COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIPOS Part II – 2021 – Paper 9

12 Optimising Compilers (tmj32)

The following excerpt from a program in C-style code is optimised with a compiler using code-motion transformations. The function `read()` returns a signed integer from the user.

```
 l0:  a = read();
 l1:  b = read();
 l2:  p = &a;
 l3:  q = &b;
 l4:  r = &p;
 l5:  if (read() > 0) {
 l6:    a = b + 5;
 l7:  } else {
 l8:    i = 0;
 l9:    while (i < 10) {
l10:      c = b + 5;
l11:      **r += *q;
l12:      i += 1;
l13:    }
l14:    a += c;
l15:  }
l16:  print(a);
```

(*a*) Describe loop-invariant code motion (LICM) and which expresion(s) in the loop above it should move. [2 marks]

(*b*) Describe a simple data-flow analysis and a way of using it to identify loop-invariant expressions. Use this to analyse the code above. [5 marks]

(*c*) Explain whether all expressions described in Part (*a*) are found through the analysis in Part (*b*). [2 marks]

(*d*) Describe an analysis that can aid in making LICM more precise in this example. [3 marks]

(*e*) Apply the analysis from Part (*d*) to the code above and redo the analysis from Part (*b*) to show which expressions described in Part (*a*) are now found. [4 marks]

(*f*) Describe another *code motion* transformation that could be applied to the code after LICM and show the final code after its application. [4 marks]