

[16 marks] 7. This is a question about writing ARM assembly-language code.

- [5 marks] (a) Write a subroutine named `ROOT` in ARM assembly language that has an input  $i$  and produces an output  $\sqrt{i}$ . Use **this simple algorithm**: find the largest number,  $j$ , for which  $j^2 \leq i$  (recall that ARM has a multiply instruction `MUL`). The value of  $i$  is passed to your subroutine in register `R0`, and you should also return the result,  $j$ , in register `R0`. Show your **Answer** in the space below.

**Solution:**

```
// Subroutine finds square root of R0, returns result in R0
ROOT:  MOV    R1, #0          // j = 0
WHILE:  MUL    R2, R1, R1     // j^2
        CMP    R2, R0         // check exit condition
        BGE    DONEW         // exit if j^2 >= i
        ADD    R1, #1
        B      WHILE
DONEW:  SUBGT   R1, #1         // if (j^2 > i) --j
        MOV    R0, R1         // return result
DONE:   MOV    PC, LR
```

- [2 marks] (b) Write a subroutine named `MOD` in ARM assembly language that produces the modulus,  $n \% i$ . (The `%` is the *remainder* that is produced by the division operation  $n \div i$ ). The values of  $n$  and  $i$  are passed to your subroutine in registers `R0` and `R1`, respectively. You should also return the result,  $n \bmod i$ , in register `R0`. Show your **Answer** in the space below.

**Solution:**

```
// Subroutine calculates the modulus R0 = R0 % R1
MOD:    MOV    R2, #0
MODL:   CMP    R0, R1
        BLT    ENDM
        SUB    R0, R1
        ADD    R2, #1
        B      MODL
ENDM:   MOV    PC, LR        // modulus is in R0
```

*Question 7, continued*

[9 marks]

- (c) For this part you are to write a main program in ARM assembly language that makes use of the subroutines created in parts (a) and (b), above. Your program has to determine if a given input value,  $N$ , is a *prime number*. If it is, you should store a 1 into a memory location  $P$ . If  $N$  is not prime, then you should store 0 into  $P$ .

You are to use the algorithm given below, which is provided in *pseudo-code*.

```
N = 17;           // N could be any integer
P = 0;           // P will be 1 if N is prime, else 0

if (N == 2)
    P = 1;        // 2 is prime
else if ((N & 1) == 1) { // only check odd values of N
    P = 1;        // until proven otherwise
    for (int i = 3; (i ≤ √N) && (P == 1); i = i + 2)
        if (N % i == 0)
            P = 0;
}
```

The special case of  $n = 2$ , which is the only *even* prime number, is handled at the beginning of the algorithm. Then, for the *odd* numbers the `for` loop checks whether  $N$  is divisible by any (odd) number,  $i$ , from 3 to  $\sqrt{N}$ . If a divisor (with remainder of 0) is found, then  $N$  is not prime and the loop terminates.

Write your ARM program that implements this algorithm in the space on the next page. A good approach for completing this task is to try to *translate* each line of the algorithm directly into assembly-language statements. To implement the operation  $\sqrt{n}$  use your `ROOT` subroutine from part (a), and implement the modulus operator `%` with your `MOD` subroutine from part (b). Note that the `&` operator in the pseudo-code represents the logical *AND operator*, and `&&` corresponds to a logical *AND condition*.

To make it easier to mark your answer, **you are required to use some specific registers**, as shown on the next page. Use register `R4` to hold the value  $N$ , and read this value from memory. Also, use `R11` to hold the result  $P$ , which you should store into memory at the end of your code.

### Solution:

```
_start: MOV     R4, #N
        LDR     R4, [R4]
        MOV     R11, #0      // result P will be in R10

        CMP     R4, #2      // if (N == 2)
        MOVEQ   R11, #1     // prime
        BEQ     EXIT
        ANDS    R0, R4, #1  // else check if odd
        BEQ     EXIT        // if even, skip
        MOV     R11, #1     // assume prime

        MOV     R5, #3      // i = 3
        MOV     R0, R4
        BL      ROOT
        MOV     R6, R0      // R6 = sqroot(n)
FOR:     CMP     R5, R6      // i <= sqroot(n) ?
        BGT     EXIT
        MOV     R0, R4      // check modulus
        MOV     R1, R5
        BL      MOD        // R0 = n % i
        CMP     R0, #0      // if (N % i) == 0)
        MOVEQ   R11, #0    // not prime
        BEQ     EXIT
        ADD     R5, #2      // i += 2
        B       FOR

EXIT:    MOV     R0, #P
        STR     R11, [R0]

END:     B       END

N:       .word   17
P:       .word   0
```