

Compilers

Introduction to Parsing

- Regular languages
 - The weakest formal languages widely used
 - Many applications

Consider the language:

$$\left\{ (^i)^i \mid i \geq 0 \right\}$$

What can regular languages express?

• Input: sequence of tokens from lexer

Output: parse tree of the program

Cool

if
$$x = y$$
 then 1 else 2 fi

Parser input

Parser output

Phase	Input	Output
Lexer	String of characters	String of tokens
Parser	String of tokens	Parse tree