Compilers

This is not a proper **learning group assignment** in that you won't be able to earn participation points for it. You don't have to show any progress on it at the next lecture. Instead it's a list of utility features that you'll either **have to** or want to implement for future assignments (ZOBOS, possible WRECK). There is no deadline or due date for these tasks — except for the project deadlines you'll want (need) to use them in.

It was probably mentioned in lecture, but you are encouraged to work on these two future assignments in two-person partner groups. ZOBOS and WRECK may well be two of the more complex projects you've encountered in the curriculum. It would probably be best to tackle them with more than one pair of eyes and as much coding background as possible. (Over the semesters I've tried to refine these projects to reduce their difficulty level, but compilers are non-trivial and I'm still told by many students they're tough nuts to crack.) It would of course be best to tackle these little side-coding tasks with your partner!

Finally, the intention in the course is that everyone has access to one or two code bases already developed by your current or previous learning group. Partnered projects can the code base of any of the "repos" either had contributed to. If one of these has a solid SDT architecture, you probably want to lean on it for future work.

- 1. First and foremost, test the LL(1) parsing engine on some simple grammars and "programs," here are some candidates to use:
  - i. fischer-4-1.cfg and fischer-4-1\_src.tok
  - ii. fischer-p-140-10.cfg and fischer-p-140-10\_src.tok
  - iii. llre.cfg, reprogram\_src.tok and reprogram2\_src.tok

Make sure your LL(1) parser is working and generating "raw" parse trees that are easy to understand and work with.

Warning: One of the examples has a syntax error — did your code find it?

- 2. Hopefully question 1 isn't too big a lift and you have a working data structure for representing arbitrary parse trees (lga-ll1-parsing.pdf). But you will need a "rich tree structure" **that can actually hold data or have a value**, not just a plain vanilla grammar construction symbol. For instance: not only a leaf node of grammar terminal type variable, but also the name associated with that variable. Another example would be a grammar terminal of type float or integer but also the literal value scanned for this terminal (3.14159, or -10). In general you want to be able to associate with each node multiple generic **key-value** pairings that cover at least the basic program types: integers, floating point values, strings. Of course you want a clear and easily maintained API for adding, retrieving and testing for these key-value pairs.
- 3. Now that you have an RTS (rich tree structure), make sure it has a construction and manipulation API that will makes coding up SDT (syntax directed translation, aka **semantic actions** and "production procedures"). Some of the actions you'll want to support include
  - i. rename or retype a node
  - ii. is a leaf node? how many children does a node have?
  - iii. access the first child, last child of a node
  - iv. drop or remove a particular child from a parent node
  - v. prune or replace an entire subtree of a tree (with a leaf node or another tree)
  - vi. easily move the children (or subset of children) between two nodes the typical case is appending the new child list at the end of the destination node's current list of children.

You'll want (need?) to write SDT procedures for both WRECK and ZOBOS, and if you do the final project CZAR you will definitely be traversing and manipulating the attributes in these trees **a lot**. So you really want a good solid interface to your RTS objects.

4. It will be immensely useful in the future to be able to dump a parse tree (or some evolution of an abstract syntax tree) to disk in an easily visualized form. I personally don't call console output of bracket heavy DFS expressions as "easily visualization."<sup>1</sup>

On Unix boxes graphvis and the dot (1) utility are excellent. The graphvis utilities have a Windows port, and I'm sure there are several FOSS packages that make it easy to write dot (1) files in many different lanugages.

Implement a routine in your code base so that your "rich" parse tree data structure can be easily visualized.

**Hint:** the schedule page row for lga-ll1-parsing.pdf has links to a tree-to-graphvis of my own creation that permits a greatly simplified input for dot (1). You are welcome to incorporate this script into your visualization solution — and using this simplified input format will be compatible with future ZOBOS project requirements.

5. Finally, looking ahead to ZOBOS you'll soon have a basic LR parser (much like the LL(1) parser you should have now). You won't be required to generate the item sets or the *characteristic finite state machine* (the "item set graph"), in this course your projects will instead read an LR parsing table from disk. To this end: **define a data structure to hold an LR table**.

Rows of the table are parsing states (indexed) and columns represent all grammar symbols and \$. "LR table files" are line oriented, comma delimited files; the only white space are newline characters. The columns of the first line contain a placeholder period (.) then column labels from  $N \cup \Sigma_{\$}$ .

The remaining lines in the file have  $|N \cup \Sigma_{\$}| + 1$  comma separated fields as well. The first field is the parsing state (indexed, sequential and increasing) followed by the LR parsing operations, of which there are four:

- i. an empty cell (syntax error)
- ii. sh-X means shift the symbol to the parsing stack and go to state X.
- iii. r-N means reduce by rule number N and push the resulting subtree back to the input deque.
- iv. R-N (note the capital R) means reduce by rule number N and accept the resulting subtree as valid input.

This data structure (object, or transparent data structure) should have a clear interface documented for looking up the parsing action given a state, input tuple.

Here are some example .1r files and their grammars you can use for testing and development:

- fischer-4-1.lr, fischer-4-1.cfg
- fischer-p-140-10.lr, fischer-p-140-10.cfg
- llre.lr,llre.cfg

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>You may have a different opinion, but this will be a **requirement** for ZOBOS.