

Parsing & Error Recovery

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COS 320

Error Recovery

- What should happen when your parser finds an error in the user's input?
 - stop immediately and signal an error
 - record the error but try to continue
- In the first case, the user must recompile from scratch after possibly a trivial fix
- In the second case, the user might be overwhelmed by a whole series of error messages, all caused by essentially the same problem
- We will talk about how to do error recovery in a principled way

Error Recovery

- **Error recovery:**
 - process of adjusting input stream so that the parser can continue after unexpected input
- **Possible adjustments:**
 - delete tokens
 - insert tokens
 - substitute tokens
- **Classes of recovery:**
 - **local recovery:** adjust input at the point where error was detected (and also possibly immediately after)
 - **global recovery:** adjust input before point where error was detected.
- Error recovery is possible in both top-down and bottom-up parsers

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

exp : NUM	()	exps : exp	()
| exp PLUS exp	()	| exps ; exp	()
| LPAR exp RPAR	()		

- general strategy for both bottom-up and top-down:
 - look for a **synchronizing token**

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

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- general strategy for both bottom-up and top-down:
 - look for a **synchronizing token**
- accomplished in bottom-up parsers by adding error rules to grammar:

exp : LPAR **error** RPAR ()

exps : exp ()
 | **error** ; exp ()

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

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- general strategy for both bottom-up and top-down:
 - look for a **synchronizing token**
- accomplished in bottom-up parsers by adding error rules to grammar:

exp : LPAR **error** RPAR ()

exps : exp ()
 | **error** ; exp ()

- in general, follow error with a synchronizing token. Recovery steps:
 - **Pop stack** (if necessary) until a state is reached in which the action for the error token is shift
 - **Shift** the error token
 - **Discard input** symbols (if necessary) until a state is reached that has a non-error action
 - **Resume** normal parsing

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

exp : NUM ()
 | exp PLUS exp ()
 | (exp) ()

exps : exp ()
 | exps ; exp ()

exp : (error) ()

exps : exp ()
 | error ; exp ()

input: NUM PLUS (NUM PLUS @#\$ PLUS NUM) PLUS NUM

yet to read

stack: exp PLUS (exp PLUS

@#\$ is an unexpected token!

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

exp : NUM ()
 | exp PLUS exp ()
 | (exp) ()

exps : exp ()
 | exps ; exp ()

exp : (error) ()

exps : exp ()
 | error ; exp ()

input: NUM PLUS (NUM PLUS @#\$ PLUS NUM) PLUS NUM

yet to read

stack: exp PLUS (

pop stack until shifting “error” can result in correct parse

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

exp : NUM ()
 | exp PLUS exp ()
 | (exp) ()

exps : exp ()
 | exps ; exp ()

exp : (error) ()

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input: NUM PLUS (NUM PLUS @#\$ PLUS NUM) PLUS NUM

yet to read

stack: exp PLUS (error

shift "error"

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

exp : NUM ()
 | exp PLUS exp ()
 | (exp) ()

exps : exp ()
 | exps ; exp ()

exp : (error) ()

exps : exp ()
 | error ; exp ()

input: NUM PLUS (NUM PLUS @\$ PLUS NUM) PLUS NUM

yet to read

stack: exp PLUS (error

discard input until we can legally
shift or reduce

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

```
exp : NUM          ()
     | exp PLUS exp ()
     | ( exp )      ()
```

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{exps} : \text{exp} & () \\ | \text{exps} ; \text{exp} & () \end{array}$$

```
exp : ( error )      ()
```

```
exps : exp      ()
    | error ; exp  ()
```

input: NUM PLUS (NUM PLUS @\$ PLUS NUM) PLUS NUM

stack: exp PLUS (error)

SHIFT)

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

exp : NUM ()
 | exp PLUS exp ()
 | (exp) ()

exps : exp ()
 | exps ; exp ()

exp : (error) ()

exps : exp ()
 | error ; exp ()

input: NUM PLUS (NUM PLUS @\$ PLUS NUM) PLUS NUM

yet to read

stack: exp PLUS exp

REDUCE using exp ::= (error)

Local Bottom-up Error Recovery

```
exp : NUM          ()
     | exp PLUS exp ()
     | ( exp )      ()
```

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{exprs} : \text{exp} & () \\ \quad | \text{exprs} ; \text{exp} & () \end{array}$$
$$\text{exp} : (\text{error}) \quad ()$$

```
exps : exp      ()
    | error ; exp  ()
```

yet to read

input: NUM PLUS (NUM PLUS @\$ PLUS NUM) PLUS NUM

stack: exp PLUS exp

continue parsing...

Top-down Local Error Recovery

- also possible to use synchronizing tokens
- here, a synchronizing token for non terminal X is a member of $\text{Follow}(X)$
 - when parsing X and an error is found; eat input stream until you get to a member of $\text{Follow}(X)$

non-terminals: S, E, L

terminals: NUM, IF, THEN, ELSE, BEGIN, END, PRINT, ,, =

rules:

1. S ::= IF E THEN S ELSE S

2. | BEGIN S L

3. | PRINT E

4. L ::= END

5. | ; S L

6. E ::= NUM = NUM

```
val tok = ref (getToken ())
fun advance () = tok := getToken ()
fun eat t = if (! tok = t) then advance () else error ()
```

```
fun skipto toks =
  if member(!tok, toks) then ()
  else
    eat(!tok); skipto toks
```

```
fun S () = case !tok of
  IF => ... | BEGIN => ... | PRINT => ...
```

```
and L () = case !tok of
  END   => eat END
| SEMI  => eat SEMI; S (); L ()
```

```
and E () = case !tok of
  NUM => eat NUM; eat EQ; eat NUM
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  | _ => skipto [ELSE,END,SEMI]
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rules:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. S ::= IF E THEN S ELSE S | 4. L ::= END |
| 2. BEGIN S L | 5. ; S L |
| 3. PRINT E | 6. E ::= NUM = NUM |

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```
and E () = case !tok of  
  NUM => eat NUM; eat EQ; eat NUM  
  | _  => skipto [THEN,ELSE,END,SEMI]
```

global error recovery

- **global error recovery** determines the smallest set of insertions, deletions or replacements that will allow a correct parse, even if those insertions, etc. occur before an error would have been detected
- ML-Yacc uses **Burke-Fisher error repair**
 - tries **every possible single-token insertion**, deletion or replacement at every point in the input up to K tokens before the error is detected
 - eg: K = 20; parser gets stuck at token 500; all possible repairs between token 480-500 tried
 - best repair = longest successful parse

global error recovery

- Consider Burke-Fisher with
 - K-token window
 - N different token types
- Total number of repairs = $K + 2K*N$
 - deletions (K) +
 - insertions $(K + 1)*N$ +
 - replacements $(K)(N-1)$
- Affordable in the uncommon case when there is an error

global error recovery

- Parser must be able to back up K tokens and reparse
- Mechanics:
 - parser maintains old stack and new stack

K-token window
maintained in queue
by parser

input: ID := NUM ; ID := ID + (ID := NUM + ...

new stack: S ; ID := E + (

old stack: ID := NUM

global error recovery

- Parser must be able to back up K tokens and reparse
- Mechanics:
 - parser maintains old stack and new stack

K-token window
maintained in queue
by parser

input: ID := NUM ; ID := ID + (ID := NUM + ...

K-token window (under the first 6 tokens: ID := NUM ; ID := ID + ()
yet to read (under the remaining tokens: ID := NUM + ...)

new stack: S ; ID := E + (

old stack: ID := NUM

old stack lags the new stack by K=6 tokens

Reductions ($E ::= \text{NUM}$) and ($S ::= \text{ID} := \text{NUM}$) applied to old stack in turn

global error recovery

- Parser must be able to back up K tokens and reparse
- Mechanics:
 - parser maintains old stack and new stack

K-token window
maintained in queue
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The diagram shows a horizontal line representing the input stream. A green bracket labeled "K-token window" spans the first part of the input, which is highlighted in green. A blue bracket labeled "yet to read" spans the remaining part of the input, which is highlighted in blue. An arrow points from the text "K-token window maintained in queue by parser" to the green bracket.

input: ID := NUM ; ID := ID + (ID := NUM + ...

new stack: S ; ID := E + (

old stack: ID := NUM

semantic actions performed once when reduction is “committed” on the old stack

Burke-Fisher in ML-Yacc

- ML-Yacc provides additional support for Burke-Fisher
 - to continue parsing, we need semantics values for inserted tokens
 - some multiple-token insertions & deletions are common, but it is too expensive for ML-Yacc to try every 2,3,4- token insertion, deletion

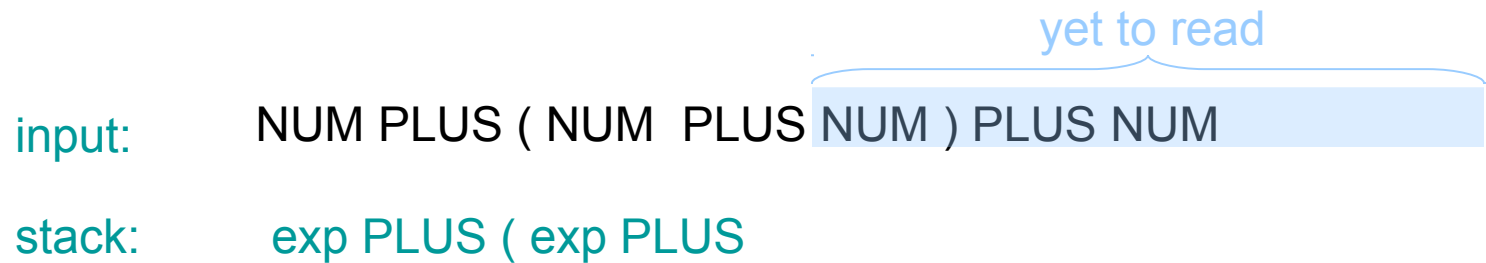
```
%value ID {make_id "bogus"}  
%value INT {0}  
%value STRING {""}
```

```
%change EQ -> ASSIGN  
| SEMI ELSE -> ELSE  
| -> IN INT END
```

ML-Yacc
would do this
anyway but by
specifying,
it tries it first

finally the magic: how to construct an LR parser table

input: NUM PLUS (NUM PLUS NUM) PLUS NUM
stack: exp PLUS (exp PLUS



- At every point in the parse, the LR parser table tells us what to do next
 - shift, reduce, error or accept
- To do so, the LR parser keeps track of the parse “state” ==> a state in a finite automaton

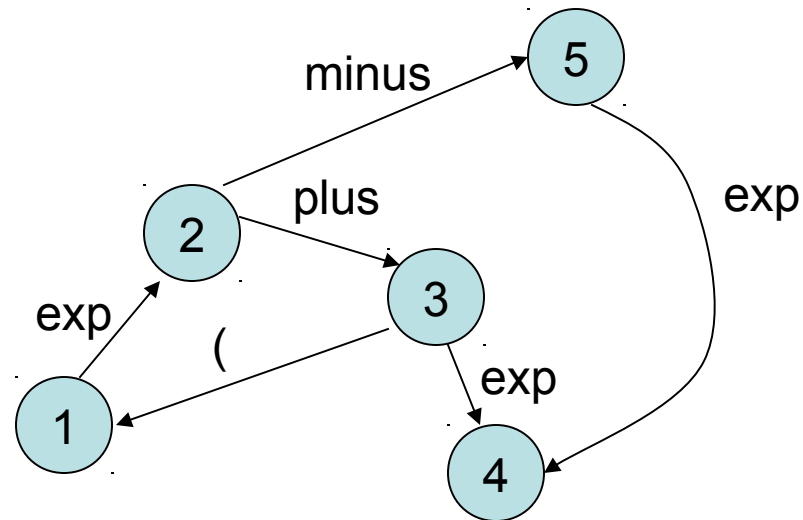
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stack: exp PLUS (exp PLUS

yet to read

finite automaton;
terminals and
non terminals
label edges



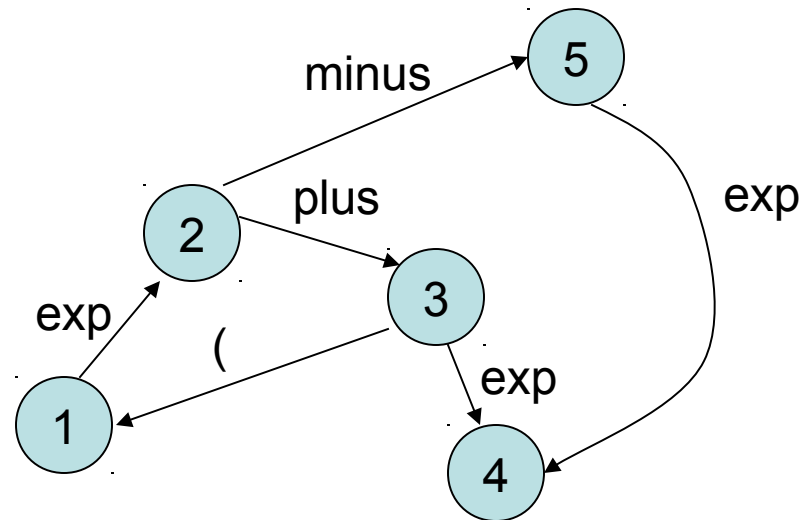
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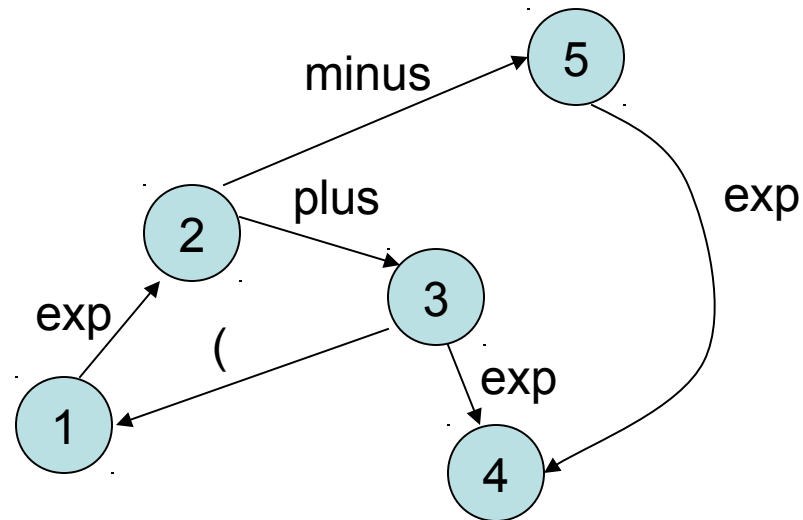
state-annotated stack: 1

finally the magic: how to construct an LR parser table

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state-annotated stack: 1 exp 2

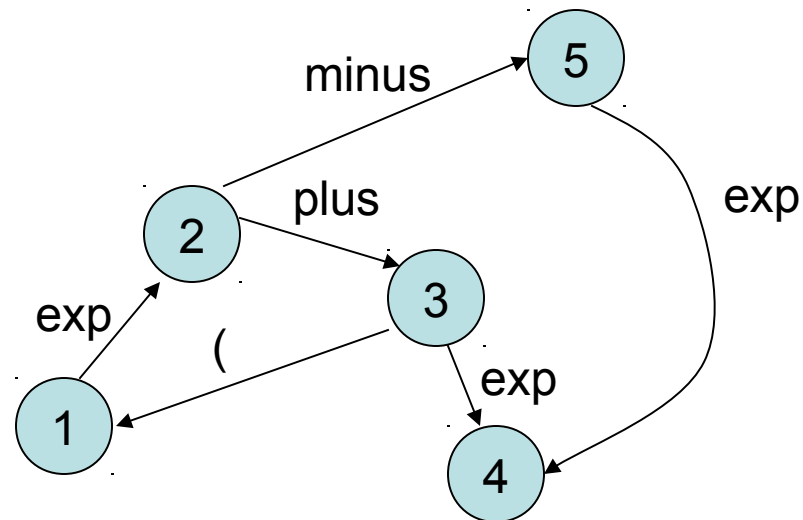
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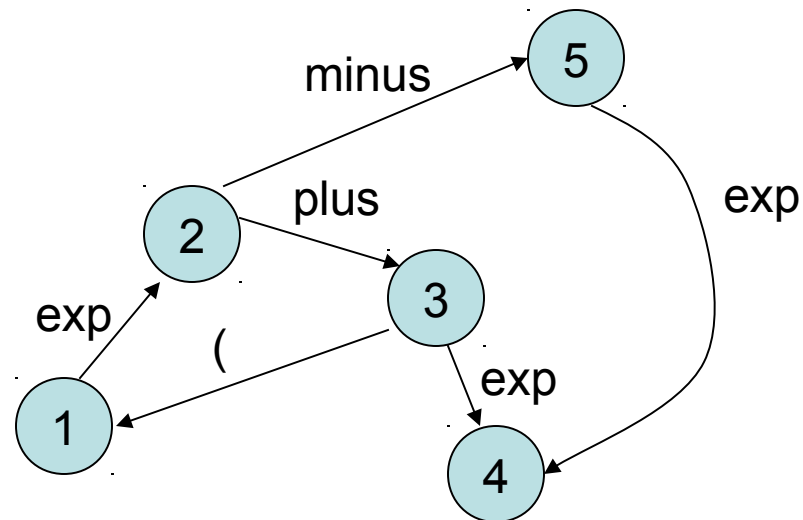
state-annotated stack: 1 exp 2 PLUS 3

finally the magic: how to construct an LR parser table

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state-annotated stack: 1 exp 2 PLUS 3 (1 exp 2 PLUS 3

this state
and input
tell us what
to do next

The Parse Table

- At every point in the parse, the LR parser table tells us what to do next according to the automaton state at the top of the stack
 - shift, reduce, error or accept

states	Terminal seen next ID, NUM, := ...
1	
2	sn = shift & goto state n
3	rk = reduce by rule k
...	a = accept
n	= error

The Parse Table

- Reducing by rule k is broken into two steps:
 - current stack is:
A 8 B 3 C 7 RHS 12
 - rewrite the stack according to $X ::= \text{RHS}$:
A 8 B 3 C 7 X
 - figure out state on top of stack (ie: goto 13)
A 8 B 3 C 7 X 13

states	Terminal seen next ID, NUM, := ...	Non-terminals X,Y,Z ...
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2	sn = shift & goto state n	gn = goto state n
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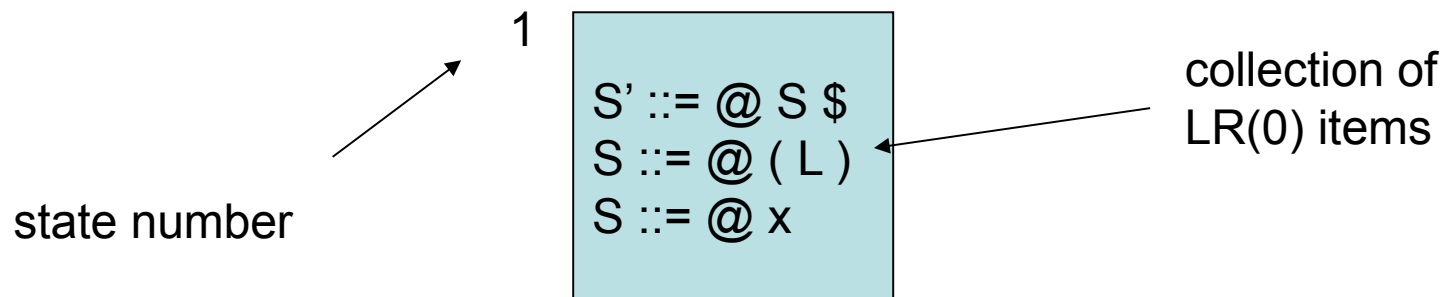
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LR(0) parsing

- each state in the automaton represents a collection of LR(0) **items**:
 - an **item** is a rule from the grammar combined with “@” to indicate where the parser currently is in the input
 - eg: $S' ::= @ S \$$ indicates that the parser is just beginning to parse this rule and it expects to be able to parse S then $\$$ next
- A whole automaton state looks like this:



- LR(1) states look very similar, it is just that the items contain some look-ahead info

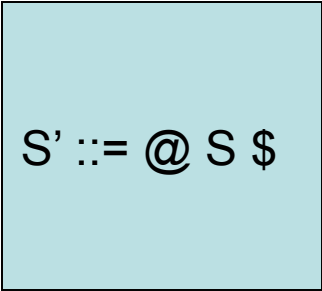
LR(0) parsing

- To construct states, we begin with a particular LR(0) item and construct its **closure**
 - the closure adds more items to a set when the “@” appears to the left of a non-terminal
 - if the state includes $X ::= s @ Y s'$ and $Y ::= t$ is a rule then the state also includes $Y ::= @ t$

Grammar:

- 0. $S' ::= S \$$
 - $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

1



$S' ::= @ S \$$

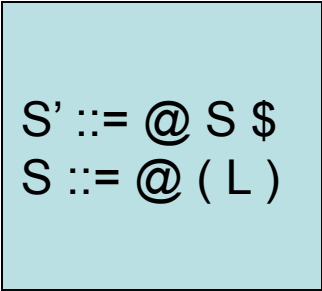
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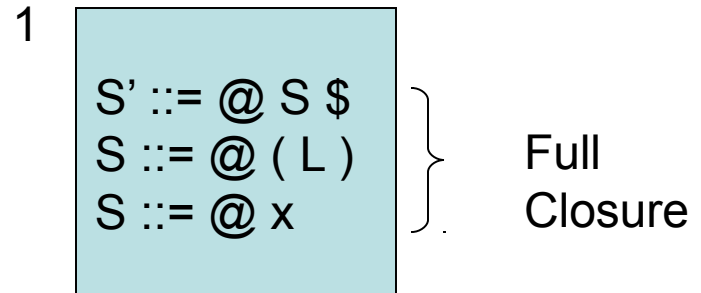
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LR(0) parsing

- To construct an LR(0) automaton:
 - start with start rule & compute initial state with closure
 - pick one of the items from the state and move “@” to the right one symbol (as if you have just parsed the symbol)
 - this creates a new item ...
 - ... and a new state when you compute the closure of the new item
 - mark the edge between the two states with:
 - a terminal T, if you moved “@” over T
 - a non-terminal X, if you moved “@” over X
 - continue until there are no further ways to move “@” across items and generate new states or new edges in the automaton

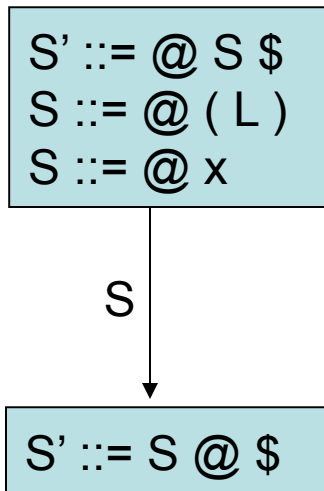
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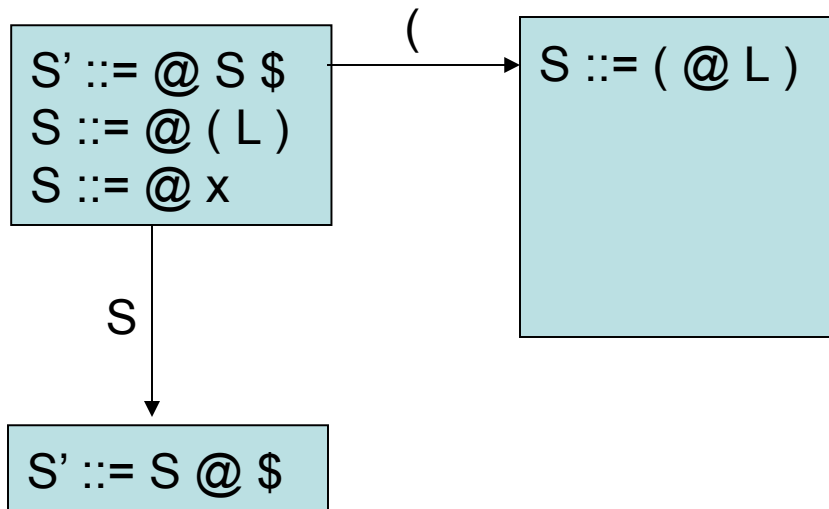
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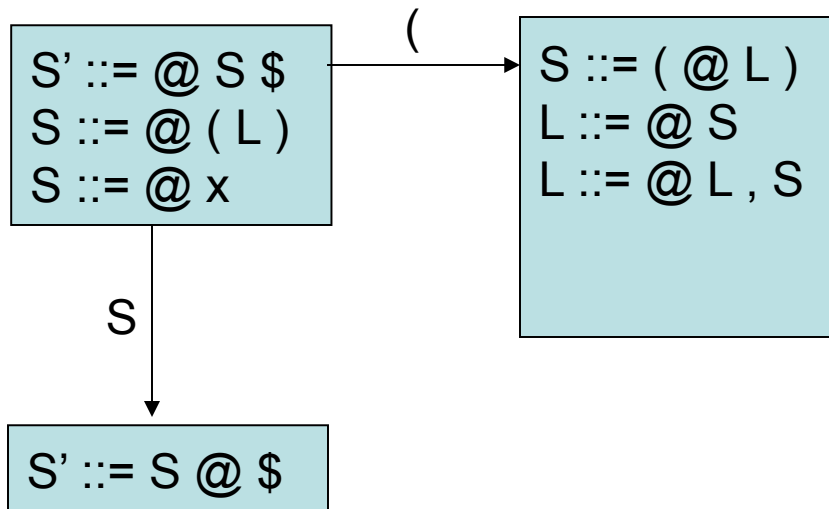
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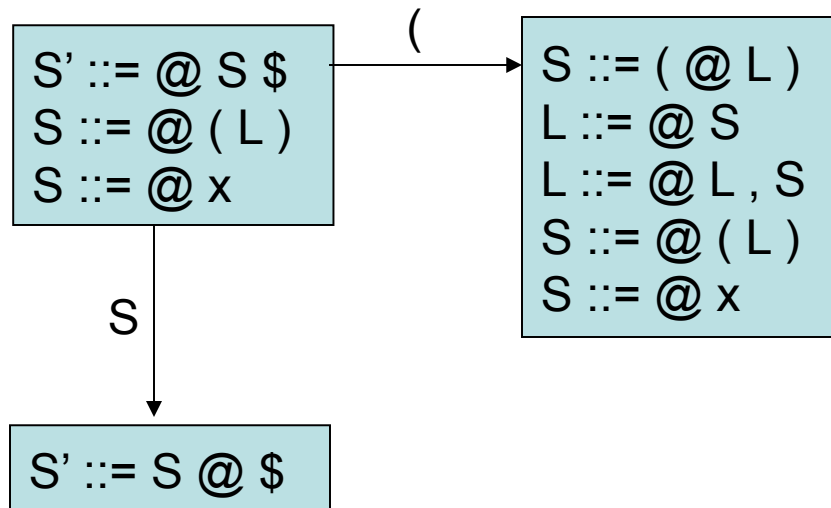
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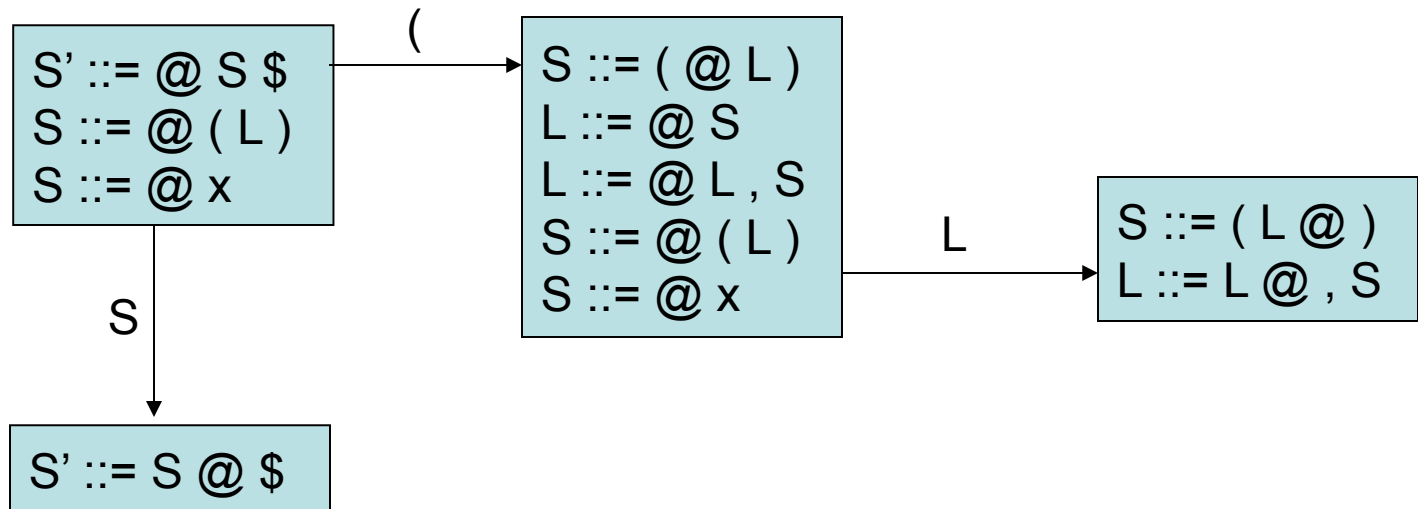
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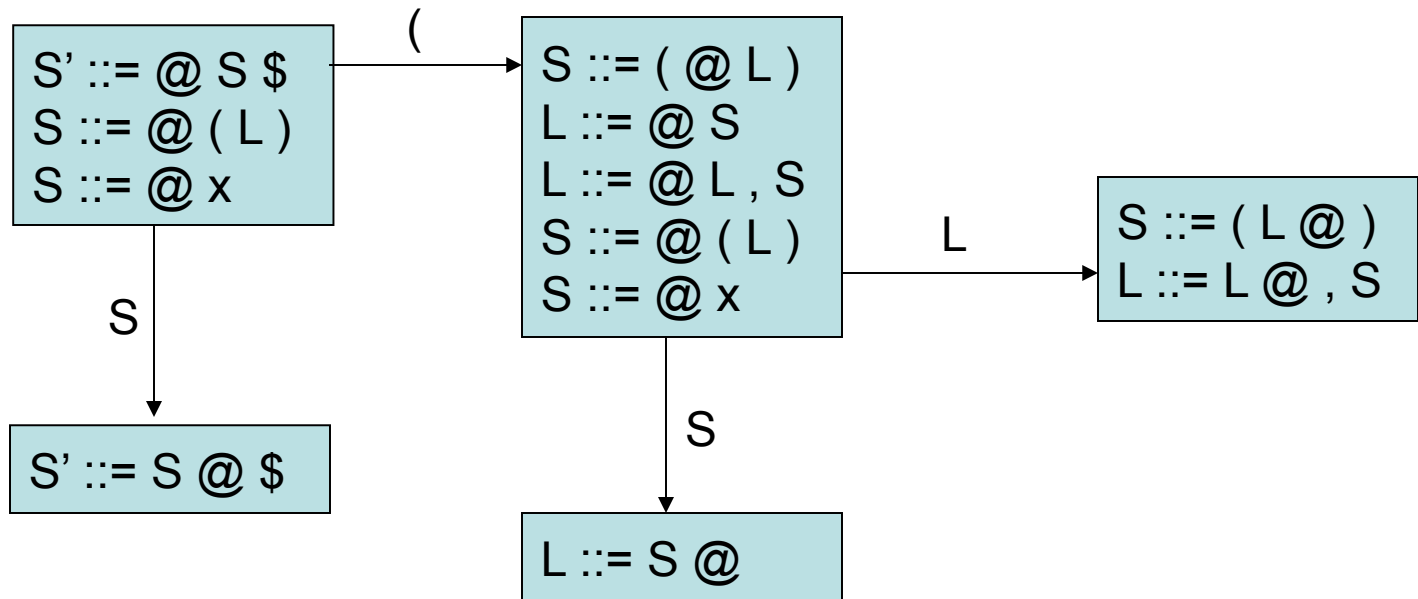
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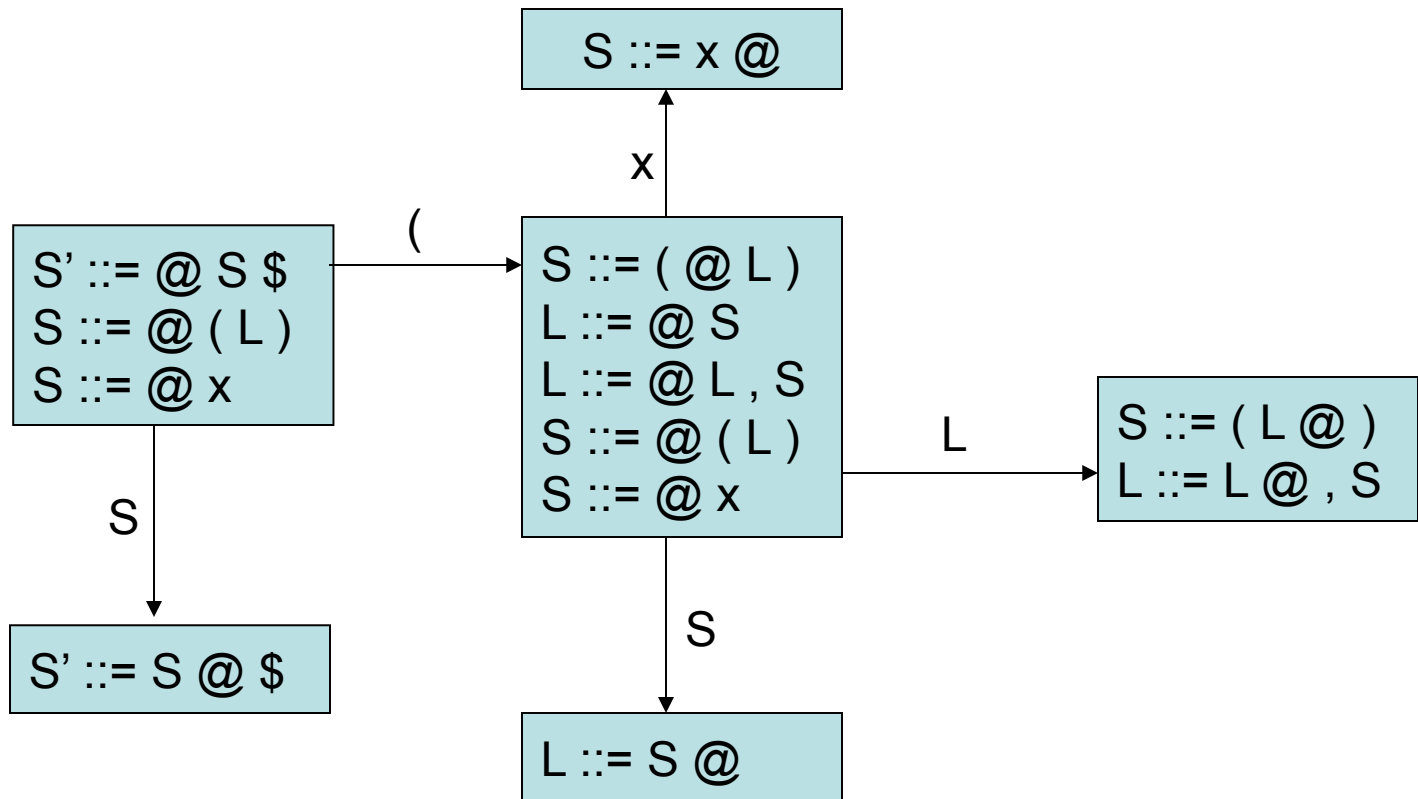
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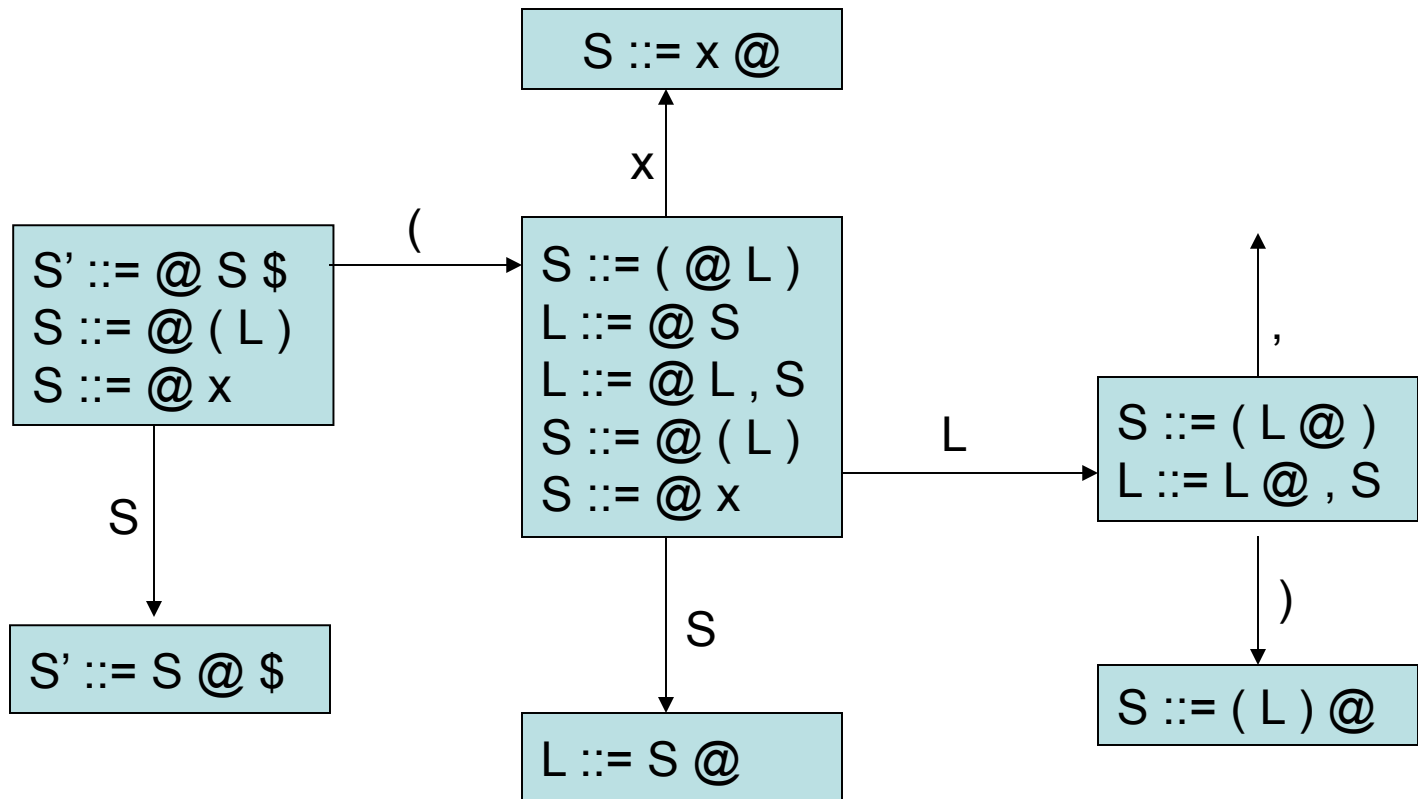
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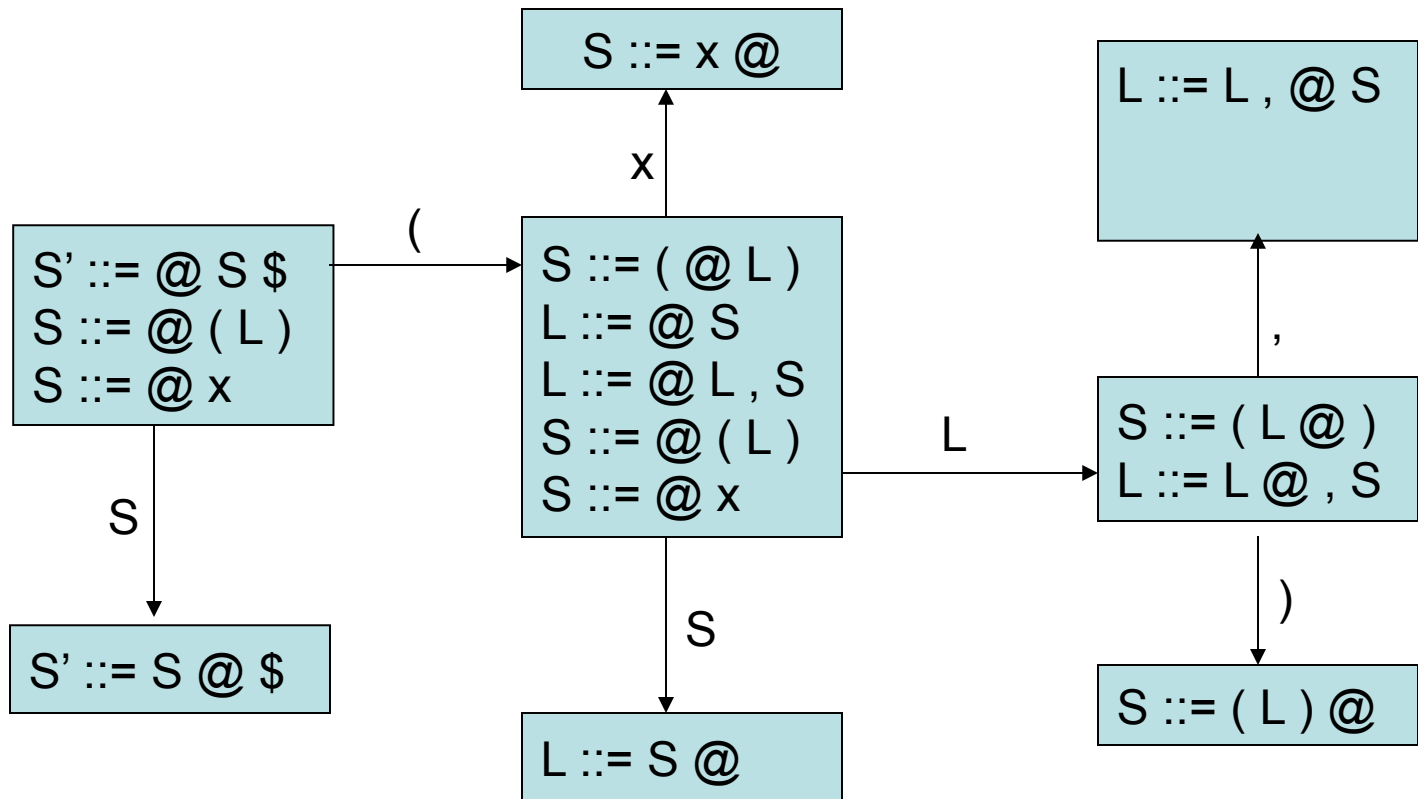
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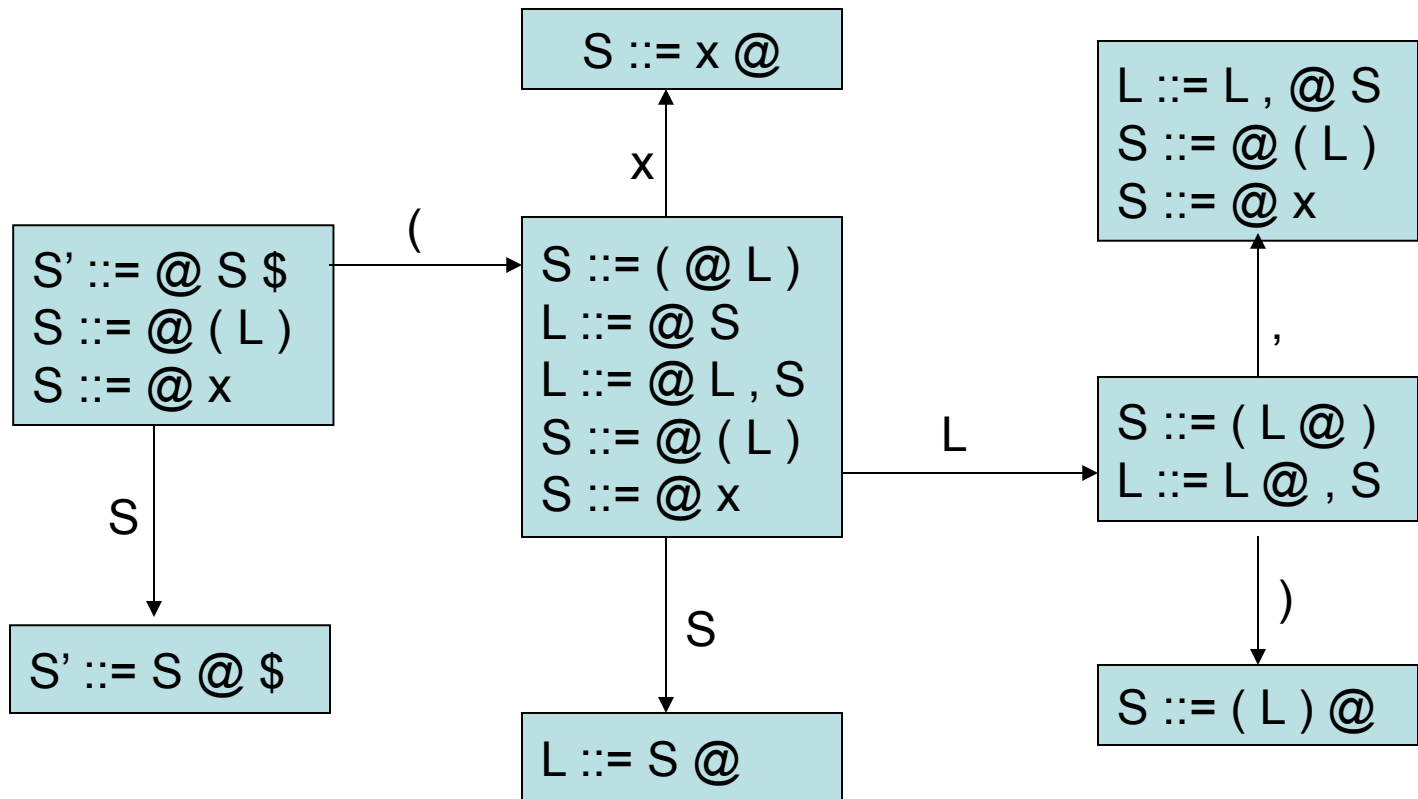
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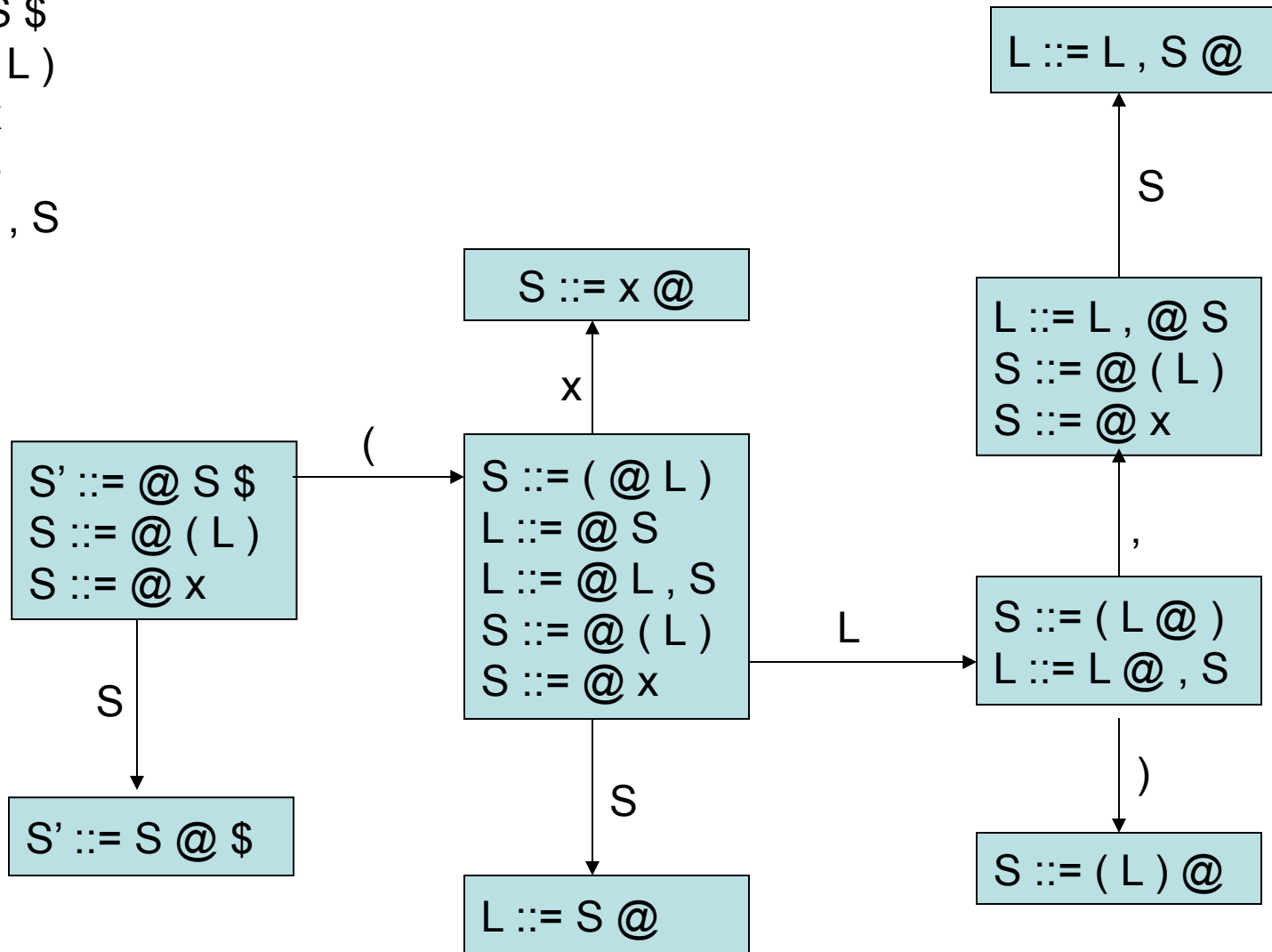
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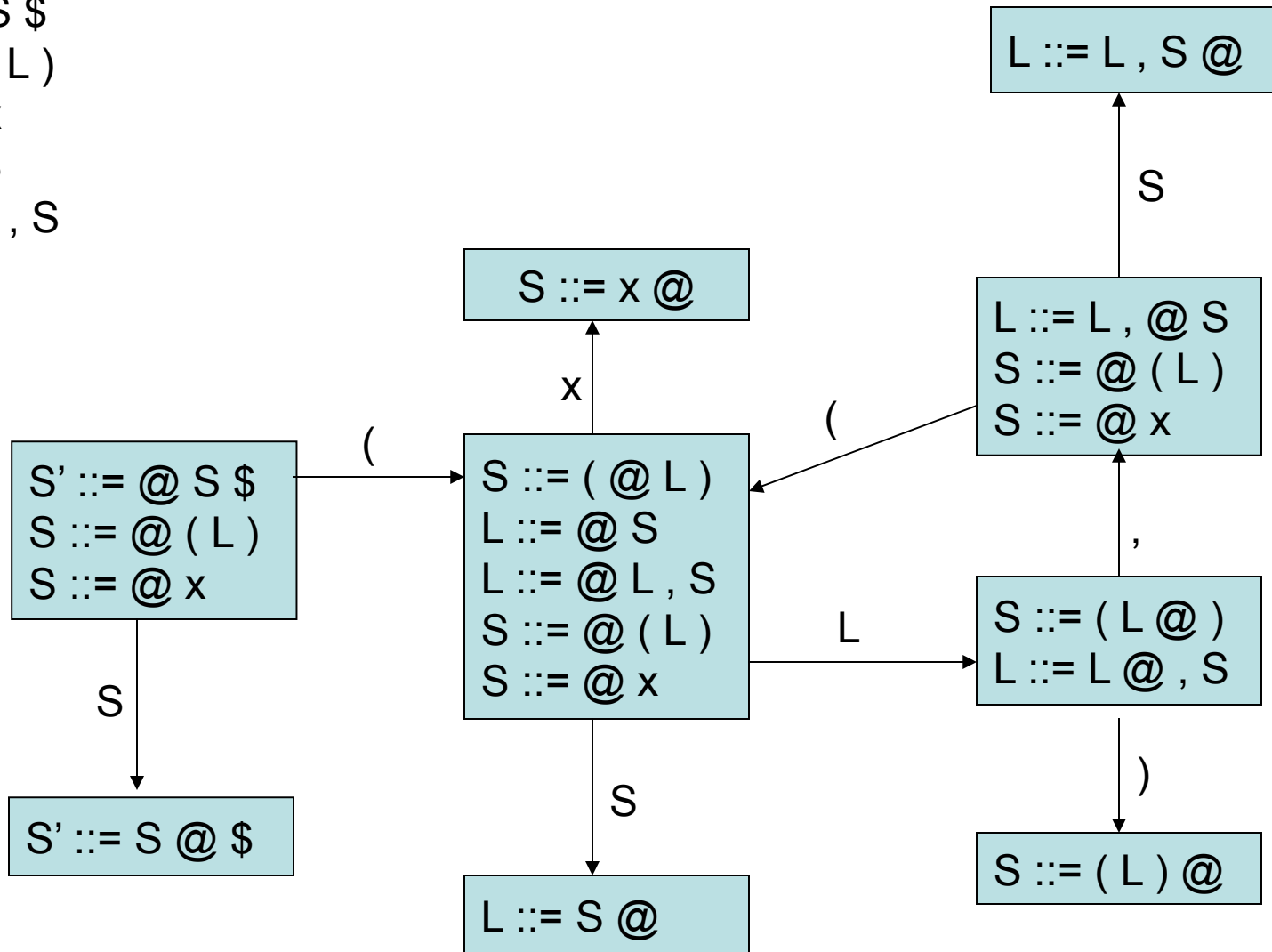
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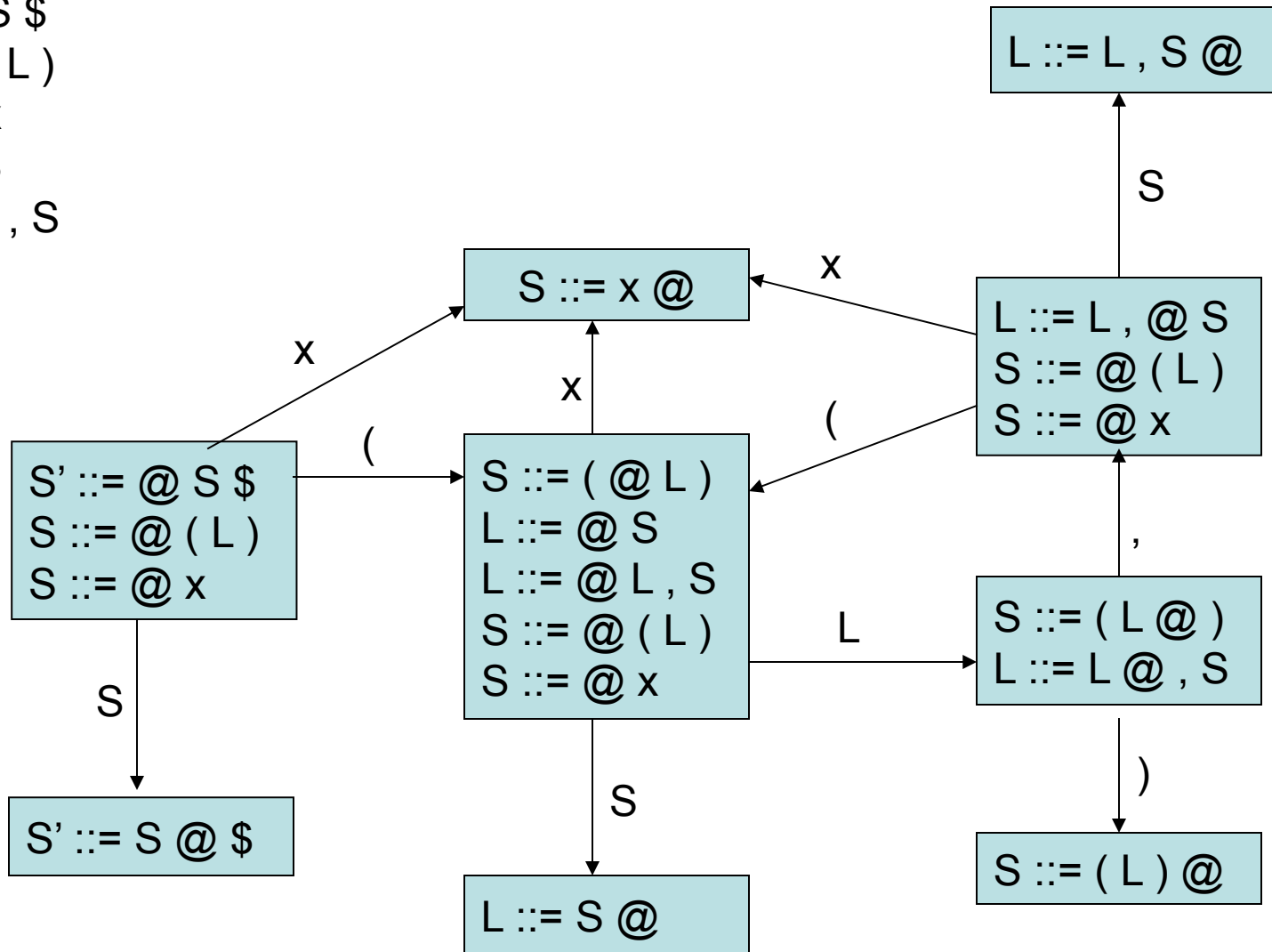
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Grammar:

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

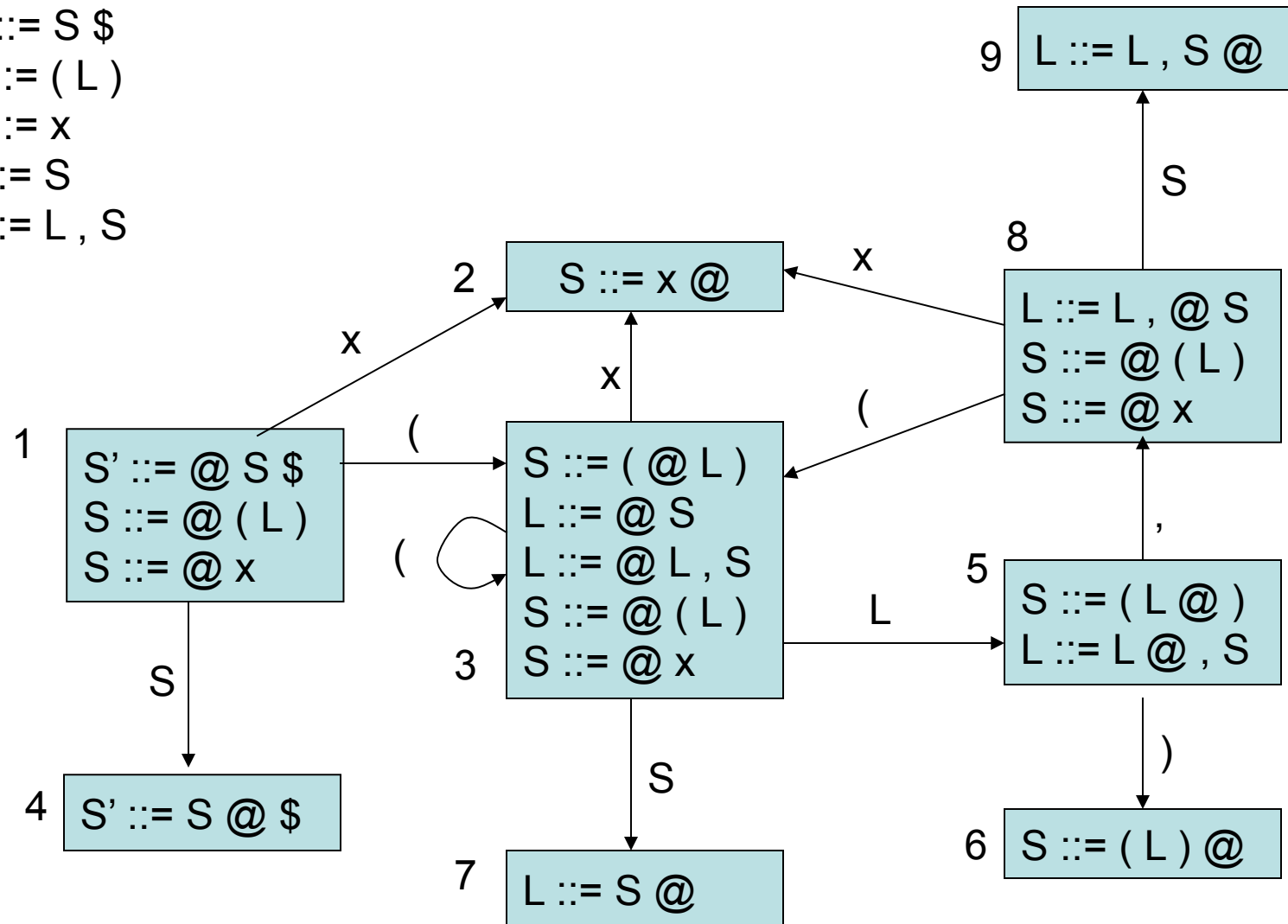


Grammar:

Assigning numbers to states:

0. $S' ::= S \$$

- $S ::= (L)$
- $S ::= x$
- $L ::= S$
- $L ::= L, S$

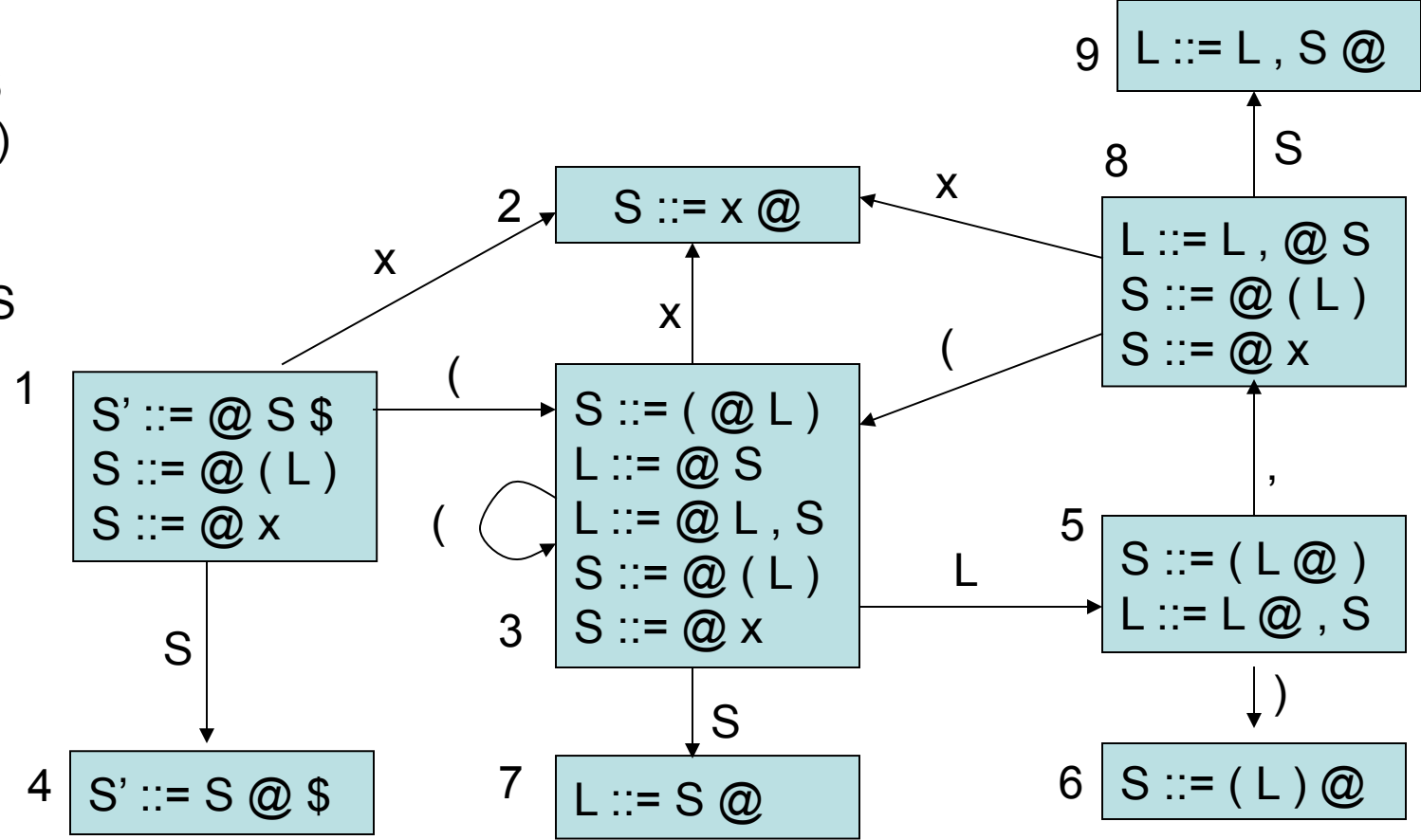


computing parse table

- State i contains $X ::= s @ \$ \implies \text{table}[i, \$] = a$
- State i contains rule k : $X ::= s @ \implies \text{table}[i, T] = rk$ for all terminals T
- Transition from i to j marked with $T \implies \text{table}[i, T] = sj$
- Transition from i to j marked with $X \implies \text{table}[i, X] = gj$

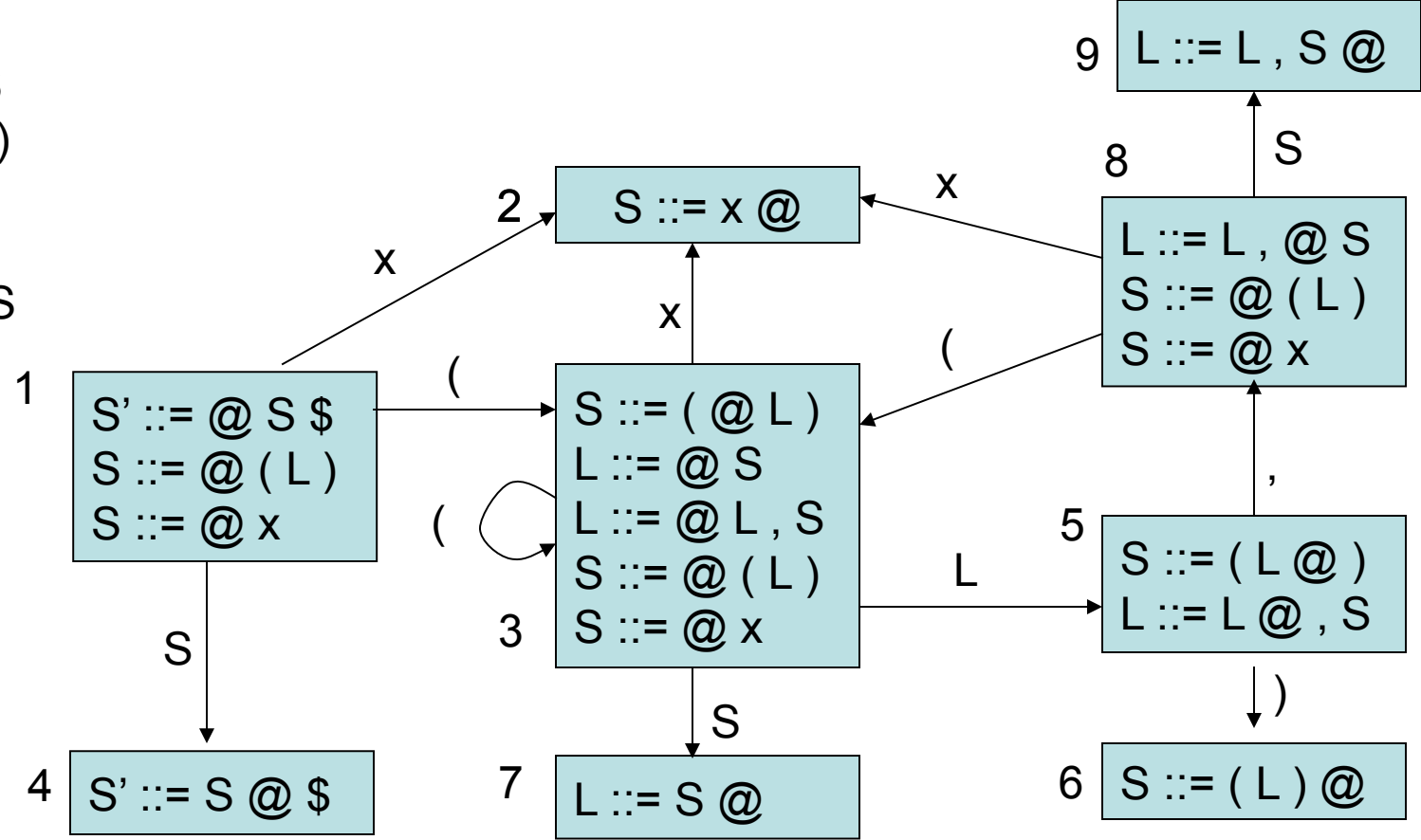
states	Terminal seen next ID, NUM, := ...	Non-terminals X,Y,Z ...
1		
2	sn = shift & goto state n	gn = goto state n
3	rk = reduce by rule k	
...	a = accept	
n	= error	

- 0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
- $S ::= x$
- $L ::= S$
- $L ::= L , S$



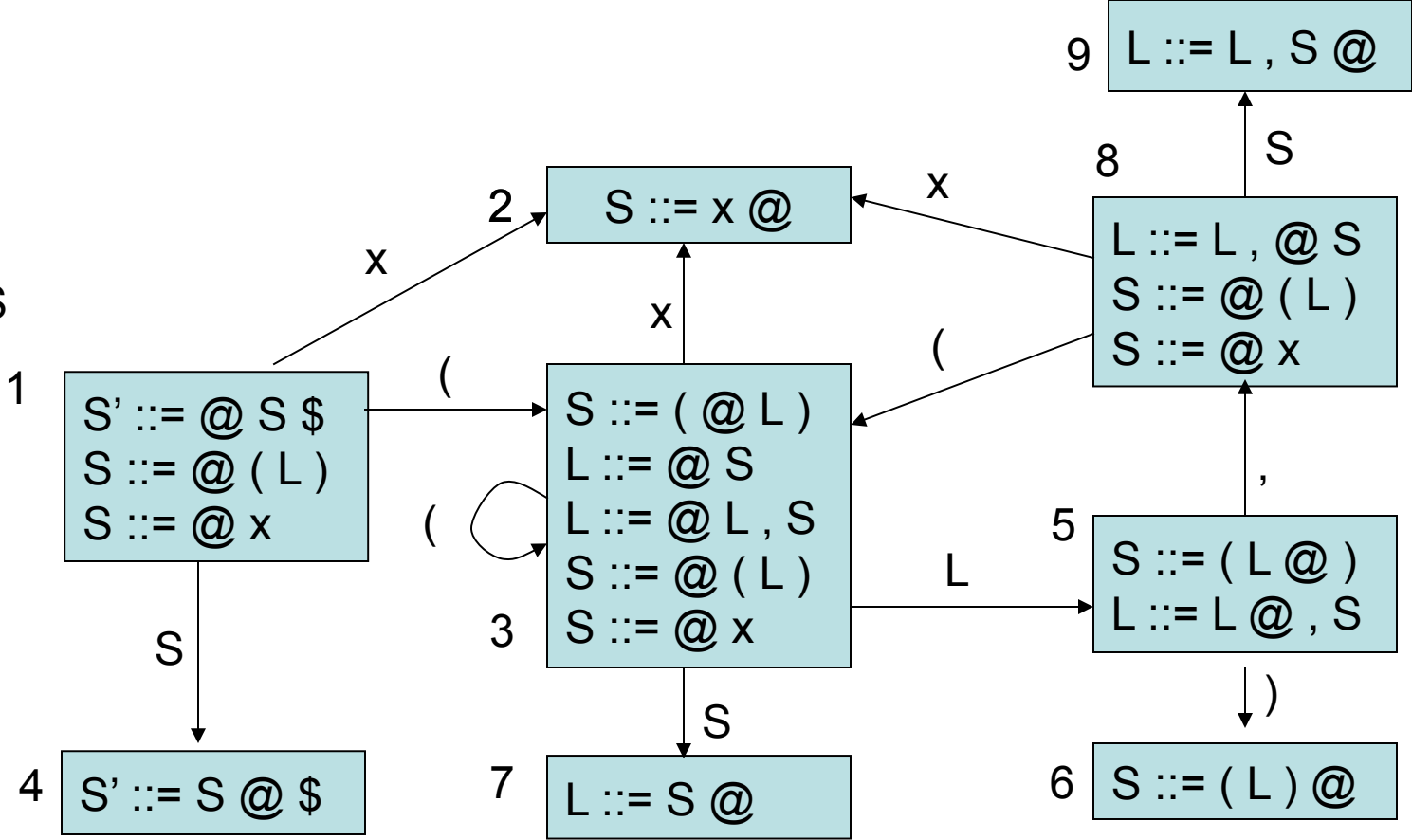
states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1							
2							
3							
4							
...							

- 0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
- $S ::= x$
- $L ::= S$
- $L ::= L , S$



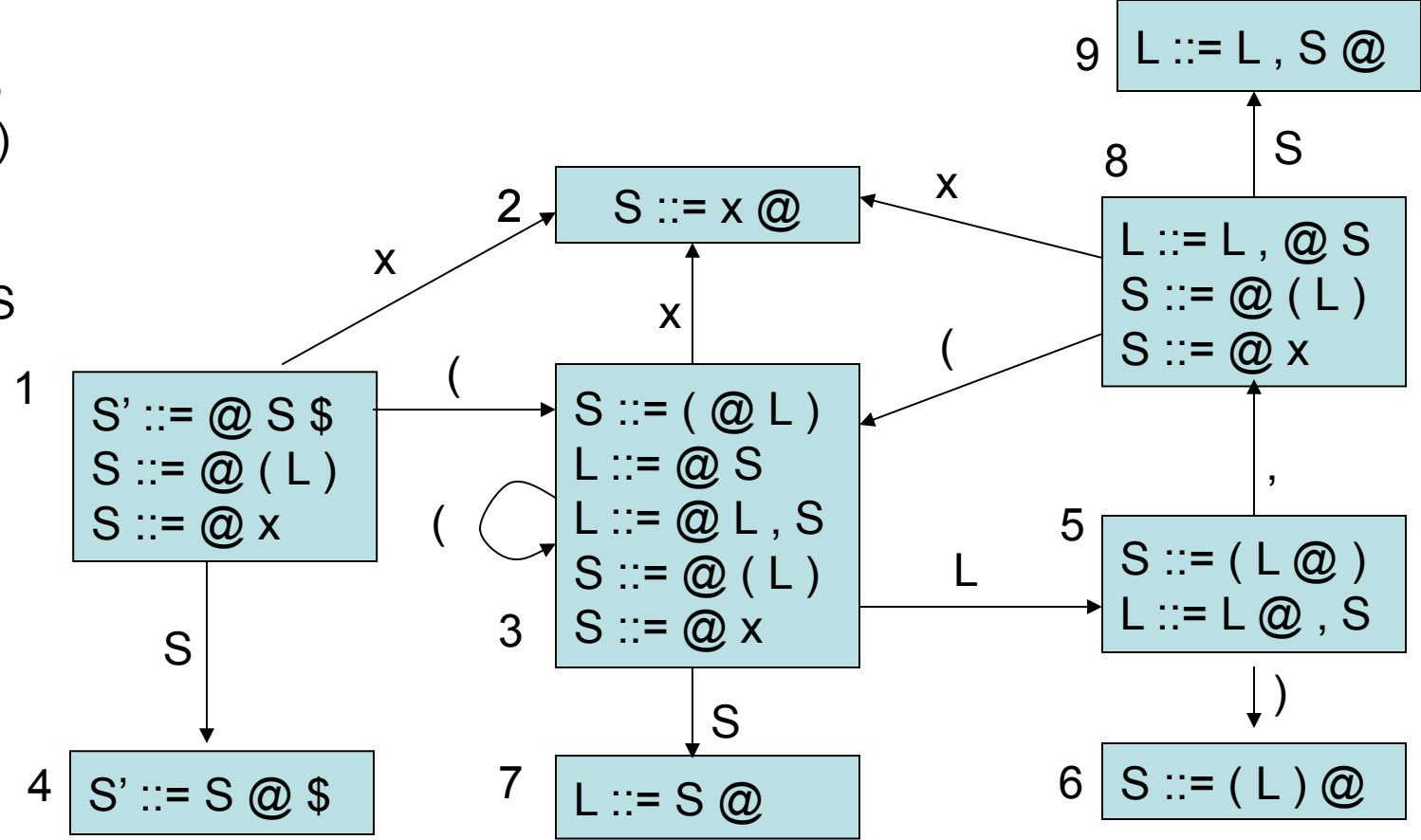
states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3						
2							
3							
4							
...							

- 0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
- $S ::= x$
- $L ::= S$
- $L ::= L , S$



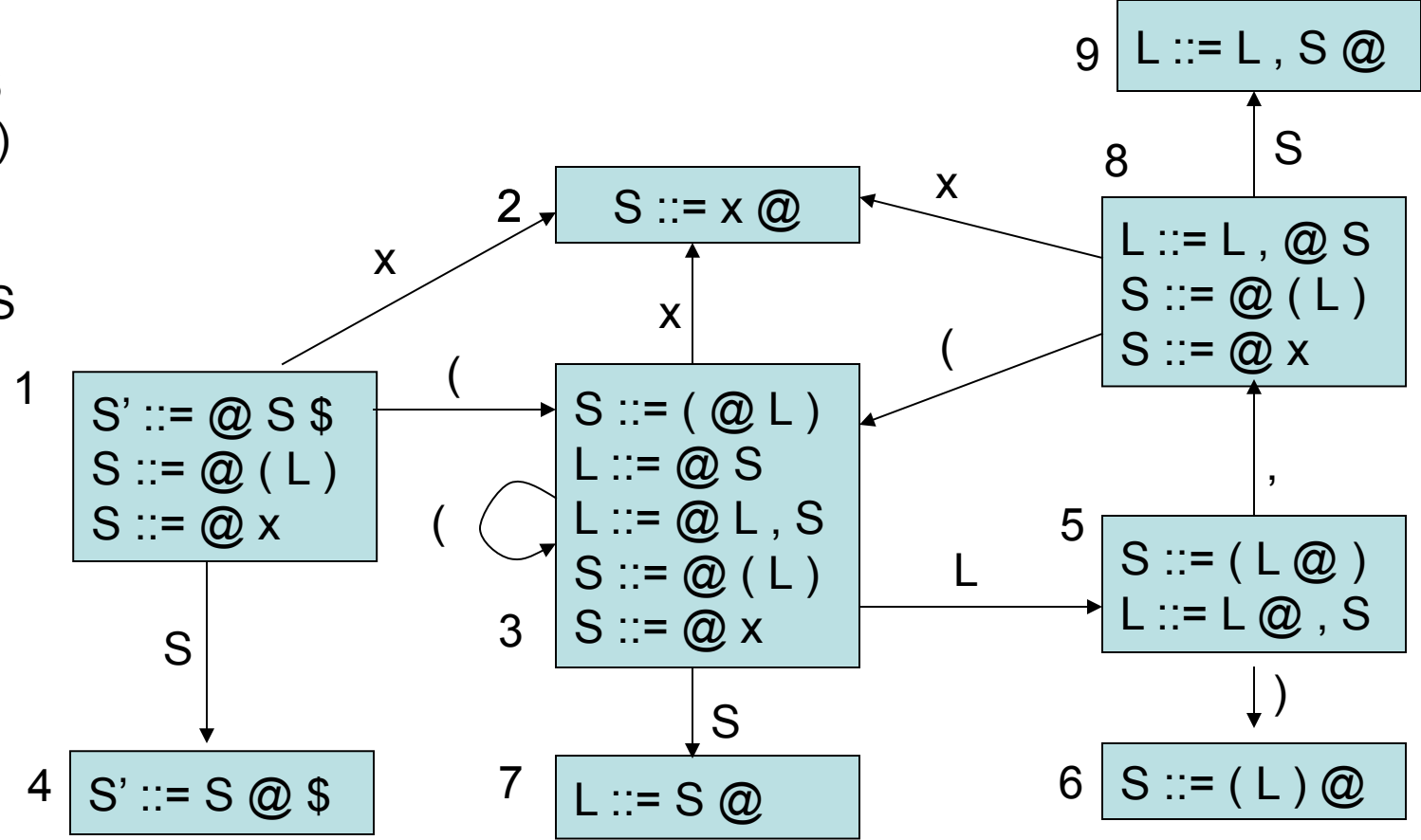
states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2				
2							
3							
4							
...							

- 0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
- $S ::= x$
- $L ::= S$
- $L ::= L , S$



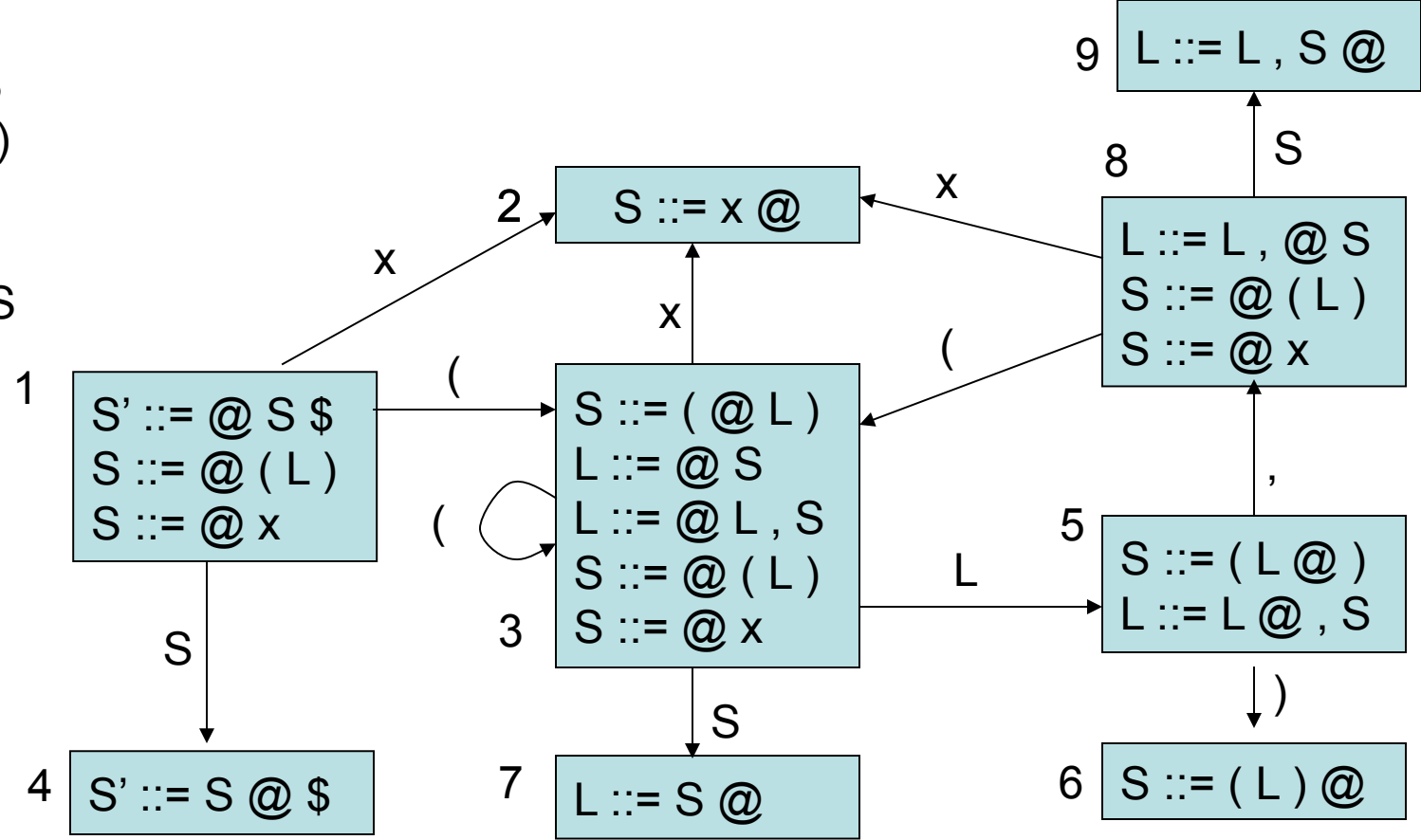
states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2							
3							
4							
...							

- 0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
- $S ::= x$
- $L ::= S$
- $L ::= L , S$



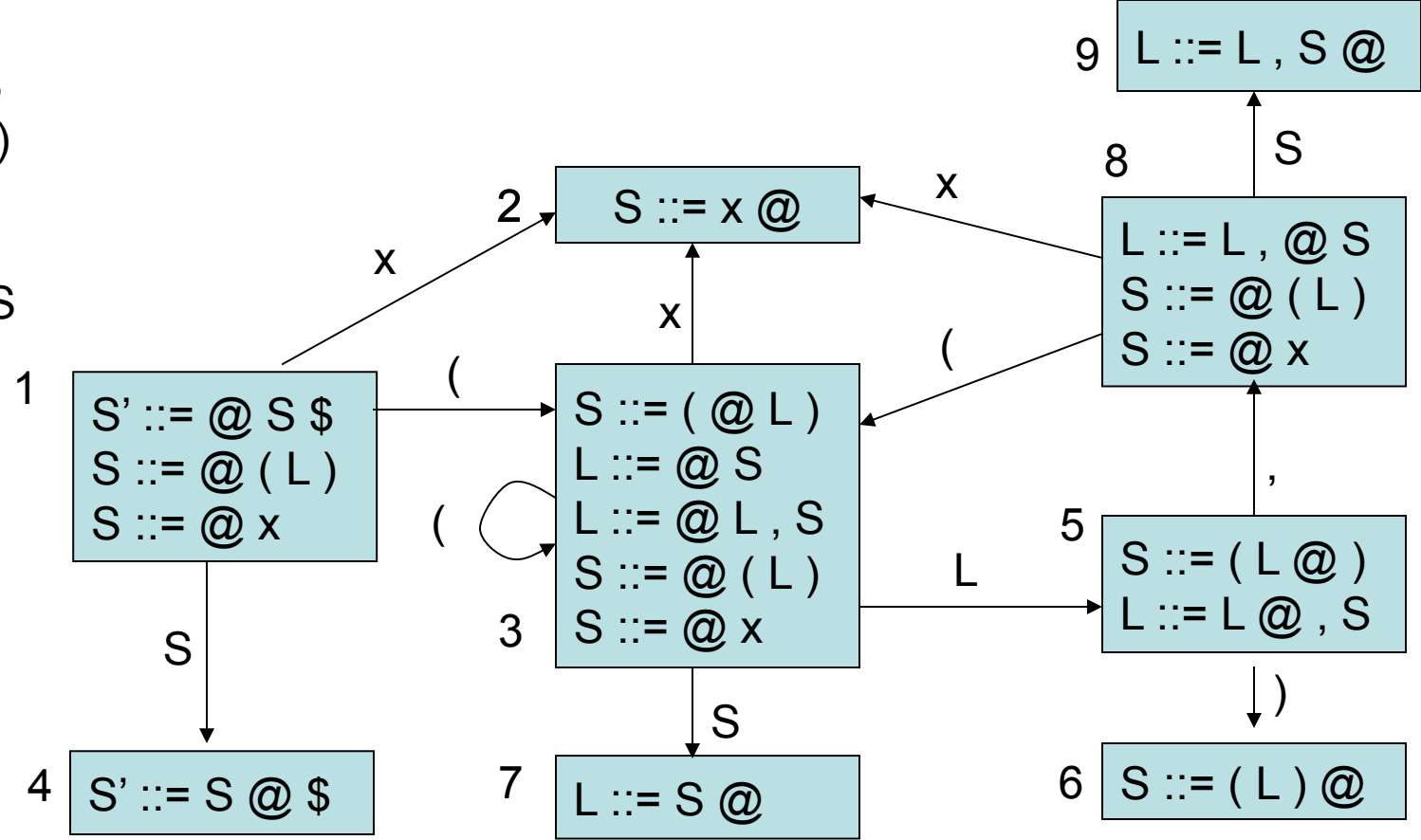
states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3							
4							
...							

- 0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
- $S ::= x$
- $L ::= S$
- $L ::= L , S$



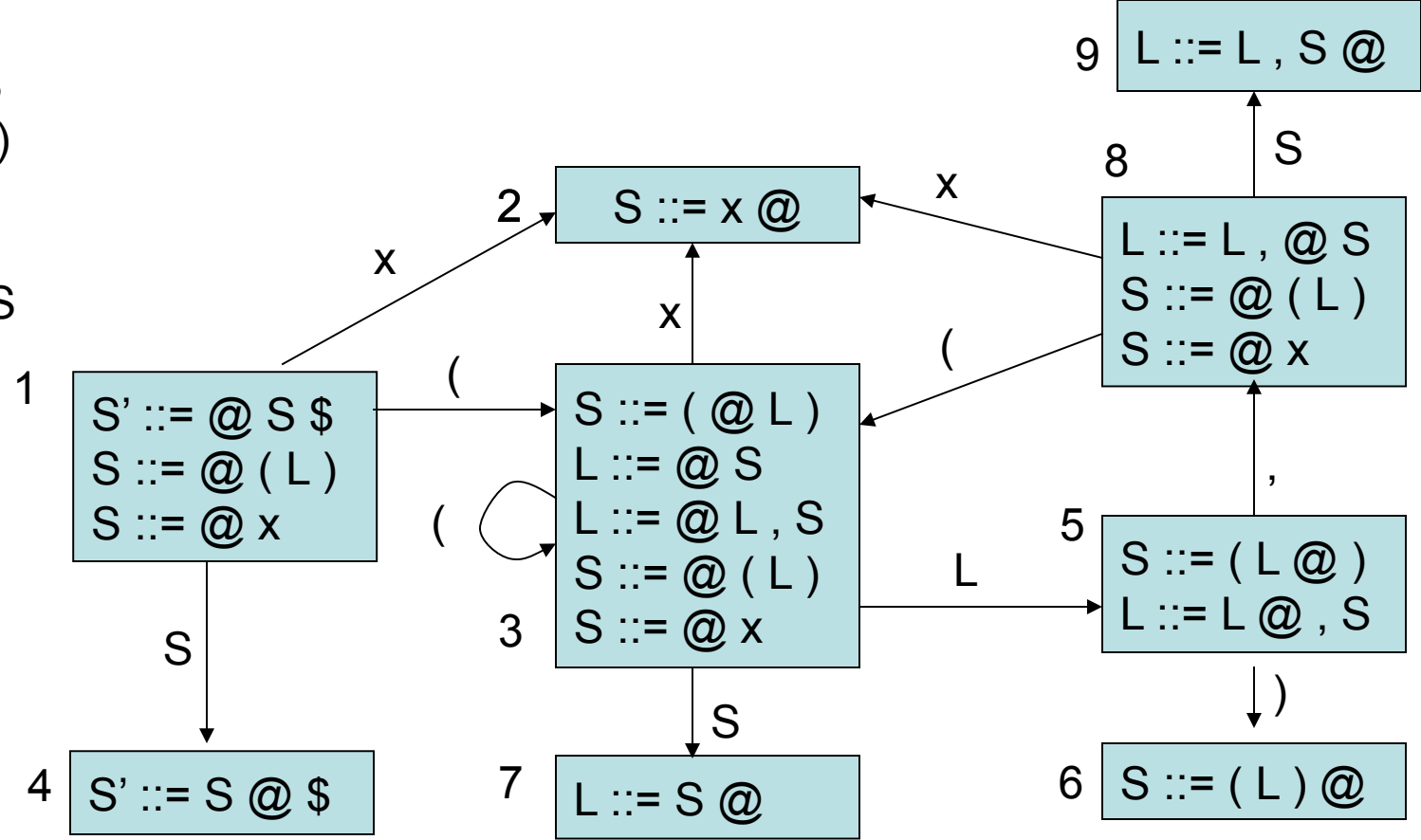
states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2				
4							
...							

- 0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
- $S ::= x$
- $L ::= S$
- $L ::= L , S$



states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4							
...							

- 0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
- $S ::= x$
- $L ::= S$
- $L ::= L , S$



states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
...							

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

stack: 1

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

stack: 1 (3

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

1. $S' ::= S \$$
2. $S ::= (L)$
3. $S ::= x$
4. $L ::= S$
5. $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

stack: 1 (3 x 2

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

yet to read
{

stack: 1 (3 S

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

yet to read

stack: 1 (3 S 7

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

yet to read

stack: 1 (3 L

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

yet to read

stack: 1 (3 L 5

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

yet to read
.

stack: 1 (3 L 5 , 8

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

yet to read

stack: 1 (3 L 5 , 8 x 2

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

yet to read
.

stack: 1 (3 L 5 , 8 S

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

yet to read
.

stack: 1 (3 L 5 , 8 S 9

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: (x , x) \$

yet to read

stack: 1 (3 L

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5
4					a		
5		s6		s8			
6	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1		
7	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3		
8	s3		s2			g9	
9	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4		

0. $S' ::= S \$$
- $S ::= (L)$
 - $S ::= x$
 - $L ::= S$
 - $L ::= L , S$

input: $(\overset{\text{yet to read}}{x , x}) \$$

stack: 1 (3 L 5 etc

LR(0)

- Even though we are doing LR(0) parsing we are using some look ahead (there is a column for each non-terminal)
- however, we only use the terminal to figure out which state to go to next, not to decide whether to shift or reduce

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5

LR(0)

- Even though we are doing LR(0) parsing we are using some look ahead (there is a column for each non-terminal)
- however, we only use the terminal to figure out which state to go to next, not to decide whether to shift or reduce

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2		
3	s3		s2			g7	g5



ignore next automaton state

states	no look-ahead	S	L
1	shift	g4	
2	reduce 2		
3	shift	g7	g5

LR(0)

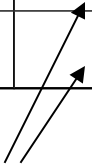
- Even though we are doing LR(0) parsing we are using some look ahead (there is a column for each non-terminal)
- however, we only use the terminal to figure out which state to go to next, not to decide whether to shift or reduce
- If the same row contains both shift and reduce, we will have a conflict ==> the grammar is not LR(0)
- Likewise if the same row contains reduce by two different rules

states	no look-ahead	S	L
1	shift, reduce 5	g4	
2	reduce 2, reduce 7		
3	shift	g7	g5

SLR


- SLR (simple LR) is a variant of LR(0) that reduces the number of conflicts in LR(0) tables by using a tiny bit of look ahead
- To determine when to reduce, 1 symbol of look ahead is used.
- Only put reduce by rule ($X ::= \text{RHS}$) in column T if T is in $\text{Follow}(X)$

states	(	)	x	,	\$	S	L
1	s3		s2			g4	
2	r2	s5	r2				
3	r1		r1	r5	r5	g7	g5

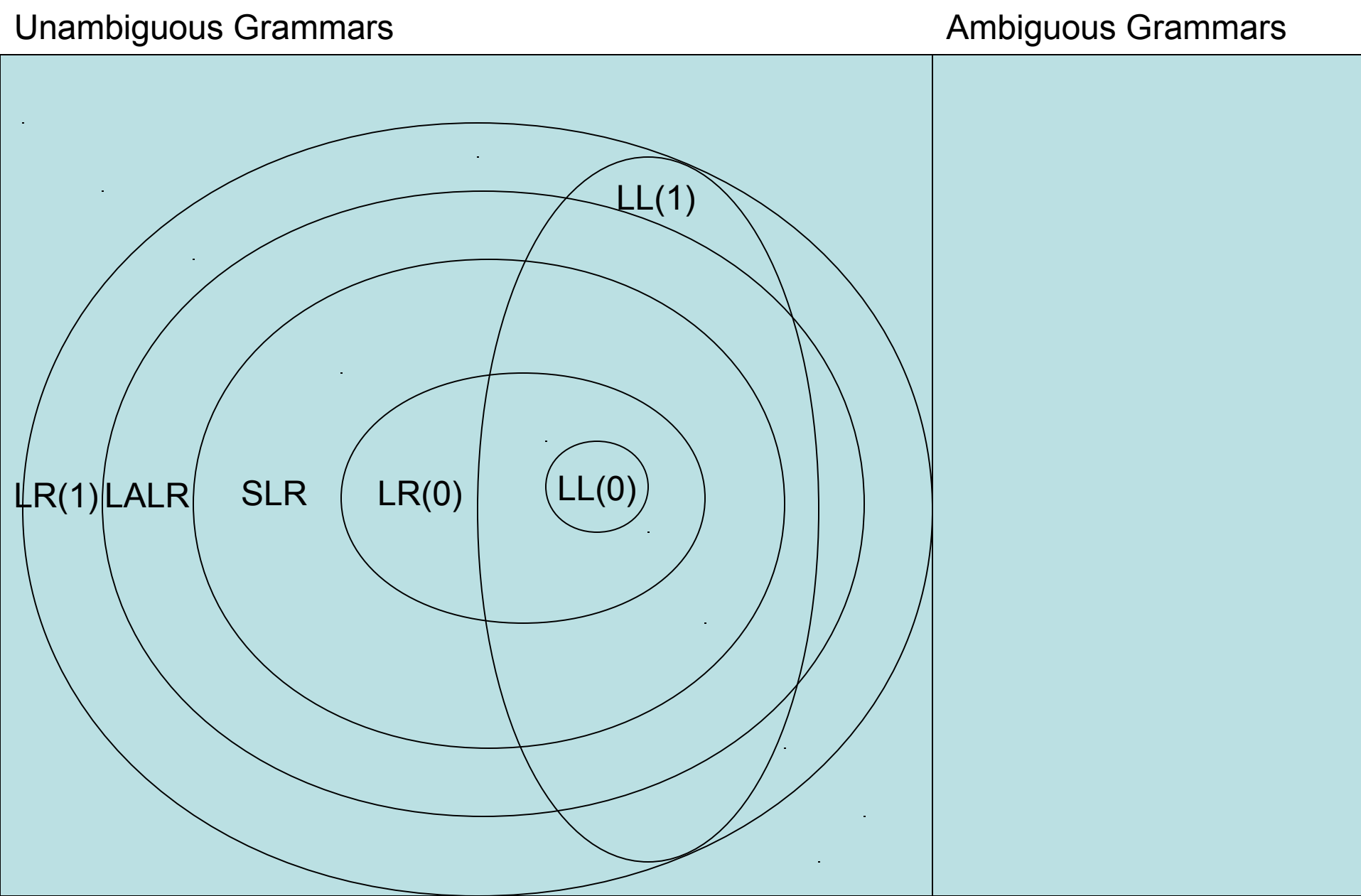


cuts down the number of rk slots & therefore cuts down conflicts

LR(1) & LALR

- LR(1) automata are identical to LR(0) except for the “items” that make up the states
- LR(0) items:
 $X ::= s1 @ s2$
- LR(1) items
 $X ::= s1 @ s2, T$  look-ahead symbol added
 - Idea: sequence $s1$ is on stack; input stream is $s2 T$
- Find closure with respect to $X ::= s1 @ Y s2, T$ by adding all items $Y ::= s3, U$ when $Y ::= s3$ is a rule and U is in $First(s2 T)$
- Two states are different if they contain the same rules but the rules have different look-ahead symbols
 - Leads to many states
 - LALR(1) = LR(1) where states that are identical aside from look-ahead symbols have been merged
 - ML-Yacc & most parser generators use LALR
- READ: Appel 3.3 (and also all of the rest of chapter 3)

Grammar Relationships



summary

- LR parsing is more powerful than LL parsing, given the same look ahead
- to construct an LR parser, it is necessary to compute an LR parser table
- the LR parser table represents a finite automaton that walks over the parser stack
- ML-Yacc uses LALR, a compact variant of LR(1)