# Lexical Analysis - Part 2 

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NPTEL Course on Principles of Compiler Design

## Outline of the Lecture

- What is lexical analysis? (covered in part 1 )
- Why should LA be separated from syntax analysis? (covered in part 1)
- Tokens, patterns, and lexemes (covered in part 1)
- Difficulties in lexical analysis (covered in part 1)
- Recognition of tokens - finite automata and transition diagrams
- Specification of tokens - regular expressions and regular definitions
- LEX - A Lexical Analyzer Generator


## Nondeterministic FSA

- NFAs are FSA which allow 0 , 1 , or more transitions from a state on a given input symbol
- An NFA is a 5-tuple as before, but the transition function $\delta$ is different
- $\delta(q, a)=$ the set of all states $p$, such that there is a transition labelled $a$ from $q$ to $p$
- $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^{Q}$
- A string is accepted by an NFA if there exists a sequence of transitions corresponding to the string, that leads from the start state to some final state
- Every NFA can be converted to an equivalent deterministic FA (DFA), that accepts the same language as the NFA

Nondeterministic FSA Example - 1


## An NFA and an Equivalent DFA



## Example of NFA to DFA conversion

- The start state of the DFA would correspond to the set $\left\{q_{0}\right\}$ and will be represented by [ $q_{0}$ ]
- Starting from $\delta\left(\left[q_{0}\right], a\right)$, the new states of the DFA are constructed on demand
- Each subset of NFA states is a possible DFA state
- All the states of the DFA containing some final state as a member would be final states of the DFA
- For the NFA presented before (whose equivalent DFA was also presented)
- $\left.\delta\left[q_{0}\right], a\right)=\left[q_{0}, q_{1}\right], \delta\left(\left[q_{0}\right], b\right)=\phi$
- $\delta\left(\left[q_{0}, q_{1}\right], a\right)=\left[q_{0}, q_{1}\right], \delta\left(\left[q_{0}, q_{1}\right], b\right)=\left[q_{1}, q_{2}\right]$
- $\delta(\phi, a)=\phi, \delta(\phi, b)=\phi$
- $\delta\left(\left[q_{1}, q_{2}\right], a\right)=\phi, \delta\left(\left[q_{1}, q_{2}\right], b\right)=\left[q_{1}, q_{2}\right]$
- $\left[q_{1}, q_{2}\right]$ is the final state
- In the worst case, the converted DFA may have $2^{n}$ states, where $n$ is the no. of states of the NFA


## NFA with $\epsilon$-Moves

$\epsilon$-NFA is equivalent to NFA in power


## Regular Expressions

Let $\Sigma$ be an alphabet. The REs over $\Sigma$ and the languages they denote (or generate) are defined as below
(1) $\phi$ is an RE. $L(\phi)=\phi$
(2) $\epsilon$ is an RE. $L(\epsilon)=\{\epsilon\}$
(3) For each $a \in \Sigma$, $a$ is an RE. $L(a)=\{a\}$
(1) If $r$ and $s$ are REs denoting the languages $R$ and $S$, respectively

- (rs) is an RE, $L(r s)=R \cdot S=\{x y \mid x \in R \wedge y \in S\}$
- $(r+s)$ is an RE, $L(r+s)=R \cup S$
- $\left(r^{*}\right)$ is an RE, $L\left(r^{*}\right)=R^{*}=\bigcup_{i=0} R^{i}$
( $L^{*}$ is called the Kleene closure or closure of $L$ )


## Examples of Regular Expressions

(1) $L=$ set of all strings of 0 's and 1's
$r=(0+1)^{*}$

- How to generate the string 101 ?
- $(0+1)^{*} \Rightarrow^{4}(0+1)(0+1)(0+1) \epsilon \Rightarrow^{4} 101$
(2) $L=$ set of all strings of 0 's and 1 's, with at least two consecutive 0's
$r=(0+1)^{*} 00(0+1)^{*}$
(3) $L=\left\{w \in\{0,1\}^{*} \mid w\right.$ has two or three occurrences of 1 , the first and second of which are not consecutive\}
$r=0^{*} 10^{*} 010^{*}\left(10^{*}+\epsilon\right)$
(4) $r=(1+10)^{*}$
$L=$ set of all strings of 0 's and 1 's, beginning with 1 and not having two consecutive 0's
(5) $r=(0+1)^{*} 011$
$L=$ set of all strings of 0 's and 1 's ending in 011


## Examples of Regular Expressions

(6) $r=c^{*}\left(a+b c^{*}\right)^{*}$
$L=$ set of all strings over $\{a, b, c\}$ that do not have the substring ac
(7) $L=\left\{w \mid w \in\{a, b\}^{*} \wedge w\right.$ ends with $\left.a\right\}$
$r=(a+b)^{*} a$
(8) $L=\{i f$, then, else, while, do, begin, end $\}$
$r=i f+$ then + else + while + do + begin + end

## Examples of Regular Definitions

A regular definition is a sequence of "equations" of the form $d_{1}=r_{1} ; d_{2}=r_{2} ; \ldots ; d_{n}=r_{n}$, where each $d_{i}$ is a distinct name, and each $r_{i}$ is a regular expression over the symbols
$\Sigma \cup\left\{d_{1}, d_{2}, \ldots, d_{i-1}\right\}$
(1) identifiers and integers letter $=a+b+c+d+e ;$ digit $=0+1+2+3+4 ;$ identifier $=$ letter $(\text { letter }+ \text { digit })^{*} ;$ number $=$ digit digit*
(2) unsigned numbers
digit $=0+1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9$;
digits $=$ digit digit*;
optional_fraction $=$ digits $+\epsilon$;
optional_exponent $=(E(+|-| \epsilon)$ digits $)+\epsilon$
unsigned_number =
digits optional_fraction optional_exponent

## Equivalence of REs and FSA

- Let $r$ be an RE. Then there exists an NFA with $\epsilon$-transitions that accepts $L(r)$. The proof is by construction.
- If $L$ is accepted by a DFA, then $L$ is generated by an RE. The proof is tedious.


## Construction of FSA from RE $-\mathrm{r}=\phi, \epsilon$, or $a$



## FSA for $r=r 1+r 2$

FSA for the RE r $=r 1+r 2$


## FSA for $r=r 1 r 2$

## FSA for RE r = r1 r2


q1 is the new start state
f2 is the new
final state
f 1 is no more a final state q 2 is no more a start state

## FSA for $r=r 1^{*}$


$q 1$ is no more a start state
f 1 is no more a final state

## NFA Construction for $r=(a+b)^{*} c$



## Transition Diagrams

- Transition diagrams are generalized DFAs with the following differences
- Edges may be labelled by a symbol, a set of symbols, or a regular definition
- Some accepting states may be indicated as retracting states, indicating that the lexeme does not include the symbol that brought us to the accepting state
- Each accepting state has an action attached to it, which is executed when that state is reached. Typically, such an action returns a token and its attribute value
- Transition diagrams are not meant for machine translation but only for manual translation


## Transition Diagram for Identifiers and Reserved Words

```
letter = [a-zA-Z]
Identifier = letter (letter | digit)*
```


> '*' indicates retraction state
$>$ get_token_code() searches a table to check if the name is a reserved word and returns its integer code, if so
> Otherwise, it returns the integer code of IDENTIFIER token, with name containing the string of characters forming the token (name is not relevant for reserved words)

## Transition Diagrams for Hex and Oct Constants



## Transition Diagrams for Integer Constants



## Transition Diagrams for Real Constants



```
real_const = (digit }\mp@subsup{}{}{+}\mathrm{ exponent (qualifier | ह)) |
    (digit* "." digit + (exponent | \varepsilon) (qualifier | &)) |
    (digit + "." digit* (exponent | \varepsilon) (qualifier | \varepsilon))
exponent = (E|e)(+|-|\varepsilon) digit +
qualifier = f | F | | |
digit = [0-9]
```


## Transition Diagrams for a few Operators



## Lexical Analyzer Implementation from Trans. Diagrams

TOKEN gettoken() \{
TOKEN mytoken; char c;
while(1) \{ switch (state) \{
/* recognize reserved words and identifiers */ case 0: c = nextchar(); if (letter(c)) state $=1 ;$ else state = failure(); break;
case 1: $\mathrm{c}=$ nextchar();
if (letter(c) || digit(c))
state $=1 ;$ else state $=2$; break;
case 2: retract (1);
mytoken.token = search_token();
if (mytoken.token == IDENTIFIER) mytoken.value = get_id_string(); return (mytoken);

## Transition Diagram for Identifiers and Reserved Words

```
letter = [a-zA-Z]
Identifier = letter (letter | digit)*
```


> '*' indicates retraction state
$>$ get_token_code() searches a table to check if the name is a reserved word and returns its integer code, if so
> Otherwise, it returns the integer code of IDENTIFIER token, with name containing the string of characters forming the token (name is not relevant for reserved words)

## Lexical Analyzer Implementation from Trans. Diagrams

/* recognize hexa and octal constants */ case 3: c = nextchar();
if (c == '0') state = 4; break;
else state = failure();
case 4: c = nextchar();
if ((c == 'x') || (c == 'X'))
state $=5 ;$ else if (digitoct(c))
state = 9; else state = failure();
break;
case 5: c = nextchar(); if (digithex(c)) state $=$ 6; else state $=$ failure();
break;

## Transition Diagrams for Hex and Oct Constants



## Lexical Analyzer Implementation from Trans. Diagrams

case 6: c = nextchar(); if (digithex(c))
state $=6$; else if ( (c == 'u') ||
(c == 'U')||(c == 'l')||
(c == 'L')) state = 8;
else state = 7; break;
case 7: retract(1);
/* fall through to case 8, to save coding */
case 8: mytoken.token = INT_CONST;
mytoken.value = eval_hex_num(); return(mytoken);
case 9: c = nextchar(); if (digitoct(c)) state $=9$; else if ( (c == 'u') || (c == 'U')||(c == 'l')||(c == 'L'))
state = 11; else state = 10; break;

## Lexical Analyzer Implementation from Trans. Diagrams

```
    case 10: retract(1);
/* fall through to case 11, to save coding */
case 11: mytoken.token = INT_CONST;
mytoken.value = eval_oct_num();
return(mytoken);
```


## Transition Diagrams for Integer Constants



## Lexical Analyzer Implementation from Trans. Diagrams

```
/* recognize integer constants */
    case 12: c = nextchar(); if (digit(c))
                                state = 13; else state = failure();
    case 13: c = nextchar(); if (digit(c))
        state = 13;else if ((c == 'u')||
                        (c == 'U')||(c == ' l')||(c == 'L'))
                        state = 15; else state = 14; break;
    case 14: retract(1);
/* fall through to case 15, to save coding */
    case 15: mytoken.token = INT_CONST;
        mytoken.value = eval_int_num();
        return(mytoken);
    default: recover();
    }
}
```

