Text Processing Tools

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Overview

- Syntax Directed Translation
- Syntax Directed Definition
 - S-attributed grammars
 - L-attributed grammars
 - S-attributed vs L-attributed grammars
- The two stacks of Yacc
- The Full Compilation Process
- 6 Abstract Syntax Trees
 - Abstract Syntax Tree pruning
- Type checking on the AST
- Intermediate Representation



Syntax Directed Translation

- Compilation is syntax driven: precedence and occurrence of symbols drive the execution of semantic actions. We saw it in lexers/parsers.
- The parser must produce an output for the next processing phase.

Syntax Directed Translation

- <u>Def</u>: A syntax directed translation is a grammar \mathcal{G} augmented by semantic rules driving the translation process from a sequence of symbols to another medium (code/text).
- Given a production $\mathcal P$ of $\mathcal G$, the semantic rule (now called "translation rule") produces an output which is function of $\mathcal P$'s right hand side.
- Syntax directed translation is concerned with translation only, computations are a matter of SDDs.
- The easiest way to obtain the result is: building the annotated AST and visit it bottom up running the rules for each node.

Syntax Directed Translation, example

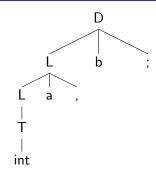
Syntax Directed Definitions

- <u>Def</u>: A syntax directed definition is a grammar G augmented by attributes and rules.
- \bullet Each non terminal symbol ${\cal N}$ is associated with a set of attributes which can be of two types.
 - <u>Def</u>: Synthesized attributes: their value depends on the values of the children of \mathcal{N} .
 - <u>Def</u>: Inherited attributes: their value depends on the values of \mathcal{N} 's parent **or** <u>left</u> siblings.

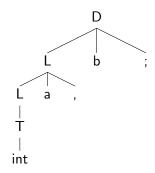
S-attributed grammars

- <u>Def</u>: S-attributed grammars, SDDs using synthesized attributes only.
- There are many simple examples of such grammars, SLR(1)/LALR(1)/LR(1) operator grammars.
- They naturally map to bottom up parsing.

Synthesized attributes, example



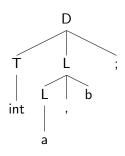
Synthesized attributes, example in Yacc



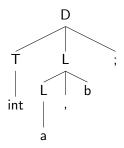
L-attributed grammars

- <u>Def</u>: L-attributed grammars, SDDs using both synthesized and inherited attributes.
- There are many simple examples of such grammars, all S-attributed grammars and LL(1) operator grammars.
- They naturally map to top down parsing but they can not be evaluated during bottom up parsing. A real AST is required.

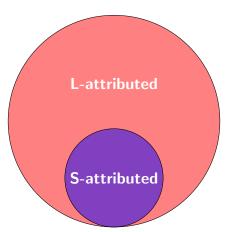
Inherited attributes, example



Inherited attributes, example in Yacc



Relationship: S-attributed vs L-attributed grammars



Everything done by an S-attributed grammar can be done through an L-attributed grammar.

Syntax Directed Definition, some reminder

- <u>Reminder</u>: To visualize the computations carried out by SDDs, we assume to have the corresponding AST but its construction is not compulsory!
- <u>Reminder</u>: An S-attributed grammar can always be evaluated bottom up. (postorder traversal)
- <u>Reminder</u>: An SDD with mixed inherited and synthesized attributes doesn't necessarily have a valid ordering. (You can't evaluated them)

Some comment from the book

- Although inherited attributes can be useful, they can also be a source of hard-to-find bugs.
- An action that uses them has to take into account every place in the grammar where its rule is used.
- If you changed the grammar, you would have to make sure that, in the new place where the non terminal occurs, appropriate symbols precede it so that \$0 will get the right value.

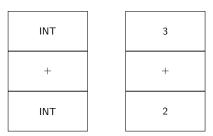
...

• It is usually safer and easier to use a global variable for the value that would have been fetched from a synthesized attribute.

The two stacks of Yacc

- Synthesized attributes are natural, because in Yacc, parsing happens in bottom-up fashion.
- Inherited attributes are unnatural during bottom up parsing: you
 must be aware of the operations carried out on the attribute stack.

The two stacks of Yacc



- During parsing explicit or implicit attribute handling is put in action.
 - Explicit: terminate semantic action with "\$\$=..."
 - Implicit: empty semantic action are filled with "\$\$=\$1;"
 - Using the stack outside the normal usage (indexes lesser or equal 0) is hard.

- [Ø][Ø]
- ·int a, b;
- START: initially the tree, the symbol and attribute stack are empty.

- [int][⊥]
- ·int a, b;
- Lexer reads "int" and pushes a dummy value.

- $[int][\bot]$
- ·int a, b;
- SHIFT by "int"

- $\bullet \ [\mathsf{int}][\bot]$
- int ·a, b;
- Lexer reads "a"

- $[int][\bot]$
- int ·a, b;
- \bullet Parser reduces by rule " T: 'int' $\{\$\$ = \mathsf{INT};\}$ "

- [int][⊥]
- int ·a, b;
- Parser pops one element from symbol and attribute stack.

- $\bullet \ [\emptyset][\emptyset]$
- int ·a, b;
- Parser pops one element from symbol and attribute stack.

- $\bullet \ [\emptyset][\emptyset]$
- int ⋅a, b;
- Parser pushes the driver of the production and value "INT".

- [T][INT]
- int ⋅a, b;
- Parser pushes the driver of the production and value "INT".
- After that the first couple of nodes is built.

- [T][INT]
- int ·a, b;
- Lexer read "a", it is pushed on symbol stack, as before attribute is an undefined value.

- [a][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int ⋅a, b;
- SHIFT by "a".

- [a][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a ⋅, b;
- Lexer reads ",".

- [a][⊥] \$1
- [T][INT] \$0
- int a⋅, b;
- Parser reduces by rule "L: id $\{\$1.type = \$0;\}$ ".

- [a][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a⋅, b;
- Parser reduces by rule "L: id $\{\$1.type = \$0;\}$ ".

- [a][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a⋅, b;
- Parser pops a symbol from symbol stack and its attribute value.

- [T][INT]
- int a⋅, b;
- Parser pushes the driver and a dummy attribute value.



- [L][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a⋅, b;
- The node couple is produced and parsing proceeds.
- Symbol "," is pushed and SHIFT by "," happens.



- [,][⊥]
- [L][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a⋅, b;
- Symbol "," is pushed and SHIFT by "," happens.



- [,][⊥]
- [L][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a,·b;
- Lexer reads "b", SHIFT by "b".



- [,][⊥]
- [L][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a,·b;
- "b" is pushed as tokens before.

T L | |

- [b][⊥]
- [,][⊥]
- [L][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a, b⋅;
- "b" is pushed as tokens before.

T I

- [b][⊥]
- [,][⊥]
- [L][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a, b⋅;
- Lexer reads ";".

T L | |

- [b][⊥]
- [,][⊥]
- [L][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a, b⋅;
- Reduction by rule "L: L',' id {\$3.type = \$0;}".

- [b][⊥] \$3
- [,][⊥] \$2
- [L][⊥] \$1
- [T][INT] \$0
- int a, b⋅;
- Reduction by rule "L: L ',' id {\$3.type = \$0;}".



- [T][INT]
- int a, b⋅;
- Pop of 3 symbols on both stacks.





- [L][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a, b⋅;
- Push of driver and construction of the tree.





- [L][⊥]
- [T][INT]
- int a, b⋅;
- I'm not showing the rest, my point was:
 - You need to be careful, when using indexes $i \le 0$. You must know what happened before in the stack.
- If i used \$-1 inside some rule, what should have happened according to you?

- Inherited attributes are powerful but they are hard to manage in bottom up parsing.
- Yacc does not give you any correctness check about used indexes.

• Reminders:

- In general using positive indexes is totally enough for our purposes. If you restrict your design to those, understanding the stack is optional.
- Parsing and attributes stack are synchronized.
- Once the reduction is complete \$\$ represents the top of the stack.

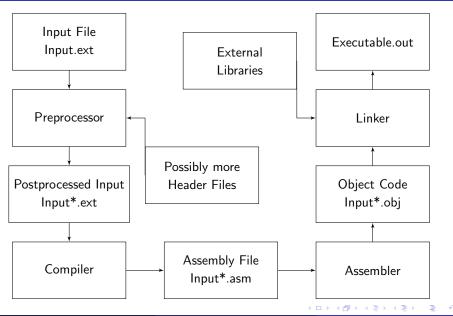
Summary

- Up to now we have been seeing some text processing tools.
 - A desk calculator, a basic imperative language interpreter, Make interpreter, a preprocessor.
 - These instances represent (SDT/SDD)s whose semantic actions are fired and input is elaborated on the fly.
- Serious processing tools like interpreters and compilers require complex data structures and sophisticated techniques.
- One pass evaluation is not enough.

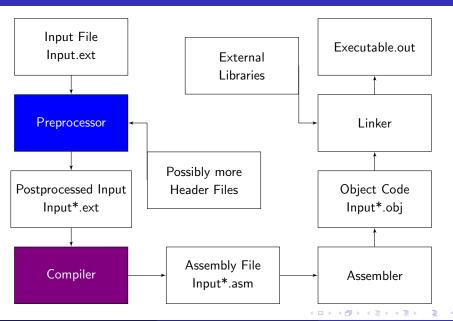
Full Compilation Process

- Compilation is a complex process, implemented by a variety of tools.
- Compilers are divided into three parts: front, middle and back end.
- Front End: The stage checking syntactic, semantic correctness and building the *abstract syntax tree*.
- Middle End: The stage where intermediate code is generated, transformed and optimized.
- Back End: The stage performing efficient translation to machine code.

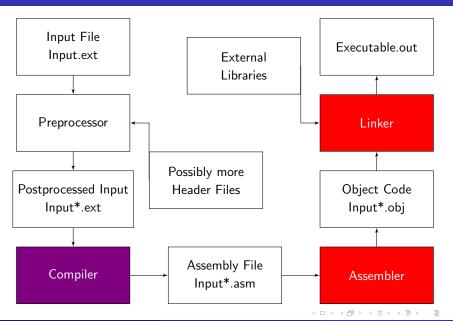
Full Compilation process



Front End Compilation



Back End Compilation



We consider front/middle ends only

- We will cover front and middle end without considering optimizations.
- Front End: The stage checking syntactic, semantic correctness, building the *abstract syntax tree*.
- Middle End: The stage where intermediate code is generated, transformed. and optimized.
- Back End: The stage performing efficient translation to machine code.

Syntactic/Semantic correctness

- Syntactic correctness is guaranteed by lexer and parser working together: we've been seeing this quite a lot.
- Semantic correctness is guaranteed by ad hoc functions running on specific data structure: we've been seeing it a little.
- What's left?
 - Abstract syntax tree
 - Type checking
 - Intermediate code generation

Abstract syntax tree

- An abstract syntax tree (AST) is a tree, whose annotated nodes have a variable number of children.
- On ASTs considerations about the input become simple because it gets structured and can be evaluated in any order.
- Yacc doesn't provide any integrated tool to build the AST, it's your duty.
- Moreover ASTs grow quickly, pruning procedures guarantee a reasonable size.

 \emptyset

- **●** .5*2+3
- START

 \emptyset

- .5*2+3
- SHIFT

Ø

- 5.*2+3
- SHIFT

E | 5

- 5.*2+3
- REDUCTION

E | 5

- 5*.2+3
- SHIFT

E | 5

- 5*2.+3
- SHIFT



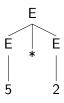


- 5*2.+3
- REDUCTION

- 5*2.+3
- REDUCTION

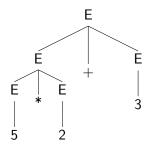
- 5*2+.3
- SHIFT

- 5*2+3.
- SHIFT

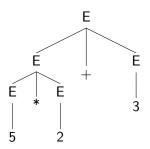




- 5*2+3.
- REDUCTION



- 5*2+3.
- REDUCTION



- 5*2+3.
- STOP
- For the first time, to visualize the AST we will consider it isomorph to the derivation tree.

 \emptyset

- .5*2+3
- START

(1)

- .5*2+3
- SHIFT

(1)

- 5.*2+3
- SHIFT

5

- 5.*2+3
- REDUCTION

5

- 5*.2+3
- SHIFT

5

- 5*2.+3
- SHIFT

5

- 5*2.+3
- REDUCTION

- 5*2.+3
- REDUCTION

- 5*2+.3
- SHIFT

- 5*2+3.
- SHIFT

* 5 2

- 5*2+3.
- REDUCTION



- 5*2+3.
- REDUCTION



- 5*2+3.
- STOP
- The real AST encodes only strictly necessary data: data and operations.

Growing an AST: rules

```
%%
E: E '+' E
                {$$=MakeBOP($1, $3, SUM);}
                {$$=MakeBOP($1, $3, DIFFERENCE);}
   F. '-' F.
  F '*' F
                {$$=MakeBOP($1, $3, PRODUCT);}
 | E '/' E
                {$$=MakeBOP($1, $3, DIVISION);}
  '('E')'
                {$$=MakeParenthesis($2):}
                {$$=MakeIdentifier($1);}
   id
                {$$=MakeConstant($1);};
   num
%%
```

- Assuming functions MakeConstant(·), MakeIdentifier(·), MakeParenthesis(\cdot) and MakeBOP(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot) produce nodes whose structure fields are correctly set the tree represents the original operation unambiguously.
- An AST isomorph to the corresponding derivation tree represent an unnecessary waste of memory and computational time.

AST Pruning

- Pruning operation discourages tree overgrowth through the employment of several strategies to be put in place:
 - Common subexpression elimination (sophisticated technique)
 - Constant nodes pre-evaluation (easy and cheap technique)
 - Singleton nodes pull up (a must have)
- We agreed on not talking about optimization.

AST Pruning: constant pre-evaluation

- As you see, instead of adding new levels to the tree we delete old nodes and add new ones representing precomputed operations.
- By this policy we add levels only when compulsory.

AST Pruning: singleton node pull up

- Production #2 is a good example of pull up.
- As you see, instead of adding new levels to the tree we retrieve singleton nodes (leaf or internal) and pass them to the father of the node.
- By this policy we add levels only when compulsory.

Type checking on the AST

- Type checking is important, it ensures the lack of unsafe operations:
 - Truncation (E.G.: long to int, different sizes)
 - Loss of precision (E.G.: float to int, same size different encoding)
- Type checking is extremely easy if carried out on the AST.
- Simply test the correctness of all operators considering involved types through "types tables".

Types tables

+	int	float	string	bool	-	
int	int	float	string	工	int	int
float	float	float	string	1	float	float
string	string	string	string	string	string	上
bool			string		bool	

- Every operator has its own semantic. Sum between booleans and int
 or floats makes no sense in this case, C/C++ would let you sum
 them freely at your own risk.
- As you can notice the most precise type is always chosen. (float vs. int)
- "String" type is viral, every sum operation with it forces the output to be a string: this is called "type coercion".

Types tables: there also are unlucky operators

 According to you which (of the many) binary operator could behave like ?

•	int	float	string	bool
int	bool	上	上	上
float	1	bool	上	上
string	1	上	bool	上
bool	1	上	上	bool

 \emptyset, \bot

- .5*2+3
- START

 \emptyset, \bot

- .5*2+3
- SHIFT

 \emptyset, \bot

- 5.*2+3
- SHIFT



- 5.*2+3
- REDUCTION



- 5*.2+3
- SHIFT

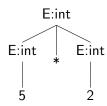


- 5*2.+3
- SHIFT

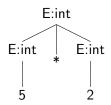




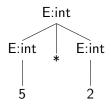
- 5*2.+3
- REDUCTION



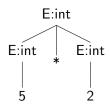
- 5*2.+3
- REDUCTION
- *Operator(int, int) = int; Ok!



- 5*2+.3
- SHIFT

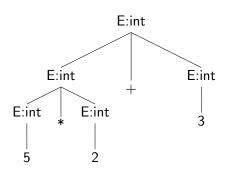


- 5*2+3.
- SHIFT

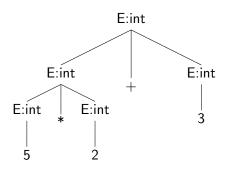




- 5*2+3.
- REDUCTION

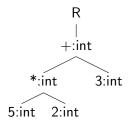


- 5*2+3.
- REDUCTION
- +Operator(int, int) = int; Ok!



- 5*2+3.
- STOP
- Since the tree is typed we could evaluated the expression it represent allocating a variable whose type is the one of the root.
- The existence of the tree guarantees type correctness: in case of type mismatch, construction cancellation had to occur.

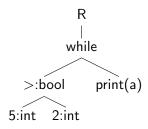
- AST is the simplest data structure allowing the design of an interpreter.
- Through a postorder traversal visit of the tree and the execution of specific pieces of code associated with each node, unambiguous execution/evaluation can be achieved.
- In the lab section of the moodle you will find packages:
 "Interpretation basics boolean AST" and "Interpretation basics Conditional Statements".



- Input = "5*2+3"
- Let R be the root of the tree, Evaluate(R) = 13;



As seen in "imperative basics - conditional statements" package, the
execution of a "while" node is driven by the value of expression E and
in case it evaluates to true the execution of command C₀ can occur.



- Input = "while (5>2){print(a);}"
- Let R be the root of the tree, Execute(R) prints infinite "a"s and never halts.

Introduction to Intermediate Representation

- Up to now we saw how to build a simple interpreter (basic idea and flavor, can be generalized to any language), real compilation is missing.
- We won't dig too much into machine code generation just a look.
- A clever step in compiler design is the augmentation of the compiler by intermediate representation generation.

Intermediate Representation (I.R.)

- <u>Def</u>: A data structure or code used internally by a compiler or virtual machine to represent source code.
- In general I.R. is implemented by some code commonly referred to as "Intermediate Code" (I.C.).
- Once I.C. has been translated to object code (O.C.) it can be linked to target code (T.C.) and executed.
- This is not the only possible compilation chain, old compilers did output assembler code directly.

Intermediate Code generation

Producing intermediate code instead of producing assembler directly is a good idea: permits to develop a compiler having many possible target architectures.

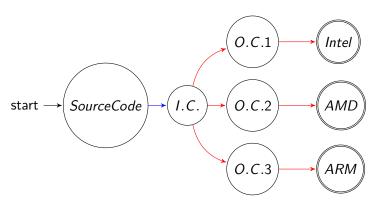


Figure: Blue arc: compiler's duty. Red arcs: assemblers' and linkers' duty

Intermediate Code has benefits

- A neutral representation with respect to the hardware.
- Easy to produce.
- Easy to inspect/read.
- Easier to optimize; optimization is machine independent.

Intermediate Code generation

- I.C. is often implemented through two different representations:
 - Postfix notation: the AST is linearized as a list of identifier references and operators.
 - Quadruples: all operations are transformed into tuples of four elements.

Intermediate Code generation: Postfix Notation

- Postfix notation is excellent for intermediate code generation because any expression can be written unambiguously without parenthesis and without the need for precedence specification.
- E.G.: Let input = "Exp = 2+(id*3)" be a valid assignment, then its postfix notation is:
- id 3 * 2 + Exp =

Postfix Notation generation: binary operators

• This is something we alredy saw in the context of SDTs.

```
%%
A: id '=' E
               {print($1); print('=');}
E: E '+' T
               {print('+');} | T
                                      {}:
T: T '*' F {print('*');} | F
                                     {};
F: '(' E ')' {}
             {print($1);print(" ")};
  num
%%
/*Assuming id is associated to
a string and number to an integer.
Moreover parenthesis have no role as you can see.
*/
```

Running Postfix Notation

Let $\mathcal E$ be a postfix notation expression, e.g. $\mathcal E=$ "0 id 3 * 2 + -".

Algorithm 1: RunPostfixExpression

Input: \mathcal{E} the postfix expression.

```
\begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{begin} \\ & | \mathbf{let} \ \mathcal{S} \ \mathbf{be} \ \mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{stack} \\ & \mathbf{foreach} \ symbol \ \sigma \ in \ \mathcal{E} \ \mathbf{do} \\ & | \mathbf{if} \ \neg lsOperator(\sigma) \ \mathbf{then} \\ & | \ \mathcal{S}.\mathsf{push}(\sigma) \\ & | \mathbf{else} \\ & | \ | \ \mathbf{let} \ \alpha \ \mathbf{be} \ \mathbf{the} \ \mathbf{arity} \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{operator} \ \sigma \end{array}
```

Postfix Notation generation: flow control

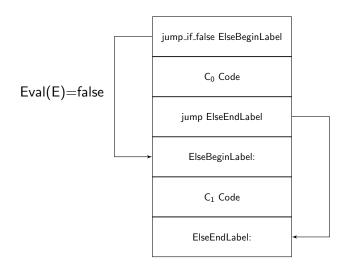
- Flow control has always been implemented through jump instructions (C gotos): opcodes whose purpose is changing the value of the program counter according to some condition.
- We can extend intermediate code postfix notation through a unary operator: jump label.
- Also conditional jumps can be encoded: jump_if_false & jump_if_true.

Postfix Notation generation: flow control

```
int iLabelIndex = 0, iElseStartLabel = 0,
     iElseEndLabel = 0;
%%
S: 'if' '(' E ')' M<sub>1</sub> C<sub>0</sub> M<sub>2</sub> 'else' C<sub>1</sub> M<sub>3</sub> {};
C: · · · /* Available commands · */
M_1:
         {iElseStartLabel = iLabelIndex:
         iLabelIndex++; print(iElseStartLabel);
         print('jump_if_false');};
M_2:
         {iElseEndLabel = iLabelIndex;
         iLabelIndex++;
         print(iElseEndLabel); print('jump');
         print(iElseStartLabel); printf(':');};
         {print(iElseEndLabel);printf(':');};
M_3:
%%
```

```
%%
S: 'if' '(' E ')' M_1 C_0 M_2 'else' C_1 M_3 {};
C: · · · /* Available commands · */
/* We assume the grammar has expressions and
several commands; but most important, we
use three markers (M_1, M_2, M_3) expanding
to \epsilon what will print out the label numbers
and the instructions to jump. We also assume
non terminal C will produce some output
when reduced · */
%%
```

```
%%
M_1:
        {iElseStartLabel = iLabelIndex;
        iLabelIndex++; print(iElseStartLabel);
        print('jump_if_false');};
M_2:
        {iElseEndLabel = iLabelIndex;
        iLabelIndex++;
        print(iElseEndLabel); print('jump');
        print(iElseStartLabel); printf(':');};
M_3:
        {print(iElseEndLabel);printf(':');};
%%
```

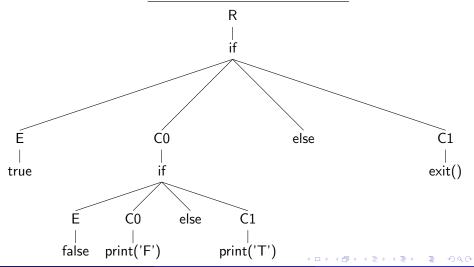


Flow Control: summary

- The trick lies in the reduction of every nonterminal from left to right.
- This specific design does not work inductively but gave you the idea.
- The easiest solution is memorizing the required labels in the AST node relative to the "if" command.
- Consider for instance, two nested "if" commands.
- All control flow instructions are based on condition evaluation: mastering "if" lets you master all other constructs.

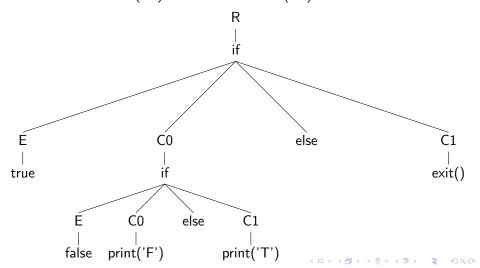
Nested IFs: using two phase annotation

- Consider for instance the input and its AST.
- Input = if (true) if (false) print('F') else print('T') else exit()



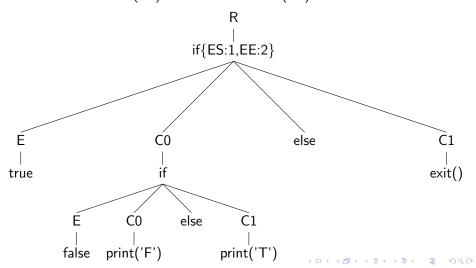
Nested IFs: using two phase annotation

 Through a preorder visit of the tree annotate node settings: iElseStartLabel (ES) and iElseEndLabel (EE)



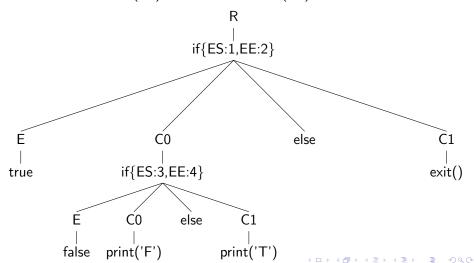
Nested IFs: annotation, first level

 Through a preorder visit of the tree annotate node settings: iElseStartLabel (ES) and iElseEndLabel (EE)



Nested IFs: annotation, second level

 Through a preorder visit of the tree annotate nodes, setting: iElseStartLabel (ES) and iElseEndLabel (EE)



```
Algorithm 2: IfTreeToPostfixAnnotation
Input: Tree root \rho.
Output: Postfix notation of tree.
begin
   Let Node be \rho
   if Node. Operation is "if" then
       print code evaluating Node.E
       print(Node.iElseStartLabel); print("jump_if_false") //M1
       IfTreeToPostfixAnnotation(Node.C0)
       print(Node.iElseEndLabel); print('jump') // M2
       print(Node.iElseStartLabel); printf(':') // M2
       IfTreeToPostfixAnnotation(Node.C1)
       print(iElseEndLabel);printf(':') //M3
   else
       Visit the rest of the tree and print possible commands
      Actions annotated by M1, M2, M3 are fragments of code
    initially appearing in the SDT producing the code.*/
```

Nested IFs: generating the code by the algorithm

```
true test
1 jump_if_false
false test
3 jump_if_false
print('F')
4 jump
3:
print('T')
4:
2 jump
1:
exit()
2:
```

 For conveniency the postfix notation has been written using many lines, read it from left to right from top to bottom as a single line to obtain the real result.

Generating target code: summary

- The unfolding of the actions performed by RunPostfixExpression algorithm allows the production of assembler code.
- Instead of pushing elements σ on stack $\mathcal S$ output assembler code to push it onto the CPU's stack.

Let $\mathcal E$ be a postfix notation expression, e.g. $\mathcal E=$ "0 id 3 * 2 + -".

Algorithm 3: CompilePostfixExpression

```
Input: \mathcal{E} the postfix expression. begin
```

• Let
$$\mathcal{E} = \text{``-0 id 3 * 2 + -''}$$
.

• Let
$$\mathcal{E} = \text{``0-id 3 * 2 + -''}$$
.

push 0

• Let
$$\mathcal{E} = \text{``0 id } \cdot 3 * 2 + -\text{''}$$
.

push 0
push id

```
• Let \mathcal{E} = \text{``0 id 3 \cdot * 2 + -''}.
```

```
push 0
push id
push 3
```

```
• Let \mathcal{E}= "0 id 3 * ·2 + -".

push 0

push id

push 3

pop eax // *(·,·) operator

pop ebx //has arity 2, pop 2 elements·*/

imul ebx

push eax
```

```
• Let \( \mathcal{E} = "0 \text{ id } 3 * 2 \cdot + -".

push 0
push id
push 3
pop eax // *(\cdot, \cdot) operator
pop ebx //has arity 2, pop 2 elements \cdot* */
imul ebx
push eax
push 2
```

• You see the point.

Bibliography



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