

Compiler Construction

Lent Term 2021

Lecture 4: Table-driven top-down (LL) parsing

- 1. LL(k) vs LR(k) parsing**
- 2. Automating left-most derivations?**
- 3. FIRST, FOLLOW, and the LL(1) parsing table.**
- 4. LL(1) table-based parsing**
- 5. Computing FIRST and FOLLOW**

Timothy G. Griffin
tgg22@cam.ac.uk

Computer Laboratory
University of Cambridge

LL(k) and LR(k)

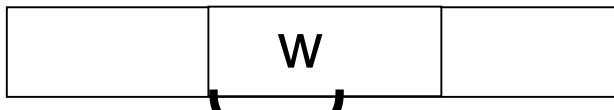
- **LL(k)** : (**L**)eft-to-right parse, (**L**)eft-most derivation, k-symbol lookahead. Based on looking at the next k tokens, an LL(k) parser must *predict* the next production. We have been looking at LL(1).
- **LR(k)** : (**L**)eft-to-right parse, (**R**)ight-most derivation, k-symbol lookahead. Postpone production selection until *the entire* right-hand-side has been seen (and as many as k symbols beyond). LR parsers perform a rightmost derivation backwards!

LL(k) vs. LR(k) reductions (SLR(1) as well)

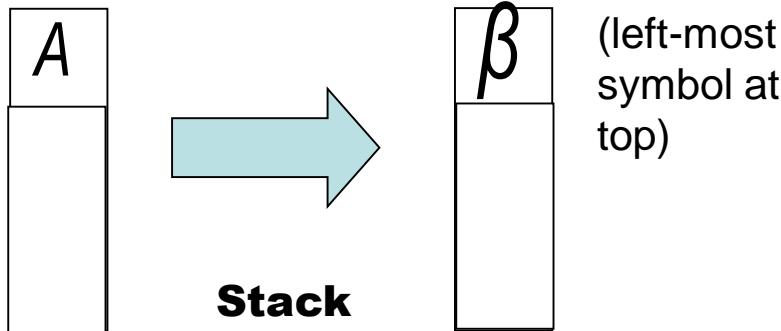
$$A \rightarrow \beta \Rightarrow^+ w \quad \beta \in (T \cup N)^* \quad w \in T^*$$

LL(k)

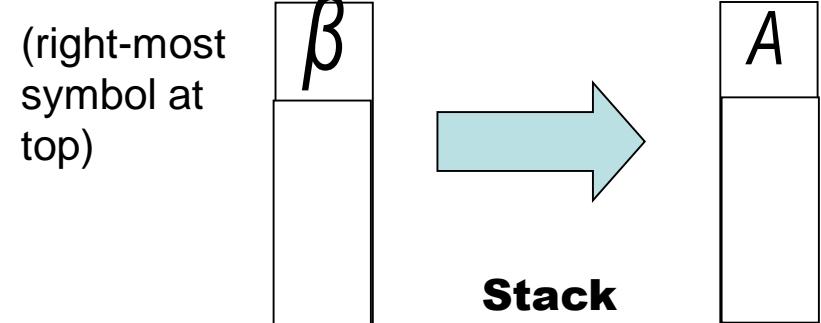
LR(k)



k token look ahead



k token look ahead



For LL(1), augment Grammar with end-of-input

$$G_3 = (N_3^{'}, T_3^{'}, P_3^{'}, S)$$

$$N_3^{'} = \{E, E', T, T', F, S\} \quad T_3^{'} = \{+, *, (,), id, \$\}$$

$P_3^{'}$:

$$S \rightarrow E\$$$

(\\$ is end of input marker)

$$E \rightarrow T E'$$

$$E' \rightarrow +T E' / \varepsilon$$

$$T \rightarrow F T'$$

$$T' \rightarrow *F T' | \varepsilon$$

$$F \rightarrow (E) | id$$

Leftmost derivations

$$w \in T^* \quad \alpha, \beta \in (N \cup T)^*$$

Given : $wA\beta$ and a production $A \rightarrow \gamma$
a leftmost derivation step is written as

$$wA\beta \Rightarrow_{lm} w\gamma\beta$$

A left-most derivation of $(x+y)$

$S \Rightarrow_{lm} E\$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} TE' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} FT'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (E)T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (TE')T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (FT'E')T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (xT'E')T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (xE')T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (x+TE')T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (x+FT'E')T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (x+yT'E')T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (x+yE')T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (x+y)T'E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (x+y)E' \$$
 $\Rightarrow_{lm} (x+y)\$$

Idea : Can we turn left - most derivation s into a stack machine (a PDA)? Perhaps this will work : If $S \Rightarrow_{lm}^+ w\alpha \$$ then w has been read from the input and α is on on the stack.

This looks promising. But can we make it work?

input	stack	via production
$(x + y)\$$	S	$S \rightarrow E\$$
$(x + y)\$$	$E\$$	$E \rightarrow TE'$
$(x + y)\$$	$TE'\$$	$T \rightarrow FT'$
$(x + y)\$$	$FT'E'\$$	$F \rightarrow (E)$
$(x + y)\$$	$(E)T'E'\$$	match
$x + y)\$$	$E)T'E'\$$	$E \rightarrow TE'$
$x + y)\$$	$TE')T'E'\$$	$T \rightarrow FT'$
$x + y)\$$	$FT'E')T'E'\$$	$F \rightarrow id$
$x + y)\$$	$idT'E')T'E'\$$	match
$+ y)\$$	$T'E')T'E'\$$	$T' \rightarrow \epsilon$

But how do we automate selection of the production to use at each step?

input	stack	via production
+ y)\$	$E')T'E'\$$	$E' \rightarrow +TE'$
+ y)\$	$+TE')T'E'\$$	match
y)\$	$TE')T'E'\$$	$T \rightarrow FT'$
y)\$	$FT'E')T'E'\$$	$F \rightarrow id$
y)\$	$idT'E')T'E'\$$	match
)\$	$T'E')T'E'\$$	$T' \rightarrow \varepsilon$
)\$	$E')T'E'\$$	$E' \rightarrow \varepsilon$
)\$	$)T'E'\$$	match
\$	$T'E'\$$	$T' \rightarrow \varepsilon$
\$	$E'\$$	$E' \rightarrow \varepsilon$
\$	\$	accept!

FIRST (we will see how to compute later)

$$\text{FIRST}(\alpha) = \left\{ a \in T / \exists \beta \in (N \cup T)^*, \alpha \Rightarrow^* a\beta \right\}$$

$$S \rightarrow E\$$$

$$\text{FIRST}(S) = \{ (, id \} \}$$

$$E \rightarrow T \ E'$$

$$\text{FIRST}(E) = \{ (, id \} \}$$

$$E' \rightarrow +T \ E' / \varepsilon$$

$$\text{FIRST}(E') = \{ +, \varepsilon \} \}$$

$$T \rightarrow F \ T'$$

$$\text{FIRST}(T) = \{ (, id \} \}$$

$$T' \rightarrow *F \ T' | \varepsilon$$

$$\text{FIRST}(T') = \{ *, \varepsilon \} \}$$

$$F \rightarrow (E) | \text{id}$$

$$\text{FIRST}(T) = \{ (, id \} \}$$

FOLLOW (we will see how to compute later)

$$\text{FOLLOW}(A) = \left\{ a / \exists \alpha \beta, S \Rightarrow^+ \alpha A a \beta \right\}$$

$$S \rightarrow E \$$$

$$E \rightarrow T E' \quad \text{FOLLOW}(E) = \{ \), \$ \}$$

$$E' \rightarrow +T E' / \varepsilon \quad \text{FOLLOW}(E') = \{ \), \$ \}$$

$$T \rightarrow F T' \quad \text{FOLLOW}(T) = \{ +, \), \$ \}$$

$$T' \rightarrow *F T' | \varepsilon \quad \text{FOLLOW}(T') = \{ +, \), \$ \}$$

$$F \rightarrow (E) | \text{id} \quad \text{FOLLOW}(F) = \{ +, *, \), \$ \}$$

")" ∈ FOLLOW(E) ?

$$S \Rightarrow E \$ \Rightarrow TE' \$ \Rightarrow FT' E' \$ \Rightarrow (E)T' E' \$$$

The LL(1) Parsing table M

for all $A \in N, a \in T, M[A, a] = \{\}$

for each $A \in N$

for each production $A \rightarrow \alpha$

if $a \in \text{FIRST}(\alpha)$ and $a \neq \varepsilon$

then $M[A, a] = M[A, a] \cup \{A \rightarrow \alpha\}$

else if $\varepsilon \in \text{FIRST}(\alpha)$

then for each $b \in \text{FOLLOW}(A)$

$M[A, b] = M[A, b] \cup \{A \rightarrow \alpha\}$

Table M for grammar $G_3^{'}$

	id	+	*	()	\$
E	$E \rightarrow TE'$			$E \rightarrow TE'$		
E'		$E' \rightarrow +TE'$			$E' \rightarrow \varepsilon$	$E' \rightarrow \varepsilon$
T	$T \rightarrow FT'$			$T \rightarrow FT'$		
T'		$T' \rightarrow \varepsilon$	$T' \rightarrow *FT'$		$T' \rightarrow \varepsilon$	$T' \rightarrow \varepsilon$
F	$F \rightarrow id$			$F \rightarrow (E)$		

The LL(1) Parsing Algorithm

$a := \text{LexNextToken}()$

$X := \text{TopOfStack}()$

while $(X \neq \$)$

if $X = a$ (* a match *)

then pop; $a := \text{LexNextToken}()$

else if $M[X,a] = \{X \rightarrow \alpha\}$

then pop; push α (leftmost symbol on top)

$X := \text{TopOfStack}()$

Now use M to parse $(x+y) \dots$

input	stack	action
$(x+y)\$$	S	$M[S, ()] = \{S \rightarrow E\$ \}$
$(x+y)\$$	$E\$$	$M[E, ()] = \{E \rightarrow TE' \}$
$(x+y)\$$	$TE'\$$	$M[T, ()] = \{T \rightarrow FT' \}$
$(x+y)\$$	$FT'E'\$$	$M[F, ()] = \{F \rightarrow (E) \}$
$(x+y)\$$	$(E)T'E'\$$	<i>match</i>
$x+y)\$$	$E)T'E'\$$	$M[E, id] = \{E \rightarrow TE' \}$
$x+y)\$$	$TE')T'E'\$$	$M[T, id] = \{T \rightarrow FT' \}$
$x+y)\$$	$FT'E')T'E'\$$	$M[F, id] = \{F \rightarrow id \}$
$x+y)\$$	$idT'E')T'E'\$$	<i>match</i>
$+ y)\$$	$T'E')T'E'\$$	$M[T', +] = \{T' \rightarrow \varepsilon \}$

... kachunk, kachunk, kachunk ...

input	stack	action
+ y)\$	$E')T'E'\$$	$M[E',+] = \{E' \rightarrow +TE'\}$
+ y)\$	$+TE')T'E'\$$	<i>match</i>
y)\$	$TE')T'E'\$$	$M[T,id] = \{T \rightarrow FT'\}$
y)\$	$FT'E')T'E'\$$	$M[F,id] = \{F \rightarrow id\}$
y)\$	$idT'E')T'E'\$$	<i>match</i>
)\$	$T'E')T'E'\$$	$M[T',)]=\{T' \rightarrow \varepsilon\}$
)\$	$E')T'E'\$$	$M[E',)]=\{E' \rightarrow \varepsilon\}$
)\$	$)T'E'\$$	<i>match</i>
\$	$T'E'\$$	$M[T',\$]=\{T' \rightarrow \varepsilon\}$
\$	$E'\$$	$M[E',\$]=\{E' \rightarrow \varepsilon\}$
\$	\$	<i>accept</i>

NULLABLE

$\text{NULLABLE}(\alpha) = \text{true}$

if and only if $\alpha \Rightarrow^* \varepsilon$.

$\text{NULLABLE}(\varepsilon) = \text{true}$

$\text{NULLABLE}(c) = \text{false}$ ($c \in T$)

$\text{NULLABLE}(A) =$ ($A \in N$)

$$\bigvee_{A \rightarrow \alpha} \text{NULLABLE}(\alpha)$$

$\text{NULLABLE}(X\beta) =$ ($X \in T \cup N$)

$\text{NULLABLE}(X) \wedge \text{NULLABLE}(\beta)$

Computing FIRST

for all $a \in T$, $\text{FIRST}(a) := \{a\}$

for all $A \in N$, $\text{FIRST}(A) := \{ \}$

while FIRST changes

 if $A \rightarrow \varepsilon$ is a production

 then $\text{FIRST}(A) := \text{FIRST}(A) \cup \{\varepsilon\}$

 if $A \rightarrow X_1 X_2 \dots X_k$ is a production

 then $j := 1$; $\text{done} := \text{false}$

 while not done and $j \leq k$

$\text{FIRST}(A) := \text{FIRST}(A) \cup (\text{FIRST}(X_j) - \{\varepsilon\})$

 if $\text{NULLABLE}(X_j)$

 then $j := j + 1$

 else $\text{done} := \text{true}$

 if $j = k + 1$ then $\text{FIRST}(A) := \text{FIRST}(A) \cup \{\varepsilon\}$

Computing FOLLOW

for all $A \in N$, $\text{FOLLOW}(A) := \{\}$

$\text{FOLLOW}(S) := \{\$\}$ (S is the start symbol)

while FOLLOW changes

if $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ is a production ($B \in N, \beta \neq \varepsilon$)

then $\text{FOLLOW}(B) := \text{FOLLOW}(B) \cup (\text{FIRST}(\beta) - \{\varepsilon\})$

if $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ is a production and $\varepsilon \in \text{FIRST}(\beta)$

then $\text{FOLLOW}(B) := \text{FOLLOW}(B) \cup \text{FOLLOW}(A)$

if $A \rightarrow \alpha B$ is a production ($B \in N$)

then $\text{FOLLOW}(B) := \text{FOLLOW}(B) \cup \text{FOLLOW}(A)$

Many grammars cannot be parsed LL(1)

$S \rightarrow d$		XYS
$Y \rightarrow c$		ϵ
$X \rightarrow Y$		a

	FIRST	FOLLOW
S	$\{a, c, d\}$	$\{\}$
Y	$\{c\}$	$\{a, c, d\}$
X	$\{a, c\}$	$\{a, c, d\}$

$$M[S, d] = \{ S \rightarrow d, S \rightarrow XYS \}$$

This is ambiguity!

Grammar is not LL(1)!



Bottom-up (LR) parsing to the rescue!

$$G_2 = (N_2, T_1, P_2, E)$$

$$N_2 = \{E, T, F\}$$

$$T_1 = \{+, *, (,), \text{id}\}$$

$$E \rightarrow E + T \mid T \quad T \rightarrow T * F \mid F \quad F \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{id}$$

With LR parsing we no longer have to eliminate left recursion from the grammar!

