



MUTHAYAMMAL ENGINEERING COLLEGE

(An Autonomous Institution)

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Rasipuram - 637 408, Namakkal Dist., Tamil Nadu



MUST KNOW CONCEPTS

MKC

IT

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Subject		16ITD08/Principles of Compiler Design		
S. No.	Term	Notation (Symbol)	Concept/Definition/Meaning/Units/Equation/Expression	Units
UNIT-I INTRODUCTION TO AUTOMATA AND COMPILER				
1	Translator		It converts source language into target language	
2	Compiler		System software which translates source program into target program	
3	Interpreter		System software which accepts source program line by line and produces target program	
4	Assembler		converts assembly language into machine code	
5	Loader		A loader is a program that places machine code of the programs into memory for execution	
6	Link-editor		The linker links the code in one file which may refer to a location in another file	
7	Two Parts of Compilation		Analysis and Synthesis	
8	Analysis (Front end of Compiler)		Analysis part breaks the source program into constituent pieces and creates an intermediate representation	
9	Synthesis (Back end of Compiler)		Synthesis part takes the intermediate representation as input and transforms it to the target program.	
10	6 Phases of Compiler		1.Lexical analysis 2. Syntax analysis 3. Semantic analysis 4. Intermediate code generation 5. Code optimization 6. Code generation	
11	Lexical analysis (Scanner)		It accepts lexemes which produces token as output	
12	Token		Sequence of characters that can be treated as a single logical entity. Eg: Number, Identifiers ,keywords , etc	
13	Lexeme		Sequence of characters in the source program	
14	Pattern		Set of strings is described by a rule called a pattern associated with the token.	
15	Symbol Table		Data structure that contains a record for each symbol	
16	Syntax analysis (Parser)		accepts sequence tokens as input and produces parse tree as output	

17	Two properties Intermediate representation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It should be easy to produce ➤ Easy to translate into the target machine 	
18	Properties of Three address code		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Three address code have atmost 3 operand ➤ Atmost 1 operator additional to = ➤ Temporary variable used to store intermediate result 	
19	Use of Code Optimization		Produces Faster ,Shorter code,target code that consumes less power	
20	Goals of Error Handler		Report the presence of errors clearly and accurately. Recover from each error quickly enough to detect subsequent errors. Add minimal overhead to the processing of correcting programs	
21	four common error-recovery strategies in parser		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Panic mode. ➤ Statement level. ➤ Error productions. ➤ Global correction 	
22	Panic mode		discard tokens one at a time until a synchronizing token is found	
23	Issues in Lexical analysis		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Simplicity of design ➤ Compiler efficiency is improved ➤ Compiler portability is enhanced 	
24	Deterministic Finite Automata (DFA)		It consists of 5 tuples $\{Q, \Sigma, q, F, \delta\}$. for a particular input character, the machine goes to one state only and null (or ϵ) move is not allowed	
25	Nondeterministic Finite Automata(NFA)		i. ϵ transition ii.move any number of states for a input.	

UNIT-II LEXICAL ANALYSIS

26	LEX		Lexical Analyzer Tool	
27	Alias name for Lexical Analysis		Linear analysis or scanner	
28	Primary task of LA		Token generation	
29	Secondary task of LA		Eliminating white spaces,Comments	
30	Context-free Grammars		$G = \{V, P, S, T\}$	
31	Derivation		Process of replacing the non-terminal by its right side of production	
32	Types of derivation		Left derivation and Right derivation	
33	Left derivation		Process of replacing left most non-terminal by its right side of production	
34	Right derivation		Process of replacing right most non-terminal by its right side of production	
35	Reduction		Process of replacing a string by an Non terminal according to a grammar production	
36	Alias of reduction		reverse of derivation	

37	Yield		Leaf nodes of parse tree are concatenated from left to right to form the input string derived from a grammar	
38	Alias of yield		frontier	
39	Role of LEX		LEX translates a set of regular expression specifications into a C implementation of a corresponding finite state machine	
40	No. of sections in Lex program		three	
41	3 Sections		Declarations, Rules and Auxiliary functions	
42	Parser		parser takes input in the form of sequence of tokens and produces output in the form of parse tree	
43	Alias name for Syntax analysis		Hierarchical analysis or parsing	
44	No. of types of Parser		2	
45	Types of Parser		Top-down parser Bottom-up parser	
46	2 subtypes of topdown parser		Recursive descent parser Predictive parser	
47	Top-down parser		Parser builds parse tree from Root to Leaves	
48	Bottom-up parser		Parser builds parse tree from Leaves to Root	
49	Alias for predictive parser		Table driven parser or LL(1) Parser	
50	Conditions for Top down		Eliminating Left recursion & ambiguity Left factoring out Requires Backtacking	

UNIT-III SYNTAX ANALYSIS

51	Parse tree		A parse tree is a graphical representation of a derivation	
52	Properties of parse tree		root is labeled with Start symbol leaf is labeled with a token interior node is labeled by a non-terminal	
53	Ambiguous		A Grammar that produces more than one parse tree for some sentence using left most derivation / right most derivation	
54	Universal parsers		Cocke-Younger-Kasami algorithm and Earley's algorithm can parse any grammar	
55	Eliminating Left-Recursion		A context free grammar is said to be left recursive if it has a non terminal A with two productions in the following form $A \rightarrow \beta A'$ $A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta \rightarrow A' \rightarrow \epsilon \mid \alpha A'$	
56	Left factoring		process of factoring out the common prefixes of two or more production alternates for the same non-terminal	
57	Handle		A substring that matches the right side of a production called handle	

58	Handle pruning		Applying the production to the substring results in a right-sentential form.	
59	Alias of Bottomup parser		rightmost derivations in reverse	
60	SR parser		Shift Reduce parser	
61	4 operations in SR		Shift,Reduce, Accept and Error	
62	Shift		moving of symbols from input buffer onto the stack	
63	Reduce		RHS of production rule is popped out of stack and LHS of production rule is pushed onto the stack	
64	accept		successful parsing is done	
65	error		parser can neither perform shift action nor reduce action and not even accept action.	
66	Operator grammar		No Epsilon production and consecutive Non terminals	
67	Operator precedence parser		Bottom-up parser that interprets on operator grammar	
68	Precedence relations		$a > b \rightarrow$ "a" has the higher precedence than terminal "b". $a < b \rightarrow$ "a" has the lower precedence than terminal "b". $a \div b \rightarrow$ "a" and "b" both have same precedence.	
69	LR(K) parser		"L" stands for left-to-right scanning of the input. "R" stands for constructing a right most derivation in reverse. "K" is the number look ahead symbols	
70	SLR parser		Simple LR parser	
71	CLR parser		Canonical LR parser	
72	LALR parser		Lookahead LR parser	
73	Most powerful parser		Canonical LR parser	
74	Advantages of OPP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ simplicity. ➤ easy to construct. ➤ Powerful that can be used for the programming language expressions 	
75	Disadvantages of OPP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ grammar of small class ➤ difficult to identify or decide that grammar recognized which language. ➤ not capable of handling the unary minus. 	
UNIT-IV INTERMEDIATE CODE GENERATION				
76	Advantages of Machine independent intermediate form		Retargeting is facilitated. A machine independent code optimizer can be applied.	
77	Types of Intermediate languages		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Syntax Tree. ➤ Postfix Notation. ➤ Three Address code. 	

78	Syntax tree		condensed form of parse tree.	
79	DAG		Directed Acyclic Graph	
80	Postfix notation		Traverse left child, right child, and root	
81	General form of Three address code		$X:=Y \text{ op } Z$	
82	Implementation of Three address code		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Quadruple. ➤ Triples ➤ Indirect Triples 	
83	Quadruples		Quadruples has four fields: op, arg1, arg2 and result.	
84	Triples		Triples has Three fields: op, arg1 and arg2	
85	Indirect triples		In addition to triples use a list of pointers.	
86	Pros of quadruples		Easy to rearrange code for global optimization	
87	Cons of quadruples		Lots of temporaries	
88	Use of Boolean expression		Alter the flow of control. Compute logical values	
89	Back patching		activity of filling up unspecified information of labels using appropriate semantic actions in during the code generation process.	
90	Functions of back patching		makelist(i) Merge(p1,p2) Backpatch(p,i)	
91	M.quad		M.quad records the number of the first statement of E2.code.	
92	Declaration		The process of declaring keywords, procedures, functions, variables, and statements with proper syntax	
93	Intermediate code generation		interface between front end and back end in a compiler	
94	DAG definition		tool that depicts the structure of basic blocks, helps to see the flow of values flowing among the basic blocks	
95	Use of DAG		DAG provides a good way to determine the common sub-expression.	
96	Procedure		A procedure returns the control but not any value to calling function or code.	
97	Function		A function returns a value and control to calling function or code.	
98	Calling function		Calling function contains the input (the actual parameters) which is given to the called function	
99	Called function		called function which then works on them because it contains the definition, performs the procedure specified and returns if anything is to be returned.	
100	Assignment statement		Assignment statements enable the programmer to define or redefine a symbol by assigning it a	

			value	
UNIT-V CODE OPTIMIZATION AND CODE GENERATION				
101	Directed Acyclic Graph		DAG is similar to syntax tree but identify the common sub expression	
102	Basic block		sequence of consecutive statements in which flow of control enters at the beginning and leaves at the end without halt	
103	Dead code		Dead (or useless) code statements that compute values that never get used.	
104	Flow graph		A graph representation of three-address statements in which Nodes are basic block, and the edges represent the flow of control	
105	Copy Propagation		process of replacing the occurrences of targets of direct assignments with their values $y=x$ $z=3+y \rightarrow z=3+x$	
106	Constant Folding		Deducing at compile time that the value of an expression is a constant and using the constant instead	
107	Code Motion		Modification that decreases the amount of code in a loop	
108	Reduction In Strength		replacing an expensive operation by a cheaper one	
109	Absolute machine language		program can be placed in a location in memory and immediately executed	
110	Relocatable machine language		program allows subprograms to be compiled separately. A set of relocatable object modules can be linked together and loaded for execution by a linking loader	
111	Loop unrolling (loop unwinding)		Loop unrolling increases the program's speed by eliminating loop control instruction and loop test instructions.	
112	Classes of local transformations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ structure-preserving transformations ➤ algebraic transformations. 	
113	Structure-preserving transformations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ common sub-expression elimination ➤ dead-code elimination ➤ renaming of temporary variables ➤ interchange of two independent adjacent statements 	
114	Inner Loop		A loop that contains no other loops is called an inner loop	
115	Local common sub-expression.		An occurrence of an common sub-expression within a block	
116	Global common sub-expression		An occurrence of an common sub-expression between the blocks	
117	Addressing mode		Way in which location of the operand may be specified	
118	Immediate addressing		Operand value should be specified as part of instruction. (#)	
119	Indirect addressing		address specified in the instruction are themselves an address (@)	
120	Register descriptor		register descriptor containing the list of variables currently stored in this register	

121	Address descriptor		address descriptor containing the list of locations where this variable is currently stored	
122	Getreg function		determine the location L where the result of the computation $y \text{ op } z$ should be stored	
123	Types of Jump statement		Conditional jump UnConditional jump	
124	Code optimization		Optimization is a program transformation technique, which tries to improve the code by making it consume less resources and deliver high speed.	
125	Code generation		Last phase is used to produce the target code for three-address statements	
TECHNICAL QUESTIONS				
126	Cross Compiler		compiler run on one machine and produce target code for another machine	
127	Viable prefixes		The set of prefixes of right sentential forms that can appear on the stack of a shift- reduce parser viable prefixes.	
128	Kernel items		The set of items which include the initial item, $S' \rightarrow \cdot S$, and all items whose dots are not at the left end	
129	Non kernel items		The set of items, which have their dots at the left end	
130	Type checking		It is a process of Compiler which should report an error if an operator applied to an incompatible operand.	
131	Static checking		the type of variable is known at compile time	
132	Dynamic checking		the type of variable is known at runtime	
133	Input buffering		Technique used to store input string for increasing Compiler speed	
134	Buffer pair		Two buffers are used to store the input string. The first buffer and second buffer are scanned alternately.	
135	Sentinels		Special character that is not part of the source program	
136	Annotated parse tree		The parse tree containing the values of attributes at each node for given input string is called annotated parse tree.	
137	predictive parser		A form of recursive-descent parsing that does not require any back-tracking is known as predictive parser	
138	Control flow		A control flow graph depicts how the program control is being passed among the blocks. It is a useful tool that helps in optimization by help locating any unwanted loops in the program.	
139	Boolean expression		Expressions which are composed of the Boolean operators (and, or, and not) applied to elements	
140	Short circuit code		We can also translate a Boolean expression into three-address code without generating code for any of the Boolean operators	

141	Three address code		It contains three addresses, two for operands and one for the result.	
142	LL grammar		L" stands for left-to-right scanning of the input. "L" stands for constructing a Left most derivation	
143	Stack		Stack is a linear data structure which follows Last in first out (LIFO) order in which the operations are performed	
144	2 pointers in input buffering		Forward pointer Lexeme beginning	
145	Forward pointer		scans ahead until a match for a pattern is found.	
146	Lexeme beginning		points to the beginning of the current lexeme which is yet to be found.	
147	Grouping of phases		Front end Back end	
148	Usage of sentinel		reduces the two tests to one by extending each buffer half to hold a sentinel character at the end.	
149	Backtracking		if one derivation of a production fails, the syntax analyzer restarts the process using different rules of same production.	
150	Recursive Descent parser		Top-down method of syntax analysis in which a set recursive procedures to process the input is executed	
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