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2. Lexical analysis

- Basics of lexical analysis
- Regular languages and regular expressions
- Finite automata
- Regular expression into NFA
- NFA into DFA
- Table implementation of FA
- Lexical errors

Removal of white spaces and comments

After:

if (x==0) then $\n\ty=1$; $\n\tz=2$;

Token classes

Identifiers

Sequence of letters and digits starting with a letter

Keywords

if, then, else...

Whitespaces

Non-empty sequence of blanks, newlines and tabs.

Integers

Non-empty sequence of digits

Operators

Etc.



FORTRAN EXAMPLE

do 5 N=1,25

Cycle till the label 5, the variable N changes from 1 to 25. do 5 N=1.25

Blanks are unimportant.
Variables can be undeclared.
do5N=1.25
Assignment of the variable do5N.

We don't know if 'do' is a keyword without going ahead.

Reserved words

- C++ example (keywords are reserved):
- if els
 - then

the=els;

else

els=the;

- PL/1 example (keywords are not reserved):
- if else
 - then
 - then=else
 - else
 - else=then

Recognition:

- To read left-to-right recognizing one token at a time;
- To recognize correctly the token class for the considering lexeme;
- To minimize going ahead;
- To check reserved words and to use prioritizing.



Let X be an alphabet, ε is an empty symbol. A **string** is any sequence of symbols from X. X* is the set of all strings. Any L \subseteq X* is a **language**.

- Union L1 \cup L2={ α : $\alpha \in$ L1 or $\alpha \in$ L2}
- Concatenation L1L2={ $\alpha\beta$: $\alpha\in$ L1, $\beta\in$ L2}
- Iteration: L*={ε} ∪L ∪LL ∪LLL...

Example

- L1={a,bc}, L2={aa,b,bc}
- $L1 \cup L2= \{a, bc, aa, b\}$
- L1L2={aaa,ab,abc,bcaa,bcb,bcbc}

L1*={ɛ,a,bc,aa,abc,bca,bcbc,aaa,aabc,abca,abcbc,bcaa,...}

Regular languages:

- Ø is a Rlang;
- {ε} is a Rlang;
- $\{x\}$ for any $x \in X$ is a Rlang;
- If L1 and L2 are Rlangs then L1∪L2 is a Rlang;
- If L1 and L2 are Rlangs then L1L2 is a Rlang;
- If L is a Rlang then L* is a Rlangs;
- There are no other Rlangs.

Regular expressions:

- Ø is a Rexp;
- ε is a Rexp;
- x∈X is a Rexp;
- If R1 and R2 are Rexps then R1+R2 is a Rexp;
- If R1 and R2 are Rexps then R1R2 is a Rexp;
- If R is a Rexp then R* is a Rexp;
- There are no other Rexps.

Rexp	Rlang
Ø	Ø
3	{٤}
x	{x}
R1+R2	L(R1)∪L(R2)
R1R2	L(R1)L(R2)
R*	(L(R))*

Prioritizing:

- Iteration
- Concatenation
- Union

Examples:

- (01+1)*(001+000+0+ε) is a Rexp;
- 0ⁿ1ⁿ: n>0 isn't Rexp.

Laws for Rexps

$$\begin{array}{l} 1) \ R+S = S+R, \ R+R = R, \ (R+S)+T = R+(S+T), \ \emptyset+R = R; \\ 2) \ R\varepsilon = \varepsilon R = R, \ (RS)T = R(ST), \ \emptyset R = R\emptyset = \emptyset; \\ 3) \ R(S+T) = RS+RT, \ (R+S)T = RT+ST; \\ 4) \ R^* = \varepsilon + R + \ldots + R^k R^*, \ RR^* = R^*R, \ R(SR)^* = (RS)^*R; \\ 5) \ R^*RR^* = RR^*, \ RR^* + \varepsilon = R^*. \end{array}$$

Example

$$b(b + aa^*b) = b(\varepsilon b + aa^*b) = b(\varepsilon + aa^*)b = ba^*b.$$

Extensions of Rexps

- One or more instances: R+=RR*
- Zero or one instance: R?
- Character classes: [a-z]=a+...+z
- Exclusion: [^a-z] everything except [a-z]
- Any symbol except eof: .

2.3. Finite automata

Regular expression = specification Finite automata = implementation

Finite automata A=<X,Q,q0,F,Ψ>:

- $X \neq \emptyset$ an input alphabet;
- Q a set of states;
- q0∈Q a start state;
- F⊆Q a set of accepting (final) states;
- Ψ: X × Q → Q − a transition function.



Deterministic finite automata (DFA):

- no ε-transitions;
- one transition per one pair 'symbol-state'.

Nondeterministic finite automata (NFA):

- ε-transitions are allowed;
- multiply transitions per one pair 'symbol-state' are allowed.



DFA (one path for one string)



NFA (several paths)



The finite automata A **accepts** the string α=a1a2...an if there is a path in the automata diagram from the start state to one of accepting states where arches are marked by the symbols a1, a2,...,an and probably by ε.

The set of accepted strings form the **accepted language L(A)**. Languages accepted by FA are called **automata languages**.

Example

a, aa, ab, bbb are accepted b is not accepted







2.4. Rexp into NFA

Kleene theorem. For every regular expression R, we can construct a DFA accepting the same language.





Rexp into NFA

R=R1+R2





R=R1*



Rexp into NFA



Rexp into NFA





2.5. NFA into DFA



ε-closure of the state q:

 $[q]={p: p=\Psi\epsilon(\epsilon,q)}$

Example [q0]={q0,q1} [q1]={q1} [q2]={q2} [q3]={q3,q2}



 $\begin{array}{l} Q'=\left\{ [p]: \ p \in Q\epsilon \right\} \\ Q0'=\left\{ [p]: \ p \in [q0\epsilon] \right\} \\ F0'=\left\{ [p]: \ [p] \cap F\epsilon \neq \varnothing \right\} \end{array}$

Example

 $[q0] = \{[q0], [q1]\}$ $[q1] = \{q1\}$ $[q2] = \{q2\}$ $[q3] = \{q3, q2\}$



 $\Psi'(x,\![p])\!=\!\!\{\,[s]\!:\,s\!\in\!\!\{\,[\Psi\epsilon(x,\!q)],\,q\,\in\!\![p]\,\}\,\}$



Q=2^{Q'} q0=Q0' F={ P∈2^{Q'}: P∩F'≠Ø } $\Psi(x P)$ ={ $\Psi'(x,p)$: p ∈P}

Example

s0={q0,q1} s1={q2} s2={q2,q3} s3={q0,q1,q2,q3}





DFA:

- faster to execute (one transition per pair symbol-state);
- bigger number of states (probably exponentially).

NFA:

- smaller number of states (probably exponentially);
- slower to execute (more then one transition).

2.6. Table implementation of FA



2.7. Lexical errors

Lexical errors include misspellings of identifiers, keywords or operators, e.g.

- **=** ===
- 8abcdef
- ifff
- **...**

If A is a FA and $\alpha \notin L(A)$ then α contains a lexical error.