

# Building Parsers with DPDA

CSCI 3313 SPRING 2021



# Grammar, Language, and Member Strings – 1

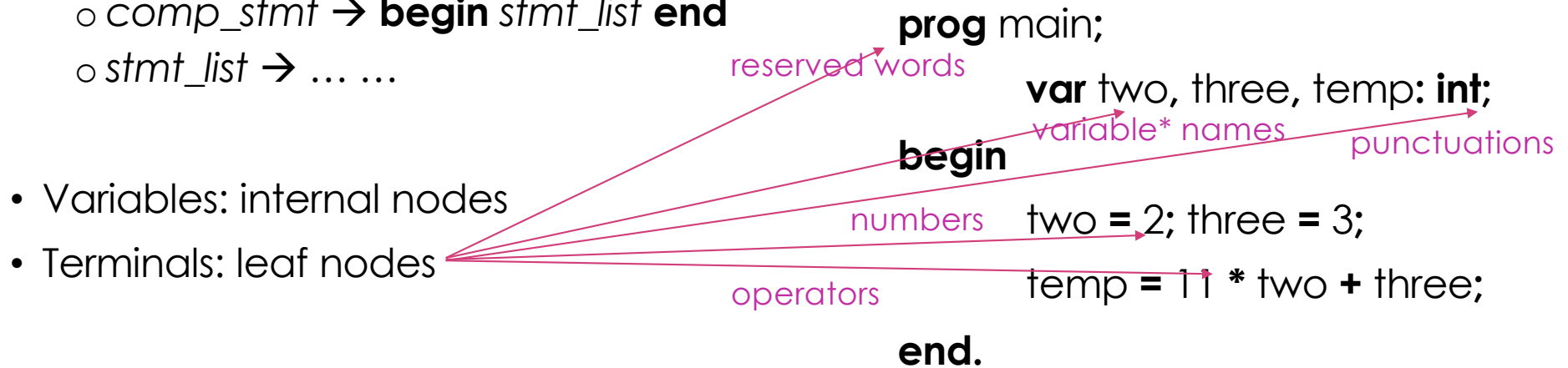
- A CFL:  $\{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$
- Its CFG:  $S \rightarrow aSa \mid bSb \mid \lambda$
- A string  $z = aabbaa \in L$  generated through  $S$ :
  - $S \rightarrow aSa \rightarrow aaSaa \rightarrow aabSbaa \rightarrow aabbaa$
- Another CFG
  - $E \rightarrow TE'$
  - $E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid \lambda$
  - $T \rightarrow FT'$
  - $T' \rightarrow *FT' \mid \lambda$
  - $F \rightarrow (E) \mid id$
- A string generated through  $E$ :
  - $E \rightarrow TE' \rightarrow FT' + TE'$
  - $\rightarrow id * FT' + FT' \lambda$
  - $\rightarrow id * id \lambda + id \lambda \lambda$
  - $\rightarrow id * id + id$

## Grammar, Language, and Member Strings – 2

- Yet another CFG

- *program* → **prog id ; decls comp\_stmt .**
- *decls* → *decls* **var id\_list : type ;** |  $\lambda$
- *id\_list* → **id** | *id\_list* , **id**
- *type* → **int** | **real**
- *comp\_stmt* → **begin stmt\_list end**
- *stmt\_list* → ... ..

- A string/program generated through *program*:



\*: In the context of program, not grammar; identifiers in general.

## Membership Problem & Parsing – 1

- How do we check whether a string is in a language, or generated by a grammar? [**Iteratively checking** v. **Parsing**]
- Or, within the programming languages context, how do IDEs check for syntax errors? [**Parsing**]
- Iteratively checking (brute-force):  $O(|P|^n)$  for **each** program with length  $n$ .
- CYK Algorithm: one of the parsing algorithms,  $O(n^3)$  for **each** program with length  $n$ .

## Membership Problem & Parsing – 2

### ❖ What if amounts of rules and length are of thousands?

- May not HALT\*? (Will be covered later) – Time Complexity
- Check again each time program is updated.

\*: Can't differentiate on whether "we are still actively checking" or maybe "we are in an infinite loop."

### ❖ What if there's productions such as $A \rightarrow aB \mid aC$ \*\*?

- Guessing? Need to create multiple paths. How many? – Space Complexity
- Back tracking – Time Complexity
- Both could be of exponential orders

\*\* : Not a DPDA; more than one productions for one ID.

### ✓ There are better parsing algorithms!

- $LL(k)$  Parsing
- $LR(k)$  Parsing

# Look-ahead Parsing – 1

- $LL(k)$ : Left-to-right, Leftmost derivation, with  $k$  symbols look-ahead
- $LR(k)$ : Left-to-right, Rightmost derivation, with  $k$  symbols look-ahead
- Process the input “tokens”\* from left to right.
  - \*: *Lexing* - Map, say “temp”, to **id**, and 12.3 to **num** etc.  
Maps from infinite space to finite space.
- First derive the leftmost variable  $v$ . first derive the rightmost symbol
- Top-down (from root to leaf) Parsing v. Bottom-up Parsing (from leave to root)
  - Recall CYK is bottom-up

## Look-ahead Parsing – 2

- Why look ahead? Ambiguity and Prediction

- Productions:  $S \rightarrow ab \mid ba$

- Productions:  $S \rightarrow aaP \mid abQ$

- Input: aa...

- Which one rule to go to?

- Productions:  $\text{id\_list} \rightarrow \mathbf{id} \mid \text{id\_list}, \mathbf{id}$

- Input: temp1, temp2, temp3

- Which rules\*\* to apply?

\*\* : Need to modify rules to eliminate “left-recursions”.

## LL(1) Parsing Idea – 1

- Parsing (Syntax)

1. **Pre-process** all viable <production, look-ahead> tuples and construct “Parsing Table”.

- Recursive construction, may take a long time to construct.

- $\sim O(|P|^4) + O(|V| \cdot |T|)$

- Only needs to be done **once** per grammar update. JDK 10 → JDK 11

- Comes with IDE and/or compiler.

➤ Requires grammar to be in the class LL(1): one symbol look-ahead w/o ambiguity.



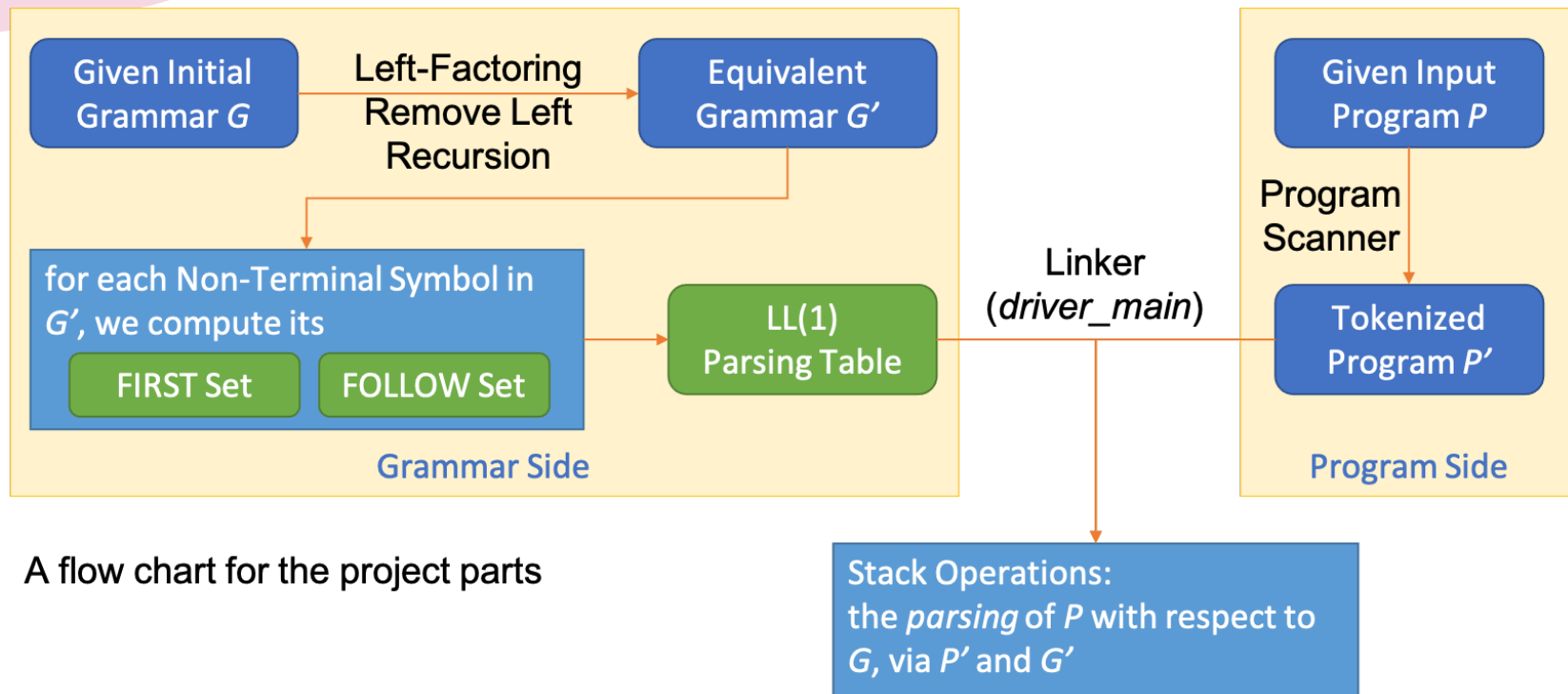
## LL(1) Parsing Idea – 2

- Parsing (Syntax)

2. **Parsing:** When parsing a program, **simply look-up** for proper table entries and modify the parsing stack based on “Actions” in the corresponding entries.
  - Only need  $O(n)$  time to HALT and tell whether there's a syntax error or not.
  - Better parsers can tell what the errors are and how to fix them.

# LL(1) Parsing Steps

\* From Fall 2020



A flow chart for the project parts

## LL(1) Parsing Idea – 3

- What's next? (Recall: CSCI 2461 Computer Architecture I)
3. Optimization and resolve Semantics: evaluations before runtime
  4. Lastly, translate into machine language ISA

## LL(1) Parsing Goal

- Construct a look-up table, "Parser", such that given <current input token, current top of stack> i.e., one symbol look-ahead such that, when parsing a string, we will be able to deterministically decide the proper action, whether it is to derive rules, match terminals, and accept or decline input.

$\text{id\_list} \rightarrow \mathbf{id} \mid \text{id\_list} , \mathbf{id}$   $\xleftrightarrow[\text{LL(1) Grammar}]{\text{Equivalent}}$   $\text{id\_list} \rightarrow \mathbf{id} \text{id\_list}'$   
 $\text{id\_list}' \rightarrow , \mathbf{id} \text{id\_list}' \mid \lambda$

Input: temp1, temp2, temp3

TOS: id\_list

Tokens: **id** , **id** , **id**

Lookahead: **id**

# LL(1) Parsing Example – 1

R0:  $E \rightarrow T E'$

R1:  $E' \rightarrow + T E'$       R2:  $E' \rightarrow \lambda$

R3:  $T \rightarrow F T'$

R4:  $T' \rightarrow \times F T'$       R5:  $T' \rightarrow \lambda$

R6:  $F \rightarrow id$       R7:  $F \rightarrow ( E )$

Input: id+idxid

Input': id+idxidZ

Parser	id	+	$\times$	(	)	Z
E	R0			R0		
E'		R1			R2	R2
T	R3			R3		
T'		R5	R4		R5	R5
F	R6			R7		

Reject if falls in these entries etc.

Stack	Input	Action
ZE	id+idxidZ	R0
ZE'T	id+idxidZ	R3
ZE'T'F	id+idxidZ	R6
ZE'T'id	id+idxidZ	Match
...	...	...
Z	Z	Accept

\*: Need to know the first symbol in E, T, F are **id**; i.e., look ahead on the first symbol of the TOS.

## LL(1) Parsing Example – 2

R0:  $E \rightarrow T E'$

R1:  $E' \rightarrow + T E'$       R2:  $E' \rightarrow \lambda$

R3:  $T \rightarrow F T'$

R4:  $T' \rightarrow \times F T'$       R5:  $T' \rightarrow \lambda$

R6:  $F \rightarrow id$       R7:  $F \rightarrow ( E )$

Input: id+idxid

Input': id+idxidZ

Parser	id	+	$\times$	(	)	Z
E	R0			R0		
E'		R1			R2	R2
T	R3			R3		
T'		R5	R4		R5	R5
F	R6			R7		

Stack	Input	Action
ZE	id+idxidZ	R0
ZE'T	id+idxidZ	R3
ZE'T'F	id+idxidZ	R6
ZE'T'id	id+idxidZ	Match
ZE'T'	+idxidZ	R5*
ZE'	+idxidZ	R1
...	...	...
Z	Z	Accept

\*: Need to know the first symbol in  $E'$  is  $+$ ; i.e., look ahead on the first symbol of the following.

## LL(1) Parsing Notable Steps – 1

➤ How are all these related what we've learned so far?? Membership Problem

### Program side

- Lexing (Tokenization)
  - Not dealing with “temp”, “sum”, “ptr\_1”, etc.; only need to know they are identifiers, **id**.
  - Same with numbers, either int or real.
- Overall, map everything we read from the input (infinite space, say ASCII\*) to defined tokens, i.e., set of terminals (finite space).
- Now, this becomes feasible for hardware implementation. How??

## LL(1) Parsing Notable Steps – 2

- How are all these related what we've learned so far?? Membership Problem

### Program side

- Lexing (Tokenization)
  - How? **Run a DFA!!** [Recall the email address checking application.]
  - Read char by char; return a token whenever a full token is read, until EOF.
  - for v. for\_0            temp\_1 v. temp-1            “.” in temp.length() v. temp = 1.4
  - How? **Regexes!!**            Library: (F)lex
- Strings are of the form [a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9\_]\* and are not reserved words are variable names.
  - ✓ A Lexer let us define what a variable name should look like.



# LL(1) Parsing Notable Steps – 3

## Grammar side

- Convert to LL(1) Grammar
  - Quite similar to our cleaning up procedures: also based on Theorem 6.1
- Construct tables for look-ahead symbols
  - FIRST & FOLLOW Tables for each variable:  $\text{FIRST}(E) = \text{FIRST}(T) = \text{FIRST}(F) = \{\text{id}, (\}$
- Construct Parser from the two tables
  - Only one production in one table entry (i.e., per ID): finally, **Deterministic PDA!!**
  - Otherwise, called “conflict”; implementation error or Grammar is not LL(1).
- Feed token stream into the parser with a parsing stack
  - Reached an empty entry? **Syntax Error!!**
  - Better parsers tell us how to resolve: mainly syntactically, could also be semantically.

## Furthermore

- LL(k) Parsing
  - Can parse grammars in the class of LL(k)
  - From LL(1) to LL(2), further consider the 2<sup>nd</sup> FIRST and FOLLOW; and inductively build to LL(k).
  - LL(k) parser is contained in LL(k+1) parser
- Power of LL(1) Grammars
  - Already quite powerful: for, if, while, subroutines, recursion, etc.
  - A grammar with ~ 50 rules, 30 variables and 30 terminals: Binary Search, Merge Sort, etc.
- LR(k) Parsing
  - Many modern programming languages uses LR parsing; they do have left-recursions.
  - Even more powerful than the corresponding LL(k) parser.

[Further reading]: Levine, J. "flex & bison," O'Reilly, 2019.

Flex & bison following yacc