

Lab 1.2 - .NET command line compiler tools and IL exercise

1. Open notepad and enter this code:

```
class Calc
{
    static int Add(int a, int b)
    {
        return a + b;
    }
}
```

2. Save the file as `add.cs`
 - a. Make sure that notepad does not add the `.txt` extension to the file
3. Open Visual Studio command window
 - a. This provides a development environment where all the .NET SDK tools are under the search path
 - b. Compile the code to a module using the C# compiler:
`csc /target:module add.cs`
 - c. Make sure you've got a file named: `add.netmodule`
 - d. Open the `add.netmodule` using the ILDASM tool:
 - i. `ILDASM add.netmodule`
 1. Look at the MANIFEST
 2. Look at the `Calc` class and the `Add` method
 - a. Explain what each of IL line of code does
 - e. Now, dump the IL code to a file using the ILDASM tool:
 - i. `ILDASM add.netmodule /out=calc.il`
 - ii. You have got two files; can you explain what do they contain?
 - iii. Open the result file using notepad:
 1. `notepad calc.il`
 - iv. Change the name of the module to be `calc.netmodule`:
 1. `.module add.netmodule ➔ .module calc.netmodule`
 - v. Copy the `Add` method, and create a new function named `Subtract`
 1. Change the function name to be `Subtract`
 2. Change the `add` IL opcode to a `sub` IL opcode
 3. Change the comment: `// end of method Calc::Subtract`
 - vi. Save the `calc.il` file
 - f. Compile the IL file using:
 - i. `ilasm /DLL calc.il /output:calc.netmodule`
 - ii. The result should be a `calc.netmodule`
 1. Open the new file using ILDASM
 2. You should see the new `Subtract` function
 - g. Open a new text file in notepad:
 - i. `notepad program.cs`

- ii. Enter the following code:

```
using System;

class Program
{
    static void Main(string [] argv)
    {
        if (argv.Length != 2)
        {
            Console.WriteLine("Use: Calc [number]
[number], for example: Calc 10 6");
            return;
        }
        try
        {
            int x = int.Parse(argv[0]);
            int y = int.Parse(argv[1]);

            Console.WriteLine($"{x} + {y} =
{Calc.Add(x,y)}");
            Console.WriteLine($"{x} - {y} =
{Calc.Subtract(x,y)}");
        }
        catch(Exception ex)
        {
            Console.WriteLine(ex.Message);
        }
    }
}
```

- iii. Compile the code using `csc program.cs /out:calc.exe`
1. Can you explain the error?
- iv. Try to compile the code again using:
- ```
csc program.cs /addmodule:calc.netmodule /out:calc.exe
```
1. Can you explain the errors?
- v. We forgot to make the methods Add and Subtract public methods.
- vi. Instead of going back to the original C# file, we can edit the `calc.il` file.
1. Open `calc.il` in notepad and make the Add and Subtract method public by replacing the private attribute to a public:

```
.method private hidebysig static int32
```

```
 Add(int32 a,
```

```
 int32 b) cil managed
```

```
{
```

```
.method public hidebysig static int32
```

```
Add(int32 a,
```

```
int32 b) cil managed
```

vii. Recompile the calc.il file:

1. `ilasm /DLL calc.il /output:calc.netmodule`

viii. Recompile the program.cs file:

1. `csc program.cs /addmodule:calc.netmodule  
/out:calc.exe`

ix. Try the program:

1. `Calc 4 2`  
2. `Calc`  
3. `Calc 5`  
4. `Calc a b`

x. Open Calc.exe using ildasm:

1. `Ildasm calc.exe`  
2. Press `Ctrl-M`  
3. Can you explain what you see?

4. Debugging IL code:

a. Dump calc.exe IL using:

i. `Ildasm calc.exe /out:program.il`

b. Compile the il code:

i. `ilasm /debug /exe /resource=program.res program.il  
/output=calc.exe`

c. start Visual Studio:

i. `devenv calc.exe`

d. Right-Click the calc project under the solution and choose properties

i. Add 4 2 as the arguments



ii. Save the change (`Ctrl-s`)

iii. Right click once again on the calc.exe and choose Debug:



iv. Use `F10` to single step over the IL code

5. Read this for deeper understanding:

a. <https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/junfeng/2005/02/12/netmodule-vs-assembly/>