

CSE 341 – PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES – HOMEWORK 2

CHAPTER 3

Review Question 14 : Why can machine language not be used to define statements in operational semantics ?

Answer:

Because using machine language to define statements in operational semantics cause some problems.

- 1 – The step in the execution of machine language and resulting changes to the state of the machine are too small and too numerous.
- 2 – The storage of computer is too large and complex.

Problem Set 19 : Write an attribute grammar whose BNF basis is that of Example 3.6 in Section 3.4.5 but whose languages rules are as follows: Data types cannot be mixed in expressions, but assignment statements need not have the same types on both sides of the assignment operator.

Answer:

1. Syntax rule : $\langle \text{assign} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{var} \rangle = \langle \text{expr} \rangle$

2. Syntax rule : $\langle \text{expr} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{var} \rangle[2] + \langle \text{var} \rangle[3]$

Predicate : $\langle \text{var} \rangle[2].\text{actual_type} == \langle \text{var} \rangle[3].\text{actual_type}$

3. Syntax rule : $\langle \text{expr} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{var} \rangle$

4. Syntax rule : $\langle \text{var} \rangle \rightarrow A \mid B \mid C$

Semanti rule : $\langle \text{var} \rangle.\text{actual_type} \leftarrow \text{lookup}(\langle \text{var} \rangle.\text{string})$

CHAPTER 4

Review Question 1 : What are the reasons why using BNF is advantageous over using an informal syntax description ?

Answer:

Using BNF has at least three advantages.

- 1 – BNF descriptions of the syntax of the program are clear and concise, both humans and for software system that use them.
- 2 – BNF description can be used as the direct basis for the syntax analyzer.
- 3 – Implementations based on BNF are relatively easy to maintain because of their modularity.

Review Question 5 : Describe briefly the three approaches to building a lexical analyzer?

Answer :

- 1 . Write formal description of the token patterns of the languages using a descriptive language related regular expressions. These descriptions are used as input to a software tool that automatically generates a lexical analyzer. There are many such tools available for this. The oldest of these, named lex, is commonly used as part of UNIX systems.
2. Design a state transition diagram that describes the token patterns of the language and write a program that implements the diagram.
3. Design a state transition diagram that describes the token patterns of the language and hand-construct a table-driven implementation of the state transition diagram.

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