# AQA Computer Science A-Level 4.5.4 Binary number system Past Paper Mark Schemes

## Additional Specimen AS Paper 2

02	4	All marks AO2 (apply)	2
		00001001 00000011 x	
		00001001 00010010 1 mark (rows in a	ny order);
		00011011 1 mark for final ar	nswer;

02	5	All marks AO2 (apply)	
		011111;	MAX 1
		31;	

## Additional Specimen Paper 2

02	1	All marks AO2 (apply)	2
		Correct representation of 78: 01001110; Correct representation of -23:11101001; Correct result 55: 00110111;	3

02	2	All marks 4O2 (apply)	
		1011	2
		* <u>101</u>	
		1011	
		0 1 mark (A if 0 row not present A	
		<u>101100</u> J rows in any order) 110111	

03	1	Mark is for AO2 (apply)	1
		,	
03	2	Mark is for AO2 (apply)	
		-79;	1
03	3	Mark is for AO2 (apply)	1

# June 2011 Comp 3

22 1/8 // 22.125;

3	(a)	0 • 1         0         0         0         0         0         0         1         0         0         0           Mantissa         Exponent	
		1 mark for correct mantissa 1 mark for correct exponent	2
3	(b)	<ul> <li>1 method mark for either:         <ul> <li>showing correct value of both mantissa and exponent in denary</li> <li>showing binary point shifted 2 places to right in binary number</li> <li>indicating that final answer calculated using answer = mantissa x 2<sup>exponent</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>1 mark for correct answer         <ul> <li>Mantissa = -0.625 // -5/8</li> <li>Exponent = 2</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
		Answer = $-2.5 // -21/_2$	2
3	(c)		

3	(C)	0 • 1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	
		1 mark fo	r corr		tissa nantis	sa				Expo	onent		
		1 mark fo											2

3	(e)	Reduced precision; Increased range; <b>A</b> can represent larger/smaller numbers	Max
		No effect on amount of memory required to represent a number;	2

3	(d)	Maximises precision/accuracy for given number of bits; Note: Must have concept of given number of bits or an example of this e.g. word length.		
		Unique representation of each number // simpler to test for equality of numbers;	2	

# June 2012 Comp 3

6	(a)	1	• 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	
					Man	tissa					Exp	onen	t	
		1 mark for correct mantissa 1 mark for correct exponent												

6	(b)	1 method mark for either:	
		<ul> <li>showing correct value of both mantissa and exponent in denary</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>showing binary point shifted 6 places to right in binary number</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>indicating that final answer calculated using answer = mantissa x 2<sup>exponent</sup></li> </ul>	
		Mantissa = -0.6875 // -11/16	
		Exponent = 6	
		Answer = -44	
		1 mark for correct answer	
		If answer is correct and some working has been shown, award two marks, even if working would not have gained credit on its	
		own. Marks for working can be awarded in the answer.	2

6	(c)	1 mark for working: Showing a bit pattern including 1101 and any number of preceding or following 0s, but no other 1s; Showing the correct value of the exponent in denary (9); Showing the binary point being shifted 9 places;												
		MAX 1 1 mark f									:	0	1	
		Mantissa       Exponent         If answer is correct and some working has been shown, award two marks, even if working would not have gained credit on its												
		own. Marks fo	r wor	king	can	be a	warded	in the a	ansv	ver.				2

6	(d)	2 marks for working:			
	Correct representation of 12.5 in fixed point binary: 1100.1; Bits flipped: 0011.0 // 10011.0; A any number of preceding 1s Correct representation of -12.5 in fixed point twos complement 10011.1; A any number of preceding 1s Showing the correct value of the exponent in denary (4) or binary // showing the binary point being shifted four places; Showing the correct value of the mantissa in floating point bina (1.001110) MAX 2 1 mark for correct mantissa and exponent together:				
		MAX 2 1 mark for correct mantissa and exponent together:			

(e)	Calculation	Type of Error
	Multiplying two very large numbers together.	Overflow;
	Dividing a number by a very large number.	Underflow;
	Adding together two numbers of very different sizes e.g. a tiny number to a very big number.	Cancellation;
	Adding together two numbers of very different	Cancellatio

# June 2016 AS Paper 2

02	3	Marks are for AO2 (apply)	2
		3 9/16	
		11	
		3.5625	
		Mark as follows:	
		1 mark for correct integer part (3)	
		1 mark for correct fractional part (9/16 or .5625)	
		Alternative answer	
		57/16;;	
02	4	Mark is for AO2 (apply)	1
		57;	

## June 2017 AS Paper 2

02	1	1 mark for AO1 (understanding) and 1 mark for AO2 (apply)	2
		Mark as follows:	
		AO1 (understanding) – 1 mark:	
		The bit pattern is split into 4-bit sections (A. A byte is split in half). Each section is	
		then converted to decimal, with any values above 9 being represented as a letter from A to F / each group of bits is converted to a hexadecimal character;	
		NE. 4-bits are converted to hexadecimal.	
		AO2 (apply) – 1 mark: In the example, the sections are 0001 and 0111. 0001 is 1 in denary, and 0111 is 7	
		in denary, meaning we are left with the final answer of 17;	

02	2	Mark is for AO2 (apply)	1
		00011101;	
		I. leading zeroes not given	
02	3	Marks are for AO2 (apply)	2
		Figure 1a shifted left by 1: 000101110	
		Figure 1a shifted left by 2: 0001011100;	
		Answer: 10001010;	
		Mark as follows:	
		1 mark for both correct shifts	
		1 mark for correct answer	
		11	
		2 marks if correct answer and any relevant working shown.	
		I. leading zeros not given.	
		A. Alternative method of working.	

02	4	Mark is for AO2 (analyse)	1
		10011.011;	
		<b>1 mark</b> for fixed point clearly between 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> digits.	

#### June 2017 Paper 2

11	1	Mark is AO1 (understanding) C;	1	
11	2	Mark is AO1 (understanding) B;		
11	3	All marks AO2 (apply) 1 • 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 Mantissa 1 method mark for either: • showing correct value of both mantissa and exponent in denary (mantissa = -0.625 // -5/8, Exponent = 3) • showing binary point shifted 3 places to right in binary number ie 1011.0000 or in the positive equivalent 0101.0000 • indicating that final answer calculated using answer = mantissa x 2 <sup>exponent</sup> 1 mark for correct answer Answer = -5 If answer is correct and some working has been shown, award two marks, even if working would not have gained credit on its own.	2	

11	4	All marks AO2 (apply)	3					
		2 marks for working:						
		Correct representation of 58.5 in fixed point binary: 111010.1; <b>A.</b> leading 0s. Showing the correct value of the exponent in denary (6) or binary (110) // showing the binary point being shifted 6 places;						
		MAX 2						
		1 mark for correct mantissa and exponent together:						
		0 • 1 1 1 0 1 0 1						
		Mantissa						
		0 1 1 0						
		Exponent						

		If answer is correct and some working has been shown, award three marks, even if working would not have gained credit on its own. Working marks can be awarded for work seen in the final answer eg correct exponent.	
11	5	<ul> <li>Mark is for AO2 (apply)</li> <li>0.05 // 13.8 – 13.75;</li> <li>A. Award BOD mark if correct method has been shown i.e. 13.8 – 13.75 but candidate has then made an error performing the subtraction operation R0.05 unless the accept point above also applies</li> </ul>	1
11	6	Mark is for AO2 (apply)         0.36(%);         A. 0.0036 // 0.05 ÷ 13.8         A. Follow-through of incorrect answer to question part 11.5         A. Award BOD mark if correct method has been shown but candidate has then made an error performing the division operation	1

## June 2011 Comp 1

02	256 // 2 <sup>8</sup> ;	1
02	250 // 2	1

## June 2012 Comp 1

			Answer	Carry		
	0	0	0	0		
	0	1	1	0		
	1	0	1	0	];	
	1	1	0	1	];	

## June 2013 Comp 1

02	0111.1010 // 01111010		
	Mark as follows: 4 bits before binary point are 0111; 4 bits after binary point are 1010;	2	

03	1;110 1110;	
	R. if not 8 bits	2

04	127;	1	
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05	The number to subtract is converted into a negative number; NE. Convert into two's complement	
	This is then added to the first number;	
	Two marks for example:	
	23 = 00010111	
	-48 = 11010000;	
	11100111; (= -25)	4
	A. if not used 8 bits in examples	
	A. 23 + -48 is worth 1 mark only (if there is no description)	
	Note: for the first mark in the example to be awarded the two bit patterns	
	must be correct. For the second mark in the example accept an incorrect answer as long as it is a correct addition using one of the two correct bit patterns.	

#### June 2013 Comp 3

2	(a)	One mark per correct ar	iswer:		
		Value description	Correct letter (A-D)		
		A negative value.	D;		
			The smallest positive value that can be represented.	A;	
		A value that is not C; valid in the representation because it is not normalised.	C;	3	
		If a letter is used more t correct in the position th			
2 (b)		<ul> <li>1 method mark for eith</li> <li>showing correct and exponent in</li> </ul>	value of both mantissa		
		<ul> <li>showing binary pright in mantissa</li> </ul>	point shifted 6 places to nal answer calculated		
		Mantissa = 0.625 // 5/8 Exponent = 6		2	
		1 mark for correct answ	er		
		Answer = 40			
			some working has been s, even if working would on its own.		

2	(c)	2 marks for working:
		Correct representation of 7.75 in fixed point binary: 111.11; A. leading and trailing 0s. Bits flipped: 000.00 // 1000.00; A. leading 1s Correct representation of -7.75 in fixed point twos complement: 1000.01; A. leading 1s Showing the correct value of the exponent in denary (3) or binary (11) // showing the binary point being shifted 3 places; Note: Award both working marks if bit pattern 1.00001 is shown anywhere MAX 2 1 mark for correct mantissa and exponent
		together:
		Mantissa
		Exponent
		If answer is correct and some working has been shown, award three marks, even if working would not have gained credit on its own.
		Working marks can be awarded for work seen in the final answer e.g. correct exponent.

2	(d)	(i)	0.025 // 6.9-6.875 // 1/40 <b>R.</b> -0.025 <b>A.</b> award <b>BOD</b> mark if correct method has been shown i.e. 6.9-6.875 but candidate has then made an error performing the subtraction operation	1
2	(d)	(ii)	<ul> <li>0.003623 // 0.025/6.9 // 1/276</li> <li>A. 0.3623%</li> <li>A. answers rounded to at least two significant figures</li> <li>A. follow-through of incorrect answer to part 2di</li> <li>A. award BOD mark if correct method has been shown but candidate has then made an error performing the division operation</li> <li>R. if shown that incorrect method used e.g. dividing by 6.875, even though this arrives at an answer that is the same when written to 2 significant figures</li> </ul>	1

2	(d)	(iii)	Alternative 1: Adjust the <u>mantissa</u> ; To use more bits; A. "longer" for "more bits" but R. "larger", "increase size" Alternative 2: Reallocate (one) bit; from the exponent to the mantissa; A. bits Alternative 3: Infer one of the two bits on either side of the binary point (from the other, as they must both be different); use the freed up bit to store one more significant digit in the mantissa// use the freed up bit to represent mantissa more accurately;	2
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# Specimen AS Paper 2

02	2	All marks AO2 (apply)	2
		1001; 0110; <b>1 mark:</b> correct first four bits <b>1 mark:</b> correct bits in position 5-8	

02	3	All marks AO2 (apply)	2
		1;0111101; <b>2 marks:</b> Correct answer only	

02	4	Mark is for AO2 (apply)	1
		10101011;	

02	5	Mark is for AO1 (understanding)	1
		The result is too large to be represented; (it causes) overflow; The result represents a negative value; <b>Max 1 mark</b>	

#### Specimen Paper 2

11			
	Value description	Correct letter	
		(A-D)	
	A positive normalised value.	A	
	The most negative value that can be represented.	С	
	A value that is not valid in the representation because it is not normalised.	В	
		A positive normalised value. The most negative value that can be represented. A value that is not valid in the representation because it is	A positive normalised value.AA positive normalised value.AThe most negative value that can be represented.CA value that is not valid in the representation because it isB

08	2	All marks AO2 (apply)	2
		0 • 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1	
		Mantissa Exponent	
		<ul> <li>1 method mark for either:</li> <li>showing correct value of both mantissa and exponent in denary (Mantissa = 0.6875 // 11/16, Exponent = 5)</li> <li>showing binary point shifted 5 places to right in binary number</li> <li>indicating that final answer calculated using answer = mantissa x 2<sup>exponent</sup></li> </ul>	
		1 mark for correct answer	
		Answer = 22	
		If answer is correct and some working has been shown, award two marks, even if working would not have gained credit on its own.	

08	3	All marks AO2 (apply)	3
		2 marks for working:	3
		Correct representation of 6.75 in fixed point binary: 110.11; <b>A.</b> leading 0s. Correct representation of -6.75 in two's complement fixed point binary: 1001.01; <b>A.</b> leading 1s. Showing the correct value of the exponent in denary (3) or	
		binary (11) // showing the binary point being shifted 3 places;	
		Max 2	
		1 mark for correct mantissa and exponent together:	
		Mantissa	
		0 0 1 1	
		Exponent	
		If answer is correct and some working has been shown, award three marks, even if working would not have gained credit on its own.	
		Working marks can be awarded for work seen in the final answer eg correct exponent.	

08	4	All marks AO1 (understanding)	
		1 mark: Reduced precision; 1 mark: Increased range; A. can represent larger/smaller numbers	2