Compiler Construction

Lecture 4: LL parsing

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LL(k)

Recap: recursive descent

```
let rec e toks = e' (t toks)
and e' = function
  | ADD :: toks → e' (t toks)
  | toks        → toks (* ϵ *)
...
```

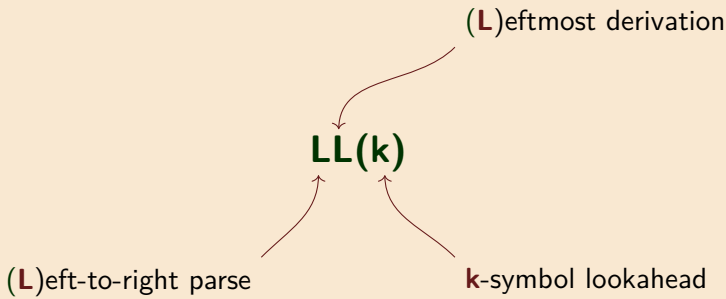
$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
E & \to & T\,E' \\
E' & \to & +\,T\,E' \\
E' & \to & \epsilon \\
 & & \cdots
\end{array}
$$

Two actions **matching** (if rhs starts with a terminal, e.g. $E \to + T\,E'$)
predicting (if rhs starts with a nonterminal, e.g. $E' \to \mathbf{T}\,E'$) .

Q: how do we predict a right-hand side? e.g. given $\begin{array}{lcl} A & \to & B \\ A & \to & C \end{array}$

Idea: use the rest of the input (lookahead).

Plan: precompute all possible rhs for each nonterminal/terminal combination



Looking at the next k tokens, an LL(k) parser **predicts** the next production.
We will consider LL(1).

For LL(1) add an end-of-input marker

Add an end-of-input marker **$**:

$$G_3 = \langle N_3, T_3, P_3, E \rangle$$

where

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

$$P_3 = \begin{array}{lcl} E & \to & T\ E' \\ E' & \to & +T\ E' \mid \epsilon \\ T & \to & F\ T' \\ T' & \to & *F\ T' \mid \epsilon \\ F & \to & (E) \mid id \end{array}$$

$$G'_3 = \langle N'_3, T'_3, P'_3, \mathbf{S} \rangle$$

where

$$N'_3 = \{E, E'\,T, T'\,F, \mathbf{S}\}$$
$$T'_3 = \{+, *, (,), id, \mathbf{\$}\}$$

$$P'_3 = \begin{array}{lcl} \mathbf{S} & \to & \mathbf{E}\ \mathbf{\$} \\ E & \to & T\ E' \\ E' & \to & +T\ E' \mid \epsilon \\ T & \to & F\ T' \\ T' & \to & *F\ T' \mid \epsilon \\ F & \to & (E) \mid id \end{array}$$

Derivations

A leftmost derivation of (x+y)

$$
\begin{aligned}
S &\Rightarrow_{lm} \mathbf{E}\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} \mathbf{T}\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} \mathbf{F}\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (\mathbf{E})\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (\mathbf{T}\ E')\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (\mathbf{F}\ T'\ E')\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (x\ \mathbf{T'}\ E')\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (x\ \mathbf{E'})\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (x + \mathbf{T}\ E')\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (x + \mathbf{F}\ T'\ E')\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (x + y\ \mathbf{T'}\ E')\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (x + y\ \mathbf{E'})\ T'\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (x + y)\ \mathbf{T'}\ E'\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (x + y)\ \mathbf{E'}\ \$ \\
&\Rightarrow_{lm} (x + y)\ \$
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
S & \rightarrow & E\ \$ \\
E & \rightarrow & T\ E' \\
E' & \rightarrow & +T\ E' \\
E' & \rightarrow & \epsilon \\
T & \rightarrow & F\ T' \\
T' & \rightarrow & *F\ T' \\
T' & \rightarrow & \epsilon \\
F & \rightarrow & (E) \\
F & \rightarrow & id
\end{array}
$$

Idea: Can we turn leftmost derivation *s* into a stack machine (PDA)?

From derivation to stack machine

Plan: if $S \Rightarrow_{lm}^{+} w\alpha\$$ then w has been read from the input, α is on on the stack.

input	stack	use production
$(x+y)\$$	S	$S \to E\$$
$(x+y)\$$	$E\$$	$E \to TE'$
$(x+y)\$$	$TE'\$$	$T \to FT'$
$(x+y)\$$	$FT'E'\$$	$F \to (E)$
$(x+y)\$$	$(E)T'E'\$$	match
$x+y)\$$	$E)T'E'\$$	$E \to TE'$
$x+y)\$$	$TE')T'E'\$$	$T \to FT'$
$x+y)\$$	$FT'E')T'E'\$$	$F \to id$
$x+y)\$$	$idT'E')T'E'\$$	match
$+y)\$$	$T'E')T'E'\$$	$T' \to \epsilon$
$+y)\$$	$E')T'E'\$$	$E' \to +TE'$
$+y)\$$	$+TE')T'E'\$$	match
$y)\$$	$TE')T'E'\$$	$T \to FT'$
$y)\$$	$FT'E')T'E'\$$	$F \to id$
$y)\$$	$idT'E')T'E'\$$	match
$)\$$	$T'E')T'E'\$$	$T' \to \epsilon$
$)\$$	$E')T'E'\$$	$E' \to \epsilon$
$)\$$	$)T'E'\$$	match
$\$$	$T'E'\$$	$T' \to \epsilon$
$\$$	$E'\$$	$E' \to \epsilon$
$\$$	$\$$	accept!

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

The LL(1) parsing table

The **FIRST set** for a sequence of symbols α represents the terminals that may occur at the start of derivations of α (and ϵ, if $\alpha \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$)

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

We can compute FIRST for each rhs and nonterminal (details later):

$$\begin{array}{lcl@{\qquad}lcl}
S & \to & E\,\$ & \text{FIRST}(S) & = & \{(, id\} \\
E & \to & T\,E' & \text{FIRST}(E) & = & \{(, id\} \\
E' & \to & +T\,E' \mid \epsilon & \text{FIRST}(E') & = & \{+, \epsilon\} \\
T & \to & F\,T' & \text{FIRST}(T) & = & \{(, id\} \\
T' & \to & *\,F\,T' \mid \epsilon & \text{FIRST}(T') & = & \{*, \epsilon\} \\
F & \to & (E) \mid id & \text{FIRST}(F) & = & \{(, id\}
\end{array}$$

The **FOLLOW set** for a nonterminal A represents the terminals that may follow A in a derivation from the start symbol

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

We can compute FOLLOW for each nonterminal in a grammar (details later):

$$\begin{array}{lcl} S & \to & E\,\$ \\ E & \to & T\,E' \\ E' & \to & +T\,E' \mid \epsilon \\ T & \to & F\,T' \\ T' & \to & *F\,T' \mid \epsilon \\ F & \to & (E) \mid id \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{lcl} \text{FOLLOW}(E) & = & \{), \$\} \\ \text{FOLLOW}(E') & = & \{), \$\} \\ \text{FOLLOW}(T) & = & \{+,), \$\} \\ \text{FOLLOW}(T') & = & \{+,), \$\} \\ \text{FOLLOW}(F) & = & \{+, *,), \$\} \end{array}$$

Q: is ")" $\in$ FOLLOW(E)? Yes: $S \Rightarrow E\$ \Rightarrow TE'\$ \Rightarrow FT'E'\$ \Rightarrow (E)T'E'\$$

The LL(1) Parsing table M

The parsing table maps $\langle \text{nonterminal}, \text{terminal} \rangle$ pairs to right-hand sides.

Initialize M:

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

Populate M:

for each $A \in N$
  for each production $A \to \alpha$
    if $a \in \text{FIRST}(\alpha)$ and $a \neq \epsilon$
      then $M[A, a] = M[A, a] \cup \{\alpha\}$
    else if $\epsilon \in \text{FIRST}(\alpha)$
      then for each $b \in \text{FOLLOW}(A)$
        $M[A, b] = M[A, b] \cup \{\alpha\}$

	id	$+$	$\ldots$
E	TE'		$\ldots$
E'		$+TE'$	$\ldots$
$\ldots$	$\ldots$	$\ldots$	$\ldots$

Table M for grammar G_3'

FOLLOW sets for G_3':

S	E	E'	T	T'	F
	$) \$$	$) \$$	$+) \$$	$+) \$$	$+ *) \$$

FIRST sets for G_3':

$S \to E\$$	$E \to TE'$	$E' \to +TE'$	$E' \to \epsilon$	$T \to FT'$	$T' \to *FT'$	$F \to (E)$	$F \to id$
$(\ id$	$(\ id$	$+$	ϵ	$(\ id$	$*$	$($	id

Table M for G_3':

	id	$+$	$*$	$($	$)$	$\$$
S	$E\$$			$E\$$		
E	TE'			TE'		
E'		$+TE'$			ϵ	ϵ
T	FT'			FT'		
T'		ϵ	$*FT'$		ϵ	ϵ
F	id			(E)		

The algorithm

```
a := NextToken()
X := TopOfStack()
while (X ≠ $)
   if X = a (* match *)
      then Pop(); a := NextToken()
   else if M[X, a] = {α} (* predict *)
      then Pop(); Push(α)
   X := TopOfStack()
```

Using M to parse (x+y)

input	stack	action
$(x+y)\$$	S	$M[S,(] = \{E\$\}$
$(x+y)\$$	$E\$$	$M[E,(] = \{TE'\}$
$(x+y)\$$	$TE'\$$	$M[T,(] = \{FT'\}$
$(x+y)\$$	$FT'E'\$$	$M[F,(] = \{(E)\}$
$(x+y)\$$	$(E)T'E'\$$	match
$x+y)\$$	$E)T'E'\$$	$M[E,id] = \{TE'\}$
$x+y)\$$	$TE')T'E'\$$	$M[T,id] = \{FT'\}$
$x+y)\$$	$FT'E')T'E'\$$	$M[F,id] = \{id\}$
$x+y)\$$	$idT'E')T'E'\$$	match
$+y)\$$	$T'E')T'E'\$$	$M[T',+] = \{\epsilon\}$
$+y)\$$	$E')T'E'\$$	$M[E',+] = \{+TE'\}$
$+y)\$$	$+TE')T'E'\$$	match
$y)\$$	$TE')T'E'\$$	$M[T,id] = \{FT'\}$
$y)\$$	$FT'E')T'E'\$$	$M[F,id] = \{id\}$
$y)\$$	$idT'E')T'E'\$$	match
$)\$$	$T'E')T'E'\$$	$M[T',)] = \{\epsilon\}$
$)\$$	$E')T'E'\$$	$M[E')] = \{\epsilon\}$
$)\$$	$)T'E'\$$	match
$\$$	$T'E'\$$	$M[T',\$] = \{\epsilon\}$
$\$$	$E'\$$	$M[E',\$] = \{\epsilon\}$
$\$$	$\$$	accept!

Analysis

Computing NULLABLE

Semantically:

$$\text{NULLABLE}(\alpha) = \text{true} \qquad \textit{iff} \qquad \alpha \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$$

Inductively:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{NULLABLE}(\epsilon) &= \text{true} \\
\text{NULLABLE}(c) &= \text{false} && (c \in T) \\
\text{NULLABLE}(A) &= \bigvee_{A \to \alpha} \text{NULLABLE}(\alpha) && (A \in N) \\
\text{NULLABLE}(X\beta) &= \text{NULLABLE}(X) \wedge \text{NULLABLE}(\beta) && (X \in T \cup N)
\end{aligned}$$

Computing NULLABLE: example

$$
\begin{array}{lcll}
\text{NULLABLE}(\epsilon) & = & \text{true} & \\
\text{NULLABLE}(c) & = & \text{false} & (c \in T) \\
\text{NULLABLE}(A) & = & \bigvee_{A \to \alpha} \text{NULLABLE}(\alpha) & (A \in N) \\
\text{NULLABLE}(X\beta) & = & \text{NULLABLE}(X) \wedge \text{NULLABLE}(\beta) & (X \in T \cup N)
\end{array}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
E & \to & aF \\
E & \to & \epsilon \\
F & \to & E
\end{array}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
\text{NULLABLE}(a) & = & \text{false} \\
\text{NULLABLE}(\epsilon) & = & \text{true} \\
\text{NULLABLE}(aF) & = & \text{NULLABLE}(a) \wedge \text{NULLABLE}(F) \\
 & = & \text{false} \wedge \text{NULLABLE}(F) \\
 & = & \text{false} \\
\text{NULLABLE}(E) & = & \text{NULLABLE}(aF) \vee \text{NULLABLE}(\epsilon) \\
 & = & \text{false} \vee \text{true} \\
 & = & \text{true} \\
\text{NULLABLE}(F) & = & \text{NULLABLE}(E) \\
 & = & \text{true}
\end{array}
$$

Computing FIRST

Initialize FIRST sets:

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

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

Populate FIRST sets:

while FIRST changes

if $A \rightarrow X_1 X_2 \ldots X_k$ is a production then

if NULLABLE($X_1 X_2 \ldots X_k$)

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

for each j in 1 ... k

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

if not NULLABLE(X_j) then break

Computing FOLLOW

Initialize FOLLOW sets:

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

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

Populate FOLLOW sets:

while FOLLOW changes

if $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ is a production ($B \in N$, $\beta \neq \epsilon$)
then FOLLOW(B) := FOLLOW(B) $\cup$ (FIRST(β) - {ϵ})

if $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ is a production and $\epsilon \in$ FIRST(β)
then FOLLOW(B) := FOLLOW(B) $\cup$ FOLLOW(A)

if $A \rightarrow \alpha B$ is a production ($B \in N$)
then FOLLOW(B) := FOLLOW(B) $\cup$ FOLLOW(A)

Bottom-up parsing

Many grammars cannot be parsed using LL(1)

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
S & \rightarrow & d \mid X\,Y\,S \\
Y & \rightarrow & c \mid \epsilon \\
X & \rightarrow & Y \mid a
\end{array}
$$

FIRST:

$X\,Y\,S$	Y
$a\ c\ d\ \epsilon$	$c\ \epsilon$

FOLLOW:

X	Y
$a\ c\ d$	$a\ c\ d$

Table M:

	a	c	d
S	XYS	XYS	XYS d
X	Y a	Y	Y
Y	ϵ	ϵ c	ϵ

There are multiple entries for $M[S, d]$. The grammar is ambiguous, and not LL(1).

Bottom-up (LR) parsing is more powerful

Recall: we had to rewrite G_2 to eliminate **left recursion**.

$$G_2 = \langle N_2, T_1, P_2, E \rangle$$

where

$$P_2 = \begin{array}{lcll} E & \rightarrow & E + T \mid T & \text{(expressions)} \\ T & \rightarrow & T * F \mid F & \text{(terms)} \\ F & \rightarrow & (E) \mid id & \text{(factors)} \end{array}$$

Bottom-up parsing can process a wider class of grammars.

With bottom-up parsing there is no need to eliminate left recursion.

Next time: bottom-up parsing foundations