

An LALR(1) Grammar for  
(Revised) Ada

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To speed up the development and to facilitate the validation of Ada compilers we propose to use a common LALR(1) grammar for bottom-up parsing. The emphasis in specifying such a grammar especially in removing the conflicts is to obtain the same (syntactic) language as described in the Reference Manual [R-Ada].

In transforming the initial grammar given in [R-ADA] first all obvious ambiguities have been removed. Most of them arise from the use of the nonterminal type mark which is equivalent to name. The more severe LALR(1) conflicts are the identifier list in declarations, indexed names and similar constructs, the sequencing in declarative parts [Cro], subprogram bodies and instantiations, and entry names in accept statements.

- Identifier lists are substituted by a single identifier or a list of at least two identifiers.
- Indexed names have been extended to allow also function calls, generic associations, slices, conversions, and type marks with index or discriminant constraints.
- The following idea has been used to resolve the sequencing in declarative parts. Assume the rules

```
dp ::= {d} {r} {p}
d ::= b | ...
p ::= b | z
```

Then if b can be reduced to d or p it is not clear whether {r} is empty. The following transformation overcomes this ambiguity:

```
dp ::= {d} r {r} {p} | {d} | {d} z {p}
```

- The conflict concerning subprogram instantiation has been avoided by comprising the subprogram specification and the terminal 'is' into one rule.

- The conflict in analyzing the entry name in an accept statement is resolved by using semantic information about entry names. They can only consist of a sequence of selected components eventually followed by one index.

The (misprinted ?) rule for entry calls which requires two opening and closing parenthesis has been replaced by

```
entry_call ::= procedure_call
```

The grammar given in the remainder of this paper uses the same notation as in [R-Ada] except that terminals are enclosed by quotes. Sequences {, } and options [, ] have been transformed to get pure BNF.

Our LALR(1) parser generator [PGS] determines 484 states for the grammar given below. The number of productions is 397, there are 93 (including the stop symbol) terminal symbols, and 181 nonterminals which can be reduced to 124 by elimination of chain productions. The size of the resulting tables including automatic error recovery is about 12 KB.

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### References

- [R-ADA] US Department of Defense  
Reference Manual for the Ada Programming Language  
July 1980
- [PGS] P. Dencker  
Ein neues LALR-System  
Diplomarbeit, Universität Karlsruhe
- [Cro] M. T. Cronin  
Ambiguity in Ada  
Sigplan Notices 15-1-80, pp. 6-7

```
pragma ::= 'pragma' identifier ';'
        | 'pragma' identifier '(' argument_list ')' ';'

argument_list ::= argument | argument_list ',' argument

argument ::= expression | identifier '=>' expression

declaration ::=
    object_declaration      | number_declaration
    | type_declaration      | subtype_declaration
    | subprogram_declaration | package_declaration
    | task_declaration      | exception_declaration
    | renaming_declaration
    | pragma

object_declaration ::= component_declaration
    | identifier ':' 'constant' subtype_indication
        initialization_option ';'
    | identifier ':' 'constant' array_type_definition
        initialization_option ';'
    | identifier_list2 ':' 'constant' subtype_indication
        initialization_option ';'
    | identifier_list2 ':' 'constant' array_type_definition
        initialization_option ';'

initialization_option ::= | ':' expression

number_declaration ::=
    identifier ':' 'constant' ':= ' expression ';'
    | identifier_list2 ':' 'constant' ':= ' expression ';'

identifier_list2 ::= identifier ',' identifier
    | identifier_list2 ',' identifier

type_declaration ::=
    'type' identifier discriminant_part_option 'is' type_definition ';'
    | incomplete_type_declaration

discriminant_part_option ::= | discriminant_part

type_definition ::=
    enumeration_type_definition | integer_type_definition
    | real_type_definition      | array_type_definition
    | record_type_definition    | access_type_definition
    | derived_type_definition   | private_type_definition

subtype_declaration ::=
    'subtype' identifier 'is' subtype_indication ';'

subtype_indication ::= name
    | subtype_indication_with_constraint
```

```
pragma ::= 'pragma' identifier ';'
        | 'pragma' identifier '(' argument_list ')' ';'

argument_list ::= argument | argument_list ',' argument

argument ::= expression | identifier '=>' expression

declaration ::=
    object_declaration      | number_declaration
    | type_declaration      | subtype_declaration
    | subprogram_declaration | package_declaration
    | task_declaration      | exception_declaration
    | renaming_declaration
    | pragma

object_declaration ::= component_declaration
    | identifier ':' 'constant' subtype_indication
    | identifier ':' 'constant' initialization_option ';'
    | identifier ':' 'constant' array_type_definition
    | identifier ':' 'constant' initialization_option ';'
    | identifier_list2 ':' 'constant' subtype_indication
    | identifier_list2 ':' 'constant' initialization_option ';'
    | identifier_list2 ':' 'constant' array_type_definition
    | identifier_list2 ':' 'constant' initialization_option ';'

initialization_option ::= | ':' expression

number_declaration ::=
    identifier ':' 'constant' '=' expression ';'
    | identifier_list2 ':' 'constant' '=' expression ';'

identifier_list2 ::= identifier ',' identifier
    | identifier_list2 ',' identifier

type_declaration ::=
    'type' identifier discriminant_part_option 'is' type_definition ';'
    | incomplete_type_declaration

discriminant_part_option ::= | discriminant_part

type_definition ::=
    enumeration_type_definition | integer_type_definition
    | real_type_definition      | array_type_definition
    | record_type_definition    | access_type_definition
    | derived_type_definition    | private_type_definition

subtype_declaration ::=
    'subtype' identifier 'is' subtype_indication ';'

subtype_indication ::= name
    | subtype_indication_with_constraint
```

```

subtype_indication_with_constraint ::=
    name_range_constraint
    | name_accuracy_constraint

derived_type_definition ::= 'new' subtype_indication

range_constraint ::= 'range' range

range ::= simple_expression '..' simple_expression

enumeration_type_definition ::=
    '(' enumeration_literal_list ')'

enumeration_literal_list ::= enumeration_literal
    | enumeration_literal_list ',' enumeration_literal

enumeration_literal ::= identifier | character_literal

integer_type_definition ::= range_constraint

real_type_definition ::= accuracy_constraint

accuracy_constraint ::=
    floating_point_constraint | fixed_point_constraint

floating_point_constraint ::=
    'digits' simple_expression range_constraint_option

range_constraint_option ::= | range_constraint

fixed_point_constraint ::=
    'delta' simple_expression range_constraint_option

array_type_definition ::=
    'array' '(' index_list ')' 'of' subtype_indication
    | 'array' index_constraint 'of' subtype_indication

index_list ::= index | index_list ',' index

index ::= name 'range' '<>'

index_constraint ::= '(' discrete_range_list ')'

discrete_range_list ::= discrete_range
    | discrete_range_list ',' discrete_range

discrete_range ::= name range_constraint_option | range

record_type_definition :
    'record'
        component_list
    'end' 'record'

component_list ::=
    component_declaration_list0 variant_part_option | 'null'
    ','

```

```

component_declaration_list0 ::=
  | component_declaration_list0 component_declaration

variant_part_option ::= | variant_part

component_declaration ::=
  discriminant_declaration ';'
  | identifier ':' array_type_definition
  | identifier_list2 ':' array_type_definition
  | identifier_list2 ':' array_type_definition initialization_option ';'
  | identifier_list2 ':' array_type_definition initialization_option ';'

discriminant_part :
  '(' discriminant_declaration_list ')'

discriminant_declaration_list ::= discriminant_declaration
  | discriminant_declaration_list ';' discriminant_declaration
  | discriminant_declaration_list ';' discriminant_declaration

discriminant_declaration ::=
  identifier ':' subtype_indication
  | identifier_list2 ':' subtype_indication
  | identifier_list2 ':' subtype_indication initialization_option
  | identifier_list2 ':' subtype_indication initialization_option

variant_part ::=
  'case' name 'is'
  variant_list0
  'end' 'case' ';'

variant_list0 ::=
  | variant_list0 'when' choice_list '=>' component_list

choice ::= simple_expression | 'others'
  | name range_constraint | range

choice_list ::= choice | choice_list '|' choice

access_type_definition ::= 'access' subtype_indication

incomplete_type_declaration ::=
  'type' identifier discriminant_part_option ';'

declarative_part ::=
  declarative_item_list0
  | declarative_item_list0 representation_spec_list1
  | declarative_item_list0 program_component_list0
  | declarative_item_list0 body_or_stub
  | declarative_item_list0 program_component_list0

declarative_item_list0 ::=
  | declarative_item_list0 declaration
  | declarative_item_list0 use_clause

```

```
representation_spec_list0 ::= | representation_spec_list1
representation_spec_list1 ::=
    representation_specification
    | representation_spec_list1 representation_specification

body_or_stub ::= body | body_stub

program_component_list0 ::=
    | program_component_list0 program_component

program_component ::= body
    | package_declaration | task_declaration | body_stub

body ::= subprogram_body | package_body | task_body

name ::= identifier
    | indexed_component
    | selected_component | attribute
    | function_call      | operator_symbol

indexed_component ::= name '(' generalized_expression_list
    ')'

generalized_expression_list ::= generalized_expression
    | generalized_expression_list ',' generalized_expression

generalized_expression ::=
    expression | range | subtype_indication_with_constraint
    | choice_list '=>' expression
    | choice_list '=>' subtype_indication_with_constraint

selected_component ::=
    name '.' identifier      | name '.' 'all'
    | name '.' operator_symbol

attribute ::= name ''' identifier

literal ::=
    numeric_literal | character_literal
    | 'null'

aggregate ::= '(' component_association_list2 ')'
    | '(' choice_list '=>' expression ')'

component_association_list2 ::=
    component_association ',' component_association
    | component_association_list2 ',' component_association

component_association ::= expression
    | choice_list '=>' expression

expression ::= relation
    | and_expression | or_expression | xor_expression
```

```
| andthen_expression | orelse_expression
and_expression ::= relation 'and' relation
| and_expression 'and' relation
or_expression ::= relation 'or' relation
| or_expression 'or' relation
xor_expression ::= relation 'xor' relation
| xor_expression 'xor' relation
andthen_expression ::= relation 'and' 'then' relation
| andthen_expression 'and' 'then' relation
orelse_expression ::= relation 'or' 'else' relation
| orelse_expression 'or' 'else' relation
relation ::= simple_expression
| simple_expression relational_operator simple_expression
| simple_expression membership_operator range
| simple_expression membership_operator subtype_indication
membership_operator ::= 'in' | 'not' 'in'
simple_expression ::= term_list
| unary_operator term_list
term_list ::= term | term_list adding_operator term
term ::= factor | term multiplying_operator factor
factor ::= primary | primary '**' primary
primary :
    literal | aggregate | name | allocator
    | qualified_expression | '('expression')'
relational_operator ::= '=' | '/=' | '<' | '<=' | '>' | '>='
adding_operator ::= '+' | '-' | '&'
unary_operator ::= '+' | '-' | 'not'
multiplying_operator ::= '*' | '/' | 'mod' | 'rem'
qualified_expression :
    name '('expression')' | name 'aggregate'
allocator ::= 'new' name
sequence_of_statements ::= statement
| sequence_of_statements statement
statement ::=
    label_list simple_statement
```



```
| label_list compound_statement
| pragma

label_list ::= | label_list label

simple_statement ::= null_statement
| assignment_statement | exit_statement
| return_statement    | goto_statement
| procedure_call
| delay_statement     | abort_statement
| raise_statement     | code_statement

compound_statement ::=
    if_statement      | case_statement
| loop_statement      | block
| accept_statement    | select_statement

label ::= '<<' identifier '>>'

null_statement ::= 'null' ';'

assignment_statement ::= name ':=' expression ';'

if_statement ::=
    'if' condition 'then'
        sequence_of_statements
    elsif_list0
    else_option
    'end' 'if' ';'

elsif_list0 ::=
    | elsif_list0
    'elsif' condition 'then' sequence_of_statements

else_option ::= | 'else' sequence_of_statements

condition ::= expression

case_statement ::=
    'case' expression 'is'
        alternative_list0
    'end' 'case' ';'

alternative_list0 ::=
    | alternative_list0
    'when' choice_list '=>' sequence_of_statements

loop_statement ::=
    iteration_clause_option basic_loop ';'
| identifier ':' iteration_clause_option
    basic_loop identifier ';'

basic_loop ::=
    'loop'
        sequence_of_statements
```

```

    'end' 'loop'

iteration_clause_option ::=
    | 'for' identifier 'in' discrete_range
    | 'for' identifier 'in' 'reverse' discrete_range
    | 'while' condition

block ::=
    declare_part_option
    'begin'
    sequence_of_statements
    exception_option
    'end' ';'
    | identifier ':'
    declare_part_option
    'begin'
    sequence_of_statements
    exception_option
    'end' identifier ';'

declare_part_option ::=
    | 'declare' declarative_part

exception_option ::=
    | 'exception' exception_handler_list0

exception_handler_list0 ::=
    | exception_handler_list0 exception_handler

exit_statement ::=
    'exit' name_option when_option ';'

name_option ::= | name

when_option ::= | 'when' condition

return_statement ::= 'return' ';'
                    | 'return' expression ';'

goto_statement ::= 'goto' name ';'

subprogram_declaration ::= subprogram_specification ';'
    | generic_subprogram_declaration
    | generic_subprogram_instantiation

subprogram_specification ::=
    'procedure' identifier formal_part_option
    | 'function' designator formal_part_option
    'return' subtype_indication

subprogram_specification_is ::=
    'procedure' identifier 'is'
    | 'procedure' identifier formal_part 'is'
    | 'function' designator formal_part_option
    'return' subtype_indication 'is'

```

```
designator ::= identifier | operator_symbol
operator_symbol ::= character_string
formal_part ::= '(' parameter_declaration_list ')'
formal_part_option ::= | formal_part
parameter_declaration_list ::= parameter_declaration
    | parameter_declaration_list ';' parameter_declaration
parameter_declaration ::=
    identifier ':' mode subtype_indication
        initialization_option
    | identifier_list2 ':' mode subtype_indication
        initialization_option
mode ::= | 'in' | 'out' | 'in' 'out'
subprogram_body ::=
    subprogram_specification_is
        declarative_part
    'begin'
        sequence_of_statements
    exception_option
    'end' designator_option ';'
designator_option ::= | designator
procedure_call ::= name ';'
function_call ::= name '(' ')'

package_declaration ::= package_specification ';'
    | generic_package_declaration
    | generic_package_instantiation
package_specification ::=
    'package' identifier 'is'
        declarative_item_list0
    private_part_option
    'end' identifier_option
private_part_option ::=
    | 'private'
        declarative_item_list0
        representation_spec_list0
identifier_option ::= | identifier
package_body ::=
    'package' 'body' identifier 'is'
```

```

        declarative_part
        statements_option
        'end' identifier_option ';'

statements_option ::=
    | 'begin' sequence_of_statements exception_option

private_type_definition ::= 'limited' 'private'
                            | 'private'

use_clause ::= 'use' name_list ';'

name_list ::= name | name_list ',' name

renaming_declaration ::=
    identifier ':' name          'renames' name ';'
    | identifier ':' 'exception' 'renames' name ';'
    | 'package' identifier      'renames' name ';'
    | 'task' identifier         'renames' name ';'
    | subprogram_specification  'renames' name ';'

task_declaration ::= task_specification

task_specification ::= 'task' identifier task_specifier
    | 'task' 'type' identifier task_specifier

task_specifier ::= ';'
    | 'is'
        entry_declaration_list0
        representation_spec_list0
        'end' identifier_option ';'

entry_declaration_list0 ::=
    | entry_declaration_list0 entry_declaration

task_body ::=
    'task' 'body' identifier 'is'
        declarative_part
    'begin'
        sequence_of_statements
        exception_option
    'end' identifier_option ';'

entry_declaration ::=
    'entry' identifier formal_part_option ';'
    | 'entry' identifier '(' discrete_range ')'
                                formal_part_option ';'

entry_call ::= procedure_call

accept_statement ::=
    'accept' entry_name formal_part_option ';'
    | 'accept' entry_name formal_part_option 'do'
        sequence_of_statements
    'end' identifier_option ';'

```

```
entry_name ::= identifier | operator_symbol
            | entry_name '.' identifier
            | entry_name '.' operator_symbol
            | entry_name '(' expression ')';

delay_statement ::= 'delay' simple_expression;

select_statement ::= selective_wait
                  | conditional_entry_call | timed_entry_call

selective_wait ::=
    'select'
        condition_option
        select_alternative
    select_alternative_list0
    else_option
    'end' 'select' ';';

select_alternative_list0 ::=
    | select_alternative_list0
    'or' condition_option select_alternative

condition_option ::= | 'when' condition '=>'

select_alternative ::=
    accept_statement sequence_of_statements_option
    | delay_statement sequence_of_statements_option
    | 'terminate' ';';

sequence_of_statements_option ::=
    | sequence_of_statements

conditional_entry_call ::=
    'select'
        entry_call sequence_of_statements_option
    'else'
        sequence_of_statements
    'end' 'select' ';';

timed_entry_call ::=
    'select'
        entry_call sequence_of_statements_option
    'or'
        delay_statement sequence_of_statements_option
    'end' 'select' ';';

abort_statement ::= 'abort' name_list;

compilation ::= compilation_list

compilation_list ::=
    pragma_list0 compilation_unit
    | compilation_list pragma_list0 compilation_unit
```

```
pragma_list0 ::= | pragma_list0 pragma

compilation_unit ::=
    context_specification subprogram_declaration
  | context_specification subprogram_body
  | context_specification package_declaration
  | context_specification package_body
  | context_specification subunit

context_specification ::=
  | context_specification with_clause use_clause_option

use_clause_option ::= | use_clause

with_clause ::= 'with' name_list ';'

subunit ::=
  'separate' '(' name ')' body

body_stub ::=
  subprogram_specification is 'separate' ';'
  | 'package' 'body' identifier 'is' 'separate' ';'
  | 'task' 'body' identifier 'is' 'separate' ';'

exception_declaration ::= identifier ':' 'exception
';'

exception_handler ::=
  'when' exception_choice_list '=>'
    sequence_of_statements

exception_choice_list ::= exception_choice
  | exception_choice_list '|' exception_choice

exception_choice ::= name | 'others'

raise_statement ::= 'raise' name_option ';'

generic_subprogram_declaration :
  generic_part subprogram_specification ';'

generic_package_declaration :
  generic_part package_specification ';'

generic_part ::= 'generic'
  | generic_part generic_formal_parameter

generic_formal_parameter ::=
  parameter_declaration ';'
  | 'type' identifier discriminant_part_option 'is'
    generic_type_definition
  ';'
  | 'with' subprogram_specification ';'
  | 'with' subprogram_specification_is name ';'
  | 'with' subprogram_specification_is '<>' ';'
  ;
```

```
generic_type_definition ::=
    '(' '<>' ')' | 'range' '<>' | 'delta' '<>' | 'digits'
    '<>'
    | array_type_definition      | access_type_definition
    | private_type_definition

generic_subprogram_instantiation ::=
    'procedure' identifier 'is' generic_instantiation ';'
    | 'function' designator  'is' generic_instantiation ';'

generic_package_instantiation ::=
    'package' identifier 'is' generic_instantiation ';'

generic_instantiation ::= 'new' name

representation_specification ::=
    length_specification
    | record_type_representation | address_specification

length_specification ::= 'for' name 'use' expression ';'

record_type_representation ::=
    'for' name 'use'
        'record' alignment_clause_option
            location_list0
        'end' 'record' ';'

location_list0 ::=
    | location_list0
    name 'at' simple_expression 'range' range ';'

alignment_clause_option ::= | 'at' 'mod' simple_expression
    ';'

address_specification ::= 'for' name 'use' 'at' simple_ex-
    pression ';'

code_statement ::= qualified_expression ';'

```