Subject: Re: NTL and C4251

Posted by jmansion on Tue, 25 Apr 2006 12:07:16 GMT

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Well, I agree that you can have more control over error reporting with a roll-your-own, but personally I would still look to a generator for the bits that can be easily automated, so then I can concentrate on building an AST that makes it as easy as possible to build the symbol tables and other structures, and having written compilers by hand before I definitely welcome these tools.

I find CoCo/R the easiest to use for simple tasks but I doubt its really up to C++ unless you you an external scanner. You have to defer a lot of C++ analysis anyway so the grammar isn't going to resolve identifiers to types as you go anyway.

Clearly, modern C++ semantics in practice are hugely dependent on the template and inline handling and getting the type searches right in such cases - and in making sure that error messages are sane and the generators won't help you here, but using LLVM as the back end surely will.