up on D inputs ✓, clocks pulsed (high) ✓		2

5	(a)		Analogue signal E.g. RAM stores (binary) digital values ✓, and so only two values ✓		2
5	(b)	(i)	Imply Compare flash much faster than ramp ✓		1
5	(b)	(ii)	Imply Compare flash more complex than ramp ✓		1
5	(b)	(iii)	Imply Compare Flash expensive, ramp cheaper ✓		1
5	(c)		Bit B ₃ ✓, Bit 3 is set as an input by the code ✓		2
5	(d)	(i)	Taking the input to logic 0 starts the process ✓ (Accept 'low' if in context)		1
5	(d)	(ii)	ANDing with FD makes B ₁ = 0 ✓, then ORing with 02 makes it 1 again ✓		2
5	(e)		continuously check (monitored) the value of the input ✓		1
6	(a)	(i)	Any sensible response ✓ e.g. accuracy of rotation (not resolution)		1
6	(a)	(ii)	Any sensible response ✓ e.g. less complex to implement, cheaper, more efficient, more torque		1
6	(b)	(i)	closed system ✓, because there is feedback to the controller ✓		2
6	(b)	(ii)	2 ⁴ = 16 discrete positions ✓, Sensible ecf 360/16 = 22.5° ✓		2
6	(c)	(i)	sensors/bands are not all aligned ✓, so some bits change at different times to others ✓, leading to errors ✓		3

6	(c)	(ii)	Only one bit changes at a time ✓, so sensors do not have to be so accurately aligned ✓		2
7	(a)	(i)	Compare No comparison = 0 ONE MARK LED higher power consumption than LCD ✓, OR LED consumes power when segment is lit ✓, LCD only consumes power when switching state ✓		2
7	(a)	(ii)	Compare No comparison = 0 ONE MARK LED visible in the dark but LCD is not unless back lit ✓, OR LED easily visible in poor light but not in good light ✓, LCD, the other way round ✓		2
7	(a)	(iii)	Compare No comparison = 0 LED, very limited ✓, LCD, any character (can be put onto the screen at manufacture) ✓		2
7	(b)		two AND gate outputs to OR gate ✓ NOT gate inverting control signal ✓ Sensible ecf from NOT gate in wrong place correct wiring to AND gate inputs ✓		3
7	(c)		Correct reduced solution ✓ ✓ OR conversion of OR gate to NAND ✓ Conversion of AND gates to NAND ✓		2