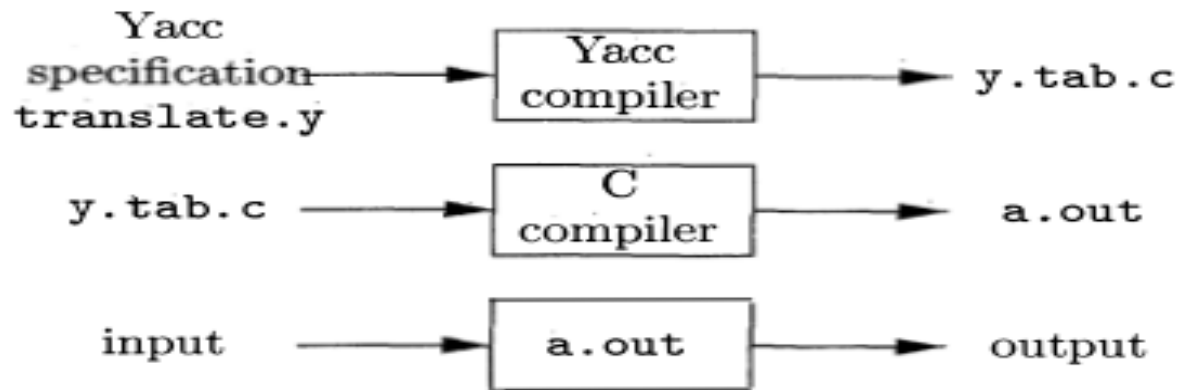


# Yet Another Compiler Compiler( YACC)



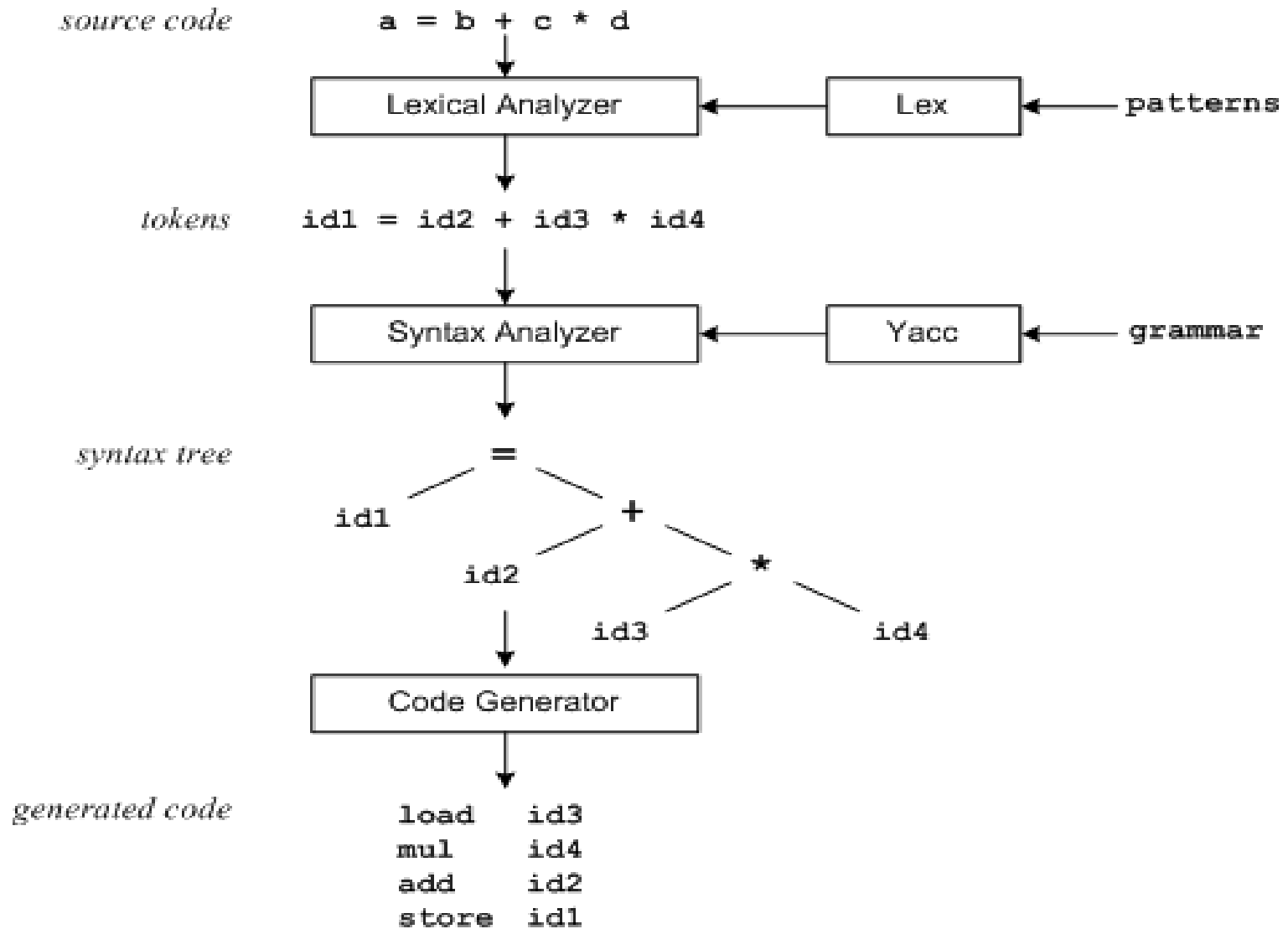
**Dr. Bibhudatta Sahoo**

**Communication & Computing Group**

**# CS215, Department of CSE, NIT Rourkela**

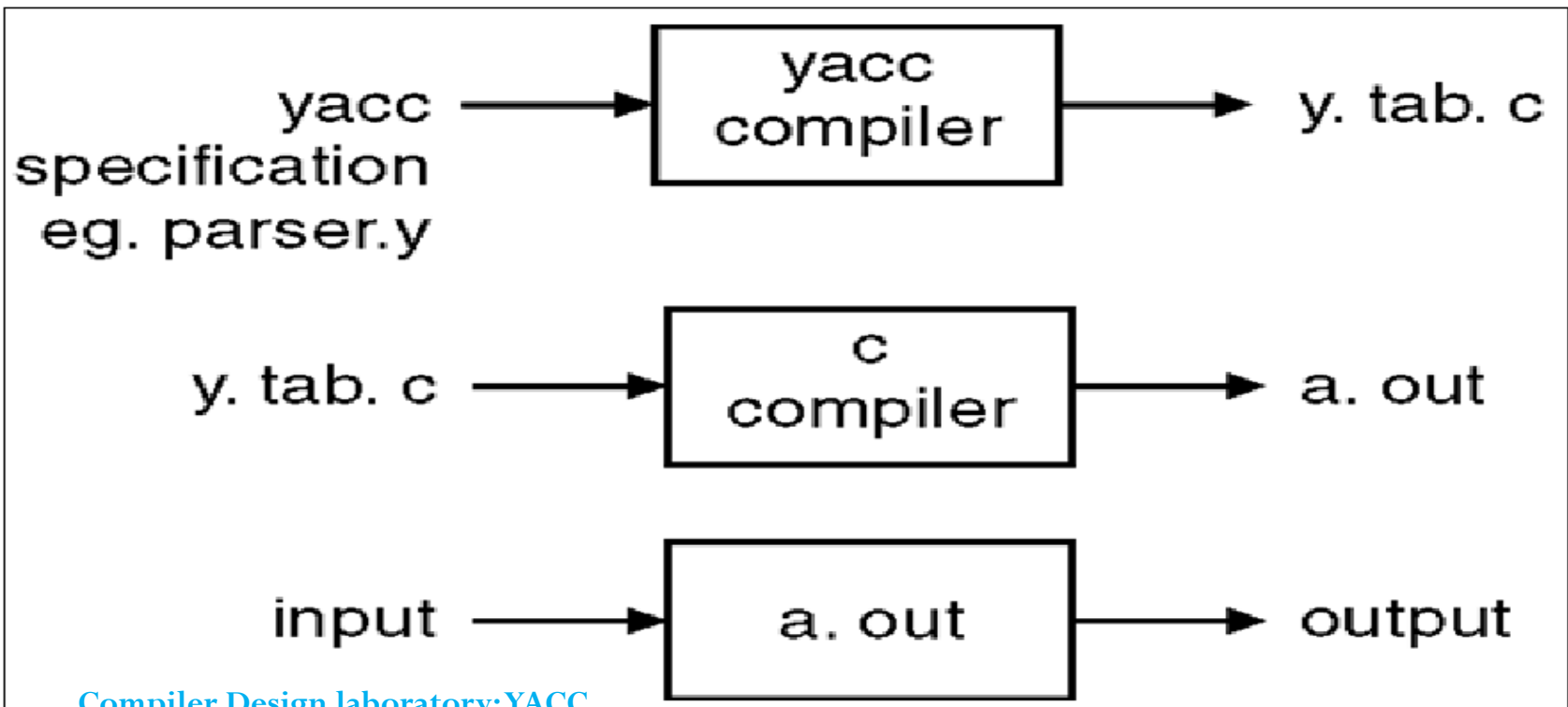
**Email: [bdsahu@nitrkl.ac.in](mailto:bdsahu@nitrkl.ac.in), 9937324437, 2462358**

# Compilation Sequence



# YACC

- YACC stands for **Yet Another Compiler Compiler**. YACC provides a tool to produce a parser for a given grammar.
- YACC is a program designed to compile a **LALR (1)** grammar.
- The input of YACC is the rule or grammar and the output is a C program.



# Yet Another Compiler Compiler

## How Does YACC Work?



Generate a new parser code from grammar

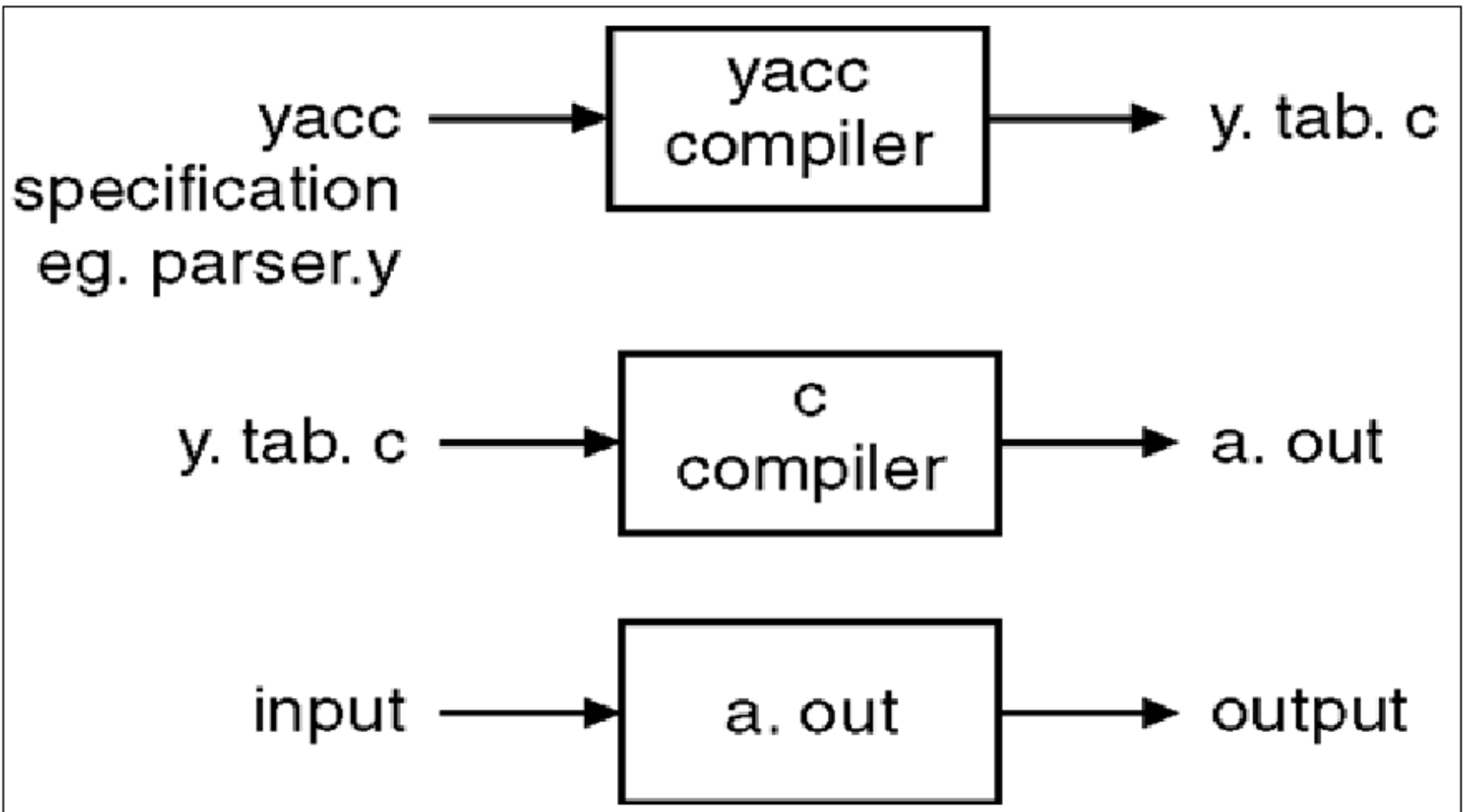


Compile a new parser

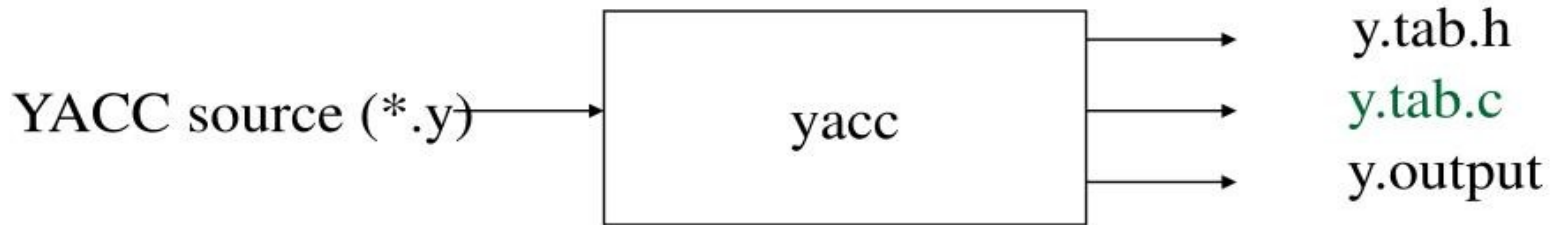


Parse source code

# Yet Another Compiler Compiler



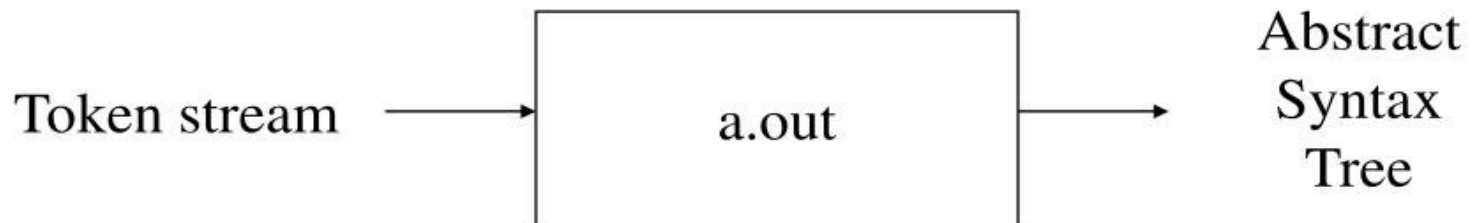
# How Does YACC Work?



Generate a new parser code from grammar

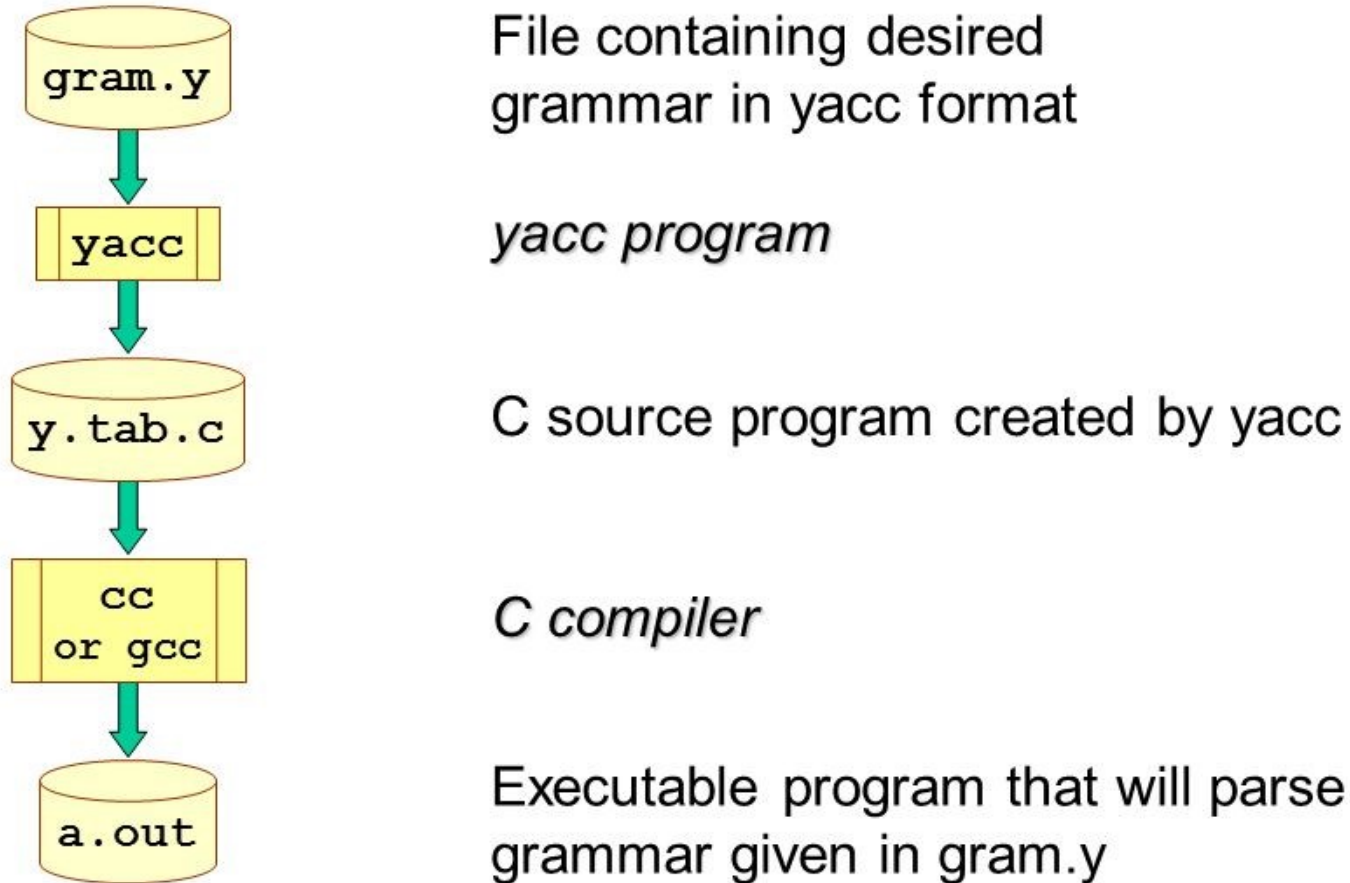


Compile a new parser



Parse source code

# How YACC Works



# How yacc works

- The input to **yacc** describes the rules of a grammar. **yacc** uses these rules to produce the source code for a program that parses the grammar.
- You can then compile this source code to obtain a program that reads input, parses it according to the grammar, and takes action based on the result.
- The source code produced by **yacc** is written in the C programming language. It consists of a number of data tables that represent the grammar, plus a C function named **yyparse()**.
- By default, **yacc** symbol names used begin with **yy**. This is an historical convention, dating back to **yacc**'s predecessor, UNIX **yacc**. You can avoid conflicts with **yacc** names by avoiding symbols that start with **yy**.



# How yacc works

- The yacc (yet another compiler compiler) utility provides a general tool for imposing structure on the input to a computer program.

## Before using yacc, you prepare a specification that includes:

- A set of rules to describe the elements of the input
- Code to be invoked when a rule is recognized
- Either a definition or declaration of a low-level scanner to examine the input

## yyparse() and yylex()

- **yyparse()** returns a value of 0 if the input it parses is valid according to the given grammar rules. It returns a 1 if the input is incorrect and error recovery is impossible.
- **yyparse()** does not do its own lexical analysis. In other words, it does not pull the input apart into tokens ready for parsing. Instead, it calls a routine called **yylex()** everytime it wants to obtain a token from the input.
- **yylex()** returns a value indicating the *type* of token that has been obtained. If the token has an actual *value*, this value (or some representation of the value, for example, a pointer to a string containing the value) is returned in an external variable named **yyval**.
- It is up to the user to write a **yylex()** routine that breaks the input into tokens and returns the tokens one by one to **yyparse()**

# For Compiling YACC Program:

- Write lex program in a file **file.l** and yacc in a file **file.y**
- Open Terminal and Navigate to the Directory where you have saved the files.
- type `lex file.l`
- type `yacc file.y`
- type `cc lex.yy.c y.tab.h -ll`
- type `./a.out`

# YACC input file is divided into three parts

YACC input file is divided into three parts.

```
/* definitions */
```

```
....
```

```
%0%
```

```
/* rules */
```

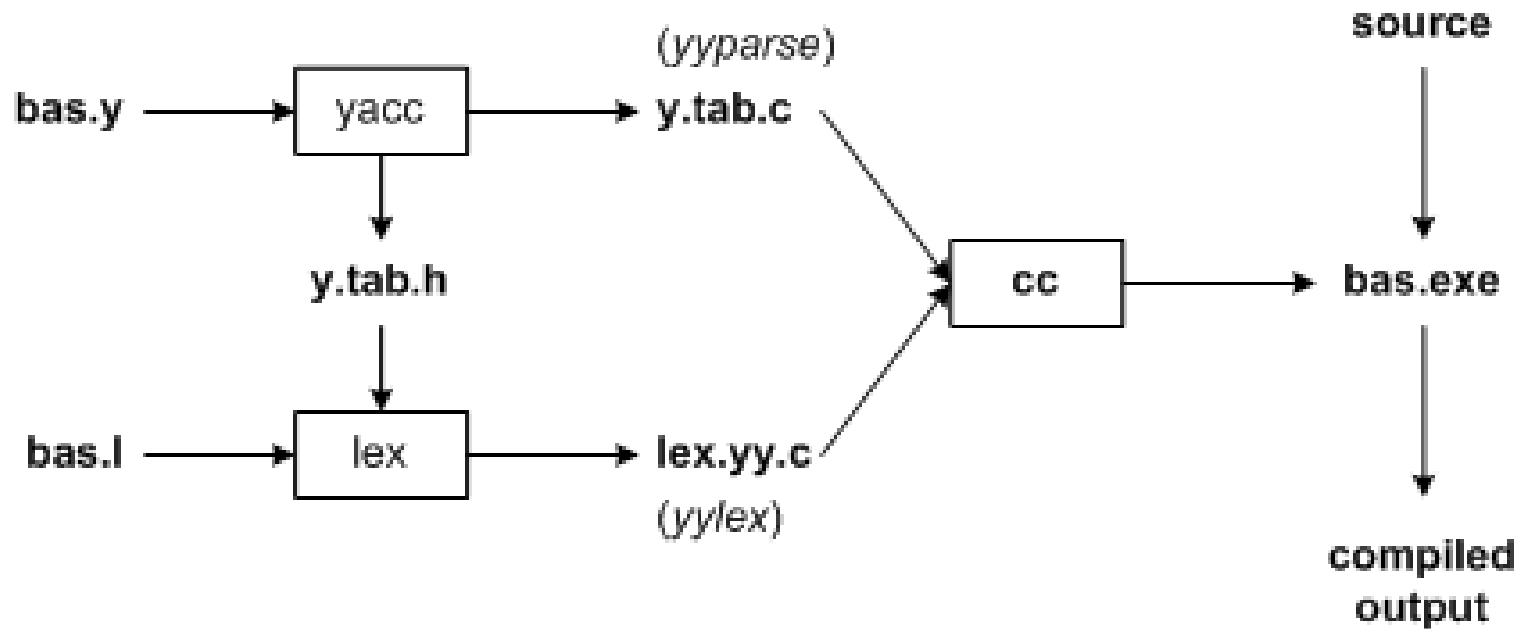
```
....
```

```
%0%
```

```
/* auxiliary routines */
```

```
....
```

# Building a Compiler with Lex & Yacc



Commands to create our compiler, `bas.exe`, are listed below:

```
yacc -d bas.y # create y.tab.h, y.tab.c
```

```
lex bas.l # create lex.yy.c
```

```
cc lex.yy.c y.tab.c -obas.exe # compile/link
```

# Lex File (.l)

```
%{
```

```
%}
```

```
%%
```

```
[ \t]    { /* skip blanks and tabs */ }
```

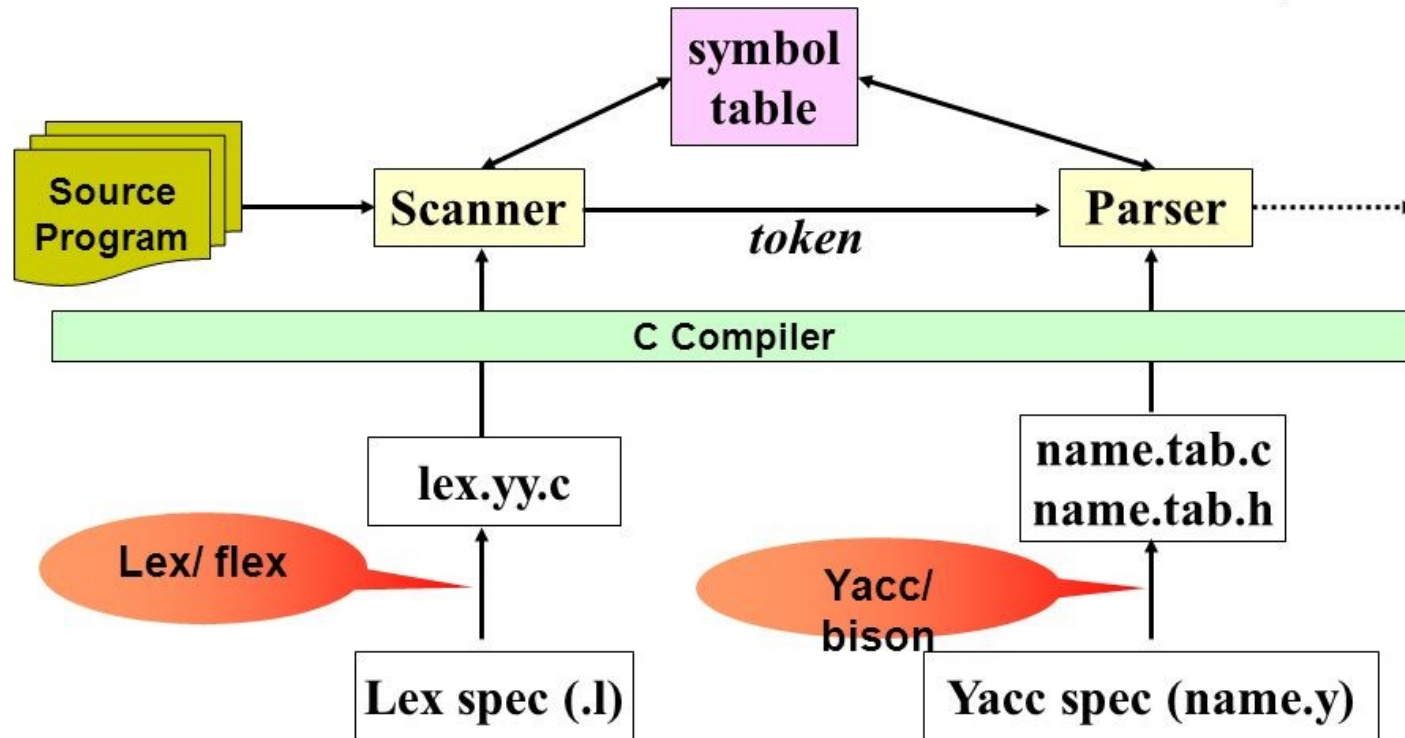
```
\n|.     { return yytext[0]; }
```

```
%%
```

# Yacc File (.y)

```
• %{\n• #include <ctype.h>\n• #include <stdio.h>\n• #define YYSTYPE double /* double type for yacc stack */\n• %}\n• \n• %%\n• Lines : Lines S '\\n' { printf("OK \\n"); }\n•           | S '\\n'\n•           | error '\\n' {yyerror("Error: reenter last line:");\n•                                     yyerrok; };\n• \n• S           : '(' S ')\n•           | '[' S ']\n•           | /* empty */ ;\n• %%\n• \n• #include "lex.yy.c"\n• \n• void yyerror(char * s)\n• /* yacc error handler */\n• {\n• fprintf(stderr, "%s\\n", s);\n• }\n• \n• int main(void)\n• {\n• return yyparse();\n• }
```

# Scanner, Parser, Lex and Yacc



4



# Grammar for arithmetic expression

**Problem 1** *Given the following grammar for simple integer arithmetic expressions:*

```
expr → expr + term | term  
term → term * factor | factor  
factor → ( expr ) | number  
number → number digit | digit  
digit → 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9
```

draw parse trees and abstract syntax trees for the arithmetic expressions:

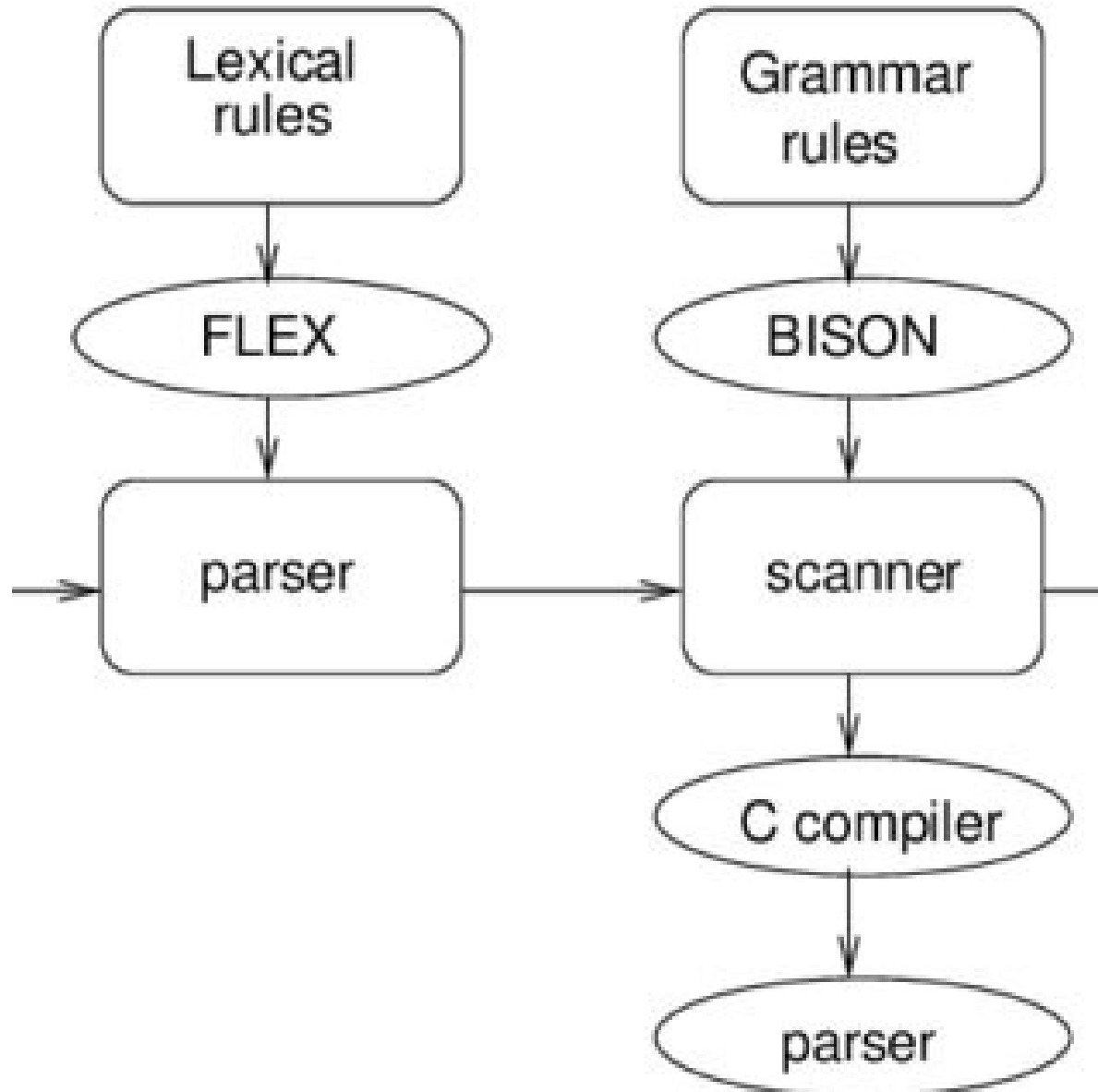
- (A)  $1+2*3+6*7$
- (B)  $1*2+3*4+5$
- (C)  $1*(2+3)*(4+5)$
- (D)  $(1+(2+(3+4)))$

- When LEX and YACC work together lexical analyzer using `yylex ()` produce pairs consisting of a token and its associated attribute value.
- If a token such as DIGIT is returned, the token value associated with a token is communicated to the parser through a YACC defined variable `yylval`.
- We have to return tokens from LEX to YACC, where its declaration is in YACC. To link this LEX program include a `y.tab.h` file, which is generated after YACC compiler the program using `-d` option.

### Steps to Execute the program

- `$ lex filename.l` (eg: `cal.l`)
- `$ yacc -d filename.y` (eg: `cal.y`)
- `$gcc lex.yy.c y.tab.c`
- `$./a .out`

## Structure of the parser developed with BISON and FLEX.



# Lex VERSUS Yacc

## Lex

Computer program that operates as a lexical analyzer

Developed by Mike Lesk and Eric Schmidt

Reads the source program one character at a time and converts it into meaningful tokens

## Yacc

Parser that is used in Unix Operating System

Developed by Stephan C. Johnson

Takes the tokens as input and generates a parse tree as output

Visit [www.PEDIAA.com](http://www.PEDIAA.com)

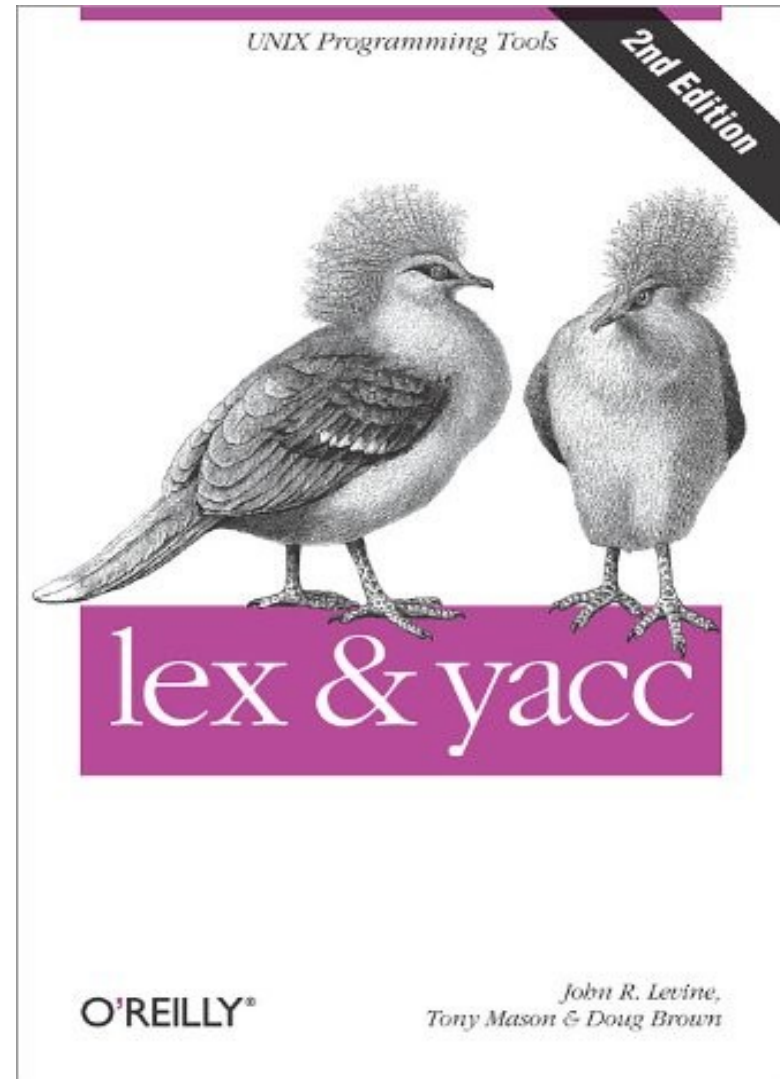
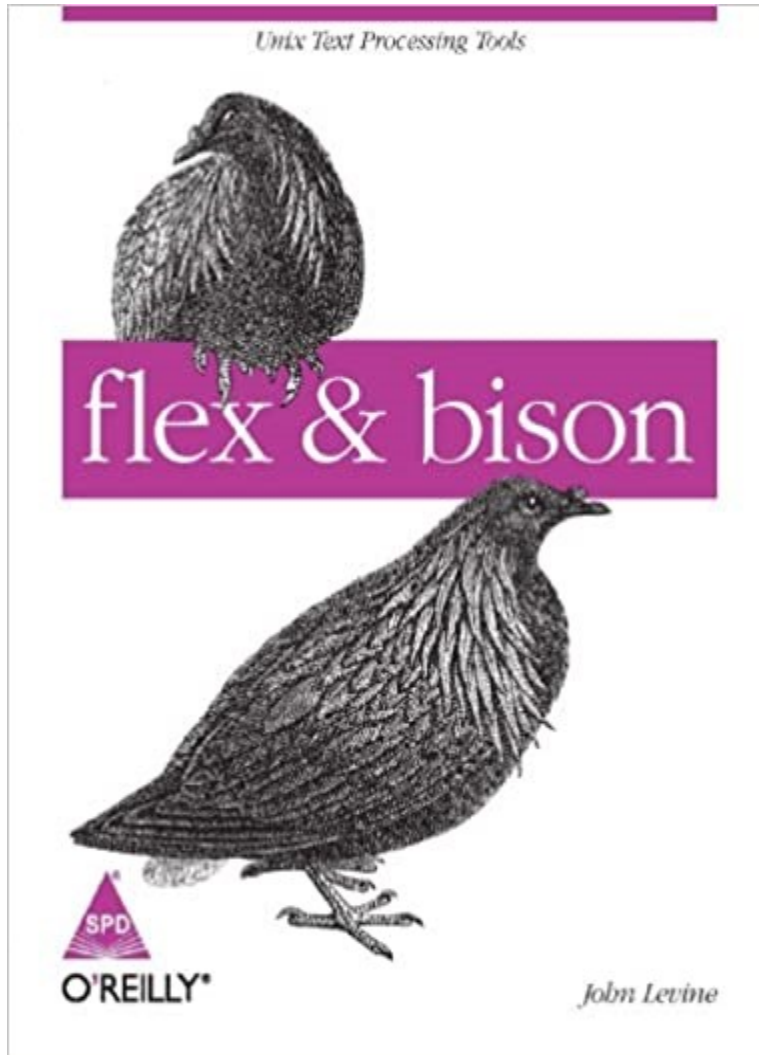
# Exercises

1. Write a YACC program to check whether the given grammar is valid or not. Consider an input expression and convert it to postfix form.
2. Write a program to Implement YACC for Subset of C (for loop) statement.

# Reference

- <https://milylike.wordpress.com/syntax-analyzer/lex/>
- <https://www.epaperpress.com/lexandyacc/intro.html>
- <https://www.epaperpress.com/lexandyacc/pry1.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/cd/E19504-01/802-5880/6i9k05dgt/index.html>
- <https://www.epaperpress.com/lexandyacc/calc1.html>

# Reference Book





# Reference Book

## Introduction to Compiling Techniques

**A FIRST COURSE USING  
ANSI C, LEX AND YACC**

Second Edition



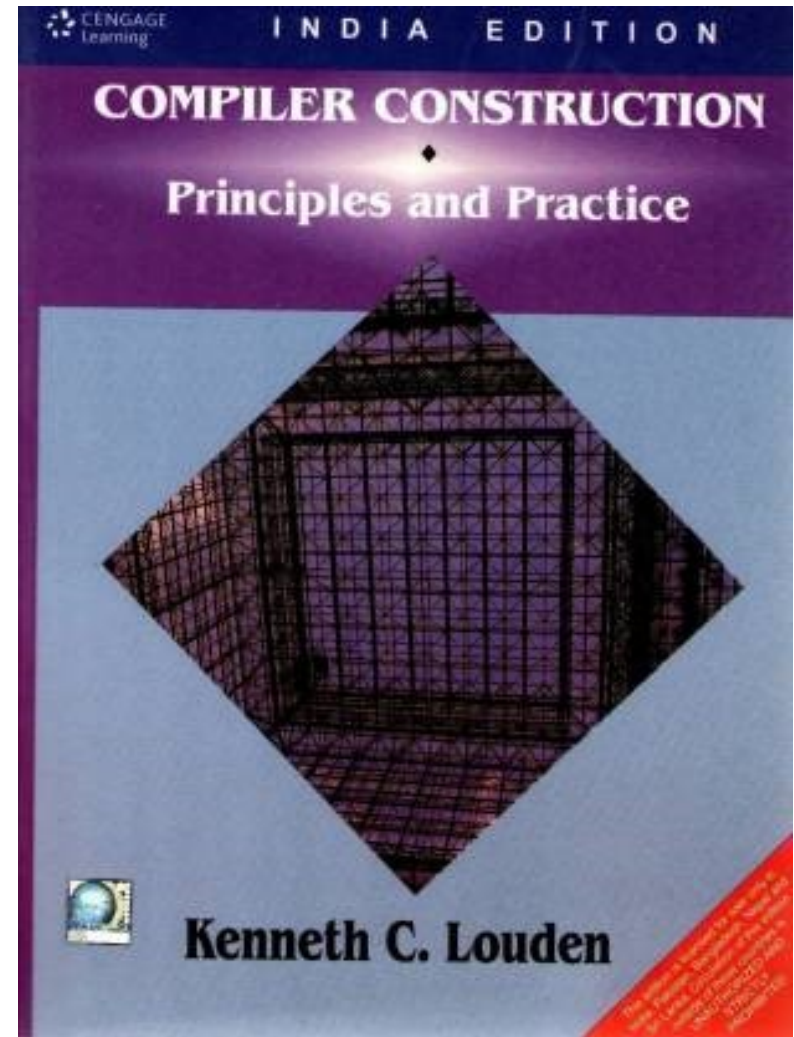
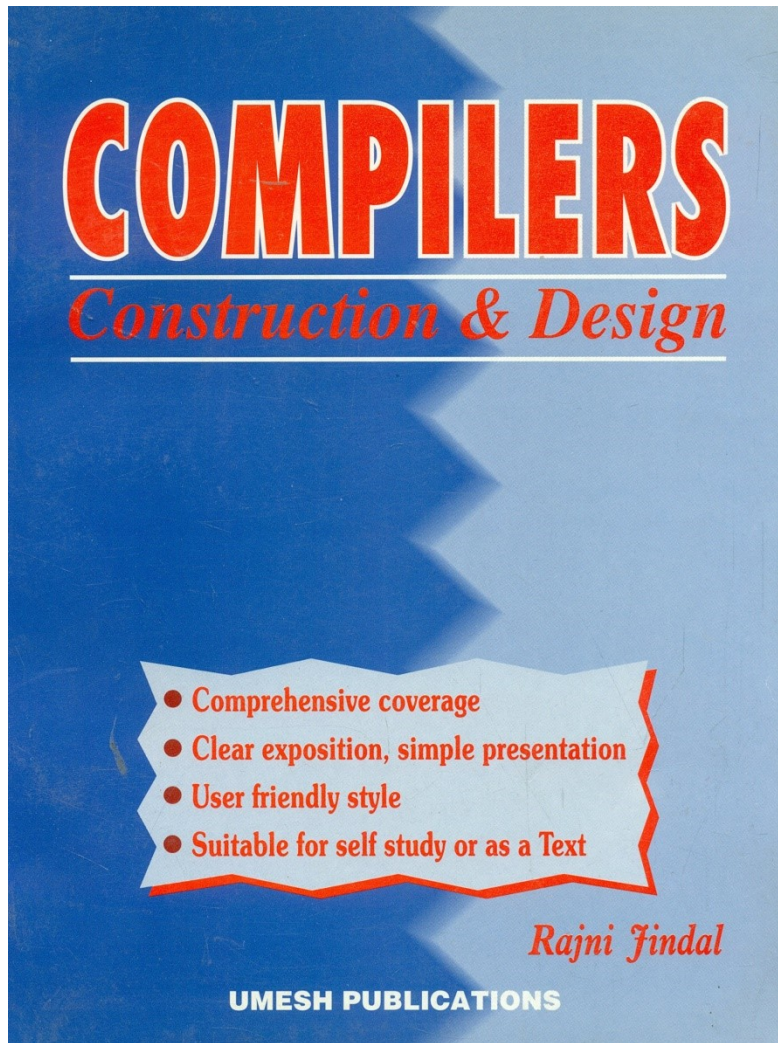
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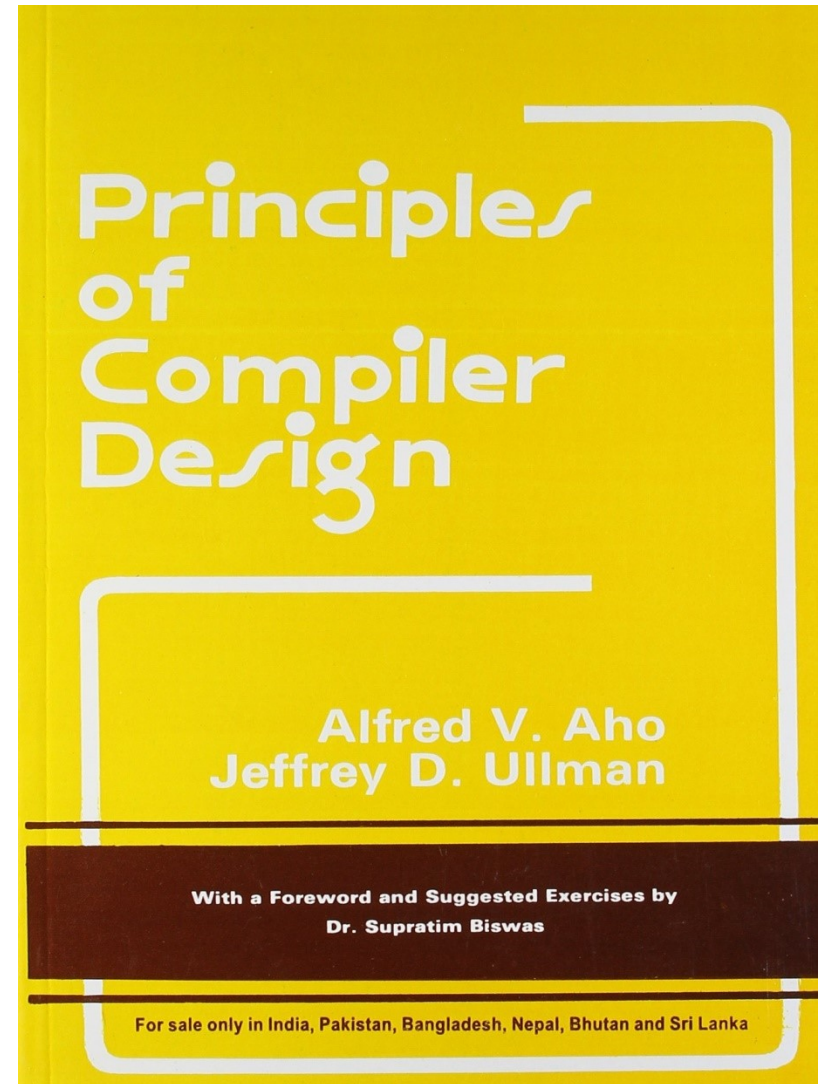
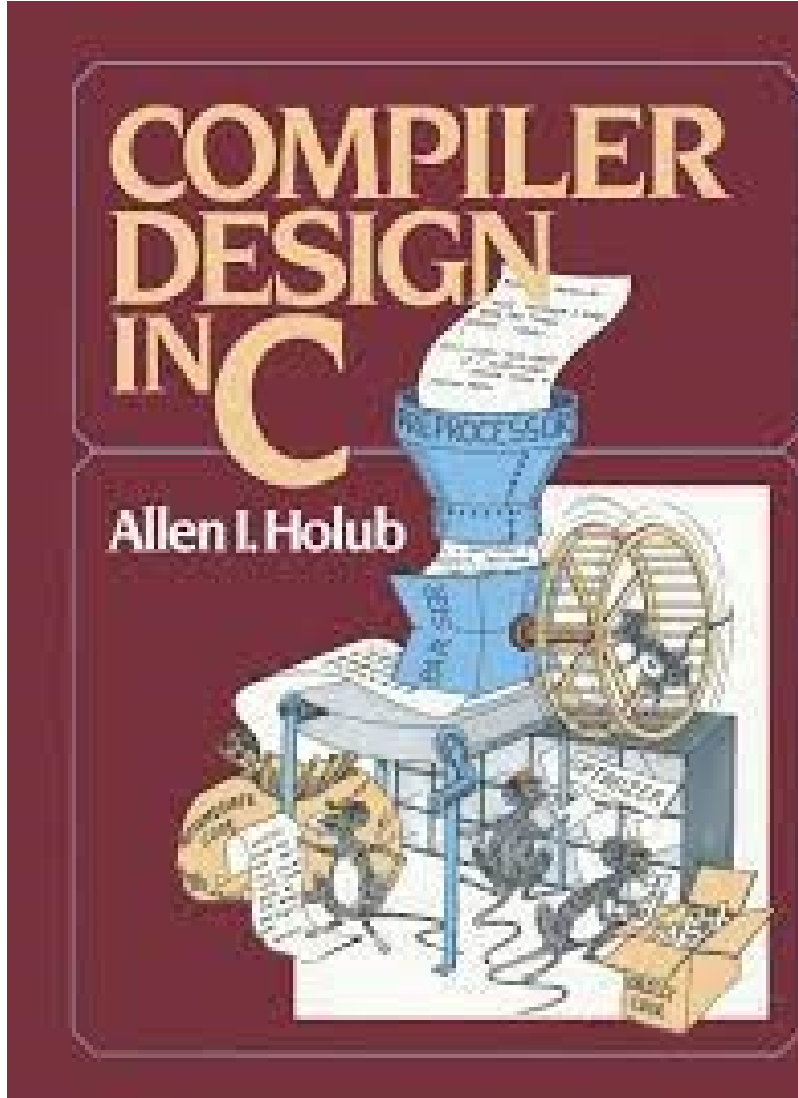
## PRINCIPLES OF COMPILER DESIGN

V RAGHAVAN

# Reference Book

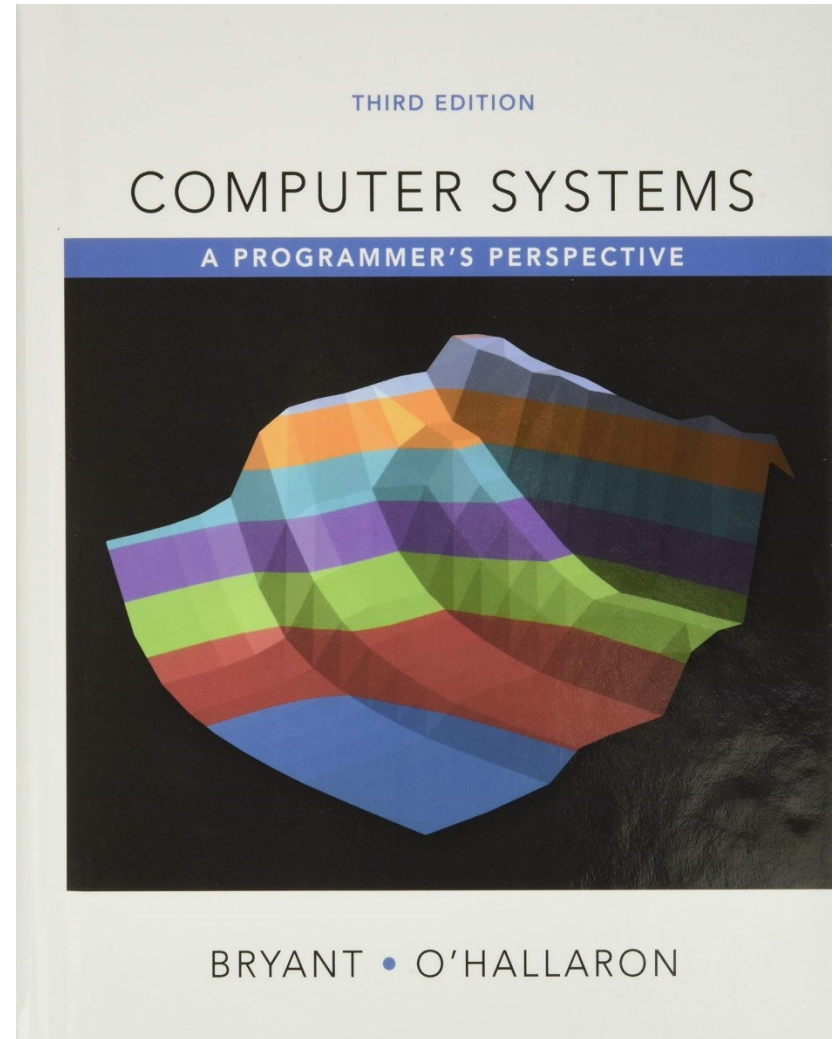
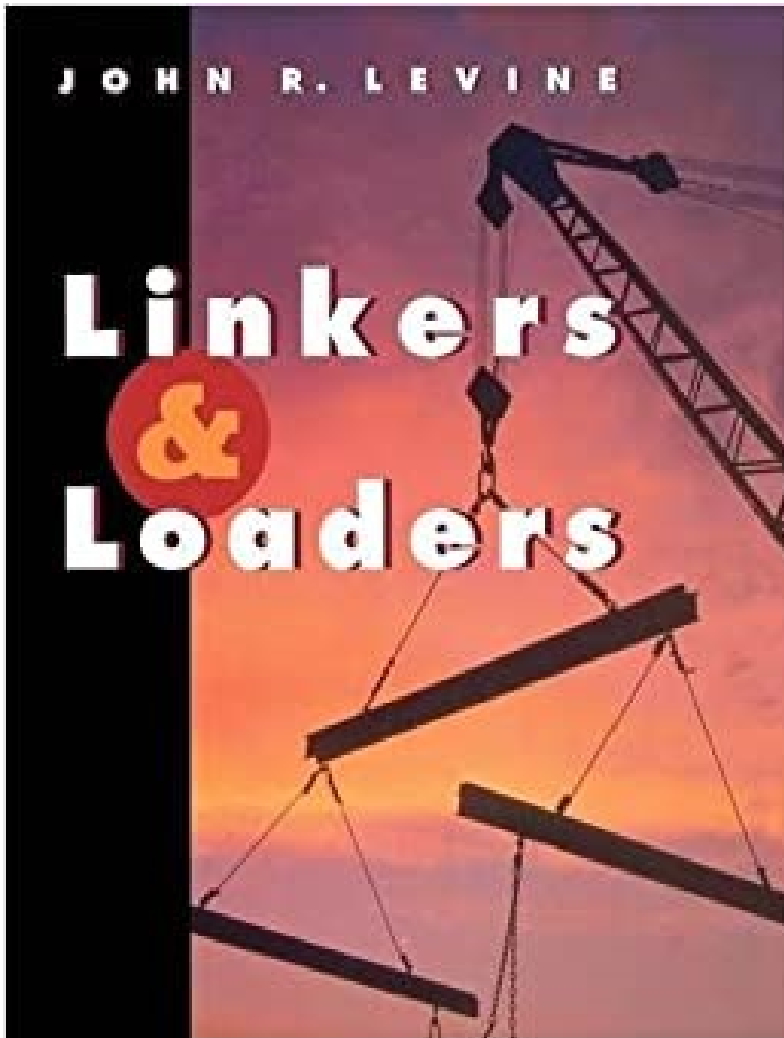


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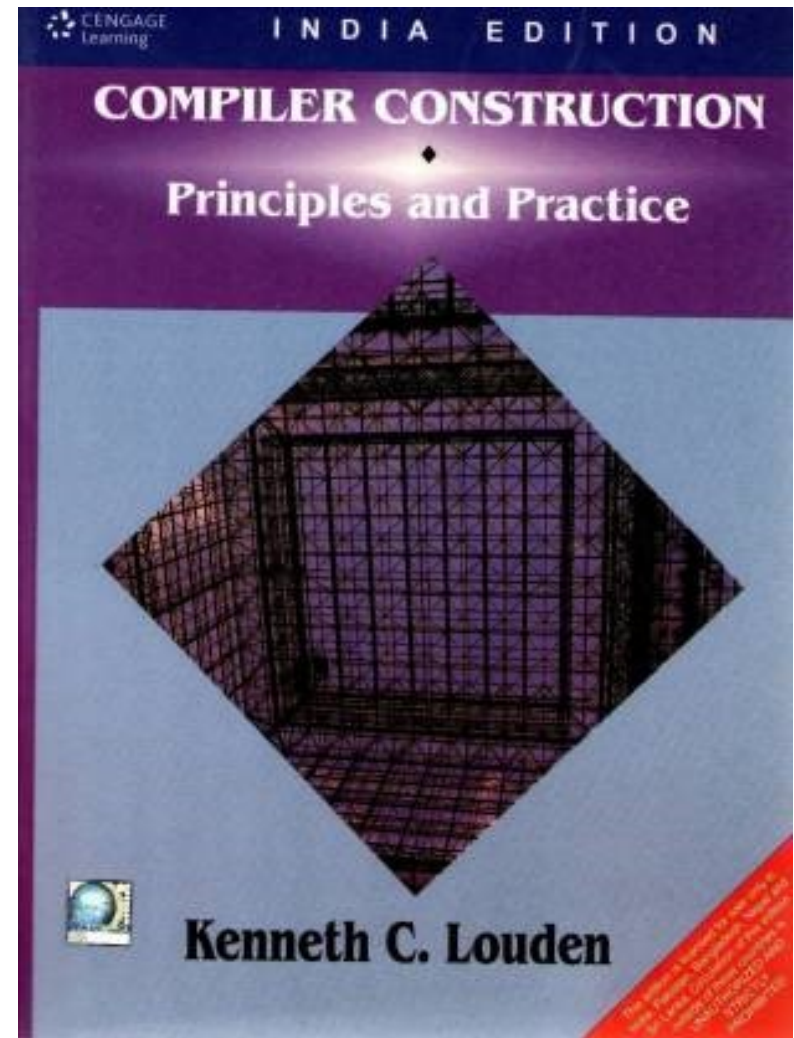
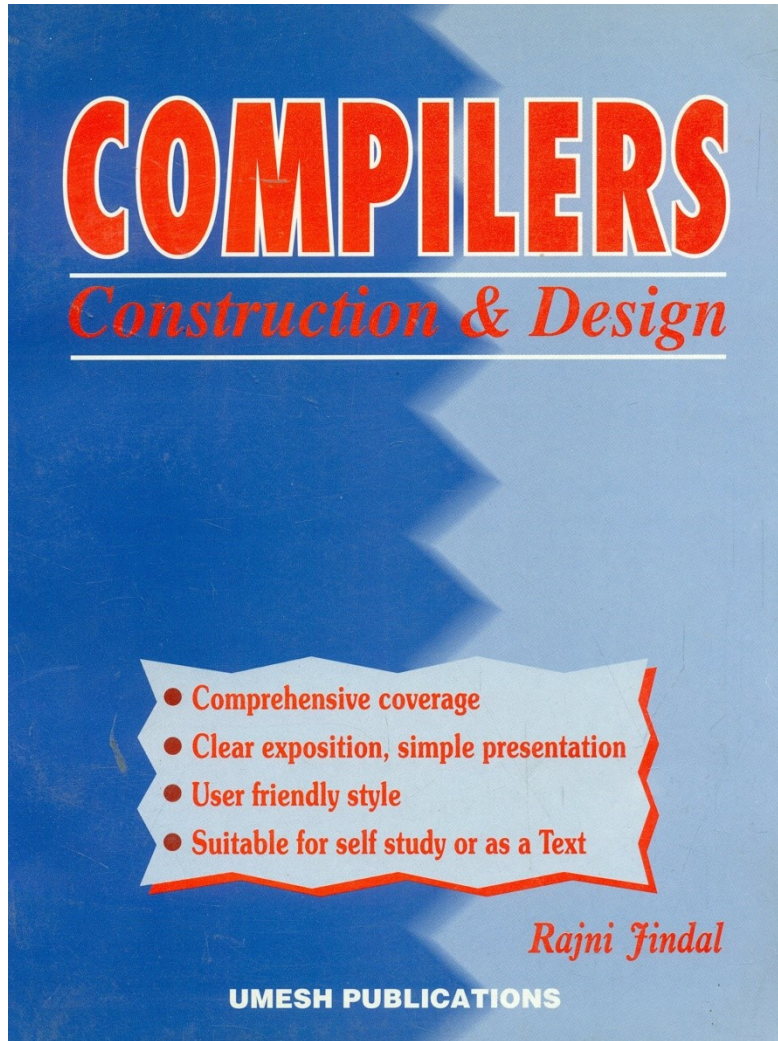




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# Working with Lex

