

ANSI C grammar, Lex specification

In 1985, Jeff Lee published this Lex specification together with a [Yacc grammar](#) for the April 30, 1985 ANSI C draft. Tom Stockfisch reposted both to net.sources in 1987; that original, as mentioned in the answer to [question 17.25](#) of the comp.lang.c FAQ, can be ftp'ed from ftp.uu.net, file [usenet/net.sources/ansi.c.grammar.Z](#).

I intend to keep this version as close to the current C Standard grammar as possible; please let me know if you discover discrepancies.

[Jutta Degener](#), 1995

```

D                [0-9]
L                [a-zA-Z_]
H                [a-zA-F0-9]
E                [Ee][+-]?{D}+
FS               (f|F|l|L)
IS               (u|U|l|L)*

%{
#include <stdio.h>
#include "y.tab.h"

void count\(\);
%}

%%
"/*"            { comment\(\); }

"auto"           { count(); return(AUTO); }
"break"          { count(); return(BREAK); }
"case"           { count(); return(CASE); }
"char"           { count(); return(CHAR); }
"const"          { count(); return(CONST); }
"continue"       { count(); return(CONTINUE); }
"default"        { count(); return(DEFAULT); }
"do"             { count(); return(DO); }
"double"         { count(); return(DOUBLE); }
"else"           { count(); return(ELSE); }
"enum"           { count(); return(ENUM); }
"extern"         { count(); return(EXTERN); }
"float"          { count(); return(FLOAT); }
"for"            { count(); return(FOR); }
"goto"           { count(); return(GOTO); }
"if"             { count(); return(IF); }
"int"            { count(); return(INT); }
"long"           { count(); return(LONG); }
"register"        { count(); return(REGISTER); }
"return"         { count(); return(RETURN); }
"short"          { count(); return(SHORT); }
"signed"         { count(); return(SIGNED); }
"sizeof"         { count(); return(SIZEOF); }
"static"         { count(); return(STATIC); }
"struct"         { count(); return(STRUCT); }
"switch"         { count(); return(SWITCH); }
"typedef"        { count(); return(TYPEDEF); }
"union"          { count(); return(UNION); }
"unsigned"       { count(); return(UNSIGNED); }
"void"           { count(); return(VOID); }
"volatile"       { count(); return(VOLATILE); }

```

```

"while"                { count(); return(WHILE); }

{L}({L}|{D})*          { count(); return(check\_type\(\)); }

0[xX]{H}+{IS}?         { count(); return(CONSTANT); }
0{D}+{IS}?             { count(); return(CONSTANT); }
{D}+{IS}?              { count(); return(CONSTANT); }
L?'(\\.|[^\\"'])+'      { count(); return(CONSTANT); }

{D}+{E}{FS}?           { count(); return(CONSTANT); }
{D}*"."{D}+({E})?{FS}? { count(); return(CONSTANT); }
{D}+"."{D}*({E})?{FS}? { count(); return(CONSTANT); }

L?"(\\.|[^\\""])*\"      { count(); return(STRING_LITERAL); }

"...\"                 { count(); return(ELLIPSIS); }
">>=\"                 { count(); return(RIGHT_ASSIGN); }
"<<=\"                 { count(); return(LEFT_ASSIGN); }
"+=\"                  { count(); return(ADD_ASSIGN); }
"-=\"                  { count(); return(SUB_ASSIGN); }
"*=\"                  { count(); return(MUL_ASSIGN); }
"/=\"                  { count(); return(DIV_ASSIGN); }
"%=\"                  { count(); return(MOD_ASSIGN); }
"&=\"                  { count(); return(AND_ASSIGN); }
"^=\"                  { count(); return(XOR_ASSIGN); }
"|=\"                  { count(); return(OR_ASSIGN); }
">>>\"                 { count(); return(RIGHT_OP); }
"<<<\"                 { count(); return(LEFT_OP); }
"++\"                  { count(); return(INC_OP); }
"--\"                  { count(); return(DEC_OP); }
"->\"                  { count(); return(PTR_OP); }
"&&\"                   { count(); return(AND_OP); }
"||\"                   { count(); return(OR_OP); }
"<=\"                  { count(); return(LE_OP); }
">=\"                  { count(); return(GE_OP); }
"==\"                  { count(); return(EQ_OP); }
"!=\"                  { count(); return(NE_OP); }
";\"                   { count(); return(';'); }
("{ | "<%" )           { count(); return('{'); }
("}" | "%>")          { count(); return('}'); }
","                   { count(); return(','); }
":"                   { count(); return(':'); }
"=\""                 { count(); return('='); }
"(\"                   { count(); return('('); }
")\"                   { count(); return(')'); }
("[ | "<:" )           { count(); return('['); }
("]" | "":>")          { count(); return(']'); }
"."                   { count(); return('.'); }
"&\"                   { count(); return('&'); }
"!\"                   { count(); return('!'); }
"~\"                   { count(); return('~'); }
"_\"                   { count(); return('-'); }
"+"                   { count(); return('+'); }
"*\"                   { count(); return('*'); }
"/\"                   { count(); return('/'); }
"%\"                   { count(); return('%'); }
"<\"                   { count(); return('<'); }
">\"                   { count(); return('>'); }
"^\"                   { count(); return('^'); }
"|\"                   { count(); return('|'); }
"?\"                   { count(); return('?'); }

[ \t\v\n\f]           { count(); }
.                       { /* ignore bad characters */ }

```

%%

```
yywrap()
{
    return(1);
}
```

```
comment()
{
    char c, c1;

loop:
    while ((c = input()) != '*' && c != 0)
        putchar(c);

    if ((c1 = input()) != '/' && c1 != 0)
    {
        unput(c1);
        goto loop;
    }

    if (c != 0)
        putchar(c1);
}
```

```
int column = 0;
```

```
void count()
{
    int i;

    for (i = 0; yytext[i] != '\0'; i++)
        if (yytext[i] == '\n')
            column = 0;
        else if (yytext[i] == '\t')
            column += 8 - (column % 8);
        else
            column++;

    ECHO;
}
```

```
int check_type()
{
    /*
    * pseudo code --- this is what it should check
    *
    *     if (yytext == type_name)
    *         return(TYPE_NAME);
    *
    *     return(IDENTIFIER);
    */

    /*
    *     it actually will only return IDENTIFIER
    */

    return(IDENTIFIER);
}
```