An extremely generalized algorithm of the lex.yy.c file would look like this:

```
Decision table definition
transition(state, input) definition
state_of_machine = start_state
while(!EOF)
    match:
         ichar = get_next_character()
         next_state = transition(state_of_machine,ichar)
         state_of_machine=next_state
    accept:
         If state_of_machine ∈ Accepting_states
             Execute corresponding action
             state_of_machine = start_state
    error:
         if state_of_machine = Ø
             Report error
             Reset input
             state_of_machine = start_state
}
```