

# MODULE - II

## SYNTAX ANALYSIS

Review of Context-Free Grammars – Derivation trees and Parse Trees, Ambiguity.



**DEPARTMENT OF  
COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING**

AMAL JYOTHI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
KANJIRAPPALLY

# SYNTAX ANALYSIS



Syntax analysis or parsing is the second phase of a compiler.

A lexical analyzer can identify tokens with the help of regular expressions and pattern rules.

But a lexical analyzer cannot check the syntax of a given sentence due to the limitations of the regular expressions.

Regular expressions cannot check balancing tokens, such as parenthesis

# SYNTAX ANALYSIS



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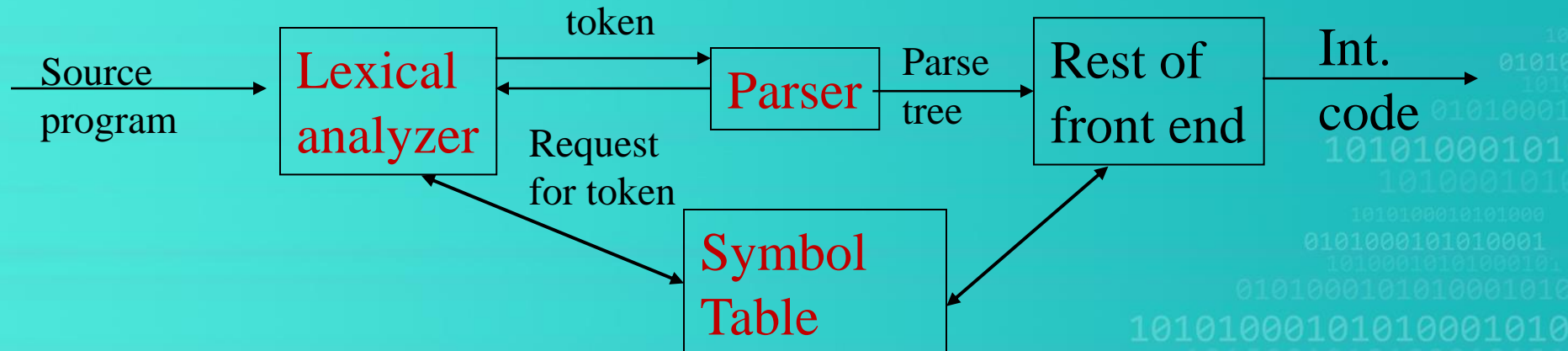
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- Syntax analysis is done by the parser.
  - Detects whether the program is written following the grammar rules and reports syntax errors.
  - Produces a parse tree from which intermediate code can be generated.



# SYNTAX ERROR HANDLING



- Good compiler – helps in identifying and locating errors
- Errors maybe:
  - Lexical : misspelling of identifiers, keywords
  - Syntactic: expression with unbalanced parenthesis
  - Semantic: Operator applied to incompatible operands
  - Logical: Infinitely recursive calls
- Much of the error detection & recovery is centered around syntax analysis phase
- Its because, stream of **tokens from LA disobeys grammatical rules** defining programming language

# Use of Grammars



- Syntax of Programming language constructs can be described by CFG
- Grammar - Advantages
  - Precise and easy to understand syntactic specification
  - Automatic construction of efficient parsers
  - Imparts a structure to the programming language
  - Language evolution is easier.

# Role of the Parser



- Parser obtains a string of tokens from the lexical analyzer
- Verifies that the string can be generated by the grammar of source language
- Reports Syntax errors / recovers from common errors

# ERROR RECOVERY STRATEGIES



- **Panic mode**

- Discards input symbols until tokens in the synchronizing set are encountered
- Synchronizing set (delimiters) must be chosen carefully(; or end)
- Skips input
- Simple-no infinite loop
- Adequate when multiple errors in same statement is rare.

- **Phrase level**

- Local correction, replaces prefix
- Should not lead to infinite loops
- First used with top down parsing
- Difficult when actual error occurred before detection



# ERROR RECOVERY STRATEGIES



- **Error productions**

- Augment grammar with productions that generate erroneous constructs
- If error production is used by the parser, can generate error diagnostics

- **Global correction**

- Given x-incorrect input string and grammar G
- Algorithm will find a parse tree for related string y by identifying minimal sequence of changes needed to transform x to y
- Costly-time and space



# **Context Free Grammars : Concepts & Terminology**



## Definition:

A Context Free Grammar, CFG, is described by  
 $T, NT, S, PR,$

- **T:** Terminals / tokens of the language
- **NT:** Non-terminals to denote sets of strings generated by the grammar in the language
- **S:** Start symbol,  $S \in NT$ , which defines all strings of the language
- **PR:** Production rules to indicate how  $T$  and  $NT$  are combined to generate valid strings of the language.

**PR:  $NT \rightarrow (T \mid NT)^*$**



- A context-free grammar consists of terminals, non-terminals, a start symbol, and productions.

Eg : stmt  $\rightarrow$  **if** expr **then** stmt **else** stmt

1. Terminals are the basic symbols from which strings are formed.

The term "token name" is a synonym for "terminal"

if, then, else are **keywords** in the above example.

2. Non-terminals are syntactic variables that denote sets of strings.

The non-terminals define **sets of strings that help to define the language generated by the grammar**

stmt and expr are **non-terminals**



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3. In a grammar, **one nonterminal is distinguished as the start symbol** and the set of strings it denotes is the language generated by the grammar.

4. The productions of a grammar specify the manner in which the terminals and nonterminals can be combined to form strings.

Each production consists of:

- a. A **nonterminal** called the head or left side of the production; this production defines some of the strings denoted by the head.
- b. The symbol  $\rightarrow$  sometimes  $::=$  has been used in place of the arrow.
- c. A body or right side consisting of zero or more **terminals** and **nonterminals**.

# Notational Conventions



- To avoid always having to state that "these are the terminals," "these are the non-terminals," and so on, the following notational conventions for grammars will be used.
- These symbols are terminals:
  - a. **Lowercase letters early in the alphabet, such as a, b, c.**
  - b. **Operator symbols such as +, \*, and so on.**
  - c. **Punctuation symbols such as parentheses, comma, and so on.**
  - d. **The digits 0, 1, . . . , 9.**
  - e. **Boldface** strings such as **id** or **if**, each of which represents a single terminal symbol.

## Notational Conventions - Non-Terminals



- Uppercase letters early in the alphabet, such as *A*, *B*, *C*.
- The letter *S*, which, when it appears, is usually the **start symbol**.
- Lowercase, italic names such as *expr* or *stmt*.
- When discussing programming constructs, uppercase letters may be used to represent non-terminals for the constructs.
- For example, non-terminals for expressions, terms, and factors are often represented by *E*, *T*, and *F*, respectively.
- Uppercase letters late in the alphabet, such as *X*, *Y*, *Z*, represent grammar symbols; that is, either **non-terminals** or **terminals**.



# Notational Conventions



- Lowercase letters late in the alphabet, chiefly **u,v,..., z**, represent (possibly empty) **strings of terminal**.
- Lowercase Greek letters,  **$\alpha, \beta, \gamma$**  for example, represent (possibly empty) **strings of grammar symbols**.
- Thus, a generic production can be written as  $A \rightarrow a$  where  $A$  is the head and  $a$  the body.
- A set of productions  $A \rightarrow a_1 \quad A \rightarrow a_2 \quad \dots, \quad A \rightarrow a_k$  with a common head.
- $A$  (call them  $A$ -productions), may be written  $A \rightarrow a_1 \mid a_2 \mid \dots a_k$
- Unless stated otherwise, the head of the first production is the start symbol



# Grammar for simple Arithmetic Expressions



*expression*  $\rightarrow$  *expression* + *term*

*expression*  $\rightarrow$  *expression* - *term*

*expression*  $\rightarrow$  *term*

*term*  $\rightarrow$  *term* \* *factor*

*term*  $\rightarrow$  *term* / *factor*

*term*  $\rightarrow$  *factor*

*factor*  $\rightarrow$  ( *expression* )

*factor*  $\rightarrow$  *id*

In this grammar,

- The terminal symbols are *id* + - \* / ( )
- The non-terminal symbols are *expression*, *term* and *factor*, and *expression* is the start symbol

Using these conventions, the grammar can be rewritten concisely as

**$E \rightarrow E + T \mid E - T \mid T$**

**$T \rightarrow T * F \mid T / F \mid F$**

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

*expression*  $\rightarrow$  *expression* + *term*

*expression*  $\rightarrow$  *expression* - *term*

*expression*  $\rightarrow$  *term*

*term*  $\rightarrow$  *term* \* *factor*

*term*  $\rightarrow$  *term* / *factor*

*term*  $\rightarrow$  *factor*

*factor*  $\rightarrow$  ( *expression* )

*factor*  $\rightarrow$  *id*

The notational conventions tell us that E, T, and F are non-terminals, with E the start symbol. The remaining symbols are terminals.

# Derivations



- The construction of a **parse tree** can be made precise by taking a derivational view, in which productions are treated as rewriting rules.
- Beginning with the start symbol, each rewriting step replaces a nonterminal by the body of one of its productions.
- This derivational view corresponds to the top-down construction of a parse tree.

# Derivations



- Production is treated as rewriting rule in which the NT on left is replaced by string on the right side of production
- **EXAMPLE:**  $E \Rightarrow -E$  (the  $\Rightarrow$  means “derives” in one step) using the production rule:  $E \rightarrow -E$
- **EXAMPLE:**  $E \Rightarrow E \wedge E \Rightarrow E * E \Rightarrow E * (E)$
- **DEFINITION:**  $\Rightarrow$  derives in one step
  - $\overset{+}{\Rightarrow}$  derives in one or more steps
  - $\overset{*}{\Rightarrow}$  derives in zero or more steps

# EXAMPLE



- $\alpha A \beta \Rightarrow \alpha \gamma \beta$  if  $A \rightarrow \gamma$  is a production rule
- $\alpha_1 \Rightarrow \alpha_2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow \alpha_n$ ,  $\alpha_1 \xRightarrow{*} \alpha_n$ ;  $\alpha \xRightarrow{*} \alpha$  for all  $\alpha$
- If  $\alpha \xRightarrow{*} \beta$  and  $\beta \Rightarrow \gamma$  then  $\alpha \xRightarrow{*} \gamma$

## EXAMPLE



Consider the following grammar, with a single non-terminal  $E$ , which adds a production to the grammar of **Arithmetic Expressions**.

$$E \rightarrow E + E \mid E * E \mid (E) \mid -E \mid \text{id}$$

- The production  $E \rightarrow -E$  signifies that if  $E$  denotes an expression, then  $-E$  must also denote an expression.
- placement of a single  $E$  by  $-E$  will be described by writing  $E \Rightarrow -E$  which is read, "E derives - E."
- We can take a single  $E$  and repeatedly apply productions in any order to get a sequence of replacements.
- For example,  $E \Rightarrow -E \Rightarrow -(E) \Rightarrow -(\text{id})$

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$$E \rightarrow E + E \mid E^* E \mid (E) \mid -E \mid id$$

The string  $-(id + id)$  is a sentence of grammar because there is a derivation

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

- The strings  $E, -E, -(E), \dots, -(id + id)$  are all sentential forms of this grammar.
- At each step in a derivation, there are two choices to be made.
- We need to choose which nonterminal to replace, and having made this choice, we must pick a production with that nonterminal as head.
- For example, the following alternative derivation of  $-(id + id)$ .

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



## 23 Grammar

$\text{list} \rightarrow \text{list} + \text{digit} \mid \text{list} - \text{digit} \mid \text{digit}$

$\text{digit} \rightarrow 0 \mid 1 \mid \dots \mid 9$

Derive the string **9-5+2** from the grammar

$\text{list} \rightarrow \underline{\text{list}} + \text{digit}$

$\text{list} \rightarrow \underline{\text{list}} - \text{digit} + \text{digit}$

$\text{list} \rightarrow \underline{\text{digit}} - \text{digit} + \text{digit}$

$\text{list} \rightarrow 9 - \underline{\text{digit}} + \text{digit}$

$\text{list} \rightarrow 9 - 5 + \underline{\text{digit}}$

**$\text{list} \rightarrow 9 - 5 + 2$**





# Leftmost And Rightmost Derivation of a String

- Leftmost derivation – A leftmost derivation is obtained by **applying production to the leftmost variable** in each step.
- Rightmost derivation – A rightmost derivation is obtained by **applying production to the rightmost variable** in each step.

## Derivation Order

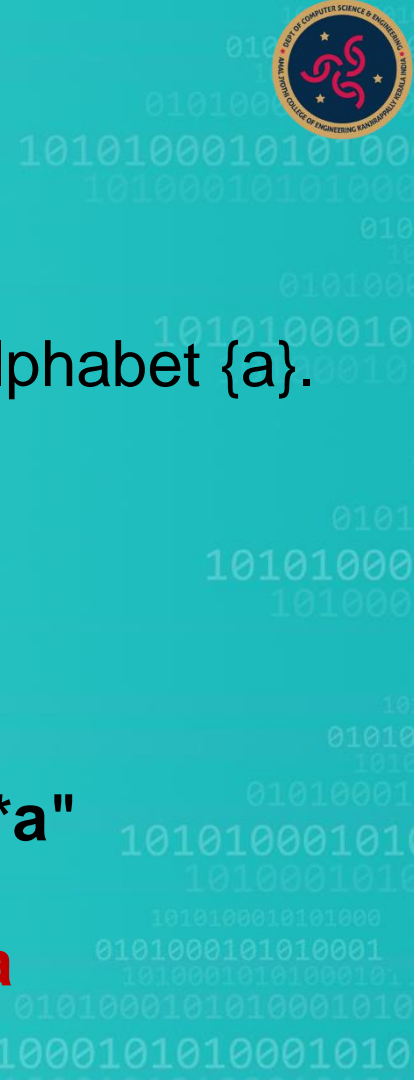
- |                       |                            |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. $S \rightarrow AB$ | 2. $A \rightarrow aaA$     | 4. $B \rightarrow Bb$      |
|                       | 3. $A \rightarrow \lambda$ | 5. $B \rightarrow \lambda$ |

**Leftmost derivation:**

$$S \xRightarrow{1} AB \xRightarrow{2} aaAB \xRightarrow{3} aaB \xRightarrow{4} aaBb \xRightarrow{5} aab$$

**Rightmost derivation:**

$$S \xRightarrow{1} AB \xRightarrow{4} ABb \xRightarrow{5} Ab \xRightarrow{2} aaAb \xRightarrow{3} aab$$



## Example

Let any set of production rules in a CFG be

$$X \rightarrow X+X \mid X^*X \mid X \mid a \quad \text{over an alphabet } \{a\}.$$

The **leftmost derivation** for the string "**a+a\*a**"

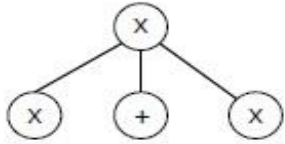
$$X \rightarrow X+X \rightarrow a+X \rightarrow a + X^*X \rightarrow a+a^*X \rightarrow a+a^*a$$

The **rightmost derivation** for the above string "**a+a\*a**"

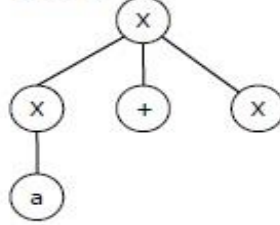
$$X \rightarrow X^*X \rightarrow X^*a \rightarrow X+X^*a \rightarrow X+a^*a \rightarrow a+a^*a$$

# 26 The stepwise derivation of the above string "a+a\*a"

Step 1:

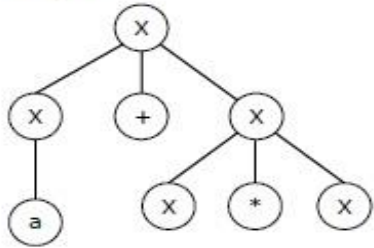


Step 2:

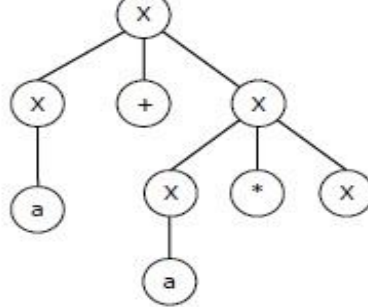


$$X \rightarrow X+X \mid X^*X \mid X \mid a$$

Step 3:



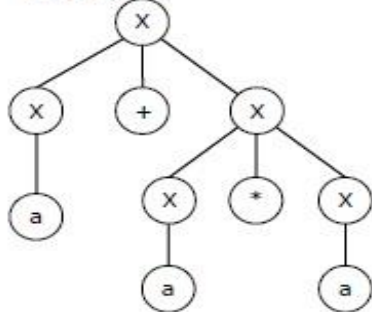
Step 4:



The **leftmost derivation** for the string "

a+a\*a"

Step 5:



$$X \rightarrow X+X$$

$$\rightarrow a+X$$

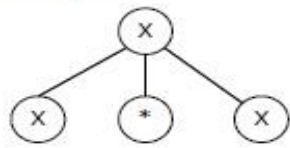
$$\rightarrow a + X^*X$$

$$\rightarrow a+a^*X$$

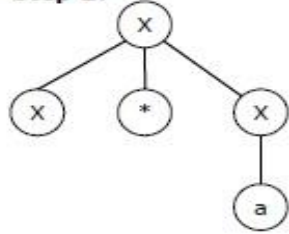
$$\rightarrow a+a^*a$$

# 27 The stepwise derivation of the above string "a+a\*a"

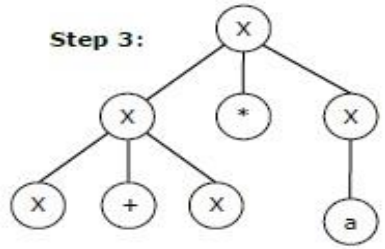
Step 1:



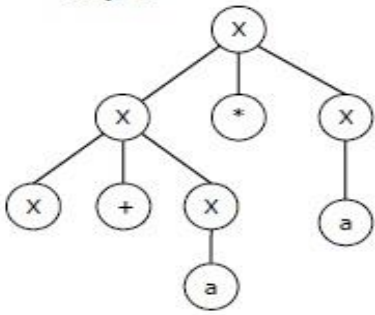
Step 2:



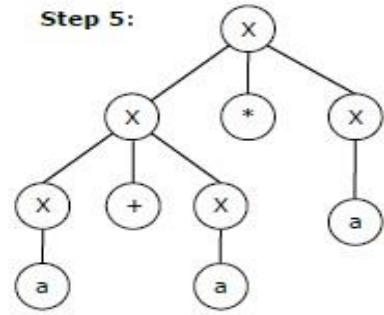
Step 3:



Step 4:



Step 5:



The **rightmost derivation** for the above string "a+a\*a"

$$X \rightarrow X * X$$

$$\rightarrow X * a$$

$$\rightarrow X + X * a$$

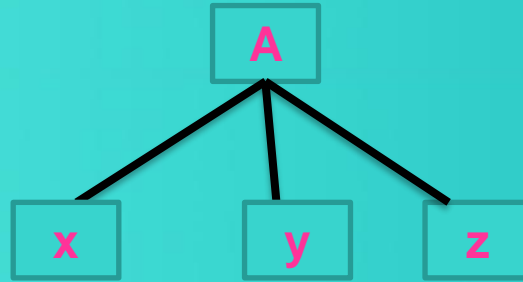
$$\rightarrow X + a * a$$

$$\rightarrow a + a * a$$



- Parse tree is a hierarchical structure which represents the derivation of the grammar to yield input strings.
- Simply it is the **graphical representation of derivations**.
- **Root node** of parse tree has the **start symbol** of the given grammar from where the derivation proceeds.
- Leaves of parse tree are labeled by **non-terminals or terminals**.
- Each interior node is labeled by some non terminals.

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- If  $A \rightarrow xyz$  is a production, then the parse tree will have A as interior node whose children are x, y and z from its left to right.



## Yield of Parse Tree

- The leaves of the parse tree are labeled by non-terminals or terminals and read from left to right, they constitute a sentential form, called the yield or frontier of the tree.



# Derivations & Parse Tree



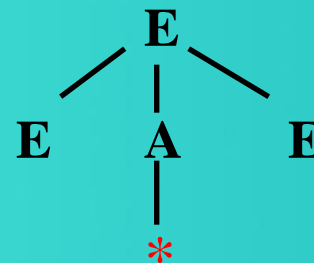
$$E \Rightarrow E A E$$

Parse tree



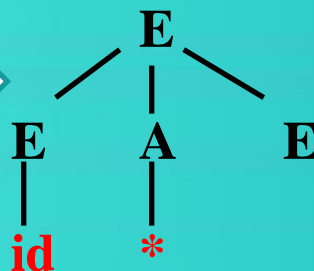
$$\Rightarrow E * E$$

Parse tree



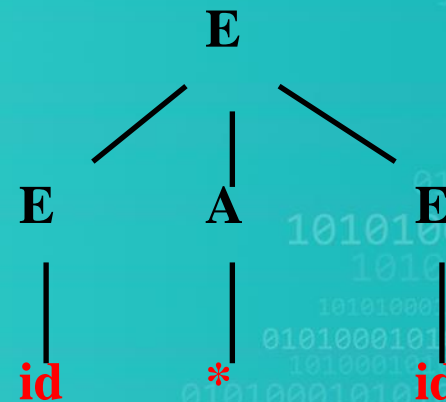
$$\Rightarrow id * E$$

Parse tree



$$\Rightarrow id * id$$

Parse tree

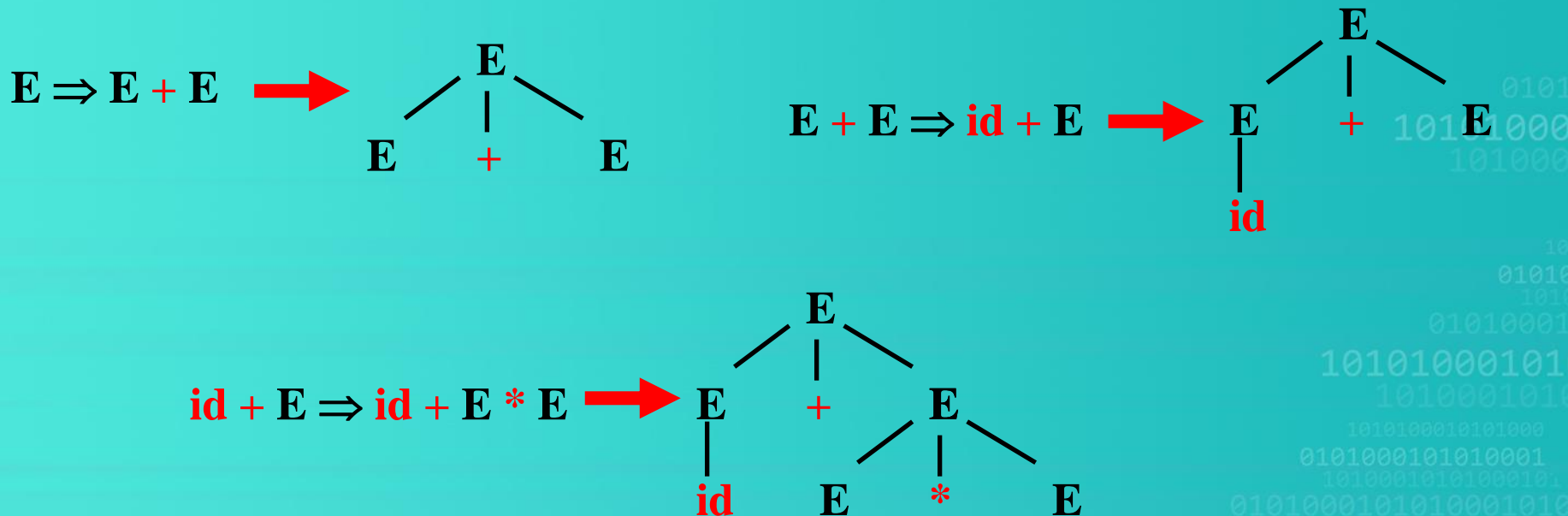


# Parse Trees and Derivations

- Consider the expression grammar:

$$E \rightarrow E + E \mid E * E \mid (E) \mid -E \mid \text{id}$$

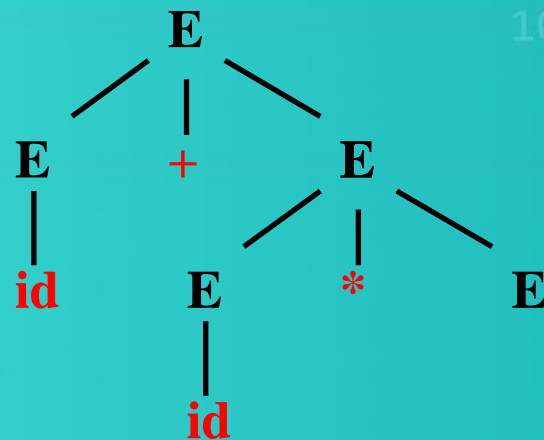
- Leftmost derivations of **id + id \* id**



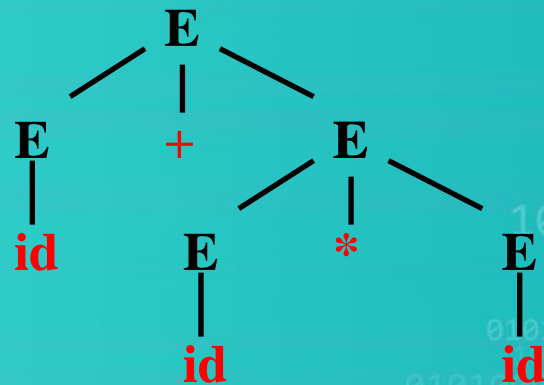
# Parse Tree & Derivations – cont....



**id + E \* E  $\Rightarrow$  id + id \* E**  $\rightarrow$



**id + id \* E  $\Rightarrow$  id + id \* id**  $\rightarrow$

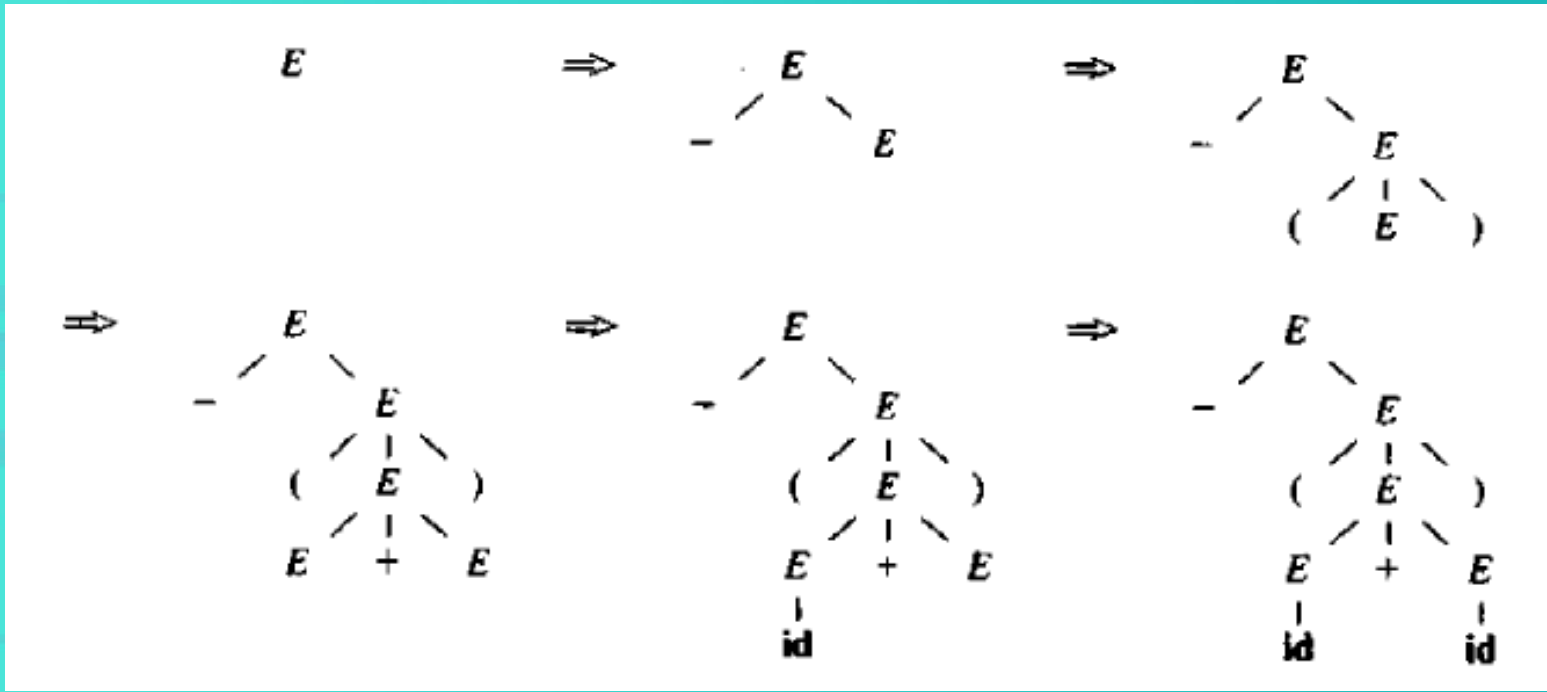


Draw a parse tree for  $-(id + id)$

Grammar :

$$E \rightarrow E + E \mid E * E \mid (E) \mid -E \mid id$$

Parse tree for  $-(id + id)$



# Ambiguous Grammar



- An ambiguous grammar is one that produces **more than one leftmost or more than one rightmost derivation** for the same sentence.
- For most parsers, it is desirable that the **grammar be made unambiguous**, for if it is not, we cannot uniquely determine which parse tree to select for a sentence.
- In other cases, it is convenient to use carefully chosen ambiguous grammars, together with disambiguating rules that "throw away" undesirable parse trees, leaving only one tree for each sentence.

# Alternative Parse Trees

- Consider the sentence  $\text{id} + \text{id} * \text{id}$
- It has two leftmost derivations

## Derivation 1

$$\mathbf{E} \Rightarrow \mathbf{E} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{E} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{id} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{id} * \mathbf{id}$$

## Derivation 2

$$\mathbf{E} \Rightarrow \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{E} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{id} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{id} * \mathbf{id}$$



## LEFT -Derivation 1

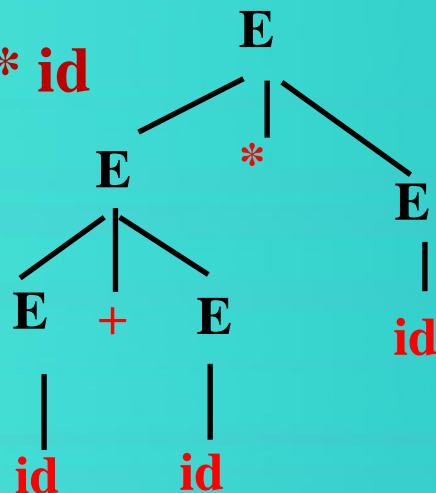
$$\mathbf{E} \Rightarrow \mathbf{E} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{E} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{id} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{id} * \mathbf{id}$$



## LEFT - Derivation 2

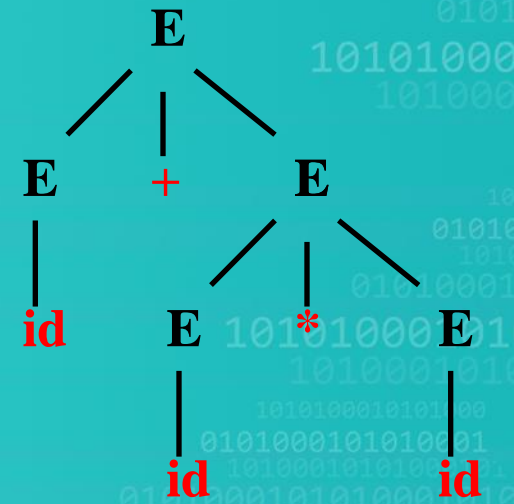
$$\mathbf{E} \Rightarrow \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{E} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{id} * \mathbf{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{id} + \mathbf{id} * \mathbf{id}$$





# Resolving Problems: Ambiguous Grammars



Consider the following grammar segment:

*stmt*  $\rightarrow$  **if** *expr* **then** *stmt*

| **if** *expr* **then** *stmt* **else** *stmt*

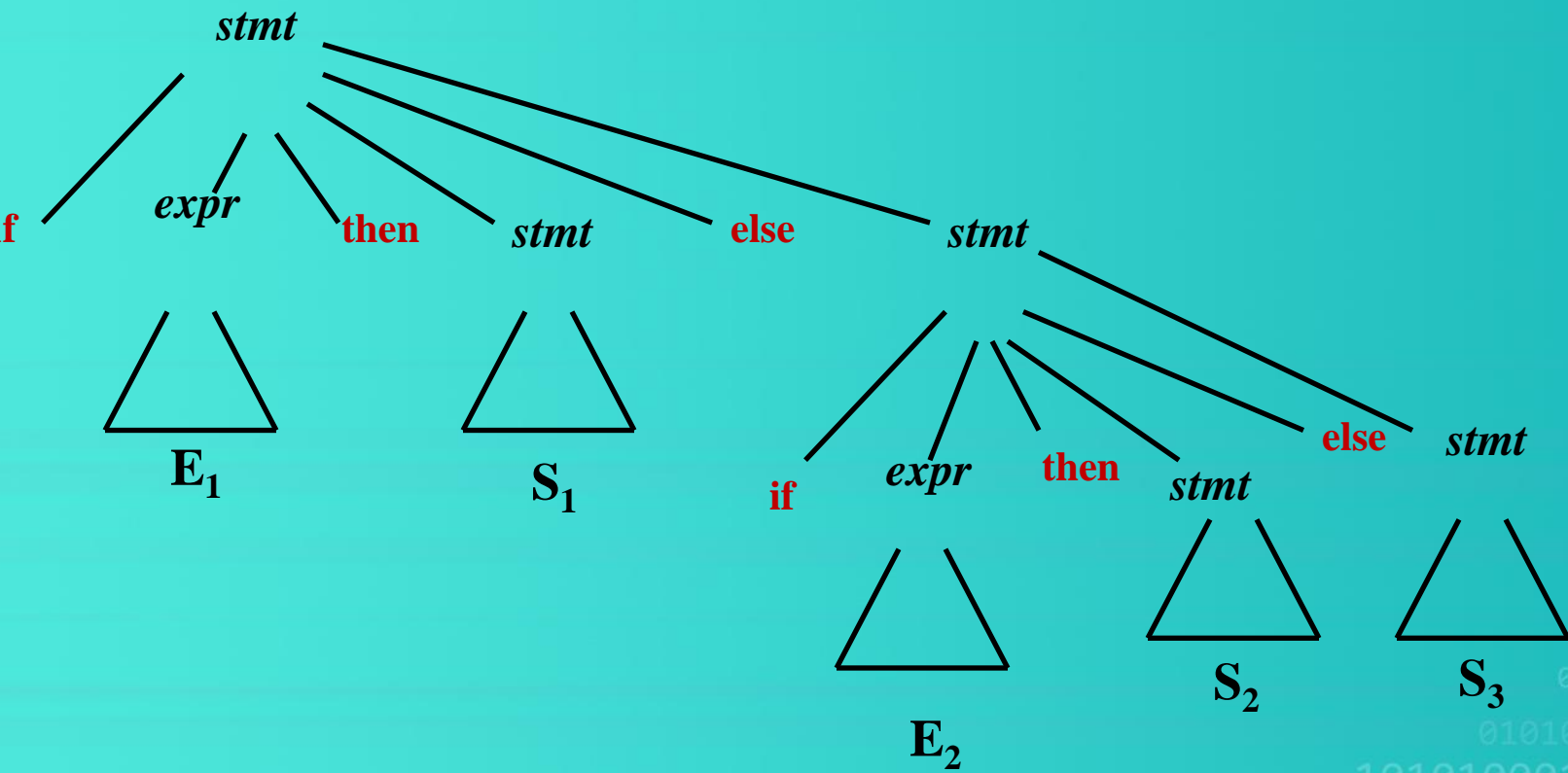
| **other** (any other statement)

Matching then and else

Eg: **if** E1 **then** S1 **else if** E2 **then** S2 **else** S3

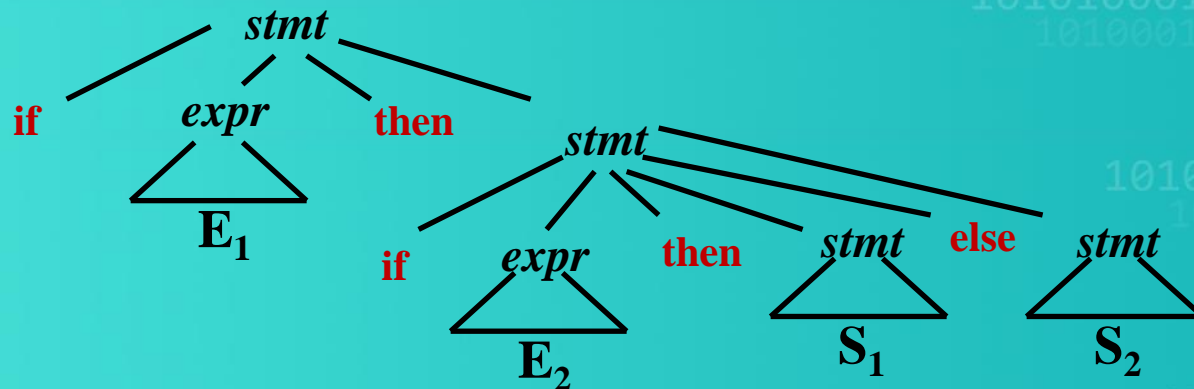
38  
Let's consider a simple parse tree:

Eg: if E1 then S1 else if E2 then S2 else S3

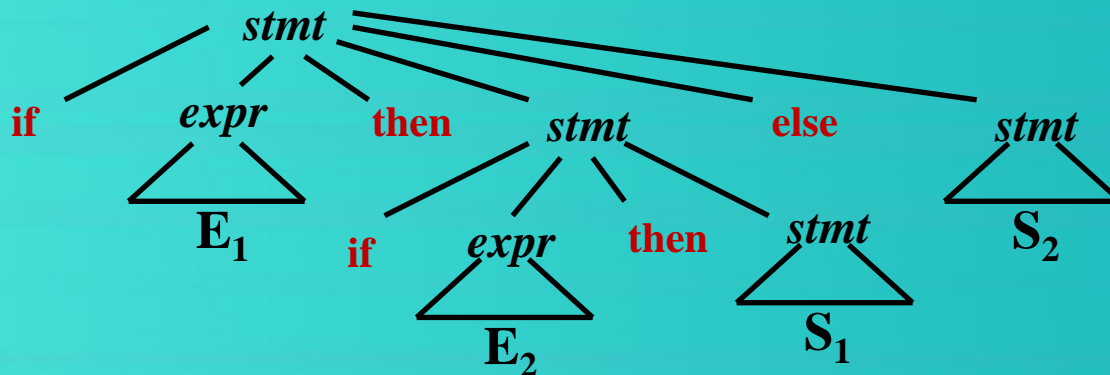


# Parse Trees for Example

Form 1:



Form 2:



Eg: **if E<sub>1</sub> then S<sub>1</sub> else if E<sub>2</sub> then S<sub>2</sub> else S<sub>3</sub>**

# Removing Ambiguity

Take Original Grammar:

$stmt \rightarrow \text{if } expr \text{ then } stmt$

|  $\text{if } expr \text{ then } stmt \text{ else } stmt$

|  $\text{other (any other statement)}$

Rule: Match each **else** with the closest previous unmatched **then**.

Revise to remove ambiguity: Statement between then and else must be matched



# Removing Ambiguity

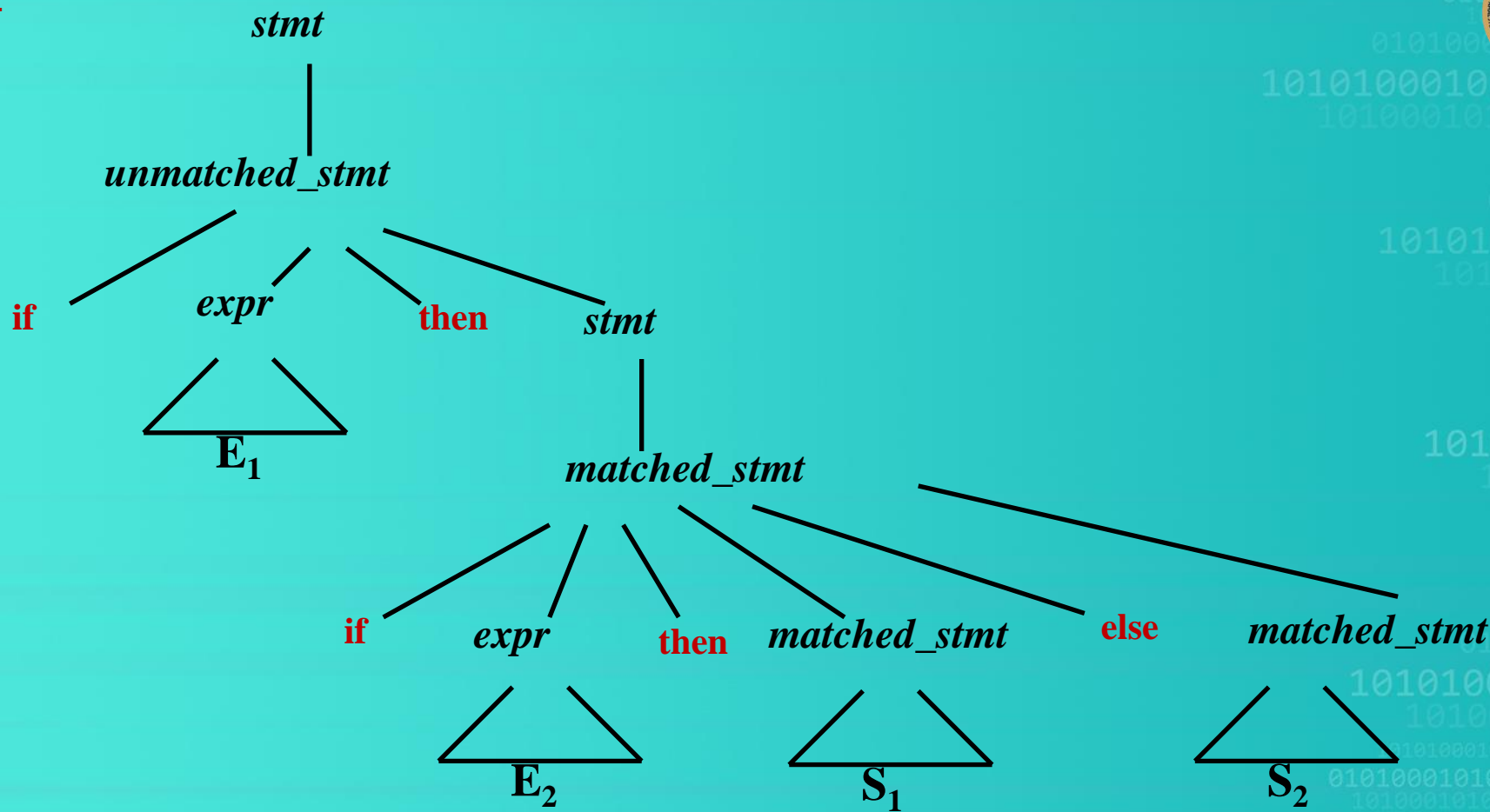


$stmt \rightarrow matched\_stmt \mid unmatched\_stmt$

$matched\_stmt \rightarrow \text{if } expr \text{ then } matched\_stmt \text{ else } matched\_stmt \mid \text{other}$

$unmatched\_stmt \rightarrow \text{if } expr \text{ then } stmt$

$\mid \text{if } expr \text{ then } matched\_stmt \text{ else } unmatched\_stmt$



Eg: **if** E1 **then** S1 **else** **if** E2 **then** S2 **else** S3

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Check whether the given grammar is ambiguous or not-

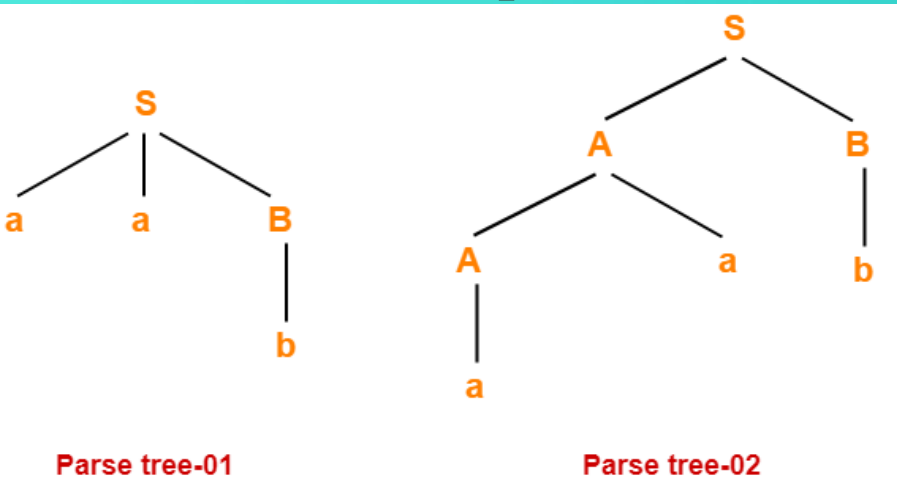
$$S \rightarrow AB \mid aaB$$

$$A \rightarrow a \mid Aa$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

Let us consider a string  $w$   
generated by the given grammar  
 $w = aab$

Now, let us draw parse trees for this string  $w$ .



Since two different parse trees exist for string  $w$ ,  
therefore the given grammar is ambiguous.



# Solve



Consider the grammar-

$$S \rightarrow A1B$$

$$A \rightarrow 0A / \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow 0B / 1B / \epsilon$$

For the string  $w = 00101$ , find-

- ✓ Leftmost derivation
- ✓ Rightmost derivation
- ✓ Parse Tree

And check whether the grammar is ambiguous or not

FOR MORE PROBLEMS VISIT :

<https://www.gatevidyalay.com/grammar-ambiguity-ambiguous-grammar/>

## 1. Leftmost Derivation-

$S \rightarrow A1B$

$\rightarrow 0A1B$  (Using  $A \rightarrow 0A$ )

$\rightarrow 00A1B$  (Using  $A \rightarrow 0A$ )

$\rightarrow 001B$  (Using  $A \rightarrow \epsilon$ )

$\rightarrow 0010B$  (Using  $B \rightarrow 0B$ )

$\rightarrow 00101B$  (Using  $B \rightarrow 1B$ )

$\rightarrow 00101$  (Using  $B \rightarrow \epsilon$ )

## 2. Rightmost Derivation-

$S \rightarrow A1B$

$\rightarrow A10B$  (Using  $B \rightarrow 0B$ )

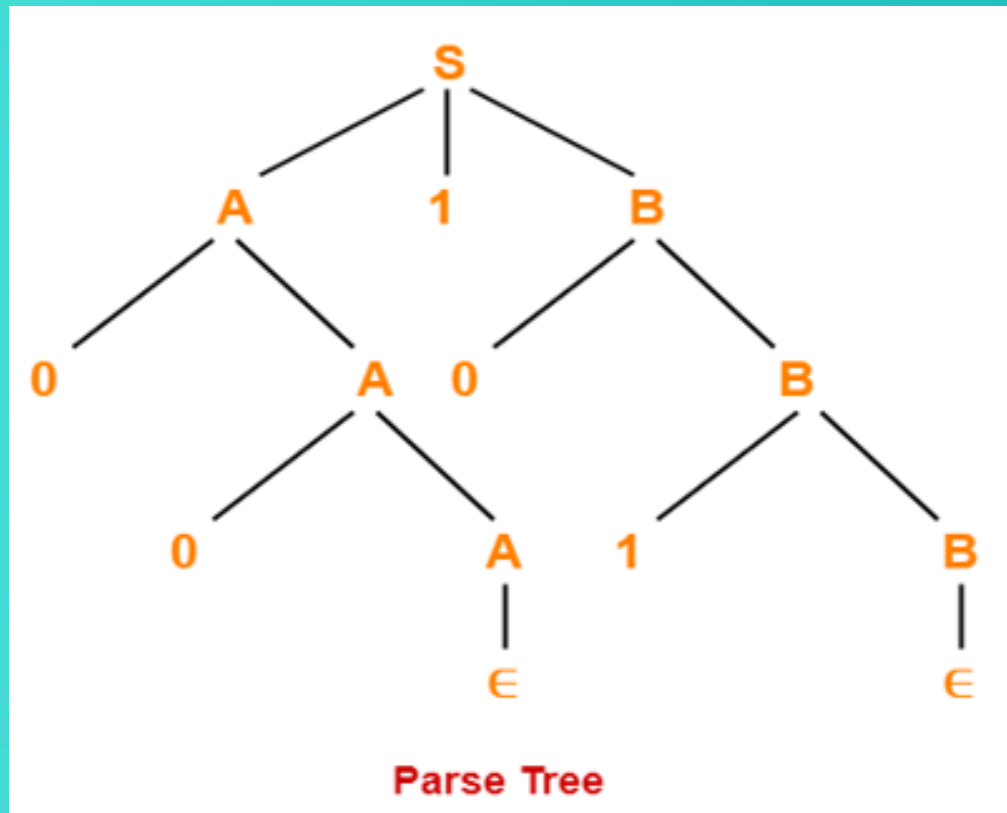
$\rightarrow A101B$  (Using  $B \rightarrow 1B$ )

$\rightarrow A101$  (Using  $B \rightarrow \epsilon$ )

$\rightarrow 0A101$  (Using  $A \rightarrow 0A$ )

$\rightarrow 00A101$  (Using  $A \rightarrow 0A$ )

$\rightarrow 00101$  (Using  $A \rightarrow \epsilon$ )



Whether we consider the leftmost derivation or rightmost derivation, we get the above parse tree.

Thus the given grammar is **unambiguous**.

# Left Recursion



**DEPARTMENT OF  
COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING**

AMAL JYOTHI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
KANJIRAPPALLY

# Left Recursion



- A grammar is said to be left –recursive if it has a non-terminal A such that there is a derivation  $A \rightarrow A\alpha$ , for some string  $\alpha$ .
- The generation is **left-recursive** if the *leftmost symbol on the right side is equivalent to the nonterminal on the left side*.

Ex:  $\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} + \text{term}$ .

- A **grammar** that contains a production having **left recursion** is called as a **Left-Recursive Grammar**.
- Similarly, if the rightmost symbol on the right side is equal to left side is called **Right -Recursion**.

## Direct Left Recursion:

- If we write it as a function,  $A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$

A()

{

A()

some  $\alpha$ .....

}

**LR:  $A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$**

A() is going to call A() , it will result in recursion.



# Why Eliminate Left Recursion?



Consider an example:  $E \rightarrow E+T \mid T$

- The above example will go in an infinite loop because the **function E** keeps calling itself which causes a problem for a parser to go in an infinite loop which is a never-ending process
- Eg :  $S \rightarrow Sa / \epsilon$  - Left Recursive Grammar
- Left recursion is considered to be a problematic situation for Top down parsers.
- Therefore, left recursion has to be eliminated from the grammar.



# Elimination of Left Recursion



- Left recursion is eliminated by converting the grammar into a **right recursive grammar**.
- If we have the left-recursive pair of productions-

$$A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta \quad (\text{Left Recursive Grammar})$$

where  $\beta$  does not begin with an  $A$ .

Then, we can eliminate left recursion by replacing the pair of productions with-

$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \epsilon \quad (\text{Right Recursive Grammar})$$

This **right recursive grammar** functions same as **left recursive grammar**.

**Left recursive grammar:**

$$A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$$

**Replace with following productions:**

$$\begin{aligned} A &\rightarrow \beta A' \\ A' &\rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Consider an example:  $E \rightarrow E+T \mid T$

In the grammar,  $E$  can be replaced with  $A$ ,  
 $+T$  can be replaced with  $\alpha$  and  
 $T$  with  $\beta$

Thus after removing LR,

$$\begin{aligned} E &\rightarrow TE' \\ E' &\rightarrow +TE' \mid \epsilon \end{aligned}$$



For example:

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 E \rightarrow E + T \mid T & \longrightarrow & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} E \rightarrow TE' \\ E' \rightarrow + TE' \mid \epsilon \end{array} \right. \\
 T \rightarrow T * F \mid F & \longrightarrow & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} T \rightarrow FT' \\ T' \rightarrow * FT' \mid \epsilon \end{array} \right. \\
 F \rightarrow ( E ) \mid id & \longrightarrow & F \rightarrow ( E ) \mid id
 \end{array}$$

LR:  $A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$

$A \rightarrow \beta A'$

$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \epsilon$

# EXAMPLE



Consider the following grammar and eliminate left recursion-

$$A \rightarrow ABd \mid Aa \mid a$$

$$B \rightarrow Be \mid b$$

$$\text{LR: } A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$$



$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \epsilon$$

Solution-

The grammar after eliminating left recursion is-

$$A \rightarrow aA'$$

$$A' \rightarrow BdA' \mid aA' \mid \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow bB'$$

$$B' \rightarrow eB' \mid \epsilon$$

# EXAMPLE



Consider the following grammar and eliminate left recursion

$$S \rightarrow (L) \mid a$$

$$L \rightarrow L, S \mid S$$

$$\text{LR: } A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$$

## Solution-

$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \epsilon$$

The grammar after eliminating left recursion

$$S \rightarrow (L) \mid a$$

$$L \rightarrow SL'$$

$$L' \rightarrow ,SL' \mid \epsilon$$

# Eliminating Immediate Left Recursion



Immediate left recursion occurs, if there is a Production of the form:

$$A \rightarrow A\alpha_1 \mid A\alpha_2 \mid \dots \mid A\alpha_m \mid \beta_1 \mid \beta_2 \mid \dots \mid \beta_n$$

Where no  $\beta_i$  begins with A.

Replace it with

$$A \rightarrow \beta_1 A' \mid \beta_2 A' \mid \dots \mid \beta_n A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha_1 A' \mid \alpha_2 A' \mid \dots \mid \alpha_m A' \mid \epsilon$$

57 Consider the following grammar and eliminate left recursion.

$$S \rightarrow Sab \mid Scd \mid Sef \mid g \mid h$$

$\alpha_1$        $\alpha_2$        $\alpha_3$      $\beta_1$      $\beta_2$

Apply the rule:

$$A \rightarrow A\alpha_1 \mid A\alpha_2 \mid \dots \mid A\alpha_m \mid \beta_1 \mid \beta_2 \mid \dots \mid \beta_n$$

$$A \rightarrow \beta_1 A' \mid \beta_2 A' \mid \dots \mid \beta_n A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha_1 A' \mid \alpha_2 A' \mid \dots \mid \alpha_m A' \mid \epsilon$$

$$S \rightarrow g S' \mid h S'$$

$$S' \rightarrow abS' \mid cdS' \mid efS'$$





A grammar is said to have **indirect left recursion** if, starting from any symbol of the grammar, it is possible to derive a string whose head is that symbol.

For example,

$A \rightarrow Br$

$B \rightarrow Cd$

$C \rightarrow At$

Where A, B, C are non-terminals and r, d, t are terminals.

Here, starting with A, we can derive A again on substituting C to B and B to A.



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# Algorithm to remove Indirect Recursion

Consider an example :

$$A1 \rightarrow A2 A3$$
$$A2 \rightarrow A3 A1 \mid b$$
$$A3 \rightarrow A1 A1 \mid a$$

Where  $A1, A2, A3$  are non terminals  
and  $a, b$  are terminals.

Step 1: Identify the productions which can cause **indirect left recursion**.

$$A3 \rightarrow A1 A1 \mid a$$

Step 2: Substitute this production at the place the terminal is present in any other production.

substitute  $A1 \rightarrow A2 A3$  in production of  $A3$ .

ie,

$$A3 \rightarrow \underline{A2} A3 \underline{A1}.$$

Now in this production substitute  $A2 \rightarrow A3 A1 \mid b$  and then replace this by,

$$A3 \rightarrow \underline{A3 A1} A3 A1 \mid \underline{b} A3 A1$$



60 Now the new production is converted in form of direct left recursion

, solve this by direct left recursion method.

$$A3 \rightarrow A3 A1 A3 A1 \mid b A3 A1 \mid a$$

Eliminating direct left recursion in the above,

$$\begin{aligned} A3 &\rightarrow a \mid b A3 A1 \mid aA' \mid b A3 A1A' \\ A' &\rightarrow A1 A3 A1 \mid A1 A3 A1A' \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{LR: } A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$$

$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \epsilon$$

The resulting grammar is then:

$$\begin{aligned} A1 &\rightarrow A2 A3 \\ A2 &\rightarrow A3 A1 \mid b \\ A3 &\rightarrow a \mid b A3 A1 \mid aA' \mid b A3 A1A' \\ A' &\rightarrow A1 A3 A1 \mid A1 A3 A1A' \end{aligned}$$



61 Consider the following grammar and eliminate left recursion-

$$X \rightarrow XSb / Sa / b$$

$$S \rightarrow Sb / Xa / a$$

### Solution-

This is a case of indirect left recursion.

### Step-01:

First let us eliminate left recursion from  $X \rightarrow XSb / Sa / b$

Eliminating left recursion from here, we get-

$$X \rightarrow SaX' / bX'$$

$$X' \rightarrow SbX' / \epsilon$$

62 Now, given grammar becomes

$$\begin{aligned} X &\rightarrow SaX' / bX' \\ X' &\rightarrow SbX' / \epsilon \\ S &\rightarrow Sb / Xa / a \end{aligned}$$

## Step-02:

Substituting the productions of  $X$  in  $S \rightarrow Xa$ , we get the following grammar

$$\begin{aligned} X &\rightarrow SaX' / bX' \\ X' &\rightarrow SbX' / \epsilon \\ S &\rightarrow Sb / SaX'a / bX'a / a \end{aligned}$$

## Step-03:

Now, eliminating left recursion from the productions of  $S$ , we get the following grammar

$$\begin{aligned} X &\rightarrow SaX' / bX' \\ X' &\rightarrow SbX' / \epsilon \\ S &\rightarrow bX'aS' / aS' \\ S' &\rightarrow bS' / aX'aS' / \epsilon \end{aligned}$$



63 Consider the following grammar and eliminate left recursion

$$S \rightarrow Aa \mid b$$

$$A \rightarrow Ac \mid Sd \mid \epsilon$$

**Solution-**

This is a case of **indirect left recursion**.

**Step-01:**

First let us eliminate left recursion from  **$S \rightarrow Aa \mid b$**

This is already free from left recursion.

**Step-02:**

Substituting the productions of S in  **$A \rightarrow Sd$** , we get the following grammar-

$$S \rightarrow Aa \mid b$$

$$A \rightarrow Ac \mid Aad \mid bd \mid \epsilon$$

Now ,  $A \rightarrow Ac \mid Aad \mid bd \mid \epsilon$  is in Immediate Left Recursion.

Apply the Rule :

$$A \rightarrow A\alpha_1 \mid A\alpha_2 \mid \dots \mid A\alpha_m \mid \beta_1 \mid \beta_2 \mid \dots \mid \beta_n$$

$$A \rightarrow \beta_1 A' \mid \beta_2 A' \mid \dots \mid \beta_n A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha_1 A' \mid \alpha_2 A' \mid \dots \mid \alpha_m A' \mid \epsilon$$

### Step-03:

After eliminating left recursion from the productions of A, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow Aa \mid b \\ A &\rightarrow bdA' \mid A' \\ A' &\rightarrow cA' \mid adA' \mid \epsilon \end{aligned}$$



Thank you