Parsing

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Outline

• Compiler structure

• Parsing

• Parsing with PEG
Compiler structure

Program in the source programming language

Setup

Options handler

Front end

Middle end

Back end

Program in the destination programming language

Optional
Compiler structure for this class

1. Program in the source programming language
2. Setup
   - Options handler
3. Parser
4. Code optimization (optional)
5. Code generator
6. Program in the destination programming language
Compiler structure for L1

Filename of an L1 program  (e.g., myProgram.L1)

Setup
  Options handler

Parser

Code optimization  Optional

Code generator

X86_64 assembly  (prog.S)

Show structure in C++ code
  • parsing_examples/0/src/compiler.cpp
Compiler structure for L1

- Filename of an L1 program (e.g., myProgram.L1)
- Setup
  - Options handler
- Parser
- Code optimization (Optional)
- Code generator
- X86_64 assembly (prog.S)

You can use up to C++17
Outline

• Compiler structure

• Parsing

• Parsing with PEG
From L1 to x86_64

**Problem:**

- Our compiler must recognize the structure and the instructions of an L1 program
- However, an L1 program is encoded in a file, which can be read as a stream of characters
- How can we recognize an L1 program from a stream of characters?

```
(@go
 (@go
  0 0
  return
 )
 )
```

```
(@go\n (@go\n   0 0\n   return\n )\n )
```

L1 compiler
Parsing

It is the process of analyzing a string of symbols (e.g., characters) conforming to the rules of a former grammar.

• Does this string of symbols represent an L1 program?
• If yes, which L1 program is it?

We need a memory representation of the L1 program given as input

Example of memory representation (parsing_examples/7/src/L1.h)
Parsing

It is the process of analyzing a string of symbols conforming to the rules of a former grammar.

\[ (@go\n (@go\n 0 0\n return\n )\n ) \]

- Does this string of symbols represent an L1 program?
- If yes, which L1 program is it?

We need a memory representation of the L1 program given as input

Example of memory representation
(parsing_examples/7/src/L1.h)
Compiler structure for L1

Filename of an L1 program (e.g., myProgram.L1)

Setup
  Options handler

Parser

Don’t generate prog.S in your parser

Memory representation of the L1 program

Code optimization

Optional

Code generator

X86_64 assembly (prog.S)

Common mistake: the parser does the code generation

Don’t generate prog.S in your parser
Parser generator

• It generates a parser from its specification
  • Grammar
  • Actions (they are explained next)

• We use Parsing Expression Grammar Template Library (PEGTL) in this class as a parser generator
  • C++ 17
  • Header only
  • Implemented using C++ templates
  • Included in 322_framework/lib/PEGTL
    • 322_framework/lib/PEGTL/lib/PEGTL/src/example/pegtl
    • 322_framework/lib/PEGTL/lib/PEGTL/doc
    • #include <pegtl.hpp>
parsing_examples.tar.bz2

• It contains 8 examples of parsers which gradually parse more and more L1 grammar
• The subdirectory “tests” for each example contains the files that can be parsed by that example and one that cannot
• This is a good starting point for your L1 parser
• They contain more than a parser
  • They contain code to take compiler inputs (e.g., -O0, -v, -g)
  • They contain an empty code generator that dumps prog.S
  • They contain an almost-empty data structure for a memory representation of L1 programs
Designing a parser

• Step 1: define the grammar

\[ p ::= (l) \]
\[ l ::= @name \]
\[ name ::= \text{sequence of chars matching } [a-zA-Z_][a-zA-Z_0-9]^* \]

(@go)
Designing a parser

• Step 1: define the grammar
  ```
  p ::= (l)
  l ::= @name
  name ::= sequence of chars matching [a-zA-Z_][a-zA-Z_0-9]*
  ```

• Step 2: define the actions
  • At most one action per grammar rule
  
  • When a grammar rule is selected, then its action is executed (if the action exists)
  
  • The actions invoked are responsible to generate the memory representation of the parsed program
Designing a parser

• Step 1: define the grammar

\[
\begin{align*}
p & ::= (l) \\
l & ::= @name \\
name & ::= \text{sequence of chars matching } [a-zA-Z_][a-zA-Z_0-9]^* 
\end{align*}
\]

Demo time: writing parsers in C++ w/ PEGTL

• parsing_examples/0/src/parser.cpp
• parsing_examples/1/src/parser.cpp
• parsing_examples/2/src/parser.cpp

Actions are invoked bottom up!
Designing a parser (2)

• Step 1: define the grammar

\[
p ::= (l \ f^+)
\]
\[
l ::= @\text{name}
\]
\[
f ::= (l)
\]
\[
\text{name} ::= \text{sequence of chars matching } [a-zA-Z_][a-zA-Z_0-9]^*
\]

(@go
  (@go)
  (@myf1)
  (@myf2)
)
Designing a parser (2)

• Step 1: define the grammar

\[
\begin{align*}
p & ::= (l \ f^+) \\
l & ::= @name \\
f & ::= (l) \\
nname & ::= \text{sequence of chars matching } [a-zA-Z_][a-zA-Z_0-9]^* \\
\end{align*}
\]

Entry point

```plaintext
(@go)
(@go)
(@myf1)
(@myf2)
)
```

```plaintext
(@go  (@go  )  (@myf1  )  (@myf2  )  )
```

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Example of an implementation of a parser

- **Grammar**
  
  \[
  \begin{align*}
  p & ::= (l f^+) \\
  f & ::= (l) \\
  l & ::= @name \\
  name & ::= [a-zA-Z_][a-zA-Z_0-9]^* \\
  \end{align*}
  \]

- **Stream of tokens**
  
  1. Create a class that represent all possible tokens
  2. Create a stream of tokens (e.g., `std::vector<Token *>`) `s`
     such hat all actions can access it
  3. Actions that generate a token append the just-generated token to `s`
  4. Actions that generate higher level tokens consume tokens from `s`
     and append the higher level one to `s`

- **Actions are invoked bottom up**
- **Hence, at the time we generate `l` we don’t know whether it is**
  
  or
Example of an implementation of a parser

• Grammar

\[ p ::= ( l \ f^* ) \]
\[ f ::= ( l ) \]
\[ l ::= @name \]
\[ name ::= [a-zA-Z_][a-zA-Z_0-9]^* \]

• Actions

• \( p \) Create a program \( p \) (e.g., instance of the class Program defined in L1.h) Add all functions parsed to \( p \) by consuming all tokens from \( s \) excluding the first one (which is \( l \)). Set the entry point of \( p \) to be \( l \)

• \( f \) Create a new function \( f \) (e.g., instance of the class Function defined in L1.h) and set its name to \( l \) (taken from the head of \( s \)). Append \( f \) to \( s \) (or keep a separate list of functions).

• \( l \) Create a new label \( l \) (e.g., instance of the class Label defined in L1.h) Add the new label to \( s \). Store the sequence of characters consumed by it

• No need to set an action for \( name \)
Designing a parser

• Does this string of symbols represent an L1 program?
  • If the string of characters is generated by a sequence of grammar rules, then yes

• What is the L1 program encoded in the string of symbols given as input (e.g., test1.L1)?
  • Representing the L1 program in memory (L1.h) for analysis and/or evaluation is the job of the actions
Outline

• Compiler structure

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• Parsing with PEG
Grammar

• Not ambiguous (for programming languages)

• Context Free Grammars

  \[ \text{INST ::= VAR \text{-} VAR + VAR} \]
  \[ \text{VAR \text{-} VAR} \]
  \[ \text{VAR \text{-} VAR} \]

• Parsing Expression Grammar

  \[ \text{INST ::= VAR \text{-} VAR + VAR} \]
  \[ \text{VAR \text{-} VAR} \]
  \[ \text{VAR \text{-} VAR} \]
Sequence of actions in PEG

INST ::= VAR <- VAR + VAR
    | VAR <- VAR
Sequence of actions in PEG

R1 ::= VAR <- VAR + VAR
R2 ::= VAR <- VAR
INST ::= R1 | R2

INPUT: “ v5 <- v3 + v1 ”

Actions fired:
1. VAR
2. <-
3. VAR
4. +
5. VAR
6. R1
7. INST
Sequence of actions in PEG

R1 ::= VAR <- VAR + VAR
R2 ::= VAR <- VAR
INST ::= R1 | R2

INPUT: “v5 <- v3 ”

struct INST:
  pegtl::sor<
    R1,
    R2
  > { } ;

Actions fired:
1. VAR
2. <-
3. VAR
4. VAR
5. <-
6. VAR
7. INST
A (too complex) solution for PEG

```
INST ::= PREFIX_INST SUFFIX_INST
PREFIX_INSTR ::= VAR <- VAR
SUFFIX_INST ::= "" | + VAR
```

**Actions fired:**
1. VAR
2. <-
3. VAR
4. PREFIX_INST
5. SUFFIX_INST
6. INST

**INPUT:** " v5 <- v3 "

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A practical solution in PEG

R1 ::= VAR <- VAR + VAR
R2 ::= VAR <- VAR
INST ::= R1 | R2

**INPUT:** “ v5  <-  v3 ”

```cpp
struct INST:
    pegtl::sor<
    R1,
    R2
    > {}
;  
```

**Actions fired:**
A more practical solution in PEG

R1 ::= VAR < VAR + VAR
R2 ::= VAR < VAR

INST ::= R1 | R2

INPUT: " v5 <- v3 "

struct INST:
    pegtl::sor<
        pegtl::seq< pegtl::at<R1>, R1 >,
        pegtl::seq< pegtl::at<R2>, R2 >
    > {};

Actions fired:
1. VAR
2. <-
3. VAR
4. R2
5. INST
Always have faith in your ability

Success will come your way eventually

Best of luck!