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## Lab Assignment - 6

Title: Implementing recursive descent parser for sample language.

aim: Implemented Recursive descent parser for grammar of arithmetic expression.

Objective:

- To study parsing phase in the compiler.
- To study types of parsers - top down and bottom up.
- Problems encountered during top down parser.
- How to write a top down parser.

Theory :-

→ CFG, non-terminal, terminals, productions, derivation sequence.

- CFG - A context-free grammar (CFG) consisting of a finite set of grammar rules is a quadruple  $(N, T, P, S)$  where,

$N$ , is a set of non-terminal symbols

$T$  is a set of terminal symbols

$P$  is a set of rules,  $P \Rightarrow P: N \rightarrow (N \cup T)^*$ , i.e. the left hand side of the production rule  $P$  does not have any right context or left context or left context.

- $S$  is the start symbol. A context-free grammar has four components.

- A set of ~~the~~ non-terminals ( $V$ ). Non-terminals are syntactic variables that denote sets of strings the non-terminals define. Sets of strings that help define the language generated by the grammar.

- A set of tokens, known as terminal symbols ( $\Sigma$ ). Terminals are the basic symbols from which strings are formed.



- A set of ~~tokens~~ productions ( $P$ ). The productions of a grammar specify the manner in which the terminal and non-terminals can be combined to form strings. Each production consists of a non-terminal called the left side of the production as arrow, and a sequence of ~~tokens~~ and for non-terminals called the right side of the productions.
- One of the non-terminals is designated as the start symbol ( $S$ ); from which the production begins.

### → Introduction to Recursive Descent Parser.

Recursive descent is a top-down parsing technique that consist of the parse tree from the top and the input is read from left to right. It uses procedures for every terminals & non-terminal entity. The parsing technique recursively parses the input to make a parse tree, which may or may not require back-tracking. But the grammar associated with it can't avoid backtracking. A form of recursive-descent parsing that doesn't parsing that doesn't require any backtracking is known as predictive parsing. This parsing technique is ~~requered~~ recursive as it uses context free grammar which is recursive in nature.

### → Elimination of left recursive recursion

A production of grammar is said to have left recursion if the leftmost variable of its RHS is a same as variable of its LHS. Grammar containing a production having left ~~recursive~~ recursion is called as left recursive grammar. Left recursion is elimination by converting the grammar into a right recursive grammar.



If we have the left recursive pair of production  
 $A \rightarrow A \alpha / B$

(left recursive grammar)

where  $B$  doesn't begin with  $A$ .

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

$A \rightarrow BA'$

$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' / \epsilon$

Recursive procedure to recognize expressions.

Procedure  $E(\bullet)$

begin

$T()$

$E'()$

End

Procedure  $E'()$ :

If input-symbol = '+' then

begin

ADVANCE()

$T()$

$E'()$

end;

procedure  $T()$ :

begin

$F()$

$T()$

end;

procedure  $T()$

if input-symbol = '\*' then

begin

ADVANCE()

$F()$

$T()$

End;

procedure  $F()$ :



```

if input_symbol = 'i' then
  ADVANCE()
Else if input symbol = '(' then
  begin
    ADVANCE()
    E()
  if input_symbol = ')' then
    ADVANCE()
  else ERROR()
  end
else ERROR()

```

Input: String ~~st~~ satisfying given grammar, string not satisfying given grammar to test error condition

Output: Success for correct string. Failure for syntactically wrong string.

Conclusion: The recursive descent parser is successful implemented.

Platform: Linux (C/C++/JAVA)

### FAQ's

1 What is Parsing?

Parsing is a compiler that is used to break the data into smaller elements ~~covering~~ coming from lexical analysis phase. A parser takes input in the form of sequence of ~~tolerance~~ tokens and produces output in the form of parse tree. Parsing is of two type



(i) Top-down:

→ It is known as recursive parsing or predictive parsing.

→ The parsing starts from the start symbol & transport it into the input symbol.

(ii) Bottom-up

→ Also known as shift-reduce parsing

→ It is used to construct a parse tree for an input string.

2 What are the different types of Parser?

(i) Recursive descent Parsing

(ii) Back tracking

(iii) Predictive Parser

(iv) LL Parser

(v) LL Parser Algorithm

(vi) Shift-Reduce Parsing

(vii) LR-Parser

(viii) LR-Parsing Algorithm

3 What are the disadvantages of ROP?

(i) They are not as fast as some other methods

(ii) It is difficult to provide really good error messages.

(iii) They cannot do parses that require arbitrary long lookaheads



Q 4 why eliminate the left recursive?

Left recursive often poses problems for parsers, either because it leads them into infinite ~~recursive~~ recursion or because they expect rules in a normal form that forbids it.