

# Layout preserving, automatically generated parser for Erlang refactoring \*

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**Abstract.** While developing a prototype refactoring tool, we found that using the default Erlang scanner and parser is not sufficient, because they discard important information such as macros, whitespace and punctuation. These are needed to restore the original source and its layout from the representation. Additionally, refactoring steps have to construct syntactically correct code parts. These needs have led us to develop a new grammar description and tools.

We present the new grammar representation, give a method to generate the lexical scanner and parser from it, and describe the inner representation graph which is built using the generated tools.

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