

# Template Week 4 – Software

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## Assignment 4.1: ARM assembly

Screenshot of working assembly code of factorial calculation:

The screenshot shows the OakSim software interface. On the left, there is a code editor window displaying ARM assembly code for calculating a factorial. The code starts with a Main routine, initializes registers r0 to r9, enters a loop where it multiplies r1 by r2, subtracts 1 from r2, compares r2 with 1, and loops back if r2 is not equal to 1. Once r2 becomes 1, it exits the loop and ends. The right side of the interface shows a memory dump window with hex and ASCII values for memory addresses starting from 0x00010000 up to 0x000101aa. The memory dump shows the execution of the assembly code, with values like FF, FB, and A0 appearing in the memory dump.

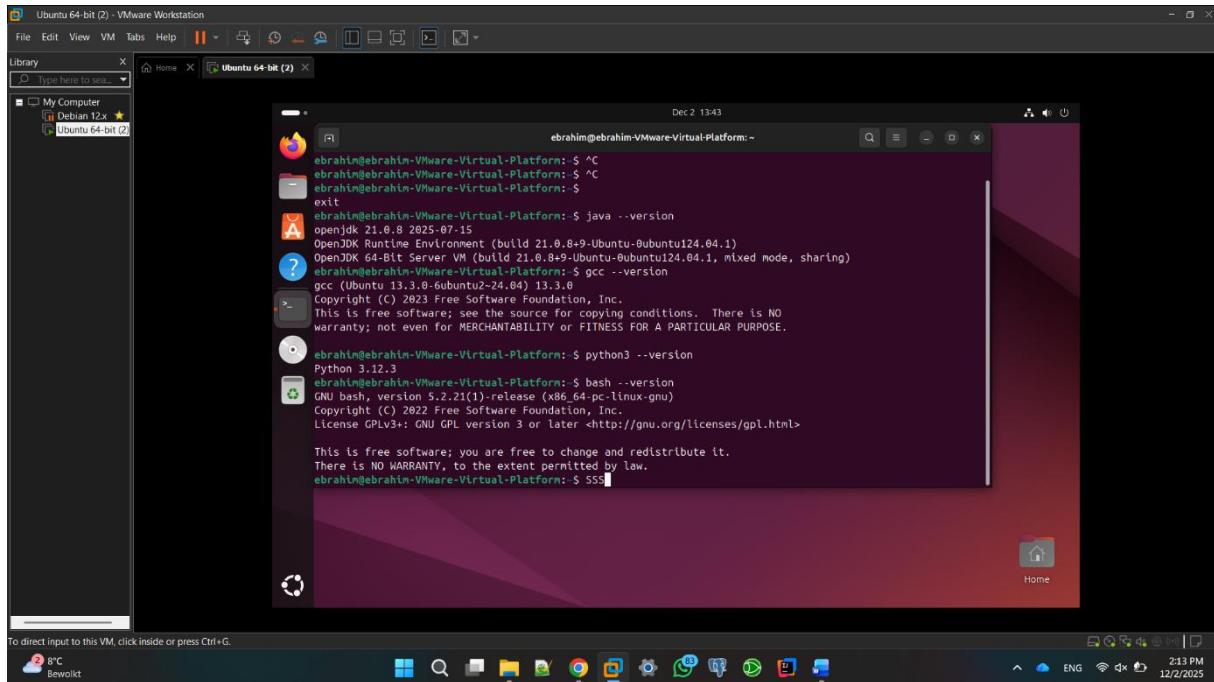
```
1 Main:
2     mov r2, #5
3     mov r1, #1
4
5 Loop:
6     mul r1, r1, r2
7     sub r2, r2, #1
8     cmp r2, #1
9     bne Loop
10
11 End:
12
```

Register	Value
r0	0
r1	78
r2	1
r3	0
r4	0
r5	0
r6	0
r7	0
r8	0
r9	0

## Assignment 4.2: Programming languages

Take screenshots that the following commands work:

- **Java compiler (javac):** 21.0.8
- **Java runtime (java):** OpenJDK 21.0.8
- **GCC (C/C++ compiler):** 13.3.0
- **Python interpreter (python3):** 3.12.3
- **Bash shell:** 5.2.21



### Assignment 4.3: Compile

Which of the above files need to be compiled before you can run them?

They are **Fibonacci.java** and **fib.c**.

Java source code must be compiled by the Java compiler (javac), and C source code must be compiled by the GCC compiler. The Python file (fib.py) and the Bash script (fib.sh) do not require compilation.

Which source code files are compiled into machine code and then directly executable by a processor?

The **C source file (fib.c)** is compiled into native machine code when using the GCC compiler. The output is a binary executable file that can be run directly by the processor without requiring an interpreter or virtual machine.

Which source code files are compiled to byte code?

The **Java source file (Fibonacci.java)** is compiled into bytecode using the javac compiler. The result is a .class file that runs on the Java Virtual Machine (JVM), not directly on the CPU.

Which source code files are interpreted by an interpreter?

The files interpreted by an interpreter are **fib.py** and **fib.sh**.

- fib.py is interpreted by the Python3 interpreter.
- fib.sh is interpreted by the Bash shell.  
Both scripts run line-by-line without compilation

These source code files will perform the same calculation after compilation/interpretation. Which one is expected to do the calculation the fastest?

The **C program (fib.c)** is expected to perform the calculation the fastest. This is because compiled C code runs directly as optimized machine code on the CPU, while Java bytecode runs inside a virtual machine, and Python and Bash are interpreted, which makes them slower.

How do I run a Java program?

To run a Java program, first compile the .java file using the command:

```
javac Fibonacci.java
```

This creates a Fibonacci.class file.

Then run it with the Java Virtual Machine using:

```
java Fibonacci
```

How do I run a Python program?

To run a Python program, simply execute the following command in the terminal:

```
python3 fib.py
```

Python code does not need to be compiled before execution

How do I run a C program?

First compile the C source file using GCC, for example:

```
gcc -o fib fib.c
```

This creates an executable file named fib.

Then run the compiled program using:

```
./fib
```

How do I run a Bash script?

You can run a Bash script in two ways:

1. Run it directly with the Bash interpreter:

```
bash fib.sh
```

2. Or make it executable and run it:

```
chmod +x fib.sh
```

```
./fib.sh
```

If I compile the above source code, will a new file be created? If so, which file?

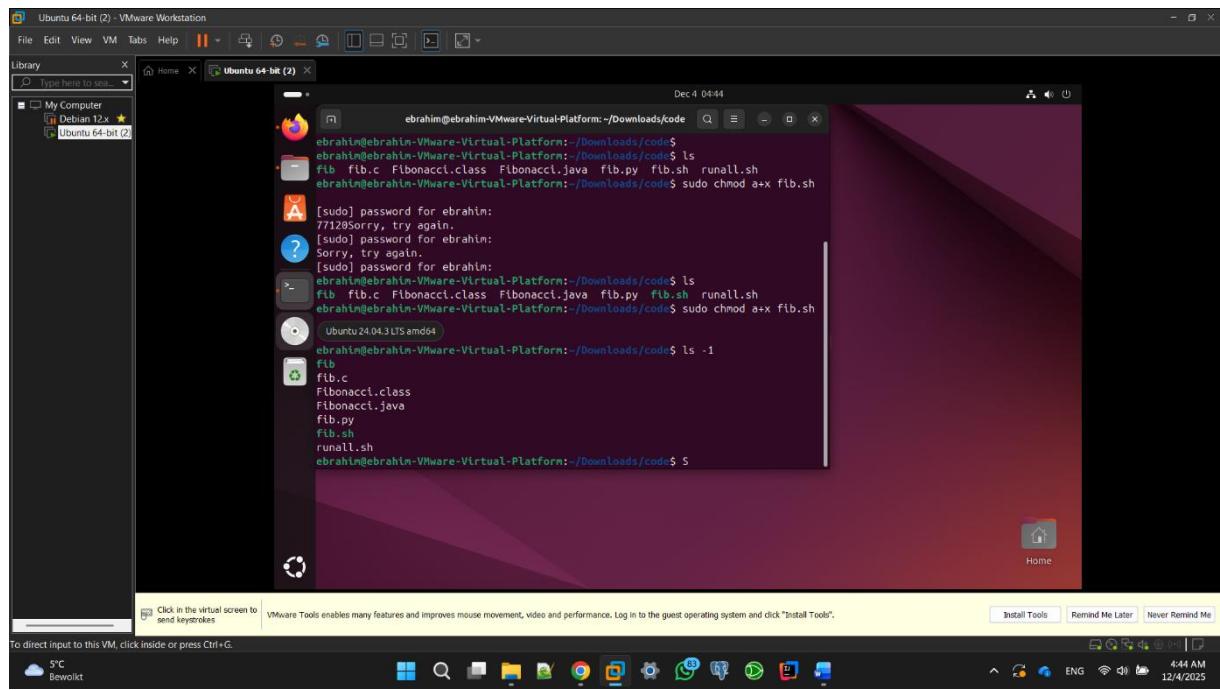
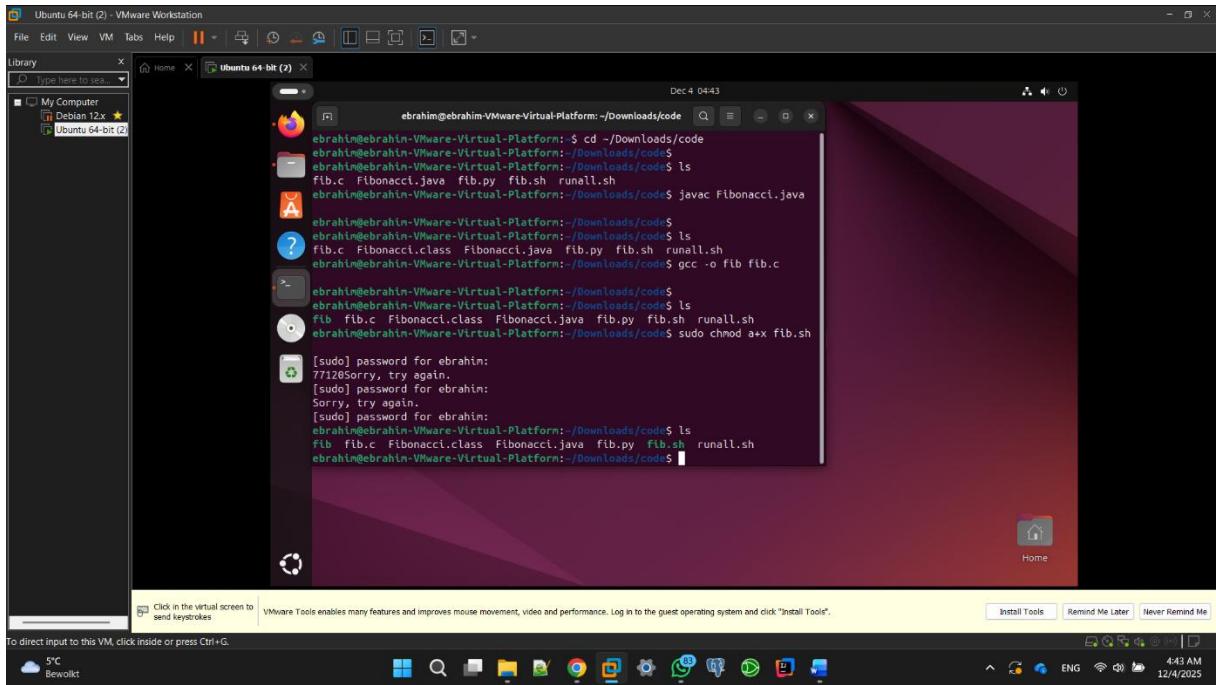
Yes, compiling some of the source code files will create new files.

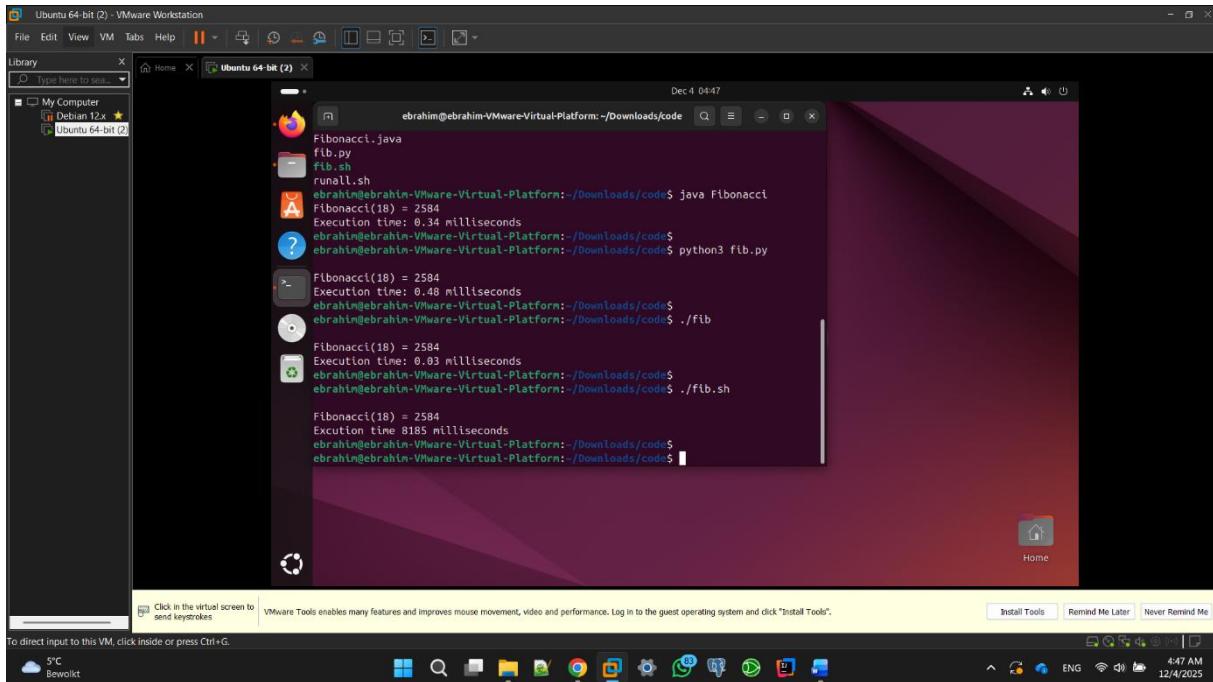
- When you compile **Fibonacci.java**, a new file named **Fibonacci.class** is created. This file contains Java bytecode for execution by the Java Virtual Machine.
  - When you compile **fib.c**, a new executable file is created. If you compile using `gcc fib.c`, the output file is named **a.out** by default. If you compile using `gcc -o fib fib.c`, the output file is named **fib**.
- Python (fib.py) and Bash (fib.sh) do not generate new files when run, because they are interpreted rather than compiled

Take relevant screenshots of the following commands:

- Compile the source files where necessary
- Make them executable
- Run them
- Which (compiled) source code file performs the calculation the fastest?

The C program (fib.c) is the fastest, because it is compiled into native machine code that runs directly on the CPU.





#### Assignment 4.4: Optimize

Take relevant screenshots of the following commands:

- Figure out which parameters you need to pass to **the gcc compiler** so that the compiler performs a number of optimizations that will ensure that the compiled source code will run faster. **Tip!** The parameters are usually a letter followed by a number. Also read **page 191** of your book, but find a better optimization in the man pages. Please note that Linux is case sensitive.

A C program is usually faster because it is compiled directly to native machine code, which runs straight on the CPU. Java is compiled to bytecode and runs inside the Java Virtual Machine (JVM), and Python and Bash are interpreted line by line. The extra layers (virtual machine or interpreter) add overhead, so the C version is expected to be the fastest.

```

Ubuntu 64-bit (2) - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help ||| Library Home Dec 4 05:00
Ubuntu 64-bit (2)
My Computer
Ubuntu 64-bit (2)

ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ man gcc
optimizations are enabled at -O2 by using:
-Q -O2 --help=optimizers

Alternatively you can discover which binary optimizations are
enabled by -O3 by using:
gcc -c -O -O3 --help=optimizers > /tmp/O3-opts
gcc -c -O -O2 --help=optimizers > /tmp/O2-opts
diff /tmp/O2-opts /tmp/O3-opts | grep enabled

--version
Display the version number and copyrights of the invoked GCC.

-pass-exit-codes
Normally the gcc program exits with the code of 1 if any phase of
the compiler returns a non-success return code. If you specify
-pass-exit-codes, the gcc program instead returns with the
numerically highest error produced by any phase returning an error
indication. The C, C++, and Fortran front ends return 4 if an
internal compiler error is encountered.

-pipe
Manual page gcc(1) line 1561 (press h for help or q to quit)

```

written as a capital letter **O** followed by a number. Examples are **-O1**, **-O2** and **-O3**. The option **-O2** enables a wide range of optimizations that usually make the compiled program faster without changing its behaviour. The option **-O3** enables even more aggressive optimizations, focusing on speed, but it may increase compilation time and code size. In this assignment I used **-O2** as an optimization level for fib.c

- b) Compile **fib.c** again with the optimization parameters

I recompiled fib.c with optimization using the command:

`gcc -O2 -o fib_opt fib.c`

This creates an optimized executable named fib\_opt

```

Ubuntu 64-bit (2) - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help ||| Library Home Dec 4 05:02
Ubuntu 64-bit (2)
My Computer
Ubuntu 64-bit (2)

ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ cd ~/Downloads/code
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ ls
fb fb.c Fibonacci.class Fibonacci.java fib.py fib.sh runall.sh
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ man gcc
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ gcc -O2 -o fib_opt fib.c

ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ ls
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ ls
fb fb.c Fibonacci.class Fibonacci.java fib_opt fib.py fib.sh runall.sh
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ 

```

- c) Run the newly compiled program. Is it true that it now performs the calculation faster?
- d)

I compared the execution time of the normal C program and the optimized version using the time command:

```
time ./fib
```

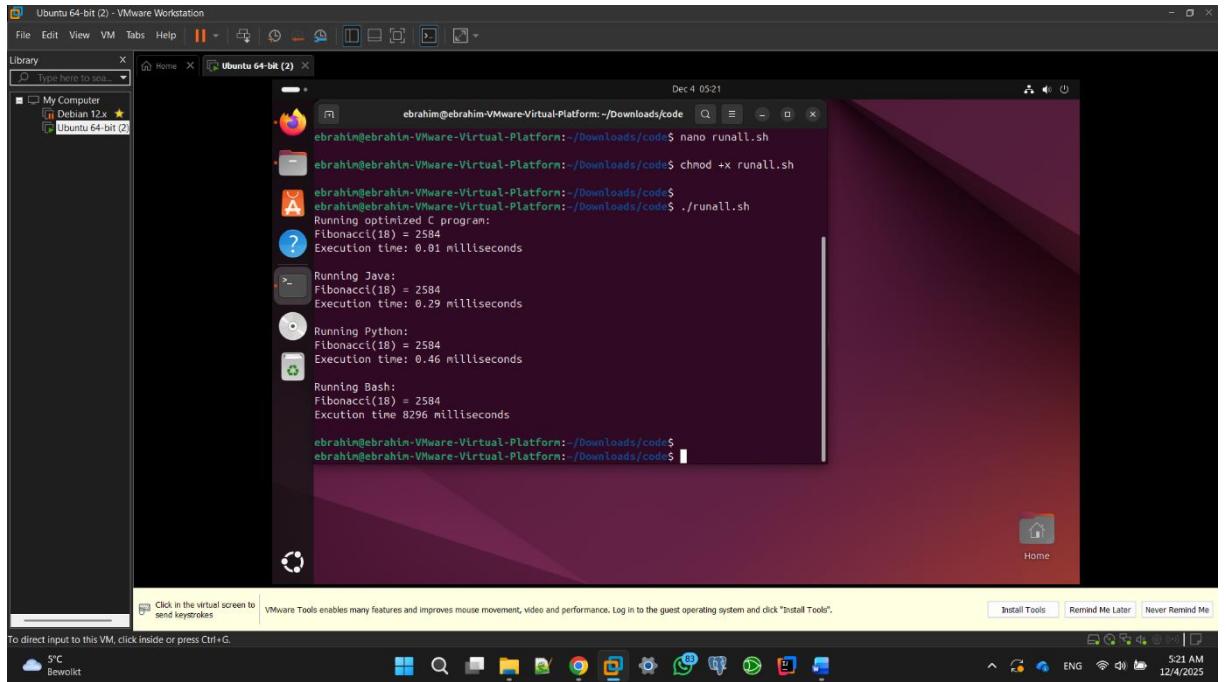
```
time ./fib_opt
```

In theory, the optimized version fib\_opt should run faster because of the additional compiler optimizations. In practice, for such a small program the difference is very small and sometimes hard to see, but the optimized binary is expected to be at least as fast or slightly faster.

```
Ubuntu 64-bit (2) - VMware Workstation
File Edit View VM Tabs Help || Library Type here to search
Ubuntu 64-bit (2)
My Computer
Debian 12.x
Ubuntu 64-bit (2)

Dec 4 05:05
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ gcc -O2 -o fib_opt fib
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ ls
fib fib.c Fibonacci.class Fibonacci.java fib_opt fib.py fib.sh runall.sh
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ time ./fib
Fibonacci(18) = 2584
Execution time: 0.03 milliseconds
real    0m0.002s
user    0m0.002s
sys     0m0.000s
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ time ./fib_opt
Fibonacci(18) = 2584
Execution time: 0.01 milliseconds
real    0m0.002s
user    0m0.000s
sys     0m0.002s
ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$ ebrahim@ebrahim-VMware-Virtual-Platform:~/Downloads/code$
```

- e) Edit the file **runall.sh**, so you can perform all four calculations in a row using this Bash script. So the (compiled/interpreted) C, Java, Python and Bash versions of Fibonacci one after the other.



### Assignment 4.5: More ARM Assembly

Like the factorial example, you can also implement the calculation of a power of 2 in assembly. For example you want to calculate  $2^4 = 16$ . Use iteration to calculate the result. Store the result in r0.

Main:

```

mov r1, #2
mov r2, #4
mov r0, #

```

Loop:

```

mul r0, r0, r1
sub r2, r2, #1
cmp r2, #0
bne Loop

```

End:

Complete the code. See the PowerPoint slides of week 4.

Screenshot of the completed code here.

The screenshot shows the OakSim assembly debugger interface. The top bar includes tabs for 'Open', 'Run' (which is selected), '250', 'Step', and 'Reset'. The assembly code is as follows:

```
1 Main:
2     mov r1, #2      @ base = 2
3     mov r2, #4      @ exponent = 4
4     mov r0, #1      @ result starts at 1
5
6 Loop:
7     mul r0, r0, r1  @ r0 = r0 * 2
8     sub r2, r2, #1  @ r2 = r2 - 1
9     cmp r2, #0      @ check if r2 is zero
10    bne Loop      @ if not zero, repeat
11
12 End:
```

The register values are:

Register	Value
R0	10
R1	2
R2	0
R3	0
R4	0
R5	0
R6	0
R7	0
R8	0
R9	0

The memory dump shows the state of memory starting at address 0x0000100000:

Address	Value
0x0000100000	02 10 A0 E3 04 20 A0 E3 01 00 A0 E3 90 01 00 E0 ...
0x0000100010	01 20 42 E2 00 00 52 E3 FB FF FF 1A 00 00 00 00 B R...
0x0000100020	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100040	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100050	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100060	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100070	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100080	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100090	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x00001000A0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x00001000B0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x00001000C0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x00001000D0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x00001000E0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x00001000F0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100100	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100110	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100120	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100130	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100140	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100150	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100160	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100170	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100180	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x0000100190	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0x00001001A0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

The status bar at the bottom shows '© 2017' and the system tray includes icons for SFC, Bewerkt, and a date/time stamp of '5:32 AM 12/4/2025'.

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