Bottom-Up Parsing

CS143 Lecture 8

Instructor: Fredrik Kjolstad Slide design by Prof. Alex Aiken, with modifications

Bottom-Up Parsing

- Bottom-up parsing is more general than top-down parsing
 - And just as efficient
 - Builds on ideas in top-down parsing
- Bottom-up is the preferred method
- Concepts today, algorithms next time

An Introductory Example

Bottom-up parsers don't need left-factored grammars

Revert to the "natural" grammar for our example:

```
E \rightarrow T + E \mid T
T \rightarrow int * T \rightarrow int | (E)
```

Consider the string: int * int + int

The Idea

$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

T \rightarrow int * T \rightarrow int \ (E)

Bottom-up parsing reduces a string to the start symbol by inverting productions:

Observation

$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

T \rightarrow int * T \rightarrow int \ (E)

- Read the productions in reverse (bottom to top)
- This is a reverse rightmost derivation!

int * int + int	$T \rightarrow int$
int * T + int	$T \rightarrow int * T$
T + int	$T \rightarrow int$
T + T	$E \rightarrow T$
T + E	$E \rightarrow T + E$
E	

Important Fact #1

Important Fact #1 about bottom-up parsing:

A bottom-up parser traces a rightmost derivation in reverse

A Bottom-up Parse

$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

int * int + int

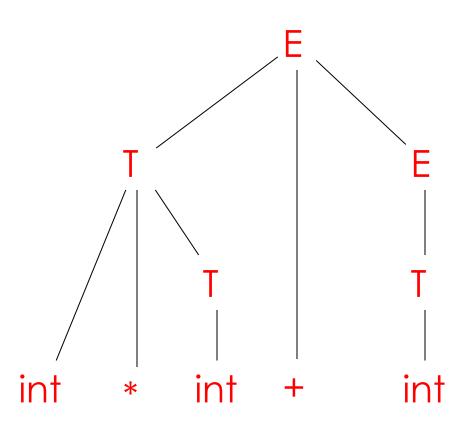
int * T + int

T + int

T + T

T + E

Ε



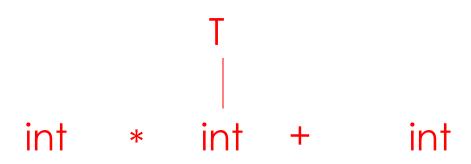
A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (1)

int * int + int

int * int + int

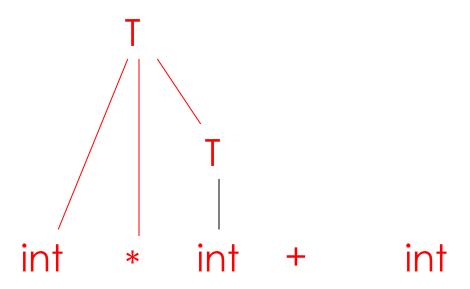
A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (2)

```
int * int + int
int * T + int
```



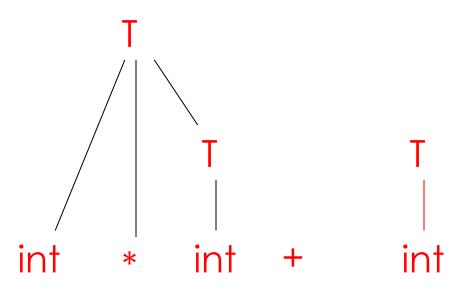
A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (3)

```
int * int + int
int * T + int
T + int
```



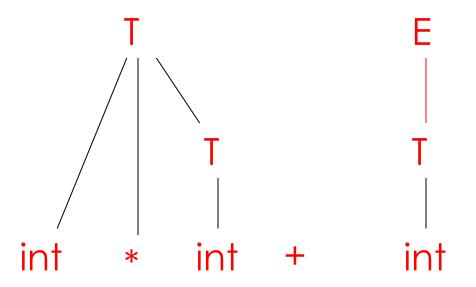
A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (4)

```
int * int + int
int * T + int
T + int
T + T
```



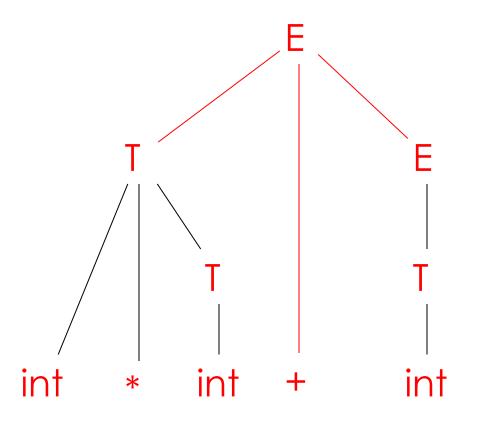
A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (5)

```
int * int + int
int * T + int
T + int
T + T
T + E
```



A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (6)

```
int * int + int
int * T + int
T + int
T + T
T + E
E
```



Where Do Reductions Happen?

Important Fact #1 has an interesting consequence:

- Let $\alpha\beta\omega$ be a step of a bottom-up parse
- Assume the next reduction is by $X \rightarrow \beta$
- Then
 is a string of terminals

Why? Because $\alpha X \omega \rightarrow \alpha \beta \omega$ is a step in a right-most derivation

Notation

- Idea: Split string into two substrings
 - Right substring is as yet unexamined by parsing (a string of terminals)
 - Left substring has terminals and non-terminals
- The dividing point is marked by a l
 - The I is not part of the string
- Initially, all input is unexamined lx₁x₂...x_n

Shift-Reduce Parsing

Bottom-up parsing uses only two kinds of actions:

Shift

Reduce

Shift

- Shift: Move I one place to the right
 - Shifts a terminal to the left string

 $ABCIxyz \Rightarrow ABCxIyz$

Reduce

- Apply an inverse production at the right end of the left string
 - If $A \rightarrow xy$ is a production, then

Cbxylijk ⇒ CbAlijk

The Example with Reductions Only

```
int * int I + int
                                      reduce T \rightarrow int
                                      reduce T → int * T
int *TI + int
T + int I
                                      reduce T \rightarrow int
T + TI
                                      reduce E \rightarrow T
T + EI
                                      reduce E \rightarrow T + E
ΕI
```

The Example with Shift-Reduce Parsing

I int * int + int	shift
int I * int + int	shift
int * I int + int	shift
int * int I + int	reduce T → int
int * T I + int	reduce T → int * T
TI+int	shift
T + I int	shift
T + int I	reduce T → int
T + T I	reduce E → T
T + E I	reduce $E \rightarrow T + E$
EI	

A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (1)

I int * int + int



A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (2)

```
l int * int + int
int l * int + int
```



A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (3)

```
I int * int + int
int | * int + int
int * I int + int
                               int * int +
                                                               int
```

A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (4)

```
l int * int + int
int l * int + int
int * l int + int
int * l int + int
int * int l + int
```

A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (5)

```
I int * int + int
int | * int + int
int * I int + int
int * int I + int
int *TI + int
                                                * int
                                      int
                                                                              int
```

A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (6)

I int * int + int

```
int | * int + int
int * I int + int
int * int I + int
int * T I + int
TI + int
                                                           int
                                        int
                                                                                   int
```

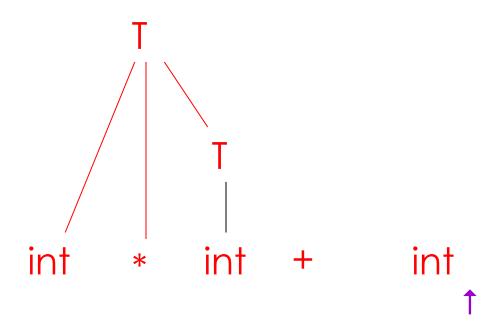
A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (7)

I int * int + int

```
int | * int + int
int * I int + int
int * int I + int
int * T I + int
TI + int
T + I int
                                                            int
                                        int
                                                                                   int
```

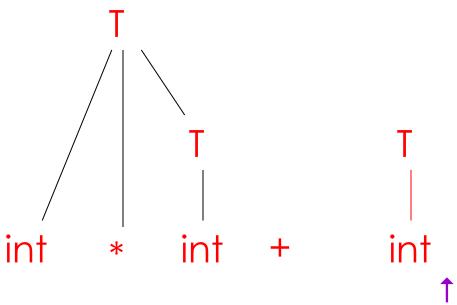
A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (8)

```
I int * int + int
int | * int + int
int * I int + int
int * int I + int
int * T I + int
TI + int
T + I int
T + int I
```



A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (9)

```
I int * int + int
int | * int + int
int * I int + int
int * int I + int
int *TI + int
TI + int
T + I int
T + int I
T + TI
```



A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (10)

```
I int * int + int
int | * int + int
int * I int + int
int * int I + int
int *TI + int
TI + int
T + I int
T + int I
T + TI
                                                           int
                                        int
                                                                                  int
T + EI
```

A Shift-Reduce Parse in Detail (11)

```
I int * int + int
int | * int + int
int * I int + int
int * int I + int
int * T I + int
TI + int
T + I int
T + int I
T + TI
                                                           int
                                        int
                                                                                  int
T + EI
ΕI
```

The Stack

- Left string can be implemented by a stack
 - Top of the stack is the I
- Shift pushes a terminal on the stack

 Reduce pops 0 or more symbols off of the stack (production rhs) and pushes a non-terminal on the stack (production lhs)

Conflicts

- In a given state, more than one action (shift or reduce) may lead to a valid parse
- If it is legal to shift or reduce, there is a shift-reduce conflict
- If it is legal to reduce by two different productions, there is a reduce-reduce conflict
- You will see such conflicts in your project!
 - More next time . . .

Key Issue

- How do we decide when to shift or reduce?
- Example grammar:

```
E \rightarrow T + E \mid T
T \rightarrow int * T \rightarrow int | (E)
```

- Consider step int | * int + int
 - We could reduce by T → int giving T I * int + int
 - A fatal mistake!
 - No way to reduce to the start symbol E

Definition: Handles

- Intuition: Want to reduce only if the result can still be reduced to the start symbol
- Assume a rightmost derivation

$$S \rightarrow^* \alpha X \omega \rightarrow \alpha \beta \omega$$

- Then $X \to \beta$ in the position after α is a handle of $\alpha\beta\omega$
- Can and must reduce at handles.

Handles (Cont.)

- Handles formalize the intuition
 - A handle is a string that can be reduced and also allows further reductions back to the start symbol (using a particular production at a specific spot)
- We only want to reduce at handles

 Note: We have said what a handle is, not how to find handles

Important Fact #2

Important Fact #2 about bottom-up parsing:

In shift-reduce parsing, handles appear only at the top of the stack, never inside

Why?

- Informal induction on # of reduce moves:
- True initially, stack is empty
- Immediately after reducing a handle
 - right-most non-terminal on top of the stack
 - next handle must be to right of right-most non-terminal, because this is a right-most derivation
 - Sequence of shift moves reaches next handle

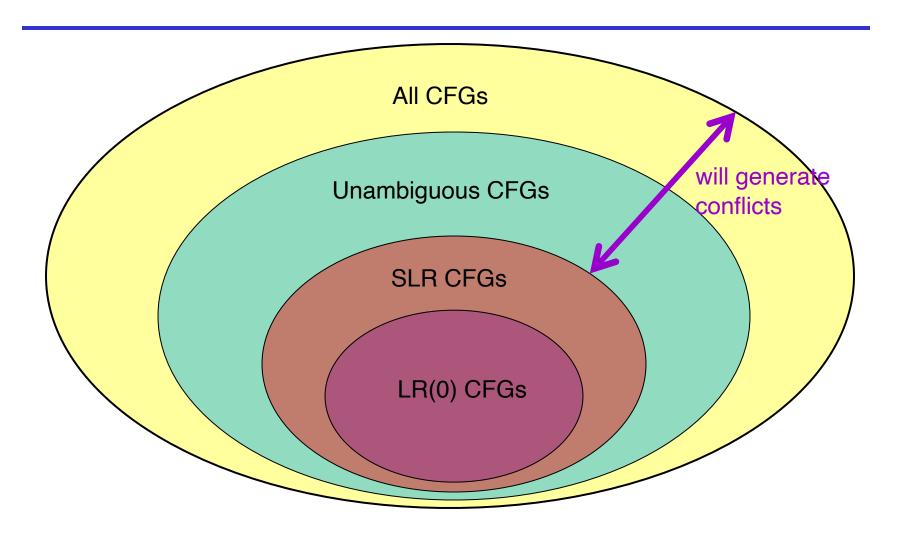
Summary of Handles

- In shift-reduce parsing, handles always appear at the top of the stack
- Handles are never to the left of the rightmost nonterminal
 - Therefore, shift-reduce moves are sufficient; the I need never move left
- Bottom-up parsing algorithms are based on recognizing handles

Recognizing Handles

- There are no known efficient algorithms to recognize handles
- Solution: use heuristics to guess which stacks are handles
- On some CFGs, the heuristics always guess correctly
 - For the heuristics we use here, these are the SLR grammars
 - Other heuristics work for other grammars

Grammars



Viable Prefixes

It is not obvious how to detect handles

 At each step the parser sees only the stack, not the entire input; start with that . . .

 α is a viable prefix if there is an ω such that $\alpha | \omega$ is a state of a shift-reduce parser

Huh?

- What does this mean? A few things:
 - A viable prefix does not extend past the right end of the handle
 - It's a viable prefix because it is a prefix of the handle
 - As long as a parser has viable prefixes on the stack no parsing error has been detected

Important Fact #3

Important Fact #3 about bottom-up parsing:

For any SLR grammar, the set of viable prefixes is a regular language

Important Fact #3 (Cont.)

Important Fact #3 is non-obvious

 We show how to compute automata that accept viable prefixes

Items

 An item is a production with a "." somewhere on the rhs, denoting a focus point

The items for T → (E) are

```
T \rightarrow .(E)
T \rightarrow (.E)
T \rightarrow (E.)
T \rightarrow (E).
```

Items (Cont.)

• The only item for $X \to \varepsilon$ is $X \to .$

Items are often called "LR(0) items"

Intuition

- The problem in recognizing viable prefixes is that the stack has only bits and pieces of the rhs of productions
 - If it had a complete rhs, we could reduce
- These bits and pieces are always prefixes of rhs of productions

$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$ $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

Example

Consider the input (int)

- Then (E |) is a state of a shift-reduce parse
- (E is a prefix of the rhs of $T \rightarrow (E)$
 - · Will be reduced after the next shift
- Item T → (E.) says that so far we have seen (E of this production and hope to see)

Generalization

- The stack may have many prefixes of rhs's Prefix₁ Prefix₂ . . . Prefix_{n-1} Prefix_n
- Let $Prefix_i$ be a prefix of rhs of $X_i \rightarrow \alpha_i$
 - Prefix_i will eventually reduce to X_i
 - The missing part of Prefix_{i-1} of α_{i-1} starts with X_i
 - i.e. there is a X_{i-1} → Prefix_{i-1} X_i β for some β
- Recursively, $\underset{k+1}{\text{Prefix}_{k+1}}$...Prefix_n eventually reduces to the missing part of α_k

$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$ $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

An Example

```
Consider the string (int * int):
  (int * I int) is a state of a shift-reduce parse
```

From top of the stack:

```
"\epsilon" is a prefix of the rhs of E \to T
"(" is a prefix of the rhs of T \to (E)
"\epsilon" is a prefix of the rhs of E \to T
"int *" is a prefix of the rhs of T \to I
```

```
E \rightarrow T + E \mid T
T \rightarrow int * T \rightarrow int | (E)
```

An Example (Cont.)

The stack of items

```
T \rightarrow \text{int } * .T
E \rightarrow .T
T \rightarrow (.E)
```

Says

We've seen int * of $T \rightarrow int * T$ We've seen ϵ of $E \rightarrow T$ We've seen (of $T \rightarrow (E)$

Recognizing Viable Prefixes

Idea: To recognize viable prefixes, we must

- Recognize a sequence of partial rhs's of productions, where
- Each sequence can eventually reduce to part of the missing suffix of its predecessor

An NFA Recognizing Viable Prefixes

- 1. Add a new start production $S' \rightarrow S$ to G
- 2. The NFA states are the items of G
 - (Including the new start production)
- 3. For item $E \rightarrow \alpha . X\beta$ add transition

$$E \rightarrow \alpha.X\beta \rightarrow X E \rightarrow \alpha X.\beta$$

4. For item $E \rightarrow \alpha . X\beta$ and production $X \rightarrow \gamma$ add

$$E \rightarrow \alpha.X\beta \rightarrow \epsilon X \rightarrow .\gamma$$

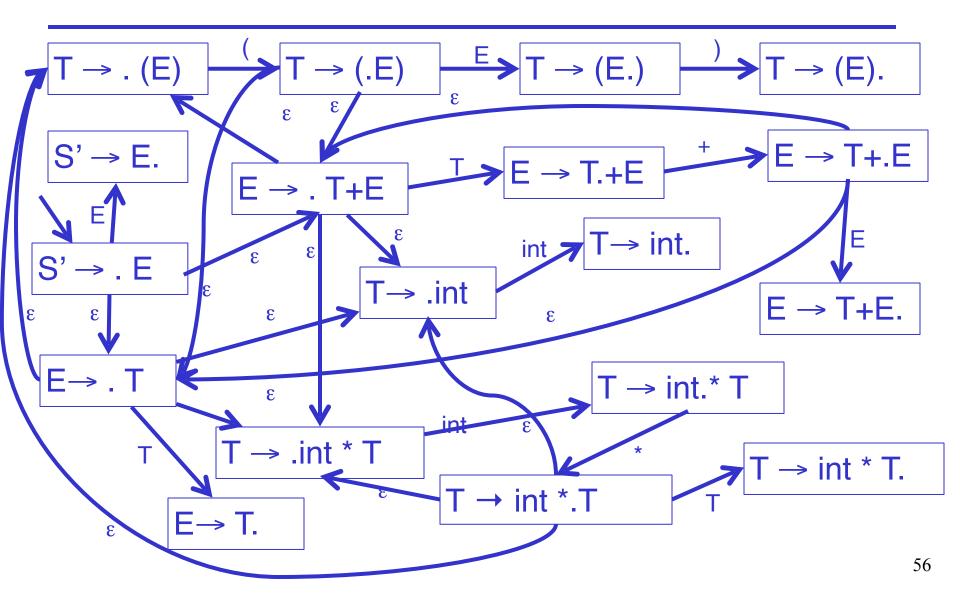
An NFA Recognizing Viable Prefixes (Cont.)

5. Every state is an accepting state

6. Start state is $S' \rightarrow .S$

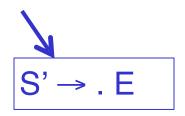
$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$



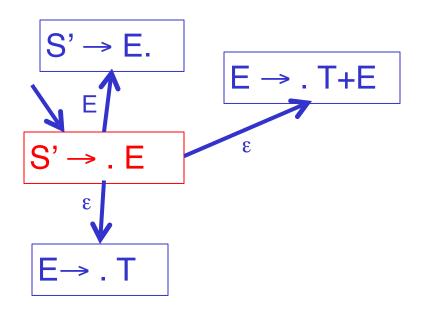
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 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$



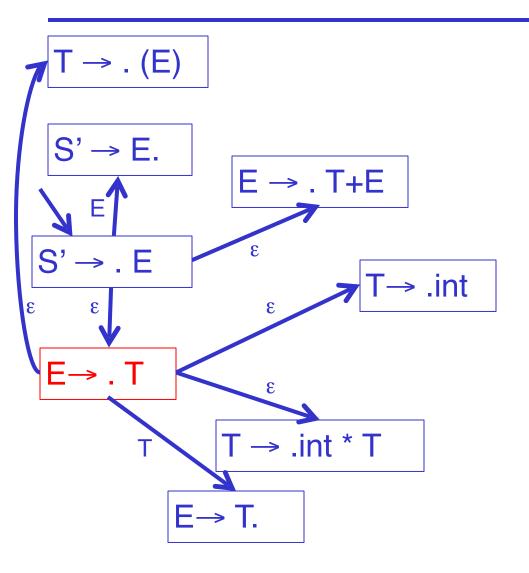
$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$



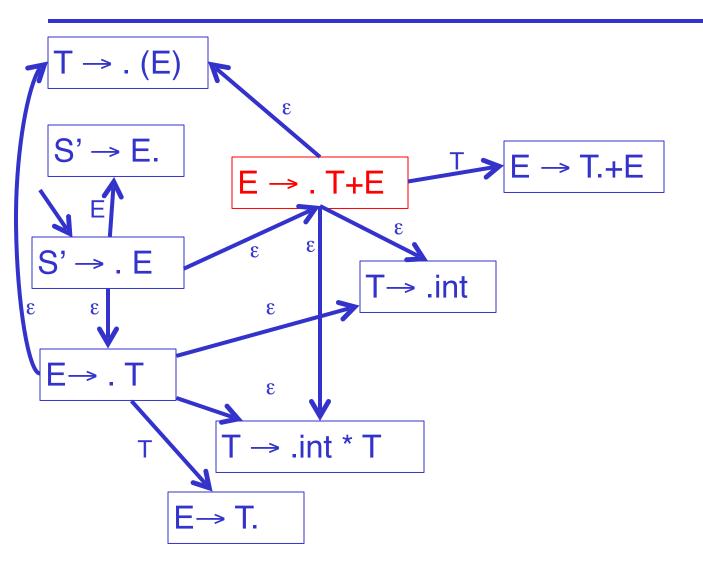
$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$



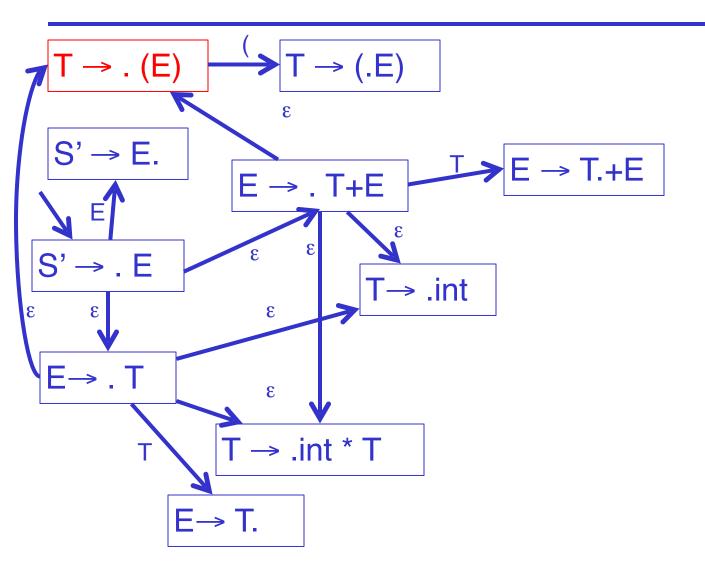
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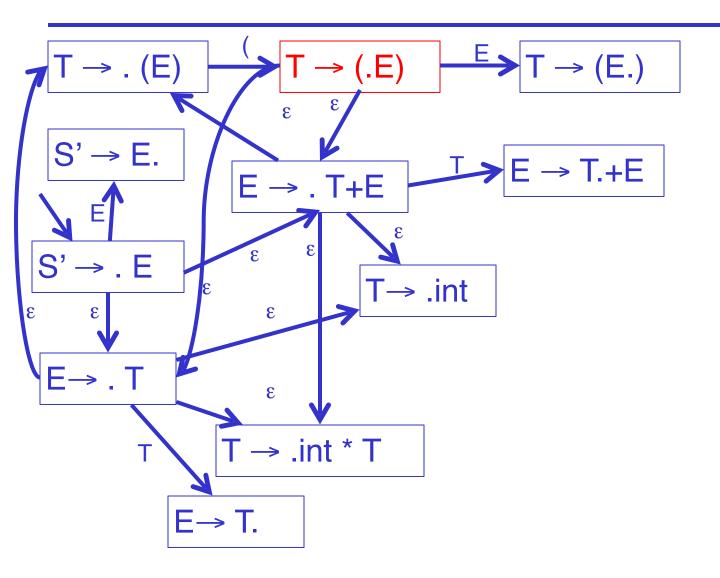
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 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$



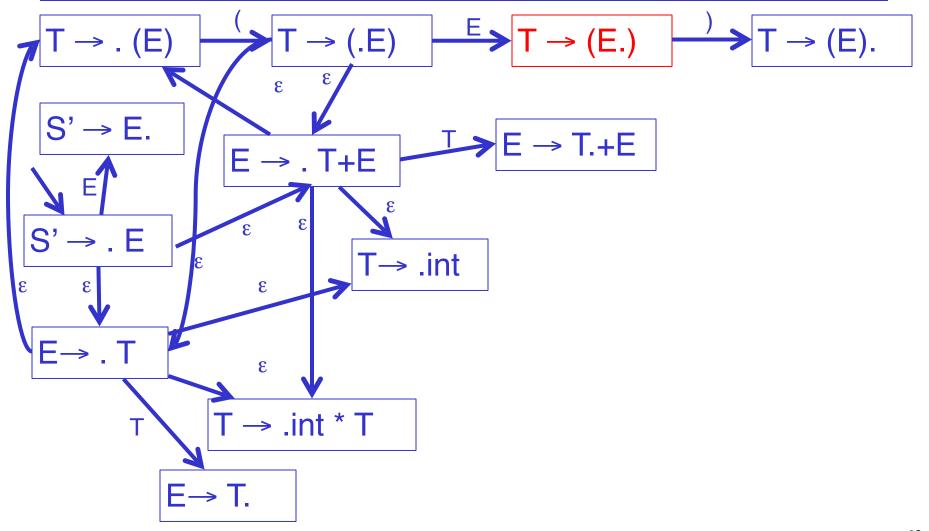
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 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$



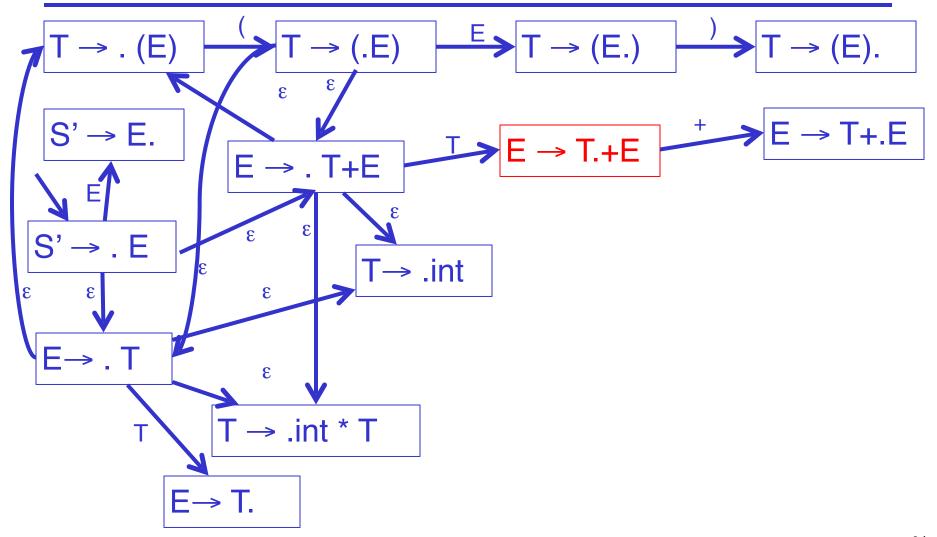
$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

T \rightarrow int * T \rightarrow int | (E)



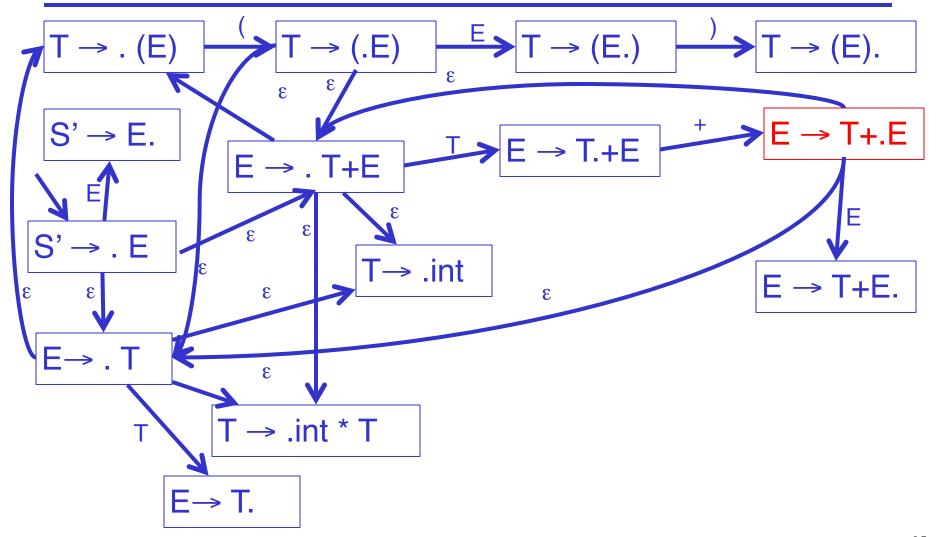
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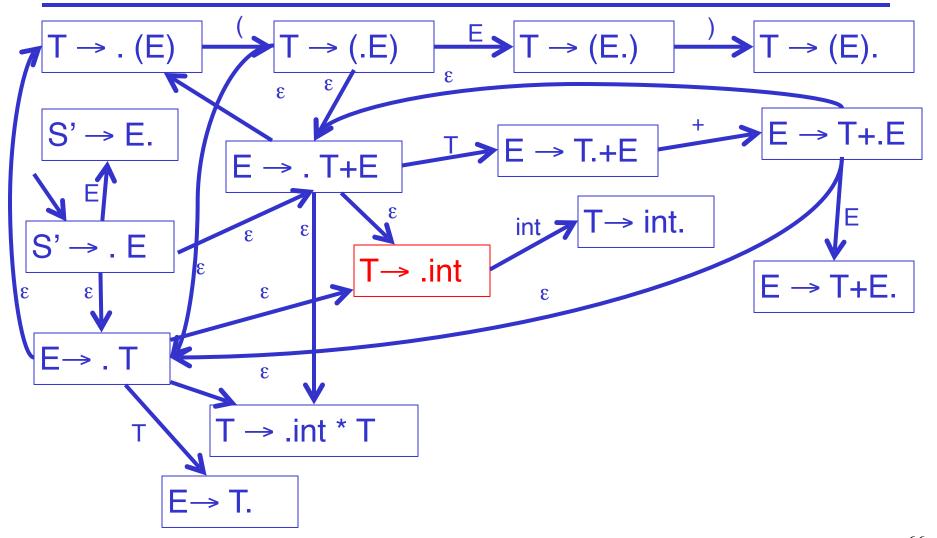
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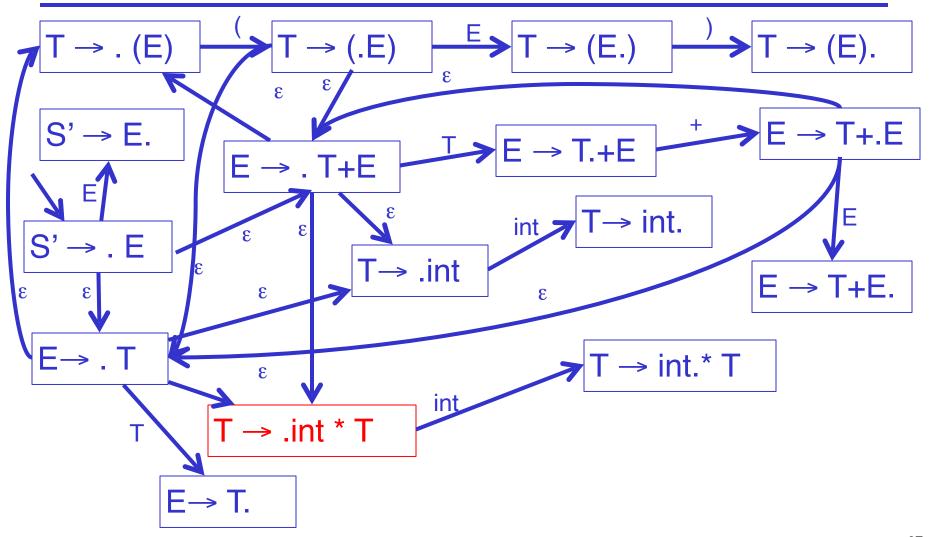
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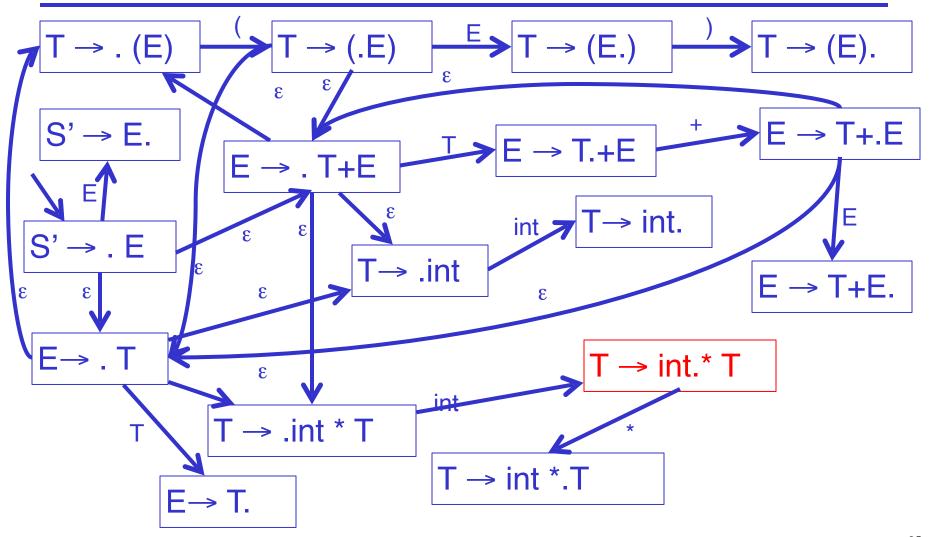
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 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$



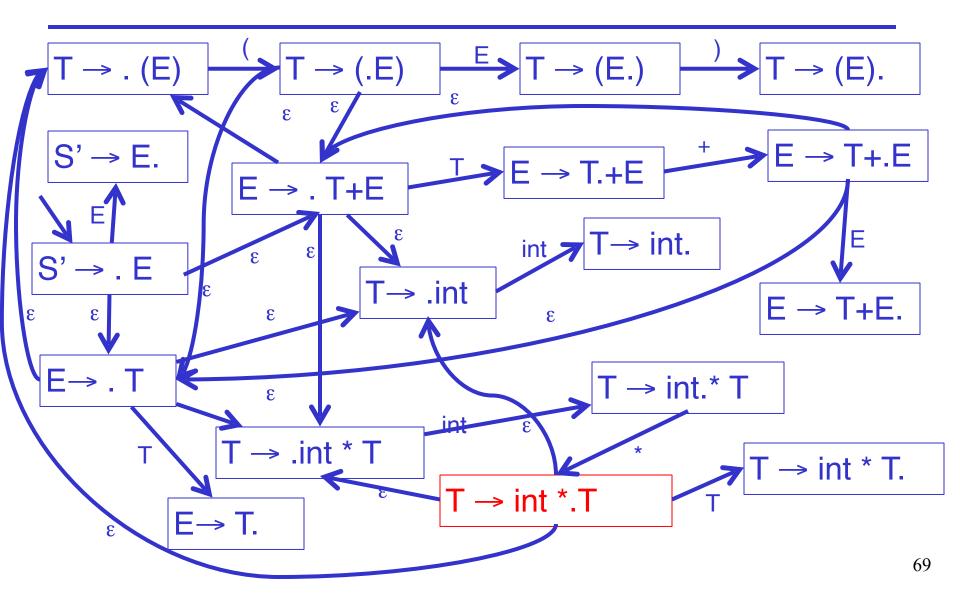
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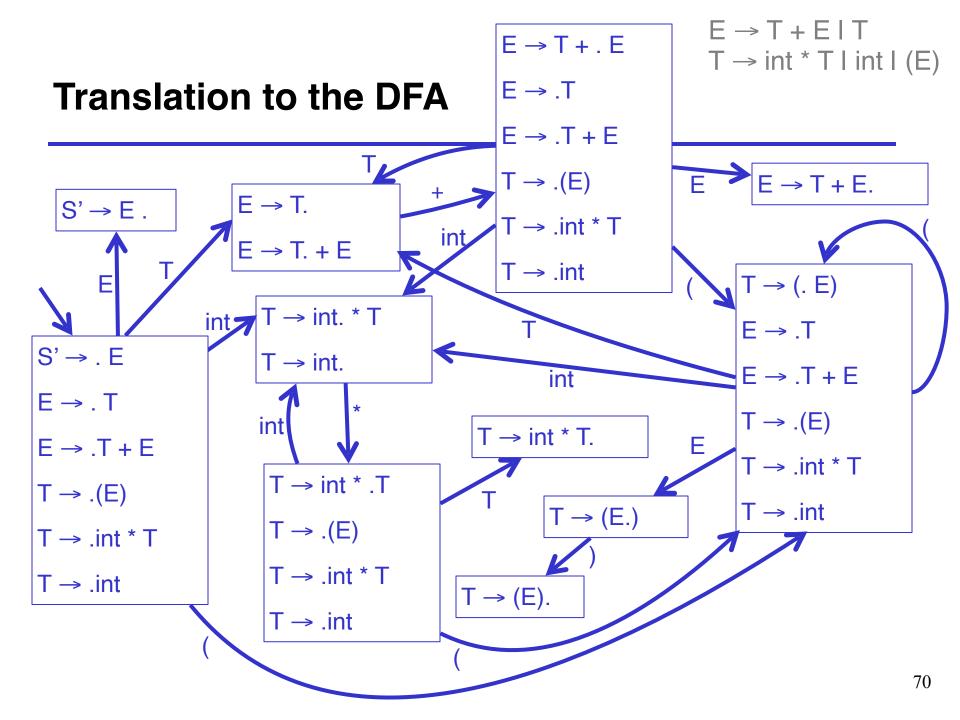
 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$



$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$





Lingo

The states of the DFA are

"canonical collections of items"

or

"canonical collections of LR(0) items"

The Dragon book gives another way of constructing LR(0) items

Valid Items

Item $X \rightarrow \beta.\gamma$ is valid for a viable prefix $\alpha\beta$ if

$$S' \rightarrow^* \alpha X \omega \rightarrow \alpha \beta \gamma \omega$$

by a right-most derivation

After parsing $\alpha\beta$, the valid items are the possible tops of the stack of items

Items Valid for a Prefix

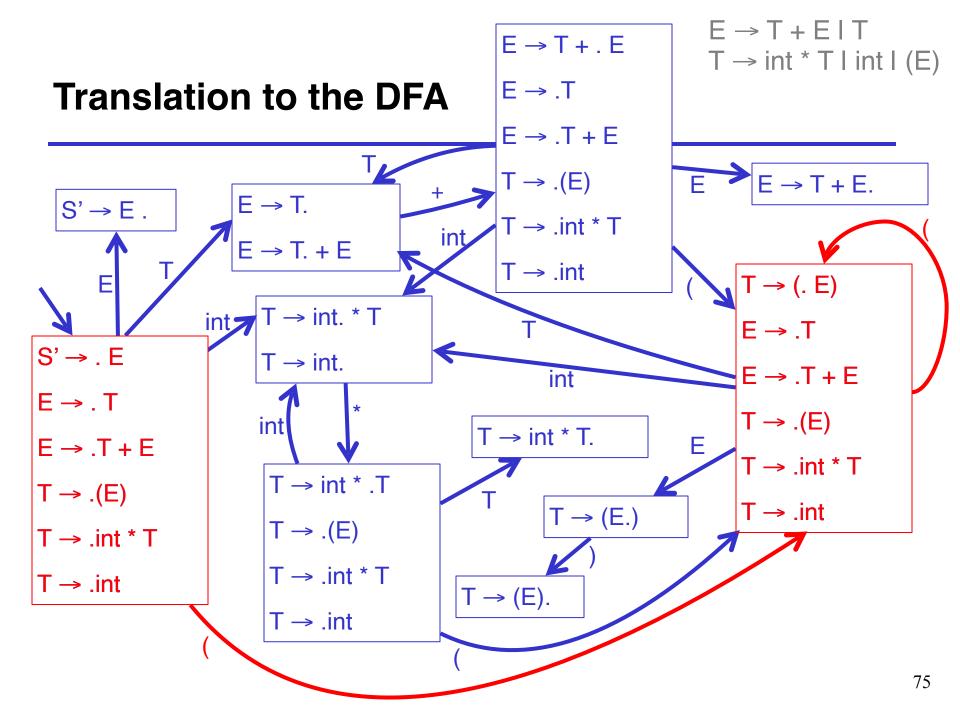
An item I is valid for a viable prefix α if the DFA recognizing viable prefixes terminates on input α in a state s containing I

The items in s describe what the top of the item stack might be after reading input α

Valid Items Example

An item is often valid for many prefixes

```
    Example: The item T → (.E) is valid for prefixes
    (
    (()
    (()()
```



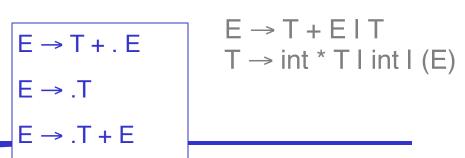
LR(0) Parsing

- Idea: Assume
 - stack contains α
 - next input is t
 - DFA on input α terminates in state s
- Reduce by $X \rightarrow \beta$ if
 - s contains item $X \rightarrow β$.
- Shift if
 - − s contains item $X \rightarrow \beta.t\omega$
 - equivalent to saying s has a transition labeled t

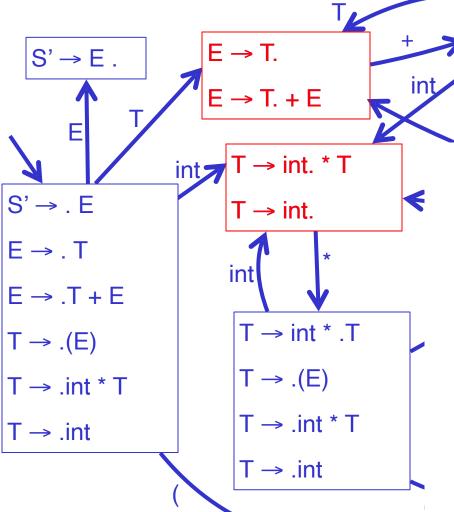
LR(0) Conflicts

- LR(0) has a reduce/reduce conflict if:
 - Any state has two reduce items:
 - $X \rightarrow \beta$. and $Y \rightarrow \omega$.
- LR(0) has a shift/reduce conflict if:
 - Any state has a reduce item and a shift item:
 - $X \rightarrow \beta$. and Y → ω.tδ





 $E \rightarrow T + E$.



Two shift/reduce conflicts with LR(0) rules

 $\mathsf{T} \to .(\mathsf{E})$

 $T \rightarrow .int$

 $T \rightarrow .int * T$

SLR

- LR = "Left-to-right scan"
- SLR = "Simple LR"
- SLR improves on LR(0) shift/reduce heuristics
 - Fewer states have conflicts

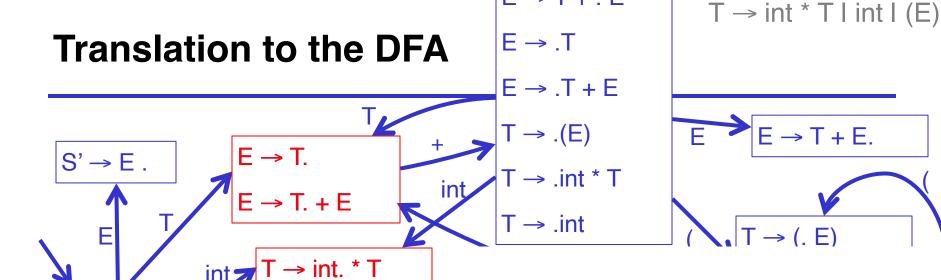
SLR Parsing

- Idea: Assume
 - stack contains α
 - next input is t
 - DFA on input α terminates in state s
- Reduce by $X \rightarrow \beta$ if
 - s contains item $X \rightarrow β$.
 - $-t \in Follow(X)$
- Shift if
 - − s contains item $X \rightarrow \beta.t\omega$

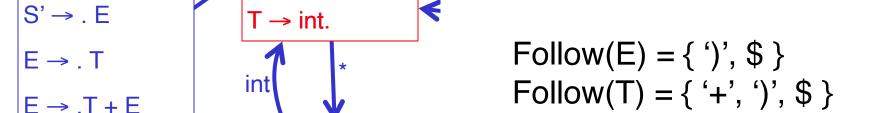
SLR Parsing (Cont.)

 If there are conflicts under these rules, the grammar is not SLR

- The rules amount to a heuristic for detecting handles
 - The SLR grammars are those where the heuristics detect exactly the handles



 $E \rightarrow T + . E$



 $T \rightarrow int * .T$

 $T \rightarrow .int * T$

 $T \rightarrow .(E)$

 $T \rightarrow .int$

 $T \rightarrow .(E)$

 $T \rightarrow .int$

 $T \rightarrow .int * T$

No conflicts with SLR rules!

 $E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$

Precedence Declarations Digression

- Lots of grammars aren't SLR
 - including all ambiguous grammars
- We can parse more grammars by using precedence declarations
 - Instructions for resolving conflicts

Precedence Declarations (Cont.)

Consider our favorite ambiguous grammar:

```
- E \rightarrow E + E \mid E * E \mid (E) \mid int
```

 The DFA for this grammar contains a state with the following items:

```
-E \rightarrow E * E. E \rightarrow E . + E
```

- shift/reduce conflict!
- Declaring "* has higher precedence than +" resolves this conflict in favor of reducing

Precedence Declarations (Cont.)

- The term "precedence declaration" is misleading
- These declarations do not define precedence; they define conflict resolutions
 - Not quite the same thing!

Unoptimized SLR Parsing Algorithm

- 1. Let M be DFA for viable prefixes of G
- 2. Let $|x_1...x_n|$ be initial configuration
- 3. Repeat until configuration is SI\$
 - Let $\alpha |_{\omega}$ be current configuration
 - Run M on current stack α
 - If M rejects α , report parsing error
 - Stack α is not a viable prefix
 - If M accepts α with items I, let t be next input
 - Reduce if $X \to \beta \in I$ and $t \in Follow(X)$
 - Otherwise, shift if $X \rightarrow \beta$. t $\gamma \in I$
 - Report parsing error if neither applies

Notes

 If there is a conflict in the last step, grammar is not SLR(k)

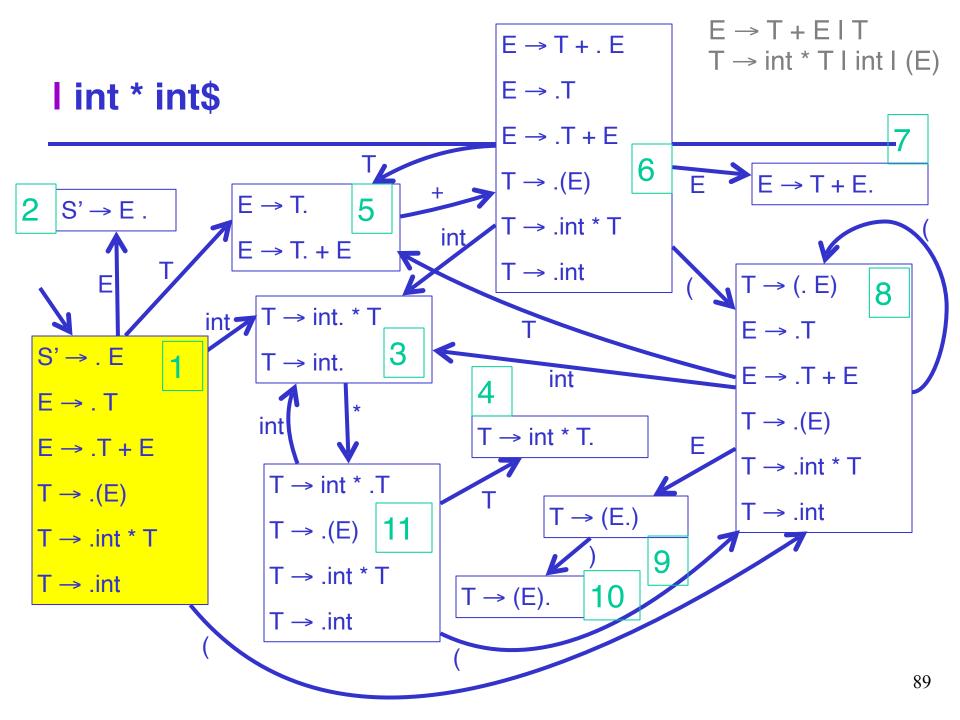
- k is the amount of lookahead
 - In practice k = 1
- Will skip using extra start state S' in following example to save space on slides

$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

Configuration DFA Halt State Action

I int * int\$ 1 shift



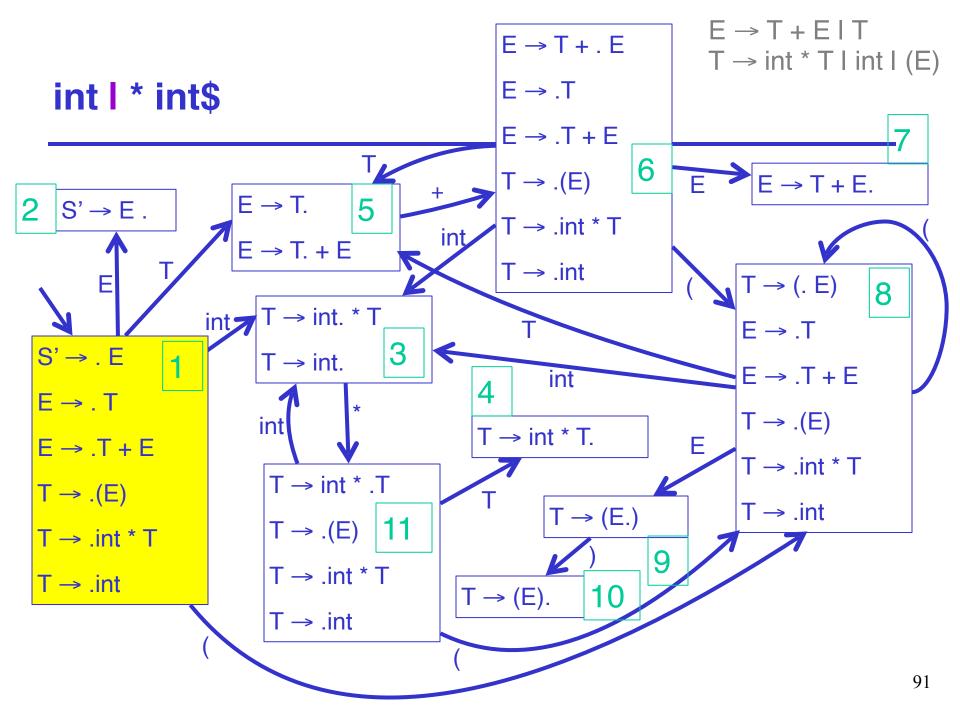
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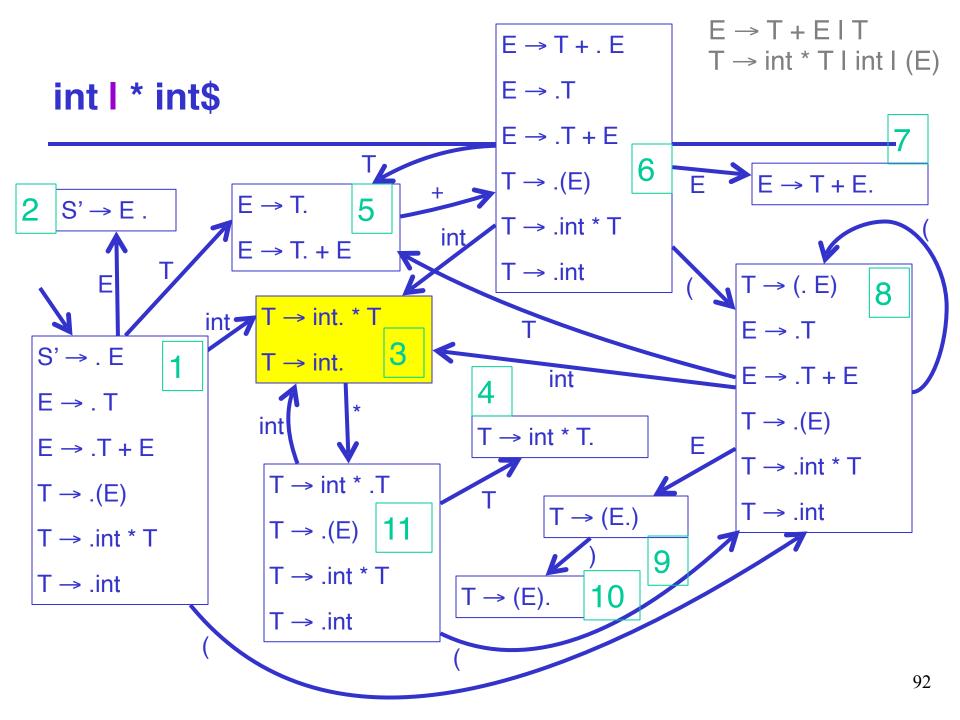
 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

Configuration DFA Halt State Action

I int * int\$ 1 shift

int I * int\$ 3 * not in Follow(T) shift

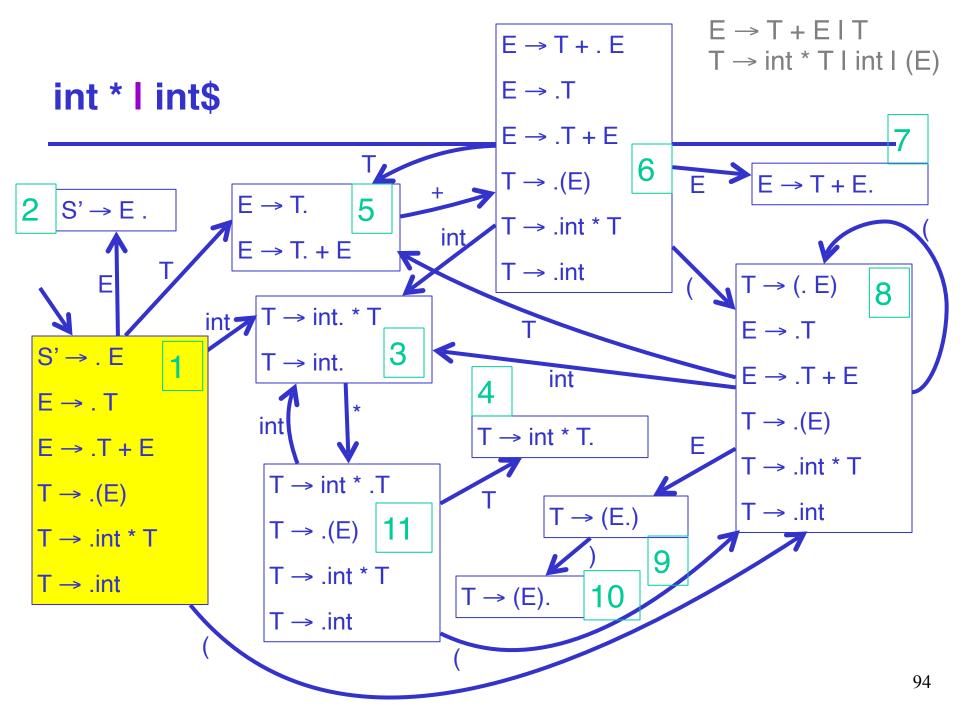


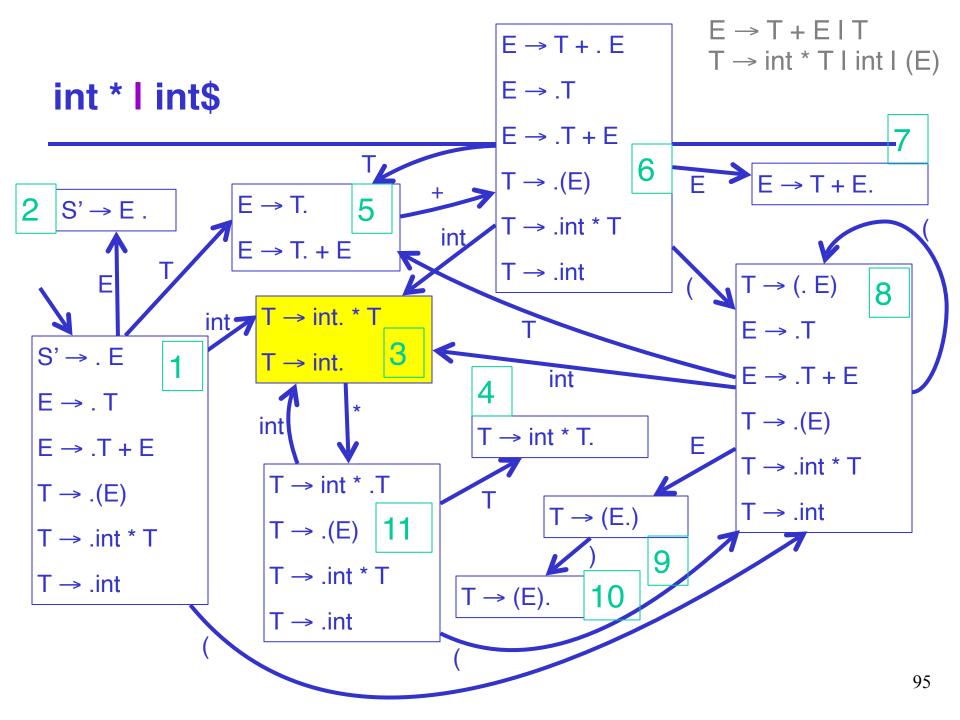


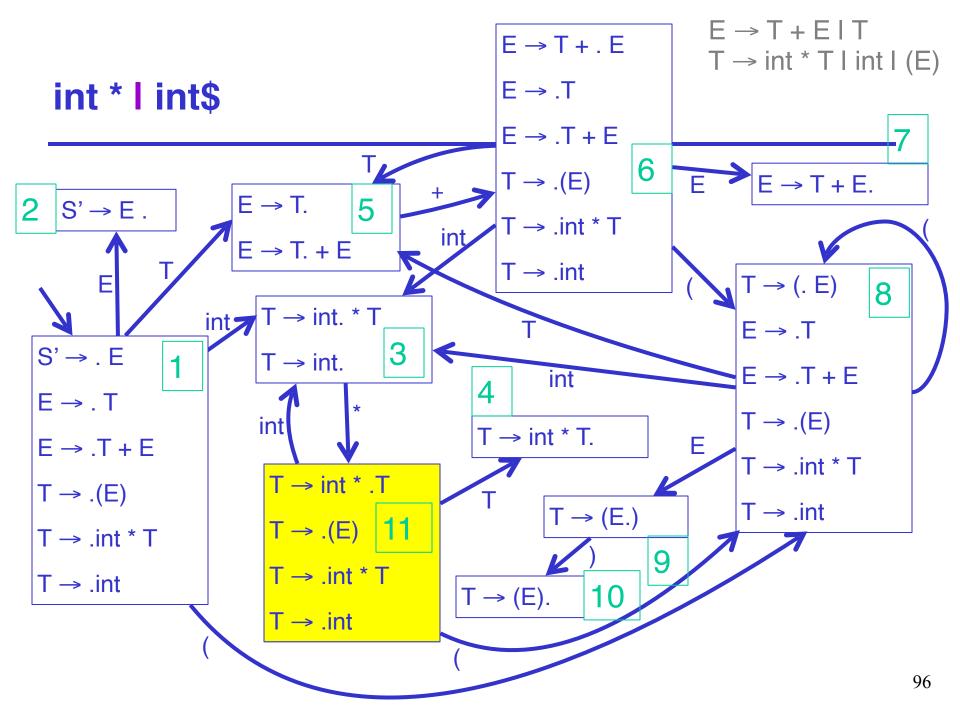
$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

Configuration	DFA Halt State	Action
I int * int\$	1	shift
int I * int\$	3 * not in Follow(T)	shift
int * I int\$	11	shift



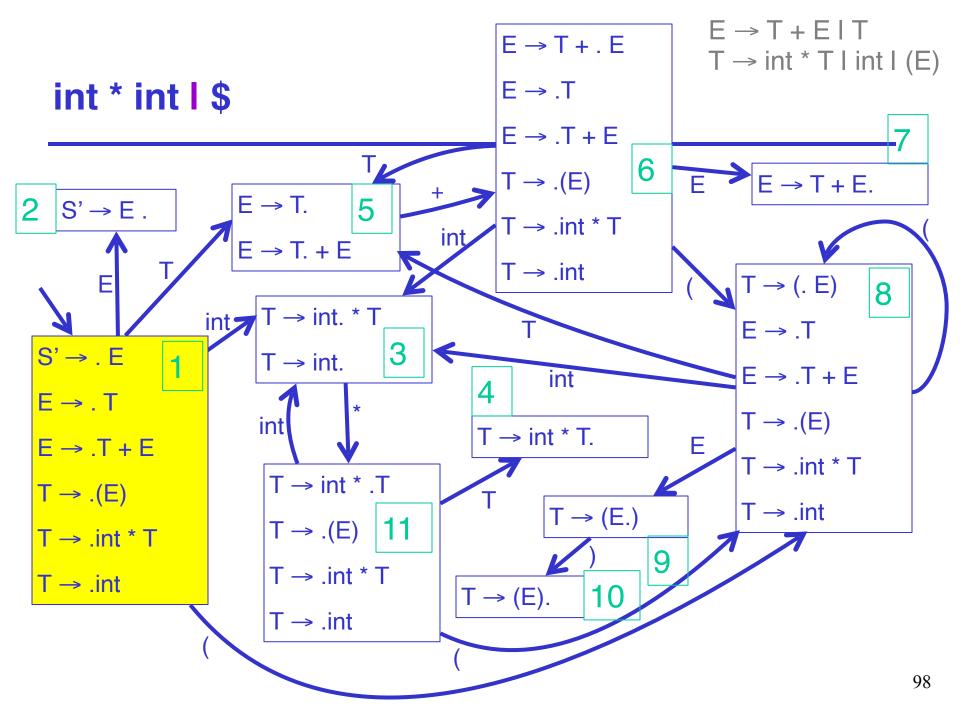


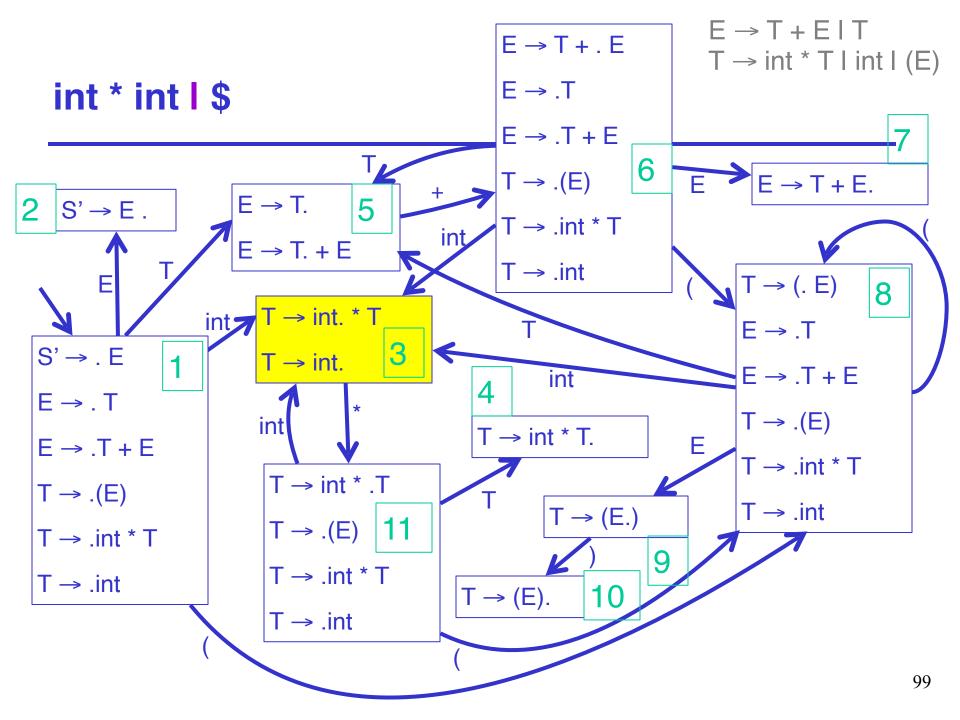


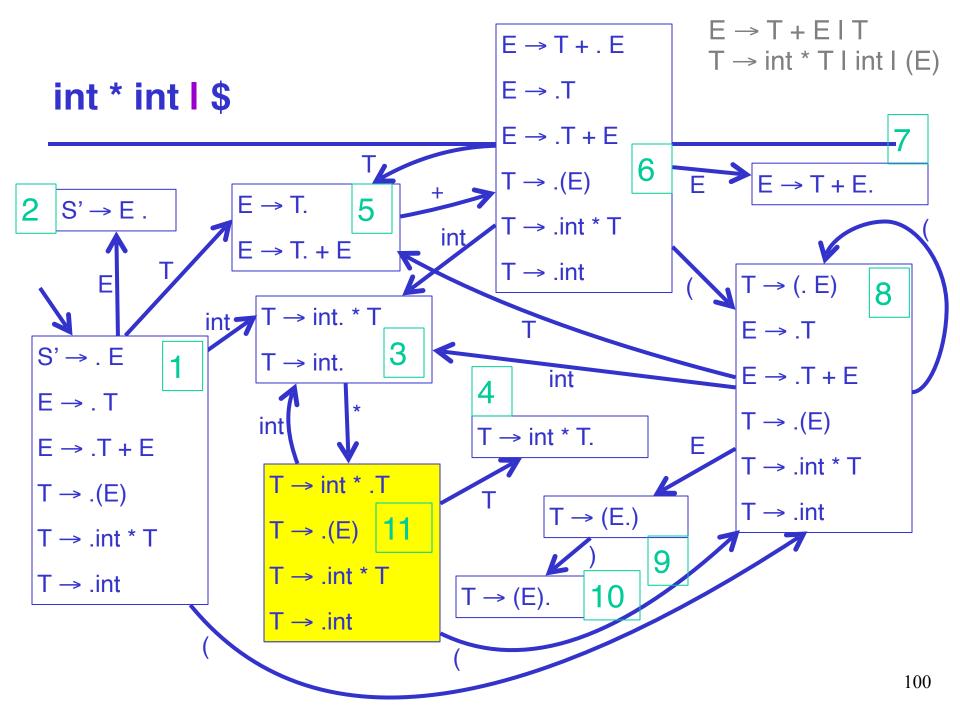
$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

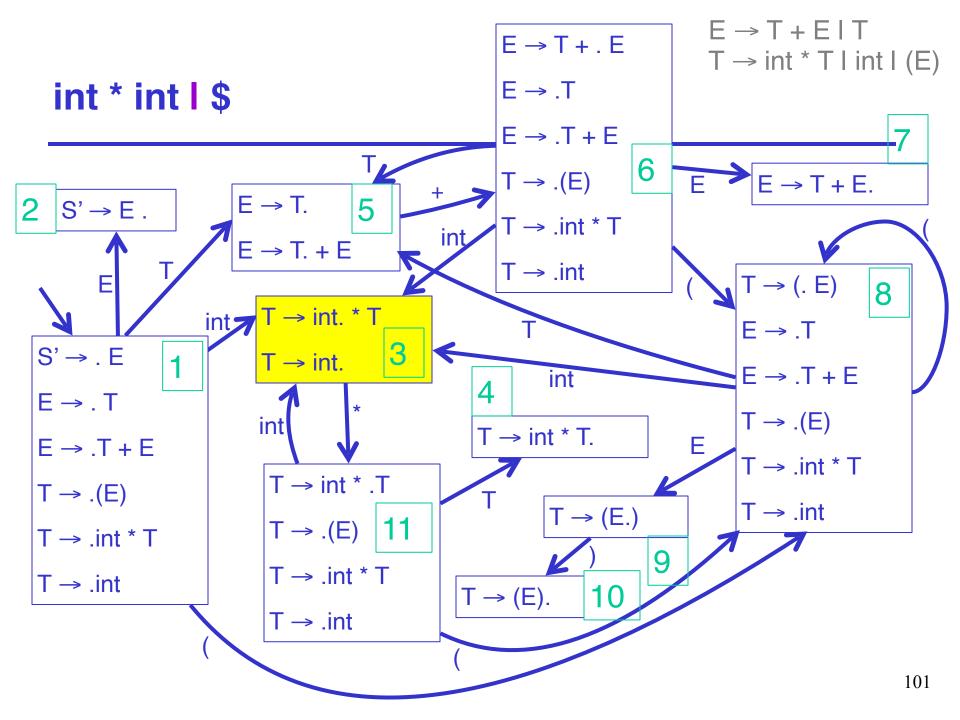
 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

Configuration	DFA Halt State	Action
I int * int\$	1	shift
int I * int\$	3 * not in Follow(T)	shift
int * I int\$	11	shift
int * int I\$	3 \$ ∈ Follow(T)	reduce T→int





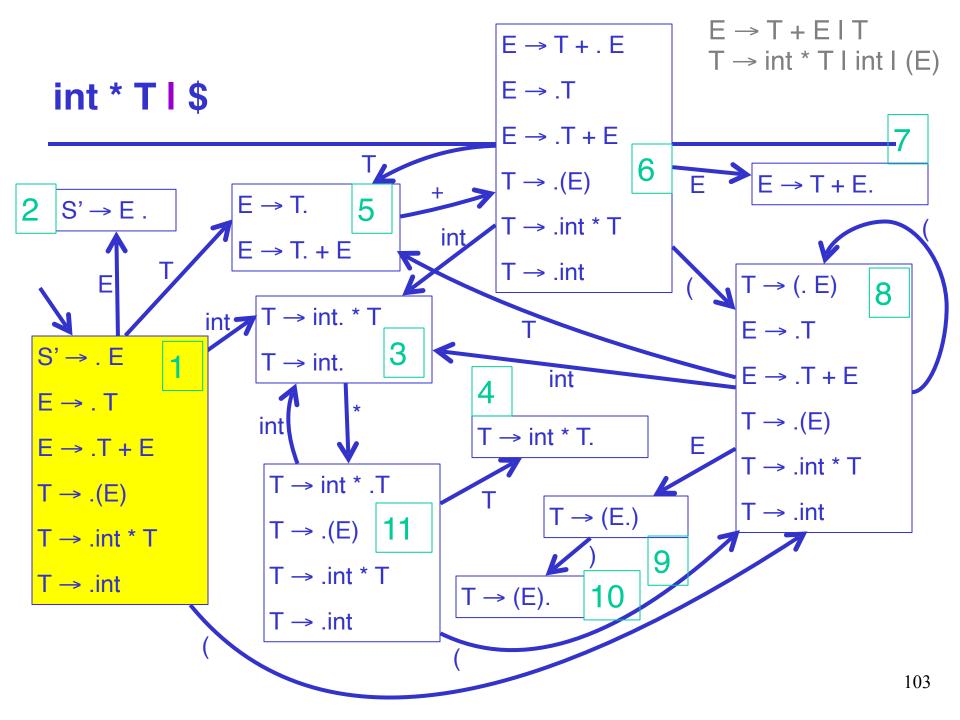


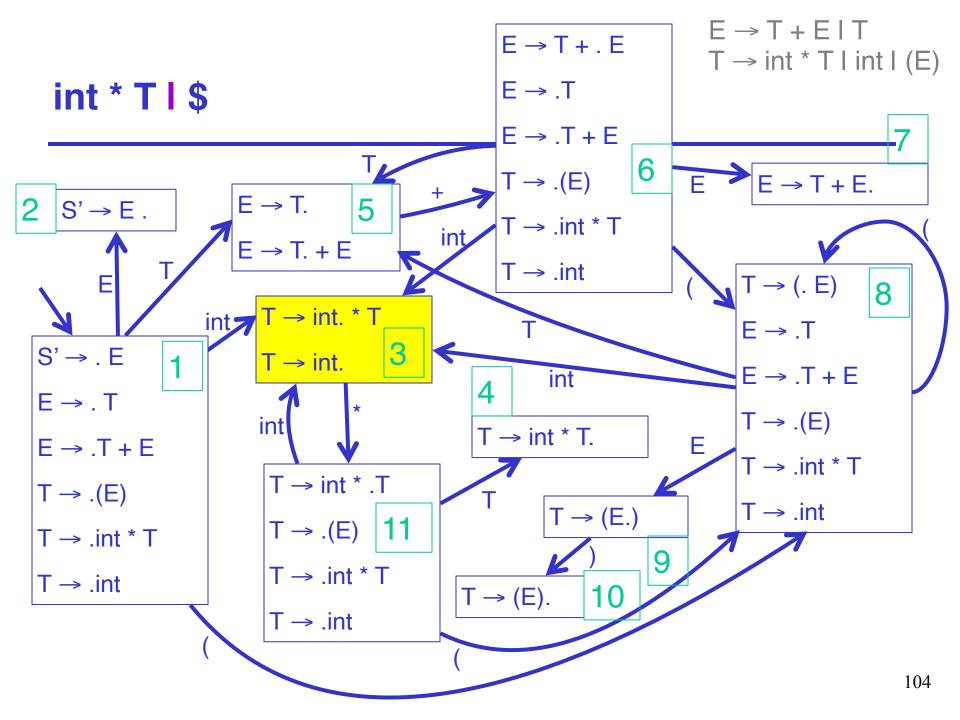


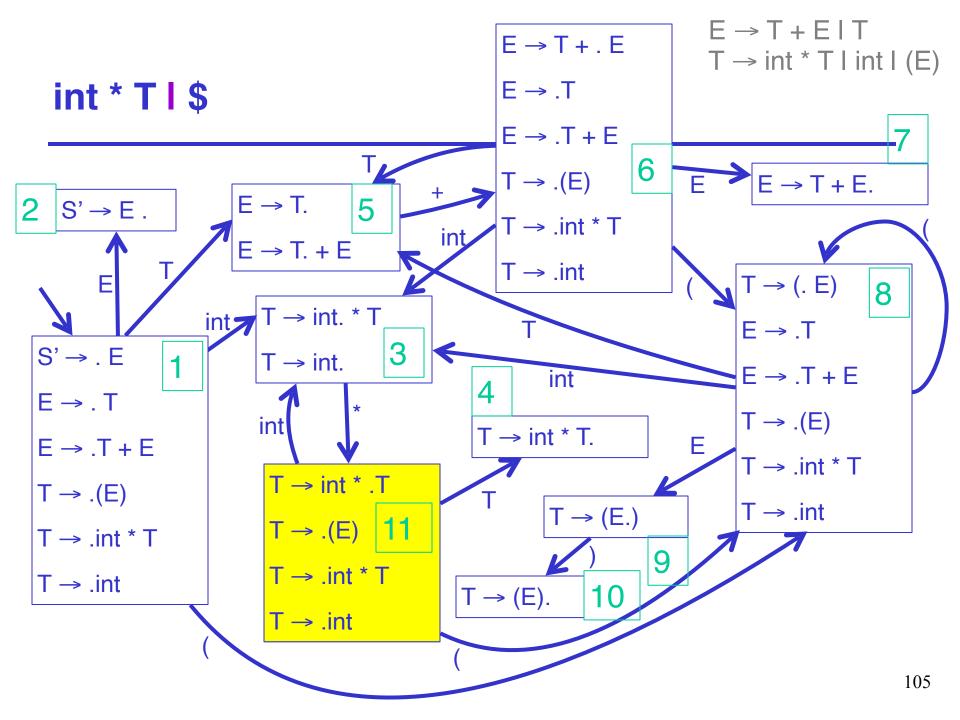
$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

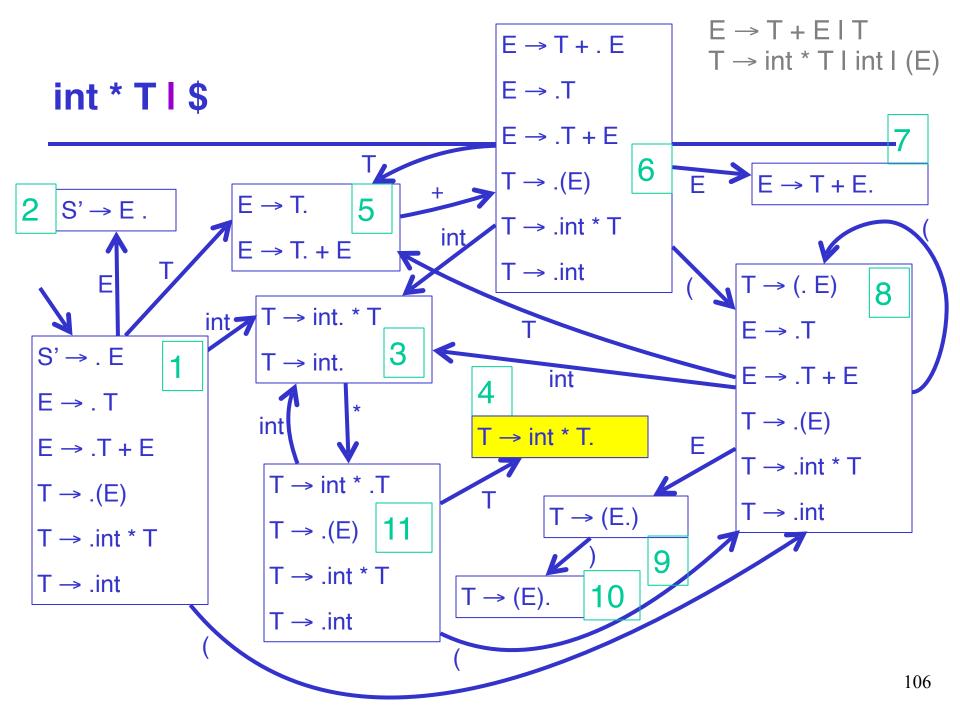
 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

Configuration	DF	A Halt State	Action
I int * int\$	1		shift
int I * int\$	3	* not in Follow(T)	shift
int * I int\$	11		shift
int * int I\$	3	$\$ \in Follow(T)$	reduce T→int
int * T I\$	4	$\$ \in Follow(T)$	reduce T→int*T





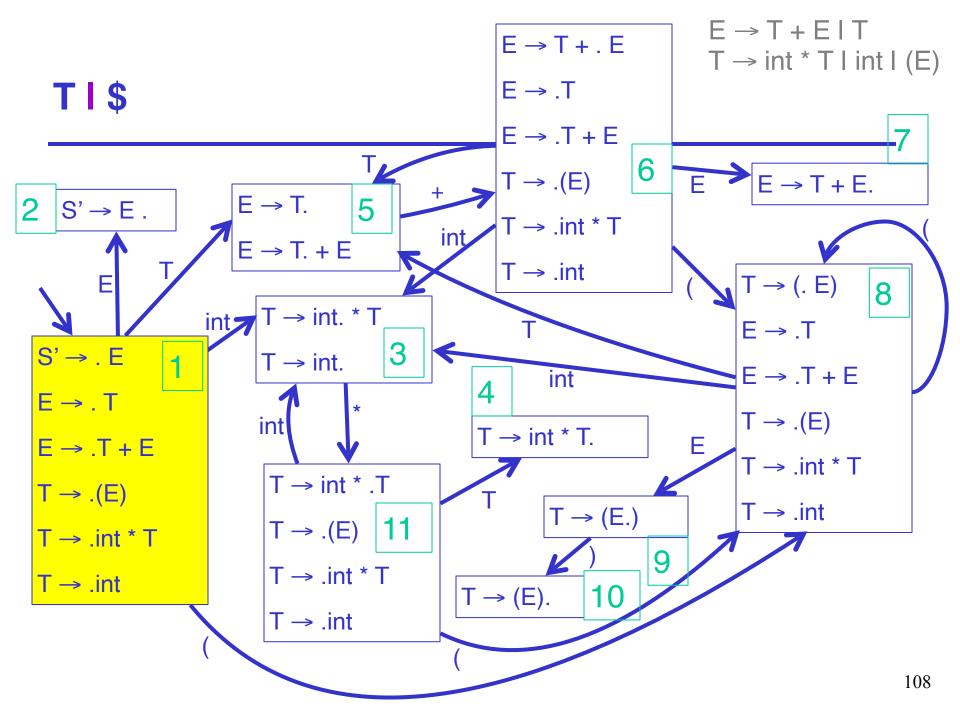


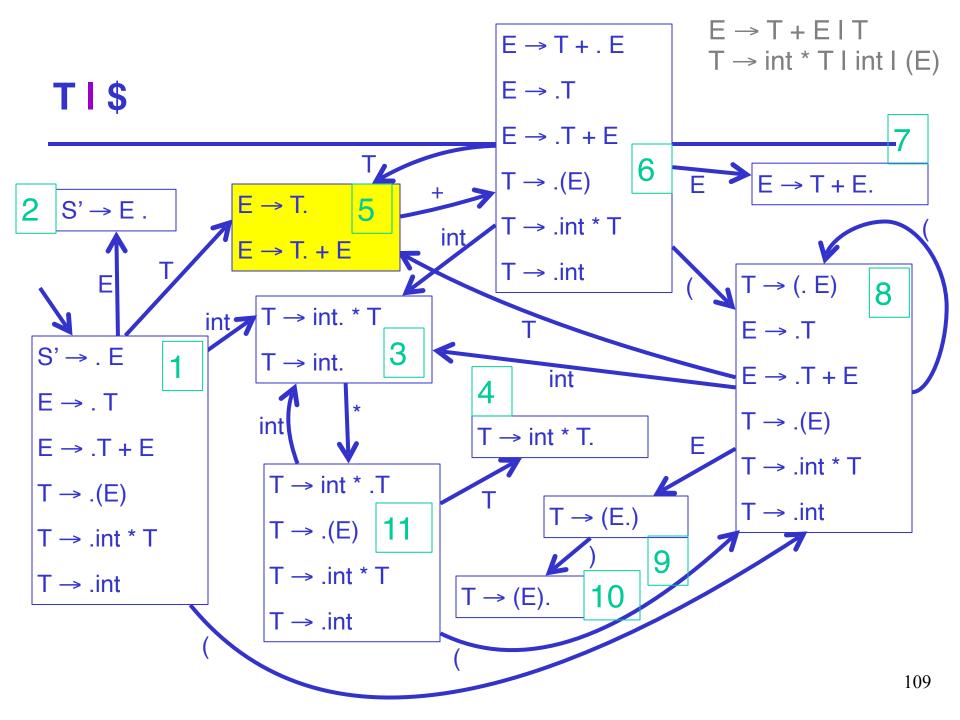


$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

Configuration	DF	A Halt State	Action
I int * int\$	1		shift
int I * int\$	3	* not in Follow(T)	shift
int * I int\$	11		shift
int * int I\$	3	$\$ \in Follow(T)$	reduce T→int
int * T I\$	4	$\$ \in Follow(T)$	reduce T→int*T
T I\$	5	$\$ \in Follow(T)$	reduce E→T





$$E \rightarrow T + E \mid T$$

 $T \rightarrow int * T \mid int \mid (E)$

Configuration	DF	A Halt State	Action
I int * int\$	1		shift
int I * int\$	3	* not in Follow(T)	shift
int * I int\$	11		shift
int * int I\$	3	$\$ \in Follow(T)$	reduce T→int
int * T I\$	4	$\$ \in Follow(T)$	reduce T→int*T
T I\$	5	$\$ \in Follow(T)$	reduce E→T
EI\$			accept

An Improvement

- Rerunning the automaton at each step is wasteful
 - Most of the work is repeated
- Remember the state of the automaton on each prefix of the stack

Change stack to contain pairs

```
⟨ symbol, DFA state ⟩
```

An Improvement (Cont.)

For a stack

```
\langle \text{ symbol}_1, \text{ state}_1 \rangle \dots \langle \text{ symbol}_n, \text{ state}_n \rangle
state<sub>n</sub> is the final state of the DFA on symbol<sub>1</sub>...symbol<sub>n</sub>
```

- Detail: The bottom of the stack is (dummy, start) where
 - dummy is a dummy symbol
 - start is the start state of the DFA

Goto (DFA) Table

- Define goto[i,A] = j if state_i → A state_j
- goto is just the transition function of the DFA
 - One of two parsing tables

Refined Parser Moves

- Shift x
 - Push $\langle a, x \rangle$ on the stack
 - a is current input
 - x is a DFA state
- Reduce $X \rightarrow \alpha$
 - As before
- Accept
- Error

Action Table

For each state s; and terminal t

- If s_i has item X → α.tβ and goto[i,t] = k then action[i,t] = shift k
- If s_i has item X → α. and t ∈ Follow(X) and X ≠ S' then action[i,t] = reduce X → α
- If s_i has item S' → S. then action[i,\$] = accept
- Otherwise, action[i,t] = error

SLR Parsing Algorithm

```
Let input = w$ be initial input
Let j = 0
Let DFA state 1 be the one with item S' \rightarrow .S
Let stack = \langle dummy, 1 \rangle //\langle symbol state \rangle
   repeat
          case action[top_state(stack), input[j]] of
                     shift k: push \( \) input[j++], \( k \)
                     reduce X \rightarrow \alpha:
                         pop |\alpha| pairs,
                         push (X, goto[top_state(stack), X])
                     accept: halt normally
                     error: halt and report error
```

Notes on SLR Parsing Algorithm

- Note that the algorithm uses only the DFA states and the input
 - The stack symbols are never used!
- However, we still need the symbols for semantic actions

More Notes

Some common constructs are not SLR(1)

- LR(1) is more powerful
 - Build lookahead into the items
 - An LR(1) item is a pair: (LR(0) item, x lookahead)
 - [T→ . int * T, \$] means
 - After seeing T→ int * T reduce if lookahead is \$
 - More accurate than just using follow sets
 - See Dragon Book
 - Take a look at the LR(1) automaton for your parser!