Theory:

YACC:

Yacc (Yet Another Compiler-Compiler) is a computer program for the Unix operating system developed by Stephen C. Johnson. It is a Look Ahead Left-to-Right (LALR) parser generator, generating a parser, the part of a compiler that tries to make syntactic sense of the source code, specifically a LALR parser, based on an analytic grammar written in a notation similar to Backus–Naur Form (BNF). Yacc is supplied as a standard utility on BSD and AT&T Unix. GNU-based Linux distributions include Bison, a forward-compatible Yacc replacement.

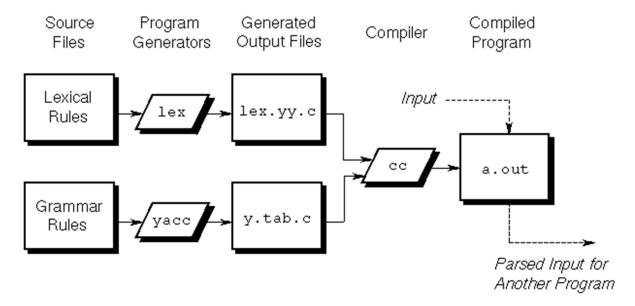
The input to Yacc is a grammar with snippets of C code (called "actions") attached to its rules. Its output is a shift-reduce parser in C that executes the C snippets associated with each rule as soon as the rule is recognized. Typical actions involve the construction of parse trees. Using an example from Johnson, if the call node (label, left, right) constructs a binary parse tree node with the specified label and children, then the rule.

recognizes summation expressions and constructs nodes for them. The special identifiers \$\$, \$1 and \$3 refer to items on the parser's stack.

Yacc produces only a parser (phrase analyzer); for full syntactic analysis this requires an external lexical analyzer to perform the first tokenization stage (word analysis), which is then followed by the parsing stage proper. Lexical analyzer generators, such as Lex or Flex are widely available. The IEEE POSIX P1003.2 standard defines the functionality and requirements for both Lex and Yacc.

Some versions of AT&T Yacc have become open source. For example, source code is available with the standard distributions of Plan 9.

Diagram of YACC



Basic Specifications

Names refer to either tokens or nonterminal symbols. Yacc requires token names to be declared as such. In addition, for reasons discussed in Section 3, it is often desirable to include the lexical analyzer as part of the specification file; it may be useful to include other programs as well. Thus, every specification file consists of three sections: the declarations, (grammar) rules, and programs. The sections are separated by double percent ``%%" marks. (The percent ``%" is generally used in Yacc specifications as an escape character.)

In other words, a full specification file looks like

declarations
%%
rules
%%
Programs

How the parser works?

Yacc turns the specification file into a C program, which parses the input according to the specification given. The algorithm used to go from the specification to the parser is complex, and will not be discussed here (see the references for more information). The parser itself, however, is relatively simple, and understanding how it works, while not strictly necessary, will nevertheless make treatment of error recovery and ambiguities much more comprehensible.

The parser produced by Yacc consists of a finite state machine with a stack. The parser is also capable of reading and remembering the next input token (called the lookahead token). The current state is always the one on the top of the stack. The states of the finite state machine are given small integer labels; initially, the machine is in state 0, the stack contains only state 0, and no lookahead token has been read.

The machine has only four actions available to it, called shift, reduce, accept, and error. A move of the parser is done as follows:

- 1. Based on its current state, the parser decides whether it needs a lookahead token to decide what action should be done; if it needs one, and does not have one, it calls yylex to obtain the next token.
- 2. Using the current state, and the lookahead token if needed, the parser decides on its next action, and carries it out. This may result in states being pushed onto the stack, or popped off of the stack, and in the lookahead token being processed or left alone.

Actions

With each grammar rule, you can associate actions to be performed when the rule is recognized. Actions can return values and can obtain the values returned by previous actions. Moreover, the lexical analyzer can return values for tokens, if desired.

An action is an arbitrary C-language statement and as such can do input and output, call subroutines, and alter arrays and variables. An action is specified by one or more statements enclosed in { and }. For example, the following two examples are grammar rules with actions:

The \$ symbol is used to facilitate communication between the actions and the parser. The pseudo-variable \$\$ represents the value returned by the complete action.

For example, the action:

```
\{\$\$ = 1;\}
```

returns the value of one; in fact, that's all it does.

To obtain the values returned by previous actions and the lexical analyzer, the action can use the pseudo-variables \$1, \$2, ... \$n. These refer to the values returned by components 1 through n of the right side of a rule, with the components being numbered from left to right. If the rule is

```
A: B C D ;
```

then \$2 has the value returned by C, and \$3 the value returned by D. The following rule provides a common example:

```
expr: '(' expr ')';
```

You would expect the value returned by this rule to be the value of the expr within the parentheses. Since the first component of the action is the literal left parenthesis, the desired logical result can be indicated by:

```
expr: '(' expr ')'
{
    $$ = $2 ;
}
```

By default, the value of a rule is the value of the first element in it (\$1). Thus, grammar rules of the following form frequently need not have an explicit action:

```
A : B ;
```

In previous examples, all the actions came at the end of rules. Sometimes, it is desirable to get control before a rule is fully parsed. yacc permits an action to be written in the middle of a rule as well as at the end.

This action is assumed to return a value accessible through the usual \$ mechanism by the actions to the right of it. In turn, it can access the values returned by the symbols to its left. Thus, in the rule below, the effect is to set x to 1 and y to the value returned by C:

```
A : B { $$ = 1; } C { $$ x = $2; $$ y = $3; }
```

Actions that do not terminate a rule are handled by yacc by manufacturing a new nonterminal symbol name and a new rule matching this name to the empty string. The interior action is the action triggered by recognizing this added rule.

YACC Declaration Summary

<u>Description</u>
Specify the grammar's start symbol
Declare a terminal symbol (token type name) with no precedence or associativity specified
Declare the type of semantic values for a nonterminal symbol
Declare a terminal symbol (token type name) that is right-associative
Declare a terminal symbol (token type name) that is left-associative
Declare a terminal symbol (token type name) that is non-associative (using it in a way that would be associative is a syntax error, Ex: x op. y op. z is syntax error)

Aim: Write YACC specification to check syntax of a simple expression involving operators +, -, * and / and evaluate the expression.

Program:

LEX FILE

```
%{
    #include "y.tab.h"
    extern yylval;
%}
%%
[0-9]+ {
    yylval = atoi(yytext);
    return NUM;
}
[a-zA-Z]+ { return ID; }
[\t]+;
\n { return 0; }
. { return yytext[0]; }
%%
int yywrap(){
    return(1);
}
```

YACC FILE

```
%{
#include<stdio.h>
%}
%token NUM ID
%left '+' '-'
%left '*' '/'
```

```
%%
S : exp {
  ");
  printf("\nENTERED EXPRESSION IS VALID!!! ");
  if ($$!=0){
    printf("\nTHE VALUE OF THE EXPRESSION : %d\n", $$);
    ~~");
  }
  return 0;
}
exp : exp '+' exp { $$ = $1 + $3; }
| exp '-' exp { $$ = $1 - $3; }
| exp '*' exp { $$ = $1 * $3; }
| exp '/' exp { $$ = $1 / $3; }
| '(' exp ')' { $$ = $2; }
| NUM { $$ = $1; }
| ID { $$ = $1; };
%%
int main() {
  printf("\n-----");
  printf("\nENTER THE EXPRESSION TO BE CHECKED : \n\t");
  yyparse();
}
int yyerror(char* s) {
  );
  printf("\nTHE ENTERED EXPRESSION IS INVALID!!!\n");
  );
}
Output:
ENTER THE EXPRESSION TO BE CHECKED:
     1*2+5
ENTERED EXPRESSION IS VALID!!!
THE VALUE OF THE EXPRESSION: 7
```

```
Aim: To validate syntax of following programing language construct: Batch B1: do while loop
Batch B2: while loop
```

Batch B3: for loop

Program:

LEX FILE

```
%{
#include "y.tab.h"
%}
%%
"while" {return WHILE;}
     {return OPENBRACKET;}
")" {return CLOSEDBRACKET;}
"{"
    {return CURLEOPEN;}
"}"
     {return CURLECLOSED;}
"="
     {return EQUAL;}
" " {return SPACE;}
"<" | ">" | "<=" | ">=" | "!="
                       {return RELATIONALOPERATOR;}
"&&"|"||" {return LOGICALOPERATOR;}
";" {return SEMICOLON;}
[0-9]+ {yylval=atoi(yytext); return NUMBER;}
[a-zA-Z] {return ID;}
\n {return NL;}
. {return yytext[0];}
%%
```

YACC FILE

```
%{
#include<stdio.h>
#include<stdlib.h>
%}
%token WHILE OPENBRACKET CLOSEDBRACKET CURLEOPEN CURLECLOSED EQUAL RELATIONALO
PERATOR SEMICOLON NUMBER ID NL LOGICALOPERATOR SPACE
%left '+' '-'
%left '*' '/'
%%
stmt: WHILE OPENBRACKET CONDITION CLOSEDBRACKET CURLEOPEN NL STATEMENT CURLECL
OSED NL {printf("\nACCEPTED\n",$1);exit(0);}
;
```

```
CONDITION: ID RELATIONALOPERATOR STATEMENT
| STATEMENT RELATIONALOPERATOR STATEMENT
| CONDITION SPACE LOGICALOPERATOR SPACE CONDITION
STATEMENT: STATEMENT '+' STATEMENT
| STATEMENT '-' STATEMENT
| STATEMENT '*' STATEMENT
| STATEMENT '/' STATEMENT
| '(' STATEMENT ')'
| ID
| ID EQUAL STATEMENT SEMICOLON NL
| STATEMENT STATEMENT
NUMBER
;
%%
int yyerror(char *msg)
printf("Invalid Expression \n");
}
main()
printf("\nEnter the expression : \n\n");
yyparse();
return 0;
int yywrap(){return 1;}
Output:
Enter the expression :
while(a>9 && b>=9 | | c!=8){
a=a+b;
b=b+c;
c=c+d;
}
ACCEPTED
```