Lexical Analyzer for the C Language



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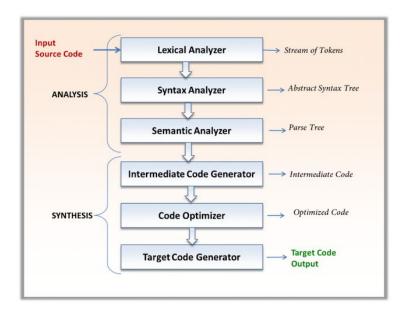
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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION

A compiler is a program that can read a program in one language, the source language – and translate it to an equivalent program in another language, the target language. This project focuses on creating a "Mini C Compiler", basically a compiler for a subset of the C language. The compiler construction has been divided into four phases called "Phases".



PHASE I

The first project phase requires us to construct a scanner or in other words a lexical analyzer which is the first part of a compiler. It takes the source program as an input and gives out a stream of tokens as an output.

The lexical analyzer maintains a data structure called the symbol table, but for this phase we will just be identifying the token and iThe first project phase requires us to construct a scanner or in other words a lexical analyzer which is the first part of a compiler. It takes the source program as an input and gives out a stream of tokens as an output.

The lexical analyzer maintains a data structure called the symbol table, but for this phase we will just be identifying the token and its type and displaying the necessary information. When the lexical analyzer discovers a lexeme constituting an identifier, it enters that lexeme into the symbol table. The scanner will also strip out white spaces and comments from the input and provide necessary error messages as and where it is necessary.ts type and displaying the necessary information. When the lexical analyzer discovers a lexeme constituting an identifier, it enters that lexeme into the symbol table.

The scanner will also strip out white spaces and comments from the input and provide necessary error messages as and where it is necessary.

The scanner will take care of the following syntactic structures:

<u>Data Types:</u> int (short and long) and char initialization and declaration.

int a = 5, b = 6;

<u>Functions:</u> Functions with one parameter of int or char data types. The return type being taken care of will also be int and char.

int perimeter (int a) {...}

Conditional: If else blocks and nested if else statements.

If(a==b) {...} else {...};

<u>Array:</u> Single dimensional array initialization.

int students [10];

<u>Loops:</u> While loop construct will be taken care of.

while(a==b) {...}

The scanner will analyze the following tokens:

Keywords: The lexer will identify int, long, short, long long, signed, unsigned, for, while, break, continue, if, else, return, for and const.

<u>Identifiers:</u> All identifiers following the C language semantics will be analyzed. The regex for an identifier is [_a-zA-Z][_a-zA-Z0-9]*

<u>Strings:</u> The lexer will identify strings in any C program. It can also handle double quotes that are escaped using a \ inside a string.

<u>Constants:</u> The lexer will identify integer, hexadecimal and octal constants.

<u>Operators:</u> The lexer will identify unary, arithmetic, relational, logical, assignment and conditional operators.

<u>Special Symbols:</u> The lexer will identify brackets, braces, parentheses, commas, semicolons, assignment operator and preprocessor directive.

TOOLS & LANGUAGE

- The language for which the compiler is being made for is a subset of the C language.
 Lex/Flex will be used.
- 3. Yacc/Bison will be used.
- 4. Visual Studio Code will be the primary text editor5. GitHub will be utilized for collaboration and version control.

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Introduction

LEXICAL ANALYZER

Lexical analysis is the first phase of a compiler. It takes the modified source code from language preprocessors that are written in the form of sentences. The lexical analyzer breaks these syntaxes into a series of tokens, by removing any whitespace or comments in the source code.

If the lexical analyzer finds a token invalid, it generates an error. The lexical analyzer works closely with the syntax analyzer. It reads character streams from the source code, checks for legal tokens, and passes the data to the syntax analyzer when it demands.

FLEX SCRIPT

The script written by us is a program that generates lexical analyzers ("scanners" or "lexers"). Lex reads an input stream specifying the lexical analyzer and outputs source code implementing the lexer in the C programming language.

The structure of our flex script is intentionally similar to that of a Yacc file; files are divided into three sections, separated by lines that contain only two percent signs, as follows:

Definition section

%%

Rules section

%%

C Code Section

The definition section defines macros and imports header files written in C. It is also possible to write any C code here, which will be copied verbatim into the generated source file

The rules section associates regular expression patterns with C statements. When the lexer sees text in the input matching a given pattern, it will execute the associated C code.

The C code section contains C statements and functions that are copied verbatim to the generated source file. These statements presumably contain code called by the rules in the rules section. In large programs it is more convenient to place this code in a separate file linked in at compile time.

C Program

This section describes the input C program which is fed to the flex script in order to generate the lex file after taking all the rules mentioned in account. Finally, a file called lex.yy.c is generated, which when executed recognizes the tokens present in the C program which was given as an input.

The script also has an option to take standard input instead of taking input from a file.

SYMBOL TABLE & CONSTANT TABLE

This section contains the definition of the symbol table and the constants table and also defines functions for inserting into the table and displaying its contents within the table.h file, & contains enumerated constants for keywords, operators, special symbols, constants and identifiers in tokens.h.

The symbol table contains the list of identifiers captured by the scanner and the constant table contains all the constants captured by the scanner along with the type of the constant. A simple structure array was used to create a linear table so as to store this information.

Design of Programs

CODE

```
≣ scanner.l ×
      9sf[
      int start = 0;
      struct symbol
           char token[100];
          char type[100];
      }symbolTable[100000], constantTable[100000];
      int c=0;
      int symbolLookup(char* tokenName)
           int k=0,flag=0;
           for(k=0; k<=i; k++)
               if(strcmp(symbolTable[k].token,tokenName)==0)
                   flag=1;
                   break;
           return flag;
      void symbolInsert(struct symbol table[], int index, char* tokenName, char* tokenType)
          int flag;
          flag=symbolLookup(tokenName);
          if(flag==θ)
               strcpy(table[index].token, tokenName);
               strcpy(table[index].type, tokenType);
      void constantInsert(struct symbol table[], int index, char* constant, char* constantType)
          strcpy(table[index].token, constant);
          strcpy(table[index].type, constantType);
      void display()
          printf("\nSYMBOL TABLE \n\n");
          printf("%-10s \t\t\t %s\n", "Symbol", "Type");
           for(k=0; k<=1; k++)
              printf("%-10s\t\t\t%-40s\n",symbolTable[k].token,symbolTable[k].type);
          printf("\nCONSTANT TABLE \n\n");
printf("%-10s \t\t\t %s\n","Constant","Type");
           for(k=0;k<=c;k++)
               printf("%-10s\t\t\t%-40s\n",constantTable[k].token,constantTable[k].type);
      %
```

Figure 1: Code for Scanner

Figure 2: Code for Scanner

Figure 3: Code for Scanner

```
#ifndef TOKEN H
#define TOKEN H
   INT=100,
  CHAR,
FLOAT,
  SIGNED,
UNSIGNED,
  SHORT,
LONG,
LONGLONG,
  CONST,
RETURN,
  IF,
ELSE,
  FOR,
WHILE,
  BREAK,
CONTINUE,
   ENUM,
   SWITCH
   IDENTIFIER=200
  HEXCONSTANT=300,
   FLOATCONSTANT,
  DECIMALCONSTANT,
CHARCONSTANT,
  STR,
HEADERFILE,
  MACRO
  MINUS=400,
INCREMENT,
DECREMENT,
  NOT,
PLUS,
  DIV.
  MOD,
EQUAL,
   NOTEQUAL,
  GREATER,
LESSER,
   GREATEREQUAL,
   LESSEREQUAL,
  ASSIGNMENT,
LOGICALAND,
  LOGICALOR,
ADDASSIGN,
SUBTRACTASSIGN,
  MULTASSIGN,
DIVIDEASSIGN,
   MODASSIGN
  DELIMITER=500,
   LEFTBRACKET,
   RIGHTBRACKET,
  LEFTBRACE,
RIGHTBRACE,
LEFTPARANTHESES,
   RIGHTPARANTHESES,
   COMMA.
   SEMICOLON
```

Figure 4: Code for token.h

EXPLANATION

The flex script recognizes the following classes of tokens from the input:

- Pre-processor instructions
- Single-line comments
- Multi-line comments
- Errors for unmatched comments
- Errors for nested comments
- Parentheses (all types)
- Operators
- · Literals (integer, float, string)
- Errors for incomplete strings
- Keywords
- Identifiers

Keywords accounted for: int, char, float, signed, unsigned, short, long, long long, const, break, continue, for, while, if, else, void, enum and return.

Test Cases

WITHOUT ERRORS

```
C test.c
     // Normal Program to show case program with no errors
     /* This will work */
     #include<stdio.h>
     #include<string.h>
     int main() {
          int a = 5;
          float b = 5.0;
          char aString[10] = "Hello World";
          int a = 0x321;
          char zy = 'a';
12
13
          a+=5;
          return 0;
15
```

Figure 5: Code for No Errors

- > The program is fed with the above C program which is error free.
- ➤ It contains both single line and multi-line comments.
- > It contains int, float and char initializations.
- > It contains the use of operators.
- > It contains the use of various constants as well as special symbols.
- > The output for the following is shown in the following page.

```
<stdio.h>
                                               - HEADER FILE - 305
<string.h>
int
                                               - KEYWORD - 100
                                               - IDENTIFIER - 200
main
                                               - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 505
                                               - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 506
                                               - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 583
int
                                               - KEYWORD - 100
                                              - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                              - OPERATOR - 414
- CONSTANT - 362
                                              - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
float
                                              - KEYWORD - 102
                                              - IDENTIFIER - 200
b
                                              - OPERATOR - 414
                                              - CONSTANT - 381
5.8
                                              - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 588
char
                                              - KEYWORD - 101
                                              - IDENTIFIER - 200
aString
                                              - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 501
                                              - CONSTANT - 382
- SPECIAL SYMBOL
18
                                              - OPERATOR - 414
- CONSTANT - 364
"Hello World"
                                              - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                              - KEYWORD - 100
int
                                              - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                              - OPERATOR - 414
                                              - CONSTANT - 300
8x321
                                              - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                              - KEYWORD - 101
char
                                              - IDENTIFIER - 200
zy
                                              - OPERATOR - 414
                                              - CONSTANT - 383
- SPECIAL SYMBOL -
- IDENTIFIER - 208
                                              - OPERATOR - 417
- CONSTANT - 362
                                              - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
return
                                              - KEYWORD - 109
                                              - CONSTANT - 382
- SPECIAL SYMBOL - 588
8
                                               - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 504
SYMBOL TABLE
Symbol
                                     Type
                                    IDENTIFIER
main
                                    IDENTIFIER
                                    IDENTIFIER
                                    IDENTIFIER
aString
                                     IDENTIFIER
CONSTANT TABLE
Constant
                                     Type
5
5.8
                                    INTEGER CONSTANT
                                    FLOAT CONSTANT
18
                                    INTEGER CONSTANT
"Hello World"
                                    STRING
                                    HEX CONSTANT
8x321
                                    CHAR
                                    INTEGER CONSTANT
                                    INTEGER CONSTANT
```

Figure 6: Output for No Errors

- > All tokens are identified.
- > Comments are removed.
- > Whitespaces have been removed.
- No error messages are shown.

WITH ERRORS

```
C test1.c
      /*This should not*/ work */
      #include<stdio
      . h>
      #include<string.h>
      int main() {
11
12
          int a = 5;
          char aString[10] = "Hello
13
14
              World";
15
          @$
          char zy = 'ab';
          a += 5;
17
          return 0;
19
```

Figure 7: Code for Errors

- > The program is fed with the above C program which is erroneous.
- > It contains nested multi line comments.
- > It contains invalid header file calls.
- > It contains invalid string declarations.
- > It contains invalid character declarations.
- > It contains illegal characters not in the language.
- > The output for the following is shown in the following page.

```
- IDENTIFIER - 200
ERROR AT 5: NESTED COMMENT
ERROR AT 6: ILLEGAL HEADER FORMAT
                                            - IDENTIFIER - 200
ERROR AT 7: ILLEGAL CHARACTER
                                            - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                            - OPERATOR - 418
                                            - HEADER FILE - 305
<string.h>
                                            - KEYWORD - 100
main
                                            - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                            - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 505
- SPECIAL SYMBOL - 506
                                            - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 503
int
                                            - KEYWORD - 100
                                            - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                            - OPERATOR - 414
5
                                            - CONSTANT - 382
                                            - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                            - KEYWORD - 101
char
                                            - IDENTIFIER - 200
aString
                                            - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 581
18
                                            - CONSTANT - 382
                                            - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 582
                                            - OPERATOR - 414
ERROR AT 13: UNTERMINATED STRING
                                            - IDENTIFIER - 200
ERROR AT 13: UNTERMINATED STRING
ERROR AT 13: ILLEGAL CHARACTER
ERROR AT 13: ILLEGAL CHARACTER
                                            - KEYWORD - 101
char
                                            - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                            - OPERATOR - 414
ERROR AT 14: UNTERMINATED CHAR
                                            - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                            - IDENTIFIER - 200
- OPERATOR - 417
4=
5
                                            - CONSTANT - 382
                                            - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
return
                                            - KEYWORD - 109
                                            - CONSTANT - 382
8
                                            - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                            - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 584
SYMBOL TABLE
Symbol
                                   IDENTIFIER
work
                                  IDENTIFIER
stdio
                                   IDENTIFIER
                                   IDENTIFIER
main
                                   IDENTIFIER
aString
                                   IDENTIFIER
                                   IDENTIFIER
World
zy
                                   IDENTIFIER
CONSTANT TABLE
Constant
                                   INTEGER CONSTANT
18
                                   INTEGER CONSTANT
5 8
                                   INTEGER CONSTANT
                                  INTEGER CONSTANT
```

Figure 8: Output for Errors

- > Appropriate error messages have been shown for invalid header files.
- > Appropriate error messages have been shown for invalid nested comments.
- > Appropriate error messages have been shown for invalid character declarations.
- > Appropriate error messages have been shown for invalid string declarations.
- > Appropriate error messages have been shown for invalid tokens.

OTHER CASE - 1

Figure 9: Code for Other Test Case -1

- > The program is fed with the above C program which is erroneous.
- > It contains single and multiline comments.
- > The output for the following is shown in the following page.

```
<stdio.h>
                                          - HEADER FILE - 305
void
                                          - KEYWORD - 116
main
                                          - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                          - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 505
                                          - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 506
                                          - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 503
                                          - IDENTIFIER - 200
int
                                          - KEYWORD - 100
                                          - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                          - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                          - IDENTIFIER - 200
interesting
ERROR AT 24: NESTED COMMENT
                                          - KEYWORD - 109
                                          - CONSTANT - 302
                                          - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                          - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 504
SYMBOL TABLE
                                 Type
Symbol
                                 IDENTIFIER
main
                                 IDENTIFIER
                                 IDENTIFIER
interesting
                                 IDENTIFIER
CONSTANT TABLE
Constant
                                  Type
                                 INTEGER CONSTANT
```

Figure 10: Output for Other Test Case -1

- > Appropriate error messages have been shown for all cases.
- > Appropriate token messages have shown.

OTHER CASE - 2

Figure 11: Code for Other Test Case -2

Overview:

- > The program is fed with the above C program which does not end till EOF.
- > The output for the following is shown in the following page.

```
HEADER FILE - 305
void
                                          - KEYWORD - 116
                                          - IDENTIFIER - 200
main
                                          - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 505
                                          - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 506
                                          - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 503
ERROR AT 16: UNTERMINATED COMMENT
SYMBOL TABLE
Symbol
                                  Type
                                 IDENTIFIER
main
CONSTANT TABLE
Constant
                                  Type
```

Figure 12: Output for Other Test Case -2

- > Appropriate error messages have been shown for all cases.
- > Appropriate token messages have shown.

OTHER CASE - 3

```
- Constants (-10, 20, 0x0f, 123456l)
     - Operators (+,-,=,*,/,%,--,++)
     #include <stdio.h>
     #include <stdlib.h>
     int main()
19
       int x, y;
       long long int total, diff;
       int *ptr;
       float lk = 0.123456;
23
24
       unsigned int a = 0x0f;
       long int mylong = 123456;
       for(i=0; i < 10; i++){
         for(j=10; j > 0; j--){
28
         printf("%d",i);
29
       x = -10, y = 20;
32
       x=x*3/2;
       total = x + y;
       diff = x - y;
       int rem = x % y;
       printf ("Total=%d \n", total);
```

Figure 13: Code for Other Test Case -3

- > The program is fed with the above C program which does not end till EOF.
- > The output for the following is shown in the following page.

```
<stdio.h>
                                           - HEADER FILE - 305
 <stdlib.h>
                                           - HEADER FILE - 305
int
                                           - KEYWORD - 100
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
main
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 505
                                             SPECIAL SYMBOL - 506
                                             SPECIAL SYMBOL - 503
                                           - KEYWORD - 100
int
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 507
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
y
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
long long
                                           - KEYWORD - 107
                                            KEYWORD - 100
int
total
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 507
,
diff
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
int
                                           - KEYWORD - 100
                                           - OPERATOR - 405
ptr
                                            IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
float
                                           - KEYWORD - 102
lk
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - OPERATOR - 414
0.123456
                                           - CONSTANT - 301
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
unsigned
                                           - KEYWORD - 104
                                            KEYWORD - 100
int
а
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - OPERATOR - 414
0x0f
                                           - CONSTANT - 300
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
long
                                           - KEYWORD - 106
                                           - KEYWORD - 100
int
mylong
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - OPERATOR - 414
123456
                                           - CONSTANT - 302
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                           - KEYWORD - 106
long
int
                                           - KEYWORD - 100
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 507
j
                                             IDENTIFIER - 200
                                             SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
for
                                           - KEYWORD - 112
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 505
                                           - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - OPERATOR - 414
0
                                           - CONSTANT - 302
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
;
i
                                             IDENTIFIER - 200
                                           - OPERATOR - 411
10
                                           - CONSTANT - 302
                                           - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
```

Figure 14: Output for Other Test Case -3.1

```
SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
;
j > 0
                                                      - IDENTIFIER - 200
- OPERATOR - 410
                                                       - CONSTANT - 382
                                                       - SPECIAL SYMBOL -
- IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                                               568
                                                         OPERATOR - 482
                                                       - SPECIAL SYMBOL -
- SPECIAL SYMBOL -
printf
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
-%d
                                                         SPECIAL SYMBOL -
                                                        CONSTANT - 364
SPECIAL SYMBOL -
                                                                               587
                                                         IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                      - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 506
- SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                                         SPECIAL SYMBOL -
                                                       - SPECIAL SYMBOL -
                                                                               584
                                                      - IDENTIFIER - 200
- OPERATOR - 414
                                                       - CONSTANT - 382
                                                       - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 587
- IDENTIFIER - 200
=
28
;
x
                                                         OPERATOR - 414
                                                       - CONSTANT - 382
- SPECIAL SYMBOL
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                       - OPERATOR - 414
                                                      - IDENTIFIER - 200
- OPERATOR - 405
                                                       - CONSTANT - 382
                                                       - OPERATOR - 406
- CONSTANT - 382
                                                         SPECIAL SYMBOL -
;
total
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                       - OPERATOR - 414
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                       - OPERATOR - 464
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                         SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                       - OPERATOR - 414
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                       - OPERATOR - 400
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
- SPECIAL SYMBOL -
                                                       - KEYWORD - 100
int
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                       - OPERATOR - 414
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                       - OPERATOR - 487
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
- SPECIAL SYMBOL -
printf
                                                       - IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                       - SPECIAL SYMBOL - 585
                                                        CONSTANT - 364
SPECIAL SYMBOL -
 "Total=%d \n"
 total
                                                         IDENTIFIER - 200
                                                         SPECIAL SYMBOL - 506
SPECIAL SYMBOL - 508
                                                         SPECIAL SYMBOL
```

Figure 15: Output for Other Test Case -3.2

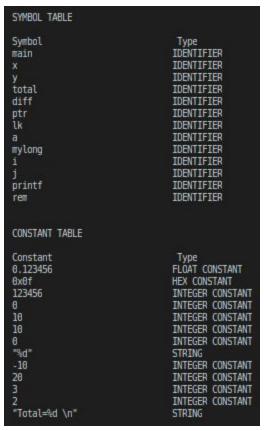


Figure 16: Output for Other Test Case -3.3

- > Appropriate error messages have been shown for all cases.
- > Appropriate token messages have shown.
- > Symbols and Constants are shown respectively.

IMPLEMENTATION

OVERVIEW

The Regular Expressions for most of the features of C are fairly straightforward. However, a few features require a significant amount of thought, such as:

- ❖ <u>The Regex for Identifiers:</u> The lexer must correctly recognize all valid identifiers in C, including the ones having one or more underscores.
- ❖ <u>Multiline comments:</u> This has been supported by using custom regular algorithm especially robust in cases where tricky characters like * or / are used within the comments.
- ❖ <u>Literals:</u> Different regular expressions have been implemented in the code to support all kinds of literals, i.e. integers, floats, strings, etc.
- Error Handling for Incomplete String: Open and close quote missing, both kinds of errors have been handled in the rules written in the script.
- ❖ <u>Error Handling for Nested Comments:</u> This use-case has been handled by the custom defined regular expressions which help throw errors when comment opening or closing is missing.

At the end of the token recognition, the lexer prints a list of all the tokens present in the program. We use the following technique to implement this:

- ❖ A token.h header file was created which contains enumerated objects for each token.
- Once a token is matched with a particular regex, that is, it gets identified, then the token along with its unique ID obtained from the header file is displayed in the terminal.
- Error messages are displayed with reason along with the line number.

RESULTS FUTURE WORK & REFERENCES

RESULTS

A scanner has been created which is capable of taking a program written in C language as an input and give out a stream of tokens present in the program as the output. It removes whitespaces, comments and shows necessary error messages.

FUTURE WORK

Furthermore, the flex script presented in this report takes care of most of the rules of the C language, but is not fully exhaustive in nature. Our future work would include making the script even more robust in order to handle all aspects of the C language and making it more efficient.

REFERENCES

- 1. Aho, Sethi, Ullman, Compilers: Principles, Techniques, and Tools, Addison-Wesley, 1986
- 2. http://www.csd.uwo.ca/~moreno/CS447/Lectures/Lexical.html/node11.html