

Name _____ Student No. _____

No aids allowed. Answer all questions on test paper. Use backs of sheets if necessary.

Total Marks: **60**

- [20] 1. In the context of verification of software, explain the difference between *inspection*, *testing* and *formal verification*. What are the two main benefits of *formal verification*?

Solution: See the handout on formal verification. Main ideas are that inspection and testing are “existential” (they discover error) but formal verification is “universal”—it produces a demonstration of correctness. Formal verification, besides a direct proof of correctness, also makes explicit all the implicit assumptions that the programmer makes; the “theorems” that appear in the proof are assumptions about the environment where the program will run, and these “theorems” (or “assertions”) may aid with portability.

- [20] 2. Explain the semantics of the “If” rule for program verification:

$$\frac{\{\alpha \wedge \beta\}P_1\{\gamma\} \quad \{\alpha \wedge \neg\beta\}P_2\{\gamma\}}{\{\alpha\} \mathbf{if} \beta \mathbf{then} P_1 \mathbf{else} P_2 \{\gamma\}}$$

Solution: This rule is saying the following: suppose it is the case that $\{\alpha \wedge \beta\}P_1\{\gamma\}$ and $\{\alpha \wedge \neg\beta\}P_2\{\gamma\}$. This means that P_1 is (partially) correct with respect to precondition $\alpha \wedge \beta$ and postcondition γ , while P_2 is (partially) correct with respect to precondition $\alpha \wedge \neg\beta$ and postcondition γ . Then the program “**if** β **then** P_1 **else** P_2 ” is (partially) correct with respect to precondition α and postcondition γ because if α holds before it executes, then either β or $\neg\beta$ must be true, and so either P_1 or P_2 executes, respectively, giving us γ in both cases.

- [20] 3. Suppose that the design decision in a software project was to implement the dynamic programming solution to the “simple knapsack problem” where the array of partial solutions is given as follows:

$$R(i, j) = T \iff [R(i - 1, j) = T \vee (j \geq w_i \wedge R(i - 1, j - w_i) = T)].$$

- (a) What is an implementation danger? (Hint: mention “lazy evaluation.”)
- (b) What would be the two natural stages of “prototyping”?
- (c) Explain the “space-saving” technique in implementing the array.

Solution: An implementation danger is that for some i, j , $R(i - 1, j) = F$, so the program moves on to check if $j \geq w_i$ and $R(i - 1, j - w_i) = T$; if $j < w_i$, then by “lazy evaluate” the checking should end right here, rather than go on to $R(i - 1, j - w_i)$ where an “out of bounds error” will arise.

The two natural stages of prototyping: first have a natural implementation where we keep a 2-dimensional array (with proper initializations for $R(0, *)$ and $R(*, 0)$), and then to improve the implementation to a 1-dimensional array as in the following program; this is the space saving technique:

```
1:  $S(0) \leftarrow T$ 
2: for  $j : 1..C$  do
3:    $S(j) \leftarrow F$ 
4: end for
5: for  $i : 1..d$  do
6:   for decreasing  $j : C..1$  do
7:     if ( $j \geq w_i$  and  $S(j - w_i) = T$ ) then
8:        $S(j) \leftarrow T$ 
9:     end if
10:  end for
11: end for
```

Note that the loop has to be executed in a “decreasing” order, to make sure that we get the proper values (from the “ $i - 1$ -level”). Note that once an entry is T it will stay T until the end; hence there is no need to check $R(i - 1, j) = T$.