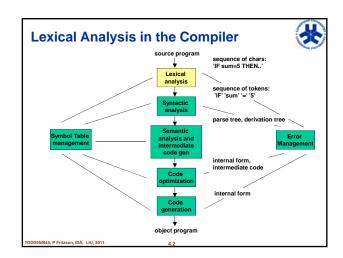
TDDD55 Compilers and interpreters
TDDB44 Compiler Construction

Lexical Analysis
Scanners



Lexical Analysis, Scanners



- Function
- Read the input stream (sequence of characters), group the characters into primitives (tokens).
 Returns token as <type, value>.
- 2. Throw out certain sequences of characters (blanks, comments, etc.).
- 3. Build the symbol table, string table, constant table, etc.
- 4. Generate error messages.
- 5. Convert, for example, string \rightarrow integer.
- Tokens are described using regular expressions

 Note: See Lecture 3 on Formal Languages to refresh you knowledge of regular expressions, DFAs, NFAs.

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Construction of a Scanner

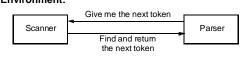


- Tools: state automata and transition diagrams.
- Regular expressions enable the automatic construction of scanners.
- Scanner generator (e.g. *Lex*):

In: Regular expressions.

Out: Scanner.

■ Environment:



How is a Scanner Programmed?



- Describe tokens with regular expressions.
- Draw transition diagrams.
- Code the diagram as table/program.

Example Scanner



- Example. Write a scanner for the following tokens.
 - Several categories of tokens:
 - keyword = BEGIN | END
 - id = letter (letter | digit)*
 - integer = digit+
 - op = + | | * | / | // | ↑ | = | :=
- Simplification:
 - Assume that there is a blank character after each token.
 - This simplification can easily be removed!

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