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MS. SHWETA TIWARI
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#### PREPARED FOR

**Engineering Students All Engineering College** 

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INSTRUCTOR: Ms. SHWETA TIWARI

shwetatiwari08@ recabn.ac.in shwetatiwari08aug@ gmail.com



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# TOPIC On: OPERATOR PRECEDENCE PARSER

# OPERATOR PRECEDENCE PARSER

# **Operator Precedence Parsing:**

A grammar that is used to define mathematical operators is called an **operator grammar** or **operator precedence grammar**.

### TWO RESTRICTION FOR GRAMMAR

- Such grammars have the restriction that no production has either an ε (empty)
  right-hand side (null productions)
- 2. No two adjacent non-terminals in its right-hand side of production.

# Examples -

This is an example of operator grammar:

 $E \rightarrow E + E/E \times E/id$ 

However, the grammar given below is not an operator grammar because two non-terminals are adjacent to each other:

S->SAS/a

A->bSb/b

We can convert it into an operator grammar, though:

S->SbSbS/SbS/a

A->bSb/b

# Operator precedence parser –

An operator precedence parser is a bottom-up parser that interprets an operator grammar. This parser is only used for operator grammars. *Ambiguous grammars are not allowed* in any parser except operator precedence parser.

There are two methods for determining what precedence relations should hold between a pair of terminals:

- 1. Use the conventional associativity and precedence of operators.
- 2. The second method of selecting operator-precedence relations is first to construct an unambiguous grammar for the language, a grammar that reflects the correct associativity and precedence in its parse trees.

Operator grammars have the property that no production right side is  $\varepsilon$  (empty) or has two adjacent non terminals. This property enables the implementation of efficient operator- precedence parsers.

**Example:** The following grammar for expressions:

$$E \rightarrow E A E \mid (E) \mid -E \mid id$$
  
 $A \rightarrow + \mid -\mid * \mid /\mid \land$ 

This is not operator grammar, because the right side EAE has two consecutive nonterminals. However, if we substitute for A each of its alternate, we obtain the following operator grammar:

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

In operator-precedence parsing, we define three disjoint precedence relations between pairs of terminals. This parser relies on the following three precedence relations.

Relation	Meaning
a < b	a yields precedence to b
a = b	a has the same precedence as b
a > b	a takes precedence over b

Fig 1 Precedence Relations

These precedence relations guide the selection of handles. These operator precedence relations allow delimiting the handles in the right sentential forms:  $<\cdot$  marks the left end,  $=\cdot$  appears in the interior of the handle, and  $\cdot>$  marks the right end.

	id	+	*	\$
id		÷	.>	.>
+	<.	.>	<-	.>
*	<.	.>	.>	.>
\$	<.	<.	<.	.>

Fig 2 Operator Precedence Relation Table

**Example:** The input string: id<sub>1</sub> + id<sub>2</sub> \* id<sub>3</sub>

After inserting precedence relations the string becomes:

$$\$ < i id_1 > + < i id_2 > * < i id_3 > \$$$

Having precedence relations allows identifying handles as follows:

- 1. Scan the string from left end until the leftmost ·> is encountered.
- 2. Then scan backwards over any ='s until a < is encountered.
- 3. Everything between the two relations  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  and  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  forms the handle.

Stack	Rule	Input	Comments
\$ < id > + < id > * < id > \$	$E \rightarrow id$	\$ id + id * id \$	Here the first "id" is looked as the handle and since we were able to reduce, we reduce it in the input
\$<+< id>>*< id>\$	E → id	\$ E + id * id \$	The second handle is also "id" since that is available between a pair of lesser than and greater than precedences
\$ < + < * < id > \$	$E \rightarrow id$	\$E+E* id \$	The third handle is also "id".
\$<+<**>\$	E → E*E	\$E+ E* E\$	The fourth handle is E *E, and is popped in the stack and we push the greater than symbol.
\$ < · + ·> \$	$E \rightarrow E+E$	SE+ES	The last handle is E+E and that is also reduced.
SS		1	The stack is empty and has only the \$ symbol, we say the string is accepted.

# **Defining Precedence Relations:**

The precedence relations are defined using the following rules:

#### **Rule-01:**

- If precedence of b is higher than precedence of a, then we define a < b
- If precedence of b is same as precedence of a, then we define a = b
- If precedence of b is lower than precedence of a, then we define a > b

#### **Rule-02:**

- An identifier is always given the higher precedence than any other symbol.
- \$ symbol is always given the lowest precedence.

# <u>Rule-03:</u>

- If two operators have the same precedence, then we go by checking their associativity.
  - 1. † is of highest precedence and right-associative,
  - 2. \* and/are of next highest precedence and left-associative, and
  - 3. + and are of lowest precedence and left-associative,

Fig 3 Operator Precedence Relation Table

	+	_	*	1	t	id	(	)	\$
+	·>	·>	<.	<.	<.	<.	<.	·>	·>
-	·>	·>	<.	<.	<.	<.	<.	.>	.>
*	·>	·>	·>	·>	<.	<.	<.	.>	•>
1	·>	·>	·>	.>	<-	<.	ı	·>	->
t	·>	·>	·>	·>	<.	<-	<.	·>	.>
id	·>	.>	·>	·>	.>			·>	·>
(	<.	<.	<.	<.	<.	<.	<.	÷	
)	·>	.>	·>	·>	.>	1	ĺ	·>	·>
\$	<.	<∙	<.	<∙	<.	<.	<.		

STACK	INPUT	COMMENT
\$	< id+id*id \$	shift id
\$ id	·> +id*id \$	pop the top of the stack id
\$	< +id*id \$	shift+
<b>\$</b> +	< id*id\$	shift id
\$+id	> *id\$	pop id
\$+	< *id \$	shift *
\$+*	<· id \$	shift id
\$ + * id	> \$	pop id
\$ + *	> \$	pop *
\$+	> \$	pop+
\$	\$	accept

Fig 4 Stack Implementation

# **Implementation of Operator-Precedence Parser:**

- An operator-precedence parser is a simple shift-reduce parser that is capable of parsing a subset of LR(1) grammars.
- More precisely, the operator-precedence parser can parse all LR(1) grammars where two consecutive non-terminals and epsilon never appear in the right-hand side of any rule.

#### **Steps involved in Parsing:**

- 1. Ensure the grammar satisfies the pre-requisite.
- 2. Computation of the function LEADING()
- 3. Computation of the function TRAILING()
- 4. Using the computed leading and trailing ,construct the operator Precedence Table
- 5. Parse the given input string based on the algorithm
- 6. Compute Precedence Function and graph.

# **Computation of LEADING:**

- Leading is defined for every non-terminal.
- Terminals that can be the first terminal in a string derived from that non-terminal.
- LEADING(A)={ al A=>+  $\gamma$  a  $\delta$  },where  $\gamma$  is  $\varepsilon$  or any non-terminal, =>+ indicates derivation in one or more steps, A is a non-terminal.

# Algorithm for LEADING(A):

```
1. 'a' is in LEADING(A) is A \rightarrow \gamma a \delta where \gamma is \varepsilon or any non-terminal. 2.If 'a' is in LEADING(B) and A \rightarrow B, then 'a' is in LEADING(A).
```

# Computation of TRAILING:

- Trailing is defined for every non-terminal.
- Terminals that can be the last terminal in a string derived from that non-terminal.
- TRAILING(A)={ al A=>+  $\gamma$  a  $\delta$  },where  $\delta$  is  $\varepsilon$  or any non-terminal, =>+ indicates derivation in one or more steps, A is a non-terminal.

```
Algorithm for TRAILING(A):
    {
    1.
            'a' is in TRAILING(A) is A \rightarrow \gamma a \delta where \delta is \varepsilon or any
    non-terminal. 2.If 'a' is in TRAILING(B) and A→B, then 'a' is in
    TRAILING(A).
    }
Example 1: Consider the unambiguous
        grammar, E \rightarrow E + T
        E \rightarrow T T \rightarrow T
        * F T \rightarrow F
        F\rightarrow (E)
        F\rightarrow id
Step 1: Compute LEADING and TRAILING: LEADING(E)=
    \{+, LEADING(T)\} = \{+, *, (, id\}\}
   LEADING(T)= \{*, LEADING(F)\} = \{*, (, id)\}
   LEADING(F) = \{ (, id) \}
   TRAILING(E) = \{ +, TRAILING(T) \} = \{ +, *, ), id \}
   TRAILING(T) = \{ *, TRAILING(F) \} = \{ *, ), id \}
   TRAILING(F) = \{ \}, id \}
```

**Step 2:** After computing LEADING and TRAILING, the table is constructed between all the terminals in the grammar including the '\$' symbol.

```
for each production A→X<sub>1</sub> X<sub>2</sub> X<sub>3</sub> ... X<sub>n</sub>

for i=1 to n-1

1. if X<sub>i</sub> and X<sub>i+1</sub> are terminals

set X<sub>i</sub> = X<sub>i+1</sub>

2. if i ≤ n-2 and X<sub>i</sub> and X<sub>i+2</sub> are terminals and X<sub>i+1</sub> is a non-terminal,

set X<sub>i</sub> = X<sub>i+2</sub>

3. if X<sub>i</sub> is a terminal and X<sub>i+1</sub> is a non-terminal ,then for all 'a' in

LEADING(X<sub>i+1</sub>)

set X<sub>i</sub> < a

4. if X<sub>i</sub> is a non-terminal and X<sub>i+1</sub> is a terminal ,then for all 'a' in

TRAILING(X<sub>i</sub>)

set a > X<sub>i+1</sub>

5. Set $ < Leading(S) and Trailing(S) > $, where S-start symbol.
```

Fig 5 Algorithm for constructing Precedence Relation Table

	+	*	id	(	)	\$
+	>	<	<	<	>	^
*	>	>	<	<	>	>
id	>	>	е	е	>	>
(	<	<	<	<	=	е
)	>	>	е	e	>	>
\$	<	<	<	<	е	Accept

Fig 6 Precedence Relation Table

Step 3: Parse the given input string (id+id)\*id\$

Fig 7 Parsing Algorithm

REL.	INPUT	ACTION
\$ < (	(id+id)*id\$	Shift (
( < id	id+id)*id\$	Shift id
id > +	+id)*id\$	Pop id
(<+	+id)*id\$	Shift +
+ < id	id)*id\$	Shift id
id > )	)*id\$	Pop id
+>)	)*id\$	Pop +
(=)	)*id\$	Shift )
) > *	*id \$	Pop ) Pop (
<b>\$</b> < *	*id \$	Shift *
* < id	id\$	Shift id
id > \$	\$	Pop id
*>\$	\$	Pop *
	\$	Accept
	\$ < ( ( < id id > + ( < + + < id id >) + >) ( = ) ) > *  \$ < * * < id id > \$	\$ < ( (id+id)*id\$ ( < id id+id)*id\$ id > + +id)*id\$  ( < + +id)*id\$  + < id id)*id\$  id > ) *id\$  + > ) *id\$  ( = )

Fig 8 Parse the input string (id+id)\*id\$

#### **Precedence Functions:**

Compilers using operator-precedence parsers need not store the table of precedence relations. In most cases, the table can be encoded by two precedence functions f and g that map terminal symbols to integers. We attempt to select f and g so that, for symbols a and b.

- 1. f(a) < g(b) whenever a < b.
- 2. f(a) = g(b) whenever a = b. and
- 3. f(a) > g(b) whenever  $a \cdot > b$ .

#### **Algorithm for Constructing Precedence Functions:**

- 1. Create functions  $f_a$  for each grammar terminal a and for the end of string symbol.
- 2. Partition the symbols in groups so that  $f_a$  and  $g_b$  are in the same group if a = b (there can be symbols in the same group even if they are not connected by this relation).
- 3. Create a directed graph whose nodes are in the groups, next for each symbols a and b do: place an edge from the group of  $g_b$  to the group of  $f_a$  if a < b, otherwise if a > b place an edge from the group of  $f_a$  to that of  $g_b$ .
- 4. If the constructed graph has a cycle then no precedence functions exist. When there are no cycles collect the length of the longest paths from the groups of  $f_a$  and  $g_b$  respectively.

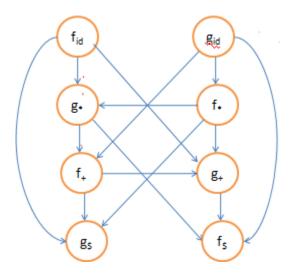


Fig 9 Precedence Graph

There are no cycles,so a precedence function exists. As f\$ and g\$ have no out edges,f(\$)=g(\$)=0.The longest path from g+ has length 1, so, g(+)=1.There is a path from gid to f\* to g\* to f+ to g+ to f\$, so, g(id)=5.The resulting precedence functions are:

	id	+	*	\$
f	4	2	4	0
g	5	1	3	0

Fig 10 Precedence Table

# Example 2:

Consider the following grammar, and construct the operator precedence parsing table and check whether the input string (i) \*id=id (ii)id\*id=id are successfully parsed or not?

$$S \rightarrow L = R$$

$$S \rightarrow R$$

$$L\rightarrow *R$$

$$R {\rightarrow} L$$

## **Solution:**

# 1. Computation of LEADING:

$$LEADING(S) = \{=, *, id\}$$

$$LEADING(L) = {*, id}$$

$$LEADING(R) = {*, id}$$

# 2. Computation of TRAILING:

$$TRAILING(S) = \{=, *, id\}$$

$$TRAILING(L) = \{*, id\}$$

$$TRAILING(R) = \{*, id\}$$

#### 3. Precedence Table:

	=	*	id	*
=	e	<∙	<.	•>
*	•>	<.	<.	·>
id	·>	е	e	· ·
\$	<.	<.	<.	accept

<sup>\*</sup> All undefined entries are error (e).

# 4. Parsing the given input string:

# 1. \*id = id

STACK	INPUT STRING	ACTION
\$	*id=id\$	\$<∙* Push
<b>\$</b> *	id=id\$	*<·id Push
\$*id	=id\$	id·>= Pop
<b>\$</b> *	=id\$	*·>= Pop
\$	=id\$	\$<·= Push
\$=	id\$	=<·id Push
\$=id	\$	id·>\$ Pop
\$=	\$	=->\$ Pop
\$	\$	Accept

# 2. id\*id=id

STACK	INPUT STRING	ACTION
\$	id*id=id\$	\$<·idPush
\$id	*id=id\$	Error

**Example 3:** Check whether the following Grammar is an operator precedence grammar or not.

$$E \rightarrow E + E$$

$$E \rightarrow E*E$$

$$E \rightarrow id$$

### **Solution:**

# 1. Computation of LEADING:

$$LEADING(E) = \{+, *, id\}$$

# 2. Computation of TRAILING:

$$TRAILING(E) = \{+, *, id\}$$

#### 3.Precedence Table:

	+	*	id	\$
+	<:/·>	<:/·>	Ÿ	•>
*	<:/·>	<:/·>	<b>·</b>	•>
id	· ^	·>		•>
\$	Ÿ	Ÿ	Ÿ	accept

All undefined entries are errors. Since the precedence table has multiple defined entries, the grammar is not an operator precedence grammar.