

COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND ORGANIZATION

C compilation

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ENGINEERING



1. Overview Compiler
2. Compiling a simple C program.
3. Lexing
4. Parsing
5. Code Generation

SIMPLE PROGRAM

```
int main() {  
    return 7;  
}
```

```
GNU nano 6.3 main.c
int main(){
    return 2;
}
```

```
GNU nano 6.3 main.s
    .text
    .file "main.c"
    .globl main
    .p2align 4, 0x90
    .type main,@function

main:
    .cfi_startproc
# %bb.0:
    movl    $2, %eax
    retq

.Lfunc_end0:
    .size    main, .Lfunc_end0-main
    .cfi_endproc

    .ident   "clang version 14.0.6 (ht
    .section ".note.GNU-stack"
    .addrsig
```

SIMPLE PROGRAM

```
int main() {  
    return 7;  
}
```

```
    .text  
    .file    "main.c"  
    .globl   main  
  
main:  
    movl     $2, %eax  
    retq  
  
.Lfunc_end0:  
    .size    main, .Lfunc_end0-main  
    .cfi_endproc
```

SIMPLE PROGRAM

```
int main() {  
    return 7;  
}
```

```
main:  
    movl    $2, %eax  
    retq
```

CAN WE BUILD SOMETHING REALLY
SIMPLY THAT COMPILES THIS?

```
import sys, os
```

```
source_file = sys.argv[1]
```

```
assembly_file = os.path.splitext(source_file)[0] + ".s"
```



```
import sys, os

source_file = sys.argv[1]
assembly_file = os.path.splitext(source_file)[0] + ".s"

with open(source_file, 'r') as infile, open(assembly_file, 'w') as outfile:
    source = infile.read().strip()
```

```
import sys, os

source_file = sys.argv[1]
assembly_file = os.path.splitext(source_file)[0] + ".s"

with open(source_file, 'r') as infile, open(assembly_file, 'w') as outfile:
    source = infile.read().strip()

    # Find the index of "int main()" and "return" in the source code
    main_start = source.find("int main()")
    return_start = source.find("return", main_start)
```

```
import sys, os

source_file = sys.argv[1]
assembly_file = os.path.splitext(source_file)[0] + ".s"

with open(source_file, 'r') as infile, open(assembly_file, 'w') as outfile:
    source = infile.read().strip()

    # Find the index of "int main()" and "return" in the source code
    main_start = source.find("int main()")
    return_start = source.find("return", main_start)

    if main_start != -1 and return_start != -1:
        # Extract the return value
        return_value = source[return_start + 6:].strip().rstrip(";\\n}")
```

```
import sys, os

source_file = sys.argv[1]
assembly_file = os.path.splitext(source_file)[0] + ".s"

with open(source_file, 'r') as infile, open(assembly_file, 'w') as outfile:
    source = infile.read().strip()

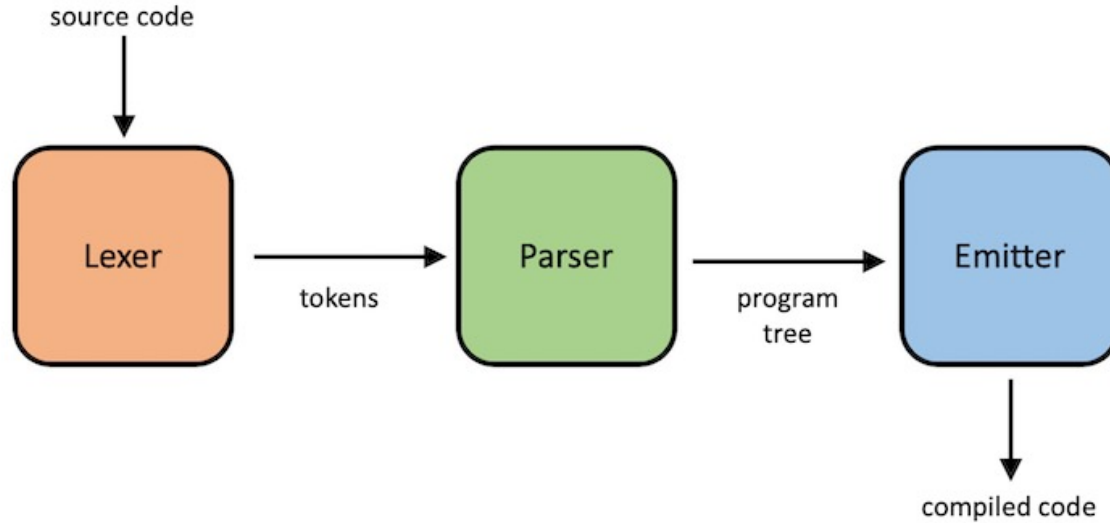
    # Find the index of "int main()" and "return" in the source code
    main_start = source.find("int main()")
    return_start = source.find("return", main_start)

    if main_start != -1 and return_start != -1:
        # Extract the return value
        return_value = source[return_start + 6:].strip().rstrip(";\\n}")
        # Write the assembly code to the output file
        assembly_code = f"""
        .globl main
        main:
        movl ${return_value}, %eax
        ret
        """
        outfile.write(assembly_code)
    else:
        print("Error: Couldn't find 'int main()' or 'return' in the source code.")
```

THIS DOESN'T SCALE TO MORE COMPLEX
PROGRAMS

THE PROCESS OVERVIEW

THE PROCESS OVERVIEW



STEP 1: LEXING/SCANNING TOKENING

Raw text: WHILE nums > 0 REPEAT

Tokens: WHILE nums > 0 REPEAT

TOKENS HAVE MEANINGS

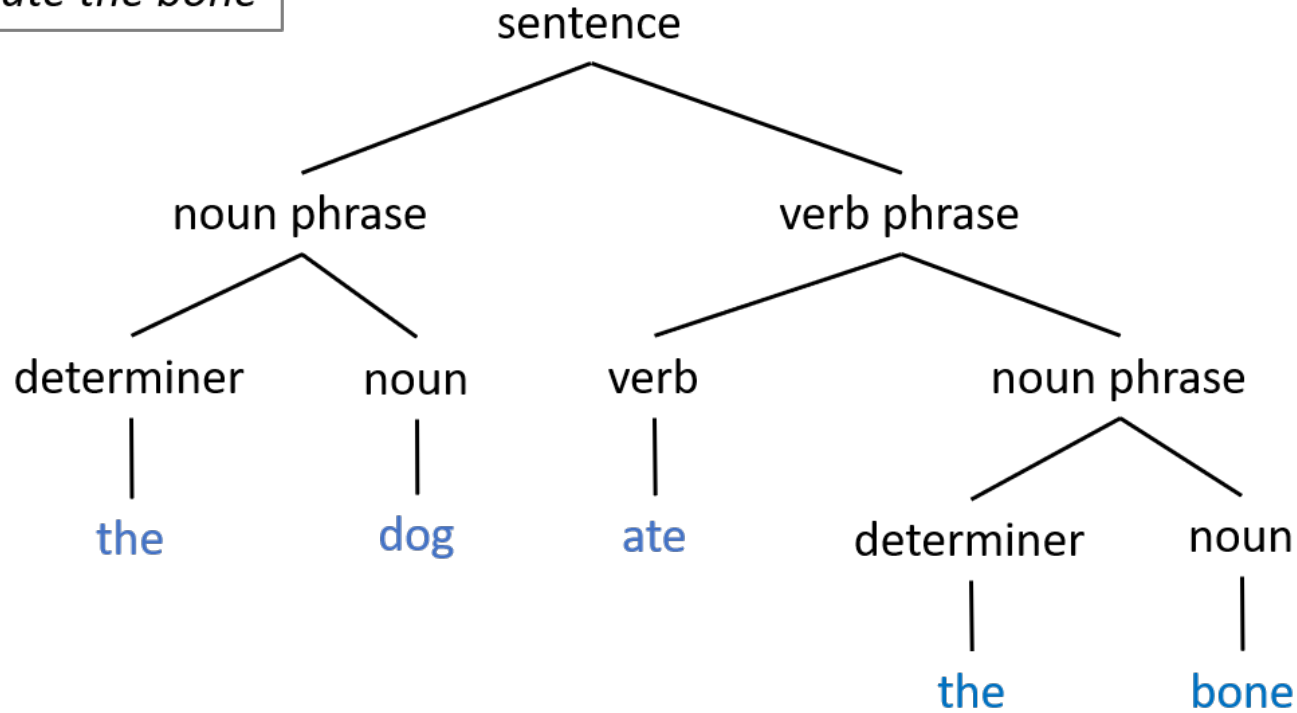
Raw text: WHILE nums > 0 REPEAT

Tokens: WHILE nums > 0 REPEAT

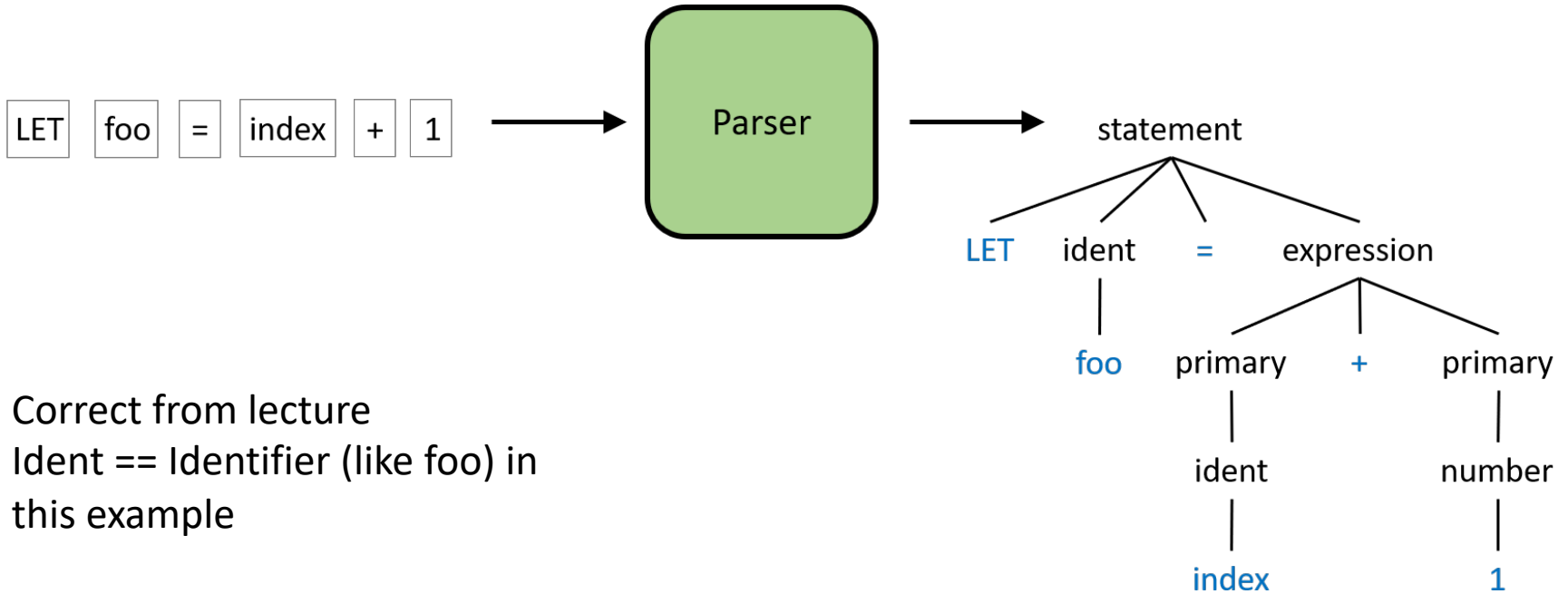
keyword identifier operator number keyword

STEP 2: PARSING

the dog ate the bone



STEP 2: PARSING



Correct from lecture
Ident == Identifier (like foo) in
this example

Not indent** Sorry

STEP 2: PARSING

```
if (a < b) {  
    c = 2;  
    return c;  
} else {  
    c = 3;  
}
```

- The condition ($a < b$)
- The if body ($c = 2$; $\text{return } c$;)
- The else body ($c = 3$;)

- Can be further broken down
 - The first operand (variable a)
 - The second operand (variable b)

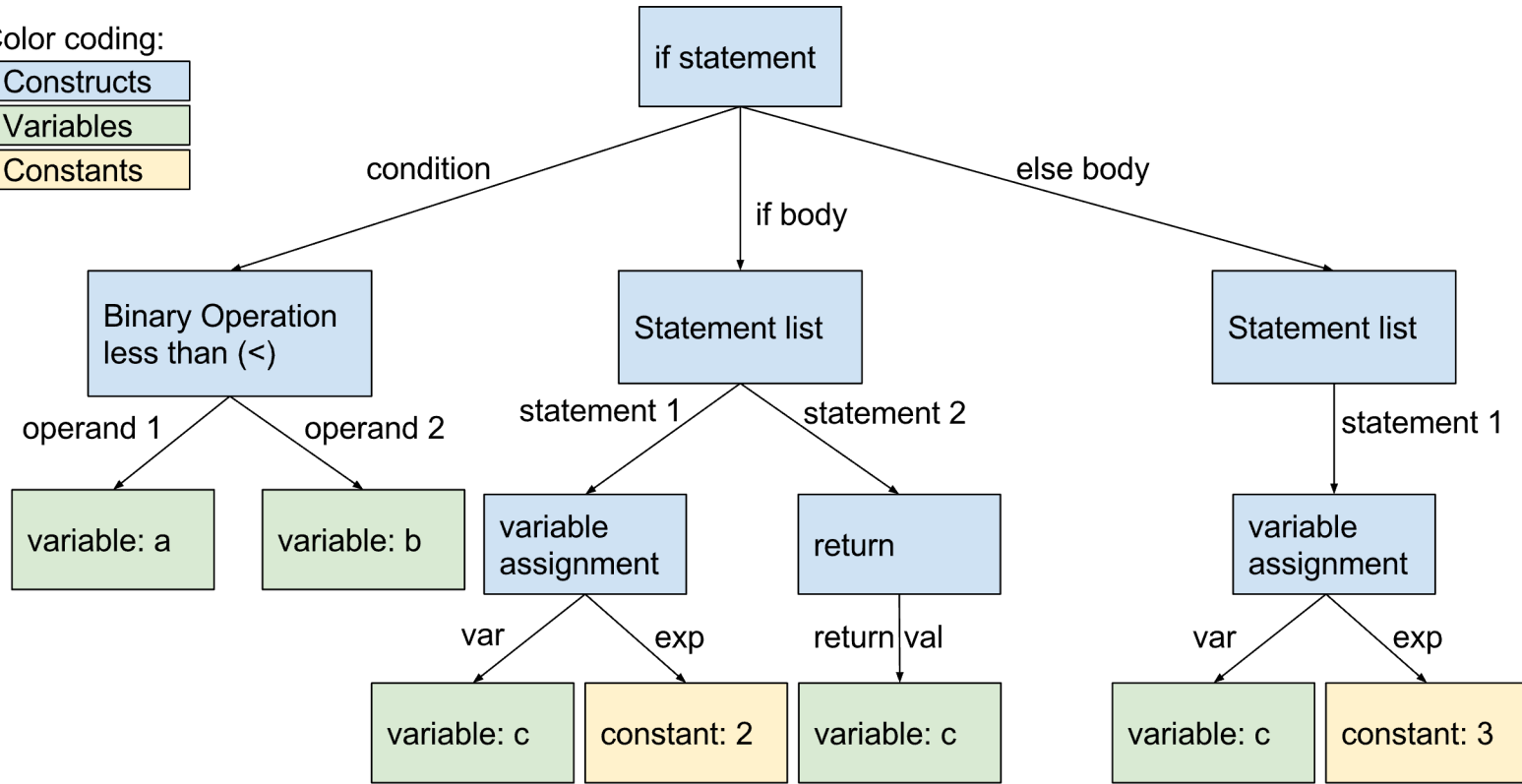
Color coding:

Constructs

Variables

Constants

```
if (a < b) {  
    c = 2;  
    return c;  
} else {  
    c = 3;  
}
```



BACK-NAUS FORM

```
<program> ::= <function>  
<function> ::= "int" <id> "(" ")" "{" <statement> "}"  
  <statement> ::= "return" <exp> ";"  
<exp> ::= <int>
```

CODE GENERATION

HOW DO WE GO FROM OUR AST TO ASSEMBLY

LET'S DESIGN OUR OWN LITTLE LANGUAGE

HOW ABOUT TOYC

EVEN BETTER WHAT ABOUT TOYG

WE'LL MAKE A SUBSET OF PYTHON

WE'LL MAKE IT A SUBSET OF PYTHON

Python

pyast64

ToyG

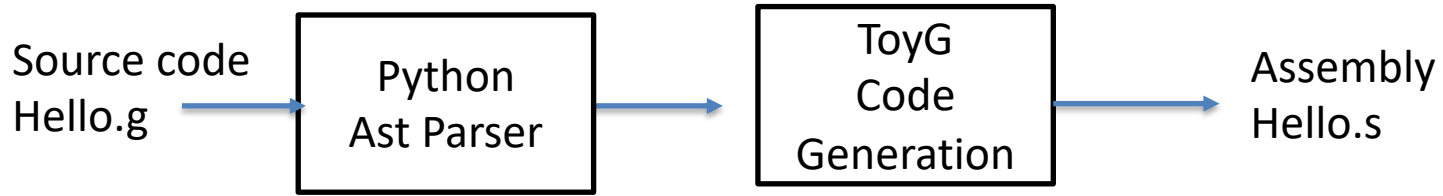
Instead of be interpreted like python.

Our language will be compiled meaning that will write a compiler that outputs assembly

THE PROCESS



LEVERAGE THE PYTHON AST PARSER



Common to use framework when developing your own language for example LLVM has library and support for developing your own lexer and parsers

SEE ZIP FOR CODE IMPLEMENTATIONS

REFERENCES

- <https://norasandler.com/2017/11/29/Write-a-Compiler.html>
- Abdulaziz Ghuloum's [An Incremental Approach to Compiler Construction](#)
- <https://benhoyt.com/writings/pyast64/>

