

A Leader in Accounting Education

Accountancy@UJ



ADVANCED INTERNAL AUDITING – 2014

FINAL ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITY

NOVEMBER 2014

FIRST EXAMINERS: MR W MALHERBE
SECOND EXAMINER: PROF B MARX

TIME: 120 MINUTES
MARKS: 100 MARKS

EXTERNAL MODERATOR: MR. Y. YASSEEN

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This paper consists of **eighteen** pages. If your paper does not contain all the pages, please put up your hand so that a replacement paper can be handed to you.
2. Answer all the questions.
3. Answer each question on a **separate folio**.
4. Calculate the time that you should spend on each question by multiplying the number of marks for each question by 1,2 to determine the time, in minutes, available for each question. Adhere to these time constraints in order to finish the paper in the given time.
5. Delete **all** (even single open lines) open spaces on your answer sheets with pen. Pages on your answer sheets that contain open spaces will be marked as such and those pages will not be eligible for a remark.
6. No tippex or pencil may be used on your answer sheets. Pages on your answer sheets that contain pencil or tippex will be marked as such and will not be eligible for a remark.
7. All the examination regulations of the UJ and the policy document for students of the Department of Accountancy will apply during this assessment.
8. Hand this paper in, as it will be distributed with your marked answer sheet.
9. The neatness, disclosure and presentation of your answers will be taken into account when marking your paper.
10. Read questions carefully, if you need to provide explanations you should always use full sentences, refrain from simply naming facts.

QUESTION 1**50 MARKS**

Please indicate the correct answer with an X on the “multiple choice” answer sheet provided. For example:

101	 A	B	C	D
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1. Audit committees are most likely to participate in the approval of:
 - a. Audit staff promotions and salary increases.
 - b. The internal audit report observations and recommendations.
 - c. Audit work schedules.
 - d. The appointment of the chief audit executive.

2. According to the International Professional Practices Framework, the independence of the internal audit activity is achieved through:
 - a. Staffing and supervision.
 - b. Continuing professional development and due professional care.
 - c. Human relations and communications.
 - d. Organizational status and objectivity.

3. A CIA, working as the director of purchasing, signs a contract to procure a large order from the supplier with the best price, quality, and performance. Shortly after signing the contract, the supplier presents the CIA with a gift of significant monetary value. Which of the following statements regarding the acceptance of the gift is correct?
 - a. Acceptance of the gift would be prohibited only if it were non-customary.
 - b. Acceptance of the gift would violate The IIA’s Code of Ethics and would be prohibited for a CIA.
 - c. Since the CIA is not acting as an internal auditor, acceptance of the gift would be governed only by the organization’s code of conduct.
 - d. Since the contract was signed before the gift was offered, acceptance of the gift would not violate either The IIA’s Code of Ethics or the organization’s code of conduct.

4. An internal auditor assigned to audit a vendor’s compliance with product quality standards is the brother of the vendor’s controller. The auditor should:
 - a. Accept the assignment, but avoid contact with the controller during fieldwork.
 - b. Accept the assignment, but disclose the relationship in the engagement final communication.
 - c. Notify the vendor of the potential conflict of interest.
 - d. Notify the chief audit executive of the potential conflict of interest.

5. To ensure that due professional care has been taken at all times during an engagement, the internal auditor should always:
 - a. Ensure that all financial information related to the audit is included in the audit plan and examined for nonconformance or irregularities.
 - b. Ensure that all audit tests are fully documented.
 - c. Consider the possibility of nonconformance or irregularities at all times during an engagement.
 - d. Communicate any noncompliance or irregularity discovered during an engagement promptly to the audit committee.

6. To promote a positive image within an organization, a chief audit executive (CAE) planned to conduct assurance engagements that highlighted potential costs to be saved. Negative observations were to be omitted from engagement final communications. Which action taken by the CAE would be considered a violation of the *Standards*?
 - I. The focus of the audit engagement was changed without modifying the charter or consulting the audit committee.
 - II. Negative observations were omitted from the engagement final communications.
 - III. Cost savings recommendations were highlighted in the engagement final communications.
 - a. I only.
 - b. I and II only.
 - c. I and III only.
 - d. II and III only.

7. An auditor, nearly finished with an engagement, discovers that the director of marketing has a gambling habit. The gambling issue is not directly related to the existing engagement and there is pressure to complete the current engagement. The auditor notes the problem and forwards the information to the chief audit executive but performs no further follow-up. The auditor's actions would:
 - a. Be in violation of The IIA's Code of Ethics for withholding meaningful information.
 - b. Be in violation of the *Standards* because the auditor did not properly follow up on a red flag that might indicate the existence of fraud.
 - c. Not be in violation of either The IIA's Code of Ethics or *Standards*.
 - d. Both a and b.

8. A chief audit executive (CAE) uses a risk assessment model to establish the annual audit plan. Which of the following would be an appropriate action by the CAE?
- I. Maintain ongoing dialogue with management and the audit committee.
 - II. Ensure that the schedule of audit priorities remains unchanged.
 - III. Employ only quantitative methods to determine risk weightings.
 - IV. Revise the risk assessment and audit priorities as warranted.
- a. III only.
 - b. I and II only.
 - c. I and IV only.
 - d. III and IV only.
9. Which of the following represents the best risk management technique?
- a. Assessment of the risk levels for future events based on the extent of uncertainty of those events and their impact on achievement of long-term organizational goals.
 - b. Assessment of inherent and control risks and their impact on the extent of financial misstatements.
 - c. Assessment of risk levels of current and future events, their effect on achievement of the organization's objectives, and their underlying causes.
 - d. Assessment of the risk levels of current and future events, their impact on the organization's mission, and the potential for elimination of existing or possible risk factors.
10. Which of the following is the best reason for the chief audit executive to consider the strategic plan in developing the annual audit plan?
- a. To ensure that the internal audit plan supports the overall business objectives.
 - b. To ensure that the internal audit plan will be approved by senior management.
 - c. To make recommendations to improve the strategic plan.
 - d. To emphasize the importance of the internal audit activity.
11. When assessing the risk associated with an activity, an internal auditor should:
- a. Determining how the risk should best be managed.
 - b. Provide assurance on the management of the risk.
 - c. Update the risk management process based on risk exposures.
 - d. Design controls to mitigate the identified risks.

12. If the annual audit plan does not allow for adequate review of compliance with all material regulations affecting the company, the internal audit activity should:
- Ensure that the board of directors and senior management are aware of the limitation.
 - Include a memo with the audit planning file listing the reasons for the lack of coverage.
 - Document that regulations not included will be reviewed in the subsequent year.
 - Decrease the scope of operational and financial audits to make additional audit time available.
13. Which of the following activities undertaken by the internal auditor might be in conflict with the standard of independence?
- Risk management consultant.
 - Product development team leader.
 - Ethics advocate.
 - External audit liaison.
14. Which of the following best describes an internal auditor's purpose in reviewing the organization's existing governance, risk management, and control processes?
- To help determine the nature, timing, and extent of tests necessary to achieve engagement objectives.
 - To ensure that weaknesses in the internal control system are corrected.
 - To provide reasonable assurance that the processes will enable the organization's objectives and goals to be met efficiently and economically.
 - To determine whether the processes ensure that the accounting records are correct and that financial statements are fairly stated.
15. Which of the following is **not** a role of the internal audit activity in best practice governance activities?
- Support the board in enterprise-wide risk assessment.
 - Ensure the timely implementation of audit recommendations.
 - Monitor compliance with the corporate code of conduct.
 - Discuss areas of significant risks.
16. During a review of contracts, a chief audit executive (CAE) suspects that a supplier was given an unfair advantage in bidding on a contract. After learning that the chief executive officer (CEO) of the company is a member of the supplier's board of directors, how should the CAE proceed?
- Submit a draft report to senior management, excluding the CEO.
 - Contact the organization's external auditors for assistance.
 - Obtain supporting documentation and present the finding to the chairperson of the audit committee.
 - Immediately notify the board of directors.

17. Management and the board of directors are responsible for following up on observations and recommendations made by the external auditors. What role, if any, should the internal audit activity have in the process?
- The internal audit activity should have no role in this process in order to ensure independence.
 - The internal audit activity should only become involved if the chief audit executive has sufficient evidence that the follow-up is not occurring.
 - The internal audit activity should establish a monitoring process to review the adequacy and effectiveness of management's follow-up actions.
 - The internal audit activity should become involved only if specifically requested by management or the board of directors.
18. The activity of trading futures with the objective of reducing or controlling risk is called:
- Insuring.
 - Hedging.
 - Short-selling.
 - Factoring.
19. Which of the following goals sets risk management strategies at the optimum level?
- Minimize costs.
 - Maximize market share.
 - Minimize losses.
 - Maximize shareholder value.
20. Which of the following observations by an auditor is most likely to indicate the existence of control weaknesses over safeguarding of assets?
- A service department's location is not well suited to allow adequate service to other units.
 - Employees hired for sensitive positions are not subjected to background checks.
 - Managers do not have access to reports that profile overall performance in relation to other benchmarked organizations.
 - Management has not taken corrective action to resolve past engagement observations related to inventory controls.
- I and II only.
 - I and IV only.
 - II and III only.
 - II and IV only.

21. Which of the following would minimize defects in finished goods caused by poor quality raw materials?
- Documented procedures for the proper handling of work-in-process inventory.
 - Required material specifications for all purchases.
 - Timely follow-up on all unfavorable usage variances.
 - Determination of the amount of spoilage at the end of the manufacturing process.
22. During a preliminary survey, an auditor found that several accounts payable vouchers for major suppliers required adjustments for duplicate payment of prior invoices. This would indicate:
- A need for additional testing to determine related controls and the current exposure to duplicate payments made to suppliers.
 - The possibility of unrecorded liabilities for the amount of the overpayments.
 - Insufficient controls in the receiving area to ensure timely notice to the accounts payable area that goods have been received and inspected.
 - The existence of a sophisticated accounts payable system that correlates overpayment to open invoices and therefore requires no further audit concern.
23. During an assessment of the risk associated with sales contracts and related commissions, which of the following factors would most likely result in an expansion of the engagement scope?
- An increase in product sales, along with an increase in commissions.
 - An increase in sales returns, along with an increase in commissions.
 - A decrease in sales commissions, along with a decrease in product sales.
 - A decrease in sales returns, along with an increase in product sales.
24. If a department's operating standards are vague and thus subject to interpretation, an auditor should:
- Seek agreement with the departmental manager as to the criteria needed to measure operating performance.
 - Determine best practices in the area and use them as the standard.
 - Interpret the standards in their strictest sense because standards are otherwise only minimum measures of acceptance.
 - Omit any comments on standards and the department's performance in relationship to those standards, because such an analysis would be inappropriate.

25. If an auditor's preliminary evaluation of internal controls results in an observation that controls may be inadequate, the next step would be to:
- Expand audit work prior to the preparation of an engagement final communication.
 - Prepare a flowchart depicting the internal control system.
 - Note an exception in the engagement final communication if losses have occurred.
 - Implement the desired controls.
26. Divisional management stated that a recent gross margin increase was due to increased efficiency in manufacturing operations. Which of the following audit procedures would be most relevant to that assertion?
- Obtain a physical count of inventory.
 - Select a sample of products, then compare costs-per-unit this year to those of last year, test cost buildups, and analyze standard cost variances.
 - Take a physical inventory of equipment to determine if there were significant changes.
 - Select a sample of finished goods inventory and trace raw materials cost back to purchase prices in order to determine the accuracy of the recorded raw materials price.
27. Which of the following factors would be considered the **least** important in deciding whether existing internal audit resources should be moved from an ongoing compliance audit engagement to a division audit engagement requested by management?
- A financial audit of the division performed by the external audit a year ago.
 - The potential for fraud associated with the ongoing engagement.
 - An increase in the level of expenditures experienced by the division for the past year.
 - The potential for significant regulatory fines associated with the ongoing engagement.
28. A standardized internal audit engagement program would **not** be appropriate for which of the following situations?
- A stable operating environment undergoing only minimal changes.
 - A complex or changing operating environment.
 - Multiple branches with similar operations.
 - Subsequent inventory audit engagements performed at the same location.

29. Audit engagement programs testing internal controls should:
- Be tailored for the audit of each operation.
 - Be generalized to fit all situations without regard to departmental lines.
 - Be generalized so as to be usable at various international locations of an organization.
 - Reduce costly duplication of effort by ensuring that every aspect of an operation is examined.
30. Which of the following would be permissible under The IIA's Code of Ethics?
- In response to a subpoena, an auditor appeared in a court of law and disclosed confidential, audit-related information that could potentially damage the auditor's organization.
 - An auditor used audit-related information in a decision to buy stock issued by the employer corporation.
 - After praising an employee in a recent audit engagement communication, an auditor accepted a gift from the employee.
 - An auditor did not report significant observations about illegal activity to the board because management indicated that it would resolve the issue.
31. An internal auditor who encounters an ethical dilemma not explicitly addressed by The IIA's Code of Ethics should always:
- Seek counsel from an independent attorney to determine the personal consequences of potential actions.
 - Take action consistent with the principles embodied in The IIA's Code of Ethics.
 - Seek the counsel of the audit committee before deciding on an action.
 - Act consistently with the employing organization's code of ethics, even if such action would not be consistent with The IIA's Code of Ethics.
32. Competent evidence is best defined as evidence which:
- Is reasonably free from error and bias and faithfully represents that which it purports to represent.
 - Is obtained by observing people, property and events.
 - Is supplementary to other evidence already gathered and which tends to strengthen or confirm it.
 - Proves an intermediate fact, or group of facts, from which still other facts can be inferred.

33. The following represents accounts receivable information for a corporation for a three-year period:

	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Net accounts receivable as a percentage of total assets	23.4%	27.3%	30.8%
Accounts receivable turnover ratio	6.98	6.05	5.21

All of the following are explanations for these changes except:

- a. Fictitious sales may have been recorded.
 - b. Credit and collection procedures have become ineffective.
 - c. Allowance for bad debts is understated.
 - d. Sales returns for credit have overstated.
34. Which of the following situations is most likely to be the subject of a written interim report to the engagement client?
- a. Seventy percent of the planned audit work has been completed with no significant adverse observations.
 - b. The auditors have decided to substitute survey procedures for some of the planned detailed review of certain records.
 - c. The engagement program has been expanded because of indications of possible fraud.
 - d. Open burning at a subsidiary plant poses a prospective violation of pollution regulations.
35. According to the International Professional Practices Framework, which of the following is part of the minimum requirements for an engagement final communication?
- I. Background information.
 - II. Purpose of the engagement.
 - III. Engagement scope.
 - IV. Results of the engagement.
 - V. Summaries.
- a. I, II and III only.
 - b. I, III and V only.
 - c. II, III and IV only.
 - d. II, IV and V only.

36. Which of the following would **not** be considered a primary objective of a closing or exit conference?
- To resolve conflicts.
 - To discuss the engagement observations and recommendations.
 - To identify concerns for future audit engagements.
 - To identify management's actions and responses to the engagement observations and recommendations.
37. When interviewing an individual suspected of a fraud, the interviewer should:
- Ensure the suspect's supervisor is present during the interview.
 - Lock the door to ensure no one will interrupt the interview.
 - Pay attention to the wording choices of the suspect.
 - Ask if the suspect committed the fraud.
38. Determination of cost savings is most likely to be an objective of:
- Program audit engagements.
 - Financial audit engagements.
 - Compliance audit engagements.
 - Operational audit engagements.
39. A transportation department maintains its vehicle inventory and maintenance records in a database. Which of the following audit procedures is most appropriate for evaluating the accuracy of the database information?
- Verify a sample of the records extracted from the database with supporting documentation.
 - Submit batches of test transactions through the current system and verify with expected results.
 - Simulate normal processing by using test programs.
 - Use program tracing to show how, and in what sequence, program instructions are processed in the system.
40. Which of the following should be reviewed before designing any system elements in a top-down approach to new systems development?
- Type of processing systems used by competitors.
 - Computer equipment needed by the system.
 - Information needs of managers for planning and control.
 - Controls in place over the current system.

41. Senior management of an entity has requested that the internal audit activity provide ongoing internal control training for all managerial personnel. This is best addressed by:
- A formal consulting engagement agreement.
 - An informal consulting engagement agreement.
 - A special consulting engagement agreement.
 - An emergency consulting engagement agreement.
42. As part of a preliminary survey of the purchasing function, an auditor read the department's policies and procedures manual. The auditor concluded that the manual described the processing steps well and contained an appropriate internal control design. The next engagement objective was to determine the operating effectiveness of internal controls. Which procedure would be most appropriate in meeting this objective?
- Prepare a flowchart.
 - Prepare a system narrative.
 - Perform a test of controls.
 - Perform a substantive test.
43. One of the audit objectives for a manufacturing company is to verify that all rework is reviewed by the production engineer. Which of the following audit procedures would provide the best evidence for meeting this objective?
- Trace a sample of entries in the rework log to remedial action taken.
 - Trace a sample of rework orders to entries in the rework log.
 - Trace a sample of entries in the review log to rework orders.
 - Trace a sample of rework orders to entries in the review log.
44. Which of the following describes the most appropriate action to be taken concerning a repeated observation of violations of company policy pertaining to competitive bidding?
- The engagement final communication should note that this same condition had been reported in the prior engagement.
 - During the exit interview, management should be made aware that the violation has not been corrected.
 - The chief audit executive (CAE) should determine whether management or the board has assumed the risk of not taking corrective action.
 - The CAE should determine whether this condition should be reported to the external auditor and any regulatory agency.

45. A follow-up review found that a significant internal control weakness had not been corrected. The chief audit executive (CAE) discussed this matter with senior management and was informed of management's willingness to accept the risk. The CAE should:
- Do nothing further because management is responsible for deciding the appropriate action to be taken in response to reported engagement observations and recommendations.
 - Initiate a fraud investigation to determine if employees had taken advantage of the internal control weakness.
 - Inform senior management that the weakness must be corrected and schedule another follow-up review.
 - Assess the reasons that senior management decided to accept the risk and inform the board of senior management's decision.
46. Which of the following would **not** be considered a condition that indicates a higher likelihood of fraud?
- Management has delegated the authority to make purchases under a certain dollar limit to subordinates.
 - An individual has held the same cash-handling job for an extended period without any rotation of duties.
 - An individual handling marketable securities is responsible for making the purchases, recording the purchases, and reporting any discrepancies and gains or losses to senior management.
 - The assignment of responsibility and accountability in the accounts receivable department is not clear.
47. Which of the following would indicate that fraud may be taking place in a marketing department?
- There is no documentation for some fairly large expenditures made to a new vendor.
 - A manager appears to be living a lifestyle that is in excess of what could be provided by a marketing manager's salary.
 - The control environment can best be described as "very loose." However, this attitude is justified by management on the grounds that it is needed for creativity.
 - All of the above.
48. The standard error of a sample reflects:
- The projected population error based on errors in the sample.
 - The average rate of error in the sample.
 - The degree of variation in sample items.
 - The error in the population that the auditor can accept.

49. A manufacturer uses a materials requirements planning (MRP) system to track inventory, orders, and raw material requirements. A preliminary audit assessment indicates that the organization's inventory is understated. Using audit software, what conditions should the auditor search for in the MRP database to support this hypothesis?
- I. Item cost set at zero.
 - II. Negative quantities on hand.
 - III. Order quantity exceeding requirements.
 - IV. Inventory lead times exceeding delivery schedule.
- a. I and II only.
 - b. I and IV only.
 - c. II and IV only.
 - d. III and IV only.
50. Internal auditors often flowchart a control system and reference the flowchart to narrative descriptions of certain activities. This is an appropriate procedure to:
- a. Determine whether the system meets established management objectives.
 - b. Document that the system meets international auditing requirements.
 - c. Determine whether the system can be relied upon to produce accurate information.
 - d. Gain the understanding necessary to test the effectiveness of the system.

QUESTION 2

42 MARKS

PKMY (Pty) Ltd is a large legal advice company designed to assist individuals should they require legal advice. Customers pay a monthly fee for the service and can use it as often as required. The services can be accessed by either logging into their profile online, accessing the PKMY app or calling the call centre. The company keeps track of all queries, their status, all applicable dates and all work required until completion. Managing this complex company is made possible through PKMY's highly advanced computer systems, which run extensive algorithms.

The audit committee is looking to appoint a new chief audit executive (hereafter CAE) due to the arising of a vacancy. The chairman of the audit committee (Charles Roberts), has asked you to assist in the final decision for the new CAE. The human resources department has sent you details regarding the final two candidates.

1. Dawn Fredericks	MBA. Currently with a major bank, working in its information systems division. Before he obtained his MBA a year ago, he spent 6 years as a junior internal auditor at PKMY (Pty) Ltd.
2. Flint Roberts	B.Com. Has spent the last 20 years in internal audit with a number of government departments and had served as an advisor on a number of committees. A hard worker, he is quiet and unassuming, interested primarily in doing his job properly. He is well respected by his colleagues, but has never developed a profile outside of the numerous internal audit departments he has served in.

The audit committee has indicated that one of the first duties of the new CAE would be to carry out, urgently, an investigation into the wage department, as it is suspected that a substantial wage fraud has occurred in which senior members of the wage department (part of the finance division) may be involved. Three months ago the internal audit department was involved in a post-implementation review of the company's current computerised wage system which had been implemented at that time.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO:		MARKS						
a)	<p>State for each candidate, whether they would be suitable or unsuitable for appointment to the position of CAE of PKMY (Pty) Ltd. Discuss your considerations to support your decisions.</p> <p>Your answer should be in the following format:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="327 577 1168 712"> <thead> <tr> <th>Suitable / Unsuitable</th> <th>Considerations</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Suitable / Unsuitable	Considerations	1.		2.		(17)
Suitable / Unsuitable	Considerations							
1.								
2.								
b)	Discuss the CAE's considerations when deciding on the characteristics required when selecting members of the fraud investigation team.	(10)						
c)	Discuss the internal auditor's considerations and response when a deviation is found in a sample, while testing the effectiveness of an internal control.	(15)						
Total Marks:		(42)						



Chartered Institute of
Internal Auditors

14 August 2014

IPPF Consultation 2014

Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors

Proposed enhancements to the International Professional Practice Framework (IPPF)

IIA Global is calling on members to provide feedback on the most significant set of enhancements to the IPPF since 2007.

The Re-Look Task Force (RTF), commissioned in November 2013 to strengthen the ongoing relevance of the IPPF, wants to retain the existing content of the IPPF whilst recommending new features and changes to the overall structure. Its **key proposals** are described in more detail below.

The comments process: Tell us your views

Consultation on this is open until 3 November 2014 and all members are encouraged to express their views directly and in full confidence via an online survey:

Complete the feedback survey **Deadline: 3 November**

The Chartered IIA will also prepare a response on behalf of our members and we would like to hear any comments you have to help us compile our feedback.

You can do this by emailing our Technical Manager **Chris Baker** or by joining the **discussion on the topic** in our forum.

Key proposals include

- Retaining the Definition of Internal Auditing, Code of Ethics and International Standards.
- A **Mission of Internal Auditing** that underpins and supports the entire framework to provide a clear and succinct description of what internal audit aspires to achieve within organisations.
- **Core Principles** for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing to articulate the key elements that describe internal audit effectiveness and support the principles-based International Standards and Code of Ethics.
- Repositioning practice advisories and practice guides to **implementation guidance** and **supplemental guidance**, respectively to better reflect the nature of what each of these layers of the IPPF should accomplish: either to help implement the International Standards or supplement the rest of the framework with specific examples.
- A new element of guidance to provide advice on **emerging issues**.
- Removing **position papers** as a guidance element of the IPPF.
- Changing the existing IPPF classification of 'mandatory' and 'strongly recommended' to **required and recommended**, respectively.

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<http://iaa.org.uk/resources/global-guidance/ippf-consultation-2014/?downloadPdf=true>

Core Principles for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing

While the IPPF indicates that the International Standards are principles-based, the principles underpinning the Standards have not previously been articulated.

The RTF discussed at length what characteristics would describe effective internal auditing. It concluded that there are 12 principles that articulate internal audit effectiveness.

The RTF believes that for an internal audit function to be considered effective, all 12 Principles must be present and operating effectively.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO:		MARKS
a)	Identify 8 principles that you think would articulate internal audit effectiveness.	(8)
	Total Marks:	(8)