23) **system function calls**

1. BIOS functions

**INT 10h -** This interrupt facilitates the use of the video terminal

**-** Input subfunction code: AH

**INT 11h -** returns in AX a word (16 bits) with information about the system’s peripheral

devices

**INT 12h -** stores in AX the amount of RAM memory in kilobytes

**INT 13h -** allows writing and reading disk sectors directly, without considering the existent filesystem

on the disk.

**INT 14h -** This interrupt facilitates access to the system’s serial interface

**INT 15h -** assures control for the peripherals regarding their state (on/off).

**INT 16h -** used both for reading characters from keyboard and for obtaining keyboard’s current

state

**INT 17h -** allows access to parallel ports

**INT 19h -** After POST the processor executes the code for this interrupt by trying to read a code

named bootstrap from the floppy or from the hard disk.

**INT 1Ah -** access to system’s clock, for reading and setting the time.

2. DOS – INT21h functions, for keyboard and monitor

00h - End execution of a program

01h - Read character from keyboard and send it in echo to screen. (AL) – inserted character

02h - Show character on screen. (DL) – the character

09h - Show a row from memory ending with $ (24h) (DS:DX) – row address

- BIOS functions save registers CS, SS, DS, ES, BX, CX, DX, and destroy the others, so the

user must save them and rebuild them.

- Before modifying the monitor’s functioning regime it is recommended to save the current

attribute and reset it at the end.