

# Compilers and Formal Languages (4)

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Slides: KEATS (also homework is there)

# Survey: Thanks!

*“...Thanks a million! Thanks without end!”*



*“Urban is a very talented lecturer:  
thorough, concise, clear, and cares to make  
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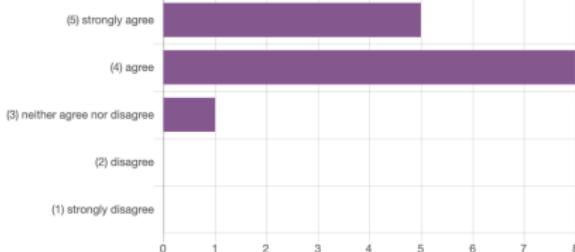
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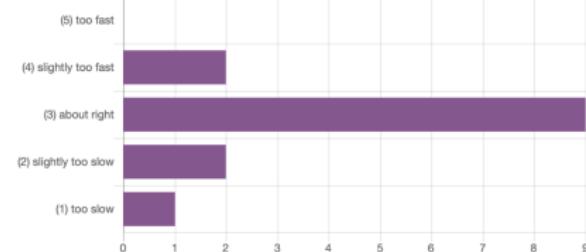
(Audible) ...is (are) audible

Responses



(AppropriatePace) ...teaches at a pace that is:

Responses



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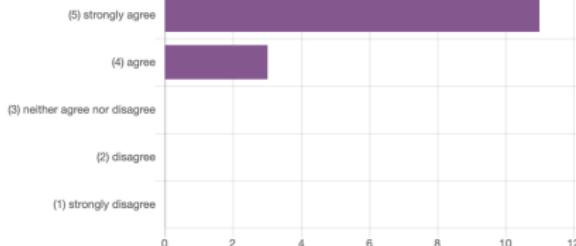
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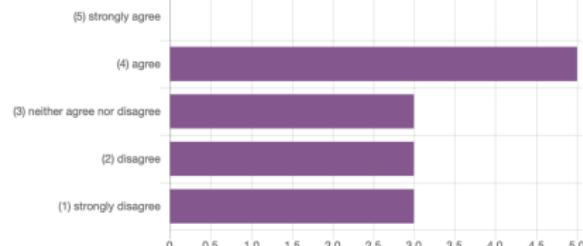
(ExplainsMaterialClearly) ...explains the material clearly

Responses



(facilities) The facilities and room function well

Responses



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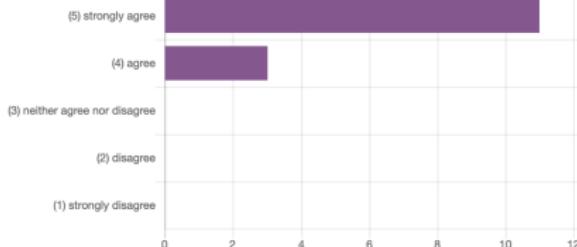
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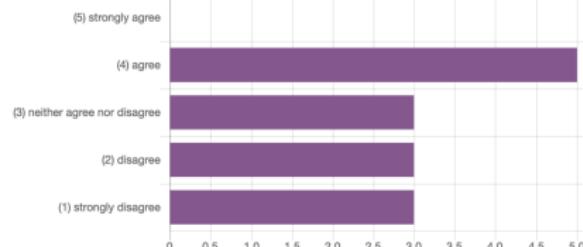
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Responses

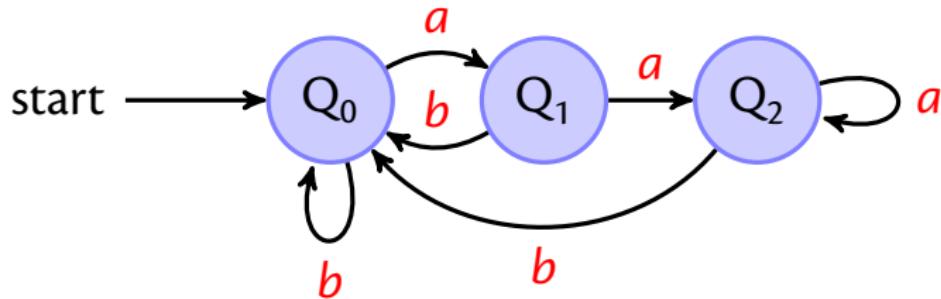


(facilities) The facilities and room function well

Responses



room too hot, 3h lecture



$$Q_0 = 1 + Q_0 b + Q_1 b + Q_2 b$$

$$Q_1 = Q_0 a$$

$$Q_2 = Q_1 a + Q_2 a$$

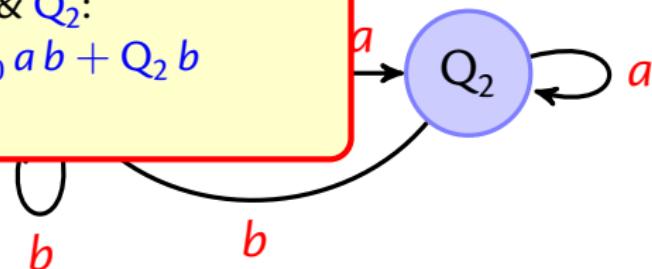
Arden's Lemma:

If  $q = qr + s$  then  $q = sr^*$

substitute  $Q_1$  into  $Q_0$  &  $Q_2$ :

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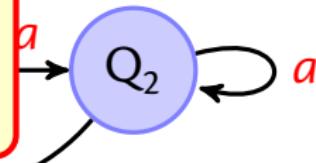
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simplifying  $Q_0$ :

$$Q_0 = 1 + Q_0 (b + a b) + Q_2 b$$

$$Q_2 = Q_0 a a + Q_2 a$$

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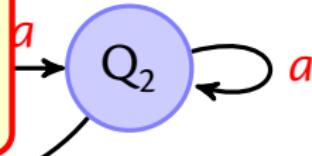
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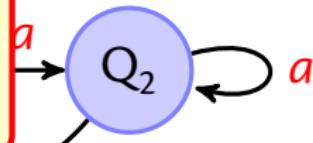
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Arden's Lem

Substitute  $Q_2$  and simplify:

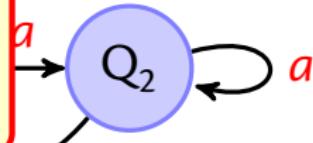
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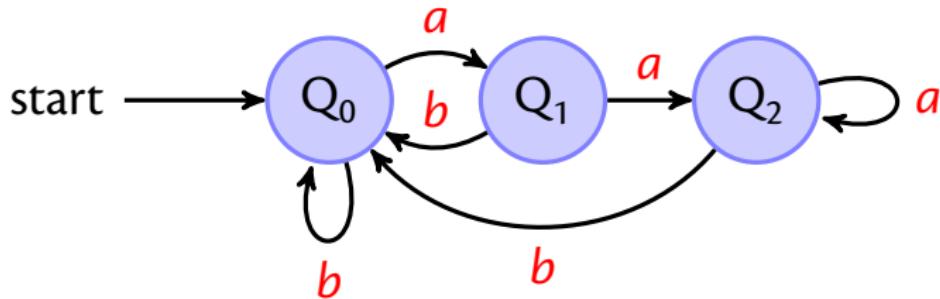
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$$Q_0 = 1 + Q_0 (b + ab + aa (a^*) b)$$

If

Arden again for  $Q_0$ :

$$Q_0 = (b + ab + aa (a^*) b)^*$$



$$Q_0 = 1 + Q_0 b + Q_1 b + Q_2 b$$

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Arden's Lemma:

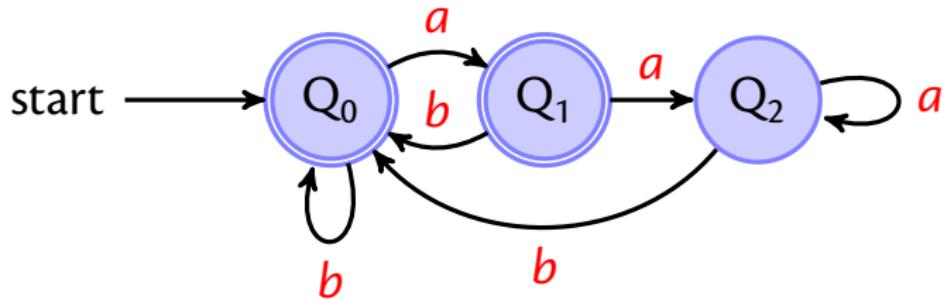
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Finally:

$$Q_0 = (b + a b + a a (a^*) b)^*$$

$$Q_1 = (b + a b + a a (a^*) b)^* a$$

$$Q_2 = (b + a b + a a (a^*) b)^* a a (a^*)$$



$$Q_0 = 1 + Q_0 b + Q_1 b + Q_2 b$$

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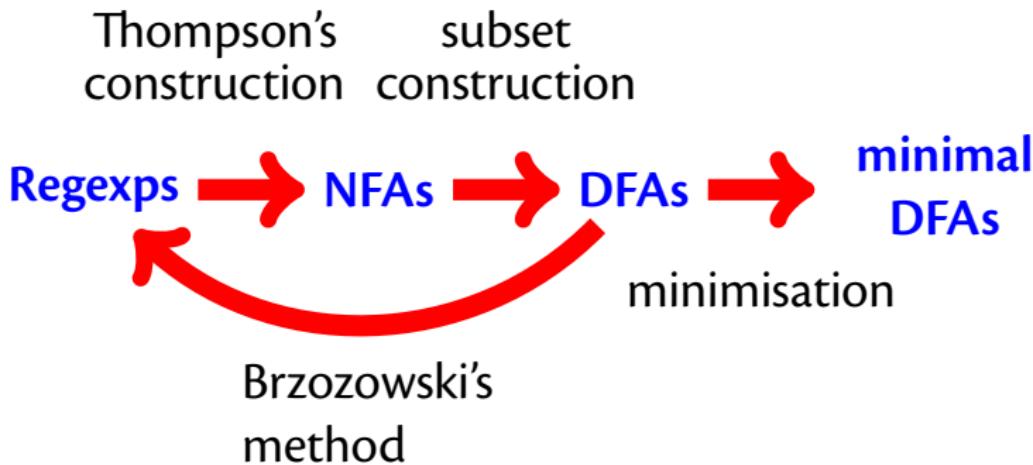
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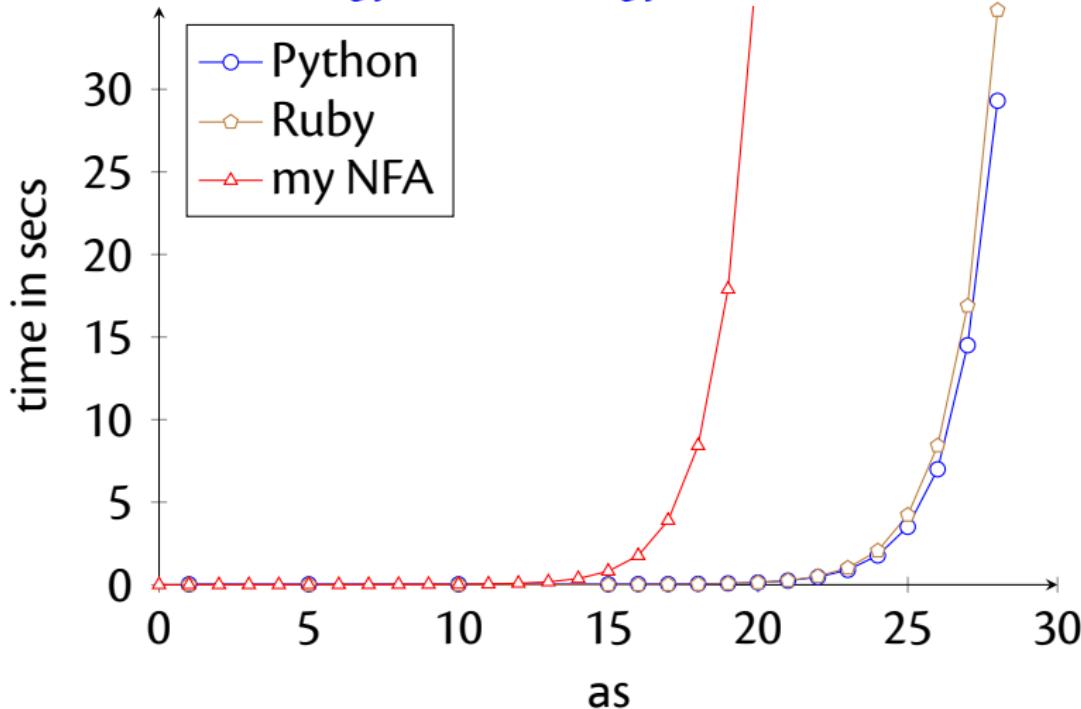
$$Q_1 = (b + a b + a a (a^*) b)^* a$$

$$Q_2 = (b + a b + a a (a^*) b)^* a a (a^*)$$

# Regexps and Automata



$$a^? \{n\} \cdot a^{\{n\}}$$



The punchline is that many existing libraries do depth-first search in NFAs (backtracking).

# Regular Languages

Two equivalent definitions:

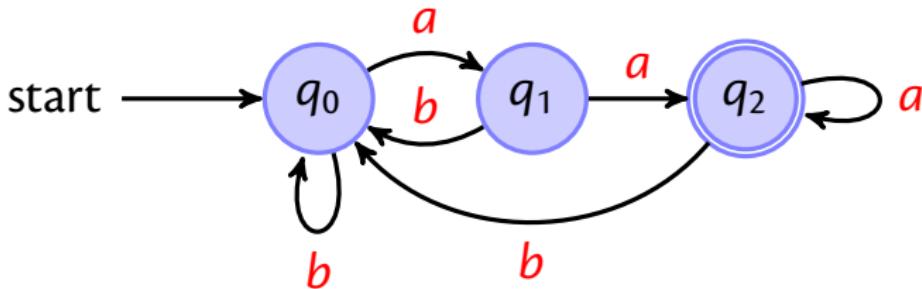
A language is **regular** iff there exists a regular expression that recognises all its strings.

A language is **regular** iff there exists an automaton that recognises all its strings.

for example  $a^n b^n$  is not regular

# Negation

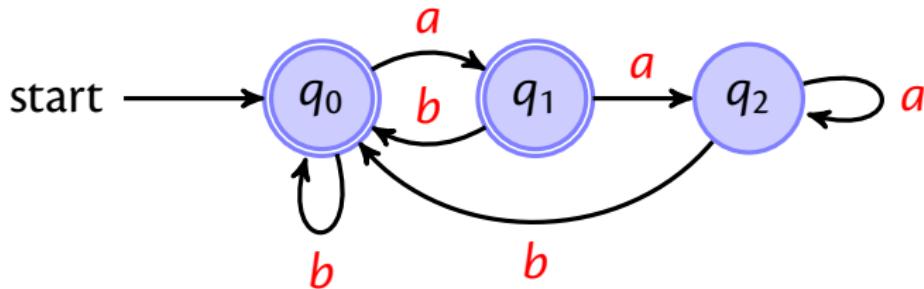
Regular languages are closed under negation:



But requires that the automaton is **completed!**

# Negation

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# The Goal of this Course

**Write a compiler**



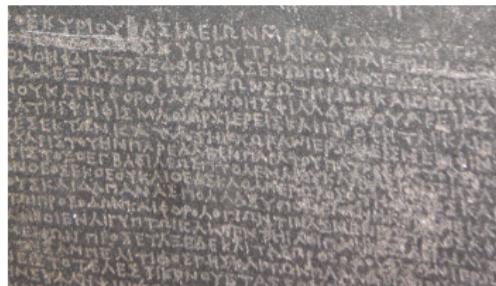
Today a lexer.

# The Goal of this Course

**Write a compiler**



Today a lexer.



lexing  $\Rightarrow$  recognising words (Stone of Rosetta)

# Regular Expressions

In programming languages they are often used to recognise:

- symbols, digits
- identifiers
- numbers (non-leading zeros)
- keywords
- comments

<http://www.regexper.com>

# Lexing: Test Case

```
write "Fib";
read n;
minus1 := 0;
minus2 := 1;
while n > 0 do {
    temp := minus2;
    minus2 := minus1 + minus2;
    minus1 := temp;
    n := n - 1
};
write "Result";
write minus2
```

"if true then then 42 else +"

KEYWORD:

if, then, else,

WHITE SPACE:

", \n,

IDENTIFIER:

LETTER · (LETTER + DIGIT + \_)\*

NUM:

(NONZERO DIGIT · DIGIT\*) + 0

OP:

+, -, \*, %, <, <=

COMMENT:

/\* · ~(ALL\* · (\*/) · ALL\*) · \*/

"if true then then 42 else +"

KEYWORD(if),  
WHITESPACE,  
IDENT(true),  
WHITESPACE,  
KEYWORD(then),  
WHITESPACE,  
KEYWORD(then),  
WHITESPACE,  
NUM(42),  
WHITESPACE,  
KEYWORD(else),  
WHITESPACE,  
OP(+)

"if true then then 42 else +"

KEYWORD(if),  
IDENT(true),  
KEYWORD(then),  
KEYWORD(then),  
NUM(42),  
KEYWORD(else),  
OP(+)

There is one small problem with the tokenizer. How should we tokenize...?

"x-3"

ID: ...

OP:

"+", "-"

NUM:

(NONZERODIGIT · DIGIT\*) + '0''

NUMBER:

NUM + ("-" · NUM)

The same problem with

$$(ab + a) \cdot (c + bc)$$

and the string *abc*.

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and the string *abc*.

Or, keywords are **if** and identifiers are letters followed by “letters + numbers + \_”\*

*if*      *iffoo*

# POSIX: Two Rules

- Longest match rule (“maximal munch rule”): The longest initial substring matched by any regular expression is taken as the next token.
- Rule priority: For a particular longest initial substring, the first regular expression that can match determines the token.

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traditional lexers are fast, but hairy

# Sulzmann & Lu Matcher

We want to match the string  $abc$  using  $r_1$ :

$$r_1 \xrightarrow{der\ a} r_2$$

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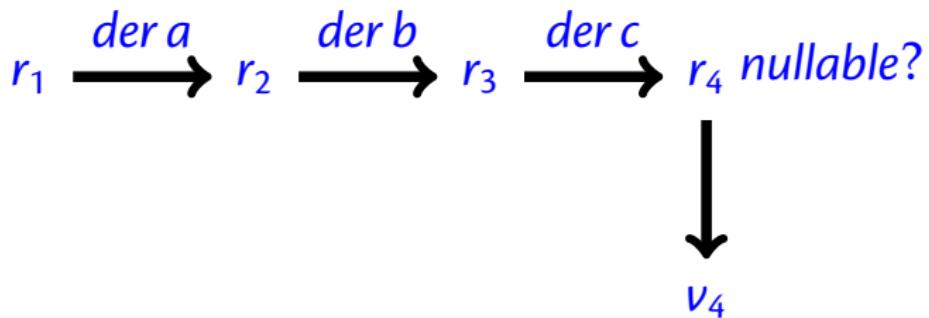
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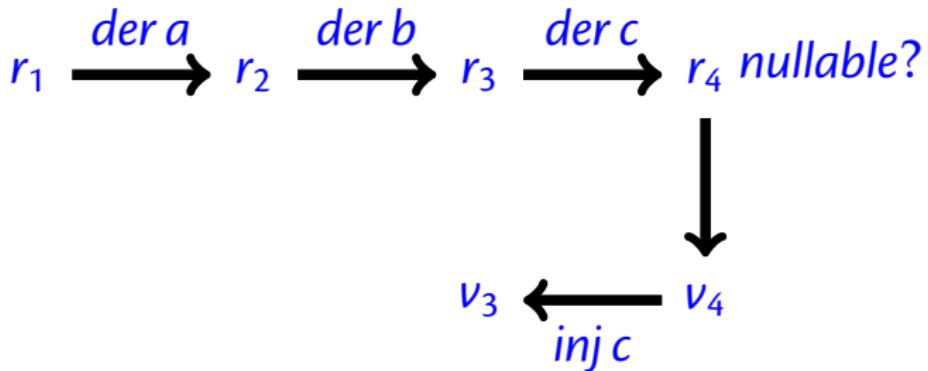
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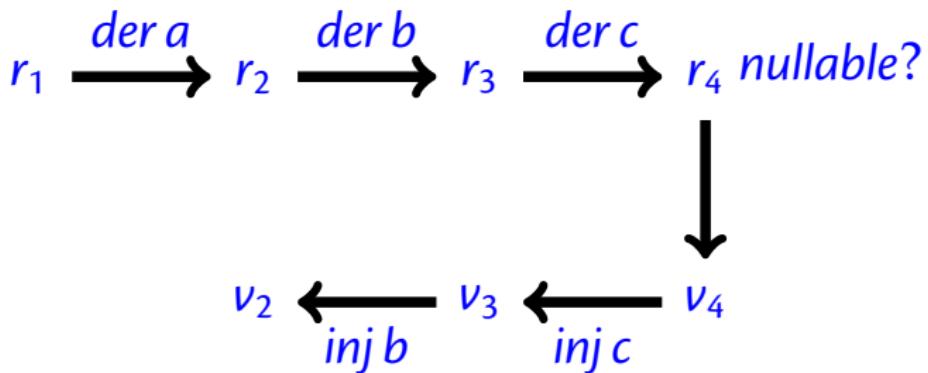
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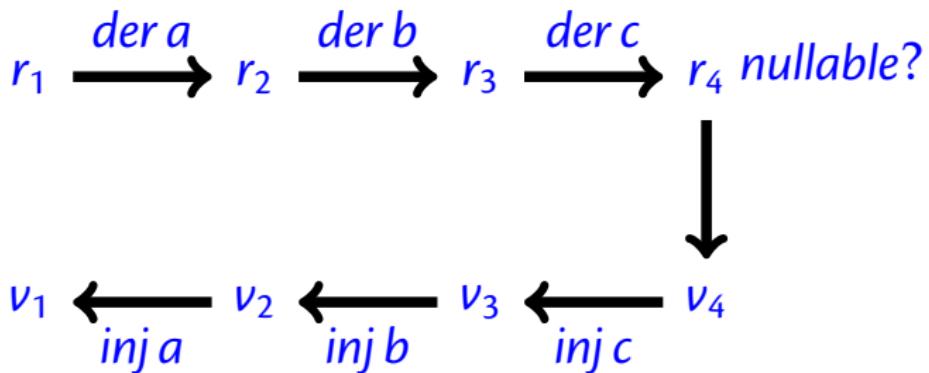
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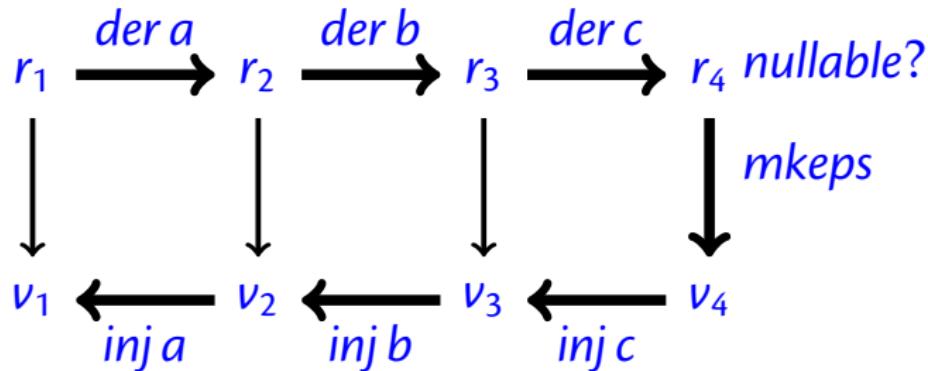
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# Regexes and Values

Regular expressions and their corresponding values:

|         |                 |         |                                    |
|---------|-----------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| $r ::=$ | $0$             | $v ::=$ |                                    |
|         | $1$             |         | <i>Empty</i>                       |
|         | $c$             |         | <i>Char</i> ( $c$ )                |
|         | $r_1 \cdot r_2$ |         | <i>Seq</i> ( $v_1, v_2$ )          |
|         | $r_1 + r_2$     |         | <i>Left</i> ( $v$ )                |
|         | $r^*$           |         | <i>Right</i> ( $v$ )               |
|         |                 |         | <i>Stars</i> []                    |
|         |                 |         | <i>Stars</i> [ $v_1, \dots, v_n$ ] |

```
abstract class Rexp
case object ZERO extends Rexp
case object ONE extends Rexp
case class CHAR(c: Char) extends Rexp
case class ALT(r1: Rexp, r2: Rexp) extends Rexp
case class SEQ(r1: Rexp, r2: Rexp) extends Rexp
case class STAR(r: Rexp) extends Rexp
```

```
abstract class Val
case object Empty extends Val
case class Chr(c: Char) extends Val
case class Sequ(v1: Val, v2: Val) extends Val
case class Left(v: Val) extends Val
case class Right(v: Val) extends Val
case class Stars(vs: List[Val]) extends Val
```

# Mkeps

Finding a (posix) value for recognising the empty string:

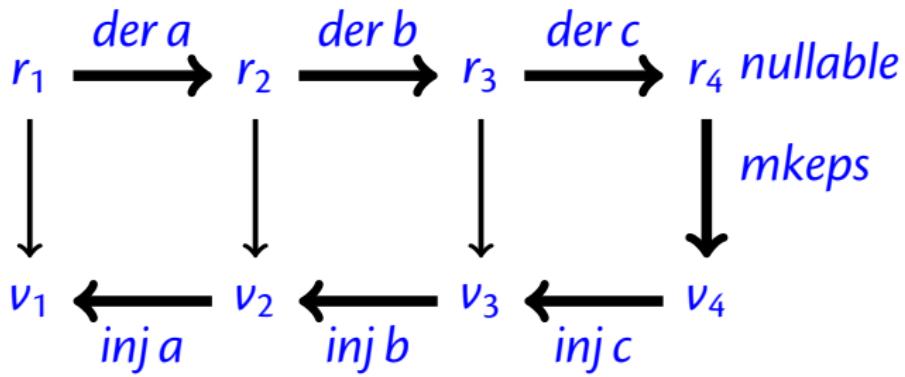
$$\begin{aligned} mkeps(1) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Empty} \\ mkeps(r_1 + r_2) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{if } \text{nullable}(r_1) \\ &\quad \text{then } \text{Left}(mkeps(r_1)) \\ &\quad \text{else } \text{Right}(mkeps(r_2)) \\ mkeps(r_1 \cdot r_2) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Seq}(mkeps(r_1), mkeps(r_2)) \\ mkeps(r^*) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Stars } [] \end{aligned}$$

# Inject

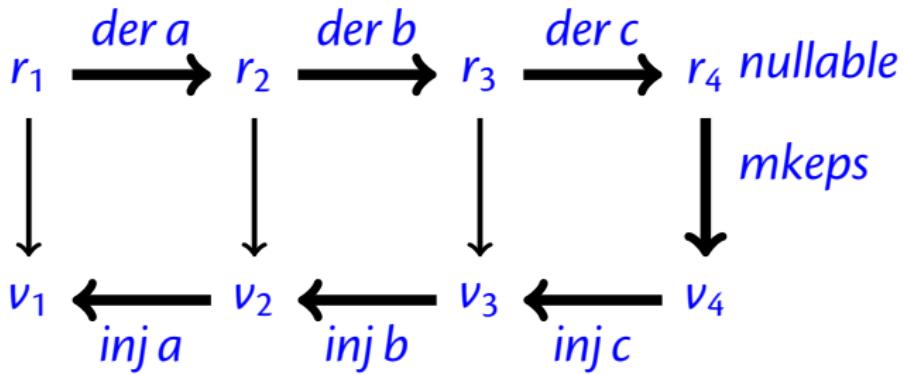
Injecting (“Adding”) a character to a value

|   |   |
|---|---|
| $\text{inj } (c) \ c \ (\text{Empty})$                                  | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Char } c$   |
| $\text{inj } (r_1 + r_2) \ c \ (\text{Left}(v))$                        | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Left}(\text{inj } r_1 \ c \ v)$                   |
| $\text{inj } (r_1 + r_2) \ c \ (\text{Right}(v))$                       | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Right}(\text{inj } r_2 \ c \ v)$                  |
| $\text{inj } (r_1 \cdot r_2) \ c \ (\text{Seq}(v_1, v_2))$              | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Seq}(\text{inj } r_1 \ c \ v_1, v_2)$             |
| $\text{inj } (r_1 \cdot r_2) \ c \ (\text{Left}(\text{Seq}(v_1, v_2)))$ | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Seq}(\text{inj } r_1 \ c \ v_1, v_2)$             |
| $\text{inj } (r_1 \cdot r_2) \ c \ (\text{Right}(v))$                   | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Seq}(\text{mkeps}(r_1), \text{inj } r_2 \ c \ v)$ |
| $\text{inj } (r^*) \ c \ (\text{Seq}(v, \text{Stars } vs))$             | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Stars } (\text{inj } r \ c \ v :: vs)$            |

**inj**: 1st arg  $\mapsto$  a rexp; 2nd arg  $\mapsto$  a character; 3rd arg  $\mapsto$  a value



- $r_1: a \cdot (b \cdot c)$   
 $r_2: 1 \cdot (b \cdot c)$   
 $r_3: (\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + (1 \cdot c)$   
 $r_4: (\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + ((\mathbf{0} \cdot c) + 1)$



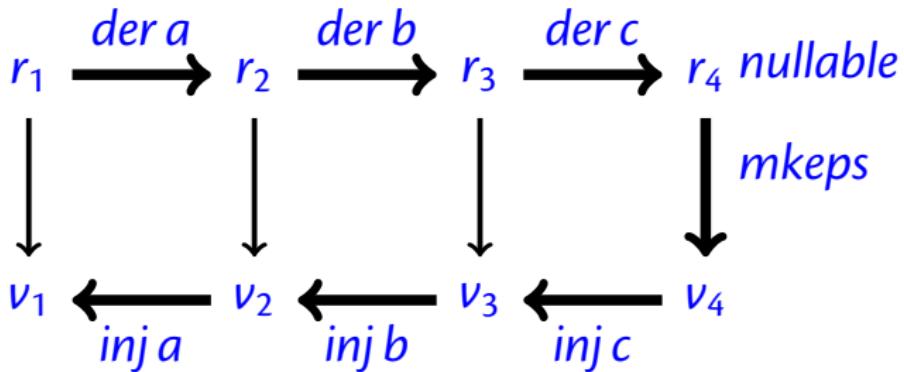
- $v_1: \text{Seq}(\text{Char}(a), \text{Seq}(\text{Char}(b), \text{Char}(c)))$   
 $v_2: \text{Seq}(\text{Empty}, \text{Seq}(\text{Char}(b), \text{Char}(c)))$   
 $v_3: \text{Right}(\text{Seq}(\text{Empty}, \text{Char}(c)))$   
 $v_4: \text{Right}(\text{Right}(\text{Empty}))$

# Flatten

Obtaining the string underlying a value:

|                       |                            |                         |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| $ Empty $             | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ | $[]$                    |
| $ Char(c) $           | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ | $[c]$                   |
| $ Left(v) $           | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ | $ v $                   |
| $ Right(v) $          | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ | $ v $                   |
| $ Seq(v_1, v_2) $     | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ | $ v_1  @  v_2 $         |
| $ [v_1, \dots, v_n] $ | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$ | $ v_1  @ \dots @  v_n $ |

- $r_1: a \cdot (b \cdot c)$
- $r_2: \mathbf{1} \cdot (b \cdot c)$
- $r_3: (\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + (\mathbf{1} \cdot c)$
- $r_4: (\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + ((\mathbf{0} \cdot c) + \mathbf{1})$



- $v_1: \text{Seq}(\text{Char}(a), \text{Seq}(\text{Char}(b), \text{Char}(c)))$
- $v_2: \text{Seq}(\text{Empty}, \text{Seq}(\text{Char}(b), \text{Char}(c)))$
- $v_3: \text{Right}(\text{Seq}(\text{Empty}, \text{Char}(c)))$
- $v_4: \text{Right}(\text{Right}(\text{Empty}))$

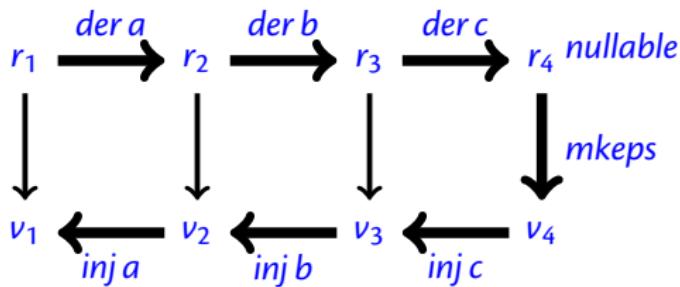
|          |       |
|----------|-------|
| $ v_1 :$ | $abc$ |
| $ v_2 :$ | $bc$  |
| $ v_3 :$ | $c$   |
| $ v_4 :$ | $[]$  |

# Lexing

$\text{lex } r [] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{if } \text{nullable}(r) \text{ then } \text{mkeps}(r) \text{ else error}$

$\text{lex } rc :: s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{inj } rc \text{ lex}(\text{der}(c, r), s)$

$\text{lex}$ : returns a value



# Records

- new regex:  $(x : r)$       new value:  $Rec(x, v)$

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- $nullable(x : r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} nullable(r)$
- $derc(x : r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x : derc r)$
- $mkeps(x : r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Rec(x, mkeps(r))$
- $inj(x : r) \, cv \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Rec(x, inj\, r\, cv)$

# Records

- new regex:  $(x : r)$       new value:  $Rec(x, v)$
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- $mkeps(x : r) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Rec(x, mkeps(r))$
- $inj(x : r) \, cv \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Rec(x, inj\, r\, cv)$

for extracting subpatterns  $(z : ((x : ab) + (y : ba)))$

- A regular expression for email addresses

(name:  $[a-z0-9\_\.-]^+$ ).@.  
(domain:  $[a-z0-9\_\.-]^+$ ) ..  
(top\_level:  $[a-z\.]^{\{2,6\}}$ )

christian.urban@kcl.ac.uk

- the result environment:

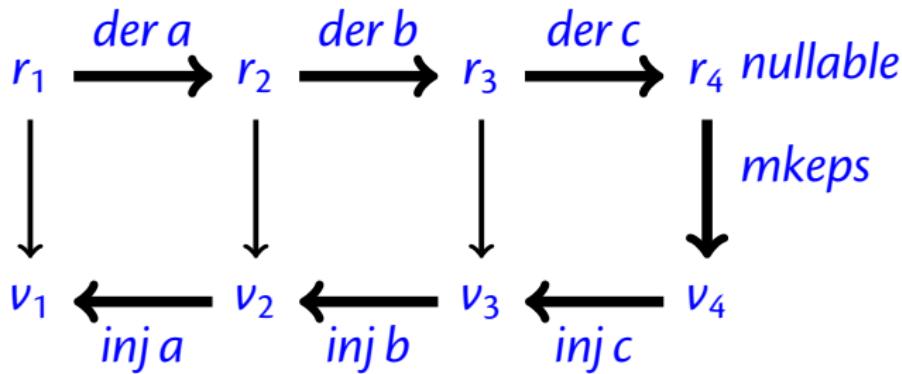
$[(name : christian.urban),$   
 $(domain : kcl),$   
 $(top_level : ac.uk)]$

# While Tokens

```
WHILE_REGS  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$  (( "k" : KEYWORD ) +
    ("i" : ID) +
    ("o" : OP) +
    ("n" : NUM) +
    ("s" : SEMI) +
    ("p" : ( LPAREN + RPAREN )) +
    ("b" : ( BEGIN + END )) +
    ("w" : WHITESPACE ))*
```

# Simplification

- If we simplify after the derivative, then we are building the value for the simplified regular expression, but **not** for the original regular expression.



$$(\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + ((\mathbf{0} \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}) \mapsto \mathbf{1}$$

Normally we would have

$$(\mathbf{0} \cdot (b \cdot c)) + ((\mathbf{0} \cdot c) + \mathbf{1})$$

and answer how this regular expression matches the empty string with the value

$$\text{Right}(\text{Right}(\text{Empty}))$$

But now we simplify this to **1** and would produce *Empty* (see *mkeps*).

# Rectification

rectification  
functions:

$$r \cdot \mathbf{0} \mapsto \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{0} \cdot r \mapsto \mathbf{0}$$

$$r \cdot \mathbf{1} \mapsto r \quad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \text{Seq}(f_1 v, f_2 \text{Empty})$$

$$\mathbf{1} \cdot r \mapsto r \quad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \text{Seq}(f_1 \text{Empty}, f_2 v)$$

$$r + \mathbf{0} \mapsto r \quad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \text{Left}(f_1 v)$$

$$\mathbf{0} + r \mapsto r \quad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \text{Right}(f_2 v)$$

$$r + r \mapsto r \quad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \text{Left}(f_1 v)$$

# Rectification

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$$r + r \mapsto r \quad \lambda f_1 f_2 v. \text{Left}(f_1 v)$$

old *simp* returns a rexp;

new *simp* returns a rexp and a rectification function.

# Rectification

$\text{simp}(r)$ :

case  $r = r_1 + r_2$

let  $(r_{1s}, f_{1s}) = \text{simp}(r_1)$

$(r_{2s}, f_{2s}) = \text{simp}(r_2)$

case  $r_{1s} = 0$ : return  $(r_{2s}, \lambda v. \text{Right}(f_{2s}(v)))$

case  $r_{2s} = 0$ : return  $(r_{1s}, \lambda v. \text{Left}(f_{1s}(v)))$

case  $r_{1s} = r_{2s}$ : return  $(r_{1s}, \lambda v. \text{Left}(f_{1s}(v)))$

otherwise: return  $(r_{1s} + r_{2s}, f_{\text{alt}}(f_{1s}, f_{2s}))$

$f_{\text{alt}}(f_1, f_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$

$\lambda v. \text{case } v = \text{Left}(v'): \text{ return } \text{Left}(f_1(v'))$

$\text{case } v = \text{Right}(v'): \text{ return } \text{Right}(f_2(v'))$

```
def simp(r: Rexp): (Rexp, Val => Val) = r match {
  case ALT(r1, r2) => {
    val (r1s, f1s) = simp(r1)
    val (r2s, f2s) = simp(r2)
    (r1s, r2s) match {
      case (ZERO, _) => (r2s, F_RIGHT(f2s))
      case (_, ZERO) => (r1s, F_LEFT(f1s))
      case _ =>
        if (r1s == r2s) (r1s, F_LEFT(f1s))
        else (ALT (r1s, r2s), F_ALT(f1s, f2s))
    }
  }
  ...
}
```

```
def F_RIGHT(f: Val => Val) = (v:Val) => Right(f(v))
def F_LEFT(f: Val => Val) = (v:Val) => Left(f(v))
def F_ALT(f1: Val => Val, f2: Val => Val) =
  (v:Val) => v match {
    case Right(v) => Right(f2(v))
    case Left(v) => Left(f1(v)) }
```

# Rectification

$\text{simp}(r)$ :...

case  $r = r_1 \cdot r_2$

let  $(r_{1s}, f_{1s}) = \text{simp}(r_1)$

$(r_{2s}, f_{2s}) = \text{simp}(r_2)$

case  $r_{1s} = 0$ : return  $(0, f_{\text{error}})$

case  $r_{2s} = 0$ : return  $(0, f_{\text{error}})$

case  $r_{1s} = 1$ : return  $(r_{2s}, \lambda v. \text{Seq}(f_{1s}(\text{Empty}), f_{2s}(v)))$

case  $r_{2s} = 1$ : return  $(r_{1s}, \lambda v. \text{Seq}(f_{1s}(v), f_{2s}(\text{Empty})))$

otherwise: return  $(r_{1s} \cdot r_{2s}, f_{\text{seq}}(f_{1s}, f_{2s}))$

$f_{\text{seq}}(f_1, f_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$

$\lambda v. \text{case } v = \text{Seq}(v_1, v_2) : \text{return } \text{Seq}(f_1(v_1), f_2(v_2))$

```
def simp(r: Rexp): (Rexp, Val => Val) = r match {
  case SEQ(r1, r2) => {
    val (r1s, f1s) = simp(r1)
    val (r2s, f2s) = simp(r2)
    (r1s, r2s) match {
      case (ZERO, _) => (ZERO, F_ERROR)
      case (_, ZERO) => (ZERO, F_ERROR)
      case (ONE, _) => (r2s, F_SEQ_Void1(f1s, f2s))
      case (_, ONE) => (r1s, F_SEQ_Void2(f1s, f2s))
      case _ => (SEQ(r1s, r2s), F_SEQ(f1s, f2s))
    }
  }
  ...
}
```

```
def F_SEQ_Void1(f1: Val => Val, f2: Val => Val) =
  (v:Val) => Sequ(f1(Void), f2(v))
def F_SEQ_Void2(f1: Val => Val, f2: Val => Val) =
  (v:Val) => Sequ(f1(v), f2(Void))
def F_SEQ(f1: Val => Val, f2: Val => Val) =
  (v:Val) => v match {
    case Sequ(v1, v2) => Sequ(f1(v1), f2(v2)) }
```

# Rectification Example

$$(b \cdot c) + (\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1}) \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

# Rectification Example

$$(\underline{b \cdot c}) + (\underline{0 + 1}) \mapsto (b \cdot c) + 1$$

# Rectification Example

$$(\underline{b \cdot c}) + (\underline{0 + 1}) \mapsto (b \cdot c) + 1$$

$$f_{s1} = \lambda v.v$$

$$f_{s2} = \lambda v.Right(v)$$

# Rectification Example

$$\underline{(b \cdot c) + (\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1})} \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

$$f_{s1} = \lambda v.v$$

$$f_{s2} = \lambda v.Right(v)$$

$$f_{alt}(f_{s1}, f_{s2}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$$

$\lambda v.$  case  $v = Left(v')$ : return  $Left(f_{s1}(v'))$

case  $v = Right(v')$ : return  $Right(f_{s2}(v'))$

# Rectification Example

$$\underline{(b \cdot c) + (\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1})} \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

$$f_{s1} = \lambda v.v$$

$$f_{s2} = \lambda v.Right(v)$$

$\lambda v.$  case  $v = Left(v')$ : return  $Left(v')$   
case  $v = Right(v')$ : return  $Right(Right(v'))$

# Rectification Example

$$\underline{(b \cdot c) + (\mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1})} \mapsto (b \cdot c) + \mathbf{1}$$

$$f_{s1} = \lambda v.v$$

$$f_{s2} = \lambda v.Right(v)$$

$\lambda v.$  case  $v = Left(v')$ : return  $Left(v')$   
case  $v = Right(v')$ : return  $Right(Right(v'))$

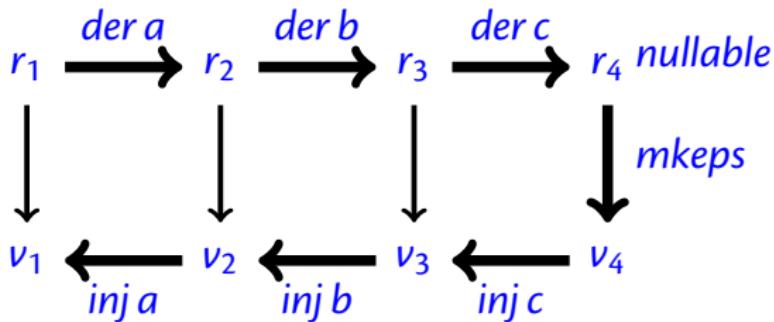
*mkeps* simplified case:  $Right(Empty)$

rectified case:  $Right(Right(Empty))$

# Lexing with Simplification

$\text{lex } r [] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{if } \text{nullable}(r) \text{ then } \text{mkeps}(r) \text{ else error}$

$\text{lex } r\ c :: s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{let } (r', \text{frect}) = \text{simp}(\text{der}(c, r))$   
 $\quad \text{inj } r\ c (\text{frect}(\text{lex}(r', s)))$



# Environments

Obtaining the “recorded” parts of a value:

$$\text{env}(\text{Empty})$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} []$$

$$\text{env}(\text{Char}(c))$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} []$$

$$\text{env}(\text{Left}(v))$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{env}(v)$$

$$\text{env}(\text{Right}(v))$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{env}(v)$$

$$\text{env}(\text{Seq}(v_1, v_2))$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{env}(v_1) @ \text{env}(v_2)$$

$$\text{env}(\text{Stars}[v_1, \dots, v_n])$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{env}(v_1) @ \dots @ \text{env}(v_n)$$

$$\text{env}(\text{Rec}(x : v))$$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x : |v|) :: \text{env}(v)$$

# While Tokens

```
WHILE_REGS  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$  (( "k" : KEYWORD ) +
    ("i" : ID) +
    ("o" : OP) +
    ("n" : NUM) +
    ("s" : SEMI) +
    ("p" : (LPAREN + RPAREN)) +
    ("b" : (BEGIN + END)) +
    ("w" : WHITESPACE))*
```

```
"if true then then 42 else +"
```

```
KEYWORD(if),  
WHITESPACE,  
IDENT(true),  
WHITESPACE,  
KEYWORD(then),  
WHITESPACE,  
KEYWORD(then),  
WHITESPACE,  
NUM(42),  
WHITESPACE,  
KEYWORD(else),  
WHITESPACE,  
OP(+)
```

"if true then then 42 else +"

KEYWORD(if),  
IDENT(true),  
KEYWORD(then),  
KEYWORD(then),  
NUM(42),  
KEYWORD(else),  
OP(+)

# Lexer: Two Rules

- Longest match rule (“maximal munch rule”): The longest initial substring matched by any regular expression is taken as next token.
- Rule priority: For a particular longest initial substring, the first regular expression that can match determines the token.

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| $\text{zeroable}(\mathbf{0})$    | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{true}$                                      |
| $\text{zeroable}(\mathbf{1})$    | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{false}$                                     |
| $\text{zeroable}(c)$             | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{false}$                                     |
| $\text{zeroable}(r_1 + r_2)$     | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{zeroable}(r_1) \wedge \text{zeroable}(r_2)$ |
| $\text{zeroable}(r_1 \cdot r_2)$ | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{zeroable}(r_1) \vee \text{zeroable}(r_2)$   |
| $\text{zeroable}(r^*)$           | $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{false}$                                     |

$\text{zeroable}(r)$  if and only if  $L(r) = \{\}$