NAME

yacc − yet another compiler-compiler

SYNOPSIS

yacc [**−vd**] grammar

DESCRIPTION

Yacc converts a context-free grammar into a set of tables for a simple automaton which executes an LR(1) parsing algorithm. The grammar may be ambiguous; specified precedence rules are used to break ambiguities.

The output file, *y.tab.c*, must be compiled by the C compiler to produce a program *yyparse*. This program must be loaded with the lexical analyzer program, *yylex*, as well as *main* and *yyerror*, an error handling routine. These routines must be supplied by the user; *Lex*(1) is useful for creating lexical analyzers usable by *yacc*.

If the **−v** flag is given, the file *y.output* is prepared, which contains a description of the parsing tables and a report on conflicts generated by ambiguities in the grammar.

If the **−d** flag is used, the file *y.tab.h* is generated with the *define* statements that associate the *yacc*-assigned 'token codes' with the user-declared 'token names'. This allows source files other than *y.tab.c* to access the token codes.

FILES

y.output	
y.tab.c	
y.tab.h	defines for token names
yacc.tmp, yacc.acts	temporary files
/usr/lib/yaccpar	parser prototype for C programs
/lib/liby.a	library with default 'main' and 'yyerror'

SEE ALSO

lex(1)
LR Parsing by A. V. Aho and S. C. Johnson, Computing Surveys, June, 1974.
YACC − Yet Another Compiler Compiler by S. C. Johnson.

DIAGNOSTICS

The number of reduce-reduce and shift-reduce conflicts is reported on the standard output; a more detailed report is found in the *y.output* file. Similarly, if some rules are not reachable from the start symbol, this is also reported.

BUGS

Because file names are fixed, at most one *yacc* process can be active in a given directory at a time.