# The C-- Programming Language

#### **Tokens**

The tokens of the C-- language are defined as follows:

- Reserved words.
- int bool void true false if else while return cin cout
- Identifiers. Any sequence of one or more letters, digits, or underscores, starting with a letter or underscore, that is not a reserved word.
- Integer literals. Any sequence of one or more digits.
- String literals. A sequence of zero or more *string characters* surrounded by double quotes. A "string character" is either a single character other than a newline, double-quote, or backslash, or an *escape sequence* consisting of a backslash followed by a single quote, a double quote, the letter t, the letter n, or another backslash.

Examples of legal string literals:

```
""
"&!#"
"use \n to denote a newline character"
"include a quote like this \" and a backslash like this \\"
```

Examples of things that are not legal string literals:

```
"unterminated
"also unterminated \"
"backslash followed by space: \ is not allowed"
"bad escaped character: \a AND not terminated
```

• Any of the following one- or two-character symbols

```
    { } ( ) [ ] , = ;
    + - * / ! && || == !=
    < > <= >= << >>
```

#### **Comments**

Text starting with a double slash (//) or a sharp sign (#) up to the end of the line is a comment (except of course if those characters are inside a string literal). For example:

```
// this is a comment
# and so is this
```

The scanner should recognize and ignore comments (but there is no COMMENT token).

### Whitespace

Spaces, tabs, and newline characters are whitespace. Whitespace separates tokens, but should otherwise be ignored (except inside a string literal).

#### **Invalid Characters**

Any character that is not whitespace and is not part of a token or comment is invalid.

## Length

You may *not* assume any limits on the lengths of identifiers, string literals, integer literals, comments, etc.

## The C-- grammar

```
program
   : program varDecl
    | program fnDecl
    /* empty */
varDecl
   : type id ';'
    | type id '[' INTLITERAL ']' ';'
type
   : INT
    BOOL
    | VOID
fnDecl
    : type id parameters block
parameters
   : '(' ')'
    | '(' formalsList ')'
formalsList
    : formalDecl
    | formalsList ',' formalDecl
formalDecl
   : type id
block
   : '{' declList stmtList '}'
declList
   : declList varDecl
    /* empty */
stmtList
   : stmtList stmt
```

```
/* empty */
stmt
   : CIN READ id ';'
    | CIN READ id '[' exp ']' ';'
    | COUT WRITE exp ';'
    subscriptExpr '=' exp ';'
    | id '=' exp ';'
    IF '(' exp ')' block
    IF '(' exp ')' block ELSE block
    WHILE '(' exp ')' block
    | RETURN exp ';'
    | RETURN ';'
    | fnCallStmt ';'
exp
    : exp '+' exp
    | exp '-' exp
    exp '*' exp
    exp '/' exp
    '!' exp
    exp ANDAND exp
    exp OROR exp
    exp EQEQ exp
    exp NOTEQ exp
    exp '<' exp
    exp '>' exp
    exp LESSEQ exp
    exp GREATEREQ exp
    '-' atom
    atom
atom
   : INTLITERAL
    | STRINGLITERAL
    TRUE
    FALSE
    | '(' exp ')'
    fnCallExpr
    | subscriptExpr
    | id
fnCallExpr
   : id '(' ')'
    | id '(' actualList ')'
fnCallStmt
   : id '(' ')'
    | id '(' actualList ')'
```

actualList

The operators in C-- have precedence, from lowest to highest as follows:

```
||
&&
<, <=, >, >=, ==, !=
+, -
*, /
!, unary -
```

On each line, the operators have equal precedence. All operators are left-associative except for the comparison oprators (<=, ==, etc.) which have no associativity. For example, the expression a <= b == c is illegal.