Chapter 4 Syntax Analysis

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Outline

- Role of parser
- Context free grammars
- Top down parsing
- Bottom up parsing
- Parser generators



E -> TE' E' -> +TE' | ε T -> FT' T' -> *FT' | ε F -> (E) | id

E -> E + T | T T -> T * F | F F -> (E) | **id**

Uses of grammars

Error handling

- Common programming errors
 - Lexical errors
 - Syntactic errors
 - Semantic errors
 - Lexical errors
- Error handler goals
 - Report the presence of errors clearly and accurately
 - Recover from each error quickly enough to detect subsequent errors
 - Add minimal overhead to the processing of correct progrms

Error-recover strategies

- Panic mode recovery
 - Discard input symbol one at a time until one of designated set of synchronization tokens is found
- Phrase level recovery
 - Replacing a prefix of remaining input by some string that allows the parser to continue
- Error productions
 - Augment the grammar with productions that generate the erroneous constructs
- Global correction
 - Choosing minimal sequence of changes to obtain a globally least-cost correction

Context free grammars

- Terminals
- Nonterminals
- Start symbol
- productions

expression -> expression + term expression -> expression - term expression -> term term -> term * factor term -> term / factor term -> factor factor -> (expression) factor -> id

Derivations

- Productions are treated as rewriting rules to generate a string
- Rightmost and leftmost derivations
 - $E \rightarrow E + E | E * E | -E | (E) | id$
 - Derivations for –(id+id)
 - $E \implies -E \implies -(E) \implies -(E+E) \implies -(id+E) \implies -(id+id)$

Parse trees

- -(id+id)
- $E \implies -E \implies -(E) \implies -(E+E) \implies -(id+E) \implies -(id+id)$



Ambiguity

- For some strings there exist more than one parse tree
- Or more than one leftmost derivation
- Or more than one rightmost derivation
- Example: id+id*id







E1 if expr then else stmt stmt S1 S2

S2 E1 then if expr stmt S1 E2

Elimination of ambiguity (cont.)

- Idea:
 - A statement appearing between a **then** and an **else** must be matched



Elimination of left recursion

- A grammar is left recursive if it has a non-terminal A such that there is a derivation A[±] > A α
- Top down parsing methods cant handle leftrecursive grammars
- A simple rule for direct left recursion elimination:
 - For a rule like:
 - $A \rightarrow A \alpha \mid \beta$
 - We may replace it with
 - A -> β A'
 - A' -> α A' | ε

Left recursion elimination (cont.)

- There are cases like following
 - S -> Aa | b
 - A -> Ac | Sd | ε
- Left recursion elimination algorithm:
 - Arrange the nonterminals in some order A1,A2,...,An.
 - For (each i from 1 to n) {
 - For (each j from 1 to i-1) {
 - Replace each production of the form Ai-> Aj γ by the production Ai -> $\delta_1 \gamma | \delta_2 \gamma | ... | \delta_k \gamma$ where Aj-> $\delta_1 | \delta_2 | ... | \delta_k$ are all current Aj productions
 - }
 - Eliminate left recursion among the Ai-productions
 - •

Left factoring

- Left factoring is a grammar transformation that is useful for producing a grammar suitable for predictive or top-down parsing.
- Consider following grammar:
 - Stmt -> **if** expr **then** stmt **else** stmt
 - | **if** expr **then** stmt
- On seeing input **if** it is not clear for the parser which production to use
- We can easily perform left factoring:
 - If we have A-> $\alpha \beta 1 \mid \alpha \beta 2$ then we replace it with
 - A -> α A'
 - A' -> $\beta \mathbf{1} \mid \beta \mathbf{2}$

Left factoring (cont.)

- Algorithm
 - For each non-terminal A, find the longest prefix α common to two or more of its alternatives. If α <> ε, then replace all of A-productions A-> α β 1 | α β 2 | ... | α β n | γ by
 - A -> $\alpha A' \mid \gamma$
 - A' -> $\beta_1 \mid \beta_2 \mid \dots \mid \beta_n$
- Example:
 - S -> I E t S | i E t S e S | a
 - E -> b

Top Down Parsing

Introduction

- A Top-down parser tries to create a parse tree from the root towards the leafs scanning input from left to right
- It can be also viewed as finding a leftmost derivation for an input string
- Example: id+id*id



Recursive descent parsing

- Consists of a set of procedures, one for each nonterminal
- Execution begins with the procedure for start symbol
- A typical procedure for a non-terminal

```
void A() {
    choose an A-production, A->X1X2..Xk
    for (i=1 to k) {
        if (Xi is a nonterminal
            call procedure Xi();
        else if (Xi equals the current input symbol a)
            advance the input to the next symbol;
        else /* an error has occurred */
```

Recursive descent parsing (cont)

- General recursive descent may require backtracking
- The previous code needs to be modified to allow backtracking
- In general form it cant choose an A-production easily.
- So we need to try all alternatives
- If one failed the input pointer needs to be reset and another alternative should be tried
- Recursive descent parsers cant be used for leftrecursive grammars

Example

S->cAd A->ab | a

Input: cad



First and Follow

- First() is set of terminals that begins strings derived from
- If $\alpha \stackrel{*}{=} > \varepsilon$ then is also in First(ε)
- In predictive parsing when we have A-> α | β, if First(α) and First(β) are disjoint sets then we can select appropriate A-production by looking at the next input
- Follow(A), for any nonterminal A, is set of terminals a that can appear immediately after A in some sentential form
 - If we have S => α Aa β for some α and β then a is in Follow(A)
- If A can be the rightmost symbol in some sentential form, then \$ is in Follow(A)

Computing First

- To compute First(X) for all grammar symbols X, apply follo^{*}wing rules until no more terminals or ε can be added to any First set:
 - 1. If X is a terminal then $First(X) = \{X\}$.
 - If X is a nonterminal and X->Y1Y2...Yk is a production for some k>=1, then place a in First(X) if for some i a is in First(Yi) and ε is in all of First(Y1),...,First(Yi-1) that is Y1...Yi-1 => ε. if ε is in First(Yj) for j=1,...,k then add ε to First(X).
 - 3. If X-> ϵ is a production then add ϵ to First(X)
 - Example!

Computing follow

- To compute First(A) for all nonterminals A, apply following rules until nothing can be added to any follow set:
 - 1. Place \$ in Follow(S) where S is the start symbol
 - 2. If there is a production A-> $\alpha \ B \beta$ then everything in First(β) except ϵ is in Follow(B).
 - 3. If there is a production A->B or a production
 A-> α B β where First(β) contains ε, then everything in Follow(A) is in Follow(B)

• Example!

LL(1) Grammars

- Predictive parsers are those recursive descent parsers needing no backtracking
- Grammars for which we can create predictive parsers are called LL(1)
 - The first L means scanning input from left to right
 - The second L means leftmost derivation
 - And 1 stands for using one input symbol for lookahead
- A grammar G is LL(1) if and only if whenever A-> $\alpha \mid \beta$ are two distinct productions of G, the following conditions hold:
 - For no terminal a do α and β both derive strings beginning with a
 - At most one of α or β can derive empty string
 - If α => ε then β does not derive any string beginning with a terminal in Follow(A).

Construction of predictive parsing table

- For each production A-> α in grammar do the following:
 - **1**. For each terminal a in First(α) add A-> in M[A,a]
 - 2. If ε is in First(α), then for each terminal b in Follow(A) add A-> ε to M[A,b]. If ε is in First(α) and \$\$ is in Follow(A), add A-> ε to M[A,\$] as well
- If after performing the above, there is no production in M[A,a] then set M[A,a] to error

Fyamn	
слаттр	C

E -> TE'	
E'->+TE'	3
T -> FT'	
T'->*FT'	3
$F \rightarrow (E) id$	

	First	Follow
F	{(,id}	$\{+, *,), \$\}$
Т	{(,id}	$\{+,), \$\}$
E	{(,id}	{), \$}
E '	$\{+, \epsilon\}$	{), \$}
Τ'	$\{*, \epsilon\}$	$\{+,), \$\}$

Non			Input	z Symbol			
terminal	id	+	*	()	\$	
E	E -> TE'			E -> TE'			
Е'		E'->+TE'			E'->ε	E'->ε	
Т	T -> FT'			T -> FT'			
Τ'		Τ'->ε	T'->*FT'		T'->ε	Τ'->ε	
F	F -> id			F -> (E)			

Another example

S -> iEtSS' | a S' -> eS | ε E -> b







Predictive parsing algorithm

```
Set ip point to the first symbol of w;
Set X to the top stack symbol;
While (X<>$) { /* stack is not empty */
  if (X is a) pop the stack and advance ip;
  else if (X is a terminal) error();
  else if (M[X,a] is an error entry) error();
  else if (M[X,a] = X -> Y_1Y_2..Y_k) {
        output the production X->Y1Y2..Yk;
        pop the stack;
        push Yk,...,Y2,Y1 on to the stack with Y1 on top;
  set X to the top stack symbol;
```

Example

id+id*id\$

Matched	Stack	Input	Action
	E\$	id+id*id\$	

Error recovery in predictive parsing

- Panic mode
 - Place all symbols in Follow(A) into synchronization set for nonterminal A: skip tokens until an element of Follow(A) is seen and pop A from stack.
 - Add to the synchronization set of lower level construct the symbols that begin higher level constructs
 - Add symbols in First(A) to the synchronization set of nonterminal A
 - If a nonterminal can generate the empty string then the production deriving can be used as a default
 - If a terminal on top of the stack cannot be matched, pop the terminal, issue a message saying that the terminal was insterted

Example

Non -	Input Symbol					
terminal	id	+	*	()	\$
E	E -> TE'			E -> TE	synch	synch
E'		E' -> +TE	>		E'->ε	E'->ε
Т	T -> FT'	synch		T -> FT'	synch	synch
Τ'		T'->ε	T' -> *FT	,	T' -> ε	T'->ε
F	F -> id	synch	synch	F -> (E)	synch	synch

Stack	Input	Action
E\$)id*+id\$	Error, Skip)
E\$	id*+id\$	id is in First(E)
TE'\$	id*+id\$	
FT'E'\$	id*+id\$	
idT'E'\$	id*+id\$	
T'E'\$	*+id\$	
*F1'E'\$	*+1d\$	
F1'E'S	+105	Error, M[F,+]=synch
T'E'\$	+10\$	F has been poped

Bottom-up Parsing

Introduction

- Constructs parse tree for an input string beginning at the leaves (the bottom) and working towards the root (the top)
- Example: id*id



Shift-reduce parser

- The general idea is to shift some symbols of input to the stack until a reduction can be applied
- At each reduction step, a specific substring matching the body of a production is replaced by the nonterminal at the head of the production
- The key decisions during bottom-up parsing are about when to reduce and about what production to apply
- A reduction is a reverse of a step in a derivation
- The goal of a bottom-up parser is to construct a derivation in reverse:
 - E=>T=>T*F=>T*id=>F*id=>id*id

Handle pruning

• A Handle is a substring that matches the body of a production and whose reduction represents one step along the reverse of a rightmost derivation

Right sentential form	Handle	Reducing production
id*id F*id	id F	F->id T->F
T*id	id	F->id
T*F	T*F	E->T*F

Shift reduce parsing

- A stack is used to hold grammar symbols
- Handle always appear on top of the stack
- Initial configuration:
 - Stack Input
 - \$ W\$
- Acceptance configuration
 - Stack Input
 - \$S \$

Shift reduce parsing (cont.)

- Basic operations:
 - Shift
 - Reduce
 - Accept
 - Error
- Example: id*id

Stack	Input	Action	
\$	id*id\$	shift	
\$id	*id\$	reduce by F->	id
\$F	*id\$	reduce by T->	F
\$ T	*id\$	shift	
\$T*	id\$	shift	
\$T*id	\$	reduce by F->	id
\$T*F	\$	reduce by T->T	'*F
\$ T	\$	reduce by E->'	Т
\$ E	\$	accept	

Handle will appear on top of the stack



Stack	Input
\$αβγ	yz\$
\$ α β B	yz\$
$\beta \alpha \beta By$	z\$



Stack	Input
\$αγ	xyz\$
\$αBxy	z\$

Conflicts during shit reduce parsing

- Two kind of conflicts
 - Shift/reduce conflict
 - Reduce/reduce conflict
- Example:

stmt ---> If expr then stmt If expr then stmt else stmt other

Stack ... if expr then stmt Input else ...\$

Reduce/reduce conflict

```
stmt -> id(parameter_list)
stmt -> expr:=expr
parameter_list->parameter_list, parameter
parameter_list->parameter
parameter->id
expr->id(expr_list)
expr->id
expr_list->expr_list, expr
expr_list->expr
```

Input ,id) ...\$

LR Parsing

- The most prevalent type of bottom-up parsers
- LR(k), mostly interested on parsers with k<=1
- Why LR parsers?
 - Table driven
 - Can be constructed to recognize all programming language constructs
 - Most general non-backtracking shift-reduce parsing method
 - Can detect a syntactic error as soon as it is possible to do so
 - Class of grammars for which we can construct LR parsers are superset of those which we can construct LL parsers

States of an LR parser

- States represent set of items
- An LR(o) item of G is a production of G with the dot at some position of the body:
 - For A->XYZ we have following items
 - A->.XYZ
 - A->X.YZ
 - A->XY.Z
 - A->XYZ.
 - In a state having A->.XYZ we hope to see a string derivable from XYZ next on the input.
 - What about A->X.YZ?

Constructing canonical LR(0) item sets

- Augmented grammar:
 - G with addition of a production: S'->S
- Closure of item sets:
 - If I is a set of items, closure(I) is a set of items constructed from I by the following rules:
 - Add every item in I to closure(I)
 - If A->α.Bβ is in closure(I) and B->γ is a production then add the item B->.γ to clsoure(I).
- Example:

E'->E E -> E + T | T T -> T * F | F F -> (E) | **id** Io=closure({[E'->.E]} E'->.E E->.E+T E->.T T->.T*F T->.F F->.(E) F->.id

Constructing canonical LR(0) item sets (cont.)

• Goto (I,X) where I is an item set and X is a grammar symbol is closure of set of all items [A-> α X. β] where [A-> α .X β] is in I



```
Closure algorithm
SetOfItems CLOSURE(I) {
  J=I;
  repeat
        for (each item A-> \alpha.B\beta in J)
               for (each prodcution B->γ of G)
                      if (B \rightarrow \gamma is not in J)
                              add B \rightarrow \gamma to J;
  until no more items are added to J on one round;
   return J;
```

GOTO algorithm

```
SetOfItems GOTO(I,X) {

J=empty;

if (A-> \alpha.X \beta is in I)

add CLOSURE(A-> \alphaX. \beta) to J;

return J;
```

Canonical LR(0) items

Void items(G') { C= CLOSURE({[S'->.S]}); repeat for (each set of items I in C) for (each grammar symbol X) if (GOTO(I,X) is not empty and not in C) add GOTO(I,X) to C; until no new set of items are added to C on a round;



Use of LR(0) automaton

• Example: id*id

Line	Stack	Symbols	Input	Action
(1)	0	\$	id*id\$	Shift to 5
(2)	05	\$id	*id\$	Reduce by F->id
(3)	03	\$F	*id\$	Reduce by T->F
(4)	02	\$T	*id\$	Shift to 7
(5)	027	\$T*	id\$	Shift to 5
(6)	0275	\$T*id	\$	Reduce by F->id
(7)	02710	\$T*F	\$	Reduce by T->T*F
(8)	02	\$T	\$	Reduce by E->T
(9)	01	\$E	\$	accept

LR-Parsing model



LR parsing algorithm

let a be the first symbol of w\$; while(1) { /*repeat forever */ let s be the state on top of the stack; if (ACTION[s,a] = shift t) { push t onto the stack; let a be the next input symbol; } else if (ACTION[s,a] = reduce A-> β) { pop $|\beta|$ symbols of the stack; let state t now be on top of the stack; push GOTO[t,A] onto the stack; output the production $A \rightarrow \beta$; } else if (ACTION[s,a]=accept) break; /* parsing is done */ else call error-recovery routine;

Example

STATE	ACTON				GOTO				
	id	+	*	()	\$	Е	Т	F
0	S5			S4			1	2	3
1		S 6				Acc			
2		R2	S7		R2	R2			
3		R 4	R7		R4	R4			
4	S5			S4			8	2	3
5		R 6	R 6		R6	R6			
6	S5			S4				9	3
7	S5			S4					10
8		S 6			S11				
9		Rı	S7		Rı	Rı			
10		R3	R3		R3	R3			
11		R5	R5		R5	R5			

(0) E'->E (1) E -> E + T (2) E-> T (3) T -> T * F (4) T-> F (5) F -> (E) (6) F->id

id*id+id?

Line	Stac k	Symbol s	Input	Action			
(1)	0		id*id+id\$	Shift to 5			
(2)	05	id	*id+id\$	Reduce by F->id			
(3)	03	F	*id+id\$	Reduce by T->F			
(4)	02	Т	*id+id\$	Shift to 7			
(5)	027	T*	id+id\$	Shift to 5			
(6)	0275	T*id	+id\$	Reduce by F->id			
(7)	02710	T*F	+id\$	Reduce by T- >T*F			
(8)	02	Т	+id\$	Reduce by E->T			
(9)	01	Е	+id\$	Shift			
(10)	016	E+	id\$	Shift			
(11)	0165	E+id	\$	Reduce by F->id			
(12)	0163	E+F	\$	Reduce by T->F			
(13)	0169	E+T`	\$	Reduce by E- >E+T			
(14)	01	Е	\$	accept			

Constructing SLR parsing table

- Method
 - Construct C={Io,I1, ..., In}, the collection of LR(o) items for G'
 - State i is constructed from state Ii:
 - If [A->α.aβ] is in Ii and Goto(Ii,a)=Ij, then set ACTION[i,a] to "shift j"
 - If [A->α.] is in Ii, then set ACTION[i,a] to "reduce A->α" for all a in follow(A)
 - If {S'->.S] is in Ii, then set ACTION[I,\$] to "Accept"
 - If any conflicts appears then we say that the grammar is not SLR(1).
 - If GOTO(Ii,A) = Ij then GOTO[i,A]=j
 - All entries not defined by above rules are made "error"
 - The initial state of the parser is the one constructed from the set of items containing [S'->.S]

Example grammar which is not **SLR(1)** $S \rightarrow L = R | R$ $L \rightarrow R \mid id$ $R \rightarrow L$ IO I1 13 15 17 S'->S. S'->.S L -> id. L -> *R. S ->R. $S \rightarrow L=R$ **I**4 16 S->.R I2 **I8** L->*.R $S \rightarrow L = R$ L -> .*R $S \rightarrow L = R$ R -> L. R->.L R->.L L->.id R ->L. L->.*R L->.*R R ->. L 19 L->.id L->.id $S \rightarrow L=R$. Action _ Shift 6 2 Reduce R->L

More powerful LR parsers

- Canonical-LR or just LR method
 - Use lookahead symbols for items: LR(1) items
 - Results in a large collection of items

• LALR: lookaheads are introduced in LR(o) items

Canonical LR(1) items

- In LR(1) items each item is in the form: $[A \rightarrow \alpha.\beta,a]$
- An LR(1) item [A->α.β,a] is valid for a viable prefix γ if there is a derivation S^{*}=>δAw=>δαβw, where
 - Γ=δα
 - Either a is the first symbol of w, or w is ε and a is \$
- Example:
 - S->BB
 - B->aB|b

S=>aaBab=>aaaBab

Item [B->a.B,a] is valid for γ =aaa and w=ab

Constructing LR(1) sets of items

SetOfItems Closure(I) {

repeat

}

for (each item [A-> α .B β ,a] in I) for (each production B-> γ in G') for (each terminal b in First(β a))

add $[B->.\gamma, b]$ to set I;

until no more items are added to I; return I;

```
SetOfItems Goto(I,X) {

initialize J to be the empty set;

for (each item [A->\alpha.X\beta,a] in I)

add item [A->\alphaX.\beta,a] to set J;

return closure(J);
```

until no new sets of items are added to C;

Example

S'->S S->CC C->cC C->d

Canonical LR(1) parsing table

- Method
 - Construct C={Io,I1, ..., In}, the collection of LR(1) items for G'
 - State i is constructed from state Ii:
 - If [A->α.aβ, b] is in Ii and Goto(Ii,a)=Ij, then set ACTION[i,a] to "shift j"
 - If [A->α., a] is in Ii, then set ACTION[i,a] to "reduce A->α"
 - If {S'->.S,\$] is in Ii, then set ACTION[I,\$] to "Accept"
 - If any conflicts appears then we say that the grammar is not LR(1).
 - If GOTO(Ii,A) = Ij then GOTO[i,A]=j
 - All entries not defined by above rules are made "error"
 - The initial state of the parser is the one constructed from the set of items containing [S'->.S,\$]

Example

S'->S S->CC C->cC C->d

LALR Parsing Table

• For the previous example we had:



- State merges cant produce Shift-Reduce conflicts. Why?
- But it may produce reduce-reduce conflict

Example of RR conflict in state merging S'->S

S -> aAd | bBd | aBe | bAe A -> c

B -> c

An easy but space-consuming LALR table construction

• Method:

- 1. Construct C={Io,I1,...,In} the collection of LR(1) items.
- 2. For each core among the set of LR(1) items, find all sets having that core, and replace these sets by their union.
- 3. Let C'={Jo,J1,...,Jm} be the resulting sets. The parsing actions for state i, is constructed from Ji as before. If there is a conflict grammar is not LALR(1).
- 4. If J is the union of one or more sets of LR(1) items, that is J = I1 UI2...IIk then the cores of Goto(I1,X), ..., Goto(Ik,X) are the same and is a state like K, then we set Goto(J,X) =k.
- This method is not efficient, a more efficient one is discussed in the book

Compaction of LR parsing table

- Many rows of action tables are identical
 - Store those rows separately and have pointers to them from different states
 - Make lists of (terminal-symbol, action) for each state
 - Implement Goto table by having a link list for each nonterinal in the form (current state, next state)

Using ambiguous grammars STATE ACTON

GO TO

Ε

1

\$

E->E+E	
E->E*E	
E->(E)	
E->id	

$E_{-}(E)$			1		S4	S5			Acc	
L->(L)		2	S ₃		S2				6	
E->id			3		R4	R4		R4	R4	
			4	S ₃			S2			7
			5	S ₃			S2			8
I0: E'->.E	0: E'->.E I1: E'->E. E->.E+E E->E.+E E->.E*E E->E.*E E->.(E) E->.id	I2: E->(.E) E->.E+E E->.E*E E->.(E) E->.id	6		S4	S5				
E->.E+E			7		R1	S5		Rı	Rı	
E->.E*E E->.(E)			8		R2	R2		R2	R2	
E->.id			9		R ₃	R3		R ₃	R ₃	
I3: E->.id	I4: E->E+.E E->.E+E E->.E*E E->.(E) E->.id	I5: E->E*.E E->(.E) E->.E+E E->.E*E E->.(E) E->.id	I6: E->(E.) E->E.+E E->E.*E I8: E->E*E E->E.+E E->E.+E E->E.*E	רז ב ב . וי	7: E-> ->E.+ ->E.* 9: E->	•E+E. •E •E •(E).				

0

id

S3

*

(

S2

+

)

Readings

• Chapter 4 of the book