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EECS 665 Lab4
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1. speaking generally, C-like languages treat whitespace identically, regardless of how it's created. One tab or four spaces, it matters not. This is not the case for many other languages (Python, Haskell, YAML, etc.), where the construction, and placement, of whitespace is important. What complications does this introduce to our lexer if we need to account for such concerns? As a hint: consider writing a lexer for a Makefile, where only tabs and not spaces are allowed. How do the rules you have written change?

A: We need to distinguish the difference between tabs and spaces. For example, for the makefile, we should only allow tabs at the beginning of each lines, but not space. We could write some lex code to separate each condition for tabs and spaces. As the result, tabs are tabs, spaces are spaces. They will automatically match the lex rule in makefile.

Partial lex rule is like this:

^"\t" [a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9_]*{

}   //Allow tabs for each line

^" "{

} //do not allow space at the beginning of each line