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UCSC VERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (EXTERNAL)

Academic Year 2013/2014 – 3rd Year Examination – Semester 5

IT5104 - Professional Issues in IT

Structured Question Paper

08th March, 2014 (TWO HOURS)

To be completed by the candidate	
BIT Examination Index No:	

Important Instructions:

- The duration of the paper is **2 (two) hours**.
- The medium of instruction and questions is English.
- This paper has 4 questions and 16 pages.
- Answer all questions.
- All Questions carry equal marks.
- Write your answers in English using the space provided in this question paper.
- Do not tear off any part of this answer book.
- Under no circumstances may this book, used or unused, be removed from the Examination Hall by a candidate.
- Note that questions appear on both sides of the paper. If a page is not printed, please inform the supervisor immediately.

Questions Answered

Indicate by a cross (x), (e.g. X) the numbers of the questions answered.

	Ques				
To be completed by the candidate by marking a cross (x).	1	2	3	4	
To be completed by the examiners:					

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CASE STUDY 1

The Archaeology Data Service (ADS) / Arts and Humanities Data Service Centre for Archaeology (AHDS Archaeology)

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CASE STUDY 2

A **rootkit** is a stealthy type of software, typically malicious, designed to hide the existence of certain processes or programs from normal methods of detection and enable continued privileged access to a computer.

A **Sony BMG Music CD** using rootkit technology introduced copy protection measures on about 22 million CDs without most consumers being aware of the consequences of rootkit technology. When inserted into a computer, the CDs automatically installed two pieces of software which provided a form of digital rights management (DRM) by modifying the operating system to interfere with CD copying. These programs could not be easily uninstalled, and they unintentionally created security holes that were exploited by unrelated malware such as worms or viruses. They constantly ran in the background and excessively consumed system resources, slowing down the user's computer, regardless of whether there is a protected CD playing or not. It employed unsafe procedures to start and stop, which led to system crashes. It had no uninstaller, and was installed in such a way that inexpert attempts to uninstall it led to the operating system to fail to recognize existing drives.

One of the programs installed itself, even if the user refused its EULA (end-user license agreement), and it "phoned home" with reports on the user's private listening habits; the other was not mentioned in the EULA at all, contained code from several pieces of software in an apparent infringement of copyright, and configured the operating system to hide the software's existence, leading to both programs being characterized as rootkits.

Sony BMG initially denied that the rootkits were harmful. It then released, for one of the programs, an "uninstaller" that only un-hid the program, installed an additional software which could not be easily removed, collected an email address from the user, and introduced further security vulnerabilities.

Following public scandal, government investigations and class-action lawsuits in 2005 and 2006, Sony BMG partially addressed the scandal with consumer settlements, a recall of about 10% of the affected CDs, and the suspension of CD copy protection efforts in early 2007.

- 3) Answer the questions (a) and (b) using the scenario or CASE STUDY 2 given above.
 - (a) Explain the relevant aspects of the BCS Code of Conduct, that should have influenced your actions as a computing professional in designing/ implementing the above DRM & Copy Protection Software used in the SONYBMG Music CDs.

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